

① A massive rise in living standard in countries open to trade, and indeed convergence in wealth, then an increase in Globalization and convergence. The key question is: **Are these developments causally related?**

The basic thesis is that the convergence that we saw amongst the key "Atlantic" economies, between 1850 and 1917 was due to trade and massive migration.

② **Convergence** The key findings are.

(1830-1850) &

- * industrial revolution in UK
- * Period of resource discovery in New world triggered by strong declining transport cost
- * So until mid 19th century the data indicate that real wages were diverging across Atlantic countries
- * No mass migration yet
- * No global market existence
- * Trade was still relatively modest.

(1850-1870) &

- * Free trade expanded rapidly (UK repealed the Corn Law in 1846) as did
- * mass migration and capital flows
- * Convergence amongst the core group of economies begins, the convergence pattern is mixed ie b/w 1850-1870 the Swedish real wage caught up with the UK real

wage. In fact, France, Norway and Spain actually lost some ground.

(1870-1914) &

Involved the most extensive real wage and living standard convergence the Atlantic economy has ever seen.

- * The Free trade, industrial catchup and the Gold standard was in full swing.
- * Avg gap b/w Europe and New world accounts for 60% and the real wage variance with the remaining 40% being explained by real wage dispersion within Europe.
- * About 60% convergence from 1870-1900 is explained by the collapse in the wage gap b/w Europe and the New World.

So the Punchline, AIC to O & W, is that convergence is not so much a neo-classical growth theory story based on catch up with UK, but more about labor abundant Europe catching up with labor scarce New World economies.

Overall, we say $\frac{w}{r}$ ratio in New world fell and rose in Europe as grain flooded in from US the Argentine and Australia.

Four countries explains best, AIC to O&W, the avg gap that explains so much of the convergence b/w Europe and US.

* **IRELAND & Swedish** → heavy immigration

* **US** → heavy immigration from 1840 and on

* **UK** → lost grip as industrial leader.

1856

Swedish half then UK

24% of US

(Ireland)

61% of UK

43% of US

1993

Parity with UK

58% of US

92% of US

53% of US.

≡ The End of 1st wave of convergence &

→ North America's increasing dominance after 1890 would have been enough to slow down the convergence statistics.

→ B/w 1914 - 1934 real wage dispersion did not fall further

→ Divergence b/w 1935 - 1945 was so marked that all of the convergence gain up to the start of WWII were lost by the end of WWII.

≡ A closer look at the historical Record 1:
Transport and commodity market integrations
As the 19th century wore on the commodity market (1)
2 Reasons

① Lowering barriers to trade

② Increase in invention and innovation led to decrease in transportation cost, i.e. steamship, canals and railroads.

3.1 Transport costs &

Before Railroads two ways of transport.

Water & 50-75% cheaper
Roads &

→ US → Erie Canal in ~~1815~~ 1817 - 1825 reduced cost by 85% 21d → 8 days.

With this collapse in transport time and cost, came a collapse in regional price differential from 100% to 10% merely → The Steamship was central to these developments.

However, no less central to this transport revolution was the railway.

→ In 1876 the first refrigerated ship took beef from Argentina to France.

3.2 European Trade Policies

The war in Europe, particularly b/w 1792 - 1815 had been bad for trade and had resulted in de facto "protection" for import - substituting domestic industries.
Corn Laws This meant that grain would be imported but could not leave the warehouses until the domestic price of grain had risen

about 80 shillings per quarter
↳ Closed the Grain market
to foreign competition and
afforded the UK landowners
a major amount of protection.
Gradually in UK demand for
trade liberalization gained political
influence. There was an unwinding
of some major anti-trade
regulations.

① 1825 → skilled workers were
allowed to emigrate.

② 1828 → Corn law amended.

③ 1833 → various tariffs reduced.

④ 1846 → ~~Corn~~ Corn law repealed.

The rest of Europe moved
more slowly in the direction
of free trade, but a major
advance was secured in 1860
with the Cobden-Chevalier
Treaty b/w France and
UK. The most important
was the most favoured Nation
Principle (concession).

* Despite a heavy rise in
tariffs by US after 1870, it
appears that commodity price
convergence continued suggesting
that the fall in transport
cost was more important
than trade policy for commodity
market integration.

3.3 Trade ~~also~~ during the
industrial revolution

* Due to industrial revolution
Britain → comparative advantage

* UK developed markets for
raw material, wool and hides.

* It exchanged the manufactured

goods with mainly foodstuff
including tea, coffee and
sugar.

↳ 1/3rd of reexport
of total exports for
the first 3 quarters of
18th century. The loss
of the North American
colonies punched a hole
in that.

→ Hence, openness and
specialization appear to be
important part of the story
for Britain. Due to rise
in UK's population and
the dependence on food
imports made it clearly
in Britain's interest for
the international trade system
to work well.

↳ Industrial revolution surged
the demand for it.

↳ Trade also boosts technolog-
ical advance b/c it helps
transit ideas, something
Lucas has emphasized
in recent contributions.

3.3.1 Importance to
Britain

UK land mass, half population
and its trade was twice
that of France.

Britain didn't specialize in
luxury goods but intended
to focus in mass markets.

UK's government focus on
businesses interests.

From this flowed a stable Political system highlighting private property rights, freedom, liberty and religious tolerance.

4) H.O model in Historical Perspective

Notes

5) Migration

Notes

6) Globalization and Convergence

The story so far

Poverty rates have declined markedly over the last 20 years (Xala-i-Martin)

Overall, Xala-i-Martin argues, there has been a substantial reduction in Global income inequality during The 1980's and 1990's

Increasing globalization has reduced the effects of inequality b/w nations that participate in global market. The poorer nations that gained most from globalization were those that opened up their borders, and traded on the basis of their comparative advantage (Lindert and Williamson)

On the whole, more globalization has meant less world inequality.

7) Globalization, Relative factor Price Convergence and inequality

The Atlantic economy's history can be split into 3 periods

(1) Late 19th century 'belle époque'

(2) 1914-1950 → 'the dark ages'

(3) 'Renaissance' (1950)

Period (1) and (3) are period of Globalization, conditional convergence

Period (2) was a period of deglobalization and divergence, a slump in world trade and capital flows.

"In short they argued that increased globalization increase inequality in the resource rich labor scarce new world while reducing inequality to the resource poor labor abundant old world

7.1 Further observations on income, output and Growth in the world today

There is much greater inequality today than in 1960

7.2 Why do some countries succeed and other fail to achieve sustained growth?

The relative narrow per capita income gap in 1820 had become large by 1960.

Its differences are due to differences in the pattern of economic take off during the 19th century.

7.3 Convergence and the fundamental causes of Growth

⑭ Conditional Convergence:
Countries with similar
characteristics are experiencing
convergence; This is known
as "conditional convergence".

8) Capital flows and
Globalization &
Globalized capital markets
exists today, there is a
significant difference in
the nature of capital flows
compared to the pre 1914
era. Capital transactions now
primarily involve rich-rich
pairs, and foreign investment
in capital-poor countries
is relatively limited, despite
expectations of high returns

