

# Empirical assessment of adaptation to chronic illness

Can time heal all wounds?

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## Abstract

### Introduction

In health state evaluations, members of the general public are inclined to estimate a larger negative impact of a health impairment compared to patients themselves. This adds to the controversy about the type of health state preferences that should be used. The difference in the patient's experience and the public's ideation is often attributed to adaptation. This master thesis studies adaptation to chronic disability in a large longitudinal data set.

### Method

I select over 5000 respondents of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) who develop a chronic illness and disabilities during the span of the 5 waves of data collection. Adaptation is analyzed for outcome variables self-perceived health and life satisfaction. Self-perceived health is measured on a 5 point Likert scale, with anchors poor to excellent health and life satisfaction on a numbered scale ranging 1 to 11, with anchors very dissatisfied, very satisfied. In order to examine the effect of time since the onset of disability on self-perceived health and life satisfaction, a fixed effects ordered probit model and a fixed effects linear model are recommended in the literature. I use a fixed effects ordered logit model as the dependent variable is measured on an ordinal scale and the probit model is prone to misspecification. For comparison reasons, I also analyze the fixed effects probit and linear model.

### Results

Over 13000 observations for life satisfaction and over 15000 for self-perceived health are used. Self-perceived health significantly decreases when the disabilities occur, but life satisfaction remains the same. Supportive evidence for adaptation in the life satisfaction analysis was found, but not in that for self-perceived health.

### Discussion

It is possible that the effect of adaptation to chronic disability in self-perceived health can only be found after a longer duration than that measured here. The difference might also be explained by the contextualization of the response variables, where the question on self-perceived health is more focused on health limitations and the question on life satisfaction on general well-being.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Literature review</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Fixed effects ordered logit model . . . . .	7
3.2	The OLS and probit models . . . . .	9
3.2.1	Fixed effects OLS model . . . . .	9
3.2.2	Fixed effects ordered probit model . . . . .	10
3.3	Analyses . . . . .	10
<b>4</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1	Data . . . . .	11
4.2	Results fixed effects ordered logit model . . . . .	16
4.3	Results OLS and probit models . . . . .	19
4.3.1	Results fixed effects OLS model . . . . .	19
4.3.2	Results fixed effects ordered probit model . . . . .	19
4.4	Robustness checks . . . . .	21
<b>5</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>21</b>
5.1	Summary . . . . .	21
5.2	Limitations . . . . .	22
5.3	Implication theory . . . . .	22
5.4	Implications practice . . . . .	22
5.5	conclusions . . . . .	23
	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>23</b>
	<b>APPENDIX</b>	<b>25</b>
A.1	Derivatives of the conditional likelihood function . . . . .	25
A.2	Marginal effects ordered logit model . . . . .	26
A.3	Results ordinary least squares linear fixed effects . . . . .	28
A.4	Results fixed effects ordered probit . . . . .	29

# 1 Introduction

Health state evaluations *adaptatie belangrijk voor onder andere health economics evaluations en epidemiologisch onderzoek, theoretisch kader adaptatie, geen secundaire literatuur quoten* have become increasingly important to policy makers concerned with the allocation of health care resources (Menzel, Dolan, Richardson & Olsen, 2002; Versteegh & Brouwer, 2016). These economic evaluations are requested in many countries to inform pricing, reimbursing and funding decisions (Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Bonet & Serra-Sastre, 2016). The evaluations are usually based on respondents' preferences for being in an impaired health state compared to being completely healthy. Interestingly, health state preferences of the general public (consisting of generally healthy individuals) do not necessarily coincide with those of patients. Members of the general public are inclined to estimate a larger negative impact of health impairments compared to the health state appraisals of the patients themselves (Sackett & Torrance, 1978; Krahn et al., 2003; Peeters & Stiggelbout, 2010). Thus, the discussion dedicated to the question which group of people should be consulted to obtain these measurements is not trivial.

In the Netherlands, health state evaluations of the general public are preferred (Zorginstituut Nederland, 2016), even though patient health state evaluations are more informative about the subjective impact of a certain health state. The general concern with patient health state evaluations is that they are potentially biased due to “response shifts”. The idea being that the meaning of a patient's self-evaluation has changed due to a change in internal standards, values, or conceptualization of quality of life, leading to a shift in the patient's reference point (Sprangers & Schwartz, 1999). In contrast, members of the general public reason from the same reference point of being in full health and are thought to have a uniform representation of the ‘distance’ between their own healthy state and the health impairment. Thus, an argument in favour of health state preferences of the general public is that they lend themselves to universally applicable valuations.

Adaptation to impaired health states is a particular realization of response shift (Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Bonet & Serra-Sastre, 2016). The difference in the patient's experience and the public's ideation of certain health states is often attributed to adaptation. Frederick and Loewenstein describe adaptation as “a reduction in the affective intensity of favorable and unfavorable circumstances” (1999, p.302). A proper understanding of the dynamics governing the health state preferences of patients could be highly beneficial to the discussion on health state measurements. In particular, the empirical assessment of the adaptation process could help explain the difference between patient and public health state measurements and create insight into the changes of patients' self-perceived health over the course of the disability.

Adaptation to health states has been widely studied by psychologists and experimental economists. However, there only appears to be a small (yet growing) set of high-quality studies that have empirically examined adaptation. Early studies investigating adaptation to impaired health states predominantly employ cross-sectional methods. Note that this means no conclusions can be drawn regarding the effect

of time since diagnosis on subjective health and hence these results cannot be used as evidence for adaptation within patients. However, the cross-sectional analyses enable a comparison of health state measurements across different groups of people. The counter-intuitive results show that patients with serious health limitations report well-being or self-reported health levels that are notably above the health state appraisals of healthy subjects as was previously mentioned (Sackett & Torrance, 1978; Krahn et al., 2003; Peeters & Stiggelbout, 2010). Moreover, certain studies even found that patient well-being is only marginally lower than that of healthy subjects (Brickman, Coates & Janoff-Bullman, 1978; Schulz & Decker, 1985; Tyc, 1992).

Recent studies have used panel data in order to examine adaptation to chronic infirmity from the moment of diagnosis. Their empirical evidence does not provide unambiguous support for the occurrence or level of adaptation. Lucas (2007) does not find any adaptation in two large panel data sets. In his study, multilevel models were used to measure adaptation in long-term disabled subjects on life satisfaction. On the other hand, Oswald and Powdthavee (2008) cannot replicate Lucas' findings **leg uit waarom Oswald en Lucas verder niet beschreven worden** using a fixed effects model for self-reported life satisfaction, whilst analyzing the same data sets. They find a considerable level of adaptation and suggest that the differing results are due to a difference in the respective methodologies, with the multilevel model used by Lucas being technically closer to a random effects model. Finally, Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Bonet and Serra-Sastre (2016) do find some evidence for adaptation to self assessed health. They make use of a dynamic fixed effects probit model by utilizing Wooldridge's (2005) approach. The authors only find a significant effect of duration since the onset of a long-standing illness after 20 years.

It is the objective of this thesis to study adaptation to chronic health limitations. I hypothesize that time since the onset of the chronic disability is positively related to the probability of reporting better health and life satisfaction. To this aim, the effect of adaptation, assessed through the time an individual has experienced limitations with instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) and the severity of these limitations, is analyzed for both self-perceived health and life satisfaction. I hope to establish changes in either of these constructs that can be attributed to the adaptation response shift process as a function of time spend with a chronic disability. The main assumption is that changes in either self-perceived health or life satisfaction can indeed be attributed to the adaptation mechanism, whatever the nature of the contributing factors. The intensity of the underlying impaired health condition is controlled for by the number of limitations with (IADL), which is indicative of the severity of the chronic disability. In doing so, the health state of the respondents is allowed to fluctuate over time. Furthermore, I control for potential other shocks to subjective health and life satisfaction by adding socioeconomic covariates like marital status and labour-force status.

The data used for this analysis is obtained from the SHARE (Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe) database. It is a panel data set consisting of individuals aged 50 and over spanning 6 waves. I find that a longer duration is related to a higher probability of being satisfied with life, but not with the probability of reporting a better self-perceived health.

This thesis contributes to the existing literature in that it uses panel data as opposed to a cross-sectional model. In doing so, the trajectory of adaptation over time can be studied and I can control for individual heterogeneity. I employ a fixed effects ordered logit model, which has to my knowledge not been used for studying adaptation. This nonlinear model exploits the ordering of the dependent variable whilst allowing it to be discrete. It consistently estimates the parameters. Furthermore, the duration of the chronic disability is measured by dummy variables, permitting the effect of adaptation since the onset of the chronic limitations to be nonlinear. In addition, adaptation is analyzed for both self-perceived health and life satisfaction, since the effect could differ per outcome measure and no research has looked into this potential difference. Finally, the analysis is not limited to individuals whose latent health is assumed to stay constant. By broadening my selection to those reporting differing levels in the number of limitations with IADL, I can apply the results to a wider scope of health conditions, like diseases that deteriorate over time. In sum, this thesis aims to add new insights to the investigation of adaptation to chronic disability. The results can be used to inform members of the general public about the changes in the health perception of patients, so that they can incorporate this into their health state preferences.

This thesis consists of the following sections. The next section contains the methodology focusing on three econometric models of interest. Section 3 presents the data set and results, including an investigation regarding the robustness of the results. The final section provides a conclusion and a discussion on the limitations with suggestions for future research.

advantages of using IADL

## 2 Literature review

## 3 Methods

A perusal of the adaptation literature brings to light the myriad of choices involved in the econometric modelling of the adaptation process. In order to explain my preference for the fixed effects ordered logit specification, I will first generally compare and contrast two methods employed in the literature with my proposed model. The two particular empirical strategies under consideration here are presented in Clark, D'Ambrosio and Ghislandi (2016) and Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre (2016).

A schematic overview of the most important features of the logit model and the two models from the literature can be found in table 1. First of all, note that all model specifications here assume fixed effects, meaning that the individual heterogeneous terms might be correlated with the regressors. Secondly, both the ordered logit model proposed in this thesis and the ordered probit model presented by Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre are nonlinear. These nonlinear model specifications are attractive, since they account for the discrete nature of the outcome variable (subjective health or life satisfaction), whilst still incorporating its ordered structure.

However, in the estimation of these model coefficients, the unobserved heterogeneity cannot simply be removed by performing a linear transformation, like the within transformation that can be applied to the OLS fixed effects model proposed by Clark, D’Ambrosio and Ghislandi. As a consequence, the fixed effects cannot be estimated consistently under a fixed number of time periods. Even as the number of individuals grows without bound, the number of parameters to be estimated also goes to infinity. This is referred to as the incidental parameters problem (Neyman & Scott, 1948). In short panels (a small number of observed time periods), this can lead to severe bias in the estimation of the regression parameters (Green, 2004). The ordered logit and ordered probit approaches discussed here both have distinct ways of handling this problem.

The ordered probit model put forward by Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre has, in addition to fixed effects, a dynamic structure. In order to deal with both the incidental parameters problem and the initial conditions problem created by the dynamics, they make use of a parameterization of the fixed effects as a function of the regressors following Wooldridge (2005). Even though their solution is parsimonious and easy to implement, the parameterization is prone to misspecification. Hence, I propose a technique based on the principles of the conditional logit estimator. The estimator in question is described in Baetschmann, Staub, and Winkelmann (2015). It effectively eliminates the fixed effects in an ordered logit model and yields consistent estimates, without having to parameterize the fixed effects.

Finally, the analyses by Clark, D’Ambrosio and Ghislandi and Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre assume a different functional form for the adaptation process. Both methodologies measure adaptation by means of the duration since the onset of the life event, but only Clark, D’Ambrosio and Ghislandi allow the effect to be nonlinear by constructing dummy variables. These dummy variables correspond to consecutive time segments indicative of how long ago somebody experienced the negative life event. I also believe that the continuous functional form for adaptation of Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre is too restrictive and use the dummy specification outlined here.

Table 1: Econometric strategies for modelling adaptation

	De Hond (2017)	Clark, D’Ambrosio & Ghislandi (2016)	Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner & Serra-Sastre (2016)
Model specification	FE ordered logit	FE OLS	FE ordered probit
Functional form adaptation	Dummy variables	Dummy variables	Continuous
Parameterization of FE	No	No	Yes

*Note.* FE stands for fixed effects.

In sum, the main features of my proposed fixed effects ordered logit specification can be found in the first column of table 1. Next, an in depth discussion devoted to the econometric theory of this ordered logit model is provided.

### 3.1 Fixed effects ordered logit model

The fixed effects ordered logit estimation utilized here is based on the “blow-up and cluster” (BUC) estimator proposed by Baetschmann, Staub and Winkelmann (2015). The ordered logit specification assumes the existence of a latent response variable according to:

$$Y_{it}^* = C_{it}'\theta + D_{it}'\delta + IADL_{it}\gamma + \alpha_i + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \quad t = 1, \dots, T. \quad (1)$$

Here,  $Y_{it}^*$  is the respondent’s latent self-perceived health or life satisfaction. The variables of interest are the number of limitations with instrumental activities of daily living (IADL),  $IADL_{it}$ , and duration,  $D_{it}$ , measured by dummies indicating the time since the onset of the limitations. I expect a negative effect for  $IADL_{it}$ , but a positive effect for at least one of the dummies contained by  $D_{it}$ .  $C_{it}$  consists of a number of sociodemographic covariates. For the remainder of this discussion, I shorten the notation by grouping the regressors in the vector  $X_{it} = (C_{it}', D_{it}', IADL_{it})'$  and the parameters by  $\beta = (\theta', \delta', \gamma)'$ . Lastly,  $\alpha_i$  is the individual specific fixed effect and I assume that the error term follows a logistic distribution:

$$F(\varepsilon_{it}|X_{it}, \alpha_i) = \frac{\exp(\varepsilon_{it})}{1 + \exp(\varepsilon_{it})} \equiv \Lambda(\varepsilon_{it}) \quad (2)$$

The observed self-perceived health or life satisfaction, denoted by  $Y_{it}$ , is constructed from  $Y_{it}^*$  as follows:

$$Y_{it} = k \quad \text{if } \tau_{ik-1} < Y_{it}^* \leq \tau_{ik}, \quad k = 1, \dots, K. \quad (3)$$

The thresholds between categories  $k - 1$  and  $k$  can be individual specific, with  $\tau_{i0} = -\infty$  and  $\tau_{iK} = \infty$ .

The probability for individual  $i$  at time  $t$  of reporting outcome  $k$  is given by

$$P(Y_{it} = k|X_{it}, \alpha_i) = \Lambda(\tau_{ik} - X_{it}'\beta - \alpha_i) - \Lambda(\tau_{ik-1} - X_{it}'\beta - \alpha_i). \quad (4)$$

$$P_i^k(\beta) = P(d_i^k = j_i | \sum_{t=1}^T d_{it}^k = g_i) = \frac{\exp(j_i' X_i \beta)}{\sum_{j \in B_i} \exp(j' X_i \beta)}. \quad (5)$$

Here, the sum of all the outcomes over time,  $\sum_{t=1}^T d_{it}^k = g_i = \sum_{t=1}^T j_{it}$ , is a sufficient statistic for  $\alpha_i$ , since the probability in equation 5 is independent of  $\alpha_i$  and the thresholds. Moreover,  $X_i$  is a  $T \times M$  matrix, with  $M$  the number of regressors and row  $t$  equal to  $X_{it}$ . The sum in the denominator of equation 5 concerns the set  $B_i$  which consists of all vectors  $j$  of length  $T$  that have as many elements equal to one as the observed vector  $j_i$  of individual  $i$ :

$$B_i = \left\{ j \in \{0, 1\}^T \mid \sum_{t=1}^T j_t = g_i \right\}.$$



The resulting conditional log likelihood is given by

$$LL^k(b) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log(P_i^k(b)). \quad (6)$$

The maximization of this likelihood function for a dichotomized dependent variable at any cut-off point  $k$  has been shown to be consistent by Chamberlain (1980) and will therefore be referred to as the Chamberlain estimator denoted by  $\hat{\beta}^k$ . The first order derivatives and individual Hessians used for this optimization can be found in appendix A.1.

Note that individuals with constant  $d_{it}^k$  do not contribute to the conditional log likelihood, since  $P(d_{it}^k = 1 | \sum_{t=1}^T d_{it}^k = T) = P(d_{it}^k = 0 | \sum_{t=1}^T d_{it}^k = 0) = 1$ . Hence, it is worthwhile to obtain  $\beta$  estimates acquired with Chamberlain estimators using different cut-off points  $k$ , since the group of individuals contributing to the likelihood function is likely to change for different cut-off points. In fact, if we employ all possible  $K - 1$  Chamberlain estimators of  $\beta$ , each individual will contribute at least once to a likelihood function, as long as the observed  $Y_{it}$ 's of the individual in question are not constant.

The BUC estimator proposed by Baetschmann, Staub and Winkelmann (2015) is based on the maximization of the sum of all possible  $K - 1$  Chamberlain likelihood functions:

$$LL^{BUC}(b) = \sum_{k=2}^K LL^k(b), \quad (7)$$

where  $LL^k(b)$  is defined in equation 6. By exploiting the information provided by the different configurations of individuals for different cut-off points, the BUC estimator is more efficient than the Chamberlain estimator. The BUC estimator,  $\hat{\beta}^{BUC}$ , maximizes the likelihood in equation 7 under the restriction that  $\hat{\beta}^2 = \dots = \hat{\beta}^K$ . Since the individual Chamberlain estimators are consistent, it is easy to verify the consistency of the BUC estimator. The first order derivatives of the Chamberlain estimators converge to 0 at the true parameter, which means that the sum of the derivatives - equalling the first order derivative of the BUC log likelihood - will converge to 0 as well at its optimum. Given the concavity of the objective function, this ensures that  $\hat{\beta}^{BUC}$  converges to  $\beta$ .

We need to cluster the standard errors at the individual level, due to the constructed dependency between the observations. Hence, the information matrix equality used for the regular maximum likelihood approach is not valid and a cluster robust variance estimator should be used based on the following asymptotic variance (the limiting variance of  $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta}^{BUC} - \beta)$ ):

$$Avar(\hat{\beta}^{BUC}) = \left\{ \sum_{k=2}^K E(H_i^k(\beta)) \right\}^{-1} \left[ \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=2}^K E(s_i^k(\beta) s_i^l(\beta)') \right] \left\{ \sum_{k=2}^K E(H_i^k(\beta)) \right\}^{-1}. \quad (8)$$

Here,  $H_i^k(\beta)$  denote the individual Hessians and  $s_i^k(\beta)$  the first order derivatives with respect to the Chamberlain likelihood function in equation 6. In the analysis, the expectations are replaced by their sample analogs and the parameters by their estimated values.

Finally, from the  $\beta$  estimates we can derive the statistical significance of the effect of the regressors on the probability of reporting better self-perceived health or life satisfaction. They cannot, however, be interpreted in terms of the size of this effect. For this type of interpretation the marginal effects are required. In the subsequent analysis, I use the marginal effect on  $P(Y_{it} > k) = 1 - \Lambda(\tau_{ik} - X'_{it}\beta - \alpha_i)$ , since the sign of the regression estimate then always concurs with that of the corresponding marginal effects. The general formula for the marginal effect of the  $l$ th regressor on the probability that a respondent reports an outcome higher than category  $k$  is:

$$\frac{\partial P(Y_{it} > k | X_{it}, \alpha_i)}{\partial X_{it}} = \Lambda_{ik}(1 - \Lambda_{ik})\beta_l, \quad (9)$$

with  $\Lambda_{ik} = \Lambda(\tau_{ik} - X'_{it}\beta - \alpha_i)$ . Usually, the average of the effects is calculated to aid the interpretation. Unfortunately, average marginal effects for  $P(Y_{it} > k)$  cannot be calculated directly, since  $\tau_{ik}$  and  $\alpha_i$  are not estimated by the BUC estimator. However, I will approximate the required probabilities with the sample probabilities:

These are computed by summing the number of observations in the categories larger than  $k$  and dividing this by the total number of observations. Even though the resulting marginal effects are approximations, I expect them to aid the general interpretation of the results.

## 3.2 The OLS and probit models

In addition to the fixed effects ordered logit model, I have also analyzed adaptation to chronic disability by following the proposed model specifications of Clark, D'Ambrosio and Ghislandi (2016) and Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre (2016). In light of the previous comparison of these three models, I will examine whether the discussed differences in modelling strategies affect the results. Next, the econometric foundation of these two supplementary models is outlined shortly.

### 3.2.1 Fixed effects OLS model

The fixed effects OLS model is featured in the study by Clark, D'Ambrosio and Ghislandi (2016) who use it to investigate adaptation to poverty. The regression equation is:

$$Y_{it} = C'_{it}\theta + D'_{it}\delta + IADL'_{it}\gamma + \alpha_i + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad (10)$$

with  $Y_{it}$  the self-reported health or life satisfaction,  $C_{it}$  a vector with covariates,  $D_{it}$  a vector with dummy variables capturing the time since onset of the chronic disability and  $IADL_{it}$  the number of limitations with IADL. The coefficients can be estimated by means of ordinary least squares linear fixed effects. Additional statistics can be derived with the standard fixed effects calculations.

### 3.2.2 Fixed effects ordered probit model

The second model is based on the ordered fixed effects probit model put forward by Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre (2016) to examine adaptation to a long-standing illness.

Similar to the logit specification, a latent response variable is modelled by

$$Y_{it}^* = Y_{i,t-1}\lambda + C'_{it}\theta + D_{it}\delta + IADL_{it}\gamma + I_{it}\nu + \alpha_i + \varepsilon_{it}, \quad (11)$$

where  $Y_{it}^*$  and  $Y_{i,t-1}$  represent the latent response variable and observed response variable in the period  $t - 1$ . The response variable is again either self-reported health or life satisfaction. Moreover,  $I_{it}$  stands for incidence, corresponding to individuals having one or more limitations with instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) and  $IADL_{it}$  represents the number of limitations with IADL.  $D_{it}$  measures the duration since the onset of the chronic disability. Lastly, some sociodemographic control variables,  $C_{it}$ , are included. For convenience sake, all exogenous regressors are collected in the vector  $X_{it} = (C'_{it}, D_{it}, IADL_{it}, I_{it})'$  with corresponding parameters  $\beta = (\theta', \delta, \gamma, \nu)$ . Here,  $\alpha_i$  is the individual specific fixed effect and  $\varepsilon_{it}$  is assumed to follow a standard normal distribution.

The observed outcome  $Y_{it}$  is related to the latent response variable  $Y_{it}^*$  by

$$Y_{it} = k \text{ if } \tau_{k-1} < Y_{it}^* < \tau_k \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, K. \quad (12)$$

Here,  $K$  is the total number of categories and  $\tau_0 = -\infty$  and  $\tau_K = \infty$ . The probability for individual  $i$  in period  $t$  of reporting a specific  $Y_{it}$  category becomes:

$$P(Y_{it} = k) = \Phi(\tau_k - Y_{i,t-1}\lambda - X'_{it}\beta - \alpha_i) - \Phi(\tau_{k-1} - Y_{i,t-1}\lambda - X'_{it}\beta - \alpha_i), \quad (13)$$

with  $\Phi(\cdot)$  the standard normal cumulative distribution function.

The incidental parameters problem caused by the fixed effects and the initial condition problem as a result of the introduced dynamics are dealt with by using Wooldridge's (2005) approach, which suggests the parameterization of the fixed effects  $\alpha_i$  as a function of the first observed outcome in the sample and the average of the exogenous variables:

$$\alpha_i = \sigma + \phi Y_{i,1} + \mu \bar{X}_i + \varepsilon_i \quad (14)$$

The final equation can be obtained by substituting the results in equation 14 back into equation 13 producing:

$$P(Y_{it} = k) = \Phi(\tau_k - Y_{i,t-1}\lambda - X'_{it}\beta - \sigma - \phi Y_{i,1} - \mu \bar{X}_i) - \Phi(\tau_{k-1} - Y_{i,t-1}\lambda - X'_{it}\beta - \sigma - \phi Y_{i,1} - \mu \bar{X}_i), \quad (15)$$

The likelihood function obtained with these probabilities can be optimized by means of the maximum likelihood estimator. The standard errors can be obtained by the usual information matrix equality (taking the inverse of the Hessian that is calculated with respect to the likelihood function).

## 3.3 Analyses

## 4 Results

### 4.1 Data

**imputations!** **verander volgorde tabellen, descriptives eerst?** **flow-chart selectie procedure, number observations in tabellen** The data used for this study is obtained from the SHARE (Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe) database. It consists of a self-completed survey whose “ultimate goal is to provide high-quality micro-level panel data of economic, social and health factors that accompany and influence aging processes at the individual and societal levels” (Börsch-Supan et al., 2013, p. 993). The subjects are sampled from 18 European countries and Israel, and data has been collected for 6 waves between 2004 and 2015 <sup>1</sup>. The eligibility of the subjects is based on their age. Subjects of fifty years and over at the time of sampling were asked to participate in the SHARE project, whereas their spouse was asked to participate regardless of his or her age (SHARE Release Guide 6.0.0, 2017).

The measure for life satisfaction is obtained by the question: “*On a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 means completely dissatisfied and 10 means completely satisfied, how satisfied are you with your life?*”. For the analysis with life satisfaction, only waves 2, 4, 5 and 6 are used. Wave 3 is excluded because it diverges too much from the other waves and does not contain information on the relevant outcome variables and the first wave since it did not measure life satisfaction in this manner. The question on self-perceived health is posed in terms of how the respondent would describe their health in general, with categories Poor, Fair, Good, Very good and Excellent.

The number of individuals in the three bottom categories of the life satisfaction variable is too low to yield computationally feasible estimates. Therefore, the first three categories of the 11-point scale variable were merged, creating an 8-point scale. The resulting distribution of frequencies per life satisfaction category is displayed in table 2. The frequency distribution across the self-perceived health groups can be found in table 3.

Table 2: Life satisfaction categories with frequency distribution across waves

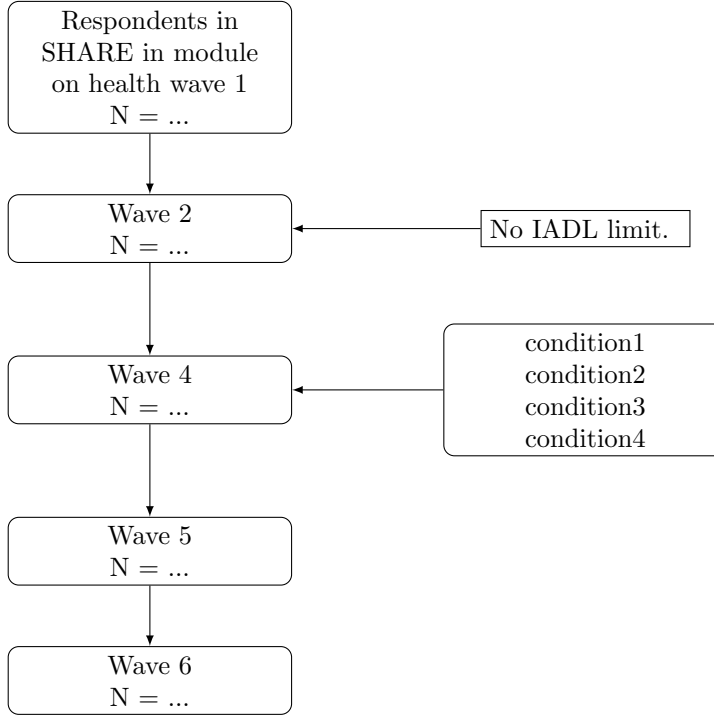
Life satisfaction	Waves			
	2004/2006(%)	2006/07(%)	2013(%)	2015(%)
1 = Rating scale 1,2,3	0.042	0.038	0.063	0.048
2 = Rating scale 4	0.023	0.029	0.035	0.029
3 = Rating scale 5	0.120	0.144	0.183	0.171
4 = Rating scale 6	0.104	0.097	0.104	0.104
5 = Rating scale 7	0.191	0.166	0.167	0.170
6 = Rating scale 8	0.272	0.273	0.231	0.259
7 = Rating scale 9	0.122	0.107	0.100	0.105
8 = Rating scale 10	0.125	0.145	0.118	0.115

<sup>1</sup>DOIs: 10.6103/SHARE.w1.600, 10.6103/SHARE.w2.600, 10.6103/SHARE.w3.600, 10.6103/SHARE.w4.600, 10.6103/SHARE.w5.600, 10.6103/SHARE.w6.600, see Börsch-Supan et al. (2013) for methodological details.

Table 3: Self-perceived health categories with frequency distribution across waves

Self-perceived health	Waves				
	2004/06(%)	2006/07(%)	2008/09(%)	2013(%)	2015(%)
1 = Poor	0.093	0.208	0.255	0.291	0.354
2 = Fair	0.351	0.385	0.434	0.428	0.455
3 = Good	0.403	0.297	0.241	0.222	0.159
4 = Very good	0.110	0.080	0.055	0.049	0.026
5 = Excellent	0.044	0.029	0.016	0.011	0.006

Table 4 presents the included variables and descriptive statistics. The main independent variables are disability incidence, number of limitations with IADL and duration (the time since the onset of the chronic limitations with IADL). The disability incidence takes a value of 1 if a respondent indicates to have one or more limitations with IADL. For the main analysis, I select individuals that report to have a chronic disability at some point after their first observed wave. This means that in their first observed wave, the disability incidence is 0. The prospective nature of this approach allows me to calculate the duration since the onset of the disability. Moreover, from the moment an individual indicates to have a disability, the disability cannot go away for the entire remainder of their observed waves. Hence, in all waves between the first wave with a chronic disability and the last observed wave, the disability incidence has to equal 1. Lastly, from the moment the respondent has one or more limitations with IADL, he or she should also indicate to be chronically ill. The chronic illness may already be indicated in the waves preceding the onset of the limitations, since I study adaptation to disability, and not to a diagnosis. These last two criteria ensure the chronic nature of the health limitations. This leaves me with over 13000 observations for the analysis with life satisfaction and over 15000 for that with self-perceived health.



Since there is no duration measure available in the SHARE data recording the age at onset of the IADL limitations, I construct the duration variable myself. If an individual reports to have a chronic disability in a particular wave, but not in the closest recorded preceding wave, the duration is calculated as the time in years between these two waves divided by two. If the individual has already reported chronic limitations for more than one wave, the full length in years between the current and preceding wave is added to the previously recorded duration. The time in years between two consecutive waves is based on the difference in age of a respondent between those waves. In the main model specification, duration is split up in dummy variables. The dummy variables indicate whether the onset of the chronic disability is reported within the past 2 years, between 2 and 5.5 years or more than 5.5 years ago. This division was chosen in order to spread out the subjects as much as possible across all dummy groups.

Additionally, I control for sociodemographic characteristics, like gender, marital status (married or registered partnership, not married), employment status (retired, employed, unemployed, inactive), education (less than high school equivalent, high school equivalent, more than high school equivalent) and number of children. The reference categories for marital status, employment status and education are being married, being employed and high school education respectively.

In table 4 it is apparent that by the end of data collection, about half of the observations concern individuals with disabilities. An overwhelming majority of the observations concerns individuals with a chronic illness. Considering that this measure also includes minor health impairments like hypertension and high blood pressure and the relatively older sample, this is not that surprising. The average number of limitations with IADL is 2.4. The average duration of having chronic limitations is 2

years. Note that relatively little observations fall into the categories Very good and Excellent for self-perceived health. This could be due to the age group studied in this data set, which is older compared to the general population with a mean age of 72. Moreover, approximately 41 % is male and 62 % is married. The majority of the sample is retired and about half of the sample does not have the equivalent of a modern high school degree.

Table 4: Descriptive statistics

Variable	Definition	Label	Mean	Standard deviation
Life satisfaction <sup>1</sup>	1 = Rating scale 1,2,3	Life satisfaction 1	0.049	0.216
	2 = Rating scale 4	Life satisfaction 2	0.030	0.171
	3 = Rating scale 5	Life satisfaction 3	0.159	0.365
	4 = Rating scale 6	Life satisfaction 4	0.102	0.303
	5 = Rating scale 7	Life satisfaction 5	0.171	0.377
	6 = Rating scale 8	Life satisfaction 6	0.256	0.437
	7 = Rating scale 9	Life satisfaction 7	0.107	0.309
	8 = Rating scale 10	Life satisfaction 8	0.126	0.332
Self-perceived health	1 = Poor	Poor	0.263	0.440
	2 = Fair	Fair	0.421	0.494
	3 = Good	Good	0.243	0.429
	4 = Very good	Very good	0.056	0.230
	5 = Excellent	Excellent	0.017	0.130
Incidence of disability	Incidence of any number of chronic limitations with IADL	Disability incidence	0.451	0.498
Incidence of chronic illness	Incidence of chronic illness	Illness incidence	0.832	0.374
Number of limitations <sup>2</sup>	Number of chronic limitations with IADL	Number of limitations	2.433	2.020
Duration <sup>2</sup>	Duration of chronic disability	Disability duration	2.000	1.653
Gender	1 = Male	Male	0.413	0.492
Age	Age	Age	72.108	10.388
Marital status	1 = Married/	Married/	0.618	0.486
	Registered partnership	Registered partnership		
Employment	1 = Retired	Retired	0.712	0.453
	2 = Employed	Employed	0.087	0.283
	3 = Unemployed	Unemployed	0.023	0.149
	4 = Inactive	Inactive	0.178	0.383
Education <sup>3</sup>	1 =< high school	< high school	0.544	0.498
	2 = High school	High school	0.210	0.407
	3 = > high school	> high school	0.246	0.431
Number of children	Number of children	Number of children	2.276	1.534
Number of observations				

<sup>1</sup> Life satisfaction is measured on a scale from 1 to 11 where 1 means completely dissatisfied and 11 means completely satisfied. The first three rating scale categories were merged in order to fill the first category enough for estimation purposes.

<sup>2</sup> Number of limitations and duration are calculated taking only the observations with a chronic disability into account.

<sup>3</sup> Education is measured by transforming the years of education in terms of high school duration.

education eruit WOPPING GRAPH



## 4.2 Results fixed effects ordered logit model

Here, I present the results for the estimation of the fixed effects ordered logit model. Table 5 presents the regression estimates for both the analysis with life satisfaction and that with self-perceived health.

In the regression with life satisfaction...**significance covariates** The estimated coefficient on the number of IADL limitations is significant and negative. This can be seen as evidence that a higher number of limitations is related to a lower life satisfaction. Moreover, there is no significant difference in the effect of no limitations with respect to 0 to 2 years of limitations on life satisfaction. Furthermore, the coefficient on more than 5.5 years of IADL limitations is significant and positive. This supports the adaptation hypothesis, meaning that higher levels of life satisfaction are more prevalent amongst individuals who have lived with chronic disability longer.

In the regression with self-perceived health... The number of IADL limitations also has a significant negative effect on self-perceived health. Interestingly, there is significant difference in the effect of a duration of 0 to 2 years and that of no limitations on self-perceived health. The positive sign indicates that individuals with no IALD limitations have a higher self-perceived health than those that have recently experienced the onset of disability. There is no indication of adaptation, with the subsequent duration dummies of 2 to 5.5 years and more than 5.5 years not being significantly different from 0 to 2 years.

**education, number of children misschien eruit**

Table 6 and 7 present the estimated marginal effects for the regression with life satisfaction and self-perceived health respectively. The effects represent the size of the effect of a marginal increase in a regressor on the probability of falling into a category higher than  $k$ .

From the table for life satisfaction, it is apparent that a unit increase in the number of IADL limitations, decreases the probability of reporting higher than categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 with approximately 0.8, 1.3, 3.2, 3.9, 4.4, 3.1 and 1.9 percentage points. On the other hand, having experienced a chronic disability for over 5.5 years increases the probability of reporting a life satisfaction category higher than 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 by 2.3, 3.5, 8.8, 10.9, 12.2, 8.7 and 5.4 percentage points respectively.

The marginal effects for the regression with self-perceived health show that the number of IADL limitations decreases the probability of reporting higher than the categories Poor, Fair, Good and Very good by 3.3, 3.6, 1.1 and 0.3 percentage points respectively. Moreover, not having any IADL limitations with respect to having chronic disability for 0 to 2 years increases the likelihood of reporting a category higher than Poor, Fair, Good and Very good with 17.3, 19.3, 6.1 and 1.5 percentage points. Note that the effect is a lot smaller for the categories Good and Very good, which might be counterintuitive, since this effect concerns people who do not have any disabilities. However, this could be due to the fact that the proportion of individuals reporting a self-perceived health that is Very good or Excellent is very small (see table 3).

Table 5: FE ordered logit regression

	Life satisfaction	Self-perceived health
<b>Marital status</b>		
(Ref. Married)		
Not married	-0.254 (0.157)	-0.048 (0.152)
<b>Employment status</b>		
(Ref. Employed)		
Retired	-0.443*** (0.133)	-0.725*** (0.146)
Unemployed	-0.705** (0.235)	-0.662** (0.228)
Inactive	-0.555*** (0.142)	-0.824*** (0.148)
<b>Number of children</b>		
Number of children	0.046 (0.038)	-0.029 (0.027)
<b>Duration</b>		
(Ref. 0-2 years IADL limitations)		
0 years IADL limit.	0.028 (0.118)	0.929*** (0.204)
2-5.5 years IADL limit.	0.141 (0.075)	-0.044 (0.080)
> 5.5 years IADL limit.	0.474*** (0.144)	-0.026 (0.146)
<b>Number of IADL limitations</b>		
Number of IADL limit.	-0.157*** (0.029)	-0.163*** (0.027)
Number of subjects	5259	5341
Number of observations	13328	15802

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. Standard errors are obtained by means of a cluster robust variance estimation.

Table 6: Marginal effects on the probability of reporting  $Y > k$ 

	Life satisfaction							
	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Score 5	Score 6	Score 7	Score 8
	Very dissatisfied							Very satisfied
<b>Duration</b>								
(Ref. 0-2 years IADL limitations)								
0 years (NO) IADL limit.	-0.001	-0.001	-0.003	-0.004	-0.004	-0.003	-0.002	-
2-5.5 years IADL limit.	0.007	0.010	0.026	0.032	0.036	0.026	0.016	-
> 5.5 years IADL limit.	0.023	0.035	0.088	0.109	0.122	0.087	0.054	-
<b>Number of IADL limitations</b>								
Number of IADL limit.	-0.008	-0.013	-0.032	-0.039	-0.044	-0.031	-0.019	-

*Note.* The marginal effects for the covariates are not shown for paucity. The covariates included are marital status, employment status, education and number of children. The reference categories are married, employed and high school education.

Table 7: Marginal effects on the probability of reporting  $Y > k$ 

	Self-perceived health				
	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
<b>Duration</b>					
(Ref. 0-2 years IADL limitations)					
years IADL limit.	0.173	0.193	0.061	0.015	-
2-5.5 years IADL limit.	-0.008	-0.009	-0.003	-0.001	-
> 5.5 years IADL limit.	-0.005	-0.006	-0.002	-0.000	-
<b>Number of IADL limitations</b>					
Number of IADL limit.	-0.033	-0.036	-0.011	-0.003	-

*Note.* Ref. stands for reference category. The marginal effects for the covariates are not shown for paucity. The covariates included are marital status, employment status, education and number of children. The reference categories are married, employed and high school education.

## 4.3 Results OLS and probit models

### 4.3.1 Results fixed effects OLS model

Table 8 presents the regression estimates for the fixed effects linear OLS model. For the full table of results including the effects of covariates see appendix A.3.

Table 8: FE linear least squares

Variable (Reference category)	Life satisfaction	Self-perceived health
0 years (NO) IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	0.041 (0.042)	0.319*** (0.017)
2-5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limitations)	0.114* (0.053)	0.019 (0.024)
> 5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limitations)	0.363*** (0.103)	0.049 (0.043)
Number of IADL limit.	-0.164*** (0.015)	-0.082*** (0.005)
Number of subjects	5259	5341
Number of observations	13328	15802

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. The regression estimates for the covariates are not shown for paucity. The covariates included are marital status, employment status, education and number of children. The reference categories are married, employed and high school education.

### 4.3.2 Results fixed effects ordered probit model

Table 9 presents the regression estimates for the fixed effects ordered probit model. For the full table of results including the effects of covariates see appendix A.4. [explain reference category for response variable according to paper](#)

Table 9: Ordered probit model life satisfaction

Life satisfaction		Self-perceived health	
Variable (Reference category)	Coefficients	Variable (Reference category)	Coefficients
$Y_{t-1} = 2$	0.693	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Fair}$	0.589***
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.36)	$(Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.068)
$Y_{t-1} = 3$	0.852*	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Good}$	0.970***
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.415)	$(Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.098)
$Y_{t-1} = 4$	0.932*	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Very good}$	1.241***
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.422)	$(Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.145)
$Y_{t-1} = 5$	1.162**	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Excellent}$	1.330***
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.385)	$(Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.346)
$Y_{t-1} = 6$	1.380***		
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.354)		
$Y_{t-1} = 7$	1.549***		
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.336)		
$Y_{t-1} = 8$	1.748***		
$(Y_{t-1} = 1)$	(0.373)		
$Y_{t,1} = 2$	0.720	$Y_{t,1} = \text{Fair}$	0.258
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.448)	$(Y_{t,1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.144)
$Y_{t,1} = 3$	0.728	$Y_{t,1} = \text{Good}$	0.508**
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.490)	$(Y_{t,1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.173)
$Y_{t,1} = 4$	0.888*	$Y_{t,1} = \text{Very good}$	0.713**
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.432)	$(Y_{t,1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.227)
$Y_{t,1} = 5$	0.861*	$Y_{t,1} = \text{Excellent}$	1.050**
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.435)	$(Y_{t,1} = \text{Poor})$	(0.380)
$Y_{t,1} = 6$	1.061*		
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.461)		
$Y_{t,1} = 7$	1.226**		
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.445)		
$Y_{t,1} = 8$	1.248*		
$(Y_{t,1} = 1)$	(0.506)		
Disability duration	0.100**	Disability duration	0.042*
	(0.031)		(0.018)
Incidence disability	-0.127	Incidence disability	-0.455***
	(0.121)		(0.042)
Number of IADL limitations	-0.061*	Number of IADL limitations	-0.121***
	(0.024)		(0.019)
Threshold 1	0.946	Threshold 1	0.040
Threshold 2	1.215	Threshold 2	1.468
Threshold 3	2.006	Threshold 3	2.683
Threshold 4	2.344	Threshold 4	3.504
Threshold 5	2.841		
Threshold 6	3.658		
Threshold 7	4.133		
Number of subjects	4556	Number of subjects	5335
Number of observations	8252	Number of observations	10455

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. Standard errors are obtained via the inverse of the negative hessian calculated with a maximum likelihood approach at the optimized estimates. The regression estimates for the covariates are not shown for paucity. The covariates included are marital status, employment status, education and number of children. The reference categories are married, employed and high school education.

## 4.4 Robustness checks

The first two columns of table ?? present the regression estimates for the fixed effects ordered logit model applied to individuals whose limitations with IADL stay constant over their entire observed period.

The second two columns of table ?? present the regression estimates for the fixed effects ordered logit model applied to individuals whose limitations with IADL increase over their observed period.

Table 10 presents the regression estimates for the fixed effects ordered logit model where duration is continuous as opposed to divided into dummy variables.

Table ?? presents the regression estimates for the fixed effects ordered logit model applied to individuals who are observed for at least three waves.

Table 10: FE ordered logit regression continuous duration

Variable (Reference category)	Life satisfaction	Self-perceived health
Disability duration	0.053* (0.024)	-0.129* (0.053)
Number of IADL limit.	-0.170*** (0.021)	-0.267*** (0.028)
Number of subjects	5259	5341
Number of observations	13328	15802

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. The regression estimates for the covariates are not shown for paucity. The covariates included are marital status, employment status, education and number of children. The reference categories are married, employed and high school education.

## 5 Discussion

### 5.1 Summary

I analyzed adaptation with a fixed effects ordered logit model making use of the BUC estimator proposed by Baetschmann, Staub and Winkelmann (2015). Supportive evidence for adaptation in the life satisfaction data was found, but not in self-perceived health.

The obvious discrepancy between these two results might first of all be due to the nature of the dependent variables. It is likely that people take many factors into account when answering a question about life satisfaction, which makes it into a more holistic measure of well-being. Hence, adaptation to chronic infirmity might be more apparent on the life satisfaction scale, since other factors like social support also affect this measure over time. In contrast, self-reported health is a much more

narrowly defined construct, which presumably focuses people’s attention on their health situation, which is not likely to have improved due to its chronic nature. **life satisfaction is hardly affected by chronic disability – happy people stay happy, sad people stay sad**

Considering the replication results of the study by Clark, D’Ambrosio and Ghislandi, I find that there could indeed be adaptation to chronic illness, although my results do not provide sufficient evidence. The coefficients on the duration dummies become increasingly less negatively related to good health and in some model specifications even positive. Hence, it might be worthwhile to study the effect of longer duration spells and see whether this observed trend develops into fully observable adaptation.

I do not find the significant effect of duration on self-reported health that Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre find.

## 5.2 Limitations

A limitation of this study is that its prospective nature (I can only include individuals whose onset of chronic infirmity is known) severely limits the effect of duration I can measure. My maximum duration time is 9.5 years and only a very small chronically indisposed sub-sample is observed for that period. Taking into account that Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Bonet, and Serra-Sastre (2016) only found a significant effect of duration after 20 years, the observed period in the SHARE data might simply not be long enough. Hence, future research should pay attention to the time scope of their data before conducting the analysis.

Furthermore, the SHARE data set is restricted to individuals of age 50 and up. It is possible that the adaptation process of the SHARE subjects differs from that of younger individuals. For example, it is imaginable that younger subjects find it easier to adapt to a chronic disability or disease, since they can more easily change their occupation or are less reliant on social support. Thus, the differences in the adaptation process for different age categories is a question for future research. Alternatively, the chronic conditions prevalent in the younger sample might be different to those reported by the older sample and the adaptation process for these subsets of diseases could differ.

Finally, a disadvantage of the methodology of Cubí-Mollà, Jofre-Boner and Serra-Sastre is that it heavily relies on the correct parameterization of the individual specific effects. It is true that this approach notably simplifies the analysis, but if the parameterization is misspecified the estimations will be inconsistent.

## 5.3 Implication theory

**kortere termijn adaptatie?**

## 5.4 Implications practice

**health state preferences**

## 5.5 conclusions

In conclusion, the different results for the adaptation analyses with life satisfaction and self-perceived health indicate that the adaptation response shift process differs depending on the construct used, a testament to the fact that happy people might not have the best of everything, but make the best of everything.

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# APPENDIX

## A.1

The first order derivatives of the conditional likelihood function for the Chamberlain estimator are as follows:

$$s_i^k = \frac{\partial \log(P_i^k(b))}{\partial b} = x_i' \left\{ d_i^k - \sum_{j \in B_i} j \frac{\exp(j' x_i b)}{\sum_{l \in B_i} \exp(l' x_i b)} \right\}.$$

The individual Hessians for this likelihood function are given by

$$H_i^k(b) = \frac{\partial^2 \log(P_i^k(b))}{\partial b \partial b'} = - \sum_{j \in B_i} \frac{\exp(j' x_i b)}{\sum_{l \in B_i} \exp(l' x_i b)} \times \left( x_i' j - \sum_{m \in B_i} \frac{\exp(m' x_i b)}{\sum_{l \in B_i} \exp(l' x_i b)} m' x_i \right) \left( x_i' j - \sum_{m \in B_i} \frac{\exp(m' x_i b)}{\sum_{l \in B_i} \exp(l' x_i b)} m' x_i \right)'.$$

## A.2

Table 11: Marginal effects on the probability of reporting  $Y > k$

Variable (Reference category)	Life satisfaction						
	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Score 5	Score 6	Score 7
Not married (Married)	-0.012	-0.018	-0.046	-0.056	-0.063	-0.045	-0.028
Retired (Employed)	-0.022	-0.034	-0.086	-0.106	-0.118	-0.084	-0.052
Unemployed (Employed)	-0.034	-0.053	-0.131	-0.162	-0.181	-0.129	-0.080
Inactive (Employed)	-0.026	-0.041	-0.101	-0.125	-0.139	-0.100	-0.061
Educ < high school (High school)	0.007	0.012	0.029	0.036	0.040	0.029	0.018
Educ > high school (High school)	0.009	0.015	0.036	0.045	0.050	0.036	0.022
Number of children	0.002	0.003	0.008	0.010	0.011	0.008	0.005
0 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	-0.001	-0.001	-0.003	-0.004	-0.004	-0.003	-0.002
2-5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	0.007	0.010	0.026	0.032	0.036	0.026	0.016
> 5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	0.023	0.035	0.088	0.109	0.122	0.087	0.054
Number of IADL limit.	-0.008	-0.013	-0.032	-0.039	-0.044	-0.031	-0.019

Marginal effects on the probability of reporting  $Y > k$

Variable (Reference category)	Self-perceived health			
	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good
Not married (Married)	-0.009	-0.010	-0.003	-0.001
Retired (Employed)	-0.142	-0.158	-0.050	-0.012
Unemployed (Employed)	-0.125	-0.139	-0.044	-0.011
Inactive (Employed)	-0.158	-0.176	-0.055	-0.014
Educ < high school (High school)	0.044	0.049	0.015	0.004
Educ > high school (High school)	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000
Number of children	-0.007	-0.008	-0.002	-0.001
0 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	0.173	0.193	0.061	0.015
2-5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	-0.008	-0.009	-0.003	-0.001
> 5.5 years IADL limit. (0-2 years IADL limit.)	-0.005	-0.006	-0.002	-0.000
Number of IADL limit.	-0.033	-0.036	-0.011	-0.003

### A.3

Complete ordinary least squares linear fixed effects regression on both life satisfaction and self-perceived health

Reference category	Variable	Life satisfaction		Self-perceived health	
Married	Not Married	-0.026*	(0.111)	-0.030	(0.044)
Employed	Retired	-0.299**	(0.094)	-0.286***	(0.039)
	Unemployed	-0.468**	(0.157)	-0.267***	(0.065)
	Inactive	-0.387***	(0.103)	-0.326***	(0.042)
High school	Educ < high school	0.114	(0.122)	0.062	(0.046)
	Educ > high school	0.148	(0.123)	0.004	(0.043)
-	Number of children	0.038	(0.038)	-0.001	(0.015)
<b>adaptation</b>					
0-2 years IADL limitations	0 years (NO) IADL limitations	0.041	(0.042)	0.319***	(0.017)
	2-5.5 years IADL limitations	0.114*	(0.053)	0.019	(0.024)
	> 5.5 years IADL limitations	0.363***	(0.103)	0.049	(0.043)
-	Number of IADL limitations	-0.164***	(0.015)	-0.082***	(0.005)
-	Number of subjects	5259		5341	
-	Number of observations	13328		15802	

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses.

## A.4

Complete fixed effects ordered probit regression on self-perceived health.

Self-perceived health				
	Reference category	Coefficients	Parameterization of FE	
$Y_{t-1} = \text{Fair}$	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor}$	0.589*** (0.068)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.258 (0.144)
$Y_{t-1} = \text{Good}$	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor}$	0.970*** (0.098)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.508** (0.173)
$Y_{t-1} = \text{Very good}$	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor}$	1.241*** (0.145)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.713** (0.227)
$Y_{t-1} = \text{Excellent}$	$Y_{t-1} = \text{Poor}$	1.330*** (0.346)	$Y_{t,1}$	1.050** (0.380)
Not married	Married	0.070 (0.118)	Mean	0.018 (0.123)
Retired	Employed	-0.026 (0.116)	Mean	0.055 (0.227)
Unemployed	Employed	0.074 (0.186)	Mean	0.017 (0.326)
Inactive	Employed	-0.065 (0.120)	Mean	0.014 (0.231)
Educ < high school	High school	0.081 (0.106)	Mean	-0.065 (0.120)
Educ > high school	High school	-0.009 (0.096)	Mean	-0.092 (0.118)
Number of children		-0.015 (0.040)	Mean	0.038 (0.041)
Disability duration		0.042* (0.018)	Mean	-0.030 (0.024)
Incidence disability		-0.455*** (0.042)	Mean	0.115 (0.121)
Number of IADL limitations		-0.121*** (0.019)	Mean	-0.049 (0.017)
Threshold 1		0.040		
Threshold 2		1.468		
Threshold 3		2.683		
Threshold 4		3.504		
Number of subjects		5335		
Number of observations		10455		

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. Standard errors are obtained via the inverse of the negative hessian calculated with a maximum likelihood approach at the optimized estimates.

Complete fixed effects ordered probit regression on life satisfaction.

Life satisfaction				
	Reference category	Coefficients	Parameterization of FE	
$Y_{t-1} = 2$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	0.693 (0.362)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.720 (0.448)
$Y_{t-1} = 3$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	0.852* (0.415)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.728 (0.490)
$Y_{t-1} = 4$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	0.932* (0.422)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.888* (0.432)
$Y_{t-1} = 5$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	1.162** (0.385)	$Y_{t,1}$	0.861* (0.435)
$Y_{t-1} = 6$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	1.380*** (0.354)	$Y_{t,1}$	1.061* (0.461)
$Y_{t-1} = 7$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	1.549*** (0.336)	$Y_{t,1}$	1.226** (0.445)
$Y_{t-1} = 8$	$Y_{t-1} = 1$	1.748*** (0.373)	$Y_{t,1}$	1.248* (0.506)
Not married	Married	-0.120 (0.201)	Mean	0.040 (0.194)
Retired	Employed	-0.484 (1.081)	Mean	0.957 (1.081)
Unemployed	Employed	-0.818 (2.250)	Mean	1.377 (2.546)
Inactive	Employed	-0.509 (1.078)	Mean	0.918 (1.133)
Educ < high school	High school	-0.152 (0.151)	Mean	0.277* (0.134)
Educ > high school	High school	-0.019 (0.292)	Mean	0.236 (0.347)
Number of children		0.049 (0.079)	Mean	0.002 (0.089)
Disability duration		0.100** (0.031)	Mean	-0.071 (0.045)
Incidence disability		-0.127 (0.121)	Mean	0.235 (0.372)
Number of IADL limitations		-0.061* (0.024)	Mean	-0.071 (0.045)
Threshold 1		0.946		
Threshold 2		1.215		
Threshold 3		2.006		
Threshold 4		2.344		
Threshold 5		2.841		
Threshold 6		3.658		
Threshold 7		4.133		
Number of subjects		4556		
Number of observations		8252		

*Note.* The significant codes are as follows: \*\*\* indicates  $p < 0.001$ , \*\* indicates  $p < 0.01$ , \* indicates  $p < 0.05$ . Standard errors are reported underneath the regression estimates within parentheses. Standard errors are obtained via the inverse of the negative hessian calculated with a maximum likelihood approach at the optimized estimates.