1. Does this match the stuff you did way back using the other data?

Yes. When I compare the total mortality rates between the WHO data and the HMD data they are quite comparable in both absolute magnitude and trends. The age specific graphs of log mortality vs time also display similar trends.

1. Can you look through this and follow cohorts over time (just by looking at the pictures) for both internal and external causes, and describe what is happening for different age groups and over time?

External Causes:

* As we go through time from 1950s to present we that the US goes from doing relatively well with rates that are fairly comparable to Australia and Canada to having rates that are almost double to the best positioned country.
* Between 1950-1980 we see a decrease across age groups in external cause mortality but from 1980-present we see that it begins to increase across the countries, though the US it increases the most.
* As we go up the age distribution, we find that the very young and the very old have the lowest rates and those in the working age range have the worst in both absolute rate and US position. In almost all years, the US is by far the worst for external cause mortality for men and women aged 25-64
* Relative positions between external cause rates of men and women are similar, the main differences are that the absolute rate for women is much lower and that cohorts born in the same year but different sex have different outcomes.
* US Women aged <35 in 1950 start with a clear disadvantage and this gap narrows as they age
* US Men aged <35 in 1950 only show small disadvantages relative to their peers as they go through life
* US Women and men aged <35 in 1980 start off with some disadvantage that remains fairly constant through 2010

Internal Causes:

* Internal cause mortality has declined over time, though this decline has been less pronounced for the oldest age groups and is most clear for the young. For the 75-84 group, the internal cause mortality rate has barely moved.
* Relative positions for working age population seems to show that the US has always had a fairly poor position relative to Australia and Canada but that this gap was shrinking until 1980 and then began to grow again since then.
* Men and women exhibit similar trends across time and countries
* Cohorts show a clear deterioration when we pass 1980. For groups aged <35 in 1950, all three countries were quite close in internal cause mortality. By 1980, the US was a clear third place with the gap widening until the cohort reaches medicare eligibility age where it then closes a little and in some cases the US rises to 2nd place.
* For groups aged <35 in 1980, the countries are quite close but the US position deteriorates rapidly and continues to widen through 2010.