

This paper analyzes trends in lifespan dispersion in Central and Eastern Europe since 1960, deepening our understanding of lifespan dispersion and also providing an overview of mortality trends in the region since 1960. The analysis is appropriate, comprehensive and powerful. The manuscript has been significantly improved. I just have several minor comments.

I felt that this paper could be made shorter. The results section is quite detailed, and the discussion section is a little repetitive and redundant. Some descriptions do not seem very important. This is not a serious problem, but some editorial revisions for condensing the paper a little more would make it easier to read the paper thoroughly.

P4. 'We decomposed mortality ...' → We decomposed changes in  $e_0$  and  $e^\dagger$  ...

P5. 'Keyfitz's life table entropy'  
Should credits be given to Demetrius as well?

P15, L3. 'even direction with changes ...'  
It is not fully clear to me whether an increase or a decrease in  $e^\dagger$  corresponds to an increase in  $e_0$ .

P15, paragraph 2.  
Is this paragraph really necessary?

P16. 'younger age lifespan variability'  
The meaning of this concept is unclear. It meant "contributions of mortality change at younger ages to life span variability"?

P16, paragraph 2.  
Is the second sentence really necessary?

P17. 'early-adult mortality compression'  
The meaning of this concept is not clear, either. It meant "mortality compression due to reduction of death rates at early adult ages"?

Page 17, paragraph 1.  
Is the last sentence really necessary?

P18, paragraph 2. 'differences in lifespan variability'  
By what? Or should it be just 'lifespan variability'?

P18, paragraph 2. 'cancers and cardiovascular diseases helped ...'  
→ 'reduction in mortality from cancers and cardiovascular diseases helped ...'

P18., paragraph 4. 'predictability of life' → 'predictability of lifespan'

Figure 1, 4-6.  
CEE is used to represent Central Europe. But CEE is for Central and Eastern Europe. CEE should be changed to CE.

Figure 1.

Vertical ticks for 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010 would be very helpful.