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A unified framework of demographic time

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objective

We add a third dimension to the Lexis diagram to account for time-to-death. This results in three *new* kinds of 2D Lexis diagrams, and a 3D Lexis diagram that is the intersection of the four *degenerate* diagrams.

(It turns out Lexis himself did something eerily similar, but not identical. Happy to explain how it works too)

Aspects of time we consider

- A: chronological age
- P: period, calendar year
- C: birth cohort
- T: time until death
- D: death cohort = year of death
- L: ultimate complete lifespan

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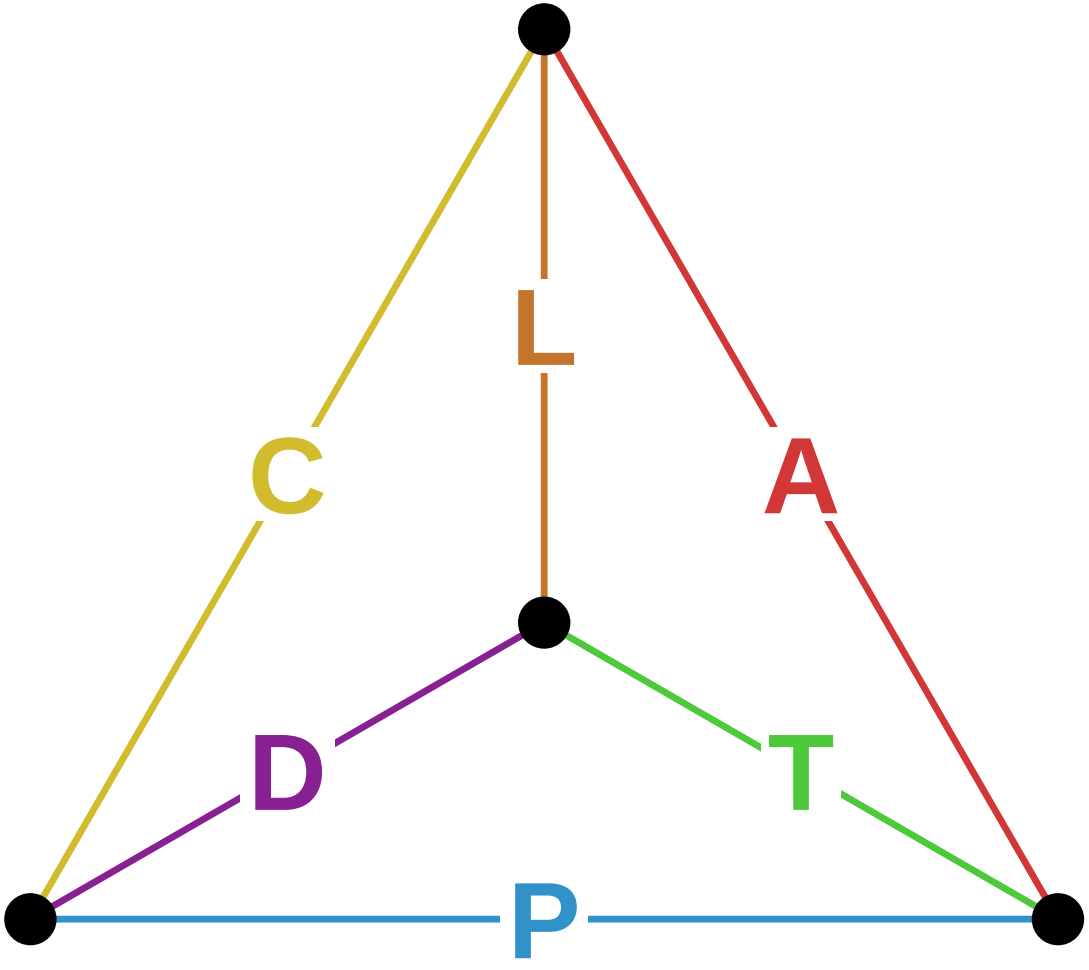
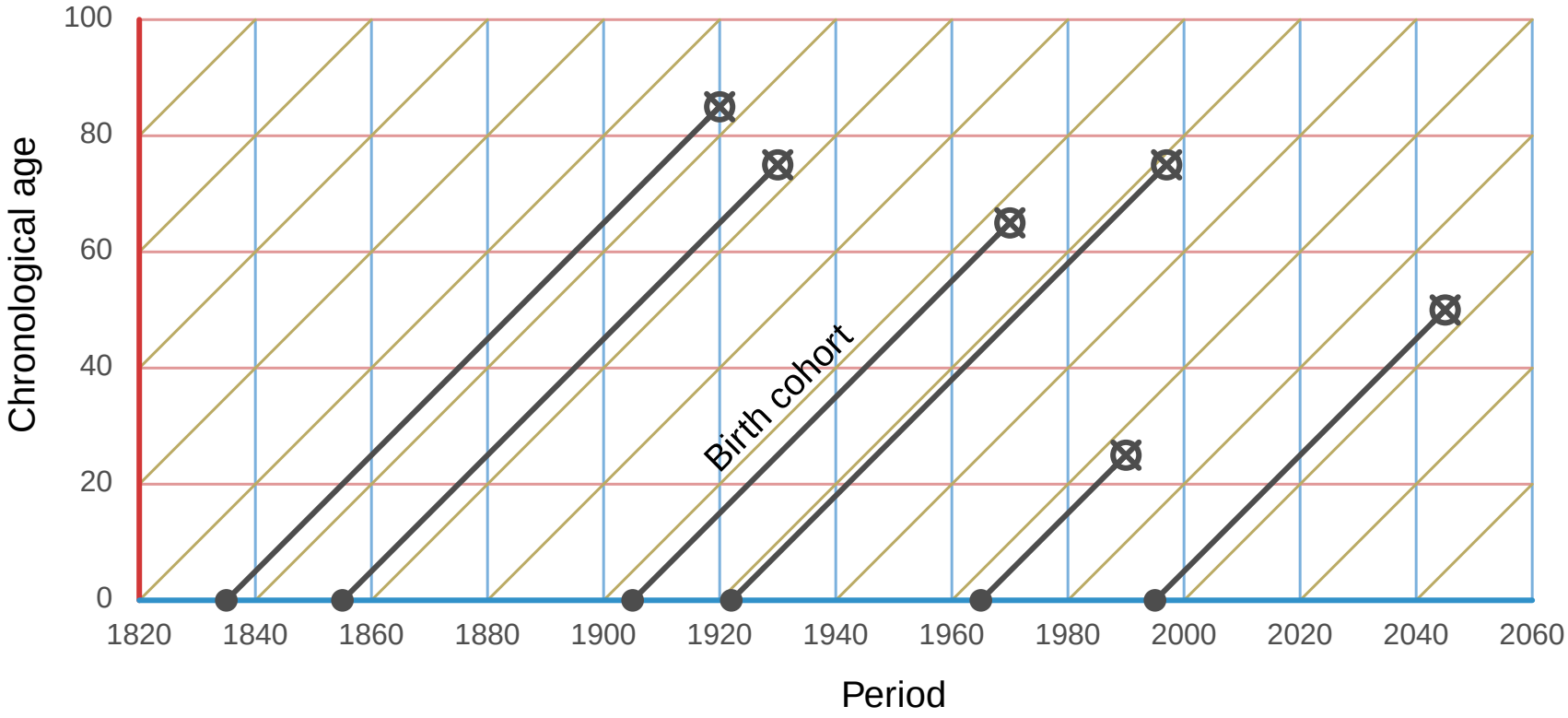
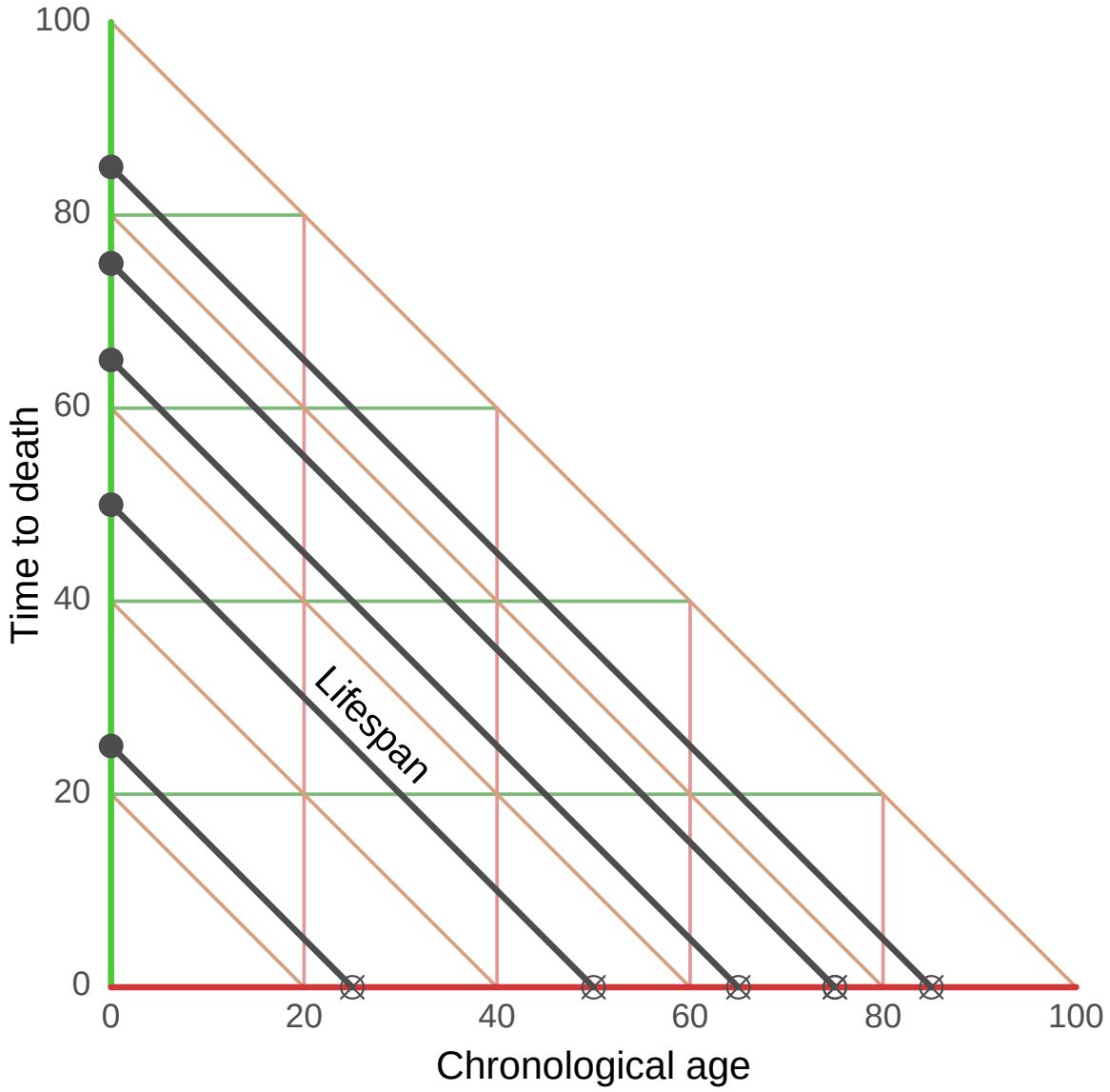
The demographic time identity



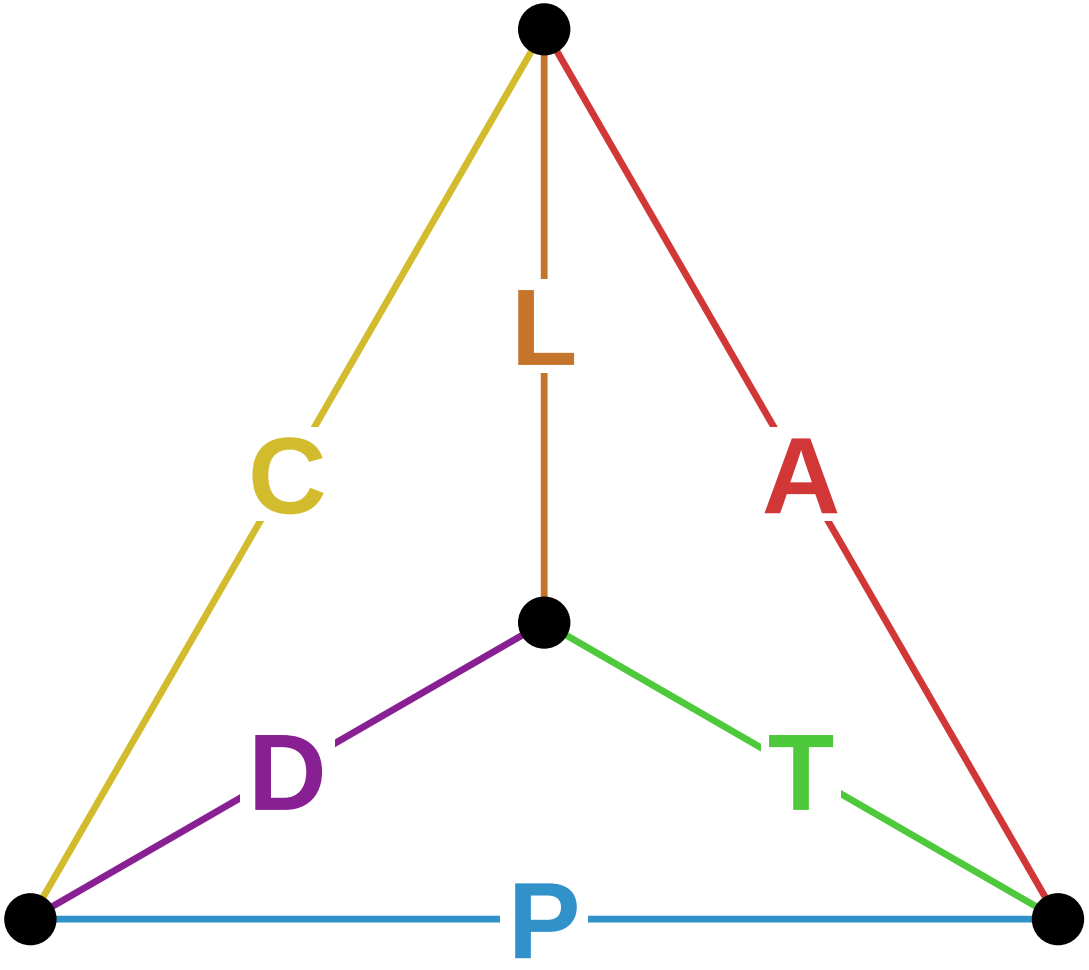
APC


Chronological age
100
80
60
40
20
0
1820
1840
1860
1880
1900
1920
1940
1960
1980
2000
2020
2040
2060
Period
Birth cohort

APC


100
80
60
40
20
0
Time to death
Lifespan
0
20
40
60
80
100
Chronological age

The demographic time identity



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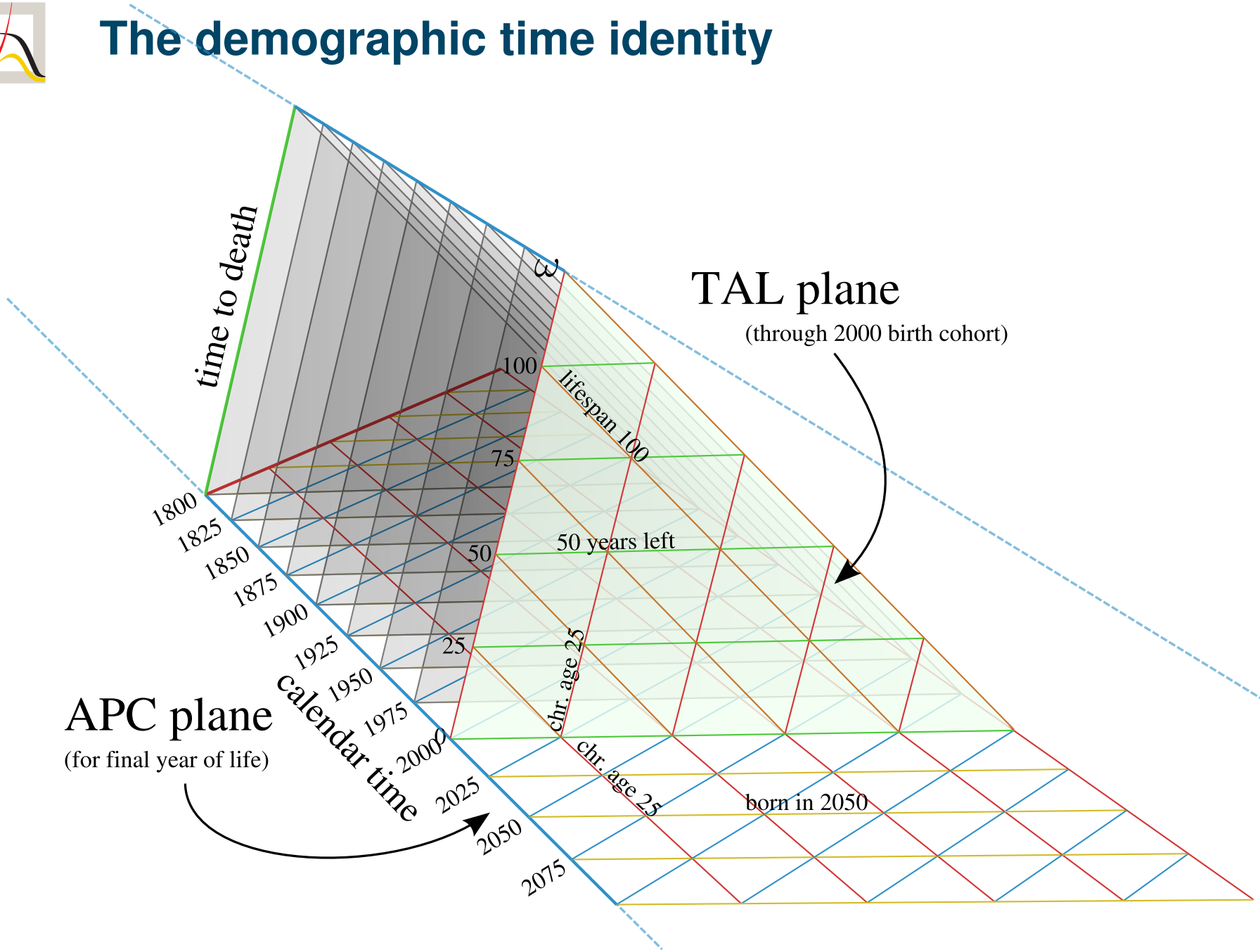
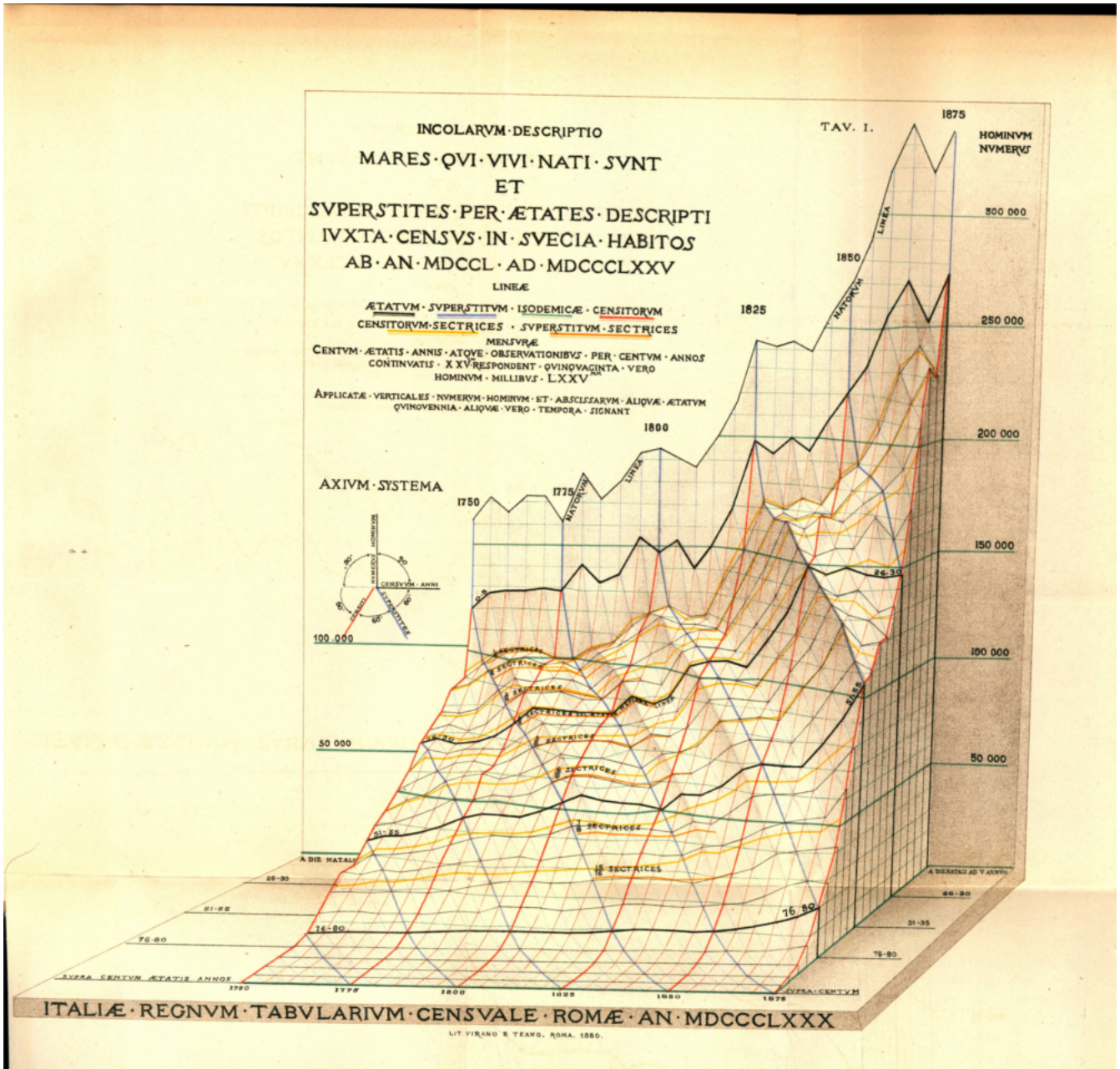
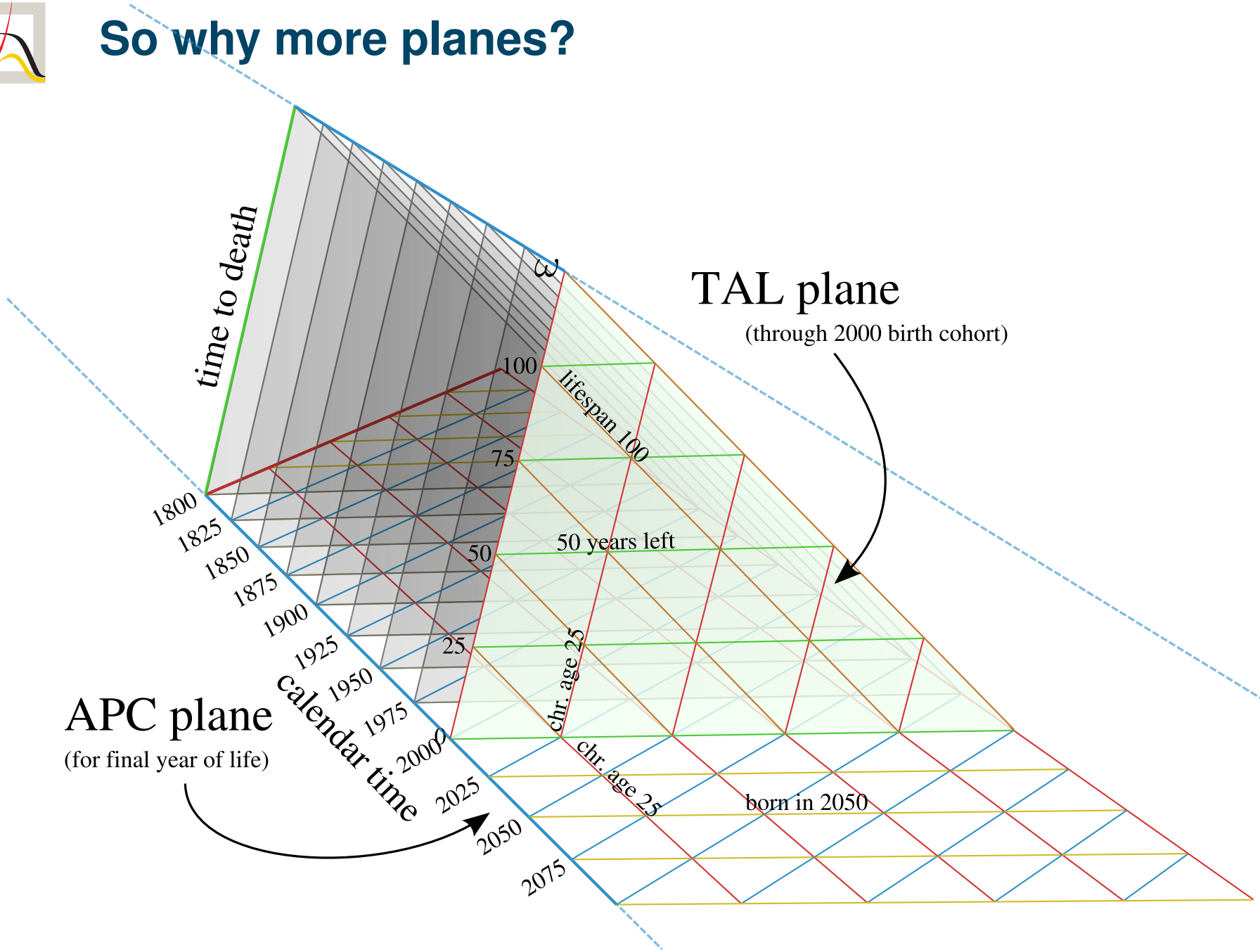


APC can reveal patterns



So why more planes?



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- to uncover more patterns
- to improve measurement
- to understand processes
- to make better models

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An example inquiry

- compare end-of-life trajectories for several birth cohorts (1905 - 1925)
- HRS (Rand), waves 1-11 (years 1992-2012)
- use TAL plane to uncover patterns that APC hides
- this example: prevalence of poor self-reported health

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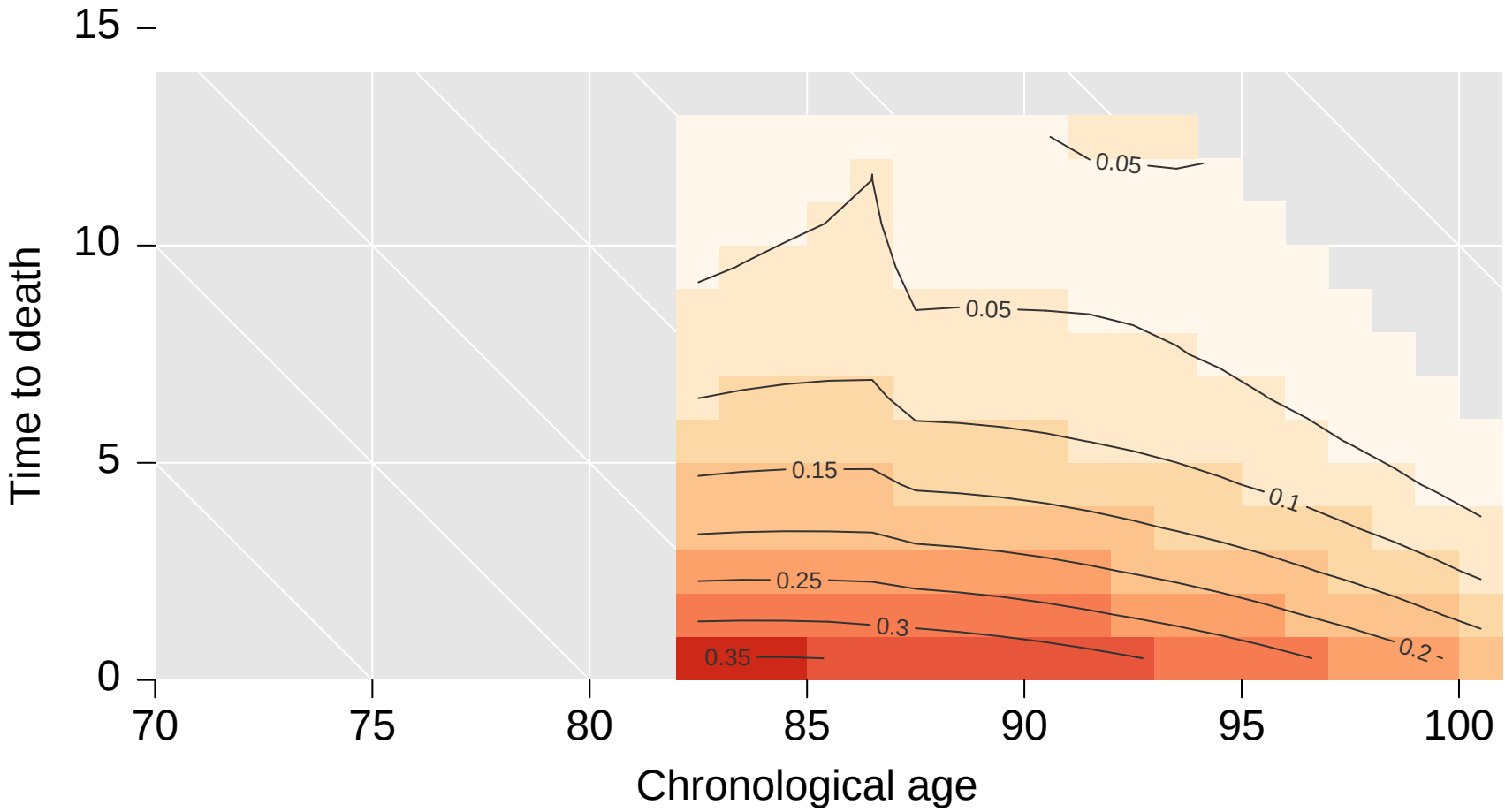
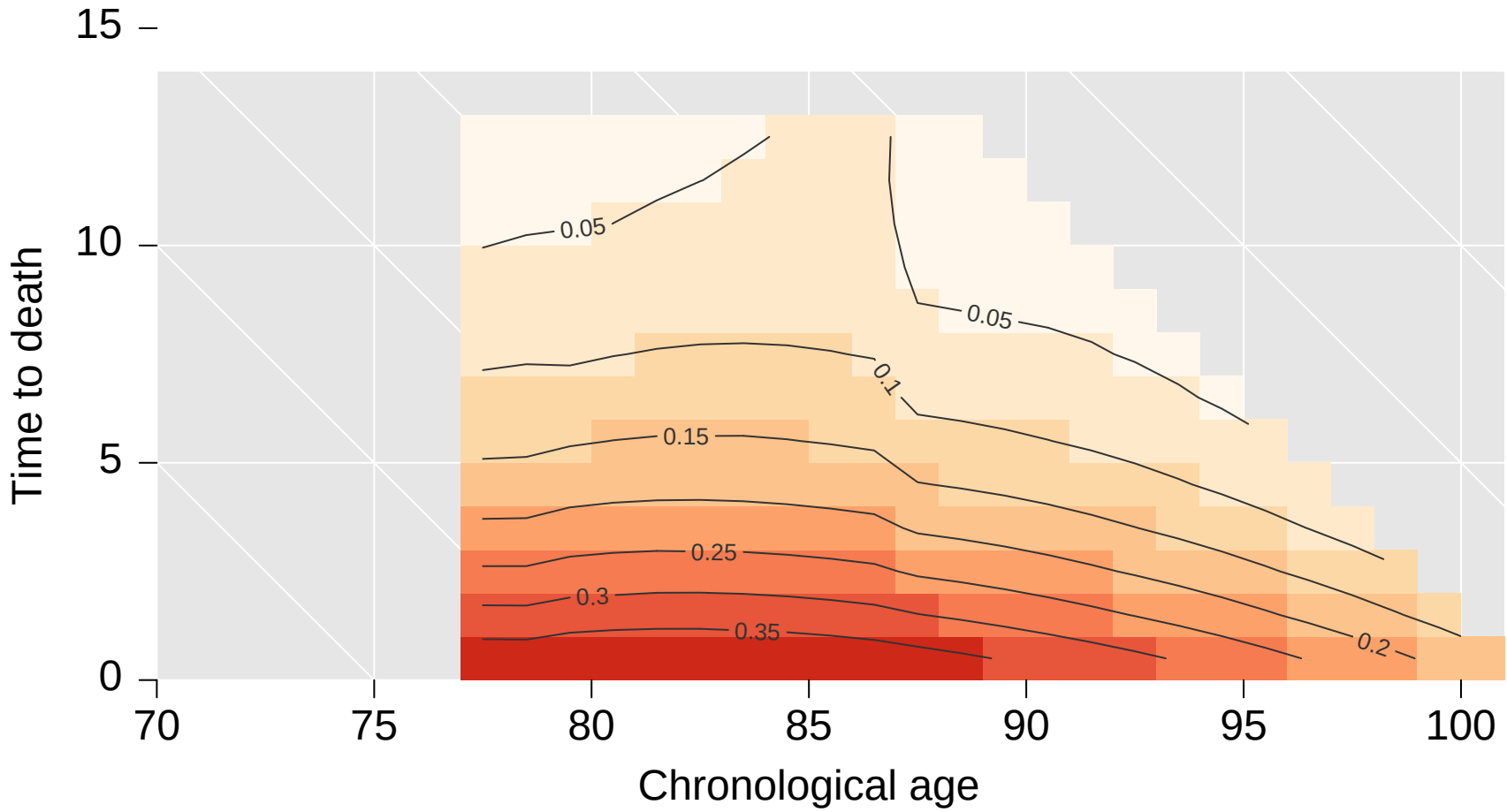
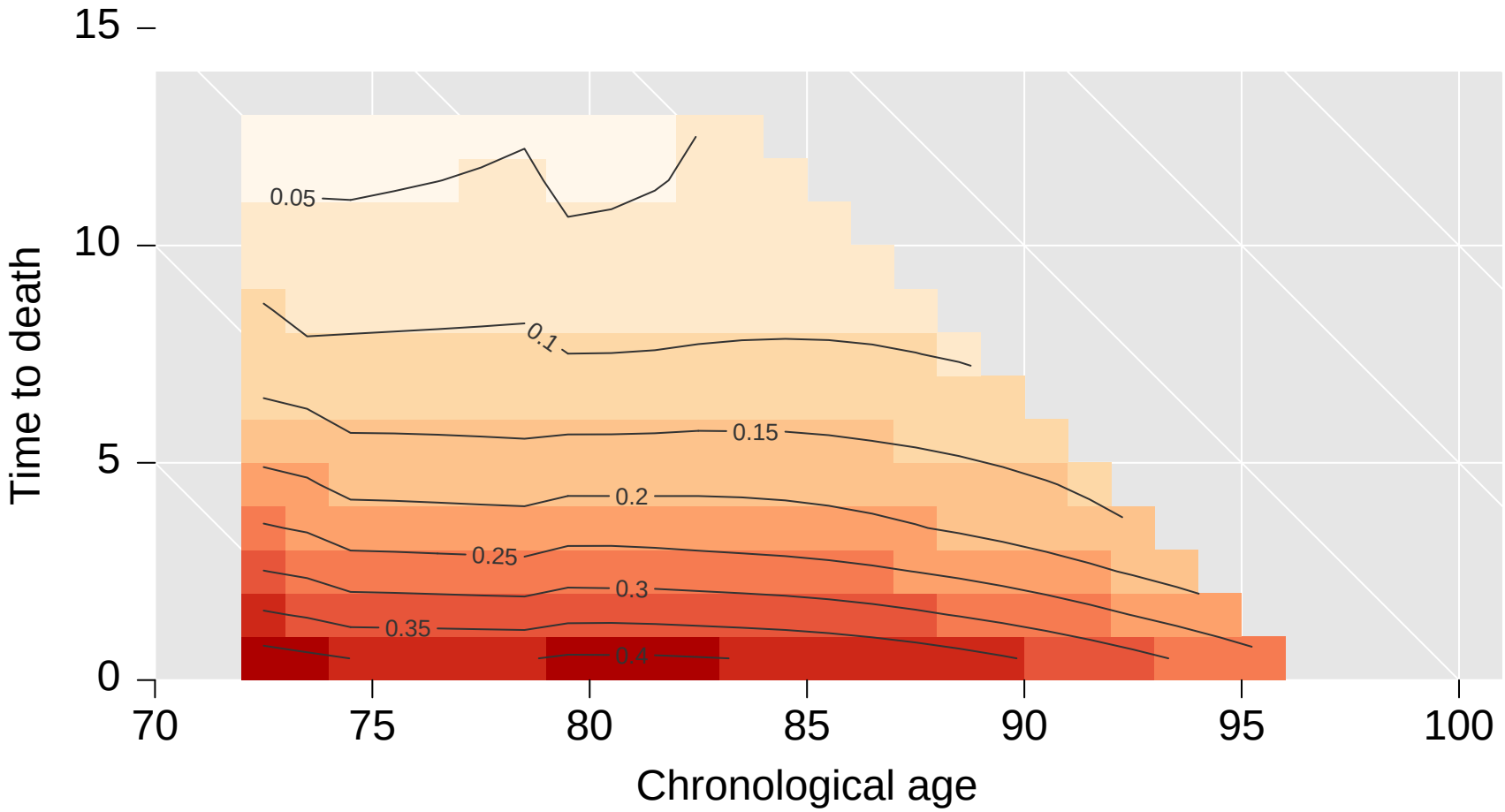
1905 cohort


15
10
5
0
Time to death
70
75
80
85
90
95
100
Chronological age
0.05
0.05
0.15
0.1
0.25
0.3
0.2
0.35

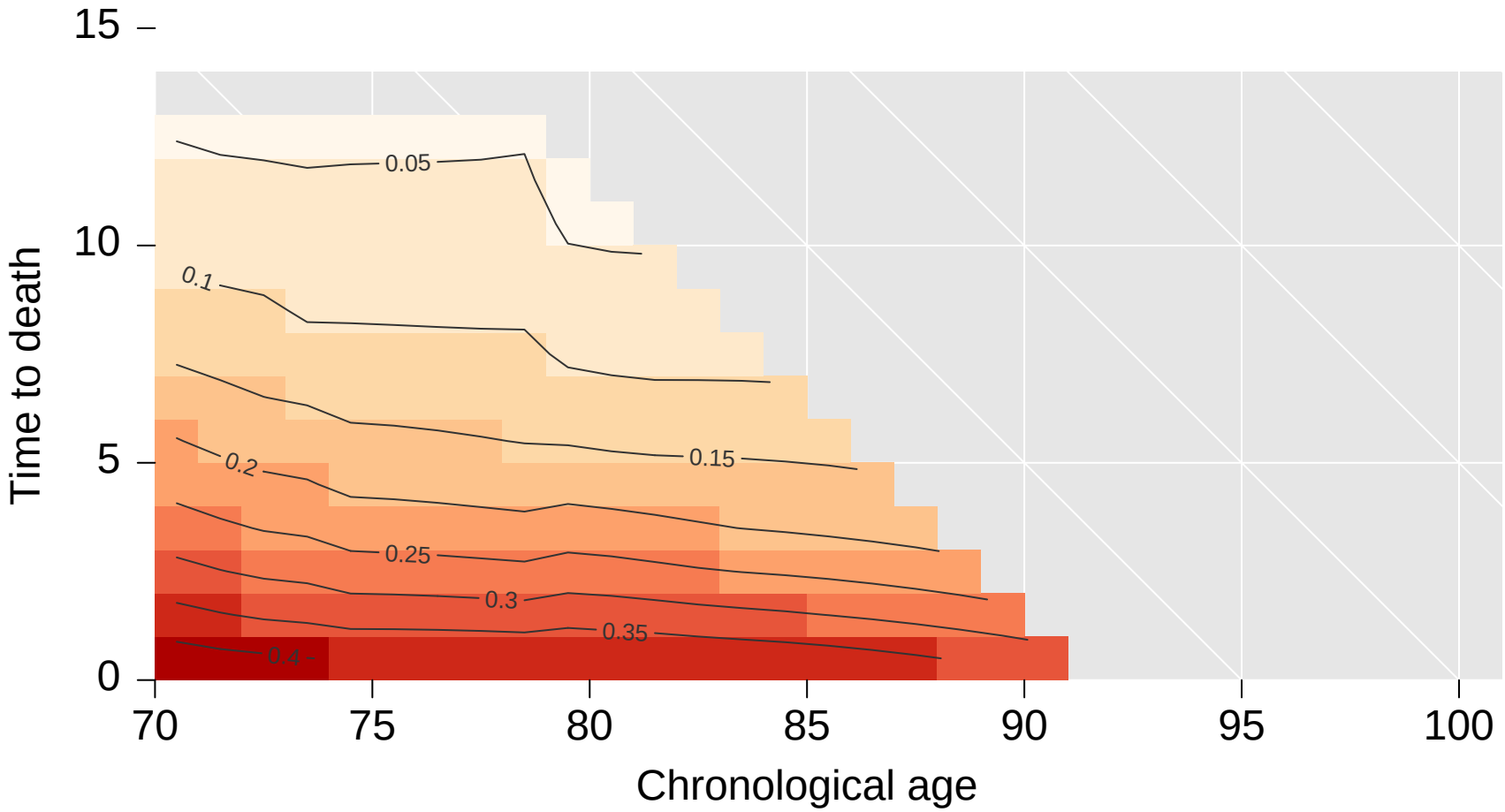
1910 cohort, looking pretty similar



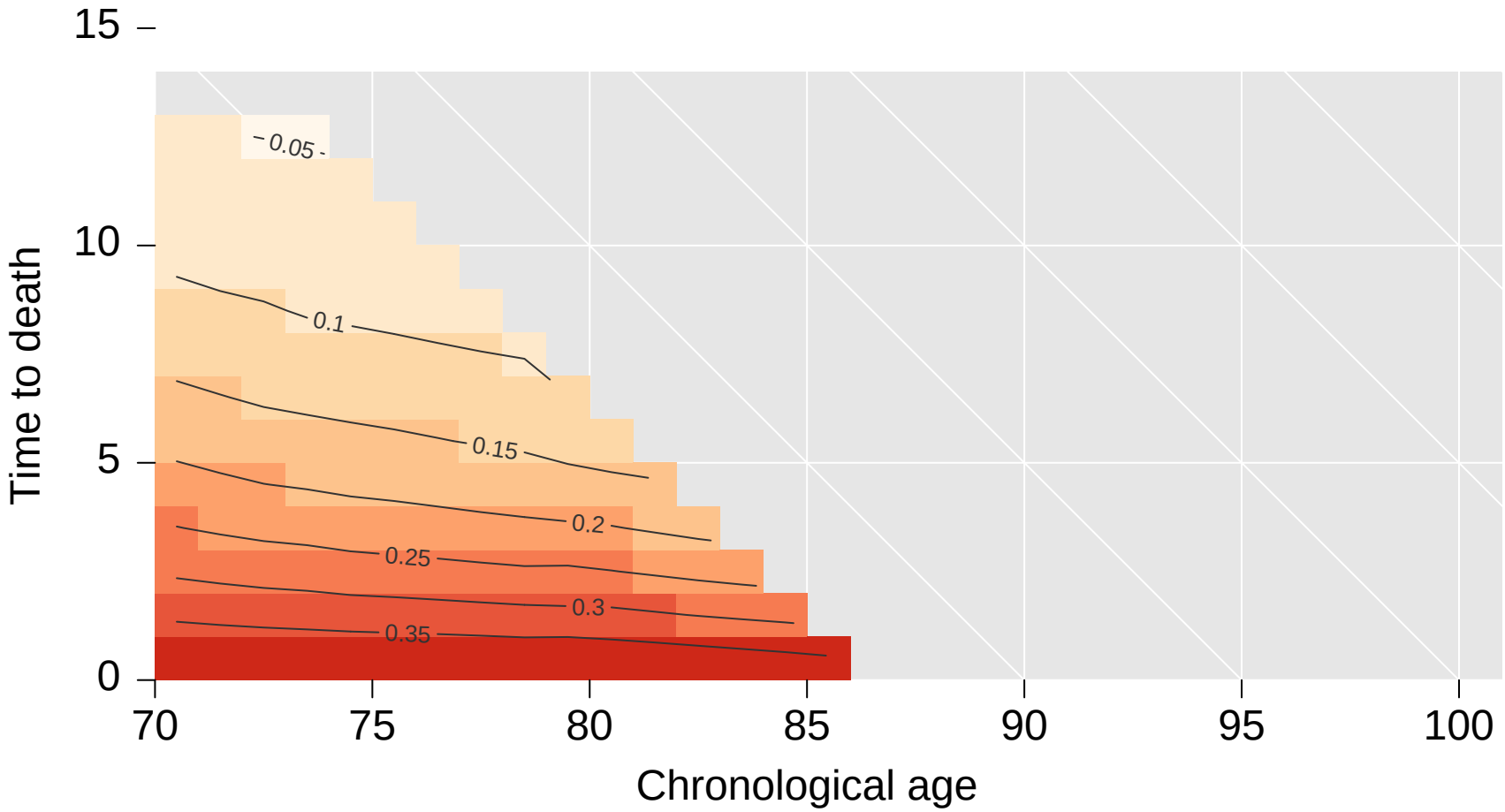
1915 cohort, looking pretty similar



1920 cohort, looking pretty similar



1925 cohort, looking pretty similar



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- visualize data structured in this way ASAP, because you might see new and exciting things

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Thanks!