

HUMAN

CAPITAL

The human capital model

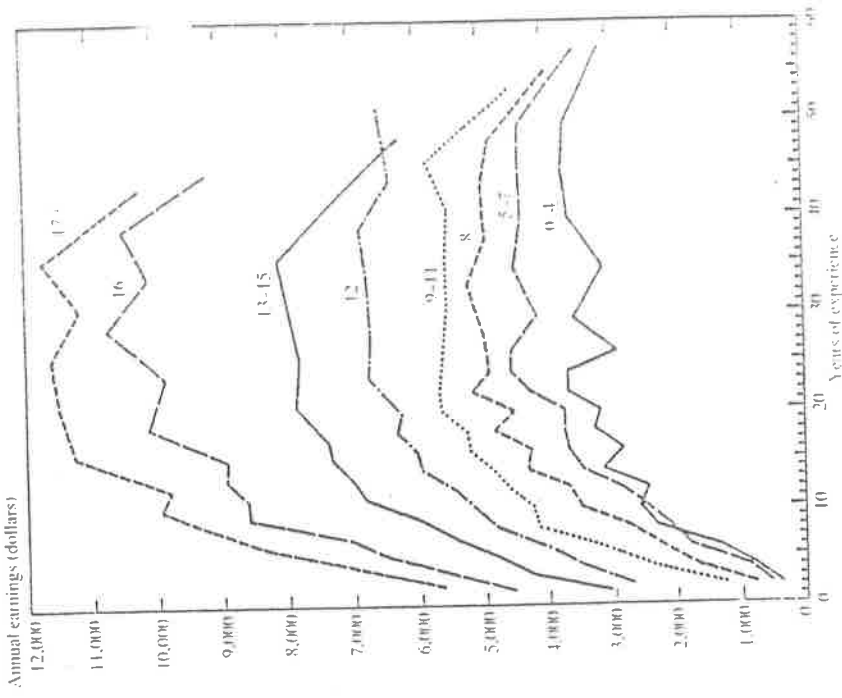


Figure 2.3 Experience-earnings profiles for white non-farm men by schooling level, 1959. Source: Mincer, 1974, 67

In figure 2.3 the two earnings patterns alluded to earlier are eminently clear: (1) earnings rise with age at a diminishing rate and (2) earnings profiles are

The life-cycle human capital model

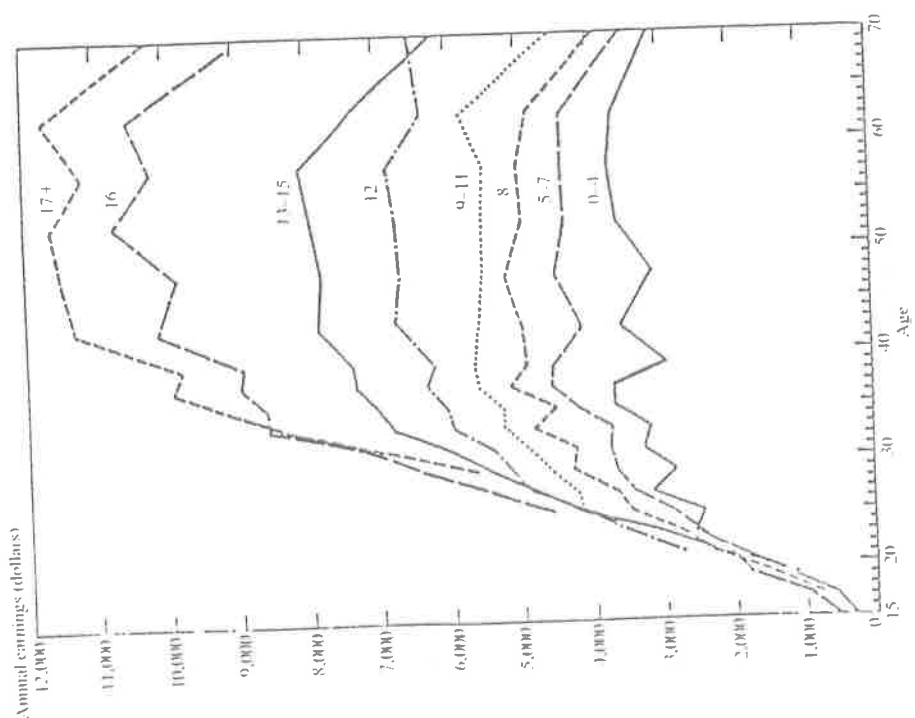
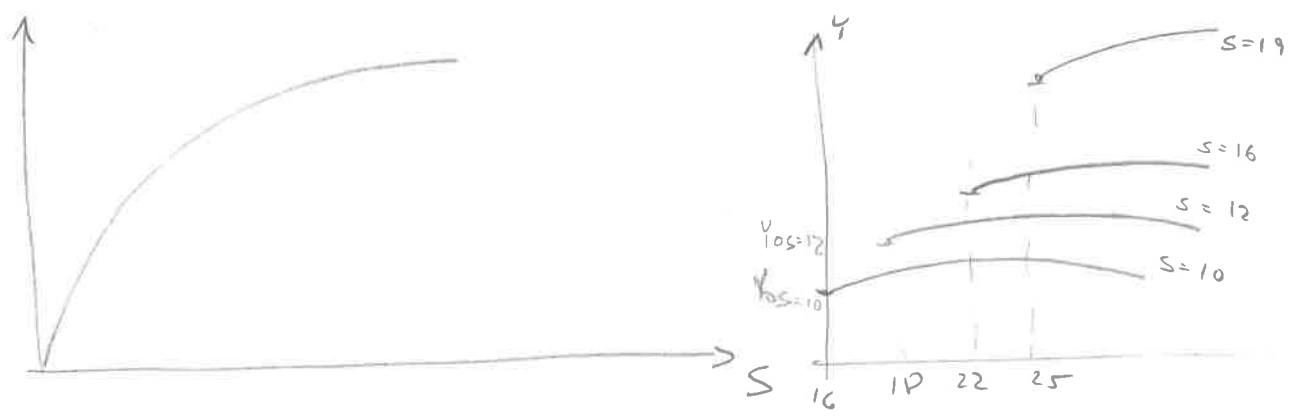


Figure 2.2 Age-earnings profiles of white non-farm men by schooling level, 1959. Source: Mincer, 1974, 66

DATA :  $r \dots$  not necessarily constant



$r \dots$  over time (history)

$L$ , 1940 - 1970 US constant

1970  $\dots$  down

1980 - 1990  $\nearrow$

Redy' problem

Mincerian regression

$$\ln Y_i = \alpha + \beta \cdot \text{EDU}_i + \delta_1 \text{EXP}_i + \delta_2 \text{EXP}_i^2$$

$$\beta > 0$$

$$\delta_1 > 0$$

$$\delta_2 < 0$$

# Original idea of HC model - Mincer

↓  $E_t$

- At any period of life,  $t$ , decision on how to allocate a unit of time (day, year)

$0 < \phi_t < 1$ ; if  $1 - h_t \sim$  share devoted to work  $\Rightarrow Y_t = E_t (1 - h_t)$   <sup>$w=1$</sup>

$h_t$  ——— to studies:

forgone earnings (costs)

$$C_t = h_t E_t$$

increase in HC in the future

$$E_{t+1} = E_t + r C_t$$

$r > 0 \sim$  return

$$\Delta E_t = r C_t$$

$$\Delta E_t / C_t = r$$

## Questions:

- shape of life-cycle profile of  $Y_t, E_t, C_t$ ?
- decisions driving  $h_t$ ?
- shape of profile during formal schooling?
- decision driving optimal schooling?
- testable predictions?

$$E_t \equiv Y_t + C_t$$

$$E_{t+1} = E_t + r C_t$$

$$C_t = \begin{cases} E_t & \sim \text{edu} \#0 \\ c_0(1 - \frac{t}{T}) & \sim \text{version} \#1 \\ b_0(1 - \frac{t}{T}) E_t & \sim \text{version} \#2 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{dE_t}{dt} = r C_t \rightarrow dE_t = r C_t dt$$

$$\#0 \quad dE_t = r E_t dt$$

$$\frac{dE_t}{E_t} = r dt$$

$$\int \frac{dE_t}{E_t} \equiv \ln E_t = r \cdot S + E_0$$

$$\#2 \quad dE_t = r b_0(1 - \frac{t}{T}) E_t$$

$$\frac{dE_t}{E_t} = r b_0(1 - \frac{t}{T})$$

$$\int \frac{dE_t}{E_t} \equiv \ln E_t = r b_0 \underline{\underline{EXP}} - r b_0 \frac{t}{2T} \underline{\underline{EXP^2}} + E_0$$

$$Y_t = E_t - C_t = E_t [1 - b_0(1 - \frac{t}{T})]$$

$$\ln Y_t \approx \ln E_t - b_0(1 - \frac{EXP}{T})$$

$$\ln Y_t = \text{const}_1 + \beta \cdot S + \delta_1 EXP + \delta_2 EXP^2$$

Sample of Mincer regression coefficients

	Coefficient on EXP	100*Coefficient on EXP2	Years of maximum returns from experience	Average years of schooling 1995	Coefficient on EDU	Period
Argentina	0.052	-0.07	37.1	0	0.11	1989
Austria	0.039	-0.067	29.1	11.9	0.04	1987
Bolivia	0.046	-0.06	38.3	0	0.07	1989
Brazil	0.073	-0.1	36.5	5.3	0.15	1989
Britain	0.091	-0.15	30.3	12.1	0.10	1972
Canada	0.025	-0.046	27.2	13.2	0.04	1981
Chile	0.048	-0.05	48.0	0	0.12	1989
China	0.019	0	n.a.	0	0.05	1985
Colombia	0.059	-0.06	49.2	0	0.15	1989
Czech R.	0.021	-0.04	26.3	12.5	0.03	Men, 1989
Czech R.	0.021	-0.04	26.3	12.5	0.07	Men, 1996
Czech R.	0.028	-0.059	23.7	0	0.04	1988
Czech R.	0.032	-0.063	25.4	0	0.09	1996
Denmark	0.033	-0.057	28.9	12.4	0.05	1990
Ecuador	0.054	-0.08	33.8	0	0.10	1987
Greece	0.039	-0.088	22.2	10.9	0.03	1985
Guatemala	0.044	-0.06	36.7	0	0.14	1989
Hungary	0.034	-0.059	28.8	11.3	0.04	1987
India	0.041	-0.05	41.0	0	0.06	1981
Indonesia	0.094	-0.1	47.0	0	0.17	1981
Ireland	0.061	-0.1	30.5	10.8	0.08	1987
Israel	0.029	-0.046	31.5	0	0.06	1979
Italy	0.01	-0.027	18.5	10	0.03	1987
Kenya	0.044	-0.2	11.0	0	0.09	1986
South Korea	0.082	-0.14	29.3	0	0.11	1986
Malaysia	0.013	-0.004	162.5	0	0.09	1979
Mexico	0.084	-0.1	42.0	0	0.14	1984
Netherlands	0.035	-0.049	35.7	12.7	0.07	1983
Pakistan	0.106	-0.06	88.3	0	0.10	1979
Poland	0.021	-0.036	29.2	11.1	0.02	1986
Portugal	0.025	-0.04	31.3	10	0.09	1985
Singapore	0.062	-0.1	31.0	0	0.11	1974
Spain	0.049	-0.06	40.8	11.2	0.13	1990
Sweden	0.049	0	n.a.	12.1	0.03	1981
Switzerland	0.056	-0.069	40.6	12.6	0.07	1987
Thailand	0.071	-0.088	40.3	0	0.09	1971
USA	0.032	-0.048	33.3	13.5	0.09	1989
West Germany	0.045	-0.077	29.2	13.4	0.08	1988
AVERAGE	0.049	-0.069	42.9	11.6	0.09	-