50% Share of top decile in national income 2 4 4 2 5 % % % 30% 25% 

Figure I.1. Income inequality in the United States, 1910-2010

The top decile share in U.S. national income dropped from 45-50% in the 1910s-1920s to less than 35% in the 1950s (this is the fall documented by Kuznets); it then rose from less than 35% in the 1970s to 45-50% in the 2000s-2010s. Sources and series: see piketty.pse.ens.fr/capital21c.