Figure S10.11a. The invention of progressive taxation: the top income tax rate, 1900-2018


Interpretation. The marginal income tax rate applied to the highest incomes was on average $23 \%$ in the U.S. from 1900 to 1932, 81\% from 1932 to 1980 and $39 \%$ from 1980 to 2018. Over these same periods, the top rate was equal to $30 \%, 89 \%$ and $46 \%$ in Britain, $22 \%, 69 \%$ and $62 \%$ in Sweden, $18 \%$, $58 \%$ and $50 \%$ in Germany, and $23 \%, 60 \%$ and $57 \%$ in France. Progressive taxation peaked in mid-century, especially in the U.S. and in Britain. Sources and series: see piketty.pse.ens.frideology.

