



THE NEW SOCIAL PHARMACY RESEARCH AREAS

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Some definitions

- ▶ **Smith and Knapp** – “it is studying the “socioeconomic determinants of drug use.”
- ▶ **Manasse and Rucker** - “a sub-discipline within the pharmaceutical sciences which centers on the study of and education in the applied social, behavioral, administrative and legal sciences which bear upon the nature and impact of pharmacy practice regardless of the environment in which professional services are furnished
- ▶ **Sorofman** – it is not: “...not pharmaceuticals, not medicinal chemistry, not pharmacology, and not clinical”
- ▶ **Sorofman B., and Knapp D.** - “Social and Administrative Pharmacy addresses the system of pharmacy in society, including pharmacy education, human behavior, social interactions, and the consumption of drugs.”

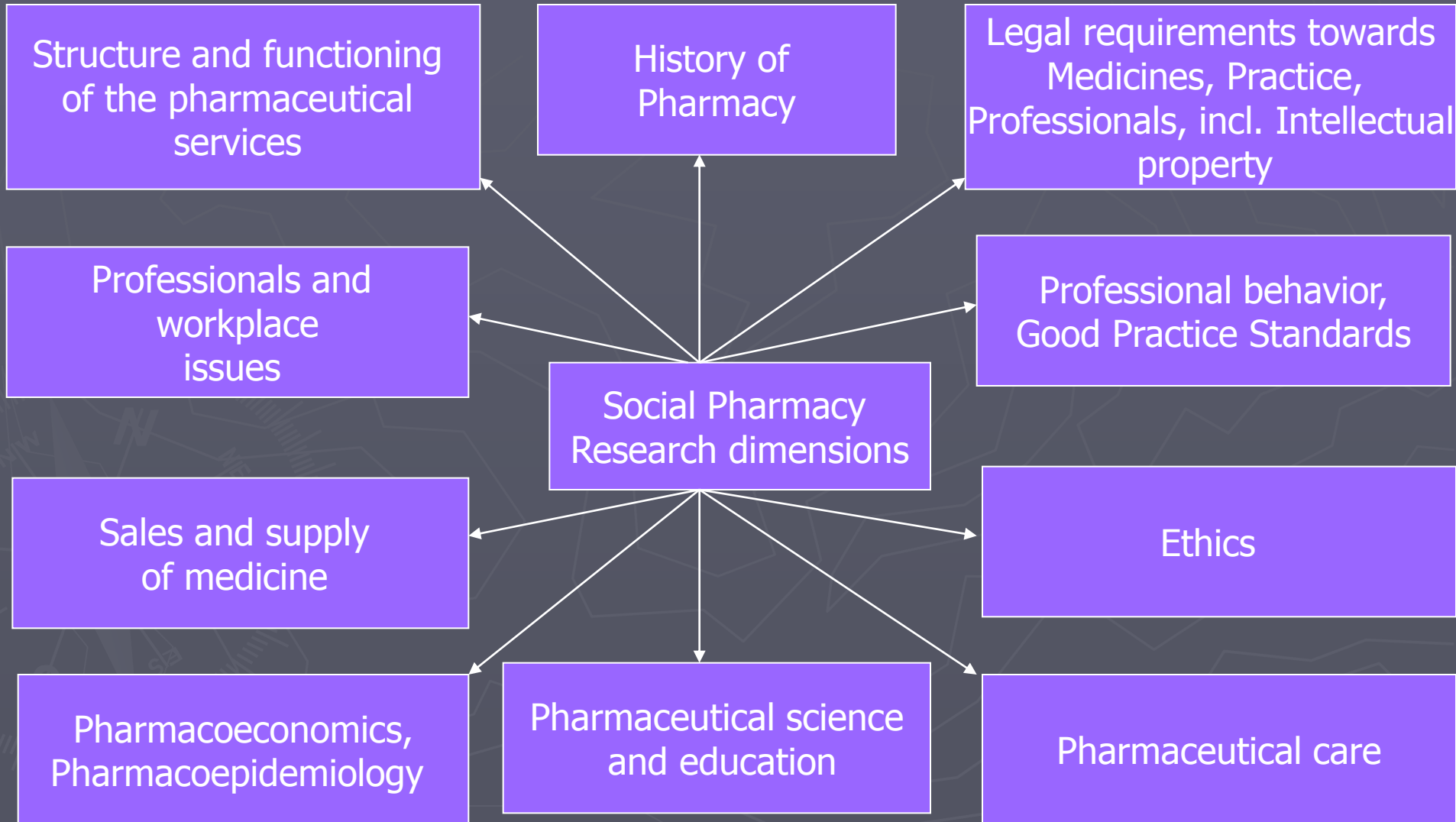
Social Pharmacy Research

- ▶ Within the **Social pharmacy** the pharmaceutical sector is studied from:
 - the **social, behavioral, economic, administrative** and **humanistic** perspective.
- ▶ These perspectives are **changing** with the **development of the society** and so social pharmacy and its **research area is changing** to answer to new needs.

Focus of the study and main questions

- ▶ To critically examine and categorize the areas of Social Pharmacy research in Bulgaria;
- ▶ To make recommendations for future research.
- ▶ How are the Social Pharmacy researches in Bulgaria changing?

Conceptual framework



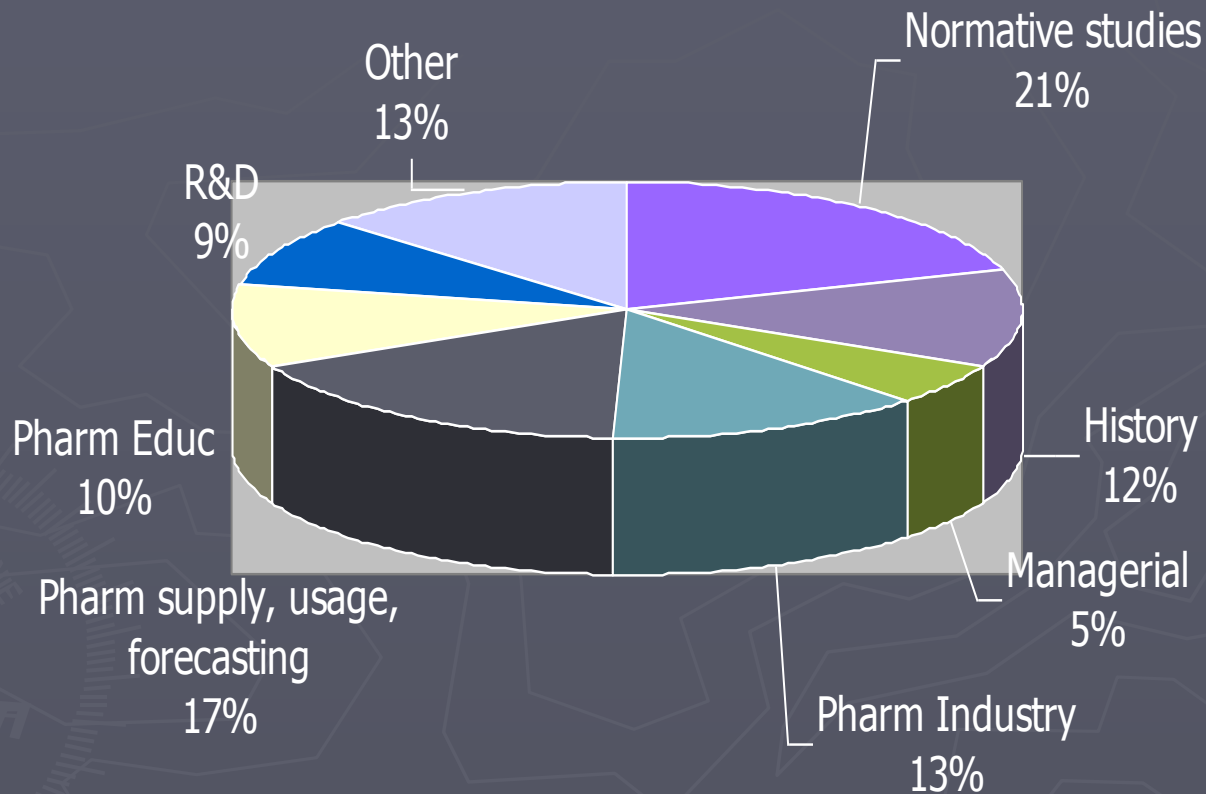
Materials and Methods

- ▶ Periods 1953-1989 and 1989 - 2008
- ▶ Grouping and systematization
- ▶ Publications in national scientific journals (n= 375);
- ▶ Content analysis
- ▶ Publications in International scientific journals (n=196).

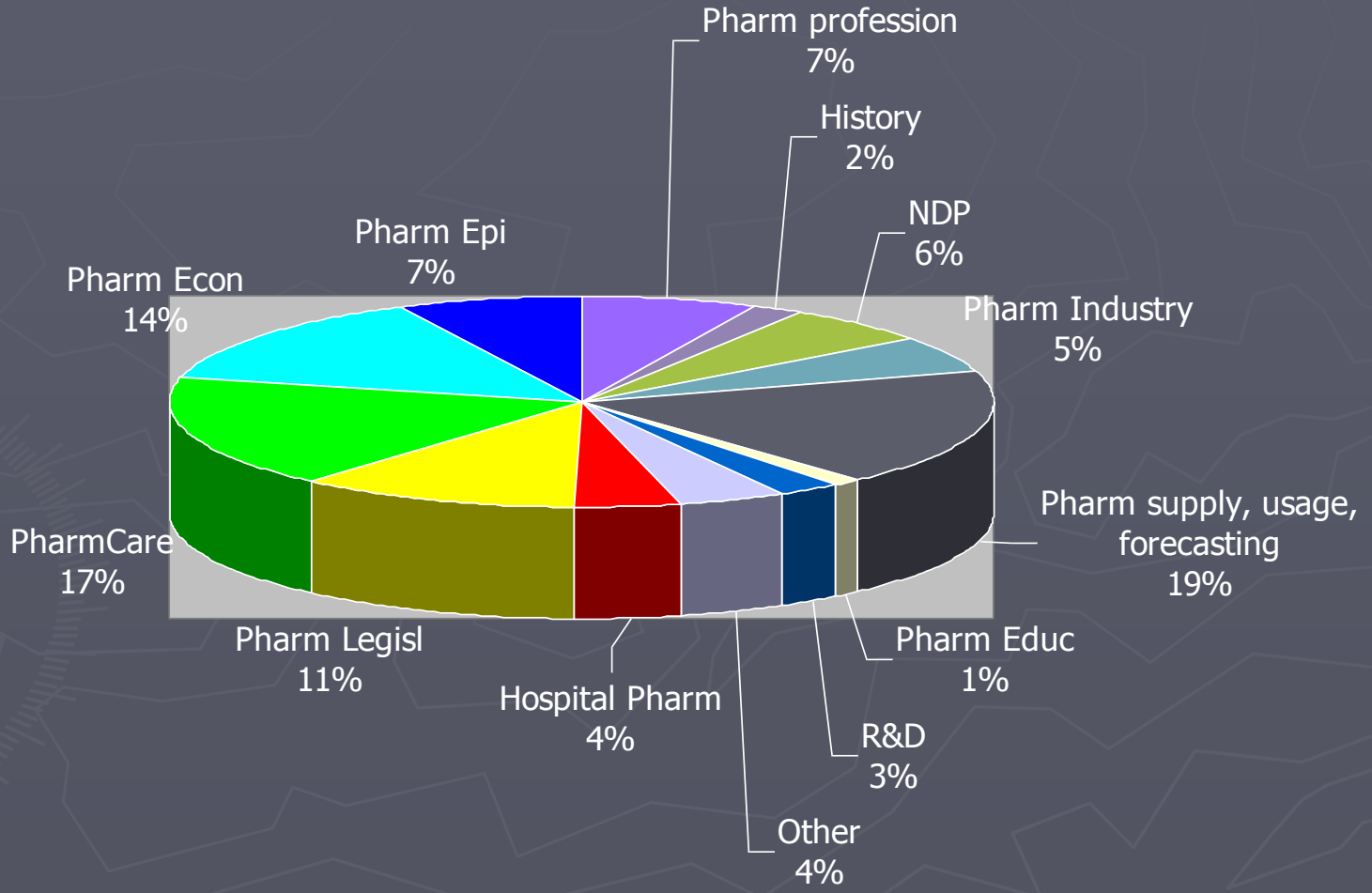
Objects of Social Pharmacy Research

- ▶ Medicines;
 - ▶ Pharmaceuticals sector development and functioning;
 - ▶ Pharmaceutical practice;
 - ▶ Professionals.
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- ▶ Within the context of the Medicines legislation and policy (National or Global).

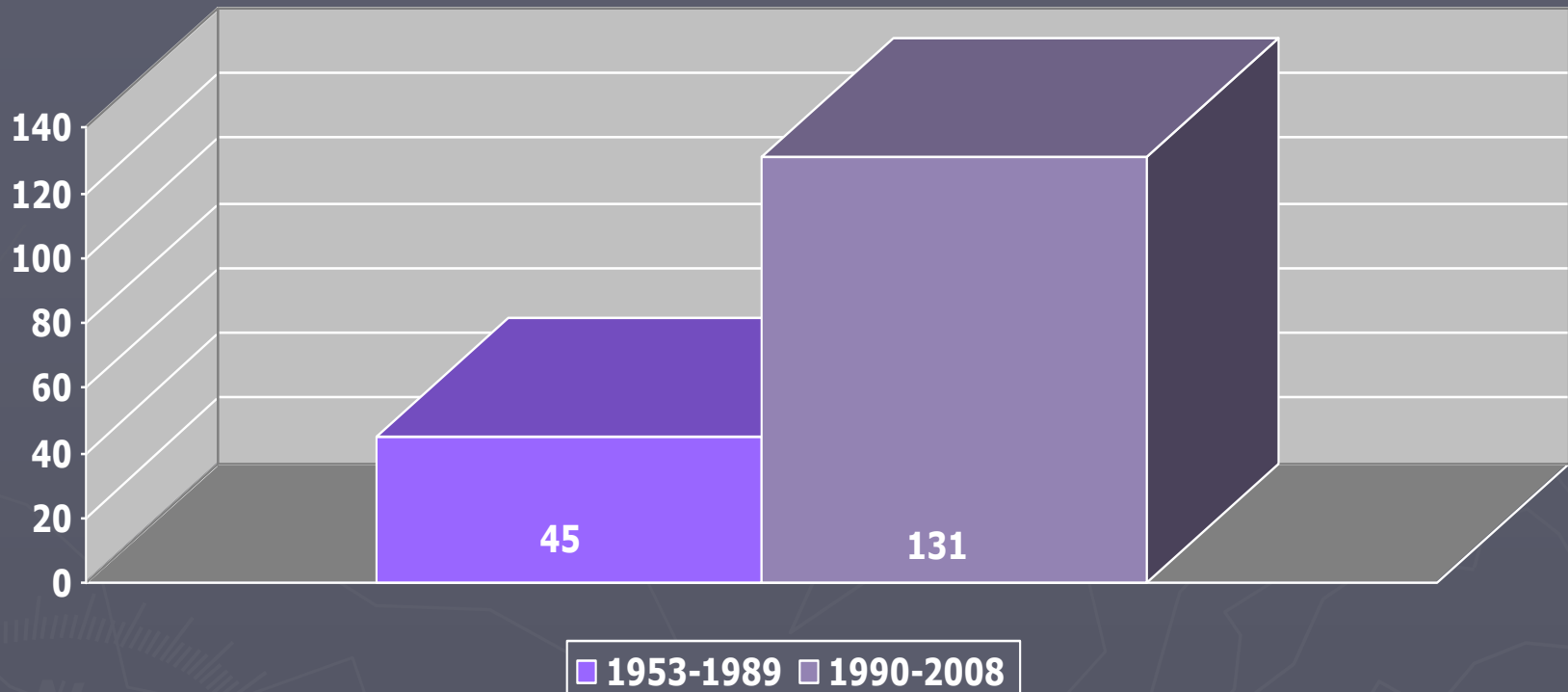
Research areas in the first period



Research areas in the second period

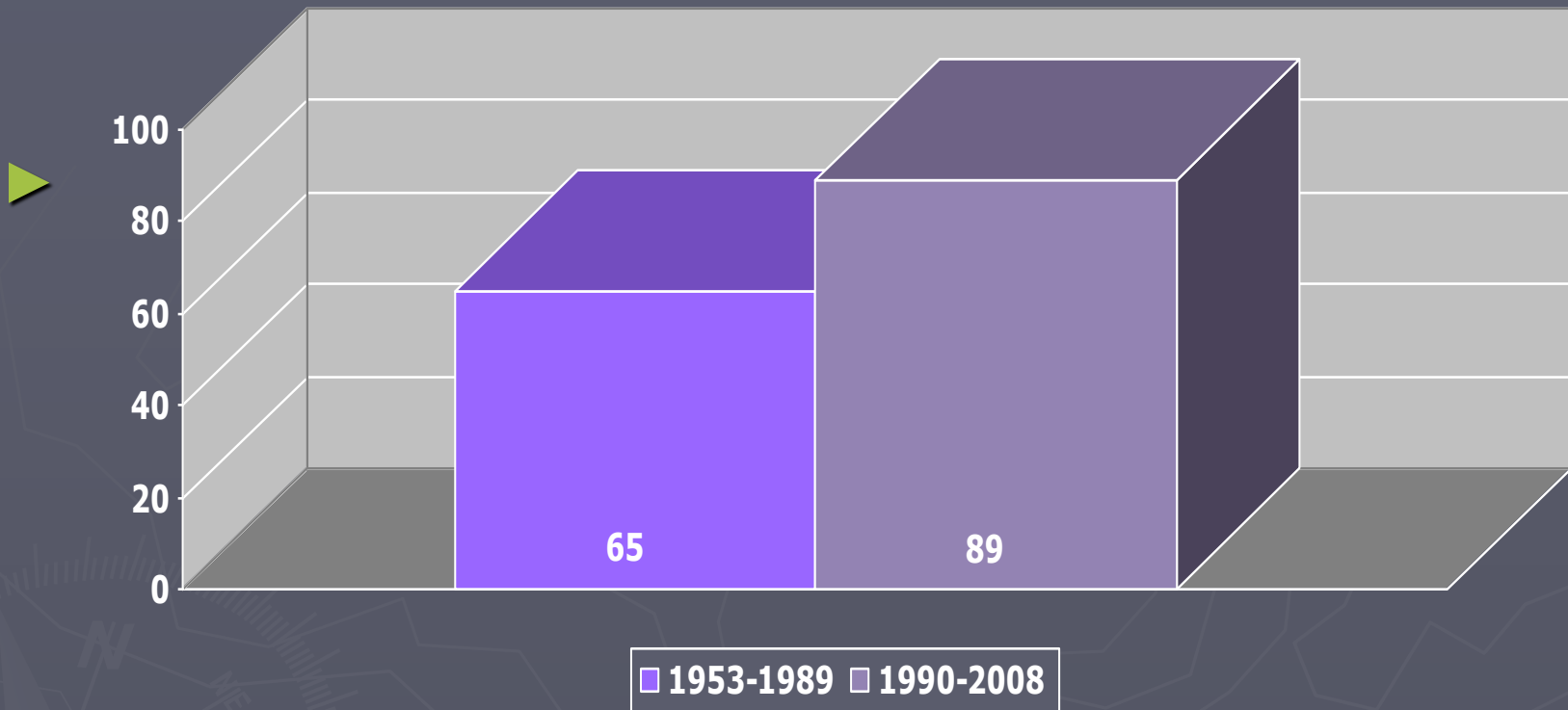


Studies oriented toward Medicines



First Period				
Pharm supply, usage, forecasting	Pharmaceutical Industry	R&D		
20	15	10		
Second Period				
Pharm supply, usage, forecasting	Pharmaceutical Industry	R&D	Pharm-Econ	Pharm-Epi
50	15	7	39	20

Studies oriented toward pharmaceutical Practice



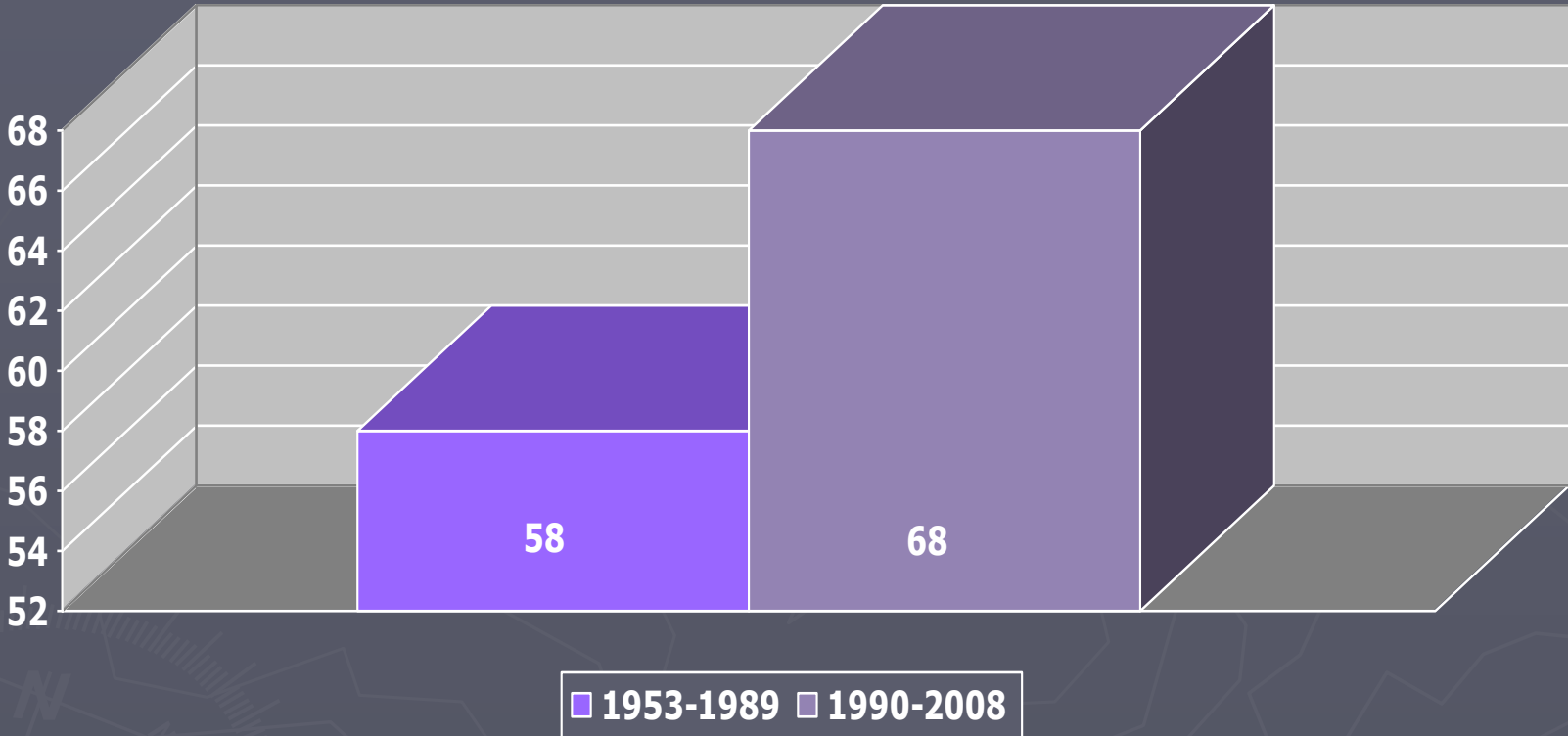
First Period

Normative studies	Pharm Industry	Pharm Educ	Other
23	15	12	15

Second Period

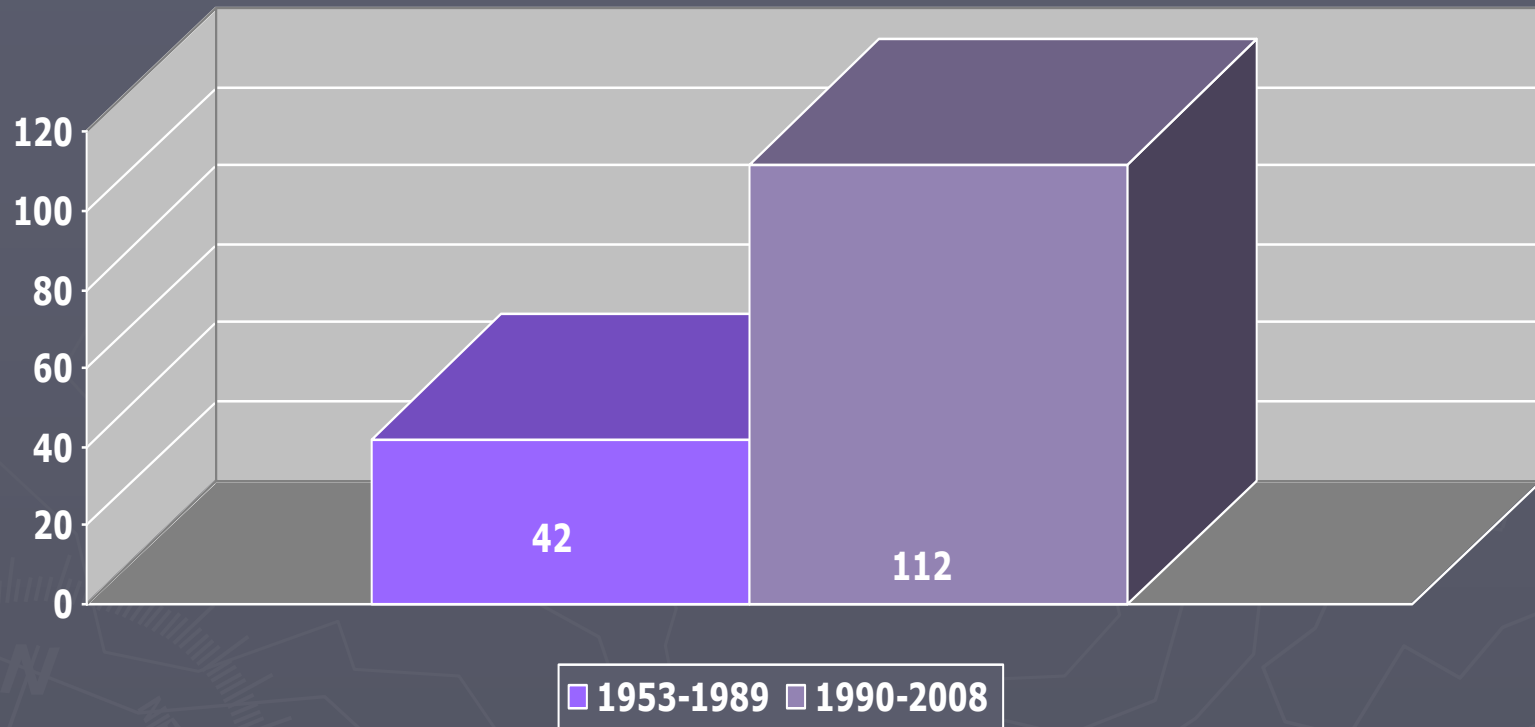
Pharm Care	Pharm Industry	Pharm Educ	Other	Hospital Pharm
48	15	3	12	11

Studies oriented toward Pharmaceuticals Sector



First Period			
Normative studies	History	Pharm Industry	Managerial
23	14	15	6
Second Period			
NDP	History	Pharm Industry	Legislation
16	6	15	31

Studies oriented towards Professionals



First Period

Normative studies	Managerial	Pharm Education	
23	6	12	

Second Period

Pharm Profession	Hospital Pharmacy	Pharm Education	Pharm Legislation
19	11	3	31

Uncovered or underdeveloped areas of research

- ▶ Medicines and professional ethics,
- ▶ Behavioral studies – focusing on patients and society,
- ▶ Informational technologies in social pharmacy,
- ▶ Needs of services for particular patients,
- ▶ Health and medicines related quality of life studies.

Conclusion

- ▶ The social pharmacy researches have changed from politically and managerially oriented towards humanistic, economic and epidemiology oriented.
- ▶ The social pharmacy research in Bulgaria need further development in respect with the international achievements.
- ▶ There is a need for methodological studies development that employ general principles towards the specific country situation.



Thank you for your attention!