Life Expectancy Exploratory Data Analysis for Machine Learning Course Project

January 20, 2021

1 Summary

The term "life expectancy" refers to the number of years a person can expect to live. By definition, life expectancy is based on an estimate of the average age that members of a particular population group will be when they die. Things are often more complicated as the life expectancy depends on lifestyle, access to healthcare, diet, economical status and the relevant mortality data. You can think of life expectancy as the age a person born in a particular year would expect to live if the average age of death did not change over their lifetime.

Since the early 19th century, life expectancy started to increase globally and has more than doubled. However, this can be broken down further into "healthy life expectancy" and "years lived with disability". Understanding life expactancy of individuals living with disability can help better understand the group of people affected by the increase in life expectancy. Investigating the change in life expectancy broken down into smaller periods(few years) can reveal more information on what exactly led to this increase.

The dataset for this project was collected from Our World in Data and originates from the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation. The data I investigate here consists of records on "Healthy Life Expectancy" and "Years Lived With Disability" by countries and years (1990-2016) with no missing or ill-formatted entries.

2 Exploring the data

An investigation of the dataset will determine the following: - number of rows and countries present - box plot for global healthy life expectancy and years lived with disability by year - bar plot for the global mean, min and max healthy life expectancy and years lived with disability by year

```
[1]: import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import seaborn as sns
from scipy import stats
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

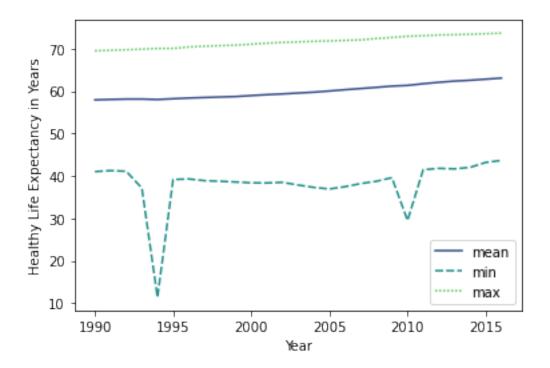
```
[2]: data = pd.read_csv("healthy-life-expectancy-and-years-lived-with-disability.

→csv")

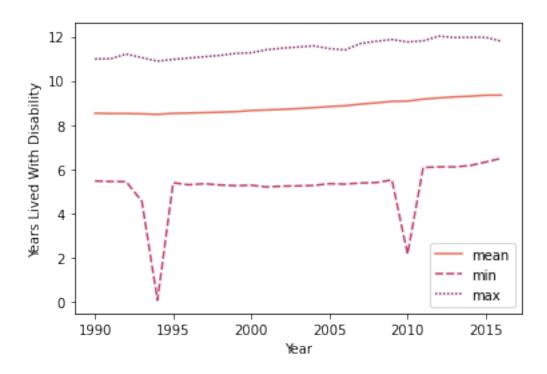
# dropping column 'Code' as it's not useful for the analysis
```

```
→Life Expectancy (IHME)': 'Healthy Life Expectancy', 'Years Lived With
     →Disability (IHME)':'Years Lived With Disability'})
     data.head()
[2]:
           Country Year Healthy Life Expectancy Years Lived With Disability
     0 Afghanistan 1990
                                             43.57
                                                                           8.03
     1 Afghanistan 1991
                                             43.37
                                                                           7.91
     2 Afghanistan 1992
                                             43.50
                                                                           7.90
     3 Afghanistan 1993
                                             43.48
                                                                           7.85
     4 Afghanistan 1994
                                             42.98
                                                                           7.70
[3]: print('Number of rows: '+str(data.shape[0]))
     print('Column names: '+str(data.columns.tolist()))
     print('Number of countries: '+str(len(data['Country'].unique())))
     print('Number of missing values: \n' + str(data.isnull().sum()))
    Number of rows: 6102
    Column names: ['Country', 'Year', 'Healthy Life Expectancy', 'Years Lived With
    Disability']
    Number of countries: 226
    Number of missing values:
    Country
                                   0
    Year
    Healthy Life Expectancy
                                   0
    Years Lived With Disability
    dtype: int64
[4]: # groupping by years and taking the average/min/max gives the global mean/min/
     →max for that year
     df = data.groupby('Year')['Healthy Life Expectancy'].agg(['mean', 'min', 'max'])
     ax = sns.lineplot(data=df, palette="viridis")
     ax.set(xlabel='Year', ylabel='Healthy Life Expectancy in Years')
[4]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Year'), Text(0, 0.5, 'Healthy Life Expectancy in Years')]
```

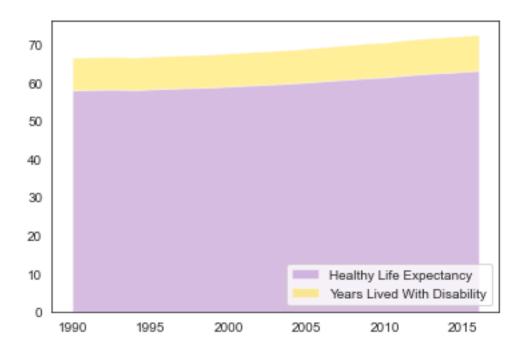
data = data.drop('Code', axis = 1).rename(columns={'Entity':'Country', 'Healthy_



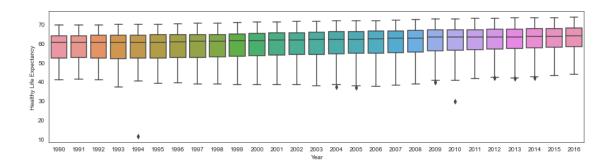
[5]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Year'), Text(0, 0.5, 'Years Lived With Disability')]

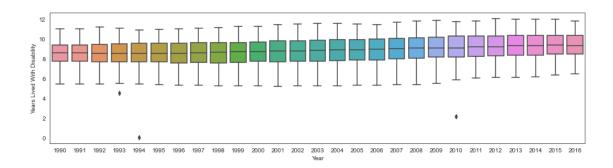


[10]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x1d8b7e8e2e0>



[7]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Year'), Text(0, 0.5, 'Years Lived With Disability')]





3 Featureset engineering and preparing the data

- deriving new feature 'Global Change' from previous and current years
- plot the global(=mean) change by year
- plot the change by year per country

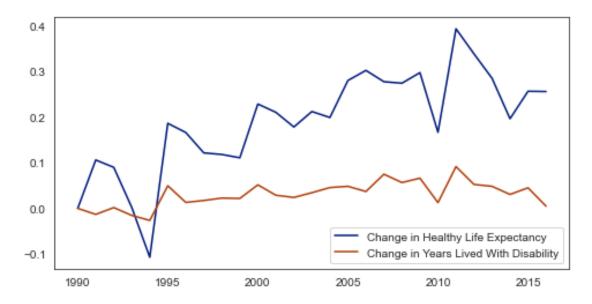
```
[8]: def has_previous(row, row_shift):
    if np.isnan(row_shift.all()):
        return '0'
    else:
        return row-row_shift

def add_global_change_feature(data, category):
    '''Derives new feature 'Change' from previous and current years '''

# compute change from current and previous for each feature value change = data.apply(lambda x: has_previous(x, x.shift(1)))
# first year has no previous year to be compared to change[category] [1990] = 0

# add to data as new feature
    data['Change ' + category] = change[category]
```

[8]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x1d8ba3e8f70>



4 Hypothesis testing

The above plot suggests that there is a continuous growth in both healthy life expectancy and years lived with disability.

Hypothesis: Assuming a the increase in life expectancy we are expecting the same growth in years lived with disability meaning that they have the same mean growth (global change).

Alternative Hypothesis: There is no relationship between the rate of increase in years lived with disability and healthy life expectancy.

Run a t-test comparing the global change in healthy life expectancy to years lived with disability.

```
[9]: hle = np.array(hle_data.loc[2000:2005]['Change mean'])
ylwd = np.array(ylwd_data.loc[2006:2011]['Change mean'])
stats.ttest_ind(hle, ylwd, equal_var = False)
```

[9]: Ttest_indResult(statistic=8.869929709309053, pvalue=6.247525443440319e-06)

5 Results

The p value is 6.247525443440319e-06 which is smaller than 0.05. Therefore we reject the null hypothesis at 5% significance level, meaning that the global growth in years lived with disability is not the same as in healthy life expectancy. On average the number of years in which people live with a given disability increased and in most cases it has been slower than the increase of healthy life expectancy.

6 Next Steps

One of the most important inputs to health is healthcare. One common way of measuring national healthcare consumption and production is to estimate expenditure on healthcare. Research studies show that looking at the change over time countries with higher expenditure on healthcare per person tend to have a higher life expectancy. Gathering data on the amount each country spends on healthcare can help better determine how the population is impacted by the improvements in healthcare.