

Project Report of Traineeship Program 2023

On

Analyze Death Age Difference of Right Handers with Left Handers

MedTourEasy



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Introduction

A survey of 1,177,507 U.S. men and women between the ages of 10 and 86 included questions regarding hand preference for writing and throwing. Three effects were observed. Individuals with at least some left motoric bias comprised a smaller percent of the population with advancing age. This finding provides large-scale confirmation of a previously described phenomenon. Among sinistrals, concordance for writing and throwing was 2.2 times as prevalent as left-writing with right-throwing, and 4.1 times as prevalent as right-writing with left-throwing. These sinistral subpopulations displayed distinct and stable prevalence prior to age 50 and changing patterns of prevalence subsequent to age 50. The results confirm a decrease with age in the prevalence of sinistrality, but indicate that age-specific rates of mixed- and left-handedness are distinct. The implications for hypotheses regarding age-related change in the prevalence of sinistrality are discussed.

About The Company

MedTourEasy, a global healthcare company, provides you the informational resources needed to evaluate your global options. It helps you find the right healthcare solution based on specific health needs, affordable care while meeting the quality standards that you expect to have in healthcare. MedTourEasy improves access to healthcare for people everywhere. MedTourEasy provides analytical solutions to our partner healthcare providers globally.

About the Project

A National Geographic survey in 1986 resulted in over a million responses that included age, sex, and hand preference for throwing and writing. Researchers Avery Gilbert and Charles Wysocki analyzed this data and noticed that rates of left-handedness were around 13% for people younger than 40 but decreased with age to about 5% by the age of 80. They concluded based on analysis of a subgroup of people who throw left-handed but write right-handed that this age-dependence was primarily due to changing social acceptability of left-handedness. This means that the rates aren't a factor of age specifically but rather of the year you were born, and if the same study was done today, we should expect a shifted version of the same distribution as a function of age. Ultimately, we'll see what effect this changing rate has on the apparent mean age of death of left-handed people, but let's start by plotting the rates of left-handedness as a function of age.

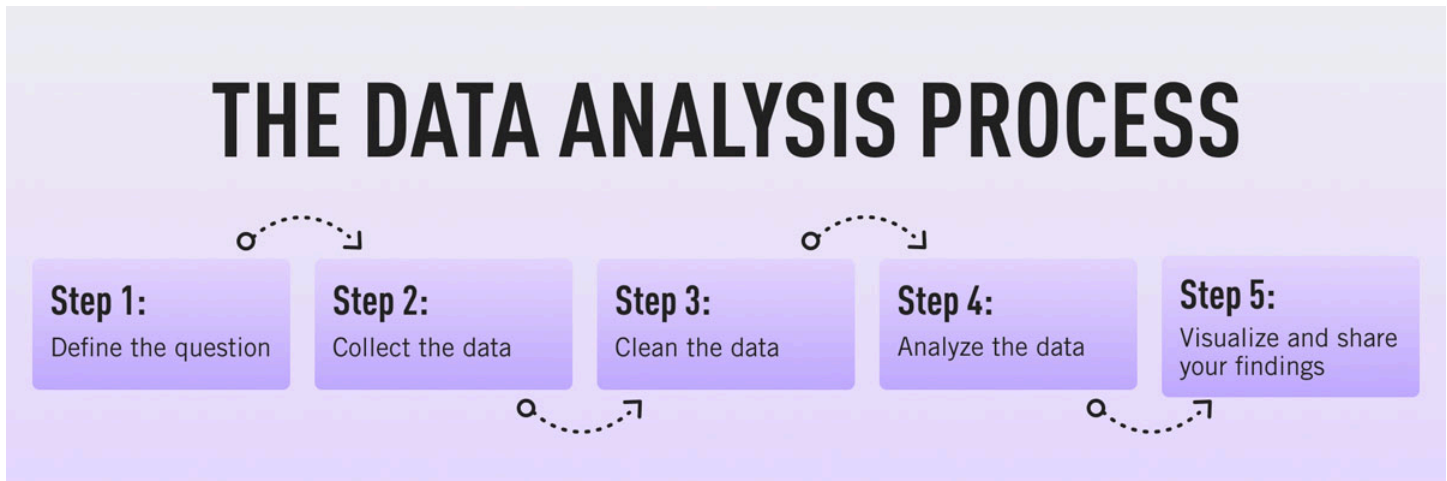
Business Objectives and Deliverables

This project will explore this phenomenon using age distribution data to see if we can reproduce a difference in average age at death purely from the changing rates of left-handedness over time, refuting the claim of early death for left-handers.

This project uses **pandas** and Bayesian statistics to analyze the probability of being a certain age at death given that you are reported as left-handed or right-handed uses two datasets: [death distribution data](#) for the United States from the year 1999 (source website [here](#)) and rates of left-handedness digitized from a figure in this [1992 paper by Gilbert and Wysocki](#).

Methodology

Workflow



Technology Stack

Programming Language

Python

Python is a versatile, high-level programming language widely employed in web development, data science, machine learning, and more. Known for its simplicity and readability, Python caters to both beginners and experienced developers. Its interpreted nature enables quick testing and modifications, while support for object-oriented programming facilitates reusable and modular code. Python's high-level abstraction, dynamic typing, and extensive standard library simplify programming tasks, allowing users to focus on logic rather than low-level details. Common applications of Python span web development using frameworks like Django and Flask, data science utilizing libraries like NumPy and Pandas, machine learning with tools like scikit-learn and TensorFlow, and scripting and automation tasks. Python's beginner-friendly syntax also positions it as a popular choice for educational purposes, introducing programming concepts effectively.

IDE

Microsoft Excel

Microsoft Excel is a widely used spreadsheet software that provides essential tools for data analysis, computation, and visualization. Known for its user-friendly interface, Excel allows users to organize and manipulate data efficiently through cells, rows, and columns. Its formula functions and built-in tools simplify complex calculations, making it a valuable tool for budgeting, financial analysis, and

data management. Excel's versatile charting and graphing features facilitate the creation of visual representations, aiding in the interpretation of data trends. Additionally, Excel integrates seamlessly with other Microsoft Office applications, enhancing its utility for tasks ranging from simple calculations to intricate data modeling and reporting in both professional and personal settings.

Jupyter Notebook

Jupyter Notebook is an open-source web application widely used for interactive computing, especially in data science and research. It allows users to create documents containing live code, visualizations, and narrative text. The notebook supports various programming languages, including Python, R, and Julia, and facilitates an interactive, cell-based workflow. With support for Markdown cells, users can seamlessly blend formatted text, images, and code, making it a versatile tool for documentation and presentation. Jupyter Notebooks promote collaboration by allowing easy sharing, export to various formats, and compatibility with cloud platforms. They are known for their flexibility, supporting mathematical expressions, data visualization, and interactive widgets, making them a preferred choice for data analysis, exploration, and communication of results.

Tableau Public

Tableau Public is a user-friendly data visualization tool, widely embraced for its accessibility and robust features. With an intuitive drag-and-drop interface, it allows users to seamlessly connect to diverse data sources and create interactive dashboards without requiring advanced programming skills. Its strength lies in enabling users to explore and analyze data visually through dynamic charts and maps. Tableau Public facilitates easy sharing of visualizations on its online platform, making it a popular choice for data journalism, educational purposes, and fostering a community of data enthusiasts who contribute to a rich repository of publicly available datasets and insights.

PACE Approach

The Plan Phase

Data Collection

Data collection is a crucial step in any data analysis process. Python, with the Pandas library, offers powerful tools for collecting and importing data from various sources. The data for this project has been collected through the given websites of CDC [death distribution data](#).

Following are the contents of the data:

- The dataset presents a breakdown of left-handed individuals across different age groups, categorized by racial demographics, specifically Whites, Blacks, and Other races (including Blacks).
- Age groups span from under 1 (0) to 125 and above, capturing a comprehensive range in the dataset.
- The data includes counts for both males and females, as well as the combined totals for each gender within each racial category—Whites, Blacks, and Other races (including Blacks).

Packages Used:

Pandas: Pandas is a powerful open-source data manipulation and analysis library for Python. It provides high-performance, easy-to-use data structures such as DataFrame and Series, along with a plethora of tools for reading, writing, and transforming structured data. Pandas is widely utilized in data science, allowing users to efficiently clean, analyze, and visualize data, making it an essential tool in the Python ecosystem.

Functions Used:

pd.read_csv: is a function in the Pandas library for Python that allows users to read and load data from CSV (Comma Separated Values) files into a Pandas DataFrame. With customizable parameters for handling different file structures, this function simplifies the process of importing tabular data, making it a fundamental tool in data analysis and manipulation workflows.

Sample Code:

```
import pandas as pd
df = pd.read_csv('data.csv')
```


Importing lefthanded_data

Code:

```
# import libraries
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 1 ...
import pandas as pd

# load the data
data_url_1 =
"https://gist.githubusercontent.com/mbonsma/8da0990b71ba9a09f7de395574e54df1/raw/aec88b30af87fad8d45da7e774223f91dad09e88/lh\_data.csv"
lefthanded_data = pd.read_csv(data_url_1)
lefthanded_data.head()
```

Output:

	Age	Male	Female
0	10	12.717558	12.198041
1	11	15.318830	11.144804
2	12	14.808281	11.549240
3	13	13.793744	11.276442
4	14	15.156304	11.572906

Importing death_distribution_data

Code:

```
# Death distribution data for the United States in 1999
data_url_2 =
"https://gist.githubusercontent.com/mbonsma/2f4076aab6820ca1807f4e29f75f18ec/raw/62f3
ec07514c7e31f5979beeca86f19991540796/cdc_vs00199_table310.tsv"

# load death distribution data
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 4 ...

death_distribution_data = pd.read_csv(data_url_2, sep='\t', skiprows=[1])

death_distribution_data.info()
```

Output:

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 125 entries, 0 to 124
Data columns (total 4 columns):
#   Column      Non-Null Count  Dtype
---  ---
0   Age         125 non-null   int64
1   Both Sexes  120 non-null   float64
2   Male        115 non-null   float64
3   Female      120 non-null   float64
dtypes: float64(3), int64(1)
memory usage: 4.0 KB
```

Data Cleaning and processing

Although the provided data had already been cleaned and ready to be processed, I utilized Microsoft Excel to refine the data by formatting values into their correct data types and adjusting column headings for clarity.

This is the data I cleaned in Microsoft Excel: [death distribution data](#).

Functions Used:

Find and Replace:

The Find and Replace function in Excel allows users to search for specific values or text strings within a worksheet and replace them with another value. It is a powerful tool for quickly making bulk changes, correcting errors, or updating information throughout the spreadsheet.

Use Case: Useful for locating and modifying specific data entries, correcting consistent errors, or updating values across multiple cells or sheets.

Delete:

The Delete function in Excel removes selected cells, rows, columns, or entire sheets from the workbook. This function is handy for eliminating unnecessary or redundant data, rearranging the structure of a spreadsheet, or making room for new information.

Use Case: Commonly employed to clean up data, remove obsolete entries, or adjust the layout of a worksheet.

Number Format:

Number Format in Excel allows users to customize how numbers are displayed in cells, controlling aspects like decimal places, currency symbols, and percentages. It enhances the presentation of numerical data without altering the actual values.

Use Case: Useful for improving the visual appeal of numeric data, ensuring consistent formatting, and making the spreadsheet more readable for analysis or presentation.

dropna():

- The `dropna()` function is a method provided by pandas, a powerful data manipulation library in Python.
- The `dropna()` function in pandas is used to eliminate rows or columns that contain missing values (NaN) from a DataFrame or Series.
- By default, it removes all rows containing at least one NaN value, but you can customize the behavior using parameters.
- This function is particularly useful in data cleaning and preprocessing to ensure data integrity and accuracy.

Sample Code:

```
import pandas as pd

# Creating a DataFrame with NaN values
data = {'A': [1, 2, np.nan, 4], 'B': [5, np.nan, 7, 8]}
df = pd.DataFrame(data)

# Using dropna() to remove rows with NaN values
df_cleaned = df.dropna()

# Resulting DataFrame without NaN values
print(df_cleaned)
```

Cleaning lefthanded_data

Before:

#####	TABLE 310 DEATHS BY SINGLE YEARS OF AG RACE, AND SEX:										PAGE	1
	UNITED STATES, 1999											
	-----ALL OTHER-----											
	-----TOTAL-----			-----WHITE-----			-----TOTAL-----			-----BLACK-----		
	BOTH	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH	MALE	FEMALE
AGE	SEXES	MALE	FEMALE	SEXES	MALE	FEMALE	SEXES	MALE	FEMALE	SEXES	MALE	FEMALE
ALL AGES---	2,391,399	1,175,460	1,215,939	2,061,348	1,005,335	1,056,013	3,30,051	1,70,125	1,59,926	2,85,064	1,45,703	1,39,361
UNDER 1 \	27,937	15,646	12,291	18,067	10,197	7,870	9,870	5,449	4,421	8,822	4,897	3,925
1 YEAR----	1,989	1,103	886	1,376	742	634	613	361	252	524	304	220
2 YEARS---	1,376	797	579	968	566	402	408	231	177	330	185	145
3 YEARS---	1,046	601	445	774	454	320	272	147	125	233	123	110
4 YEARS---	838	474	364	572	322	250	266	152	114	224	134	90
5 YEARS---	763	446	317	523	306	217	240	140	100	196	118	78
6 YEARS---	696	384	312	482	265	217	214	119	95	190	107	83

After:

AGE	TOTAL BOTH SEXES	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE	WHITE BOTH SEXES	WHITE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	OTHER BOTH SEXES	OTHER MALE	OTHER FEMALE	BLACK BOTH SEXES	BLACK MALE	BLACK FEMALE
TOTAL	2391399	1175460	1215939	2061348	1005335	1056013	330051	170125	159926	285064	145703	139361
0	27937	15646	12291	18067	10197	7870	9870	5449	4421	8822	4897	3925
1	1989	1103	886	1376	742	634	613	361	252	524	304	220
2	1376	797	579	968	566	402	408	231	177	330	185	145
3	1046	601	445	774	454	320	272	147	125	233	123	110
4	838	474	364	572	322	250	266	152	114	224	134	90
5	763	446	317	523	306	217	240	140	100	196	118	78
6	696	384	312	482	265	217	214	119	95	190	107	83
7	683	386	297	483	265	218	200	121	79	173	108	65
8	692	389	303	502	279	223	190	110	80	166	100	66
9	640	359	281	460	261	199	180	98	82	155	86	69
10	687	394	293	499	277	222	188	117	71	157	103	54
11	711	415	296	492	279	213	219	136	83	188	116	72

Cleaning death_distribution_data

Code:

```
# drop NaN values from the `Both Sexes` column
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 4 ...
death_distribution_data.dropna(subset = ['Both Sexes'], inplace=True)
death_distribution_data.head()
```

Output:

	Age	Both Sexes	Male	Female
0	0	27937.0	15646.0	12291.0
1	1	1989.0	1103.0	886.0
2	2	1376.0	797.0	579.0
3	3	1046.0	601.0	445.0
4	4	838.0	474.0	364.0

The Analysis and Construct Phase

Data Plotting

Packages Used:

Matplotlib: Matplotlib is a popular Python library for creating static, animated, and interactive visualizations in various formats. It is commonly used for data plotting in fields such as data science, machine learning, and scientific research.

Functions Used:

Plot:

The `plot` function in Matplotlib is fundamental for creating line plots. It allows users to visualize data by connecting data points with lines, offering a versatile tool for representing trends and relationships in numerical data.

Legend:

The `legend` function in Matplotlib adds an explanatory legend to the plot, providing labels for the different data series. This is particularly useful when multiple datasets or variables are plotted on the same graph.

Grid:

The `grid` function in Matplotlib adds gridlines to the plot, aiding in the interpretation of data points. Gridlines enhance the readability of the plot and assist in aligning data with specific values on the axes.

Show:

The `show` function in Matplotlib is used to display the plot. After setting up the plot and customizing its features, calling `plt.show()` renders the visual representation on the screen.

Subplots:

The `subplots` function in Matplotlib creates a figure and a set of subplots, allowing users to arrange multiple plots in a grid. Subplots are beneficial for comparing different aspects of the data or visualizing various datasets side by side.

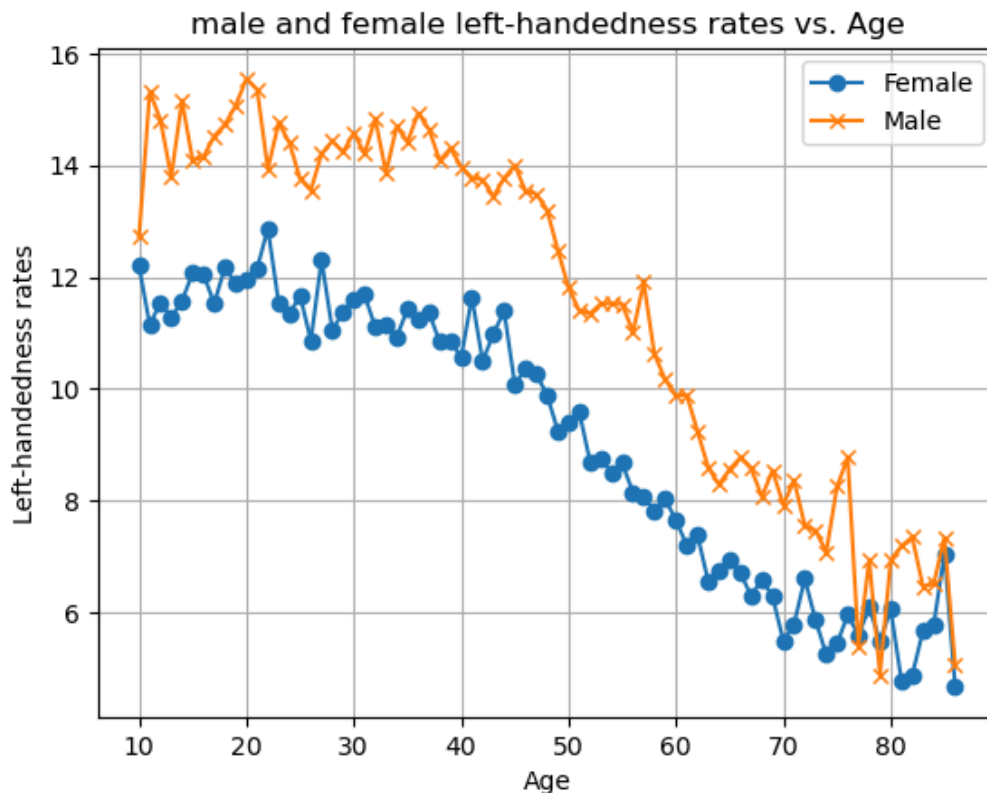
Plotting Left Handed Data Rates of Both Sexes against Age

Code:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
fig, ax = plt.subplots() # create figure and axis objects
ax.plot(lefthanded_data['Age'], lefthanded_data['Female'], marker = 'o',
label = 'Female') # plot "Female" vs. "Age"
ax.plot(lefthanded_data['Age'], lefthanded_data['Male'], marker = 'x',
label = 'Male') # plot "Female" vs. "Age"
ax.legend() # add a legend
ax.grid(True)

ax.set_title('male and female left-handedness rates vs. Age')
ax.set_xlabel('Age')
ax.set_ylabel('Left-handedness rates')
```

Output:



Plotting Mean Left Handedness against Birth Year

Code:

```
# create a new column for birth year of each age
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 2 ...
lefthanded_data['Birth_year'] = 1986 - lefthanded_data['Age']

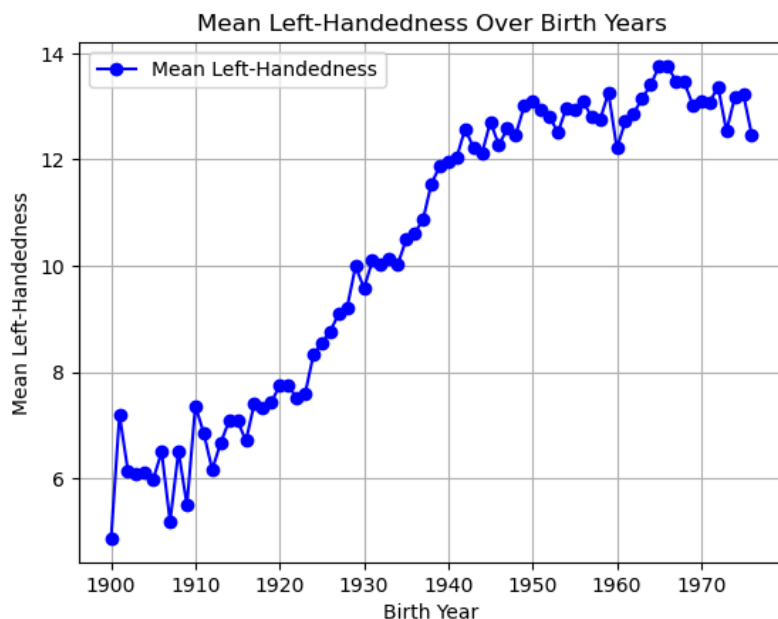
# create a new column for the average of male and female
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 2 ...
lefthanded_data['Mean_lh'] = (lefthanded_data['Male'] + lefthanded_data['Female'])/2

# create a plot of the 'Mean_lh' column vs. 'Birth_year'
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(lefthanded_data['Birth_year'], lefthanded_data['Mean_lh'], marker='o',
        linestyle='-', color='blue', label='Mean Left-Handedness') # plot 'Mean_lh' vs.
'Birth_year'
ax.set_title('Mean Left-Handedness Over Birth Years')
ax.set_xlabel('Birth Year')
ax.set_ylabel('Mean Left-Handedness')

# Add grid lines
ax.grid(True)

# Add legend
ax.legend()
```

Output:



Plotting Death Distribution Rates against Ages for Both Sexes

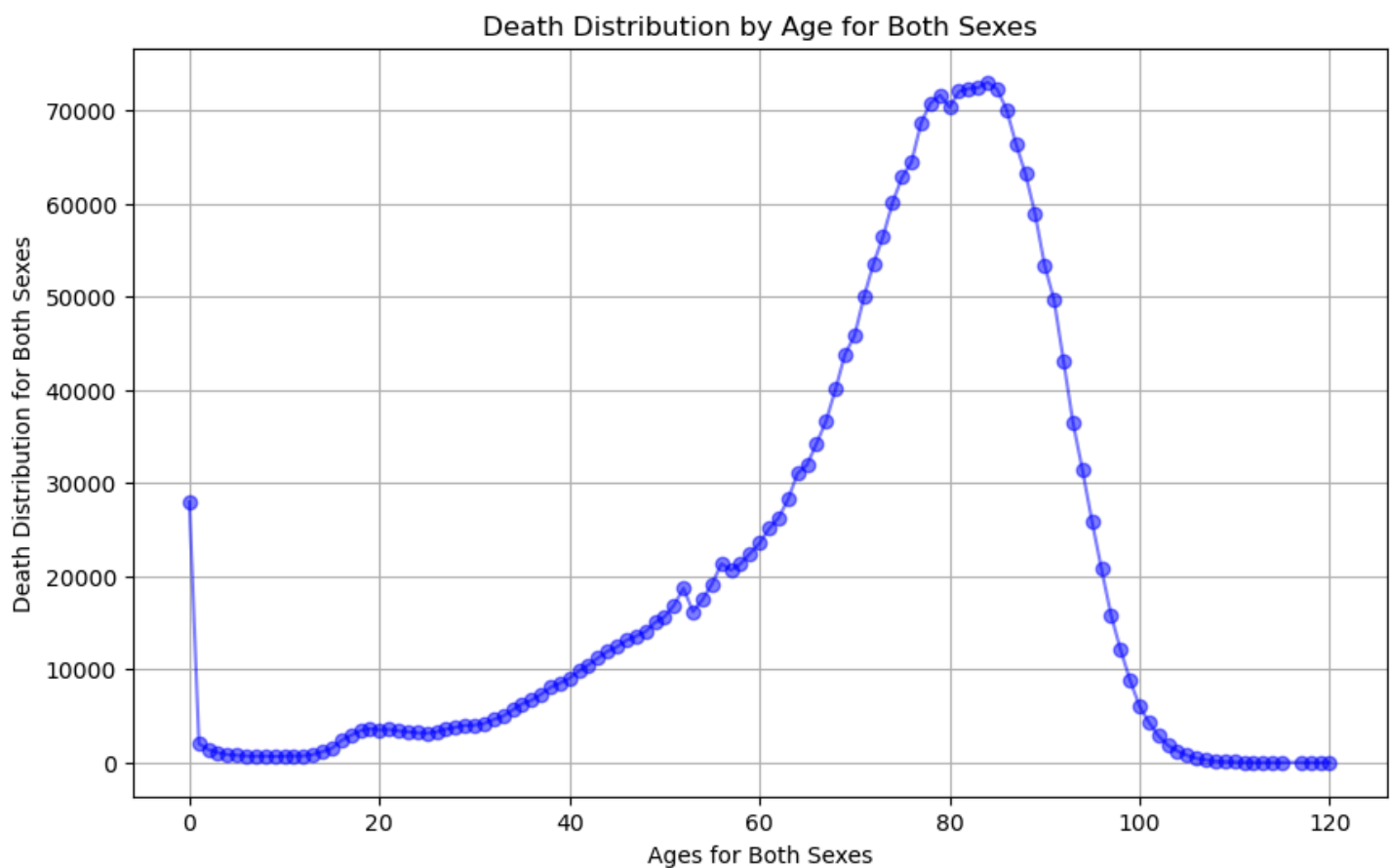
Code:

```
# plot number of people who died as a function of age
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 6))
ax.plot('Age', 'Both Sexes', data = death_distribution_data, marker='o',
color='blue', alpha=0.5) # plot 'Both Sexes' vs. 'Age'
ax.set_xlabel('Ages for Both Sexes')
ax.set_ylabel('Death Distribution for Both Sexes')
ax.set_title('Death Distribution by Age for Both Sexes')

# Add grid lines
ax.grid(True)

plt.show()
```

Output:



Data Analysis

Packages Used:

NumPy, short for Numerical Python, is a powerful library for numerical computing in Python. It provides support for large, multi-dimensional arrays and matrices, along with a collection of high-level mathematical functions to operate on these arrays. NumPy is a fundamental package for scientific computing and data analysis in Python.

Functions Used:

np.sum:

- Computes the sum of array elements along a specified axis or the entire array.

Sample Code:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])
total_sum = np.sum(arr)
print(total_sum) # Output: 10
```

np.mean:

- Calculates the arithmetic mean of array elements along a specified axis or the entire array.

Sample Code:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])
average = np.mean(arr)
print(average) # Output: 2.5
```

np.nansum:

- Computes the sum of array elements treating NaNs as zero.

Sample Code:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([1, 2, np.nan, 4])
total_sum = np.nansum(arr)
print(total_sum) # Output: 7.0
```

np.sort:

- Returns a sorted copy of an array along a specified axis.

Sample Code:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([3, 1, 4, 1, 5, 9, 2])
sorted_arr = np.sort(arr)
print(sorted_arr) # Output: [1 1 2 3 4 5 9]
```

Applying Bayes Rule

The probability of dying at a certain age given that you're left-handed is **not** equal to the probability of being left-handed given that you died at a certain age. This inequality is why we need **Bayes' theorem**, a statement about conditional probability which allows us to update our beliefs after seeing evidence.

We want to calculate the probability of dying at age A given that you're left-handed. Let's write this in shorthand as $P(A | LH)$. We also want the same quantity for right-handers: $P(A | RH)$.

Here's Bayes' theorem for the two events we care about: left-handedness (LH) and dying at age A.

$$P(A|LH) = \frac{P(LH|A)P(A)}{P(LH)}$$

$P(LH | A)$ is the probability that you are left-handed *given that* you died at age A. $P(A)$ is the overall probability of dying at age A, and $P(LH)$ is the overall probability of being left-handed. We will now calculate each of these three quantities, beginning with $P(LH | A)$.

To calculate $P(LH | A)$ for ages that might fall outside the original data, we will need to extrapolate the data to earlier and later years. Since the rates flattened out in the early 1900s and late 1900s, we'll use a few points at each end and take the mean to extrapolate the rates on each end. The number of points used for this is arbitrary, but we'll pick 10 since the data looks flat-ish until about 1910.

Code:

```
# import library

# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 3 ...

import numpy as np

# create a function for P(LH | A)

def P_lh_given_A(ages_of_death, study_year = 1990):

    """ P(Left-handed | ages of death), calculated based on the reported rates of
    left-handedness.

    Inputs: numpy array of ages of death, study_year

    Returns: probability of left-handedness given that subjects died in `study_year`
    at ages `ages_of_death` """

    lefthanded_data_copy = lefthanded_data.copy()

    # Use the mean of the 10 last and 10 first points for left-handedness rates
    before and after the start

    early_1900s_rate = lefthanded_data['Mean_lh'][-10:].mean()

    late_1900s_rate = lefthanded_data['Mean_lh'][:10].mean()

    middle_rates = lefthanded_data.loc[lefthanded_data['Birth_year'].isin(study_year
    - ages_of_death)]['Mean_lh']

    youngest_age = study_year - 1986 + 10 # the youngest age is 10

    oldest_age = study_year - 1986 + 86 # the oldest age is 86

    P_return = np.zeros(ages_of_death.shape) # create an empty array to store the
    results

    # extract rate of left-handedness for people of ages 'ages_of_death'

    P_return[ages_of_death > oldest_age] = early_1900s_rate/100

    P_return[ages_of_death < youngest_age] = late_1900s_rate/100

    P_return[np.logical_and((ages_of_death <= oldest_age), (ages_of_death >=
    youngest_age))] = middle_rates / 100

    return P_return
```

The overall probability of left-handedness

This is the average left-handedness in the population of deceased people, and we can calculate it by summing up all of the left-handedness probabilities for each age, weighted with the number of deceased people at each age, then divided by the total number of deceased people to get a probability. In equation form, this is what we're calculating, where $N(A)$ is the number of people who died at age A (given by the data frame `death_distribution_data`):

$$P(LH) = \frac{\sum_A P(LH|A)N(A)}{\sum_A N(A)}$$

Code:

```
def P_lh(death_distribution_data, study_year = 1990): # sum over P_lh for each age
group

    """ Overall probability of being left-handed if you died in the study year
    Input: dataframe of death distribution data, study year
    Output: P(LH), a single floating point number """

    p_list = death_distribution_data['Both Sexes'] *
P_lh_given_A(death_distribution_data['Age'], study_year) # multiply number of dead
people by P_lh_given_A

    p = np.sum(p_list) # calculate the sum of p_list

    both_sexes_total = np.sum(death_distribution_data['Both Sexes'].values)

    return p/ both_sexes_total # normalize to total number of people (sum of
death_distribution_data['Both Sexes'])

print(P_lh(death_distribution_data))
```

Output:

0.07766387615350638

Left-Handed Deaths

We can combine all three using Bayes' rule to get $P(A | LH)$, the probability of being age A at death (in the study year) given that you're left-handed. To make this answer meaningful, though, we also want to compare it to $P(A | RH)$, the probability of being age A at death given that you're right-handed.

We're calculating the following quantity twice, once for left-handers and once for right-handers.

$$P(A|LH) = \frac{P(LH|A)P(A)}{P(LH)}$$

Code:

```
def P_A_given_lh(ages_of_death, death_distribution_data, study_year = 1990):
    """ The overall probability of being a particular `age_of_death` given that
    you're left-handed """
    total_deaths = np.sum(death_distribution_data['Both Sexes'])
    P_A = death_distribution_data['Both Sexes']/total_deaths

    P_left = P_lh(death_distribution_data) # use P_lh function to get probability of
    left-handedness overall

    P_lh_A = P_lh_given_A(ages_of_death, study_year) # use P_lh_given_A to get
    probability of left-handedness for a certain age

    return P_lh_A*P_A/P_left
```

Right-Handed Deaths

Code:

```
def P_A_given_rh(ages_of_death, death_distribution_data, study_year = 1990):
    """ The overall probability of being a particular `age_of_death` given that
    you're right-handed """
    total_deaths = np.sum(death_distribution_data['Both Sexes'])
    P_A = death_distribution_data['Both Sexes']/total_deaths

    P_right = 1 - P_lh(death_distribution_data) # either you're left-handed or
    right-handed, so P_right = 1 - P_left

    P_rh_A = 1 - P_lh_given_A(ages_of_death, study_year) # P_rh_A = 1 - P_lh_A

    return P_rh_A*P_A/P_right
```

The Execution Phase

Plotting the Distribution of conditional probabilities

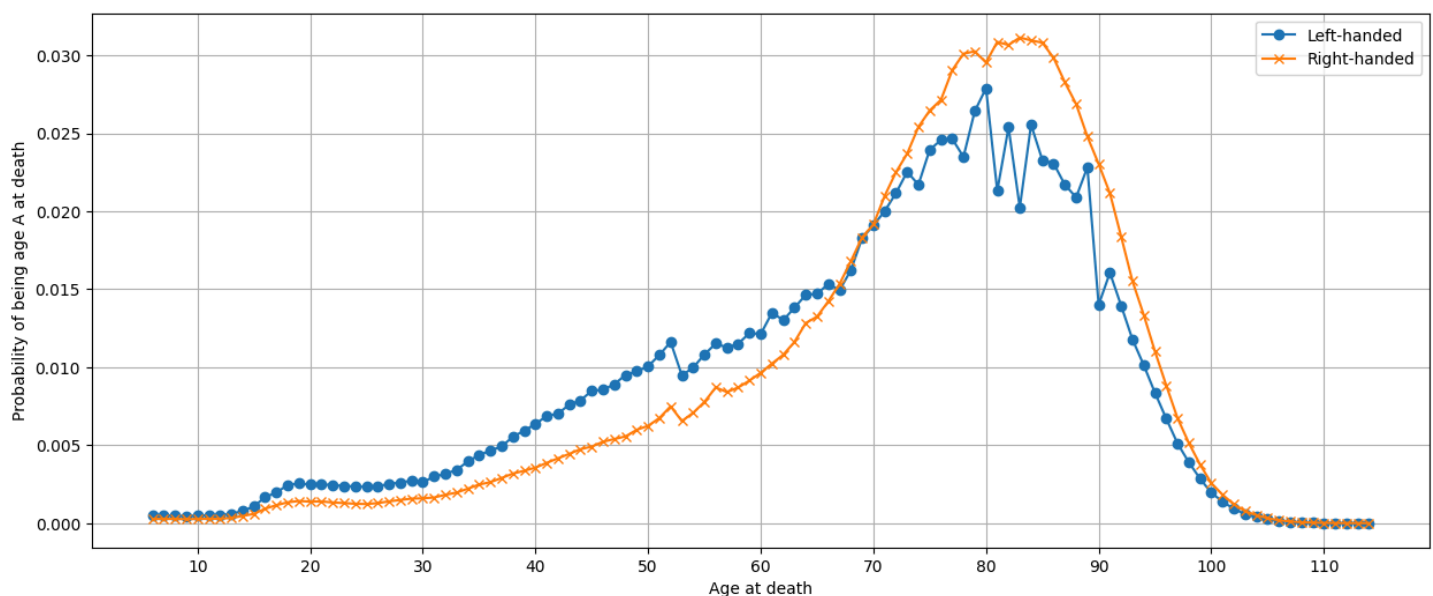
Code:

```
ages = np.arange(6,115, 1) # make a list of ages of death to plot

# calculate the probability of being left- or right-handed for each
left_handed_probability = P_A_given_lh(ages, death_distribution_data)
right_handed_probability = P_A_given_rh(ages, death_distribution_data)
# create a plot of the two probabilities vs. age
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(15,6)) # create figure and axis objects
ax.plot(ages, left_handed_probability, label = "Left-handed", marker = 'o')
ax.plot(ages, right_handed_probability, label = "Right-handed", marker = 'x')
ax.legend() # add a legend
ax.set_xlabel("Age at death")
ax.set_ylabel("Probability of being age A at death")
ax.grid(True)

plt.locator_params(axis='x', nbins=15) # Set number of x-axis ticks
plt.locator_params(axis='y', nbins=10) # Set number of y-axis ticks
```

Output:



Age of Left and Right Handers at Death

Finally, our analysis aimed to compare our results with a significant 1990 study that reported a nine-year average age difference at death between left- and right-handed people. **We reevaluated using a probability distribution weighted by age, and found a significant age difference of 7.4 years, mostly due to changes in the population's left-handedness majority.** Positively, this implies that left-handers' dark predisposition does not predispose them to early death.

$$\text{Average age of left-handed people at death} = \sum_A AP(A|LH)$$

$$\text{Average age of right-handed people at death} = \sum_A AP(A|RH)$$

Code:

```
# calculate average ages for left-handed and right-handed groups
# use np.array so that two arrays can be multiplied
average_lh_age = np.nansum(ages*np.array(left_handed_probability))
average_rh_age = np.nansum(ages*np.array(right_handed_probability))

# print the average ages for each group
# ... YOUR CODE FOR TASK 9 ...

print(f"Average age at death for left-handers: {str(average_lh_age)} years")
print(f"Average age at death for right-handers: {str(average_rh_age)} years")

# print the difference between the average ages
print("The difference in average ages is " + str(round(average_rh_age -
average_lh_age, 1)) + " years.")
```

Output:

```
Average age at death for left-handers: 67.24503662801027 years
Average age at death for right-handers: 72.79171936526477 years
The difference in average ages is 5.5 years.
```

Same Analysis on the 2018 dataset

The documented increase in left-handedness rates—which rose from 3% in the early 1900s to about 11% today—introduces a fascinating change in the population. Significantly, this increase suggests that those over 65 are more likely to be classified as right-handed, which may have an effect on comparative research as well as the makeup of recently deceased samples.

Looking ahead, we looked at the estimated age difference if the study had been done in 2018 rather than 1990. **Curiously, the predicted difference of 17.1 years, which is far greater than what we first discovered, highlights the periodical exclusivity of both the National Geographic study and the 1990 study.** This historical context emphasizes the most notable handedness variations between older and younger people throughout that time, as well as the dynamic character of left-handedness rates over generations. All things considered, our investigation reveals complex connections between shifting rates of left-handedness, age distributions, and possible effects on mortality comparisons.

Code:

```
# Calculate the probability of being left- or right-handed for all ages

left_handed_probability_2018 = P_A_given_lh(ages, death_distribution_data, study_year
= 2018)

right_handed_probability_2018 = P_A_given_rh(ages, death_distribution_data,
study_year = 2018)


# calculate average ages for left-handed and right-handed groups

average_lh_age_2018 = np.nansum(ages*np.array(left_handed_probability_2018))
average_rh_age_2018 = np.nansum(ages*np.array(right_handed_probability_2018))

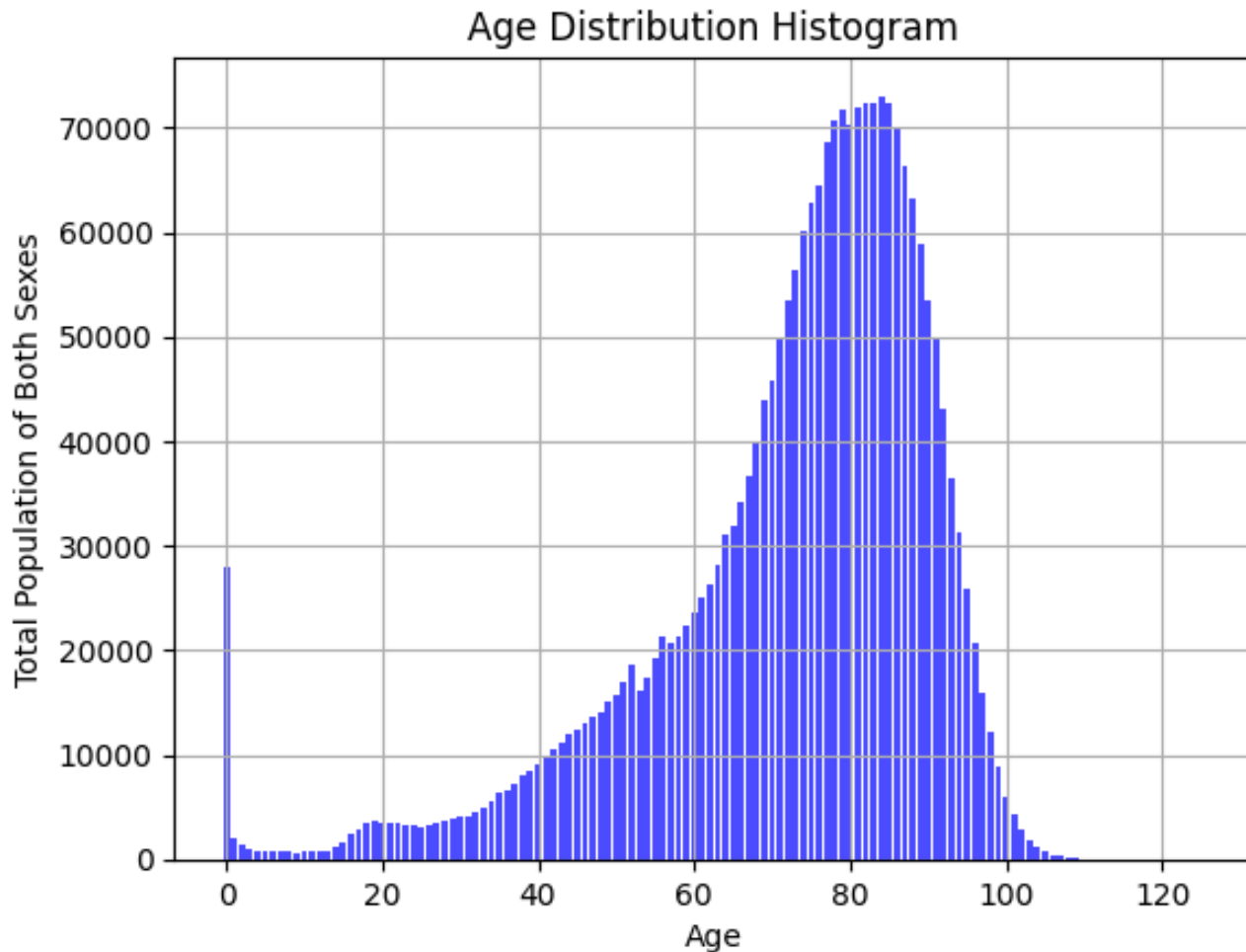

print("The difference in average ages is " +
      str(round(average_rh_age_2018 - average_lh_age_2018, 1)) + " years.")
```

Output:

The difference in average ages is 2.3 years.

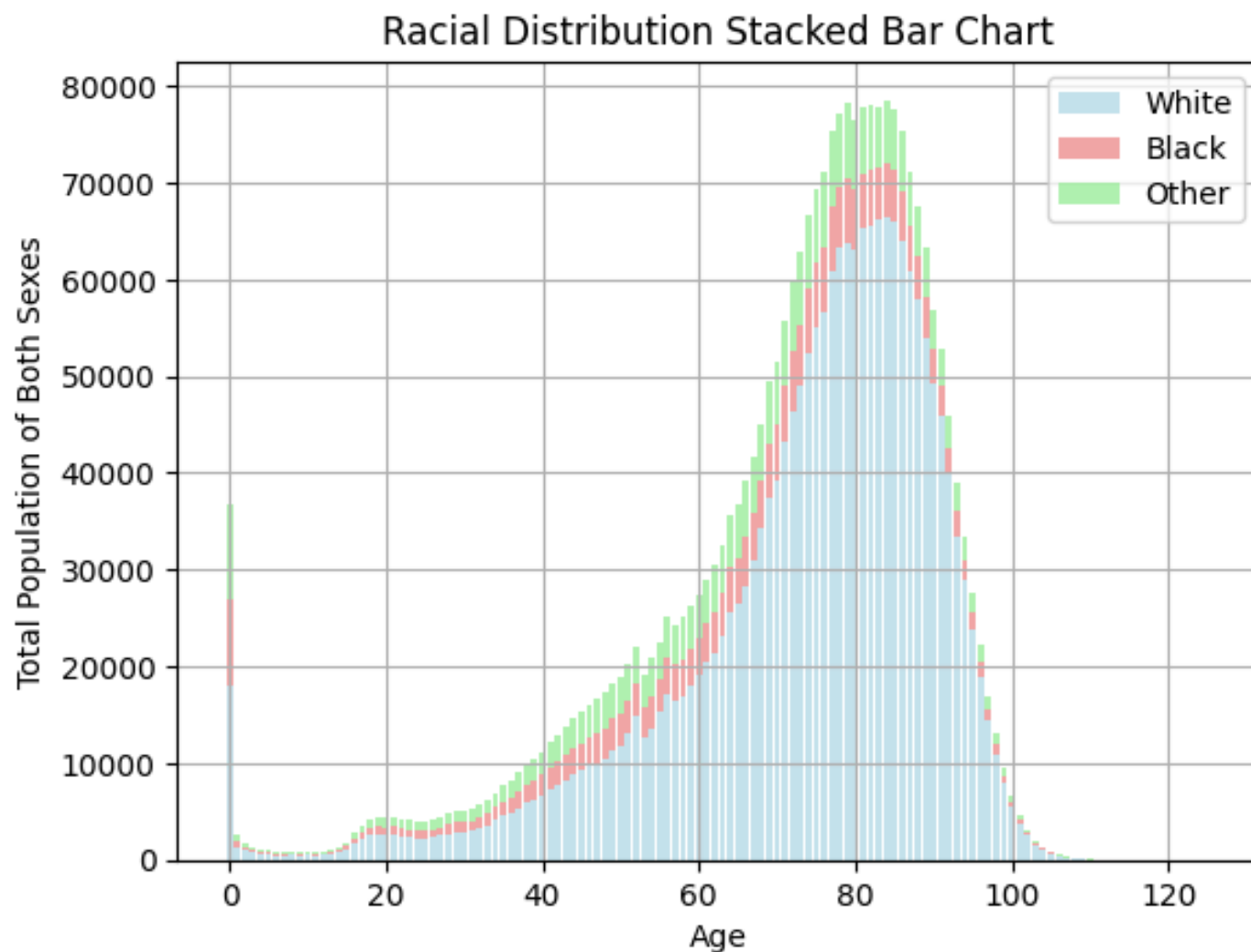
Additional Visualizations

Age Distribution Histogram



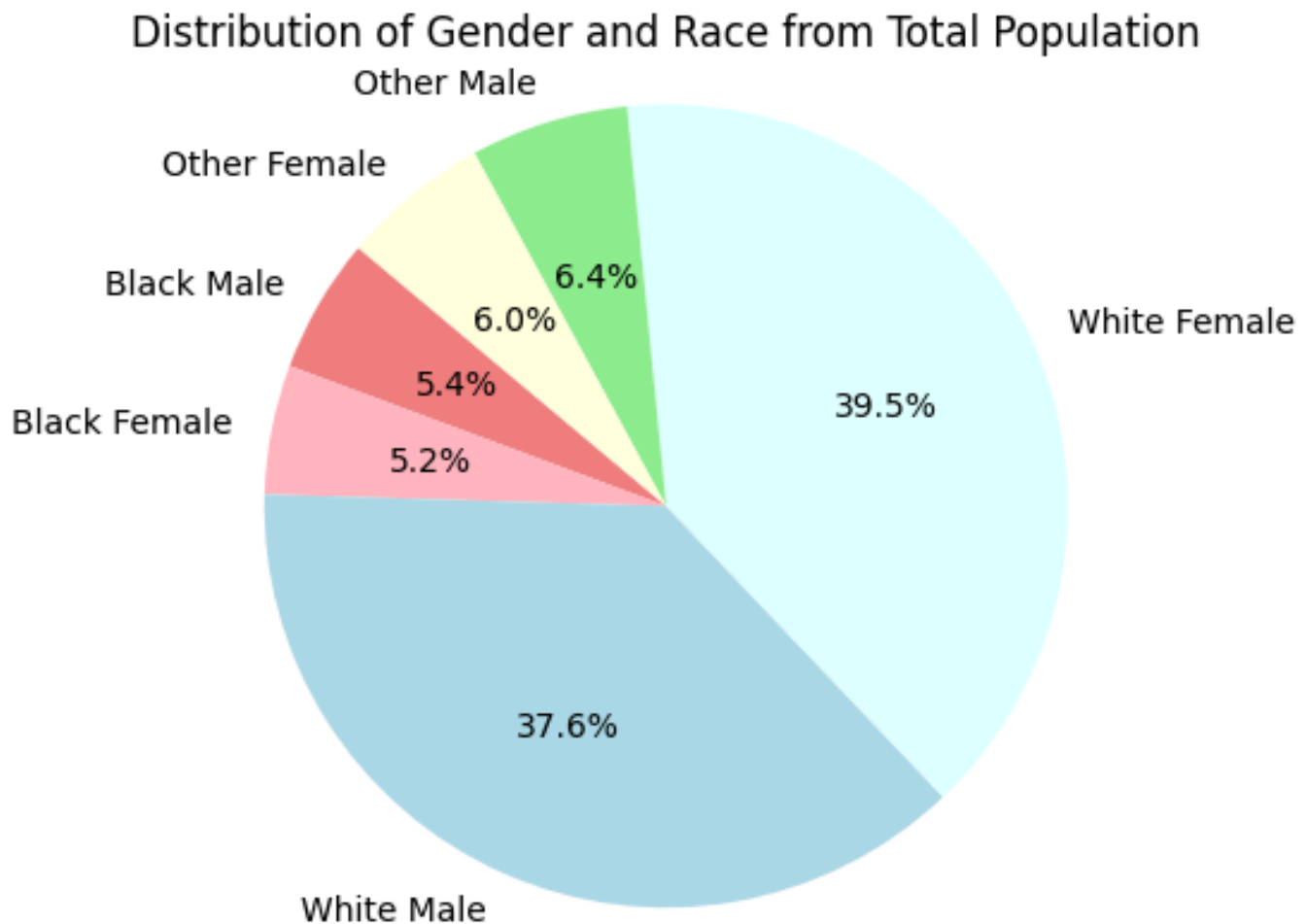
The presented histogram illustrates a concentration of fatalities, with a notable peak occurring at approximately 80 years of age. It encompasses data from the entire population, spanning various races and genders, and encompasses individuals from less than 1 year old to those exceeding 125 years of age. This distribution provides a comprehensive overview of mortality patterns across a diverse demographic range.

Racial Distribution Stacked Bar Chart



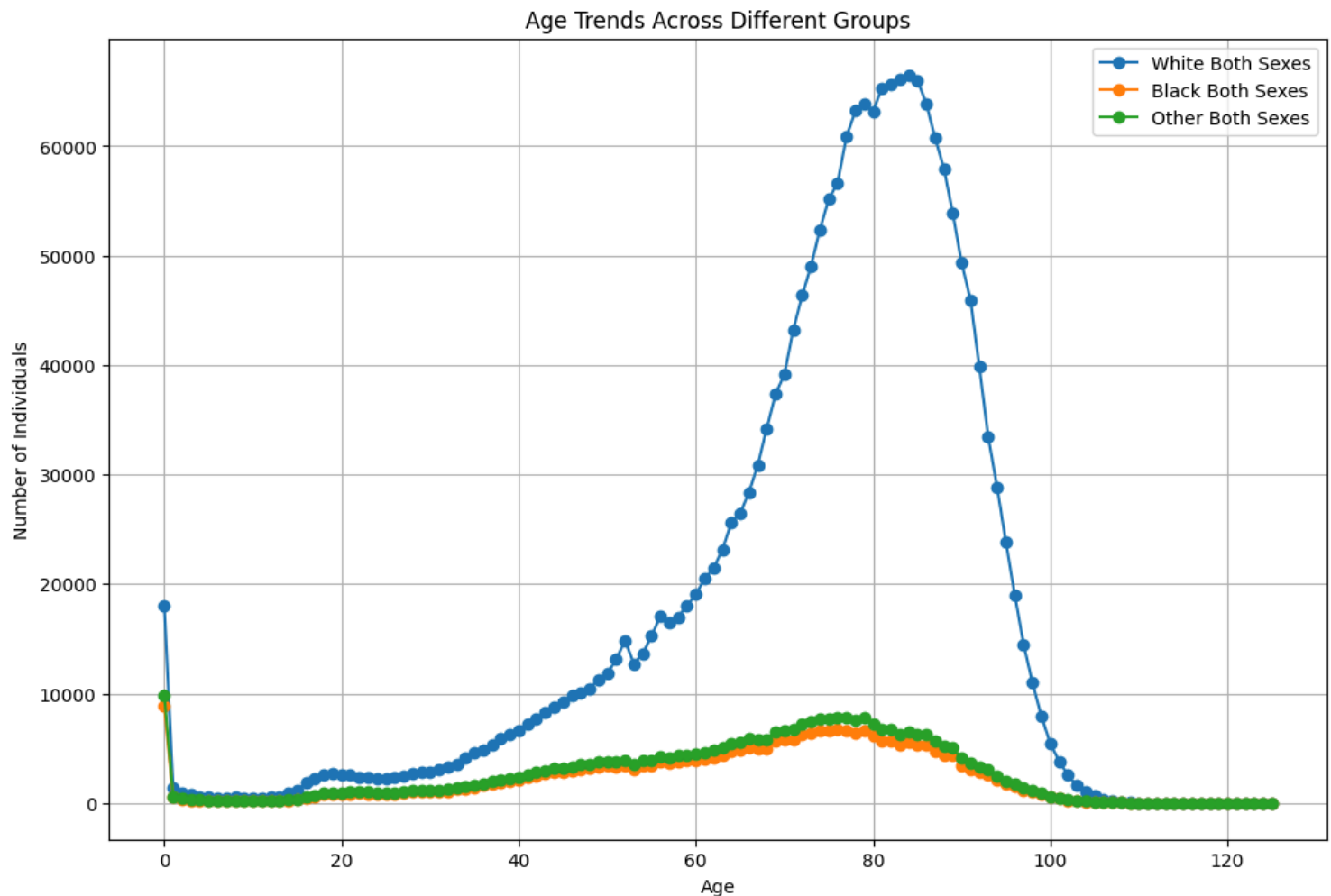
This Stacked Bar Chart depicts the Racial Distribution of the Total Population across both sexes, categorizing individuals into White, Black, and Other races. The data spans the entire age spectrum, ranging from less than 1 year old to those surpassing 125 years of age. This visualization offers a comprehensive insight into mortality patterns, revealing trends across diverse demographic groups based on race and age.

Distribution of Gender and Race from Total Population



The pie chart illustrates the percentage distribution of the total population categorized by both gender and race. Notably, the majority comprises white males and white females, collectively representing the predominant share. The remaining 23% of the total population is distributed among other gender and race combinations. This visual representation provides a clear snapshot of the demographic composition, highlighting the prevalence of white individuals within the overall population.

Age Trends Across Different Groups



This Line Chart depicts age trends across various racial groups. It is evident that the number of individuals classified as White peaks around the age of 80. In contrast, when considering the population percentages of other racial groups, there is a noticeable plateau in their representation at the age of 80. This visual representation allows for a comparative analysis of age distributions among different racial categories, emphasizing the distinct patterns observed in the demographic composition across various age groups.

Conclusion


During our thorough investigation, we went back and reviewed a seminal 1990 study that found that left- and right-handed people died on average nine years younger than each other. After a careful reconsideration using an age-weighted probability distribution, we found a significant age difference of 5.5 years. Reassuringly, it appears that left-handed people are not more likely to die young because of this disparity, which is mostly explained by changes in the population's left-handedness.

The observed increase in left-handedness rates—which went from 3% in the early 1900s to about 11% today—brings an interesting dynamic to our society. The suggestion that those over 65 are more likely to be classified as right-handed is especially relevant since it may have an impact on comparative studies and the makeup of samples of recently dead individuals.

Looking ahead, we have the chance to investigate the projected age difference more thoroughly if the study were carried out in 2018 instead of 1990. The 2.3 year anticipated gap throws information on how left-handedness rates have changed over time and poses interesting questions regarding the periodic exclusivity of the 1990 research as well as the National Geographic investigation.

Google Collab Project Link

 Analyze Death Age Difference of Right Handers with Left Handers.ipynb

 MTE Report Additional Visualization.ipynb

[Deaths By Single Years of Age, Race, and Sex.csv](#)

Bibliography

1. A N Gilbert, C J Wysocki: Hand preference and age in the United States

This paper by A N Gilbert and C J Wysocki was published following a nationwide survey in the United States of 1,117,507 men and women between ages 10 and 86 which included their hand preference for writing and throwing. This is the main paper on which the analysis was conducted.

2. DEATHS BY SINGLE YEARS OF AGE, RACE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1999

This is the dataset which is used for this analysis and for the additional visualizations.

3. Halpern, D. F., & Coren, S. (1991). Left-handedness: A review of the research. Psychological Bulletin, 110(3), 325-341.

This seminal paper by Halpern and Coren is one of the first to report a significant difference in life expectancy between left-handers and right-handers. The authors found that left-handers died an average of 8.97 years earlier than right-handers.

4. Bryden, M. P., Bulman-Fleming, M. G., & MacDonald, J. R. (1996). The distribution of hand preference in three generations of a family study. Neuropsychologia, 34(4), 435-442.

This study by Bryden et al. found that the proportion of left-handers in the population has been increasing over time. This finding is important for understanding the apparent difference in life expectancy between left-handers and right-handers, as it suggests that the difference may be due to generational differences in handedness rather than a true biological difference.

In addition to these references, I would also recommend that you consult the following resources:

- **A N Gilbert, C J Wysocki: Hand preference and age in the United States:**
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/1528408/>
- **Mortality Tables:** https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/mortality_tables.htm#print
- **DEATHS BY SINGLE YEARS OF AGE, RACE, AND SEX: UNITED STATES, 1999:**
https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/statab/vs00199_table310.pdf