

BSPS 2017

MACRO PATTERNS IN THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN AGING

Tim Riffe & José Manuel Aburto



MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT
FÜR DEMOGRAFISCHE
FORSCHUNG



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RESEARCH

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Background

- **Life expectancy** at birth (e_0) is the most used indicator.

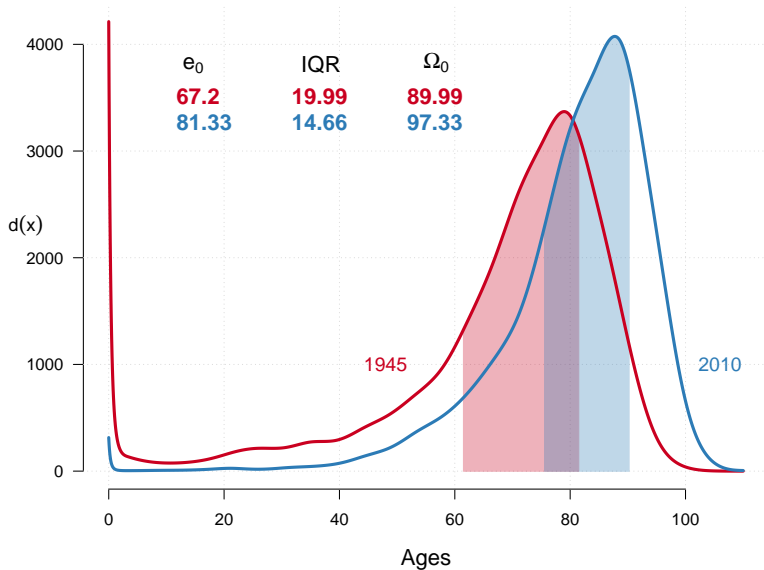
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- ▶ Demographers also use **modal** or **median** age at death.
- ▶ Central tendencies **conceal variation of lifespans** and other aspects of the age at death distribution.

Danish Females



Key formulas

Consider the conditional death distribution

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Key point: $f(y \mid a) \longrightarrow$ probability of surviving to and dying at age $a + y$ given survival to age a .

Remaining life expectancy conditional on survival to age a is

$$e(a) = \frac{1}{\ell(a)} \int_0^{\infty} \ell(a+y) dy$$

The conditional deaths distribution can be described by its moments about $e(a)$

Moment generator function defined as

$$\eta_n(y \mid a) = \int_{y=0}^{\infty} (y - e(a))^n f(y \mid a) dy$$

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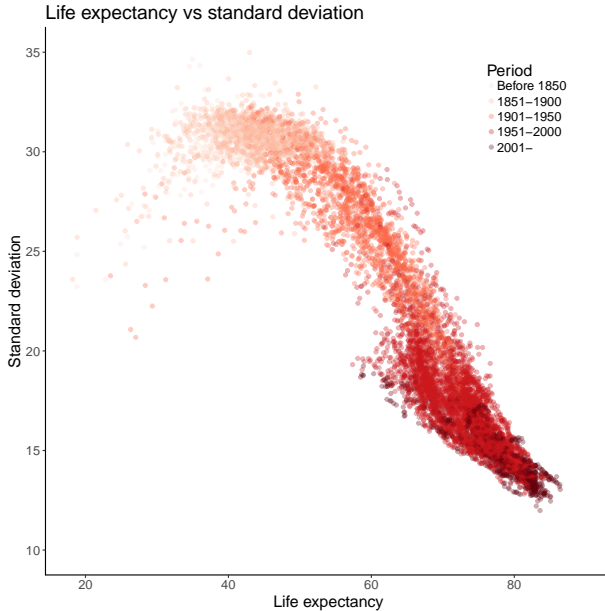
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Skewness $\longrightarrow \text{Skew}(y \mid a) = \frac{\eta_3(y|a)}{\sigma^2(y|a)}$

Kurtosis $\longrightarrow \text{Kurt}(y \mid a) = \frac{\eta_4(y|a)}{\sigma^3(y|a)-3}$

\vdots



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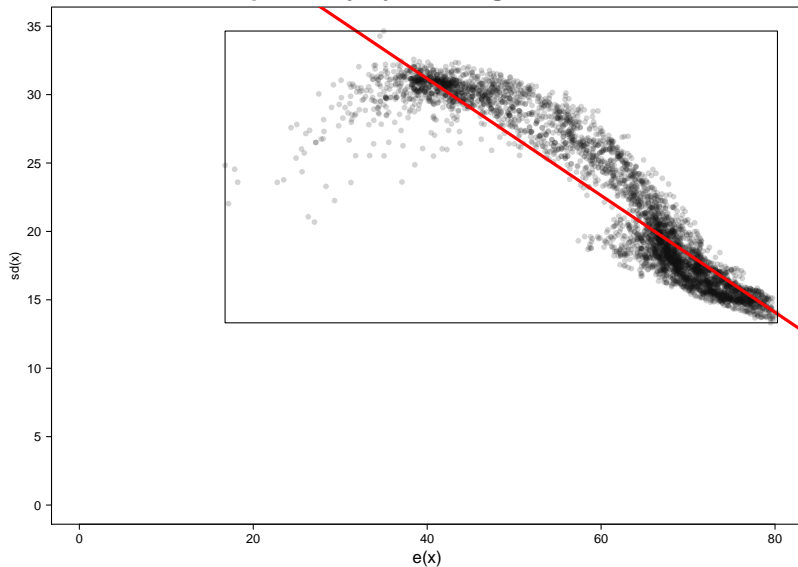
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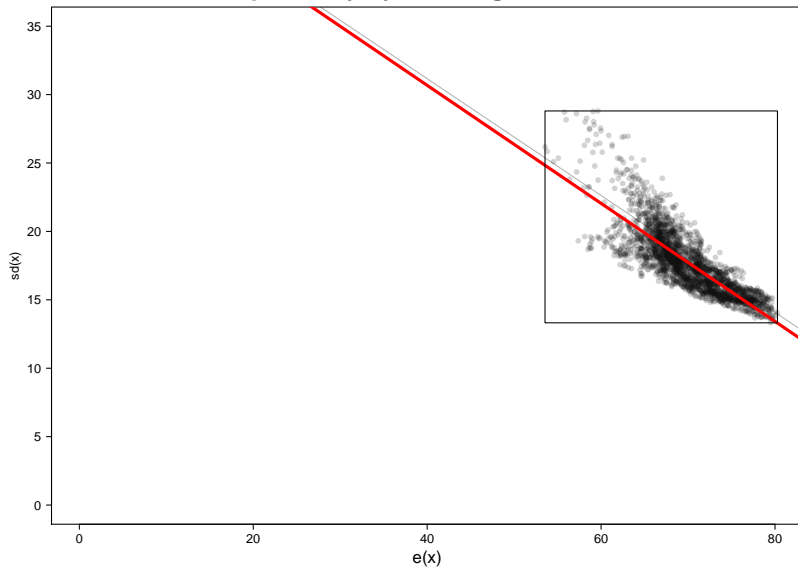
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We explore with our framework

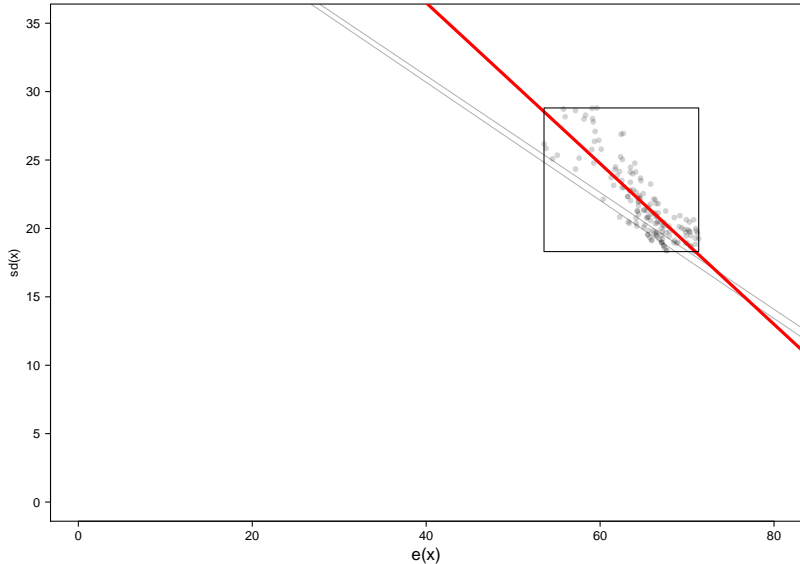
Life expectancy by SD at age 0, 1751–2013



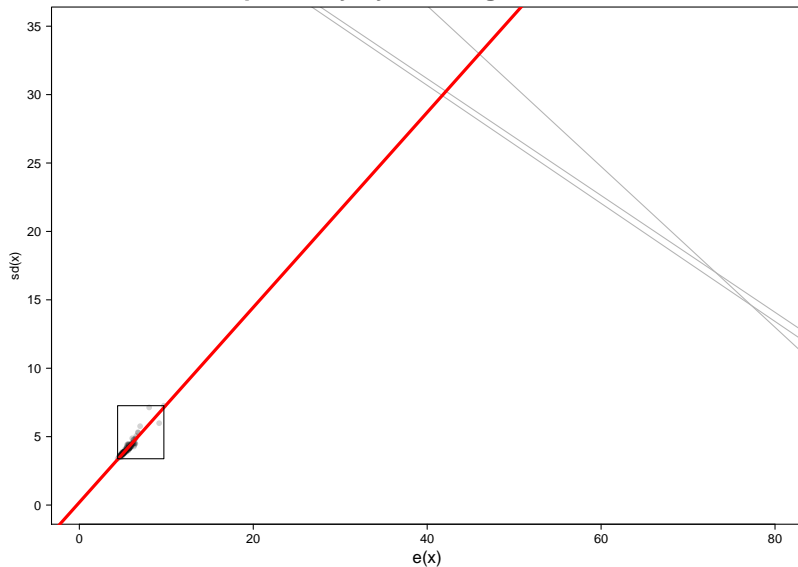
Life expectancy by SD at age 0, 1950–2013



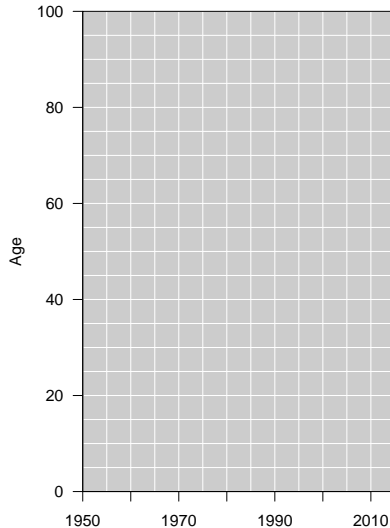
Life expectancy by SD at age 0, 1950–1954



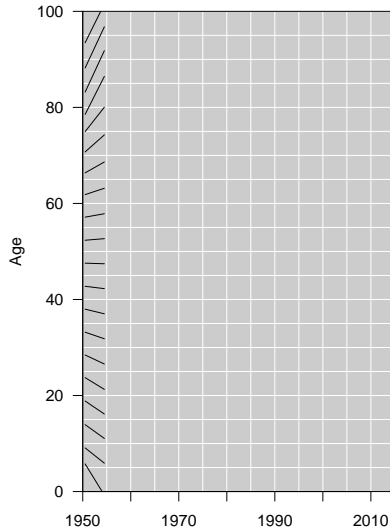
Life expectancy by SD at age 80, 1950–1954



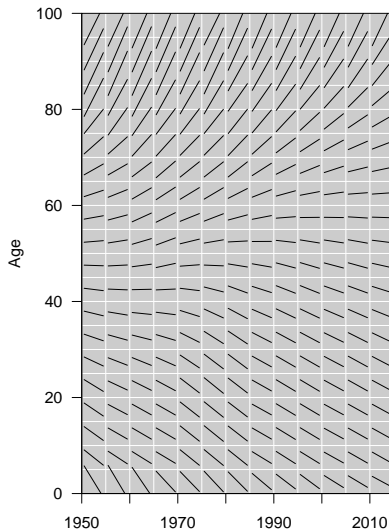
Slope in Life expectancy by SD at different ages



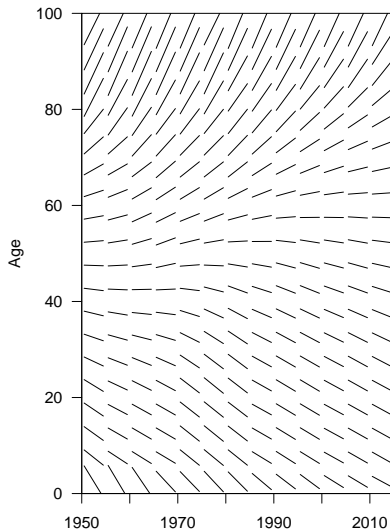
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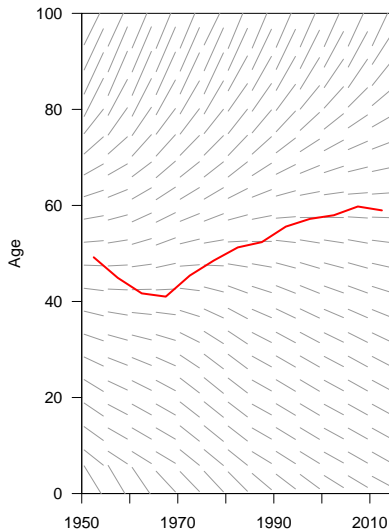
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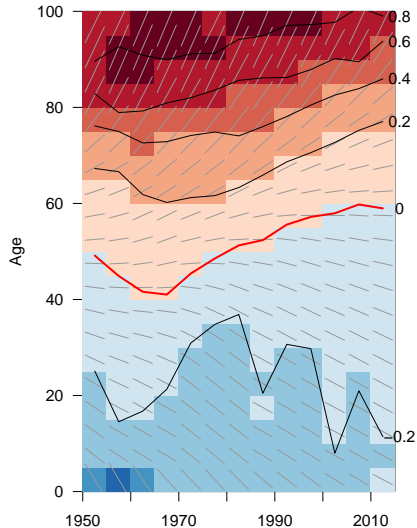
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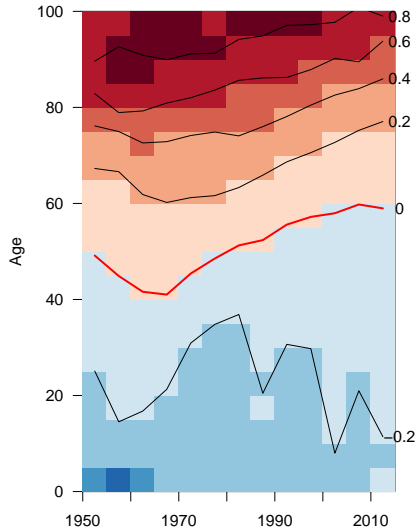
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Slope in Life expectancy by SD at different ages



Slope in Life expectancy by SD at different ages



Go beyond the mean!

More information:

jmaburto@health.sdu.dk riffe@demogr.mpg.de

🐦 @jm_aburto @timriffe1

🌐 @jmaburto @timriffe



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