Explore Weather Trends

Data Extraction

1. The following 2 SQL queries were used to extract city level and global data. My city is Indianapolis and hence I included a WHERE condition for city = 'Indianapolis' in my query.

SELECT * FROM city_data WHERE city = 'Indianapolis';
This query fetches all data for Indianapolis from the city data table.

SELECT * FROM global_data; This query fetches all data from the global_data table.

- 2. In this project, I used Python to read the data from csv files, clean it and visualized the data using the matplotlib library. Scripts were run from Jupyter Notebook.
- 3. Data was stored in cityTempDF and globalTempDF data frames respectively using the Pandas library in Python.
- 4. cityTempDF data frame had average temperature values by year for Indianapolis ranging from 1743 to 2013.
- 5. globalTempDF data frame had average global temperatures by year from 1750 to 2015.

Data Cleaning

- 1. Before calculating the moving average for the temperature in Indianapolis and for the global data, I analyzed the data to check for null values. The 'avg_temp' column in my local city "Indianapolis" had 5 null values out of the total 270 records. No avg_temp value was recorded for the years 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749 and 1780 in Indianapolis.
- 2. Handling missing data is important. Even though the number of records with null values for avg_temp in cityTempDF is just 5, the period from 1746 1749 had null values consecutively.
- 3. I used mean imputation to handle missing data for the 5 years. Mean average temperature for Indianapolis is 11.14 and was used to replace the 5 null values in the cityTempDF data frame.
- 4. The globalTempDF had no null values.

Calculating Moving Average

I used the matplotlib library to plot a line chart for both average temperature by year for Indianapolis and the globe with the X axis representing values from 1740 to 2015 at intervals of 10 years. With too many spikes and the line charts overlapping each other, I decided to look at the moving average for 5 years.

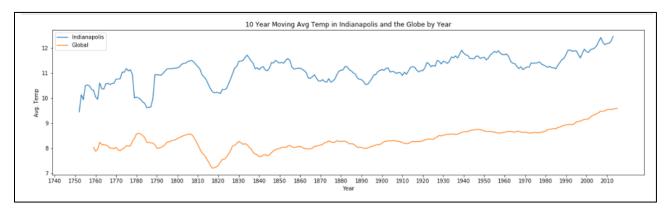
For moving average, I calculated 5-year, 7-year and 10-year moving average temperature for both Indianapolis and global temperature. The following function was used in Python to calculate 5 year moving average for Indianapolis.

cityTempDF['5yr_moving_avg_temp'] = cityTempDF['avg_temp'].rolling(window=5).mean()

The 5-year moving average still had a lot of spikes and decided to visualize 7-year moving average. The 7-year moving average for global temperatures were smooth however, the 7-year moving average for Indianapolis had a lot of spikes and wasn't clear to derive insights.

I feel the 10-year moving average is much clear to understand with more smoother curves in the line chart and hence I decided to analyze the 10-year moving average line chart.

The following is a line chart for 10-year moving average temperature for Indianapolis and the globe.



Observations

- 1. In the above line chart, it can be observed that from the year 1900 the 10-year moving average temp for the globe is increasing consistently. The 10-year moving average temperature during the period from 1940 to 1980 is constant and is subsequently increasing again from 1980. The world is getting hotter from 1980.
- 2. Overall there is a trend that shows that the world is consistently getting hotter since the past 120 years. (since 1900)
- 3. The 10-year moving average temperature in my local city "Indianapolis" is comparatively hotter than the global average. This can be seen by the gaps between the blue and orange lines.
- 4. Overall the 10-year moving average for Indianapolis follows a similar trend to global temperatures maintaining a consistent difference over time.