

# Life satisfaction of retired workers related to their past work-life and current living conditions

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Target population: Senior members of Trade Union Pro (N ~ 30 000)

Assistants, specialists and middle management ("salaried employees") in private sector (in most categories of the manufacturing and service economy)

<http://www.proliitto.fi/en>

[http://www.tilastokeskus.fi/meta/luokitukset/toimiala/001-2008/index\\_en.html](http://www.tilastokeskus.fi/meta/luokitukset/toimiala/001-2008/index_en.html)

Web page for the statistics etc. (mainly in Finnish):

[http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/tutk\\_elakelaiset.html](http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/tutk_elakelaiset.html)

Report in Finnish:

[http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/PUBDOC/rap\\_sentutk\\_eltyy.pdf](http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/PUBDOC/rap_sentutk_eltyy.pdf)

Research question:

Main interest is to model the variability of the non-composite life satisfaction index (0-10, 0-100 %)

[http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/PICS/plot\\_hist\\_ts\\_ELTYY\\_KAIKKI\\_1\\_basic1\\_sen.png](http://tiedostot.proliitto.fi/tmt/PICS/plot_hist_ts_ELTYY_KAIKKI_1_basic1_sen.png)

by certain factors:

- Duration of working career  
(in years, "DURURA" is the corresp. short name in figures etc.)
- Gender (binary variable)
- Age (yrs, IKATUTK)
- Characteristics of job tasks (JOB, latent variables)
- Conditions of moving to retirement (LAHTO, latent variables)
- Time usage in different life activities (ACT, latent variables)
- Quantity of social networks (SOSVERK, n of active relationships)
- Level of pension (ELAKETUb, euro / mth (gross))
- Level of being sick (SAIPV, days of sickness / yr)
- Mode of living (ASUM01 = living alone)
- Level of education
- Economical possibilities

by structural modeling setup (means lots of models...)

Data:

Web survey 2010 & 2010 (N = 1629 + 1695)

Modeling methods:

Regression analysis, Factor analysis, SEM,  
Multivariate adaptive regression splines (MARS),...

Software: R, Survo, <http://www.graphviz.org/>,...

Main results (so far):

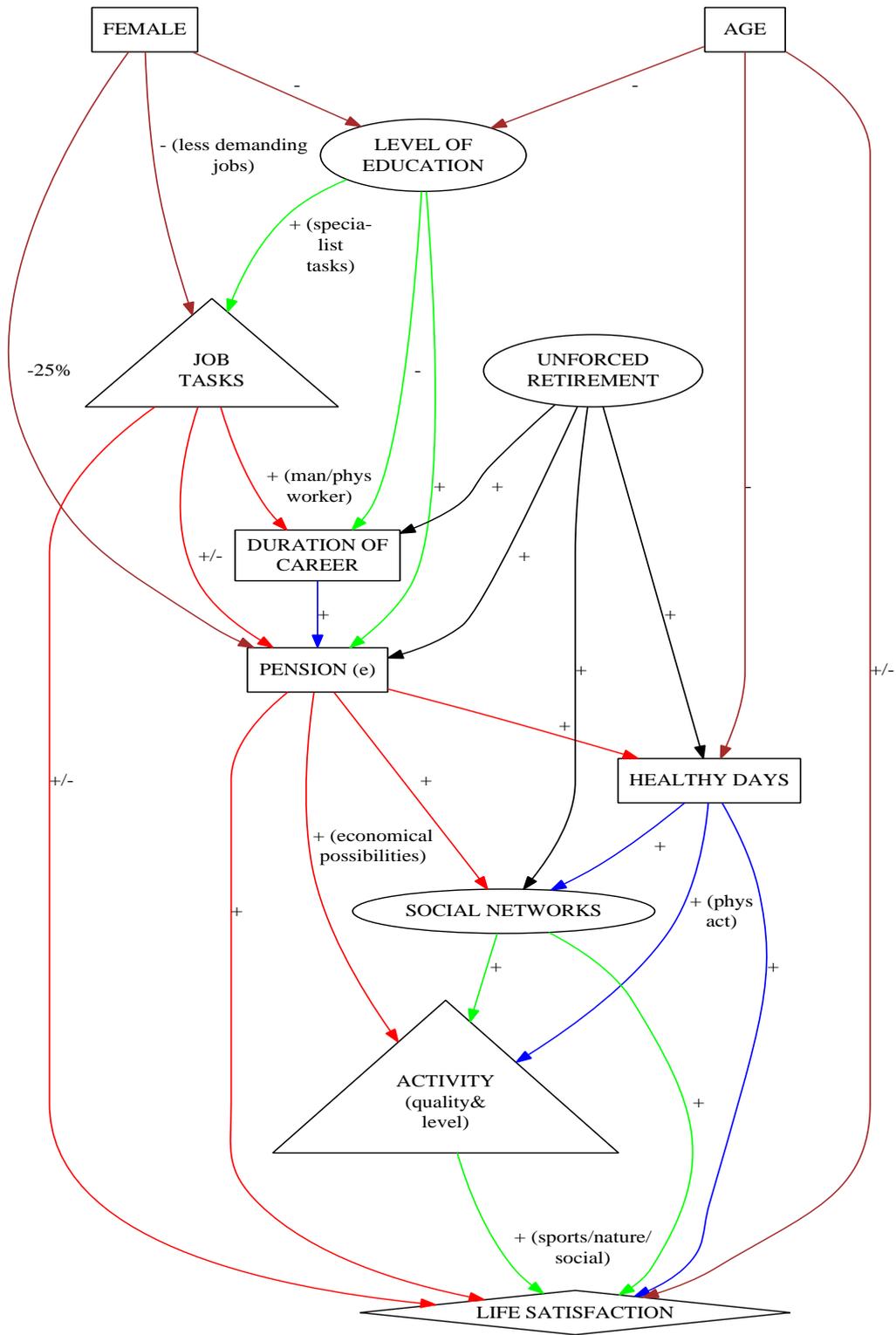


Figure. Illustration of the "dynamics" resulting better life satisfaction.

## Some relations:

- Satisfaction with life is highest at the age of 57-77 years  
(+ aging gradually predicts less healthy days)
- Higher education => work as specialist (tech, econ, admin, research)
- Career tasks in middle management or as specialist => higher pension
- Higher education => shorter career, higher pension
- Later or unforced retirement => higher pension, larger social ties, more healthy days
- Higher pension => more activities, social ties, healthy days and (direct) amount of life satisfaction
- Longer duration of career => increased pension
- Gender is a great factor "deep" in the phenomena (but has no significant influence directly on the variability of the satisfaction)
- For the people living alone social activities are (more) important
  
- Importantly, life satisfaction depends on the level of activities consisting of social life, sports and being in nature (which themselves require health and economical possibilities)

## Other (problems...):

- the data sample is biased towards younger pensioners  
(and so more healthy)  
(that's why regression models suit (directly) better in describing the data)
- ...