Statistical Graphics: What is Exploratory Data Analysis?



Objective



Objective
Describe
exploratory
data analysis

Exploratory Data Analysis

Approach to analyzing data sets to summarize main characteristics





Exploratory
Data
Analysis

Elements include:

- Data visualization
- Residual analysis
- Data transformations/ re-expression
- Resistance procedures

Data Visualization

Data visualization facilitates advanced data analysis

Checks distributional and other assumptions

Observes timebased processing

Spots outliers

Examines relationships

Discriminates clusters

Compares mean differences

Data Distributions

The type of data distribution affects

- How it should be analyzed
- How it should be visualized

Key step is preconditioning data



The Normal Distribution

Normal (Gaussian) Distribution

- Popular
- Fully characterizes with two parameters
- Probability is determined knowing distance from mean
- Many measures and tests are designed for this

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Mean and Standard Deviation

For sample population $X = \{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ the mean is defined as:

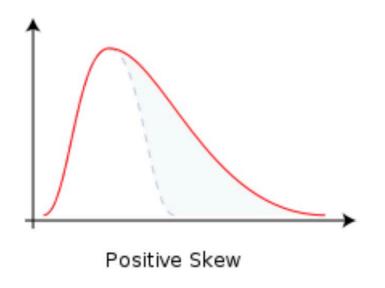
$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^{N} x_i$$

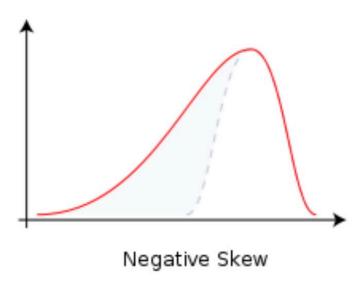
The standard deviation is defined as:

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=0}^{N}(x_i-\mu)^2}$$

Skewness

Measure of the asymmetry of the probability distribution





Skewed Data

For a sample of N values, the sample skewness is:

$$\gamma = \frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \mu)^3}{\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \mu)^2\right)^{3/2}}$$