

# Probability Distribution

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# Probability Distribution

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# Some name of the discrete and continuous distribution.

## **Discrete Distribution**

Bernoulli distribution

Binomial distribution

Poisson distribution

Hypergeometric distribution

Geometric distribution

Negative binomial distribution

Discrete Uniform distribution

## **Continuous distribution**

Normal distribution

Exponential distribution

Gamma distribution

Beta distribution

Lognormal distribution

Weibull distribution

Continuous uniform distribution

# Binomial Distribution

## Bernoulli trial:

A trial that has only two possible outcomes (often called 'Success' and 'Failure')

<b>Outcome</b>	Success	failure
<b>Probability</b>	$p$	$1-p$

Let,

- $n$  independent Bernoulli trials are performed
- Each trial has the same probability of success,  $p$

# Binomial Distribution

Let,

$X$  = number of success in  $n$  trials

Then,  $X$  is a binomial random variable with distribution function (pmf),

$$p(x) = {}^nC_x p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \quad ; x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-x)! x!} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}$$

Here,  $n! = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 1$      $0! = 1$      $1! = 1$      $2! = 2 \times 1 = 2$      $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$

We write it as,  $X \sim \text{binomial}(n, p)$

# Binomial Distribution

Mean of the binomial distribution,  $\mu = E(X) = \sum x p(x) = np$

Variance of binomial distribution,  $\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = np(1 - p) = npq$

Standard deviation of binomial distribution,  $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$

# Binomial Distribution

## Example 3:

There are 3 multiple choice questions in a MCQ test. Each MCQ consists of four possible choices and only one of them is correct. If an examinee answers those MCQ randomly (without knowing the correct answers)

- a. What is the probability that exactly any two of the answers will be correct?
- b. What is the probability that at least two of the answers will be correct?
- c. What is the probability that at most two of the answers will be correct?
- d. What will be the average or expected number of correct answers?
- e. Also, find the standard deviation of number of correct answers.

# Binomial Distribution

## Solution:

Let,

X= number of correct answers selected in 3 MCQs

Here, p = probability of selecting correct answer per question =  $\frac{1}{4} = 0.25$

$$\therefore X \sim \text{binomial} (n = 2, p = 0.25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= {}^3C_x (0.25)^x (1 - 0.25)^{3-x} && ; x = 0, 1, 2, 3 \\ &= \frac{3!}{(3-x)! x!} (0.25)^x (0.75)^{3-x} \end{aligned}$$

# Binomial Distribution

**Solution** (contd.):

a. probability that exactly any two of the answers will be correct-

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X = 2) &= \frac{3!}{(3-2)! 2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^{3-2} \\
 &= \frac{3!}{1! 2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^1 = \frac{3 * 2 * 1}{1 * (2 * 1)} * 0.0625 * 0.75 = 0.141
 \end{aligned}$$

b. probability that at least two of the answers will be correct-

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X \geq 2) &= P(X = 2) + P(X = 3) \\
 &= \frac{3!}{(3-2)! 2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^{3-2} + \frac{3!}{(3-3)! 3!} (0.25)^3 (0.75)^{3-3} \\
 &= \frac{3!}{1! 2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^1 + \frac{3!}{0! 3!} (0.25)^3 (0.75)^0 = 0.141 + 0.016 = 0.157
 \end{aligned}$$



# Binomial Distribution

**Solution** (contd.):

c. probability that at most two of the answers will be correct-

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X \leq 2) &= P(X = 0) + P(X = 1) + P(X = 2) \\
 &= \frac{3!}{(3-0)!0!} (0.25)^0 (0.75)^{3-0} + \frac{3!}{(3-1)!1!} (0.25)^1 (0.75)^{3-1} \\
 &\quad + \frac{3!}{(3-2)!2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^{3-2} \\
 &= \frac{3!}{3!0!} (0.25)^0 (0.75)^3 + \frac{3!}{2!1!} (0.25)^1 (0.75)^2 + \frac{3!}{1!2!} (0.25)^2 (0.75)^1 \\
 &= 0.422 + 0.422 + 0.141 = 0.985
 \end{aligned}$$

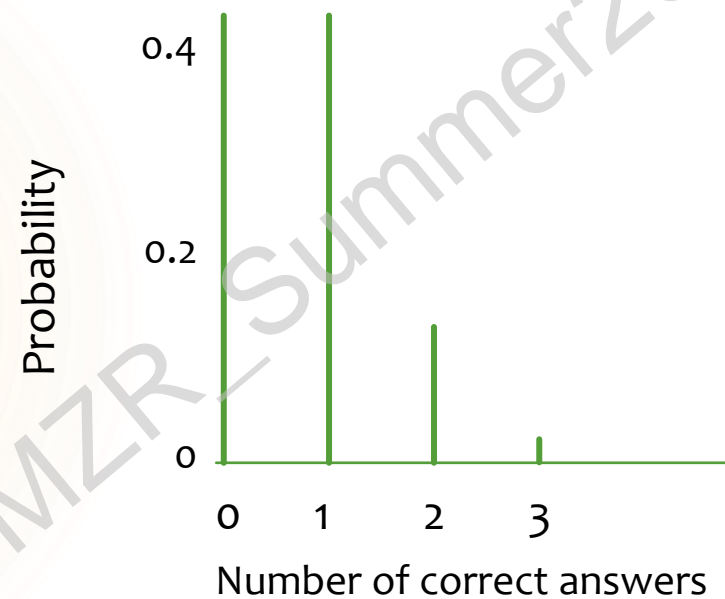
d.  $E(X) = np = 3 * .25 = 0.75$

e.  $SD(X) = \sqrt{npq} = \sqrt{3 * 0.25 * 0.75} = 0.75$

# Binomial Distribution

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X	0	1	2	3
P(x)	0.422	0.422	0.141	0.016



# Geometric Distribution

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- ▶ Suppose that independent Bernoulli trials each having probability  $p$  of success are performed until a success occurs.
- ▶ Let,  $X$  = No. of trials required to get the first success.
- ▶ Then  $X \sim \text{geometric}(p)$

Pmf:

$$P(X=x) = (1-p)^{x-1} p$$

- ▶  $E(X) = 1/p$
- ▶  $V(X) = (1-p)/p^2$

# Geometric Distribution

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- ▶ A fair die is thrown until a “6” occurs.
- ▶ i) What is the probability that at most 3 tosses will be required?
- ▶ ii) What will be the average no. of tosses required?

# Geometric Distribution

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- ▶ Coming home from work, you always seem to hit every light. You calculate the odds of making it through a light to be 0.2. How many lights can you expect to hit before making it through one? With what std. dev. ? What's the probability of the 3<sup>rd</sup> light being the first one that is green?

# Geometric Distribution

- ▶ Coming home from work, you always seem to hit every light. You calculate the odds of making it through a light to be 0.2. How many lights can you expect to hit before making it through one? With what std. dev.? What's the probability of the 3<sup>rd</sup> light being the first one that is green?
- ▶ Solution:
- ▶ Mean=  $\mu = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{0.2} = \mathbf{5 \text{ lights}}$
- ▶ Std. Dev.=  $\sigma = \frac{\sqrt{1-p}}{p} = \frac{\sqrt{q}}{p} = \frac{\sqrt{0.8}}{0.2} = \mathbf{4.47 \text{ lights}}$
- ▶ Probability:  $P(X = 3) = (1 - p)^{x-1} p = (0.8)^2 (0.2) = \mathbf{0.128}$

# Poisson Distribution

Let,

$X$  = a random variable usually counts or number of occurrences

Then,  $X$  is a Poisson random variable with distribution function (pmf),

$$p(x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} ; x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

We write it as,  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

# Poisson Distribution

Mean of the Poisson distribution,  $\mu = E(X) = \sum x p(x) = \lambda$

Variance of Poisson distribution,  $\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = \lambda$

Standard deviation of Poisson distribution,  $\sigma = \sqrt{\lambda}$

\* Count data with no upper limit



- ▶ Example:
- ▶ Some random quantities that can be modeled by Poisson distribution:
  - ▶ (i) Number of patients in a waiting room in an hour.
  - ▶ (ii) Number of surgeries performed in a month.
  - ▶ (iii) Number of car accidents daily in a city.
  - ▶ (iv) Number of rats in each house in a particular city.

► **Note**

- $\lambda$  is the average (mean) of the distribution.
- If  $X$  = The number of patients seen in the emergency unit in a day, and if  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ , then:
  - The average (mean) of patients seen every day in the emergency unit =  $\lambda$ .
  - The average (mean) of patients seen every month in the emergency unit =  $30\lambda$ .
  - The average (mean) of patients seen every year in the emergency unit =  $365\lambda$ .
  - The average (mean) of patients seen every hour in the emergency unit =  $\lambda/24$ .

- ▶ Also, notice that:
- ▶ (i) If  $Y$  = The number of patients seen every month, then:
  - ▶  $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda^*)$ , where  $\lambda^* = 30\lambda$
- ▶ (ii)  $W$  = The number of patients seen every year, then:
  - ▶  $W \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda^*)$ , where  $\lambda^* = 365\lambda$
- ▶ (iii)  $V$  = The number of patients seen every hour, then:
  - ▶  $V \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda^*)$ , where  $\lambda^* = \lambda/24$

# Poisson Distribution

## Example 4:

The average number of errors on a page of a certain magazine is 0.2.  
What is the probability that the next page (or a randomly selected page) you read contains

- i. 0 (zero) error?
- ii. 2 or more errors?
- iii. What is the average error per page?
- iv. Also, find standard deviation of the number of errors.

# Poisson Distribution

## Solution:

Let,

X= number of errors in a page

Here,  $\lambda$  = average number of errors per page= 0.2

$$\therefore X \sim \text{Poisson} (\lambda = 0.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} \quad ; x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ &= \frac{e^{-0.2} 0.2^x}{x!} \end{aligned}$$

# Poisson Distribution

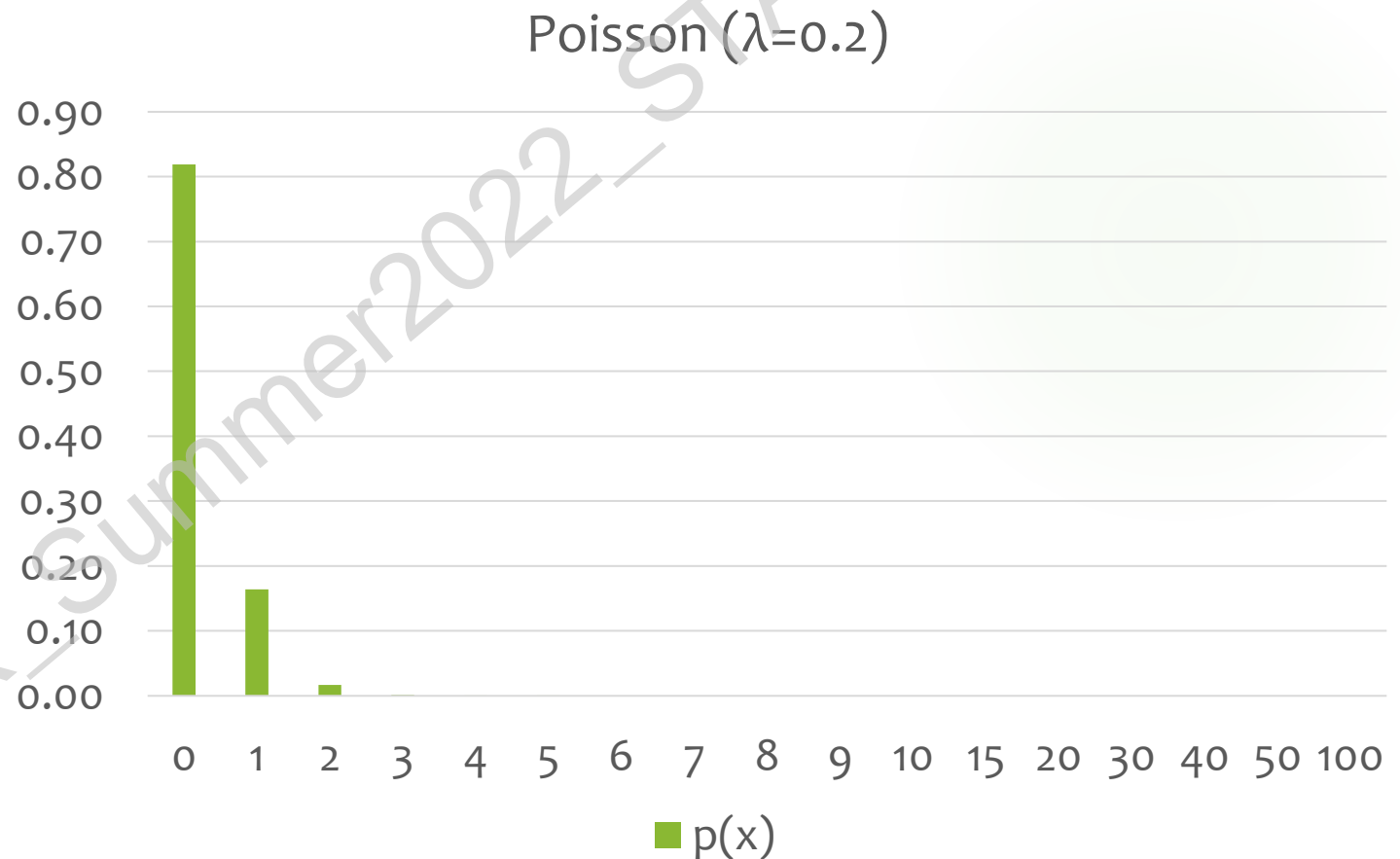
## Solution:

- i.  $P(X = 0) = \frac{e^{-0.2} 0.2^x}{x!} = \frac{e^{-0.2} 0.2^0}{0!} = \frac{e^{-0.2} * 1}{1} = 0.8187$
- ii.  $P(X \geq 2) = 1 - P(X < 2) = 1 - [P(X = 0) + P(X = 1)]$   
 $= \frac{e^{-0.2} 0.2^0}{0!} + \frac{e^{-0.2} 0.2^1}{1!} = 1 - [e^{-0.2} + e^{-0.2} * 0.2] = 0.01756$
- iii. Average number of errors,  $E(X) = \lambda = 0.2$
- iv. Standard deviation,  $SD(X) = \sqrt{\lambda} = \sqrt{0.2} = 0.45$

# Poisson Distribution

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x	p(x)
0	0.82
1	0.16
2	0.02
3	0.00
4	0.00
5	0.00
6	0.00
7	0.00
8	0.00
9	0.00
10	0.00
15	0.00
20	0.00
30	0.00
40	0.00
50	0.00
100	0.00



Suppose that the number of accidents per day in a city has a Poisson distribution with average 2 accidents.

(1) What is the probability that in a day:

(i) The number of accidents will be 5?

(ii) The number of accidents will be less than 2?

(2) What is the probability that there will be 6 accidents in 2 days?

(3) What is the probability that there will be no accidents in an hour?



- (1)  $X$  = number of accidents in a day

$$X \sim \text{Poisson}(2) \quad (\lambda=2)$$

- (ii)  $P(X=5) = 0.036089$       (ii)  $P(X < 2) = 0.406005$

- (2)  $Y$  = number of accidents in 2 days

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(4) \quad (\lambda^*=4)$$

$$P(Y=6) = 0.1042$$

$W$  = number of accidents in an hour

$$W \sim \text{Poisson}(0.083) \quad (\lambda^{**} = \lambda / 24 = 2/24 = 0.083)$$

$$P(W=0) = 0.9204$$

# Normal Distribution

Let,

$X$  is a continuous random variable

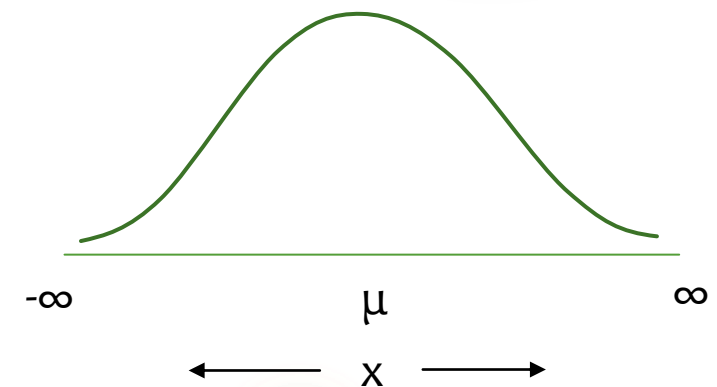
Then, if  $X$  has a probability density function (pdf),

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

We write it as,  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

Mean,  $E(X) = \mu$

Variance,  $V(X) = \sigma^2$



# Standard Normal Distribution

Let,

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

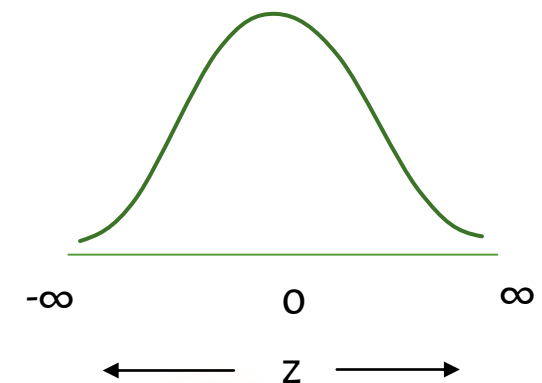
Then, Mean,  $E(Z) = 0$

Variance,  $V(Z) = 1$

And, if  $Z$  has a probability density function (pdf),

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}z^2}; \quad -\infty < z < \infty$$

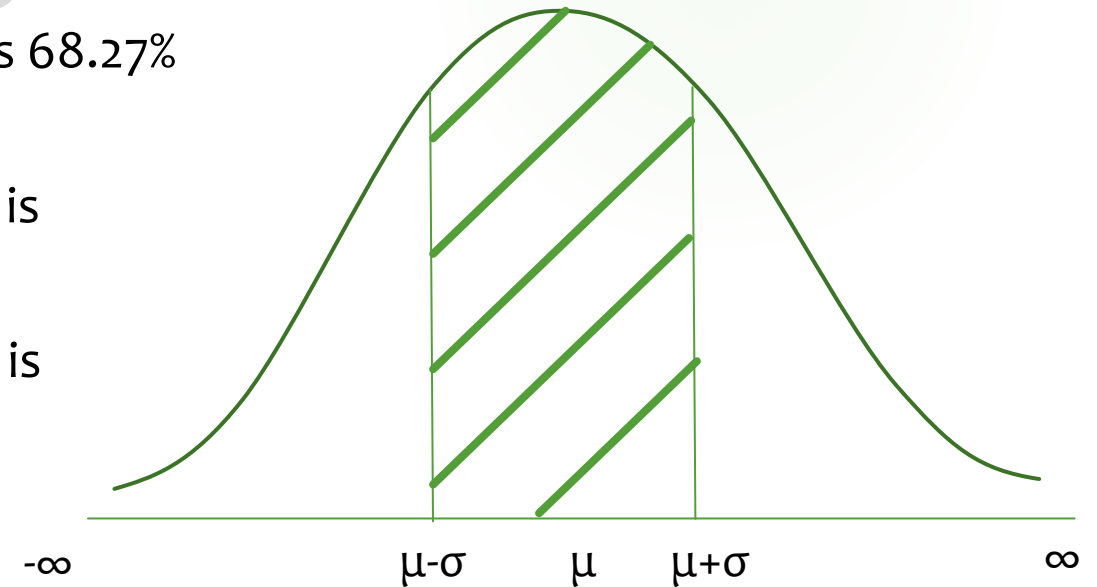
We write it as,  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$



# Characteristics of a Normal Distribution

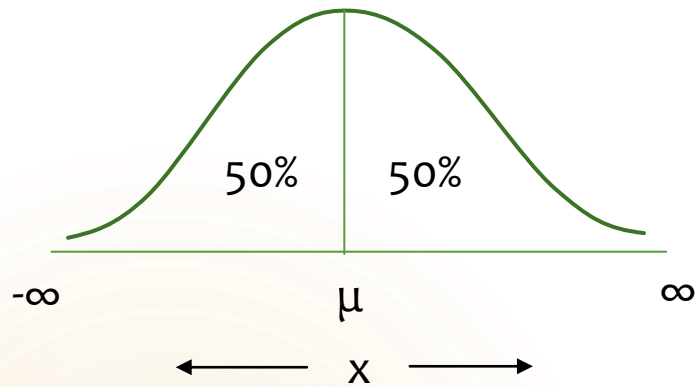
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1. Mean= Median = Mode
2. Symmetric and Mesokurtic
3. Bell-shaped curve
4. The area under the curve lying between  $\mu \pm \sigma$  is 68.27% of the total area
5. The area under the curve lying between  $\mu \pm 2\sigma$  is 95.45% of the total area
6. The area under the curve lying between  $\mu \pm 3\sigma$  is 99.73% of the total area



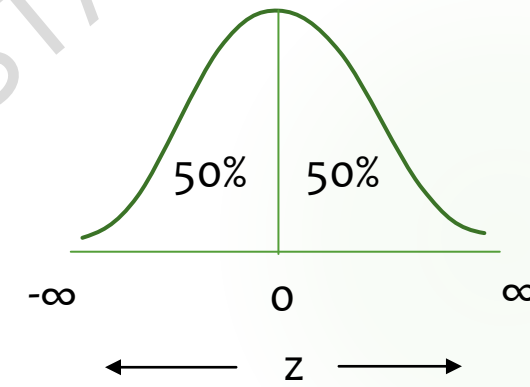
# Characteristics of a Normal Distribution

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$$P[X < \mu] = P[X > \mu] = 0.5$$

$$P[X < -x] = P[X > x]$$



$$P[Z < 0] = P[Z > 0] = 0.5$$

$$P[Z < -z] = P[Z > z]$$

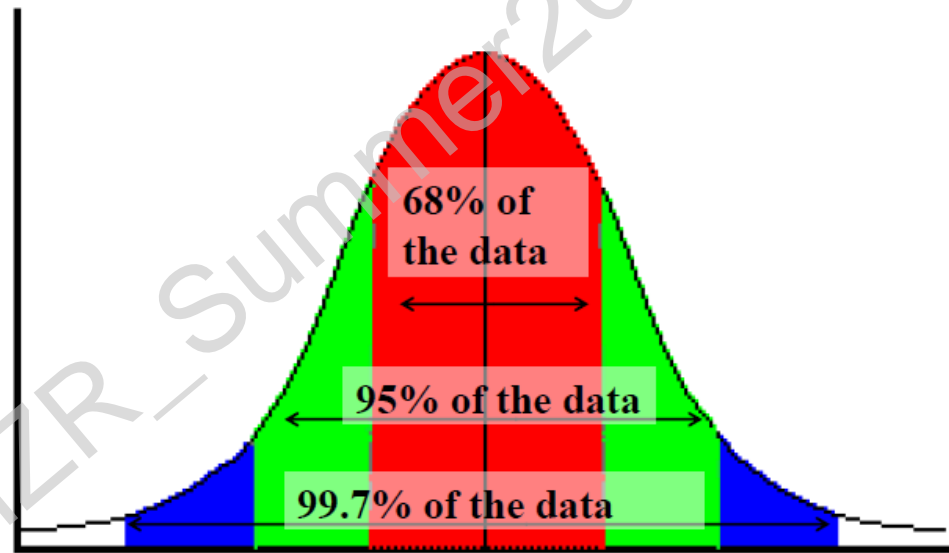
# Normal Distribution Table

## Z-table

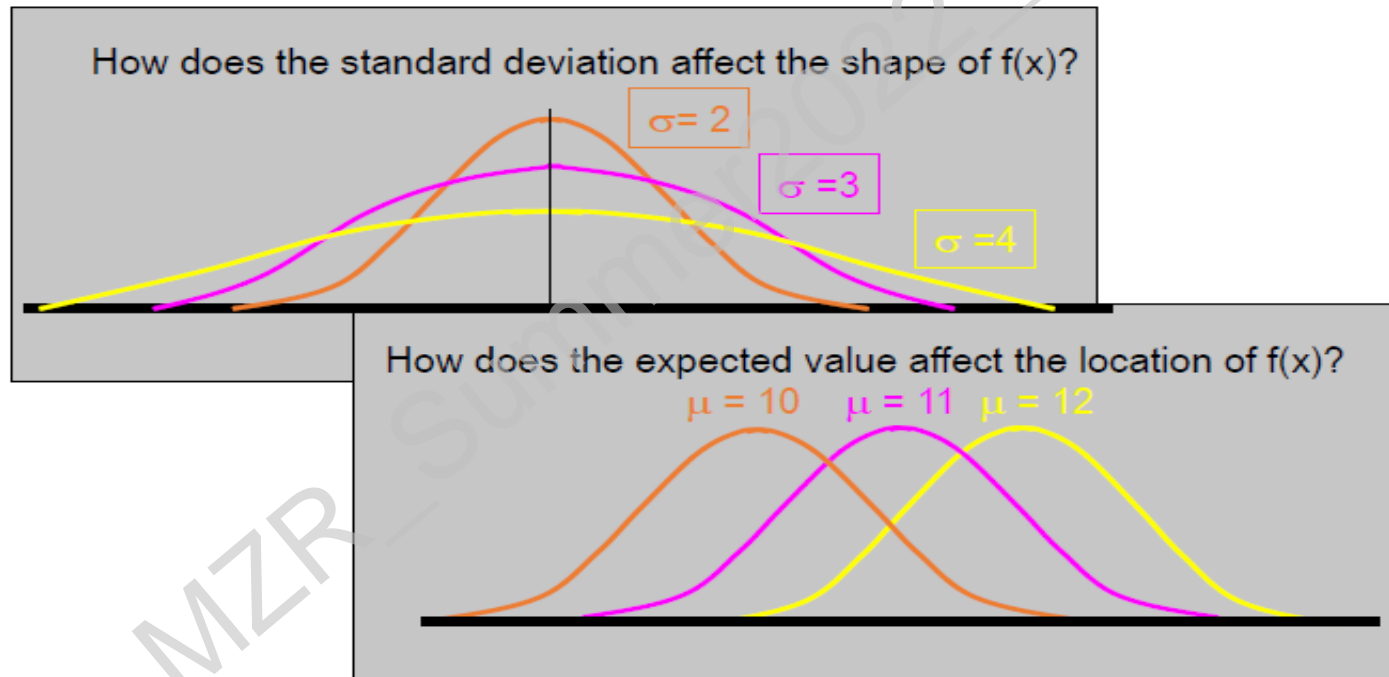
- Normal distribution table provides probabilities for  $N(0,1)$  i.e. for standard normal distribution
- Usually, normal table gives  $P[0 < Z < z]$  for positive values of  $Z$ .
- For other values, we can use the property of symmetry with median 0 of standard normal distribution
- To find probabilities for a normal random variable  $X$ , we can transform the probability statement about  $X$  in terms of probability statement for  $Z$  and then calculate the probability using the standard normal distribution table or Z-table

$$P[X < a] = P\left[\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} < \frac{a - \mu}{\sigma}\right] = P\left[Z < \frac{a - \mu}{\sigma}\right]$$

## 68-95-99.7 Rule



## The effects of $\mu$ and $\sigma$





**Example:** Given a normal distribution with  $\mu = 50, \sigma = 10$ , find the probability that  $X$  assumes a value between 45 and 62

**Solution:** The  $Z$  values corresponding to  $x_1=45$  and  $x_2=62$

$$\therefore Z_1 = \frac{45 - 50}{10} = -0.5 \qquad Z_2 = \frac{62 - 50}{10} = 1.2$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(45 < x < 62) &= P(-0.5 < Z < 1.2) \\ &= P(Z < 1.2) - P(Z < -0.5) \\ &= P(Z < 1.2) - \{1 - P(Z < 0.5)\} \\ &= \phi(1.2) - \{1 - \phi(0.5)\} \\ &= 0.8849 - \{1 - 0.6915\} \text{ [USING TABLE]} = 0.5764 \end{aligned}$$

**Example:** The weekly incomes of the bankers of a bank follow normal distribution with a mean of \$ 1,000 and std. of \$100.

What is the livelihood of selecting a banker whose weekly income is between \$1000 and \$1100?

$$P(1,000 < X < 1,100) = P\left(\frac{1000 - 1000}{100} < Z < \frac{1100 - 1000}{100}\right)$$

$$= P(0 < Z < 1)$$

$$= 0.3413$$

$$P(X < 1,100) = P(Z < 1) = 0.5 + 0.3413 = 0.8413$$

$$P(790 < X < 1,000) = P(-2.10 < Z < 0) = 0.4821$$

$$P(X < 790) = P(Z < -2.10) = 0.5 - 0.4821 = 0.0179$$

$$P(X > 790) = P(Z > -2.10) = 0.4821 + 0.5 = 0.9821$$

$$\# P(X > 482) = P\left[Z > \frac{482 - 400}{50}\right] = P(Z > 1.64) = 0.5 - 0.4495 = 0.0505$$

# Finding Area Under the Normal Curve using Z-table

## Example 6:

The number of viewers of a TV show per week has a mean of 29 million with a standard deviation of 5 million. Assume that, the number of viewers of that show follows a normal distribution.

What is the probability that, next week's show will-

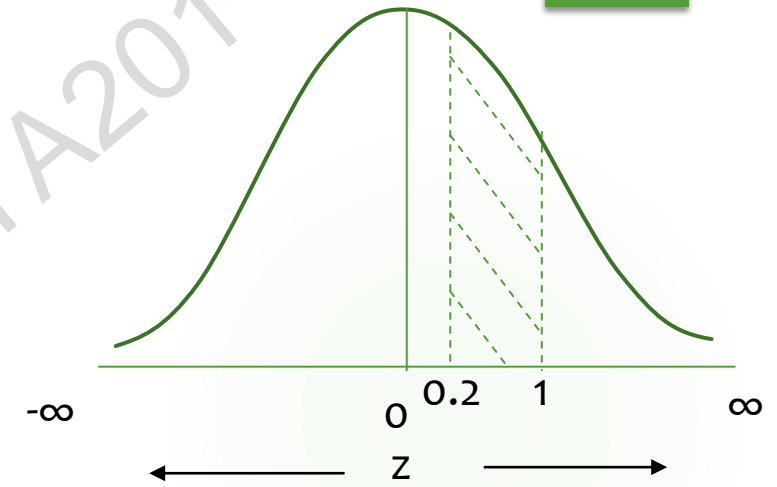
- a. Have between 30 and 34 million viewers?
- b. Have at least 23 million viewers?
- c. Exceed 40 million viewers?

# Finding Area Under the Normal Curve using Z-table

## Solution:

Let,  $X$  = Number of viewers of the show per week (in million)

$$\therefore X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$



- a. the probability that, next week's show will have between 30 and 34 million viewers-

$$\begin{aligned} P[30 \leq X \leq 34] &= P\left[\frac{30 - \mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{34 - \mu}{\sigma}\right] = P\left[\frac{30 - 29}{5} \leq \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{34 - 29}{5}\right] \\ &= P[0.20 \leq Z \leq 1] = P[0 \leq Z \leq 1] - P[0 \leq Z \leq 0.2] = 0.3413 - 0.0793 \\ &= 0.262 \end{aligned}$$

# Finding Area Under the Normal Curve using Z-table

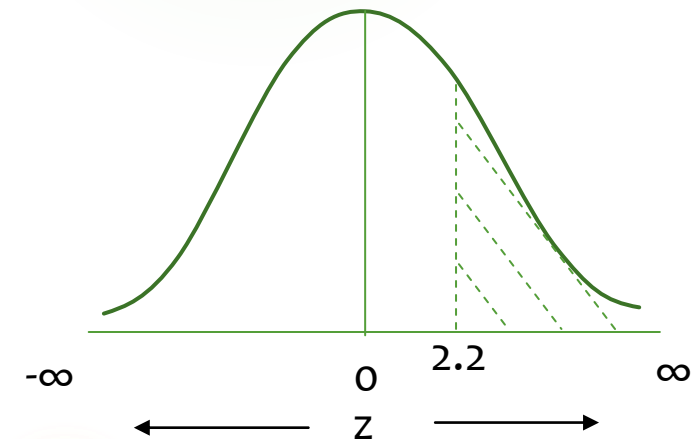
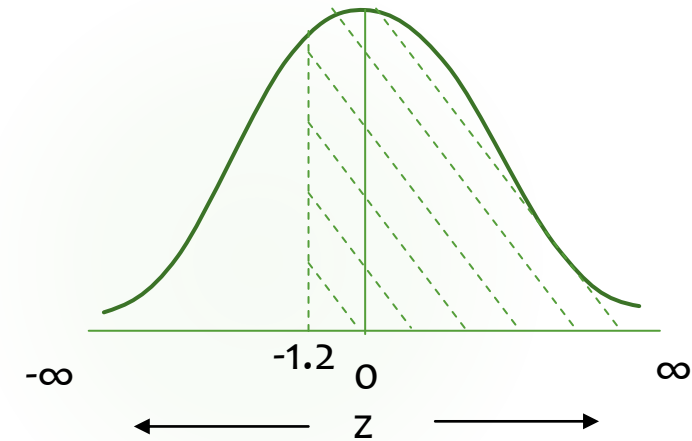
**Solution** (contd.):

b. the probability that, next week's show will have at least 23 million viewers-

$$\begin{aligned} P[X \geq 23] &= P\left[\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \geq \frac{23 - \mu}{\sigma}\right] = P\left[\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \geq \frac{23 - 29}{5}\right] \\ &= P[Z \geq -1.2] = P[-1.2 \leq Z \leq 0] + P[Z \geq 0] = 0.3849 + 0.5 \\ &= 0.8849 \end{aligned}$$

c. the probability that, next week's show will exceed 40 million viewers-

$$\begin{aligned} P[X > 40] &= P\left[\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} > \frac{40 - \mu}{\sigma}\right] = P\left[\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} > \frac{40 - 29}{5}\right] \\ &= P[Z > 2.2] = P[Z \geq 0] - P[0 \leq Z \leq 2.2] = 0.5 - 0.4861 = 0.0139 \end{aligned}$$



4. A large group of students took a test in Physics and the final grades have a mean of 70 and a standard deviation of 10. If we can approximate the distribution of these grades by a normal distribution, what percent of the students

- a) scored higher than 80?
- b) should pass the test ( $\text{grades} \geq 60$ )?
- c) should fail the test ( $\text{grades} < 60$ )?

5. The annual salaries of employees in a large company are approximately normally distributed with a mean of \$50,000 and a standard deviation of \$20,000.

- a) What percent of people earn less than \$40,000?
- b) What percent of people earn between \$45,000 and \$65,000?
- c) What percent of people earn more than \$70,000?

6. Suppose that the height of UCLA female students has normal distribution with mean 62 inches and standard deviation 8 inches.

- a. Find the height below which is the shortest 30% of the female students.
- b. Find the height above which is the tallest 5% of the female students.

4. a) For  $x = 80$ ,  $z = 1$

Area to the right (higher than)  $z = 1$  is equal to  $0.1586 = 15.87\%$  scored more than 80.

b) For  $x = 60$ ,  $z = -1$

Area to the right of  $z = -1$  is equal to  $0.8413 = 84.13\%$  should pass the test.

c)  $100\% - 84.13\% = 15.87\%$  should fail the test.

5. a) For  $x = 40000$ ,  $z = -0.5$

Area to the left (less than) of  $z = -0.5$  is equal to  $0.3085 = 30.85\%$  earn less than \$40,000.

b) For  $x = 45000$ ,  $z = -0.25$  and for  $x = 65000$ ,  $z = 0.75$

Area between  $z = -0.25$  and  $z = 0.75$  is equal to  $0.3720 = 37.20\%$  earn between \$45,000 and \$65,000.

c) For  $x = 70000$ ,  $z = 1$

Area to the right (higher) of  $z = 1$  is equal to  $0.1586 = 15.86\%$  earn more than \$70,000.

6. We are given  $X \sim N(62, 8)$ . a. We want to find the height  $h$  such that  $P(X < h) = 0.30$ .

From the standard normal table this corresponds to  $z = -0.525$ . Therefore  $-0.525 = \frac{h - 62}{\sqrt{8}}$   
 $\Rightarrow h = 57.8$  inches.

b. We want to find the height  $h$  such that  $P(X > h) = 0.05$ . From the standard normal table this corresponds to  $z = 1.645$ . Therefore  $1.645 = \frac{h - 62}{\sqrt{8}} \Rightarrow h = 75.16$  inches.



# Finding Area Under the Normal Curve using Z-table

## Example 7:

- a. For what value of 'a',  $P[Z \leq a] = 0.95$ ?
- b. For what value of 'a',  $P[Z \geq a] = 0.05$ ?
- c. For what value of 'a',  $P[Z \leq a] = 0.975$ ?

## Solution:

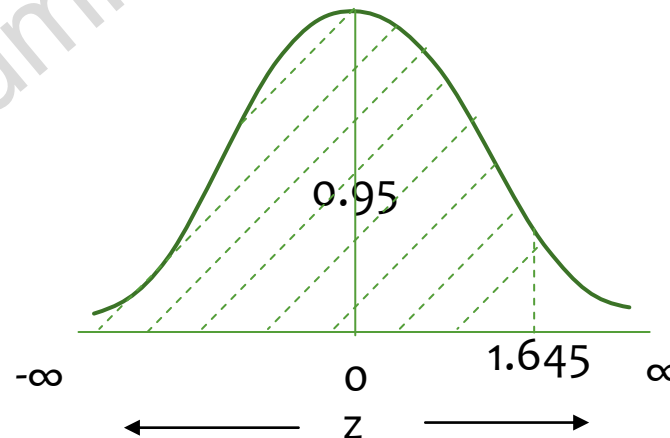
a.  $P[Z \leq a] = 0.95$

Or,  $P[Z \leq 0] + P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.95$

Or,  $0.5 + P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.95$

Or,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.95 - 0.5 = 0.45$

For  $a = 1.645$ ,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.45$





# Finding Area Under the Normal Curve using Z-table

**Solution** (contd.):

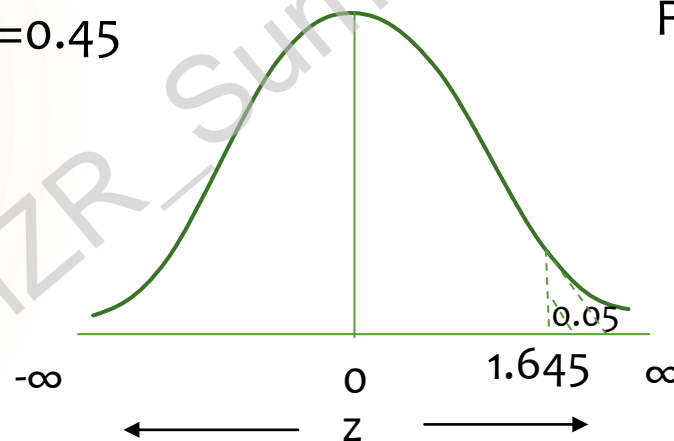
b.  $P[Z \geq a] = 0.05$

Or,  $P[Z \geq 0] - P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.05$

Or,  $0.5 - P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.05$

Or,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.5 - 0.05 = 0.45$

For  $a = 1.645$ ,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.45$



**Solution** (contd.):

c.  $P[Z \leq a] = 0.975$

Or,  $P[Z \leq 0] + P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.975$

Or,  $0.5 + P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.975$

Or,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.975 - 0.5 = 0.475$

For  $a = 1.96$ ,  $P[0 < Z \leq a] = 0.475$

