

SCS 1307 Probability & Statistics

by
Dr Dilshani Tissera
Department of Statistics
University of Colombo

Normal Distribution

Normal distribution is the most important continuous distribution in statistics. Many measured quantities in the natural sciences follow a normal distribution.

eg. heights, masses, ages, examination results.

p.d.f of Normal Variable

A continuous random variable X having p.d.f

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

is said to have a normal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2 .

μ and σ^2 are the parameters of the distribution.

The distribution is bell shaped and symmetrical about $x = \mu$.

Expectation and Variance

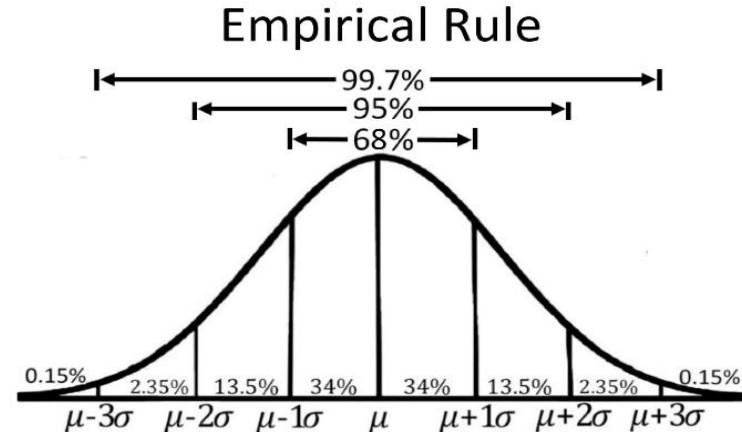
If $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then

$$E(X) = \mu \text{ and}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$$

Empirical Rule

Area under the total curve is 1



Approximately 68% of the distribution lies within $\pm 1\sigma$ of the mean.

Approximately 95% of the distribution lies within $\pm 2\sigma$ of the mean.

Approximately 99.8% of the distribution lies within $\pm 3\sigma$ of the mean.

The Standard Normal Distribution

Consider the random variable Z where $Z = \frac{(X-\mu)}{\sigma}$

Now if the random variable X has a normal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2 , then the random variable Z has a standard normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 1.

The p.d.f for Z, $\phi(x)$

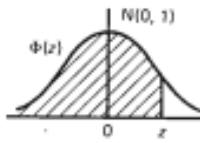
The p.d.f. of the standard normal variable X is denoted by $\phi(x)$ where

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}.$$

The cumulative distribution function for X

This integral is difficult to evaluate, so we refer to tables.

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-t^2/2} dt$$



THE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION $\Phi(z)$ OF
THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION $N(0, 1)$

z	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	ADD						
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36							
0.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36							
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141	4	8	12	15	19	23	27	31	35							
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517	4	7	11	15	19	22	26	30	34							
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879	4	7	11	14	18	22	25	29	32							
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224	3	7	10	14	17	20	24	27	31							
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549	3	7	10	13	16	19	23	26	29							
0.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27							
0.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133	3	5	8	11	14	16	19	22	25							
0.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389	3	5	8	10	13	15	18	20	23							
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621	2	5	7	9	12	14	16	19	21							
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18							
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015	2	4	6	7	9	11	13	15	17							
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177	2	3	5	6	8	10	11	13	14							
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9236	.9251	.9265	.9279	.9292	.9306	.9319	1	3	4	6	7	8	10	11	13							
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	10	11							
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9							
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8							
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	6							
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767	1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	5							
2.0	.9772	.9778	.9783	.9788	.9793	.9798	.9803	.9808	.9812	.9817	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4							
2.1	.9821	.9826	.9830	.9834	.9838	.9842	.9846	.9850	.9854	.9857	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4							
2.2	.9861	.9864	.9868	.9871	.9875	.9878	.9881	.9884	.9887	.9890	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3							
2.3	.9893	.9896	.9898		.9901	.99036	.99061	.99086		.99111	.99134	.99158	2	5	7	9	12	14	16	18						
2.4	.99180	.99202	.99224	.99245	.99266								2	4	6	8	11	13	15	17	19					
2.5	.99379	.99396	.99413	.99430	.99446	.99461	.99477	.99492	.99506	.99520	2	3	5	6	8	9	11	12	14							
2.6	.99534	.99547	.99560	.99573	.99585	.99598	.99609	.99621	.99632	.99643	1	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	10							
2.7	.99653	.99664	.99674	.99683	.99693	.99702	.99711	.99720	.99728	.99736	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9							
2.8	.99744	.99752	.99760	.99767	.99774	.99781	.99788	.99795	.99801	.99807	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	6							
2.9	.99813	.99819	.99825	.99831	.99836	.99841	.99846	.99851	.99856	.99861	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4							
3.0	.99866	.99869	.99874	.99878	.99882	.99886	.99889	.99893	.99896	.99900	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4							
3.1	.99932	.99965	.99996		.999126	.999155	.999184	.999211		.999238	.999264	.999289	2	5	7	10	12	15	17	20	22					
3.2	.999313	.999336	.999359	.999381	.999402								2	4	7	9	11	13	15	18	20					
3.3	.999517	.999534	.999550	.999566	.999581								.999423	.999443	.999462	.999481	.999499	2	4	6	8	9	11	13	15	17
3.4	.999633	.999675	.999687	.999698	.999709	.999720	.999730	.999740	.999749	.999758	1	2	3	5	6	8	10	11	13	14						
3.5	.999767	.999776	.999784	.999792	.999800	.999807	.999815	.999822	.999828	.999835	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	7						
3.6	.999841	.999847	.999853	.999858	.999864	.999869	.999874	.999879	.999883	.999888	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	5	5						
3.7	.999892	.999896	.999900	.999904	.999908	.999912	.999915	.999918	.999922	.999925																
3.8	.999928	.999931	.999933	.999936	.999938	.999941	.999943	.999946	.999948	.999950																
3.9	.999952	.999954	.999956	.999958	.999959	.999961	.999963	.999964	.999966	.999967																

For negative values of z use $\Phi(z) = 1 - \Phi(-z)$