

## Lecture 5 (Ch.1)

Last time we learned even more special distributions.  
So far, we have

(later) Related.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Bernoulli} \\ \text{Binomial} \\ \text{Poisson} \end{array} \right\} p(x) = (\text{probability}) \text{ mass function (pmf)}$   
 $\uparrow$   
discrete/categ.

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Uniform (in hw)} \\ \text{Exponential} \\ \text{Normal} \end{array} \right\} f(x) = (\text{probability}) \text{ density function (pdf)}$   
 $\uparrow$   
continuous.

The area "under" These dists is important, because it translates to The prob. That something can happen. e.g.  $a < x < b$   
Many of The areas are trivial to compute, but some are harder, and so They are tabulated.  
Check The Appendix in our book.

(Also note That props/probs are important and useful because They can be observed/measured in samples.)

Probs/areas for discrete/categ. variables are easier:

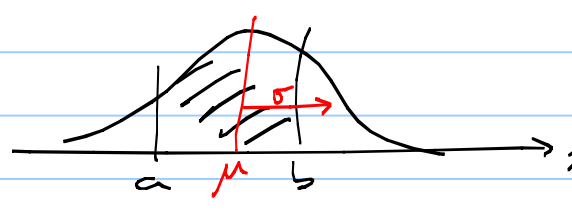
For example, if  $x \sim \text{Binom}(n, \pi)$ , Then

$$\text{prob}(a \leq x \leq b) = \sum_{x=a}^b \left( \binom{n}{x} \pi^x (1-\pi)^{n-x} \right) = p(x)$$

Even though Table II gives some binomial areas,  
You do NOT have to use it. You can use This formula.

However, The normal dist. is one for whom areas are really hard to compute:

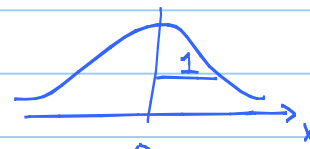
→ For Normal  $(\mu, \sigma)$ :



$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_a^b e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2} dx$$

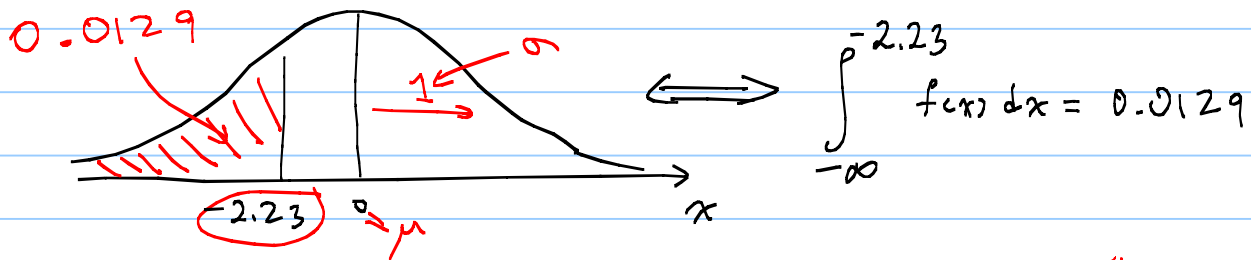
=  $f(x)$  of Normal

→ For std. Normal:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_a^b e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} dx$$


Note: std. Normal = Normal  $(\mu=0, \sigma=1)$  = symmetric.

Unfortunately, integrals of this type can be done only numerically. Their values are tabulated in Table I. E.g.

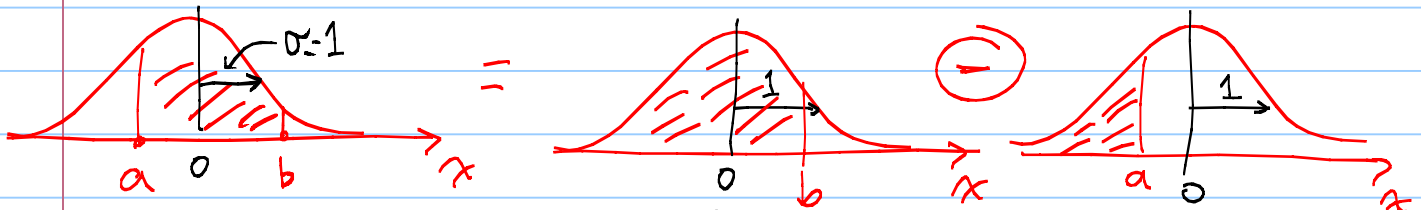


In 390, use Table I, unless the problem says "By R."

So, now we know how to find area to the left of  $x=a$ , when  $x$  follows the std. Normal.

To find the area between 2  $x$ 's, There is a trick:

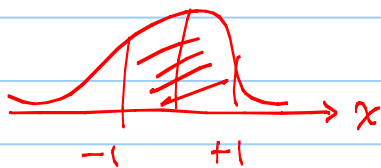
$$\text{prob}(a < x < b) = \text{area between } a \text{ \& } b =$$



$$= \text{prob}(x < b) - \text{prob}(x < a)$$

Both of these can be obtained from Table I.

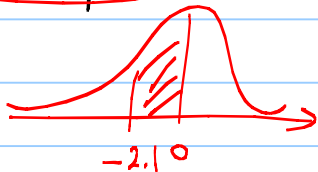
**Example:** What is the area under the std. Normal between  $-1$  and  $+1$ ?



$$= .8413 - .1587 = 0.6826$$

"famous" 68%

**Example:** How about between  $-2.1$  and  $0$ ?



$$= 0.5 - .0179 = 0.4821$$

**Example:** what is the area to the right of  $(-2.1)$ ?

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 1 - (0.0179) \\ \text{or } 0.4821 + 0.5 \end{array} \right\} = 0.9821$$

Normal ( $\mu=0, \sigma=1$ )

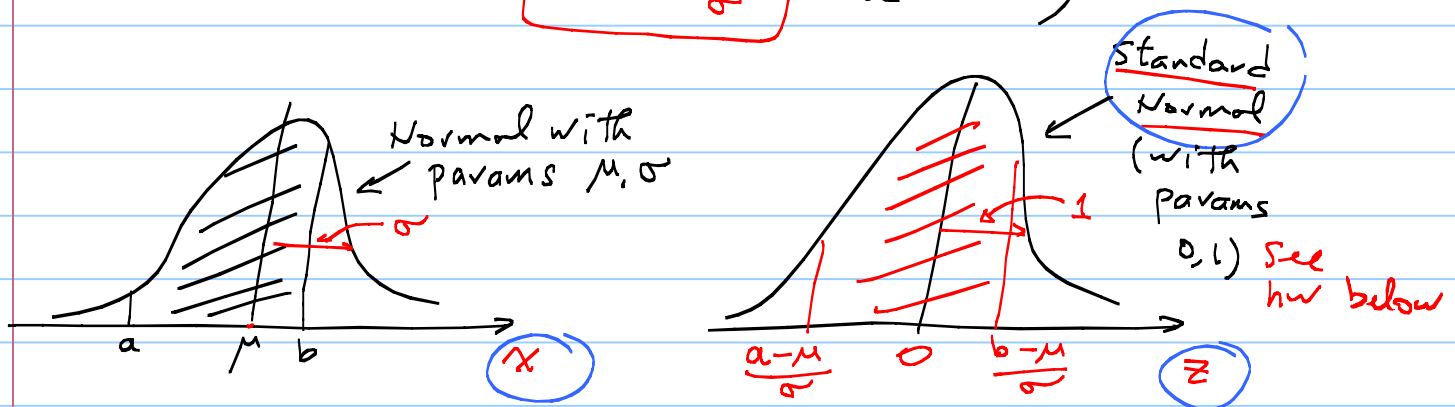
Now, we know how to find area/prop. under std. normal.

How do we handle  $N(\mu, \sigma)$ ?

It would be impossible to tabulate values for every value of the 2 parameters,  $\mu, \sigma$ . Need one more trick!

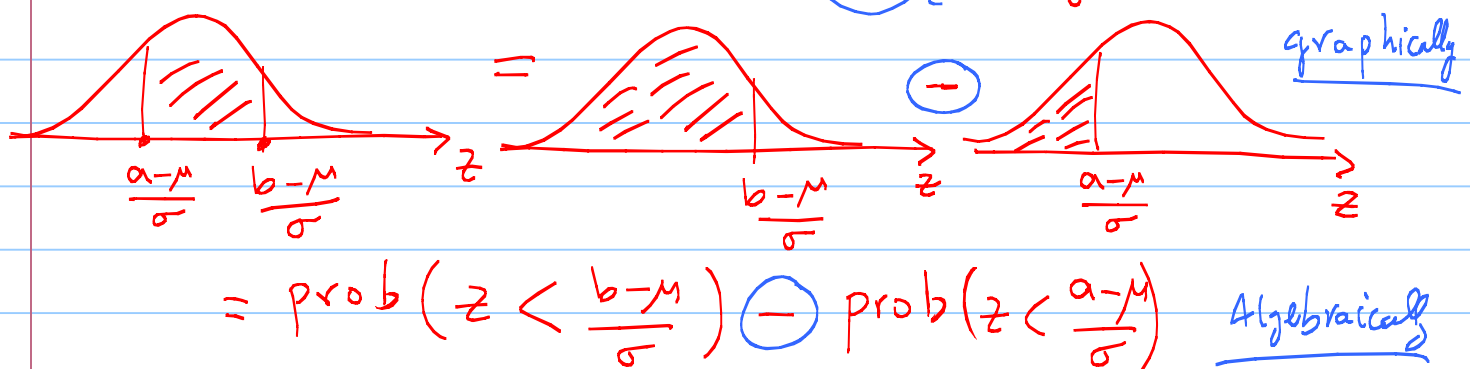
The trick is to "standardize" (ie. change variables);

$$x \rightarrow z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \quad (z\text{-score})$$



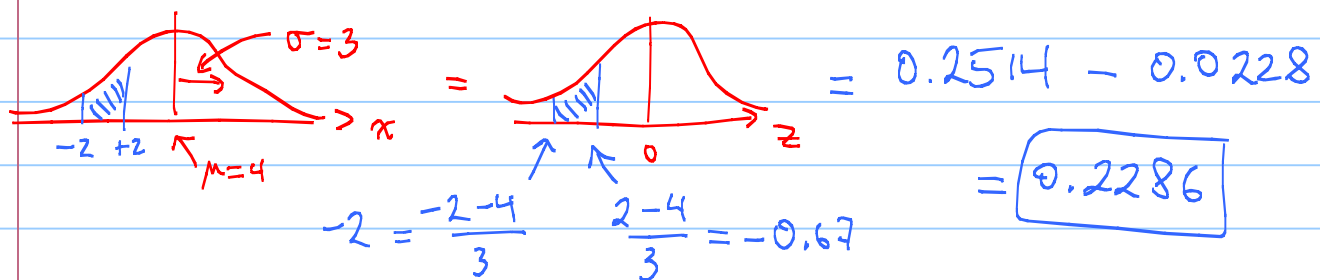
So, to compute area between 2 values:

$$\text{prob}(a < x < b) = \text{prob}\left(\frac{a - \mu}{\sigma} < \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} < \frac{b - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

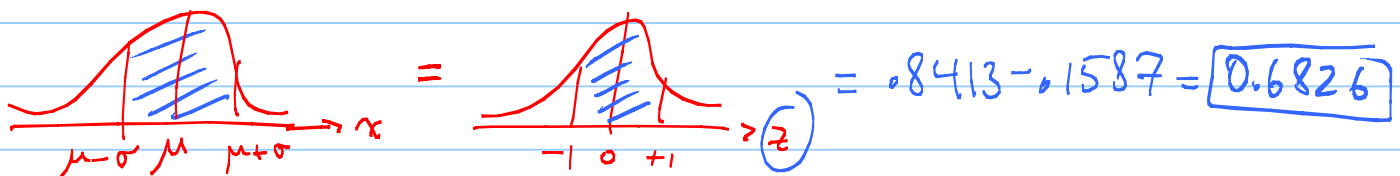


Either way (algebraically or graphically) you can obtain the value of each term from Table 1.

Example: What's the area between  $-2$  and  $+2$  for a normal curve with  $\mu=4$ ,  $\sigma=3$



Example: What's The prob. of  $x$  being within  $1\sigma$  of  $\mu$ ?



Example: The prob. of being beyond of  $1\sigma$  of  $\mu$ ?

$$1 - 0.6826 = \boxed{0.3174}$$

Summary:

Given  $f(x)$ , and  $x=a$  (and/or  $b$ ), we can compute area.

If  $f(x) = \text{std. Normal}$ , Then Table I.

$$\hookrightarrow x \sim N(0, 1)$$

If  $f(x) = \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma)$ , Then standardize first, and proceed ...

$$\hookrightarrow x \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$$

$$\hookrightarrow z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

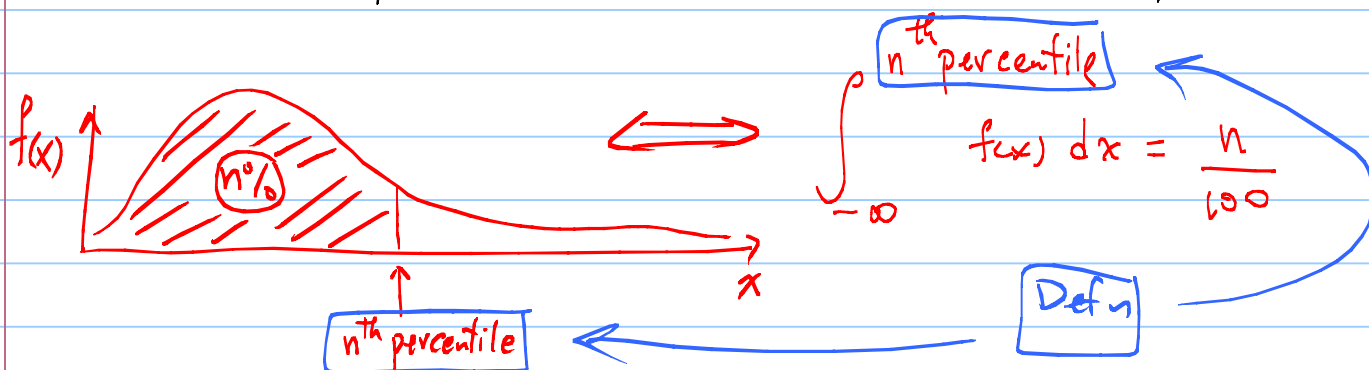
Let's turn things around: Given  $f(x)$ , and area, find  $x$ .

E.g. median:  $\int_{-\infty}^{\text{median}} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2}$

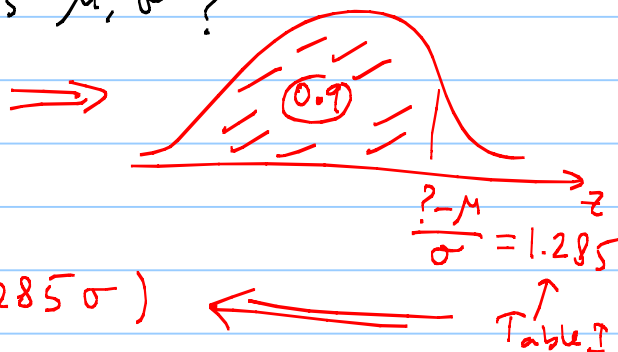
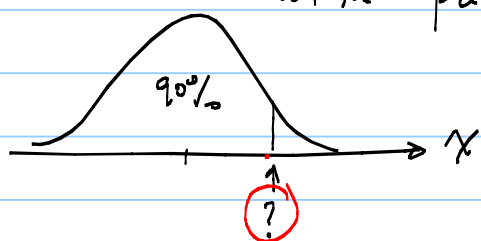


median = 50<sup>th</sup> percentile = 0.5 quantile = 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile

So, median is a special case of a more general concept:



Example: What's the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of a normal distr. with params  $\mu, \sigma$ ?



$? = (\mu + 1.285\sigma)$

Note: percentile is a number on the x-axis, not a percent.  
I.e. a percentile of  $x$  has the same units as  $x$ .

By now, you should be able to (for histograms AND dists)

- 1) compute the area to the left (or right) of  $x=a$ ,
  - 2) compute " " between  $x=a, x=b$ ,
  - 3) compute  $x=a$ , given the area to left (or right),
- If the left area is  $n\%$ , then  $x=a$  is called the  $n^{\text{th}}$  percentile.

Q1: Which of The following can NOT be a percentile of some variable?

a) 183

b) -1.3

c) 10%

d) None of The above.

↑  
e.g. height  
in cm.

↑  
e.g. temperature  
in Centigrade

↑  
e.g. grades  
in percent.

(i.e. all of These can be a percentile)

### hw-lect 5-1

Suppose the density function for  $x$  is given by The Normal dist. with parameters  $\mu, \sigma$ . I.e.

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

a) Compute The density function,  $f(z)$ , for  $z = \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}$ .

Important Hint:  $f(z)$  must satisfy  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(z) dz = 1$ .

So, start with  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$ , with  $f(x)$  as above, and massage

The expression until it becomes  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\dots] dz = 1$ . Then  $f(z) = [\dots]$ .

Note: It is not necessary to perform any integrals.

b) In The place where  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  appear in  $f(x)$ , what values do you find in  $f(z)$ ?

### hw-lect 5-2

What's The 10<sup>th</sup> percentile of The uniform dist. between -1, +1?

Hint: for uniform dist. integration is trivial.

### hw-lect 5-3

Find The  $n$ <sup>th</sup> percentile of an exponential dist. with param. 1.

Hint: The answer will depend on 1 and  $n$ .

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