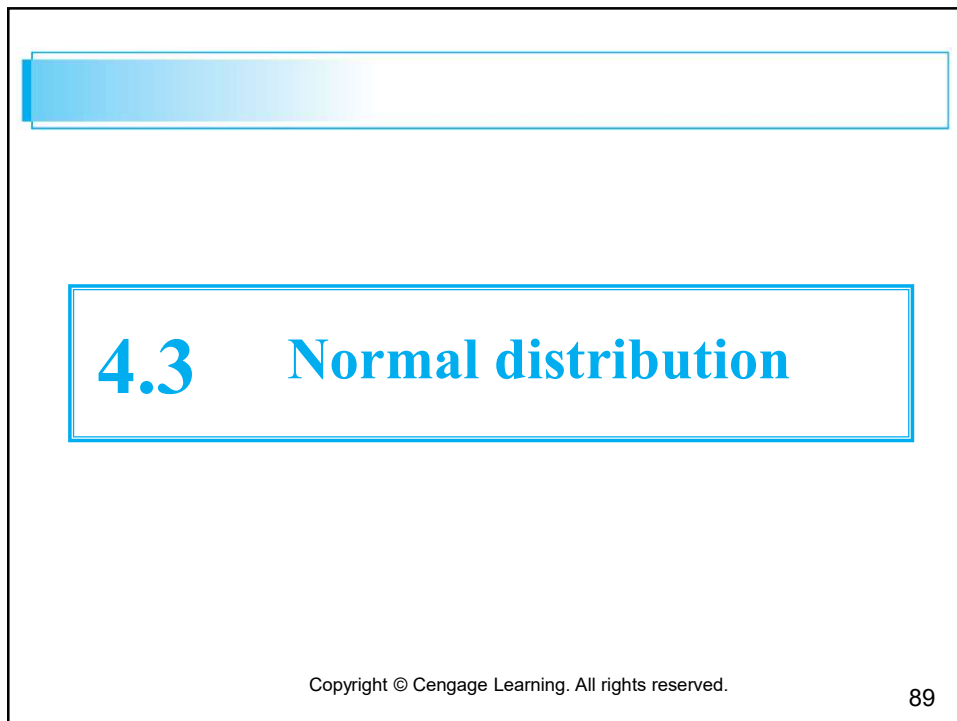
The slide features a blue header with a large white number '4' on the left. To the right of the number, the text 'Continuous Random Variables and Probability Distributions' is written in white. Below this, the text 'Part II' is written in blue. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice and the slide number '88'.

**4** Continuous Random Variables and Probability Distributions

**Part II**

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The slide has a blue header bar at the top. Below it, the text '4.3 Normal distribution' is displayed in blue within a blue-bordered box. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice and the slide number '89'.

**4.3 Normal distribution**

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## Normal Distribution

- Normal distribution or Gaussian distribution is the most important one in all of probability and statistics.
- Many numerical populations have distributions that can be fit very closely by an appropriate normal curve.

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## Normal Distribution

- Heights, weights, and other physical characteristics,
- Measurement errors in scientific experiments,
- การวัดร่างกายมนุษย์ตามหลักวิทยาศาสตร์ Anthropometric measurements on fossils,
- Reaction times in psychological experiments,
- Measurements of intelligence and aptitude, scores on various tests, and
- Numerous economic measures and indicators.

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## Normal Distribution

### Definition

Continuous random variable  $X$  is said to have **Normal distribution** with **parameters**  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  (or  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ ), where  $-\infty < x < \infty$  and  $\sigma > 0$ , if the pdf of  $X$  is

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

mathematical constant :3.14159

base of natural logarithm system and equals approximately 2.71828

- Statement that  $X$  is normally distributed with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  is often abbreviated  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .
- Clearly  $f(x; \mu, \sigma) \geq 0$ , but a somewhat complicated calculus argument must be used to verify that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x; \mu, \sigma) = 1$ .
- It can be shown that  $E(X) = \mu$  and  $V(X) = \sigma^2$ , so the parameters are mean and standard deviation of  $X$ .

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## Normal Distribution

- Each **density curve is symmetric** about  $\mu$  and **bell-shaped**, so **center of bell** (point of symmetry) is both **mean** of distribution and **median**.
- Value of  $\sigma$  is **distance from  $\mu$  to inflection points of curve** (points at which curve changes from turning downward to turning upward).

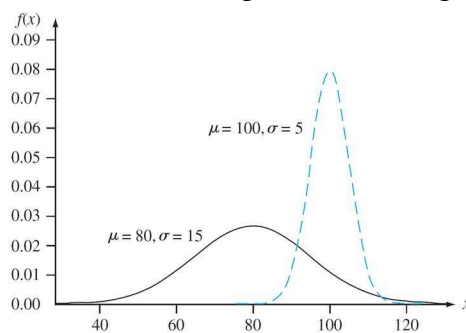


Figure 4.13(a) Two different normal density curves

Figure 4.13 presents graphs of  $f(x; \mu, \sigma)$  several different  $(\mu, \sigma)$  pairs.

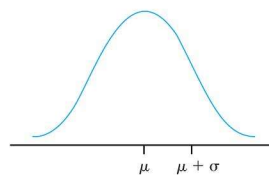


Figure 4.13(b) Visualizing  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  for a normal distribution

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## Normal Distribution

- Large values of  $\sigma$  yield graphs that are quite spread out about  $\mu$ , whereas
- Small values of  $\sigma$  yield graphs with a high peak above  $\mu$  and most of the area under the graph quite close to  $\mu$ .
- Thus large  $\sigma$  implies that a value of  $X$  far from  $\mu$  may well be observed, whereas such value is quite unlikely when  $\sigma$  is small.

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## Standard Normal Distribution

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## Standard Normal Distribution

- Computation of  $P(a \leq X \leq b)$  when  $X$  is a normal rv with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  requires evaluating

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dx \quad (4.4)$$

- None of standard integration techniques can be used to accomplish this.
- Instead, for  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$ , Expression (4.4) has been calculated using numerical techniques and tabulated for certain values of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- This table can also be used to compute probabilities for any other values of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  under consideration.

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## Standard Normal Distribution

### Definition

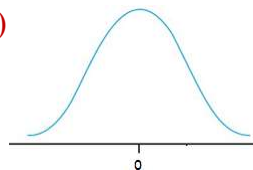
- Normal distribution with parameter values  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$  is called **Standard normal distribution**.
- Random variable having standard normal distribution is called **Standard normal random variable** and will be denoted by  $Z$ .
- The pdf of  $Z$  is

$$f(z; 0, 1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} \quad -\infty < z < \infty$$

- Graph of  $f(z; 0, 1)$  is called **Standard normal (or  $z$ )**
- Its inflection points are at 1 and -1.
- The cdf of  $Z$  is

$$P(Z \leq z) = \int_{-\infty}^z f(y; 0, 1) dy$$

which we will denote by  $\Phi(z)$



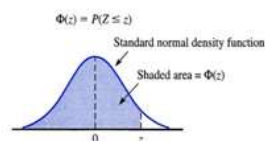
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## Standard Normal Distribution

- Standard normal distribution almost never serves as model for naturally arising population.
- Instead, it is **reference distribution** from which **information about other normal distributions** can be obtained.
- Appendix Table A.3 gives  $\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$ , **area under standard normal density curve to the left of  $z$** , for  $z = -3.49, -3.48, \dots, 3.48, 3.49$ .

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas



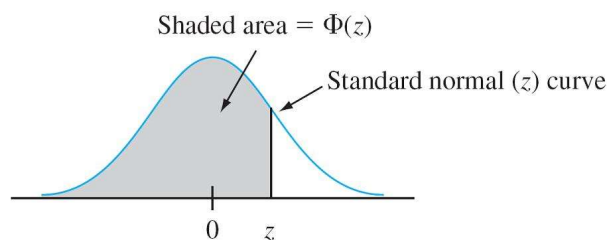
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-3.4	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0002
-3.3	.0005	.0005	.0005	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0003
-3.2	.0007	.0007	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0005	.0005	.0005
-3.1	.0010	.0009	.0009	.0009	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0007	.0007
-3.0	.0013	.0013	.0013	.0012	.0012	.0011	.0011	.0011	.0010	.0010

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## Standard Normal Distribution

- Figure 4.14 illustrates **type of cumulative area (probability) tabulated in Table A.3**.
- From this table, **various other probabilities** involving  $Z$  can be calculated.



Standard normal cumulative areas tabulated in Appendix Table A.3

Figure 4.14

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z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-3.4	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0002
-3.3	.0005	.0005	.0005	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0003
-3.2	.0007	.0007	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0005	.0005	.0005
-3.1	.0010	.0009	.0009	.0009	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0007	.0007
-3.0	.0013	.0013	.0013	.0012	.0012	.0011	.0011	.0011	.0010	.0010
-2.9	.0019	.0018	.0017	.0017	.0016	.0016	.0015	.0015	.0014	.0014
-2.8	.0026	.0025	.0024	.0023	.0023	.0022	.0021	.0021	.0020	.0019
-2.7	.0035	.0034	.0033	.0032	.0031	.0030	.0029	.0028	.0027	.0026
-2.6	.0047	.0045	.0044	.0043	.0041	.0040	.0039	.0038	.0037	.0036
-2.5	.0062	.0060	.0059	.0057	.0055	.0054	.0052	.0051	.0049	.0048
-2.4	.0082	.0080	.0078	.0075	.0073	.0071	.0069	.0068	.0066	.0064
-2.3	.0107	.0104	.0102	.0099	.0096	.0094	.0091	.0089	.0087	.0084
-2.2	.0139	.0136	.0132	.0129	.0125	.0122	.0119	.0116	.0113	.0110
-2.1	.0179	.0174	.0170	.0166	.0162	.0158	.0154	.0150	.0146	.0143
-2.0	.0228	.0222	.0217	.0212	.0207	.0202	.0197	.0192	.0188	.0183
-1.9	.0287	.0281	.0274	.0268	.0262	.0256	.0250	.0244	.0239	.0233
-1.8	.0359	.0352	.0344	.0336	.0329	.0322	.0314	.0307	.0301	.0294
-1.7	.0446	.0436	.0427	.0418	.0409	.0401	.0392	.0384	.0375	.0367
-1.6	.0548	.0537	.0526	.0516	.0505	.0495	.0485	.0475	.0465	.0455
-1.5	.0668	.0655	.0643	.0630	.0618	.0606	.0594	.0582	.0571	.0559
-1.4	.0808	.0793	.0778	.0764	.0749	.0735	.0722	.0708	.0694	.0681
-1.3	.0968	.0951	.0934	.0918	.0901	.0885	.0869	.0853	.0838	.0823
-1.2	.1151	.1131	.1112	.1093	.1075	.1056	.1038	.1020	.1003	.0985
-1.1	.1357	.1335	.1314	.1292	.1271	.1251	.1230	.1210	.1190	.1170
-1.0	.1587	.1562	.1539	.1515	.1492	.1469	.1446	.1423	.1401	.1379
-0.9	.1841	.1814	.1788	.1762	.1736	.1711	.1685	.1660	.1635	.1611
-0.8	.2119	.2090	.2061	.2033	.2005	.1977	.1949	.1922	.1894	.1867
-0.7	.2420	.2389	.2358	.2327	.2296	.2266	.2236	.2206	.2177	.2148
-0.6	.2743	.2709	.2676	.2643	.2611	.2578	.2546	.2514	.2483	.2451
-0.5	.3085	.3050	.3015	.2981	.2946	.2912	.2877	.2843	.2810	.2776
-0.4	.3446	.3409	.3372	.3336	.3300	.3264	.3228	.3192	.3156	.3121
-0.3	.3821	.3783	.3745	.3707	.3669	.3632	.3594	.3557	.3520	.3482
-0.2	.4207	.4168	.4129	.4090	.4052	.4013	.3974	.3936	.3897	.3859
-0.1	.4602	.4562	.4522	.4483	.4443	.4404	.4364	.4325	.4286	.4247
-0.0	.5000	.4960	.4920	.4880	.4840	.4801	.4761	.4721	.4681	.4641

(continued)

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TABLE A.5 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)										
z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359
0.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549
0.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852
0.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133
0.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9236	.9251	.9265	.9278	.9292	.9306	.9319
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767
2.0	.9772	.9778	.9783	.9788	.9793	.9798	.9803	.9808	.9812	.9817
2.1	.9821	.9826	.9830	.9834	.9838	.9842	.9846	.9850	.9854	.9857
2.2	.9861	.9864	.9868	.9871	.9875	.9878	.9881	.9884	.9887	.9890
2.3	.9893	.9896	.9898	.9901	.9904	.9906	.9909	.9911	.9913	.9916
2.4	.9918	.9920	.9922	.9925	.9927	.9929	.9931	.9932	.9934	.9936
2.5	.9938	.9940	.9941	.9943	.9945	.9946	.9948	.9949	.9951	.9952
2.6	.9953	.9955	.9956	.9957	.9959	.9960	.9961	.9962	.9963	.9964
2.7	.9965	.9966	.9967	.9968	.9969	.9970	.9971	.9972	.9973	.9974
2.8	.9974	.9975	.9976	.9977	.9977	.9978	.9979	.9979	.9980	.9981
2.9	.9981	.9982	.9982	.9983	.9984	.9984	.9985	.9985	.9986	.9986
3.0	.9987	.9987	.9987	.9988	.9988	.9989	.9989	.9989	.9990	.9990
3.1	.9990	.9991	.9991	.9991	.9992	.9992	.9992	.9992	.9993	.9993
3.2	.9993	.9993	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9995	.9995	.9995
3.3	.9995	.9995	.9995	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9997
3.4	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9998

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## Example 4.13

Let's determine the following **standard normal probabilities**:

$$P(Z \leq z) = \int_{-\infty}^z f(y; 0, 1) = \Phi(z)$$

(a)  $P(Z \leq 1.25)$ ,

(b)  $P(Z > 1.25)$ ,

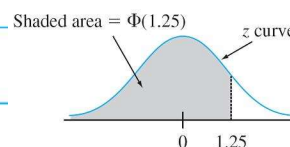
(c)  $P(Z \leq -1.25)$ , and

(d)  $P(-0.38 \leq Z \leq 1.25)$ .

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## Example 4.13



a.  $P(Z \leq 1.25) = \Phi(1.25)$ ,

probability that is tabulated in Appendix Table A.3 at the intersection of the row marked 1.2 and the column marked 0.05.

The number there is 0.8944, so  $P(Z \leq 1.25) = 0.8944$ .

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)

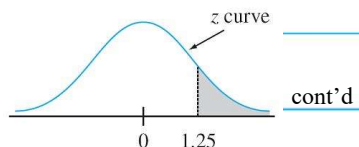
		$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$									
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09	
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359	
0.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753	
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141	
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517	
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879	
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224	
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549	
0.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852	
0.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133	
0.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389	
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621	
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830	
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015	
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177	

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## Example 4.13



- b.  $P(Z > 1.25) = 1 - P(Z \leq 1.25) = 1 - \Phi(1.25)$ ,  
 area under the  $z$  curve to the right of 1.25 (an upper-tail area).  
 Then  $\Phi(1.25) = 0.8944$  implies that  
 $P(Z > 1.25) = 0.1056$ .

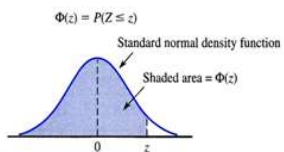
Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)

		$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$									
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09	
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359	
0.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753	
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141	
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517	
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879	
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224	
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549	
0.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852	
0.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133	
0.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389	
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621	
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830	
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015	
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177	

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## Example 4.13



- c.  $P(Z \leq -1.25) = \Phi(-1.25)$ , a lower-tail area. Directly from  
 Appendix Table A.3,  $\Phi(-1.25) = 0.1056$ .

$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-1.2	.1151	.1131	.1112	.1093	.1075	.1056	.1038	.1020	.1003	.0985
-1.1	.1357	.1335	.1314	.1292	.1271	.1251	.1230	.1210	.1190	.1170
-1.0	.1587	.1562	.1539	.1515	.1492	.1469	.1446	.1423	.1401	.1379
-0.9	.1841	.1814	.1788	.1762	.1736	.1711	.1685	.1660	.1635	.1611
-0.8	.2119	.2090	.2061	.2033	.2005	.1977	.1949	.1922	.1894	.1867

$$P(Z \leq -1.25) = 0.1056$$

By symmetry of the  $z$  curve, this is the same answer as in part (b).

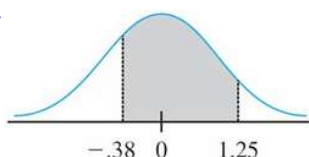
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## Example 4.13

cont'd

- d.  $P(-0.38 \leq Z \leq 1.25)$  is area under the standard normal curve above the interval whose left endpoint is  $-0.38$  and whose right endpoint is  $1.25$ .



From Section 4.2, if  $X$  is a continuous rv with cdf  $F(x)$ , then

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = F(b) - F(a)$$

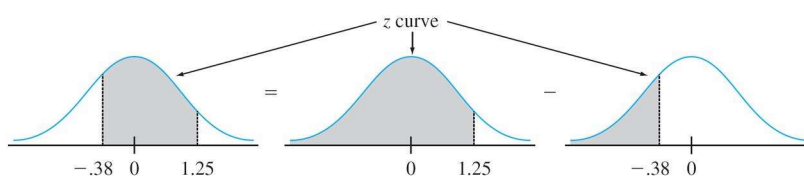


Figure 4.16  $P(-0.38 \leq Z \leq 1.25)$  as the difference between two cumulative areas

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## Example 4.13

cont'd

$$\begin{aligned} P(-0.38 \leq Z \leq 1.25) &= P(Z \leq 1.25) - P(Z \leq -0.38) \\ &= \Phi(1.25) - \Phi(-0.38) \\ &= 0.8944 - 0.3520 \\ &= 0.5424 \end{aligned}$$

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-0.5	.3085	.3050	.3015	.2981	.2946	.2912	.2877	.2843	.2810	.2776
-0.4	.3446	.3409	.3372	.3336	.3300	.3264	.3228	.3192	.3156	.3121
-0.3	.3821	.3783	.3745	.3707	.3669	.3632	.3594	.3557	.3520	.3482
-0.2	.4207	.4168	.4129	.4090	.4052	.4013	.3974	.3936	.3897	.3859

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## Percentiles of Standard Normal Distribution

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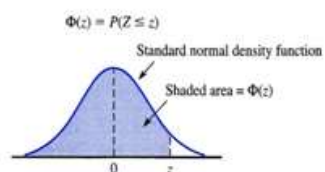
108

## Percentiles of the Standard Normal Distribution

For any  $p$  between 0 and 1,

Appendix Table A.3 can be used to obtain the  $(100p)^{\text{th}}$  percentile of standard normal distribution.

**Table A.3** Standard Normal Curve Areas



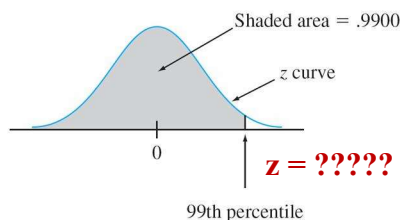
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-3.4	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0003	.0002
-3.3	.0005	.0005	.0005	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0004	.0003
-3.2	.0007	.0007	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0006	.0005	.0005	.0005
-3.1	.0010	.0009	.0009	.0009	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0008	.0007	.0007
-3.0	.0013	.0013	.0013	.0012	.0012	.0011	.0011	.0011	.0010	.0010

09

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## Example 4.14

The 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of standard normal distribution is that value on the horizontal axis such that the area under the  $z$  curve to the left of the value is 0.9900.



Appendix Table A.3 gives for fixed  $z$  the area under the standard normal curve to the left of  $z$ ,  
whereas here we have the area and want the value of  $z$ .  
This is the “inverse” problem to  $P(Z \leq z) = ?$

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## Example 4.14

so the table is used in an inverse fashion:

- Find in the middle of the table 0.9900;
- Row and column in which it lies identify the 99<sup>th</sup>  $z$  percentile.

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)

		$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$									
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09	
2.2	.9861	.9864	.9868	.9871	.9875	.9878	.9881	.9884	.9887	.9890	
2.3	.9893	.9896	.9898	.9901	.9904	.9906	.9909	.9911	.9913	.9916	
2.4	.9918	.9920	.9922	.9925	.9927	.9929	.9931	.9932	.9934	.9936	
2.5	.9938	.9940	.9941	.9943	.9945	.9946	.9948	.9949	.9950	.9951	

- Here 0.9901 lies at intersection of row marked 2.3 and column marked .03,
- so the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile is (approximately)  $z = 2.33$ .

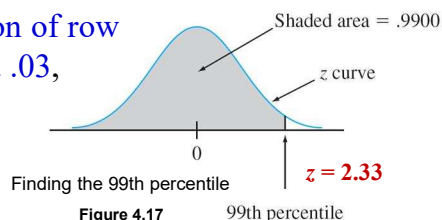


Figure 4.17

99th percentile

|

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## Example 4.14

cont'd

- By symmetry, the first percentile is as far below 0 as the 99th is above 0, so equals  $-2.33$  (1% lies below the first and also above the 99th).

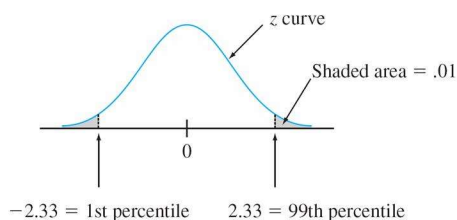


Figure 4.18 The relationship between the 1st and 99th percentiles

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-2.4	.0082	.0080	.0078	.0075	.0073	.0071	.0069	.0068	.0066	.0064
-2.3	.0107	.0104	.0102	.0099	.0096	.0094	.0091	.0089	.0087	.0084
-2.2	.0139	.0136	.0132	.0129	.0125	.0122	.0119	.0116	.0113	.0110

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## Percentiles of Standard Normal Distribution

- In general, the  $(100p)^{\text{th}}$  percentile is identified by the row and column of Appendix Table A.3 in which entry  $p$  is found
- (e.g., the 67<sup>th</sup> percentile is obtained by finding 0.6700 in body of table, which gives  $z = 0.44$ ).

Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)										
z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549

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## Percentiles of Standard Normal Distribution

- If  $p$  does not appear, the number closest to it is often used, although linear interpolation gives a more accurate answer.

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## Percentiles of Standard Normal Distribution

For example, to find the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, we look for 0.9500 inside the table.

$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$

$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9236	.9251	.9265	.9278	.9292	.9306	.9319
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767
2.0	.9772	.9778	.9783	.9788	.9793	.9798	.9803	.9808	.9812	.9817

Although 0.9500 does not appear, both 0.9495 and 0.9505 do, corresponding to  $z = 1.64$  and 1.65, respectively.

Since 0.9500 is halfway between the two probabilities that do appear, we will use 1.645 as the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile and -1.645 as the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile.

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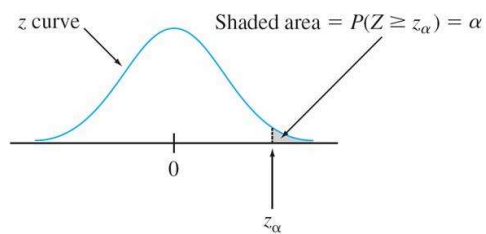
## $z_\alpha$ Notation for $z$ Critical Values

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## $z_\alpha$ Notation for $z$ Critical Values

- In **statistical inference**, we will need **values on horizontal  $z$  axis** that capture certain **small tail areas** under **standard normal curve**.



### Notation

$z_\alpha$  will denote **value on the  $z$  axis** for which  
 **$\alpha$  of area under  $z$  curve lies to the right of  $z_\alpha$ .**

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## $z_\alpha$ Notation for $z$ Critical Values

For example,  $z_{0.10}$  captures upper-tail area 0.10,

Since  $\alpha$  of area under the  $z$  curve lies to the right of  $z_\alpha$ ,  $1 - \alpha$  of the area lies to its left. Thus  $z_\alpha$  is the  $100(1 - \alpha)^{th}$  percentile of standard normal distribution.

By symmetry the area under the standard normal curve to the left of  $-z_\alpha$  is also  $\alpha$ .

The  $z_\alpha$ 's are usually referred to as  **$z$  critical values**.

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## $z_\alpha$ Notation for $z$ Critical Values

Table 4.1 lists the most useful  $z$  percentiles and  $z_\alpha$  values.

Percentile	90	95	97.5	99	99.5	99.9	99.95
$\alpha$ (tail area)	0.1	0.05	0.025	0.01	0.005	0.001	0.0005
$z_\alpha = 100(1 - \alpha)^{th}$ percentile	1.285	1.645	1.96	2.33	2.58	3.08	3.27

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)

$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$

$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9237	.9251	.9265	.9279	.9292	.9306	.9319
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767
2.0	.9772	.9778	.9783	.9788	.9793	.9798	.9803	.9808	.9812	.9817
2.1	.9821	.9826	.9830	.9834	.9838	.9842	.9846	.9850	.9854	.9858
2.2	.9861	.9864	.9868	.9871	.9875	.9878	.9881	.9884	.9887	.9890
2.3	.9893	.9896	.9898	.9901	.9904	.9906	.9909	.9911	.9913	.9916
2.4	.9918	.9920	.9922	.9925	.9927	.9929	.9931	.9932	.9934	.9936
2.5	.9938	.9940	.9941	.9943	.9945	.9946	.9948	.9949	.9951	.9952
2.6	.9953	.9955	.9956	.9957	.9959	.9960	.9961	.9962	.9963	.9964
2.7	.9965	.9966	.9967	.9968	.9969	.9970	.9971	.9972	.9973	.9974
2.8	.9975	.9976	.9977	.9978	.9979	.9980	.9981	.9982	.9983	.9984
2.9	.9985	.9986	.9987	.9988	.9989	.9990	.9991	.9992	.9993	.9994
3.0	.9995	.9996	.9997	.9998	.9999	.9999	.9999	.9999	.9999	.9999

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## Example 4.15

$z_{0.05}$  is the  $100(1 - 0.05)^{\text{th}} = 95^{\text{th}}$  percentile of the standard normal distribution, so  $z_{0.05} = 1.645$ .

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (cont.)

		$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$									
$z$		.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.5		.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6		.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7		.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8		.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706

Area under standard normal curve to the left of  $-z_{0.05}$  is also 0.05.

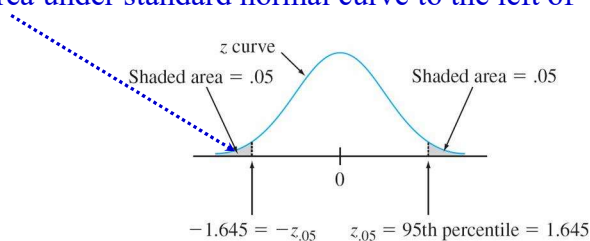


Figure 4.20 Finding  $z_{0.05}$  120

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## Nonstandard Normal Distributions

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## Nonstandard Normal Distributions

- When  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , probabilities involving  $X$  are computed by “standardizing.”
- **Standardized variable** is  $(X - \mu)/\sigma$ .
- Subtracting  $\mu$  shifts mean from  $\mu$  to zero, and then dividing by  $\sigma$  scales the variable so that standard deviation is 1 rather than  $\sigma$ .

### Proposition

If  $X$  has Normal distribution with mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$ , then

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

has a standard normal distribution. Thus

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## Nonstandard Normal Distributions

Thus

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = P\left(\frac{a - \mu}{\sigma} \leq Z \leq \frac{b - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$= \Phi\left(\frac{b - \mu}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{a - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$P(X \leq a) = \Phi\left(\frac{a - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$P(X \geq b) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{b - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

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## Nonstandard Normal Distributions

- Key idea of proposition is that by standardizing, any probability involving  $X$  can be expressed as a probability involving a standard normal random variable  $Z$ , so that Appendix Table A.3 can be used.

This is illustrated in Figure 4.21.

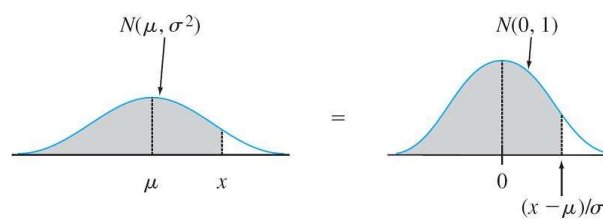


Figure 4.21 : Equality of nonstandard and standard normal curve areas

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## Example 4.16



- The time that it takes a driver to react to the brake lights on a decelerating vehicle is critical in helping to avoid rear-end collisions.



- The article “Fast-Rise Brake Lamp as a Collision-Prevention Device” (*Ergonomics*, 1993: 391–395) suggests that reaction time for an in-traffic response to a brake signal from standard brake lights can be modeled with a normal distribution having mean value 1.25 sec and standard deviation of 0.46 sec.

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## Example 4.16

cont'd

- What is the probability that reaction time is between 1.00 sec and 1.75 sec?
- If we let  $X$  denote reaction time, then standardizing gives

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## Example 4.16

cont'd

$$P(1.00 \leq X \leq 1.75) = P\left(\frac{1.00 - 1.25}{0.46} \leq Z \leq \frac{1.75 - 1.25}{0.46}\right) = P(-0.54 \leq Z \leq 1.09)$$

$$= \Phi(1.09) - \Phi(-0.54)$$

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8906	.8925	.8943	.8961	.8979	.8996	.9015
z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-0.6	.2743	.2709	.2676	.2643	.2611	.2578	.2546	.2514	.2483	.2451
-0.5	.3085	.3050	.3015	.2981	.2946	.2912	.2877	.2843	.2810	.2776

$$= 0.8621 - 0.2946 = 0.5675$$

This is illustrated in Figure 4.22

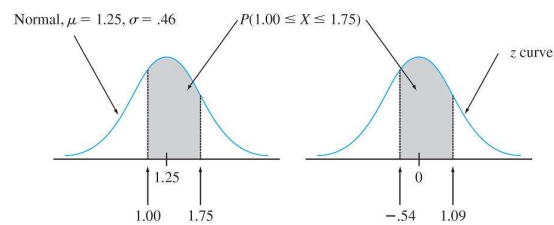


Figure 4.22 Normal curves for Example 4.16

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## Example 4.16

cont'd

- Similarly, if we view 2 sec as a critically long reaction time, probability that actual reaction time will exceed this value is

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633

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## Percentiles of Arbitrary Normal Distribution

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## Percentiles of Arbitrary Normal Distribution

- The  $(100p)^{\text{th}}$  percentile of normal distribution with mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$  is easily related to the  $(100p)^{\text{th}}$  percentile of standard normal distribution.

### Proposition

$$\text{(100p)th percentile for normal } (\mu, \sigma) = \mu + \left[ \text{(100p)th for standard normal} \right] \cdot \sigma$$

- Another way of saying this is that if  $z$  is desired percentile for standard normal distribution, then desired percentile for normal  $(\mu, \sigma)$  distribution is  $z$  standard deviations from  $\mu$ .

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## Example 4.18



- The amount of distilled water dispensed by a certain machine is normally distributed with mean value 64 oz and standard deviation 0.78 oz.
- What container size  $c$  will ensure that overflow occurs only 0.5% of the time?
- If  $X$  denotes the amount dispensed, the desired condition is that  $P(X > c) = 0.005$ , or, equivalently, that  $P(X \leq c) = 0.995$ .
- Thus  $c$  is the 99.5<sup>th</sup> percentile of normal distribution with  $\mu = 64$  and  $\sigma = 0.78$ .



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## Example 4.18

$$(100p)\text{th percentile for normal } (\mu, \sigma) = \mu + \left[ \begin{array}{c} (100p)\text{th for} \\ \text{standard normal} \end{array} \right] \cdot \sigma$$

cont'd

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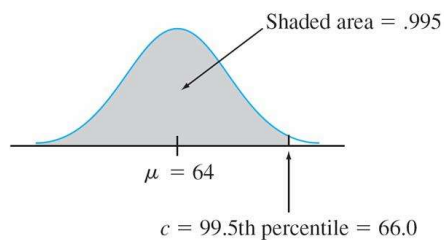
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## Example 4.18

cont'd

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
2.5	.9938	.9940	.9941	.9943	.9945	.9946	.9948	.9949	.9951	.9952
2.6	.9953	.9955	.9956	.9957	.9959	.9960	.9961	.9962	.9963	.9964
2.7	.9965	.9966	.9967	.9968	.9969	.9970	.9971	.9972	.9973	.9974

The 99.5<sup>th</sup> percentile of the standard normal distribution is 2.58, so



This is illustrated in Figure 4.23.

Figure 4.23 Distribution of amount dispensed for Example 18

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## Normal Distribution and Discrete Populations

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### Normal Distribution and Discrete Populations

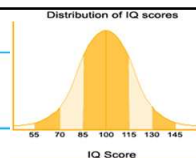
- **Normal distribution** is often used as an approximation to the distribution of values in **discrete population**.
- In such situations, extra care should be taken to ensure that probabilities are computed in an accurate manner.

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## Example 4.19



ระดับ	ไอคิว	ร้อยละ
อัจฉริยะ	>144	0.13
ปัญญาเลิศ	130-144	2.14
เหนือค่าเฉลี่ย	115-129	13.59
สูงกว่าค่าเฉลี่ย	100-114	34.13
ค่อนข้างต่ำ	85-99	34.13
ต่ำกว่าค่าเฉลี่ย	70-84	13.59
คาบเกี่ยว	55-69	2.14
ต่ำ	<55	0.13

- Intelligence Quotient (IQ) in a particular population (as measured by a standard test) is known to be approximately normally distributed with  $\mu = 100$  and  $\sigma = 15$ .
- What is the probability that a randomly selected individual has an IQ of at least 125?
- Letting  $X$  = the IQ of a randomly chosen person, we wish  $P(X \geq 125)$ .
- The temptation here is to standardize  $X \geq 125$  as in previous examples.
- However, the IQ population distribution is actually discrete, since IQs are integer-valued.

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## Example 4.19

cont'd

- So the normal curve is an approximation to a discrete probability histogram, as pictured in Figure 4.24.

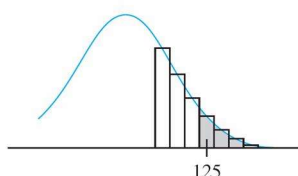


Figure 4.24 Normal approximation to a discrete distribution

- Rectangles of histogram are centered at integers, so IQs of at least 125 correspond to rectangles beginning at 124.5, as shaded in Figure 4.24.
- Thus we really want the area under the approximating normal curve to the right of 124.5.

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## Example 4.19

cont'd

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

$$Z = \frac{124.5 - 100}{15} = \frac{24.5}{15} = 1.63333$$

$$Z = \frac{125 - 100}{15} = \frac{25}{15} = 1.66666$$

- Standardizing this value (124.5) gives  $P(Z \geq 1.63) = 0.0516$ , whereas standardizing 125 results in  $P(Z \geq 1.67) = 0.0475$ .

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9600	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633

- Difference is not great, but the answer 0.0516 is more accurate.
- Similarly,  $P(X = 125)$  would be approximated by area between 124.5 and 125.5, since area under normal curve above the single value 125 is zero.

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## Example 4.19

cont'd

- Correction for discreteness of the underlying distribution in Example 19 is often called a **continuity correction**.
- It is useful in the following application of normal distribution to the computation of binomial probabilities.

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

- Recall that mean value and standard deviation of binomial random variable  $X$  are

$$\mu_X = np$$

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{npq}$$

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

Figure 4.25 displays a **binomial probability histogram** for **binomial distribution** with  $n = 20$ ,  $p = 0.6$ , for which

$$\mu_X = np = 20(0.6) = 12 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{npq} = \sqrt{20(0.6)(0.4)} = 2.19$$

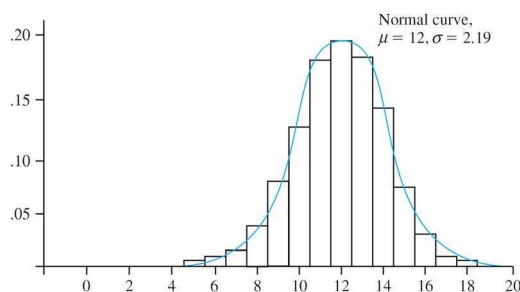


Figure 4.25 Binomial probability histogram for  $n = 20$ ,  $p = 0.6$  with normal approximation curve superimposed

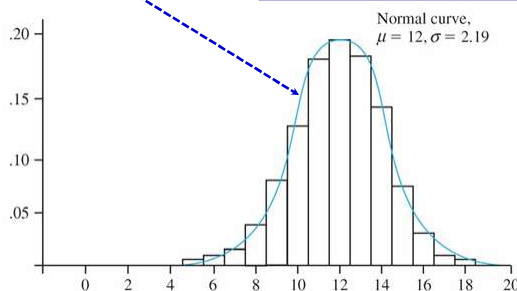
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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

Normal curve with this  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  has been superimposed on probability histogram.

Although **probability histogram** is a bit **skewed** (because  $p \neq 0.5$ ), normal curve gives a **very good approximation**, especially in the **middle part of picture**.



Area of any rectangle (probability of any particular  $X$  value) except those in the extreme tails can be accurately approximated by the corresponding normal curve area.

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

For example,  $P(X = 10) = B(10; 20, 0.6) - B(9; 20, 0.6)$   
 $= 0.245 - 0.128 = 0.117,$

		<i>p</i>															
<b>n=20</b>		0.01	0.05	0.10	0.20	0.25	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.75	0.80	0.90	0.95	0.99	
<i>x</i>	9	1.000	1.000	1.000	.997	.986	.952	.755	.412	.128	.017	.004	.001	.000	.000	.000	
	10	1.000	1.000	1.000	.999	.996	.983	.872	.588	.245	.048	.014	.003	.000	.000	.000	
	11	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	.999	.995	.943	.748	.412	.113	.041	.010	.000	.000	.000	

whereas area under the normal curve between 9.5 and 10.5 is

$$P(-1.14 \leq Z \leq -0.68) = 0.1212. \quad \mu = 12 \quad \sigma = 2.19$$

<i>z</i>	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-0.6	.2743	.2709	.2676	.2643	.2611	.2578	.2546	.2514	.2483	.2451
-1.1	.1357	.1335	.1314	.1292	.1271	.1251	.1230	.1210	.1190	.1170

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

- More generally, as long as binomial probability histogram is not too skewed, binomial probabilities can be well approximated by normal curve areas.
- It is then customary to say that  $X$  has approximately a normal distribution.

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## Approximating Binomial Distribution

### Proposition

- Let  $X$  be binomial random variable based on  $n$  trials with success probability  $p$ .
- Then if binomial probability histogram is not too skewed,  $X$  has approximately normal distribution with  $\mu = np$  and  $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$

In particular, for  $x =$  possible value of  $X$ ,

$$P(X \leq x) = B(x, n, p) \approx \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{area under normal curve} \\ \text{to the left of } x+0.5 \end{array} \right) = \Phi\left(\frac{x+0.5-np}{\sqrt{npq}}\right)$$

- In practice, approximation is adequate provided that both  $np \geq 10$  and  $nq \geq 10$ , since there is enough symmetry in underlying binomial distribution.

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## Example 4.20

- Suppose that 25% of all students at a large public university receive financial aid.
- Let  $X$  be the number of students in a random sample of size 50 who receive financial aid, so that  $p = 0.25$ .

Then  $\mu = 12.5$  and  $\sigma = 3.06$ .

- Since  $np = 50(0.25) = 12.5 \geq 10$  and  $nq = 50(0.75) = 37.5 \geq 10$ , the approximation can safely be applied.

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### Example 4.20

$$P(X \leq x) = B(x, n, p) \approx \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{area under normal curve} \\ \text{to the left of } x + 0.5 \end{array} \right) = \Phi \left( \frac{x + 0.5 - np}{\sqrt{npq}} \right)$$

- Probability that **at most 10** students receive aid is

$$P(X \leq 10) = B(10; 50, 0.25) \approx \Phi \left( \frac{10 + 0.5 - 12.5}{3.06} \right) = \Phi(-0.65) = 0.2578$$

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
-0.6	.2743	.2709	.2676	.2643	.2611	.2578	.2546	.2514	.2483	.2451

- Similarly, probability that **between 5 and 15 (inclusive)** of selected students receive aid is

$$P(5 \leq X \leq 15) = B(15; 50, 0.25) - B(4; 50, 0.25)$$

$$\approx \Phi \left( \frac{15.5 - 12.5}{3.06} \right) - \Phi \left( \frac{4.5 - 12.5}{3.06} \right) = \Phi(0.98) - \Phi(-2.61) = 0.8320$$

- Exact probabilities are **0.2622** and **0.8348**, respectively, so approximations are quite good.

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## Exponential Distribution

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## Exponential Distributions

The family of exponential distributions provides probability models that are very widely used in engineering and science disciplines.

ตัวอย่างเช่น

- ปัญหาในระบบแถวคอย — เวลาในการให้บริการและช่วงห่างระหว่างการเข้ารับบริการของลูกค้า
- ความน่าจะเป็นที่ผลิตภัณฑ์ยังทำงานได้
- ความน่าจะเป็นที่ผลิตภัณฑ์จะเกิดการพังของอุปกรณ์หรือเครื่องจักรก่อนช่วงเวลาที่กำหนด
- อายุการใช้งานของอุปกรณ์

### Definition

$X$  is said to have an **exponential distribution** with **parameter  $\lambda$**  ( $\lambda > 0$ ) if the **pdf of  $X$**  is

$$f(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4.5)$$

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## Exponential Distributions

- Some sources write the exponential pdf in the form  $(1/\beta)e^{-x/\beta}$ , so that  $\beta = 1/\lambda$ .

- **Expected value** of an **exponentially distributed random variable  $X$**  is

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

- Obtaining this expected value necessitates doing **an integration by parts**.

The variance of  $X$  can be computed using the fact that

$$V(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2.$$

- The determination of  $E(X^2)$  requires integrating by parts twice in succession.

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## Exponential Distributions

The results of these integrations are as follows:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

Both the mean and standard deviation of the exponential distribution equal  $1/\lambda$ .

Graphs of several exponential pdf's are illustrated in Figure 4.26.

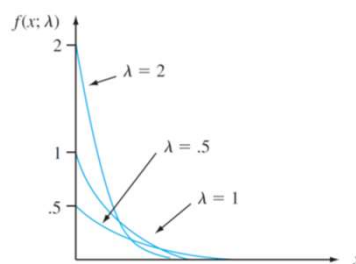


Figure 4.26 Exponential density curves

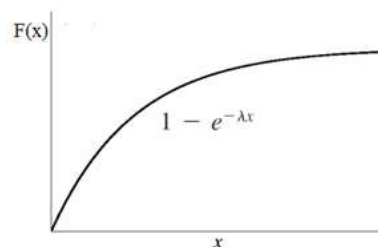
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## Exponential Distributions

The exponential pdf is easily integrated to obtain the cdf.

$$F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$



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## Example 4.21

MPa : MegaPascals

The article “[Probabilistic Fatigue Evaluation of Riveted Railway Bridges](#)” (*J. of Bridge Engr.*, 2008: 237–244) suggested the [exponential distribution](#) with [mean value 6 MPa](#) as a model for the [distribution of stress range](#) in certain [bridge connections](#).

Let's assume that this is in fact the true model.  
Then



$E(X) = 1/\lambda = 6$  implies that  $\lambda = 0.1667$ .

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## Example 4.21

cont'd

The [probability](#) that [stress range](#) is [at most 10 MPa](#) is

$$P(X \leq 10) = F(10 ; 0.1667)$$

$$= 1 - e^{-(0.1667)(10)} \quad F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= 1 - 0.189$$

$$= 0.811$$

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**Example 4.21**

$$F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

cont'd

The probability that stress range is between 5 and 10 MPa is

$$P(5 \leq X \leq 10) = F(10; 0.1667) - F(5; 0.1667)$$

$$= (1 - e^{-0.1667(10)}) - (1 - e^{-0.1667(5)})$$

$$= (1 - e^{-1.667}) - (1 - e^{-0.8335})$$

$$= 0.246$$

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**Exponential Distributions**

- Exponential distribution is frequently used as a model for distribution of times between occurrence of successive events, such as
  - customers arriving at a service facility or
  - calls coming in to a switchboard.

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## Exponential Distributions

### Proposition

- Suppose that the number of events occurring in any time interval of length  $t$  has a Poisson distribution with parameter  $\alpha t$  (where  $\alpha$ , rate of event process, is expected number of events occurring in 1 unit of time) and that numbers of occurrences in nonoverlapping intervals are independent of one another.
- Then distribution of elapsed time between occurrence of two successive events is exponential with parameter  $\lambda = \alpha$ .

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## Exponential Distributions

$$p(x; \lambda) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}$$

Although a complete proof is beyond the scope of the text, the result is easily verified for the time  $X_1$  until the first event occurs:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_1 \leq t) &= 1 - P(X_1 > t) = 1 - P[\text{no events in } (0, t)] \\ &= 1 - \frac{e^{-\alpha t} \cdot (\alpha t)^0}{0!} = 1 - e^{-\alpha t} \end{aligned}$$

which is exactly the cdf of the exponential distribution.

$$F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

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## Example 4.22

- Suppose that calls are received at a 24-hour “suicide hotline” according to a Poisson process with rate  $\alpha = 0.5$  call per day.
- Then the number of days  $X$  between successive calls has an exponential distribution with parameter value 0.5, so the probability that more than 2 days elapse between calls is

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X > 2) &= 1 - P(X \leq 2) \\
 &= 1 - F(2; 0.5) \\
 &= e^{-(0.5)(2)} \\
 &= 0.368
 \end{aligned}
 \quad
 F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

The expected time between successive calls is  $1/0.5 = 2$  days.

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## Exponential Distributions

Another important application of the exponential distribution is to model the distribution of component lifetime.

A partial reason for the popularity of such applications is the “memoryless” property of the exponential distribution.

Suppose component lifetime is exponentially distributed with parameter  $\lambda$ .

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## Exponential Distributions

After putting the component into service, we leave for a period of  $t_0$  hours and then return to find the component still working; what now is the probability that it lasts at least an additional  $t$  hours?

In symbols, we wish  $P(X \geq t + t_0 | X \geq t_0)$ .

By the definition of conditional probability,

$$P(X \geq t + t_0 | X \geq t_0) = \frac{P[(X \geq t + t_0) \cap (X \geq t_0)]}{P(X \geq t_0)}$$

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## Exponential Distributions $F(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda x} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$

But the event  $X \geq t_0$  in the numerator is redundant, since both events can occur if  $X \geq t + t_0$  and only if. Therefore,

$$P(X \geq t + t_0 | X \geq t_0) = \frac{P(X \geq t + t_0)}{P(X \geq t_0)} = \frac{1 - F(t + t_0; \lambda)}{1 - F(t_0; \lambda)} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

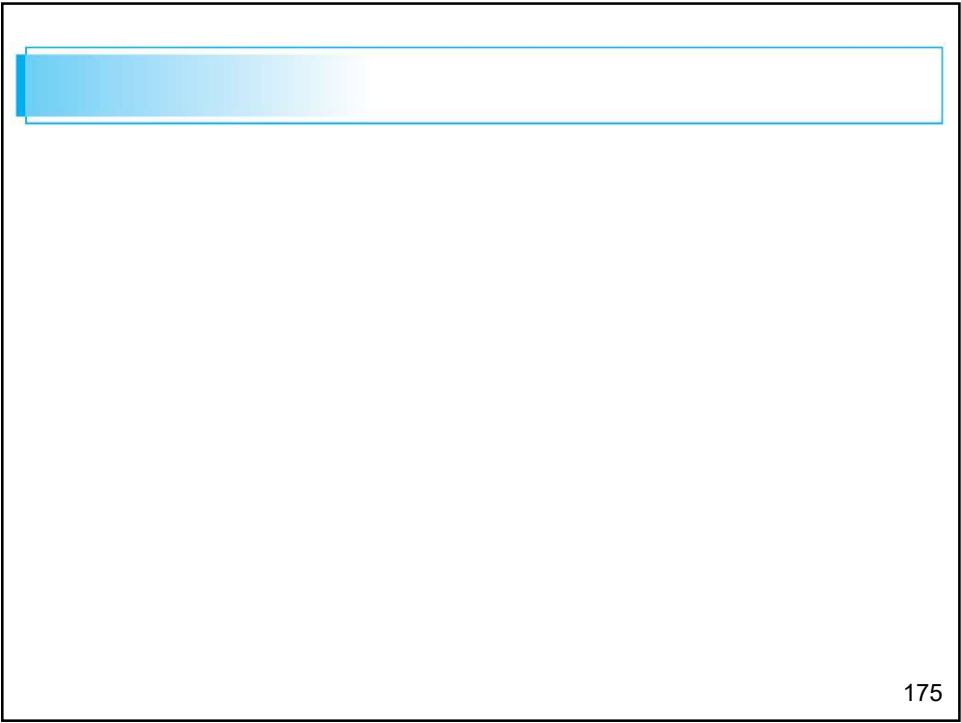
This conditional probability is identical to the original probability  $P(X \geq t)$  that the component lasted  $t$  hours.

○ Thus *distribution of additional lifetime is exactly the same as the original distribution of lifetime*, so at each point in time the component shows no effect of wear.

○ In other words, the *distribution of remaining lifetime is independent of current age*.

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