

Andrew Gard - equitable.equations@gmail.com



The Normal Distribution in R

There are 4 basic functions in R for calculating in the normal distribution.



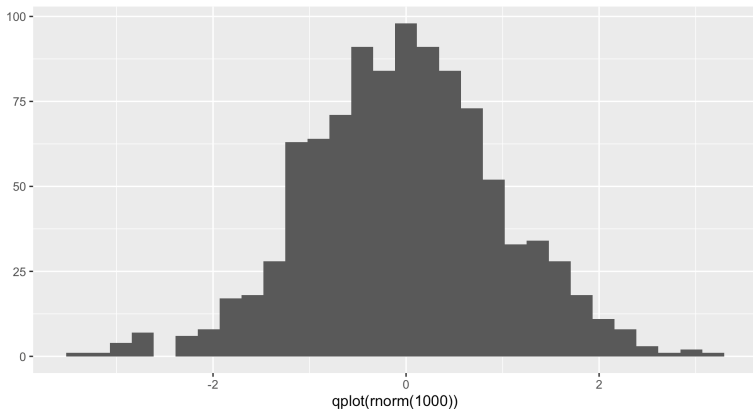
There are 4 basic functions in *R* for calculating in the normal distribution.

- `rnorm(n, μ , σ)` generates *n* random values from the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ .



There are 4 basic functions in *R* for calculating in the normal distribution.

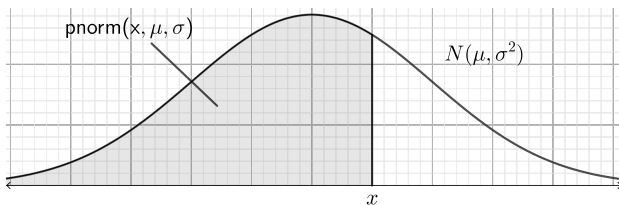
- `rnorm(n, μ , σ)` generates *n* random values from the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ . If omitted, the parameters default to $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$.



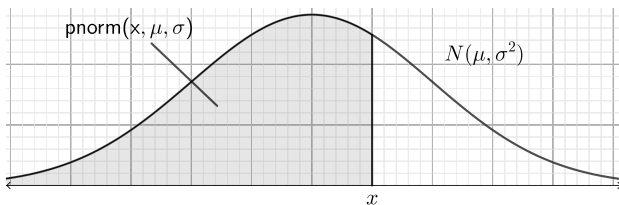
- `pnorm(x, μ , σ)` is the cumulative distribution function of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ .



- $\text{pnorm}(x, \mu, \sigma)$ is the cumulative distribution function of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ .



- `pnorm(x, μ , σ)` is the cumulative distribution function of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ .



As usual in *R*, x can be a vector.

```
pnorm(12:16, 14, .8)
```

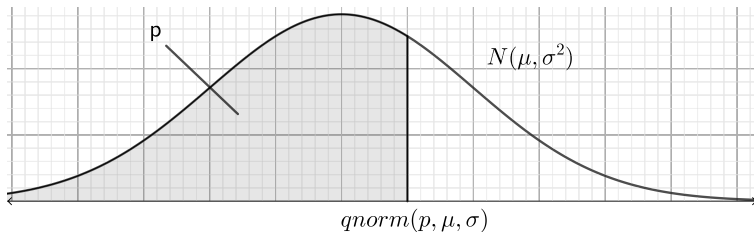
```
## [1] 0.006209665 0.105649774 0.500000000 0.894350226 0.993790335
```



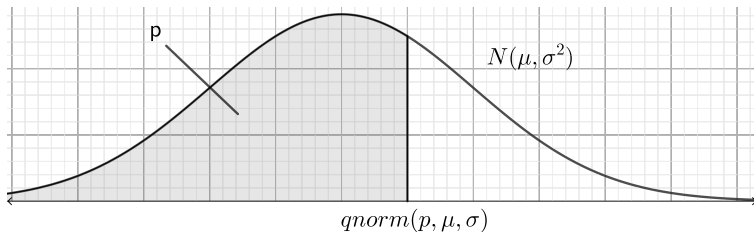
- `qnorm(p , μ , σ)` is the inverse cdf of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ . It returns the value x such that `pnorm(x , μ , σ) = p .`



- $qnorm(p, \mu, \sigma)$ is the inverse cdf of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ . It returns the value x such that $pnorm(x, \mu, \sigma) = p$.



- $qnorm(p, \mu, \sigma)$ is the inverse cdf of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ . It returns the value x such that $pnorm(x, \mu, \sigma) = p$.



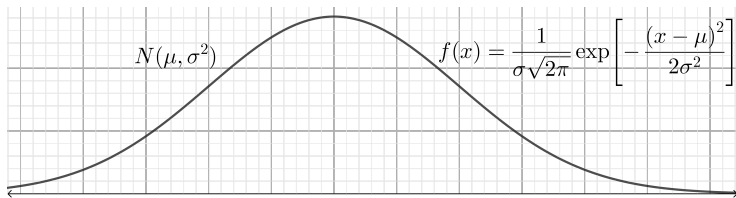
Again, p can be a vector.

```
qnorm(c(.25, .50, .75), 14, .8)
```

```
## [1] 13.46041 14.00000 14.53959
```



- `dnorm(x, μ , σ)` is the probability density function of the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ .



In *R*, it's generally only used to draw bell curves.



Example. Flipper lengths of a certain kind of penguin are normally distributed with mean 192.9 mm and standard deviation 7.1 mm.

1. What is the probability that a randomly-selected penguin has a flipper less than 200 mm long? More than 200 mm?
2. What is the 90th percentile for flippers length in these penguins?
3. Simulate 500 random selections from this population and plot the results.

