

# The Normal Distribution

## Computing the Z Score

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# The Normal Distribution

## Key Parameters of the Normal Distribution

- Normal Mean  $\mu$   
(pronounced “mu”)
- Normal Standard Deviation  $\sigma$   
(pronounced “sigma”)

# The Normal Distribution

- Suppose we are interested in a normally distributed variable called  $X$  (for example: Heights or Weights).
- We are given specific values for
  - Normal Mean  $\mu$
  - Normal Standard Deviation  $\sigma$

# The Normal Distribution

- For some particular value  $x_o$  of the normal distribution  $X$ , there is a corresponding ***z-score***  $z_o$ .
- The z-score is the distance, in terms of standard deviations, that  $x_o$  is from the mean  $\mu$ .

$$z_o = \frac{x_o - \mu}{\sigma}$$

# The Normal Distribution

$X$  = Weights

- Mean of  $X$ :  $\mu = 1000$  kg
- Standard Deviation of  $X$  :  $\sigma = 20$  kg

Compute the z-score for 1050 kgs and 985 kgs

# The Normal Distribution : Exercise 1

$$z_o = \frac{x_o - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$(x_o = 1050 \text{ kgs}, \mu = 1000 \text{ kgs}, \sigma = 20 \text{ kgs})$$

## The Normal Distribution : Exercise 2

$$z_o = \frac{x_o - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$(x_o = 985 \text{ kgs}, \mu = 1000 \text{ kgs}, \sigma = 20 \text{ kgs})$$

# Computing the Z-score

The normal distribution has the following parameters

- $\mu$  the mean of the normal distribution
- $\sigma$  the standard deviation of the distribution

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

Suppose  $\mu = 1000$   $\sigma = 400$

$$X \sim N(1000, 400)$$