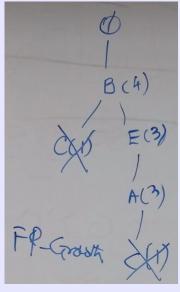
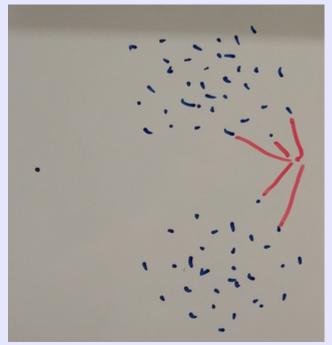


CS 422: Data Mining Vijay K. Gurbani, Ph.D., Illinois Institute of Technology

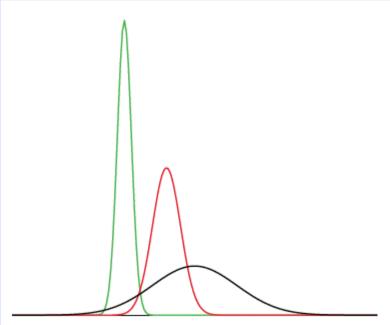
Lecture 2: Random variables, measures of central tendency and distributions



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Normal / Gaussian distribution

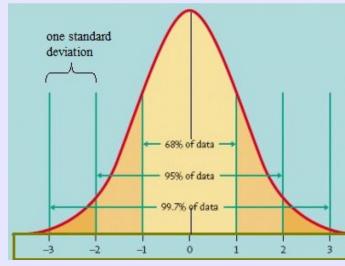


Green: μ =-3.0, σ =0.5

Red: μ =0.0, σ =1.0 Black: μ =2.0, σ =3.0

 Parameterized by mean (µ) and standard deviation (σ)

mean = median = mode



 Binomial distribution: parameterized by n (number of trials) and p (probability of success

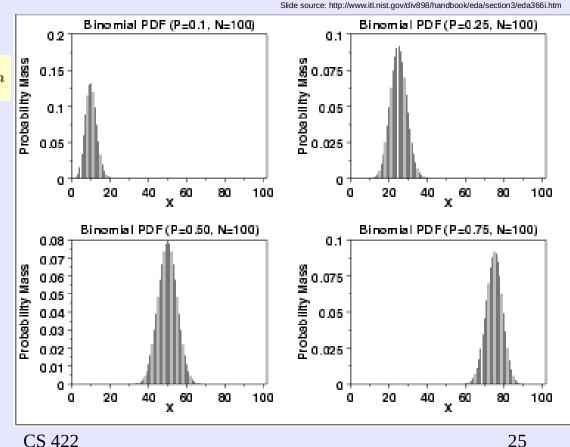
in each trial)

• PMF: $\binom{n}{x} (p)^x (1-p)^{(n-x)}$ for $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ for observing *x* successes in *n* trials.

Mean: np

Median: [np] or [np]

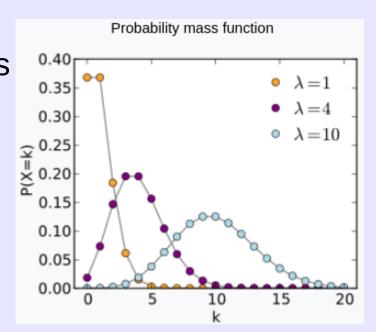
Variance: np(1-p)



 Poisson distribution: expresses the probability of a given number of events (k) occurring in a fixed interval of time if these events occur with a known constant mean rate (λ) and independently of the time since the last event.



- Mean: λ
- Median: $\lambda \ln 2 \le \nu < \lambda + \frac{1}{3}$.
- Variance: λ



 Power-law distributions: relationships where one quantity varies as a power of another. (Example: area of square quadruples when length is doubled.)

 Power-law distributions: relationships where one quantity varies as a power of another. (Example: area of square quadruples when length is doubled.)

Head

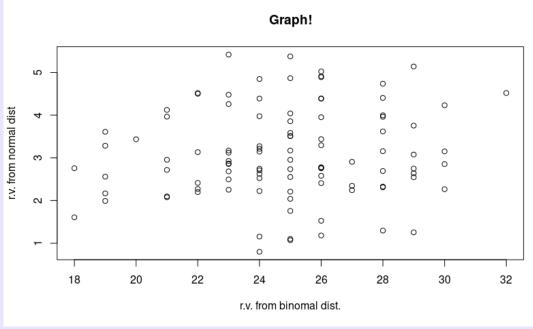
 Also called "long tailed" distributions (coined by Chris Anderson, EiC of Wired), or the 80-20 rule.

Long tail

 Unlike other distributions, the moments of Power Law are hard to define: under certain conditions the first moment is defined, but rest are infinite!

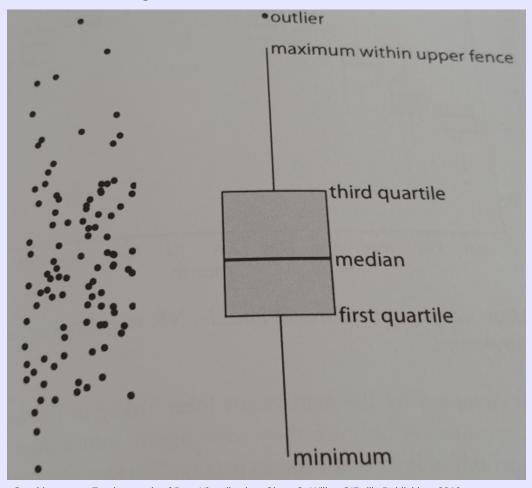
- Visualization is important!
- Excellent resource: Claus O. Wilke,
 Fundamentals of Data Visualization, O'Reilly
 Publishing. (Uses R/RStudio/R Markdown.)
- No time to look at details into graphs, but:
 - Boxplots
 - CDFs
 - Normal x-y plots

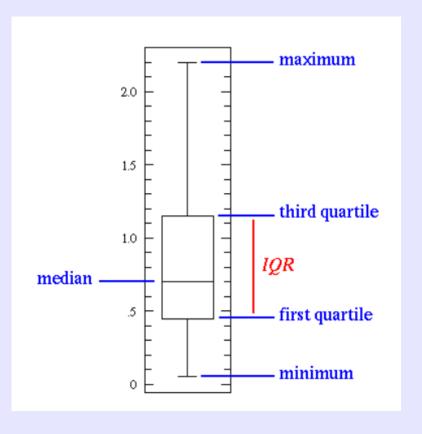
x-y plots



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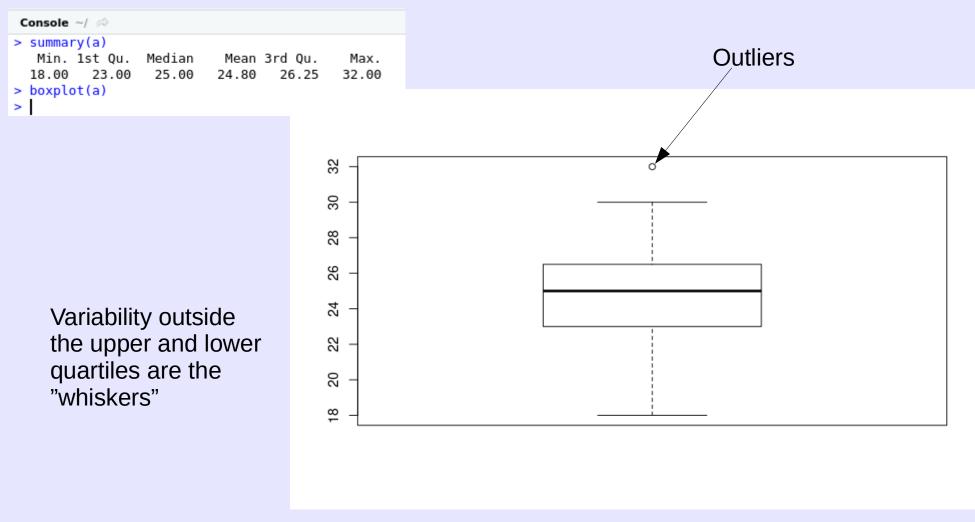
Boxplots





Graphic source: Fundamentals of Data Visualization, Claus O. Wilke, O'Reilly Publishing, 2019.

Boxplots



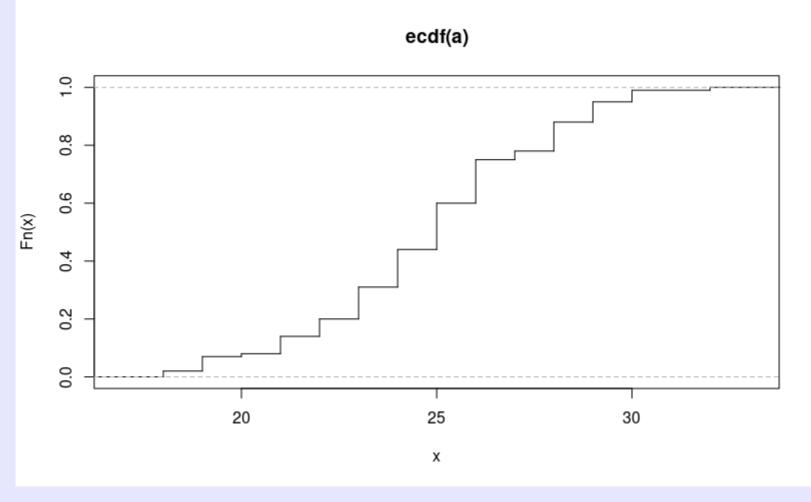
- Empirical cumulative distribution function
 - CDF(y) of a dataset X at a value y is the ratio of samples that are lower than the value y:

$$CDF(X,y) = \frac{|i| : i \le y}{|X|}$$

- The derivative of the CDF is the PDF.
- Example: X = [2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 20]
 - CDF(X, 15) = 6/8 = 0.75

ECDF

```
Console ~/ 
> plot(ecdf(a), verticals = T, do.points=F)
> |
```



A note on debugging

- When you run into problems, learn how to debug your code.
 - See
 - https://support.rstudio.com/hc/en-us/articles/205612627-Debuggingwith-RStudio
 - https://adv-r.hadley.nz/debugging.html
- Sometimes, even after debugging, things are not clear. In such cases:
 - Isolate the problem as best as you can.
 - Reproduce the problem on a small dataset.
 - And get in touch with the TA or me.
- Remember: The better you can describe your problem to me or the TA, the quicker it is for us to help you.

Debugging is an art! Become proficient at it.