One curve to rule them all



$$X, X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n, \ldots$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$
, $Var(X) = \sigma^2$

$$X, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$$

$$E(X) = \mu, \quad Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

The partial sums: $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n$

$$X, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, \dots$$

$$E(X) = \mu, \quad Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

The partial sums: $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n$

Standardisation to a common centre and scale:

$$S_n^* = \frac{S_n - n\mu}{\sqrt{n} \, \sigma}$$

$$X, X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n, \ldots$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$
, $Var(X) = \sigma^2$

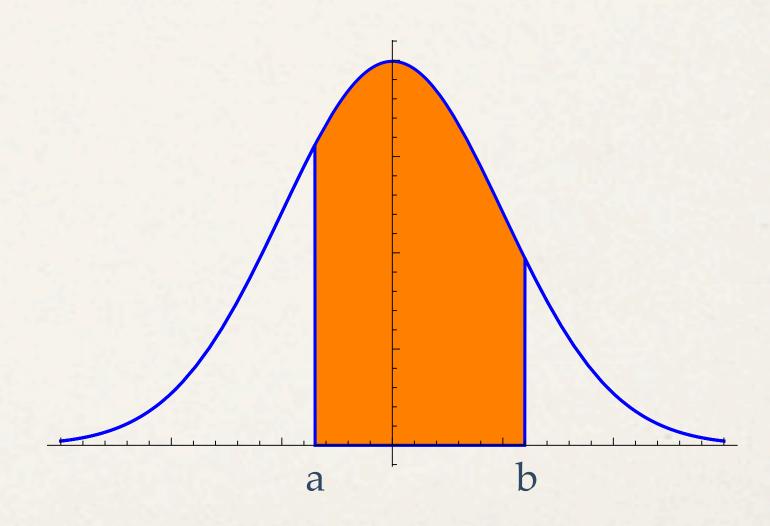
The partial sums: $S_n = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n$

Standardisation to a common centre and scale:

$$S_n^* = \frac{S_n - n\mu}{\sqrt{n} \, \sigma}$$

The central limit theorem

$$\mathbf{P}\{a < S_n^* \le b\} \to \int_a^b \phi(x) \, dx \qquad (n \to \infty)$$





Slogan

Sums of independent perturbations follow a normal law.