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# Advanced Mathematical Methods

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## 4 Mathematical Statistics

Dr. Julie Schnaitmann

*Department of Statistics, Econometrics and Empirical  
Economics*

EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN



WIRTSCHAFTS- UND  
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FAKULTÄT

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# Outline: Mathematical Statistics

- 4.1 Random Variables
- 4.2 pdf and cdf
- 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments
- 4.4 Quantile
- 4.5 Specific probability distributions

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# Readings

- A. Papoulis and A. U. Pillai. *Probability, Random Variables and Stochastic Processes*.  
Mc Graw Hill, fourth edition, 2002, Chapters 1-4

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## Online References

MIT Course on Probabilistic Systems Analysis and Applied Probability (by John Tsitsiklis)

- Discrete RVs I: Concept of random variables, probability mass function, expected value, variance  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MOahpLxj6A>
- Continuous RVs: probability density function, cumulative distribution function, expected value, variance  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHfn\\_7ym6to](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHfn_7ym6to)
- Discrete RVs II: Functions of RV, conditional probabilities, specific distribution, total expectation theorem, joint probabilities  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qCEoqpwjf4>

## 4.1 Random Variables

A random variable  $X$  takes on real numbers according to some distribution.

There are two types of random variables:

① discrete random variables

- e.g. coin toss, number of baskets scored out of  $n$  trials

② continuous random variables  
e.g. financial returns

① Bernoulli

$X$	success = 1	T	$\Pr(X=1) = \pi$
	failure = 0	H	$\Pr(X=0) = 1 - \Pr(X=1)$ $= 1 - \pi$

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## 4.1 Random Variables

A random variable  $X$  takes on real numbers according to some distribution.

There are two types of random variables:

① discrete random variables

- e.g. coin toss, number of baskets scored out of  $n$  trials

countably many  
outcomes

② continuous random variables

- e.g. financial returns

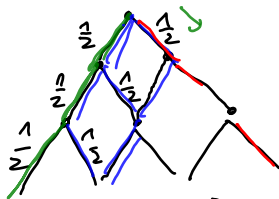
infinitely many  
outcomes

## 4.1 Random Variables

### Discrete random variables

② Binomial distribution:  $n$  independent Bernoulli trials  
 $X$  counts how many times I was successful out of  $n$  trials  
H / T ↙ # tails

ex:  $n=3$



$X=0$	1	$X=0$
$X=1$	3	$X=1$
$X=2$	3	
$X=3$	1	

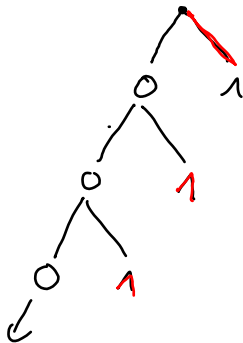
$$\Pr(X=k) = \pi^k \cdot (1-\pi)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k}$$

## 4.1 Random Variables

### Discrete random variables

③ Geometric distribution  
"How many times do I fail before I succeed?"

$$\Pr(X = k) = (1 - \pi)^{k-1} \cdot \pi$$



$X = 0$  ←  
 $X = 1$   
 $X = 2$   
 $\vdots$



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## 4.1 Random Variables

Discrete random variables

## 4.1 Random Variables

Random sample

↙  $n$  random variables

$\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$  is called a random sample if

- ① all draws  $X_i$  are **independent**
- ② and drawn from the same distribution, i.e. they are **identically distributed**

⇒ the draws are **independently and identically distributed** in short iid

ex: coin toss:  $n=10$   $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{10}\}$

realization:  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{10}\} = \{T, H, H, T, \dots, H\}$

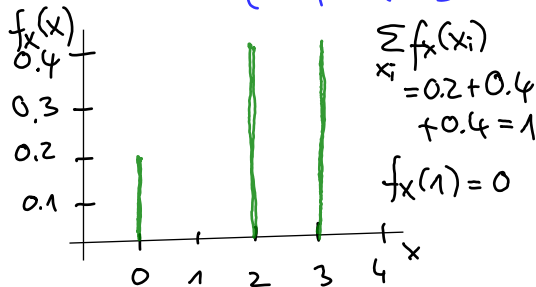
## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

Probability distribution function: discrete case (pdf)

pdf  
↓  
realization/  
specific outcome  
 $f_X(x_i) = P(X = x_i) = \Pr(X = x_i)$   
r.v. ↗  
ex:  $f_X(x_i) = \begin{cases} 0.2 & x=0 \\ 0.4 & x=2 \\ 0.4 & x=3 \end{cases}$

requirements:

- $0 \leq P(X = x_i) \leq 1$
- $\sum_{x_i} f_X(x_i) = 1$



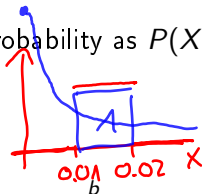
## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

(Probability) Density function: continuous case

$f_X(x)$  is not a probability as  $P(X = x) = 0$

not a probability  
= point mass is zero

requirements:



$$P(X=c) = \int_c^c f_X(x) dx = 0$$

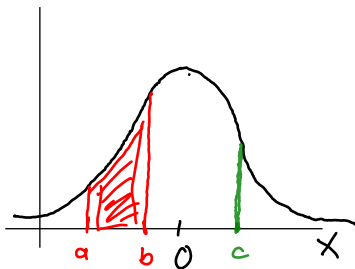
$c = F(c) - F(c) = 0$

- $P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f_X(x) dx \geq 0$

- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$

- $f_X(x) \geq 0$  non-negative

$f_X(x)$



## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

### Definition: Cumulative distribution function

The cumulative distribution function (cdf) of a random variable  $X$  is defined to be the function  $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$ , for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**discrete:**

$$F_X(x_i) = \sum_{x \leq x_i} f_X(x_i) = P(X \leq x_i)$$

**continuous:**

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) dt = P(X \leq x)$$

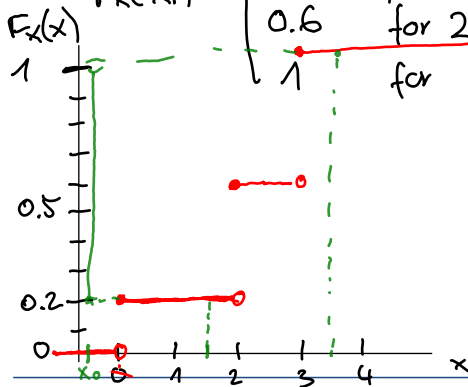
## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

Discrete random variable

ex:  $f_X(x_i) = \begin{cases} 0.2 & X=0 \\ 0.4 & X=2 \\ 0.4 & X=3 \end{cases}$

$$F_X(x_i) = \sum_{X \leq x_i} f_X(x_i)$$

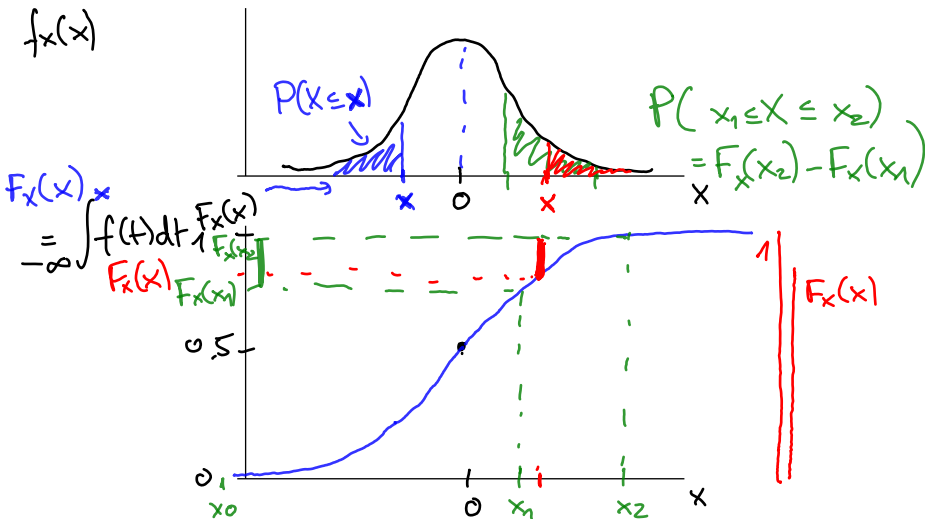
$$F_X(x_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } X < 0 \\ 0.2 & \text{for } 0 \leq X < 2 \\ 0.6 & \text{for } 2 \leq X < 3 \\ 1 & \text{for } X \geq 3 \end{cases}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(1.5 \leq X \leq 3.5) &= \Pr(X \leq 3.5) - \Pr(X \leq 1.5) \\ &= F_X(3.5) - F_X(1.5) \\ &= 0.8 \end{aligned}$$

## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

Continuous random variable



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## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

### Properties

- 1)  $F_X(+\infty) = 1; F_X(-\infty) = 0$
- 2)  $F_X(x)$  is a nondecreasing function of  $x$ :  
if  $x_1 < x_2$ ,  $F_X(x_1) \leq F_X(x_2)$   
note: the event  $\{X \leq x_1\}$  is a subset of  $\{X \leq x_2\}$
- 3) if  $F_X(x_0) = 0$ , then  $F_X(x) = 0 \quad \forall \quad x \leq x_0$



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## 4.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

### Properties

4)  $P(X > x) = 1 - F_X(x)$   
events  $\{X \leq x\}$  and  $\{X > x\}$  are mutually exclusive and  
 $\{X \leq x\} \cup \{X > x\} = \Omega$

5)  $F_X(x)$  is continuous from the right:  
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} F_X(x) = F_X(a)$

6)  $P(x_1 \leq X \leq x_2) = F_X(x_2) - F_X(x_1) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} f_X(x) dx$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

Expectations of a random variable

weighted average  $\frac{\cancel{E(x)}}{\cancel{E(y)}}$

$$E[X] = \begin{cases} \sum_{x_i} x_i f_X(x_i) & \text{if } x \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx & \text{if } x \text{ is continuous} \end{cases}$$

ex: coin toss:  $X$   $X=1$   $X=0$   
 If  $g(x)$  is a measurable function of  $x$ , then:  $\pi = \frac{1}{2}$   $1-\pi = \frac{1}{2}$

$$E[g(X)] = \begin{cases} \sum_{x_i} g(x_i) f_X(x_i) & \text{if } x \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx & \text{if } x \text{ is continuous} \end{cases}$$

$$E(X) = 1 \cdot P(X=1) + 0 \cdot P(X=0)$$

$$= 1 \cdot \pi + 0 \cdot (1-\pi) = \pi = \frac{1}{2}$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Expectations of a random variable

$$E[X] = \begin{cases} \sum_{x_i} x_i f_X(x_i) & \text{if } x \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx & \text{if } x \text{ is continuous} \end{cases}$$

If  $g(X)$  a measurable function of  $x$ , then:

$$E[g(X)] = \begin{cases} \sum_{x_i} g(x_i) f_X(x_i) & \text{if } x \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx & \text{if } x \text{ is continuous} \end{cases}$$

ex:  $g(x) = x^2$   
coin toss  
 $X_1 = 1^2$   $X_2 = 0^2$   
 $= 1$   $= 0$   
 $E(X^2) = 1^2 \cdot P(X=1) + 0^2 \cdot P(X=0)$   
 $= 1^2 \cdot \pi + 0 \cdot (1-\pi)$   
 $= \pi$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $E[a] = a$   $\swarrow$  constant not a r.v.  
 $= a \cdot \underbrace{P(X=a)}_{=1} = a$
- $E[a] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a f_X(x) dx = a \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx}_{=1} = a$
- linear transformation:  $E[a + bX] = a + bE[X]$
- $E[g_1(X) + g_2(X)] = E[g_1(X)] + E[g_2(X)]$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $E[a] = a$

- $E[bX] = b \cdot E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} b \cdot x f_X(x) dx = b \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx}_{=E(X)}$

- linear transformation  $E[a + bX] = a + bE[X]$

- $E[g_1(X) + g_2(X)] = E[g_1(X)] + E[g_2(X)]$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $E[a] = a$
- $E[bX] = b \cdot E[X]$

- linear transformation:  $E[a + bX] = a + bE[X]$

separate  
integrals

check if linear

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{(a + bx)}_{g(x)} f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a \cdot f_X(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} b \cdot x f_X(x) dx$$

look for familiar terms

$$= a \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx + b \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = a + bE(X)$$

constants in front of integrals

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## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $E[a] = a$
- $E[bX] = b \cdot E[X]$
- linear transformation:  $E[a + bX] = a + bE[X]$
- $E[g_1(X) + g_2(X)] = E[g_1(X)] + E[g_2(X)]$   
 $E(\widetilde{bX} + X^2) = \underbrace{E(bX)} + E(X^2) = bE(X) + E(X^2)$   
 $E(\cdot)$  linear operator

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

Variance of a random variable

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

Let  $g(X) = (X - E[X])^2$

Variance operator  
is not linear

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2 = E[(X - E[X])^2] = E(g(X))$$

$$= \begin{cases} \sum_{x_i} (x_i - E[X])^2 f(x_i) & \text{if } x \text{ is discrete} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx & \text{if } x \text{ is continuous} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(a + bX) \neq a + b \text{Var}(X) \quad \hookrightarrow \\ = b^2 \text{Var}(X)$$



## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $Var[a] = 0$      $E(a) = a$
- $Var(a) = E[(a - \underbrace{E(a)}_{=a})^2] = 0$
- $Var[bX] = b^2 Var[X]$
- $Var[a + bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

important result:

$$Var[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $Var[a] = 0$

- $Var[X + a] = Var[X]$

$$E[(X+a) - E(X+a)]^2 = E[(X + \cancel{a} - E(X) - \cancel{a})^2] = E[(X - E(X))^2]$$

- $Var[a + bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

$$E(X) + a = E(X) + \underbrace{E(a)}_{=a} = Var(X)$$

important result:

$$Var[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

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## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $Var[a] = 0$
- $Var[X + a] = Var[X]$
- $Var[bX] = b^2 Var[X]$
- $Var[a + bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

important result:

$$Var[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $Var[a] = 0$
- $Var[X + a] = Var[X]$
- $Var[bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

- $Var[a + bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

$$\begin{aligned} &= E[(a + bX - \underbrace{E(a + bX)}_{=E(a)+E(bX)})^2] = E[(\cancel{a} + bX - \cancel{a} - bE(X))^2] \\ &= E[(b(X - E(X)))^2] = E[b^2(X - E(X))^2] \\ &= b^2 E[(X - E(X))^2] = b^2 Var(X) \end{aligned}$$

*Important result:*  
 $Var[X] = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$

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## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Calculation rules

- $Var[a] = 0$
- $Var[X + a] = Var[X]$
- $Var[bX] = b^2 Var[X]$
- $Var[a + bX] = b^2 Var[X]$

**important result:**

$$Var[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = E[(X - E(X))^2]$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

v.v. constant Variance

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - E(X))^2]$$

multiply out

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E(x))^2 f_X(x) dx = \int (x^2 - 2xE(x) + E(x)^2) f_X(x) dx$$

separate integrals  
constants outside

$$= \int x^2 f_X(x) dx - \int 2xE(x) f_X(x) dx + \int E(x)^2 f_X(x) dx$$

familiar terms

$$= \int x^2 f_X(x) dx - 2E(x) \underbrace{\int x f_X(x) dx}_{=E(x)} + E(x)^2 \underbrace{\int f_X(x) dx}_{=1}$$

$$= E(x^2) - 2E(x) \cdot E(x) + E(x)^2 \cdot 1$$

$$= E(x^2) - E(x)^2$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

Standardization of a random variable  $X$

$$Y = X - E(X) = X - \mu$$

center  $E(Y) = 0$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(X)$$

Let

$$Z = \frac{X - E(X)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}}$$

$$g(X) = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} = Z$$

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} = \frac{-\mu}{\sigma} + \frac{1}{\sigma}X$$

$\approx a + bX$  standardization

$$= a + bX$$

$\downarrow$

$\downarrow$

$$\Rightarrow E[Z] = 0$$

$$\text{and } \text{Var}[Z] = 1$$

$$E(Z) = 0$$

$$\text{Var}(Z) = 1$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

Standardization of a random variable  $X$

$$E\left[\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}\right] = \frac{1}{\sigma} E[X-\mu] = \frac{1}{\sigma} [E(X) - \underbrace{E(\mu)}_{=0}] = 0$$

Let

$$g(X) = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} = Z \quad \text{Var}\left[\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}\right] = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \text{Var}[X-\mu] = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \underbrace{\text{Var}(X)}_{=\sigma^2} = 1$$
$$Z = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} = \frac{-\mu}{\sigma} + \frac{1}{\sigma}X$$

$$\Rightarrow E[Z] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}[Z] = 1$$



## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Chebychev Inequality

For any random variable  $X$  with finite expected value  $\mu$  and finite variance  $\sigma^2 > 0$  and a positive constant  $k$

$$P(\mu - k\sigma \leq X \leq \mu + k\sigma) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k^2}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $E(X) = \mu$

convergence in probability  $\xrightarrow{P}$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Skewness and Kurtosis

Central moments of a random variable:

$$\mu_r = E[(X - \mu)^r] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E(x))^r \cdot f_x(x) dx$$

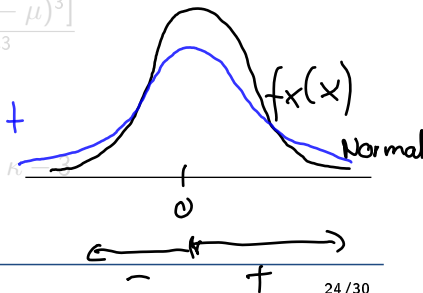
→ integral diverges

as  $r$  grows,  $\mu_r$  tends to explode

Solution: normalization

- skewness coefficient:  $\gamma = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^3]}{\sigma^3}$
- kurtosis:  $\frac{E[(X - \mu)^4]}{\sigma^4}$

often reported as excess kurtosis  $\kappa = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^4]}{\sigma^4} - 3$



$$E(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_x(x) dx$$

## 4.3 Expectation, Variance and Moments

### Skewness and Kurtosis

Central moments of a random variable:

$$\mu_r = E[(X - \mu)^r]$$

as  $r$  grows,  $\mu_r$  tends to explode

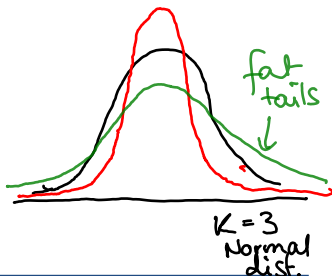
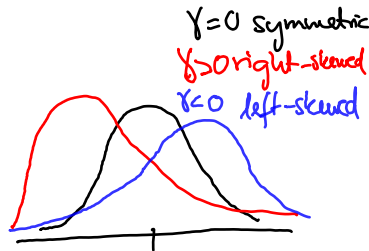
Solution: normalization

- skewness coefficient:  $\gamma = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^3]}{\sigma^3}$

- kurtosis:  $\kappa = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^4]}{\sigma^4}$

often reported as excess kurtosis  $\kappa - 3$

+ leptokurtic  
- platykurtic



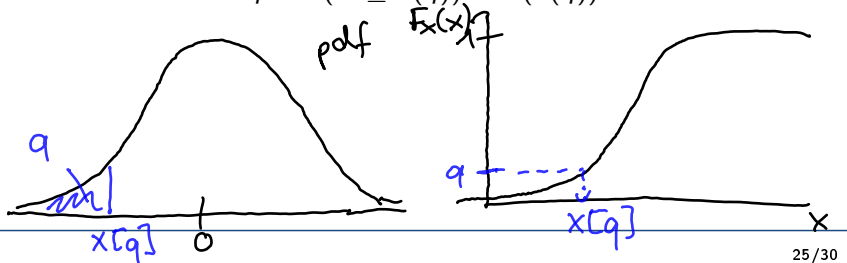
## 4.4 Quantile

### Quantile

$q\%$  of the probability mass of a random variable is left of  $x(q)$ .

Example: Risk measure Value-at-risk (VaR)

$$q = P(X \leq x(q)) = F(x(q))$$



## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

### The normal distribution

$X$  is a Gaussian or normal random variable with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  if its density function is given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) = f_X(x; \mu, \sigma)$$

denoted  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

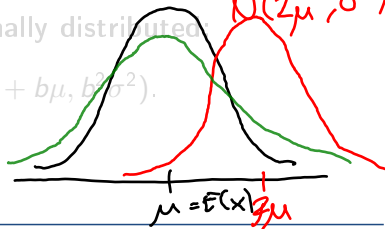
$N(\mu, 2\sigma^2)$

$N(\mu, \sigma^2)$   
 $N(2\mu, \sigma^2)$

Linear transformation is also normally distributed:

$$Z = \frac{X - E(X)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}} = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$X = Z \cdot \sigma + \mu$$



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## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

### The normal distribution

$X$  is a Gaussian or normal random variable with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  if its density function is given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

denoted  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

**Linear transformation is also normally distributed:**

If  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then  $a + bX \sim N(a + b\mu, b^2\sigma^2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} E(a+bX) &= a + bE(X) \\ \text{Var}(a+bX) &= b^2 \text{Var}(X) \end{aligned}$$

## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

Standardization of  $X$  leads to standard normal distribution:



quantile  
1. quantile of  $z$

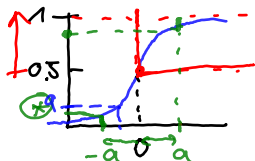
2. retransform  $x[q]$   $x = z \cdot \sigma + \mu$

Thus, if  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$ , then  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \Phi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$ .

$$a = -\frac{\mu}{\sigma}, \quad b = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$\Phi(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right)$$



Cdf:

1. standardize

2. table • table

⊗ = 1 - •

$F(-a) = 1 - F(a)$

## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

Normal distribution

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

symmetry:

$$\Phi(-z) = 1 - \Phi(z)$$

ex:

$$P(X \leq 2)$$

standardi-  
zation

$$P\left(\underbrace{\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}}_z \leq \frac{2-\mu}{\sigma}\right) = P\left(z \leq \frac{2-\mu}{\sigma}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{2-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

quantiles:

$z[q]$  from  
table

$$z[q] = -z[1-q]$$

$$x[q] = z[q] \cdot \sigma + \mu$$

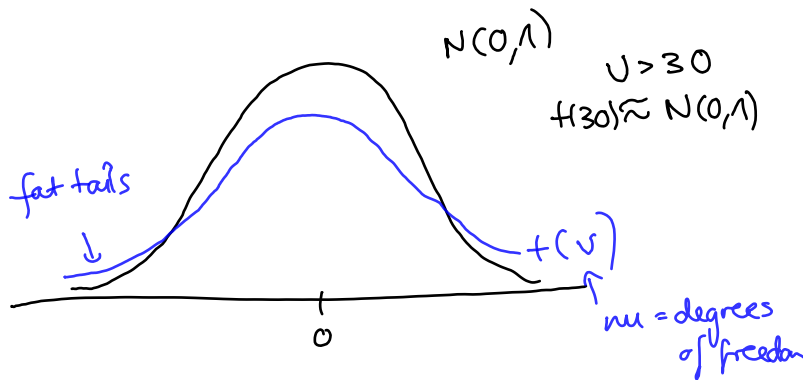
ex:

$$z[0.05] = -z[0.95]$$



## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

$t$ -distribution



## 4.5 Specific probability distributions

The  $\chi^2$  distribution:

$X$  is said to be  $\chi^2(n)$  with  $n$  degrees of freedom if

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^{\frac{n}{2}-1}}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} e^{-\frac{x}{2}} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ , then  $x = Z^2 \sim \chi^2(1)$ .

If  $Z_i$  are iid  $N(0, 1)$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i^2 \sim \chi^2(n)$ .

$$Z_1, Z_2 \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 \sim \chi^2(2)$$

