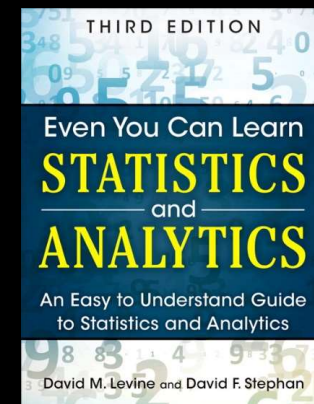


IMGD 2905

Probability

Chapters 4 & 5



Overview **GA**

- **Statistics** important for game analysis
- **Probability** important for statistics
- So, understand some **basic probability**
- Also, **probability** useful for game development



Symbols	No of combinations	Coins per win	Total coins paid
	1	160	160
	8	25	200
	27	8	216
	64	4	256
	900	0	832

Breakout 4



- What are some examples of probabilities needed for game development?
- Provide a specific example

Icebreaker, Groupwork,
Questions

<https://web.cs.wpi.edu/~imgd2905/d21/breakout/breakout-4.html>

Some examples of probabilities
for game development?

GA

Some examples of probabilities for game development?



- Probability attack will succeed
- Probability loot from enemy contains rare item
- Probability enemy spawns at particular time
- Probability action (e.g., building a castle) takes particular amount of time
- Probability players at server

Probability Introduction GA

- **Probability** – way of assigning numbers to outcomes to express likelihood of event



Outline GA

- Introduction (done)
- Probability (next)
- Probability Distributions

Probability – Definitions GA

- **Probability** – way of assigning numbers to outcomes to express likelihood of event
- **Event** – outcome of experiment or observation
 - **Elementary** – simplest type for given experiment. independent
 - **Joint/Compound** – more than one elementary



Probability – Definitions

- **Roll die** (d6) and get 6
 - elementary event
- **Roll die** (d6) and get even number
 - compound event, consists of elementary events 2, 4, and 6
- **Pick card** from standard deck and get queen of spades
 - elementary event
- **Pick card** from standard deck and get face card
 - compound event
- **Observe players logging in** to MMO server, see if two people log in less than 15 minutes apart
 - compound event

We'll treat/compute probabilities of elementary versus compound separately

Probability – Definitions

GA

- **Exhaustive set of events** – set of all possible outcomes of experiment/observation
- **Mutually exclusive sets of events** – elementary events that do not overlap
- **Roll d6: Events: 1, 2**
 - not exhaustive, mutually exclusive



Probability – Definitions

GA

- **Roll d6:** Events: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
 - exhaustive, mutually exclusive
- **Roll d6:** Events: get even number, get number divisible by 3, get a 1 or get a 5
 - exhaustive, but *not* mutually exclusive
- **Observe logins:** time between arrivals <10 seconds, 10+ and <15 seconds inclusive, or 15+ seconds
 - exhaustive, mutually exclusive
- **Observe logins:** time between arrivals <10 seconds, 10+ and <15 seconds inclusive, or 10+ seconds
 - exhaustive, but overlap



Probability – Definition



<https://goo.gl/iy3VGr>

- **Probability** – likelihood of event to occur, ratio of favorable cases to all cases
- Set of rules that probabilities must follow
 - Probabilities must be between 0 and 1 (but often written/said as **percent**)
 - Probabilities of set of *exhaustive, mutually exclusive* events must add up to 1

Probability – Definition



<https://goo.gl/iY3VGr>

- e.g., **d6**: events 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Probability of $1/6^{\text{th}}$ to each, sum of $P(1) + P(2) + P(3) + P(4) + P(5) + P(6) = 1$
→ legal set of probabilities
- e.g., **d6**: events 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Probability of $1/2$ to roll 1, $1/2$ to roll 2, and 0 to all the others sum of $P(1) + \dots + P(6) = 0.5 + 0.5 + 0 \dots + 0 = 1$
→ Also legal set of probabilities
– Not how honest d6's behave in real life!

How to Assign Probabilities?

GA

Probability Rules

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/5a14961d14aa1f245bc3942/5a1c5e8d8165f542d6db3b0e/5a0ccc7f03ce64b9a46d9906/1529981981981/Michael+Jordan+%2833%29.png?format=1500w>



Assigning Probabilities

- **Classical** (by theory)
 - In many cases, exhaustive, mutually exclusive outcomes equally likely → assign each outcome probability of $1/n$
 - e.g., *d6*: $1/6$, *Coin*: prob heads $1/2$, tails $1/2$, *Cards*: pick Ace $1/13$
- **Empirically** (by observation)
 - Obtain data through measuring/observing
 - e.g., Watch how often people play FIFA 20 in FL222 versus some other game. Say, 30% FIFA. Assign that as probability
- **Subjective** (by hunch)
 - Based on expert opinion or other subjective method
 - e.g., eSports writer says probability Fnatic (European LoL team) will win World Championship is 25%

Rules About Probabilities

(1 of 4)

GA

- **Complement:** \underline{A} an event. Event “Probability \underline{A} does not occur” called *complement* of \underline{A} , denoted A'

$$P(A') = 1 - P(A)$$

Q: why?

- e.g., d6: $P(6) = 1/6$, complement is $P(6')$ and probability of “not 6” is $1 - 1/6$, or $5/6$.
- Note: Value often denoted p , complement is q

Rules About Probabilities

(2 of 4)

GA

- **Mutually exclusive:** Have no simple outcomes in common – can't both occur in same experiment

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

– “Probability either occurs”

– e.g., d6: $P(3 \text{ or } 6) = P(3) + P(6) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{6}$

Rules About Probabilities

(3 of 4)

GA

- **Independent:** Probability that one occurs doesn't affect probability that other occurs
 - e.g., 2d6: A= die 1 get 5, B= die 2 gets 6. Independent, since result of one roll doesn't affect roll of other
 - “Probability both occur”
 $P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \times P(B)$
 - e.g., 2d6: prob of “snake eyes” is $P(1) \times P(1) = 1/6 \times 1/6 = 1/36$

Rules About Probabilities

(4 of 4)

GA

- **Not independent:** One occurs affects probability that other occurs
 - Probability both occur
$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \times P(B | A)$$
 - + Where $P(B | A)$ means the prob B given A happened
 - e.g., LoL chance of getting most kills 20%. Chance of being support is 20%. You might think that:
 - + $P(\text{kills}) \times P(\text{support}) = 0.2 \times 0.2 = 0.04$
 - But likely *not* independent. $P(\text{kills} | \text{support}) < 20\%$. So, need non-independent formula
 - + $P(\text{kills}) * P(\text{kills} | \text{support})$

(example next)



Probability Example

GA

- Probability drawing King?



Probability Example

GA

- Probability drawing King?
 $P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$
- Draw, put back. Draw. Now?



Probability Example

GA

- Probability drawing King?
 $P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$
- Draw, put back. Draw. Now?
 $P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$
- Draw. Probability *not* King?



Probability Example

GA

- Probability drawing King?

$$P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. Now?

$$P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$$

- Draw. Probability *not* King?

$$P(K') = 1 - P(K) = \frac{3}{4}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. 2 Kings?



Probability Example

GA

- Probability drawing King?

$$P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. Now?

$$P(K) = \frac{1}{4}$$

- Draw. Probability *not* King?

$$P(K') = 1 - P(K) = \frac{3}{4}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. 2 Kings?

$$P(K) \times P(K) = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16}$$



Probability Example

GA

- Draw. King or Queen?



Probability Example GA

- Draw. King or Queen?
$$P(K \text{ or } Q) = P(K) + P(Q)$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$
- Draw, put back. Draw. Not King either card?



Probability Example GA

- Draw. King or Queen?

$$\begin{aligned}P(K \text{ or } Q) &= P(K) + P(Q) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. Not King either card?

$$P(K') \times P(K') = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{16}$$

- Draw, *don't* put back. Draw. Not King either card?



Probability Example GA

- Draw. King or Queen?
$$P(K \text{ or } Q) = P(K) + P(Q)$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$
- Draw, put back. Draw. Not King either card?
$$P(K') \times P(K') = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{16}$$
- Draw, *don't* put back. Draw. Not King either card?
$$P(K') \times P(K' \mid K') = \frac{3}{4} \times (1 - \frac{1}{3})$$
$$= \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3}$$
$$= \frac{6}{12} = \frac{1}{2}$$
- Draw, don't put back. Draw. King 2nd card?



Probability Example GA

- Draw. King or Queen?

$$\begin{aligned}P(K \text{ or } Q) &= P(K) + P(Q) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

- Draw, put back. Draw. Not King either card?

$$P(K') \times P(K') = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{16}$$

- Draw, *don't* put back. Draw. Not King either card?

$$\begin{aligned}P(K') \times P(K' \mid K') &= \frac{3}{4} \times (1 - \frac{1}{3}) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3} \\ &= \frac{6}{12} = \frac{1}{2}\end{aligned}$$

- Draw, *don't* put back. Draw. King 2nd card?

$$P(K') \times P(K \mid K') = \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$$

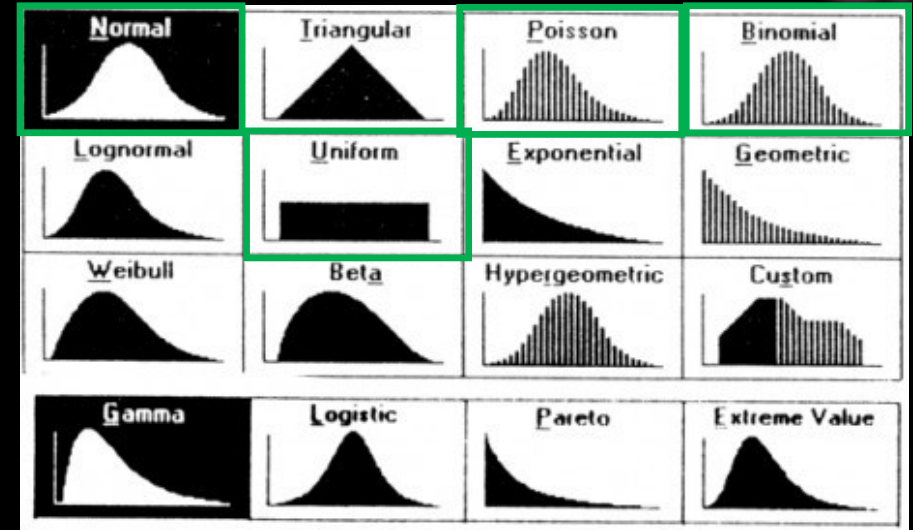
Outline

- Introduction (done)
- Probability (done)
- Probability Distributions
(next)

Probability Distributions

- **Probability distribution** – values and likelihood (expected value) that random variable can take
- Why? If can model mathematically, can use to predict occurrences
 - e.g., probability slot machine pays out on given day
 - e.g., probability game server hosts player today
 - e.g., probability certain game mode is chosen by player
 - Also, some statistical techniques for some distributions only

Probability Distributions GA



Types discussed:

Uniform (discrete)

Binomial (discrete)

Poisson (discrete)

Normal (continuous)

Uniform Distribution

GA

- “So what?”
- Can use known formulas



Uniform Distribution

GA

- “So what?”
- Can use known formulas



$$\text{Mean} = (1 + 6) / 2 = 3.5$$

$$\text{Variance} = ((6 - 1 + 1)^2 - 1) / 12 = 2.9$$

$$\text{Std Dev} = \text{sqrt}(\text{Variance}) = 1.7$$

Note – mean is also the **expected value** (if you did a lot of trials, would be average result)

Mean	$\frac{a + b}{2}$
Median	$\frac{a + b}{2}$
Mode	N/A
Variance	$\frac{(b - a + 1)^2 - 1}{12}$

Binomial Distribution

Example (1 of 3)

GA



- Suppose toss 3 coins
- Random variable
 X = number of heads
- Want to know probability of *exactly* 2 heads

$$P(X=2) = ?$$

How to assign probabilities?

Binomial Distribution

Example (1 of 3)

GA



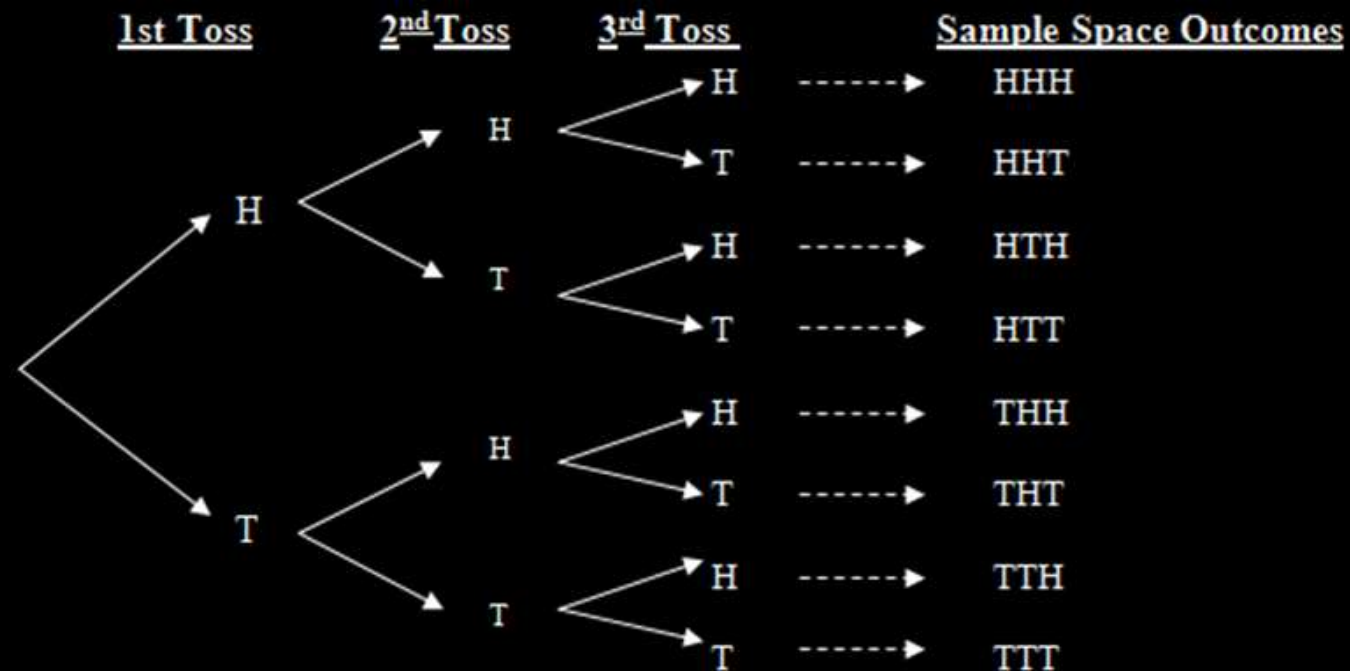
- Suppose toss 3 coins
- Random variable
 X = number of heads
- Want to know probability of *exactly* 2 heads

$$P(X=2) = ?$$

- Could *measure* (**empirical**)
- Could use “hunch” (**subjective**)
- Could use *theory* (**classical**)
 - Math using our probability rules (not shown)
 - Enumerate (next)

Binomial Distribution Example (2 of 3)

GA



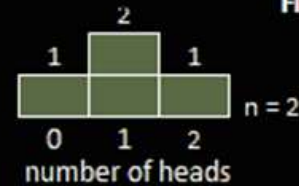
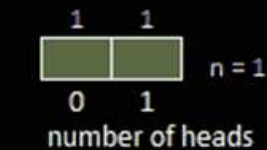
<http://web.mnstate.edu/peil/MDEV102/U3/S25/Cartesian3.PNG>

All equally likely (p is $1/8$ for each)
→ $P(\text{HHT}) + P(\text{HTH}) + P(\text{THH}) = 3/8$

Can draw histogram of
number of heads

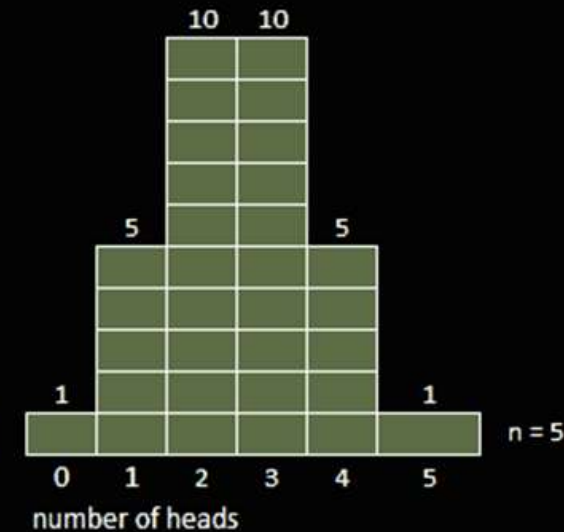
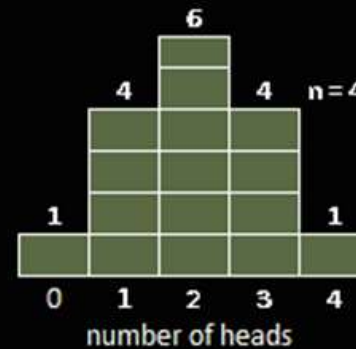
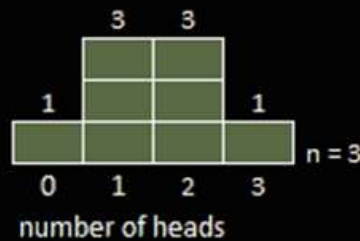
Binomial Distribution Example (3 of 3)

GA



Flip n coins.

Count the number of heads.



<http://www.mathnstuff.com/math/spoken/here/2class/90/binom2.gif>

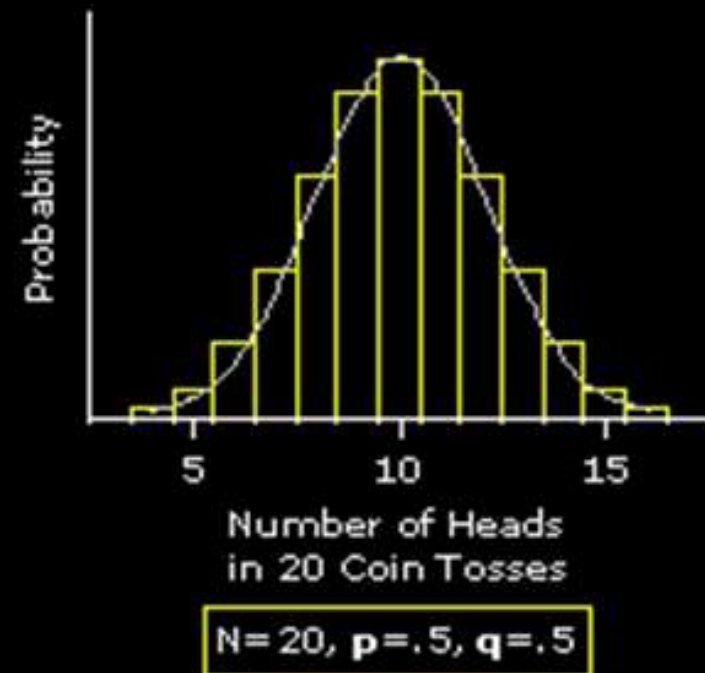
These are all binomial distributions

Note, again **expected value** - average amount you'd get if you did many trials

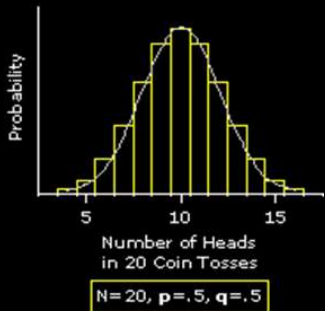
Binomial Distribution (1 of 3)

GA

- In general, any number of trials (n) & any probability of successful outcome (p) (e.g., heads)



<http://www.vassarstats.net/textbook/f0603.gif>



<http://www.vassarstats.net/textbook/f0603.gif>

Binomial Distribution

(2 of 3)

GA

- Characteristics of experiment that gives random number with binomial distribution:
 - Experiment consists of n identical trials.
 - Trials are independent
 - Each trial results in only two possible outcomes, S or F
 - Probability of S each trial is same, denoted p
 - Random variable of interest (X) is number of S 's in n trials

Binomial Distribution

(3 of 3)

GA

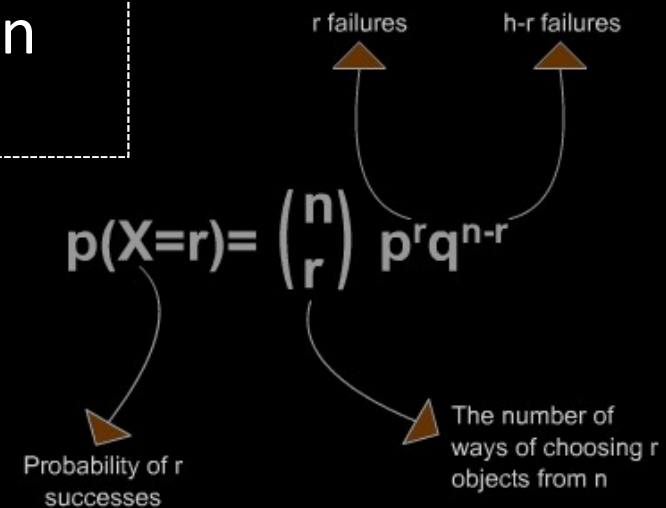
- “So what?”
- Can use known formulas

MEAN : $\mu = np$

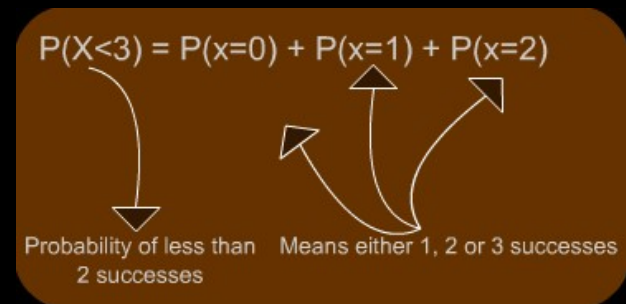
Variance : $\sigma^2 = npq$

SD : $\sigma = \sqrt{npq}$

Excel: `binom.dist()`
`binom.dist(x, trials, prob, cumulative)`
– 2 heads, 3 flips, coin, discrete
`=binom.dist(2, 3, 0.5, FALSE)`
`=0.375` (i.e., **3/8**)



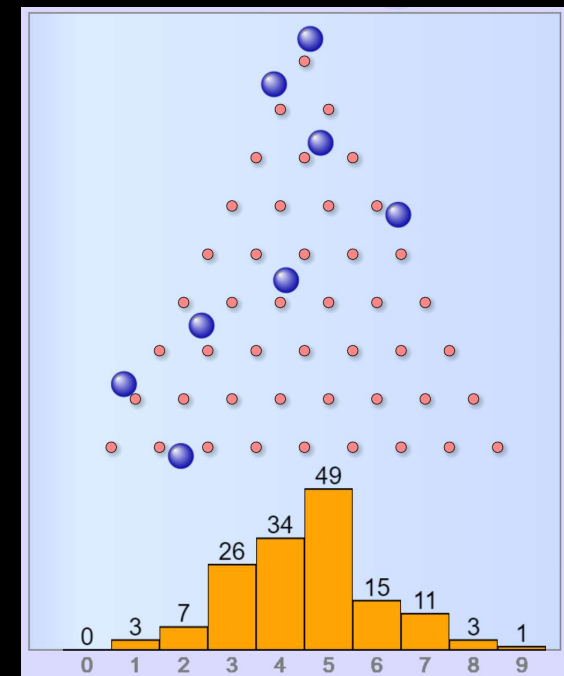
<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/gifs/a-mat-sdisc-dia08.gif>



Binomial Distribution Example

GA

- Each row is like a coin flip
 - right = “heads”
 - left = “tails”
- Bottom axis is number of heads
- Proves and “empirical” way to estimate $P(X)$
 - $\text{bin}(X) / \text{sum}(\text{bin}(0) + \text{bin}(1) + \dots)$



<https://www.mathsisfun.com/data/quincunx.html>

Poisson Distribution



- Distribution of probability of **x events occurring in certain interval** (into units)
 - Interval can be time, area, volume, distance
 - e.g., number of players arriving at server lobby in 5-minute period between noon-1pm
- Requires
 1. Probability of event same for all time units
 2. Number of events in one time unit independent of number of events in any other time unit
 3. Events occur singly (not simultaneously). i.e., as interval unit gets smaller, probability two events occurring $\rightarrow 0$

Poisson Distributions?



Not Poisson

- Number of people arriving at restaurant during dinner hour
 - People frequently arrive in groups
- Number of students registering for course in BannerWeb per hour on first day of registration
 - Prob not equal – most register in first few hours
 - Not independent – if too many register early, system crashes

Could Be Poisson

- Number of groups arriving at restaurant during dinner hour
- Number of logins to MMO during prime time
- Number of defects (bugs) per 100 lines of code
- People arriving at cash register (if they shop individually)

Phrase people use is
random arrivals

Poisson Distribution GA

- Distribution of probability of x events occurring in certain interval

- “So what?”
- Can use known formulas

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

- X = a Poisson random variable
- x = number of events whose probability you are calculating
- λ = the Greek letter “lambda,” which represents the average number of events that occur per time interval
- e = a constant that’s equal to approximately 2.71828

Poisson Distribution Example

1. Number of games student plays per day averages 1 per day
2. Number of games played per day independent of all other days
3. Can only play one game at a time
 - What's probability of playing 2 games tomorrow?
 - In this case, the value of $\lambda = 1$, want $P(X=2)$

$$P(X = 2) = e^{-1} \frac{1^2}{2!} = 0.1839$$

Current Poisson Distribution Example



- New England city
- Average new COVID-19 cases 50/day
- Local hospital has 60 free beds
- What is the probability more than 60 in one day?

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

Current Poisson Distribution Example



- New England city
- Average new COVID-19 cases 50/day
- Local hospital has 60 free beds
- What is the probability more than 60 in one day?

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} = ???$$

The equation is annotated with colored arrows and numbers: a red arrow points from the number 60 above to the exponent $-\lambda$; a green arrow points from the number 50 below to the exponent $-\lambda$; a red arrow points from the number 60 above to the variable x in the numerator; and a red arrow points from the number 60 below to the variable x in the denominator.

Current Poisson Distribution Example



- New England city
- Average new COVID-19 cases 50/day
- Local hospital has 60 free beds
- What is the probability more than 60 in one day?

<https://stattrek.com/online-calculator/poisson.aspx>

Poisson random variable (x)	60
Average rate of success	50
Poisson Probability: P(X = 60)	0.02010
Cumulative Probability: P(X < 60)	0.90774
Cumulative Probability: P(X ≤ 60)	0.92784
Cumulative Probability: P(X > 60)	0.07216
Cumulative Probability: P(X ≥ 60)	0.09226

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} = 0.02$$

Diagram illustrating the Poisson distribution formula with annotations:

- Red arrow: 60 points to the variable x in the formula.
- Green arrow: 50 points to the rate parameter λ in the formula.
- Red arrow: 60 points to the factorial term $x!$ in the denominator.
- Blue text: 0.02 is the result of the calculation.

Q: How do we get greater than 60?

Current Poisson Distribution Example



- New England city
- Average new COVID-19 cases 50/day
- Local hospital has 60 free beds
- What is the probability more than 60 in one day?

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} = 0.02$$

Diagram illustrating the Poisson distribution formula with annotations: $\lambda = 50$ (green), $x = 60$ (red), and the result 0.02 (blue).

<https://stattrek.com/online-calculator/poisson.aspx>

Poisson random variable (x)	60
Average rate of success	50
Poisson Probability: P(X = 60)	0.02010
Cumulative Probability: P(X < 60)	0.90774
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Q: How do we get greater than 60?

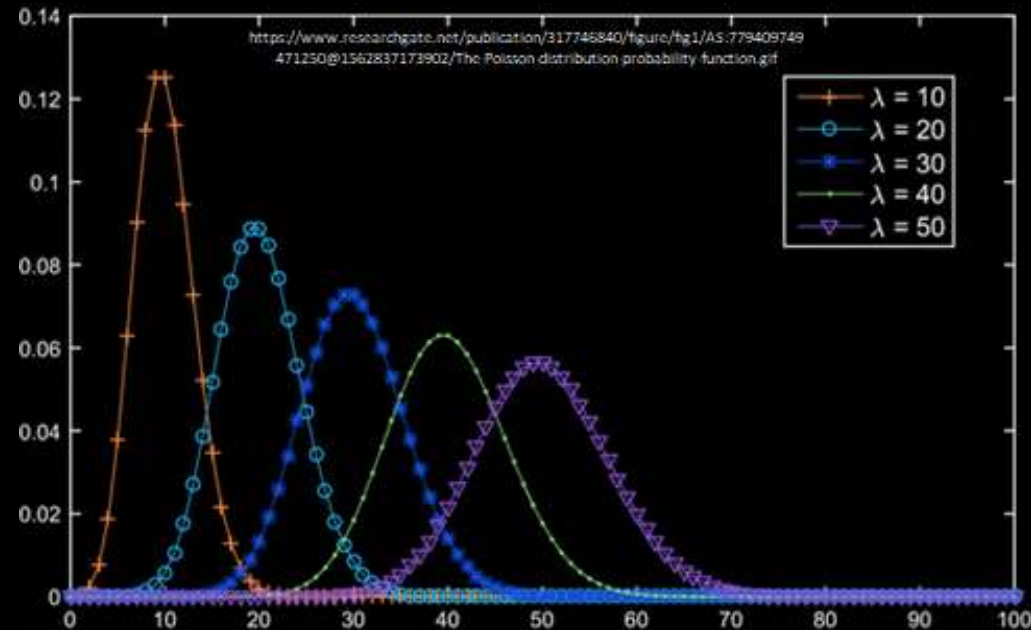
$$P(0) + P(1) + \dots + P(60) \rightarrow P(\leq 60)$$
$$P(>60) = 1 - P(\leq 60)$$


Poisson Distribution GA

- “So what?” → Known formulas

$$P(X = x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

- Mean = λ
- Variance = λ
- Std Dev = $\sqrt{\lambda}$



Excel: `poisson.dist()` 
`poisson.dist(x, mean, cumulative)`
mean 50 per day, 60 beds, chance > 60?
= 1 - POISSON.DIST(60, 50, TRUE)
= 0.07216

e.g., Games → may want to know likelihood of 1.5x average people arriving at server

Expected Value – Formulation

- **Expected value** of discrete random variable is value you'd *expect* after many experimental trials. i.e., mean value of population

Value: x_1 x_2 x_3 ... x_n

Probability: $P(x_1)$ $P(x_2)$ $P(x_3)$... $P(x_n)$

- Compute by multiplying each **value** by **probability** and summing

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_x &= E(X) = x_1 P(x_1) + x_2 P(x_2) + \dots + x_n P(x_n) \\ &= \sum x_i P(x_i)\end{aligned}$$

Expected Value Example – Gambling Game



- Pay \$3 to enter
- Roll 1d6 → 6? Get \$7 1-5? Get \$1

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Payoff</u>	<u>P(x)</u>	<u>xP(x)</u>
1-5	\$1		
6	\$7		???

Expected Value Example – Gambling Game



- Pay \$3 to enter
- Roll 1d6 → 6? Get \$7 1-5? Get \$1
- What is expected payoff?

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Payoff</u>	<u>P(x)</u>	<u>xP(x)</u>
1-5	\$1	5/6	\$5/6
6	\$7	1/6	\$7/6

$$E(X) =$$

Expected Value Example – Gambling Game



- Pay \$3 to enter
- Roll 1d6 → 6? Get \$7 1-5? Get \$1
- What is expected payoff? Expected net?

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Payoff</u>	<u>P(x)</u>	<u>xP(x)</u>
1-5	\$1	5/6	\$5/6
6	\$7	1/6	\$7/6

$$E(X) = \$5/6 + \$7/6 = \$12/6 = \$2$$

$$E(\text{net}) =$$

Expected Value Example – Gambling Game



- Pay \$3 to enter
- Roll 1d6 → 6? Get \$7 1-5? Get \$1
- What is expected payoff? Expected net?

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Payoff</u>	<u>P(x)</u>	<u>xP(x)</u>
1-5	\$1	5/6	\$5/6
6	\$7	1/6	\$7/6

$$E(X) = \$5/6 + \$7/6 = \$12/6 = \$2$$

$$E(\text{net}) = E(X) - \$3 = \$2 - \$3 = \$-1$$

Outline GA

- Introduction (done)
- Probability (done)
- Probability Distributions
 - Discrete (done)

So far random variable could take only discrete set of values

Q: *What does that mean?*

Q: *What other distributions consider?*

Outline GA

- Introduction (done)
- Probability (done)
- Probability Distributions
 - Discrete (done)
 - Continuous (next)

Continuous Distributions GA

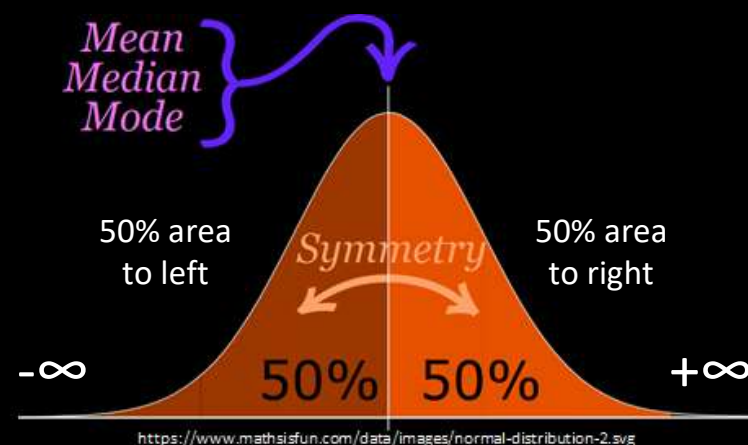
- Many random variables are **continuous**
 - e.g., recording *time* (time to perform service) or measuring something (*height, weight, strength*)
- For continuous, doesn't make sense to talk about $P(X=x)$ → continuum of possible values for X
 - Mathematically, if all non-zero, total probability infinite (this violates our rule)
- So, continuous distributions have probability density, $f(x)$
 - How to use to calculate probabilities?
 - Don't care about specific values
e.g., $P(\text{Height} = 60.1946728163 \text{ inches})$
 - Instead, ask about *range* of values
e.g., $P(59.5'' < X < 60.5'')$
 - Uses calculus (integrate area under curve) (not shown here)

Q: What continuous distribution is **especially** important?

Normal Distribution (1 of 2)

GA

- “Bell-shaped” or “Bell-curve”
 - Distribution from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$
- Symmetric
- Mean, median, mode all same
 - Mean determines location, standard deviation determines “width”



- Super important!
 - Lots of distributions follow a normal curve
 - Basis for inferential statistics (e.g., statistical tests)
 - “Bridge” between probability and statistics

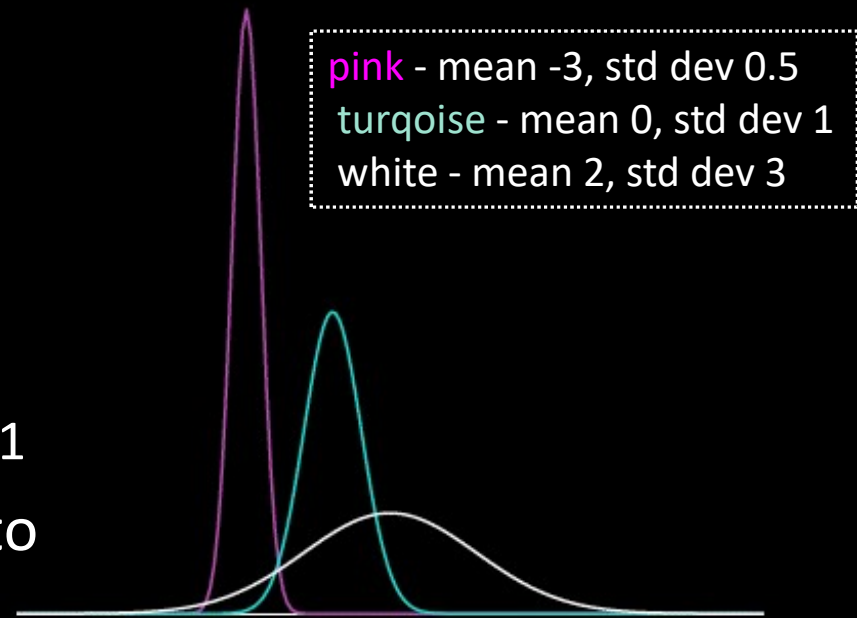
Aka “Gaussian” distribution

Normal Distribution (2 of 2)

GA

- *Many* normal distributions (see right)
- However, “the” normal distribution refers to **standard normal**
 - Mean (μ) = 0
 - Standard deviation (σ) = 1
- Can *convert* any normal to the standard normal
 - Given sample **mean** (\bar{x})
 - Sample **standard dev.** (s)

(Next)



=norm.dist()

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

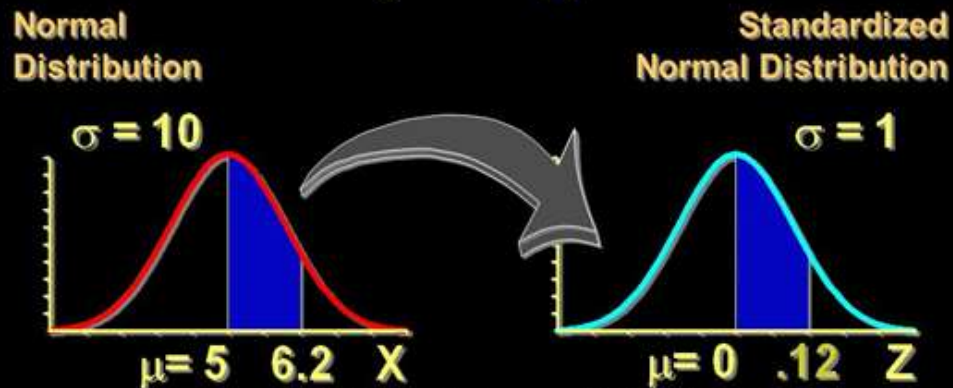
Standard Normal Distribution GA

- Standardize
 - Subtract sample mean (\bar{x})
 - Divide by sample standard deviation (s)
- Mean $\mu = 0$
- Standard Deviation $\sigma = 1$
- Total area under curve = 1

Remember the Z-score?

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} = \frac{6.2 - 5}{10} = .12$$

Sounds like probability!



Use to predict how likely an observed sample is given population mean (next)

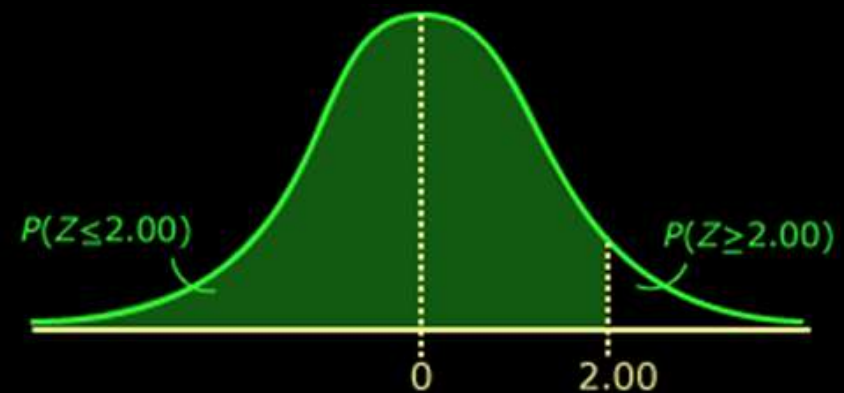
Using the Standard Normal

GA

- Suppose *League of Legends* Champion released once every **24 days** on average, standard deviation of **3 days**
- What is the probability Champion released **30+ days**?
- $x = 30$, $\bar{x} = 24$, $s = 3$

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= (x - \bar{X}) / s \\ &= (30 - 24) / 3 \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

- Want to know $P(Z > 2)$



http://ci.columbia.edu/ci/premba_test/c0331/s6/s6_4.html

Q: how? Hint: what rule might help?

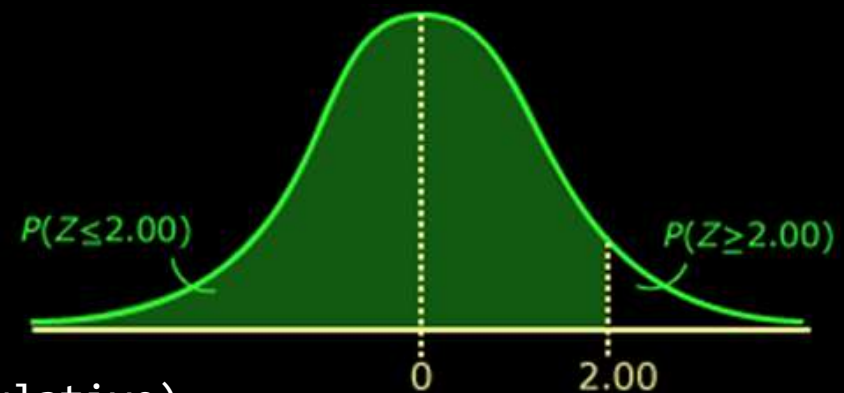
Using the Standard Normal

GA

- Suppose *League of Legends* Champion released once every **24 days** on average, standard deviation of **3 days**
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$$\begin{aligned} Z &= (x - \bar{X}) / s \\ &= (30 - 24) / 3 \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

- Want to know $P(Z > 2)$



```
=norm.dist(x,mean,stddev,cumulative)  
= 1 - norm.dist( 30, 24, 3, true )
```

http://ci.columbia.edu/ci/premba_test/c0331/s6/s6_4.html



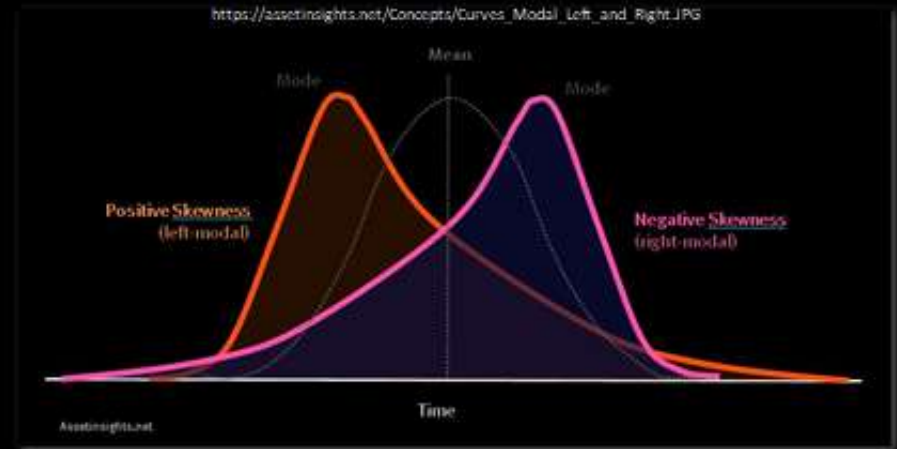
Empirical Rule. Or use table (Z-table)
→ $5\% / 2 = 2.5\%$ likely (Z-table is 2.28%)

Test for Normality GA

- Why?
 - Can use **Empirical Rule**
 - Use some inferential statistics (parametric tests)
- How?
 1. Measure skewness (*next*)
 2. Looks normal
 - + **Histogram**
 - + **Normal probability plot** (QQ plot) – graphical technique to see if data set is approximately normally distributed
 3. Statistical test
 - + Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (K-S) or Shapiro-Wilk (S-W) that compare to normal (won't do, but ideas in next slide deck)

Measuring Skewness

GA



$$\frac{\text{mean} - \text{mode}}{\text{standard deviation}}$$

$$\frac{\frac{Q_3 + Q_1}{2} - Q_2}{\frac{Q_3 - Q_1}{2}}$$

- Measure of symmetry of distribution
 - Normal is perfectly symmetric, skewness 0

=skew(A1:A10)

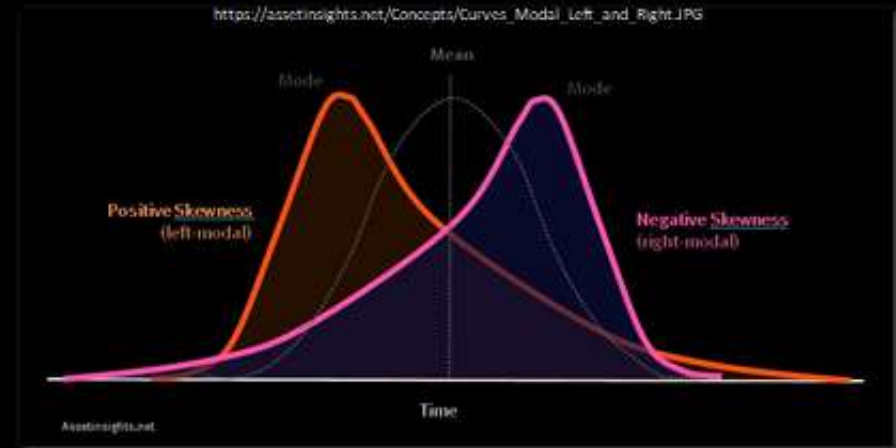


$$\frac{n}{(n-1)(n-2)} \sum \left(\frac{x_j - \bar{x}}{s} \right)^3$$

“Fisher–Pearson standardized moment”

Measuring Skewness

GA



- “How much” is non-normal?
 - Somewhat arbitrary
 - Less than **-1** or greater than **+1**
 - **Highly skewed**
 - Between **[-1, -0.5]** or **[0.5, +1]**
 - **Moderately skewed**
 - Between **-0.5** and **0.5**
 - **Symmetric**
- [Note, related “**Kurtosis**” is how clumped]

Skewness Examples



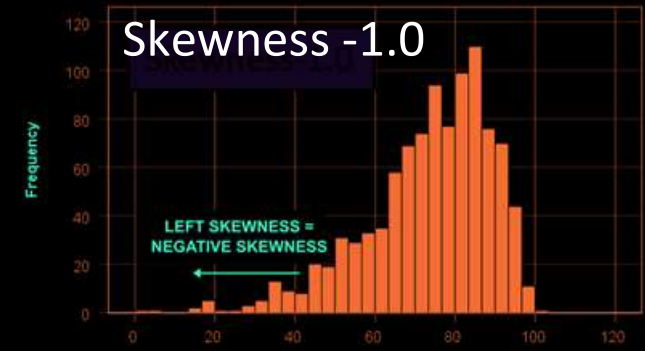
Score Distribution Test 5 N = 1,000 | Skewness = 2.0



www.apss-tutorials.com

Test Score 5

Score Distribution Test 2 N = 1,000 | Skewness = -1.0



www.apss-tutorials.com

Test Score 2

Score Distribution Test 3 N = 1,000 | Skewness = 0.1

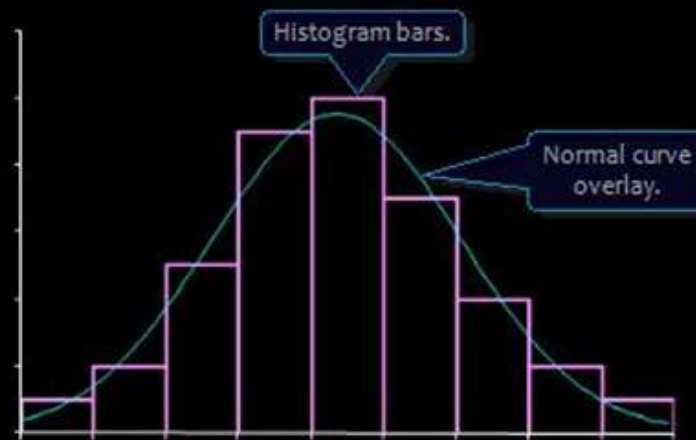


Test Score 3

Normality Testing with a Histogram

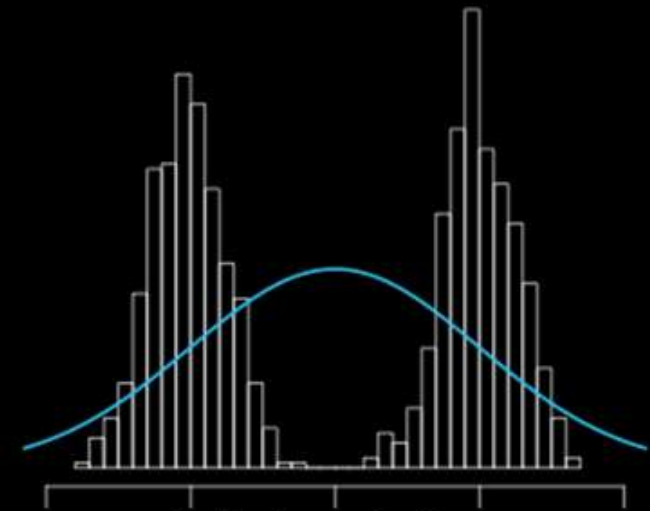
GA

- Use histogram shape to look for “bell curve”



http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_g8gh7I4zSt4/TR85eGJIMf/AAAAAAAAAQs/PaOHsjonPM/s1600/histo.JPG

Yes

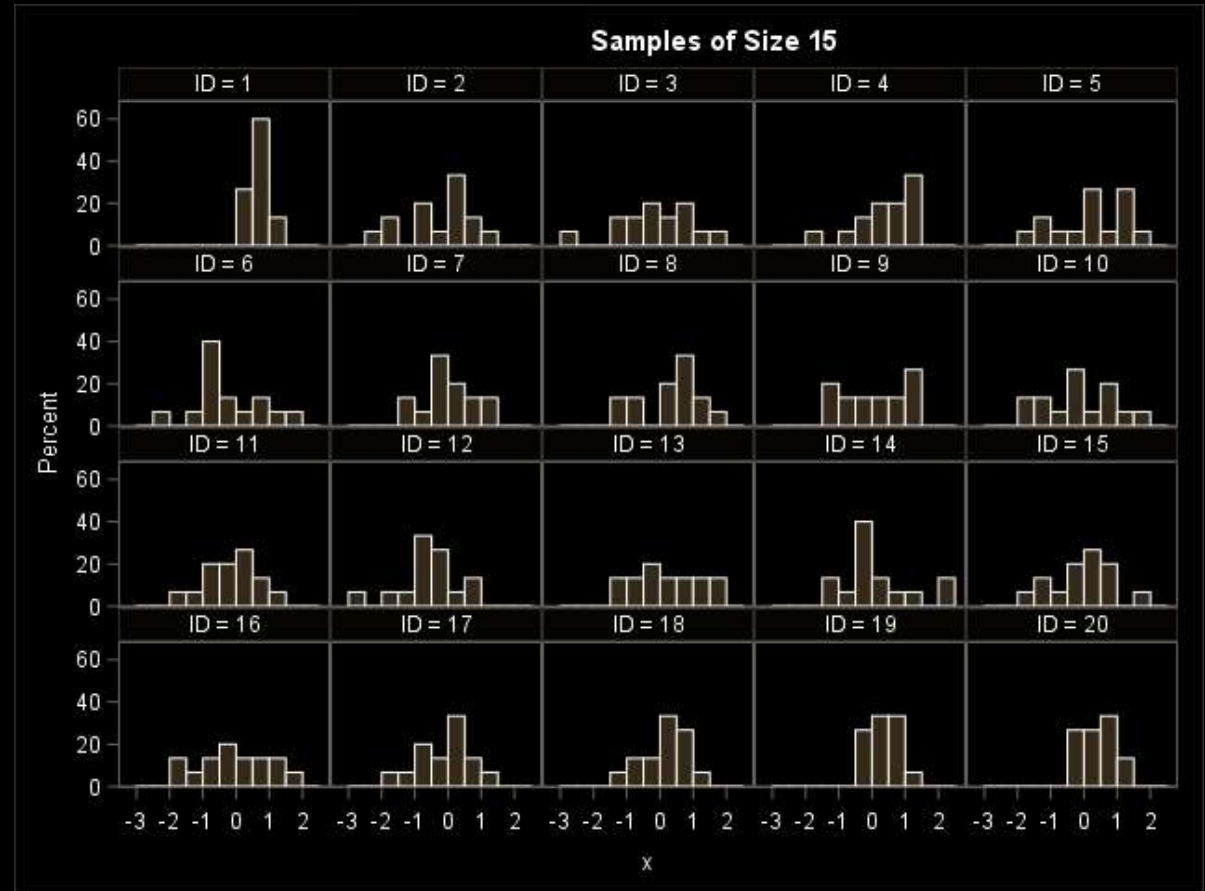


<http://seankross.com/img/biqq.png>

No

Normality Testing with a Histogram

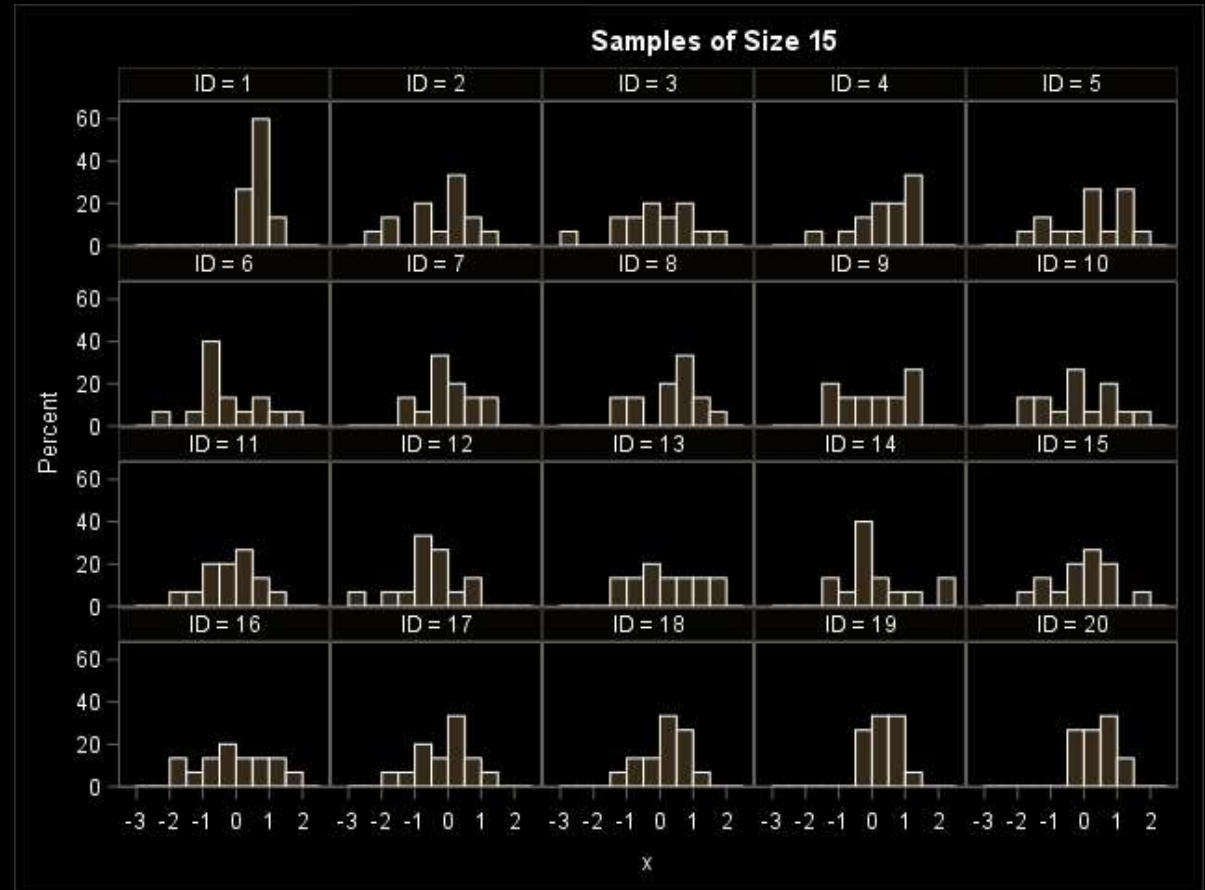
GA



Q: What distributions are these from? Any normal?

Normality Testing with a Histogram

GA



Suffer from:

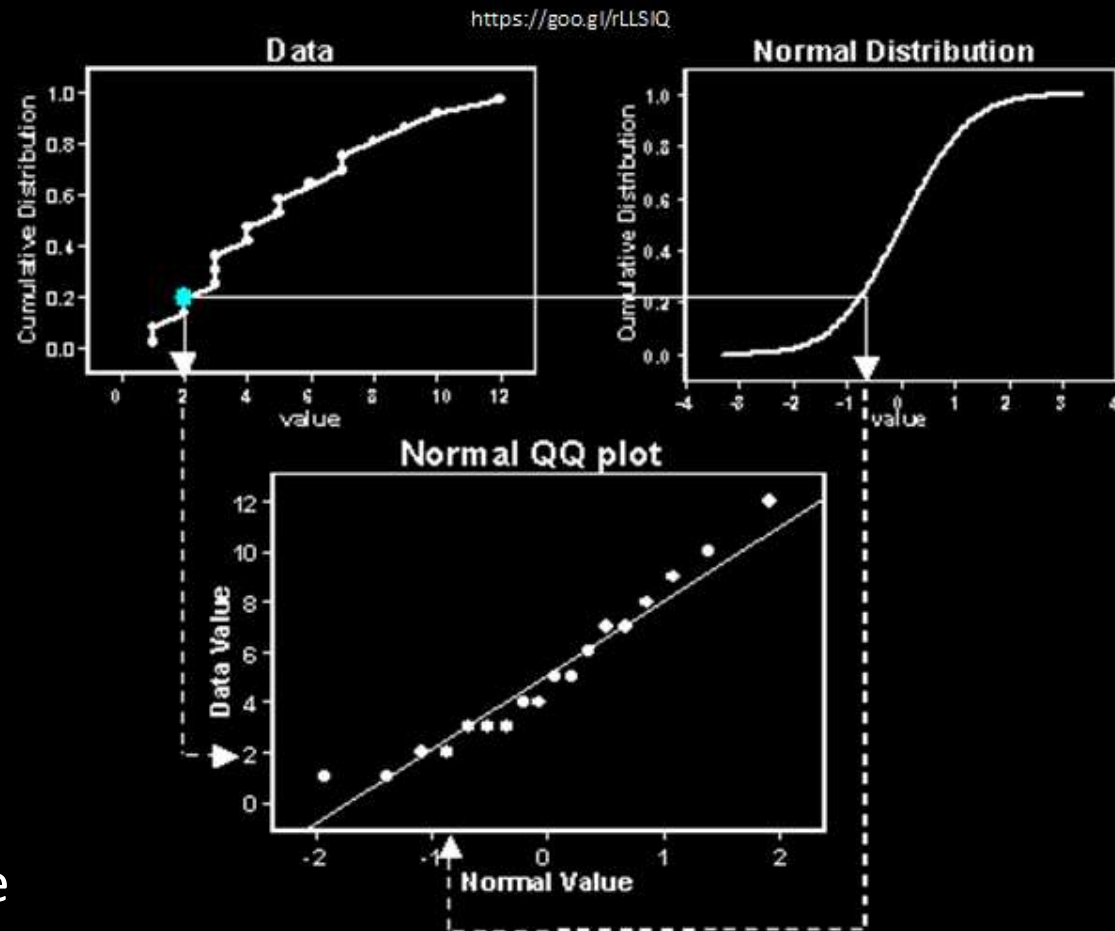
- **Binning** (not continuous)
- **Few samples** (15)

They are *all* from **normal distribution!**

Normality Testing with a Quantile-Quantile Plot

GA

- Percentiles (quantiles) of one versus another
 - If line \rightarrow same distribution
1. Order data
 2. Compute Z scores (normal)
 3. Plot data (y-axis) versus Z (x-axis)
- Normal? \rightarrow line



Quantile-Quantile Plot Example



- Do the following values come from a normal distribution?

7.19, 6.31, 5.89, 4.5, 3.77, 4.25, 5.19,
5.79, 6.79

1. Order data
2. Compute Z scores
3. Plot data versus Z

Show each
step, next

Quantile-Quantile Plot Example – Order Data



Unordered

7.19

6.31

5.89

4.50

3.77

4.25

5.19

5.79

6.79

Ordered

3.77

4.25

4.50

5.19

5.89

5.79

6.31

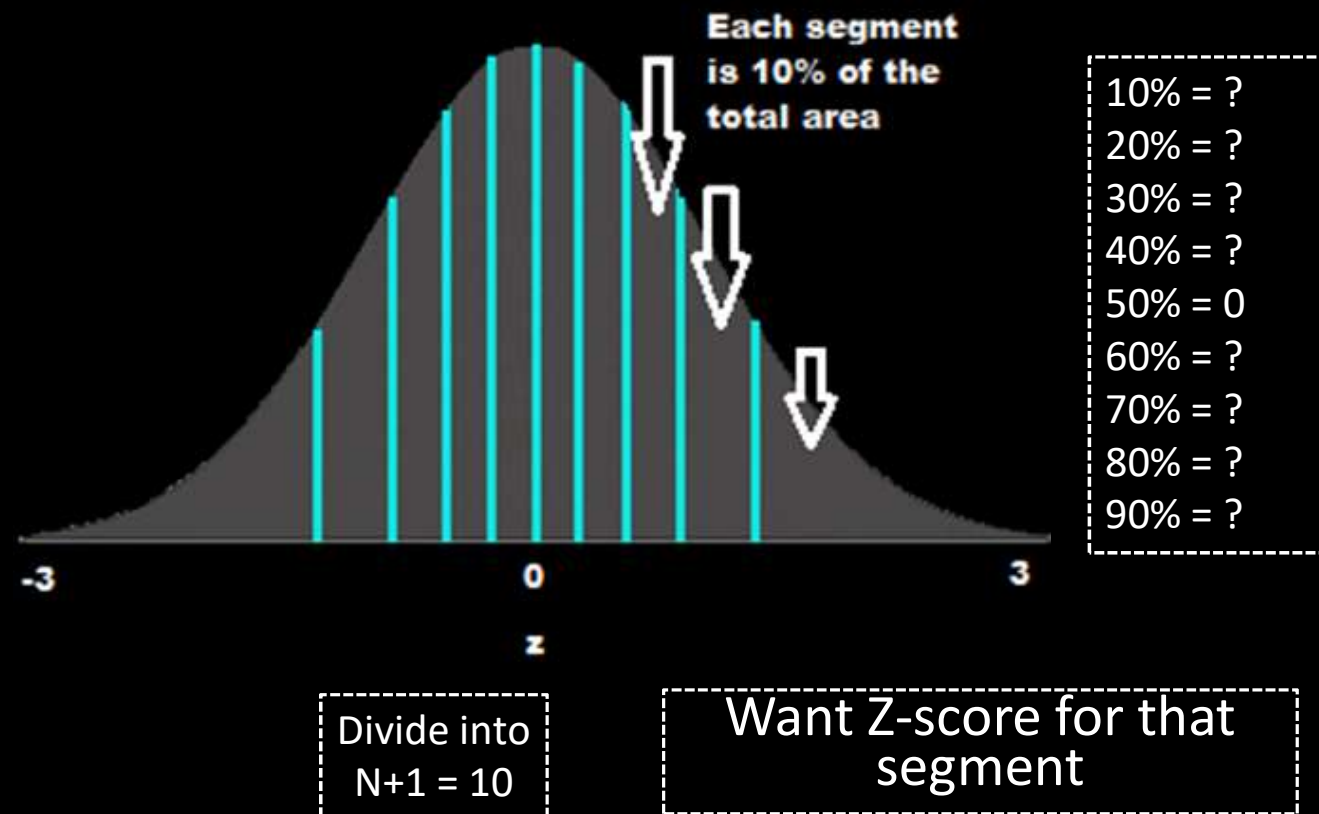
6.79

7.19



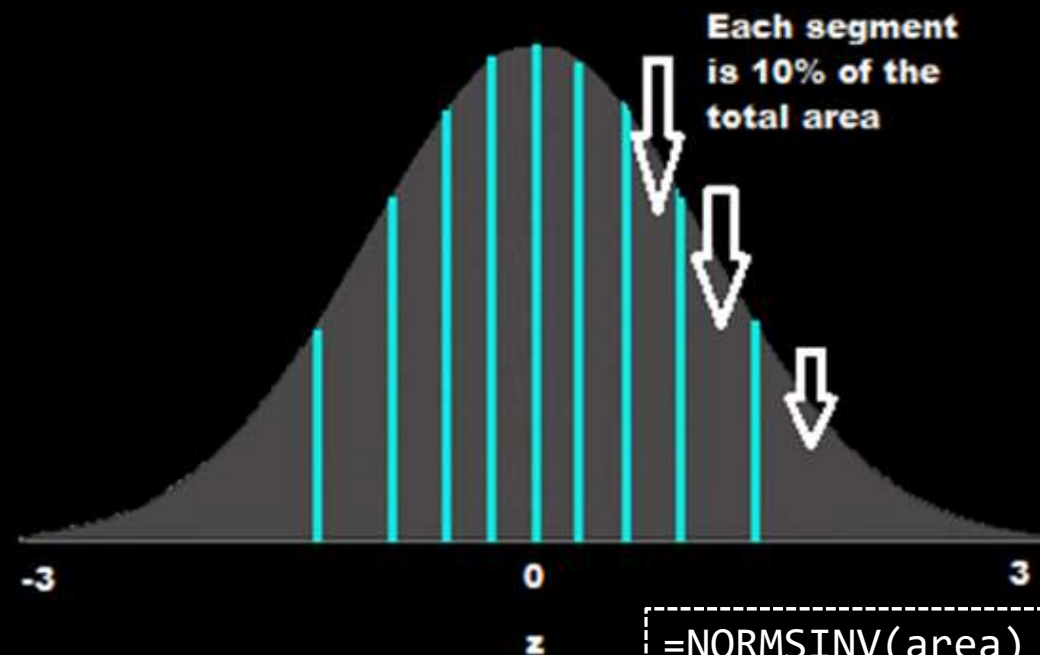
N = 9 data points

Quantile-Quantile Plot Example – Compute Z scores



Quantile-Quantile Plot Example – Compute Z scores

GA



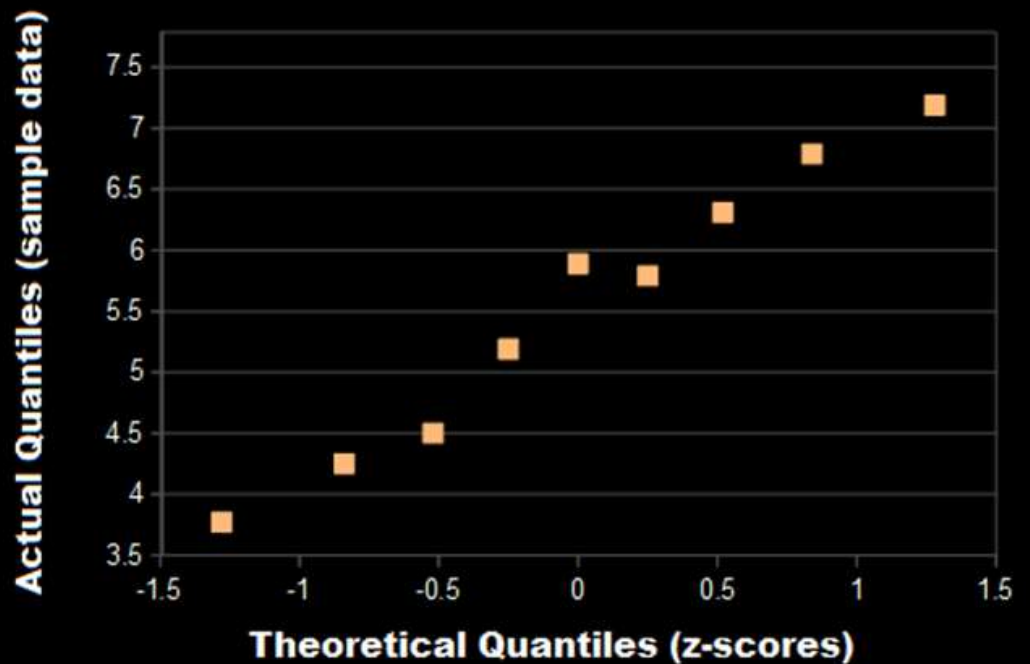
10%	= -1.28
20%	= -0.84
30%	= -0.52
40%	= -0.25
50%	= 0
60%	= 0.25
70%	= 0.52
80%	= 0.84
90%	= 1.28

=NORMSINV(area) – provide Z for area under standard normal curve
=NORMSINV(.80)
=0.841621



Quantile-Quantile Plot Example – Plot

GA



Linear? → Normal

Quantile-Quantile Plots in Excel



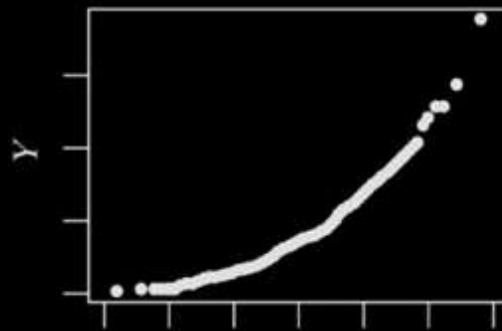
- Mostly, a manual process. Do as per above.
- Example of step by step process (with spreadsheet):
<http://facweb.cs.depaul.edu/cmiller/it223/normQuant.html>



<https://i2.wp.com/www.real-statistics.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/qq-plot-normality.jpg>

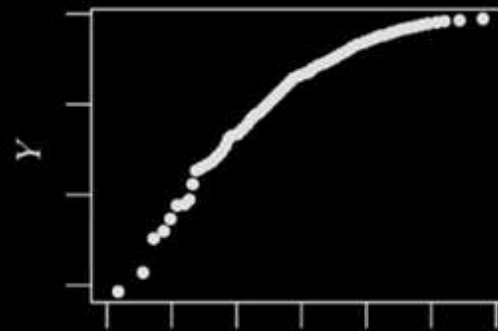
Examples of Normality Testing with a Quantile-Quantile Plot

GA



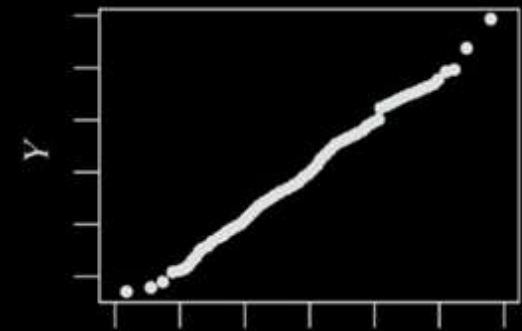
Normal scores

(a)



Normal scores

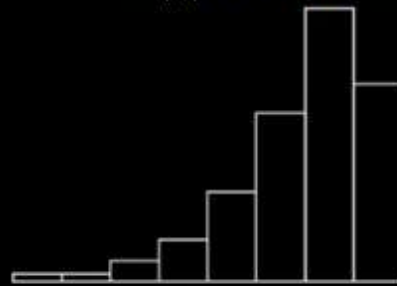
(b)



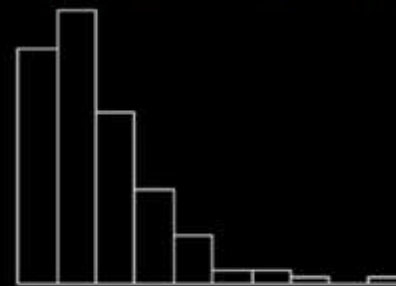
Normal scores

(c)

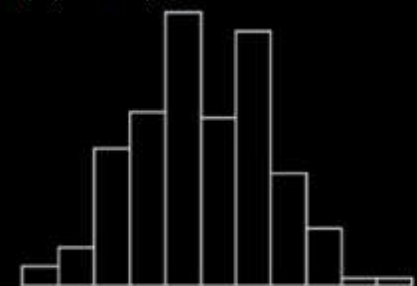
<http://d2v1cm61i7u1fs.cloudfront.net/media%2Fb95%2Fb953e7cd-31c3-45b0-a8ec-03b0e81c95d1%2Fphp2Y86od.png>



Y



Y



Y