

Econ 422 Lec 11

Note Title

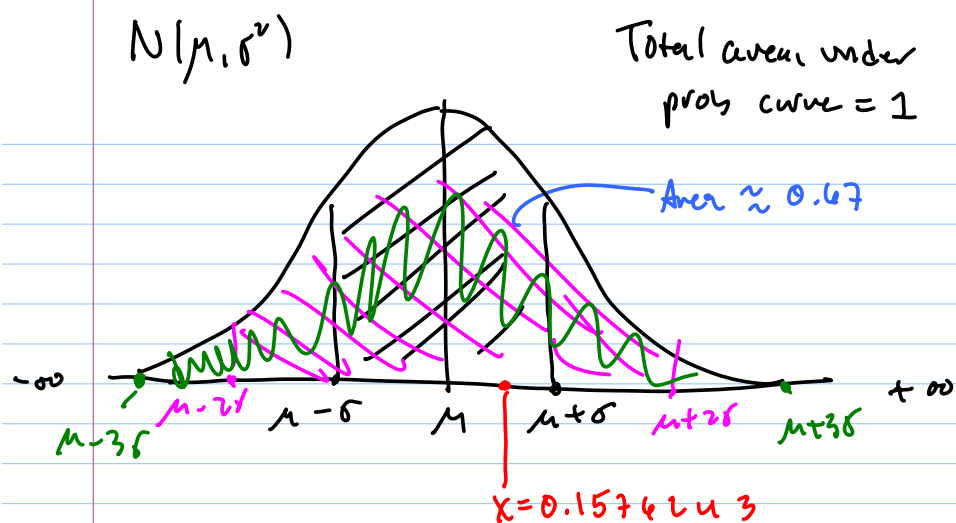
8/5/2010

Probability with continuous random variables

$X =$ monthly total rate of return

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

X is distributed as normal with mean μ and variance σ^2



Q: What is $\Pr(X = 0.1576243) = 0$

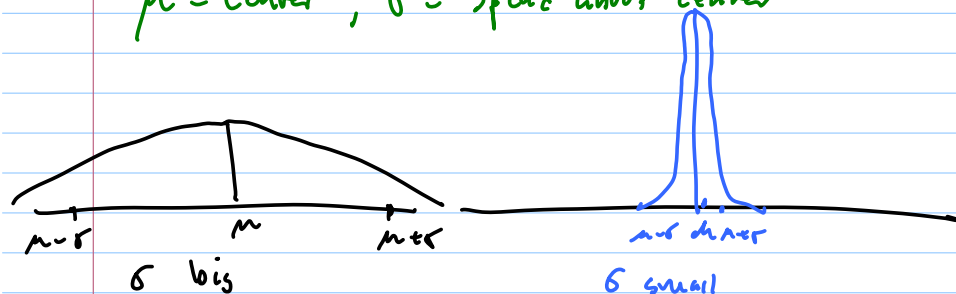
but probability over intervals are well defined

$$\Pr(\mu - \sigma \leq X \leq \mu + \sigma) = 0.67$$

$$\Pr(\mu - 2\sigma \leq X \leq \mu + 2\sigma) = 0.95$$

$$\Pr(\mu - 3\sigma \leq X \leq \mu + 3\sigma) \approx 0.99$$

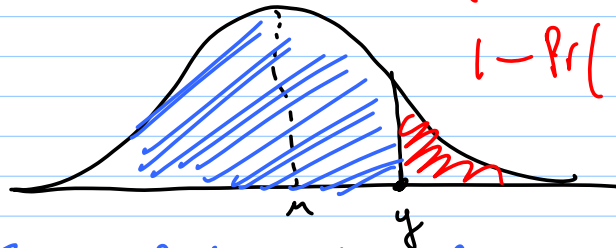
μ = Center ; σ = spread about center



CPF for Normal

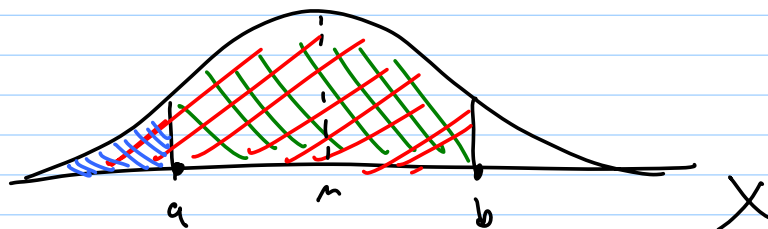
$$\Pr(X \geq y) =$$

$$1 - \Pr(X \leq y)$$



$$F_X(y) = \Pr(X \leq y) = \text{Area under curve to the left of } y$$

Finding Areas (probabilities) over intervals



$$\Pr(a \leq X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$$

Normal distn

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

pdf

x

$$= \Phi\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$F_x(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y f(x) dx = \text{doesn't have analytic expression}$$

must be evaluated numerically

Excel function NORMDIST(L)

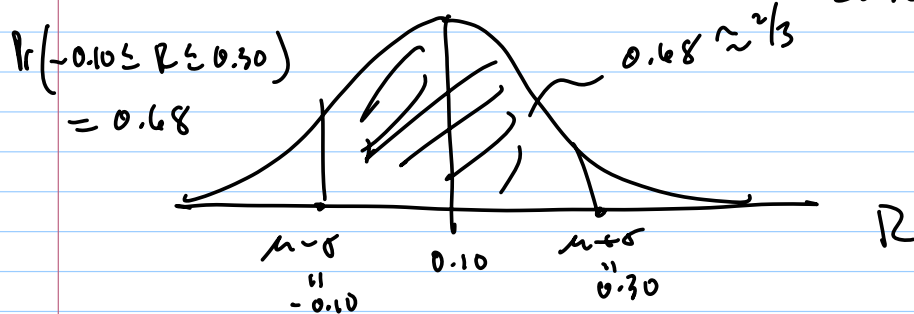
(computes both $F_x(y)$ and $f(x)$)

Expected Value for Discrete RV

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in \Omega} x \cdot \Pr(X=x)$$

$$= 40 \cdot (0.25) + 45 \cdot (0.30) + 50 \cdot (0.4) + 60 \cdot (0.05) = 46.5$$

Ex: $R \sim N(0.10, (0.20)^2)$ $V(R) = (0.20)^2$
 $\mu = 0.10$, $\sigma = 0.20$, $E[R] = \mu = 0.10$



Invest in matt over next ~~for~~ year

$$W_1 = W_0(1+R)$$

↑ ↑ ↑
FV PV annual rate of return.

$$= 10,000(1+R)$$

$$W_1 = 10,000 + 10,000 \times R$$

$$E\{W_1\} = E\{10,000 + 10,000 \times R\}$$

$$= 10,000 + 10,000 \cdot E\{R\}$$

$$= 10,000 + 10,000 \times (0.10)$$

$$= 11,000$$

$$\text{Find } SD(W_1) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(W_1)}$$

$$W_i = 10,000 + 10,000 * R$$

$$V(W_i) = V(10,000 + 10,000 * R)$$

$$= (10,000)^2 * V(R)$$

$$= (10,000)^2 * (0.20)^2$$

$$SD(W_i) = \sqrt{V(W_i)} = 10,000 (0.20) = 2,000$$

Q: What is the distribution of W_i ?

$$A: W_i \sim N(E(W_i), V(W_i))$$

$$\text{b/c } W_i = 10,000 + 10,000 * R$$

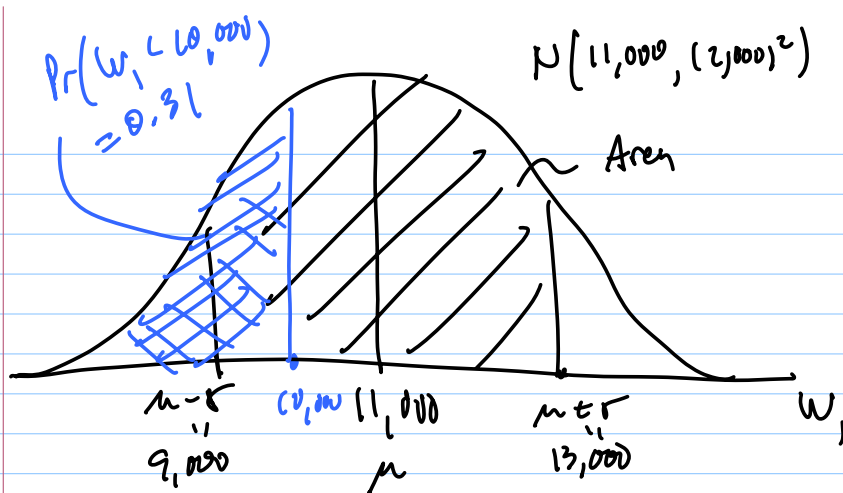
$$R \sim N(0.10, (0.20)^2)$$

$$E\{W_1\} = 11,000$$

$$V\{W_1\} = (10,000)^2 (0.20)^2 = (2,000)^2$$

$$SD\{W_1\} = 10,000 (0.20) = 2,000$$

$$W_1 \sim N(11,000, (2,000)^2)$$



$$\Pr(9,000 \leq W_1 \leq 13,000) \approx 2/3$$

