ECO239

Week 13















Describing variability using the 68-95-99.7 Rule

SAT scores are distributed nearly normally with mean 1500 and standard deviation 300.















Q-Q Plot (Quartile-Quartile Plot)

- In R, **qqnorm()** function can be used to create a Quantile-Quantile plot evaluating the fit of sample data to the normal distribution.
- More generally, the **qqplot()** function creates a Quantile-Quantile plot for any theoretical distribution to test if two data sets come from populations with a common distribution.





How to draw a normal probability plot by hand

- 1. Arrange x-values in ascending order.
- 2. Calculate $fi = \frac{i 0.375}{n + 0.25}$, where I is the position of the data value in the ordered list and n is the number of observations.
- 3. Find the z-score for each fi.
- 4. Plot x-values on the horizontal axis and the corresponding z-score on the vertical axis.







• Normal Probability Plot

(Watch this at home)





Practice

- A salesman makes initial phone contact, then visit their homes if she assesses it is worthwhile. She knows that 40% of phone calls lead to follow-up visits.
- Q: If she contact 100 people by phone, what is the probability that between 45 and 50 home visits (including 45 and 50) will result?
- 1. Direct method using Binomial Distribution.
- 2. Using Normal Approximation Method.









Comparing with Poisson Distribution

Poisson: probability of x successes during a time unit (e.g. 5 minutes): RV (X) is # of successes (discrete variable).

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

• Exponential: probability that **a success** will occur during **an interval of time t**. RV (t) is time (continuous variable).

$$f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t}$$
 for $t \ge 0$













Practice Px~N(25, 9), Py~N(40,11) • Nx=20 (# of Stock X) • NY=30 (# of Stock Y) • Cor(X,Y)=-0.40. Q: find the probability that the portfolio (W=20Px+30Py) value exceeds 2000. E(W)=20*25+30*40=1700 Var(W)=400*81+900*121+2*20*30*(-0.4)*9*11 = 98780 Stdev(W)=306.24 P(W>2000)=P(z> (2000-1700)/306.24) = P(z>0.98)=1-F(0.98)=10.8365=0.1635. The probability for the portfolio value to exceed 2000 is 16.35%.