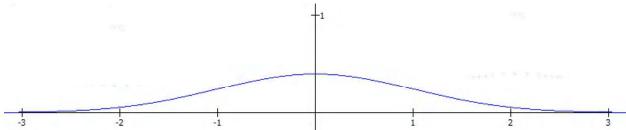
6.2: Areas Under the Standard Normal Curve

Areas under the standard normal curve:

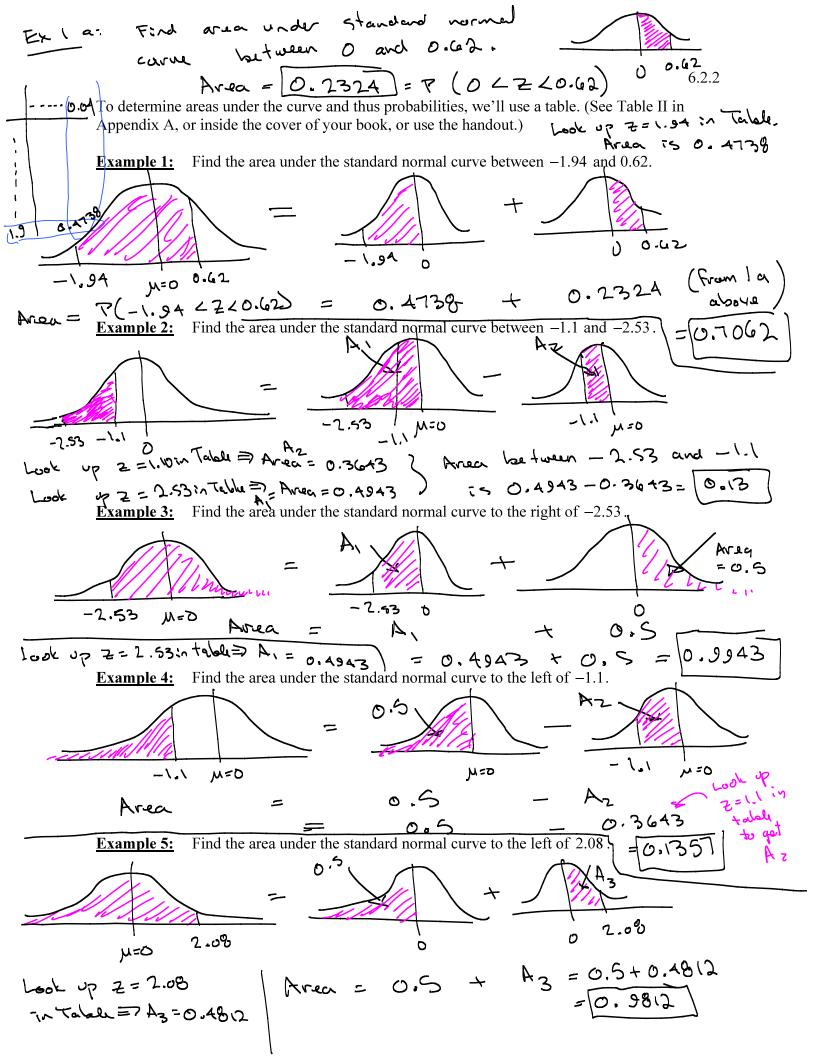
One of the many remarkable things about normal curves is that for any normal curve, with any mean and standard deviation, the areas under the curve (and thus the associated probabilities and percentages) can be determined easily by using only one table.

The standard normal curve:



Properties of the Standard Normal Curve:

- 1. It is bell-shaped and symmetric about the line x = 0.
- 2. The standard normal distribution has mean 0 and standard deviation 1. ($\mu = 0$, $\sigma = 1$)
- 3. The area between the curve and the horizontal axis is always 1. (This corresponds to the fact that all the probabilities in a distribution must add up to 1.)
- 4. The curve approaches the *x*-axis asymptotically. (It gets closer and closer to the *x*-axis but never intersects it; the curve extends indefinitely in both directions).
- 5. The values on the *x*-axis can be thought of as *z*-scores.
- 6. Regardless of the shape,
 - 68.3% of the area is between 1 and -1.
 - 95.4% of the area is between 2 and -2.
 - 99.7% of the area is between 3 and -3.
- 7. The curve has inflection points at 1 and -1.



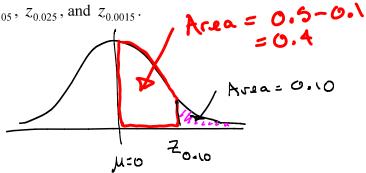
Finding a z-score associated with a certain area:

The symbol z_{α} indicates the z-score which has an area α to its right.

Z

Example 6: Find $z_{0.10}$, $z_{0.05}$, $z_{0.025}$, and $z_{0.0015}$.

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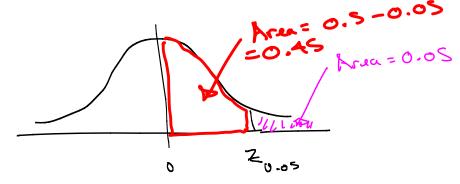


Look up Area = 0.4 in table (Look for Area = 0.4, not Z = 0.4)

Closest area is 0.3997, associated with Z=1.28

50/20.0~01.28

Find Zo.05

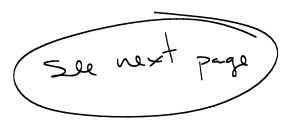


Look up Area = 0.45 in table.

Area of 0.45 is halfway between 0.4495 and 0.4505, associated with z scores 1.64 and 1.65

Choose 2 halfway between, so Z=1.645

So \ Zo.05 ≈ 1.645.



Find Zo.025.

Area = 0.5 - 0.025

Area = 0.025

Look up area = 0.4750 in talale.

Associated Z-scola 75 (.96, 50 \Z0.025= (.96)