

# NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

The most popular continuous distribution in the theoretical listing of outcomes and probabilities is Normal Distribution. Normal Distribution was first described by A.D. Moivre in 1733 as a limiting form of Binomial Distribution. Normal Distribution is also known as Normal Probability Distribution.

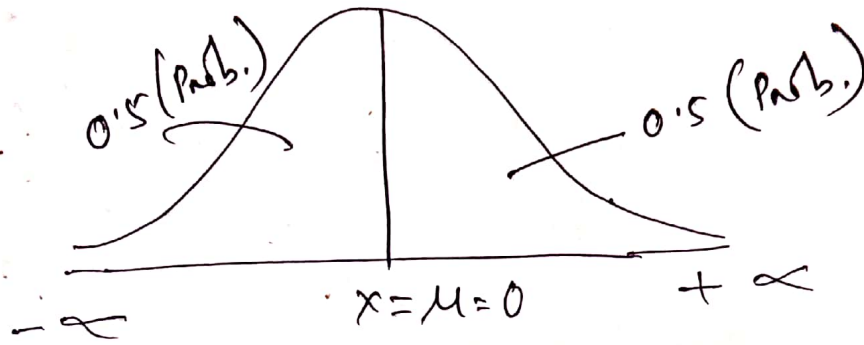
A random variable 'x' is said to have a Normal Distribution with parameters  $\mu$  (Mean) and  $\sigma^2$  (variance) if the probability density function is given by —

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

$$-\infty < x < +\infty$$

Therefore, if a random variable x follows a Normal Distribution with two parameters  $\mu$  to  $\sigma^2$  then it is denoted by —  
$$x \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

The graphical presentation of Normal Distribution is given by —



The Normal Distribution Curve may have different shapes depending on different values of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  but there is one and only one pair of values for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  for which the curve is normally distributed.

A few properties of Normal Distribution are given below —

① Normal Distribution curve is symmetrical about the point  $x = \mu$ .

②  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  are the parameters of normal probability Distribution.

③ Normal Distribution is a limiting case of Binomial Distribution, when —

Ⓐ 'n' is infinite

Ⓑ Neither  $p$  nor  $q$  is very small.

④ Normal Distribution is a limiting case of Poisson Distribution when its mean is large.

⑤ The two tails of Normal Distribution extend indefinitely and never touch the horizontal axis.

⑥ Probability of Normal Distribution Curve equally divides into two parts at the point  $x = \mu$ . etc.