

Stein's Lemma

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Suppose X is a normally distributed random variable with expectation μ and variance σ^2 . Further suppose g is a function for which the two expectations $E(g(X)(X - \mu))$ and $E(g'(X))$ both exist (the existence of the expectation of any random variable is equivalent to the finiteness of the expectation of its absolute value). Then

$$E(g(X)(X - \mu)) = \sigma^2 E(g'(X)) \quad (1)$$

In general, suppose X and Y are jointly normal distributed, Then

$$\text{Cov}(g(X), Y) = \text{Cov}(X, Y) E(g'(X)) \quad (2)$$