



$$\phi(x) \approx \underbrace{\phi(\mu_x) + (x - \mu_x) \phi'(\mu_x)}_{\text{1st order}} + \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_x)^2 \phi''(\mu_x)$$

$$\phi'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}, \quad \phi''(x) = -\frac{1}{4} x^{-3/2}$$

Example 2.8  $X \sim \text{Poi}(\mu)$ ,  $EX = \mu$ ,  $\text{Var} X = \mu$

$$Y = \phi(X) = \sqrt{X}, \quad \phi'(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2}, \quad \phi''(x) = -\frac{1}{4} x^{-3/2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &\approx \phi(\mu_x) + \frac{1}{2} \phi'(\mu_x) \cdot \sigma_x^2 \\ &= \sqrt{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( -\frac{1}{4} \mu^{-3/2} \right) \cdot \mu \\ &= \sqrt{\mu} - \frac{1}{8\sqrt{\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) \approx \left( \phi'(\mu_x) \right)^2 \cdot \sigma_x^2 = \left( \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\mu}} \right)^2 \cdot \mu = \left( \frac{1}{4} \right)$$

Does not depend on  $\mu$ :

we call  $\phi$  a variance-stabilizing transformation.