

# Some properties of the Gaussian distribution

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Denote the normal density function

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}x^2\right).$$

Its derivative is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}\phi(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}x^2\right) \cdot (-x) \\ &= -x\phi(x)\end{aligned}$$

The CDF is

$$\Phi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \phi(t)dt$$

and from the fundamental theorem of calculus, the derivative of the CDF is

$$\frac{d}{dx}\Phi(x) = \Phi'(x) = \phi(x)$$

The derivative of the inverse CDF is found using the identity shown in Appendix A,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dp}\Phi^{-1}(p) &= \frac{1}{\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(p))} \\ &= \frac{1}{\phi(\Phi^{-1}(p))}\end{aligned}$$

## A Derivative of an inverse function

For a one-to-one function  $f$ , the derivative of the inverse function is found as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}f(f^{-1}(x)) &= x \\ \frac{d}{dx}f(f^{-1}(x)) &= \frac{d}{dx}x \\ f'(f^{-1}(x))\frac{d}{dx}f^{-1}(x) &= 1 \\ \frac{d}{dx}f^{-1}(x) &= \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}\end{aligned}$$