

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48104

DEPARTMENT OF BIostatISTICS
AREA CODE 313, 764-5450

February 5, 1975

Mr. M. Gerald Ott
Biostatistician, Corporate Medical Dept.
The Dow Chemical Company
Bennett Building
2030 Dow Center
Midland, Michigan 48640

Dear Gerry:

I've tried to find a reference to the fact that the distribution of the sum of independent Poisson random variables conditional upon a fixed sum is a multinomial. So far I have only found it for the special case of two variables, although the proof given can be easily extended to more variables. The reference is Bross, I.D.J., "Confidence Interval for a Percentage Increase," Biometrics 10, 245 ff. The result we are interested in is on page 249.

I enjoyed your visit and I appreciate the opportunity to work with you.

Sincerely yours,



Richard G. Cornell
Professor and Chairman

RGC:tlb

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