

The Modern Form of Bernoulli's Theorem

The modern form of Bernoulli's theorem is:

If N is sufficiently large,
the probability that $\left| \frac{M}{N} - P \right| < \varepsilon$ will be greater than $1 - \eta$.

M is the number of successes in N trials, P is the probability of a success in a single trial and ε and η are positive numbers chosen as small as desired.

In this paper, I outline the proof of this theorem using Bernoulli's and Markov's techniques.

One of the improvements that Markov made to Bernoulli's theorem was to remove the restrictions that Bernoulli put on N and ε .

In Bernoulli's proof ε had to be $\frac{1}{T}$ and N had to be a multiple of T .

Bernoulli used NT to stand for the number of trials. I will use N^* to stand for Bernoulli's use of N and N will stand for the number of trials.

NP roughly corresponds to N^*R

$NP + N\varepsilon$ roughly corresponds to $N^*R + N^*$

$NP - N\varepsilon$ roughly corresponds to $N^*R - N^*$

I say roughly because NP , $NP + N\varepsilon$, and $NP - N\varepsilon$ may not be integers.

Let λ be the smallest integer greater than or equal to NP .

Let μ be the smallest integer greater than or equal to $NP + N\varepsilon$.

Let k be the largest integer less than or equal to $NP - N\varepsilon$.

Let T_i be the probability of getting exactly i successes in N trials.

The probability that $\left| \frac{M}{N} - P \right| < \varepsilon$ is equal to:

$T_{k+1} + T_{k+2} + \dots + T_\lambda + T_{\lambda+1} + \dots + T_{\mu-1}$ and the probability that

$\left| \frac{M}{N} - P \right| \geq \varepsilon$ is equal to: $T_0 + T_1 + \dots + T_k + T_\mu + T_{\mu+1} + \dots + T_N$

Let $A = T_\lambda + T_{\lambda+1} + \dots + T_{\mu-1}$ and $B = T_{\lambda-1} + T_{\lambda-2} + \dots + T_{k+1}$

Let $C = T_\mu + T_{\mu+1} + \dots + T_N$ and $D = T_k + T_{k-1} + \dots + T_0$

The probability that $\left| \frac{M}{N} - P \right| < \varepsilon$ is $A + B$ and $A + B + C + D = 1$.

We will show that if N is sufficiently large, $C < \frac{A\eta}{1-\eta}$ and $D < \frac{B\eta}{1-\eta}$

So then $A + B + \frac{A\eta}{1-\eta} + \frac{B\eta}{1-\eta} > 1$. So $A + B > 1 - \eta$.

So if N is sufficiently large, the probability that $\left| \frac{M}{N} - P \right| < \varepsilon$ is greater than $1 - \eta$.

- $$\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} > \frac{T_{\mu+1}}{T_{\lambda+1}} > \frac{T_{\mu+2}}{T_{\lambda+2}} > \dots > \frac{T_N}{T_{N-(\mu-\lambda)}}$$

- Let
$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= T_\mu + T_{\mu+1} + \dots + T_{2\mu-\lambda-1} \\ A_2 &= T_{2\mu-\lambda} + T_{2\mu-\lambda+1} + \dots + T_{3\mu-2\lambda-1} \\ A_3 &= T_{3\mu-2\lambda} + T_{3\mu-2\lambda+1} + \dots + T_{4\mu-3\lambda-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} > \frac{A_1}{A}, \quad \frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} > \frac{A_2}{A}, \quad \frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} > \frac{A_3}{A}, \quad \frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} > \frac{A_4}{A}, \dots$$

So
$$\left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^2 > \frac{A_2}{A}, \quad \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^3 > \frac{A_3}{A}, \quad \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^4 > \frac{A_4}{A}, \dots$$

So
$$\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^4 + \dots > \frac{A_1 + A_2 + A_3 + \dots}{A}$$

So
$$\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}\right)^4 + \dots > \frac{T_\mu + T_{\mu+1} + \dots + T_N}{A}$$

So
$$\frac{\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}}{1 - \frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}} > \frac{T_\mu + T_{\mu+1} + \dots + T_N}{A} = \frac{C}{A}. \quad \text{So } A \left(\frac{\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}}{1 - \frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda}} \right) > C$$

- Since $k < \lambda - 1$, $\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} > \frac{T_{k-1}}{T_{\lambda-2}} > \frac{T_{k-2}}{T_{\lambda-3}} > \dots > \frac{T_0}{T_{\lambda-k-1}}$

- Let $B_1 = T_k + T_{k-1} + \dots + T_{2k-\lambda+2}$

$$B_2 = T_{2k-\lambda+1} + T_{2k-\lambda} + \dots + T_{3k-2\lambda+3}$$

$$B_3 = T_{3k-2\lambda+2} + T_{3k-2\lambda+1} + \dots + T_{4k-3\lambda+4}$$

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$$\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} > \frac{B_1}{B}, \quad \frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} > \frac{B_2}{B_1}, \quad \frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} > \frac{B_3}{B_2} \dots$$

$$\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} > \frac{B_1}{B}, \quad \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^2 > \frac{B_2}{B}, \quad \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^3 > \frac{B_3}{B} \dots$$

So $\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} + \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^3 + \dots > \frac{B_1 + B_2 + B_3 + \dots}{B}$

So $\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} + \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}\right)^3 + \dots > \frac{T_k + T_{k-1} + \dots + T_0}{B} = \frac{D}{B}$

$$\text{So } \frac{\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}}{1 - \frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}} > \frac{D}{B}, \quad \text{So } B \frac{\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}}{1 - \frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}}} > D$$

- It remains to be shown that by making N sufficiently large

$$\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} \text{ nd } \frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} \text{ can be made smaller than } \eta .$$

We will show that $\frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu}$ And $\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k}$ can be made as large as desired by making N sufficiently large, which gives the same result.

We will apply my method from Lemma 7 of my paper Bernoulli's Theorem.

$$\text{We calculate } \frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu} \text{ from the formula } P(K) = \frac{N! P^K Q^{N-K}}{K!(N-K)!}$$

Where P(K) is the probability of getting exactly K successes in N trials when the probability of success on a single trial is P and Q = 1 - P.

$$T_\lambda = \frac{N(N-1)\dots(N-\lambda+1)P^\lambda Q^{N-\lambda}}{\lambda(\lambda-1)\dots 1}$$

$$T_{\mu} = \frac{N(N-1)\dots(N-\mu+1)P^{\mu}Q^{N-\mu}}{\mu(\mu-1)\dots 1}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{T_{\lambda}}{T_{\mu}} = \frac{\mu(\mu-1)\dots(\lambda+1)Q^{\mu-\lambda}}{(N-\lambda)(N-\lambda-1)\dots(N-\mu+1)P^{\mu-\lambda}}$$

Reversing the order of the factors in both the numerator and denominator so they will be increasing from left to right instead of decreasing we get:

$$\frac{T_{\lambda}}{T_{\mu}} = \frac{(\lambda+1)(\lambda+2)\dots(\mu-1)\mu Q^{\mu-\lambda}}{(N-\mu+1)(N-\mu+2)\dots(N-\lambda-1)(N-\lambda)P^{\mu-\lambda}}$$

$$\frac{T_{\lambda}}{T_{\mu}} = \frac{(\lambda Q + Q)}{(NP - \mu P + P)} * \frac{(\lambda Q + 2Q)}{(NP - \mu P + 2P)} * \dots * \frac{(\mu Q - Q)}{(NP - \lambda P - P)} * \frac{\mu Q}{(NP - \lambda P)}$$

Notice that each fraction is obtained from the previous fraction by adding Q to the numerator and P to the denominator .

The first fraction is itself obtained from $\frac{\lambda Q}{NP - \mu P}$ by adding Q to the numerator and P to the denominator . There are $\mu - \lambda$ fractions in the product, so by the same reasoning as in lemma 7, $\frac{T_{\lambda}}{T_{\mu}}$ is

greater than the smaller of $\left(\frac{\lambda Q}{NP - \mu P}\right)^{\mu - \lambda}$ or $\left(\frac{\mu Q}{(NP - \lambda P)}\right)^{\mu - \lambda}$.

If NP and $N\varepsilon$ are both integers then $\mu - \lambda = N\varepsilon$. If one or both are not integers, then $\mu - \lambda > N\varepsilon - 1$.

So $\frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu}$ is greater than the smaller of $\left(\frac{\lambda Q}{NP - \mu P}\right)^{N\varepsilon - 1}$ or $\left(\frac{\mu Q}{(NP - \lambda P)}\right)^{N\varepsilon - 1}$.

$$\frac{(NP + N\varepsilon)Q}{NP - NP^2} \leq \frac{\mu Q}{NP - \lambda P} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{(NP + N\varepsilon)Q}{NP - NP^2} = \frac{P + \varepsilon}{P}.$$

$$\frac{NPQ}{NP - (NP + N\varepsilon)P} \leq \frac{\lambda Q}{NP - \mu P} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{NPQ}{NP - (NP + N\varepsilon)P} = \frac{Q}{Q - \varepsilon}$$

So $\frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu}$ is greater than the smaller of $\left(\frac{P + \varepsilon}{P}\right)^{N\varepsilon - 1}$ or $\left(\frac{Q}{Q - \varepsilon}\right)^{N\varepsilon - 1}$.

So by making N sufficiently large, $\frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu}$ can be made

greater than $\frac{1}{\eta}$.

Using $P(K) = \frac{N! P^K Q^{N-K}}{K!(N-K)!}$

$$T_{\lambda-1} = \frac{N(N-1)\dots(N-\lambda+2)P^{\lambda-1}Q^{N-\lambda+1}}{(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)\dots 1}$$

$$T_k = \frac{N(N-1)\dots(N-k+1)P^k Q^{N-k}}{k(k-1)\dots 1}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} = \frac{(N-k)(N-k-1)\dots(N-\lambda+2)P^{\lambda-k-1}}{(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)\dots(k+1)Q^{\lambda-k-1}}$$

Reversing the order of the factors in both the numerator and denominator , so that the factors will be increasing instead of decreasing gives:

$$\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} = \frac{N-\lambda+2}{k+1} * \frac{N-\lambda+3}{k+2} * \dots * \frac{N-k}{\lambda-1} * \frac{P^{\lambda-k-1}}{Q^{\lambda-k-1}}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} = \frac{NP-\lambda P+2P}{kQ+Q} * \frac{NP-\lambda P+3P}{kQ+2Q} * \dots * \frac{NP-kP}{\lambda Q-Q}$$

Notice that each fraction is obtained from the previous fraction by adding P to the numerator and Q to the denominator . The first fraction is itself obtained from $\frac{NP-\lambda P+P}{kQ}$ by adding P to the numerator and Q to the denominator. There are $\lambda-k-1$ fractions in the product, so by the same reasoning as in lemma 7,

$$\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} \text{ is greater than the smaller of } \left(\frac{NP-\lambda P+P}{kQ}\right)^{\lambda-k-1} \text{ or } \left(\frac{NP-kP}{(\lambda Q-Q)}\right)^{\lambda-k-1} .$$

If NP and Nε are both integers then $\lambda-k-1 = N\varepsilon - 1$ and this is the smallest value that $\lambda-k-1$ can have .

$$\text{So } \frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} \text{ is greater than the smaller of } \left(\frac{NP-\lambda P+P}{kQ}\right)^{N\varepsilon-1} \text{ or } \left(\frac{NP-kP}{(\lambda Q-Q)}\right)^{N\varepsilon-1}$$

$$\frac{NP-\lambda P+P}{kQ} > \frac{NP-(NP+1)P+P}{(NP-N\varepsilon)Q} = \frac{NP(1-P)}{(NP-N\varepsilon)(1-P)} = \frac{P}{P-\varepsilon} .$$

$$\frac{NP - kP}{\lambda Q - Q} > \frac{NP - (NP - N\varepsilon)P}{(NP + 1)Q - Q} = \frac{NP(1 - P) + N\varepsilon P}{NPQ} = \frac{Q + \varepsilon}{Q} .$$

So $\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k}$ is greater than the smaller of $\left(\frac{P}{P - \varepsilon}\right)^{N\varepsilon-1}$ or $\left(\frac{Q + \varepsilon}{Q}\right)^{N\varepsilon-1}$.

So by making N sufficiently large, $\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k}$ can be made greater than $\frac{1}{\eta}$.

So if N is sufficiently large $\frac{T_\lambda}{T_\mu} > \frac{1}{\eta}$ and $\frac{T_{\lambda-1}}{T_k} > \frac{1}{\eta}$.

So $\frac{T_\mu}{T_\lambda} < \eta$ and $\frac{T_k}{T_{\lambda-1}} < \eta$.

So if N is sufficiently large, $C < A \left(\frac{\eta}{1 - \eta}\right)$ and $D < B \frac{\eta}{1 - \eta}$

This completes the proof.

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