

Correction to “Limit theorems for a generalized St. Petersburg game”

Allan Gut
Uppsala University

Peter Kevei has drawn my attention to the fact that formula (3.1) in my paper [2] is not correct. The aim of this note is to point out this fact and to make the necessary corrections.

The model behind the game is a sequence of i.i.d. random variables X, X_1, X_2, \dots with

$$P(X = sr^{(k-1)/\alpha}) = pq^{k-1}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

where $p + q = 1$, $s = p^{-1}$, $r = q^{-1} = (1 - p)^{-1}$, and $\alpha > 0$.

The correct expression for the tail probability is

$$P(X > x) = q^{[\alpha \log_r(x/s)]+1},$$

instead of (3.1) in my paper [2]; see [1], formula (1). The tail probabilities are *not* regularly varying.

This invalidates Theorem 2.1(ii) and (iii) of [2].

For further results that in this context one may consult [3].

Finally, the limits in (6.2) and (6.3) should be $-\log_{1/q} b$ (not $-\log_{1/q} b/\alpha$).

Acknowledgement

I wish to thank Peter Kevei for drawing my attention to the flaw mentioned in the introductory lines, and to . Keisuke Matsumoto and Toshio Nakata for pointing out the “misprints” in (6.2) and (6.3); cf. also [4]

References

- [1] CSÖRGÖ, S. (2007). Merging asymptotic expansions in generalized St. Petersburg games. *Acta Sci. Math. (Szeged)* **73**, 297-331.
- [2] GUT, A. (2010). Limit theorems for a generalized St. Petersburg game. *J. Appl. Prob.* **47**, 752-760.
- [3] GUT, A., AND MARTIN-LÖF, A. (2013). Generalized St. Petersburg games revisited (submitted).
- [4] MATSUMOTO, K. AND NAKATA, T. (2013). Limit theorems for a generalized Feller game. *J. Appl. Prob.* **50**, 54-63.

Allan Gut, Department of Mathematics, Uppsala University, Box 480, SE-751 06 Uppsala, Sweden;
allan.gut@math.uu.se URL: <http://www.math.uu.se/~allan>

AMS 2000 subject classifications. Primary 60F05, 60G50; Secondary 26A12.

Keywords and phrases. St. Petersburg game, sums of i.i.d. random variables, Feller WLLN, domains of attraction, convergence along subsequences, extremes, stable law, slow variation, regular variation.

Abbreviated title. A generalized St. Petersburg game.

Date. July 16, 2013