LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

In my paper 'On strong mixing and Leadbetter's D condition' (*Journal of Applied Probability* **18** (1981), 764–769), the statement on p. 768 'By the Markov property the right side of (3.1) is equal to $|P[M_J \leq u_n \mid X_{i_p} \leq u_n] - P[M_J \leq u_n]|$' is incorrect. As a consequence the inequality

$$|P[M_J \leq u_n, M_I \leq u_n] - P[M_J \leq u_n]P[M_I \leq u_n]| \leq 2(1 - (u_n))/F(u_n)$$

is not established and so it is an open question as to whether or not Theorem 3.2 is true. This error, which I recently discovered, was also pointed out to me by Professor Simeon Berman who indicated that it has been a mistake made by others in the past.

I mistakenly accepted a referee's suggestion without checking it in detail and regret that this has led to an error in my paper.

The Aerospace Corporation   Yours sincerely,
Los Angeles   MICHAEL R. CHERNICK

RETRACTION

NATH, G. B. AND ENNS, E. G. (1981) Optimal service rates in the multiserver loss system with heterogeneous servers. *J. Appl. Prob.* **18**, 776–781.

1. The above paper, under the names of Dr G. B. Nath and Dr E. G. Enns, appeared in the *Journal of Applied Probability*, Vol. 18, No. 3, in 1981. This paper is almost identical in form and content to that published by Akihiko Tahara and Toshio Nishida, entitled 'Optimal allocation of service rates for multi-server Markovian queues', in the *Journal of the Operations Research Society of Japan*, Vol. 18, 1975, pp. 90–96.

I met Dr Enns for the first time in Australia in 1975 when he was on his sabbatical leave. At that time we discussed a number of problems, one of which forms the content of our paper. A year or so later, based on our discussions, I wrote this paper under the joint name and incorporated many of the referee's suggestions in subsequent revisions.

It truly came as a shock to me when it was recently pointed out that our paper is almost identical to the paper of Tahara and Nishida.

I hereby publicly apologize to Akihiko Tahara and Toshio Nishida for this unfortunate coincidence.

G. B. NATH

2. The above paper, under my name and that of Dr G. B. Nath, appeared in the *Journal of Applied Probability*, Vol. 18, No. 3, in 1981. This paper is almost identical in form and content to that published by Akihiko Tahara and Toshio Nishida, entitled 'Optimal allocation of service rates for multi-server Markovian queues', in the *Journal of the Operations Research Society of Japan*, Vol. 18, 1975, pp. 90–96.

Our paper has the following history. I met Dr Nath for the first time in Australia during my sabbatical leave in 1975. At that time we discussed a number of problems, one of which forms the content of our paper. The principal idea inherent in our paper certainly occurred without any prior knowledge of the other paper. We did not pursue this topic further than the discussion stage. On my return to Canada I had no further research contact with Dr Nath until I received a copy of a completed paper written solely by Dr Nath, based on our discussions. He suggested my name as co-author as it was my idea that generated the research. I concurred as the paper was well written.

It truly came as a shock to me when it was recently pointed out that our paper is almost identical to the paper of Tahara and Nishida.

I hereby publicly apologize to Akihiko Tahara and Toshio Nishida for my part in this incident. I should like to retract my name from the publication in question.

I should also like to commend the above authors for their good idea, as I had the same idea independently of theirs. In a world where it is difficult to find colleagues of similar interests and talents, perhaps someday I shall be fortunate enough to meet Tahara or Nishida, and perhaps even collaborate on a new problem.

E. G. ENNS

In accordance with the wishes of the two authors, the above paper will be retracted. Reviewing journals are being notified, and the paper will not appear in any forthcoming index of the *Journal of Applied Probability*. So far as the *Journal* is concerned, the matter is now closed.

J. GANI
Editor-in-Chief