THEOREM 3. If $E(X_i) = 0$, E(W) > 0, then $E(Z) = -\infty$, where $Z = \min_{k \le n} (X_1 + \cdots + X_k).$

PROOF: It follows from the proof of the lemma that

$$\int_{V_N} (X_1 + \cdots + X_N) dP \to -E(W).$$

Now on V_N , $Z \leq (X_1 + \cdots + X_N)$. Hence

$$\lim_{N\to\infty}\int_{V_N}Z\,dP\leq -E(W).$$

Thus E(Z) cannot exist if E(W) > 0, since $P(V_N) \to 0$. Since $Z \le X_1, \int_{Z \ge 0} Z \ dP$ exists; consequently $E(Z) = -\infty$.

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CORRECTION TO THE PAPER "ON A PROBLEM OF ESTIMATION OCCURING IN PUBLIC OPINION POLLS"

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In the paper "On a problem of estimation occurring in public opinion polls" (Annals of Math. Stat., Vol. 16 (1945), pp. 85-90) the author made the assertion that, in the notation of the paper, $E[(\epsilon_i - r_i)^2]$ is always smaller than $E[(\epsilon_i - e_i)^2]$. This statement is incorrect and its supposed proof contains a numerical error in the fourth line from above on p. 90.

We have

$$\begin{split} E(r_i^2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{1/2}^{\infty} \int_{1/2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_i^3} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma_i^2} Q(x, y, p_i)\right] dx \ dy \ dp_i \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \int_{c/\sqrt{2}}^{\infty} \int_{c/\sqrt{2}}^{\infty} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \frac{4}{3} (x^2 + y^2 - xy)\right] dx \ dy \\ c &= \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \pi_i}{\sigma_i} \,. \end{split}$$