

## On Strong Law of Large Numbers for the Family of First Passage Times for the Level in Random Walk Described by a Non-Linear Function of Autoregression Process of Order One ( $AR(1)$ )

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**Abstract.** In the paper we prove strong law of large numbers for the family of first passage times for the level in random walk described by a non-linear function of autoregression process of order one ( $AR(1)$ ).

**Key Words and Phrases:** strong law of large numbers, autoregression process, first passage times, random walk.

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### 1. Introduction

Let on some probability space  $(\Omega, F, P)$  we are given the sequence of independent identically distributed random variables  $\xi_n = \xi_n(\omega)$ ,  $n \geq 1, \omega \in \Omega$ .

As is known ([1]-[9]), autoregression process of order one is determined as the solution of the equation

$$X_n = \beta X_{n-1} + \xi_n, \quad n \geq 1$$

where  $\beta$  is some fixed number and the initial value of the process  $X_0$  is independent of the innovation  $\{\xi_n\}$ .

Assume

$$T_n = \sum_{k=1}^n X_n X_{k-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{T}_n = \frac{T_n}{n}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

A number of asymptotic properties of distributed sums  $T_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$  were studied in the paper [1].

Let us consider the family of the first exit times

$$t_a = \inf \{n \geq 1 : n\Delta(\bar{T}_n) > a\} \tag{1}$$

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for the level  $a \geq 0$ , where  $\Delta(x)$ ,  $x \in R = (-\infty, \infty)$  is some Borel function.

The family of the stoppage time  $t_a$ ,  $a \geq 0$  of the form (1) play a significant roll in applied fields of theory of probability and mathematical statistics ([1-6]). Note that the boundary value problems related to the family of the first passage time

$$\tau_a = \inf \left\{ n \geq 1 : n\Delta \left( \frac{S_n}{n} \right) > a \right\},$$

where

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k, \quad n \geq 1$$

(see [7], [10]) are on the base of classic theory of nonlinear renewal.

In the case  $\Delta(x) = x$  the limit theorems for the family of the first exit times  $t_a$  of the form (1) were studied in the monograph [10].

In the present paper we prove a theorem on strong law of large numbers for the family  $\tau_a$ ,  $a \geq 0$ .

## 2. Formulation and proof of the main result

For the function  $\Delta(x)$  we will suppose that it is positive and twice continuously-differentiable in  $R$ .

In the paper [1] (see also [9], it was proved that under the continuous  $E\xi_1 = 0$ ,  $D\xi_1 = 1$ ,  $|\beta| < 1$  and  $EX_0^2 < \infty$  it holds the strong law of large numbers for the sequence of the sums  $T_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ :

$$\frac{T_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \frac{\beta}{1 - \beta^2} = \lambda \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (2)$$

By the made assumptions for the function  $\Delta(x)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} n\Delta(\bar{T}_n) &= n\Delta(\lambda) + u\Delta'(\lambda)(\bar{T}_n - \lambda) + \\ &+ \frac{n}{2}\Delta''(\lambda_n)(\bar{T}_n - \lambda)^2 = n\Delta(\lambda) + \Delta'(\lambda)(T_n - n\lambda) + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\Delta''(\lambda) \left( \frac{T_n - n\lambda}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_n$  is an intermediate point between  $\lambda$  and  $\bar{T}_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

Assume

$$Z_n = n\Delta(\lambda) + n\Delta(\lambda) + \Delta'(\lambda)(T_n - n\lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^n \eta_k,$$

$$\eta_k = \Delta(\lambda) + \Delta'(\lambda)(X_k X_{k-1} - \lambda)$$

and

$$\varepsilon_n = \frac{1}{2}\Delta''(\lambda_n) \left( \frac{T_n - n\lambda}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^2$$

$$H_n = n\Delta(\bar{T}_n).$$

Then we have

$$H_n = Z_n + \varepsilon_n. \quad (3)$$

By (2),

$$\frac{Z_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \Delta(\lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\varepsilon_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} 0 \quad (4)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , by continuity

$$\Delta''(\lambda_n) \xrightarrow{a.s.} \Delta''(\lambda), \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Then from (3) and (4) it follows that

$$\frac{H_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \Delta(\nu) \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (5)$$

It holds

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $|\beta| < 1$ ,  $E\xi_1 = 0$ ,  $D\xi_1 = 1$  and  $EX_0^2 < \infty$ . Assume that the above mentioned conditions are fulfilled for the functions  $\Delta(x)$ , moreover  $\Delta(\lambda) > 0$ .*

Then

$$\frac{t_a}{a} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \frac{1}{\Delta(\lambda)}, \quad a \rightarrow \infty.$$

*Proof.* From (5) it follows that  $\sup_n H_n = \infty$ . Hence, by definition of the variable  $t_a$  it follows that  $P(t_a < \infty) = P\left(\sup_n H_n > a\right) = 1$  for all  $a \geq 0$ . Show that

$$t_a \xrightarrow{a.s.} \infty \quad \text{as} \quad a \rightarrow \infty$$

Indeed, by definition of the variable  $t_a$  it increases as a function of  $a$ . Therefore

$$P\left(t_\infty = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} t_a \leq \infty\right) = 1.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(t_\infty \leq n) &= P\left(\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} t_a \leq n\right) = \\ &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} P(t_a \leq n) = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\max_{k \leq n} H_k > a\right) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ .

This means that for all  $n \geq 1$

$$P(t_\infty > n) = 1.$$

Hence it follows that  $P(t_\infty = \infty) = 1$ .

Thus, we have

$$P\left(\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} t_a = \infty\right) = 1. \quad (6)$$

Prove that from (5) and (6) it follows that

$$\frac{Ht_a}{t_a} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \Delta(\nu) \quad \text{as } a \rightarrow \infty. \quad (7)$$

Denote

$$A = \left\{ \omega : \frac{H_n}{n} \rightarrow \Delta(\nu) \right\}$$

$$B = \{ \omega : t_a \rightarrow \infty \}$$

$$C = \left\{ \omega : \frac{H_{t_a}}{t_a} \rightarrow \Delta(\nu) \right\}.$$

It is clear that

$$A \cap B \subset C. \quad (8)$$

Taking into account  $P(A) = P(B) = 1$ , we have

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cup B) = 1$$

hence

$$P(A \cup B) = 1.$$

Then from (8) it follows that  $P(C) = 1$ . Thus, (7) is proved. By (7) the statement of the theorem follows from the following two-sided inequality

$$\frac{H_{t_a-1}}{t_a} \leq \frac{a}{t_a} < \frac{H_{t_a}}{t_a},$$

whose validity follows from the definition of the first exit time  $t_a$  of the form (1).

From the proved theorem and the well known theorem on convergence of a sequence of identically integrable random variables (see e.i. [10]) it follows the following result.

**Corollary 1.** *Let the theorem conditions be fulfilled and the family  $\frac{t_a}{a}$ ,  $a > 0$  be identically integrable. Then*

$$\frac{Et_a}{a} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\Delta(\nu)}, a \rightarrow \infty.$$

**Remark 1.** *Note that the statement of the Corollary in the case  $\Delta(x) = x$  was proved in the paper [4], where the sufficient condition was found for identically integrable family  $\frac{t_a}{a}$ ,  $a > 0$ .*

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