

*Technical Report No. 02/05, June 2005*

THE FINITE TIME RUIN PROBABILITY OF THE COMPOUND  
POISSON MODEL WITH CONSTANT INTEREST FORCE

Qihe Tang

# The Finite Time Ruin Probability of the Compound Poisson Model with Constant Interest Force

Qihe Tang

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Concordia University

7141 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec, H4B 1R6, Canada

E-mail: qtang@mathstat.concordia.ca

January 22, 2005

## Abstract

In this paper we establish a simple asymptotic formula with respect to large initial surplus for the finite time ruin probability of the compound Poisson model with constant interest force and subexponential claims. The formula is consistent with known results for the ultimate ruin probability and, in particular, it is uniform for all time horizons when the claim size distribution is regularly varying tailed.

*Keywords:* Asymptotics, finite time ruin probability, Poisson process, regular variation, subexponentiality, uniform convergence.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: Primary 91B30; Secondary 60G70, 62P05.

## 1 The compound Poisson model

Consider the compound Poisson model, in which the claim sizes  $X_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , form a sequence of independent, identically distributed (i.i.d.), and nonnegative random variables with common distribution  $B$ , while the arrival times  $\sigma_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , constitute a homogenous Poisson process

$$N(t) = \#\{k = 1, 2, \dots : \sigma_k \leq t\}, \quad t \geq 0,$$

with intensity  $\lambda > 0$ . Let  $\{C(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  with  $C(0) = 0$  be a nondecreasing and right continuous stochastic process, denoting the total amount of premiums accumulated up to time  $t$ , let  $r > 0$  be the constant interest force (that is, after time  $t$  one dollar becomes into  $e^{rt}$  dollars), and let  $x \geq 0$  be the initial surplus. Then, the total surplus up to time  $t$ , denoted by  $S_r(t)$ , satisfies the equation

$$S_r(t) = xe^{rt} + \int_0^t e^{r(t-s)} C(ds) - \sum_{k=1}^{N(t)} X_k e^{r(t-\sigma_k)}, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (1.1)$$

where, by convention, a summation over an empty set of index is 0.

We define, as usual, the time to ruin of this model as

$$\tau(x) = \inf \{t > 0 : S_r(t) < 0 \mid S_r(0) = x\}, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\inf \phi = \infty$  by convention. Hence, the probability of ruin within a finite time  $T > 0$  is defined by

$$\psi_r(x, T) = \Pr(\tau(x) \leq T), \quad (1.3)$$

while the probability of ultimate ruin is defined by

$$\psi_r(x) = \psi_r(x, \infty) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \psi_r(x, T) = \Pr(\tau(x) < \infty).$$

In this paper we investigate the asymptotic behavior of the finite time ruin probability  $\psi_r(x, T)$  under the assumption that the claim size distribution  $B$  is heavy tailed.

The remaining part of this paper consists of three sections. After briefly reviewing some related recent works in Section 2, we present two main results in Section 3, and prove them in Section 4 after recalling several lemmas.

## 2 A brief review on related results

Throughout, all limit relationships are for  $x \rightarrow \infty$  unless stated otherwise; for two positive functions  $a(\cdot)$  and  $b(\cdot)$ , we write  $a(x) \sim b(x)$  if  $\lim a(x)/b(x) = 1$ .

We shall restrict ourselves to the case of heavy-tailed claim size distributions. The most important class of heavy-tailed distributions is the subexponential class  $\mathcal{S}$ . By definition, a distribution  $F$  on  $[0, \infty)$  is subexponential, denoted by  $F \in \mathcal{S}$ , if  $\bar{F}(x) = 1 - F(x) > 0$  holds for all  $x \geq 0$  and the relation

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{F}^{*n}(x)}{\bar{F}(x)} = n \quad (2.1)$$

holds for some (hence for all)  $n = 2, 3, \dots$ , where  $F^{*n}$  denotes the  $n$ -fold convolution of  $F$ ; see Embrechts et al. (1979). It is well known that each subexponential distribution  $F$  is long tailed, denoted by  $F \in \mathcal{L}$ , in the sense that the relation

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{F}(x+y)}{\bar{F}(x)} = 1 \quad (2.2)$$

holds for each  $y > 0$ . A useful subclass of subexponential distributions is  $\mathcal{R}$ , the class of distributions with regular variations. By definition, a distribution  $F$  on  $[0, \infty)$  belongs to

the class  $\mathcal{R}$  if  $\bar{F}(x) > 0$  holds for all  $x \geq 0$  and there exists some  $\alpha > 0$  such that the relation

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{F}(xy)}{\bar{F}(x)} = y^{-\alpha} \quad (2.3)$$

holds for each  $y > 0$ . We denote by  $F \in \mathcal{R}_{-\alpha}$  the regularity property in (2.3). The last statement of Theorem 1.5.2 of Bingham et al. (1987) tells us that the convergence of relation (2.3) is uniform for  $y \in [1, \infty)$ . That is,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{1 \leq y < \infty} \left| \frac{\bar{F}(xy)}{\bar{F}(x)} - y^{-\alpha} \right| = 0.$$

For more details of heavy-tailed distributions and their applications to insurance and finance, the reader is referred to Embrechts et al. (1997).

The asymptotic behavior of the ultimate ruin probability  $\psi_r(x)$  of the risk model introduced in Section 1 with  $C(\cdot)$  a deterministic linear function,  $B$  heavy tailed, and  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  and  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  mutually independent, has been investigated in the recent literature. Under the condition  $B \in \mathcal{R}_{-\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha > 1$ , starting from an integral equation of Sundt and Teugels (1995), Klüppelberg and Stadtmüller (1998) developed a sophisticated  $L_p$  transform technique in proving the result

$$\psi_r(x) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x); \quad (2.4)$$

see their Corollary 2.4. Asmussen (1998, Corollary 4.1(ii)) and Asmussen et al. (2002) proved a more general result that the relation

$$\psi_r(x) \sim \frac{\lambda}{r} \int_x^{\infty} \frac{\bar{B}(y)}{y} dy \quad (2.5)$$

holds under the condition  $B \in \mathcal{S}^*$ , where the class  $\mathcal{S}^*$  was introduced by Klüppelberg (1988) and is characterized by the relation

$$\int_0^x \bar{B}(x-y) \bar{B}(y) dy \sim 2\mu \bar{B}(x)$$

with  $\mu = \int_0^{\infty} \bar{B}(y) dy \in (0, \infty)$ . About the class  $\mathcal{S}^*$ , Klüppelberg (1988, Theorem 3.2) pointed out that if  $B \in \mathcal{S}^*$  then both  $B$  itself and its integrated tail distribution  $B_I$ , which is defined by

$$B_I(x) = \frac{1}{\mu} \int_0^x \bar{B}(y) dy, \quad x \geq 0,$$

are subexponential. Lately, also starting from the work of Sundt and Teugels (1995) but using a simpler treatment, Kalashnikov and Konstantinides (2000) and Konstantinides et al. (2002) rebuilt relation (2.5) under a different condition that the integrated tail distribution  $B_I$  is an element of the class  $\mathcal{A}$ . That is,  $B_I$  is subexponential and satisfies

$$\limsup_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{B}_I(xy)}{\bar{B}_I(x)} < 1 \quad \text{for some } y > 1.$$

To our knowledge, whether or not the condition  $B_I \in \mathcal{S}$  is sufficient for relation (2.5) remains unknown.

It is also worth mentioning that  $B \in \mathcal{S}^*$  neither implies nor is implied by  $B_I \in \mathcal{A}$ . A simple illustration for the assertion “ $B \in \mathcal{S}^* \not\Rightarrow B_I \in \mathcal{A}$ ” is the distribution with a tail satisfying

$$\overline{B}(x) \sim x^{-1} \ln^{-2} x.$$

To see the other assertion “ $B_I \in \mathcal{A} \not\Rightarrow B \in \mathcal{S}^*$ ”, let us look at the random variable

$$Z = a^\pi, \tag{2.6}$$

where  $\pi$  is geometric with probability function  $\Pr(\pi = k) = (1-p)p^k$  for  $0 < p < 1$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , and  $a$  is arbitrarily fixed satisfying  $1 < a < 1/p$ . Clearly, the random variable  $Z$  has a finite mean and its distribution  $B$  satisfies

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{B}(ax)}{\overline{B}(x)} = p < \infty.$$

Based on this, it is easy to see that  $B_I \in \mathcal{S}$  (see Theorem 1 of Embrechts and Omey (1984) or Proposition 1.4.4 of Embrechts et al. (1997)), that  $B \notin \mathcal{L}$  (hence  $B \notin \mathcal{S}^*$ ), and that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{B_I}(ax)}{\overline{B_I}(x)} = ap < 1.$$

Therefore,  $B_I \in \mathcal{A}$ .

By the way, for an arbitrarily large number  $v > 0$ , by suitably choosing the parameters  $a$  and  $p$  in (2.6) such that  $a^v p < 1$ , we have  $\text{EZ}^v < \infty$ . This means that the condition  $B_I \in \mathcal{A}$  allows for some distributions that are not so “heavy-tailed” and are not in the class  $\mathcal{L}$  (hence are not in the class  $\mathcal{S}^*$ ).

Recently, Tang (2004) extended the work of Konstantinides et al. (2002) to the discrete time model while Tang (2005) extended the work of Klüppelberg and Stadtmüller (1998) to the ordinary renewal model.

### 3 Main results

In this paper we use a different method to establish a similar formula for the finite time ruin probability with  $B$  ranging over the whole class  $\mathcal{S}$ . Our first main result is given below:

**Theorem 3.1.** *Consider the compound Poisson model introduced in Section 1, in which all sources of randomness,  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ ,  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , and  $\{C(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , are mutually independent. If  $B \in \mathcal{S}$ , then for each  $T > 0$ ,*

$$\psi_r(x, T) \sim \frac{\lambda}{r} \int_x^{xe^{rT}} \frac{\overline{B}(y)}{y} dy. \tag{3.1}$$

Apparently, relation (3.1) is consistent with relation (2.5). In particular, if  $B \in \mathcal{R}_{-\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha > 0$ , by the uniformity of relation (2.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_x^{xe^{rT}} \frac{\overline{B}(y)}{y} dy &= \overline{B}(x) \int_x^{xe^{rT}} \frac{\overline{B}(y)}{\overline{B}(x)} \frac{1}{y} dy \\ &\sim \overline{B}(x) \int_x^{xe^{rT}} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^{-\alpha} \frac{1}{y} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \overline{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence in this case, it follows from (3.1) that for each  $T > 0$ ,

$$\psi_r(x, T) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \overline{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T}), \quad (3.2)$$

which is consistent with relation (2.4).

For each  $T \in (0, \infty]$ , denote by  $\tilde{C}(T)$  the total discounted amount of premiums accumulated up to time  $T$ . That is,

$$\tilde{C}(T) = \int_0^T e^{-rt} C(dt) \quad \text{for } T \in (0, \infty]. \quad (3.3)$$

The following result makes the statement of relation (3.2) somewhat stronger:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Consider the compound Poisson model introduced in Section 1 with  $B \in \mathcal{R}_{-\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\tilde{C}(\infty)$  in (3.3) finite almost surely. Then, relation (3.2) holds uniformly for  $T \in (0, \infty]$ , that is,*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{0 < T \leq \infty} \left| \frac{\psi_r(x, T)}{\frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \overline{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T})} - 1 \right| = 0, \quad (3.4)$$

if one of the following two assumptions is valid:

1.  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ ,  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , and  $\{C(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  are mutually independent;
2.  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  and  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  are mutually independent and  $\tilde{C}(\infty)$  satisfies

$$\Pr\left(\tilde{C}(\infty) > x\right) = o\left(\overline{B}(x)\right). \quad (3.5)$$

As pointed out by Tang (2005), allowing dependence between the premium process and the claim process is not only of purely academic interest since very often the premium rate depends on the history of the surplus process.

Admittedly, there are a lot of advantages in knowing the uniformity of an asymptotic relation. Below are some direct applications of the uniformity described by Theorem 3.2:

1. The relation

$$\psi_r(x, T(x)) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T(x)})$$

holds for every function  $T(\cdot) \in (0, \infty]$ . Moreover, if  $T(x) \rightarrow \infty$  then the relation above is reduced to

$$\psi_r(x, T(x)) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) \sim \psi_r(x).$$

2. For a random variable  $\mathcal{T}$ , which is independent of the risk system and has a distribution  $H$  with  $\bar{H}(0) > 0$ , denote by  $\psi_r(x, \mathcal{T})$  the probability of “ruin within the random horizon  $\mathcal{T}$ ”. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_r(x, \mathcal{T}) &= \int_0^\infty \psi_r(x, T) H(dT) \\ &\sim \int_0^\infty \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T}) H(dT) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) \mathbb{E} (1 - e^{-\alpha r \mathcal{T}}) 1_{(\mathcal{T} > 0)}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

where  $1_A$  denotes the indicator function of an event  $A$ .

3. Relation (3.6) further enables us to derive an asymptotic estimate for the Laplace-Stieltjes transform of the ruin time  $\tau(x)$ . For this purpose, we identify the  $\mathcal{T}$  in (3.6) as an exponentially distributed random variable with mean  $1/\kappa$ . On the one hand, recalling relation (1.3) and using Fubini’s theorem we have

$$\psi_r(x, \mathcal{T}) = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{E} 1_{(\tau(x) \leq T)} H(dT) = \mathbb{E} \exp\{-\kappa \tau(x)\} 1_{(\tau(x) < \infty)} = \mathbb{E} \exp\{-\kappa \tau(x)\};$$

on the other hand, relation (3.6) gives that

$$\psi_r(x, \mathcal{T}) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) \mathbb{E} (1 - e^{-\alpha r \mathcal{T}}) = \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r + \kappa} \bar{B}(x).$$

It follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \exp\{-\kappa \tau(x)\} \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r + \kappa} \bar{B}(x).$$

## 4 Proofs of Theorems 3.1 and 3.2

### 4.1 Lemmas

Before giving the proofs we need recall some preliminaries.

**Lemma 4.1.** *If  $F$  is subexponential, then for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists some constant  $C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that the inequality*

$$\overline{F^{*n}}(x) \leq C_\varepsilon (1 + \varepsilon)^n \bar{F}(x)$$

*holds for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $x \geq 0$ .*

*Proof.* This inequality is classical and it was established by Chistyakov (1964) and Athreya and Ney (1972); see also Embrechts et al. (1997, Lemma 1.3.5).  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two independent and nonnegative random variables. If  $X$  is subexponentially distributed while  $Y$  is bounded and nondegenerate at 0, then the product  $XY$  is subexponentially distributed.*

*Proof.* See Corollary 2.5 of Cline and Samorodnitsky (1994).  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $\{N(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  be a Poisson process with arrival times  $\sigma_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Given  $N(T) = n$  for arbitrarily fixed  $T > 0$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , the random vector  $(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$  is equal in distribution to the random vector  $(TU_{(1,n)}, \dots, TU_{(n,n)})$  with  $U_{(1,n)}, \dots, U_{(n,n)}$  being the order statistics of  $n$  i.i.d.  $(0, 1)$  uniformly distributed random variables  $U_1, \dots, U_n$ .*

*Proof.* This result is well known; see, for example, Theorem 2.3.1 of Ross (1983).  $\square$

**Lemma 4.4.** *If a sequence of distributions  $\{F_t\}_{t \geq 0}$  converges to a continuous distribution  $F$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , then the convergence is uniform in the sense that*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{-\infty \leq x \leq \infty} |F_t(x) - F(x)| = 0.$$

*Proof.* See Theorem 1.11 of Petrov (1995), though the sequence under his discussion is  $\{F_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  instead of  $\{F_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ .  $\square$

## 4.2 Proof of Theorem 3.1

It follows from (1.3) and (1.2) that

$$\psi_r(x, T) = \Pr(e^{-rt} S_r(t) < 0 \text{ for some } t \in (0, T] \mid S_r(0) = x). \quad (4.1)$$

Furthermore, for each  $t \in (0, T]$  it follows from (1.1) that

$$x - \sum_{k=1}^{N(t)} X_k e^{-r\sigma_k} \leq e^{-rt} S_r(t) \leq x + \tilde{C}(T) - \sum_{k=1}^{N(t)} X_k e^{-r\sigma_k}, \quad (4.2)$$

where  $\tilde{C}(T)$  is defined in (3.3). For notational convenience, we write

$$\tilde{X}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N(t)} X_k e^{-r\sigma_k}$$

as the total discounted amount of claims accumulated up to time  $t > 0$ . Clearly, equality (4.1) and the first inequality in (4.2) imply that

$$\psi_r(x, T) \leq \Pr(\tilde{X}(T) > x), \quad (4.3)$$



while equality (4.1) and the second inequality in (4.2) imply that

$$\psi_r(x, T) \geq \Pr \left( \tilde{X}(t) > x + \tilde{C}(T) \text{ for some } t \in (0, T] \right) = \Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x + \tilde{C}(T) \right). \quad (4.4)$$

Hence, if we prove that

$$\Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x + \tilde{C}(T) \right) \sim \Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x \right) \sim \lambda \int_0^T \Pr \left( X_1 e^{-ru} > x \right) du, \quad (4.5)$$

then it follows that

$$\psi_r(x, T) \sim \lambda \int_0^T \Pr \left( X_1 e^{-ru} > x \right) du,$$

which, upon a trivial substitution, implies the announced result (3.1).

Let us successively prove the two asymptotic relations in (4.5). By Lemma 4.3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x \right) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr \left( \sum_{k=1}^n X_k e^{-r\sigma_k} > x \mid N(T) = n \right) \Pr(N(T) = n) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr \left( \sum_{k=1}^n X_k e^{-rTU_{(k,n)}} > x \right) \Pr(N(T) = n), \end{aligned}$$

where  $U_{(k,n)}$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  come from Lemma 4.3 and are independent of  $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ . Therefore,

$$\Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr \left( \sum_{k=1}^n X_k e^{-rTU_k} > x \right) \Pr(N(T) = n). \quad (4.6)$$

By Lemma 4.2 we know that the i.i.d. products  $X_k e^{-rTU_k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , are subexponentially distributed; by Lemma 4.1 we also know that for an arbitrarily fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a constant  $C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that the inequality

$$\Pr \left( \sum_{k=1}^n X_k e^{-rTU_k} > x \right) \leq C_\varepsilon (1 + \varepsilon)^n \Pr \left( X_1 e^{-rTU_1} > x \right)$$

holds for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $x \geq 0$ . Since  $E(1 + \varepsilon)^{N(T)} < \infty$ , applying the definition in (2.1) of the subexponentiality and the dominated convergence theorem, we obtain from (4.6) that

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr \left( \tilde{X}(T) > x \right) &\sim \Pr \left( X_1 e^{-rTU_1} > x \right) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \Pr(N(T) = n) \\ &= \lambda \int_0^T \Pr \left( X_1 e^{-ru} > x \right) du. \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

This proves the second relation in (4.5).

Using (4.7), it is not difficult to prove the first asymptotic relation in (4.5). Actually, since the product  $X_1 e^{-rTU_1}$  is subexponentially distributed, by (4.7) it is easy to see that the sum  $\tilde{X}(T)$  is long tailed. Using the dominated convergence theorem and the property in (2.2) of long-tailed distributions, we obtain that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x + \tilde{C}(T)\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} = \int_0^\infty \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x + y\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} \Pr\left(\tilde{C}(T) \in dy\right) = 1.$$

This ends the proof of Theorem 3.1.

### 4.3 Proof of Theorem 3.2

First, we prove that relation (3.2) holds for each  $T \in (0, \infty]$ . In view that for both cases the relation

$$\psi_r(x) \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) \quad (4.8)$$

is a direct consequence of Theorem 1 of Tang (2005) and that under assumption 1 relation (3.2) with  $T \in (0, \infty)$  has been proved by Theorem 3.1, we only prove relation (3.2) for each  $T \in (0, \infty)$  under assumption 2. In this case, following the proof of Theorem 3.1, inequalities (4.3) and (4.4) remain valid and, moreover,

$$\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right) \sim \lambda \int_0^T \Pr\left(X_1 e^{-ru} > x\right) du \sim \frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T}). \quad (4.9)$$

Hence, it suffices to prove that

$$\liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x + \tilde{C}(T)\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} \geq 1. \quad (4.10)$$

To this end, note that relation (4.9) indicates that the distribution of  $\tilde{X}(T)$  belongs to the class  $\mathcal{R}_{-\alpha}$ . For an arbitrarily fixed number  $l > 0$ , applying (4.9) and (3.5) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} & \liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x + \tilde{C}(T)\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} \\ & \geq \liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > (1+l)x\right) - \Pr\left(\tilde{C}(\infty) > lx\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} \\ & \geq \liminf_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > (1+l)x\right)}{\Pr\left(\tilde{X}(T) > x\right)} - \limsup_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Pr\left(\tilde{C}(\infty) > lx\right)}{\bar{B}(lx)} \frac{\bar{B}(lx)}{\bar{B}(x)} \frac{\bar{B}(x)}{\frac{\lambda}{\alpha r} \bar{B}(x) (1 - e^{-\alpha r T})} \\ & = (1+l)^{-\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, relation (4.10) follows since the number  $l$  above can be arbitrarily close to 0.

Then, we prove the uniformity of relation (3.2) with respect to  $T \in (0, \infty]$ . Write  $\Pr^{(x)}(\cdot) = \Pr(\cdot \mid \tau(x) < \infty)$  for  $x \geq 0$ . Recall the definition in (1.3). From relations (3.2) and (4.8) we obtain that for each  $T \in (0, \infty]$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \Pr^{(x)}(\tau(x) \leq T) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\psi_r(x, T)}{\psi_r(x)} = 1 - e^{-\alpha r T}. \quad (4.11)$$

This means that in  $\Pr^{(x)}$ , the limit distribution of the ruin time  $\tau(x)$  is exponential with mean  $1/(\alpha r)$ . Applying Lemma 4.4 we know that the convergence in (4.11) is uniform with respect to  $T \in (0, \infty]$ . That is,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{0 < T \leq \infty} \left| \frac{\psi_r(x, T)}{\psi_r(x)} - (1 - e^{-\alpha r T}) \right| = 0. \quad (4.12)$$

By (4.8), it is easy to see that relation (4.12) is equivalent to relation (3.4). This ends the proof of Theorem 3.2.

**Acknowledgments.** The author is most grateful to a referee for his/her very thoughtful comments on the study of asymptotic ruin probabilities. This work was supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

## References

- [1] Asmussen, S. Subexponential asymptotics for stochastic processes: extremal behavior, stationary distributions and first passage probabilities. *Ann. Appl. Probab.* 8 (1998), no. 2, 354–374.
- [2] Asmussen, S.; Kalashnikov, V.; Konstantinides, D.; Klüppelberg, C.; Tsitsiashvili, G. A local limit theorem for random walk maxima with heavy tails. *Statist. Probab. Lett.* 56 (2002), no. 4, 399–404.
- [3] Athreya, K. B.; Ney, P. E. *Branching processes*. Springer-Verlag, New York-Heidelberg, 1972.
- [4] Bingham, N. H.; Goldie, C. M.; Teugels, J. L. *Regular variation*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1987.
- [5] Chistyakov, V. P. A theorem on sums of independent positive random variables and its applications to branching random processes. (Russian) *Teor. Veroyatnost. i Primenen* 9 (1964), 710–718; translation in *Theor. Probability Appl.* 9 (1964), 640–648.
- [6] Cline, D. B. H.; Samorodnitsky, G. Subexponentiality of the product of independent random variables. *Stochastic Process. Appl.* 49 (1994), no. 1, 75–98.

- [7] Embrechts, P.; Goldie, C. M.; Veraverbeke, N. Subexponentiality and infinite divisibility. *Z. Wahrsch. Verw. Gebiete* 49 (1979), no. 3, 335–347.
- [8] Embrechts, P.; Klüppelberg, C.; Mikosch, T. *Modelling extremal events for insurance and finance*. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1997.
- [9] Embrechts, P.; Omeij, E. A property of longtailed distributions. *J. Appl. Probab.* 21 (1984), no. 1, 80–87.
- [10] Kalashnikov, V.; Konstantinides, D. Ruin under interest force and subexponential claims: a simple treatment. *Insurance Math. Econom.* 27 (2000), no. 1, 145–149.
- [11] Klüppelberg, C. Subexponential distributions and integrated tails. *J. Appl. Probab.* 25 (1988), no. 1, 132–141.
- [12] Klüppelberg, C.; Stadtmüller, U. Ruin probabilities in the presence of heavy-tails and interest rates. *Scand. Actuar. J.* (1998), no. 1, 49–58.
- [13] Konstantinides, D.; Tang, Q.; Tsitsiashvili, G. Estimates for the ruin probability in the classical risk model with constant interest force in the presence of heavy tails. *Insurance Math. Econom.* 31 (2002), no. 3, 447–460.
- [14] Petrov, V. V. *Limit theorems of probability theory. Sequences of independent random variables*. Oxford Science Publications. The Clarendon Press, Oxford University Press, New York, 1995.
- [15] Ross, S. M. *Stochastic processes*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1983.
- [16] Sundt, B.; Teugels, J. L. Ruin estimates under interest force. *Insurance Math. Econom.* 16 (1995), no. 1, 7–22.
- [17] Tang, Q. The ruin probability of a discrete time risk model under constant interest rate with heavy tails. *Scand. Actuar. J.* (2004), no. 3, 229–240.
- [18] Tang, Q. Asymptotic ruin probabilities of the renewal model with constant interest force and regular variation. *Scand. Actuar. J.* (2005), no. 2, to appear.

*List of Recent Technical Reports*

46. Pablo Olivares, *Maximum Likelihood Estimators for a Branching-Diffusion Process*, August 2002
47. Shuanming Li and José Garrido, *On Ruin for the Erlang( $n$ ) Risk Process*, June 2003
48. G. Jogesh Babu and Yogendra P. Chaubey, *Smooth Estimation of a Distribution and Density function on a Hypercube Using Bernstein Polynomials for Dependent Random Vectors*, August 2003
49. Shuanming Li and José Garrido, *On the Time Value of Ruin for a Sparre Anderson Risk Process Perturbed by Diffusion*, November 2003
50. Yogendra P. Chaubey, Cynthia M. DeSouza and Fassil Nebebe, *Bayesian Inference for Small Area Estimation under the Inverse Gaussian Model via Gibbs Sampling*, December 2003
51. Alexander Melnikov and Victoria Skornyakova, *Pricing of Equity-Linked Life Insurance Contracts with Flexible Guarantees*, May 2004
52. Yi Lu and José Garrido, *Regime-Switching Periodic Models for Claim Counts*, June 2004.
53. I. Urrutia-Romaní, R. Rodríguez-Ramos, J. Bravo-Castillero and R. Guinovart-Díaz, *Asymptotic Homogenization Method Applied to Linear Viscoelastic Composites. Examples*, August 2004.
54. Yi Lu and José Garrido, *Double Periodic Non-Homogeneous Poisson Models for Hurricanes Data*, September 2004.
55. M.I. Beg and M. Ahsanullah, *On Characterizing Distributions by Conditional Expectations of Functions of Generalized Order Statistics*, September, 2004.
56. M.I. Beg and M. Ahsanullah, *Concomitants of Generalized Order Statistics from Farlie-Gumbel-Morgenstern Distributions*, September, 2004.
57. Yogendra P. Chaubey and Debaraj Sen, *An investigation into properties of an estimator of mean of an inverse Gaussian population*, September, 2004.

58. Steven N. Evans and Xiaowen Zhou, *Balls-in-boxes duality for coalescing random walks and coalescing Brownian motions*, September, 2004.
59. Qihe Tang, *Asymptotic ruin probabilities of the renewal model with constant interest force and regular variation*, November, 2004.
60. Xiaowen Zhou, *On a classical risk model with a constant dividend barrier*, November, 2004.
61. K. Balasubramanian and M.I. Beg, *Three isomorphic vector spaces-II*, December, 2004.
62. Michael A. Kouritzin and Wei Sun, *Rates for branching particle approximations of continuous-discrete filters*, December, 2004.
63. Rob Kaas and Qihe Tang, *Introducing a dependence structure to the occurrences in studying precise large deviations for the total claim amount*, December, 2004.
64. Qihe Tang and Gurami Tsitsiashvili, *Finite and infinite time ruin probabilities in the presence of stochastic returns on investments*, December, 2004.
65. Alexander Melnikov and Victoria Skorniyakova, *Efficient hedging methodology applied to equity-linked life insurance*, February, 2005.
66. Qihe Tang, *The finite time ruin probability of the compound Poisson model with constant interest force*, June, 2005.

*Copies of technical reports can be requested from:*

Prof. Xiaowen Zhou  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
Concordia University  
7141, Sherbrooke Street West  
Montréal (QC) H4B 1R6 CANADA