LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

On Ashrafi and Asadi (2014)

The authors wish to thank Professors Gertsbakh, Shpungin, and Spizzichino for pointing out references [2], [3], and [4] that are relevant to the our recently published paper [1]. We are pleased to have the opportunity to cite this work.

We did, of course, cite Gertsbakh and Shpungin's 2012 paper published in *QTQM*. We wish to note that the reference to that paper was by no means perfunctory. Indeed, we stated explicitly: 'This paper is based on the concept of the signature for multistate networks that was introduced in [17]' (the paper just mentioned). Furthermore, we stated in Section 3 of the paper and in the appendix that our Example 3.1 is based on an example in reference [17]. While recognizing that our paper treats some definitions that are dealt with in the three new references, we would wish to add that the theoretical results developed in our paper are new.

References

[1] ASHRAFI, S. AND ASADI, M. (2014). Dynamic reliability modeling of three-state networks. *J. Appl. Prob.* **51,** 999–1020.

[2] GERTSBAKH, I. AND SHPUNGIN, Y. (2011). *Network Reliability and Resilience*. Springer, Heidelberg.

[3] GERTSBAKH, I. AND SHPUNGIN, Y. (2012). Multidimensional spectra of multistate systems with binary components. In *Recent Advances in System Reliability*, eds A. Lisniansky and I. Frenkel, Springer, London, pp. 49–61.

[4] GERTSBAKH, I., SHPUNGIN, Y. AND SPIZZICHINO, F. (2012). Two-dimensional signatures. *J. Appl. Prob.* **49,** 416–429.

Yours sincerely,

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