## STEP Mathematics Paper 1 1991

15. (i)  $S_n > 100$  if number of heads > 5050

Number of heads in 10000 throws has a B(10000, 0.5) distribution which we may approximate by

N(5000, 2500) so P(more than 5050 heads) = 
$$P\left(z > \frac{50.5}{\sqrt{2500}}\right) = P(z > 1.01) \approx 0.156$$

(ii) For *n* throws, distribution is  $B(n, 0.5) \approx N(0.5n, 0.25n$ 

P(more than 
$$0.01n$$
) = P $\left(z > \frac{0.005n}{0.5\sqrt{n}}\right)$  < 0.01 if  $\frac{0.005n}{0.5\sqrt{n}}$ .1.28

$$\Rightarrow 0.005\sqrt{n} > 0.64 \Rightarrow n.\frac{0.64^2}{0.005^2} \approx 16400$$

Score on kth throw is 2 points if  $X_k = X_1 = a$  head, -2 points if  $X_k = XC_1 = a$  tail and 0 if  $X_k \neq X_1$ 

If  $X_1$  is a head then  $X_k = X_1 \Rightarrow X_1 + X_k = 2$ 

If  $X_1$  is a tail then  $X_k = X_1 \Rightarrow X_1 + X_k = -2$ If  $X_1$  and  $X_k$  differ then  $X_1 + X_k = 0$  so in every case  $Y_k = X_1 + X_k$ 

$$P(Y_k = -2) = P(Y_k = 2) = \frac{1}{4} \text{ and } P(Y_k = 0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

 $P(Y_k = -2) = P(Y_k = 2) = \frac{1}{4}$  and  $P(Y_k = 0) = \frac{1}{2}$ so mean of  $Y_k = -2 \times \frac{1}{4} + 2\frac{1}{4} = 0$  and variance  $= 4\frac{1}{4} + 4\frac{1}{4} - 0^2 = 2$ hence,  $Y_2 + Y_3 + ... + Y_n$  will have mean 0 and variance 2(n-1)

so 
$$\sum_{r=2}^{n} Y_r$$
 has approximate distribution N(0, 2( $n-1$ ))

$$P\left(\sum_{r=2}^{n} Y_r > 0.01(n-1)\right) = P\left(z > \frac{0.01(n-1)}{\sqrt{2(n-1)}}\right) = P\left(z > 0.01\sqrt{\frac{n-1}{2}}\right) \text{ which does tend to zero as } n \to \infty$$