Correction to: Safety in Sosa

John Greco¹

Published online: 27 August 2018
© Springer Nature B.V. 2018

Correction to: Synthese

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-018-1863-z>

Shortly after the publication of this paper, I had the opportunity to discuss related issues with Thomas Grundmann, who convinced me that the final section contains a demonstrable mistake. Specifically, an apt second-order perspective does not convert first-order SSS-relative safety into first-order skill-relative safety, contra to what I claimed. This is because, as Grundmann pointed out, second-order cognitive capacities are themselves to be understood in terms of an SSS structure, and therefore second-order aptness only guarantees safety from error within such parameters.

What can be saved in the final section is this: Although an apt second-order perspective does not entail first-order skill-relative safety, it moves one toward that result to the extent that the SSS parameters for one's second-order capacities are broader than those for one's first-order capacities. And this is indeed often the case; for example, when second-order reflection on perception is apt within parameters that are broader than those that are appropriate for perception itself. Accordingly, an apt second-order perspective may improve one's epistemic position in this respect, i.e., by moving one closer to skill-relative safety regarding one's first-order beliefs. Moreover, ascent to an apt third-order perspective or beyond yields no analogous benefit, at least not on the first order, and likely not on subsequent orders either, insofar as SSS parameters for higher-order capacities do not likely trend broader.

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-018-1863-z>.

✉ John Greco
jgreco2@slu.cdu

¹ Leonard and Elizabeth Eslick Chair in Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Saint Louis University, 3800 Lindell Blvd., Adorjan Hall 306, Saint Louis, MO 63108, USA