

On certain "differently" characterized subgroups of the circle group

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Throughout \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{Q} , \mathbb{Z} and ω will stand for the set of all real numbers, the set of all rational numbers, the set of all integers and the set of all natural numbers respectively. The first three are equipped with their usual abelian group structure and the circle group \mathbb{T} is identified with the quotient group \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} of \mathbb{R} endowed with its usual compact topology. For $x \in \mathbb{R}$ we denote by $\{x\}$ the difference $x - [x]$ (the fractional part) and $\|x\|$ the distance from the integers i.e. $\min\{\{x\}, 1 - \{x\}\}$.

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- The motivation to study the so called "characterized subgroups" can be traced back to the distribution of sequences of multiples of a given real number mod 1.
- Recall that a sequence of real numbers (x_n) is said to be **uniformly distributed mod 1**, if for every $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1)$ one has

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{j : 0 \leq j < n, \{x_j\} \in [a, b]\}|}{n} = b - a$$

where $\{x_j\}$ is the fractional part of x_j . In his celebrated results proved in 1916, H. Weyl had investigated the set

$$W_{\mathbf{u}} = \{x \in [0, 1] : (u_n x) \text{ is uniformly distributed mod } 1\}$$

where $\mathbf{u} = (u_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^\omega$.

- Note that for every number $\alpha \in [0, 1] \setminus \mathbb{Q}$, $\alpha \notin W_{\mathbf{u}}$ for an appropriate choice of \mathbf{u} . Indeed, to this end one can consider the convergents $\frac{r_n}{u_n}$ of the continued fraction expansion of α and as $\|u_n \alpha\|_{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow 0$ (where $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{Z}}$ is the distance from the integers), conclude that $\alpha \notin W_{\mathbf{u}}$.

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- In a really impressive observation, [Larcher, PAMS, 1988] proved that if the continued fraction expansion of $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ is bounded then

$$\{\beta \in \mathbb{R} : \|u_n \beta\|_{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow 0\} = \langle \alpha \rangle + \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1)$$

the subgroup of \mathbb{R} generated by α modulo 1. Instead of using the fractional part $\{x_j\}$ or working modulo 1, one can conveniently work in the circle group $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{T}$

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- It is obvious that any p -torsion element is topologically p -torsion.
- [Armacost, 1981] defined the subgroups

$$X_p = \{x \in X : p^n x \rightarrow 0\} \text{ and } X! = \{x \in X : n!x \rightarrow 0\}$$

of an abelian topological group X , and started their investigation

Definition

Let (a_n) be a sequence of integers, the subgroup

$$t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T}) := \{x \in \mathbb{T} : a_n x \rightarrow 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{T}\}$$

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Example

- (a) Let p be a prime. For the sequence (a_n) , defined by $a_n = p^n$ for every n , obviously $t_{(p^n)}(\mathbb{T})$ contains the Prüfer group $\mathcal{Z}(p^\infty)$. Armacost proved that $t_{(p^n)}(\mathbb{T})$ simply coincides with $\mathcal{Z}(p^\infty)$.
- (b) Armacost posed the problem to describe the group $\mathbb{T}! = t_{(n!)}(\mathbb{T})$. It was resolved by [Borel, CM, 1991].

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- Precisely a sequence of positive integers (a_n) is an **arithmetic sequence** if

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- An element x in an abelian topological group G is called **a-torsion element** if $a_n x \rightarrow 0$. Borel first started studies of a-torsion elements (null sequences modulo 1) in \mathbb{R} . The final results on describing the a-torsion elements of \mathbb{T} can be found in [Di Santo, Dikranjan, CA, 2004] followed by [Dikranjan, Impieri, CA, 2014].

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- It had already been observed by [Eggleston, PLMS, 1952] that the asymptotic behavior of the sequence $q_n := \frac{a_n}{a_{n-1}}$ of ratios has a strong impact on the size of $t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$:
 - (E1) $t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$ is countable if (q_n) is bounded,
 - (E2) $|t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})| = 2^{\aleph_0}$ if $q_n \rightarrow \infty$.

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- Characterized subgroups of compact abelian groups were introduced in [Dikranjan, TP, 2001-2002] followed by [Dikranjan, Milan, Tonolo, JPAA, 2005] and studied later by Hart and Kunen [TA, 2005, 2006], as well as by [Dikranjan, Kunen, JPAA, 2007], [Dikranjan, Impieri, TA, 2016]

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- For the application of characterized subgroups to the problem of building group topologies with or without convergent sequences, see [Babieri, Dikranjan, Milan, Weber, AGT, 2005].

- **Definition 2.** [Buck, AJM, 1946] By $|A|$ we denote the cardinality of a set A . The lower and the upper natural densities of $A \subset \omega$ are defined by

$$\underline{d}(A) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|A \cap [1, n]|}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{d}(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|A \cap [1, n]|}{n}.$$

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- **Observation:** We say that a subset of ω is "small" if it has natural density zero. We write $\mathcal{I}_d = \{A \subset \omega : d(A) = 0\}$. Evidently \mathcal{I}_d forms an ideal (i.e. $\omega \notin \mathcal{I}_d$, it is hereditary and closed under finite unions).

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- It is easy to see that the set of odd integers as well as the set of even integers has density $\frac{1}{2}$ whereas the set of all squares has evidently density zero.
- The set of all prime numbers has natural density zero while for the set $A = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \{2^{2n}, \dots, 2^{2n+1} - 1\}$, $d(A)$ does not exist.

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- **Definition 3.** A sequence (x_n) in (X, ρ) is said to be statistically convergent to $x_0 \in X$ if for arbitrary $\varepsilon > 0$ the set $K(\varepsilon) = \{n \in \omega : \rho(x_n, x_0) \geq \varepsilon\}$ has natural density zero.

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- [Salat, MS, 1980] A sequence (x_n) of real numbers is statistically convergent to ξ if and only if there exist a set $M = \{m_1 < m_2 < \dots\} \subset \omega$ such that $d(M) = 1$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{m_k} = \xi$.

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 - ★ This particular property of statistical convergence make it "non-trivial" yet "not too wild" and this is the reason why it has been used to extend several classical results and present new characterizations of existing concepts.

Definition (Dikranjan, Das, Bose, FM, 2020)

For a sequence of integers (a_n) the subgroup

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- One reason behind this new approach
 - ★ Even if the correspondence $(a_n) \mapsto t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$ is monotone decreasing (with respect to inclusion), in many cases (as in the classical examples) the subgroup $t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$ is rather small, even if the sequence (a_n) is not too dense (in the above example, it is a geometric progression, so has exponential growth). This suggests that asking $a_n x \rightarrow 0$ is maybe somewhat too restrictive.

Theorem

For any sequence of integers (a_n) , $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$ is a $F_{\sigma\delta}$ (hence, Borel) subgroup of \mathbb{T} containing $t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$.

- In general the subgroup $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$ may not be complete with respect to the usual norm $\|\cdot\|$ prevalent in \mathbb{T}
- Let $\delta : \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined as follows. For any $x, y \in \mathbb{T}$, let

$$\delta(x, y) = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{ \|x - y\|, \|a_n(x - y)\| \}.$$

The subgroup $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$ is closed in \mathbb{T} with respect to this new metric.

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Corollary

There is a finer topology on the subgroup $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$ which is completely metrizable.

- [Srivastava] Let X be a Polish space. Then for every Borel set B in X there is a finer Polish topology τ_B on X such that B is closed in X with respect to τ_B .

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- \mathbb{T} is Polish with respect to usual topology, and $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T}) = B$ (say) is Borel in \mathbb{T} . There is a finer Polish topology τ_B on \mathbb{T} such that B is closed in X with respect to τ_B and so $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$ is Polishable.

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Theorem

Let (a_n) be an arithmetic sequence. Then $|t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})| = \mathfrak{c}$.

Theorem

For any arithmetic sequence (a_n) , $t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T}) \neq t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$.

Lemma (see Dikranjan, Impieri, CA, 2014)

For any arithmetic sequence (a_n) and $x \in \mathbb{T}$, we can build a unique sequence of integers (c_n) , where $0 \leq c_n < q_n$, such that

$$x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{a_n} \quad (2)$$

and $c_n < q_n - 1$ for infinitely many n .

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• For $x \in \mathbb{T}$ with canonical representation (2), we define

$\text{supp}(x) = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : c_n \neq 0\}$ and

$\text{supp}_q(x) = \{n \in \mathbb{N} : c_n = q_n - 1\}$. Clearly

$\text{supp}_q(x) \subseteq \text{supp}(x)$.

- A typical example for the sequence (2^n) : Choose $x \in \mathbb{T}$ with

$$\text{supp}_{(2^n)}(x) = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [(2n)^2, (2n+1)^2]. \quad (3)$$

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- the element $x \in \mathbb{T}$ above can be replaced by a more generally defined element of \mathbb{T} by taking the support from \mathbb{I} where



$$\mathbb{I} = \left\{ \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n : B_n = [b_n, d_n], b_{n+1} > d_n + 1 \ \forall n; \right\}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |d_n - b_n| = \infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |b_{n+1} - d_n|.$$

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- Let $g : \omega \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a function with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(n) = \infty$. The upper density of weight g was defined by the formula

$$\overline{d}_g(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|A \cap [1, n]|}{g(n)}$$

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- The family $\mathcal{I}_g = \{A \subset \omega : \overline{d}_g(A) = 0\}$ forms an ideal. It has been observed that $\omega \in \mathcal{I}_g$ iff. $\frac{n}{g(n)} \rightarrow 0$. So we additionally assume that $n/g(n) \not\rightarrow 0$ so that $\omega \notin \mathcal{I}_g$ and it can be proved that \mathcal{I}_g is a proper admissible P -ideal of ω . The collection of all such functions g satisfying the above mentioned properties will be denoted by G .

- The modulus functions are defined as functions $f : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ which satisfy the following properties.
 - (i) $f(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$
 - (ii) $f(x + y) \leq f(x) + f(y)$ for all $x, y \in (0, \infty)$ [Triangle inequality]
 - (iii) f is non-decreasing
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- The **modular simple density function** [Bose, Das, Kwela, IM, 2018] is defined by

$$\underline{d}_g^f(A) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(|A \cap [1, n]|)}{f(g(n))} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{d}_g^f(A) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(|A \cap [1, n]|)}{f(g(n))}.$$

If $\underline{d}_g^f(A) = \overline{d}_g^f(A)$, we say that $d_g^f(A)$ exists.

$\mathcal{Z}_g(f) = \{A \subset \mathbb{N} : d_g^f(A) = 0\}$ denotes the corresponding ideal.

Some basic observations [Bose, Das, Kwela, IM, 2018]:

- (a) For a modulus function f and $g \in \mathbb{G}$, the ideal $\mathcal{Z}_g(f)$ is a P -ideal. In fact $\mathcal{Z}_g(f)$ is equal to $Exh(\varphi)$, where φ is a lower semicontinuous submeasure on ω given by

$$\varphi(A) = \sup_{n \in \omega} \frac{f(|A \cap [0, n-1]|)}{f(g(n))}$$

for $A \subset \omega$.

- (b) Let f be an unbounded modulus function. Then $\mathcal{Z}_g(f)$ is a density ideal for every $g \in \mathbb{G}$ (an ideal \mathcal{I} on ω is a density ideal in the sense of Farah if $\mathcal{I} = Exh(\varphi)$ where $\varphi := \sup_{i \in \omega} \mu_i$ and μ_i are measures with pairwise disjoint supports being finite subsets of ω).
- (c) For any unbounded modulus function f and $g \in \mathbb{G}$, the ideal $\mathcal{Z}_g(f)$ is not F_σ .

- Further observations [Das, Ghosh, IM, 2021]:
 - (a) For any unbounded modulus function f and for any $g \in \mathbb{G}$, the ideal $\mathcal{Z}_g(f)$ is tall or dense.
 - (b) Let f be an unbounded modulus function. If $g_1, g_2 \in \mathbb{G}$ are such that $\frac{f(n)}{f(g_2(n))} \geq a > 0$ and $\frac{f(g_2(n))}{f(g_1(n))} \rightarrow \infty$ then $\mathcal{Z}_{g_1}(f) \subsetneq \mathcal{Z}_{g_2}(f)$.
 - (c) For any two unbounded modulus functions f_1, f_2 , there exists a family $\mathbb{G}_0 \subseteq \mathbb{G}$ of cardinality \mathfrak{c} such that $\mathcal{Z}_{g_1}(f_i), \mathcal{Z}_{g_2}(f_j)$ are incomparable for $i, j \in \{1, 2\}$ and any two distinct $g_1, g_2 \in \mathbb{G}_0$.

Definition

For a sequence of integers (a_n) the subgroup

$$t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T}) := \{x \in \mathbb{T} : a_n x \rightarrow 0 \text{ } f^g\text{-statistically in } \mathbb{T}\} \quad (4)$$

of \mathbb{T} is called **an f^g -statistically characterized** (shortly, an f^g -characterized) (by (a_n)) subgroup of \mathbb{T} .

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- Let us define

$$\mathbb{I}_g^f = \left\{ \bigcup_{r=1}^{\infty} B_r : B_r = [n_{(2r-1)}, n_{(2r)}], \text{ for some } A = \{n_r\}_{r \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathbb{N} \text{ with } d_g^f(A) > 0 \right\} \quad (5)$$

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- $|\mathbb{I}_g^f| = |\mathcal{Z}_g(f)| = \mathfrak{c}$.
- Let (a_n) be an arithmetic sequence and let $x \in \mathbb{T}$ be such that $\text{supp}(x) \in \mathbb{I}_g^f$ and $c_n = q_n - 1$ for all $n \in \text{supp}(x)$. Then $x \in t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T})$.

- Let (a_n) be an arithmetic sequence and $x \in \mathbb{T}$. If $d_g^f(\text{supp}(x)) = 0$, then $x \in t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T})$.

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$t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T}) \neq t_{(a_n)}(\mathbb{T})$ for any arithmetic sequence (a_n) .

Theorem

For the unbounded modulus function $f(x) = \log(1 + x)$ and for any $g \in \mathbb{G}$, $t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T}) \neq t_{(a_n)}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{T})$ and $t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T}) \neq t_{(a_n)}^s(\mathbb{T})$.

Theorem

For any unbounded modulus function f , there exists ϵ many $g \in \mathbb{G}$ such that $t_{(a_n)}^f(\mathbb{T}) \subsetneq t_{(a_n)}^{f,g}(\mathbb{T})$.

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For any unbounded modulus function f , if $g_1, g_2 \in \mathbb{G}$ are such that $\frac{f(n)}{f(g_2(n))} \geq a > 0$ and $\frac{f(g_2(n))}{f(g_1(n))} \rightarrow \infty$, then $t_{(a_n)}^{f,g_1}(\mathbb{T}) \subsetneq t_{(a_n)}^{f,g_2}(\mathbb{T})$.

- An interesting observation [Das, Bose, PMH, 2021]

Theorem

Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in (0, 1]$ with $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2$. Then $t_{(2^n)}^{\alpha_1}(\mathbb{T}) \subsetneq t_{(2^n)}^{\alpha_2}(\mathbb{T})$.

Theorem

For $\alpha \in (0, 1]$, $|t_{(2^n)}^\alpha(\mathbb{T})| = \mathfrak{c}$.

Theorem

Both the set differences $\bigcap_{\alpha \in (0,1)} t_{(2^n)}^\alpha(\mathbb{T}) \setminus t_{(2^n)}(\mathbb{T})$ and $t_{(2^n)}^s(\mathbb{T}) \setminus \bigcup_{\alpha \in (0,1)} t_{(2^n)}^\alpha(\mathbb{T})$ are non-empty.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION