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## ON FUNCTIONS WITH BOUNDED REMAINDER

by P. HELLEKALEK & G. LARCHER

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### 0. Introduction.

Let  $\lambda$  denote normalized Haar measure on the one-dimensional torus  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ . The following two classes of  $\lambda$ -preserving measurable transformations on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  are important in ergodic theory as well as in the theory of uniform distribution modulo one.

Let  $\alpha$  be an irrational number and  $T : \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $Tx := \{x + \alpha\}$ ,  $\{\cdot\}$  the fractional part.  $T$  is called an "irrational rotation" on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ .

Let  $q \geq 2$  be an integer and  $T : \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $Tx := x - (1 - q^{-k}) + q^{-(k+1)}$ , whenever  $x \in [1 - q^{-k}, 1 - q^{-(k+1)})$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ .  $T$  is called a "q-adic von Neumann-Kakutani adding machine transformation" on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ . In the following,  $T$  will be called a "q-adic transformation".

Let  $\varphi : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be a Riemann-integrable function with  $\int_0^1 \varphi(t) dt = 0$  and let  $T$  be either an irrational rotation or a q-adic transformation on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ . Define

$$\varphi_n(x) := \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \varphi(T^k x),$$

where  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  and  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  (we shall always identify  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  with  $[0, 1[$ ).

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The following two questions are of importance in ergodic theory – for the study of skew products – as well as for the study of irregularities in the distribution of sequences in  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  :

1. Under which conditions (on  $\varphi$  and  $x$ ) one has  $\sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| < +\infty$ ?
2. What can be said about limit points of  $(\varphi_n(x))_{n \geq 1}$ ?

*The classical example.* — Let  $\varphi(x) = 1_{[0, \beta]}(x) - \beta$ ,  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ . In this now “classical” example, the first question leads to the study of irregularities in the distribution of the sequence  $(T^k x)_{k \geq 0}$ ,  $\varphi_n(x)$  being the so-called discrepancy function. For  $x = 0$  one gets well-known sequences : in the first case  $(\{k\alpha\})_{k \geq 0}$ , in the second case the Van-der-Corput-sequence to the base  $q$ .

For this example, the first question has been solved completely by elementary and by ergodic methods (for the first type of  $T$  see Kesten [8] and Petersen [11], for the second type Faure [2] and Hellekalek [4]). The numbers  $\beta$  with  $\sup_n |\varphi_n(0)| < +\infty$ , respectively  $\sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| < +\infty$ , are all known.

The second question is closely related to ergodicity of the skew product (cylinder flow)  $T_\varphi : T_\varphi(x, y) = (Tx, y + \varphi(x))$  on the cylinder  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R}$  (see Oren [10] and Hellekalek [5]). In exactly this context Oren has solved the problem.

In this paper we shall be interested in question 1,2 and ergodicity of the cylinder flow  $T_\varphi$  on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R}$  in the case of a  $q$ -adic transformation  $T$  and  $\varphi \in C^1([0, 1])$ .

## 1. Results.

Throughout this paper we shall assume  $q \geq 2$  to be an integer and  $T$  to be a  $q$ -adic transformation on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ .

**THEOREM 1.** — *Let  $\varphi \in C^1([0, 1])$ , let  $\int_0^1 \varphi(t) dt = 0$  and  $\varphi(1) \neq \varphi(0)$ . Then every number  $c$  such that  $|c| \leq |\varphi(1) - \varphi(0)|/2$  is a limit point of the sequence  $(\varphi_{q^k}(x))_{k \geq 0}$  for almost all  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ , in particular for any  $x$  normal to base  $q$ .*

**THEOREM 2.** — *Let  $\varphi \in C^1([0, 1])$ , let  $\int_0^1 \varphi(t) dt = 0$  and let  $\varphi'$  be Lipschitz continuous on  $[0, 1]$ . Then*

- (1)  $\varphi(0) = \varphi(1) \Rightarrow \sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| < \infty$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ ;
- (2)  $\sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| < \infty$  for some  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \Rightarrow \varphi(0) = \varphi(1)$ ;
- (3)  $\varphi(1) < \varphi(0) \Rightarrow -\infty < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(0)$  and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(0) = +\infty$ ;
- (4)  $\varphi(1) > \varphi(0) \Rightarrow -\infty = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(0)$  and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(0) < +\infty$ ;

(if  $\omega(\delta) := \sup\{|\varphi'(x) - \varphi'(y)| : |x - y| < \delta, 0 \leq x, y \leq 1\}$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , denotes the modulus of continuity of  $\varphi'$ , then  $\varphi'$  called Lipschitz-continuous if  $\omega(\delta) \leq L \cdot \delta, \forall \delta > 0, L$  a positive constant).

The reader might want to compare theorem 2 (1) with theorem 7.8 in [7], and theorem 2 (3) and (4) with results on the one-sided boundedness of the discrepancy function (see [1]).

**THEOREM 3.** — Let  $\varphi \in C^1([0, 1])$  and let  $\int_0^1 \varphi(t) dt = 0$ . Then  $\varphi(1) \neq \varphi(0) \Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  normal to base  $q : (\varphi_n(x))_{n \geq 1}$  is dense in  $\mathbf{R}$ .

In particular, if  $\varphi(1) \neq \varphi(0)$  and if  $x$  is normal to base  $q$ , then  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(x) = -\infty$  and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(x) = +\infty$ .

The reader might want to compare theorem 3 with corollary C in [10].

**THEOREM 4.** — Let  $\varphi$  be as in theorem 3 and let  $T_\varphi : \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R}, T_\varphi(x, y) = (Tx, y + \varphi(x))$ . Then

- (1)  $\varphi(1) \neq \varphi(0) \Rightarrow T_\varphi$  ergodic;
- (2) let  $\varphi'$  be Lipschitz-continuous on  $[0, 1]$ . Then  $T_\varphi$  is ergodic if and only if  $\varphi(1) \neq \varphi(0)$ .

## 2. The proofs.

Let  $\mathbf{A}(q) = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z_i q^i : z_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\} \right\}$  denote the compact Abelian group of  $q$ -adic integers with the metric

$$\rho(z, z') := q^{-\min\{i: z_i \neq z'_i\}}$$

for  $z = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z_i q^i \neq z' = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z'_i q^i$  and  $\rho(z, z) := 0$ .

The homeomorphism  $S : \mathbf{A}(q) \rightarrow \mathbf{A}(q)$ ,  $Sz = z + 1$  ( $z \in \mathbf{A}(q)$ ,  $1 := 1 \cdot q^0 + 0 \cdot q^1 + 0 \cdot q^2 + \dots$ ) has a unique invariant Borel probability measure on  $\mathbf{A}(q)$ : the normalized Haar measure. The dynamical system  $(\mathbf{A}(q), S)$  is minimal (see [4]).

The map  $\Phi : \mathbf{A}(q) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $\Phi\left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z_i q^i\right) := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z_i q^{-(i+1)} \bmod 1$ , is measure preserving, continuous and surjective.

The  $q$ -adic representation of an element  $x$  of  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i q^{-(i+1)}$  with digits  $x_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\}$ , is unique under the condition  $x_i \neq q-1$  for infinitely many  $i$ . From now on we shall assume this uniqueness condition to hold for all  $x$ . Numbers  $x$  with  $x_i \neq 0$  for infinitely many  $i$  will be called *non- $q$ -adic*. In the following  $z = z(x)$  will denote the element

$$z = z(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i q^i$$

of  $\mathbf{A}(q)$  associated with  $x$ . One has

$$Tx = \Phi(z + 1)$$

and it is elementary to see :

- $T \circ \Phi(z) = \Phi \circ S(z)$ ,  $\forall z \in \mathbf{A}(q)$
- $x \in [aq^{-k}, (a+1)q^{-k}[$ ,  $0 \leq a < q^k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots \Rightarrow T^{q^k} x \in [aq^{-k}, (a+1)q^{-k}[$  and therefore  $|T^{q^k} x - x| < q^{-k}$ .
- $T$  permutes the open elementary  $q$ -adic intervals  $]aq^{-k}, (a+1)q^{-k}[$ ,  $0 \leq a < q^k$ , of length  $q^{-k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.** — *Let  $\varphi$  be continuously differentiable on the closed interval  $[0, 1]$  and let  $\int_0^1 \varphi(t) dt = 0$ . If  $\omega$  denotes the modulus of continuity of  $\varphi'$ , then for all  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  and for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$*

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \varphi_{q^k}(x) &= (\varphi(1) - \varphi(0))(\rho_k + \sigma_k - 1/2) + \mathcal{O}(\omega(q^{-k})) \\ &+ \mathcal{O}(\rho_k \cdot \omega(c(q) \cdot (q^k - z(k))^{-1} \log(q^k - z(k)))) \\ &+ \mathcal{O}(\sigma_k \cdot \omega(c(q) \cdot z(k)^{-1} \log z(k))), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i q^{-(i+1)} \\ z = z(x) &:= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i q^i \end{aligned}$$

$$z(k) := \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} x_i q^i \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\rho_k := (q^k - z(k)) \cdot \Phi(z - z(k))$$

$$\sigma_k := z(k) \cdot \Phi(z - z(k) + q^k)$$

and  $c(q)$  is a constant that depends only on  $q$ . The  $\mathcal{O}$ -constants that appear in identity (1) are all bounded from above by a constant that depends only on  $q$  and  $\varphi$ .

*Proof.* — It is easy to prove

$$\varphi_{q^k}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{q^k-1} \varphi(a_i q^{-k}) + \sum_{i=0}^{q^k-1} \varphi'(a_i q^{-k})(T^i x - a_i q^{-k}) + \mathcal{O}(\omega(q^{-k})),$$

where  $a_i$  is the uniquely determined integer with  $0 \leq a_i < q^k$  and  $T^i x \in [a_i q^{-k}, (a_i + 1)q^{-k}[$ . From proposition 1 in [6] it follows that

$$\sum_{i=0}^{q^k-1} \varphi(a_i q^{-k}) = -(\varphi(1) - \varphi(0))/2 + \mathcal{O}(\omega(q^{-k})).$$

Further

$$T^i x - a_i q^{-k} = \begin{cases} \Phi(z - z(k)) & 0 \leq i < q^k - z(k) \\ \Phi(z - z(k) + q^k) & q^k - z(k) \leq i < q^k. \end{cases}$$

By theorem 5.4, chapter 2 of [9]

$$(q^k - z(k))^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{q^k - z(k) - 1} \varphi'(a_i q^{-k}) = \varphi(1) - \varphi(0) + \mathcal{O}(\omega(D_{q^k - z(k)})),$$

where  $D_{q^k - z(k)}$  denotes the discrepancy of  $(a_i q^{-k})_{i=0}^{q^k - z(k) - 1}$ . As  $a_i q^{-k} = \Phi(z(k) + i)$ , this is a string in the Van-der-Corput-sequence to base  $q$ , and therefore the following discrepancy estimate holds (see [9] chapter 2, theorem 3.5 for the idea of the proof):

$$D_{q^k - z(k)} \leq c(q)(q^k - z(k))^{-1} \log(q^k - z(k)), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

$c(q)$  a constant that depends only on  $q$ .

With the same arguments one proves

$$z(k)^{-1} \sum_{i=q^k - z(k)}^{q^k - 1} \varphi'(a_i q^{-k}) = \varphi(1) - \varphi(0) + \mathcal{O}(\omega(c(q)z(k)^{-1} \log z(k))).$$

□

COROLLARY 1. — Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n = \sum_{i=0}^s n_i q^i$ , with  $n_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq s$ ,  $n_s \neq 0$ , and let  $n(k) := \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} n_i q^i$  if  $k = 1, \dots, s+1$ ,  $n(0) := 0$ .

If  $\sum_{k=0}^s$  denotes  $\sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ k:n_k \neq 0}}^s$  then

$$\varphi_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^s \sum_{\ell=0}^{n_k-1} \sum_{j=0}^{q^k-1} \varphi(T^{n(k)+\ell q^k+j} x).$$

Let

$$T^{n(k)+\ell q^k} x =: x^{k,\ell} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i^{k,\ell} q^{-(i+1)}$$

$$z^{k,\ell} := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i^{k,\ell} q^i$$

$$z^{k,\ell}(m) := \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i^{k,\ell} q^i \quad (m = 1, 2, \dots)$$

$$\rho_{k,\ell} := (q^k - z^{k,\ell}(k)) \cdot \Phi(z^{k,\ell} - z^{k,\ell}(k))$$

$$\sigma_{k,\ell} := z^{k,\ell}(k) \cdot \Phi(z^{k,\ell} - z^{k,\ell}(k) + q^k).$$

Then proposition 1 implies :

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_n(x) &= (\varphi(1) - \varphi(0)) \sum_{k=0}^s \sum_{\ell=0}^{n_k-1} (\rho_{k,\ell} + \sigma_{k,\ell} - 1/2) \\ (2) \quad &+ \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{k=0}^s n_k \omega(q^{-k})\right) \\ &+ \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{k=0}^s \sum_{\ell=0}^{n_k-1} (\rho_{k,\ell} \omega(c(q)(q^k - z^{k,\ell}(k))^{-1} \log(q^k - z^{k,\ell}(k)))\right. \\ &\left. + \sigma_{k,\ell} \omega(c(q)z^{k,\ell}(k)^{-1} \log z^{k,\ell}(k)))\right). \end{aligned}$$

The  $\mathcal{O}$ -constants in identity (2) are bounded from above by a constant that depends only on  $q$  and  $\varphi$ .

*Proof of theorem 1.* — Let  $x$  be normal to base  $q$  and let  $d = 0, d_0 d_1 d_2 \dots$  be an arbitrary number in  $[0, 1[$ . For any index  $k$  such that

$x_k < q - 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_k + \sigma_k &= (q^k - z(k)) \sum_{i \geq k} x_i q^{-i-1} + z(k) \left( \sum_{i \geq k} x_i q^{-i-1} + q^{-k-1} \right) \\ &= \sum_{i \geq 0} x_i q^{-|i-k|-1} . \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. Choose  $m$  such that  $q^{-m} < \varepsilon$ . As  $x$  is normal there are infinitely many  $k$  such that  $x_k < q - 1$

$$|\rho_k + \sigma_k - d| = |0, x_k x_{k+1} x_{k+2} \cdots + 0, 0 x_{k-1} x_{k-2} \cdots x_0 - d| < q^{-m}$$

(this imposes a condition on the digits  $x_k, x_{k \pm 1}, \dots, x_{k \pm m-1}$ )

$$x_{k-m} = q - 1 \quad , \quad x_{k-m-1} = 0 .$$

Then

$$z(k) \geq q^{k-m} \quad , \quad q^k - z(k) \geq q^{k-m-1}$$

and, if we choose  $k$  sufficiently large,

$$\omega(q^{-k}) < \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \omega(c(q)q^{-k+m+1} \log q^k) < \varepsilon .$$

If we put  $c := (\varphi(1) - \varphi(0))(d - 1/2)$ , then it follows directly that  $|\varphi_{q^k}(x) - c| = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$ . □

*Proof of theorem 2.* — (1) : Let  $\varphi(1) = \varphi(0)$ . It is  $\Phi(z - z(k)) < q^{-k}$  and  $\Phi(z - z(k) + q^k) < q^{-k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Hence for the third term in identity (2) we get the estimate

$$(3) \quad \sum_{k=0}^s \sum_{\ell=0}^{n_k-1} (\rho_{k,\ell} \cdots + \cdots \log z^{k,\ell}(k)) \leq 2qLc(q) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^{-k} \log q^k < +\infty .$$

Thus the first part of the theorem is proved.

(2) : Let  $\sup |\varphi_n(x)| < +\infty$  for some  $x \in \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  and let  $z := z(x)$ . The map  $\varphi \circ \Phi : \mathbf{A}(q) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous and  $(\mathbf{A}(q), S)$  is a minimal (topological) dynamical system. We have

$$\sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| = \sup_n \left| \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \varphi \circ \Phi(S^k z) \right| < +\infty .$$

By theorem 14.11 of [3] there is a continuous function  $g : \mathbf{A}(q) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  such that  $\varphi \circ \Phi(z) = g(z) - g(Sz)$ ,  $\forall z \in \mathbf{A}(q)$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} -(\varphi(1) - \varphi(0))/2 &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{q^k}(0) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=0}^{q^k-1} \varphi \circ \Phi(S^i 0) \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (g(0) - g(q^k)) = 0 ; \end{aligned}$$



(here we use proposition 1 in [6] to prove the first equality).

(3) : We shall prove  $-\infty < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(0)$ , then part (2) will imply the remaining statement. Because of identity (2) and inequality (3) it is enough to show, for  $x = 0$ ,

$$\Sigma_n := \sum_{k=0}^s ' \sum_{\ell=0}^{n_k-1} (\rho_{k,\ell} + \sigma_{k,\ell} - 1/2) \leq K, \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}$$

with some constant  $K$ . If  $x = 0$  then  $z^{k,\ell} = n(k) + \ell q^k$  and  $z^{k,\ell}(k) = n(k)$ . Hence  $\rho_{k,\ell} = (q^k - n(k))\ell q^{-(k+1)}$  and  $\sigma_{k,\ell} = n(k)(\ell + 1)q^{-(k+1)}$ . Thus

$$\Sigma_n = \sum_{k=0}^s ' n_k ((n_k - 1)/(2q) + n(k)q^{-(k+1)} - 1/2).$$

The statement then follows because  $(n_k - 1)/(2q) + n(k)q^{-(k+1)} - 1/2 < 0$ .

(4) : The idea of the proof is the same as in (3).  $\square$

*Remark.* — In theorem 2 (1), (3) and (4) one can weaken the condition on the modulus of continuity of  $\varphi'$  to  $\omega(\delta) = \mathcal{O}(|\log \delta|^{-1-\varepsilon})$  with some  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

*Proof of theorem 3.* — The idea of the proof is as follows. Let  $(k_m)_{m \geq 1}$  be a strictly increasing sequence of positive integers. If  $n = q^{k_1} + \dots + q^{k_s}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_n(x) &= (\varphi(1) - \varphi(0)) \sum_{m=1}^s (\rho_{k_m} + \sigma_{k_m} - 1/2) + \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{m=1}^s \omega(q^{-k_m})\right) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_{m=1}^s \rho_{k_m} \omega(c(q)(q^{k_m} - z^{k_m}(k_m))^{-1} \log(q^{k_m} - z^{k_m}(k_m)))\right) \\ &\quad + \sigma_{k_m} \omega(c(q)(z^{k_m}(k_m))^{-1} \log z^{k_m}(k_m)) \end{aligned}$$

with  $x = 0, x_0 x_1 x_2 \dots$ ,  $z = z(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x_i q^i$ ,  $z^{k_m} = z + q^{k_1} + \dots + q^{k_{m-1}}$

and, if  $x_{k_m} \leq q - 2$ ,

$$\rho_{k_m} + \sigma_{k_m} = 0, \quad x_{k_m} x_{k_m+1} \dots + 0, \quad 0 x_{k_m-1} x_{k_m-2} \dots x_0.$$

Now, let  $d \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x \in [0, 1[$  normal to base  $q$  be given. We shall prove that there is a positive integer  $m_0$  and a strictly increasing sequence  $(k_m)_{m \geq m_0}$  such that

$$|\varphi_n(x) - d| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } n = q^{k_{m_0}} + \dots + q^{k_s} \text{ sufficiently large.}$$

Let  $m_0$  be such that  $\sum_{m \geq m_0} q^{-m} < \varepsilon$ . Let  $(a_m)_{m \geq m_0}$  be a sequence in  $[0, 1[$

such that

$$d = (\varphi(1) - \varphi(0)) \sum_{m \geq m_0} (a_m - 1/2).$$

The number  $x$  is normal to base  $q$ . Hence there are infinitely many  $k = k(m)$  such that

1.  $x_k \leq q - 2$
2.  $x_{k-2m} = 1$   
 $x_{k-2m-1} = x_{k+2m} = x_{k+2m+1} = 0$
3.  $|\rho_k + \sigma_k - a_m| < q^{-m}(\varphi(1) - \varphi(0))^{-1}$ ,  $\forall m \geq m_0$ ;

(this condition defines a string of digits  $x_{k-2m+1}, \dots, x_{k+2m-1}$ ). Hence we may choose a strictly increasing sequence  $(k_m)_{m \geq m_0}$  such that these three conditions hold for every  $k_m$  and such that

4.  $k_m + 2m + 1 < k_{m+1}$
5.  $\sum_{m \geq m_0} \omega(q^{-k_m}) < \varepsilon$
6.  $\sum_{m \geq m_0} \omega(c(q)q^{-k_m+2m+1} \log q^{k_m}) < \varepsilon$ .

Then if  $n = q^{k_{m_0}} + \dots + q^{k_s}$  ( $s \geq m_0$ ),

$$|\varphi_n(x) - d| = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon),$$

and therefore the sequence  $(\varphi_n(x))_{n \geq 1}$  is dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . □

*Remark.* — Theorem 3 gives an alternative to the proof of theorem 2 (2), this time without a condition on the modulus of continuity of  $\varphi'$ :

If  $\sup_n |\varphi_n(x)| < \infty$  for some  $x \in [0, 1[$ , then this holds for all  $x$  by the theorem of Gottschalk and Hedlund. Hence  $\varphi(1) = \varphi(0)$ , otherwise a contradiction to theorem 3 would arise for any  $x$  normal to base  $q$ .

*Proof of theorem 4.*

(1) is proved in the very same way as the theorem of [6].

(2) : Let  $L_2$  stand for  $L_2(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}, \lambda)$ . Then  $\varphi(1) = \varphi(0)$  implies  $\sup_n \|\varphi_n\|_{L_2} < +\infty$ . By Lemma 2.2 in [4] there exists an element  $g$  of  $L_2$  such that  $\varphi = g - g \circ T \pmod{\lambda}$ . This implies that  $(x, y) \mapsto$

$(Tx, y + \varphi(x) \bmod 1)$  is not ergodic on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$  and therefore  $T_\varphi$  cannot be ergodic on  $\mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{R}$  (see [5], part. I : remarks).  $\square$

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