

TMA4170 Fourier Analysis

Weyl's ergodic theorem

Lemma (Weyl):

$$\gamma \in (0,1) \setminus \mathbb{Q}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad f \in C(\mathbb{R}) \text{ 1-periodic} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N f(x + n\gamma) = \int_0^1 f(y) dy$$

Equivalently:

Dynamical system $x_n = \langle x + n\gamma \rangle$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$ is ergodic.

$$a = \underbrace{[a]}_{\mathbb{Z}} + \underbrace{\langle a \rangle}_{[0,1)}, \text{ integer + frac. part}$$

Corollary:

$$\gamma \in (0,1) \setminus \mathbb{Q}, \quad (a,b) \subset (0,1), \quad x \in [0,1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \chi_{(a,b)}(x + n\gamma) = b - a$$

$\uparrow$ 1-periodic extension

Weyl's equidistribution theorem

$\{\xi_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset [0,1)$ equidistributed if $\forall (a,b) \subset [0,1)$,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\frac{\#\{1 \leq n \leq N : \xi_n \in (a,b)\}}{N}}_{\text{frequency of times } \xi_n \in (a,b) \text{ for } n \leq N} = \underbrace{b-a}_{\frac{|(a,b)|}{|[0,1)|}}$$

$\#A = \text{no. of points in } A$

Theorem (Weyl):

$$\gamma \in (0,1) \setminus \mathbb{Q}, \quad x \in [0,1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \{\langle x + n\gamma \rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \text{ equidistributed}$$

Examples:

- (a) Equidistributed: $\{0, \frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, 0, \frac{1}{4}, \dots\}$, $\{\langle n \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$
- (b) Not: $\{\langle n\gamma \rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \stackrel{\gamma = \frac{p}{q}}{=} \{0, \gamma, \dots, \langle q\gamma \rangle\}$; $\{\xi_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, $\xi = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & n \text{ even} \\ 0, & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$
- enumeration of $(0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q}$
- finite set dense