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**A CLASS OF MEASURE PRESERVING TRANSFORMATIONS**

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In this paper we shall consider the following class of transformations of the unit interval onto itself. Let  $\pi$  be a permutation of the positive integers, that is, a one-to-one mapping of the positive integers onto themselves. Let  $t$  ( $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ) be represented in its dyadic expansion:

$$t = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon_k(t)}{2^k}, \quad \epsilon_k = 0 \text{ or } 1.$$

Then we define

$$T_{\pi}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon_{\pi(k)}(t)}{2^k}.$$

$T_{\pi}(t)$  "shuffles" the digits in the dyadic expansion of  $t$ .

Our motivation in considering these transformations lies in the fact that they form a nontrivial class of measurable transformations with a simple intuitive interpretation and may be utilized to illustrate several of the concepts of ergodic theory.

## 1. Measurability and ergodicity considerations.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *For every choice of  $\pi$ ,  $T_{\pi}$  is a measure preserving transformation.*

*Proof.* Let  $X_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots$ ) be the space consisting of the two real numbers 0 and 1 endowed with a measure  $m$  defined by  $m(0)=1/2$ ,  $m(1)=1/2$ . Consider the product space  $X = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} X_i$  (where we omit those products for which all but a finite number of factors=1) and define the measure of a "rectangle"  $\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$ ,  $E_i \subset X_i$  by  $\mu(\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} m(E_i)$  then it can be shown [1, p. 159] that the above measure is capable of extension to a measure on a  $\sigma$  algebra of subsets containing the rectangles in such a fashion that the mapping

$$\varphi: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

defined by

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$$\varphi(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x_k}{2^k} \quad x_i = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

sends the measurable subsets  $S$  of  $X$  onto the Lebesgue measurable sets of  $[0, 1]$ , with  $\mu(S)$  = Lebesgue measure of  $\varphi(S)$ . To demonstrate that  $T_\pi$  is measure preserving we need only show that this is the case for product sets. But this is trivial since  $T_\pi$  merely rearranges the factors in a product set and the measure of a product set is obviously invariant under a permutation of its factors.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *A necessary and sufficient condition for  $T_\pi(t)$  to be a metrically transitive (ergodic) transformation is that neither the permutation  $\pi$  nor any of its iterates possess a fixed point.*

*Proof.* For the definition of metric transitivity we refer to [2, p. 29]. We note that transformations satisfying the hypotheses of the theorem exist for example,  $\pi(1)=2$ ,  $\pi(2k)=2k+2$ ,  $\pi(2k+1)=\pi(2k-1)$  consisting of a single infinite cycle is easily seen to have the desired properties. The demonstration of necessity is quite easy. Suppose that  $\pi^{(n)}$  ( $\pi^{(n)}$  denoting the  $n$ th iterate of  $\pi$ ) has a fixed point  $k_0$ . That is,  $\pi^{(n)}(k_0)=k_0$ . Let  $\pi(k_0)=k_1$ ,  $\pi^{(2)}(k_0)=k_2, \dots, \pi^{(n-1)}(k_0)=k_{n-1}$ , then  $\pi$  permutes the set  $S: (k_0, k_1, \dots, k_{n-1})$ . Consider the set

$$B = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \quad A_k = X_k, \quad k \notin S$$

$$A_k = 1, \quad k \in S$$

This set has measure  $2^{-n}$  and is clearly invariant under  $T_\pi$ , but a transformation leaving a set of positive measure invariant is not metrically transitive. The sufficiency requires a more extended argument. It is our object to show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are measurable sets with characteristic functions  $\varphi_A$  and  $\varphi_B$  respectively and if neither  $\pi$  nor any of its iterates has a fixed point then

$$(1.1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_X \varphi_A[T_\pi^n(P)] \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) = \left[ \int_X \varphi_A(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int_X \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) \right]$$

which is of course equivalent to

$$(1.2) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(T_\pi^n(A) \cap B) = \mu(A)\mu(B) .$$

But this is the strong mixing property which implies metric transitivity and ergodicity [2, p. 36]. Our proof is in two parts. First we demonstrate the theorem for the case where  $\varphi_A(P)$  and  $\varphi_B(P)$  depend only upon a finite number of factors in the product space and then reduce

the general case to this special one. Suppose now that  $\varphi_A(P)$  and  $\varphi_B(P)$  depend only on a finite number of factors, say

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_A(P) &= \varphi_A(X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n}) \\ \varphi_B(P) &= \varphi_B(X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n})\end{aligned}$$

Since neither  $\pi$  nor any of its iterates has a fixed point there exists an  $N$  such that for  $n > N$ ,  $\varphi_A(T_\pi^n P)$  does not depend on any of the factors  $X_{k_1}, \dots, X_{k_n}$ , but for all such  $n$

$$\int \varphi_A(T^n P) \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) = \left[ \int \varphi_A(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) \right],$$

which proves our assertion for the special case. In the general case we observe that the characteristic function of any measurable set may be approximated in the  $L^1$  sense arbitrarily closely by the characteristic function of a set depending on only a finite number of factors. (For a proof see [2, pp. 4, 57]). Now given  $\varphi_A(P)$ ,  $\varphi_B(P)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  we choose  $\varphi_{A'}(P)$  and  $\varphi_{B'}(P)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\int |\varphi_A(P) - \varphi_{A'}(P)| d\mu(P) &< \varepsilon \\ \int |\varphi_B(P) - \varphi_{B'}(P)| d\mu(P) &< \varepsilon\end{aligned}$$

where  $\varphi_{A'}$  and  $\varphi_{B'}$  depend on only a finite number of factors. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(1.3) \quad & \left| \int \varphi_A(T^n P) \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) - \left[ \int \varphi_A(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) \right] \right| \\ (1.4) \quad & \leq \left| \int \varphi_A(T^n P) \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) - \int \varphi_{A'}(T^n P) \varphi_{B'}(P) d\mu(P) \right| \\ & + \left| \left[ \int \varphi_{A'}(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int \varphi_{B'}(P) d\mu(P) \right] - \left[ \int \varphi_A(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int \varphi_B(P) d\mu(P) \right] \right| \\ (1.5) \quad & + \left| \int \varphi_{A'}(T_\pi^n(P)) \varphi_{B'}(P) d\mu(P) - \left[ \int \varphi_{A'}(P) d\mu(P) \right] \left[ \int \varphi_{B'}(P) d\mu(P) \right] \right|.\end{aligned}$$

Our choice of  $\varphi_{A'}(P)$  and  $\varphi_{B'}(P)$  together with the measure preserving property of  $T_\pi$  implies that (1.3) and (1.4) are each smaller than  $2\varepsilon$ . Assuming (1.1) is true for the special case we have (1.5)  $< \varepsilon$  for  $n \geq N(\varepsilon)$ . Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(T_\pi^n(A) \cap B) = \mu(A) \cdot \mu(B),$$

and the theorem is completely demonstrated. The techniques employed in the sufficiency proof were utilized for another purpose by Hopf [2, p. 57].

2. **Convergence of certain series.** We now turn our attention to an examination of the convergence of

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f(T_{\pi^k} x)}{k}$$

and

$$(2.2) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f(T_{\pi^{\lambda_k}} x)}{k}, \quad \lambda_k \text{ a subsequence of the positive integers.}$$

The almost everywhere convergence of (2.1) yields a strengthened form of the Birkhoff ergodic theorem, for if (2.1) converges,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \sum_{k=0}^n f(T_{\pi^k} x) = 0.$$

This fact is an immediate consequence of the well known theorem that the convergence of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n/n$  implies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1/n) \sum_{i=1}^n c_i = 0.$$

We are not able to establish convergence of (2.1) under the very mild restrictions placed on  $f(x)$  in order for the ergodic theorem to hold. It is clear from the example  $f(x) = \text{constant}$  that mere integrability of  $f$  is not enough. Our consideration of series of the form (2.2) is motivated by studies of Kac [3, 4] regarding series of the form

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f(T^k x)}{k} \quad T(x) = 2x \pmod{1}$$

and

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f(n_k x)}{k}, \quad n_k \text{ integers, } n_k/n_{k+1} > q > 1.$$

The techniques employed in the study of (2.4) can be made to yield some results concerning convergence of (2.2) although, as would be expected from the greater complexity of the transformations considered here, the results are not so sharp as those obtained by Kac.

Before stating and proving the results of this section we must make some preliminary remarks. Our main tool will be the concept of quasi-orthogonal functions developed by Menchoff.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** A sequence of functions  $\{f_n(x)\}_{n=1, 2, \dots}$  is said to be quasi-orthogonal on a set  $A$  if the quadratic form

$$\sum_{j, k=1}^{\infty} a_{jk} x_j x_k \qquad a_{jk} = \int_A f_j(x) f_k(x) dx$$

is bounded in Hilbert space, that is, there exists a constant  $B$  independent of the  $x_j$  such that

$$\left| \sum_{j, k=1}^{\infty} a_{jk} x_j x_k \right| \leq B \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x_j^2 .$$

Observe that an orthogonal sequence of functions is quasi-orthogonal since in this case  $a_{jk} = \delta_{jk}$  and

$$\sum_{j, k=1}^{\infty} a_{jk} x_j x_k \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x_j^2$$

The importance of quasi-orthogonality lies in the fact that Bessel's inequality holds in the sense that if

$$\int_A F(x) f_k(x) dx = C_k$$

then there exists a constant  $D$  such that

$$\int_A F^2(x) dx \geq D \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_k^2$$

thus every theorem on sequences of orthogonal functions which utilizes only Bessel's inequality in its proof is also valid for sequences of quasi-orthogonal functions. In particular we shall need the fact that the following theorem of Menchoff [5, p. 236] is valid for quasi-orthogonal functions.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *If  $\{\theta_k(x)\}$  is a sequence of orthogonal functions then  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \theta_k(x)$  converges almost everywhere provided*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 \log^2 k < \infty$$

**DEFINITION 2.2.** Let  $t = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon_k(t)}{2^k}$  then the Rademacher functions  $r_k(t)$  are defined as follows

$$r_k(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \varepsilon_k(t) = 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } \varepsilon_k(t) = 1 . \end{cases}$$

It is well known that the Rademacher functions form an incomplete orthonormal set on  $[0, 1]$ . Moreover the Rademacher functions are sta-

tistically independent, that is, denoting Lebesgue measure by  $\mu$ , we have

$$\mu \{t|r_1(t) < a_1, \dots, r_n(t) < a_n\} = \prod_{k=1}^n \mu \{t|r_k(t) < a_k\} .$$

DEFINITION 2.3. The sequence of functions  $\{\psi_k(x)\}$  defined by

$$\psi_0(x) = 1$$

$$\psi_n(x) = r_{n_1}(x) \cdots r_{n_k}(x) \text{ for } n = 2^{n_1} + \cdots + 2^{n_k}$$

where the  $r_{n_k}(x)$  are Rademacher functions, are called the Walsh functions. They form a complete orthonormal set (the completion of the Rademacher functions) and hence for every  $f(x) \in L^2$  on  $[0, 1]$  the Walsh-Fourier series

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \psi_k(x) \quad c_k = \int_0^1 f(x) \psi_k(x) dx$$

converges to  $f(x)$  in the  $L^2$  mean.

We are now ready to prove our theorems. In each of them it will be assumed that neither  $\pi$  nor any of its iterates has a fixed point.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *The series (2.1) either converges almost everywhere or diverges almost everywhere in  $[0, 1]$ .*

*Proof.* Denote by  $C$  the set of points where the series converges. This set is invariant under  $T_\pi$  but since  $T_\pi$  is metrically transitive, either  $C$  or its complement is a zero set.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Suppose  $f(x)$  satisfies*

$$(a) \quad |f(x) - f(x')| \leq |x - x'|^\alpha \quad \alpha > 1/2,$$

$$(b) \quad \int_0^1 f(x) dx = 0$$

then  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f(T_\pi^k x)$  converges almost everywhere provided

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 \log^2 k < \infty$$

*Proof.* We shall demonstrate that hypotheses (a) and (b) insure that the sequence  $\{f(T_\pi^k x)\}$  is quasi-orthogonal. To do this we expand  $f(x)$  in a Walsh-Fourier series

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \psi_k(x) , \quad c_k = \int_0^1 f(x) \psi_k(x) dx .$$

Then

$$f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) \sim \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \psi_k(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) .$$

But the transformation  $T_{\pi}$  permutes the Walsh functions. Hence

$$f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) \sim \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)} \psi_k(x) ,$$

where the  $c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)}$  are the Walsh-Fourier coefficients of  $f(x)$  in some order. It was shown by Fine [6, p. 394] that the conditions (a) on  $f(x)$  is sufficient to insure the absolute convergence of the Walsh-Fourier development of  $f(x)$ . By Parseval's relation,

$$\int_0^1 f(x) f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) dx = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)} .$$

Hence

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} \left| \int_0^1 f(x) f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) dx \right| \leq \sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)} \right| \leq \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |c_k| \right) \left( \sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} |c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)}| \right) .$$

Since the Walsh-Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is absolutely convergent, its sum is independent of a rearrangement of its terms and

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} |c_{\varphi(\lambda, k)}| < M \quad (\text{independent of } k) .$$

Thus

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} \left| \int_0^1 f(x) f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) dx \right| \leq M \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |c_k| \leq M^2 .$$

Setting

$$a_{jk} = \int_0^1 f(x) f(T_{\pi}^{j-k} x) dx ,$$

we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |a_{jk}| \leq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \int_0^1 f(x) f(T_{\pi}^{j-k} x) dx \right| \leq 2M^2 .$$

By the triangular inequality and the trivial inequality

$$|x_j x_k| \leq x_j^2 + x_k^2 ,$$

we have



$$\left| \sum_{k,j=1}^{\infty} a_{jk} x_j x_k \right| \leq \sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} |a_{jk} x_j|^2 + \sum_{k,j=1}^{\infty} |a_{jk}| x_k^2 \leq 4M^2 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} x_j^2 .$$

Therefore  $\{f(T_{\pi}^k x)\}$  is quasi-orthogonal, and applying Theorem 2.1 we have our result. For the case of convergence in the  $L^2$  mean we have as an almost immediate consequence of Theorem 2.3 the following.

**THEOREM 2.4.** *If  $\{f(T_{\pi}^k x)\}$  is quasi-orthogonal the series*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f(T_{\pi}^k x)$$

*converges in the mean of order 2 provided that*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 < \infty .$$

*Proof.* we have

$$\left| \int_0^1 \left[ \sum_{\lambda=m}^{\lambda=n} c_{\lambda} f(T_{\pi}^{\lambda} x) \right]^2 dx \right| = \left| \sum_{j,k=m}^n c_k c_j \int_0^1 f(T_{\pi}^k x) f(T_{\pi}^j x) dx \right| \leq 4M^2 \sum_{k=m}^n c_k^2 .$$

But the convergence of  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2$  implies the last term is arbitrarily small for  $m$  and  $n$  large enough.

The smoothness restrictions on  $f(x)$  in the above two theorems are heavy, and it might be conjectured that as in the case of the ergodic theorem only the restrictions that  $f(x)$  be integrable (or of course square integrable in the case of Theorem 2.4) are necessary. We are unable to answer this for the case of pointwise convergence, but in the case of mean convergence the answer is in the negative. For Halmos has shown [7, pp. 286-88] that for an arbitrary metrically transitive transformation  $T$  there functions in  $L^2$  for which

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(T^k x)}{k}$$

does not converge in the mean. His proof depends upon the spectral resolution of the unitary operator  $U$  in the Hilbert space of  $L^2$  functions defined by  $Uf(x) = f(Tx)$ .

We now turn our attention to the convergence of certain gap series of the form (2.2).

**THEOREM 2.5.** *Suppose*

$$(a) \quad |f(x) - f(x')| < |x - x'|^{\alpha} , \quad 0 < \alpha < 1 ,$$

(b) 
$$\int_0^1 f(x) dx = 0 .$$

Then there exists a subsequence  $\{\lambda_k\}$  of the positive integers (the subsequence depending on the permutation  $\pi$  but not on  $f(x)$ ) such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f(T_{\pi^k} x)$$

converges almost everywhere, provided that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 < \infty .$$

*Proof.* Utilizing a device of Kac [8, p. 652] we construct a sequence of functions  $\{f_k(x)\}$  satisfying

(1) 
$$\int_0^1 f_k(x) dx = 0 ,$$

(2) 
$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 \int_0^1 f_k^2(x) dx < \infty ,$$

(3) 
$$|f(x) - f_k(x)| < B/2^{\alpha k} \quad (0 < \alpha < 1),$$

(4)  $\{f_k(T_{\pi^k} x)\}$  is a subsequence of independent functions.

The construction goes as follows. Divide the interval  $[0, 1]$  into  $2^k$  parts. Let

$$f_k(x) = \frac{1}{2^k} \int_{r/2^k}^{r+1/2^k} f(t) dt, \quad \frac{r}{2^k} \leq x \leq \frac{r+1}{2^k} \quad r=0, 1, \dots, 2^k-1.$$

An easy calculation shows that (1) holds. Since

$$\sup |f_k(x)| \leq \sup |f(x)| \leq M$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2 \int_0^1 |f_k(x)|^2 dx \leq M^2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k^2$$

which proves (2).

The construction of the  $f_k(x)$  and hypothesis (a) imply (3). To prove (4) we need the following.

**LEMMA.** *Let  $J$  be a fixed finite collection of integers. Let  $\pi$  be the permutation defining  $T$ , then an integer  $n_0$  can be so chosen that  $\{\pi^n(1), \dots, \pi^n(k)\} \cap J = \phi$  if  $n > n_0$ . ( $\phi$  denotes the empty set.)*

*Proof.*  $\pi$  is a permutation without fixed points, hence there exists

an integer  $n_1$  such that for  $n > n_1$ ,  $\pi^n(1) \cap J = \phi$ . Similarly there exist  $n_j$  such that  $\pi^n(j) \cap J = \phi$ ,  $n > n_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$ . Now choose  $n_0 = \max(n_1, \dots, n_k)$ .

If  $x = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_k(x)/2^k$ ,  $f_k(x)$  being a step function with jumps at points  $r/2^k$ , is of the form  $f_k(x) = F_k(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_k)$ . Suppose we have chosen  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  so that  $f_1(T^{\lambda_1}x) \dots f_n(T^{\lambda_n}x)$  are independent. Now choose  $\lambda_{n+1}$  such that  $\pi^{\lambda_{n+1}}(j) \neq \pi^{\lambda_k}(m)$ ,  $m < \lambda_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n+1$ . To see that this is possible take  $J = \{\pi^{\lambda_k}(m)\}$ ,  $m < \lambda_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ , and apply our lemma. Now

$$f_{n+1}(T^{\lambda_{n+1}}x) = F_{n+1}(\varepsilon_x^{\lambda_{n+1}}(1), \dots, \varepsilon_x^{\lambda_{n+1}}(n+1))$$

is independent of  $f_k(T^{\lambda_k}x)$ ,  $\lambda_k < n$ , and (4) is proved. The series

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f_k(T^{\lambda_k}x)$$

converges almost everywhere by the Kolmogoroff three series theorem.

Since  $|f_k(T^{\lambda_k}x) - f(T^{\lambda_k}x)| < B/2^{\alpha k}$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f(T^{\lambda_k}x)$  converges almost everywhere, and the proof of Theorem 2.5 is complete.

Upon specializing the permutation  $\pi$  our results can be considerably strengthened. We illustrate by an example. Let  $\pi = (\dots 5312468 \dots)$ . Then if  $f(x)$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 2.5,  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k f(T^{\lambda_k}x)$  converges for all sequences of integers  $\{\lambda_k\}$  such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda_{k+1}}{\lambda_k} > c > 2.$$

One sees this by noting that for  $k$  sufficiently large

$$\lambda_{k+1} > \lambda_k + (k+2).$$

But then the sequence of functions  $\{f_k(T^{\lambda_k}x)\}$  is independent. It might be conjectured that for a suitable permutation even the sequence  $\{f_k(T^{\lambda_k}x)\}$  is independent. This is not the case, however, by virtue of the following combinatorial lemma, which is of possible independent interest.

**LEMMA.** *If  $\pi$  is a permutation containing at least one infinite cycle then it is impossible that*

$$\pi(1), \pi^2(1), \pi^2(2), \dots, \pi^k(1), \dots, \pi^k(k), \dots$$

*are all distinct integers.*

*Proof.* Let  $(\dots k_1, k_2, \dots)$  be an infinite cycle. Then it is impossible that  $\pi(k_\lambda) < k_\lambda$  for all except a finite number of  $\lambda$ , since if this were the case then  $\{k_\lambda\}$  for  $\lambda$  sufficiently large would be a strictly decreasing infinite sequence of positive integers which is impossible. Hence there exist infinitely many  $\lambda$  such that  $\pi(k_\lambda) > k_\lambda$ . Call this sequence again  $\{k_\lambda\}$ . If  $\pi(k_j) = u_j$  then  $u_j + 1 \geq k_j$  and  $\pi^{u_j+1}(k_j) = \pi^{u_j}(u_j)$

**3. A statistical remark.**

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Given a transformation  $T_\pi$  there exists a subsequence  $\{\lambda_k\}$  of positive integers depending on  $\pi$  but not on  $f(x)$  such that if  $f(x)$  satisfies a Lipschitz condition of order  $\alpha$  and*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \left\| \sum_{k=0}^n c_k f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) \right\|^2 = \sigma^2 \neq 0 \qquad \sum_{k=0}^\infty c_k^2 < M,$$

where

$$\|f\|^2 = \int_0^1 f^2 dx,$$

then

$$\mu \left\{ t \mid a < \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n c_k f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t)}{\sqrt{n}} < b \right\} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_a^b \exp(-u^2/2\sigma^2) du,$$

that is, the sequence

$$n^{-1/2} \sum_{k=0}^n c_k f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t)$$

is asymptotically normally distributed.

*Proof.* By the proof of Theorem 2.5 we can find a sequence of statistically independent functions  $\{f_k(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t)\}$  such that

$$\left\| f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) - f_k(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) \right\| \leq \frac{B}{2^{k\alpha}}.$$

Hence

$$\left\| \sum_{k=0}^n c_k f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) - \sum_{k=0}^n c_k f_k(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) \right\| \leq B' \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{1}{2^{k\alpha}} < \text{constant} \quad (B' = \max |c_k| + B).$$

Thus given  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\left\| \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n c_k f(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t) - \sum_{k=0}^n c_k f_k(T_\pi^{k\lambda} t)}{\sqrt{n}} \right\| < \varepsilon$$

if  $n$  is sufficiently large. We may now proceed exactly as in the proof of a theorem of Kac [4, Theorem 1, pp. 41–42] with  $f_k(T_{\pi^k}^n x)$  playing the role of  $\varphi_k(T_{\pi^k}^n x)$  and with  $2^k t$  replaced by  $T_{\pi^k}^n t$  to obtain our result.

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