

Hopf's ergodic theorem on Fuchsian groups.

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1. Hopf's theorem.

Let a non-euclidean metric in $|z| < 1$ be defined by

$$ds = \frac{2|dz|}{1-|z|^2}, \quad d\sigma = \frac{4dxdy}{(1-|z|^2)^2} \quad (z=x+iy). \quad (1)$$

Let $\eta_1 = e^{i\theta}$, $\eta_2 = e^{i\varphi}$ be two points on $|z|=1$, then the pair (η_1, η_2) can be considered as a point of a torus $\Theta : 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, 0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi$. For a measurable set E on Θ , we define its measure by

$$\mu(E) = \iint_E d\theta d\varphi, \quad \text{so that} \quad \mu(\Theta) = 4\pi^2. \quad (2)$$

Let G be a Fuchsian group of linear transformations, which make $|z| < 1$ invariant and S_ν be any substitution of G and

$$T_\nu : \eta'_1 = S_\nu(\eta_1), \quad \eta'_2 = S_\nu(\eta_2),$$

then the totality of T_ν constitutes a group $\mathfrak{G} = G \times G$. Hopf¹⁾ proved

THEOREM 1. *Let D_0 be the fundamental domain of G . If $\sigma(D_0) < \infty$, then there exists no measurable set E on Θ , which is invariant by \mathfrak{G} and $0 < \mu(E) < 4\pi^2$, so that if $\mu(E) > 0$, then $\mu(E) = 4\pi^2$.*

In the former paper²⁾, I gave another proof of the theorem. I could simplify my former proof a little, which we shall show in § 3 and as an application of the theorem, we shall prove an analogue of Weyl's theorem on uniform distribution for Fuchsian groups in § 5.

1) E. Hopf: Fuchsian groups and ergodic theory. Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **39** (1936). Ergodentheorie. Berlin (1937).

2) M. Tsuji: On Hopf's ergodic theorem. Proc. Imp. Acad. (1944). Jap. Journ. Math. **19** (1945).