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DISTRIBUTION MODULO 1 AND SETS OF UNIQUENESS

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A linear set $E \subset (0, 1)$ is said to be a set of uniqueness (set U) for trigonometric expansion if no trigonometric series exists (except vanishing identically) which converges to zero in the set CE complementary to E . Following Nina Bary we shall say that E is a set of uniqueness “in the wide sense” (set U^*) if no Fourier-Stieltjes series exists (except vanishing identically) which converges to zero in CE . If E is a closed set U^* it means (see [1, Vol. 1, pp. 344–359, Vol. 2, p. 160]) that E does not carry any measure whose Fourier-Stieltjes coefficients tend to zero. If E is a closed set U (i.e. of uniqueness “strict sense”) it means that E does not carry any measure or *pseudo-measure* (cf. [2]) with coefficients tending to zero.

DEFINITION. A real sequence of numbers $\{u_k\}_1^\infty$ will be said to be “badly distributed” modulo 1 if there exists at least one characteristic function $X(x)$ of open interval $\Delta \subset (0, 1)$ periodic with period 1 such that

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X(u_1) + \cdots + X(u_k)}{k} < \int_0^1 X(x) dx = |\Delta|$$

when $|\Delta|$ stands for the length of Δ .¹

REMARK. It is easy to see that under this hypothesis there exists a Δ with rational end-points having the same property.

THEOREM. Let $E \subset (0, 1)$ be a linear set such that there exists an infinite sequence of positive integers $\{n_k\}_1^\infty$ increasing to infinity, with the

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¹ The reader will convince himself that all the argument which follows is applicable in the case we suppose $\liminf > \Delta$.