

54. Properties of Ergodic Affine Transformations of Locally Compact Groups. II

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This is a continuation of the preceding paper [5]. The followings shall be proved below: (1) If G is a locally compact non-discrete abelian group which has an ergodic affine transformation S with respect to a Haar measure on G then G is compact. (2) An affine transformation S of a locally compact abelian group G which has a dense orbit in G is ergodic with respect to a Haar measure on G .

Theorem 1. *If G is a locally compact non-discrete abelian group which has an ergodic affine transformation $S(x)=a+T(x)$ with respect to a Haar measure μ on G then G is compact.*

Proof. Let G_0 be the connected component of the identity 0 of G . Since T is bi-continuous by virtue of [5, Theorem 1], G_0 is invariant under T . Thus S induces an affine transformation S_1 of G/G_0 in the following way

$$S_1(x+G_0)=a+T(x)+G_0 \quad \text{for } x+G_0 \in G/G_0.$$

It is clear that S_1 is ergodic with respect to a Haar measure μ_1 on G/G_0 .

Case I. Let G_0 be not open in G . Then G/G_0 is a locally compact totally disconnected non-discrete abelian group which has an ergodic affine transformation with respect to a Haar measure on G/G_0 . Hence G/G_0 is compact by [5, Theorem 3], from which it follows easily that G is compactly generated. Thus the well-known structure theorem for a locally compact, compactly generated abelian group (see [1, Theorem (9.8)]) implies that G is topologically isomorphic with $R^p \times Z^q \times F$ for some nonnegative integers p and q and some compact abelian group F , where R is the real line and Z is the additive group of integers. But in the present case $q=0$, i.e., G is topologically isomorphic with $R^p \times F$. For if $q \neq 0$ then $G/(R^p \times F) = Z^q$ is not finite, which is impossible since $R^p \times F$ is an open subgroup of G . It is clear that F is invariant under T . So the ergodic affine transformation $S(x)=a+T(x)$ of G induces an affine transformation $S_2(x+F)=a+T(x)+F$ of $G/F=R^p$ which is ergodic with respect to a Haar measure on $G/F=R^p$. By [3, Theorem 4], $G/F=R^p$ is compact, therefore $G=F$, i.e., G is compact.

Case II. Let G_0 be open in G . Then G/G_0 is a discrete abelian