



Seminar Announcement*

Speaker: J.K. Langley
(University of Nottingham)

Analytic functions mapping integers to integers

A classical theorem of Pólya states that 2^z is the slowest growing transcendental entire function which takes integer values on the set \mathbb{N}_0 of non-negative integers. This result has seen subsequent generalisation by many authors, including to: determination of entire functions of somewhat larger growth which map \mathbb{N}_0 into \mathbb{Z} ; entire functions mapping subsets of \mathbb{N}_0 into \mathbb{Z} ; entire functions mapping Gaussian integers $m+in$ into \mathbb{Z} ; pairs of entire functions f and g such that f grows not much faster than g and $f(z) \in \mathbb{Z}$ whenever $g(z) \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

It turns out that for certain applications it is useful to consider functions analytic on the closed right half-plane $H = \{z : \operatorname{Re} z \geq 0\}$ which map \mathbb{N}_0 into \mathbb{Z} . Such results have been applied in several contexts, for example to the problem of determining a meromorphic function f from the set of zeros and poles of f and its derivatives.

A result of Pólya has an exact analogue for the half-plane: if f is analytic on H and maps \mathbb{N}_0 into \mathbb{Z} , and if f grows at most like a polynomial times 2^z , then in fact $f(z) = P(z)2^z + Q(z)$ where P and Q are polynomials. By adapting a method of Waldschmidt the speaker and A. Fletcher proved that if f is analytic of zero exponential type in H and takes integer values on a subset of \mathbb{N}_0 of positive lower linear density then f is in fact a polynomial. This result was subsequently applied to zero-sequences of solutions of differential equations by Fletcher, who also proved an analogous result for functions on H mapping subsets of the Gaussian integers into \mathbb{Z} .

DATE: June 08, 2009

TIME: 15:45

PLACE: FEF 403 (Seminar Room)

All interested people are cordially invited. After the seminar, some cookies and soft drinks will be served.

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