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**Title:** On a characterization theorem for the group of  $p$ -adic numbers

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It is well known Heyde's characterization of the Gaussian distribution on the real line: Let  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , be independent random variables, let  $\alpha_j, \beta_j$  be nonzero constants such that  $\beta_i \alpha_i^{-1} + \beta_j \alpha_j^{-1} \neq 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ . If the conditional distribution of the linear form  $L_2 = \beta_1 \xi_1 + \beta_2 \xi_2 + \dots + \beta_n \xi_n$  given  $L_1 = \alpha_1 \xi_1 + \alpha_2 \xi_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \xi_n$  is symmetric, then all random variables  $\xi_j$  are Gaussian. We prove an analogue of this theorem for two independent random variables in the case when they take values in the group of  $p$ -adic numbers  $\Omega_p$ , and coefficients of linear forms are topological automorphisms of  $\Omega_p$ .

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