

FOR $n > 3$ THERE IS ONLY ONE FINITELY ADDITIVE ROTATIONALLY INVARIANT MEASURE ON THE n -SPHERE DEFINED ON ALL LEBESGUE MEASURABLE SUBSETS

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The following paragraph is taken from the introduction of Joseph Rosenblatt's paper [R].

"Let β be the ring of Lebesgue measurable sets in the n -sphere S^n , and let λ_n denote the Lebesgue measure on β normalized by $\lambda_n(S^n) = 1$. The classical characterization by Lebesgue of λ_n is that it is the unique positive real-valued function μ on β which satisfies these three conditions:

- (a) $\mu(S^n) = 1$;
- (b) μ is invariant under isometries;
- (c) μ is countably additive.

In 1923 Banach [B] studied the question of Ruziewicz whether μ is still unique when (c) is replaced by

- (c₀) μ is finitely additive.

Banach gave a negative answer to this question for S^1 but for S^n , $n \geq 2$, the question is still unanswered."

From the body of Rosenblatt's paper one can extract the implication that *if Lebesgue measure λ_n on S^n is not characterized by (a), (b), and (c₀) then there is a net of measurable subsets $(A_\alpha) \subset S^2$ which is asymptotically invariant and nontrivial, namely $\lim_\alpha (\lambda_n(gA_\alpha \Delta A_\alpha)/\lambda_n A_\alpha) = 0$ for all rotations g and so that $0 < \lambda_n(A_\alpha) \leq c < 1$ (Theorem 1.4 of [R]). Here $A \Delta B = A \cup B - A \cap B$.*

The following Proposition will show that such asymptotically invariant nets on S^n are impossible, $n > 3$.

PROPOSITION. *For each $n > 3$ there is a countable subgroup Γ_n in the group O_{n+1} of rotations of S^n satisfying*

- (i) *the action of Γ_n on S^n is ergodic,*
- (ii) *the group Γ_n satisfies Kazhdan's property T:*

There exist a finite subset $\Lambda \subset \Gamma_n$ and an $\epsilon > 0$, so that for any unitary representation π of Γ , if there exists a vector ξ in H_π such that $\|\xi\| = 1$,

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