

Assertions (2) and (3) are easy consequences of (1).  $\square$

### Proof of Prop. 2.36

(1) Since  $\Delta_G : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times}$  is a

homomorphism it suffices to show continuity at  $e$ . Pick  $f \in C_0(G)$  with

$$f \geq 0 \text{ and } \int_G f(\xi) d\mu(\xi) = 1.$$

Then

$$|(\Delta_G(g) - 1) \cdot 1| = \left| \int_G (f(\xi g) - f(\xi)) d\mu(\xi) \right|$$

We may assume  $g \in U = \bar{U}^{-1}$  where  $U \ni e$  is open with  $\bar{U}$  compact.

Let  $K := (\text{supp } f) \cdot \bar{U}$  and observe that if  $\xi \notin K$  then  $f(\xi g) = f(\xi) = 0$ .

Hence

$$\left| \int_G f(\xi g) - f(\xi) d\mu(\xi) \right|$$

$$\leq \mu(K) \cdot \|f(g) - f\|_\infty.$$

Then the continuity at  $g = e$  of  $\Delta_G$  follows from the continuity at  $g = e$  of

$$G \rightarrow (C_0(G), \|\cdot\|_\infty)$$

$$g \mapsto f(g) f$$

which follows from Lemma 2.38 (2).

(2) Since  $\Delta_G$  is continuous, we have

that  $\forall f \in C_0(G), f \cdot \Delta_G \in C_0(G)$ .

Define  $I(f) := \int_G f(x^{-1}) \Delta_G(x) d\mu(x)$ .

Then  $I(\lambda(g)f) = \int_G f(\bar{g}^{-1}x^{-1}) \Delta_G(x) d\mu(x)$

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$$= \int_G f(xg\bar{j}') \Delta_c(xg) d\mu(x) \Delta_c(g\bar{j}')^{-1}$$

$$= \int_G f(x\bar{j}') \Delta_c(x) d\mu(x) \Delta_c(g) \Delta_c(g\bar{j}')^{-1}$$

$$= I(f).$$

Thus  $I$  is a left Haar functional

and hence there is  $c > 0$  with

$$\int_G f(x\bar{j}') \Delta_c(x) d\mu(x) = c \cdot \int_G f(y) d\mu(y).$$

Write  $\int_G f(y) d\mu(y) = \int_G (f(y) \Delta_c(y\bar{j}')) \Delta_c(y\bar{j}')^{-1} d\mu(y)$

and define  $F(y) = f(y\bar{j}') \Delta_c(y)$ .

$$\text{Then } \int_G f(y) d\mu(y) = \int_G F(y\bar{j}') \Delta_c(y\bar{j}')^{-1} d\mu(y)$$

$$= c \cdot \int_G F(y) d\mu(y) = c \cdot \int_G f(y\bar{j}') \Delta_c(y) d\mu(y)$$

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$$= c^2 \int_G f(z) d\mu(z)$$

implying  $\int_G f(y) d\mu(y) = c^2 \int_G f(z) d\mu(z)$

and hence, since  $c > 0$ ,  $c = 1$ .

□

Def. 2.40. A l.c.h. group  $G$  is unimodular

$\int \Delta_G |s| = 1 \quad \forall g \in G$ ; equivalently every

left Haar measure is a right Haar measure.

Examples 2.41. In Example 2.34 we have

that  $(\mathbb{R}^n, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}_{>0}^x, \cdot)$ , discrete groups,

$GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , the Heisenberg group, are all

unimodular. While  $\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & x^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{matrix} x > 0 \\ y \in \mathbb{R} \end{matrix} \right\}$

is not and  $\Delta_P \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & x^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = x^2$ .

(see Example 2.24 (4)).

We end this section by characterizing l.c.a. groups of finite Haar measure, underlying that properties of the Haar measure are linked to topological properties of the group.

### Example 2.42

Prop. 2.42. A l.c.a. group  $G$  is compact iff it has finite Haar measure.

Proof: Let  $\mu$  be a left Haar measure on  $G$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $G$  is compact, then by regularity of

$\mu$  we have  $\mu(G) < +\infty$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume  $\mu(G) < +\infty$ . Since  $\mu$  is regular there is  $K \subset G$  compact with  $\mu(K) > \frac{1}{2}\mu(G)$ . Let  $g \in G$ : then  $\mu(gK) = \mu(K)$  and hence  $\mu(gK) + \mu(K) > \mu(G)$  which implies that  $gK \cap K = \emptyset$  and hence  $g \in KK^{-1}$ . Thus  $G = KK^{-1}$  and is hence compact.  $\square$

## 2.5.2. Homogeneous Spaces.

Homogeneous spaces of locally compact groups in general and Lie groups in particular give extremely rich playgrounds for geometry, topology and dynamics.

Here we just discuss the basics and the existence of invariant measures.

For the basic definitions we place ourselves in the context of general topological groups.

Let  $G$  be a topological group,  $H < G$

a subgroup and  $G/H$  the set ~~of~~

$$\{x \cdot H : x \in G\}$$

of right  $H$ -cosets. Let  $p: G \rightarrow G/H$

be the canonical projection. We endow

$G/H$  with the quotient topology, that is

$U \subset G/H$  is open iff  $p^{-1}(U) \subset G$  is

open.

Prop. 2.43 Let  $H < G$  be a subgroup of a top. group  $G$ .

(1) The projection map  $p: G \rightarrow G/H$  is open.

(2) The action  $G \times G/H \rightarrow G/H$  is continuous.

(3) The quotient  $G/H$  is Hausdorff iff  $H$  is closed.

(4) If  $G$  is locally compact so is  $G/H$

(5) If  $G$  is locally compact and  $H < G$

is closed then  $\forall C \subset G/H$  compact

there is  $K \subset G$  compact such that  $p(K) = C$ .

Proof: We leave (1) and (2) as exercises.



(3) If  $G/H$  is Hausdorff, then points in  $G/H$  are closed, in particular  $H$  is closed.

Assume  $H$  closed; if  $xH \neq yH$  then  $xHy^{-1} \notin e$  and since  $xHy^{-1}$  is closed, there is  $V \ni e$  open with  $\bar{V} \cap xHy^{-1} = \emptyset$ .

Which is equivalent to  $Vy \cap VxH = \emptyset$

and hence  $VyH \cap VxH = \emptyset$ . Thus

$p(Vy)$  and  $p(Vx)$  are open neighborhoods resp. of  $yH$  and  $xH$  with  $p(Vy) \cap p(Vx) = \emptyset$ .

(4) We have to show that every point in  $G/H$  has a compact neighborhood. Now let  $p(x) \in G/H$ , and since  $G$  is locally compact let  $x \in U \subset C \subset G$  with  $U$  open and  $C$  compact; then  $p(x) \in p(U) \subset p(C)$ ,  $p(U)$  is open (by (1)) and  $p(C)$  is compact.

(5) Let  $e \in U \subset L$  where  $U$  is open

and  $L$  is compact. Then  $\bigcup_{x \in G} p(U \cdot x) \supset C'$

is an open covering of  $C'$  hence there are  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  in  $G$  with  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n p(U \cdot x_i) \supset C'$ .

This implies  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n p(L \cdot x_i) \supset C'$ .

Since  $H$  is closed,  $C/H$  is Hausdorff (see (3))

and hence  $C'$  being compact is closed.

But then  $K := \bar{p}^{-1}(C) \cap \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n p(L \cdot x_i) \right)$

being a closed subset of the compact

set  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n p(L \cdot x_i)$  is compact and

$$p(K) = C'.$$



### Examples

#### Exercise 2.44.

(1) In  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the standard scalar product

let  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and

$$GO_k := \left\{ (v_1, \dots, v_k) \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^k : v_1, \dots, v_k \right.$$

is an orthonormal set  $\left. \right\}$ .

Then for every  $g \in O(n, k)$  and

$$(v_1, \dots, v_k) \in GO_k, (g v_1, \dots, g v_k) \in GO_k$$

and  $O(n, k)$  acts transitively on  $GO_k$ .

In fact if  $1 \leq k \leq n-1$  then  $SO(n, k)$

acts transitively. The stabilizer of

$(e_1, \dots, e_k)$  in  $O(n, k)$  is:

$$L_k = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} I_{d_k} & 0 \\ 0 & M \end{pmatrix} : M \in O(n-k, \mathbb{R}) \right\}$$

$$\cong O(n-k, \mathbb{R})$$

and hence  $O(n, \mathbb{R}) / L_n \longrightarrow GO_n$   
 $g L_n \longmapsto (g(e_1, \dots, e_n))$

is a bijection which allows to put on

$GO_n$  a topology of compact Hausdorff

space on which  $O(n, \mathbb{R})$  acts continuously.

(2) Let  $d$  be an ordered  $r$ -tuple:

$$1 \leq d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_r \leq n$$

and

$$G_{r,d} := \{ (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_r) : V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \dots \subset V_r \subset \mathbb{R}^n \}$$

with  $\dim V_i = d_i$ .

Then  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  acts transitively on

$G_{r,d}$  and if  $E_i = \mathbb{R}e_1 + \dots + \mathbb{R}e_{d_i}$

then if  $E = (E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r)$

$$\text{Stab}(E)_{GL(n, \mathbb{R})} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & * & & * \\ 0 & A_2 & & * \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & A_r \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

where  $A_1 \in GL(d_1, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $A_2 \in GL(d_2 - d_1, \mathbb{R})$

$\dots$   $A_r \in GL(d_r - d_{r-1}, \mathbb{R})$ .

Let us denote by  $P_{\mathcal{U}} = \text{Stab}(E)_{GL(n, \mathbb{R})}$ .

Clearly  $P_{\mathcal{U}} \supset P_{(1, 2, \dots, n-1)}$  the latter

being the subgroup of upper triangular matrices.

Exercise: show that  $GL(n, \mathbb{R}) / P_{(1, 2, \dots, n-1)}$

is compact and deduce that

$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) / P_{\mathcal{U}}$  is compact. Hint:

Observe that

$$Gr_{(1,2,\dots,n-1)} = \left\{ (V_1, \dots, V_{n-1}) : V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \dots \subset V_{n-1} \right. \\ \left. \dim V_j = j \right\}$$

~~and that~~ also called the grassmannian

of complete flags. Observe that for

any complete flag  $V_1 \subset \dots \subset V_{n-1}$ , we

can find an adapted orthonormal

basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$ , that is

$$V_i = \mathbb{R}e_1 + \dots + \mathbb{R}e_i.$$

Then use example (1) to show that

$O(n, \mathbb{R})$  acts transitively on  $Gr_{(1,2,\dots,n-1)}$ .

(3) A lattice (ad hoc def.) in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

is a discrete subgroup  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such

that  $\mathbb{R}^n / \Lambda$  is compact. A basic example

is

$$\Lambda_0 = \mathbb{Z}e_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}e_n.$$

Let  $\mathcal{R} = \{ \Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n : \Lambda \text{ is a lattice} \}$ .

Then if  $g \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  and  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{R}$ ,

we have  $g(\Lambda) \in \mathcal{R}$  (Exercise).

Moreover if  $\Lambda \in \mathcal{R}$  then there

is a basis  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}f_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}f_n \quad (\text{exercise}).$$

Thus  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  ~~acts~~ transitively on  $\mathcal{R}$ .

The stabilizer of  $\Lambda_0$  is

$$GL(n, \mathbb{Z}) := \left\{ A \in M_{n,n}(\mathbb{Z}) : \det A = \pm 1 \right\}.$$

As a result  $GL(n, \mathbb{R}) / GL(n, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{R}$   
[9]  $\longrightarrow \mathcal{G}^1$   
is a bijection. This can be used to  
put a topology on  $\mathcal{R}$ . Observe incidently  
that  $GL(n, \mathbb{Z})$  is a discrete subgroup  
of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ .

(4)  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts on the Poincaré  
upper half plane

$$H_{\mathbb{R}}^2 = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : z = x + iy, y > 0 \}$$

by  $g \cdot z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$  where  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ .

The subgroup  $P = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} : a > 0, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

acts simply transitively,  $a \neq 1$ :



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$$\begin{pmatrix} y^{1/2} & xy^{-1/2} \\ 0 & y^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix} \cdot i = x + iy$$

and the stabilizer of  $i$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Stab}(i) &= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} : a^2 + b^2 = 1 \right\} \\ &= \text{SO}(2, \mathbb{R}). \end{aligned}$$

Now we turn to the following question:

let  $G$  be l.c.h.,  $H < G$  a closed

subgroup so that  $G/H$  is a l.c.h.

space with continuous  $G$ -action.

Q: When does there exist a  $G$ -invariant positive functional on  $C_0(G/H)$ , equiv.

When does there exist a  $G$ -invariant

(positive) regular Borel measure on  $G/H$ ?

## Exercise

(1)  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts transitively on

$\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$  and the orbit map

$$SL(2, \mathbb{R})/N \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$$

$$gN \longmapsto g(e_1)$$

where  $N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is a

$SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ -equivariant homeom. Using this

show that there is an  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ -invariant

regular Borel measure on  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})/N$ .

(2)  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts transitively on  $\mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{R})$

the projective line and

$$B = \text{Stab}(\mathbb{R}e_1) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} : \begin{matrix} a \in \mathbb{R}^{\times} \\ b \in \mathbb{R} \end{matrix} \right\}$$

Show that on  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})/\mathbb{B}$  there is no  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ -invariant regular Borel measure.

The following gives a complete answer:

Thm 2.45 Let  $G$  be l.c.h with left Haar measure  $\mu_G$ ,  $H < G$  a closed subgroup with left Haar measure  $\mu_H$ .

Then there is a  $G$ -invariant (positive) regular Borel measure on  $G/H$  iff

$$\Delta_G|_H = \Delta_H.$$

In this case, said regular Borel measure is unique up to positive scalar multiple and there is a unique choice  $\mu_{G/H}$

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such that Weil's formula holds:

$$\int_G f(g) d\mu(g) = \int_{G/H} \int_H f(gh) d\mu_H(h) d\mu_{G/H}(gH)$$

$$\forall f \in C_0(G).$$