

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 μ_G , $H < G$ a closed subgroup with left Haar measure μ_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:

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

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

The proof is based on a key lemma which we proceed to explain. Let μ_H denote a left Haar measure on H .

For every $f \in C_0(G)$ and $g \in G$, the function $h \mapsto f(gh)$ is in $C_0(H)$ and thus

$$T_H f(g) := \int_H f(gh) d\mu_H(h)$$

is well defined. A straightforward application of lemma 2.38 (f is right uniform continuous)

shows that $g \mapsto T_H f(g)$ is continuous.

Since μ_H is left H -invariant we

also have $T_H f(gu) = T_H f(g) \quad \forall g \in G$
 $\forall u \in H$

and we will henceforth consider $T_H f$

as a function on G/H . Clearly,

if $p: G \rightarrow G/H$ denotes the projection

map, $\text{supp}(T_H f) \subset p(\text{supp} f)$

and thus $T_H f \in C_0(G/H)$.

Lemma 2.46: $T_H: C_0(G) \rightarrow C_0(G/H)$

is surjective. In addition, if $F \in C_0(G/H)$

is ≥ 0 one can find $f \in C_0(G), \geq 0$ with $T_H f = F$.

Proof: We indicate the main point:

Let $F \in C_0(G/H)$; let $K \subset G$

be compact with $p(K) = \text{supp} F$ and

$\eta \in C_0(G)$ with $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$ and

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$\chi|_K \equiv 1$. Now define $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

by

$$f(g) := \begin{cases} \frac{\overline{F \cdot p(g)} \chi(g)}{(T_H \chi)(g)} & \text{when } T_H \chi(g) \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We claim that f is continuous.

It is clearly so on the open subset

$$U_1 := \{g \in G : T_H \chi(g) \neq 0\},$$

and also on the open (!) subset $U_2 :=$

$$G \setminus KH = \bar{p}^{-1}(G/H \setminus \text{supp } \bar{F})$$
 since

it vanishes there. Now observe that

if $g \notin U_1$, then $\chi(gh) = 0$ for

μ_H -almost every $h \in H$ and hence by

continuity for every $h \in H$. But then

$g \notin K \cdot H$ (exercise). Thus $U_1 \cup U_2 = G$

and hence f is continuous. Since

$\text{supp}(f) \subset \text{supp}(\eta)$ we conclude
 $f \in C_0(G)$.

If $g \in U_1$ then

$$T_H f(g) = \int_H \frac{(F \circ p)(gh) \eta(gh)}{T_H \eta(gh)} d\mu_H(h)$$

$$= \frac{F \circ p(g)}{T_H \eta(g)} \int_H f(gh) d\mu_H(h)$$

$$= F \circ p(g)$$

and if $g \in U_2$, $f(gh) = 0 \forall h \in H$

hence $T_H f(g) = 0 = F \circ p(g)$.



Proof of Thm 2.45.

Given the previous lemma, the proof of Thm 2.45 is astonishingly formal.

(1) Assume that there is a G -invariant regular Borel measure $\mu_{G/H}$ on G/H .

Then for $f \in C_0(G)$,

$$\mathbb{I}(f) := \int_{G/H} (T_H f)(g) d\mu_{G/H}(g)$$

clearly defines a left Haar functional on G and in particular $\forall t \in H$

$$\mathbb{I}(s(t)f) = \Delta_G(t) \mathbb{I}(f).$$

On the other hand:

$$\mathbb{I}(s(t)f) = \int_{G/H} T_H(s(t)f)(g) d\mu_{G/H}(g)$$

$$\text{and } T_H (f(t) f)(g) = \int_H f(gh) d\mu_H(h)$$
$$= \Delta_H(t) T_H(f)(g)$$

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

(2) Assume $\Delta_G|_H = \Delta_H$.

Then we claim that $\forall f_1, f_2 \in C_0(G)$

$$\int_G f_1(g) T_H f_2(g) d\mu(g) = \int_G f_2(g) T_H f_1(g) d\mu(g)$$

Indeed:

$$\int_G f_1(g) \int_H f_2(gh) d\mu_H(h) d\mu_G(g) =$$
$$= \int_H d\mu_H(h) \int_G f_1(g) f_2(gh) d\mu_G(g)$$
$$\underbrace{\Delta_G(h) \int_G f_1(g h^{-1}) f_2(g) d\mu_G(g)}$$

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$$= \int_G f_2(g) \int_H f_1(gh^{-1}) \Delta_G(h) d\mu_H(h) d\mu_G(g)$$

\parallel
 $\Delta_H(h)$

But $\int_H f_1(gh^{-1}) \Delta_H(h) d\mu_H(h) =$

$$= \int_H f_1(gh) d\mu_H(h)$$

and hence we obtain,

$$\int_G f_2(g) \int_H f_1(g) d\mu_H(h) d\mu_G(g).$$

For $F \in C_0(G/H)$ choose any

$f \in C_0(G)$ with $T_H f = F$ and

"define" $J(F) := \int_G f(g) d\mu_G(g).$

We have to show that $J(F)$ is well defined.

This amounts to show that if $\varphi \in C_0(G)$ satisfies $T_H \varphi = 0$ then $\int_G \varphi(g) d\mu_c(g) = 0$. Indeed

choose $\psi \in C_0(G)$ such that

$$T_H \psi(g) = 1 \quad \forall g \in P(\text{supp } \varphi)$$

and compute

$$\begin{aligned} \int_G \varphi(g) d\mu_c(g) &= \int_G \varphi(g) T_H \psi(g) d\mu_c(g) \\ &= \int_G \varphi(g) \underbrace{T_H \psi(g)}_0 d\mu_c(g) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $J : C_0(G/H) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is well defined; the fact that it is a positive invariant functional is a formal verification.

Example 2.47 Recall that if

$$G = SL(n, \mathbb{R}), \quad K = SO(n, \mathbb{R}),$$

$$N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda_i & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda_n & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} : \lambda_i > 0, \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1 \right\}$$

then the product map

$$A \times N \times K \longrightarrow G$$

is a homeomorphism. We claim that

if μ_A, μ_N, μ_K are left Haar

measures then for $f \in C_0(G)$,

$$I(f) = \int_A d\mu_A(a) \int_N d\mu_N(n) \int_K d\mu_K(k) f(ank)$$

is a left Haar functional.

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In fact since G and K are unimodular there is on G/K a G -invariant regular Borel measure; since $A \cdot N \rightarrow G/K$ is an AN -equivariant homeomorphism, this measure corresponds to left Haar measure on AN . It remains to show that for $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\int_A d\mu_A(a) \int_N d\mu_N(n) f(an)$$

is a left Haar functional. Indeed:

$$\int_A d\mu_A(a) \int_N d\mu_N(n) f(\underbrace{b \cdot m \cdot a}_n)$$

$b \cdot a \cdot (\bar{a}' m a) n$

Now observe $\bar{a}' m a \in N$, hence

$$\int_N d\mu_N(n) f(b \cdot a \cdot (\bar{a}' m a) n) = \int_N d\mu_N(n) f(b \cdot a \cdot n)$$

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$$\text{and } \int_A d\mu_A(a) \int_N d\mu_N(n) f(b \cdot a \cdot n)$$

$$= \int_A d\mu_A(a) \int_N d\mu_N(n) f(a \cdot n).$$