

to exclude nontrivial invariant subgroups, with a later remark on p. 233 about the more usual definition allowing discrete subgroups. The reader is then told on p. 211 that $SO(n)$ is not simple for $n = 4$ but is simple for $n = 3$ or $n \geq 5$. The truth is that with the definition given on p. 210 $SO(n)$ is simple only for odd n and the assertion on p. 211 is true only with the definition referred to on p. 223. The inclusion of this kind of material, which is not really central to the theme, seems to me to be a lapse in an otherwise commendable book.

The book has been extensively updated and expanded in translation, in consultation with one of the authors. Use has been made of recent developments to improve a variety of proofs compared to the classic ones. The example that comes to mind immediately is the use of the ideas of Bros, Epstein, and Glaser to develop the theory of Laplace transforms of distributions supported in cones. The book also gives an admirable review of the status of constructive quantum field theory in early 1972. There has, however, been a revolution of approach and results since then, and this review, which could have been very useful if it had appeared earlier, is clearly dated. (It should be emphasized that this is the only seriously dated material in the book.) The manuscript of the translation was finished in 1972, and it is a shame that publication was delayed.

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