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Title: "Sphere partition functions and de Sitter space"

After a brief overview of some aspects of de Sitter spacetimes, we consider the partition function of quantum fields on the Euclidean sphere, and its relation to quantum fields on de Sitter space. We express the sphere partition function in terms of group characters of the de Sitter group, providing a general expression for arbitrary spin and mass. Time permitting, we apply our results to a theory with an infinite tower of massless higher spin fields, which is the linearised spectrum of Vasiliev theory.