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**Alex Lombardi\*** (alexlombardi01@college.harvard.edu). *Distinguishing extension numbers for  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and  $S^n$ .*

Let  $G$  be a group acting on a set  $X$ . The distinguishing number  $D_G(X)$  is the smallest  $k$  such that there exists a  $k$ -coloring  $c : X \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$  which distinguishes the action of  $G$  on  $X$  (the only element of  $G$  that fixes  $c$  is the identity). Fixing  $k = D_G(X)$ , a subset  $W \subset X$  with trivial pointwise stabilizer satisfies the precoloring extension property  $P(W)$  if every  $k$ -coloring of  $X - W$  can be extended to a  $G$ -distinguishing  $k$ -coloring of  $X$ . The distinguishing extension number  $ext_D(X, G)$  is then defined to be the minimum  $n$  such that for all applicable  $W \subset X$ ,  $|W| \geq n$  implies that  $P(W)$  holds. We compute  $ext_D(X, G)$  in two particular instances: when  $X = S^1$  is the unit circle and  $G = \text{Isom}(S^1) = O(2)$ , and when  $X = V(C_n)$  is the set of vertices of the cycle of order  $n$  and  $G = \text{Aut}(C_n) = D_n$ . This resolves two conjectures of Ferrara, Gethner, Hartke, Stolee, and Wenger. In the case of  $X = \mathbf{R}^2$ , we prove that  $ext_D(\mathbf{R}^2, SE(2)) < \infty$ , which is consistent with (but does not resolve) another conjecture of Ferrara et al. We also prove that for all  $n \geq 3$ ,  $ext_D(S^{n-1}, O(n)) = \infty$  and  $ext_D(\mathbf{R}^n, E(n)) = \infty$ , disproving two other conjectures from the same authors. (Received September 13, 2014)