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Paul Frank Baum* (baum@math.psu.edu), Mathematics Dept., McAllister Building, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802. *Group Homology, the Novikov Conjecture, and Representation Theory.*

Let G be a locally compact, Hausdorff, second countable topological group. For example, G can be a (countable) discrete group. By studying the K -theory of the reduced C^* algebra of G , connections are established between group homology, the Novikov conjecture, and representation theory. (Received September 19, 2000)