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Joshua M. Lansky* (lansky@american.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016-8050, and **Jeffrey D. Adler** (jadler@american.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016-8050. *Liftings of Representations of Finite Groups with Applications to p -adic Base Change.*

In order to make the p -adic base change lifting explicit, one is lead to consider a certain generalization of this lifting for finite reductive groups. I will give an introduction to the base change lifting, and a description of this generalization and its relation to base change. (Received August 18, 2008)