UNIFORMLY BOUNDED REPRESENTATIONS FOR THE LORENTZ GROUPS

BY

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Abstract. A family of uniformly bounded class 1 representations of the Lorentz groups is constructed. This family of representations includes, but is larger than, a similar family of representations constructed by Lipsman. The construction technique relies on a multiplicative analysis of various operators under a Mellin transform.

1. Introduction. Let $G = SO_e(1, n+1)$ $(n \ge 2)$ be one of the Lorentz groups. The class 1 principal series of representations of G may be regarded as a family of unitary representations $T(\cdot, s)$ for $s \in i\mathbb{R}$. Lipsman constructs a family of representations $R(\cdot, s)$ for -1 < Re s < 1 with the following properties:

(1) $R(\cdot, s)$ is unitarily equivalent to $T(\cdot, s)$ for $s \in i\mathbb{R}$.

(2) $\sup_{g \in G} ||R(g, s)|| < \infty$ for all s.

(3) $s \to R(g, s)$ is an analytic operator-valued function for all $g \in G$.

The main result of this paper is the construction of a family of representations $R(\cdot, s)$ satisfying (1)-(3) for -n/2 < Re s < n/2.

2. Multiplicative analysis of the Fourier transform on \mathbb{R}^n . Let $n \ge 2$ be fixed. Denote the standard inner product of vectors w and z in \mathbb{R}^n by $w \cdot z$ and the length of a vector w by $|w| = (w \cdot w)^{1/2}$. Let $S = \{w \in \mathbb{R}^n : |w| = 1\}$. Identify $\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$ with the Cartesian product $\mathbb{R}^+ \times S$ where \mathbb{R}^+ is the multiplicative group of positive real numbers. Denote the usual Lebesgue measures on \mathbb{R}^n and S by dw and $d\xi$. Define a measure d^*w on $\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$ by $d^*w = dw/|w|^n$. If dx is Lebesgue measure on the real line, then dx/x is a Haar measure for \mathbb{R}^+ . Let $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\})$, $L_2(S)$ and $L_2(\mathbb{R}^+)$ be the spaces of square integrable functions defined by these measures. By a classical result,

(2.1)
$$L_2(S) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \bigoplus H_k$$

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where H_k is the space of spherical harmonics of order k. We may identify $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\})$ with the Hilbert space tensor product $L_2(\mathbb{R}^+) \otimes L_2(S)$ and hence with

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \bigoplus (L_2(\mathbf{R}^+) \otimes H_k).$$

For f a function on \mathbb{R}^n , define $\mathscr{U}f$ on $\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$ by

(2.2)
$$\mathscr{U}f(w) = |w|^{n/2}f(w).$$

 \mathscr{U} is then an isometry of $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ onto $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n-\{0\})$. For

$$f \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}) \cap L_2(\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\})$$

define \tilde{f} on $i\mathbf{R} \times S$ by

(2.3)
$$\tilde{f}(t,\,\xi) = \int_0^\infty x^t f(x,\,\xi) \frac{dx}{x}$$

The mapping $f \to \tilde{f}$ may be viewed as the tensor product of the identity mapping on $L_2(S)$ with the group theoretic Fourier transform mapping integrable functions on \mathbf{R}^+ to functions on the dual group $\hat{\mathbf{R}}^+ = i\mathbf{R}$. By the Plancherel theorem for locally compact abelian groups, this tensor product of maps has a unique extension to a mapping \mathcal{M} from $L_2(\mathbf{R}^+) \otimes L_2(S)$ onto $L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$. Up to a scalar multiple, \mathcal{M} is an isometry which will be referred to as the Mellin transform on $L_2(\mathbf{R}^n - \{0\})$.

Let \mathscr{I} be the unitary operator on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\})$ defined by $(\mathscr{I}f)(x, \xi) = f(1/x, \xi)$. Let \mathscr{F} denote the Fourier transform on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. For $f \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\mathscr{F}f$ is defined by

(2.4)
$$(\mathscr{F}f)(w) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(z) e^{-iw \cdot z} dz.$$

Set $\hat{\mathscr{F}} = \mathscr{I}\mathscr{U}\mathscr{F}\mathscr{U}^{-1}$ and $\hat{\mathscr{F}} = \mathscr{M}\hat{\mathscr{F}}\mathscr{M}^{-1}$. Then $\hat{\mathscr{F}}$ and $\hat{\mathscr{F}}$ are unitary operators on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^+) \otimes L_2(S)$ and $L_2(i\mathbb{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$, respectively. The following lemma provides the desired multiplicative analysis of \mathscr{F} .

LEMMA 1. For
$$\tilde{f} \in L_2(i\mathbb{R}) \otimes H_k$$
 $(k=0, 1, 2, ...),$
(2.5) $\mathscr{F}\tilde{f}(t, \xi) = \omega(t, k)\tilde{f}(t, \xi)$

where

(2.6)
$$\omega(t,k) = i^k \frac{2^{-t} \Gamma((k+n/2-t)/2)}{\Gamma((k+n/2+t)/2)}$$

Proof. Let φ be in H_k (k=0, 1, 2, ...) and $g \in C^{\infty}$ function on \mathbb{R}^+ with support in a compact subset of the interval $(0, \infty)$. Since linear combinations of functions of the form $f=g\varphi$ are dense in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^+) \otimes H_k$, it suffices to show that formula (2.5) holds for the function $\tilde{f}=\mathcal{M}f$. Let $\hat{f}=\hat{\mathcal{F}}f$. It follows from Theorem (2.6.1) in Bochner [1, p. 38] that

(2.7)
$$\hat{f}(x,\xi) = i^k g_1(x)\varphi(\xi)$$

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where

(2.8)
$$g_1(x) = \int_0^\infty g(yx) J_{k+(n-2)/2}(y) \, dy.$$

Set $\nu = k + (n-2)/2$ for convenience in notation. J_{ν} is the Bessel function of order ν . Now define

(2.9)
$$\tilde{g}_1(z) = \int_0^\infty x^z g_1(x) \frac{dx}{x} = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty x^z g(yx) J_y(y) \, dy \, \frac{dx}{x}.$$

It can be readily verified that the integral in (2.9) converges absolutely for Re $z < \nu + 1$ and defines an analytic function in this domain. From Titchmarsh [5, p. 182],

(2.10)
$$\int_0^\infty x^{\alpha} J_{\nu}(x) \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{2^{\alpha - 1} \Gamma((\nu + \alpha)/2)}{\Gamma((\nu - \alpha + 2)/2)}$$

for $-\nu < \operatorname{Re} \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$. For $\frac{1}{2} < \operatorname{Re} z < \nu + 1$ interchange of the order of integration in (2.9) is valid and yields the result

(2.11)
$$\tilde{g}_1(z) = \frac{2^{-z} \Gamma((\nu+1-z)/2)}{\Gamma((\nu+1+z)/2)} \, \tilde{g}(z)$$

where

$$\tilde{g}(z) = \int_0^\infty x^z g(x) \, \frac{dx}{x}.$$

Since both sides of (2.11) define analytic functions of z in the domain Re z < v+1, the result remains valid for $z = t \in i\mathbb{R}$. Equation (2.5) now follows from (2.7) and (2.11). This completes the proof of the lemma.

3. Mellin transforms of A and B operators. For $s \in iR$, let B(s) be the unitary operator on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ defined by

$$B(s)f(w) = |w|^{-s}f(w) \text{ for } w \neq 0,$$

= 0 for w = 0,

and set $A(s) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}B(s)\mathcal{F}$.

This section is devoted to establishing a multiplicative analysis of the operators A(s) and B(s). Prior to this, estimates on the growth of the quotient of gamma functions in Lemma 1 must be obtained.

LEMMA 2. For $c \in \mathbf{R}^+$ and z in the strip $-c < \operatorname{Re} z < c$, define

$$F(c, z) = \frac{\Gamma((c+z)/2)}{\Gamma((c-z)/2)}.$$

There exists a constant C such that whenever c > 0, $\varepsilon > 0$ and z = x + iy with $|x| < c - \varepsilon$, then

$$(3.1) |F(c, z)| \leq Ce^{3|x|} 2^{-x} (1+2|x|/\varepsilon) |c+2+iy|^{x}.$$

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Proof. The proof is modeled after the argument given by Kunze and Stein [3, p. 758] to prove a similar result. From Stirling's formula, for $\alpha > 0$ and $w = u + iv \in C$ with $|u| < \alpha$,

(3.2)
$$\log \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+w)}{\Gamma(\alpha-w)} = (\alpha+w-\frac{1}{2})\log \frac{\alpha+w}{\alpha+iv} - (\alpha-w-\frac{1}{2})\log \frac{\alpha-w}{\alpha-iv} - 2w + i(2\alpha-1)\arg(\alpha+iv) + 2w\log|\alpha+iv| + B(w)$$

where B(w) is a bounded function. For $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}$ and $|u| < \alpha - \frac{1}{2}$, routine estimates show that

$$(3.3) \qquad |(\alpha \pm w - \frac{1}{2}) \log ((\alpha \pm w)/(\alpha \pm iv))| \leq 2|u|.$$

It follows from (3.2) and (3.3) that there exists a constant C independent of α such that

(3.4)
$$|\Gamma(\alpha+w)/\Gamma(\alpha-w)| \leq Ce^{6|u|}|\alpha+iv|^{2u} \text{ for } |u| < \alpha - \frac{1}{2}.$$

Now let c > 0, $\varepsilon > 0$ and z = x + iy with $|x| < c - \varepsilon$. Replacing α by (c+2)/2 and w by z/2 in (3.4), we obtain the estimate

(3.5)
$$|F(c, z)| = \left|\frac{c-z}{c+z}\right| \left|\frac{\Gamma((c+2+z)/2)}{\Gamma((c+2-z)/2)}\right| \\ \leq \left|\frac{c-z}{c+z}\right| Ce^{3|x|} \left|\frac{c+2+iy}{2}\right|^{x} \leq C\left(1+\frac{2|x|}{\varepsilon}\right)e^{3|x|}2^{-x}|c+2+iy|^{x}.$$

LEMMA 3. Let $s = \sigma_0 + i\tau_0$ with $|\sigma_0| < n/2 - \varepsilon$. Set $C_n = C^2 e^{3n} 2^n$. For ω as in Lemma 1,

$$\sup_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^+;t\in i\mathbb{R}} |\omega(t+s,k)\omega(t-s,k)| \leq C_n(1+n/\varepsilon)^2(1+4/n|\tau_0|)^{n/2}.$$

Proof. From Lemma 2,

$$\sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}; t = i\tau \in i\mathbb{R}} |\omega(t+s,k)\omega(t-s,k)| = \sup_{k,\tau} |F(k+n/2, -s-t)F(k+n/2, s-t)|$$

$$\leq C_{n}(1+n/\varepsilon)^{2} \sup_{k,\tau} \left| \frac{k+n/2+i(\tau_{0}-\tau)}{k+n/2-i(\tau_{0}+\tau)} \right|^{\sigma_{0}}$$

$$\leq C_{n}(1+n/\varepsilon)^{2} \sup_{k,\tau} \left| 1 + \frac{2|\tau_{0}|}{|k+n/2-i\tau|} \right|^{|\sigma_{0}|}$$

$$\leq C_{n}(1+n/\varepsilon)^{2}(1+4/n|\tau_{0}|)^{n/2}.$$

THEOREM 1. (1) $s \to A(s)B(s)$ is a commutative family of operators for $s \in i\mathbb{R}$. (2) There exists an operator-valued function $s \to C(s)$ defined on the strip $-n/2 < \operatorname{Re} s < n/2$ such that

$$C(s) = A(s)B(s)A(-s)B(-s) \text{ for } \text{Re } s = 0.$$
(3) $||C(s)|| \leq C_n(1+n/\varepsilon)^2(1+4/n|\text{Im } s|)^{n/2} \text{ for } \varepsilon > 0 \text{ and } |\text{Re } s| < n/2 - \varepsilon.$

Proof. Let $\tilde{B}(s)$ and $\tilde{A}(s)$ be the unitary operators on $L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$ defined by

$$\widetilde{B}(s) = (\mathscr{M}\mathscr{U})B(s)(\mathscr{M}\mathscr{U})^{-1}, \qquad \widetilde{A}(s) = (\mathscr{M}\mathscr{U})A(s)(\mathscr{M}\mathscr{U})^{-1}.$$

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It is easily checked that for $f \in L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$,

(3.6)
$$\widetilde{B}(s)f(t,\xi) = f(t-s,\xi)$$

(3.7)
$$\widetilde{A}(s) = \mathscr{F}^{-1}\widetilde{B}(-s)\mathscr{F}.$$

From (3.6), (3.7) and Lemma 1, it follows that for $f \in L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes H_k$ (k = 0, 1, 2, ...),

(3.8)
$$\widetilde{A}(s)\widetilde{B}(s)f(t,\xi) = (\omega(t+s,k)/\omega(t,k))f(t,\xi).$$

(1) is an immediate consequence of (3.8). Now for |Re s| < n/2, define $\tilde{C}(s)$ on $L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes H_k$ by

(3.9)
$$\tilde{C}(s)f(t,\xi) = \frac{\omega(t+s,k)}{\omega(t,k)} \frac{\omega(t-s,k)}{\omega(t,k)} f(t,\xi).$$

From Lemma 3, the multiplier in (3.9) is a bounded function of $t \in i\mathbb{R}$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ for each s in the strip $|\operatorname{Re} s| < n/2$. Hence (3.9) defines a bounded operator on $L_2(i\mathbb{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$. Clearly $s \to \widetilde{C}(s)$ is analytic. Defining $C(s) = (\mathcal{MU})^{-1}\widetilde{C}(s)\mathcal{MU}$, we obtain an analytic operator-valued function on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ satisfying (2) and (3).

4. Construction of uniformly bounded representations for the Lorentz groups. For $n \ge 1$, define $G = SO_e(1, n+1)$ to be the connected component of the identity in the group of $(n+2) \times (n+2)$ real matrices g for which ${}^tgp_0g = p_0$ where tg is the transpose of g and

$$p_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -I_n & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The family of Lorentz groups is the collection $\{SO_e(1, n+1) : n \ge 1\}$. For n=1, the group $SO_e(1, 2)$ is locally isomorphic to $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$. Uniformly bounded representations of this group are constructed by Kunze and Stein [2]. A modified version of the Mellin transform analysis used here applies to this group but yields no new representations. We shall therefore assume $n \ge 2$ in the remainder of this paper.

Let M, A, N and V be the subgroups of G defined as follows:

$$A = \begin{cases} a = a(x) = \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/x \end{bmatrix} : x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \\ \\ M = \begin{cases} m = m(h) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} : h \in SO(n, \mathbb{R}) \\ \\ N = \begin{cases} u = u(w) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & w & \frac{1}{2}|w|^2 \\ 0 & I_n & {}^tw \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} : w \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n} \\ \\ \\ V = \{v = v(w) = {}^tu(w) \}. \end{cases}$$

Set B = MAN. For *n* odd, set $J_n = -I_n$ and for *n* even, set

 $J_n = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & \\ & -1 & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

Now set

$$p_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & J_n & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Throughout the following discussion, *n* will be fixed and we write *J* for J_n and *p* for p_n . Then *p* is a representative of the nontrivial element of the Weyl group for the rank 1 semisimple Lie group *G*. *B* is a closed subgroup of *G* and by the Bruhat Lemma, $G = B \cup BpB = B \cup BVp$. Set $\tilde{B} = p^{-1}Bp$. Then $\tilde{B} = MAV$ and $G = \tilde{B} \cup \tilde{B}p\tilde{B}$. The set BV is a dense set of full measure in *G*.

For $s \in i\mathbb{R}$, let $T(\cdot, s)$ be the unitary representation of G induced from the character $ma(x)u \to x^s$ of B. The family of representations $T(\cdot, s)$ is the class 1 principal series of G. These representations may be realized as operators on $L_2(V)$ defined by the formulae

(4.1)
$$T(g, s)f(v) = x^{n/2+s}f(v \cdot g) \quad \text{if } vg = (ma(x)u)(v \cdot g) \in BV,$$
$$= 0 \qquad \text{if } vg \notin BV.$$

Since $w \to v(w)$ is a measure preserving homeomorphism of \mathbb{R}^n onto V, we may identify $L_2(V)$ with $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by writing f(w) for f(v(w)). Note that

(4.2)
$$v(w)a(x) = a(x)v(xw) \text{ for all } (x, w) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$$

and

(4.3)
$$v(w)m(h) = m(h)v(wh)$$
 for all $(h, w) \in SO(n, \mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{R}^n$.

In (4.3) wh is to be interpreted as the product of the row matrix w and the orthogonal matrix h. From (4.1)-(4.3), it follows that the operators T(g, s) for $g = m(h)a(x)v(w_0) \in \tilde{B}$ are defined on $L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by

(4.4)
$$T(m(h)a(x)v(w_0), s)f(w) = x^{n/2+s}f(xwh+w_0).$$

An easy matrix calculation shows that for $w \neq 0$,

$$v(w)p = m(J - 2^{t}wwJ/|w|^{2})a(2/|w|^{2})u(-wJ)v(2wJ/|w|^{2}).$$

For $f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ it follows that

(4.5)
$$T(p, s)f(w) = (2/|w|^2)^{n/2+s}f(2wJ/|w|^2) \quad \text{for } w \neq 0,$$
$$= 0 \qquad \text{if } w = 0.$$

Since $G = \tilde{B} \cup \tilde{B}p\tilde{B}$, the representation $T(\cdot, s)$ is completely determined by (4.4) and (4.5). Now define $R(\cdot, s) = A(s)T(\cdot, s)A(-s)$.

LEMMA 4. $R(\cdot, s)|_{\tilde{B}} = T(\cdot, 0)|_{\tilde{B}}$.

Proof. Since $A(s) = \mathscr{F}^{-1}B(s)\mathscr{F}$, it suffices to show that

(4.6) $B(s)\hat{T}(g,s) = \hat{T}(g,0)B(s)$

for all $g \in \tilde{B}$ where $\hat{T}(g, s) \equiv \mathscr{F}T(g, s)\mathscr{F}^{-1}$. Let $g = m(h)a(x)v(w_0)$. It follows easily from (4.4) that

(4.7)
$$\hat{T}(g,s)f(w) = x^{-n/2+s}e^{iw_0\cdot x^{-1}wh}f(x^{-1}wh).$$

Formula (4.6) is an immediate consequence of (4.7).

LEMMA 5. $A(2s)T(\cdot, s) = T(\cdot, -s)A(2s)$.

Proof. From (4.7) it follows easily that

$$B(2s)\hat{T}(g,s) = \hat{T}(g,-s)B(2s)$$
 for all $g \in \tilde{B}$.

Hence it suffices to show that

(4.8)
$$A(2s)T(p, s) = T(p, -s)A(2s).$$

Let $\tilde{T}(p, s) = (\mathcal{MU})T(p, s)(\mathcal{MU})^{-1}$. For $f \in L_2(i\mathbb{R}) \otimes L_2(S)$, it follows from (4.5) that

(4.9)
$$\tilde{T}(p,s)f(t,\xi) = 2^{t-s}f(2s-t,\xi J).$$

Note that if $\xi \to g(\xi)$ is a function in H_k , then $\xi \to g(\xi J)$ is also a function in H_k . Hence the subspaces $L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes H_k$ (k=0, 1, 2, ...) are invariant under $\tilde{T}(p, s)$. From (2.5), (3.7) and (4.8), it follows that for $f \in L_2(i\mathbf{R}) \otimes H_k$,

(4.10)
$$\widetilde{A}(2s)\widetilde{T}(p,s)f = \widetilde{T}(p,-s)\widetilde{A}(2s)f.$$

Formula (4.8) now follows easily from (4.10).

LEMMA 6. (1) $R(\cdot, s) = R(\cdot, -s)$ for all $s \in i\mathbb{R}$. (2) R(p, s) = A(s)B(s)A(-s)B(-s)T(p, 0) for all $s \in i\mathbb{R}$.

Proof. (1)

$$R(\cdot, s) = A(s)T(\cdot, s)A(-s) = A(-s)A(2s)T(\cdot, s)A(-2s)A(s)$$

= $A(-s)T(\cdot, -s)A(s) = R(\cdot, -s).$

(2) Formula (4.5) implies that $T(p, s) = 2^s B(2s)T(p, 0)$. From Lemma 5 and the fact that $T(p, 0)^2$ is the identity, it follows that

Hence

$$R(p, s) = 2^{s}A(s)B(2s)T(p, 0)A(-s)T(p, 0)^{2}$$

= $A(s)B(s)A(-s)B(-s)T(p, 0).$

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THEOREM 2. For each $g \in G$, the function $s \to R(g, s)$ initially defined for $s \in i\mathbb{R}$ has an extension to an analytic function on the strip $D = \{s \in C : |\text{Re } s| < n/2\}$. The resulting operators R(g, s) have the property that R(g, s) = R(g, -s) for all $g \in G$ and $s \in D$. For all $s \in D$, $g \to R(g, s)$ is a uniformly bounded representation of G.

Proof. Let $s \in D$. For $g \in \tilde{B} = MAV$, define R(g, s) = T(g, 0). Define R(p, s) = C(s)T(p, 0) where C(s) is the operator-valued function defined in Theorem 1. If $g \in G$ is of the form $g = g_1 p g_2$ for g_1 and g_2 in \tilde{B} , set $R(g, s) = R(g_1, s)R(p, s)$ $R(g_2, s)$. By the preservation of functional equations under analytic continuation and the fact that $G = \tilde{B} \cup \tilde{B}p\tilde{B}$, it follows that the operators R(g, s) are well defined for all $g \in G$ and $s \in D$ and satisfy the symmetry condition R(g, s) = R(g, -s). Moreover, $g \to R(g, s)$ is a representation of G for all $s \in D$ and $s \to R(g, s)$ is analytic for all $g \in G$. Since $\sup_{g \in G} ||R(g, s)|| = ||R(p, s)|| = ||C(s)||$, the representations $R(\cdot, s)$ are uniformly bounded.

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