

Roger Howe

I. M. Gelfand was one of the heroes of my mathematical youth. When I was an undergraduate, the "Gelfand transform" for a commutative Banach algebra was one of my favorite pieces of mathematics. The book "Normed Rings" by M. Naimark, which explained these things, was one of the first real mathematics books that I bought. Later, I studied representation theory of p-adic groups, and one of the books I read to learn about the subject was "Representation Theory and Automorphic Forms" by Gelfand, Graev and Piatetsky-Shapiro.