

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996466378303316
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Titolo	Matrix Convolution Operators on Groups [[electronic resource] /] / by Cho-Ho Chu
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, Heidelberg : , : Springer Berlin Heidelberg : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2008
ISBN	3-540-69798-5
Edizione	[1st ed. 2008.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (IX, 114 p.)
Collana	Lecture Notes in Mathematics, , 0075-8434
Disciplina	512.2
Soggetti	<p>Functions of complex variables</p> <p>Differential geometry</p> <p>Functional analysis</p> <p>Operator theory</p> <p>Harmonic analysis</p> <p>Nonassociative rings</p> <p>Rings (Algebra)</p> <p>Functions of a Complex Variable</p> <p>Differential Geometry</p> <p>Functional Analysis</p> <p>Operator Theory</p> <p>Abstract Harmonic Analysis</p> <p>Non-associative Rings and Algebras</p>
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Lebesgue Spaces of Matrix Functions -- Matrix Convolution Operators -- Convolution Semigroups.
Sommario/riassunto	In the last decade, convolution operators of matrix functions have received unusual attention due to their diverse applications. This monograph presents some new developments in the spectral theory of these operators. The setting is the L_p spaces of matrix-valued functions on locally compact groups. The focus is on the spectra and eigenspaces of convolution operators on these spaces, defined by matrix-valued measures. Among various spectral results, the L_2 -

spectrum of such an operator is completely determined and as an application, the spectrum of a discrete Laplacian on a homogeneous graph is computed using this result. The contractivity properties of matrix convolution semigroups are studied and applications to harmonic functions on Lie groups and Riemannian symmetric spaces are discussed. An interesting feature is the presence of Jordan algebraic structures in matrix-harmonic functions.
