

Representations of *-Algebras on Hilbert C^* -modules

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Let A be a complex $*$ -algebra with involution $a \rightarrow a^+$. Let \mathcal{X} be a Hilbert \mathfrak{A} -module for a C^* -algebra \mathfrak{A} and \mathcal{D} a \mathfrak{B} -submodule of \mathcal{X} for some $*$ -subalgebra \mathfrak{B} of \mathfrak{A} . A *$*$ -representation* of A on \mathcal{D} is an algebra homomorphism π of A into the algebra of \mathfrak{B} -linear operators of \mathcal{D} such that $\langle \pi(a)x, y \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} = \langle x, \pi(a^+)y \rangle_{\mathcal{X}}$ for $a \in A$, $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$. An important special case is when $\mathfrak{B} = \mathfrak{A}$. Any Hilbert space $*$ -representation of the C^* -algebra \mathfrak{A} induces a $*$ -representation of A on some dense domain of the Hilbert space. This induction procedure is developed in detail. Various examples (Hermitian quantum plane, enveloping algebras) are discussed.