

Thematic Semester on  
**QUANTUM MATHEMATICS**

The Mathematics inspired by Quantum Mechanics

***Irreducible Representations and Particle Physics***

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**Abstract:** The realisation of the importance of symmetry principles in physics was crucial for the scientific revolution that turned the 20<sup>th</sup> century into the “century of physics”. Group theory, the mathematical tool to describe symmetries, has since then become a standard tool in theoretical physics. Irreducible representations of Lie groups, in particular, are commonplace in the modern description of particle physics.

After a very brief historical introduction I will present a bird’s-eye view on the most important uses of irreducible representations of groups in particle physics:

- I) Irreducible representations and particle classification. Groups, symmetries, conserved quantities, symmetry breaking.
- II) Irreducible representations and quantum field theory. What types of quantum fields can exist? What type of particle do they describe?
- III) Groups and gauge theories. Or how groups and their irreducible representations are used to build theories and make predictions to be tested experimentally.

**Fecha: 13 de mayo de 2019**

**Hora: 11:00 horas.**

**Lugar: Seminario TI2328SD, ESTCE.**

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