

# The exceptions that prove the rule

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# EXCEPTION

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Classification of real finite-dimensional algebras & other systems

SYSTEM	NORMAL	EXCEPTIONAL
Normed <b>division</b> algebra	$K = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H}$	$\textcircled{1}$
<b>simple</b> Alternative algebra	Associative $K^{n \times n}$	$\textcircled{1}$
<b>simple compact</b> Lie algebra	$\mathfrak{al}(n, K)$ $= \{X \in K^{n \times n} : X^t = -X\}$	$\mathfrak{G}_2, F_4, E_6, E_7, E_8$
<b>simple compact classical</b> Lie superalgebra	$\mathfrak{osp}(m, n; K)$ $\mathfrak{P}(n, K)$ $\mathfrak{Q}(n, K)$	$D(2, 1; \alpha)$ $\mathfrak{G}(3), \mathfrak{F}(4)$
<b>simple compact</b> Jordan algebra	"Special" $K^{n+1}$ $H_n(K) = \{X \in K^{n \times n} : X^t = X\}$	$H_3(\textcircled{0})$
<b>irreducible manifold</b> Projective space	Desarguian $P^n(K)$	$P^2(\textcircled{0})$

## $3\infty + 5$ AGAIN

<p>Regular polytype</p>	<p>Plane polygons <math>\{p\}</math>  <math>\alpha_n</math>    <math>\beta_n</math>    <math>\gamma_n</math>          (simplex) (cross) (cube)</p>	<p><math>\{5, 3\}</math>    <math>\{3, 5\}</math>          (dodecahedron) (icosahedron)  <math>\{5, 3, 3\}</math>    <math>\{3, 4, 3\}</math>    <math>\{3, 3, 5\}</math></p>
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# ALGEBRAS

## Lie algebra

Anti-commutative, non-associative bracket  
modelled on commutator (Jacobi identity)

## Tensor algebra

Commutative, non-associative product

modelled on anti-commutator

e.g. hermitian matrices  $H_n(\mathbb{R})$

$$(n = 1 \rightarrow 3 \text{ } \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{O})$$

## Exterior algebra

Multiplicative quaternions form

$$\text{e.g. } \mathbb{R}(x) = \mathbb{R}[x]$$

## ALGEBRAS

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### Jordan algebra

Commutative, non-associative product  
modelled on anti-commutator  $x \cdot (x^{\cdot} y) = x^{\cdot} (x \cdot y)$

e.g. hermitian matrices  $H_n(\mathbb{K})$   
( $n = 2$  or  $3$  if  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$ )

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### Composition algebra

Multiplicative quadratic form  $Q(xy) = Q(x)Q(y)$

e.g.  $Q(x) = x\bar{x}$

## JORDAN ALGEBRAS & PROJECTIVE SPACES

### Jordan algebras

$$x \cdot y = y \cdot x$$
$$x \cdot (x^2 \cdot y) = x^2 \cdot (x \cdot y)$$

e.g.  $x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx)$  in an associative algebra  $A$ .  
Such a Jordan algebra (denoted  $A^+$ ), or a subalgebra of such, is called special. (i.e. ordinary)

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Examples: 1. Inner-product vector space  $V$

$$J_{\pm}(V) = \mathbb{R} \oplus V \quad \text{with } x \cdot y = \pm \langle x, y \rangle$$

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- Examples:
1. Inner-product vector space  $V$   
 $J_{\pm}(V) = \mathbb{R} \oplus V$  with  $x \cdot y = \pm \langle x, y \rangle$
  2. Hermitian matrices  
 $H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \{ X \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n} : X^{\dagger} = X \}$

2. Hermitian matrices

$$H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \{X \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n} : X^\dagger = X\}$$

Associated with projective space  $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}(\mathbb{K})$ :

ray  $\{\underline{x}u : u \in \mathbb{K}\}$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n-1}(\mathbb{K})$   
 normalised  $\underline{x}^\dagger \underline{x} = 1$

Projective transf's  $\underline{x} \mapsto M\underline{x}$   
 Infinitesimally,  $\delta \underline{x} = \varepsilon A \underline{x}$

$\leftrightarrow$   $X = \underline{x} \underline{x}^\dagger \in H_n(\mathbb{K})$   
 idempotent ( $X^2 = X$ )  
 normalised to  $\text{tr} X = 1$

$$X \mapsto M X M^\dagger$$

$$\delta X = \varepsilon (A X + X A^\dagger)$$

# CLASSIFICATION OF ALGEBRAS 1

## Associative algebras

The simple associative algebras over a field  $F$  are all matrix algebras  $D^{n \times n}$  where  $D$  is an associative division algebra over  $F$ .

(Artin - Wedderburn theorem)

## CLASSIFICATION OF ALGEBRAS 2

Frobenius (1878): The only associative division algebras are  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}$

Hurwitz (1891): The only composition algebras are  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}$ ,  $\mathbb{O}$

Brauer & Kleinfeld (1952): The only alternative division algebras are  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}$ ,  $\mathbb{O}$

Bott & Kervaire, Milnor (1958): The only division algebras have dimension 1, 2, 4, 8

## CLASSIFICATION OF ALGEBRAS 3

Jordan algebras (Jordan, von Neumann, Wigner)

All finite-dimensional Jordan algebras are direct sums of simple ideals, which can only be

$$J(V) = V \oplus \mathbb{R} \quad V = \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$$

$$\text{or } H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \{X \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n} : X^T = X\}$$

where  $\mathbb{K}$  is a composition algebra

$$\& n \leq 3 \quad \text{if } \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}.$$

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$$\wedge \quad n \leq 3 \quad \text{if } \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}.$$

All but  $H_3(\mathbb{O})$  lie in associative algebras.

$$\text{Isomorphisms: } H_2(\mathbb{K}) \cong J(\mathbb{K} \oplus \mathbb{R})$$

Jacobson: similar theory to Artin-Wedderburn

# CLASSIFICATION OF LIE ALGEBRAS

## Lie algebras over $\mathbb{C}$

The simple Lie algebras over  $\mathbb{C}$  are:

$A_n$    $sl(n+1)$

$B_n$    $so(2n+1)$

$C_n$    $sp(2n)$

$D_n$    $so(2n)$

$G_2$  

$F_4$  

$E_{6,7,8}$  

## CLASSIFICATION OF LIE ALGEBRAS

Simple Lie algebras over  $\mathbb{C}$ : (some overlap)

Cartan-Killing: 4 families  $a_n, b_n, c_n, d_n$

5 exceptions  $g_2, f_4, e_6, e_7, e_8$

Matrix models: 3 families  $sl(n), so(n), sp(n)$

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Compact simple Lie algebras over  $\mathbb{R}$

$su(n, \mathbb{K})$  over normed division algebra  $\mathbb{K}$

4 exceptions  $g_2, e_6, e_7, e_8$

cf simple associative algebras (Wedderburn):

matrix algebras  $M_n(\mathbb{K})$  over division algebra  $\mathbb{K}$

## Compact simple Lie algebras over $\mathbb{R}$

$su(n, \mathbb{K})$  over normed division algebra  $\mathbb{K}$

4 exceptions  $g_2, e_6, e_7, e_8$

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matrix algebras  $M_n(\mathbb{K})$  over division algebra  $\mathbb{K}$

## Simple Lie algebras over $\mathbb{R}$

$sl(n, \mathbb{K}), so(n, \mathbb{K}), sp(n, \mathbb{K}), su(m, n; \mathbb{K})$

1 exception  $e_8$

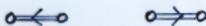
Most isomorphisms e.g.  $sl(2, \mathbb{K}) = so(\dim \mathbb{K} + 1, 1)$

ISOMORPHISMS BETWEEN LIE ALGEBRAS

$$A_1 \cong B_1 \cong C_1$$


$$\mathfrak{su}(2) \cong \mathfrak{so}(3) \cong \mathfrak{sq}(1)$$

$$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(2, 1)$$

$$B_2 \cong C_2$$


$$\mathfrak{so}(5) \cong \mathfrak{sq}(2)$$

$$\mathfrak{so}(3, 2) \cong \mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R})$$

$$D_2 \cong A_1 \oplus A_1$$



$$\mathfrak{so}(4) \cong \mathfrak{su}(2) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(2)$$

$$\mathfrak{so}(3, 1) \cong \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$$

$$D_3 \cong A_3$$

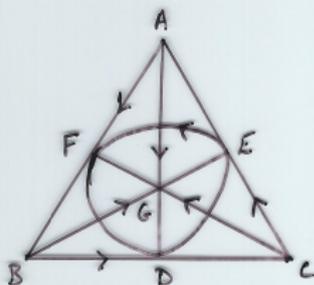


$$\mathfrak{so}(6) \cong \mathfrak{su}(4)$$

$$\mathfrak{so}(4, 2) \cong \mathfrak{su}(2, 2)$$

$$\mathfrak{so}(5, 1) \cong \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{H})$$

## OCTONIONS



Basis  $1, e_A, \dots, e_G$  with multiplication

$$e_P e_Q = e_R = -e_Q e_P$$

where  $PQR$  is a line in the finite projective plane

$$\Rightarrow e_P (e_Q e_R) = -(e_P e_Q) e_R \text{ if } PQR \text{ is not a line}$$

Conjugation:  $x = \xi_0 + \sum \xi_i e_i \Rightarrow \bar{x} = \xi_0 - \sum \xi_i e_i$

$x\bar{x} = |x|^2 = \xi_0^2 + \sum \xi_i^2 \Rightarrow$  division  $x^{-1} = \frac{\bar{x}}{|x|^2}$

$\overline{xy} = \bar{y}\bar{x}$

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$$\overline{xy} = \bar{y}\bar{x}$$

Composition:  $|xy|^2 = |x|^2 \cdot |y|^2$

Alternative law:  $[x, y, z] = x(yz) - (xy)z$

is totally antisymmetric

$$\equiv x(xy) = x^2y, \quad (yx)x = yx^2$$

## THE CAYLEY-DICKSON PROCESS

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a real conjugation algebra, and define a multiplication on  $\mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 = \mathbb{K} + h\mathbb{K}$  ( $\alpha = \pm 1$ ) by

$$h^2 = \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{K}$$

$$x(hy) = h(\bar{x}y), \quad (hx)y = h(yx), \quad (hx)(hy) = \alpha y\bar{x}$$

Then  $\mathbb{K}_\alpha^2$  is a conjugation algebra, and

$$\mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 \text{ is commutative} \iff \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R};$$

$$\mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 \text{ is associative} \iff \mathbb{K} \text{ is commutative};$$

$$\mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 \text{ is alternative} \iff \mathbb{K} \text{ is associative}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 \text{ is a composition algebra}$$

$$\implies \mathbb{K}_\alpha^2 \text{ is a division algebra}$$

if  $\alpha = -1$  and  $\mathbb{K}$  is a division algebra.

## DERIVATION ALGEBRAS OF $K$

$\text{Der } K = \text{set of } D: K \rightarrow K \text{ satisfying}$

$$D(xy) = (Dx)y + x(Dy)$$

$=$  Lie algebra of  $\text{Aut } K$ , the set of  $\phi: K \rightarrow K$

satisfying  $\phi(xy) = (\phi x)(\phi y)$

## DERIVATION ALGEBRAS

$$\text{Der } \mathbb{R} = 0$$

$$\text{Der } \mathbb{C} = 0$$

$$\text{Der } \mathbb{H} = \text{sq}(1)$$

$$= \{a \in \mathbb{H} : \bar{a} = -a\}$$

$$\text{Inner: } D_x = ax - xa$$

$$\text{Der } \mathbb{O} = \mathfrak{g}_2$$

$$\text{Aut } \mathbb{R} = \{1\}$$

$$\text{Aut } \mathbb{C} = \{1, \bar{\cdot}\}$$

$$\text{Aut } \mathbb{H} = \text{Sq}(1)$$

$$\approx \{u \in \mathbb{H} : u\bar{u} = 1\}$$

$$\Phi_x = uxu^{-1}$$

$$\text{Aut } \mathbb{O} = \mathfrak{g}_2$$

## THE MAGIC SQUARE

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a real composition algebra,  $\mathbb{J}$  a real Jordan algebra with identity and compatible inner product. Tits defined a bracket on

$$T(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{J}) = \text{Der}\mathbb{K} + \text{Der}\mathbb{J} + \mathbb{K}' \otimes \mathbb{J}'$$

( $A'$  = subspace of  $A$  orthogonal to 1) which yields a Lie algebra if *either*  $\mathbb{K}$  is associative *or*  $\mathbb{J}$  satisfies a certain cubic identity.

Taking  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{K}_1$ ,  $\mathbb{J} = H_3(\mathbb{K}_2)$  gives

$\mathbb{K}_1 \backslash \mathbb{K}_2$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{gp}(3)$	$\mathfrak{f}_4$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6)$	$\mathfrak{e}_6$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{gp}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6)$	$\mathfrak{so}(12)$	$\mathfrak{e}_7$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{f}_4$	$\mathfrak{e}_6$	$\mathfrak{e}_7$	$\mathfrak{e}_8$

Magic!

1. Exceptional Lie algebras
2. Symmetry

$J = \mathbb{R}$ Der $K_1$	$\mathbb{K}_2$ $\mathbb{K}_1$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
0	$\mathbb{R}$	$so(3)$	$su(3)$	$sp(3)$	$f_4$
0	$\mathbb{C}$	$su(3)$	$su(3) \oplus su(3)$	$su(6)$	$e_6$
$su(2)$	$\mathbb{H}$	$sp(3)$	$su(6)$	$so(12)$	$e_7$
$g_2$	$\mathbb{O}$	$f_4$	$e_6$	$e_7$	$e_8$

Magic!

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## THE SYMMETRY OF THE MAGIC SQUARE

$$\begin{aligned}L_3(K_1, K_2) &= T(K_1, H_3(K_2)) \\ &= \text{Der } K_1 + \text{Der } H_3(K_2) + K_1' \otimes H_3'(K_2)\end{aligned}$$

Why is this symmetric between  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ ?

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N.B.  $\text{Der } H_3(K) = \text{Der } K + A_3'(K)$

$A_3'$  = traceless antihermitian  $3 \times 3$  matrices

i.e.  $\text{Der } H_3(K) = "su(3, K)"$

LIE ALGEBRAS ASSOCIATED WITH HERMITIAN MATRICES

$$\text{Der } H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \text{ah}(n, \mathbb{K}) ?$$

$$A \mapsto [X, A] \quad \begin{array}{l} A \in H_n(\mathbb{K}) \\ X \in \text{ah}(n, \mathbb{K}) \end{array}$$

Derivation:  $[X, \{A, B\}] = \{[X, A], B\} + \{A, [X, B]\}$

Lie bracket:  $[X, [Y, A]] - [Y, [X, A]] = [[X, Y], A]$

if  $\mathbb{K}$  is associative

In fact,  $\text{Der } H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \text{ah}(n, \mathbb{K}) - \mathbb{K}1 + \text{Der } \mathbb{K}$

Also works for  $n = 2, 3$  if  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}$ :  $\text{Der } H_3(\mathbb{K}) = \text{Tri } \mathbb{K} \oplus 3\mathbb{K}$

## THE SYMMETRY OF THE MAGIC SQUARE

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_3(K_1, K_2) &= T(K_1, H_3(K_2)) \\ &= \text{Der } K_1 + \text{Der } H_3(K_2) + K_1' \otimes H_3'(K_2) \end{aligned}$$

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i.e.  $\text{Der } H_3(K) = "su(3, K)"$

Theorem (Vinberg)

$$\begin{aligned}L_3(K_1, K_2) &= \text{Der } K_1 \oplus \text{Der } K_2 + A_3'(K_1 \otimes K_2) \\ &= "su(3, K_1 \otimes K_2)"\end{aligned}$$

## TRIALITY

Def: (Ramond) The *triality algebra* of a composition algebra  $\mathbb{K}$  is the Lie algebra

$$\text{Tri } \mathbb{K} = \{ (D, E, F) \in \text{so}(\mathbb{K})^3 :$$

$$D(xy) = (Ex)y + \alpha(Fy) \}$$

## TRIALITY

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$$\text{Tri } \mathbb{K} = \{ (D, E, F) \in \mathfrak{so}(\mathbb{K})^3 :$$

$$D(xy) = (Ex)y + \alpha(Fy) \}$$

### Principle of Triality

There is a 1:1 correspondence between  $D \in \mathfrak{so}(8)$   
&  $(D, E, F) \in \text{Tri } \mathbb{O}$ , & the maps  $D \mapsto E$ ,  
 $D \mapsto F$  are inequivalent reps of  $\mathfrak{so}(8)$ .

$\mathbb{K}$	$\text{Der } \mathbb{K}$	$\text{Tri } \mathbb{K}$
$\mathbb{R}$	0	0
$\mathbb{C}$	0	$\mathbb{R}^2$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\text{su}(2)$	$\text{su}(2) \oplus \text{su}(2) \oplus \text{su}(2)$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{g}_2$	$\text{so}(8)$

$J = \text{diag } H_3$ Tri $K_1$	$J = \mathbb{R}$ Der $K_1$	$K_2$ $K_1$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
0	0	$\mathbb{R}$	$so(3)$	$su(3)$	$sp(3)$	$f_4$
$\mathbb{R}^2$	0	$\mathbb{C}$	$su(3)$	$su(3) \oplus su(3)$	$su(6)$	$e_6$
$su(2) + su(2) + su(2)$	$su(2)$	$\mathbb{H}$	$sp(3)$	$su(6)$	$so(12)$	$e_7$
$so(8)$	$g_2$	$\mathbb{O}$	$f_4$	$e_6$	$e_7$	$e_8$

$\mathbb{K}$	$\text{Der } \mathbb{K}$	$\text{Tri } \mathbb{K}$
$\mathbb{R}$	0	0
$\mathbb{C}$	0	$\mathbb{R}^2$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\text{su}(2)$	$\text{su}(2) \oplus \text{su}(2) \oplus \text{su}(2)$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{g}_2$	$\text{so}(8)$

$$\text{Der } H_3(\mathbb{K}) = \text{Tri } \mathbb{K} + 3\mathbb{K}$$

$$L_3(\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2) = \text{Tri } \mathbb{K}_1 \oplus \text{Tri } \mathbb{K}_2 + 3\mathbb{K}_1 \otimes \mathbb{K}_2$$

## INTRINSIC CLASSIFICATION THEOREM

### Theorem (Allison)

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a simple Lie algebra containing a subalgebra  $\mathfrak{su}(2)$  whose adjoint action on  $\mathfrak{g}$  decomposes it into 1, 3 and 5-dimensional submodules. Then

$$\mathfrak{g} = \text{Tri}(\mathcal{A}) + 3\mathcal{A}$$

for some **structurable** algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Structurable algebras have been classified and include tensor products  $\mathbb{K}_1 \otimes \mathbb{K}_2$  of composition algebras.

## THE ROWS OF THE MAGIC SQUARE

Matrix models & Freudenthal geometries

Taking  $K_1$  to be a split comp<sup>t</sup> algebra  
gives non-compact Lie algebras

$K_1 \backslash K_2$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$so(3)$	$su(3)$	$su(3, \mathbb{H})$	$f_4(-52) = su(3, \mathbb{O})$
$\tilde{\mathbb{C}}$	$sl(3, \mathbb{R})$	$sl(3, \mathbb{C})$	$su^*(6) = sl(3, \mathbb{H})$	$e_6(-26) = sl(3, \mathbb{O})$
$\tilde{\mathbb{H}}$	$sp(6, \mathbb{R})$	$su(3, 3)$ $\simeq sp(6, \mathbb{C})$	$so^*(12) = sp(6, \mathbb{H})$	$e_7(-25) = sp(6, \mathbb{O})$
$\tilde{\mathbb{O}}$	$f_4(4)$	$e_6(2)$	$e_7(-5)$	$e_8(-24)$

## THE FIRST ROW

$$\begin{aligned}T(\mathbb{R}, H_3(\mathbb{K})) &= \text{Der}H_3(\mathbb{K}) \\ &= A_3(\mathbb{K}) - \mathbb{K} + \text{Der}\mathbb{K} \\ &= \mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{K})\end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{Derivation: } [X, [A, B]] = \{[X, A], B\} + \{A, [X, B]\}$$

$$\text{Lie bracket: } [X, [Y, A]] - [Y, [X, A]] = [[X, Y], A]$$

if  $\mathbb{K}$  is associative

$$\text{In fact, } \text{Der } H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \text{ah}(n, \mathbb{K}) - \mathbb{K}1 + \text{Der } \mathbb{K}$$

$$\text{Also works for } n=2, 3 \text{ if } \mathbb{K} = \mathbb{O}: \text{Der } H_3(\mathbb{K}) = \text{Tri } \mathbb{K} \oplus 3\mathbb{K}$$

## THE SECOND ROW

$$\begin{aligned}T(\tilde{\mathbb{C}}, \mathbb{J}) &= \text{Der} \mathbb{J} + \tilde{i} \mathbb{J}' \\ &= \text{Str}' \mathbb{J}\end{aligned}$$

For  $\mathbb{J} = H_3(\mathbb{K})$ ,

$$\text{Str}' \mathbb{J} = \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{K})$$

$$\text{Str}' H_n(\mathbb{K}) = \mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{K}) \quad ?$$

$$A \mapsto \{B, A\} \quad A, B \in H_n(\mathbb{K})$$

$$\{C, \{B, A\}\} - \{B, \{C, A\}\} = [[B, C], A]$$

$$\text{so } \text{Str}' H_n(\mathbb{K}) = H_n(\mathbb{K}) \oplus \mathfrak{ah}(n, \mathbb{K}) = \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{K})$$

$$A \mapsto XA + AX^\dagger \quad A \in H_n(\mathbb{K}), X \in \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{K})$$

$$\text{In fact } \text{Str}' H_3(\mathbb{K}) = \mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{K}) + \text{Der } \mathbb{K}$$

# MAGIC SQUARE GEOMETRIES

(Freudenthal)

Group	Geometry	Elements	Relations
$SU(3)$	elliptic	points	polarity
$SL(3)$	projective plane	points lines	incident
$Sp(6)$	5-dimensional symplectic	points lines planes	joined intertwoven
Exceptional	metasymplectic	points lines planes symplecta	joined intertwoven hinged

## MAKING THE SPLIT

Suppose  $\mathbb{K}_1$  and  $\mathbb{K}_2$  are positive definite composition algebras,  $\tilde{\mathbb{K}}$  the split form of  $\mathbb{K}$ . Then  $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \mathbb{K}_2)$  and  $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \tilde{\mathbb{K}}_2)$  contain non-compact Lie algebras. These can be identified by their maximal compact subalgebras.

## The compact magic square $L_3(\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2)$

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3)$	$F_4$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6)$	$E_6$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6)$	$\mathfrak{so}(12)$	$E_7$
$\mathbb{O}$	$F_4$	$E_6$	$E_7$	$E_8$

## Maximal compact subalgebras of $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \mathbb{K}_2)$

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3)$	$F_4$
$\tilde{\mathbb{C}}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3)$	$F_4$
$\tilde{\mathbb{H}}$	$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(2)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(2)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(2)$	$E_6 \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$
$\tilde{\mathbb{O}}$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(6) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(12) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$	$E_7 \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$

## Maximal compact subalgebras of $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \mathbb{K}_2)$

### *Theorem* Barton and AS

The maximal compact subalgebra of the non-compact magic square algebra  $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1 \otimes \mathbb{K}_2)$  is  $L_3(\mathbb{F}_1 \otimes \mathbb{K}_2) \dot{+} \mathbb{F}'_1$ , where  $\mathbb{F}_1$  is the division algebra preceding  $\mathbb{K}_1$  in the Cayley-Dickson process.

## Maximal compact subalgebras of $L_3(\tilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \tilde{\mathbb{K}}_2)$

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{su}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(6)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{sq}(3) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$	$\mathfrak{so}(16)$

containing

	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{so}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(4) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$	$\mathfrak{so}(16)$

containing

	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{so}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(4) \oplus \mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$
$\mathbb{O}$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(8)$	$\mathfrak{so}(16)$

which are the compact forms of

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$
$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathfrak{so}(4)$	$\mathfrak{su}(4)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(4)$
$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathfrak{sl}(4, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(4, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(4, \mathbb{H})$
$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathfrak{sp}(8, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(8, \mathbb{C})$ $\cong \mathfrak{su}(4, 4)$	$\mathfrak{sp}(8, \mathbb{H})$

*Theorem* The maximal compact subalgebra of  $L_3(\widetilde{\mathbb{K}}_1, \widetilde{\mathbb{K}}_2)$  is  $L_4(\mathbb{F}_1, \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2)$  where  $\mathbb{F}_i$  is the division algebra preceding  $\mathbb{K}_i$  in the Cayley-Dickson process.

## THE $2 \times 2$ MAGIC SQUARE

Jordan algebra  $H_2(\mathbb{K}) \cong V \oplus \mathbb{R} \subset \text{Cliff}^+(V)$   
 $V = \mathbb{K} \oplus \mathbb{R}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Der } H_2(\mathbb{K}) = \text{su}(2, \mathbb{K}) \cong \text{so}(\mathbb{K} \oplus \mathbb{R})$$

$$\text{su}(2) \cong \text{so}(3)$$

$$\text{sp}(2) \cong \text{so}(5)$$

$$\text{su}(2, \mathbb{O}) \cong \text{so}(9)$$

$SL(2, \mathbb{K})$  acts on  $X = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & z \\ \bar{z} & \beta \end{pmatrix} \in H_2(\mathbb{K})$

$X \mapsto AXA^\dagger$  preserving  $\det X = \alpha\beta - |z|^2$

$$\Rightarrow \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{K}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(\mathbb{K} \oplus \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(2, 1)$$

$$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$$

$$\mathfrak{su}^*(4) \cong \mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{H}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(5, 1)$$

$$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{O}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(9, 1)$$

Symplectic transf's of  $\mathbb{K}^4 \sim$  Möbius transf's of  $H_2(\mathbb{K})$

$$\Rightarrow \mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{K}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(v+2, 2)$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(3, 2)$$

$$\mathfrak{su}(2, 2) = \mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(4, 2)$$

$$\mathfrak{so}^*(8) = \mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{H}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(6, 2)$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{O}) \cong \mathfrak{so}(10, 2)$$

## DEFINING THE $2 \times 2$ MAGIC SQUARE

Tits's construction  $T(\mathbb{K}_1, H_2(\mathbb{K}))$  gives a Lie algebra only if  $\mathbb{K}_1$  is associative. But in that case

$$L_2(\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2) = \mathfrak{so}(\mathbb{K}_1) + \text{Der}H_2(\mathbb{K}_2) + \mathbb{K}'_1 \otimes H'_2(\mathbb{K}_2)$$

which is also a Lie algebra if  $\mathbb{K}_1 = \mathbb{O}$ . Then

$$L_2(\mathbb{K}_1, \mathbb{K}_2) = \mathfrak{so}(\mathbb{K}_1 \oplus \mathbb{K}_2).$$

## THE SQUARE OF ISOMORPHISMS

	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\tilde{\mathbb{O}}$
Der $H_2(\mathbb{K}) \cong L_2(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{K})$	$\mathfrak{so}(2)$	$\mathfrak{su}(2)$	$\mathfrak{sq}(2)$	$\mathfrak{so}(9)$
Str $H_2(\mathbb{K}) \cong L_2(\tilde{\mathbb{C}}, \mathbb{K})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{O})$
Con $H_2(\mathbb{K}) \cong L_2(\tilde{\mathbb{H}}, \mathbb{K})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(2, 2)$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{O})$
$L_2(\tilde{\mathbb{O}}, \mathbb{K})$	$\mathfrak{so}(5, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(8, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(12, 4)$

## THE EXCEPTIONAL SERIES

Observation (Vogel) Every simple Lie algebra can be associated with a set of six points  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}T^2$  (related by permutations) s.t.

$$\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g} \oplus X_2 \quad (\text{antisym.}) \\ \oplus X_0 \oplus Y_2 \oplus Y_2' \oplus Y_2''$$

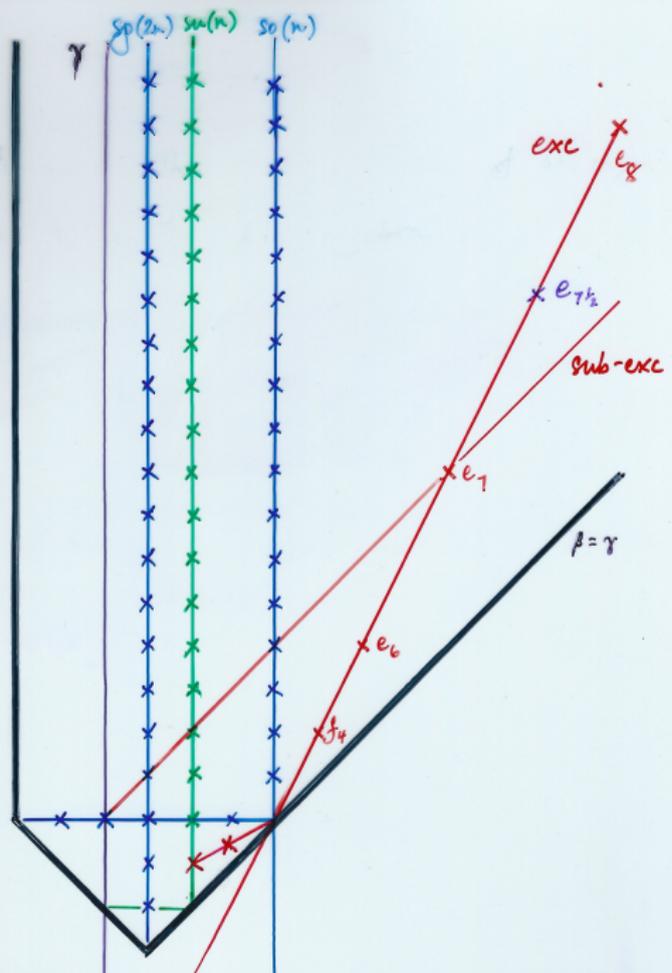
$$\text{with } \dim \mathfrak{g} = \frac{(\alpha - 2t)(\beta - 2t)(\gamma - 2t)}{\alpha\beta\gamma} \quad (t = \alpha + \beta + \gamma)$$

$$\dim X_2 = - \frac{(\alpha - 2t)(\beta - 2t)(\gamma - 2t)(\alpha + t)(\beta + t)(\gamma + t)}{\alpha^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}$$

↳ similar formulae for  $Y_2, Y_2', Y_2''$ .

$\alpha = -2$

$\alpha = \beta$



## Conjecture (Deligne)

The Lie algebras  $\mathfrak{g}$  in the exceptional series  
 $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = (\lambda, 1-\lambda, 2)$  have similar  
decompositions of  $\otimes^k \mathfrak{g}$  for all  $k$ , & the dimensions  
& values of the quadratic Casimir on the irreducible  
components are given by products  $\prod_i (a_i + \lambda b_i)^{\pm 1}$ .  
( $a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{C}$ )

Verified by Cohen & de Man for  $k = 3, 4$

Proved analytically by Landsberg & Manivel,  $k = 2, 3$

Investigated by Macfarlane & Pfeiffer for  $k = 5$

- quadratic factors, negative dimensions

## THE SEXTONIONS AND $E_{7\frac{1}{2}}$

$$\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{H} \oplus \mathbb{H}^\perp$$

Under left mult<sup>n</sup> by  $\mathbb{H}^\times \cong \mathbb{R} \times \text{SU}(2)$ ,

$$\mathbb{C}\mathbb{H}^\perp = U_1 \oplus U_2 \quad \dim U_1 = \dim U_2 = 2$$

The sextions are the complex 6-dim.

algebra

$$\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{C} \otimes (\mathbb{H} + U_1)$$

This adds a frieze to the magic square

$$\mathcal{L}_3(\mathbb{S}, \mathbb{K}) = \mathcal{L}_3(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{K}) \times \mathbb{H}(\mathbb{K})$$

$\mathbb{H}(\mathbb{K})$  = Heisenberg algebra of dimension

14, 20, 32, 32 × 44, 56

$\mathbb{R}$     $\mathbb{C}$     $\mathbb{H}$     $\mathbb{S}$     $\mathbb{O}$

so  $E_{7\frac{1}{2}} = E_7 \times \mathbb{H}_{56}$



## THE EXCEPTIONAL SERIES

Observation (Vogel) Every simple Lie algebra can be associated with a set of six points  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}T^2$  (related by permutations) s.t.

$$\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g} \oplus X_2 \quad (\text{antisym.}) \\ \oplus X_0 \oplus Y_2 \oplus Y_2' \oplus Y_2''$$

$$\text{with } \dim \mathfrak{g} = \frac{(\alpha - 2t)(\beta - 2t)(\gamma - 2t)}{\alpha\beta\gamma} \quad (t = \alpha + \beta + \gamma)$$

$$\dim X_2 = - \frac{(\alpha - 2t)(\beta - 2t)(\gamma - 2t)(\alpha + t)(\beta + t)(\gamma + t)}{\alpha^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}$$

↳ similar formulae for  $Y_2, Y_2', Y_2''$ .

## UNIVERSAL DIMENSION FORMULA

Landsberg & Manivel 2004

math. RT/0401296

The  $k$ 'th symmetric power of  $\mathfrak{g}$  contains  
an irreducible rep:  $\gamma_k$  (highest weight  $k\alpha_0$ )  
with dimension

$$\frac{(\beta + \gamma - 3 + 2k) \binom{\beta + \frac{\alpha}{2} - 3 + k}{k} \binom{\gamma + \frac{\beta}{2} - 3 + k}{k} \binom{\beta + \gamma - 4 + k}{k}}{(\beta + \gamma - 3) \binom{\frac{\beta}{2} + k - 1}{k} \binom{\frac{\alpha}{2} + k - 1}{k}}$$

## TENSOR CALCULUS

1968

$a_n$  adjoint tensors:

$$\lambda_i \lambda_j = \frac{2}{n} \delta_{ij} + (a_{ijk} + i f_{ijk}) \lambda_k$$

Identities  $f_{ijk} f_{mnk} = \frac{2}{n} (\delta_{im} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{in} \delta_{jm})$   
 $+ d_{imk} d_{jnk} - d_{ink} d_{jmk}$  etc.

Maafalane, As, Weisz

## TENSOR CALCULUS

1968

$a_n$  adjoint tensors:

$$\lambda_i \lambda_j = \frac{2}{n} \delta_{ij} + (d_{ijk} + i f_{ijk}) \lambda_k$$

Identities  $f_{ijk} f_{mnk} = \frac{2}{n} (\delta_{im} \delta_{jn} - \delta_{in} \delta_{jm})$   
 $+ d_{imk} d_{jnk} - d_{ink} d_{jmk}$  etc.

Macfarlane, AS, Weisz

2002

$$\sum_{ijpq} C_{imn} C_{pnr} C_{qrs} C_{jsm} = \frac{5}{2(D+2)} \delta_{ij} \delta_{pq}$$

$$D = \dim \mathfrak{g}, \quad \mathfrak{g} = \underline{a}_2, \underline{g}_2, \underline{f}_4, \underline{e}_6, \underline{e}_7, \underline{e}_8$$

!!!

Macfarlane & Pfeiffer