

Magic squares of Lie groups

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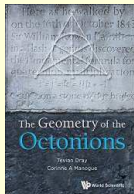
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Book



The Geometry of the Octonions
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The Freudenthal–Tits Magic Square

Freudenthal (1964), Tits (1966):

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	\mathfrak{a}_1	\mathfrak{a}_2	\mathfrak{c}_3	\mathfrak{f}_4
\mathbb{C}	\mathfrak{a}_2	$\mathfrak{a}_2 \oplus \mathfrak{a}_2$	\mathfrak{a}_5	\mathfrak{e}_6
\mathbb{H}	\mathfrak{c}_3	\mathfrak{a}_5	\mathfrak{d}_6	\mathfrak{e}_7
\mathbb{O}	\mathfrak{f}_4	\mathfrak{e}_6	\mathfrak{e}_7	\mathfrak{e}_8

Vinberg (1966):

$$\mathfrak{sa}(3, \mathbb{A} \otimes \mathbb{B}) \oplus \mathfrak{der}(\mathbb{A}) \oplus \mathfrak{der}(\mathbb{B})$$

$$\mathfrak{der}(\mathbb{H}) = \mathfrak{so}(3); \quad \mathfrak{der}(\mathbb{O}) = \mathfrak{g}_2$$

Goal:

Description as symmetry groups

[Wangberg (PhD 2007), Wangberg & Dray (JMP 2013, JAA 2014),
Dray, Manogue, and Wilson (CMUC 2014)]

History

- Barton & Sudbery (2003):
Well-understood in terms of Lie algebras.
- Satisfactory group description not yet known.
- Rosenfeld (1956/1997):
Isometry groups of projective planes over $\mathbb{A} \otimes \mathbb{B}$.

$$\text{Cayley-Moufang plane: } F_4 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{O}P^2$$

- Baez (2002):
OK for E_6 ; not for E_7 , E_8 .
In short, more work must be done before we can claim to fully understand the geometrical meaning of the Lie groups E_6 , E_7 and E_8 .

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{H})$	\mathfrak{f}_4
\mathbb{C}	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{e}_{6(-26)}$
\mathbb{H}	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, 3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{d}_{6(-6)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{7(-25)}$
\mathbb{O}	$\mathfrak{f}_{4(4)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{6(2)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{7(-5)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{8(-24)}$

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{C}	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{H}	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, 3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{d}_{6(-6)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{7(-25)}$
\mathbb{O}	$\mathfrak{f}_{4(4)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{6(2)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{7(-5)}$	$\mathfrak{e}_{8(-24)}$

Dray & Manogue (2010):

$F_4 \cong \mathrm{SU}(3, \mathbb{O})$, $E_6 \cong \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{O})$ using $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{O}) \cong \mathrm{SO}(9, 1) \subset E_6$

$$\mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X & \theta \\ \theta^\dagger & n \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} M & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Triality!

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{su}(3, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{C}	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(3, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{H}	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{O}	??	??	??	??

Dray & Manogue (2010):

$F_4 \cong \mathrm{SU}(3, \mathbb{O})$, $E_6 \cong \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbb{O})$ using $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{O}) \cong \mathrm{SO}(9, 1) \subset E_6$

$$\mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X & \theta \\ \theta^\dagger & n \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} M & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Triality!

The Subgroup Structure of E_6

116

164

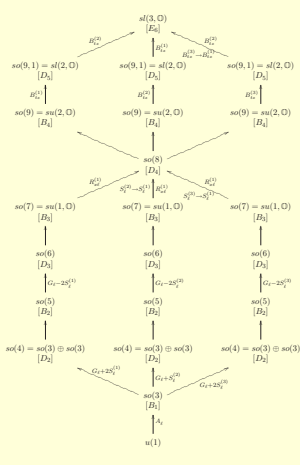


Figure 4.2: Chain of subgroups $SO(n) \subset SO(9, 1) \subset SL(3, O)$

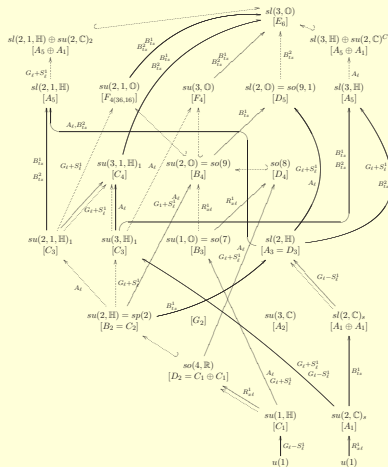


Figure 5.1: Preferred subalgebra chains of E_6 using the same basis

Wangberg (PhD 2007), Wangberg & Dray (JAA 2014)

Cartan Decompositions of E_6

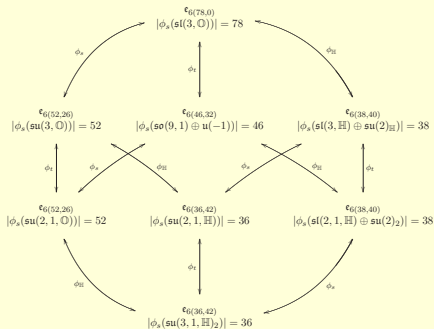


FIG. 3. Composition of associated Cartan maps of e_6 acting on real forms of e_6 , showing the maximal compact subalgebra under ϕ_s .

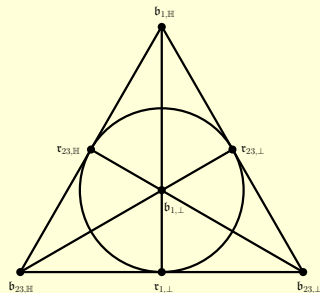


FIG. 4. Composition of associated Cartan maps of e_6 acting on real forms of e_6 , showing the maximal compact subalgebra under ϕ_s .

Wangberg (PhD 2007), Wangberg & Dray (JMP 2013)

Symplectic Groups

Definition

$$\mathfrak{sp}(2k, \mathbb{R}) = \{Q \in M^{2k \times 2k}(\mathbb{R}) : Q\Omega Q^T = \Omega\}$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R}) = \mathfrak{so}(3, 2) \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R})| = 10$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{R}) = \mathfrak{c}_3 \text{ (split)} \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{R})| = 21$$

$$\Omega = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & I \\ \hline -I & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Symplectic Groups

Definition (traditional)

$$\mathfrak{sp}(2k, \mathbb{K}) = \{Q \in M^{2k \times 2k}(\mathbb{K}) : Q\Omega Q^T = \Omega\}$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{c}_2 \text{ (complex)} \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C})| = 20$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{c}_3 \text{ (complex)} \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{C})| = 42$$

$$\Omega = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & I \\ \hline -I & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Symplectic Groups

Definition (Sudbery)

$$\mathfrak{sp}(2k, \mathbb{K}) = \{Q \in M^{2k \times 2k}(\mathbb{K}) : Q\Omega Q^\dagger = \Omega\}$$

Fine Print: Count “phases” separately

$$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{su}(2, 2) \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C})| = 15$$

$$\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{su}(3, 3) \quad |\mathfrak{sp}(6, \mathbb{C})| = 35$$

$$\Omega = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & I \\ \hline -I & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Conformalization

$SO(4, 2)$ is the “conformalization” of $SO(3, 1)$

conformalization = Lorentz + translations + conformal + dilation

$$15 = 6 + 4 + 4 + 1$$

$$\text{acts on } \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} p + q & X \\ -\tilde{X} & p - q \end{pmatrix} \longleftrightarrow \{X, p, q\}$$

$E_{7(-25)}$ is the “conformalization” of $E_{6(-26)}$

conformalization = group + (2 × null rotations) + phase

$$133 = 78 + (2 \times 27) + 1$$

acts on Freudenthal “tower”: $\{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, p, q\}$

Freudenthal Tower

Elements of \mathfrak{e}_7 : $(\phi \in \mathfrak{e}_6, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{H}_3(\mathbb{O}), \rho \in \mathbb{R})$

$$\Theta = (\phi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \rho)$$

Minimal representation: $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{H}_3(\mathbb{O}), p, q \in \mathbb{R})$

$$\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, p, q)$$

Action (Freudenthal): $\mathcal{X} \mapsto \phi(\mathcal{X}) + \frac{1}{3}\rho\mathcal{X} + 2\mathcal{B} * \mathcal{Y} + \mathcal{A}q$

$$\mathcal{Y} \mapsto 2\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} + \phi'(\mathcal{Y}) - \frac{1}{3}\rho\mathcal{Y} + \mathcal{B}p$$

$$p \mapsto \text{tr}(\mathcal{A} \circ \mathcal{Y}) - \rho p$$

$$q \mapsto \text{tr}(\mathcal{B} \circ \mathcal{X}) + \rho q$$

Tower:

$$\mathcal{A} : q = 1 \mapsto \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{A} * \mathcal{A} \mapsto p = \det \mathcal{A} \mapsto 0$$

$$\mathcal{B} : 0 \longleftarrow q = \det \mathcal{B} \longleftarrow \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{B} * \mathcal{B} \longleftarrow \mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{B} \longleftarrow p = 1$$

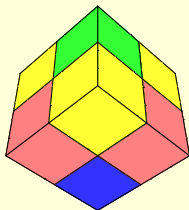
Squares and Cubes

2-forms in $d = 4$: $(6 = 1 + 4 + 1)$

00	01
10	11

$$\begin{aligned} 00 &\longleftrightarrow p \\ 01, 10 &\longleftrightarrow \mathcal{X} \\ 11 &\longleftrightarrow q \end{aligned}$$

3-forms in $d = 6$: $(20 = 1 + 9 + 9 + 1)$



$$\begin{aligned} 000 &\longleftrightarrow p \\ 001, 010, 100 &\longleftrightarrow \mathcal{X} \\ 011, 110, 101 &\longleftrightarrow \mathcal{Y} \\ 111 &\longleftrightarrow q \end{aligned}$$

$Sp(6, \mathbb{O})?$

Idea: $\dot{\mathbf{M}}[u \wedge v \wedge w] = \dot{\mathbf{M}}u \wedge v \wedge w + u \wedge \dot{\mathbf{M}}v \wedge w + u \wedge v \wedge \dot{\mathbf{M}}w$

- Not well defined over \mathbb{H} !
- No way (yet...) to fix ordering.
- BUT: works for ϵ_6 and other real generators.
- Use commutators to *define* remaining elements!
- Get: $E_7 \cong Sp(6, \mathbb{O})!$

[Dray, Manogue, Wilson (CMUC 2014)]

The 2×2 Magic Square

Barton & Sudbery (2003):

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	\mathfrak{d}_1	\mathfrak{a}_1	\mathfrak{b}_2	\mathfrak{b}_4
\mathbb{C}	\mathfrak{a}_1	$\mathfrak{a}_1 \oplus \mathfrak{a}_1$	\mathfrak{d}_3	\mathfrak{d}_5
\mathbb{H}	\mathfrak{b}_2	\mathfrak{d}_3	\mathfrak{d}_4	\mathfrak{d}_6
\mathbb{O}	\mathfrak{b}_4	\mathfrak{d}_5	\mathfrak{d}_6	\mathfrak{d}_8

“Vinberg”:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathfrak{sa}(2, \mathbb{A} \otimes \mathbb{B}) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(\text{Im } \mathbb{A}) \oplus \mathfrak{so}(\text{Im } \mathbb{B}) \\
 & \mathfrak{so}(\text{Im } \mathbb{H}) = \mathfrak{so}(3); \quad \mathfrak{so}(\text{Im } \mathbb{O}) = \mathfrak{so}(7)
 \end{aligned}$$

Unified Clifford algebra description using division algebras

[Kincaid (MS 2012), Kincaid and Dray (MPLA 2014),
 Dray, Kincaid, & Huerta (LMP 2014)]

Symmetry Groups

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}'	$\mathfrak{su}(2, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{su}(2, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{su}(2, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{su}(2, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{C}'	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sl}(2, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{H}'	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{R})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{C})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{H})$	$\mathfrak{sp}(4, \mathbb{O})$
\mathbb{O}'	??	??	??	??

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}'	$\mathfrak{so}(2)$	$\mathfrak{so}(3)$	$\mathfrak{so}(5)$	$\mathfrak{so}(9)$
\mathbb{C}'	$\mathfrak{so}(2, 1)$	$\mathfrak{so}(3, 1)$	$\mathfrak{so}(5, 1)$	$\mathfrak{so}(9, 1)$
\mathbb{H}'	$\mathfrak{so}(3, 2)$	$\mathfrak{so}(4, 2)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6, 2)$	$\mathfrak{so}(10, 2)$
\mathbb{O}'	$\mathfrak{so}(5, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(6, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(8, 4)$	$\mathfrak{so}(12, 4)$

Orthogonal Groups

	\mathbb{R}	\mathbb{C}	\mathbb{H}	\mathbb{O}
\mathbb{R}	$SO(2)$	$SO(3)$	$SO(5)$	$SO(9)$
\mathbb{C}	$SO(2, 1)$	$SO(3, 1)$	$SO(5, 1)$	$SO(9, 1)$
\mathbb{H}	$SO(3, 2)$	$SO(4, 2)$	$SO(6, 2)$	$SO(10, 2)$
\mathbb{O}	$SO(5, 4)$	$SO(6, 4)$	$SO(8, 4)$	$SO(12, 4)$

$$d = 3, 4, 6, 10$$

(1980s: Corrigan, Evans, Fairlie, Manogue, Sudbery)

isogeny: $SL(2, \mathbb{K}) \cong SO(k + 1, 1)$, e.g.

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} t + z & x - iy \\ x + iy & t - z \end{pmatrix}$$

Clifford algebras!

From Pauli to Dirac ($Cl(3, 0) \longrightarrow Cl(3, 1)$)

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \begin{pmatrix} t + z & x - iy \\ x + iy & t - z \end{pmatrix} \\ &= t\sigma_t + x\sigma_x + y\sigma_y + z\sigma_z \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(X) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & X \\ -\tilde{X} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= t\gamma_t + x\gamma_x + y\gamma_y + z\gamma_z \end{aligned}$$

$$\tilde{X} = X - \text{tr}(X)I \implies \Gamma(X)^2 = \det(X) = t^2 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2$$

Basic Idea

isogeny: $SO(2, \mathbb{K}' \otimes \mathbb{K}) \cong SO(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$, e.g.

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} A & a \\ \bar{a} & -A^* \end{pmatrix}$$

with $a \in \mathbb{K}$, $A \in \mathbb{K}'$.

$$\det X = -|A|^2 - |a|^2$$

Idea: $\Gamma(X)$ generates $Cl(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$!

From Clifford to Lorentz

Reflections:

$Q \mapsto PQP^{-1}$ reflects Q about P .

Flips:

Successive flips about P_1, P_2 result in a (finite) rotation in the plane spanned by P_j .

The quadratic elements of $Cl(p, q)$ generate $SO(p, q)$

Notation

Identify \mathbf{P} with $\mathbf{P}_L \in \text{End}(\mathcal{K}^{4 \times 4})$: $\mathbf{P}_L(\mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}$.

Lemma

$$(\mathbf{P}_L)^2 = (\mathbf{P}^2)_L$$

Proof.

By alternativity:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{P}^2\mathbf{Q}$$

□

Theorem

The subalgebra of $\text{End}(\mathcal{K}^{4 \times 4})$ generated by $\Gamma_L(\mathbf{V}_2)$ is a Clifford algebra, that is, $\text{Cl}(\mathbf{V}_4) = \text{Cl}(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$.

Proof.

$$\Gamma(X)^2 = -\det(X) \mathbf{I} \implies \Gamma_L(X)^2 = |X| = -\det(X)$$

Polarize:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}) + \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{R}) = (\mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{P})\mathbf{R} = 2g(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q})\mathbf{R}$$

That is, we have

$$\{\mathbf{P}_L, \mathbf{Q}_L\} = \{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}\}_L$$



Lemma

Let $\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q} \in \Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$, with $\det \mathbf{P} \neq 0$. Then

$$(\mathbf{PQ})\mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{QP}^{-1}) \quad (1)$$

and this matrix, which we denote \mathbf{PQP}^{-1} , also lies in $\Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$.

Proof.

By the discussion above, \mathbf{P}^{-1} is proportional to \mathbf{P} , so that the elements of \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{Q} , and \mathbf{P}^{-1} jointly contain only two independent imaginary directions in each of \mathbb{K} and \mathbb{K}' . Thus, there are no associativity issues when multiplying these matrices, which establishes (1). Direct computation further establishes the fact that $\mathbf{PQP}^{-1} \in \Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$. □

Lemma

Let $\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q} \in \Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$ with $|\mathbf{P}| = 1$, so that $\mathbf{P}_L, \mathbf{Q}_L \in \mathbf{V}_4$. Then

$$R_{\mathbf{P}_L}(\mathbf{Q}_L) = -(\mathbf{PQP}^{-1})_L.$$

Proof.

Given that \mathbf{P}^2 is a multiple of the identity, it is enough to show that

$$\mathbf{P}_L \circ \mathbf{Q}_L \circ \mathbf{P}_L = (\mathbf{PQP})_L$$

in $\mathcal{K}^{4 \times 4}$, that is, that for $\mathbf{R} \in \Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{R}))) = (\mathbf{PQP})(\mathbf{R}) \quad (2)$$

But (2) follows immediately from the Moufang identity

$$p(q(p(r))) = (pqp)r$$



Lemma

There is a homomorphism

$$R: SO(\mathbf{V}_4) \rightarrow SO(\mathbf{V}_4) \quad (3)$$

which sends a product of unit vectors $g = \mathbf{P}_1 \cdot \mathbf{P}_2$ in $SO(\mathbf{V}_4)$ to the element R_g of $SO(\mathbf{V}_4)$ given by:

$$R_g(\mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{P}_1(\mathbf{P}_2\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{P}_2^{-1})\mathbf{P}_1^{-1}. \quad (4)$$

Theorem

The second-order homogeneous elements of $Cl(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$ generate an action of $SO(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$ on $\mathbf{V}_4 = \Gamma(\mathbf{V}_2)$.

Explicit Construction

Flips: $\mathbf{P} \mapsto e_p \mathbf{P} e_p^{-1}$

Nested flips: $\mathbf{P} \mapsto \mathbf{M}_2 (\mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{P} \mathbf{M}_1^{-1}) \mathbf{M}_2^{-1}$

where

$$\mathbf{M}_1 = -e_p \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_2 = (e_p c(\frac{\theta}{2}) + e_q s(\frac{\theta}{2})) \mathbf{I}$$

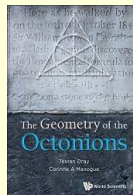
$$= \begin{cases} (e_p \cosh(\frac{\theta}{2}) + e_q \sinh(\frac{\theta}{2})) \mathbf{I}, & (e_p e_q)^2 = 1 \\ (e_p \cos(\frac{\theta}{2}) + e_q \sin(\frac{\theta}{2})) \mathbf{I}, & (e_p e_q)^2 = -1 \end{cases}$$

Theorem

The nested flips generate an action of $SO(k + \frac{1}{2}k', \frac{1}{2}k')$ on \mathbf{V}_4 .

SUMMARY

- **Have:** $E_6 \cong \text{SL}(3, \mathbb{O})$
[Dray & Manogue (2010)]
- **Have:** Structure of E_6
[Wangberg (PhD 2007), Wangberg & Dray (2013; 2014)]
- **Have:** 2 × 2 Magic Square
[Kincaid (MS 2012), Kincaid and Dray (2014),
Dray, Kincaid, & Huerta (2014)]
- **(Mostly) Have:** $E_7 \cong \text{Sp}(6, \mathbb{O})$
[Dray, Manogue, Wilson (CMUC 2014)]
- **Want:** $E_8 \cong ??$



<http://octonions.geometryof.org/G0>