

54. On the Freudenthal's Construction of Exceptional Lie Algebras

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Introduction. In his papers [3], [4], Professor Freudenthal constructed an exceptional simple Lie algebra \mathfrak{G} as follows. Let \mathfrak{S} be an exceptional simple Jordan algebra of all 3×3 Hermitian matrices with coefficients in the algebras of octaves, in which the Jordan product $X \cdot Y$ is defined as $1/2(XY + YX)$. A symmetric cross product $X \times Y$ in \mathfrak{S} is defined by

$$X \times Y = X \cdot Y - \frac{1}{2}(\text{sp}(X)Y + \text{sp}(Y)X - \text{sp}(X)\text{sp}(Y)I + (X, Y)I),$$

where $\text{sp}(X)$ means the spur of X , I is the unit matrix and $(X, Y) = \text{sp}(X \cdot Y)$ for $X, Y \in \mathfrak{S}$. Furthermore, for any $X, Y \in \mathfrak{S}$, $\langle X, Y \rangle$ is a linear transformation of \mathfrak{S} defined by

$$\langle X, Y \rangle Z = 2Y \times (X \times Z) - \frac{1}{2}(Z, Y)X - \frac{1}{6}(X, Y)Z \quad \text{for } Z \in \mathfrak{S}.$$

Let \mathfrak{S} be the subspace spanned by $\{\langle X, Y \rangle \mid X, Y \in \mathfrak{S}\}$ in the space of linear transformations on \mathfrak{S} . Let $\mathfrak{R} = \mathfrak{S} \oplus \mathfrak{S} \oplus \mathbf{R} \oplus \mathbf{R}$ and $\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{S} \oplus \mathbf{R} \oplus \mathfrak{S} \oplus \mathfrak{S}$ (\mathbf{R} is the field of real numbers) be direct sums as vector spaces, in which elements are denoted as

$$P = [X, Y, \xi, \omega] \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = [\sum_i \langle X_i, Y_i \rangle, \rho, A, B]$$

or

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ \xi \\ \omega \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_i \langle X_i, Y_i \rangle \\ \rho \\ A \\ B \end{pmatrix}.$$

For any elements $P_i = [X_i, Y_i, \xi_i, \omega_i]$ ($i=1, 2$) in \mathfrak{R} , an alternating form $\{P_1, P_2\}$ and an element $P_1 \times P_2$ of \mathfrak{L} are defined as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} \{P_1, P_2\} &= (X_1, Y_2) - (X_2, Y_1) + \xi_1 \omega_2 - \xi_2 \omega_1, \\ P_1 \times P_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \langle X_1, Y_2 \rangle + \langle X_2, Y_1 \rangle \\ -\frac{1}{4}((X_1, Y_2) + (X_2, Y_1) - 3\xi_1 \omega_2 - 3\xi_2 \omega_1) \\ -Y_1 \times Y_2 + \frac{1}{2}(\xi_1 X_2 + \xi_2 X_1) \\ X_1 \times X_2 - \frac{1}{2}(\omega_1 Y_2 + \omega_2 Y_1) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

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