

SYMMETRIC SPACES DERIVED FROM ALGEBRAS

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§ 1. Introduction.

The real projective plane is simply realized as the set of all lines through the origin in the 3-dimensional Euclidean space. And also it can be realized as the set of all subalgebras which are isomorphic to the field of complex numbers in the quaternion field. However there is a slight difference between two realizations, that is, in the former case the lines appear to have no algebraic structure but in the latter case the subalgebras do have it, by which the same symmetric space can be obtained. Then, since it seems to us that the similar realization to the latter is suitable for the explicit construction of symmetric spaces from various algebras, we will ask whether symmetric spaces in the sense of O. Loos [3] can be constructed by the set of all subalgebras with suitable conditions in a given algebra. In this paper we shall give an affirmative answer to this problem.

§ 2. Preliminaries.

Let K be the field of real numbers (or the field of complex numbers) and K^n be the n -dimensional vector space over K . We assume that K^n has a non-trivial product μ , i. e., a K -bilinear mapping $\mu: K^n \times K^n \rightarrow K^n$ such that $A \cdot A \neq \{0\}$ where we put $x \cdot y = \mu(x, y)$ and $A = (K^n, \mu)$. A is a non-associative algebra. Then the general linear group $GL(n, K)$ of K^n is a Lie group and the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(A)$ of A , the group of all elements α of $GL(n, K)$ which satisfy $\mu(\alpha x, \alpha y) = \alpha \mu(x, y)$ for any $x, y \in A$, is also a Lie group because $\text{Aut}(A)$ is a closed subgroup in $GL(n, K)$. Moreover we assume that A has a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear mapping (=inner product) $g: A \times A \rightarrow K$ which is invariant under $\text{Aut}(A)$. Throughout this paper the product μ and the inner product g will be fixed.

A subspace V of the algebra A is regular if A is a direct sum of V and V^\perp ($A = V \oplus V^\perp$) as a vector space where V^\perp is a subspace of all elements x of A which are orthogonal to V relative to g , i. e., $g(x, V) = \{0\}$. Since the inner product g is symmetric and non-degenerate, for a regular subspace V , we can obtain a basis $\{e_i\}$ in A satisfying the conditions (*): $e_i \in V$ ($1 \leq i \leq r$), $e_i \in V^\perp$ ($r+1 \leq i \leq n$)

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and $g(e_i, e_j)=0$ or non-zero according as $i \neq j$ or $i=j$ where r is the dimension of V ($\dim V$) and $n=\dim A$.

A symmetric subalgebra V is a regular subspace of A such that $V \cdot V \subset V$, $V \cdot V^\perp \subset V^\perp$, $V^\perp \cdot V \subset V^\perp$ and $V^\perp \cdot V^\perp \subset V$. By the assumption of $A \cdot A \neq \{0\}$, the dimension of a symmetric subalgebra is always positive. These symmetric subalgebras play an important role in the explicit construction of symmetric spaces from various algebras.

§ 3. Reflection map S_V .

We define a reflection map S_V in the algebra A across a regular subspace V by $S_V(x_1+x_2)=x_1-x_2$ for any $x_1 \in V$ and $x_2 \in V^\perp$ and also define a reflection map S_a in A across a non-isotropic vector a , i. e., $g(a, a) \neq 0$, by $S_a(x)=-x+2g(x, a)/g(a, a)a$ for any $x \in A$. Then the determinant $\det S_a$ is equal to $(-1)^{n-1}$ where $n=\dim A$. If $g(x, a)=0$, $S_a(x)=-x$.

Let ε be -1 or 1 according as $\dim V$ is even or odd. For a regular subspace V of A , making use of a basis $\{e_i\}$ of A with the property (*) in Section 2, we can obtain $S_V=\varepsilon \Pi S_{e_i}$ where Π is the composition of r reflection maps.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let V be a regular subspace of A , then the reflection map S_V is an (involutive) automorphism of A if and only if V is a symmetric subalgebra.*

Proof. Sufficiency: From $\det S_V \neq 0$, $S_V \in GL(n, K)$. Since, for $x, y \in V$ and $z, w \in V^\perp$, it holds that $S_V(x \cdot y)=x \cdot y=S_V(x) \cdot S_V(y)$, $S_V(x \cdot z)=-x \cdot z=S_V(x) \cdot S_V(z)$, $S_V(z \cdot x)=-z \cdot x=S_V(z) \cdot S_V(x)$ and $S_V(z \cdot w)=z \cdot w=S_V(z) \cdot S_V(w)$, S_V is an automorphism of A .

Necessity: Notice that $V=\{x \in A \mid S_V(x)=x\}$ and $V^\perp=\{z \in A \mid S_V(z)=-z\}$. Since we have $S_V(x \cdot y)=S_V(x) \cdot S_V(y)=x \cdot y$, $S_V(x \cdot z)=S_V(x) \cdot S_V(z)=-x \cdot z$, $S_V(z \cdot x)=S_V(z) \cdot S_V(x)=-z \cdot x$ and $S_V(z \cdot w)=S_V(z) \cdot S_V(w)=z \cdot w$ for any $x, y \in V$ and $z, w \in V^\perp$, V is a symmetric subalgebra.

LEMMA 3.2. *For a regular subspace V of A , $\alpha S_V \alpha^{-1}=S_{\alpha V}$ holds for any $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$.*

Proof. For a non-isotropic vector a of A , we have $\alpha S_a \alpha^{-1}(x)=\alpha(-\alpha^{-1}x+2g(\alpha^{-1}x, a)/g(a, a)a)=-x+2g(x, \alpha a)/g(\alpha a, \alpha a)\alpha a=S_{\alpha a}(x)$ for any $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ and $x \in A$, i. e., $\alpha S_a \alpha^{-1}=S_{\alpha a}$ holds. From this fact and $S_V=\varepsilon \Pi S_{e_i}$, we can prove the Lemma.

The following Proposition is a direct consequence of Lemma 3.2.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *Let V be a symmetric subalgebra of A . Then the group generated by the set \mathfrak{S}_V of all $S_{\alpha V}$ for any $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)$ is a normal subgroup of $\text{Aut}(A)$. If $\text{Aut}(A)$ is simple (in the sense of abstract group) and $V \neq A$, \mathfrak{S}_V generates $\text{Aut}(A)$.*

PROPOSITION 3.4. *If α is an involutive automorphism of A , there exists uniquely a symmetric subalgebra V such that $\alpha=S_V$.*

Proof. Since the involutive automorphism α can be represented as an $n \times n$ matrix with coefficients in K , there is an $n \times n$ non-singular matrix P , i. e., $P \in GL(n, K)$, such that $\alpha = PDP^{-1}$ where D is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal components are ± 1 . Let $W_{\pm 1}$ be ± 1 -eigenspaces for this diagonal matrix D , then we have $A = W_1 \oplus W_{-1}$ (direct sum as a vector space). And, put $PW_1 = V_1$ and $PW_{-1} = V_{-1}$, we also have $A = V_1 \oplus V_{-1}$ such that $V_1 = \{x \in A \mid \alpha(x) = x\}$ and $V_{-1} = \{x \in A \mid \alpha(x) = -x\}$. Since the involutive automorphism α can be characterized by these vector spaces, it suffices to prove that V_1 is a symmetric subalgebra such that $\alpha = S_{V_1}$. If $V_1 = \{0\}$, it holds that $y \cdot z = \alpha(y) \cdot \alpha(z) = \alpha(y \cdot z) = -y \cdot z$ for any $y, z \in V_{-1}$ ($=A$), i. e., $A \cdot A = \{0\}$. However this contradicts the assumption of $A \cdot A \neq \{0\}$ and so the case of $V_1 = \{0\}$ does not occur. If $V_{-1} = \{0\}$ we can take A for V such that $\alpha = S_V$. Hence we only consider a case of $V_{\pm 1} \neq \{0\}$.

First we show $V_{-1} = V_1^\perp$. Since the inner product g is invariant under the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(A)$, we have $g(x, y) = g(\alpha x, \alpha y) = g(x, -y) = -g(x, y)$, i. e., $g(x, y) = 0$ for any $x \in V_1, y \in V_{-1}$. This implies $V_{-1} \subset V_1^\perp$. From $A = V_1 \oplus V_{-1}$ and the fact that $\dim V^\perp = n - \dim V$ holds in general under the assumption of the existence of a non-degenerate symmetric inner product, we have $V_{-1} = V_1^\perp$. This means that V_1 is a regular subspace of A . Next, from the fact that $\alpha(x \cdot y) = \alpha(x) \cdot \alpha(y) = x \cdot y$, $\alpha(x \cdot z) = \alpha(x) \cdot \alpha(z) = -x \cdot z$, $\alpha(z \cdot x) = \alpha(z) \cdot \alpha(x) = -z \cdot x$ and $\alpha(z \cdot w) = \alpha(z) \cdot \alpha(w) = z \cdot w$ for any $x, y \in V_1$ and $z, w \in V_1^\perp$, we can see that V_1 is a symmetric subalgebra of A such that $\alpha = S_{V_1}$.

Two involutive automorphisms α, β are conjugate if there exists a $\gamma \in \text{Aut}(A)$ such that $\alpha = \gamma \beta \gamma^{-1}$. Two symmetric subalgebras V, W are conjugate if there exists a $\gamma \in \text{Aut}(A)$ such that $V = \gamma W$. Since $S_V = S_W$ is equivalent to $V = W$, by Propositions 3.1, 3.4 and Lemma 3.2, we have

PROPOSITION 3.5. *The conjugate classes of involutive automorphisms of $\text{Aut}(A)$ are in one-to-one correspondence with the conjugate classes of symmetric subalgebras of A .*

§ 4. Main result.

Let V be a symmetric subalgebra of A . We define a multiplication \circ on \mathfrak{S}_V by $\alpha \circ \beta = \alpha \beta \alpha$ where the set \mathfrak{S}_V is the conjugate class of S_V in $\text{Aut}(A)$. Then we can easily obtain that 1) $\alpha \circ \alpha = \alpha$, $\alpha \circ (\alpha \circ \beta) = \beta$ and $\alpha \circ (\beta \circ \gamma) = (\alpha \circ \beta) \circ (\alpha \circ \gamma)$ for any $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathfrak{S}_V$. Under the transformation map $\phi: \text{Aut}(A) \times \text{Aut}(A) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A): (u, v) \rightarrow uvu^{-1}$, if we fix $v = S_V$, the set \mathfrak{S}_V becomes an orbit on which an analytic structure can be uniquely introduced such that 2) \mathfrak{S}_V is diffeomorphic to $\text{Aut}(A)/H$ where H is the isotropic subgroup of $v = S_V$ relative to ϕ ($\mathfrak{S}_V \cong \text{Aut}(A)/H$), 3) \mathfrak{S}_V is a submanifold of $\text{Aut}(A)$ (if $\text{Aut}(A)$ is compact, it is a regular submanifold), 4) the multiplication \circ on \mathfrak{S}_V is analytic, 5) $\text{Aut}(A)$ is the Lie transformation

group on \mathfrak{S}_V , 6) for every $u \in \text{Aut}(A)$, the map $\tau(u): \mathfrak{S}_V \rightarrow \mathfrak{S}_V: S_{\alpha V} \rightarrow S_{u\alpha V}$ is a diffeomorphism and it is also a homomorphism relative to the multiplication \circ on \mathfrak{S}_V (cf. S. Helgason, p. 113 [2]) and at last 7) the following Lemma holds.

LEMMA 4.1. *For any $\alpha \in \mathfrak{S}_V$, there exists a neighborhood U of α in \mathfrak{S}_V such that $\alpha \circ \beta = \beta$, $\beta \in U$ implies $\alpha = \beta$.*

Proof. From the property 6) above, it is sufficient to prove only in the case of $\alpha = S_V$. Suppose this Lemma is not true, then we have a countable sequence $\{\beta_l\}$ in \mathfrak{S}_V such that $\alpha \circ \beta_l = \beta_l$ with $\beta_l \neq \alpha$ for every $l \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\lim \beta_l = \alpha$. Since we can find a local section $h: U \subset \mathfrak{S}_V \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A)$ such that $h(\alpha) = 1$ and πh is the identity map on the neighborhood U of α where 1 is the identity element of $\text{Aut}(A)$ and π is the projection map from $\text{Aut}(A)$ onto \mathfrak{S}_V ($\text{Aut}(A)/H \cong \mathfrak{S}_V$), we also have a sequence $\{\gamma_l\}$ in $\text{Aut}(A)$ such that $\beta_l = \gamma_l \alpha \gamma_l^{-1}$ with $\gamma_l \neq 1$ for any $l \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\lim \gamma_l = 1$. By Proposition 3.4, moreover, we can take a set $\{W_l\}$ of symmetric subalgebras such that $S_{W_l} = \beta_l$ for every $l \in \mathbb{N}$. Then it holds $W_l = \gamma_l V$ and $\alpha W_l = W_l$ because $S_Z = S_W$ is equivalent to $Z = W$ and $\alpha \circ \beta_l = \beta_l$.

Now we take a basis $\{e_i\}$ of A for the symmetric subalgebra V with the property (*) in Section 2. Put $\Delta_{l,i} = \gamma_l e_i - e_i$, then $\lim \Delta_{l,i} = 0$ because $\lim \gamma_l = 1$. Notice that $\{\gamma_l e_m\}$, $1 \leq m \leq r$ and $r = \dim V$, is a basis for W_l . Next, making use of $S_V = \varepsilon \text{II} S_{e_m}$, we have $S_V(\gamma_l e_m) + \gamma_l e_m = S_V(e_m + \Delta_{l,m}) + \gamma_l e_m = 2e_m + 2\Sigma g(\Delta_{l,m}, e_k)/g(e_k, e_k)e_k$ (put this element as $2w_{l,m}$). Since $S_V(W_l) = W_l$, $w_{l,m} \in W_l$ holds. Put $a_{l,ij} = g(\Delta_{l,j}, e_i)/g(e_i, e_i)$ and $C_l = I + (a_{l,ij})$ for $1 \leq i, j \leq r$, we obtain $\lim C_l = I$ by $\lim \Delta_{l,j} = 0$ where I is the $r \times r$ unit matrix. Hence there exists a positive integer l_0 such that $\det C_l \neq 0$ for $l \geq l_0$. Put $C_l = (c_{l,ij})$ and $C_l^{-1} = (d_{l,ij})$ for $l \geq l_0$. Then, from $\Sigma c_{l,ik} d_{l,kj} = \delta_{ij}$ and $\Sigma c_{l,km} e_k = w_{l,m}$, we get $e_i = \Sigma d_{l,ki} w_{l,k} \in W_l$ ($1 \leq i \leq r$), i.e., $V = W_l$ because $\dim V = \dim W_l$. However this contradicts $V \neq W_l$.

The properties of 1), 4) and Lemma 4.1 assert that the orbit \mathfrak{S}_V is a symmetric space in the sense of O. Loos [3]. In conclusion we have a following main result.

THEOREM 4.2. *Let A be a non-associative algebra over the field of real numbers (or complex numbers) having a non-trivial product and a non-degenerate symmetric inner product which is invariant under $\text{Aut}(A)$. Let V be a proper symmetric subalgebra of A ($V \neq A$), if we put $\mathfrak{S}_V = \{S_{\alpha V} | \alpha \in \text{Aut}(A)\}$, then we have*

- 1) \mathfrak{S}_V is a symmetric space,
- 2) \mathfrak{S}_V is a submanifold of $\text{Aut}(A)$. If $\text{Aut}(A)$ is compact, \mathfrak{S}_V is a regular submanifold,
- 3) If $\text{Aut}(A)$ is a simple group, \mathfrak{S}_V generates $\text{Aut}(A)$,
- 4) Every element of \mathfrak{S}_V is a non-trivial involutive automorphism,
- 5) $\text{Aut}(A)$ is the Lie transformation group on \mathfrak{S}_V ,
- 6) For every $u \in \text{Aut}(A)$, the map $\tau(u)$ of $\mathfrak{S}_V: S_{\alpha V} \rightarrow S_{u\alpha V}$ is a diffeomorphism and moreover it is a homomorphism relative to the multiplication \circ on \mathfrak{S}_V ,
- 7) If we define a new multiplication $u \circ v = uv^{-1}u$ in $\text{Aut}(A)$, $\text{Aut}(A)$ also

becomes a symmetric space. Then the embedding of 2) above from \mathfrak{S}_V into $\text{Aut}(A)$ is a homomorphism of symmetric spaces (see O. Loos [3] and K. Atsuyama [1]).

§ 5. Examples.

5.1. Let \mathbf{Q} be the quaternion field with a basis $\{e_i\}$ ($0 \leq i \leq 3$) such that e_0 is the unit element ($=1$), $e_1 e_2 = e_3$, $e_2 e_3 = \pm e_1$, $e_3 e_1 = e_2$, $e_i e_j = -e_j e_i$ for $i \neq j \geq 1$ and $e_1^2 = -1$, $e_i^2 = -1$ (or 1) for $i=2, 3$: in case of $e_i^2 = -1$ for every $i \geq 1$, \mathbf{Q} is called non-split and in the other case of $e_1^2 = -1$, $e_2^2 = 1$ and $e_3^2 = 1$, \mathbf{Q} is called split. Then $\text{Aut}(\mathbf{Q})$ is the special orthogonal linear group $SO(3)$ or $SO(2, 1)$ respectively and it is a simple group. The non-degenerate symmetric inner product g is given by $g(x, x) = x\bar{x}$ and it is invariant under $\text{Aut}(\mathbf{Q})$. In case of non-split type there exists only one conjugate class \mathfrak{S}_V of which the symmetric subalgebra V is generated by e_0, e_1 , i. e., isomorphic to the field of complex numbers. Then the real projective plane can be obtained by $\mathfrak{S}_V = SO(3)/SO(2) \cdot S^0$ where \cdot is the semidirect product and S^0 is the group of ± 1 . In case of split type there are two conjugate classes $\mathfrak{S}_Z, \mathfrak{S}_W$ of which Z is generated by e_0, e_1 and W by e_0, e_2 . Then $\mathfrak{S}_Z = SO(2, 1)/SO(2) \cdot S^0$ is a real hyperbolic plane and $\mathfrak{S}_W = SO(2, 1)/SO(1, 1) \cdot S^0$ is a real parabolic plane. We can also assert that the automorphisms of the quaternion field are the reflection maps across symmetric subalgebras which are isomorphic to the field of complex numbers.

5.2. Let \mathfrak{C} be the Cayley algebra with a basis $\{e_i\}$ ($0 \leq i \leq 7$) such that the subalgebra generated by $\{e_i\}$ ($0 \leq i \leq 3$) is isomorphic to the quaternion field \mathbf{Q} of non-split type (again denote this subalgebra by \mathbf{Q}), $e_i^2 = -1$ (or 1) for $4 \leq i \leq 7$. We call \mathfrak{C} non-split or split respectively. Then $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{C})$ is the exceptional simple Lie group of type G_2 . The non-degenerate symmetric inner product g is given by $g(x, x) = x\bar{x}$ and it is invariant under $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{C})$. If \mathfrak{C} is non-split there is one class \mathfrak{S}_Q diffeomorphic to $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{C})/SO(4) = G_2/SO(4)$. If \mathfrak{C} is split there are two classes $\mathfrak{S}_V, \mathfrak{S}_W$ of which V is isomorphic to the non-split quaternion field and W to the split quaternion field. Then we have two symmetric spaces: $\mathfrak{S}_V = \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{C})/SO(4) = G_2^*/SO(4)$ is a hyperbolic space and $\mathfrak{S}_W = G_2^*/SO(2, 1) \cdot H^*$ is a parabolic space where $*$ means the non-compact type of the corresponding group and H^* is the group generated by elements q of the split quaternion field with $g(q, q) = 1$. \mathfrak{S}_Q is an elliptic projective space. We can also assert that the automorphisms of the Cayley algebra are reflection maps across symmetric subalgebras which are isomorphic to the quaternion field and their forms are $\varepsilon S_{e_0} S_a S_b S_{ab}$ where e_0, a, b and ab are orthogonal each other.

5.3 Let \mathfrak{J} be the exceptional Jordan algebra with the Jordan product $X \circ Y = 1/2(XY + YX)$ for $X, Y \in \mathfrak{J}$. It is generated by 3×3 Hermitian matrices with coefficients in the Cayley algebra \mathfrak{C} . Then $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{J})$ is the exceptional simple Lie group of type F_4 . The non-degenerate symmetric inner product g is given by $g(X, X) = \text{Tr}(L_{X \cdot X})$ for $X \in \mathfrak{J}$ where Tr is the trace form and $L_X Y = X \circ Y$ for $Y \in \mathfrak{J}$ and it is invariant under $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{J})$. If \mathfrak{C} is non-split there are two conjugate classes $\mathfrak{S}_V, \mathfrak{S}_W$ of which V is generated by all matrices with coefficients in the

quaternion field of non-split type and the other W by all matrices $X=X(a_{ij})$ with $a_{1i}=0, a_{i1}=0$ for $i=2, 3$. Then we have $\mathfrak{S}_W=\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{S})/\text{Spin}(9)=\mathbf{F}_4/\text{Spin}(9)$ and $\mathfrak{S}_V=\mathbf{F}_4/T$ where $T=Sp(3)\cdot H/S^0$ with H being the group of all elements q of the non-split quaternion field such that $g(q, q)=1$. Since, for every element of \mathfrak{S}_W , there corresponds uniquely one element of \mathfrak{S} , the Cayley plane $\mathbf{F}_4/\text{Spin}(9)$ can be realized in \mathfrak{S} as the set of all matrices $X=X(a_{ij})$ with $X\circ X=X$ and $\sum a_{ii}=1$. If \mathfrak{E} is split we obtain three conjugate classes $\mathfrak{S}_V, \mathfrak{S}_W, \mathfrak{S}_Z$ where V is composed of all matrices $X=X(a_{ij})$ with $a_{1i}=0, a_{i1}=0$ for $i=2, 3$ and W (or Z) of all matrices with coefficients in the non-split (or split) quaternion algebra: $\mathfrak{S}_V=\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{S})/\text{Spin}^*(9)=\mathbf{F}_4^*/\text{Spin}^*(9)$ and the latter two symmetric spaces correspond to \mathbf{F}_4/T , i. e., $\mathfrak{S}_W=\mathbf{F}_4^*/T$ is a hyperbolic space and $\mathfrak{S}_Z=\mathbf{F}_4^*/T^*$ is a parabolic space where $T^*=Sp^*(3)\cdot H^*/S^0$ (see I. Yokota [6]).

5.4. For simple Lie algebras we can take the Killing form as a non-degenerate symmetric inner product. Especially it may be suitable to use the algebras obtained by the Tits' second construction for the realization of symmetric spaces from exceptional Lie algebras (see Tits [5]).

5.5. For algebras of $n\times n$ matrices there are two standard forms of symmetric subalgebras: the one is composed of matrices $X=X(a_{ij})$ with $a_{ij}=0, a_{ij}=0$ for $1\leq i\leq p, p+1\leq j\leq n$ and fixed p and the other of matrices with coefficients in the real part relative to the construction of complex numbers, quaternion numbers and Cayley numbers by the Cayley-Dickson process (cf. R. D. Schafer, p. 45 [4]).

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