



# Flat Jordan modules and particle physics<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Based on a joint work with L. Dabrowski and M. Dubois-Violette



## Outline and introduction

### Differential calculus on Jordan modules

- Jordan algebras and modules

- Differential calculus on Jordan algebras

- Connections on Jordan modules

### Exceptional quantum space

- Octonions and quark-lepton symmetry

- Exceptional Jordan modules and triality

### Flat exceptional Jordan modules

- Connections on exceptional modules

### Conclusion

- Further developments

- References



Despite its many success, Connes's noncommutative formulation of standard model exhibits some flaws:

- ▶ Unimodularity of  $SU(3)$ .
- ▶ No quark-lepton symmetry (e.g.  $d \leftrightarrow e^-, u \leftrightarrow \nu_e, \dots$ ).
- ▶ No natural way to get three generations of particles ( $e^-, \mu, \tau$ ).

In "*Exceptional quantum geometry and particle physics*"<sup>5</sup> M. Dubois-Violette shows how all of these problems might be overcome using modules of the exceptional Jordan algebra.

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<sup>5</sup>Nuclear PhysicsB912(2016)426–449



## Definition:

A **Jordan algebra**  $(J, \circ)$ , is a vector space  $J$  together with a bilinear product  $\circ : J \times J \rightarrow J$ , such that  $\forall a, b \in J$ :

- ▶  $a \circ b = b \circ a$
- ▶  $(a \circ b) \circ a^2 = a \circ (b \circ a^2)$

We will always consider unital Jordan algebras.



- ▶ Let  $A$  be an associative algebra, equip it with the product:

$$a \circ b = \frac{1}{2}(ab + ba).$$

$(A, \circ)$  is a Jordan algebra. Every Jordan algebra isomorphic to an algebra of this kind is called a **special Jordan algebra**.



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- ▶ The **exceptional Jordan algebra** (sometimes called **Albert Algebra**)  $(J_3^8, \circ)$ :

$$J_3^8 = \{x \in M_3(\mathbb{O}) \mid x = x^*\}$$

$$x \circ y = \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx).$$

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## Definition:

Let  $J$  be a Jordan algebra, let  $M$  be a vector space equipped with a right and left bilinear maps:

$$J \otimes M \rightarrow M \quad x \otimes \Phi \mapsto x\Phi$$

$$M \otimes J \rightarrow M \quad \Phi \otimes x \mapsto \Phi x$$

On  $J \oplus M$ , define the bilinear product  $(x, \Phi)(x', \Phi') = (xx', x\Phi' + \Phi x')$ , then  $M$  is a **Jordan bimodule** if  $J \oplus M$  endowed with this product is a Jordan algebra



## Definition:

Let  $J$  be a Jordan algebra, its **center**  $Z(J)$  is the (associative) subalgebra:

$$Z(J) = \{z \in J \mid [x, y, z] = [x, z, y] = 0 \forall x, y \in J\}$$

where we have defined the **associator**:

$$[x, y, z] = (xy)z - x(yz).$$



## Definition:

A **connection** on a Jordan module  $M$  is a linear map

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla : \text{Der}(J) &\rightarrow \text{End}(M) \\ X &\mapsto \nabla_X\end{aligned}$$

such that  $\forall x \in J, m \in M$  and  $z \in Z(J)$  :

$$\begin{cases} \nabla_X(xm) = X(x)m + x\nabla_X(m) \\ \nabla_{zX}(m) = z\nabla_X(m) \end{cases}$$

## Definition:

The **curvature** of a connection  $\nabla$  is

$$R_{X,Y} = [\nabla_X, \nabla_Y] - \nabla_{[X,Y]}.$$



Consider the Hilbert space  $\mathbb{C}^3$  equipped with the usual vector product  $\times$ .  
 This product is nonassociative and  $SU(3)$ -invariant.  
 Equip  $\mathbb{C}$  with the trivial representation of  $SU(3)$

$$(g, z) \mapsto z \quad g \in SU(3), z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Let  $A = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}^3$ , with the  $SU(3)$ -invariant product:

$$(z, Z)(z', Z') = (zz' - \langle Z, Z' \rangle, \bar{z}Z' - z'Z + iZ \times Z').$$



## Proposition

*The algebra  $A$  is isomorphic to the algebra of octonions  $\mathbb{O}$ .  $SU(3)$  is the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{O})$  which preserves the decomposition  $\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}^3$ .*



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If we interpret  $\mathbb{C}^3$  as the **internal colour space of quarks**, and  $\mathbb{C}$  as the **(trivial) internal colour space of leptons**  $\Rightarrow$  quark-lepton symmetry is just a consequence of  $SU(3)$ -colour symmetry.

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From the decomposition  $\mathbb{O} = \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}^3$  one gets  $J_3^8 = J_3^2 \oplus M_3(\mathbb{C})$  :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 & x_3 & \bar{x}_2 \\ \bar{x}_3 & \xi_2 & x_1 \\ x_2 & \bar{x}_3 & \xi_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 & z_3 & \bar{z}_2 \\ \bar{z}_3 & \xi_2 & z_1 \\ z_2 & \bar{z}_3 & \xi_3 \end{pmatrix} \oplus (Z_1, Z_2, Z_3)$$

$$x_i = z_i + Z_i \quad x_i \in \mathbb{O}, z_i \in \mathbb{C}, Z_i \in \mathbb{C}^3, \xi_i \in \mathbb{R}.$$

## Proposition

The subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(J_3^8)$  which preserves the decomposition above is  $(SU(3) \times SU(3)) / \mathbb{Z}_3$ , with action of  $(U, V) \in (SU(3) \times SU(3)) / \mathbb{Z}_3$  :

$$H \mapsto VHV^* \quad M \mapsto UMV^*$$

$$(H, M) \in J_3^2 \oplus M_3(\mathbb{C}).$$



There are two families for each generations  $\Rightarrow$  take the module  $M = J_3^8 \oplus J_3^8$ , with the particle assignment:

$$J^u = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \nu_\tau & \bar{\nu}_\mu \\ \bar{\nu}_\tau & \alpha_2 & \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu & \bar{\nu}_e & \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix} + (u, c, t) \quad J^d = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 & \tau & \bar{\mu} \\ \bar{\tau} & \beta_2 & e \\ \mu & \bar{e} & \beta_3 \end{pmatrix} + (d, s, b)$$



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$$H \mapsto VHV^* \quad M \mapsto UMV^* \\ (H, M) \in J_3^2 \oplus M_3(\mathbb{C}).$$

- ▶ The action of  $U \in SU(3)$  is responsible the usual color mixing.
- ▶ The action of  $V \in SU(3)$  is responsible for the mixing of different generations of leptons.

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Any module of  $J_3^8$  is **free**  $\Rightarrow$  the lift of  $d$  defines a connection by:

$$\nabla_X^0(m) := dm(X)$$

For example on  $J_3^8 \otimes \mathbb{R}^2 = J_3^8 \oplus J_3^8$  :

$$d \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} (X) := \begin{pmatrix} dx_1(X) \\ dx_2(X) \end{pmatrix}$$

Where  $X \in \mathfrak{f}_4 = \text{Der}(J_3^8)$ .



For  $M = J_3^8 \otimes E$ , where  $E$  is a finite  $n$ -dimensional real vector space, we have:

**Proposition (A.C., L.Dabrowski, M. Dubois-Violette)**

*A connection on  $M$  is*

$$\nabla = \nabla^0 + A$$

*where the map  $A : \mathfrak{f}_4 \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$  is linear.*



As for flat connection we get the following characterization:

### Proposition (A.C., L.Dabrowski, M. Dubois-Violette)

*Flat connections on  $M$  are in one to one correspondence with Lie algebra homomorphisms  $A : \mathfrak{f}_4 \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ . That is, for a basis  $\{X_\mu\} \subset \mathfrak{f}_4$  with structure constants  $[X_\mu, X_\nu] = c_{\mu\nu}^\tau X_\tau$  :*

$$[A(X_\mu), A(X_\nu)] = c_{\mu\nu}^\tau A(X_\tau).$$



The study of connections on Jordan modules has revealed some interesting nonassociative geometry. These might be crucial in a future reformulation of standard model in this new context.

Some further studies:

- ▶ On the mathematical side:
  - ▶ Study connections for other kind of modules (such as modules of  $J_2^4$ ).
  - ▶ Study Jordan module homomorphism.
  - ▶ Get deeper geometrical details.
- ▶ On the physical side:
  - ▶ Get  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  gauge symmetry.
  - ▶ Study what happens when coupling with space-time degrees of freedom.
  - ▶ Write down a suitable action and study some dynamics.



- ▶ M. Dubois-Violette "*Exceptional quantum geometry and particle physics*" Nuclear Physics B, Volume 912, November 2016, Pages 426 – 449
- ▶ Shane Farnsworth and Latham Boyle "*Non-Associative Geometry and the Spectral Action Principle*" Journal of High Energy Physics, July 2015, 2015:23 "*Exceptional Lie Groups*" arXiv:0902.0431, 2009.
- ▶ M. Dubois-Violette, R. Kerner, J. Madore, "*Gauge bosons in a non-commutative geometry*", Phys. Lett. B 217 (1989) 485–488.