The quantum degeneracies of Bogomolny-Prasad-Sommerfield (BPS) black holes of octonionic magical supergravity in five dimensions are studied. Quantum degeneracy is defined purely number theoretically as the number of distinct states in charge space with a given set of invariant labels. Quantum degeneracies of spherically symmetric stationary BPS black holes are given by the Fourier coefficients of modular forms of exceptional group $E_7(-25)$. Their charges take values in the lattice defined by the exceptional Jordan algebra over integral octonions. The quantum degeneracies of rank 1 and rank 2 BPS black holes are given by the Fourier coefficients of singular modular forms $E_4(Z)$ and $E_6(Z)$. The rank 3 (large) BPS black holes will be studied elsewhere. Following the work of N. Elskies and B. Gross on embeddings of cubic rings $A$ into the exceptional Jordan algebra we show that the quantum degeneracies of rank 1 black holes described by such embeddings are given by the Fourier coefficients of the Hilbert modular forms (HMFs) of $SL(2, A)$. If the discriminant of the cubic ring $A$ is $D = p^2$ with $p$ a prime number then the isotropic lines in the 24 dimensional orthogonal complement of $A$ define a pair of Niemeier lattices which can be taken as charge lattices of some BPS black holes. The current status of the searches for the M/superstring theoretic origins of the octonionic magical supergravity is also reviewed.

1. Introduction

U-duality orbits of extremal, spherically symmetric, stationary black holes in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Maxwell-Einstein supergravity theories (MESGT) defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3,[1–4] as well as in maximal $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supergravity in five and four dimensions were first classified in ref. [5]. They were later studied in greater detail in refs. [6, 7] and further refined and extended in refs. [8–10]. 5d MESGTs with symmetric target spaces $G/H$ such that $G$ is a global symmetry of the Lagrangian are uniquely defined by an underlying Euclidean Jordan algebra $J$ of degree 3.[2,3] The invariance group of the cubic norm of $J$, which is simply the Lorentz group of the Jordan algebra $J$, is also the U-duality group of the corresponding 5d MESGT. Since the vector fields in these theories are in one-to-one correspondence with the elements of the Jordan algebra $J$, the charges of stationary, spherically symmetric, extremal black holes can be represented by elements of the Jordan algebra with integral entries. The entropy of the black holes is then given by the cubic norm of the corresponding charge matrices that is invariant under the Lorentz group of $J$. For small black holes (i.e., black holes with vanishing area) the cubic norm vanishes. In addition to invariance under the Lorentz group, the norms of charge matrices representing small black holes with vanishing area are invariant under the special conformal transformations, as well as under scaling of the corresponding elements of the Jordan algebra $J$. This is similar to the invariance of light-like vectors under special conformal transformations in 4d Minkowski spacetime whose coordinates can be represented by Pauli matrices, which in turn form a Jordan algebra under the symmetric Jordan product. Special conformal transformations act on large black holes with nonvanishing entropy and change their entropy. Therefore, the conformal groups $\text{Conf}(J)$ of underlying Jordan algebras were proposed as spectrum generating symmetry groups of black hole solutions of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs.[5,11–13] The U-duality groups of the corresponding four dimensional supergravity theories obtained by dimensional reduction are isomorphic to the respective conformal groups $\text{Conf}(J)$ of $J$. The conformal group $\text{Conf}(J)$ acts linearly on the electric and magnetic charges of the 4d theory, and
acts non-linearly on the complex scalar fields which parameterize the upper half-plane of the Jordan algebras \( J \).[2]

This proposal led to the natural question as to whether the 3d U-duality groups, \( G_3 \), could be interpreted as spectrum generating groups of corresponding 4d supergravity theories whose scalar fields correspond to symmetric spaces.[13] This investigation resulted in the discovery of novel geometric realizations of the U-duality groups of 3d supergravity theories as quasiconformal groups \( \text{QConf}(J) \) that extend the 4d U-duality groups.[11] These quasi-conformal groups act on the vector spaces of Freundenhall triple systems (FTSs) \( F(J) \) associated with Jordan algebras \( J \) of degree 3 extended by an extra singlet coordinate such that they leave invariant a generalized light-cone with respect to a quartic distance function. These quasiconformal extensions of 4d U-duality groups were then proposed as spectrum generating symmetry groups of the 4d supergravity theories.[11-16] A concrete framework for realization of this proposal for spherically symmetric stationary Bogomolny-Prasad-Sommerfield (BPS) black holes of 4d supergravity theories was given in refs. [15-17]. This framework uses the fact that the attractor equations of these black holes are equivalent to the equations of geodesic motion of a fiducial particle on the scalar manifold of the supergravity theory obtained by reduction on a time-like circle whose isometry group is the U-duality group of the corresponding three dimensional supergravity.

Extremal black holes with non-vanishing entropy exhibit attractor phenomena[18,19] and the study of their connection to arithmetic was initiated by Moore.[20,21] A major result of Moore is establishing the connection between the numbers of attractor black holes with a given area in \( K3 \times T^2 \) compactification of type II superstrings to four dimensions and the class numbers of binary quadratic forms with negative discriminant. The corresponding low energy supergravity theories have \( \mathcal{N} = 4 \) supersymmetry. More recently it was pointed out that the relation between attractors and arithmetic can be extended to black holes in \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) supergravity and string models whose equivalence classes involve more general forms under the action of arithmetic subgroups of the U-duality groups.[22] Most prominent examples involve “magical” supergravities defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3 and their number theoretic counterparts are directly related to the work of Bhargava.[23,24]

It is well known that continuous U-duality groups of supergravity theories are broken down to their arithmetic subgroups when they are embedded into M/superstring theories. In this paper we study the role of arithmetic subgroups of spectrum generating extensions of U-duality groups of 5d supergravity theories defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3. We will focus mainly on the octonionic magical supergravity whose continuous U-duality group in 5d is \( E_{6(-26)} \) with the maximal compact subgroup \( F_4 \) and its spectrum generating conformal group is \( E_{7(-25)} \) with the maximal compact subgroup \( E_6 \times U(1) \). The main reason for our choice is its connections to some deep mathematical structures as well as its potential relevance to physics.[1,2,5] Even though it is not yet known whether the quantum completion of the octonionic magical supergravity theory is a superstring theory or a novel phase of M-theory we assume that, at the quantum level, its continuous U-duality group is broken down to its maximal arithmetic subgroup. Furthermore the other magical supergravity theories can be obtained by truncation of the octonionic theory and it can also be truncated to a MESGT with 10 vector multiplets that belong to the infinite generic Jordan family of MESGTs defined by reducible Jordan algebras of degree 3. This MESGT with 10 vector multiplets in 5d describes the vector multiplet sector of the FHSV model.[26]

We should stress that we define the quantum degeneracy of charge states of BPS black holes as a purely number theoretic quantity, and it is not the same as the physical degeneracy of microstates of stringy black holes (see Section 12 for further discussion of this point). Charge states are represented by matrices that are elements of the underlying exceptional Jordan algebra. The charge states with a given set of invariant labels transform in a representation of a finite subgroup of the maximal compact subgroup \( F_4 \) of the continuous U-duality group \( E_{6(-26)} \).

Small BPS black holes of rank 1 have one non-zero label given by the linear trace form of the charge matrix and rank 2 BPS black holes have non-vanishing quadratic spur form as well as linear trace form. Charge matrices of large BPS black holes correspond to rank 3 elements of the Jordan algebra with non-vanishing cubic form in addition to non-vanishing spur and trace forms. BPS condition forces the non-vanishing labels to be positive. This constrains the elements of the underlying Jordan algebra that represent the charge states to lie in the exceptional cone defined over the exceptional Jordan algebra.

1.1. Outline of the paper

In Section 2, we review the 5d, \( \mathcal{N} = 2 \) MESGTs coupled to an arbitrary number of vector multiplets. These theories are uniquely determined by a symmetric tensor \( C_{ijk} \) of rank 3. MESGTs with symmetric scalar manifolds \( G/H \) such that \( G \) is a global symmetry of their Lagrangians are in one-to-one correspondence with Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3. In Section 3, we review the symmetries of Euclidean Jordan algebras. In Section 4, we review the magical supergravity theories that are defined by simple Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3 which are realized by 3 x 3 Hermitian matrices over the four division algebras. The largest magical supergravity is defined by the exceptional Jordan algebra of 3 x 3 Hermitian matrices over the octonions, which we call octonionic magical supergravity. The Section 5 discusses the question of embedding of the magical supergravity theories into M/superstring theory. In Section 6, we review the orbits of the spherically symmetric stationary extremal black hole solutions of the 5d octonionic magical supergravity under the action of its U-duality group \( E_{6(-26)} \). Section 7 reviews the proposal that the conformal groups of the Jordan algebras that underlie the MESGTs must act as their spectrum generating symmetry groups. The relation between these spectrum generating symmetries and U-duality groups of dimensionally reduced theories is also explained. In Section 8, we review the construction of the exceptional cone over the exceptional Jordan algebra following N. Elkies and B. Gross[27] and introduce the concept of polarizations that will play a key role in distinguishing between different orbits of the quantum BPS black holes under the discrete U duality group \( E_{6(-26)}(Z) \). Section 9 reviews exceptional modular forms defined over the exceptional tube domain and their relation to the exceptional Jordan algebra over integral octonions \( R \). In particular, Section 9.1 reviews the derivation of the degeneracy of rank 1 elements with a given trace form.
obtained by N. Elkies and B. Gross in ref. [27] and Section 9.3 gives a brief discussion of the relations between cubic rings and binary cubic forms. In Section 10, we provide a brief interlude into the Springer decomposition of Jordan algebras of degree 3. In Section 11, following [27,28] we review the embeddings of cubic rings into $f(R)$ and their action on the 24 dimensional orthocomplement with a natural quadratic form. We discuss the theta functions of the Niemeier lattices that are defined by the isotropic lines in the 24 dimensional orthocomplement of the cubic rings inside $f(R)$. The signature of a Niemeier lattice, as we shall see, is determined by the number of root vectors. These classical theta functions arise from HMFs over the exceptional domain that were studied in ref. [29]. In Section 12, we show how the Fourier coefficients of singular modular forms over the exceptional tube domain$^1$ of weight 4 i.e., $E_4(Z)$ and of weight 8 i.e., $E_8(Z) = E_4(Z)^2$ of Kim [28] describe the degeneracies of charge states of rank 1 and rank 2 BPS black holes. We also discuss the HMFs that describe the quantum degeneracies of charge states of rank 1 BPS black holes whose charge lattices are given by Niemeier lattices. We then review a reconstruction of the singular modular forms $E_4(Z)$ and $E_8(Z)$ using Fourier-Jacobi expansion over the upper half-plane of integral octonions as well as over the upper half-plane of the Jordan algebra of $2 \times 2$ Hermitian matrices over the integral octonions following [30,31]. Charge states of large BPS black holes are described by rank 3 elements of the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions that lie in the exceptional cone. In connection with the discussion of large BPS black holes we emphasize again that our number theoretic definition of quantum degeneracy is not to be confused with the degeneracy of microscopic states of large stringy BPS black holes. Quantum degeneracies of the charge states of rank 3 BPS black holes are related to higher powers $E_j(Z)$ of the singular modular form $E_j(Z)$ for $n \geq 2$. The study of the relation between higher powers of $E_j(Z)$ and modular forms of higher weight over the exceptional domain studied by mathematicians and the quantum degeneracies of charge states of rank 3 BPS black holes that exhibit attractor phenomena is left to future studies. Finally, in Section 13, we use various results and interpretations to make an educated guess regarding the properties of a Calabi-Yau threefold that can embed the octonionic magical supergravity into $M$-theory/string theory. Although the Borcea–Voisin (BV) threefolds can be ruled out there are intrinsic subtleties that one must consider before realizing this Calabi-Yau as a variation of Hodge structure (VHS) or as a hypersurface in a toric variety. The issues pertaining to both are explained. We conclude the main part of the paper with discussions and comments of future directions of work in Section 14.

In Appendix A, we list the theta functions of all the Niemeier lattices as well as the theta function of integral octonions $R$ for the sake of the reader. We then provide an introduction to modular forms over the exceptional domain and their Fourier coefficients in Appendix C. Relevant information regarding the discrete subgroups of exceptional groups and their lattices is provided in Appendix D. In Appendix E, we review the commutative subrings of the exceptional Jordan algebra. Finally, we provide a brief introduction to the theory of HMFs in Appendix F.

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1 We refer to modular forms over the exceptional tube domain as exceptional modular forms for brevity.

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### 2.5d, $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Maxwell-Einstein Supergravity Theories and Jordan Algebras

$\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs in 5d that describe the coupling of an arbitrary number $(n_v - 1)$ of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ vector multiplets to $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity were constructed in refs. [1–4]. The bosonic parts of their Lagrangians have a very simple form given by

$$e^{-1} \mathcal{L}_{\text{bosonic}} = -\frac{1}{2} R - \frac{1}{4} g_{ij} F^i \mu F^j \nu - \frac{1}{2} g_{\alpha \beta} (\partial_\beta \varphi^\alpha)^2 (\partial^\beta \varphi^\alpha) + \frac{e^{-1}}{6 \sqrt{6}} C_{ijkl} \epsilon^{ij} \mu \nu \rho \sigma \lambda g_{\alpha \beta} A^K_{\alpha \beta}, \quad (2.1)$$

where $e$ is the determinant of the fünfbein and $R$ is the scalar curvature of 5d spacetime. $F^i \mu \nu$ denote the field strengths of the vector fields $A^K_{\alpha \beta}$ including the graviphoton. $g_{ij}$ is the metric of the scalar manifold $\mathcal{M}_s$. $a^K_{ij}$ is the “metric” appearing in the kinetic energy term of the vector fields that depends on the scalar fields $\varphi^\alpha$. The range of indices are

$$I = 1, \ldots, n_V$$

$$a = 1, \ldots, (n_v - 1)$$

$$x = 1, \ldots, (n_v - 1)$$

$$\mu, \nu, \ldots = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4.$$  

The $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs in five dimensions have the remarkable feature that they are uniquely determined by the constant tensor $C_{ijk}$ describing the cubic couplings of vector fields. In particular, it was shown that the scalar manifold $\mathcal{M}_s$ can be interpreted as a hypersurface in an $n_v$ dimensional ambient space $c_{n_v}$ whose metric $a^K_{ij}(h)$ is determined by $C_{ijk}$ as follows$^3$:

$$a^K_{ij}(h) := \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial h} \frac{\partial}{\partial h} \ln \mathcal{V}(h) \quad (2.2)$$

where $\mathcal{V}(h)$ is a cubic polynomial in $n_v$ real variables $h^I$ ($I = 1, \ldots, n_v$),

$$\mathcal{V}(h) := C_{ijk} h^i h^j h^k. \quad (2.3)$$

The $(n_v - 1)$-dimensional scalar manifold, $\mathcal{M}_s$, of scalar fields $\varphi^\alpha$ is then simply the hypersurface in this ambient space defined by the constraint $^2$

$$\mathcal{V}(h) = C_{ijk} h^i h^j h^k = 1. \quad (2.4)$$

The ambient space $C_{n_v}$ is the domain of positivity (positive cone) as required by the positivity of the kinetic energy terms of scalars and vectors. The metric $g_{ij}$ of the scalar manifold is simply the pullback of (2.2) to $\mathcal{M}_s$

$$g_{ij}(\varphi) = h^i h^j a^K_{ij} |_{\varphi = 1}. \quad (2.5)$$

where $h^i = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3 \sqrt{6}}} h^I$ and the “metric” $a^K_{ij}(\varphi)$ of the kinetic energy term of the vector fields is simply the restriction of the
ambient metric $a_{ij}$ to the hypersurface $\mathcal{M}_f$:

$$a_{ij}(\varphi) = a_{ij}|_{\varphi^{-1}}.$$

The Riemann tensor of the scalar manifold $\mathcal{M}_f$ takes on a very simple form

$$K_{xyzw} = \frac{4}{3}(g_{xu}g_{yz} + T_{xu}^{-1}T_{uw}) ,$$

where $T_{xu}$ is the pullback of the symmetric tensor $C_{ijk}$

$$T_{xyz} = h^i h^j h^k C_{ijk} = -\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{3/2} h^i h^j h^k C_{ijk} .$$

Conversely we have

$$C_{ijk} = \frac{5}{2} h_i h_j h_k - \frac{3}{2} a_{ij} h_k + T_{xyz} h^x h^y h^z .$$

Hence, if the $T-$tensor is covariantly constant i.e., $T_{xyzw} = 0$ we have

$$K_{xyzw} = 0$$

i.e., the scalar manifold is a locally symmetric space. Remarkably, the covariant constancy of $T_{xyz}$ implies the “adjoint identity”:[2]

$$C^{ijk} C_{jmn} C_{pqr} = \delta^i_{(m} C_{nq)l}$$

and conversely[2] and the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGT’s that satisfy the adjoint identity are in one-to-one correspondence with Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3.[2] This correspondence follows from the identification of cubic norms defined by the $C_{ijk}$ tensor with the norms of degree 3 Jordan algebras. Furthermore, cubic forms that satisfy the adjoint identity are also in one-to-one correspondence with Legendre invariant cubic forms studied in ref. [32].

Scalar manifolds of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3 are symmetric spaces of the form

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{\text{Str}_f(J)}{\text{Aut}(J)} ,$$

where $\text{Str}_f(J)$ and $\text{Aut}(J)$ are the reduced structure group and automorphism group of the Jordan algebra $J$, respectively. Following established convention, we will refer to the reduced structure and automorphism groups as Lorentz and rotation groups of the underlying Jordan algebra $J$, respectively. Their vector fields including the graviphoton are in one-to-one correspondence with elements of $J$ and transform linearly under $\text{Str}_f(J)$.

3. Rotation, Lorentz and Conformal Groups of Generalized Spacetimes Coordinatized by Jordan Algebras

Generalized spacetimes coordinatized by Jordan algebras were first introduced in ref. [33]. For the 4d Minkowski spacetime, the underlying Jordan algebra $J^\mathbb{R}$ is generated by Pauli matrices including the identity matrix with the Jordan product defined as 1/2 the anticommutator i.e., $\frac{1}{2} \{ , \}$. Then the rotation $SU(2)$, Lorentz $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ and conformal group $SU(2, 2)$ in four dimensions are simply the automorphism, reduced structure and Möbius (linear fractional) groups of the Jordan algebra $J^\mathbb{R}$, respectively.[33,34] For generalized spacetimes coordinatized by Jordan algebras $J$, their rotation $\text{Rot}(J)$, Lorentz $\text{Lor}(J)$ and conformal $\text{Conf}(J)$ groups correspond to the automorphism $\text{Aut}(J)$, reduced structure $\text{Str}_f(J)$ and Möbius $\text{Mob}(J)$ groups of $J$, respectively.[33–36] The norm of a coordinate vector remains invariant under the action of the Lorentz group $\text{Lor}(J)$. Light-like coordinate vectors $X$ in these generalized spacetimes have vanishing norms $\mathcal{N}(X) = 0$. They remain light-like under the action of generalized special conformal transformations and light-like separations between any two vectors $X$, $Y$ with respect to the norm $\mathcal{N}$, $\mathcal{N}(X - Y) = 0$ are left invariant under the full conformal group $\text{Conf}(J)$ of the Jordan algebra.

The conformal groups of spacetimes defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras all admit positive energy unitary representations.[37] They were shown to describe causal spacetimes with a unitary time evolution as in 4d Minkowski spacetime.[38] For these spacetimes, the maximal compact subgroups of their conformal groups are simply the compact real forms of their Lorentz groups times dilations.

The conformal group $\text{Conf}(J)$ of a Jordan algebra $J$ is generated by translations $T_a$, $a \in J$, special conformal generators $K_a$, dilatations and Lorentz transformations $M_a (a, b \in J)$.[33,35,36] Its Lie algebra $\text{conf}(J)$ admits a 3-grading with respect to the generator $D$ of dilations.

Given a basis $e_i$ and a conjugate basis $e^i$ of a Jordan algebra $J$, one can expand a general element $x \in J$ as

$$x = e_i q^i = e^i q_i .$$

The generators of $\text{conf}(J)$ act as differential operators on the “coordinates” $q^i$ which can be twisted by a unitary character $\lambda$, and take the form

$$T_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i}$$

$$R^j_i = -\Lambda^j_i q^i \frac{\partial}{\partial q^j} - \lambda \delta^j_i$$

$$K^i = \frac{1}{2} \Lambda^i_j q^j \frac{\partial}{\partial q^i} + \lambda d^i ,$$

where $\Lambda^j_i$ are the structure constants of the Jordan triple product $(e_k, e^l, e_j)$ defined as

$$(e_k, e^l, e_j) = \Lambda^j_k e^l e_j = (e_k \circ e^l) \circ e_j + (e_l \circ e^j) \circ e_k - (e_k \circ e_j) \circ e^l .$$

Here, $o$ denotes the Jordan product i.e., $X o Y = \frac{1}{2} \{X, Y\}$. The generators of $\text{conf}(J)$ satisfy the commutation relations

$$[T_i, K^j] = -R^j_i$$

$^2$ Note that the indices are raised by the inverse $\hat{a}^{ij}$ of $\hat{a}_{ij}$.
The generators of the rotation subgroup are simply
\[ A_{ij} = R^i_j - R^j_i, \]
and the generator of scaling transformations is proportional to \( R^i_i \). For Jordan algebras of degree 3, the tensor \( A_{ij}^{KL} \) can be expressed in terms of the C tensor as follows:
\[ A_{ij}^{KL} = \delta^K_L \delta^i_j + \delta^K_j \delta^i_L - \frac{4}{3} C^{JKL} C^{KLM}. \]

For discrete arithmetic subgroups of the conformal groups of Jordan algebras we must work with their global actions. Such an action was given by Koecher [39] who showed that the linear fractional (conformal) group \( \text{Conf} \) on an element \( X \in \mathcal{J} \) can always be represented as follows:
\[ \text{Conf}(\mathcal{J}) : X \rightarrow \xi(X) = W \cdot t_A \cdot j \cdot t_B \cdot j \cdot t_C (X) = W(A - [B - (X + C)^{-1}]^{-1}) , \]
where \( A, B, C \in \mathcal{J} \). The operator \( t_A \) represents translation by \( A \),
\[ t_A(X) = X + A. \]
\[ j \) represents inversion
\[ j(X) = -X^{-1} , \]
and \( W \) is an element of the structure group \( \text{Str}(\mathcal{J}) \) which is the direct product of the reduced structure (Lorentz) group and dilatations of \( \mathcal{J} \).

Of relevance to us is the case of the non-linear action of the arithmetic subgroup of the conformal group \( E_{7(-25)} \) of the exceptional Jordan algebra \( \mathcal{J}_3 \) on the exceptional domain \( D \) in \( \mathbb{C}^7 \) corresponding to the upper half-plane of \( \mathcal{J}_3 \) which was studied later by Baily Jr. in refs. [40, 41]. The subsequent work on modular forms defined over the exceptional domain \( D \) will play a major role in our work.

## 4. Magical Supergravity Theories

Among the supergravity theories defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3, four of them are distinguished by the fact that they are unified theories. Their underlying Jordan algebras are simple and are realized by \( 3 \times 3 \) Hermitian symmetric matrices \( \mathcal{J}_3 \) over the four division algebras \( \mathbb{A} \), namely the real numbers \( \mathbb{R} \), complex numbers \( \mathbb{C} \), quaternions \( \mathbb{H} \) and octonions \( \mathbb{O} \). They are referred to as magical supergravity theories.

We shall follow the conventions of ref. [42] in labelling the elements of \( \mathcal{J}_3 \). For \( \mathcal{J}_3 \) a general element \( Q \) has the form
\[ Q = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & q_2 & q_3 \\ q_4 & q_5 & q_6 \\ q_7 & q_8 & q_9 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{J}_3 \]
where \( q_1, \ldots, q_9 \) are real numbers and its cubic norm is given by the determinant\(^4\)
\[ \mathcal{N}(Q) = C^{ijk} q_i q_j q_k \]
\[ = \{ q_1 q_2 q_3 - [q_1 (q_2)^2 + q_2 (q_3)^2 + q_3 (q_4)^2] + 2 q_4 q_5 q_6 \} \]
(4.2)

For the Jordan algebras \( \mathcal{J}_3 \), where \( \mathbb{A} = \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{H} \) or \( \mathbb{O} \) coordinates \( q_1 \), \( q_2 \) and \( q_3 \) become elements of \( \mathbb{A} \), which we will denote by capital letters \( Q, \dot{Q} \) and \( \check{Q} \). Thus for \( Q \in \mathcal{J}_3 \) we have
\[ Q = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & Q & \dot{Q} \\ Q & q_2 & \check{Q} \\ \check{Q} & \check{Q} & q_3 \end{pmatrix} \]
(4.3)

which we will denote as \( Q = f(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q, \dot{Q}, \check{Q}) \). The cubic norm of \( Q \) is given by the “determinant”:
\[ \mathcal{N}(f(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q, \dot{Q}, \check{Q})) \]
\[ = \{ q_1 q_2 q_3 - (q_1 |Q|^2 + q_2 |\dot{Q}|^2 + q_3 |\check{Q}|^2) + \text{Tr}(Q Q Q) \} \]
(4.4)

where \( \text{Tr}(X) = X + \check{X} \) denotes twice the real part of \( X \in \mathbb{A} \) and \( |X|^2 = XX. \). If we expand the elements \( Q, \dot{Q} \) and \( \check{Q} \) in terms of their real components, we find
\[ Q = q_4 + q_{(4),3} \dot{J}_A \]
\[ \dot{Q} = q_4 - q_{(4),3} \dot{J}_A \]
\[ Q = q_5 + q_{(5),3} \dot{J}_A \]
\[ \check{Q} = q_6 - q_{(6),3} \dot{J}_A \]
(4.5)

where the index \( A \) is summed over and using the fact that the imaginary units satisfy
\[ j_A j_B = -\delta_{AB} + \eta_{ABC} j_C . \]
(4.6)

We can express the cubic norm as
\[ \mathcal{N}(f(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q, \dot{Q}, \check{Q})) \]
\[ = \{ q_1 q_2 q_3 - q_1 (q_4)^2 + q_4 (q_{(4),3})^2 \}
\[ - q_1 (q_{(5),3})^2 + q_5 (q_{(5),3})^2 - q_1 (q_{(6),3})^2 + q_6 (q_{(6),3})^2 \]
\[ + 2 q_1 q_2 q_3 - q_1 q_{(4),3}^2 - q_4 q_{(4),3} q_{(5),3} - q_5 q_{(5),3} q_{(6),3} - q_6 q_{(6),3} q_{(6),3} \]
\[ - 4 q_4 q_{(4),3} q_{(5),3} q_{(6),3} \]
\[ - 2 \eta_{ABC} q_{(4),3} q_{(5),3} q_{(6),3} \} \]
(4.7)

\(^4\) We should note that for MESGTs defined by Jordan algebras of degree 3 the tensor \( C_{ijk} \) is an invariant tensor of \( \text{Str} \) and \( C^{ijk} = C_{ijk} \).
The indices $A, B, C$ take on the single value 1 for complex numbers $C$, range from 1 to 3 for quaternions $H$ and from 1 to 7 for octonions $O$. Note that $\eta_{ABC}$ vanishes for $C$. For a real quaternion $X \in H$ we have

$$X = X_0 + X_i j_i + X_j j_j + X_k j_k$$

$$\tilde{X} = X_0 - X_i j_i - X_j j_j - X_k j_k$$

$$XX = X_0^2 + X_i^2 + X_j^2 + X_k^2,$$

where the imaginary units $j_i$ satisfy

$$j_i = -\delta_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} j_k.$$ (4.9)

For a real octonion $X \in O$, we have

$$X = X_0 + X_i j_i + X_j j_j + X_k j_k + X_l j_l + X_m j_m + X_n j_n + X_o j_o,$$

$$\tilde{X} = X_0 - X_i j_i - X_j j_j - X_k j_k - X_l j_l - X_m j_m - X_n j_n - X_o j_o$$

$$XX = X_0^2 + \sum_{A=1}^{7} (X_A)^2.$$ (4.10)

The seven imaginary units of real octonions satisfy

$$j_i j_B = -\delta_{AB} + \eta_{ABC} j_C.$$ (4.11)

where $\eta_{ABC}$ is completely antisymmetric and, in the conventions of ref. [43], take on the values

$$\eta_{ABC} = 1 \Leftrightarrow (ABC) = (123), (471), (572), (624), (435), (516).$$ (4.12)

The scalar manifolds of the 5$d$ magical supergravity theories defined by the simple Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3 are the following symmetric spaces

$$\mathcal{M}(j_3) = \begin{cases} SL(3,\mathbb{R}) & SU(6) \\ SO(5) & USp(6) \\ SL(3,\mathbb{C}) & F_{4(6-20)} \\ SU(3) & F_4. \end{cases}$$ (4.13)

The magical supergravity theories can be truncated to theories belonging to the so-called generic Jordan family. To achieve this, one simply restricts the elements of $j_3$ to its non-simple subalgebra $j = \mathbb{R} \oplus j_3$. The U-duality symmetry groups of the truncated theories are as follows:

$$J = \mathbb{R} \oplus j_3^A : SO(1,1) \times SO(2,1) \subset SL(3,\mathbb{R})$$

$$J = \mathbb{R} \oplus j_3^C : SO(1,1) \times SO(3,1) \subset SL(3,\mathbb{C})$$

$$J = \mathbb{R} \oplus j_3^H : SO(1,1) \times SO(5,1) \subset SU^{+}(6)$$

$$J = \mathbb{R} \oplus j_3 : SO(1,1) \times SO(9,1) \subset F_{4(6-20)}.$$ (4.14)

The truncation of the octonionic magical supergravity defined by $\mathbb{R} \oplus j_3$ is simply the 5$d$ supergravity that reduces to the Maxwell-Einstein sector of the FHSV model in 4$d$ describing the coupling of 10 vector multiplets to $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity. The full FHSV model has 12 hypermultiplets coupled to this MESGT[26].

The cubic form describing the Maxwell-Einstein sector of FHSV model in five dimensions can be obtained from the cubic norm (4.7) of the octonionic magical supergravity by setting two out of the three octonions $Q_0, Q_1$ and $Q_2$ equal to zero. Setting $Q_0 = Q_2 = 0$ the cubic norm of the FHSV model is given by the determinant of

$$J(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q_0, 0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & q_2 & Q_0 \\ 0 & Q_0 & q_3 \end{pmatrix},$$ (4.15)

which is simply

$$\mathcal{N}(J(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q_0, 0, 0)) = q_1 (q_2 q_3 - |Q_0|^2).$$ (4.16)

Let $q_1 = X$ and $q_2 = (Y_0 + Y_1), q_3 = (Y_0 - Y_1), q_0 = Y_2$ and $q_{4+4+4} = Y_{2+2+2}$ where $A = 1, 2, \ldots, 7$. Then we have

$$\mathcal{N}(J(q_1, q_2, q_3; Q_0, 0, 0)) = X(\sum_{i=1}^{9} Y_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{9} (Y_i)^2)$$

that is invariant under $SO(9,1) \times SO(1,1)$ which is the global symmetry group of the Maxwell-Einstein sector of the FHSV model in five dimensions[26].

5. M/Superstring Theory Embedding of Octonionic Magical Supergravity

The $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetric octonionic magical supergravity and the maximal $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supergravity share certain common features. They are both unified theories and have the exceptional groups of the $E$ series as U-duality groups in five, four and three dimensions. However their real forms are different. Furthermore they have the same number of vector fields in five and four dimensions. They have a common sector which is the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ quaternionic magical supergravity defined by the Jordan algebra $j_3$. Whether there exists a larger theory that can be truncated to both $\mathcal{N} = 8$ supergravity and octonionic magical supergravity was posed as an open problem in ref. [25]. After the discovery of Green-Schwarz anomaly cancellation mechanism in string theory[44] this question evolved into the question whether octonionic magical supergravity can arise as a low energy effective theory of superstring theory compactified on some exceptional Calabi-Yau (CY) manifold[45]. A necessary condition for this is that the intersection numbers of the Calabi-Yau manifold must coincide with the ones given by C-tensor corresponding to the cubic norm of the underlying exceptional Jordan algebra $j_3$. Pure octonionic magical supergravity without hypermultiplets would require a rigid CY manifold. We should note that the supergravity theory with $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supersymmetry and 15 vector multiplets in 4$d$ as obtained by Sen and Vafa[45] via the dual pair method from type II string theory describes the quaternionic magical supergravity without any hypermultiplets as was first pointed out by

5 We use the term exceptional here only to describe Calabi-Yau manifolds that could embed exceptional supergravities into M-theory/string theory.
one of the current authors in ref. [46]. Quaternionic magical supergravity is the largest common sector of the octonionic magical supergravity and the maximal supergravity. It was later realized that there exists an anomaly free supergravity theory in 6d which reduces to the octonionic magical supergravity theory coupled to 28 hypermultiplets in five dimensions. [47] This led one of the authors to suggest that octonionic magical supergravity coupled to 28 hypermultiplets could arise as low energy effective theory of M/superstring theory on a self-mirror CY manifold. [46] In 5d, this theory would have the scalar manifold

$$\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{E_{8(-24)}}{F_4 \times SU(2)} \times \frac{E_{8(-24)}}{E_7 \times SU(2)}$$ (5.1)

as its moduli space. In 4d this scalar manifold/moduli space would be the product manifold

$$\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{E_{7(-25)}}{E_6 \times U(1)} \times \frac{E_{8(-24)}}{E_7 \times SU(2)}$$ (5.2)

and in 3d the moduli space would be a doubly exceptional symmetric space

$$\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)} \times \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)}$$ (5.3)

The FHSV model could be obtained as a truncation of this theory since moduli space of the FHSV model in the corresponding dimensions are

5d: $\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{SO(9,1) \times SO(1,1)}{SO(9)} \times \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)}$ (5.4)

4d: $\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{SO(10,2) \times SU(1,1)}{SO(10) \times U(1)} \times \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)}$ (5.5)

3d: $\mathcal{M}_V \times \mathcal{M}_H = \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)} \times \frac{SO(12,4)}{SO(12) \times SO(4)}$ (5.6)

In four dimensions, the scalar manifold of the vector fields of the octonionic magical supergravity is the symmetric space $E_{7(-25)}/E_6 \times U(1)$. Remarkably on the mathematics side Benedict Gross posed it as an open problem whether this particular Hermitian symmetric space could arise as the moduli space of variations of Hodge structures of a CY manifold [47] with a number theoretic counterpart related to Néron-Severi groups posed in ref. [49].

A candidate CY manifold would therefore have to reproduce the above. We however remark here that searching for this candidate CY manifold is not straightforward for reasons that are explained in Section 13.

6. Orbits of Extremal Black Holes of 5d Octonionic Magical Supergravity

The orbits of the extremal black holes of 5d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs defined by Jordan algebras of degree 3 were first classified in ref. [5] and studied in further detail in refs. [6, 8]. Here we shall review the orbits of the octonionic magical supergravity defined by the exceptional Jordan algebra $F_4^3$. We should first note that in five dimensions, asymptotically flat dyonic solutions do not exist; they are either purely electric black holes with charges $q_i$ or their magnetic duals which describe black strings with purely magnetic charges $p_i$. Therefore we shall restrict our study to extremal black hole solutions that are asymptotically flat, static, and spherically symmetric. The near horizon geometry of such black holes are of the form $AdS_2 \times S^1$ and their magnetic duals have the geometry $AdS_2 \times S^2$.

The attractor mechanism for 5d, $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs in an extremal black hole background is described by the positive definite effective black hole potential [19, 50].

$$V(q, \phi) = q_i \phi^i a_1 \phi^j q_j$$ (6.1)

where $a_1$ is the inverse of the metric $\phi^i$ of the kinetic energy term of the vector fields, and $q_i$ is the $(n+1)$ dimensional charge vector

$$q_i = \int_{S^1} H_i = \int_{S^1} \phi^i F^i \quad (i = 0, 1, \ldots n).$$

The metric $\phi^i$ is related to the metric $g_{ij}$ of the scalar manifold as follows

$$\phi^i = h_i h_j \phi^j + \frac{3}{2} h_i h_j g_{ij}$$ (6.2)

and

$$g_{ij} = \frac{3}{2} h_i h_j \phi^i \phi^j.$$ (6.3)

In terms of the central charge $Z = q_i h_i^i$ the potential takes the form

$$V(q, \phi) = Z^2 + \frac{3}{2} g_{ij} \phi^i \partial_j Z \partial_i Z,$$ (6.4)

where $\partial_i Z = q_i h_i^i = \sqrt{2/3} q_i h_i^i$. Using the identity

$$h_i^i = \frac{2}{3} \left( g_{ij} h_j^i - \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} T_{xyz} g^{xy} h_z^i - \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} T_{xyz} g^{zx} h_y^i \right),$$ (6.5)

the critical points of the potential are determined by the solutions of

$$\partial_i V = 2(2Z \partial_i Z - \sqrt{3/2} T_{xyz} g^{xy} g^{zx} \partial_x Z \partial_y Z) = 0.$$ (6.6)

The BPS critical points are then given by

$$Z_x \equiv \partial_x Z = 0$$ (6.7)

and the non-BPS critical points are given by the equation

$$2Z \partial_i Z = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} T_{xyz} g^{xy} Z_x Z^y Z^z.$$ (6.8)
black holes with non-vanishing entropy one finds that the black hole potential at the corresponding critical point takes the value
\[ V_{\text{non-BPS}} = 9Z^2. \]

Since the black hole potential is determined by the metric $\alpha$ of the kinetic energy term of the vector fields, it is positive definite and vanishes only when all the charges $q_I$ vanish. Hence, the attractor mechanism that leads to the criticality condition for the black hole potential is valid only for the black holes with non-zero entropy. So-called small black holes with vanishing entropy do not exhibit the attractor mechanism and it is generally believed that their description requires going beyond the supergravity approximation to their quantum completions.

In MESGTs describing the coupling of an arbitrary number of vectors multiplets to pure $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity, one has to distinguish the bare graviphoton $A_I^0$ field strength $F_{\mu\nu}^0$ from the physical or “dressed” graviphoton field strength. This is given by the linear combination $h_I F_{\mu\nu}$ since it is this combination that is related by supersymmetry to the gravitino $\Psi^I_\mu$ in the interacting theory

\[ \delta e^I_{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} e^I \Gamma^\nu \Psi^I_{\mu} \]

\[ \delta \Psi^I_{\mu} = \nabla_{\mu} (\alpha) \varepsilon_i + \frac{i}{4 \sqrt{6}} h_I \Gamma_{\nu} \chi^I_{\mu} F^I_{\nu}\varepsilon_i. \]

\[ \delta A^{I}_\mu = -\frac{1}{2} h_I f^0_\mu \Gamma^\nu \chi^I_\nu + \frac{i \sqrt{6}}{4} h_I \Psi^I_{\mu} \varepsilon_i. \]

\[ \delta \chi^I_{\mu} = -\frac{1}{2} f^0_\mu \Gamma^\nu (\partial_{\nu} \phi^I) \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{4} h_I \Gamma_{\nu\nu} \varepsilon_i F^I_{\mu\nu}. \]

\[ \delta \phi^I = \frac{i}{2} f^0_\mu \chi^I_\mu, \]

where $\chi^I_\mu$ are the spinor fields in the vector multiplets and $f^0_\mu$ is the n-bein on the scalar manifold. Hence the central charge $Z = q_0 h^I$ is simply the dressed charge associated with the physical graviphoton. Similarly one can interpret $Z^I$ as dressed charges with respect to the dressed vector field strengths $h_I F_{\mu\nu}^I$.

The $C$–tensor $C_{IJK}$ that defines the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGT uniquely is a constant tensor and is given by the intersection numbers of the Calabi-Yau threefolds for those theories that descend from M-theory. The tensor $C_{IJK}$ obtained by raising the indices by the metric $\alpha$

\[ C_{IJK} = a_I^P a_J^{P'} a_K^{P''} C_{P'\,P''} \]

depends on the scalar fields in general. However, for those theories defined by the Euclidean Jordan algebras $J$ of degree 3, the $C$–tensor is an invariant tensor of the U-duality group $\text{Str}_3(J)$ and one has

\[ C_{IJK} = C_{IJK}. \]

Given a black hole solution of the $5d$ $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGT defined by the Jordan algebra $J$ with (electric) charges $q_I$, we associate an element $Q = e^I q_I$ of $J$, where $e^I$, $I = 1, 2, \ldots, n_v$ form a basis of
The entropy $S$ of an extremal black hole solution is then determined by the cubic norm $\mathcal{N}(Q)$ of $Q$. More specifically

$$S = \pi \sqrt{|\mathcal{N}(Q)|} \quad (6.22)$$

where $\mathcal{N}(Q) = C^{ijk} q_i q_j q_k$. Using the fact that $C^{ijk} = C^{jik}$ one can write the cubic norm in terms of the dressed charges $Z, Z_\ast$ as follows:

$$\mathcal{N}(Q) = C^{ijk} q_i q_j q_k = Z^3 - (3/2)^2 Z Z_\ast Z_\ast g^{ij} - (3/2) J_{ij} Z^i Z^j Z^j. \quad (6.23)$$

Here we should stress the fact that while the bare charges $q_i$ take integer values the dressed charges need not be integrally charged.

Specializing to the case of exceptional supergravity, the orbits of extremal black hole solutions under the action of U-duality group $E_{6(-26)}$ fall into three categories depending on the rank of the charge matrix $Q = J(q_i, q_j, q_k; Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)$. Firstly, we should note that by the action of the compact automorphism group $F_4$, any element $f \in F_4$ can be diagonalized:

$$F_4: \quad J \Rightarrow (\lambda_1 E_1 + \lambda_2 E_2 + \lambda_3 E_3) \quad (6.24)$$

where $\lambda_i$ are the eigenvalues of $J$ and $E_i$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$ are the irreducible idempotents of $F_4$ defined as

$$E_1 = J(1, 0, 0; 0, 0, 0), \quad E_2 = J(0, 1, 0; 0, 0, 0), \quad E_3 = J(0, 0, 1; 0, 0, 0). \quad (6.25)$$

The cubic norm of $J$ is then simply given by $\mathcal{N}(J) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3$. The rank 1 elements can be brought to a multiple of an irreducible idempotent:

$$\lambda_i = \lambda E_i \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (6.26)$$

The corresponding extremal black holes have vanishing entropy, i.e., small black holes and their orbits are

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{SO(9, 1) \otimes T^{16}}. \quad (6.27)$$

where $SO(9, 1) \otimes T^{16}$ represents the semi-direct product of $SO(9, 1)$ with its 16 dimensional (Majorana-Weyl) spinor representation. They were called critical light-like orbits in ref. [5] and describe 1/2 BPS black holes whose moduli spaces are:

$$\frac{SO(9, 1)}{SO(9)} \otimes \mathbb{R}^{16}. \quad (6.28)$$

The rank 2 elements can be brought to the form

$$S_{ij} = \lambda (E_i + E_j) \quad (i \neq j)$$

or to the form

$$A_{ij} = \lambda (E_i - E_j)$$

by the action of $E_{6(-26)}$ and describe black holes with vanishing entropy. The orbits of black holes described by $S_{ij}$ are given by the coset space

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{SO(9) \otimes T^{16}}. \quad (6.29)$$

They are 1/2 BPS black holes with moduli $\mathbb{R}^{16}$. The black holes described by $A_{ij}$ are non-BPS and their orbits are given by the coset space

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{SO(8, 1) \otimes T^{16}}. \quad (6.30)$$

with moduli spaces $\frac{SO(8, 1)}{SO(8)} \otimes \mathbb{R}^{16}$. The orbits defined by $S_{ij}$ and $A_{ij}$ were called light-like orbits in ref. [5]. The elements of $F_4^0$ with non-vanishing cubic norm (rank 3) can be brought to either of the following forms by the action of $E_{6(-26)}$:

$$S_{ijk} = (E_i + E_j + \lambda E_k) \quad (6.31)$$

or the form

$$A_{ijk} = (E_i - E_j + \lambda E_k) \quad (6.32)$$

where $i \neq j, k \neq i, k \neq j$. The black holes whose charge matrix can be brought to the form $S_{ijk}$ with $\lambda > 0$ describe 1/2 BPS extremal black holes with non-vanishing entropy. They belong to the orbit

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{F_4}. \quad (6.33)$$

and have no moduli. The extremal black holes described by charge matrices of the form $A_{ijk}$ with $\lambda > 0$ are non-BPS extremal black holes with orbits:

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{F_4(20)}. \quad (6.34)$$

and moduli spaces

$$\frac{E_{6(-26)}}{SO(9)}. \quad (6.35)$$

We should note that the black holes with vanishing entropy are commonly referred to as small black holes whereas those with non-vanishing entropy are large black holes in the literature and we shall adopt this convention.

7. Conformal Group $E_{7(-25)}$ of the Exceptional Jordan Algebra as Spectrum Generating Symmetry Group of 5d Octonionic Magic Supergravity

The U-duality group of 5d supergravity theory defined by a Euclidean Jordan algebra $f$ of degree 3 is simply the Lorentz group

---

6 See ref. [51] and the references therein.
The one-to-one correspondence between vector fields and the electromagnetic fields is given by the norm form of the FTS. The conformal group of the 4d supergravity theory can act as spectrum generating symmetry group of the 4d supergravity theory. This question was first investigated in ref. [11] where it was shown that the 3d U-duality groups of supergravity theories defined by Jordan algebras all have novel geometric realizations as quasi-conformal groups. These quasi-conformal groups act non-linearly on the vector spaces of the corresponding FTSs extended by an extra singlet coordinate and leave light-like separations with respect to a quartic distance function invariant. These quasi-conformal actions of 3d U-duality groups act as spectrum generating symmetry groups of corresponding 4d supergravity theories [11–16,42]. The quasi-conformal groups defined over FTS’s $F$ are denoted as $QConf(F)$. When the corresponding FTS is defined over a Jordan algebra $J$ of degree 3 they are denoted either as $QConf(F)$ or simply as $Conf(F)$. The construction given in ref. [11] is covariant under the 4d U-duality group of the corresponding supergravity. For $\mathcal{N} = 2$ MESGTs defined by Euclidean Jordan algebras of degree 3, quasi-conformal realizations of their 3d U-duality groups were given in a basis covariant with respect to their 6d duality groups in ref. [53] and with respect to their 5d U-duality groups in ref. [42].

8. The Exceptional Cone

In this section we shall review the exceptional cone defined by the exceptional Jordan algebra $J_3^0$ following the formulation given in ref. [27] where the lattices defined by elements of $J_3^0$ over the integral octonions were studied. We shall denote the division algebra of octonions as $\mathbb{O}$ and, following [27], label $J(a, b, c; x, y, z)$ as the elements of $J_3^0$ of the form

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} a & z & \bar{y} \\ \bar{z} & b & x \\ y & \bar{x} & c \end{pmatrix},$$

where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y, z \in \mathbb{O}$. The exceptional cone $C$ in $J_3^0$ is defined by those elements $J$ which are positive semidefinite i.e., they satisfy the conditions

$$a, b, c \geq 0$$

and

$$bc - N(x), \ (ca - N(y)), \ (ab - N(z)) \geq 0$$

and

$$\mathcal{N}(J) \geq 0$$
and are denoted as $J \geq 0$, where $N$ is the norm over the octonions. The group of all invertible linear transformations of $J^0_1$ that preserve the cubic norm is the reduced structure (Lorentz) group $\text{Str}(J^0_1) = \text{Lor}(J^0_1)$, which is $E_{6(-26)}$. The group $E_{6(-26)}$ also leaves the symmetric trilinear form $(J_1, J_2, J_3)$, defined as

$$(J_1, J_2, J_3) := \mathcal{N}(J_1 + J_2 + J_3) - \mathcal{N}(J_1 + J_2) - \mathcal{N}(J_2 + J_3)$$

$$- \mathcal{N}(J_1 + J_3) + \mathcal{N}(J_1) + \mathcal{N}(J_2) + \mathcal{N}(J_3) \quad (8.3)$$

invariant. The cubic norm of $J$ is then related to the trilinear form as

$$\mathcal{N}(J) = \det(J) = \frac{1}{6} (J, J, J) \quad (8.4)$$

The rank of an element $J \in J^0_1$ is preserved by the action of $E_{6(-26)}$. Furthermore, the exceptional cone $C \in J^0_1$ is stabilized by $E_{6(-26)}$ which acts transitively on the set of elements $J \geq 0$ with unit cubic norm $\mathcal{N}(J) = 1$. The stabilizer of an element in $C$ with unit norm is simply the maximal compact subgroup $F_4$ of $E_{6(-26)}$.

The elements $E$ belonging to the exceptional cone $C$ with $\mathcal{N}(E) = 1$ are called polarizations. Given a polarization $E$ one can define a linear form that maps the elements of $J^0_1$ into $\mathbb{R}$:

$$T_E : J^0_1 \Rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (8.5)$$

$$\forall J \in J^0_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(E) \in J^0_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which is associated with the bilinear form

$$(A, B)_E = R_E(A + B) - R_E(A) - R_E(B) = (E, A, B) \quad (8.6)$$

The bilinear form $(A, B)_E$ has signature $(1,26)$. One can also define another bilinear form $(A, B)_E^{(27)}$ where

$$(A, B)_E = T_E(A) T_E(B) - (A, B)_E \quad (8.7)$$

and has signature $(27,0)$. The linear form $T_E$ as well as the bilinear forms are invariant under the subgroup of the reduced structure group $E_{6(-26)}$ of $J^0_1$ that leaves the polarization $E$ invariant.

The Jordan product $\Lambda_E B$ depends on the choice of polarization $E$ and is defined by the identity $^{[27]}$

$$(2(\Lambda_B A)_E, C)_E = (A, B, C) + T_E(A)(B, C)_E$$

$$+ T_E(B)(C, A)_E + T_E(C)(A, B)_E$$

$$- T_E(A) T_E(B) T_E(C) \quad (8.8)$$

and satisfies the following identities:

$$(A, B, C) = (A, B, C)$$

$$+ T_E(A)(B, C)_E - T_E(B)(C, A)_E - T_E(C)(A, B)_E$$

$$+ 2 T_E(A) T_E(B) T_E(C) \quad (8.9)$$

$$(A, B, C) = (A, B, C)$$

$$+ T_E(A)(B, C)_E - T_E(B)(C, A)_E - T_E(C)(A, B)_E$$

$$+ 2 T_E(A) T_E(B) T_E(C) \quad (8.10)$$

Under the Jordan product $\Lambda_E$ the polarization $E$ acts as the identity element

$$\Lambda_E E = E \Lambda_E A = A \quad (8.11)$$

$$\Lambda_E B = (A, B)_E \quad (8.12)$$

$$\Lambda_E (B \Lambda_E C) = (A, B)_E \Lambda_E (B \Lambda_E C) \quad (8.13)$$

The Jordan algebra defined by the product $\Lambda_E$ with the identity element $E$ is referred to as the isotope of the Jordan algebra with respect to the product $\Lambda_E$ with the identity element $I$ given by the $3 \times 3$ unit matrix. For a Jordan algebra $J$ with the Jordan product $\Lambda_E$ one defines a Jordan triple product

$$\Lambda_E C \equiv \{AB^{-1}C\} = \Lambda_E A \quad (8.14)$$

with the identity element $B$ since

$$\Lambda_E B = B \Lambda_E A = \{AB^{-1}B\} = A \quad (8.15)$$

Hence the Jordan algebra with the product $\Lambda_E$ is simply the isotope of the Jordan algebra with the product $\Lambda_I$ and one has

$$\Lambda_E B = \{AB^{-1}B\} \quad (8.16)$$

where $E^{-1}$ is the inverse of the polarization $E$ with respect to the Jordan product $\Lambda_I$.

If the identity matrix $I = (1, 1, 1; 0, 0, 0)$ is chosen as the polarization then $T_E$ coincides with the ordinary matrix trace and the Jordan product is simply given by $1/2$ the anticommutator

$$\Lambda_E B = \frac{1}{2} (AB + BA) \quad (8.17)$$

The E-adjoint $A^E_E$ of an element $A \in J^0_1$ is defined as

$$A^E_E = \Lambda_E A - T_E(A) A + R_E(A) E \quad (8.18)$$

and satisfies the following identities:

$$E^E_E = E \quad (8.19)$$

$$\Lambda_E A^E_E = \mathcal{N}(A) E \quad (8.20)$$

$$\Lambda_E A^E_E = \mathcal{N}(A) E \quad (8.21)$$

$$\Lambda_E A^E_E = \mathcal{N}(A) E \quad (8.22)$$

$$2 \Lambda_E (A \Lambda_E B)_E = (A, B, B) \quad (8.23)$$

$$2 \Lambda_E (A \Lambda_E B)_E = (A, B, B) \quad (8.24)$$

$$2 \Lambda_E (A \Lambda_E B)_E = (A, B, B) \quad (8.25)$$
9. Exceptional Jordan Algebra over the Integral Octonions and Exceptional Modular Forms

The real octonions with integer coefficients \( \mathbb{O}(Z) \) form a ring. However, as was shown by Coxeter, the ring \( \mathbb{O}(Z) \) is not maximal. There is a maximal order \( R \) which has \( \mathbb{O}(Z) \) as a subring.\(^{56}\) It is generated by \( \mathbb{O}(Z) \) and four additional octonions with all half-integer coefficients which can be chosen to be

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{1}{2}(1+j_1+j_2+j_3) \\
\frac{1}{2}(1+j_1+j_5+j_6) \\
\frac{1}{2}(1+j_1+j_4+j_7) \\
\frac{1}{2}(j_1+j_2+j_4+j_6) \\
\frac{1}{2}(1+j_1+j_2+j_3)
\end{align*}
\]

The order \( R \) contains the element:\(^{27}\)

\[
\beta = \frac{1}{2}(-1+j_1+j_2+j_3+j_4+j_5+j_6+j_7)
\]

which satisfies

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Tr}(\beta) &= -1 \\
\mathcal{N}(\beta) &= \beta\bar{\beta} = 2 \\
\beta^2 + \beta + 2 &= 0
\end{align*}
\]

Trace and norm take on integral values on \( R \) and hence its elements were called integral Cayley numbers (octonions) by Coxeter.\(^{56}\) Following\(^{27}\) we define a \( Z \) lattice \( JL \) inside \( f_4^{(1)} \) by considering \( 3 \times 3 \) Hermitian matrices over integral octonions:

\[
J(a, b, c; x, y, z) = \begin{pmatrix} a & z & \bar{y} \\
\bar{z} & b & x \\
y & \bar{x} & c \end{pmatrix}
\]

(9.4)

where \( a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} \) and \( x, y, z \in R \). The cubic norm of elements in \( JL \) take on integral values and its invariance group is the discrete arithmetic subgroup \( E_{6(-26)}(Z) \) of \( E_{6(-26)} \).\(^{49}\) A remarkable fact that was proven in ref.\(^{49}\) is that while \( E_{6(-26)} \) acts transitively on positive polarizations with determinant 1, its arithmetic subgroup \( E_{6(-26)}(Z) \) does not act transitively on the polarizations \( E > 0 \) in \( JL \) with determinant 1. There are precisely two orbits under the action of \( E_{6(-26)}(Z) \) represented by the identity matrix \( I = J(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0) \) and the “indecomposable” polarization \( E_{\text{ind}} \)

\[
E_{\text{ind}} = J(2, 2, 2; \beta, \beta, \beta) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \beta & \bar{\beta} \\
\bar{\beta} & 2 & \beta \\
\beta & \bar{\beta} & 2 \end{pmatrix}
\]

(9.5)

with \( \mathcal{N}(E_{\text{ind}}) = 1 \). There exist three rank 1 elements \( A \in JL \) with respect to the identity polarization \( I \) with \( T_I(A) = 1 \). On the other hand there are no rank 1 elements \( A \in JL \) that satisfy \( T_{E_{\text{ind}}}(A) = 1 \).\(^{49}\)

9.1. Integral Jordan Roots

Given a polarization \( E \) we may define Jordan roots associated with \( E \) as those elements \( S \) in the exceptional cone \( C \) which have rank 1 and satisfy\(^{27}\)

\[
\begin{align*}
T(S) &= 2 \\
(S, S) &= 0 \\
\langle S, S \rangle &= (T(S))^2 = 4 \\
S \circ S &= 2S
\end{align*}
\]

(9.6)

The automorphism group \( F_4 \) that leaves a given polarization \( E \) invariant acts transitively on the set of Jordan roots associated with \( E \). The subgroup of \( F_4 \) that leaves a given Jordan root \( S \) invariant is \( \text{Spin}(9) \) and the symmetric space \( F_4/\text{Spin}(9) \) can be identified with the Moufang plane.\(^7\) This subgroup contains the involution \( \tau \) of \( f_4^{(1)} \) defined by

\[
\tau(A) = A - 2(A \circ S) + \langle A, S \rangle S.
\]

(9.7)

A root triple is defined as three mutually orthogonal Jordan roots \( S_1, S_2, S_3 \) that satisfy:

\[
2E = S_1 + S_2 + S_3
\]

(9.8)

\[
\langle S_i, S_j \rangle = 0 \quad i \neq j
\]

(9.9)

\[
S_i \circ S_j = 0 \quad i \neq j
\]

(9.10)

where \( i, j = 1, 2, 3 \). The automorphism group \( F_4 \) acts transitively on the root triples associated with \( E \) and the subgroup of \( F_4 \) that leaves invariant a given root triple is the semi-direct product group \( \text{Spin}(8) \rtimes S_3 \) where \( S_3 \) is the group of permutations of the root triple.

In the rest of this paper we shall adopt the convention to denote the indecomposable polarization \( E_{\text{ind}} \) given in equation (9.5) simply as \( E \). The linear form \( T_I \) defined by the polarization \( E \) maps the lattice \( JL \) into \( Z \). In ref.\(^{27}\), the possible values \( T_I(A) \) for \( A \geq 0 \) in \( JL \) with rank \( A = 1 \) were studied. All such elements satisfy \( T_I(A) \geq 2 \). A formula for the number \( \sigma(n) \) of such rank 1 elements \( A \) such that \( T_I(A) = n \) with \( n \in \mathbb{N} \) turns out to depend on the values of the divisor sigma function\(^{47}\)

\[
\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d^{11}
\]

(9.11)

where \( d|n \) indicates the sum over positive divisors of \( n \) including 1, and the Ramanujan \( \tau \) function defined by the \( q \)-series of the 24th power of the Dedekind eta function

\[
\Delta = \eta(q)^{24} = q \prod_{m \geq 1} (1 - q^m)^{24} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \tau(n)q^n, \quad q := e^{2\pi i \tau}
\]

(9.12)

\(^7\) We should note that Jordan roots can be identified with the points in the octonionic projective plane (Moufang plane) and correspond to pure states in the octonionic quantum mechanics defined over \( f_4^{(1)} \).\(^{31}\) The idempotents \( P \) of \( f_4^{(1)} \) corresponding to pure states in octonionic quantum mechanics are normalized such that \( P_0 P = P \).
Let $c(A)$ denote the largest integer such that for any rank 1 element $A \in J L$, one still has $A/c(A) \in J L$. Then the number of linearly independent rank 1 elements with $T_\mu(A) = n$ is given by\textsuperscript{[27]}:

$$\mathfrak{N}(n) = \sum_{T_\mu(A) = n; \ rank(A) = 1} \left( \sum_{d | (A)} d^3 \right) = \frac{3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}{691} \left( \sigma_1(n) - \tau(n) \right).$$

(9.13)

If $n = p$ is a prime number, one has $c(A) = 1$ and the formula for $\mathfrak{N}(p)$ simplifies:

$$\mathfrak{N}(p) = \frac{3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}{691} (p^{11} - \tau(p) + 1).$$

(9.14)

We refer to $\mathfrak{N}(n)$ as the multiplicity of a rank 1 element with trace form $T_\mu(A) = n$. Correspondingly we define the quantum degeneracy of a rank 1 black hole whose charge matrix $A$ satisfies $T_\mu(A) = q$ to be given by $\mathfrak{N}(q)$ with the adjective “quantum” deriving from the fact that the discrete U-duality group is expected to be a symmetry of the quantum completion of the octonionic magical supergravity. The rank 1 elements with $T_\mu(A) = 2$ correspond to integral Jordan roots, and their number is $\mathfrak{N}(2) = 819$.\textsuperscript{[27]} Hence a BPS black hole whose charge matrix $A$ satisfies $T_\mu(A) = 2$ can be in any one these 819 charge states. The proof of the formulas above giving the multiplicity $\mathfrak{N}(n)$ of rank 1 elements uses the theory of modular forms of weight 12 on the upper half-plane and on the exceptional tube domain.\textsuperscript{[29,38]} The space of modular forms of weight 12 for $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ is two-dimensional spanned by $\Delta$ and the Eisenstein series $E_{12}$. They have the Fourier expansions:

$$\Delta(\tau) = q \prod_{n=1}^\infty (1-q^n)^{24} = q - 24q^2 + 252q^3 + \cdots$$

(9.15)

$$E_{12}(\tau) = \zeta(-11)/2 + \sum_{n=1}^\infty \sigma_1(n) q^n = \frac{691}{65520} q + 2049q^2 + \cdots$$

(9.16)

The unique holomorphic modular $f(q)$ form of weight 12 for $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ whose Fourier series begins as $f(q) = 1 + 0q + \cdots$ is given by

$$f(q) = \frac{65520}{691} (E_{12} - \Delta) = 1 + \frac{2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}{691} \sum_{n=1}^\infty (\sigma_1(n) - \tau(n)) = 1 + 0q + 196560q^2 + O(q^3).$$

(9.17)

The modular form $f(q)$ is the theta function of the Leech lattice $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^{24}$ which is an even unimodular lattice with minimal norm $> 2$.\textsuperscript{[49,57,8]}

On the other hand, the “upper half-plane” of the exceptional Jordan algebra $J^0_3$ is spanned by the elements of the form $Z = (X + iy)$ where $X$ is an arbitrary element of $J^0_3$ and $y > 0$. This upper half-plane is in fact the exceptional tube domain $D$ of complex dimension 27. The conformal group $E_{7(7)}$ of $J^0_3$ acts holomorphically on the exceptional tube domain $D$ and it was proposed as a spectrum generating symmetry group of extremal black holes of the octonionic magical supergravity in $5d$.\textsuperscript{[9,11–14]}

Since the conformal group $\text{Conf}(J)$ includes translations of $T_\mu$ by the elements of $J$ the Fourier coefficients of the modular forms of the arithmetic subgroup $E_{7(7)}(Z)$ of $E_{7(7)}$ are expected to describe the degeneracies of charge states of quantum extremal black holes of the octonionic magical supergravity theory whose bare charges are labeled by the elements of the exceptional Jordan algebra with integral coefficients. The above results show that this is the case for rank 1 charge states which act as building blocks of higher rank charge states as will be explained later in Section 12. In the next subsection we shall review the work of N. Elkies and B. Gross that establish the connections between the exceptional modular form of Kim\textsuperscript{[29]} on the exceptional tube domain, rank 1 elements of the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions and the Leech lattice.\textsuperscript{[37]}

9.2. Exceptional Modular Forms and Integral Jordan Roots

Let $F(Z)$ be an holomorphic function that maps the exceptional tube domain $D$ into complex numbers. $C$. $F(Z)$ is a modular form of level 1 and weight $k$ of $E_{7(7)}(Z)$ if it satisfies the following conditions:\textsuperscript{[29]}

i) Invariance under translations by elements of $J L$:

$$F(Z + B) = F(Z) \quad \forall B \in J L$$

(9.18)

ii) Invariance under the action of $E_{7(7)}(Z)$:

$$F(gZ) = F(Z) \quad \forall g \in E_{7(7)}(Z)$$

(9.19)

iii) Under inversions, it satisfies the following identity:

$$F(-Z^{-1}) = \left( \Lambda(Z) \right)^k F(Z) .$$

(9.20)

where the inversions are defined with respect to the identity polarization:

$$Z^{-1} = \frac{Z^*}{\Lambda(Z)} .$$

(9.21)

$F(Z)$ has a Fourier expansion of the form:

$$F(Z) = \sum_{T \in T_2^0} a(T) e^{2\pi i T/(T_2^0 Z)} .$$

(9.22)

Given a holomorphic modular form $F(Z)$ of weight $k$ on the tube domain $D$, then the function $f(x) = F(xE)$, where $x = x + iy$ is a complex number taking values in the upper half-plane and $E$ is the adjoint of the indecomposable polarization $E$, is a holomorphic modular form of weight $3k$ of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \subset E_{7(7)}(Z)$. The singular modular form $F(Z) = E_4(Z)$ of weight 4 studied by Kim has the Fourier expansion:

$$E_4(Z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{\Delta \geq 0 \in \mathbb{Z} \cap T_2^0 \cap \mathbb{R}_{>0}} \left( \sum_{d | (\Delta)} d^3 \right) e^{2\pi i \Delta/(4\pi i Z)} .$$

(9.23)
where the Jordan product \( A \circ_Z B \) is with respect to the identity polarization \( I \) of \( f_3 \). Choosing \( Z = E^r \) and using the identity
\[
\text{Tr}(A \circ_Z E^r) = \frac{1}{2} (A, E, E) = T(A) ,
\]
one finds
\[
f(r) = F(rE^r) = 1 + 240 \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \sum_{d | n} \left( \sum_{d|d(n)} \right) q^d \right) ,
\]
where \( q = e^{iz} \) and \( \text{rank}(A) = 1 \) with \( A \geq 0 \). Since \( T(A) > 1 \) for rank 1 elements \( A \in J_L \) in the polarization \( E \), the coefficient of \( q \) is zero in the above series which is simply the \( q \)-expansion of the holomorphic form of weight 12 of \( SL(2, Z) \) given in (9.17) and is also the theta function of the Leech lattice.

As was shown in ref. [27], the bilinear product \((A, B)\) is even and has discriminant 2 on \( J_L \). On the other hand, the pairing \((A, B)\) is positive definite and unimodular on \( J_L \). The polarization \( E \) satisfies the identities\(^{27}\)
\[
\langle E, E \rangle = 3 \quad \text{(9.25)}
\]
\[
\langle E, A \rangle = (A, A) \mod 2 ,
\]
which implies that
\[
2(A \circ_Z B) \in J_L \quad \forall A, B \in J_L .
\]

Involutions \( \tau_5 \) with respect to Jordan roots \( S \) map \( J_L \) into itself. The group \( \text{Aut}(J_L, N, E) \) that leaves \( J_L \) and the polarization \( E \) invariant is a discrete subgroup of the compact group \( F_4 \) and, hence, is finite. It leaves invariant the submodule \( Z \subset E \) and acts faithfully on its orthogonal complement \( J_L \) of rank 26.

The subgroup \( \Gamma \) of \( \text{Aut}(J_L, N, E) \) generated by involutions with respect to 819 Jordan roots has order 211341312 and was shown to be isomorphic to the twisted Chevalley group \( {}^1D_4(2) \).\(^{27}\)\(^9\) The subgroup of \( {}^1D_4(2) \) that leaves a given Jordan root \( S \) invariant is a maximal parabolic subgroup isomorphic to \( 2^{1+8}.L_3(8) \). There are 2457 integral root triples and the group \( \Gamma \) acts transitively on them. The subgroup of \( \Gamma \) that leaves a given root triple invariant is the maximal parabolic subgroup \( 2^{1+3+6}.(7 \times L_3(2)) \). The group \( {}^1D_4(2) \) acts transitively also on the set of rank 1 elements \( A \) with \( T(A) = 3 \) with the stabilizer being isomorphic to the maximal subgroup \( L_3(2) \times L_3(8) \).\(^{27}\)

9.3. Cubic Rings and Binary Cubic Forms

In ref. [59] it was shown that the isomorphism classes of cubic rings \( A \) over a local ring \( R \) correspond to the orbits of the action of \( GL(2, R) \) on binary cubic polynomials over \( R \). Given a binary cubic polynomial over \( R \) of the form
\[
p(x, y) = ax^3 + bx^2y + cxy^2 + dy^3
\]
with coefficients \( a, b, c, d \) in \( R \) and discriminant
\[
\Delta(p) = b^2c^2 - 18abcd - 4ac^3 - 4bd^3 - 27a^2d^2
\]
the twisted action of \( g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in GL(2, R) \) on \( (x, y) \) is defined as
\[
g : (x \ y) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} .
\]
Under \( GL(2, R) \), the discriminant \( \Delta \) changes as follows:
\[
\Delta(g \cdot p(x, y)) = (\det g)^2 \Delta(p(x, y)) .
\]
We should note that the discriminant \( \Delta \) corresponds to the quartic invariant of an extremal black hole solution in 4d supergravity obtained by dimensional reduction of the pure \( N = 2 \) supergravity in five dimensions whose electric and magnetic charges are related to \( (a, b, c, d) \) if the ring \( R \) is chosen to be the ring of integers \( Z \).\(^{17}\) It is invariant under the 4d U-duality group \( SL(2, R) \) and its relation to binary cubic forms and extremal black holes were studied in ref. [22].

As was shown in ref. [59], given a binary cubic form \( p(x, y) \) and corresponding four dimensional \( R \)-module \( M \), one can always define a cubic ring over \( R \) with basis \( (1, I, J) \) with multiplication rules
\[
IJ = -ad1
\]
\[
I^2 = -ac1 + bI - aJ
\]
\[
J^2 = -bd1 + dI - cfJ
\]
Such a basis is referred to as a good basis. The fact that the multiplication rules involve the constants of a binary cubic polynomial \( p(x, y) \) over \( M \) establishes a map from cubic rings to binary cubic forms over \( R \). The most general transformation from a good basis \((1, I, J)\) to another good basis \((1, I', J')\) has the form
\[
\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ I' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ u & \alpha & \beta \\ v & \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ J \end{pmatrix} .
\]

10. Springer Decomposition of Jordan Algebras of Degree 3

We now give a brief review of the Springer decomposition of Jordan algebras \( J_3 \) of degree 3 over a field \( F \) with \( A \) representing a composition algebra following.\(^{60,61}\) We will restrict ourselves to the case when \( A \) is the division algebra \( O \) of octonions. Let \( A = F \times F \times F \) denote the subalgebra of diagonal matrices
\[
\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix} ,
\]
where \( \lambda_i \in F \). We shall denote the matrix \( \Lambda \) simply as \( \Lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) \in A \). The orthogonal complement \( L_8 \) of \( A \) with respect to the trace form are given by the matrices
\[
\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \delta_1 & \delta_2 \\ \delta_1 & 0 & \delta_3 \\ \delta_2 & \delta_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} .
\]
where \( o \in O \). We shall denote the matrix \( \Omega \) as \( (o, o, o) \in I_3 \). Springer defines the action ‘\( \cdot \)’ of the three dimensional subalgebra \( A \) on the orthogonal complement \( I_3 \) as

\[
\Lambda \cdot \Omega \equiv -\Lambda \times \Omega = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) \in I_3,
\]

where \( \times \) is the Freudenthal product. Hence \( I_3 \) is an \( A \) module under this action. Representing a general element of \( f_3 \) as \( (\Lambda, \Omega) \), we have

\[
(\Lambda, \Omega \equiv (\Lambda^0 - Q(\Omega), \beta(\Omega) - \Lambda \cdot \Omega) \in (A \otimes I_3),
\]

where \( (\Lambda^0 - Q(\Omega)) \in A \) and \( (\beta(\Omega) - \Lambda \cdot \Omega) \in I_3 \). For our example we have

\[
Q(\Omega) = (o_1, o_2, o_3, o_4, o_5)
\]

and

\[
\beta(\Omega) = (o_2, o_3, o_4, o_5).
\]

Therefore, the entire Jordan algebra \( (\Delta, \Omega) \) can be viewed as a quadratic space over \( A \) under the above action.

### 11. Embeddings of Cubic Rings in the Exceptional Jordan Algebra and Niemeier Lattices

In their subsequent work,[28] Elkies and Gross consider the embeddings of cubic rings into the \( Z \) lattice \( JL \) of rank 27 defined by the \( 3 \times 3 \) Hermitian symmetric matrices over the Coxeter’s ring of integral octonions \( R \). Their work uses some of the results of earlier work by Gross and Gan[62] on commutative subrings of certain non-associative rings which include the exceptional Jordan algebra which we summarize in Appendix E. The cubic rings \( A \) considered are commutative rings which are isomorphic to \( Z^3 \) as additive groups and their cubic norms are integral i.e.,

\[
\mathbf{N} : A \rightarrow Z. \tag{11.1}
\]

An embedding of \( A \) in \( JL \) is a mapping \( f \) such that

\[
\mathcal{N}(f(a)) = \mathbf{N}(a) \ \forall a \in A \tag{11.2}
\]

\[
f(1) = E, \tag{11.3}
\]

and such that \( JL/f(A) \) is torsion-free. These conditions imply that

\[
f(a \cdot b) = f(a) \circ f(b), \tag{11.4}
\]

where \( \circ \) denotes Jordan product with respect to the polarization \( E \) and

\[
\mathcal{N}(xE - f(a)) = \mathbf{N}(x - a). \tag{11.5}
\]

Furthermore one has

\[
T(f(a)) = \text{Tr}(a) \tag{11.6}
\]

\[
\langle f(a), f(b) \rangle = T(f(a) \circ f(b)) = \text{Tr}(a \cdot b), \tag{11.7}
\]

where \( \text{Tr} \) is the trace form over the cubic ring \( A \) and \( \cdot \) refers to the product in \( A \).

The cubic ring \( A \) regarded as an integral lattice admits a dual lattice \( A' \subset A \otimes \mathbb{Q} \) with respect to the bilinear form \( (a, b) = \text{Tr}(a \cdot b) \) where \( \mathbb{Q} \) denotes the rationals. Discriminant \( D \) of \( A \) considered as a lattice is given by the order of the module \( A' / A \). Orthogonal complement of the image \( f(A) \) of \( A \) inside the 27 dimensional lattice \( JL \) is a rank 24 even lattice \( L_c \) such that

\[
 JL = f(A) \oplus L_c. \tag{11.8}
\]

Since the cubic ring has a unit which maps into the polarization vector \( E \) the lattice \( L_c \) is also a sublattice of \( JL_c \) generated by traceless elements of \( JL \). The lattice \( JL_c \) is generated by vectors \( A_0 \) in \( JL \) which satisfy the condition

\[
\langle A_0, E \rangle = T_E(A_0) = 0. \tag{11.9}
\]

It is an even lattice with a positive definite quadratic form \( q(v) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(v, v) \) which maps the elements \( v \) of \( JL_c \) into \( Z \). Since \( \det JL_c = 3 \) it has index 3 inside its dual lattice \( JL_c^* \).

The rank 24 sublattice \( L_c = f(A)^* \) can be given an \( A \)-module structure as was shown by Springer[60,61] and summarized in previous section. Elkies and Gross[28] implement this decomposition using the adjoint map in the indecomposable polarization \( E^{11} \)

\[
B \rightarrow B^e \tag{11.10}
\]

\[
B_{0e}B^e = N(B)E. \tag{11.11}
\]

The quadratic form \( q(v) \) on \( JL_c \) is then given by

\[
q(v) = -(v^e, E) \tag{11.12}
\]

for all \( v \in JL_c \). Furthermore they define the \( A \)-module structure on the lattice \( L_c \) with a positive definite quadratic map of \( A \)-modules

\[
q_\Lambda : L_c \rightarrow A^* \tag{11.13}
\]

such that \( \text{Tr}(q_\Lambda) = q \) on \( L_c \), as defined in (11.12). They also define a quadratic map on the cubic ring \( A : a \rightarrow a^e \) such that \( a \cdot a^e = \mathbf{N}(a) \) and \( f(a^e) = f(a)^e \) for a given embedding \( f \). In the polarization \( E \), the Freudenthal product of two elements of the exceptional Jordan algebra can be written in terms of the Jordan product as follows

\[
B \times C = (B + C)^e - B^e - C^e = 2(B_{0e}C)
\]

\[
- T(B)C - T(C)B + (B, C)E. \tag{11.14}
\]

10 We use \( \mathbf{N} \) to denote the norm in a cubic ring, as in (11.1). However we also use this to denote norms of elements over a given field \( F \). The usage should be clear from context.

11 In the previous section we reviewed the Springer decomposition in the identity polarization for simplicity.
As reviewed in Section 10, $L_\gamma$ becomes an $A$ module under the action
\[ a \cdot v = -f(a) \cdot v, \forall a \in A. \] (11.15)
That $a \cdot v$ lies in $L_\gamma = f(A)^\perp$ follows from the identities:
\[ (f(b), a \cdot v) = -(f(b \cdot f(a)) \cdot v) = -(f(b \cdot a), v) = 0. \] (11.16)
One can also define $t_{\alpha}(B) \mapsto A^\gamma$ so that $t_{\alpha}(B)$ lies in $A^\gamma$ in the decomposition $JL \subset A^\gamma + L_\gamma$.\(^{[61]}\) We then have
\[ \text{Tr}(t_{\alpha}(B)) = (1, t_{\alpha}(B)) = (E, B) = T(B) \in Z. \] (11.17)
The adjoint of an element $v \in L_\gamma$ has a component in $A^\gamma$ which can be used to define a quadratic map $q_{\alpha}$:
\[ v^\gamma = -q_{\alpha}(v) + \beta(v), \] (11.18)
where $q_{\alpha}(v)$ takes values in dual $A^\gamma$ of $A$ and $\beta(v)$ takes values in the dual $L_\gamma^\vee$ of $L_\gamma$. One finds that
\[ \text{Tr}(q_{\alpha}(v)) = -T(v^\gamma) = -(v, E) = q(v). \] (11.19)
Thus $L_\gamma^\vee$ is also an $A$ module inside $L_\gamma \otimes Q$. Furthermore
\[ \beta(a \cdot v) = a^\gamma \cdot \beta(v) \subseteq L_\gamma^\vee \] (11.20)
and
\[ \mathcal{N}(v) = \langle v, \beta(v) \rangle_A, \] (11.21)
where
\[ (v, w)_A \equiv q_A(v + w) - q_A(v) - q_A(w). \] (11.22)
Note that even though $\beta(v)$ lies in $L_\gamma^\vee$, the bilinear product (11.21) takes values over the integers $Z$ and
\[ \mathcal{N}(a \cdot v) = N(a) \cdot \mathcal{N}(v) . \] (11.23)

Given a totally real cubic ring $A$, an element of $A \otimes R$ is said to be totally positive if each of its three $R^3$ coordinates is non-negative and denoted as $(A \otimes R)_+$, representing the self-dual cone of such elements.\(^{[28]}\) An embedding $f : A \rightarrow JL$ maps totally positive $a$ in $A$ to positive-semidefinite matrices $B = f(a)$ in $JL$. Conversely if $B$ is positive-semidefinite then $a = t_{\alpha}(B)$ belongs to $A^\gamma$. where $c(0) = 1$ and
\[ c(a) = 240 \sum_{\mu \in Jl} \left( \sum_{d \in \mathcal{L}(\mu)} d^2 \right)^{\gamma} \]. (11.25)
and show that it is a HMF of weight $(4,4,4)$ for $SL(2, A)$ which is a discrete subgroup of $SL(2, R)^3$ i.e.,
\[ F(\frac{a \cdot c + b}{c \cdot c + d}) = N(c \cdot c + d)^{\gamma} F(\frac{a}{c}) \] (11.26)
for all $(\frac{a}{c}, \frac{b}{d}) \in SL(2, A).^{[2]}$ $c(S)$ is the largest positive integer that divides $S$ such that $S/c(S) \in Jl$. When $a$ is primitive in $A^\gamma$ then $c(S) = 1$ and $c(a)$ simplifies to
\[ c(a) = 240 \# \{ S : \text{rank } S = 1, t_{\alpha}(S) = 2 \}. \] (11.27)
Note that the sum is over rank 1 elements $S$ which satisfy $S^\gamma = 0$. In general, a rank 1 element can be decomposed as
\[ S = \alpha + v, \] (11.28)
where $\alpha = t_{\alpha}(S)$ and $v \in L_\gamma$. Since
\[ S^\gamma = (a^\gamma - q_A(v)) + (\beta(v) - a \cdot v) = 0, \] (11.29)
this implies $q_A(v) = a^\gamma$ and $\beta(v) = a \cdot v$.

These results are proven using the singular form $F(Z)$ of Kim on the exceptional tube domain as seen in Section 9.2 and Appendix C.\(^{[13]}\) Recall that $F(Z)$ has the Fourier expansion
\[ F(Z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{\substack{\mu \in Jl \text{ rank } \gamma = 1}} \left( \sum_{d \in \mathcal{L}(\mu)} d \right)^{\gamma} e^{2\pi i (S, Z)}. \] (11.30)
The function $F(\tau)$ given in (11.24) corresponds to the restriction of Kim’s form $F(Z)$ to the sub-tube-domain
\[ H^1 = (A \otimes R) + \iota(A \otimes R)_+, \] (11.31)
which embeds into the exceptional tube domain $D$ under the action of the embedding function of the cubic ring $A$ into the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions $\mathcal{R}$. The function $F(\tau)$ satisfies
\[ F(\tau + b) = F(\tau) \forall b \in A \]
\[ F(a^\gamma \cdot \tau) = F(\tau) \forall \alpha \in A^\gamma \] (11.32)
\[ F \left( \frac{-1}{\tau} \right) = (N(\tau))^\gamma F(\tau). \]

\(^{12}\) See Appendix F for a review on HMFs.

\(^{13}\) Note that the work of Kim uses the identity matrix as the polarization. However any polarization $E$ determines an isomorphic discrete subgroup of the automorphisms of the tube domain.\(^{[28]}\)

11.1. Hilbert Modular Forms and Cubic Rings

Denoting the complex upper half plane as $H$, Elkies and Gross define a holomorphic function from $H^1$ into $C$ which has the convergent Fourier series
\[ F(\tau) = f(\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3) = \sum_{a \in A^\gamma} c(a) e^{2\pi i (a, \tau_1 + \tau_2 \tau_3 + a \cdot \tau_3)} \] (11.24)
The corresponding matrices of $\text{SL}(2, A)$ are

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & b \\
0 & 1
\end{pmatrix},
\begin{pmatrix}
\alpha & 0 \\
0 & \alpha^{-1}
\end{pmatrix},
\begin{pmatrix}
0 & -1 \\
1 & 0
\end{pmatrix},
$$

(11.33)

where $b \in A$ and $\alpha \in A^\vee$. $F(z)$ has weight $(4,4,4)$ with respect to the discrete subgroup $\text{SL}(2, A)$ with Fourier expansion

$$F(Z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{d \geq 1, (d, 30) = 1} d^3 e^{2\pi i} \left[ \frac{d^2}{Z} \right].
$$

(11.34)

$$= 1 + 240 \sum_{a \in A_c^\vee, p \equiv 0} \left( \sum_{S \in \mathbb{Z}/p} \left( \sum_{d \in \mathbb{Z}/3} d^3 \right) e^{2\pi i} \left[ \frac{a}{p} \right] \right).
$$

(11.35)

11.2. Cubic Rings with Discriminant $D = p^2$ and Niemeier Lattices

Recall that $L_c = f(A)$. We also have

$$A \oplus L_c \subset JL \subset A^\vee \oplus L_c^\vee.
$$

(11.36)

Using the fact that the projections onto first and second components above

$$\alpha : J/(A \oplus L_c) \approx A^\vee / A \quad \beta : J/(A \oplus L_c) \approx L_c^\vee / L_c
$$

define isomorphisms as finite Abelian groups, Elkies and Gross in ref. [28] prove that

$$\langle \gamma a, \gamma b \rangle \equiv \langle a, b \rangle \quad \text{(mod } Z \rangle ) \quad \forall a, b \in A^\vee.
$$

(11.37)

where

$$\gamma \equiv \beta \circ \alpha^{-1} : A^\vee / A \approx L_c^\vee / L_c.
$$

Using these results, Elkies and Gross analyze, in particular, the cases when the discriminant of the cubic ring $A$ is $D = p^2$ with $p$ prime and the cubic ring $A$ is maximal. This analysis requires that $p \equiv 1 \mod 3, p \geq 7$, and $A$ consists of integers in the cubic subfield of the $p$-th cyclotomic field. The quadratic space $A^\vee / A$ is split over the integers $\mathbb{Z}$ and has two isotropic lines $N$ and $N'$ which define unimodular lattices $N$ and $N'$ as sublattices in $A^\vee$. The two unimodular lattices $N$ and $N'$ both have rank 3 and are isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}^3$. For the embeddings of these rings $f : A \rightarrow JL$ they prove that there exist two even, integral unimodular lattices $M$ and $M'$ of rank 24 which lie between $L_c$ and $L_c^\vee$ such that $M/L_c$ and $M'/L_c$ are the isotropic lines corresponding to $N/A$ and $N'/A$, respectively. These are precisely the Niemeier lattices of rank 24.

11.2.1. Case $D = 49$

Among the examples of cubic ring embeddings studied by Elkies and Gross with $D = p^2, p = 7$ is the Dedekind domain

$$Z[\cos(2\pi/7)] = Z[a]/(a^3 + a^2 - 2a - 1).$$

This corresponds to a particular binary cubic form given in (9.27) with coefficients

$$a = b = 1 \quad c = -2 \quad d = -1
$$

(11.38)

Hence the discriminant given by (9.28) is 49. In this case there are $2 \times 3 \times 13$ possible embeddings of the ring $f : A \rightarrow JL$ which are conjugate under the finite automorphism group

$$\text{Aut}(JL, E) \cong D_4(2,3).
$$

(11.39)

of order $2^2 3^2 7^2 11^3 [32]$. For a given embedding, the stability group is the finite group $7^2 : 2A_4$ of order $2^3 3^2 7^2$. The normalizer of the stabilizer is the maximal subgroup $7^2 : 2A_4 \times 3$. Their quotient is the cyclic group $\text{Aut}(A) = C_3$ of order 3.

One particular realization of the embedding with $D = 49$ studied explicitly in ref. [28] is given by

$$f(a) = \begin{pmatrix}
-1 & 1 & -\hat{\beta} \\
1 & -1 & -\hat{\beta} \\
-\hat{\beta} & -\hat{\beta} & 1
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

(11.40)

with the identity 1 of the cubic ring mapping into the polarization $E$

$$f(1) = E = \begin{pmatrix}
2 & \hat{\beta} \\
\hat{\beta} & 2 \\
\hat{\beta} & \hat{\beta}
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

(11.41)

The full image $f(A)$ of the cubic ring is a $Z$-module parametrized by three integers $(f, p, r)$

$$f(A) = \begin{pmatrix}
(f + p + r) & (p - r + p\beta) & (f - r - f\beta) \\
(p - r + p\beta) & (f + p + r) & (f + r\beta) \\
(f - r - f\beta) & (f + r\beta) & (f + p + r)
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

(11.42)

Defining a mapping $t_A$ from $JL$ into the dual $A^\vee$ by requiring that $t_A(B)$ is the first component in the decomposition $JL \subset A^\vee + L_c^\vee$, one finds

$$\text{Tr}(t_A(B)) = \langle E, t_A(B) \rangle = T(B) \in Z.
$$

(11.43)

This implies that the embedding $f(A^\vee)$ of $A^\vee$ leads to matrices of the form (11.42) with the $(f, p, r)$ taking values in the rational numbers of the form $Z/7$ such that $T(f(A)) = (4f^2 + 2p + r)$ takes integer values. The trace form of the square of a general element $f(A)$ is given by

$$T(f(A)^2) = 10f^2 + 10fp + 6p^2 - 2fr - 8pr + 5r^2,
$$

(11.44)

which take on values $0, 3, 5, 6, \ldots$. The cubic norm of $f(A)$ is

$$\text{N}'(f(A)) = f^3 + p^3 + r^3 - 2p^2 r - p r^2 - f^2 (2p + r)
$$

$$- f(p^2 + pr + 2r^2)
$$

(11.45)
The number of roots λ of the Niemeier lattice $M$ is equal to twice the number of Jordan roots $S \in JL$ that satisfy

$$t_\lambda(S) = (1 - n) \in \Lambda^*_s,$$  \hspace{1cm} (11.46)

where $n$ is any short vector in $N$ with $\text{Tr}(n) = 1$.\[^{[28]}\] Conversely, given a short vector $n \in N$ with $\text{Tr}(n) = 1$ and the corresponding totally positive element $a = (1 - n) \in \Lambda^*_s$, one has

$$\# \text{roots } \lambda \in M = 6 \cdot \# \{ \text{Jordan roots } S \in JL, \text{ with } t_\lambda(S) = a \}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.47)

Similar results hold for the lattices $M'$ and $N'$ with $\lambda, n, a$ replaced by $\lambda', n', a'$. Furthermore, the above numbers can be calculated using the HMF $F(q)$ of weight $(4,4,4)$ under $SL(2,\mathbb{A})$.\[^{[28]}\] The space of such forms is two-dimensional and can be expanded in terms of the forms $E_4$ and $E_8$ where $E_4$ here is the weight $(k, k, k)$ HMF whose Fourier expansions can be written in the form

$$E_4 = \frac{1}{24} \zeta_4(1 - k) + \sum_{a > 0, a \in \Lambda^*_s} \left( \sum_{c \in \mathbb{Z}^3} (Nc)^{k-1} \right) q^a,$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.48)

where $\zeta_4$ is the zeta function valued over the ideal class $A$.\[^{[15]}\] Substituting the values of the zeta function for $k = 2$ and $k = 4$,\[^{[28,64]}\] one has

$$E_4 = -\frac{1}{24 \cdot 3 \cdot 7} + \sum_{a > 0, a \in \Lambda^*_s} \left( \sum_{c \in \mathbb{Z}^3} (Nc)^{k-1} \right) q^a,$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.49)

Under the action of $\text{Aut}(A)$ there is a unique orbit of elements $a > 0$ in $\Lambda^*$ with $\text{Tr}(a) = 1$. They are represented by the squares $n^2$ of short vectors in $N$. Since the relevant space of modular forms is spanned by $E_4$ and $E_8$, one finds that there exists a unique modular form $F(q)$ with constant Fourier coefficient $c(0) = 1$ and $c(n^2) = 0$ which is

$$F(q) = 2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot E_4(q) + 2^2 \cdot 5 \cdot E_8(q).$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.50)

The corresponding form $F(q)$ coincides with the form given in (11.35) since it satisfies the conditions $c(0) = 1$ and $c(n^2) = 0$. Under the action of $\text{Aut}(A)$ on elements $a > 0$ in $\Lambda^*$ with $\text{Tr}(a) = 2$, it was found that (11.50) has five different orbits.\[^{[28]}\] Two of these orbits as given below correspond to the theta functions of Niemeier lattices. The Fourier coefficients $c(a)$ of $F(q)$ on these orbits were given in ref.\[^{[128]}\], Table 1 which we reproduce in Table 3. Therefore we can read off the Fourier coefficients $c(a)$ for elements $a$ with $\text{Tr}(a) = 2$:

$$c(a) = 240 \# \{ S = \text{Jordan roots of } JL \text{ with } t_\lambda(S) = a \}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.51)

\[^{[15]}\] For an ideal class $A$, its zeta function $\zeta_4(k) = \sum_{c \in \mathbb{A}^3} (Nc)^{k-1}$, where $\mathbb{O}(A)$ is the ring of integers over $A$ and $N$ is the $\mathbb{Q}$-norm.

---

**Table 3. Orbits of $\text{Aut}(A)$ on elements $a > 0$ in $\Lambda^*$ with $\text{Tr}(a) = 2$ and their Fourier coefficients $c(a)$ in $F(q)$ [28]**

| $a > 0$ in $\Lambda^*$, $\text{Tr}(a) = 2$ | $c(a)$ of $F(q)$ |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| $2 \cdot n^2$                          |                  |
| $(1 - n)$                              | $\sum_{\mathbb{Z}^3} (Nc)^{k-1}$ |
| $(1 - n')$                             |                  |
| $(1 - n'^2)$                           |                  |
| $(1 - 2n + n^2)$                       |                  |

For the lattice $N$ from the third row of Table 3 one can read off $6 \cdot 28 = 168$ roots and for the lattice $N'$ from the fourth row of Table 3, one reads off $6 \cdot 0 = 0$ roots. Thus the corresponding Niemeier lattices are

$$N / \text{Leech lattice} = \text{Leech lattice},$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.52)

which are unique Niemeier lattices with 168 roots and Coxeter number $h = 7$, and no roots and Coxeter number $h = 0$, respectively. A table of theta functions of Niemeier lattices can be found in Appendix A in Table 4. In the below table, $p$ is the unique prime in the ring of integers in the $p^{th}$ cyclotomic field.

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**11.2.2. Case $D = 16$**

Although $D = 16$ is not of the $p^3$ type as studied in the previous subsection, it nevertheless is an interesting case to study since it corresponds to the case where the two orbits that give rise to Niemeier lattice theta functions coincide, i.e., there is only one Niemeier lattice defined by the isotropic lines.\[^{[28]}\]

In this case, the embedding of a cubic ring in $JL$ studied in ref.\[^{[28]}\] is the ring of triples of integers $(a, b, c)$ with $a \equiv b \equiv c \pmod{2}$ which has discriminant $D = 16$. This embedding is also unique modulo the conjugacy by the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(JL, \Lambda^*, E)$. A particular embedding maps the triples $(2, 0, 0), (0, 2, 0)$ and $(0, 0, 2)$ into the rank 1 elements $S_1, S_2$ and $S_3$ in the polarization $E$:

$$f(2, 0, 0) = S_1, f(0, 2, 0) = S_2, f(0, 0, 2) = S_3,$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.54)

such that they satisfy

$$S_j^2 = 2S_j, i, j = 1, 2, 3$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.55)

$$S_iS_j = 0, \ i \neq j$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.56)

$$S_i + S_j + S_k = 2E.$$ \hspace{1cm} (11.57)

These rank 1 elements form a root triple. The group $\text{Aut}(JL, \Lambda^*, E) = \text{Aut}(JL, \Lambda^*, E) / C_2$, of order $2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13$ acts transitively on root triples. The subgroup that leaves invariant a particular set of root triples is $2^{2+1+6} \cdot 7$ which means that there are 14742 inequivalent embeddings $f : A \rightarrow JL$.

For a particular embedding with $L_i / L_j \cong A_j$, one has $L_i / L_j \cong A_j / A$ where $A_j$ is the subgroup of $(1/2)Z^3$ formed by triples $(a, b, c)$ such that $(a + b + c) \in \mathbb{Z}$. Hence $A_j / A \approx (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^2$. The
corresponding Niemeier lattice \( M \) between \( L \) and \( L' \) turns out to be isomorphic to root system of \( A^2 \) with 48 roots vectors.\[^{[28]}\]

To establish this fact Elkies and Gross, first determine the modular form \( F(\tau) \) of weight \( (4,4) \) for \( SL(2, \mathbb{A}) \). For this cubic form the relevant modular form turns out to be of weight \( (4,4) \) with respect to the congruence subgroup \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \Gamma(2) \) of \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \).

### 12. Modular Forms of Spectrum Generating Symmetry \( E_{7(-25)} \) and Quantum Degeneracies of Charge States of BPS Black Holes of the 5d Octonionic Magical Supergravity

The continuous U-duality group \( G \) of any supergravity theory that arises as the low energy effective theory of M-/superstring theory gets broken down to its discrete arithmetic subgroup \( G(\mathbb{Z}) \) by the stringy corrections.\[^{[60]}\] Therefore, we shall assume that the quantum completion of the octonionic magical supergravity lies within M-/superstring theory framework or an extension thereof and its continuous U-duality group \( E_{6(-26)} \) gets broken down to its arithmetic subgroup \( E_{6(-26)}(\mathbb{Z}) \). The arithmetic subgroup \( E_{6(-26)}(\mathbb{Z}) \) was first studied by Benedict Gross in ref.\[^{[49]}\].

The orbits of extremal black hole solutions of the octonionic magical supergravity in 5d under the continuous U-duality group \( E_{6(-26)} \) were studied earlier and has been reviewed in previous sections. Here we will try to extend those results to the orbits under the discrete arithmetic subgroup of \( E_{6(-26)} \). If the octonionic magical supergravity can be obtained from a compactification of M-theory over a Calabi-Yau (CY) threefold then the exceptional cone \( C \) can be identified with the Kähler cone of that CY manifold and the Kähler moduli get identified with the scalar fields of the octonionic magical supergravity. If we choose a basis \( J_i \) of the 27 (1,1) forms, the Kähler form \( J \) can be expanded as

\[
J = h^i J_i ,
\]

(12.1)

where \( h^i \) are 27 functions of the 26 scalars of the octonionic magical supergravity that satisfy

\[
C_{ijk} h^i h^j h^K = 1 .
\]

(12.2)

Kähler moduli are given by the volumes of the two-cycles \( \Omega^i \) of the CY manifold

\[
h^i = \int_{\Omega^i } J ,
\]

(12.3)

and the intersection numbers \( C_{ijk} \) are defined as

\[
C_{ijk} = \int_{\Omega^i } J^j \wedge J^j \wedge J^K .
\]

(12.4)

The cohomology lattice of the CY threefold as well as the bare charge lattice of black holes in 5d are lattices with integer valued coordinates. On the other hand, the lattice \( JL \) defined over the Coxeter order of integral octonions involve integer as well as half-integer coefficients. We will identify the lattice \( JL \) with the lattice of dressed charges and \( h^i \) as the vector that determines the polarization. Note that \( h^i \) depends on the scalar fields. If the bare charges are denoted as \( q_j \), then \( h^i q_j \) corresponds to the central charge as explained in Section 6. Recall that the physical

---

\[^{[60]}\] Here we are assuming a definite value of the volume of the CY threefold which is associated with the universal hypermultiplet which will not play any role in the discussion of extremal black holes.
The number \( P_{1/2} \) black holes with the "quantum number" \( T \) of bra over the integral octonions, described by rank 1 elements and the stabilizer is a maximal subgroup of the exceptional Jordan algebra. We have two distinct orbits namely the polarizations in the orbit of the identity polarization \( \pi \) and the polarizations that are in the orbit of the indecomposable polarization \( E \).\(^{[49]} \) Physically what that means is that at the quantum level we have two distinct families of vacua, separated possibly by some sort of a phase transition, that are not connected by the arithmetic subgroup of the continuous U-duality group of the classical theory. One could interpret the vacua in the orbit of the identity polarization as the perturbative vacua since the vacuum with the bare graviphoton belongs to it, and the family defined by the indecomposable polarization \( E \) as the non-perturbative vacua.

12.1. Rank 1 BPS Black Holes

Black holes of supergravity described by rank 1 elements given in \((6.26)\) of \( f \) have vanishing entropy (area) and their orbits, which were called critical light-like, under the continuous duality group is

\[
\frac{E_{(4-26)}}{SO(9, 1) \otimes T^{16}}.
\]

In addition to rank 1 condition, they are uniquely labeled by the trace (linear) form \( T(A) \). Only those rank 1 elements \( A \) with positive \( T(A) \) lie in the exceptional cone. For quantum black holes described by rank 1 elements \( A \) of the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions, \( T(A) \) takes on integral values. We interpret the number of rank 1 elements with a given value of \( T(A) \) as the degeneracy of charge states of critical light-like (small) 1/2 BPS black holes with the "quantum number" \( T(A) \). The number \( \mathcal{N}(n) \) of rank 1 elements \( A \) in the positive cone with \( T(A) = n \) \((n \in \mathbb{N})\) in the indecomposable polarization \( E \) as obtained by Elkies and Gross was given in \((9.13)\).\(^{[17]} \)

For \( p = p \) prime it simplifies to

\[
\mathcal{N}(p) = \frac{3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}{691} (p^{11} - \tau(p) + 1).\]

For \( p = 2 \) corresponding to Jordan roots, we have \( \mathcal{N}(2) = 819 \). The group \( D_4(2) \) acts transitively on the 819 Jordan roots and the stabilizer of a given Jordan root is the subgroup \( Z_{24} \cdot L_2(8) \). According to ref. [28] the group \( D_4(2) \) is also expected to act transitively on the set of \( A \geq 0 \) in \( JL \) with \( \text{rank}(A) = 1 \) and \( T(A) = 3 \) and the stabilizer is a maximal subgroup of \( D_4(2) \) isomorphic to \( L_2(2) \times L_2(8) \).

Degeneracies of charge states of critical light-like 1/2 BPS black holes with \( T(A) = n \) with \( n \geq 2 \) are given by the Fourier coefficients of the singular modular form of weight 4 over the exceptional domain. As was summarized in Section 9 and reviewed further in Appendix C, the singular modular form of weight 4 over the exceptional domain \( D \) as studied in refs. [29, 66] has the Fourier expansion

\[
E_4(Z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{T \in JL, \text{rank}(T) = 1} \sigma_3(c(T)) e^{2\pi i T^3}, \quad Z \in D
\]

where

\[
\sigma_3(m) := \sum_{d \in \mathbb{N}, \delta(m)} d^3, \quad m \in \mathbb{N},
\]

and

\[
c(T) = \max(r \in \mathbb{N}) \text{ such that } \frac{1}{r} T \in JL.
\]

Under the action of the arithmetic subgroup \( E_{(4-26)}(\mathbb{Z}) \), there are two orbits: one characterized by the identity polarization \( \pi \) and the other orbit is characterized by the indecomposable polarization \( E \). If we choose \( Z = e^\theta \) where \( \theta \) is the complex coordinate in the upper half-plane, then we obtain the modular form of weight 12 of \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) discussed in Section 9.1. Since all rank 1 elements \( A \) in the polarization \( E \) have \( T_3(A) > 1 \), the resulting modular form of weight 12 of \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) turns out to be the theta function of the Leech lattice. Its Fourier expansion coefficients count the number of distinct critical light-like BPS black holes with \( T_3(A) = n \) with \( n > 1 \)

\[
\mathcal{N}(n) = \frac{3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}{691} (\sigma_{13}(n) - \tau(n)).
\]

If we choose \( Z = e^\theta I \) then the coefficients of the resulting modular form of \( SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) would count the number \( \mathcal{N}(n) \) of distinct BPS black holes with \( T_3(A) = n \) and \( n \geq 1 \), where \( \mathcal{N}(n) \) is generated by the series

\[
f(q) := 1 + 240 \sum_{r \geq 1} (\sigma_1(r) - \tau(r)) q^r = 1 + \sum_{r \geq 1} \mathcal{N}(r) q^r.
\]

Under the continuous U-duality group \( E_{(4-26)} \) action on the exceptional Jordan algebra, there is a single orbit corresponding to 1/2 BPS black holes with non-vanishing entropy, namely \( E_{(4-26)} / F_4 \) with the compact automorphism group \( F_4 \) acting as stabilizer. Any element \( f \) of \( J_1 \) can be brought to the diagonal form

\[
J = \lambda_1 P_1 + \lambda_2 P_2 + \lambda_3 P_3,
\]

where \( P_i \) are the idempotents of rank 1 such that the identity polarization has the decomposition

\[
I = P_1 + P_2 + P_3.
\]

For the exceptional Jordan algebra over the Coxeter’s order of integral octonions we have two distinct polarizations, namely \( I \) and \( E \), that belong to different orbits. If \( J \) belongs to the
orbit of the indecomposable polarization then the analog of the decomposition (12.6) for the indecomposable polarization $E$ is

$$ J = \mu_1 S_1 + \mu_2 S_2 + \mu_3 S_3, \quad (12.7) $$

where $S_i$ are the Jordan roots such that

$$ 2E = S_1 + S_2 + S_3. $$

The HMFs defined and studied by Elkies and Gross\cite{28} are related to this decomposition. When extended to the exceptional domain $D$ the element $J$ goes over to

$$ Z = \tau_1 S_1 + \tau_2 S_2 + \tau_3 S_3, \quad (12.8) $$

When substituted into (12.5), one obtains the HMF of weight $(4,4,4)$ of $SL(2,\mathbb{Z})^3$. Modular form of weight 12 of $SL(2,\mathbb{Z})$ corresponds to setting

$$ \tau = \tau_1 = \tau_2 = \tau_3 $$

and restricting to a diagonal subgroup of $SL(2,\mathbb{Z})$. For each embedding of cubic ring $A$ in $JL$, the rank 1 elements $S$ decompose as $(a + i)$ with $a \in A$ and $i \in L$. When the discriminant of the cubic ring is $p^m$ with $p$ prime, the charges of the critical light-like black holes in the orthogonal complement of $A$ take values in a Niemeier lattice and restriction of the $Z \in D$ to the subdomain $\tau \cdot S$ leads to the HMFs studied by Elkies and Gross\cite{66} and reviewed in Appendix F and Appendix C. For the choice $p = 7$ the Niemeier lattices are the Leech lattice and restriction of the $Z \in D$ to the subdomain $\tau \cdot S$ leads to the HMFs studied by Elkies and Gross\cite{66} and reviewed in Appendix F and Appendix C. For the choice $p = 7$ the Niemeier lattices are the Leech lattice and the lattice $A_{16}^7$ with $4 \cdot 48 = 168$ root vectors. These two lattices corresponding to the two isotropic lines lead to different modular forms. They are uniquely distinguished by the coefficient of the first order term which is given by the number of root vectors. For the Leech lattice this coefficient is zero. This is true in general for embeddings of cubic rings with discriminant $D = p^m$ with $p$ prime whose two isotropic lines define two different Niemeier lattices. For the embedding of cubic ring with $D = 16$ studied by Elkies and Gross and reviewed above the rank 1 black hole charges lie on the Niemeier lattice $A_{16}^7$.

12.2. Rank 2 BPS Black Holes

Rank 2 black holes that were called light-like in ref. [5] are characterized the conditions that the element $A$ of the Jordan algebra representing the charges has vanishing norm and, hence, vanishing area: 

$$ \mathcal{N}(A) = 0 $$

and

$$ A^* \neq 0. $$

They are characterized by trace (linear) form $T(A)$ and spur (quadratic) form $S(A) = T(A^*)$ following the definition of McCrimmon\cite{67}. The rank 2 elements can be brought to the form

$$ S_{ij} = \lambda (P_i - P_j), \quad (i \neq j) $$

or to the form

$$ A_{ij} = \lambda (P_i - P_j) $$

under the action of $E_{(6-26)}^{15,6}$ as explained previously. $S_i$ satisfies

$$ T(S_i) = 2\lambda, \quad S(S_i) = 2\lambda^2 $$

and $A_i$ satisfies

$$ T(A_i) = 0, \quad S(A_i) = -2\lambda^2 $$

For $\lambda > 0$, $S_{ij}$ lie in the exceptional cone and describe 1/2 BPS black holes. Their orbits $S_{ij}$ are given by the coset space

$$ E_{(6-26)}^{15,6} / SO(9) \otimes T_{16}. $$

Over the integral octonions $A$ rank 2 elements $S_i$ of the exceptional Jordan algebra in the exceptional cone can be written as a linear combination of two mutually orthogonal rank 1 elements

$$ S_{ij} = S_i + S_j \quad (12.12) $$

with positive trace forms $T_S(S_i)$ and $T_S(S_j)$. Then

$$ T_S(S_{ij}) = T_S(S_i) + T_S(S_j), \quad S(S_{ij}) = S(S_i) + S(S_j) $$

By squaring the exceptional singular modular form of weight 4, we get the exceptional singular modular form of weight 8\cite{66} whose rank 1 terms in its Fourier expansion involve such sums of two rank 1 elements in the exceptional cone. Rank 2 terms of the form $A_{ij} = S_i - S_j$ which correspond to charge states of non-BPS rank 2 extremal black holes do not appear in the expansion of $E_{(7)}(Z)$. Hence we expect the singular modular form of weight 8 of $E_{(23)}^7$ to describe the quantum degeneracies of charge states of rank 2 BPS black holes. In the formulation of Krieg\cite{66}, it takes the form

$$ E_k(Z) = E_k(Z)^2 = \sum_{T \in JL, T \geq 0} \alpha(T) e^{2\pi i(T \cdot \overline{T} \cdot Z)} , \quad Z \in D, $$

where

$$ \alpha(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } T = 0 \\ 480 \cdot \sigma_1(c(T)) & \text{if rank}(T) = 1 \\ 240 \cdot 480 \cdot \sum_{d \in \mathbb{N}, d \mid (c(T))} d^2 \sigma_3(c(T^*/d^2)) & \text{if rank}(T) = 2 \cdot \\ 0 & \text{if rank}(T) = 3 \end{cases} $$

The Fourier coefficients $\alpha(T)$ in (12.14) and (12.15) are all rational integers. Coefficients of rank 2 elements $T$ with $T^* \neq 0$ count the quantum degeneracies of charge states of rank 2 BPS black holes.

\footnote{In this paper we will restrict ourselves to BPS black holes.}

\footnote{Rank 2 element with both $T_S(S_i)$ and $T_S(S_j)$ negative differ by an overall sign from those with both of them positive and their quantum degeneracies will also be given by the Fourier coefficients of $E_T^7(Z)$.}
Krieg’s derivation of these results used the Fourier-Jacobi expansion of $E_i(Z)$ \[30\] by decomposing the coordinates $Z$ of the exceptional domain over the integral octonions as

$$Z = \left( \begin{array}{cc} Z_1 & W \\ W^\dagger & z_3 \end{array} \right)$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.16)

where $z_3$ lies in the upper half plane of the Jordan algebra of $2 \times 2$ Hermitian matrices over the integral octonions $R$, $W$ is a $(2 \times 1)$ matrix over complex integral octonions and $z_3$ is a complex variable in the upper half-plane. We shall summarize this derivation following.\[31\] The Fourier-Jacobi expansion of $E_i(Z)$ takes the form

$$E_i(Z) = f_i(Z_1) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \phi_m(Z_1, W) e^{2\pi i m z_1}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.17)

where $f_i(Z_1)$ is a modular form of weight 4 on $H_2$ and $\phi_m(Z_1, W)$ is a Jacobi form of weight 4 and index $m$ on $H_2 \times O^\circ_C$. The coefficient $a(T)$ is given by

$$a(T) = 240 \left( \sum_{d|\det(T)} d^3 \right)$$

if $\det(T) \neq 0$ and $T \neq 0$. Then we square the modular form $E_i(Z)$ the Fourier coefficients $\beta(T)$ in its expansion

$$E_i(Z) = \sum_{T \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \beta(T) e^{2\pi i (T, Z)}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.18)

are of the form $\beta(T) = a(T_1) a(T_2)$ where $a(T_j)$ are the Fourier coefficients of $E_i(Z)$ and hence clearly vanish unless the rank of $T = T_1 + T_2$ is less than or equal to two. Fourier-Jacobi expansion of $E_i(Z)$

$$E_i(Z) = g_k(Z_1) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \varphi_m(Z_1, W) e^{2\pi i m Z_3}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.19)

then follows from that of $E_i(Z)$ and one has\[31\]

$$g_k(Z_1) = [f_i(Z_1)]^2 = \sum_{T_1} b(T_1) e^{2\pi i (T_1, Z_1)}$$

$$= \lim_{\lambda \to \infty} E_i\left( \left( \begin{array}{cc} Z_1 & 0 \\ 0 & i\lambda \end{array} \right) \right)$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.20)

where

$$b\left( \begin{array}{cc} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \# \{ h_1, h_2 \in R^2 | h_1 h_2^T + h_2 h_1^T = T_1 \}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.21)

If $T_1$ is of the form $\begin{pmatrix} n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then

$$b\left( \begin{array}{cc} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \# \{ o_1, o_2 \in R | N(o_1) + N(o_2) = n \}$$

$$= 480 \sum_{d|n} d^2$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.22)

and when $T_1 = \begin{pmatrix} n & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ then

$$b\left( \begin{array}{cc} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \# \{ o_1, o_2, o_3 \in R | N(o_1) = 1, N(o_1) + N(o_2) = n, o_3^2 = t \}$$

$$= 240 \cdot 480 \sum_{d|n-N(\bar{t})} d^3$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.23)

where $N(\bar{t}) = \overline{t}$.

12.3. Rank 3 Large BPS Black Holes

$E_i(Z)$ and $E_i(Z) = (E_i(Z))^2$ are the only two singular modular forms over the exceptional domain.\[66\] The Fourier coefficients of non-singular higher weight forms were obtained by Kim and Yamauchi in ref. \[68, 69\] based on work by Karel.\[70\] Using the notation of refs. \[68\] and \[66\], the Fourier coefficients in full generality are given below. Consider a weight $k \in 4Z$ modular form over the exceptional domain with the Fourier expansion

$$F(Z)_k, k \in 2Z, k \neq 4Z = \sum_{T \in \mathbb{Z}^2} a_k(T) e^{2\pi i (T, Z)}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12.24)

The Fourier coefficients $a_k(T)$ above are detailed in Appendix C. We only quote the main results here, and we refer the reader to the appendix for more details. For a higher weight exceptional modular form, the Fourier coefficients are given by
where \( f_{T} \) is a monic Laurent polynomial that depends only on \( T \) and \( p \), and mostly evaluates to unity.\(^{68,69}\)

Rank 3 extremal black holes exhibit attractor phenomena and their analysis is more subtle. For rank 3 elements, the entropy (area) of the extremal black hole is large given by the square root of the cubic form \( \text{det}(T) \).\(^{20}\) A rank 3 element of the Jordan algebra element \( J \) can be written as a linear combination of the three rank 1 elements. Over the reals \( \mathbb{R} \) every element of the exceptional Jordan algebra with non-zero cubic form can be brought to a diagonal form under the action of the compact automorphism group \( F_4 \) of the exceptional Jordan algebra. Over the integral octonions of Coxeter, not all the elements can be brought to a diagonal form by the action of a finite subgroup of the compact group \( F_4 \). This is due to the fact that the arithmetic group \( E_{6(6)} \) does not act transitively on positive polarizations \( E \) in the exceptional cone with \( \text{det}(E) = 1 \). It has two distinct orbits. One is the identity polarization \( I = I_1 \) which corresponds to the perturbative vacuum of the theory and the other one is the indecomposable polarization \( F \) that corresponds to the non-perturbative vacuum of the octonionic magical supergravity at the quantum level. The little group of the identity polarization \( I = I_1 \) is \( 2^3 \cdot O(2) \cdot S_3 \), whereas the little group of the indecomposable polarization \( F \) is the finite group \( ^{3}D_4(2) \cdot 3 \). We should stress that in this paper we are interested in the quantum degeneracies of charge states of BPS black holes whose charges lie in the positive cone of the exceptional Jordan algebra. The charge states of large extremal non-BPS black holes do not lie in the exceptional cone. The little groups of rank 2 and rank 3 elements corresponding to non-BPS extremal black holes are non-compact discrete subgroups of \( E_{6(6)} \).

By squaring the singular modular form \( E_4(Z) \) one obtains a singular modular form \( E_4(Z) \) whose Fourier coefficients give the degeneracies of rank 2 BPS black holes. Taking higher powers of \( E_4(Z) \) does not lead to any new singular modular forms.

When taking the third power of \( E_4(Z) \) we will get three different types of terms. First terms of the form

\[
\sum_{T \geq 0, T \neq J} a_3(T) e^{2\pi i T \bar{J} (J+Z)}
\]

that are relevant for charge states of rank 1 BPS black holes, while terms of the form

\[
\sum_{T \geq 0, T \neq J} a_3(T) e^{2\pi i T \bar{J} (J+Z)} \sum_{S \geq 0, S \neq J} a_3(S) e^{2\pi i S \bar{S} (S+Z)}
\]

are relevant to the degeneracies of charge states of rank 2 BPS black holes, and terms of the form

\[
\sum_{T \geq 0, T \neq J} a_3(T) e^{2\pi i T \bar{J} (J+Z)} \sum_{S \geq 0, S \neq J} a_3(S) e^{2\pi i S \bar{S} (S+Z)} \times \sum_{U \geq 0, U \neq J} a_3(U) e^{2\pi i U \bar{U} (U+Z)}
\]

are relevant to the degeneracies of charge states of rank 3 BPS black holes. The Fourier coefficients of terms of the form

\[
a_3(S) a_3(T) a_3(U) e^{2\pi i T \bar{J} (J+Z)} e^{2\pi i T \bar{U} (U+Z)} e^{2\pi i S \bar{S} (S+Z)}
\]

for \( S, T, U \) all distinct describe the degeneracies of charge states of rank 3 BPS black holes since the cubic norm of \( (S + T + U) \) is non-vanishing for such terms. Furthermore, sums of rank 1 elements in the exceptional cone lie in the exceptional cone and are relevant for BPS black holes.

Higher powers \( E_n(Z) \) for \( n \geq 2 \) also contain terms of the forms \( (\text{Tr} \sum_{S \neq J} T_S) \cdot Z \) which describe rank 3 as well as rank 2 and rank 1 elements in the exceptional cone. A rank 3 element with a given cubic norm can occur in \( E_n(Z) \) for different values of \( n \). Unlike the rank 1 and 2 cases, norms of rank 3 elements are not invariant under discrete special conformal transformations. To our knowledge, the relationship between higher powers of \( E_n(Z) \) and the higher weight \( k \) modular forms or cusp forms of ref.\(^{68–70}\) have not yet been studied by mathematicians.

At this point we should stress the difference between the definition of quantum degeneracy of a given charge state represented by an element of the exceptional Jordan algebra over integral octonions and the degeneracy of microstates that underlie extremal black holes solutions in string theory. For spherically symmetric large \( 5d \) extremal black holes in string theory, the microscopic degeneracy \( d_{\text{micro}} \) is related to the entropy \( S_{\text{string}} \) in the limit of large charges via a formula of the form

\[
S_{\text{string}} = \ln (d_{\text{micro}}) = \mathcal{N}_J(Q)
\]

where \( \mathcal{N}_J(Q) \) is the cubic norm determined by the charges. This shows that the microscopic degeneracy \( d_{\text{micro}} \) grows exponentially as a function of the cubic norm defined by the charges. In our case, quantum degeneracy of a rank 3 BPS black hole charge state \( J \) depends not only on the cubic norm but also on the quadratic spur form as well as the linear trace form. This is a purely number theoretic calculation as in the case of rank 1 and rank 2 black holes. The only physical assumption we are making is that the quantum completion of the octonionic magical supergravity breaks the U-duality group to its maximal arithmetic subgroup and the charges take values in the lattice defined by the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions. The BPS condition restricts the charge states to lie in the exceptional cone. What makes the analysis of rank 3 BPS black holes harder is the non-uniqueness of non-singular modular forms in contrast to unique singular modular forms describing the degeneracies of rank 1 and rank 2 BPS black holes.

From the physics point of view, rank 3 BPS black holes are distinguished by the fact that they exhibit attractor phenomena. We shall leave the investigation of quantum degeneracies of charge states of large rank 3 BPS black holes to future investigations.

13. The Geometric Embedding of Octonionic Magical Supergravity

Consider \( D \), a bounded symmetric domain. It was shown by Deligne in ref.\(^{71}\) that \( D \) is the moduli space of Hodge structures...
(canonical). Consider a simply-connected, simple real algebraic group \( G \) which has a transitive action on \( D \) and let \( K \) be its maximally compact subgroup such that \( D = G/K \). The tube domain is then classified by pairs \( (D, \nu) \) where \( D \) is a connected Dynkin diagram and \( \nu \) is a special vertex of \( D \). For the case that we considered here, \( D \) is a tube domain.\[48\]

We are interested in the case where the group \( E \), acts transitively on \( D \). In this case, we have \( G = E_{6-25} \cong E_{7,3} \). \( K = U(1) \times E_{8} \). The positive cone is the exceptional cone \( C \) defined over the exceptional Jordan algebra. This gives us \( D = \frac{E_{7,3}}{U(1)} \) with \( \text{rank}(D) = 3 \), \( \dim(D) = 27 \). The vertex \( \nu \) then determines a fundamental irreducible representation of \( E_{7,3} \) over \( \mathbb{R} \), which is in fact just the 56 dimensional unique minuscule representation of \( E_{7,3} \), which we denote as \( V \). This fundamental representation gives rise to the canonical VHSs on \( D \), in the sense of Deligne.\[71\] While we omit the details here, the variation of real Hodge structure \( V \) can be obtained as the tensor product of the unique minuscule representation of \( E_{7,3} \) with an equivariant holomorphic vector bundle on \( D \). The Hodge structures here are all of weight 3. Now, given any tube domain \( D \), we may ask if and how the VHSs \( V \) arises geometrically. This requires the existence of a reduction of the pair \((E_{7,3}, V)\) onto the field \( \mathbb{R} \) from \( \mathbb{R} \). Generally, the reduction of the VHS might arise from a sub-Hodge structure on a dimension 3 projective primitive cohomology.\[48\]

For the case of when \( G = \text{Spin}(2,10) \), the positive cone associated to the domain is defined over \( \mathbb{F}_2 \). Note that the octonions have a unique reduction to \( \mathbb{Q} \). In this case, the descent of the Hodge structure is of type \((1,10,1)\) and can be realized as the pull back of a suitable sub-Hodge structure of polarized \( K3 \) surfaces with an Enriques involution.

If one expects to realize the VHSs from geometry, one therefore needs an analogous setup for the case when \( G = E_{7,3} \). In the case of the \( E_7 \) tube domain, there are no variations of Hodge structure of abelian variety type.\[72\] which makes the problem more intricate. The Hodge numbers of the descent onto \( \mathbb{Q} \) in this case are expected to be \((1,27,27,1)\). If there is a Calabi-Yau threefold that satisfies these criteria, the Hodge numbers ensure consistency with the physical requirements with respect to the number of vector-multiplets and the hyper-multiplets of the dimensionally reduced octonionic magical supergravity. However, it is unlikely due to mirror symmetry that the descent of the VHS onto \( \mathbb{Q} \) is the pullback of the entire cohomology of a smooth complex projective variety. Since the Hodge structures do not admit Picard-Lefschetz degenerations, it excludes most complete intersection Calabi-Yau manifolds (CICYs) in weighted projective spaces. In fact, such a Calabi-Yau does not exist in the current database of CICY threefolds available at http://www-thphys.physics.ox.ac.uk/projects/CalabiYau/cicylist/.

One may also approach this question from a more bottom up approach where the Lie algebras associated to projective varieties are analyzed. This was done by Looijenga and Lunts in ref. \[73\], where it was demonstrated that classical Jordan algebras arise geometrically and that the \( E_7 \) algebra that we have discussed thus far arise topologically. This happens if there exists a 27 dimensional \( K \)-vector space (where \( K \) is a field of characteristic zero) endowed with a cubic form \( c : W^3 \rightarrow K \) that does not factor through the proper linear quotient of \( W \) such that the cubic form only takes even integral values. If these conditions are satisfied, then there exists a closed oriented 6-manifold for which the integral cohomology ring is isomorphic to the integral algebra associated to the vector space and the integral structure endowed on it.\[74,75\].

This question is posed in refs. \[27,48\] and \[73\] in various avatars. We reiterate the question in a more unified manner here. Is there a (Calabi-Yau) threefold with a Picard group of rank 27 whose Néron-Severi\[21\] group contains the Leech lattice, and whose Lie algebra is the \( E_7 \) Lie algebra?

If octonionic magical supergravity can be embedded canonically in M-theory (and F-theory) by a(n) (elliptically fibered) Calabi-Yau threefold, it must have Hodge numbers \( h_{1,1} = h_{2,1} = 27 \) and its Néron-Severi lattice must be defined in terms of the exceptional Jordan algebra such that it admits the action of the \( E_7 \) group. The ample cone\[27,76\] corresponds then to the positive cone of the Jordan algebra. Furthermore, the intersection polynomial of this threefold is the cubic norm \((4.7)\), following the discussion in Section 5. It is important to note that although there are physical reasons to search for a Calabi-Yau threefold with elliptic fibration (the reason here being that there is also an F-theory embedding of the model), there is no requirement a-priori that the threefold required has to be Calabi-Yau. The possibility of the case where the manifold does not satisfy the Calabi-Yau conditions might have some important implications in string theory, the starkest one being that there might be an(other) additional phase(s) of M-theory that describes the quantum completion of octonionic magical supergravity.

13.1. Search for Candidate Calabi–Yau Threefolds

As was explained in Section 5 magical supergravity theories were discovered before the so-called first string revolution. Whether the octonionic magical supergravity can be obtained from M/superstring theory by compactification on some exceptional Calabi-Yau manifold was posed as an open problem in ref. \[4\] shortly thereafter. Since the quaternionic magical supergravity without any hypermultiplets can be obtained from superstring theory suggests that it might be possible to obtain the octonionic magical supergravity without hyper multiplets from M/superstring theory on some rigid Calabi-Yau manifold. However to this date no such rigid Calabi-Yau manifold has been found. The focus eventually shifted to look for a self-mirror Calabi-Yau manifold with \( h_{11} = h_{12} = 27 \) after it was realized that there exists an anomaly free supergravity theory in six dimensions that reduce to the octonionic magical supergravity theory coupled to 28 hypermultiplets with the target space \( E_{6(2)} = E_8 \times SU(2) \) in five and four dimensions.

\[21\] The Néron-Severi group of a CY manifold is the group of divisors of the CY manifold modulo algebraic equivalence. It is an Abelian group (and hence often referred to as a lattice). The rank of the Néron-Severi group is the Picard rank or number.

\[22\] For any projective variety \( X \) with an inclusion, a line bundle is very amply if it can be obtained by the pulling back the natural line bundle on \( X \) via a closed immersion. A line bundle \( \mathcal{L} \) is said to be very ample if \( \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \) such that \( \mathcal{L} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{L} \) is very ample. The ample cone is then simply the convex cone in \( \mathbb{H}^n(X; \mathbb{Q}) \) generated by \( c_1(\mathcal{L}) \). The case in question here is when \( X \) is a CY variety whose ample cone is the positive cone of the Jordan algebra.
To search for Calabi-Yau threefolds with \( h_1 = h_2 = 27 \) such that they have intersection numbers given by the cubic norm \( \langle 4,7 \rangle \) of the exceptional Jordan algebra that defines the octonionic magical supergravity we detail certain ‘experimental’ approaches. The two most plausible approaches are the BV threefolds which have been completely classified, and those Calabi-Yau manifolds that are realizable as hypersurfaces in a toric variety.

### 13.1.1. Ruling out Borcea–Voisin Threefolds

The BV threefolds are one of the best known examples of mirror pairs of Calabi–Yau threefolds that are constructed by acting with an involution on the product of a K3 surface and an elliptic curve.\(^{[77–79]}\) These manifolds have also been studied in the context of F-theory compactification.\(^{[80,81]}\)

BV manifolds are a class of elliptically fibered threefolds with base \( K3 / \sigma \), where \( \sigma \) is an anti-holomorphic involution on \( K3 \) that flips the sign of the holomorphic 2–form as \( \sigma : \omega_{2,0} \leftrightarrow -\omega_{2,0} \).

From this involution, one may construct a CY threefold as

\[
\text{CY}_1 \cong \frac{K3 \times T^2}{\sigma \times \delta} \tag{13.1}
\]

where the involution \( \delta \) acts on the torus coordinate \( T \) as \( T \mapsto -T \) and the holomorphic 3-form of the threefold is given by \( \omega_{3,0} = \omega_{2,0} \wedge dT \).

Such BV Calabi-Yau threefolds are determined by three integers \((r, a, \delta)\), where \( \delta = 1, 2 \) represents the canonical class parity, \( r \in \{1, 20\} \) is the rank of the sublattice of \( H^2(K3, Z) \) that is invariant under the involution \( \sigma \), and \( a \in \{1, 11\} \) is the rank of the Néron-Severi group of \( K3 / \sigma \).\(^{[82]}\) Thus, given a triple \((r, a, \delta)\), one may determine the Hodge numbers of the Calabi-Yau threefolds in a straightforward manner:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{h}_1(K3 / \sigma) &= r; \quad \text{h}_1(K3 \times T^2 / \sigma') = 3r - 2a + 5; \\
\text{h}_2 &= 65 - 3r - 2a. \tag{13.2}
\end{align*}
\]

One may also construct mirror pairs of threefolds as

\[
(r, a, \delta) \quad \overset{\text{Mirror}}{\rightarrow} \quad (20 - r, a, \delta). \tag{13.3}
\]

Since we are interested in models with \( h_1 = h_2 = 27 \) for the threefold \( K3 \times T^2 / \sigma' \), we have \((r, a) = (10, 4)\).

Motivated by the above considerations, Bianchi and Ferrara reconsidered the string derivation of FHSV model\(^{[26]}\) and investigated whether the octonionic magical supergravity might also admit a string interpretation along the lines of Enriques model on a particular self-mirror Calabi-Yau of BV type.\(^{[83]}\) However, it was argued in ref.\(^{[83]}\) that this particular Calabi–Yau threefold cannot realize the octonionic magical supergravity theory since in the six dimensional reduction of this theory one of the SO(8) (out of the rank 16 SO(8)\(^{[84]}\)) can be broken by the adjoint hyper. In the four dimensional reduction, a restoration of symmetry amongst the 16 Cartan generators is not likely, despite the theory having the required number of vector- and hyper-multiplets.\(^{[83]}\) Here we also stress on another compelling reason why BV threefolds cannot realize octonionic magical supergravity that was not mentioned in ref.\(^{[83]}\). The moduli spaces of VHSs of BV threefolds have a direct product form ref.\(^{[78]}\) as in generic Jordan families like the FHSV model\(^{[26]}\) and hence cannot include the moduli space of octonionic magical supergravity.\(^{[76]}\) The Néron-Severi group of the FHSV model is given by the reducible Jordan algebra \( \mathbb{J} \oplus \mathbb{R} \) whose conformal group is \( \text{SO}(10, 2) \times SU(1, 1) \subset E_{7[-25]} \).

### 13.1.2. CY Threefolds as Hypersurfaces in Toric Varieties

Since the \( (r = 10, a = 4) \) BV threefold, despite yielding the right Hodge numbers and matter content, does not respect the symmetry of the Cartan subgroup, we consider turning to determining the threefold that results in octonionic magical supergravity using more brute force techniques. By this, we mean searching for threefolds that are hypersurfaces in toric varieties. For a review of how this construction works, we refer the reader to ref.\(^{[84]}\). The construction realized by Kreuzer–Skarke (KS)\(^{[85,86]}\) makes use of an important condition for a hypersurface in a toric variety to be Calabi-Yau viz., the lattice polytope is reflexive.\(^{[87]}\) Inequivalent reflexive polyhedra yield different Calabi-Yau manifolds. Classification of inequivalent polytopes is therefore a necessary problem and is a problem in combinatorics. This has been done in the KS database aka PALP.\(^{[88]}\)

However it is not clear from the work of KS as to how many distinct Calabi-Yau manifolds actually emerge from this. This is due to the fact that different triangulations of simplices of a given polytope can in principle give rise to different Calabi-Yau manifolds. This means that there are quite likely more Calabi-Yau manifolds than there are reflexive polytopes. The Kreuzer–Skarke database (KSD) is a construction and classification of all reflexive polytopes for dimension \( D \geq 4 \). In \( D = 4 \), there are 473,800,776 reflexive polytopes.

We focus our attention to the case of \( h_1 = h_2 = 27 \). These Hodge numbers represent the case where there are a maximal number of reflexive polyhedra in four dimensional toric varieties.\(^{[89]}\)

To ascertain the correct Calabi-Yau threefold, we start with a reflexive polyhedron in \( D = 4 \). For this reflexive polyhedron, we then obtain all possible FRS triangulations and compute the Mori cone and the Stanley-Reisner ideal. We can then compute the triple intersection polynomial for all the distinct Calabi-Yau manifolds that can be obtained from inequivalent triangulations (flips) and compare with \( \langle 4,7 \rangle \). PALP performs triangulations on polytopes corresponding to small Hodge numbers. A more extended catalogue of Calabi-Yau threefolds with computations up to and including \( h_1 = 7 \) has been done in refs.\(^{[84]}\) and\(^{[90]}\).\(^{[23]}\)

However, it is difficult to extend the computation of distinct intersection numbers to much beyond this due to the rapid growth of number of polytopes and their triangulations, and increased CPU usage in computing the Gröbner basis.\(^{[91]}\)

The first bottle neck here lies in triangulating these polyhedra and computing the topological quantities in the same way as ref.\(^{[84]}\). The number of vertices of the Newton polytope and its dual scale with \( h_1 \), i.e. all Calabi–Yau threefolds that are constructed from triangulations of hypersurfaces in toric varieties have convex reflexive Newton polytopes whose number of vertices and faces increase with increasing \( h_1 \). The number of triangulations for a higher dimensional convex polytope of \( n \) points

\[23\text{ We thank Andreas Schachner for informing of the ref.\([90]\).} \]
is the \((n-2)^{26}\) Catalan number\(^{[92]}\) as

\[
C_n = \frac{1}{n-1} \left(\begin{array}{c} 2n - 4 \\ n - 2 \end{array}\right). 
\] (13.4)

However, we stress here that this is only a coarse argument for lower estimate for the number of triangulations since the dependence of polytope parameters has only been observed with respect to \(h_{12}\) and its precise scaling with respect to \(h_{27}\) is unknown. For example, in considering \(h_{12} = 7\), the number of points is still reasonable (13 for the polytope and 12 for the dual polytope). This gives us \(O(10^3)\) triangulations. For the case of \(h_{12} = 27\), the number is factorially much larger. A search would have to run through all triangulation configurations for all possible toric threefold constructions with \(h_{12} = 27, h_{27} = 27\). In the space of toric threefolds, there is a sharp peak in the number of threefolds for precisely these Hodge numbers, with 910,113 Calabi-Yau threefolds\(^{[89],[24]}\).

If the octonionic magical supergravity threefold coupled to 28 hypermultiplets can indeed be obtained from a self-mirror Calabi-Yau manifold that is a hypersurface in a toric variety, we expect the exact spectrum to be a numerically and computationally challenging task. A possible avenue is to pursue this problem as one on the interface of computational complex geometry and machine learning as in refs. \([91, 93–95]\). However, due to the mathematical relevance of the problem, it is our hope that there exist symmetry based arguments as of yet unclear to us regarding the existence of a Calabi–Yau threefold satisfying all the physical and mathematical requirements.\(^{[25]}\)

14. Discussions and Conclusions

A summary of our main results was given in the introduction (Section 1). In this section, we would like to point out how our work can be further developed and extended in various directions.

The most pertinent extension is the precise determination of the Fourier coefficients of different rank elements of the exceptional Jordan algebra over integral octonions that lie in the exceptional cone in the decomposition of higher powers \(E_n^a\) \((n \geq 3)\). These decompositions can then be used to determine the quantum degeneracies of charge states of rank 3 (large) BPS black holes.

Secondly, the other magical supergravity theories can be obtained from the octonionic magical supergravity theory by truncation. Their spectrum generating conformal symmetry groups are \(SO^* (12), SU(3, 3)\) and \(Sp(6, R)\). By restricting the conformal group \(E_{7(25)}\) to these subgroups one can obtain the corresponding results for the other magical supergravity theories.

Another obvious question is if and how our work can be extended to rotating black holes and black rings in five dimensional MENTG and their relation to 4d/5d uplifts. A well studied example of the 4d/5d uplift is for the case of \(N = 4\) compactification of string theory. Extending our results to the quantum degeneracies of \(N = 4\) supergravity theories in 5d whose underlying Jordan algebras are not Euclidean will be an important exercise which is currently being investigated.\(^{[96]}\)

As explained in the introduction (Section 1), quasiconformal groups associated with Jordan algebras of degree 3 were proposed as spectrum generating symmetry groups of 4d supergravity theories. For the octonionic magical supergravity this group is \(E_{6(24)}\) which acts nonlinearly on a 57 dimensional space coordinatized by the FTS associated with \(J_{6}^{0}\) extended by a singlet coordinate. Extension of our work to the spectra of 4d octonionic magical supergravity requires the extension of the nonlinear conformal action of \(E_{7(25)}(Z)\) on the exceptional Jordan algebra over the integral octonions to the nonlinear action of \(E_{6(24)}(Z)\) on the 57 dimensional space coordinatized by the exceptional Freudenthal triple system over integral octonions extended by \(Z\) which will be the subject of a separate study.\(^{[97]}\)

Another direction along which our work can be extended is to maximal supergravity in 5d whose U-duality group is \(E_{6(6)}\) and its spectrum generating conformal group is \(E_{7(7)}\). In this case, the exceptional Jordan algebra over the real octonions is replaced by the exceptional Jordan algebra over the split octonions which is not Euclidean.\(^{[5,11,98]}\)

There is a sharp peak in the number of self-mirror Calabi-Yau manifolds with \(h_{12} = h_{27} = 27\), many of which are elliptically fibered. It is also known that there is only one anomaly free 6d supergravity theory that reduces to the octonionic magical supergravity in five dimensions. What, if any, are the other anomaly free supergravity theories in 6d that descend from F-theory on these self-mirror CY manifolds? Does the peak of the number of CY manifolds at \(h_{12} = h_{27} = 27\) correspond to something physical in terms of a large family of anomaly free theories that descend from F/M/string theory?

Appendix A: Theta Functions of Niemeier Lattices

The theta function of degree 1 of a Niemeier lattice is given by the expression

\[
\theta(\tau) = E_1(\tau)^3 + (24h - 720)\Delta, 
\] (A.1)

where \(h\) is the Coxeter number of the Niemeier lattice. From this we can write down the \(q\)-series of the theta function (where \(q := e^{2\pi i \tau}\)) as in the Table 4. The \(n\)-th coefficient in \(q\)-series of the theta function of a lattice defines how many vectors of norm \(2n\) there are in the lattice. For example, consider the case of the Leech lattice whose \(q\) coefficient is 0, implying that there are no vectors of norm 2 i.e., no roots in the Leech lattice.
Appendix B: Theta Function of Integral Octonions \( \mathcal{R} \) of Coxeter

Let \( \text{Tr} \) and \( \mathcal{N} \) denote integral valued trace and quadratic norm form of integral octonions \( \mathcal{R} \) defined as

\[
\text{Tr}(t) = t + i, \quad \mathcal{N}(t) = t^2, \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{R}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (B.1)

For \( z \in \mathcal{H} \) the theta series for integral octonions \( \mathcal{R} \) is defined as refs. [30, 31]

\[
\theta(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{R}} e^{2\pi i \mathcal{N}(nz)}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (B.2)

This theta function is a modular form of weight 4 and can be expressed as a normalized Eisenstein series

\[
\theta(z) = E_4(z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{d \mid n} d \right) e^{2\pi i nz}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (B.3)

where the factor \( 240 \sum_{d \mid n} d \) counts the number of solutions to the equation

\[
\mathcal{N}(t) = n, \quad t \in \mathcal{R}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (B.4)

Appendix C: Modular Forms on the 27 Dimensional Exceptional Domain and Theta Functions

Following the pioneering work of Baily Jr. on the exceptional arithmetic subgroup of \( E_{7(2)} \) and its Eisenstein series,\(^{40}\) Resnikoff showed that the non-constant singular modular forms defined over the exceptional domain given by the exceptional Jordan algebra are exactly of weight 4 and 8.\(^{299}\) They were first obtained by Kim by analytic continuation of non-holomorphic Eisenstein series.\(^{299}\) The exceptional tube domain \( D \) is simply the “upper half-plane” of the exceptional Jordan algebra \( j_3 \):

\[
D = \{ Z = X + iY; X, Y \in j_3^0 \text{ with } Y > 0 \} 
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.1)

An exceptional modular form of weight \( k \) of \( E_{7(2)} \) on \( D \) is a holomorphic function \( F(Z) \) that satisfies the conditions:

i) \[
F(Z + B) = F(Z), \quad \forall B \in \mathbb{L}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.2)

ii) \[
F(gZ) = F(Z), \quad \forall g \in E_{6(2)}(Z)
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.3)

iii) \[
F(-Z^{-1}) = (\mathcal{N}(Z))^{\frac{k}{2}} F(Z),
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.4)

where

\[
Z^{-1} = \frac{Z^T}{(\mathcal{N}(Z))}. 
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.5)

Such modular forms have absolutely convergent Fourier expansions of the form

\[
F(Z) = \sum_{T \in \mathbb{L}, \; T \geq 0} a(T) e^{2\pi i (T^\mathcal{N}(Z))},
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.6)

and they are called singular if \( a(T) = 0 \) for all \( T > 0 \).

The classical theta series associated with the complex upper half-plane

\[
\theta(z, u) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{2\pi i nz^2 + 2\pi i nu}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.7)

where \( z \in \mathcal{H} \) and \( u \in \mathbb{C} \) has been generalized to theta series associated with the upper half-planes of all formally real Jordan algebras\(^{99,100}\) that do not have the exceptional Jordan algebra as a direct summand. Further generalizations of classical theta series were discussed recently and it was shown that the exceptional tube domain does not admit a theta function.\(^{100}\) The case of the singular modular forms studied by Kim\(^{299}\) cannot be identified with the theta series associated with the exceptional Jordan algebra. However, it has been noted that the singular modular forms of Kim\(^{299}\) can be obtained from theta series on the 10–dimensional boundary component identified with the Jordan algebra of the \( 2 \times 2 \) Hermitian matrices over \( O_3 \).\(^{66}\) A simpler construction of the singular modular forms of Kim was obtained by Krieg\(^{66}\) using the theta series on the upper half-plane of the Jordan algebra of Hermitian \( 2 \times 2 \) matrices over the integral octonions \( \mathcal{R} \) of Coxeter which he refers to as the Cayley half-plane of degree 2. The modular forms in question arise from the theta series on the Cayley half-plane of degree 2 via the use of Fourier-Jacobi expansion.

As was summarized in Section 9 the singular modular form of degree 4 over the exceptional domain \( D \) has the Fourier expansion

\[
E_4(Z) = 1 + 240 \sum_{T \geq 0, \; T \in \mathbb{L}, \; \text{rank}(T) = 1} \sigma_1(c(T)) e^{2\pi i (T^\mathcal{N}(Z))}, \quad Z \in D,
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.8)

where

\[
\sigma_1(m) := \sum_{d \in \mathbb{N}, d \mid m} d, \quad m \in \mathbb{N},
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.9)

and

\[
c(T) = \max(r \in \mathbb{N}) \text{ such that } \frac{1}{r} T \in J_L.
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.10)

Squaring the modular form of weight 4 leads to the singular modular form of weight 8. In the formulation of Krieg it takes the form\(^{66}\)

\[
E_8(Z) = E_4(Z)^2 = \sum_{T \in \mathbb{L}, \; T \geq 0} a(T) e^{2\pi i (T^\mathcal{N}(Z))}, \quad Z \in D,
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.11)

where

\[
a(T) = \begin{cases} 
1 & \text{if } T = 0 \\
480 \cdot \sigma_1(c(T)) & \text{if } \text{rank}(T) = 1 \\
240 \cdot 480 \cdot \sum_{d \in \mathbb{N}, d \mid (T, d^2)} d^2 \sigma_1(c(T^d / d^2)) & \text{if } \text{rank}(T) = 2 \\
0 & \text{if } \text{rank}(T) = 3
\end{cases}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (C.12)
$E_4(z)$ and $E_8(z)$ are the only singular modular forms on the exceptional domain.\cite{Gross} The general computation of the Fourier coefficients of higher modular forms was given in refs. \cite{Gross, Gang}. Using the notation of refs. \cite{Gross} and \cite{Gang}, the Fourier coefficients in full generality are given as below. Consider a weight $k \in 4\mathbb{Z}$ modular form over the exceptional domain with the Fourier expansion

$$F(z) = \sum_{T \in \Omega_0} a_T(T) e^{2\pi i T \tau} \cdot F(\tau)$$

The Fourier coefficients $a_T(T)$ above are

$$a_T(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } T = 0 \\ \frac{2^{2k}}{k!} \cdot b(k) \cdot \sum_{d|k} d^{k-1} \sigma_{k-d}(c(T^d/d^2)) & \text{if rank}(T) = 1 \\ 2^{15} \cdot \frac{k}{b(k)} \cdot \det(T)^{(k-9)/2} \cdot \prod_{p|\det T} f_p^{\beta} \left( \frac{k}{p^{16}} \right) & \text{if rank}(T) = 2 \\ \end{cases}$$

where $f_p^{\beta}$ above is a monic Laurent polynomial of degree $d = \text{ord}_p(\det(T))$ such that the polynomial satisfies the functional equation $f_p^{\beta}(X) = f_p^{\beta}(X^{-1})$, and $b(k)$ is the $k$th Bernoulli number.

This polynomial depends only on $T$ and $p$ and are mostly identically equal to 1 except for a finite number of cases. Following, \cite{Gross} the modular form $F(z) = \Xi_k \times F(\tau)$, where $\Xi_k$ is the numerator of the $k$th Bernoulli number, has coefficients valued in $\mathbb{Z}$. As can be seen, for the case of weight 4, the rank 2 and 3 coefficients are zero, while for the case of weight 8, the rank 3 coefficients are zero.

**Appendix D: Discrete Subgroups of Exceptional Groups**

The groups defined over the integers $\mathbb{Z}$ were studied by Gross.\cite{Gross} In this appendix we will summarize some of these discrete groups relevant to our work. The automorphism group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{R})$ of integral octonions is a certain form of the exceptional group $G_2$. This group is finite since it describes a compact group over the reals $\mathbb{R}$. It is of order $2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7$ and is denoted as $G_2(\mathbb{Z})$.\cite{Gross} The order of integral octonions $\mathcal{R}$ is invariant under octonion conjugation and the trace form $\text{Tr}(x) := x + \bar{x}$ takes on integer values over it. The symmetric bilinear $\langle x, y \rangle$ defined as

$$\langle x, y \rangle := \text{Tr}(xy) \quad x, y \in \mathcal{R}$$

is even, positive-definite and has determinant 1. Hence, it defines a unimodular lattice $\mathcal{M}$ over $\mathcal{R}$ which is isomorphic to the $E_8$ root lattice. The sublattice $\mathcal{M}_0$ orthogonal to the identity 1 is isomorphic to the $E_7$ root lattice and has determinant 2.\cite{Gross} $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{R})(\mathbb{Z})$ has a seven dimensional representation on $\mathcal{M}_0$ with determinant 2. It also leaves the trilinear form defined as

$$\text{Tr}(xyz) = \text{Tr}(xyz) = \text{Tr}(xyz) \quad x, y, z \in \mathcal{R}$$

invariant. On the sublattice $\mathcal{M}_0$ this form is completely antisymmetric.

The arithmetic subgroup of $E_{6(2)}(\mathbb{Z})$ of the U-duality group of octonionic magnetic supergravity in five dimensions is defined as the group of transformations acting on the exceptional Jordan algebra $J_3^\mathbb{O}$ defined over the Coxeter order of integral octonions $\mathcal{R}$ that leave the cubic norm invariant. It has two inequivalent 27 dimensional representations one acting on $J_3^\mathbb{O}$ and another one on its dual $J_3^\mathbb{O}^\vee$.

Groups of type $F_4$ over the integers $\mathbb{Z}$ can be obtained as subgroups of $E_{6(2)}(\mathbb{Z})$ as invariance groups of elements $E$ with unit norm. If one chooses

$$E = E_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

its invariance group is $F_{4(2)}(\mathbb{Z})$. On the other hand if one chooses $E$ to be positive definite the invariance group is finite over $\mathbb{Z}$ since the corresponding group over $\mathbb{R}$ is compact real form of $F_4$. For example if $E$ is the $3 \times 3$ identity matrix $I_3$ its invariance group over $\mathbb{Z}$ has order $2^{15} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7^2$ and is isomorphic to the finite group $2^2 \cdot \Omega^7_7(\mathbb{Z}) \cdot S_3$ in the notation of ref. \cite{Gross}. The corresponding lattice $J_{L_0}$ of rank 26 and determinant 3 is the root lattice

$$J_{L_0} \cong E_8 \oplus E_8 \oplus E_8 \oplus A_2$$

which has 726 root vectors $v$ satisfying $\langle v, v \rangle = 2$. The corresponding dual lattice is

$$J_{L_0}^\vee \cong E_8 \oplus E_8 \oplus E_8 \oplus A_2^\vee$$

which has six short vectors $\langle v, v \rangle = 2/3$.

The invariance group of the polarization $E = E_2 = J(2, 2; 2; -\beta, -1, \beta)$ has order $2^{12} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13$ and is isomorphic to the group $1 \text{D}_4(2) \cdot 3$.\cite{Gross} The corresponding lattice $J_{L_0}$ does not have any roots and has 117936 short vectors that satisfy $\langle v, v \rangle = 4$. It is the unique even lattice of rank 26 and determinant 3 with no roots as was shown independently by Borcherds\cite{Borcherds} and Elskies.\cite{Elskies}

**Appendix E: Commutative Subrings of the Exceptional Jordan Algebra**

Gross and Gan studied the commutative subrings of integral exceptional Jordan algebra as well as its subalgebra $J_3^\mathbb{R} \mathcal{R}$ generated by $2 \times 2$ Hermitian matrices over the integral octonions $\mathcal{R}$.\cite{Gross}
To this end they first determine the number \( N(A, R) \) of different ways the ring \( A \) of integers in an imaginary quadratic field \( K \) of discriminant \( D \) can be embedded into the Coxeter’s ring \( R \) of integral octonions. They prove that it is given by

\[
N(A, R) = \frac{L(e_A, -2)}{\zeta(-5)} = -252 \cdot L(e_A, -2),
\]

(E.1)

where

\[
e_A : (\mathbb{Z}/D\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}
\]

(E.2)

is the odd quadratic Dirichlet character associated with \( K \).

The 2 \times 2 Hermitian matrices of the form

\[
X = \begin{pmatrix} a & x \\ \bar{x} & b \end{pmatrix},
\]

(E.3)

where \( a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \) and \( x \in R \), form a Jordan algebra under the product

\[
X \circ Y = \frac{1}{2} (XY + YX).
\]

(E.4)

Under addition, such matrices form an Abelian group of rank 10 which we shall label as \( JL_2 \). The determinant

\[
det(X) = ab - N(x)
\]

(E.5)

defines a quadratic form of signature \((1,9)\) and discriminant \(-1\).

If \( A \) is the ring of integral elements in a quadratic algebra \( K \) with discriminant \( D \) then the number of ways it can be embedded in \( JL_2 \) is given by the formula

\[
N(A, J_2) = \frac{L(e_A, -3)}{\zeta(-7)} = 240 \cdot L(e_A, -3)
\]

(E.6)

where

\[
e_A : (\mathbb{Z}/D\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}
\]

(E.7)

is the even quadratic character of \( K \) and \( L(e_A, -3) \) is the Dirichlet \( L\)-function.\(^{[62]}\)

Most interestingly from our point of view, Gross and Gan study the embedding of the ring of integral elements in an étale cubic algebra \( K \) over \( \mathbb{Q} \) with discriminant \( D \) into the \( JL \) considered as an Abelian group generated by \( 3 \times 3 \) Hermitian matrices over the integral octonions \( R \). In this case \( A \) is either \( \mathbb{Z}^3 \) when \( D = 1 \), \( \mathbb{Z} \oplus B \) where \( B \) is the ring of integers in a quadratic field or \( A \) is the ring of integers in a totally real cubic field. They denote the Jordan algebra defined over \( JL \) with the polarization \( I \) or \( E \) as the identity element as \( J_1 \) or \( J_3 \), respectively, and derive the formula

\[
91N(A, J_1) + 600N(A, J_2) = 2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot L(V_A, -3).
\]

(E.8)

where \( N(A, J_1) \) and \( N(A, J_3) \) denote the number of embeddings into \( J_1 \) and \( J_3 \), respectively. They stress that they do not have formulas for \( N(A, J_1) \) and \( N(A, J_3) \) separately in general. However, ever when \( A \) is not an integral domain which is the case when \( A = \mathbb{Z} \oplus B \) then \( N(A, J_3) = 0 \) and one has

\[
N(A, J_1) = 2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot L(V_A, -3).
\]

(E.9)

### Appendix F: Hilbert Modular Forms

This appendix is devoted to summarizing the relevant background information on Hilbert Modular Forms (HMFs). Standard references on HMFs include\([64,104,105]\). We begin with the definition of Hilbert modular group.

Consider the upper half plane \( \mathbb{H} \) on which \( SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \) acts via fractional linear transformations. Consider a positive integer \( n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \). We consider \( n \) copies of the upper half plane which we denote by \( \mathbb{H}^n \). Let \( F \) be a totally real number field of degree \( n \) over \( \mathbb{Q} \) such that \( F \) admits \( n \) distinct embeddings into \( \mathbb{R} \).

\[
F \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \alpha \mapsto a^{(\alpha)}
\]

\[
m, m, a^{(\alpha)} = (a^1, \ldots, a^n)
\]

(F.1)

The group \( SL(2, F) = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in F, ad - bc > 0 \} \)\(^{26}\) can be embedded into \( SL(2, \mathbb{R})^n \) \( n \) times by means of the embedding \( F \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R} \).

The group \( SL(2, F) = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in F, ad - bc > 0 \} \)

\[
\Gamma_F = PSL(2, \mathbb{O}_F) = SL(2, \mathbb{O}_F)/\{+1, -1\} \subset PGL^+(2, F).
\]

**Definition F.1** (Hilbert Modular Group). The Hilbert Modular Group for \( F \) is the group \( \Gamma_F = PSL(2, \mathbb{O}_F) = SL(2, \mathbb{O}_F)/\{+1, -1\} \subset PGL^+(2, F) \).

**Remark F.1.** The classical modular group is the special case when \( F = \mathbb{Q} \) and \( n = 1 \).

**Definition F.2** (Hilbert modular variety). A Hilbert modular variety of degree \( n \) is an algebraic variety obtained by quotienting \( n \) copies of the upper half plane \( \mathbb{H}^n \) by the Hilbert modular group \( \Gamma_F \).

The group \( \Gamma_F \) acts on \( \mathbb{H}^n \) as

\[
\Gamma_F \ni \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} (\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_n) = \left( \frac{a_1 \tau_1 + b_1}{c_1 \tau_1 + d_1}, \ldots, \frac{a_n \tau_n + b_n}{c_n \tau_n + d_n} \right).
\]

(F.2)

For the sake of convenience, we denote \( \tau^k := (\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_k) \).

\(^{26}\) Or rather, \( GL(2, F) \).

\(^{27}\) It satisfies the ascending chain condition on both left and right ideals.
Forms a finite index subgroup of \(\mathbb{H}^n\) and consider a \(\infty\)-holomorphic \(HMF\) admitting a Fourier expansion at the cusp of \(F\). Fourier expansions of Hilbert Modular Forms

\[
E(\tau, m, k) \text{ given by }
E(\tau, m, k) = Nm(m)^k \sum_{(c, d) \in (m \times m) - (0,0)/\Gamma_0^+} \left( \prod_{j=1}^{n} (\sigma_j(c) \tau_j + \sigma_j(d)) \right)^{[-k]}.
\]

(F.6) is a HMF of parallel weight \(k\) on \(\Gamma_0\) and admits the following Fourier expansion:

\[
E(\tau, m, k) = \zeta(m, k) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{D_F}} \left( \frac{-2\pi i}{\Gamma(k)} \right)^n \times \sum_{(v; m) \in \mathbb{Z}^k} \sigma_{k-1}(v; m) e^{2\pi i Tr(V_{\tau_k})},
\]

where \(D_F\) is the discriminant of \(F\) in \(\mathbb{Z}\), and \(b_c^{-1}\) denotes the inverse of the different ideal of \(F\). It is straightforward to see that for \(F = \mathbb{Q}\), \(m = \mathbb{Z}\), we recover the classical Eisenstein series (such as the ones derived in (9.16)).

F.3. Lattice Theta Functions and Hilbert Modular Forms

It is a canonical statement that the theta function of a positive definite lattice of signature \((p, 0)\) is an elliptic theta function of weight \(p/2\). The lattice theta function can also be expressed in terms of a quadratic form where the norm of the vector expressed as the value of a quadratic form \(Q\). This provides an equivalence between quadratic forms and lattices \(\mathbb{A}^p \subset \mathbb{R}^p\). Consider now for a positive integer \(p\), \(\Lambda^p = F^p\) is a lattice of rank \(p\) in \(F\) and a quadratic form \(Q : F^p \to F\). The lattice/quadratic form is even-integral in \(F\) if \(\forall \alpha, \beta \in \Lambda\), \(Q(\alpha + \beta) = Q(\alpha) + Q(\beta) \in m_j^{-1}\). Given such an even, integral lattice with \(p \in 2\mathbb{Z}\) with \(Q^{-1}\) also even integral and det \(Q\) being a square in \(F - \{0\}\), the function

\[
\Theta(\tau; Q) := \sum_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{2\pi i Tr(V_{\tau_k})}
\]

is a HMF of weight \(p/2\) in \(\Gamma_0\).

Remark F.2. It is also possible to recover a Hilbert–Eisenstein series from a Hilbert-theta function in the sense of Siegel–Weil (see [106] and references therein). Siegel-Weil theorems over the classical modular group (and subgroups thereof) are of interest in string theory (see [107] from the perspective of BPS attractors, [108] and works that follow) from the perspective of holography, and [109] from the perspective of topological invariants.

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F.1. Fourier expansions of Hilbert Modular Forms

Holomorphic HMFs admit a Fourier expansion at the cusp at \(\infty\). Let us consider a \(\mathbb{Z}\)-module \(M \subset F\) and let \(V \subset O_F^*\), where as usual \(O_F^*\) is the group of units in \(O_F\). \(V\) has an action on \(M\) in the following sense. Let \(G(M, V) = \{ \begin{pmatrix} e & \mu \\ 0 & e \end{pmatrix} | \mu \in M, e \in V\} \) be a finite index subgroup of \(\Gamma_0\), the stabilizer of \(\infty\). This defines the analog of the “T-transform” as for classical modular forms for the case of HMFs. This gives us the periodic structure of \(f\) as \(f(\tau + \mu) = f(\tau) \forall \mu \in M\). This periodic property allows us to write the convergent Fourier expansion of a holomorphic HMF as

\[
f(\tau) = \sum_{v \in M^*} a_v e^{2\pi i Tr(V_{\tau_k})},
\]

where \(M^* = \{ \lambda \in F \mid Tr(\mu \lambda) \in \mathbb{Z} \forall \mu \in M\}\) is the dual lattice to \(M\) w.r.t. the trace norm of \(F\). The Fourier expansion of holomorphic HMFs can be expressed at its cusp as

\[
f(\tau_k) = a_0 + \sum_{v \in M^*} a_v e^{2\pi i Tr(V_{\tau_k})}.
\]

Holomorphic HMFs for which \(a_0\) as above is zero are Hilbert Cusp Forms.

Theorem F.1 (Götzky–Koecher principle). All non-parallel HMFs are cusp forms.

We will not prove this theorem here, although we do point the reader to any of the standard references on HMFs for a proof of the Götzky–Koecher principle.

F.2. Hilbert-Eisenstein Series

We now introduce the Hilbert theta series and Hilbert-Eisenstein series. Holomorphic HMF are generated by Hilbert–Eisenstein series of parallel, even integral weight \(k > 2\). To each non-zero fractional ideal \(m\) of \(F\), for \(k \in 2\mathbb{Z}_+\) we associate a function

\[
E(\tau, m, k) \text{ given by }
E(\tau, m, k) = Nm(m)^k \sum_{(c, d) \in (m \times m) - (0,0)/\Gamma_0^+} \left( \prod_{j=1}^{n} (\sigma_j(c) \tau_j + \sigma_j(d)) \right)^{[-k]}.
\]

(F.6) is a HMF of parallel weight \(k\) on \(\Gamma_0\) and admits the following Fourier expansion:

\[
E(\tau, m, k) = \zeta(m, k) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{D_F}} \left( \frac{-2\pi i}{\Gamma(k)} \right)^n \times \sum_{(v; m) \in \mathbb{Z}^k} \sigma_{k-1}(v; m) e^{2\pi i Tr(V_{\tau_k})},
\]

where \(D_F\) is the discriminant of \(F\) in \(\mathbb{Z}\), and \(b_c^{-1}\) denotes the inverse of the different ideal of \(F\). It is straightforward to see that for \(F = \mathbb{Q}\), \(m = \mathbb{Z}\), we recover the classical Eisenstein series (such as the ones derived in (9.16)).
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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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