

Super-Exceptional Geometry for 11D Supergravity

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on joint work with
G. Giotopoulos & H. Sati
primarily [arXiv:2411.03661](https://arxiv.org/abs/2411.03661)

These talk notes are available for download at:

ncatlab.org/schreiber/show/Super-Exceptional+Geometry+for+11D+Supergravity

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The unreasonable effectiveness of Super-Tangent Spaces. Consider the 11D super-tangent space

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,10|32} \xrightarrow{\text{super-Minkowski}} \text{Iso}(\mathbb{R}^{1,10|32}) \xrightarrow{\text{super-Poincaré}} \mathfrak{so}(1,10) \xrightarrow{\text{Lorentz}}$$

with its super-invariant 1-forms

$$\text{CE}(\mathbb{R}^{1,10|32}) \simeq \Omega_{\text{dR}}^{\bullet}(\mathbb{R}^{1,10|32})^{\text{li}} \simeq \mathbb{R}_d \left[\begin{array}{l} (\Psi^\alpha)_{\alpha=1}^{32} \\ (E^a)_{a=0}^{10} \end{array} \right] / \left(\begin{array}{l} d\Psi^\alpha = 0 \\ dE^a = (\bar{\Psi}\Gamma^a\Psi) \end{array} \right)$$

super-transl. invar. forms

Remarkably, the 11D quartic Fierz identities entail that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} G_4^0 := \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\Psi}\Gamma_{a_1 a_2}\Psi) E^{a_1} E^{a_2} \\ G_7^0 := \frac{1}{5!}(\bar{\Psi}\Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5}\Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_5} \end{array} \right\} \in \text{CE}(\mathbb{R}^{1,10|32})^{\text{Spin}(1,10)} \text{ satisfy : } \begin{array}{l} dG_4^0 = 0 \\ dG_7^0 = \frac{1}{2}G_4^0 G_4^0 \end{array}$$

fully super-invariant forms

To globalize this situation, say that an **11D super-spacetime** X is a super-manifold equipped with a super-Cartan connection, locally on an open cover $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ given by

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (\Psi^\alpha)_{\alpha=1}^{32} \\ (E^a)_{a=0}^{10} \\ (\Omega^{ab} = -\Omega^{ba})_{a,b=0}^{10} \end{array} \right\} \in \Omega_{\text{dR}}^1(\tilde{X}) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{such that the} \\ \text{super-torsion} \\ \text{vanishes} \end{array} \quad dE^a - \Omega^a_b E^b = (\bar{\Psi}\Gamma^a\Psi),$$

and say that **C-field super-flux** on such a super-spacetime are super-forms with these co-frame components:

$$\begin{array}{l} G_4^s := G_4 + G_4^0 := \frac{1}{4!}(G_4)_{a_1 \dots a_4} E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_4} + \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\Psi}\Gamma_{a_1 a_2}\Psi) E^{a_1} E^{a_2} \\ G_7^s := G_7 + G_7^0 := \frac{1}{7!}(G_7)_{a_1 \dots a_7} E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_7} + \frac{1}{5!}(\bar{\Psi}\Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5}\Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_5} \end{array}$$

Theorem [JHEP07(2024)082]: On an 11D super-spacetime X with C-field super-flux (G_4^s, G_7^s) :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{The duality-symmetric} \\ \text{super-Bianchi identity} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} dG_4^s = 0 \\ dG_7^s = \frac{1}{2}G_4^s G_4^s \end{array} \right\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{is equivalent to} \\ \text{the full 11D SuGra} \\ \text{equations of motion!} \end{array}$$

Next consider the involution $\Gamma_{012345} \in \text{Pin}^+(1,10)$ with super-fixed subspace $\mathbb{R}^{1,5|2\cdot 8+} \xrightarrow{\phi_0} \mathbb{R}^{1,10|32}$. Since $\bar{\Gamma}_{012345} = -\Gamma_{012345}$ it follows that, simply:

$$H_3^0 := 0 \in \text{CE}(\mathbb{R}^{1,5|2\cdot 8+})^{\text{Spin}(1,5)} \quad \text{satisfies : } \quad dH_3^0 = \phi_0^* G_4^0$$

To globalize this situation, say that a super-immersion $\Sigma^{1,5|2\cdot 8+} \xrightarrow{\phi_s} X^{1,10|32}$ is $1/2$ BPS **M5** if it is ‘‘locally like’’¹ ϕ_0 , and say that **B-field super-flux** on such an M5-probe is a super-form with these co-frame components:

$$H_3^s := H_3 + H_3^0 := \frac{1}{3!}(H_3)_{a_1 a_2 a_3} e^{a_1} e^{a_2} e^{a_3} + 0 \quad (e^{a < 6} := \phi_s^* E^a)$$

Theorem [JHEP10(2024)140]: On a super-immersion ϕ_s with B-field super-flux H_3^s :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{The} \\ \text{super-Bianchi identity} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ dH_3^s = \phi_s^* G_4^s \right\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{is equivalent to} \\ \text{the } 1/2\text{BPS M5} \\ \text{equations of motion.} \end{array}$$

In particular, the (self-)duality conditions on the ordinary fluxes are *implied*: $G_4 \leftrightarrow G_7$ and $H_3 \leftrightarrow H_3$.

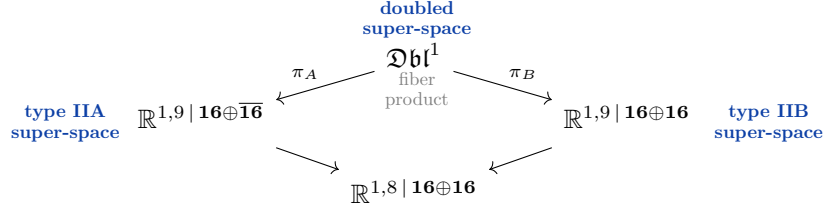
These results witness a strong form of Cartan geometry (globalized/curved Kleinian geometry). As slogans:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{11D SuGra is the globalization} & \text{M5-probes are the globalization} \\ \text{of the super-tangent space } \mathbb{R}^{1,10|32} & \text{of the immersion } \mathbb{R}^{1,5|2\cdot 8+} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{1,10|32} \\ \text{including its super-flux content.} & \text{including its super-flux content.} \end{array}$$

This motivates looking for more hidden structure on more super-tangent spaces.

¹The technical condition on a super-immersion to be $1/2$ BPS is that it admits the super-analog of a *Darboux coframe*, see §2.2 in JHEP10(2024)140.

More hidden structure in Super-Space. After reduction to 10D it turns out [ATMP22(2018)5] that the whole structure of (topological) T-duality is preconfigured in the super-fluxes on super-tangent spaces:



$$\begin{aligned}
 H_3^A &:= (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_a \Gamma_{10} \Psi) E^a \\
 F_{\leq 0} &:= 0 \\
 F_2 &:= (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{10} \Psi) \\
 F_4 &:= \frac{1}{2} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 a_2} \Psi) E^{a_1} E^{a_2} \\
 F_6 &:= \frac{1}{4!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{10} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_4} \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_4} \\
 F_8 &:= \frac{1}{6!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_6} \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_6} \\
 F_{10} &:= \frac{1}{8!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{10} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_8} \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_8} \\
 F_{12} &:= \frac{1}{10!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_{10}} \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_{10}} \\
 F_{>14} &:= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$\in \text{CE}(\mathbb{R}^{1,9|16\oplus\overline{16}})$

s.t. $\begin{cases} dH_3^A = 0 \\ dF_{2\bullet+2} = H_3^A F_{2\bullet}, \end{cases}$

$$\int_{\pi_B} e^{P_2^1} \cdot \pi_A^*(-)$$

Fourier-Mukai transform

$$\underbrace{P_2^1 := e_B^9 e_A^9}_{\text{super-Poincaré form}}$$

$\in \text{CE}(\mathfrak{Dbl}^1)$

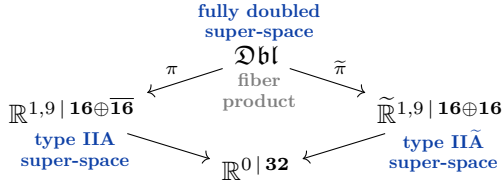
s.t. $dP_2^1 = \pi_A^* H_3^A - \pi_B^* H_3^B$

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_3^B &:= (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_a^B \Gamma_{10} \Psi) E^a \\
 F_{\leq 1} &:= 0 \\
 F_3 &:= (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_a^B \Gamma_9 \Psi) E^a \\
 F_5 &:= \frac{1}{3!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 a_2 a_3}^B \Gamma_9 \Gamma_{10} \Psi) E^{a_1} E^{a_2} E^{a_3} \\
 F_7 &:= \frac{1}{5!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5}^B \Gamma_9 \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_5} \\
 F_9 &:= \frac{1}{7!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_7}^B \Gamma_9 \Gamma_{10} \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_7} \\
 F_{11} &:= \frac{1}{7!} (\overline{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_9}^B \Gamma_9 \Psi) E^{a_1} \dots E^{a_9} \\
 F_{>13} &:= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$\in \text{CE}(\mathbb{R}^{1,9|16\oplus 16})$

s.t. $\begin{cases} dH_3^B = 0 \\ dF_{2\bullet+1} = H_3^B F_{2\bullet-1}, \end{cases}$

This generalizes all the way to **T-duality along all 10 space-time directions**, where we have [arXiv:2411.10260]



$$\int_{\tilde{\pi}} e^{P_2} \cdot \pi^*(-)$$

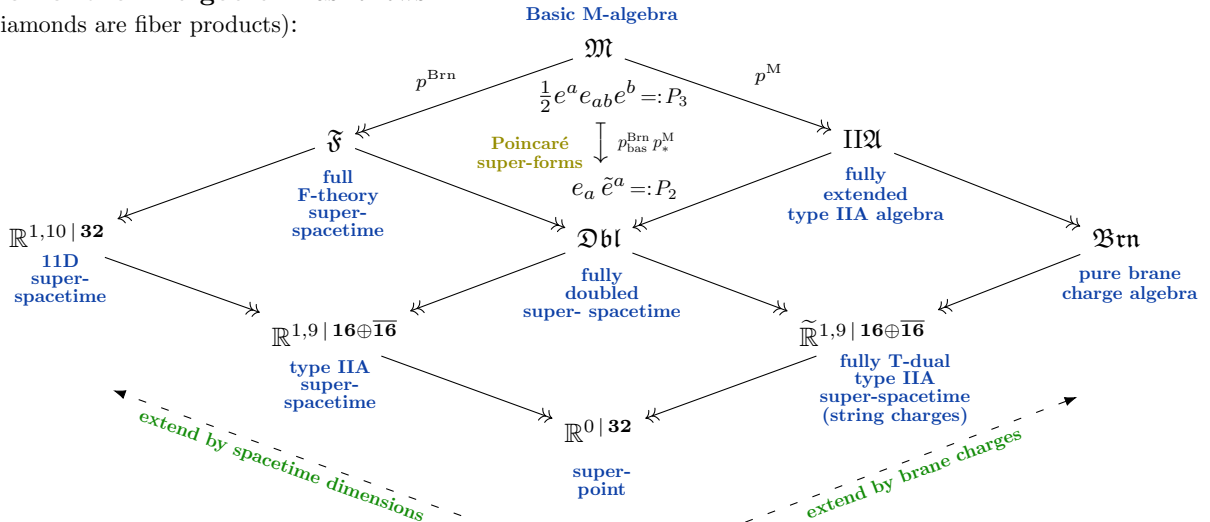
Fourier-Mukai transform

$$(H_3^A, F_{2\bullet}) \xrightarrow{\text{Fourier-Mukai transform}} (H_3^{\tilde{A}}, \tilde{F}_{2\bullet})$$

full super-Poincaré form

$$\underbrace{P_2 := e^a \tilde{e}_a}_{\in \text{CE}(\mathfrak{Dbl})} \text{ s.t. } dP_2 = \pi^* H_3^A - \tilde{\pi}^* H_3^{\tilde{A}}$$

But the fully doubled \mathfrak{Dbl} is a 10D **version of the M-algebra!** – as follows (all diamonds are fiber products):



The M-Algebra is the super-Lie algebra which is the maximal central extension of the $\mathcal{N} = 32$ super-point:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathfrak{M} \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbb{R}^{0|32} \end{array} \quad \text{hence} \quad \text{CE}(\mathfrak{M}) \simeq \mathbb{R} \left[\underbrace{(\Psi^\alpha)_{\alpha=1}^{32}}_{\text{deg}=(1,\text{odd})}, \underbrace{(E^a)_{a=0}^{10}}_{\text{deg}=(1,\text{evn})}, \underbrace{(E_{a_1 a_2} = E_{[a_1 a_2]})_{a_i=0}^{10}}_{\text{deg}=(1,\text{evn})}, \underbrace{(E_{a_1 \dots a_5} = E_{[a_1 \dots a_5]})_{a_i=0}^{10}}_{\text{deg}=(1,\text{evn})} \right],$$

with differential on generators given equivalently by [arXiv:2411.11963]:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} d\Psi = 0 \\ dE^a = +(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma^a \Psi) \\ dE_{a_1 a_2} = -(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 a_2} \Psi) \\ dE_{a_1 \dots a_5} = +(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5} \Psi) \end{array} \right\} \leftarrow \begin{array}{c} E^{\alpha\beta} := \frac{1}{32} \left(E^a \Gamma_a^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} E^{a_1 a_2} \Gamma_{a_1 a_2}^{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{5!} E^{a_1 \dots a_5} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5}^{\alpha\beta} \right) \\ \text{by Fierz decomposition} \end{array} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d\Psi^\alpha = 0 \\ dE^{\alpha\beta} = \Psi^\alpha \Psi^\beta \end{array} \right.$$

The Fierz-form on the right shows that $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{M}) \simeq \text{GL}(32)$ (West '99: "brane-rotating symmetry") $\supset \text{Spin}(1, 10)$.

It is suggestive to **Hodge-dualize temporal components** in order to identify actual (probe-)brane charges (Hull 1997).

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{M}_{\text{bos}} \simeq \mathbb{R}^{1,10} \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^{1,10})^* \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^{1,10})^* \\ \simeq \mathbb{R}^{0,1} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{10} \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^{10})^* \oplus \wedge^9 \mathbb{R}^{10} \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^{10})^* \oplus \wedge^6 \mathbb{R}^{10} \end{array}$$

time
space
M2-brane charges
"9-brane" charges
M5-brane charges
"6-brane" charges

The **reduction** of the M-algebra to 10D is the fully extended II \mathfrak{A} SuSy algebra, with:

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} d\Psi = 0 \\ dE^a = +(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma^a \Psi) \\ d\tilde{E}_a = -(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_a \Gamma_{10} \Psi) \\ dE_{a_1 a_2} = -(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 a_2} \Psi) \\ dE_{a_1 \dots a_4} = +(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_4} \Gamma_{10} \Psi) \\ dE_{a_1 \dots a_5} = +(\bar{\Psi} \Gamma_{a_1 \dots a_5} \Psi) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{II}\mathfrak{A}_{\text{bos}} \\ \simeq_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{R}^{1,9} \oplus (\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \oplus \wedge^4(\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \\ \simeq_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{R}^{1,9} \oplus (\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^9)^* \oplus \wedge^8(\mathbb{R}^9) \oplus \wedge^4(\mathbb{R}^9)^* \oplus \wedge^6(\mathbb{R}^9) \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^{1,9})^* \end{array}$$

space-time
fully T-dual string charges
D2-brane charges
D8-brane charges
D4-brane charges
D6-brane charges
NS5-brane charges

The full doubling of the 10D super-space is by the wrapped M2-brane charges in the M-algebra! [arXiv:2411.10260]

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathfrak{M} & \xrightarrow{\text{M-circle fibration}} & \text{II}\mathfrak{A} & \xrightarrow{\text{forget brane charges}} & \mathfrak{Dbl} \\ \Psi & \longleftarrow & \Psi & \longleftarrow & \Psi \\ E^a & \longleftarrow & E^a & \longleftarrow & E^a \\ \text{wrapped M2-brane charges} & & E_{a10} & \longleftarrow & \tilde{E}_a \text{ string charges / dbld spacetime} \\ E_{a_1 a_2} & \longleftarrow & E_{a_1 a_2} & & \\ E_{10 a_1 \dots a_4} & \longleftarrow & E_{a_1 \dots a_4} & & \\ E_{a_1 \dots a_5} & \longleftarrow & E_{a_1 \dots a_5} & & \end{array}$$

The **restriction** of the bosonic spatial part of the M-algebra to $\mathbb{R}^n \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{10}$ for $n \in \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$ yields the traditional *exceptional tangent spaces* of Hull 2007:

n	$\dim(\mathbb{R}^n \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \oplus \wedge^6 \mathbb{R}^n \oplus \wedge^9 \mathbb{R}^n)$						basic rep of	excptnl Lie alg
4	4	+	6			\rightsquigarrow 10	$\mathfrak{sl}_{5(5)}$	
5	5	+	10	+	1	\rightsquigarrow 16	$\mathfrak{so}_{5,5}$	
6	6	+	15	+	6	+	27 \oplus 1	$\mathfrak{e}_{6(6)}$
7	7	+	21	+	21	+	56	$\mathfrak{e}_{7(7)}$

Traditional discussion stops here at $n = 7$ because **this pattern breaks** for $n \geq 8$. There are *not enough M-brane charges* to carry the basic $\mathfrak{e}_{\geq 8}$ -rep!

But our identification of the M-algebra as an M-theoretic incarnation of the fully doubled super-spacetime, supporting super-space T-duality, suggests that in some sense:
The M-algebra is the full super-exceptional tangent space, after all.

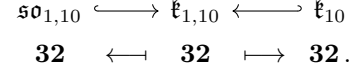
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The M-Algebra completes the hierarchy of Exceptional Tangent Spaces [arXiv:2411.03661] as follows, by appeal to these two observations by Nicolai, Kleinschmidt, et al.:

(i) **Local hidden symmetry:** While the Kac-Moody Lie algebras \mathfrak{e}_n reflect the expected *global* hidden symmetry, it is only their “maximal compact” (or “involutory”) subalgebras, which reflect the corresponding *local* hidden symmetry.



(ii) **Spinorial hidden symmetry:** In contrast to the Kac-Moody algebras \mathfrak{e}_n themselves, their maximal compact \mathfrak{k}_n have non-trivial *finite-dimensional* representations. Among these is a spinorial $\mathbf{32}$ both for \mathfrak{k}_{10} as well as for $\mathfrak{k}_{1,10}$, which lifts the familiar Majorana spinor representation of 11D SuGra.

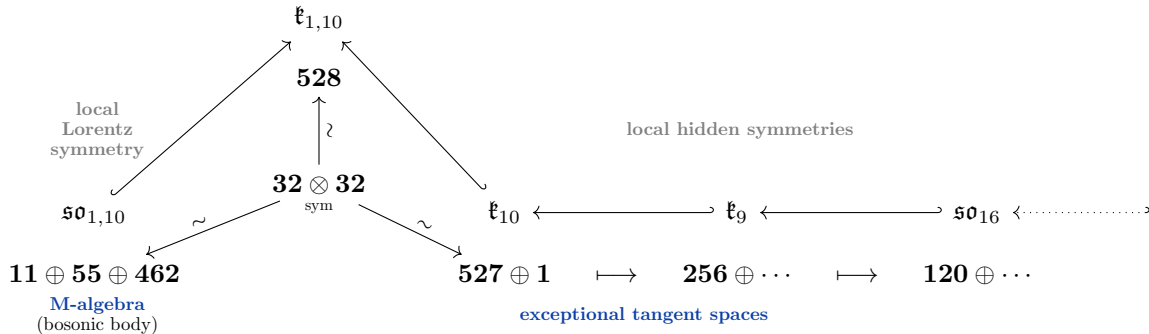


Thereby we find this shaded completion of the hierarchy, as explained below:

n	$\dim(\mathbb{R}^n \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \oplus \wedge^6\mathbb{R}^n \oplus \wedge^9\mathbb{R}^n)$	basic rep of	(max cmpt sub-alg of)	excptnl Lie alg
4	4 + 6	\rightsquigarrow 10		$\mathfrak{sl}_{5(5)}$
5	5 + 10 + 1	\rightsquigarrow 16		$\mathfrak{so}_{5,5}$
6	6 + 15 + 6 + 1	\rightsquigarrow 27 \oplus 1		$\mathfrak{e}_{6(6)}$
7	7 + 21 + 21 + 7	\rightsquigarrow 56		$\mathfrak{e}_{7(7)}$
8	8 + 28 + 56 + 28	\rightsquigarrow 120	\mathfrak{so}_{16}	\subset \mathfrak{e}_8
9	9 + 36 + 126 + 84 + 1	\rightsquigarrow 256	\mathfrak{k}_9	\subset \mathfrak{e}_9
10	10 + 45 + 252 + 210 + 10	\rightsquigarrow 527	\mathfrak{k}_{10}	\subset \mathfrak{e}_{10}
1+10	$\dim(\mathbb{R}^{1,10} \oplus \wedge^2(\mathbb{R}^{1,10})^* \oplus \wedge^5(\mathbb{R}^{1,10})^*)$	\rightsquigarrow 528	$\mathfrak{k}_{1,10}$	\subset \mathfrak{e}_{11}

- **n = 8** : the **248** of \mathfrak{e}_8 branches as **120** \oplus **128** of the maximal compact \mathfrak{so}_{16} — as a representation-theoretic statement this is classical, but as part of a change in pattern from \mathfrak{e}_n to \mathfrak{k}_n this may not have been appreciated.
- **n = 9** : the (infinite-dimensional) basic rep of \mathfrak{e}_9 branches as **256** \oplus higher-parabolic-levels under \mathfrak{k}_9 — this was only very recently shown by König 2024;
- **n = 10** : remarkably, there is an irrep **527** of \mathfrak{k}_{10} , and it appears in the symmetric square of a spinorial $\mathbf{32}$ irrep as: $\mathbf{32} \otimes_{\text{sym}} \mathbf{32} \simeq \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{527}$ [Damour, Kleinschmidt & Nicolai 2006 p 37], which exactly matches the interpretation here, where the bosonic dimension of the M-algebra is the same expression $\dim(\mathbf{32} \otimes_{\text{sym}} \mathbf{32})$ — the remaining **1** is the first summand (the time axis);
- **n = 1 + 10** : re-including this temporal component and hence going back to the unbroken bosonic M-algebra we need an irrep **528** of $\mathfrak{k}_{1,10}$; this also exists [Gomis, Kleinschmidt & Palmkvist 2019 p 29] and it is isomorphic to the symmetric square $\mathbf{32} \otimes_{\text{sym}} \mathbf{32} \simeq \mathbf{528}$ [Bossard, Kleinschmidt & Sezgin 2019 §D] of the original $\mathbf{32}$.

In summary this means that the **528** of $\mathfrak{k}_{1,10}$ is the root of the hierarchy of exceptional tangent spaces, while at the same time exactly unifying **11-dimensional** spacetime with the **55** M2- and **462** M5-brane charges:



Finally, the infinite-dimensional $\mathfrak{k}_{1,10}$ must act through a finite-dimensional quotient on **528**, and this turns out [Bossard, Kleinschmidt & Sezgin 2019 p. 42] to be just the “brane-rotating symmetry” $\text{SL}(32) \subset \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{M})$, so that: All this lifts to the M-algebra \mathfrak{M} , thus identified as the “**super-exceptional tangent space**”!

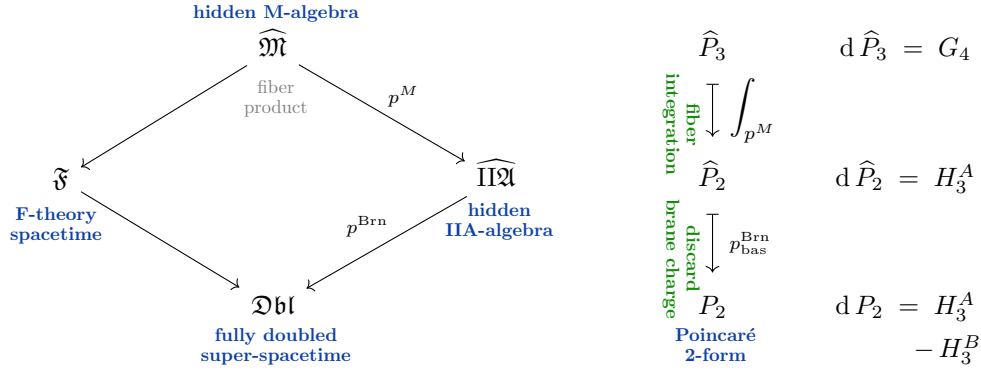
T-Duality on Super-exceptional space?

The $SL(32)$ -symmetry on \mathfrak{M} which is generated by Γ_{10} is as shown on the right. [arXiv:2411.11963 Ex. 2.4]

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathfrak{M} & \xleftarrow{\exp(r\Gamma_{10})} & \mathfrak{M} \\
 E^{10} & \mapsto & E^{10} \\
 E^a & \mapsto & \cosh(2r)E^a - \sinh(2r)E^{a10} \\
 E^{a10} & \mapsto & \cosh(2r)E^{a10} - \sinh(2r)E^a \\
 E^{ab} & \mapsto & E^{ab} \\
 E^{a_1 \dots a_5} & \mapsto & \cosh(2r)E^{a_1 \dots a_5} + \sinh(2r) \star E^{a_1 \dots a_5} \\
 E^{a_1 \dots a_4 10} & \mapsto & E^{a_1 \dots a_4 10}
 \end{array}
 \quad r \in \mathbb{R}, \quad a_i < 10$$

This *mixes* the 10D spacetime directions E^a with their T-duals E^{a10} but *never swaps* them. Hence T-duality is *not* among the “brane-rotating symmetries” $GL(32) \simeq \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{M})$. Indeed, we already saw it must instead be a kind of Fourier-Mukai transformation lifted to \mathfrak{M} . For this there ought to be an M-theoretic Poincaré 3-form which reduces to the Poincaré 2-form.

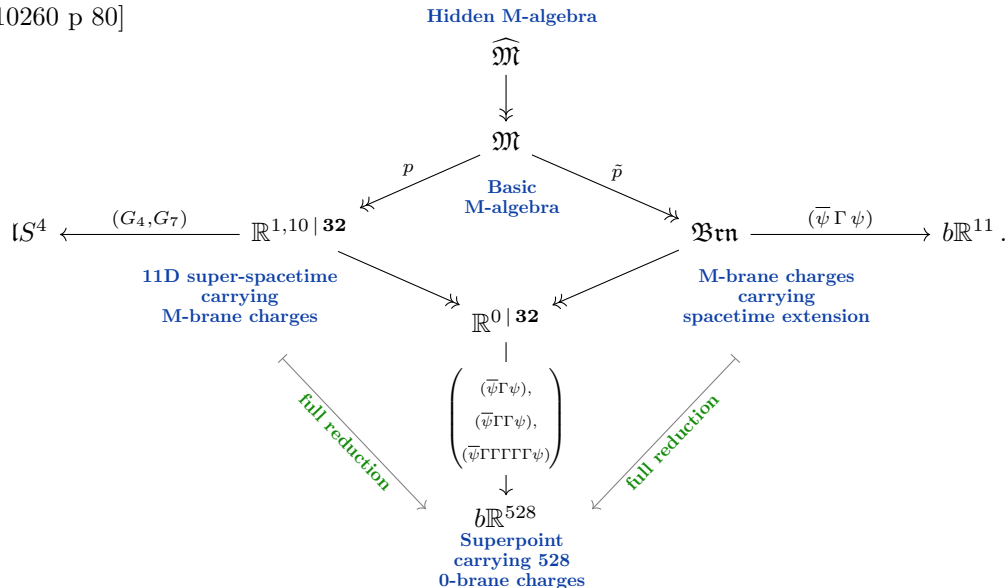
Proposition [arXiv:2411.11963, §2.2.3]: There exists a *fermionic extension* $\widehat{(-)}$ (not changing the bosonic body) of $\Pi\mathfrak{Q}$, and hence of \mathfrak{M} , on which the Poincaré 2-form P_2 (controlling super-space T-duality) lifts as follows:



(Here $\widehat{\mathfrak{M}}$ is the “hidden” extension for parameter $s = -1$ of D’Auria & Fré 1982 and Bandos et al. 2004.)

So while in 10D the Poincaré 2-form cancels the difference between the dual B-field fluxes, in M-theory the Poincaré 3-form cancels the C-field flux itself.

This makes sense, because the M-algebra correspondence absorbs all fluxes into the exceptionalized geometry! [arXiv:2411.10260 p 80]



Flux quantization. One upshot of these results is their implication on flux-quantization [EncMathPhys4(2025)281]:

Underappreciated Fact:

A C-field configuration is more than a differential 3-form C_3 (and a 6-form C_6).

This is only the data on a *single chart* $\mathbb{R}^{1,10} | \mathbf{32} \simeq U_i \xrightarrow{L_i} X$.

A global C-field configuration is instead:

C_3 & C_6 on charts of an open cover of spacetime X ,

& gauge transformations on double intersections of charts

& gauge-of-gauge-transformation on triple intersections of charts

& higher gauge transformations on higher intersections of charts

all subject to *some* flux- or charge-quantization law.

Case of electromagnetic field. This is familiar from the electromagnetic field

which is a 1-form A_i on each chart

with gauge transformations $\lambda_{ij} : A_j = A_i + d\lambda_{ij}$ on each double intersection

and charge quantization $\lambda_{ij} + \lambda_{jk} - \lambda_{ik} = n_{ijk}$ on each triple intersection

making a cocycle in *ordinary differential cohomology*

(equivalently to a principal U(1)-bundle with connection).

This flux quantization *stabilizes the solitons* of electromagnetism: Dirac monopoles and Abrikosov vortices.

Case of NS/RR-field. The analogue is famous for the NS/RR-fields in IIA:

the *duality symmetric* fluxes $dF_{2\bullet} = F_{2\bullet-2} H_3$ have the form of the image of the Chern-character on K-theory

hence one may ask that the RR-fields are globally cocycles in differential K-theory.

Doing so stabilizes certain non-supersymmetric D-branes.

Case of C-field in 11D bulk [JHEP07(2024)082].

Similarly the C-field may be flux-quantized in any generalized cohomology theory

whose character image is of the form $dG_4 = 0, dG_7 = \frac{1}{2}G_4 G_4$ (e.g.: 4-Cohomotopy).

except for one issue: this does not *seem* to account for the constraint $G_7 = \star G_4$

resolution: on superspace this constraint is already implied by $dG_4^s = 0, dG_7^s = \frac{1}{2}G_4^s G_4^s$

Case of the Self-dual field on M5 [JHEP10(2024)140].

Similarly the tensor field on M5 probes $\Sigma \xrightarrow{\phi} X$ may be flux-quantized in any generalized cohomology theory

whose character image is in addition of the form $dH_3 = \phi^* G_4$ (e.g. bulk-twisted 3-Cohomotopy).

except for one issue: this does not *seem* to account for the non-linear self-duality constraint

resolution on superspace this constraint is already implied by $dH_3^s = \phi^* G_4^s$

In summary: On super-space, the Bianchi-identities on the super-fluxes

determine the admissible flux-quantization laws and hence

determine the possible global completions of the SuGra field content .

Vista.

On the other hand, exceptional geometry seems to provide *local* completion of SuGra field content.

Hence the full completion of 11D SuGra (“M-Theory”) seems to require super-exceptional geometry:

Flux Quantization: Global completion E_{10}, E_{11} -Program: Local completion	$\left. \vphantom{\begin{matrix} \text{Flux Quantization: Global completion} \\ \text{\textit{E}}_{10}, \text{\textit{E}}_{11}\text{-Program: Local completion} \end{matrix}} \right\}$	of 11D Sugra field content	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{via super-geometry} \\ \text{via exceptional-geometry} \end{array} \right.$
suggests: Full completion of 11D Sugra via super-exceptional geometry ?			

Where super-exceptional geometry should be Cartan geometry locally modeled on the M-algebra \mathfrak{M} .