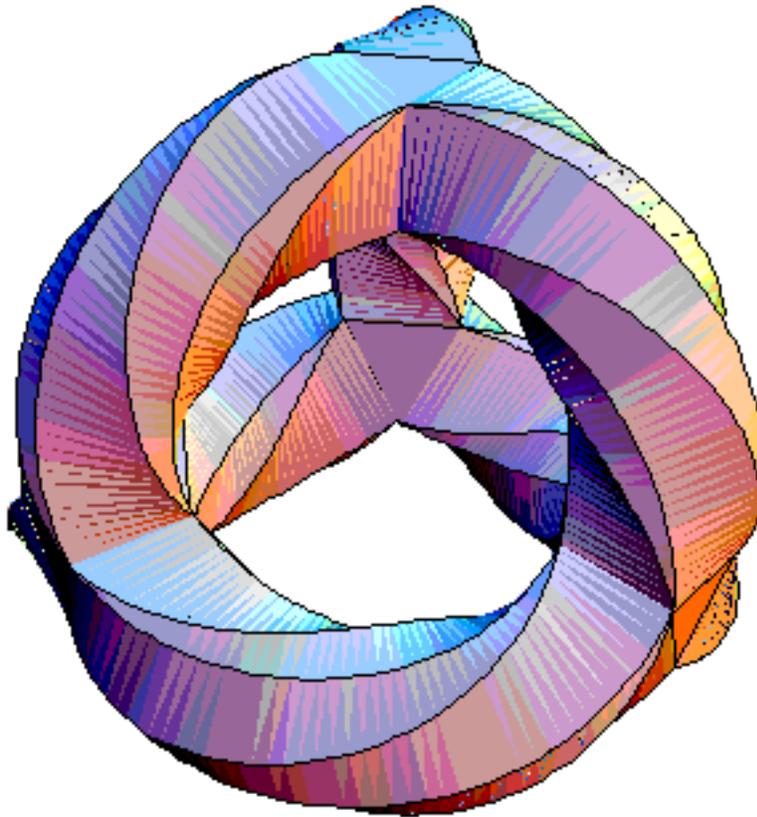


Physics of the Klein Quartic

To make [a physics model based on the Klein Quartic](#), start with 336-element [SL\(2,7\)](#), which double covers the



Klein Quartic (animated image by [Greg Egan](#)) . According to Coxeter's book *Complex Regular Polytopes* (2nd edition, Cambridge 1991), **the 48-element binary octahedral group [<4,3,2>](#) is a subgroup of index 7 in SL(2,7)**.

Since the basic building block of the Klein Quartic covering SL(2,7) is [<4,3,2>](#), **the first task is to see**

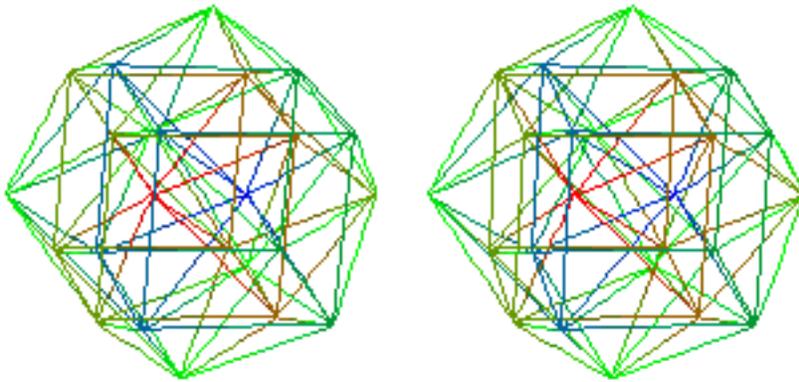
the structure of $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$ and how it might be related to a physics model.

Now consider the 24-element binary tetrahedral group $\langle 3,3,2 \rangle$ as a normal subgroup of 48-element $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$ and look at the coset space $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle / \langle 3,3,2 \rangle$.

According to Coxeter, given quaternionic space with basis $\{1, i, j, k\}$, $\langle 3,3,2 \rangle =$ the 24 vertices

- $\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k,$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$

of the 24-cell



and

$\langle 4,3,2 \rangle =$ the $24 + 24 = 48$ vertices

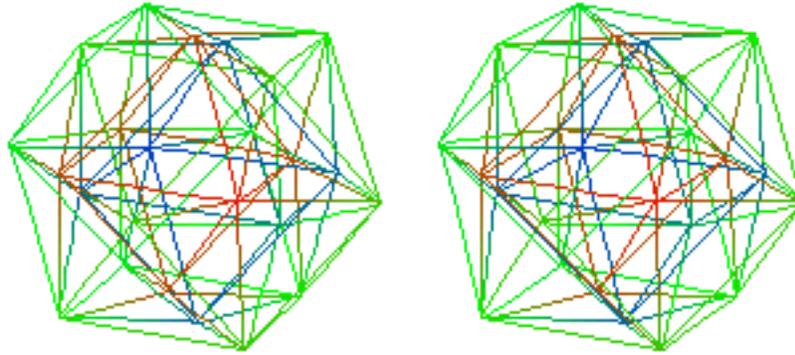
- $\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k,$
- and $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$

of the 24-cell

plus

- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm i)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm j)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm k)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm i \pm j)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm j \pm k)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm k \pm i)$

of the dual/reciprocal 24-cell



Therefore,

the coset space $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle / \langle 3,3,2 \rangle$ is represented by the vertices

- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm i)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm j)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm k)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm i \pm j)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm j \pm k)$ and
- $(1/2)(\pm k \pm i)$

of the dual/reciprocal 24-cell.

The next task is to see whether the coset space has a natural group structure, and if so, what it is.

Coxeter says (here I use the notation C_m for the cyclic group of order m): "... every finite reflection group has a subgroup of index 2 which is a rotation group, generated by products of pairs of reflections. ... A convenient symbol for this rotation group of order $2s$ is (p,q,r) ...

- the tetrahedral group $(3,3,2)$ of order 12,
- the octahedral group $(4,3,2)$ of order 24,
- the icosahedral group $(5,3,2)$ of order 60

... are subgroups of index 2 in ...

- $[3,3]$
- $[4,3]$
- $[5,3]$ respectively ..."

Consider the 12-element tetrahedral rotation group $(3,3,2) = A_4$ and add Euclidean reflections to get the 24-element tetrahedral rotation/reflection group $[3,3]$.

As [John Baez](#) says: "... The tetrahedral rotation/reflection group $[3,3]$ is isomorphic to the octahedral rotation group $(4,3,2)$".

So, look at the coset space $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle / (4,3,2)$

Given that 24-element $(4,3,2) = [3,3]$

and that Coxeter says (where C_m denotes the cyclic group of order m):

"... $[3,3]$... of order $[24]$... yields

$(C_4/C_2 ; \langle 4,3,2 \rangle / \langle 3,3,2 \rangle) = GL(2,3)$... of order ... $[48]$...

... Apart from the little complication caused by the common element -1 of ... C_4 ... and ... $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$... we have here an instance of a 'subdirect product' (Hall 1959 ... The Theory of Groups ... pp. 63-4) ...", we see that, apart from the complication noted by Coxeter, and another complication due to factoring out the C_4/C_2 part,

$\langle 4,3,2 \rangle / \langle 3,3,2 \rangle = [3,3] = (4,3,2) = S_4 =$ permutations of 4 elements

so that an intuitive picture (subject to the indicated complications) is that $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$ is made up of $\langle 3,3,2 \rangle$ plus $(4,3,2) = S_4$ or in other words $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$ is made up of the 24 vertices

- $\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k$, and
- $(1/2)(\pm 1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$

of the 24-cell

plus the S_4 permutations of the 4 quaternion basis elements $\{1, i, j, k\}$

Here is a physical interpretation:

For the 24-cell,

- $\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k$ correspond to 8-dim spacetime
- $(1/2)(+1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$ correspond to 8 fermion particles
- $(1/2)(-1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$ correspond to 8 fermion anti-particles

For the dual 24-cell,

24 gauge bosons corresponding to the elements of S_4 , which, according to Barry Simon's YABOGR book, more formally titled Representations of Finite and Compact Groups AMS Grad. Stud. Math. vol 10 (1996), are:

- e^1
- $(12)^6$
- $(12)(34)^3$
- $(123)^8$
- $(1234)^6$

You can see this structure from another point of view by recalling that [the root vector diagram of \$F_4\$ has 48 elements, which are, just as above, the 24-cell and the dual 24-cell.](#)

The 4 Cartan subalgebra elements of F_4 should be added to the dual 24-cell root vectors to produce a 28-dim Spin(8) gauge group whose generators correspond to:

- e^1
- $(12)^6$
- $(12)(34)^3$
- $(123)^8$
- $(1234)^6$
- Cartan⁴

As Pierre Ramond said in [hep-th/0112261](#), "... the triality of ... SO(8) ... links its tensor and spinor representations via a Z_3 symmetry. The exceptional group F_4 is the smallest which realizes this triality explicitly. ...".

Although I do not agree with Ramond's general superstring-type approach to physics, I quote him as an authority figure to allay fears against putting fermions and bosonic structures in the same algebra, such as F_4 . In my view, exceptional E and F Lie algebras are effectively in some sense superalgebras that have pure Lie algebra structure.

Since an 8-dim spacetime with a Spin(8) gauge group does not look like the world in which we live, let the model so far correspond to high-energy regions, with our world being described by the model after dimensional reduction of 8-dim spacetime into 4-dim spacetime, with the remaining 4-dim corresponding to a CP² Kaluza-Klein internal symmetry space, as done by Batakis in Class. Quantum Grav. 3 (1986) L99-L105.

Then, here is what happens to the 28 Spin(8) gauge bosons with generators

- e^1
- $(12)^6$
- $(12)(34)^3$
- $(123)^8$
- $(1234)^6$
- Cartan^4

The 16 generators

- $(12)^6$
- $(1234)^6$
- Cartan^4

produce a $U(2,2) = U(1) \times SU(2,2) = U(1) \times \text{Spin}(2,4)$ Lie algebra which gives gravity by the MacDowell-Mansouri mechanism.

The remaining 12 generators

- e^1
- $(12)(34)^3$
- $(123)^8$

produce $U(1)$, $SU(2)$, and $SU(3)$ respectively.

Here, based on e-mail conversation with [Garrett Lisi](#) in June 2005, is another way to see what happens to the 28 Spin(8) gauge boson generators:

Let F_8 denote a Spin(8) bivector 2-form over octonionic 8-dim spacetime. As [Garrett Lisi](#) pointed out, a conventional definition of F_8 would be $F_8 = d A_8 + 1/2 A_8 A_8$, where A_8 , a Cl(8) 1-form, is regarded as the fundamental field variable. However, in my physics model, I prefer to think of bivector gauge bosons not as derived from vectors by d , but, by using triality, to see them as bivector = bishalfspinor antisymmetric (+half-spinor, -half-spinor) pairs. Since the triality isomorphism among vectors and half-spinors is only available fully in 8-dim, it is one of the reasons that I think that Cl(8) is the uniquely best building block for a realistic particle physics model. Equivalence of those two definitions of F_8 may imply a relationship between spinors and the nilpotent covariant derivative.

Let $*_8$ be the 8-dim [Hodge star](#).

$F_8 \wedge *F_8$ is an 8-form over 8-dim spacetime.

Introduce

a preferred quaternionic subspace $4S$ that will be 4-dim spacetime.

Now, follow F. Reese Harvey's book Spinors and Calibrations:

The spatial part of $4S$ is defined by an associative 3-form, which can be defined by an element g of $G_2 = \text{Aut}(\text{octonions})$.

g also fixes a coassociative 4-form that defines an internal symmetry space $4I$.

The associative form $4S$ can be written as
 $w_{123} - w_{156} - w_{426} - w_{453} - w_{147} - w_{257} - w_{367}$

The coassociative form $4I$ can be written as
 $w_{4567} - w_{4237} - w_{1537} - w_{1267} - w_{2536} - w_{1436} - w_{1425}$

and we have $4S \wedge 4I = 7 w_{1234567}$

The F_8 bivectors are generators of $\text{Spin}(8) = G_2 + (\text{vector } S_7 + \text{spinor } S_7)$

Fixing a g in G_2 reduces G_2 to $SU(3)$

and

because it defines an associative 3-dim subspace of the vector S_7

it breaks the vector S_7 into associative S_3 + coassociative S_4

so

we reduce $\text{Spin}(8)$ to $SU(3) + ((\text{vector } S_3 + \text{vector } S_4) + \text{spinor } S_7)$

Since the vector S_3 belongs to $4S$ and the vector S_4 belongs to $4I$

we have,

for the internal symmetry gauge groups after dimensional reduction,
 $SU(3) + \text{vector } S_4$

If $SU(3)$ is to act globally on the $4I$ internal symmetry space,

the global structure of $4I$ should morph from S_4 to $CP^2 = SU(3)/U(2)$,

which then would give a Batakis-type 8-dimensional Kaluza-Klein

model with CP^2 extra dimensions and standard model gauge group

generators $SU(3) \times U(2) = SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$.

The left-over spinor S_7 + associative S_3 + $G_2/SU(3)$ look like:

spinor $S_7 = \text{spinor } S_3 + \text{spinor } S_4$

associative S_3

set of G_2 associative structures left over after picking g and $SU(3)$.

Now look at how the $SU(3)$ and $U(2)$ generators fit inside the 24-cell root vector diagram of $D_4 \text{ Spin}(8)$.

First, look at 2-dimensional the root vector diagram

(including Cartan elements in the center)

yb

xb

zb

tb tr

```

zr          xr
           yr
    
```

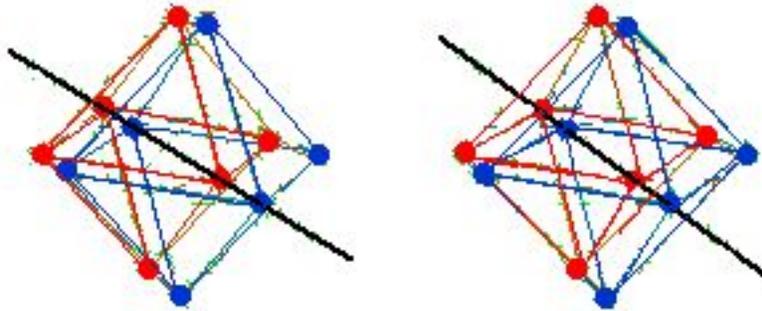
and then blow it up into a 3-dimensional cube

```

tb----xb
 | \   | \
 |  zb----yb
 |  |   |  |
yr-|--zr |
 | \   | \
 |  xr----tr
    
```

and then consider the front and back square faces of the cube as two squares on the base planes, parallel to each other, of two octahedra

see 2octaimage.jpg



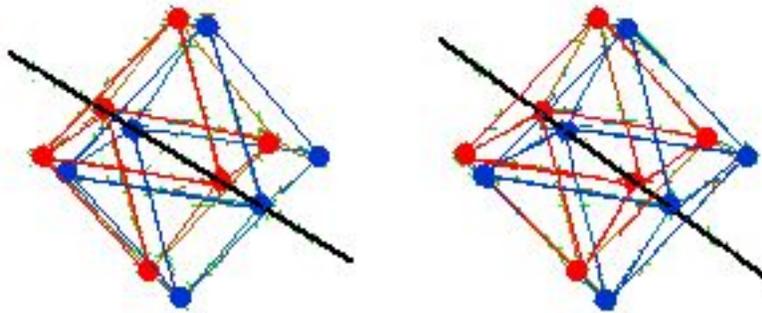
The $U(2)$ root vectors can be represented as four vertices (including the abelian $U(1)$ and the $SU(2)$ Cartan element) along a line

```

wr          kr  kb          wb
    
```

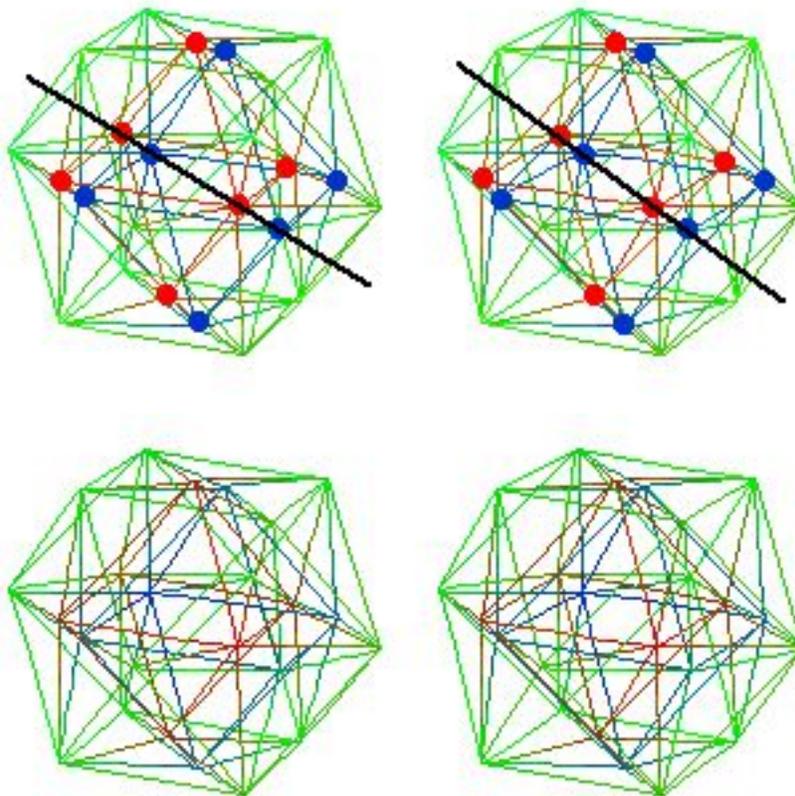
and then consider the line as the common axis perpendicular to the base planes of the two octahedra, containing the remaining $2+2 = 4$ vertices of the two octahedra,

see 2octaimage.jpg



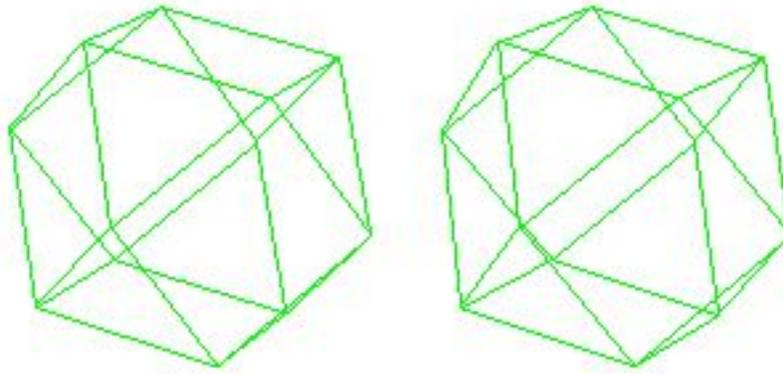
and then consider the two octahedra as part of the 24-cell
root vectors of D_4 Spin(8)

see 2octa24cell.jpg and 24cellD4.jpg



After the Standard Model $SU(3) \times U(2)$ vertices are removed
from the D_4 Spin(8) 24-cell root vector diagram (including
4 Cartan subalgebra elements at the origin)
what remains is a 3-dim cuboctahedron

see D3cubo.jpg



Since a 3-dim cuboctahedron with 3 origin vertices is
 the root vector diagram of $D_3 = \text{Spin}(2,4) = \text{SU}(2,2) = A_3$
 and adding a fourth origin vertex gives $U(1) \times \text{SU}(2,2) = U(2,2)$.

Therefore
 the 16 remaining generators give you $U(2,2) = U(1) \times \text{Spin}(2,4)$
 and $\text{Spin}(2,4)$ gives gravity by the MacDowell-Mansouri mechanism.

Those 16 remaining generators correspond to
 vector S_3
 spinor $S_7 = \text{spinor } S_3 + \text{spinor } S_4$
 the 6 dimensions of G_2 associative structures

Then, identify the vector $S_3 + \text{spinor } S_3 + \text{spinor } S_4$ with $\text{Sp}(2)$
 Anti deSitter $\text{Sp}(2) = \text{Spin}(2,3)$ has
 6 Lorentz and 4 translation-like generators
 and (from the point of view of compact signature $\text{SU}(4)$)
 $\text{SU}(4) / \text{Sp}(2) = 5$ -dimensional set of quaternionic structures of C_4 is
 identified with a 5-dimensional subset of the G_2 associative structures.
 The 6th dimension of the G_2 associative structures
 gives 16-dimensional $U(2,2)$ with compact version $U(4)$.

To see more explicitly how this all works in terms of the 24-cell
 root vector diagram of $D_4 \text{ Spin}(8)$:

The 4 origin root vectors can correspond to

01

23

45

67

and the 24-cell vertices can correspond to

02 03 04 05 06 07
 12 13 14 15 16 17

24	25	26	27
34	35	36	37
		46	47
		56	57

In terms of the basis (x,y,z,t,k,w,r,b) , they are

xy	xz	xt	xk	xw	xr	xb
	yz	yt	yk	yw	yr	yb
		zt	zk	zw	zr	zb
			tk	tw	tr	tb
				kw	kr	kb
					wr	wb
						rb

The 6 that involve only $(0,1,2,3) = (x,y,z,t)$ form the Lorentz boosts and rotations of physical spacetime:

xy	xz	xt
	yz	yt
		zt

Note that $(01,02,12) = (xy,xz,yz)$ are rotations and $(03,13,23) = (zt,yt,zt)$ are Lorentz boosts.

Now let them interact with $4 = k$.

Moving in 5-space (k-space) can be regarded as just an "extra" dimension added to 4-dim spacetime in which "rotations" look like translations, and we then get the 10 with indices $0,1,2,3,4$ which are taken to be generators of deSitter/Poincare gravity

01	02	03	04
	12	13	14
		23	24
			34

or

xy	xz	xt	xk
	yz	yt	yk
		zt	zk
			tk

where $(04,14,24,34) = (xk, yk, zk, tk)$ are translations.

Next let the 10 interact with 5 and let 5 have $SU(3)$ color $(r+g+b)$.

Moving in 6-space (w-space) can also be regarded as an "extra" dimension. In it "rotations" look like conformal transformations (1 dilation and 4 special conformal transformations), and we then get the 15 with indices $0,1,2,3,4,5$ which are taken to be generators of Segal's conformal $Spin(2,4) = SU(2,2)$ which can also be gauged to produce gravity:

```

01  02  03  04  05
    12  13  14  15
        23  24  25
            34  35
                45

```

or

```

xy  xz  xt  xk  xw
   yz  yt  yk  yw
       zt  zk  zw
           tk  tw
               kw

```

Note that the 45, which is only in (k,w) space, corresponds to the dilation and (05,15, 25, 35) = (xw, yw, zw, tw) are the 4 special conformal transformations.

That leaves 13 generators left over, those with at least one index 6 or 7

```

06  07
16  17
26  27
36  37
46  47
56  57
    67

```

or

```

xr  xb
yr  yb
zr  zb
tr  tb
kr  kb
wr  wb
    rb

```

Let 67 = rb represent the U(1) phase of particle propagators, which is the U(1) of 16-dimensional $U(1) \times SU(2,2) = U(2,2)$.

That leaves 12 generators:

```

06  07
16  17
26  27
36  37
46  47

```

56 57

or

xr xb
 yr yb
 zr zb
 tr tb
 kr kb
 wr wb

and they correspond to the $6+6 = 12$ vertices of the two octahedra described above as giving the standard model $SU(3) \times U(2)$, where $SU(3)$ is represented by

yb

xb	zb
tb tr	
zr	xr
yr	

(Note that the 3 colors have structure similar to that of the 3 spatial dimensions.)

and $U(2)$ is represented by

wr kr kb wb

Note that the local $U(2)$ action on the 4I internal symmetry space is totally confined to the kwrb 4I space itself, while the global $SU(3)$ action on 4I involves not only the rb color space of 4I but also the txyz 4S physical spacetime, somewhat similarly to the actions of the Batakis CP2 Kaluza-Klein model.

How does the Hodge star work in 8-dim and 4-dim spacetimes?

The Hodge star for $Spin(8)$ is defined in 8-dim spacetime by letting mn be lower indices and MN be upper indices for F so that $*F_{mn} = (1/2) e(mnabwxyz) FABWXYZ$ which is natural because of the Clifford algebra structure of $Cl(8)$ with $Spin(8)$ generators being the bivectors.

However, it is not so natural in 4-dim spacetime because the standard model group $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$ is bigger than the bivector algebra $Spin(1,3)$ of the Clifford algebra $Cl(1,3)$ of 4-dim Minkowski spacetime, and

the question arises as to what the 8-dim Hodge star morphs into when spacetime is reduced to 4-dim.

By looking at the conformal $\text{Spin}(2,4)$ that gives gravity after reduction you can see that its natural Clifford structure is on a 6-dim vector space so that it would want to have a 6-dim $\text{Cl}(2,4)$ Hodge star, since a 6-dim spacetime is the spacetime of linear actions of the Clifford-algebra conformal group.

However,
 due to the special automorphism $\text{Spin}(2,4) = \text{SU}(2,2)$,
 the conformal group can be written in a way that acts naturally on a 4-dim spacetime as a unitary group.
 Since the standard model groups are also unitary,
 all the relevant gauge groups after reduction are unitary:
 $\text{U}(2,2)$, $\text{SU}(3)$, $\text{SU}(2)$, and $\text{U}(1)$.

Therefore, after reduction, the Hodge star should be the usual one for conventional Yang-Mills physics theories, based on the graded exterior algebra structure of $\text{SU}(n)$ Lie algebras. Since that structure is, for example for $\text{U}(4)$:

1 4 6 4 1 graded structure
 (coinciding with the graded structure of the Clifford algebra for $\text{Cl}(1,3)$ Minkowski spacetime)

where the second 4 can be regarded in terms of the first 4 as $*4$:
 $\text{U}(4) = 4 (x) *4$ is $4 \times 4 = 16$ -dim
 so there is a natural Hodge star for $\text{U}(4)$
 and it can be used for subgroups including $\text{SU}(3)$, $\text{SU}(2)$, and $\text{U}(1)$,
 and therefore to describe accurately gravity (MacDowell-Mansouri)
 and the standard model.

In April 2005 sci.physics.research discussions with John Baez,
[Garrett Lisi](#) describes the MacDowell-Mansouri Mechanism this way:

"... I only have one reason for justifying the use of Clifford algebra for this stuff -- it comes unavoidably from the application of Occam's razor. ... Describing fermions requires the use of a Clifford bundle. So, I figure, since there is no getting out of having this Clifford fiber bundle thing, might as well make the best possible use of it. And what I'm finding is that, along with the vectors and forms that almost come for free with a manifold, that's ALL one needs to describe the physical fields. ... The fermions come in as a Grassman valued section of the Clifford bundle as a result of applying the BRST gauge fixing method ...
 ... Let me do the whole thing from the ground up ... :
 The only dynamic variable is the connection:
 $A = e + W$
 With e the Clifford vector valued 1-form (the frame),
 and W the Clifford bivector valued 1-form (the spin connection).
 The curvature is $F = d A + (1/2) A A = F_0 + F_e$
 where the Clifford odd part of this curvature,
 a Clifford vector valued 2-form, is the torsion
 $F_0 = d e + W \times e$

where for two one forms the cross product

$$\text{is } W \times e = (1/2)(W e + e W),$$

but in general for forms of orders that commute

$$\text{it's } A \times B = (1/2) (A B - B A).$$

The even part of this curvature is

the Clifford bivector valued 2-form

$$F e = d W + (1/2) W W + (1/2) e e = R + (1/2) e e$$

The Bianchi identity is $d R + W \times R = 0$.

The action we start with is

$$S = (1/2) \text{int} \langle F F g \rangle = (1/2) \text{int} \langle F e F e g \rangle$$

which works since g is the Clifford unit 4-vector,

and only 4-vectors times g give a trace.

Plugging in F , this action is equivalent to

$$S = (1/2) \text{int} \langle R e e g + (1/4) e e e e g \rangle$$

the GR action, since the other term we get is a boundary term,

$$\langle R R g \rangle = \langle d (W d W + (1/3) W W W) g \rangle$$

The ONE equation of motion then,

arising from varying A in the action, is

$$0 = D (F e g) = d F e g + A \times (F e g)$$

$$= d R g + (1/2) d e e g +$$

$$+ (1/2) (e + W) (R + (1/2) e e) g - (1/2) (R + (1/2) e e) g (e + W)$$

$$= (1/2)((e R + R e) + e e e) + (1/2) (d e e + W \times (e e)) g$$

The third line came from the second using the Bianchi identity.

The first term on the last line, a Clifford odd 3-form,

is Einstein's equation, and the second term on the last line,

a Clifford even 3-form,

is the equation for the torsionless spin connection.

That's pretty dense to read, but it's the whole derivation.

One other thing I've noticed is that

the Hamiltonian formulation of this stuff is pretty nice.

If one is a truly cretinous physicist one can define

the momentum 2-form as

$$p = (\delta / \delta A) S = (1/2) (F g + g F) = F e g$$

And writing the action as

$$S = \text{int} \langle p d A - H \rangle$$

with Hamiltonian 4-form

$$H = - (1/2) p A A - (1/2) p p g$$

gives the BF action

$$S = \text{int} \langle p (F + (1/2) p) g \rangle$$

with the p equal to the even part of the usual B ,

and the sign changed.

To further annoy mathematicians one could write

the equations of motion as

$$d A = (d/d p) H$$

$$d p = (d/d A) H$$

and cook up a Poisson bracket formulation.

... diffeomorphisms and local frame rotations enter through

the same infinitesimal gauge transformation of the connection:

$$A' = A + d C + A \times C$$

The weird thing I just got is that the conserved

Noether current 3-form corresponding to this symmetry is

$$\langle (d B + A \times B) C \rangle$$

which vanishes because that's the equation of motion.

Does that make sense and mean anything? It seems strange

for a conserved current corresponding to a symmetry to vanish.

It looks like if I include the whole Clifford bundle connection

we get Einstein-Cartan theory (non-vanishing torsion)
 and a couple of other gauge fields. ...
 ... one cool thing we could do in the complex Cl ... that's
 build the duality projector:
 $P = (1/2) (1 - i g)$
 So we could then work in the "self-dual" formulation of GR
 by just using the self-dual half of the action,
 $S = i \langle Fe P Fe \rangle$
 And a lot of people like to do that,
 Plebanski and Ashtekar for example. ...".

A question that arises is how does the
 1 8 28 56 70 56 28 8 1 Clifford Hodge star
 morph into the
 1 4 6 *4 *1 unitary/exterior Hodge star ?
 (note that the 6 can be written as 3 + *3)

The way I see it is that the 8-dim Hodge star uses
 an 8-dim txyzabcd pseudoscalar,
 the first 4 terms txyz of which will go to physical spacetime
 and the second 4 terms abcd of which will go to CP2 Kaluza-Klein space,
 and
 that the first 4 terms txyz will go to the first unitary/exterior 4
 and the last 4 terms abcd will go to the dual unitary exterior *4.

A closely related question is
 how is the low-energy $g_{\mu\nu}$ curvature "embedded"
 in the flat-looking Spin(8) up in Cl(8) 8-dim high-energy spacetime ?

In 8-dim at high energies my Cl(8) model is flat with
 no dynamic relativity-type $g_{\mu\nu}$ curvature,
 and so no nontrivial $g_{\mu\nu}$ raising and lowering.

Dynamic $g_{\mu\nu}$ curvature only appears after:
 1 - picking a quaternionic subspace splits 8-dim spacetime
 into 4-dim Minkowski physical spacetime and 4-dim internal
 symmetry space that is CP2;
 2 - the U(2,2) part of Spin(8) acts by MacDowell-Mansouri
 to produce Einstein etc gravity, by which process
 the dynamic $g_{\mu\nu}$ curvature emerges and you can then
 do raising and lowering with the dynamic $g_{\mu\nu}$.

In the above-mentioned April 2005 sci.physics.research conversation
 of [Garrett Lisi](#) with John Baez, John Baez said

"... If you're working over the complex numbers,
 as evil physicists usually do,
 the Clifford algebra Cl₄ is isomorphic to the algebra
 of 4x4 complex matrices.
 So, if we think of it as a Lie algebra via $[a,b] = ab-ba$,
 we get the Lie algebra of 4x4 complex matrices,
 usually known as $gl(4,C)$.
 But this is a complexification of $u(4)$,
 and since evil physicists never even *care* about
 the difference between real and complex Lie algebra,

I can easily imagine someone saying that the answer is $u(4)$. ..",

and [Garrett Lisi](#) said

"... I'm more than happy to work with real Clifford algebras. ...".

Since real Clifford algebras have the periodicity 8 property that I need for my physics model for such things as building the generalized hyperfinite III von Neumann algebra factor (In this I may be sloppy about signature.):

At $Cl(8)$ high energy, we have 28 $Spin(8)$ as gauge group.

$Spin(8)$ has a natural $U(4)$ subgroup (for MacDowell-Mansouri gravity) and the standard model groups correspond to the coset space $Spin(8) / U(4)$ which is the set of complex structures on R^8 that are compatible with its Euclidean structure (see Besse, Einstein Manifolds (Springer 1987)).

As John Baez said, consider $U(4)$ as roughly $M(4, C)$ the 4×4 complex matrices.

$M(4, C)$ is the real Clifford algebra $Cl(2, 3)$ of the anti-deSitter group $Spin(2, 3) = Sp(2)$ that is the basis of the MacDowell-Mansouri mechanism, which uses the bivector 10 of the $Cl(2, 3)$ grading 1 5 10 10 5 1 to get gravity (4 of that 10 giving gravity and 6 for torsion).

So, the dynamic $g_{\mu\nu}$ of 4-dim gravity comes from 4 of the bivector 10 of $U(4)$ which $U(4)$ in turn is embedded in the 8-dim $Spin(8)$.

As to how the $U(4)$ fits inside the $Spin(8)$, look at the $e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6, e_7$ of $Cl(8)$ and see the $U(4)$ as generated by

$$\begin{aligned} e_0 - i e_1 \\ e_2 - i e_3 \\ e_4 - i e_5 \\ e_6 - i e_7 \end{aligned}$$

Let the $Spin(8)$ Dirac operator is $d_8 + *d_8$ (where $*$ is $Cl(8)$ pseudoscalar) Then, with the map $\#: i \rightarrow -i, d_8$ for $Spin(8)$ goes to $d_4 + \#d_4$ for $U(4)$.

The $U(4)$ subgroup of $Spin(8)$ has a natural $Sp(2)$ subgroup (for MacDowell-Mansouri gravity) and the 5 special conformal generators related to Higgs correspond to the 5-dim coset space $SU(4) / Sp(2)$ which is the set of quaternionic structures on C^4 that are compatible with its Hermitian structure (see Besse, Einstein Manifolds (Springer 1987)).

The 6th element of $U(4)$ containing $Sp(2)$ is the $U(1)$ of $U(4) = U(1) \times SU(4)$, which in my model corresponds to the complex phase of particle propagators.

Taking that into account, there is a nesting of coset spaces
 $Spin(8) / U(4)$ = complex structures = standard model generators
 $SU(4) / Sp(2)$ = quaternionic structures = conformal Higgs stuff
 $Sp(2)$ = MacDowell-Mansouri gravity (with torsion if you use all 10 dim).

As to how the $Sp(2)$ fits inside the $Spin(8)$,
 look at the $e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6, e_7$ of $Cl(8)$
 and see the $Sp(2)$ as generated by

$$\begin{aligned} e_0 - i e_1 - j e_2 - k e_3 \\ e_4 - i e_5 - j e_6 - k e_7 \end{aligned}$$

where $k = ij$ (quaternion imaginaries)

Let the $Spin(8)$ Dirac operator is $d_8 + *d_8$ (where $*$ is $Cl(8)$ pseudoscalar)

Then, with the maps $\#: i \rightarrow -i$ and $\$: j \rightarrow -j$

d_8 for $Spin(8)$ goes to $d_2 + \#d_2 + \$d_2 + \#\d_2 for $Sp(2)$.

Some further interesting questions are:

Is there a duality between Minkowski spacetime and K-K CP^2 ?

Can the $*4$ (or K-K CP^2) part be thought of as an imaginary part of a complex space of which Minkowski spacetime is a real part ?

Are there shadows of D_4 triality that can be seen in conformal $D_3=A_3$ in the details of the relationship between the Clifford 6-dim D_3 and the unitary/exterior 4-dim A_3

and

can those remnants of triality be used to establish relations (after dimensional reduction)

among spinor fermions, gauge bosons, and torsion?

Therefore,

Klein Quartic Physics gives a 4-dim spacetime with [CP2 Kaluza-Klein](#) and gravity and the $U(1) \times SU(2) \times SU(3)$ Standard Model.

As to the fermions,

- the $(1/2)(+1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$ 8 fermion particles and
- the $(1/2)(-1 \pm i \pm j \pm k)$ 8 fermion anti-particles

give the Standard Model first generation, with the second and third generations being given by considering how the fermions move in the 4-dim spacetime and/or the Kaluza-Klein CP^2 .

See [Sets2Quarks9.html#sub13](#) for details of how that works.

Why does $SL(2,7)$ need 7 copies of $\langle 4,3,2 \rangle$?

Having gotten [F4 structure](#) out of Klein Quartic Physics, consider further structures:

F4 can be complexified to get E6, and the E6 5-grading

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{E6} = \mathfrak{g}(-2) + \mathfrak{g}(-1) + \mathfrak{g}(0) + \mathfrak{g}(1) + \mathfrak{g}(2)$$

such that

- $\mathfrak{g}(0) = \mathfrak{so}(8) + \mathbb{R} + \mathbb{R}$
- $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{g}(-1) = \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{g}(1) = 16 = 8 + 8$
- $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{g}(-2) = \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{g}(2) = 8$

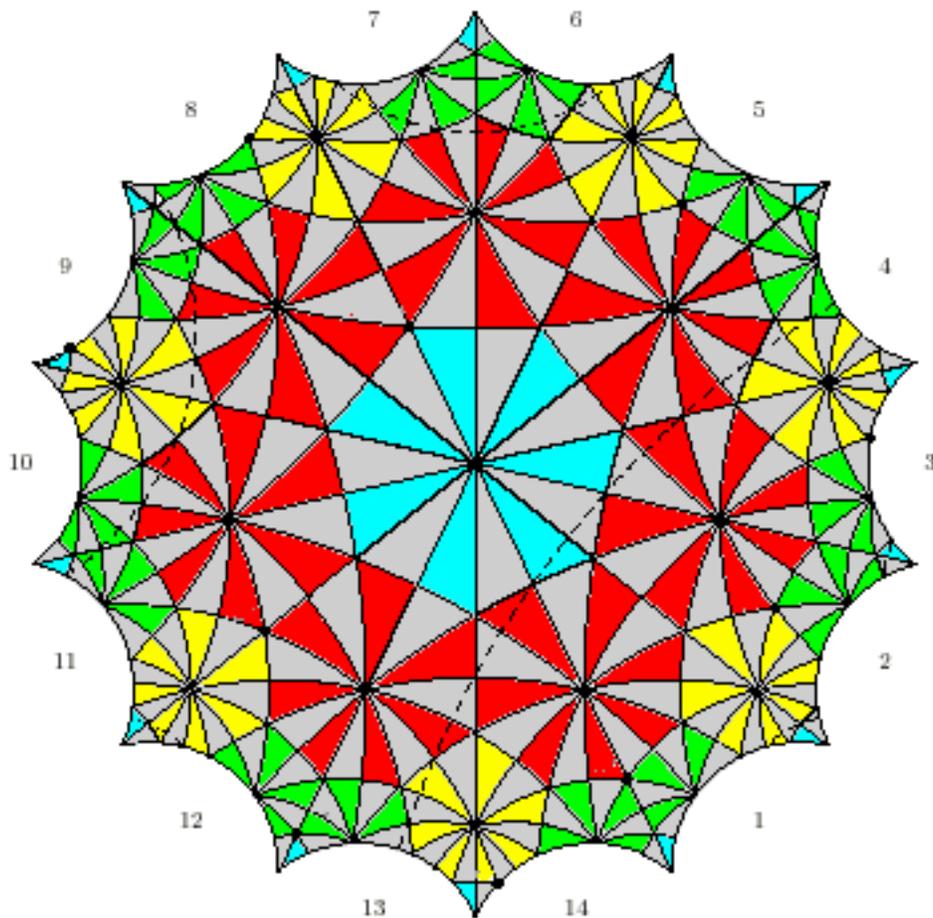
is useful in seeing that the fermionic part of the model lies in the odd part of the E6 5-grading, and is useful in interpreting the model with respect to string theory, as described in CERN-CDS-EXT-2004-031 which is at <http://cdsweb.cern.ch/>.

In that [E6 string model](#), each Planck-scale E8 lattice D8 brane is a superposition / intersection / coincidence of eight E8 lattices.

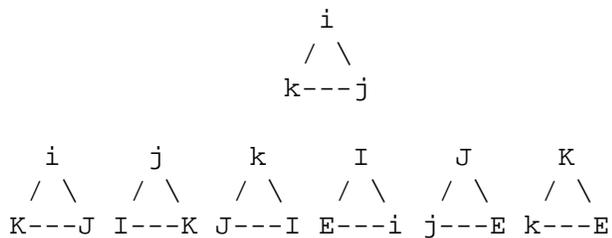
7 of the 8 lattices are independent E8 lattices, each corresponding to one of the 7 imaginary octonion basis elements i, j, k, E, I, J, K .

The 8th E8 lattice is dependent on the 7, and can be thought of as corresponding to the real octonion basis element 1.

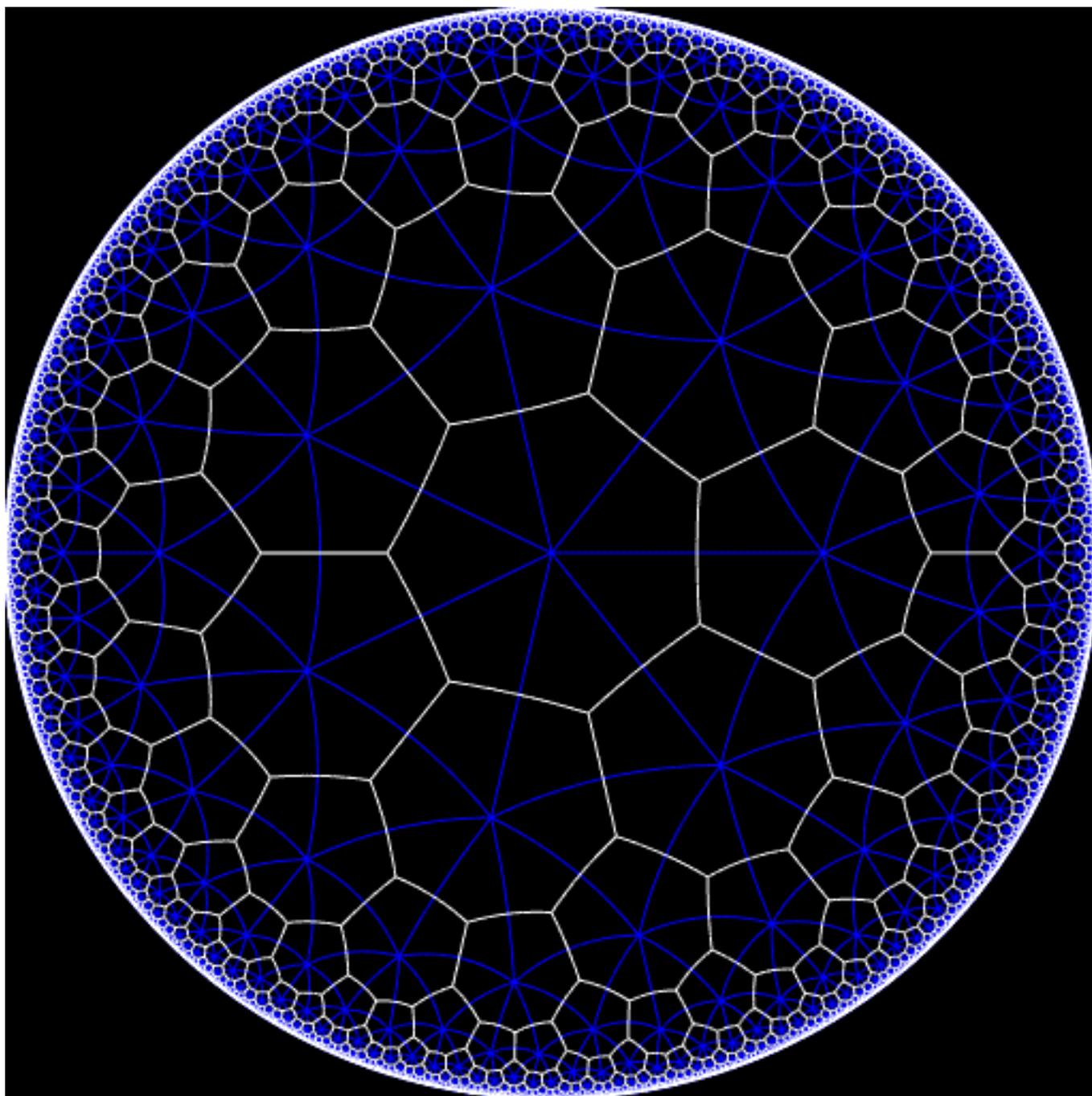
The representations of the Klein Quartic by triangles



may be related to the fact that the 7 imaginary octonions, and therefore the 7 coset spaces of $SL(2,7) / \langle 4,3,2 \rangle$, correspond to the 7 associative 3-dimensional quaternionic triangles:



The representations of the Klein Quartic by heptagons (image from [Don Hatch](#))



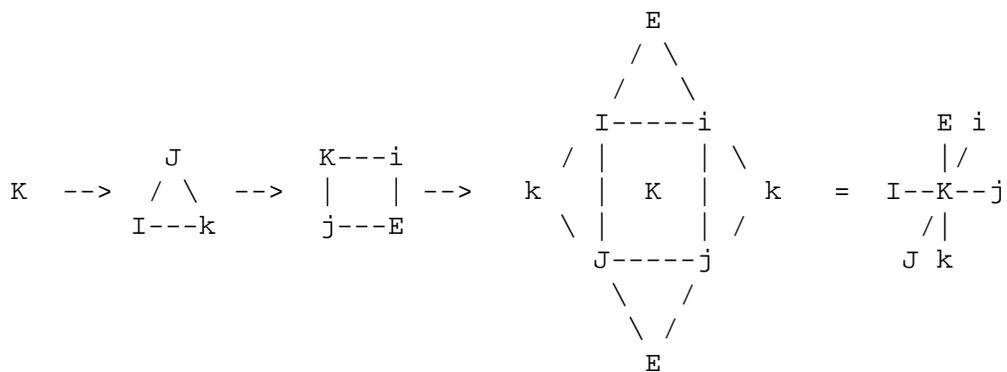
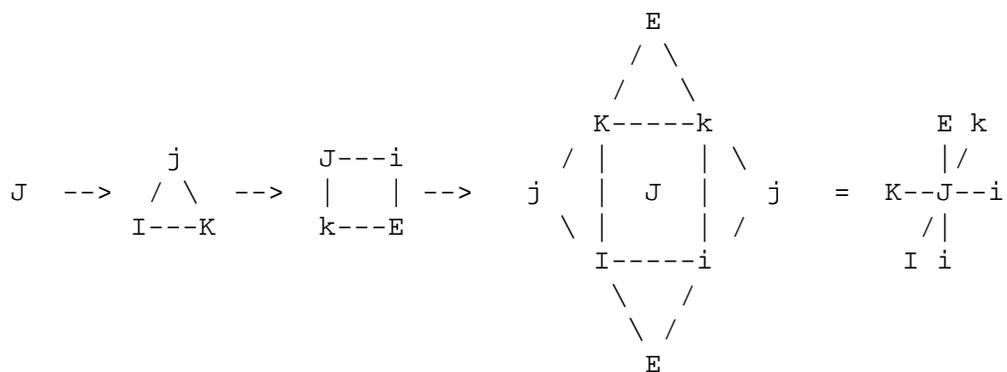
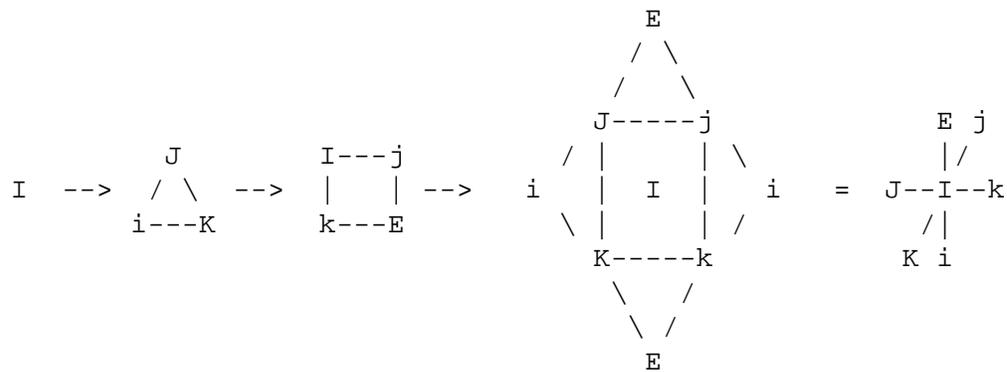
may be related to the fact that the 7 imaginary octonions, and therefore the 7 coset spaces of $SL(2,7) / \langle 4,3,2 \rangle$, also correspond to the 7 octonionic heptavertons / Onarhedra. Arthur Young, in his book *The Reflexive Universe* (Robert Briggs Associates 1978), says: "... The Heptaverton: Connecting seven points each to each requires 21 lines or edges. ... This figure can be thought of as adding a point at the center of the Octahedron, and this additional point creates a set of 6 compressed diagonals in addition to the 15 ... [12 edges plus 3 full diagonals of the octahedron]..."

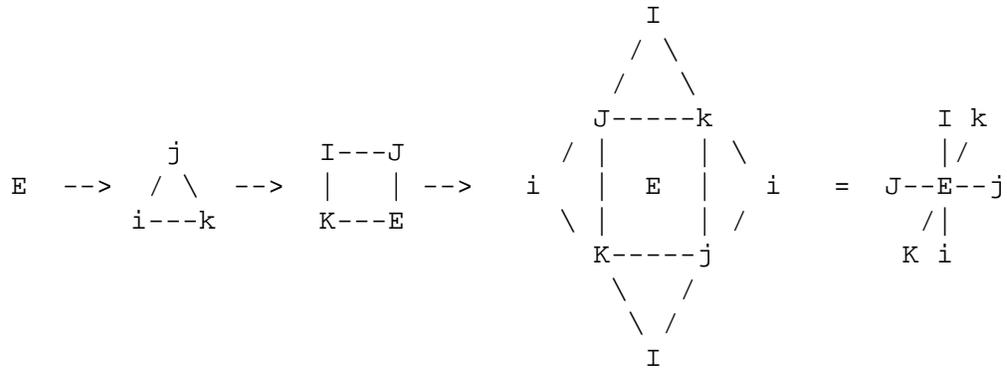
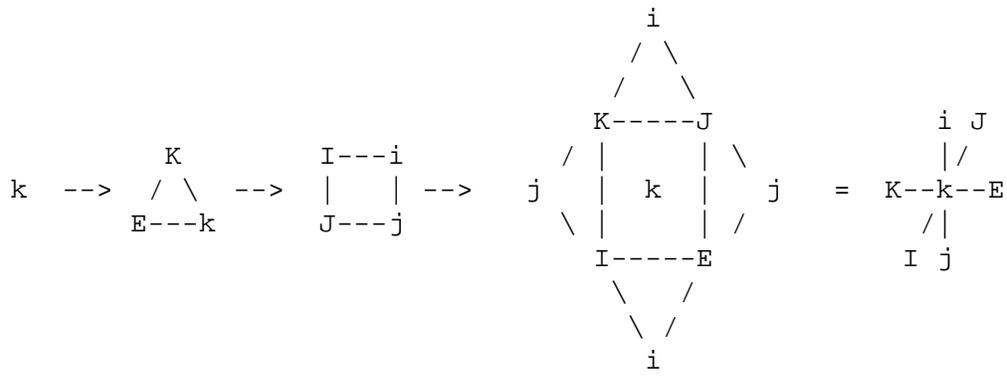
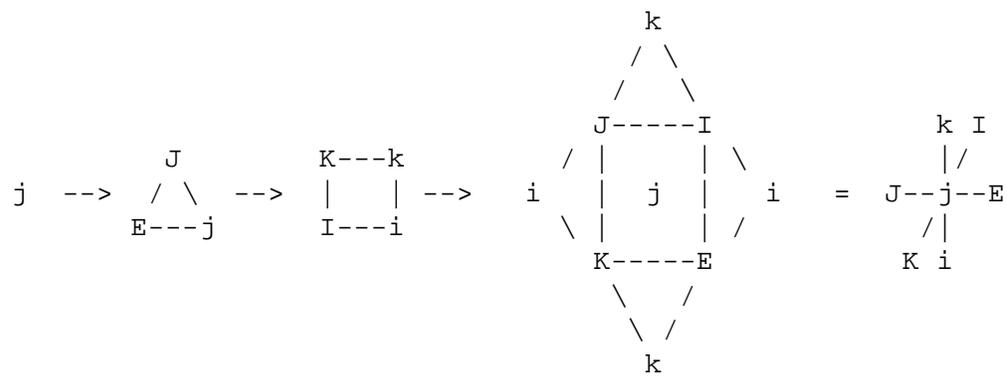
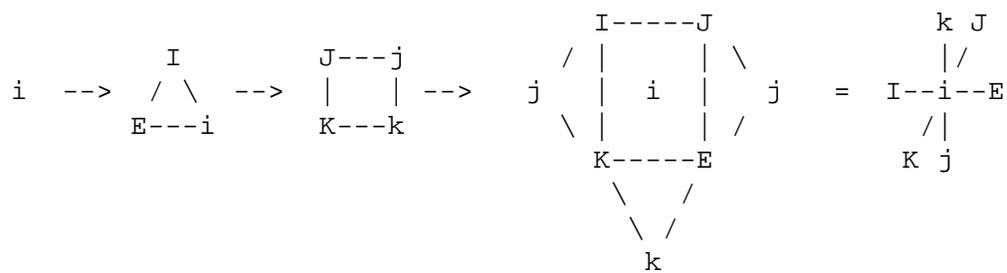
The outer hull of a heptaverton / Onarhedron is an octahedron.

It has 4 pyramids (half of the 8 pyramids of a simplicial decomposition of the octahedron) plus 4 triangles that make up the other faces of the outer octahedron.

All 4 pyramids share 1 central vertex and the 6 outer vertices are each shared by 2 pyramids and 2 triangles.

The term Onarhedron comes from a later rediscovery, coming from studying octonions, of the heptahedron by Onar Aam and his namesake, Onar, the high god in Norse mythology who created the universe. Here are the 7 heptavertons / Onarhedra:

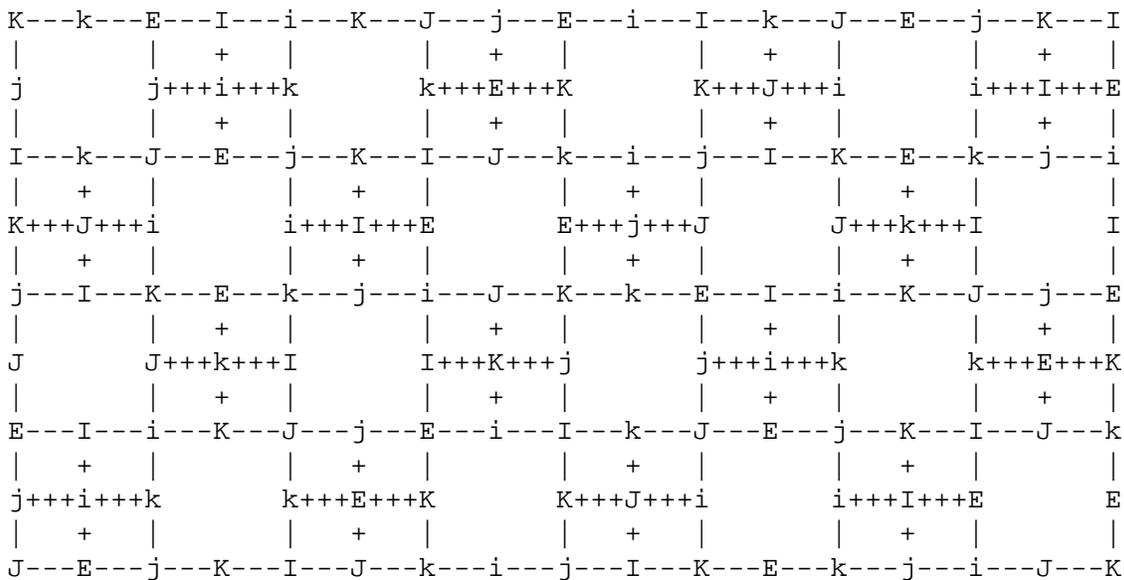




Heptavertons / Onarhedra may be useful in constructing in 4-dimensional spacetime with 3 space dimensions a quantum cellular automata model, or generalized Feynman Checkerboard model, because, just as

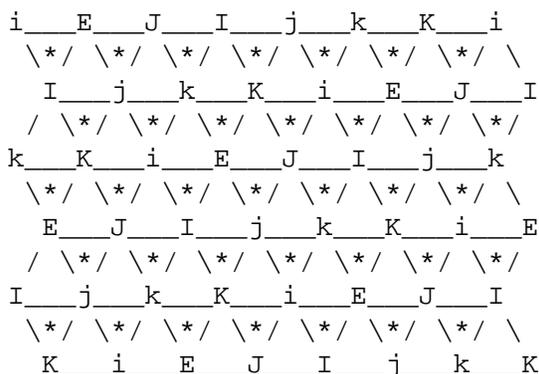
- 8-dimensional E8 lattices can be formed by Witting polytopes, and
- 4-dimensional space can be filled by 24-cells, and
- 2-dimensional space can be filled by hexagons, triangles, or squares,

so 3-dimensional space can be filled by octahedra and cuboctahedra, and Onar Aam has shown that onarhedra and cuboctahedra consistently fit together to form an onarhedral lattice that tiles 3-dim space.



This is a chessboard lattice of onarhedra and cuboctahedra. The 2D cross made of +'es are the onarhedra and the "empty" squares next to them are "flattened" cuboctahedra. If you deform the above lattice by contracting the cuboctahedra so that the similar imaginaries on the opposite sides merge, you get two interwoven onarhedral lattices.

You can also use onarhedra to get triangular tilings that may be similar to tilings of tetrahedra and truncated tetrahedra:



The * is inside the octonionic triangles, those pointing downward. The triangles pointing upward are not associative, but they can be made into co-associative tetrahedra by adding an appropriate imaginary above them. This tiling is self-similar in that, if you replace each triangle with its corresponding imaginary, then you get exactly the same tile.

The cuboctahedron-onarhedron tiling uses the interior coassociative squares of Onarhedra, while the triangular tiling uses the exterior associative triangles.

These tilings might be useful to construct something like a spin network or a spin foam model or a discrete spacetime model. [Roger Penrose, in the USA edition \(Knopf 2005\) of his book The Road to Reality](#), says:

"... The original ... spin-network proposal ... was ... of a completely discrete character, but the standard loop-variable picture is still dependent upon the continuous nature of the 3-surface in which the 'spin networks' are taken to be embedded. ... a spin foam ... can [be] picture[d] ... as a time-evolving spin network. ... Other suggestions take spacetime to have a discrete periodic lattice structure ... schemes like Raphael Sorkin's causal-set geometry ... [take]... spacetime ... to consist of a discrete, possibly finite, set of points for which the notion of causal connection between points is taken to be the basic notion. ... Other ideas ... arise from ... quaternionic geometry ... octonionic ... physics ... etc. ..."

With respect to spin foam models and how E6 and F4 might be used in them, John Baez said (in some spr posts):

"... Taking the quotient (structure group) / (automorphism group) we get homogeneous spaces of the sort used to construct spin foam models of quantum gravity. ... with a certain real form of E6 and the compact real form of F4 ... [in the case of H3(O), the quotient (structure group) / (automorphism group) = E6 / F4]... the quotient of Lie groups E6 / F4 is what matters for the spin foam models, and this is a bit "curvier" ... [than the]... quotient of Lie algebras e6 / f4 [which] is a vector space that can be naturally identified with H3_0(O) [the traceless subalgebra of the 27-dim octonionic Jordan algebra H3(O)]... e6 / f4 can be viewed as a tangent space of E6 / F4. ..."

Note that [F4 is the automorphisms of the exceptional Jordan algebra J3\(O\) and E6 is the automorphisms of the Freudenthal algebra Fr\(3,O\)](#).

I am happy that Klein Quartic Physics as I have described it seems to me to

be not only consistent with, but also equivalent to, my D4D5E6E7E8 VoDou Physics model.

Quaternionic SL(2,3) and Octonionic SL(2,7)

Since

- 1 copy of binary tetrahedral of tetrahedron = $1 \times 24 = 24$ -element SL(2,3) and
- 7 copies of binary octahedral of cube = $7 \times 48 = 336$ -element SL(2,7)

then it seems to me that it is probably true that

- the 4 faces of the tetrahedron are like the 4 dimensions of quaternions with the 3 of SL(2,3) being the 3 quaternion imaginaries and the 1 copy is due to the 1 associative triangle that can be constructed from the 3 imaginary quaternions, and
- the 8 faces of the octahedron are like the 8 dimensions of octonions with the 7 of SL(2,7) being the 7 octonion imaginaries and the 7 copies are due to the 7 associative triangles that can be constructed from the 7 imaginary octonions.

Klein Quartic Physics and the McKay Correspondence

The McKay correspondences (using his notation of $\langle r, q, p \rangle$ instead of $\langle p, q, r \rangle$) include:

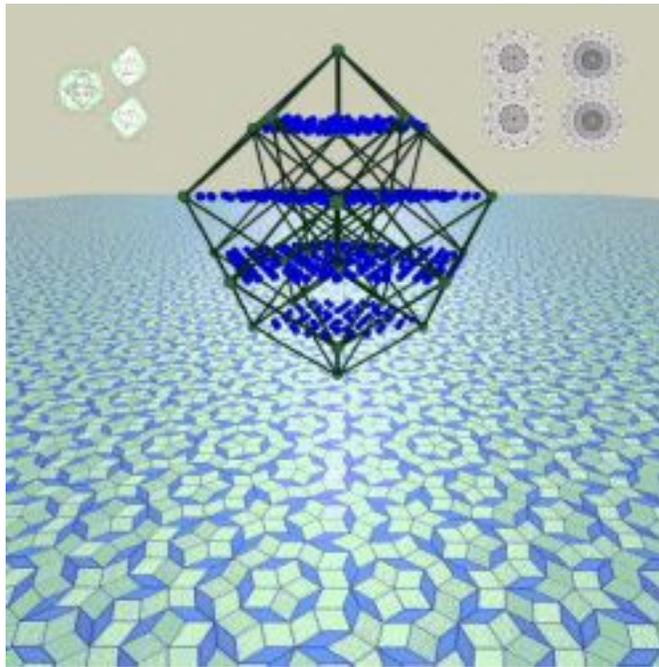
D4 corresponds to $\langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle =$ quaternion group of order $4+4 = 8$

E6 corresponds to $\langle 2, 3, 3 \rangle = 2.\text{Alt}[4]$ binary tetrahedral group of order $12+12 = 24$

E7 corresponds to $\langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle = 2.\text{Symm}[4]$ binary octahedral group of order $24+24 = 48$

E8 corresponds to $\langle 2, 3, 5 \rangle = 2.\text{Alt}[5] = \text{SL}(2,5)$ binary icosahedral group of order $60+60 = 120$

By root vector structure, in the sense that $F4 = D4 + 8 + 16 = D4 + \langle 2, 3, 3 \rangle$,



$$D5 = D4 + 1 + (8+8) = D4 + 1 + 2 \cdot \langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} E6 &= D5 + 1 + (16+16) = D5 + 1 + (4+4) + (12+12) = D5 + 1 + \langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle + \langle 2, 3, 3 \rangle = \\ &= D4 + 1 + (8+8) + 1 + (4+4) + (12+12) = D4 + 2 + (8+8+8) + (12+12) = \\ &= D4 + 2 + (24+24) = D4 + 2 + \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle = \\ &= D4 + 1 + (8+8) + 1 + (16+16) = D4 + 8 + 16 + 2 + (8+16) = F4 + 2 + \langle 2, 3, 3 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E7 &= E6 + 1 + (27+27) = E6 + 1 + (3+3) + (24+24) = E6 + 1 + (3+3) + \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle = \\ &= E6 + 3 + (1+3 + 24+24) = E6 + 3 + F4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E8 &= E7 + 1 + (56+1+56+1) = E7 + 3 + (56+56) = E7 + 3 + (30+30) + (24+2+24+2) = \\ &= E7 + 7 + (2, 3, 5) + \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle = \\ &= E7 + 3 + \text{Alt}[5] + (4+24+24) = E7 + 3 + \text{PSL}(2, 5) + F4 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $(2, 3, 5) = \text{Alt}[5] = \text{PSL}(2, 5)$ is a simple group as it is an alternating group of at least 5 elements.

Visualization of the Klein Quartic

According [The Eightfold Way: The Beauty of Klein's Quartic Curve, edited by Silvio Levy \(MSRI Publications -- Volume 35, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1999\)](#):

"... The Klein surface is the Riemann surface of the algebraic curve with equation ... $x^3 y + y^3 z + z^3 x = 0$... that ... is mapped into itself by 168 analytic transformations. Since the equation is real, the surface is also mapped on itself by complex conjugation, which can be composed with the analytic maps to give a further 168 antianalytic mappings, yielding a group of order 336. Klein concentrated ... on the subgroup of index 2 and order 168 ... [The Klein Quartic group $\text{PSL}(2, 7) = \text{PSL}(3, 2)$ of order 168]... is the second smallest simple noncommutative group. ...

[According to The Classification of the Finite Simple Groups, by Gorenstein, Lyons, and Solomon (AMS Surveys and Monographs Vol. 40, No. 1, 1994), the smallest is $PSL(2,5) = A_5$ = of order 60 , and some others are $PSL(2,8)$ of order 504 and $PSL(2,10) = A_6$ of order 360.]

... Klein ... approached the ... group and Riemann surface ... by studying the modular group $\Gamma(1)$ of all functions $z \rightarrow (pz + q) / (rz + s)$ where p, q, r, s are in \mathbb{Z} , and $ps - qr = 1$. These are permutations of the upper half-plane U ... The upper half-plane is a Riemann surface, so its quotient surface $U / \Gamma(1)$ is also a Riemann surface - a sphere with one ... puncture. ... The congruence subgroups $\Gamma(n)$, which consist of [such] mappings ... such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{pmatrix} = \pm \text{Id} \pmod{n}$$

are ... kernel[s] of a homomorphism, $\Gamma(n)$ is a normal subgroup of $\Gamma(1)$, and the factor group acts on the quotient surface as a group of automorphisms. The quotient surfaces for $\Gamma(2)$, $\Gamma(3)$, $\Gamma(4)$, and $\Gamma(5)$, are spheres with 3, 4, 6, and 12 punctures. The factor groups include the symmetry groups of the platonic solids (tetrahedron, octahedron and icosahedron). The quotient surface of $\Gamma(6)$...[is]... a torus with twelve punctures ... the factor group $\Gamma(1) / \Gamma(6)$ is rather dull. ... At $\Gamma(7)$... Klein found ...[a]... surface ...[of]... genus 3 with 24 punctures. The punctures are "removabele singularities" ... so he had a Riemann surface of genus 3 with 168 automorphisms. The quotient group is ... $PSL(2,7)$... The Riemann surface of ...[the Klein Quartic]... is a 168-sheeted covering of the sphere, branched over three points of the sphere.

- Above one of these points the 168 sheets join together in sevens to geve 24 points of the surface. These are the points of inflection. They are also the Weirstrass points.
- Above another branch point, there are 84 points of the surface, where the sheets join in twos. These are the sextactic points, through which pass a conic section that has six-fold contact with the curve.
- Above the third branch point the sheets join in threes to give 56 points of the surface. These 56 points are the of contact of ...[the Klein Quartic]... with the 28 bitangents, or lines that are tangent to the curve at two points.

... The numbers 2, 3, 7 reflect the fact that the universal cover of the whole picture is the triangle group $(2,3,7)$ acting on ... the upper half-plane ... U . The modular group $\Gamma(1)$ is the triangle group $(2,3, \infty)$. Replacing ∞ by 7 amounts to removing the removable singularities. ...

... Fricke discovered the ... group $PSL(2,2^3)$ of order 504 and genus 7 ...".

Roger Penrose's book *The Road to Reality* comes in two editions:

- UK edition (ISBN: 0224044478, Publisher: Jonathan Cape, July 29, 2004) and
- USA edition (ISBN: 0679454438, Publisher: Knopf, February 22, 2005).

The two editions are NOT identical. For example:

The UK edition on page 1050 says in part: "... Bibliography ... There is one major breakthrough in 20th century physics that I have yet to touch upon, but which is nevertheless among the most important of all! This is the introduction of arXiv.org, an online repository where physicists ... can publish preprints (or 'e-prints') of their work before (or even instead of!) submitting it to journals. ...as a consequence the pace of research activity has accelerated to unheard of heights. ... In fact, Paul Ginsparg, who developed arXiv.org, recently won a MacArthur 'genius' fellowship for his innovation. ..."

but

The USA edition on its corresponding page (also page 1050) says in part: "... Bibliography ... modern technology and innovation have vastly improved the capabilities for disseminating and retrieving information on a global scale. Specifically, there is the introduction of arXiv.org, an online repository where physicists ... can publish preprints (or 'e-prints') of their work before (or even instead of!) submitting it to journals. ...as a consequence the pace of research activity has accelerated to an unprecedented (or, as some might consider, an alarming) degree. ...". However, [the USA edition omits the laudatory reference to Paul Ginsparg that is found in the UK edition.](#)

For another example:

The USA edition adds some additional references, including (at page 1077): "... **Pitkanen, M.** (1994). p-Adic description of Higgs mechanism I: p-Adic square root and p-adic light cone. [hep-th/9410058] ...".

Note that Matti Pitkanen was in 1994 allowed to post papers on the e-print archives now known as arXiv (obviously including the paper referenced immediately above), but since that time [Matti Pitkanen has been blacklisted by arXiv](#) and is now barred from posting his work there. His web page account of being blacklisted is at <http://www.physics.helsinki.fi/~matpitka/blacklist.html>.

It seems to me that it is likely that the omission of praise of arXiv's Paul Ginsparg and the

inclusion of a reference to the work of now-blacklisted physicist Matti Pitkanen are deliberate editorial decisions.

Also, since the same phrase "... physicists ... can publish preprints (or 'e-prints') of their work before (or even instead of!) submitting it to journals. ..." appears in both editions, it seems to me that Roger Penrose favors the option of posting on arXiv without the delay (and sometimes page-charge expense) of journal publication with its refereeing system.

I wonder what events between UK publication on July 29, 2004 and USA publication on February 22, 2005 might have influenced Roger Penrose to make the above-described changes in the USA edition ?

There are two possibly relevant events in that time frame of which I am aware:

- The appearance around November 2004 of the [ArchiveFreedom web site](#), which web site documents some cases of arXiv blacklisting etc;
- According to a CERN web page at <http://documents.cern.ch/EDS/current/access/action.php?doctype=NCP> "... CERN's Scientific Information Policy Board decided, at its meeting on the 8th October 2004, to close the EXT-series. ...". Note that the CERN EXT-series had been used as a public repository for their work by some people (including me) who had been blacklisted by arXiv .

[Tony Smith's Home Page](#)