

Real forms of very extended Kac-Moody algebras and theories with eight supersymmetries

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ABSTRACT: We consider all theories with eight supersymmetries whose reduction to three dimensions gives rise to scalars that parametrise symmetric manifolds. We conjecture that these theories are non-linear realisations of very-extended Kac-Moody algebras for suitable choices of real forms. We show for the most interesting cases that the bosonic sector of the supersymmetric theory is precisely reproduced by the corresponding non-linear realisation.

KEYWORDS: Space-Time Symmetries, Extended Supersymmetry, Supergravity Models.

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1. Introduction

The original E_{11} conjecture [1] concerned the eleven dimensional supergravity theory, the ten dimensional IIA and IIB supergravity theories [2] and their dimensional reductions. It was later realised that E_{11} is just one of a class of special algebras called very extended algebras [3]. Such algebras can be constructed from each finite dimensional semi-simple Lie algebra. If the latter algebra is denoted by G , then the very extended algebra is denoted by G^{+++} . It was proposed that the bosonic string effective action generalised to D dimensions is associated with the non-linear realisation of an algebra originally denoted by K_{27} in the 26-dimensional case and which was later identified with D_{D-2}^{+++} [1], and similarly gravity in D dimensions is associated with A_{D-3}^{+++} [4]. Indeed, it was proposed to consider non-linear realisations for all G^{+++} algebras [5] and their low level content was found in [6]. Clearly not all these theories possess supersymmetry, but the non-linear realisation associated with E_{11} , i.e. E_8^{+++} , is at low levels the bosonic sector of maximal supergravity theories invariant under thirty two supersymmetries [1]. Also in all the other cases the low level content of the non-linear realisation agrees with that of the theory to which it is associated with [1, 2, 4, 6]. In particular, the non-linear realisation of G_2^{+++} has the bosonic field content of $\mathcal{N} = 2$ supergravity in five dimensions, that is invariant under eight supersymmetries, while the non-linear realisation of F_4^{+++} is a six dimensional $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ theory, which again has eight supersymmetries [6].

In all the above cases the real form of the very extended algebra used to construct the non-linear realisations is the one which has the maximal number of non-compact generators, called the maximally non-compact real form. The corresponding local sub-algebra of the non-linear realisation is the maximal compact sub-algebra which for this real form is the one invariant under the Cartan involution. This is also the case for the ten dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity theory which was found to be associated with the very extended algebra D_8^{+++} , as well as ten-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity coupled to one vector, corresponding to the addition of one Yang-Mills multiplet, which is associated to the very extended algebra B_8^{+++} . However, if one adds n , for $n \geq 1$, vector fields then the associated very extended Kac-Moody algebra is $D_{8+\frac{n}{2}}^{+++}$ for n even and $B_{8+\frac{(n-1)}{2}}^{+++}$ for n odd [7] and the required real form of these very extended algebras is not maximally non-compact.

Different real forms of a complex algebra have different numbers of compact generators and so different compact sub-algebras. The local sub-algebra used in the non-linear realisation is the maximal compact sub-algebra of the real form being considered and the fields in the non-linear realisation are found by writing down a general group element which depends on space-time and remove parts of it using the local subgroup. The coefficients of the generators that remain are the fields of the theory. Clearly, if one uses a different real form, the local sub-algebra is different and as a result so will be the group element in the non linear realisation and consequently the corresponding field content. Furthermore, the dynamics is just that which is invariant under rigid transformations of the algebra which is used to define the non-linear realisation and also under the local sub-algebra. Clearly, a different choice of local sub-algebra also affects the dynamical equations. Hence, different real forms lead to different non-linear realisations which are physically inequivalent.

This is apparent in the above examples as the algebra D_m^{+++} is associated with the bosonic string in $m + 2$ dimensions and also with ten-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity coupled to $2(m-8)$ Yang-Mills multiplets. The different field content of these theories arises from the fact that the real forms used are different. Deleting the first three nodes of the Dynkin diagram of D_m^{+++} we find the finite dimensional algebra D_m , but while the bosonic string corresponds to the maximally non-compact real form $SO(m, m)$ of this algebra with local sub-algebra $SO(m) \otimes SO(m)$, ten-dimensional $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity coupled to $2(m-8)$ Yang-Mills multiplets corresponds to the real form $SO(8, 2m - 8)$ with local sub-algebra $SO(8) \otimes SO(2m - 8)$ [7].

Different real forms of finite dimensional semi-simple Lie algebras have come up in the context of supergravity theories in the past. In particular, certain supergravity theories have scalar fields that belong to cosets of groups that are not in their maximally non-compact form. The supergravity theories with eight supersymmetries that exist in six dimensions and less and the spaces to which their scalars belong have been the subject of much study. In particular in [8 – 11] the geometry of the spaces that arise has been studied.

The way the cosets and the corresponding non-split real forms are linked under dimensional reduction or oxidation have been studied in [8, 9, 12 – 15]. Different real forms of semi-simple Lie algebras have also occurred in the context of cosmological billiards [16 – 18].

In the original understanding of the E_{11} and related conjectures an important stepping

stone was the result [19] that the theories under study, such as eleven dimensional supergravity, are non-linear realisations. The Kac-Moody algebra is taken to be the smallest such algebra that contains all the generators and commutators of the algebra that turn up in the non-linear realisation. If one suspects that the Kac-Moody algebra associated with a given theory is a very extended algebra then one can adopt a short cut. The three dimensional theory arising from a very extended Kac-Moody algebra is found by decomposing G^{+++} into the algebras that result in deleting the affine node of its Dynkin diagram. This is the node usually labelled three. The resulting algebra is $A_2 \otimes G$ where the A_2 factor is associated with three dimensional gravity and the factor G is the internal symmetry group in three dimensions. At lowest levels the resulting three dimensional theory contains only gravity and scalars which for theories with supergravity are always found to belong to a coset space or non-linear realisation for the group G and a subgroup H . Hence if one suspects that a theory has a formulation at low levels as a non-linear realisation of a very extended algebra G^{+++} one can find the group G by dimensionally reducing the theory in question to three dimensions and read off the group G from the scalar coset and thus the conjectured very extended algebra G^{+++} of the higher dimensional theory. The reduction also provides the real form of the algebra G^{+++} as this is inherited from the real form of the algebra G that turns up in the three dimensional theory. Indeed the subgroup H of the scalar coset is the maximal compact subgroup of G which tells us which real form of G arose.

Having chosen the very extended Kac-Moody algebra G^{+++} and its real form one will automatically recover the correct scalar coset in three dimensions, however the field content in all other dimensions is uniquely predicted by the non-linear realisation of G^{+++} and one can test if this agrees with the theory in question or not.

In this paper we consider the theories with eight supersymmetries whose scalars parametrise symmetric manifolds. These theories have been classified in [12]. We conjecture that all these theories have an underlying very-extended Kac-Moody symmetry. We identify this Kac-Moody symmetries and verify that they lead to precisely the correct field content for some of the theories of most interest.

The paper is organised as follows. In section 2 we give a review of theories with eight supersymmetries in six, five, four and three dimensions. In section 3 we derive the Kac-Moody algebras G^{+++} associated with different real forms of various Lie algebras, and conjecture their relation with theories with eight supersymmetries. In section 4 we show that the bosonic field content of these supersymmetric theories exactly coincides with the one obtained from the G^{+++} non-linear realisation. Section 5 contains a discussion of our results. An appendix explains how one obtains the representations of the internal symmetry group for all p -forms in D dimensions starting from a decomposition of the adjoint representation of G^{+++} .

2. Review of theories with eight supersymmetries

In this paper we are interested in theories with eight supersymmetries and in particular their field content in order to compare it with the predictions of the very extended Kac-

Moody algebras. Such theories exist in dimensions six and less as is readily apparent if one considers the representations of Clifford algebras. Indeed in six dimensions a Dirac spinor has 8 complex components, and a Weyl condition can be imposed, so that the corresponding irreducible spinor has 8 real components. A Majorana condition can be imposed on a $USp(2)$ doublet of spinors, leading again to 8 real components if the spinors are Weyl. Spinors satisfying this type of Majorana conditions are often called symplectic Majorana spinors. In five dimensions no condition can be imposed on a single irreducible spinor, which has 8 real components. As in six dimensions, a symplectic Majorana condition can be imposed on a doublet of spinors in five dimensions.

In six dimensions theories with eight supersymmetries are minimal because a spinor with eight real components is irreducible. Minimal supersymmetric theories in six dimensions are usually called $\mathcal{N} = (1,0)$ theories to denote the fact that the corresponding supercharge is a Weyl spinor and therefore these theories are chiral. The six-dimensional supergravity multiplet consists of the vierbein e_μ^a , a 2-form $A_{a_1 a_2}^{(-)}$ and a gravitino $\psi_{a\alpha i}$. The 2-form has a field strength which is anti-self dual while the gravitino is a $USp(2)$ symplectic Majorana-Weyl spinor, hence the $i = 1, 2$ index. In six dimensions there are also tensor and vector multiplets. The field content of the tensor multiplet is given by a 2-form $A_{a_1 a_2}^{(+)}$ and a scalar ϕ , together with a symplectic Majorana-Weyl spinor whose chirality is opposite to the one of the gravitino. The field strength of the 2-form is self-dual and the scalar ϕ is real. The vector multiplet consists of a vector A_a and a symplectic Majorana-Weyl spinor of the same chirality of the gravitino. There is also a hyper-multiplet which consists of two fermions and four scalars, but we will not consider this and its dimensional reductions further in this paper.

If we denote by $n_T^{(6)}$ and $n_V^{(6)}$ the number of tensor and vector multiplets respectively, then the bosonic content of the six dimensional theory is given by

$$(e_\mu^a, A_{a_1 a_2}^{(-)}; A_{a_1 a_2}^{(+)}(n_T^{(6)}), \phi(n_T^{(6)}); A_a(n_V^{(6)})) \tag{2.1}$$

where the numbers $n_T^{(6)}$ and $n_V^{(6)}$ in brackets denote the number of such fields. The scalars parametrise the coset $\frac{SO(n_T^{(6)}, 1)}{SO(n_T^{(6)})}$ [10].

We now consider the five dimensional case. As in six dimensions, theories with eight supersymmetries are minimal in five dimensions. Nonetheless, they are usually called $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theories. The dimensional reduction of the six-dimensional gravity multiplet gives in five dimensions the gravity multiplet together with one vector multiplet, which has the bosonic field content (A_a, φ) where the scalar φ is real, while the dimensional reduction to five dimensions of the six dimensional tensor and vector multiplets both give rise to the vector multiplet in five dimensions, using the fact that a 2-form is dual to a vector in five dimensions. The five dimensional supergravity multiplet has the bosonic content (e_μ^a, B_a) . As a result the dimensional reduction of the six dimensional theory to five dimensions has the field content

$$(e_\mu^a, B_a, A_a(n_V^{(5)}), \varphi(n_V^{(5)})) \tag{2.2}$$

where $n_V^{(5)} = n_T^{(6)} + n_V^{(6)} + 1$. In the case in which the five-dimensional theory does not have a six-dimensional origin, still equation (2.2) holds with arbitrary $n_V^{(5)}$.

The complete classification of the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ five-dimensional massless theories describing supergravity coupled to $n_V^{(5)}$ vector multiplets was achieved in [20]. The scalars parametrise manifolds which are called very special real. For the cases in which the scalar manifold is a symmetric space a complete classification was derived long time ago in [8], and the corresponding cosets are

$$\frac{\text{SO}(n_V^{(5)} - 1, 1)}{\text{SO}(n_V^{(5)} - 1)} \times \text{SO}(1, 1) \tag{2.3}$$

$$\text{SL}(3, R) / \text{SO}(3) \quad (n_V^{(5)} = 5) \tag{2.4}$$

$$\text{SL}(3, C) / \text{SU}(3) \quad (n_V^{(5)} = 8) \tag{2.5}$$

$$\text{SU}^*(6) / \text{USp}(6) \quad (n_V^{(5)} = 14) \tag{2.6}$$

$$E_{6(-26)} / F_4 \quad (n_V^{(5)} = 26) \tag{2.7}$$

$$\frac{\text{SO}(1, n_V^{(5)})}{\text{SO}(n_V^{(5)})} \ . \tag{2.8}$$

In four dimensions the minimal amount of supersymmetries that a supersymmetric theory can have is four, corresponding to the fact that an irreducible spinor representation has four real components in four dimensions. Therefore theories with eight supersymmetries are called $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theories. The gravity multiplet has a bosonic field content which consists of (e_μ^a, B_a) , while the vector multiplet, giving rise to the $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Yang-Mills theory, has the bosonic field content $(A_a, \phi_1 \pm i\phi_2)$, where ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 are real. The dimensional reduction of the above six dimensional theory to four dimensions leads to $\mathcal{N} = 2$, $D = 4$ supergravity coupled to $n_V^{(4)}$ $\mathcal{N} = 2$ Yang-Mills multiplets where, in case the theory can be obtained from a reduction from 6 dimensions, $n_V^{(4)} = n_T^{(6)} + n_V^{(6)} + 2$. The field content is

$$(e_\mu^a, B_a, A_a(n_V^{(4)}), (\phi_1 \pm i\phi_2)(n_V^{(4)})) \ . \tag{2.9}$$

Equation (2.9) also holds in the case in which the four-dimensional theory has no six or five-dimensional origin. The special Kähler spaces that are parametrised by the scalars have been widely studied in the literature [9, 11]. In particular, in [21] the following possible non-compact symmetric spaces were given:

$$\text{SU}(n_V^{(4)}, 1) / [\text{SU}(n_V^{(4)}) \times \text{U}(1)] \tag{2.10}$$

$$\text{SO}(n_V^{(4)} - 1, 2) / [\text{SO}(n_V^{(4)} - 1) \times \text{SO}(2)] \otimes \text{SU}(1, 1) / \text{U}(1) \tag{2.11}$$

$$[\text{SU}(1, 1) / \text{U}(1)]^3 \quad (n_V^{(4)} = 3) \tag{2.12}$$

$$\text{Sp}(6, R) / \text{U}(3) \quad (n_V^{(4)} = 6) \tag{2.13}$$

$$\text{SU}(3, 3) / \text{S}[\text{U}(3) \times \text{U}(3)] \quad (n_V^{(4)} = 9) \tag{2.14}$$

$$\text{SO}^*(12) / \text{U}(6) \quad (n_V^{(4)} = 15) \tag{2.15}$$

$$E_{7(-26)} / E_6 \times \text{SO}(2) \quad (n_V^{(4)} = 27) \ . \tag{2.16}$$

In the case in which the theory has a five-dimensional origin, the manifold that the scalars parametrise is called very special Kähler [22].

Finally, we perform the reduction to three dimensions. In three dimensions an irreducible spinor has two real components, and thus theories with eight supersymmetries are called $\mathcal{N} = 4$. In three dimensions, gravity is not a propagating degree of freedom, while vectors are dual to scalars. The $\mathcal{N} = 4$ hyper-multiplet in three dimensions consists of four real scalars and four Majorana spinors. The dimensional reduction of the six dimensional theory to three dimensions gives gravity coupled to the real scalars $\tilde{\phi}$, and thus the bosonic field content is

$$(e_\mu^a, \tilde{\phi}(4n_H^{(3)})) \tag{2.17}$$

where $n_H^{(3)}$ is the number of hyper-multiplets, and in case of reduction from 6 dimensions, $n_H^{(3)} = n_T^{(6)} + n_V^{(6)} + 3$. The scalars parametrise quaternionic manifolds. If the three-dimensional theory has a four-dimensional origin, the corresponding manifold is called special quaternionic, while if it also has a five-dimensional origin it is called very special quaternionic. The quaternionic symmetric spaces are

$$USp(2n_H^{(3)}, 2)/[USp(2n_H^{(3)}) \times USp(2)] \tag{2.18}$$

$$SU(n_H^{(3)}, 2)/[SU(n_H^{(3)}) \times SU(2) \times U(1)] \tag{2.19}$$

$$SO(4, n_H^{(3)})/[SO(4) \times SO(n_H^{(3)})] \tag{2.20}$$

$$E_{6(2)}/[SU(6) \times SU(2)] \quad (n_H^{(3)} = 10) \tag{2.21}$$

$$E_{7(-5)}/[SO(12) \times SU(2)] \quad (n_H^{(3)} = 16) \tag{2.22}$$

$$E_{8(-24)}/[E_7 \times SU(2)] \quad (n_H^{(3)} = 28) \tag{2.23}$$

$$F_{4(4)}/[USp(6) \times SU(2)] \quad (n_H^{(3)} = 7) \tag{2.24}$$

$$G_{2(2)}/SO(4) \quad (n_H^{(3)} = 2). \tag{2.25}$$

We refer the reader to reference [23] for a review on the scalar manifolds of theories with eight supersymmetries. The theories with a homogeneous scalar manifold have been labelled by $L(q, P)$ for $q \geq -3$ and $P \geq 0$ integers. In the case $q = 4m$, for integer m , there is an extra possibility which will not be considered here. The parameters q and P are related to the number of tensor and vector multiplets in the parent six dimensional theory by $n_T^{(6)} = q + 1$ and $n_V^{(6)} = P\mathcal{D}_{q+1}$. Here \mathcal{D}_{q+1} is the dimension of the irreducible representation of the Clifford algebra in $q + 1$ dimensions with positive signature, and takes the values $\mathcal{D}_{q+1} = 1$ for $q = -1, 0$, $\mathcal{D}_{q+1} = 2$ for $q = 1$, $\mathcal{D}_{q+1} = 4$ for $q = 2$, $\mathcal{D}_{q+1} = 8$ for $q = 3, 4$, $\mathcal{D}_{q+1} = 16$ for $q = 5, 6, 7, 8$ and $\mathcal{D}_{q+8} = 16\mathcal{D}_q$ [12, 18].

3. Relationship between Kac-Moody algebras and theories with eight supersymmetries

A central role in our considerations will be played by the various real forms of a given Lie algebra defined over the complex numbers. The classification of semi-simple Lie algebras was originally carried out when the algebras are taken to be over the complex numbers as this is a complete field. Consequently, the end result of the classification, i.e. the Dynkin diagram, does not specify a preferred real form of the algebra. A real form of a Lie algebra

is just a choice of generators for which the structure constants are real. Given such a choice we can then take the algebra to be defined over the real numbers. For example, the A_1 Dynkin diagram, which is a single dot, corresponds to the complex algebra $SL(2, C)$ which has two real forms; the compact $SU(2)$ algebra and the non-compact $SL(2, R)$ algebra. The representations of these groups have different properties and this can lead to very different physical effects depending on which real form is adopted. The possible third real form $SU(1, 1)$ is included as it is isomorphic to $SL(2, R)$. All real forms of the finite dimensional semi-simple Lie algebras were found by Cartan in 1914. Some references are [24, 25].

Any finite dimensional complex semi-simple Lie algebra possesses a unique real form in which all the generators are compact. Compact means that the scalar product of the generators, defined by the Killing form, is negative definite. The negative rather than the usually preferred positive nature is just a result of the particular choice of constant in the Killing form usually adopted by mathematicians. It is given by taking the generators $\hat{U}_\alpha = i(E_\alpha + E_{-\alpha})$, $\hat{V}_\alpha = (E_\alpha - E_{-\alpha})$ and $\hat{H}_a = iH_a$, where α is any positive root, E_α the corresponding generator and H_a the elements of the Cartan sub-algebra. The compact nature of the generators follows in an obvious way from the fact that the only non-zero scalar product between E_α and $E_{-\alpha}$ is given by $(E_\alpha, E_{-\alpha}) = 1$ and $(H_a, H_a) = -(\alpha_a, \alpha_a) < 0$. We refer to this compact algebra as \mathcal{G}^{cp} and to its complexification as \mathcal{G}^C .

By considering all involutions of the unique compact real form \mathcal{G}^{cp} one can construct all other real forms of the complex Lie algebra under consideration. In particular, the real forms are in one to one correspondence with all those involutive automorphisms of the compact real algebra. By an involution we mean a map which is an automorphism ($\theta(AB) = \theta(A)\theta(B) \forall A, B \in \mathcal{G}$) which squares to one ($\theta^2 = 1$). These are also called ‘Cartan involutions’.

Given an involution θ we can divide the generators of the compact real form \mathcal{G}^{cp} into those which possess +1 and -1 eigenvalues of θ . We denote these eigenspaces by

$$\mathcal{G}^{cp} = \mathcal{K} \oplus \hat{\mathcal{P}} \tag{3.1}$$

respectively. Since θ is an automorphism it preserves the structure of the algebra and as a result the algebra when written in terms of this split must take the generic form

$$[\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{K}] \subset \mathcal{K}, \quad [\mathcal{K}, \hat{\mathcal{P}}] \subset \hat{\mathcal{P}}, \quad [\hat{\mathcal{P}}, \hat{\mathcal{P}}] \subset \mathcal{K}. \tag{3.2}$$

From the generators \mathcal{P} we define new generators $\mathcal{P} = -i\hat{\mathcal{P}}$, whereupon the algebra now takes the generic form

$$[\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{K}] \subset \mathcal{K}, \quad [\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{P}] \subset \mathcal{P}, \quad [\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}] \subset (-1)\mathcal{K}. \tag{3.3}$$

Thus we find a new real form of the algebra in which the generators \mathcal{K} are compact while the generators \mathcal{P} are non-compact. This follows from the fact that all the generators in the original algebra are compact and so have negative definite scalar product (the Killing form) and as a result of the change all the generators \mathcal{P} will have positive definite scalar products. Clearly, the new real form has maximal compact sub-algebra \mathcal{K} and this is just the part of the algebra invariant under θ .

As each real form corresponds to an involution θ we can write the corresponding real form as \mathcal{G}_θ . For the compact real form the involution is just the identity map I on all generators and so we may write $\mathcal{G}^{cp} = \mathcal{G}_I$. The number of compact generators is $\dim(\mathcal{K})$ and the number of non-compact generators is $\dim\mathcal{G} - \dim\mathcal{K}$. The character σ of the real form is the number of non-compact minus the number of compact generators and so $\sigma = \dim\mathcal{G} - 2\dim\mathcal{K}$.

An important real form can be constructed by considering the involution θ_c which is a linear operator that takes $E_\alpha \leftrightarrow -E_{-\alpha}$ and $H_a \rightarrow -H_a$. Clearly, the generators of the compact real form transform as $\hat{V}_\alpha \rightarrow \hat{V}_\alpha$, $\hat{U}_\alpha \rightarrow -\hat{U}_\alpha$ and $\hat{H}_a \rightarrow -\hat{H}_a$, where $\hat{V}_\alpha = E_\alpha - E_{-\alpha}$, $\hat{U}_\alpha = E_\alpha + E_{-\alpha}$ and $\hat{H}_a = H_a$. Using this involution we find a real form with generators

$$V_\alpha = \hat{V}_\alpha, U_\alpha = -i\hat{U}_\alpha, H_a = -i\hat{H}_a \quad . \quad (3.4)$$

The V_α remain compact generators while U_α and H_a become non-compact. By abuse of notation we are denoting with H_a both the Cartan generators of the complex Lie algebra and the Cartan generators in this particular real form. The maximal compact sub-algebra is just that invariant under the Cartan involution. Clearly, the non-compact part of the real form of the algebra found in this way contains all of the Cartan sub-algebra and it turns out that it has the maximal number of non-compact generators of all the real forms one can construct. It is therefore called the maximally non-compact real form or split real form. Using the above notation we can write it as \mathcal{G}_{θ_c} . For example, the complex Lie algebra D_n has $SO(2n)$ as its unique compact real form and $SO(n, n)$ as its maximally non-compact real form. For E_8 the maximally non-compact form is denoted by $E_{8(8)}$ and its maximal compact subgroup is $SO(16)$. The number in brackets is the character of the real form ($8 = 248 - 2.120$) and we will use this notation for all the real forms of the E_n algebras. Taking different non-trivial involutions we find different real forms. For example, for $SO(p, q)$ the maximal compact sub-algebra is $SO(p) \otimes SO(q)$ while for the real form of E_8 denoted by $E_{8(-24)}$ the maximal compact sub-algebra is $E_7 \otimes SU(2)$.

As the involution θ is an automorphism it preserves the Killing form and as a result $(\theta(X), \theta(Y)) = (X, Y) = -(X, Y) = 0$ if $X \in \mathcal{K}$ and $Y \in \mathcal{P}$. It also follows from the above discussion that $(X, \theta(Y))$ is negative definite. In fact one can define a Cartan involution to be an involution for which this is true. In the past papers of the authors one has so far mainly dealt with the split case, and the Cartan involution for this real form has been called ‘the Cartan involution’, as no other one was considered.

As we have discussed the Cartan sub-algebra H of \mathcal{G}_θ can be split between compact generators \mathcal{K} and non-compact generators \mathcal{P} . Let us denote the Cartan sub-algebra elements in \mathcal{P} by $H_{\mathcal{P}} = H \cap \mathcal{P}$. The real rank r_θ of \mathcal{G}_θ is the dimension of $H_{\mathcal{P}}$. Clearly, it takes its maximal value for the split case where it equals the rank of \mathcal{G}_θ .

Rather than consider the action of the involution on the generators of the algebra it is more convenient to consider its action on the space of roots Δ of the algebra. In fact this is equivalent to its action on the Cartan subalgebra H as the roots belong to the dual space H^* , but as we will see it is more illuminating. We can divide the space of roots into those that have eigenvalues ± 1 ; $\Delta_c = \{\alpha; \theta(\alpha) = \alpha\}$ and $\Delta_s = \{\alpha; \theta(\alpha) = -\alpha\}$. The roots

are associated with the underlying algebra and so can not in general be divided up into eigenspaces of θ and so there are roots that give neither ± 1 under the action of θ , but a combination of roots.

The action of θ , and so the determination of the real form of a given Lie algebra, can be encoded on the so called Tits-Satake diagram. This is the Dynkin diagram of the complex algebra $\mathcal{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$ with some of the nodes coloured black. A node is black if its corresponding simple root is in Δ_c i.e. $\theta(\alpha_a) = \alpha_a$ and the rest of the nodes are white. The map P_θ defined by $P_\theta(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \theta(\alpha))$ is a projection $P_\theta^2 = P_\theta$. Clearly, if $\beta \in \Delta_c$, then $P_\theta(\beta) = 0$. In fact $P_\theta(\alpha)$ is just the projection or restriction of the root α onto the subspace $H_{\mathcal{P}}^*$.

Given a Tits-Satake diagram we know the action of θ on the simple roots that are black and one can deduce its action on all the simple roots using the fact that $\theta^2 = 1$ and that the action of θ preserves the Cartan matrix. The latter follows from the fact that θ is an automorphism, so preserves the Killing form and that the Cartan matrix is constructed from the scalar product on the roots induced from the Killing form on the dual space to the roots, that is the Cartan sub-algebra. Hence from the Tits-Satake diagram we find the action of θ on the roots.

An exception to the black and white dots occurs when two simple roots have the same projection, i.e. $P_\theta(\alpha_a) = P_\theta(\alpha_b)$. In this case we can connect nodes a and b by an arrow.

Having the action of θ on the roots we can deduce the action on the generators by taking $\theta(H_a) = H_a$ if the label a corresponds to a black dot. This follows from the action on the corresponding simple root, indeed the action of θ on all of H follows from the its action on the dual space of roots. We also take $\theta(E_\alpha) = c_\alpha E_{\theta(\alpha)}$ where $c_\alpha = \pm 1$. The assignment of the constants c_α is such that $\theta(E_\alpha) = (E_\alpha)$ if $\alpha \in \Delta_c$ and $\theta(E_\alpha) = -(E_{-\alpha})$ if $\alpha \in \Delta_s$. The action of the remaining generators must be consistent with the fact that θ is an automorphism, acting on $[E_\alpha, E_\beta] = N_{\alpha,\beta} E_{\alpha+\beta}$ we find that

$$c_{\alpha+\beta} N_{\alpha,\beta} = c_\alpha c_\beta N_{\theta(\alpha),\theta(\beta)} \quad . \quad (3.5)$$

The black nodes are just the ones whose corresponding Cartan sub-algebra element is compact and obviously the white nodes are those corresponding to the non-compact elements. Clearly, for the maximal non-compact real form all the nodes are white as all the elements of the Cartan sub-algebra are non-compact while for the compact real form all the nodes are black.

Given a real form of a complex Lie algebra, any element g of the associated group can be expressed as $g = g_c g_{na} g_r$ where g_c is in the maximal compact sub-group, g_{na} is the maximal commuting non-compact subalgebra, that is $H_{\mathcal{P}}$ and g_r is the group whose Lie algebra consists of the generators which have the positive roots with respect to $H_{\mathcal{P}}$. This is the Iwasawa decomposition a description of which can be found in reference [24]. Let us be a little more precise. Given the generators of the real algebra whose roots are the eigenvectors of the full Cartan sub-algebra H , we can consider the restriction of the roots to be just the eigenvalue components corresponding to the Cartan sub-algebra generators in $H_{\mathcal{P}}$. We denote this restricted root space by Σ . We can think of Σ as the dual of the space $H_{\mathcal{P}}$. Given an ordering in Σ , or equivalently $H_{\mathcal{P}}$, we can then split the roots in Σ into those that are positive denoted Σ^+ and the rest which are negative, denoted Σ^- .

The group g_r is just that generated by the Lie algebra consisting of all generators whose restricted root is in Σ^+ . The action of θ sends a restricted root λ to $-\lambda$.

For the case of a maximally non-compact form of the algebra, all the Cartan generators are non-compact and so g_{na} is just the Cartan sub-algebra while g_r is generated by all positive root generators of the complex algebra, that is all the positive root generators in the usual sense. As such, this is the decomposition for which $g_{na}g_r$ is just the Borel sub-group. The important point to note is that it is only for the maximally non-compact real form that all Cartan subalgebra elements of the original algebra appear in g_{na} and all simple roots can be generated from multiple commutators of the generators appearing in g_r .

The construction of non-linear realisations based on a given algebra is carried out with respect to a particular real form of a given algebra and the choice of a local sub-algebra. The choice of local subalgebra affects the field content and the way the symmetries are realised. The local subalgebra is for the cases considered in this paper always chosen to be the maximal compact subalgebra of a the real form being used. Clearly, the dimension and the properties of this local sub-algebra change from one real form to another. For example, for $SO(n, n)$ the maximal compact sub-algebra is $SO(n) \otimes SO(n)$ while for $SO(p, q)$ it is $SO(p) \otimes SO(q)$. Clearly, even if $p + q = 2n, p \neq q$ the dimensions of the two cosets are different and so is the physics resulting from the two non-linear realisations based on the two algebras. In particular, only for $SO(n, n)$ do all the Cartan subalgebra generators appear in the coset and so correspond to fields in the non-linear realisation. So far, all algebras considered in the context of the eleven dimensional supergravity, IIA and IIB supergravity and their formulations in lower dimensions were the maximal non-compact form of real algebras and so the group element which appears in the non-linear realisation can be chosen to be that of the Borel subgroup. This is also the case for $D = 10, \mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity theory coupled to no or one vector multiplet, but for more than one vector multiplet coupled to $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supergravity one must use symmetry algebras that are not the maximally non-compact real form [7].

Important for the original understanding that E_{11} is a symmetry of the low energy effective actions of string theory was the formulation of the corresponding supergravity theories as non-linear realisations of an algebra G_{11} . This latter algebra was not a Kac-Moody algebra, but it was conjectured that the corresponding theory was associated with the smallest Kac-Moody algebra that contained all the generators, and their commutation relations, of the algebra G_{11} that arose in the non-linear realisation of the supergravity theory under study. However, unlike G_{11} , the conjectured Kac-Moody algebra contains many more generators. As a result the non-linear realisation of the Kac-Moody algebra contains many more fields than the original non-linear realisation and so only at the lowest levels do the two coincide [1, 19]. As noted above it was realised that all the Kac-Moody algebras found by considering maximal supergravities [1], effective bosonic string actions [1] and gravity [4] in this way were very extended algebras [5]. Given a semi-simple finite dimensional algebra G one constructs the very extended algebra G^{+++} by adding to the Dynkin diagram of G first the affine node and then the over extended node, which is connected to the affine node by a single line, and finally the very extended node, which

is connected to the over extended node by a single line [5]. Thus G^{+++} has rank three more than G . If a theory is a non-linear realisation of G^{+++} , the formulation of the three dimensional theory is given by carrying out the decomposition of G^{+++} by deleting the affine node which is usually labeled the node three. This breaks G^{+++} into $G \otimes A_2$. The second factor is the algebra $SL(3)$ and it corresponds to the presence of gravity in the three-dimensional theory. G is the internal symmetry of the three dimensional theory. In particular, the field content of the non-linear realisation is found by carrying out the decomposition of G^{+++} into $G \otimes A_2$ and taking into account the local sub-algebra as described above. Clearly, at the lowest level we will find in addition to gravity a set of scalars which are a non-linear realisation of G with a local sub-algebra H that is just the local sub-algebra of the full non-linear realisation which lies in G . In fact the scalars are the only dynamical degrees of freedom of the three dimensional theory.

Clearly if we suspect that a theory in dimension D has an underlying very extended Kac-Moody algebra we can reduce it to three space-time dimensions. Then we can find the coset to which the scalars belong and deduce that the corresponding very extended Kac-moody algebra for the theory in D dimensions is G^{+++} if the scalars in three dimensions are a non-linear realisation constructed from the algebra G . The Kac-Moody algebra now determines uniquely all the field content of the theory in D dimensions, it being just a consequence of the decomposition of G^{+++} into the algebra that results by deleting the node usually called D in the Dynkin diagram. The first test of the conjectured very extended Kac-Moody symmetry is to see if the field content it predicts actually agrees with the content of the theory under consideration in the dimension of interest. If this precise test is not true then the conjecture that the theory has an underlying very extended Kac-Moody algebra is not true.

The scalars in three dimensions will be a non-linear realisation, or coset, of a particular real form of G and the local sub-algebra H will be the maximal compact sub-algebra. We can then conjecture a G^{+++} that has the corresponding real form. As explained above the real form of an algebra can be encoded in its Dynkin diagram by colouring some of the nodes black. This means that the corresponding Dynkin diagram of G^{+++} will have all white dots except for some black dots in the G part of the Dynkin diagram which coincide with those found in the internal symmetry G of the three dimensional theory. Thus not only can we deduce from three dimensions the very extended Kac-Moody algebra, but also its real form.

Let us explain how this works with some examples. The theory with eight supersymmetries which in six dimensions has nine tensor multiplets ($n_T^{(6)} = 9$) and sixteen ($n_V^{(6)} = 16$) vector multiplets is associated with $L(8,1)$. In three dimensions we find that the scalars belong to the non-linear realisation $E_{8(-24)}$ where the subscript indicates that this is the real form which has the maximal compact sub-algebra $E_7 \otimes SU(2)$. This is the coset space in equation (2.23). Thus we conjecture that this theory in six dimensions has an extension such that it is the non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ with the real form in which nodes labelled 7, 8, 9 and 11 are black as in figure 1.

The six dimensional theory with eight supersymmetries with five tensor multiplets ($n_T^{(6)} = 5$) and eight ($n_V^{(6)} = 8$) vector multiplets is associated with $L(4,1)$. In three

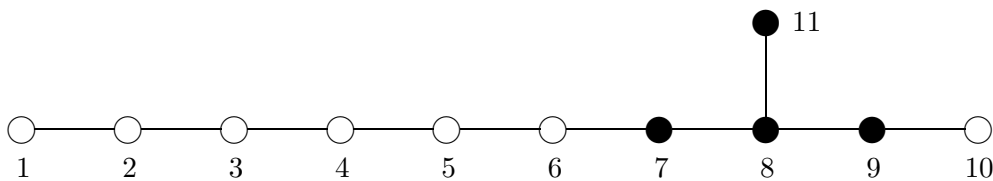


Figure 1: The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(8, 1)$.

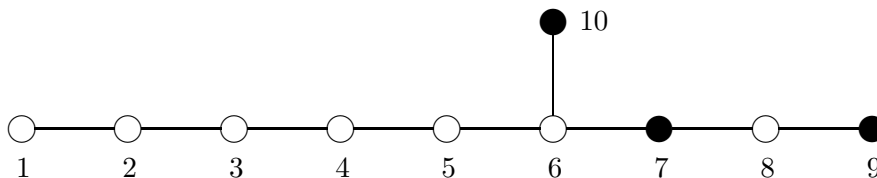


Figure 2: The $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(4, 1)$.

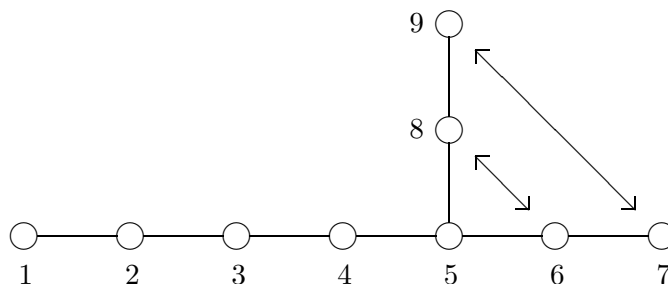


Figure 3: The $E_{6(2)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(2, 1)$.

dimensions we find that the scalars belong to the non-linear realisation $E_{7(-5)}$ where the subscript indicates that this is the real form which has the maximal compact sub-algebra $SO(12) \otimes SU(2)$. This is the coset space in equation (2.22). Thus we conjecture that this theory in six dimensions has an extension such that it is the non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ with the real form in which nodes 7, 9 and 10 are black as in figure 2.

Alternatively, the six dimensional theory with three tensor multiplets ($n_T^{(6)} = 3$) and four vector multiplets ($n_V^{(6)} = 4$), associated with $L(2, 1)$, when reduced to three dimensions has scalars which belong to the coset constructed from $E_{6(2)}$ which has maximal compact subgroup $SU(6) \otimes SU(2)$. This is the coset space in equation (2.21). As a result we conjecture that this theory is associated with the non-linear realisation of $E_{6(2)}^{+++}$. The corresponding Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 3.

Other two examples concern the six dimensional theories with eight supersymmetries with one tensor multiplet and P vector multiplets, associated with $L(0, P)$, that when reduced to three dimensions have scalars parametrising a coset of $SO(P + 4, 4)$ with local subgroup $SO(P + 4) \otimes SO(4)$, as in equation (2.20). For P even, the conjectured Kac-Moody algebra is $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$, and the corresponding Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 4. For P

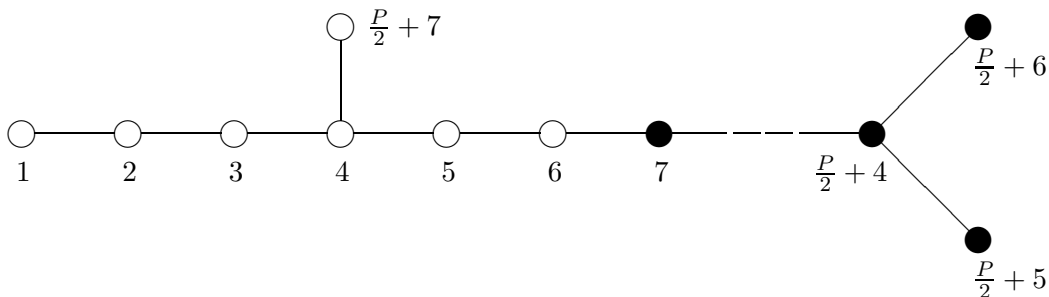


Figure 4: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(0, P)$ (P even).

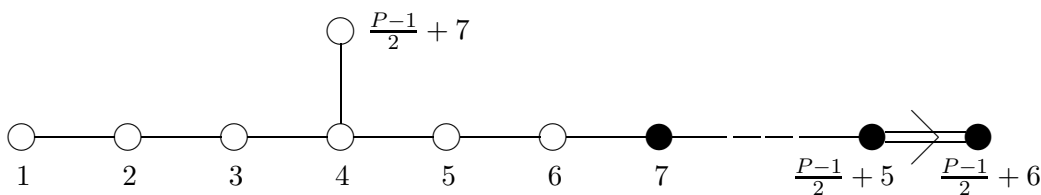


Figure 5: The $B_{\frac{P-1}{2}+4}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(0, P)$ (P odd).

odd, the conjectured Kac-Moody algebra is $B_{\frac{P-1}{2}+4}^{+++}$, whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 5.

The theories giving rise to the coset spaces in equations (2.24) and (2.25) have already been conjectured in [6] to be associated to the $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ and $G_{2(2)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisations. These cases, like the $L(0, 0)$ and $L(0, 1)$ cases above, are special because the corresponding Lie algebra is maximally non-compact. The six-dimensional theory corresponding to the $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation has two tensor multiplets and two vector multiplets and is associated with $L(1, 1)$. The $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 21. The theory corresponding to the $G_{2(2)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation can not be uplifted to six dimensions, as it is evident from the Dynkin diagram of figure 22. This theory corresponds to pure supergravity in five dimensions.

The $L(-3, P)$ theory, corresponding to the three-dimensional coset of equation (2.18), has a conjectured Kac-Moody symmetry C_{P+2}^{+++} whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 19. As it is evident from the diagram, this theory can not be uplifted to any dimension above three. Finally, the $L(-2, P)$ theory, corresponding to the three-dimensional coset of equation (2.18), has a conjectured Kac-Moody symmetry A_{P+3}^{+++} whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 20. The diagram makes it manifest that the highest dimension in which this theory can live is four.

In the next section we will analyse the G^{+++} non-linear realisations and show that their field content exactly agrees with the corresponding supergravity theories. We will consider the cases $L(8, 1)$, $L(4, 1)$ and $L(0, P)$ (P even) explicitly, corresponding to the $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$, $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ and $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4}^{+++}$ non-linear realisations respectively, but our results apply to all the other cases as well.

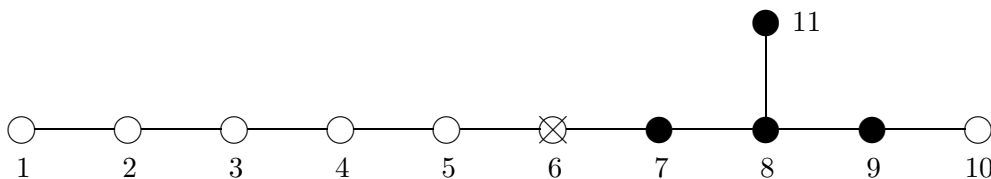


Figure 6: The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 6-dimensional $L(8, 1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $SO(9, 1)$.

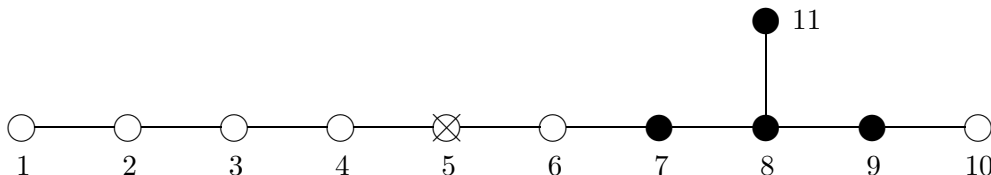


Figure 7: The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 5-dimensional $L(8, 1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $E_{6(-26)}$.

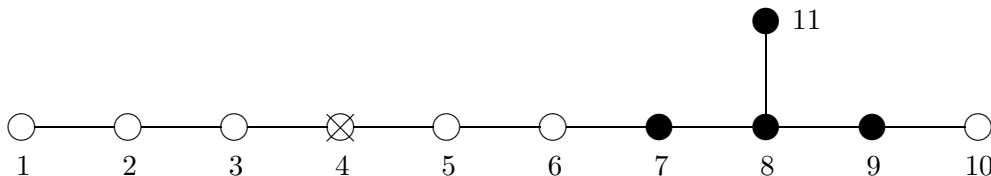


Figure 8: The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 4-dimensional $L(8, 1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $E_{7(-25)}$.

4. Field content of real forms of G^{+++}

In this section we will test the conjectured Kac-Moody algebras by computing their low level field content and seeing if it agrees with the actual field content of the theory it is associated with.

4.1 $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ and $L(8, 1)$

At first sight it would appear that this conjectured Kac-Moody algebra for $L(8, 1)$ must be wrong as the ten and eleven dimensional maximal supergravities also have E_8^{+++} as their corresponding non-linear realisation. The former uses the maximally non-compact real form, denoted by $E_{8(8)}^{+++}$, which has a Dynkin diagram in which all of its nodes are white, while for the $L(8, 1)$ theory we are using the real form $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ as illustrated in the Dynkin diagram of figure 1. As we will see in the following, the fact that the two real forms are different leads to different field contents for the corresponding non-linear realisations.

The **six dimensional** theory is obtained by taking the decomposition of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ corresponding to deleting node six in figure 1 leaving the algebra $D_5 \otimes A_5$ as shown in figure 6. The latter factor is the algebra $SL(6)$ and it leads in the non-linear realisation to six dimensional gravity. The internal symmetry is the real form $SO(9, 1)$ as this corresponds

to the positions of the black dots in the D_5 part of the Dynkin diagram. The maximal compact subgroup of $SO(9, 1)$ is $SO(9)$ and so the scalars in six dimensions belong to the non-linear realisation of $SO(9, 1)$ with local subgroup $SO(9)$.

As discussed above to find the theory, in say D dimensions, arising from the non-linear realisation of a very extended algebra G^{+++} we must first carry out the decomposition of G^{+++} into the algebra that remains after the deletion of an appropriate node in the Dynkin diagram of G^{+++} . The resulting set of generators is independent of which real form we take for G^{+++} . The non-linear realisation consists of group elements g which are subject to transformation $g \rightarrow gh$ where h is a local transformation that belongs to the compact subalgebra. As noted in section three the general group element can be written as $g = g_c g_{na} g_r$ and so the group element can be brought to the form $g = g_{na} g_r$ using this local transformation. The parameters that appear in the latter group element are just the fields of the theory. In the cases studied in this paper the deleted node, labelled c , is a white node and so its corresponding Cartan sub-algebra element H_c is in $H_{\mathcal{P}}$. As such the restricted roots contain a component that is the eigenvalue of H_c . If we adopt an ordering for $H_{\mathcal{P}}$ such that H_c is the first element then a restricted root will be positive if it arises from a generator which has positive level with respect to the deleted node, i.e. $m_c > 0$. It follows that the theory will contain fields corresponding to all generators that have positive level with respect to the deleted node. In fact, this is the same set of fields that occurs in the split case or indeed for any other real form. We note that this consideration does not apply for level zero generators.

In view of the last remark, the form fields can be computed using techniques similar to those of reference [26] and in the E_8^{+++} case being studied here, the form fields that arise in the $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation are the same as for the maximal compact real form $E_{8(8)}^{+++}$ and can for example be read off from table 5 of reference [27].

The 1-forms of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ that arise in six dimensions form the spinor representation of $SO(9, 1)$, i.e. the **16**. The 2-forms belong to the 10-dimensional representation of $SO(9, 1)$. We recall that in any G^{+++} non-linear realisation every field appears together with its dual. As in six dimensions 2-forms are dual to 2-forms, in this case the 2-forms in the **10** of $SO(1, 9)$ must satisfy (anti)self-duality conditions. The rank three forms of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ belong to the $\overline{\mathbf{16}}$ representation of $SO(9, 1)$. These fields are the duals of the 1-forms. The 4-forms are in the **45** representation of $SO(9, 1)$, that is the adjoint. These are duals to the 9 scalars. The apparent contradiction arising from having more 4-forms than scalars is resolved by remembering that the dynamics is invariant under the local sub-algebra which at the lowest level is $SO(9)$. Decomposing the **45** of $SO(1, 9)$ to the $SO(9)$ sub-algebra leads to $\mathbf{9} \oplus \mathbf{36}$. The dynamics will set the field strength of the **36** to zero and the remaining **9** will be dual to the scalars.

Thus we find that in six dimensions the non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ algebra precisely predicts

$$h_a{}^b(\mathbf{1}), A_a(\mathbf{16}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\mathbf{10}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\overline{\mathbf{16}}), A_{a_1 \dots a_4}(\mathbf{45}) \tag{4.1}$$

where the numbers in brackets denote the representations of $SO(9, 1)$ and we find in addition the nine scalars mentioned above. In the actual six dimensional theory associated with

$L(8, 1)$ we have nine tensor multiplets ($n_T^{(6)} = 9$) and sixteen ($n_V^{(6)} = 16$) vector multiplets and from equation (2.1) in section two we can read off the field content. We find that we have precise agreement. The non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ also predicts the number of 5-forms $A_{a_1 \dots a_5}$ to be in the **144** representation of $SO(9, 1)$ so predicting the presence of 144 gauged supergravities for this theory and the number of space-filling 6-forms $A_{a_1 \dots a_6}$ to be in the **320** \oplus **126** \oplus **10** representation.

To find the **five dimensional** theory predicted by $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ we must delete node five in figure 1 to find the algebras $E_{6(-26)} \otimes SL(5)$ as shown in figure 7. The internal symmetry is therefore $E_{6(-26)}$ as the distribution of the black dots shows. This real form of E_6 has F_4 as its maximal compact subgroup. As a result there are 26 scalars in five dimensions and they belong to the non-linear realisation of $E_{6(-26)}$ with local subgroup F_4 . The $SL(5)$ factor leads in the non-linear realisation to the field $h_a{}^b, a, b = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ which is five dimensional gravity. The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ algebra leads to 1-forms and 2-forms that are in the **27** and $\overline{\mathbf{27}}$ representations respectively of $E_{6(-26)}$. The 2-forms are dual to the 1-forms. There are 78 3-forms in the adjoint of E_6 which are dual to the 26 scalars once one takes account of the above comments.

Hence in five dimensions the non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ algebra precisely predicts

$$h_a{}^b(\mathbf{1}), A_a(\mathbf{27}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\overline{\mathbf{27}}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\mathbf{78}) \quad (4.2)$$

where the numbers in brackets denote the representations of $E_{6(-26)}$ and we have in addition the 26 scalars mentioned above. This is precisely as required as $n_V^{(5)} = 9 + 16 + 1 = 26$ and the actual content of the five dimensional $L(8, 1)$ theory is given in equation (2.2). Finally we also have 4-forms $A_{a_1 \dots a_4}$ which belong to the **351** of $E_{6(-26)}$ and so we expect this theory to have 351 gauged extensions. We also have 5-forms that belong to the $\overline{\mathbf{1728}} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{27}}$.

In **four dimensions** we delete the node four of the $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram in figure 1 to leave $E_{7(-25)} \otimes SL(4)$. This leads to the diagram of figure 8. The real form $E_{7(-25)}$ of E_7 that arises is the one which has maximal compact sub-algebra $E_6 \otimes U(1)$. As such there are 54 scalars which belong to the non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-25)}$ with local sub-algebra $E_6 \otimes U(1)$. In this non-linear realisation the 1-forms belong to the **56** representation of $E_{7(-25)}$. They lead to 28 vector fields together with their magnetic duals. The 2-forms belong to the **133** representation of $E_{7(-25)}$, which is the adjoint, and are dual to the 54 scalars in the sense discussed above. Indeed, the **133** of $E_{7(-25)}$ breaks into the $(\mathbf{27} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{27}}) \oplus (\mathbf{78} \oplus \mathbf{1})$ of E_6 . The 2-forms in the first bracket are dual to the scalars while the fields strengths of the latter will vanish in the dynamics.

Hence in four dimensions the non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ algebra precisely predicts

$$h_a{}^b(\mathbf{1}), A_a(\mathbf{56}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\mathbf{133}) \quad (4.3)$$

where the numbers in brackets denote the representations of $E_{7(-25)}$ and we have in addition the 45 scalars mentioned above. Examining equation (2.3) we see that this is precisely the correct field content of the $L(8, 1)$ theory in four dimensions. The $E_{7(-25)}$ non-linear realisation also predicts that the deformation forms $A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}$ belong to the **912** representation of $E_{7(-25)}$.

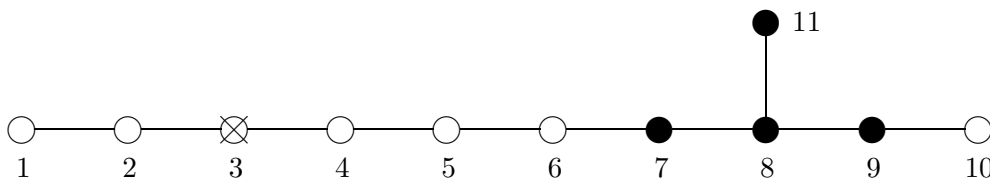


Figure 9: The $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 3-dimensional $L(8,1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $E_{8(-24)}$.

Finally we consider the formulation of the $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ theory in **three dimensions**. Deleting node three in figure 1 we find the algebra $E_{8(-24)} \otimes \text{SL}(3)$, as shown in figure 9. The scalars belong to non-linear realisation of $E_{8(-24)}$ which has the maximal compact subalgebra $E_7 \otimes \text{SU}(2)$. This is the correct coset, but this, unlike all the above results in higher dimensions, was guaranteed by the way in which the very extended algebra and its real form were guessed.

It is also clear why the $L(8,1)$ theory only exists in six dimensions and less. The gravity line is the A_{D-1} part of the Dynkin diagram and, as the name suggests, it is associated with gravity in the D dimensional theory under study. To actually lead to gravity it must contain the real form of A_{D-1} that is $\text{SL}(D)$ as this form contains all the Cartan subalgebra elements as non-compact elements and so, in the non-linear realisation, it leads to the diagonal components of the metric. Put another way, if we have some other real form then some of the diagonal components of the metric will be missing. As such we can not have a gravity line that contains a black dot. We also demand that the deleted dot be white in view of the considerations at the beginning of this section. As such the gravity line, which must begin from the node labelled one, and the deleted node must all be white nodes and looking at figure 1 one see that the maximal dimensions is six. Clearly, this applies to all the real forms of the very extended algebras considered in this paper and it is amusing to verify the upper dimensions is indeed six for the Dynkin diagram of figures 1–5.

4.2 $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ and $L(4,1)$

Let us now turn our attention to the theory associated with $L(4,1)$. This six-dimensional supersymmetric theory has 5 tensor multiplets and 8 vector multiplets and as argued above should be associated with the very extended algebra $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$.

To find the **six dimensional** theory predicted by the $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation we must delete node six as in figure 2. This leads to the Dynkin diagram of figure 10. The internal symmetry algebra is $\text{SO}(5,1) \otimes \text{SU}(2)$. We note that $\text{SO}(5,1)$ is isomorphic to $\text{SU}^*(4)$. The maximal compact subalgebra of $\text{SO}(5,1)$ is $\text{SO}(5)$, while $\text{SU}(2)$ is compact. Thus we find 5 scalars which belong to the coset $\text{SO}(5,1)$ with local sub-algebra $\text{SO}(5)$. The non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ has 1-forms that belong to the $(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2})$ representation of $\text{SO}(5,1) \otimes \text{SU}(2)$. The 2-forms belong to the $(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1})$ representation of $\text{SO}(5,1) \otimes \text{SU}(2)$ which are all either self dual or anti-self dual. The 3-forms of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ belong to the $(\overline{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{2})$ representation of $\text{SO}(5,1) \otimes \text{SU}(2)$ and are the fields dual to the 1-forms. The 4-forms belong

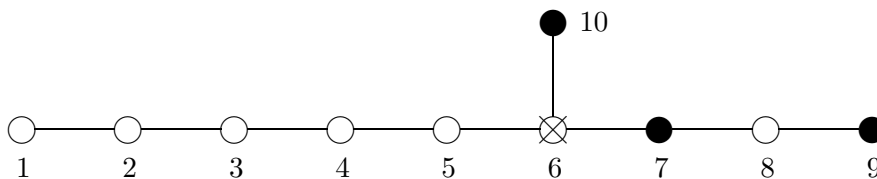


Figure 10: The $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 6-dimensional $L(4,1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $SU(2) \otimes SU^*(4)$.

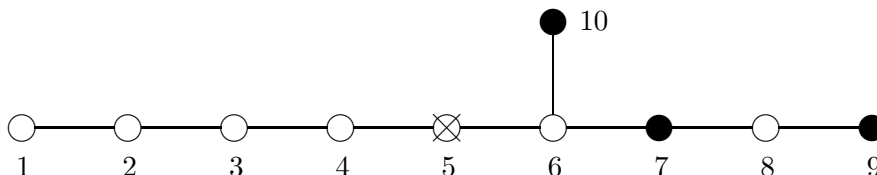


Figure 11: The $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 5-dimensional $L(4,1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $SU^*(6)$.

to the $(\mathbf{15}, \mathbf{1})$ and $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3})$ representations. The former decomposes into the representations $(\mathbf{5}, \mathbf{1})$ and $(\mathbf{10}, \mathbf{1})$ of the local sub-group $SO(5)$. The $(\mathbf{5}, \mathbf{1})$ fields are dual to the scalars while the fields strengths of the latter as well as the $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3})$ are set to zero.

To summarise, the non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ in six dimensions contains the forms

$$h_a{}^b(\mathbf{1}), A_a(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\overline{\mathbf{4}}, \mathbf{2}), A_{a_1 \dots a_4}(\mathbf{15}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{3}) \quad (4.4)$$

where the numbers in brackets denote the representations of $SO(5,1) \otimes SU(2)$ and we have in addition the five scalars mentioned above. This is precisely the content of the $L(4,1)$ as given in equation (2.1) with 5 tensor multiplets and 8 vector multiplets.

Finally we also predict that the 5-forms $A_{a_1 \dots a_5}$ belong to the $(\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}) \oplus (\overline{\mathbf{20}}, \mathbf{2})$ representation of $SO(5,1) \otimes SU(2)$. The corresponding field strengths are dual to mass deformations, and so we expect the same number of gauged supergravities. The space-filling 6-forms belong to the $(\mathbf{64}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\overline{\mathbf{10}}, \mathbf{3}) \oplus (\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{3}) \oplus (\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1})$ representation.

To find the field content of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ in **five dimensions** we must delete node five in figure 2, as shown in figure 11. The resulting algebra is $SL(5) \otimes SU^*(6)$ where the maximal compact subgroup of the latter factor is $USp(6)$. The 14 scalars belong to the corresponding coset. The forms fields in the non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ appropriate to five dimensions are

$$A_a(\mathbf{15}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\overline{\mathbf{15}}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\mathbf{35}) \quad . \quad (4.5)$$

The numbers in brackets denote the $SU^*(6)$ representations the form belongs to. This is in precise agreement with the field content of the actual $L(4,1)$ theory in five dimensions as can be seen by noticing that $n_V^{(5)} = n_T^{(6)} + n_V^{(6)} + 1 = 14$ and examining equation (2.2). The non-linear realisation also predicts 4-forms in the $\mathbf{105} \oplus \mathbf{21}$ and so we expect this number of gauged supergravities. The space-filling forms predicted by the non-linear realisation belong to the $\mathbf{384} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{105}} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{15}}$.

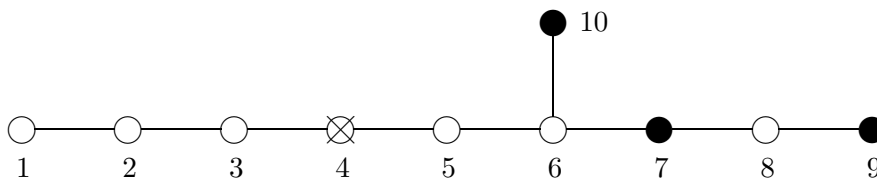


Figure 12: The $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 4-dimensional $L(4,1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $SO^*(12)$.

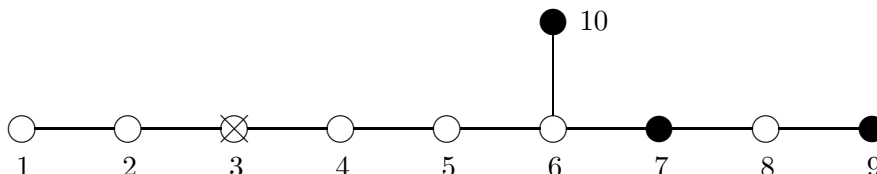


Figure 13: The $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 3-dimensional $L(4,1)$ theory. The internal symmetry group is $E_{7(-5)}$.

The Dynkin diagram of the $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation appropriate to **four dimensions** is shown in figure 12 where node four of figure 2 has been deleted. The remaining algebra is $SL(4) \otimes SO^*(12)$. The 30 scalars belong to the coset of $SO^*(12)$ with local subgroup $SU(6) \otimes U(1)$. The form fields of this four dimensional non-linear realisation are

$$A_a(\mathbf{32}), A_{a_1 a_2}(\mathbf{66}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\mathbf{352}), A_{a_1 \dots a_4}(\mathbf{2079} \oplus \mathbf{462} \oplus \mathbf{66}) \quad . \quad (4.6)$$

The numbers in brackets denote the $SO^*(12)$ representations. The 1-forms do account for the 16 vectors and their duals, while the 66 2-forms decompose into $SU(6)$ representations as $\mathbf{66} \rightarrow \mathbf{1} \oplus \mathbf{35} \oplus \mathbf{15} \oplus \mathbf{15}$. The $\mathbf{15} \oplus \mathbf{15}$ are dual to the scalars and the field strengths of the remaining fields are set to zero. We expect 352 gauged supergravities, as they are associated to the number of 3-forms predicted in the non-linear realisation.

Finally, we consider the **three dimensional** case. The Dynkin diagram of the three-dimensional $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation is obtained deleting node three in figure 2 and leads to the diagram of figure 13. The remaining algebra is $SL(3) \otimes E_{7(-5)}$, and the maximal compact subgroup of the latter is $SO(12) \otimes SU(2)$. There are 64 scalars describing the non-linear realisation of $E_{7(-5)}$ with local subgroup $SO(12) \otimes SU(2)$. One can compute the field content in this case, finding precise agreement with the field content of the three dimensional $L(4,1)$ supersymmetric theory. In particular, the 1-forms belong to the **133** that is the adjoint of E_7 , and are related to the scalars by duality.

4.3 $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ and $L(0, P)$, P even

We now consider the $L(0, P)$ theory with P even, that was conjectured in section 3 to correspond to the $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation. We refer to the appendix for a proper explanation of the computations carried out in this subsection.

Deleting node six of the $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram in figure 4 we find the diagram of figure 14. The resulting algebra is $SO(6, 6) \otimes SO(P)$. What is different to the above cases is

that the deletion does not lead to an $SL(D)$ algebra for the space-time part of the remaining algebra, but rather $SO(6,6)$. As a result we must carry out a further decomposition of this group to $SL(6)$ to find the usual representations belonging to space-time, the adjoint representation of $SL(6)$ being associated with the gravity line of nodes one to five. The decomposition of $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ into representations of $SO(6,6) \otimes SO(P)$ is graded by the level m_c associated with node six. This is the number of times the simple root α_6 occurs in the root being considered in the decomposition. At level zero $m_c = 0$ we just have the adjoint representation of $SO(6,6) \otimes SO(P)$, that is $(\mathbf{66}, \mathbf{1})$ and $(\mathbf{1}, \frac{\mathbf{P(P-1)}}{2})$ as well as $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$. The resulting fields are subject to transformations of the local subgroup which is $SO(6) \otimes SO(6) \otimes SO(P)$. Clearly, any scalar fields that might arise in $(\mathbf{1}, \frac{\mathbf{P(P-1)}}{2})$, i.e. the adjoint of $SO(P)$ are completely removed by the last part of the local subgroup as $SO(P)$ is compact and thus coincides with its maximal compact subgroup. The adjoint representation of $SO(6,6)$, i.e. the $(\mathbf{66}, \mathbf{1})$ breaks into $SL(6)$ representations as $\mathbf{66} \rightarrow \mathbf{35} \oplus \mathbf{15} \oplus \overline{\mathbf{15}} \oplus \mathbf{1}$. These correspond in the non-linear realisation to the graviton h_a^b , that is $\mathbf{35} \oplus \mathbf{1}$, a rank two anti-symmetric tensor $A_{a_1 a_2}$, that is $\mathbf{15}$, a scalar ϕ , that is $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$, while the local subalgebra removes the $\overline{\mathbf{15}}$ and the anti-symmetric part of h_a^b . In fact the ϕ can be thought of as belonging to the coset $SO(1,1)$ with trivial local subgroup.

The fields at the next levels can be found using the decomposition techniques of reference [26]. In fact, at the next level, $m_c = 1$, there is always an obvious solution for any such reduction of a very extended algebra. If the resulting algebra after the deletion of node D is $G_1 \otimes G_2$ and the deleted node attaches to the node labelled i of the Dynkin diagram of G_1 and the node labelled j of the Dynkin diagram of G_2 , then one finds the representation with highest weight $\mu_i \otimes \lambda_j$ where μ_i is the fundamental weight of G_1 associated with node i and similarly for λ_j . In all the cases above $G_1 = SL(D)$, the deleted node attaches to the node labelled $D - 1$ and so $i = D - 1$ and so one finds the vector fields. As a result, in the cases above, one finds that the vector fields belong to the representation of G_2 with the highest fundamental weight which is associated with the first node in G_2 . The reader can verify that this is indeed the representation for the vectors in all the above cases.

In the case under study in this sub-section we find that the level one representation that arises in the decomposition is $\mu_5 \otimes \lambda_7$. That is the 32 dimensional spinor representation of $SO(6,6)$ which is valued as a P vector of $SO(P)$. The 32 dimensional spinor representation in question decomposes into $SL(6)$ representations as $\mathbf{32} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbf{6}} \oplus \mathbf{20} \oplus \mathbf{6}$. The latter we recognise as leading to the fields A_{a_1} , $A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}$ and $A_{a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5}$ respectively all in the vector representation of $SO(P)$. The P 3-forms are the duals of the vectors which are also in the vector representation. These are the only representations at level one.

At the next level, $m_c = 2$, we find the following representations of $SO(6,6) \otimes SO(P)$;

$$(\mu_4, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, 2\lambda_1) \oplus (\mu_2, \lambda_8) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) \tag{4.7}$$

which are labelled in terms of their fundamental weights. We note that μ_4 and μ_2 are the 495 and 66 dimensional representation of $SO(6,6)$ respectively. To find the fields with space-time indices of $SL(6)$ we must decompose the representations of $SO(6,6)$ into those of $SL(6)$. This can be achieved by also deleting node $\frac{P}{2} + 7$ in the $SO(6,6)$ Dynkin diagram.

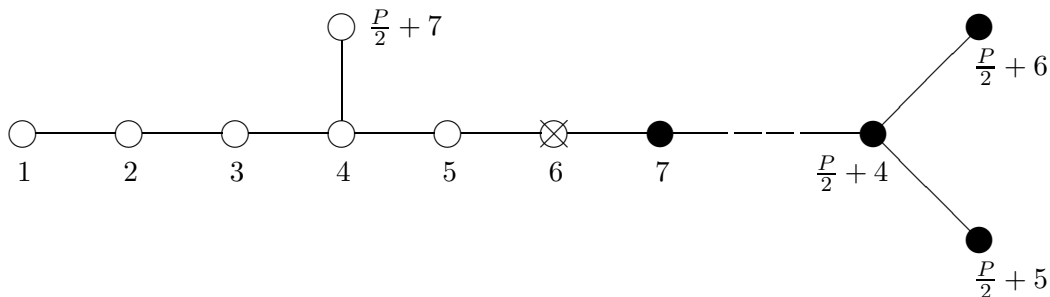


Figure 14: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 6-dimensional $L(0, P)$ theory (P even) with P vector multiplets and one tensor multiplet. The non-abelian part of the internal symmetry group is $SO(P)$, which is compact. The gravity line connects nodes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

It is straightforward to see that having done this the number of space-time indices on the generators, or fields, for a representations with highest weight $\mu = \sum_i q_i \mu_i$ of $SO(6, 6)$ is given by $\sum_j (6 - j)q_j + 6m = m_c + 2l$ where l is the number of times the root of the node labeled $\frac{P}{2} + 7$ occurs in the way the highest weight state occurs and m is the number of blocks of six indices. Among this set of states we are searching for forms, which excludes the possibility of having blocks of six indices as well as other indices. If we focus on 2-form fields $A_{a_1 a_2}$ then as $m_c = 2$ we must have $l = 0$ and so we are really only interested in the A_5 part of $SO(6, 6)$. As such we have only one 2-form which occurs at the beginning of the 495 multiplet. The apparent scalars in the $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}\lambda_1)$ actually have a block of six indices and so are not forms in the required sense.

Hence up to level $m_c \leq 2$ and for form fields of rank two or less we have the fields

$$h_a{}^b(\mathbf{1}), A_{a_1 a_2}^{(-)}(\mathbf{1}); A_{a_1 a_2}^{(+)}(\mathbf{1}), \phi(\mathbf{1}); A_{a_1}(\mathbf{P}), A_{a_1 a_2 a_3}(\mathbf{P}) \quad (4.8)$$

where the numbers in brackets denote the representations of $SO(P)$. In fact as $m_c \geq 3$ we can not get more rank three or less forms at higher levels. These are the fields of six dimensional supergravity plus one tensor multiplet and P vector multiplets. This is indeed what we expect from the bosonic field content of the $L(0, P)$ theory.

In fact deleting node six is not the only way in which one can get a six dimensional theory. One can also delete node five and then take the gravity line to contain nodes 1, 2, 3, 4 and $\frac{P}{2} + 7$ in figure 4. This leads to the Dynkin diagram in figure 15. The remaining algebra is then $SL(6) \otimes SO(1, P + 1)$. It is straightforward to verify that at level zero, $m_c = 0$, one finds $(\mathbf{1}, \frac{(\mathbf{P}+2)(\mathbf{P}+1)}{2})$, $(\mathbf{35}, \mathbf{1})$ and $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$. The last two correspond to gravity and the first to the $P + 1$ scalars which belong to the coset $SO(1, P + 1)$ with local sub-group $SO(P)$. At level one, $m_c = 1$, we find the representation $(\mathbf{15}, \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{2})$ which corresponds to 2-forms $A_{a_1 a_2}$ in the vector representation of $SO(1, P + 1)$. At level two, $m_c = 1$, we find the representations $(\mathbf{15}, \frac{(\mathbf{P}+2)(\mathbf{P}+1)}{2})$ and $(\mathbf{105}, \mathbf{1})$. Consequently, in this model we find gravity, $P + 2$ self or anti-self dual rank 2-forms and $P + 1$ scalars. As a result, the field content it corresponds to is supergravity coupled to $P + 1$ tensor multiplets.

Upon dimensional reduction to five dimensions the theories corresponding to the Dynkin diagrams of figure 14 and 15 give the same five dimensional theory as it arises

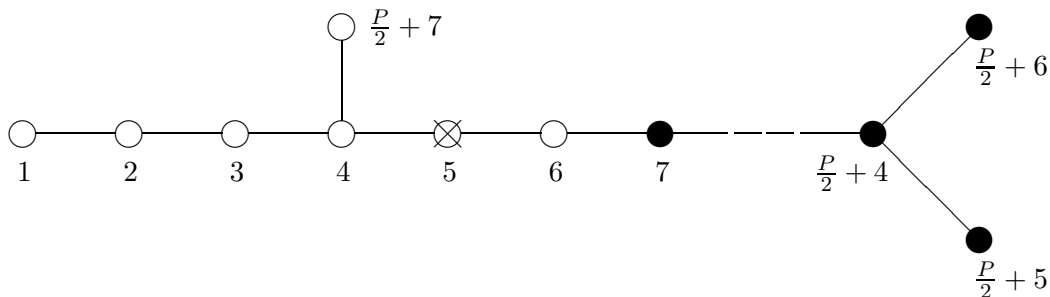


Figure 15: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 6-dimensional $L(0, P)$ theory (P even) with $P + 1$ tensor multiplets and no vector multiplets. The internal symmetry group is $SO(P + 1, 1)$. The gravity line connects nodes 1, 2, 3, 4 and $\frac{P}{2} + 7$.

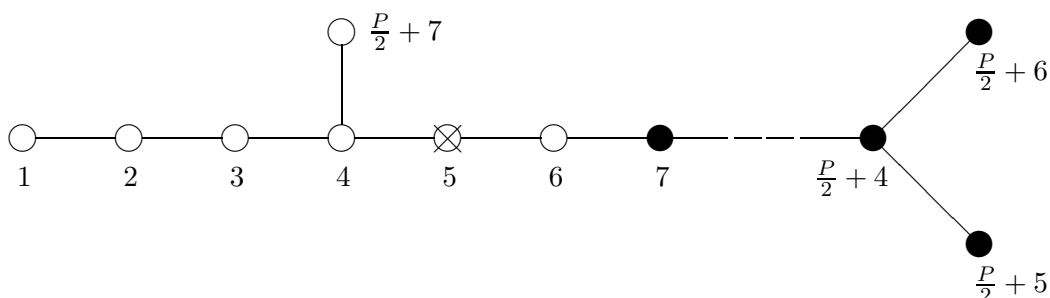


Figure 16: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 5-dimensional $L(0, P)$ theory (P even). The non-abelian part of the internal symmetry group is $SO(P + 1, 1)$. The gravity line connects nodes 1, 2, 3 and 4.

from deleting node five as is evident from the Dynkin diagram of figure 16. This is very similar to the situation of the well known IIA and IIB theories in ten dimensions and the way they fit into E_8^{+++} [2] giving rise to a unique nine dimensional theory upon dimensional reduction. The four-dimensional theory corresponds to deleting node four and gives the Dynkin diagram of figure 17, and finally the three-dimensional theory arises from deleting node three and corresponds to the Dynkin diagram of figure 18. It is straightforward to also confirm that by deleting nodes five, four and three we also recover the correct field content of the bosonic sector of the $L(0, P)$ theories in five, four and three dimensions respectively.

5. Discussion

In this paper we have given substantial evidence to the conjecture that all the theories with eight supersymmetries that upon reduction to three dimensions give rise to scalars that parametrise symmetric manifolds have an underlying very extended Kac-Moody symmetry. In particular the bosonic sector of any of these theories can be derived from the non-linear realisation. We have worked out in detail the $L(8, 1)$, $L(4, 1)$ and $L(0, P)$ (P even) cases, and we have found that the bosonic field content of these supersymmetric theories is precisely reproduced by the non-linear realisations.

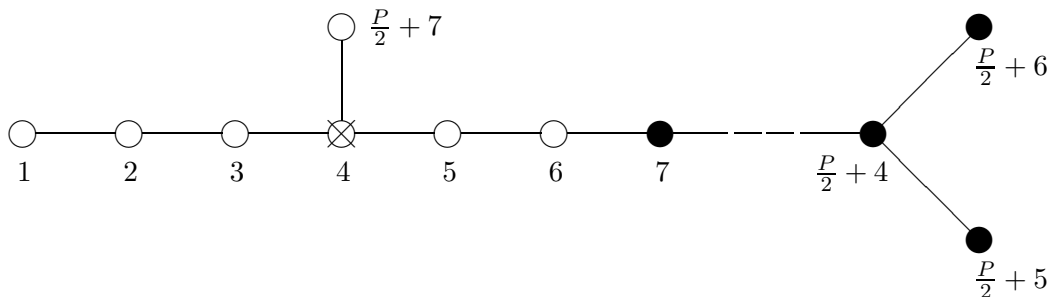


Figure 17: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 4-dimensional $L(0, P)$ theory (P even). The internal symmetry group is $\text{SO}(P + 2, 2) \otimes \text{SU}(1, 1)$.

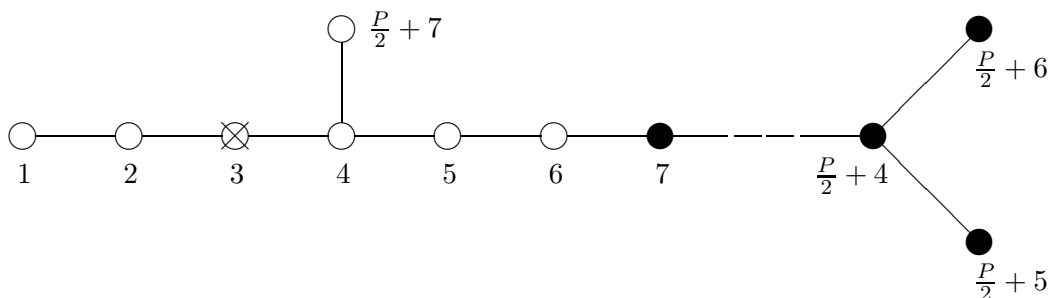


Figure 18: The $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to the 3-dimensional $L(0, P)$ theory (P even). The internal symmetry group is $\text{SO}(P + 4, 4)$.

Crucial to our analysis are different real forms of very-extended Kac-Moody algebras. We explain the real forms of the very extended Kac-Moody algebras that we conjecture to describe the various theories with eight supersymmetries. These are presented using Tits-Satake diagrams. Given this diagram we derive the generators of the very-extended algebra and the field content of the corresponding non-linear realisation at low levels.

The analysis of the field content of the very extended algebras can also be done for the other cases whose symmetries we have conjectured. In particular the other theories that live in six dimensions and that give rise to three-dimensional theories whose scalars parametrise symmetric spaces are $L(0, P)$ for P odd, corresponding to the $B_{\frac{P-1}{2}+4}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 5, $L(2, 1)$, corresponding to the $E_{6(2)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 3, and $L(1, 1)$, corresponding to the $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 21. One can also consider the theories associated to symmetric spaces in three dimensions that can not be uplifted to six dimensions, namely $L(-3, P)$, corresponding to the C_{P+2}^{+++} non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 19, $L(-2, P)$, corresponding to the A_{P+3}^{+++} non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 20 (in particular $\mathcal{N} = 2$ 4-dimensional supergravity without matter corresponds to the case $P = -1$ of $L(-2, P)$), and minimal five-dimensional supergravity, corresponding to the $G_{2(2)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 22. The low-level fields associated to all these Kac-Moody symmetries have been derived in [6], where it was

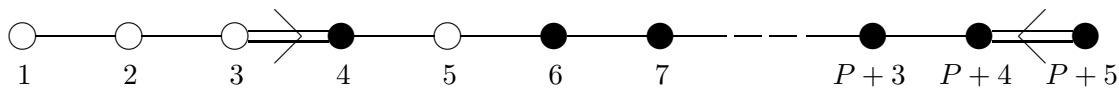


Figure 19: The C_{P+2}^{+++} Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(-3, P)$.

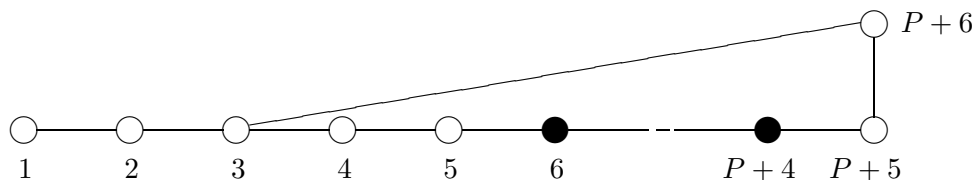


Figure 20: The A_{P+3}^{+++} Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(-2, P)$. All nodes from 6 to $P+4$ are black. Nodes 4 and $P+6$ are connected by arrows, as well as nodes 5 and $P+5$.

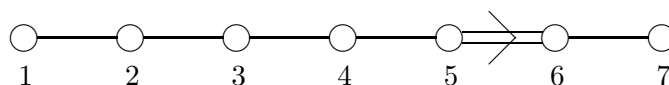


Figure 21: The $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram corresponding to $L(1, 1)$.

also shown that the $G_{2(2)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation describes the bosonic sector of minimal five-dimensional supergravity and the $F_{4(4)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation describes the bosonic sector of the $L(1, 1)$ theory.

In [28] it was shown that amongst the infinitely many fields in the non-linear realisation of E_8^{+++} , there is an infinite preferred set that describes all possible dualisations of the on-shell degrees of freedom of the eleven-dimensional supergravity theory. This lifts the infinite set of dualities that occur in two dimensions to eleven dimensions. All the infinitely many remaining fields in eleven dimensions have at least one set of ten or eleven antisymmetric indices, and therefore they do not correspond to on-shell propagating degrees of freedom. This is actually true for any Kac-Moody algebra [29], and thus it applies to all the cases discussed in this paper as well. Therefore although the G^{+++} non-linear realisations discussed in this paper have different real form to those considered before, it is still the case that all the propagating degrees of freedom of these theories are the infinitely many dual descriptions of the propagating fields of the corresponding supergravity.

Supersymmetric theories with eight supersymmetries contain exotic supersymmetry representations, like for instance tensor multiplets in five dimensions. Although 2-forms can be dualised to vectors in five dimensions in the absence of a potential, for theories with non-trivial vacua this is no longer true. These multiplets are thus relevant in the context of gauged supergravities. The fact that the G^{+++} non-linear realisation describes democratically all the fields and the corresponding duals means that it automatically encodes either description.

In the democratic formulation that arises in the G^{+++} non-linear realisations, turning on a mass deformation corresponds to having a $D - 1$ form whose field strength is dual to the mass and thus is non-vanishing. In [27, 30] it was shown that all the massive deforma-

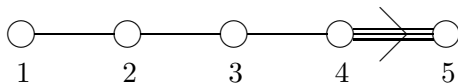


Figure 22: The $G_{2(2)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram.

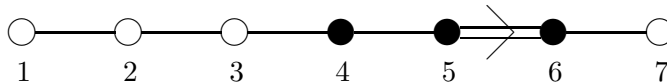


Figure 23: The $F_{4(-20)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram.

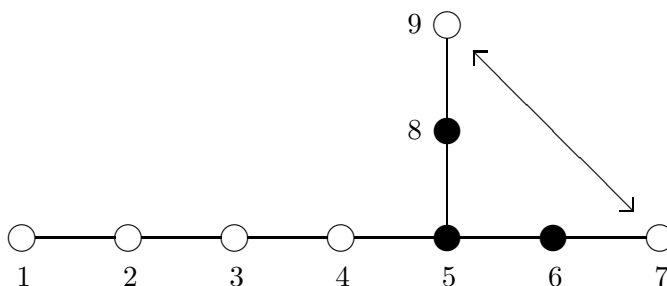


Figure 24: The $E_{6(-14)}^{+++}$ Dynkin diagram.

tions of gauged maximal supergravities are encoded in the E_8^{+++} non-linear realisation. A similar analysis was carried out in [31] for the case of theories with 16 supersymmetries, corresponding to the B_m^{+++} and D_m^{+++} non-linear realisations of [7]. If this is true also in the case of theories with eight supersymmetries, this would mean that the number of $D - 1$ forms in D dimensions would give in all cases the number of massive deformations of the supersymmetric theory. Moreover, given that the representation to which each form belongs does not depend on the particular real form of G being used, this would mean that for instance the $L(8, 1)$ theory associated to $E_{8(-24)}^{+++}$ would possess the same massive deformations in a given dimension as the $E_{8(8)}^{+++}$ theory, that is associated to the maximally supersymmetric theories. It would be interesting to investigate in this direction and in particular examine if the fact that the local subalgebras are different for different real forms affects this result. It can happen that for theories with less than maximal supersymmetry the deformations do not arise from a $(D - 1)$ -form, but are associated with symmetries that only transform the fermionic sector of the theories [32]. However, we expect these deformations to be accounted for by the very extended algebra once the fermions are included in the non-linearly realised theory [29].

The fact that different real forms can be accounted for in the G^{+++} non-linear realisation also leads to the conjecture that any supergravity theory with more than 16 supersymmetries can be described as a non-linear realisation for a suitable real form of a very extended G^{+++} . In particular, the scalars of the three-dimensional theory with 18 supersymmetries parametrise the coset $F_{4(-20)}/SO(9)$, and we conjecture that it is associated to the $F_{4(-20)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 23. As

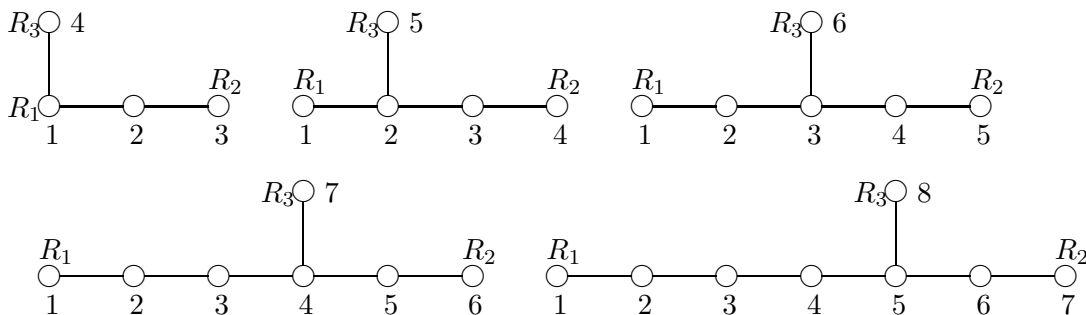


Figure 25: The Dynkin diagrams for A_4 , D_5 , E_6 , E_7 and E_8 with the labelling of the nodes as in appendix A. The pattern for the forms of low rank is particularly apparent when one writes the forms next to the nodes to which they are associated.

it is evident from the diagram, this theory only lives in three dimensions. The supergravity theory with 20 supersymmetries is associated to the $E_{6(-14)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation, whose corresponding Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 24. The highest dimension in which this theory exists is 4, as can be read from the diagram. Finally, the supergravity theory with 24 supersymmetries corresponds to the $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation whose Dynkin diagram is shown in figure 2. This last example in particular shows that this real form can lead to separate theories that only differ in the fermionic sector, so that there should be two different ways of embedding the fermions in the $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation, one giving the $L(4,1)$ theory considered in this paper and one giving the supergravity theory with 24 supersymmetries. Just like the $L(4,1)$ theory, supergravity with 24 supersymmetry exists in six dimensions and below. The six-dimensional theory is called $\mathcal{N} = (2,1)$, and it was originally conjectured in [33] and later constructed in [34]. The reader can check that the bosonic field content of this theory coincides with the one of the $E_{7(-5)}^{+++}$ non-linear realisation derived in section 4.2. The bosonic string effective action generalised to D dimensions is associated with the non-linear realisation of the maximally non-compact form of D_{D-2}^{+++} [1], and gravity in D dimensions is associated with the maximally non-compact form of A_{D-3}^{+++} [4]. These are examples of real forms which lead to theories that are not supersymmetric. More generally it is possible that particular real forms of very-extended Kac-Moody algebras lead to theories with less than eight supersymmetries, or indeed no supersymmetry at all.

Acknowledgments

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A. The calculation of the form fields

In this paper we have required the decomposition of the adjoint representation of certain Kac-Moody algebras G^{+++} in terms of representations of A_{D-1} for suitable choices of D , where A_{D-1} is a subalgebra of G^{+++} . In this appendix we will show how to algebraically calculate the representations of the generators with completely antisymmetrised A_{D-1} indices arising in G^{+++} . In the non-linear realisation of G^{+++} these generators are associated to fields with the same A_{D-1} index structure. This work is carried out by the authors of this paper in collaboration with Duncan Steele.

For no indefinite Kac-Moody algebra is a complete listing of the generators known. However, there is a class of such algebras called Lorentzian algebras, which includes very extended algebras, whose Dynkin diagram contains at least one node whose deletion leads to Dynkin diagrams that are those for finite algebras with possibly one affine algebra, which are more amenable to analysis. Indeed, one can analyse the content of such Lorentzian algebras in terms of these remaining algebras [3]. Given a very extended algebra G^{+++} the field content of the non-linear realisation it leads to in a given dimension is found by deleting a particular node and decomposing the adjoint representation of G^{+++} in terms of the representations of the remaining algebra G_{Del}^{+++} , corresponding to the remaining Dynkin diagram after the deletion.

In this appendix we will restrict our attention to the cases where the deletion of the node in the Dynkin diagram of G^{+++} corresponds to the decomposition of G^{+++} required into representations of $G_{\text{Del}}^{+++} = G_1 \otimes G_2$ where G_1 and G_2 are finite dimensional semi-simple Lie algebras. We will also restrict our attention to the case of simply laced algebras. The discussion is the same as that given in reference [26], but the emphasis there was on the content of the l_1 multiplet, that is the brane charges, while here we want to focus on the adjoint representation. In essence one takes $m_* = 0$ in that paper. We will eventually consider in detail the case in which G_1 is A_{D-1} . However, our methods are quite general and apply to any semi-simple algebra G_1 , although when G_1 is not A_{D-1} one must carry out a further decomposition to this latter algebra to find the field content in terms of familiar representations. Nonetheless, the analysis carried out in this appendix is completely general and applies to any G_1 and G_2 that can arise in the decomposition of G^{+++} .

Let us label the deleted node by c . The simple roots α_a of G^{+++} can be taken to be the simple roots β_i of G_1 , the simple roots α_i of G_2 and the simple root α_c corresponding to the deleted node c . The latter simple root can be written as

$$\alpha_c = x - \nu \tag{A.1}$$

where x is a vector orthogonal to the root space of $G_1 \otimes G_2$ and

$$\nu = - \sum_i A_{cj} \mu_j - \sum_i A_{ci} \lambda_i \ . \tag{A.2}$$

Here A_{ab} is the Cartan matrix of G^{+++} , μ_i and λ_j the fundamental weights of G_1 and G_2 respectively and the nodes of these two algebras are labeled by the same indices i, j, \dots for simplicity, although the ranges are different. The vector ν may be split into ν_1 and ν_2 which are the parts of ν belonging to the weight spaces of G_1 and G_2 respectively. The value of x^2 is determined by the requirement that $\alpha_c^2 = 2 = x^2 + \nu^2$.

Using the above expressions, we may write a general root α of G^{+++} as

$$\alpha = m_c \alpha_c + \sum_j n_j \beta_j + \sum_i m_i \alpha_i = m_c x - \Lambda_{G_1} - \Lambda_{G_2} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where m_i , n_i and m_c are positive or negative integers depending if the root α is a positive or negative root. Also we define the above quantities as

$$\Lambda_{G_1} = m_c \nu_1 - \sum_j n_j \beta_j, \quad \Lambda_{G_2} = m_c \nu_2 - \sum_i m_i \alpha_i \quad . \quad (\text{A.4})$$

We note that these two vectors belong to the weight spaces of G_1 and G_2 respectively.

We will call the integer m_c the level and we will classify the result of the decomposition into representations of $G_1 \otimes G_2$ by the level. The level is just the number of times the root α_c occurs in a particular root α being considered. All generators in the algebra G^{+++} can be constructed from the multiple commutators of the Chevalley generators. As a result, m_c is just the number of times the Chevalley generator corresponding to node c occurs in the multiple commutator which leads to the root of interest.

If a representation of G_1 with highest weight $\sum_i q_i \mu_i$, where q_i are the Dynkin indices that must be positive integers or zero, occurs then this highest weight must occur as one of the possible Λ_{G_1} 's that appear as the roots of the G^{+++} vary. As such, a necessary condition for the adjoint representation of G^{+++} to contain the highest weight representation of G_1 with Dynkin indices q_j is that

$$\sum_i q_i \mu_i = m_c \nu_1 - \sum_i n_i \beta_i \quad (\text{A.5})$$

where n_i denote the coefficients of the simple roots of the G_1 algebra. Taking the scalar product of both sides of this equation with μ_j implies that [26]

$$\sum_i q_i (\mu_i, \mu_j) - m_c (\nu_1, \mu_j) = -n_j \quad . \quad (\text{A.6})$$

In these equations q_i , m_c and n_i are positive integers and this places a bound on the possible highest weights, or Dynkin indices q_i that can occur.

Repeating this procedure for the G_2 algebra, and using p_i to denote the Dynkin indices, we find that the representation of G_2 with highest weight $\sum_i p_i \lambda_i$ occurs provided

$$\sum_i p_i \lambda_i = m_c \nu_2 - \sum_i m_i \alpha_i \quad . \quad (\text{A.7})$$

Taking the scalar product with λ_k we find that [26]

$$m_k = m_c (\nu_2, \lambda_k) - \sum_i p_i (\lambda_i, \lambda_k) \quad . \quad (\text{A.8})$$

We note that the occurrence of the highest weights in G_1 and G_2 is correlated as equations (A.6) and (A.8) contain the same level m_c .

Squaring equation (A.3) gives [26]

$$\alpha^2 = x^2 m_c^2 + \sum_{i,j} q_i q_j (\mu_i, \mu_j) + \sum_{i,j} p_i p_j (\lambda_i, \lambda_j) \quad . \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Since α^2 can only take the values $2, 0, -2, \dots$ this again places a constraint on the allowed representations.

Our task is to analyse equations (A.6), (A.8) and (A.9) to find the possible representations of $G_1 \otimes G_2$ that can occur in the decomposition of the adjoint representation of G^{+++} . Not every solution will correspond to a root in G^{+++} as these conditions are not as strong as the construction of the algebra G^{+++} using its definition, that is the multiple commutator of the Chevalley generators subject to the Serre relations. However, almost all solutions are in fact present in G^{+++} although one does not discover the multiplicity of the representations using these equations. In the above we have glossed over some subtle points that are described in more detail in [35, 26]. The analysis of Lorentzian algebras in terms of algebras that occur after the deletion of a node was proposed in [3], the notion of level was inherent in the first E_{11} paper [1], but was spelt out explicitly together with the constraints on the representations in the context of E_{10} in [36] and in general in [35].

At level one, that is $m_c = 1$, equation (A.5) becomes $\sum_i q_i \mu_i - \nu_1 = -\sum_i n_i \beta_i$ which lies in the negative root lattice. One obvious solution is that $\sum_i q_i \mu_i = \nu_1$. An identical discussion applies to equation (A.7). Hence at level one we always have the representation of $G_1 \otimes G_2$ with highest weights (ν_1, ν_2) in the adjoint representation of G^{+++} .

We now specialise to the cases concerning the very extended algebra E_{11} , or E_8^{+++} , whose Dynkin diagram is given in figure 1. The theory in D dimensions is found by deleting the node labelled D and decomposing into representations of the remaining algebra which is $A_{D-1} \otimes G_2$. The algebra A_{D-1} , or $SL(D)$, corresponds in the non-linear realisation to the gravity sector. In these cases the deleted node is attached to the end of the Dynkin diagram of the A_{D-1} subalgebra, that is to the node labeled $D - 1$. As a result we find that $\nu_1 = \mu_{D-1}$. The algebra G_2 is in this case E_{11-D} and the deleted node, D attaches to the first node of this algebra which we label by one. By E_5, E_4 and E_3 we mean D_5, A_4 and $A_2 \otimes A_1$ respectively. Once we delete node D we relabel the nodes of E_{11-D} by $n \rightarrow n - D$ to have a sensible labelling from the view point of the subalgebra, as shown in figure 25. Consequently, we have that $\nu_2 = \lambda_1$. We find that

$$x^2 = 1 + \frac{1}{D} - \lambda_1^2 \quad . \quad (\text{A.10})$$

The level one solution discussed just above is the representation with highest weight (μ_{D-1}, λ_1) . This corresponds to a generator which is a vector under $SL(D)$ and belongs to the fundamental representation with highest weight λ_1 under E_{11-D} .

Let us first analyse equation (A.6) for the case we are studying here. It becomes

$$\sum_i q_i (\mu_i, \mu_j) - m_c (\mu_{D-1}, \mu_j) = -n_j \quad . \quad (\text{A.11})$$

To analyse this equation it is useful to consider the $SL(D)$ indices that the corresponding generators carry. The generators are constructed from the multiple commutators of the Chevalley generators. The generators of A_{D-1} are just K^a_b and so the Chevalley generators they contain do not add or subtract from the total number of indices. However, equation (A.11) is the same equation as one would find if one analysed the decomposition of the adjoint representations of A_D into A_{D-1} by deleting the end node i.e. node D . At level m_c the multiple commutator contains m_c Chevalley generators K^D_{D+1} associated with the deleted node. As these are related by the action of A_{D-1} to the generators $K^i_{D+1}, i = 1, 2, \dots, D$ we find that the effect is to lead to a generator that has m_c vector indices. As such, the number of indices on a generator that arises at level m_c is m_c . On the other hand, as the generators are representations of A_{D-1} with Dynkin indices q_i they must have $\sum_i q_i(D-i) + sD$ indices where the last term corresponds to the possibility of s blocks of D antisymmetrised indices. We recall that having a non-trivial Dynkin index q_i corresponds to having q_i blocks each with $D-i$ totally anti-symmetrised indices. As such we find that

$$m_c = \sum_i q_i(D-i) + sD \quad . \quad (A.12)$$

It follows that among the solutions that occur to equation (A.11) are all the representations that occur in the decomposition of the adjoint representation of A_D into representations of A_{D-1} . The actual problem may have more or less solutions as the condition for α^2 is different in the latter case to the problem being studied here.

Substituting the value of m_c of equation (A.12) into equation (A.11) we find that the latter is automatically solved and that the root coefficients are given by

$$n_j = sj + \sum_{i \leq j} q_i(j-i) \quad . \quad (A.13)$$

The fact that the right-hand side is non-negative indeed implies that the solution always exists. Here we have used the formula for the scalar product of fundamental weights of an A_{D-1} algebra

$$(\mu_i, \mu_j) = \begin{cases} \frac{i(D-j)}{D}, & i \leq j \\ \frac{j(D-i)}{D}, & j \leq i \end{cases} \quad . \quad (A.14)$$

We are interested in forms in terms of their A_{D-1} indices and in particular the representations of E_{11-D} they belong to. By a k -form we mean an object that has just one set of A_{D-1} indices that is a set of k completely antisymmetrised indices. This is a representation of $SL(D)$ with fundamental weight μ_{D-k} , which is equivalent to the condition $q_{D-k} = 1$, with all other Dynkin indices vanishing, with the additional requirement that there are no blocks of D indices, i.e. $s = 0$. As such in equation (A.12) we require $m_c = k$, $s = 0$ and equation (A.11) becomes

$$(\mu_{D-k}, \mu_j) - k(\mu_{D-1}, \mu_j) = -n_j \quad (A.15)$$

which is automatically solved by taking $s = 0$ and $q_{D-k} = 1$ in equation (A.13). For the exceptional case of space filling forms we have one block of D totally anti-symmetrised indices and so $k = D$, $S = 1$ and $m_c = D$, with all the Dynkin indices q_j vanishing.

	λ_1^2	λ_2^2	λ_3^2	λ_4^2	λ_5^2	λ_6^2	λ_7^2	λ_8^2
E_8	2	6	12	20	30	14	4	8
E_7	3/2	4	15/2	12	6	2	7/2	
E_6	4/3	10/3	6	10/3	4/3	2		
D_5	1	2	3	5/4	5/4			
A_4	4/5	6/5	6/5	4/5				

Table 1: Table giving the square length of the fundamental weights of the internal symmetry groups occurring in E_8^{+++} .

Rather than solving equation (A.8) for the E_{11-D} highest weights it is quicker to first solve equation (A.9). For the groups we are considering and for the case of forms, using equations (A.10) and (A.14) we find that equation (A.9) becomes for a form of rank k , with $k < D$,

$$\alpha^2 = k^2(1 - \lambda_1^2) + k + \Lambda^2 \quad (\text{A.16})$$

where $\Lambda^2 = \sum_{i,j} p_i p_j (\lambda_i, \lambda_j)$. While for space-filling forms, i.e. $k = D$ one has

$$\alpha^2 = D(D+1) - D^2 \lambda_1^2 + \Lambda^2 \quad (\text{A.17})$$

Since $\alpha^2 = 2, 0, -2, \dots$ it is straightforward to find solutions to this equation once we know the possible scalar products of the fundamental weights which for $E_n, n = 6, 7, 8$ are given by [26]

$$(A^{E_n})^{-1}_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{i(9-n+j)}{(9-n)}, & i, j = 1, \dots, n-3, i \leq j \\ \frac{(n-j)((n-3)^2 - i(n-5))}{(9-n)}, & i, j = n-3, \dots, n-1, i \leq j \\ 2 \frac{i(n-j)}{(9-n)}, & i = 1, \dots, n-3, j = n-3, \dots, n-1, \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.18})$$

and

$$((A^{E_n})^{-1})_{in} = \begin{cases} \frac{3i}{(9-n)}, & i = 1, \dots, n-3 \\ \frac{(n-3)(n-i)}{(9-n)}, & i = n-3, \dots, n-1 \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.19})$$

and

$$((A^{E_n})^{-1})_{nn} = \frac{n}{(9-n)} \quad (\text{A.20})$$

In fact in many cases it suffices to know the length squared of the fundamental weights which are given in table 1, where the labelling is as in figure 25. To illustrate how this goes let us study the case of $D = 5$, that is E_6 , for which $\alpha^2 = -\frac{1}{3}k^2 + k + \Lambda^2$ for a k -form generator of A_4 . Taking $k = 1$ or $k = 2$, we find that $\alpha^2 = \frac{2}{3} + \Lambda^2$ and examining the above table we conclude that $\Lambda^2 = \frac{4}{3}$ and that $p_1 = 1$, or $p_5 = 1$, with all the other Dynkin indices zero. For $k = 3$, we find that $\alpha^2 = 0 + \Lambda^2$ and so $\Lambda^2 = 2$ or $\Lambda^2 = 0$ and so $p_6 = 1$ all the other Dynkin indices zero or we have an E_6 singlet. Finally, for $k = 4$, we find that $\alpha^2 = -\frac{4}{3} + \Lambda^2$ and so $\Lambda^2 = \frac{4}{3}$ or $\Lambda^2 = \frac{10}{3}$ and so $p_5 = 1$ or $p_1 = 1$ or $p_4 = 1$ or $p_2 = 1$ all the other Dynkin indices zero.

D	G	1-forms	2-forms	3-forms	4-forms	5-forms	6-forms	7-forms
7	A_4	$\mathbf{10} (\lambda_1)$	$\overline{\mathbf{5}} (\lambda_3)$	$\mathbf{5} (\lambda_4)$	$\overline{\mathbf{10}} (\lambda_2)$	$\mathbf{24} (\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)$	$\mathbf{40} (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)$ $\mathbf{15} (2\lambda_4)$	$\overline{\mathbf{70}} (2\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)$ $\overline{\mathbf{45}} (\lambda_4 + \lambda_2)$ $\overline{\mathbf{5}} (\lambda_3)$
6	D_5	$\overline{\mathbf{16}} (\lambda_1)$	$\mathbf{10} (\lambda_4)$	$\mathbf{16} (\lambda_5)$	$\mathbf{45} (\lambda_3)$	$\overline{\mathbf{144}} (\lambda_4 + \lambda_5)$	$\mathbf{320} (\lambda_3 + \lambda_4)$ $\mathbf{126} (2\lambda_5)$ $\mathbf{10} (\lambda_4)$	
5	E_6	$\overline{\mathbf{27}} (\lambda_1)$	$\mathbf{27} (\lambda_5)$	$\mathbf{78} (\lambda_6)$	$\overline{\mathbf{351}} (\lambda_4)$	$\mathbf{1728} (\lambda_5 + \lambda_6)$ $\mathbf{27} (\lambda_5)$		
4	E_7	$\mathbf{56} (\lambda_1)$	$\mathbf{133} (\lambda_6)$	$\mathbf{912} (\lambda_7)$	$\mathbf{8645} (\lambda_5)$ $\mathbf{133} (\lambda_6)$			
3	E_8	$\mathbf{248} (\lambda_1)$	$\mathbf{3875} (\lambda_7)$ $\mathbf{1} (0)$	$\mathbf{147250} (\lambda_8)$ $\mathbf{3875} (\lambda_7)$ $\mathbf{248} (\lambda_1)$				

Table 2: Table giving the representations of the symmetry group G of all the generators with completely antisymmetric indices of E_8^{+++} in dimension from 7 to 3, and the corresponding highest weight. The representations are the conjugates of the ones in table 5 of [27], where the corresponding fields were listed.

We now must check that the above solutions do indeed solve equation (A.8). For example, for the case of $D = 5$ and so E_6 , and taking $k = 1$ we find that each form belongs to only one fundamental representation of E_{11-D} . The exception is the case of four forms, that is $m_c = 1$ for which we have the solutions λ_1 and λ_4 . However the former case has an $\alpha^2 = 0$ and has multiplicity zero.

For the case of space-filling forms for E_6 we have $m_c = 5$ and $\alpha^2 = -\frac{10}{3} + \Lambda^2$. The possible solutions are $\lambda_5, \lambda_4, \lambda_2, \lambda_1, 2\lambda_4$ and $\lambda_1 + \lambda_6$. Equation (A.8) rules out λ_4 and it turns out that $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, 2\lambda_4$ have multiplicity zero. Hence for the space-filling forms we find λ_5 and $\lambda_1 + \lambda_6$.

Let us now consider the case of $D = 3$ or E_8 . In this case from equation (A.16) we have $\alpha^2 = -k^2 + k + \Lambda^2$. Hence for $k = 1$ we have 1 and λ_1 as usual, while for $k = 2$ we can have 1, λ_7 and λ_1 . It turns out the latter and the singlet in $k = 1$ have multiplicity zero. For space-filling branes we find $\alpha^2 = -6 + \Lambda^2$ and so we have 1, $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_7, \lambda_8$ and $2\lambda_1$. It turns out that 1, λ_2 and $2\lambda_1$ have multiplicity zero.

These results and those for all the other cases are summarised in table 2 [27]. Once the results are listed in terms of their highest weights a pattern for all the groups is apparent. The 1-form generators always have highest weight λ_1 . Indeed these generators are the level one generators, and this is the representation with highest weight ν_2 already discussed. The 2-form generators in D dimensions belong to the representation of E_{11-D} with highest weight λ_{10-D} . The three-dimensional case is exceptional because together with λ_7 , which follows the pattern, one also gets a singlet of E_8 . The 3-forms always contain the representation with highest weight λ_{11-D} , and the 4-forms always contain the representation with highest weight λ_{9-D} . The 5-forms always contain the representation

with highest weight $\lambda_{10-D} + \lambda_{11-D}$, and the 6-forms always contain the representation with highest weight $\lambda_{9-D} + \lambda_{10-D}$ and the one with highest weight $2\lambda_{11-D}$. There is also an additional pattern involving the spacetime-filling forms, that always contain the representation with highest weight λ_{10-D} . It is amusing to draw the Dynkin diagrams of E_{11-D} and place the forms against the node corresponding to the highest weight of the representations to which it belongs.

The reader can apply the above technology to find the representations of the forms in the other cases required in this paper. For example one can consider the case of $D_{\frac{P}{2}+4}^{+++}$ of figure 4 discussed in section 4.3, which deleting node 6 leads to $G_1 = \text{SO}(6,6)$ and $G_2 = \text{SO}(P)$. As explained above the lowest level representation has the highest weight (μ_5, λ_1) and the reader will readily find the higher level results used in this paper. However, in this case one must further decompose $\text{SO}(6,6)$ into $\text{SL}(6)$ to find the recognisable representations of the forms in six dimensions.

One can calculate the representations found in this appendix using the programme `SimpLie` [30]. This has the advantage that it gives the multiplicities of each representation. However, we think it is useful to give a purely algebraic method that can be carried out by hand. By doing such calculations one can spot features that one might otherwise miss such as the above pattern of highest weights. These calculations can also be applied to cases where one wants to compute the representations of the forms arising in the non-linear realisation of groups like D_n^{+++} for arbitrary n .

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