

# Degenerate Cayley–Dickson algebras

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- 1 extend CD-process by allowing **degenerate versions**  
→ 9 extra alternative CD-algebras
- 2 define **generalized Veronese varieties** associated to them  
→ projective remoteness planes

# PART I

Extending the Cayley-Dickson process

# The Cayley-Dickson Doubling Process

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Successive applications yield **alternative algebras**

$$L = \text{CD}(K, \zeta), \zeta \in K \quad (\text{involution non-trivial})$$

$$H = \text{CD}(L, \zeta'), \zeta' \in L \quad (\text{no longer commutative})$$

$$O = \text{CD}(H, \zeta''), \zeta'' \in H \quad (\text{no longer associative})$$

## Properties of $\text{CD}(K, \zeta)$

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## Quadratic algebra

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \text{CD}(K, \zeta) : \mathbf{x}^2 + t(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{x} + n(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

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**Example**  $CD(\mathbb{R}, \zeta)$

$\zeta$	elements	CD-algebra	$n(a, b)$
-1	$a + ib$ with $i^2 = -1$	$\mathbb{C}$	$a^2 + b^2$
1	$a + jb$ with $j^2 = 1$	$\mathbb{C}'$	$a^2 - b^2$
0	$a + tb$ with $t^2 = 0$	$DN(\mathbb{R}) := \mathbb{R}[t]/(t^2)$	$a^2$

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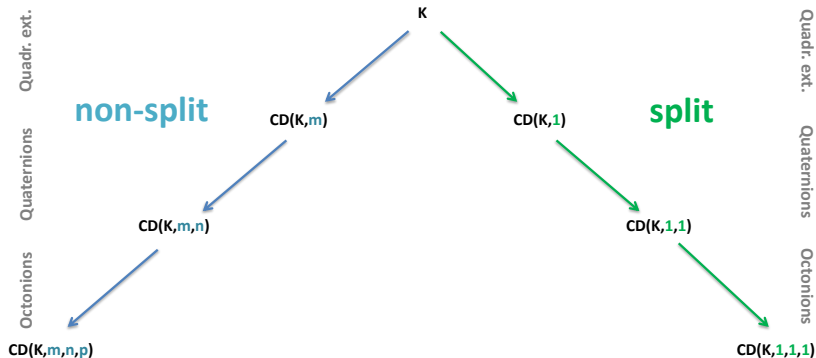
$$n((a, b)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \zeta = n(ab^{-1}) \text{ or } a = 0 \text{ and } \zeta = 0$$

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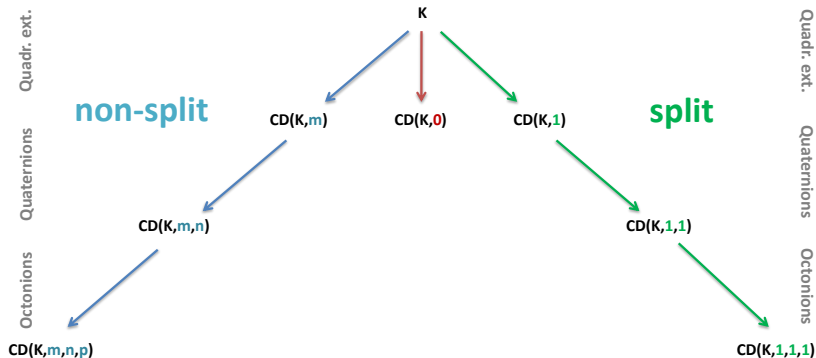
**In general**  $CD(K, \zeta)$ ,  $m$  a non-square,  $\text{kar}K \neq 2$

$\zeta$	elements	CD-algebra	$n(a, b)$
$m$	$a + ib$ with $i^2 = m$	$\mathbb{L} = \mathbb{K}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$	$a^2 + mb^2$
1	$a + jb$ with $j^2 = 1$	$\mathbb{L}' = \mathbb{K}[x]/(x^2 - 1)$	$(a + b)(a - b)$
0	$a + tb$ with $t^2 = 0$	$DN(\mathbb{K}) := \mathbb{K}[t]/(t^2)$	$a^2$

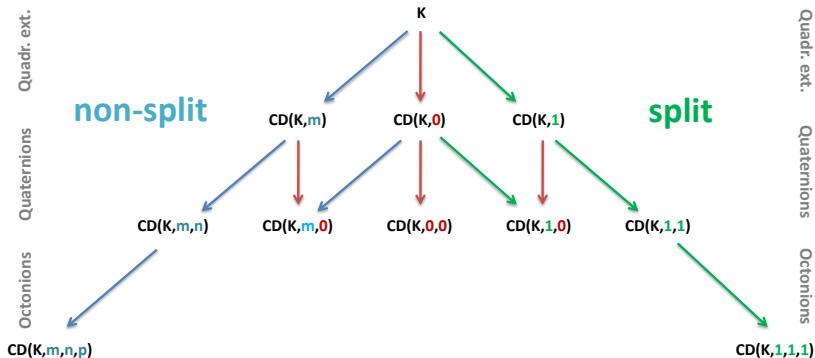
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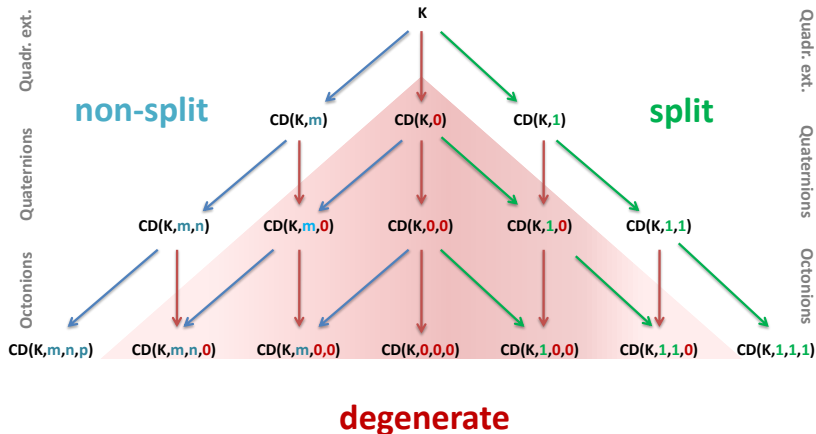
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$$(a, b) \mapsto (a + b, a - b)$$

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→ the CD-process yields no split extension

## First step in CDDP in case $\text{kar } K = 2$

### Normal procedure

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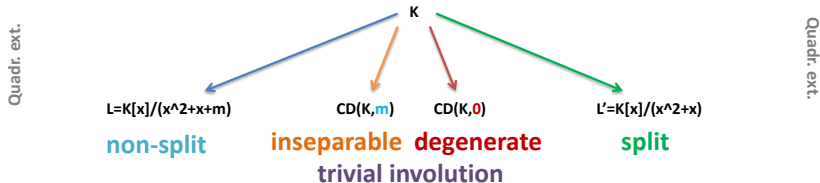
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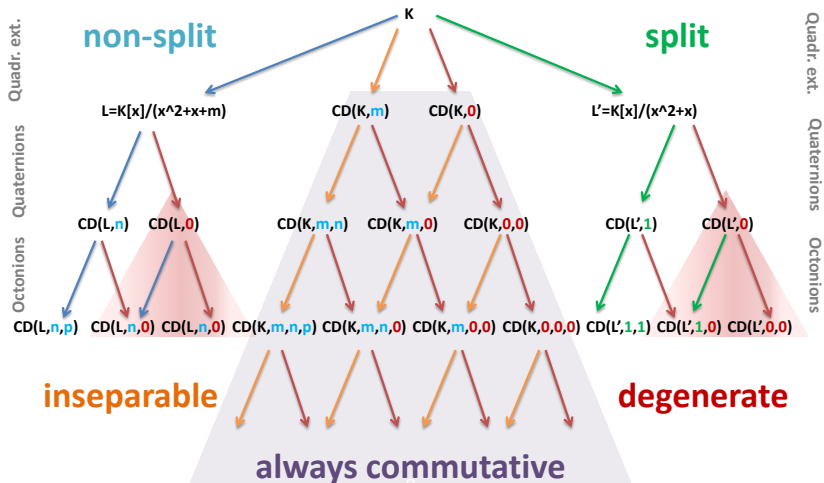
### Remarks

- The split one is isomorphic to  $K \times K : (a, b) \mapsto (a + b, a)$
- If  $\text{kar } K \neq 2$  then  $K[x]/(x^2 + ax + b) \cong \text{CD}(K, v)$   
with  $v = u^2 - b$  and  $u = \frac{a}{2}$ .

# (Degenerate) Cayley-Dickson algebras in characteristic 2



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# PART II

(Generalized) Veronese Varieties  
after JS and HVM

## Veronesean varieties

Representation of  $\mathbf{PG}(2, L)$ ,  $L$  a non-split quadratic extension of  $K$

points  $(x, y, z) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} (\bar{x} \quad \bar{y} \quad \bar{z}) = \begin{pmatrix} x\bar{x} & x\bar{y} & x\bar{z} \\ y\bar{x} & y\bar{y} & y\bar{z} \\ z\bar{x} & z\bar{y} & z\bar{z} \end{pmatrix}$

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e. g. :  $(0, y, z) \mapsto (0, y\bar{y}, z\bar{z}; y\bar{z}, 0, 0)$ , put  $Z_3 = X_3 + sX_4$ :

$$X_1X_2 = Z_3\bar{Z}_3 = X_3^2 + \zeta X_4^2$$

## Veronesean varieties

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e. g. :  $x = 0 \mapsto (0, y\bar{y}, z\bar{z}; y\bar{z}, 0, 0)$ , put  $Z_3 = X_3 + sX_4$ :

$$X_1X_2 = Z_3\bar{Z}_3 = \begin{cases} X_3^2 - X_4^2 & (\zeta = 1) \rightarrow Q^+(3, K) \\ X_3^2 & (\zeta = 0) \rightarrow pQ(2, K) \end{cases}$$

All points given by these equations are contained in  $\sigma(\mathcal{P})$ , except for  $p$ , which is called the **radical**  $Q^R$  of the quadric  $Q$ .

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This time, the corresponding geometries are no projective planes, but **projective remoteness planes**.

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## Projective remoteness planes

An incidence geometry  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{L}, I)$  together with a symmetric relation  $R$  on  $\mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$  is called a **remoteness plane** if

$$(R1) \quad p \leftrightarrow L \wedge L I q \Rightarrow p \leftrightarrow q$$

$$(R2) \quad p \leftrightarrow q \Rightarrow p \neq q$$

and their duals hold.

### Trivial example

projective planes:  $p \leftrightarrow q \Leftrightarrow p \neq q$ ,  $p \leftrightarrow L \Leftrightarrow p \notin L$ .

$$(PR1) \quad p \leftrightarrow q \Rightarrow \exists! L \in \mathcal{L} : p, q \in L$$

$S \subset \mathcal{P}$  is **regular** if  $p \leftrightarrow q$  and  $p \leftrightarrow qr \quad \forall p, q, r \in S$  distinct

$$(PR2) \quad p \leftrightarrow q, r \leftrightarrow pq \Rightarrow \text{regular 3-set}$$

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If these axioms and their duals holds, then we have a **projective remoteness plane**.

# The Segre Variety

$\text{PG}(2, K) \times \text{PG}(2, K)$  is a **projective remoteness plane**

$(p_1, p_2) \leftrightarrow (q_1, q_2)$  if  $p_1 \neq q_1$  and  $p_2 \neq q_2$  (R2), (PR1)

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e. g. :  $((0, v, w), (0, y, z)) \mapsto (0, 0, 0, 0, vy, vz, 0, wy, wz)$ ,  
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$$X_4 X_8 = X_5 X_7 \rightarrow Q^+(3, K)$$

## Projective Hjelmslev plane of level 2

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## Vero( $\text{CD}(K, 0)$ ) is a $\text{PH}_2(\text{DN}(K))$

Recall

points  $(x, y, z) \mapsto (x\bar{x}, y\bar{y}, z\bar{z}; y\bar{z}, z\bar{x}, x\bar{y}) \in \text{PG}(8, K)$

a line  $(0, y, z) \mapsto (0, y\bar{y}, z\bar{z}; y\bar{z}, 0, 0)$ , a cone over

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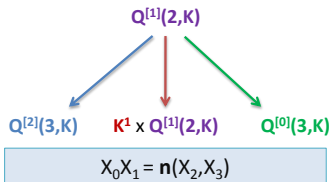
This is the **quadratic Veronesean**, isomorphic to  $\text{PG}(2, K)$ .

## (Generalized) Mazzocca-Melone Sets

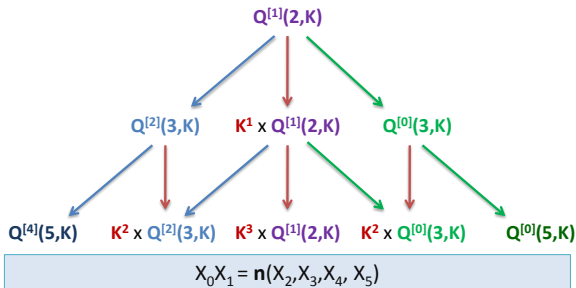
$$Q^{[1]}(2, K)$$

$$X_0 X_1 = n(X_2)$$

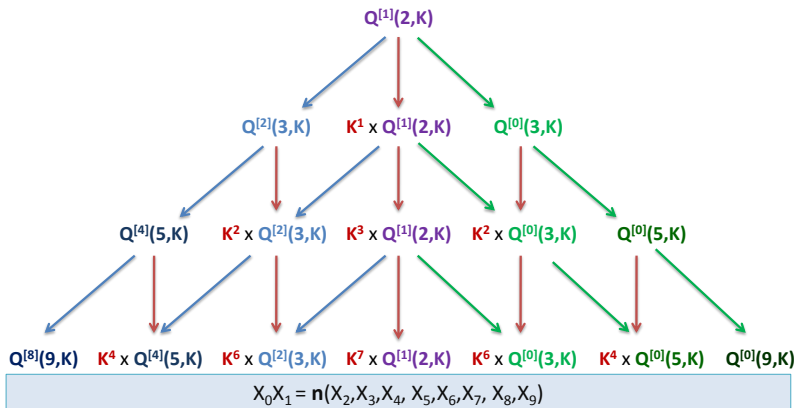
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These are *all* projective remoteness planes over quadratic alternative algebras.

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The corresponding (generalized) Veronesean varieties are the *only* (generalized) MM-sets.

Thank you!