# Invariant Nonassociative Algebra Structures on Irreducible Representations of Simple Lie Algebras

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Keywords: Simple Lie algebras, representations, anticommutative algebras, polynomial identities, computational linear algebra An irreducible representation of a simple Lie algebra can be a direct summand of its own tensor square. In this case, the representation admits a nonassociative algebra structure which is invariant in the sense that the Lie algebra acts as derivations. We study this situation for the Lie algebra sl(2).

# 1. INTRODUCTION

In Section 2 we review the basic representation theory of sl(2). We illustrate our methods on the familiar adjoint representation in Section 3. To go further, we need an explicit version of the classical Clebsch-Gordan Theorem, which is proved in Section 4. This gives highest weight vectors in the tensor square of an irreducible representation. The representation with highest weight n(and dimension n+1) occurs as a summand of its symmetric square when  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and as a summand of its exterior square when  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . In the latter case we obtain a series of anticommutative algebras beginning with sl(2) itself (n = 2, dimension 3, the adjoint representation). The next algebra in the sequence is the simple non-Lie Malcev algebra (n = 6, dimension 7) which is discussed in Section 5.

In Section 6 we compute the structure constants for the algebra arising in the case n = 10 (dimension 11); this new anticommutative algebra is the focus of the present paper. In Section 7 we review our computational methods, which involve linear algebra on large matrices and the representation theory of the symmetric group. In Section 8 we describe a computer search for polynomial identities satisfied by the new 11-dimensional algebra. We show that all its identities in degree 6 or less are trivial consequences of anticommutativity. We show that it satisfies nontrivial identities in degree 7, classify them, and provide explicit examples. In Section 9 we consider unital extensions of our anticommutative algebras, and relate this to the work of Dixmier on nonassociative algebras defined by transvection of binary forms in classical invariant theory.

In Section 10 we go beyond sl(2) and use the software system LiE to determine all fundamental representations of simple Lie algebras of rank less than or equal to 8 which occur as summands of their own exterior squares. This demonstrates the existence of a large number of new anticommutative algebras, with simple Lie algebras in their derivation algebras, which seem worthy of further study. In closing we provide an interesting new characterization of the Lie algebra  $E_8$ .

# 2. REPRESENTATIONS OF THE LIE ALGEBRA sl(2)

We first recall some standard facts about sl(2) and its representations. All vector spaces and tensor products are over  $\mathbb{F}$ , an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero. Our basic reference is [Humphreys 72], especially Section II.7.

#### 2.1 The Lie Algebra sl(2)

As an abstract Lie algebra, sl(2) has basis  $\{E, H, F\}$  and commutation relations

$$[H, E] = 2E, [H, F] = -2F, \text{ and } [E, F] = H.$$
 (2-1)

All other relations between basis elements follow from anticommutativity:

$$\begin{split} [E,H] &= -2E, \qquad [F,H] = 2F, \qquad [F,E] = -H, \\ [E,E] &= 0, \qquad [H,H] = 0, \qquad [F,F] = 0. \end{split}$$

Since the Lie bracket is bilinear, these relations determine the product [X, Y] for all  $X, Y \in sl(2)$ . These relations are satisfied by the commutator [X, Y] = XY - YX of the  $2 \times 2$  matrices

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \ F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$
(2-2)

These three matrices form a basis of the vector space of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices of trace 0.

# **2.2** The Irreducible Representation V(n)

For any nonnegative integer n, there is an irreducible representation of sl(2) containing a nonzero vector  $v_n$  (called the highest weight vector) satisfying the conditions

$$H.v_n = nv_n \quad \text{and} \quad E.v_n = 0. \tag{2-3}$$

This representation is unique up to isomorphism of sl(2)modules. It is denoted V(n) and is called the representation with highest weight n. Its dimension is n + 1; a basis of V(n) consists of the n + 1 vectors  $v_{n-2i}$  where, by definition,

$$v_{n-2i} = \frac{1}{i!} F^i . v_n, \qquad 0 \le i \le n.$$
 (2-4)

The action of sl(2) on V(n) is then as follows:

$$E.v_{n-2i} = (n-i+1)v_{n-2i+2}, \qquad (2-5a)$$

$$H.v_{n-2i} = (n-2i)v_{n-2i}, \qquad (2-5b)$$

$$F.v_{n-2i} = (i+1)v_{n-2i-2}.$$
 (2-5c)

The basis vectors  $v_{n-2i}$  are called weight vectors since they are eigenvectors for H. It is easy to check that the linear mapping  $r: sl(2) \to \text{End } V(n)$  defined by these relations satisfies the defining property for representations of Lie algebras:

$$r([X,Y]) = r(X)r(Y) - r(Y)r(X).$$

#### 2.3 Invariant Bilinear Forms

Up to a scalar multiple there is a unique sl(2)-module homomorphism

$$V(n) \otimes V(n) \to V(0).$$

Since V(0) is one-dimensional, we can identify V(0) with the field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and so this homomorphism can be expressed as a bilinear form (x, y) satisfying the sl(2)-invariance property

$$(D.x, y) + (x, D.y) = 0$$
 for any  $D \in sl(2)$  and  $x, y \in V(n)$ .

The next proposition gives the precise formula for this bilinear form in terms of the weight vectors.

**Proposition 2.1.** Any sl(2)-invariant bilinear form on V(n) is a scalar multiple of

$$(v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}) = \delta_{i+j,n} (-1)^i \binom{n}{i}, \qquad 0 \le i, j \le n.$$

This form is symmetric if n is even and alternating if n is odd.

*Proof:* We first consider the action of H: we have

$$(H.x, y) + (x, H.y) = 0$$
 for any  $x, y \in V(n)$ 

Setting  $x = v_{n-2i}$  and  $y = v_{n-2j}$  gives

$$(H.v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}) + (v_{n-2i}, H.v_{n-2j}) = 0.$$

Using the formula for the action of H on weight vectors and collecting terms gives

$$(2n - 2(i+j))(v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}) = 0.$$

Therefore,  $(v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}) = 0$  unless i + j = n; or equivalently (n-2i) + (n-2j) = 0. Now assume that i+j = n, so that n-2j = 2i - n. We need to determine

$$(v_{n-2i}, v_{2i-n}).$$

We consider the action of E on the pairing of  $v_{n-2i}$  and  $v_{n-2j}$ :

$$(E.v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}) + (v_{n-2i}, E.v_{n-2j}) = 0.$$

Using the formula for the action of E on weight vectors, we obtain

$$(n-i+1)(v_{n-2i+2}, v_{n-2j}) + (n-j+1)(v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j+2}) = 0$$

Both terms will be zero unless 2n - 2(i + j) + 2 = 0; that is, i + j = n + 1. In this case we get

$$(n-i+1)(v_{n-2(i-1)}, v_{2(i-1)-n}) + i(v_{n-2i}, v_{2i-n}) = 0.$$

This gives the recurrence relation

$$(v_{n-2i}, v_{2i-n}) = -\frac{n-i+1}{i}(v_{n-2(i-1)}, v_{2(i-1)-n})$$

for  $i \ge 1$ . If we write  $f(i) = (v_{n-2i}, v_{2i-n})$ , then we can write this relation more succinctly as

$$f(i) = -\frac{n-i+1}{i}f(i-1)$$
 for  $i \ge 1$ .

From this we obtain

$$f(1) = -nf(0),$$
  

$$f(2) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}f(0),$$
  

$$f(3) = -\frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{6}f(0), \dots$$

The general solution is therefore

$$f(i) = (-1)^{i} {n \choose i} f(0) \text{ for } 0 \le i \le n,$$

which is easily proved by induction on *i*. Taking f(0) = 1, this gives the formula stated in Proposition 1.1. Finally, we can verify the symmetric or alternating property as follows:

$$(v_{n-2j}, v_{n-2i}) = \delta_{j+i,n} (-1)^j \binom{n}{j} = \delta_{i+j,n} (-1)^{n-i} \binom{n}{n-i}$$
$$= (-1)^n \delta_{i+j,n} (-1)^i \binom{n}{i}$$
$$= (-1)^n (v_{n-2i}, v_{n-2j}).$$

This completes the proof.

# 2.4 The Clebsch-Gordan Theorem

The Clebsch-Gordan Theorem shows how the tensor product of two irreducible representations of sl(2) can be expressed as a direct sum of other irreducible representations. See [Humphreys 72, Exercise 22.7].

Theorem 2.2. We have the isomorphism

$$V(n) \otimes V(m) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{m} V(n+m-2i),$$

for any nonnegative integers  $n \ge m$ . In the special case n = m, we obtain

$$V(n) \otimes V(n) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{n} V(2n-2i).$$

The examples of particular interest to us in this paper will be

$$V(2) \otimes V(2) \cong V(4) \oplus V(2) \oplus V(0),$$
  

$$V(6) \otimes V(6) \cong V(12) \oplus V(10) \oplus V(8) \oplus V(6)$$
  

$$\oplus V(4) \oplus V(2) \oplus V(0),$$
  

$$V(10) \otimes V(10) \cong V(20) \oplus V(18) \oplus V(16) \oplus V(14)$$
  

$$\oplus V(12 \oplus V(10) \oplus V(8) \oplus V(6)$$
  

$$\oplus V(4) \oplus V(2) \oplus V(0).$$

Recall the linear transposition map T on  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ defined by  $T(v \otimes v') = v' \otimes v$ . Using T, we define the symmetric and exterior squares of V(n):

$$S^{2}V(n) = \{ t \in V(n) \otimes V(n) \mid T(t) = t \},\$$
  
$$\Lambda^{2}V(n) = \{ t \in V(n) \otimes V(n) \mid T(t) = -t \}.$$

It is easy to verify that

$$V(n) \otimes V(n) = S^2 V(n) \oplus \Lambda^2 V(n).$$

In our three examples, we have

$$\begin{split} S^2 V(2) &\cong V(4) \oplus V(0), \\ \Lambda^2 V(2) &\cong V(2), \\ S^2 V(6) &\cong V(12) \oplus V(8) \oplus V(4) \oplus V(0), \\ \Lambda^2 V(6) &\cong V(10) \oplus V(6) \oplus V(2), \\ S^2 V(10) &\cong V(20) \oplus V(16) \oplus V(12) \oplus V(8) \\ &\oplus V(4) \oplus V(0), \\ \Lambda^2 V(10) &\cong V(18) \oplus V(14) \oplus V(10) \oplus V(6) \oplus V(2). \end{split}$$

In Section 4 we will prove the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem in the case m = n and give explicit formulas for the highest weight vectors of the summands of  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ .

# 2.5 Action of sl(2) on Polynomials

Following [Humphreys 72, Exercise 7.4], we let  $\{X, Y\}$  be a basis for the vector space  $\mathbb{F}^2$ , on which sl(2) acts by the natural representation: the 2 × 2 matrices given in Equations (2–2). This means that we have

$$E.X = 0,$$
  $H.X = X,$   $F.X = Y,$   
 $E.Y = X,$   $H.Y = -Y,$   $F.Y = 0,$ 

and the action extends linearly to all of sl(2) and all of  $\mathbb{F}^2$ . We write  $\mathbb{F}[X, Y]$  for the polynomial ring in the variables X and Y with coefficients from  $\mathbb{F}$ . Since X and Y generate  $\mathbb{F}[X, Y]$ , we can extend the action of sl(2) to all of  $\mathbb{F}[X, Y]$  by the derivation rule:

$$D.pq = (D.p)q + p(D.q)$$

for any  $D \in sl(2)$  and any  $p, q \in \mathbb{F}[X, Y]$ . This makes  $\mathbb{F}[X, Y]$  into a representation of sl(2). The subspace of  $\mathbb{F}[X, Y]$  consisting of the homogeneous polynomials of degree n has basis

$$\{X^n, X^{n-1}Y, \dots, XY^{n-1}, Y^n\},\$$

which is invariant under the action of sl(2) and forms a representation of sl(2) isomorphic to V(n). The action of sl(2) on the polynomial ring can be succinctly expressed in terms of the differential operators

$$E = X \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}, \qquad H = X \frac{\partial}{\partial X} - Y \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}, \qquad F = Y \frac{\partial}{\partial X}.$$

Applying these operators to the basis monomials of the polynomial ring, we obtain

$$E.X^{n-i}Y^{i} = iX^{n-i+1}Y^{i-1},$$
  

$$H.X^{n-i}Y^{i} = (n-2i)X^{n-i}Y^{i},$$
  

$$F.X^{n-i}Y^{i} = (n-i)X^{n-i-1}Y^{i+1}.$$

The exact correspondence between the monomials and the abstract basis vectors of V(n) is given by

$$v_{n-2i} = \binom{n}{i} X^{n-i} Y^i.$$

Using this basis of the space of homogeneous polynomials of degree n, we get

$$\begin{split} E.\binom{n}{i}X^{n-i}Y^{i} &= i\binom{n}{i}X^{n-(i-1)}Y^{i-1} \\ &= (n-i+1)\binom{n}{i-1}X^{n-(i-1)}Y^{i-1}, \\ H.\binom{n}{i}X^{n-i}Y^{i} &= (n-2i)\binom{n}{i}X^{n-i}Y^{i}, \end{split}$$

$$F.\binom{n}{i}X^{n-i}Y^{i} = (n-i)\binom{n}{i}X^{n-(i+1)}Y^{i+1}$$
$$= (i+1)\binom{n}{i+1}X^{n-(i+1)}Y^{i+1}$$

Expressing the same relations in terms of the weight vector basis of V(n) we get Equations (2–5).

#### 3. THE ADJOINT REPRESENTATION (n = 2)

We illustrate the results of Section 2 by recovering the three-dimensional representation V(2) of sl(2). It has basis  $\{v_2, v_0, v_{-2}\}$  on which the Lie algebra acts as follows:

$$E.v_{2} = 0, \qquad E.v_{0} = 2v_{2}, \qquad E.v_{-2} = v_{0},$$
  

$$H.v_{2} = 2v_{2}, \qquad H.v_{0} = 0, \qquad H.v_{-2} = -2v_{-2},$$
  

$$F.v_{2} = v_{0}, \qquad F.v_{0} = 2v_{-2}, \qquad F.v_{-2} = 0.$$

By the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem we know that

$$V(2) \otimes V(2) \cong V(4) \oplus V(2) \oplus V(0).$$

We determine a basis for each of the three summands on the right side of this isomorphism.

# 3.1 The Summand V(4)

Recall that for any Lie algebra L, and any two L-modules V and W, the action of  $D \in L$  on  $V \otimes W$  is given by

$$D.(v \otimes w) = D.v \otimes w + v \otimes D.w.$$

It is easy to check that

$$x_4 = v_2 \otimes v_2$$

is a highest weight vector of weight 4 in  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$ . Applying F repeatedly, using the action of sl(2) on V(4), we obtain a basis for the summand of  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$  isomorphic to V(4):

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= F.x_4 = F.v_2 \otimes v_2 + v_2 \otimes F.v_2 = v_0 \otimes v_2 + v_2 \otimes v_0 \\ &= v_2 \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes v_2, \\ x_0 &= \frac{1}{2}F.x_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(F.v_2 \otimes v_0 + v_2 \otimes F.v_0 + F.v_0 \otimes v_2 + v_0 \otimes F.v_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(v_0 \otimes v_0 + v_2 \otimes 2v_{-2} + 2v_{-2} \otimes v_2 + v_0 \otimes v_0) \\ &= v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + v_0 \otimes v_0 + v_{-2} \otimes v_2, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_{-2} &= \frac{1}{3} F.x_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (F.v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + v_2 \otimes F.v_{-2} \\ &+ F.v_0 \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes F.v_0 + F.v_{-2} \otimes v_2 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes F.v_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$&= \frac{1}{3} (v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_2 \otimes 0 + 2v_{-2} \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes 2v_{-2} \\ &+ 0 \otimes v_2 + v_{-2} \otimes v_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$&= v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_{-2} \otimes v_0, \end{aligned}$$

$$x_{-4} &= \frac{1}{4} F.x_{-2} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (F.v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_0 \otimes F.v_{-2} + F.v_{-2} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes F.v_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$&= \frac{1}{4} (2v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2} + v_0 \otimes 0 + 0 \otimes v_0 + v_{-2} \otimes 2v_{-2}) \\ &= v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2}. \end{aligned}$$

# 3.2 The Summand V(2)

We next find a highest weight vector  $y_2$  of weight 2 in  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$ , and then we apply F twice to obtain vectors  $y_0$  and  $y_{-2}$ ; together these three vectors form a basis of a subspace of  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$  that is isomorphic to V(2) as a representation of sl(2). Any vector of weight 2 in  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$  must have the form

$$y_2 = a v_2 \otimes v_0 + b v_0 \otimes v_2$$
 for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ .

Applying E to  $y_2$ , we obtain

$$E.y_2 = E.(a v_2 \otimes v_0 + b v_0 \otimes v_2)$$
  
=  $a(E.v_2 \otimes v_0 + v_2 \otimes E.v_0)$   
+  $b(E.v_0 \otimes v_2 + v_0 \otimes E.v_2)$   
=  $a(0 + v_2 \otimes 2v_2) + b(2v_2 \otimes v_2 + 0)$   
=  $2(a + b)v_2 \otimes v_2.$ 

For  $y_2$  to be a highest weight vector we must have  $E.y_2 = 0$ , and therefore a+b = 0. Up to a nonzero scalar multiple we can take

$$y_2 = v_2 \otimes v_0 - v_0 \otimes v_2.$$

We have  $F.y_2 = y_0$ ; therefore,

$$y_0 = F \cdot y_2 = 2(v_2 \otimes v_{-2} - v_{-2} \otimes v_2).$$

Since  $F.y_0 = 2y_{-2}$ , we get

$$y_{-2} = \frac{1}{2}F.y_0 = F.\left(\frac{1}{2}y_0\right) = v_0 \otimes v_{-2} - v_{-2} \otimes v_0.$$

# 3.3 The Summand V(0)

Next and last we find a highest weight vector  $z_0$  of weight 0 in  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$ . We have

$$z_0 = a v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + b v_0 \otimes v_0 + c v_{-2} \otimes v_2.$$

Applying E gives

$$E.z_{0} = a(E.v_{2} \otimes v_{-2} + v_{2} \otimes E.v_{-2}) + b(E.v_{0} \otimes v_{0} + v_{0} \otimes E.v_{0}) + c(E.v_{-2} \otimes v_{2} + v_{-2} \otimes E.v_{2}) = a(0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_{2} \otimes v_{0}) + b(2v_{2} \otimes v_{0} + v_{0} \otimes 2v_{2}) + c(v_{0} \otimes v_{2} + v_{-2} \otimes 0) = (a + 2b)v_{2} \otimes v_{0} + (2b + c)v_{0} \otimes v_{2}.$$

Since this must be 0, any highest weight vector of weight 0 must be a scalar multiple of

$$z_0 = v_2 \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{1}{2}v_0 \otimes v_0 + v_{-2} \otimes v_2.$$

#### 3.4 The Nonassociative Product on V(2)

To determine the projection

$$V(2) \otimes V(2) \rightarrow V(2) = \Lambda^2 V(2)$$

we need to express each simple tensor  $v_p \otimes v_q$  with  $p, q \in \{2, 0, -2\}$  as a linear combination of the weight vectors of weight p+q in the irreducible summands of  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$ . We consider two different ordered bases of  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$ . We call the first the "tensor basis":

$$\begin{array}{c} v_2 \otimes v_2, \; v_2 \otimes v_0, \; v_2 \otimes v_{-2}, \; v_0 \otimes v_2, \; v_0 \otimes v_0, \; v_0 \otimes v_{-2}, \\ \\ v_{-2} \otimes v_2, \; v_{-2} \otimes v_0, \; v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2}; \end{array}$$

we call the second the "module basis":

$$x_4, x_2, x_0, x_{-2}, x_{-4}, y_2, y_0, y_{-2}, z_0.$$

We use the module basis to label the columns of a  $9 \times 9$  matrix A, and we use the tensor basis to label the rows; then, we set entry i, j of A equal to the coefficient of the *i*th tensor basis vector in the *j*th module basis vector:

	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \end{pmatrix}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	
	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	
A =	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	.
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	Ō	
	0	0	1	0	0	0	-2	0	1	
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	)

The inverse matrix shows how to express the tensor basis vectors as linear combinations of the module basis vectors:

From rows 6–8 of the inverse matrix, we can read off the projection P from  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$  onto the summand isomorphic to V(2) with basis  $y_2$ ,  $y_0$ ,  $y_{-2}$ ; this gives the multiplication table for a three-dimensional anticommutative algebra:

$$\begin{array}{ll} P(v_2 \otimes v_2) = 0, & P(v_2 \otimes v_0) = \frac{1}{2}y_2, & P(v_2 \otimes v_{-2}) = \frac{1}{4}y_0, \\ P(v_0 \otimes v_2) = -\frac{1}{2}y_2, & P(v_0 \otimes v_0) = 0, & P(v_0 \otimes v_{-2}) = \frac{1}{2}y_{-2} \\ P(v_{-2} \otimes v_2) = -\frac{1}{4}y_0, & P(v_{-2} \otimes v_0) = -\frac{1}{2}y_{-2}, & P(v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2}) = 0. \end{array}$$

We now identify  $v_p$  with  $y_p$  for  $p \in \{2, 0, -2\}$  by the module isomorphism h, which sends  $v_p$  to  $y_p$  and extends linearly to all of V(2). Then,  $h^{-1} \circ P$  is a linear map from  $V(2) \otimes V(2)$  to V(2), which we can regard as a multiplication on V(2):

	$v_2$	$v_0$	$v_{-2}$
$v_2$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
$v_0$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$
$v_{-2}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	0.

Since  $v_p v_q = c_{pq} v_{p+q}$  for some scalar  $c_{pq}$ , we have included only  $c_{pq}$  in this table. The map

$$E \longmapsto 4v_2, \qquad H \longmapsto -4v_0, \qquad F \longmapsto -4v_{-2}$$

induces an isomorphism of Lie algebras.

# 4. AN EXPLICIT VERSION OF THE CLEBSCH-GORDAN THEOREM

In this section we work out a general formula for the highest weight vector of weight n in the tensor product  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ . Then, we generalize this and find an explicit formula for all the highest weight vectors in  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ . From this we recover the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem in this special case, together with the additional result on

the structure of the symmetric and exterior squares. Recall that V(n) has dimension n + 1 and basis

$$v_n, v_{n-2}, \dots, v_{-n+2}, v_{-n}$$

The action of the sl(2) basis elements E, H, F on V(n) is given by Equations (2–5). In order for V(n) to occur as a summand of  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  we must assume that n is even.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let n be an even nonnegative integer. Then every highest weight vector of weight n in  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ is a nonzero scalar multiple of

$$w_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} (-1)^i \frac{\binom{n}{2}+i}{\binom{n}{i}} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2i}.$$

*Proof:* Any vector of weight n in  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  must have the form

$$w_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} a_i \, v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2i}.$$

For this to be a highest weight vector, we must have  $E.w_n = 0$ . We have

$$\begin{split} E.w_n &= \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} a_i (E.v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2i} + v_{n-2i} \otimes E.v_{2i}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} a_i \left( (n-i+1)v_{n-2i+2} \otimes v_{2i} + v_{n-2i} \otimes \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right) v_{2i+2} \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} (n-i+1)a_i v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{2i} + \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right) a_i v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} (n-i+1)a_i v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{2i} + \sum_{i=0}^{n/2-1} \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right) a_i v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n/2-1} (n-i)a_{i+1} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)} \\ &+ \sum_{i=0}^{n/2-1} \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right) a_i v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)} \\ &+ \sum_{i=0}^{n/2-1} \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right) a_i v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)} \end{split}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n/2-1} ((n-i)a_{i+1} + \left(\frac{n}{2} + i + 1\right)a_i v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2(i+1)}$$

Since the simple tensors are linearly independent, every coefficient must be zero, and so

$$a_{i+1} = -\frac{\frac{n}{2} + i + 1}{n - i} a_i, \qquad 0 \le i \le \frac{n}{2} - 1.$$

Since we may choose  $a_0 = 1$  without loss of generality, we get

$$a_i = (-1)^i \frac{\frac{n}{2} + i}{n - (i - 1)} \cdots \frac{\frac{n}{2} + 2}{n - 1} \cdot \frac{\frac{n}{2} + 1}{n}.$$

By induction on i, this simplifies to the compact formula in the statement of Theorem 4.1.

We now generalize this computation to establish the decomposition of  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  into a direct sum of irreducible representations; we then identify the symmetric and exterior squares.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let n be an even nonnegative integer. Then  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  contains a highest weight vector of weight m if and only if m = 2n - 2k where k is an integer and  $0 \le k \le n$ . Every such highest weight vector is a nonzero scalar multiple of

$$w_m = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \frac{\binom{n-k+i}{i}}{\binom{n}{i}} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)}.$$

From this it follows that

$$V(n) \otimes V(n) \cong \bigoplus_{k=0}^{n} V(2n-2k),$$

and further follows that we have

$$S^{2}V(n) \cong \bigoplus_{k=0, \text{ even}}^{n} V(2n-2k),$$
$$\Lambda^{2}V(n) \cong \bigoplus_{k=1, \text{ odd}}^{n-1} V(2n-2k).$$

*Proof:* Any vector in  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  has the form

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^n a_{ij} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2j}.$$

Since any highest weight vector must be a weight vector, we first break up this sum into its weight components:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$
  
(terms of positive weight)  
$$+ \sum_{i=0}^{n} a_{i,n-i} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{2i-n}$$
  
(terms of weight zero)  
$$+ \sum_{k=n+1}^{2n} \left( \sum_{i=k-n}^{n} a_{i,k-i} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$
  
(terms of negative weight)

Since a highest weight vector must have nonnegative weight, we can ignore the terms of negative weight and include the weight zero case with the positive weight cases:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\sum_{i=0}^k a_{i,k-i} v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)}\right).$$

The inner sum, call it w, is a weight vector of weight 2n - 2k. For w to be a highest weight vector, we must have E.w = 0. The formulas for the action of sl(2) on V(n) give

$$\begin{split} E.v_{n-2i} &= (n-(i-1)) \, v_{n-2(i-1)}, \\ E.v_{n-2(k-i)} &= (n-(k-i-1)) \, v_{n-2(k-i-1)}. \end{split}$$

Therefore,

$$E.w = \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} \left( E.v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} + v_{n-2i} \otimes E.v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} \left( (n - (i - 1)) v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} + (n - (k - i - 1)) v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i-1)} \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} \left( (n - (i - 1)) v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$
$$+ \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} \left( (n - (k - i - 1)) v_{n-2i} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i-1)} \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=0}^{k} a_{i,k-i} \left( (n - (i - 1)) v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$

$$+\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} a_{i-1,k-(i-1)} \left( (n-(k-i)) v_{n-2(i-1)} \\ \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \right)$$
  
=  $a_{0,k} (n+1) v_{n+2} \otimes v_{n-2k}$   
+  $\sum_{i=1}^{k} ((n-(i-1)) a_{i,k-i} \\ + (n-(k-i)) a_{i-1,k-(i-1)}) \\ \times v_{n-2(i-1)} \otimes v_{n-2(k-i)} \\ + a_{k,0} (n+1) v_{n-2k} \otimes v_{n+2}.$ 

Since  $v_{n+2} = 0$  and the simple tensors are linearly independent, we get the relations

$$(n - (i - 1)) a_{i,k-i} + (n - (k - i)) a_{i-1,k-(i-1)} = 0,$$
  
 $1 \le i \le k.$ 

Therefore,

$$a_{i,k-i} = -\frac{n - (k - i)}{n - (i - 1)} a_{i-1,k-(i-1)}, \qquad 1 \le i \le k.$$

Now induction on i shows that

$$a_{i,k-i} = (-1)^i \frac{\binom{n-k+i}{i}}{\binom{n}{i}}.$$

Thus, we have a unique (up to scalar multiples) highest weight vector in  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$  for each weight 2n - 2kfor  $0 \le k \le n$ . Since a highest weight vector of weight 2n - 2k generates a summand V(2n - 2k) of dimension 2n - 2k + 1, the dimension check

$$(n+1)^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{n} (2n - 2k + 1)$$

shows that we have the direct sum decomposition as claimed in the statement of Theorem 4.2. Furthermore, the symmetry or antisymmetry of the coefficients of the highest weight vectors,

$$a_{k-i,i} = (-1)^k \, a_{i,k-i},$$

shows that they lie either in the symmetric or exterior square of V(n) depending on whether k is even or odd.

# 5. THE SIMPLE NON-LIE MALCEV ALGEBRA (n = 6)

The second well-understood example of an anticommutative algebra that can be obtained from a representation of sl(2) is the seven-dimensional simple non-Lie Malcev algebra M: the vector space of pure imaginary octonions under the commutator product. The identity of lowest degree satisfied by M, which does not follow from anticommutativity, was originally published in [Malcev 55]. It has degree 4 and is now called the Malcev identity:

$$\begin{split} [[x,y],[x,z]] = [[[x,y],z],x] + [[[y,z],x],x] + [[[z,x],x],y]. \\ (5-1) \end{split}$$

The linearized version of this identity has eight terms. An equivalent identity which has only five terms is

$$\begin{split} & [[w,y],[x,z]] = [[[w,x],y],z] + [[[x,y],z],w] \\ & + [[[y,z],w],x] + [[[z,w],x],y]. \end{split} \tag{5-2}$$

The variety of Malcev algebras is defined by anticommutativity and the Malcev identity (or one of its equivalents).

Since the product of distinct pure imaginary octonion basis elements is anticommutative, the multiplication table for the seven-dimensional simple non-Lie Malcev algebra can be obtained from the octonion multiplication table by replacing the diagonal entries by 0 and multiplying the other entries by 2.

**Definition 5.1.** The simple seven-dimensional non-Lie Malcev algebra is the anticommutative algebra with "octonion" basis I, J, K, L, M, N, P and multiplication table

[,]	Ι	J	K	L	M	N	P
Ι	0	2K	-2J	2M	-2L	-2P	2N
J	-2K	0	2I	2N	2P	-2L	-2M
K	2J	-2I	0	2P	-2N	2M	-2L
L	-2M	-2N	-2P	0	2I	2J	2K
M	2L	-2P	2N	-2I	0	-2K	2J
N	2P	2L	-2M	-2J	2K	0	-2I
P	-2N	2M	2L	-2K	-2J	2I	0

We first determine the structure constants for the anticommutative algebra coming from V(6), and then we show that this algebra is isomorphic to M.

**Theorem 5.2.** The structure constants for the anticommutative algebra resulting from the projection

$$V(6) \otimes V(6) \to V(6) \subset \Lambda^2 V(6)$$

are displayed in Table 1.

Since the product of  $v_p$  and  $v_q$  equals  $c_{pq}v_{p+q}$  for some scalar  $c_{pq}$ , we only record the scalars  $c_{pq}$  in this table.

*Proof:* By the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem we know how  $V(6) \otimes V(6)$  decomposes as a direct sum of irreducible representations:

$\otimes$	$v_6$	$v_4$	$v_2$	$v_0$	$v_{-2}$	$v_{-4}$	$v_{-6}$
$v_6$	0	0	0	1	2	2	1
$v_4$	0	0	-1	-1	0	1	1
$v_2$	0	1	0	-1	-1	0	1
$v_0$	-1	1	1	0	-1	-1	1
$v_{-2}$	-2	0	1	1	0	-2	0
$v_{-4}$	-2	-1	0	1	2	0	0
$v_{-6}$	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0
			TAB	LE 1.			

$$V(6) \otimes V(6) \cong V(12) \oplus V(10) \oplus V(8) \oplus V(6) \oplus V(4)$$
$$\oplus V(2) \oplus V(0).$$

We want to compute the projection  $P: V(6) \otimes V(6) \rightarrow$ V(6); for this we follow the method used in the example of the adjoint representation. We use the explicit Clebsch-Gordan Theorem to determine a highest weight vector in each irreducible summand of the tensor product. We then apply F to determine a basis of weight vectors for each irreducible summand. From this we form the transition matrix from the module basis to the tensor basis. Inverting this matrix gives the transition matrix from the tensor basis to the module basis, and from this we obtain the explicit projection map from the tensor product onto the V(6) summand. These computations were done by a Maple [Maple 04] program written by the authors.

For the summand V(12), a highest weight vector is  $v_6 \otimes v_6$ , and the other weight vectors can be found by applying F following Equation (2-5c):

$$\begin{split} s_{12} &= v_6 \otimes v_6, \\ s_{10} &= v_6 \otimes v_4 + v_4 \otimes v_6, \\ s_8 &= v_6 \otimes v_2 + v_4 \otimes v_4 + v_2 \otimes v_6, \\ s_6 &= v_6 \otimes v_0 + v_4 \otimes v_2 + v_2 \otimes v_4 + v_0 \otimes v_6, \\ s_4 &= v_6 \otimes v_{-2} + v_4 \otimes v_0 + v_2 \otimes v_2 + v_0 \otimes v_4 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes v_6, \\ s_2 &= v_6 \otimes v_{-4} + v_4 \otimes v_{-2} + v_2 \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes v_2 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes v_4 + v_{-4} \otimes v_6, \\ s_0 &= v_6 \otimes v_{-6} + v_4 \otimes v_{-4} + v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + v_0 \otimes v_0 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes v_2 + v_{-4} \otimes v_4 + v_{-6} \otimes v_6, \\ s_{-2} &= v_4 \otimes v_{-6} + v_2 \otimes v_{-4} + v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_{-2} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ v_{-4} \otimes v_2 + v_{-6} \otimes v_4, \\ s_{-4} &= v_2 \otimes v_{-6} + v_0 \otimes v_{-4} + v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2} + v_{-4} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ v_{-6} \otimes v_2, \end{split}$$

 $v_2$ 

$$\begin{split} s_{-6} &= v_0 \otimes v_{-6} + v_{-2} \otimes v_{-4} + v_{-4} \otimes v_{-2} + v_{-6} \otimes v_0, \\ s_{-8} &= v_{-2} \otimes v_{-6} + v_{-4} \otimes v_{-4} + v_{-6} \otimes v_{-2}, \\ s_{-10} &= v_{-4} \otimes v_{-6} + v_{-6} \otimes v_{-4}, \\ s_{-12} &= v_{-6} \otimes v_{-6}. \end{split}$$

For the summand V(10) (and all the following summands), a highest weight vector is given by the explicit Clebsch-Gordan Theorem, and the other weight vectors are found by applying F:

$$\begin{split} t_{10} &= v_6 \otimes v_4 - v_4 \otimes v_6, \\ t_8 &= 2v_6 \otimes v_2 - 2v_2 \otimes v_6, \\ t_6 &= 3v_6 \otimes v_0 + v_4 \otimes v_2 - v_2 \otimes v_4 - 3v_0 \otimes v_6, \\ t_4 &= 4v_6 \otimes v_{-2} + 2v_4 \otimes v_0 - 2v_0 \otimes v_4 - 4v_{-2} \otimes v_6, \\ t_2 &= 5v_6 \otimes v_{-4} + 3v_4 \otimes v_{-2} + v_2 \otimes v_0 - v_0 \otimes v_2 \\ &- 3v_{-2} \otimes v_4 - 5v_{-4} \otimes v_6, \\ t_0 &= 6v_6 \otimes v_{-6} + 4v_4 \otimes v_{-4} + 2v_2 \otimes v_{-2} - 2v_{-2} \otimes v_2 \\ &- 4v_{-4} \otimes v_4 - 6v_{-6} \otimes v_6, \\ t_{-2} &= 5v_4 \otimes v_{-6} + 3v_2 \otimes v_{-4} + v_0 \otimes v_{-2} - v_{-2} \otimes v_0 \\ &- 3v_{-4} \otimes v_2 - 5v_{-6} \otimes v_4, \\ t_{-4} &= 4v_2 \otimes v_{-6} + 2v_0 \otimes v_{-4} - 2v_{-4} \otimes v_0 - 4v_{-6} \otimes v_2, \\ t_{-6} &= 3v_0 \otimes v_{-6} + v_{-2} \otimes v_{-4} - v_{-4} \otimes v_{-2} - 3v_{-6} \otimes v_0, \\ t_{-8} &= 2v_{-2} \otimes v_{-6} - 2v_{-6} \otimes v_{-2}, \\ t_{-10} &= v_{-4} \otimes v_{-6} - v_{-6} \otimes v_{-4} \end{split}$$

For the summand V(8), we obtain this basis:

$$\begin{split} u_8 &= v_6 \otimes v_2 - \frac{5}{6} v_4 \otimes v_4 + v_2 \otimes v_6, \\ u_6 &= 3v_6 \otimes v_0 - \frac{2}{3} v_4 \otimes v_2 - \frac{2}{3} v_2 \otimes v_4 + 3v_0 \otimes v_6, \\ u_4 &= 6v_6 \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{1}{2} v_4 \otimes v_0 - \frac{4}{3} v_2 \otimes v_2 + \frac{1}{2} v_0 \otimes v_4 \\ &+ 6v_{-2} \otimes v_6, \\ u_2 &= 10v_6 \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{8}{3} v_4 \otimes v_{-2} - v_2 \otimes v_0 - v_0 \otimes v_2 \\ &+ \frac{8}{3} v_{-2} \otimes v_4 + 10v_{-4} \otimes v_6, \\ u_0 &= 15v_6 \otimes v_{-6} + \frac{35}{6} v_4 \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{1}{3} v_2 \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{3}{2} v_0 \otimes v_0 \\ &+ \frac{1}{3} v_{-2} \otimes v_2 + \frac{35}{6} v_{-4} \otimes v_4 + 15v_{-6} \otimes v_6, \\ u_{-2} &= 10v_4 \otimes v_{-6} + \frac{8}{3} v_2 \otimes v_{-4} - v_0 \otimes v_{-2} - v_{-2} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ \frac{8}{3} v_{-4} \otimes v_2 + 10v_{-6} \otimes v_4, \\ u_{-4} &= 6v_2 \otimes v_{-6} + \frac{1}{2} v_0 \otimes v_{-4} - \frac{4}{3} v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{1}{2} v_{-4} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ 6v_{-6} \otimes v_2, \\ u_{-6} &= 3v_0 \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{2}{3} v_{-2} \otimes v_{-4} - \frac{2}{3} v_{-4} \otimes v_{-2} \\ &+ 3v_{-6} \otimes v_0, \\ u_{-8} &= v_{-2} \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{5}{6} v_{-4} \otimes v_{-4} + v_{-6} \otimes v_{-2}. \end{split}$$

For the summand V(6) (this is the summand onto which we will project), we obtain this basis:

$$\begin{split} w_6 &= v_6 \otimes v_0 - \frac{2}{3} v_4 \otimes v_2 + \frac{2}{3} v_2 \otimes v_4 - v_0 \otimes v_6, \\ w_4 &= 4 v_6 \otimes v_{-2} - v_4 \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes v_4 - 4 v_{-2} \otimes v_6, \\ w_2 &= 10 v_6 \otimes v_{-4} - v_2 \otimes v_0 + v_0 \otimes v_2 - 10 v_{-4} \otimes v_6, \\ w_0 &= 20 v_6 \otimes v_{-6} + \frac{10}{3} v_4 \otimes v_{-4} - \frac{4}{3} v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{4}{3} v_{-2} \otimes v_2 \\ &- \frac{10}{3} v_{-4} \otimes v_4 - 20 v_{-6} \otimes v_6, \\ w_{-2} &= 10 v_4 \otimes v_{-6} - v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + v_{-2} \otimes v_0 - 10 v_{-6} \otimes v_4, \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} w_{-4} &= 4v_2 \otimes v_{-6} - v_0 \otimes v_{-4} + v_{-4} \otimes v_0 - 4v_{-6} \otimes v_2, \\ w_{-6} &= v_0 \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{2}{3}v_{-2} \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{2}{3}v_{-4} \otimes v_{-2} - v_{-6} \otimes v_0. \end{split}$$

For the summand V(4), we obtain this basis:

$$\begin{split} x_4 &= v_6 \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{1}{2} v_4 \otimes v_0 + \frac{2}{5} v_2 \otimes v_2 - \frac{1}{2} v_0 \otimes v_4 \\ &+ v_{-2} \otimes v_6, \\ x_2 &= 5 v_6 \otimes v_{-4} - v_4 \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{1}{5} v_2 \otimes v_0 + \frac{1}{5} v_0 \otimes v_2 \\ &- v_{-2} \otimes v_4 + 5 v_{-4} \otimes v_6, \\ x_0 &= 15 v_6 \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{3}{5} v_2 \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{3}{5} v_0 \otimes v_0 - \frac{3}{5} v_{-2} \otimes v_2 \\ &+ 15 v_{-6} \otimes v_6, \\ x_{-2} &= 5 v_4 \otimes v_{-6} - v_2 \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{1}{5} v_0 \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{1}{5} v_{-2} \otimes v_0 \\ &- v_{-4} \otimes v_2 + 5 v_{-6} \otimes v_4, \\ x_{-4} &= v_2 \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{1}{2} v_0 \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{2}{5} v_{-2} \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{1}{2} v_{-4} \otimes v_0 \\ &+ v_{-6} \otimes v_2. \end{split}$$

For the summand V(2), we obtain this basis:

$$y_{2} = v_{6} \otimes v_{-4} - \frac{1}{3}v_{4} \otimes v_{-2} + \frac{1}{5}v_{2} \otimes v_{0} - \frac{1}{5}v_{0} \otimes v_{2} + \frac{1}{3}v_{-2} \otimes v_{4} - v_{-4} \otimes v_{6}, y_{0} = 6v_{6} \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{2}{3}v_{4} \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{2}{15}v_{2} \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{2}{15}v_{-2} \otimes v_{2} + \frac{2}{3}v_{-4} \otimes v_{4} - 6v_{-6} \otimes v_{6}, y_{-2} = v_{4} \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{1}{3}v_{2} \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{1}{5}v_{0} \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{1}{5}v_{-2} \otimes v_{0} + \frac{1}{2}v_{-4} \otimes v_{2} - v_{-6} \otimes v_{4}.$$

For the summand V(0), we obtain this basis:

$$z_0 = v_6 \otimes v_{-6} - \frac{1}{6}v_4 \otimes v_{-4} + \frac{1}{15}v_2 \otimes v_{-2} - \frac{1}{20}v_0 \otimes v_0 + \frac{1}{15}v_{-2} \otimes v_2 - \frac{1}{6}v_{-4} \otimes v_4 + v_{-6} \otimes v_6.$$

We consider two distinct ordered bases of the 49dimensional space  $V(6) \otimes V(6)$ . The first is the tensor basis, consisting of all

$$v_p \otimes v_q, \quad p, q \in \{6, 4, 2, 0, -2, -4, -6\},\$$

ordered by the rule that  $v_p \otimes v_q$  precedes  $v_{p'} \otimes v_{q'}$  if and only if either p > p', or p = p' and q > q'. The second is the module basis, consisting of all

$$r_p, \quad r \in \{s, t, u, w, x, y, z\},$$

with appropriate weights p depending on r, ordered by the rule that  $r_p$  precedes  $r'_{p'}$  if and only if r precedes r'in the alphabet, or r = r' and p > p'.

We now let A be the  $49 \times 49$  matrix in which the entry i, j is the coefficient of the *i*th tensor basis vector in the expression for the *j*th module basis vector (in the linear combinations listed above). This is simply the transition matrix from the module basis to the tensor basis. The inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$  is the transition matrix from the tensor basis to the module basis, and so its columns describe the expressions of the tensor basis vectors as linear combinations of the module basis vectors. In particular, rows 34–40 of  $A^{-1}$  describe the projection  $P: V(6) \otimes V(6) \rightarrow V(6)$ . We present the results in the following table; the scalar  $c_{pq}$  in row  $v_p$  and column  $v_q$ means that  $P(v_p \otimes v_q) = c_{pq}w_{p+q}$ :

Now, we write h for the sl(2)-module isomorphism defined by  $h(v_p) = w_p$ , which sends the original V(6) with basis  $v_p$  (p = 6, ..., -6) onto the V(6) summand of  $V(6) \otimes V(6)$  with basis  $w_p$  (p = 6, ..., -6). The composition  $h^{-1} \circ P$  provides V(6) with the structure of an anticommutative algebra for which the structure constants appear in the last table:

$$[v_p, v_q] = c_{pq} v_{p+q}.$$

If we now introduce a scaled basis

$$v'_p = i!v_p, \quad i = \frac{1}{2}(6-p),$$

then we obtain the structure constants in the statement of Theorem 5.2.  $\hfill \Box$ 

We will show that the anticommutative algebra of Theorem 5.2 is a simple non-Lie Malcev algebra by giving an explicit isomorphism between it and the simple non-Lie Malcev algebra obtained from the pure imaginary octonions under the commutator product.

**Theorem 5.3.** The anticommutative algebra obtained from the projection  $V(6) \otimes V(6) \rightarrow V(6) \subset \Lambda^2 V(6)$  is isomorphic to the simple seven-dimensional non-Lie Malcev algebra. An explicit isomorphism is given by

$$\begin{aligned} v_6 &= \frac{1}{16bc}(I - iM), \quad v_4 &= -\frac{1}{8b}(J + iN), \ v_2 &= \frac{1}{8c}(K + iP) \\ v_0 &= -\frac{1}{2}iL, \\ v_{-2} &= c(K - iP), \quad v_{-4} &= b(J - iN), \quad v_{-6} &= 2bc(I + iM) \end{aligned}$$

where b, c are arbitrary nonzero scalars (and  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ ).

*Proof:* Let

$$X = aI + bJ + cK + dL + eM + fN + qP$$

be a general element of the Malcev algebra in the octonion basis. Using the structure constants for this basis given in Definition 5.1, we see that the matrix representing left multiplication by X in the octonion basis is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2c & 2b & -2e & 2d & 2g & -2f \\ 2c & 0 & -2a & -2f & -2g & 2d & 2e \\ -2b & 2a & 0 & -2g & 2f & -2e & 2d \\ 2e & 2f & 2g & 0 & -2a & -2b & -2c \\ -2d & 2g & -2f & 2a & 0 & 2c & -2b \\ -2g & -2d & 2e & 2b & -2c & 0 & 2a \\ 2f & -2e & -2d & 2c & 2b & -2a & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The characteristic polynomial of this matrix is

$$t(t^{2} + 4(a^{2} + b^{2} + c^{2} + d^{2} + e^{2} + f^{2} + g^{2}))^{3}$$
.

We want to find an element X in the Malcev algebra (octonion basis) that behaves like  $v_0$  in the V(6) algebra in the sense that its left multiplication has the same eigenvalues. The V(6) multiplication table from Theorem 5.2 shows that these eigenvalues are 0, 1 (3 times), and -1 (3 times). So we get a match of the characteristic polynomials if

$$a^{2} + b^{2} + c^{2} + d^{2} + e^{2} + f^{2} + g^{2} = -\frac{1}{4}.$$

For simplicity we take

$$d = \frac{1}{2}i,$$
  $a = b = c = e = f = g = 0,$ 

which gives the left multiplication matrix

1	0	0	0	0	i	0	0 )	١
	0	0	0	0	0	i	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	i	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.
	-i	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	-i	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	-i	0	0	0	0 /	/

This is the matrix representing left multiplication by the new basis element

$$x_4 = \frac{1}{2}iL.$$

Any eigenvector for left multiplication by  $x_4$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1$  is a linear combination of

$$x_1 = I - iM,$$
  $x_2 = J - iN,$   $x_3 = K - iP.$ 

Likewise, any eigenvector for left multiplication by  $x_4$ corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda = -1$  is a linear combination of

$$x_5 = I + iM,$$
  $x_6 = J + iN,$   $x_7 = K + iP.$ 

The multiplication table for these basis vectors is

$x_7$	$x_6$	$x_5$	$x_4$	$x_3$	$x_2$	$x_1$	[,]
0	0	$-8x_{4}$	$-x_1$	$-4x_{6}$	$4x_{7}$	0	$x_1$
0	$-8x_{4}$	0	$-x_{2}$	$4x_5$	0	$-4x_{7}$	$x_2$
$-8x_{4}$	0	0	$-x_{3}$	0	$-4x_{5}$	$4x_6$	$x_3$
$-x_{7}$	$-x_{6}$	$-x_{5}$	0	$x_3$	$x_2$	$x_1$	$x_4$
$-4x_{2}$	$4x_3$	0	$x_5$	0	0	$8x_4$	$x_5$
$4x_1$	0	$-4x_{3}$	$x_6$	0	$8x_4$	0	$x_6$
0	$-4x_{1}$	$4x_{2}$	$x_7$	$8x_4$	0	0	$x_7$

We now compare the locations of the zeroes in this table and in the table of Theorem 5.2. We call two distinct basis elements "related" if their product is zero; since the product is anticommutative, this term is well-defined. For the last table the related basis elements form the cycle

$$x_1, x_6, x_3, x_5, x_2, x_7, x_1;$$

for the table in Theorem 5.2, the related basis elements form the cycle

$$v_6, v_4, v_{-2}, v_{-6}, v_{-4}, v_2, v_6.$$

This suggests that we make the identifications

$$v_6 = ax_1, v_4 = fx_6, v_2 = gx_7, v_0 = dx_4,$$
  
 $v_{-2} = cx_3, v_{-4} = bx_2, v_{-6} = ex_5,$ 

for some suitable scalars a, b, c, d, e, f, g. This gives the new table, Table 2.

[,]		$ax_1$	j	$fx_6$	:	$gx_7$	d	$x_4$	cx	3	$bx_2$		$ex_5$
$ax_1$		0		0		0	$-\frac{ad}{a}a$	$x_1$ -	$-4\frac{ac}{f}fx$	6 4	$4\frac{ab}{g}gx_7$	$-8\frac{ae}{d}$	$dx_4$
$fx_6$		0		0	$4\frac{fg}{a}$	$ax_1$	$\frac{df}{f}f$	$x_6$		0 8	$8\frac{bf}{d}dx_4$	$-4\frac{ef}{c}$	$cx_3$
$gx_7$		0	$-4\frac{fg}{a}$	$ax_1$		0	$\frac{dg}{g}g$	$x_7$	$8\frac{cg}{d}dx$	4	0	$4\frac{eg}{b}$	$bx_2$
$dx_4$	$\frac{ad}{a}$	$ax_1$	$-\frac{df}{f}$	$fx_6$	$-\frac{dg}{g}$	$gx_7$		0	$\frac{cd}{c}cx$	3	$\frac{bd}{b}bx_2$	$-\frac{de}{e}$	$ex_5$
$cx_3$	$4\frac{ac}{f}$	$fx_6$	-	0	$-8\frac{cg}{d}$	$dx_4$	$-\frac{cd}{c}c$	$x_3$		0 -4	$4\frac{bc}{e}ex_5$		0
$bx_2$	$-4\frac{ab}{g}$	$gx_7$	$-8\frac{bf}{d}$	$dx_4$		0	$-\frac{bd}{b}b$	$x_2$	$4\frac{bc}{e}ex$	5	0		0
$ex_5$	$8\frac{ae}{d}$	$dx_4$	$4\frac{ef}{c}$	$cx_3$	$-4\frac{eg}{b}$	$bx_2$	$\frac{de}{e}e$	$x_5$		0	0		0
						TAI	BLE 2.						
	$\otimes$	$v_{10}$	$v_8$	$v_6$	$v_4$	$v_2$	$v_0$	$v_{-2}$	$v_{-4}$	$v_{-6}$	$v_{-8}$	$v_{-10}$	
	$v_{10}$	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	14	14	9	3	
	$v_8$	0	0	0	0	-3	-6	-5	0	5	6	3	
	$v_6$	0	0	0	3	3	-1	-5	-5	-1	3	3	
	$v_4$	0	0	-3	0	4	4	0	-4	-4	0	3	
	$v_2$	0	3	-3	-4	0	4	4	0	-4	-3	3	
	$v_0$	-3	6	1	-4	-4	0	4	4	-1	-6	3	
	$v_{-2}$	-9	5	5	0	-4	-4	0	5	5	-9	0	
	$v_{-4}$	-14	0	5	4	0	-4	-5	0	14	0	0	
	$v_{-6}$	-14	-5	1	4	4	1	-5	-14	0	0	0	
	$v_{-8}$	-9	-6	-3	0	3	6	9	0	0	0	0	
	$v_{-10}$	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	0	0	0	0	0	

TABLE 3.

We set the entries of Table 2 equal to the corresponding entries of the table of Theorem 5.2 and use Maple to solve the resulting system of nonlinear equations in seven unknowns. The result includes two free parameters band c:

$$a = \frac{1}{16bc}$$
,  $b = \text{free}$ ,  $c = \text{free}$ ,  $d = -1$   
 $e = 2bc$ ,  $f = -\frac{1}{8b}$ ,  $g = \frac{1}{8c}$ .

For any nonzero choices of b and c we get an isomorphism between the V(6) algebra and the seven-dimensional simple non-Lie Malcev algebra. This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

# 6. A NEW 11-DIMENSIONAL ANTICOMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA (n = 10)

In this section we study the module V(10) and the projection

$$V(10) \otimes V(10) \rightarrow V(10) \subset \Lambda^2 V(10).$$

This gives the module V(10) an sl(2)-invariant anticommutative algebra structure which, to the best of our knowledge, has not been studied elsewhere. **Theorem 6.1.** The structure constants for the anticommutative algebra obtained from the projection

$$V(10) \otimes V(10) \rightarrow V(10) \subset \Lambda^2 V(10)$$

are displayed in Table 3.

Since the product of  $v_p$  and  $v_q$  equals  $c_{pq}v_{p+q}$  for some scalar  $c_{pq}$ , we only record the scalars  $c_{pq}$ .

*Proof:* The explicit form of the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem gives a formula for the highest weight vectors of the irreducible summands in the decomposition

$$V(10) \otimes V(10) \cong V(20) \oplus V(18) \oplus V(16) \oplus V(14)$$
$$\oplus V(12) \oplus V(10) \oplus V(8) \oplus V(6)$$
$$\oplus V(4) \oplus V(2) \oplus V(0).$$

Since the computational methods in this case are the same as those in the case of the adjoint representation V(2) and the Malcev algebra V(6), we do not give complete details. We present only the basis of weight vectors for the summand of  $V(10) \otimes V(10)$  isomorphic to V(10):

$$t_{10} = v_{10} \otimes v_0 - \frac{3}{5} v_8 \otimes v_2 + \frac{7}{15} v_6 \otimes v_4 - \frac{7}{15} v_4 \otimes v_6 + \frac{3}{5} v_2 \otimes v_8 - v_0 \otimes v_{10},$$

0 0	0 0	0 0	$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 15 \end{array}$	$0 \\ -rac{15}{52} \\ 15$	$-\frac{\frac{3}{52}}{\frac{3}{26}}{1}$	$-rac{rac{3}{104}}{rac{5}{156}}_{5}$	$\frac{1}{78}$ 0 5	$     \frac{1}{208}     \frac{5}{728}     5 $		$     \frac{1}{4368}     \frac{1}{728}     1 $
0 0 0	$0 \\ \frac{15}{59}$	$-\frac{15}{26}$ $-\frac{15}{104}$	$\frac{26}{0}$ $-\frac{5}{20}$	$\frac{\overline{104}}{\overline{39}}$	$-\frac{52}{13}$ $\frac{1}{13}$ $\frac{1}{12}$	$-\frac{104}{104}$	$-\frac{182}{182}$ $-\frac{10}{273}$ 0	$-\frac{1456}{182}$ $-\frac{5}{182}$	$\frac{728}{0}$	$     \frac{1}{78}     \frac{3}{104} $
$-\frac{3}{52}$ $-\frac{3}{104}$	$     \frac{52}{26}     \frac{5}{156}   $	$ \begin{array}{r} 104 \\ \underline{1} \\ 52 \\ \underline{5} \\ 104 \end{array} $	$-\frac{1}{13}$ 0	$-\frac{1}{13}$ $-\frac{5}{78}$	$13 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{13}$	$\frac{\frac{1}{13}}{0}$	$\frac{\frac{1}{13}}{\frac{5}{39}}$	$-\frac{1}{52}$ $\frac{15}{104}$	$-\frac{3}{26}$ $-\frac{15}{52}$	$ \begin{array}{r}104\\ \underline{3}\\ 52\\ 0\end{array} $
$-\frac{1}{78}$ $-\frac{1}{208}$	$0 - \frac{5}{728}$		$\frac{10}{273}$ $\frac{5}{182}$	$0$ $\frac{5}{104}$	$-\frac{1}{13}$ $\frac{1}{52}$	$-rac{5}{39}$ $-rac{15}{104}$	$0 - \frac{15}{26}$	$\frac{15}{26}$	0 0	0 0
$-\frac{1}{728}$ $-\frac{1}{4368}$	$-rac{5}{1092}$ $-rac{1}{728}$	$-rac{5}{728}$ $-rac{1}{208}$	$0 - \frac{1}{78}$	$-\frac{\frac{5}{156}}{\frac{3}{104}}$	$-\frac{\frac{3}{26}}{\frac{3}{52}}$	$\begin{array}{c} \frac{15}{52} \\ 0 \end{array}$	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0

TABLE 4.



We put this information, together with the coefficients of the expressions for the other module basis vectors as linear combinations of the tensor basis vectors, into a matrix A of size  $121 \times 121$ . The inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$  shows how to express the tensor basis vectors as linear combinations of the module basis vectors and, in particular, gives the projection P from  $V(10) \otimes V(10)$  to the V(10)summand. Table 4 gives this projection, in the sense that the scalar  $c_{pq}$  in row  $v_p$  and column  $v_q$  satisfies the equation  $P(v_p \otimes v_q) = c_{pq}t_{p+q}$ ; as above we use t to denote a vector in the V(10) summand of the tensor product. In this table the rows and columns are indexed by the weights  $p, q = 10, 8, \ldots, -8, -10$ . If we now introduce a scaled basis

$$v'_p = \frac{13}{30}i!v_p, \quad i = \frac{1}{2}(10-p)$$

then we obtain the structure constants in the statement of Theorem 6.1.  $\hfill \Box$ 

# 7. COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

Let A be any algebra (not necessarily associative) over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . That is, let A be a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ , together with a bilinear map  $A \times A \to A$  (equivalently, a linear map  $A \otimes A \to A$ ). We are interested in the polynomial identities satisfied by the algebra A. To simplify the discussion, we will assume initially that the base field  $\mathbb{F}$  has characteristic 0. This assumption implies that any polynomial identity over  $\mathbb{F}$  is equivalent to a family of homogeneous multilinear identities.

# 7.1 Associative Polynomials

We fix a positive integer n and a set of n indeterminates

$$X = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}.$$

We let  $S_n$  be the symmetric group on  $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$ . We will write elements of  $S_n$  as monomials of degree n in the

set X. That is, the permutation  $\sigma \in S_n$  corresponds to the monomial

$$p_{\sigma} = a_{\sigma(1)}a_{\sigma(2)}\cdots a_{\sigma(n)}.$$

Here we apply  $\sigma$  to the subscripts not the positions, so we have to multiply permutations from right to left. This convention assumes that we are dealing with multilinear identities; we regard an identity with a variable repeated k times as shorthand for the symmetric sum of k! terms over all permutations of k new variables in the positions of the original repeated variable.

An example will make this clear. Suppose we want to look at

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_5 x_1 x_3 x_2 x_4 + x_1 x_5 x_3 x_2 x_4.$$

In terms of the action on subscripts, we would write this identity as

$$(1542)(3) + (1)(254)(3)$$
 or  $(1542) + (254)$ .

The left ideal generated by this element of the group ring will include

$$(123)[(1542) + (254)] = (1543) + (12543)$$
$$= x_5 x_2 x_1 x_3 x_4 + x_2 x_5 x_1 x_3 x_4.$$

This is just what we want: those portions of the monomials that do not move are substituted for the same element in all terms. The parts which switch are switched into new elements but the pattern of the movement will be the same. But, we have to multiply from right to left because the right-hand permutation hits the subscript first.

In terms of the action of permutations on positions, we would write the same identity as I + (12). If I + (12)acts on  $x_5x_1x_3x_2x_4$ , we get

$$x_5x_1x_3x_2x_4 + x_1x_5x_3x_2x_4.$$

Here, we must multiply from left to right because we put the permutation in first and then apply the identity:

$$(123)[I + (12)] = (123) + (1)(23),$$

and (123) + (23) acting on  $x_5 x_1 x_3 x_2 x_4$  is

$$x_3x_5x_1x_2x_4 + x_5x_3x_1x_2x_4.$$

This is also correct if we make the assumption that permutations are acting on positions.

The action on subscripts gives a left ideal when we multiply from right to left. The action on positions gives a left ideal when we multiply from left to right. The first method (action on subscripts) is easier to program and corresponds directly to the representation theory given in standard references such as [James and Kerber 81].

Let  $P_n$  be the linear span of all n! monomials  $p_{\sigma}$  as  $\sigma$  ranges over  $S_n$ . We regard  $P_n$  as a module over  $S_n$  under the action induced by  $\pi p_{\sigma} = p_{\pi\sigma}$ . If A is an associative algebra, then the elements of  $P_n$  correspond to the homogeneous multilinear identities of degree n that could be satisfied by A. More precisely, let  $f \in P_n$  be a homogeneous multilinear associative polynomial of degree n. We say that f is an identity for A if it vanishes identically on A, that is, if

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \text{ for every } x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in A.$$

An identity can be identified with the submodule that it generates: an algebra A satisfies the identity f if and only if it satisfies all the identities in the submodule generated by f.

The group ring  $\mathbb{F}S_n$  decomposes as the direct sum of full matrix rings of size  $d_{\lambda} \times d_{\lambda}$ , where  $d_{\lambda}$  is the dimension of the irreducible  $\mathbb{F}S_n$ -module corresponding to  $\lambda$ as  $\lambda$  ranges over all partitions of n. The module  $P_n$  decomposes into the same direct sum. Any submodule is a direct sum of irreducible modules. Since we can perform computations one representation at a time, it is possible to study an identity by breaking the problem down into smaller pieces, each of which corresponds to a partition of the degree n.

# 7.2 Nonassociative Polynomials

If A is a nonassociative algebra then we also have to keep track of the possible association types that may occur in a monomial of degree n. The number of distinct association types (that is, the number of distinct ways to parenthesize n factors) is the Catalan number

$$t_n = \frac{1}{n} \binom{2n-2}{n-1}.$$

Here is a short table:

The total number of homogeneous multilinear monomials of degree n for a nonassociative algebra A is the Catalan number  $t_n$  (the number of association types) times the factorial n! (the number of associative words, or unparenthesized monomials):

$$\frac{1}{n} \binom{2n-2}{n-1} n! = \frac{(2n-2)!}{(n-1)!}.$$

This is the dimension of the vector space  $Q_n$  of all possible multilinear homogeneous nonassociative identities of degree n. We can think of  $Q_n$  as the direct sum of  $t_n$  copies of  $P_n$ , one copy for each association type.

# 7.3 Random Vectors

Suppose we want to find the simplest identity satisfied by a nonassociative algebra A of dimension s. We represent elements of A as s-tuples with respect to some convenient basis, and we assume that we have an explicit procedure for computing the product in A with respect to this basis. (Such a procedure can be obtained from the structure constants for the algebra A.)

For each degree n and each partition  $n = n_1 + \cdots + n_k$  we list all the corresponding monomials involving k variables  $x_1, \ldots, x_k$  with  $x_i$  occurring  $n_i$  times in each monomial. (We are no longer assuming multilinearity.) Let c be the number of these monomials; we have

$$c = \frac{1}{n} \binom{2n-2}{n-1} \binom{n}{n_1, \dots, n_k} = \frac{(2n-2)!}{(n-1)!} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_k!}$$

We set up a matrix M with c + s rows and c columns, initialized to zero.

We now begin the following iterative procedure: we generate k random elements of A. Each column of Mis labeled by one of the c monomials, and each monomial involves k variables. We set the k variables equal to the k random elements of A and evaluate each of the cmonomials using the product in A. For each column of M, we obtain another element of A which we view as an  $s \times 1$  column vector. In column j of M, in rows c+1to c + s (at the bottom of the matrix), we put the  $s \times 1$ column vector obtained by evaluating the jth monomial on the k random elements of A. After the  $s \times c$  bottom segment of M is filled in this way, each of the last s rows contains a linear relation which must be satisfied by the coefficients of any identity satisfied by A. To see this, let  $T_i$   $(1 \le i \le c)$  be the monomials labeling the columns of the matrix M. Let

$$\sum_{i=1}^{c} a_i T_i$$

be the general linear combination of the monomials  $T_i$ where the coefficients  $a_i$  are indeterminates. When we evaluate the  $T_i$  on the k random elements of A, each  $T_i$ becomes an  $s \times 1$  column vector:

$$T_i = (t_{i1}, t_{i2}, \dots, t_{is})^T.$$

Writing out the components of the general linear combination of the  $T_i$ , we get s linear relations that must be satisfied by the  $a_i$ :

$$\sum_{i=1}^{c} t_{ij} a_i, \ 1 \le j \le s$$

These are the relations that occupy the last s rows of the matrix M. (Another way of viewing this process is to say that we are generating random counterexamples to the possible identities satisfied by A; we thank Don Pigozzi for pointing this out.) We now compute the row canonical form of M. Since M has size  $(c + s) \times c$ , its rank must be  $\leq c$ , and so the bottom  $s \times c$  submatrix will now be zero.

We repeat this fill-and-reduce process; in our experience, each iteration tends to increase the rank of M by  $s = \dim A$ . The process is continued until the rank of Mstops increasing. We perform a few more iterations to be sure that M has reached full rank. If the nullspace of Mat this point is nonzero, it contains candidates for nontrivial identities satisfied by A. We now test the candidates by seeing if they evaluate to zero on further choices of random arguments. Finally, we attempt to prove them directly.

# 7.4 The Symmetric Group Ring

Another technique we use to find identities is the representation theory of the symmetric group. The process of studying identities through group representations is indirect and complicated. It does, however, have two tremendous advantages. Because the process can be run separately on each representation of the symmetric group, the calculations can be broken up into smaller, more manageable portions. Also, the basic unit of the group algebra approach is the identity, rather than all substitutions in an identity. Since there are n! possible substitutions, one can see that it is better to work with one object rather than n! objects. Further details on this approach may be found in a previous publication of the authors [Bremner and Hentzel 04]).

To save space and time these computational methods were implemented over the field with p elements where pis a prime larger than the degree of the identities under consideration. This guarantees that the the group ring will be semisimple, and usually ensures that the results will be equivalent to the characteristic 0 case; that is, the dimension of a submodule of identities will be equal to the dimension of the corresponding submodule over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and the basis which is computed will be formally the same in the two cases if the coefficients of the monomials are expressed as small integers.

(	83	30	30	94	66	92	37	4	1	45	4	50	36	25	41
	40	90	86	53	17	22	94	74	25	73	4	40	15	0	73
	32	86	45	2	87	98	49	67	83	97	7	83	64	19	30
	25	36	47	63	3	1	76	92	37	7	12	15	92	25	85
	93	81	46	8	59	62	71	43	95	57	66	53	36	42	26
	67	78	38	10	34	18	23	21	88	33	98	69	87	51	76
	59	44	29	36	44	76	13	33	67	8	43	9	88	91	81 /

TABLE 5. Evaluation of the 15 monomials.

#### 7.5 A Detailed Example: The Malcev Identity

We show how these computational methods can be used to discover the Malcev identity in degree 4 from the multiplication table for the seven-dimensional simple non-Lie Malcev algebra obtained from the representation V(6) of sl(2), which was presented in Theorem 5.2. It is important to have an integral matrix of structure constants, with no common factor in the entries, so that we can do these calculations in any characteristic.

There are five association types for a product of four variables:

$$((wx)y)z, (w(xy))z, (wx)(yz), w((xy)z), w(x(yz)).$$

For an anticommutative product, these five association types reduce to two:

Using all 24 permutations of the four variables, and accounting for anticommutativity, we obtain a total of 15 inequivalent multilinear degree-4 monomials for an anticommutative product. There are 12 in the first association type and three more in the second:

$$\begin{array}{l} ((wx)y)z, \ ((wx)z)y, \ ((wy)x)z, \\ ((wy)z)x, \ ((wz)x)y, \ ((wz)y)x, \\ ((xy)w)z, \ ((xy)z)w, \ ((xz)w)y, \\ ((xz)y)w, \ ((yz)w)x, \ ((yz)x)w, \\ (wx)(yz), \ (wy)(xz), \ (wz)(xy). \end{array}$$

We now construct a matrix A of size  $22 \times 15$ , initialized to zero. We think of A as consisting of a  $15 \times 15$  square matrix on top of a  $7 \times 15$  matrix.

We generate four pseudo-random vectors of length 7, which we call w, x, y, z. The components of these vectors can be regarded as either rational integers or elements of a finite field. In the former case, the components will be uniformly distributed single digits 0 through 9; in the latter case, the components will be uniformly distributed elements 0 through p-1 in the field with p elements. We then evaluate each of the 15 monomials using the V(6) structure constants in Theorem 5.2. This produces 15 vectors of length 7, which we regard as column vectors and store in the bottom part of A. That is, the 7 components of the evaluation of monomial j are put in column j of A in rows 16 through 22.

We will use arithmetic modulo p = 101 and start with these 4 pseudo-random vectors generated by the Maple function r := rand(101):

$$w = (70, 76, 37, 82, 29, 56, 42),$$
  

$$x = (47, 21, 41, 85, 35, 15, 97),$$
  

$$y = (60, 39, 11, 14, 39, 61, 1),$$
  

$$z = (21, 58, 99, 89, 51, 6, 32).$$

Evaluating the 15 monomials on these 4 vectors gives the  $7 \times 15$  matrix in Table 5.

At this point the  $22 \times 15$  matrix A consists of that matrix as its bottom part and a  $15 \times 15$  zero matrix as its top part. We now find the row canonical form of the matrix A. This completes the first iteration of the algorithm.

We now generate four more random vectors

$$w = (27, 65, 24, 30, 90, 84, 42),$$
  

$$x = (26, 51, 83, 96, 22, 23, 15),$$
  

$$y = (24, 58, 63, 21, 36, 84, 67),$$
  

$$z = (92, 60, 83, 2, 16, 75, 50),$$

and fill in the last seven rows again as before. At this point, after the second fill but before the second row reduction, the matrix A is displayed in Table 6. The first seven rows of this matrix contain the row canonical form of the  $7 \times 15$  matrix in Table 5. The row canonical form of the entire  $22 \times 15$  matrix is given in Table 7. Here the last 12 rows have been omitted since they are zero.

Further iterations of the algorithm do not change the row canonical form of the matrix A. Since the row canonical form has rank 10, its nullspace has dimension 5. A basis for the nullspace consists of the rows of the matrix

(	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	59	79	86	67	79	67	94	١
	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	75	6	32	99	72	32	73	35	
	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	44	35	93	23	67	93	67	69	
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	67	60	93	64	30	94	30	29	
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	56	50	20	26	49	26	30	
	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	37	50	12	25	63	12	62	88	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	1	88	32	46	87	47	56	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	66	78	38	96	55	7	73	40	44	67	56	64	35	6	51	
	84	36	87	19	58	62	71	23	77	88	53	57	79	1	85	
	90	89	65	29	87	62	12	20	43	96	2	87	26	25	17	
	85	74	93	55	46	15	6	5	64	33	41	20	36	85	74	
	60	46	75	26	10	55	17	88	44	78	90	18	77	26	60	
	25	94	69	51	39	23	12	32	14	28	48	84	28	66	5	
	71	89	82	56	23	67	79	63	6	4	76	86	59	86	36	/

TABLE 6. First row reduction and second fill.

1	<b>′</b> 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0 )
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	100
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	100	0	100	1
	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	100	0	1	100	0	100
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	100	0	0	1
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	100	0	1	100	1	100
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	100 /

**TABLE 7**. The final row canonical form.

(	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	$^{-1}$	0 \
	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1
	0	0	1	0	0	-1	0	$^{-1}$	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0
	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	1	1	0	-1	1
ſ	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	1 /

TABLE 8. The matrix of identities.

11

-

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11 ~ ~

in Table 8. Since 100 = -1 modulo 101, we replace each 100 by -1; this allows us to regard the identities as polynomials over any field. Expressing the vectors as linear combinations of the original 15 monomials, we obtain the following five identities:

$$I_1 = ((wx)y)z - ((wz)x)y + ((xy)z)w + ((yz)w)x - (wy)(xz),$$

$$\begin{split} I_2 &= ((wx)z)y - ((wz)y)x - ((xy)z)w + ((xz)w)y \\ &+ ((xz)y)w - ((yz)w)x - (wx)(yz) - (wz)(xy), \\ I_3 &= ((wy)x)z - ((wz)y)x - ((xy)z)w + ((xz)w)y \\ &- (wx)(yz), \\ I_4 &= ((wy)z)x - ((wz)x)y + ((xy)z)w - ((xz)w)y \\ &+ ((yz)w)x + ((yz)x)w - (wy)(xz) + (wz)(xy), \end{split}$$

*((*)

$$I_{5} = ((xy)w)z + ((xy)z)w - ((xz)w)y - ((xz)y)w + ((yz)w)x + ((yz)x)w + (wx)(yz) - (wy)(xz) + (wz)(xy).$$

Identity  $I_1$  is the same as the 5-term Malcev identity (5–2), after applying anticommutativity to one term. Identity  $I_2$  is obtained by linearizing the 4-term Malcev identity (5–1) by replacing x by w + x and then interchanging x and y. Identity  $I_3$  is obtained from identity (5–2) by interchanging x and y. Identity  $I_4$  is the linearized form of identity (5–1). The identity  $I_5$  is a consequence of the Malcev identity, which is not equivalent to the Malcev identity:  $I_5$  is the result of applying the element  $\pi = 1 + (234) + (243)$  in the group ring of  $S_4$  to the identity  $I_1$ .

In the above calculations we have used characteristic p = 101. If we use p = 2, we obtain a six-dimensional space of identities. If we use p = 3, we obtain a ninedimensional space of identities. For any other positive characteristic (that is, p > 4 where 4 is the degree of the identities), we obtain a five-dimensional space of identities. If we use characteristic 0 (rational arithmetic) and generate random single digits for the vector components, then the components in the evaluated monomials typically have three to five digits, and the matrix entries of the row canonical form typically have 20-digit numerators and denominators. This gives a relatively small but still impressive demonstration of "matrix entry blowup," when using rational arithmetic to compute a row canonical form, and provides a convincing argument in favour of using modular arithmetic to save computer memory and CPU time.

# 8. IDENTITIES FOR THE 11-DIMENSIONAL ALGEBRA

In this section we classify all the identities of degree  $\leq 7$  for the 11-dimensional anticommutative algebra A obtained from the projection  $V(10) \otimes V(10) \rightarrow V(10)$  described in Section 6 (Theorem 6.1).

**Theorem 8.1.** Every identity of degree  $\leq 6$  satisfied by the algebra A is a consequence of anticommutativity.

*Proof:* (By computer, following the methods and the example presented in Section 7.) There are six inequivalent anticommutative association types in degree 6:

$$\begin{array}{ll} [[[[[a,b],c],d],e],f], & [[[[[a,b],[c,d]],e],f] \\ [[[[a,b],c],[d,e]],f], & [[[[[a,b],c],d],[e,f]] \\ [[[[a,b],[c,d]],[e,f]], & [[[[a,b],c],[[d,e],f]] \end{array} \end{array}$$

There are altogether 945 multilinear anticommutative monomials; counting the number in each association type (dividing 6! by the number of antisymmetries which follow from anticommutativity), we have

$$\frac{1}{2}6! + \frac{1}{8}6! + \frac{1}{4}6! + \frac{1}{4}6! + \frac{1}{16}6! + \frac{1}{8}6!$$
  
= 360 + 90 + 180 + 180 + 45 + 90 = 945.

To determine the identities for the 11-dimensional algebra, we therefore need a matrix of size  $956 \times 945$ : the upper part is a  $945 \times 945$  square matrix, and the lower part is a  $11 \times 945$  matrix into which we place the results of evaluating the anticommutative monomials. We repeatedly generate six random vectors of length 11 with components from the field with p = 101 elements. For each list of six random vectors, we evaluate all 945 monomials. For each monomial we put the result of the evaluation into the lower part of the matrix as a column vector in the column corresponding to the monomial. When the lower part of the matrix is filled in this way, we compute the row canonical form of the matrix. After each iteration of this process, the rank of the matrix increases by 11. After 86 iterations the matrix reaches full rank (945). This implies that the nullspace is zero and that there are no identities in degree 6, at least for characteristic p = 101.

Since an identity in degree < 6 would imply the existence of an identity of degree 6 (for example, replacing a variable by a product of variables, or by multiplying the identity by other variables), we have also shown that there are no identities of degree  $\leq 6$  in characteristic p = 101.

To complete the proof we need to argue that the nonexistence of identities in characteristic p for some p implies the nonexistence of identities in characteristic 0. We will show the contrapositive, that the existence of an identity in characteristic 0 implies the existence of a nonzero identity in characteristic p for every p. Let c = 945, let  $T_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$  be the multilinear anticommutative monomials of degree 6, and let  $a_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$  be rational numbers. Assume that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{c} a_i T_i$$

is an identity in characteristic 0 satisfied by the algebra A. Let m be the least common multiple of the denominators of the  $a_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$ , and write  $a'_i = ma_i$ . Then, the  $a'_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$  are integers, and so

$$\sum_{i=1}^{c} a_i' T_i$$

is an identity for A with integer coefficients. Now let d be the greatest common divisor of the integers  $a'_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$ , and write  $a''_i = a'_i/d$ . Then, the  $a''_i$  for  $1 \le i \le c$  are integers with no common prime factor, which shows that for every prime p at least one of the  $a''_i$  remains nonzero when reduced modulo p. Let  $a''_{i,p}$  for  $1 \le i \le c$  be the residue class of  $a''_i$  modulo p; then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{c} a_{i,p}'' T_i$$

is a nonzero identity for A in characteristic p. This completes the proof.  $\hfill \Box$ 

We now consider identities of degree 7. Here are the 11 inequivalent anticommutative association types in degree 7:

1: [[[[[[a	[c, b], c], d], e], f], g],	2: [[[[[a, b], [c, d]], e], f], g],
3: [[[[[a,	[b], c], [d, e]], f], g],	$4 \colon [[[[[a, b], c], d], [e, f]], g],$
5: [[[[a,	b], [c, d]], [e, f]], g],	$6\colon [[[[a,b],c],[[d,e],f]],g],$
7: [[[[[a,	[b], c], d], e], [f, g]],	$8 \colon [[[[a,b],[c,d]],e],[f,g]],$
9: [[[ $a$ ,	b], c], [d, e]], [f, g]],	10: [[[[a,b],c],d],[[e,f],g]],
11: [[[a, b]	[c, d]], [[e, f], g]].	

**Theorem 8.2.** The algebra A satisfies identities in degree 7 which are not consequences of anticommutativity. These identities exist only in the  $S_7$ -representations labeled by the partitions 22111, 211111, and 1111111 (the last 3 representations). That is, the identities involve the variables aabbcde, aabcdef, and abcdefg.

*Proof:* (By computer.) To determine which partitions of 7 correspond to nontrivial identities we use the  $S_n$ module methods described in Section 7. Table 9 shows the 15 partitions that label the distinct irreducible representations of the symmetric group  $S_7$ . Column 2 gives a partition  $\lambda$ , and column 3 gives the dimension  $d_{\lambda}$  of the corresponding representation. Column 4 gives the product of 11 (the number of inequivalent anticommutative association types in degree 7) and the dimension of the representation; this is the dimension of the space of all possible identities in this representation in this degree. Column 5 gives the rank of the matrix of counterexamples, which was generated by the random procedure described in Section 7. Column 4 minus column 5 is the dimension of the space of identities satisfied by the 11dimensional algebra, but this includes identities which are trivial consequences of anticommutativity. Column 6 gives the dimension of the space of identities which

i	$\lambda = \lambda_i$	$d_{\lambda}$	$11d_{\lambda}$	Rank	Skew	New
1	7	1	11	0	11	0
2	61	6	66	1	65	0
3	52	14	154	8	146	0
4	511	15	165	11	154	0
5	43	14	154	15	139	0
6	421	35	385	50	335	0
7	4111	20	220	35	185	0
8	331	21	231	41	190	0
9	322	21	231	49	182	0
10	3211	35	385	91	294	0
11	31111	15	165	48	117	0
12	2221	14	154	49	105	0
13	22111	14	154	55	98	1
14	211111	6	66	25	36	5
15	1111111	1	11	2	4	5

**TABLE 9.** Degree 7 identities for A.

are trivial consequences of anticommutativity. Column 7 gives column 4 minus the sum of columns 5 and 6: this number is always nonnegative, and if it is positive, it tells us there are new nontrivial identities satisfied by the 11-dimensional algebra in that representation. These new identities occur only in the last three representations.  $\Box$ 

We will now discuss the last 3 representations separately, starting with the last representation.

**Theorem 8.3.** The space of multilinear identities of degree 7 (partition 111111) for the algebra A has dimension 5. A basis for this space consists of these five identities:

$$\begin{split} I_1 &= \sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d][ef]]g] - \sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d]e][fg]] \\ &+ \sum_{alt} [[[[ab]c]d][[ef]g]], \\ I_2 &= \sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d]e]f]g] - 2\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d][ef]]g] \\ &+ \sum_{alt} [[[[ab]c]d][[ef]g]], \\ I_3 &= 2\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c][de]]f]g] - 3\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c][[de]f]]g] \\ &- \sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c][de]]f]g], \\ I_4 &= 5\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c][de]]f]g]] + 11\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d][ef]]g] \\ &+ 5\sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c][de]]fg]], \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} I_5 &= 111 \sum_{alt} [[[[[ab]c]d]e]f]g] - 119 \sum_{alt} [[[[ab]c][[de]f]]g] \\ &- 185 \sum_{alt} [[[[ab]c]d][[ef]g]]. \end{split}$$

Here the sums are alternating sums over the seven variables a, b, c, d, e, f, g.

*Proof:* We wrote a Maple program to evaluate, in characteristic 0, the alternating sum over each of the 11 association types in degree 7 for any seven vectors in the algebra A. We ran this program over all  $\binom{11}{7} = 330$  choices of seven distinct vectors from the 11 basis vectors  $v_{10}, \ldots, v_{-10}$ . Remarkably, the 330 resulting vectors span a subspace of dimension 2. A basis for this subspace consists of the two rows of this matrix:

In this matrix columns 2, 5, 8, and 11 are zero; it is easy to check that for the corresponding association types the alternating sum collapses to the zero polynomial as a result of anticommutativity. The seven nonzero columns are 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10. There are  $\binom{7}{3} = 35$  subsets of three columns from among these seven columns. This gives 35 matrices of size  $2 \times 3$ , for each of which we compute the row canonical form. We sort the resulting 35 reduced matrices, starting with the matrices with the simplest entries (in terms of the number of digits). We compute the one-dimensional nullspace of each of these 35 matrices, and obtain 35 identities, again ordered by the complexity of the coefficients. From among these 35 identities, we choose the simplest five that span the fivedimensional space of all identities. These five simplest identities are displayed above. Note that five is the number of independent new identities for this representation predicted by Table 9. 

We now consider the representation labeled by partition 211111. The corresponding identities will involve the variables aabcdef. Accounting for anticommutativity, there are altogether 87 monomials in these six variables with one repetition, in which the letters bcdefoccur in alphabetical order from left to right. We regard each of the 87 monomials as representing the alternating sum over the five variables bcdef; thus, each monomial actually represents a sum of 120 terms. The number of monomials in each of the 11 association types is given in this table:

association type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
# of monomials	15	7	10	10	4	7	10	4	6	10	4

1:	[abacdef]	(1), 2:	[abcadef]	(1), 3:	[abcdaef]	(1),
4:	[abcdeaf]	(1), 5:	[abcdefa]	(1), 6:	[bcaadef]	(1),
7:	[bcadaef]	(1), 8:	[bcadeaf]	(1), 9:	[bcadefa]	(1),
10:	[bcdaaef]	(1), 11:	[bcdaeaf]	(1), 12:	[bcdaefa]	(1),
13:	[bcdeaaf]	(1), 14:	bcdeafa	(1), 15:	[bcdefaa]	(1),
16:	[abacdef]	(2), 17:	[abcdaef]	(2), 18:	[abcdeaf]	(2),
19:	[abcdefa]	(2), 20:	[bcdeaaf]	(2), 21:	[bcdeafa]	(2),
22:	[bcdefaa]	(2), 23:	[abacdef]	(3), 24:	[abcadef]	(3),
25:	[abcdeaf]	(3), 26:	[abcdefa]	(3), 27:	[bcaadef]	(3),
28:	[bcadeaf]	(3), 29:	[bcadefa]	(3), 30:	[bcdaeaf]	(3),
31:	[bcdaefa]	(3), 32:	[bcdefaa]	(3), 33:	[abacdef]	(4),
34:	[abcadef]	(4), 35:	[abcdaef]	(4), 36:	[abcdefa]	(4),
37:	[bcaadef]	(4), 38:	[bcadaef]	(4), 39:	[bcadefa]	(4),
40:	[bcdaaef]	(4), 41:	[bcdaefa]	(4), 42:	[bcdeafa]	(4),
43:	[abacdef]	(5), 44:	[abcdaef]	(5), 45:	[abcdefa]	(5),
46:	[bcdeafa]	(5), 47:	[abacdef]	(6), 48:	[abcadef]	(6),
49:	[abcdeaf]	(6), 50:	[abcdefa]	(6), 51:	[bcadeaf]	(6),
52:	[bcadefa]	(6), 53:	[bcdefaa]	(6), 54:	[abacdef]	(7),
55:	[abcadef]	(7), 56:	[abcdaef]	(7), 57:	[abcdeaf]	(7),
58:	[bcaadef]	(7), 59:	[bcadaef]	(7), 60:	[bcadeaf]	(7),
61:	[bcdaaef]	(7), 62:	[bcdaeaf]	(7), 63:	[bcdeaaf]	(7),
64:	[abacdef]	(8), 65:	[abcdaef]	(8), 66:	[abcdeaf]	(8),
67:	[bcdeaaf]	(8), 68:	[abacdef]	(9), 69:	[abcadef]	(9),
70:	[abcdeaf]	(9), 71:	[bcaadef]	(9), 72:	[bcadeaf]	(9),
73:	[bcdaeaf]	(9), 74:	[abacdef]	(10), 75:	[abcadef]	(10),
76:	[abcdaef](	10), 77:	[abcdefa]	(10), 78:	[bcaadef]	(10),
79:	[bcadaef](	10), 80:	[bcadefa]	(10), 81:	[bcdaaef]	(10),
82:	[bcdaefa](	10), 83:	[bcdeafa]	(10), 84:	[abacdef]	(11),
85:	[abcdaef](	11), 86:	[abcdefa]	(11), 87:	[bcdeafa]	(11).

**TABLE 10**. The 87 monomials in representation 211111.

The complete list of all 87 monomials is given in Table 10, where we omit the brackets and give instead the permutation of the seven symbols and the association type (in parentheses). In what follows we will refer to these monomials by number.

**Theorem 8.4.** The space of identities for the algebra A in variables aabcdef (partition 211111) has dimension 5. A basis for this space consists of these four identities where the monomials (alternating sums) are indicated by numbers in square brackets:

$$\begin{split} J_1 &= 4[24] + 2[27] + 2[30] - 2[31] - 2[50] + 1[53] - 2[69] \\ &- 1[71] - 2[73], \\ J_2 &= -88[1] + 88[2] - 88[3] + 88[4] + 44[9] - 44[12] \\ &+ 44[14] - 44[15] - 150[23] + 300[24] + 150[25] \\ &+ 75[29] - 150[31] - 75[32] - 150[47] + 150[49] \\ &- 150[50] + 44[54] - 44[55] + 44[56] + 44[60] - 44[62] \end{split}$$

+44[63] + 75[68] - 150[69] + 75[72] - 150[73] + 44[74]
-44[75] + 44[77] - 44[79] + 44[81] + 44[83],
$J_3 = -176[2] + 176[3] - 88[6] + 88[7] - 88[11] + 88[12]$
+88[13] - 88[14] + 90[23] - 180[24] - 90[25] - 45[29]
+90[31] + 45[32] + 90[47] - 90[49] + 90[50] + 88[55]
-88[56] + 44[58] - 44[59] + 88[62] - 88[63] - 45[68]
+90[69] - 45[72] + 90[73] + 88[75] + 44[78] - 88[81]
-44[82],
$J_4 = -44[16] - 22[17] + 22[18] - 22[19] - 30[23] + 60[24]$
+30[25] + 15[29] - 30[31] - 15[32] - 44[35] + 22[36]
-22[38] + 11[39] + 22[40] - 11[41] + 44[42] - 30[47]
+30[49] - 30[50] + 22[64] + 11[65] - 22[66] + 15[68]
-30[69] + 15[72] - 30[73] + 22[84] + 22[85] + 11[86],

together with a fifth identity that is displayed in Table 11.

*Proof:* (By computer.) We did the following computations first in characteristic p = 101 and then repeated them in characteristic 0. We wrote a Maple program to evaluate the alternating sum over each of the 87 monomials for any seven vectors from the algebra A. We created a matrix of size  $98 \times 87$  and initialized it to zero. We generated six random vectors and assigned these to the variables abcdef. The results of evaluating the monomials (alternating sums) were stored in the bottom  $11 \times 87$ submatrix. We then computed the row canonical form of the matrix. After each repetition of this fill and reduce process, the rank of the matrix increased by 11, until the seventh iteration, at which point the rank reached 73. Another 10 iterations did not increase the rank. The nullspace of the resulting matrix has dimension 14 and consists of the identities satisfied by A in representation 211111. Of these 14 identities, eight are trivial in the sense that they consist of a single monomial (alternating sum) which collapses to zero as a result of anticommutativity. These are monomials 20, 21, 22, 46, 48, 51, 67, and 87 in Table 10. Of the remaining six identities, two differ only by another trivial identity: the two-term identity which says that the sum of monomials (alternating sums) 52 and 53 is always 0 (this is another consequence of anticommutativity). This leaves five independent nontrivial identities (as predicted by Table 9). In characteristic 0, for each identity we cleared the denominators of the coefficients and then divided by the gcd of the coefficients. Four of the five resulting integral identities have coefficients with no more than three digits; these four are stated in Theorem 8.4. The fifth identity has coefficients

3950	368961407440	[1]	_	1913428424733144	[2]
+ 2773	300851713040	[3]	_	4077469423453800	[4]
+ 456	996975114944	[5]	+	1018470268337148	[6]
-588	534054847200	[7]	_	63550231023180	[8]
-1746	685993146248	[9]	_	429936213489948	[10]
+ 1082	020499360328	[11]	+	728215724809100	[12]
-652	084285870380	[13]	_	1158151938299048	[14]
+ 1810	236224169428	[15]	+	1471606883931976	[16]
+ 735	803441965988	[17]	_	735803441965988	[18]
+ 735	803441965988	[19]	+	5861177270946330	[23]
-9579	445919392388	[24]	_	5258835958813110	[25]
+ 1149	923171952060	[26]	+	1071454311250136	[27]
+ 301	170656066610	[28]	_	2355627049497135	[29]
+ 469	112999116916	[30]	+	3639799787744134	[31]
+ 2054	456393430525	[32]	+	130877446257360	[33]
- 75	788640567948	[34]	+	1471606883931976	[35]
+ 130	877446257360	[36]	+	27544402844706	[37]
+ 604	925995708628	[38]	_	660014801398040	[40]
- 27	544402844706	[41]	_	604925995708628	[42]
+ 39	381560807160	[43]	+	39381560807160	[44]
+ 19	690780403580	[45]	+	5021454786062850	[47]
- 5021	454786062850	[49]	+	5021454786062850	[50]
-1202	761859999040	[56]	+	127100462046360	[57]
- 601	380929999520	[59]	+	63550231023180	[60]
+ 601	380929999520	[61]	_	63550231023180	[62]
- 1139	211628975860	[63]	_	604925995708628	[64]
- 302	462997854314	[65]	+	604925995708628	[66]
-1748	892612436845	[68]	+	3950000474812714	[69]
- 602	341312133220	[70]	+	226107624969512	[71]
-2050	063268503455	[72]	+	4552341786945934	[73]
- 1018	470268337148	[74]	+	55628434846908	[75]
- 859	872426979896	[76]	_	2221232128336188	[77]
- 481	420916745120	[78]	+	588534054847200	[79]
- 601	380929999520	[80]	+	374307778643040	[81]
+ 1082	801846744640	[82]	_	1791295914846240	[83]
- 660	014801398040	[84]	_	660014801398040	[85]
- 330	007400699020	[86]			

**TABLE 11**. The fifth identity in representation 211111.

with up to 16 digits, which contain large prime factors; it is displayed in Table 11.  $\hfill \Box$ 

Finally, we consider the representation labeled by partition 22111. Here the variables are *aabbcde*. There are altogether 460 monomials over all 11 association types, accounting for anticommutativity and requiring that *cde* occur in alphabetical order from left to right. We regard each monomial as representing the alternating sum over *cde*, so each monomial is actually a sum of six terms. Here is the number of monomials in each association type:

association type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
# of monomials	110	30	55	55	14	31	55	14	27	55	14

1	7	66	14	100	94	35	87	5	0	94	96	0	7	72
44	29	57	64	37	93	36	86	73	7	21	97	100	8	12
66	7	22	64	6	30	2	78	5	89	7	67	49	29	64
64	30	86	8	7	12	66	7	97	100	8	6	30	22	64
78	2	93	36	86	73	7	21	29	64	67	49	30	64	5
89	7	7	8	86	39	48	14	1	17	61	36	90	98	83
51	68	61	36	1	17	98	90	39	48	14	68	51	83	4
2	95	95	2	4	74	89	79	27	12	22	29	13	72	88
53	48	31	53	17	70	48	70	48	84	84	59	77	66	31
53	17	66	77	59	4	21	22	97	80	79	70	30	23	71
78	45	56	63	53	58	35	67	82	72	67	77	67	100	54
48	19	34	66	72	67	67	82	67	77	63	53	58	1	47
34	19	48	69	51	82	84	36	32	50	36	84	82	33	68
0	17	42	0	84	59	53	24	48	77	79	0	0	84	59
67	48	77	70	66	5	17	17	96	26	53	53	22	70	66
48	77	96	17	17	84	59	67	75	53	53	96	79	31	72
35	35	95	29	35	35	31	6	37	64	65	18	36	83	18
0	0	36	0	65	65	83	36	18	57	21	99	44	80	2
23	11	23	90	78	86	15	15	48	82	67	0	53	19	36
84	67	82	53	67	0	84	36	82	67	50	47	14	51	54
87	48	94	53	7	44	57	51	4	86	7	2	8	95	7
64	30	64	89	49	64	44	94	95	7	2	8	30	64	37
4	86	7	64	49	57	89	7	48	17	36	65	0	36	17
36	48	0	48	53	64	79	37	22	13	88	90	53	48	48
0	24	53	77	99	22	2	79	66	23	78	78	53	33	82
67	45	54	78	68	67	82	56	53	47	23	51	15	50	86
66	50	87	33	51	14	68	7	0	94	0	51	64	37	15
18	80	93	50	94	33	64	23	99	94	44	71	37	87	94
33	93	50	37	99	23	15	18	80	57	37	71	94	14	87
65	3	11	33	36	11	3	87	68	54	47	22	95	79	6
90	53	48	84	0	17	17	59	84	42					

**TABLE 12**. The identity K in representation 22111 (p = 101).

For these computations the matrix will have size  $471 \times 460$ . Because the matrix is so large, we did this representation in characteristic p = 101 only.

**Theorem 8.5.** Over a field of characteristic p = 101, the algebra A satisfies a single identity in the variables aabbcde (partition 22111). It has 443 nonzero coefficients, which are displayed in Table 12. The entry in row i and column j is the coefficient of monomial 15(i-1)+jin the lexicographically ordered list of 460 monomials.

**Proof:** This proof is very similar to the computational proofs of the previous two theorems. The matrix has 460 columns, and the rank eventually stabilizes at 457. Of the three identities in the nullspace, two are trivial: one states that monomials 282 and 287 sum to 0, and the other states that monomials 291 and 295 sum to 0. The coefficients of the third identity K are presented in Table 12.

#### 9. UNITAL EXTENSIONS

The description in Section 2 of the action of sl(2) on V(n) in terms of differential operators provides a connection with the notion from classical invariant theory of transvection of homogeneous polynomials, which was used in [Dixmier 84] to express nonassociative algebra structures closely related to ours in terms of partial differentiation of polynomials.

Let  $f \in V(m)$  and  $g \in V(n)$ . Then, we can regard fand g as homogeneous polynomials in X and Y, where f has degree m and g has degree n. (In the terminology of classical invariant theory, f and g are binary forms of degrees m and n.) Let  $f^{(i,j)}$  denote the derivative of ftaken i times with respect to X and j times with respect to Y:

$$f^{(i,j)} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X}\right)^i \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial Y}\right)^j f.$$

We define the kth transvectant of f and g as follows:

$$(f,g)_k = \frac{(m-k)!}{m!} \frac{(n-k)!}{n!} \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} f^{(k-i,i)} g^{(i,k-i)}.$$

It is clear that  $(f,g)_k \in V(m+n-2k)$ . This definition is from [Dixmier 84], but we have simplified the notation. In the special case m = n we have  $f, g \in V(n)$  and the transvectant

$$(f,g)_k = \left(\frac{(n-k)!}{n!}\right)^2 \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} f^{(k-i,i)} g^{(i,k-i)},$$

which is nontrivial for  $0 \le k \le n$ . When *n* is even and k = n/2, we get a bilinear sl(2)-invariant mapping from  $V(n) \times V(n)$  to V(n):

$$(f,g)_{n/2} = \left(\frac{\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)!}{n!}\right)^2 \sum_{i=0}^{n/2} (-1)^i \binom{n/2}{i} f^{(n/2-i,i)} g^{(i,n/2-i)}.$$

This defines a nonassociative algebra structure on the vector space V(n), which contains sl(2) in its derivation algebra; it is commutative when  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and anticommutative when  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . Since V(n) occurs only once as a direct summand of  $V(n) \otimes V(n)$ , this nonassociative algebra structure on V(n) must coincide (up to a scalar multiple) with the projection  $P: V(n) \otimes V(n) \to V(n)$ .

In [Dixmier 84], the author considers unital nonassociative algebras that are obtained from these commutative or anticommutative algebras by forming the direct sum with a one-dimensional vector space spanned by a new unit element. Thus, we have ordered pairs (a, f), where  $a \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $f \in V(n)$ , and a product depending on arbitrary scalars  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{F}$ , defined by

$$(a, f)(b, g) = (\lambda(f, g) + ab, \, \mu(f, g)_{n/2} + bf + ag), \, (9-1)$$

where (f,g) is the bilinear form  $V(n) \otimes V(n) \to V(0)$  of Section 2. Similarly, our nonassociative algebra structure on V(n) can be extended to obtain a unital nonassociative algebra of dimension n + 2 using Dixmier's formula (9-1):

$$(a, f)(b, g) = (\lambda(f, g) + ab, \mu[f, g] + bf + ag).$$

Here,  $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ ,  $f, g \in V(n)$ , and [f, g] is the sl(2)-invariant algebra structure on V(n).

Now assume that  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  so that the algebra structure on V(n) is anticommutative. Except for trivial choices of  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ , the unitally extended algebras will not be anticommutative, and so we consider identities of

degree 3. For  $n \ge 10$  we do not expect the unital algebras to be associative or even alternative.

We write  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  for the 12-dimensional unital algebra obtained from the anticommutative algebra V(10) by the above formula. From Proposition 2.1 the symmetric bilinear form on V(10) is given by

$$(v_{10-2i}, v_{10-2j}) = \delta_{i+j,10} (-1)^i \binom{10}{i}$$

In terms of the rescaled basis introduced at the end of the proof of Theorem 6.1, namely

$$v'_p = \frac{13}{30}i!v_p, \quad i = \frac{1}{2}(10-p),$$

the symmetric bilinear form becomes

$$(v_{10-2i}, v_{10-2j}) = \delta_{i+j,10}(-1)^i \left(\frac{13}{30}\right)^2 10!$$
  
=  $\delta_{i+j,10}(-1)^i 681408.$ 

In Dixmier's formula (9–1) the constant 681408 can be absorbed into the parameter  $\lambda$ , and so (for our current purposes at least) we may make the simplifying assumption that the bilinear form is given by

$$(v_{10-2i}, v_{10-2j}) = \delta_{i+j,10}(-1)^i$$
.

Using this, the bilinear multiplication for the unitally extended algebra  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is defined on basis elements as follows:

$$(1,0)(1,0) = (1,0),$$
  

$$(1,0)(0,v_{10-2j}) = (0,v_{10-2j}),$$
  

$$(0,v_{10-2i})(1,0) = (0,v_{10-2i}),$$
  

$$v_{10-2i})(0,v_{10-2j}) = (\delta_{i+j,10}(-1)^i\lambda,\mu[v_{10-2i},v_{10-2j}]),$$

where the square brackets refer to the nonassociative structure of Theorem 5.2.

**Definition 9.1.** An algebra A (over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ ) is called a noncommutative Jordan algebra if it satisfies the flexible identity

$$(x, y, x) = 0$$

and the Jordan identity

(0,

$$(x^2, y, x) = 0.$$

Both these identities are written in terms of the associator (x, y, z) = (xy)z - x(yz). We say that A is quadratic if every element  $x \in A$  is the root of some quadratic polynomial depending on x with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

**Theorem 9.2.** The nonassociative algebra  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is a noncommutative Jordan algebra for every  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{F}$ .

*Proof:* It is easy to check that  $A(\lambda, \mu)$  is flexible and quadratic, and these together imply the Jordan identity.

# 10. OTHER SIMPLE LIE ALGEBRAS

# 10.1 Tensor Products

Let L be a simple (finite-dimensional) Lie algebra over an algebraically closed field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic 0. Let V and W be two irreducible (finite-dimensional) representations of L. By Weyl's Theorem we know that any finite-dimensional representation of L is completely reducible; that is, it decomposes as the direct sum of irreducible representations. In particular, this holds for the tensor product  $V \otimes W$ . An important problem in representation theory is to find an explicit decomposition of  $V \otimes W$  into a direct sum of irreducible representations. In the simplest case L = sl(2), this problem is solved by the Clebsch-Gordan Theorem.

In the special case V = W, we can ask more specifically how many times V occurs as a direct summand of  $V \otimes V$ . If this multiplicity is nonzero, then there exist nonzero homomorphisms  $P: V \otimes V \to V$  that give V a nonassociative algebra structure, which is L-invariant in the sense that L is contained in the derivation algebra. This structure is commutative when V occurs as a summand of  $S^2(V)$  and anticommutative when V occurs as a summand of  $\Lambda^2(V)$ .

Up to isomorphism, the (finite-dimensional) simple Lie algebras, over an algebraically closed field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic 0, are characterized by their Dynkin diagrams. For the numbering of the vertices of the Dynkin diagrams we follow [Humphreys 72].

# 10.2 Exterior Squares

A simple Lie algebra of rank  $\ell$  has  $\ell$  fundamental representations, which we will denote by  $\Omega_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ . On the following pages we list, for each simple Lie algebra of rank  $2 \leq \ell \leq 8$  and each fundamental representation, the multiplicity

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_i,\Omega_i)$$

of  $\Omega_i$  as a direct summand of its exterior square. This multiplicity is the number of parameters that occur in the classification of *L*-invariant anticommutative algebra structures on  $\Omega_i$ . To perform these calculations we used the software package LiE, which at the time of writing was available online at http://young.sp2mi.univpoitiers.fr/~marc/LiE/. For detailed information about LiE, see the articles [Cohen et al. 84] and [van Leeuwen 94], which are also available at the given URL.

# 10.3 Special Linear

For the special linear type  $A_{\ell}$  none of the fundamental representations occurs as a summand of its own exterior square.

#### 10.4 Orthogonal

For the orthogonal type  $B_{\ell}$  we have the following results; all other multiplicities are zero. (Neither of the fundamental representations of  $B_2$  occurs in its own exterior square.) The nonadjoint representations are starred:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \dim B_3 = 21 & \dim \Omega_2 = 21 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1 \\ \dim B_4 = 36 & \dim \Omega_2 = 36 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1 \\ & * \dim \Omega_3 = 84 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_3, \Omega_3) = 1 \\ \dim B_5 = 55 & \dim \Omega_2 = 55 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1 \\ \dim B_6 = 78 & \dim \Omega_2 = 78 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1 \\ \dim B_7 = 105 & \dim \Omega_2 = 105 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1 \\ & * \dim \Omega_5 = 3003 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_5, \Omega_5) = 1 \\ & * \dim \Omega_6 = 5005 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_6, \Omega_6) = 1 \\ \dim B_8 = 136 & \dim \Omega_2 = 136 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_6, \Omega_6) = 1 \\ & * \dim \Omega_7 = 19448 & \dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_7, \Omega_7) = 1 \end{array}$$

### 10.5 Symplectic

For the symplectic type  $C_{\ell}$  none of the fundamental representations occurs as a summand of its own exterior square.

# 10.6 Orthogonal

For the orthogonal type  $D_{\ell}$  we have the following results; all other multiplicities are zero. The nonadjoint representation is starred:

$\dim D_4 = 28$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 28$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
$\dim D_5 = 45$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 45$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
$\dim D_6 = 66$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 66$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
$\dim D_7 = 91$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 91$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
$\dim D_8 = 120$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 120$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
	$*\dim\Omega_6 = 8008$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_6, \Omega_6) = 2$

$\dim E_6 = 78$	$\dim \Omega_2 = 78$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 1$
	$*\dim\Omega_4 = 2925$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_4, \Omega_4) = 2$
$\dim E_7 = 133$	$\dim \Omega_1 = 133$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_1, \Omega_1) = 1$
	$*\dim\Omega_3 = 8645$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_3,\Omega_3)=2$
	$*\dim\Omega_4 = 365750$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_4, \Omega_4) = 1$
$\dim E_8 = 248$	$*\dim\Omega_3=6696000$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_3,\Omega_3) = 5$
	$*\dim \Omega_4 = 6899079264$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_4, \Omega_4) = 46$
	$*\dim \Omega_5 = 146325270$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_5,\Omega_5) = 6$
	$*\dim\Omega_6 = 2450240$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_6, \Omega_6) = 1$
	$*\dim\Omega_7 = 30380$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_7, \Omega_7) = 2$
	$\dim \Omega_8 = 248$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_8,\Omega_8) = 1$
$\dim F_4 = 52$	$\dim \Omega_1 = 52$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_1, \Omega_1) = 1$
	$*\dim\Omega_2 = 1274$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_2, \Omega_2) = 2$
	$*\dim\Omega_3=273$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_3,\Omega_3) = 2$
$\dim G_2 = 14$	$*\dim\Omega_1=7$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_L(\Lambda^2 \Omega_1, \Omega_1) = 1$
	$\dim \Omega_2 = 14$	$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{L}(\Lambda^{2}\Omega_{2},\Omega_{2})=2$

#### TABLE 13.

#### 10.7 Exceptional

For the exceptional types E, F and G, the results are shown in Table 13; all other multiplicities are zero. The nonadjoint representations are starred.

We can summarize the information in these lists in the following result.

**Theorem 10.1.** The multiplicities dim  $Hom_L(\Lambda^2\Omega_i, \Omega_i)$ are nonzero only in the orthogonal and exceptional types. The multiplicity of the adjoint representation is always exactly 1.

We also observe the following fact which distinguishes  $E_8$ :

**Theorem 10.2.** The only simple Lie algebra of rank  $\ell \leq 8$  which has a fundamental representation which occurs more than twice as a summand in its own exterior square is  $E_8$ .

It seems to be a natural conjecture that the restriction on the rank in this last result is not necessary.

The only well-understood algebra structure in the above lists (apart from the adjoint representations which recover the original Lie algebras) is the seven-dimensional representation of  $G_2$ , which gives the simple non-Lie Malcev algebra discussed in Section 5.

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