

On the Noncommutative and Nonassociative Geometry of Octonionic Spacetime, Modified Dispersion Relations and Grand Unification

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April 2007, Revised May 2007

Abstract

The Octonionic Geometry (Gravity) developed long ago by Oliveira and Marques is extended to Noncommutative and Nonassociative Spacetime coordinates associated with octonionic-valued coordinates and momenta. The octonionic metric $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ already encompasses the ordinary spacetime metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, in addition to the Maxwell $U(1)$ and $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills fields such that implements the Kaluza-Klein Grand Unification program *without* introducing extra space-time dimensions. The color group $SU(3)$ is a subgroup of the exceptional G_2 group which is the automorphism group of the octonion algebra. It is shown that the flux of the $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills field strength $\vec{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu\nu}$ through the area-momentum $\vec{\Sigma}^{\mu\nu}$ in the *internal isospin space* yields corrections $O(1/M_{Planck}^2)$ to the energy-momentum dispersion relations without violating Lorentz invariance as it occurs with Hopf algebraic deformations of the Poincare algebra. The known Octonionic realizations of the Clifford $Cl(8), Cl(4)$ algebras should permit the construction of octonionic string actions that should have a correspondence with ordinary string actions for strings moving in a curved Clifford-space target background associated with a $Cl(3,1)$ algebra.

Keywords: Nonassociative Geometry, Clifford algebras, Quaternions, Octonionic Gravity, Unification, Strings.

1 Introduction

Exceptional, Jordan, Division, Clifford and Noncommutative algebras are deeply related and essential tools in many aspects in Physics, see for instance [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7], [9], [8], [36], [11], [15], [13], [14], [16], [24]. [29], [56], [35]. Ever since the discovery [58] that 11D supergravity, when dimensionally reduced to an n -dim torus led to maximal supergravity theories with hidden exceptional symmetries E_n for $n \leq 8$, it has prompted intensive research to explain the higher dimensional origins of these hidden exceptional E_n symmetries. More recently, there has been a lot of interest in the infinite-dim hyperbolic Kac-Moody E_{10} and non-linearly realized E_{11} algebras arising in the asymptotic chaotic oscillatory solutions of Supergravity fields close to cosmological singularities [57]

The classification of symmetric spaces associated with the scalars of N extended Supergravity theories, emerging from compactifications of 11D supergravity to lower dimensions, and the construction of the U -duality groups as spectrum-generating symmetries for four-dimensional BPS black-holes [27], [34] also involved exceptional symmetries associated with the exceptional magic Jordan algebras $J_3[R, C, H, O]$. The discovery of the anomaly free 10-dim heterotic string for the algebra $E_8 \times E_8$ was another hallmark of the importance of Exceptional Lie groups in Physics.

Exceptional Jordan Matrix Models based on the compact E_6 involve a *double* number of the required physical degrees of freedom inherent in a complex-valued action [11]. This led Ohwashi to construct an interacting pair of mirror universes within the compact E_6 matrix model and equipped with a $Sp(4, \mathbf{H})/Z_2$ symmetry based on the quaternionic valued symplectic group. The interacting picture resembles that of the bi-Chern-Simons gravity models. The complex counterpart of the Chern-Simon-Witten theory has been studied by [62] where the complex (holomorphic) analogue of the Gauss linking number for complex curves embedded in a Calabi-Yau threefold was defined. A nonassociative formulation of bosonic strings in $D = 26$ using Jordan algebras was presented a while back by [35]. A construction of nonassociative Chern-Simons membranes and 3-branes based on the large N limit of Exceptional Jordan algebras was put forward by [12].

Some recent developments related to Jordan exceptional algebras and octonions have been found. The E_7 Cartan quartic invariant was used by [32] to construct the entanglement measure associated with the tripartite entanglement of seven quantum-bits represented by the group $SL(2, C)^3$ and realized in terms of $2 \times 2 \times 2$ cubic matrices. It was shown by [33] that this tripartite entanglement of seven quantum-bits is entirely decoded into the discrete geometry of the octonion Cayley-Fano plane. The analogy between quantum information theory and supersymmetric black holes in 4d string theory compactifications was extended further by [33]. The role of Jordan algebras associated with the homogeneous symmetric spaces present in the study of extended supergravities, BPS black holes, quantum attractor flows and automorphic forms can be found

in [27].

The E_8 group was proposed long ago [26] as a candidate for a grand unification model building in $D = 4$. The supersymmetric E_8 model has more recently been studied as a fermion family and grand unification model [26] under the assumption that there is a vacuum gluino condensate but this condensate is *not* accompanied by a dynamical generation of a mass gap in the pure E_8 gauge sector. A study of the interplay among Exceptional Groups, del Pezzo surfaces and the extra massless particles arising from rational double point singularities can be found in [44], [43]. Clifford algebras and E_8 are key ingredients in Smith's $D_4 - D_5 - E_6 - E_7 - E_8$ grand unified model in $D = 8$ [17].

A novel Chern-Simons E_8 gauge theory of Gravity in $D = 15$ based on an *octic* E_8 invariant expression in $D = 16$ (recently constructed by Cederwall and Palmkvist) was developed by [47]. A grand unification model of gravity with the other forces is very plausible within the framework of a *supersymmetric* extension (to incorporate spacetime fermions) of this Chern-Simons E_8 gauge theory. An E_8 gauge bundle formulation was instrumental in understanding the topological part of the 11-dim M -theory partition function. The nature of this 11-dim E_8 gauge theory remains unknown. The Chern-Simons E_8 gauge theory of Gravity in $D = 15$ may shed some light into solving this problem after a dimensional reduction.

A complexification of ordinary gravity (not to be confused with Hermitian-Kahler geometry) has been known for a long time. Complex gravity requires that $g_{\mu\nu} = g_{(\mu\nu)} + ig_{[\mu\nu]}$ so that now one has $g_{\nu\mu} = (g_{\mu\nu})^*$, which implies that the diagonal components of the metric $g_{z_1 z_1} = g_{z_2 z_2} = g_{\bar{z}_1 \bar{z}_1} = g_{\bar{z}_2 \bar{z}_2}$ must be real. A treatment of a non-Riemannian geometry based on a complex tangent space and involving a symmetric $g_{(\mu\nu)}$ plus antisymmetric $g_{[\mu\nu]}$ metric component was first proposed by Einstein-Strauss [10] (and later on by [19]) in their unified theory of Electromagnetism with gravity by identifying the EM field strength $F_{\mu\nu}$ with the antisymmetric metric $g_{[\mu\nu]}$ component.

Borchsenius [18] formulated the quaternionic extension of Einstein-Strauss unified theory of gravitation with EM by incorporating appropriately the $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills field strength into the degrees of freedom of a quaternionic-valued metric. Oliveira and Marques [20] later on provided the Octonionic Gravitational extension of Borchsenius theory involving two interacting $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills fields and where the exceptional group G_2 was realized naturally as the automorphism group of the octonions.

Ashtekar's formulation of Gravity in $D = 12$ dimensions using octonionic structure constants has been formulated by [40]. Modified dispersion relations based on the simplest Octonionic geometry has been discussed in a very different context than the work presented here by [41]. The (para) octonionic geometry of the projective plane has been analyzed extensively by [42]. Octonionic spinors have been studied by [28], [46], among others. The bar operations and hyper-complex group theory to formulate a consistent Octonionic QM have been developed by [45]. The non-Desarguesian geometry of the Moufang projective plane to describe Octonionic QM was discussed by [15].

It was shown in [21] how one could generalize Octonionic Gravitation into

an Extended Relativity theory in Clifford spaces, involving poly-vector valued (Clifford-algebra valued) coordinates and fields, where in addition to the speed of light there is also an invariant length scale (set equal to the Planck scale) in the definition of a generalized metric distance in Clifford spaces encoding, lengths, areas, volumes and hyper-volumes metrics. An overview of the basic features of the Extended Relativity in Clifford spaces can be found in [21]. E_8 Yang-Mills theory can naturally be embedded into a $Cl(16)$ algebra Gauge Theory [48] and the 11D Chern-Simons (Super) Gravity [60] is a very small sector of a more fundamental polyvector-valued gauge theory in Clifford spaces. Polyvector-valued Supersymmetries [61] in Clifford-spaces [51] turned out to be more fundamental than the supersymmetries associated with M, F theory superalgebras.

Generalized Complex geometry was developed by Hitchin and involves a metric and a two-form, an antisymmetric field $B_{\mu\nu}$ (not the same as $g_{[\mu\nu]}$) and plays an important role in string theory compactifications with flux. Recently Hitchin's geometry has been generalized to manifolds with a metric and p -forms by [30] as the appropriate geometry for M theory. Generalized Complex geometry has also been instrumental in the Geometric Langlands Program in Physics advanced by [31].

The purpose of this work is to advance further the Octonionic Geometry (Gravity) of [20] by enlarging the ordinary spacetime coordinates to octonionic-valued coordinates furnishing a natural realization of a Noncommutative and Nonassociative spacetime. The most salient feature of the decomposition of the split-octonionic metric $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ is that it already encompasses the ordinary spacetime metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, in addition to the Maxwell EM field and $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills fields. Therefore, it automatically implements the Kaluza-Klein program *without* introducing extra spacetime dimensions. Clifford algebras have been used by [17], [22], [23], among others to attain unification without extra space-time dimensions. It is shown that the flux of $\vec{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu\nu}$ through the area-momentum $\vec{\Sigma}^{\mu\nu}$ in the internal isospin space yields the corrections $O(1/M_{Planck}^2)$ to the energy-momentum dispersion relations.

The automorphism group of the octonionic algebra is the 14-dim exceptional G_2 group that admits a $SU(3)$ subgroup leaving invariant the idempotents u_o, u_o^* of the split-octonionic algebra. This $SU(3)_c$ was identified as the color group acting on the quarks and antiquarks triplets [15] $\Psi_\alpha = u_i \Psi_\alpha^i, \bar{\Psi}_\alpha = -u_i^* \bar{\Psi}_\alpha^i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, respectively. Octonionic realizations of the Clifford $Cl(8), Cl(4)$ algebras should permit the construction of octonionic strings where the $1 + 1$ -octonionic-dim worldsheet of an octonionic string has a correspondence with an $8 + 8$ real-dimensional spacetime of split signature corresponding to the $Cl(4)$ -space. For all these reasons we deem very important to explore further the novelties behind the octonionic geometry developed here within the framework of the unification of gravity with the other forces and the role played by the Planck scale in the modifications of the dispersion relations without violating Lorentz invariance.

2 Octonionic Geometry of Noncommutative and Nonassociative Spacetime

Given an octonion \mathbf{X} it can be expanded in a basis (e_o, e_m) as

$$\mathbf{X} = x^o e_o + x^m e_m, \quad m, n, p = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 7. \quad (1)$$

where e_o is the identity element. The Noncommutative and Nonassociative algebra of octonions is determined from the relations

$$e_o^2 = e_o, \quad e_o e_i = e_i e_o = e_i, \quad e_i e_j = -\delta_{ij} e_o + c_{ijk} e_k, \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 7. \quad (2)$$

where the fully antisymmetric structure constants c_{ijk} are taken to be 1 for the combinations $(123), (516), (624), (435), (471), (673), (672)$. The octonion conjugate is defined

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = x^o e_o - x^m e_m. \quad (2)$$

and the norm

$$N(\mathbf{X}) = \langle \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \rangle = \text{Real} (\bar{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{X}) = (x_o x_o + x_k x_k). \quad (3)$$

The inverse

$$\mathbf{X}^{-1} = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{X}}}{N(\mathbf{X})}, \quad \mathbf{X}^{-1} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^{-1} = 1. \quad (4)$$

The non-vanishing associator is defined by

$$\{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}\} = (\mathbf{XY})\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{YZ}) \quad (5)$$

In particular, the associator

$$\{e_i, e_j, e_k\} = d_{ijkl} e_l, \quad d_{ijkl} = \epsilon_{ijklmn} c^{mnp}, \quad i, j, k, \dots = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 7 \quad (6)$$

The generators of the split-octonionic algebra admit a realization in terms of the 4×4 Zorn matrices (in blocks of 2×2 matrices) by writing

$$\begin{aligned} u_o &= \frac{1}{2} (e_o + ie_7), & u_o^* &= \frac{1}{2} (e_o - ie_7) \\ u_i &= \frac{1}{2} (e_i + ie_{i+3}), & u_i^* &= \frac{1}{2} (e_i - ie_{i+3}) \\ u_o &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_o \end{pmatrix} & u_o^* &= \begin{pmatrix} \omega_o & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$u_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \omega_i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad u_i^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\omega_i \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The quaternionic generators $\omega_o, \omega_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ obey the algebra $\omega_i \omega_j = \epsilon_{ijk} \omega_k - \delta_{ij} \omega_o$ and are related to the Pauli spin 2×2 matrices by setting $\sigma_i = i \omega_i$ and $\omega_o = \mathbf{1}_{2 \times 2}$. The u_i, u_i^* behave like fermionic creation and annihilation operators corresponding to an exceptional (non-associative) Grassmannian algebra

$$\{u_i, u_j\} = \{u_i^*, u_j^*\} = 0, \quad \{u_i, u_j^*\} = -\delta_{ij}. \quad (9a)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}[u_i, u_j] = \epsilon_{ijk} u_k^*, \quad \frac{1}{2}[u_i^*, u_j^*] = \epsilon_{ijk} u_k, \quad u_o^2 = u_o, \quad (u_o^*)^2 = u_o^*. \quad (9b)$$

Unlike the octonionic algebra, the split-octonionic algebra contains zero divisors and therefore is not a division algebra.

The automorphism group of the octonionic algebra is the 14-dim exceptional G_2 group that admits a $SU(3)$ subgroup leaving invariant the idempotents u_o, u_o^* . This $SU(3)_c$ was identified as the color group acting on the quarks and antiquarks triplets [15] $\Psi_\alpha = u_i \Psi_\alpha^i, \bar{\Psi}_\alpha = -u_i^* \bar{\Psi}_\alpha^i, i = 1, 2, 3$, respectively. From the split-octonionic algebra multiplication table one learns that *triplet \times triplet = anti triplet* and *triplet \times anti triplet = singlet* providing a very natural algebraic interpretation of confinement of 3 quarks. An effective dynamical SUSY and the phenomenological manifestation of quark dynamics inside hadrons leading to the classification of mesons and baryons can be found in [16], [5] and references therein.

The Zorn matrix product of

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_o \omega_o & -A_i \omega^i \\ B_i \omega^i & B_o \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} C_o \omega_o & -C_i \omega^i \\ D_i \omega^i & D_o \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

is defined by

$$\mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} (A_o C_o + A_i D_i) \omega_o & -(A_o C_k + D_o A_k + \epsilon_{ijk} B_i D_j) \omega^k \\ (C_o B_k + B_o D_k + \epsilon_{ijk} A_i C_j) \omega^k & (B_o D_o + B_i C_i) \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

where we have used

$$\omega_i \omega_j = \epsilon_{ijk} \omega_k - \delta_{ij} \omega_o \Rightarrow \omega_i \omega_i = -\omega_o, \text{ for each } i = 1, 2, 3 \Rightarrow \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = (x_i \omega_i) (y_i \omega_i) = -x_i y_i \omega_o. \quad (12)$$

the last minus sign must be kept in my mind in the products that follow. The multiplication product of the split-octonions generators u_o, u_o^*, u_i, u_i^* is reproduced in this Zorn matrix realization.

The split-octonionic-valued spacetime vector \mathbf{Z}^μ , $\mu = 1, 2, 3, \dots, D$ can be represented in terms of the 4×4 (spacetime vector-valued) Zorn matrix Z_{ab}^μ as

$$\mathbf{Z}^\mu = x_o^\mu u_o^* + y_o^\mu u_o + x_i^\mu u_i^* + y_i^\mu u_i = \begin{pmatrix} x_o^\mu \omega_o & -x_i^\mu \omega^i \\ y_i^\mu \omega^i & y_o^\mu \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$x_o^\mu, x_k^\mu, y_o^\mu, y_k^\mu$ are real valued variables. When the spacetime metric is $\eta_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{1}_{4 \times 4}$, the bilinear form

$$\frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} [\eta_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{Z}^\nu] = \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} [x_o^\mu x_o^\nu + y_o^\mu y_o^\nu + x_k^\mu y_k^\nu + x_k^\nu y_k^\mu] \text{Trace} [\mathbf{1}_{2 \times 2}] = \frac{1}{2} \eta_{\mu\nu} [x_o^\mu x_o^\nu + y_o^\mu y_o^\nu + x_k^\mu y_k^\nu + x_k^\nu y_k^\mu]. \quad (14)$$

furnishes the analog of an inner product. We may notice that when $x_o^\mu = y_o^\mu$, the fist two terms of the last expression combine to agree with the standard quadratic norm of a vector in Minkowski spacetime $\eta_{\mu\nu} x_o^\mu x_o^\nu$.

The octonionic conjugation is defined by $e_o \rightarrow e_o$ and $e_m \rightarrow -e_m$, so

$$\bar{\mathbf{Z}}^\mu = x_o^\mu u_o + y_o^\mu u_o^* - x_i^\mu u_i^* - y_i^\mu u_i = \begin{pmatrix} y_o^\mu \omega_o & x_i^\mu \omega^i \\ -y_i^\mu \omega^i & x_o^\mu \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

When $x_o^\mu, y_o^\mu, x_i^\mu, y_i^\mu$ are complex valued one may define the "Hermitian" conjugate by taking the complex conjugate of the components of $\bar{\mathbf{Z}}^\mu$:

$$(\mathbf{Z}^\mu)^\dagger = (x_o^\mu)^* u_o + (y_o^\mu)^* u_o^* - (x_i^\mu)^* u_i^* - (y_i^\mu)^* u_i = \begin{pmatrix} (y_o^\mu)^* \omega_o & (x_i^\mu)^* \omega^i \\ -(y_i^\mu)^* \omega^i & (x_o^\mu)^* \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

It should be emphasized that the dagger operation \dagger must not be confused with the Hermitian adjoint operation but it is defined by taking the complex conjugate of the components of $\bar{\mathbf{Z}}^\mu$.

The split-octonionic-valued metric $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} = G_{\mu\nu}^{ab}$ obeying $(\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu})^\dagger = \mathbf{G}_{\nu\mu}$ can be represented by a 4×4 (tensor-valued) Zorn matrix as [20]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} &= \begin{pmatrix} (g_{\mu\nu} + i g_{[\mu\nu]}) \omega_o & -s_{[\mu\nu]}^i \omega_i \\ r_{[\mu\nu]}^i \omega_i & (g_{\mu\nu} + i g_{[\mu\nu]}) \omega_o \end{pmatrix} = \\ &\begin{pmatrix} (g_{\mu\nu} + i\kappa^2 F_{\mu\nu}) \omega_o & \kappa^2 \lambda^2 \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu i}^{(1)} \omega^i \\ -\kappa^2 \lambda^2 \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu i}^{(2)} \omega^i & (g_{\mu\nu} + i\kappa^2 F_{\mu\nu}) \omega_o \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu})^\dagger = \mathbf{G}_{\nu\mu} \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$F_{\mu\nu}$ is the Maxwell $U(1)$ valued electromagnetic field strength. $\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} = \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu i}^{(1)} \omega^i$ and $\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} = \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu i}^{(2)} \omega^i$ are two $SU(2)$ valued field strengths of the Yang-Mills type corresponding to an internal $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ symmetry.

The length parameter κ is defined

$$\kappa^2 = 4\pi \frac{L_P^2}{e^2}, \Rightarrow \kappa = 2 \sqrt{137\pi} L_{Planck} \sim 4.15 \times 10^{-32} \text{ cm.} \quad (18)$$

in $\hbar = c = 1$ units and $\lambda = -e/Q$ is the ratio of the electric charge e and the isotopic charge Q . The most salient feature of the decomposition of the split-octonionic metric $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ in the form (17) is that it already encompasses the ordinary spacetime metric $g_{\mu\nu}$, in addition to the Maxwell EM field and $SU(2)$ Yang-Mills fields. Therefore, it automatically implements the Kaluza-Klein program *without* introducing extra spacetime dimensions ! A realization of this idea appears also in Smith's Unified model of gravity with all the other forces based on the $Cliff(8)$ algebra [17] and in the $Cliff(4)$ algebra spin gauge theory model of [22], for example . The geometric basis of the Standard Model based on Clifford algebras can be found in [23].

When the spacetime is four-dimensional, when one takes into account the internal directions 0, 1, 2, 3 corresponding to the generators $\omega_o, \omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$ one has an effective $4+4 = 8$ -dim space. A unified model involving an 8-dim space based on the Clifford algebra $Cl(8)$ and octonions has been constructed by Smith [17]. A generalization of Smith's model to C-spaces was advanced in [49].

Despite the fact that the octonions are non-associative the Zorn matrix product *does* satisfy the cyclic trace property

$$Trace [\mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{B}] = Trace [\mathbf{B} \bullet \mathbf{A}]. \quad (19)$$

and also the relations

$$\begin{aligned} Trace [(\mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{B}) \bullet \mathbf{C}] &= Trace [\mathbf{A} \bullet (\mathbf{B} \bullet \mathbf{C})] = Trace [\mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{B} \bullet \mathbf{C}] = \\ Trace [\mathbf{C} \bullet \mathbf{A} \bullet \mathbf{B}] &= Trace [\mathbf{B} \bullet \mathbf{C} \bullet \mathbf{A}]. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Taking into account these properties of the trace of Zorn matrix products , the novel line interval proposed in this work can be unambiguously defined by

$$\begin{aligned} ds^2 &= \frac{1}{4} Trace [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\nu] = \\ \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} dx_o^\mu dx_o^\nu &+ \frac{1}{2} s_{\mu\nu}^k dy_k^\mu dx_o^\nu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} dx_k^\mu dy_k^\nu + \frac{1}{2} s_{\mu\nu}^k dy_k^\nu dy_o^\mu + \\ \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} r_{\mu\nu}^i dy_j^\mu dy_k^\nu &+ \frac{1}{2} r_{\mu\nu}^k dx_k^\nu dx_o^\mu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} dy_k^\mu dx_k^\nu + \\ \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} s_{\mu\nu}^i dx_j^\mu dx_k^\nu &+ \frac{1}{2} r_{\mu\nu}^k dx_k^\mu dy_o^\nu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} dy_o^\mu dy_o^\nu \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

It is very important to emphasize that the line interval considered by [20] did *not* involve octonionic valued spacetime coordinates, thus their line interval was given by :

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu x^\nu] = \frac{1}{4} (\text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}]) dx^\mu x^\nu = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu. \quad (22)$$

which clearly differs from the most general one when $x^\mu \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}^\mu$. The reason this choice of interval (22) was selected by [20] is because it is invariant under *internal* octonionic transformations acting on the metric and leaving invariant the ordinary spacetime coordinates x^μ since $dx^\mu dx^\nu = dx^\mu dx^\nu \mathbf{1}_{4\times 4}$

$$\mathbf{G}'_{\mu\nu} = \mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}. \quad (23)$$

where

$$\mathbf{U} = e^{\alpha_i u_i + \beta u_i^*} \equiv m_o u_o^* + n_o u_o + m_i u_i^* + n_i u_i$$

such that

$$\mathbf{Z}'^\mu = \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{Z}^\mu) \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1} + \mathbf{U} \bullet (\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})]. \quad (24)$$

If, and only if, $\mathbf{U}^{-1} = \bar{\mathbf{U}}$

$$\mathbf{U}^{-1} \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U}^{-1} = \bar{\mathbf{U}} \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U} \bar{\mathbf{U}} = \mathbf{1}_{4\times 4} = (u_o + u_o^*). \quad (25)$$

then one can show [20]

$$\mathbf{Z}'^\mu = \frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{Z}^\mu) \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1} + \mathbf{U} \bullet (\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})] = \mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1} \quad (26)$$

resulting from the Moufang identity $a(b\bar{a}) = (ab)\bar{a}$ when $a = U$ and $b = Z^\mu$. Hence, using the cyclic properties of the trace of products of the Zorn matrices, it leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}'_{\mu\nu}] &= \text{Trace} [\mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}] = \text{Trace} [\mathbf{U}^{-1} \bullet \mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}] = \\ &\text{Trace} [(\mathbf{U}^{-1} \bullet \mathbf{U}) \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}] = \text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}] \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

consequently, the line interval is U -invariant

$$\frac{1}{4} (\text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}'_{\mu\nu}]) dx^\mu dx^\nu = \frac{1}{4} (\text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}]) dx^\mu dx^\nu. \quad (28)$$

However, when the spacetime coordinates are replaced by octonionic valued ones, $x^\mu \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}^\mu$, it is *not* necessarily true that the transformation of the interval $(ds)^2 \rightarrow (ds')^2$

$$(ds')^2 = \frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}'_{\mu\nu} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}'^\mu \bullet d\mathbf{Z}'^\nu] =$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \operatorname{Trace} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}) \bullet (\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}) \bullet (\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})] . \quad (29)$$

remains *invariant* under the internal octonionic transformations. To prove this one may recur to the Moufang identity $(ab)(ca) = a(bc)a$ in the simpler case when $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ is reduced to an ordinary Minkowski (diagonal) metric $\eta_{\mu\nu}\mathbf{1}_{4\times 4}$:

$$\frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [d\mathbf{Z}'^\mu \bullet d\mathbf{Z}'^\nu] = \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}) \bullet (\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})] . \quad (30)$$

By setting

$$\begin{aligned} UdZ &= a, U^{-1} = b, U = c, dZ U^{-1} = d \neq a \Rightarrow (ab)(cd) \neq a(bc)d \Rightarrow \\ (U dZ U^{-1})(U dZ U^{-1}) &\neq U dZ (U^{-1}U) dZ U^{-1} = (U dZ)(dZ U^{-1}) \Rightarrow \\ \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}) \bullet (\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})] &\neq \\ \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [(\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu) \bullet (d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1})] &= \\ \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [(d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{U}^{-1}) \bullet (\mathbf{U} \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu)] &= \\ \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet (\mathbf{U}^{-1} \bullet \mathbf{U}) \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu] &= \\ \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\nu\mu} \operatorname{Trace} [(d\mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\mu)] &= \frac{1}{4} \eta_{\mu\nu} \operatorname{Trace} [(d\mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet d\mathbf{Z}^\nu)]. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

due to the symmetry of $\eta_{\mu\nu} = \eta_{\nu\mu}$ of the ordinary Minkowski (diagonal) metric.

Therefore, one can see by means of the Moufang identities and the cyclic trace property why the interval (14) is *not invariant* under U -transformations because the transformed interval of eq-(30) is not the same as the original interval of eq-(14). The same conclusion applies to the most general interval involving octonionic valued metric and coordinates. Nevertheless, there is invariance with respect to a $SU(2)$ diagonal subalgebra of $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ in the *restricted* case that

$$\begin{aligned} m_o = n_o, m_i = n_i \Rightarrow \mathbf{U} = e^{\alpha_i u_i + \beta u_i^*} &\equiv m_o(u_o^* + u_o) + m_i(u_i^* + u_i) = \\ m_o \omega_o + m_i \omega_i \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

and it reduces to the standard associative *quaternionic* U transformation. In this *restricted* quaternionic case the line interval (29) would remain invariant when \mathbf{U} is quaternionic valued because quaternions are associative. Thus using the associative property of quaternionic products, and the cyclic trace property, leads to an U -invariant line interval if, and only if, the $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ and \mathbf{Z}^μ are also restricted to be *quaternionic*-valued, meaning that now one must impose the

constraints $x_o^\mu = y_o^\mu$ and $x_i^\mu = y_i^\mu$ among the components of the split-octonion \mathbf{Z}^μ , and $\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} = \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$ among the components of the metric.

Therefore, under these conditions, the line interval (and bilinear forms) given by eq-(21) are invariant under the diagonal subalgebra $SU(2)_{diag} \subset SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$; i.e. under internal *quaternionic* U -rotations the interval ds^2 remains invariant. In the case of ordinary spacetime coordinates x^μ but octonionic valued metric $\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}$ the octonionic affinity is [20]

$$\Upsilon_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \Omega_{\mu\nu}^\rho (u_o + u_o^*) + \delta_\mu^\rho [\mathbf{L}_{\nu i} u_i^* + \mathbf{K}_{\nu i} u_i]. \quad (33)$$

where the spacetime connection is

$$\Omega_{\mu\nu}^\rho = \Gamma_{(\mu\nu)}^\rho + i \Gamma_{[\mu\nu]}^\rho. \quad (34)$$

naturally there is a nontrivial *torsion* due to the antisymmetric components of the connection.

The octonionic curvature is :

$$\mathbf{R}_{\rho\mu\nu}^\sigma = \mathcal{R}_{\rho\mu\nu}^\sigma [\Omega_{\mu\nu}^\rho] (u_o + u_o^*) + \delta_\rho^\sigma \mathbf{P}_{\mu\nu}. \quad (35)$$

where $\mathcal{R}_{\rho\mu\nu}^\sigma [\Omega_{\mu\nu}^\rho]$ is the ordinary spacetime curvature corresponding to the connection $\Omega_{\mu\nu}^\rho$. The internal space curvature is given by

$$\mathbf{P}_{\mu\nu} = \Theta_{\mu,\nu} - \Theta_{\nu,\mu} - [\Theta_\mu, \Theta_\nu]. \quad (36)$$

in terms of the internal space affinity

$$\Theta_\mu = [\mathbf{L}_{\nu i} u_i^* + \mathbf{K}_{\nu i} u_i]. \quad (37)$$

The internal space covariant derivative of an octonionic-valued scalar field $\Phi(x^\mu)$ is

$$D_\mu \Phi = \Phi_{,\mu} + [\Theta_\mu, \Phi]. \quad (38)$$

The commutator of two internal space covariant derivatives

$$[D_\mu, D_\nu] \Phi = \mathbf{P}_{\mu\nu} \Phi - \Phi \mathbf{P}_{\nu\mu} + \{\Theta_\mu, \Theta_\nu, \Phi\}. \quad (39)$$

contains a crucial non-vanishing associator term $\{\Theta_\mu, \Theta_\nu, \Phi\}$ which is the hallmark of the octonionic structure; also there is a nontrivial ordering of the terms $\mathbf{P}_{\mu\nu} \Phi - \Phi \mathbf{P}_{\nu\mu}$ that is a reflection of the noncommutativity.

The full covariant derivative (from the spacetime and internal space perspective) of a split-octonionic valued spacetime tensor is

$$\mathcal{D}_\alpha \mathbf{A}_\mu^\rho = \mathbf{A}_{\mu,\alpha}^\rho + \Omega_{\sigma\alpha}^\rho \mathbf{A}_\mu^\sigma - \Omega_{\mu\alpha}^\sigma \mathbf{A}_\sigma^\rho + [\Theta_\alpha, \mathbf{A}_\mu^\rho]. \quad (40)$$

the commutator of two derivatives is

$$[\mathcal{D}_\alpha, \mathcal{D}_\beta] \mathbf{A}^\mu = \mathbf{R}_{\rho\alpha\beta}^\mu \mathbf{A}^\rho + \mathbf{A}^\mu \mathbf{P}_{\alpha\beta} + \{\Upsilon_{\rho\alpha}^\mu, \Upsilon_{\tau\beta}^\rho, \mathbf{A}^\tau\} -$$

$$\{ \Upsilon_{\rho\beta}^\mu, \Upsilon_{\tau\alpha}^\rho, \mathbf{A}^\tau \} + 4 \{ \Theta_\alpha, \Theta_\beta, \mathbf{A}^\mu \} - 2 \mathbf{A}_{;\rho}^\mu \Omega_{[\alpha\beta]}^\rho. \quad (41)$$

where the full-fledged curvature tensor in eq-(35) involving the spacetime and internal space curvature can also be written as

$$\mathbf{R}_{\rho\alpha\beta}^\mu = \Upsilon_{\rho\alpha,\beta}^\mu - \Upsilon_{\rho\beta,\alpha}^\mu + \Upsilon_{\tau\beta}^\mu \Upsilon_{\rho\alpha}^\tau - \Upsilon_{\tau\alpha}^\mu \Upsilon_{\rho\beta}^\tau. \quad (42)$$

the spacetime covariant derivative is

$$\mathbf{A}_{;\alpha}^\mu = \mathbf{A}_{;\alpha}^\mu + \Omega_{\rho\alpha}^\mu \mathbf{A}^\rho. \quad (43)$$

and the Ricci tensor is $\mathbf{R}_{\mu\nu} = \mathbf{R}_{\mu\rho\nu}^\rho$. The inverse $\mathbf{G}^{\mu\nu}$ is such $\mathbf{G}^{\mu\nu}\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} = \delta_\mu^\nu (u_o + u_o^*)$ which permits to construct the scalar curvature $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{G}^{\mu\nu} \mathbf{R}_{\mu\nu}$ and the analog of the Einstein-Hilbert action [20]. A Palatini independent variation of the metric and connection furnishes the equations of motion of the coupled Einstein-Maxwell-Yang-Mills equations

$$\mathbf{R}_{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{|G|}} \partial_\nu (\sqrt{|G|} F^{\mu\nu}) = 0. \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|G|}} \partial_\nu (\sqrt{|G|} \mathcal{F}_{(1)}^{\mu\nu}{}_k) + 2 \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{K}_{\nu i} \mathcal{F}_{(2)}^{\mu\nu}{}_j = 0 \\ & - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|G|}} \partial_\nu (\sqrt{|G|} \mathcal{F}_{(2)}^{\mu\nu}{}_k) + 2 \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{L}_{\nu i} \mathcal{F}_{(1)}^{\mu\nu}{}_j = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

where $G = \frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} [\det(\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu})]$.

The construction of the full-fledged octonionic gravity complicates even further when the spacetime coordinates themselves are octonionic valued, $x^\mu \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}^\mu$, since now the left and right derivatives are not the same; the line interval is not U -invariant as we have shown, it is only invariant under the $SU(2)_{diag} \subset SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ when restrictions are imposed; among other subtleties dealing with the notion of octonionic/quaternionic analytical functions. As far as we know this *nonassociative* and *noncommutative* octonionic spacetime geometry has not been developed so far. It is warranted to develop the full fledged *nonassociative* and *noncommutative* octonionic gravity because it is very appealing for the reasons that it would not require to introduce Quantum Groups, Fuzzy spaces, Moyal and Hopf algebraic deformations of the spacetime Poincare algebra; nor to introduce by hand the noncommutativity of the spacetime coordinates and momenta [54], [55], [53].

The split-octonionic momentum is

$$\mathbf{P}^\mu = p_o^\mu u_o^* + q_o^\mu u_o + \pi_i^\mu u_i^* + \sigma_i^\mu u_i = \begin{pmatrix} p_o^\mu \omega_o & -\pi_i^\mu \omega^i \\ \sigma_i^\mu \omega^i & q_o^\mu \omega_o \end{pmatrix} \quad (46)$$

An immediate consequence of the noncommutative and nonassociative spacetime geometry is the modified dispersion relations which can be inferred from the expression of the norm of an octonionic-valued momentum vector \mathbf{P}^μ

$$\begin{aligned}
||\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{P}^\mu \mathbf{P}^\nu|| &= \frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} [\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \bullet \mathbf{P}^\mu \bullet \mathbf{P}^\nu] = \\
&\frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} p_o^\mu p_o^\nu + \frac{1}{2} s_{\mu\nu}^k \sigma_k^\mu p_o^\nu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \pi_k^\mu \sigma_k^\nu + \frac{1}{2} s_{\mu\nu}^k \sigma_k^\nu q_o^\mu + \\
&\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} r_{\mu\nu}^i \sigma_j^\mu \sigma_k^\nu + \frac{1}{2} r_{\mu\nu}^k \pi_k^\nu p_o^\mu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} \sigma_k^\mu \pi_k^\nu + \\
&\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} s_{\mu\nu}^i \pi_j^\mu \pi_k^\nu + \frac{1}{2} r_{\mu\nu}^k \pi_k^\mu q_o^\nu + \frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} q_o^\mu q_o^\nu
\end{aligned} \tag{47}$$

When one imposes the constraints $p_o^\mu = q_o^\mu$ and $\pi_i^\mu = \sigma_i^\mu$ among the components of the split-octonion \mathbf{P}^μ , and $\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} = \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$ among the components of the metric, then the norm $||\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} \mathbf{P}^\mu \mathbf{P}^\nu||$ given by eq-(47) is invariant under the diagonal subalgebra $SU(2)_{diag} \subset SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$; i.e. under the internal *quaternionic U*-rotations, the momentum norm (47) remains invariant.

Under these restrictions on the components, the *corrections* of order κ^2 to the ordinary norm

$$\frac{1}{2} g_{\mu\nu} (p_o^\mu p_o^\nu + q_o^\mu q_o^\nu + 2 \pi_k^\mu \sigma_k^\nu) = g_{\mu\nu} (p_o^\mu p_o^\nu + \pi_k^\mu \pi_k^\nu). \tag{48}$$

are then given by

$$(\kappa)^2 (\lambda)^2 \epsilon_{ijk} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^i \pi_j^\mu \pi_k^\nu + \dots = (\kappa)^2 (\lambda)^2 \vec{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu\nu} \cdot \vec{\Sigma}^{\mu\nu} + \dots \tag{49}$$

One of the most important novel conclusions of this work is that one has found in eq- (47), (49) the *modified* dispersion relations of the momentum, whose corrections are proportional to the length scale squared κ^2 (of the order of the Planck scale squared, i.e. $1/M_{Planck}^2$) involving the coupling of the internal components of the left/right isospin-momentum π_k^μ, σ_k^μ to the $SU(2)_L, SU(2)_R$ Yang-Mills field strengths $\mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}, \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^{(2)}$. In the particular case that

$$s_{\mu\nu}^k \sigma_k^\mu = r_{\mu\nu}^k \pi_k^\nu = 0. \tag{50a}$$

the $O(\kappa^2) \sim O(1/M_{Planck}^2)$ corrections are due entirely to the *flux* of the Yang-Mills fields through the area-momentum in the internal isospin space

$$\Sigma_i^{\mu\nu} = \epsilon_{ijk} \pi_j^\mu \pi_k^\nu. \tag{50b}$$

given by

$$\Phi_{flux} = \epsilon_{ijk} \mathcal{F}_{\mu\nu}^i \pi_j^\mu \pi_k^\nu = \vec{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu\nu} \cdot \vec{\Sigma}^{\mu\nu}, \tag{50c}$$

Thus, the flux of $\vec{\mathcal{F}}_{\mu\nu}$ through the area-momentum $\vec{\Sigma}^{\mu\nu}$ in the internal isospin space yields the corrections $O(1/M_{Planck}^2)$ to the energy-momentum dispersion relations and without violating Lorentz invariance.

This finding is not unique to octonions and quaternions. Next we will review how the minimal length string uncertainty relations can be obtained from

polyparticle dynamics in Clifford-spaces (C-spaces) [50]. The truly C-space invariant norm of a momentum poly-vector is defined (after introducing suitable powers of the Planck mass that is set to unity in order to match units)

$$\|P\|^2 = \pi^2 + p_\mu p^\mu + p_{\mu\nu} p^{\mu\nu} + p_{\mu\nu\rho} p^{\mu\nu\rho} + \dots = M^2 \quad (51)$$

The way to generate different expressions for the M^2 is by taking slices (sections) of the 2^D -dim mass-shell hyper-surface in C-space onto subspaces of smaller dimensionality. This is achieved by imposing the following constraints on the components of the poly-vector-momentum. In doing so one is explicitly *breaking* the poly-dimensional covariance and for this reason one can obtain an infinity of possible choices for the Casimirs M^2 .

To demonstrate this, we impose the following constraints :

$$p_{\mu\nu} p^{\mu\nu} = a_2 (p_\mu p^\mu)^2 = a_2 p^4. \quad p_{\mu\nu\rho} p^{\mu\nu\rho} = a_3 (p_\mu p^\mu)^3 = a_3 p^6. \quad \dots \quad (52)$$

Upon doing so the norm of the poly-momentum becomes:

$$\|P\|^2 = P_A P^A = \sum_{n=0}^{n=D} a_n p^{2n} = M^2(a_o, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_D) \quad (53)$$

Therefore, by a judicious choice of the coefficients a_n , and by reinserting the suitable powers of the Planck scale, which have to be there in order to combine objects of different dimensions, one can reproduce *all* the possible Casimirs in the form:

$$M^2 = m^2 [f(\Lambda m/\hbar)]^2. \quad m^2 \equiv p_\mu p^\mu = p^2. \quad (54)$$

The simplest way to infer the effects of the poly-vector-valued coordinates of C-space on the commutation relations is by working with an effective energy dependent \hbar_{eff} that appears in the *nonlinear* de Broglie dispersion relation. The mass-shell condition in C-space, after imposing the constraints among the poly-vector valued components, yields an effective mass $M = mf(\Lambda m/\hbar)$. The generalized de Broglie relations, which are *no longer linear*, are [50]

$$\begin{aligned} |P_{effective}| &= |p| f(\Lambda m/\hbar) = \hbar_{effective}(k^2) |k|. \\ \hbar_{effective}(k^2) &= \hbar f(\Lambda m/\hbar) = \hbar \sum_{n=0}^{n=N} a_n (\Lambda m/\hbar)^{2n} = \hbar \sum_{n=0}^{n=N} a_n (\Lambda k)^{2n} \\ m^2 &= p^2 = p_\mu p^\mu = (\hbar k)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

where the upper limit in the sum $N = D$ is given by the spacetime dimension. Using the effective \hbar_{eff} in the well known relation based on the Schwartz inequality and the fact that $|z| \geq |Im z|$ leads to

$$\Delta x^i \Delta p^j \geq \frac{1}{2} \| [x^i, p^j] \| \cdot [x^i, p^j] = i \hbar_{eff}(k^2) \delta^{ij}. \quad (56)$$

The use of the inequalities,

$$\langle p^2 \rangle \geq (\Delta p)^2; \quad \langle p^4 \rangle \geq (\Delta p)^4; \quad \dots \quad \langle p^{2n} \rangle \geq (\Delta p)^{2n} \quad (57)$$

in the above equations leads to :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \hbar_{\text{effective}}(k^2) \rangle &\geq \hbar \sum_{n=0}^{n=N} a_n (\Lambda/\hbar)^{2n} \langle (p_n)^{2n} \rangle \geq \\ &\hbar \sum_{n=0}^{n=N} a_n (\Lambda/\hbar)^{2n} (\Delta p)^{2n}. \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

Finally, we get that for each pair of conjugate canonical variables $(x, p_x); (y, p_y); (z, p_z); \dots$ the product of uncertainties (we omit indices for simplicity) is given by

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{1}{2} \hbar + \frac{a_1 \hbar}{2} \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\hbar}\right)^2 (\Delta p)^2 + \frac{a_2 \hbar}{2} \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\hbar}\right)^4 (\Delta p)^4 + \dots \quad (59)$$

The second term of last relation yields the stringy contribution to the modified uncertainty relations , whereas the higher order corrections in eq-(58) stem from the higher rank components of the poly-momentum and represent the membrane, 3-brane.... and $D - 1$ -brane contributions to the generalized uncertainty relations given by :

$$\Delta x \geq \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta p} + \frac{a_1}{2} \frac{\Lambda^2}{\hbar} \Delta p + \frac{a_2}{2} \frac{\Lambda^4}{\hbar^3} (\Delta p)^3 + \dots \quad (60)$$

By replacing lengths by times and momenta by energy one reproduces the minimal Planck time uncertainty relations. By keeping only the first two terms of eq-(60) one can infer that there is a *minimum* uncertainty of the order of the Planck scale Λ .

QM in Clifford-spaces (C-spaces) is very rich with many novelties [50]. A *novel* Weyl-Heisenberg algebra in Clifford-spaces was constructed that is based on a *matrix*-valued \mathcal{H}^{AB} extension of Planck's constant [50]. As a result of this modified Weyl-Heisenberg algebra one will no longer be able to measure, simultaneously, the pairs of variables $(x, p_x); (y, p_y); (z, p_z); (y, p_x), \dots$ with absolute precision. New Klein-Gordon and Dirac wave equations and dispersion relations in Clifford-spaces were presented. The latter Dirac equation were a generalization of the Dirac-Lanczos-Barut-Hestenes equation.

Another important conclusion deals with the role of the anti-symmetric component of the metric $g_{[\mu\nu]} = \kappa^2 F_{\mu\nu}$ that is related to the Maxwell EM field strength in the Einstein-Strauss, Moffat-Boal nonsymmetric theory of gravity [19]. The Noncommutative momentum variables in Yang's noncommutative phase space spacetime obey the algebra

$$[p^\mu, p^\nu] = i \left(\frac{\hbar}{R} \right)^2 J^{\mu\nu}. \quad (61)$$

where $J^{\mu\nu}$ is the generator of the Lorentz algebra (angular momentum) and R is an infrared upper cutoff length scale (a minimum momentum). Consequently, the norm of the Moyal-Kontsevich star product

$$[g_{(\mu\nu)} + ig_{[\mu\nu]}] p^\mu * p^\nu = g_{(\mu\nu)} p^\mu p^\nu - \left(\frac{\hbar}{R} \right)^2 g_{[\mu\nu]} J^{\mu\nu} + \dots \quad (62)$$

will receive corrections of the order $(\frac{\hbar}{R})^2 \kappa^2 F_{\mu\nu} J^{\mu\nu}$.

An explicit isomorphism between Yang's Noncommutative space-time algebra and the area-coordinates algebra associated with Clifford spaces was found in [50]. The former Yang's algebra involves noncommuting coordinates and momenta with a *minimum* Planck scale Λ (ultraviolet cutoff) and a minimum momentum $p = \hbar/R$ (maximal length R , infrared cutoff). The double-scaling limit of Yang's algebra $\Lambda \rightarrow 0$, $R \rightarrow \infty$, in conjunction with the large $n \rightarrow \infty$ limit, leads naturally to the *area quantization* condition $\Lambda R = L^2 = n\Lambda^2$ (in Planck area units) given in terms of the discrete angular-momentum eigenvalues n . Modified Newtonian dynamics were also a consequence of Yang's algebra resulting from the modified Poisson brackets.

To finalize, we must add that Nonassociative Gauge theories based on the Moufang S^7 loop product (not a Lie algebra) have been constructed by [39]. They are based on the Moufang S^7 -loop valued field strength

$$F = dA + A \wedge A + g^{-1} \{g, A, A\}. \quad (63)$$

where g is an S^7 -valued function, called a *gauge*, it is a section of the S^7 principal bundle and physically it represents a *frame* with respect to which one can describe charged fields. Taking the algebra of octonions with a unit norm as the Moufang S^7 -loop one reproduces a nonassociative octonionic gauge theory which is a generalization of the Maxwell and Yang-Mills gauge theories based on Lie algebras. *BPST*-like instantons solutions in $D = 8$ were also found. These solutions represented the physical degrees of freedom of the transverse 8-dimensions of superstring solitons in $D = 10$ preserving one and two of the 16 spacetime supersymmetries.

Nonassociative Gauge theories based on the left and right bimodules of the octonionic algebra were constructed by [38]. The octonionic gauge formulation of EM Dyons involving both electric e and magnetic charges g (which couple to a complex-valued potential $V_\mu = A_\mu - iB_\mu$) and Gravitational-Dyons involving real and imaginary masses have been studied by [37], [38].

An E_8 exceptional geometric structure of $D = 11$ Supergravity was conjectured by [59] after performing a $3 + 8$ split of the fields in $D = 11$. The exceptional metric G_{MN} whose indices M, N involve 8 vector $m = 1, 2, \dots, 8$ indices and 28 bi-vector-valued indices $[mn]$ in $d = 8$ -dimensions. The metric G_{MN} encoded the propagating bosonic fields $g_{mn}, A_{[mnp]}$ of Supergravity in one scoop and was explicitly given in terms of a generalized 248×36 matrix \mathcal{V}_M^A by

$$G_{MN} = \mathcal{V}_M^{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{V}_N^{\mathcal{A}}, \quad M = m, [mn] = 8 + 28 = 36; \quad \mathcal{A} = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 248. \quad (64)$$

the \mathcal{A} indices run over the 248 dimensions of E_8 .

Despite that octonions are nonassociative there are in fact Octonionic realizations of the (associative) $Cl(8)$ and $Cl(4)$ algebras in [46], [45], [38], by means of left/right products. The known Octonionic realizations of the Clifford $Cl(8), Cl(4)$ algebras should permit the construction of octonionic string actions that should have a correspondence with ordinary string actions for strings moving in a curved Clifford-space target background associated with a $Cl(3,1)$ algebra,. For instance, the $Cl(3,1)$ -space interval involving poly-vectors admits an $8 + 8$ split [22] of the form

$$\begin{aligned} |d\mathbf{X}|^2 = & d\Omega^2 + (dx^0)^2 - (dx^i)^2 - (dx^{0i})^2 + (dx^{ij})^2 - (dx^{123})^2 + \\ & (dx^{023})^2 + (dx^{013})^2 + (dx^{012})^2 - (dx^{0123})^2; \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3. \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

when a Clifford-valued poly-vector in $D = 4$ (after setting the Planck scale to unity) admits the expansion

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}^M E_M = \Omega \mathbf{1} + x^\mu \gamma_\mu + x^{[\mu\nu]} \gamma_{[\mu\nu]} + x^{[\mu\nu\rho]} \gamma_{[\mu\nu\rho]} + x^{[\mu\nu\rho\tau]} \gamma_{[\mu\nu\rho\tau]}. \quad (66)$$

and can be decomposed into a scalar, vector, second rank antisymmetric tensor, axial-vector and pseudo-scalar yielding a total of $2^4 = 16 = 8 + 8$ components.

An octonionic string (p-brane) action is defined in terms of octonionic-valued maps $\mathbf{Z}^\mu(\xi^a)$, $a = 1, 2, \dots, p+1$ from the $p+1$ -dim world-volume of the string (p-brane) into the octonionic-valued target spacetime background \mathbf{Z}^μ , $\mu = 1, 2, 3, \dots, D$, as

$$S = \frac{T_p}{2} \int d^{p+1}\xi \sqrt{h} h^{ab} \left[\frac{1}{4} \text{Trace} (\partial_a \mathbf{Z}^\mu \bullet \partial_b \mathbf{Z}^\nu \bullet \mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu}) - (p-1) \right]. \quad (67)$$

where h^{ab} is the auxiliary $p+1$ -dim world-volume metric corresponding to the p -brane. When $p = 1$ the string world-sheet is two-dim, thus the embedding spacetime target background must have at least $D = 2$ and whose two octonionic-valued spacetime coordinates are $\mathbf{Z}^\mu = \mathbf{Z}^0, \mathbf{Z}^1$ with a net number of $2 \times 8 = 16$ real components that match the number of $2^4 = 16$ components of a Clifford poly-vector \mathbf{X} corresponding to the Clifford algebra $Cl(3,1)$. We leave for future investigation the correspondence between the octonionic string action (68) ($p = 1$) and an ordinary string action corresponding to a string moving in a curved Clifford space background given by [21]

$$S = \frac{T}{2} \int d^2\xi \sqrt{h} h^{ab} \partial_a \mathbf{X}^M \partial_b \mathbf{X}^N \mathbf{G}_{MN}. \quad (68)$$

where \mathbf{G}_{MN} is the curved C-space (Clifford space) metric that can be decomposed into sums of antisymmetrized products of the ordinary $D = 4$ spacetime metric as

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}, \quad \mathbf{G}_{\mu_{i_1}\mu_{i_2} \nu_{j_1}\nu_{j_2}} = \frac{1}{2!} \epsilon_{i_1 i_2} \epsilon_{j_1 j_2} g_{\mu_{i_1}\nu_{j_1}} g_{\mu_{i_2}\nu_{j_2}}. \quad (69a)$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mu_{i_1}\mu_{i_2}\mu_{i_3} \nu_{j_1}\nu_{j_2}\nu_{j_3}} = \frac{1}{3!} \epsilon_{i_1 i_2 i_3} \epsilon_{j_1 j_2 j_3} g_{\mu_{i_1}\nu_{j_1}} g_{\mu_{i_2}\nu_{j_2}} g_{\mu_{i_3}\nu_{j_3}}. \quad (69b)$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mu_{i_1}\mu_{i_2}\mu_{i_3}\mu_{i_4} \nu_{j_1}\nu_{j_2}\nu_{j_3}\nu_{j_4}} = \frac{1}{4!} \epsilon_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \epsilon_{j_1 j_2 j_3 j_4} g_{\mu_{i_1}\nu_{j_1}} g_{\mu_{i_2}\nu_{j_2}} g_{\mu_{i_3}\nu_{j_3}} g_{\mu_{i_4}\nu_{j_4}}. \quad (69c)$$

A lot remains ahead, some preliminary work can be found in [47], [48], [49], [50], [51], [52], [53], [12].

Acknowledgements

We are indebted to M. Bowers for invaluable assistance in preparing the manuscript. Special thanks to T. Smith for numerous discussions of his work.

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