

## ON JORDAN ALGEBRAS THAT ARE FACTORS OF MATSUO ALGEBRAS

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*Dedicated to the memory of Professor Syed M. Tariq Rizvi*

**ABSTRACT.** We describe all finite connected 3-transposition groups whose Matsuo algebras have nontrivial factors that are Jordan algebras. As a corollary, we show that if  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic 0, then there exist infinitely many primitive axial algebras of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  that are not factors of Matsuo algebras. As an example, we prove this for an exceptional Jordan algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

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### 1. Introduction

Axial algebras of Jordan type were introduced by Hall, Rehren, and Shpectorov [12] within the framework of the general theory of axial algebras [11]. The main inspiration for this theory are the Griess algebra [9], Majorana theory [16], and algebras associated with 3-transposition groups [20]. Modern results and open problems in the theory of axial algebras can be found in a recent survey [22].

Consider a commutative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra  $A$ , where  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic not equal to two. For each element  $a$  of  $A$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$ , the  $\lambda$ -eigenspace for the adjoint operator  $ad_a$  on  $A$  is denoted by  $A_\lambda(a)$ . An idempotent whose adjoint operator is semisimple will be called an *axis*. If  $A$  is generated by a set of axes, then  $A$  is an *axial algebra*. An axis  $a$  is *primitive* if  $A_1(a)$  is one-dimensional, i.e., spanned by  $a$ . Suppose that  $\eta \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $0 \neq \eta \neq 1$ . The commutative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra  $A$  is a *primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\eta$*  provided it is generated by a set of primitive axes

with each member  $a$  satisfying the following properties:

$$A = A_1(a) \oplus A_0(a) \oplus A_\eta(a), A_0(a)^2 \subseteq A_0(a),$$

and for all  $\delta, \epsilon \in \{\pm\}$ ,

$$A_\delta(a)A_\epsilon(a) \subseteq A_{\delta\epsilon}(a), \text{ where } A_+(a) = A_1(a) \oplus A_0(a) \text{ and } A_-(a) = A_\eta(a).$$

These properties generalize the Peirce decomposition for idempotents in Jordan algebras, where  $\frac{1}{2}$  is replaced with  $\eta$ . In particular, this explains the motivation for the name of this class of axial algebras.

Another basic example of axial algebras of Jordan type are Matsuo algebras. They were introduced by Matsuo [20] and later generalized in [12]. Recall that a group  $G$  is a *3-transposition group* if it is generated by a normal set  $D$  of involutions such that the order of the product of any pair of these involutions is not greater than three. Let  $\eta$ , as before, be an element of  $\mathbb{F}$  distinct from 0 and 1. The Matsuo algebra  $M_\eta(G, D)$  has  $D$  as its basis, where each element of  $D$  is an idempotent. Moreover, the product in  $M_\eta(G, D)$  of two distinct elements  $c, d \in D$  equals 0 if  $|cd| = 2$  and  $\frac{\eta}{2}(c+d-c^d)$  if  $|cd| = 3$ . It turns out that  $M_\eta(G, D)$  is a primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\eta$  with generating set of primitive axes  $D$  [12]. Moreover, it is known that if  $\eta \neq \frac{1}{2}$ , then every primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\eta \neq \frac{1}{2}$  is a factor algebra of a Matsuo algebra [12,13]. The case  $\eta = \frac{1}{2}$  remains open.

**Conjecture 1.** [8, Question 1],[22, Conjecture 4.3] Every primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  is either a Jordan algebra or a factor of a Matsuo algebra.

De Medts and Rehren classified Matsuo algebras that are Jordan algebras [2]. As a consequence, it can be concluded that most Matsuo algebras are not Jordan. The motivation for this paper is the following question: are there examples of axial algebras of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  that are not factors of Matsuo algebras? We provide examples of such algebras among Jordan algebras. We focus on Matsuo algebras corresponding to connected 3-transposition groups  $(G, D)$ , i.e., where  $D$  is a conjugacy class of 3-transpositions. If  $D$  is a union of conjugacy classes, then the Matsuo algebra on  $D$  is the direct sum of the corresponding Matsuo algebras constructed from each conjugacy class contained in  $D$  [12]. We say that two nontrivial connected 3-transposition groups  $(G_1, D_1)$  and  $(G_2, D_2)$  have the same central type if  $G_1/Z(G_1)$  and  $G_2/Z(G_2)$  are isomorphic as 3-transposition groups. It is easy to see that if two 3-transposition groups have the same central type, then their Matsuo algebras are isomorphic.

It turns out that every Matsuo algebra  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$ , where  $(G, D)$  is a connected 3-transposition group, has a maximal ideal  $M^\perp$  containing every proper ideal of  $M$ . In fact, this ideal is the radical of a symmetric bilinear form on  $M$  (see Section 3). Clearly, if an algebra is Jordan, then every homomorphic image is Jordan. This implies that  $M$  has Jordan factors if and only if  $M/M^\perp$  is Jordan. In this paper we describe all algebras  $M$  satisfying the latter condition. If  $G$  is a group generated by a conjugacy class  $D$  of 3-transpositions, then we write  $p^{\bullet h}$  with  $p \in \{2, 3\}$ , for a normal  $p$ -subgroup  $N$  with  $|D \cap dN| = p^h$  for all  $d \in D$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic 0 and  $\eta \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Suppose that  $(G, D)$  is a finite connected 3-transposition group and  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  is the Matsuo algebra constructed from  $(G, D)$  and  $\eta$ . If  $J = M/M^\perp$  is a Jordan algebra, then one of the following statements holds.*

- (i)  $G$  is the cyclic group of order 2 and so  $J = M$  is one-dimensional;
- (ii) the product of every two distinct elements of  $D$  has order 3,  $\eta = 2$ , and  $J$  is one-dimensional;
- (iii)  $\eta = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $G$  has the same central type as one of the following 3-transposition groups:  $\text{Sym}(m)$  ( $m \geq 2$ ),  $2^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$  ( $m \geq 4$ ),  $3^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$  ( $m \geq 4$ ),  $3^2 : 2$ ,  $O_8^+(2)$ ,  $O_6^-(2)$ ,  $Sp_6(2)$ ,  ${}^+\Omega_6^-(3)$ ,  $SU_4(2)$ ,  $SU_5(2)$ , or  $4^{\bullet 1}SU_3(2)'$ . In particular,  $\dim J \in \{1, m^2, \frac{m(m-1)}{2}\}$ , where  $m \geq 3$ .

Moreover, each of the possibilities in items (i) – (iii) is realized for some  $M$ .

In Section 5, we discuss possible Matsuo algebras  $M$  satisfying the hypothesis of this theorem and the corresponding 3-transposition groups  $(G, D)$  in detail (see Proposition 5.2). Note that the case  $M^\perp = 0$  was considered in [2]. Moreover, it was mentioned in [2, Remark 3.5] that the Weyl groups for simply-laced root systems of types  $E_n$  with  $6 \leq n \leq 8$  and  $D_n$ , considered as 3-transposition groups, correspond to Matsuo algebras that have among their factors the Jordan algebra (of dimension  $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ ) of all symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices.

Note that for every integer  $n \geq 1$ , there exists a simple Jordan algebra of dimension  $n$  which is a primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$ . As an example one can take a so-called Jordan spin factor algebra (see, for example, [13, Lemma 5.1]). This together with Theorem 1 implies the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.1.** *If  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic 0, then there exist infinitely many primitive axial algebras of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  that are not factors of Matsuo algebras.*

In Section 6, we present another example, which is the cornerstone in the theory of Jordan algebras. Given a field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic 0, we show that a 27-dimensional Albert algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$  is an axial algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  generated by four primitive axes. Theorem 1 implies that this algebra, known to be a simple Jordan algebra, is not a factor of a Matsuo algebra.

Finally, we mention two results on the status of Conjecture 1. Gorshkov and Staroletov proved that every axial algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  generated by at most three primitive axes is Jordan and has dimension not exceeding 9 [8]. It has recently been proved that the dimension of a 4-generated algebra does not exceed 81, which is the dimension of a 4-generated Matsuo algebra [3]. In the general case, it is not even known whether an axial algebra of Jordan type generated by a finite number of primitive axes has a finite dimension or not.

The proof of Theorem 1 is based on the classification of 3-transposition groups and the dimensions of the eigenspaces of diagrams on the corresponding sets of 3-transpositions. The necessary definitions and results are given in Section 2. In Section 3, we provide the necessary information on Jordan and Matsuo algebras. In Section 4, we give a convenient description of the 3-transposition groups that are obtained from the symmetric group by the wreath product construction, these groups are a special case in the proof of Theorem 1. Section 5 is devoted to this proof. We emphasize that in many cases, for specific 3-transposition groups, the Jordan identity in the corresponding algebras is verified using the computer algebra system GAP [7]. Finally, in Section 6 we show that an Albert algebra over a field of characteristic different from 2 and 3 is a primitive axial algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## 2. Preliminaries: 3-transposition groups

Suppose that  $G$  is a group and  $D \subseteq G$  is a normal set of involutions, i.e., a union of conjugacy classes of elements of order 2. If for every pair  $d, e \in D$ , the order of  $de$  is at most 3, then  $D$  is called a set of 3-transpositions. This notion was introduced by Fischer as a generalization of properties of transpositions in symmetric groups [4].

We say that  $(G, D)$  is a 3-transposition group if  $D$  generates  $G$  and is a set of 3-transpositions. If  $S$  is a subset of  $D$ , the diagram of  $S$ , denoted  $(S)$ , is the graph whose vertices are elements of  $S$  with the pair  $\{d, e\}$  forming an edge precisely when  $|de| = 3$ . This notion is important for 3-transpositions groups since the subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $S$  is a homomorphic image of the Coxeter group with diagram  $(S)$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** [5, (1.2) and Lemma (2.1.1)] *Suppose that  $D$  is a set of 3-transpositions in  $G$ . Then the following statements hold.*

- (i) *If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $D \cap H = \emptyset$  or  $D \cap H$  is a set of 3-transpositions in  $H$ . If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $D \subset N$  or the nontrivial elements of  $DN/N$  form a normal set of 3-transpositions in  $G/N$ .*
- (ii) *Let  $D_i$ , for  $i \in I$ , be the connected components of  $(D)$ . Then each  $D_i$  is a conjugacy class of 3-transpositions in the group  $G_i = \langle D_i \rangle$ . Furthermore, the normal subgroup  $\langle D \rangle$  is the central product of its subgroups  $G_i$ .*
- (iii) *If  $G = \langle D \rangle$ , then for each  $d \in D \setminus Z(G)$ , the coset  $dZ(G)$  meets  $D$  only in  $d$ .*

It follows that the building blocks for 3-transposition groups are groups with connected diagrams. For brevity, we say that  $(G, D)$  is a *connected 3-transposition group* if  $(D)$  is connected. Note that this is equivalent to  $D$  being a conjugacy class of  $G$ . We say that the two connected 3-transposition groups  $(G_1, D_1)$  and  $(G_2, D_2)$  have the same *central type* provided  $G_1/Z(G_1)$  and  $G_2/Z(G_2)$  are isomorphic as 3-transposition groups. By Lemma 2.1(iii), two connected 3-transpositions groups have the same central type if and only if their diagrams are isomorphic.

Finite connected 3-transposition groups  $(G, D)$  such that  $O_2(G)O_3(G) \leq Z(G)$  were classified by Fischer in [5]. Basic examples of such groups are the following: the symmetric groups  $\text{Sym}(m)$  with  $m = 2$  or  $m \geq 5$  and  $D$  being the set of transpositions; the symplectic groups  $\text{Sp}_{2m}(2)$ , where  $m \geq 3$  and  $D$  is the set of symplectic transvections; the unitary groups  $\text{SU}_m(2)$ , where  $m \geq 4$  and  $D$  is the set of unitary transvections; the orthogonal groups  $O_{2m}^\epsilon(2)$ , where  $D$  is the set of orthogonal transvections,  $m \geq 3$ , and either  $\epsilon = +$  if the Witt index equals  $m$  or  $\epsilon = -$  if the Witt index equals  $m - 1$ ; five groups of sporadic type (in notation of [1]):  $\text{Fi}_{22}, \text{Fi}_{23}, \text{Fi}_{24}, \text{P}\Omega_8^+(2) : \text{Sym}(3), \text{P}\Omega_8^+(3) : \text{Sym}(3)$ . There are two more infinite series of 3-transposition groups in Fischer's classification paper:  ${}^+\Omega_m^\pm(3)$ , where  $m \geq 5$ . Consider an orthogonal group  $O_{2m}^\epsilon(3)$  corresponding to a symmetric bilinear form  $b(\cdot, \cdot)$  over a field of order 3, where  $\epsilon$  is defined as above depending on the Witt index. The group  ${}^+\Omega_{2m}^\epsilon(3)$  is then the subgroup of  $O_{2m}^\epsilon(3)$  generated by the 3-transposition conjugacy class  $D^+$  of all reflections  $d = \sigma_x$  with centers  $x$  having  $b(x, x) = 1$ . The corresponding odd degree group  ${}^+\Omega_{2m-1}^\epsilon(3)$  is found within  ${}^+\Omega_{2m}^\epsilon(3)$  as  $\langle D_d \rangle$ , where  $D_d = C_{D^+}(d) \setminus \{d\}$  for an arbitrary 3-transposition  $d \in D^+$ . In what follows, we do not need explicit group constructions, but only some properties of their diagrams.

Cuypers and Hall extended Fischer's classification in [15] by dropping the assumptions  $O_2(G)O_3(G) \leq Z(G)$  and finiteness of  $G$ . As a consequence, they showed that every 3-transposition group is locally finite, i.e., every finite subset of the group generates a finite subgroup. Naturally, the groups in the general classification are extensions of the groups obtained by Fischer. For the connected 3-transposition group  $(G, D)$ , we write  $p^{\bullet h}$  with  $p \in \{2, 3\}$ , for a normal  $p$ -subgroup  $N$  with  $|D \cap dN| = p^h$  for all  $d \in D$ . We give a simplified formulation of the classification which is taken from [14] and sufficient for our purposes.

**Theorem 2.2.** (Cuypers–Hall Classification Theorem)[14, Theorem 5.3] *Let  $(G, D)$  be a finite connected 3-transposition group. Then for integral  $m$  and  $h$ , the group  $G$  has one of the central types below. Furthermore, for each  $G$ , the generating class  $D$  is uniquely determined up to an automorphism of  $G$ .*

- PR1.**  $3^{\bullet h} : \text{Sym}(2)$ , all  $h \geq 1$ ;
- PR2(a).**  $2^{\bullet h} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , all  $h \geq 0$ , all  $m \geq 4$ ;
- PR2(b).**  $3^{\bullet h} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , all  $h \geq 1$ , all  $m \geq 4$ ;
- PR2(c).**  $3^{\bullet h} : 2^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , all  $h \geq 1$ , all  $m \geq 4$ ;
- PR2(d).**  $4^{\bullet h} : 3^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , all  $h \geq 1$ , all  $m \geq 4$ ;
- PR3.**  $2^{\bullet h} : O_{2m}^\epsilon(2)$ ,  $\epsilon = \pm$ , all  $h \geq 0$ , all  $m \geq 3$ ,  $(m, \epsilon) \neq (3, +)$ ;
- PR4.**  $2^{\bullet h} : \text{Sp}_{2m}(2)$ , all  $h \geq 0$ , all  $m \geq 3$ ;
- PR5.**  $3^{\bullet h} : \Omega_m^\epsilon(3)$ ,  $\epsilon = \pm$ , all  $h \geq 0$ , all  $m \geq 5$ ;
- PR6.**  $4^{\bullet h} : \text{SU}_m(2)'$ , all  $h \geq 0$ , all  $m \geq 3$ ;
- PR7(a-e).**  $\text{Fi}_{22}, \text{Fi}_{23}, \text{Fi}_{24}, \text{P}\Omega_8^+(2) : \text{Sym}(3), \text{P}\Omega_8^+(3) : \text{Sym}(3)$ ;
- PR8.**  $4^{\bullet h} : (3 \cdot {}^+\Omega_6^-(3))$ , all  $h \geq 1$ ;
- PR9.**  $3^{\bullet h} : (2 \times \text{Sp}_6(2))$ , all  $h \geq 1$ ;
- PR10.**  $3^{\bullet h} : (2 \cdot \text{O}_8^+(2))$ , all  $h \geq 1$ ;
- PR11.**  $3^{\bullet 2h} : (2 \times \text{SU}_5(2))$ , all  $h \geq 1$ ;
- PR12.**  $3^{\bullet 2h} : 4^{\bullet 1} : \text{SU}_3(2)'$ , all  $h \geq 1$ .

**Remark 2.3.** The notation **PRk** comes from [1], here  $P$  means **P**arabolic and  $R$  means **R**eflections. These abbreviations reflect how the groups arise in the classification.

In Theorem 2.2, we follow notation from [14], in particular  $A : B$  means a split group extension with normal subgroup  $A$ , while  $A \cdot B$  is a nonsplit group extension with normal subgroup  $A$  and quotient  $B$ . We write  $AB$  indicating that  $A$  is a normal subgroup while  $B$  is the quotient, but the extension may or may not be split.

Let  $V$  be a nonempty set and  $(V)$  a graph with  $V$  as a vertex set. The  $(0, 1)$ -adjacency matrix of the graph will be denoted  $\text{AMat}((V))$ , and the spectrum of the graph is the (ordered) spectrum of  $\text{AMat}((X))$ :  $\text{Spec}((X)) = ((\dots, r_i, \dots))$ .

Suppose that  $(G, D)$  is a connected 3-transposition group. Hall and Shpectorov determined in [14] the spectrum of the diagram  $(D)$  in all cases of Theorem 2.2. Before formulating their result, it is necessary to introduce some notation and conventions.

Clearly, the all-one vector  $1$  is an eigenvector of  $\text{AMat}((V))$  with eigenvalue  $k$  if and only if  $(V)$  is regular of degree  $k$ . If  $(V)$  is connected, then the Perron–Frobenius Theorem implies that  $k$  is the largest eigenvalue and the corresponding eigenspace has dimension one. Following [14], we list  $k$  first in the spectrum and separate it from the rest of eigenvalues by a semicolon. We use the convention that  $[t]^c$  indicates an eigenvalue  $t$  of multiplicity  $c$  and  $[t]^*$  means that the eigenvalue  $t$  has multiplicity such that the total multiplicity of all eigenvalues is equal to the size of  $V$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** [14] *Let  $(G, D)$  be a finite 3-transposition group from the conclusion of Theorem 2.2. Then the size of  $(D)$  and its spectrum are as in the second and third columns of Table 1, respectively.*

Label	Size	Spectrum
<b>PR1</b>	$3^h$	$((3^h - 1; [-1]^{3^h - 1}))$
<b>PR2(a)</b>	$2^{h-1}m(m-1)$	$((2^{h+1}(m-2); [2^h(m-4)]^{m-1}, [0]^*, [-2^{h+1}]^{m(m-3)/2}))$
<b>PR2(b)</b>	$3^h m(m-1)/2$	$((3^h(2m-3) - 1; [3^h(m-3) - 1]^{m-1}, [-1]^*, [-3^h - 1]^{m(m-3)/2}))$
<b>PR2(c)</b>	$3^h m(m-1)$	$((3^h(4m-7) - 1; [3^h(2m-7) - 1]^{m-1}, [3^h - 1]^{m(m-1)/2}, [-1]^*, [-3^{h+1} - 1]^{m(m-3)/2}))$
<b>PR2(d)</b>	$3(2^{2h-1})m(m-1)$	$((4^h(6m-10); [4^h(3m-10)]^{m-1}, [0]^*, [-4^h]^{m(m-1)}, [-4^{h+1}]^{m(m-3)/2}))$
<b>PR3</b> $\epsilon = +$	$2^h(2^{2m-1} - 2^{m-1})$	$((2^h(2^{2m-2} - 2^{m-1}); [2^{h+m-1}]^{(2^m-1)(2^{m-1}-1)/3}, [0]^*, [-2^{h+m-2}]^{(2^{2m-4})/3}))$
$\epsilon = -$	$2^h(2^{2m-1} + 2^{m-1})$	$((2^h(2^{2m-2} + 2^{m-1}); [2^{h+m-2}]^{(2^{2m-4})/3}, [0]^*, [-2^{h+m-1}]^{(2^m+1)(2^{m-1}+1)/3}))$
<b>PR4</b>	$2^h(2^{2m} - 1)$	$((2^{2m-1+h}; [2^{m-1+h}]^{2^{2m-1}-2^{m-1}-1}, [0]^*, [-2^{h+m-1}]^{2^{2m-1}+2^{m-1}-1}))$
<b>PR5</b> odd $m \geq 5$ , $\epsilon = +$	$3^h(3^{m-1} - 3^{(m-1)/2})/2$	$((3^h(3^{m-2} - 2 \cdot 3^{(m-3)/2}) - 1; [3^{(m-3)/2+h} - 1]^f, [-1]^*, [-3^{(m-3)/2+h} - 1]^g))$ for $f = (3^{m-1} - 1)/4$ and $g = (3^{m-1} - 1 - 2(3^{(m-1)/2} + 1))/4$
odd $m \geq 5$ , $\epsilon = -$	$3^h(3^{m-1} + 3^{(m-1)/2})/2$	$((3^h(3^{m-2} + 2 \cdot 3^{(m-3)/2}) - 1; [3^{(m-3)/2+h} - 1]^f, [-1]^*, [-3^{(m-3)/2+h} - 1]^g))$ for $f = (3^{m-1} - 1 + 2(3^{(m-1)/2} - 1))/4$ and $g = (3^{m-1} - 1)/4$

even $m \geq 6$ , $\epsilon = +$	$3^h(3^{m-1} - 3^{(m-2)/2})/2$	$((3^{m-2+h} - 1; [3^{(m-4)/2+h} - 1]^f,$ $[-1]^*, [-3^{(m-2)/2+h} - 1]^g))$ for $f = (3^m - 9)/8$ and $g = (3^{m/2} - 1)(3^{(m-2)/2} - 1)/8$
even $m \geq 6$ , $\epsilon = -$	$3^h(3^{m-1} + 3^{(m-2)/2})/2$	$((3^{m-2+h} - 1; [3^{(m-4)/2+h} - 1]^f,$ $[-1]^*, [-3^{(m-4)/2+h} - 1]^g))$ for $f = (3^{m/2} + 1)(3^{(m-2)/2} + 1)/8$ and $g = (3^m - 9)/8$
<b>PR6</b> even $m \geq 4$	$4^h(2^{2m-1} + 2^{m-1} - 1)/3$	$((2^{2h+2m-3}; [2^{2h+m-3}]^f, [0]^*, [-2^{2h+m-2}]^g))$ for $f = 8(2^{2m-3} - 2^{m-2} - 1)/9$ and $g = 4(2^{2m-3} + 7(2^{m-3}) - 1)/9$
odd $m \geq 3$	$4^h(2^{2m-1} - 2^{m-1} - 1)/3$	$((2^{2h+2m-3}; [2^{2h+m-2}]^f, [0]^*, [-2^{2h+m-3}]^g))$ for $f = 4(2^{2m-3} - 7(2^{m-3}) - 1)/9$ and $g = 8(2^{2m-3} + 2^{m-2} - 1)/9$
<b>PR7(a)</b>	3510	$((2816; [8]^{3080}, [-64]^{429}))$
<b>PR7(b)</b>	31671	$((28160; [8]^{30888}, [-352]^{782}))$
<b>PR7(c)</b>	306936	$((275264; [80]^{249458}, [-352]^{57477}))$
<b>PR7(d)</b>	360	$((296; [8]^{105}, [-4]^{252}, [-64]^2))$
<b>PR7(e)</b>	3240	$((2888; [8]^{2457}, [-28]^{780}, [-352]^2))$
<b>PR8</b>	$126 \cdot 4^h$	$((5 \cdot 4^{h+2}; [2^{2h+3}]^{35}, [0]^*, [-4^{h+1}]^{90}))$
<b>PR9</b>	$63 \cdot 3^h$	$((11 \cdot 3^{h+1} - 1; [5 \cdot 3^h - 1]^{27}, [-1]^*, [-3^{h+1} - 1]^{35}))$
<b>PR10</b>	$120 \cdot 3^h$	$((19 \cdot 3^{h+1} - 1; [3^{h+2} - 1]^{35}, [-1]^*, [-3^{h+1} - 1]^{84}))$
<b>PR11</b>	$165 \cdot 3^{2h}$	$((43 \cdot 3^{2h+1} - 1; [3^{2h+2} - 1]^{44}, [-1]^*, [-3^{2h+1} - 1]^{120}))$
<b>PR12</b>	$36 \cdot 3^{2h}$	$((11 \cdot 3^{2h+1} - 1; [3^{2h} - 1]^{27}, [-1]^*, [-3^{2h+1} - 1]^{8}))$

Table 1: Spectra of diagrams

Before finishing this section, we introduce an alternative view of the elements of the set of 3-transpositions. The *Fischer space* of a 3-transposition group  $(G, D)$  is a point-line geometry  $\Gamma(G, D)$  whose point set is  $D$  and where distinct points  $c$  and  $d$  are collinear if and only if  $|cd| = 3$ . Observe that any two collinear points  $c$  and  $d$  lie in a unique common line, which consists of  $c$ ,  $d$ , and the third point  $e = c^d = d^c$ . It follows from the definition that the connected components of the Fischer space coincide with the conjugacy classes of  $G$  contained in  $D$ . In particular, the Fischer space is connected if and only if the diagram  $(D)$  is connected.

### 3. Preliminaries: Jordan and Matsuo algebras

Throughout this section we assume that  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic not 2. Recall that a commutative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra  $J$  is called Jordan if any two of its elements  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the identity  $(x^2y)x - x^2(yx) = 0$ . If  $x, y, z$  are three elements in an  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra, then their associator is  $(x, y, z) := (xy)z - x(yz)$ . The associator is convenient when writing identities, for example the Jordan identity  $(x^2y)x - x^2(yx) = 0$  can be rewritten as  $(x^2, y, x) = 0$ . To show that an algebra is Jordan we will use the linearized Jordan identity.



**Lemma 3.1.** [21, Proposition 1.8.5(1)] *Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic not 2 and 3. Then a commutative  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra  $J$  is a Jordan algebra if and only if  $(xz, y, w) + (zw, y, x) + (wx, y, z) = 0$  for all elements  $x, y, z, w$  in  $J$ .*

Suppose that  $A$  is an  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra and  $a \in A$ . For an element  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$  denote by  $A_\lambda(a)$ , the  $\lambda$ -eigenspace of the (left) adjoint operator of  $a$ :  $A_\lambda(a) = \{b \in A \mid ab = \lambda b\}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** (Peirce decomposition)[21, Section 6.1] *Suppose that  $e$  is an idempotent in a Jordan algebra  $J$ . Then the following statements hold.*

- (i)  $J = J_1(e) \oplus J_0(e) \oplus J_{1/2}(e)$ ;
- (ii)  $J_1(e) + J_0(e)$  is a subalgebra of  $J$  and, moreover,  $J_1(e)^2 \subseteq J_1(e)$ ,  $J_0(e)^2 \subseteq J_0(e)$ , and  $J_1(e)J_0(e) = (0)$ ;
- (iii)  $J_{1/2}(e)^2 \subseteq J_0(e) + J_1(e)$  and  $J_{1/2}(e)(J_0(e) + J_1(e)) \subseteq J_{1/2}(e)$ .

Suppose that  $\eta \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $\eta \neq 0, 1$ . Fix a 3-transposition group  $(G, D)$ . The Matsuo algebra  $M_\eta(G, D)$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ , corresponding to  $(G, D)$  and  $\eta$ , has the point set  $D$  as its basis. Multiplication is defined on  $D$  as follows:

$$c \cdot d = \begin{cases} c, & \text{if } c = d; \\ 0, & \text{if } |cd| = 2; \\ \frac{\eta}{2}(c + d - e), & \text{if } |cd| = 3 \text{ and } e = c^d = d^c. \end{cases}$$

We use the dot for the algebra product to distinguish it from the multiplication in the group  $G$ . It turns out that the assertions of Lemma 3.2 hold for every Matsuo algebra  $M_\eta(G, D)$ . This means that Matsuo algebras are examples of axial algebras of Jordan type  $\eta$  (see [12, Theorem 6.4] for details).

The Matsuo algebra  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  admits a bilinear symmetric form  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  that associates with the algebra product, i.e.,  $(u \cdot v, w) = (u, v \cdot w)$  for arbitrary algebra elements  $u, v$ , and  $w$  (so-called Frobenius form). This form is given on the basis  $D$  by the following:

$$(c, d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } c = d; \\ 0, & \text{if } |cd| = 2; \\ \frac{\eta}{2}, & \text{if } |cd| = 3. \end{cases}$$

The radical  $M^\perp$  of the form is the set of elements orthogonal to  $M$ :

$$M^\perp = \{u \in M \mid (u, v) = 0 \text{ for all } v \in M\}.$$

Since the form associates with the algebra product,  $M^\perp$  is an ideal in  $M$ .

One can define a graph on the set  $D$ , called the *projection graph*, where distinct involutions  $d$  and  $e$  are adjacent whenever  $(d, e) \neq 0$ . By the definition of the

form on  $M$ , if  $G$  is connected, then this graph is connected. It follows from [18, Corollary 4.15] that in this case  $M^\perp$  includes all proper ideals of  $M$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *Suppose that  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  is a Matsuo algebra. If the diagram  $(D)$  is connected, then each ideal of  $M$  lies in the radical  $M^\perp$ .*

It turns out that the values of  $\eta$  for which the radical is nonzero are easier to find in terms of the adjacency matrix  $\text{AMat}((D))$  than in terms of the form. The following statement will be used to calculate the dimension of the radical.

**Lemma 3.4.** <sup>1</sup> *Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field of characteristic not 2 and  $\eta \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Suppose that  $(G, D)$  is a 3-transposition group and  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  is the Matsuo algebra for  $(G, D)$ . Fix some order of elements of  $D$  and denote by  $\mathcal{M}$  the Gram matrix of the Frobenius form of  $M$  with respect to  $D$  and by  $\mathcal{A}$  the adjacency matrix  $\text{AMat}((D))$ . Then  $\zeta$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{A}$  with multiplicity  $k$  if and only if  $1 + \frac{\eta}{2}\zeta$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{M}$  with multiplicity  $k$ .*

**Proof.** By definitions of  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$ , we see that  $\mathcal{M} = I + \frac{\eta}{2}\mathcal{A}$ . Now the statement follows from the fact that the Jordan normal forms of these matrices are related by a similar equation. □

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be as in Lemma 3.4. If  $\eta = \frac{1}{2}$ , then the multiplicity of 0 in the spectrum of  $\mathcal{M}$  is equal to that of  $-4$  in the spectrum of  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

**Proof.** From the bijection between eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  in Lemma 3.4, we find that 0 corresponds to  $\zeta$  such that  $1 + \frac{1}{4}\zeta = 0$ , that is  $\zeta = -4$ . □

De Medts and Rehren classified Matsuo algebras that are Jordan algebras in [2]. Yabe corrected a gap in the case when the characteristic of the field equals 3 [25]. For simplicity and since we are mainly interested in characteristic zero, we state the result when the field characteristic is not three.

**Theorem 3.6.** [2, Main Theorem] *Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field,  $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$ , and let  $J$  be a Jordan algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$  which is also a Matsuo algebra. Then  $J$  is a direct product of Matsuo algebras  $J_i = M_{1/2}(G_i, D_i)$  corresponding to 3-transposition groups  $(G_i, D_i)$ , where for each  $i$ ,*

- (i) *either  $G_i = \text{Sym}(n)$ , and  $J_i$  is the Jordan algebra of  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices over  $F$  with zero row sums;*
- (ii)  *$G_i \simeq 3^2 : 2$ , and  $J_i$  is the Jordan algebra of hermitian  $3 \times 3$  matrices over the quadratic étale extension  $E = \mathbb{F}[x]/(x^2 + 3)$ .*

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<sup>1</sup>This lemma was mentioned by S. Shpectorov in his talk at Axial seminar, 12/10/21, <https://sites.google.com/view/axial-algebras/home>

#### 4. Preliminaries: wreath product

In this section, we discuss 3-transposition groups that correspond to types **PR2(a-e)** in Theorem 2.2. All these groups can be constructed from the wreath product of a group whose elements have orders not exceeding 3 and a symmetric group.

Denote the base group of the wreath product  $G = T \operatorname{wr} \operatorname{Sym}(n)$  by  $B$ , i.e.,  $B = T^n$ . The natural injection  $\iota_i$  of  $T$  as the  $i$ -th direct factor  $T_i$  of  $B$  is given by  $\iota_i(t) = t_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The projection  $\pi_i$  of  $B$  onto  $T$  induced by the  $i$ -th factor is given by  $\pi_i(b) = b(i)$ . We identify  $\operatorname{Sym}(n)$  with the complement to  $B$  in  $G$  which acts naturally on the indices from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $Wr(T, n)$  be the subgroup  $\langle d^G \rangle$  of  $G$ , where  $d$  is a transposition of the complement to  $B$ . Note that the factor group  $G/Wr(T, n)$  is isomorphic to the abelian group  $T/T'$ , in particular  $Wr(T, n)$  can be a proper subgroup of  $G$ . The following statement describes when  $d^G$  is a class of 3-transpositions.

**Proposition 4.1.** [26, Theorem 6], [10, Prop. 8.1] *Suppose that  $T$  is a finite group and  $G = T \operatorname{wr} \operatorname{Sym}(n)$ . Fix a transposition  $d$  of  $\operatorname{Sym}(n)$ . Then  $d^G$  is a class of 3-transpositions in  $G$  if and only if each element of  $T$  has order 1, 2, or 3.*

Note that the groups  $T$  with restrictions as in the proposition were classified in [23]. The next two lemmas are well known and describe how we deal with points and lines of the Fischer space of  $Wr(T, n)$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** [19, Lemma 3.2] *Consider the wreath product  $G = T \operatorname{wr} \operatorname{Sym}(n)$  and a transposition  $d \in \operatorname{Sym}(n)$ . Then  $d^G$  consists of elements  $t_i t_j^{-1}(i, j)$ , where  $t \in T$  and  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ .*

**Notation.** We write  $t.(i, j)$  for the 3-transposition  $t_i t_j^{-1}(i, j)$  from Lemma 4.2. Since  $t.(i, j) = t^{-1}.(j, i)$ , we will usually assume that  $i < j$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** [19, Lemma 3.3] *Suppose that each element of  $T$  has order 1, 2, or 3. Then each line of the Fischer space of  $Wr(T, n)$  coincides with one of the following sets.*

- (i)  $\{t.(i, j), s.(j, k), ts.(i, k)\}$ , where  $s, t \in T$  and  $1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$ ;
- (ii)  $\{t.(i, j), s.(i, j), st^{-1}s.(i, j)\}$ , where  $s, t \in T$ ,  $|st^{-1}| = 3$ , and  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ .

Now we focus on 3-transposition groups  $Wr(p, n)$ , where  $p$  means the cyclic group of order  $p \in \{2, 3\}$ . Following [19] and [6], we will use the following descriptions of the Fischer spaces of these groups. Let  $n$  be an integer and  $n \geq 3$ . For  $p \in \{2, 3\}$ , consider the  $n$ -dimensional permutational module  $V$  of  $\operatorname{Sym}(n)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Let  $e_i$ ,

$i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , be a basis of  $V$  permuted by  $\text{Sym}(n)$ . Then the natural semi-direct product  $V \rtimes \text{Sym}(n)$  is isomorphic to  $p \text{ wr } \text{Sym}(n)$ . Denote the  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional ‘sum-zero’ submodule of  $V$  by  $U$ . Then  $Wr(p, n)$  is isomorphic to the natural semidirect product  $U \rtimes \text{Sym}(n)$ . Note that, for  $p = 2$  and even  $n$ ,  $U$  contains a 1-dimensional ‘all-one’ submodule, which is the center of  $Wr(2, n)$ . When  $p = 3$ ,  $U$  is irreducible. In both cases,  $U$  is the unique minimal non-central normal subgroup of  $Wr(p, n)$  and  $Wr(p, n)/U \simeq \text{Sym}(n)$ . Since  $\text{Sym}(n)$  does not have proper factor groups containing commuting involutions, we conclude that, up to the center, groups  $Wr(p, n)$  have no other factors that are 3-transposition groups. Now we describe the Fischer spaces of these groups.

Assume that  $p = 2$ . It follows from Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3 that the Fischer space of  $Wr(2, n) = U : \text{Sym}(n)$  consists of  $n(n - 1)$  points:  $b_{i,j} = (i, j)$  and  $c_{i,j} = (e_i + e_j)(i, j)$ , for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ ; and  $n^2$  lines, where each ‘b’ line  $\{b_{i,j}, b_{i,k}, b_{j,k}\}$ ,  $1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$ , is complemented by three ‘bc’ lines  $\{b_{i,j}, c_{i,k}, c_{j,k}\}$ ,  $\{b_{i,k}, c_{i,j}, c_{j,k}\}$ , and  $\{b_{j,k}, c_{i,j}, c_{i,k}\}$ .

Assume that  $p = 3$ . By Lemma 4.2, for each pair  $i$  and  $j$  with  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , we have three points:  $b_{i,j} = (i, j) = b_{j,i}$ ,  $c_{i,j} = (e_i - e_j)(i, j)$  and  $c_{j,i} = (e_j - e_i)(i, j)$ . Consequently, the Fischer space has  $\frac{3n(n-1)}{2}$  points. By Lemma 4.3, the lines are of several types. First, for each  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , the triple (1)  $\{b_{i,j}, c_{i,j}, c_{j,i}\}$  is a line. Secondly, for distinct  $i, j$ , and  $k$  in  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , the triples (2)  $\{b_{i,j}, b_{i,k}, b_{j,k}\}$ , (3)  $\{b_{i,j}, c_{i,k}, c_{j,k}\}$ , (4)  $\{b_{j,k}, c_{i,j}, c_{i,k}\}$ , and (5)  $\{c_{i,j}, c_{j,k}, c_{k,i}\}$  are lines.

Using the descriptions of Fischer spaces, we find bases of radicals for the corresponding Matsuo algebras.

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $G = Wr(p, n)$ , where  $p \in \{2, 3\}$  and  $n \geq 4$ . Denote by  $D$  the corresponding 3-transposition set and by  $M$  the Matsuo algebra  $M_{1/2}(G, D)$ . Then  $\dim M^\perp = \frac{n(n-3)}{2}$  and the following assertions hold.*

(i) *If  $p = 2$ , then  $M^\perp$  is the span of elements*

$$b_{i,j} - b_{i,l} - b_{j,k} + b_{k,l} + c_{i,j} - c_{i,l} - c_{j,k} + c_{k,l},$$

*where  $i, j, k, l$  are distinct elements of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $i$  is less than  $j, k, l$ .*

(ii) *If  $p = 3$ , then  $M^\perp$  is the span of elements*

$$b_{i,j} - b_{i,l} - b_{j,k} + b_{k,l} + c_{i,j} - c_{i,l} - c_{j,k} + c_{k,l} + c_{j,i} - c_{l,i} - c_{k,j} + c_{l,k},$$

*where  $i, j, k, l$  are distinct elements of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  and  $i$  is less than  $j, k, l$ .*

**Proof.** By Corollary 3.5, the dimension of  $M^\perp$  is equal to the multiplicity of  $-4$  in the spectrum of the diagram  $(D)$ . According to [1, Example PR2], if  $p = 2$ ,

then  $G$  corresponds to the type **PR2(a)** in Theorem 2.2, while if  $p = 3$ , then  $G$  corresponds to the type **PR2(b)**. In both cases the parameter  $h$  equals 1. It follows from Theorem 2.4 that  $-4$  has multiplicity  $\frac{n(n-3)}{2}$  in  $\text{Spec}((D))$ . This implies that  $\dim M^\perp = \frac{n(n-3)}{2}$ .

For arbitrary distinct integers  $i, j, k, l$  such that  $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq n$  and  $i$  is less than  $j, k, l$  denote

$$r(i, j)(k, l) = b_{i,j} - b_{i,l} - b_{j,k} + b_{k,l} + c_{i,j} - c_{i,l} - c_{j,k} + c_{k,l} \text{ if } p = 2,$$

and

$$r(i, j)(k, l) = b_{i,j} - b_{i,l} - b_{j,k} + b_{k,l} + c_{i,j} - c_{i,l} - c_{j,k} + c_{k,l} + c_{j,i} - c_{l,i} - c_{k,j} + c_{l,k} \text{ if } p = 3.$$

We claim that each  $r(i, j)(k, l)$  belongs to  $M^\perp$ . By symmetry of indices, it suffices to show this for  $r(1, 2)(3, 4)$ . Now we verify that each 3-transposition of  $D$  is orthogonal to  $r(1, 2)(3, 4)$  with respect to the Frobenius form. Suppose that  $p = 3$ . Take a 3-transposition  $x_{i,j} \in D$ , where  $x \in \{b, c\}$ . First we consider the case  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . If  $x_{i,j} \in \{b_{1,2}, c_{1,2}, c_{2,1}\}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (x_{i,j}, b_{1,2} + c_{1,2} + c_{2,1}) &= 1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{2}, (x_{i,j}, b_{3,4} + c_{3,4} + c_{4,3}) = 0, \\ (x_{i,j}, -b_{1,4} - b_{2,3} - c_{1,4} - c_{4,1} - c_{3,4} - c_{4,3}) &= -6 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{3}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we infer that  $(x_{i,j}, r(1, 2)(3, 4)) = 0$ . Similarly, we see that

$$(x_{i,j}, r(1, 2)(3, 4)) = 0$$

when  $x_{i,j} \in \{b_{3,4}, c_{3,4}, c_{4,3}, b_{1,4}, c_{1,4}, c_{4,1}, b_{2,3}, c_{2,3}, c_{3,2}\}$ .

Let  $x_{i,j} \in \{b_{1,3}, c_{3,1}, c_{3,1}, b_{2,4}, c_{2,4}, c_{4,2}\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (x_{i,j}, b_{1,2} + c_{1,2} + c_{2,1}) &= (x_{i,j}, b_{3,4} + c_{3,4} + c_{4,3}) = \frac{3}{4}, (x_{i,j}, -b_{1,4} - c_{1,4} - c_{4,1}) \\ &= (x_{i,j}, b_{2,3} + c_{2,3} + c_{3,2}) = -\frac{3}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we see that  $(x_{i,j}, r(1, 2)(3, 4)) = 0$ . Clearly, if  $i, j \notin \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , then  $(x_{i,j}, r(1, 2)(3, 4)) = 0$ . So it remains to consider the case when  $|\{i, j\} \cap \{1, 2, 3, 4\}| = 1$ . Note that for each integer  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , exactly six out of the twelve terms in  $r(1, 2)(3, 4)$  contain  $k$  as an index, moreover, three of these six are included in the expression with a plus sign and three with a minus sign. This implies that  $x_{i,j}$  is orthogonal to  $r(1, 2)(3, 4)$ . The case  $p = 2$  can be considered in a similar manner.

Now we present  $\frac{n(n-3)}{2}$  linearly independent elements among  $\{r(i, j)(k, l)\}$ . Consider two sets of elements of  $D$ :  $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{r(i, j)(n-1, n) \mid 1 \leq i < j < n-1\}$  and

$\mathcal{B}_2 = \{r(1, n-1)(i, n) \mid i \neq 1, n-1, n\}$ . Suppose that the set  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$  is linearly dependent in  $M$ . Note that if  $(i, j)$  is a pair with  $1 \leq i < j < n-1$ , then  $r(i, j)(n-1, n)$  is the only element of  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$  including  $b_{i,j}$  in its expression. It follows that if a non-trivial linear combination of elements of  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$  is equal to 0, then only elements from  $\mathcal{B}_2$  have non-zero coefficients. On the other hand, if  $i \neq 1, n-1, n$ , then  $r(1, n-1)(i, n)$  is the only element in  $\mathcal{B}_2$  including  $b_{i,n}$  in its expression and hence  $\mathcal{B}_2$  is linearly independent; we arrive at a contradiction. Thus, the set  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$  is linearly independent. Since  $|\mathcal{B}_1| = \frac{(n-2)(n-3)}{2}$ ,  $|\mathcal{B}_2| = n-3$ , and  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cap \mathcal{B}_2 = \emptyset$ , we find  $\frac{n(n-3)}{2}$  linearly independent elements in  $M^\perp$ . This implies that the set  $\{r(i, j)(k, l)\}$  spans the radical of  $M$  and as a basis we can take the elements of  $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$ .  $\square$

## 5. Proof of the main theorem

In this section, we prove Theorem 1. Throughout, we suppose that  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic zero. First we consider the case when the parameter  $\eta$  in Matsuo algebra is not equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** *Suppose that  $\eta \neq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  is the Matsuo algebra for a finite connected 3-transposition group  $(G, D)$ . A factor of  $M$  by an ideal  $I \neq M$  is a Jordan algebra if and only if one of the following statements holds.*

- (i)  $G$  is the cyclic group of order 2 and  $I = (0)$ ;
- (ii)  $\eta = 2$ , the product of every two distinct elements of  $D$  has order 3,  $I$  is the span of elements  $d - e$ , where  $d$  and  $e$  run over  $D$ . In this case  $M/I$  is one-dimensional.

**Proof.** Clearly, if  $D = \{d\}$ , then  $G$  is the cyclic group of order 2 and  $M$  is generated by  $d$ . So  $M$  is associative and one-dimensional. Therefore, we can assume that  $|D| \geq 2$ .

Assume that  $M/I$  is a Jordan algebra. Take any  $c \in D$ . Since  $(D)$  is connected and  $|D| \geq 2$ , there exists  $d \in D$  such that  $|cd| = 3$ . If  $x \in M$ , then denote by  $\bar{x}$  the image of  $x$  in  $M/I$ . Note that  $\bar{c}$  is an idempotent in  $M/I$ . Denote by  $e$  the third point on the line through  $c$  and  $d$  in the Fischer space  $\Gamma(G, D)$ . Then  $e \cdot (c - d) = \frac{\eta}{2}(e + c - d - e - d + c) = \eta(c - d)$  and hence  $\bar{e} \cdot (\bar{c} - \bar{d}) = \eta(\bar{c} - \bar{d})$ . It follows from Lemma 3.2 that  $\bar{c} = \bar{d}$ . Since  $c$  is an arbitrary element of  $D$  and  $(D)$  is connected, we infer that  $M/I$  is one-dimensional and spanned by  $\bar{d}$  for each  $d \in D$ . Suppose that there exist  $d, e \in D$  such that  $|de| = 2$ . Then  $0 = \overline{d \cdot e} = \bar{d} \cdot \bar{e} = \bar{d}^2 = \bar{d}$  and hence  $d \in I$ . All elements of  $D$  are conjugated in  $G$ , so this is true for all elements of  $D$ ; a contradiction. Therefore, the product of any two distinct elements

of  $D$  has order 3. It remains to show that  $\eta = 2$ . Suppose that  $c$  and  $d$  are distinct elements in  $D$ . By Proposition 3.3,  $I \subseteq M^\perp$  and hence  $c - d \in M^\perp$ . On the other hand,  $(c, c - d) = 1 - \frac{\eta}{2}$  and hence  $\eta = 2$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\eta = 2$  and the product of any two elements in  $D$  has order 3. We show that for every  $c, d \in D$ , it is true that  $c - d \in M^\perp$ . First, we see that  $(c, c - d) = (d, c - d) = 1 - 1 = 0$ . If  $e \in D \setminus \{c, d\}$ , then  $(e, c) = (e, d) = 1$  and hence  $(e, c - d) = 0$ . Since  $c - d$  is orthogonal to all elements in  $D$  with respect to the Frobenius form, we infer that  $c - d \in M^\perp$ . This implies that  $M/M^\perp$  is 1-dimensional and the result follows.  $\square$

Matsuo algebras  $M_{1/2}(G, D)$ , where  $(G, D)$  is a 3-transposition group, that are Jordan algebras were classified in [2]. In particular, if  $(D)$  is connected, then  $G \simeq \text{Sym}(n)$  or has the same central type as the Frobenius group  $3^2 : 2$ . In view of Theorem 2.2, the symmetric group has type **PR2(a)** and  $3^2 : 2$  has type **PR1**. It follows from Corollary 3.5 and Theorem 2.4 that  $M_{1/2}(G, D)$  is simple in these cases. To prove Theorem 1 it remains to consider Matsuo algebras for  $\eta = \frac{1}{2}$  whose radical is nontrivial.

**Proposition 5.2.** *Suppose that  $(G, D)$  is a finite connected 3-transposition group and the Matsuo algebra  $M = M_{1/2}(G, D)$  has nontrivial radical  $M^\perp$ . Then  $J = M/M^\perp$  is a Jordan algebra if and only if one of the following statements holds.*

- (1)  $G \simeq 2^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , where  $m \geq 4$  and  $\dim J = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ ;
- (2)  $G \simeq 3^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m)$ , where  $m \geq 4$  and  $\dim J = m^2$ ;
- (3)  $G \simeq O_8^+(2)$  and  $\dim J = 36$ ;
- (4)  $G \simeq O_6^-(2) \simeq {}^+\Omega_5^+(3)$  and  $\dim J = 21$ ;
- (5)  $G \simeq Sp_6(2)$  and  $\dim J = 28$ ;
- (6)  $G \simeq {}^+\Omega_6^-(3)$  and  $\dim J = 36$ ;
- (7)  $G \simeq 2 \times SU_4(2) \simeq {}^+\Omega_5^-(3)$  and  $\dim J = 25$ ;
- (8)  $G \simeq SU_5(2)$  and  $\dim J = 45$ ;
- (9)  $G \simeq 4^{\bullet 1}SU_3(2)'$  and  $\dim J = 28$ .

**Proof.** We sort out possibilities for  $G$  from Theorem 2.2. By Corollary 3.5, the dimension of  $M^\perp$  equals the multiplicity of  $-4$  in the spectrum of the diagram  $(D)$ . Therefore, we need to find all  $G$  such that  $-4$  is in the spectrum of  $(D)$ . According to Table 1,  $G$  does not belong to types **PR1**, **PR2(c)**, **PR7(a, b, c, e)**, **PR8 – PR12**. Now we consider the remaining cases.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR2(a)**. According to Table 1, we see that  $-2^{h+1} = -4$  and hence  $h = 1$ . Therefore,  $G = 2^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m) \simeq Wr(2, m)$ ,

$|D| = m(m-1)$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = \frac{m(m-3)}{2}$ , and  $\dim J = \frac{m(m-3)}{2}$ . We claim that  $J$  is a Jordan algebra in this case. By Lemma 3.1, this is true if and only if all  $a, b, c, d \in D$  satisfy the following:

$$w(a, b, c, d) = (a \cdot d, b, c) + (d \cdot c, b, a) + (c \cdot a, b, d) \in M^\perp.$$

We use the description of  $D$  as in Section 4, so each  $a \in D$  is equal to some  $x_{i,j}$ , where  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq m$  and  $x \in \{b, c\}$ . In this notation, expressions for elements  $a, b, c, d$  include no more than 8 distinct indices  $i, j$ , so we can consider  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  as elements of  $H_k = Wr(2, k)$  with  $k \leq 8$  after renumbering indices in the corresponding elements  $x_{i,j}$ . Using GAP<sup>2</sup> [7], we verify that the element  $w(a, b, c, d)$  for all 3-transpositions  $a, b, c, d$  from  $H_k$  lies in the radical of the Frobenius form of the Matsuo algebra for  $H_k$ , where  $4 \leq k \leq 8$ . Note that the following enlargement property is true for the radical in these cases: elements from Lemma 4.4 that span  $M_k^\perp$  belong to  $M_n^\perp$  for all  $n \geq k$ . This implies that  $w(a, b, c, d) \in M^\perp$  for all  $a, b, c, d \in D$ ; as claimed.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR2(b)**. Then  $-3^h - 1 = -4$  and hence  $h = 1$ . So  $|D| = \frac{3m(m-1)}{2}$ ,  $G = \mathbf{3}^{\bullet 1} : \text{Sym}(m) \simeq Wr(3, m)$  and  $\dim M^\perp = \frac{m(m-3)}{2}$ . So  $\dim J = \frac{3m(m-1)}{2} - \frac{m(m-3)}{2} = m^2$ . We verify that  $J$  is a Jordan algebra in the same way as in the previous case. Namely, we use GAP to verify the linearized Jordan identity from Lemma 3.1 for all  $m$  with  $4 \leq m \leq 8$ . The general case follows from the description of a basis of  $M^\perp$  in Lemma 4.4 since this basis satisfies the enlargement property with increasing  $m$ .

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR2(d)**. Then  $-4^h = -4$  and hence  $h = 1$ . According to [1, Example PR2],  $G$  has the same central type as  $Wr(\text{Alt}(4), m)$ . By the wreath product construction, we can assume that  $Wr(\text{Alt}(4), m)$  is a subgroup  $Wr(\text{Alt}(4), n)$  if  $m \leq n$  and hence there is also an embedding of the corresponding Matsuo algebras. Clearly, if a factor of an algebra  $A$  by its ideal is a Jordan algebra, then all subalgebras of  $A$  also have factors that are Jordan algebras. Using GAP and Lemma 3.1, we verify that the factor algebra of the Matsuo algebra for  $Wr(\text{Alt}(4), 4)$  by its radical is not a Jordan algebra. Therefore, this case is impossible.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR3**. Recall that  $m \geq 3$  and  $(m, \epsilon) \neq (3, +)$ . If  $\epsilon = +$ , then  $-2^{h+m-2} = -4$ . This implies that  $h = 0$  and  $m = 4$ . Then  $|D| = 2^7 - 2^3 = 120$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = (2^8 - 4)/3 = 84$ , and  $\dim J = 36$ . If  $\epsilon = -$ , then  $-2^{h+m-1} = -4$ , so  $h = 0$  and  $m = 3$ . Therefore, we see that  $|D| = 2^5 + 2^2 = 36$ ,

<sup>2</sup>All verifications in GAP related to this proof can be found at the following link: <https://github.com/AlexeyStaroletov/AxialAlgebras/blob/master/JordanFactors/Groups>



$\dim M^\perp = (2^3 + 1)(2^2 + 1)/3 = 15$ , and  $\dim J = 21$ . Using GAP, we verify that in both cases  $J$  is a Jordan algebra.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR4**. Then  $-2^{h+m-1} = -4$ . Since  $m \geq 3$ , we infer that  $h = 0$  and  $m = 3$ . According to Table 2.4, we find that  $|D| = 2^6 - 1 = 63$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = 2^5 + 2^2 - 1 = 35$ ,  $\dim J = 28$ . Using GAP, we verify that  $J$  is Jordan.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR5**. If  $m$  is odd, then  $-3^{(m-3)/2+h} - 1 = -4$ , so  $m = 5$  and  $h = 0$ . According to [1, Example 1.5], it is true that  ${}^+\Omega_5^-(3) \simeq 2 \times SU_4(2)$  and  ${}^+\Omega_5^+(3) \simeq O_6^-(2)$ . The algebra  $J$  is considered in the corresponding cases for  $G \in \{SU_4(2), O_6^-(2)\}$ . Suppose that  $m$  is even. According to Table 2.4, we see that  $\epsilon = -$  and  $-3^{(m-4)/2+h} - 1 = -4$ . This implies that  $m = 6$  and  $h = 0$ . Then  $|D| = (3^5 + 3^2)/2 = 126$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = (3^6 - 9)/8 = 90$ , and  $\dim J = 36$ . Using GAP, we verify that  $J$  is a Jordan algebra.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR6**. If  $m$  is even, then  $-2^{2h+m-2} = -4$ , so  $m = 4$  and  $h = 0$ . Therefore,  $|D| = (2^7 - 1 + 2^3)/3 = 45$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = 4(2^5 - 1 + 7 \cdot 2)/9 = 20$ , and hence  $\dim J = 25$ . Using GAP, we see that  $J$  is a Jordan algebra. If  $m$  is odd, then either  $m = 5$  and  $h = 0$  or  $m = 3$  and  $h = 1$ . In the first case, we find that  $|D| = (2^9 - 1 - 2^4)/3 = 165$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = 8(2^7 - 1 + 2^3)/9 = 120$ , and  $\dim J = 45$ . In the second case,  $|D| = 4(2^5 - 1 - 2^2)/3 = 36$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = 8(2^3 - 1 + 2)/9 = 8$ ,  $\dim J = 28$ . Using GAP, we see that  $J$  is a Jordan algebra in these cases.

Assume that the type of  $G$  is **PR7(d)**. In this case,  $|D| = 360$ ,  $\dim M^\perp = 252$ , and  $\dim J = 108$ . We use the defining relations of  $G$  from the Appendix of [15] to do the calculations with  $J$ . Using GAP and Lemma 3.1, we verify that  $J$  is not a Jordan algebra in this case.  $\square$

Consider a Matsuo algebra  $M = M_{1/2}(G, D)$ . If we calculate the expression  $(xz, y, w) + (zw, y, x) + (wx, y, z)$  from the linearized Jordan identity for all elements  $x, y, z, w \in D$  and take the ideal  $I$  generated by all obtained elements in  $M$ , then  $I$  is the smallest ideal of  $M$  such that  $M/I$  is a Jordan algebra. Proposition 5.2 describes all  $G$  such that  $M/I \neq 0$ . We conclude this section with the following.

**Problem 5.1.** *In each case of Proposition 5.2 find the smallest ideal  $I$  such that  $M/I$  is Jordan and identify the corresponding Jordan factors.*

## 6. Octonion and Albert algebras

Throughout this section we suppose that  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field of characteristic not 2 and 3. Recall that an octonion algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$  is a composition algebra that has dimension 8 over  $\mathbb{F}$ . This means that it is a unital non-associative algebra  $\mathbb{O}$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  with a non-degenerate quadratic form  $N$  such that  $N(xy) = N(x)N(y)$  for all  $x$  and

$y$  in  $\mathbb{O}$ . For a given field  $\mathbb{F}$ , there may exist several octonion algebras, but if  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed field, then all octonion algebras over  $\mathbb{F}$  are isomorphic. We use the construction of an octonion algebra from [24, Section 4.3.2], which is a generalization of the real octonion algebra, also known as the Cayley numbers.

Take 7 mutually orthogonal square roots of  $-1$ , labeled  $i_0, \dots, i_6$  (with subscripts understood modulo 7), subject to the condition that for each  $t$ , the elements  $i_t, i_{t+1}, i_{t+3}$  satisfy the same multiplication rules as  $i, j$ , and  $k$  (respectively) in the quaternion algebra:  $ij = k = -ij, jk = i = -kj, ki = j = -ik$ . Their pairwise products can be found in [24, Table 4.18].

Now we define the Albert algebra  $A(\mathbb{F})$  corresponding to  $\mathbb{O}$ . Elements of  $A(\mathbb{F})$  are  $3 \times 3$  Hermitian matrices (i.e., matrices  $x$  such that  $x^T = \bar{x}$ ) over the octonion algebra  $\mathbb{O}$ . For brevity let us define

$$(d, e, f \mid D, E, F) = \begin{pmatrix} d & F & \bar{E} \\ \bar{F} & e & D \\ E & \bar{D} & f \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $d, e, f$  lie in  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$  denotes the octonion conjugation, i.e., the linear map fixing 1 and negating  $i_n$  for all  $n$ . Multiplication of such matrices makes sense, and the Jordan product  $X \circ Y = \frac{1}{2}(XY + YX)$  for every  $X, Y \in A(\mathbb{F})$  allows to consider  $A(\mathbb{F})$  as a simple Jordan algebra.

**Proposition 6.1.** *The Albert algebra  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is an axial  $\mathbb{F}$ -algebra of Jordan type  $\frac{1}{2}$  generated by four primitive axes  $a, b, c, d$ , where*

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{1}{2}(1, 1, 0 \mid 0, 0, i_0) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i_0 & 0 \\ -i_0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1 \mid 0, i_1, 0) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -i_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ i_1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c = \frac{1}{2}(0, 1, 1 \mid i_2, 0, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & i_2 \\ 0 & -i_2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ d &= \frac{1}{9}(1, 4, 4 \mid 4i_4, 2i_3, 2i_6) = \frac{1}{9} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i_6 & -2i_3 \\ -2i_6 & 4 & 4i_4 \\ 2i_3 & -4i_4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** We claim that as a basis of  $A(\mathbb{F})$  we can take the following 27 elements:

$$\begin{aligned} a, b, c, d, ab, ac, ad, bc, bd, cd, a(bc), b(ac), c(ab), a(bd), a(cd), b(ad), b(cd), \\ c(ad), c(bd), (ab)(cd), (ac)(bd), d(a(bc)), d(b(ac)), a(b(cd)), \\ (ab)(c(ad)), (ab)(c(bd)), (ac)(b(cd)). \end{aligned}$$

All calculations are straightforward and can be done by hand or by computer<sup>3</sup>.

Now one can write  $27 \times 27$  matrix of coefficients of these 27 elements with respect to the standard basis of  $A(\mathbb{F})$  (i.e.,  $(1, 0, 0 \mid 0, 0, 0), \dots, (0, 0, 0 \mid 0, 0, i_6)$ ). Using GAP, we find that the determinant of this matrix equals  $\frac{1}{278 \cdot 338}$  and hence 27 elements form a basis of  $A(\mathbb{F})$ .

Since  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is known to be a Jordan algebra and  $a, b, c, d$  are its idempotents, Lemma 3.2 implies that each of these elements gives a Peirce decomposition of the algebra. According to [17, Section 4], an idempotent  $e$  in  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is a primitive axis iff  $Tr(e) = 1$ , where  $Tr$  means the trace of  $e$ , i.e., the sum of elements on its diagonal. Therefore, we infer that  $a, b, c, d$  are primitive axes generating  $A(\mathbb{F})$ . This completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.2.** *If the characteristic of  $\mathbb{F}$  equals zero, then  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is not a factor of any of the Matsuo algebras.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $(G, D)$  is a 3-transposition group and  $M = M_\eta(G, D)$  is its Matsuo algebra for  $\eta \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1\}$  such that  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is a factor of  $M$ . Since  $A(\mathbb{F})$  is simple, we can assume that  $(D)$  is connected. Now  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} A(\mathbb{F}) = 27$  and the result follows from Proposition 6.1 and Theorem 1.  $\square$

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<sup>3</sup>Calculations for this proof can be found in

<https://github.com/AlexeyStaroletov/AxialAlgebras/blob/master/JordanFactors/AlbertAlgebra.g>

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