

# From Almost-Commutative Geometry to Almost-Associative Geometry

Latham Boyle  
(with Shane Farnsworth)  
Perimeter Institute

# Overview

- Non-Associative Geometry:
  - What?
  - Why?
  - How?

# Non-Associative Geometry: Why?

# Non-Associative Geometry: Why?

- Mathematical Reason:

# Non-Associative Geometry: Why?

- Mathematical Reason:
  - Groups: Non-Abelian
  - Algebras: Non-Associative

# Non-Associative Geometry: Why?

- Mathematical Reason:
  - Groups: Non-Abelian
  - Algebras: Non-Associative
- Physical Reason: Grand Unification

# Non-Associative Geometry: Why?

- Mathematical Reason:
  - Groups: Non-Abelian
  - Algebras: Non-Associative
- Physical Reason: Grand Unification

$$\begin{aligned} SO(10) &\rightarrow SU(4) \times SU(2) \times SU(2) \\ &\rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 16 &\rightarrow (4, 2, 1) + (\bar{4}, 1, 2) \\ &\rightarrow (3, 2, 1/6) + (\bar{3}, 1, -2/3) + (\bar{3}, 1, 1/3) \\ &\quad + (1, 2, -1/2) + (1, 1, 0) + (1, 1, +1) \end{aligned}$$

# Non-Associative Algebras

$$[a, b] \equiv ab - ba \quad (\text{"commutator"})$$

$$[a, b, c] \equiv (ab)c - a(bc) \quad (\text{"associator"})$$

Jordan	$h_n(\mathbb{R})$	$h_n(\mathbb{C})$	$h_n(\mathbb{H})$	$h_3(\mathbb{O})$	$\delta_{a,b} = [L_a, R_b]$
Normed Division	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$	$\mathbb{O}$	$\delta_{a,b} = [L_a, R_b] + [L_a, L_b] + [R_a, R_b]$
Lie	$a_n^0(\mathbb{R})$	$a_n^0(\mathbb{C})$	$a_n(\mathbb{H})$	$\{\dots\}$	$\delta_a = L_a - R_a$

$$\alpha = e^\delta$$

$$\alpha(ab) = \alpha(a)\alpha(b)$$

$$\alpha(a^*) = \alpha(a)^*$$

$$\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b)$$

$$\delta(a^*) = \delta(a)^*$$

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

- How to “represent” a non-associative algebra?

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

- How to “represent” a non-associative algebra?
- How to “fluctuate” D?

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

- How to “represent” a non-associative algebra?
- How to “fluctuate” D?
- Simplest non-trivial geometries.

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

- How to “represent” a non-associative algebra?
- How to “fluctuate” D?
- Simplest non-trivial geometries.
- Correspond to \*ordinary\* Higgs-Yang-Mills theories (coupled to gravity)

# Non-Associative Geometry: How?

- How to “represent” a non-associative algebra?
- How to “fluctuate” D?
- Simplest non-trivial geometries.
- Correspond to \*ordinary\* Higgs-Yang-Mills theories (coupled to gravity)
- What next?