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# On the projective theory of spinors

by

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## *Introduction.*

It has been recognised by many writers<sup>1)</sup> that there are in projective relativity three fundamental spinors invariant under those spin-transformations which correspond to the rotations of the local world attached to every point of space-time. The object of this paper is to give a new proof of the existence of these spinors and to deduce consequences therefrom, by starting not in the usual way in which the theory of spinors is presented<sup>2)</sup>, but with the consideration of a 6-dimensional Euclidean space which is in a relation with the 4-dimensional spin-space similar to that of the well-known Plücker-Klein correspondence. This method of approach is proposed by Schouten and Haantjes<sup>3)</sup>, who treat the present problem with the aid of orthogonal systems of reference but obtain final results independent of them. Our main result here is a theorem (Theorem III), from which the existence of one ( $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}^A$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$ ) of the above-mentioned spinors is an immediate consequence. After the second spinor ( $r_{AB}$ ) is introduced to adapt our theory into projective relativity, the third spinor ( $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}^A$ ) arises correspondingly. Defining the concept of special bivectors in the spin-space, we arrive at the hypercomplex numbers of Dirac with all their properties. Some

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<sup>1)</sup> See, for example, O. VEBLÉN, Spinors in projective relativity [Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. **19** (1933), 979—989], where some literature is also given.

<sup>2)</sup> As a representative of this work we cite here W. PAULI, Über die Formulierung der Naturgesetze mit fünf homogenen Koordinaten II [Ann. der Physik **18** (1933), 337—372]. In this paper Pauli, with a remark by Haantjes, proves the existence of two of the three spinors but not the third nor a relation between the two obtained. Veblen, in his paper cited above, mentions without proof all the three spinors and their relations, valid for a 6-dimensional Euclidean space with a specified signature.

<sup>3)</sup> J. A. SCHOUTEN & J. HAANTJES, Konforme Feldtheorie II,  $R_2$  und Spinraum [Ann. R. Scuola Norm. Sup. Pisa **4** (1935), 175—189].

known results concerning the isomorphisms between the spin-space and the local space-time are restated in terms of the quantities which we have found.

### 1. Spin-space and $R_6$ .<sup>4)</sup>

In an affine space  $E_4$  an affinator-density is called a *spinor* if it is of weight  $\frac{1}{4}(r-s)$ , where  $r$  denotes the number of contravariant suffices and  $s$  that of covariant ones. The law of transformation of a (weighted) affinator is uni-modular when and only when the affinator is a spinor. We shall only consider spinors in  $E_4$  and for the sake of simplicity the words vector, bivector, etc. when referred to  $E_4$  shall all mean spinors with their appropriate weights. The  $E_4$  of all spinors is called the *spin-space*. Complex quantities are not excluded in  $E_4$ , so a spinor also has a conjugate weight if it carries both suffices of the first kind ( $A, B, \dots = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) and of the second kind ( $\bar{A}, \bar{B}, \dots = \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}$ ).<sup>5)</sup>

In  $E_4$  there already exist two numerical skew spinors  $g^{ABCD}$  and  $g_{ABCD}$ , defined in every reference-system by

$$g^{1234} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad g_{1234} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

We shall use these to raise and lower the suffices (two at a time) of bivectors  $v^{AB}$ ,  $v_{AB}$  according to the following way

$$v^{AB} = g^{ABCD} v_{CD}, \quad v_{AB} = g_{ABCD} v^{CD},$$

and identify the two bivectors thus related by giving them the same central letter.

The totality of bivectors  $v^{AB}$  in  $E_4$  constitutes a six-dimensional affine manifold  $E_6$ , the six components of  $v^{AB}$  being the components of a contravariant vector of  $E_6$  referred to a special reference-system. In a general reference-system of  $E_6$  the components of this vector  $v^\alpha$  ( $\alpha, \beta, \dots = 0, 1, \dots, 5$ ) are linear functions of  $v^{AB}$ :

$$v^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \chi_{.AB}^\alpha v^{AB}$$

where  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  are in general complex constants skew-symmetrical

<sup>4)</sup> Those equations in this section which do not involve the consideration of determinants are already known and are to be found in Schouten and Haantjes' paper as cited above.

<sup>5)</sup> Cf. J. A. SCHOUTEN & D. J. STRUIK, Einführung in die neueren Methoden der Differentialgeometrie I [Groningen, 1935], p. 8.

in  $A, B$ . We shall suppose that the 6-row determinant  $\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha)$ , where the upper suffix  $\alpha$  denotes the rows in the order  $(0, 1, \dots, 5)$  and the lower pair of suffices  $AB$  denotes the columns in the order  $(23, 31, 12, 14, 24, 34)$ , be different from zero. If we form the quantity

$$\chi^{\alpha AB} = g^{ABCD} \chi_{.CD}^\alpha$$

then the 6-row determinant of  $\chi^{\alpha AB}$ , where the suffices  $\alpha$  and  $AB$  respectively denote the rows and columns in the same orders as mentioned above, is seen to be

$$\text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha AB}) = -\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha).$$

A reciprocal quantity  $\chi_\beta^{AB}$  may be defined by the relation

$$(1.1) \quad \chi_{.AB}^\alpha \chi_\beta^{AB} = 4A_\beta^\alpha$$

where  $A_\beta^\alpha$  is the unit-affinor of  $E_6$  and where the numerical factor 4 is inserted on the right in order that the Dirac operators derived later shall satisfy an equation with the right numerical factor. Multiplying (1.1) by  $\chi_{.CD}^\beta$  and summing for  $\beta$ , we get, since  $\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha) \neq 0$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad \chi_\beta^{AB} \chi_{.CD}^\beta = 4\alpha_{[C}^A \alpha_{D]}^B$$

where  $\alpha_B^A$  represents the unit-spinor of  $E_4$ . The 6-row determinant  $\text{Det}(\chi_\beta^{AB})$ , with its rows and columns arranged in the orders stated above, is from either (1.1) or (1.2) connected with the  $\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha)$  by the relation

$$\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha) \text{Det}(\chi_\beta^{CD}) = 2^6.$$

In the same way if we form the quantity

$$\chi_{\beta AB} = g_{ABCD} \chi_\beta^{CD},$$

we find

$$\text{Det}(\chi_{\beta AB}) = -\text{Det}(\chi_\beta^{AB}).$$

On account of (1.2) the correspondence from the bivectors  $v^{AB}$  of  $E_4$  to the vectors  $v^\alpha$  of  $E_6$  is reversible:

$$v^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \chi_\beta^{AB} v^\beta.$$

We now introduce a *real* non-singular symmetrical tensor  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  into  $E_6$  so that  $E_6$  becomes an Euclidean space  $R_6$  <sup>6)</sup>. Let the sign of the determinant  $g = \text{Det}(g_{\alpha\beta})$  be  $\varepsilon$ . Then  $\varepsilon$  is  $-1$  or  $+1$

<sup>6)</sup> We also use the term „Euclidean” when  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  is not positive definite.

according as the *index* of  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  (the number of positive units among the orthogonal components of  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ ) is odd or even.  $g^{\alpha\beta}$  being the inverse of  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ , we shall use  $g^{\alpha\beta}$  and  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  to raise and lower Greek suffices. It is possible to require that  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  and  $\chi^{\beta}_{.CD}$  shall be obtained one from the other by two different processes of raising and lowering suffices, for then the  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$ , whose values are as yet unspecified, are by (1.1) simply a solution of the equation

$$(1.3) \quad \chi^{\alpha}_{.AB} \chi^{\beta AB} = 4g^{\alpha\beta}.$$

From this equation the  $\text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB})$  is completely determined but for the sign:

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}) = \pm \sqrt{-\frac{2^6}{g}} = \pm \frac{2^3}{\sqrt{|g|}} \sqrt{-\varepsilon}.$$

Hence the equation (1.3), when the  $g$ 's are considered as given and the  $\chi$ 's as unknowns, admits two classes of solutions: *Two solutions  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$ ,  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  belong to the same class or to different classes according as  $\text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB})$  and  $\text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB})$  are equal or opposite.*

Since  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB} \chi^{\beta}_{.CD}$  must be proportional to  $g_{ABCD}$ , we obtain, after having determined the factor of proportionality by the aid of (1.3),

$$\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB} \chi^{\beta}_{.CD} = \frac{2}{3} g^{\alpha\beta} g_{ABCD}.$$

Multiplying this relation by  $g^{EBCD}$ , the result may be written

$$(1.5) \quad \boxed{\chi^{\alpha}_{.BE} \chi^{\beta AE} = g^{\alpha\beta} \alpha^A_B}$$

which will be referred to as the *fundamental equation* in the sense that if  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  is a solution of (1.3), it is also a solution of (1.5) and conversely. Indeed equation (1.5) comprises all the foregoing relations.

### 2. Solutions of the fundamental equation.

Since (1.5) is equivalent to (1.3), the number of independent equations in the set (1.5) is then  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 \cdot 7 = 21$ . As the number of unknowns  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  is  $6^2 = 36$ , the general solution of (1.5) therefore involves  $36 - 21 = 15$  arbitrary parameters. We now proceed to establish the

**THEOREM I.**  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  being any particular solution of (1.5), the most general solution of the same class is given by

$$(2.1) \quad \chi^{\alpha}_{.AB} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} S^C_A S^D_B \quad (\sigma = \pm 1)$$

where  $S^A_{.B}$  is an arbitrary spinor of (4-row) determinant 1.<sup>7)</sup>

For the proof we multiply the two sides of (2.1) by  $g^{EFAB}$  and note that  $S^A_{.B}$  is uni-modular, thus obtaining

$$\chi^{\alpha EF} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} g^{EFAB} S^C_{.A} S^D_{.B} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} g^{CDAB} \bar{S}^{-1}_{.A} \bar{S}^{-1}_{.B}$$

where  $\bar{S}^{-1}_{.A}$  is the inverse of  $S^A_{.B}$  satisfying the relations

$$\bar{S}^{-1}_{.E} S^E_{.B} = \alpha^A_{.B}, \quad S^A_{.E} \bar{S}^{-1}_{.B} = \alpha^A_{.B}.$$

Hence  $\chi^{\alpha AB}$  is of the form

$$\chi^{\alpha AB} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} \bar{S}^{-1}_{.C} \bar{S}^{-1}_{.D}.$$

From this and (2.1) it follows at once that

$$\chi^{(\alpha}_{.BE} \chi^{\beta)AE} = \sigma^2 g^{\alpha\beta} \alpha^A_{.B}.$$

Hence  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  as given by (2.1) satisfies (1.5) for  $\sigma^2 = 1$ . This solution is of the same class as  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  since if we take the 6-row determinant on both sides of (2.1), regarding the quantity  $2S^{[C}_{.A} S^{D]}_{.B}$  (which is skew-symmetrical in  $A, B$  as well as in  $C, D$ ) on the right of (2.1) as a 6-row square matrix with  $CD$  and  $AB$  indicating the rows and columns in the order (23, 31, 12, 14, 24, 34), we get

$$\text{Det} (\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}) = \text{Det} (\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB})$$

on account of the fact that the (6-row) determinant of  $2S^{[C}_{.A} S^{D]}_{.B}$  is equal to the cube of the (4-row) determinant of  $S^A_{.B}$  and is therefore equal to unity.

Conversely if  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$  is any solution of (1.5) of the same class as  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB}$ , then by (1.2) we have

$$\chi^{\beta}_{.AB} \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} = \chi^{\beta}_{.AB} \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD}.$$

Multiplying this by  $\chi^{\alpha}_{.CD}$  the result may be written

$$\chi^{\alpha}_{.AB} = f^{\alpha}_{.\beta} \chi^{\beta}_{.AB},$$

where

$$f^{\alpha}_{.\beta} = \frac{1}{4} \chi^{\alpha}_{.CD} \chi^{\beta}_{.CD}$$

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<sup>7)</sup> Thus 15 of the 16 components of  $S^A_{.B}$  are arbitrary. It may be remarked here that if in the proof of the theorem we first leave unspecified the value  $S$  of the determinant of  $S^A_{.B}$ , it can be seen later that there is no loss of generality in putting  $S = 1$ .

can be verified to be a uni-modular orthogonal transformation with respect to  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ :

$$\text{Det}(f^\alpha_\beta) = +1, \quad g_{\alpha\beta} f^\alpha_\gamma f^\beta_\delta = g_{\gamma\delta}.$$

It follows from the isomorphism between  $E_4$  and  $R_6$  (see (4.2)) that there exists a uni-modular spinor  $S^A_B$  such that

$$f^\alpha_\beta \chi^\beta_{.AB} = \chi^\alpha_{.CD} S^C_{.A} S^D_{.B}.$$

Hence  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  is expressible in the form (2.1).

We shall next establish the

**THEOREM II.**  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  being any particular solution of (1.5), the most general solution of different class is given by

$$(2.2) \quad \chi^\alpha_{.AB} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha CD} S_{CA} S_{DB} \quad (\sigma = \pm 1)$$

where  $S_{AB}$  is an arbitrary spinor of (4-row) determinant 1.

The verification that  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  as given by (2.2) is a solution of (1.5) runs in very much the same way as we have done for the preceding theorem. That the solution (2.2) belongs to a different class from  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  can be seen by taking the 6-row determinant of both sides of (2.2) and using reasoning similar to the above, the result being

$$\text{Det}(\chi^\alpha_{.AB}) = \text{Det}(\chi^{\alpha AB}) = -\text{Det}(\chi^\alpha_{.AB}).$$

The converse can also be proved in a way analogous to that for Theorem I, but we shall give the following simpler and more elegant proof suggested to me by Dr. J. Haantjes. If  $S_{AB}$  is any spinor of determinant 1, then, as we have just seen,

$$\chi^\alpha_{.AB} = \chi^{\alpha CD} S_{CA} S_{DB}$$

is a solution of (1.5) of different class from  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$ . Then if  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  is an arbitrary solution of (1.5) of different class from  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$ , the two solutions  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$ ,  $\chi^\alpha_{.AB}$  are of the same class and therefore according to Theorem I there exists a spinor  $S^A_B$  of determinant 1 such that

$$\begin{aligned} \chi^\alpha_{.AB} &= \sigma \chi^\alpha_{.CD} S^C_{.A} S^D_{.B} \\ &= \sigma \chi^{\alpha CD} S_{CE} S^E_{.A} S_{DF} S^F_{.B} \\ &= \sigma \chi^{\alpha CD} S_{CA} S_{DB}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$S_{AB} = S_{0AE} S_{1B}^E$$

is a spinor of determinant 1. Hence  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  is expressible in the form (2.2).

Combining the above two theorems we can state the

**THEOREM III.** *Let  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$ ,  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  be any two solutions of (1.5). Then if  $\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha) = \text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha)$  there exists a spinor  $S_{.B}^A$  of unit determinant satisfying (2.1), and if  $\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha) = -\text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha)$  there exists a spinor  $S_{AB}$  of unit determinant satisfying (2.2).*

We now proceed to affirm that equation (2.1) for given  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  and  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  and for a definite choice of the sign  $\sigma$  determines  $S_{.B}^A$  but for the factor  $\pm 1$ . For if  $\Sigma_{.B}^A$  is another spinor satisfying (2.1) with the same sign  $\sigma$ , then

$$\chi_{.CD}^\alpha (\Sigma_{.A}^C \Sigma_{.B}^D - S_{.A}^C S_{.B}^D) = 0$$

or

$$\Sigma_{.A}^{[C} \Sigma_{.B}^{D]} = S_{.A}^{[C} S_{.B}^{D]}$$

from which we get

$$\Sigma_{.B}^A = \pm S_{.B}^A.$$

We shall leave open the choice of this factor. For the other sign of  $\sigma$  the solution  $S_{.B}^A$  is simply multiplied by  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , since in doing so the unity of the determinant of  $S_{.B}^A$  is unaffected while the right-hand side of (2.1) is affected by the sign  $-1$ . Similarly equation (2.2) for given  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$ ,  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  and for a definite choice of  $\sigma$  determines  $S_{AB}$  but for its sign.

### 3. The first fundamental spinor $\Omega_{.B}^A$ or $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$ .

The complex conjugate of  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  is denoted by  $\bar{\chi}_{.A\bar{B}}^\alpha$ . From (1.4) we get, since the complex conjugate of  $\sqrt{-\varepsilon}$  is  $-\varepsilon\sqrt{-\varepsilon}$ ,

$$(3.1) \quad \text{Det}(\bar{\chi}_{.A\bar{B}}^\alpha) = -\varepsilon \text{Det}(\chi_{.AB}^\alpha).$$

Now as the right-hand side of (1.5) is real, by taking the complex conjugate of (1.5) we see that  $\bar{\chi}_{.A\bar{B}}^\alpha$  is a solution of (1.5) whenever  $\chi_{.AB}^\alpha$  is, and hence by Theorem III and (3.1) we have the <sup>8)</sup>

<sup>8)</sup> The equations (3.2), (3.3), (3.4) and (3.5) have been obtained in a different way by Schouten and Haantjes, i.e. pp. 180, 182.

THEOREM IV. According as  $\varepsilon$  is  $-1$  or  $+1$ , there exists a spinor  $\Omega^A_{\bar{B}}$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  of unit determinant satisfying the equation

$$(3.2) \quad \boxed{\bar{\chi}^{\alpha}_{\bar{A}\bar{B}} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha}_{CD} \Omega^C_{\bar{A}} \Omega^D_{\bar{B}}}$$

or  $(\sigma = \pm 1)$ .

$$(3.3) \quad \boxed{\bar{\chi}^{\alpha}_{\bar{A}\bar{B}} = \sigma \chi^{\alpha CD} \omega_{C\bar{A}} \omega_{D\bar{B}}}$$

For a definite choice of  $\sigma$  the spinor  $\Omega^A_{\bar{B}}$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  is completely determined by (3.2) or (3.3) but for its sign. According to the case, we shall refer to  $\Omega^A_{\bar{B}}$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  as the *first fundamental spinor*. Its complex conjugate will be denoted by  $\bar{\Omega}^{\bar{A}}_{\bar{B}}$  or  $\bar{\omega}_{\bar{A}\bar{B}}$ , and its inverse by  $\bar{\Omega}^{\bar{A}}_{\bar{B}}^{-1}$  or  $\bar{\omega}^{\bar{A}\bar{B}}$ . The complex conjugate of its inverse, which is also the inverse of its complex conjugate, will be denoted by  $\bar{\Omega}^{\bar{A}}_{\bar{B}}^{-1}$  or  $\bar{\omega}^{\bar{A}\bar{B}}$ .

The complex conjugate of (3.2) is

$$\chi^{\alpha}_{AB} = \sigma \bar{\chi}^{\alpha}_{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{C}}_{\bar{A}} \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{D}}_{\bar{B}},$$

or, making use of (3.2) itself,

$$\chi^{\alpha}_{AB} = \chi^{\alpha}_{EF} \Omega^E_{\bar{C}} \Omega^F_{\bar{D}} \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{C}}_{\bar{A}} \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{D}}_{\bar{B}},$$

which, when we put  $Z^E_{\bar{A}} = \Omega^E_{\bar{C}} \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{C}}_{\bar{A}}$ , may be written in the form

$$\chi^{\alpha}_{AB} = \chi^{\alpha}_{EF} Z^E_{\bar{A}} Z^F_{\bar{B}}$$

from which it follows that  $Z^A_{\bar{B}} = \pm \alpha^A_{\bar{B}}$ , or

$$(3.4) \quad \boxed{\bar{\Omega}^{\bar{A}}_{\bar{B}} = a \bar{\Omega}^{\bar{A}}_{\bar{B}}^{-1}} \quad \text{where } a = \pm 1.$$

A hermitian spinor<sup>9)</sup> of the type  $\Omega^A_{\bar{B}}$  with the property (3.4) is called *positively* or *negatively invertible* according as  $a$  is  $+1$  or  $-1$ .

Similarly if we take the complex conjugate of (3.3) and make use of (3.3) itself we arrive in an analogous manner at the result

$$(3.5) \quad \boxed{\bar{\omega}_{\bar{A}\bar{B}} = b \omega_{B\bar{A}}} \quad \text{where } b = \pm 1.$$

Thus, according as  $b$  is  $+1$  or  $-1$ , the hermitian spinor  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  is *symmetrical* or *alternating*.

<sup>9)</sup> A quantity is called „hermitian” if it carries both barred and unbarred suffices. Here, contrary to the common usage, a hermitian matrix has not any property of symmetry if the word „symmetrical” is not inserted.

#### 4. Isomorphism between $E_4$ and $R_6$ .

The problem of isomorphism between  $E_4$  and  $R_6$  has been treated by Cartan for the cases when the index of  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  is 3, 4, 6<sup>10</sup>), and has been further studied by Schouten and Haantjes for any index<sup>11</sup>). In this section we re-establish their results in a simple presentation, in terms of what we have just found.

The equation

$$(4.1) \quad v^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \chi_{.AB}^\alpha v^{AB}$$

establishes a (1-1) correspondence between the  $\infty^{12}$  real and complex bivectors  $v^{AB}$  of  $E_4$  and the  $\infty^{12}$  real and complex vectors  $v^\alpha$  of  $R_6$ . If  $v^{AB}$  is subject to a spin-transformation  $T^A_{.B}$ :

$${}'v^{AB} = v^{CD} T^A_{.C} T^B_{.D},$$

we find from (4.1) that  $v^\alpha$  is subject to the induced transformation

$${}'v^\alpha = l^\alpha_{.\beta} v^\beta,$$

where

$$(4.2) \quad l^\alpha_{.\beta} = \frac{1}{4} \chi_{.AB}^\alpha T^A_{.C} T^B_{.D} \chi_\beta^{CD}.$$

From (4.2) it is easily found that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Det} (l^\alpha_{.\beta}) &= [\text{Det} (T^A_{.B})]^3, \\ g^{\gamma\delta} l^\alpha_{.\gamma} l^\beta_{.\delta} &= g^{\alpha\beta} \text{Det} (T^A_{.B}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $l^\alpha_{.\beta}$  is a rotation of  $R_6$  (orthogonal transformation with determinant + 1) if we assume the condition

$$(4.3) \quad \text{Det} (T^A_{.B}) = 1.$$

Subject to this condition,  $T^A_{.B}$  is a 15-parameter group of  $\infty^{30}$  real and complex spin-transformations. By (4.2) this group is doubly isomorphic with the 15-parameter group of all the  $\infty^{30}$  real and complex rotations of  $R_6$ .

In order that the vector  $v^\alpha$  of  $R_6$  given by (4.1) be real, i.e.  $\bar{v}^\alpha = v^\alpha$ , the bivector  $v^{AB}$  must satisfy the condition

$$\bar{\chi}^\alpha_{.A\bar{B}} \bar{v}^{\bar{A}\bar{B}} = \chi^\alpha_{.AB} v^{AB}$$

which, when the  $\chi$ 's are eliminated by the aid of (3.2) or (3.3), takes one of the following forms

<sup>10</sup>) E. CARTAN, Les groupes simples, finis et continus [Ann. Ecole norm. sup 31 (1914), 263—355], particularly p. 354.

<sup>11</sup>) SCHOUTEN and HAANTJES, l.c. pp. 181, 183.

$$(4.4) \quad v^{AB} = \sigma \bar{v}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \Omega^A_{\bar{C}} \Omega^B_{\bar{D}} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = -1,$$

$$(4.5) \quad v_{AB} = \sigma \bar{v}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \omega_{A\bar{C}} \omega_{B\bar{D}} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = +1.$$

Because of (3.4) or (3.5), the complex conjugate of (4.4) or (4.5) is identical with itself. Hence either (4.4) or (4.5) furnishes only 6 independent equations for the restriction of  $v^{AB}$ . With this restriction,  $v^{AB}$  represents  $\infty^6$  real and complex bivectors of  $E_4$ , in (1-1) correspondence with all the  $\infty^6$  real vectors of  $R_6$ .

In order that the rotation  $I^{\alpha}_{\beta}$  of  $R_6$  given by (4.2) be real, the right-hand side of (4.2) must be equal to its complex conjugate, a fact requiring that  $T^A_{\bar{B}}$  must satisfy one of the two relations

$$(4.6) \quad \Omega^A_{\bar{B}} = \pm T^A_{\bar{C}} \Omega^C_{\bar{D}} \bar{T}^{\bar{D}}_{\bar{B}} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = -1$$

$$(4.7) \quad \omega_{A\bar{B}} = \pm T^C_{\bar{A}} \omega_{C\bar{D}} \bar{T}^{\bar{D}}_{\bar{B}} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = +1$$

which express that  $T^A_{\bar{B}}$  leaves  $\Omega^A_{\bar{B}}$  or  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  invariant but for the factor  $\pm 1$ . Either (4.6) or (4.7) defines the group property of  $T^A_{\bar{B}}$ . The complex conjugate of (4.6) or (4.7) is identical with itself and therefore either (4.6) or (4.7) furnishes only 16 equations for the restriction of  $T^A_{\bar{B}}$ . As a consequence of these latter we have from (4.6) that the  $\text{Det}(T^A_{\bar{B}})$  is real or from (4.7) that the absolute value of  $\text{Det}(T^A_{\bar{B}})$  is 1. This reduces (4.3) to a single equation since the complex conjugate of (4.3) is either unpermitted or superfluous. Thus  $T^A_{\bar{B}}$  is in either case a group of  $\infty^{15}$  real and complex spin-transformations doubly isomorphic with the group of all the  $\infty^{15}$  real rotations of  $R_6$ .

Thus we have shown how the *real* space  $R_6$  and its *real* geometric objects (vectors, rotations, etc.) can be represented by corresponding images in  $E_4$  satisfying invariant conditions. These images in  $E_4$  are in general complex since reality in  $E_4$  is not a property which is invariant. In the following it is understood that  $R_6$  is real and everything in it is real.

### 5. *The $R_5$ of projective relativity and the second and third fundamental spinors.*

In projective relativity we have at each point of space-time a complex spin-space  $E_4$  and a real projective space  $P_4$  with a hyperquadric<sup>12</sup>). Analytically the real  $P_4$  with a hyperquadric

<sup>12</sup>) See J. A. SCHOUTEN, La théorie projective de la relativité [Ann. Institut H. Poincaré 5 (1935), 51—58].

is equivalent to a real Euclidean space  $R_5$ <sup>13</sup>), and so the geometry of  $P_4$  and  $E_4$  can be studied on a fixed hyperplane  $R_5$  of  $R_6$ . Without loss of generality we may suppose that this hyperplane passes through the origin of  $R_6$  and therefore determines a covariant vector  $r_\beta$  of  $R_6$  to within a non-zero factor. As  $R_5$  must be a proper Euclidean space, it is not tangent to the null-cone of  $R_6$ ; in other words  $r_\beta$  is not a null-vector and we can normalise it such that

$$(5.1) \quad g^{\alpha\beta} r_\alpha r_\beta = -4$$

after which  $r_\beta$  is determined but for the sign. The normal of  $R_5$  in  $R_6$  is represented by the vector  $r^\alpha = g^{\alpha\beta} r_\beta$  which, by the inverse of (4.1),

$$(5.2) \quad r^{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \chi_\beta^{AB} r^\beta,$$

corresponds to a fixed spin-bivector  $r^{AB}$  determined but for the sign. This we call the *second fundamental spinor*<sup>14</sup>). From (5.1) we have

$$(5.3) \quad r^{AB} r_{AB} = -4$$

from which it follows that the 4-row determinant of  $r^{AB}$  or  $r_{AB}$  is unity. Since  $r^{[AB} r^{CD]}$  must be proportional to  $g^{ABCD}$ , we obtain, after having determined the factor of proportionality by the aid of (5.3),

$$r^{[AB} r^{CD]} = -\frac{2}{3} g^{ABCD}.$$

Multiplying this relation by  $g_{EBCD}$ , the result may be written

$$(5.4) \quad r^{AE} r_{EB} = \alpha_B^A$$

showing that  $r_{AB}$  ( $= g_{ABCD} r^{CD}$ ) is at the same time the inverse of  $r^{AB}$ .

As  $r^\alpha$  is real, we have from (4.4) or (4.5) that  $r^{AB}$  is subject to the condition

$$(5.5) \quad \boxed{r^{AB} = \sigma \bar{r}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \Omega_{\bar{C}}^A \Omega_{\bar{D}}^B} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = -1,$$

$$(5.6) \quad \boxed{r_{AB} = \sigma \bar{r}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \omega_{A\bar{C}} \omega_{B\bar{D}}} \quad \text{for } \varepsilon = +1.$$

<sup>13</sup>) The straight lines of  $R_5$  passing through the origin are regarded as the points of  $P_4$  and the origin of  $R_5$  is excluded from this representation.

<sup>14</sup>) Cf. J. A. SCHOUTEN, Raumzeit und Spinraum [Zeitschrift für Physik 81 (1933), 405—417], particularly p. 409, where he obtains this spinor by fixing a definite reference-system in  $R_5$ .

In order to give an unambiguous relation to the first and second fundamental spinors, we shall hereafter take

$$(5.7) \quad \sigma = +1$$

so that (3.2), (3.3), (5.5), (5.6) become

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (3.2)' \quad \bar{\chi}_{\dot{A}\dot{B}}^\alpha &= \chi_{CD}^\alpha \Omega_{\dot{A}}^C \Omega_{\dot{B}}^D \\ (5.5)' \quad r^{AB} &= \bar{r}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \Omega_{\dot{C}}^A \Omega_{\dot{D}}^B \end{aligned} \right\} \text{for } \varepsilon = -1,$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (3.3)' \quad \bar{\chi}_{\dot{A}\dot{B}}^\alpha &= \chi^{\alpha CD} \omega_{C\dot{A}} \omega_{D\dot{B}} \\ (5.6)' \quad r_{AB} &= \bar{r}^{\bar{C}\bar{D}} \omega_{A\bar{C}} \omega_{B\bar{D}} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{for } \varepsilon = +1.$$

In the case  $\varepsilon = -1$ , if we define the *third fundamental spinor*

$$(5.8) \quad \Omega_{A\bar{B}} = r_{AE} \Omega_{\dot{B}}^E,$$

then on account of (3.4) the relation (5.5)' is equivalent to

$$(5.9) \quad \boxed{\bar{\Omega}_{\dot{A}\dot{B}} = -a \Omega_{B\dot{A}}}$$

Hence  $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}$  is hermitian symmetrical or alternating according as  $\Omega_{\dot{B}}^A$  is negatively or positively invertible.

In the case  $\varepsilon = +1$  the *third fundamental spinor* is defined by

$$(5.10) \quad \omega_{\dot{B}}^A = r^{AE} \omega_{E\bar{B}}.$$

Then on account of (3.5) the relation (5.6)' is equivalent to

$$(5.11) \quad \boxed{\bar{\omega}_{\dot{B}}^A = +b \omega_{\dot{B}}^A}$$

Hence  $\omega_{\dot{B}}^A$  is positively or negatively invertible according as  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  is hermitian symmetrical or alternating.

### 6. Special spin-bivectors.

In order that the vector  $v^\alpha$  corresponding to the bivector  $v^{AB}$  by (4.1) lies in  $R_5$  ( $r_\beta v^\beta = 0$ ), it is necessary and sufficient that  $v^{AB}$  satisfies the condition

$$(6.1) \quad r_{AB} v^{AB} = 0.$$

Those bivectors of  $E_4$ , which are in involution with the fixed bivector  $r^{AB}$  by (6.1), are called *special bivectors*; these and only these correspond to vectors of  $R_6$  lying in  $R_5$ . With the exception of  $r^{AB}$ , only special bivectors in  $E_4$  will be considered. Of course these special bivectors are subject to the condition (4.4) or (4.5), for the corresponding vectors in  $R_5$  are real. The

complex conjugate of (6.1) is, in consequence of (4.4) and (5.5), or alternatively of (4.5) and (5.6), identical with itself. Thus (6.1) consists of only one equation and hence the  $v^{AB}$  subject to all the above-mentioned conditions are  $\infty^5$  real and complex bivectors of  $E_4$ , in (1-1) correspondence with all the  $\infty^5$  real vectors of  $R_5$ .

We shall use  $r^{AB}$  and  $r_{AB}$  to raise and lower single spin-suffices, and in consequence of (5.4) always sum with respect to the second suffix of  $r^{AB}$ ,  $r_{AB}$ . Thus if we raise a suffix and then lower it again we get the original suffix with no change of sign. For transvection we have  $v^A w_A = -v_A w^A$ .

If we multiply the relation (cf. § 5)

$$g_{ABCD} = -\frac{3}{2}r_{[AB}r_{CD]}$$

by  $v^{CD}$ , we obtain

$$g_{ABCD}v^{CD} = r_{AC}r_{BD}v^{CD} - \frac{1}{2}r_{AB}r_{CD}v^{CD},$$

which reduces to

$$(6.2) \quad g_{ABCD}v^{CD} = r_{AC}r_{BD}v^{CD}$$

when and only when  $v^{CD}$  is special. Thus *the process of lowering (raising) pairs of suffices by  $g_{ABCD}$  ( $g^{ABCD}$ ) and that of lowering (raising) single suffices by  $r_{AB}$  ( $r^{AB}$ ) are for special bivectors and for special bivectors alone equivalent.*

### 7. The fundamental tensor of $R_5$ .

Imagine in  $R_5$  any system of coordinates  $x^\alpha$  ( $\alpha, \lambda, \dots = 0, 1, \dots, 4$ ), Cartesian or curvilinear. Then along  $R_5$  the Cartesian coordinates  $X^\alpha$  of  $R_6$  are functions of  $x^\alpha$  satisfying the equation

$$r_\alpha X^\alpha = 0.$$

Differentiating this relation with respect to  $x^\lambda$  we get, since  $r_\alpha$  is constant,

$$(7.1) \quad r_\alpha B_\lambda^\alpha = 0,$$

where  $B_\lambda^\alpha = \frac{\partial X^\alpha}{\partial x^\lambda}$  is the connection-affinor between  $R_6$  and  $R_5$ <sup>15)</sup>.

<sup>15)</sup> Cf. SCHOUTEN & STRUIK, l.c. p. 90.

A reciprocal quantity  $B_\beta^\alpha$  is uniquely defined by the equations

$$(7.2) \quad B_\beta^\alpha B_\lambda^\beta = B_\lambda^\alpha, \quad B_\beta^\alpha r^\beta = 0$$

where  $B_\lambda^\alpha$  is the unit-affinor of  $R_5$ . By definition the unit-affinor  $B_\lambda^\alpha$  of  $R_5$  written in the suffices of  $R_6$  becomes

$$(7.3) \quad B_\beta^\alpha \equiv B_\lambda^\alpha B_\beta^\lambda,$$

which is related to the unit-affinor  $A_\beta^\alpha$  of  $R_6$  by the formula

$$(7.4) \quad A_\beta^\alpha = B_\beta^\alpha - \frac{1}{4} r^\alpha r_\beta \quad (16).$$

By means of  $B_\lambda^\alpha$  and  $B_\beta^\alpha$ , the fundamental metric tensor  $G_{\lambda\kappa}$  of  $R_5$  and its inverse  $G^{\lambda\kappa}$  are respectively defined by

$$(7.5) \quad \begin{cases} G_{\lambda\kappa} = g_{\beta\alpha} B_\lambda^\beta B_\kappa^\alpha, \\ G^{\lambda\kappa} = g^{\alpha\beta} B_\alpha^\lambda B_\beta^\kappa. \end{cases}$$

We shall also use these to lower and raise suffices of  $R_5$ . It turns out that  $B_\beta^\alpha$  [as originally defined by (7.2)] is merely the quantity obtained from  $B_\lambda^\alpha$  by raising and lowering its suffices. Thus we may write (7.4) in the form

$$(7.6) \quad g_{\alpha\beta} = G_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{4} r_\alpha r_\beta,$$

where  $G_{\alpha\beta} = G_{\lambda\kappa} B_\alpha^\lambda B_\beta^\kappa$  is the fundamental tensor of  $R_5$  written in the suffices of  $R_6$ . For an orthogonal system of reference in  $R_5$ , (7.6) shows that the fundamental tensor of  $R_6$  has the diagonal form

$$g_{\alpha\beta}: \quad \begin{pmatrix} G_{00} & & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & & \\ 0 & & G_{44} & & \\ \cdots & & & & \\ 0 & & & & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

from which it follows that, if  $\eta$  is the sign of  $\text{Det}(G_{\lambda\kappa})$ , the sign  $\varepsilon$  of  $\text{Det}(g_{\alpha\beta})$  is  $\varepsilon = -\eta$ . In projective relativity there are two possible signatures of  $G_{\lambda\kappa}$ , namely  $(- - - - +)$  and  $(+ - - - +)$  <sup>17</sup>. The first signature  $(- - - - +)$  corresponds to  $\eta = +1$ ,  $\varepsilon = -1$  and hence we have the three fundamental spinors  $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}^A$ ,  $r_{AB}$ ,  $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}$ . As the quantum theory naturally prefers  $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}$  to be

<sup>16</sup>) For the unit-affinor of  $R_6$  must decompose into two parts  $A_\beta^\alpha = B_\beta^\alpha + \varrho r^\alpha r_\beta$ , one belonging to  $R_5$  and the other to the normal of  $R_5$ . By contraction we have  $6 = 5 - 4 \varrho$ .

<sup>17</sup>) See SCHOUTEN [Footnote <sup>12</sup>) above], p. 66.

hermitian symmetrical instead of alternating<sup>18)</sup>, we see from (5.9) that  $a = -1$  and hence from (3.4) that  $\Omega_{\bar{B}}^A$  is negatively invertible. The second signature  $(+ - - - +)$  corresponds to  $\eta = -1$ ,  $\varepsilon = +1$  and hence the three fundamental spinors are  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$ ,  $r_{AB}$ ,  $\omega_{\bar{B}}^A$ . When we require that  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$  is hermitian symmetrical, we have from (3.5) that  $b = +1$  and hence from (5.11) that  $\omega_{\bar{B}}^A$  is positively invertible.

### 8. The Dirac operators.

From the six bivectors  $\chi_{\cdot AB}^\alpha$  with the upper suffix referred to  $R_6$  we form the five bivectors

$$(8.1) \quad \alpha_{\cdot AB}^\alpha = B_\alpha^\alpha \chi_{\cdot AB}^\alpha$$

with the upper suffix referred to  $R_5$ . By the second of (7.2) it follows that the  $\alpha_{\cdot AB}^\alpha$  are *special bivectors*:

$$(8.2) \quad \alpha_{\cdot AB}^\alpha r^{AB} = 0.$$

Owing to this property a single spin-suffix in  $\alpha_{\cdot AB}^\alpha$  can be raised by  $r^{AB}$ <sup>19)</sup> and thus we obtain five contra-co-variant spinors  $\alpha_{\cdot B}^{\alpha A}$  each of whose matrices has a zero *spur* ( $\alpha_{\cdot E}^{\alpha E} = 0$ ) in consequence of (8.2). If we multiply the fundamental equation (1.5) by  $B_\alpha^\alpha B_\beta^\lambda$  we obtain

$$(8.3) \quad \alpha_{\cdot E}^{(\alpha | A |} \alpha_{\cdot B}^{\lambda) E} = G^{\alpha\lambda} \alpha_B^A$$

or, in matrix notation,

$$\alpha^{(\alpha} \alpha^{\lambda)} = G^{\alpha\lambda},$$

showing that the five matrices  $\alpha^\alpha$  have all the properties of the Dirac operators.  $\ddagger$

From (1.1) and (1.2) we easily deduce the following relations

$$(8.4) \quad \alpha_{\cdot AB}^\alpha \alpha_\lambda^{\cdot AB} = 4B_\lambda^\alpha,$$

$$(8.5) \quad \alpha_\lambda^{\cdot AB} \alpha_{\cdot CD}^\lambda = 4\alpha_{[C}^A \alpha_{D]}^B + r^{AB} r_{CD}.$$

Let us form the expression

$$(8.6) \quad W_{\cdot AB}^{\alpha\lambda} = \alpha_{\cdot AC}^{[\alpha} \alpha_{\cdot BD}^{\lambda]} r^{CD}.$$

<sup>18)</sup> A hermitian symmetrical quantity multiplied by a pure imaginary number becomes hermitian alternating, and vice versa. But a positively invertible quantity cannot be changed into a negatively invertible quantity by multiplication with any number.

<sup>19)</sup> On the other hand the quantities  $\chi_{\cdot B}^{\alpha A}$  have no meaning since the six bivectors  $\chi_{\cdot AB}^\alpha$  are not special.

This quantity is skew in  $\kappa, \lambda$  and symmetrical in  $A, B$  and hence its independent components may be regarded as forming a 10-row square matrix. Lowering its upper suffices by  $G_{\lambda\kappa}$  and raising its lower suffices by  $r^{AB}$  we obtain

$$(8.7) \quad W_{\kappa\lambda}^{\cdot\cdot AB} = -\alpha_{[\kappa}^{AC} \alpha_{\lambda]}^{BD} r_{CD}.$$

With the aid of (8.5) it is easy to verify the relation

$$(8.8) \quad W_{\cdot\cdot CD}^{\kappa\lambda} W_{\kappa\lambda}^{\cdot\cdot AB} = 8 \alpha_{(C}^A \alpha_{D)}^B$$

from which we see that the 10-row determinants of both  $W_{\cdot\cdot AB}^{\kappa\lambda}$  and  $W_{\kappa\lambda}^{\cdot\cdot AB}$  do not vanish. On account of this property, if we multiply (8.8) by  $W_{\mu\nu}^{\cdot\cdot CD}$ , the result can be written

$$(8.9) \quad W_{\cdot\cdot CD}^{\kappa\lambda} W_{\mu\nu}^{\cdot\cdot CD} = 8 B_{[\mu}^{\kappa} B_{\nu]}^{\lambda}.$$

By means of  $W_{\cdot\cdot AB}^{\kappa\lambda}$  and  $W_{\kappa\lambda}^{\cdot\cdot AB}$  there exists a (1-1) correspondence between the symmetrical spinors  $\psi^{AB}$  of  $E_4$  and the bivectors  $\psi^{\kappa\lambda}$  of  $R_5$ :

$$(8.10) \quad \psi^{\kappa\lambda} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} W_{\cdot\cdot AB}^{\kappa\lambda} \psi^{AB},$$

$$(8.11) \quad \psi^{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} W_{\kappa\lambda}^{\cdot\cdot AB} \psi^{\kappa\lambda},$$

and it can be shown that if in particular  $\psi^{AB} = \psi^A \psi^B$ , where  $\psi^A$  is a fixed spin-vector, then  $\psi^{\kappa\lambda}$  is a *simple* bivector of the form  $\psi_1^{[\kappa} \psi_2^{\lambda]}$ , where  $\psi_1^{\kappa}, \psi_2^{\lambda}$  are any two vectors of  $R_5$  lying on a fixed plane  $P$  and are such that their alternating product is unvaried. Schouten<sup>20</sup>) has shown that the plane  $P$  lies in the null-cone of  $R_5$ . Geometrically the simple bivector  $\psi^{\kappa\lambda} = \psi_1^{[\kappa} \psi_2^{\lambda]}$  is interpreted as a closed region on  $P$  with definite area but with no definite boundary, rotating arbitrarily round an un-reversed direction. This is probably the counterpart of a geometric interpretation of the wave-function  $\psi^A$  appearing in the Dirac equation.

### 9. Isomorphism between $E_4$ and $R_5$ .

The (1-1) correspondence between the special bivectors of  $E_4$  and the vectors of  $R_5$  is analytically expressed by

$$(9.1) \quad \begin{aligned} v^{\kappa} &= \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{AB}^{\kappa} v^{AB} \\ v^{AB} &= \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\lambda}^{AB} v^{\lambda} \end{aligned} \quad (r_{AB} v^{AB} = 0).$$

<sup>20</sup>) SCHOUTEN [Footnote 14], p. 411.

In order that the spin-transformation  $T_{.B}^A$ :

$$'v^{AB} = v^{CD} T_{.C}^A T_{.D}^B$$

changes every special bivector  $v^{AB}$  into a special bivector  $'v^{AB}$ , we must have

$$r^{AB} = \varrho r^{CD} T_{.C}^A T_{.D}^B,$$

where  $\varrho$  is arbitrary. As the determinant of  $T_{.B}^A$  is unity, it follows that  $\varrho = \pm 1$  and we have

$$(9.2) \quad r^{AB} = \pm r^{CD} T_{.C}^A T_{.D}^B.$$

In other words  $T_{.B}^A$  leaves  $r^{AB}$  invariant but for the factor  $\pm 1$ .

The induced transformation on  $v^\kappa$  is

$$(9.3) \quad l_{. \lambda}^\kappa = \frac{1}{4} \alpha_{.AB}^\kappa T_{.C}^A T_{.D}^B \alpha_\lambda^{CD} = B_{\alpha}^\kappa e_{\beta}^\alpha B_{\lambda}^\beta,$$

and it can be verified that  $l_{. \lambda}^\kappa$  is a rotation with respect to the fundamental tensor  $G_{\lambda\kappa}$  of  $R_5$ .

For  $l_{. \lambda}^\kappa$  to be real, we have that when  $\varepsilon = -1$ ,  $T_{.B}^A$  leaves  $\Omega_{.B}^A$ ,  $r_{AB}$  and therefore also  $\Omega_{A\bar{B}}$  invariant but for the factor  $\pm 1$ , and that when  $\varepsilon = +1$ ,  $T_{.B}^A$  leaves  $\omega_{A\bar{B}}$ ,  $r_{AB}$  and therefore also  $\omega_{.B}^A$  invariant but for the factor  $\pm 1$  <sup>21</sup>). In either case the complex conjugate of (9.2) is identical with itself, and hence (9.2) consists of 6 equations of which only 5 are independent since by taking the determinant on both sides of (9.2) we get an identity. Thus  $T_{.B}^A$  is a group of  $\infty^{15-5} = \infty^{10}$  real and complex spin-transformations doubly isomorphic with the group of all the  $\infty^{10}$  real rotations of  $R_5$ .

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<sup>21</sup>) Cf. SCHOUTEN & HAANTJES, I.c. p. 185; Cartan, I.c. p. 354.