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Journal of Lie Theory 16 (2006) 039–046

R. Chirivì

Dip. di Matematica, Università di Pisa, Via Buonarroti 2, 56127 Pisa, Italy
chirivi@dm.unipi.it

A. Maffei

Dip. di Matematica, Università di Roma "La Sapienza", P.le Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma, Italy
amaffei@mat.uniroma1.it

On Exceptional Completions of Symmetric Varieties

Let G be a simple group with an exceptional involution σ having H as fixed point set. We study the embedding of G/H in the projective space $\mathbb{P}(V)$ for a simple G -module V with a line fixed by H but having no nonzero vector fixed by H . For a certain class of such modules V we describe the closure of G/H proving in particular that it is a smooth variety.

Keywords: Complete symmetric variety, exceptional involution.

MSC: 14M17, 14L30