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Hurwitz's theorem on composition algebras

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Theorem 1 (Hurwitz). [*?*, Theorem 3.25] *Given a field k of characteristic not 2, then every unital composition algebra C over k is isomorphic to one of:*

1. k ,
2. $\left(\frac{\alpha}{k}\right)$ for $\alpha \in k$,
3. $\left(\frac{\alpha, \beta}{k}\right)$ for $\alpha, \beta \in k$,
4. $\left(\frac{\alpha, \beta, \gamma}{k}\right)$ for $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in k$.

In particular, all composition algebras over k are finite dimensional and of dimension 1, 2, 4 or 8.

References

- [1] Richard D. Schafer, *An introduction to nonassociative algebras*, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Vol. 22, Academic Press, New York, 1966.