

# SOME RESULTS ON LIE $p$ -ALGEBRAS

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Let  $\mathfrak{L}$  be a Lie  $p$ -algebra ("restricted Lie algebra") over the field  $\mathfrak{F}$  of prime characteristic  $p$  [3, Chapter V]. Denote by  $x^p$  the image of  $x \in \mathfrak{L}$  under the  $p$ -power operation, by  $x^{p^k}$  the image of  $x$  under the  $k$ th iterate of  $x \rightarrow x^p$ , with  $x^{p^0} = x$ . Let  $\langle x \rangle$  be the subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{L}$  generated by  $x$ , i.e., the space of linear combinations of the  $x^{p^k}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Call  $x \in \mathfrak{L}$  *separable* if  $x \in \langle x^p \rangle$ , *nilpotent* if  $x^{p^k} = 0$  for some  $k$ . Then we have proved the following decomposition theorem, which yields a slightly sharpened form of the Jordan-Chevalley decomposition [2, p. 71] for linear transformations in the case of prime characteristic.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $x \in \mathfrak{L}$ , a Lie  $p$ -algebra of finite dimension over the perfect field  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Then there exist elements  $s, n \in \langle x \rangle$  with  $s$  separable and  $n$  nilpotent, such that  $x = s + n$ . If  $y \in \mathfrak{L}$  is separable,  $z \in \mathfrak{L}$  nilpotent,  $[yz] = 0$ , and  $x = y + z$ , then  $y = s$  and  $z = n$ .*

A subalgebra  $\mathfrak{T}$  of the Lie  $p$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{L}$  is called *toral* if  $\mathfrak{T}$  is commutative and if every element of  $\mathfrak{T}$  is separable. A subalgebra  $\mathfrak{N}$  is called *nil* if every element of  $\mathfrak{N}$  is nilpotent. For a Lie  $p$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{L}$  of endomorphisms of a finite-dimensional vector space over an algebraically closed field, to say that  $\mathfrak{L}$  is triangulable is to say that  $[\mathfrak{L}\mathfrak{L}]$  is nil. In this connection we have the following result.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $\mathfrak{L}$  be a Lie  $p$ -algebra over the perfect field  $\mathfrak{F}$ , and suppose that  $[\mathfrak{L}\mathfrak{L}]$  is nil. Let  $\mathfrak{N}$  be the set of nilpotent elements of  $\mathfrak{L}$ , and let  $\mathfrak{T}$  be any maximal toral subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{L}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{N}$  is an ideal in  $\mathfrak{L}$ , and  $\mathfrak{L} = \mathfrak{T} + \mathfrak{N}$ . If, moreover,  $\mathfrak{L}$  is nilpotent (as ordinary Lie algebra), then  $\mathfrak{T}$  is the set of all separable elements of  $\mathfrak{L}$  and  $\mathfrak{T}$  is central in  $\mathfrak{L}$ .*

As to conjugacy of maximal toral subalgebras under these conditions we have shown the following:

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $\mathfrak{L}$  be a Lie  $p$ -algebra over the field  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Suppose that the set  $\mathfrak{N}$  of nilpotent elements is an ideal in  $\mathfrak{L}$ , and let  $\mathfrak{T}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{T}_2$  be toral subalgebras such that  $\mathfrak{T}_i + \mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{L}$ . If  $\mathfrak{N}$  is commutative, then there is an automorphism  $\sigma$  of the Lie  $p$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{L}$  such that  $x^\sigma = x$  for all  $x \in \mathfrak{N}$ , with  $y^\sigma - y \in \mathfrak{N}$  for all  $y \in \mathfrak{L}$ , and with  $\mathfrak{T}_1^\sigma = \mathfrak{T}_2$ . In general, there is no*

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