

ISOMORPHISMS BETWEEN GENERALIZED
CARTAN TYPE W LIE ALGEBRAS
IN CHARACTERISTIC 0

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we determine when two simple generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras $W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ are isomorphic, and discuss the relationship between the Jacobian conjecture and the generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras.

1. Introduction. This paper is a sequel to the papers [1] and [2] in which generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras $W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ over a field F of characteristic 0 were studied. We have tried to make this paper independent of [1] and [2], and so, in Section 2, we give a short description of general Lie algebras, generalized Witt algebras, generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras, and recall some basic facts about them. In Section 3, we show that every isomorphism between two simple generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras arises from an isomorphism between the two associative algebras corresponding to the two Lie algebras, and, determine when two of the simple Lie algebras $W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ are isomorphic. In Section 4, we pose a conjecture on the general Lie algebras, and prove that the validity of this conjecture implies the validity of the Jacobian conjecture.

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2. Generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras. In this section, for the convenience of the reader, we recall the definition of general Lie algebras, generalized Witt algebras, generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras and some basic facts concerning them. For more details we refer the reader to the papers [1] and [2].

Let n be a positive integer, and t_1, \dots, t_n independent and commuting indeterminates over F . Denote by P_n and Q_n the polynomial algebra $F[t_1, \dots, t_n]$, and the Laurent polynomial algebra $F[t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}]$ respectively. By $W_n = W_n(F)$ we denote the *Witt algebra*, i.e., the Lie algebra of all formal vector fields

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \frac{\partial}{\partial t_i}$$

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with coefficients $f_i \in Q_n$. The bracket in W_n is

$$\left[f \frac{\partial}{\partial t_i}, g \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right] = f \frac{\partial(g)}{\partial t_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} - g \frac{\partial(f)}{\partial t_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_i},$$

where $f, g \in Q_n$, and $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. The subalgebra $W_n^+ = W_n^+(F)$ of W_n consisting of all vector fields (2.1) with polynomial coefficients, *i.e.*, $f_i \in P_n$, is known as the *general Lie algebra*, or the *Lie algebra of Cartan type W* . (There are also topologized versions of W_n and W_n^+ where the coefficients f_i are formal Laurent and power series in t_1, \dots, t_n , respectively, and F is the real or complex field. For more details, please refer [10]). It is well known that W_n and W_n^+ are simple Lie algebras.

For any ring R , we can similarly define the Lie algebra $W_n^+(R)$ over R .

Let A be an abelian group, F a field of characteristic 0, and T a vector space over F . We denote by FA the group algebra of A over F . The elements $t^x, x \in A$, form a basis of this algebra, and the multiplication is defined by $t^x \cdot t^y = t^{x+y}$. We shall write 1 instead of t^0 . The tensor product $W = FA \otimes_F T$ is a free left FA -module. We denote an arbitrary element of T by ∂ (to remind us of differential operators). For the sake of simplicity, we shall write $t^x \partial$ instead of $t^x \otimes \partial$. We now choose a pairing $\varphi: T \times A \rightarrow F$ which is F -linear in the first variable and additive in the second one. For convenience we shall also use the following notations:

$$\varphi(\partial, x) = \langle \partial, x \rangle = \partial(x)$$

for arbitrary $\partial \in T$ and $x \in A$.

There is a unique F -bilinear map $W \times W \rightarrow W$ sending $(t^x \partial_1, t^y \partial_2)$ to

$$(2.2) \quad [t^x \partial_1, t^y \partial_2] := t^{x+y} (\partial_1(y) \partial_2 - \partial_2(x) \partial_1),$$

for arbitrary $x, y \in A$ and $\partial_1, \partial_2 \in T$. It is easy to verify that this map makes W into a Lie algebra. We refer to this algebra $W = W(A, T, \varphi)$ as a *generalized Witt algebra*.

The subspaces $W_x = t^x T, x \in A$, define an A -gradation of W , *i.e.*, W is the direct sum of the W_x 's, and $[W_x, W_y] \subset W_{x+y}$ for all $x, y \in A$.

It follows from (2.2) that $\text{ad}(\partial)$ acts on W_x as a scalar $\partial(x)$. Hence each $\partial \in T$ is ad-semisimple, and T is a torus (*i.e.*, an abelian subalgebra consisting of ad-semisimple elements). In fact T is the only maximal torus of W (see [1, Lemma 4.1]).

The following theorem is due to Kawamoto [5].

THEOREM 2.1. *Suppose that the characteristic of F is 0. The Lie algebra $W = W(A, T, \varphi)$ is simple if and only if $A \neq 0$ and φ is nondegenerate in the sense that the following conditions hold:*

$$(2.3) \quad \langle \partial, x \rangle = 0, \quad \forall \partial \in T \Rightarrow x = 0$$

and

$$(2.4) \quad \langle \partial, x \rangle = 0, \quad \forall x \in A \Rightarrow \partial = 0 \quad \blacksquare$$

Note that (2.3) implies that A is torsion free. This implies that FA is an integral domain and it implies that the invertible elements of FA have the form at^x , where $a \in F^*$, $x \in A$.

As mentioned earlier, W is a free left FA -module. There is also a natural structure of a left W -module on FA , namely the structure is such that

$$(2.5) \quad t^x \partial \cdot t^y = \partial(y)t^{x+y}$$

for $x, y \in A$ and $\partial \in T$. These two module structures are related by the identity

$$(2.6) \quad [fu, gv] = f(u \cdot g)v - g(v \cdot f)u + fg[u, v]$$

where $f, g \in FA$ and $u, v \in W$ are arbitrary. The W -module structure on FA gives rise to a homomorphism

$$(2.7) \quad W \rightarrow \text{Der}(FA)$$

because each $w \in W$ acts on FA as a derivation. Clearly (2.7) is also a homomorphism of FA -modules.

Suppose that $W = W(A, T, \varphi)$ denotes a simple generalized Witt algebra over a field F of characteristic 0. Let I be an index set, $d: I \rightarrow T$ an injective map, and write $d_i = d(i)$ for $i \in I$. We say that d is *admissible* if the following two conditions hold:

(Ind) $d_i, i \in I$, are linearly independent;

(Int) $d_i(A) = \mathbf{Z}$ for all $i \in I$.

We assume throughout that an admissible d has been fixed. We set

$$\begin{aligned} A_d^+ &= \{x \in A : d_i(x) \geq 0, \forall i \in I\}, \\ A_d^0 &= \{x \in A : d_i(x) = 0, \forall i \in I\}, \\ A_{d,i} &= \{x \in A : d_i(x) = -1; d_j(x) \geq 0, \forall j \in I \setminus \{i\}\}, \\ A_{d,i}^\# &= \{x \in A : d_i(x) = -1; d_j(x) = 0, \forall j \in I \setminus \{i\}\}, \\ A_d &= A_d^+ \cup \left(\bigcup_{i \in I} A_{d,i} \right). \end{aligned}$$

We now introduce some subspaces of W :

$$\begin{aligned} W_d^+ &= \sum_{x \in A_d^+} W_x; \\ W_{d,i} &= \left(\sum_{x \in A_{d,i}} Ft^x \right) d_i, \quad i \in I; \end{aligned}$$

and

$$W_d = W_d(A, T, \varphi) = W_d^+ + \sum_{i \in I} W_{d,i}.$$

In fact all of these subspaces are subalgebras of W .

We also introduce the subalgebra FA_d^+ of FA , which is the span of all elements t^x with $x \in A_d^+$. Since W is a left FA -module, we can view W also as a left FA_d^+ -module. Then it is easy to see that the subspaces W_d^+ and W_d are FA_d^+ -submodules of W .

Let $x \in A_{d,i}$ and $y \in A_d^+$. Then either $x + y \in A_d^+$ or $x + y \in A_{d,i}$ and $d_i(y) = 0$. In both cases we have

$$t^x d_i \cdot t^y = d_i(y)t^{x+y} \in FA_d^+.$$

Hence, by restricting the action of W on FA , we can view FA as a left W_d -module, and then FA_d^+ is a W_d -submodule of FA .

When d is fixed, and there is no danger of confusion, we shall write

$$A^+, A_i, A_i^\#, W^+, W_i, FA^+$$

instead of

$$A_d^+, A_{d,i}, A_{d,i}^\#, W_d^+, W_{d,i}, FA_d^+,$$

respectively.

The following theorem is proved in [2].

THEOREM 2.2. *The Lie algebra W_d is simple if and only if the following conditions hold:*

- (i) if $\partial \in T$ and $\partial(x) = 0$ for all $x \in A_d$, then $\partial = 0$;
- (ii) if $x \in A_d$, then $d_i(x) = 0$ for almost all $i \in I$;
- (iii) $A_i^\# \neq \emptyset$ for all $i \in I$. ■

From now on (throughout the paper) we shall assume that W_d is simple, and in that case W_d is called an algebra of *generalized Cartan type W* . For more details on the Lie algebra W_d , please refer to the papers [1] and [7].

We conclude this section by a known lemma (and one of its corollaries), which follows directly from [9, Theorem 5.8]. It would not be strange if this lemma was known before [9].

LEMMA 2.3. *Suppose F is a field of characteristic 0. Then $W_n^+(F) \simeq W_m^+(F)$ if and only if $m = n$. ■*

Note that in this lemma m and n can be infinity.

COROLLARY 2.4. *Suppose R is a domain of characteristic 0. Then $W_n^+(R) \simeq W_m^+(R)$ if and only if $m = n$.*

PROOF. (\Rightarrow) Denote the quotient field of R by \bar{R} . Then $W_n^+(\bar{R}) = \bar{R} \otimes_R W_n^+(R)$ and $W_m^+(\bar{R}) = \bar{R} \otimes_R W_m^+(R)$. It follows from $W_n^+(R) \simeq W_m^+(R)$ that $W_n^+(\bar{R}) \simeq W_m^+(\bar{R})$. By the above lemma, we know that $m = n$.

(\Leftarrow) This direction is clear. ■

3. Isomorphisms between generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras. In this section, we shall mainly determine the necessary and sufficient conditions under which two generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras are isomorphic.

Consider two simple generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras $L = W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ and $L' = W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi')$. From results in [2] we know that $I = \emptyset$ if and only if $I' = \emptyset$.

If $I = I' = \emptyset$, then $L = W(A, T, \varphi)$ and $L' = W(A', T', \varphi')$ are simple generalized Witt algebras. The isomorphisms between L and L' have been completely determined in [1]. Therefore, from now on in this section, we may assume that $I \neq \emptyset$, $I' \neq \emptyset$ and $\dim T \geq \dim T' \geq 1$.

Suppose $\theta: L \rightarrow L'$ is an isomorphism of Lie algebras. If $\dim T = 1$, then $\dim T' = 1$. Hence $L \simeq W_1^+ \simeq L'$. Therefore we may assume that $\dim T > 1$.

For $x \in A$, let

$$F_x = \{f \in FA_{d'}^+ : \theta(\partial) \cdot f = \partial(x)f, \forall \partial \in T\},$$

and let

$$P = \{x \in A : F_x \neq \emptyset\}.$$

Since $W_{d'} \cdot F = 0$, we have $F \subset F_0$ and so $0 \in P$.

We mention here that the statements and the proofs of Lemma 3.1 to Lemma 3.4 are similar to that of Lemma 5.1 to Lemma 5.4 in [2], which were used to determine the automorphisms of the simple Lie algebra $W_d(A, T, \varphi)$.

LEMMA 3.1. $FA_{d'}^+ = \bigoplus_{x \in A} F_x$.

PROOF. It suffices to show that the union of all F_x , $x \in A$, spans FA_d^+ . Let $f \in FA_{d'}^+$, $f \neq 0$, and choose $\partial_0 \in T$, $\partial_0 \neq 0$. Since $f\theta(\partial_0) \in L' = W_{d'}$, we have

$$(3.1) \quad \theta^{-1}(f\theta(\partial_0)) = \sum_{i=1}^n t^{x_i} \partial_i,$$

where $x_i \in A_d$ are distinct and $\partial_i \in T$ are nonzero. By applying $\text{ad } \partial$, $\partial \in T$, to both sides of (3.1), we obtain that

$$(\theta(\partial) \cdot f)\theta(\partial_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial(x_i)\theta(t^{x_i}\partial_i),$$

and similarly

$$(3.2) \quad (\theta(\partial)^k \cdot f)\theta(\partial_0) = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial(x_i)^k \theta(t^{x_i}\partial_i), \quad k \geq 0.$$

By choosing ∂ such that $\partial(x_i)$ are distinct for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and by taking $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ in (3.2), we obtain a system of linear equations to which Cramer's rule can be applied. We conclude that there exist $f_1, \dots, f_n \in FA_{d'}^+$ Such that

$$(3.3) \quad \theta(t^{x_i}\partial_i) = f_i\theta(\partial_0), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

From (3.1) and (3.3) we deduce that

$$(3.4) \quad f = f_1 + \cdots + f_n.$$

By applying $\text{ad } \theta(\partial')$ to both sides of (3.3), we obtain that

$$\theta(\partial') \cdot f_i = \partial'(x_i)f_i, \quad \forall \partial' \in T,$$

i.e., $f_i \in F_{x_i}$. Hence (3.4) shows that f belongs to the sum of the $F_x, x \in A$. ■

Since $W_{d'}$ is simple and $W_{d'} \cdot FA_{d'}^+ \neq 0$, it follows that $\theta(T) \cdot FA_{d'}^+ \neq 0$. By using Lemma 3.1, we conclude that $P \neq \{0\}$.

LEMMA 3.2. *We have $P \subset A_d^+$ and $\dim F_x = 1$ for all $x \in P$. Furthermore, if a nonzero $f \in F_x$ is fixed, then for every $\partial \in T$ there exists a unique $\tilde{\partial} \in T$ such that*

$$(3.5) \quad f\theta(\partial) = \theta(r^x \tilde{\partial}).$$

PROOF. Let $x \in P$ and let $f, g \in F_x$ be both nonzero. For arbitrary $\partial, \partial' \in T$ we have

$$[\theta(\partial'), f\theta(\partial)] = (\theta(\partial') \cdot f)\theta(\partial) = \partial'(x)f\theta(\partial),$$

and so

$$(3.6) \quad \theta^{-1}(f\theta(\partial)) \in W_d \cap W_x = W_d \cap r^x T.$$

In particular $W_d \cap W_x \neq 0$, and so $x \in A_d$. Hence $P \subset A_d$. Since $P + P \subset P$, we must have $P \subset A_d^+$. Note that (3.6) implies (3.5).

It remains to show that $\dim F_x = 1$. By replacing f with g , we see that for each $\partial \in T$ there exists a unique $\hat{\partial} \in T$ such that

$$(3.7) \quad g\theta(\partial) = \theta(r^x \hat{\partial}).$$

For arbitrary $\partial, \partial' \in T$ we have

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \theta\left(r^{2x}(\tilde{\partial}(x)\hat{\partial}' - \hat{\partial}'(x)\tilde{\partial})\right) &= \theta([r^x \tilde{\partial}, r^x \hat{\partial}']) \\ &= [\theta(r^x \tilde{\partial}), \theta(r^x \hat{\partial}')] \\ &= [f\theta(\partial), g\theta(\partial')] \\ &= f(\theta(\partial) \cdot g)\theta(\partial') - g(\theta(\partial') \cdot f)\theta(\partial) \\ &= fg(\partial(x)\theta(\partial') - \partial'(x)\theta(\partial)). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\dim T > 1$, we can choose $\partial, \partial' \in T$ such that $\partial(x) \neq 0, \partial'(x) = 0$, and $\partial' \neq 0$. Then the right hand side of (3.8) is not 0, and so $\tilde{\partial}(x) \neq 0$ or $\hat{\partial}'(x) \neq 0$. Hence we have shown that there exists $\partial_1 \in T$ such that $\tilde{\partial}_1(x) \neq 0$ or $\hat{\partial}_1(x) \neq 0$. By replacing ∂ and ∂' in (3.8) with ∂_1 we infer that $\tilde{\partial}_1$ and $\hat{\partial}_1$ are linearly dependent. Hence f and g are linearly dependent and so $\dim F_x = 1$. ■

Note that Lemma 3.2 implies that $F_0 = F$.

Assume that $x \in P$ and $f \in F_x \setminus \{0\}$. For $\partial \in T$ let $\tilde{\partial} \in T$ be such that (3.5) holds. Then for $t^y \partial' \in W_d$ we have

$$\theta([t^y \partial', t^x \tilde{\partial}]) = \theta\left(t^{x+y}(\partial'(x)\tilde{\partial} - \tilde{\partial}(y)\partial')\right)$$

and

$$[\theta(t^y \partial'), \theta(t^x \tilde{\partial})] = [\theta(t^y \partial'), f\theta(\partial)] = (\theta(t^y \partial') \cdot f)\theta(\partial) + f\theta([t^y \partial', \partial]).$$

It follows that

$$(3.9) \quad \theta\left(t^{x+y}(\partial'(x)\tilde{\partial} - \tilde{\partial}(y)\partial')\right) = (\theta(t^y \partial') \cdot f)\theta(\partial) - \partial(y)f\theta(t^y \partial').$$

LEMMA 3.3. We have $P = A_d^+$.

PROOF. In view of Lemma 3.2, it suffices to show that $A_d^+ \subset P$. We claim first that

$$(3.10) \quad x + A_d^+ \subset P,$$

for all $x \in P \setminus \{0\}$. We fix a nonzero $f \in F_x$. Let $y \in A_d^+$. Since $\dim T > 1$, we can choose $\partial \neq 0$ such that $\partial(y) = 0$, and ∂' such that ∂' and $\tilde{\partial}$ are linearly independent and $\partial'(x) \neq 0$. Then (3.9) gives that

$$\theta\left(t^{x+y}(\partial'(x)\tilde{\partial} - \tilde{\partial}(y)\partial')\right) = (\theta(t^y \partial') \cdot f)\theta(\partial) \neq 0,$$

and so $\theta(t^y \partial') \cdot f \in F_{x+y} \setminus \{0\}$. Hence (3.10) holds.

Fix an $i \in I$ and $a_i \in A_i^\#$. We claim that

$$(3.11) \quad x \in P \& d_i(x) > 0 \Rightarrow x + a_i \in P.$$

Choose $\partial \in T \setminus \{0\}$ such that $\partial(a_i) = 0$. Then $d_i(x)\tilde{\partial} - \tilde{\partial}(a_i)d_i \neq 0$. By setting $y = a_i$ and $\partial' = d_i$ in (3.9), we obtain that

$$\theta(t^{x+a_i}(d_i(x)\tilde{\partial} - \tilde{\partial}(a_i)d_i)) = (\theta(t^{a_i} d_i) \cdot f)\theta(\partial) \neq 0,$$

and so $\theta(t^{a_i} d_i) \cdot f \in F_{x+a_i} \setminus \{0\}$. This proves our second claim.

Now let $y \in A_d^+ \setminus \{0\}$ be arbitrary. Let $x \in P$ be chosen so that $d_i(x) \geq d_i(y)$ for all $i \in I$ and

$$n = \sum_{i \in I} d_i(x)$$

is minimal. (It follows from (3.10) that such x exists.) Assume that there exists an $i \in I$ such that $d_i(x) > d_i(y)$. By (3.11) we have $x + a_i \in P$, which contradicts the choice of x . So $d_i(x) = d_i(y)$ for all $i \in I$. Then $y - x \in A_d^*$. By (3.10) it follows that $y = x + (y - x) \in P$.

For $\partial \in T$ let $K(\partial) = \{x \in A_d^+ : \partial(x) = 0\}$.

LEMMA 3.4. For each $x \in A_d^+$ there exists a unique $f_x \in F_x$ such that $f_x \theta(\partial) = \theta(t^x \partial)$ holds for all $\partial \in T$.

PROOF. For any $z \in A_d^+$, we fix a nonzero element $\bar{f}_z \in F_z$. Since $F_x F_y = F_{x+y}$ for any $x, y \in A_d^+$, there exists $a_{x,y} \in F^*$ such that $\bar{f}_x \bar{f}_y = a_{x,y} \bar{f}_{x+y}$ for any $x, y \in A_d^+$. For any $z \in A_d^+$, we define a linear map

$$\alpha_z: T \rightarrow T, \quad \partial \rightarrow \alpha_z(\partial),$$

where $\alpha_z(\partial)$ is defined by $\bar{f}_z \theta(\partial) = \theta(t^z \alpha_z(\partial))$ (see (3.5)). By Lemma 3.2 we know that each α_z is injective.

Since $\theta^{-1}(\bar{f}_x \theta(\partial)) = t^x \alpha_x(\partial)$ and $\theta^{-1}(\bar{f}_y \theta(\partial')) = t^y \alpha_y(\partial')$, we deduce that

$$[t^x \alpha_x(\partial), t^y \alpha_y(\partial')] = t^{x+y} (\langle \alpha_x(\partial), y \rangle \alpha_y(\partial') - \langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial)),$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned} [t^x \alpha_x(\partial), t^y \alpha_y(\partial')] &= \theta^{-1} [\bar{f}_x \theta(\partial), \bar{f}_y \theta(\partial')] \\ &= \theta^{-1} (\bar{f}_x \bar{f}_y (\partial(y) \theta(\partial') - \partial'(x) \theta(\partial))) \\ &= a_{x,y} t^{x+y} (\partial(y) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial') - \partial'(x) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial)). \end{aligned}$$

So we obtain that

$$(3.12) \quad \langle \alpha_x(\partial), y \rangle \alpha_y(\partial') - \langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial) = a_{x,y} (\partial(y) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial') - \partial'(x) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial)).$$

We claim that, for any $x, y \in A_d^+$, $\partial(y) = 0$ if and only if $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = 0$.

This claim is clear if $\dim(T) = 1$. Next we suppose that $\dim(T) > 1$. For contradiction, we suppose that there exists a $\partial \in T$ such that $\partial(y) \neq 0$ and $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = 0$, or, $\partial(y) = 0$ and $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) \neq 0$.

CASE 1. Suppose $\partial(y) \neq 0$ and $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = 0$. By replacing y with $2y$ if necessary, we may assume that $\partial(x) \neq \partial(y)$. From (3.12) we obtain that

$$-\langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial) = a_{x,y} (\partial(y) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial') - \partial'(x) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial)),$$

i.e.,

$$(3.12') \quad a_{x,y} \partial(y) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial') = a_{x,y} \partial'(x) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial) - \langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial), \quad \forall \partial' \in T.$$

By setting $\partial' = \partial$ in the above equation, we deduce that

$$\langle \alpha_y(\partial), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial) = a_{x,y} \partial(x - y) \alpha_{x+y}(\partial) \neq 0.$$

Thus we know that $\alpha_{x+y}(\partial) \in F \alpha_x(\partial)$. In (3.12') we see that the right hand side is always in $F \alpha_x(\partial)$ whatever ∂' is, but the left hand side is not in $F \alpha_x(\partial)$ for some ∂' since α_{x+y} is injective and $\dim(T) > 1$. This gives a contradiction.

CASE 2. Suppose $\partial(y) = 0$ and $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) \neq 0$. From (3.12) we obtain

$$a_{x,y}\partial'(x)\alpha_{x+y}(\partial) = \langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle \alpha_x(\partial) - \langle \alpha_x(\partial), y \rangle \alpha_y(\partial').$$

Since $\dim(T) > 1$ we can choose nonzero element $\partial' \in T$ such that $\langle \alpha_y(\partial'), x \rangle = 0$. By Case 1 we know that $\partial'(x) = 0$. So it follows from the above equation that $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = 0$, contrary to our hypothesis.

Hence our first claim is proved.

Let us fix $x, y \in A_d^+$ and $f \in F_x \setminus \{0\}$. By the above claim, we know that

$$(3.13) \quad K(\partial) = K(\alpha_x(\partial)), \quad \forall \partial \in T.$$

Let $\partial, \partial' \in T$ be arbitrary. Choose $a, b \in F$, not both zero, such that $(a\partial + b\partial')(y) = 0$. By applying (3.13) to $a\partial + b\partial'$ instead of ∂ , we conclude that $(a\alpha_x(\partial) + b\alpha_x(\partial'))(y) = 0$. Hence

$$\begin{vmatrix} \partial(y) & \alpha_x(\partial)(y) \\ \partial'(y) & \alpha_x(\partial')(y) \end{vmatrix} = 0,$$

and consequently there exists $c(x, y, f) \in F^*$ such that

$$(3.14) \quad \alpha_x(\partial)(y) = c(x, y, f)\partial(y), \quad \forall \partial \in T.$$

We claim that $c(x, y, f)$ is independent of $y \in A_d^+ \setminus \{0\}$.

For any $z \in A$ let $\hat{z}: T \rightarrow F$ be the linear function defined by $\hat{z}(\partial) = \partial(z)$. Since $\dim T > 1$, we can choose $z \in A_d^+$ such that \hat{y} and \hat{z} are linearly independent. In order to prove our claim, it suffices to show that $c(x, y, f) = c(x, z, f)$ when \hat{y} and \hat{z} are linearly independent. In that case we can choose $\partial_1, \partial_2 \in T$ such that

$$\partial_1(y) = \partial_2(z) = 0, \quad \partial_1(z) = \partial_2(y) = 1.$$

By (3.13) and (3.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} c(x, y, f) &= \alpha_x(\partial_2)(y) = \alpha_x(\partial_2)(y + z) = c(x, y + z, f), \\ c(x, z, f) &= \alpha_x(\partial_1)(z) = \alpha_x(\partial_1)(y + z) = c(x, y + z, f), \end{aligned}$$

and so our second claim is proved.

We conclude that there is a constant $c(x, f) \in F^*$ such that

$$\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = c(x, f)\partial(y), \quad \forall \partial \in T, \forall y \in A_d^+.$$

Further, we can deduce that $\alpha_x(\partial)(y) = c(x, f)\partial(y)$, $\forall \partial \in T, \forall y \in A_d$. Then from Theorem 2.2(i) it follows that $\alpha_x(\partial) = c(x, f)\partial$ for all $\partial \in T$. If $f_x = c(x, f)^{-1}f$, then (3.5) implies that $f_x\theta(\partial) = \theta(f_x\partial)$ holds for all $\partial \in T$.

The uniqueness of f_x is obvious. ■

The following theorem is one of our main results in this paper. In this theorem we do not need the restrictions on I and T .

THEOREM 3.5. Suppose that $L = W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ and $L' = W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi')$ are simple generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras. Then for any Lie algebra isomorphism $\theta: L \rightarrow L'$, there exists a unique associative algebra isomorphism $\Psi_\theta: FA_d^+ \rightarrow FA_{d'}^+$ such that

$$(3.15) \quad \theta(fw) = \Psi_\theta(f)\theta(w),$$

and

$$(3.16) \quad \Psi_\theta(w \cdot f) = \theta(w) \cdot \Psi_\theta(f)$$

hold for all $f \in FA_d^+$, and $w \in W_d$.

PROOF. Remember that we have assumed that $\dim T \geq \dim T'$.

CASE 1. $I = \emptyset$. We know that $I' = \emptyset$ also. Then $L = W(A, T, \varphi)$ and $L' = W(A', T', \varphi')$ are simple generalized Witt algebras. It follows from [1, Theorem 4.2] that there exists $\chi \in \text{Hom}(A, F^*)$, an isomorphisms $\mu: A \rightarrow A'$ and $\tau: T \rightarrow T'$ satisfying

$$\partial(x) = \langle \tau\partial, \mu(x) \rangle, \quad \forall \partial \in T, x \in A$$

such that $\theta(t^x \partial) = \chi(x)t^{\mu(x)}\tau\partial$. Set $\Psi_\theta(t^x) = \chi(x)t^{\mu(x)}$. It is easy to verify that (3.15) and (3.16) are satisfied.

CASE 2. $I \neq \emptyset$ and $\dim T > 1$. Define the linear map $\sigma: FA_d^+ \rightarrow FA_{d'}^+$ by setting $\sigma(t^x) = f_x, x \in A_d^+$, where $f_x \in F_x$ is defined as in Lemma 3.4. Hence we have

$$(3.17) \quad \theta(t^x \partial) = f_x \theta(\partial), \quad x \in A_d^+, \partial \in T.$$

As $f_x \neq 0$ for $x \in A_d^+$, Lemmas 3.1 and 3.3 imply that σ is bijective.

We claim that σ is an isomorphism of associative algebras, or equivalently that

$$(3.18) \quad f_x f_y = f_{x+y}, \quad \forall x, y \in A_d^+.$$

If $\partial, \partial' \in T$ then

$$[f_x \theta(\partial), f_y \theta(\partial')] = f_x f_y (\partial(y)\theta(\partial') - \partial'(x)\theta(\partial))$$

and

$$[t^x \partial, t^y \partial'] = t^{x+y} (\partial(y)\partial' - \partial'(x)\partial).$$

By applying θ to the last equation and by using (3.17), we conclude that

$$(f_x f_y - f_{x+y}) (\partial(y)\theta(\partial') - \partial'(x)\theta(\partial)) = 0.$$

Since $f_0 = 1$, (3.18) holds if $x = 0$ or $y = 0$. If $x \neq 0$ then we can choose linearly independent $\partial, \partial' \in T$ such that $\partial'(x) \neq 0$. Hence the above equation implies that (3.18) is valid.

We now claim that if $t^y \partial \in W_d$ and $x \in A_d^+$ then

$$(3.19) \quad \theta(t^y \partial) \cdot f_x = \partial(x) f_{x+y}.$$

Assume that $x + y \notin A_d^+$. Then $y, x + y \in A_i$ for some $i \in I$ and consequently $d_i(x) = 0$. Since $t^y \partial \in W_d$, we have $\partial \in Fd_i$, and so $\partial(x) = 0$. Although f_{x+y} is not defined when $x + y \notin A_d^+$, we should interpret $\partial(x) f_{x+y}$ as 0.

In order to prove (3.19), we consider two cases.

SUBCASE 1. $y \in A_d^+$. Then $\theta(t^y \partial) = f_y \theta(\partial)$ and so

$$\theta(t^y \partial) \cdot f_x = f_y \theta(\partial) \cdot f_x = \partial(x) f_x f_y = \partial(x) f_{x+y}.$$

SUBCASE 2. $y \in A_i$ for some $i \in I$ and $\partial = d_i$. We apply formula (3.9) with $f = f_x$ and $\partial' = d_i$. Then $\tilde{\partial} = \partial$ by Lemma 3.4 and we obtain

$$\theta\left(t^{x+y}(d_i(x)\partial - \partial(y)d_i)\right) = (\theta(t^y d_i) \cdot f_x) \theta(\partial) - \partial(y) f_x \theta(t^y d_i).$$

We choose $\partial \in T \setminus \{0\}$ such that $\partial(y) = 0$ and obtain

$$(3.20) \quad (\theta(t^y d_i) \cdot f_x) \theta(\partial) = d_i(x) \theta(t^{x+y} \partial).$$

Hence if $d_i(x) = 0$, then (3.19) holds. Assume now that $d_i(x) \neq 0$. Then $d_i(x) > 0$ and so $x + y \in A_d^+$. By (3.17) we have $\theta(t^{x+y} \partial) = f_{x+y} \theta(\partial)$ and so (3.19) follows from (3.20).

Hence our second claim is proved.

We now define $\Psi_\theta = \sigma$. In order to verify (3.15) and (3.16), we may assume that $f = t^x$, $x \in A_d^+$, and $w = t^y \partial$. Then

$$\sigma(w \cdot f) = \sigma(t^y \partial \cdot t^x) = \partial(x) \sigma(t^{x+y}) = \partial(x) f_{x+y},$$

and, by using (3.19),

$$\theta(w) \cdot \sigma(f) = \theta(t^y \partial) \cdot f_x = \partial(x) f_{x+y}.$$

Hence (3.16) holds.

In order to prove (3.15), it suffices to check that

$$\theta(fw) \cdot f_z = \sigma(f) \theta(w) \cdot f_z$$

holds for all $z \in A_d^+$. By using (3.19) we obtain that

$$\theta(fw) \cdot f_z = \theta(t^{x+y} \partial) \cdot f_z = \partial(z) f_{x+y+z},$$

and

$$\sigma(f) \theta(w) \cdot f_z = \sigma(t^x) \theta(t^y \partial) \cdot f_z = f_x \partial(z) f_{y+z} = \partial(z) f_{x+y+z}.$$

Hence (3.15) holds.

The condition (3.15) uniquely determines Ψ_θ . Indeed if we take $f = t^x$, $x \in A_d^+$, and $w = \partial \in T$, then (3.15) becomes

$$\theta(t^x \partial) = \Psi_\theta(t^x) \theta(\partial).$$

Hence Lemma 3.4 implies that $\Psi_\theta(t^x) = f_x$ for all $x \in A_d^+$, i.e., $\Psi_\theta = \sigma$.

CASE 3. $I \neq \emptyset$ and $\dim T = 1$. It follows that $I' \neq \emptyset$ and $\dim T' = 1$ also. Denote $I = I' = \{1\}$. Then $d_1: A \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ and $d'_1: A' \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ are isomorphisms. We can identify W_d and $W_{d'}$ with W_1^+ , the Lie algebra of polynomial vector fields $P(t)\frac{d}{dt}$, $P(t) \in F[t]$. Under this identification $d_1 = t\frac{d}{dt}$. The elements $e_i = t^{i+1}\frac{d}{dt}$, $i \geq -1$, form a basis of W_d . Note that $FA_d^+ = F[t]$.

The set of $w \in W_d$ such that $\text{ad}(w)$ is locally nilpotent (resp. locally finite) is Fe_{-1} (resp. $Fe_{-1} + Fe_0$). Furthermore, for $w \in W_d \setminus \{0\}$, $\text{ad}(w)$ is semisimple if and only if $w = ae_0 + be_{-1}$ with $a \neq 0$. Each $\mu \in F$ determines an automorphism (or an isomorphism from $L = W_1^+$ to $L' = W_1^+$) $\theta_\mu = \exp(\mu \text{ad}(e_{-1}))$ of W_d . Since $\theta_\mu(e_0) = e_0 + \mu e_{-1}$, we see that each nonzero ad-semisimple element of W_d is conjugate under $\text{Aut}(W_d)$ to some ae_0 , $a \in F^*$.

Each $l \in F^*$ defines another automorphism θ^l of W_d such that $\theta^l(e_i) = l^i e_i$, $i \geq -1$. By using the above facts, it is not hard to show that every $\theta \in \text{Aut}(W_d)$ has the form $\theta = \theta_\mu \theta^l$. We now define $\Psi_\theta = \sigma$ by

$$\sigma(t^i) = l^i(t + \mu)^i, \quad i \geq 0.$$

Then Ψ_θ satisfies (3.15) and (3.16). ■

For the Lie algebra isomorphism $\theta: L \rightarrow L'$ we denote $\Psi(\theta)$ by σ . Since $\sigma: FA_d^+ \rightarrow FA_{d'}^+$ is an isomorphism of associative algebras, and $FA_d^0, FA_{d'}^0$ are the subalgebras of $FA_d^+, FA_{d'}^+$, respectively, generated by invertible elements, then $\sigma(FA_d^0) = FA_{d'}^0$. Let $T_d = \bigoplus_{i \in I} Fd_i$. Then $W_{[d]} = FA \otimes T_d$ is a subalgebra of $W(A, T, \varphi)$. It follows that $W_{[d]}^+ = W_{[d]} \cap W_d$ is a subalgebra of $W_d(A, T, \varphi)$. Similarly we can define $T'_d, W_{[d']}^+$ and $W_{[d']}^+$. If we assume $|I| < \infty, |I'| < \infty$, fix $x_i \in A_i^\#$ for each $i \in I$ and fix $x'_i \in A_i'^\#$ for each $i' \in I'$, then from the following well known lemma it follows that $W_{[d]}^+ = \text{Der}_{FA_d^0}(FA_d^0[t^{x_i}; i \in I])$ and $W_{[d']}^+ = \text{Der}_{FA_{d'}^0}(FA_{d'}^0[t^{x'_i}; i \in I'])$.

LEMMA 3.6. *Suppose R is a domain, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are independent and commuting indeterminates over R . Then $\text{Der}_R(R[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n])$ is spanned by all the derivations $f\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$, where $f \in R[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ and $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.* ■

LEMMA 3.7. *Suppose that I is finite and that $w \in W_d$. Then $w \in W_{[d]}^+$ if and only if $w \cdot FA_d^0 = 0$.* ■

Since $\sigma(FA_d^0) = FA_{d'}^0$, using Lemma 3.6, by the identities (3.15) and (3.16) we deduce that $\theta(W_{[d]}^+) = W_{[d']}^+$. Now we can prove our Isomorphism Theorem.

THEOREM 3.8. *Suppose that $L = W_d(A, T, \varphi)$ and $L' = W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi')$ are simple generalized Cartan type W Lie algebras with $|I| < \infty$. Then $W_d(A, T, \varphi) \simeq W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi')$ if and only if, $|I| = |I'|$ and there exist a group isomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}: A \rightarrow A'$ and a vector space isomorphism $\tilde{\tau}: T \rightarrow T'$ such that*

- (a) $\{d'_i \mid i \in I'\} = \{\tilde{\tau}(d_i) \mid i \in I\}$;
- (b) $\langle \tilde{\tau}(\partial), \tilde{\sigma}(x) \rangle = \langle \partial, x \rangle, \forall \partial \in T, x \in A$.

PROOF. (\Leftarrow) If (a) and (b) hold for $\tilde{\sigma}: A \rightarrow A'$ and $\tilde{\tau}: T \rightarrow T'$, suppose $\tilde{\tau}(d_i) = d'_{i'}$ for all $i \in I$, where $i \rightarrow i'$ is a bijection from I to I' . Then $\tilde{\sigma}(A_i) = A'_{i'}$ and $\tilde{\sigma}(A_i^\#) = A'^{\#}_{i'}$. It is easy to verify that the following linear map

$$\begin{aligned} W_d(A, T, \varphi) &\rightarrow W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi') \\ t^x \partial &\rightarrow t^{\tilde{\sigma}(x)} \tilde{\tau}(\partial) \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism of Lie algebras.

(\Rightarrow) CASE 1. $I = \emptyset$. In this case the statement of this theorem follows from [2, Theorem 4.2].

CASE 2. $I \neq \emptyset$. Suppose $\theta: W_d(A, T, \varphi) \rightarrow W_{d'}(A', T', \varphi')$ is an isomorphism of Lie algebras and $\sigma = \Psi_\theta: FA_d^+ \rightarrow FA_{d'}^+$ is the associative algebra isomorphism in Theorem 3.5. We know that $\sigma(FA_d^0) = FA_{d'}^0$, $\theta(W_{[d]}^+) = W_{[d']}^+$, $W_{[d]}^+ = \text{Der}_{FA_d^0}(FA_d^0[t^x; i \in I])$ and $W_{[d']}^+ = \text{Der}_{FA_{d'}^0}(FA_{d'}^0[t^{x'}; i \in I'])$. By Lemma 2.4 we have $|I| = |I'|$. We may assume that $I = I'$ and $i' = i$ for $i \in I$. Fix subspaces $\bar{T} \subseteq T$ and $\bar{T}' \subseteq T'$ such that $\bar{T} \oplus T_d = T$ and $\bar{T}' \oplus T'_{d'} = T'$. Since the normalizers of $W_{[d]}^+$ and $W_{[d']}^+$ are $V = W_{[d]}^+ \oplus FA_d^0 \cdot \bar{T}$ and $V' = W_{[d']}^+ \oplus FA_{d'}^0 \cdot \bar{T}'$ respectively, it follows that $\theta(V) = V'$. Since $\sigma(FA_d^0) = FA_{d'}^0$ we have a group isomorphism $\sigma': A_d^0 \rightarrow A_{d'}^0$ and a $\chi \in \text{Hom}(A_d^0, F^*)$ such that $\sigma(t^x) = \chi(x)t^{\sigma'(x)}$.

For any $\partial \in \bar{T}$ and $x \in A_d^0$, we have $\theta(\partial) \cdot \sigma(t^x) = \sigma(\partial \cdot t^x) = \sigma(\partial(x)t^x) = \partial(x)\chi(x)t^{\sigma'(x)}$, and $\theta(\partial) \cdot \sigma(t^x) = \chi(x)\theta(\partial) \cdot t^{\sigma'(x)}$. Then $\partial(x)t^{\sigma'(x)} = \theta(\partial) \cdot t^{\sigma'(x)}$.

Since $\partial \in \bar{T} \subset V$ and $\theta(V) = V'$, we may assume that $\theta(\partial) = \tau(\partial) + w_\partial$ where $\tau(\partial) \in FA_{d'}^0 \bar{T}'$, $w_\partial \in W_{[d']}^+$. We have $\partial(x)t^{\sigma'(x)} = \tau(\partial)t^{\sigma'(x)}$, for all $x \in A_d^0$. By Lemma 3.7 we know that, for any $\bar{\partial} \in \bar{T}'$, $\bar{\partial}(FA_{d'}^0) = 0$ implies $\bar{\partial} = 0$. So it follows that $\tau(\partial) \in \bar{T}'$, and, $\langle \tau(\partial), \sigma'(x) \rangle = \partial(x)$. Thus we have got a vector space isomorphism $\tau: \bar{T} \rightarrow \bar{T}'$ and a group isomorphism $\sigma': A_d^0 \rightarrow A_{d'}^0$ such that

$$\langle \tau(\partial), \sigma'(x) \rangle = \partial(x), \quad \forall \partial \in \bar{T}, x \in A_d^0.$$

Now for each $i \in I$, we fix a $-x_i \in A_i^\#$, and a $-x'_i \in A'^{\#}_i$. Note that $A^+ = A_d^0 + \sum_{i \in I} \mathbf{Z}_+ x_i$ and $A'^+ = A_{d'}^0 + \sum_{i \in I} \mathbf{Z}_+ x'_i$. Define the map $\tilde{\sigma}: A_d^+ \rightarrow A'^+_{d'}$ by sending $x + \sum_{i \in I} k_i x_i$ to $\sigma'(x) + \sum_{i \in I} k_i x'_i$, where $x \in A_d^0$. It is clear that $\tilde{\sigma}$ can be uniquely extended to a group isomorphism from A to A' .

Now choose a basis $\{\partial_j | j \in J\}$ of \bar{T} . Then $\{\partial'_j = \tau(\partial_j) | j \in J\}$ is a basis of \bar{T}' . For each ∂_j let $\partial_j(x_i) = a_{ji}$ and $\partial'_j(x'_i) = a'_{ji}$. Set $\bar{\partial}_j = \partial'_j + \sum_{i \in I} (a_{ji} - a'_{ji})d'_i$. Now we define the linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tau}: T &\rightarrow T' \\ d_i &\rightarrow d'_i, \quad \forall i \in I \\ \partial_j &\rightarrow \bar{\partial}_j, \quad j \in J. \end{aligned}$$

It is not difficult to verify that $\tilde{\tau}$ and $\tilde{\sigma}$ satisfy the conditions (a) and (b) in this theorem. This completes the proof of this theorem. \blacksquare

4. The Jacobian conjecture and the general Lie algebras. In this section, we shall give a conjecture on the general Lie algebras W_n^+ and show that the validity of this conjecture implies the validity of the Jacobian conjecture.

CONJECTURE 1. *Every nonzero endomorphism of the general Lie algebra $W_n^+(F)$ is an automorphism of the Lie algebra.*

Let us first recall the Jacobian conjecture.

Let F be a field of characteristic 0, n a positive integer, and t_1, \dots, t_n independent and commuting indeterminates over F . Denote by $P_n = F[t_1, \dots, t_n]$. Let $f_1, \dots, f_n \in P_n$. We know that the Jacobian matrix of f_1, \dots, f_n is defined as

$$J(f_1, \dots, f_n) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(f_1)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial(f_1)}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial(f_1)}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial(f_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial(f_2)}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial(f_2)}{\partial x_n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial(f_n)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial(f_n)}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial(f_n)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is well known that $F[f_1, \dots, f_n] = F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ implies $\det J(f_1, \dots, f_n) \in F^*$. The converse of this statement is the Jacobian conjecture, *i.e.*,

JACOBIAN CONJECTURE. Suppose $f_1, \dots, f_n \in P_n$. If $\det J(f_1, \dots, f_n) \in F^*$, then $F[f_1, \dots, f_n] = F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

The Jacobian conjecture is still open for $n > 1$ to the knowledge of the author. For more details, please refer to the paper [3].

THEOREM 4.1. *The validity of Conjecture 1 implies the validity of the Jacobian conjecture.*

PROOF. Suppose $f_1, \dots, f_n \in P_n$ with $\det J(f_1, \dots, f_n) \in F^*$. We may assume that $\det J(f_1, \dots, f_n) = 1$. Denote the (i,j) -cofactor of $J(f_1, \dots, f_n)$ by M_{ij} . Let

$$D_i = \sum_{j \in I} M_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then we have $D_i(f_j) = \delta_{ij}$. It follows that D_i 's commute in $F[f_1, \dots, f_n]$. From $\det J(f_1, \dots, f_n) = 1$, we deduce that $\Omega_{\frac{F[x_1, \dots, x_n]}{F[f_1, \dots, f_n]}} = 0$ (see Section I.2(1) in [3]). It follows that D_i 's commute in $F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, *i.e.*, $[D_i, D_j] = 0$ for all $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. It is clear that the following linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \theta: W_n^+ &\longrightarrow W_n^+ \\ x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} &\longrightarrow f_1^{k_1} f_2^{k_2} \dots f_n^{k_n} D_i, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{aligned}$$

is an endomorphism of the Lie algebra W_n^+ . It follows from the invalidity of Conjecture 1 that θ is an automorphism of W_n^+ . Then by Theorem 3.5, or [2, Theorem 5.5], or [9, Theorem 3.1], the corresponding associative algebra automorphism $\Psi_\theta: F[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is defined by

$$\Psi_\theta(x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n}) = f_1^{k_1} f_2^{k_2} \dots f_n^{k_n}.$$

Therefore $F[f_1, \dots, f_n] = F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. ■

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