

*Proof:*  $\tilde{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$  is semisimple, since if  $I$  is a solvable ideal of  $\tilde{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$ , then  $I + iI$  is a solvable ideal of  $\tilde{V}$ . Let  $I$  be an arbitrary ideal of  $\tilde{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . We show that  $I$  is also an ideal of  $\tilde{V}$ . Now for all  $v_j \in I, j \in \underline{n}$ , we have by definition of scalar multiplication in  $\tilde{V}$  that

$$i[v_1, \dots, v_n] = [iv_1, v_2, \dots, v_n] \in [\tilde{V}, v_2, \dots, v_n] \subseteq I.$$

Thus  $iI \subseteq I$ , since  $[I, \dots, I] = I$ . This means that  $I$  is closed relative to the scalar multiplication by complex numbers. Thus  $I$  is an ideal of  $\tilde{V}$ . But  $\tilde{V}$  is simple, hence  $I = \tilde{V} = \tilde{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$  or  $\{0\}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.11:** *The complexification  $\tilde{V}$  of a real semisimple  $n$ -Lie algebra  $V$  is semisimple.*

*Proof:* By Theorem 1.1.3 the Lie algebra  $L := \text{Inder}(V)$  of the derivations of  $V$  is semisimple. Thus the complexification  $\tilde{L}$  of  $L$  is semisimple in view of Proposition A3. It turns out that  $\text{Inder}(\tilde{V})$  agrees with  $\tilde{L}$ , thus  $\tilde{V}$  is reductive by Theorem 2.10.

Let  $u + iv$  be an element of the centre of  $\tilde{V}$ . From  $[u + iv, V, \dots, V] = \{0\}$  we get  $[u, V, \dots, V] = \{0\}$  and  $[v, V, \dots, V] = \{0\}$ , that is,  $u$  and  $v$  are in the centre of  $V$ , hence  $u = v = 0$  because  $V$  is semisimple. This means that the centre of  $\tilde{V}$  is zero.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.12:** *A real simple  $n$ -Lie algebra  $V$  is isomorphic to the realification of a simple complex  $n$ -Lie algebra or to a real form of a simple complex  $n$ -Lie algebra.*

*Proof:* We consider the complexification  $\tilde{V}$  of  $V$ . By Proposition 3.10,  $\tilde{V}$  is semisimple. If  $\tilde{V}$  is simple, then  $V$  is a real form for some simple complex  $n$ -Lie algebra. Assume that  $\tilde{V}$  is not simple. Let  $C$  denote the map on  $\tilde{V}$  with  $C(u + iv) = u - iv$ . We show that an ideal  $I$  of  $\tilde{V}$  with  $C(I) = I$  is either  $\{0\}$  or  $\tilde{V}$ . The fixed points of  $C$  in  $I$  form an ideal of  $V$ :  $I_0 := \{x + C(x) \mid x \in I\}$ , thus  $I_0 = V$  or  $\{0\}$  because  $V$  is simple. In the second case we have that  $I \subseteq iV$  which is impossible since  $I$  is an ideal of  $\tilde{V}$ . Thus  $V = I_0 \subseteq I$  and  $I = \tilde{V}$ .

If  $I$  is a simple ideal of  $\tilde{V}$ , so is  $C(I)$ . Therefore  $I \cap C(I)$  is either  $\{0\}$  or  $I$ . If  $I \cap C(I) = I$ , that is  $C(I) = I$ , then  $I = \tilde{V}$  as shown above, contradiction. If  $I \cap C(I) = \{0\}$ , then the sum  $J := I \oplus C(I)$  is direct and an ideal of  $\tilde{V}$  satisfying  $C(J) = J$ , it follows again from above that  $\tilde{V} = I + C(I)$ .

As a result of it,  $V = \{x + C(x) \mid x \in I\}$ . Then the correspondence  $x \rightarrow x + C(x)$  gives a real isomorphism from  $I$  onto  $V$ , so  $V$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -isomorphic to the realification of the simple ideal  $I$  of  $\tilde{V}$ .  $\square$

According to Theorem 3.12, in order to find all real simple  $n$ -Lie algebras ( $n \geq 3$ )