

## INVARIANCE OF THE GLOBAL MONODROMIES IN FAMILIES OF NONDEGENERATE POLYNOMIALS IN TWO VARIABLES

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### Abstract

We are interested in a global version of Lê-Ramanujam  $\mu$ -constant theorem for polynomials. We consider an analytic family  $\{f_s\}$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ , of complex polynomials in two variables, that are Newton non-degenerate. We suppose that the Euler characteristic of a generic fiber of  $f_s$  is constant, then we show that the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_s$  are all isomorphic, and that the degree of  $f_s$  is constant (up to an algebraic automorphism of  $\mathbf{C}^2$ ).

### 1. Introduction

Let  $f : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  be a complex polynomial function. It is well-known that there exists a (minimal) finite set  $B(f)$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ , called the *bifurcation set* of  $f$ , such that the restriction:

$$f : \mathbf{C}^2 \setminus f^{-1}(B(f)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C} \setminus B(f)$$

is a  $C^\infty$ -locally trivial fibration (see, for example, [28], [29], [17], [26], [7], [11]). The bifurcation set  $B(f)$  contains the set  $\Sigma_0(f)$  of critical values of  $f$ , but in general it is bigger.

The above fibration permits us to introduce the *global monodromy fibration* of  $f$ . Namely, for  $r > \max\{|c| \mid c \in B(f)\}$  and  $\mathbf{S}_r^1 := \{c \in \mathbf{C} \mid |c| = r\}$ , this is the restriction

$$f : f^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1.$$

If  $c \in \mathbf{S}_r^1$  then by translating the fiber  $f^{-1}(c)$  along the circle  $\mathbf{S}_r^1$  we obtain a homeomorphism of  $f^{-1}(c)$  onto itself, and thus isomorphisms

$$m_q(f) : H_q(f^{-1}(c), \mathbf{Z}) \rightarrow H_q(f^{-1}(c), \mathbf{Z}), \quad q = 0, 1,$$

which we call the *global monodromy operators* of  $f$ .

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Let  $\{f_s\}$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ , be a family of complex polynomials in two variables, whose coefficients are analytic functions in  $s$ . We will be interested in families such that the Euler characteristic  $\chi(f_s)$  of a generic fiber of  $f_s$  is constant. These families are interesting in the view of  $\mu$ -constant type theorem, see [8], [10], [3], [5], [27]. We ask if for such families, the global monodromy fibrations are isomorphic. In general, the answer is negative, as the following example shows us:

*Example 1.1.* Let  $f_s(x, y) = sx^2y^2 + xy$ . Then  $\chi(f_s) = 0$  for all  $s$  but the generic fibers of  $f_0$  and  $f_s$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , are isomorphic, respectively, to  $\mathbf{C}^* := \mathbf{C} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\mathbf{C}^* \sqcup \mathbf{C}^*$  (disjoint union).

We shall prove that for the class of *Newton non-degenerate* polynomials, introduced in [14], the answer of our question is positive.

We will recall some basic facts about Newton polygons, see [14], [19], [25]. Let  $f = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}^2} a_{p,q}x^p y^q$  be a given polynomial. We denote  $\text{supp}(f) = \{(p, q) \mid a_{p,q} \neq 0\}$ , by abuse  $\text{supp}(f)$  will also denote the set of monomials  $\{x^p y^q \mid (p, q) \in \text{supp}(f)\}$ . The *Newton polygon*  $\Gamma_-(f)$  is by definition the convex hull of the set  $\{(0, 0)\} \cup \text{supp}(f)$ . We denote  $\Gamma(f)$  to be the union of closed faces of  $\Gamma_-(f)$  which do not contain  $(0, 0)$ . Zero dimensional faces are vertices of the polygon  $\Gamma_-(f)$  and one dimensional faces are its edges. For a face  $\gamma$ , let  $f_\gamma = \sum_{(p,q) \in \gamma} a_{p,q}x^p y^q$ . The polynomial  $f$  is (*Newton*) *non-degenerate* if for all faces  $\gamma$  of  $\Gamma(f)$  the system

$$\frac{\partial f_\gamma}{\partial x}(x, y) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f_\gamma}{\partial y}(x, y) = 0$$

has no solution in  $\mathbf{C}^* \times \mathbf{C}^*$ . Note that, by the definition, if  $\dim \Gamma_-(f) = 1$  then the polynomial  $f$  is non-degenerate.

Our main result is the following  $\mu$ -constant type theorem:

**THEOREM 1.2.** *Let  $\{f_s\}$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ , be a family of non-degenerate polynomials in two complex variables. If one of the two following conditions hold:*

- (i)  $\dim \Gamma_-(f_s) = 1$  and  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$  is constant for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ ;
- (ii)  $\dim \Gamma_-(f_s) = 2$  for all  $s \in (0, 1]$ , and the Euler characteristic  $\chi(f_s)$  is constant for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ ;

*then the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_s$  are isomorphic.*

*Remark 1.3.* (i) In fact, in Section 3, we shall prove a stronger form of Theorem 1.2(i): Assume that  $\dim \Gamma_-(f_s) = 1$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ . Then  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$  is constant if and only if the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_s$  are isomorphic.

(ii) For non-degenerate polynomial functions with constant Newton polygon, Theorem 1.2 was obtained in [27], for any number of variables. However, the hypothesis that the Newton polygon  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$  of  $f_s$  does not change is a *non-topological hypothesis*. What is new here is the improvement in the result when

$\Gamma_-(f_s)$  is not constant, and the method of proof is a thorough analysis of the change of the Newton polygon  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$ .

*Example 1.4.* Let us consider  $f_s(x, y) := sx^4 + x^2y$ . An easy calculation shows that the polynomial  $f_s$  is non-degenerate and  $\chi(f_s) = 0$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ . By Theorem 1.2, the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  are isomorphic. Namely, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_0^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) & \xrightarrow{f_0} & \mathbf{S}_r^1 \\ \Phi \downarrow & & \text{id} \downarrow \\ f_1^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) & \xrightarrow{f_1} & \mathbf{S}_r^1 \end{array}$$

where  $r > 0$  and  $\Phi(x, y) := (x, y - x^2)$  is a homeomorphism. We notice that the Newton polygon of  $f_s$  is not constant and that  $f_s$  has non-isolated critical points,  $\Sigma_0(f_s) = \{0\}$ . Moreover, it follows from Proposition 2.2 below that  $B(f_s) = \{0\}$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

As a corollary of Theorem 1.2, we obtain the following result (see also [10, Theorem 1.3]).

**COROLLARY 1.5.** *With the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2. Then the global monodromy operators of  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  are conjugate.*

We are now interested in the constancy of the degree. It is well known that the degree of a polynomial depends on the coordinate system of  $\mathbf{C}^2$ . Also in families of non-degenerate polynomial functions with constant Euler characteristic it can happen that the degree changes (see Example 1.4). On the other hand, as a by-product of Theorem 1.2, we obtain the following result (see also [4, Theorem 3]):

**COROLLARY 1.6.** *With the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2. Then the family  $f_s$  is of constant degree up to an algebraic automorphism of  $\mathbf{C}^2$ .*

*Remark 1.7.* In the above results, the polynomials  $f_s$  can have *non-isolated* singularities. Moreover, the Newton polygon  $\Gamma_-(f_0)$  may be of one dimension.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we recall some useful notations and results. The proofs are given in Section 3.

## 2. Tools

**2.1. Fibrations.** We will denote  $\mathbf{B}_R^2 := \{(x, y) \in \mathbf{C}^2 \mid \|(x, y)\| < R\}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}_R^3 := \{(x, y) \in \mathbf{C}^2 \mid \|(x, y)\| = R\}$  and  $D_r := \{c \in \mathbf{C} \mid |c| < r\}$ .

Let  $f : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  be a polynomial function. Let us choose  $r > 0$  such that the bifurcation set  $B(f)$  of  $f$  is contained in the open disc  $D_r$ . The following lemma is a consequence of transversality properties.

**LEMMA 2.1.** *Let  $R_0$  be a positive number such that for all  $c \in \mathbf{S}_r^1$  and for all  $R \geq R_0$ , the fiber  $f^{-1}(c)$  intersects the sphere  $\mathbf{S}_R^3$  transversally. Then the global monodromy fibration  $f : f^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1$  is isomorphic to the fibration  $f : f^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \cap \mathbf{B}_R^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1$  for all  $R \geq R_0$ .*

*Proof.* See [10] or [27, Lemma 3.1]. □

**2.2. Bifurcation set.** We recall the result of Némethi A. and Zaharia A. [19] on how to estimate the bifurcation set. A polynomial  $f : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  is *convenient for the  $x$ -axis* if there exists a monomial  $x^a$  in  $\text{supp}(f)$  ( $a > 0$ );  $f$  is *convenient for the  $y$ -axis* if there exists a monomial  $y^b$  in  $\text{supp}(f)$  ( $b > 0$ );  $f$  is *convenient* if it is convenient for the  $x$ -axis and the  $y$ -axis. Let  $\gamma_x$  and  $\gamma_y$  be the two faces of  $\Gamma_-(f)$  that contain the origin. If  $f$  is convenient for the  $x$ -axis then we set  $\mathfrak{C}_x(f) = \emptyset$ , otherwise  $\gamma_x$  is not included in the  $x$ -axis and we set

$$\mathfrak{C}_x(f) := \left\{ f_{\gamma_x}(x, y) \mid (x, y) \in \mathbf{C}^* \times \mathbf{C}^* \text{ and } \frac{\partial f_{\gamma_x}}{\partial x}(x, y) = \frac{\partial f_{\gamma_x}}{\partial y}(x, y) = 0 \right\}.$$

In a similar way we define  $\mathfrak{C}_y(f)$ . Let  $\Sigma_\infty(f) := \mathfrak{C}_x(f) \cup \mathfrak{C}_y(f)$ .

The following result gives an estimation for the bifurcation set  $B(f)$  of  $f$  in terms of its Newton boundary at infinity.

**PROPOSITION 2.2** [14], [6], [19] (see also, [30], [12], [4]). *Let  $f : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  be a non-degenerate polynomial function. Then the following statements hold*

- (i) *If  $f$  is convenient, then  $B(f) = \Sigma_0(f)$ .*
- (ii) *If  $f$  is not convenient, then  $B(f) \subset \Sigma_0(f) \cup \Sigma_\infty(f) \cup \{f(0)\}$ .*

**2.3. Euler characteristic.** Let us recall the definition of the Newton number  $v$ , see [14]. Let  $T$  be a compact polytope  $T \subset \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . The *Newton number* of  $T$  is defined as follows

$$v(T) := 2S - a - b + 1,$$

where  $S$  is the area of  $T$ ,  $a$  is the length of the intersection of  $T$  with the  $x$ -axis, and  $b$  is the length of the intersection of  $T$  with the  $y$ -axis.

The following formula gives an explicit expression for the Euler characteristics  $\chi(f)$  in terms of the Newton number of  $\Gamma_-(f)$  (see [2], [13], [21], [22], [23], [24], [25], [1]):

**PROPOSITION 2.3.** *Let  $f : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  be a complex polynomial function. If  $f$  is non-degenerate then*

$$\chi(f) = 1 - v(\Gamma_-(f)).$$

**2.4. Additivity and positivity.** We need a variation of the Newton number  $v$ , see [4]. Let  $T$  be a compact polytope whose vertices are in  $\mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . We define

$$\tau(T) = v(T) - 1.$$

It is clear that  $\tau$  is additive:  $\tau(T_1 \cup T_2) = \tau(T_1) + \tau(T_2) - \tau(T_1 \cap T_2)$ , and in particular if  $T_1 \cap T_2$  has null area then  $\tau(T_1 \cup T_2) = \tau(T_1) + \tau(T_2)$ . This formula enables us to argue on triangles only (after a triangulation of  $T$ ).

We denote  $\mathfrak{A}$  to be the set of triangles  $T$  such that  $T$  has two edges contained in the  $x$ -axis and the  $y$ -axis, and the length of one of these edges is 1. Then  $\tau(T) = -1$  for every triangle  $T \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Moreover, we have the following facts

- $v(T) \geq 0$ ; and
- $v(T) = 0$  if and only if  $T \in \mathfrak{A}$ .

**2.5. Families of polytopes.** We consider a family  $\{f_s\}$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ , of complex polynomials in two variables. We will always assume that the only critical parameter is  $s = 0$ . We will say that a monomial  $x^p y^q$  *disappears* if  $(p, q) \in \text{supp}(f_s) \setminus \text{supp}(f_0)$  for  $s \neq 0$ . By extension a triangle of  $\mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$  disappears if one of its vertices does. We triangulate  $\Gamma(f_s)$  such that a finite number of triangles  $T$  disappear (see Figure 1, on pictures of the Newton polygon, a plain circle is drawn for a monomial that does not disappear and an empty circle for monomials that disappear).

We have the following simple results (see also [4, Lemma 9]).

**LEMMA 2.4.** *With the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2(ii). Suppose that there exists a triangulation of  $\Gamma(f_s)$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , with a triangle  $T \in \mathfrak{A}$  that disappears. Then either  $\deg_x(f_s) = 1$  or  $\deg_y(f_s) = 1$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ , where  $\deg_x(f_s)$  (resp.,  $\deg_y(f_s)$ ) is the degree of  $f$  in  $x$  (resp.,  $y$ ).*

*Proof.* By assumption, it is not hard to see that  $\Gamma(f_s)$  coincides with  $T$  for  $s \in (0, 1]$ . Then either  $\deg_x(f_s) = 1$  or  $\deg_y(f_s) = 1$  for  $s \in (0, 1]$ . Moreover,  $\chi(f_s) = -\tau(T) = 1$ . As the Euler characteristic  $\chi(f_s)$  is constant, we must have either  $\deg_x(f_0) = 1$  or  $\deg_y(f_0) = 1$ .  $\square$

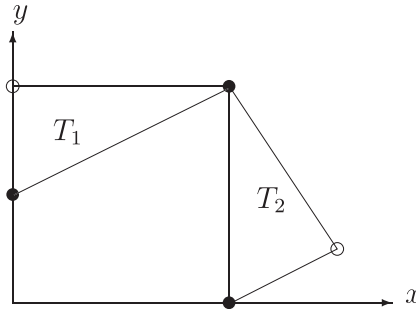


FIGURE 1. Triangles that disappear.

LEMMA 2.5. *With the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2(ii). Let  $T \notin \mathfrak{A}$  be a triangle that disappears then  $\tau(T) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is analogous to that of [4, Lemma 9]. In fact, we suppose that  $\tau(T) > 0$ . By the additivity and positivity of  $\tau(T)$  we have for  $s \in (0, 1]$ :

$$v(\Gamma_-(f_s)) \geq v(\Gamma_-(f_0)) + \tau(T) > v(\Gamma_-(f_0)).$$

By Proposition 2.3, then

$$\chi(f_s) = 1 - v(\Gamma_-(f_s)) < 1 - v(\Gamma_-(f_0)) = \chi(f_0).$$

This gives a contradiction with  $\chi(f_s) = \chi(f_0)$ .  $\square$

We will widely use the following observation.

LEMMA 2.6. *Under the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2(ii), we have*

- (i) *A vertex  $x^p y^q$ ,  $p > 0$ ,  $q > 0$ , of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  cannot disappear.*
- (ii) *If a vertex  $x^a$  (resp.,  $y^b$ ) of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears, then there exists a monomial  $x^p y$  (resp.,  $xy^q$ ) of  $\text{supp}(f_s)$ .*

*Proof.* We will adapt the proof of [4, Section 3].

(i) We suppose that a vertex  $x^p y^q$ ,  $p > 0$ ,  $q > 0$ , of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears. Let  $T$  be a triangle that contains  $x^p y^q$ . Then  $T$  disappears and  $T \notin \mathfrak{A}$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $\tau(T) = 0$ . Hence,  $T$  has an edge contained in either the  $x$ -axis or the  $y$ -axis, but not both, and the height of  $T$  (with respect to this edge) is 1 (see Figure 2). Then certainly we have  $\Gamma(f_s)$  coincides with  $T$  for  $s \in (0, 1]$ , otherwise there exists a region  $T'$  that disappears with  $\tau(T') > 0$ , which contradicts Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5. Now an easy calculation shows that  $\chi(f_s) = 0 < \chi(f_0)$  for  $s \in (0, 1]$ , which is a contradiction.

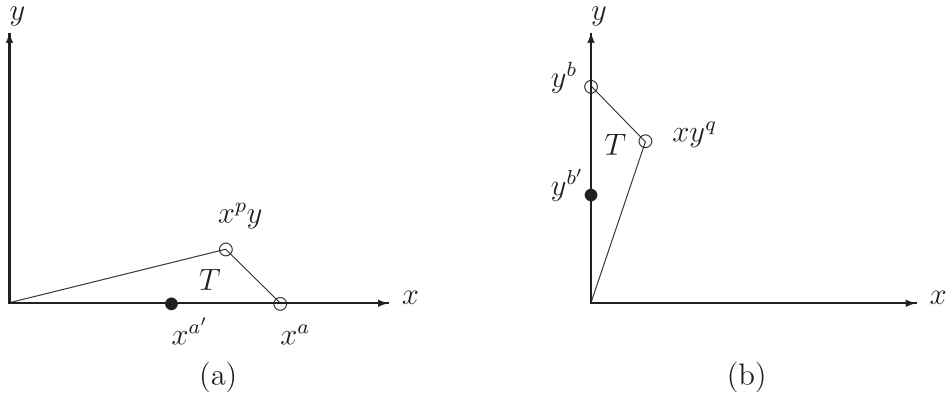


FIGURE 2. Case where a vertex  $x^p y^q$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears: (a)  $q = 1$ ; (b)  $p = 1$ .

(ii) Suppose that a vertex  $x^a$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears (a similar proof holds for  $y^b$ ). Let  $x^p y^q$ ,  $q > 0$ , be a monomial of  $\text{supp}(f_s)$  with  $q$  minimal. Since  $\dim \Gamma(f_s) = 2$  for all  $s \in (0, 1]$ , such a monomial exists. Then certainly we have  $q = 1$ , otherwise there exists a region  $T$  that disappears with  $\tau(T) > 0$ , which contradicts Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5 (see Figure 3).  $\square$

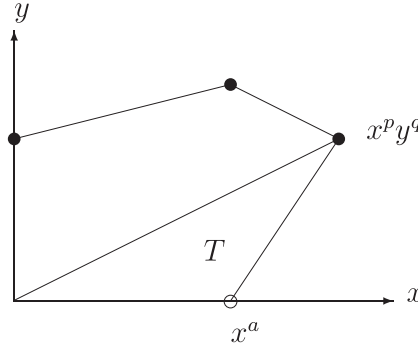


FIGURE 3. Case where a monomial  $x^a$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears: no monomial  $x^p y^q$  in  $\Gamma(f_s)$  with  $p \geq 0$  and  $q = 1$ .

### 3. Proofs of the results

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* We will always suppose that  $s = 0$  is the only problematic parameter. In particular  $\Gamma(f_s)$  is constant for all  $s \in (0, 1]$ .

(i) We assume that  $\dim \Gamma_-(f_s) = 1$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ . Then  $\Gamma(f_s)$  is a single point. Hence, there exist integers  $p, q$  and  $d \geq 1$  such that  $\Gamma(f_0) = \{(p, q)\}$  and  $\Gamma(f_s) = \{(dp, dq)\}$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , (see Figure 4). By [27, Theorem 1], the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_0$  and  $f_s$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , are isomorphic, respectively, to ones of the polynomials  $x^p y^q$  and  $x^{dp} y^{dq}$ . On the other hand, it is not hard to see that the global monodromy fibrations of the polynomials  $x^p y^q$  and  $x^{dp} y^{dq}$  are isomorphic if and only if  $d = 1$ . Therefore, the global monodromy fibrations of  $f_s$  are

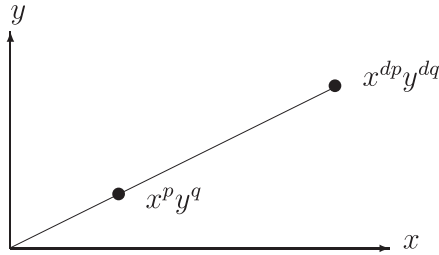


FIGURE 4. Case where  $\dim \Gamma_-(f_s) = 1$ .

isomorphic if and only if  $d = 1$ , that means that the Newton polygon  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$  is constant.

(ii) Assume that we have proved the following claims:

- There exists a positive constant  $r$  such that

$$\Sigma_0(f_s) \cup \Sigma_\infty(f_s) \cup \{f_s(0)\} \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

- There exists a positive number  $R_0$  such that for all  $R \geq R_0$ , for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ , and all  $c \in \mathbf{S}_r^1$ , the fiber  $f_s^{-1}(c)$  intersects the sphere  $\mathbf{S}_R^3$  transversally.

Then it follows from Proposition 2.2 that

$$B(f_s) \subset \Sigma_0(f_s) \cup \Sigma_\infty(f_s) \cup \{f_s(0)\} \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

Hence, by Lemma 2.1, the global monodromy fibration of the polynomial function  $f_s$ :

$$f_s : f_s^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1$$

is isomorphic to the following fibration

$$f_s : f_s^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \cap \mathbf{B}_R^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1.$$

Now, with arguments similar to the ones used in the proof of the classical Lê D. T. and Ramanujam C. P. theorem (see [15], [10, Lemma 2.1] or [3, Lemma 12]), we have that the fibrations  $f_s : f_s^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \cap \mathbf{B}_R^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ , are isomorphic. As a conclusion, the global monodromy fibrations of the polynomials  $f_s$  are isomorphic. Consequently, the statement (ii) is proved.  $\square$

So we are left with proving the above claims. Firstly, we have the following observation.

*Remark 3.1.* We suppose that a vertex  $x^a$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears. By Lemma 2.6(ii), there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We choose  $x^p y$  in  $\text{supp}(f_s)$  with maximal  $p$ . We assume that  $p = 0$ . Then  $\deg_y(f_s) = 1$  for  $s \in (0, 1]$ . An easy calculation shows that  $\chi(f_s) = 1$ . As the Euler characteristic  $\chi(f_s)$  is constant, we must have either  $\deg_y f_0 = 1$  or  $\deg_x f_0 = 1$ . Therefore the polynomials  $f_s$  are all topologically equivalent. In particular, the conclusion of Theorem 1.2(ii) holds. We exclude this case for the end of the proof.

**3.1. Boundedness of affine singularities.** The following result says that the set  $\Sigma_0(f_s)$  of critical values of  $f_s$  is contained in some open disc of radius independent of  $s$ .

LEMMA 3.2. *There exists a positive number  $r$  such that*

$$\Sigma_0(f_s) \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

*Proof.* It is enough to prove the lemma on an interval  $[0, s_0]$  with a small  $s_0 > 0$ . Assume the contrary. Then by the Curve Selection Lemma [18], [20],



there exist an analytic curve  $(x(s), y(s))$  and an analytic function  $\lambda(s)$ ,  $s \in (0, \varepsilon)$ , such that:

- (a1)  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \|(x(s), y(s))\| = \infty$ ;
- (a2)  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} f_s(x(s), y(s)) = \infty$ ;
- (a3)  $\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial x}(x(s), y(s)) \equiv 0$ ; and
- (a4)  $\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) \equiv 0$ .

If  $x(s) \equiv 0$  (resp.,  $y(s) \equiv 0$ ) we let  $m := 0$  (resp.,  $n := 0$ ), otherwise, we put  $m := \text{val}(x(s))$  (resp.,  $n := \text{val}(y(s))$ ), here  $\text{val } \lambda(s)$  for  $\lambda(s) = \sum_{i \geq k} a_i s^i$ ,  $a_k \neq 0$ , meromorphic at infinity is defined as follows:  $\text{val } \lambda := k$ . By Condition (a1),  $\min\{m, n\} < 0$ . Let  $\gamma$  be the face of  $\Gamma(f_s)$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , where the linear function  $mp + nq$  defined on  $\gamma$  takes its minimal value. If the face  $\gamma$  does not disappear, then we obtain a contradiction as in the proof of [27, Lemma 3.2]. So we suppose that the face  $\gamma$  disappears, i.e., at least one vertex of the boundary of  $\gamma$  disappears. By Lemma 2.6(i), we may assume without loss of generality that a monomial  $x^a$  of  $\gamma$  disappears (a similar proof holds for  $y^b$ ). Then it follows from Lemma 2.6(ii) that there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We choose  $x^p y$  in  $\text{supp}(f_s)$  with maximal  $p$ . Remark 3.1 now yields  $p > 0$  (see Figure 5).

Then we conclude from Lemma 2.6(i) that the monomial  $x^p y$  of  $f_s$  cannot disappear, and hence that

$$0 \equiv \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) = cs^{mp} + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

for some  $c \neq 0$ , which is impossible. □

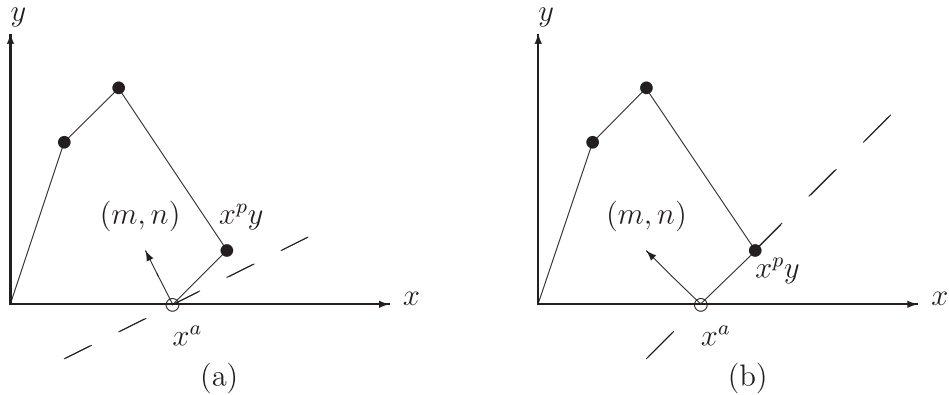


FIGURE 5. Case where a monomial  $x^a$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears: (a)  $\gamma = \{x^a\}$ ; (b)  $\gamma$  joins the vertices  $x^a$  and  $x^p y$ .

**3.2. Boundedness of singularities at infinity.** The following lemmas show that the sets  $\Sigma_\infty(f_s)$  and  $\{f_s(0, 0)\}$  are contained in some open disc of radius independent of  $s$ .

LEMMA 3.3. *There exists a positive number  $r$  such that*

$$\Sigma_\infty(f_s) = \mathfrak{C}_x(f_s) \cup \mathfrak{C}_y(f_s) \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma_x(s)$  and  $\gamma_y(s)$  be the two faces of  $\Gamma_-(f_s)$ ,  $s \geq 0$ , that contain the origin. We will prove that there exists  $r > 0$  such that the following inclusion holds

$$\mathfrak{C}_x(f_s) \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

(A similar proof holds for  $\mathfrak{C}_y(f_s)$ .) If  $\gamma_x(s)$  is constant, then with arguments similar to the ones used in the proof of [27, Lemma 3.2] we obtain the desired conclusion.

So we suppose that the face  $\gamma_x(s)$  is not constant. We also assume that the only critical parameter is  $s = 0$ . By Lemma 2.6(i), there exists a monomial  $x^a$  ( $a > 0$ ) of  $\gamma_x(s)$  that disappears. Then for  $s \in (0, 1]$  the monomial  $x^a$  is in  $\Gamma(f_s)$ , so  $\mathfrak{C}_x(f_s) = \emptyset$ . If  $\Gamma(f_0)$  contains a monomial  $x^{a'}$  ( $a' > 0$ ), then  $\mathfrak{C}_x(f_0) = \emptyset$ . So we suppose that all monomials  $x^k$  disappear. It follows from Lemma 2.6(ii) that there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We can suppose that  $p \geq 0$  is maximal among monomials  $x^k y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . By Remark 3.1,  $p > 0$ . Note that the monomial  $x^p y$  does not disappear by Lemma 2.6(i). Now the edge of  $\Gamma_-(f_0)$  that contains the origin and the monomial  $x^p y$  begins at the origin and ends at  $x^p y$ . Then it is easy to check that  $\mathfrak{C}_x(f_0) = \emptyset$ . So in case where  $\gamma_x(s)$  changes, we have for all  $s \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\mathfrak{C}_x(f_s) = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

LEMMA 3.4. *There exists a positive number  $r$  such that*

$$\{f_s(0)\} \subset D_r \quad \text{for all } s \in [0, 1].$$

*Proof.* The claim follows easily from the continuity of the family  $f_s(x, y)$ .  $\square$

**3.3. Transversality in the neighbourhood of infinity.** Let us make the following observation.

*Remark 3.5.* We suppose that a monomial  $x^a$  of  $\Gamma(f_s)$  disappears. It follows from Lemma 2.6(ii) that there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We also suppose that  $p \geq 0$  is maximal among monomials  $x^k y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . Remark 3.1 now gives  $p > 0$ . Then we can further assume, for the end of the proof of Theorem 1.2, that all monomials  $x^k$  disappear.

LEMMA 3.6. *Let  $r$  be a positive number such that the conclusions of Lemmas 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 are fulfilled. Then there exists  $R_0$  sufficiently large such that for*

all  $R \geq R_0$  and for all  $c \in \mathbf{S}_r^1$  we have that the fiber  $f_s^{-1}(c)$  meets transversally the sphere  $\mathbf{S}_R^3$  for each  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

*Proof.* It is sufficient to prove the lemma for a family  $\{f_s\}$  parameterized by  $s$  in an interval  $[0, s_0]$  for a small  $s_0 > 0$ . Assume the contrary. Then by the Curve Selection Lemma [18], [20] there exist an analytic curve  $(x(s), y(s))$  and an analytic function  $\lambda(s)$ ,  $s \in (0, \varepsilon)$ , such that:

- (b1)  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \|(x(s), y(s))\| = \infty$ ;
- (b2)  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} f_s(x(s), y(s)) = c$ ;
- (b3)  $\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial x}(x(s), y(s)) = \lambda(s)\overline{x(s)}$ ; and
- (b4)  $\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) = \lambda(s)\overline{y(s)}$ .

By Lemma 3.2,  $\lambda(s) \neq 0$ . Thus we can write

$$\lambda(s) = \lambda^0 s^\delta + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

here  $\lambda^0 \neq 0$  and  $\delta \in \mathbf{Q}$ .

We first suppose that  $y(s) \equiv 0$  (a similar proof holds for  $x(s) \equiv 0$ ). Then we may write

$$x(s) = x_0 s^m + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

where  $x_0 \neq 0$  and  $m < 0$ . Since Condition (b2), there exists a monomial  $x^a$  ( $a > 0$ ) in  $\text{supp}(f_s)$ ,  $s \neq 0$ . We also suppose that  $a$  is maximal among monomials  $x^k \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . Let  $u(s)$  be the coefficient of the monomial  $x^a$  in  $f_s$ . If the monomial  $x^a$  does not disappear, then  $u(0) \neq 0$  and we have that

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} f_s(x(s), y(s)) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} [u(0)x_0^a s^{ma} + \text{higher order terms in } s] = \infty,$$

which contradicts Condition (b2).

So we suppose that the monomial  $x^a$  disappears. By Lemma 2.6(ii), there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We choose  $x^p y$  in  $\text{supp}(f_s)$  with maximal  $p$ . Remark 3.1 now leads to  $p > 0$ . It follows from Lemma 2.6(i) that the monomial  $x^p y$  of  $f_s$  cannot disappear. Let  $v(s)$  be the coefficient of the monomial  $x^p y$  in  $f_s$ . Then  $v(0) \neq 0$ . By Condition (b4), therefore

$$0 \equiv \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) = v(0)x_0^p s^{mp} + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

which is impossible.

We now suppose that  $x(s) \neq 0$  and  $y(s) \neq 0$ . Let us write

$$x(s) = x_0 s^m + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

$$y(s) = y_0 s^n + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

where  $x_0 \neq 0$ ,  $y_0 \neq 0$ , and  $\min\{m, n\} < 0$ .

Let  $\gamma$  be the face of  $\Gamma(f_s)$ ,  $s \neq 0$ , where the linear function  $mp + nq$  defined on  $\gamma$  takes its minimal value. If the face  $\gamma$  does not disappear, then we obtain a contradiction as in the proof of [27, Lemma 3.5]. So we suppose that the face  $\gamma$  disappears, i.e., at least one vertex of the boundary of  $\gamma$  disappears. By Lemma 2.6(i), we may assume without loss of generality that a monomial  $x^a$  of  $\gamma$  disappears (a similar proof holds for  $y^b$ ). We also suppose that  $a$  is maximal among monomials  $x^a \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ ,  $s \neq 0$ . Again by Lemma 2.6(ii), there exists a monomial  $x^p y \in \text{supp}(f_s)$ . We choose  $x^p y$  in  $\text{supp}(f_s)$  with maximal  $p$ . According to Remark 3.1, we have  $p > 0$ . Then by a simple Plane Geometry argument we would have (see Figure 5)

$$m < 0.$$

Let  $u(s)$  (resp.,  $v(s)$ ) be the coefficient of the monomial  $x^a$  (resp.,  $x^p y$ ) in  $f_s$ . As the monomial  $x^a$  disappears and  $x^p y$  does not, we find that

$$u(s) = u_0 s^\kappa + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

$$v(s) = v_0 + v_1 s + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

where  $u_0 \neq 0$ ,  $v_0 \neq 0$ , and  $\kappa > 0$ .

Let us note that all monomials  $x^k$  disappear (see Remark 3.5). There are three cases to be considered.

CASE 1:  $\kappa + ma < mp + n$ . We have

$$f_s(x(s), y(s)) = u_0 x_0^a s^{\kappa+ma} + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

$$\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial x}(x(s), y(s)) = a u_0 x_0^{a-1} s^{\kappa+m(a-1)} + \text{higher order terms in } s,$$

$$\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) = v_0 x_0^p s^{mp} + \text{higher order terms in } s.$$

Then we conclude from Conditions (b2)–(b4) that

$$\kappa + ma = 0,$$

$$\kappa + m(a-1) = \delta + m,$$

$$mp = \delta + n,$$

hence that  $\delta = -2m$ , and finally that  $n = m(p+2) < 0$ . This gives a contradiction with

$$0 = \kappa + ma < mp + n.$$

CASE 2:  $\kappa + ma > mp + n$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} f_s(x(s), y(s)) &= v_0 x_0^p y_0 s^{mp+n} + \text{higher order terms in } s, \\ \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial x}(x(s), y(s)) &= p v_0 x_0^{p-1} y_0 s^{m(p-1)+n} + \text{higher order terms in } s, \\ \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) &= v_0 x_0^p s^{mp} + \text{higher order terms in } s. \end{aligned}$$

By Conditions (b2)–(b4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} mp + n &= 0, \\ m(p-1) + n &= \delta + m, \\ mp &= \delta + n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\delta = -2m$ , and so that  $n = m(p+2) < 0$ , which contradicts the equation  $mp + n = 0$ .

CASE 3:  $\kappa + ma = mp + n$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} f_s(x(s), y(s)) &= (u_0 x_0^a + v_0 x_0^p y_0) s^{\kappa+ma} + \text{higher order terms in } s, \\ \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial x}(x(s), y(s)) &= (a u_0 x_0^{a-1} + p v_0 x_0^{p-1} y_0) s^{\kappa+m(a-1)} + \text{higher order terms in } s, \\ \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial y}(x(s), y(s)) &= v_0 x_0^p s^{mp} + \text{higher order terms in } s. \end{aligned}$$

CASE 3.1:  $u_0 x_0^a + v_0 x_0^p y_0 = 0$ . We first suppose that

$$a u_0 x_0^{a-1} + p v_0 x_0^{p-1} y_0 = 0.$$

Then we must have  $a = p$ , and hence  $\kappa = n$ . It follows from Conditions (b3)–(b4) that

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa + m(a-1) &< \delta + m, \\ mp &= \delta + n. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $n < m$ . Consequently,  $mp = ma < \kappa + ma = mp + n < mp + m$ . Thus  $0 < m$ . This gives a contradiction.

We now suppose that

$$a u_0 x_0^{a-1} + p v_0 x_0^{p-1} y_0 \neq 0.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa + m(a-1) &= \delta + m, \\ mp &= \delta + n. \end{aligned}$$

These constraints, together with the equation  $\kappa + ma = mp + n$ , imply that  $n = m < 0$ . Hence

$$ma < \kappa + ma = mp + n = m(p + 1).$$

Therefore

$$a > p + 1.$$

On the other hand, it is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} au_0x_0^{a-1} + pv_0x_0^{p-1}y_0 &= \lambda_0\overline{x_0}, \\ v_0x_0^p &= \lambda_0\overline{y_0}. \end{aligned}$$

These constraints, together with the assumption  $u_0x_0^a + v_0x_0^py_0 = 0$ , imply that

$$p - a = \frac{\|x_0\|^2}{\|y_0\|^2} > 0,$$

which is impossible.

CASE 3.2:  $u_0x_0^a + v_0x_0^py_0 \neq 0$ . We have

$$\kappa + ma = mp + n = 0,$$

$$\kappa + m(a - 1) \leq \delta + m,$$

$$mp = \delta + n.$$

Hence  $\delta = -2n \geq -2m$ . It follows that  $n \leq m < 0$ , which is in contradiction with  $mp + n = 0$ .

Having exhausted all cases, we have completed the proof of Lemma 3.6.  $\square$

*Proof of Corollary 1.5.* By Theorem 1.2, there exist  $r \gg 1$  and homeomorphisms  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_0^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) & \xrightarrow{f_0} & \mathbf{S}_r^1 \\ \Phi \downarrow & & \Psi \downarrow \\ f_1^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) & \xrightarrow{f_1} & \mathbf{S}_r^1. \end{array}$$

Fix  $c \in \mathbf{S}_r^1$ . For each  $t \in [0, 1]$ , let  $h_t : f_0^{-1}(c) \rightarrow f_0^{-1}(ce^{2\pi it})$  be a homeomorphism induced by the fibration  $f_0 : f_0^{-1}(\mathbf{S}_r^1) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_r^1$ . Then the map  $h_1$  gives rise to the global monodromy operators  $m_0(f_0)$  and  $m_1(f_0)$  of  $f_0$ . Moreover, we have a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_0^{-1}(c) & \xrightarrow{h_t} & f_0^{-1}(ce^{2\pi it}) \\ \Phi_0 \downarrow & & \Phi_t \downarrow \\ f_1^{-1}(\Psi(c)) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_t \circ h_t \circ \Phi_0^{-1}} & f_1^{-1}(\Psi(ce^{2\pi it})), \end{array}$$

where  $\Phi_t$  is the restriction of  $\Phi$  on the fiber  $f_0^{-1}(ce^{2\pi it})$ , and thus a homeomorphism

$$f_1^{-1}(\Psi(c)) \rightarrow f_1^{-1}(\Psi(c)), \quad z \mapsto \Phi_1 \circ h_1 \circ \Phi_0^{-1}(z).$$

By definition, this map gives rise to the global monodromy operators  $m_0(f_1)$  and  $m_1(f_1)$  of  $f_1$ . Therefore the following diagram commutes ( $q = 0, 1$ ):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_q(f_0^{-1}(c), \mathbf{Z}) & \xrightarrow{m_q(f_0)} & H_q(f_0^{-1}(c), \mathbf{Z}) \\ \Phi_0 \downarrow & & \downarrow \Phi_1 \\ H_q(f_1^{-1}(\Psi(c)), \mathbf{Z}) & \xrightarrow{m_q(f_1)} & H_q(f_1^{-1}(\Psi(c)), \mathbf{Z}). \end{array}$$

Since  $\Phi_0 \equiv \Phi_1$ , this gives us what we want.  $\square$

*Proof of Corollary 1.6.* The proof follows from Lemma 2.6 by using the same argument in [4, Theorem 3]. We will leave to the reader to verify these facts.  $\square$

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