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The polyhedron of equisingularity of germs  
of hypersurfaces

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# The Polyhedron of equisingularity of germs of hypersurfaces.

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## Introduction.

Let  $G : k^n \times k, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  be a deformation of a germ  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$ , which has an (algebraically) isolated singularity at 0. ( $k = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ , and the germs are correspondingly smooth, analytic or holomorphic).

We consider the problem of determining when such a deformation is topologically trivial, and, correspondingly, when the pair  $\{G^{-1}(0), 0 \times k\}$  is Whitney equisingular. We show that the approach based on the Newton filtration by Damon and Gaffney [DG], the method of the gradient polygon of E. Yoshinaga [Y], and the algebraic approach of integral closure of ideals by Teissier [T1, T2] lead to the same convex subset  $C(\overline{Jg})$  of the Newton polyhedron of the germ  $g$ .

Let  $\mathcal{E}(g)$  be the polyhedron of equisingularity of the germ  $g$ , i. e, the convex hull of the set  $\cup\{k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \text{the pair } \{G^{-1}(0), 0 \times k\} \text{ is Whitney equisingular, where } G(x, t) = g(x) + tx^k, x^k = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n}\}$ .

We apply Teissier's results on equisingularity to show that  $C(\overline{Jg})$  is contained in  $\mathcal{E}(g)$ .

For a special class of holomorphic curves in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , we show that  $C(\overline{Jg})$  characterizes precisely the polygon  $\mathcal{E}(g) \cap \Gamma^+(g)$

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### §0. Notation

We consider germs  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  which are either  $C^\infty$  or real analytic if  $k = \mathbb{R}$  or holomorphic if  $k = \mathbb{C}$ . We will use local coordinates  $x$  for  $k^n$  and denote the ring of germs  $k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$ , (in the appropriate category) by  $C_n$ .  $\mathcal{M}_n$  denotes its maximal ideal.

Let  $\Theta(g)$  denote the module of germs of vector fields  $\xi : k^n, 0 \rightarrow Tk^p$  such that  $\pi_p \circ \xi = g$  for  $\pi_p : Tk^p \rightarrow k^p$ .  $\Theta(Id_{k^n})$  will be denoted by  $\Theta_n$ , this is a free  $C_n$ -module generated by  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \ i = 1, \dots, n$ .

For a deformation  $G : k^n \times k^r, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  of a germ  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  we let  $t$  denote local coordinates for  $k^r$ , the space of deformation parameters.

By a deformation  $G$  of  $g$  being topologically trivial, we mean that there is a germ of a homeomorphism  $\psi : k^n \times k^r, 0 \rightarrow k^n \times k^r, 0$  of the form  $\psi(x, t) = (\bar{\psi}(x, t), t)$  such that

$$G \circ \psi(x, t) = g(x)$$

We denote by  $X_G$  the variety in  $k^n \times k^r, 0$  defined by  $G^{-1}(0)$ .

The pair  $\{X_G, 0 \times k^r\}$  is Whitney - equisingular if  $0 \times k^r$  is a stratum of a Whitney stratification of  $X_G$  in a neighbourhood of  $0.[T_2]$

### §1. The Newton filtration

The Newton polyhedron  $\Gamma^+(g)$  of a germ  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  is the convex hull of the set

$$\bigcup \{k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid a_k \neq 0\} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}_+^n,$$

and  $j^\infty g(x) = \sum_k a_k x^k$  is the Taylor expansion of the germ  $g$ .

The Newton boundary  $\Gamma(g)$  is the union of the compact faces of  $\Gamma^+(g)$

We denote by  $\text{in}(g)$  the terms of  $j^\infty g$  belonging to  $\Gamma(g)$ .

A germ  $g$  is commode if for each  $j$  there is an  $x_j^{m_j}$  with nonzero coefficient in the Taylor expansion of  $g$ .

From the Newton polyhedron, we construct the Newton filtration.

For each face  $\Delta \subset \Gamma(g)$ ,  $C(\Delta)$  denotes the cone of half-rays emanating from  $0$  and passing through  $\Delta$ . The collection of all  $C(\Delta)$ ,  $\Delta \subset \Gamma(g)$  gives a polyhedral decomposition .

The Newton filtration is then defined via a piecewise-linear map  $\phi : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying:

- (i)  $\phi$  is linear on each  $C(\bar{\Delta})$  ( $\bar{\Delta}$  is the closure of  $\Delta$  in  $\Gamma^+(g)$ )
- (ii)  $\phi$  takes positive integer values on the lattice points of  $\mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}$
- (iii)  $\phi|_{\Gamma(g)} = m$  (for some positive integer  $m$ )

For any monomial  $x^\alpha$  we define  $\text{fil}(x^\alpha) = \phi(\alpha)$

This extends to a filtration on  $k[x_n]$ ,  $k[[x_n]]$ , and  $C_n$  by defining.

$$\text{fil}(\sum C_\alpha x^\alpha) = \min \{\phi(\alpha) : C_\alpha \neq 0\}$$

We denote by  $A_l = \{g \in C_n \mid \text{fil}(g) \geq l\}$

Because of the identification of a monomial  $x^\alpha$  with  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$ , we can speak of  $x^\alpha$  belonging to  $C(\Delta)$ , when we mean that the associated  $\alpha$  belongs to  $C(\Delta)$ .

Also, we can define the rings  $k[\overline{\Delta}]$ ,  $k[[\overline{\Delta}]]$ , etc, to consist of polynomials, power series, etc. with non-zero monomials in  $C(\overline{\Delta})$ .

A germ  $g$  is non-degenerate if  $g$  is comode and  $\{in(x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}) \mid \Delta\}$  generate an ideal of finite codimension in  $k[[\overline{\Delta}]]$  for each closed face  $\overline{\Delta} \subset \Gamma(g)$

All the concepts in this section extend to  $C_{n+r}$ , the ring of  $r$ -parameter families of germs in  $n$ - variables, by defining  $\text{fil}(x^\alpha t^\beta) = \text{fil}(x^\alpha)$ .

## §2 - The method of the Newton filtration of Damon and Gaffney

Damon and Gaffney describe in [DG] a method based on the Newton filtration of the germ  $g$  to prove directly that  $G$  is topologically trivial. The general form of their result is given by a filtration condition involving the deformed terms  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial t_i}$  and the deformation  $G$ . Their method consists in constructing controlled vector fields for the faces of the Newton polyhedron of  $g$ . When the filtration properties of the deformation behave well with respect to the local data, the local conditions “patch together” to give the “global” filtration properties. Then, topological triviality is proven by solving the localized equation for triviality using controlled vector fields.

Let  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  be  $C^\infty$  or analytic when  $k = \mathbb{R}$  and holomorphic when  $k = \mathbb{C}$ , and let  $\phi$  denote its Newton filtration.

We can define a filtration in  $\Theta_n$  associated to the filtration in  $C_n$ .

Let  $V_l = \{\xi \in A_{l+1} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right] : \xi(A_k) \rightarrow A_{k+l}\}$ , where  $A_{l+1} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right]$  is the  $A_{l+1}$  module generated by  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, i = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Definition 2.1** [DG] *A set of local patching data for  $g$  consists of: for each face  $\Delta \subset \Gamma(g)$ , a set  $\{\xi_{\Delta,i}\}$  of germs of polynomial vector fields in  $\Theta_n$  such that*

- (i)  $\xi_{\Delta,i} = \sum g_{\Delta,i,j} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$
- (ii)  $\{in(\xi_{\Delta,i}(g)) \mid \overline{\Delta}\}$  generates an ideal of finite codimension in  $k[[\overline{\Delta}]]$ .

**Proposition 2.2** [D.G pg 344] *If  $\{x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}\}$  generates an ideal of finite codimension in  $C_n$ , then there exists a set of local patching data for  $g$ .*

*To measure the effect of a fixed local patching data applied to the filtration, Damon and Gaffney use the notion of jumps.*

**Definition 2.3** *For a local patching data  $\{\xi_{\Delta,i}\}$  for  $g$ , let  $jump(\xi_{\Delta,i})$  be defined by*

$$jump(\xi_{\Delta,i}) = \text{fil}(\xi_{\Delta,i}(g)) - \min_j \left\{ \text{fil} \left( g_{\Delta,i,j} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \right) \right\}$$

Also, for each face  $\Delta \subset \Gamma(g)$  we define

$$jump(\Delta) = \max_i \{jump(\xi_{\Delta,i})\}$$

For each vertex  $v \in \Gamma(g)$ , we define

$$jump(v) = \max\{jump(\Delta) : \Delta \subset star(v)\}$$

( $star(\Delta)$  is defined as for any polyhedral decomposition  $star(\Delta) = \bigcup\{\Delta' \in \Gamma(g) : \Delta \subset \overline{\Delta'}\}$ )

For any germ  $\phi \in C_{n+r}$ , we can define  $fil_v(\phi)$ . If  $\phi_L$  denotes the Taylor expansion of  $\phi$  in  $x$  up to filtration  $\leq L$ , then  $fil_v(\phi_L)$  is independent of  $L$  for all sufficiently large  $L$ .

Then,  $fil_v(\phi)$  is defined to be this common value.

**Definition 2.4** *A germ  $\phi$  satisfies a simple jump condition for  $g$  if*

$$fil_v(\phi) \geq m + jump(v) \text{ for all vertices } v \in \Gamma(g)$$

We are now ready to describe Damon. Gaffney's result

**Theorem 2.5** ([DG], Theorem 3) *Let  $G : k^{n+r}, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  be a deformation of  $g$ . Suppose that  $g$  has local patching data  $\{\xi_{\Delta,i}\}$  so that:*

(i)  $fil(\xi_{\Delta,i}(G)) = fil(\xi_{\Delta,i}(g))$  for all  $\Delta, i$ .

(ii) *The  $\partial G / \partial t_i$  satisfy a jump condition.*

*Then,  $G$  is a topologically trivial deformation.*

An important corollary of this result is:

**Corollary 2.6** [DG, pg 349] *Suppose that  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  is a non-degenerate germ with an isolated singularity. Any deformation of  $g$  of non-decreasing Newton filtration  $fil(G) = fil(g)$  is a topologically trivial deformation.*

Let  $G(x, t) = g(x) + tx^k$ ,  $x^k = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n}$   
 Suppose the following condition holds for  $G$ :

(2.7) there exists a set of local patching data  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfying the hypothesis of Theorem 2.5.

**Definition 2.8** *We define  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{P}}^+(g)$  as the convex hull of the set*

$$\bigcup \{k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \text{condition(2.7) holds}\}$$

Let  $\Sigma^+(g) = \bigcup_{\mathcal{P}} \Sigma_{\mathcal{P}}^+(g)$

We call  $\Sigma^+(g)$  the Damon-Gaffney polyhedron of  $g$ .

With this notation, we may restate Damon - Gaffney's theorem as:

**Theorem 2.9**

- (a) *If  $\Theta \in \Sigma^+(g)$ , then  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t\Theta(x)$  is topologically trivial for sufficiently small  $t$*
- (b) *If  $\Theta \in \text{int } \Sigma^+(g)$ , then  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t\Theta(x)$  is topologically trivial,  $\forall t$ .*

### §3 - The gradient polyhedron of Yoshinaga.

The approach in [Y] to the question of topological triviality is also based on the method of controlled vector fields.

$$\text{Let } |\text{grad } g|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}|^2$$

For a fixed  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$  consider the following condition:

(3.1) there exists a positive  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(k)$  such that  $|\text{grad } g| \geq \mathcal{E}|x^k|$  in a neighbourhood of the origin in  $k^n$ .

**Definition 3.2** [Y , pg 804] *The gradient polyhedron of  $g, \Lambda^+(g)$  is the convex hull of the set*

$$\bigcup \{k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \text{condition (3.1) holds} \}$$

**Theorem 3.3** [ Y , pg. 805]

- (a) *If  $\Gamma^+(\Theta) \subset \text{int}\Lambda^+(g)$ , then the family  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t\Theta(x)$  is topologically trivial for all  $t \in [0, 1]$*
- (b) *If  $\Gamma^+(\Theta) \subset \Lambda^+(g)$ , then  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t\Theta(x)$  is topologically trivial for sufficiently small values of  $t$ .*

**Remark 3.4:** Yoshinaga also proves that  $\Lambda^+(g) = \Gamma^+(g) \Leftrightarrow g$  is non-degenerate with respect to its Newton diagram ([Y, Theorem 1.7]).

#### §4: Equivalence among the approaches to topological triviality and equisingularity

In this section we use the notion of integral closure of ideals and the results of Teissier ([T<sub>1</sub>]), ([T<sub>2</sub>]) on the equisingularity of the pair  $\{X_G, 0 \times k\}$  to show the equivalence between the approaches of Damon-Gaffney, and Yoshinaga.

Let  $\mathcal{O}_{X, x_0}$  be the local ring of a complex analytic reduced space  $X$ , at  $x_0$ .

**Definition 4.1** *Let  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_{X, x_0}$  an ideal. An element  $h \in \mathcal{O}_{X, x_0}$  is integral over  $I$ , if satisfies the relation of integral dependence*

$$h^k + a_1 h^{k-1} + \dots + a_k = 0, \text{ where } a_i \in I^i$$

The integral closure of  $I$ , denoted  $\bar{I}$ , is the ideal in  $\mathcal{O}_{X, x_0}$  of the integral elements of  $I$ .

Teissier gives in [T<sub>1</sub>] various equivalent notions to the above concept.

**Proposition 4.2** ([T<sub>1</sub>], [G]) *Let  $I$  be an ideal in  $\mathcal{O}_{X, x_0}$ ,  $X$  a reduced complex analytic space. The following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $h \in \bar{I}$



(ii) (*Hironaka*) For each choice of generators  $\{g_i\}$  of  $I$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $x$  and a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|h(x)\| \leq C \sup_i \|g_i(x)\| \text{ for all } x \in U$$

(iii) (*Valuative criterion*) For each analytic curve  $\varphi : \mathbb{C}, 0 \rightarrow X, x$ ,  $h \circ \varphi$  lies in  $(\varphi^*(I))\mathcal{O}_1$

(iv) There exists a faithful  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}$  module  $L$  of finite type such that  $h.L \subset I.L$ .

**Remark 4.3** When  $X$  is real analytic, the above definition of integral closure is not adequate.

We may take the valuative criterion (iii) above as the definition of  $\bar{I}$ . The equivalences (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii) remain true.

Let  $X = G^{-1}(0)$ , where  $G : k^n \times k, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$  is a deformation of the germ  $g : k^n, 0 \rightarrow k, 0$ , which has isolated singularity.

We denote by  $Jg = \left\langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \right\rangle_{i=1, \dots, n}$

**Definition 4.4** We denote by  $C(\bar{Jg})$  the convex hull of the set

$$\bigcup \left\{ k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid x^k = x_1^{k_1} \dots x_n^{k_n} \in \bar{Jg} \right\}$$

We can state now our main result:

**Proposition 4.5**  $C(\bar{Jg}) = \Lambda^+(g) = \Sigma^+(g)$

**Proof:**

Let  $x^k = x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_n^{k_n}$  be in  $\Lambda^+(g)$ . Then condition (3.1) holds, i. e.,  $|\text{grad } g| \geq c \cdot |x^k|$ , for some constant  $c > 0$ . Now, this condition is clearly equivalent to (ii) in Proposition 4.1. Thus,  $\Lambda^+(g) = C(\bar{Jg})$

To show the second equality, let us consider  $\Theta \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{P}}^+(g)$ , where  $\mathcal{P}$  is some local patching data for  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t \Theta(x)$ .

Then, as in [D. G, pg. 343] it follows that there exists a level commode  $A_l$  in  $C_{n+1}$  such that

$$\text{ver}[A_{2l}] \Theta \subset A_{2l} \left\{ x_j \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \right\}$$

Hence, we may write the localized equation:

$$-\rho \cdot \Theta = \sum_i \xi_i(G),$$

where  $\rho = \sum |x^\alpha|^2$ ,  $x^\alpha$  are the vertices of  $A_l$ , and

$$\xi_i = \sum_j h_{i,j} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}, \text{ with } \text{fil}(h_{i,j}) \geq 2l.$$

Then:

$$\rho |\Theta| \leq n \max_j |h_{i,j}|$$

Now, we apply Lemma 3.5 in [D.G., pg 342], to obtain  $|h_{i,j}| \leq C_1 \rho$  for some constant  $C_1$ , in some neighbourhood  $U$  of 0 in  $k^n$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

Hence,

$$\rho |\Theta| \leq c \rho \max_j |x_j \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j}|$$

The following inequality also holds at  $x = 0$

$$|\Theta| \leq c \max_j |x_j \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j}| \text{ in } U,$$

which, by condition (ii) in Propostion 4.1 will imply that  $\Theta \in \langle \overline{x_j \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j}} \rangle$ , and consequently,  $\Theta \in C(\overline{Jg})$ .

Suppose  $\Theta \in C(\overline{Jg})$ .

We define the vector field in  $\Theta_n$  by:

$$\xi = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \overline{|\text{grad } g|^{-2} \Theta |x_i|^2 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}} \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$$

Since  $\Theta$  is in  $\overline{J(g)}$ , there exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that  $|\Theta| \leq c \cdot |\text{grad } g|$ , that is  $\text{fil}(\Theta) \geq \text{fil}(g) + [\text{fil}(\text{grad}^2 g) - \text{fil}[|x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i}|^2]]$ . Then,  $\Theta$  satisfies the jump conditions for  $\xi$  and  $\Theta \in \Sigma^+(g)$ .

In what follows, we define the polyhedron of equisingularity of the germ  $g, \mathcal{E}(g)$ , and show that  $C(\overline{Jg})$  (equivalently,  $\Lambda^+(g), \Sigma^+(g)$ ), characterizes a subset of it.

**Definition 4.6** *The polyhedron of equisingularity of a germ  $g$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{E}(g)$ , is the convex hull of the set:*

$$\cup \{k + \mathbb{R}_+^n \mid \text{the pair } \{X_G, 0 \times k\} \text{ is Whitney equisingular} \}$$

For complex germs, Teissier gives the following algebraic characterization of  $\mathcal{E}(g)$  :

**Theorem 4.7** [T<sub>2</sub>, pg604] *The pair  $\{X_G, 0 \times k\}$  is equisingular if and only if  $\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} \in \left\langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$*

**Remark 4.8** The sufficient condition in Teissier's algebraic criterion for equisingularity of the pair  $\{X_G, 0 \times k\}$  is also valid in the real analytic category.

The following proposition shows that the results of Damon-Gaffney, and of Yoshinaga can be stated in terms of the equisingularity of the pair  $\{X_G, 0 \times k\}$

**Proposition 4.9**  $C(\overline{Jg}) \subset \mathcal{E}(g)$  (or equivalently,  $\Lambda^+(g) \subset \mathcal{E}(g)$ ,  $\Sigma^+(g) \subset \mathcal{E}(g)$ )

The proof of this proposition follows from Teissier's result (Theorem 4.7) and the Lemma:

**Lemma 4.10** *Let  $G(x, t) = g(x) + t\Theta(x)$  be a deformation of  $g$  such that  $\Gamma^+(\Theta) \subset C(\overline{J(g)})$ . Then  $\left\langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle \supset \overline{J(g)}C_{n+1}$*

**Proof:** The proof is the same as in [Lemma 2.1, Y]

**Example 4.11** Let  $g : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a complex germ with isolated singularity at  $x = 0$ , and nondegenerate with respect to  $\Gamma^+(g)$ . Then  $\Gamma^+(g) = \Gamma^+(g) \cap \mathcal{E}(g) = C(\overline{Jg})$

**§5. A special class of germs of plane curves for which  $\Gamma^+(g) \cap \mathcal{E}(g) = C(\overline{Jg})$**

(5.1) Let  $g : (\mathbb{C}^2, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a germ defining a plane curve, with (algebraically) isolated singularity at 0. Let us assume further that  $g$  is commode.

**Proposition 5.2** *With the above hypothesis, we have:*

$$\Gamma^+(g) \cap \mathcal{E}(g) = C(\overline{Jg})$$

**Lemma 5.3** *Let  $g$  be as in (5.1) and  $\Theta(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2}$ , with  $a_i \neq 0, i = 1, 2$*

*Then  $\langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \rangle = \langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} \rangle_{i=1,2}$ , where  $G(x_1, x_2) = g(x_1, x_2) + t\Theta(x_1, x_2)$ .*

**Proof**

Since  $\langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \rangle \supset \langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} \rangle_{i=1, \dots, n}$ , we need only show that if  $\Theta \notin \langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} \rangle$ , then  $\Theta \notin \langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \rangle$

Applying the avaliative criterion (Prop. 4.2, (ii)), we see that if  $\Theta \notin \langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} \rangle$  then  $\Theta \notin \langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \rangle$ .

Then, we may assume that

$$\Theta \notin \langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta \in \langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} \rangle$$

Let  $\phi : (\mathbb{C}, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$  be such that  $\text{fil}(\Theta \circ \phi) < \text{fil}(x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \circ \phi)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Then,  $\phi(\lambda) = (c_1 \lambda^{r_1} + \phi_1, c_2 \lambda^{r_2} + \phi_2)$ , with degree  $(\phi_i) > r_i, c_i \neq 0$ , and  $r_1 \leq r_2$ .

Since  $\Theta \in \langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} \rangle$  and  $r_1 \leq r_2$ , we have:

$$(5.4) \quad \text{fil} \left( x_1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right) \leq \text{fil}(\Theta \circ \phi) < \text{fil} \left( x_2 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right)$$

Furthermore,,  $g$  is commode and  $c_i \neq 0, i = 1, 2$  hence

$$(5.5) \quad \text{fil} \left( x_1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right) = \text{fil} \left( x_2 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right) - (r_2 - r_1).$$

The conditions (5.4) and (5.5) imply that

$$\text{fil} \left( x_1 \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right) < \text{fil} \left( x_1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi \right)$$

We can assume that

$x_1 \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi = \sum_{i \geq i_0} a_i \lambda^i$ ,  $a_{i_0} \neq 0$ ,  $x_1 \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x_2} \circ \phi = \sum_{j \geq j_0} b_j \lambda^j$ ,  $b_{j_0} \neq 0$  and  $j_0 < i_0$ .

Then we define  $\psi : k, \circ \rightarrow k^2 \times k, \circ$  by  $\psi(\lambda) = (\phi(\lambda), t(\lambda))$ , where  $t(\lambda) = \lambda^{(i_0 - j_0)} S(\lambda) \cdot [\sum_i^q a_i \lambda^{i - i_0}]$  and  $S(\lambda) = [\sum_j b_j \lambda^{j - j_0}]^{-1}$ .

Since  $\text{fil} \Theta \circ \phi = \text{fil}(\Theta \circ \psi)$  and  $\text{fil} \left( x_1 \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_2} \circ \psi \right) = 0$ , it follows that  $\Theta \notin \overline{\langle x_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_j} \rangle}$

**Remark 5.6** As a consequence of the above proof it follows that if  $\Theta(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2}$ ,  $a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0$  is in  $\mathcal{E}(g)$  then it belongs to  $\Gamma^+(g)$ .

### Proof of Proposition 5.2

Since  $g$  is commode, there are positive integers  $p_i, i = 1, 2$  such that  $g(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{p_1} + x_2^{p_2} + h(x_1, x_2)$  and  $\text{ord}(h(x_i, 0)) > p_i$ .

By a diffeomorphism that leaves  $C(Jg)$  invariant, we can assume that  $g$  has the form:

$$(5.7) \quad x_1^{p_1} + x_2^{p_2} + x_1 x_2 r(x_1, x_2),$$

For deformations of  $g$  by mixed terms  $\theta(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2}$ ,  $a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0$ , the result follows from Lemma 5.3.

Let us assume that  $\theta(x_1, x_2) = x_1^{p_1} \notin \overline{Jg}$ . Then, it follows from the expression 5.7 for  $g$  that there exists a degenerate cell of the Newton diagram of  $g$  containing  $x_1^{p_1}$ . Hence,  $x_1^{p_1}$  does not belong to  $\overline{\langle x_i \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_j} \rangle} \cap \Gamma^+(g)$  either.

The following example shows that even for complex plane curves,  $\mathcal{E}(g)$  may contain  $C(\overline{Jg})$  properly.

**Example 5.8:**  $g(x_1, x_2) = x_1^a + x_1^4 x_2 + x_2^5$ ,  $a > 5$ .

In this example  $g$  is commode,  $\Gamma^+(g)$  is non-degenerate but clearly,  $x_1^5 \in \mathcal{E}(g)$  and  $x_1^5 \notin C(\overline{Jg})$ .

**Remark 5.9:** An algorithm to determine  $C(\overline{Jg})$  for plane curves is described in [S].

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