

## ON THE NUMBER OF BRANCHES OF AN 1-DIMENSIONAL SEMIANALYTIC SET

BY ZBIGNIEW SZAFRANIEC

### 1. Introduction.

Let  $F=(F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}): (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^{n-1}, 0)$  be a germ of an analytic map, and let  $\tilde{F}: (B, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^{n-1}, 0)$  be a representative mapping of  $F$ , where  $B$  is a small ball centered at the origin in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Let us denote  $X=\tilde{F}^{-1}(0) \cap B$ . Assume that  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is an isolated singular point in  $X$  (i.e.  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is an isolated point in  $\{x \in X \mid \text{rank}[D\tilde{F}(x)] < n-1\}$ ). If  $B$  is small enough, the set  $X-\{0\}$  is void or a finite disjoint union of analytic curves.

Let  $G: (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}, 0)$  be an analytic germ. We may suppose that a representative  $\tilde{G}$  of  $G$  is defined in  $B$ .

DEFINITION 1.1. We shall say that a pair  $(G, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $\{x \in X \mid \tilde{G}(x)=0\}$ .

Assume that a pair  $(G, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . There is a well-known fact that if  $B$  is small enough then the function  $\tilde{G}$  has a constant sign on each connected component of  $X-\{0\}$ . Let

$b(F)$  = the number of branches of  $X-\{0\}$ ,

$b_+(G, F)$  = the number of branches of  $X-\{0\}$  on which  $\tilde{G}$  is positive,

$b_-(G, F)$  = the number of branches of  $X-\{0\}$  on which  $\tilde{G}$  is negative.

Of course,  $b_+(G, F) + b_-(G, F) = b(F)$ .

Let  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a coordinate system in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Let  $\Delta = \frac{\partial(\tilde{G}, \tilde{F}_1, \dots, \tilde{F}_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$  be the Jacobian of a map  $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{F}_1, \dots, \tilde{F}_{n-1}): B \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ , and let  $H=(\Delta, \tilde{F}_1, \dots, \tilde{F}_{n-1}): (B, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$ . In this paper we show (Theorem 3.1) that

$$b_+(G, F) - b_-(G, F) = 2 \deg(H),$$

where  $\deg(H)$  is the topological degree of the map-germ  $H: (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$  at the origin.

Let  $\omega = x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2$ . Clearly, a pair  $(\omega, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $b_+(\omega, F) = b(F)$ ,  $b_-(\omega, F) = 0$ . Thus, as a consequence of the above fact, we get a formula for the number  $b(F)$ . This formula was proved by Kenji Aoki, Takuo Fukuda, Wei-Zhi Sun and Takashi Nishimura (in case  $n=2$  [1], in general case [2]).

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Let  $\Theta = x_n$ , and let us assume that a pair  $(\Theta, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus there are  $b_+(\Theta, F)$  branches of  $X - \{0\}$  contained in the half region  $\{x_n > 0\}$  and  $b_-(\Theta, F)$  branches contained in the half region  $\{x_n < 0\}$ . In this case we get a formula for a number  $b_+(\Theta, F) - b_-(\Theta, F)$ . This formula was proved by K. Aoki, T. Fukuda and T. Nishimura [3].

A proof presented here differs from that which are presented in [1, 2, 3]. It seems to be more geometrical.

Our result may be used in a more general case. Let  $G_1, \dots, G_s: (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}, 0)$  be germs of analytic functions. Assume that each pair  $(G_i, F)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s) \in \{0, 1\}^s$ . If  $B$  is small enough then a semianalytic set

$$X_\beta = \{x \in X - \{0\} \mid (-1)^{\beta_1} \tilde{G}_1(x) > 0, \dots, (-1)^{\beta_s} \tilde{G}_s(x) > 0\}$$

is void or a finite union of curves. We shall show how to compute the number of branches of  $X_\beta$  in terms of topological degrees of some finite family of map-germs  $H_\alpha: (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$ ,  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^s$  (see Theorem 3.4).

There is possible a different approach to the same problem in case  $n=2$ . In [4] is described another algorithm of calculating of the number of branches of  $X_\beta$  in terms of Puiseux series of  $F$  and  $G_1, \dots, G_s$ .

## 2. Preliminaries.

The following lemma is the most essential for the further part of this paper.

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $F = (F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}): U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n-1}$ ,  $G: U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ , be  $C^2$ -functions defined in an open set  $U \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ . Assume that  $\text{rank}[DF(x_0)] = n-1$ , where  $x_0 \in U$ . From the implicit function theorem  $W = \{x \in U \mid F(x) = F(x_0)\}$  is an 1-dimensional  $C^2$ -manifold in some neighbourhood of  $x_0$ .*

Let  $\Delta = \frac{\partial(G, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$  be the Jacobian of a map  $(G, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}): U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ ,

let  $H = (\Delta, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}): U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$ , and let  $\Delta_1 = \frac{\partial(\Delta, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)} = \det[DH]$ . Then

- (i)  $G|W$  has a critical point at  $x_0$  if and only if  $\Delta(x_0) = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $G|W$  has a non-degenerate critical point at  $x_0$  if and only if  $\Delta(x_0) = 0$  and  $\Delta_1(x_0) \neq 0$ ,
- (iii) if  $\Delta(x_0) = 0$  and  $\Delta_1(x_0) > 0$  then  $G|W$  has a minimum at  $x_0$ ,
- (iv) if  $\Delta(x_0) = 0$  and  $\Delta_1(x_0) < 0$  then  $G|W$  has a maximum at  $x_0$ .

*Proof.* We may assume that  $x_0 = 0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$ . Clearly,  $G|W$  has a critical point at  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  if and only if a vector  $\text{grad} G(0)$  belongs to the linear space spanned by vectors  $\text{grad} F_1(0), \dots, \text{grad} F_{n-1}(0)$ . Thus  $G|W$  has a critical point at the origin if and only if  $\Delta(0) = 0$ .

Assume that  $\Delta(0) = 0$ . After an ortogonal change of coordinates we can find a new well-oriented coordinate system  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  such that

$$(1) \quad D_1 F_1(0) = \dots = D_1 F_{n-1}(0) = 0,$$

where  $D_i f$  is the  $i$ -th partial derivative of  $f$ . Hence the tangent space  $T_0 W$  is spanned by a vector  $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$  and there are  $C^2$ -functions  $\phi_2, \dots, \phi_n : (\mathbf{R}, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}, 0)$  such that  $W = \{(y_1, \phi_2(y_1), \dots, \phi_n(y_1)) \mid y_1 \in \mathbf{R}\}$  in some neighbourhood of the origin. Clearly

$$(2) \quad D_1 \phi_2(0) = \dots = D_1 \phi_n(0) = 0.$$

Let  $g(y_1) = G(y_1, \phi_2(y_1), \dots, \phi_n(y_1))$ . The function  $G|W$  has a critical point at the origin, and then from (2) we have

$$(3) \quad D_1 g(0) = D_1 G(0) = 0,$$

$$(4) \quad D_1^2 g(0) = D_1^2 G(0) + \sum_{i=2}^n D_i G(0) D_1^2 \phi_i(0).$$

Since  $F_j(y_1, \phi_2(y_1), \dots, \phi_n(y_1)) \equiv \text{constant}$ , then from (2) we have

$$D_1^2 F_j(0) + \sum_{i=2}^n D_i F_j(0) D_1^2 \phi_i(0) = 0.$$

Let  $M(x) = \det[D_i F_j(x)]$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ , and let

$$N_i(x) = \det \begin{bmatrix} D_2 F_1(x) & \dots & D_1^2 F_1(x) & \dots & D_n F_1(x) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ D_2 F_{n-1}(x) & \dots & D_1^2 F_{n-1}(x) & \dots & D_n F_{n-1}(x) \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $2 \leq i \leq n$ , and the column  $(D_1^2 F_1(x), \dots, D_1^2 F_{n-1}(x))$  is situated at the  $(i-1)$ -th place. By (1) we have  $M(0) \neq 0$ , and then from Cramer's rule

$$D_1^2 \phi_i(0) = -N_i(0)/M(0).$$

From (4) we have

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{sign}(D_1^2 g(0)) &= \text{sign} \left( \left( D_1^2 G(0) M(0) - \sum_{i=2}^n D_i G(0) N_i(0) \right) / M(0) \right) \\ &= \text{sign} \left( M(0) \left( D_1^2 G(0) M(0) - \sum_{i=2}^n D_i G(0) N_i(0) \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $M_i(x) = \det \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} D_1 F_1(x) & \dots & \widehat{D_i F_1(x)} & \dots & D_n F_1(x) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ D_1 F_{n-1}(x) & \dots & \widehat{D_i F_{n-1}(x)} & \dots & D_n F_{n-1}(x) \end{array} \right]$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n$ . From (1)

we have

$$(6) \quad M_2(0) = \dots = M_n(0) = 0.$$

The change of coordinates was orthogonal and then

$$\Delta(x) = D_1 G(x) M(x) - D_2 G(x) M_2(x) + \dots \pm D_n G(x) M_n(x),$$

for any  $x \in U$ . By (3) and (6) we have

$$D_1\Delta(0)=D_1^2G(0)M(0)-D_2G(0)D_1M_2(0)+\cdots\pm D_nG(0)D_1M_n(0).$$

From (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} D_1M_i(0) &= \det \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} D_1^2F_1(0) & \cdots & \widehat{D_iF_1(0)} & \cdots & D_nF_1(0) \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ D_1^2F_{n-1}(0) & \cdots & \widehat{D_iF_{n-1}(0)} & \cdots & D_nF_{n-1}(0) \end{array} \right] \\ &= (-1)^i N_i(0). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $D_1\Delta(0)=D_1^2G(0)M(0)-\sum_{i=2}^n D_iG(0)N_i(0)$ . From (1) and (5) we have  $\Delta_1(0)=D_1\Delta(0)M(0)$  and  $\text{sign}(\Delta_1(0))=\text{sign}(D_1^2g(0))$ , and the lemma is proved.  $\square$

Let  $F=(F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}):(\mathbf{R}^n, 0)\rightarrow(\mathbf{R}^{n-1}, 0)$  and  $G:(\mathbf{R}^n, 0)\rightarrow(\mathbf{R}, 0)$  be germs of analytic maps. We may suppose that representatives of  $F$  and  $G$  are defined in an open neighbourhood  $U$  of the origin. Assume that  $0\in\mathbf{R}^n$  is an isolated singular point in  $X=F^{-1}(0)\cap U$ . Let  $B_r=\{x\in\mathbf{R}^n\mid\|x\|<r\}$ ,  $S_r=\{x\in\mathbf{R}^n\mid\|x\|=r\}$ . Using well-known facts from the theory of semianalytic sets we get

*Remark 2.2.* If a pair  $(G, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  then there is  $r>0$  such that  $(X-\{0\})\cap B_r$  is a finite disjoint union of 1-dimensional connected analytic manifolds  $Y_1, \dots, Y_k$ ,  $k\geq 0$  (if  $k=0$  then  $(X-\{0\})\cap B_r$  is vide). For any  $r'\in(0, r)$  the sphere  $S_{r'}$  is transverse to each  $Y_i$  and  $S_{r'}\cap Y_i$  has exactly one point. Moreover, a restricted function  $G|_{Y_i}$  has a constant sign for each  $i\in\{1, \dots, k\}$ . Thus numbers  $b(F)=k$ ,  $b_+(G, F)=\#\{x\in X\cap S_{r'}\mid G(x)>0\}$ ,  $b_-(G, F)=\#\{x\in X\cap S_{r'}\mid G(x)<0\}$  are well-defined. Of course  $b(F)=b_+(G, F)+b_-(G, F)$ .

Let  $\Delta=\frac{\partial(G, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$  be the Jacobian of the map  $\mathbf{R}^n\ni x\mapsto(G(x), F(x))\in\mathbf{R}^n$ , and let  $H=(\Delta, F):(\mathbf{R}^n, 0)\rightarrow(\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$ .

**LEMMA 2.3.** *If the pair  $(G, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  then  $0\in\mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $H^{-1}(0)$ .*

*Proof.* From Remark 2.2 there are 1-dimensional analytic manifolds  $Y_1, \dots, Y_k$  such that  $(X-\{0\})\cap B_r=Y_1\cup\dots\cup Y_k$ . If  $r$  is sufficiently small then from the Curve Selection Lemma there are analytic maps  $p_i:[0, \varepsilon)\rightarrow Y_i\cup\{0\}$  such that  $p_i^{-1}(0)=\{0\}$  and  $p_i:(0, \varepsilon)\rightarrow Y_i$  is an analytic diffeomorphism. The function  $G$  is analytic,  $G(0)=0$ , and from Remark 2.2,  $G^{-1}(0)\cap Y_i=\emptyset$ . Thus if  $r$  and  $\varepsilon$  are small enough then  $G\circ p_i$  is a monotonic function, and then  $G|_{Y_i}$  has no critical points. Hence, from Lemma 2.1,

$$\Delta(x)=\frac{\partial(G, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}(x)\neq 0$$

for every  $x\in Y_i$ . Clearly  $H^{-1}(0)\cap B_r\subset F^{-1}(0)\cap B_r=Y_1\cup\dots\cup Y_k\cup\{0\}$ . Then  $0\in\mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $H^{-1}(0)$ .  $\square$

Let  $M$  be a compact 1-dimensional manifold with a boundary  $\partial M$ . Clearly,  $\partial M$  is a finite set. Let  $G: M \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be a  $C^2$ -function. Assume that a set  $C$  of critical points of  $G$  is a finite subset of  $M - \partial M$  and that each critical point of  $G$  is non-degenerate. Let

$$m_1 = \#\{x \in C \mid G \text{ has a minimum at } x\},$$

$$m_2 = \#\{x \in C \mid G \text{ has a maximum at } x\}.$$

LEMMA 2.4. *Let the notation be as above. Suppose that*

- (i) *if  $x \in \partial M$  then  $G(x) \neq 0$ ,*
- (ii) *if  $x \in \partial M$  and  $G(x) < 0$  then  $G$  has a minimum at  $x$ ,*
- (iii) *If  $x \in \partial M$  and  $G(x) > 0$  then  $G$  has a maximum at  $x$ .*

Then

$$\#\{x \in \partial M \mid G(x) > 0\} - \#\{x \in \partial M \mid G(x) < 0\} = 2(m_1 - m_2).$$

The proof is straightforward. □

### 3. Main theorem.

Let the notation be as above. Let  $\deg(H)$  be the topological degree of the mapping  $x \rightarrow H(x)/\|H(x)\|$  from a small sphere  $S_r$  centered at the origin to the unit sphere in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

THEOREM 3.1. *Assume that a pair  $(G, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then*

$$b_+(G, F) - b_-(G, F) = 2 \deg(H).$$

*Proof.* Let  $y \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1}$  be a regular value of  $F$ , and let  $S_r \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  be a small sphere centered at the origin. From Remark 2.2,  $X = F^{-1}(0)$  is transverse to  $S_r$ . Hence, if  $y$  is sufficiently close to the origin then  $F^{-1}(y)$  is transverse to  $S_r$  too. Moreover, we may assume that

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} b_+(G, F) &= \#\{x \in X \cap S_r \mid G(x) > 0\} = \#\{x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r \mid G(x) > 0\}, \\ b_-(G, F) &= \#\{x \in X \cap S_r \mid G(x) < 0\} = \#\{x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r \mid G(x) < 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

In the proof of Lemma 2.3 we have shown that  $G|_{(X - \{0\})}$  has no critical points in some neighbourhood of the origin. Since  $G^{-1}(0) \cap X = \{0\}$  then if  $x \in X \cap S_r \cap \{G > 0\}$  then  $G|_{B_r \cap X}$  has a local maximum at  $x$ , if  $x \in X \cap S_r \cap \{G < 0\}$  then  $G|_{B_r \cap X}$  has a local minimum at  $x$ . Moreover, if  $y$  is close to the origin then critical points of  $G|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  belong to  $F^{-1}(y) \cap B_{r/4}$ . There is a function  $\tilde{G}$  such that the first and second derivatives of  $\tilde{G}$  uniformly approximate those of  $G$ ,  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  is a Morse function and the set  $\tilde{C}$  of critical points of  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  is contained in  $F^{-1}(y) \cap B_{r/2}$ . We can also assume that

- (i) if  $x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r$  then  $\tilde{G}(x) \neq 0$ ,
- (ii) if  $x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r$  and  $\tilde{G}(x) < 0$  then  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  has a local minimum at  $x$ ,
- (iii) if  $x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r$  and  $\tilde{G}(x) > 0$  then  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  has a local maximum at  $x$ .

Let  $\tilde{\Delta} = \frac{\partial(G, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$ . Of course,  $x \in F^{-1}(y)$  is a critical point of  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y)}$  if and only if  $\tilde{\Delta}(x) = 0$ . Thus  $\tilde{C} = \tilde{H}^{-1}(0, y)$ , where  $\tilde{H} = (\tilde{\Delta}, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})$ . From Lemma 2.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_1 &= \#\{x \in \tilde{C} \mid \tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y)} \text{ has a minimum at } x\} \\
 &= \#\{x \in \tilde{H}^{-1}(0, y) \cap B_r \mid \det[D\tilde{H}(x)] > 0\}, \\
 (2) \quad m_2 &= \#\{x \in \tilde{C} \mid \tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y)} \text{ has a maximum at } x\} \\
 &= \#\{x \in \tilde{H}^{-1}(0, y) \cap B_r \mid \det[D\tilde{H}(x)] < 0\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The function  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  has only non-degenerate critical points and then, from Lemma 2.1,

$$\{x \in \tilde{H}^{-1}(0, y) \cap B_r \mid \det[D\tilde{H}(x)] = 0\} = \emptyset.$$

Hence the point  $(0, y)$  is a regular value of  $\tilde{H}|_{B_r}$ .

Let  $d$  be the degree of the mapping

$$S_r \ni x \mapsto \tilde{H}(x) / \|\tilde{H}(x)\| \in S^{n-1}.$$

From (2),  $m_1 - m_2 = d$ . Clearly, if  $y$  is sufficiently close to the origin and  $\tilde{G}$  is sufficiently close to  $G$  then  $d = \deg(H)$ , and then  $m_1 - m_2 = \deg(H)$ .

The function  $\tilde{G}|_{F^{-1}(y) \cap B_r}$  satisfies all assumptions of Lemma 2.4. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\#\{x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r \mid \tilde{G}(x) > 0\} - \#\{x \in F^{-1}(y) \cap S_r \mid \tilde{G}(x) < 0\} \\
 &= 2(m_1 - m_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then from (1) we have

$$b_+(G, F) - b_-(G, F) = 2 \deg(H). \quad \square$$

Let  $\omega = x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2$ . Clearly a pair  $(\omega, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Of course,  $b_+(\omega, F) = b(F)$ ,  $b_-(\omega, F) = 0$ . As a consequence of Theorem 3.1 we get a theorem which was proved by K. Aoki, T. Fukuda, W. Z. Sun and T. Nishimura [1, 2].

**THEOREM 3.2.** Let  $\Delta = \frac{\partial(\omega, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$ , and let  $H = (\Delta, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1}) : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$ . Then  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $H^{-1}(0)$  and

$$b(F)=2 \deg(H). \quad \square$$

Let  $\theta=x_1$ . Then a pair  $(\theta, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $X \cap \{x_1=0\}$ . In this case

$b_+(\theta, F)$  = the number of branches of  $X - \{0\}$  which are contained in the half region  $\{x_1 > 0\}$ ,

$b_-(\theta, F)$  = the number of branches of  $X - \{0\}$  which are contained in the half region  $\{x_1 < 0\}$ .

Let

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial(\theta, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)} = \frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_2, \dots, x_n)},$$

and let

$$H = \left( \frac{\partial(F_1, \dots, F_{n-1})}{\partial(x_2, \dots, x_n)}, F_1, \dots, F_{n-1} \right) : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \longrightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0).$$

As a consequence of Theorem 3.1 we get a following theorem which was proved in [3].

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Assume that a pair  $(\theta, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is isolated in  $H^{-1}(0)$  and*

$$b_+(\theta, F) - b_-(\theta, F) = 2 \deg(H). \quad \square$$

Let  $G_1, \dots, G_s : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}, 0)$  be analytic functions. For any  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s) \in \{0, 1\}^s$  let us define a germ  $G_\alpha : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}, 0)$  by

$$G = \begin{cases} \omega, & \text{if } \alpha = (0, \dots, 0) \\ \prod_{i=1}^s G_i^{\alpha_i}, & \text{if } \alpha \neq (0, \dots, 0). \end{cases}$$

Assume that each pair  $(G_i, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then for each  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^s$  a pair  $(G_\alpha, F)$  has property  $\mathcal{A}$  too. According to Lemma 2.3 and Theorem 3.1 there is a map  $H_\alpha : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$  defined in terms of  $G_\alpha$  and  $F$  such that  $b_+(G_\alpha, F) - b_-(G_\alpha, F) = 2 \deg(H_\alpha)$ . From Remark 2.2 there is a small constant  $r > 0$  such that each function  $G_i$  has a constant sign on each branch of  $(X - \{0\}) \cap B_r$ . For any  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)$  let

$$b_\beta = \# \{x \in X \cap S_r \mid (-1)^{\beta_1} G_1(x) > 0, \dots, (-1)^{\beta_s} G_s(x) > 0\}.$$

Thus  $b_\beta$  is the number of branches of  $(X - \{0\}) \cap B_r$  on which  $G_i$  has a sign  $(-1)^{\beta_i}$ , for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ .

**THEOREM 3.4.** *The numbers  $b_\beta, \beta \in \{0, 1\}^s$ , are determined by numbers  $\deg(H_\alpha), \alpha \in \{0, 1\}^s$ .*

*Proof.* If  $s=1$  then the theorem is a consequence of Theorems 3.1 and 3.2. We shall prove the theorem in case  $s=2$ .

We have a non-singular system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} b_{(0,0)} + b_{(0,1)} + b_{(1,0)} + b_{(1,1)} = b(F) \\ b_{(0,0)} + b_{(0,1)} - b_{(1,0)} - b_{(1,1)} = b_+(G_1, F) - b_-(G_1, F) \\ b_{(0,0)} - b_{(0,1)} + b_{(1,0)} - b_{(1,1)} = b_+(G_2, F) - b_-(G_2, F) \\ b_{(0,0)} - b_{(0,1)} - b_{(1,0)} + b_{(1,1)} = b_+(G_1G_2, F) - b_-(G_1G_2, F) \end{cases}$$

By Theorem 3.1, numbers  $b_\beta$ ,  $\beta \in \{0, 1\}^2$ , are determined by numbers  $\deg(H_\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^2$ .

The case  $s > 2$  is left to the reader. □

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INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS  
UNIVERSITY OF GDAŃSK  
80-952 GDAŃSK  
WITA STWOSZA 57  
POLAND