

DESCRIPTION OF DEFORMATIONS WITH CONSTANT
MILNOR NUMBER FOR HOMOGENEOUS FUNCTIONS

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In [1], V. I. Arnol'd showed that the multiplicity* $\mu(f)$ of quasi-homogeneous function f with isolated singularities is not changed upon the addition of small terms of the same degree as in f , or of any terms of higher degree. V. I. Arnol'd assumed that the small deformations of quasi-homogeneous function f which do not alter $\mu(f)$ are exhausted by the aforementioned deformations to within the action of the group of changes of variables, and he proved this hypothesis for all 0- and 1-modal quasi-homogeneous functions ([1, 2], see [3] as well). We shall prove this hypothesis for homogeneous functions.

Definition 1. Let $f: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be an analytic function with the isolated singularity $f(0) = 0$ at the origin of coordinates. Let $F(x, \lambda)$ be a deformation of function $f(x)$. We call the stratum $\mu \equiv \text{const}$ of deformation $F(x, \lambda)$ the sprout at 0 of the set of those values of parameter λ for which $F(x, \lambda)$ has a singular point close to 0 of the same multiplicity as $f(x)$ with zero critical value.

THEOREM 2. Let $f: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a homogeneous function of degree d and let $\mu(f) < \infty$. Let

$$F(x, \lambda) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x) \tag{1}$$

be a transversal to the orbit of function f in the space of those functions g such that $dg(0) = 0$ and $g(0) = 0$. We assume that the $\varphi_i(x)$ are homogeneous and that $\deg \varphi_i(x) \geq d \Leftrightarrow i = 1, \dots, m$. Then, stratum $\mu \equiv \text{const}$ of deformation $F(x, \lambda)$ is given by the equations $\lambda_{m+1} = \dots = \lambda_{m-1} = 0$.

COROLLARY 3. The modality of a homogeneous function equals its internal modality (see [1], definition 8.6).

For the proof of Theorem 2 we use the following result of Le Dung Trang, Saito [4] and Teissier [5].

THEOREM 4. Let $G: \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a one-parameter deformation of analytic function $f: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that, for sufficiently small λ , $G(0, \lambda) = 0$, $d_x G(0, \lambda) = 0$, and $\mu(G(\cdot, \lambda)) = \mu(f)$. Then, as $|\lambda| \rightarrow 0$,

$$\left| \frac{\partial G(x, \lambda)}{\partial \lambda} \right| = o(|d_x G(x, \lambda)|) \tag{2}$$

uniformly in λ for sufficiently small λ .

Assertion 5. Let f be a homogeneous function of degree d , $\mu(f) < \infty$, and let $\varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_{d-1}$ be homogeneous functions, $\deg \varphi_i = i$, $\sum_{i=2}^{d-1} \varphi_i \neq 0$. Then,

$$\mu \left(f + \sum_{i=2}^{d-1} \varphi_i \right) < \mu(f).$$

Proof. We set $G(x, \lambda) = f(x) + \sum_{i=2}^{d-1} \lambda^{d-i} \varphi_i(x)$. Then, $G(tx, \lambda) \equiv t^d G(x, t\lambda)$, so that $\mu(G(\cdot, \lambda)) = \mu(G(\cdot, 1))$ when $\lambda \neq 0$. We assume that $\mu(G(\cdot, 1)) = \mu(f)$. Then the conditions of Theorem 4 hold for G . At the same time,

*Here and henceforth, we dub the Milnor number of singularities the multiplicity.

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$$d_x G(\lambda x, \lambda) = \lambda^{d-1} \left(df(x) + \sum_{i=2}^{d-1} d\varphi_i(x) \right), \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial \lambda}(\lambda x, \lambda) = \lambda^{d-1} \left(\sum_{i=2}^{d-1} (d-i) \varphi_i(x) \right),$$

and, if we choose a point x_0 at which $\sum_{i=2}^{d-1} (d-i) \varphi_i(x_0) = c \neq 0$ then, on the curve $\gamma(t) = (tx_0, t)$, as $t \rightarrow 0$

$$|d_x G(\gamma(t))| \leq C |t|^{d-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{\partial G}{\partial \lambda}(\gamma(t)) \right| \sim ct^{d-1};$$

consequently, relationship (2) does not hold, and this proves assertion 5.

Assertion 6. Let $f: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a quasi-homogeneous function of weight $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and degree d . Let

$$F(x, t) = f(x) + \sum \lambda_i(t) \varphi_i(x), \quad (3)$$

where the φ_i are quasi-homogeneous functions of weight α and degree d_i , while the $\lambda_i(t)$ are analytic functions, $\lambda_i(0) = 0$ if $d_i \leq d$. Let $\lambda_i(t) = c_i t^{k_i} + o(|t|^{k_i})$. We set $v = \max_{i: d_i < d} \frac{d-d_i}{k_i}$. Let

$$G(x, t) = f(x) + \sum_{i: d_i < d} \tau_i(t) \varphi_i(x),$$

where

$$\tau_i(t) = \begin{cases} c_i t^{d-d_i}, & \text{if } \frac{d-d_i}{k_i} = v, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then, for sufficiently small t , we have $\mu(G(\cdot, t)) \geq \mu(F(\cdot, t))$.

Proof. We set $H(x, t, \varepsilon) = \varepsilon^{-d} F(\varepsilon^{d_1} x_1, \dots, \varepsilon^{d_n} x_n, \varepsilon^v t)$. Obviously, $H(x, t, \varepsilon) \rightarrow G(x, t)$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. At the same time, $\mu(H(\cdot, t, \varepsilon)) = \mu(F(\cdot, \varepsilon^v t))$ when $\varepsilon \neq 0$. Assertion 6 now follows from the semi-continuity of μ in the Zariski topology.

Proof of Theorem 2. We assume that stratum $\mu \equiv \text{const}$ of deformation (1) is not contained in the set $\lambda_{m+1} = \dots = \lambda_{\mu-1} = 0$. Then, in this stratum there lies a curve of the form of (3) (where $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 1$), with $\sum_{i: d_i < d} \lambda_i(t) \varphi_i(x) \not\equiv 0$. From assertions 5 and 6, for sufficiently small $t \neq 0$, we obtain $\mu(F(\cdot, t)) \leq \mu(G(\cdot, t)) < \mu(f)$, which contradicts our assumption. Conversely, as shown by V. I. Arnol'd [1], the stratum $\mu \equiv \text{const}$ contains set $\lambda_{m+1} = \dots = \lambda_{\mu-1} = 0$.

Remark 1. Let $f: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a quasi-homogeneous function of weight $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and degree d , and let $\mu(f) < \infty$. Let $F(x, \lambda) = f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{\mu-1} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x)$ be transversal to the orbit of f in the space of functions having at 0 a critical point with critical value 0, where each function φ_i is quasi-homogeneous of weight α and degree d_i . Following Arnol'd, we set

$$T_t(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{\mu-1}) = (e^{t(d-d_1)} \lambda_1, \dots, e^{t(d-d_{\mu-1})} \lambda_{\mu-1}), \quad T'_t(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (e^{2t} x_1, \dots, e^{\alpha_n t} x_n).$$

Then, $F(T'_t x, T_t \lambda) = e^{td} F(x, \lambda)$ for any $t \in \mathbb{C}$.

It follows from the last formulas that stratum $\mu \equiv \text{const}$ in space $\mathbb{C}^{\mu-1}$ is invariant with respect to the action of flow $\{T_t: t \in \mathbb{C}\}$ (just as for all stratifications by μ). In correspondence with the three possibilities: $d_i \leq d$, space $\mathbb{C}^{\mu-1}$ can be decomposed into the direct sum of the three subspaces $\mathbb{C}^{\mu-1} = \Lambda^+ \oplus \Lambda^0 \oplus \Lambda^-$ such that, as $t \rightarrow +\infty$, flow $\{T_t\}$ is stretched on Λ^+ , is fixed on Λ^0 , and is contracted on Λ^- . It is geometrically obvious (and is proven in assertion 6) that if the nonzero analytic curve γ passes through $0 \in \mathbb{C}^{\mu-1}$ and is not contained in $\Lambda^0 \oplus \Lambda^-$, then, in the closure of set $\bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{C}} T_t \gamma$, there is contained a nonzero curve lying completely in Λ^+ .

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