

Pacific Journal of Mathematics

**GLOBAL ALMOST ANALYTIC ALGEBRAICITY OF ANALYTIC
SETS**

WOJCIECH KUCHARZ

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Let X be a nonsingular real algebraic subset of \mathbf{R}^n . There are known several results concerning analytic subsets of X which are analytically or C^r equivalent to algebraic sets, i.e., which can be transformed by an analytic or C^r diffeomorphism, $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, of X onto algebraic subsets. In general, C^r equivalence does not imply analytic equivalence. However, we show in this paper that C^r equivalence often can be replaced by, much stronger, "almost analytic" equivalence.

1. The main result. In this paper real algebraic varieties and morphisms between them are understood in the sense of Serre [15] (Serre considers algebraic varieties over an algebraically closed field but his basic definitions make sense over any field). The reader may consult a detailed exposition [7] for properties of real algebraic varieties, especially in connection with real algebraic blow-ups (cf. also [1]). All subvarieties will be assumed closed but not necessarily irreducible.

Let Y be an affine real algebraic variety and let Z be a subvariety of Y . Then the algebraic blow-up $\pi: B \rightarrow Y$ of Y along Z has the following properties: B is an affine real algebraic variety, π is a real algebraic morphism whose restriction to $B \setminus \pi^{-1}(Z)$ is an algebraic isomorphism onto $Y \setminus Z$, and π is a proper map if B and Y are equipped with the Euclidean topology. Moreover, B is nonsingular and π is surjective if Y and Z are nonsingular varieties.

Let \tilde{X} and X be affine nonsingular real algebraic varieties and let D be a subvariety of X . An algebraic morphism $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ is called a k -fold algebraic multiblowup of X along D if π is the composition $\pi = \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_k$, where

$$\tilde{X} = X_k \xrightarrow{\pi_k} X_{k-1} \xrightarrow{\pi_{k-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\pi_2} X_1 \xrightarrow{\pi_1} X_0 = X,$$

π_1 is the algebraic blow-up of X_0 along a nonsingular subvariety of D and π_{i+1} is the algebraic blow-up of X_i along a nonsingular subvariety of X_i contained in $(\pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_i)^{-1}(D)$ for $i = 1, \dots, k-1$. Note that the restriction of π to $\tilde{X} \setminus \pi^{-1}(D)$ is an algebraic isomorphism onto $X \setminus D$.

To formulate the main result, we need one more notion.

Given a compact (in the Euclidean topology) affine real algebraic variety X and a nonnegative integer k , we denote by $H_k^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ the subgroup of the homology group $H_k(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ generated by the homology classes represented by the algebraic k -dimensional subvarieties of X (cf. [7], Chap. 11 or [8]). If V is a k -dimensional analytic subset of X , then $[V]$ will stand for the homology class in $H_k(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ represented by V [8].

THEOREM 1.1. *Let X be a compact affine nonsingular real algebraic variety of dimension n . Let V_1, \dots, V_d be coherent analytic subsets of X . Assume that there exists a finite subset D of X such that $V_i \setminus D$ is an analytic submanifold of X of codimension 1 for $i = 1, \dots, d$ and the submanifolds $\{V_i \setminus D\}_{i=1, \dots, d}$ are in general position. Also assume that $[V_i]$ belongs to $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, d$. Then there exists an algebraic multiblowup $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ of X along D with the property that for each nonnegative integer r , one can find a C^r diffeomorphism $\sigma: X \rightarrow X$ and an analytic diffeomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}: \tilde{X} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$ such that $\pi \circ \tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ \pi$ and $\sigma(V_i)$ is an algebraic subvariety of X for $i = 1, \dots, d$.*

Of course, “general position” in Theorem 1.1 has the usual meaning (cf. for instance [6], p. 2).

In the present work we adopt the point of view suggested by T. C. Kuo (cf. [11], [12], [13], [14] and also [9]) who searched for equivalence relations weaker than analytic equivalence but still preserving its nice features. Note that, in Theorem 1.1, $\sigma|_{X \setminus D}$ is analytic. Moreover, σ is “almost analytic” at D in the sense that the obstruction which prevents it from being analytic at D is of a very special nature. Namely, σ can be “lifted” to an analytic diffeomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$ of \tilde{X} . Observe also that the analytic subsets $\pi^{-1}(V_i)$ of \tilde{X} , $i = 1, \dots, d$, can be simultaneously analytically transformed onto algebraic subvarieties of \tilde{X} . More precisely, $\tilde{\sigma}(\pi^{-1}(V_i))$, $i = 1, \dots, d$, are algebraic subvarieties of \tilde{X} . We should also mention that σ cannot, in general, be chosen analytic (cf. [5], p. 118, Example 3).

Theorem 1.1 immediately implies the following corollary.

COROLLARY 1.2. *If V is a coherent analytic subset of X such that V is of pure dimension $n - 1$ at each point, the set of singular points $\text{Sign}(V)$ of V is finite, and $[V]$ belongs to $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$, then the*

conclusion of Theorem 1.1 holds true with $d = 1$, $V_1 = V$ and $D = \text{Sing}(V)$.

REMARK 1.3. The assumptions “ $[V_i]$ belongs to $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ ” in Theorem 1.1 and “ $[V]$ belongs to $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ ” in Corollary 1.2 cannot be dropped (cf. [5], p. 116, Example 1).

2. The key proposition. We start by recalling the following important result.

LEMMA 2.1. *Let Y be a closed analytic submanifold of an analytic manifold X and let $\pi: B \rightarrow X$ be the analytic blow-up of X along Y . Let ν be an analytic vector field on X which is k -flat at Y for some positive integer k . Then the vector field ν^* on B defined by*

$$\nu^*(p) = \begin{cases} (d_p\pi)^{-1}(\nu(\pi(p))) & \text{for } p \in B \setminus \pi^{-1}(Y), \\ 0 & \text{for } p \in \pi^{-1}(Y) \end{cases}$$

is analytic and $(k - 1)$ -flat at $\pi^{-1}(Y)$. If ν analytically depends on a parameter, then ν^ also analytically depends on the parameter.*

Proof. This result, which is well known, is of a local nature and follows from a straightforward calculation in local coordinates.

Every manifold considered below will be equipped, even if we do not explicitly say so, with a fixed Riemannian metric. If M is a manifold, x is a point in M and D is a subset of M , then $\text{dist}(x, D)$ will denote the distance from x to D with respect to the fixed Riemannian metric on M .

Our next auxiliary result is a consequence of Hironaka’s desingularization theorem.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let X be a compact affine nonsingular real algebraic variety and let $f: X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be an analytic function with $f^{-1}(0) = D$ finite. Then there exists an algebraic multiblowup $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ of X along D such that $f \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing, i.e., each point p in \tilde{X} has a local analytic coordinate system (U_p, y_1, \dots, y_n) with origin at p such that $f \circ \pi|_{U_p} = \varepsilon y_1^{\mu(1)} \cdots y_n^{\mu(n)}$, where $\varepsilon: U_p \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a nowhere vanishing analytic function and $\mu(1), \dots, \mu(n)$ are nonnegative integers.*

Proof. By the Łojasiewicz inequality [16],

$$(2.2.1) \quad |f(x)| \geq a \text{dist}(x, D)^m \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X,$$

where $a > 0$ and m is a positive integer. Let $\varphi: X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be a regular function close to f in the C^∞ topology, such that $f - \varphi$ is m -flat at D (cf. [4], Corollary 1). We may assume that $\varphi^{-1}(0) = D$. By Hironaka's desingularization theorem [10], there exists an algebraic multiblowup $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ of X along D such that $\varphi \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing.

We claim that $f \circ \pi$ is also locally a normal crossing. Indeed, let p be a point in \tilde{X} and let (U_p, y_1, \dots, y_n) be an analytic local coordinate system on \tilde{X} with center at p such that $\varphi \circ \pi|_{U_p} = \delta y_1^{\mu(1)} \dots y_n^{\mu(n)}$, where $\delta: U_p \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is an analytic nowhere vanishing function and $\mu(1), \dots, \mu(n)$ are nonnegative integers. Since f satisfies (2.2.1) and $f - \varphi$ is m -flat at D , we obtain that for every point x in X and every analytic map-germ $\gamma: (\mathbf{R}, 0) \rightarrow (X, x)$, both $f \circ \gamma$ and $\varphi \circ \gamma$ have the same order of flatness at 0. Clearly, the analogous observation is valid for $f \circ \pi \circ \tilde{\gamma}$ and $\varphi \circ \pi \circ \tilde{\gamma}$, where $\tilde{\gamma}: (\mathbf{R}, 0) \rightarrow (\tilde{X}, q)$ is an analytic map-germ, $q \in \tilde{X}$. It follows that $f \circ \pi|_{U_p} = \varepsilon y_1^{\mu(1)} \dots y_n^{\mu(n)}$ for some analytic nowhere vanishing function $\varepsilon: U_p \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$. Hence, $f \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing and the lemma is proved.

For f, π and (U_p, y_1, \dots, y_n) as in Lemma 2.2, the integer $h(f, \pi, p) = \max\{\mu(1), \dots, \mu(n)\}$ does not depend on the choice of (U_p, y_1, \dots, y_n) . Since $\pi^{-1}(D)$ is compact,

$$h(f, \pi) = \sup\{h(f, \pi, p) \mid p \in X\}$$

is finite. The integer $h(f, \pi)$ will play an important role later on.

Given a map $F: X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$ and a point t in $[0, 1]$, let F_t denote the map $F(\cdot, t)$.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let X be an affine nonsingular real algebraic variety and let $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be an algebraic k -fold multiblowup of X along a finite subset D of X . Let $f: X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and $\tilde{g}: \tilde{X} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be analytic functions. Assume that $f_0 \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing and*

$$f(x, t) \geq a \operatorname{dist}(x, D)^m \quad \text{for all } (x, t) \text{ in } X \times [0, 1],$$

where $a > 0$ and m is a positive integer. Also assume that $f_t^{-1}(0) = D$, $f_t - f_0$ is m -flat at D , and \tilde{g}_t is $h(f_0, \pi)$ -flat at $\pi^{-1}(0)$ for all t in $[0, 1]$. Then there exists an analytic function $\tilde{h}: \tilde{X} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ which vanishes on $\pi^{-1}(D) \times [0, 1]$ and satisfies $\tilde{h}(p, t)f(\pi(p), t) = \tilde{g}(p, t)$ for (p, t) in $\tilde{X} \times [0, 1]$.

Proof. As in the proof of Lemma 2.2, one easily sees that $f(\pi(p), t) = \tilde{u}(p, t)f_0(\pi(p))$, where $\tilde{u}: \tilde{X} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a nowhere vanishing analytic function. The proof is concluded since the $h(f_0, \pi)$ -flatness of \tilde{g}_t at $\pi^{-1}(D)$ implies that $\tilde{k}(p, t)f_0(\pi(p)) = \tilde{g}(p, t)$, where $\tilde{k}: \tilde{X} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is an analytic function vanishing on $\pi^{-1}(D) \times [0, 1]$.

We now proceed towards the main result of this section.

Let X be a real analytic manifold. Denote by $D^r(X)$ the group of C^r diffeomorphisms of X , $r = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \omega$, where ω stands for analytic. The ring of analytic functions from X to \mathbf{R} will be denoted by $\mathcal{O}(X)$ and the ring of analytic function-germs $(X, x) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ at x in X by $\mathcal{O}_x(X)$.

Let $\xi = (E, \rho, X)$ be an analytic vector bundle over X . Denote by $\Gamma^r(\xi)$ the space of C^r sections of ξ and by E_x the fibre of ξ at x . If s is a section of ξ , then $s^{-1}(0)$ will denote the set of zeros of s . If s is analytic, then we define the ideal $I(s)$ of $\mathcal{O}(X)$ as follows: Given x in X , let (s_1, \dots, s_k) be a system of germs at x of analytic sections of ξ such that $(s_1(x), \dots, s_k(x))$ is a basis for E_x . Then the germ s_x of s at x can be written as $s_x = f_1s_1 + \dots + f_ks_k$ for some f_i in $\mathcal{O}_x(X)$. We define $I(s)$ to be the unique ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X)$ satisfying

$$I(s)\mathcal{O}_x(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i\mathcal{O}_x(X)$$

for all x in X . Observe that the set of zeros of $I(s)$ is equal to $s^{-1}(0)$. Analogously, if Φ is an analytic section over $X \times [0, 1]$ of ξ , i.e., Φ is an analytic map from $X \times [0, 1]$ to E such that $\Phi_t = \Phi(\cdot, t)$ is a section of ξ for all t in $[0, 1]$, then the germ $\Phi_{(x,t)}$ of Φ at (x, t) can be written as $\Phi_{(x,t)} = F_1s_1 + \dots + F_ks_k$ for some F_i in $\mathcal{O}_{(x,t)}(X \times [0, 1])$. We define $I(\Phi)$ to be the unique ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X \times [0, 1])$ satisfying

$$I(\Phi)\mathcal{O}_{(x,t)}(X \times [0, 1]) = \sum_{i=1}^k F_i\mathcal{O}_{(x,t)}(X \times [0, 1])$$

for all (x, t) in $X \times [0, 1]$.

Let $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be an analytic map between real analytic manifolds (in our applications, X will be an affine real algebraic variety and π will be an algebraic multiblowup of X along a subvariety consisting of finitely many points). Let $\xi_i = (E_i, \rho_i, X)$, $i = 1, \dots, d$, be analytic vector bundles over X , $\text{rank } \xi_i = c(i)$, and let $\xi = (E, \rho, X) = \xi_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \xi_d$.

The set

$$G^r(\xi) = \{(\gamma, \sigma) \in D^r(E) \times D^r(X) \mid \rho \circ \gamma = \sigma \circ \rho, \\ \gamma(E_i) \subset E_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, \text{ and } \gamma|_{E_x}: E_x \rightarrow E_{\sigma(x)} \\ \text{is a linear isomorphism for } x \in X\}$$

is a subgroup of $D^r(E) \times D^r(X)$. The action of $G^r(\xi)$ on $\Gamma^r(\xi)$ is defined by

$$(\gamma, \sigma) \cdot s = \gamma \circ s \circ \sigma^{-1}$$

for (γ, σ) in $G^r(\xi)$ and s in $\Gamma^r(\xi)$. Let $G^r(\xi, \pi)$ be the subgroup of $G^r(\xi)$ consisting of all elements (γ, σ) in $G^r(\xi)$ such that there is an analytic diffeomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}: \tilde{X} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$ satisfying $\sigma \circ \pi = \pi \circ \tilde{\sigma}$. We say that two sections in $\Gamma^r(\xi)$ are π -analytically C^r equivalent if they are in the same $G^r(\xi, \pi)$ -orbit. Note that if $s = s_1 \oplus \dots \oplus s_d$ and $u = u_1 \oplus \dots \oplus u_d$ are C^r sections of ξ and $u = (\gamma, \sigma) \cdot s$, then $\sigma(s_i^{-1}(0)) = u_i^{-1}(0)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d$.

Let $c = (c(1), \dots, c(d))$ and $|c| = c(1) + \dots + c(d)$. Denote by $G(c)$ the subgroup of $\text{Gl}(|c|, \mathbf{R})$ consisting of all matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_1 & & & 0 \\ & B_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & B_d \end{pmatrix},$$

where B_i is in $\text{Gl}(c(i), \mathbf{R})$, $i = 1, \dots, d$. let $\{A_j\}$, $j = 1, \dots, q$, $q = c(1)^2 + \dots + c(d)^2$, be a basis for the tangent space $T_I G(c)$ of $G(c)$ at the identity $|c| \times |c|$ matrix I (we consider $T_I G(c)$ embedded in the space of all $|c| \times |c|$ matrices). Given

$$f = (f_{11}, \dots, f_{1c(1)}, \dots, f_{d1}, \dots, f_{dc(d)})$$

in $\mathcal{O}(X)^{|c|}$, we define $J(f)$ to be the ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X)$ generated by all $|c| \times |c|$ minors of the $|c| \times (m + q)$ matrix $L(f)$ with $A_1 \cdot f, \dots, A_q \cdot f, Y_1 f, \dots, Y_m f$ as columns,

$$L(f) = (A_1 \cdot f, \dots, A_q \cdot f, Y_1 f, \dots, Y_m f),$$

where $\{Y_l\}_{l=1, \dots, m}$ are analytic vector fields on X generating the $\mathcal{O}(X)$ -module $\Gamma^\omega(TX)$. Similarly, if

$$F = (F_{11}, \dots, F_{1c(1)}, \dots, F_{d1}, \dots, F_{dc(d)})$$

is in $\mathcal{O}(X \times [0, 1])^{|c|}$ and the Y_l are considered, in the obvious way, as elements of $\Gamma^\omega(T(X \times [0, 1]))$, then we let $J(F)$ denote the ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X \times [0, 1])$ generated by all $|c| \times |c|$ minors of the matrix

$$L(F) = (A_1 \cdot F, \dots, A_q \cdot F, Y_1 F, \dots, Y_m F).$$

Given an analytic section $s = s_1 \oplus \dots \oplus s_d$ of ξ , let $J(s)$ denote the ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X)$ generated by all $J(f)$ with f_{ij} in $I(s_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d, j = 1, \dots, c(i)$. If $\Phi = \Phi_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \Phi_d$ is an analytic section over $X \times [0, 1]$ of ξ , then $J(\Phi)$ will denote the ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X \times [0, 1])$ generated by all $J(F)$ with F_{ij} in $I(\Phi_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d, j = 1, \dots, c(i)$.

The geometric significance of the ideal $J(s)$ is explained below ($J(\Phi)$ is introduced for technical reasons).

LEMMA 2.4. *Let $s = s_1 \oplus \dots \oplus s_d$ be an analytic section of ξ and let $Z_i = s_i^{-1}(0), i = 1, \dots, d$. Assume that $I(s_i)$ is equal to the ideal of all functions in $\mathcal{O}(X)$ vanishing on Z_i and $\text{codim } Z_i = c(i)$. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *Each Z_i is an analytic submanifold of X and the family $\{Z_1, \dots, Z_d\}$ is in general position.*
- (ii) *The set of zeros of $J(s)$ is empty.*

Proof. An elementary argument of linear algebra.

We are now ready to prove the main result of this section.

PROPOSITION 2.5. *Let X be a compact affine nonsingular real algebraic variety. Let $\xi_i = (E_i, \rho_i, X), i = 1, \dots, d$, be analytic vector bundles over X and let $s = s_1 \oplus \dots \oplus s_d$ be an analytic section of $\xi = \xi_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \xi_d$. Let δ be an element of $J(s)$ such that the set $\delta^{-1}(0) = D$ is finite and*

$$\delta(x) \geq a \text{ dist}(x, D)^m \text{ for all } x \text{ in } X,$$

where $a > 0$ and m is a positive integer. Let $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be an algebraic k -fold multiblowup of X along D such that $\delta \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing. Then there exists a neighborhood \mathcal{V} of 0 in $\Gamma^\omega(\xi)$ (in the C^∞ topology) such that for every positive integer r and every analytic section u of ξ , if $u - s$ belongs to \mathcal{V} and is l -flat at $D, l = \max\{k + h(\delta, \pi), (r + 1)m\}$, then u is π -analytically C^r equivalent to s .

Proof. First we shall replace the vector bundles ξ_i by trivial vector bundles over a "larger" manifold Ω .

Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_i$ be an analytic Riemannian metric on ξ_i and let $c(i) = \text{rank } \xi_i$. The set

$$\Omega = \{(\varepsilon, x) \in E_1^{c(1)} \times \dots \times E_d^{c(d)} \times X \mid \varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_d), \varepsilon_i \text{ is an orthonormal basis for } E_{ix}, i = 1, \dots, d\}$$

is a compact analytic submanifold of $E_1^{c(1)} \times \cdots \times E_d^{c(d)} \times X$ and the map

$$\Lambda: \Omega \rightarrow X, \quad \Lambda(\varepsilon, x) = x$$

is an analytic, locally trivial fibration. The fibres of Λ are diffeomorphic to the product $V(\mathbf{R}^{c(1)}) \times \cdots \times V(\mathbf{R}^{c(d)})$, where $V(\mathbf{R}^k)$ stands for the Stiefel manifold of orthonormal bases for \mathbf{R}^k .

Let $O(c) = O(c(1)) \times \cdots \times O(c(d))$, where $O(k)$ denotes the group of orthogonal $k \times k$ matrices. We shall consider $O(c)$ as a subgroup of $G(c)$. Define the action of $O(c)$ on Ω by the following formula:

$$\alpha \cdot (\varepsilon, x) = (\alpha \cdot \varepsilon, x),$$

where α is in $O(c)$, (ε, x) is in Ω and ε is considered as a $|c| \times 1$ matrix.

For each $i = 1, \dots, d$, the pull-back vector bundle $\Lambda^* \xi_i = (\Lambda^* E_i, \Lambda^* \rho_i, \Omega)$ is trivial. Indeed, by definition

$$\Lambda^* E_i = \{(\omega, e) \in \Omega \times E_i \mid \Lambda(\omega) = \rho_i(e)\}$$

and the analytic sections

$$s_{ij}: \Omega \rightarrow \Lambda^* E_i$$

of $\Lambda^* \xi_i$ given by

$$s_{ij}(\varepsilon, x) = ((\varepsilon, x), \varepsilon_{ij}),$$

where $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_d)$, $\varepsilon_i = (\varepsilon_{i1}, \dots, \varepsilon_{ic(i)})$, are linearly independent at every point (ε, x) in Ω for $j = 1, \dots, c(i)$.

Given a section $v = v_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus v_d$ of ξ , let

$$f_v = (f_{v11}, \dots, f_{v1c(1)}, \dots, f_{vd1}, \dots, f_{vdc(d)})$$

be the element of $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)^{|c|}$ determined by the equations

$$\Lambda^* v_i = \sum_{j=1}^{c(i)} f_{vij} s_{ij}, \quad i = 1, \dots, d,$$

where $\Lambda^* v_i: \Omega \rightarrow \Lambda^* E_i$ is the pull-back of v_i , that is,

$$(\Lambda^* v_i)(\omega) = (\omega, v_i(\Lambda(\omega)))$$

for ω in Ω .

One sees immediately that f_v (considered as a map from Ω to $\mathbf{R}^{|c|}$) is $O(c)$ -equivariant, where the action of $O(c)$ on $\mathbf{R}^{|c|}$ is the usual matrix multiplication.

Now, let u be an analytic section of ξ such that $u - s$ is l -flat at D . Set $\Phi(x, t) = (1 - t)s(x) + tu(x)$ for (x, t) in $X \times [0, 1]$ and pick an element Δ in $J(\Phi)$ such that $\Delta_0 = \delta$ and $\Delta_t - \delta$ is $(l - 1)$ -flat at D for t in $[0, 1]$. If u is sufficiently close to s (where the closeness does not depend on r), then $\Delta_t^{-1}(0) = D$ for t in $[0, 1]$ and

$$(2.5.1) \quad \Delta(x, t) \geq b \operatorname{dist}(x, D)^m \quad \text{for all } (x, t) \text{ in } X \times [0, 1],$$

where $b > 0$.

Define $F: \Omega \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{|c|}$ and $\Sigma: \Omega \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ by

$$\begin{aligned} F(\omega, t) &= f_{\Phi_t}(\omega), \\ \Sigma(\omega, t) &= \Delta(\Lambda(\omega), t) \end{aligned}$$

for (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$. Computing in a local coordinate system, one easily sees that for each point (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$ the germ of Σ at (ω, t) is in $J(F)_{\mathcal{O}_{(\omega, t)}}(\Omega \times [0, 1])$. It follows that Σ is in $J(F)$ and, by Cramer's rule, for every element H of $\mathcal{O}(\Omega \times [0, 1])^{|c|}$, the product ΣH is a linear combination with coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(\Omega \times [0, 1])$ of the columns of the matrix $L(F)$. Hence

$$(2.5.2) \quad -\Sigma(\omega, t) \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}(\omega, t) = d_{\omega} F_t(\nu'(\omega, t)) + \kappa'(\omega, t) \cdot F(\omega, t),$$

where ν' is a time-dependent analytic vector field on Ω and $\kappa': \Omega \times [0, 1] \rightarrow T_1 G(c)$ is an analytic map. Moreover, since $\partial F / \partial t$ is l -flat at $\Lambda^{-1}(D)$ for all t in $[0, 1]$, we may assume that

$$(2.5.3) \quad \nu'_t \text{ and } \kappa'_t \text{ are } l\text{-flat at } \Lambda^{-1}(D) \quad \text{for } t \text{ in } [0, 1].$$

Using the fact that F_t is $O(c)$ -equivariant and eventually replacing in (2.5.2) $\nu'_t = \nu'(\cdot, t)$ by its $O(c)$ -average and $\kappa'(\omega, t)$ by

$$\int_{O(c)} \alpha^{-1} \cdot \kappa'(\alpha \cdot \omega, t) \cdot \alpha \, d\mu,$$

where α is in $O(c)$ and μ is the Haar measure on $O(c)$ with $\int d\mu = 1$, we may assume that ν'_t is an $O(c)$ -equivariant vector field and κ' satisfies

$$(2.5.4) \quad \kappa'(\alpha \cdot \omega, t) = \alpha \cdot \kappa'(\omega, t) \cdot \alpha^{-1}.$$

Since Λ is a fibration, one easily sees that

$$\Sigma(\omega, t) \geq d \operatorname{dist}(\omega, \Lambda^{-1}(D))^m \quad \text{for } (\omega, t) \text{ in } \Omega \times [0, 1]$$

where $d > 0$ (cf. (2.5.1)). It follows from this inequality and (2.5.3) that the time-dependent vector field

$$\nu^*(\omega, t) = \begin{cases} \nu'(\omega, t)/\Sigma(\omega, t) & \text{for } (\omega, t) \in (\Omega \times [0, 1]) \setminus \Sigma^{-1}(0), \\ 0 & \text{for } (x, t) \in \Sigma^{-1}(0) \end{cases}$$

is of class C^r and

$$\kappa^*(\omega, t) = \begin{cases} \kappa'(\omega, t)/\Sigma(\omega, t) & \text{for } (\omega, t) \in (\Omega \times [0, 1]) \setminus \Sigma^{-1}(0), \\ 0 & \text{for } (\omega, t) \in \Sigma^{-1}(0) \end{cases}$$

is also of class C^r . From (2.5.2) we obtain

$$(2.5.5) \quad -\frac{\partial F}{\partial t}(\omega, t) = d_\omega F_t(\nu^*(\omega, t)) + \kappa^*(\omega, t) \cdot F(\omega, t).$$

Let $\{\sigma_t^* = \sigma^*(\cdot, t)\}$, $t \in [0, 1]$, be the C^r diffeotopy of Ω determined by ν^* , that is,

$$(2.5.6) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial \sigma^*}{\partial t}(\omega, t) = \nu^*(\sigma^*(\omega, t), t), \\ \sigma^*(\omega, 0) = \omega \end{cases}$$

and let $R^*: \Omega \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \text{GL}(|c|, \mathbf{R})$ be the resolvent of $-\kappa^*(\sigma^*(\omega, t), t)$, that is, R^* is a unique C^r map satisfying

$$(2.5.7) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial R^*}{\partial t}(\omega, t) = -\kappa^*(\sigma^*(\omega, t), t) \cdot R^*(\omega, t), \\ R^*(\omega, 0) = I \text{ (the identity matrix)}. \end{cases}$$

Since $\kappa^*(\sigma^*(\omega, t), t)$ is in $T_l G(c)$, we obtain that $R^*(\omega, t)$ is in $G(c)$ for all (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$.

Using (2.5.5), (2.5.6) and (2.5.7), we obtain immediately

$$(2.5.8) \quad (F_t \circ \sigma_t^*)(\omega) = R^*(\omega, t) \cdot F_0(\omega)$$

for (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$.

Clearly, $\{\sigma_t^*\}$ is $O(c)$ -equivariant. Hence there exists a unique C^r diffeotopy $\{\sigma_t\}$ of X satisfying $\sigma_t \circ \Lambda = \Lambda \circ \sigma_t^*$.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \omega = (\varepsilon, x) \in \Omega, \quad \varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_d), \quad \varepsilon_i = (\varepsilon_{i1}, \dots, \varepsilon_{ic(i)}), \\ \sigma_t^*(\omega) = (\varepsilon^t, \sigma_t(x)) \in \Omega, \quad \varepsilon^t = (\varepsilon_1^t, \dots, \varepsilon_d^t), \quad \varepsilon_i^t = (\varepsilon_{i1}^t, \dots, \varepsilon_{ic(i)}^t). \end{aligned}$$

We define $\gamma_t: E \rightarrow E$ as follows: Given e in $E = E_1 \oplus \dots \oplus E_d$, we can write

$$e = \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j(i)=1}^{c(i)} \lambda_{ij(i)} \varepsilon_{ij(i)},$$

where $\lambda_{ij(i)} \in \mathbf{R}$ are uniquely determined. Let

$$\lambda = (\lambda_{11}, \dots, \lambda_{1c(1)}, \dots, \lambda_{d1}, \dots, \lambda_{dc(d)})$$

and

$$R^*(\omega, t)(\lambda) = \lambda^t,$$

where

$$\lambda^t = (\lambda_{11}^t, \dots, \lambda_{1c(1)}^t, \dots, \lambda_{d1}^t, \dots, \lambda_{dc(d)}^t).$$

Define $\gamma_t: E \rightarrow E$ by

$$\gamma_t(e) = \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j(i)=1}^{c(i)} \lambda_{ij(i)}^t \mathbf{e}_{ij(i)}^t.$$

This construction makes sense (i.e., γ_t is well-defined and of class C^r) since σ_t^* is $O(c)$ -equivariant and, by (2.5.4), R^* satisfies

$$R^*(\alpha \cdot \omega, t) = \alpha \cdot R^*(\omega, t) \cdot \alpha^{-1}$$

for all (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$ and α in $O(c)$. Observe that (γ_t, σ_t) is in $G^r(\xi)$. Using (2.5.8), one obtains

$$\Phi_t = (\gamma_t, \sigma_t) \cdot \Phi_0.$$

Since $\Phi_0 = s$ and $\Phi_1 = u$, we have, in particular,

$$u = (\gamma_1, \sigma_1) \cdot s.$$

Thus to complete the proof it suffices to show that (γ_t, σ_t) belongs to $G^r(\xi, \pi)$.

Since ν_t^* is $O(c)$ -equivariant, it follows that there exists a time-dependent C^r vector field ν on X satisfying

$$\nu(\Lambda(\omega), t) = d_\omega \Lambda(\nu^*(\omega, t))$$

for all (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$.

We claim that the time-dependent vector field $\tilde{\nu}$ on \tilde{X} defined by

$$\tilde{\nu}(p, t) = \begin{cases} (d_p \pi)^{-1}(\nu(\pi(p), t)) & \text{for } (p, t) \in (\tilde{X} \setminus \pi^{-1}(D)) \times [0, 1], \\ 0 & \text{for } (p, t) \in \pi^{-1}(D) \times [0, 1] \end{cases}$$

is analytic. Indeed, since ν_t' is $O(c)$ -equivariant, there exists a time-dependent analytic vector field ν^1 on X satisfying

$$\nu^1(\Lambda(\omega), t) = d_\omega \Lambda(\nu^1(\omega, t))$$

for all (ω, t) in $\Omega \times [0, 1]$. Clearly, ν_t^1 is l -flat at D for all t in $[0, 1]$ and by Lemma 2.1, the time-dependent vector field $\tilde{\nu}^1$ on \tilde{X} defined by

$$\tilde{\nu}^1(p, t) = \begin{cases} (d_p\pi)^{-1}(\nu^1(\pi(p), t)) & \text{for } (p, t) \in (\tilde{X} \setminus \pi^{-1}(D)) \times [0, 1], \\ 0 & \text{for } (p, t) \in \pi^{-1}(D) \times [0, 1] \end{cases}$$

is analytic and $h(\delta, \pi)$ -flat at D . Since

$$\tilde{\nu}^1(p, t) = \Delta(\pi(p), t)\tilde{\nu}(p, t)$$

for (p, t) in $\tilde{X} \times [0, 1]$, (2.5.1) and Lemma 2.3 imply that $\tilde{\nu}$ is analytic. Thus the claim is proved.

Note that $\{\sigma_t\}$ is the diffeotopy of X determined by ν . If $\{\tilde{\sigma}_t\}$ is the analytic diffeotopy of \tilde{X} determined by $\tilde{\nu}$, then $\pi \circ \tilde{\sigma}_t = \sigma_t \circ \pi$. Hence (γ_t, σ_t) belongs to $G^r(\xi, \pi)$ and the proof of Proposition 2.5 is finished.

3. Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let X be an affine real algebraic variety of dimension n . An algebraic vector bundle ξ over X is said to be *strongly algebraic* if there exists an algebraic vector bundle η over X such that $\xi \oplus \eta$ is algebraically trivial, i.e., algebraically isomorphic to a product vector bundle $X \times \mathbf{R}^m$ (cf. [7], Theorem 12.1.7 or [2]).

Let V be a coherent analytic subset of X of pure dimension $n - 1$ at each point. One constructs, in the standard way, an analytic real line bundle ξ over X and an analytic section s of ξ such that $I(s)$ is equal to the ideal of all functions in $\mathcal{O}(X)$ vanishing on V (in particular, $s^{-1}(0) = V$). Then the first Stiefel-Whitney class $w_1(\xi)$ of ξ is Poincaré dual to the homology class $[V]$ in $H_{n-1}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ represented by V . Recall that ξ is topologically (and hence also analytically) isomorphic to a strongly algebraic line bundle over X if and only if $[V]$ belongs to $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$ [7], Theorem 12.4.8 or [3].

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let ξ_i be an analytic line bundle over X and let s_i be an analytic section of ξ_i such that $I(s_i)$ is equal to the ideal of $\mathcal{O}(X)$ of all functions vanishing on V_i . Since $[V_i]$ is in $H_{n-1}^{\text{alg}}(X, \mathbf{Z}/2)$, we may assume that ξ_i is a strongly algebraic line bundle (cf. the remark above). Set $\xi = \xi_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \xi_d$ and $s = s_1 \oplus \dots \oplus s_d$. By Lemma 2.4, the set of zeros of the ideal $J(s)$ is contained in D . Thus one can find an element δ in $J(s)$ with $\delta^{-1}(0) = D$ and $\delta \geq 0$. By the Lojasiewicz inequality [16],

$$\delta(x) \geq a \text{ dist}(x, D)^m \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X,$$

where $a > 0$ and m is a positive integer. It follows from Lemma 2.2 that there exists an algebraic, say, k -fold multiblowup $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ such that $\delta \circ \pi$ is locally a normal crossing.

Let r be a positive integer and let

$$l = \max\{k + h(\delta, \pi), (r + 1)m\}.$$

Since ξ is a strongly algebraic vector bundle over X , one can find an algebraic section $u = u_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus u_d$ of ξ such that u is close to s in the C^∞ topology and $u - s$ is l -flat at D (cf. [4], Corollary 1). By Proposition 2.5, there exists an element (γ, σ) in $G^r(\xi, \pi)$ satisfying $u = (\gamma, \sigma) \cdot s$. Hence, in particular, $\sigma(s_i^{-1}(0)) = u_i^{-1}(0)$ for $i = 1, \dots, d$ and $\pi \circ \tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ \pi$ for some analytic diffeomorphism $\tilde{\sigma}$ of \tilde{X} . Since $u_i^{-1}(0)$ is an algebraic subvariety of X and $V_i = s_i^{-1}(0)$, the proof of Theorem 1.1 is complete.

Acknowledgment. I wish to thank the referee for his or her comments on the first version of this paper.

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Received February 3, 1987 and in revised form July 27, 1989.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87131

Current address: Department of Mathematics
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The Pacific Journal of Mathematics at P.O. Box 969, Carmel Valley, CA 93924 (ISSN 0030-8730) is published monthly. Second-class postage paid at Carmel Valley, California 93924, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to Pacific Journal of Mathematics, P.O. Box 969, Carmel Valley, CA 93924.

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Pacific Journal of Mathematics

Vol. 143, No. 2

April, 1990

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