

RIGID AND FINITELY V -DETERMINED GERMS OF C^∞ -MAPPINGS

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1. The result. Let \mathcal{O} (respectively $\mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}$, $0 \leq \mu \leq \infty$) denote the ring of germs at $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$ of all C^∞ functions (respectively C^μ functions) from \mathbf{R}^n to \mathbf{R} . For a given $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p) \in \mathcal{O}^p$, $p \leq n$, where \mathcal{O}^p is the space of all germs of C^∞ mappings $\mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^p$, let $J(\varphi)$ denote the ideal in \mathcal{O} generated by $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p$ and the Jacobian determinants

$$\frac{D(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p)}{D(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_p})},$$

where $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n$. Let

$$\mathcal{M}^\infty = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{O} : D^\alpha \varphi(0) = 0, |\alpha| = 0, 1, \dots\}.$$

Clearly, \mathcal{M}^∞ is an ideal in \mathcal{O} and $\mathcal{M}^\infty = \bigcap_{s=1}^\infty \mathcal{M}^s$, where \mathcal{M} is the (unique) maximal ideal of \mathcal{O} . For $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}^p$ and $s \leq \infty$ denote by

$$j^s(\varphi) = \left(\sum_{|\alpha|=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} D^\alpha \varphi_1(0) x^\alpha, \dots, \sum_{|\alpha|=0}^s \frac{1}{\alpha!} D^\alpha \varphi_p(0) x^\alpha \right)$$

the Taylor's expansion of φ at 0 up the order s , called the s -jet of φ , and for $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p) \in \mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}^p$ let $\mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}(\varphi)$ denote the ideal in $\mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}$ generated by $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p$.

Definition. We call a given germ $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}^p$ *finitely V -determined* (respectively *C^μ -rigid*) if there exists a positive integer s for which the following holds: for any $\psi \in \mathcal{O}^p$ with the same s -jet $j^s(\varphi) = j^s(\psi)$, the germs of the varieties $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ and $\psi^{-1}(0)$ are homeomorphic (respectively, one can find a local C^μ diffeomorphism $\tau : (\mathbf{R}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbf{R}^n, 0)$ such that $\mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}(\varphi \circ \tau) = \mathcal{O}_{[\mu]}(\psi)$).

For $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}^p$ write

$$Z_\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^p \varphi_i^2(x) + \sum \left[\frac{D(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_p)}{D(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_p})}(x) \right]^2,$$

the second summation being taken for $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n$.

THEOREM 1. For $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}^p$, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a) For each $\mu \in \mathbf{N}$, φ is C^μ -rigid;
- (b) φ is finitely V -determined;
- (c) $Z_\varphi(x) \geq c|x|^\alpha$ in a neighborhood of 0 , where c and α are positive constants;
- (d) $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset J(\varphi)$.

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We are merely interested in those φ with $\varphi(0) = 0$; Theorem 1 reduces to triviality if $\varphi(0) \neq 0$.

Observe that if $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ is finitely V -determined then, by definition, the germ of $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ is homeomorphic to the germ of an algebraic variety; if φ is C^μ -rigid then the variety $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ can be transformed under a local C^μ diffeomorphism of \mathbf{R}^n onto an algebraic variety. For general φ , however, there is no criterion for (the germ of) $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ to be homeomorphic with an algebraic variety. Thom has conjectured that if φ is analytic then this is the case.

The problems concerning sufficiency of jets and finitely determined mappings have been considered by several authors [1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 12; 13]. We recall the definition. Denote by $J^r(n, p)$ the space of r -jets of mappings from \mathbf{R}^n to \mathbf{R}^p (this space can be identified with the space of all p -tuples $w = (w_1, \dots, w_p)$ of polynomials w_i of degree $\leq r$ in n variables). A jet $w \in J^r(n, p)$ is called V -sufficient (respectively C^μ -sufficient, $r \leq \mu \leq \infty$) in \mathcal{E}^p if for any $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ with $j^r(\varphi) = w$, the germs of varieties $w^{-1}(0)$ and $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ are homeomorphic (respectively, there exists a local C^μ diffeomorphism τ , such that $\varphi \circ \tau = w$). A germ $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ is called *finitely C^μ determined* if there exists a positive integer r such that $j^r(\varphi)$ is C^μ -sufficient in \mathcal{E}^p .

Many problems concerning V - and C^μ -sufficiency in $J^r(n, 1)$ ($p = 1$) have been solved. In particular, for $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}$, it has been proved in [3] (compare also [1] and [13]) the equivalence of the following four conditions:

- (α) For each $\mu \in \mathbf{N}$, φ is finitely C^μ -determined;
- (β) φ is finitely V -determined;
- (γ) $|\text{grad } \varphi(x)| \geq c|x|^\alpha$ for $|x| < \delta$, where c, α, δ are positive constants;
- (δ) $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset \mathcal{P}(\varphi)$, where $\mathcal{P}(\varphi)$ is the ideal in \mathcal{E} generated by the partial derivatives $\partial\varphi/\partial x_1, \dots, \partial\varphi/\partial x_m$.

Observe that for $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p, p > 1$, conditions (α) and (β) are not equivalent. The fact that φ is finitely V -determined does not even imply that φ is finitely C^0 -determined.

Counterexample (Mather). Let $\varphi(x, y) = (x, y^3)$. It is easy to see that $j^3(\varphi)$ is V -sufficient. But φ is not finitely C^0 -determined. For any $s \in \mathbf{N}$, $\psi_s = (x, y^3 + yx^{2s+1})$ is a realization of $j^3(\varphi)$. But φ and ψ_s have different topological types, since φ is a homeomorphism, while ψ_s is not.

Remarks 1. One can prove that $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ is C^∞ -rigid if and only if $J(\varphi)$ is the ideal of definition of \mathcal{E} , i.e. there exists a positive integer s such that $\mathcal{M}^s \subset J(\varphi)$ [4, Theorem 4(b); 13].

2. Observe that if $\varphi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ is an analytic mapping then each of the conditions (a), (b), (c) and (d) in Theorem 1 is equivalent (by Lojasiewicz inequality) to the condition.

- (e) *In a neighborhood of zero, $Z_\varphi(x) = 0$ implies $x = 0$.*

This generalizes Theorem 5 in [8].

2. Proof of Theorem 1. We shall assume that $p \geq 2$. The case $p = 1$ was explained above. In fact, our proof would not work in the case $p = 1$.

(a) \Rightarrow (b). This is trivial.

(b) \Rightarrow (c). Observe firstly that if $\varphi \in \mathcal{O}^p$ is finitely V -determined then the (germ of) $\varphi^{-1}(0) \setminus \{0\}$ is either empty or a topological submanifold of codimension p in \mathbf{R}^n . Indeed, suppose the s -jet $w = j^s(\varphi)$ of φ is V -sufficient, choose a system of p homogeneous polynomials $h = (h_1, \dots, h_p)$ of degree $s + 1$ in such a way that $Z_{w+h}(x) \neq 0$ for all x in a neighborhood of $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $x \neq 0$ (this is possible, for example by [4, Proposition 1(b)]). By assumption, the germs of $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ and $(w + h)^{-1}(0)$ are homeomorphic, but it is clear that $(w + h)^{-1}(0) \setminus \{0\}$ is either empty or a smooth submanifold of \mathbf{R}^n of codimension p .

Now assume that (c) is false, we shall derive a contradiction. We shall find an application $\tilde{\varphi} \in \mathcal{O}^p$ such that $j^\infty(\varphi) = j^\infty(\tilde{\varphi})$ and the germ of $\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(0) \setminus \{0\}$ is not a topological manifold (and is not empty). The idea is similar to that in [1] and [8] and is due to S. Lojasiewicz.

Since (c) is false, we can find a sequence $\{a_i\}_{i \in \mathbf{N}}$, $a_i \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $a_i \neq 0$, $a_i \rightarrow 0$, such that for each $s \in \mathbf{N}$,

$$(*) \quad Z_\varphi(a_i) = o(|a_i|^s).$$

For p vectors u_1, \dots, u_p in \mathbf{R}^n write $d(u_1, \dots, u_p) = \min\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p\}$, where α_k denotes the distance from u_k to the linear subspace of \mathbf{R}^n spanned by the vectors u_j , $j \neq k$, and let $\text{Vol}(u_1, \dots, u_p)$ denote the p -dimensional volume of the parallelotope with edges u_1, \dots, u_p . Then $\text{Vol}(u_1, \dots, u_p) \geq (d(u_1, \dots, u_p))^p$. Moreover if we write $u_k = (u_{k1}, \dots, u_{kn})$ then

$$\sum \left| \begin{matrix} u_{1i_1}, \dots, u_{1i_p} \\ \dots\dots\dots \\ u_{p i_1}, \dots, u_{p i_p} \end{matrix} \right|^2 = (\text{Vol}(u_1, \dots, u_p))^2,$$

where $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq n$. The above formula can be verified by checking the axioms for a volume (see for example [11]).

Now consider $u_k = \text{grad } \varphi_k$ at a_i ; without loss of generality, we may assume that for all $i \in \mathbf{N}$

$$d(\text{grad } \varphi_1(a_i), \dots, \text{grad } \varphi_p(a_i)) = \delta_i,$$

where δ_i = the distance from $\text{grad } \varphi_p(a_i)$ to the subspace spanned by $\text{grad } \varphi_1(a_i), \dots, \text{grad } \varphi_{p-1}(a_i)$. Since

$$Z_\varphi(a_i) = \sum_{k=1}^p \varphi_k^2(a_i) + (\text{Vol}(\text{grad } \varphi_1(a_i), \dots, \text{grad } \varphi_p(a_i)))^2 \geq \sum_{k=1}^p \varphi_k^2(a_i) + \delta_i^{2p},$$

condition (*) implies that

- (1) $|\varphi_k(a_i)| = o(|a_i|^s)$, for all $s \in \mathbf{N}$ and $1 \leq k \leq p$;
- (2) $\delta_i = o(|a_i|^s)$, for all $s \in \mathbf{N}$.

To complete the proof we need the following

LEMMA. Let $\{u_i^{(1)}, \dots, u_i^{(p)}\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of p -tuples of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . Suppose there is a sequence of positive numbers $\alpha_i, \alpha_i \rightarrow 0$ such that for all $s \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\delta_i = o(\alpha_i^s),$$

where $\delta_i =$ the distance from $u_i^{(p)}$ to the linear subspace spanned by $u_i^{(1)}, \dots, u_i^{(p-1)}$.

Then we can find a sequence $\{\lambda_i^{(2)}, \dots, \lambda_i^{(p)}\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ of $(p - 1)$ -tuples of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , satisfying the following three conditions:

- (i) For all $s \in \mathbb{N}, |\lambda_i^{(k)}| = o(\alpha_i^s), 2 \leq k \leq p;$
- (ii) For each $i \in \mathbb{N}, u_i^{(2)} + \lambda_i^{(2)}, \dots, u_i^{(p)} + \lambda_i^{(p)}$ are linearly independent;
- (iii) For each $i \in \mathbb{N}, u_i^{(1)}$ belongs to the subspace spanned by $u_i^{(k)} + \lambda_i^{(k)}, 2 \leq k \leq p.$

Proof of the Lemma. Let $v_i^{(p)}$ denote the orthogonal projection of $u_i^{(p)}$ to the subspace spanned by $u_i^{(1)}, \dots, u_i^{(p-1)}$, and let $v_i^{(k)} = u_i^{(k)}, k \leq p - 1$. Then $|v_i^{(k)} - u_i^{(k)}| = o(\alpha_i^s), 1 \leq k \leq p$. For each i , the vectors $v_i^{(1)}, \dots, v_i^{(p)}$ are linearly dependent; the subspace L_i spanned by them has dimension $\leq p - 1$. Now we can choose $w_i^{(1)}, \dots, w_i^{(p)}$, where $w_i^{(1)} = v_i^{(1)}, |w_i^{(k)} - v_i^{(k)}| = o(\alpha_i^s)$, such that a subset of linearly independent vectors $\{w_i^{(2)}, \dots, w_i^{(p)}\}$ is a basis of L_i . Consequently, $w_i^{(1)} = u_i^{(1)}$ is a linear combination of $w_i^{(2)}, \dots, w_i^{(p)}$. Now put $\lambda_i^{(k)} = w_i^{(k)} - u_i^{(k)}, 2 \leq k \leq p$.

With this Lemma, we now complete the proof that (b) \Rightarrow (c). With $u_i^{(k)} = \text{grad } \varphi_k(a_i)$ and $\alpha_i = |a_i|$, choose $\lambda_i^{(k)}$ as in the above Lemma. We may assume $|a_{i+1}| < \frac{1}{2}|a_i|$. Let $\psi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be $C^\infty, \psi(x) = 1$ in a neighborhood of $0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\psi(x) = 0$ for $|x| \geq \frac{1}{4}$. Put

$$\eta_1(x) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \psi \left(\frac{x - a_i}{|a_i|} \right) (\varphi_1(a_i) + \epsilon_i |x - a_i|^2), \quad \epsilon_i > 0,$$

$$\eta_k(x) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \psi \left(\frac{x - a_i}{|a_i|} \right) (\varphi_k(a_i) - \lambda_i^{(k)}(x - a_i)), \quad k = 2, \dots, p.$$

Observe that

(α) If we choose $\epsilon_i > 0$ such that for each $s \in \mathbb{N}, \epsilon_i = o(|a_i|^s)$ then $\eta = (\eta_1, \dots, \eta_p)$ is of class C^∞ ;

(β) η is (infinitely) flat at the origin;

(γ) For each $i \in \mathbb{N}, (\varphi - \eta)(a_i) = 0$.

Now put $\tilde{\varphi} = \varphi - \eta$. We shall show that $\epsilon_i, (\epsilon_i = o(|a_i|^s))$, can be chosen in such a way that near each $a_i, \varphi^{-1}(0)$ is not a topological manifold.

By condition (iii) in the Lemma, $\text{grad } \varphi_1(a_i)$ is a linear combination of $\text{grad } \varphi_k(a_i) + \lambda_i^{(k)}, k \geq 2$, say

$$\text{grad } \varphi_1(a_i) = \sum_{k=2}^p \xi_{ki} (\text{grad } \varphi_k(a_i) + \lambda_i^{(k)}), \quad \xi_{ki} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Choose $\epsilon_i = o(|a_i|^s)$ such that each a_i is a non-degenerate critical point of

$$\rho(x) = \varphi_1(x) - \eta_1(x) + \sum_{k=2}^p \xi_{ki}(\eta_k(x) - \varphi_k(x)).$$

In a neighborhood of any a_i , for fixed i ,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(0) &= \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n : \varphi_1(x) - \eta_1(x) = \dots = \varphi_p(x) - \eta_p(x) = 0\} \\ &= \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n : \rho(x) = \varphi_2(x) - \eta_2(x) = \dots = \varphi_p(x) - \eta_p(x) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, near a_i , $\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(0)$ is homeomorphic to the intersection of the locus of a non-degenerate quadratic form $\rho^{-1}(0)$ (Morse Lemma) with the $(p - 1)$ -codimensional differentiable submanifold of \mathbf{R}^n , defined by $\varphi_2(x) - \eta_2(x) = \dots = \varphi_p(x) - \eta_p(x) = 0$; thus $\tilde{\varphi}^{-1}(0)$ is not a manifold near a_i .

(c) \Leftrightarrow (d). This follows easily from the following theorem.

THEOREM 2 (Tougeron-Merrien). *An ideal I of \mathcal{E} is elliptic if and only if I is finitely generated and $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset I$.*

Recall (compare [13]) that I is called *elliptic* if it contains an element f having the property that $|f(x)| \geq c|x|^\alpha$ in a neighborhood of $0 \in \mathbf{R}^n$, where α and c are positive constants. Such a function f is also called elliptic.

It is easy to see that if I is elliptic and generated by f_1, \dots, f_q then the element $f_1^2 + \dots + f_q^2$ is elliptic. Hence (c) \Leftrightarrow (d) follows from Theorem 2, because Z_φ is the sum of squares of generators of $J(\varphi)$.

We now prove Theorem 2. Let f be an elliptic element of I . Let $\psi \in \mathcal{M}^\infty$ be any element; then $\eta(x) = \psi(x)/f(x)$, $\eta(0) = 0$, is a germ of a C^∞ function. Hence $\psi = \eta f \in I$ and $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset I$. To show that I is finitely generated choose C^∞ functions $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$ so that their formal Taylor's expansions $j^\infty(\varphi_1), \dots, j^\infty(\varphi_k)$ generate the ideal $j^\infty(I)$ in the ring of formal power series. Here $j^\infty(I)$ consists of all formal Taylor's expansions of elements of I . Then $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k, f\}$ is clearly a set of generators of I .

Conversely, suppose I is generated by f_1, \dots, f_q and $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset I$. Choose an open neighborhood W of 0 at \mathbf{R}^n and representations $\tilde{f}_i \in C^\infty(W)$ of f_i such that for any $h \in C^\infty(W)$ with $D^\alpha h(0)$, $|\alpha| = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, there exist $g_1, \dots, g_q \in C^\infty(W)$ for which $h = \sum_{i=1}^q \tilde{f}_i g_i$.

This choice is possible. We can certainly choose \tilde{f}_i defined in a neighborhood W of 0 , such that $\bigcap_{i=1}^q \tilde{f}_i^{-1}(0) = \{0\}$. Then by applying a partition of unity, it is easy to fulfill the above requirement.

Hence, by construction, the ideal \tilde{I} of $C^\infty(W)$ generated by \tilde{f}_i , $1 \leq i \leq q$, of which the zero set reduces to $\{0\}$, contains all functions in $C^\infty(W)$ which are infinitely flat at 0 . Now by [10, Proposition 1],

$$\sum_{i=1}^q (\tilde{f}_i(x))^2 \geq c|x|^\alpha$$

near 0 for some c, α positive.

Remark. Theorem 2 has been communicated to the first author by J. Mather who has also given a slightly different proof.

(d) \Rightarrow (a). This has been proved by Tougeron [13, p. 220]. For any subset I in \mathcal{E} and $\mu \in \mathbf{N}$, let $\mathcal{E}_{[\mu]}(I)$ denote the ideal generated by I in $\mathcal{E}_{[\mu]}$. Now $\mathcal{M}^\infty \subset J(\varphi)$ implies that for any $\mu \in \mathbf{N}$, there exists $s \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $\mathcal{M}^s \subset \mathcal{E}_{[\mu+1]}(J(\varphi))$. Indeed, since Z_φ is elliptic, $x^\alpha/Z_\varphi(x)$ is of class $C^{\mu+1}$, where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ is any multi-index with $|\alpha| = s$, s large. Hence $x^\alpha \in \mathcal{E}_{[\mu+1]}(J(\varphi))$ and $\mathcal{M}^s \subset \mathcal{E}_{[\mu+1]}(J(\varphi))$.

We now show that $j^{2s}(\varphi)$ is C^μ -rigid in \mathcal{E}^p . Let $\psi \in \mathcal{E}^p$ be any element with $j^{2s}(\psi) = j^{2s}(\varphi)$. Then $\mathcal{E}(\varphi - \psi) \subset \mathcal{M}^{2s+1}$, hence

$$\mathcal{E}(\varphi - \psi) \subset [\mathcal{E}_{[\mu+1]}(\mathcal{M})][\mathcal{E}_{[\mu+1]}(J(\varphi))]^2.$$

Now applying Tougeron's theorem [4, Theorem 1(b)], the proof is complete.

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