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## TANGENTIAL APPROXIMATION OF ANALYTIC SETS

MASSIMO FERRAROTTI, ELISABETTA FORTUNA AND LESLIE WILSON

Two subanalytic subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are called  $s$ -equivalent at a common point  $P$  if the Hausdorff distance between their intersections with the sphere centered at  $P$  of radius  $r$  vanishes to order  $> s$  as  $r$  tends to 0. We strengthen this notion in the case of real subanalytic subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with isolated singular points, introducing the notion of tangential  $s$ -equivalence at a common singular point, which considers also the distance between the tangent planes to the sets near the point. We prove that, if  $V(f)$  is the zero set of an analytic map  $f$  and if we assume that  $V(f)$  has an isolated singularity, say at the origin  $O$ , then for any  $s \geq 1$  the truncation of the Taylor series of  $f$  of sufficiently high order defines an algebraic set with isolated singularity at  $O$  which is tangentially  $s$ -equivalent to  $V(f)$ .

### 1. Introduction

If  $A$  and  $B$  are two closed subanalytic subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Hausdorff distance between their intersections with the sphere of radius  $r$  centered at a common point  $P$  can be used to “measure” how near the two sets are at  $P$ . We say that  $A$  and  $B$  are  $s$ -equivalent (at  $P$ ) if the previous distance tends to 0 more rapidly than  $r^s$ ; if so, we write  $A \sim_s B$ .

In our papers [3; 4; 5; 6] we addressed the question of the existence of an algebraic representative  $Y$  in the class of  $s$ -equivalence of a given subanalytic set  $A$  at a fixed point  $P$ . In this case we also say that  $Y$   $s$ -approximates  $A$ .

The answer to the previous question is in general negative for subanalytic sets. However, for any real number  $s \geq 1$  and for any closed semianalytic set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  of codimension  $\geq 1$ , there exists an algebraic subset  $Y$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $A \sim_s Y$ , and  $Y$  can be chosen of the same dimension as  $A$ ; see [5; 6]. Note that analogous approximation results for complex analytic sets have been obtained by M. Bilski [1] using techniques which are peculiar to the complex setting.

In this paper we define a similar but stronger and geometrically significant equivalence relation: we say that two subanalytic sets  $A$  and  $B$  having an isolated singularity at  $P$  are *tangentially  $s$ -equivalent* if not only the points but also the tangent spaces to  $A$  and  $B$  are sufficiently “close” of order  $s$  near  $P$ .

If  $V$  is the zero set of an analytic map  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  such that  $f(P) = 0$ , and if  $V$  is the closure of its regular points, then in [4] we showed that  $V \sim_s V^k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  sufficiently large, where  $V^k$  is the zero set of the  $k$ -th Taylor polynomial of  $f$  at  $P$ ; in fact the same is true for any representative of the  $k$ -jet of  $f$  at  $P$ .

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In the present work we prove in Theorem 4.1 that, for any analytic map  $f$  defining an analytic set  $V$  with an isolated singularity at  $O$ , and for any  $s$ , the truncation of the Taylor series of  $f$  of sufficiently high order defines an algebraic set with isolated singularity at  $O$  which is tangentially  $s$ -equivalent to  $V$ .

Let us mention that M. Bilski, K. Kurdyka, A. Parusinski and G. Rond [2] proved, using very different methods than ours, that every germ of an analytic set is homeomorphic to the germ of an algebraic set, where the homeomorphism can be chosen in such a way that the analytic and algebraic germs are sufficiently “near” up to any order. Moreover, the space of arcs contained in the algebraic germ approximates the space of arcs contained in the analytic one, in the sense that they are identical up to a prescribed truncation order. However this does not prove that the tangent spaces of the algebraic approximation are close to those of the analytic set.

## 2. Basic notions and notation

In this section we recall the definition and some basic properties of  $s$ -equivalence of subanalytic sets at a common point which, without loss of generality, we can assume to be the origin  $O$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $\delta(A, B) = \sup_{x \in B} d(x, A)$ , where  $d(x, A) = \inf_{y \in A} \|x - y\|$ . Thus, if we denote by  $D(A, B)$  the classical Hausdorff distance between the two sets, we have that

$$D(A, B) = \max\{\delta(A, B), \delta(B, A)\}.$$

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be closed subanalytic subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $O \in A \cap B$ . Let  $s \geq 1$  be a real number. Denote by  $S_r$  the sphere of radius  $r$  centered at the origin.

(a) We say that  $A \leq_s B$  if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i)  $O$  is isolated in  $A$ .
- (ii)  $O$  is nonisolated both in  $A$  and in  $B$  and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta(B \cap S_r, A \cap S_r)}{r^s} = 0.$$

(b) We say that  $A$  and  $B$  are  $s$ -equivalent, and we will write  $A \sim_s B$ , if  $A \leq_s B$  and  $B \leq_s A$ .

It is easy to check that  $\leq_s$  is transitive and that  $\sim_s$  is an equivalence relation.

Let  $B(O, R)$  denote the open ball centered at  $O$  of radius  $R$ . Observe that, if there exists  $R > 0$  such that  $A \cap B(O, R) \subseteq B$ , then  $A \leq_s B$  for any  $s \geq 1$ .

A useful tool to test the  $s$ -equivalence of two subanalytic sets is introduced in the following definition.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $A$  be a closed subanalytic subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $O \in A$ . For any real positive constant  $\sigma$ , we will define the *horn-neighborhood* with center  $A$  and exponent  $\sigma$  to be the set

$$\mathcal{H}(A, \sigma) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid d(x, A) < \|x\|^\sigma\}.$$

Observe that, if  $\sigma \geq 1$ , then

$$\mathcal{H}(A, \sigma) \cap B(O, 1) = \{x \in B(O, 1) \mid \exists y \in A \setminus \{O\} \text{ such that } \|x - y\| < \|x\|^\sigma\}.$$

**Proposition 2.3** [4]. *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be closed subanalytic subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $O \in A \cap B$ , and let  $s \geq 1$ . Then  $A \leq_s B$  if and only if there exist real constants  $R > 0$  and  $\sigma > s$  such that*

$$(A \setminus \{O\}) \cap B(O, R) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(B, \sigma).$$

Now, restricting to the case when  $O$  is an isolated singularity, we are going to strengthen the notion of  $s$ -equivalence imposing additional conditions of differentiable nature.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a closed subanalytic set. We say that  $A$  is an *isolated singularity subanalytic set* (for short *IS*) of dimension  $d$  if the origin  $O$  is a nonisolated point of  $A$  and  $A \setminus \{O\}$  is a submanifold of pure dimension  $d$ .

If  $A$  is an IS and  $x \in A \setminus \{O\}$ , let  $T_x A$  be the tangent affine subspace to  $A \setminus \{O\}$  at  $x$ . If we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_{n,d}$  the set of affine  $d$ -dimensional subspaces in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the tangent bundle of  $A$  will be the subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathcal{P}_{n,d}$  given by

$$\mathcal{T}A = \{(x, T_x A) \mid x \in A \setminus \{O\}\}.$$

We define a “distance” between affine subspaces as follows. A *unit basis* of a vector subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a basis whose elements are unit vectors. If  $T_1, T_2 \in \mathcal{P}_{n,d}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$  let  $\nu(T_i)$  be the vector subspace orthogonal to the direction of  $T_i$ . If  $\mathcal{B}_i = \{v_1^i, \dots, v_{n-d}^i\}$  is a unit basis of  $\nu(T_i)$ , let  $\Delta(\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2) = \max\{\|v_j^1 - v_j^2\| \mid j = 1, \dots, n-d\}$ . Then we set  $\Delta(T_1, T_2) = \inf \Delta(\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$ , where  $\mathcal{B}_i$  varies among the unit bases of  $\nu(T_i)$ .

Evidently  $\Delta(T_1, T_2) = 0$  if and only if  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are parallel.

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be an IS of dimension  $d$ . For any real positive constant  $\tau$  we define the *tangential horn neighborhood* with center  $A$  and exponent  $\tau$  to be the set

$$\mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(A, \tau) = \{(x, T) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathcal{P}_{n,d} \mid x \in T, \exists y \in A \setminus \{O\} \text{ such that } \|x - y\| < \|x\|^\tau, \Delta(T_y A, T) < \|x\|^\tau\}.$$

For any positive real number  $R$  we set

$$\mathcal{T}_R A = \{(x, T_x A) \mid x \in (A \setminus \{O\}) \cap B(O, R)\}.$$

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be two IS's of the same dimension  $d$ . If  $s \geq 1$ , we say that  $A$  and  $B$  are *tangentially  $s$ -equivalent* ( $A \approx_s B$ ) if there exist real constants  $R > 0$  and  $\tau > s$  such that  $\mathcal{T}_R A \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(B, \tau)$  and  $\mathcal{T}_R B \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(A, \tau)$ .

It is easy to see that, if  $A \approx_s B$ , then  $A \sim_s B$ . Moreover, as an immediate consequence of Definition 2.6, we have that if  $A$  and  $B$  are tangentially 1-equivalent then they have the same Nash fiber at  $O$ .

### 3. Analytic maps and truncations

In this section we collect some results that will be used in the final section to prove our main theorem. Some of these propositions are modified versions of results already used in [4] and [5].

If  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is an analytic map, let  $V(f) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = 0\}$  denote its zero set.

An essential tool that we will repeatedly use in compact neighborhoods of  $O$  is the following slightly modified version of the classical Łojasiewicz inequality.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $A$  be a compact subanalytic subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Assume that  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are subanalytic functions defined on  $A$  such that  $\varphi$  is continuous,  $V(\varphi) \subseteq V(\psi)$ ,  $\psi$  is continuous at the points of  $V(\psi)$  and such that  $\sup |\psi| < 1$ . Then there exists a positive constant  $\alpha$  such that  $|\psi|^\alpha \leq |\varphi|$  on  $A$  and  $|\psi|^\alpha < |\varphi|$  on  $A \setminus V(\varphi)$ .*

As a consequence of the previous Łojasiewicz inequality we get:

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_p): \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is an analytic map, then:*

- (i) *There exists an  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\|f(x)\| > d(x, V(f))^\alpha$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus V(f)$  near enough to  $O$ .*
- (ii) *There exists a  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)\| < \|x - y\|^\gamma$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, p$  and for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  near enough to  $O$  with  $x \neq y$ .*

*Proof.* (i) It is a straightforward consequence of Proposition 3.1.

(ii) By Proposition 3.1, for any  $i$  there is a  $\gamma_i > 0$  such that  $\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)\| < \|x - y\|^{\gamma_i}$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  near enough to  $O$  with  $x \neq y$ . Then it is enough to take  $\gamma = \min\{\gamma_i \mid i = 1, \dots, p\}$ . □

**Remark 3.3.** If  $\gamma$  fulfills Lemma 3.2 and if  $\gamma' < \gamma$ , then  $\gamma'$  has the same property.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $A$  be a closed subanalytic set such that  $O$  is a nonisolated point of  $A$ , and let  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous subanalytic function such that  $\varphi(x) > 0$  if  $x \in A \setminus \{O\}$ . Then there exist  $\beta, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\varphi(y) > \|x\|^\beta$  for any  $x \in A \setminus \{O\}$  near enough to  $O$  and any  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A_0 = A \setminus \{O\}$ . By Proposition 3.1, there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that  $\varphi(x) > \|x\|^\beta$  for any  $x \in A_0$  near  $O$ .

Consider the closed subanalytic set

$$W = \{(x, y) \in A \times \mathbb{R}^n \mid \varphi(y) \leq \|x\|^\beta\}.$$

The function  $\delta: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $\delta(x) = d((x, x), W)$  is subanalytic and continuous on  $A$  and positive on  $A_0$ . Then, again by Proposition 3.1, there exists  $\sigma > 0$  such that  $\delta(x) > \|x\|^\sigma$  on  $A_0$  near  $O$ . Hence  $(x, y) \notin W$  for any  $x \in A_0$  near  $O$  and any  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ : otherwise there exist a sequence  $x_i \in A_0$  converging to  $O$  and a sequence  $y_i \in B(x_i, \|x_i\|^\sigma)$  such that  $(x_i, y_i) \in W$ . Then

$$\delta(x_i) = d((x_i, x_i), W) \leq \|(x_i, y_i) - (x_i, x_i)\| + d((x_i, y_i), W) = \|x_i - y_i\| < \|x_i\|^\sigma,$$

a contradiction.

Then for any  $x \in A_0$  near  $O$  and any  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ , we have  $\varphi(y) > \|x\|^\beta$ . □

**Remark 3.5.** Assume that  $\beta$  and  $\sigma$  fulfill Lemma 3.4 and that  $\beta' > \beta$  and  $\sigma' > \sigma$ . Then  $\beta'$  and  $\sigma'$  have the same property.

Let  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map and denote by  $d_x\phi$  the differential of  $\phi$  at  $x$ . Following [7], consider the function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined by

$$\Lambda\phi(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \text{rk}(d_x\phi) < p, \\ \inf\{\|d_x\phi(v)\| \mid v \perp \ker(d_x\phi), \|v\| = 1\} & \text{if } \text{rk}(d_x\phi) = p. \end{cases}$$

It can be checked that  $\Lambda\phi$  is continuous and subanalytic.

As usual we endow  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^p)$  with the standard norm

$$\|L\| = \max_{u \neq 0} \frac{\|L(u)\|}{\|u\|}$$

for any linear map  $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ .

The next proposition is a direct consequence of Proposition 3.3 in [4].

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $\phi$  and  $\phi'$  be analytic maps from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^p$ . If there is a positive function  $\epsilon(x)$  such that  $\|d_x\phi - d_x\phi'\| \leq \epsilon(x)$  for any  $x$ , then  $|\Lambda\phi(x) - \Lambda\phi'(x)| \leq \epsilon(x)$  for any  $x$ .*

Another useful result we will need is the following:

**Lemma 3.7** [4, Lemma 3.5]. *Let  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map which is a submersion on an open ball  $B(x, \rho)$ . Let  $r > 0$  and assume that  $\Lambda\phi(y) \geq r/\rho$  for all  $y \in B(x, \rho)$ . Then  $\phi(B(x, \rho)) \supseteq B(\phi(x), r)$ .*

If  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is an analytic map and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we will denote by  $T^k f(x)$  the polynomial map whose components are the Taylor polynomials of order  $k$  at  $O$  of the components of  $f$ . Moreover we set  $V = V(f)$ ,  $V_0 = V \setminus \{O\}$  and  $V^k = V(T^k f)$ .

**Definition 3.8.** If  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is an analytic map, we say that  $f$  defines an *isolated singularity analytic set* (for short,  $f$  defines an IS) if the origin  $O$  is a nonisolated point of  $V(f)$  and  $f$  is submersive on  $V(f) \setminus \{O\}$ .

Evidently, if  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  defines an IS, the set  $V(f) \setminus \{O\}$  is an analytic submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $d = n - p$ , i.e.,  $V(f)$  is an IS of dimension  $d = n - p$ .

Observe also that, if  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  is an analytic map, then  $f$  defines an IS if and only if  $O$  is a nonisolated point of  $V(f)$  and  $\Lambda f$  is positive on  $V(f) \setminus \{O\}$ .

When  $f$  defines an IS, we already know [4, Corollary 4.2] that  $V(f)$  can be approximated to order  $s$  by the zero set of a suitable truncation of the Taylor series of  $f$ . In the next section we will strengthen this result obtaining a tangential approximation. To do that, we will use two results which are particular cases of arguments used in [4]. Since these results do not appear as independent statements in that paper, we conclude this section presenting them with their proofs for the sake of the reader.

**Proposition 3.9.** *Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map. If  $\alpha$  fulfills the thesis of Lemma 3.2, then there exists a real constant  $R > 0$  such that for any  $\sigma > 0$  and any  $k > \alpha\sigma$  we have*

$$(V^k \setminus \{O\}) \cap B(O, R) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V, \sigma).$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.2, we have that  $\|f(x)\| > d(x, V)^\alpha$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus V$  near  $O$ . Then for  $x \notin \mathcal{H}(V, \sigma)$  we have that  $\|f(x)\| > \|x\|^{\alpha\sigma}$ .

Let  $k$  be an integer such that  $k > \alpha\sigma$ . Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow O} \frac{\|f(x) - T^k f(x)\|}{\|x\|^{\alpha\sigma}} = 0.$$

It follows that  $V^k \setminus \{O\} \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V, \sigma)$  near  $O$ : otherwise there would exist a sequence of points  $y_i \neq O$  converging to  $O$  such that  $y_i \in V^k \setminus \mathcal{H}(V, \sigma)$  and hence

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|f(y_i) - T^k f(y_i)\|}{\|y_i\|^{\alpha\sigma}} = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|f(y_i)\|}{\|y_i\|^{\alpha\sigma}} \geq 1,$$

which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.10.** *Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map which defines an IS. Assume that  $\beta$  and  $\sigma$  are exponents which satisfy Lemma 3.4 when we take  $A = V(f)$  and  $\varphi = \Delta f$ , and let  $\sigma > 1$ . Then:*

- (i) *If  $k$  is an integer such that  $k > \beta + 1$ , then  $\Delta T^k f(y) > \|x\|^{\beta+1}$  for any  $x \in V_0$  near  $O$  and for any  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ ; in particular,  $T^k f$  is a submersion on  $B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ .*
- (ii) *There exists a real constant  $R > 0$  such that*

$$V_0 \cap B(O, R) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V^k, \sigma)$$

*for all integers  $k$  such that  $k > \beta + \sigma + 1$ . In particular,  $O$  is not isolated in  $V^k$ .*

*Proof.* (i) Assume for contradiction that there exist a sequence  $x_i \in V_0$  converging to  $O$  and a sequence  $y_i \in B(x_i, \|x_i\|^\sigma)$  such that  $\Delta T^k f(y_i) \leq \|x_i\|^{\beta+1}$ . Thus by Lemma 3.4 we have

$$\frac{\Delta f(y_i) - \Delta T^k f(y_i)}{\|x_i\|^\beta} > \frac{\|x_i\|^\beta - \|x_i\|^{\beta+1}}{\|x_i\|^\beta} = 1 - \|x_i\|.$$

On the other hand, by Taylor expansion and Proposition 3.6,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \frac{\Delta f(y_i) - \Delta T^k f(y_i)}{\|x_i\|^\beta} &\leq \frac{\|y_i\|^{k-1}}{\|x_i\|^\beta} \leq \frac{(\|y_i - x_i\| + \|x_i\|)^{k-1}}{\|x_i\|^\beta} = \left( \frac{\|y_i - x_i\|}{\|x_i\|^h} + \|x_i\|^{1-h} \right)^{k-1} \\ &< (\|x_i\|^{\sigma-h} + \|x_i\|^{1-h})^{k-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $h = \beta/(k-1)$ . Since  $\sigma > 1$  and  $h < 1$ , we have that

$$\frac{\Delta f(y_i) - \Delta T^k f(y_i)}{\|x_i\|^\beta}$$

converges to 0, which is a contradiction.

(ii) Let  $k$  be an integer such that  $k > \beta + \sigma + 1$ . Using (i)enumi, if  $x \in V_0$  is near enough to  $O$ , then  $\Delta T^k f(y) > \|x\|^{\beta+1}$  for any  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ . So we can apply Lemma 3.7 with  $\phi = T^k f$ ,  $r = \|x\|^{\beta+\sigma+1}$  and  $\rho = \|x\|^\sigma$ , to obtain

$$T^k f(B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)) \supseteq B(T^k f(x), \|x\|^{\beta+\sigma+1}).$$

Moreover we have

$$\lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow O, \\ z \in V_0}} \frac{\|T^k f(z)\|}{\|z\|^k} = \lim_{\substack{z \rightarrow O, \\ z \in V_0}} \frac{\|T^k f(z) - f(z)\|}{\|z\|^k} = 0.$$

As a consequence, if  $x \in V_0$  is sufficiently near  $O$ , then  $\|T^k f(x)\| < \|x\|^k < \|x\|^{\beta+\sigma+1}$  and hence  $O$  belongs to  $B(T^k f(x), \|x\|^{\beta+\sigma+1})$ ; so there exists  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$  such that  $T^k f(y) = O$ . Then near  $O$  we have that  $V_0 \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V^k, \sigma)$  and our thesis is proved.  $\square$

As an immediate consequence of Propositions 3.9 and 3.10 we obtain:

**Corollary 3.11.** *Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map which defines an IS. Then  $V(f) \sim_s V(T^k f)$  for  $k$  sufficiently large.*

#### 4. Main theorem

We are now ready to prove our main result.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  be an analytic map which defines an IS. If  $s \geq 1$ , there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all integers  $k \geq k_0$  the map  $T^k f$  defines an IS and  $V(f) \approx_s V(T^k f)$ .*

*Proof.* As in the previous section, set  $f = (f_1, \dots, f_p)$ ,  $V = V(f)$ ,  $V_0 = V \setminus \{O\}$  and  $V^k = V(T^k f)$ .

At first let us prove that we can find  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for any integer  $k \geq k_0$  the map  $T^k f$  defines an IS and there exist  $R > 0$  and  $\tau > s$  such that  $\mathcal{T}_R V \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(V^k, \tau)$ .

Take  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  to fulfill the thesis of Lemma 3.2. Since by hypothesis  $f$  defines an IS, then  $\Delta f$  is positive on  $V_0$ ; so let  $\beta_0, \sigma_0$  be exponents which satisfy Lemma 3.4 when we take  $A = V(f)$  and  $\varphi = \Delta f$ .

Moreover, for  $i = 1, \dots, p$  apply Lemma 3.4 with  $A = V(f)$  and  $\varphi = \|\nabla f_i\|$  to get exponents  $\beta_i$  and  $\sigma_i$ . If we set  $\beta = \max\{\beta_i \mid i = 0, \dots, p\}$  and  $\sigma = \max\{\sigma_i \mid i = 0, \dots, p\}$ , by Remarks 3.3 and 3.5 we can assume that  $\gamma \leq 1$  and  $\sigma > (\beta + s)/\gamma > 1$ .

First let us prove that there exists an integer  $k_0$  such that  $T^k f$  defines an IS for all  $k \geq k_0$ . Namely, if we consider  $U = \bigcup_{x \in V} B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ , the sets  $V$  and  $W = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus U$  are subanalytic and meet only at  $O$ , so they are regularly situated, i.e., there exists  $\mu$  such that  $d(x, V) + d(x, W) > \|x\|^\mu$  for all  $x$  near  $O$ . In particular if  $x \in \mathcal{H}(V, \mu)$  then  $d(x, W) > 0$  and hence  $x \in U$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{H}(V, \mu) \subseteq U$ .

Let  $k_0$  be the integer part of  $\max\{\alpha\sigma, \beta + \sigma + 1, \alpha\mu\} + 1$ .

Then for any  $k \geq k_0$  by Proposition 3.10(ii)enumi,  $O$  is not isolated in  $V^k$ ; moreover, since  $k > \alpha\mu$ , by Proposition 3.9,  $V^k \setminus \{O\} \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V, \mu) \subseteq U$  near  $O$ . This implies that for any  $y \in V^k \setminus \{O\}$  there exists  $x \in V$  such that  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ ; thus by Proposition 3.10(i)enumi we have that  $\Delta T^k f$  does not vanish on  $V^k \setminus \{O\}$ , and therefore the map  $T^k f$  defines an IS.

Moreover for any  $k \geq k_0$ , again by Proposition 3.10(ii)enumi, we have that  $V_0 \cap B(O, R) \subseteq \mathcal{H}(V^k, \sigma)$  for some  $R$ ; so, for each  $x \in V_0 \cap B(O, R)$  there is a  $y \in V^k \setminus \{O\}$  such that  $\|x - y\| < \|x\|^\sigma$ , and hence  $\|y\| < \|x\| + \|x\|^\sigma$ . Then  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$  and, since  $k > \beta + 1$ , by Proposition 3.10(i)enumi  $T^k f$  is submersive at  $y$ . For such  $x, y$  let us estimate  $\Delta(T_x V, T_y V^k)$ .

The vector spaces  $\nu(T_x V)$  and  $\nu(T_y V^k)$  have bases

$$B_x = \{\nabla f_i(x) \mid i = 1, \dots, p\} \quad \text{and} \quad B_y^k = \{\nabla T^k f_i(y) \mid i = 1, \dots, p\},$$

respectively; then, by Lemma 3.2 and Taylor expansion, we have for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ ,

$$\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla T^k f_i(y)\| \leq \|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla f_i(y)\| + \|\nabla f_i(y) - \nabla T^k f_i(y)\| \leq \|x - y\|^\gamma + \|y\|^{k-1}.$$

Since  $\gamma \leq 1$  and  $k \geq k_0 > \sigma + 1$ , it follows that  $k - \gamma\sigma - 1 > 0$ ; thus from the previous inequalities we get that near  $O$ ,

$$\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla T^k f_i(y)\| < \|x\|^{\gamma\sigma} + (\|x\| + \|x\|^\sigma)^{k-1} = \|x\|^{\gamma\sigma} (1 + \|x\|^{k-\gamma\sigma-1} (1 + \|x\|^{\sigma-1})^{k-1}) \leq 2\|x\|^{\gamma\sigma}.$$



Since  $\beta + s < \gamma\sigma$ , we can choose  $\eta$  such that  $\beta + s < \eta < \gamma\sigma$ ; so we can assume that

$$\|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla T^k f_i(y)\| < \frac{1}{2}\|x\|^\eta.$$

We want to estimate  $\Delta(\mathcal{B}_x, \mathcal{B}_y^k)$ , where  $\mathcal{B}_x$  and  $\mathcal{B}_y^k$  are the unit bases obtained from  $B_x$  and  $B_y^k$ , respectively, by normalizing their elements.

Observe that, if  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{O\}$ ,

$$\left\| \frac{u}{\|u\|} - \frac{v}{\|v\|} \right\| = \left\| \frac{\|v\|u - \|u\|v}{\|u\|\|v\|} \right\| = \left\| \frac{\|v\|u - \|v\|v + \|v\|v - \|u\|v}{\|u\|\|v\|} \right\| \leq \frac{\|u - v\| + \|\|v\| - \|u\|\|}{\|u\|},$$

hence the following inequality holds:

$$(1) \quad \left\| \frac{u}{\|u\|} - \frac{v}{\|v\|} \right\| \leq 2 \frac{\|u - v\|}{\|u\|}.$$

Applying inequality (1) and Lemma 3.4 to  $u = \nabla f_i(x)$  and  $v = \nabla T^k f_i(y)$ , we get

$$\left\| \frac{\nabla f_i(x)}{\|\nabla f_i(x)\|} - \frac{\nabla T^k f_i(y)}{\|\nabla T^k f_i(y)\|} \right\| < \|x\|^{\eta-\beta_i} \leq \|x\|^{\eta-\beta}.$$

Since  $s < \eta - \beta < \gamma\sigma - \beta < \sigma$  and since  $\|x - y\| < \|x\|^\sigma$ , if we take  $\tau = \eta - \beta$  we get that  $\|x - y\| < \|x\|^\tau$  and  $\Delta(T_x V, T_y V^k) \leq \Delta(\mathcal{B}_x, \mathcal{B}_y^k) < \|x\|^\tau$ . Hence  $\mathcal{T}_R V \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(V^k, \tau)$ .

Now we show that, up to reducing  $R$ , we have  $\mathcal{T}_R V^k \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(V, \tau)$  with the same  $k_0$  and  $\tau$  as above.

By Proposition 3.9, if  $k \geq k_0$ , for any  $x \in (V^k \setminus \{O\}) \cap B(O, R)$  there is a  $y \in V_0$  such that  $\|x - y\| < \|x\|^\sigma < \|x\|^\tau$ . Since

$$\|\nabla f_i(y) - \nabla T^k f_i(x)\| \leq \|\nabla f_i(y) - \nabla f_i(x)\| + \|\nabla f_i(x) - \nabla T^k f_i(x)\|,$$

by computations and arguments analogous to the ones used in the previous part of our proof we can deduce that

$$(2) \quad \|\nabla f_i(y) - \nabla T^k f_i(x)\| \leq \|x - y\|^\gamma + \|x\|^{k-1} < \|x\|^{\gamma\sigma} + \|x\|^{k-1}.$$

Since  $y \in B(x, \|x\|^\sigma)$ , we have  $\|y\| > \|x\| - \|x\|^\sigma$ . Moreover, since  $y \in V_0$ , by Lemma 3.4 we have that  $\|\nabla f_i(y)\| > \|y\|^\beta$ . So from inequalities (1) and (2) we obtain that (near  $O$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{\nabla f_i(y)}{\|\nabla f_i(y)\|} - \frac{\nabla T^k f_i(x)}{\|\nabla T^k f_i(x)\|} \right\| &\leq 2 \frac{\|\nabla f_i(y) - \nabla T^k f_i(x)\|}{\|\nabla f_i(y)\|} < 2 \frac{\|x\|^{\gamma\sigma} + \|x\|^{k-1}}{\|y\|^\beta} \leq 2 \frac{\|x\|^{\gamma\sigma} + \|x\|^{k-1}}{(\|x\| - \|x\|^\sigma)^\beta} \\ &= 2\|x\|^{\gamma\sigma-\beta} \frac{1 + \|x\|^{k-\gamma\sigma-1}}{(1 - \|x\|^{\sigma-1})^\beta} \leq 3\|x\|^{\gamma\sigma-\beta} \leq \|x\|^{\eta-\beta} = \|x\|^\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\mathcal{T}_R V^k \subseteq \mathcal{T}\mathcal{H}(V, \tau)$ , and so  $V \approx_s V^k$  for  $k \geq k_0$ . □

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