

INVARIANTS OF WEIGHTED HOMOGENEOUS SINGULARITIES

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1.- Introduction :

In singularity theory one has first studied hypersurface singularities, where a holomorphic map germ $f : (\mathbb{C}^m, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$ is given. Especially simple is the example $f(z) = z_1^{a_1} + \dots + z_m^{a_m}$ (Brieskorn polynomial). A more general class is given by the weighted homogeneous polynomials : Let d, w_1, \dots, w_m be positive integers and $f \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_m]$ a polynomial.

Definition :

f is weighted homogeneous of degree d with respect to the weights w_1, \dots, w_m if f is a linear combination of monomials $z_1^{j_1} \dots z_m^{j_m}$, $j_1 w_1 + \dots + j_m w_m = d$.

Let us assume that f is such a weighted homogeneous polynomial which has an isolated singularity at 0 and that $n := m-1 > 0$. Let ϵ be a positive real number (in general, ϵ should be small, but since f is weighted homogeneous this is not necessary here), $t \in \mathbb{C}, 0 < |t| \ll \epsilon, Y_t = f^{-1}(\{t\}), Y_0 = f^{-1}(\{0\})$. Then $B_\epsilon \cap Y_t$ is the Milnor fibre of f and $\Sigma = \partial B_\epsilon \cap Y_0$ the link of Y_0 at 0. It is well-known that $B_\epsilon \cap Y_t$ has the homotopy type of a bouquet of spheres of dimension n , their number is called the Milnor number μ , and the singularity of Y_0 at 0 is determined by Σ since $B_\epsilon \cap Y_0$ is homeomorphic to the cone over Σ . There is an endomorphism h^* of $H^n(B_\epsilon \cap Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$ - the (Picard-Lefschetz) monodromy - such that we have an exact sequence (with coefficients \mathbb{Z}) :

$$0 \rightarrow H_n(\Sigma) \rightarrow H^n(B_\epsilon \cap Y_t) \xrightarrow{h^* - id} H^n(B_\epsilon \cap Y_t) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma) \rightarrow 0$$

Cf. [6].

As we are looking at the weighted homogeneous case $B_\epsilon \cap Y_t$ and $B_\epsilon \cap Y_0$ are deformation retracts of Y_t and Y_0 , respectively. Therefore we will consider Y_t instead of $B_\epsilon \cap Y_t$, the condition $|t| \ll \epsilon$ is no longer necessary then.

Let us list some invariants which have been calculated in the weighted homogeneous case already long ago :

$\mu = \text{rk } H_n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$: Milnor-Orlik [7]

characteristic polynomial $\chi(x)$ of h^* : Milnor-Orlik [7]

$\text{rk } \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$: Orlik [8] (as a consequence of [7])

$\sigma = \text{signature of } Y_t$: Steenbrink [11]

Hodge numbers of Y_t (with respect to the mixed Hodge structure) : Steenbrink [11].

In the next paragraph we will briefly recall the methods used in the hypersurface case and go over in the third paragraph to complete intersections. As a by-product we will get a further result for the hypersurface case, by determining the group $\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$.

2.- Methods in the hypersurface case :

Let us shortly discuss how the computations of the invariants cited above have been performed :

a) The Milnor number μ can be calculated via the mapping degree of $(z_1, \dots, z_m) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_m} \right)$, because of the formula $\mu = \dim_{\mathbb{C}^m, 0} \mathcal{O} / \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_m} \right)$, cf. [7].

b) For the study of the endomorphism h^* of $H^n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$ it is useful to note that $f : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is equivariant with respect to \mathbb{C}^* actions on \mathbb{C}^m and $\mathbb{C} : c \circ z := (c^{w_1} z_1, \dots, c^{w_m} z_m)$, $c \circ t' := c^d t'$ for $c \in \mathbb{C}^*$, $z \in \mathbb{C}^m$, $t' \in \mathbb{C}$. Then h^* is induced by $h : Y_t \rightarrow Y_t : h(z) = e^{2\pi i/d} \circ z$. From the Euler characteristics of the fixed point sets $\{z \in Y_t \mid h^\nu(z) = z\}$, $\nu = 1, 2, \dots$, one can compute the characteristic polynomial of h^* , cf. [7].

c) The signature σ of $Y := Y_t$ can be computed from the Hodge numbers, cf. [11]. In order to understand the mixed Hodge structure on Y let us begin with the special case $w_1 = \dots = w_m = 1$ (f homogeneous) : then Y is the affine part of some smooth projective hypersurface \bar{Y} of degree d in $\mathbb{P}_m(\mathbb{C})$. In general one takes $\mathbb{P}_w := \text{Proj } \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_m]$, where $\deg z_j = w_j$, $j = 0, \dots, m$, $w_0 = 1$, instead of $\mathbb{P}_m(\mathbb{C})$. The underlying topological space of \mathbb{P}_w is the quotient of $\mathbb{C}^{m+1} - \{0\}$ by the \mathbb{C}^* action which corresponds to

the weights w_0, \dots, w_m . Now \mathbb{P}_w is no longer smooth but still a V -manifold, hence a rational homology manifold. Let $\tilde{f} \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_m]$ be defined by $\tilde{f}(z_0, \dots, z_m) = f(z_1, \dots, z_m) - tz_0^d$. Then \tilde{f} is weighted homogeneous of degree d with respect to w_0, \dots, w_m . The equation $\tilde{f} = 0$ defines subvarieties \bar{Y} and Y_∞ of \mathbb{P}_w and $\{[z] \in \mathbb{P}_w | z_0 = 0\}$ which are V -manifolds. Since \bar{Y} and Y_∞ are compact algebraic varieties they have canonical mixed Hodge structures according to Deligne [1], but in fact these are pure because we have V -manifolds, so we can speak of Hodge numbers $h^{pq}(\bar{Y}) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Gr}_F^p H^{p+q}(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})$. More important for our purpose are the numbers $h_0^{pq}(\bar{Y}) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Gr}_F^p H^{p+q}(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})_0$, where $H^j(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})_0$ denotes the j -th primitive cohomology group. Then $h_0^{pq}(\bar{Y}) = h^{pq}(\bar{Y}) - \delta_{pq}$, $0 \leq p \leq \dim \bar{Y}$. From the Gysin sequence for $Y_\infty \subset \bar{Y}$ one gets :

$$\dim \text{Gr}_F^p \text{Gr}_n^W H^n(Y; \mathbb{C}) = h_0^{p, n-p}(\bar{Y})$$

$$\dim \text{Gr}_F^p \text{Gr}_{n+1}^W H^n(Y; \mathbb{C}) = h_0^{p-1, n-p}(Y_\infty)$$

$$\text{Gr}_i^W H^n(Y; \mathbb{C}) = 0, \quad i \neq n, n+1.$$

See [11] for details. By generalizing Griffiths' description of the Hodge structure for a projective hypersurface [3] Steenbrink was able to describe the spaces $F^p \text{Gr}_i^W H^n(Y; \mathbb{C})$ explicitly, see [11].

3.- Complete intersections :

Let us leave the hypersurface case now and assume that f_1, \dots, f_k are polynomials such that f_j is weighted homogeneous of degree d_j with respect to w_1, \dots, w_m for $j = 1, \dots, k$. Here $w_1, \dots, w_m, d_1, \dots, d_k$ are positive integers. Let $f : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k$ be defined by $f = (f_1, \dots, f_k)$, let t be a regular value of f , $Y_t = f^{-1}(\{t\})$, $Y_0 = f^{-1}(\{0\})$, $n = \dim Y_0$, $\varepsilon > 0$, $\Sigma = Y_0 \cap \partial B_\varepsilon$. In order to be able to compute invariants from the weights and degrees alone we assume that $n = m - k$ (i. e. Y_0 is a complete intersection) and that $Y_0 - \{0\}$ is non-singular, $n > 0$. Again Y_t has the homotopy type of a bouquet of spheres of dimension n [5]. Let us discuss the calculation of invariants now.

a) $\mu = \text{rk } H_n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$: This invariant has been calculated using differential forms in [2], the method is not just a generalization of the method described in the hypersurface case.

b) The monodromy is a more complicated object in the case $k \geq 2$ than for $k = 1$: one has an action of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^k - D, t)$ on $H^n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$, D being the discriminant of f . For $k = 1$, $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^k - D, t) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, and the endomorphism h^* of $H^n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$ introduced in this case corresponds to the action of the canonical generator. In the weighted homogeneous case, however, we have another possibility of generalizing the definition of h^* . There is a \mathbb{C}^* action on \mathbb{C}^k defined by $c \circ t' = (c^{d_1} t'_1, \dots, c^{d_k} t'_k)$, $c \in \mathbb{C}^*$, $t' \in \mathbb{C}^k$, such that $f : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k$ is equivariant. Let d be a positive integer such that $t = e^{2\pi i/d} \circ t$, i. e. $d|d_j$ for all j with $t_j \neq 0$. Let $h^* : H^n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^n(Y_t; \mathbb{Z})$ be induced by $h(z) = e^{2\pi i/d} \circ z$. Now the characteristic polynomial $\chi(x)$ of h^* can be calculated by the results of [2].

c) The algebraic variety $Y = Y_t$ has a mixed Hodge structure which can be described just as in the hypersurface case : Let $\tilde{f}_j \in \mathbb{C}[z_0, \dots, z_m]$ be defined by $\tilde{f}_j(z_0, \dots, z_m) = f_j(z_1, \dots, z_m) - t_j z_0^{d_j}$, then $\tilde{f}_1 = \dots = \tilde{f}_k = 0$ defines subvarieties \bar{Y} and Y_∞ of \mathbb{P}_W and $\{[z] \in \mathbb{P}_W | z_0 = 0\}$, and the results on $\text{Gr}_F^p \text{Gr}_i^W H^n(Y; \mathbb{C})$ are the same as in the hypersurface case. In order to state the formulae it is convenient to use the abbreviation

$$Q(x, y) = \frac{1}{1+y} \prod_{v=1}^m \frac{1+y x^{w_v}}{1-x^{w_v}} \prod_{k=1}^k \frac{1-x^{d_k}}{1+y x^{d_k}}.$$

Theorem 1 (cf. also formula (1) in [4]) :

$$h_0^{p, n-p}(\bar{Y}) = (-1)^{n-p} \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-i} y^{-p-1} \frac{1+yx}{1-x} Q(x, y),$$

$$h_0^{p-1, n-p}(Y_\infty) = (-1)^{n-p} \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-i} y^{-p} Q(x, y).$$

The proof uses the description of the pure Hodge structure of projective varieties which are V -manifolds due to Steenbrink [11], it will be published elsewhere, as the proofs of the following theorems.

The same technique also yields more information about h^* than that obtained in b). Note that $h^d = \text{id}$, therefore $h^* : H^n(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})_0 \rightarrow H^n(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})_0$ is diagonalizable, and the eigenvalues are of the form $e^{2\pi ir/d}$, $r \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $h_0^{p, n-p}(e^{2\pi ir/d})$ be the dimension of the subspace of $\text{Gr}_F^p H^n(\bar{Y}; \mathbb{C})_0$ on which h^* operates as multiplication by $e^{2\pi ir/d}$.

Theorem 2 :

$$h_0^{p, n-p}(e^{2\pi ir/d}) = (-1)^{n-p} \text{res}_{z=\infty} \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-1} y^{-p-1} z^{r-1} \frac{z^d}{1-z^d} \frac{1+yzx}{1-zx} Q(x,y).$$

Note that h^* acts on $H^{n-1}(Y_\infty; \mathbb{C})_0$ as the identity. Now let n be even, let S be the intersection form on $H_C^n(Y; \mathbb{C})$ and S^h the hermitian form on $H_C^n(Y; \mathbb{C})$ defined by $S^h(x, y) = S(x, \bar{y})$. Let $\mu^+(e^{2\pi ir/d})$ be the dimension of a maximal linear subspace of $H_C^n(Y; \mathbb{C})$ on which S^h is positive definite and h^* acts as multiplication by $e^{2\pi ir/d}$. Let $\mu^-(e^{2\pi ir/d})$ and $\mu_0(e^{2\pi ir/d})$ be defined in an analogous way, with "negative definite" resp. "identically zero" instead of "positive definite". From Theorem 2 and [11] one obtains

Theorem 3 :

If n is even we have :

$$\mu_+(e^{2\pi ir/d}) = \text{res}_{z=\infty} \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-1} y^{-n-1} z^{r-1} \frac{1}{1-y^2} \frac{z^d}{1-z^d} \frac{1+yzx}{1-zx} Q(x,y),$$

$$\mu_-(e^{2\pi ir/d}) = \text{res}_{z=\infty} \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-1} y^{-n} z^{r-1} \frac{-1}{1-y^2} \frac{z^d}{1-z^d} \frac{1+yzx}{1-zx} Q(x,y),$$

$$\mu_0(e^{2\pi ir/d}) = 0 \text{ if } d \nmid r,$$

$$\mu_0(1) = \dim H^{n-1}(Y_\infty; \mathbb{C})_0 = \text{rk } \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z}) \text{ (see Theorem 4).}$$

d) Calculation of $\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$: As Steenbrink pointed out to me, $\tilde{H}^{n-1}(Y_0 - \{0\}; \mathbb{C}) \cong H^{n-1}(Y_\infty; \mathbb{C})_0$ because of the existence of a rational Gysin sequence for the map $Y_0 - \{0\} \rightarrow Y_\infty$ which is the canonical map to the orbit space with respect to the \mathbb{C}^* action. Using this and the homotopy equivalence between $Y_0 - \{0\}$ and Σ we obtain

Theorem 4 :

$$\text{rk } \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z}) = \text{res}_{x=\infty} \text{res}_{y=0} x^{-1} y^{-n} \frac{1}{1+y} Q(x, y) .$$

So it remains to calculate the torsion subgroup of $\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$. There is an explicit way of doing this for n odd by looking at certain fixed point sets similarly to section b) of the second paragraph.

In the special case where f_1, \dots, f_k are Brieskorn polynomials the torsion has been calculated for all n by Randell [10].

The following object is related to $\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$: Let us assume that $\tilde{Y}_0 = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^m \mid f_1(z) = \dots = f_{k-1}(z) = 0\}$ has also an isolated singularity at 0 . Then let us consider $H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$, where $\tilde{\Sigma} = \partial B_\varepsilon \cap \tilde{Y}_0$.

e) Calculation of $H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$: Because of the assumption just made we may choose $t = (0, \dots, 0, t_k)$ and $d = d_k$. Then the exact sequence of the introduction has the following analogue (cf. [5], coefficients : \mathbb{Z}) :

$$0 \rightarrow H_{n+1}(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma) \rightarrow H^n(Y) \xrightarrow{h^* - \text{id}} H^n(Y) \rightarrow H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma) \rightarrow 0 .$$

As we can compute the characteristic polynomial $\chi(x)$ of h^* (cf. b)), we can deduce a formula for $\text{rk } H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$.

Note that there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow 0$$

(since $\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{C}) \cong H^{n-1}(Y_\infty; \mathbb{C})_0$ etc...) so that $\text{rk } H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$ can also be calculated from Theorem 4. On the other hand, one can prove Theorem 4 inductively using a suitable formula for $\text{rk } H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$.

But in fact, the whole group $H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$ can be calculated from $\chi(x)$: Write $\chi = m_1 \dots m_\mu$ where $m_1 \mid m_2, \dots, m_{\mu-1} \mid m_\mu$ and m_μ is square-free, $m_1, \dots, m_\mu \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

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Theorem 5 :

$$H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z}) = (\mathbb{Z}/m_1(1)\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \dots \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/m_\mu(1)\mathbb{Z}) .$$

In the case $k = 1$ we have $\tilde{\Sigma} = \partial B_\epsilon$, so $H_n(\tilde{\Sigma}, \Sigma) \cong \tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma) :$

Corollary :

$$\tilde{H}_{n-1}(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z}) = (\mathbb{Z}/m_1(1)\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \dots \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/m_\mu(1)\mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{if } k = 1 .$$

The corollary has been conjectured by Orlik [8] and proved in special cases by Orlik and Randell (see [8], [9], [10]).