

AN IRREDUCIBILITY CRITERION FOR POWER SERIES

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ABSTRACT. We prove an irreducibility criterion for polynomials with power series coefficients generalizing previous results given in [GBGP] and [ACLM1].

1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this note is to provide a simpler approach to an irreducibility criterion for polynomials with power series coefficients (see Theorem 2.4). The first version of the criterion has been given in [GBGP] and then has been generalized in [ACLM1]. In this note we give a more natural and elementary proof of a general version of this criterion. In particular, our statement holds over any field while the previous ones were only proven for algebraically closed fields of characteristic zero. Moreover, the only hypothesis that we need is that the projection of the Newton polyhedron has exactly one vertex while the previous known versions were involving additional technical conditions, i.e. for ν -quasi-ordinary polynomials (Let us mention that the criterion given in [ACLM1] is stated for ν -quasi-ordinary polynomials while the provided proof apparently holds more generally for polynomials over algebraically closed fields of characteristic zero for which the projection of the Newton polyhedron has exactly one vertex).

Let us recall that the proof given in [GBGP] uses toric geometry and Zariski Main Theorem while the one provided in [ACLM1] is based on a generalization of the Newton's method for plane curves. Our proof is essentially based on the following well known version of Hensel's Lemma (see for instance [EGA] (18.5.13)):

Proposition 1.1 (Hensel's Lemma). *Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a Henselian local ring. A monic polynomial $P(Z) \in R[Z]$, that is the product of two monic coprime polynomials P_1 and P_2 modulo $\mathfrak{m}R[Z]$, is in fact the product of two coprime monic polynomials whose reductions modulo $\mathfrak{m}R[Z]$ are equal to P_1 and P_2 .*

We begin by giving some definitions and our main result (Theorem 2.4). In a second part we give an example showing that our main result cannot be extended in a more general setting.

Finally, let us mention that this irreducibility criterion is very useful in the study of quasi-ordinary hypersurfaces (see [ACLM2] or [MS]). Different irreducibility criteria for quasi-ordinary power series were also shown in [A], [GBG] and [GV].

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2. AN IRREDUCIBILITY CRITERION

We denote by $\mathbb{k}[[x]]$ the ring of formal power series in n variables $x := (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ over a field \mathbb{k} . For any vector $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ we set

$$x^\beta := x_1^{\beta_1} \cdots x_n^{\beta_n}$$

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and for any positive integer q

$$x^q := x_1^q \cdots x_n^q.$$

Let $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ be a monic Weierstraß polynomial with coefficients in $\mathbb{k}[[x]]$. Let us write

$$P(Z) = Z^d + \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n, j < d} c_{\alpha,j} x^\alpha Z^j.$$

Recall that the *Newton polyhedron* of $P = P(Z)$, denoted by $\text{NP}(P)$, is the convex hull of $\{(0, d), (\alpha, j) \mid c_{\alpha,j} \neq 0\} + \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^{n+1}$. In this note we assume that $P(Z) \neq Z^d$. The *associated polyhedron* of P , denoted by Δ_P , is the convex hull of

$$\left\{ \frac{d\alpha}{d-j} \mid c_{\alpha,j} \neq 0 \right\} + \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n.$$

Note that Δ_P is the projection of $\text{NP}(P)$ from the point $(0, \dots, 0, d)$ on the subspace given by the first n coordinates.

Definition 2.1. Let $\omega \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$. For a non zero element $b = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n} b_\alpha x^\alpha$ of $\mathbb{k}[[x]]$ we set

$$\nu_\omega(b) := \min\{\alpha \cdot \omega = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \omega_i \mid b_\alpha \neq 0\} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$\text{and } \text{In}_\omega(b) := \sum_{\alpha \mid \alpha \cdot \omega = \nu_\omega(b)} b_\alpha x^\alpha.$$

For such a ω and $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ as before we define $\omega_{n+1} \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ by

$$\omega_{n+1} := \frac{\min\{v \cdot \omega \mid v \in \Delta_P\}}{d} \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}.$$

Then we set $\omega' := (\omega, \omega_{n+1})$ and we define

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{\omega'}(P) &:= \min\{\alpha \cdot \omega + j\omega_{n+1} \mid c_{\alpha,j} \neq 0\} = d\omega_{n+1} \\ \text{and } \text{In}_{\omega'}(P) &:= Z^d + \sum_{(\alpha,j) \mid (\alpha,j) \cdot \omega' = \nu_{\omega'}(P)} c_{\alpha,j} x^\alpha Z^j. \end{aligned}$$

This former polynomial is weighted homogeneous for the weights $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \omega_{n+1}$.

Definition 2.2. Let $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ be a monic polynomial of degree d in Z . The polynomial P has an *orthant associated polyhedron* if $\Delta_P = d\gamma + \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ for some $\gamma \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n$. In this case $\text{In}_{\omega'}(P)$ does not depend on ω and we denote it by P_Γ , i.e.

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) := Z^d + \sum_{(\alpha,j) \mid \frac{\alpha}{d-j} = \gamma} c_{\alpha,j} x^\alpha Z^j,$$

where Γ is the compact edge of the Newton polyhedron of P containing the point $(0, d)$. In this case we define

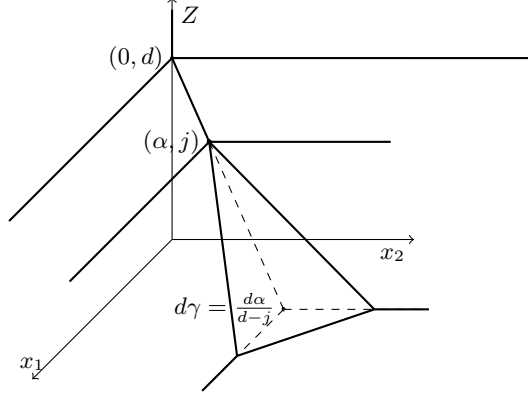
$$\overline{P}(Z) := P_\Gamma(1, Z) = Z^d + \sum_{(\alpha,j) \mid \frac{\alpha}{d-j} = \gamma} c_{\alpha,j} Z^j \in \mathbb{k}[Z].$$

If we write $\gamma = \frac{\beta}{q}$, where $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$, $q \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ and $\gcd(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n, q) = 1$, we have that

$$x^{d\beta} \overline{P}(Z) = P_\Gamma(x_1^q, \dots, x_n^q, x^\beta Z).$$

Remark 2.3. A polynomial $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ is called *ν -quasi-ordinary* if it has an orthant associated polyhedron and $P_\Gamma(x, Z)$ is not the power of a polynomial of degree one in Z . This definition has been introduced by H. Hironaka in [H] and is more standard but more restrictive. Over a characteristic zero field if $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron and the coefficient of Z^{d-1} is zero then $P(Z)$ is ν -quasi-ordinary.

Here is a picture of the Newton polyhedron of a polynomial having an orthant associated polyhedron with $n = 2$ (thick lines represent the edges of the Newton polyhedron) :



Theorem 2.4. *Let $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ be a monic Weierstraß polynomial. Assume that $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron and that $P_\Gamma(x, Z) \in \mathbb{k}[x, Z]$ is the product of two coprime monic polynomials $P_1, P_2 \in \mathbb{k}[x, Z]$ respectively of degree d_1 and d_2 . Then there exist two monic polynomials $S_1, S_2 \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ respectively of degrees d_1 and d_2 in Z such that*

- i) $P = S_1 S_2$,
- ii) *There is at least one $i \in \{1, 2\}$ such that S_i has an orthant associated polyhedron and if Γ_i denotes the compact face of $\text{NP}(S_i)$ containing the points $(0, d_i)$, then $S_{i\Gamma_i} = P_i$ and Γ_i is parallel to Γ .*

Proof. By assumption, we have for $P_1 = P_1(x, Z)$ and $P_2 = P_2(x, Z)$

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) = P_1(x, Z) \cdot P_2(x, Z)$$

and $d = d_1 + d_2$. Since Z cannot divide P_1 and P_2 simultaneously we may assume that P_1 and Z are coprime. Let us write $\bar{P}_i(Z) := P_i(1, Z)$ for $i = 1, 2$. Thus we have that

$$\bar{P}(Z) = \bar{P}_1(Z) \cdot \bar{P}_2(Z).$$

Moreover Z and \bar{P}_1 are coprime. We define the monomial map $\sigma : \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z] \longrightarrow \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ by

$$\sigma(x_1) = x_1^q, \dots, \sigma(x_n) = x_n^q, \sigma(Z) = x^\beta Z.$$

Let $M = M(x, Z) := c x^\alpha Z^j$ be a monomial of $P(x, Z)$. We have that

$$\sigma(M) = c x^{q\alpha + j\beta} Z^j$$

and $q\alpha + j\beta \succeq d\beta$ since $\frac{\alpha}{d-j} \succeq \frac{\beta}{q}$ if $j < d$, where \succeq denotes the product order on $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$. Thus we have

$$(1) \quad \sigma(P) = P(x_1^q, \dots, x_n^q, x^\beta Z) = x^{d\beta} (\bar{P}(Z) + Q(x, Z))$$

for some $Q(x, Z) \in (x)\mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$. In particular, $\bar{P}(Z) + Q(x, Z) = \bar{P}_1(Z)\bar{P}_2(Z)$ modulo (x) . Thus by Hensel's Lemma

$$\bar{P}(Z) + Q(x, Z) = \tilde{P}_1(x, Z) \cdot \tilde{P}_2(x, Z),$$

for some monic polynomials $\tilde{P}_1(x, Z)$ and $\tilde{P}_2(x, Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ equal respectively to $\bar{P}_1(Z)$ and $\bar{P}_2(Z)$ modulo (x) . We obtain that

$$\sigma(P) = \left(x^{d_1\beta} \tilde{P}_1(x, Z) \right) \cdot \left(x^{d_2\beta} \tilde{P}_2(x, Z) \right).$$

Moreover, for every $\omega' \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n+1}$ given as in Definition 2.1 for the polynomial $P(Z)$ we have that

$$\text{In}_{\omega'} \left(x^{d_i \beta} \tilde{P}_i(x, Z) \right) = \sigma(P_i) \text{ for } i = 1, 2,$$

But we have that

$$x^{d_i \beta} \tilde{P}_i(x, Z) = R_i(x, x^\beta Z)$$

for some monic polynomials $R_i(x, Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ of degree d_i . Thus

$$P(x^q, Z) = R_1(x, Z) \cdot R_2(x, Z)$$

and $\text{In}_{\omega'}(R_i)(x, Z) = P_i(x^q, Z) \in \mathbb{k}[x^q, Z]$ for $i = 1, 2$. Since $P_\Gamma = \text{In}_{\omega'}(P)$ for every $\omega' \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n+1}$ given as in Definition 2.1 for the polynomial $P(Z)$, we can apply Lemma 2.6 for $P_0 = P(x^q, Z)$ to see that $R_1(x, Z), R_2(x, Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$ so they can be written as $R_i(x, Z) = S_i(x^q, Z)$ for $i = 1, 2$. This means that $\sigma(P) = \sigma(S_1)\sigma(S_2)$. Thus $P = S_1 S_2$. Since $\text{In}_{\omega'}(\tilde{P}_1)$ does not depend on $\omega' \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n+1}$ as above, $\text{In}_{\omega'}(S_1)(x^q, Z)$ is also independent of ω' . Moreover, $\text{In}_{\omega'}(\tilde{P}_1)$ has at least two non zero monomials since Z does not divide \tilde{P}_1 . Therefore $\text{In}_{\omega'}(S_1)(x^q, Z)$ has also at least two non zero monomials. This shows that S_1 has an orthant associated polyhedron and Γ_1 is parallel to Γ . \square

Remark 2.5. The key point in the proof of this theorem is the fact that equation (1) is satisfied when P has an orthant associated polyhedron.

Lemma 2.6. *Let $P_0 \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$ be a monic Weierstraß polynomial, where $q \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, and let us assume that $P_0 = R_1 R_2$, where R_1 and R_2 are monic polynomials of $\mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$. Let $\omega \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ and let ω' be defined as in Definition 2.1. If $\text{In}_{\omega'}(R_1), \text{In}_{\omega'}(R_2) \in \mathbb{k}[x^q, Z]$ and if they are coprime then $R_1, R_2 \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$.*

Proof. If $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) = p > 0$ let us write $q = p^e m$ with $m \wedge p = 1$. If $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) = 0$ we set $m := q$ and $p := 1$. Then we define

$$Q := \prod R_1(\xi_1 x_1, \dots, \xi_n x_n, Z)^{p^e}$$

where (ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n) runs over the n -uples of m -th roots of unity in an algebraic closure of \mathbb{k} . Then $Q \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$ and $\text{In}_{\omega'}(Q) = \text{In}_{\omega'}(R_1)^{m^n p^e}$. Thus $\text{In}_{\omega'}(R_2)$ and $\text{In}_{\omega'}(Q)$ are coprime. Therefore R_2 and Q are coprime. Since R_1 divides Q and $P_0 = R_1 R_2$ then the greatest common divisor of P_0 and Q in $\mathbb{k}((x))[Z]$ is R_1 . But the greatest common divisor does not depend on the base field, so R_1 is also the greatest common divisor of P_0 and Q in $\mathbb{k}((x^q))[Z]$. Hence there is an element $F \in \mathbb{k}((x))^*$ such that $FR_1 \in \mathbb{k}((x^q))[Z]$. Since $R_1(Z)$ is monic then $F \in \mathbb{k}((x^q))$ thus $R_1 \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$. By symmetry we also get $R_2 \in \mathbb{k}[[x^q]][Z]$. \square

Corollary 2.7. *Let us assume that $P(Z) = Z^d + a_1 Z^{d-1} + \dots + a_d \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ is an irreducible Weierstraß polynomial, $P(Z) \neq Z^d$. Then the following properties hold:*

- i) *If $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron then P_Γ is not the product of two coprime polynomials.*
- ii) *If $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron the convex hull of $\text{Supp}(\text{In}_{\omega'}(P))$ is a segment joining $(0, d)$ to $(d\gamma, 0)$, and $d\gamma$ is the initial exponent of a_d for the valuation ν_ω , for every $\omega' \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n+1}$ given as in Definition 2.1 for the polynomial $P(Z)$.*
- iii) *If $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron let $u \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$ be the primitive vector such that $mu = (-d\gamma, d)$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and set $y := (x, Z)$. Then we can write*

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) = x^{d\gamma} Q(y^u)$$

where $Q(T) \in \mathbb{k}[T]$ is not the product of two coprime polynomials. In particular, if \mathbb{k} is algebraically closed then $Q(T)$ has only one root in \mathbb{k} .

iv) If the Newton polyhedron of $P(Z)$ has no compact face of dimension > 1 then $P(Z)$ has an orthant associated polyhedron and its Newton polyhedron has only one compact face of dimension one which is the segment of i).

Proof. Suppose P_Γ is the product of two coprime factors. Then Theorem 2.4 implies that we could factor $P(Z)$ as the product of two monic polynomials (since P_Γ is monic). This contradicts the irreducibility of $P(Z)$. So i) is proven.

If $P_\Gamma(x, 0) = 0$ then Z divides $P_\Gamma(x, Z)$. But by i) $P_\Gamma(x, Z)$ is not the product of two coprime polynomials thus $P_\Gamma(x, Z) = Z^d$. This contradicts the fact that $P_\Gamma(x, Z)$ has a non zero monomial of the form $x^\alpha Z^j$ for $j < d$. Hence $P_\Gamma(x, 0) \neq 0$ and ii) is proven.

We can write

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) = Z^d + \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} c_{(d-j)\gamma, j} x^{(d-j)\gamma} Z^j.$$

So we have that

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) = x^{d\gamma} \left(\frac{Z^d}{x^{d\gamma}} + \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} c_{(d-j)\gamma, j} \frac{Z^j}{x^{j\gamma}} \right).$$

By ii) we have that $d\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$. This implies that $j\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$ as soon as $c_{(d-j)\gamma, j} \neq 0$. For any such j , let $i \geq 0$ be such that

$$(2) \quad iu = (-j\gamma, j).$$

Then $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ since u is primitive.

Thus $P_\Gamma(x, Z) = x^{d\gamma} (y^{mu} + \sum_{i < m} c_i y^{iu})$, where

$$c_i := c_{iu + (d\gamma, 0)} \quad \forall i.$$

We set $Q(T) := T^m + \sum_{i < m} c_i T^i \in \mathbb{k}[T]$. If $Q(T)$ factors as the product of two coprime monic polynomials, let us say $Q(T) = Q_1(T) \cdot Q_2(T)$, where $Q_1(T)$ and $Q_2(T) \in \mathbb{k}[T]$ are coprime and monic. Let m_1 and m_2 be the respective degrees of Q_1 and Q_2 and define $d_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ by

$$(-d_i\gamma, d_i) = m_i u \text{ for } i = 1, 2.$$

Then we have

$$P_\Gamma(x, Z) = x^{d\gamma} Q(y^u) = \left(x^{d_1\gamma} Q_1(y^u) \right) \cdot \left(x^{d_2\gamma} Q_2(y^u) \right).$$

Moreover, by (2), a monomial of $x^{d_1\gamma} Q_1(y^u)$ has the form

$$c x^{d_1\gamma} y^{iu} = c x^{d_1\gamma} \left(\frac{Z^j}{x^{j\gamma}} \right) = c x^{(d_1-j)\gamma} Z^j,$$

for $0 \leq i \leq m_1$, i.e. for $0 \leq j \leq d_1$. Hence $x^{d_1\gamma} Q_1(y^u) \in \mathbb{k}[x, Z]$. By symmetry we also have that $x^{d_2\gamma} Q_2(y^u) \in \mathbb{k}[x, Z]$.

Then the polynomials $P_1(x, Z) := x^{d_1\gamma} Q_1(y^u)$ and $P_2(x, Z) := x^{d_2\gamma} Q_2(y^u)$ are coprime which contradicts Theorem 2.4. Thus iii) is proven.

Let us assume that the Newton polyhedron of $P(Z)$ does not have an orthant associated polyhedron. This means that Δ_P has at least two distinct vertices denoted by γ_1 and γ_2 such that the segment $[\gamma_1, \gamma_2]$ is included in the boundary of Δ_P . Thus the Newton polyhedron of P has at least three different vertices $a := (0, d)$, $b := (\frac{d-j}{d}\gamma_1, j)$ and $c := (\frac{d-k}{k}\gamma_2, k)$. Since a, b, c are vertices of $\text{NP}(P)$ the triangle delimited by these three points is a face of $\text{NP}(P)$ so the Newton polyhedron of P has at least one face of dimension two. □

Theorem 2.4 also provides an elementary proof for the following generalization of [ACLM1] Theorem 1.5:

Corollary 2.8. *Let $P(Z) \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ be a Weierstraß polynomial not equal to a power of Z which has an orthant polyhedron and which is not necessarily irreducible. Then there exists at least one monic polynomial $Q \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ dividing P such that :*

- i) The polynomial Q has an orthant polyhedron.*
- ii) If Γ' denotes the compact edge of $NP(Q)$ projecting to the unique vertex of Δ_Q , then $Q_{\Gamma'}$ is not the product of two coprime polynomials.*
- iii) The segment Γ' is parallel to Γ .*

Proof. If $P_{\Gamma}(x, Z)$ is the power of some irreducible polynomial in $\mathbb{k}[x, Z]$, then we choose $Q = P$. Clearly, all required properties hold. (Note: even in this case $P(Z)$ is not necessarily irreducible nor a power of an irreducible polynomial, e.g. $P(Z) = (Z^2 - x^3)^2 - x^8$).

Suppose $P_{\Gamma}(x, Z)$ is the product of two coprime polynomials in $\mathbb{k}[x, Z]$. Since P is monic in Z we may assume that these two polynomials are monic. Denote by d the degree of $P(Z)$. By Theorem 2.4, $P(Z) = S_1(Z) \cdot S_2(Z)$, where $S_i \in \mathbb{k}[[x]][Z]$ are polynomials of degree $1 \leq d_i < d$, $i \in \{1, 2\}$, and $d_1 + d_2 = d$. Moreover, we may assume that S_1 has an orthant associated polyhedron such that its only compact face containing $(0, d_1)$ is parallel to Γ . So the existence of Q is given by induction on d by replacing P by S_1 . □

Remark 2.9. If we continue applying the theorem for those S_i in the proof having property *i*), we obtain a factorization $P = S_+ Q_1 \cdots Q_k$, where each Q_i fulfills the properties *i*) – *iii*) whereas S_+ does not. Moreover, using the obvious notation, the polynomials $(Q_i)_{\Gamma'_i}$ are pairwise coprime.

Let us mention that, using the notation for [ACLM1], Theorem 1.5 [ACLM1] is valid only if the μ_i are different from zero (which is implicitly assumed in the proof). But it is not true as stated in [ACLM1]. Using our notations this means that we cannot assume that $S_+ = 1$. For instance set

$$P(Z) = (Z^2 + x)(Z^2 + x^3) = Z^4 + x(1 + x^2)Z^2 + x^4.$$

Then $P(Z)$, $Z^2 + x$ and $Z^2 + x^3$ have an orthant associated polyhedron (they are even ν -quasi-ordinary and the last two polynomials are irreducible) and

$$P_{\Gamma} = Z^4 + xZ^2 = Z^2(Z^2 + x).$$

But P does not factor as the product of two polynomials having an orthant associated polyhedron and whose compact faces are parallel to Γ . Indeed the polynomial $Z^2 + x^3$ has an orthant associated polyhedron but its compact face is not parallel to Γ .

Remark 2.10. As we pointed out at the beginning, Hensel's Lemma is the crucial ingredient for the proof of our result. In fact, we can replace $\mathbb{k}[[x]]$ by any regular Henselian local ring (R, \mathfrak{m}) with residue field $\mathbb{k} = R/\mathfrak{m}$ and regular system of parameters $(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$. (Note that R is not necessarily equi-characteristic).

For instance, using that R is Noetherian, one can see that any element $f \in R$ can be written as a finite sum $f = \sum_{\alpha} c_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}$, with units $c_{\alpha} \in R^*$. Thus Δ_P is defined for a polynomial $P = P(Z) \in R[Z]$. Furthermore, ν_{ω} , $\omega \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$, defines a monomial valuation on R whose associated graded ring is isomorphic to a polynomial ring $\mathbb{k}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, where $X_j := \text{In}_{\omega}(x_j)$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Of course, one needs to be more careful in the proofs, e.g., $\mathbb{k}[[x^q]]$ needs to be replaced by the image of R under the map that sends each x_i to x_i^q .

3. AN EXAMPLE CONCERNING COMPACT FACES OF DIMENSION > 1

Let $n = 2$ and let us replace the variables (x_1, x_2) by (x, y) for simplicity. We set

$$P(Z) := Z^2 - (x^3 - y^5)^2 + y^{11} = (Z - x^3 + y^5)(Z + x^3 - y^5) + y^{11}$$

seen as a polynomial of $\mathbb{k}[[x, y]][Z]$ where \mathbb{k} is an algebraically closed field of characteristic different from 2.

We will show that P does not have an orthant associated polyhedron, since Δ_P has two different vertices. On the other hand, we will prove that $P(Z)$ is irreducible while for every $\omega \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^2$ the polynomial $\text{In}_{\omega'}(P)$ is always the product of two coprime monic polynomials. This shows that Theorem 2.4 cannot be extended to polynomials without an orthant associated polyhedron.

The Newton polyhedron of $P(Z)$ is the convex hull of

$$\{(6, 0, 0), (0, 10, 0), (0, 0, 2)\} + \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^3.$$

The associated polyhedron Δ_P of $P(Z)$ is the convex hull of

$$\{(6, 0), (0, 10)\} + \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$$

and has two vertices $v = (6, 0)$ and $u = (0, 10)$. For $\omega \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^2$, if $6\omega_1 < 10\omega_2$ then

$$\text{In}_{\omega'}(P) = Z^2 - x^6 = (Z - x^3)(Z + x^3).$$

If $6\omega_1 > 10\omega_2$ then we have that

$$\text{In}_{\omega'}(P) = Z^2 - y^{10} = (Z - y^5)(Z + y^5).$$

If $6\omega_1 = 10\omega_2$ we have that

$$\text{In}_{\omega'}(P) = Z^2 - (x^3 - y^5)^2 = (Z - x^3 + y^5)(Z + x^3 - y^5).$$

Thus in all cases $\text{In}_{\omega'}(P)$ is the product of two coprime polynomials (since $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) \neq 2$). On the other hand, $P(Z)$ is irreducible since $(x^3 - y^5)^2 - y^{11}$ is not a square in $\mathbb{k}[[x, y]]$.

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