

## A Note on an Algebraic Divisor in $\mathbb{C}^n$

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**Abstract.** We consider the condition that a divisor in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  given by an entire function. It is well known that a divisor  $A$  is algebraic if and only if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} (N_A(r) / \log r) < \infty.$$

We shall give a simple proof of this theorem. Combining with the theorem of L. I. Ronkin, we shall give another characterization that  $A$  being algebraic.

### § 0. Introduction.

Let  $f(z)$  be an entire function of  $n$  complex variables. It is an interesting problem that under what conditions the divisor  $A = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n; f(z)=0\}$  becomes algebraic. In connection with this problem, R. A. Kramer has shown that  $A$  is algebraic if and only if there exists an  $r \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  such that  $A \cap \Delta_r$  is compact. We shall give a simple proof of this theorem (Corollary of Theorem 1). In section 2, we shall give a characterization of different type that  $A$  being algebraic as an application of Theorem 1.

### § 1. Put

$$\mathbb{R}_+^n = \{r = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n; r_j > 0, 1 \leq j \leq n\},$$

$$|r|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n r_j^2$$

and

$$\Delta_r = \{z = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n; \frac{|z_1|}{r_1} = \frac{|z_2|}{r_2} = \dots = \frac{|z_n|}{r_n}\}$$

here we mean that  $\Delta_r = \mathbb{C}$  if  $n=1$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *For any homogeneous polynomial  $P_m(z)$  of degree  $m$  which is not identically zero, there exists an  $r \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  such that  $P_m(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \Delta_r - \{0\}$ , where  $0$  is the origin of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .*

*Proof.* Put

$$\tilde{\Delta}_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n; -\frac{|z_1|}{r_1} = -\frac{|z_2|}{r_2} = \dots = -\frac{|z_n|}{r_n} = 1\}.$$

Then since  $P_m$  is homogeneous, we have only to show that  $P_m(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \tilde{\Delta}_r$ . We shall show the lemma by the induction on  $n$  and  $m$ . If  $n=1$  or  $m=0$ , then it is trivial. Assume that the lemma holds for a homogeneous polynomial of at most  $n-1$  complex variables or of degree at most  $m-1$  of  $n$  complex variables. Put

$$P_m(z) = z_1 Q_1(z) + Q_2(z_2, z_3, \dots, z_n),$$

where  $Q_1$  is identically zero or a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $m-1$  and  $Q_2$  is identically zero or a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $m$  of  $n-1$  complex variables  $z_2, z_3, \dots, z_n$ . Let  $Q_2$  be identically zero, then by the induction hypothesis there exists an  $r \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$  such that  $Q_1(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \tilde{\Delta}_r$ . Then  $z_1 Q_1(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \tilde{\Delta}_r$ . In case that  $Q_2$  is not identically zero, there exists an  $r' = (r_2, r_3, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}$  such that  $Q_2(z) \neq 0$  in

$$L_{r'} = \{z' \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}; |z_j| = r_j, 2 \leq j \leq n\}.$$

Since  $L_{r'}$  is compact,

$$c = \min \{ |Q_2(z')|; z' \in L_{r'} \} > 0.$$

Then it holds that

$$|P_m(0, z')| = |Q_2(z')| > c$$

for all  $z' \in L_{r'}$ . Therefore there exists a positive number  $r_1$  such that  $P_m(z_1, z') \neq 0$  if  $|z_1| = r_1$  and  $z' \in L_{r'}$ . Put  $r = (r_1, r')$ , then we obtain the desired conclusion. q.e.d.

Now for an entire function  $f$  which is not identically zero, by removing the origin if necessary, we may assume that  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Let  $\kappa$  be a complex line which contains the origin of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Let  $P^{n-1}$  be the  $n-1$  dimensional complex projective space with volume element  $d\omega_{n-1}$  and with volume  $\omega_{n-1}$ . Then  $\kappa$  can be considered as a point of  $P^{n-1}$ . For a point  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n - \{0\}$ , the slice function  $f_a(w)$  of one complex variables  $w$  is defined by

$$f_a(w) = f(a_1 w, a_2 w, \dots, a_n w).$$

Since  $f(0) \neq 0$ ,  $f_a(w)$  is not identically zero. Let  $S(l) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n; |z| = 1\}$  and let  $n_{\mathcal{A}}(t; \kappa)$  be the number of the zeros of  $f_a(w)$  in  $\{w \in \mathbb{C}; |w| < t\}$ , where  $a \in S(l)$  and  $\kappa = \kappa(a)$  is the complex line passing through the origin and the point  $a$ . Put

$$n_{\mathcal{A}}(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_{n-1}} \int_{P^{n-1}} n_{\mathcal{A}}(t; \kappa) d\omega$$

and

$$N_f(t) = \int_0^t \frac{n_f(s)}{s} ds.$$

Since  $f(0) \neq 0$  there exists a positive number  $t_0$  such that

$$N_f(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \frac{n_f(s)}{s} ds.$$

Since  $\Delta_r$  is a real submanifold of  $p^{n-1}$ , as was shown in [5] pp. 123-124, we can define the volume element  $d\omega_\Delta$  on  $\Delta_r$  which is induced from  $d\omega_{n-1}$ . Let  $\omega_\Delta$  be the volume of  $\Delta_r$ . Put

$$n_{f,\Delta}(t) = \int_0^t \frac{n_{f,\Delta}(s)}{s} ds.$$

Let  $A = \{z \in C^n; f(z)=0\}$  and let  $\text{Vol}(A \cap B(r))$  be the volume of  $A$  in the ball  $B(r)$  of radius  $r$  with center at the origin. Then it is well known that

$$A \text{ is algebraic if and only if } \frac{\text{Vol}(A \cap B(r))}{r^{2n-2}} = O(1). \quad (1)$$

Let  $\nu_f(r; \kappa(a))$  be the number of the zeros of  $f_a(w)$  in the disc  $\{w \in C; |w| < r\}$  without counting the multiplicities. It is shown in [7] that

$$\text{Vol}(A \cap B(r)) = \frac{r^{2n-2}}{2\pi} \int_{a \in S(1)} \nu_f(r; \kappa(a)) d\sigma \quad (2)$$

where  $d\sigma$  is the surface element of  $S(1)$ . By the definition,

$$\nu_f(r; \kappa(a)) \leq n_f(r; \kappa(a)).$$

If  $P$  is a polynomial of degree  $m$  and if  $P_a(w)$  is not identically zero, it is easily seen that

$$n_p(r; \kappa(a)) \leq m \nu_p(r; \kappa(a)).$$

Now if  $A$  is algebraic, then there exists a polynomial  $P$  with  $P(0) \neq 0$  such that  $A = \{z \in C^n; P(z)=0\}$ . Since

$$n_f(r; \kappa(a)) = n_p(r; \kappa(a)),$$

it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{a \in S(1)} n_f(r; \kappa(a)) d\sigma &= \int_{a \in S(1)} n_p(r; \kappa(a)) d\sigma \\ &\leq m \int_{a \in S(1)} \nu_p(r; \kappa(a)) d\sigma = O(1). \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, if

$$n_f(r; \kappa(a)) d\sigma = O(1),$$

then by (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{Vol}(A \cap B(r))}{r^{2n-2}} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{a \in S(1)} \nu_f(r : \kappa(a)) d\sigma \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{a \in S(1)} n_f(r : \kappa(a)) d\sigma = O(1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A$  is algebraic by (1). Therefore we have

LEMMA 2.  $A$  is algebraic if and only if

$$\int_{a \in S(1)} n_f(r : \kappa(a)) d\sigma = O(1).$$

Now since  $n_f(t : \kappa(\lambda a)) = n_f(t : \kappa(a))$  for any non zero complex number  $\lambda$ , as was shown in Stoll [6] pp. 142-143, it holds that

$$\int_{a \in S(1)} n_f(r : \kappa(a)) d\sigma = 2\pi \int_{P^{n-1}} n_f(r : \kappa) d\omega_{n-1}.$$

LEMMA 3.  $A$  is algebraic if and only if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_f(r)}{\log r} < \infty$$

*Proof.* By (1) and Lemma 2, the necessity is trivial. Suppose that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_f(r)}{\log r} = K.$$

If  $A$  is not algebraic, then there exists a sequence  $\{r_\mu\}$  of positive numbers with  $r_\mu \rightarrow \infty$  ( $\mu \rightarrow \infty$ ) which satisfies

$$\int_{a \in S(1)} n_f(r_\mu : \kappa(a)) d\sigma \geq \mu.$$

Take a  $\mu_0$  with  $\mu_0/(2\pi\omega_{n-1}) \geq 2K$ , then since  $n_f(r)$  is monotone increasing with respect to  $r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} N_f(t) &= \int_{t_0}^t \frac{n_f(s)}{s} ds \geq \int_{r_{\mu_0}}^t \frac{n_f(s)}{s} ds \\ &\geq n_f(r_{\mu_0}) (\log t - \log r_{\mu_0}) \geq 2K (\log t - \log r_{\mu_0}). \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction.

q.e.d.

Now between  $N_f(t)$  and  $N_{f,\Delta}(t)$ , the following relation is known.

LEMMA 4 (Ronkin [5], Theorem 2). Let  $|r| = 1$  and let  $r_0 = \min \{r_j; 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ . For any positive number  $\delta > 1$ , there exists a positive number  $C_\delta$  such that

$$N_f(r_0 t) \leq N_{f,\Delta}(t) \leq C_\delta N_f(\delta t).$$

From Lemma 3 and 4, we have

THEOREM 1.  $A$  is algebraic if and only if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_{f, \Delta}(r)}{\log r} = O(1).$$

COROLLARY of THEOREM 1 (Kramer [4], Theorem 2.1).  $A$  is algebraic if and only if there exists an  $r \in \mathbf{R}_+^n$  such that  $A \cap \Delta_r$  is compact.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A$  is algebraic. Let  $P(z)$  be a polynomial such that  $A = \{z \in C^n; P(z)=0\}$ . Let

$$P(z) = P_0 + P_1(z) + \dots + P_m(z)$$

where  $P_j$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $j$  and  $P_m$  is not identically zero. By Lemma 1 there exists an  $r \in \mathbf{R}_+^n$  such that  $P_m(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \Delta_r - \{0\}$ . Let  $\kappa \subset \Delta_r$  be a complex line which is given by  $z_j = a_j w$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ), where  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in S(1)$ . Then

$$P_a(w) = \sum_{j=0}^{j=m} P_j(a) w^j.$$

Put  $c = \min \{ |P_m(z)|; z \in S(1) \cap \Delta_r \}$  and  $c' = \max \{ |P_{m-j}(z)|; z \in S(1) \cap \Delta_r, 1 \leq j \leq m \}$ . Then  $c > 0$  and

$$|P_a(w)| \geq c |w|^{m-c'} \sum_{j=1}^{j=m} w^{m-j}.$$

Since  $c$  and  $c'$  do not depend on the choice of the complex line  $\kappa \subset \Delta_r$ , we can choose a positive number  $R_0$  such that  $P(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \Delta_r \cap \{z \in C^n; |z| > R_0\}$ . Therefore  $A \cap \Delta_r$  is compact.

Conversely, if  $A \cap \Delta_r$  is compact for some  $r \in \mathbf{R}_+^n$  then there exists a positive number  $R_0$  such that  $n_{f, \Delta}(t; \kappa) \leq n_{f, \Delta}(R_0; \kappa)$  for any complex line  $\kappa \subset \Delta_r$  which through the origin. Then

$$\begin{aligned} N_{f, \Delta}(t) &= \frac{1}{\omega_{\Delta}} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{n_{f, \Delta}(s)}{s} ds \\ &\leq \frac{n_{f, \Delta}(R_0)}{\omega_{\Delta}} (\log t - \log t_0) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_{f, \Delta}(r)}{\log r} \leq \frac{n_{f, \Delta}(R_0)}{\omega_{\Delta}} < \infty.$$

Therefore  $A$  is algebraic by Theorem 1.

§ 2. Let  $f(z, w)$  be an entire function of  $n+1$  complex variables  $z = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ ,  $w$  and let  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Put  $A = \{(z, w) \in C^{n+1}; f(z, w) = 0\}$ . If  $A$  is algebraic then there exists a polynomial  $P(z, w)$  such that  $A = \{(z, w) \in C^{n+1}; P(z, w) = 0\}$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} P(z, w) &= P_m(z)w^m + P_{m-1}(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + P_0(z) \\ P_m(z) &= Q_t^{(m)}(z) + Q^{(m)}(z) + \dots + Q^{(m)}(z) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$P_0(z) = Q_s^{(0)}(z) + Q_s^{(0)}(z) + \dots + Q_s^{(0)}(z),$$

where  $Q_s^{(m)}$  and  $Q_s^{(0)}$  are homogeneous polynomials of degree  $\nu$  and  $\mu$  respectively. Since  $Q_s^{(m)} \cdot Q_s^{(0)}$  is homogeneous, by Lemma 1, there exists a  $\tau = (\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$

such that  $Q_s^{(m)}(z) \cdot Q_s^{(0)}(z) \neq 0$  in  $\Delta_\tau - \{0\}$ . For  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  with  $|\alpha_j| = \tau_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ),  $P_m(\alpha_1 r, \alpha_2 r, \dots, \alpha_n r)$  is the polynomial of degree  $t$  with respect to  $r$ . Then it is easily seen that there exists an  $r_0' \geq 1$  which is independent of  $\alpha$  such that  $|P_m(\alpha_1 r, \alpha_2 r, \dots, \alpha_n r)| \geq 1$  for all  $r \geq r_0'$ . Since  $P_\nu(z)$  is a polynomial there exists a positive constant  $K_\nu$  and a positive integer  $l_\nu$  such that

$$|P_\nu(\alpha_1 r, \alpha_2 r, \dots, \alpha_n r)| \leq K_\nu r^{l_\nu}$$

for all  $r \geq r_0'$ . Put

$$K = \max \{K_\nu; 0 \leq \nu \leq m-1\}, \quad l = \max \{l_\nu; 0 \leq \nu \leq m-1\}.$$

Then

$$|P(\alpha_1 r, \alpha_2 r, \dots, \alpha_n r, w)| \geq |w|^{m-Kr^l} \sum_{k=1}^{k=m} |w|^{m-k}$$

for all  $r \geq r_0'$ . Let  $r_0 = \max(K+1, r_0')$ . Then it is easily seen that  $P(\alpha_1 r, \alpha_2 r, \dots, \alpha_n r, w) \neq 0$  for all  $r \geq r_0$  and for all  $w$  with  $|w| \geq r^{l+1}$ . This means that for  $z \in \Delta_\tau - B(r_0)$ , any root of the equation  $f(z, w) = 0$  with respect to  $w$  is in  $\{w \in \mathbf{C}; |w| < |z|^{l+1}\}$ , where  $B(r_0) = \{z \in \mathbf{C}^n; |z| < r_0\}$ . Since  $Q^{(0)}(z) \neq 0$  in  $\Delta_\tau - \{0\}$ , for any complex line  $\pi \subset \Delta_\tau$  with  $0 \in \pi$ , the number of the zeros of  $P_0(z)|_\pi$  is independent of  $\pi$ . Consequently if  $A$  is algebraic then  $f$  satisfies the following condition (\*).

There exists a positive number  $r_0 \geq 1$ , a positive integer  $l$  and a  $\tau \in \mathbf{R}^n$  such that

(i) for each  $z \in \Delta_\tau - B(r_0)$ , any root of the equation  $f(z, w) = 0$  with respect to  $w$  is in  $\{w \in \mathbf{C}; |w| < |z|^l\}$ ,

(ii) the number of the zeros of  $f(z, 0)|_\pi$  is independent of  $\pi$ , where  $\pi$  is a complex line passing through the origin and  $f(z, 0)|_\pi$  is the restriction of  $f(z, 0)$  to  $\pi$ .

The purpose of this paragraph is to show the converse of the above.

**THEOREM 2.** Let  $f(z, w)$  be an entire function of two complex variables  $z, w$  and let  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Assume that there exists a positive number  $r_0 \geq 1$  and a positive integer  $l$  such that for each  $z$  with  $|z| \geq r_0$ , any root of the equation  $f(z, w) = 0$  with respect to  $w$  is in  $\{w \in \mathbf{C}; |w| < |z|^l\}$ . Then  $A$  is algebraic.

*Proof.* If  $|z| \geq r_0$  then the number of the zeros of  $f(z, w)$  with respect to  $w$  is independent of  $z$ .

In fact, for any  $r_1 > r_0$ ,  $f(z, w) \neq 0$  in  $\{(z, w) \in \mathbf{C}^2; r_0 \leq |z| < r_1, |w| = r_1^l = \rho\}$ . Then

$$N(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\rho} \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial w} f(z, w)}{f(z, w)} dw$$

is continuous and integer valued in an annulus  $r_0 \leq |z| < r_1$ , that is  $N(z)$  is constant in  $|z| \geq r_0$ . Put  $m := N(z)$  for  $z$  with  $|z| \geq r_0$ . Let  $|z| > r_0$  and let  $w_1(z), w_2(z), \dots, w_m(z)$  be the zeros of  $f(z, w)$  with respect to  $w$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} h_1(z) &= - \sum_{j=1}^{j=m} w_j(z), & h_2(z) &= \sum_{j \neq k} w_j(z) w_k(z), \dots \\ h_m(z) &= (-1)^m \prod_{j=1}^{j=m} w_j(z). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $h_1(z), h_2(z), \dots, h_m(z)$  are holomorphic in  $|z| > r_0$ .

In fact, take a point  $z_0$  with  $|z_0| > r_0$ . Then for  $z$  with  $|z - z_0| < |z_0| - r_0$ ,  $m$  zeros of  $f(z, w)$  with respect to  $w$  are in  $\{w \in \mathbb{C}; |w| < (2|z_0| - r_0)^l = K\}$ . Put

$$\Delta_1 = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z - z_0| < |z_0| - r_0\}, \Delta_2 = \{w \in \mathbb{C}; |w| < K\}.$$

Since  $A \cap (\Delta_1 \times \partial\Delta_2)$  is empty, by Weierstrass Preparation theorem,

$$f(z, w) = (w^m + a_1(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + a_m(z))e^{H(z, w)}$$

in  $\Delta_1 \times \Delta_2$ , where  $a_j(z)$  is holomorphic in  $\Delta_1$  and  $H(z, w)$  is holomorphic in  $\Delta_1 \times \Delta_2$ . Then

$$A \cap (\Delta_1 \times \mathbb{C}) = \{(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2; w^m + a_1(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + a_m(z) = 0\} \cap (\Delta_1 \times \mathbb{C}).$$

Since  $h_1(z), h_2(z), \dots, h_m(z)$  are fundamental symmetric functions of  $w_1(z), w_2(z), \dots, w_m(z)$ , it holds that  $h_j(z) = a_j(z)$  in  $\Delta_1$ . That is  $h_j(z)$  ( $1 \leq j \leq m$ ) are holomorphic in  $\Delta_1$ . This holds at each point  $z$  with  $|z| > r_0$ , then  $h_j(z)$  is holomorphic in  $|z| > r_0$ . Now, there exists a positive number  $\rho_0$  such that  $h_m(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| > \rho_0$ . In fact, expand  $h_m(z)$  into Laurent series  $h_m(z) = h_m^-(z) + h_m^+(z)$ , where

$$h_m^-(z) = \sum_{\nu=1}^{\nu=\infty} c_{-\nu} z^{-\nu}, \quad h_m^+(z) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\nu=\infty} c_{\nu} z^{\nu}$$

If  $h_m(z)$  is identically zero, then  $f(z, 0) = 0$  in  $|z| > r_0$ . Then  $f(z, 0)$  is identically zero and this is impossible. Therefore either  $h_m^-$  or  $h_m^+$  is not identically zero. If  $|z| \geq r_0$  then  $|w_j(z)| < |z|^l$ , so that  $|h_m(z)| < |z|^{ml}$ . Then

$$|c_{\nu}| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \frac{r^{ml}}{r^{\nu+1}} |d\zeta| = r^{ml-\nu}.$$

Since  $r > r_0$  is arbitrary,  $c_{\nu} = 0$  if  $\nu > ml$ , so that  $h_m^+(z)$  is a polynomial. Then it is easily seen that there exists a positive number  $\rho_0 > r_0$  such that  $h_m(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| > \rho_0$ . Let  $r > \rho_0$  and put

$$N_f(r, r^l) = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta}, r^l e^{i\phi})| d\theta d\phi$$

and

$$I(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(z, r^l e^{i\phi})| d\phi.$$

Then

$$N_{\mathcal{A}}(r, r^l) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} I(re^{i\theta}) d\theta.$$

Since  $h_m(z) \neq 0$  in  $|z| > \rho_0$ , it holds that  $f(z, 0) \neq 0$  if  $|z| = r$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} I(z) &= \log |f(z, 0)| - \sum_{\nu=1}^{\nu=m} \log \left| \frac{w_{\nu}(z)}{r^{\nu}} \right| = ml \log r \\ &+ \log |f(z, 0)| - \log |h_m(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

The function  $\log |h_m(z)|$  is harmonic in  $|z| > \rho_0$ , so that by the well known formula in an annulus  $\rho_0 < |z| < r_1$ ,

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |h_m(te^{i\theta})| d\theta = a \log t + b,$$

where  $\rho_0 < t < r_1$  and  $a, b$  are constants independent of  $t$ . This holds for all  $r_1 (> \rho_0)$ , so that we have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |h_m(re^{i\theta})| d\theta = a \log r + b$$

for all  $r > \rho_0$ . Since  $f(z, 0) \neq 0$  in  $|z| > \rho_0$ ,

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta}, 0)| d\theta = k_1' \log r + k_2'$$

for all  $r > \rho_0$ . Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\mathcal{A}}(r, r^l) &= ml \log r + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta}, 0)| d\theta - a \log r \\ &- b = k_1 \log r + k_2 \end{aligned}$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are constants independent of  $r > \rho_0$ . Here we need the following

LEMMA 4(Ronkin [5] page 125 and 138). *Let  $f$  be an entire function of  $n$  complex variables and let  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Then for any  $\tau = (\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_n) \in \mathbf{R}_+^n$  with  $|\tau| = 1$ , it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\mathcal{A}}(\tau_1 r, \tau_2 r, \dots, \tau_n r) &:= \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^n \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(\tau_1 r e^{i\theta_1}, \\ &\tau_2 r e^{i\theta_2}, \dots, \tau_n r e^{i\theta_n})| d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n = N_{f\Delta}(r). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $N_{\mathcal{A}}(r_1, r_2)$  is monotone increasing with respect to  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , we have

$$N_{\mathcal{A}}(\tau_1 r, \tau_2 r) \leq N_{\mathcal{A}}(r, r^l) \leq k_1 \log r + k_2$$

for all  $r > \rho_0$  and for any fixed  $\tau$  with  $|\tau| = 1$ . Then  $A$  is algebraic by Theorem 1. q.e.d.



THEOREM 3. Let  $f(z, w)$  be an entire function of  $n+1$  complex variables  $z=(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$  and  $w$ . Let  $f(o, o) \neq 0$ . If  $f(z, w)$  satisfies the condition (\*), then  $A = \{(z, w) \in C^{n+1}; f(z, w)=0\}$  is algebraic.

*Proof.* Put

$$t_1 = \frac{z_1}{\tau_1}, t_2 = \frac{z_2}{\tau_2}, \dots, t_n = \frac{z_n}{\tau_n}, |\tau| = 1,$$

and

$$g(t, w) = f(\tau_1 t_1, \tau_2 t_2, \dots, \tau_n t_n, w).$$

If  $g(t, w)=0$  for  $t \in \Delta_0 \cap \{t \in C^n; |t| \geq \sqrt{n} \cdot r_0\}$ , then  $\sum |\tau_i t_i|^2 = \frac{|t|^2}{n} \geq r_0^2$ , so that  $|w| < |t|^\iota$ , where  $\Delta_0 = \{t \in C^n; |t_1| = |t_2| = \dots = |t_n|\}$ . Since (ii) in the condition (\*) holds for  $g(t, o)$  and  $\Delta_0$ , we may assume that

$$\tau = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right).$$

Put

$$\tilde{T}_n = \left\{ \alpha \in C^n; |\alpha_1| = |\alpha_2| = \dots = |\alpha_n| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right\}$$

and

$$f_\alpha(v, w) = f(\alpha_1 v, \alpha_2 v, \dots, \alpha_n v, w).$$

Then  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  is an entire function of two complex variables  $v, w$  which is not identically zero. If  $z \in \Delta_0$ , then  $z_j = \alpha_j v$  for some  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$  and  $v$  with  $|v| = |z|$ , so that any zero  $w$  of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  with respect to  $w$  satisfies the condition  $|w| < |v|^\iota$  for all  $v$  with  $|v| > r_0$ . Then by Theorem 2,  $A = \{(v, w) \in C^2; f_\alpha(v, w)=0\}$  is algebraic. Put

$$f_\alpha(v_0, w) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{m(\alpha)} P_\nu^{(\alpha)}(v) \exp(H_\alpha(v, w))$$

where  $P_\nu^{(\alpha)}(v)$  is a polynomial and  $P_{m(\alpha)}^{(\alpha)}(v) \neq 0$ . By the proof of Theorem 2, the number of the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  with respect to  $w$  is independent of  $v$  for each  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$  whenever  $|v| > r_0$ . Then  $P_{m(\alpha)}^{(\alpha)}(v) \neq 0$  in  $|v| > r_0$ . Now,  $m(\alpha)$  is independent of  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ . In fact, take any  $v_0$  with  $|v_0| > r_0$  and fix it. Then  $m(\alpha)$  is the number of the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v_0, w)$  for  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ . Take any  $\beta \in \tilde{T}_n$ . Since  $f_\beta(v_0, w) \neq 0$  in  $|w| \geq |v_0|^\iota$ , there exists a positive number  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$\varepsilon < \min \{ |f_\beta(v, w)|; |w| = |v_0|^\iota \}.$$

Since  $f_\alpha(v_0, w)$  is continuous with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $w$ , there exists an open neighbourhood  $V \subset \tilde{T}_n$  of  $\beta$  such that  $|f_\alpha(v_0, w) - f_\beta(v_0, w)| < \varepsilon$  if  $\alpha \in V$  and  $|w| = |v_0|^\iota$ . Then by the theorem of Rouché, the number of the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v_0, w)$  is the same as that of  $f_\beta(v_0, w)$  for all  $\alpha \in V$ . Therefore  $m(\alpha) = m(\beta)$  if  $\alpha \in V$ , so that by the connectedness of  $\tilde{T}_n$ ,  $m(\alpha)$  is

independent of  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ . put  $m := m(\alpha)$  and let  $w_1(\alpha: v), w_2(\alpha: v), \dots, w_{k_\alpha}(\alpha: v)$  be the distinct zeros of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  with respect to  $w$ , where  $|v| > r_0$ . Let  $m_1(\alpha), m(\alpha), \dots, m_{k_\alpha}(\alpha)$  be their multiplicities and put

$$h_\alpha(v) = [w_1(\alpha: v)]^{m_1(\alpha)} [w_2(\alpha: v)]^{m_2(\alpha)} \dots [w_{k_\alpha}(\alpha: v)]^{m_{k_\alpha}(\alpha)}.$$

Then  $h_\alpha(v)$  is continuous with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $v$  in  $\tilde{T}_n \times \{v \in \mathbb{C}; |v| > r_0\}$ .

In fact, take any  $\beta \in \tilde{T}_n$  and any  $v_0$  with  $|v_0| > r_0$ . Let  $\delta_1$  be a positive number such that  $|w_i(\beta: v_0) - w_j(\beta: v_0)| > 3\delta_1$  if  $i \neq j$ . Then  $f_\beta(v_0, w) \neq 0$  in  $|w - w_j(\beta: v_0)| = \delta_1$  for any  $j$ , so that there exists a positive number  $\delta_2$  such that

$$\delta_2 < \min_{1 \leq j \leq k_\beta} \min \{ |f_\beta(v_0, w)|; |w - w_j(\beta: v_0)| = \delta_1 \}.$$

Now, for any given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we may assume that  $\delta_1 < \varepsilon$ . Take a positive number  $\delta < |v_0| - r_0$  such that  $|f_\alpha(v, w) - f_\beta(v_0, w)| < \delta_2$  whenever  $|\alpha - \beta| < \varepsilon, |v - v_0| < \delta$  and  $|w - w_j(\beta: v_0)| < \delta_1$ . Then the number of the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  in  $|w - w_j(\beta: v_0)| < \delta_1$  coincides with  $m_j(\beta: v_0)$ , the multiplicity of  $w_j(\beta: v_0)$ , for each  $j$  whenever  $|\alpha - \beta| < \delta$  and  $|v - v_0| < \delta$ . Since

$$m = \sum_{j=1}^{j=k_\beta} m_j(\beta: v_0),$$

any zero of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  is in some disc  $\{w \in \mathbb{C}; |w - w_j(\beta: v_0)| < \delta_1\}$  whenever  $|\alpha - \beta| < \delta$  and  $|v - v_0| < \delta$ . That is to say, any zero  $w(\alpha: v)$  of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  with respect to  $w$  satisfies the condition  $|w(\alpha: v) - w_j(\beta: v_0)| < \delta_1 < \varepsilon$  for some  $j$  whenever  $|\alpha - \beta| < \delta$  and  $|v - v_0| < \delta$ . Then  $h_\alpha(v)$  is continuous in  $\tilde{T}_n \times \{v \in \mathbb{C}; |v| > r_0\}$ .

Moreover, there exists a  $\rho_0 \geq r_0$  such that  $h_\alpha(v) \neq 0$  if  $|v| > \rho_0$ .

In fact, by the proof of Theorem 2, for each  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ , there is a  $\rho_0(\alpha) \geq r_0$  such that  $h_\alpha(v) \neq 0$  if  $|v| \geq \rho_0(\alpha)$ . Take any  $\beta \in \tilde{T}_n$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\varepsilon < \min \{|f_\beta(v, o)|; |v| = \rho_0(\beta)\}$ . Then there exists an open neighbourhood  $V$  of  $\beta$  such that  $|f_\alpha(v, o) - f_\beta(v, o)| < \varepsilon$  if  $\alpha \in V$  and  $|v| = \rho_0(\beta)$ . Then  $f_\alpha(v, o)$  has the same number of the zeros as that of  $f_\beta(v, o)$  in  $|v| < \rho_0(\beta)$  for all  $\alpha \in V$ . Then by the condition (ii) of (\*),  $f_\alpha(v, o) \neq 0$  if  $\alpha \in V$  and  $|v| \geq \rho_0(\beta)$ . Therefore by the compactness of  $\tilde{T}_n$ , we can choose a  $\rho_0 \geq r_0$  such that  $h_\alpha(v) \neq 0$  if  $|v| \geq \rho_0$ . Thus we have

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |h_\alpha(re^{i\theta})| d\theta = k_1(\alpha) \log r + k_2(\alpha),$$

and  $k_1(\alpha) \log r + k_2(\alpha)$  is continuous in  $\tilde{T}_n$  for each  $r \geq \rho_0$ . Let  $r_1 > r_2 > \rho_0$ , then  $k_1(\alpha) \log r_1 - k_1(\alpha) \log r_2$  is continuous in  $\tilde{T}_n$ . Then  $k_1(\alpha)$  and  $k_2(\alpha)$  are continuous in  $\tilde{T}_n$ . Put  $k_i' = \min \{k_i(\alpha); \alpha \in \tilde{T}_n\}$  ( $i=1, 2$ ). Then since we may assume that  $\rho_0 > e$ ,

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |h_\alpha(re^{i\theta})| d\theta > k_1' \log r + k_2' \quad (3).$$

Because  $h_\alpha(v) \neq 0$  in  $|v| \geq \rho_0$ , it holds that  $f_\alpha(v, o) \neq 0$  if  $|v| \geq \rho_0$ . Then by the same method, the number of the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v, o)$  with respect to  $v$  is independent of  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ .

Let  $\bar{m}$  be its number. By the same calculation as that in the proof of Theorem 2,

$$\begin{aligned} I(\alpha, r) &:= \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f_\alpha(re^{i\theta}, r^l e^{i\phi})| d\theta d\phi \\ &= \log |f_\alpha(0, 0)| - \sum_{\nu=1}^{\bar{m}} \log \left| \frac{a_\nu}{r} \right| + ml \log r \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |h_\alpha(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \end{aligned}$$

for all  $r > \rho_0$ , where  $a_\nu$  is the zero of  $f_\alpha(v, 0)$ . Since  $f_\alpha(0, 0) \neq 0$ , there exists a positive number  $\delta$  which is independent of  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$  such that  $|a_\nu| > \delta$  for all  $\nu$ , so that  $\log |a_\nu| > \log \delta$ . Then by (3)

$$\begin{aligned} I(\alpha, r) &\leq (ml + \bar{m} - k_1') \log r - \bar{m} \log \delta + \log |f_\alpha(0, 0)| \\ &\quad - k_2' = k_1 \log r + k_2 \end{aligned}$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are constants independent of  $r$ . Put

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} e^{i\theta_1}, \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} e^{i\theta_2}, \dots, \alpha_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} e^{i\theta_n}, v = re^{i\theta},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^{n+2} \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} \log \left| f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i(\theta_1+\theta)}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i(\theta_2+\theta)}, \dots, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i(\theta_n+\theta)}, r^l e^{i\phi} \right) \right| d\theta d\phi d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^{n+1} \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} \log \left| f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i\phi_1}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i\phi_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i\phi_n}, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. r^l e^{i\phi} \right) \right| d\phi_1 d\phi_2 \dots d\phi_n d\phi = N\left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, \dots, \frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, r^l\right). \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^{n+2} \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} \log \left| f\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i(\theta_1+\theta)}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} re^{i(\theta_n+\theta)}, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. r^l e^{i\phi} \right) \right| d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n d\theta d\phi = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^n \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} \left[ \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. \log |f_\alpha(re^{i\theta}, r^l e^{i\phi})| d\theta d\phi \right] d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^n \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} I(\alpha, r) d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n \leq k_1 \log r + k_2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$N\left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, \dots, \frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, r\right) \leq k_1 \log r + k_2.$$

Put

$$\tau = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \right) \in \mathbf{R}_+^{n+1},$$

then it holds that

$$N_{f, \Delta_\tau}(r) = N_{f, \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}, \frac{r}{\sqrt{n+1}} \right)} \leq N_{f, \left( \frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, \dots, \frac{r}{\sqrt{n}}, r^l \right)} \\ \leq k_1 \log r + k_2$$

for all  $r > \rho_0$ . Thus  $A$  is algebraic by Theorem 1.

q.e.d.

REMARK. Let  $f(z, w)$  be a pseudopolynomial given by

$$f(z, w) = a_0(z)w^m + a_1(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + a_m(z),$$

where  $a_0(o) \neq 0$  and  $a_j(z)$  ( $0 \leq j \leq m$ ) are entire functions of  $n$  complex variables  $z = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ . If  $f$  satisfies the condition (i) of (\*), then  $A = \{(z, w) \in \mathbf{C}^{n+1}; f(z, w) = 0\}$  is algebraic.

*Proof.* From the assumption  $a_0(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \Delta_\tau$  and  $|z| > r_0$ . In fact, let  $a_0(z^0) = 0$  for some  $z^0 \in \Delta_\tau$  with  $|z^0| > r_0$ . Then since  $a_0(o) \neq 0$ , it is easily seen that  $a_0(z)$  is not identically zero in  $\Omega \cap \Delta_\tau$  for any open neighbourhood  $\Omega$  of  $z_0$ . By the condition (i), there exists a  $j$  such that  $a_j(z^0) \neq 0$ . Let  $a_1(z_0) \neq 0$  for simplicity. Take a bounded neighbourhood  $V$  of  $z^0$  such that  $V \cap \Delta_\tau \subset \Delta_\tau - \overline{B}(r_0)$  and that  $|a_1(z)| \geq k > 0$  in  $V$ . Then there exists a constant  $K > 0$  such that any zero  $w$  of  $f(z, w)$  satisfies the inequality  $|w| < K$  if  $z \in \Delta_\tau \cap V$ . Then

$$\left| \frac{a_1(z)}{a_0(z)} \right| < mK$$

if  $z \in \Delta_\tau \cap V$  and  $a_0(z) \neq 0$ . But this is a contradiction since we can choose a sequence  $\{z^{(j)}\}$  in  $\Delta_\tau$  such that  $a_0(z^{(j)}) \neq 0$  and that  $z^{(j)} \rightarrow z_0$ . That is  $a_0(z) \neq 0$  if  $z \in \Delta_\tau$  and  $|z| > r_0$ . Then since the analytic set  $\{z \in \mathbf{C}^n; a_0(z) = 0\}$  is algebraic, there exists an entire function  $H(z)$  and a polynomial  $P(z)$  such that  $a_0(z) = P(z)\exp(H(z))$ . We shall show that  $a_j(z)\exp(-H(z))$  is a polynomial. Take any  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$  and fix it. Let  $|z| > r_0$  and let  $w_1(v), w_2(v), \dots, w_m(v)$  be the zeros of  $f_\alpha(v, w)$  with respect to  $w$ . Put

$$h_\alpha(v) = - \sum_{j=1}^{j=m} w_j(v), \quad \tilde{a}_j(z) = a_j(z)\exp(-H(z)).$$

Then by the proof of Theorem 2,  $h_\alpha(v)$  is holomorphic in  $|v| > r_0$  and its Laurent series is given by

$$h_\alpha(v) = Q(v) + \sum_{\nu=1}^{\nu=\infty} c_{-\nu} v^{-\nu},$$

where  $Q(v)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $l$ .

On the other hand, since  $a_1(\alpha v) = a_0(\alpha v)h_\alpha(v)$  in  $|v| > r_0$ ,

$$\tilde{a}_1(\alpha v) = R(v) + \sum_{\nu=1}^{\nu=\infty} d_{-\nu} v^{-\nu},$$

where  $R(v)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $\mu$  which is independent of  $\alpha \in T_n$ . Then  $d_{-\nu} = 0$  for all  $\nu$  since  $a_1(z)$  is an entire function, that is  $\tilde{a}_1(\alpha v)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $\mu$  for all  $\alpha \in \tilde{T}_n$ . Therefore  $\tilde{a}_1(z)$  is a polynomial because  $\tilde{T}_n$  is a set of uniqueness for holomorphic functions. Entire functions  $\tilde{a}_2(z), \tilde{a}_3(z), \dots, \tilde{a}_m(z)$  are also polynomials by the same manner. Q.E.D.

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