

# Lifting Techniques for Triangular Decompositions

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## ABSTRACT

We present lifting techniques for triangular decompositions of zero-dimensional varieties, that extend the range of the previous methods. We discuss complexity aspects, and report on a preliminary implementation. Our theoretical results are comforted by these experiments.

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**General Terms:** Algorithms, experimentation, theory.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Modular methods for computing polynomial GCDs and solving linear algebra problems have been well-developed for several decades, see [12] and the references therein. Without these methods, the range of problems accessible to symbolic computations would be dramatically limited. Such methods, in particular Hensel lifting, also apply to solving polynomial systems. Standard applications are the resolution of systems over  $\mathbb{Q}$  after specialization at a prime, and over the rational function field  $k(Y_1, \dots, Y_m)$  after specialization at a point  $(y_1, \dots, y_m)$ . These methods have already been put to use for Gröbner bases [26, 1] and primitive element representations, starting from [13], and refined notably in [14].

*Triangular decompositions* are well-suited to many practical problems: see some examples in [3, 11, 24]. In addition, these techniques are commonly used in differential algebra [4, 15]. Triangular decompositions of polynomial systems can be obtained by various algorithms [16, 18, 21] but none of them uses modular computations, restricting their practical efficiency. Our goal in this paper is to discuss such techniques, extending the preliminary results of [24].

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Let us introduce the notation used below. If  $k$  is a perfect field (e.g.,  $\mathbb{Q}$  or a finite field), a *triangular set* is a family  $T_1(X_1), T_2(X_1, X_2), \dots, T_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  in  $k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  which forms a reduced Gröbner basis for the lexicographic order  $X_n > \dots > X_1$  and generates a radical ideal (so  $T_i$  is monic in  $X_i$ ). The notation  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  denotes a family of  $s$  triangular sets, with  $T^i = T_1^i, \dots, T_n^i$ . Then, any 0-dimensional variety  $V$  can be represented by such a family, such that  $I(V) = \bigcap_{i \leq s} \langle T^i \rangle$  holds, and where  $\langle T^i \rangle$  and  $\langle T^{i'} \rangle$  are coprime ideals for  $i \neq i'$ ; we call it a *triangular decomposition* of  $V$ . This decomposition is not unique: the different possibilities are obtained by suitably recombining the triangular sets describing the irreducible components of  $V$ .

In this paper, we consider 0-dimensional varieties defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let thus  $F = F_1, \dots, F_n$  be a polynomial system in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ . Since we have in mind to apply Hensel lifting techniques, we will only consider the *simple roots* of  $F$ , that is, those where the Jacobian determinant  $J$  of  $F$  does not vanish. We write  $Z(F)$  for this set of points; by the Jacobian criterion [10, Ch. 16],  $Z(F)$  is finite, even though the whole zero-set of  $F$ , written  $V(F)$ , may have higher dimension.

Let us assume that we have at hand an oracle that, for any prime  $p$ , outputs a triangular decomposition of  $Z(F \bmod p)$ . Then for a prime  $p$ , a rough sketch of an Hensel lifting algorithm could be: (1) Compute a triangular decomposition  $t^1, \dots, t^s$  of  $Z(F \bmod p)$ , and (2) Lift these triangular sets over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . However, without more precautions, this algorithm may fail to produce a correct answer. Indeed, extra factorizations or recombinations can occur modulo  $p$ . Thus, we have no guarantee that there exist triangular sets  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , that describe  $Z(F)$ , and with  $t^1, \dots, t^s$  as modular images. Furthermore, if we assume no control over the modular resolution process, there is little hope of obtaining a quantification of primes  $p$  of “bad” reduction.

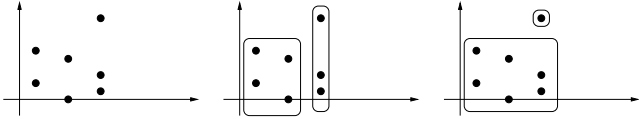
Consider for instance the variety  $V \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  defined by the polynomials  $326X_1 - 10X_2^5 + 51X_2^5 + 17X_2^4 + 306X_2^2 + 102X_2 + 34$  and  $X_2^7 + 6X_2^4 + 2X_2^3 + 12$ . For the order  $X_2 > X_1$ , the only possible description of  $V$  by triangular sets with rational coefficients corresponds to its irreducible decomposition, that is,  $T^1 : (X_1 - 1, X_2^3 + 6)$  and  $T^2 : (X_1^2 + 2, X_2^2 + X_1)$ . Now, the following triangular sets describe the zeros of  $(F \bmod 7)$ , which are not the reduction modulo 7 of  $T^1$  and  $T^2$ ;

$$t^1 \left| \begin{array}{l} X_2^2 + 6X_2X_1^2 + 2X_2 + X_1 \\ X_1^3 + 6X_1^2 + 5X_1 + 2 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{and} \quad t^2 \left| \begin{array}{l} X_2 + 6 \\ X_1 + 6 \end{array} \right. ,$$

A lifting algorithm should discard  $t^1$  and  $t^2$ , and replace them by the better choice  $t'^1 : (X_1 + 6, X_2^3 + 6)$  and  $t'^2 : (X_1^2 + 2, X_2^2 + X_1)$ , which are the reduction of  $T^1$  and  $T^2$  modulo 7. In [24], this difficulty was bypassed by restricting to *equiprojectable* varieties, *i.e.* varieties defined by a single triangular set, where no such ambiguity occurs. However, as this example shows, this assumption discards simple cases. Our main concern is to lift this limitation, thus extending these techniques to handle *triangular decompositions*.

Our answer consists in using a canonical decomposition of a 0-dimensional variety  $V$ , its *equiprojectable decomposition*, described as follows. Consider the map  $\pi : V \subset \mathbb{A}^n(\bar{k}) \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^{n-1}(\bar{k})$  that forgets the last coordinate. To  $x$  in  $V$ , we associate  $N(x) = \#\pi^{-1}(\pi(x))$ , that is, the number of points lying in the same  $\pi$ -fiber as  $x$ . Then, we split  $V$  into the disjoint union  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_d$ , where for all  $i = 1, \dots, d$ ,  $V_i$  equals  $N^{-1}(i)$ , *i.e.*, the set of points  $x \in V$  where  $N(x) = i$ . This splitting process is applied recursively to all  $V_1, \dots, V_d$ , taking into account the fibers of the successive projections  $\mathbb{A}^n(\bar{k}) \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^i(\bar{k})$ , for  $i = n-1, \dots, 1$ . In the end, we obtain a family of pairwise disjoint, equiprojectable varieties, whose reunion equals  $V$ , which form the *equiprojectable decomposition* of  $V$ . As requested, each of them is representable by a triangular set with coefficients in the definition field of  $V$ .

Looking back at the example, both  $Z(F)$  and  $Z(F \bmod 7)$  are described on the leftmost picture below (forgetting the actual coordinates of the points). Representing  $Z(F)$  by  $T^1$  and  $T^2$ , as well as  $Z(F \bmod 7)$  by  $t'^1$  and  $t'^2$  amounts to grouping the points as on the central picture; this is the equiprojectable decomposition. The rightmost picture shows the description of  $Z(F \bmod 7)$  by  $t^1$  and  $t^2$ .



The above algorithm sketch is thus improved by applying lifting only after computing the equiprojectable decomposition of the modular output. Theorem 1 shows how to control the primes of bad reductions for the equiprojectable decomposition, thus overcoming the limitation that we pointed out previously. In what follows, the height of  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  is defined as  $\text{ht } x = \log |x|$ ; the height of  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is the maximum of the heights of its coefficients; that of  $p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , with  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ , is  $\max(\text{ht } p, \text{ht } q)$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  have degree  $\leq d$  and height  $\leq h$ . Let  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  be the triangular description of the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z(F)$ . There exists  $A \in \mathbb{N} - \{0\}$ , with  $\text{ht } A \leq \mathbf{a}(n, d, h)$ , and, for  $n \geq 2$ ,*

$$\mathbf{a}(n, d, h) = 2n^2 d^{2n+1} (3h + 7 \log(n+1) + 5n \log d + 10),$$

*and with the following property. If a prime  $p$  does not divide  $A$ , then  $p$  cancels none of the denominators of the coefficients of  $T^1, \dots, T^s$ , and these triangular sets reduced mod  $p$  define the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z(F \bmod p)$ .*

Thus, the set of bad primes is finite and we have an explicit control on its size. Since we have to avoid some “discriminant locus”, it is natural, and probably unavoidable, that the bound should involve the square of the Bézout number.

A second question is the coefficient size of the output. In what follows, we write  $\deg V$  and  $\text{ht } V$  for the *degree* and

*height* of a 0-dimensional variety  $V$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ : the former denotes its number of points, and the latter estimates its arithmetic complexity; see [17] and references therein for its definition. Let then  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  be the triangular sets that describe the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z = Z(F)$ . In [9], it is proved that all coefficients in  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  have height in  $O(n^{O(1)}(\deg Z + \text{ht } Z)^2)$ . However, better estimates are available, through the introduction of an alternative representation denoted by  $N^1, \dots, N^s$ . For  $i \leq s$ ,  $N^i = N_1^i, \dots, N_n^i$  is obtained as follows. Let  $D_1^i = 1$  and  $N_1^i = T_1^i$ . For  $2 \leq \ell \leq n$  and  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , define

$$D_\ell^i = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq \ell-1} \frac{\partial T_j^i}{\partial X_j} \quad \text{and} \quad N_\ell^i = D_\ell^i T_\ell^i \bmod (T_1^i, \dots, T_{\ell-1}^i).$$

It is proved in [9] that all coefficients in  $N^1, \dots, N^s$  have height in  $O(n^{O(1)}(\deg Z + \text{ht } Z))$ . Since  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  are easily recovered from  $N^1, \dots, N^s$ , our algorithm will compute the latter, their height bounds being the better.

Theorem 2 below states our main result regarding lifting techniques for triangular decompositions; in what follows, we say that an algorithm has a *quasi-linear* complexity in terms of some parameters if its complexity is linear in all of these parameters, up to polylogarithmic factors. We need the following assumptions:

- For any  $C \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\Gamma(C)$  be the sets of primes in  $[C+1, \dots, 2C]$ . We assume the existence of an oracle  $O_1$  which, for any  $C \in \mathbb{N}$ , outputs a random prime in  $\Gamma(C)$ , with the uniform distribution.
- We assume the existence of an oracle  $O_2$ , which, given a system  $F$  and a prime  $p$ , outputs the representation of the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z(F \bmod p)$  by means of triangular sets. We give in Section 2 an algorithm to convert any triangular decomposition of  $Z(F \bmod p)$  to the equiprojectable one; its complexity analysis is subject of current research.
- For  $F$  as in Theorem 1, we write  $\mathbf{a}_F = \mathbf{a}(n, d, h)$ ,  $\mathbf{h}_F = nd^n(h + 11 \log(n+3))$  and  $\mathbf{b}_F = 5(\mathbf{h}_F + 1) \log(2\mathbf{h}_F + 1)$ . The input system is given by a straight-line program of size  $L$ , with constants of height at most  $h_L$ .
- $C \in \mathbb{N}$  is such that for any ring  $R$ , any  $d \geq 1$  and monic  $t \in R[X]$  of degree  $d$ , all operations  $(+, -, \times)$  in  $R[X]/t$  can be computed in  $Cd \log d \log \log d$  operations in  $R$  [12, Ch. 8,9]. Then all operations  $(+, -, \times)$  modulo a triangular set  $T$  in  $n$  variables can be done in quasi-linear complexity in  $C^n$  and  $\deg V(T)$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . There exists an algorithm which, given  $F$ , satisfying*

$$\frac{4\mathbf{a}_F + 2\mathbf{b}_F}{\varepsilon} + 1 < \frac{1}{2} \exp(2\mathbf{h}_F + 1),$$

*computes  $N^1, \dots, N^s$  defined above. The algorithm uses two calls to  $O_1$  with  $C = 4\mathbf{a}_F + 2\mathbf{b}_F/\varepsilon$ , two calls to  $O_2$  with  $p$  in  $[C+1, \dots, 2C]$ , and its bit complexity is quasi-linear in  $L, h_L, d, \log h, C^n, \deg Z, (\deg Z + \text{ht } Z), |\log \varepsilon|$ . The algorithm is probabilistic, with success probability  $\geq 1 - \varepsilon$ .*

To illustrate these estimates, suppose e.g. that we have  $n = 10, d = 4, h = 100$ , hence potentially 1048576 solutions; to ensure a success probability of 99%, the primes should

have only about 20 decimal digits, hence can be generated without difficulty. Thus, even for such “large” systems, our results are quite manageable. Besides, computing the polynomials  $N^i$  instead of  $T^i$  enables us to benefit from their improved height bounds.

In the sequel, we use the following notation. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , for  $1 \leq j \leq i \leq n$  and any field  $k$ , we denote  $\pi_j^i : \mathbb{A}^i(\bar{k}) \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^j(\bar{k})$  the map  $(x_1, \dots, x_i) \mapsto (x_1, \dots, x_j)$ . The cardinality of a finite set  $G$  is written  $\#G$ .

## 2. SPLIT-AND-MERGE ALGORITHM

We start by reviewing the notion of equiprojectable decomposition of a 0-dimensional variety  $V$ , introduced in [8]. Then, in preparation for the modular algorithm of Section 4, we present an algorithm for computing this decomposition, given an arbitrary triangular decomposition of  $V$ . We call it *Split-and-Merge*, after its two phases: the *splitting* of what we call *critical pairs* (which is achieved by GCD computations) and the *merging* of what we call *solvable families* (which is performed by Chinese remaindering). The complexity analysis of the Split-and-Merge algorithm is work in progress [6]. From our preliminary study reported in [7], we believe that suitable improvements of the Split-and-Merge algorithm can run in quasi-linear time in the degree of  $V$ .

Let  $k$  be a perfect field and  $\bar{k}$  one of its algebraic closures. Following [2], we first define the notion of equiprojectability.

**Equiprojectable variety.** Let  $V \subset \mathbb{A}^n(\bar{k})$  be a 0-dimensional variety over  $k$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , the variety  $V$  is *equiprojectable* on  $\pi_i^n(V)$  if all fibers of the restriction  $\pi_i^n : V \rightarrow \pi_i^n(V)$  have the same cardinality. Then, for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $V$  is  *$i$ -equiprojectable* if it is equiprojectable on all  $\pi_j^n(V)$ ,  $i \leq j \leq n$ . Thus, any 0-dimensional variety is  $n$ -equiprojectable. Finally,  $V$  is *equiprojectable* if it is 1-equiprojectable. It is the case if and only if its defining ideal is generated by a triangular set  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  with coefficients in  $k$ . In this case,  $k$  being perfect, all fibers of the projection  $\pi_i^n(V) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}^n(V)$  share the same cardinality, which is the degree of  $T_i$  in  $X_i$ .

The variety  $V$  can be decomposed as the disjoint union of equiprojectable ones, in possibly several ways. Any such decomposition amounts to represent  $V$  as the disjoint union of the zeros of some triangular sets. The equiprojectable decomposition is a canonical way of doing so, defined by combinatorial means.

**Equiprojectable decomposition.** Let first  $W$  be a 0-dimensional variety in  $\mathbb{A}^i(\bar{k})$ , for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For  $x$  in  $\mathbb{A}^{i-1}(\bar{k})$ , we define the preimage

$$\mu(x, W) = (\pi_{i-1}^i)^{-1}(x) \cap W;$$

for any  $d \geq 1$ , we can then define

$$A(d, W) = \left\{ x \in W \mid \#\mu(\pi_{i-1}^i(x), W) = d \right\}.$$

Thus,  $x$  is in  $A(d, W)$  if  $W$  contains exactly  $d$  points  $x'$  such that  $\pi_{i-1}^i(x) = \pi_{i-1}^i(x')$  holds. Only finitely many of the  $A(d, W)$  are not empty and the non-empty ones form a partition of  $W$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Writing  $W = \pi_i^n(V)$ , we define

$$B(i, d, V) = \{x \in V \mid \pi_i^n(x) \in A(d, W)\}.$$

Thus,  $B(i, d, V)$  is the preimage of  $A(d, W)$  in  $V$ , so these sets form a partition of  $V$ . If  $V$  is  $i$ -equiprojectable, then all  $B(i, d, V)$  are  $(i-1)$ -equiprojectable. We then define inductively  $B(V) = V$ , and, for  $1 < i \leq n$ ,  $B(d_i, \dots, d_n, V) =$

$B(i, d_i, B(d_{i+1}, \dots, d_n, V))$ . All  $B(d_i, \dots, d_n, V)$  are  $(i-1)$ -equiprojectable, only finitely many of them are not empty, and the non-empty ones form a partition of  $V$ .

The *equiprojectable decomposition* of  $V$  is its partition into the family of all non-empty  $B(d_2, \dots, d_n, V)$ . All these sets being equiprojectable, they are defined by triangular sets. Note that we have not proved yet that the  $B(d_2, \dots, d_n, V)$  are defined over the same field as  $V$ . This will come as a by-product of the algorithms of this section. To do so, we introduce now the notions of *critical pair* and *solvable pair*.

**Critical and solvable pairs.** Let  $T \neq T'$  be two triangular sets. The least integer  $\ell$  such that  $T_\ell \neq T'_\ell$  is called the *level* of the pair  $T, T'$ . If  $\ell = 1$  we let  $K_\ell = k$ , otherwise we define  $K_\ell = k[X_1, \dots, X_{\ell-1}] / \langle T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1} \rangle$ . Since a triangular set generates a radical ideal, the residue class ring  $K_\ell$  is a direct product of fields. Therefore, every pair of univariate polynomials with coefficients in  $K_\ell$  has a GCD in the sense of [22]. The pair  $T, T'$  is *critical* if  $T_\ell$  and  $T'_\ell$  are not relatively prime in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . If  $T, T'$  is not critical, it is *certified* if  $U, U' \in K_\ell[X_\ell]$  such that  $UT_\ell + U'T'_\ell = 1$  are known. The pair  $T, T'$  is *solvable* if it is not critical and if for all  $\ell < j \leq n$  we have  $\deg_{X_j} T_j = \deg_{X_j} T'_j$ .

Introducing the notion of a certified solvable pair is motivated by efficiency considerations. Indeed, during the splitting step, solvable pairs are discovered. Then, during the merging step, the Bézout coefficients  $U, U'$  of these solvable pairs will be needed for Chinese Remaindering.

**Solvable families.** We extend the notion of *solvability* from a pair to a family of triangular sets. A family  $\mathfrak{T}$  of triangular sets is *solvable* (resp. *certified solvable*) at level  $\ell$  if every pair  $\{T, T'\}$  of elements of  $\mathfrak{T}$  is solvable (resp. certified solvable) of level  $\ell$ .

The following proposition shows how to recombine such families. When this is the case, we say that all  $T$  in  $\mathfrak{T}$  *divide*  $S$ . In what follows, we write  $V(\mathfrak{T})$  for  $\bigcup_{T \in \mathfrak{T}} V(T)$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.** *If  $\mathfrak{T}$  is certified solvable at level  $\ell$ , one can compute a triangular set  $S$  such that  $V(S) = V(\mathfrak{T})$ , using only multiplications in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ .*

**PROOF.** First, we assume that  $\mathfrak{T}$  consists of the pair  $\{T, T'\}$ . We construct  $S$  as follows. We set  $S_i = T_i$  for  $1 \leq i < \ell$  and  $S_\ell = T_\ell T'_\ell$ . Let  $\ell < i \leq n$ . For computing  $S_i$ , we see  $T_i$  and  $T'_i$  in  $K_\ell[X_\ell][X_{\ell+1}, \dots, X_i]$ . We apply Chinese remaindering to the coefficients in  $T_i$  and  $T'_i$  of each monomial in  $X_{\ell+1}, \dots, X_i$  occurring in  $T_i$  or  $T'_i$ : since the Bézout coefficients  $U, U'$  for  $T_\ell, T'_\ell$  are known, this can be done using multiplications in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$  only. It follows from the Chinese Remaindering Theorem that the ideal  $\langle S \rangle$  is equal to  $\langle T \rangle \cap \langle T' \rangle$ ; for  $i > \ell$ , the equality  $\deg_{X_i} T_i = \deg_{X_i} T'_i$  shows that  $S$  is monic in  $X_i$ , as requested.

Assume that  $\mathfrak{T}$  consists of  $s > 2$  triangular sets  $T^1, \dots, T^s$ . First, we apply the case  $s = 2$  to  $T^1, T^2$ , obtaining a triangular set  $T^{1,2}$ . Observe that every pair  $T^{1,2}, T^j$ , for  $3 \leq j \leq s$ , is solvable but not certified solvable: we obtain the requested Bézout coefficient by updating the known ones. Let us fix  $3 \leq j \leq s$ . Given  $A_1, A_2, B_1, B_j, C_2, C_j \in K_\ell[X_\ell]$  such that  $A_1 T_\ell^1 + A_2 T_\ell^2 = B_1 T_\ell^1 + B_j T_\ell^j = C_2 T_\ell^2 + C_j T_\ell^j = 1$  hold in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ , we let  $\alpha = B_1 C_2 \bmod T_\ell^j$  and  $\beta = A_1 C_j T_\ell^1 + A_2 B_j T_\ell^2 \bmod T_\ell^1 T_\ell^2$ . Then,  $\alpha T_\ell^{1,2} + \beta T_\ell^j = 1$  in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ , as requested. Proceeding by induction ends the proof.  $\square$

**Splitting critical pairs.** Let now  $V$  be a 0-dimensional variety over  $k$ . Proposition 3 below encapsulates the first

part of the *Split-and-Merge* algorithm: given any triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{X}$  of  $V$ , it outputs another one, without critical pairs. We first describe the basic splitting step.

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be a triangular decomposition of  $V$  which contains critical pairs. Then one can compute a triangular decomposition  $\text{Split}(\mathfrak{X})$  of  $V$  which has cardinality larger than that of  $\mathfrak{X}$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $T, T'$  be a critical pair of  $\mathfrak{X}$  of level  $\ell$  and let  $G$  be a GCD of  $T_\ell, T'_\ell$  in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . First, assume that  $G$  is monic, in the sense of [22]; let  $Q$  and  $Q'$  be the quotients of  $T_\ell$  and  $T'_\ell$  by  $G$  in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . We define the sets

$$\begin{aligned} A &= T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1}, G, T_{\ell+1}, \dots, T_n, \\ B &= T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1}, Q, T_{\ell+1}, \dots, T_n, \\ A' &= T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1}, G, T'_{\ell+1}, \dots, T'_n, \\ B' &= T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1}, Q', T'_{\ell+1}, \dots, T'_n. \end{aligned}$$

We let  $\text{Split}(\mathfrak{X}) = \{A, B, A', B'\}$ , excluding the triangular sets defining the empty set. Since the pair  $T, T'$  is critical,  $V(A)$  and  $V(B)$  are non-empty. Since  $T_\ell$  and  $T'_\ell$  are not associate in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ , at least  $Q$  or  $Q'$  is not constant. Thus,  $\text{Split}(\mathfrak{X})$  has cardinality at least 3. Since  $\langle T \rangle$  and  $\langle T' \rangle$  are radical, if  $Q \notin K_\ell$ ,  $G$  and  $Q$  are coprime in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ , so  $V(T)$  is the disjoint union of  $V(A)$  and  $V(B)$ . The same property holds for  $A'$  and  $B'$ . Thus, the proposition is proved.

Assume now that  $T_\ell, T'_\ell$  have no monic GCD in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . Then, there exist triangular sets  $C^1, \dots, C^s, D^1, \dots, D^s$  such that  $V(T)$  is the disjoint union of  $V(C^1), \dots, V(C^s), V(T')$  is the disjoint union of  $V(D^1), \dots, V(D^s)$ , at least one pair  $C^i, D^j$  is critical and  $C^i_\ell, D^j_\ell$  admits a monic GCD in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . These triangular sets are obtained by the algorithms of [22] when computing a GCD of  $T_\ell, T'_\ell$  in  $K_\ell[X_\ell]$ . Then the results of the monic case prove the existence of  $\text{Split}(\mathfrak{X})$ .  $\square$

**PROPOSITION 3.** *Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be a triangular decomposition of  $V$ . One can compute a triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{X}'$  of  $V$  with no critical pairs, and where each pair of triangular sets is certified.*

**PROOF.** Write  $\mathfrak{X}_0 = \mathfrak{X}$ , and define a sequence  $\mathfrak{X}_i$  by  $\mathfrak{X}_{i+1} = \text{Split}(\mathfrak{X}_i)$ , if  $\mathfrak{X}_i$  contains critical pairs, and  $\mathfrak{X}_{i+1} = \mathfrak{X}_i$  otherwise. Testing the presence of critical pairs is done by GCD computations, which yields the Bézout coefficients in case of coprimality. Let  $D$  be the number of irreducible components of  $V$ . Any family  $\mathfrak{X}_i$  has cardinality at most  $D$ , so the sequence  $\mathfrak{X}_i$  becomes stationary after at most  $D$  steps.  $\square$

Thus, we can now suppose that we have a triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{X}$  of  $V$  without critical pairs, and where every pair is certified, such as the one computed in Proposition 3. We describe the second part of the *Split-and-Merge* algorithm: merging solvable families in a suitable order, to obtain the equiprojectable decomposition of  $V$ .

For  $0 \leq \kappa \leq n$ , we say that  $\mathfrak{X}$  satisfies property  $\mathbf{P}_\kappa$  if for all  $T, T' \in \mathfrak{X}$  the pair  $\{T, T'\}$  is certified, has level  $\ell \leq \kappa$  and for all  $\kappa < i \leq n$  satisfies  $\deg_{X_i} T_i = \deg_{X_i} T'_i$ . Observe that if  $\mathbf{P}_0(\mathfrak{X})$  holds, then  $\mathfrak{X}$  contains only one triangular set, and that the input family  $\mathfrak{X}$  satisfies  $\mathbf{P}_n$ .

**The basic merging algorithm.** Let  $1 \leq \kappa \leq n$ . We now define the procedure  $\text{Merge}_\kappa$ , which takes as input a family  $\mathfrak{X}_\kappa$  of triangular sets which satisfies  $\mathbf{P}_\kappa$ , and outputs several families of triangular sets, whose reunion defines the

same set of points, and all of which satisfy  $\mathbf{P}_{\kappa-1}$ . First, we partition  $\mathfrak{X}_\kappa$  using the equivalence relation  $T \equiv T'$  if and only if  $T_1, \dots, T_{\kappa-1} = T'_1, \dots, T'_{\kappa-1}$ . Assumption  $\mathbf{P}_\kappa$  shows that each equivalence class is certified and solvable of level  $\kappa$ . We then let  $\mathfrak{S}^{(\kappa)}$  be the family of triangular sets obtained by applying Proposition 1 to each equivalence class.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $S \neq S'$  in  $\mathfrak{S}^{(\kappa)}$ . The pair  $\{S, S'\}$  is non-critical, certified, of level  $\ell < \kappa$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $T, T' \in \mathfrak{X}$ , which respectively divide  $S$  and  $S'$ . Due to assumption  $\mathbf{P}_\kappa$ , there exists  $0 \leq \ell \leq \kappa$  such that  $T_1, \dots, T_{\ell-1} = T'_1, \dots, T'_{\ell-1}$  and  $(T_1, \dots, T_\ell)$  and  $(T'_1, \dots, T'_\ell)$  have no common zero. Then,  $\ell < \kappa$ , since  $T \not\equiv T'$ . Thus,  $T_1, \dots, T_\ell = S_1, \dots, S_\ell$  and  $T'_1, \dots, T'_\ell = S'_1, \dots, S'_\ell$ . Since  $\{T, T'\}$  is certified of level  $\ell < \kappa$ ,  $\{S, S'\}$  is also.  $\square$

We partition  $\mathfrak{S}^{(\kappa)}$  some more, into the classes of the equivalence relation  $S \equiv' S'$  if and only if  $\deg_{X_\kappa} S_\kappa = \deg_{X_\kappa} S'_\kappa$ . Let  $\mathfrak{S}_1^{(\kappa)}, \dots, \mathfrak{S}_\delta^{(\kappa)}$  be the equivalence classes, indexed by the common degree in  $X_\kappa$ ; we define  $\text{Merge}_\kappa(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa)$  as the data of all these equivalence classes.

**LEMMA 2.** *Each family  $\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)}$  satisfies  $\mathbf{P}_{\kappa-1}$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $S \neq S'$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)}$ , and let  $T, T'$  be as in the proof of Lemma 1; we now prove the degree estimate. For  $\kappa < i \leq n$ , we have  $\deg_{X_i} T_i = \deg_{X_i} S_i$  and  $\deg_{X_i} T'_i = \deg_{X_i} S'_i$ ; assumption  $\mathbf{P}_\kappa$  shows that  $\deg_{X_i} S_i = \deg_{X_i} S'_i$  for  $\kappa < i \leq n$ . Since  $\deg_{X_\kappa} S_\kappa = \deg_{X_\kappa} S'_\kappa = d$ , the lemma is proved.  $\square$

**PROPOSITION 4.**  *$V(\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)}) = B(\kappa, d, V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa))$  for all  $d$ .*

**PROOF.** We know that  $V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa)$  is the union of the  $V(\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)})$ . Besides, both families  $\{V(\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)})\}$  and  $\{B(\kappa, d, V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa))\}$  form a partition of  $V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa)$ . Thus, it suffices to prove that for  $x$  in  $V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa)$ ,  $x \in V(\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)})$  implies that  $\pi_\kappa^n(x) \in A(d, W)$ , with  $W = \pi_\kappa^n(V(\mathfrak{X}_\kappa))$ . First, for  $S$  in  $\mathfrak{S}^{(\kappa)}$ , write  $W_S = \pi_\kappa^n(S)$ . Then Lemma 1 shows that the  $W_S$  form a partition of  $W$ , and that their images  $\pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(W_S)$  are pairwise disjoint.

Let now  $x \in V(\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)})$  and  $y = \pi_\kappa^n(x)$ . There exists a unique  $S \in \mathfrak{S}^{(\kappa)}$  such that  $x \in V(S)$ . The definition of  $\mathfrak{S}_d^{(\kappa)}$  shows that there are exactly  $d$  points  $y'$  in  $W_S$  such that  $\pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y) = \pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y')$ . On the other hand, for any  $y \in W_{S'}$ , with  $S' \neq S$ , the above remark shows that  $\pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y) \neq \pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y')$ . Thus, there are exactly  $d$  points  $y'$  in  $W$  such that  $\pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y) = \pi_{\kappa-1}^\kappa(y')$ ; this concludes the proof.  $\square$

**The main merging algorithm.** We can now give the main algorithm. We start from a triangular decomposition  $\mathfrak{X}$  of  $V$  without critical pairs, and where every pair is certified, so it satisfies  $\mathbf{P}_n$ . Let us initially define  $\mathfrak{X}_n = \{\mathfrak{X}\}$ ; note that  $\mathfrak{X}_n$  is a set of families of triangular sets. Then, for  $1 \leq \kappa \leq n$ , assuming  $\mathfrak{X}_\kappa$  is defined, we write  $\mathfrak{X}_{\kappa-1} = \bigcup_{\mathfrak{U}^{(\kappa)} \in \mathfrak{X}_\kappa} \text{Merge}_\kappa(\mathfrak{U}^{(\kappa)})$ . Lemma 2 shows that this process is well-defined; note that each  $\mathfrak{X}_\kappa$  is a set of families of triangular sets as well.

Let  $\mathfrak{U}$  be a family of triangular sets in  $\mathfrak{X}_0$ . Then  $\mathfrak{U}$  satisfies  $\mathbf{P}_0$ , so by the remarks made previously,  $\mathfrak{U}$  consists in a single triangular set. Proposition 4 then shows that the triangular sets in  $\mathfrak{X}_0$  form the equiprojectable components of  $V$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

In this section, we consider the simple solutions  $Z(F)$  of a system  $F = F_1, \dots, F_n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , that is, those where the Jacobian determinant  $J$  of  $F$  does not vanish. We prove that for all primes  $p$  but a finite number, the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z(F)$  reduces modulo  $p$  to that of  $Z(F \bmod p)$ . These results require to control the cardinality of the ‘‘specialization’’ of a variety at  $p$ . Such questions are easy to formulate using *primitive elements* and associated representations, which we now define as a preamble.

**Primitive element descriptions.** Let  $W \subset \mathbb{C}^\ell$  be a 0-dimensional variety defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $\Delta$  be a linear form in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_\ell]$ . Its *minimal polynomial* is the minimal polynomial  $\mu \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  of the multiplication endomorphism by  $\Delta$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[W]$ ; it is the squarefree part of  $\prod_{x \in W} (T - \Delta(x))$ . Then  $\Delta$  is a *primitive element* for  $W$  if the map  $x \mapsto \Delta(x)$  is one-to-one on  $W$ . In this case,  $\mu$  has degree  $\deg W$  and  $\mathbb{Q}[W]$  is isomorphic to the residue class ring  $\mathbb{Q}[T]/\mu$ . Writing  $w_i \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  for the image of  $X_i$ , we deduce that  $\mu(T) = 0$  and  $X_i = w_i(T)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ , form a parametrization of the points in  $W$ .

We will use quantitative estimates on the size of the coefficients in this representation, in terms of the degree and height of  $W$ . The following result is [5, Th. 2]; using the coefficient  $\chi'$  leads to sharp height bound, as is the case for the polynomials  $N^i$  defined in the introduction.

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $h_\Delta$  be an upper bound of the height of  $\Delta$ , and  $H_\Delta = \text{ht } W + (\deg W)h_\Delta + (\deg W) \log(\ell + 2) + (\ell + 1) \log \deg W$ . There exist  $\chi, v_1, \dots, v_\ell$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ , such that  $\chi, \chi', v_1, \dots, v_\ell$  have height at most  $H_\Delta$ ,  $\mu_n$  equals  $\chi$  divided by its leading coefficient, and  $w_i = v_i/\chi' \bmod \chi$  for all  $i$ .*

**Geometric considerations.** Let now  $Z = Z(F)$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $\Delta_i$  be a linear form in  $\mathbb{Z}[X_1, \dots, X_i]$  which is a primitive element for  $\pi_i^n(Z)$ , let  $\mu_i \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  be its minimal polynomial, and let  $w_1, \dots, w_n \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  be the parametrization of  $Z$  associated to  $\Delta_n$ . Let finally  $p$  a prime. We first introduce assumptions on  $p$  (denoted by **H**<sub>1</sub>, **H**<sub>2</sub>, **H**<sub>3</sub>), that yield the conclusion of Theorem 1 in a series of lemmas; we then give quantitative estimates for these assumptions.

**H**<sub>1</sub>. The prime  $p$  divides no coefficients in  $\mu_n, w_1, \dots, w_n$  and  $\mu_n$  remains squarefree modulo  $p$ .

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  such that  $(\mu_n \bmod p)$  splits in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , let  $\mathbb{Q}_q$  be the corresponding unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  [20] and  $\mathbb{Z}_q$  its ring of integers; then,  $\mu_n$  splits in  $\mathbb{Q}_q$ , and has all its roots in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ ; thus,  $Z$  lies in  $\mathbb{Z}_q^n$ . Note that  $p$  divides no coefficient in  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n$ : the roots of  $\mu_i$  are the values of  $\Delta_i$  on  $\pi_i^n(Z)$ , so they are in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , hence the coefficients of  $\mu_i$  are in  $\mathbb{Z}_q \cap \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z}_p$ . The map  $\mathbb{Z}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$  of reduction modulo  $p$  extends to maps  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_q^i \mapsto \bar{a} \in \mathbb{F}_q^i$  for all  $i$ . Given  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}_q^i$ ,  $\bar{A}$  is the set  $\{\bar{a} \mid a \in A\}$ . The same notation is used for the reduction of polynomials modulo  $p$ .

**H**<sub>2</sub>. All polynomials  $\bar{\mu}_i$  are squarefree.

**LEMMA 4.** *For  $i \leq n$ ,  $\#\pi_i^n(Z)$  equals  $\#\pi_i^n(\bar{Z})$ .*

**PROOF.** The inequality  $\#\pi_i^n(\bar{Z}) \leq \#\pi_i^n(Z)$  is obvious. By assumption **H**<sub>2</sub>, all values taken by  $\Delta_i$  on  $\pi_i^n(\bar{Z})$  are distinct, so  $\#\pi_i^n(\bar{Z}) \geq \deg \mu_i = \#\pi_i^n(Z)$ .  $\square$

**LEMMA 5.** *For all  $d_2, \dots, d_n$ ,  $B(d_2, \dots, d_n, \bar{Z})$  equals  $B(d_2, \dots, d_n, Z)$ .*

**PROOF.** We prove on  $\ell = n+1, \dots, 2$  that for all  $d_\ell, \dots, d_n$ ,  $B(d_\ell, \dots, d_n, \bar{Z})$  equals  $B(d_\ell, \dots, d_n, Z)$ ; taking  $\ell = 2$  gives the lemma. Since  $B(X) = X$  for any variety  $X$ , this property holds for  $\ell = n+1$ . Assuming it for  $B(d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_n, Z)$ , we prove it for  $B(d_\ell, \dots, d_n, Z)$ . Let  $B = B(d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_n, Z)$ ,  $B_\ell = \pi_\ell^n(B)$  and  $B_{\ell-1} = \pi_{\ell-1}^n(B)$ ; Lemma 4 implies that reduction modulo  $p$  is one-to-one on both  $B_\ell$  and  $B_{\ell-1}$ . For  $y$  in  $B_{\ell-1}$  and  $z$  in  $\bar{B}_{\ell-1}$ , we define

$$\mu(y) = (\pi_{\ell-1}^\ell)^{-1}(y) \cap B_\ell \quad \text{and} \quad \mu(z) = (\pi_{\ell-1}^\ell)^{-1}(z) \cap \bar{B}_\ell.$$

We first prove that  $\mu(y)$  and  $\mu(\bar{y})$  have the same cardinality for all  $y$  in  $B_{\ell-1}$ . To this effect, observe the equalities

$$\sum_{y \in B_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(y) = \#B_\ell, \quad \sum_{z \in \bar{B}_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(z) = \#\bar{B}_\ell.$$

Let now  $y$  in  $B_{\ell-1}$ . Since  $\overline{\mu(y)} \subset \mu(\bar{y})$ , injectivity of the reduction mod  $p$  on  $B_\ell$  implies that  $\#\mu(y) \leq \#\mu(\bar{y})$ . Thus,

$$\#B_\ell = \sum_{y \in B_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(y) \leq \sum_{y \in B_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(\bar{y}).$$

Injectivity of the reduction mod  $p$  on  $B_{\ell-1}$  implies that

$$\sum_{y \in B_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(\bar{y}) = \sum_{z \in \bar{B}_{\ell-1}} \#\mu(z) = \#\bar{B}_\ell.$$

This sum equals  $\#B_\ell$ . Thus, all inequalities are equalities, giving our claim.

For  $x$  in  $B_\ell$ , write  $\nu(x) = \mu(\pi_{\ell-1}^\ell(x))$ ; define similarly  $\nu(z)$  for  $z$  in  $\bar{B}_\ell$ . By the previous point,  $\nu(x)$  and  $\nu(\bar{x})$  have the same cardinality. Recalling from Section 2 that for  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have defined  $A(d, B_\ell)$  as the set  $\{x \in B_\ell \mid \#\nu(x) = d\}$ , and  $A(d, \bar{B}_\ell)$  as the set  $\{z \in \bar{B}_\ell \mid \#\nu(z) = d\}$ , one can see  $A(d, B_\ell) = A(d, \bar{B}_\ell)$ . To conclude, recall that by definition  $\{x \in \bar{Z} \mid \pi_\ell^n(x) \in A(d, \pi_\ell^n(B(d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_n, \bar{Z})))\} = B(d, d_{\ell+1}, \dots, d_n, \bar{Z})$ . By the induction assumption, this equals  $\{x \in \bar{Z} \mid \pi_\ell^n(x) \in A(d, \bar{B}_\ell)\}$ , and we have proved that this equals  $\{x \in \bar{Z} \mid \pi_\ell^n(x) \in A(d, B_\ell)\}$ . By definition, this is  $B(d, d_\ell, \dots, d_n, Z)$ , which is what we wanted.  $\square$

**LEMMA 6.** *Let  $T^1, \dots, T^s$  be the triangular sets that describe the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z$ . Then  $p$  cancels no denominator in the coefficients of  $T^1, \dots, T^s$ , and the reduction of these triangular sets modulo  $p$  defines the equiprojectable decomposition of  $\bar{Z}$ .*

**PROOF.** For  $i \leq s$ , let  $Z_i = Z(T^i)$ . By Lemma 5,  $\bar{Z}_1, \dots, \bar{Z}_s$  are the equiprojectable components of  $\bar{Z}$ . For  $i \leq s$ ,  $\bar{Z}_i$  is described by a triangular set  $t^i$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . The coefficients of  $T^i$  are rational functions of the points in  $Z_i$ , given by interpolation formulas [9, §3]. With these formulas, Lemma 4 shows that all denominators are non-zero modulo  $p$ . The coefficients of  $t^i$  are obtained using the same formulas, using the coordinates of the points in  $\bar{Z}_i$ . Thus,  $t^i = T^i \bmod p$ .  $\square$

**H**<sub>3</sub>. The Jacobian determinant of  $F$  vanishes nowhere on  $\bar{Z}$ .

**LEMMA 7.** *The set  $\bar{Z}$  equals  $Z(\bar{F})$ .*

**PROOF.** First, we prove that  $\bar{F}$  vanishes on  $\bar{Z}$ . Indeed, all  $F_i$  belong to the ideal generated by  $I = (\mu_n, X_1 - w_1, \dots, X_n - w_n)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[T, X_1, \dots, X_n]$ . Now,  $I$  is a Gröbner basis, so any  $F_i$  can be written in terms of  $I$ . Since  $p$  divides no denominator and no leading term in  $I$ , the division equality

specializes modulo  $p$ , and  $\overline{F}$  vanishes on  $\overline{Z}$ , as requested. Let then  $Z' = Z(\overline{F})$ . By Assumption  $\mathbf{H}_3$ ,  $\overline{Z} \subset Z'$ , so it suffices to prove that  $\#Z' \leq \#\overline{Z}$ . Let  $\mathbb{F}_r$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  that contains the coordinates of all these points and let  $\mathbb{Q}_r$  be the corresponding unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . By Hensel's lemma, all points in  $Z'$  lift to pairwise distinct simple roots of  $F$  in  $\mathbb{Q}_r^n$ . Thus,  $\#Z' \leq \#Z = \#\overline{Z}$ .  $\square$

**Quantitative estimates.** By Lemmas 6 and 7, assumptions  $\mathbf{H}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_2$  and  $\mathbf{H}_3$  imply Theorem 1. Thus, it suffices to give quantitative estimates for these assumptions. To this effect, we let  $D$  and  $H$  be upper bounds on the degrees and heights of the varieties  $\pi_i^n(Z)$ ,  $h_\Delta$  be an upper bound of the height of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$ , and  $H_\Delta = H + Dh_\Delta + D \log(n+2) + (n+1) \log D$ .

LEMMA 8. *There exists a in  $\mathbb{N} - \{0\}$  such that if  $p$  does not divide  $a$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_1$  and  $\mathbf{H}_2$  hold. Moreover  $a$  verifies:*

$$\text{ht } a \leq n((2D-1)H_\Delta + (2D-1)\log(2D-1)).$$

PROOF. Fix  $i$  in  $1, \dots, n$ , and let  $\chi, \chi', v_1, \dots, v_i$  the polynomials associated to  $\pi_i^n(Z)$  and  $\Delta_i$  in Lemma 3; all of them have integer coefficients of height at most  $H_\Delta$ . Let now  $a_i$  be the resultant of  $\chi$  and  $\chi'$ ; by Hadamard's bound,  $\text{ht } a_i \leq (2D-1)H_\Delta + (2D-1)\log(2D-1)$ . Suppose that  $p$  does not divide  $a_i$ . Then,  $\chi$  keeps the same degree and remains squarefree modulo  $p$ . Furthermore,  $p$  divides no coefficient in any  $w_j$ , since all denominators in  $1/\chi' \bmod \chi$  divide  $a_i$ . Thus, assumption  $\mathbf{H}_1$  holds. Repeating this argument for all projections  $\pi_i^n(Z)$ , and taking  $a = a_1 \cdots a_n$  gives assumption  $\mathbf{H}_2$ .  $\square$

LEMMA 9. *There exists  $a'$  in  $\mathbb{N} - \{0\}$  such that if  $p$  does not divide  $aa'$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_2$  and  $\mathbf{H}_3$  hold, and with  $\text{ht } a' \leq 2Dn(dH_\Delta + h + \log d + (d+1)D \log(n+1))$ .*

PROOF. Let  $\chi, v_1, \dots, v_n$  be associated to  $\Delta_n$  as in Lemma 3, let  $J^h$  be the homogenization of  $J$  w.r.t. a new variable, and let  $a' \in \mathbb{Z}$  be the resultant of  $J^h(\chi', v_1, \dots, v_n)$  and  $\chi$ ; then,  $a' \neq 0$  by the definition of  $Z$ . The Jacobian determinant  $J$  has coefficients of height at most  $n(h + \log d + (d+1)\log(n+1))$ ; estimating the height of the determinant of the Sylvester matrix of  $J^h(\chi', v_1, \dots, v_n)$  and  $\chi$  yields the bound on  $\text{ht } a'$ . Suppose now that  $p$  does not divide  $aa'$ . Then the degree of  $\chi$  does not drop modulo  $p$ , and thus no root of  $\overline{\chi}$  cancels  $\overline{J^h(\chi', v_1, \dots, v_n)}$ . In other words, all points described by  $\overline{\chi}(T) = 0$  and  $\overline{\chi'}(T)X_i = \overline{v_i}(T)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , are simple for  $\overline{F}$ . This set of points equals  $\overline{Z}$ , giving  $\mathbf{H}_3$ .  $\square$

In view of Lemma 9, we prove Theorem 1 with  $A = aa'$ . By [23, Lemma 2.1], all  $\Delta_i$  can be taken of height at most  $h_\Delta = n(\log n + 2 \log D) \leq n(\log n + 2n \log d)$ . Using the arithmetic Bézout bound of [17], we get after simplifications that all  $H_\Delta$  are bounded by  $nd^n(h+3 \log(n+1)+2n \log d+3)$ . The previous lemmas then give the upper bounds below, which finish proving Theorem 1 after a few simplifications.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ht } a &\leq 2nd^{2n}(h+3 \log(n+1)+2n \log d+7) \\ \text{ht } a' &\leq 2n^2d^{2n+1}(2h+4 \log(n+1)+3n \log d+3). \end{aligned}$$

## 4. PROOF OF THEOREM 2

We now give the details of our lifting algorithm: given a polynomial system  $F$ , it outputs a triangular representation of its set of simple solutions  $Z = Z(F)$ , by means of the polynomials  $N^1, \dots, N^s$  defined in the introduction. First

of all, we describe the required subroutines, freely using the notation of Theorem 2, and that preceding it. We do not give details of the complexity estimates for lack of space; they are similar to those of [24].

- **EquiprojDecomposition** takes as input a polynomial system  $F$  and outputs the equiprojectable decomposition of  $Z(F)$ , encoded by triangular sets. This routine is called here for systems defined over finite fields. For the experiments in the next section, we applied the triangularization algorithm of [21], followed by the Split-and-Merge algorithm of Section 2, modulo a prime. Studying the complexity of this task is left to the forthcoming [7]; hence, we consider this subroutine as an oracle here, which is called  $O_2$  in Theorem 2.
- **Lift** applies the Hensel lifting algorithm of [24], but this time to a family of triangular sets, defined first modulo a prime  $p_1$ , to triangular sets defined modulo the successive powers  $p_1^{2^\kappa}$ . From [24], one easily sees that the  $\kappa$ th lifting step has a bit complexity quasi-linear in  $(L, h_L, C^n, \sum_{i \leq s} \deg V(T^i), 2^\kappa, \log p_1)$ , i.e. in  $(L, h_L, C^n, \deg Z, 2^\kappa, \log p_1)$ .
- **Convert** computes the polynomials  $N^i$  starting from the polynomials  $T^i$ . Only multiplications modulo triangular sets are needed to perform this operation, so its complexity is negligible before that of **Lift**.
- **RationalReconstruction** does the following. Let  $a = p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\gcd(q, m) = 1$ . If  $\text{ht } m \geq 2\text{ht } a + 1$ , given  $a \bmod m$ , this routine outputs  $a$ . If  $\text{ht } m < 2\text{ht } a + 1$ , the output may be undefined, or differ from  $a$ . We extend this notation to the reconstruction of all coefficients of a family of triangular sets. Using the fast Euclidean algorithm [12, Ch 5,11], its complexity is negligible before that of **Lift**.
- We do not consider the cost of prime number generation. We see them as input here; formally, in Theorem 2, this is handled by calls to oracle  $O_1$ .

### Computing a triangular decomposition by lifting techniques

**Input:** The system  $F$ , primes  $p_1, p_2$   
**Output:** The polynomials  $N^1, \dots, N^s$ .

```

 $T^{1,0}, \dots, T^{s,0} \leftarrow \text{EquiprojDecomposition}(Z(F \bmod p_1))$ 
 $u^1, \dots, u^{s'} \leftarrow \text{EquiprojDecomposition}(Z(F \bmod p_2))$ 
 $m^1, \dots, m^{s'} \leftarrow \text{Convert}(u^1, \dots, u^{s'})$ 
 $\kappa \leftarrow 1$ 
while not(Stop) do
   $T^{1,\kappa}, \dots, T^{s,\kappa} \leftarrow \text{Lift}(T^{1,\kappa-1}, \dots, T^{s,\kappa-1}) \bmod p_1^{2^\kappa}$ 
   $N^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N^{s,\kappa} \leftarrow \text{Convert}(T^{1,\kappa}, \dots, T^{s,\kappa})$ 
   $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{s,\kappa} \leftarrow \text{RationalReconstruction}(N^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N^{s,\kappa})$ 
  Stop  $\leftarrow \{m^1, \dots, m^{s'}\}$  Equals  $\{N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{s,\kappa}\} \bmod p_2$ 
   $\kappa \leftarrow \kappa + 1$ 
end while
return  $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{1,\kappa-1}, \dots, N_{\mathbb{Q}}^{s,\kappa-1}$ 

```

We still use the notation and assumption of Theorem 2. From [9, Th. 1], all coefficients of  $N^1, \dots, N^s$  have height

in  $n^{O(1)}(\deg Z + \text{ht } Z)$ , which can explicitly be bounded by  $\mathfrak{h}_F$ . For  $p_1 \leq \exp(2\mathfrak{h}_F + 1)$ , define

$$\mathfrak{d} = \mathfrak{d}(p_1) = \left\lceil \log_2 \left( \frac{2\mathfrak{h}_F + 1}{\log p_1} \right) \right\rceil.$$

Then,  $p_1^{2^{\mathfrak{d}(p_1)}}$  has height at least  $2\mathfrak{h}_F + 1$ . In view of the prerequisites for rational reconstruction,  $\mathfrak{d}(p_1)$  bounds the number of lifting steps. From an intrinsic viewpoint, at the last lifting step,  $2^\kappa$  is in  $O(n^{O(1)}(\deg Z + \text{ht } Z))$ .

Suppose that  $p_1$  does not divide the integer  $A$  of Theorem 1. Then, Hensel lifting computes approximations  $T^{1,\kappa}, \dots, T^{s,\kappa} = T^1, \dots, T^s$  modulo  $p_1^{2^\kappa}$ . At the  $\kappa$ th lifting step, let  $N^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N^{s,\kappa}$  be the output of `Convert` applied to  $T^{1,\kappa}, \dots, T^{s,\kappa}$ , computed modulo  $p_1^{2^\kappa}$ ; let  $N_Q^{1,\kappa}, \dots, N_Q^{s,\kappa}$  be the same polynomials after rational number reconstruction, if possible. By construction, they have rational coefficients of height at most  $2^{\kappa-1} \log p_1$ . Supposing that  $p_2$  does not divide the integer  $A$  of Theorem 1, failure occurs only if for some  $\kappa$  in  $0, \dots, \mathfrak{d} - 1$ , and some  $j$  in  $1, \dots, s$ ,  $N_Q^{j,\kappa}$  and  $N^j$  differ, but coincide modulo  $p_2$ . For this to happen,  $p_2$  must divide some non-zero number of height at most  $\mathfrak{h}_F + 2^{\kappa-1} \log p_1 + 1$ . Taking all  $\kappa$  into account, this shows that for any prime  $p_1$ , there exists a non-zero integer  $B_{p_1}$  such that  $\text{ht } B_{p_1} \leq (\mathfrak{h}_F + 1)\mathfrak{d} + 2^{\mathfrak{d}} \log p_1$ , and if  $p_2$  does not divide  $B_{p_1}$ , the lifting algorithm succeeds. One checks that the above bound can be simplified into  $\text{ht } B_{p_1} \leq \mathfrak{b}_F$ .

Let  $C \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that

$$C = \left\lceil \frac{4\mathfrak{a}_F + 2\mathfrak{b}_F}{\varepsilon} \right\rceil, \quad \text{so that } C \leq \frac{1}{2} \exp(2\mathfrak{h}_F + 1);$$

let  $\Gamma$  be the set of pairs of primes in  $[C + 1, \dots, 2C]^2$  and  $\gamma$  be the number of primes in  $C + 1, \dots, 2C$ ; note that  $\gamma \geq C/(2 \log C)$  and that  $\#\Gamma = \gamma^2$ . The upper bound on  $C$  shows that all primes  $p$  less than  $2C$  satisfy the requested inequality  $\log p \leq 2\mathfrak{h}_F + 1$ . We can then estimate how many choices of  $(p_1, p_2)$  in  $\Gamma$  lead to failure. There are at most  $\mathfrak{a}_F/\log C$  primes  $p_1$  in  $C + 1, \dots, 2C$  which divide the integer  $A$  of Theorem 1, discriminating at most  $\gamma\mathfrak{a}_F/\log C$  pairs  $(p_1, p_2)$ . For any other value of  $p_1$ , there are at most  $(\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F)/\log C$  choices of  $p_2$  which divide  $A$  and  $B_{p_1}$ . This discriminates at most  $\gamma(\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F)/\log C$  pairs  $(p_1, p_2)$ . Thus the number of choices in  $\Gamma$  leading to failure is at most  $\gamma(2\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F)/\log C$ . The lower bound on  $\gamma$  shows that if  $(p_1, p_2)$  is chosen randomly with uniform probability in  $\Gamma$ , the probability that it leads to failure is at most

$$\frac{\gamma(2\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F)}{\#\Gamma \log C} = \frac{\gamma(2\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F)}{\gamma^2 \log C} = \frac{2\mathfrak{a}_F + \mathfrak{b}_F}{\gamma \log C} \leq \frac{4\mathfrak{a}_F + 2\mathfrak{b}_F}{C},$$

which is at most  $\varepsilon$ , as requested.

To estimate the complexity of this algorithm, note that since we double the precision at each lifting step, the cost of the last lifting step dominates. From the previous discussion, the number of bit operations cost at the last step is quasi-linear in  $(L, h_L, C^n, \deg Z, 2^\kappa, \log p_1)$ . The previous estimates show that at this step,  $2^\kappa$  is in  $O(n^{O(1)}(\deg Z + \text{ht } Z))$ , whereas  $\log p_1$  is quasi-linear in  $|\log \varepsilon|, \log h, d, \log n$ . Putting all these estimates ends the proof of Theorem 2.

## 5. EXPERIMENTATION

We realized a first MAPLE 9.5 implementation of our modular algorithm on top of the `RegularChains` library [19]. Tests on benchmark systems [25] reveal its strong features,

Sys	Name	$n$	$d$	$h$	$\mathfrak{h}$
1	Cyclohexane	3	4	3	4395
2	Fee_1	4	4	2	24464
3	fabfaux	3	3	13	2647
4	geneig	6	3	2	116587
5	eco6	6	3	0	105718
6	Weispfenning-94	3	5	0	7392
7	Issac97	4	2	2	1511
8	dessin-2	10	2	7	358048
9	eco7	7	3	0	387754
10	Methan61	10	2	16	450313
11	Reimer-4	4	5	1	55246
12	Uteshev-Bikker	4	3	3	7813
13	gametwo5	5	4	8	159192
14	chemkin	13	3	11	850088102

Table 1: Features of the polynomial systems

Sys	$p_1$	$\mathfrak{d}$	$a$	$C_a$
1	4423	7	2	15
2	24499	8	4	70
3	2671	7	5	110
4	116663	10	5	162
5	105761	10	3	40
6	7433	7	3	31
7	1549	6	5	102
8	358079	11	7	711
9	387799	11	4	89
10	450367	11	6	362
11	55313	9	2	19
12	7841	7	5	125
13	159223	10	-	-
14	850088191	18	-	-

Table 2: Data for the modular algorithm

Sys	$\Delta_p$	$E_p$	Lift	Total	Mem.	Output size
1	1	0.3	2	7	5	243
2	3	1	9	20	6	4157
3	8	0.4	6	22	7	5855
4	5	1	5	18	6	4757
5	12	1.5	6	35	6	2555
6	16	1.5	11	43	7	3282
7	66	0.4	4	133	8	4653
8	47	9	232	427	13	122902
9	1515	9	35	2873	11	9916
10	2292	6	82	4686	25	50476
11	3507	1	9	5569	38	2621
12	4879	2	22	8796	63	12870
13	$\infty$	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	fail	-

Table 3: Results from our modular algorithm

Sys	Triang.	Mem.	Size	gsolve	Mem.	Size
1	0.4	4	169	0.2	3	239
2	2	6	1680	504	18	34375
3	512	275	6250	1041	34	27624
4	2.5	4	743	-	fail	-
5	5	5	3134	9	5	2236
6	3000	250	2695	4950	66	34932
7	-	fail	-	1050	31	31115
8	-	fail	-	-	error	-
9	1593	18	55592	-	fail	-
10	$\infty$	-	-	-	fail	-
11	-	fail	-	-	fail	-
12	-	fail	-	-	fail	-
13	-	fail	-	$\infty$	-	-
14	-	fail	-	-	fail	-

Table 4: Results from Triangularize and gsolve

compared with two other MAPLE solvers, `Triangularize`, from the `RegularChains` library, and `gsolve`, from the `Groebner` library. Remark that the triangular decompositions modulo a prime, that are needed in our algorithm, are performed by `Triangularize`. This function is a generic code:

essentially the same code is used over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and modulo a prime. Thus, `Triangularize` is not optimized for modular computations.

Our computations are done on a 2799 MHz Pentium 4. For the time being our implementation handles square systems that generate radical ideals. We compare our algorithm called `TriangularizeModular` with `gsolve` and `Triangularize`;

For each benchmark system, Table 1 lists the numbers  $n, d, h, \mathfrak{h}$  and Table 2 lists the prime  $p_1$ , the *a priori* and actual number of lifting steps ( $\mathfrak{d}$  and  $a$ ) and the maximal height of the output coefficients ( $C_a$ ). Table 3 gives the time of one call to `Triangularize` modulo  $p_1$  ( $\Delta_p$ ), the equiprojectable decomposition ( $E_p$ ), and the lifting (Lift.) in seconds — the first two steps correspond to the “oracle calls”  $O_2$  mentioned in Theorem 2, which will be studied in [6]. Table 3 gives also the total time, the total memory usage and output size for `TriangularizeModular`, whereas Table 4 gives that data for `Triangularize` and `gsolve`.

The maximum time is set up to 10800 seconds; we set the probability of success to be at least 90%.

`TriangularizeModular` solves 12 of the 14 test systems before the timeout, while `Triangularize` succeeds with 7 and `gsolve` with 6. Among most of the problems which `gsolve` can solve, `TriangularizeModular` shows less time consumed, less memory usage, and smaller output size. Noticeably, quite a few of the large systems can be solved by `TriangularizeModular` with time extension: system 13 is solved in 18745 seconds. Another interesting system is Pinchon-1 (from the FRISCO project), for which  $n = 29, d = 16, h = 20, \mathfrak{h} = 1409536095e + 29$ , which we solve in 64109 seconds. Both `Triangularize` and `gsolve` fail these problems due to memory allocation failure. Our modular method demonstrates its efficiency in reducing the size of the intermediate computations, whence its ability to solve difficult problems.

We observed that for every test system, for which  $E_p$  can be computed, the Hensel lifting always succeeds, *i.e.* the equiprojectable decomposition over  $\mathbb{Q}$  can be reconstructed from  $E_p$ . In addition, `TriangularizeModular` failed `chemkin` at the  $\Delta_p$  phase rather than at the lifting stage. Furthermore, the time consumed in the equiprojectable decomposition and the Hensel lifting is rather insignificant comparing with that in triangular decomposition modulo a prime. For every tested example the Hensel lifting achieves its final goal in less steps than the theoretical bound. In addition, the primes derived from our theoretical bounds are of quite moderate size, even on large examples.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

We have presented a modular algorithm for triangular decompositions of 0-dimensional varieties over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and have demonstrated the feasibility of Hensel lifting in computing triangular decompositions of non-equiprojectable varieties. Experiments show the capacity of this approach to improve the practical efficiency of triangular decomposition.

By far, the bottleneck is the modular triangularization phase. This is quite encouraging, since it is the part for which we relied on generic, non-optimized code. The next step is to extend these techniques to specialize variables as well during the modular phase, following the approach initiated in [13] for primitive element representations, and treat systems of positive dimension.

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