



# Newton Polyhedra and Good Compactification Theorem

Askold Khovanskii<sup>1</sup>

Received: 14 February 2020 / Revised: 8 August 2020 / Accepted: 14 August 2020 /  
Published online: 3 September 2020  
© Institute for Mathematical Sciences (IMS), Stony Brook University, NY 2020

## Abstract

A new transparent proof of the well-known good compactification theorem for the complex torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is presented. This theorem provides a powerful tool in enumerative geometry for subvarieties in the complex torus. The paper also contains an algorithm constructing a good compactification for a subvariety in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  explicitly defined by a system of equations. A new theorem on a toroidal-like compactification is stated. A transparent proof of this generalization of the good compactification theorem which is similar to proofs and constructions from this paper will be presented in a forthcoming publication.

**Keywords** Good compactification theorem · Complex torus · Newton polyhedra · Toric variety

## 1 Introduction

The paper is dedicated to a simple constructive proof of the good compactification theorem for the group  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and to related elementary geometry of this group.

A few words about the introduction. We briefly talk about the ring of conditions  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$  for the complex torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  in the introduction only. This ring suggests a version of intersection theory for algebraic cycles in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . We discuss a role of the good compactification theorem in this theory and explain how Newton polyhedra are related to the ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$ . In Sect. 1.4, we state a new stronger version of the good compactification theorem. In the Sects. 1.5 and 1.6, we summarize the remainder of the paper and fix some notation.

---

Dedicated to Alexander Varchenko's 70th birthday

---

The work was partially supported by the NSERC Grant no. 156833-17.

---

✉ Askold Khovanskii  
askold@math.toronto.edu

<sup>1</sup> University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

## 1.1 The Ring of Conditions

The good compactification theorem for a spherical homogeneous space  $U$  allows to define *the ring of conditions of  $U$*  (see [3] or the next page for the relevant definitions and statements). In the paper, we consider the case when  $U$  is a complex torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  equipped with the natural action of the torus on itself.

Following the original ideas of Schubert, in the early 1980s, De Concini and Procesi developed an intersection theory for algebraic cycles in a symmetric homogeneous space [3]. Their theory, named the *ring of conditions of  $U$* , can be automatically generalized to a spherical homogeneous space  $U$ . De Concini and Procesi showed that the description of such a ring can be reduced to homology rings (or to Chow rings) of an increasing chain of smooth  $G$ -equivariant compactifications of  $U$ .

The ring of conditions  $\mathcal{R}(U) = \mathcal{R}_0(U) + \dots + \mathcal{R}_n(U)$  is a commutative graded ring with homogeneous components of degrees  $0, \dots, n$  where  $n$  equals to the dimension of  $U$ . The component  $\mathcal{R}_k(U)$  consists of algebraic cycles  $Z_k$  in  $U$  of codimension  $k$ , considered up to an equivalence relation  $\sim$ . An element in  $Z_k$  is a formal sum of algebraic subvarieties of codimension  $k$  taken with integral coefficients.

- (1) Two algebraic cycles  $X_1, X_2 \in Z_k$  are equivalent  $X_1 \sim X_2$  (and define the same element in  $\mathcal{R}_k(U)$ ) if for any cycle  $Y \in Z_{n-k}$  for almost any  $g \in G$ , the cycles  $X_1$  and  $gY$ , as well as cycles  $X_2$  and  $gY$ , have finite number of points of intersections and these numbers computed with appropriate multiplicities are equal. (Let us comment on these appropriate multiplicities. If the cycles are irreducible varieties, then for almost any  $g$  one computes the number of the intersection points with multiplicities one. For arbitrary cycles, these multiplicities can be found by linearity).
- (2) Assume that (a)  $X_1, X_2 \in Z_k$  and  $X_1 \sim X_2$ ; (b)  $Y_1, Y_2 \in Z_m$  and  $Y_1 \sim Y_2$ . For almost any element  $g \in G$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , let  $W_{i,g}$  be the cycle obtained by taken with appropriate coefficient components of codimension  $k + m$  in the intersection of  $X_i$  and  $gY_i$ , then the cycles  $W_{1,g}$  and  $W_{2,g}$  are equivalent and they define the same element in  $\mathcal{R}_{k+m}(U)$ .

(Let us comment on these appropriate coefficients. If the cycles are irreducible varieties, then for almost any  $g$  the components of the intersection have to be taken with coefficient one. For arbitrary cycles, these coefficients can be found by linearity).

The addition  $+$  in the ring  $\mathcal{R}(U)$  is induced by the addition in the group of cycles. The multiplication  $*$  in the ring  $\mathcal{R}(U)$  is induced by intersection of cycles. The multiplication in  $\mathcal{R}(U)$  is well defined because of the property (2).

The component  $\mathcal{R}_0(U)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ , each element in  $\mathcal{R}_0(U)$  is the variety  $U$  multiplied by an integral coefficient.

The component  $\mathcal{R}_n(U)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Its elements are represented by linear combinations of points in  $U$  with the following equivalence relation:  $\sum k_i a_i \sim \sum m_j b_j$  if  $\sum k_i = \sum m_j$ .

The pairing  $F_k : \mathcal{R}_k \times \mathcal{R}_{n-k} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  can be defined using the multiplication in the ring  $\mathcal{R}(U)$  and the isomorphism  $\mathcal{R}_n \sim \mathbb{Z}$ . This pairing is non degenerate, i.e. for any  $a_k \in \mathcal{R}_k \setminus \{0\}$  there is  $b_{n-k} \in \mathcal{R}_{n-k}$  such that  $F_k(a_k, b_{n-k}) \neq 0$  (the non-degeneracy follows automatically from the definition of the ring  $\mathcal{R}(U)$ ).

In Sect. 1.2, we comment on the role of the good compactification theorem for this intersection theory in the case when a homogeneous space  $U$  is the complex torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  acting naturally on itself.

### 1.2 The Ring $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{T}^n)$ of Conditions of $\mathcal{T}^n = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$

The construction of the ring and all its descriptions are based on the good compactification theorem [4,8,9,11,18,19].

A complete toric variety  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is a *good compactification for an algebraic variety*  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  of codimension  $k$  if the closure of  $X$  in  $V$  does not intersect any orbit of the  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  action on  $V$  whose dimension is smaller than  $k$ . The toric variety  $V$  is a good compactification for an algebraic cycle of codimension  $k$  if it is a good compactification of all varieties of codimension  $k$  which appear in the cycle with nonzero coefficients.

**Good compactification theorem** [3,4,18,19] One can find a good compactification for any given algebraic subvariety  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .

Let  $V, V_1$  be toric varieties and  $\pi : V \rightarrow V_1$  be a proper equivariant map. Let  $V_1$  be a good compactification for the variety  $X$ . Then  $V$  also is a good compactification for  $X$ . For any finite collection of complete toric varieties  $V_1, \dots, V_k$ , one can find a smooth projective toric variety  $V$  which dominates all of them, i.e. one can find such  $V$  that there exist proper equivariant projections  $\pi_1 : V \rightarrow V_1, \dots, \pi_k : V \rightarrow V_k$ . Thus, the theorem implies that one can find a smooth projective toric variety  $M$  which provides a good compactification for any given finite collection of algebraic subvarieties in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .

The good compactification theorem was first discovered and proven in [3] in a much more general setting: it is applicable for an arbitrary spherical homogeneous space  $U$ . The case of  $U = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  can be proven in a much simpler way (see below). It would be interesting to extend this simple proof to the general case.

In [18,19] only the case  $U = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is considered. The proof from [18] uses *universal Gröbner bases* (see Lemma 10 below). Usually it is very hard to find such bases explicitly (see [10]). The proof from [19] uses *generalized Kapranov's visible contours and non archimedean amoebas*. This proof also is far from being transparent.

Assume that a smooth projective toric variety  $V$  is a good compactification for cycles  $X_1, X_2 \in Z_k$ . Then  $X_1 \sim X_2$  if and only if the closure of these cycles in  $V$  define equal elements in the homology group  $H_{2(n-k)}(V, \mathbb{Z})$ . Moreover, for any element  $x \in H_{2(n-k)}(V, \mathbb{Z})$ , one can find a cycle  $X \in Z_k$  such that  $V$  is a good compactification for  $X$  and the closure of  $X$  in  $V$  represents the element  $x$ .

Assume that the variety  $V$  is a good compactification for cycles  $X \in Z_k$  and  $Y \in Z_m$  and the closure of these cycles define elements  $x \in H_{2(n-k)}(V, \mathbb{Z})$  and  $y \in H_{2(n-m)}(V, \mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $g$  be a generic element in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  (i.e. let  $g$  be such an element that for any orbit  $O$  the cycles  $O \cap \bar{X}$  and  $O \cap g\bar{Y}$  are stratified transversal). Let  $W_g \in Z_{k+m}$  be the cycle corresponding to the intersection of  $X$  and  $gY$ . Then  $V$  is a good compactification for  $W_g$ . Moreover, the closure of  $W_g$  in  $V$  defines the element  $w \in H_{2(n-k-m)}(V, \mathbb{Z})$  which is independent of a choice of generic element  $g$  and equal to the intersection of cycles  $x$  and  $y$  in the homology ring  $H_*(V, \mathbb{Z})$ .

These statements belong to the theory of rings of conditions of spherical homogeneous spaces [3], for the toric case see for example [4], related material can be found in [6,8,9,11,18]. Thus, the description of the ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$  can be reduced to the description of the homology rings of smooth projective toric varieties (and to description of the behavior of these rings under proper equivariant maps between toric varieties).

### 1.3 Newton Polyhedra and the Ring $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$

Let us start with the following striking connection of Newton polyhedra to the ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$ . Consider two hypersurfaces  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by equations  $P_1 = 0$ ,  $P_2 = 0$ , where  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are Laurent polynomials. Then *the cycles  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \in Z_1$  represent the same element in  $\mathcal{R}_1(T^n)$  if and only if the Newton polyhedra  $\Delta(P_1)$  and  $\Delta(P_2)$  are equal up to a shift.*

Any element in  $\mathcal{R}_1(T^n)$  can be represented as a formal difference of two hypersurfaces. Thus, *the component  $\mathcal{R}_1(T^n)$  can be identified with the group of virtual convex polyhedra with integral vertices* (i.e. can be identified with the Grothendieck group of the semigroup of convex polyhedra with integral vertices).

*The ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$  is generated by  $\mathcal{R}_0(T^n) \sim \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_1(T^n)$*  (since the homology ring of a smooth projective toric variety  $V$  is generated by  $H_{2n}(V, \mathbb{Z}) \sim \mathbb{Z}$  and  $H_{2n-2}(V, \mathbb{Z})$ ). Thus, it is not surprising that the ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$  can be described using only the geometry of convex polyhedra with integral vertices [4,11].

Let  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be hypersurfaces defined by equations  $P_1 = 0, \dots, P_n = 0$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  are Laurent polynomials with Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$ . Then the intersection number of the cycles  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  in the ring of conditions  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$  is equal to  $n!$  multiplied by the mixed volume of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$  (see [11]). This statement is a version of the famous Bernstein–Kushnirenko theorem (see [1,2,13,14,17]) also known as BKK (Bernstein–Kushnirenko–Khovanskii) theorem. The statement shows that the BKK theorem applies naturally to the ring  $\mathcal{R}(T^n)$ .

### 1.4 Strong Version of the Good Compactification Theorem

In this section, we announce a toroidal like compactification theorem which is a stronger version of the good compactification theorem for a complex torus.

Consider a triple  $(Y, D, a)$ , where  $Y$  is a normal  $n$ -dimensional variety,  $D \subset Y$  is a Weil divisor and  $a \in D$  is a point. We say that  $(Y, D, a)$  is a *pointed toroidal triple* if there is an affine toric variety  $Y_1 \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  with a divisor  $D_1 = Y_1 \setminus (Y_1 \cap (\mathbb{C}^*)^n)$  and with a null orbit  $a_1 \in D_1$  such that the triple  $(Y, D, a)$  is locally analytically equivalent to the triple  $(Y_1, D_1, a_1)$  in neighborhoods of the points  $a$  and  $a_1$  (about toroidal embedding see [12]).

Let  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be a good compactification for  $X \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ , let  $\mathcal{X}$  be the closure of  $X$  in  $V$  and let  $\mathcal{D}$  be  $\mathcal{X} \cap D$ , where  $D = V \setminus (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . Consider the normalization  $\pi : \tilde{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and let  $\tilde{D}$  be  $\pi^{-1}(D)$ .

We say that a good compactification  $V$  for a subvariety  $X$  of codimension  $k$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  gives a *toroidal like compactification  $\mathcal{X}$  of  $X$  if for any point  $a \in \mathcal{X} \cap O$ , where*

$O \subset V$  is a  $k$ -dimensional orbit, and for any point  $\tilde{a} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  such that  $\pi(\tilde{a}) = a$  the triple  $(\tilde{\mathcal{X}}, \tilde{\mathcal{D}}, \tilde{a})$  is a pointed toroidal triple.

**Toroidal like compactification theorem** For any given algebraic subvariety  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  one can find a toric variety  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  providing a toroidal like compactification of  $X$ .

A transparent proof of this new theorem which is similar to proofs and constructions from this paper will be presented in a forthcoming article.

Consider any toroidal like compactification for a variety  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . Let  $\tilde{a} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  be a point as above and let  $\tilde{\mathcal{V}} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  be a small neighborhood of  $\tilde{a}$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ . The image  $\mathcal{V} = \pi(\tilde{\mathcal{V}}) \subset \mathcal{X}$  (which is a piece of a branch of  $\mathcal{X}$  passing through the point  $\pi(\tilde{a})$ ) can be represented by converging multidimensional Laurent power series. From a tropical geometry point of view, domains of convergency of such Laurent series “cover almost all the infinity of  $X$ ”. Such series could be useful for enumerative geometry. For example, one can easily determine the multiplicity of intersection of  $O$  and  $\mathcal{X}$  at a point  $a$  in terms of such series at all points  $\tilde{a} \in \pi^{-1}(a)$  (such multiplicities play an important role in tropical geometry).

## 1.5 Summary of the Paper

A short proof of the good compactification theorem is presented in the Sect. 7. We use *convenient compactifications for a system of equations* (Sect. 5) and *developed systems of equations* (Sect. 6). Appropriate *regular sequences* (Sect. 2) allow to reduce an arbitrary variety  $X$  to a complete intersection  $Y$ , such that  $X \subset Y$ ,  $\dim X = \dim Y$  (Sect. 3).

Sections 2 and 4 are not used directly in the proof. In Sect. 2, we explain how to reconstruct the dimension of a variety  $X$  from the set of Newton polyhedra of all Laurent polynomials in an ideal defining  $X$ . Our proof of the good compactification theorem is based on similar observations.

The proof heavily uses developed systems of  $k$  equations in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . In Newton polyhedra theory there are many results on such systems with  $k = n$ . In Sect. 4, we recall these results.

An algorithm constructing a good compactification for a subvariety  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  explicitly defined by a system of equations is presented in Sect. 10. It is based on elementary results from elimination theory (Sect. 8) which allows to define by explicitly written system of equations a projection  $\pi(X)$  of  $X$  on an  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional subtorus (Sect. 9).

In Sect. 12, a modified algorithm is presented. We assume there that the codimension of  $X$  is given and we make arbitrary generic choices for the construction to work. This modification is based on the original algorithm and on auxiliary results presented in Sect. 11.

## 1.6 Complex Torus, Its Subgroups and Factor Groups

Here we fix some notation.

The standard  $n$ -dimensional complex torus we denote by  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{L}_n$  the ring of regular functions on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  consisting of Laurent polynomials (i.e. of linear combinations of characters of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ ). We denote by

- $\Lambda \sim \mathbb{Z}^n$  — the lattice of characters;
- $M \sim \mathbb{R}^n$  — the space  $\Lambda \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  of characters;
- $\Lambda^* \sim (\mathbb{Z}^n)^*$  — the lattice of one-parameter subgroups;
- $N \sim (\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  — the space  $\Lambda^* \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  of one parameter subgroups.

A subspace  $L \subset M$  is *rational* if it is generated by elements from  $\Lambda$ . With a rational space  $L$  one can associate the following objects:

- (1) The sublattice  $\Lambda(L)$  of characters in  $L$  equal to  $\Lambda \cap L$ . The sub-ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$  of the ring  $\mathcal{L}_n$  consisting of Laurent polynomials whose Newton polyhedra belong to  $L$ .
- (2) The connected subgroup  $H(L)$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  whose Lie algebra is spanned by vectors from  $\Lambda^*$  orthogonal to the space  $L$ . The subgroup  $H(L)$  is a subset in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ , where all characters from  $\Lambda(L)$  equal to one. Its dimension  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} H(L)$  equals to  $n - \dim_{\mathbb{R}} L$ .
- (3) The factor-group  $F(L) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n / H(L)$  and the factorization map  $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow F(L)$ . The map  $\pi^*$  identifies the lattice of characters of  $F(L)$  with the sublattice  $\Lambda(L)$ , and it identifies the ring of regular functions on  $F(L)$  with the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ .

## 2 Newton Polyhedra and Dimension of an Algebraic Variety

The dimension of an algebraic variety  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is its key invariant for the good compactification theorem. Assume that  $X$  is defined by an ideal  $I$  in the ring of Laurent polynomials. It is natural to ask the following question: *is it possible(at least theoretically) to determine the dimension of the variety  $X$  knowing the set  $\Delta(I)$  of Newton polyhedra  $\Delta(P)$  of all Laurent polynomials  $P \in I$ ?* Below we provide a positive answer to this question. Later we will not use this result directly, but our approach to the good compactification theorem is based on simple arguments used in this section.

Let  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be the algebraic variety defined by an ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{L}_n$ .

**Lemma 1** *If  $\dim X = m$ , then for any rational subspace  $L \subset M$  such that  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} L = m + 1$  there is a Laurent polynomial  $P \in I$  whose Newton polyhedron  $\Delta(P)$  belongs to  $L$ .*

**Proof** Let  $L \subset M$  be an  $(m + 1)$ -dimensional rational space. Then the factor-group  $F(L) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n / H(L)$  has dimension  $(m + 1)$ . Let  $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow F(L)$  be the natural factorization map. The image  $\pi(X) \subset F(L)$  of  $X$  has dimension  $\leq m$  and it has to belong to some algebraic hypersurface  $Q$  in the  $(m + 1)$ -dimensional group  $F(L)$ . By definition, the function  $\pi^*(Q)$  vanishes on  $X$ . Thus,  $\pi^*(Q)$  belongs to the radical of the ideal  $I$ , i.e. there is a natural number  $p$  such that  $(\pi^*Q)^p \in I$ . The Newton polyhedron  $\Delta$  of  $\pi^*(Q)$  belongs to  $L$ . Now one can choose  $P = (\pi^*Q)^p$  since  $\Delta(P) = p\Delta \subset L$ . □

**Lemma 2** *If  $\dim X = m$ , then for a generic rational subspace  $L \subset M$ , with  $\dim L = m$ , there is no  $P \in I$  such that  $\Delta(P)$  belongs to  $L$ .*

**Proof** For a generic rational subspace  $L \subset M$  with  $\dim L = m$  the image of  $X$  in the  $m$ -dimensional factor-group  $F(L)$  has dimension  $m$  and it can not belong to any algebraic hypersurface in  $F(L)$ . Thus, there is no Laurent polynomial  $P \in I$  such that  $\Delta(P) \subset L$ . □

Lemmas 1, 2 allow (at least theoretically) to determine the dimension of  $X$  by Newton polyhedra of all Laurent polynomials from an ideal  $I$  which defined  $X$ .

**Theorem 3** *If  $\dim X = m$ , then any rational space  $L \subset M$  with  $\dim L = m + 1$  contains the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta(P)$  of some  $P \in I$  and a generic rational space  $L \subset M$  with  $\dim L = m$  does not contain any such polyhedron.*

### 3 Good Compactification and Regular Sequences

One can strongly modify an algebraic variety  $X$  preserving its dimension. In this section, we will talk about complete intersections  $Y$  containing  $X$  such that  $\dim Y = \dim X$ . We are interested in such varieties  $Y$  because of the following obvious observation.

**Lemma 4** *If  $X \subset Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and  $\dim X = \dim Y$  then any good compactification for  $Y$  is a good compactification for  $X$ .*

**Proof** Let  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be a good compactification for  $Y$ . Then the closure of  $Y$  in  $M$  does not intersect any orbit  $O \subset M$  such that  $\dim O < n - \dim Y = n - \dim X$ . The closure of  $X$  in  $V$  also does not intersect any such orbit since  $X \subset Y$ . □

Let us recall the following definition.

**Definition 1** A sequence  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  of Laurent polynomials on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is *regular* if for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  the following conditions (i) hold.

- (1):  $P_1$  is not identically equal to zero on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .
- ( $i > 1$ ):  $P_i$  is not identically equal to zero on each  $(n - i + 1)$ -dimensional irreducible component of the variety defined by a system  $P_1 = \dots = P_{i-1} = 0$ .

Let  $Y$  be a variety defined in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  by the system  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  is a regular sequence. *It is easy to see that  $\dim Y = n - k$ .*

Consider a variety  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by an ideal  $I$  in the ring  $\mathcal{L}_n$  with a basis  $Q_1, \dots, Q_N$ . Let  $F$  be the space of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear combinations of the functions  $Q_1, \dots, Q_N$ . We will prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 5** *If  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  is a generic  $k$ -tuple of Laurent polynomials belonging to  $F$  and  $k = n - \dim X$ , then  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  is a regular sequence and a variety  $Y$  defined by the system  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$  contains the variety  $X$ .*

To prove Lemma 5 we will need the following auxiliary statement.

**Lemma 6** *Let  $A \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be a finite set. Assume that for any  $a_i \in A$  there is  $P \in F$  such that  $P(a_i) \neq 0$ . Then there is an algebraic hypersurface  $\Gamma \subset F$  such that for any  $Q \in F \setminus \Gamma$  and for any  $a_j \in A$  the inequality  $Q(a_j) \neq 0$  holds.*

**Proof** Let  $\Gamma_{a_i}$  be a hyperplane in  $F$  defined by the following condition:  $P \in \Gamma_{a_i}$  if  $P(a_i) = 0$ . The union  $\Gamma = \bigcup_{a_i \in A} \Gamma_{a_i}$  is an algebraic hypersurface in  $F$ . If  $Q \notin \Gamma$  then  $Q(a_j) \neq 0$  for all  $a_j \in A$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Lemma 5** Since  $F \subset I$  all functions  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanish on  $X$  thus  $X \subset Y$ . We have to explain why a generic sequence is regular. If  $X$  coincides with  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  then there is nothing to prove. Otherwise as a first member  $P_1$  of a sequence one can take any nonzero element in  $E$ . Assume that for  $i < n - k$  we already chose members  $P_1, \dots, P_i \in F$  such that the sequence  $P_1, \dots, P_i$  is regular. Consider a variety  $Y_i$  defined by the system  $P_1 = \dots = P_i = 0$ . The variety  $X$  cannot contain any irreducible  $(n - i)$ -dimensional component of  $Y_i$  since  $\dim X = n - k < n - i$ . Take a finite set  $A$  containing a point at each  $(n - i)$ -dimensional component of  $Y_i$  not belonging to  $X$ . According to Lemma 6 there is a hypersurface  $\Gamma \subset F$  such that any  $P \in F \setminus \Gamma$  does not vanish at any point from  $A$ . As the next member of the sequence one can take any  $P_{i+1} \in F \setminus \Gamma$ .  $\square$

## 4 Developed Systems of $n$ Equations in $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$

Our proof of the good compactification theorem heavily uses developed systems of  $k$  equations in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . In Newton polyhedra theory, there are many results on such systems with  $k = n$ . Here we recall these results. This section can be skipped without compromising understanding of the paper.

Among all systems of  $n$  equations  $P_1 = \dots = P_n = 0$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  there is an interesting subclass of *developed* systems which resemble one polynomial equation in one variable. Below we recall the definition and main properties of such systems.

Let us start with general definitions. For a convex polyhedron  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and a covector  $\xi \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  we denote by  $\Delta^\xi$  the face of  $\Delta$  at which the restriction on  $\Delta$  of the linear function  $\langle \xi, x \rangle$  attains its minima. The face  $\Delta^\xi$  of the Minkowski sum  $\Delta = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$  of  $k$ -tuple  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is equal to  $\Delta_1^\xi + \dots + \Delta_k^\xi$ .

For a Laurent polynomial  $P = \sum a_m x^m$  with Newton polyhedron  $\Delta(P)$  we denote by  $P^\xi$  the *reduction of  $P$  in the co-direction  $\xi$*  defined by the following formula:  $P^\xi = \sum_{m \in \Delta^\xi(P)} a_m x^m$ . With a system of equations  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and a covector  $\xi$  one associates the reduced in the co-direction  $\xi$  system  $P_1^\xi = \dots = P_k^\xi = 0$ .

**Definition 2** (see [15]) An  $n$ -tuple  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n$  of convex polyhedra in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is *developed* if for any nonzero co-vector  $\xi \in (\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  the  $n$ -tuple  $\Delta_1^\xi, \dots, \Delta_n^\xi$  contains at least one face  $\Delta_j^\xi$  which is a vertex of  $\Delta_j$ . The system of equations  $P_1 = \dots = P_n = 0$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is called *developed* if  $n$ -tuple  $\Delta(P_1, \dots, P_n)$  of Newton polyhedra of  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  is developed.

A polynomial in one variable of degree  $d$  has exactly  $d$  roots counting with multiplicity. The number of roots in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  counting with multiplicities of a developed system is determined only by Newton polyhedra of equations by the Bernstein–Kushnirenko formula (if the system is not developed this formula holds only for generic systems with given Newton polyhedra).

As in the one-dimensional case, one can explicitly compute the sum of values of any Laurent polynomial over the roots of a developed system [7]. In particular, it allows to eliminate all unknowns but one from the system.

As in the one-dimensional case, one can explicitly compute the product of all of the roots of the system regarded as elements in the group  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  [15].

For two polynomials in one variable, the following identity holds: up to the sign depending on degrees of the polynomials the product of values of the first polynomial over the roots of the second one is equal to the product of values of the second polynomial over the roots of the first one multiplied by a certain monomial in coefficients of the polynomials. Assume that for given  $(n + 1)$  Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_{n+1}$  in  $n$  variables any  $n$ -tuple out of  $(n + 1)$ -tuple of their Newton polyhedra is developed. Then for any  $1 \leq i < j \leq n + 1$  up to sign depending on Newton polyhedra the product of values of  $P_i$  over the common roots of all Laurent polynomials but  $P_i$  is equal to the product of values of  $P_j$  over the roots of all Laurent polynomial but  $P_j$  multiplied by a certain monomial in coefficients of all Laurent polynomials. This result and a review of the results mentioned above can be found in [16].

### 5 Convenient Compactifications of $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ for a System of Equations

With any given system of equations in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  one can associate a natural class of compactifications of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  which are *convenient for the system*. In Sect. 10, we construct a good compactification for a variety  $X$  as a convenient compactification for some explicitly presented system of equations. In this section, we talk about convenient compactifications.

Consider a variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by a finite system of equations

$$P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0, \tag{1}$$

where  $P_1, \dots, P_k \in \mathcal{L}_n$ . With each convex polyhedron  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  one can associate its *support function*  $H_\Delta$  on  $(\mathbb{R}^n)^*$  defined by the relation

$$H_\Delta(\xi) = \min_{x \in \Delta} \langle \xi, x \rangle.$$

**Definition 3** (see [13,14]) A toric compactification  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is *convenient for the system (1)* if the support functions of Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  of  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  are linear at each cone  $\sigma$  belonging to the fan  $\mathcal{F}_V$  of the toric variety  $V$ .

It is easy to verify that  $V$  is *convenient for the system (1)* if and only if its fan  $\mathcal{F}_V$  is a subdivision of a dual fan  $\Delta^\perp$  to  $\Delta = \Delta(P_1) + \dots + \Delta(P_k)$ .

For some systems, each convenient compactification provides a good compactification for the variety  $Y$  defined by the system. We will show below that a good compactification for any variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  can be obtained as a convenient compactification for some auxiliary system.

Consider a hypersurface  $\Gamma$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by the equation  $P = 0$ , where  $P \in \mathcal{L}_n$ .

**Lemma 7** [13,14] *Any convenient compactification  $V$  for the equation  $P = 0$  provides a good compactification for the hypersurface  $\Gamma$ .*

**Proof** Let us show that the closure of  $\Gamma$  in  $V$  does not contain any null-orbit. Let  $O$  be a null-orbit and let  $\sigma$  be the cone in the fan of  $V$  corresponding to the affine toric subvariety  $V_O$  containing  $O$ . Since  $V$  is a convenient compactification, on the cone  $\sigma$  the support function of  $\Delta(P)$  is a linear function  $\langle \xi, A \rangle$ , where  $A$  is a vertex of  $\Delta(P)$ . Let  $\chi_A$  be the character (the monomial) corresponding to the point  $A$ . The support function of  $\Delta(P \cdot \chi_A^{-1})$  is equal to zero on  $\sigma$  thus  $\Delta(P \cdot \chi^{-1})$  belongs to the cone  $\sigma^\perp$  dual to  $\sigma$ , i.e.  $P \cdot \chi_A^{-1}$  is regular on  $V_O$ . Assume that the monomial  $\chi_A$  appears in  $P$  with the coefficient  $C_A$ , which is not equal to zero since  $A$  is a vertex of  $\Delta(P)$ . The closure of  $\Gamma \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  in  $V_O$  can be defined by the equation  $P \cdot \chi_A^{-1} = 0$ . It does not contain  $O$  since  $P \cdot \chi_A^{-1}(O) = C_A \neq 0$ . □

The converse statement to Lemma 7 also is true:

**Lemma 8** *If  $V \supset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is a good compactification for  $\Gamma$  then  $V$  is a convenient for the equation  $P = 0$ .*

We will not use Lemma 8 and will not prove it.

**Definition 4** (see [13,14]) A system (1) is called  $\Delta$ -non-degenerate if for any covector  $\xi \in (\mathbb{R}^*)^n$  the following condition  $(\xi)$  is satisfied:

for any root  $a \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  of the system  $P_1^\xi = \dots = P_k^\xi = 0$  the differentials  $dP_1^\xi, \dots, dP_k^\xi$  are independent at the tangent space to  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  at the point  $a$ .

**Lemma 9** [13,14] *Any convenient compactification  $V$  for a  $\Delta$ -non-degenerate system provides a good compactification for the variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by this system.*

If in the assumptions of Lemma 9, the toric compactification  $V$  is smooth then the closure of  $Y$  in  $V$  is also smooth and transversal to all orbits of  $V$  (see [13,14]). One can show that a generic system (1) with the fixed Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1 = \Delta(P_1), \dots, \Delta_k = \Delta(P_k)$  is  $\Delta$ -non-degenerate. These statements play the key role in Newton polyhedra theory, which computes discreet invariants of the variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  in terms of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$ , where  $Y$  is defined by a generic system of equations with Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$ .

Instead of the  $\Delta$ -non-degeneracy assumption in Lemma 9 one can assume that the  $(\xi)$  condition (see Definition 4) holds only for covectors  $\xi$  belonging to cones in the fan  $\Delta^\perp$  for  $\Delta = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$  dual to faces of  $\Delta$  whose dimension is smaller then  $k$ . (For such covectors,  $\xi$  it just means that the system  $P_1^\xi = \dots = P_k^\xi = 0$  has no solutions in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .) For  $k = 1$  this claim coincides with Lemma 7.

In any ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{L}_n$ , there exists an universal Gröbner basis  $P_1, \dots, P_k \in I$  (see for example [18]), a related material can be found in [10]. One can prove the following.

**Lemma 10** *Any convenient compactification  $M$  for a system  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$ , where  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  is an universal Gröbner basis of an ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{L}_n$  provides a good compactification for the variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by the ideal  $I$ .*

Lemma 10 is applicable for any subvariety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and it provides a standard proof of the good compactification theorem. Unfortunately a universal Gröbner basis of an ideal contains usually a very large number of element (see [10]).

### 6 Developed Systems of $k < n$ Equations in $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$

In this section, we will deal with *developed systems* and with complete intersections  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by these systems. A convenient compactification for a developed system provides a good compactification for the corresponding complete intersection  $Y$ .

Let  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  be a  $k$ -tuple of convex polyhedra in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $\Delta$  be the Minkowski sum  $\Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$ . Each face  $\Gamma$  of  $\Delta$  is representable as the sum  $\Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_k$  where  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k$  is the (unique)  $k$ -tuple of faces of these polyhedra.

**Definition 5** A  $k$ -tuple  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  of convex polyhedra in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is *developed* if for any face  $\Gamma$  of  $\Delta = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$  such that  $\dim \Gamma < k$  in the representation  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_k$ , where  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k$  is a  $k$ -tuple of faces of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  at least one face  $\Gamma_j$  is a vertex of  $\Delta_j$ . A system (1) is called *developed* if  $k$ -tuple  $\Delta(P_1), \dots, \Delta(P_k)$  of Newton polyhedra of  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  is developed.

A system containing only one equation  $P_1 = 0$  is always developed. For  $k = n$  Definition 5 is equivalent to Definition 1.

**Lemma 11** Let  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be a complete intersection defined by a developed system containing  $k$  equations and let  $V$  be a convenient compactification for the system. Then the closure of  $Y$  in  $V$  does not intersect any orbit  $O \subset V$  whose dimension is smaller than  $k$ .

**Proof** Lemma 11 can be proved in the same way as Lemma 7. Let us show that the closure of  $Y$  in  $V$  does not intersect any orbits  $O$  in  $V$  such that  $\dim O < k$ . Let  $O$  be an orbit with  $\dim O < k$  and let  $\sigma$  be the cone of dimension  $n - \dim O$  in the fan of  $V$  corresponding to the smallest affine toric subvariety  $V_O$  containing  $O$ .

Since  $V$  is a convenient compactification the cone  $\sigma$  has to belong to a some cone  $\tau$  of the dual fan  $\Delta^\perp$  for  $\Delta = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$ .

Since  $\dim \tau \geq \dim \sigma$  the cone  $\tau$  is dual to a face  $\Gamma$  of  $\Delta$  such that  $\dim \Gamma = n - \dim \tau < k$ . By assumption in the representation  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_k$ , where each  $\Gamma_i$  is a face of  $\Delta_i$ , there is a face  $\Gamma_j$  which is a vertex  $A$  of  $\Delta_j$ . Thus, the support function of  $\Delta(P_j)$  is the linear function  $\langle \xi, A \rangle$ . The vertex  $A$  corresponds to the character  $\chi_A$ . Assume that the monomial  $\chi_A$  appears in  $P$  with the coefficient  $C_A$ , which is not equal to zero since  $A$  is a vertex of  $\Delta(P)$ . The closure of  $\{P_j = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  in  $V_O$  can be defined by the equation  $P_j \cdot \chi_A^{-1} = 0$ . It does not intersect the orbit  $O$  since the function  $P_j \cdot \chi_A^{-1}$  is equal to the constant  $C_A \neq 0$  on  $O$ . The variety  $Y$  is contained in the hypersurface  $\{P_j = 0\} \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and can not intersect  $O$  as well. □

**Corollary 12** If  $Y$  is defined by a developed system, then a convenient compactification for the system is good compactification for  $Y$ .

**Proof** Indeed if  $Y$  is defined by a system of  $k$  equations in the  $n$ -dimensional torus, then dimension of  $Y$  is greater or equal to  $n - k$ . Thus, Corollary 12 follows from Lemma 11. □

## 7 Polyhedra with Affine Independent Edges

In this section, we prove Theorem 15 on geometry of Newton polyhedra which easily implies the good compactification theorem.

**Definition 6** A  $k$ -tuple of segments  $I_1, \dots, I_k$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is *affine independent* if there is no  $k$ -tuple of vectors  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that the segments  $I_1 + a_1, \dots, I_k + a_k$  belong to a  $(k - 1)$ -dimensional subspace  $L$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Equivalently,  $I_1, \dots, I_k$  are *affine independent* if dimension of their Minkowski sum  $I_1 + \dots + I_k$  equals to  $k$ .

**Definition 7** Convex polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  have *affine independent edges* if any collection  $I_1 \subset \Delta_1, \dots, I_k \subset \Delta_k$  of their edges is affine independent.

**Lemma 13** Any  $k$ -tuple of convex polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  having affine independent edges is developed.

**Proof** Consider the Minkowski sum  $\Delta = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_k$ . Each face  $\Gamma$  of  $\Delta$  is the Minkowski sum  $\Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_k$  of the unique collection of faces  $\Gamma_1 \subset \Delta_1, \dots, \Gamma_k \subset \Delta_k$  of these polyhedra. If a face  $\Gamma_i$  is not a vertex of  $\Delta_i$ , then  $\Gamma_i$  has to contain an edge  $I_i$  of  $\Delta_i$ . If all faces  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k$  are not vertices then  $\Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_k = \Gamma$  has to contain a sum  $I_1 + \dots + I_k$  where  $I_1, \dots, I_k$  are some edges of  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$ . Dimension of  $I_1 + \dots + I_k$  is equal to  $k$  since  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  have affine independent edges. Thus if  $\dim \Gamma < k$ , then among faces  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k$  has to be at least one vertex.  $\square$

With any hyperplane  $L \subset M$  one can associate a linear function  $f_L : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (defined up to a nonzero factor) which vanishes on  $L$ .

**Definition 8** A linear function on  $M$  is *weakly generic* for a convex polyhedron  $\Delta \subset M$  if its restriction on  $\Delta$  attains its maximum and minimum only at vertices of  $\Delta$ . If the function  $f_L$  associated with a hyperplane  $L \subset M$  has such property we say that  $L$  is *weakly generic* for  $\Delta$ .

Assume that  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is defined by  $N + 1 \geq 1$  equations

$$T_1 = \dots = T_{N+1} = 0, \tag{2}$$

(where  $T_1, \dots, T_{N+1}$  are Laurent polynomials not identically equal to zero).

**Lemma 14** If a rational hyperplane  $L \subset M$  is weakly generic for the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta_1$  of  $T_1$ , then the image  $\pi(X)$  of  $X$  under the factorization map  $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^*)^n/H(L) = F(L)$  is an affine subvariety in the torus  $F(L)$ . Moreover the dimension of  $\pi(X)$  is equal to the dimension of  $X$ .

**Sketch of proof** Conditions on the equation  $T_1 = 0$  and on the hyperplane  $L$  imply that the restriction of  $\pi$  on  $X$  is a proper map and that each point in  $\pi(X)$  has finitely many pre-images in  $X$ . Both claims of Lemma 14 follow from these properties of  $\pi$ . We omit details, since in Sect. 9, we present a constructive proof of Lemma 14.  $\square$

**Definition 9** A linear function on  $M$  is *generic* for a convex polyhedron  $\Delta \subset M$  if its restriction on  $\Delta$  is not a constant on any edge of  $\Delta$ . If the function  $f_L$  associated with a hyperplane  $L \subset M$  has such property we say that  $L$  is *generic* for  $\Delta$ .

Any hyperplane  $L$  generic for  $\Delta$  is weakly generic for  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem 15** *If codimension of a subvariety  $X$  in the torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is equal to  $k$  then one can choose a  $k$ -tuple of Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanishing on  $X$  such that their Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  have affine independent edges.*

**Proof** Induction in codimension of  $X$ . If codimension is one then  $X$  is contained in a hypersurface  $P = 0$  where  $P$  is a nonzero Laurent polynomial. In that case, one can choose  $P_1$  equal to  $P$ .

If codimension of  $X$  is  $k > 1$  then as  $P_1$  one can choose any nonzero Laurent polynomial vanishing on  $X$ . After that one can choose a rational hyperplane  $L \subset M$  which is generic for the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta_1$  of  $P_1$ . In particular,  $L$  is weakly generic for  $\Delta_1$ . Thus, by Lemma 14, the image  $\pi(X)$  of  $X$  is an affine subvariety of codimension  $k - 1$  in the  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional torus  $F(L)$ .

The map  $\pi^*$  identifies regular functions on  $F(L)$  vanishing on  $\pi(X)$  with Laurent polynomials on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  vanishing on  $X$  whose Newton polyhedra belong to  $L$ . By induction there are Laurent polynomials  $P_2, \dots, P_k$  vanishing on  $X$  whose Newton polyhedra belong to  $L$  and have affine independent edges. All edges of  $\Delta_1$  are not parallel to the space  $L$  since  $L$  is generic for  $\Delta_1$ . Thus, the Laurent polynomials  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_k$  have affine independent edges and vanish on  $X$ . Theorem 15 is proven. □

Assume that an algebraic variety  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is defined by an ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{L}_n$ .

**Corollary 16** *If codimension of  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is equal to  $k$ , then one can choose a  $k$ -tuple of Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  in the ideal  $I$  such that their Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  have affine independent edges.*

**Proof** According to Theorem 15 one can chose Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanishing on  $X$  such that their Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  have affine independent edges. By Hilbert’s theorem, there is a natural number  $m$  such that Laurent polynomials  $P_1^m, \dots, P_k^m$  belong to the ideal  $I$ . Newton polyhedra  $m\Delta_1, \dots, m\Delta_k$  of these polynomials have affine independent edges. □

The following corollary provides a version of the good compactification theorem.

**Corollary 17** (a version of good compactification theorem) *If codimension of  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is equal to  $k$  then one can choose Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanishing on  $X$  such that any convenient compactification for the system  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$  is a good compactification for  $X$ . Moreover, for any ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{L}_n$  defining  $X$ , one can choose such Laurent polynomials from the ideal  $I$ .*

**Proof** By Theorem 15, one can choose Laurent polynomials  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanishing on  $X$  such that their Newton polyhedra  $\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_k$  have affine independent edges. By

Lemma 13 the system  $P_1 = \cdots = P_k = 0$  is developed. By Lemma 11, any convenient compactification  $V$  for the system is a good compactification for the variety defined by the system. By Lemma 4,  $V$  is also a good compactification for  $X$ . By Corollary 16  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  can be chosen in any ideal  $I$  defining  $X$ .  $\square$

If  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is defined by an explicitly written system of equations then Theorem 15 and elimination theory allow to construct a good compactification for  $X$  explicitly (see Sect. 10). Before presenting a general algorithm let us show on a simple example how it works.

If  $X$  is defined by one equation  $P = 0$  then any convenient compactification for its Newton polyhedron is a good compactification for  $X$ . In the next example, we discuss our algorithm for  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by two equations  $P = Q = 0$  with Newton polyhedra  $\Delta(P)$  and  $\Delta(Q)$ . In the example, we use slightly different notation than in the paper.

**Example** (Variety  $X$  defined by two equations) To construct a good compactification for  $X$  let us make some preparations. One can choose an appropriate automorphism of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and embed it into the standard affine space  $\mathbb{C}^n$  in such a way that the following condition holds: the linear function  $l_1$  on the space of monomials corresponding to powers of the first coordinate  $x_1$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a generic linear function for  $\Delta(P)$ . After that one can multiply  $P$  and  $Q$  by appropriate monomials, in such a way that  $P$  and  $Q$  become polynomials on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and minima of  $l_1$  on  $\Delta(P)$  and  $\Delta(Q)$  become equal to zero.

Consider  $P$  and  $Q$  as polynomials in  $x_1$  whose coefficients are polynomials in all other coordinates  $x_2, \dots, x_n$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Let  $R$  be the resultant of  $P$  and  $Q$  which is a polynomial in  $x_2, \dots, x_n$ . If  $R$  is not identically equal to zero, then any convenient compactification for  $\Delta(P)$ ,  $\Delta(R)$ , where  $\Delta(R)$  is the Newton polyhedron of  $R$ , is a good compactification for  $X$ . Otherwise, if  $R \equiv 0$ , then any convenient compactification for  $\Delta(P)$  is a good compactification for  $X$ .

**Remark** (1) If  $P, Q$  are generic polynomials for their Newton polyhedra  $\Delta(P), \Delta(Q)$  then the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta(R)$  of their resultant  $R$  does not depend on coefficients of  $P$  and  $Q$  and can be found up to a shift directly from the polyhedra  $\Delta(P)$  and  $\Delta(Q)$  (see [5]). Note that if  $P, Q$  are generic for their Newton polyhedra, then any convenient compactification for  $\Delta(P), \Delta(Q)$  is a good compactification for  $X$ , thus for its construction one does not need the polyhedron  $\Delta(R)$ . Nevertheless, [5] provides an exact bound from above for the size of  $\Delta(R)$  which is helpful in estimating complexity of the algorithm.

- (2) If  $R \equiv 0$  then the polynomials  $P, Q$  have a nontrivial common factor  $T$ . Let  $P_1 = P/T$  and  $Q_1 = Q/T$ . Then  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  where  $X_1$  is defined by  $T = 0$  and  $X_2$  is defined by  $P_1 = Q_1 = 0$ . The codimension of  $X_1$  equals one,  $X_2$  either is empty or has codimension two. Any convenient compactification for  $\Delta(P)$  provides a good compactification for  $X$  and for the collection  $X_1$  of components of  $X$  of the biggest dimension. But in general it does not provide a good compactification for  $X_2$ .

### 8 Resultant and Elimination of Variables

In this section, we recall classical results on elimination of variables. We adopt these results for projections of subvarieties in torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n = (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}^*$  on the first factor  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^{n-1}$ .

Let  $P = a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_pt^p$  and  $Q = b_0 + b_1t + \dots + b_qt^q$  be polynomials in  $t$  of degrees  $\leq p$  and  $\leq q$  correspondingly. The resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is a polynomial in  $a_0, \dots, a_p, b_0, \dots, b_q$  with integral coefficients. By definition  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is the determinant of the homogeneous system of linear equations whose unknowns are the undetermined coefficients of polynomials  $\tilde{P}$  and  $\tilde{Q}$  of degrees  $\leq p - 1$  and  $\leq q - 1$  correspondingly satisfying the relation

$$P\tilde{Q} = Q\tilde{P}. \tag{3}$$

Since an ordering of equations in the system is not fixed its determinant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is defined up to sign.

**Lemma 18** *If the leading coefficient  $a_p$  of the polynomial  $P$  (coefficient  $b_q$  of the polynomial  $Q$ ) is not equal to zero, then polynomials  $P$  and  $Q$  have a common factor if and only if their resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is equal to zero.*

**Remark** If  $a_p = b_q = 0$ , then the resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is equal to zero (even if polynomials  $P$  and  $Q$  have no common factor).

**Proof of Lemma 18** If  $P$  and  $Q$  have a common factor  $T$  with  $\deg T > 0$  and  $P = P_1T$ ,  $Q = Q_1T$  then the system (3) has a nontrivial solution: one can put  $\tilde{P} = P_1$  and  $\tilde{Q} = Q_1$ . Thus, the determinant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q)$  is equal to zero. On the other hand if the system (3) has a nontrivial solution then  $P$  divides  $Q\tilde{P}$ . Since  $\deg \tilde{P} < \deg P$  it can happen only if  $Q$  and  $P$  have a common factor.  $\square$

Consider a polynomial  $P = a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_pt^p$  together with a finite collection of polynomials  $Q_i = b_0^i + b_1^i t + \dots + b_{q_i}^i t^{q_i}$  where  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Let  $Q_\lambda = \lambda_1 Q_1 + \dots + \lambda_N Q_N$  be a linear combination of polynomials  $Q_i$  with coefficients  $\lambda_i$ .

**Lemma 19** *Assume that the leading coefficient  $a_p$  of  $P$  is not equal to zero. Let  $q = \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} q_i$ . Then the polynomials  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$  have a common complex root  $t_0$  if and only the resultant  $\mathcal{R}(\lambda) = \mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q_\lambda)$  is identically equal to zero as a function in  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ . If in addition the constant term  $a_0$  of  $P$  is not equal to zero then any common root of  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$  also is not equal to zero.*

**Proof** If all polynomials  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$  have a common root  $t_0$  then for any  $N$ -tuple  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$  the polynomial  $Q_\lambda = \lambda_1 Q_1 + \dots + \lambda_N Q_N$  and the polynomial  $P$  have the common root  $t_0$ . Thus, by Lemma 18, the resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q_\lambda) = \mathcal{R}(\lambda)$  is identically equal to zero as a function in  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ .

Assume now that each root  $t_k, 1 \leq k \leq p$  of the polynomial  $P$  is not a root of some polynomial  $Q_i$ . For each root  $t_k$  let  $\Gamma_k \subset \mathbb{C}^N$  be the hyperplane defined by the equation  $\sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} \lambda_j Q_j^j(t_k) = 0$ . If  $\lambda^0 = (\lambda_1^0, \dots, \lambda_N^0) \in \mathbb{C}^N$  do not belong to

the union  $\cup_{1 \leq i \leq p} \Gamma_i \subset \mathbb{C}^N$ , then the polynomial  $Q_{\lambda^0} = \lambda_1^0 Q^1 + \dots + \lambda_N^0 Q^N$  has no common roots with the polynomial  $P$ . Thus, the resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, tQ_\lambda)$  is not identically equal to zero as function in  $\lambda$ .

If  $a_0 \neq 0$ , then zero is not a root of  $P$ ; thus, it is not a common root of  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$ . □

### 9 Projection of $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ on a Sub-torus in $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$

In this section, we will present a constructive proof of Lemma 14. It will be used as a step in a constructive proof of the good compactification theorem.

#### 9.1 Modified Problem

Let us modify a little our problem. The group  $F(L)$  is the factor-group of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  by the normal subgroup  $H(L)$ . Let us choose any complementary to  $H(L)$  subgroup  $H([e])$  (i.e. such a subgroup that the identity  $H([e]) \times H(L) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  holds) and consider the image  $\pi_1(X) \subset H([e])$  under the projection  $\pi_1$  of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  to the first factor  $H([e])$ .

**Problem 1** *In the assumption of Lemma 14, construct explicitly a system of equations*

$$C_m = 0, \tag{4}$$

where  $C_m \in \mathcal{L}_L$ , which defines  $\pi_1(X) \subset H([e])$ .

Any solution of Problem 1 automatically provides a system of equations on  $F(L)$  which defines  $\pi(X) \subset F(L)$ . Indeed, we identified the ring of regular functions on  $F_L$  with the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ . Under this identification, the system (4) becomes the system of equations on  $F_L$  which defines  $\pi(X)$ .

**Remark** The system of equations (5) constructed below defines a variety  $\pi_1(X) \subset H([e])$  which depends on a choice of the complementary subgroup  $H([e])$ . But its image in the factor-group  $F(L)$  equals to  $\pi(X) \subset F(L)$  and is independent of  $H([e])$ .

#### 9.2 Decomposition of $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ into a Direct Product

Two rational subspaces  $L_1, L_2 \subset M$  are *complementary to each other* if the identity

$$\Lambda(L_1) + \Lambda(L_2) = \Lambda$$

holds, where  $\Lambda(L_1) = \Lambda \cap L_1$  and  $\Lambda(L_2) = \Lambda \cap L_2$ . If  $L_1, L_2$  are complementary to each other then the identity

$$H(L_1) \times H(L_2) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$$

holds, where  $H(L_1)$  and  $H(L_2)$  are subgroups corresponding to  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Later we will be interested in the case when  $L_1$  is a hyperplane and  $L_2$  is a line.

We will say that  $e$  is complementary to rational hyperplane  $L$  if  $e$  is an irreducible vector in the lattice  $\Lambda$  and the line  $[e]$  generated by  $e$  is a complementary line for  $L$ . The vector  $e$  and the hyperplane  $L$  define the linear function  $l(e, L) : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $l(e, L)$  vanishes on  $L$  and  $l(e, L)(e) = 1$ .

Let  $t : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  be the character  $\chi_e$  corresponding to the vector  $e$ . Then  $t$  has the following properties:

- (1) the set  $\{t^{-1}(1)\} \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is the subgroup  $H([e])$  in the torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . We identify regular functions on  $H([e])$  (as well as regular functions on  $F(L)$ ) with Laurent polynomials from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ ;
- (2) the map  $t : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  restricted to  $H(L)$  provides an isomorphism between  $H(L)$  and  $\mathbb{C}^*$ . Thus,  $H(L)$  is a one-parameter group with the parameter  $t$ .

Each Laurent polynomial on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n = H([e]) \times H(L)$  can be considered as a Laurent polynomial in  $t$  whose coefficients belong to the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ . We denote by  $\pi_1 : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow H([e])$  the projection of the product to the first factor.

Below we use notations and assumptions from Lemma 14. The lowest degree  $m_i$  in  $t$  in monomials appearing in  $T_i$  is equal to minimum of the function  $l_t$  on the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta_i$  of  $T_i$ . Let us put  $P = T_1 t^{-m_1}$ ,  $Q_1 = T_2 t^{-m_2}, \dots, Q_N = T_{N+1} t^{-m_{N+1}}$ . System (2) defining  $X$  is equivalent to the system

$$P = Q_1 = \dots = Q_N = 0,$$

where  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$  are polynomials in  $t$  whose coefficients belong to the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$  and in addition the leading coefficient and the constant term of the polynomial  $P$  are characters with nonzero coefficients. We denote the degrees of the polynomials  $P, Q_1, \dots, Q_N$  by  $p, q_1, \dots, q_N$  correspondingly.

Let  $Q_\lambda = \lambda_1 Q_1 + \dots + \lambda_N Q_N$  be a linear combination of polynomials  $Q_i$  with coefficients  $\lambda_i$  and let  $q = \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} q_i$ . The resultant  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(P, Q_\lambda)$  is a polynomial  $R(\lambda)$  in  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ , i.e.

$$R(\lambda) = \sum c_{k_1, \dots, k_N} \lambda_1^{k_1} \dots \lambda_N^{k_N},$$

whose coefficients  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_N}$  are Laurent polynomials from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ .

**Theorem 20** (Solution to Problem 1) *In the assumptions written above the image,  $\pi_1(X)$  is an affine subvariety in  $H([e]) \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by the system*

$$c_{k_1, \dots, k_N} = 0, \tag{5}$$

where  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_N} \in \mathcal{L}_L$  are all coefficients of the polynomial  $\mathcal{R}(\lambda)$ . Moreover,  $\dim \pi_1(X) = \dim X$ .

**Proof** We consider functions from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$  as functions on  $H([e])$ . By assumption the coefficients  $a_0$  and  $a_p$  cannot vanish at any point  $x \in H([e])$ . Thus, by Lemma 19, the system  $P = Q_1 = \dots = Q_N = 0$  has a common zero  $t_0 \in \pi_1^{-1}(x) \sim \mathbb{C}^*$  above a point  $x \in H([e])$  if and only if all coefficients  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_N}$  vanish at  $x$ . Any point

$x \in \pi_1(X)$  has  $\leq p$  pre-images in  $X$  since the degree of  $P$  in  $t$  is equal to  $p$ . Thus,  $\dim \pi_1(X) = \dim X$ . □

**Corollary 21** *The image  $\pi(X) \subset F(L)$  can be defined by the system (5) and  $\dim \pi(X) = \dim X$ .*

### 10 Explicit Construction of a Good Compactification

Let  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be an algebraic variety. Assume that a system of equations (2) with the following properties is given:

- (1) a variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by the system of equations (2) contains the variety  $X$ ;
- (2)  $\dim Y = \dim X$ .

In this section, we present an algorithm which replaces (2) with a new system

$$P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0 \tag{6}$$

which in addition to properties (1), (2) has the following properties:

- (3) any convenient compactification for (6) is a good compactification for  $X$ .
- (4) the number of equations in (6) is equal to the codimension of  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ .

In particular, the algorithm allows to compute the dimension of a variety  $X$  defined in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  by a given system of equations and to construct a good compactification for it.

#### 10.1 The Algorithm

As the first equation  $P_1 = 0$  of the new system (6) one can take the equation  $T_1 = 0$  (we assume that  $T_1$  is not identically equal to zero). To complete the first step of the algorithm, some preparations are needed.

Let us choose any rational hyperplane  $L_1 \subset M$  generic for the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta_1$  of  $P_1$ . Let us choose any complementary vector  $e_1$  to  $L_1$ . By Theorem 20, one can explicitly write a system of equations

$$c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_1}}^{(1)} = 0,$$

where  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_1}}^{(1)} \in \mathcal{L}_{L_1}$  defining the image  $Y_1 = \pi_1(Y) \subset H([e_1])$ . The first step of the algorithm is completed. If all functions  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_1}}^{(1)}$  are identically equal to zero, then the algorithm is completed, codimension of  $X$  is one and as the new system (6) contains one equation  $P_1 = 0$ .

The second step is identical to the first step applied to the system (6) on the torus  $H([e_1])$ . In order to do this step we have to replace:

- the torus  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  by the torus  $H([e_1]) \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ ;
- the lattice of characters  $\Lambda$  by the lattice  $\Lambda(L_1) = \Lambda \cap L_1 \subset \Lambda$ ;
- the space of characters  $M$  by the space  $L_1 \subset M$

the ring of Laurent polynomials  $\mathcal{L}_n$  by the ring  $\mathcal{L}_{L_1}$ .

The subgroup in the torus  $H([e_1])$  corresponding to a rational subspace  $L_2 \subset L_1$  we will denote by  $H_1(L_2)$ .

Let us proceed with the second step. If there is a nonzero Laurent polynomial  $c_{k_1^0, \dots, k_{N_1}^0}^{(1)}$  then as the second equation  $P_2 = 0$  of the new system (6) one can take the equation  $c_{k_1^0, \dots, k_{N_1}^0}^{(1)} = 0$ .

After that one can choose a rational hyperplane  $L_2$  in the space  $L_1$  generic to the Newton polyhedron  $\Delta_2 \subset L_1$  of  $P_2$  and choose a complementary vector  $e_2 \in \Lambda(L_1)$  to  $L_2$  in the space  $L_1$ .

Let  $t_2 : H([e_1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  be the character corresponding to the vector  $e_2$ . Then  $t_2$  has the following properties:

- (1) the set  $\{t_2^{-1}(1)\} \subset H([e_1])$  is the subgroup  $H_1([e_2])$  in the torus  $H([e_1])$ . We identify regular functions on  $H_1([e_2])$  with Laurent polynomials from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_{L_2}$ ;
- (2) the map  $t_2 : H([e_1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  restricted to  $H_1(L_2)$  provides an isomorphism between  $H_1(L_2)$  and  $\mathbb{C}^*$ . Thus,  $H_1(L_2)$  is a one-parameter group with the parameter  $t_2$ .

The torus  $H([e_1])$  can be represented as the product  $H_1([e_2]) \times H_1(L_2)$ . We are interested in the projection  $\pi_2(Y_1) \subset H_1(L_2)$ , where  $\pi_2$  is the projection of the product  $H_1([e_2]) \times H_1(L_2)$  on the first factor and  $Y_1 = \pi_1(Y)$ .

By Theorem 20, one can explicitly write a system of equations

$$c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_2}}^{(2)} = 0,$$

where  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_2}}^{(2)} \in \mathcal{L}_{L_2}$  define the image  $Y_2 = \pi_2(Y) \subset H_1([e_2])$ . The second step of the algorithm is completed. If all functions  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_{N_2}}^{(2)}$  are identically equal to zero then the algorithm is completed, codimension of  $X$  is two and as the new system (6) contains two equations  $P_1 = P_2 = 0$ .

If there is a nonzero Laurent polynomial  $c_{k_1^0, \dots, k_{N_2}^0}^{(2)}$ , then as the third equation  $P_3 = 0$  of the new system (6), one can take the equation  $c_{k_1^0, \dots, k_{N_2}^0}^{(2)} = 0$  and proceed with the third step of the algorithm and so on. After  $k$  steps where  $k$  is the codimension of  $X$  we will explicitly obtain a system  $P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0$  such that  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  vanish on  $X$  and their Newton polyhedra have affine independent edges. The description of the algorithm is completed.

### 11 Modification of Problem 1

In this section, under assumption of Lemma 14 we consider the following modification of Problem 1.

**Problem 2** Assume that codimension  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is  $k > 1$ . How to construct a sequence of  $(k - 1)$  functions  $R_1, \dots, R_{k-1}$  from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$  such that (1)  $R_1, \dots, R_{k-1}$  vanish on  $\pi(X)$ ; (2)  $R_1, \dots, R_{k-1}$  form a regular sequence on  $H([e])$ ?

Theorem 20 suggests the following solution of Problem 2. Consider an auxiliary linear space  $F$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear combinations of the functions  $c_{k_1, \dots, k_N}$  (see the system of equations (5)). As  $R_1, \dots, R_{k-1}$  one can take any generic  $(k - 1)$ -tuple of functions from the space  $F$ . This solution deals with the space  $F$  of large dimension. Here we present a similar solution which does not involve auxiliary spaces of big dimension.

We use notations from Lemma 14 and Theorem 20. The variety  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by system (2). As the first equation  $G_1 = 0$  we choose the equation  $T_1 = 0$ . After that we choose a rational hyperplane weakly generic to  $\Delta(G_1)$  and a complementary vector  $e$  for  $L$ . Each function from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_n$  can be represented as a Laurent polynomial on  $t$  (where  $t$  is the character corresponding to the vector  $e$ ) whose coefficients belong to the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ . One can multiply equations from (2) by any power of  $t$ . Below we assume that (1) each  $T_i$  is a polynomial of  $t$ ; (2) the polynomial  $G_1 = T_1$  has a nonzero constant term. Let us denote  $\deg G_1$  by  $p$  and let  $q$  be the maximal degrees of the polynomials  $T_i$ .

Let  $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow H(L)$  be the projection defined by the choice of  $L$  and  $e$ .

Let  $F$  be the span of polynomials  $T_1, \dots, T_{N+1}$ .

Let codimension  $X$  be equal to  $k$ .

We already chose the polynomial  $G_1$  from the space  $F$ . For any  $T \in F$  by  $\mathcal{R}_{p,q}(G_1, T)$  we denote the resultant of  $G_1$  and  $T$ , which we consider as a Laurent polynomial from the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$ .

**Theorem 22** (Solution to Problem 2) For a generic  $(k - 1)$ -tuple  $G_2, \dots, G_k \in F$  the following conditions hold:

- (1) the sequence  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k$  is regular on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and all its members  $G_i$  vanish on  $X$ ;
- (2) the sequence  $R_2 = \mathcal{R}_{p,q}(G_1, G_2), \dots, R_k = \mathcal{R}_{p,q}(G_1, G_k)$  is regular on  $H(L)$  and all its members  $R_i$  vanish on  $\pi(X)$ .

Our proof of Theorem 22 is similar to the proof of Lemma 5. We will need an auxiliary Lemma 23 stated below.

Consider a variety  $Y = Z \times \mathbb{C}^m$ , where  $Z$  is an affine algebraic variety and  $\mathbb{C}^m$  is a standard linear space with coordinates  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ . Consider a regular function  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $Y$  which is a polynomial in  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  whose coefficients are regular functions on  $Z$ .

**Lemma 23** Let  $A \subset Z$  be a finite set. Assume that for any  $a_i \in A$  the restriction of  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $\{a_i\} \times \mathbb{C}^m$  is not identically equal to zero. Then for a generic point  $\lambda_0 = (\lambda_{0,1}, \dots, \lambda_{0,m})$  for all points  $a_j \in A$  the inequality  $\mathcal{R}(a_j, \lambda_0) \neq 0$  holds.

**Proof** Let  $\Gamma_{a_i} \subset \mathbb{C}^m$  be the hypersurface in  $\mathbb{C}^m$  defined by the equation  $\mathcal{R}(a_i, \lambda) = 0$ . The union  $\Gamma = \bigcup_{a_i \in A} \Gamma_{a_i}$  is a hypersurface in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . If  $\lambda_0 \notin \Gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(a_j, \lambda_0) \neq 0$  for all  $a_j \in A$ . □

**Proof of Theorem 22** Since  $G_1, \dots, G_k \in F$  all functions  $G_i$  vanish on  $X$ . Assume that for  $1 \leq i < k$  we already chose members  $G_1, \dots, G_i \in F$  such that: (1) the

sequence  $G_1, \dots, G_i$  is regular on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ ; (2) the sequence  $\mathcal{R}_2, \dots, \mathcal{R}_i$  is regular on  $H(L)$ . Consider the variety  $Y_i$  defined by the system  $G_1 = \dots = G_i = 0$  on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  and the variety  $Z_i$  defined by the system  $\mathcal{R}_2 = \dots = \mathcal{R}_i = 0$  on  $H(L)$ .

The variety  $X$  cannot contain any irreducible  $(n - i)$ -dimensional component of  $Y_i$  since  $\dim X = n - k < n - i$ . Take a finite set  $A_i$  containing a point at each  $(n - i)$ -dimensional component of  $Y_i$  not belonging to  $X$ .

By construction the variety  $\pi(X)$  is contained in the variety  $Z_i$ . The variety  $\pi(X)$  cannot contain any irreducible  $(n - i - 1)$ -dimensional component of  $Z_i$  since  $\dim \pi(X) = n - k - 1 < n - i - 1$ . Take a finite set  $B_i$  containing a point at each  $(n - i - 1)$ -dimensional component of  $Z_i$  not belonging to  $\pi(X)$ .

According to Lemma 6 there is a hypersurface  $\Gamma_1 \subset \mathbb{C}^N$  such that for any  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$  not in  $\Gamma_1$  the function  $G = \lambda_1 T_1 + \dots + \lambda_N T_N$  does not vanish at any point from the set  $A_i$ .

Consider a function  $\mathcal{R}(x, \lambda)$ , where  $x \in H(L)$  and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$  defined by the formula  $\mathcal{R}(x, \lambda) = \mathcal{R}_{p,q}(G_1, \lambda_1 T_1 + \dots + \lambda_N T_N)$ . Here we consider the resultant as a polynomial in  $\lambda$  whose coefficients belong to the ring  $\mathcal{L}_L$  of regular functions on  $H(L)$ . The restriction of  $\mathcal{R}(x, \lambda)$  to the set  $(x, \lambda)$  with fixed  $x = b$  is identically equal to zero if and only if  $b \in \pi(X)$ .

By the choice of the set  $B_i$  and by Lemma 23, there is an algebraic hypersurface  $\Gamma_2 \subset \mathbb{C}^N$  such that for any  $\lambda$  not in  $\Gamma_2$  the function  $\mathcal{R}(x, \lambda)$  is not equal to zero at any point of the set  $B_i$ .

As the next member of the sequence, one can take any  $G_{i+1} = \lambda_1 T_1 + \dots + \lambda_N T_N$  for any  $\lambda$  not in  $\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2$ . □

## 12 Modification of the Algorithm

Here we discuss a modification of the algorithm presented in the Sect. 10. The modified algorithm does not involve auxiliary spaces of large dimensions. We assume that the codimension  $k$  of  $X$  in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is given. We will also make arbitrary generic choices in the construction below.

Let  $X \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  be an algebraic variety of codimension  $k$ . Assume that a system of equations

$$T_1 = \dots = T_{N+1} = 0.7 \tag{7}$$

is given which has the following properties:

- (1) the variety  $Y \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  defined by (7) contains the variety  $X$ ;
- (2)  $\dim Y = \dim X$ .

The modified algorithm replaces (7) by a new system

$$P_1 = \dots = P_k = 0 \tag{8}$$

containing  $k$  equations which in addition to the properties (1), (2) has the following property:

(3) any convenient compactification for (8) is a good compactification for  $X$ .

**The first step of the algorithm** Consider  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear space  $\mathcal{L}^0$  consisting of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear combinations  $\lambda_1 T_1 + \dots + \lambda_{N+1} T_{N+1}$  of the Laurent polynomials  $T_1, \dots, T_{N+1}$ . As  $P_1$  choose any nonzero element of the space  $\mathcal{L}^0$ . Choose a rational hyperplane  $L$  generic for  $\Delta(P_1)$ . Choose a complementary vector  $e \in \Lambda$  to  $L$ . Consider the projection  $\pi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow H(L)$ . Take a generic  $(k-1)$ -tuple  $G_2^{(1)}, \dots, G_k^{(1)}$  of elements from  $\mathcal{L}^0$ . Add the first member  $G_1^{(1)} = P_1$  to the  $(k-1)$ -tuple. Now acting as in Theorem 22 from the sequence  $G_1^{(1)}, G_2^{(1)}, \dots, G_k^{(1)}$  using  $\mathcal{L}^0$  and  $e$  construct the sequence  $R_2^{(1)}, \dots, R_k^{(1)}$  of Laurent polynomials from the space  $\mathcal{L}_L$ . By Theorem 22, all  $R_2^{(1)}, \dots, R_k^{(1)}$  form a regular sequence on  $H(L)$  and they vanish on the subvariety  $Y_1 = \pi(Y)$  of  $H(L)$  having codimension  $(k-1)$ .

**The second step of the algorithm** is identical to the first step applied to the system  $R_2^{(1)} = \dots = R_k^{(1)} = 0$  on  $H(L)$ , where  $R_2^{(1)}, \dots, R_k^{(1)}$  belong to  $\mathcal{L}_L$  and vanish on the variety  $Y_1 = \pi(Y) \subset H(L)$  having codimension  $(k-1)$ .

Consider the  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear space  $\mathcal{L}^1$  consisting of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear combinations  $\lambda_1 R_2^{(1)} + \dots + \lambda_k R_k^{(1)}$ . As  $P_2$  choose an element  $R_2^{(1)}$  of the space  $\mathcal{L}^1$ . Choose a rational hyperplane  $L_1$  in the space  $L$  generic for  $\Delta(P_2) \subset L$ . Choose a complementary vector  $e_1 \in \Lambda(L)$  to  $L_1$ . Consider the projection  $\pi_1 : H(L) \rightarrow H_1(L_1)$ . Take a generic  $(k-2)$ -tuple  $G_3^{(2)}, \dots, G_k^{(2)}$  of elements from  $\mathcal{L}^1$ . Add the second member  $G_2^{(2)} = R_2^{(1)}$  to the  $(k-2)$ -tuple. Now acting as in Theorem 22 from the sequence  $G_2^{(2)}, G_3^{(2)}, \dots, G_k^{(2)}$  using  $L_1$  and  $e_1$  construct the sequence  $R_3^{(2)}, \dots, R_k^{(2)}$  of Laurent polynomials from the space  $\mathcal{L}_{L_1}$ . By Theorem 22, all  $R_3^{(2)}, \dots, R_k^{(2)}$  form a regular sequence on  $H(L_1)$  and they vanish on the subvariety  $Y_2 = \pi_1(Y_1)$  of  $H_1(L_1)$  having codimension  $(k-2)$ .

Proceeding in the same way one can make steps 3,  $\dots$ ,  $k$ . After  $k$  steps, we obtain a system  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  which has needed properties.

**Acknowledgements** I would like to thank Boris Kazarnovskii for frequent long and useful discussions. I also am grateful to Feodor Kogan who edited my English.

## References

- Bernstein, D.: The number of roots of a system of equations. *Funkts. Anal. Prilozhen.* **9**(3), 1–4 (1975)
- Bernstein, D., Kushnirenko, A., Khovanskii, A.: Newton polyhedra. *Uspehi Matem. Nauk* **31**(3), 201–202 (1976) (Russian Math. Surveys)
- De Concini, C., Procesi, C.: Complete symmetric varieties II intersection theory. *Adv. Stud. Pure Math.* **6**, 481–512 (1985)
- Esterov, A., Kazarnovskii, B., Khovanskii, A.G.: Newton polyhedra and tropical geometry. *Uspekhi Mat. Nauk (Russian Mathematical Surveys)* (to appear)
- Esterov, A., Khovanskii, A.: Elimination theory and Newton polytopes. *Funct. Anal. Other Math.* **2**, 45–71 (2008)
- Fulton, W., Sturmfels, B.: Intersection theory on toric varieties. *Topology* **6**(2), 335–353 (1997)
- Gelfond, O., Khovanskii, A.: Toric geometry and Grothendieck residues. *Moscow Math. J.* **2**(1), 99–112 (2002)
- Itenberg, I., Mikhalkin, G., Shustin, E.: *Tropical Algebraic Geometry*, 2nd edn. Birkhauser, Basel (2009)

9. Kazarnovskii, B.: Truncations of systems of equations, ideals and varieties. *Izv. Math.* **63**(3), 535–547 (1999)
10. Kazarnovskii, B., Khovanskii, A.: Tropical Noetherian property and Gröbner bases. *St. Petersburg Math. J.* **26**(5), 797–811 (2015)
11. Kazarnovskii, B., Khovanskii, A.G.: Newton polyhedra, tropical geometry and the ring of condition for  $(C^*)^n$ . [arXiv:1705.04248](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.04248)
12. Kempf, G., Knudsen, F., Mumford, D., Saint-Donat, B.: Toroidal Embedding. I. *Lecture Notes in Mathematics*, vol. 339. Springer, Berlin (1972)
13. Khovanskii, A.: Newton polyhedra, and toroidal varieties. *Funct. Anal. Appl.* **11**(4), 56–64 (1977) [translation in *Funct. Anal. Appl.* **11**(4), 289–296 (1977)] (1978)
14. Khovanskii, A.G.: Newton polyhedra, and the genus of complete intersections (Russian). *Funktsional. Anal. i Prilozhen.* **12**(1), 51–61 (1978)
15. Khovanskii, A.: Newton polyhedrons, a new formula for mixed volume, product of roots of a system of equations, The Arnoldfest, Proceedings of a Conference in Honor of V.I. Arnold for his Sixtieth Birthday, Fields Institute Communications, vol. 24. American Mathematical Society, Providence, pp. 325–364 (1999)
16. Khovanskii, A., Monin, L.: The resultant of developed systems of laurent polynomials. *Moscow Math. J.* **17**(4), 717–740 (2017)
17. Kouchnirenko, A.: Polyedrea de Newton et nombres de Milnor. *Inv. Math.* **32**, 1–31
18. Maclagan, D., Sturmfels, B.: *Introduction to Tropical Geometry*, Graduate Studies in Mathematics (2015)
19. Tevelev, J.: Compactifications of subvarieties of tori. *Am. J. Math.* **129**(4), 1087–1104 (2007)

**Publisher's Note** Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.