

Astérisque

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Astérisque, tome 323 (2009), p. 161-179

<http://www.numdam.org/item?id=AST_2009__323__161_0>

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POLAR PENCIL OF CURVES AND FOLIATIONS

by

Nuria Corral

Abstract. — The polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ of a singular foliation \mathcal{F} is the pencil of curves formed by the polar curves of \mathcal{F} . We study the relationship between the behaviour of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ under blowing-up and the invariants associated to \mathcal{F} . The main result here describes a resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ in terms of the equireduction invariants of \mathcal{F} , for a Zariski-general foliation \mathcal{F} .

Résumé (Pinceau polaire de courbes et feuilletages). — Le pinceau polaire $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ d'un feuilletage singulier \mathcal{F} est le pinceau de courbes composé par les courbes polaires de \mathcal{F} . Nous allons étudier la relation entre le comportement de $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ par éclatement et les invariants associés à \mathcal{F} . Le résultat principal ici donne une description d'une résolution de singularités de $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ en termes des invariants d'équiréduction de \mathcal{F} lorsque \mathcal{F} est un feuilletage général de Zariski.

1. Introduction

Let A, B be two germs of holomorphic functions at $(\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ with no common component and consider the pencil of curves $\Lambda = \{aA + bB = 0 : a, b \in \mathbb{C}\}$. Classically, these pencils of curves have been studied in relation to the reduction of singularities of $A = 0$ and $B = 0$ (see for instance [14, 4, 8]). Here we propose a different approach: we consider Λ as the *polar pencil* $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ associated to a singular foliation \mathcal{F} defined by the 1-form $\omega = A(x, y)dx + B(x, y)dy$. Our objective is to describe properties of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ in terms of the invariants associated to \mathcal{F} .

Let \mathcal{G}_{ω} be the *Gauss map* associated to \mathcal{F} which is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{\omega} : (\mathbb{C}^2, 0) \setminus \{0\} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1 \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto [-B(x, y) : A(x, y)]. \end{aligned}$$

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification. — 32S65, 37F75.

Key words and phrases. — Singular foliation, pencil of curves, polar curve, reduction of singularities.

The author completed this work as a researcher of the “Programa I. Parga Pondal” of the Xunta de Galicia and was also partially supported by the research projects MTM2004-07978, MTM2006-15338-C02-02 and PGIDITI06PXIB377128PR.

A curve $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ is the closure in $(\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ of the fiber $\mathcal{G}_{\omega}^{-1}([a:b])$ for $[a:b] \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$. There is a maximal non-empty Zariski open set of $\Omega \subset \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$ such that all the curves $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$ with $[a:b] \in \Omega$ are equisingular: they are the *generic curves* of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Let $\sigma : X \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be a finite sequence of punctual blow-ups. We say that σ is an *elimination of indeterminations* of \mathcal{G}_{ω} (or a *resolution of singularities* of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$) iff the map $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_{\omega} = \mathcal{G}_{\omega} \circ \sigma : X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$ is well-defined. Such σ gives an embedded reduction of singularities of the union $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$ of two different generic fibers, then σ is a resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ (see [14]).

An irreducible component D of $\sigma^{-1}(0)$ is called *dicritical* if the restriction $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_{\omega}|_D : D \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$ is not constant. The *degree* of a dicritical component D is the degree of the map $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}_{\omega}|_D : D \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$; this number coincides with the number of intersection points between D and the strict transform $\sigma^*\Gamma$ of Γ by σ , for any generic fiber Γ .

The curves of the polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ can also be seen as the separatrices of a singular foliation: the *polar foliation* $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$ defined by $d(A/B) = 0$. The minimal resolution $\sigma_{\Lambda} : X \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ gives a *partial reduction* [12] of $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$ in the sense that the minimal reduction of singularities $\pi_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathfrak{X} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ of $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$ factorizes as $\pi_{\mathcal{P}} = \sigma_{\Lambda} \circ \tau$, where $\tau : \mathfrak{X} \rightarrow X$ is a finite sequence of punctual blow-ups which are non-dicritical for $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Let $C \subset (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be a plane curve. We shall work in the space of foliations \mathbb{G}_C of non-dicritical generalized curves over C (see [2]). It is known that the minimal reduction of singularities $\pi_C : M_C \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ of C gives a reduction of singularities of any $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C$. But in general π_C does not give a desingularization of a generic fiber Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. This occurs essentially in the case that C has a *kind equisingularity type* and \mathcal{F} is Zariski-general (in the sense of the exponents of the logarithmic model) as we have shown in [6, 7].

Take $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C$ and let $\sigma_{\Lambda, C} : M_{\Lambda, C} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be the minimal reduction of singularities of $\Lambda = \Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ that factorizes through π_C . The main result of this paper provides a precise description of $\sigma_{\Lambda, C}$ for kind singularities and Zariski-general foliations. Let us state it.

Let $G(C)$ be the dual graph of C oriented by the first divisor E_1 . For each divisor E , let $m(E)$ be the multiplicity of any E -“curvette” and $v(E)$ be the coincidence of two E -curvettes. Denote by b_E the number of edges and arrows which leave from E . Thus E is a *bifurcation divisor* if $b_E \geq 2$ and a *terminal divisor* if $b_E = 0$. A *dead arc* joins a bifurcation divisor with a terminal divisor, with no other bifurcations. We say that the equisingularity type $\epsilon(C)$ of C is *kind* if $m(E_b) = 2m(E_t)$, for each dead arc of $G(C)$ starting at E_b and ending at E_t .

The main result here can be stated as

Theorem 1. — *Let $C \subset (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be a plane curve with kind equisingularity type. Consider a Zariski-general foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and take any generic curve Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Then $\sigma_{\Lambda, C}$ is obtained from π_C by blowing-up α_E times in a free way at each point $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap E$*

with

$$(1) \quad \alpha_E = \begin{cases} m(E)(v(E) - 1), & \text{if } E \text{ is a bifurcation divisor;} \\ m(E)(v(E) - 1) - 1, & \text{if } E \text{ is the terminal divisor of a dead arc,} \end{cases}$$

for each irreducible component E of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$. Moreover, the first divisor E_1 is dicritical for Λ_F if and only if $b_{E_1} > 1$, and the degree of E_1 as a dicritical component of Λ_F is equal to $b_{E_1} - 1$. The degree of the other dicritical components of Λ_F is equal to one.

Observe that, under the hypothesis of theorem above, the points of the set $\pi_C^* \Gamma \cap \pi_C^{-1}(0)$ belong either to a bifurcation divisor or to the terminal divisor of a dead arc ([6]). Moreover, the points of $\pi_C^* \Gamma \cap \pi_C^{-1}(0)$ are non-singular points of $\pi_C^* \mathcal{F}$ and $\pi_C^* \Gamma$ cuts transversally $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$. Consequently $\sigma_{\Lambda, C} = \pi_C \circ \sigma_1$ where σ_1 is obtained by blowing-up free infinitely near points of $\pi_C^* \Gamma$, i.e., the centers of the blow-ups to obtain σ_1 are not corners of the corresponding exceptional divisor. Hence $\sigma_{\Lambda, C}$ is obtained from π_C by “blowing-up in a free way” as it is stated in the theorem above.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is devoted to introduce notations relative to the dual graph and the equisingularity data of a plane curve. In section 3 we remind some results concerning the generic fiber of the polar pencil and we also prove some technical lemmas. Section 4 deals with the base points of the pencil Λ_F . In section 5 we state some results describing the dicritical components of a resolution of Λ_F . The proof of the main result is given in section 6. We finish the paper with a list of examples showing different behaviours in the non Zariski-general cases.

2. Notations

In this section we introduce some notations concerning the dual graph and the equisingularity data of a plane curve $C = \cup_{i=1}^r C_i \subset (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ that will be used from now on. For each irreducible component C_i of C , denote by $n^i = m_0(C_i)$ the multiplicity of C_i at the origin. Let $y^i(x) = \sum_{j \geq n^i} a_j^i x^{j/n^i}$ be a Puiseux series of C_i , for $i = 1, \dots, r$. The *characteristic exponents* $\{\beta_0^i, \beta_1^i, \dots, \beta_{g_i}^i\}$ of C_i are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_0^i &= m_0(C_i) = n^i \\ \beta_q^i &= \min\{j : a_j^i \neq 0 \text{ and } j \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\gcd(\beta_0^i, \dots, \beta_{q-1}^i)}\} \end{aligned}$$

for $q = 1, \dots, g_i$, where g_i is the first integer such that $\gcd(\beta_0^i, \dots, \beta_{g_i}^i) = 1$. An equivalent data to the characteristic exponents of C_i are the *Puiseux pairs* $\{(m_k^i, n_k^i)\}_{k=1}^{g_i}$ of C_i defined by

$$\gcd(m_k^i, n_k^i) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\beta_k^i}{n^i} = \frac{m_k^i}{n_1^i \cdots n_k^i} \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, g_i.$$

In particular, we have that $n^i = n_1^i \cdots n_{g_i}^i$ and $\beta_k^i = m_k^i n_{k+1}^i \cdots n_{g_i}^i$ for $k = 1, \dots, g_i$.

Let us denote by $\pi_C : M_C \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ the minimal reduction of singularities of C . We recall briefly the construction of the *dual graph* $G(C) = G(\pi_C)$ of C . Each irreducible component E of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ is represented by a vertex in $G(C)$. Two vertices

are joined by an edge if their associated divisors intersect. An irreducible component of C is represented by an arrow attached to the only divisor that it meets. The dual graph weighted with the self-intersection of each divisor $E \subset M_C$ determines the equisingularity type $\epsilon(C)$ of the curve C .

It is also possible to construct in a similar way the dual graph of a resolution of singularities of a pencil or a dicritical foliation by marking the dicritical components. If σ is any finite sequence of blow-ups, we denote by $G(\sigma, \Lambda)$ the graph constructed from the transform of a pencil Λ by σ .

Denote by E_1 the irreducible component of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ obtained after blowing-up the origin. The dual graph $G(C)$ is oriented by the first divisor E_1 . The *geodesic* of a divisor E is the path which joins E_1 with E and the geodesic of a curve C_i is the geodesic of the divisor that meets the strict transform $\pi_C^* C_i$ of C_i . Thus, there is a partial order in the set of vertices of $G(C)$ given by $E < E'$ if, and only if, the geodesic of E' goes through E . Given a divisor E of $G(C)$, we denote by I_E the set of indices $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ such that E belongs to the geodesic of C_i .

A *curvette* $\tilde{\gamma}$ of a divisor E is a non-singular curve transversal to E at a non-singular point of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$. The projection $\gamma = \pi_C(\tilde{\gamma})$ is a germ of plane curve in $(\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ and γ is called an E -curvette. We denote by $m(E)$ the multiplicity at the origin of any E -curvette and by $v(E)$ the coincidence $C(\gamma_E, \gamma'_E)$ of two E -curvettes γ_E, γ'_E which cut E in different points; observe that $v(E) < v(E')$ if $E < E'$. Recall that the *coincidence* $C(\gamma, \delta)$ between two irreducible curves γ and δ is defined as

$$C(\gamma, \delta) = \sup_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq m_0(\gamma) \\ 1 \leq j \leq m_0(\delta)}} \{ \text{ord}_x(y_i^\gamma(x) - y_j^\delta(x)) \}$$

where $\{y_i^\gamma(x)\}_{i=1}^{m_0(\gamma)}$, $\{y_j^\delta(x)\}_{j=1}^{m_0(\delta)}$ are the Puiseux series of γ and δ respectively.

Denote by b_E the number of edges and arrows which leave from a divisor E in $G(C)$. We say that E is a *bifurcation divisor* if $b_E \geq 2$ and a *terminal divisor* if $b_E = 0$. A *dead arc* is a path which joins a bifurcation divisor with a terminal one, without passing through other bifurcation divisors. We denote by $B(C)$ the set of bifurcation vertices of $G(C)$.

Let E be an irreducible component of the exceptional divisor $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$. The *reduction* $\pi_E : M_E \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ of π_C to E is the morphism satisfying that

- there is a factorization $\pi_C = \pi'_E \circ \pi_E$ where π'_E and π_E are composition of punctual blow-ups;
- the divisor E is the strict transform by π'_E of an irreducible component E_{red} of $\pi_E^{-1}(0)$ and $E_{red} \subset M_E$ is the only component of $\pi_E^{-1}(0)$ with self-intersection equal to -1 .

The morphism π_E is obtained from π_C by blowing-down successively the divisors different from E with self-intersection equal to -1 . Given any curvette $\tilde{\gamma}_E$ of E , the curve $\pi'_E(\tilde{\gamma}_E)$ is also a curvette of $E_{red} \subset M_E$. Let $\{\beta_0^E, \beta_1^E, \dots, \beta_{g(E)}^E\}$ be the characteristic exponents of $\gamma_E = \pi_C(\tilde{\gamma}_E)$. It is clear that $m(E) = m_0(\gamma_E) = \beta_0^E$. If E is a bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$, there are two possibilities for the value $v(E)$:

1. either π_E is the minimal reduction of singularities of γ_E and then $v(E) = \beta_{g(E)}^E / \beta_0^E$. We say that E is a *Puiseux divisor* for π_C .
2. or π_E is obtained by blowing-up $q \geq 1$ times after the minimal reduction of singularities of γ_E and in this situation $v(E) = (\beta_{g(E)}^E + q) / \beta_0^E$. We say that E is a *contact divisor* for π_C .

Observe that $m(E) = m(E_{red})$ and $v(E) = v(E_{red})$. Moreover, a bifurcation divisor E can belong to a dead arc only if it is a Puiseux divisor.

Consider a bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$ and let $\{(m_1^E, n_1^E), (m_2^E, n_2^E), \dots, (m_{g(E)}^E, n_{g(E)}^E)\}$ be the Puiseux pairs of an E -curvette γ_E , we denote

$$n_E = \begin{cases} n_{g(E)}, & \text{if } E \text{ is a Puiseux divisor;} \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and $\underline{n}_E = m(E)/n_E$. Observe that, if E is a bifurcation divisor which belongs to a dead arc with terminal divisor F , then $m(F) = \underline{n}_E$. We define k_E to be

$$k_E = \begin{cases} g(E) - 1, & \text{if } E \text{ is a Puiseux divisor;} \\ g(E), & \text{if } E \text{ is a contact divisor.} \end{cases}$$

Thus, we have that $\underline{n}_E = n_1^E \cdots n_{k_E}^E$.

To finish this section, we recall a lemma which gives the relationship between the intersection multiplicity $(\gamma, \delta)_0$ and the coincidence $\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \delta)$ (see Zariski [15], prop. 6.1 or Merle [11], prop. 2.4):

Lemma 2. — *Let γ and δ be two germs of irreducible plane curves of $(\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$. If $\{\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g\}$ are the characteristic exponents of γ and α is a rational number such that $\beta_q \leq \alpha < \beta_{q+1}$ ($\beta_{g+1} = \infty$), then the following statements are equivalent:*

1. $\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \delta) = \frac{\alpha}{m_0(\gamma)}$,
2. $\frac{(\gamma, \delta)_0}{m_0(\delta)} = \frac{\bar{\beta}_q}{n_1 \cdots n_{q-1}} + \frac{\alpha - \beta_q}{n_1 \cdots n_q}$,

where $\{(m_i, n_i)\}_{i=1}^g$ are the Puiseux pairs of γ ($n_0 = 1$) and $\{\bar{\beta}_0, \bar{\beta}_1, \dots, \bar{\beta}_g\}$ is a minimal system of generators of the semigroup $S(\gamma)$ of γ .

Recall that the semigroup $S(\gamma)$ of γ is defined as

$$S(\gamma) = \{(\gamma, \delta)_0 : \gamma \text{ is not an irreducible component of } \delta\}.$$

There is a minimal system of generators $\{\bar{\beta}_0, \bar{\beta}_1, \dots, \bar{\beta}_g\}$ of $S(\gamma)$ whose elements are defined by

$$(2) \quad \bar{\beta}_0 = \beta_0 = m_0(\gamma), \quad \bar{\beta}_1 = \beta_1, \quad \bar{\beta}_l = n_{l-1} \bar{\beta}_{l-1} + \beta_l - \beta_{l-1}, \quad \text{for } l = 2, \dots, g,$$

where $\{\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g\}$ are the characteristic exponents of γ (see [1] or [16]). It is clear that $S(\gamma)$ is determined by the equisingularity type of γ and reciprocally.

3. Generic curves of the pencil

This section is devoted to describe some properties of a generic curve of the polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ of a singular foliation \mathcal{F} . The reader may refer to [5, 7] for a more detailed description.

Consider a plane curve $C = \cup_{i=1}^r C_i \subset (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$. Let $f = f_1 \cdots f_r$ be a reduced equation of C and $\pi_C : M_C \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be the minimal reduction of singularities of C . Denote by \mathbb{G}_C the space of generalized curve foliations [2] having C as curve of separatrices. Let \mathbb{G}_C^* be the sub-space of \mathbb{G}_C defined as follows: a foliation \mathcal{F} is in \mathbb{G}_C^* iff the logarithmic model \mathcal{L}_{λ} of \mathcal{F} avoids a finite set of resonances $R_{\epsilon(C)} \subset (\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})^r$. More precisely, each foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C$ has a unique logarithmic model \mathcal{L}_{λ} given by $f_1 \cdots f_r \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i df_i/f_i = 0$ with $\lambda = \lambda(\mathcal{F}) = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r) \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{r-1}$ (see [5]). The logarithmic foliation \mathcal{L}_{λ} has the same reduction of singularities as \mathcal{F} and the same Camacho-Sad indices [3] at the final points of the reduction. Thus, a foliation \mathcal{F} belongs to \mathbb{G}_C^* iff $\sum_{i=1}^r k_i \lambda_i \neq 0$ for each $k = (k_1, \dots, k_r) \in R_{\epsilon(C)}$ where $R_{\epsilon(C)} \subset (\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})^r$ is a finite set which depends only on the equisingularity type $\epsilon(C)$ of C (see [5, 7] for a detailed construction of it).

Remark 3. — Note that a foliation \mathcal{F} avoids the resonances of the set $R_{\epsilon(C)}$ if and only if there is no corner in the reduction of singularities of $\rho^* \mathcal{F}$ with Camacho-Sad equal to -1 , where $\rho : (\mathbb{C}^2, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ is any ramification transversal to C such that $\rho^{-1}C$ has only non-singular irreducible components (see [5]).

Consider a generic fiber Γ of the pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. A first result describing some properties of the equisingularity type $\epsilon(\Gamma)$ of Γ in terms of the equisingularity type $\epsilon(C)$ of C is the following one:

Theorem 4 (of decomposition [10, 11, 9, 5]). — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and a generic curve Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. There is a decomposition $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$ such that:

- (i) $m_0(\Gamma^E) = \begin{cases} \underline{n}_E n_E (b_E - 1), & \text{if } E \text{ does not belong to a dead arc;} \\ \underline{n}_E n_E (b_E - 1) - \underline{n}_E, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- (ii) For each irreducible component γ of Γ^E we have that
 - $\mathcal{C}(C_i, \gamma) = v(E)$ if E belongs to the geodesic of C_i ;
 - $\mathcal{C}(C_j, \gamma) = \mathcal{C}(C_j, C_i)$ if E belongs to the geodesic of C_i but not to the one of C_j .

It is clear that the result above does not determine $\epsilon(\Gamma)$. However, there is a Zariski-open set $U_C \subset \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{r-1}$ such that $\epsilon(\Gamma)$ is completely determined by $\epsilon(C)$ if $\lambda(\mathcal{F}) \in U_C$. The set U_C depends on the analytic type of C and it is a non-empty set if, and only if, the curve C has a kind equisingularity type. We say that a curve C has *kind equisingularity type* if $m(E_b) = 2m(E_t)$ for each dead arc of $G(C)$ with bifurcation divisor E_b and terminal divisor E_t . Using the notations introduced in section 2, the curve C has a kind equisingularity type if and only if $n_{E_b} = 2$ for each bifurcation divisor E_b of $G(C)$ which belongs to a dead arc since $m(E_b) = n_{E_b} m(E_t)$.

In particular, this implies that each dead arc in $G(C)$ has only two vertices: the bifurcation divisor and the terminal divisor.

A foliation \mathcal{F} is called *Zariski-general* when $\lambda(\mathcal{F}) \in U_C$ and in this case $\epsilon(\Gamma)$ is described as follows:

Theorem 5. — [6, 7] *Let C be a curve with kind equisingularity type and consider a Zariski-general foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$. If Γ is a generic curve of the pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$, then π_C gives a reduction of singularities of $\Gamma \cup C$. Moreover, the branches of Γ intersect an irreducible component E of the exceptional divisor $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ as follows:*

- If E is a bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$, the number of branches of Γ cutting E equals to $b_E - 2$ if E belongs to a dead arc and to $b_E - 1$ otherwise.
- If E is a terminal divisor of a dead arc of $G(C)$, there is exactly one branch of Γ through E .
- Otherwise, no branches of Γ intersect E .

In particular, the characteristic exponents of the branches of Γ can be completely determined in terms of the equisingularity data of C . Denote by $\{\beta_0^i, \beta_1^i, \dots, \beta_{g_i}^i\}$ the characteristic exponents of an irreducible component C_i of C . Given a bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$, let I_E^* be the set of indices $i \in I_E$ such that $v(E) = \beta_{k_E+1}^i / \beta_0^i$; note that if $i \in I_E \setminus I_E^*$ then there exists $j \in I_E$ such that $v(E) = \mathcal{C}(C_i, C_j)$. Hence, if E is a contact divisor $I_E^* = \emptyset$. Moreover, if C has a kind equisingularity type and E is a bifurcation divisor belonging to a dear arc of $G(C)$, then the corresponding Puiseux pair $(m_{k_E+1}^i, n_{k_E+1}^i)$ satisfies $n_{k_E+1}^i = 2$ for each $i \in I_E = I_E^*$.

Lemma 6. — [7] *Consider a curve C with kind equisingularity type and a Zariski general foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$. Let Γ be a generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ with decomposition $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$. Then, for each $E \in B(C)$, we have that*

- (i) *If E is a contact divisor, the curve Γ^E has $b_E - 1$ irreducible components. Each branch γ of Γ^E with characteristic exponents $\{\nu_0^\gamma, \nu_1^\gamma, \dots, \nu_{k_E}^\gamma\}$ given by*

$$\nu_0^\gamma = m_0(\gamma) = \underline{n}_E, \quad \nu_l^\gamma = \underline{n}_E \beta_l^i / \beta_0^i, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, k_E,$$

for any $i \in I_E$.

- (ii) *If E is a Puiseux divisor which belongs to a dead arc, the curve Γ^E has one irreducible component γ_0 with characteristic exponents $\{\nu_0^{\gamma_0}, \nu_1^{\gamma_0}, \dots, \nu_{k_E}^{\gamma_0}\}$ given by*

$$\nu_0^{\gamma_0} = m_0(\gamma_0) = \underline{n}_E, \quad \nu_l^{\gamma_0} = \underline{n}_E \beta_l^i / \beta_0^i, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, k_E,$$

and $b_E - 2$ irreducible components such that each branch $\zeta \subset \Gamma^E \setminus \gamma_0$ has characteristic exponents $\{\nu_0^\zeta, \nu_1^\zeta, \dots, \nu_{k_E}^\zeta, \nu_{k_E+1}^\zeta\}$ given by

$$\nu_0^\zeta = m_0(\zeta) = \underline{n}_E n_E, \quad \nu_l^\zeta = \underline{n}_E n_E \beta_l^i / \beta_0^i, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, k_E + 1,$$

for any $i \in I_E^$.*

(iii) If E is a Puiseux divisor which does not belong to a dead arc, then Γ^E has $b_E - 1$ irreducible components. Each irreducible component γ of Γ^E with characteristic exponents $\{\nu_0^\gamma, \nu_1^\gamma, \dots, \nu_{k_E}^\gamma, \nu_{k_E+1}^\gamma\}$ given by

$$\nu_0^\gamma = m_0(\gamma) = \underline{n}_E n_E, \quad \nu_l^\gamma = \underline{n}_E n_E \beta_l^i / \beta_0^i, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, k_E + 1,$$

for any $i \in I_E^*$.

The last part of the section is devoted to prove some technical lemmas which will be useful in the sequel. The first one is a general result concerning intersection multiplicities of polar curves:

Lemma 7. — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C$ and let Γ, Γ' be any two generic curves of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. For any irreducible component γ of Γ , we have that

$$(3) \quad (\Gamma', \gamma)_0 + m_0(\gamma) = (C, \gamma)_0.$$

Proof. — Consider a 1-form $\omega = A(x, y)dx + B(x, y)dy$ which defines \mathcal{F} and assume that $\Gamma = \Gamma_{[a:b]}$, $\Gamma' = \Gamma_{[a':b']}$. Take an irreducible component γ of $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$ and let $\phi_\gamma(t) = (x_\gamma(t), y_\gamma(t))$ be a parametrization of γ . Since \mathcal{F} is a generalized curve foliation, then

$$(C, \gamma)_0 = \text{ord}_t(\phi_\gamma^* \omega) + 1$$

(see [13], lemma 3.7). The intersection multiplicity $(\Gamma_{[a':b']}, \gamma)_0$ is given by

$$(\Gamma_{[a':b']}, \gamma)_0 = \text{ord}_t\{a' A(\phi_\gamma(t)) + b' B(\phi_\gamma(t))\}.$$

Moreover, since γ is an irreducible component of $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$, then $aA(\phi_\gamma(t)) + bB(\phi_\gamma(t)) \equiv 0$. Assume that $a \neq 0$, a similar argument holds if $b \neq 0$. In this case, we have that either $\text{ord}_t(A(\phi_\gamma(t))) = \text{ord}_t(B(\phi_\gamma(t)))$ when $b \neq 0$ or $A(\phi_\gamma(t)) \equiv 0$ otherwise. In both situations, the following equalities to compute $\text{ord}_t(\phi_\gamma^* \omega)$ hold:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ord}_t(\phi_\gamma^* \omega) &= \text{ord}_t\{A(\phi_\gamma(t)) \dot{x}_\gamma(t) + B(\phi_\gamma(t)) \dot{y}_\gamma(t)\} \\ &= \text{ord}_t\left\{-\frac{b}{a} B(\phi_\gamma(t)) \dot{x}_\gamma(t) + B(\phi_\gamma(t)) \dot{y}_\gamma(t)\right\} \\ &= \text{ord}_t(B(\phi_\gamma(t))) + \text{ord}_t(-b\dot{x}_\gamma(t) + a\dot{y}_\gamma(t)) \\ &= \text{ord}_t(a' A(\phi_\gamma(t)) + b' B(\phi_\gamma(t))) + (\gamma, -bx + ay = 0)_0 - 1 \\ &= (\Gamma_{[a':b']}, \gamma)_0 + (\gamma, \ell_{[a:b]})_0 - 1, \end{aligned}$$

where $\ell_{[a:b]}$ is the line given by $-bx + ay = 0$. In particular, this implies that the formula (3) holds for all $[a : b]$ such that $\ell_{[a:b]}$ is not tangent to $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$ which is the case when $\Gamma_{[a:b]}$ is a generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. \square

Let us introduce some notations in order to simplify the proofs of the following lemmas. Given a bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$, we denote

$$d_E^1 = \begin{cases} b_E & \text{if } E \text{ is a contact divisor;} \\ 1, & \text{if } E \text{ is a Puiseux divisor which does not belong to a dead arc;} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$d_E^2 = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } E \text{ is a contact divisor;} \\ b_E - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, if Γ is a generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ with decomposition $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$, then $m_0(\Gamma^E) = \underline{n}_E(d_E^1 + d_E^2 n_E - 1)$.

Lemma 8. — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and a generic curve $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Then, for each bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$, we have that

$$(4) \quad m_0(\bigcup_{i \in I_E} C_i) - m_0(\bigcup_{E' > E} \Gamma^{E'}) = \underline{n}_E(d_E^1 + n_E d_E^2).$$

Proof. — Let ℓ_E be the size of the largest chain of divisors in $B(C)$ starting at E . We prove the lemma by induction on ℓ_E . If $\ell_E = 1$, then E is a maximal bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$. In this case, the equality (4) turns into

$$m_0(\cup_{i \in I_E} C_i) = \underline{n}_E(d_E^1 + n_E d_E^2)$$

and it can be directly deduced from the properties of $G(C)$. Assume now that $\ell_E > 1$ and let E_1, \dots, E_s be the bifurcation vertices of $G(C)$ which are consecutive to E , that is, $E < E_i$ without any other bifurcation divisor between E and E_i . Put $J_E = I_E \setminus \cup_{i=1}^s I_{E_i}$ and $t = |J_E|$. Note that $t + s = d_E^1 + d_E^2$. Then we have the following equalities

$$\begin{aligned} m_0(\bigcup_{i \in I_E} C_i) - m_0(\bigcup_{E' > E} \Gamma^{E'}) &= \\ &= \sum_{j \in J_E} m_0(C_j) + \sum_{i=1}^s m_0(\bigcup_{j \in I_{E_i}} C_j) - \left[\sum_{i=1}^s m_0(\bigcup_{E' > E_i} \Gamma^{E'}) + \sum_{i=1}^s m_0(\Gamma^{E_i}) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i \in J_E} m_0(C_i) + \sum_{i=1}^s \left[m_0(\bigcup_{j \in I_{E_i}} C_j) - m_0(\bigcup_{E' > E_i} \Gamma^{E'}) \right] - \sum_{i=1}^s m_0(\Gamma^{E_i}). \end{aligned}$$

For each $i = 1, \dots, s$, we have that $m_0(\cup_{j \in I_{E_i}} C_j) - m_0(\cup_{E' > E_i} \Gamma^{E'}) = \underline{n}_{E_i}(d_{E_i}^1 + d_{E_i}^2 n_{E_i})$ by the induction hypothesis and $m_0(\Gamma^{E_i}) = \underline{n}_{E_i}(d_{E_i}^1 + d_{E_i}^2 n_{E_i} - 1)$ by theorem 4. Hence, we deduce that

$$m_0(\bigcup_{i \in I_E} C_i) - m_0(\bigcup_{E' > E} \Gamma^{E'}) = \sum_{j \in J_E} m_0(C_j) + \sum_{i=1}^s \underline{n}_{E_i}.$$

Now three situations may happen:

- If E is a contact divisor, then $n_E = 1$, $\underline{n}_{E_i} = \underline{n}_E$ for $i = 1, \dots, s$ and $m_0(C_j) = \underline{n}_E$ for $j \in J_E$. Moreover, $d_E^2 = 0$ and $t + s = d_E^1$.
- If E is a Puiseux divisor which belongs to a dead arc, then $\underline{n}_{E_i} = \underline{n}_E n_E$ with $n_E > 1$ for each $i = 1, \dots, s$ and $m_0(C_j) = \underline{n}_E n_E$ for $j \in J_E$. In this case, $d_E^1 = 0$ and $t + s = d_E^2$.

- If E is a Puiseux divisor without dead arc, then $d_E^1 = 1$ and $t + s - 1 = d_E^2$. Moreover $n_E > 1$ and there is:

- either a divisor E_{i_0} , with $i_0 \in \{1, \dots, s\}$, such that $\underline{n}_{E_{i_0}} = \underline{n}_E$ and $\underline{n}_{E_i} = \underline{n}_E n_E$ for $i \neq i_0$; in this situation $m_0(C_j) = \underline{n}_E n_E$ for all $j \in J_E$.
- or a curve C_{j_0} with $j_0 \in J_E$ such that $m_0(C_{j_0}) = \underline{n}_E$ and $m_0(C_j) = \underline{n}_E n_E$ if $j \neq j_0$; in this case $\underline{n}_{E_i} = \underline{n}_E n_E$ for all $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$.

It follows that $\sum_{j \in J_E} m_0(C_j) + \sum_{i=1}^s \underline{n}_{E_i} = \underline{n}_E (d_E^1 + d_E^2 n_E)$ and the result is straightforward. \square

Take a bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$. Let $F_1 < F_2 < \dots < F_m < F_{m+1} = E$ be the bifurcation vertices in the geodesic of E in $G(C)$ and denote $\mathcal{B}_i = \{E' \in B(C) : E' \geq F_i\}$. Then we have the following result

Lemma 9. — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and let Γ, Υ be two generic curves of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ with decompositions $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$ and $\Upsilon = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Upsilon^E$. Let γ be an irreducible component of $\Gamma^E \subset \Gamma$. Denote by $\{\nu_0^\gamma, \nu_1^\gamma, \dots, \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma\}$ the characteristic exponents of γ , by $\{(m_i^\gamma, n_i^\gamma)\}_{i=1}^{g_\gamma}$ the Puiseux pairs of γ and by $\{\bar{\nu}_0^\gamma, \bar{\nu}_1^\gamma, \dots, \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma\}$ the minimal set of generators of the semigroup of γ . Then we have that

$$(5) \quad \sum_{l=1}^m \left[\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} (\Upsilon^{E'}, \gamma)_0 \right] = \nu_{k_E}^\gamma - n_{k_E}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_E}^\gamma.$$

Proof. — By the properties of the decomposition of a generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ given in theorem 4, we have that:

- $\mathcal{C}(C_i, \gamma) = v(F_l)$ if $i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}$;
- $\mathcal{C}(\zeta^{E'}, \gamma) = v(F_l)$ if $\zeta^{E'}$ is an irreducible component of $\Upsilon^{E'}$ with $E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}$.

For each $l \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, let $t(l)$ be the integer in $\{0, 1, \dots, g_\gamma\}$ such that

$$\nu_{t(l)}^\gamma \leq m_0(\gamma)v(F_l) < \nu_{t(l)+1}^\gamma$$

($\nu_{g_\gamma+1}^\gamma = +\infty$). Note that $t(l) \leq k_E \leq g_\gamma$ for $l = 1, \dots, m$ and $t(m) = k_E$. We use now the relationship between the coincidence and the intersection multiplicity given in lemma 2 to compute $(C_i, \gamma)_0$ and $(\zeta^{E'}, \gamma)_0$. We have that

$$\frac{(C_i, \gamma)_0}{m_0(C_i)} = \frac{\bar{\nu}_{t(l)}^\gamma \cdot n_{t(l)}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(F_l) - \nu_{t(l)}^\gamma}{n_1^\gamma \cdots n_{t(l)}^\gamma}, \text{ for } i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}},$$

and

$$\frac{(\zeta^{E'}, \gamma)_0}{m_0(\zeta^{E'})} = \frac{\bar{\nu}_{t(l)}^\gamma \cdot n_{t(l)}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(F_l) - \nu_{t(l)}^\gamma}{n_1^\gamma \cdots n_{t(l)}^\gamma},$$

for each irreducible component $\zeta^{E'}$ of $\Upsilon^{E'}$ with $E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}$. Consequently, we obtain that

$$\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} (\Upsilon^{E'}, \gamma)_0 = \\ \left(\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} m_0(C_i) - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} m_0(\Upsilon^{E'}) \right) \frac{\bar{\nu}_{t(l)}^\gamma \cdot n_{t(l)}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(F_l) - \nu_{t(l)}^\gamma}{n_1^\gamma \cdots n_{t(l)}^\gamma}.$$

By lemma 8, we have that

$$\sum_{i \in I_{F_l}} m_0(C_i) - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l} m_0(\Upsilon^{E'}) = \underline{n}_{F_l}(d_{F_l}^1 + d_{F_l}^2 n_{F_l}) - m_0(\Upsilon^{F_l}) = \underline{n}_{F_l},$$

and hence it follows that

$$\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} m_0(C_i) - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} m_0(\Upsilon^{E'}) = \underline{n}_{F_l} - \underline{n}_{F_{l+1}} = \underline{n}_{F_l}(1 - \underline{n}_{F_l}).$$

By definition n_{F_l} is given by

$$n_{F_l} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } F_l \text{ is a contact divisor;} \\ n_{t(l)}^\gamma, & \text{if } F_l \text{ is a Puiseux divisor.} \end{cases}$$

Moreover, $m_0(\gamma)v(F_l) = \nu_{t(l)}^\gamma$ and $\underline{n}_{F_l} = n_1 \cdots n_{t(l)-1}$ if F_l is a Puiseux divisor. Therefore, we deduce that

$$\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} (\Upsilon^{E'}, \gamma)_0 = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } F_l \text{ is a contact divisor;} \\ (1 - n_{t(l)}^\gamma)\bar{\nu}_{t(l)}^\gamma, & \text{if } F_l \text{ is a Puiseux divisor.} \end{cases}$$

To finish the proof we use the relationship between the characteristic exponents of γ and the minimal system of generators of the semigroup $S(\gamma)$ given in equation (2). The following computations complete the proof:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \left[\sum_{i \in I_{F_l} \setminus I_{F_{l+1}}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{E' \in \mathcal{B}_l \setminus \mathcal{B}_{l+1}} (\Upsilon^{E'}, \gamma)_0 \right] = \sum_{j=1}^{k_E} (1 - n_j^\gamma) \bar{\nu}_j^\gamma \\ = \bar{\nu}_1^\gamma - n_{k_E}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_E}^\gamma + \sum_{j=1}^{k_E-1} (\bar{\nu}_{j+1}^\gamma - n_j^\gamma \bar{\nu}_j^\gamma) = \bar{\nu}_1^\gamma - n_{k_E}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_E}^\gamma + \sum_{j=1}^{k_E-1} (\nu_{j+1}^\gamma - \nu_j^\gamma) \\ = \bar{\nu}_1^\gamma - n_{k_E}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_E}^\gamma + \nu_{k_E}^\gamma - \nu_1^\gamma = \nu_{k_E}^\gamma - n_{k_E}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_E}^\gamma. \quad \square$$

4. Base points of the polar pencil

Consider a morphism $\sigma : N \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ composition of a finite number of punctual blow-ups. A point $p \in \sigma^{-1}(0)$ is a *base point* of the pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ if p is an infinitely near point of each generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. More precisely, p is a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ if and only

if, there is an irreducible component γ of Γ such that $\sigma^*\gamma \cap \sigma^{-1}(0) = \{p\}$, for each generic fiber Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

A first property concerning the resolution of singularities of the polar foliation, and hence of the polar pencil, is the property of “separation of the separatrices” (see [12]). Let Π be a morphism which is a partial reduction of $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$ and also a reduction of singularities of \mathcal{F} . We say that \mathcal{F} satisfies the *property of separation of the separatrices* if the geodesic in $G(\Pi)$ of any separatrix of \mathcal{F} does not go through a dicritical component of $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{F}}$, except maybe E_1 . We proved [5] that the foliations in \mathbb{G}_C^* satisfy the property of separation of the separatrices. From this property we can deduce the following result:

Lemma 10. — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and take any generic curve Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. If E is a bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$, $E \neq E_1$, then the points $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap E$ are base points of the polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Proof. — The result is a direct consequence of the property of separation of the separatrices since E cannot be a dicritical component and hence the points of the set $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap E$ are base points of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. \square

Remark 11. — Note that, if E_1 is a bifurcation divisor, the points $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap E_1$ are not base points of the polar pencil. In fact, if $\Gamma = \Gamma_{[a:b]}$, then the set $\pi_C^*\Gamma_{[a:b]} \cap E_1$ has exactly $b_{E_1} - 1$ points which depend on $[a:b]$ (see [7]).

Let $\sigma_{\Lambda,C} : M_{\Lambda,C} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be the minimal reduction of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ that factorizes by π_C . The next result describes how to construct $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ from π_C .

Proposition 12. — Assume that C is a curve with kind equisingularity type and let $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ be a Zariski-general foliation. There is a morphism $\sigma_1 : M_{\Lambda,C} \rightarrow M_C$ composition of a finite number of punctual blow-ups such that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C} = \pi_C \circ \sigma_1$. Moreover, the centers of the blow-ups to obtain σ_1 are not singular points of $\pi_C^*\mathcal{F}$.

Proof. — Let Γ, Γ' be two generic curves of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. If the morphism π_C is also a reduction of singularities of $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$, we take $\sigma_1 : M_C \rightarrow M_C$ to be the identity map id_{M_C} on M_C and hence $\sigma_{\Lambda,C} = \pi_C$. Otherwise, let $\{R_1, \dots, R_s\}$ be the points of the set $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap \pi_C^{-1}(0)$; observe that these points are not singular points of $\pi_C^*\mathcal{F}$ since π_C is a reduction of singularities of $C \cup \Gamma$. By theorem 5, there is a unique irreducible component γ_i of Γ such that $\pi_C^*\gamma_i$ cuts transversally $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ at R_i for $i = 1, \dots, s$. Moreover, a point R_i belongs either to a bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$ or to the terminal divisor of a dead arc in $G(C)$. There are three possible situations:

- If R_i belongs to E_1 , then R_i is not a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ by remark 11.
- If R_i belongs to a bifurcation divisor E , $E \neq E_1$, then R_i is a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ by lemma 10. Hence, there is a unique irreducible component γ'_i of Γ' such that $\pi_C^*\gamma'_i \cap E = \{R_i\}$ by theorem 5.
- If R_i belongs to the terminal divisor E of a dead arc, then there is a unique irreducible component γ'_i of Γ' such that $\pi_C^*\gamma'_i \cap E \neq \emptyset$. In this case, the point

R_i can be either a base point or not. If it is a base point, then $\pi_C^* \gamma'_i \cap E = \pi_C^* \gamma_i \cap E = \{R_i\}$. Otherwise, $\pi_C^* \gamma'_i \cap E \neq \{R_i\}$ and E is a dicritical component for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Put $X_1 = M_C$ and consider the morphism $\tau_i : (X_{i+1}, R_{i+1}) \rightarrow (X_i, R_i)$, for $i = 1, \dots, s$, defined by

- $\tau_i = id_{X_i}$ if R_i is not a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$;
- τ_i is the minimal reduction of singularities of the strict transform of $\pi_C^* \gamma_i \cup \pi_C^* \gamma'_i$ by $\tau_1 \circ \tau_2 \circ \dots \circ \tau_{i-1}$ when R_i is a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

The morphism $\sigma_1 : X_{s+1} \rightarrow M_C$ with $\sigma_1 = \tau_1 \circ \dots \circ \tau_s$ fulfills the requirements of the statement because $\pi_C \circ \sigma_1$ is a reduction of singularities of $\Gamma \cup \Gamma'$. Moreover, it is clear by construction that $\pi_C \circ \sigma_1$ is the minimal resolution of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ which factorizes by π_C ; hence $\sigma_{\Lambda, C} = \pi_C \circ \sigma_1 : M_{\Lambda, C} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ with $M_{\Lambda, C} = X_{s+1}$. \square

5. Dicritical components

In this section we give some characteristics of the dicritical components which appear in a resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Note that the degree and the valence $v(D)$ of a dicritical component D do not depend on the choice of the resolution. Hence to determine these values it is enough to consider the morphism $\sigma_{\Lambda, C} : M_{\Lambda, C} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$. Next lemma gives the degree of the dicritical components

Lemma 13. — Consider a foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ and let $\sigma : X \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be any resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Then

1. The divisor E_1 of $G(C)$ is dicritical for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ if and only if $b_{E_1} \geq 2$. Moreover, in that case, the degree of E_1 as a dicritical component of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ is equal to $b_{E_1} - 1$.
2. If \mathcal{F} is a Zariski-general foliation, each dicritical component D of $\sigma^{-1}(0)$, $D \neq E_1$, has degree equal to 1.

Proof. — The first assertion is a direct consequence of remark 11. The second one follows straightforward from the construction of the morphism $\sigma_{\Lambda, C}$ given in proposition 12. \square

Next result determines the valence $v(D)$ of a dicritical component D of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ in terms of the data in $G(C)$. It is a key result in the proof of theorem 1.

Theorem 14. — Let $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$ be a Zariski-general foliation and let $\sigma : X \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2, 0)$ be any resolution of singularities of the polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Given any dicritical component D of $\sigma^{-1}(0)$ and any D -curvette γ , we have that

$$(6) \quad v(D) = 2 \sup_{1 \leq i \leq r} \{\mathcal{C}(C_i, \gamma)\} - 1.$$

If Γ, Υ are two generic curves of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$, then $v(D)$ is equal to $\mathcal{C}(\gamma_D, \zeta_D)$ where γ_D, ζ_D are irreducible components of Γ and Υ respectively such that $\sigma^* \gamma_D \cap D \neq \emptyset$ and $\sigma^* \zeta_D \cap D \neq \emptyset$. Moreover, if we denote by E_D the bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$ such

that γ_D is a branch of the curve Γ^{E_D} of the decomposition of Γ (and also $\zeta_D \subset \Upsilon^{E_D}$), then $\sup_{1 \leq i \leq r} \{\mathcal{C}(C_i, \gamma_D)\} = v(E_D)$. Consequently, equation (6) can be written as follows

$$(7) \quad v(D) = 2v(E_D) - 1.$$

Proof of theorem 14. — Consider two generic curves Γ, Υ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ with decompositions given by $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$ and $\Upsilon = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Upsilon^E$. Let D be a dicritical component of $\sigma^{-1}(0)$. If D is equal to the first divisor E_1 of $G(C)$, then $E_D = E_1$ and equation (6) is held. Assume now that $D \neq E_1$. Let γ, ζ be irreducible components of Γ and Υ respectively, with $\sigma^* \gamma \cap D \neq \emptyset$ and $\sigma^* \zeta \cap D \neq \emptyset$; note that they are unique by lemma 13 and $m_0(\gamma) = m_0(\zeta)$. Let us compute $(\gamma, \zeta)_0$. By lemma 7, we have that

$$(8) \quad (\Upsilon^{E_D}, \gamma)_0 + \sum_{\substack{E \in B(C) \\ E \neq E_D}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 + m_0(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^r (C_i, \gamma)_0.$$

The intersection multiplicity $(\Upsilon^{E_D}, \gamma)_0$ can be computed using the decomposition of Υ^{E_D} into irreducible components:

$$(9) \quad (\Upsilon^{E_D}, \gamma)_0 = (\gamma, \zeta)_0 + \sum_{\substack{\zeta' \subset \Upsilon^{E_D} \\ \zeta' \neq \zeta}} (\zeta', \gamma)_0.$$

From equalities (8) and (9) we deduce that $(\gamma, \zeta)_0$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma, \zeta)_0 &= \sum_{i=1}^r (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{\zeta' \subset \Upsilon^{E_D} \\ \zeta' \neq \zeta}} (\zeta', \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{E \in B(C) \\ E \neq E_D}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 - m_0(\gamma) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I_{E_D}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{\zeta' \subset \Upsilon^{E_D} \\ \zeta' \neq \zeta}} (\zeta', \gamma)_0 + \sum_{i \notin I_{E_D}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{E \in B(C) \\ E \neq E_D}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 - m_0(\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

Denote by $F_1 < F_2 < \dots < F_m < F_{m+1} = E_D$ the bifurcation vertices in the geodesic of E_D in $G(C)$ and put $\mathcal{B}_i = \{E' \in B(C) : E' \geq F_i\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, m$. Thus we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma, \zeta)_0 &= \sum_{i \in I_{E_D}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{\zeta' \subset \Upsilon^{E_D} \\ \zeta' \neq \zeta}} (\zeta', \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{E \in B(C) \\ E > E_D}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^m \left[\sum_{i \in I_{F_i} \setminus I_{F_{i+1}}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{E \in \mathcal{B}_i \setminus \mathcal{B}_{i+1}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 \right] - m_0(\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

We shall use lemmas 8 and 9 to compute the right side of the equality above. Note that

- $\mathcal{C}(C_i, \gamma) = v(E_D)$ for each $i \in I_{E_D}$, by theorem 4.
- $\mathcal{C}(\zeta', \gamma) = v(E_D)$ for each branch ζ' of Υ^E , with $E > E_D$.
- $\mathcal{C}(\zeta', \gamma) = v(E_D)$ for each branch ζ' of Υ^{E_D} , with $\zeta' \neq \zeta$, by theorem 5, since \mathcal{F} is a Zariski-general foliation.

Let $\{\nu_0^\gamma, \nu_1^\gamma, \dots, \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma\}$ be the characteristic exponents of γ , $\{(m_i^\gamma, n_i^\gamma)\}_{i=1}^{g_\gamma}$ the Puiseux pairs of γ and $\{\bar{\nu}_0^\gamma, \bar{\nu}_1^\gamma, \dots, \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma\}$ the minimal set of generators of the semigroup $S(\gamma)$ of γ . From lemma 6, we deduce that $\nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma \leq m_0(\gamma)v(E_D)$. Consequently, applying lemmas 2 and 8, we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in I_{E_D}} (C_i, \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{\zeta' \subset \Upsilon^E \\ \zeta' \neq \zeta}} (\zeta', \gamma)_0 - \sum_{\substack{E \in B(C) \\ E > E_D}} (\Upsilon^E, \gamma)_0 &= \\ = \left(\sum_{i \in I_{E_D}} m_0(C_i) - \sum_{E > E_D} m_0(\Upsilon^E) - m_0(\Upsilon^{E_D} \setminus \zeta) \right) \frac{\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma}{m_0(\gamma)} \\ = (\underline{n}_{E_D} + m_0(\zeta)) \frac{\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma}{m_0(\gamma)}. \end{aligned}$$

We use now the equality above and the result given in lemma 9 to compute $(\gamma, \zeta)_0$. We obtain that

$$(\gamma, \zeta)_0 = ((\underline{n}_{E_D} + m_0(\zeta)) \frac{\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma}{m_0(\gamma)} + \nu_{k_{E_D}}^\gamma - n_{k_{E_D}}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{k_{E_D}}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma)).$$

To finish the computation of $(\gamma, \zeta)_0$ we consider the different possibilities for the bifurcation divisor E_D and we use the expression of the characteristic exponents of the irreducible components of the generic curves of Λ_F given in lemma 6.

- If E is a contact divisor, then $m_0(\gamma) = m_0(\zeta) = \underline{n}_{E_D} = n_1^\gamma \cdots n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$ with $g_\gamma = k_{E_D}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma, \zeta)_0 &= 2[\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma] + \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma) \\ &= 2m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) + \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by lemma 2, the relationship between $(\gamma, \zeta)_0$ and $\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \zeta)_0$ is given by $(\gamma, \zeta)_0 = \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \zeta) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$. Taking into account that $\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \zeta) = v(D)$, we conclude that

$$v(D) = 2v(E_D) - 1.$$

- Assume now that E_D is a Puiseux divisor which belongs to a dead arc. By lemma 6, the multiplicity $m_0(\gamma)$ can be either \underline{n}_{E_D} or $\underline{n}_{E_D}n_{E_D}$ with $n_{E_D} > 1$. If $m_0(\gamma) = \underline{n}_{E_D}$, the same computations as in the previous case give the result. Consider now the case $m_0(\gamma) = \underline{n}_{E_D}n_{E_D}$. Thus we have that $m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) = \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$, $g_\gamma = k_{E_D} + 1$ and $n_{E_D} = n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$. Hence we get that

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma, \zeta)_0 &= [\underline{n}_{E_D} + \underline{n}_{E_D}n_{E_D}] \frac{\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma}{\underline{n}_{E_D}n_{E_D}} + \nu_{g_\gamma-1}^\gamma - \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma-1}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma-1}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma) \\ &= (1 + n_{g_\gamma})\bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma) = n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma - m_0(\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

By lemma 2, we have that $(\gamma, \zeta)_0 = \bar{\nu}_{g_\gamma}^\gamma n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma + m_0(\gamma)\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \zeta) - \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$. We obtain that

$$\mathcal{C}(\gamma, \zeta) = 2 \frac{\nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma}{m_0(\gamma)} - 1 = 2v(E_D) - 1.$$

- If E_D is a Puiseux divisor which does not belong to a dead arc, then $m_0(\gamma)v(E_D) = \nu_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$, $g_\gamma = k_{E_D} + 1$ and $n_{E_D} = n_{g_\gamma}^\gamma$. Hence the computations in the previous case give the result. \square

6. Resolution of singularities

In this section we give the proof of the main result of the paper and some consequences than can be deduced from it.

Proof of theorem 1. — In proposition 12 we have shown that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ is obtained from π_C by a finite number of punctual blow-ups with centers at non-singular points of $\pi_C^*\mathcal{F}$. Recall that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C} = \pi_C \circ \sigma_1$, where σ_1 is obtained by blowing-up following the infinitely near points of the irreducible components of a generic curve Γ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Moreover, since $\pi_C^*\Gamma$ is non-singular, then the centers of the blow-ups to get σ_1 are free infinitely near points of Γ .

Let $\{R_1, \dots, R_s\}$ be the points of the set $\pi_C^*\Gamma \cap \pi_C^{-1}(0)$. By theorem 5, there is a unique irreducible component γ_i of Γ such that $\pi_C^*\gamma_i$ cuts transversally $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ at R_i for $i = 1, \dots, s$. Let D_i be the dicritical component of $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}^{-1}(0)$ such that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}^*\gamma_i \cap D_i \neq \emptyset$ and denote by E_{R_i} the irreducible component of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ such that $\pi_C^*\gamma_i \cap E_{R_i} = \{R_i\}$. Note that it is possible that $E_{R_i} = E_{R_j}$ for $i \neq j$. Moreover, E_{R_i} is either a bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$ or the terminal divisor of a dead arc in $G(C)$.

Let $\alpha_i = \alpha_{E_{R_i}}$ be the number of blow-ups needed to obtain D_i from E_{R_i} . Let us show that the value of α_i is given by equation (1). We consider separately the different possibilities for E_{R_i} :

- E_{R_i} is the first divisor E_1 of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$, then it is a dicritical component for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Hence, $\alpha_i = 0$ and the equality $\alpha_i = m(E_{R_i})(v(E_{R_i}) - 1)$ holds since $v(E_1) = 1$.
- E_{R_i} is a bifurcation divisor different from E_1 , then R_i is a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. The valuation $v(D_i)$ is equal to

$$v(D_i) = \frac{m(E_{R_i})v(E_{R_i}) + \alpha_i}{m(E_{R_i})}.$$

By theorem 14, we have that $v(D_i) = 2v(E_{R_i}) - 1$. Hence, we deduce that $\alpha_i = m(E_{R_i})(v(E_{R_i}) - 1)$.

- E_{R_i} is the terminal divisor of a dead arc with bifurcation divisor E . Using the fact that C has a kind equisingularity type, we get that

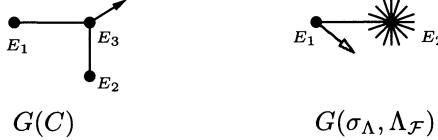
$$(10) \quad m(E_{R_i}) = m(E)/2; \quad v(E_{R_i}) = (m(E)v(E) + 1)/m(E).$$

By theorem 14, we have that $v(D_i) = 2v(E) - 1$. Thus we obtain the following equality

$$\frac{m(E_{R_i})v(E_{R_i}) + \alpha_i}{m(E_{R_i})} = \frac{2m(E_{R_i})v(E_{R_i}) - 1}{m(E_{R_i})} - 1,$$

and we conclude that $\alpha_i = m(E_{R_i})(v(E_{R_i}) - 1) - 1$. \square

Note that, in general, the minimal resolution of singularities σ_Λ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ is not a reduction of singularities of the foliation \mathcal{F} . Consider, for instance, the foliation \mathcal{F} given by $d(y^2 - x^3) = 0$. The generic curves of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ are the parabolas $\{2by - 3ax^2 = 0\}$; the minimal resolution of singularities σ_Λ of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ is a composition of two blow-ups whereas the separatrix of \mathcal{F} is a $(3, 2)$ -cusp. The dual graphs $G(C)$ and $G(\sigma_\Lambda, \Lambda_{\mathcal{F}})$ are given by



Next result characterizes the curves C such that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ coincides with the minimal reduction of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Corollary 15. — *Let C be a curve with kind equisingularity type and consider a Zariski-general foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$. The following statements are equivalent:*

1. *The morphism $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ is the minimal resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.*
2. *There is no maximal bifurcation divisor of $G(C)$ which belongs to the geodesic of only one irreducible component of C .*

Proof. — Let $\Gamma = \cup_{E \in B(C)} \Gamma^E$ be a generic curve of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. Assume that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ is the minimal resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. If there is a maximal bifurcation vertex E of $G(C)$ which belongs to a dead arc and with $b_E = 2$, then Γ^E is irreducible and Γ^E cuts the terminal divisor F of the dead arc starting at E (by theorem 5). Hence, π_C is not the minimal reduction of singularities of Γ and consequently $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ cannot be the minimal resolution of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Assume now that $G(C)$ satisfies the conditions in the second statement. This implies that, for each maximal bifurcation divisor E of $G(C)$, there is an irreducible component γ of Γ with $\pi_C^* \gamma \cap E \neq \emptyset$. If $E \neq E_1$, then $\pi_C^* \gamma \cap E$ is a base point of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ and hence the minimal resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ factorizes by π_C . If $E = E_1$, then π_C is a resolution of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. We conclude that $\sigma_{\Lambda,C}$ is the minimal resolution of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$. \square

Finally we characterize when a terminal divisor of a dead arc is a dicritical component for the pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Corollary 16. — *Let C be a curve with kind equisingularity type and consider a Zariski-general foliation $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{G}_C^*$. Let F be terminal divisor of a dead arc in $G(C)$ starting at the bifurcation divisor E . The divisor F is dicritical for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ if and only if $v(E) = 3/2$.*

Proof. — If $v(E) = 3/2$, then $v(F) = 2$ and $m(F) = 1$ because C has kind equisingularity type. Thus, by theorem 1, $\alpha(F) = 0$ and hence F is a dicritical component for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Conversely, assume that F is a dicritical divisor for $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ and then $v(F) = 1 + 1/m(F)$ by theorem 1. Since C has a kind equisingularity type, the relationship between $v(F)$ and $v(E)$ is given by equation (10), thus $v(E) = 1 + 1/m(E)$.

Let $\{(m_l^i, n_l^i)\}_{l=1}^{g_i}$ be the Puiseux pairs of an irreducible component C_i of C . We have that $m(E) = n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i$ and $v(E) = m_{k_E+1}^i/m(E)$ for $i \in I_E$ because E is a Puiseux divisor. Consequently, the dicriticalness of F implies that $m_{k_E+1}^i = 1 + n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i$. But

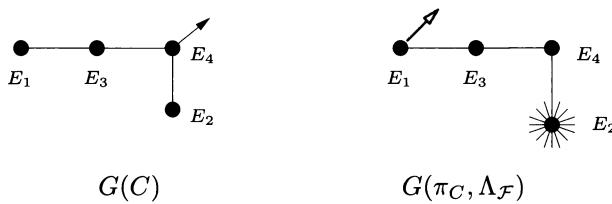
$$1 < \frac{m_{k_E}^i}{n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i} < \frac{m_{k_E+1}^i}{n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i}$$

by the properties of the Puiseux pairs. This implies that $n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i < m_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i < m_{k_E+1}^i = 1 + n_1^i \cdots n_{k_E}^i n_{k_E+1}^i$. The previous inequalities hold only if $k_E = 0$, i.e., $m_{k_E}^i = 0$. Consequently $v(E) = (1 + n_1^i)/n_1^i$ and the result follows since $n_E = n_1^i = 2$. \square

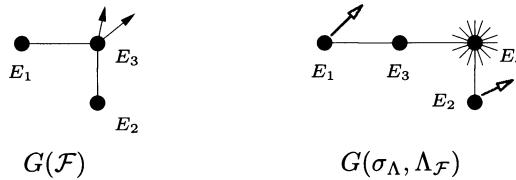
7. Examples

We illustrate here some different behaviours of a polar pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ when \mathcal{F} is not a Zariski-general foliation.

Example 1. — There can be dicritical components of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ with degree ≥ 2 , which are different from E_1 . Consider the foliation \mathcal{F} given by $d(y^3 - x^5) = 0$; note that C has not a kind equisingularity type. The pencil $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ has a dicritical component of degree 2 which corresponds to the terminal divisor E_2 of the unique dead arc in $G(C)$. In this case, π_C gives a resolution of singularities of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$ but it is not the minimal resolution of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$.



Example 2. — Consider the foliation \mathcal{F} given by $\omega = x^5 dx - y^3 dy = 0$. The minimal reduction of singularities π_C of \mathcal{F} is not a reduction of singularities of a generic fiber $\Gamma_{[a:b]} = \{ax^5 - by^3 = 0\}$. It is necessary to blow-up the corner $E_3 \cap E_2$ of $\pi_C^{-1}(0)$ to obtain an elimination of indeterminations σ_{Λ} of $\Lambda_{\mathcal{F}}$; hence we need to blow-up a singular point of $\pi_C^* \mathcal{F}$.



Notice that $v(E_4) = 5/3$ and $v(E_3) = 3/2$, thus equation (7) is not true for this foliation. In this example, the curve of separatrices C has a kind equisingularity type but the foliation \mathcal{F} is not Zariski-general.

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