

Continuous Skolem Problem for higher dimensions

We want to prove decidability of the Zero Problem or Infinite Zeros Problem for exponential polynomials with constant coefficients.

Conjecture 1 ([Yge11], **Leon Ehrenpreis**). *For a given exponential polynomial of the form $f(\zeta) = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{i\alpha_k \zeta}$, where b_i are real algebraic, then we have:*

$$\sum_{j=0}^M \left| \frac{d^{j-1} f}{dz^{j-1}}(z) \right| \geq c \frac{e^{-A|Im(z)|}}{(1+|z|)^p} \quad (1)$$

The following paragraph contains a brief explanation of this conjecture, which has been explained in greater detail in [Yge11].

We first consider the exponential polynomial of the form

$$f(\zeta) = \sum_{k=0}^M b_k e^{i\alpha_k \zeta}$$

where b_k are algebraic and the frequencies, $i\alpha_k$ are purely imaginary.

Consider the basis of $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_M\}$ over \mathbb{Z} . Let the basis of this be $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \dots \gamma_n\}$. So for any exponential polynomial $g(e^{i\alpha z})$ there exists another polynomial such that the same exponential polynomial can be written in the form $h(e^{i\gamma z})$. So for every derivative of f we have polynomials of the form

$$\frac{d^{j-1} f}{dz^{j-1}}(z) = P_j(e^{i\gamma z})$$

Now according to the conjecture we have the form:

$$\sum_{j=0}^M |P_j(e^{i\gamma z})| = \sum_{j=0}^M \left| \frac{d^{j-1} f}{dz^{j-1}}(z) \right| \geq c \frac{e^{-A|Im(z)|}}{(1+|z|)^p}$$

Based on the Conjecture 1, we make the following conjecture that we expect to be true.

Conjecture 2. *We have two polynomials $P_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M)$ and $P_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M)$ such that $P_1(e^{i\gamma z}) = \sum_{j=1}^M b_j e^{i\gamma_j z}$ and $P_2(e^{i\gamma z}) = \sum_{j=1}^M c_j e^{i\gamma_j z}$, where b_j 's and c_j 's are algebraic over \mathbb{R} and $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_M)$. If their variety span a codimension of 2 then we will have a polynomial lower bound of the sum of their absolute values for all $z \in \mathbb{C}$ in the form*

$$|P_1(e^{i\gamma z})| + |P_2(e^{i\gamma z})| \geq c \frac{e^{-A|Im(z)|}}{(1+|z|)^p} \quad (2)$$

for some constants $c, p, A > 0$ depending on P_1, P_2 and γ_j 's.

Using Conjecture 2, we now work on developing our theory to find the decidability of zeroes of exponential functions.

Proposition 1 ([BCR13]). *For two semi-algebraic functions $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : P \rightarrow D$ we will have $f \circ g : P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a semi-algebraic function.*

Theorem 1. For real algebraic b_1, \dots, b_s that are linearly independent over \mathbb{Q} and two polynomials $P_j(x_1, \dots, x_s)$, $j = 1, 2$, that generate a variety of dimension $s-2$ the expression $\sum_{j=1,2} |P_j(e^{ib_1 t}, \dots, e^{ib_s t})|$ is bounded below by an inverse polynomial in t .

Proof. We are given two polynomials $P_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s)$ and $P_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s)$ such that they have a variety of $s-2$ dimensions. According to the conjecture 2, we will have

$$|P_1(e^{b_1 t}, e^{b_2 t} \dots e^{b_s t})| + |P_2(e^{b_1 t}, e^{b_2 t} \dots e^{b_s t})| \geq c \frac{e^{-A|Im(t)|}}{(1+|t|)^p}$$

For some constants $c, A > 0$ and a constant p depending on P_1, P_2 and $b_1, b_2 \dots b_s$. Now since t is purely real we will have $Im(t) = 0$, which implies

$$|P_1(e^{ib_1 t}, e^{ib_2 t} \dots e^{ib_s t})| + |P_2(e^{ib_1 t}, e^{ib_2 t} \dots e^{ib_s t})| \geq \frac{c}{(1+t)^p} \quad (3)$$

for all $t \geq 0$.

This gives us a polynomial lower bound of the sum of $P_1(e^{ib_1 t}, e^{ib_2 t} \dots e^{ib_s t})$ and $P_2(e^{ib_1 t}, e^{ib_2 t} \dots e^{ib_s t})$. \square

Theorem 2 ([COW16]). The set $\Gamma_t = \{(x, y, z) | (e^{at}, x, y, z) \in C_j\}$ is semi-algebraic for a fixed value of t .

Theorem 3. Given s independent frequencies, there exists a parametrization of $\Gamma_t = \{(x_1, x_2 \dots x_s) | (e^{at}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s) \in C_j\}$, as a continuous semi-algebraic function $h : (0, 1)^n \times [0, \infty)^k \rightarrow [-1, 1]^s$ such that $h(\mathbf{p}, e^{a_1 t}, e^{a_2 t}, \dots, e^{a_k t})$ gives us the set Γ_t for all values of $\mathbf{p} \in (0, 1)^n$.

Proof. Suppose we have the cell decomposition of C_j as a semi-algebraic set

$$\{(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s) | \dots\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{k+s} \quad (4)$$

which as a $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{k+s})$ -cell. We inductively construct a parametrization from this given cell structure. Throughout this proof we will denote \mathbf{p}_j as a parameter which is a tuple of c_j elements each having values between $(0, 1)$.

Consider the last s coordinates of the $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{k+s})$. We assume that we have constructed a parametrization upto $j-1$ coordinates of these s coordinates, and want to construct for the j^{th} coordinate. By induction hypothesis we are assuming we already have constructed a continuous semi-algebraic function for parametrization $h_{j-1} : (0, 1)^{c_{j-1}} \times [0, \infty)^k \rightarrow [-1, 1]^s$, where $c_{j-1} = i_{k+1} + i_{k+2} + \dots + i_{k+j-1}$, such that

$$h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u}) = (h_{j-1,1}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}), h_{j-1,2}(\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{u}) \dots h_{j-1,j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u})) \quad (5)$$

where each of $h_{j-1,m}$ gives us the coordinate x_m from the form as in equation 4 for every $m = 1, 2, \dots, (j-1)$. Each $h_{j-1,m}$ has parameter variables \mathbf{p}_m which is a vector consisting of the first c_m coordinates of \mathbf{p}_{j-1} , for a constant $c_m \leq c_{j-1}$ depending on the number of 1's in the given cell structure between coordinates $k+1$ and $k+m$ (we have $c_m = i_{k+1} + i_{k+2} + \dots + i_{k+m}$ where the cell structure is $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{k+s})$), as not every coordinate of the parameter \mathbf{p} is required for obtaining the value of x_i for some i .

Now we move on to finding a parametric representation of the coordinate x_j as well, using the previous parametrization and the cell structure of C_j .

If $i_{k+j} = 0$ we will have a continuous semi-algebraic function $f_j : [0, \infty)^k \times [-1, 1]^{j-1} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ such that $x_j = f_j(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{j-1})$ (from the definition of cell decomposition for a $(\dots, 0)$ -cell). We define $h : (0, 1)^{c_{j-1}} \times [0, \infty)^k \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ such that $h(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{u}) = f_1(\mathbf{u}, h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}))$ (In this case $c_j = c_{j-1}$ as $i_{k+j} = 0$ and hence $\mathbf{p}_j = \mathbf{p}_{j-1}$).

Now we consider our parameterizing function as $h_j : (0, 1)^{c_j} \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow [-1, 1]^j$ as

$$h_j(\mathbf{p}_j) = (h_{j,1}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}), h_{j,2}(\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{u}), \dots, h_{j,j}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{u}))$$

where each of $h_{j,m} = h_{j-1,m}$ for all $m = 1, 2, \dots, (j-1)$ and $h_j = h$ as defined in the previous paragraph.

However if $i_{k+j} = 1$ we will have two continuous semi-algebraic functions $f_j, g_j : [0, \infty)^k \times [-1, 1]^{j-1} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ such that $f_j(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{j-1}) < x_j < g_j(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{j-1})$, where each of x_l correspond to the $(l+k)^{th}$ coordinate from equation 4 (follows from the definition of $(\dots, 1)$ -cell). Now construct the continuous semi-algebraic function $h : [0, \infty)^k \times [-1, 1]^{j-1} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ to give all the values between $f_j(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{j-1})$ and $g_j(\mathbf{u}, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{j-1})$ in terms of parameters. We create another parameter $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ such that we get the value of x_j as $\lambda f_j(\mathbf{u}, h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u})) + (1-\lambda)g_j(\mathbf{u}, h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u}))$, which is a convex combination to give all the values in between for values of λ . So we define $h(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{u}) = \lambda f_j(\mathbf{u}, h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u})) + (1-\lambda)g_j(\mathbf{u}, h_{j-1}(\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \mathbf{u}))$ where $\mathbf{p}_j = (\mathbf{p}_{j-1}, \lambda)$. In this case another parameter λ is added to the set of parameters \mathbf{p}_{j-1} , giving $c_j = c_{j-1} + 1$.

Now we define our parameterizing function for the j coordinates by the continuous semialgebraic function $h_j : [0, \infty)^k \times [-1, 1]^{c_j} \rightarrow [-1, 1]^j$ as

$$h_j(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{u}) = (h_{j,1}(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}), h_{j,2}(\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{u}), \dots, h_{j,j}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{u}))$$

where each of $h_{j,m} = h_{j-1,m}$ for all $m = 1, 2, \dots, (j-1)$ and $h_{j,j} = h$ as defined in the previous paragraph and $c_j = c_{j-1} + 1$.

In this way we inductively construct the parameterizing continuous semi-algebraic function $h_s : [0, \infty)^k \times [-1, 1]^{c_s} \rightarrow [-1, 1]^s$, which gives us the parameterization of each of the coordinates x_j , with parameters from $(0, 1)^{c_s}$. Each point in Γ_t is given by $h_s(\mathbf{p}, e^{at})$ for a uniquely defined parameter $\mathbf{p} \in (0, 1)^{c_s}$. \square

Next we move on to finding exponential polynomials such that for any $(x, y, z) \in \Gamma_t$ we will have $|P_j(x, y, z)| < 2^{-A_j t}$ for some $A_j > 0$.

We have, from Theorem 3, the parametric semi-algebraic function $h(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{u}) = (h_1(\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}), h_2(\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{u}), \dots, h_s(\mathbf{p}_s, \mathbf{u}))$ where h_1, h_2, \dots, h_s are continuous semi-algebraic as well.

We indeed have, from Proposition 2.5.2 of [BCR13], that there exists a polynomial $Q_i(x, y)$ such that $Q_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{u}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{u})) = 0 \forall \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{u}$ in domains as specified in Theorem 3.

When we set $\mathbf{u} = (e^{a_1 t}, e^{a_2 t}, \dots, e^{a_k t})$ we will have $Q_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))$ in the form:

$$Q_{i,1}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{b_1 t} + Q_{i,2}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{b_2 t} + \dots + Q_{i,m}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{b_m t} = 0$$

where $Q_{i,j}$ are polynomials with real algebraic coefficients and $b_1 > b_2 > \dots > b_m$ for some real algebraic b_j 's.

This can be rearranged to give:

$$\begin{aligned} |Q_{i,1}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))| &= |Q_{i,2}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{(b_2-b_1)t} + Q_{i,3}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{(b_3-b_1)t} + \dots + Q_{i,m}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))e^{(b_m-b_1)t}| \\ &\implies |Q_{i,1}(\mathbf{p}, h_i(\mathbf{p}, e^{at}))| \leq Ae^{-\epsilon t} \end{aligned}$$

for some constants $A, \epsilon > 0$ not depending on \mathbf{p} and t .

We indeed have s such polynomials $Q_{i,1}$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$. However the same argument might not proceed as in Proposition 2.10 of [COW16] as in that case it was a univariate polynomial but we have several multivariate ones. One idea is definitely to proceed by fixing some coordinates and treat this as a univariate.

Next, we want to prove that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_t$ exists and is equal to a semialgebraic set Γ_* . One way of showing this is to show that the semi-algebraic parameterizing function can be "extended to infinity" quite like a semi-algebraic function can be extended to 0 if it is defined in an interval $(0, r]$ for some $r > 0$.

Our claim is that if Γ_* is of codimension ≤ 1 then we will have the fact that $(\cos b_1 t, \cos b_2 t, \dots, \cos b_s t)$ hitting Γ_t infinitely often and hence the zero set as unbounded. Otherwise, if Γ_* has codimension ≥ 2 we intend to prove that the zero set is indeed bounded.

Proposition 2 ([BPR06] Proposition 2.5.3). *Let $\phi : (0, r] \rightarrow R$ be a bounded continuous semi-algebraic function defined on an interval $(0, r] \subset R$. Then ϕ can be continuously extended to 0.*

We intend to use this proposition for multivariates, namely extending a bounded semi-algebraic function $\phi : (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots \times (0, r_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$.

Proposition 3. *Given a bounded continuous semi-algebraic function $\phi : (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots (0, r_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, with $r_i \in \mathbb{R} \forall i$, the function can be continuously extended to $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$.*

Proof. We prove this using induction. First we consider the semi-algebraic function $\phi(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ and assume that we already have extended it to zero for the last $n - i$ variables, i.e. have a value of $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$ for every value of $x_1 \in (0, r_1], x_2 \in (0, r_2] \dots x_i \in (0, r_i]$.

For the base case we show that for every $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} \in (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots (0, r_{n-1}]$, the function $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)$ as a bounded continuous semi-algebraic function in X can be continuously extended to 0.

We use a proof similar to that given in [BCR13] Proposition 2.5.3. Let $f \in R[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, Y]$ be a polynomial such that $\forall x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots (0, r_n]$ we have $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)) = 0$. We use induction on the degree, say d , of Y in f to prove the base case.

If $d = 1$, we will have $\phi(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X) = \frac{N(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X)}{D(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X)}$ where N and D are relatively coprime wrt X , and X does not divide $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)$ since the absolute value of ϕ is bounded. It might so be that for some non-zero x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} in the domain of ϕ , $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = 0$. However, this can not be true as ϕ is bounded. Infact, we have $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \neq 0$ for any i and all other non-zero values of x_j 's.

Now, let us assume that we have extended the last coordinate of ϕ to zero whenever degree of f is less than or equal to $d - 1$, and want to prove it for degree d . We consider a slicing $(A_i, (\xi_{i,j})_{j=1,2,\dots,l_i})$ of $(f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X, Y), \frac{\partial f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X, Y)}{\partial Y})$ with $A_1 = (0, r]$ for some small enough r and $\phi = \xi_{1,j_0}$ for some j_0 (the fact that the interval $(0, r]$ is semi-algebraically connected can be used to see that one of $\xi_{1,j}$ coincides with ϕ).

If $\phi(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1}, X)$ is a root of $\frac{\partial f}{\partial Y}$ for every value of X in $(0, r]$ and values of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i , then it can be used from the induction hypothesis to extend $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)$ to $X = 0$. Otherwise, WLOG let us assume that $\frac{\partial f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X, Y)}{\partial Y}|_{Y=\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)} > 0$ for all $X \in (0, r]$ and $x_i \in (0, r_i]$. Now we select two continuous semi-algebraic function ρ and θ from $(0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots (0, r_{n-1}] \times [0, r]$ to \mathbb{R} , such that for every $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} \in (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \times \dots (0, r_{n-1}]$ and every x in $(0, r]$ we will have $\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x) < \phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x) < \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x)$ and $\frac{\partial f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X, y)}{\partial Y} > 0$ for every y in $(\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x), \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x))$ (the existence of these two functions has been shown in [BCR13] Prop. 2.5.3). If for some $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$, $\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)$ holds true, then we define $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = \rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)$.

However if $\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X) < \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)$ and $\frac{\partial f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y)}{\partial y}$ is never < 0 on the interval $[\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0), \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)]$. We have

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, \rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)) \leq 0 \leq f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0))$$

and $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, Y)$ is increasing in the interval, implying that it has only one root $y_0 \in [\rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0), \theta(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)]$. We define $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = y_0$. It can be shown for a fixed x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} , $\phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, X)$ is continuous in a similar fashion as shown in [BCR13]. However we are left with proving continuity for every one of the variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-1} . Let us consider X_i . We will have small constants such that for every small $\epsilon > 0$, $f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y'_0) = 0$ where y'_0 is similarly obtained the described procedure by replacing x_i by $x_i + \epsilon$. Now we indeed have ρ and θ as continuous and $\exists \delta_1, \delta_2 > 0$ for ϵ such that

$$|\rho(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) - \rho(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)| < \delta_1,$$

and

$$|\theta(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) - \theta(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)| < \delta_2.$$

So we have the intervals

$$[\rho(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0), \theta(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)],$$

and

$$[\rho(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0), \theta(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0)]$$

as roughly similar and both y_0 and y'_0 belong to these. And now since f is a continuous polynomial we will have, for the roots of $f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i + \epsilon, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y)$ and $f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y)$ as y_0 and y'_0 , there exists a constant δ depending on ϵ such that $|y'_0 - y_0| < \delta$. Thus, continuity follows from Proposition 3.10 of [BPR06]. \square

Now, for the induction step we assume that we have continuously extended $\phi : (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \dots (0, r_i] \times [0, r_{i+1}] \times [0, r_{i+2}] \dots [0, r_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. To extend it to $\phi : (0, r_1] \times (0, r_2] \dots [0, r_i] \times [0, r_{i+1}] \times [0, r_{i+2}] \dots [0, r_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, we apply the same proof as of the base case and fix $x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots x_n$ to 0. In this way we can continuously extend a multivariate bounded continuous semi-algebraic function to $\mathbf{0}$.

Theorem 4. *Given that we have a parametrization of Γ_t as a semi-algebraic function as in Theorem 4, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_t$ exists and is semi-algebraic.*

Proof Idea. We already have the fact that a semi-algebraic function extends to zero. So if we consider the multivariate polynomials in the boolean expression corresponding to the map of the semi-algebraic function $h(\dots)$ and consider their reverse (something like $x_1^m x_2^n f(1/x_1, 1/x_2)$ where m and n are the degrees of x_1 and x_2 in f respectively) to show that "extending h to infinity" is same as extending another semi-algebraic function to zero, which can be done, showing that the limit of Γ_t exists. \square

Next, we intend to show that roots are unbounded when the codimension of Γ_t is small. Dimension of Γ_t is d when Γ_t is homeomorphic to the cylinder $(0, 1)^d$. This degree can be found from the parameterization which is again obtained from the cell decomposition. When C_j is a cell of the form $(i_1, i_2, \dots i_{k+s})$, the parameterizing function h is homeomorphic to c_s , with notation same as that in proof of Theorem 3. Now for small codimension, most of the i_j 's in the cell decomposition will be 1.

We have these intervals for each coordinate in the output of h and need to check if for unbounded infinitely many $t \cos b_j t$ is included in the interval. For low codimension, these intervals would be fixed points and it might be easier to decide if these coincide with $\cos b_j t$ or not. This is an idea of proceeding with the proof.

References

- [BCR13] Jacek Bochnak, Michel Coste, and Marie-Françoise Roy. *Real algebraic geometry*, volume 36. Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.
- [BPR06] Saugata Basu, Richard Pollack, and Marie-Françoise Roy. Algorithms in real algebraic geometry. 2006. *Revised version of the second edition online at <http://perso.univ-rennes1.fr/marie-francoise.roy>*, 19:22–29, 2006.
- [COW16] Ventsislav Chonev, J  el Ouaknine, and James Worrell. On the skolem problem for continuous linear dynamical systems. In *43rd International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming (ICALP)*, pages 100:1–100:13, 2016.
- [Yge11] Alain Yger. A conjecture by leon ehrenpreis about zeroes of exponential polynomials. *hal-00618147v1*, 2011.