

# The number of zeros of polynomials in valuation rings of complete discretely valued fields

by

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*To honour the hundredth  
birthday of Wacław Sierpiński*

**Abstract.** Let  $K$  be a field complete with respect to a discrete valuation  $v$  and let  $I$  be the valuation ring,  $P$  the valuation ideal,  $R$  the residue field  $I/P$ .

In this paper we consider the number of zeros of a polynomial  $f \in I[x]$  in  $I$  and express it in terms of the number of solutions of suitable systems of equations in several variables in  $R$  provided  $\text{char } R > \deg f$  or  $\text{char } R = 0$ . The equations are uniform with respect to  $K$  and  $v$  and thus if  $F \in \mathbb{Z}[x, t]$  the result implies that for  $p$  large enough the number of solutions of  $F(x, p) = 0$  in  $p$ -adic integers equals the number of solutions of  $F(x, t) = 0$  in formal power series in  $t$  over the finite field of  $p$  elements.

**§ 1. Introduction.** Let  $K$  be a field complete with respect to a discrete valuation  $v$  and let  $I$  be the valuation ring,  $P$  the valuation ideal,  $R$  the residue field  $I/P$  and  $p$  an element of  $P$  with  $v(p) = 1$ .

It is an easy extension of a result of Nagell ([2], p. 349, see also [3], Theorem 53) that the number of zeros of a polynomial  $f \in I[x]$  with the discriminant  $\text{disc } f \neq 0$  equals the number of solutions of the congruence

$$f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{P^{2\delta+1}},$$

where  $\delta = v(\text{disc } f)$ .

In this paper under the assumption  $\text{char } R > \deg f$  or  $\text{char } R = 0$  we express the number of zeros of  $f$  in  $I$  in terms of the number of solutions of suitable systems of equations in several variables in  $R$ . In order to formulate the result we set, for every polynomial  $A \in K[y_1, \dots, y_l]$ ,

$$A = \sum_{\mu=1}^m a_{\mu} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda}^{\alpha_{\mu,\lambda}}, \quad \text{the vectors } [\alpha_{\mu 1}, \dots, \alpha_{\mu l}] \text{ distinct,}$$

$$v(A) := \min_{\mu \leq m} v(a_\mu),$$

$$\mathcal{K}A := \begin{cases} p^{-v(A)}A & \text{if } A \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } A = 0, \end{cases}$$

and if  $A \in I[y_1, \dots, y_l]$

$$\mathcal{L}A := \sum_{\mu=1}^m \bar{a}_\mu \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_\lambda^{\alpha_{\mu\lambda}},$$

where the bar is the residue map. Moreover, we put

$$N_+ := N \cup \{0, \infty\} = N_0 \cup \{\infty\} = \{0, 1, \dots, \infty\}.$$

Now we can state

**THEOREM 1.** For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist a system of forms  $R_i(a)$  ( $i \leq i^*$ ) and polynomials  $S_{jkl}(a, y_1, \dots, y_l)$  ( $j \leq j^*$ ,  $k \leq k_j$ ,  $l \leq l_{jk}$ ) with integral coefficients, a decomposition

$$N_+^{i^*} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j^*} X_j$$

and  $N_0$ -valued functions  $\sigma_{jkl}(v)$  defined on  $X_j$  with the following property:

If  $\text{char } R = 0$  or  $\text{char } R > m$ ,

$$f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu} \in K[x], \quad f \neq 0, \quad a = [a_0, \dots, a_m],$$

$$v = [v(R_1(a)), \dots, v(R_{i^*}(a))] \in X_j$$

and

$$\tilde{S}_{jkl}(y_1, \dots, y_l) = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} S_{jkl}(a, p^{\sigma_{jkl}(v)} y_1, \dots, p^{\sigma_{jkl}(v)} y_l),$$

then

$$\text{card} \{ \xi \in I : f(\xi) = 0 \} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card} \{ [\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{l_{jk}} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{l_{jk}} \tilde{S}_{jkl}(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0 \}.$$

The polynomials  $R_i$ ,  $S_{jkl}$ , the sets  $X_j$  and the functions  $\sigma_{jkl}$  do not depend on the field  $K$ , the valuation  $v$  or the element  $p$ .

The calculation of  $R_i$ ,  $S_{jkl}$  etc., possible in principle for every  $m$ , is trivial for  $m = 1$  and  $m = 2$ . At the end of the paper we give the result of the calculation for  $m = 3$  and some comments on the cases  $m = 4$ ,  $m = 6$ .

Theorem 1 easily implies

**THEOREM 2.** For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist  $c_1(m) \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $c_2(m) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, if  $F \in \mathbb{Z}[x, t]$  is of degree  $m$  in  $x$  with the sum of the absolute values of the coefficients equal to, say,  $l(F)$ , then for all primes  $p$  satisfying

$$p > c_1(m) l(F)^{c_2(m)}$$

we have

$$\text{card} \{ \xi \in \mathbb{Z}_p : F(\xi, p) = 0 \} = \text{card} \{ \xi \in F_p[[t]] : F(\xi, t) = 0 \},$$

where  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is the ring of  $p$ -adic integers and  $F_p$  the field of  $p$  elements.

For the understanding of both theorems it is important to note that the values of a polynomial with integral coefficients for arguments in a field of positive characteristic are again in this field since a positive integer  $n$  is to be interpreted as  $1 + 1 + \dots + 1$  ( $n$  times).

The equality asserted in Theorem 2 restricted to primes  $p$  greater than a suitable primitive recursive function of the coefficients of  $F$  follows from a result of P. Cohen [1] (Corollary to Theorem 5.1). His theorem (Theorem 5.1) implies also that in the more general situation of Theorem 1 the solvability of  $f(x) = 0$  in  $I$  is decidable in terms of  $R$  provided  $\text{char } R$  is either zero or greater than a bound depending on  $f$ .

The proof of Theorem 1 is rather complicated and much notation is used. In addition to those already introduced the following symbols are used throughout:

$$N_- := N_0 \cup \{-\infty\},$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^n Y_i \text{ for the Cartesian product } Y_1 \times Y_2 \times \dots \times Y_n,$$

$$Y^n := \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i.$$

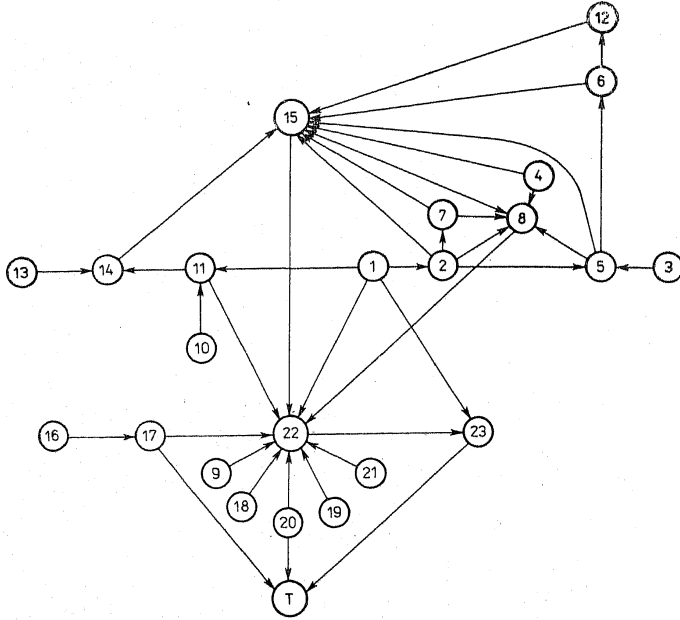
However, except for the sets  $\{0, 1\}$ ,  $N$ ,  $N_0$ ,  $N_+$  and  $N_-$ , no other set appears in the course of the proof with an exponent. Also the algebraic operation of raising into power with a simple (one letter) exponent is used rarely. Therefore, as a rule (with some exceptions), a simple superscript without parenthesis is to be understood as an index and not as an exponent. A superscript in a parenthesis means a differentiation.

For a given polynomial  $f = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu}$ ,  $*f$  is the vector  $[a_0, \dots, a_m]$ . Thus  $*f$  is determined by  $f$  up to a sequence of zeros preceding the leading coefficient. The length of the sequence will be clear from each context. Whenever possible without danger of confusion we shall write  $f$  instead of  $*f$ , also  $f^{(n)}$  instead of  $*f^{(n)}$  and  $\tilde{f}$  instead of  $\mathcal{L}f$ . Ordinary capital letters except  $H$ ,  $\Sigma$  and occasionally  $E$  denote polynomials in several variables, small bold face letters vectors, capital bold face letters (except  $P$ ) sets; script capital letters will denote operations; for two polynomials  $f, g$   $\text{res}(f, g)$  is their resultant<sup>(1)</sup>. Finally we accept the usual convention:  $\deg 0 = -\infty$  and for a vector  $a = [a_0, \dots, a_m]$  we set

$$a^{(n)} = n! \left[ 0, \dots, 0, \binom{m}{n} a_0, \dots, \binom{n}{n} a_{m-n} \right].$$

For the convenience of the reader we give a flow chart of the proof of Theorem 1. The numbers denote lemmata, the arrows implications; T denotes the theorem.

<sup>(1)</sup>  $\text{res}(f, 0) = 1$  if  $f = \text{const} \neq 0$  otherwise  $\text{res}(f, 0) = 0$ .



## § 2. Lemmata.

DEFINITION 1.  $C_i(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k)$  is the class of all polynomials

$$A \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_l]$$

that are homogeneous in each vector of variables  $x_i = [x_{i0}, \dots, x_{im}]$  separately and isobaric in all the variables jointly, where the weight of  $x_{ij}$  is  $j$  and the weight of  $y_i$  is 1. The degree of  $A$  with respect to  $x_i$  is denoted by  $\deg^i A$  and the common weight of all terms of  $A$  is denoted  $w(A)$ .

LEMMA 1. If  $A \in C_i(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k)$ ,  $C_i \in C_1(n_1, \dots, n_r)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ )  $C_i$  depend formally on the same vectors of variables  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  besides  $y_1 = y$  and for all  $i$   $\deg_y C_i \leq m_i$ , then for all vectors  $[p_1, \dots, p_k] \in N_0^k$  we have

$$B := A(*C_1^{(p_1)}, \dots, *C_k^{(p_k)}, y_1, \dots, y_l) \in C_i(n_1, \dots, n_r)$$

where  $C_i$  is differentiated with respect to  $y$  and  $C_i^{(p_i)}$  treated as a polynomial in  $y$ . Moreover

$$(1) \quad \deg^q B = \sum_{i=1}^k \deg^i A \deg^q C_i \quad (1 \leq q \leq r),$$

$$(2) \quad w(B) = w(A) + \sum_{i=1}^k \deg^i A (w(C_i) - m_i - p_i).$$

Proof. Let us consider a typical monomial of  $B$ :

$$M(x_1, \dots, x_r, y_1, \dots, y_k) = m \prod_{i,s} c_{is}^{\alpha_{is}} \prod_{j=1}^l y_j^{\beta_j},$$

where  $c_{is}$  is the coefficient of  $x_i^{\deg_y C_i - s}$  in  $C_i$  and  $m \neq 0$ . Since  $C_i \in C_1(n_1, \dots, n_r)$ , we have  $\deg^q c_{is} = \deg^q C_i$ ,  $w(c_{is}) = w(C_i) - \deg_y C_i + s$ . Since  $A \in C_i(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ , we have for each  $i \leq k$

$$(3) \quad \sum_s \alpha_{is} = \deg^i A.$$

Hence for each  $q \leq r$

$$\deg^q M = \sum_{i,s} \alpha_{is} \deg^q C_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \deg^i A \deg^q C_i,$$

which proves (1).

Now consider the weight of  $M$ . It equals

$$w(M) = \sum_{i,s} \alpha_{is} (w(C_i) - \deg_y C_i + s) + \sum_{j=1}^l \beta_j.$$

The variable  $x_{is}$  occurs in  $C_i^{(p_i)}$  in the coefficient of  $y^{\deg_y C_i - p_i - s}$  rather than in that of  $y^{m_i - s}$ . Since  $A \in C_i(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  we get

$$\sum_{i,s} \alpha_{is} (s + m_i + p_i - \deg_y C_i) + \sum_{j=1}^l \beta_j = w(A).$$

Hence by (3)

$$w(M) = w(A) + \sum_{i,s} \alpha_{is} (w(C_i) - m_i - p_i) = w(A) + \sum_i \deg^i A (w(C_i) - m_i - p_i),$$

which proves (2).

DEFINITION 2. For a field  $L$  and  $\alpha \in L \cup \{\infty\}$ , let

$$\text{sg}_L \alpha := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \alpha \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } \alpha = 0. \end{cases}$$

DEFINITION 3. For a given subset  $M$  of  $N^k$   $\Omega(M)$  is the class of all operations  $\mathcal{A}$  on polynomials with coefficients in a field such that for every vector  $[m_1, \dots, m_k] \in N_0^k$  there exist polynomials  $A_i, B_j \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ ,  $C_j \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  ( $i \leq i_0, j \leq j_0$ ) and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{t_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} S_j$$

with the following property:

If  $L$  is a field,  $f_i \in L[x]$ ,  $\deg f_i \leq m_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),

$$[\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M,$$

$$[\text{sg}_L A_1(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{j_0}(f_1, \dots, f_k)] \in S_j,$$

then  $B_j(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0$  and

$$\mathcal{A}(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \frac{C_j(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{B_j(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

If for some integers  $d_0, \dots, d_k$  and all  $[m_1, \dots, m_k] \in N_0^k$ ,  $j \leq j_0$  we have either  $C_j = 0$  or

$$\deg^* C_j - \deg^* B_j = d_x \quad (1 \leq x \leq k)$$

and

$$w(C_j) - w(B_j) = d_0 + \sum_{x=1}^k d_x m_x,$$

then we write

$$\mathcal{A} \in \Omega(M; d_0, \dots, d_k).$$

Remark. As an immediate consequence of Definition 2 we have

$$(4) \quad \Omega\left(\bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} M_{\mu}\right) = \bigcap_{\mu=1}^{\infty} \Omega(M_{\mu}),$$

$$(5) \quad \Omega\left(\bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} M_{\mu}; d_0, \dots, d_k\right) = \bigcap_{\mu=1}^{\infty} \Omega(M_{\mu}; d_0, \dots, d_k)$$

provided  $\bigcup_{\mu=1}^{\infty} M_{\mu} \subset N_-^k$ .

LEMMA 2. Let  $M \subset N_-^k$ ,  $M_0 \subset N_-^l$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_{\lambda} \in \Omega(M)$  ( $\lambda = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ),  $\mathcal{A}_0 \in \Omega(M_0)$  and assume that for every field  $L$  the condition

$$f_i \in L[x], \quad [\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M$$

implies

$$[\deg \mathcal{A}_1(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \deg \mathcal{A}_l(f_1, \dots, f_k)] \in M_0.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_l) \in \Omega(M).$$

Moreover, if  $\mathcal{A}_{\lambda} \in \Omega(M; d_{\lambda 0}, \dots, d_{\lambda k})$  ( $1 \leq \lambda \leq l$ ),  $\mathcal{A}_0 \in \Omega(M_0; d_{00}, \dots, d_{0l})$  then

$$\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_l) \in \Omega(M; d_{00} + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda 0}, \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda 1}, \dots, \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda k}).$$

Proof. Take  $k$  nonnegative integers  $m_1, \dots, m_k$ . Since  $\mathcal{A}_{\lambda} \in \Omega(M)$  ( $\lambda = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ), there exist polynomials  $A_i^{\lambda}, B_j^{\lambda} \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ ,  $C_j^{\lambda} \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  ( $i \leq i_{\lambda}, j \leq j_{\lambda}$ ) and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{i_{\lambda}} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_{\lambda}} S_j^{\lambda}$$

with the following property:

(6) If  $L$  is a field,  $f_i \in L[x]$ ,  $\deg f_i \leq m_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $[\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M$  and

$$[\text{sg}_L A_1^{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{i_{\lambda}}^{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k)] \in S_j^{\lambda} \quad (j \leq j_{\lambda})$$

then  $B_j^{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0$  and

$$\mathcal{A}_{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \frac{C_j^{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{B_j^{\lambda}(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

Put  $c_{\lambda} = \max_{1 \leq j \leq j_{\lambda}} \deg_x C_j^{\lambda}$ .

Since  $\mathcal{A}_0 \in \Omega(M_0)$ , there exist polynomial  $A_i^0, B_i^0 \in C_0(c_1, \dots, c_l)$ ,  $C_i^0 \in C_1(c_1, \dots, c_l)$  and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} S_j^0$$

with the following property:

(7) If  $g_i \in L[x]$ ,  $\deg g_i \leq c_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq l$ ),  $[\deg g_1, \dots, \deg g_l] \in M_0$  and

$$[\text{sg}_L A_1^0(g_1, \dots, g_l), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{i_0}^0(g_1, \dots, g_l)] \in S_j^0 \quad (j \leq j_0),$$

then  $B_j^0(g_1, \dots, g_l) \neq 0$  and

$$\mathcal{A}_0(g_1, \dots, g_l) = \frac{C_j^0(g_1, \dots, g_l, x)}{B_j^0(g_1, \dots, g_l)}.$$

Let us order the Cartesian product  $\prod_{\lambda=1}^l \{1, 2, \dots, j_{\lambda}\}$  into a sequence, denote

the  $v$ th term of this sequence by  $[j_v^1, \dots, j_v^l]$  ( $1 \leq v \leq j_1 j_2 \dots j_k = n$ ) and take  $m = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l i_{\lambda}$ . Further, put

$$(8) \quad A_i = \begin{cases} A_{\mu}^{\lambda} & \text{if } i = \sum_{x \leq \lambda} i_x + \mu, \quad 1 \leq \mu \leq i_{\lambda}, \\ A_{\sigma}^0(*C_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, *C_{j_v^l}^l) & \text{if } i - m = i_0(v-1) + \sigma, \quad 1 \leq \sigma \leq i_0; \end{cases}$$

and, if  $j = j_0(v-1) + \sigma$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma \leq j_0$ ,

$$(9) \quad B_j = B_{\sigma}^0(*C_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, *C_{j_v^l}^l) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (B_{j_{\lambda}}^{\lambda})^{\deg^{\lambda} C_{\sigma}^0},$$

$$(10) \quad C_j = C_{\sigma}^0(*C_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, *C_{j_v^l}^l, x) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (B_{j_{\lambda}}^{\lambda})^{\deg^{\lambda} C_{\sigma}^0},$$

$$(11) \quad S_j = \prod_{\lambda=1}^l S_{j_{\lambda}}^{\lambda} \times \{0, 1\}^{i_0(v-1)} \times S_{\sigma}^0 \times \{0, 1\}^{i_0(n-v)}.$$

We have by Lemma 1  $A_i, B_j \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ ,  $C_j \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  ( $i \leq m + i_0 n$ ,  $j \leq j_0 n$ ); moreover, the sets  $S_j$  are disjoint and

$$\{0, 1\}^{m+i_0 n} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0 n} S_j.$$

Assume now that  $f_\kappa \in L[x]$ ,  $\deg f_\kappa \leq m_\kappa$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ) and

$$(12) \quad [\text{sg}_L A_1(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{m+i_0 n}(f_1, \dots, f_k)] \in S_j,$$

where  $j = j_0(v-1) + \sigma$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma \leq j_0$ . Then by the definition of  $A_i$

$$[\text{sg}_L A_1^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{i_0 n}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)] \in S_{j_0}^\lambda.$$

Therefore by (6)

$$(13) \quad B_{j_0}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0$$

and

$$(14) \quad \mathcal{A}_\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \frac{C_{j_0}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{B_{j_0}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)} := g_{\lambda v}(x).$$

Now

$$(15) \quad \deg g_{\lambda v} \leq \deg_x C_{j_0}^\lambda \leq c_\lambda$$

and by the assumption of the lemma

$$[\deg g_{1v}, \dots, \deg g_{lv}] \in M_0.$$

Moreover, since  $A_i^0$  are homogeneous in each vector of variables separately,

$$\text{sg}_L A_i^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}) = \text{sg}_L A_i^0(*C_{j_0}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *C_{j_0}^l(f_1, \dots, f_k, x))$$

and by (8), (11) and (12)

$$[\text{sg}_L A_1^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}), \dots, \text{sg}_L A_{i_0 n}^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv})] \in S_\sigma^0.$$

Now by (7) and (14)

$$(16) \quad B_\sigma^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}) \neq 0$$

and

$$(17) \quad \mathcal{A}_0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}) = \frac{C_\sigma^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}, x)}{B_\sigma^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv})}.$$

Since  $B_\sigma^0$  and  $C_\sigma^0$  are homogeneous in each vector of variables separately

$$\begin{aligned} B_\sigma^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv}) \\ = B_\sigma^0(*C_{j_0}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *C_{j_0}^l(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l B_{j_0}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)^{-\deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0}, \end{aligned}$$

$$C_\sigma^0(g_{1v}, \dots, g_{lv})$$

$$= C_\sigma^0(*C_{j_0}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *C_{j_0}^l(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l B_{j_0}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)^{-\deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0}$$

and inequality (16) implies that

$$B_\sigma^0(*C_{j_0}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *C_{j_0}^l(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)) \neq 0.$$

Hence also by (9) and (13)

$$B_j(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0$$

and by (10), (14) and (17)

$$\mathcal{A}_0(\mathcal{A}_1(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \mathcal{A}_l(f_1, \dots, f_k)) = \frac{C_j(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{B_j(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

This completes the proof of the first part of the lemma. In order to prove the second part we use formulae (9) and (10) and the second part of Lemma 1. If  $j = j_0(v-1) + \sigma$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma \leq j_0$  we have for each  $\kappa \leq k$

$$\begin{aligned} \deg^* C_j - \deg^* B_j \\ = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0) \deg^* C_{j_0}^\lambda + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0) \deg^* B_{j_0}^\lambda \\ = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0) (\deg^* C_{j_0}^\lambda - \deg^* B_{j_0}^\lambda) = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda\kappa}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} w(C_j) - w(B_j) &= w(C_\sigma^0) - w(B_\sigma^0) + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0) (w(C_{j_0}^\lambda) - c_\lambda) + \\ &\quad + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0) w(B_{j_0}^\lambda) \\ &= d_{00} + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (\deg^\lambda C_\sigma^0 - \deg^\lambda B_\sigma^0) (w(C_{j_0}^\lambda) - w(B_{j_0}^\lambda)) \\ &= d_{00} + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} (d_{\lambda 0} + \sum_{\kappa=1}^k d_{\lambda\kappa} m_\kappa) \\ &= d_{00} + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda 0} + \sum_{\kappa=1}^k m_\kappa \left( \sum_{\lambda=1}^l d_{0\lambda} d_{\lambda\kappa} \right). \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 3. If  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda \in \Omega(M, d_0, \dots, d_k)$  ( $\lambda = 1, \dots, l$ ), then

$$\mathcal{A}_1 + \mathcal{A}_2 + \dots + \mathcal{A}_l \in \Omega(M, d_0, \dots, d_k).$$

Proof—similar to that of Lemma 2. The crucial formulae (8)–(11) are replaced by

$$A_i = A_\mu^\lambda \quad \text{for } i = \sum_{\kappa \leq \lambda} i_\kappa + \mu, \quad 1 \leq \mu \leq i_\lambda,$$

$$B_j = \prod_{\lambda=1}^l B_{j_\lambda}^\lambda, \quad C_j = \left( \sum_{\lambda=1}^l \frac{C_{j_\lambda}^\lambda}{B_{j_\lambda}^\lambda} \right) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l B_{j_\lambda}^\lambda, \quad S_j = \prod_{\lambda=1}^l S_{j_\lambda}^\lambda.$$

Since the sum of homogeneous (resp. isobaric) polynomials of the same degree (resp. weight) is a homogeneous (resp. isobaric) polynomial of the said degree (resp. weight), we have

$$\deg^* C_j - \deg^* B_j = d_\kappa,$$

$$w(C_j) - w(B_j) = d_0 + \sum_{\kappa=1}^k d_\kappa m_\kappa$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}_1 + \mathcal{A}_2 + \dots + \mathcal{A}_l \in \Omega(M, d_0, \dots, d_k).$$

LEMMA 4. For every  $k$  the operation:  $[f_1, \dots, f_k] \rightarrow f_1 \dots f_k$  belongs to  $\Omega(N_-^k; 0, 1, \dots, 1)$ .

Proof. It is enough to take in Definition 2, for arbitrary  $m_1, \dots, m_k, i_0 = 0, j_0 = 1, B_1 = 1$

$$C_1(x_1, \dots, x_k, x) = \prod_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=0}^{m_i} x_{ij} x^{m_i-j}, \quad \text{where } x_i = [x_{i0}, \dots, x_{im_i}].$$

We have

$$\deg^i C_1 - \deg^i B_1 = 1, \quad w(C_1) - w(B_1) = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i.$$

LEMMA 5. The operations of taking the partial quotient  $\mathcal{Q}(f, g)$  and the remainder  $\mathcal{R}(f, g)$  from the division of  $f$  by  $g$  belong to  $\Omega(N_- \times N_0; 0, 1, -1)$  and  $\Omega(N_- \times N_0; 0, 1, 0)$  respectively.

Proof. Let us consider the following operations:

$$\mathcal{A}_1(f, g) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{b} x^{\deg f - \deg g}, & \text{where } a, b \text{ are the leading coefficients of } f, g \\ & \text{respectively if } \deg f \geq \deg g, \\ 0 & \text{if } \deg f < \deg g; \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2(f, g) = f - \mathcal{A}_1(f, g)g.$$

It is clear that  $\mathcal{A}_1 \in \Omega(N_- \times N_0; 0, 1, -1)$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_2 \in \Omega(N_- \times N_0; 0, 1, 0)$ . We take  $M_\mu = \{[d, e] \in N_- \times N_0; d < \mu\}$  ( $\mu = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ),

$$M_\mu^1 = \{[d, e] \in M; d \geq e\}, \quad M_\mu^2 = \{[d, e] \in M; d < e\},$$

and we shall prove by induction on  $\mu$  that

$$\mathcal{Q} \in \Omega(M_\mu; 0, 1, -1), \quad \mathcal{R} \in \Omega(M_\mu; 0, 1, 0).$$

For  $\mu = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}(f, g) = \mathcal{R}(f, g) = 0$ ; hence the statement is true. Assume now that it is true for some  $\mu$ . We have

$$\mathcal{Q}(f, g) = \mathcal{A}_1(f, g) + \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{A}_2(f, g), g),$$

(18)

$$\mathcal{R}(f, g) = \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}_2(f, g), g).$$

Denote by  $\mathcal{J}_2$  the operation  $[f, g] \rightarrow g$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{J}_2 \in \Omega(M; 0, 0, 1)$ . Moreover, if

$$f, g \in L[x], \quad [\deg f, \deg g] \in M_{\mu+1}^1,$$

then

$$[\deg \mathcal{A}_2(f, g), \deg \mathcal{J}_2(f, g)] \in M_\mu$$

and by the inductive assumption

$$\mathcal{Q} \in \Omega(M_\mu; 0, 1, -1), \quad \mathcal{R} \in \Omega(M_\mu; 0, 1, 0).$$

By Lemma 2

$$\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{A}_2, \mathcal{J}_2) \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^1; 0, 1, -1), \quad \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}_2, \mathcal{J}_2) \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^1; 0, 1, 0).$$

By Lemma 3

$$\mathcal{A}_1 + \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{A}_2, \mathcal{J}_2) \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^1; 0, 1, -1)$$

and in virtue of (18)

$$\mathcal{Q} \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^1; 0, 1, -1), \quad \mathcal{R} \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^1; 0, 1, 0).$$

On the other hand, if  $[\deg f, \deg g] \in M_{\mu+1}^2$  we have

$$\mathcal{Q}(f, g) = 0, \quad \mathcal{R}(f, g) = f;$$

hence

$$\mathcal{Q} \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^2; 0, 1, -1), \quad \mathcal{R} \in \Omega(M_{\mu+1}^2; 0, 1, 0).$$

Since  $M_{\mu+1} = M_{\mu+1}^1 \cup M_{\mu+1}^2$ , the inductive assertion follows from (5). Another application of (5) gives the lemma.

DEFINITION 4. For two polynomials  $f, g$  we set

$$\mathcal{E}_0(f, g) := f, \quad \mathcal{E}_1(f, g) := g,$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{k+1}(f, g) := \begin{cases} \mathcal{E}_{k-1}(f, g) & \text{if } \mathcal{E}_k(f, g) = 0, \\ \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{E}_{k-1}(f, g), \mathcal{E}_k(f, g)) & \text{if } \mathcal{E}_k(f, g) \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

LEMMA 6.  $\mathcal{E}_k \in \Omega(N_-^2; 0, 1, 0)$  if  $k$  is even and  $\mathcal{E}_k \in \Omega(N_-^2; 0, 0, 1)$  if  $k$  is odd.

Proof — by induction on  $k$ . For  $k = 0$  or  $1$  the assertion is obvious. For  $k = 2$  we put  $M_1 = N_- \times \{-\infty\}$ ,  $M_2 = N_- \times N_0$ . We have  $\mathcal{E}_2 \in \Omega(M_1; 0, 1, 0)$  and by Lemma 5  $\mathcal{E}_2 \in \Omega(M_2; 0, 1, 0)$ , hence by (5)  $\mathcal{E}_2 \in \Omega(N_-^2; 0, 1, 0)$ . Assume now that the lemma is true for all  $k \leq l$  ( $l \geq 2$ ). Then

$$\mathcal{E}_{l+1} = \mathcal{E}_2(\mathcal{E}_{l-1}, \mathcal{E}_l)$$

and by Lemma 2

$$\mathcal{E}_{l+1} \in \begin{cases} \Omega(N_-^2; 0, 1, 0) & \text{if } l \text{ is odd,} \\ \Omega(N_-^2; 0, 0, 1) & \text{if } l \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

LEMMA 7. For every  $k \geq 1$  the operation on polynomials

$$\mathcal{D}_k: [f_1, \dots, f_k] \rightarrow \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } f_1 = f_2 = \dots = f_k = 0, \\ (f_1, \dots, f_k) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

belongs to  $\Omega(N_-^k)$ . In the case  $k = 1, f_1 \notin 0$ , by  $(f_1)$  we mean  $f_1$  divided by its leading coefficient.

Proof — by induction on  $k$ . For  $k = 1$  we take  $M_0 = \{-\infty\}$ ,  $M_\mu = \{\mu - 1\}$  ( $\mu = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Clearly  $\mathcal{D}_1 \in \Omega(M_\mu)$  for all  $\mu$  and by (4)  $\mathcal{D}_1 \in \Omega(\bigcup_{\mu=0}^\infty M_\mu) = \Omega(N_-)$ .

For  $k = 2$  we take  $M_0 = N_-^2 \setminus N_0^2$ ,

$$M_\mu = N \times \{-\infty, 0, 1, \dots, \mu\} \quad (\mu = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Clearly  $\mathcal{D}_2 \in \Omega(M_0)$  and if  $[\deg f, \deg g] \in M_\mu$  we have

$$\mathcal{D}_2(f, g) = \mathcal{D}_2(\mathcal{E}_{\mu+1}(f, g), \mathcal{E}_{\mu+2}(f, g)),$$

$$[\deg \mathcal{E}_{\mu+1}(f, g), \deg \mathcal{E}_{\mu+2}(f, g)] \in M_0.$$

It follows from Lemma 2 that  $\mathcal{D}_2 \in \Omega(M_\mu)$  and from (4) that  $\mathcal{D}_2 \in \Omega(N_-^2)$ .

Assume now that the lemma is true for the operations  $\mathcal{D}_{k-1}$  ( $k \geq 3$ ). We have

$$\mathcal{D}_k(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \mathcal{D}_2(\mathcal{D}_{k-1}(f_1, \dots, f_{k-1}), \mathcal{D}_{k-1}(f_2, \dots, f_k))$$

and the lemma follows by an application of Lemma 2 (cf. [4]).

LEMMA 8. For every  $n \geq 1$  the operation on polynomials

$$\mathcal{O}_n(f) := \begin{cases} \frac{(f, \dots, f^{(n-1)})(f, \dots, f^{(n+1)})}{(f, \dots, f^{(n)})^2} & \text{if } f \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } f = 0 \end{cases}$$

belongs to  $\Omega(N_-)$ .

Proof. The operation  $f \rightarrow f^{(n)}$  is in  $\Omega(N_0)$  for every  $n$ . Hence by Lemmata 2 and 7 the operation  $f \rightarrow (f, \dots, f^{(n)})$  is in  $\Omega(N_0)$ , and by Lemmata 2 and 4 the operations

$$f \rightarrow (f, \dots, f^{(n-1)})(f, \dots, f^{(n+1)})$$

and

$$f \rightarrow (f, \dots, f^{(n)})^2$$

are in  $\Omega(N_0^2)$ . Moreover, if  $\deg f \in N_0$ , then  $\deg(f, \dots, f^{(n)}) \in N_0$ . Hence by Lemmata 2 and 5 the operation

$$f \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_n((f, \dots, f^{(n-1)})(f, \dots, f^{(n+1)}), (f, \dots, f^{(n)})^2)$$

is in  $\Omega(N_0)$ . We proceed to show that

$$(19) \quad (f, \dots, f^{(n)})^2 | (f, \dots, f^{(n-1)})(f, \dots, f^{(n+1)}).$$

Indeed, let  $L$  be the coefficients field of  $f$ ,  $\xi$  an element of  $\hat{L}$ , the algebraic closure of  $L$ , and

$$v_k = \text{ord}_{x-\xi} f^{(k)}(x).$$

It is enough to show that for every  $\xi$

$$\min\{v_0, \dots, v_{n-1}\} + \min\{v_0, \dots, v_{n+1}\} \geq 2 \min\{v_0, \dots, v_n\}.$$

Clearly  $v_{n+1} \geq v_n - 1$ ; hence the above inequality holds unless

$$(20) \quad v_n = \min\{v_0, \dots, v_{n-1}\} \quad \text{and} \quad v_{n+1} = v_n - 1.$$

However, conditions (20) are impossible. They imply

$$v_n = v_k \text{ for some } k \leq n \text{ and either } \text{char } L = 0 \text{ or } v_n \neq 0 \pmod{\text{char } L}.$$

But then  $v_{k+1} = v_k - 1$ ,  $k < n - 1$  and  $v_k \neq \min\{v_0, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$ , a contradiction.

Thus (19) holds,

$$\mathcal{O}_n((f, \dots, f^{(n-1)})(f, \dots, f^{(n+1)}), (f, \dots, f^{(n)})^2) = \mathcal{O}_n(f)$$

and  $\mathcal{O}_n \in \Omega(N_0)$ . Since clearly  $\mathcal{O}_n \in \Omega(\{-\infty\})$ , we get by (4)  $\mathcal{O}_n \in \Omega(N_-)$ .

LEMMA 9. For every field  $L$  and every polynomial  $f \in L[x]$  satisfying  $f \neq 0$  and  $\text{char } L = 0$  or  $\deg f < \text{char } L$  we have

$$\mathcal{O}_n(f) = \prod_{(x-\xi)^n | f(x), \xi \in \hat{L}} (x-\xi)$$

where  $\hat{L}$  is the algebraic closure of  $L$ .

Proof. Let

$$f(x) = \text{const} \prod_{\xi \in \hat{L}} (x-\xi)^{\alpha(\xi)}.$$

Then

$$(f, \dots, f^{(k)}) = \prod_{\xi \in \hat{L}} (x-\xi)^{\max\{\alpha(\xi)-k, 0\}}.$$

Since

$$\max\{\alpha(\xi)-n+1, 0\} + \max\{\alpha(\xi)-n-1, 0\} - 2\max\{\alpha(\xi)-n, 0\} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \alpha(\xi) = n, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

we get

$$\mathcal{O}_n(f) = \prod_{\alpha(\xi)=n} (x-\xi).$$

LEMMA 10. Let  $\tilde{K}$  be a field with a discrete valuation  $\tilde{v}$ ,  $\tilde{I}$  its valuation ring,  $\tilde{R}$  its residue field and the bar the residue map. If  $A$  is a polynomial with integral coefficients,  $h_1, \dots, h_l \in \tilde{I}[x]$  and  $A(h_1, \dots, h_l)$  is defined, then

$$\text{sg}_{\tilde{R}} A(\bar{h}_1, \dots, \bar{h}_l) = 1 - \text{sg}_{\tilde{Q}} \tilde{v}(A(h_1, \dots, h_l)).$$

Proof. If  $\tilde{v}(A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)) > 0$  we have

$$\overline{A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)} = A(\bar{\mathbf{h}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_l) = 0$$

and

$$\text{sg}_{\bar{R}} A(\bar{\mathbf{h}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_l) = 0 = 1 - \text{sg}_Q \tilde{v}(A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)).$$

If  $\tilde{v}(A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)) = 0$  we have

$$\overline{A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)} = A(\bar{\mathbf{h}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_l) \neq 0$$

and

$$\text{sg}_{\bar{R}} A(\bar{\mathbf{h}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_l) = 1 = 1 - \text{sg}_Q \tilde{v}(A(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_l)).$$

DEFINITION 5. For a subset  $M$  of  $N^k$ ,  $\Omega^*(M)$  is the class of all operations  $\mathcal{B}$  on polynomials with coefficients in a valuation ring such that for every vector  $[m_1, \dots, m_k] \in N_0^k$  there exist polynomials  $F_i, G_j \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  and

$$H_j \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k) \quad (i \leq i_0, j \leq j_0)$$

and a decomposition

$$N_+^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} T_j$$

with the following property.

If  $\tilde{K}$  is a field with a discrete valuation  $\tilde{v}$ ,  $\tilde{I}$  its valuation ring and  $\tilde{\mathcal{Z}}$  the residue map for polynomials over  $\tilde{I}$ ,  $\deg f_x \leq m_x$  ( $1 \leq x \leq k$ ),  $[\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M$ ,  $[\tilde{v}(F_1(f_1, \dots, f_k)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{i_0}(f_1, \dots, f_k))] \in T_j$  then

$$G_j(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0, \quad \frac{H_j(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_j(f_1, \dots, f_k)} \in \tilde{I}[x]$$

and

$$\mathcal{B}(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \frac{H_j(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_j(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

LEMMA 11. If  $\mathcal{B}_\lambda \in \Omega^*(M)$  ( $\lambda = 1, \dots, l$ ),  $\mathcal{A} \in \Omega(N^l)$  then

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_l) \in \Omega^*(M).$$

Proof. Let  $M \subset N^k$  and take  $[m_1, \dots, m_k] \in N_0^k$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}_\lambda \in \Omega^*(M)$ , there exist polynomials  $F_i^\lambda, G_j^\lambda \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$ ,  $H_j^\lambda \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq i_\lambda, 1 \leq j \leq j_\lambda$ ) and a decomposition

$$N_+^{i_\lambda} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_\lambda} T_j^\lambda$$

with the following property.

If, in the notation of Definition 5,  $f_x \in K[x]$ ,  $\deg f_x \leq m_x$  ( $x \leq k$ ),  $[\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M$ ,

$$[\tilde{v}(F_1^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{i_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k))] \in T_j^\lambda,$$

then

$$(21) \quad G_j^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0, \quad \frac{H_j^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_j^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)} \in \tilde{I}[x]$$

and

$$\mathcal{B}_j(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \tilde{\mathcal{Z}} \frac{H_j^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_j^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

Let  $\chi_\lambda = \max_{j \leq j_\lambda} \deg_x H_j^\lambda$ . Since  $\mathcal{A} \in \Omega(N^l)$ , there exist polynomials

$$A_i, B_j \in C_0(\chi_1, \dots, \chi_l), \quad C_j \in C_1(\chi_1, \dots, \chi_l) \quad (i \leq i_0, j \leq j_0)$$

and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} S_j$$

with the following property:

$$(22) \quad \text{If } h_1, \dots, h_l \in \tilde{R}[x], \deg h_\lambda \leq \chi_\lambda \quad (1 \leq \lambda \leq l) \text{ and } [\text{sg}_{\bar{R}} A_i(h_1, \dots, h_l), \dots, \text{sg}_{\bar{R}} A_{i_0}(h_1, \dots, h_l)] \in S_j, \text{ then } B_j(h_1, \dots, h_l) \neq 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\mathcal{A}(h_1, \dots, h_l) = \frac{C_j(h_1, \dots, h_l, x)}{B_j(h_1, \dots, h_l)}.$$

Let us order the Cartesian product  $\prod_{\lambda=1}^l \{1, 2, \dots, j_\lambda\}$  into a sequence, call the

$v$ th term of this sequence  $[j_v^1, \dots, j_v^l]$  ( $1 \leq v \leq j_1 \dots j_l = n$ ) and take  $m = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l i_\lambda$ ,

$$(23) \quad F_i = \begin{cases} F_\mu^\lambda & \text{if } i = \sum_{x < \lambda} i_x + \mu; \quad 0 < \mu \leq i_\lambda, \\ A_\varrho(H_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, H_{j_v^l}^l) & \text{if } i - m = 2i_0(v-1) + 2\varrho - 1, \quad 1 \leq v \leq n, \quad 1 \leq \varrho \leq i_0, \\ \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (G_{j_v^\lambda}^\lambda)^{\deg_\lambda A_\varrho} & \text{if } i - m = 2i_0(v-1) + 2\varrho, \quad 1 \leq v \leq n, \quad 1 \leq \varrho \leq i_0; \end{cases}$$

moreover, if  $j = j_0(v-1) + \sigma$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma \leq j_0$

$$(24) \quad G_j = B_\sigma(H_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, H_{j_v^l}^l) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (G_{j_v^\lambda}^\lambda)^{\deg_\lambda B_\sigma},$$

$$H_j = C_\sigma(H_{j_v^1}^1, \dots, H_{j_v^l}^l, x) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (G_{j_v^\lambda}^\lambda)^{\deg_\lambda C_\sigma},$$

$$(25) \quad T_j = \prod_{\lambda=1}^l T_{j_v^\lambda}^\lambda \times N_+^{2i_0(v-1)} \times \tau^{-1}(S_\sigma) \times N_+^{2i_0(n-v)},$$



where the transformation  $\tau: N_+^{2i_0} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{i_0}$  is given by the formula

$$(26) \quad \tau(n_1, \dots, n_{2i_0}) = \begin{cases} [1 - \text{sg}_0(n_1 - n_2), 1 - \text{sg}_0(n_3 - n_4), \dots, 1 - \text{sg}_0(n_{2i_0-1} - n_{2i_0})] \\ \quad \text{if } \sum_{q=1}^{i_0} n_{2q} < \infty, \\ [0, \dots, 0] \quad \text{if } \sum_{q=1}^{i_0} n_{2q} = \infty. \end{cases}$$

We have  $F_i, G_j \in C_0(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  and  $H_j \in C_1(m_1, \dots, m_k)$  in virtue of Lemma 1; moreover, the sets  $T_j$  are disjoint and

$$N_+^{m+2i_0n} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0n} T_j.$$

Assume now  $f_x \in \tilde{K}[x]$ ,  $\deg f_x \leq m_x$  ( $1 \leq x \leq k$ ),  $[\deg f_1, \dots, \deg f_k] \in M$  and

$$(27) \quad [\tilde{v}(F_1(f_1, \dots, f_k)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{m+2i_0n}(f_1, \dots, f_k))] \in T_j,$$

where  $j = j_0(v-1) + \sigma$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \sigma \leq j_0$ . Then by (23) and (25)

$$[\tilde{v}(F_1^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{i_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k))] \in T_{j_\lambda}^\lambda \quad (1 \leq \lambda \leq l).$$

Therefore, by (21)

$$G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k) \neq 0, \quad \frac{H_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)} := h_{\lambda v} \in \tilde{I}[x]$$

and

$$(28) \quad \mathcal{B}_\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k) = \mathcal{D} \frac{H_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)} = \bar{h}_{\lambda v}.$$

Now  $\deg \bar{h}_{\lambda v} \leq \deg_x H_{j_\lambda}^\lambda \leq \chi_\lambda$ . Moreover, since  $A_q$  are homogeneous in each vector of variables separately, we have by (23) for each  $q \leq i_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{v}(A_q(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv})) \\ = \tilde{v}(A_q(*H_{j_1}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *H_{j_{i_0}}^{i_0}(f_1, \dots, f_k, x))) - \sum_{\lambda=1}^i \deg^\lambda A_q \tilde{v}(G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)) \\ = \tilde{v}(F_{m+2i_0(v-1)+2q-1}(f_1, \dots, f_k)) - \tilde{v}(F_{m+2i_0(v-1)+2q}(f_1, \dots, f_k)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus (25)–(27) imply

$$[1 - \text{sg}_0 \tilde{v}(A_1(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv})), \dots, 1 - \text{sg}_0 \tilde{v}(A_{i_0}(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}))] \in S_\sigma$$

and by Lemma 10 and (28)

$$[\text{sg}_R A_1(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}), \dots, \text{sg}_R A_{i_0}(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv})] \in S_\sigma.$$

By (22) with  $h_i = \bar{h}_{iv}$  we have

$$B_\sigma(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}) \neq 0$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}) = \frac{C_\sigma(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}, x)}{B_\sigma(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv})}.$$

Since  $B_\sigma$  and  $C_\sigma$  are polynomials with integral coefficients homogeneous in each vector of variables separately, we have by (28)

$$B_\sigma(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}) = \mathcal{D} \frac{B_\sigma(*H_{j_1}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *H_{j_{i_0}}^{i_0}(f_1, \dots, f_k, x))}{\prod_{\lambda=1}^i G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)^{\deg^\lambda B_\sigma}}$$

$$C_\sigma(\bar{h}_{1v}, \dots, \bar{h}_{iv}, x) = \mathcal{D} \frac{C_\sigma(*H_{j_1}^1(f_1, \dots, f_k, x), \dots, *H_{j_{i_0}}^{i_0}(f_1, \dots, f_k, x))}{\prod_{\lambda=1}^i G_{j_\lambda}^\lambda(f_1, \dots, f_k)^{\deg^\lambda C_\sigma}}$$

and by (24)

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{B}_1(f_1, \dots, f_k), \dots, \mathcal{B}_i(f_1, \dots, f_k)) = \mathcal{D} \frac{H_j(f_1, \dots, f_k, x)}{G_j(f_1, \dots, f_k)}.$$

LEMMA 12. In the notation of Definition 5, let  $\tilde{\mathcal{K}}$  be the analogue of  $\mathcal{K}$  defined by means of an element  $\tilde{p} \in \tilde{K}$  with  $\tilde{v}(\tilde{p}) = 1$ . Then the operation  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$  on polynomials  $f \in \tilde{K}[x]$  defined by the formula

$$\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(f) := \begin{cases} \mathcal{D}_1 \mathcal{D} \tilde{\mathcal{K}} f & \text{if } f \neq 0, \\ 1 & \text{if } f = 0 \end{cases}$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-)$  and for every operation  $\mathcal{A} \in \Omega(N_-^2)$  the operation  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}\mathcal{A}$  belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^2)$ .

Proof. It is sufficient to prove the second part of the lemma since the operation  $\mathcal{S}_1: [f, g] \rightarrow f$  belongs to  $\Omega(N_-^2)$  and the first part follows from the second on substituting  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{S}_1$ . Take two nonnegative integers  $m, n$ . By Lemma 6 there exist polynomials  $A_i, B_j \in C_0(m, n)$ ,  $C_j \in C_1(m, n)$  ( $i \leq i_0, j \leq j_0$ ) and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} S_j$$

such that if  $f, g \in \tilde{K}[x]$ ,  $\deg f \leq m$ ,  $\deg g \leq n$  and

$$[\text{sg}_R A_1(f, g), \dots, \text{sg}_R A_{i_0}(f, g)] \in S_j,$$

then  $B_j(f, g) \neq 0$  and

$$\mathcal{A}(f, g) = \frac{C_j(f, g, x)}{B_j(f, g)}.$$

Let  $c = \max_{1 \leq j \leq j_0} \deg_x C_j$ ,  $C_\mu(x_1, x_2, x) = \sum_{v=0}^c C_{\mu v}(x_1, x_2) x^{c-v}$ ;

$$(29) \quad F_i = \begin{cases} A_i & \text{if } i \leq i_0, \\ C_{\mu v} & \text{if } i - i_0 - 1 = (\mu - 1)(c + 1) + v, 1 \leq \mu \leq j_0, 0 \leq v \leq c \end{cases}$$

and if  $j = (\mu-1)(c+2)+v+1$ ,  $1 \leq \mu \leq j_0$ ,  $0 \leq v \leq c+1$ ,

$$(30) \quad G_j = \begin{cases} C_{\mu v} & \text{if } 0 \leq v \leq c, \\ 1 & \text{if } v = c+1, \end{cases} \quad H_j = \begin{cases} C_{\mu} & \text{if } 0 \leq v \leq c, \\ 1 & \text{if } v = c+1, \end{cases}$$

$$(31) \quad T_j = \tau^{-1}(S_{\mu}) \times N_+^{(c+1)(\mu-1)} \times Y_v \times N_+^{(c+1)(j_0-\mu)},$$

where the transformation  $\tau: N_+^{i_0} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{i_0}$  is given by the formula

$$(32) \quad \tau(n_1, \dots, n_{i_0}) = [\text{sg}_Q n_1^{-1}, \dots, \text{sg}_Q n_{i_0}^{-1}]$$

and

$$(33) \quad Y_v = \{[n_0, \dots, n_c] \in N_+^{c+1} : \min\{n_0, \dots, n_{v-1}\} > n_v = \min\{n_0, \dots, n_c\}\},$$

$$Y_{c+1} = [\infty, \dots, \infty].$$

The sets  $T_j$  are clearly disjoint and

$$N_+^{i_0+j_0(c+1)} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0(c+2)} T_j.$$

Suppose now that  $f, g \in \tilde{K}[x]$ ,  $\deg f \leq m$ ,  $\deg g \leq n$  and

$$(34) \quad [\tilde{v}(F_1(f, g)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{i_0+j_0(c+1)}(f, g))] \in T_j,$$

where  $j = (\mu-1)(c+2)+v+1$ ,  $1 \leq \mu \leq j_0$ ,  $0 \leq v \leq c+1$ . Then by (30) and (31)

$$[\text{sg}_Q \tilde{v}^{-1}(F_1(f, g)), \dots, \text{sg}_Q \tilde{v}^{-1}(F_{i_0+j_0(c+1)}(f, g))] \in S_{\mu}$$

and, since  $\text{sg}_Q \tilde{v}^{-1}(a) = \text{sg}_K a$  for all  $a \in \tilde{K}$ , we get by (29)

$$[\text{sg}_K A_1(f, g), \dots, \text{sg}_K A_{i_0}(f, g)] \in S_{\mu}.$$

Hence  $B_{\mu}(f, g) \neq 0$  and

$$(35) \quad \mathcal{A}(f, g) = \frac{C_{\mu}(f, g, x)}{B_{\mu}(f, g)}.$$

Moreover, by (31) and (34)

$$[\tilde{v}(F_{i_0+(\mu-1)(c+1)+1}(f, g)), \dots, \tilde{v}(F_{i_0+(\mu-1)(c+1)+c+1}(f, g))] \in Y_v,$$

hence if  $v \leq c$  then by (29) and (33)

$$\min\{\tilde{v}(C_{\mu 0}(f, g)), \dots, \tilde{v}(\tilde{C}_{\mu v-1}(f, g))\} > \tilde{v}(C_{\mu v}(f, g))$$

$$= \min\{\tilde{v}(C_{\mu 0}(f, g)), \dots, \tilde{v}(C_{\mu c}(f, g))\},$$

and if  $v = c+1$  then

$$(36) \quad \tilde{v}(C_{\mu 0}(f, g)) = \dots = \tilde{v}(C_{\mu c}(f, g)) = \infty.$$

Therefore, if  $v \leq c$  we get  $\tilde{v}(C_{\mu}(f, g, x)) = \tilde{v}(C_{\mu v}(f, g))$  and from (35)

$$\mathcal{P} \mathcal{H} \mathcal{A}(f, g) = \mathcal{P} \frac{\tilde{p}^{-\tilde{v}(C_{\mu v}(f, g))} C_{\mu}(f, g, x)}{\tilde{p}^{-\tilde{v}(B_{\mu}(f, g))} B_{\mu}(f, g)}.$$

Moreover, the leading coefficient of the above polynomial equals

$$\frac{\tilde{p}^{-\tilde{v}(C_{\mu v}(f, g))} C_{\mu v}(f, g)}{\tilde{p}^{-\tilde{v}(B_{\mu}(f, g))} B_{\mu}(f, g)};$$

hence

$$\mathcal{H} \mathcal{A}(f, g) = \mathcal{P}_1 \mathcal{P} \mathcal{H} \mathcal{A}(f, g) = \mathcal{P} \frac{C_{\mu}(f, g, x)}{C_{\mu v}(f, g)} = \mathcal{P} \frac{H_j}{G_j}.$$

If  $v = c+1$  we have by (35) and (36)  $\mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g) = 0$  and by (30)

$$\mathcal{H} \mathcal{A}(f, g) = 1 = \mathcal{P} \frac{H_j}{G_j}.$$

The proof is complete.

LEMMA 13. Let  $f, g \in I[x]$ ,  $\text{char } R = 0$  or  $\text{char } R > \max\{\deg f, \deg g\}$ ,  $\xi \in I$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_{\lambda-1}(f, g) \mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g) \neq 0$ ,  $h_{\lambda} = \mathcal{H} \mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g)$

$$(37) \quad (x - \xi)^{d_{\lambda}} | h_{\lambda}(x), \quad h_{\lambda}^+ \equiv (x - \xi)^{d_{\lambda}} \pmod{P}, \quad h_{\lambda}^+ | h_{\lambda}$$

where  $h_{\lambda}^+$  is monic and hence determined uniquely. If

$$r_{\lambda} = \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, \mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g)) \neq 0, \quad e_{\lambda} = v(\mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g))$$

then  $r_{\lambda+1} \neq 0$ .

$$(38) \quad v(r_{\lambda}) = e_{\lambda} d_{\lambda-1} - e_{\lambda-1} d_{\lambda} + v(r_{\lambda+1})$$

and

$$(39) \quad p^{-v(r_{\lambda})} r_{\lambda} \equiv (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1} d_{\lambda}} \left( \frac{h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!} \right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \left( \frac{h_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!} \right)^{d_{\lambda}} p^{-v(r_{\lambda+1})} r_{\lambda+1} \pmod{P}.$$

Proof. Let  $h_{\lambda} = h_{\lambda}^+ h_{\lambda}^-$ . We have by (37)

$$(40) \quad h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi) = \sum_{v=0}^{d_{\lambda}} \binom{d_{\lambda}}{v} h_{\lambda}^{+(v)}(\xi) h_{\lambda}^{-(d_{\lambda}-v)}(\xi) \equiv d_{\lambda}! h_{\lambda}^-(\xi) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{P}.$$

Moreover,

$$r_{\lambda} = \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, p^{e_{\lambda}} h_{\lambda}) = p^{e_{\lambda} d_{\lambda-1}} \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda})$$

$$= p^{e_{\lambda} d_{\lambda-1}} \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda}^+) \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda}^-)$$

$$= p^{e_{\lambda} d_{\lambda-1}} (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1} d_{\lambda}} \text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, h_{\lambda-1}^+) \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda}^-)$$

$$= (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1} d_{\lambda}} p^{e_{\lambda} d_{\lambda-1}} \frac{\text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, h_{\lambda-1}^+)}{\text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, h_{\lambda-1}^-)} \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda}^-).$$

Now, by (37) and (40) we have

$$(41) \quad \text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, h_{\lambda-1}^-) \equiv \text{res}((x - \xi)^{d_{\lambda}}, h_{\lambda-1}^-) \equiv \text{res}(x - \xi, h_{\lambda-1}^-)^{d_{\lambda}}$$

$$\equiv \left( \frac{h_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!} \right)^{d_{\lambda}} \pmod{P},$$

$$(42) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, h_{\lambda}^-) &\equiv \text{res}((x-\xi)^{d_{\lambda-1}}, h_{\lambda}^-) \equiv \text{res}(x-\xi, h_{\lambda}^-)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \\ &\equiv (h_{\lambda}^-(\xi))^{d_{\lambda-1}} \equiv \left(\frac{h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!}\right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \pmod{\mathcal{P}}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally,  $\mathcal{E}_{\lambda+1}(f, g) \equiv \mathcal{E}_{\lambda-1}(f, g) \pmod{h_{\lambda}^+}$ , and thus

$$\text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, h_{\lambda-1}^-) = p^{-e_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, \mathcal{E}_{\lambda-1}(f, g)) = p^{-e_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \text{res}(h_{\lambda}^+, \mathcal{E}_{\lambda+1}(f, g)).$$

Since the extreme right-hand sides of (41) and (42) are prime to  $p$ , we get Lemma 13.

LEMMA 14. Let  $f, g, \xi$  and  $\lambda$  satisfy the assumptions of Lemma 13 for all  $\lambda < l$ , let  $d_{\lambda}$  have the meaning of that lemma and  $E_{\lambda} = \mathcal{E}_{\lambda}(f, g)$ . Assume that  $d_0 = 1$  and  $l$  is the least nonnegative integer such that  $E_{l+1} = 0$ . Then if  $d_l > 0$  we have  $g(\xi) = 0$ , if  $d_l = 0$  we have  $g(\xi) \neq 0$ ,

$$(43) \quad g(\xi) = \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \left(\frac{E_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!}\right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \left(\frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!}\right)^{-d_{\lambda}} \pmod{\mathcal{P}^{v(g(\xi))+1}}$$

and  $v(E_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)) = v(E_{\lambda})$  ( $\lambda = 0, 1, \dots, l$ ).

Proof. If  $d_l > 0$  we have  $\deg h_l^+ > 0$ . Moreover, from  $h_l^+ | E_l$  it follows that  $h_l^+ | (f, g)$ ,  $h_l^+ | h_0^+$ . But  $h_0^+ = x - \xi$ , whence  $h_l^+ = x - \xi$  and  $g(\xi) = 0$ .

If  $d_l = 0$  then for every  $\lambda \leq l$  we have  $\text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, E_{\lambda}) \neq 0$ . Indeed,  $(h_{\lambda-1}^+, E_{\lambda}) | E_l$ , and thus  $\text{res}(h_{\lambda-1}^+, E_{\lambda}) = 0$  would imply  $d_l > 0$ . Using Lemma 13, we get (38) and (39) for all  $\lambda \leq l$ . Summing or multiplying over  $\lambda$ , we obtain

$$\sum_{\lambda=1}^l v(r_{\lambda}) = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (e_{\lambda}d_{\lambda-1} - e_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}) + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l v(r_{\lambda+1}).$$

$$\prod_{\lambda=1}^l p^{-v(r_{\lambda})} r_{\lambda} \equiv \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \left(\frac{h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!}\right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \left(\frac{h_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!}\right)^{-d_{\lambda}} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l p^{-v(r_{\lambda+1})} r_{\lambda+1} \pmod{\mathcal{P}}.$$

Since  $r_{l+1} = \text{res}(1, 0) = 1$ , it follows that

$$v(r_1) = \sum_{\lambda=1}^l (e_{\lambda}d_{\lambda-1} - e_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}),$$

$$p^{-v(r_1)} r_1 \equiv \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \left(\frac{h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!}\right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \left(\frac{h_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!}\right)^{-d_{\lambda}} \pmod{\mathcal{P}}.$$

Since  $h_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi) = p^{-e_{\lambda}} E_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)$ , we get

$$r_1 \equiv \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (-1)^{d_{\lambda-1}d_{\lambda}} \left(\frac{E_{\lambda}^{(d_{\lambda})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda}!}\right)^{d_{\lambda-1}} \left(\frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{(d_{\lambda-1})}(\xi)}{d_{\lambda-1}!}\right)^{-d_{\lambda}} \pmod{\mathcal{P}^{v(r_1)+1}}.$$

However,  $r_1 = \text{res}(x - \xi, g(x)) = g(\xi)$ ; thus  $g(\xi) \neq 0$  and (43) follows. The last statement of the lemma is a direct consequence of (40).

DEFINITION 6. The operation  $\mathcal{M}$  on polynomials  $f \in K[x]$  is defined by the formula

$$\mathcal{M}f := \begin{cases} \mathcal{D}_1 \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} f & \text{if } f \neq 0, \\ 1 & \text{if } f = 0. \end{cases}$$

LEMMA 15. For arbitrary nonnegative integers  $m, \alpha, n_1, \dots, n_k$  less than  $\text{char } R$  unless  $\text{char } R = 0$  there exist polynomials  $F_i, G_{jv}, H_{jv}$  ( $i \leq i_0, j \leq j_0, v \leq v_0$ ),  $K_{jvk}, L_{jvk}$  ( $\alpha \leq k, j \leq j_0, v \leq v_0$ ) and a decomposition

$$N_+^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} T_j$$

independent of  $K, v$  and  $p$  with the following properties:

$$(44) \quad F_i, G_{jv} \in \mathcal{C}_0(m, m, n_1, \dots, n_k), \quad H_{jv} \in \mathcal{C}_1(m, m, n_1, \dots, n_k),$$

$$(45) \quad K_{jvk}, L_{jvk} \in \mathcal{C}_1(m, n_k) \text{ and either } L_{jvk} = 0 \text{ or } \deg^1 L_{jvk} = \deg^1 K_{jvk}, \deg^2 L_{jvk} = \deg^2 K_{jvk} + 1, w(L_{jvk}) = w(K_{jvk}) + n_k.$$

If  $f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k \in I[x]$ ,  $\deg f_{\sigma} \leq m$  ( $\sigma = 1, 2$ ),  $\deg g_{\alpha} \leq n_{\alpha}$  ( $\alpha \leq k$ )

$$(46) \quad \mathcal{O}_{\alpha} \mathcal{M} f_2 | \mathcal{M} f_1, \left( \mathcal{O}_{\alpha} \mathcal{M} f_2, \frac{\mathcal{M} f_1}{\mathcal{O}_{\alpha} \mathcal{M} f_2} \right) = 1$$

and

$$[v(F_1(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)), \dots, v(F_{i_0}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k))] \in T_j$$

then

$$(47) \quad G_j(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k) \neq 0, \quad \frac{H_j(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)}{G_j(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)} \in I[x],$$

$$(48) \quad \mathcal{O}_{\alpha} \mathcal{M} f_2(x) = \prod_{v=1}^{v_0} \mathcal{L} \frac{H_{jv}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)}{G_{jv}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)}$$

and if  $\xi \in I$

$$f_1(\xi) = 0, \quad \overline{\mathcal{K} H_j(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)}|_{x=\xi} = 0$$

then for all  $\alpha \leq k$

$$(49) \quad K_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi) \neq 0, \quad \frac{L_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)}{K_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)} \in I$$

and

$$(50) \quad g_{\alpha}(\xi) \equiv \frac{L_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)}{K_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)} \pmod{\mathcal{P}^{v(g_{\alpha}(\xi))+1}}$$

( $L_{jvk}(f, g_{\alpha}, \xi) = 0$  implies  $g_{\alpha}(\xi) = 0$ ). Moreover

$$v(L_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)) = v(L_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, x)),$$

$$v(K_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, \xi)) = v(K_{jvk}(f_1, g_{\alpha}, x)).$$

Proof. Let  $M$  be the set of all pairs  $[\kappa, \lambda]$ , where  $1 \leq \kappa \leq k$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda \leq n_\kappa + 2$ ,  $\Delta$  the set of all integer-valued functions  $\delta$  on  $M$  such that  $0 \leq \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \leq n_\kappa$  and  $\delta(\kappa, 0) = 1$ . By Lemmata 4, 11 and 12 for each  $\delta \in \Delta$  the operation

$$[f_1, g_1, \dots, g_k] \rightarrow \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) = 0}} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa)$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^{k+1})$ . By Lemmata 8, 11 and 12 we have  $\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \in \Omega^*(N_-)$ . By Lemmata 7 and 11 the operation

$$[f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k] \rightarrow (\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) = 0}} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa))$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^{k+2})$ . (An empty product equals 1). By Lemmata 5 and 11 the operation

$$[f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k] \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} f_2}{(\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) = 0}} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa))}$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^{k+2})$ . Further, by Lemmata 8, 11 and 12 for every fixed  $\delta, \kappa, \lambda$  the operation

$$[f_1, g_\kappa] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa)$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^2)$ . Hence by Lemmata 7 and 11 for every  $\delta \in \Delta$  the operation

$$[f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k] \rightarrow \left( \frac{\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} f_2}{(\mathcal{O}_\alpha \tilde{\mathcal{M}} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) = 0}} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa))}, \text{g.c.d. } \mathcal{O}_{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} \tilde{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa) \right)$$

belongs to  $\Omega^*(N_-^{k+2})$ . On the other hand, by Definition 6 the operation  $\mathcal{M}$  is a specialization of the operation  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$  to the case of

$$\tilde{K} = K, \quad \tilde{v} = v, \quad \tilde{p} = p.$$

This implies by the definition of  $\Omega^*(N_-^{k+2})$  that for every  $\delta \in \Delta$  there exist polynomials  $F_\mu \langle \delta \rangle$  ( $\mu \leq \mu_\delta$ ),  $G_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle$ ,  $H_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle$  ( $\varrho \leq \varrho_\delta$ ) and a decomposition

$$N_+^{\mu_\delta} = \bigcup_{\varrho=1}^{\varrho_\delta} T_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle$$

independent of  $K, v$  and  $p$  and with the following properties:

$$(51) \quad F_\mu \langle \delta \rangle, G_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle \in C_0(m_1, m_2, n_1, \dots, n_k), \quad H_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle \in C_1(m_1, m_2, n_1, \dots, n_k);$$

if  $f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k \in I[x]$ ,  $\deg f_\sigma \leq m_\sigma$  ( $\sigma = 1, 2$ ),  $\deg g_\kappa \leq n_\kappa$  ( $\kappa \leq k$ ) and

$$[v(F_1 \langle \delta \rangle(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)), \dots, v(F_{\mu_\delta} \langle \delta \rangle(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k))] \in T_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle$$

then

$$G_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k) \neq 0,$$

$$(52) \quad I_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle := \frac{H_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)}{G_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)} \in I[x]$$

and

$$(53) \quad \left( \frac{\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2}{(\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) = 0}} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa))}, \text{g.c.d. } \mathcal{O}_{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa) \right) = \mathcal{L} I_\varrho \langle \delta \rangle.$$

Now let us fix  $\delta \in \Delta$  and  $\kappa \leq k$  and consider the following operations:

$$\mathcal{G}_1: [f, g] \rightarrow \prod_{\substack{\lambda=0 \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\kappa+1} (-1)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda) \delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda+1}^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)}(f, g)}{\delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)!} \right)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)},$$

$$\mathcal{G}_2: [f, g] \rightarrow \prod_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\kappa+1} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda-1)}(f, g)}{\delta(\kappa, \lambda-1)!} \right)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)}.$$

The operation  $f \rightarrow f^{(n)}/n!$  properly understood  $\left( \sum a_\mu x^\mu \rightarrow \sum \binom{\mu}{n} x^{\mu-n} \right)$  belongs to  $\Omega(N; -n, 1)$ ; hence in virtue of Lemmata 2, 4 and 6 we have

$$(54) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_1 &\in \Omega(N_-^2, \sum_{\lambda=0}^{n_\kappa+1} \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \delta(\kappa, \lambda+1), \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod{2}}}^{n_\kappa+1} \delta(\kappa, \lambda), \sum_{\substack{\lambda=0 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}}}^{n_\kappa+1} \delta(\kappa, \lambda)), \\ \mathcal{G}_2 &\in \Omega(N_-^2, -\sum_{\lambda=1}^{n_\kappa+2} \delta(\kappa, \lambda-1) \delta(\kappa, \lambda), \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod{2}}}^{n_\kappa+2} \delta(\kappa, \lambda), \sum_{\substack{\lambda=2 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod{2}}}^{n_\kappa+2} \delta(\kappa, \lambda)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore for  $\sigma = 1, 2$  there exist polynomials  $A_\mu \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$  ( $\mu \leq \mu_{\delta \kappa \sigma}$ ),  $B_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$ ,  $C_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$  ( $\varrho \leq \varrho_{\delta \kappa \sigma}$ ) and a decomposition

$$\{0, 1\}^{\mu_{\delta \kappa \sigma}} = \bigcup_{\varrho=1}^{\mu_{\delta \kappa \sigma}} S_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$$

independent of  $K, v$  and  $p$  and with the following properties:

$$(55) \quad A_\mu \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle, B_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle \in C_0(m, n_\kappa), \quad C_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle \in C_1(m, n_\kappa);$$

if  $f, g \in K[x]$ ,  $\deg f \leq m$ ,  $\deg g \leq n_\kappa$  and  $[s_{gK} A_1 \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle(f, g), \dots, s_{gK} A_{\mu_{\delta \kappa \sigma}} \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle(f, g)] \in S_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$  then

$$(56) \quad B_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle(f, g) \neq 0$$

and

$$(57) \quad \begin{aligned} \prod_{\substack{\lambda=0 \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\kappa+1} (-1)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda) \delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda+1}^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)}(f, g)}{\delta(\kappa, \lambda+1)!} \right)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} &= \frac{C_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, 1 \rangle(f, g, x)}{B_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, 1 \rangle(f, g)}, \\ \prod_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\kappa+2} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda-1)}(f, g)}{\delta(\kappa, \lambda-1)!} \right)^{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} &= \frac{C_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, 2 \rangle(f, g, x)}{B_\varrho \langle \delta, \kappa, 2 \rangle(f, g)}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover by (54)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \deg^1 C_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle - \deg^1 B_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle &= \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + \sigma} \delta(\kappa, \lambda), \\
 \deg^2 C_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle - \deg^2 B_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle &= \sum_{\substack{\lambda=2 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + \sigma} \delta(\kappa, \lambda) + 2 - \sigma, \\
 w(C_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle) - w(B_\delta \langle \delta, \kappa, \sigma \rangle) &= - \sum_{\lambda=0}^{n_\kappa + 1} \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \delta(\kappa, \lambda + 1) + m \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + \sigma} \delta(\kappa, \lambda) + n_\kappa \left( \sum_{\substack{\lambda=2 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + \sigma} (\kappa, \lambda) + 2 - \sigma \right).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{58}$$

We order all functions  $\delta \in \mathcal{A}$  in a sequence  $\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_{v_0}$ . Next we order lexicographically all polynomials  $F_\mu \langle \delta_v \rangle$ , the order of letters being  $v, \mu$ , and then order lexicographically all polynomials  $A_\mu \langle \delta_v, \kappa, \sigma \rangle$ , the order of letters being  $v, \kappa, \sigma, \mu$ . The  $i$ th term of the sequence of polynomials so obtained will be called  $F_i$  ( $i \leq i_0 = \sum_{v=1}^{v_0} \mu_{\delta_v} + \sum_{v=1}^{v_0} \sum_{\kappa=1}^k \sum_{\sigma=1}^2 \mu_{\delta_v \kappa \sigma}$ ). Now we order all elements of the multiple Cartesian product (the order of letters being  $v, \kappa, \sigma$ )

$$\prod_{v=1}^n \{1, \dots, \varrho_{\delta_v}\} \times \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 \{1, \dots, \varrho_{\delta_v \kappa \sigma}\}$$

in a sequence, denote the  $j$ th term of this sequence by

$$[\varrho_{j1}, \varrho_{j111}, \varrho_{j112}, \varrho_{j121}, \dots, \varrho_{jnk2}] \quad (1 \leq j \leq j_0 = \prod_{v=1}^n \varrho_{\delta_v} \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 \varrho_{\delta_v \kappa \sigma}),$$

define a transformation  $\tau: N_+^\mu \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\mu$  by the formula

$$\tau(v_1, \dots, v_\mu) := [\text{sg}_0 v_1^{-1}, \dots, \text{sg}_0 v_\mu^{-1}]$$

and put

$$T_j := \prod_{v=1}^n (T_{\varrho_{jv}} \langle \delta_v \rangle \times \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 S_{\varrho_{jv \kappa \sigma}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, \sigma \rangle),
 \tag{59}$$

$$G_{jv} := G_{\varrho_{jv}} \langle \delta_v \rangle, \quad H_{jv} := H_{\varrho_{jv}} \langle \delta_v \rangle,
 \tag{60}$$

$$K_{jv \kappa} := \begin{cases} B_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 1}} \langle \delta_{v \kappa 1} \rangle C_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 2}} \langle \delta_{v \kappa 2} \rangle & \text{if } \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 1) \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) = 0, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}
 \tag{61}$$

$$L_{jv \kappa} := \begin{cases} B_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 2}} \langle \delta_{v \kappa 2} \rangle C_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 1}} \langle \delta_{v \kappa 1} \rangle & \text{if } \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 1) = \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We proceed to prove that the sets and the polynomials so defined have the properties asserted in the lemma.

The sets  $T_j$  are disjoint and we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_0} T_j &= \prod_{v=1}^n \left( \bigcup_{\kappa=1}^k \bigcup_{\sigma=1}^2 T_{\varrho_{jv \kappa \sigma}} \langle \delta_v \rangle \times \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 S_{\varrho_{jv \kappa \sigma}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, \sigma \rangle \right) \\
 &= \prod_{v=1}^n (N_+^{\mu_{\delta_v}} \times \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 \tau^{-1} \{0, 1\}^{\mu_{\delta_v \kappa \sigma}}) = \prod_{v=1}^n (N_+^{\mu_{\delta_v}} \times \prod_{\kappa=1}^k \prod_{\sigma=1}^2 N_+^{\mu_{\delta_v \kappa \sigma}}) = N_+^{i_0}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Formula (44) follows from (51) and (59), formula (45) follows from (55), (58) and (61). Indeed, if  $\delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 1) + \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) > 0$  we have  $L_{jv \kappa} = 0$ , if  $\delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 1) = \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) = 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \deg^1 L_{jv \kappa} - \deg^1 K_{jv \kappa} &= \deg^1 C_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 1}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, 1 \rangle - \deg^1 C_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 1}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, 1 \rangle - \deg^1 C_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 2}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, 2 \rangle + \\
 &\quad + \deg^1 B_{\varrho_{jv \kappa 2}} \langle \delta_v, \kappa, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + 1} \delta_v(\kappa, \lambda) - \sum_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \lambda \equiv 1 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + 2} \delta_v(\kappa, \lambda) = \frac{(-1)^{n_\kappa} - 1}{2} \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) = 0 \text{ if } \sigma = 1, \\
 &= 1 + \sum_{\substack{\lambda=2 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + 1} \delta_v(\kappa, \lambda) - \sum_{\substack{\lambda=2 \\ \lambda \equiv 0 \pmod 2}}^{n_\kappa + 2} \delta_v(\kappa, \lambda) = 1 - \frac{1 + (-1)^{n_\kappa}}{2} \delta_v(\kappa, n_\kappa + 2) = 1 \text{ if } \sigma = 2,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$w(L_{jv \kappa}) - w(K_{jv \kappa}) = m \cdot 0 + n_\kappa \cdot 1 = n_\kappa.$$

Assume now that polynomials  $f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k$  satisfy (46) and

$$[v(F_1(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)), \dots, v(F_{i_0}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k))] \in T_j.
 \tag{62}$$

Then by (59) for each  $v \leq n$

$$[v(F_1 \langle \delta_v \rangle (f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)), \dots, v(F_{i_0} \langle \delta_v \rangle (f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k))] \in T_{\varrho_{jv}} \langle \delta_v \rangle.$$

Hence, by (52) and (60)

$$G_{jv}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k) \neq 0,
 \tag{63}$$

$$I_{jv} := \frac{H_{jv}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)}{G_{jv}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)} = I_{\varrho_{jv}} \langle \delta_v \rangle \in I[x].
 \tag{64}$$

Now for every  $\delta \in \mathcal{A}$  and every pair  $[\kappa, \lambda] \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $\delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0$  we have by Lemma 9

$$\mathcal{O}_{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa) = \prod_{\substack{\zeta \in \mathbb{R} \\ (x - \zeta) \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \parallel \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa)}} (x - \zeta).$$

Hence we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{g.c.d. } \mathcal{O}_{\delta(\kappa, \lambda)} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa) &= \prod_{\substack{[\kappa, \lambda] \in \mathcal{M} \\ \delta(\kappa, \lambda) > 0}} (x - \zeta) \\
 &\quad \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \neq 0 \rightarrow (x - \zeta) \delta(\kappa, \lambda) \parallel \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\kappa)
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, since by Lemma 9  $\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2$  is square-free

$$\frac{\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2}{(\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\lambda, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) = 0}} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda))} = \text{const} \prod_{\substack{\zeta \in \hat{R}, \mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2(\zeta) = 0 \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) = 0 \rightarrow x - \zeta \nmid \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda)}} (x - \zeta).$$

Hence

$$(65) \quad \left( \frac{\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2}{(\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2, \prod_{\substack{[\lambda, \lambda] \in M \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) = 0}} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda))}, \text{g.c.d. } \mathcal{O}_{\delta(k, \lambda)} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) \right) = \prod_{\substack{\zeta \in \hat{R}, \mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2(\zeta) = 0 \\ \text{ord}_{x-\zeta} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) = \delta(\lambda, \lambda)}} (x - \zeta).$$

For every  $\zeta \in \hat{R}$  satisfying  $\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2(\zeta) = 0$  we have by (46)  $\text{ord}_{x-\zeta} \mathcal{M} f_1(x) = 1$ ; hence  $\text{ord}_{x-\zeta} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_1(f_1, g_\lambda) = 1$ . Moreover for every positive  $\lambda$  and every  $\zeta \in \hat{R}$  we have  $\text{ord}_{x-\zeta} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) \leq \deg \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) \leq n_\lambda$ . Hence the function  $\text{ord}_{x-\zeta} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda)$  defined on  $M$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$  and we have by (53) and (64)

$$\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M} f_2 = \text{const} \prod_{v=1}^n \mathcal{L} I_{J_v}.$$

This together with (63) and (64) proves (47) and (48). Moreover it follows from (64) that

$$v(H_{J_v}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)) = v(G_{J_v}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)).$$

In order to prove the remaining part of the lemma let us assume that

$$\xi \in I, \quad f_1(\xi) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mathcal{H} H_{J_v}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, x)}|_{x=\xi} = 0.$$

Then  $\frac{H_{J_v}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k, \xi)}{G_{J_v}(f_1, f_2, g_1, \dots, g_k)} = 0$  and by (53), (64) and (65)

$$\text{ord}_{x-\xi} \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) = \delta_v(\lambda, \lambda) \quad \text{for all } [\lambda, \lambda] \in M.$$

Let  $l_\lambda$  be the least nonnegative integer such that  $\mathcal{E}_{l_\lambda+1}(f_1, g_\lambda) = 0$ . We have  $l_\lambda \leq n_\lambda + 1$  and for  $\lambda \geq l_\lambda$

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \lambda \neq l_\lambda \bmod 2, \\ \mathcal{E}_{l_\lambda}(f_1, g_\lambda) & \text{if } \lambda \equiv l_\lambda \bmod 2, \end{cases}$$

Hence by the definition of  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  we have for  $\lambda \geq l_\lambda$

$$\mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \lambda \neq l_\lambda \bmod 2, \\ \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}_{l_\lambda}(f_1, g_\lambda) & \text{if } \lambda \equiv l_\lambda \bmod 2, \end{cases}$$

and

$$(66) \quad \delta_v(\lambda, \lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \lambda \neq l_\lambda \bmod 2, \\ \delta_v(\lambda, l_\lambda) & \text{if } \lambda \equiv l_\lambda \bmod 2. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, if  $\delta_v(\lambda, n_\lambda + 1) = \delta_v(\lambda, n_\lambda + 2) = 0$  we have  $\delta_v(\lambda, \lambda) = 0$  for all  $\lambda \geq l_\lambda$  and from Lemma 14 with  $f = f_1$ ,  $g = g_\lambda$ ,  $E_\lambda = \mathcal{E}_\lambda(f_1, g_\lambda)$  we get  $g_\lambda(\xi) \neq 0$

$$g_\lambda(\xi) \equiv \prod_{\lambda=1}^{l_\lambda} (-1)^{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)d(\lambda, \lambda)} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{d(\lambda, \lambda)}(\xi)}{d(\lambda, \lambda)!} \right)^{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)}(\xi)}{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)!} \right)^{-d(\lambda, \lambda)} \\ \equiv \prod_{\substack{\lambda=0 \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\lambda+1} (-1)^{d(\lambda, \lambda)d(\lambda, \lambda+1)} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda+1}^{d(\lambda, \lambda+1)}(\xi)}{d(\lambda, \lambda+1)!} \right)^{d(\lambda, \lambda)} \left/ \prod_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\lambda+2} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)}(\xi)}{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)!} \right)^{d(\lambda, \lambda)} \right. \pmod{P^{v(g_\lambda(\xi))+1}}.$$

However, by (59) and (62), for  $\sigma = 1, 2$ ,

$$[\text{sg}_K A_1 \langle \delta_v, \lambda, \sigma \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda), \dots, \text{sg}_K A_{\mu_{\delta_v, \lambda, \sigma}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, \sigma \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda)] \in S_{\theta_{J_v, \lambda, \sigma}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, \sigma \rangle;$$

hence (56) and (57) hold with  $\varrho = \varrho_{J_v, \lambda, \sigma}$ ,  $\delta = \delta_v$ ,  $f = f_1$ ,  $g = g_\lambda$  and in particular

$$(67) \quad \frac{C_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 2}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 2 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda, \xi)}{B_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 2}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 2 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda)} = \prod_{\substack{\lambda=1 \\ \delta(\lambda, \lambda) > 0}}^{n_\lambda+2} \left( \frac{E_{\lambda-1}^{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)}(\xi)}{d(\lambda, \lambda-1)!} \right)^{\delta(\lambda, \lambda)} \neq 0.$$

Thus we have

$$g_\lambda(\xi) \equiv \frac{C_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 1}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 1 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda, \xi) B_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 2}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 2 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda)}{B_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 1}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 1 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda) C_{\varrho_{J_v, \lambda, 2}} \langle \delta_v, \lambda, 2 \rangle (f_1, g_\lambda, \xi)} \pmod{P^{v(g_\lambda(\xi))+1}}.$$

In virtue of (61) this gives (50) while (49) follows from (56) and (67).

Assume now that  $\delta_v(\lambda, n_\lambda + 1) + \delta_v(\lambda, n_\lambda + 2) > 0$ . Then in virtue of (61)

$$\frac{L_{J_v, \lambda}(f_1, g_\lambda, \xi)}{K_{J_v, \lambda}(f_1, g_\lambda, \xi)} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$$

and (49), (60) follow. The last statement of the lemma follows from (57) and the last statement of Lemma 14.

LEMMA 16. Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $u = [u_0, \dots, u_m]$  and for every pair  $[\alpha, \beta]$  where  $0 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq m$ ,  $\alpha \neq \beta$  let

$$q(\alpha, \beta, u) := \frac{u_\beta - u_\alpha}{\beta - \alpha} \quad (u_\alpha + u_\beta < \infty).$$

Furthermore, let  $S(\alpha, \beta)$  be the set of all vectors  $u \in \mathbb{N}_0^{m+1}$  satisfying

$$u_\alpha + u_\beta < \infty, \quad \varrho(\alpha, \beta, u) \in \mathbb{N}$$

and

$$(68) \quad \text{for all } \gamma \leq m \text{ either } u_\gamma = \infty \text{ or } (q(\alpha, \gamma, u) - q(\alpha, \beta, u))(\gamma - \alpha) \geq 0.$$

If  $\alpha' < \beta'$ ,  $\alpha'' < \beta''$  then for every  $u \in S(\alpha', \beta') \cap S(\alpha'', \beta'')$  we have the implications

$$(69) \quad \alpha' < \beta' \rightarrow q(\alpha', \beta', u) = q(\alpha'', \beta'', u) \rightarrow u \in S(\alpha', \beta').$$

Proof. Take a  $u \in S(\alpha', \beta') \cap S(\alpha', \beta'')$ . Using (68) with  $\alpha = \alpha'$ ,  $\beta = \beta'$ ,  $\gamma = \alpha''$ , we get

$$(70) \quad (q(\alpha', \alpha'', u) - (\alpha', \beta', u))(\alpha' - \alpha'') \geq 0;$$

hence  $q(\alpha', \alpha'', u) \geq q(\alpha', \beta', u)$ .

Using (68) with  $\alpha = \alpha''$ ,  $\beta = \beta''$ ,  $\gamma = \alpha'$  we get similarly

$$(71) \quad \begin{aligned} q(\alpha'', \alpha', u) &\leq q(\alpha'', \beta'', u), \\ q(\alpha', \beta', u) &\leq q(\alpha', \alpha'', u) \leq q(\alpha'', \beta'', u). \end{aligned}$$

Using (68) with  $\alpha = \alpha''$ ,  $\beta = \beta''$ ,  $\gamma = \beta'$ , we get

$$(72) \quad (q(\alpha'', \beta', u) - q(\alpha'', \beta'', u))(\beta' - \alpha'') \geq 0.$$

Addition of (71) and (72) gives

$$(q(\alpha', \beta', u) - q(\alpha'', \beta'', u))(\beta' - \alpha'') \geq 0;$$

hence by the assumption

$$q(\alpha', \beta', u) \geq q(\alpha'', \beta'', u),$$

which together with (71) gives

$$q(\alpha', \beta', u) = q(\alpha'', \beta'', u).$$

Assume now the last equality. By (71) we have

$$q(\alpha', \alpha'', u) = q(\alpha', \beta', u) = q(\alpha'', \beta'', u) = q, \text{ say.}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} u_{\alpha''} - u_{\alpha'} &= q(\alpha'' - \alpha'), & u_{\beta''} - u_{\alpha'} &= q(\beta'' - \alpha''), \\ u_{\beta''} - u_{\alpha'} &= q(\beta'' - \alpha'), & q(\alpha', \beta'', u) &= q \end{aligned}$$

and since  $u \in S(\alpha', \beta')$ , condition (68) is satisfied with  $\alpha = \alpha'$ ,  $\beta = \beta''$ .

LEMMA 17. For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a decomposition

$$(73) \quad N_+^{m+1} = \bigcup_{r=1}^{r_m} U_r$$

and for each  $r \leq r_m$  there are finitely many (possibly zero)  $N$ -valued functions  $\pi\langle r, 1 \rangle, \dots, \pi\langle r, s_r \rangle$  defined on  $U_r$  such that if

$$(74) \quad f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu} \in I[x], \quad f \neq 0,$$

$$u := [v(a_0), \dots, v(a_m)] \in U_r,$$

$$(75) \quad h_{rs}(y) := f(p^{\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u)} y)$$

then

$$(76) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in P \setminus \{0\} : f(\xi) = 0\} = \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\eta \in I \setminus P : h_{rs}(\eta) = 0\}.$$

The sets  $U_r$  and the functions  $\pi\langle r, s \rangle$  are independent of  $K, v$  or  $p$ .

Proof. We shall use the notation of Lemma 16. Let us order all subsets of the set  $\{S(\alpha, \beta) : 0 \leq \alpha < \beta \leq m\}$  in a sequence  $T_1, \dots, T_{r_m}$  and put for each  $r \leq r_m$

$$(77) \quad U_r = \bigcap_{s \in T_r} S \cap \bigcap_{s \notin T_r} (N_+^{m+1} \setminus S).$$

It is clear that the sets  $U_r$  are disjoint and (73) holds.

For every  $r$  with  $T_r \neq \emptyset$  we consider the set  $\bigcup_{s(\alpha, \beta) \in T_r} \{x \text{ real} : \alpha \leq x \leq \beta\}$  and represent it as the sum of disjoint open intervals:

$$(78) \quad \bigcup_{s(\alpha, \beta) \in T_r} \{x \text{ real} : \alpha \leq x \leq \beta\} = \bigcup_{s=1}^{s_r} \{x \text{ real} : \alpha_{rs} < x < \beta_{rs}\}$$

where

$$(79) \quad \beta_{rs} \leq \alpha_{rs+1} \quad (s = 1, \dots, s_r - 1).$$

We shall show that for every  $s \leq s_r$

$$(80) \quad U_r \subset S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}).$$

Indeed, by (78)–(79) there exists a sequence  $[\alpha_i, \beta_i]$  ( $i \leq n$ ) such that

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_{r1}, \quad \alpha_{i+1} < \beta_i, \quad \beta_n = \beta_{rs}, \quad S(\alpha_i, \beta_i) \in T_r.$$

By Lemma 16 we have by induction on  $v$

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^v S(\alpha_i, \beta_i) \subset S(\alpha_1, \beta_v);$$

hence by (77)

$$U_r \subset \bigcap_{i=1}^n S(\alpha_1, \beta_i) \subset S(\alpha_1, \beta_n) = S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}).$$

If  $T_r = \emptyset$  we take  $s_r = 0$ , otherwise we put

$$(81) \quad \pi\langle r, s \rangle(u) := q(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}, u) \quad (1 \leq s \leq s_r).$$

Clearly, the sets  $U_r$  and the functions  $\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u)$  are independent of  $K, v$  or  $p$ . Suppose now that for some  $u_0 \in U_r$  and  $s < t$  we have

$$\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u_0) = \pi\langle r, t \rangle(u_0).$$

Since by (80)  $u_0 \in S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}) \cap S(\alpha_{rt}, \beta_{rt})$ , we have by Lemma 16

$$u_0 \in S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rt}).$$



Since  $u_0 \in U_r$ , we have by (77)  $S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}) \in T_r$  and it follows from (78) that

$$\alpha_t \in \bigcup_{s=1}^{s_r} \{x \text{ real: } \alpha_{rs} < x < \beta_{rs}\},$$

contrary to (79). Thus for all  $u \in U_r$  and  $s \neq t$  we have

$$(82) \quad \pi\langle r, s \rangle(u) \neq \pi\langle r, t \rangle(u).$$

Assume now that (74) holds. Then by (80) for every  $s$

$$(83) \quad u \in S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}).$$

Suppose that  $f(\xi) = 0$ ,  $\xi \in P \setminus \{0\}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the least integer  $\leq m$  such that

$$q := \min_{\mu} (\alpha_{\mu} \xi^{m-\mu}) = v(\alpha_{\alpha} \xi^{m-\alpha}) = v(\alpha_{\alpha}) + (m-\alpha)v(\xi).$$

From the ultrametric property of  $v$  we infer the existence of a  $\beta > \alpha$  such that

$$q = v(\alpha_{\beta} \xi^{m-\beta}) = v(\alpha_{\beta}) + (m-\beta)v(\xi).$$

It easily follows that

$$(84) \quad v(\xi) = q(\alpha, \beta, u) > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u \in S(\alpha, \beta).$$

Since  $u \in U_r$ , we have by (77)  $S(\alpha, \beta) \in T_r$  and by (78)

$$\{x \text{ real: } \alpha < x < \beta\} \subset \bigcup_{s=1}^{s_r} \{x \text{ real: } \alpha_{rs} < x < \beta_{rs}\}.$$

Since by (79) the intervals on the right-hand side are disjoint, there exists an  $s \leq s_r$  such that

$$\alpha_{rs} < \alpha < \beta < \beta_{rs}.$$

By (83) we have  $u \in S(\alpha, \beta) \cap S(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs})$  and by Lemma 16

$$q(\alpha, \beta, u) = q(\alpha_{rs}, \beta_{rs}, u).$$

By (81) and (84)

$$v(\xi) = \pi\langle r, s \rangle(u).$$

Putting  $\eta = p^{-\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u)} \xi$ , we get  $\eta \in I \setminus P$  and by (75)  $h_{rs}(\eta) = 0$ . Conversely, if for some  $s$ :  $\xi := p^{\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u)} \eta$ ,  $\eta \in I \setminus P$  and  $h_{rs}(\eta) = 0$ , we get by (75)  $f(\xi) = 0$ , and since  $\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u) > 0$  also  $\xi \in P \setminus \{0\}$ . By (82) to different  $s$  correspond different values of  $\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u)$  and consequently different  $\xi$ . This implies (76) and completes the proof of the lemma.

DEFINITION 7. For a polynomial  $f(x) \neq 0$

$$\mathcal{J}f := x^{-\text{ord}_x f} f.$$

LEMMA 18. For an  $f \in I[x]$  and a  $q \in R$  let

$$(85) \quad 0 \leq \deg f \leq m, \quad \alpha := \text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{J}f \geq 1, \quad (f, \prod_{i=1}^{\deg f - 1} f^{(i)}) = 1,$$

let  $\xi_q$  be a unique element of  $I$  satisfying

$$(86) \quad f^{(\alpha-1)}(\xi_q) = 0, \quad \bar{\xi}_q = q$$

and, in the notation of Lemma 17, let

$$u_q := \left[ v\left(\frac{f^{(m)}(\xi_q)}{m!}\right), \dots, v(f(\xi_q)) \right] \in U_r,$$

$$(87) \quad h_{ors} := f(\xi_q + p^{\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u_q)} x) := f_q(p^{\pi\langle r, s \rangle(u_q)} x) \quad (1 \leq s \leq s_r).$$

Then

$$(88) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: f(\xi) = 0\}$$

$$= \text{card}\{q \in R: \mathcal{J}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f(x)|_{x=q} = 0\} + \sum_{\substack{q \in R \setminus \{0\} \\ \text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{M}f \geq 2}} \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{ors}(\xi) = 0\}.$$

Proof. The existence and the uniqueness of  $\xi_q$  follow from Hensel's lemma. Further, we have

$$(89) \quad \begin{aligned} & \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: f(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{q \in R \setminus \{0\}} \text{card}\{\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0, \bar{\xi} = q\} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{q \in R \setminus \{0\} \\ \text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{M}f = 1}} \text{card}\{\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0, \bar{\xi} = q\} + \\ &+ \sum_{\substack{q \in R \setminus \{0\} \\ \text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{M}f \geq 2}} \text{card}\{\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0, \bar{\xi} = q\}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 9 and Definition 7 the condition  $q \in R \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{M}f = 1$  is equivalent to

$$\mathcal{J}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f(x)|_{x=q} = 0.$$

On the other hand, the condition

$$\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0, \quad \bar{\xi} = q$$

is in the case  $\alpha = 1$  equivalent to  $\xi = \xi_q$ . Thus the first sum on the right-hand side of (89) is equal to the first sum on the right-hand side of (88). On the other hand,

$$f_q(x) = f(\xi_q + x).$$

Thus  $f(x) = f_q(x - \xi_q)$  and  $f_q(0) = f(\xi_q)$ . Since by (86)  $f^{(\alpha-1)}(\xi_q) = 0$  and  $\alpha \geq 2$ , it follows by (85) that  $f_q(0) \neq 0$ . Thus

$$\text{card}\{\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0, \bar{\xi} = q\} = \text{card}\{\eta \in P \setminus \{0\}: f_q(\eta) = 0\}.$$

However, by (87) and Lemma 17

$$\text{card}\{\eta \in P \setminus \{0\}: f_q(\eta) = 0\} = \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{ors}(\xi) = 0\}.$$



Thus the second sums on the right-hand of (88) and of (89) coincide and the lemma follows.

LEMMA 19. If  $A \in C_0(m)$ ,  $f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu}$  then

$$\hat{A}(f, x) := A\left(\frac{f^{(m)}(x)}{m!}, \dots, f(x)\right) \in C_1(m).$$

Proof. For a typical term  $a \prod_{\mu=0}^m x_\mu^{\alpha_\mu}$  of  $A$  we have

$$\sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu = \deg A, \quad \sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu \mu = w(A).$$

Hence

$$\deg_a \prod_{\mu=0}^m \left( \frac{f^{(m-\mu)}(x)}{(m-\mu)!} \right)^{\alpha_\mu} = \sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu = \deg A,$$

$$w\left( \prod_{\mu=0}^m \left( \frac{f^{(m-\mu)}(x)}{(m-\mu)!} \right)^{\alpha_\mu} \right) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu \mu = w(A),$$

where  $\deg_a$  denotes the degree with respect to variables  $a_0, \dots, a_m$ . Thus  $\hat{A}(f, x)$  is homogeneous in  $a_0, \dots, a_m$  and isobaric with respect to all the variables.

LEMMA 20. If  $A \in C_1(m)$ ,  $h(x) = g(cx)$ ,  $g \in K[x]$ ,  $\deg g \leq m$ ,  $c \in K$  then

$$A(h, y_1, \dots, y_l) = c^{m \deg^1 A - w(A)} A(g, cy_1, \dots, cy_l).$$

Proof. For a typical term  $a \prod_{\mu=0}^m x_\mu^{\alpha_\mu} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_\lambda^{\beta_\lambda}$  of  $A$  we have

$$\sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu = \deg^1 A, \quad \sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu \mu + \sum_{\lambda=1}^l \beta_\lambda = w(A).$$

If  $g(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m b_\mu x^{m-\mu}$  we get  $h(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m (b_\mu c^{m-\mu}) x^{m-\mu}$

$$a \left( \prod_{\mu=0}^m b_\mu c^{m-\mu} \right)^{\alpha_\mu} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_\lambda^{\beta_\lambda} = a \left( \prod_{\mu=0}^m b_\mu^{\alpha_\mu} \right) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l (cy_\lambda)^{\beta_\lambda} c^{\sum_{\mu=0}^m \alpha_\mu (m-\mu) - \sum_{\lambda=1}^l \beta_\lambda}.$$

Since the exponent of  $c$  equals  $m \deg^1 A - w(A)$  independently of the term, the lemma follows.

LEMMA 21. Let  $a_\mu, b_\mu, \xi \in I$ ,  $\xi = q$ ,  $K_\mu, L_\mu \in I[y_1]$  ( $1 \leq \mu \leq \mu_l$ ),

$$v(L_\mu(\xi)) = v(L_\mu) \geq v(K_\mu) = v(K_\mu(\xi)) < \infty,$$

$$a_\mu \equiv \frac{L_\mu(\xi)}{K_\mu(\xi)} \pmod{p^{v(a_\mu)+1}}, \quad q_{\mu\lambda} \in N_0,$$

$$A(y_1, \dots, y_{l+1}) := \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} \frac{L_\mu(y_1)}{K_\mu(y_1)} b_\mu \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{\mu\lambda}} \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} K_\mu(y_1).$$

Then

$$(90) \quad \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} \left( \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} a_\mu b_\mu \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{\mu\lambda}} \right) = A(q, y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} \overline{\mathcal{K}K_\mu(\xi)}^{-1}$$

(the operation  $\mathcal{K}$  performed after the substitution of  $y_1 = \xi$  into  $K_\mu$ ).

Proof. The assumptions imply for each  $\mu \leq \mu_l$

$$(91) \quad \overline{\mathcal{K}(b_\mu L_\mu(\xi))} = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} b_\mu L_\mu(y_1)|_{y_1=q}, \quad \overline{\mathcal{K}(K_\mu(\xi))} = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} K_\mu(y_1)|_{y_1=q}.$$

Let  $v(L_\mu) - v(K_\mu) + v(b_\mu)$  attains its minimum for  $\mu \in S$  precisely. Then

$$A(y_1, \dots, y_{l+1}) = \sum_{\mu \in S} \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} b_\mu L_\mu(y_1) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{\mu\lambda}} \prod_{\nu \neq \mu}^{\mu_l} \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} K_\nu(y_1).$$

On the other hand,

$$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} \left( \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} a_\mu b_\mu \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{\mu\lambda}} \right) \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_l} \overline{\mathcal{K}K_\mu(\xi)} = \sum_{\mu \in S} \overline{\mathcal{K}K_\mu(\xi)} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{\mu\lambda}} \prod_{\nu \neq \mu}^{\mu_l} \overline{\mathcal{K}K_\nu(\xi)}$$

and (90) follows from (91).

LEMMA 22. For every two nonnegative integers  $m$  and  $n \leq m$  there exist finitely many forms  $M_i^{mn}(a)$  ( $i \leq i_{mn}$ ) and polynomials  $N_{jkl}^{mn}(a, y_1, \dots, y_l)$  ( $j \leq j_{mn}$ ,  $k \leq k_j^{mn}$ ,  $l \leq l_j^{mn}$ ) with integral coefficients, a decomposition

$$(92) \quad N_+^{lmn} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_{mn}} V_j^{mn}$$

and  $N_0$ -valued functions  $v^{mn}\langle j, k, l \rangle$  defined on  $V_j^{mn}$  with the following properties (the superscripts are omitted):

$$(93) \quad M_i \in C_0(m), \quad N_{jkl} \in C_l(m);$$

if  $\text{char } R = 0$  or  $\text{char } R > m$ ,

$f(x) \in I[x]$ ,  $0 \leq \deg f \leq m$ , all zeros of  $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{K}f$  except 0 have multiplicity  $\leq n$ ,

$$(94) \quad (f(x), \prod_{i=1}^{\deg f - 1} f^{(i)}(x)) = 1,$$

$$(95) \quad v := [v(M_i(f)), \dots, v(M_{i_{mn}}(f))] \in V_j$$

and

$$(96) \quad \tilde{N}_{jkl}(y_1, \dots, y_l) := \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} N_{jkl}(f, p^{v\langle j, k, l \rangle(v)} y_1, \dots, p^{v\langle j, k, l \rangle(v)} y_l),$$

then

$$(97) \quad \text{card} \{ \xi \in K \setminus P : f(\xi) = 0 \} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card} \{ [\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{l_{jk}} : \bigcap_{i=1}^{l_{jk}} \tilde{N}_{jki}(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0 \}.$$

The polynomials  $M_i^{mn}$ ,  $N_{jkl}^{mn}$ , the sets  $V_j^{mn}$  and the functions  $v^{mn}\langle j, k, l \rangle$  are independent of  $K$ ,  $v$  and  $p$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$ . Suppose first that  $n = 0$ . Then we take  $i_{m0} = j_{m0} = 1$ ,  $M_1^{m0} = a_0$ ,  $V_1^{m0} = N_+$ ,  $k_1^{m0} = 0$ . Both sides of (97) are equal to 0.

In the inductive step  $m$  is kept fixed; thus the polynomials  $M_i^{mn}$ ,  $N_{jkl}^{mn}$ , the sets  $V_j^{mn}$  and the functions  $v^{mn}\langle j, k, l \rangle$  will be distinguished only by the superscript  $n$ . Also, we shall write  $i_n, j_n, k_j^i, l_{jk}^i$  instead of  $i_{mn}, j_{mn}, k_j^{mn}, l_{jk}^{mn}$ . We shall use formula (88) of Lemma 18 and consider first the term  $\text{card}\{\varrho \in R: \mathcal{F}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f(x)|_{x=\varrho} = 0\}$ .

We have  $\mathcal{F} \in \Omega(N_-)$  and thus, by Lemmata 8 and 11,  $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{L} \in \Omega^*(N_-)$ . Hence there exist polynomials  $A_t, B_u \in C_0(m)$ ,  $C_u \in C_1(m)$  ( $t \leq t_0, u \leq u_0$ ) and a decomposition

$$(98) \quad N_+^{t_0} = \bigcup_{u=1}^{u_0} T_u$$

such that if

$$[v(A_1(f)), \dots, v(A_{t_0}(f))] \in T_u$$

then

$$B_u(f) \neq 0, \quad \frac{C_u(f, x)}{B_u(f)} \in I[x]$$

and

$$(99) \quad \mathcal{F}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f = \mathcal{L} \frac{C_u(f, x)}{B_u(f)} = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{H} \frac{C_u(f, x)}{B_u(f)}.$$

Consider now the term  $\text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0\}$  in (88). As we shall show, all zeros of  $\mathcal{M}h_{qrs}$  except 0 have multiplicity less than  $n$ . Indeed, by (85)  $(\mathcal{H}f)^{(a)}(\xi_q) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{P}$ ; hence by (87)

$$\deg \mathcal{M}h_{qrs} \leq \text{ord}_x \mathcal{L}\mathcal{H}f(\xi_q + x) \leq \alpha \leq n$$

and, if the multiplicity of a zero  $\zeta$  of  $\mathcal{M}h_{qrs}$  were  $n$ , we should have

$$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{H}h_{qrs}(x) = \frac{(\mathcal{H}f)^{(n)}(\xi_q)}{n!} (x - \zeta)^n.$$

However, also by (87)

$$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{H}h_{qrs}(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^n \frac{(\mathcal{H}f)^{(\mu)}(\xi_q)}{\mu!} p^{\pi\langle r, s \rangle (v_q)(\mu-n)} x^\mu.$$

Comparing the coefficient of  $x^{n-1}$  in the two expressions for  $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{H}h_{qrs}$  and using (86), we find  $\zeta = 0$ . In view of (87) and (94) we have also

$$(h_{qrs}, \prod_{i=1}^{\deg h_{qrs}-1} h_{qrs}^{(i)}) = 1;$$

thus the inductive assumption applies to  $h_{qrs}$ . Accordingly, we shall apply Lemma 15 to the polynomials  $f_1 = f^{(x-1)}$ ,  $f_2 = f$  and the following polynomials  $g_x$ :

$$f^{(i)}(x) \ (0 \leq i \leq n), \quad \widehat{M}_i^{n-1}(f, x) \ (i \leq i_{n-1}), \quad \widehat{N}_{jkl}^{n-1}(f, x) \ (j \leq j_{n-1}, k \leq k_j^{n-1}, l \leq l_{jk}^{n-1})$$

$$q = [q_1, \dots, q_l] \in N_0^l, \quad q_1 + \dots + q_l \leq w(N_{jkl}^{n-1}),$$

where  $N_{jkl}^{n-1}$  is the coefficient of  $\prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_\lambda^{q_\lambda}$  in  $N_{jkl}^{n-1}(a, y_1, \dots, y_l)$ .

Therefore we order all vectors  $[j, k, l, q]$  in question lexicographically and let  $[j, k, l, q]$  ( $j, k, l$  fixed,  $q$  variable) occupy the places

$$\lambda(j, k, l) + 1 \text{ to } \lambda(j, k, l) + \mu(j, k, l).$$

The relevant vectors  $q$  will be denoted by  $q(j, k, l, \mu)$  ( $1 \leq \mu \leq \mu(j, k, l)$ ) and the  $\lambda$ th component of  $q(j, k, l, \mu)$  by  $q(j, k, l, \mu, \lambda)$  ( $1 \leq \lambda \leq l$ ).

If  $[j, k, l, q]$  occupies the  $v$ th place, we shall write

$$N_{jkl}^{n-1} = N_v^{n-1} \quad (v \leq v_{n-1}),$$

so that

$$(100) \quad N_{jkl}^{n-1}(a, y_1, \dots, y_l) = \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu(j, k, l)} N_{\lambda(j, k, l) + \mu}^{n-1}(a) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_\lambda^{q(j, k, l, \mu, \lambda)}.$$

Now we set in Lemma 15

$$n_x = \begin{cases} m - x + 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq x \leq m + 1, \\ w(M_{x-m-1}^{n-1}) & \text{if } m + 1 < x \leq m + 1 + i_{n-1}, \\ w(N_{x-m-1-i_{n-1}}^{n-1}) & \text{if } m + 1 + i_{n-1} < x \leq m + 1 + i_{n-1} + v_{n-1} = k_0 \end{cases}$$

and denote the corresponding parameters of that lemma by  $i_0(\alpha), j_0(\alpha), v_0(\alpha), F_{\alpha i}, G_{\alpha j}, H_{\alpha v}, K\langle \alpha, j, v, x \rangle, L\langle \alpha, j, v, x \rangle, T_{\alpha j}$ . Then we set

$$(101) \quad g_x(x) = \begin{cases} (\sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu})^{(x-1)} & (1 \leq x \leq m+1), \\ \widehat{M}_{x-m-1}^{n-1}(\sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu}, x) & (m+1 < x \leq m+1+i_{n-1}), \\ \widehat{N}_{x-m-1-i_{n-1}}^{n-1}(\sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu}, x) & (m+1+i_{n-1} < x \leq m+1+i_{n-1}+v_{n-1}) \end{cases}$$

and observe that, in virtue of Lemma 19,  $\deg g_x \leq n_x$ .

Let

$$M := \{[\alpha, v] \in N^2: 1 < \alpha \leq n, 1 < v \leq v_0(\alpha)\}$$

$$\Phi := \{\varphi \in N^{(1, 2, \dots, n)}: \varphi(1) \leq u_0, \varphi(\alpha) \leq j_0(\alpha) \text{ for } \alpha > 1\},$$

$$X := \{1, 2, \dots, r_m\}^M,$$

and for  $\chi \in X$  let

$$\begin{aligned} S_\chi &:= \{[\alpha, v, s]: [\alpha, v] \in M: 1 \leq s \leq s_{\chi(\alpha, v)}\}, \\ \Psi_\chi &:= \{1, 2, \dots, j_{n-1}\}^{S_\chi}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us order in a sequence all triples  $[\varphi, \chi, \psi]$  where  $\varphi \in \Phi$ ,  $\chi \in X$ ,  $\psi \in \Psi_\chi$ , and denote the  $j$ th term of this sequence by  $[\varphi_j, \chi_j, \psi_j]$  ( $j \leq j_n$ ). For each  $j \leq j_n$  we order all quadruples  $[\alpha, v, s, \kappa]$  where  $1 < \alpha \leq n$ ,  $v \leq v_0(\alpha)$ ,  $s \leq s_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)}$ ,  $\kappa \leq k_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}$  in a sequence and denote the  $k$ th term of this sequence by  $[\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}, \kappa_{jk}]$  ( $k \leq k_j^n$ ).

The sequence  $M_i^n$  is defined as consisting of blocks corresponding to  $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, n$  in an increasing order. For  $\alpha = 1$  we take polynomials  $A_1, \dots, A_{t_0}$ , for an  $\alpha > 1$  we take polynomials  $F_{\alpha i}(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}_1, \mathbf{g}_2, \dots, \mathbf{g}_{k_0})$  ( $1 \leq i \leq i_0(\alpha)$ ), then all the coefficients of the polynomials  $K\langle \alpha, \beta, v, \kappa \rangle$  ( $\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}_\kappa, \mathbf{x}$ ) and  $L\langle \alpha, \beta, v, \kappa \rangle$  ( $\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}_\kappa, \mathbf{x}$ ) ( $1 \leq \beta \leq j_0(\alpha)$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq v_0(\alpha)$ ,  $1 \leq \kappa \leq k_0$ ) ordered lexicographically (the order of letters being  $\beta, v, \kappa$ ).

Now we put for  $\kappa \leq k_0$

$$\begin{aligned} r_{\alpha\beta v\kappa} &:= \sum_{i=1}^{\kappa} (\deg_x K\langle \alpha, \beta, v, i \rangle + \deg_x L\langle \alpha, \beta, v, i \rangle + 2), \\ (102) \quad r'_{\alpha\beta v\kappa} &:= r_{\alpha\beta v\kappa-1} + \deg_x K\langle \alpha, \beta, v, \kappa \rangle + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$(103) \quad a_{\alpha\beta} := \sum_{\lambda < \beta} \sum_{v=1}^{j_0(\alpha)} r_{\alpha\lambda v m+1+i_{n-1}}, \quad b_{\alpha\beta} := \sum_{\lambda > \beta} \sum_{v=1}^{j_0(\alpha)} r_{\alpha\lambda v m+1+i_{n-1}},$$

$$d_\alpha := \sum_{\beta=1}^{j_0(\alpha)} \sum_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} r_{\alpha\beta v m+1+i_{n-1}}, \quad c_{\alpha\beta v} := r_{\alpha\beta v m+1+i_{n-1}} - r_{\alpha\beta v m+1},$$

so that

$$i_n = t_0 + \sum_{\alpha=2}^n (i_0(\alpha) + d_\alpha).$$

For a vector  $\mathbf{u} = [u_1, u_2, \dots] \in N_+^{r_{\alpha\beta v m+1}}$  define  $\tau_{\alpha\beta v}(\mathbf{u})$  as a vector whose  $\mu$ th component ( $1 \leq \mu \leq m+1$ ) equals

$$(104) \quad |\min\{u'_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}+1}, \dots, u_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}}\} - \min\{u_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu-1}+1}, \dots, u'_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}}\}|,$$

where by convention  $\infty - \infty = 0$ , and for  $\mathbf{u} \in N_+^{r_{\alpha\beta v m+1}+i_{n-1}}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} = [u_1, \dots, u_{r_{\alpha\beta v m+1}+i_{n-1}}]$  define  $\omega_{\alpha\beta v}(\mathbf{u})$  as follows. If  $1 < \alpha \leq n$ ,  $\beta \leq j_0(\alpha)$ ,  $v \leq v_0(\alpha)$ ,  $\tau_{\alpha\beta v}(\mathbf{u}) \in U_r$ ,  $s \leq s_r$  (notation of Lemma 17), then for  $\mu \leq m+1$  the  $\mu$ th component  $\omega_{\alpha\beta v s \mu}(\mathbf{u})$  of  $\omega_{\alpha\beta v s}(\mathbf{u})$  equals the  $\mu$ th component of  $\tau_{\alpha\beta v}(\mathbf{u})$  and for  $\mu > m+1$  the  $\mu$ th component of  $\omega_{\alpha\beta v s}(\mathbf{u})$  equals

$$(105) \quad |\min\{u'_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}+1}, \dots, u_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}}\} - \min\{u_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu-1}+1}, \dots, u'_{r_{\alpha\beta v\mu}}\}| + \pi \langle r, s \rangle (\tau_{\alpha\beta v}(\mathbf{u}) (m \deg M_{\mu-m-1}^{n-1} - w(M_{\mu-m-1}^{n-1}))),$$

where again  $\infty - \infty = 0$ .

Further, let us put

$$(106) \quad V\langle \alpha, \beta, v, \chi, \psi \rangle := \begin{cases} \tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1}(U_{\chi(\alpha, v)}) \times N_+^{c_{\alpha\beta v}} & \text{if } s_{\chi(\alpha, v)} = 0, \\ \bigcap_{s \leq s_{\chi(\alpha, v)}} \omega_{\alpha\beta v s}^{-1}(U_{\chi(\alpha, v)}) \times V_{\psi(\alpha, v, s)} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and for  $j \leq j_n$

$$(107) \quad V_j^n = T_{1\varphi_j(1)} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n (T_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)}} \times (\prod_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} V\langle \alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v, \chi_j, \psi_j \rangle) \times N_+^{b_{\varphi_j(\alpha)}}).$$

Furthermore, for  $j \leq j_n$ ,  $k < k_j^n$  put

$$(108) \quad \begin{aligned} \lambda(\psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}), \kappa_{jk}, l) &= \lambda_{jkl}, \\ \mu(\psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}), \kappa_{jk}, l) &= \mu_{jkl}, \end{aligned}$$

$$q(\psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}), \kappa_{jk}, l, \mu, \lambda) = q_{jkl\mu\lambda},$$

$$(109) \quad K\langle \alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), v_{jk}, m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu \rangle (a^{(\alpha_{jk}-1)}, \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}(a, y_1), y_1) = K_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1),$$

$$(110) \quad L\langle \alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), v_{jk}, m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu \rangle (a^{(\alpha_{jk}-1)}, \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}(a, y_1), y_1) = L_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1),$$

$$(111) \quad N_{jkl}^n(a, y_1) = H\langle \alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), v_{jk} \rangle (a^{(\alpha_{jk}-1)}, a; a, a', \dots, a^{(m)}, \dots, * \widehat{M}_1^{n-1}(a, y_1), \dots, * \widehat{M}_{i_{n-1}}^{n-1}(a, y_1), * \widehat{N}_1^{n-1}(a, y_1), \dots, * \widehat{N}_{v_{n-1}}^{n-1}(a, y_1), y_1),$$

$$(112) \quad v^n \langle j, k, 1 \rangle (v) = 0,$$

$$(113) \quad N_{jkl+1}^n(a, y_1, \dots, y_{l+1}) = \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} \frac{L_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1)}{K_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1)} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l \prod_{j_{\lambda+1}}^{\mu_{j_{\lambda+1}}} \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{j_{\lambda+1}}} K_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1)$$

and for  $1 \leq l \leq l_{jkn}^{n-1}$   $l_{jkn}^n := l_{jkn}^{n-1} - 1$

$$(114) \quad v^n \langle j, k, l+1 \rangle (v) = \pi \langle \chi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}) \rangle (\omega_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})v_{jk}s_{jk}l}(v_{jk}), \dots, \omega_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})v_{jk}s_{jk}m+1}(v_{jk})) + v^{n-1} \langle \psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk}), \kappa_{jk}, l \rangle (\omega_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})v_{jk}s_{jk}m+2}(v_{jk}), \dots, \omega_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})v_{jk}s_{jk}m+1+i_{n-1}}(v_{jk})),$$

where, assuming  $\mathbf{v} = [v_1, v_2, \dots]$ , we set

$$\begin{aligned} v_{jk} &:= [v_{a+1}, \dots, v_{a+b}], \\ a &:= t_0 + a_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})} + \sum_{\lambda < v_{jk}} r_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})\lambda m+1+i_{n-1}}, \quad b := r_{\alpha_{jk}\varphi_j(\alpha_{jk})v_{jk}m+1+i_{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, for  $j \leq j_n$ :  $l_{jkn}^n = 1$ ,

$$(115) \quad N_{jkl}^n(a, y_1) = C_{\varphi_j(1)}(a, y_1),$$

$$(116) \quad v^n \langle j, k_j^n, 1 \rangle (v) = 0.$$

Clearly the sets, the polynomials and the functions defined above are independent of  $K$ ,  $v$  and  $p$ . Now we proceed to prove that they have all the properties asserted in the lemma.

The polynomials  $M_i^\alpha$  of the first block ( $\alpha = 1$ ) belong to  $C_0(m)$  since  $A_i \in C_0(m)$ , ( $i \leq t_0$ ). Consider now the block  $\alpha$  for  $\alpha > 1$ . By Lemma 15,  $F_{\alpha i} \in C_0(m, m, n_1, \dots, n_{k_0})$  while the coefficients of polynomials  $K\langle\alpha, \beta, v, \kappa\rangle$ ,  $L\langle\alpha, \beta, v, \kappa\rangle$  belong to  $C_0(m, n_\alpha)$ . Since by the inductive assumption  $M_i^{\alpha-1} \in C_0(n)$  and  $N_i^{\alpha-1} \in C_1(m)$ , we have, by Lemma 19 and (101),  $g_\alpha \in C_1(m)$  ( $1 \leq \kappa \leq k_0$ ).

It follows now from Lemma 1 that

$$F_{\alpha i}(g_{\alpha-1}, g_1, \dots, g_{k_0}) \in C_0(m),$$

and the same applies to the coefficients of polynomials  $K\langle\alpha, \beta, v, \kappa\rangle(g_\alpha, g_\kappa, x)$  and  $L\langle\alpha, \beta, v, \kappa\rangle(g_\alpha, g_\kappa, x)$ . Hence all polynomials  $M_i^\alpha$  belong to  $C_0(m)$  and the first part of (93) is proved. The proof of the second part of (93) for  $l = 1$  is similar in view of (111). For  $l > 1$  we need in view of (108) and (113) to show that, for fixed  $j, k$  and each  $\mu$ ,

$$(117) \quad R_\mu := \frac{L_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1)}{K_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1)} \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} K_{jkl\mu}(a, y_1) \in C_1(m),$$

the degree of all non-zero polynomials  $R_\mu$  with respect to  $a$  is the same and their weight differs from  $w(N_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1})$  by a constant summand. Now (117) follows from Lemma 19 and (109)–(110). Moreover, by (109), (110), Lemma 15 and Lemma 19, either  $R_\mu = 0$  or

$$\begin{aligned} \deg_a R_\mu - \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} \deg_a K_{jkl\mu} &= \deg_a L_{jkl\mu} - \deg_a K_{jkl\mu} \\ &= \deg^1 L\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle + \\ &\quad + \deg^2 L\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle \deg_a \widehat{M}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1} - \\ &\quad - \deg^1 K\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle - \\ &\quad - \deg^2 K\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle \deg_a \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1} \\ &= \deg_a \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1} = \deg_a N_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

but, by (100) and (108),  $N_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}$  are the coefficients of  $N_{\psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v, j, \kappa, s_{jk})}^{n-1}$  and thus they all have the same degree with respect to  $a$ .

Furthermore, by Lemma 1, Lemma 15 and (101), either  $R_\mu = 0$  or

$$\begin{aligned} w(R_\mu) - \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} w(K_{jkl\mu}) &= w(L_{jkl\mu}) - w(K_{jkl\mu}) \\ &= w(L\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle * (\sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu} (\alpha_{jk}^{-1}), * \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}, x)) \\ &= w(K\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle * (\sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu} (\alpha_{jk}^{-1}), * \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{jkl}+\mu}^{n-1}, x)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= w(L\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle) - (\alpha_{jk}-1) \deg^1 L\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+ \\ &\quad + i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle - w(K\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle) + \\ &\quad + (\alpha_{jk}-1) \deg^1 K\langle\alpha_{jk}, \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}), m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu\rangle \\ &= w_{m+1+i_{n-1}+\lambda_{jkl}+\mu} = w(N_{\alpha_{jk}+\mu}^{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of (93).

Now we shall show that sets  $V_j^n$  are disjoint and (92) holds. If  $j \neq j'$  we have one of the following cases:

$$(118) \quad \varphi_j \neq \varphi_{j'},$$

$$(119) \quad \varphi_j = \varphi_{j'}, \quad \chi_j \neq \chi_{j'},$$

$$(120) \quad \varphi_j = \varphi_{j'}, \quad \chi_j = \chi_{j'}, \quad \psi_j \neq \psi_{j'}.$$

In the case (118) there exists an  $\alpha \leq n$  such that

$$\varphi_j(\alpha) \neq \varphi_{j'}(\alpha), \quad \text{thus} \quad T_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)} \cap T_{\alpha\varphi_{j'}(\alpha)} = \emptyset;$$

hence by (107)

$$V_j^n \cap V_{j'}^n = \emptyset.$$

In the case (119) there exists a pair  $[\alpha, v]$  such that  $1 \leq \alpha \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq v_0(\alpha)$  and  $\chi_j(\alpha, v) \neq \chi_{j'}(\alpha, v)$ , whence  $U_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)} \cap U_{\chi_{j'}(\alpha, v)} = \emptyset$ . Let us observe that by (103) and (106) for all  $\alpha, \beta, v, \chi$

$$(121) \quad \bigcup_{\psi \in \Psi_\chi} V\langle\alpha, \beta, v, \chi, \psi\rangle = \tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1}(U_{\chi(\alpha, v)}) \times N_{+}^{c_{\alpha\beta v}}.$$

If  $\varphi_j(\alpha) = \varphi_{j'}(\alpha) = \beta$  we have

$$\tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1}(U_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)}) \cap \tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1}(U_{\chi_{j'}(\alpha, v)}) = \emptyset$$

and by (121)

$$V\langle\alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v, \chi_j, \psi_j\rangle \cap V\langle\alpha, \varphi_{j'}(\alpha), v, \chi_{j'}, \psi_{j'}\rangle = \emptyset;$$

thus by (107)  $V_j^n \cap V_{j'}^n = \emptyset$ .

In the case (120) there exists a triple  $[\alpha, v, s]$  such that  $1 < \alpha \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq v_0(\alpha)$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq \chi_j(\alpha, v) = \chi_{j'}(\alpha, v)$  and  $\psi_j(\alpha, v, s) \neq \psi_{j'}(\alpha, v, s)$ . Therefore

$$V_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1} \cap V_{\psi_{j'}(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1} \neq \emptyset$$

and if  $\beta = \varphi_j(\alpha) = \varphi_{j'}(\alpha)$ ,  $\gamma = \chi_j(\alpha, v) = \chi_{j'}(\alpha, v)$  we have

$$\omega_{\alpha\beta\gamma s}^{-1}(U_\gamma \times V_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}) \cap \omega_{\alpha\beta\gamma s}^{-1}(U_\gamma \times V_{\psi_{j'}(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}) = \emptyset.$$

Hence by (106)

$$V\langle\alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v, \chi_j, \psi_j\rangle \cap V\langle\alpha, \varphi_{j'}(\alpha), v, \chi_{j'}, \psi_{j'}\rangle = \emptyset$$

and by (107)  $V_j^n \cap V_{j'}^n = \emptyset$ .

In order to show that  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{j_n} V_j^n = N_+^{i_n}$  we proceed as follows. By (121) we have for every pair  $[\alpha, v] \in M$  and every number  $\beta \leq j_0(\alpha)$

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{\chi \in X} \bigcup_{\psi \in \Psi_X} V\langle \alpha, \beta, v, \chi, \psi \rangle &= \tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1} \left( \bigcup_{\chi \in X} U_{\chi(\alpha, v)} \right) \times N_+^{c_{\alpha\beta v}} = \tau_{\alpha\beta v}^{-1} (N_+^{m-1}) \times N_+^{c_{\alpha\beta v}} \\ &= N_+^{r_{\alpha\beta v m+1} + c_{\alpha\beta v}} = N_+^{r_{\alpha\beta v m+1} + i_n - 1}; \end{aligned}$$

hence by Lemma 15, (98) and (103)

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_n} V_j^n &= \bigcup_{\varphi \in \Phi} \bigcup_{\chi \in X} \bigcup_{\psi \in \Psi_X} (T_{1\varphi(1)} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n (T_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}} \times \prod_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} V\langle \alpha, \varphi(\alpha), v, \chi, \psi \rangle \times N_+^{b_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}})) \\ &= \bigcup_{\varphi \in \Phi} (T_{1\varphi(1)} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n (T_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}} \times \prod_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} \bigcup_{\chi \in X} \bigcup_{\psi \in \Psi_X} V\langle \alpha, \varphi(\alpha), v, \chi, \psi \rangle \times N_+^{b_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}})) \\ &= \bigcup_{\varphi \in \Phi} (T_{1\varphi(1)} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n (T_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}} \times \prod_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} N_+^{r_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)vm+1} + i_n - 1} \times N_+^{b_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}})) \\ &= \bigcup_{\varphi \in \Phi} (T_{1\varphi(1)} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n (T_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\varphi(\alpha)}})) = \bigcup_{u=1}^{u_0} (T_{1u} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n \prod_{\beta=1}^{j_0(\alpha)} T_{\alpha\beta} \times N_+^{d_{\alpha\beta}}) \\ &= N_+^{i_0} \times \prod_{\alpha=2}^n N_+^{i_0(\alpha) + d_{\alpha}} = N_+^{i_n}. \end{aligned}$$

The claim that the functions  $v^n \langle j, k, l \rangle (v)$  are  $N_0$ -valued is obvious from (112), (114) and (116).

Now we assume (94)-(96) and proceed to prove (97), using the formula (88), Lemma 18. Let  $f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu}$ . By (95) and (107) we have

$$[v(A_1(f)), \dots, v(A_{i_0}(f))] \in T_{1\varphi_f(1)};$$

hence by (99) and (115)

$$\mathcal{J}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f = \mathcal{L} \frac{C_{\varphi_f(1)}(f, x)}{B_{\varphi_f(1)}(f)} = c_j \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} N_{j k_1}^n(f, x), \quad \text{where} \quad c_j \neq 0.$$

Therefore, by (96) and (116)

$$(122) \quad \text{card}\{\varrho \in R: \mathcal{J}\mathcal{O}_1 \mathcal{M}f(x)|_{x=\varrho} = 0\} = \text{card}\{\eta_1 \in R: N_{j k_1}^n(\eta_1) = 0\}.$$

Let

$$\mathbf{g} = [g_1, g_2, \dots, g_{k_0}].$$

By (95) and (107) for each  $\alpha > 1$ ,  $\alpha \leq k_0$

$$(123) \quad [v(F_{\alpha 1}(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g})), \dots, v(F_{\alpha i_0(\alpha)}(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}))] \in T_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)}.$$

Hence by Lemma 15

$$\mathcal{J}\mathcal{O}_\alpha \mathcal{M}f(x) = \prod_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} \mathcal{L} \frac{H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, x)}{G\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g})}.$$

Therefore, if (86) holds and  $r$  and  $h_{qrs}$  are defined by (87), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (124) \quad \sum_{\varrho \in R \setminus \{0\}} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ \text{ord } x-\varrho = \text{ord } f(x) = \alpha}}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0\} \\ = \sum_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} \sum_{\varrho \in R} \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0\}, \\ \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, \varrho) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, \varrho) = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, x)|_{x=\varrho}.$$

On the other hand, if  $\mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, \varrho) = 0$ , we have

$$\mathcal{H} H\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v \rangle(\mathbf{g}_\alpha, \mathbf{g}, x)|_{x=\xi_\varrho} = 0;$$

thus by (86), (123) and Lemma 15 for  $\mu = 0, 1, \dots, m$

$$f^{(n)}(\xi_\varrho) \equiv \frac{L\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\alpha)}, \xi_\varrho)}{K\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\alpha)}, \xi_\varrho)} \bmod P^{v(f^{(\mu)}(\xi_\varrho)) + 1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} v(L\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, \xi_\varrho)) \\ = v(L\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, x)) \\ = v(K\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, \xi_\varrho)) \\ = v(K\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, x)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} v(f^{(\mu)}(\xi_\varrho)) &= |v(L\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, x)) \\ &\quad - v(K\langle \alpha, \varphi_f(\alpha), v, \mu+1 \rangle(f^{(\alpha-1)}, f^{(\mu)}, x))| \end{aligned}$$

and by (102)-(104)

$$(125) \quad u_\varrho := [v(f^{(m)}(\xi_\varrho)), \dots, v(f(\xi_\varrho))] = \tau_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)v} [v(M_{z+1}^n(f)), \dots, v(M_{z+z_1}^n(f))],$$

where

$$z := t_0 + a_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)} + \sum_{\lambda \leq v} r_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)\lambda m+1+i_n-1}, \quad z_1 := v_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)vm+1}.$$

Since by (95), (106) and (107)

$$[v(M_{z+1}^n(f)), \dots, v(M_{z+z_1}^n(f))] \in \tau_{\alpha\varphi_f(\alpha)v}^{-1}(U_{x_j(\alpha, v)}),$$

we get

$$u_\varrho \in U_{x_j(\alpha, v)};$$

thus by (87)

$$(126) \quad r = \chi_j(\alpha, v),$$

$$(127) \quad h_{qrs}(y) = f_\varrho(p^{\langle r, s \rangle (u_\varrho) y}).$$

Since  $M_i^{n-1} \in C_0(m)$ , we have by Lemma 20 for all  $i \leq i_{n-1}$

$$M_i^{n-1}(h_{qrs}) = p^{(\text{deg } M_i^{n-1} - w(M_i^{n-1}))\pi(\langle r, s \rangle(u_q))} \widehat{M}_i^{n-1}(f, \xi_q).$$

Now by Lemma 15

$$\begin{aligned} v(M_i^{n-1}(f, \xi_q)) &= |v(L\langle \alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v, m+1+i \rangle(f^{(\alpha^{-1})}, *M_i^{n-1}(f, x), x)) - \\ &\quad - v(K\langle \alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v, m+1+i \rangle(f^{(\alpha^{-1})}, *M_i^{n-1}(f, x), x))|; \end{aligned}$$

hence by (105)

$$\begin{aligned} (128) \quad u_{qs} &:= [v(f(\xi_q)), \dots, v(f^{(m)}(\xi_q)), v(M_1^{n-1}(h_{qrs})), \dots, v(M_{i_{n-1}}^{n-1}(h_{qrs}))] \\ &= \omega_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)vs}(v(M_{z+1}^n(f)), \dots, v(M_{z+z_2}^n(f))). \end{aligned}$$

where

$$z_2 := r_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)vm+1+i_{n-1}}.$$

Since by (95), (106) and (107)

$$[v(M_{z+1}^n(f)), \dots, v(M_{z+z_2}^n(f))] \in \omega_{\alpha\varphi_j(\alpha)vs}^{-1}(U_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)} \times V_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}),$$

we get

$$u_{qs} \in U_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)} \times V_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}$$

and

$$(129) \quad w_{qs} := [v(M_1^{n-1}(h_{qrs})), \dots, v(M_{i_{n-1}}^{n-1}(h_{qrs}))] \in V_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}.$$

It follows from the inductive assumption that

$$\begin{aligned} (130) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0\} \\ = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{k_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}} \text{card}\{[\eta_2, \eta_3, \dots] \in R_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}: \bigwedge_{l=1}^{k_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}} N_{\alpha v s k l q}(\eta_2, \dots, \eta_{l+1}) = 0\}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} (131) \quad N_{\alpha v s k l q}(y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) &:= \mathcal{LKH} N_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}(h_{qrs}, p^{\pi_{\alpha v s k l q}} y_2, \dots, p^{\pi_{\alpha v s k l q}} y_{l+1}), \\ \pi_{\alpha v s k l q} &:= v^{n-1}\langle \psi_j(\alpha, v, s), \kappa, \lambda \rangle(w_{qs}). \end{aligned}$$

Since by the inductive assumption

$$N_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)kl}^{n-1} \in C_l(m),$$

we have by Lemma 20, (126) and (127)

$$\begin{aligned} (132) \quad N_{\alpha v s k l q}(y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) \\ = \mathcal{LKH} N_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)kl}^{n-1}(f_q, p^{\pi\langle \chi_j(\alpha, v), s \rangle(u_q)} + \pi_{\alpha v s k l q} y_2, \dots, p^{\pi\langle \chi_j(\alpha, v), s \rangle(u_q)} + \pi_{\alpha v s k l q} y_{l+1}). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (124), (126) and (136) that

$$\begin{aligned} (133) \quad \sum_{\substack{\xi \in R \setminus \{0\} \\ \text{ord}_{x-q}(\xi) \geq 2}} \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0\} \\ = \sum_{\substack{\alpha=2 \\ \mathcal{LKH} \langle \alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v \rangle(\langle \alpha, \theta, \varphi \rangle) = 0}}^n \sum_{v=1}^{v_0(\alpha)} \sum_{\substack{\theta \in R \\ \langle \alpha, \theta, \varphi \rangle = 0}} \sum_{s=1}^{s_{\chi_j(\alpha, v)}} \sum_{\kappa=1}^{k_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}} \text{card}\{[\eta_2, \eta_3, \dots] \in R_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}: \\ \bigwedge_{l=1}^{k_{\psi_j(\alpha, v, s)}^{n-1}} N_{\alpha v s k l q}(\eta_2, \dots, \eta_{l+1}) = 0\} \\ = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j^n} \sum_{\substack{\theta \in R \\ \mathcal{LKH} \langle \alpha, \varphi_j(\alpha), v \rangle(\langle \alpha, \theta, \varphi \rangle) = 0}} \text{card}\{[\eta_2, \eta_3, \dots] \in R^{j_k^{n-1}}: \\ \bigwedge_{l=1}^{j_k^{n-1}} N_{\alpha j k v j k s j k \kappa j k l q}(\eta_2, \dots, \eta_{l+1}) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us consider a typical summand in the last sum. By (96), (111) and (112)

$$(134) \quad \mathcal{LKH} \langle \alpha_{jk}, \varphi_{jk}(\alpha_{jk}), v_{jk} \rangle(\theta_{\alpha_{jk}}, g, y_1) = \tilde{N}_{j k 1}^n(y_1).$$

Furthermore, by (132), (100) and (108)

$$\begin{aligned} (135) \quad N_{\alpha_{jk} v_{jk} s_{jk} \kappa_{jk} l q}(y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) &= \mathcal{LKH} N_{\psi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}, s_{jk})\kappa_{jk} l}^{n-1}(f_q, p^{e_1} y_2, \dots, p^{e_l} y_{l+1}) \\ &= \mathcal{LKH} \left( \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{j k l}} N_{\lambda_{j k l} + \mu}^{n-1}(f_q) \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{j k l \mu \lambda}} p^{e_{\lambda} q_{j k l \mu \lambda}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$e_{\lambda} := \pi\langle \chi_j(\alpha_{jk}, v_{jk}), s_{jk} \rangle(u_q) + \pi_{\alpha_{jk} v_{jk} s_{jk} \kappa_{jk} l q}.$$

By the definition of  $f_q$  (formula (87)) and of the operation  $\wedge$  (Lemma 19) we have

$$(136) \quad N_{\lambda_{j k l} + \mu}^{n-1}(f_q) = \widehat{N}_{\lambda_{j k l} + \mu}^{n-1}(f, \xi_q).$$

Now by Lemma 15 and (109)-(110)

$$\widehat{N}_{\lambda_{j k l} + \mu}^{n-1}(f, \xi_q) \equiv \frac{L_{j k l \mu}(f, \xi_q)}{K_{j k l \mu}(f, \xi_q)} \text{mod } P^{v(N_{\lambda_{j k l} + \mu}^{n-1}(f, \xi_q)) + 1},$$

$$v(K_{j k l}(f, \xi_q)) = v(K_{j k l}(f, x)), \quad v(L_{j k l}(f, \xi_q)) = v(L_{j k l}(f, x)).$$

On the other hand, by (125), (128) and (129) the relations  $v \in V_j^n$ ,  $\text{ord}_{x-q} \mathcal{H}f(x) = \alpha_{jk}$  imply

$$[u_q, w_{qs_{jk}}] = u_{qs_{jk}} = \omega_{\alpha_{jk} \varphi_j(\alpha_{jk}) v_{jk} s_{jk}}(v_{jk});$$

thus by (114) and (131)

$$e_{\lambda} = v^n \langle j, k, \lambda+1 \rangle(v) \quad (1 \leq \lambda \leq l).$$

Put in Lemma 21

$$a_\mu = N_{\lambda_{jkl} + \mu}^{n-1}(f, \xi_\mu), \quad b_\mu = p^{\sum_{\lambda=1}^l c_{\lambda} q_{jkl\mu\lambda}},$$

$$\xi = \xi_\mu, \quad K_\mu = K_{jkl\mu}(f, y_1), \quad L_\mu = L_{jkl\mu}(f, y_1),$$

$$\mu_l = \mu_{jkl}, \quad q_{\mu\lambda} = q_{jkl\mu\lambda}.$$

It follows by (113) and (96) that in the notation of that lemma

$$A(y_1, \dots, y_{l+1})$$

$$= \mathcal{L} \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} \frac{L_{jkl\mu}(f, y_1)}{K_{jkl\mu}(f, y_1)} \prod_{\lambda=1}^l y_{\lambda+1}^{q_{jkl\mu\lambda}} p^{v^{\mu} \langle j, k, \lambda+1 \rangle (v) q_{jkl\mu\lambda}} \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} K_{jkl\mu}(f, y_1)$$

$$= \tilde{N}_{jkl+1}^n(y_1, \dots, y_{l+1})$$

and by Lemma 21, (135) and (136) that

$$N_{\alpha_{jkl} y_{jkl} s_{jkl} k_{jkl} l_0}(y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) = \tilde{N}_{jkl}^n(Q, y_2, \dots, y_{l+1}) \prod_{\mu=1}^{\mu_{jkl}} \overline{\mathcal{K} K_{jkl\mu}(f, \xi_\mu)}^{-1}.$$

Hence by (133) and (134)

$$\sum_{\substack{q \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \\ \text{ord}_x - q, \mathcal{H} \geq 2}} \sum_{s=1}^{s_r} \text{card} \{ \xi \in I \setminus P : h_{qrs}(\xi) = 0 \}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{k_j^n} \text{card} \{ [\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in \mathbb{R}^{j_k^n} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{l_{jk}^n} \tilde{N}_{jkl}^n(\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_l) = 0 \},$$

and (97) follows from (88) and (122).

LEMMA 23. Lemma 22 holds with  $n = m$  and without any restriction on a polynomial  $f \in I[x]$  except  $0 \leq \deg f \leq m$ . Polynomials  $M_i^{mm}$ ,  $N_{jkl}^{mm}$  are to be replaced by  $P_i^m$ ,  $Q_{jkl}^m$  ( $i \leq i_m$ ,  $j \leq j_m$ ,  $k \leq k_j^m$ ,  $l \leq l_{jk}^m$ ), sets  $V_j^{mm}$  by  $W_j^m$  and functions  $v^{mm} \langle j, k, l \rangle$  by  $q^m \langle j, k, l \rangle$ .

Proof. We proceed by induction on  $m$ . For  $m = 0$  we take  $i_0 = 0$ ,  $j_0 = k_1^0 = l_{11}^0 = 1$ ,  $Q_{11}^0(y_1) = a_0$ ,  $q^0 \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle(t) = 0$ . Assume now that the lemma is true for polynomials  $f$  of degree less than  $m \geq 1$ . By Lemmata 6.8 and 3 the operations  $(f, g)$  and  $f/(f, g)$  belong to  $\mathcal{Q}(N_0 \times N_-)$ . Hence there exist polynomials  $A_i, B_j, D_j \in C_0(m, n)$  and  $C_j, E_j \in C_1(m, m)$  ( $i \leq i^0$ ,  $j \leq j^0$ ) and a decomposition

$$(137) \quad N_+^{i_0} = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j^0} S_j$$

with the following property. If  $0 \leq \deg f \leq m$ ,  $\deg g \leq m$  and

$$[v(A_1(f, g)), \dots, v(A_{i^0}(f, g))] \in S_j$$

then

$$(138) \quad B_j(f, g) \neq 0, \quad D_j(f, g) \neq 0$$

and

$$\frac{f}{(f, g)} = \frac{C_j(f, g, x)}{B_j(f, g)}, \quad (f, g) = \frac{E_j(f, g, x)}{D_j(f, g)}.$$

Let

$$(139) \quad C_j(f, g, x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m C_{j\mu}(f, g) x^{m-\mu}, \quad E_j(f, g, x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m E_{j\mu}(f, g) x^{m-\mu}.$$

We take as  $P_i^m$  the following polynomials:

$$(140) \quad P_i^m = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_0 a_1 \dots a_m \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ a_0 a_1 \dots a_m \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ a_0 a_1 \dots a_m \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} m-i \\ \dots \\ m-i \\ \dots \\ m \end{array} \quad (1 \leq i < m),$$

$$P_i^m = M_{i-m+1}^{mm} \quad (m \leq i < m + i_{mm});$$

then in the increasing order of  $\mu$  ( $= 1, 2, \dots, m-1$ ) and  $v$

$$A_v(a, a^{(u)}) \quad (v \leq i^0),$$

$$P_v^{m-1}(C_{j1}(a, a^{(u)}), \dots, C_{jm}(a, a^{(u)})) \quad (v \leq i_{m-1}, j \leq j^0),$$

$$P_v^{m-1}(E_{j1}(a, a^{(u)}), \dots, E_{jm}(a, a^{(u)})) \quad (v \leq i_{m-1}, j \leq j^0),$$

so that

$$i_m = m-1 + i_{mm} + (i^0 + 2j^0 i_{m-1})(m-1).$$

Further, let us order in a sequence all quadruples  $[\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta]$ , where  $1 \leq \alpha < m$ ,  $1 \leq \beta \leq j^0$ ,  $1 \leq \gamma \leq j_{m-1}$ ,  $1 \leq \delta \leq j_{m-1}$  and call the  $v$ th term of this sequence  $[\alpha_v, \beta_v, \gamma_v, \delta_v]$  ( $v \leq j_m^0$ ). Let  $v = [v_1, \dots, v_{i_m}]$ . Then put for  $j \leq j_m^0$

$$(141) \quad W_j^m = N_+^{s_{j-1}} \times \{ \infty \} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha_j} \times N_+^{i_{mm} + (i^0 + 2j^0 i_{m-1})(\alpha_j - 1)} \times S_{\beta_j} \times$$

$$\times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(\beta_j - 1)} \times W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1} \times W_{\delta_j}^{m-1} \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(j^0 - \beta_j) + (i^0 + 2j^0 i_{m-1})(m-1 - \alpha_j)}$$

and for  $k \leq k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}$ ,  $l \leq l_{\gamma_j k}^{m-1} := l_{jk}^m$

$$(142) \quad Q_{jkl}^m = Q_{\gamma_j k l}^{m-1}(C_{\beta_{j1}}(a, a^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, C_{\beta_{jm}}(a, a^{(\alpha_j)}), y_1, \dots, y_{i_1}),$$

$$(143) \quad q^m \langle j, k, l \rangle(v) = q^{m-1} \langle \gamma_j, k, l \rangle(v), \quad \text{where } v_j := [v_{r_j+1}, \dots, v_{r_j+i_{m-1}-1}],$$

$$r_j := m-1 + i_{mm} + (i^0 + 2j^0 i_{m-1})(\alpha_j - 1) + i^0 + 2i_{m-1}(\beta_j - 1).$$

If  $\alpha_j = 1$  we take  $k_{\gamma_j}^m := k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}$ , but if  $\alpha_j > 1$  we put further, for  $k > k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}$ ,  $k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1} + k_{\delta_j}^{m-1} := k_j^m$ ,  $l \leq l_{\gamma_j k}^{m-1} := l_{jk}^m$ ,

$$(144) \quad Q_{jkl}^m = Q_{\delta_j k l}^{m-1}(E_{\beta_{j1}}(a, a^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, E_{\beta_{jm}}(a, a^{(\alpha_j)}), y_1, \dots, y_{i_1}),$$

$$(145) \quad q^m \langle j, k, l \rangle(v) = q_{\delta_j k l}^{m-1}(v_j'), \quad \text{where } v_j' := [v_{r_j+i_{m-1}+1}, \dots, v_{r_j+2i_{m-1}-1}].$$



If  $j_m' < j \leq j_m' + j_{mm} = j_m$  we take

$$(146) \quad W_j^m = N_0^{m-1} \times N_+^{(n-1)(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})+i_{m-1}}$$

and for  $k \leq k_{j-j_m'}^m := k_j^m$ ,  $l \leq l_{j-j_m',k}^m := l_{jk}^m$

$$(147) \quad Q_{jkl}^m = N_{j-j_m'kl}^m,$$

$$(148) \quad \varrho^m \langle j, k, l \rangle (v) = v^{mm} \langle j-j_m', k, l \rangle (v_0), \quad \text{where } v_0 := [v_m, \dots, v_{m+i_{mm}-1}].$$

Clearly the polynomials  $P_i^m$ ,  $Q_{jkl}^m$ , the sets  $W_j^m$  and the functions  $\varrho^m \langle j, k, l \rangle$  are independent of  $K$ ,  $v$ , and  $p$ . We proceed to show that they have all the properties asserted in Lemma 22 for the polynomials  $M_i^{mm}$ ,  $N_{jkl}^{mm}$ , the sets  $V_j^{mm}$  and the functions  $v^{mm} \langle j, k, l \rangle$ .

The relation  $P_i^m \in C_0(m)$  follows for  $i < m$  directly from (139) for all other  $i < m + i_{mm}$  from  $M_v^{mm} \in C_0(m)$ , and for  $i \geq m + i_{mm}$  from the properties of  $A_v$ ,  $C_v$ ,  $E_v$ , the inductive assumption and Lemma 1. The relation  $Q_{jkl}^m \in C_i(m)$  follows for  $j \leq j_m'$  from the properties of  $C_v$ ,  $E_v$ , the inductive assumption and Lemma 1, and for  $j > j_m'$  from  $M_{vkl}^{mm} \in C_i(m)$ .

If  $j < j' \leq j_m$  we shall show that

$$(149) \quad W_j^m \cap W_{j'}^m = \emptyset.$$

Indeed, we have the following possibilities:

1)  $j \leq j_m'$ , 2)  $j \leq j_m' < j$ , 3)  $j_m' < j$ .

In case 1) we have four subcases: 1a)  $\alpha_j \neq \alpha_{j'}$ ; 1b)  $\alpha_j = \alpha_{j'}$ ,  $\beta_j \neq \beta_{j'}$ ; 1c)  $\alpha_j = \alpha_{j'}$ ,  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}$ ,  $\gamma_j \neq \gamma_{j'}$ ; 1d)  $\alpha_j = \alpha_{j'}$ ,  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}$ ,  $\gamma_j = \gamma_{j'}$ ,  $\delta_j \neq \delta_{j'}$ .

In case 1a) the projections of  $W_j^m$  and  $W_{j'}^m$  on the axis of  $\min(\alpha_j, \alpha_{j'})$ th coordinate are in some order  $N_0$  and  $\{\infty\}$ , and hence disjoint.

In case 1b) the projections of  $W_j^m$  and  $W_{j'}^m$  on a suitable linear space are  $S_{\beta_j}$  and  $S_{\beta_{j'}}$ , and hence disjoint.

In case 1c) the projections of  $W_j^m$  and  $W_{j'}^m$  on a suitable linear space are  $W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}$  and  $W_{\gamma_{j'}}^{m-1}$ , and hence disjoint by the inductive assumption. A similar argument applies in case 1d).

In case 2) the projection of  $W_j^m$  and  $W_{j'}^m$  on the axis of  $\alpha_j$ th coordinate are  $\{\infty\}$  and  $N_0$  respectively, and hence disjoint.

In case 3) the projections of  $W_j^m$  and  $W_{j'}^m$  on a suitable linear space are  $V_{j-j_m'}^{mm}$  and  $V_{j'-j_m'}^{mm}$ , and hence disjoint by Lemma 22.

In every case (149) follows. On the other hand,

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m} W_j^m = \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m} W_j^m \cup \bigcup_{j=j_m'+1}^{j_m} W_j^m.$$

Now by the inductive assumption and (137)

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m'} W_j^m &= \bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m'} (N_0^{\alpha_j-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_0^{m-1-\alpha_j+i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(\alpha_j-1)} \times S_{\beta_j} \times \\ &\quad \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(\beta_j-1)} \times W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1} \times W_{\delta_j}^{m-1} \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(j^0-\beta_j)+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-\alpha_j-1)}) \\ &= \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \bigcup_{\beta=1}^{i^0} \bigcup_{\gamma=1}^{j^0} \bigcup_{\delta=1}^{j^0} (N_0^{\alpha-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha+i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(\alpha-1)} \times S_{\beta} \times \\ &\quad \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(\beta-1)} \times W_{\gamma}^{m-1} \times W_{\delta}^{m-1} \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(j^0-\beta)+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-\alpha-1)}) \\ &= \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} \bigcup_{\beta=1}^{i^0} (N_0^{\alpha-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha+i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(\alpha-1)} \times S_{\beta} \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}(j^0-\beta)+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-\alpha-1)}) \\ &\quad \times N_+^{2i_{m-1}+2i_{m-1}(j^0-\beta)+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-\alpha-1)}) \\ &= \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} (N_0^{\alpha-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha+i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(\alpha-1)+i+2j^0i_{m-1}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-\alpha-1)}) \\ &= \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} (N_0^{\alpha-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha}) \times N_+^{i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-1)}; \\ &\quad \bigcup_{j=j_m'+1}^{j_m} W_j^m = N_0^{m-1} \times N_+^{i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m} W_j^m = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} (N_0^{\alpha-1} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha}) \cup N_0^{m-1} \times N_+^{i_{mm}+(i^0+2j^0i_{m-1})(m-1)}$$

and in order to show that

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{j_m} W_j^m = N_+^{i_m}$$

it suffices to notice that

$$\bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{m-1} (N_0^{\alpha} \times \{\infty\} \times N_+^{m-1-\alpha}) \cup N_0^{m-1} = N_+^{m-1}.$$

The claim that the functions  $\varrho^m \langle j, k, l \rangle$  are  $N_0$ -valued of  $W_j^m$  follows by (143) for  $j \leq j_m'$  from the fact that  $\varrho^{m-1} \langle \gamma_j, k, l \rangle$  and  $\varrho^{m-1} \langle \delta_j, k, l \rangle$  are by the inductive assumption  $N_0$ -valued on  $W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}$  and  $W_{\delta_j}^{m-1}$  respectively.

If  $j_m' < j \leq j_m$  then by (117)  $\varrho^m \langle j, k, l \rangle$  is  $N_0$ -valued on  $W_j^m$  since, by Lemma 22,  $v^{mm} \langle j-j_m', k, l \rangle$  is such on  $V_{j-j_m'}^{mm}$ . Assume now that

$$f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_{\mu} x^{m-\mu} \in I[x], \quad f \neq 0$$

and

$$(150) \quad v = [v(P_1^m(f)), \dots, v(P_{i_m}^m(f))] \in W_j^m.$$



We distinguish three cases:

- (i)  $j' \leq j_m, \alpha_j = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $j \leq j_m, \alpha_j > 1$ ;
- (iii)  $j > j_m$ .

In case (i) we have by (140), (141) and (150)

$$a_0 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \text{res}(f, f') = 0,$$

$$[v(A_1(f, f')), \dots, v(A_{i_0}(f, f'))] \in S_{\beta_j},$$

$$(151) \quad [v(P_1^{m-1}(C_{\beta,1}(f, f'), \dots, C_{\beta,m}(f, f'))), \dots, v(P_{m-1}^{m-1}(C_{\beta,1}(f, f'), \dots, C_{\beta,m}(f, f')))] \in W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}.$$

Thus

$$(152) \quad \deg f/(f, f') < m$$

and by (138)

$$B_j(f, f') \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{f}{(f, f')} = \frac{C_j(f, f', x)}{B_j(f, f')} \neq 0.$$

By (139) and (152)

$$(153) \quad C_{\beta,j}(f, f', x) = \sum_{\mu=1}^m C_{\beta,j\mu}(f, f') x^{m-\mu}.$$

Since  $\text{char } K = 0$  or  $\text{char } K = \text{char } R > m \geq \deg f$ , each zero of  $f$  is a simple zero of  $f/(f, f')$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: f(\xi) = 0\} &= \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: \frac{f}{(f, f')}(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: C_{\beta,j}(f, f', \xi) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

By the inductive assumptions and (142), (143), (151) and (153),

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: f(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\gamma_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\gamma_j k} \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} \mathcal{Q}_{\gamma_j k l}^{m-1}(*C_{\beta,j}(f, f', x), p^{e^{m-1}\langle \gamma_j, k, 1 \rangle(v_j)} y_1, \dots, p^{e^{m-1}\langle \gamma_j, k, l \rangle(v_j)} y_l)_{|y_{\lambda} = \eta_{\lambda}} = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\gamma_j}^m} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\gamma_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\gamma_j k} (\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{\gamma_j k l}^m(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0)\}. \end{aligned}$$

In case (ii) we have by (140) and (150)

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 \neq 0, \quad \text{res}(f, f') \neq 0 \quad \text{res}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) = 0, \\ [v(A_1(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, v(A_{i_0}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})))] \in S_{\beta_j}, \end{aligned}$$

$$(154) \quad [v(P_1^{m-1}(C_{\beta,1}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, C_{\beta,m}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}))), \dots, v(P_{m-1}^{m-1}(C_{\beta,1}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, C_{\beta,m}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})))] \in W_{\gamma_j}^{m-1},$$

$$(155) \quad [v(P_1^{m-1}(E_{\beta,1}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, E_{\beta,m}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}))), \dots, v(P_{m-1}^{m-1}(E_{\beta,1}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}), \dots, E_{\beta,m}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})))] \in W_{\delta_j}^{m-1};$$

hence

$$(156) \quad (f, f') = 1, \quad (f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) \neq 1, \quad \deg f/(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) < m$$

and by (136), (137)

$$(157) \quad B_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) \neq 0, \quad D_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) \neq 0;$$

$$(158) \quad \frac{f}{(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})} = \frac{C_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x)}{B_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})} \neq 0, \quad (f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) = \frac{E_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x)}{D_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})} \neq 0.$$

By (139) and (156)

$$(159) \quad C_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x) = \sum_{\mu=1}^m C_{\beta,j\mu}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) x^{m-\mu},$$

$$(160) \quad E_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x) = \sum_{\mu=1}^m E_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}) x^{m-\mu}.$$

Since  $(f, f') = 1$   $f$  has no multiple zeros in  $K$ , thus

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: f(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \text{card}\left\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: \frac{f}{(f, f^{(\alpha_j)})}(\xi) = 0\right\} + \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: (f, f^{(\alpha_j)})(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: C_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, \xi) = 0\} + \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: E_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, \xi) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

By the inductive assumption and by (142)–(144), (154), (155), (159) and (160) we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{card}\{\xi \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{P}: f(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\gamma_j}^{m-1}} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\gamma_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\gamma_j k} \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} \mathcal{Q}_{\gamma_j k l}^{m-1}(*C_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x), p^{e^{m-1}\langle \gamma_j, k, 1 \rangle(v_j)} y_1, \dots, p^{e^{m-1}\langle \gamma_j, k, l \rangle(v_j)} y_l)_{|y_{\lambda} = \eta_{\lambda}} = 0\} + \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\delta_j}^{m-1}} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\delta_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\delta_j k} \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} \mathcal{Q}_{\delta_j k l}^{m-1}(*E_{\beta,j}(f, f^{(\alpha_j)}, x), p^{e^{m-1}\langle \delta_j, k, 1 \rangle(v_j)} y_1, \dots, p^{e^{m-1}\langle \delta_j, k, l \rangle(v_j)} y_l)_{|y_{\lambda} = \eta_{\lambda}} = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\gamma_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\gamma_j k} \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{\gamma_j k l}^m(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

In case (iii) we have by (140), (146) and (150)

$$a_0 \neq 0, \quad \text{res}(f, f^{(\alpha)}) \neq 0 \quad \text{for all positive } \alpha < m,$$

$$v_0 = [v(M_1^{mm}(f)), \dots, v(M_{l_m}^{mm}(f))] \in V_{j-j_m}^{mm};$$

thus

$$(f, \prod_{\alpha=1}^{\deg f-1} f^{(\alpha)}) = 1.$$

Applying Lemma 22, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P: f(\xi) = 0\} \\ = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j - j_m} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{J-j_m^k}: \tilde{N}_{j-j_m^k}^{mm}(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{N}_{j-j_m^k}^{mm}(y_1, \dots, y_l) = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{K} N_{j-j_m^k}^{mm}(f, p^{v^{mm}\langle j-j_m^k, k, l \rangle(v_0)} y_1, \dots, p^{v^{mm}\langle j-j_m^k, k, l \rangle(v_0)} y_l).$$

By (147) and (148)

$$\tilde{N}_{j-j_m^k}^{mm}(y_1, \dots, y_l) = \tilde{Q}_{jkl}^m(y_1, \dots, y_l),$$

and the proof is complete.

LEMMA 24. Let  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $h(f)$  be the height of  $f$ . Denoting by  $p$  a rational prime, by a bar the residue map  $\mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p$  and by a double bar the residue map  $\mathbb{Z}[[t]] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p \text{mod } t, p$ , we have

$$\overline{f(p)} = \overline{f(t)}$$

and if  $p > h(f)$

$$\text{ord}_p f(p) = \text{ord}_t f(t).$$

Proof. We have

$$\overline{f(p)} = \overline{f(0)} = \overline{f(0)} = \overline{f(t)}.$$

If  $h(f) = 0$  then  $\text{ord}_p f(p) = \text{ord}_t f(t) = \infty$ . If  $p > h(f) > 0$  then

$$f(t) = t^\alpha g(t), \quad g(0) \neq 0, \quad p > h(g) \geq |g(0)|$$

and

$$\text{ord}_p g(p) = \text{ord}_p g(0) = 0 = \text{ord}_t g(t),$$

$$\text{ord}_p f(p) = \alpha = \text{ord}_t f(t).$$

### § 3. Proofs of the theorems.

Proof of Theorem 1. Let  $r_m, s_r$  have the meaning of Lemma 17 and  $j_n, k_j^m$  of Lemma 23, and for positive integers  $r \leq r_m$  let

$$A_r := \{1, 2, \dots, j_m\}^{(1, \dots, s_r)}.$$

Let us order all quadruples  $[\beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon]$ , where  $\beta \leq r_m, \gamma \leq j_m, \delta \in A_\beta, \varepsilon \in \{0, 1\}$ , in a sequence and call the  $j$ th term of this sequence  $[\beta_j, \gamma_j, \delta_j, \varepsilon_j]$  ( $j \leq j^*$ ). For each  $j \leq j^*$  let us order all pairs  $[s, t]$ , where  $1 \leq s \leq s_{\beta_j}, 1 \leq t \leq k_{\delta_j(s)}^m$ , and call the  $k$ th term of the sequence thus obtained  $[s_{jk}, t_{jk}]$  ( $k \leq k_j' - \varepsilon_j$ ). Then, using the notation of Lemma 23, set  $i^* = i_m + m + 1$  and let  $\tau_{rs}: N_+^{i^*} \rightarrow N_+^{i^*}$  be a function defined by the formula

$$(161) \quad \tau_{rs}(v_1, \dots, v_{i^*}) = [v_{m+2}, \dots, v_{i^*}] + [m \deg P_1^m - w(P_1^m), \dots, m \deg P_{i_m}^m - w(P_{i_m}^m)] \pi \langle r, s \rangle(u), \quad u := [v_1, \dots, v_{m+1}].$$

Moreover, put

$$(162) \quad R_i = \begin{cases} a_{i-1} & (1 \leq i \leq m+1), \\ P_{i-m-1}^m & (m+1 \leq i \leq i^*), \end{cases}$$

for the sake of expediency  $N_1 := \{\infty\}$  and for  $j \leq j^*$

$$(163) \quad X_j = ((U_{\beta_j} \cap (N_+^m \times N_{\varepsilon_j})) \times N_+^{i_m}) \cap (N_+^{m+1} \times W_{\gamma_j}^m) \cap \bigcap_{s=1}^{s_{\beta_j}} \tau_{\beta, s}^{-1}(W_{\delta_j(s)}^m).$$

Further, for  $k \leq k_j' - \varepsilon_j, l \leq l_{jk} := l_{\delta_j(s_{jk})t_{jk}l}^m$ , put

$$(164) \quad S_{jkl} = Q_{\delta_j(s_{jk})t_{jk}l}^m,$$

$$(165) \quad \sigma_{jkl}(v) = \pi \langle \beta_j, s_{jk} \rangle(u) + q^m \langle \delta_j(s_{jk}), t_{jk}, l \rangle(\tau_{\beta, s_{jk}}(v)),$$

if  $\varepsilon_j = 1$  then put  $l_{jk'} = 1$ ;

$$(166) \quad S_{jk'l}(y_1) = y_1, \quad \sigma_{jk'l}(v) = 0$$

and if  $k_j' < k \leq k_j' + k_{\gamma_j}^m := k_j, l \leq l_{\gamma_j k - k_j}^m := l_{jk}$  then

$$(167) \quad S_{jkl} = Q_{\gamma_j k - k_j l}^m,$$

$$(168) \quad \sigma_{jkl} = q^m \langle \gamma_j, k - k_j', l \rangle.$$

Clearly the polynomials  $R_i, Q_{jkl}$ , the sets  $X_j$  and the functions  $\sigma_{jkl}$  defined above are independent of  $K, v$  and  $p$ . We proceed to show that they have all the properties asserted in the theorem. The claim that  $R_j$  are forms and  $S_{jkl}$  polynomials with integral coefficients follows from (162), (164), (166), (167) and Lemma 23. In order to prove that the sets  $X_j$  are disjoint let  $j < j' \leq j^*$  and distinguish four cases:

1)  $\beta_j \neq \beta_{j'}$ , 2)  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}, \gamma_j \neq \gamma_{j'}$ , 3)  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}, \gamma_j = \gamma_{j'}, \delta_j \neq \delta_{j'}$ , 4)  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}, \gamma_j = \gamma_{j'}, \delta_j = \delta_{j'}, \varepsilon_j \neq \varepsilon_{j'}$ .

In case 1), by Lemma 17,  $U_{\beta_j} \cap U_{\beta_{j'}} = \emptyset$ , and hence by (163)

$$(169) \quad X_j \cap X_{j'} = \emptyset.$$

In case 2), by Lemma 23,  $W_{\gamma_j}^m \cap W_{\gamma_{j'}}^m = \emptyset$ , and hence again (169).

In case 3) there exists an  $s \leq s_{\beta_j}$  such that  $\delta_j(s) \neq \delta_{j'}(s)$ . Hence by Lemma 23

$$W_{\delta_j(s)}^m \cap W_{\delta_{j'}(s)}^m = \emptyset$$

and, since  $\beta_j = \beta_{j'}$ , we have also

$$\tau_{\beta, \beta}^{-1}(W_{\delta_j(s)}^m) \cap \tau_{\beta, j, s}^{-1}(W_{\delta_{j'}(s)}^m) = \emptyset,$$

which by (163) implies (169).

In case 4)  $N_{\varepsilon_j} \cap N_{\varepsilon_{j'}} = \emptyset$ , which by (163) again implies (169). On the other hand, by (163), Lemma 23 and Lemma 17

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{j=1}^{j^*} X_j &= \bigcup_{r \leq r_m} \bigcup_{\gamma \leq j_m} \bigcup_{\delta \in \mathcal{A}_r} \bigcup_{e \in (0,1)} ((U_r \cap (N_+^m N_e)) \times N_+^{i_m}) \cap (N_+^{m+1} \times W_\gamma^m) \cap \\ &\quad \cap \bigcap_{s=1}^{s_r} \tau_{rs}^{-1}(W_{\delta(s)}^m) \\ &= \bigcup_{r \leq r_m} ((U_r \cap (N_+^m \times \bigcup_{e \in (0,1)} N_e)) \times N_+^{i_m}) \cap (N_+^{m+1} \times \bigcup_{\gamma \leq j_m} W_\gamma^m \cap \bigcap_{s=1}^{s_r} \tau_{rs}^{-1}(\bigcup_{\delta \leq j_m} W_\delta^m)) \\ &= \bigcup_{r \leq r_m} ((U_r \times N_+^{i_m}) \cap N_+^{i^*} \cap \bigcap_{s=1}^{s_r} N_+^{i^*}) = (\bigcup_{r \leq r_m} U_r) \times N_+^{i_m} = N_+^{i^*}. \end{aligned}$$

The claim that the functions  $\sigma_{jkl}$  are  $N_0$ -valued on  $X_j$  follows directly from (165), (166), (168) and Lemma 23. Assume now that

$$f = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu x^{m-\mu} \in I[x], \quad f \neq 0,$$

and

$$(170) \quad v := [v(R_1(f)), \dots, v(R_{i^*}(f))] \in X_j.$$

By (161) and (163) we have

$$u = [v(a_0), \dots, v(a_m)] \in U_{\beta_j}$$

and hence by Lemma 17

$$(171) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in P \setminus \{0\} : f(\xi) = 0\} = \sum_{s=1}^{\beta_j} \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P : f(p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle}(u)\xi) = 0\}.$$

To compute the right-hand side we apply Lemma 23 with  $f$  replaced by  $f^s := f(p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle}(u)x)$ . Since  $P_i^m \in C_0(m)$ ,  $Q_{jkl}^m \in C_i(m)$ , we have by Lemma 20

$$\begin{aligned} P_i^m(f^s) &= P_i^m(f) p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u)(m \deg P_i^m - w(P_i^m))}, \\ (172) \quad Q_{jkl}^m(f^s, y_1, \dots, y_l) &= Q_{jkl}^m(f, p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u)} y_1, \dots, p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u)} y_l) p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u)(m \deg^2 Q_{jkl}^m - w(Q_{jkl}^m))}; \end{aligned}$$

hence by (161), (162) and (170)

$$[v(P_1^m(f^s)), \dots, v(P_{i_m}^m(f^s))] = \tau_{\beta, s}(v).$$

Thus by (163)

$$[v(P_1^m(f^s)), \dots, v(P_{i_m}^m(f^s))] \in W_{\delta_j(s)}^m \quad (1 \leq s \leq \beta_j).$$

This implies by Lemma 23 that

$$\begin{aligned} (173) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P : f^s(\xi) = 0\} &= \sum_{t=1}^{k_{\delta_j(s)}} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\beta_j(s)t} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^m \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} Q_{\delta_j(s)tl}^m(f^s, p^{e\langle\delta_j(s), t, 1\rangle}(\tau_{\beta, s}(v)) y_1, \dots, \\ &\quad \dots, p^{e\langle\delta_j(s), t, l\rangle}(\tau_{\beta, s}(v)) y_l) |_{y_\lambda = \eta_\lambda} = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Using (171), (173) and (164), (165), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{card}\{\xi \in P \setminus \{0\} : f(\xi) = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{s=1}^{s_{\beta_j}} \sum_{t=1}^{k_{\delta_j(s)}} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\beta_j(s)t} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^m \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} Q_{\delta_j(s)tl}^m(f, p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u) + e\langle\delta_j(s), t, 1\rangle}(\tau_{\beta, s}(v)) y_1, \dots, \\ &\quad \dots, p^{\pi\langle\beta_j, s\rangle(u) + e\langle\delta_j(s), t, l\rangle}(\tau_{\beta, s}(v)) y_l) |_{y_\lambda = \eta_\lambda} = 0\} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k'_j - e_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{I_{jk}} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{I_{jk}} \tilde{S}_{jkl}(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\}, \end{aligned}$$

where for all  $j, k, l$

$$(174) \quad \tilde{S}_{jkl}(f, y_1, \dots, y_l) := \mathcal{L} \mathcal{H} S_{jkl}(f, p^{\sigma_{jkl}(v)} y_1, \dots, p^{\sigma_{jkl}(v)} y_l).$$

If  $e_j = 0$  we have by (162) and (163)  $v(a_m) \in N_0$ ; thus  $f(0) = a_m \neq 0$  and

$$\text{card}\{\xi \in P : f(\xi) = 0\} = \text{card}\{\xi \in P \setminus \{0\} : f(\xi) = 0\}.$$

If  $e_j = 1$  we have by (162) and (163)  $v(a_m) \in N_1 = \{\infty\}$ ; thus  $f(0) = a_m = 0$  and by (166)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{card}\{\xi \in P : f(\xi) = 0\} - \text{card}\{\xi \in P \setminus \{0\} : f(\xi) = 0\} &= 1 = \text{card}\{\eta \in R : \eta = 0\} \\ &= \text{card}\{\eta \in R : \tilde{S}_{jk,1}(f, \eta) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since in the latter case  $I_{jk'} = 1$ , we have in both cases

$$(175) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in P : f(\xi) = 0\} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{I_{jk}} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{I_{jk}} \tilde{S}_{jkl}(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\}.$$

On the other hand, by (163) and (170)

$$v \in N_{\gamma_j}^{m+1} \times W_{\gamma_j}^m;$$

hence by (162)

$$[v(P_1^m(f)), \dots, v(P_{i_m}^m(f))] \in W_{\gamma_j}^m,$$

and by Lemma 23

$$(176) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in I \setminus P : f(\xi) = 0\}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\gamma_j}^m} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in R^{\gamma_j k} : \bigwedge_{l=1}^{\gamma_j k} \tilde{Q}_{\gamma_j k l}^m(f, \eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\}.$$

Since  $l_{j,k}^m = l_{j,k'+k}$  and by (167), (168) and (174)

$$\tilde{Q}_{j,k}^m(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = \tilde{S}_{j,k'+k}^m(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l),$$

it follows from (175) and (176) that

$$\text{card}\{\xi \in I: f(\xi) = 0\} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in \mathbf{R}^{l_{jk}}: \bigwedge_{i=1}^{l_{jk}} \tilde{S}_{j,k}^m(f, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0\},$$

and the proof of the theorem is complete.

**Proof of Theorem 2.** For a polynomial  $G \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$ , let  $l(G)$  be the sum of the absolute values of the coefficients of  $G$ . Take

$$c_1(m) = \max\{l(R_i), l(S_{jki})\} + m,$$

$$c_2(m) = \max\{\deg R_i, \deg S_{jki}\},$$

where the maximum is taken over all polynomials occurring in Theorem 1 for a given  $m$ . Let

$$F(x, t) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a_\mu(t) t^{m-\mu}, \quad a(t) = [a_0(t), \dots, a_m(t)].$$

If  $p > c_1(m)l(F)^{c_2(m)}$  we have

$$h(R_i(a(t))) \leq l(R_i(a(t))) \leq l(R_i) \max_{0 \leq \mu \leq m} l(a_\mu)^{\deg R_i} \leq c_1(m)l(F)^{c_2(m)} < p;$$

thus by Lemma 24

$$(177) \quad \text{ord}_p R_i(a(p)) = \text{ord}_t R_i(a(t)).$$

Similarly

$$(178) \quad \text{ord}_p S_{jki}(a(p)) = \text{ord}_t S_{jki}(a(t)),$$

where for  $q = [q_1, \dots, q_l]$   $S_{jkiq}$  is the coefficient of  $\prod_{k=1}^l y_k^{q_k}$  in  $S_{jki}$ .

We apply Theorem 1 twice, namely for  $K = \mathcal{O}_p$ ,  $v = \text{ord}_p$ ,  $P = (p)$ , and for  $K = F_p((t))$ ,  $v = \text{ord}_t$ ,  $P = (t)$ . In both cases  $R = F_p$ , but the operations  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  in the first case and in the second case are different and we shall denote them by  $\mathcal{H}_p$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_p$  and  $\mathcal{H}_t$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_t$  respectively. It follows from (177) that for  $p > c_1(m)l(F)^{c_2(m)} \geq m$

$$[\text{ord}_p R_1(a(p)), \dots, \text{ord}_p R_{i^*}(a(p))] = [\text{ord}_t R_1(a(t)), \dots, \text{ord}_t R_{i^*}(a(t))] = v.$$

Put

$$(179) \quad S_{jki}^*(t, y_1, \dots, y_l) = S_{jki}(a(t), t^{\sigma_{jki}(v)} y_1, \dots, t^{\sigma_{jki}(v)} y_l).$$

If  $v \in X_j$  we have by Theorem 1

$$(180) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in \mathbf{Z}_p: F(\xi, p) = 0\} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in F_p^{l_{jk}}: \bigwedge_{i=1}^{l_{jk}} \mathcal{L}_p \mathcal{H}_p S_{jki}^*(p, y_1, \dots, y_l)|_{y_\lambda = \eta_\lambda} = 0\},$$

$$(181) \quad \text{card}\{\xi \in F_p[[t]]: F(\xi, t) = 0\} = \sum_{k=1}^{k_j} \text{card}\{[\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots] \in F_p^{l_{jk}}: \bigwedge_{i=1}^{l_{jk}} \mathcal{L}_t \mathcal{H}_t S_{jki}^*(t, y_1, \dots, y_l)|_{y_\lambda = \eta_\lambda} = 0\}.$$

Now by (178) and (179)

$$\text{ord}_p S_{jki}^*(p, y_1, \dots, y_l) = \text{ord}_t S_{jki}^*(t, y_1, \dots, y_l);$$

hence by the definition of the operation  $\mathcal{H}$

$$\mathcal{H}_p S_{jki}^*(p, y_1, \dots, y_l) = \mathcal{H}_t S_{jki}^*(t, y_1, \dots, y_l)|_{t=p}.$$

Taking in Lemma 24 for  $f$  all the coefficients of  $S_{jki}^*$  viewed as a polynomial in  $y_1, \dots, y_l$ , we get

$$\mathcal{L}_p \mathcal{H}_p S_{jki}^*(p, y_1, \dots, y_l) = \mathcal{L}_t \mathcal{H}_t S_{jki}^*(t, y_1, \dots, y_l),$$

and the theorem follows from (180) and (181).

**§ 4. Examples and comments.** We shall give explicitly, for  $m = 1, 2, 3$ , polynomials, sets and functions whose existence is asserted in Theorem 1. By convention  $v = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i^*}]$ ,  $\infty \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ .

$$m = 1: i^* = 0, j^* = 1, k_1 = l_{11} = 1, S_{111} = a_0 y_1 + a_1, \sigma_{111}(v) = 0.$$

$$m = 2: i^* = 4, R_i = a_{i-1} \ (i = 1, 2, 3), R_4 = a_1^2 - 4a_0 a_2;$$

$$j^* = 6;$$

$$X_1 = \{\infty\}^4, k_1 = 0;$$

$$X_2 = \{v \in N_+^4: v_3 < \min\{v_1, v_2\}\}, k_2 = 0;$$

$$X_3 = \{v \in N_+^4: v_3 \geq v_2 < v_1\}, k_3 = 1, l_{31} = 1, S_{311} = a_1 x + a_2, \sigma_{311}(v) = v_3 - v_2;$$

$$X_4 = \{v \in N_+^4: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3\}, v_4 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}\}, k_4 = 0;$$

$$X_5 = \{v \in N_+^4: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, \infty > v_4 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\}, k_5 = 1, l_{51} = 1, S_{511} = y_1^2 - R_4, \sigma_{511}(v) = \frac{1}{2} v_4;$$

$$X_6 = \{v \in N_+^4 \setminus X_1: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3\}, v_4 = \infty\}, k_6 = 1, l_{61} = 1, S_{611} = y_1^2 - R_1, \sigma_{611}(v) = 0.$$

$$m = 3: i^* = 7, R_i = a_{i-1} \ (i = 1, 2, 3, 4),$$

$$R_5 = 3(3a_0 a_2 - a_1^2), R_6 = 2a_1^3 - 9a_0 a_1 a_2 + 27a_0^2 a_3,$$

$$R_7 = a_1^2 a_2^2 - 4a_1^3 a_3 - 4a_0 a_2^3 + 18a_0 a_1 a_2 a_3 - 27a_0^2 a_3^2;$$

$$j^* = 13;$$

$$X_1 = \{\infty\}^7, k_1 = 0;$$

$$X_2 = \{v \in N_+^7: v_4 < \min\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}\}, k_2 = 0;$$

$$X_3 = \{v \in N_+^7: v_4 \geq v_3 \leq \min\{v_1, v_2\}\}, k_3 = 1, l_{31} = 1, S_{311} = a_2 y_1 + a_3, \sigma_{311}(v) = v_4 - v_3;$$

$$X_4 = \{v \in N_+^7: \min\{v_3, v_4\} \geq v_2 < v_1, v_7 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}\}, k_4 = 0;$$

$$X_5 = \{v \in N_+^7: \min\{v_3, v_4\} \geq v_2 < v_1, v_7 = \infty\}, k_5 = 1, l_{51} = 1, S_{511} = 2a_1y_1 + a_2, \sigma_{511}(v) = v_3 - v_2;$$

$$X_6 = \{v \in N_+^7: \min\{v_3, v_4\} \geq v_2 < v_1, \infty > v_7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\}, k_6 = 1, l_{61} = 1, S_{611} = y_1^2 - R_7; \sigma_{611}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v_7;$$

$$X_7 = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, \infty > 2v_6 > 3v_5; v_5 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}\}, k_7 = 1, l_{71} = 1, S_{711} = R_5y_1 + R_6, \sigma_{711}(v) = v_6 - v_5;$$

$$X_8 = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, \infty > 2v_6 > 3v_5, v_5 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\}, k_8 = 2, l_{81} = 1, l_{82} = 1, S_{811} = R_5y_1 + R_6, \sigma_{811}(v) = v_6 - v_5, S_{821} = y_1^2 + R_5, \sigma_{821}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v_5;$$

$$X_9 = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, 2v_6 \leq 3v_5, v_6 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}\}, k_9 = 0;$$

$$X_{10} = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, 2v_6 \leq 3v_5, \infty > v_6 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}\}, k_{10} = 1, l_{10,1} = 1, S_{10,1,1} = y_1^3 + R_5y_1 + R_6, \sigma_{10,1,1}(v) = \frac{1}{3}v_6;$$

$$X_{11} = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, v_6 = \infty > v_5 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}\}, k_{11} = 1, l_{11,1} = 1, S_{11,1,1} = y_1, \sigma_{11,1,1}(v) = 0;$$

$$X_{12} = \{v \in N_+^7: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, v_6 = \infty > v_5 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\}, k_{12} = 1, l_{12,1} = l_{12,2} = 1, S_{12,1,1} = y_1, \sigma_{12,1,1}(v) = 0, S_{12,2,1} = y_1^2 + R_5, \sigma_{12,2,1}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v_5;$$

$$X_{13} = \{v \in N_+^7 \setminus X_1: v_1 \leq \min\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}, v_5 = v_6 = \infty\}, k_{13} = 1, l_{13,1} = 1, S_{13,1,1} = y_1, \sigma_{13,1,1}(v) = 0.$$

Let us observe that for  $m = 3$   $R_7$  is the discriminant of the cubic form  $F(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^3 a_i x^{3-i} y^i$  while  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  are constant multiples of the Cayley invariants of the quartic form  $yF(x, y)$ . The inspection of the data given above shows that in every case where  $k_j \geq 1$  we have  $l_{jk} = 1$ . Therefore it is of some interest to exhibit for  $m = 4$  the case where  $l_{jk} = 2$ :

$$v(a_0) = 0, v(a_1) = \infty, \frac{1}{3}v(a_3) > \frac{1}{4}v(a_4) = \frac{1}{2}v(a_2) \in N_0,$$

$$v(a_3) - \frac{3}{2}v(a_2) > v(a^2 - 4a_0a_4) - 2v(a_2) \in 2N.$$

Here  $k_j = 1, l_j = 2$ ,

$$S_{j11} = 2a_0y_1 + a_2, \quad \sigma_{j11}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v(a_2),$$

$$S_{j12} = y^2 + (4a_0a_4 - a_2^2), \quad \sigma_{j12}(v) = \frac{1}{2}v(a_2^2 - 4a_0a_4).$$

Again in this case there is no variable occurring simultaneously in  $S_{j11}$  and  $S_{j12}$ .

The first case encountered by the writer in which  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^{l_{jk}} \tilde{S}_{jki}(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0$  is a system of interrelated equations occurs for  $m = 6$  and  $f$  of the type  $g(x)^2 + p^2h(x)$ ,  $g, h \in I[x]$ .

Finally we remark that the method of proof of Theorem 1 leads to a similar theorem about congruences modulo powers of  $P$ . Namely, we have

**THEOREM 3.** For every  $m \in N$  there exists a system of forms  $R_i^*(a)$  ( $i \leq i^{**}$ ) and polynomials  $S_{jkl}(a, y_1, \dots, y_l)$  ( $j \leq j^{**}, k \leq k_j^*, l \leq l_{jk}^*$ ) with integral coefficients, a decomposition

$$N \times N_+^{i^{**}} = \bigcup_{j=j^*}^{j^{**}} X_j^*$$

and  $N_0$ -valued functions  $\sigma_{jkl}^*(v)$  defined on  $X_j^*$  with the following property.

If  $\text{char } R = 0$  or  $\text{char } R > m$ ,

$$f(x) = \sum_{\mu=0}^m a x^m - \mu \in I[x], \quad f \neq 0, \quad a = [a_0, \dots, a_m],$$

$$v = [n, v(R_1^*(a)), \dots, v(R_{i^{**}}^*(a))] \in X_j$$

and

$$\tilde{S}_{jkl}^*(y_1, \dots, y_l) = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{K} S_{jkl}^*(a, p^{\sigma_{jkl}^*(v)} y_1, \dots, p^{\sigma_{jkl}^*(v)} y_l),$$

then the congruence

$$f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{P^n}$$

is solvable in  $I$  if only if for some  $k \leq k_j^*$  the system of equations

$$\tilde{S}_{jkl}^*(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_l) = 0 \quad (1 \leq l \leq l_{jk}^*)$$

is solvable in  $R$ .

The polynomials  $R_i^*$ ,  $S_{jkl}^*$ , the sets  $X_j^*$  and the functions  $\sigma_{jkl}^*$  are independent of  $K, v$  and  $p$ .

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