

## Abstract

Consider the gradient map associated to any non-constant homogeneous polynomial

$f \in \mathbb{C}[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  of degree  $d$ , defined by

$$\phi_f = \text{grad}(f): D(f) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n, (x_0: \dots: x_n) \rightarrow (f_0(x): \dots: f_n(x))$$

where  $D(f) = \{x \in \mathbb{P}^n; f(x) \neq 0\}$  is the principal open set associated to  $f$  and

$f_i = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$ . This map corresponds to polar Cremona transformations.

In section 1.4 we give a new lower bound for the degree  $d(f)$  of  $\phi_f$  under the assumption that the projective hypersurface  $V : f = 0$  has only isolated singularities. When  $d(f) = 1$ , our main result of this thesis, in section 1.5, yields extremely strong conditions on the monodromy operators associated to the singularities of  $V$ .

In section 3.4 we show that two homogeneous polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  having isomorphic Milnor algebras have equivalent gradient mappings  $\phi_f$  and  $\phi_g$ .