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David B. Massey* (d.massey@neu.edu), Dept. of Mathematics, Northeastern University,
Boston, MA 02115. *A New Invariant for 1-dimensional Hypersurface Singularities.*

We define and explore a new numerical invariant for hypersurfaces with 1-dimensional critical loci: the beta number. The beta number is an invariant of the ambient topological-type of the hypersurface, is non-negative, and is algebraically calculable.

The beta number being zero places strong restrictions on the vanishing cycles of the hypersurface; exactly how strong the restrictions are remains an open question. (Received January 16, 2015)