

# The special fiber of a conormal space

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**Abstract:** Let  $(X, 0)$  be a complex analytic germ. I will show that if  $(X, 0)$  is normal and the codimension one polar variety of  $(X, 0)$  is empty, then  $(X, 0)$  is smooth. In particular, normal surfaces with no polar curve are smooth. I will discuss how these observations lead to a notion of generalized smoothability. If time permits I will discuss applications to rigidity.