

## APPLICATIONS OF SUBORDINATION CHAINS TO STARLIKE MAPPINGS IN $\mathbb{C}^n$

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We use the work of Pfaltzgraff on subordination chains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to recover a growth theorem for starlike mappings of the unit ball established recently by Barnard, FitzGerald and Gong. We also introduce a class of *strongly starlike* maps for which we construct, aided by the aforementioned technique, an explicit quasiconformal extension to  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Several examples are discussed at the end.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $f$  be a univalent map of the unit disc, with  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = 1$ . The celebrated Koebe theorem asserts that the image of  $f$  contains a disc about the origin of radius  $1/4$ ,  $1/4$  being sharp. This theorem has no analogue in several complex variables, whether one deals with normalized univalent maps of the unit ball  $B^n$  or the polydisc. By normalized we mean fixing the origin and having the identity as differential at that point. In particular, the classical growth theorem in dimension 1

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{|z|}{(1+|z|)^2} \leq |f(z)| \leq \frac{|z|}{(1-|z|)^2}$$

is no longer valid in higher dimensions. Remarkably, (1.1) persists for arbitrary  $n$  when considering the subclass of *starlike* maps of  $B^n$ , as Barnard, FitzGerald and Gong have recently shown [BFG 1]. The result is sharp. Recall that a map is called starlike if the image is starlike with respect to the origin. Suffridge has given the following alternative local characterization: let  $w(z) = (Df)^{-1}(f)$ , where the differential and the function are evaluated at  $z$ . Then  $f$  is starlike if and only if

$$(1.2) \quad \operatorname{Re}\langle \bar{z}, w(z) \rangle \geq 0.$$

Here  $\langle a, b \rangle = \sum a_i b_i$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}^n$  [S 1]. When  $n = 1$  then (1.2) recovers the condition  $\operatorname{Re}\{z \frac{f'}{f}\} \geq 0$ . The proof in [BFG 1] uses (1.2)