Extremal Discs and Analytic Continuation
of Product CR Maps

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Introduction

One of the essentially multidimensional phenomena in complex analysis is the forced analytic continuation of a germ of a biholomorphic map $M_1 \to M_2$ between real analytic manifolds $M_1$ and $M_2$ in $\mathbb{C}^n$, $n > 1$. Poincaré (1907) observed that a biholomorphic map sending an open piece of the unit sphere in $\mathbb{C}^2$ to another such open piece must be an automorphism of the unit ball. This was proved for $\mathbb{C}^n$ by Tanaka (1962) and then rediscovered by Alexander [A].

Pinchuk [P] proved that, if $M_1$ and $M_2$ are strictly pseudoconvex real analytic nonspherical hypersurfaces and $M_2$ is compact, then a germ of a biholomorphic map $M_1 \to M_2$ holomorphically extends along any path in $M_1$. Ezhov, Kruzhilin, and Vitushkin [EKV] gave a different proof of that result. Webster [W] proved that a germ of a biholomorphic map $M_1 \to M_2$ between real algebraic Levi non-degenerate hypersurfaces in $\mathbb{C}^n$ is algebraic.

There is an impressive number of publications in which $M_1$ and $M_2$ are real algebraic manifolds of different dimensions or higher codimension, in particular real quadratic manifolds (see [BER]). Hill and Shafikov [HS] proved the analytic continuation result in higher codimension where only one of the manifolds $M_1$ and $M_2$ is assumed to be algebraic. There are many more results on the problem that we omit here (see e.g. [BER; HS] for references).

Despite the large amount of work done on the problem, there seem to be no results in the literature where $M_1$ and $M_2$ are manifolds of higher codimension in $\mathbb{C}^n$ and neither of them is algebraic. In this paper we consider the case in which $M_1$ is a real analytic strictly pseudoconvex manifold and $M_2$ is the Cartesian product of several compact strictly convex real analytic hypersurfaces. In particular, we give another proof of Pinchuk’s [P] result for the case where $M_2$ is strictly convex and neither of the $M_j$ is assumed to be nonspherical.

For the case in which $M_2$ is the product of two spheres, the result was obtained earlier by the first author [Sc]. In this paper we significantly simplify and generalize the proof given in [Sc]. Following [Sc], we use a new method based on extremal discs in higher codimension. As by-products, we obtain some properties of extremal discs that may be useful elsewhere.

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1. Strictly Pseudoconvex Manifolds

In this section we recall basic notation and definitions concerning real manifolds in complex space.

Let \( M \) be a \( C^\infty \)-smooth real generic manifold in \( \mathbb{C}^N \) of real codimension \( k \).

Recall that \( M \) is generic if \( T_p(M) + JT_p(M) = T_p(\mathbb{C}^N) \) for \( p \in M \), where \( T(M) \) denotes the tangent bundle to \( M \) and where \( J \) is the operator of multiplication by the imaginary unit in \( T(\mathbb{C}^N) \).

Recall that the complex tangent space \( T^c_p(M) \) of \( M \) at \( p \in M \) is defined as \( T^c_p(M) = T_p(M) \cap JT_p(M) \). If \( M \) is generic then \( M \) is a CR manifold, which means that \( \dim CR \) is independent of \( p \) and that \( T^c(M) \) forms a bundle. Recall that the space \( T_p^{(1,0)}(M) \subseteq T_p(M) \otimes \mathbb{C} \) of complex \((1,0)\)-vectors is defined as

\[
T_p^{(1,0)}(M) = \{ X \in T_p(M) \otimes \mathbb{C} : X = \sum a_j \partial/\partial z_j \}.
\]

The CR-dimension \( \dim_{CR}(M) \) of \( M \) is equal to \( \dim_{CR} T^c_p(M) = \dim_{CR} T_p^{(0,1)}(M) \).

If \( \dim_{CR}(M) = n \), then \( N = n + k \).

Let \( T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) be the real cotangent bundle of \( \mathbb{C}^N \). Since every \((1,0)\)-form is uniquely determined by its real part, we represent \( T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) as the space of \((1,0)\)-forms on \( \mathbb{C}^N \). Then \( T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) is a complex manifold. Let \( N^*(M) \subseteq T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) be the real conormal bundle of \( M \subseteq \mathbb{C}^N \). Using the representation of \( T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) by \((1,0)\)-forms, we define the fiber \( \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \) at \( p \in M \) as

\[
\mathcal{N}^*_p(M) = \{ \phi \in T^*_p(\mathbb{C}^N) : \text{Re} \phi|_{T_p(M)} = 0 \}.
\]

We use the angle brackets \( \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \) to denote the natural pairing between vectors and covectors, so we write \( \langle \phi, \xi \rangle = \sum \phi_j \xi_j \) for their coordinate representations. In a fixed coordinate system, we will identify \( \phi = \sum \phi_j dz_j \in T^*(\mathbb{C}^N) \) with the vector \( \phi = (\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_N) \in \mathbb{C}^N \). Then, for \( \phi \in \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \), the vector \( \overline{\phi} \) is orthogonal to \( M \) in the real sense; that is, \( \text{Re}(\phi, X) = 0 \) for all \( X \in T_p(M) \).

Since \( M \) is generic, it follows that locally \( M \) can be defined as \( \rho(z) = 0 \), where \( \rho = (\rho_1, \ldots, \rho_k) \) is a smooth real vector function such that \( \partial \rho_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \partial \rho_k \neq 0 \). The forms \( \partial \rho_j \) \( (j = 1, \ldots, k) \) define a basis of \( \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \), so every \( \phi \in \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \) can be written as \( \phi = \sum c_j \partial \rho_j \), \( c_j \in \mathbb{R} \).

For every \( \phi \in \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \), we define the Levi form \( L(p, \phi) \) of \( M \) at \( p \in M \) in the conormal direction \( \phi = \sum c_j \partial \rho_j \) as

\[
L(p, \phi)(X, Y) = -\sum c_j \partial \rho_j(X, Y),
\]

where \( X, Y \in T^{1,0}_p(M) \). The form \( L(p, \phi) \) is a hermitian form on \( T^{1,0}_p(M) \). This definition is independent of the defining function. The forms \( L(p, \phi) \) can be regarded as components of the \( \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \)-valued Levi form \( L(p) \), where \( N(M) = T(\mathbb{C}^N)|_M/T(M) \) is the normal bundle of \( M \subseteq \mathbb{C}^N \). Indeed, \( L(p)(X, X) \in \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \) is such an element with

\[
\text{Re}\langle \phi, L(p)(X, X) \rangle = L(p, \phi)(X, X) \quad \text{for all } \phi \in \mathcal{N}^*_p(M).
\]

The Levi cone \( \Gamma_p \subset \mathcal{N}^*_p(M) \) is defined as the convex span of the values of the Levi form \( L(p) \); that is,

\[
\Gamma_p = \text{Conv}\{L(p)(X, X) : X \in T^{1,0}_p(M), \ X \neq 0\}.
\]
We recall some facts about the theory of extremal discs (see [L, T1]). We also need the Levi cone $H_p \subset T_p(M)$. We put

$$H_p = \{ \xi \in T_p(M) : [J\xi] \in \Gamma_p \},$$

where the brackets denote the class in the quotient space $N_p(M)$. If $M$ is a strictly pseudoconvex hypersurface, then $\Gamma_p$ is the half-line defined by the inner normal to $M$ at $p$ and $H_p$ is a half-space of $T_p(M)$. The dual Levi cone $\Gamma^*_p$ is defined as

$$\Gamma^*_p = \{ \phi \in N^*_p(M) : L(p, \phi) > 0 \},$$

where $L(p, \phi) > 0$ means that the form $L(p, \phi)$ is positive definite. The cones $\Gamma_p$ and $\Gamma^*_p$ are dual; that is, $\xi \in \Gamma_p$ if and only if $\Re(\phi, \xi) > 0$ for all $\phi \in \Gamma^*_p$.

We say that $M$ is strictly pseudoconvex at $p$ if $\Gamma^*_p \neq \emptyset$. We say that $M$ is strictly pseudoconvex if it holds at every $p \in M$. We say that the Levi form $L(p)$ is generating if $\Gamma_p$ has nonempty interior.

Changing notation, we introduce the coordinates $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^N (z = x + iy \in \mathbb{C}^k, w \in \mathbb{C}^n)$ so that the defining function of $M$ can be chosen in the form $\rho = x - h(y, w)$, where $h = (h_1, \ldots, h_k)$ is a smooth real vector function and the equations of $M$ take the following form (see e.g. [BER]):

$$x_j = h_j(y, w) = \langle A_jw, \bar{w}\rangle + O(|y|^3 + |w|^3), \quad 1 \leq j \leq k; \quad (1.1)$$

here the $A_j$ are hermitian matrices. Then $T^{0,0}_p(M)$ is identified with the $w$-space $\mathbb{C}^n$ and, for $\phi = \sum c_jdz_j \in N^*_p(M)$, the Levi form $L(0, \phi)$ has the matrix $\sum c_jA_j$.

Hence, the manifold $M$ of the form (1.1) is strictly pseudoconvex at 0 if and only if there exists a $c \in \mathbb{R}^k$ such that $\sum c_jA_j > 0$. It has a generating Levi form at 0 if and only if the matrices $A_1, \ldots, A_k$ are linearly independent.

We say that a vector-valued hermitian form $B$ splits into scalar forms of dimensions $(n_1, \ldots, n_k)$ if the source and target spaces $V$ and $Z$ of $B$ split into direct sums $V = \sum V_j$ and $Z = \sum Z_j$, with $\dim V_j = n_j > 0$ and $\dim Z_j = 1$, such that $B(u, v) = \sum B_j(u_j, v_j)$; here $u_j, v_j \in V_j$, $u = \sum u_j$, $v = \sum v_j$, and $B_j$ is a $Z_j$-valued hermitian form on $V_j$. We need the following simple result.

**Proposition 1.1.** Let $M$ be a connected real-analytic generic manifold in $\mathbb{C}^N$. Suppose that the Levi form of $M$ splits into scalar forms on an open subset of $M$; then it splits into scalar forms everywhere on $M$. If $M$ is strictly pseudoconvex, then the Levi form is generating and splits into positive-definite forms.

**Proof.** The set of all splittable hermitian forms is a real analytic (even algebraic) subset of the set of all hermitian forms. The map $M \ni p \mapsto L(p)$ is real analytic. Since it takes an open set of $M$ to splittable forms and since $M$ is connected, it follows that the whole image belongs to splittable forms. The rest of the conclusions hold automatically, so the proof is complete. 

\[\square\]

2. Extremal Discs

We recall some facts about the theory of extremal discs (see [L, T1]).

Let $M$ be a smooth generic manifold in $\mathbb{C}^N$. An analytic disc in $\mathbb{C}^N$ is a continuous mapping $f : \Delta \to \mathbb{C}^N$ that is holomorphic in the unit disc $\Delta$. We say that $f$ is attached to $M$ if $f(b\Delta) \subset M$. 

An analytic disc $f$ attached to $M$ is called \textit{stationary} if there exists a nonzero continuous holomorphic mapping $f^* : \Delta \setminus \{0\} \to T^*(\mathbb{C}^N)$ such that $\hat{f} = \xi f^*$ is holomorphic in $\Delta$ and $f^*(\xi) \in N^*_f(\mathbb{C}^N)$ for all $\xi \in b\Delta$. In other words, $f^*$ is a punctured analytic disc with a pole of order at most 1 at 0 and attached to $N^*(M) \subset T^*(\mathbb{C}^N)$ such that the natural projection sends $f^*$ to $f$. We call $f^*$ a \textit{lift} of $f$, and we always use the term “lift” in this sense.

We call a disc $f$ \textit{defective} if it has a nonzero lift $f^*$ that is holomorphic in the whole unit disc including 0. For a strictly convex hypersurface, all defective discs are constant.

We call a lift $f^*$ of a stationary disc $f$ \textit{supporting} if, for all $\xi \in b\Delta$, $f^*(\xi)$ defines a (strong) supporting real hyperplane to $M$ at $f(\xi)$—that is, if

$$\text{Re}(f^*(\xi), p - f(\xi)) \geq \varepsilon|p - f(\xi)|^2$$

for all $\xi \in b\Delta$ and $p \in M$ \textup{(2.1)} for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Stationary discs with supporting lifts have important extremal properties, but we do not need them here. Nevertheless, we call such $f$ \textit{extremal} and we call the pair $(f, f^*)$ an \textit{extremal pair}. Although $f$ is completely determined by $f^*$, we prefer to use the excessive notation $(f, f^*)$ because it allows us to describe $f^*$ by its fiber coordinates in $T^*(\mathbb{C}^N)$. Note that \textup{(2.1)} implies $f^*(\xi) \in \Gamma_{f(\xi)}$ for $\xi \in b\Delta$.

If $M$ is the boundary of a strictly convex domain $D \subset \mathbb{C}^N$, then the set of all extremal discs is smoothly parameterized by the correspondence $f \leftrightarrow (f(0), f(1)) \in D \times bD$. The set of all extremal pairs is parameterized by $D \times bD \times \mathbb{R}^+$ because the lift of an extremal disc is unique up to a positive constant factor; see [L].

In higher codimension there is a local parameterization of the set of extremal pairs.

\textbf{Theorem 2.1 [T1].} \textit{Let $M \subset \mathbb{C}^N$ be a smooth (resp. real-analytic) strictly pseudoconvex manifold with generating Levi form defined by \textup{(1.1)}. Then, for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that—for every $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^k$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^k$, $w_0 \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $y_0 \in \mathbb{R}^k$, and $v \in \mathbb{C}^N$ such that

$$\sum \text{Re}(\lambda_j \xi + c_j)A_j > \varepsilon(|\lambda| + |c|)I$$

and such that $|w_0| < \delta$, $|y_0| < \delta$, and $|v| < \delta$—there exists a unique stationary disc $\xi \mapsto f(\xi) = (z(\xi), w(\xi))$ with $w(1) = w_0$, $w'(1) = v$, and $y(1) = y_0$ that admits a lift $f^*$ such that $f^*|_{b\Delta} = \text{Re}(\lambda \xi + c)\hat{G}\rho$ (here $\lambda$ and $c$ are handled as row vectors, and $G$ is a $k \times k$ matrix function on $b\Delta$ that is close to the identity matrix uniquely determined by $f$; see [T1]). The pair $(f, f^*)$ depends smoothly (resp. analytically) on $\xi \in \Delta$ and on all the parameters $\lambda$, $c$, $w_0$, $y_0$, and $v$. The pair $(f, f^*)$ is extremal in a suitable coordinate system depending on $\varepsilon$ only.}

Let $M$ be a generic manifold in $\mathbb{C}^N$ defined by \textup{(1.1)}. Let $Q$ be the quadratic manifold obtained from \textup{(1.1)} by dropping the $O$-terms. We call $M$ \textit{defective} at 0 if all stationary discs for $Q$ are defective. (In other words, if every stationary disc that possibly has a lift with a pole at 0 also has another lift without the pole; the authors do not know whether this situation actually can occur.) This definition is equivalent to the one given in [T2]. If the Levi form of $M$ splits into scalar forms, then
Adding the two inequalities yields \( \zeta \) for \( M \) is not defective. Hence, for fixed \( \varepsilon \) and sufficiently small \( \delta \), all stationary discs provided by Theorem 2.1 are not defective (see [T1, Prop. 6.8] or [T2, Prop. 8.4]).

Define \( L f = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(e^{i\theta}) \). Note that if \( f \) is holomorphic at \( 1 \in \mathbb{C} \) then \( L f = J f'(1) \). Let \( \zeta_0 \in b\Delta \) and \( \zeta_0 \neq 1 \). Let \( \mathcal{E} \) denote the set of all extremal pairs \( (f, f^*) \) obtained by Theorem 2.1 such that \( f \) is not defective. If \( M \) is a strictly convex hypersurface then \( \mathcal{E} \) stands for the set of all extremal pairs, in which case \( \mathcal{E} \) is a smooth manifold by Lempert’s theory (see [L]). Consider the following evaluation maps:

\[
\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{E} \ni (f, f^*) \mapsto (f(1), f^*(1), L f, L f^*) \in T N^*(M);
\]

\[
\mathcal{G}: \mathcal{E} \ni (f, f^*) \mapsto (f(1), f^*(1), f(\zeta_0), f^*(\zeta_0)) \in N^*(M) \times N^*(M) .
\]

**Proposition 2.2.** The maps \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \) are injective.

For the map \( \mathcal{F} \), the proposition is proved in [T1, Prop. 3.9]. The proof for \( \mathcal{G} \) is similar. We also need the following stronger version.

**Proposition 2.2’.** The maps \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \) are diffeomorphisms onto their images.

**Proof.** The source and target spaces of both \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \) have the same dimension \( 4N \). Hence it suffices to show that \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \) are immersions. By an infinitesimal perturbation \((\dot{f}, \dot{f}^*)\) of an extremal pair \((f, f^*)\) we mean an element of the tangent space to the finite-dimensional manifold \( \mathcal{E} \) at \((f, f^*)\). To show that \( \mathcal{F} \) is an immersion, we need to show that \( \dot{f}(1) = 0, \dot{f}^*(1) = 0, L f = 0 \), and \( L f^* = 0 \) imply \( \dot{f} = 0 \) and \( \dot{f}^* = 0 \).

We realize that \((\dot{f}, \dot{f}^*) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (f_t, f_t^*)\), where \((f_t, f_t^*)\) is a smooth 1-parameter family of extremal pairs with \((f_0, f_0^*) = (f, f^*)\). For small \( t \), all the pairs are close to \((f, f^*)\); hence we can choose \( \varepsilon \) in (2.1) the same for all small \( t \). By (2.1), on \( b\Delta \) we have

\[
\text{Re}(f_0^*, f_t - f_0) \geq \varepsilon |f_t - f_0|^2, \quad \text{Re}(f_t^*, f_0 - f_t) \geq \varepsilon |f_0 - f_t|^2 .
\]

Adding the two inequalities yields

\[
\text{Re}(f_t^* - f_0^*, f_t - f_0) \leq -2\varepsilon |f_t - f_0|^2 .
\]

Dividing by \( t^2 \) and letting \( t \to 0 \) yields

\[
\text{Re}(\dot{f}^*, f_0) \leq -2\varepsilon |f_0|^2
\]

for \( \zeta \in b\Delta \). The hypotheses imply that \( \dot{f} = O(|\zeta - 1|^2) \) and \( \dot{f}^* = O(|\zeta - 1|^2) \). Hence

\[
\text{Re} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\dot{f}^* \dot{f}}{|\zeta - 1|^4} d\theta \leq -2\varepsilon \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{|\dot{f}|^2}{|\zeta - 1|^4} d\theta ,
\]

where \( \zeta = e^{i\theta} \). Note that for \(|\zeta| = 1\) we have \( d\zeta = i\zeta d\theta \) and \( \zeta|\zeta - 1|^2 = -(\zeta - 1)^2 \). Then

\[
\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\dot{f}^* \dot{f}}{|\zeta - 1|^4} d\theta = -i \int_{b\Delta} \left( \frac{\zeta f^*}{(\zeta - 1)^2} , \frac{i}{i} \right) d\zeta = 0 ,
\]
Proof. The inclusion \( T \) is a lift of \( f \) since the integrand is holomorphic in \( \Delta \). Therefore,
\[
\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{|\dot{f}|^2}{|\zeta - 1|^4} \, d\theta = 0
\]
and \( \dot{f} = 0 \). Since \( \dot{f} = 0 \), we have that \( \dot{f} \) is tangent to the fibers of \( N^*(M) \) and gives rise to a lift of \( f \). Since \( \dot{f} = O(|\zeta - 1|^2) \), it follows that \( \dot{f} = \zeta(\zeta - 1)^{-2} \dot{f}^{*} \) is a lift of \( f \) without a pole at 0. Because \( f \) is not defective, \( \dot{f} = 0 \); whence \( \dot{f}^{*} = 0 \) and \( F \) is an immersion. The proof that \( G \) is an immersion is similar; it uses the identity \( \zeta\zeta = (\zeta - \zeta_0)^2 = -(\zeta - \zeta_0)^2 \) for \( |\zeta| = |\zeta_0| = 1 \). The proof is now complete.

Define \( T^+N^*(M) \subset TN^*(M) \). We put \( \xi \in T_{(p, \phi)} \cap \lambda \Delta \) if \( \phi \in \Gamma^*_p \) and \( \pi \xi \in H_p \), where \( \pi : T^*(C^N) \to C^N \) is the natural projection; the Levi cones \( \Gamma^*_p \) and \( H_p \) are defined in Section 1.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let \( M \) be a strictly convex hypersurface in \( C^{n+1} \). Then \( F(E) = T^+N^*(M) \).

*Proof.* The inclusion \( F(E) \subset T^+N^*(M) \) follows by the Hopf lemma. Indeed, let \( M \) bound the domain \( D \) defined by \( \rho < 0 \), where \( \rho \) is a strictly convex function. Let \( f \) be a nonconstant analytic but not necessarily stationary disc attached to \( M \), and let \( f(1) = p \in M \). Then the nonconstant subharmonic function \( \rho \circ f \) in \( \Delta \) is zero on the boundary. By the Hopf lemma, \( \langle d\rho, f'(1) \rangle > 0 \). This implies \( -[f'/(1)] \in \Gamma_p \), whence \( Lf = Jf'(1) \in H_p \). If \( (f, f^*) \in E \) then \( f^*(1) \in \Gamma_p^* \), and the desired inclusion follows.

The surjectivity of \( F \) follows by a simple topological argument. Fix \( p \in M \). Put \( E_p = \{ (f, f^*) \in E : f(1) = p \} \). Then the set \( E_p \) is contractible since \( f \) is completely determined by \( f(0) \in D \) and \( f(1) = p \) and since, for given \( f \), the supporting lift \( f^* \) is unique up to a positive multiplicative constant (see [L]).

Given \( (f, f^*) \in E_p \), we make a substitution by an automorphism of the unit disc \( \zeta = (\tau - \tau_0)e^{i\theta}/(1 - \overline{\tau}_0\tau) \) with fixed point 1. Put
\[
g(\tau) = f(\zeta), \quad g^*(\tau) = f^*(\zeta)(\tau - \tau_0)(1 - \overline{\tau}_0\tau)/\tau|1 - \overline{\tau}_0\tau|^2,
\]
where we choose the factor so that \( g^* \) has a pole at 0 and \( g^*(1) = f^*(1) \). Then \( (g, g^*) \in E_p \), and one can further check that
\[
Lg = \alpha Lf, \quad Lg^* = Lf^* - \beta f^*(1), \tag{2.2}
\]
where \( \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} \) and \( \alpha + i\beta = (1 + \tau_0)/(1 - \tau_0) \). Since \( \tau_0 \in \Delta \) is arbitrary, it follows that \( \alpha > 0 \) and \( \beta \in \mathbb{R} \) are arbitrary.

Consider the map \( \Phi : E_p \ni (f, f^*) \mapsto Lf/|Lf| \in S^+ \), where \( S^+ = S^{2n+1} \cap H_p \) is the unit hemisphere in \( H_p \). By (2.2), the preimages of the map \( \Phi \) are contractible. Since \( E_p \) is contractible, so is \( \Phi(E_p) \). It suffices to show that \( \Phi(E_p) = S^+ \). We will show that \( \Phi(E_p) \) contains an arbitrarily small perturbation of the equator of the hemisphere \( S^+ \). Then \( \Phi(E_p) \) will have to be all of \( S^+ \).
We introduce a coordinate system \((z = x + iy, w) \in \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^n\) such that \(p = 0\) and \(M\) has a local equation
\[x = |w|^2 + O(|y|^3 + |w|^3)\].

Then \(T_p(M)\) is defined by \(x = 0\) and \(H_p \subset T_p(M)\) is the half-space \(y < 0\). The stationary disc \(f\) constructed by Theorem 2.1 for \(\lambda = 0, c = 1, w_0 = 0, y_0 = 0,\) and small \(v \in \mathbb{C}^n\) has the following asymptotic expression (see [T1, Cor. 5.2]):
\[z(\zeta) = O(|v|^2), \quad w(\zeta) = (\zeta - 1)v + O(|v|^2)\].

Then \(\mathcal{L}f|_{\mathcal{L}f} = (0, v) + O(|v|), \quad |v| = \varepsilon\) for small \(\varepsilon\) describes a small perturbation of the equator of the hemisphere \(S^+\).
Hence \(\Phi(\mathcal{E}_p) = S^+\) and the proof is complete.

If \(M\) is a product of strictly convex hypersurfaces, then \(N^*(M), T^+N^*(M), \mathcal{E}, \ldots\) are the products of the corresponding objects for the components of the product. Then we immediately derive the following.

**Corollary 2.4.** Let \(M\) be a product of strictly convex hypersurfaces. Then \(\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{E}) = T^+N^*(M)\).

### 3. The Main Result

**Theorem 3.1.** Let \(M_1\) be a real-analytic and strictly pseudoconvex generic manifold, and let \(M_2\) be a product of several real-analytic strictly convex hypersurfaces. Then every biholomorphic map taking an open set in \(M_1\) to \(M_2\) continues along any path in \(M_1\) as a locally biholomorphic map.

**Remark.** We require that \(M_2\) be a product because we use Corollary 2.4 in the proof. It would be interesting to find out for what manifolds the conclusion of Corollary 2.4 is valid.

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** The main idea of the proof is that a biholomorphism preserves extremal pairs and so extends along the extremal discs.

Let \(F\) be a biholomorphic map defined at \(p_1 \in M_1\) such that \(F(U) \subset M_2\) for some open set \(U \subset M_1\). The map \(F\) lifts to the cotangent bundle \(T^*(\mathbb{C}^N)\) in the usual way. With some abuse of notation, we use the same letter \(F\) for the lifted map. We choose a coordinate system in which \(p_1 = 0\) and \(M_1\) is given by (1.1). Since \(M_2\) is a product, the Levi form of \(M_2\) splits into scalar positive-definite forms. Since the biholomorphic map \(F\) preserves the Levi forms, it follows that the Levi form of \(M_1\) at \(p_1 = 0\) also splits into scalar positive-definite forms and, after a linear change of coordinates, the equation of \(M_1\) takes the form
\[x_j = h_j(y, w) = |w_j|^2 + O(|y|^3 + |w|^3), \quad w_j \in \mathbb{C}^{n_j}, \quad n_1 + \cdots + n_k = n. \quad (3.1)\]
We note that the size of the coordinate chart for which (3.1) holds is independent of the map $F$. Indeed, if we know that such an $F$ exists then, by Proposition 1.1, the Levi form of (the component of) $M_1$ splits into scalar forms. Then, while extending $F$ along a path, we can always restrict to finitely many coordinate charts by the compactness argument.

We denote by $F_1$ and $G_v$ the evaluation maps for $M_v$ $(v = 1, 2)$ defined in Section 2. Although Corollary 2.4 generally fails for $M_1$, there are many extremal pairs $(f, f^*)$ such that $F_1(f, f^*) \in T^+N^*(M_1)$. Indeed, let $(f, f^*)$ be the extremal pair constructed by Theorem 2.1 for $\lambda = 0$, $c_j = 1$, $w_0 = 0$, $y_0 = 0$, and small $v \in C^\infty$. Then the components of $f$ admit the following asymptotic expression (see [T1, Cor. 5.2]):

$$z(\xi) = O(|v|^2), \quad w(\xi) = (\xi - 1)v + O(|v|^2). \quad (3.2)$$

Furthermore, plugging (3.2) in (3.1) and using the identity $|\xi - 1|^2 = -2 \Re(\xi - 1)$ for $|\xi| = 1$, we obtain

$$z_j(\xi) = -2(\xi - 1)|v_j|^2 + O(|v|^3), \quad Lz_j = -2i|v_j|^2 + O(|v|^3).$$

Note that the Levi cone $H_0$ of $M_1$ is defined by $x = 0, y_j < 0$. Thus, if all $|v_j|$ are small and comparable, then $L_f \in H_0$ and $F_1(f, f^*) \in T^+N^*(M_1)$. The same is true for all extremal pairs constructed using parameters $\lambda$ and $c$ that are close to these values.

Consider all extremal pairs $(f_1, f^*_1)$ for $M_1$ with fixed $f_1(1) = p_1 = 0$ and $f^*_1(1)$ such that $F_1(f_1, f^*_1) \in T^+N^*(M_1)$. Denote the set of such pairs by $E_1$.

We define the desired extension of the map $F$ by using $G_2 \circ F_2^{-1} \circ F_f \circ F_1 \circ G_1^{-1}$. More precisely, put $\xi = F_2(f_1, f^*_1)$. Since $F$ preserves the Levi forms, we have $F_2, \xi \in T^+N^*(M_2)$. By Corollary 2.4 there exists a unique extremal pair $(f_2, f^*_2)$ for $M_2$ such that $F_2(f_2, f^*_2) = F_2, \xi$. Fix $\xi_0 \in b\Delta, \xi_0 \neq 1$. We define $\tilde{F}((f_1, f^*_1)(\xi_0)) = (f_2, f^*_2)(\xi_0)$. By Proposition 2.2', the map $\tilde{F}$ is a diffeomorphism on the set $\{(f_1, f^*_1)(\xi_0) : (f_1, f^*_1) \in E_1\}$. Since all the objects are real analytic, it follows that $\tilde{F}$ is real analytic on an open set in $N^*(M)$. Note that the pair $(f_1, f^*_1)$ shrinks into a point as $v \to 0$. This implies that the map $\tilde{F}$ agrees with $F$ on an open set in $N^*(M)$, since $F$ preserves extremal pairs. The extension preserves the fibers of $N^*(M)$ because $F$ does. Hence, $\tilde{F}$ defines a real-analytic diffeomorphism on the set $\{(f_1, f^*_1) : (f_1, f^*_1) \in E_1\} \subset M$. By varying $\xi_0 \in b\Delta$, we extend $\tilde{F}$ as a real-analytic diffeomorphism on the set $V = \bigcup\{(f_1(b\Delta \setminus \{1\}) : (f_1, f^*_1) \in E_1\} \subset M$. Since $\tilde{F}$ is real analytic and satisfies the tangential Cauchy–Riemann equations on an open set in $M$, we know that $\tilde{F}$ is CR on the whole set $V \subset M$ where it is defined. Then, by real analyticity, $\tilde{F}$ further extends to a biholomorphic map in a neighborhood of $V$ in $C_1^N$.

Thus we conclude that $F$ extends as a biholomorphic map along the boundaries of the extremal discs $f_1$. By Proposition 2.2' (see also [T1, Cor. 5.6]), the directions of the boundary curves of the discs $f_1$ span the tangent space $T_{p_1}(M_1)$. As a consequence, all points within the same connected component can be reached by moving along the boundaries of such discs, and the theorem follows. \qed
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