

Hidetaka Hamada, Gabriela Kohr

***k*-FOLD SYMMETRICAL MAPPINGS  
AND LOEWNER CHAINS**

**Abstract.** Let  $B$  be the unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with respect to an arbitrary norm on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . In this paper, we give a necessary and sufficient condition that a Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$ , such that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $B$ , is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. As a corollary, we give a necessary and sufficient condition that a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $B$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  and  $k$ -fold symmetrical. When  $\alpha = 0$ , this result solves a natural problem that is similar to an open problem posed by Liczberski. We also give two examples of  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chains.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{B}^n$  be the Euclidean unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $f$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $\mathbb{B}^n$ . Suffridge [20] proved that  $f$  is starlike if and only if

$$\operatorname{Re}\langle [Df(z)]^{-1}f(z), z \rangle > 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{B}^n \setminus \{0\},$$

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the Euclidean inner product in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Let  $k \geq 2$  be an arbitrarily fixed integer and let  $f_{1,k}$  be the  $(1, k)$ -symmetrical part of  $f$ . Then Liczberski [11] showed that  $f$  is starlike and  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $f_{1,k}$  is locally biholomorphic and one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- (i)  $\operatorname{Re}\langle [Df_{1,k}(z)]^{-1}f(z), z \rangle > 0$  for  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $[Df_{1,k}(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical;
- (ii)  $\operatorname{Re}\langle [Df(z)]^{-1}f_{1,k}(z), z \rangle > 0$  for  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f_{1,k}(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.

It is natural to pose the following open problem (cf. [11, Open problem 4.6]).

**OPEN PROBLEM:** Assume that  $\operatorname{Re}\langle [Df(z)]^{-1}f(z), z \rangle > 0$  for  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Is  $f(z)$   $k$ -fold symmetrical?

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Recently,  $k$ -fold symmetrical mappings are studied in [7], [9] and [13].

Let  $B$  be the unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with respect to an arbitrary norm on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . In this paper, we give a necessary and sufficient condition that a Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$ , such that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $B$ , is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. As a corollary, we give a necessary and sufficient condition that a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $B$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  and  $k$ -fold symmetrical. When  $\alpha = 0$ , this result solves the above open problem. It seems that it is very difficult to solve the open problem without using Loewner chain. We also give examples of  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chains.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $\mathbb{C}^n$  denote the space of  $n$  complex variables  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  with respect to an arbitrary norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Let  $B = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : \|z\| < 1\}$ . The Euclidean unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is denoted by  $\mathbb{B}^n$ . Let  $U$  be the unit disc in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $H(G)$  denote the set of holomorphic mappings from an open set  $G \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  into  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Further, let  $L(\mathbb{C}^n, \mathbb{C}^m)$  be the space of all continuous linear operators from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  into  $\mathbb{C}^m$  with the standard operator norm. Let  $I$  be the identity in  $L(\mathbb{C}^n, \mathbb{C}^n)$ . A mapping  $f \in H(B)$  is called normalized if  $f(0) = 0$  and  $Df(0) = I$ .

For each  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ , we set  $T(z) = \{l_z \in L(\mathbb{C}^n, \mathbb{C}) : l_z(z) = \|z\|, \|l_z\| = 1\}$ . Then this set is nonempty by the Hahn-Banach theorem.

If  $f, g \in H(B)$ , we say that  $f$  is subordinate to  $g$ , and write  $f \prec g$ , if there exists a Schwarz mapping  $v$  (i.e.  $v \in H(B)$ ,  $v(0) = 0$ , and  $\|v(z)\| < 1$ ,  $z \in B$ ) such that  $f = g \circ v$  on  $B$ . If  $g$  is biholomorphic on  $B$ , this condition is equivalent to  $f(0) = g(0)$  and  $f(B) \subset g(B)$ .

We recall that a mapping  $f : B \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  is called a Loewner chain if  $f(\cdot, t)$  is biholomorphic on  $B$ ,  $f(0, t) = 0$ ,  $Df(0, t) = e^t I$  for  $t \geq 0$ , and

$$f(z, s) \prec f(z, t), \quad z \in B, \quad 0 \leq s \leq t < \infty.$$

The above condition is equivalent to the fact that there exists a unique biholomorphic Schwarz mapping  $v = v(z, s, t)$ , called the transition mapping of  $f(z, t)$ , such that  $f(z, s) = f(v(z, s, t), t)$ ,  $z \in B$ ,  $t \geq s \geq 0$ . The normalization of  $f(z, t)$  implies the normalization  $Dv(0, s, t) = e^{s-t} I$  for  $t \geq s \geq 0$ .

A fundamental role in the study of Loewner chains and the Loewner differential equation in several complex variables is played by the following sets

$$\mathcal{N} = \{p \in H(B) : p(0) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} l_z(p(z)) > 0, z \in B \setminus \{0\}, l_z \in T(z)\}$$

and  $\mathcal{M} = \{p \in \mathcal{N} : Dp(0) = I\}$ .

The set  $\mathcal{M}$  is the generalization to higher dimensions of the Carathéodory set in one complex variable.

The basic existence theorem for the Loewner differential equation on  $B$ , originally due to Pfaltzgraff (see [14, Theorem 2.1]), can be improved by omitting the boundedness assumption on  $h(z, t)$ . The following proposition is due to [3, Theorem 1.4, Lemma 1.6] (cf. [5], [14], [19], [10]).

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $h = h(z, t) : B \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) *for each  $t \geq 0$ ,  $h(\cdot, t) \in \mathcal{M}$ ;*
- (ii) *for each  $z \in B$ ,  $h(z, t)$  is a measurable function of  $t \in [0, \infty)$ .*

*Let  $f(z, t)$  be a Loewner chain which satisfies the differential equation*

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z, t) = Df(z, t)h(z, t), \quad \text{a.e. } t \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in B.$$

*Suppose that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}$  be a normal family. Then for each  $s \geq 0$  and  $z \in B$ , the initial value problem*

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = -h(v, t), \quad \text{a.e. } t \geq s, \quad v(z, s, s) = z,$$

*has a unique solution  $v = v(z, s, t)$ . The mapping  $v(z, s, t) = e^{s-t}z + \dots$  is a univalent Schwarz mapping on  $B$  and is a locally Lipschitz function of  $t \geq s$  locally uniformly with respect to  $z \in B$ . Moreover,*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^t v(z, s, t) = f(z, s)$$

*locally uniformly on  $B$  for each  $s \geq 0$ .*

**REMARK 2.** Let  $f(z, t)$  be a Loewner chain. Then  $f(z, \cdot)$  is locally absolutely continuous on  $[0, \infty)$  locally uniformly with respect to  $z \in B$  (see e.g. [5]). In [3], it is shown that there exists a mapping  $h = h(z, t)$  such that  $h(\cdot, t) \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ ,  $h(z, \cdot)$  is measurable on  $[0, \infty)$  for  $z \in B$ , and

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z, t) = Df(z, t)h(z, t), \quad \text{a.e. } t \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in B.$$

Moreover, if  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family, then  $f(z, t)$  satisfies the condition (2.2) in Proposition 1.

Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|\alpha| < \pi/2$ . A normalized locally biholomorphic mapping  $f \in H(B)$  is said to be spirallike of type  $\alpha$  if  $f$  is biholomorphic and the spiral  $\exp(-e^{-i\alpha}t)f(z)$  ( $t \geq 0$ ) is contained in  $f(B)$  for any  $z \in B$ . When  $\alpha = 0$ , we obtain the usual notion of starlikeness.

Then according to [8, Theorem 2.1], a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping  $f \in H(B)$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  if and only if

$$\operatorname{Re} l_z (e^{-i\alpha}[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)) > 0, \quad z \in B \setminus \{0\}, \quad l_z \in T(z).$$

Especially, a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping  $f \in H(B)$  is starlike if and only if (see [20])

$$\operatorname{Re} l_z([Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)) > 0, \quad z \in B \setminus \{0\}, \quad l_z \in T(z).$$

In [8, Theorem 3.1], the following alternative characterization of spirallikeness of type  $\alpha$  is proved:  $f$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  if and only if  $f(z, t) = e^{(1-ia)t}f(e^{iat}z)$  is a Loewner chain, where  $a = \tan \alpha$ . Especially, a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping  $f \in H(B)$  is starlike if and only if  $f(z, t) = e^t f(z)$  is a Loewner chain [16].

Let  $f \in H(B)$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $B$ . Then  $f$  is called close-to-starlike with respect to a normalized starlike mapping  $g$  if

$$\operatorname{Re} l_z([Df(z)]^{-1}g(z)) > 0, \quad z \in B \setminus \{0\}, \quad l_z \in T(z).$$

This definition was introduced by Pfaltzgraff and Suffridge [16]. They proved that  $f$  is close-to-starlike with respect to  $g$  if and only if

$$f(z, t) = f(z) + (e^t - 1)g(z)$$

is a Loewner chain (see [16]).

**DEFINITION 3** ([12]). Let  $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$ , where  $k \geq 2$  is a natural number. A mapping  $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  will be called  $(j, k)$ -symmetrical, if

$$f(\varepsilon_k z) = \varepsilon_k^j f(z), \quad z \in B,$$

where  $\varepsilon_k = \exp(2\pi i/k)$ .

Liczberski and Połubiński [12] proved the following decomposition theorem.

**THEOREM 4.** *For every mapping  $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ , there exists exactly one sequence of  $(j, k)$ -symmetrical mappings  $f_{j,k}$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$  such that*

$$f = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} f_{j,k}.$$

Moreover,

$$f_{j,k}(z) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \varepsilon_k^{-jl} f(\varepsilon_k^l z), \quad z \in B.$$

By the uniqueness of the above decomposition, the mappings  $f_{j,k}$  are called  $(j, k)$ -symmetrical parts of the mapping  $f$ .

$(1, k)$ -symmetrical mappings are also called  $k$ -fold symmetrical mappings. Then  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $f = f_{1,k}$ . A Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$  is said to be  $k$ -fold symmetrical if  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical for each  $t \geq 0$ .

### 3. Main results

First, we give a necessary and sufficient condition that a Loewner chain which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1 is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $f(z, t)$  be a Loewner chain which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1. Also let  $h(z, t)$  be the mapping which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1. Then  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $h(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical for almost all  $t \geq 0$ .*

This result has the following equivalent formulation by Remark 2.

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $f(z, t)$  be a Loewner chain such that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $B$ . Also let  $h(z, t)$  be given by (2.1). Then  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $h(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical for almost all  $t \geq 0$ .*

**Proof of Theorem 5.** First, assume that  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical, that is,  $f(\varepsilon_k z, t) = \varepsilon_k f(z, t)$  for all  $z \in B$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . Therefore, we obtain that  $Df(\varepsilon_k z, t) = Df(z, t)$ ,  $z \in B$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and since  $f(z, \cdot)$  is differentiable a.e. on  $[0, \infty)$ , we have that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(\varepsilon_k z, t) = \varepsilon_k \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z, t), \quad \text{a.e. } t \geq 0, \forall z \in B.$$

Thus, in view of (2.1) we obtain that  $h(\varepsilon_k z, t) = \varepsilon_k h(z, t)$  for almost all  $t \geq 0$  and for all  $z \in B$ .

Next, we assume that  $h(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical for almost all  $t \geq 0$ . That is, there exists a subset  $E$  of  $[0, \infty)$  of measure zero such that  $h(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical in  $B$ , for all  $t \in [0, \infty) \setminus E$ . The solution of the initial value problem (2.2) is constructed by the method of successive approximation as follows (see the proof of [14, Theorem 2.1])

$$\begin{aligned} v_0(z, s, t) &= z \\ v_m(z, s, t) &= z - \int_s^t h(v_{m-1}(z, s, \tau), \tau) d\tau, \quad m \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

and the solution of (2.2) is defined by

$$v(z, s, t) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} v_m(z, s, t),$$

where the above limit holds locally uniformly on  $B$ . Since every  $v_m(z, s, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical by induction on  $m$ ,  $v(z, s, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. By Proposition 1,  $f(z, s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^t v(z, s, t)$  locally uniformly on  $B$ . So  $f(z, s)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical too. This completes the proof.

**REMARK 7.** Let  $f(z, t)$  be a Loewner chain such that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $B$ . Assume that  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Then Hamada,

Honda and Kohr [7] showed that

$$\frac{\|z\|}{(1 + \|z\|^k)^{2/k}} \leq \|e^{-t}f(z, t)\| \leq \frac{\|z\|}{(1 - \|z\|^k)^{2/k}}, \quad z \in B, t \geq 0.$$

In Liu and Liu [13], it is shown that this result is sharp (cf. [2, Corollary 3.2.1]).

As corollaries to the above theorem, we obtain the following results.

**COROLLARY 8.** *Let  $f \in H(B)$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $B$ . Then  $f$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  and  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $e^{-i\alpha}[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z) \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.*

**Proof.** First, assume that  $f$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  and  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Then  $e^{-i\alpha}[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z) \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $f(\varepsilon_k z) = \varepsilon_k f(z)$ . Therefore,  $Df(\varepsilon_k z) = Df(z)$  and this implies that  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.

Next, assume that  $e^{-i\alpha}[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z) \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Also let  $a = \tan \alpha$ . Then  $f$  is spirallike of type  $\alpha$  by [8, Theorem 2.1], and  $f(z, t) = e^{(1-ia)t}f(e^{iat}z)$  is a Loewner chain by [8, Theorem 3.1], which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1. Since  $f(z, t)$  is of class  $C^\infty$  on  $B \times [0, \infty)$ , it follows in view of the relation (2.1) that

$$h(z, t) = [Df(z, t)]^{-1} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z, t) = iaz + (1 - ia)e^{-iat}[Df(e^{iat}z)]^{-1}f(e^{iat}z)$$

is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Hence  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical by Theorem 5. This completes the proof.

If we put  $\alpha = 0$  in the above corollary, we obtain the following corollary. This corollary solves the open problem which is described in the introduction (cf. [11, Open problem 4.6]).

**COROLLARY 9.** *Let  $f$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping on  $B$ . Then  $f$  is starlike and  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $[Df(z)]^{-1}f(z)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.*

For the Euclidean unit ball  $\mathbb{B}^n$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , we have the following necessary and sufficient condition for a mapping  $f$  which satisfies (3.1) to be  $k$ -fold symmetrical (cf. [1], [14]).

**THEOREM 10.** *Let  $f \in H(\mathbb{B}^n)$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping which satisfies the condition*

$$(3.1) \quad (1 - \|z\|^2) \| [Df(z)]^{-1} D^2 f(z)(z, \cdot) \| \leq 1, \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{B}^n.$$

*Then  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $M(z) = [Df(z)]^{-1} D^2 f(z)(z, \cdot)$  satisfies  $M(\varepsilon_k z) = M(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n$ .*

**Proof.** First, assume that  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. Then  $Df(\varepsilon_k z) = Df(z)$  and  $D^2f(\varepsilon_k z)(\varepsilon_k z, \cdot) = D^2f(z)(z, \cdot)$ . Therefore,  $M(\varepsilon_k z) = M(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n$ .

Next, assume that  $M(\varepsilon_k z) = M(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n$ . Let

$$(3.2) \quad f(z, t) = f(ze^{-t}) + (e^t - e^{-t})Df(ze^{-t})(z), \quad t \geq 0.$$

Since  $f$  satisfies the condition (3.1), it follows from [14, Theorem 2.4] that  $f(z, t)$  is a Loewner chain which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1 and

$$h(z, t) = [Df(z, t)]^{-1} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(z, t) = (I - E(z, t))^{-1}(I + E(z, t))(z),$$

for all  $t \geq 0$  and  $z \in B$ , where

$$E(z, t) = -(1 - e^{-2t})[Df(ze^{-t})]^{-1}D^2f(ze^{-t})(ze^{-t}, \cdot).$$

Since  $M(\varepsilon_k z) = M(z)$ , we obtain that  $E(\varepsilon_k z, t) = E(z, t)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{B}^n$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . Therefore, we obtain that  $h(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical for all  $t \geq 0$ . By Theorem 5,  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical. This completes the proof.

In the case of one complex variable, every Loewner chain satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1, i.e. every Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$  has the property that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family, by [18, Theorem 6.2]. However, in higher dimensions, there exists a Loewner chain which does not satisfy the assumptions of Proposition 1 [3, Example 2.12]. Also, in higher dimensions, there exists a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$  which does not satisfy the assumptions of Proposition 1 [7].

**REMARK 11.** (i) Let  $f$  be a normalized starlike mapping on  $B$ . This is equivalent to the fact that  $f(z, t) = e^t f(z)$  is a Loewner chain. It is obvious that  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical.

(ii) If  $f$  is a spirallike mapping of type  $\alpha$ , then it is clear that  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if  $f(z, t) = e^{(1-ia)t} f(e^{iat} z)$  is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain, where  $a = \tan \alpha$ .

(iii) Let  $f \in H(\mathbb{B}^n)$  be a normalized locally biholomorphic mapping which satisfies the assumption (3.1). Then  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical if and only if

$$f(z, t) = f(ze^{-t}) + (e^t - e^{-t})Df(ze^{-t})(z)$$

is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain.

(iv) Let  $f : B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  be a mapping which have parametric representation on  $B$ , i.e. there exists a Loewner chain  $f(z, t)$  such that  $\{e^{-t}f(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $B$  and  $f(z) = f(z, 0)$ ,  $z \in B$  (see [3]). Clearly if  $f(z, t)$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical then  $f$  is also  $k$ -fold symmetrical. However, if  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical then  $f(z, t)$  need not be  $k$ -fold symmetrical for each  $t \geq 0$ . For

example, let  $f$  be a normalized close-to-starlike mapping with respect to a normalized starlike mapping  $g$ . Then

$$f(z, t) = f(z) + (e^t - 1)g(z)$$

is a Loewner chain, and it is clear that if  $f$  is close-to-starlike with respect to  $g$ , then  $f \in S^0(B)$ . It is easy to see that if  $f$  is  $k$ -fold symmetrical but  $g$  is not  $k$ -fold symmetrical, then  $f(z, t)$  is not  $k$ -fold symmetrical for  $t > 0$ .

REMARK 12. Let  $f \in H(\mathbb{B}^n)$  be a normalized quasiregular mapping. If there exists a constant  $c < 1$  such that

$$(1 - \|z\|^2) \| [Df(z)]^{-1} D^2 f(z)(z, \cdot) \| \leq c, \quad z \in \mathbb{B}^n,$$

then  $f$  has a continuous extension to  $\overline{\mathbb{B}}^n$ , again denoted by  $f$ , and

$$F(z) = \begin{cases} f(z) & z \in \overline{\mathbb{B}}^n \\ f\left(\frac{z}{\|z\|}, \log \|z\|\right) & z \notin \overline{\mathbb{B}}^n, \end{cases}$$

where  $f(z, t)$  is a Loewner chain defined in (3.2), is a quasiconformal homeomorphism of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  onto itself, by [15]. In addition, if  $f$  is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical mapping, then the extension  $F$  is also  $k$ -fold symmetrical, i.e.  $F(\varepsilon_k z) = \varepsilon_k F(z)$  for  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

EXAMPLE 13. Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  and  $\beta \in [0, 1/2]$  be such that  $\alpha + \beta \leq 1$ . In the proof of [4, Theorem 2.1], the authors proved that if  $f(z_1, t)$  is a Loewner chain on  $U$ , then  $F_{n,\alpha,\beta}(z, t)$  is a Loewner chain which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1 on  $\mathbb{B}^n$ , where

$$(3.3) \quad F_{n,\alpha,\beta}(z, t) = \left( f(z_1, t), e^{(1-\alpha-\beta)t} \tilde{z} \left( \frac{f(z_1, t)}{z_1} \right)^\alpha (f'(z_1, t))^\beta \right)$$

for  $z = (z_1, \tilde{z}) \in \mathbb{B}^n$ . The branches of the power functions are chosen so that

$$\left. \left( \frac{f(z_1, 0)}{z_1} \right)^\alpha \right|_{z_1=0} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \left. (f'(z_1, 0))^\beta \right|_{z_1=0} = 1.$$

Moreover, we can easily show that if  $f(z_1, t)$  is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain, then  $F_{n,\alpha,\beta}(z, t)$  is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain which satisfies the assumptions of Proposition 1.

EXAMPLE 14. In the following result, we shall denote by  $\mathcal{LS}_n$  the set of normalized locally biholomorphic mappings in  $\mathbb{B}^n$ . Also for  $n \geq 1$ , let  $z' = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  so that  $z = (z', z_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ . Pfaltzgraff and Suffridge [17] defined the following extension operator  $\Phi_n : \mathcal{LS}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{LS}_{n+1}$  given by

$$\Phi_n(f)(z) = F(z) = \left( f(z'), z_{n+1} [J_f(z')]^{1/(n+1)} \right), \quad z = (z', z_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{B}^{n+1},$$

where  $J_f(z') = \det Df(z')$  for  $z' \in \mathbb{B}^n$ . On the other hand, in [6] the authors have recently proved that if  $f(z', t)$  is a Loewner chain on  $\mathbb{B}^n$  such that

$\{e^{-t}f(z', t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $\mathbb{B}^n$ , then  $F(z, t)$  is also a Loewner chain such that  $\{e^{-t}F(z, t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a normal family on  $\mathbb{B}^{n+1}$ , where

$$F(z, t) = \left( f(z', t), z_{n+1} e^{t/(n+1)} [J_{f_t}(z')]^{1/(n+1)} \right), z = (z', z_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{B}^{n+1}, t \geq 0,$$

and  $f_t(z') = f(z', t)$ . We choose the branch of the power function such that  $[J_{f_t}(z')]^{1/(n+1)} \Big|_{z'=0} = e^{nt/(n+1)}$  for  $t \geq 0$ .

Now, it is easy to see that if  $f(z', t)$  is a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain then  $F(z, t)$  is also a  $k$ -fold symmetrical Loewner chain.

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Hidetaka Hamada

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  
KYUSHU SANGYO UNIVERSITY  
3-1 Matsukadai 2-Chome, Higashi-ku  
FUKUOKA 813-8503, JAPAN  
e-mail: h.hamada@ip.kyusan-u.ac.jp

Gabriela Kohr

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY  
1 M. Kogălniceanu Str.  
400084 CLUJ-NAPOKA, ROMANIA  
e-mail: gkohr@math.ubbcluj.ro

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