

## Some remarks on the Casorati–Weierstrass theorem

by NESSIM SIBONY and PIT-MANN WONG\* (Orsay)

*Stefan Bergman in memoriam*

**Abstract.** We study the growth of the classical Bieberbach maps and show that there exists a sequence of such maps, of order  $\varepsilon$ , converging uniformly on compact sets to the identity map as  $\varepsilon$  converges to zero. Using the concept of capacity of an analytic set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  introduced by Stoll [7], we show that if the growth of the volume of an analytic set  $A$  is slow enough then every bounded holomorphic function on  $A$  is constant. From this we obtain a Casorati–Weierstrass theorem in terms of growth. More explicitly, let  $F$  be a non-degenerate holomorphic mapping from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to  $\mathbb{C}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ); if the growth of  $F$  is sufficiently slow we prove that  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus F(\mathbb{C}^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure zero.

**1. Remarks on the Bieberbach maps.** It is a classical result of Bieberbach that there exist holomorphic maps  $F: \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$  with constant, non-zero, jacobian determinant and such that  $\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \overline{F(\mathbb{C}^2)}$  is non-empty. We will refer to such maps as *Bieberbach maps*.

Following Stehlé [6], for each  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|k| > 1$ , we consider the following automorphism of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ :

$$\varphi = (u, v): \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$$

with

$$(1.1) \quad u(z_1, z_2) = kz_1 + j(z_2), \quad v(z_1, z_2) = kz_2 + j(kz_1 + j(z_2)),$$

where  $j(x) = x^2 [2(k-1)x + 3(1-k)]$  is a polynomial of one variable. Consequently (1.1) is a fixed point of  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi'(1, 1) = k \text{ Id}$ .

**THEOREM [6].** *The functional equation*

$$(1.2) \quad \varphi(F(z)) = F(kz)$$

*has a unique holomorphic solution  $F: \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$  satisfying  $F(0) = 0$  and  $F'(0) = \text{identity}$ . Furthermore the solution  $F$  is a Bieberbach map and  $(1, 1) \notin \overline{F(\mathbb{C}^2)}$ ;*

$$F(\mathbb{C}^2) = \{z/z \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi^{-n}(z) = 0\}.$$

---

\* The second author was partially supported by NSF research grant # MCS 77-01675.

Using this result we want to show:

**PROPOSITION 1.1.** *For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a Bieberbach map  $F_\varepsilon: \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$  satisfying  $\max_{|z| \leq r} |F_\varepsilon(z)| \leq c_\varepsilon \exp(r^\varepsilon)$ . Moreover, there exists a sequence  $\{F_\varepsilon\}$  of such maps converging uniformly, as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , on compact sets to the identity map on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and such that the point  $(1, 1) \notin \overline{F_\varepsilon(\mathbb{C}^2)}$  for all  $\varepsilon$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $F = (f, g)$  be the solution of the functional equation (1.2). By definition (1.1) of  $\varphi$  we have

$$(1.3) \quad f(kz) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=0}^N a_{\alpha\beta} f^\alpha(z) g^\beta(z), \quad g(kz) = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=0}^N b_{\alpha\beta} f^\alpha(z) g^\beta(z)$$

with  $|a_{\alpha\beta}|, |b_{\alpha\beta}| \leq ck^5$  for some  $c$  independent of  $k, \alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

Let  $M_f(r) = \max_{|z| \leq r} \log |f(z)|$  and  $M_g(r) = \max_{|z| \leq r} \log |g(z)|$ . Fix  $r_0$  so that  $M_f(r_0)$  and  $M_g(r_0)$  are strictly larger than 1. Then (1.3) implies that for  $r \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned} M_f(kr) &\leq \log \max_{|z| \leq r} \left( \sum_{\alpha, \beta=0}^N |a_{\alpha\beta}| |f(z)|^\alpha |g(z)|^\beta \right) \\ &\leq N(M_f(r) + M_g(r)) + \log(N^2 ck^5) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$M_g(kr) \leq N(M_f(r) + M_g(r)) + \log(N^2 ck^5).$$

Using these inequalities repeatedly we have for any positive integer  $s$

$$\begin{aligned} M_f(k^s r_0) &\leq (2N)^s (M_f(r_0) + M_g(r_0)) + \sum_{j=0}^{s-1} (2N)^j \log(N^2 ck^5) \\ &\leq (2N)^s \{M_f(r_0) + M_g(r_0) + \log(N^2 ck^5)\}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $r > r_0$  there exists an integer  $s$  such that

$$k^{s-1} r_0 \leq r < k^s r_0.$$

This implies that

$$(2N)^{s-1} \leq \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^\varrho, \quad \varrho = \log 2N / \log k.$$

Therefore

$$M_f(r) \leq M_f(k^s r_0) \leq \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^\varrho 2N \{M_f(r_0) + M_g(r_0) + \log(N^2 ck^5)\}.$$

Consequently

$$M_f(r) \leq c_k r^\varrho.$$

Since for sufficiently large  $k$ ,  $\varrho = \log 2N / \log k < \varepsilon$ , we have

$$\exp(M_f(r)) \leq \exp(c_k r^\varrho) = c_\varepsilon \exp(r^\varepsilon)$$

and

$$\exp(M_\theta(r)) \leq c_\varepsilon \exp(r^\varepsilon).$$

Thus

$$\max_{|z| \leq r} |F(z)| \leq 2c_\varepsilon \exp(r^\varepsilon).$$

This proves the first part of the proposition.

Denote by  $F_k$  the solution of the functional equation (1.2) then  $\varphi(z) = \sum_{j=1}^N \varphi_j(z)$  and  $F_k(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} P_{j,k}(z)$ , where  $\varphi_j$  and  $P_{j,k}$  are homogeneous polynomials of degree  $j$ . Since  $F_k(0) = 0$  and  $F'_k(0) = \text{identity}$ , we have  $P_{0,k}(z) = 0$  and  $P_{1,k}(z) = z$ . Then

$$(1.4) \quad |F_k(z) - z| \leq \sum_{j \geq 2} |P_{j,k}(z)| \leq \sum_{j \geq 2} \mu_{j,k} |z|^j,$$

where

$$\mu_{j,k} = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}^2} |P_{j,k}(z)/|z|^j|.$$

According to Stehlé ([7], p. 122), there is a positive constant  $M$  such that

$$(1.5) \quad \mu_{j,k} \leq \frac{M}{k^j - k} \sum_{\alpha} (c_{\alpha} \prod_p \mu_{p,k}^{\alpha_p}), \quad c_{\alpha} = \frac{|\alpha|!}{\prod_p (\alpha_p)!},$$

where the above summation ranges over all multi-indices  $\alpha$  with  $2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N = \deg \varphi$  and  $\sum_p p\alpha_p = j$ . Let  $\bar{\mu}_{1,k} = 1$  and define inductively

$$(1.6) \quad \bar{\mu}_{j,k} = \frac{M}{k^j - k} \sum_{\alpha} (c_{\alpha} \prod_p \bar{\mu}_{p,k}^{\alpha_p}), \quad j \geq 2,$$

where  $\alpha, p$  are as in (1.5).

Define

$$\bar{\mu}_j = M \sum C_{\alpha} \prod_p \bar{\mu}_p^{\alpha_p}.$$

Clearly for every  $k$  we have

$$\bar{\mu}_{j,k} \leq \frac{\bar{\mu}_j}{k^j - k}.$$

Observe that the series  $\sum \bar{\mu}_j x^j$  has a positive radius of convergence, in fact if

$$G(x, y) = y - M \sum_{j=2}^N (x+y)^j,$$

then

$$y(x) = \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \bar{\mu}_j x^j.$$

Then (1.4) implies

$$|F_k(z) - z| \leq \sum_{j \geq 2} \mu_{jk} |z|^j \leq \sum_{j \geq 2} \bar{\mu}_{j,k} |z|^j \leq \sum_{j \geq 2} \bar{\mu}_j \frac{|z|^j}{k^j - k}.$$

This last sum tends to zero, uniformly on bounded sets, as  $k$  tends to infinity. This shows that  $F_k$  converges uniformly to the identity on compact sets.

**2. Analytic sets of slow growth.** The maps in the preceding proposition are of exponential growth. We will show that if a holomorphic map grows sufficiently slowly then it has dense image. We begin by establishing a sufficient condition for the non-existence of bounded holomorphic functions on an analytic subvariety  $A$  in  $C^n$ . We will need the result of Stoll in [7].

For an analytic set  $A$  in  $C^n$  of pure dimension  $k$ , let  $A_r = A \cap B_r$  and  $\partial A_r = A \cap \partial B_r$ . Here  $B_r$  denotes the ball of center 0 and radius  $r$  in  $C^n$ . Let  $\chi_r$  denote the characteristic function of  $B_r$  and let  $[A]$  be the current of integration on  $A$ . Then for almost every  $r$  the current  $d(\chi_r[A])$  represents the current of integration on the regular points of the real analytic set  $\partial A_r$ ; denote this last current by  $[\partial A_r]$ .

In fact, let  $A = \bigcup_{j=0}^k A^j$ , where  $\bigcup_{s=0}^{p-1} A^s$  is the set of singular points of  $A^p$  and  $\dim A^p = p$ . Sard's theorem implies that, for almost every  $r$ ,  $\partial B_r$  is transverse to every  $A^p$ , consequently, for such  $r$ ,  $\partial A_r$  is a real analytic set of dimension  $2k-1$  and the set of its singular points is of dimension  $2k-3$ . Such  $r$  will be referred to as regular values. Therefore the current  $d(\chi_r[A]) - [\partial A_r]$  is supported by a set of dimension  $2k-3$ . By Federer [2], Theorems 4.1.15 and 4.1.20, it vanishes. This permits us to use Stokes' theorem in Lemma 2.2 below.

For simplicity we assume that  $0 \notin A$  and  $A$  is irreducible. Let  $\chi$  be a closed non-negative  $\mathcal{C}^2$  form of type  $(k-1, k-1)$  on  $A$ . Assume also that  $\chi > 0$  at some point of  $A$ . Then for regular values  $0 < s < r$  there exists (Stoll [7], Lemma 4.2, p. 72) a continuous function  $\varphi_{rs}$  on  $A$ ,  $\mathcal{C}^\infty$  on the simple points of  $A_r - \overline{A_s}$ , with the following properties:

- (1)  $0 \leq \varphi_{rs} \leq 1$ ,
- (2)  $\varphi_{rs} = 1$  on  $\overline{A_s}$  and  $\varphi_{rs} = 0$  on  $A \setminus A_r$ ,
- (3)  $dd^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi \equiv 0$ , where  $d^c = \frac{i}{4\pi} (\bar{\partial} - \partial)$ ,
- (4)  $-d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi > 0$  on  $\partial A_r \cup \partial A_s$ ,

and

$$(5) \quad - \int_{\partial A_r} d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi = - \int_{\partial A_s} d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi > 0.$$

In this paper  $\chi$  will always denote  $(dd^c \log |z|^2)^{k-1}$ , where  $|z|$  is the euclidian norm of  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ .

Following Stoll [7], define

$$(2.1) \quad c_{rs} = - \int_{\partial A_r} d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi.$$

For fixed  $s$ ,  $c_{rs}$  decreases as  $r$  increases. Hence  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} c_{rs}$  exists and

$$c_\infty(A) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} c_{rs} \geq 0$$

is called the *capacity* of  $A$ .

As usual we shall define

$$n(A, r) = \frac{c_n \text{vol}(A_r)}{r^{2k}} = \int_{A_r} (dd^c \log |z|^2)^k, \quad N(A, r) = \int_0^r \frac{n(A, t)}{t} dt,$$

where  $c_k$  is determined so that  $n(C^k, r) \equiv 1$ . We shall now prove that on an analytic set of "slow" growth there are no non-constant bounded holomorphic functions.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $A \subseteq C^n$  be an irreducible analytic set of pure dimension  $k$ . Suppose that*

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2} < \infty.$$

*Then every bounded holomorphic function on  $A$  is constant.*

For the proof we shall need the following lemma whose proof is quite standard.

**LEMMA 2.2.** *Let  $u$  be a function of class  $\mathcal{C}^2$  on  $A$ . Then if  $r$  and  $s$  are regular values,  $0 < s < r$ , we have*

$$(2.2) \quad \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c u \wedge \chi = \int_{\partial A_s - \partial A_r} u d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi.$$

**Proof.** Using Stokes' theorem and property (4) of  $\varphi_{rs}$  we have

$$\int_{\partial A_s - \partial A_r} u d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi = \int_{A_s - A_r} d[u d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi] = \int_{A_s - A_r} du \wedge d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi.$$

On the other hand, by type considerations, we have

$$du \wedge d^c \varphi \wedge \chi = d\varphi \wedge d^c u \wedge \chi.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{A_s - A_r} du \wedge d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi &= \int_{A_s - A_r} d\varphi_{rs} \wedge d^c u \wedge \chi \\ &= \int_{A_s - A_r} d(\varphi_{rs} d^c u \wedge \chi) - \int_{A_s - A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c u \wedge \chi \\ &= \int_{\partial A_s - \partial A_r} \varphi_{rs} d^c u \wedge \chi - \int_{A_s - A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c u \wedge \chi. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varphi_{rs} = 1$  on  $A_s$  and  $\varphi_{rs} = 0$  on  $A \setminus A_r$ , the last relation can be written as

$$\int_{\partial A_s} d^c u \wedge \chi - \int_{A_s} dd^c u \wedge \chi + \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c u \wedge \chi = \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c u \wedge \chi.$$

This is again a consequence of Stokes' theorem.

**Proof of Theorem 2.1.** Let  $f$  be a holomorphic function on  $A$  and let  $M_f(r) = \max_{|z| \leq r} \log(1 + |f|^2)(z)$ . Apply the above lemma to  $u = \log(1 + |f|^2)$ .

Then by property (4) of  $\varphi_{rs}$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c \log(1 + |f|^2) \wedge \chi &= \int_{\partial A_s - \partial A_r} \log(1 + |f|^2) d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi \\ &\leq - \int_{\partial A_r} \log(1 + |f|^2) d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$(2.3) \quad \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c \log(1 + |f|^2) \wedge \chi \leq c_{rs} M_f(r).$$

Applying Lemma 2.1 to  $u = \log |z|^2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2.4) \quad \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} dd^c \log |z|^2 \wedge \chi &= \int_{A_r} \varphi_{rs} (dd^c \log |z|^2)^k \\ &= \int_{\partial A_s - \partial A_r} \log |z|^2 d^c \varphi_{rs} \wedge \chi = 2c_{rs} \log \frac{r}{s}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $0 \leq \varphi_{rs} \leq 1$ , (2.4) implies

$$(2.5) \quad n(A, r) \geq 2c_{rs} \log \frac{r}{s}.$$

Since  $c_{rs}$  decreases as  $r$  increases, we have for regular values of  $t, s < t < r$ ,

$$(2.6) \quad 2c_{rs} \log \frac{t}{s} \leq 2c_{ts} \log \frac{t}{s} \leq n(A, t).$$

Integrating (2.6) we have

$$2c_{rs} \int_s^r \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{t}{s} dt \leq \int_s^r \frac{n_A(t)}{t} dt = N(A, r) - N(A, s),$$

and

$$(2.7) \quad c_{rs} \leq \frac{4[N(A, r) - N(A, s)]}{(\log r/s)^2} \leq 4 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r/s)^2}.$$

Using (2.3) and (2.7) and the fact that  $\varphi_{rs}$  is positive and equals one on  $A_s$ , we see that for  $0 < s < r$

$$(2.8) \quad \int_{A_s} dd^c \log(1 + |f|^2) \wedge \chi \leq 4 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r/s)^2} M_f(r).$$

If  $f$  is bounded and  $\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2} = 0$ , then by (2.8) and Fatou's lemma,  $f$  is constant.

To obtain the general case we need the following lemma which is probably well known.

**LEMMA 2.3.** *If  $U$  is a bounded connected open set in  $\mathbb{C}$ , there is a holomorphic function  $g$  from  $U$  to the unit disc  $D$  such that, for almost every  $a \in D$ ,  $g^{-1}(a)$  is infinite.*

**Proof.** If  $U = D$  the existence of such a function is well known, take any infinite Blaschke product. In the general case let  $h$  be the Ahlfors mapping of  $U$  with respect to  $z_0 \in U$ . Recall that  $h$  maximizes  $|f'(z_0)|$  among  $f \in H^\infty(U)$  satisfying  $\|f\|_\infty \leq 1$ ,  $f(z_0) = 0$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} f'(z_0) > 0$ . It is known that the Ahlfors function is unique and of modulus one on the Shilov boundary of  $H^\infty(U)$ , see [3] for example. We prove that  $D \setminus h(U)$  is of analytic capacity zero, i.e. every bounded holomorphic function on  $D \setminus h(U)$  extends to a function in  $H^\infty(D)$ . In fact if  $E$  is a closed set in  $D$  of positive analytic capacity with  $0 \notin E$ , then the Ahlfors function  $f$  of  $D \setminus E$  with respect to 0 is such that  $|f'(0)| > 1$ . Suppose  $|f'(0)| = 1$  then since  $f$  is unique  $f(z) = z$  and this function is not of modulus one on the part of the Shilov boundary which project on  $E$ , consequently  $|f'(0)| > 1$ . If  $D \setminus h(U)$  is not of analytic capacity 0,  $f \circ h$  will be such that  $|(f \circ h)'(z_0)| > |h'(z_0)|$ , contradicting the extremal property of  $h$ . Since  $D \setminus h(U)$  is of analytic capacity zero it is also of Lebesgue measure zero and if  $B$  is an infinite Blaschke product the function  $g = B \circ h$  satisfies the properties required by the lemma.

We return to the proof of the theorem. Suppose  $f$  is a non-constant holomorphic map from  $A$  to  $D$ . Choose a holomorphic function  $g$  from  $U = f(A)$  to  $D$  as in Lemma 2.3. Then for almost every  $a$  in the open set  $(g \circ f)(A)$ ,  $n(A \cap (g \circ f)^{-1}(a), r)$  tends to infinity as  $r$  tends to infinity. Replacing  $f$  by  $g \circ f$  we may assume that  $f$  itself has this property.

Let  $\omega$  be the Standard Kähler form on  $P^1$ , normalized so that  $\int_{P^1} \omega = 1$ . Choose  $s = \sqrt{r}$  in (2.8). Then

$$(2.9) \quad \int_{A_{\sqrt{r}}} f^* \omega \wedge \chi \leq 16 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2}.$$

Using Crofton's formula (cf. Shiffman [5], p. 79), we have

$$(2.10) \quad \int_{P^1} n(A \cap f^{-1}(a), \sqrt{r}) = \int_{A_{\sqrt{r}}} f^* \omega \wedge \chi \leq 16 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2},$$

and by Fatou's lemma

$$\int_{P^1} \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} n(A \cap f^{-1}(a), \sqrt{r}) \leq 16 \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2} < \infty.$$

Hence for almost all  $a \in P^1$

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} n(A \cap f^{-1}(a), \sqrt{r}) < \infty.$$

This is a contradiction. Hence  $f$  is constant.

**Remark 2.4.** Relation (2.7) implies that if  $\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r)^2} = 0$ , then  $C_\infty(A) = 0$  and consequently every smooth plurisubharmonic function on  $A$  is constant.

**3. A theorem of Casorati-Weierstrass type.** Let  $F$  be a holomorphic map from  $C^n$  to  $C^n$ . We suppose  $F$  is non-degenerate that is the Jacobian  $J_F$  of  $F$  is not identically zero. We are interested in finding conditions on  $F$  which will allow us to conclude that  $F(C^n)$  is dense in  $C^n$ . The only known result in this direction is apparently a theorem of Chern Stoll Wu, involving order functions, see [1] for a short proof. We have the following result.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$  be a holomorphic map from  $C^n$  to  $C^n$ . Suppose that  $F$  is non-degenerate and that for  $1 \leq q \leq n-1$*

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_{f_q}(r)}{(\log r)^{1+\epsilon_q}} < \infty$$

with  $\sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \epsilon_q \leq 1$ . Then  $C^n \setminus F(C^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure 0.

We shall need the following lemma.

**LEMMA 3.2.** *Let  $g$  be a holomorphic function in  $C^n$  satisfying  $g(0) = 0$  and  $M_g(r) = O((\log r)^{1+\epsilon})$ . Let  $A$  be an analytic set of dimension  $k$  with  $0 \notin A$ . Then if  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , there are positive constants  $C$  and  $C'$  such that*

$$\int_{P^1} N(A \cap g^{-1}(\lambda), r^\alpha) \leq \frac{C}{1-\alpha} (\log^+ r)^\epsilon N(A, r) + C' N(A, 2e).$$

**Proof.** By relation (2.8) and Crofton's formula

$$\int_{P^1} n(A \cap g^{-1}(\lambda), s) da(\lambda) \leq 4 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r/s)^2} M_g(r).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad & \int_{P^1} N(A \cap g^{-1}(\lambda), r^\alpha) da \\ & \leq \int_0^e 4 \frac{N(A, 2t)}{(\log 2)^2} M_g(2t) \frac{dt}{t} + \int_e^{r^\alpha} 4 \frac{N(A, r)}{(\log r/t)^2} M_g(r) \frac{dt}{t}. \end{aligned}$$

But by Schwarz's lemma  $M_g(2t) \leq Ct$ , for  $t \leq e$ , and there is a constant  $C_1$



such that  $M_g(r) \leq \sup [C_1(\log^+ r)^{1+\varepsilon}, C_1]$ . Therefore (3.1) can be majorized by

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 N(A, 2e) + 4N(A, r) C(\log^+ r)^{1+\varepsilon} \int_e^r \frac{1}{(\log r/t)^2} \frac{dt}{t} \\ \leq C_1 N(A, 2e) + \frac{C_2}{1-\alpha} (A, r) (\log^+ r)^\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** We shall denote by  $da$  the restriction of the standard measure on  $P^1$  to  $C$  and by  $da_1 \dots da_k$  the product measure on  $C^n$ . For  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k) \in C^k$  we denote

$$N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k, r) = N(f_1^{-1}(\lambda_1) \cap \dots \cap f_k^{-1}(\lambda_k), r).$$

Let  $F_q = (f_1, \dots, f_q)$ ,  $q \leq n$ . We prove by induction that  $C^q \setminus F_q(C^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure 0. The result is clear for  $q = 1$ . By induction suppose  $C^q \setminus F_q(C^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure zero. Let  $V = \{z/J_F(z) = 0\}$ . By hypothesis  $V$  is either of codimension one or empty. Let  $E_q = \{\lambda/\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q) \in C^q, F_q^{-1}(\lambda) \subset V\}$ . We first prove that  $E_q$  is of Lebesgue measure zero in  $C^q$ .

In fact by a very special case of an inequality of Federer [2] we have for  $r > 0$

$$\int H^{2(n-q)}(V \cap F_q^{-1}(\lambda) \cap B_r) d^{2q} \lambda \leq C_r H^{2n}(V \cap B_r).$$

Here  $H^p$  denotes the Hausdorff measure of dimension  $p$ ,  $d^{2q} \lambda$  denotes the Lebesgue measure in  $C^q$ , and  $C_r$  is a constant. In fact this inequality is valid for Lipschitz maps and metric spaces. Since  $H^{2n}(V \cap B_r) = 0$ , it follows that, for almost every  $\lambda$ ,  $H^{2(n-q)}(V \cap F_q^{-1}(\lambda) \cap B_r) = 0$ . Consequently, for such  $\lambda$ ,  $V \cap F_q^{-1}(\lambda)$  is of dimension  $n-q-1$ , but if  $F_q^{-1}(\lambda) \subset V$ , then  $H^{2(n-q)}(V \cap F_q^{-1}(\lambda) \cap B_r)$  would be strictly positive. Therefore for almost every  $\lambda \in C^q$  the function  $f_{q+1}$  is not locally constant on  $F_q^{-1}(\lambda)$ . It remains to prove that  $C \setminus f_{q+1}(F_q^{-1}(\lambda))$  is of Lebesgue measure 0 for almost every  $\lambda \in C^q$ , an application of Fubini's theorem will then prove that  $C^{q+1} \setminus F_{q+1}(C^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure 0.

We now prove that for almost every  $\lambda \in C^q$

$$(3.2) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q, r)}{(\log r)^2} < \infty, \quad q \leq n-1.$$

Recall that Jensen's formula on  $C^n$  gives the following inequality when  $k \leq q-1$ ,

$$(3.3) \quad \int_{P^1} N(\lambda_k, r) da_k \leq C_1 (\log^+ r)^{1+\varepsilon_k} + C_2,$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are constants. Lemma 3.2 implies

$$\int_C N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k, r) da_k \leq C_3 (\log^+ r)^{\varepsilon_k} N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{k-1}, r) + C_4 N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{k-1}, 2e).$$

By repeatedly using Fubini's theorem and then (at the last step) using (3.3) we arrive at

$$\int_{C^q} N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q, r) da_1 \dots da_q \leq C_5 (\log^+ r)^{1 + \sum_{i=1}^q \varepsilon_i} + C_6.$$

Therefore.

$$\int_{C^q} \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_q, r)}{(\log r)^2} da_1 \dots da_q < \infty.$$

This proves relation (3.2). By theorem (2.1) for almost every  $\lambda$ ,  $F_q^{-1}(\lambda)$  admit no non-trivial bounded holomorphic functions. Since  $f_{q+1}$  is not locally constant on  $F_q^{-1}(\lambda)$  then  $C \setminus f_{q+1}(F_q^{-1}(\lambda))$  is of analytic capacity zero, i.e. every bounded holomorphic function on the open set  $f_{q+1}(F_q^{-1}(\lambda))$  is constant. Therefore  $C \setminus f_{q+1}(F_q^{-1}(\lambda))$  is of Lebesgue measure 0.

Remark. Using remark (2.4) it is easy to show that if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_q(r)}{(\log r)^{1+\varepsilon_q}} = 0, \quad 1 \leq q \leq n-1,$$

then  $E = C^n \setminus F(C^n)$  is of zero  $\Gamma$ -capacity in the sense of Ronkin [4] and therefore  $H^{2n-1}[C^n \setminus F(C^n)] = 0$ , which is more precise than  $C^n \setminus F(C^n)$  is of Lebesgue measure zero.

#### Bibliography

- [1] J. Carlson and P. Griffiths, *The order functions for entire holomorphic mappings*, Value distribution theory, part B (edited by R. O. Kujala and A. L. Vitter), Marcel Dekker (1973).
- [2] H. Federer, *Geometric measure theory*, Die Grundlehren der Math. Band 153. Springer Verlag (1969).
- [3] S. Fisher, *On Schwarz's lemma and inner functions*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 138 (1968).
- [4] L. I. Ronkin, *Introduction to the theory of entire functions of several complex variables*, Transl. Math. Monographs AMS 44 (1974).
- [5] B. Shiffman, *Applications of geometric measure theory to the value distribution theory for meromorphic maps*, Value distribution theory, part B (edited by R. O. Kujala and A. L. Vitter), Marcel Dekker (1973).
- [6] J. L. Stehlé, *Plongements du disque dans  $C^2$* , Sémin. Lelong. Lecture Notes Math. 275 (1972).
- [7] W. Stoll, *The growth of the area of a transcendental analytic set I, II*, Math. Ann. 156 (1964).

Reçu par la Rédaction le 15. 9. 1978