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Effective formulas for complex geodesics in generalized pseudoellipsoids with applications

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Abstract. We introduce a class of generalized pseudoellipsoids and we get formulas for their complex geodesics in the convex case. Using these formulas we get a description of automorphisms of the pseudoellipsoids. We also solve the problem of biholomorphic equivalence of convex complex ellipsoids without any sophisticated machinery.

1. Introduction. For any domain $D \subset \mathbb{C}^n$, $w, z \in D$ we define

 $\widetilde{k}_D(w,z) = \inf\{p(\lambda_1,\lambda_2): \text{ there is a holomorphic mapping} \\ \varphi: E \to D \text{ such that } \varphi(\lambda_1) = w, \varphi(\lambda_2) = z\},$

 $c_D(w, z) = \sup\{p(\varphi(w), \varphi(z)) : \varphi : D \to E \text{ is a holomorphic mapping}\},\$

 k_D is the largest pseudodistance on D not exceeding \tilde{k}_D ,

where E is the unit open disk in \mathbb{C} and p is the Poincaré distance on E.

 k_D is called the *Lempert function*, and c_D (respectively k_D) is called the Carathéodory (respectively Kobayashi) pseudodistance of D.

Since k_D, k_D, c_D are often not very easy to handle we shall often use the associated functions with the same properties: $d_D^* = \tanh(d_D)$, where d is \tilde{k}, k or c.

Below writing d we mean c, k or k.

DEFINITION 1.1. For a domain D we say that a mapping $\varphi : E \to D$ is a *d*-geodesic for D if $d_D(\varphi(\lambda_1), \varphi(\lambda_2)) = p(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ for any $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in E$.

It is known that for any domain $D \subset \mathbb{C}^n$,

(1.1) $c_D \le k_D \le \widetilde{k}_D.$

If D is a convex domain, then we have equality:

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THEOREM 1.2 (see [L]). If $D \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ is a convex domain, then

(1.2)
$$c_D = \widetilde{k}_D.$$

Moreover, if D is additionally bounded, then for all $(w, z) \in D \times D$ with $w \neq z$ there is a k-geodesic $\varphi : E \to D$ such that $w, z \in \varphi(E)$ (certainly this mapping is also a \tilde{k} - and c-geodesic).

In view of Theorem 1.2 we can introduce the notion of a complex geodesic for convex domains because all the geodesics that we consider are in this case identical.

Below we define a class of domains, which are in the scope of our interest. Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}_*$. Assume that m_0 is a positive natural number; for $j = 1, \ldots, m_0$ consider numbers $m_j \in \mathbb{N}_*$. Next, we assume that we have positive natural numbers $\{m_{j,k}\}_{k=1}^{m_j}$, where $j = 1, \ldots, m_0$; and, generally, for $k \leq n-1$ we have $\{m_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\}_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \subset \mathbb{N}_*$. Given a system of m's we consider a system of positive numbers given as follows: $\{p_j\}_{j=1}^{m_0}$, $\{p_{j,k}\}_{k=1}^{m_j}$, where $j = 1, \ldots, m_0$; and, generally, $\{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\}_{j_k=1}^{m_j,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$, where $k = 1, \ldots, n-1$.

Let us define a generalized complex pseudoellipsoid \mathcal{E} by

$$\mathcal{E} := \Big\{ z : \sum_{j_1=1}^{m_0} \Big(\dots \Big(\sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |z_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|^2 \Big)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \dots \Big)^{p_{j_1}} < 1 \Big\},$$

where m's and p's are as above.

Let us introduce the following convention: if in the sequel we have some letter with a system of subscripts (j_1, \ldots, j_k) , where k = 0, then we mean the same letter with subscript 0. For a point $z \in \mathbb{C}^N$, where

$$N = \sum_{j_1=1}^{m_0} \left(\dots \left(\sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} \right) \dots \right),$$

writing $z = (z_1, ..., z_{m_0})$ we mean $z_j = (z_{j,1}, ..., z_{j,m_j})$ for $j = 1, ..., m_0$ and generally $z_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}} = (z_{j_1,...,j_{k-1},1}, ..., z_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}}, m_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}})$ for k = 2, ..., n and $z_{j_1,...,j_n} \in \mathbb{C}$. Additionally, we put $p_{j_1,...,j_n} := 1$ and $p_0 = 1$.

We also use the same convention for mappings going to \mathbb{C}^N . For convenience set, for $k = 1, \ldots, n$ and fixed (j_1, \ldots, j_{k-1}) ,

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(z) \\ := \sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} \left(\dots \left(\sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |z_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|^2\right)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}\dots\right)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}},$$

for $z \in \mathbb{C}^N$. Certainly,

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(z) = \sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} J_{j_1,\dots,j_k}(z)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}.$$

Note that for n = 1, \mathcal{E} is an m_0 -dimensional Euclidean ball, which we denote by B_{m_0} . If n = 2, then \mathcal{E} is a generalized complex ellipsoid considered for instance in [KKM] and [DP] (if $m_j = 1$ for $j = 1, \ldots, m_0$, then we have usual complex ellipsoids).

Below we only consider pseudoellipsoids such that

(1.3)
$$p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\ldots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} \ge 1/2$$

for $k = 1, \ldots, n - 1$ and all possible (j_1, \ldots, j_n) .

LEMMA 1.3. A generalized pseudoellipsoid \mathcal{E} is convex iff \mathcal{E} may be defined by coefficients $p_{j_1,...,j_k}$ satisfying (1.3).

Proof. To prove sufficiency we verify that for $j_1 = 1, \ldots, m_0$ the function $J_{j_1}^{p_{j_1}}$ is convex on \mathbb{C}^N .

Using induction on k we prove that $J_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}^{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}}$ is convex for all $k, (j_1,\ldots,j_k)$ and any system of p_{j_1,\ldots,j_t} with $t=n,\ldots,k$ satisfying (1.3).

If k = n - 1, then

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}(z) = \|z_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\|^{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}},$$

where the exponent is at least 1, which completes the first inductive step.

Assume that we have proved convexity for $k, 2 \le k \le n-1$, and consider the case k-1. For $t \in [0, 1]$ we have

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}}(tz+(1-t)w) = \left(\sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} J_{j_1,\dots,j_k}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}(tz+(1-t)w)\right)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}}.$$

Let us put

$$\widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} := \min_{\substack{j_n,\dots,j_{k+1}}} \{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k+1}}\}$$
$$\widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} := \min_{\substack{j_n,\dots,j_k}} \{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\}.$$

Using the inductive assumption for $J_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}^{1/\tilde{p}_{j_1},\ldots,j_k}$, the fact that $\tilde{p}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}/\tilde{p}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$ and $\tilde{p}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$ are at least 1 (so suitable functions are convex) and the triangle inequality for the norm $||(x_1,\ldots,x_s)||_q := (|x_1|^q + \ldots + |x_s|^q)^{1/q}$, where $s = m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$, $q = \tilde{p}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$ (q is at least 1)

we get

$$\begin{split} & \Big(\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}} J_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}} \tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}} p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}(tz+(1-t)w)\Big)^{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \\ & \leq \left(\Big(\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} ((tJ_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}}(z)+(1-t) \\ & \times J_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}}(w)\Big)^{\frac{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}} p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}}\Big)^{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}\Big)^{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}\Big)^{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \\ & \leq \left(\Big(\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}} (tJ_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{\frac{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}}(z) \\ & + (1-t)J_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{\frac{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}}(w)\Big)^{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}\Big)^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}}\Big)^{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \\ & \leq \left(t\Big(\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} J_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}^{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}(w)\Big)^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}} \\ & + (1-t)\Big(\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} J_{j_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}^{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}}}(w)\Big)^{\frac{1}{\tilde{p}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}} \\ & \leq tJ_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}^{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}(z) + (1-t)J_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}^{p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}}(w), \end{split}$$

which completes the proof of sufficiency.

Suppose now that \mathcal{E} is convex and cannot be defined by p's satisfying (1.3). Consequently, we can find (changing p's if necessary) $k \in \{1, \ldots, n-1\}$ and $(\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_n)$ such that

$$p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \ldots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} < 1/2 \quad \text{and} \quad m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}} > 1.$$

There is a subscript $(\hat{j}_1, \ldots, \hat{j}_{k-1}, j_k, \ldots, j_n)$ of p, where $j_k \neq \hat{j}_k$. Note that the intersection of the linear subspace spanned by the $(\hat{j}_1, \ldots, \hat{j}_n)$ th and the $(\hat{j}_1, \ldots, \hat{j}_{k-1}, j_k, \ldots, j_n)$ th vectors from the standard vector base of \mathbb{C}^N with \mathcal{E} is linearly isomorphic to

$$\{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : |\lambda_1|^{2q_1} + |\lambda_2|^{2q_2} < 1\}$$

where $q_1 = p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \ldots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$, $q_2 = p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k,\ldots,j_n} \ldots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k}$, which is not convex—a contradiction.

In view of Lemma 1.3, for generalized pseudoellipsoids with (1.3) we may consider complex geodesics. In the sequel, unless otherwise stated, we always assume that \mathcal{E} satisfies (1.3).

In Chapter 2 we formulate and prove a theorem giving explicit formulas for complex geodesics in convex generalized pseudoellipsoids. The idea of the proof is identical to the one presented in [JPZ] (see also [JP]), where these formulas are obtained for convex complex ellipsoids. Since, however, some parts of the proof are a little more subtle and tedious than those presented in the above mentioned works we give the whole proof. Let us remark here that so far very few effective formulas for complex geodesics are known. Besides the above mentioned works let us mention the papers [BFKKMP], [P], [Ge], [DT] dealing with formulas for complex geodesics in special cases of convex ellipsoids.

In Chapter 3 we prove a proposition which allows us to describe all automorphisms of \mathcal{E} (however, not for all convex \mathcal{E}). The proof is based on the explicit formulas for complex geodesics and an extension theorem for biholomorphic mappings between bounded complete Reinhardt domains (see [JP], [B]).

Finally, in Chapter 4, we restrict our attention to a special case of \mathcal{E} and we solve the problem of biholomorphic equivalence of convex complex ellipsoids by only using the formulas for complex geodesics but avoiding the use of the theorem on holomorphic extension of biholomorphic mappings between ellipsoids to their closures. This gives an answer to a question in [JP]. Let us underline once more that in this proof we avoid the use of the theory of the Bergman kernel (as in [JP]) or Lie theory (as in [KU] and [N]).

2. Explicit formulas for convex generalized pseudoellipsoids. As already announced we assume in this chapter that \mathcal{E} satisfies condition (1.3).

LEMMA 2.1. Let $\varphi : E \to \mathbb{C}^N$ be a bounded, nonconstant, holomorphic mapping such that $\varphi_{j_1,...,j_n} \not\equiv 0$ for all possible $(j_1,...,j_n)$. Then φ is a geodesic in \mathcal{E} iff there are mappings $h_{j_1,...,j_n} \in H^1(E,\mathbb{C})$ and $\varrho : \partial E \to \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ such that

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{1}{\lambda} h_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda) = \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \overline{\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)} a.e. \ on \ \partial E (2.2) \qquad \qquad J_0(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = 1 \qquad a.e. \ on \ \partial E,$$

with the product equal to 1 if n = 1.

Here H^1 denotes the Hardy space, $\varphi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*$ and h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^* stand for non-tangential boundary values.

Proof. This follows from the fact that the unit outer normal vector $\nu(z) \in \mathbb{C}^N$ to $\partial \mathcal{E}$ at $z \in \partial \mathcal{E} \cap (\mathbb{C}_*)^N$ is given by the formula

$$\nu_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(z) = \widetilde{\varrho}(z) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(z))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1}\Big) z_{j_1,\dots,j_n},$$

with the product equal to 1 if n = 1, where $\tilde{\varrho}(z) > 0$, and from Corollary 8.4.5 of [JP].

THEOREM 2.2. A bounded holomorphic mapping $\varphi : E \to \mathbb{C}^N$ such that $\varphi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \not\equiv 0$ for all possible (j_1,\ldots,j_n) is a geodesic in \mathcal{E} iff

$$\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) = \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda}\right)^{s_{j_1,\dots,j_n}} \times \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \left(a_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}}\right),$$

where $s_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in \{0,1\}$, $a_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} \in \mathbb{C}_*$, $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} \in \overline{E}$ for all possible (j_1,\ldots,j_k) , $\alpha_0 \in E$; if additionally $s_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 1$, then $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in E$; moreover, if $|\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}| = 1$, then $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = \alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$ for all $j_k = 1,\ldots,m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}$; also, the following relations hold for $k = 1,\ldots,n$:

(2.3)
$$\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} = \sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2 \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k},$$

(2.4)
$$1 + |\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}|^2 = \sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2 (1 + |\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2).$$

Finally, the case $s_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 0$ and $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = \alpha_0$ for all possible (j_1,\ldots,j_k) is excluded.

Proof. First we prove that the above formulas are really formulas for complex geodesics. For those $\lambda \in \overline{E}$ for which it makes sense, define

$$P_{j_1,\dots,j_n,l}(\lambda) := \prod_{k=1}^l \left(a_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} \lambda} \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}}$$

for $l = 1, \ldots, n$ and, additionally, $P_{j_1, \ldots, j_n, 0}(\lambda) := 1$.

We also put

$$Q_{j_1,\dots,j_l} := P_{j_1,\dots,j_n,l}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_{l+1}}}$$
 for $l = 0,\dots,n-1$.

Since the right-hand side does not depend on the choice of (j_{l+1}, \ldots, j_n) , Q_{j_1,\ldots,j_l} is well defined.

We have the following equality a.e. on ∂E :

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = \sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2$$

= $|Q_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(\lambda)|^2 \sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|^2 \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\lambda|^2},$

which in view of (2.3) and (2.4) equals $|Q_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}(\lambda)|^2$. For the same reason, for almost all $\lambda \in \partial E$ we have

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\varphi^*(\lambda))$$

$$= \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}$$

$$= \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} |Q_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(\lambda)|^{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}$$

$$= |Q_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)|^2 \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}|^2 \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\lambda|^2}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}\lambda|^2}$$

$$= |Q_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)|^2,$$

and generally, for almost all $\lambda \in \partial E$,

(2.5)
$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = |Q_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)|^2$$

for l = 1, ..., n. For l = 1 we thus get (2.2). To prove (2.1), define

$$h_{j_1,...,j_n}(\lambda) := \frac{(1 - \bar{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_n} \lambda)^2}{P_{j_1,...,j_n,n}(\lambda)} \\ \times \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,...,j_n}}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_{n-1}} \lambda}\right)^{1 - s_{j_1,...,j_n}} \prod_{k=1}^n p_{j_1,...,j_k} |a_{j_1,...,j_k}|^2$$

for $\lambda \in E$ and

$$\varrho(\lambda) := |1 - \alpha_0 \lambda|^2 \quad \text{for } \lambda \in \partial E$$

In view of the assumptions on α_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} and (1.3), $h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in H^{\infty}(E)$. We want to prove that a.e. on ∂E we have

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \lambda)^2 \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \lambda} \right)^{1 - s_{j_1,\dots,j_n}} \prod_{k=1}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2$$
$$= \varrho(\lambda) \left(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} - 1} \right)$$
$$\times \overline{\left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \lambda} \right)^{s_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}} |P_{j_1,\dots,j_n,n}(\lambda)|^2.$$

By (2.5) this is equivalent to

(2.6)
$$\frac{1}{\lambda} (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1, \dots, j_n} \lambda) (\lambda - \alpha_{j_1, \dots, j_n}) \prod_{k=1}^n p_{j_1, \dots, j_k} |a_{j_1, \dots, j_k}|^2 = \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}} |Q_{j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}}(\lambda)|^{2(p_{j_1, \dots, j_{k-1}} - 1)} \Big) |P_{j_1, \dots, j_n, n}(\lambda)|^2.$$

But in view of the definition of $P_{j_1,\ldots,j_n,k}$ and Q_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} the exponent of the expression

$$\left|a_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right)\right|$$

for k = 1, ..., n - 1 on the right-hand side of (2.6) is

$$\frac{2}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}} + \frac{2(p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}-1)}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}} + \frac{2(p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}-1)}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k+1}}} + \dots + \frac{2(p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}-1)}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}},$$

which equals 2. One can also easily see that the exponent is the same for k = n. Therefore, (2.6) reduces to

$$\frac{1}{\lambda}(1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda)(\lambda-\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}) = |1-\overline{\alpha}_0\lambda|^2 \prod_{k=1}^n \left|\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right|^2,$$

i.e.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda}(1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda)(\lambda-\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_n})=|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda|^2,$$

which is obviously true for $\lambda \in \partial E$.

To prove the converse implication one can take h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} as in Lemma 2.1. In view of Lemma 8.4.6 of [JP] (see also [Ge]) we get, for $\lambda \in E$,

(2.7)
$$\varphi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}(\lambda)h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}(\lambda) = r_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}(\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_n})(1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda),$$

(2.8)
$$\sum_{j_{k}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \dots \sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n-1}}} \varphi_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n}}(\lambda) h_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n}}(\lambda) \\ = r_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}(\lambda - \alpha_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}})(1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}}\lambda),$$

where $k = 1, \ldots, n$; $r_{j_1, \ldots, j_p} > 0$, $\alpha_{j_1, \ldots, j_p} \in \overline{E}$ for $p = 0, \ldots, n$ and all possible (j_1, \ldots, j_p) ; if $\varphi_{j_1, \ldots, j_n}$ has a root in E, then we put $s_{j_1, \ldots, j_n} := 1$, otherwise $s_{j_1, \ldots, j_n} := 0$.

We see that if $s_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 1$, then $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in E$. From (2.7) and (2.8) we get

(2.9)
$$r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} = \sum_{\substack{j_k=1\\j_k=1}}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k},$$

(2.10)
$$r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(1+|\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}|^2) = \sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}(1+|\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2),$$

for $k = 1, \ldots, n$ and all possible (j_1, \ldots, j_{k-1}) .

From (2.9) and (2.10) we conclude that a.e. on ∂E we have

(2.11)
$$\sum_{j_k=1}^{m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \frac{r_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}} \left| \frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}\lambda} \right|^2 = 1.$$

Hence we easily see that

(2.12) if
$$|\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}| = 1$$
, then $\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k} = \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}$
for $j_k = 1,\dots,m_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}$;

in particular,

(2.13) if
$$|\alpha_0| = 1$$
, then $\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_p} = \alpha_0$
for $p = 1,\dots,n$ and all possible (j_1,\dots,j_p)

In view of (2.7) and Lemma 2.1 we see that a.e. on ∂E ,

(2.14)
$$\varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) |\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2$$
$$= |h^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)| = r_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda|^2$$

Summing now the left-hand side of (2.14), for (j_1, \ldots, j_{n-1}) fixed, with respect to j_n from 1 to $m_{j_1,\ldots,j_{m_{j_1},\ldots,j_{n-1}}}$ we get a.e. on ∂E (we also

use (2.8))

$$\begin{split} \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n-1} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ & \times p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} \Big(\sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2 \Big)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \Big(\Big(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} \\ & \times (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) |\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2 \Big) \\ &= \Big| \sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} h^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) \varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) \Big| \\ &= r_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} |1 - \bar{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} \lambda|^2. \end{split}$$

Using again this procedure (this time summing the left-hand side of the previous equality w.r.t. j_{n-1} with (j_1, \ldots, j_{n-2}) fixed) we get

$$\begin{split} \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n-2} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ &\times p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}} \min_{j_{n-1}} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}-1} \\ &\leq \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n-2} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ &\times p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}-1} \\ &\times \Big(\sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} \Big(\sum_{j_{n=1}}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}-1} |\varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2 \Big)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \Big) \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} \sum_{j_{n=1}}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}-1} \Big(\Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n} p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} (\lambda)|^2 \Big)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \Big) \\ &= \Big| \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}} \sum_{j_{n=1}}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}-1} h_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^* (\lambda) \varphi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n} (\lambda) \Big| \\ &= r_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}}|^2 \end{split}$$

$$\leq \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{n-2} p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ \times p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}} \max_{j_{n-1}} \{ p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}} \} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}} (\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}}.$$

And, generally,

$$(2.15) \quad \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{l} p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}} \left(J_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)) \right)^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ \times p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}} \min_{j_{n},\dots,j_{l+1}} \{ p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}} \dots p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l+1}} \} (J_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)))^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}} \\ \leq r_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}} \lambda|^{2} \\ \leq \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^{l} p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)))^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ \times p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}} \max_{j_{n},\dots,j_{l+1}} \{ p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}} \dots p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l+1}} \} (J_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)))^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}},$$

for $l = 2, \ldots, n$ and moreover,

$$(2.16) \quad p_{j_1}\varrho(\lambda) \min_{j_n,\dots,j_2} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,j_2}\} (J_{j_1}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1}} \\ \leq r_{j_1}|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1}\lambda|^2 \leq p_{j_1}\varrho(\lambda) \max_{j_n,\dots,j_2} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,j_2}\} (J_{j_1}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1}}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (2.17) \quad \varrho(\lambda) \min_{j_n,\dots,j_1} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \dots p_{j_1}\} \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \min_{j_n,\dots,j_1} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \dots p_{j_1}\} (J_0(\varphi^*(\lambda))) \\ &\leq r_0 |1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda|^2 \leq \varrho(\lambda) \max_{j_n,\dots,j_1} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \dots p_{j_1}\} (J_0(\varphi^*(\lambda))) \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \max_{j_n,\dots,j_1} \{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \dots p_{j_1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

 Set

$$R_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\lambda) := \varrho(\lambda) \prod_{k=2}^l p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (J_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1}$$

for $\lambda \in \partial E$ a.e., l = 2, ..., n, and additionally $R_0(\lambda) := \varrho(\lambda)$. Then it is clear that

(2.18)
$$R_{j_1,...,j_l}(\lambda) = R_{j_1,...,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,...,j_l}(J_{j_1,...,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1},...,j_l-1}$$

for $l = 1,...,n-1$. From (2.15) and (2.16) we get
(2.19)
$$R_{j_1,...,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,...,j_l}\min_{j_n,...,j_{l+1}} \{p_{j_1,...,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,...,j_{l+1}}\}$$
$$\times (J_{j_1,...,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1},...,j_l}$$

$$\times (J_{j_1,\ldots,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_l}}$$

$$\leq r_{j_1,...,j_l} |1 - \bar{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_l} \lambda|^2 \leq R_{j_1,...,j_{l-1}}(\lambda) p_{j_1,...,j_l} \times \max_{\substack{j_n,...,j_{l+1} \\ j_n,...,j_l + 1}} \{ p_{j_1,...,j_n} \dots p_{j_1,...,j_{l+1}} \} (J_{j_1,...,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,...,j_l}},$$

so in other words,

$$(2.20) \quad \frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_l}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}} \cdot \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}} \\ \leq J_{j_1,\dots,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}} \leq \frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_l}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}} \cdot \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}},$$

for l = 1, ..., n - 1, where $\mathcal{M}_{j_1,...,j_l}$ (respectively $\mathcal{N}_{j_1,...,j_l}$) is the maximum (respectively minimum) from the earlier formula; \mathcal{M}_0 (respectively \mathcal{N}_0) equals max (respectively min) with respect to $j_1, ..., j_n$ and $\mathcal{M}_{j_1,...,j_n} := \mathcal{N}_{j_1,...,j_n} := 1$.

From (2.14) and (2.18) we get, a.e. on ∂E ,

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2 &= \frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_n-1}(\lambda)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(J_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we put $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} := 1$; in view of (2.20) the last expression is at least

$$\frac{\frac{r_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}} \times \frac{\left(\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}R_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)\right)^{1-\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}}}}{\left(r_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}\lambda|^2\right)^{1-\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_{n-1}}}}},$$

where we put

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} := \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} & \text{if } p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \ge 1, \\ \mathcal{M}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} & \text{if } p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} < 1. \end{cases}$$

We define $\widetilde{\mathcal{N}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$ by the same formula, but with the conditions interchanged (so it equals $\mathcal{N}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$ if $p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} < 1$). In other words, we have

$$|\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2 \ge \left(\frac{\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\lambda|^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}}$$

Complex geodesics in generalized pseudoellipsoids

$$\left(\frac{\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-2}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}}}$$

Repeating this procedure, in view of (2.18) and (2.20) we get

$$(2.21) \quad |\varphi_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}^{*}(\lambda)|^{2} \\ \geq \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\frac{\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}-1}p_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}\lambda|^{2}}{\frac{\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}-1}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}}} \right) \\ \times \left(\frac{\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}\lambda|^{2}}{R_{j_{1},...,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}^{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}}},$$

for l = 1, ..., n - 1.

 \times

In view of (2.17) (remember that $R_0 = \rho$),

$$(2.22) \qquad |\varphi_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}^{*}(\lambda)|^{2} \\ \geq \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n} \left(\frac{\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}p_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}} \right) \\ \times \left(\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}^{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1}}}\dots p_{j_{1}}^{p_{j_{1}}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}\dots p_{j_{1}}}}.$$

We can also estimate φ_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} from above analogously to (2.21) and (2.22);

we get the same bound with $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$ replaced by $\widetilde{\mathcal{N}}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$. Note that if for some $l \in \{1,\ldots,n-1\}$, p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} is independent of the choice of (j_1,\ldots,j_k) for any $k \in \{l+1,\ldots,n\}$, then in (2.21) we have equality. More precisely, a.e. on ∂E ,

$$(2.23) \qquad |\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2 \\ = \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^n \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda|^2}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}\right) \\ \times \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_l}|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}\lambda|^2}{R_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}(\lambda)p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}}}.$$

Note also that in view of (2.14) and (2.22), a.e. on ∂E ,

$$|h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda)| \leq \frac{C|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\lambda|^2}{\prod_{k=1}^n \left|\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right|^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\ldots,p_{j_1}\ldots,j_k}}}.$$

•

If $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} \in E$ for all possible (j_1,\ldots,j_k) (or $|\alpha_0| = 1$ and then see (2.13)), then $h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in H^{\infty}(E)$. But if $|\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}| = 1$ for some k and $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}} \in E$, then (see (2.12))

(2.24)
$$h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}(\lambda)(1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}\lambda)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}}-2} \in H^{\infty}(E).$$

In particular, $h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in H^{\infty}(E)$ (see (1.3)).

Consider now the special case

$$p_{j_1,\ldots,j_l} = \widetilde{q}_l$$
 for $l = 1,\ldots,n$.

In this case we have a.e. on ∂E (see (2.23) for l = 1—remember that $R_0 \tilde{q}_1 \dots \tilde{q}_n = \varrho \tilde{q}_1 \dots \tilde{q}_n = r_0 |1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda|^2$ in view of (2.17))

$$|\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2 = \prod_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \lambda|^2}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} \lambda|^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}$$

Since

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n} \left(r_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} (1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} \lambda)^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \cdots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}}}$$

is an outer function, the decomposition theorem (see [Ga]) implies that for $\lambda \in E$,

(2.25)
$$\varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) = B_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) \\ \times \left(\prod_{k=1}^n a_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots,p_{j_1}\dots,p_{j_k}}}\right) S_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)$$

where

$$|a_{j_1,\dots,j_k}| = \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}}\right)^{1/2} \quad \text{for } k = 1,\dots,n,$$
$$B_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_n}}{1 - \bar{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\lambda} & \text{if } s_{j_1,\dots,j_n} = 1,\\ 1 & \text{if } s_{j_1,\dots,j_n} = 0, \end{cases}$$
$$S_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) = \exp\left(-\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{e^{i\theta} + \lambda}{e^{i\theta} - \lambda} \, d\sigma_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\theta)\right),$$

where σ_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} is a singular nonnegative Borel measure.

It is sufficient to prove that $\sigma_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 0$, because then, in view of (2.13), if $|\alpha_0| = 1$, then $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = \alpha_0$ and $s_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 0$ for all possible (j_1,\ldots,j_k) , which implies that φ is constant—a contradiction; so $\alpha_0 \in E$. Moreover, (2.9) and (2.10) yield (2.3) and (2.4). To prove that $\sigma_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 0$ note that in view of (2.25), (2.7) and the fact that $h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in H^{\infty}(E)$ we get

$$|S_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)| \ge \frac{\varepsilon |\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_n}| |1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \lambda|^2}{\prod_{k=1}^n \left| \frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} \lambda} \right|^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}$$

for $\lambda \in E$ and some $\varepsilon > 0$. But

$$S_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda) = 0$$
 for σ_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} -almost all $\lambda \in \partial E$.

From these two conditions together with (2.12) we deduce, in view of the fact that the function

$$E \ni \lambda \to |\lambda - 1|^{\beta} \exp\left(b\frac{1 - |\lambda|^2}{|\lambda - 1|^2}\right), \quad \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \ b > 0,$$

is unbounded, that $\sigma_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} = 0$.

Now consider the general case. We use induction. The previous case is the first inductive step. Assume that we have already proved the formulas for $p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = \tilde{q}_k$ for $k = n, \ldots, l$.

Assume now that for l < n,

$$p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = \widetilde{q}_k \quad \text{for } k = n,\ldots,l+1.$$

We may write (compare (2.23))

$$(2.26) \quad \varphi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) = B_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda) \\ \times \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^n \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}\right) \\ \times \psi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)$$

for $\lambda \in E$, where $r_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}, \alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$ are as in (2.7) and (2.8) and B_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} is the Blaschke product of φ_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} .

In view of (2.23) it is clear that $|\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|$ is independent of the choice of (j_{l+1},\ldots,j_n) a.e. on ∂E and (2.20) implies additionally that

(2.27)
$$\psi_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \in H^{\infty}(E).$$

Define

$$\widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_k} := p_{j_1,\dots,j_k} \quad \text{for } k \neq l,$$

$$\widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_l} := \widetilde{q}_l := \max_{j_1,\dots,j_l} \{ p_{j_1,\dots,j_l} \}$$

Let us also put

$$(2.28) \quad \widetilde{\varphi}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)$$
$$:= B_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)$$
$$\times \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^n \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda}\right)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots,j_1,\dots,j_k}}\right)$$
$$\times \psi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}/\tilde{q}_l}$$

and

(2.29)
$$\widetilde{h}_{j_1,...,j_n} := \frac{\widetilde{q}_l}{p_{j_1,...,j_l}} h_{j_1,...,j_n} \frac{\varphi_{j_1,...,j_n}}{\widetilde{\varphi}_{j_1,...,j_n}} \\ = \frac{\widetilde{q}_l}{p_{j_1,...,j_l}} h_{j_1,...,j_n} \psi_{j_1,...,j_n}^{1-p_{j_1,...,j_l}/\widetilde{q}_l},$$

where $h_{j_1,...,j_n}$ is chosen from Lemma 2.1 as before.

By (2.27), $\tilde{h}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \in H^1(E)$ (even more, it is in $H^{\infty}(E)$ —see (2.24)). In view of (2.9), (2.10), (2.26) and the fact that $|\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|$ does not depend on (j_{l+1},\ldots,j_n) , we have a.e. on ∂E ,

$$J_{j_{1},...,j_{n-1}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)) = \sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},...,j_{n}-1}} |\varphi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2}$$

$$= |\psi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2}$$

$$\times \left(\sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},...,j_{n}-1}} \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}-1}}\right)\right)\right)$$

$$= |\psi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2} \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}-1}}\right)\right)$$

$$\times \frac{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}}}$$

$$\times \frac{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^{2}}$$

$$\sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}} \frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^{2}}$$

$$= |\psi_{j_1,...,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2 \times \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_1,...,j_k}}{r_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_k}\lambda|^2}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,...,j_{n-1}}\dots p_{j_1,...,j_k}}}\right).$$

Moreover, if $n-1 \ge l+1$,

$$J_{j_1,...,j_{n-2}}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = \sum_{j_{n-1}=1}^{m_{j_1,...,j_{n-2}}} J_{j_1,...,j_{n-1}}(\varphi^*(\lambda))^{p_{j_1,...,j_{n-1}}} = |\psi^*_{j_1,...,j_n}(\lambda)|^{2p_{j_1,...,j_{n-1}}} \times \prod_{k=l+1}^{n-2} \left(\frac{r_{j_1,...,j_k}}{r_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_k}\lambda|^2}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,...,j_{n-2}}\cdots p_{j_1,...,j_k}}}.$$

Generally, if $s + 1 \ge l + 1$, then

$$(2.30) \quad J_{j_1,\dots,j_s}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = |\psi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_{s+1}}} \\ \times \prod_{k=l+1}^s \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\bar{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda|^2}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_s}\dots p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}$$

In particular, we have (for s = l) (2.31) $J_{j_1,...,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = |\psi^*_{j_1,...,j_n}(\lambda)|^{2p_{j_1,...,j_n}...p_{j_1,...,j_{l+1}}}$. Note that for s < l,

$$J_{j_1,\dots,j_s}(\varphi^*(\lambda)) = \sum_{j_s=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{s-1}}} \left(\dots \left(\sum_{j_l=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}} J_{j_1,\dots,j_l}^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}}(\varphi^*(\lambda))\right)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}}\dots\right)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_s}}.$$

But

$$\widetilde{J}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}(\widetilde{\varphi}^*(\lambda))^{\widetilde{q}_l} = |\psi^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}/\widetilde{q}_l}|^{2\widetilde{q}_n\dots\widetilde{q}_l} = J_{j_1,\dots,j_l}(\varphi^*(\lambda))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_l}},$$

where \widetilde{J} is an analogue to J with \widetilde{p}_l in place of p_{j_1,\ldots,j_l} (the formulas analogous to (2.30) and (2.31) with $\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^{p_{j_1},\ldots,j_l/\widetilde{q}_l}$ in place of ψ_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} also hold for \widetilde{J} and $\widetilde{\varphi}$). This implies that

(2.32)
$$\widetilde{J}_{j_1,\dots,j_s}(\widetilde{\varphi}^*(\lambda)) = J_{j_1,\dots,j_s}(\varphi^*(\lambda))$$

for any s < l. In particular,

$$\widetilde{J}_0(\widetilde{\varphi}^*(\lambda)) = 1$$
 a.e. on ∂E .

To prove that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is a geodesic in an ellipsoid with \tilde{q}_l in place of p_{j_1,\ldots,j_l} (note that in view of the definition of \tilde{q}_l the new pseudoellipsoid satisfies (1.3)) we verify that

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \widetilde{\varphi}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda) \widetilde{h}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)
= \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=2}^n p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\widetilde{J}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\widetilde{\varphi}^*(\lambda)))^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) |\widetilde{\varphi}_{j_1,\dots,j_n}^*(\lambda)|^2$$

a.e. on ∂E . By (2.29) we have

$$\frac{1}{\lambda}\widetilde{\varphi}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda)\widetilde{h}_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda) = \frac{\widetilde{q}_l}{p_{j_1,\ldots,j_l}}\frac{1}{\lambda}\varphi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda)h_{j_1,\ldots,j_n}^*(\lambda),$$

which, in view of Lemma 2.1 applied to φ , is equal to

(2.33)
$$\frac{\widetilde{q}_{l}}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}}\varrho(\lambda) \times \left(\prod_{k=2}^{n} p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}(J_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)))^{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}\right) |\varphi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2}.$$

From (2.30) we get

$$\begin{split} \frac{\widetilde{q}_{l}}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}} \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}(J_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}(\varphi^{*}(\lambda)))^{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1} \Big) \\ &\times |\varphi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2} \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\widetilde{q}_{k-1} |\psi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2\widetilde{q}_{n}...\widetilde{q}_{k}(p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1)} \right) \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \Big) \Big) \\ &\times |\psi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)|^{2} \\ &\times \prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}}} \\ &= \varrho(\lambda) \Big(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\widetilde{q}_{k-1} |\psi^{*}_{j_{1},...,j_{n}}(\lambda)^{p_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{l}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...,j_{k-1}}-1}{p_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}} \\ &\times \prod_{t=l+1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t}}}{r_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}} \cdot \frac{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}\lambda|^{2}}{|1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_{1},...,j_{t-1}}}\lambda|^{2}} \right)^{\frac{p_{j_{1},...$$

$$\times \prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \left(\frac{r_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}{r_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}} \cdot \frac{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_k}\lambda|^2}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}\lambda|^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\dots,p_{j_1,\dots,j_k}}}$$

$$= \varrho(\lambda) \left(\prod_{k=l+1}^{n} \widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\widetilde{J}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}} (\widetilde{\varphi}^*(\lambda)))^{\widetilde{p}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1}}-1} \right) |\widetilde{\varphi}^*_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(\lambda)|^2.$$

The last but one equality is a consequence of the fact that

$$\sum_{k=l+1}^{n} 2\tilde{q}_{n} \dots \tilde{q}_{k}(p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{k-1}}-1) + 2$$
$$= \sum_{k=l+1}^{n} 2\tilde{q}_{n} \dots \tilde{q}_{k}(\tilde{q}_{k-1}-1) \frac{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}}{\tilde{q}_{l}} + 2\frac{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{l}}}{\tilde{q}_{l}}$$

Together with (2.32) and (2.33), this completes the proof of the fact that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is a geodesic in a suitable ellipsoid. In view of the inductive assumption applied to $\tilde{\varphi}$ and because of the form of φ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, h and \tilde{h} the proof of the inductive step is complete. For l = n - 1 we obtain the assertion of Theorem 2.2.

Remark 2.3. If φ is a geodesic and $\varphi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \equiv 0$ for some (j_1,\ldots,j_n) , then the mapping $\widetilde{\varphi}: E \to \mathbb{C}^{N-1}$ all of whose components but (j_1,\ldots,j_n) are equal to the components of φ and the (j_1,\ldots,j_n) component is omitted, is a geodesic in a suitable pseudoellipsoid in \mathbb{C}^{N-1} , which is naturally convex if \mathcal{E} is convex.

Remark 2.4. In case n = 2, $m_j = 1$ for $j = 1, \ldots, m_0$, Theorem 2.2 has been proved in [JPZ] (see also [JP]). Moreover, those works show the uniqueness of the geodesics, up to automorphisms of E; for strictly convex bounded domains this uniqueness is a general property (see [D]) and the complex ellipsoids are convex and not strictly convex if $p_j \ge 1/2$ for j = $1, \ldots, m_0$ and $\#\{j : p_j = 1/2\} > 1$.

Remark 2.5. The formulas of Theorem 2.2 show that the geodesics extend continuously to the boundary. In many cases one can get more information about the regularity of the extension. Moreover, it is a relatively rare phenomenon that the extensions of all geodesics are holomorphic on some neighbourhoods of \overline{E} . This is so, for instance, when all the products in (1.3) are 1 or 1/2 (see also the proof of Proposition 3.2).

Remark 2.6. From Theorem 2.2 it is clear that if $|\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}| = 1$ for some $k \in \{1,\ldots,n-1\}$, then $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k,j_{k+1},\ldots,j_l} = \alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}$ for l > k (the α 's are as in the formulas for complex geodesics in \mathcal{E} in Theorem 2.2).

3. Automorphisms of convex generalized pseudoellipsoids

LEMMA 3.1. Assume that φ and \mathcal{E} are as in Theorem 2.2. Fix $(\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_k)$ with $k \in \{1, \ldots, n-1\}$. If $\alpha_{\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_k, j_{k+1}} = 1$ for $j_{k+1} = 1, \ldots, m_{\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_k}$, then $\alpha_{\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_k} = 1$.

 $\Pr{\mathrm{o}\,\mathrm{o}\,\mathrm{f}}.$ From Theorem 2.2 we get

$$\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}^{\circ} = \sum_{j_{k+1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}^{\circ}} |a_{j_1,\ldots,j_k,j_{k+1}}^{\circ}|^2 \alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_k,j_{k+1}}^{\circ} = \sum_{j_{k+1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\ldots,j_k}^{\circ}} |a_{j_1,\ldots,j_k,j_{k+1}}^{\circ}|^2.$$

Moreover,

$$1 + \alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k}^2 = 1 + |\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k}|^2 = \sum_{j_{k+1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_k}^\circ} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_k,j_{k+1}}|^2 (1 + |\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k,j_{k+1}}|^2)$$
$$= 2\sum_{j_{k+1}=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_k}^\circ} |a_{j_1,\dots,j_k,j_{k+1}}|^2 = 2\alpha_{j_1,\dots,j_k}^\circ.$$

The last equality completes the proof.

Let \mathcal{E} be a generalized pseudoellipsoid as before, but, additionally, we assume that we may present it in the following way:

$$\mathcal{E} := \Big\{ \sum_{j_1=1}^{m_0} \Big(\dots \Big(\sum_{j_n=1}^{m_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} |z_{j_1,\dots,j_n}|^2 \Big)^{p_{j_1,\dots,j_{n-1}}} \dots \Big)^{p_{j_1}} \\ + |z_{m_0+1}|^2 + \dots + |z_{m_0+r}|^2 < 1 \Big\},$$

where r is largest possible. We may assume without loss of generality that if r = 0, then $m_0 > 1$.

Assume that $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathbb{C}^N$, where $N = N_1 + r$.

PROPOSITION 3.2. Let $\Phi: D \to \mathcal{E}$ be a biholomorphic mapping, where D is a bounded convex complete Reinhardt domain. Assume that the coefficients p in the definition of \mathcal{E} satisfy

(3.1)
$$p_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \ldots p_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} > 1/2$$

for any possible (j_1,\ldots,j_n) and $k = 1,\ldots,n$.

If $\Phi(0) = b$, where

(3.2)
$$b_{m_0+1} = \ldots = b_{m_0+r} = 0,$$

then b = 0.

Proof. We restrict our attention to the case dim $\mathcal{E} > 1$, keeping in mind that Φ extends to a biholomorphism between some neighbourhoods of \overline{D} and $\overline{\mathcal{E}}$ (see [B], also [JP]). Suppose that $b \neq 0$. Then $N_1 > 0$. In other words, there is $(\hat{j}_1, \ldots, \hat{j}_n)$ such that

$$(3.3) b_{j_1,\ldots,j_m} \stackrel{\circ}{\to} = 0.$$

Changing p's if necessary so that they define the same pseudoellipsoid \mathcal{E} and satisfy (3.1) we may assume that there are $k \in \{1, \ldots, n-1\}$ and $(\mathring{j}_1, \ldots, \mathring{j}_n)$ such that

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{array}{l} p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n}} \ldots p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k}} \neq 1 \text{ and if } k \geq 2, \text{ then } p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n}} \ldots p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}} = \\ \ldots = p_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{n}} \ldots p_{j_{1}} = 1 \text{ and } m_{j_{1},\ldots,j_{k-1}} > 1. \end{array}$$

For $z \in \partial D$ define $\varphi_z : E \ni \lambda \to \lambda z \in D$, which is a geodesic in D (see [JP]).

In view of (3.4) there is a point $w \in \partial \mathcal{E}$ such that

(3.5)
$$w_{j_1,\ldots,j_k} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad w_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k} \neq 0$$

for $j_k \neq \hat{j}_k$. Moreover, there is always at least one j_k with this property (by the assumptions on \mathcal{E} and the fact that $m_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_{k-1}} > 1$ if $k \geq 2$).

Since the extension of Φ is a homeomorphism between \overline{D} and $\overline{\mathcal{E}}$, there is φ_z such that $\psi := \Phi \circ \varphi_z$ is a geodesic in \mathcal{E} joining b to w (we now treat ψ as a mapping on \overline{E}) and even more precisely

(3.6)
$$\psi(0) = b, \quad \psi(1) = w.$$

Since (by (3.3)) $\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_n} \not\equiv 0$, in view of the form of geodesics in \mathcal{E} (or if some of the components are identically 0, in some lower dimensional pseudoellipsoid, see Remark 2.3) together with (3.5) and (3.6) we get

(3.7)
$$\alpha_{\hat{j}_1,\dots,\hat{j}_n} = 1,$$

and for the same reasons,

We claim that

(3.9)
$$|\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}| < 1.$$

Since $|\alpha_0| < 1$, we are done in case k = 1. Suppose that (3.9) does not hold for $k \ge 2$. This means, in view of the form of the geodesics in \mathcal{E} and (3.7), that $|\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1}}| = 1$ and consequently for all possible (j_k,\ldots,j_n) we get $\alpha_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k,\ldots,j_n} = 1$ or $\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k,\ldots,j_n} \equiv 0$. This implies that (see (3.4)) (3.10) $\psi_{j_1,\ldots,j_{k-1},j_k,\ldots,j_n}(\lambda)$

$$= C(j_k, \dots, j_n) \left(\frac{1-\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-2}}\lambda} \right) \prod_{l=1}^{k-2} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_l}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{j_1,\dots,j_{l-1}}\lambda} \right),$$

with the product equal to 1 if k = 2.

Remark 2.6 together with (3.10) implies that (remember that $\alpha_0 \in E$)

$$w_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1},j_k,\dots,j_n} = \psi_{j_1,\dots,j_{k-1},j_k,\dots,j_n}(1) = 0$$

for all possible (j_k, \ldots, j_n) , which, however, contradicts (3.5) and the remark following it.

In view of (3.7), (3.8) and Lemma 3.1 applied repeatedly (if necessary to some lower dimensional pseudoellipsoid) we get

$$\alpha_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_k} = 1.$$

Therefore (see (3.4))

(3.11) $\psi_{\dot{j}_1,\ldots,\dot{j}_n}^{\circ}(\lambda)$

$$= C \left(\frac{1-\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_{k-1}}\lambda} \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_n}\cdots p_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_k}}} \prod_{l=1}^{k-1} \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_l}\lambda}{1-\overline{\alpha}_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_{l-1}}\lambda} \right)$$

with the product equal to 1 if k = 1.

Since φ_z extends holomorphically to a neighbourhood of 1, so does $\psi_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_n}$, but since $p_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_n} \cdots p_{\hat{j}_1,\ldots,\hat{j}_k}$ is not 1 and is larger than 1/2 we get a contradiction with (3.11). This completes the proof of Proposition 3.2.

LEMMA 3.3. Let \mathcal{E} be as in Proposition 3.2. Let $a' \in B_r$ and $\Psi \in \operatorname{Aut} B_r$ so that $\Psi(a') = 0$. Define $\Phi : \mathcal{E} \to \mathbb{C}^N$ by setting for $(z', w') \in \mathcal{E}$, where $z' = (z_1, \ldots, z_{m_0}) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_1}$ and $w' \in B_r$,

$$\Phi_{j_1,\dots,j_n}(z',w') := z_{j_1,\dots,j_n} \left(\frac{1 - \|a'\|^2}{(1 - \langle w',a' \rangle)^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2p_{j_1,\dots,j_n}\cdots p_{j_1}}}, \\
\Phi_{m_0+k}(z',w') := \Psi_k(w') \quad \text{for } k = 1,\dots,r.$$

Then $\Phi \in \operatorname{Aut} \mathcal{E}$.

Proof (as in [JP]). If r = 0 or $N_1 = 0$, then we are done. In the remaining cases, one can easily see that Φ is holomorphic and injective. We know that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Psi(w')\| &= c_{B_r}^*(0, \Psi(w')) \\ &= c_{B_r}^*(a', w') = \left(1 - \frac{(1 - \|a'\|^2)(1 - \|w'\|^2)}{|1 - \langle w', a' \rangle|^2}\right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

for $w' \in B_r$ (see the formulas for $c^*_{B_r}$ in [JP]).

So for $(z', w') \in \overline{\mathcal{E}}$ we get

$$\sum_{j_{1}=1}^{m_{0}} \left(\dots \left(\sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}-1}} |\Phi_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}}(z',w')|^{2} \right)^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n-1}}} \dots \right)^{p_{j_{1}}} \\ + \sum_{t=1}^{r} |\Phi_{m_{0}+t}(z',w')|^{2} \\ = -\frac{1 - ||a'||^{2}}{|1 - \langle w',a' \rangle|^{2}} \\ \times \left(1 - \sum_{j_{1}=1}^{m_{0}} \left(\dots \left(\sum_{j_{n}=1}^{m_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}-1}} |z_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n}}|^{2} \right)^{p_{j_{1},\dots,j_{n-1}}} \dots \right)^{p_{j_{1}}} \\ - \sum_{t=1}^{r} |w'_{t}|^{2} \right) + 1,$$

which finishes the proof.

Cartan's theorem implies that any holomorphic automorphism of \mathcal{E} which preserves the origin is linear. Therefore in view of Proposition 3.2 and Lemma 3.3 we get a description of all holomorphic automorphisms of \mathcal{E} .

4. Biholomorphic equivalence of convex complex ellipsoids. In this section we restrict our attention to the case of complex ellipsoids. We write $\mathcal{E}(p) := \{|z_1|^{2p_1} + \ldots + |z_n|^{2p_n} < 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$, where $p = (p_1, \ldots, p_n)$ with $p_j > 0$. From now on assume that n > 1.

In [JP] the following theorem was proved:

THEOREM 4.1. $\mathcal{E}(p)$ is biholomorphically equivalent to $\mathcal{E}(q)$ iff p = q up to a permutation.

It was also suggested that the proof could be simplified, at least in the convex case, by using the formulas for complex geodesics from Theorem 2.2.

Below we prove this theorem in the convex case utilizing the formulas from Theorem 2.2 and avoiding the use of the theory of the Bergman kernel (as in [JP]) or Lie theory (see the results in [KU] and [N]). The key fact in the proof is

THEOREM 4.2. Let $\Phi : \mathcal{E}(p) \to \mathcal{E}(q)$ be a biholomorphic mapping, where $p_j, q_j \geq 1/2$ for j = 1, ..., n. Then Φ extends to a homeomorphism between the closures of the ellipsoids.

This is proved just using the complex geodesics.

It is worth mentioning that it would be desirable to find a theorem analogous to Theorem 2.2 valid for all complex ellipsoids, not necessarily convex. A difficulty arising here is that we do not have just one notion

of complex geodesic (see Theorem 1.2). Therefore we should try to prove that the mappings defined in Theorem 2.2 describe, in the general case, all *d*-geodesics, where *d* is \tilde{k} , *k* or *c*. If this were the case, then Theorem 4.2 and consequently Theorem 4.1 without the assumption that $p_j, q_j \ge 1/2$ could be proven without any change in the proof. Indeed, the assumption $p_j, q_j \ge 1/2$ is only used in order to show that every biholomorphic mapping maps the image of a mapping as in Theorem 2.2 onto an image of the same form. And this holds for any *d*-geodesics.

Since in the proof of Theorem 4.1 we shall need the explicit formulas for complex geodesics, let us reformulate Theorem 2.2 in the special case of convex ellipsoids in order to have simpler formulas.

THEOREM 2.2' (see [JP] and Theorem 2.2). A bounded holomorphic mapping $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n) : E \to \mathbb{C}^n$ is a geodesic for $\mathcal{E}(p)$ with $p_j \ge 1/2$ if and only if either

. .

(4.1)
$$\varphi_j(\lambda) = a_j \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_j}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_j \lambda}\right)^{r_j} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_j \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda}\right)^{1/p_j}$$

or (4.2)

$$arphi_j(\lambda) = 0,$$

where in the case (4.1)

$$r_j \in \{0,1\}$$
 and $a_j \in \mathbb{C}_*$ for $j = 1, \ldots, n, \ \alpha_0 \in E$,
 $\alpha_j \in E$ for j such that $r_j = 1, \alpha_j \in \overline{E}$ for j such that $r_j = 0$.

and (in the case (4.2) we put $\alpha_j := 0, a_j := 0, r_j := 0$),

$$\alpha_0 = \sum_{j=1}^n |a_j|^{2p_j} \alpha_j, \quad 1 + |\alpha_0|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n |a_j|^{2p_j} (1 + |\alpha_j|^2),$$

where the case such that for any j = 1, ..., n the mapping φ_j is either of the form (4.2) or of the form (4.1) with $r_j = 0$ and $\alpha_j = \alpha_0$ is excluded and the branches of powers are taken so that $1^{1/p_j} = 1$.

Before we prove Theorem 4.2 let us formulate and prove the following

LEMMA 4.3. Let $\varphi_k, \varphi_0 : \overline{E} \to \overline{E}$ for k = 1, 2, ... be mappings of the form

(4.3)
$$\varphi_k(\lambda) = a_k \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_k}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}\right)^{r_k} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda}\right)^{1/m} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

where m > 0, $r_k \in \{0, 1\}$, $a_k \in \mathbb{C}_*$, $\beta_k \in E$, and $1^{1/m} = 1$, $\alpha_k \in E$ if $r_k = 1$, $\alpha_k \in \overline{E}$ if $r_k = 0$. Assume that

(4.4)
$$\varphi_k(0) = \varphi_0(0)$$
 and $\varphi_k \to \varphi_0$ locally uniformly on E.

Moreover, if φ_0 is constant (so $r_0 = 0$, $\alpha_0 = \beta_0$), then assume that $\beta_k \to \beta_0$. Then $\varphi_k \to \varphi_0$ uniformly on \overline{E} and $\beta_k \to \beta_0$. Proof. First we prove that

(4.5)
$$\alpha_k \to \alpha_0, \quad \beta_k \to \beta_0,$$

and, additionally,

- (i) if $r_0 = 1$, then $r_k = 1$ for k sufficiently large and $a_k \to a_0$,
- (ii) if $r_0 = 0$ and $|\alpha_0| < 1$, then $r_k = 0$ and $a_k = a_0$ for k sufficiently large,
- (iii) if $r_0 = 0$, $|\alpha_0| = 1$ and $r_k = 0$, then $a_k = a_0$,
- (iv) if $r_0 = 0$, $|\alpha_0| = 1$ and $r_k = 1$, then $-a_k \alpha_k = a_0$.

Consider case (i). The Hurwitz theorem implies that φ_k has a root for k sufficiently large. So

$$\varphi_k(\lambda) = a_k \frac{\lambda - \alpha_k}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda} \right)^{1/m},$$

with $\alpha_k \to \alpha_0$.

Note that

(4.6) there is
$$M < \infty$$
 such that $|a_k| \le M$,

otherwise $\varphi_k(x)$ would be unbounded for $x \in E$ with $\alpha_0 \neq x$, which contradicts the fact that $|\varphi_k(x)| \leq 1$.

In view of (4.4),

$$\varphi_k(0) = -a_k \alpha_k = -a_0 \alpha_0.$$

In case $\alpha_0 \neq 0$ this implies that (together with the convergence $\alpha_k \to \alpha_0$) $a_k \to a_0$ and consequently $\beta_k \to \beta_0$. So assume that $\alpha_0 = 0$. Suppose that a_k does not tend to a_0 or β_k does not tend to β_0 . Taking subsequences we can assume that $a_k \to x$, $\beta_k \to y$ and $x \neq a_0$ or $y \neq \beta_0$ and $|y| \leq 1$ (we may choose such a subsequence because $|\beta_k| < 1$ and (4.6)). But this implies that a suitable subsequence

$$\varphi_k(\lambda) \to \frac{x\lambda}{(1-\overline{y}\lambda)^{1/m}}$$

and consequently, in view of (4.4),

$$\frac{x\lambda}{(1-\overline{y}\lambda)^{1/m}} = \frac{a_0\lambda}{(1-\overline{\beta}_0\lambda)^{1/m}}$$

for $\lambda \in E$, which gives $x = a_0$ and $y = \beta_0$. That gives a contradiction.

Consider now cases (ii)–(iv). Below for brevity we also write (φ_k) for some subsequence of (φ_k) .

Consider the subsequence

$$\varphi_k(\lambda) = a_k \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda}\right)^{1/m}$$

Then in view of (4.4), $a_k = a_0$ and we get $\alpha_k \to \alpha_0$ and $\beta_k \to \beta_0$, otherwise we would choose subsequences of φ_k such that $\alpha_k \to x$ and $\beta_k \to y$ with $y \neq \beta_0$ or $x \neq \alpha_0$, again leading to a contradiction after making use of the convergence of the subsequence φ_k (note that if φ_0 is constant, then $x = \alpha_0$ and in the other case $\alpha_0 \neq \beta_0$).

So we are left with the subsequence

(4.7)
$$\varphi_k(\lambda) = a_k \frac{\lambda - \alpha_k}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda}\right)^{1/m}$$

which, in view of $\varphi_k(0) = -a_k \alpha_k = a_0 = \varphi_0(0)$, can be written in the form

(4.8)
$$\varphi_k(\lambda) = a_0 \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\alpha_k} \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda} \right)^{1/m}$$

First note that $|\alpha_k| \to 1$. Otherwise we could choose some subsequence of φ_k such that $\alpha_k \to x$ with |x| < 1 but in view of (4.8) we get $\varphi_k(x) \to 0$ (remember that $|\beta_k|, |\alpha_k| < 1$), which contradicts (4.4) (because $\varphi_0(x) \neq 0$).

We want to prove that $\alpha_k \to \alpha_0$ (it will imply that $|\alpha_0| = 1$, too). Assume otherwise; then we can assume that for some subsequence $\alpha_k \to x \neq \alpha_0, |x| = 1$ and additionally $\beta_k \to y$. Consequently, in view of (4.8),

$$\varphi_k(\lambda) \to a_0 \frac{1 - \frac{1}{x}\lambda}{1 - \overline{x}\lambda} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{x}\lambda}{1 - \overline{y}\lambda}\right)^{1/m} = a_0 \left(\frac{1 - \overline{x}\lambda}{1 - \overline{y}\lambda}\right)^{1/m}$$

and the limit has to equal

$$\varphi_0(\lambda) = a_0 \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_0 \lambda} \right)^{1/m}.$$

This proves that $x = \alpha_0$ and $y = \beta_0$, which settles cases (ii)–(iv).

Before we complete the proof of Lemma 4.3 let us make an auxiliary remark.

Consider the mapping

$$\Psi: D := \overline{E} \times \overline{B}(\beta, r) \times \overline{E} \ni (\beta_j, \beta_0, \lambda) \to \frac{1 - \beta_j \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_0 \lambda} \in \mathbb{C}.$$

where $\overline{B}(\beta, r)$ is a closed disk in \mathbb{C} with center $\beta \in E$ and radius r > 0 such that $\overline{B}(\beta, r) \subset E$.

 Ψ is continuous, so $\Psi(D)$ is compact. Since $\operatorname{Re}(1-\overline{\beta}_j\lambda) \ge 0$ and $\operatorname{Re}(1-\overline{\beta}_0\lambda) > 0$, we get $\Psi(D) \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0)$.

Together with (4.5) this shows that

(4.9)
$$\left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_k\lambda}{1-\overline{\beta}_k\lambda}\right)^{1/m} \to \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}_0\lambda}{1-\overline{\beta}_0\lambda}\right)^{1/m}$$
 uniformly on \overline{E} .

Consequently, we get the uniform convergence of φ_k to φ_0 on \overline{E} if $r_0 = 1$ or $r_0 = 0$ with $|\alpha_0| < 1$, and the same convergence of the subsequence of φ_k such that $r_k = 0$ if $r_0 = 0$ and $|\alpha_0| = 1$. We only need to prove that φ_k with $r_k = 1$ tends to φ_0 uniformly on \overline{E} , if $r_0 = 0$ and $|\alpha_0| = 1$.

We want to prove (see (4.8)) that

(4.10)
$$a_0 \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\alpha_k} \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k \lambda} \right)^{1/m} \to a_0 \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_0 \lambda} \right)^{1/m}$$

uniformly on \overline{E} .

Set

(4.11)
$$f_k(\lambda) = \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\alpha_k}\lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k\lambda}, \quad g_k(\lambda) = \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k\lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_k\lambda}\right)^{1/m} \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots,$$
$$f_0(\lambda) = 1, \qquad g_0(\lambda) = \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_0\lambda}{1 - \overline{\beta}_0\lambda}\right)^{1/m}.$$

In view of (4.9),

(4.12)
$$g_k \to g_0$$
 uniformly on \overline{E} .

For $1/2 < |\alpha_k|$ and $|\lambda| \le 1$ we have

(4.13)
$$|f_k(\lambda) - f_0(\lambda)| = \frac{|\lambda|}{|\alpha_k|} \cdot \frac{1 - |\alpha_k|^2}{|1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda|},$$

and, consequently,

(4.14)
$$|f_k(\lambda) - f_0(\lambda)| \le 2 \frac{(1 - |\alpha_k|)(1 + |\alpha_k|)}{1 - |\alpha_k||\lambda|} < 4.$$

To prove (4.10), i.e. that $|f_k g_k - f_0 g_0| \to 0$ uniformly on \overline{E} , observe that

(4.15)
$$|f_k g_k - f_0 g_0| \le |f_k - f_0||g_k| + |f_0||g_k - g_0|$$

In view of (4.12) it is sufficient to show that the first summand in (4.15) is arbitrarily small for β_k, α_k close enough to β_0, α_0 .

Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. There is a neighbourhood V of α_0 in \overline{E} such that $|g_k(\lambda)| < \varepsilon/4$ for $\lambda \in V$ (by (4.12), the continuity of g_0 , and the equality $g_0(\alpha_0) = 0$) but $||f_k - f_0||_{\overline{E}} \leq 4$ (see (4.14)) so on V the first summand of (4.15) behaves well. For α_k, β_k close enough to α_0, β_0 we get $||g_k||_{\overline{E}} \leq M < \infty$ in view of (4.12). On the other hand, there is $\delta > 0$ such that $|1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda| \geq \delta$ for $\lambda \in \overline{E} \setminus V$ and for α_k close to α_0 . Therefore, if we take α_k close enough to α_0 , then in view of (4.13),

$$\|f_k - f_0\|_{\bar{E} \setminus V} < \varepsilon/M,$$

which completes the proof of (4.10) and, consequently, the proof of Lemma 4.3.

Proof of Theorem 4.2. For any $z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$ define $\varphi_z(\lambda) := \lambda z$, which is a complex geodesic. For $z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$ the mapping $\psi_z := \Phi \circ \varphi_z$ is a complex geodesic for $\mathcal{E}(q)$. Moreover, in view of Theorem 2.2', we can extend ψ_z continuously to \overline{E} . We denote the extension also by ψ_z . Now we define

$$\widetilde{\Phi}: \overline{\mathcal{E}(p)} \ni z \to \begin{cases} \Phi(z) & \text{for } z \in \mathcal{E}(p), \\ \psi_z(1) & \text{for } z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p). \end{cases}$$

Below we prove that $\widetilde{\Phi}$ is the extension we are looking for. Note that for $z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$,

(4.16)
$$\psi_z(0) = \Phi(0) = \text{constant}$$

Moreover, $\varphi_z \to \varphi_{z_0}$ as $z \to z_0$, $z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$, uniformly on E. Consequently, for $z_0 \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$,

(4.17) $\psi_z \to \psi_{z_0}$ as $z \to z_0, z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$, locally uniformly on E.

We prove more, namely, that for $z_0 \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$,

(4.18)
$$\psi_z \to \psi_{z_0}$$
 as $z \to z_0, z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$, uniformly on \overline{E} .

To prove (4.18) it is sufficient to prove the uniform convergence on \overline{E} of the components of the geodesics. In view of Theorem 2.2' the components have the form as in Lemma 4.3 (or are identically 0), therefore we are done in the cases when $(\psi_{z_0})_j$ is not constant. Take $1 \leq j_0 \leq n$ such that $(\psi_{z_0})_{j_0} \equiv A$ for some $A \in E$. There is certainly $1 \leq j_1 \leq n$ such that $(\psi_{z_0})_{j_1}$ is not constant. Since, in view of Theorem 2.2', we have for z close to z_0 ,

$$(\psi_z)_{j_1}(\lambda) = a_{j_1,z} \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_1,z}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,z}\lambda}\right)^{r_{j_1,z}} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_1,z}\lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{0,z}\lambda}\right)^{1/q_{j_1}}$$

where $r_{j_1,z} \in \{0,1\}$ and the remaining coefficients are as in Theorem 2.2', in view of (4.17) and Lemma 4.3 we get $\alpha_{0,z} \to \alpha_{0,z_0}$ as $z \to z_0, z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$, which implies that

(4.19)
$$|\alpha_{0,z}| < \delta < 1$$
 for z close to z_0 .

Consider the case A = 0.

Considering only the points $z \neq z_0$ with $(\psi_z)_{j_0} \neq 0$ we have as above

(4.20)
$$(\psi_z)_{j_0}(\lambda) = a_{j_0,z} \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_{j_0,z}}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_0,z}\lambda}\right)^{r_{j_0,z}} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_0,z}\lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{0,z}\lambda}\right)^{1/q_{j_0}}$$

We claim that

(4.21)
$$a_{j_0,z} \to 0 \quad \text{as } z \to z_0, \ z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p).$$

Note first that $r_{j_0,z} = 1$, otherwise we would have $a_{j_0,z} = 0$ (see (4.16)). Also, in view of (4.16), $\alpha_{j_0,z} = 0$. One easily sees that taking $x \in E_*$, the convergence $(\psi_z(x))_{j_0} \to 0$ implies (4.21). Finally, in view of (4.19), (4.21) and the fact that $\alpha_{j_0,z} = 0$ we get the desired convergence.

If $A \neq 0$, then we put

$$(\psi_{z_0}(\lambda))_{j_0} = a_{j_0, z_0} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{j_0, z_0} \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_{0, z_0} \lambda}\right)^{1/q_{j_0}}$$

Since $\alpha_{0,z} \to \alpha_{0,z_0}$, Lemma 4.3 settles this case.

This completes the proof of (4.18).

Considering neighbourhoods of z_0 in $\mathcal{E}(p)$ of the type

(4.22) $V_{z_0} = \{\varphi_z(t) \text{ for } 1 \ge t > s, \ z \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p), \}$

z in some neighbourhood of z_0 },

for some s > 0, we see that for any neighbourhood U of $\widetilde{\varPhi}(z_0)$ in $\overline{\mathcal{E}(q)}$ there is a set V of the type (4.22) such that $\widetilde{\varPhi}(V) \subset U$ (use (4.18)).

Consequently, $\widetilde{\Phi}$ is continuous. Compactness of $\overline{\mathcal{E}(p)}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{E}(q)}$ implies the surjectivity of $\widetilde{\Phi}$.

Applying the same reasoning to Φ^{-1} we get the continuity of the extension $\widetilde{\Phi^{-1}}$. The injectivity of $\widetilde{\Phi}$ (and simultaneously of $\widetilde{\Phi^{-1}}$) is a consequence of continuity.

In the proof of Theorem 4.1 we shall need the following technical lemma:

LEMMA 4.4. Assume that for some fixed $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$ and $1 \neq s > 0$ we have

$$\frac{a+b\lambda^s}{c+d\lambda^s} = \left(\frac{\lambda-\alpha}{1-\overline{\alpha}\lambda}\right)^t \left(\frac{1-\overline{\alpha}\lambda}{1-\overline{\beta}\lambda}\right)$$

for λ from some nonempty open set in E, where $\alpha \in \overline{E}$, $\beta \in E$, $t \ge 0$ and the functions appearing in the equality are not constant. Then t = s and $\alpha = \beta = 0$.

Proof. Differentiate both sides of the assumed equality, then eliminate the powers of expressions which are not monomials; comparing the coefficients of the powers of λ gives the desired result. We omit the tedious but elementary calculations.

Proof of Theorem 4.1 in the convex case. Let $\Phi : \mathcal{E}(p) \to \mathcal{E}(q)$ be a biholomorphic mapping, which in view of Theorem 4.2 extends to a homeomorphism between the closures of the ellipsoids. Therefore there are open domains $\emptyset \neq U_1 \subset \mathcal{E}(p), \ \emptyset \neq U_2 \subset \mathcal{E}(q)$ such that U_1 (respectively U_2) is the intersection of some Euclidean ball in \mathbb{C}^n , not lying entirely in $\mathcal{E}(p)$ (respectively $\mathcal{E}(q)$), with $\mathcal{E}(p)$ (respectively $\mathcal{E}(q)$), U_1 and U_2 do not intersect any axis in the respective ellipsoids and $\Phi(U_1) \subset U_2$. Moreover, there are domains $\emptyset \neq \widetilde{U}_1, \widetilde{U}_2 \subset B_n$ such that the mappings

 $(4.23) \quad z^p: U_1 \ni z \to (z_1^{p_1}, \dots, z_n^{p_n}) \in \widetilde{U}_1, \ z^q: U_2 \ni z \to (z_1^{q_1}, \dots, z_n^{q_n}) \in \widetilde{U}_2$ are biholomorphic.

Denote the inverse mappings to z^p and z^q by $z^{1/p}$ and $z^{1/q}$ and set

(4.24)
$$F := z^q \circ \Phi \circ z^{1/p} \quad \text{on } U_1.$$

Then F is a biholomorphic mapping onto the image, which extends to a homeomorphism between the closures such that the extension maps a part of the boundary lying in ∂B_n into ∂B_n .

Rudin's theorem (obtained in [R] with relatively simple tools, owing to which our proof avoids any sophisticated methods) implies that

(4.25) F is a restriction of a holomorphic automorphism of B_n to U_1 ,

which, in view of (4.24), gives

(4.26)
$$z^{1/q} \circ F \circ z^p = \Phi$$
 on U_1 , where $F \in \operatorname{Aut} B_n$.

Consider now the geodesics (see Theorem 2.2') for $\mathcal{E}(p)$ of the type

(4.27)
$$\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda) := (A_1,\dots,A_{j_0-1},A_{j_0}\lambda,A_{j_0+1},\dots,A_n),$$

where $1 \leq j_0 \leq n$ and $(A_1, \ldots, A_n) \in \partial \mathcal{E}(p)$ is taken from some nonempty open set in $\partial \mathcal{E}(p)$ chosen so that

(4.28)
$$\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)}(V) \subset U_1$$
 for some open set $\emptyset \neq V \subset E$

Note that $A_j \neq 0$ for j = 1, ..., n and we can take $(A_1, ..., \check{A}_{j_0}, ..., A_n)$ from some open set in $\mathcal{E}(p_1, ..., \check{p}_{j_0}, ..., p_n)$.

We consider two cases depending on the form of F:

(4.29)
$$F = C \circ F_b$$
, where $0 \neq b \in B_n$ and
 $F_b(z) = \frac{1}{\|b\|^2} \cdot \frac{\|b\|^2 (z\sqrt{1-\|b\|^2}-b) + \langle z,b \rangle b(1-\sqrt{1-\|b\|^2})}{1-\langle z,b \rangle}$,

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the standard scalar product in \mathbb{C}^n , or

$$(4.30) F = C,$$

where in both cases $C = [c_{kl}]_{1 \le k, l \le n}$ is a unitary mapping.

Below we prove that in both cases the following property holds:

(4.31) if $p_{j_0} \neq 1$, then there is $1 \leq k_0 \leq n$ such that $q_{k_0} = p_{j_0}$; for $j_0 \neq j_1$ with $p_{j_0} = p_{j_1} \neq 1$ there are $1 \leq k_0, k_1 \leq n$ such that $k_0 \neq k_1$ and $q_{k_0} = q_{k_1} = p_{j_0}$.

Note that if we assume (4.31), then applying the same reasoning to Φ^{-1} we get p = q, up to a permutation.

Therefore, it is sufficient to prove (4.31) in the cases (4.29) and (4.30). In view of (4.26) we have

(4.32)
$$F \circ (\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda)^p) = z^q \circ \Phi(\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda)) \quad \text{for } \lambda \in V$$

Fix j_0 such that $p_{j_0} \neq 1$.

In the case (4.29), for $j \neq j_0$,

$$(4.33) \quad (F_b(\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda)^p))_j \\ = \frac{1}{\|b\|^2} \left(\frac{\|b^2\| (A_j^{p_j}\sqrt{1-\|b\|^2}-b_j)}{1-\sum_{l\neq j_0} A_l^{p_l}\overline{b}_l - A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}}\overline{b}_{j_0}\lambda^{p_{j_0}}} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{(\sum_{l\neq j_0} A_l^{p_l}\overline{b}_l + A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}}\overline{b}_{j_0}\lambda^{p_{j_0}})b_j(1-\sqrt{1-\|b\|^2})}{1-\sum_{l\neq j_0} A_l^{p_l}\overline{b}_l - A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}}\overline{b}_{j_0}\lambda^{p_{j_0}}} \right)$$

and

$$(4.34) \quad (F_b(\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda)^p))_{j_0} = \frac{1}{\|b\|^2} \left(\frac{\|b^2\| (A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \lambda^{p_{j_0}} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2} - b_{j_0})}{1 - \sum_{l \neq j_0} A_l^{p_l} \overline{b}_l - A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \overline{b}_{j_0} \lambda^{p_{j_0}}} + \frac{(\sum_{l \neq j_0} A_l^{p_l} \overline{b}_l + A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \overline{b}_{j_0} \lambda^{p_{j_0}}) b_{j_0} (1 - \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2})}{1 - \sum_{l \neq j_0} A_l^{p_l} \overline{b}_l - A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \overline{b}_{j_0} \lambda^{p_{j_0}}} \right).$$

Consequently, for $k = 1, \ldots, n$ we have

$$(4.35) \quad (F(\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)}(\lambda)^p))_k = \frac{1}{\|b\|^2} \cdot \frac{D_1 \lambda^{p_{j_0}} + D_2}{1 - \sum_{l \neq j_0} A_l^{p_l} \overline{b}_l - A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \overline{b}_{j_0} \lambda^{p_{j_0}}},$$

where

$$D_{1} = \left(\sum_{j} c_{kj} b_{j}\right) \left(A_{j_{0}}^{p_{j_{0}}} \overline{b}_{j_{0}} (1 - \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^{2}})\right) + c_{kj_{0}} \|b\|^{2} A_{j_{0}}^{p_{j_{0}}} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^{2}}$$
$$D_{2} = \|b\|^{2} \sum_{j \neq j_{0}} c_{kj} \left(A_{j}^{p_{j}} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^{2}} - b_{j}\right) - c_{kj_{0}} \|b\|^{2} b_{j_{0}}$$
$$+ \left(\sum_{l \neq j_{0}} A_{l}^{p_{l}} \overline{b}_{l}\right) \sum_{j} b_{j} c_{kj} (1 - \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^{2}}).$$

The properties of $\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)}$ and Theorem 2.2' imply that $\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)}$ is a complex geodesic of the form

(4.36)
$$(\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\dots,A_n)})_k^{q_k}(\lambda) = a_k^{q_k} \left(\frac{\lambda - \alpha_k}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}\right)^{r_k q_k} \left(\frac{1 - \overline{\alpha}_k \lambda}{1 - \overline{\alpha}_0 \lambda}\right),$$

where $r_k, \alpha_k, \alpha_0, a_k$ have the properties as in Theorem 2.2'.

Comparing the expressions and the exponents in (4.35) and (4.36) we see in view of Lemma 4.4 that $(\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)})_k^{q_k}$ can be nonconstant only for k such that

(4.37)
$$q_k = p_{j_0}$$
 with $r_k = 1, \alpha_k = \alpha_0 = 0.$

We then have $b_{j_0} = 0$ and also

(4.38) $D_1 \neq 0$ and $D_2 = 0$ for k such that $(\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)})_k^{q_k}$ is not constant, $D_1 = 0$ for k such that $q_k \neq p_{j_0}$.

From (4.38) we conclude that

(4.39) $c_{kj_0} \neq 0$ for k with $(\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)})_k^{q_k}$ nonconstant and $c_{kj_0} = 0$ for k with $q_k \neq p_{j_0}$.

Hence for any j with $p_j \neq 1$ we have

(4.40)
$$b_j = 0$$
 and $c_{kj} = 0$ whenever $q_k \neq p_j$.

Since $F \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)}$ is not a constant mapping for any (A_1,\ldots,A_n) , there is k_0 such that $(\Phi \circ \varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)})_{k_0}^{q_{k_0}}$ is not constant for $(A_1,\ldots,$ $\check{A}_{j_0},\ldots,A_n)$ from some open set in $\mathcal{E}(p_1,\ldots,\check{p}_{j_0},\ldots,p_n)$). Then (4.38) implies that

(4.41)
$$\sum_{j \neq j_0} c_{k_0 j} \Big(\|b\|^2 (A_j^{p_j} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2} - b_j) \\ + \Big(\sum_{l \neq j_0} A_l^{p_l} \overline{b}_l \Big) b_j (1 - \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2}) \Big) = 0$$

for $(A_1, \ldots, \check{A}_{j_0}, \ldots, A_n)$ from an open set. (4.41) is in view of (4.40) equivalent to

$$\sum_{\substack{j \neq j_0 \\ q_{k_0} = p_j \neq 1}} c_{k_0 j} \|b\|^2 A_j^{p_j} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2} \\ + \sum_{\substack{j \neq j_0 \\ p_j = 1}} c_{k_0 j} \Big(\|b\|^2 (A_j \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2} - b_j) \\ + \Big(\sum_{\substack{l \neq j_0 \\ p_l = 1}} A_l \overline{b}_l \Big) b_j (1 - \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2}) \Big) = 0$$

for the numbers A_j as above, which implies that

$$\sum_{\substack{j \neq j_0 \\ q_{k_0} = p_j \neq 1}} c_{k_0 j} \|b\|^2 A_j^{p_j} \sqrt{1 - \|b\|^2} = \text{constant}$$

for $0 \neq A_j^{p_j}$ with $p_j = q_{k_0}, j \neq j_0$, taken from some nonempty set. Therefore

(4.42) $c_{k_0 j_0} \neq 0$ and $c_{k_0 j} = 0$ for $j \neq j_0$ with $q_{k_0} = p_j = p_{j_0}$.

For $j_0 \neq j_1$ with $p_{j_0} = p_{j_1} \neq 1$ we see, in view of (4.42), that there are $k_0 \neq k_1$ such that $q_{k_0} = q_{k_1} = p_{j_0}$.

This completes the case (4.31).

(4.43)
$$(F(\varphi_{(j_0,A_1,\ldots,A_n)}(\lambda)^p))_k = \sum_{j \neq j_0} c_{kj} A_j^{p_j} + c_{kj_0} A_{j_0}^{p_{j_0}} \lambda^{p_{j_0}}.$$

As before (4.43) has to equal (4.36), which implies that (see Lemma 4.4) (4.43) is not constant only for k such that

(4.44)
$$q_k = p_{j_0}$$
 and $r_k = 1, \alpha_k = \alpha_0 = 0.$

Take k_0 as before such that (4.43) is not constant for $(A_1, \ldots, \check{A}_{j_0}, \ldots, \ldots, A_n)$ from a nonempty open set in $\mathcal{E}(p_1, \ldots, \check{p}_{j_0}, \ldots, p_n)$. Then we easily conclude that

$$\sum_{j \neq j_0} c_{k_0 j} A_j^{p_j} = 0,$$

which implies that $c_{k_0j} = 0$ for $j \neq j_0$, so $c_{k_0j_0} \neq 0$, which in view of the fact that C is unitary completes the proof of (4.31).

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