

## ADDENDUM TO OUR CHARACTERIZATION OF THE UNIT POLYDISC

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### Abstract

In 2008, we obtained an intrinsic characterization of the unit polydisc  $\Delta^n$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  from the viewpoint of the holomorphic automorphism group. In connection with this, A. V. Isaev investigated the structure of a complex manifold  $M$  with the property that every isotropy subgroup of the holomorphic automorphism group of  $M$  is compact, and obtained the same characterization of  $\Delta^n$  as ours among the class of all such manifolds. In this paper, we establish some extensions of these results. In particular, Isaev's characterization of the unit polydisc  $\Delta^n$  is extended to that of any bounded symmetric domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

### 1. Introduction

This is a continuation of our previous paper [8], and we retain the terminology and notation there.

Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold and  $\text{Aut}(M)$  the group of all biholomorphic automorphisms of  $M$ . Then, equipped with the compact-open topology,  $\text{Aut}(M)$  is a topological group acting continuously on  $M$ . It should be remarked here that  $\text{Aut}(M)$  does not have the structure of a Lie group, in general; this often causes difficulties in studying various problems related to  $\text{Aut}(M)$ .

In 1907, it was shown by Poincaré [10] that the Riemann mapping theorem does not hold in the higher dimensional case. In fact, he proved that *there exists no biholomorphic mapping from the unit polydisc  $\Delta^2$  onto the unit ball  $B^2$  in  $\mathbb{C}^2$*  by comparing carefully the topological structures of the isotropy subgroups of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^2)$  and  $\text{Aut}(B^2)$  at the origin  $o$  of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . In view of this fact, for a given complex manifold  $M$ , it seems to be an interesting problem to bring out some complex analytic nature of  $M$  under some topological conditions on  $\text{Aut}(M)$ . Taking this into account, we asked the following question in [8]: *Let  $M$  and  $N$  be connected complex manifolds and assume that their holomorphic automorphism*

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groups  $\text{Aut}(M)$  and  $\text{Aut}(N)$  are isomorphic as topological groups. Then is  $M$  biholomorphically equivalent to  $N$ ? And, as our main result, we obtained the following intrinsic characterization of the unit polydisc  $\Delta^n$  from the viewpoint of the holomorphic automorphism group:

**THEOREM A** ([8, Theorem]). *Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  that is holomorphically separable and admits a smooth envelope of holomorphy. Assume that  $\text{Aut}(M)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$  as topological groups. Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $\Delta^n$ .*

Later, related to this theorem, Isaev [6] investigated the structure of a complex manifold  $M$  with the property that every isotropy subgroup of the  $\text{Aut}(M)$ -action is compact, and showed the following:

**THEOREM B** ([6, Theorem 1.2]). *Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  satisfying the following two conditions:*

- (1) *The isotropy subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  at every point of  $M$  is compact.*
- (2)  *$\text{Aut}(M)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$  as topological groups.*

*Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $\Delta^n$ .*

The main purpose of this paper is to establish the following extensions of Theorems A and B, which were announced at the 17th International Conference on Finite or Infinite Dimensional Complex Analysis and Applications in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, August 2009:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  that is holomorphically separable and admits a smooth envelope of holomorphy. Assume that there exists a topological subgroup  $G$  of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  that is isomorphic to the identity component of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$  as topological groups. Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $\Delta^n$ .*

This theorem will be proved in Section 2 by modifying the proof of Theorem A.

Let  $W$  be an arbitrary domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . Then it is well-known that  $W$  admits a smooth envelope of holomorphy (cf. [9]). Hence, as an immediate consequence of this theorem, we obtain the following:

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $M$  be a connected Stein manifold of dimension  $n$  or a domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . Assume that there exists a topological subgroup  $G$  of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  that is isomorphic to the identity component of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$  as topological groups. Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $\Delta^n$ .*

A bounded domain  $D$  in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  is called *symmetric* if, for each point  $p \in D$ , there exists an element  $s_p \in \text{Aut}(D)$  such that  $s_p \circ s_p = \text{id}_D$ ,  $s_p \neq \text{id}_D$  and  $p$  is an isolated fixed point of  $s_p$ . Clearly, the unit polydisc  $\Delta^n$  as well as the unit ball

$B^n$  in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  is a typical example of bounded symmetric domains. As a natural generalization of Theorem B, we can prove the following theorem in Section 3:

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  and let  $D$  be a bounded symmetric domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . Assume that there exists a topological subgroup  $G$  of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  satisfying the following two conditions:*

- (1) *The isotropy subgroup of  $G$  at every point of  $M$  is compact.*
- (2)  *$G$  is isomorphic to the identity component of  $\text{Aut}(D)$  as topological groups.*

*Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $D$ .*

Recall that the isotropy subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  at every point of  $M$  is compact, provided that  $M$  is hyperbolic in the sense of Kobayashi [7]. Hence we have the following:

**COROLLARY 2.** *Let  $M$  be a connected hyperbolic manifold of dimension  $n$  and let  $D$  be a bounded symmetric domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . Assume that  $\text{Aut}(M)$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Aut}(D)$  as topological groups. Then  $M$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $D$ .*

Finally, it should be remarked that, for a given connected complex manifold  $M$ , the following conditions (A) and (B) are mutually independent (for the detail, see Section 4):

(A)  $M$  is holomorphically separable and admits a smooth envelope of holomorphy.

(B) The isotropy subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  at every point of  $M$  is compact.

In this sense, our Theorems 1 and 2 may be considered as characterizations of model domains from different viewpoints.

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## 2. Proof of Theorem 1

Our proof is based on the argument developed in our previous paper [8]. Although there are some overlaps with that paper, we carry out the proof for the sake of completeness and self-containedness.

Let us start with fixing a coordinate system  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  and setting

$$\Delta_j = \{z_j \in \mathbf{C} \mid |z_j| < 1\} \quad (1 \leq j \leq n) \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta^n = \Delta_1 \times \cdots \times \Delta_n.$$

Recall that  $\text{Aut}(\Delta_j)$  is a connected, real simple Lie group of dimension 3 with trivial center. Let  $\text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n)$  be the identity component of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$ . Then we

know that  $\text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n)$  can be identified with the direct product of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta_j)$ :  $\text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n) = \text{Aut}(\Delta_1) \times \cdots \times \text{Aut}(\Delta_n)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{g}(\Delta_j)$  and  $\mathfrak{g}(\Delta^n)$ , respectively, denote the real Lie algebras consisting of all complete holomorphic vector fields on  $\Delta_j$  and on  $\Delta^n$ . Then it is well-known that these Lie algebras are canonically identified with the Lie algebras of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta_j)$  and  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$ , respectively. Therefore we have

$$(2.1) \quad \mathfrak{g}(\Delta^n) = \mathfrak{g}(\Delta_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{g}(\Delta_n), \quad [\mathfrak{g}(\Delta_i), \mathfrak{g}(\Delta_j)] = \{0\} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i, j \leq n, i \neq j.$$

Moreover, we see that  $\mathfrak{g}(\Delta_j)$  contains the holomorphic vector fields

$$H_j := \sqrt{-1}z_j\partial/\partial z_j \quad \text{and} \quad V_j := (1 - z_j^2)\partial/\partial z_j$$

induced by the one-parameter subgroups

$$z_j \mapsto (\exp \sqrt{-1}t)z_j \quad \text{and} \quad z_j \mapsto \frac{(\cosh t)z_j + \sinh t}{(\sinh t)z_j + \cosh t}$$

( $t \in \mathbf{R}$ ) of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta_j)$ , respectively. Then, putting  $W_j = [H_j, V_j]$ , we have

$$(2.2) \quad \mathfrak{g}(\Delta_j) = \mathbf{R}\{H_j, V_j, W_j\} \quad \text{and} \quad [H_j, [H_j, V_j]] = -V_j, \quad [W_j, V_j] = 4H_j$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . These bracket relations will be very important in our proof.

As in Theorem 1 in the introduction, let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  that is holomorphically separable and admits a smooth envelope of holomorphy and assume that there exists a topological group isomorphism  $\Phi : \text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n) \rightarrow G$ , where  $G$  is the given topological subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(M)$ . Since  $\Delta^n$  is a Reinhardt domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ , the  $n$ -dimensional torus  $T^n$  acts naturally on  $\Delta^n$  as a connected Lie transformation group, so that, via the isomorphism  $\Phi$ ,  $T^n$  now acts effectively and continuously on  $M$  by biholomorphic transformations. Hence this action is necessarily real analytic by a classical result of Bochner and Montgomery [3]. Therefore, by a well-known fact due to Barrett, Bedford and Dadok [1], we may assume that  $M$  is a Reinhardt domain  $D$  in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  and that there exists a topological group isomorphism  $\Phi : \text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n) \rightarrow G \subset \text{Aut}(D)$  such that  $\Phi(T(\Delta^n)) = T(D)$ , where  $T(\Delta^n)$  and  $T(D)$ , respectively, denote the subgroups of  $\text{Aut}(\Delta^n)$  and of  $\text{Aut}(D)$  induced by the restrictions of the standard  $T^n$ -action on  $\mathbf{C}^n$  to  $\Delta^n$  and to  $D$ .

Now, the group  $G$  can be turned into a Lie group by transferring the Lie group structure from  $\text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n)$  by means of  $\Phi$ . Since the Lie group  $G$  endowed with the compact-open topology acts continuously on  $D$  by biholomorphic transformations, the action is real analytic with respect to the Lie group structure induced from  $\text{Aut}^o(\Delta^n)$  (cf. [3]). Thus  $G$  is now a Lie transformation group of  $D$  acting effectively on  $D$  by biholomorphic transformations; accordingly, the Lie algebra of  $G$  can be identified with the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  consisting of all holomorphic vector fields on  $D$  induced by one-parameter subgroups of  $G$  (so-called

$G$ -vector fields on  $D$ ). We thus obtain the Lie algebra isomorphism  $d\Phi : \mathfrak{g}(\Delta^n) \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  induced by  $\Phi$ . From now on, for the sake of simplicity, let us put

$$G_j = \Phi(\text{Aut}(\Delta_j)), \quad \mathfrak{g}_j = d\Phi(\mathfrak{g}(\Delta_j)) \quad \text{and}$$

$$I_j = d\Phi(H_j), \quad X_j = d\Phi(V_j), \quad Y_j = d\Phi(W_j)$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Then  $G = G_1 \times \cdots \times G_n$  and, by (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$(2.3) \quad \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{g}_n, \quad [\mathfrak{g}_i, \mathfrak{g}_j] = \{0\} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i, j \leq n, i \neq j;$$

$$(2.4) \quad \mathfrak{g}_j = \mathbf{R}\{I_j, X_j, Y_j\} \quad \text{and} \quad [I_j, [I_j, X_j]] = -X_j, \quad [Y_j, X_j] = 4I_j$$

for every  $1 \leq j \leq n$ .

Put  $D^* = D \cap (\mathbf{C}^*)^n$  and, for a point  $z \in D$ , let  $(\mathfrak{g}_j)_z$  denote the subspace of the tangent space to  $D$  at  $z$  that consist of the values of the elements of  $\mathfrak{g}_j$  at  $z$ . Then, using the bracket relations (2.3) and (2.4), one can verify the following assertion:

1) For every point  $z_o \in D^*$ , there exist a local holomorphic coordinate system  $(U, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  on  $D^*$ , centered at  $z_o$ , and a nowhere dense real analytic subset  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $U$  such that  $(\mathfrak{g}_j)_p = \mathbf{C}\{(\partial/\partial w_j)_p\}$  for  $p \in U \setminus \mathcal{A}$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ .

Therefore, if we choose a point  $p \in U \setminus \mathcal{A}$  and consider the orbits

$$D_p := G \cdot p \quad \text{and} \quad S_j := G_j \cdot p \quad (1 \leq j \leq n)$$

of  $G$  and of  $G_j$  passing through  $p$ , then the assertion 1) together with (2.3) guarantees us that every  $S_j$  is a complex submanifold of  $D$  and  $D_p$  is an open subset of  $D$ . Hence  $D_p$  is a Reinhardt domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ , because  $G$  is connected and contains the torus  $T(D) = T^n$ . More precisely, in exactly the same way as in the proof of [8, Theorem], it can be shown that

- 2) every  $S_j$  is biholomorphically equivalent to the unit disc  $\Delta_j$ ;
- 3)  $D_p$  is biholomorphically equivalent to the unit polydisc  $\Delta^n$ ; and
- 4)  $D$  is a bounded domain in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  and  $D_p$  is an open dense subset of  $D$ .

Thus the proof of Theorem 1 is now reduced to showing that  $D_p$  is also closed in  $D$ . If  $G$  is a closed subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(D)$ , then  $G$  acts properly on  $D$ , as seen in the proof of [8; Theorem]. Consequently, the orbit  $D_p = G \cdot p$  has to be closed in  $D$  in this case. Here, whether or not  $G$  is closed in  $\text{Aut}(D)$ , we want to verify the closedness of  $D_p$  in  $D$ . To this end, assume the contrary that there exists a boundary point  $q \in \partial D_p$  in  $D$ . Let  $d_D$  denote the Kobayashi distance on  $D$  and let  $K(x; r) = \{y \in D \mid d_D(x, y) < r\}$  be the Kobayashi ball of radius  $r > 0$  with center  $x \in D$ . Since  $d_D$  induces the standard topology of  $D$  (cf. [2], [12]) and  $p$  is an interior point of  $D_p$ , one can pick a small  $r > 0$  in such a way that  $K(p; r) \subset D_p$ . For such an  $r > 0$ , choose a point  $x_o \in D_p \cap K(q; r)$  arbitrarily and let  $g_o$  be an element of  $G$  such that  $x_o = g_o \cdot p$ . Then, since  $d_D$  is invariant under the action of  $G \subset \text{Aut}(D)$ , we have

$$d_D(g_o^{-1} \cdot q, p) = d_D(q, g_o \cdot p) = d_D(q, x_o) < r,$$

which means that  $g_o^{-1} \cdot q \in K(p; r) \subset D_p$  and hence  $q \in g_o \cdot D_p = D_p$ , a contradiction to  $q \in \partial D_p$ . Therefore  $D_p$  is, in fact, closed in  $D$  and accordingly  $D = D_p$  is biholomorphically equivalent to  $\Delta^n$ ; completing the proof of Theorem 1.  $\square$

### 3. Proof of Theorem 2

We shall use several fundamental facts on symmetric spaces without proofs. For the details, the reader may consult, for instance, Helgason's book [4].

Let  $M$  be a connected complex manifold of dimension  $n$  and let  $D$  be a bounded symmetric domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be the identity component of  $\text{Aut}(D)$  and let  $\mathfrak{G}$  be its Lie algebra. Fix a point  $o \in D$  once and for all and let  $\mathbf{K}$  be the isotropy subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}$  at  $o$ . Then  $\mathbf{G}$  is a semi-simple Lie group with trivial center that acts transitively on  $D$  and  $\mathbf{K}$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}$ . Note that, since a maximal compact subgroup of a connected Lie group is always connected,  $\mathbf{K}$  is a connected Lie subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}$ . Moreover,  $D$  can now be represented as the coset space  $D = \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K}$ . Consider here the involutive automorphism  $\sigma : g \mapsto s_o g s_o$  of  $\mathbf{G}$ , where  $s_o$  denotes the symmetry of  $D$  with respect to  $o$ , and put  $s = d\sigma$ , the involutive automorphism of  $\mathfrak{G}$  induced by  $\sigma$ . Let  $\mathfrak{R}$  and  $\mathfrak{P}$  be the eigenspaces of  $s$  for the eigenvalues  $+1$  and  $-1$ , respectively. Then  $\mathfrak{R}$  coincides with the Lie algebra of  $\mathbf{K}$  and we have

$$(3.1) \quad \mathfrak{G} = \mathfrak{R} \oplus \mathfrak{P}, \quad [\mathfrak{R}, \mathfrak{R}] \subset \mathfrak{R}, \quad [\mathfrak{R}, \mathfrak{P}] \subset \mathfrak{P} \quad \text{and} \quad [\mathfrak{P}, \mathfrak{P}] \subset \mathfrak{R}.$$

As usual, we identify  $\mathfrak{P}$  with the tangent space  $T_o(D)$  to  $D$  at  $o$ ; accordingly,  $\mathfrak{P} = T_o(D)$  has the complex structure  $J_o^D$  induced by the standard complex structure tensor  $J^D$  on  $D$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{P}$  can be regarded as a complex vector space. Moreover, under the identification  $T_o(D) = \mathfrak{P}$ , the linear isotropy group  $\mathbf{K}^*$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  at  $o$  is just the group  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{K})$ , where  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}$  is the adjoint representation of  $\mathbf{G}$ . We will often use this fact in the proof.

Assume now that there exists a topological group isomorphism  $\Phi : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow G$ , where  $G$  is the given topological subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(M)$  in Theorem 2. Since  $\mathbf{G}$  is a Lie group,  $G$  has a unique Lie group structure with respect to which  $\Phi : \mathbf{G} \rightarrow G$  is a Lie group isomorphism. Thus, by the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 1,  $G$  becomes a Lie transformation group of  $M$  acting effectively on  $M$  by biholomorphic transformations. We denote by  $\mathfrak{g}$  the Lie algebra of  $G$  and by  $d\Phi : \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  the Lie algebra isomorphism induced by  $\Phi$ .

Fix a point  $p \in M$  arbitrarily and denote by  $K$  the isotropy subgroup of  $G$  at  $p$ . Then, by our assumption,  $K$  is a compact subgroup of  $G$ . Here, along the same line as in [6], we shall show that  $G$  acts transitively on  $M$ ; accordingly,  $M$  can be written in the form  $M = G/K$ . To this end, choose a maximal compact subgroup  $\hat{K}$  of  $G$  containing  $K$ . Then, since any two maximal compact subgroups of  $G$  are always conjugate under an inner automorphism of  $G$ , one can find an element  $g_o \in G$  such that  $\hat{K} = g_o \Phi(\mathbf{K}) g_o^{-1}$ . Moreover, notice that the orbit  $G \cdot p = G/K$  of  $G$  passing through  $p$  is a real analytic submanifold of  $M$ . Thus

$$2n \geq \dim G/K \geq \dim G/\hat{K} = \dim \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K} = 2n,$$

from which we have  $K = \tilde{K}$ ,  $\dim G/K = 2n$  and hence the orbit  $G \cdot p = G/K$  is open in  $M$ . Since this is true for any point  $q \in M$  with  $q \neq p$  and since  $M$  is connected, we conclude that  $M = G/K$ , as desired. Therefore, by replacing  $\Phi$  by  $g_o\Phi(\cdot)g_o^{-1}$  if necessary, one may assume that  $\tilde{K} = \Phi(\mathbf{K})$ ; consequently,  $\Phi$  induces a real analytic diffeomorphism, say again,

$$(3.2) \quad \Phi : D = \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K} \rightarrow G/K = M.$$

Put  $\mathfrak{k} = d\Phi(\mathfrak{K})$  and  $\mathfrak{p} = d\Phi(\mathfrak{P})$ . Then  $\mathfrak{k}$  is the Lie subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$  corresponding to  $K$  and we have the direct sum decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$  with the same properties as in (3.1). Let  $J^M$  be the  $G$ -invariant complex structure tensor on  $M$  and let  $J_p^M$  be the complex structure on  $T_p(M) = \mathfrak{p}$  induced by  $J^M$ . Then, since  $J_p^M$  commutes with each element in the linear isotropy group  $K^*$  of  $G$  at  $p$ , so does with  $\text{Ad}_G(k)$  for all  $k \in K$ , where  $\text{Ad}_G$  is the adjoint representation of  $G$ .

In order to complete the proof of Theorem 2, we need to prove that, after a slight modification if necessary, the diffeomorphism  $\Phi$  in (3.2) gives rise to a biholomorphic equivalence between  $D$  and  $M$ . For this purpose, by using the fact that  $d\Phi$  gives a linear isomorphism from  $\mathfrak{P}$  onto  $\mathfrak{p}$ , let us define the endomorphism  $J_o^*$  of  $\mathfrak{P}$  by the formula

$$(3.3) \quad d\Phi(J_o^*X) = J_p^M(d\Phi(X)) \quad \text{for all } X \in \mathfrak{P}.$$

Then  $J_o^* \circ J_o^* = -I$  and moreover, since

$$d\Phi(\text{Ad}_G(k)X) = \text{Ad}_G(\Phi(k)) d\Phi(X) \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbf{K} \text{ and all } X \in \mathfrak{P},$$

it can be easily seen that  $J_o^*$  commutes with  $\text{Ad}_G(k)$  for all  $k \in \mathbf{K}$ . Therefore  $D = \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K}$  admits a unique almost complex structure tensor  $J^*$  which coincides with  $J_o^*$  at  $o$  and is invariant under the action of  $\mathbf{G}$ . The proof is now divided into two cases as follows:

CASE 1. *D is irreducible.* In this case,  $\mathbf{G}$  is a simple Lie group and  $\mathbf{K}$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $\mathbf{G}$  with one-dimensional center isomorphic to the circle group  $S^1$ . By definition of the irreducibility,  $\text{Ad}_G(\mathbf{K})$  now acts irreducibly on  $\mathfrak{P}$ . Hence, Schur's lemma implies that  $J_o^* = cI$  with some constant  $c \in \mathbf{C}$ ; accordingly  $J_o^* = \pm\sqrt{-1}I = \pm J_o^D$  and  $J^* = \pm J^D$ , because  $(J_o^*)^2 = -I$ . Moreover, we would like to assert here the following: one may assume, without loss of generality, that  $D$  is invariant under the complex conjugation  $\psi : z \rightarrow \bar{z}$  of  $\mathbf{C}^n$  with respect to  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Indeed, in the case where  $D$  is one of the four classical domains, it is well-known that  $D$  can be realized as a subdomain  $\tilde{D}$  in some complex matrix space (cf. [5]). Then, a glance at  $\tilde{D}$  tells us that it is invariant under the complex conjugation  $\psi$ . On the other hand, in the case where  $D$  is an exceptional bounded symmetric domain, it is shown in Roos [11; Section 3] that its Harish-Chandra realization  $\tilde{D}$  has an explicit algebraic and geometric description using exceptional Jordan triple systems; from which it follows at once that  $\tilde{D}$  is invariant under the complex conjugation  $\psi$ , as asserted. Thus, taking the diffeomorphism  $\Phi \circ \psi$  instead of  $\Phi$  in (3.2) if necessary, we may assume that  $J^* = J^D$ . This combined with (3.3) yields that  $\Phi : D \rightarrow M$  is holomorphic;

consequently, it gives a biholomorphic equivalence between  $D$  and  $M$ , as required.

CASE 2.  $D$  is reducible. In this case,  $D$  can be uniquely (up to an order) decomposed into the direct product

$$(3.4) \quad D = D_1 \times \cdots \times D_r,$$

where the factors  $D_i$  are irreducible bounded symmetric domains in  $\mathbf{C}^{n_i}$  with  $n_1 + \cdots + n_r = n$ . Here, as in Case 1, one may assume that each  $D_i$  is invariant under the complex conjugation. Let  $\mathbf{G}$  and  $\mathbf{G}_i$  be the identity components of  $\text{Aut}(D)$  and of  $\text{Aut}(D_i)$ . And, writing  $o = (o_1, \dots, o_r)$  with  $o_i \in D_i$  according to the decomposition (3.4), we denote by  $\mathbf{K}$  and  $\mathbf{K}_i$  the isotropy subgroups of  $\mathbf{G}$  and of  $\mathbf{G}_i$  at  $o$  and at  $o_i$ , respectively. Then, as mentioned in Case 1, each  $\mathbf{G}_i$  is a simple Lie group with  $\mathbf{K}_i$  as a maximal compact subgroup of it and  $D_i$  is a homogeneous space of  $\mathbf{G}_i$ . Moreover, we have  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{G}_r$  and  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{K}_r$ , so that  $D$  can be expressed as

$$(3.5) \quad D = \mathbf{G}/\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{G}_1/\mathbf{K}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathbf{G}_r/\mathbf{K}_r.$$

Let  $\mathfrak{G}_i$  be the Lie algebra of  $\mathbf{G}_i$ . Let  $\sigma_i$  be the involutive automorphism  $g \mapsto s_{o_i} g s_{o_i}$  of  $\mathfrak{G}_i$  and put  $s_i = d\sigma_i$ . Then, denoting by  $\mathfrak{K}_i$  and  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ , respectively, the eigenspaces of  $s_i$  for the eigenvalues  $+1$  and  $-1$ , we obtain the direct sum decomposition  $\mathfrak{G}_i = \mathfrak{K}_i \oplus \mathfrak{P}_i$  as in (3.1). As before, we identify  $\mathfrak{P}_i = T_{o_i}(D_i)$  and we denote also by  $J^{D_i}$  the standard complex structure tensor on  $D_i$ . Let  $J_o^*$  be the complex structure on  $\mathfrak{P} = \mathfrak{P}_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathfrak{P}_r$  defined by (3.3). Then, since  $J_o^*$  commutes with  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}(k)$  for all  $k \in \mathbf{K}$  and since  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{K}_i)$  acts irreducibly on  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  and trivially on  $\mathfrak{P}_j$  for  $j \neq i$ , it follows that each  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  is invariant under  $J_o^*$ . Thus  $J_o^*$  is decomposed  $J_o^* = J_{o_1}^* \times \cdots \times J_{o_r}^*$ , where each  $J_{o_i}^*$  is the restriction of  $J_o^*$  to  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ . Therefore, letting  $J_i^*$  be the unique  $\mathbf{G}_i$ -invariant almost complex structure tensor on  $D_i$  which coincides with  $J_{o_i}^*$  at  $o_i$ , we have  $J^* = J_1^* \times \cdots \times J_r^*$ . Moreover, since  $\text{Ad}_{\mathbf{G}_i}(\mathbf{K}_i)$  acts now irreducibly on  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ , Schur's lemma again implies that  $J_i^* = \pm J^{D_i}$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . Finally, consider a real analytic diffeomorphism  $\hat{\Phi} : D = D_1 \times \cdots \times D_r \rightarrow M$  given by

$$\hat{\Phi}(u) = \Phi(\gamma_1(u_1), \dots, \gamma_r(u_r)) \quad \text{for } u = (u_1, \dots, u_r) \in D_1 \times \cdots \times D_r = D,$$

where  $\gamma_i(u_i) = u_i$  or  $\gamma_i(u_i) = \bar{u}_i$ , the complex conjugation in  $\mathbf{C}^{n_i}$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq r$  and  $\Phi$  is the diffeomorphism appearing in (3.2). Then, replacing  $\Phi$  by a suitable  $\hat{\Phi}$  if necessary, we have  $J^* = J^D$ . This means that  $\Phi : D \rightarrow M$  is holomorphic. Therefore, we have shown that  $\Phi$  gives a biholomorphic equivalence between  $D$  and  $M$ ; thereby completing the proof of Theorem 2.  $\square$

#### 4. A concluding remark

In this section, we would like to illustrate that the conditions (A) and (B) stated in the introduction are mutually independent, in general, with concrete examples as follows:



*Example 1.* Consider the two-dimensional complex Euclidean space  $\mathbf{C}^2$ , for instance. Then, the condition (A) is trivially satisfied for  $\mathbf{C}^2$ . On the other hand, notice that the isotropy subgroup  $\text{Aut}_o(\mathbf{C}^2)$  of  $\text{Aut}(\mathbf{C}^2)$  at the origin  $o$  of  $\mathbf{C}^2$  contains the biholomorphic mappings  $\varphi_v : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2$  defined by

$$\varphi_v(z, w) = (z, w \exp(vz)), \quad (z, w) \in \mathbf{C}^2 \text{ for } v = 1, 2, \dots$$

Clearly this says that  $\text{Aut}_o(\mathbf{C}^2)$  is not to be compact; hence, the condition (B) is not satisfied for  $\mathbf{C}^2$ .

*Example 2.* Take an arbitrary compact connected hyperbolic manifold  $X$  of dimension  $\geq 2$  and consider the manifold  $M$  obtained from  $X$  by deletion of one point, say  $M = X \setminus \{p\}$  ( $p \in X$ ). Then, being a complex submanifold of the hyperbolic manifold  $X$ ,  $M$  is also hyperbolic. Accordingly, the condition (B) is automatically satisfied for  $M$ . However, we assert that  $M$  is not holomorphically separable and does not admit a smooth envelope of holomorphy. To verify this, note that any holomorphic function on  $M$  can be holomorphically extended to  $X$  and hence it must be constant, because  $X$  is a compact connected complex manifold of dimension  $\geq 2$ . Thus,  $M$  is never holomorphically separable. Moreover, assume that there exists a smooth envelope of holomorphy of  $M$ . Then, since every Stein manifold can be realized as a closed complex submanifold of some  $\mathbf{C}^N$ , we have a holomorphic imbedding  $F : M \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^N$ . But, since any holomorphic function on  $M$  is now constant as mentioned above,  $F$  must be also constant. Clearly, this is a contradiction. Therefore the condition (A) is not satisfied for this manifold  $M$ .

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