## A GENERALIZATION OF THE BIG PICARD THEOREM

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## Introduction

The classical big Picard theorem says that any holomorphic map f from the punctured disk  $\Delta^*$  into  $P^1$  which omits three points can be extended to a holomorphic map  $f: \Delta \to P^1$ . After Kobayashi's fundamental work [14, VI], Kiernan [9] generalized this theorem to the following result.

Let B an analytic subset of the complex manifold N whose singularities are normal crossings and let M be a hyperbolically imbedded subspace of the complex space X. Then any holomorphic map  $f: N \setminus B \rightarrow M$  can be extended to a holomorphic map  $f: N \rightarrow X$ .

And Fujimoto [5] obtained the following another generalization of the big Picard theorem.

THEOREM. Let B be a regular analytic subset of a complex manifold N and let M be the complementary domain of n+2 hyperplanes in general position in  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . Let  $f: N \setminus B \to M$  be a holomorphic map. Then either the image  $f(N \setminus B)$ lies in a diagonal hyperplane in  $\mathbf{P}^n$  or f can be extended to a holomorphic map  $f: N \to \mathbf{P}^n$ .

The purpose of this paper is to consider a generalization of the big Picard theorem of Fujimoto's type for any holomorphic map  $f: \Delta^* \rightarrow P^2 \setminus A$  where A is a curve in  $P^2$  with 4 or more irreducible components in general position in a certain sence (Theorem 10.1) and for any meromorphic map  $f: N \setminus B \rightarrow P^2 \setminus A$ , where N is an arbitrary manifold, B is a proper analytic subset of N and A is the same of the former case (Theorem 12.1). To prove the former result, Kizuka's theorem in [11] (see Theorem 7.1 in this paper) as well as Fujimoto's theorem play an important role.

## **Chapter I.** Preliminaries

## 1. Degeneracy locus of the Kobayashi pseudodistance

Throughout the sections  $1\sim3$ , let X be a complex manifold of dimension n Received January 14, 1994; revised October 21, 1994.