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**Emily J Evans\*** (montu@wpi.edu), WPI/ Math Department, 100 Institute Rd., Worcester, MA 01752. *A Finite Element Approach to  $C^\beta$  Extension using Prefractals.*

We extend a function  $u$  defined on a fractal set  $S$  which satisfies the Hölder estimate

$$|u(x) - u(y)| \leq C_0|x - y|^\beta$$

for all  $x, y$  on  $S$ , to a larger domain  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ . The extension function  $u^*$  is defined everywhere in  $\Omega$ , is Hölder continuous everywhere in  $\Omega$ , corresponds with  $u$  at every point on  $S$  and satisfies the estimate  $|u^*|_{\overline{\Omega}, \beta} \leq C\|u\|_{S, \beta}$  with a constant  $C$  independent of  $u$ . Our approach is different and more constructive than the standard approach and exploits both the self-similarity of the fractal as well as the iterative process used to define the fractal set. (Received August 13, 2010)