1093-32-315 **Jennifer Halfpap*** (halfpap@mso.umt.edu). *A New Proof of the Sharp Degree Estimate for Proper Monomial Maps from $\mathbb{B}_2$ to $\mathbb{B}_N$.* Preliminary report.

Let $r\colon \mathbb{B}_n \to \mathbb{B}_N$ be a proper rational map between balls in complex Euclidean spaces of different dimensions. It is well-known to CR geometers that the degree of such a map is not artibtrary; it depends on the relationship between the domain and target dimensions. In 2003, D'Angelo, Kos, and Riehl established the sharp degree bound for proper monomial maps from $\mathbb{B}_2$ to $\mathbb{B}_N$. We give a new proof of this result using ideas from commutative algebra. (Received August 19, 2013)