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Daniel Meyer* (dmeyermail@gmail.com), P.O. Box 68, Gustaf Hallstromin katu 2b, FI-00014 University of Helsinki, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland. *Invariant Peano curves of expanding Thurston maps.*

An Thurston map is a postcritically finite branched covering map $f: S^2 \rightarrow S^2$. We consider such maps that are expanding in a suitable sense. We show that a suitable iterate $F = f^n$ is semiconjugate to z^d . This means that there is a Peano curve $\gamma: S^1 \rightarrow S^2$ (onto) such that $F(\gamma(z)) = \gamma(z^d)$, where $d = \deg F$. This generalizes a result by Milnor and corresponds to a result by Cannon-Thurston in the group case. (Received February 01, 2009)