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**E. Cabral Balreira\*** ([ebalreir@trinity.edu](mailto:ebalreir@trinity.edu)), One Trinity Place, Department of Mathematics, San Antonio, TX 78212. *The Geometry of P-matrices and the Gale-Nikaido Theorem and Applications*. Preliminary report.

An important problem in global injectivity is the result of Gale-Nikaido which states that if the principal minors of the Jacobian matrix of a map defined on a rectangular region of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are positive, then it must be injective. In this talk, we will provide a new geometric condition, called normal cubic assemblage, which can be checked on the boundary of the domain. This condition is satisfied when the Jacobian matrix is a  $P$ -matrix and thus it generalizes the Gale-Nikaido Theorem. Applications of these new ideas to competition models in economics and biology will also be shown. (Received September 14, 2012)