



**Sudan University of Science and Technology**  
**College of Graduate Studies**



**Reducing Subspaces and Sarason Toeplitz Product  
Problem with Theorem of Brown–Halmos on Fock  
and Bergman Spaces**

الفضاءات الجزئية المختزلة ومسألة ناتج ساراسون تبوليتز مع  
مبرهنة بروين – هالموس على فضاءات فوك – بيرجمان

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# **Dedication**

To my Family

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## Abstract

The classification of reducing subspaces of a class of multiplication operators, analytic multipliers for a class of Toeplitz operators, tensor products of weighted shifts and a class of non-analytic Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space by the Hardy space of the Bidisk and polydisk are considered. We show the products products of Hankel and Toeplitz operators with Sarason's Toeplitz product problem on the Bergman and a class of Fock spaces. We study the finite rank commutators, perturbation and semicommutators of Toeplitz operators with harmonic symbols and Bergman space. We give a theorem of Brown-Halmos type for Bergman space of Toeplitz operators and modulo finite rank operators.

## الخلاصة

قمنا باعتبار التصنيف للفضاءات الجزئية المختزلة الى عائلة المؤثرات الضريبية والمضاريب التحليلية لأجل عائلة مؤثرات تبوليتز و نواتج تنسور للإزاحات المرجحة وعائلة مؤثرات تبوليتز غير التحليلية على فضاء بيرجمان بواسطة فضاء هاردي إلى القرص الثنائي والقرص المتعدد. تم توضيح نواتج مؤثرات هانكل وتبوليتز مع مسالة ناتج تبوليتز ساراسون على فضاءات بيرجمان وعائلة فضاءات فوك. قمنا بدراسة مبدلات الرتبة المنتهية والارتجاج وشبه المبدلات لمؤثرات تبوليتز مع الرموز التوافقية وفضاء بيرجمان. قمنا بإعطاء المبرهنة نوع براون -هالموس لأجل فضاء بيرجمان لمؤثرات تبوليتز وبمقياس مؤثرات الرتبة المنتهية.

## Introduction

In Douglas et al. (2011) [4] some incisive results are obtained on the structure of the reducing subspaces for the multiplication operator  $M_\varphi$  by a finite Blaschke product  $\varphi$  on the Bergman space on the unit disk. In particular, the linear dimension of the commutant,  $A_\varphi = \{M_\varphi, M_\varphi^*\}$ , is shown to equal the number of connected components of the Riemann surface,  $\varphi^{-1} \circ \varphi$ . Using techniques from Douglas et al. (2011) [4] and a uniformization result that expresses  $\varphi$  as a holomorphic covering map in a neighborhood of the boundary of the disk. We completely characterize the reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  where  $\alpha > -1$  and  $N, M$  are positive integers with  $N \neq M$ , and show that the minimal reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on the unweighted Bergman space and on the weighted Bergman space are different.

We consider the question for which square integrable analytic functions  $f$  and  $g$  on the unit disk the densely defined products  $T_f T_g$  are bounded on the Bergman space. We show results analogous to those obtained by [17] for such Toeplitz products on the Hardy space. Let  $m(t)dt$  be a positive measure on  $\mathbb{R}^+$ . We investigate the relations among the growth of  $\gamma_n$ , the growth of its moment sequence  $\{\gamma_n\}$ , the growth of its Bergman kernel function  $K(x) = \sum \gamma_n^{-1}$ , and the growth of the kernel function associated to the measure  $K(t)^{-1}m(t)dt$ . We consider Hankel operators  $H_{\bar{f}}$  with antiholomorphic symbol  $\bar{f}$  on the generalized Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$ , where  $\mu_m$  is the measure with weight  $e^{-|z|^m}$ ,  $m > 0$  with respect to the Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . We show that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded if and only if  $f$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $\frac{m}{2}$ .

We consider the question of when the semi-commutator  $T_{fg} - T_f T_g$  on the Bergman space with bounded harmonic symbols is compact. Several conditions equivalent to compactness of  $T_{fg} - T_f T_g$  are given. We study the analogues of the Brown–Halmos theorem for Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space. We show that for  $f$  and  $g$  harmonic,  $T_f T_g = T_h$  only in the tribyl case, provided that  $h$  is of class  $C^2$  with the invariant laplacian bounded. Here the tribyl cases are  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  holomorphic. From this we conclude that the zeroproduct problem for harmonic symbols has only the tribyl solution. We completely characterize finite rank semicommutator or commutator of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols on the Bergman space.

A unilateral weighted shift  $A$  is said to be simple if its weight sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  satisfies  $\nabla^3(\alpha_n^2) \neq 0$  for all  $n \geq 2$ . We show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are two simple unilateral weighted shifts, then  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is reducible if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent. We completely characterize all the reducing subspaces for a class of non-analytic Toeplitz operators with symbol  $\phi(z, w) = \alpha z^k + \beta \bar{w}^l$ , where  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\alpha\beta = 0$ .

Hankel operators with anti-holomorphic symbols are studied for a large class of weighted Fock spaces on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . The weights defining these Hilbert spaces are radial and subject to a mild smoothness condition. In addition, it is assumed that the weights decay at least as fast as the classical Gaussian weight. The main result says that a Hankel operator on

such a Fock space is bounded if and only if the symbol belongs to a certain BMOA space, defined by the Berezin transform. The latter space coincides with a corresponding Bloch space which is defined by means of the Bergman metric. Sarason's Toeplitz product problem asks when the operator  $T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on various Hilbert spaces of analytic functions, where  $u$  and  $v$  are analytic. The problem is highly nontrivial for Toeplitz operators on the Hardy space and the Bergman space (even in the case of the unit disk).

Given a complex Borel measure  $\mu$  with compact support in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  the sesquilinear form defined on analytic polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  by  $B_\mu(f, g) = \int f g d\bar{\mu}$ , determines an operator  $T_\mu$  from the space of such polynomials  $P$  to the space of linear functionals on  $P$ . We study the product problem of Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space of the unit disk. We characterize when the product of two Toeplitz operators  $T_f T_g$  is a finite rank perturbation of another Toeplitz operator  $T_h$ , with  $f, g$  bounded harmonic and  $h$  in  $C^2$  class with invariant Laplacian in  $L^1$ .

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# Chapter 1

## Classification of Reducing Subspaces

We obtain a complete description of nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces of the multiplication operator by a Blaschke product with four zeros on the Bergman space of the unit disk by the Hardy space of the bidisk. We show that  $A_\phi$  is commutative, and moreover, that the minimal reducing subspaces are pairwise orthogonal. Finally, an analytic/arithmetic description of the minimal reducing subspaces is also provided, along with the taxonomy of the possible structures of the reducing subspaces in case  $\phi$  has eight zeros. These results have implications in both operator theory and the geometry of finite Blaschke products.

### Section (1.1): A Class of Multiplication Operators on the Bergman Space by the Hardy Space of the Bidisk

For  $\mathbb{D}$  be the open unit disk in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $dA$  denote Lebesgue area measure on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ , normalized so that the measure of  $\mathbb{D}$  equals 1. The Bergman space  $L_a^2$  is the Hilbert space consisting of the analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  that are also in the space  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  of square integrable functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . For a bounded analytic function  $\phi$  on the unit disk, the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  with symbol  $\phi$  is defined on the Bergman space  $L_a^2$  given by

$$M_\phi h = \phi h$$

for  $h \in L_a^2$ . On the basis  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ , where  $e_n$  is equal to  $\sqrt{n+1}z^n$ , the multiplication operator  $M_z$  by  $z$  is a weighted shift operator, said to be the Bergman shift:

$$M_z e_n = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n+2}} e_{n+1}.$$

A reducing subspace  $M$  for an operator  $T$  on a Hilbert space  $H$  is a subspace  $M$  of  $H$  such that  $TM \subset M$  and  $T^*M \subset M$ . A reducing subspace  $M$  of  $T$  is called minimal if  $M$  does not have any nontrivial subspaces which are reducing subspaces. We classify reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  for the Blaschke product  $\phi$  with four zeros by identifying its minimal reducing subspaces. We lift the Bergman shift up as a compression of a commuting pair of isometries on a nice subspace of the Hardy space of the bidisk. This idea was used in studying the Hilbert modules by R. Douglas and V. Paulsen [6], operator theory in the Hardy space over the bidisk by R. Douglas and R. Yang [7], [19], [20] and [21]; the higher-order Hankel forms by S. Ferguson and R. Rochberg [8] and [9] and the lattice of the invariant subspaces of the Bergman shift by S. Richter [13].

On the Hardy space of the unit disk, for an inner function  $\phi$ , the multiplication operator by  $\phi$  is a pure isometry. So its reducing subspaces are in one-to-one correspondence with the closed subspaces of  $H^2 \ominus \phi H^2$  [5], [11]. Therefore, it has infinitely many reducing subspaces provided that  $\phi$  is any inner function other than a Mobius function. Many have studied the problem of determining reducing subspaces of a multiplication operator on the Hardy space of the unit circle [2], [3] and [12]. The multiplication operators on the Bergman space possess a very rich structure theory. Even the lattice of the invariant subspaces of the Bergman shift  $M_z$  is huge [4]. But the lattice of reducing subspaces of the multiplication operator by a finite Blaschke on the Bergman space seems to be simple. On the Bergman space, Zhu [22] showed that for a Blaschke product  $\phi$  with two zeros, the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  has exact two nontrivial reducing subspaces  $\mathcal{M}_0$  and  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$ . The restriction of the multiplication operator on  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift. Using the Hardy space of bidisk in [10], we show that the multiplication operator with a finite Blaschke

product  $\phi$  has a unique reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$ , on which the restriction of  $M_\phi$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift and if a multiplication operator has a such reducing subspace, then its symbol must be a finite Blaschke product. The space  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$  is called the distinguished reducing subspace of  $M_\phi$  and is equal to

$$\bigvee \{ \phi_0 \phi_n : n = 0, 1, \dots, m, \dots \}$$

if  $\phi$  vanishes at 0 in [16], i.e,

$$\phi(z) = cz \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{z - \alpha_k}{1 - \overline{\alpha_k}z},$$

for some points  $\{\alpha_k\}$  in the unit disk and a unimodular constant  $c$ . The space has played an important role in classifying reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$ . In [10], we have shown that for a Blaschke product  $\phi$  of the third order, except for a scalar multiple of the third power of a Mobius transform,  $M_\phi$  has exactly two nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)^\perp$ . The study on reducing subspaces of the multiplication operators  $M_\phi$  on the Bergman space in [10] by using the Hardy space of the bidisk. We will obtain a complete description of nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  for the fourth order Blaschke product  $\phi$ .

We introduce some notation to lift the Bergman shift as the compression of some isometry on a subspace of the Hardy space of the bidisk and state some theorems in [10]. We state the main result and present its proof. Since the proof is long, two difficult cases in the proof are considered.

For  $\mathbb{T}$  denote the unit circle. The torus  $\mathbb{T}^2$  is the Cartesian product  $\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{T}$ . Let  $d\sigma$  be the rotation invariant Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{T}^2$ . The Hardy space  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  is the subspace of  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^2, d\sigma)$ , where functions in  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  can be identified with the boundary value of the function holomorphic in the bidisk  $\mathbb{D}^2$  with the square summable Fourier coefficients. The Toeplitz operator on  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  with symbol  $f$  in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{T}^2, d\sigma)$  is defined by

$$Tf(h) = P(fh),$$

for  $h \in H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^2, d\sigma)$  onto  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ . For each integer  $n \geq 0$ , let

$$p_n(z, w) = \sum_{i=0}^n z^i w^{n-i}.$$

Let  $H$  be the subspace of  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  spanned by functions  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ . Thus

$$H^2(\mathbb{T}^2) = H \oplus cl\{(z - w)H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)\}.$$

Let

$$\mathcal{B} = P_{\mathcal{H}} T_z|_{\mathcal{H}} = P_{\mathcal{H}} T_w|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

where  $P_{\mathcal{H}}$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^2, d\sigma)$  onto  $\mathcal{H}$ . So  $\mathcal{B}$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift  $M_z$  on the Bergman space  $L_a^2$  by the following unitary operator  $U : L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$Uz^n = \frac{p_n(z, w)}{n + 1}.$$

This implies that the Bergman shift is lifted up as the compression of an isometry on a nice subspace of  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ . Indeed, for each finite Blaschke product  $\phi(z)$ , the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  on the Bergman space is unitarily equivalent to  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Let  $L_0$  be  $\ker T_\phi^*(z) \cap \ker T_\phi^*(w) \cap \mathcal{H}$ . In [10], for each  $e \in L_0$ , we construct functions  $\{d_e^k\}$  and  $d_e^0$  such that for each  $l \geq 1$ ,

$$p_l(\phi(z), \phi(w))e + \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} p_k(\phi(z), \phi(w))d_e^{l-k} \in \mathcal{H}$$

and

$$p_l(\phi(z), \phi(w))e + p^{l-1}(\phi(z), \phi(w))d_e^0 \in \mathcal{H}.$$

On one hand, we have a precise formula of  $d_e^0$  :

$$d_e^0(z, w) = we(0, w)e_0(z, w) - w\phi_0(w)e(z, w), \quad (1)$$

where  $e_0$  is the function  $\frac{\phi(z)-\phi(w)}{z-w}$ . On the other hand,  $d_e^k$  is orthogonal to  $\ker T_\phi^*(z) \cap \ker T_\phi^*(w) \cap \mathcal{H}$ , and for a reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $e \in \mathcal{M}$ ,

$$p_l(\phi(z), \phi(w))e + \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} p_k(\phi(z), \phi(w))d_e^{l-k} \in \mathcal{M}.$$

Moreover, the relation between  $d_e^1$  and  $d_e^0$  is given by Theorem 1 in [10] as follows:

**Theorem (1.1.1)[1]:** If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a reducing subspace of  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  orthogonal to the distinguished reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}_0$ , for each  $e \in \mathcal{M} \cap L_0$ , then there is an element  $\tilde{e} \in \mathcal{M} \cap L_0$  and a number  $\lambda$  such that

$$d_e^1 = d_e^0 + \tilde{e} + \lambda e_0. \quad (2)$$

Since for Blaschke products with smaller order, it is not difficult to calculate  $\tilde{e}$  and  $\lambda$  precisely, we are able to classify minimal reducing subspaces of a multiplication operator by a Blaschke product of the fourth order. Main ideas in the proof of Theorems (1.1.7) and (1.1.8) are that by complicated computations we use (2) to derive conditions on zeros of the Blaschke product of the fourth order.

We often in [10] stated as follows.

**Theorem (1.1.2)[1]:** There is a unique reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}_0$  for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  such that  $\phi(\mathcal{B})|_{\mathcal{M}_0}$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift. In fact,

$$\mathcal{M}_0 = \bigvee_{l \geq 0} \{p_l(\phi(z), \phi(w))e_0\},$$

and  $\left\{ \frac{p_l(\phi(z), \phi(w))e_0}{\sqrt{l+1}\|e_0\|} \right\}_0^\infty$  form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{M}_0$ .

We call  $\mathcal{M}_0$  to be the distinguished reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ .  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is unitarily equivalent to a reducing subspace of  $M_\phi$  contained in the Bergman space, denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$ . The space plays an important role in classifying the minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  in Theorem (1.1.6).

In [10] we showed that for a nontrivial minimal reducing subspace  $\Omega$  for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ , either  $\Omega$  equals  $\mathcal{M}_0$  or  $\Omega$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$ . The condition in the following theorem is natural.

**Theorem (1.1.3)[1]:** Suppose that  $\Omega$ ,  $M$  and  $N$  are three distinct nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  and

$$\Omega \subset M \oplus N.$$

If they are contained in  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$ , then there is a unitary operator  $U : M \rightarrow N$  such that  $U$  commutes with  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  and  $\phi(\mathcal{B})^*$ .

Let  $\phi$  be a Blaschke product with four zeros. We will obtain a complete description of minimal reducing subspaces of the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$ . First observe that the multiplication operator  $M_{z^4}$  is a weighted shift with multiplicity 4:

$$M_{z^4} e_n = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{n+5}} e_{n+4}$$

where  $e_n$  equals  $\sqrt{n+1}z^n$ . By Theorem B [15],  $M_{z^4}$  has exact four nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces:

$$M_j = \bigvee \{z^n : n \equiv j \pmod{4}\}$$

for  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Before stating the main result. It is not difficult to see that the set of finite Blaschke products forms a semigroup under composition of two functions. For a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  we say that  $\phi$  is decomposable if there are two Blaschke products  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  with orders greater than 1 such that

$$\phi(z) = \psi_1 \circ \psi_2(z).$$

For each  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , let  $\phi_\lambda$  denote the Mobius transform:

$$\phi_\lambda(z) = \frac{\lambda - z}{1 - \bar{\lambda}z}.$$

Define the operator  $U_\lambda$  on the Bergman space as follows:

$$U_\lambda f = f \circ \phi_\lambda k_\lambda$$

for  $f$  in  $L^2_a$  where  $k_\lambda$  is the normalized reproducing kernel  $\frac{(1-|\lambda|^2)}{(1-\lambda z)^2}$ . Clearly,  $U_\lambda$  is a selfadjoint unitary operator on the Bergman space. Using the unitary operator  $U_\lambda$  we have

$$\mathcal{M}_0(\phi) = U_\lambda \mathcal{M}_0(\phi \circ \phi_\lambda)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a zero of the finite Blaschke product  $\phi$ . This easily follows from that  $\phi \circ \phi_\lambda$  vanishes at 0 and

$$U_\lambda^* M_\phi U_\lambda = M_{\phi \circ \phi_\lambda}.$$

We say that two Blaschke products  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are equivalent if there is a complex number  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that

$$\phi_1 = \phi_\lambda \circ \phi_2.$$

For two equivalent Blaschke products  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ ,  $M_{\phi_1}$  and  $M_{\phi_2}$  are mutually analytic function calculus of each other and hence share reducing subspaces. The following main result gives a complete description of minimal reducing subspaces.

To prove the above theorem we need the following two lemmas which tell us when a Blaschke product with order 4 is decomposable.

**Lemma (1.1.4)[1]:** If a Blaschke product  $\phi$  with order four is decomposable, then the numerator of the rational function  $\phi(z) - \phi(w)$  has at least three irreducible factors.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\phi$  is the Blaschke product with order four. Let  $f(z, w)$  be the numerator of the rational function  $\phi(z) - \phi(w)$ . If  $\phi$  is decomposable, then  $\phi = \psi_1 \circ \psi_2$  for two Blaschke products  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  with order two. Let  $g(z, w)$  be the numerator of the rational function  $\psi_1(z) - \psi_1(w)$ . Clearly,  $z - w$  is a factor of  $g(z, w)$ . Thus we can write

$$g(z, w) = (z - w)p(z, w)$$

for some polynomial  $p(z, w)$  of  $z$  and  $w$  to get

$$g(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w)) = (\psi_2(z) - \psi_2(w))p(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w)).$$

On the other hand, we also have

$$\psi_2(z) - \psi_2(w) = \frac{(z - w)p_2(z, w)}{q_2(z, w)}$$

for two polynomials  $p_2(z, w)$  and  $q_2(z, w)$  which  $p_2(z, w)$  and  $q_2(z, w)$  do not have common factor. In fact,  $q_2(z, w)$  and the numerator of the rational function  $p(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w))$  do not have common factor also. So we obtain

$$g(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w)) = \frac{(z - w)p_2(z, w)}{q_2(z, w)} p(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w)).$$

Since  $f(z, w)$  is the numerator of the rational function  $g(\psi_2(z), \psi_2(w))$ , this gives that  $f(z, w)$  has at least three factors. This completes the proof.

For  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{D}$ , define

$$f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = w^2(w - \alpha)(w - \beta)(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z) - z^2(z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - \bar{\alpha}w)(1 - \bar{\beta}w).$$

It is easy to see that  $f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  is the numerator of  $z^2\phi_\alpha(z)\phi_\beta(z) - w^2\phi_\alpha(w)\phi_\beta(w)$ . The following lemma gives a criteria when the Blaschke product  $z^2\phi_\alpha(z)\phi_\beta(z)$  is decomposable.

**Lemma (1.1.5)[1]:** For  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , one of the following holds.

(i) If both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  equal zero, then

$$f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = (w - z)(w + z)(w - iz)(w + iz).$$

(ii) If  $\alpha$  does not equal either  $\beta$  or  $-\beta$ , then

$$f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = (w - z)p(w, z)$$

for some irreducible polynomial  $p(w, z)$ .

(iii) If  $\alpha$  equals either  $\beta$  or  $-\beta$  but it does not equal zero, then

$$f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = (w - z)p(w, z)q(w, z)$$

for two irreducible distinct polynomials  $p(w, z)$  and  $q(w, z)$ .

**Proof.** Clearly, (i) holds. To prove (ii), by the example on page 6 of [14] we may assume that none of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  equals 0. First observe that  $(w - z)$  is a factor of the polynomial  $f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$ . Taking a long division gives

$$f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = (w - z)g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$$

where

$$g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)w^3 + (z - (\alpha + \beta))(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)w^2 + (z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z)w + z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta).$$

Next we will show that  $g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  is irreducible. To do this, we assume that  $g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  is reducible to derive a contradiction.

Assuming that  $g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  is reducible, we can factor  $g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  as the product of two polynomials  $p(w, z)$  and  $q(w, z)$  of  $z$  and  $w$  with degree of  $w$  greater than or equal one. Write

$$\begin{aligned} p(w, z) &= a_1(z)w + a_0(z) \\ q(w, z) &= b_2(z)w^2 + b_1(z)w + b_0(z) \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_j(z)$  and  $b_j(z)$  are polynomials of  $z$ . Since  $g_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  equals the product of  $p(w, z)$  and  $q(w, z)$ , taking the product and comparing coefficients of  $w^k$  give

$$a_1(z)b_2(z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z), \quad (3)$$

$$a_1(z)b_1(z) + a_0(z)b_2(z) = (z - (\alpha + \beta))(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z), \quad (4)$$

$$a_1(z)b_0(z) + a_0(z)b_1(z) = (z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z), \quad (5)$$

$$a_0(z)b_0(z) = z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta). \quad (6)$$

Equation (3) gives that either

$$\begin{aligned}
a_1(z) &= (1 - \bar{\alpha}z) \text{ or} \\
a_1(z) &= (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z) \text{ or} \\
a_1(z) &= 1.
\end{aligned}$$

In the first case that  $a_1(z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)$ , (3) gives  $b_2(z) = (1 - \bar{\beta}z)$ . Thus by Equation (4), we have

$$a_0(z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)[(z - (\alpha + \beta))(1 - \bar{\beta}z) - b_1(z)],$$

to get that  $(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)$  is a factor of  $a_0(z)$ , and hence is also a factor of a factor  $z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta)$  by (6). This implies that  $\alpha$  must equal 0. It is a contradiction.

In the second case that  $a_1(z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)$ , we have that  $b_2(z) = 1$  to get that either the degree of  $b_1(z)$  or the degree of  $b_0(z)$  must be one while the degrees of  $b_1(z)$  and  $b_0(z)$  are at most one. So the degree of  $a_0(z)$  is at most two. Also  $a_0(z)$  does not equal zero. Equation (4) gives

$$(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)b_1(z) + a_0(z) = (z - (\alpha + \beta))(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z).$$

Thus  $a_0(z) = c_1(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)$  for some constant  $c_1$ . But Equation (6) gives

$$c_1(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)b_0(z) = z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta).$$

Either  $c_1 = 0$  or  $(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)$  is a factor of  $z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta)$ . This is impossible.

In the third case that  $a_1(z) = 1$ , then  $b_2(z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)$ . Since the root  $w$  of  $f_{\alpha, \beta}(w, z)$  is a nonconstant function of  $z$ , the degree of  $a_0(z)$  must be one. Thus the degrees of  $b_1(z)$  and  $b_0(z)$  are at most two. By Equation (4) we have

$$(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)a_0(z) + b_1(z) = (z - (\alpha + \beta))(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z),$$

to get

$$b_1(z) = (1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - a_0(z)].$$

Since the degree of  $b_1(z)$  is at most two, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
a_0(z) &= (z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0; \\
b_1(z) &= c_0(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z).
\end{aligned}$$

Equations (6) and (5) give

$$[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0]b_0(z) = z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&b_1(z)[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0] + b_0(z) \\
&= (z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z).
\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the both sides of the last equality by  $[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0]$  gives

$$\begin{aligned}
&b_1(z)[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0]^2 + z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta) \\
&= [(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0](z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z).
\end{aligned}$$

This leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
&c_0(1 - \bar{\alpha}z)(1 - \bar{\beta}z)[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0]^2 + z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta) \\
&= [(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0](z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z).
\end{aligned}$$

If  $c_0 \neq 0$ , then the above equality gives that  $(z - \alpha)(z - \beta)$  is a factor of  $[(z - (\alpha + \beta)) - c_0]^2$ . This is impossible.

If  $c_0 = 0$ , then we have

$$z(z - \alpha)(z - \beta) = [(z - (\alpha + \beta))](z - \alpha)(z - \beta)(1 - (\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})z).$$

to get  $\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} = 0$  and hence  $\alpha = -\beta$ . It is also a contradiction. This completes the proof that  $g_{\alpha,\beta}(w, z)$  is irreducible.

To prove (iii), we note that if  $\alpha$  equals  $\beta$ , an easy computation gives

$$f_{\alpha,\beta}(w, z) = (w - z)[((1 - \bar{\alpha}z)w + (z - \alpha))] \\ \times [w(w - \alpha)(1 - \bar{\alpha}z) + z(z - \alpha)(1 - \bar{\alpha}w)].$$

If  $\alpha = -\beta$ , we also have

$$f_{\alpha,\beta}(w, z) = (w - z)(w + z)[(1 - \bar{\alpha}^2 z^2)w^2 + (z^2 - \alpha^2)].$$

This completes the proof.

**Theorem (1.1.6)[1]:** Let  $\phi$  be a Blaschke product with four zeros. One of the following holds.

(i) If  $\phi$  is equivalent to  $z^4$ , i.e.,  $\phi$  is a scalar multiple of the fourth power  $\phi_c^4$  of the Mobius transform  $\phi_c$  for some complex number  $c$  in the unit disk,  $M_\phi$  has exact four nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces

$$\{U_c \mathcal{M}_1, U_c \mathcal{M}_2, U_c \mathcal{M}_3, U_c \mathcal{M}_4\}.$$

(ii) If  $\phi$  is decomposable but not equivalent to  $z^4$ , i.e.,  $\phi = \psi_1 \circ \psi_2$  for two Blaschke products  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  with orders 2 but not both of  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  are a scalar multiple of  $z^2$ , then  $M_\phi$  has exact three nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces

$$\{\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), \mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), \mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)^\perp\}.$$

(iii) If  $\phi$  is not decomposable, then  $M_\phi$  has exact two nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces

$$\{\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), \mathcal{M}_0(\phi)^\perp\}.$$

**Proof.** Assume that  $\phi$  is a Blaschke product with the fourth order. By the Bochner Theorem [18],  $\phi$  has a critical point  $c$  in the unit disk. Let  $\lambda = \phi(c)$  be the critical value of  $\phi$ . Then there are two points  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in the unit disk such that

$$\phi_\lambda \circ \phi \circ \phi_c(z) = \eta z^2 \phi_\alpha \phi_\beta$$

where  $\eta$  is a unimodular constant. Let  $\psi$  be  $z^2 \phi_\alpha \phi_\beta$ . Since  $\phi \circ \phi_c$  and  $\psi$  are mutually analytic function calculus of each other, both  $M_{\phi \circ \phi_c}$  and  $M_\psi$  share reducing subspaces.

(i) If  $\phi$  is equivalent to  $z^4$ , then  $\psi$  must equal a scalar multiple of  $z^4$ . By Theorem B in [15],  $M_\psi$  has exact four nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces

$$\{\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3, \mathcal{M}_4\}$$

where

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \bigvee \{z^n : n \equiv j \pmod{4}\}$$

for  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . The four spaces above are also reducing subspaces for  $M_{\phi \circ \phi_c}$ . Noting

$$U_c^* M_{\phi \circ \phi_c} U_c = M_\phi,$$

we have that  $M_\phi$  has exact four nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces

$$\{U_c \mathcal{M}_1, U_c \mathcal{M}_2, U_c \mathcal{M}_3, U_c \mathcal{M}_4\}.$$

(ii) If  $\phi$  is decomposable but not equivalent to  $z^4$ , i.e.,  $\phi = \psi_1 \circ \psi_2$  for two Blaschke products  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  with degrees two and not both  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  are scalar multiples of  $z^2$ , by Lemmas (1.1.4) and (1.1.5), then  $\alpha$  equals either  $\beta$  or  $-\beta$  but does not equal 0. By Theorem (1.1.2), the restriction of  $M_{\psi_2}$  on  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift. Thus  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)$  is also a reducing subspace of  $M_\phi$  and the restriction of  $M_\phi = M_{\psi_1 \circ \psi_2}$  on  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)$  is unitarily equivalent to  $M_{\psi_1}$  on the Bergman space. By Theorem (1.1.2) again, there is a unique reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_1)$  on which the restriction  $M_{\psi_1}$  is unitarily equivalent to

the Bergman shift. Thus there is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)$  on which the restriction of  $M_\phi$  is unitarily equivalent to the Bergman shift. Theorem (1.1.2) implies that  $\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$  is contained in  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)$  is also a minimal reducing subspace of  $M_\phi$  and

$$L_a^2 = \mathcal{M}_0(\phi) \oplus [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)] \oplus [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp.$$

By Theorems (1.1.7) in [17],  $\{\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)], [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp\}$  are nontribyl minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$ . We will show that they are exact nontribyl minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$ . If this is not true, then there is another minimal reducing subspace  $\Omega$  of  $M_\phi$ . By Theorem 38 [10], we have

$$\Omega \subset [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)] \oplus [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp.$$

By Theorem (1.1.3), there is a unitary operator

$$U : [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)] \rightarrow [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp$$

which commutes with both  $M_\phi$  and  $M_\phi^*$ . But

$$\dim \ker M_\phi^* \cap [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)] = 1$$

and

$$\dim \ker M_\phi^* \cap [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp = 2.$$

This is a contradiction. Thus  $\{\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)\mathcal{M}_0(\phi)], [\mathcal{M}_0(\psi_2)]^\perp\}$  are exact nontribyl minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$ .

(iii) If  $\phi$  is not decomposable, by Lemma (1.1.5), then  $\phi$  equals  $z^3\phi_\alpha$  or  $z^2\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta$  for two nonzero points  $\alpha, \beta$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\alpha$  does not equal  $\beta$  or  $-\beta$ . By Theorems (1.1.7) and (1.1.8),  $M_\phi$  has exact two nontribyl minimal reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_0(\phi), \mathcal{M}_0(\phi)^\perp\}$ .

We will study reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^3\phi_\alpha}$  for a nonzero point  $\alpha \in \mathbb{D}$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is the distinguished reducing subspace of  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  as in Theorem (1.1.2).

**Theorem (1.1.7)[1]:** Let  $z^3\phi_\alpha$  for a nonzero point  $\alpha \in \mathbb{D}$ . Then  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  has exact two nontribyl reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_0, \mathcal{M}_0^\perp\}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{M}_0$  be the distinguished reducing subspace of  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  as in Theorem (1.1.2). By Theorem (1.1.3), we only need to show that  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is a minimal reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ .

Assume that  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is not a minimal reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ . Then by Theorem (1.1.7) in [17] we may assume

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^2 M_i$$

such that each  $M_i$  is a nontribyl reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp = M_0$  is the distinguished reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  and

$$\mathcal{M}_0^\perp = M_1 \oplus M_2.$$

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_0 &= z^2\phi_\alpha, \\ L_0 &= \text{span}\{1, p_1, p_2, k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w)\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$L_0 = (L_0 \cap M_0) \oplus (L_0 \cap M_1) \oplus (L_0 \cap M_2).$$

We further assume that

$$\dim(M_1 \cap L_0) = 1$$

and

$$\dim(M_2 \cap L_0) = 2.$$

Take  $0 \neq e_1 \in M_1 \cap L_0$ ,  $e_2, e_3 \in M_2 \cap L_0$  such that  $\{e_2, e_3\}$  are a basis for  $M_2 \cap L_0$ , then



$$L_0 = \text{span}\{e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3\}$$

By (1), we have

$$d_{e_j}^0 = we_j(0, w)e_0 - \phi(w)e_j$$

and direct computations show that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_j}^0, p_k \rangle &= \langle we_j(0, w)e_0 - \phi(w)e_j, p_k \rangle \\ &= \langle we_j(0, w)e_0, p_k \rangle \quad (\text{by } T^* \phi(w)p_k = 0) \\ &= \langle we_j(0, w)e_0(w, w), p_k(0, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle we_j(0, w)\phi'(w), w_k \rangle \\ &= \langle w_{e_j}^3(0, w)(w\phi'_\alpha(w) + 3\phi_\alpha(w)), w_k \rangle \\ &= \langle w_{e_j}^{3-k}(0, w)(w\phi'_\alpha(w) + 3\phi_\alpha(w)), 1 \rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $0 \leq k \leq 2$ , and

$$\langle d_{e_j}^0, k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w) \rangle = \alpha e_j(0, \alpha)e_0(\alpha, \alpha) = \alpha e_j(0, \alpha) \frac{\alpha^3}{1 - |\alpha|^2}.$$

This implies that those functions  $d_{e_j}^0$  are orthogonal to  $\{1, p_1, p_2\}$ . Simple calculations give

$$\langle e_0, p_k \rangle = 0$$

for  $0 \leq k \leq 1$ ,

$$\langle e_0, p_2 \rangle = \langle e_0(0, w), p_2(w, w) \rangle = \frac{3}{2} \phi_0''(0) = -3\alpha \neq 0$$

and

$$\langle e_0, k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w) \rangle = e_0(\alpha, \alpha) = \phi'(\alpha) = \frac{\alpha^3}{1 - |\alpha|^2} \neq 0$$

By Theorem (1.1.1), there are numbers  $\mu, \lambda_j$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} d_{e_1}^1 &= d_{e_1}^0 + \mu e_1 + \lambda_1 e_0 \\ d_{e_2}^1 &= d_{e_2}^0 + \tilde{e}_2 + \lambda_2 e_0 \\ d_{e_3}^1 &= d_{e_3}^0 + \tilde{e}_3 + \lambda_3 e_0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{e}_2, \tilde{e}_3 \in M_2 \cap L_0$ .

Now we consider two cases. In each case we will derive a contradiction.

**Case 1.**  $\mu \neq 0$ . In this case, we get that  $e_1$  is orthogonal to  $\{1, p_1\}$ . So  $\{1, p_1, e_0, e_1\}$  form an orthogonal basis for  $L_0$ .

First we show that  $\tilde{e}_2 = 0$ . If  $\tilde{e}_2 \neq 0$ , then we get that  $\{1, p_1, e_0, \tilde{e}_2\}$  are also an orthogonal basis for  $L_0$ . Thus  $\tilde{e}_2 = ce_1$  for some nonzero number  $c$ . However,  $\tilde{e}_2$  is orthogonal to  $e_1$  since  $\tilde{e}_2 \in M_2$  and  $e_1 \in M_1$ . This is a contradiction. Thus

$$d_{e_2}^1 = d_{e_2}^0 + \lambda_2 e_0.$$

Since both  $d_{e_2}^1$  and  $d_{e_2}^0$  are orthogonal to  $p_2$  and

$$\langle e_0, p_2 \rangle = -3\alpha \neq 0,$$

we have that  $\lambda_2 = 0$  to get that  $d_{e_2}^0 = d_{e_2}^1$  is orthogonal to  $L_0$ . On the other hand,

$$\langle d_{e_2}^0, k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w) \rangle = \alpha e_2(0, \alpha) \frac{\alpha^3}{1 - |\alpha|^2}.$$

Thus

$$e_2(0, \alpha) = 0.$$

Similarly we get that

$$e_3(0, \alpha) = 0.$$

Moreover, since  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  are orthogonal to  $\{e_0, e_1\}$ , write

$$e_2 = c_{11} + c_{12}p_1,$$

$$e_3 = c_{21} + c_{22}p_1.$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} e_2(0, \alpha) &= c_{11} + c_{12}\alpha = 0, \\ e_3(0, \alpha) &= c_{21} + c_{22}\alpha = 0, \end{aligned}$$

to get that  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  are linearly dependent. This leads to a contradiction in this case.

**Case 2.**  $\mu = 0$ . In this case we have

$$d_{e_1}^1 = d_{e_1}^0 + \lambda_1 e_0.$$

Similarly to the proof in Case 1 we get that  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,

$$d_{e_1}^1 = d_{e_1}^0 \perp L_0 \tag{7}$$

and  $e_1(0, \alpha) = 0$ . Theorem (1.1.4) in [17] gives that at least one  $\tilde{e}_j$ , say  $\tilde{e}_2$  does not equal 0. Assume that  $\tilde{e}_2 \neq 0$ , write

$$\tilde{e}_2 = d_{e_2}^1 - d_{e_2}^0 - \lambda_2 e_0.$$

Note that we have shown above that both  $d_{e_2}^0$  and  $e_0$  are orthogonal to both 1 and  $p_1$ . Thus

$$\tilde{e}_2 \perp \{1, p_1\}$$

and

$$L_0 = \text{span}\{1, p_1, e_0, \tilde{e}_2\}.$$

Since  $e_1$  is orthogonal to  $\{e_0, \tilde{e}_2\}$  we have

$$e_1 = c_1 + c_2 p_1.$$

Noting that  $e_1(0, \alpha) = c_1 + c_2 \alpha = 0$  we get

$$e_1 = c_2(-\alpha + p_1).$$

Without loss of generality we assume that

$$e_1 = -\alpha + p_1. \tag{8}$$

Letting  $e$  be in  $M_2 \cap L_0$  such that  $e$  is a nonzero function orthogonal to  $\tilde{e}_2$ , we have that  $e$  is orthogonal to  $\{e_0, \tilde{e}_2\}$ . Thus  $e$  must be in the subspace  $\text{span}\{1, p_1\}$ . So there are two constants  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  such that

$$e = b_1 + b_2 p_1.$$

Noting

$$0 = \langle e, e_1 \rangle = -b_1 \bar{\alpha} + 2b_2$$

we have

$$e = \frac{b_1}{2} (2 + \bar{\alpha} p_1).$$

Hence we may assume that

$$e = 2 + \bar{\alpha} p_1. \tag{9}$$

By Theorem (1.1.1) we have

$$d_e^1 = d_e^0 + \tilde{e} + \lambda e_0$$

for some number  $\lambda$  and  $\tilde{e} \in M_2 \cap L_0$ . Thus

$$0 = \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_e^1 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_e^0 + \tilde{e} + \lambda e_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_e^0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^0, d_e^0 \rangle \tag{By (7)}.$$

However, a simple computation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, d_e^0 \rangle &= \langle d_{e_1}^0, we(0, w)e_0 - \phi(w)e \rangle \\ &= \langle d_{e_1}^0, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle \text{ (by } T_\phi^*(w)d_{e_1}^0 = 0) \\ &= \langle we_1(0, w)e_0 - \phi(w)e_1, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle - \langle \phi(w)e_1, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We need to calculate two terms in the right hand of the above equality. By (8) and (9), the first term becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle &= \langle w(-\alpha + w)e_0, w(2 + \bar{\alpha}w)e_0 \rangle \\
&= \langle (-\alpha + w)e_0, (2 + \bar{\alpha}w)e_0 \rangle \\
&= \langle -\alpha e_0, 2e_0 \rangle + \langle we_0, 2e_0 \rangle + \langle -\alpha e_0, \alpha w\bar{e}_0 \rangle + \langle we_0, \alpha w\bar{e}_0 \rangle \\
&= -\alpha \langle e_0, e_0 \rangle + 2\langle we_0, e_0 \rangle - \alpha^2 \langle e_0, we_0 \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

The first term in right hand of the last equality is

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle e_0, e_0 \rangle &= \langle e_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle = \langle w\phi'_0 + \phi_0, \phi_0 \rangle \\
&= \langle w(2w\phi_\alpha + w^2\phi'_\alpha), w^2\phi_\alpha \rangle + \langle \phi_0, \phi_0 \rangle = 2 + \langle w\phi'_\alpha, \phi_\alpha \rangle + 1 = 4.
\end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from

$$\phi_\alpha = -\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} + \frac{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} - \alpha}{1 - \bar{\alpha}w} = -\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} + \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} - \alpha\right)K_\alpha(w).$$

Similarly, we have

$$\langle we_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle we_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle = \langle w(w\phi'_0 + \phi_0), \phi_0 \rangle = \alpha.$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle &= \langle e_1(0, w)e_0, e(0, w)e_0 \rangle = \langle (-\alpha + w)e_0, (2 + \bar{\alpha}w)e_0 \rangle \\
&= -2\alpha \langle e_0, e_0 \rangle - \alpha^2 \langle e_0, we_0 \rangle + 2\langle we_0, e_0 \rangle + \alpha \langle we_0, we_0 \rangle \\
&= -8\alpha - \alpha|\alpha|^2 + 2\alpha + 4\alpha = -2\alpha - \alpha|\alpha|^2
\end{aligned}$$

A simple calculation gives that the second term becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \phi(w)e_1, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle &= \langle \phi_0(w)e_1, (2 + \bar{\alpha}w)e_0 \rangle \\
&= \langle \phi_0(w)e_1, 2e_0 \rangle + \langle \phi_0(w)e_1, \alpha w\bar{e}_0 \rangle \\
&= 2\langle \phi_0(w)e_1(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle + \alpha \langle \phi_0(w)e_1(w, w), we_0(0, w) \rangle \\
&= 2\langle e_1(w, w), 1 \rangle + \alpha \langle e_1(w, w), w \rangle \\
&= 2\langle -\alpha + 2w, 1 \rangle + \alpha \langle -\alpha + 2w, w \rangle = -2\alpha + 2\alpha = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we conclude

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle d_{e_1}^0, d_e^0 \rangle &= \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle - \langle \phi(w)e_1, we(0, w)e_0 \rangle = -2\alpha - \alpha|\alpha|^2 \\
&= -\alpha(2 + |\alpha|^2) \neq 0
\end{aligned}$$

to get a contradiction in this case. This completes the proof.

We will classify minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^2\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta}$  for two nonzero points  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

**Theorem (1.1.8)[1]:** Let  $\phi$  be the Blaschke product  $z^2\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta$  for two nonzero points  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . If  $\alpha$  does not equal either  $\beta$  or  $-\beta$ , then  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  has exact two nontrivial reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_0, \mathcal{M}_0^\perp\}$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 27 in [10], if  $\mathcal{N}$  is a nontrivial minimal reducing subspace of  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  which is not equal to  $\mathcal{M}_0$  then  $\mathcal{N}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$ , so we only need to show that  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is a minimal reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  unless  $\alpha = -\beta$ .

Assume that  $\mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is not a minimal reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ . By Theorem (1.1.7) in [17], we may assume

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^2 M_i$$

such that each  $M_i$  is a reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $M_0 = \mathcal{M}_0$  is the distinguished reducing subspace for  $\phi(\mathcal{B})$  and

$$M_1 \oplus M_2 = \mathcal{M}_0^\perp.$$

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_0 &= z\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta, \\
L_0 &= \text{span}\{1, p_1, e_\alpha, e_\beta\},
\end{aligned}$$

with  $e_\alpha = k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w)$ ,  $e_\beta = k_\beta(z)k_\beta(w)$  and

$$L_0 = (L_0 \cap M_0) \oplus (L_0 \cap M_1) \oplus (L_0 \cap M_2).$$

So we further assume that the dimension of  $M_1 \cap L_0$  is one and the dimension of  $M_2 \cap L_0$  is two. Take a nonzero element  $e_1$  in  $M_1 \cap L_0$ , then by Theorem (1.1.1), there are numbers  $\mu_1, \lambda_1$  such that

$$d_{e_1}^1 = d_{e_1}^0 + \mu_1 e_1 + \lambda_1 e_0. \quad (10)$$

We only need to consider two possibilities,  $\mu_1$  is zero or nonzero.

If  $\mu_1$  is zero, then (10) becomes

$$d_{e_1}^1 = d_{e_1}^0 + \lambda_1 e_0. \quad (11)$$

In this case, simple calculations give

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, p_1 \rangle &= \langle w e_1(0, w) e_0(z, w) - w \phi_0(w) e_1(z, w), p_1(z, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle w e_1(0, w) e_0(w, w) - w \phi_0(w) e_1(w, w), p_1(z, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle w e_1(0, w) e_0(w, w) - w \phi_0(w) e_1(w, w), p_1(0, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle w e_1(0, w) e_0(w, w) - w \phi_0(w) e_1(w, w), w \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w) e_0(w, w) - \phi_0(w) e_1(w, w), 1 \rangle \\ &= e_1(0, 0) e_0(0, 0) - \phi_0(0) e_1(0, 0) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_0, p_1 \rangle &= \langle e_0(z, w), p_1(z, w) \rangle = \langle e_0(z, w), p_1(w, w) \rangle = \langle e_0(0, w), 2w \rangle = \langle \phi_0(w), 2w \rangle \\ &= 2 \langle w \phi_\alpha(w) \phi_\beta(w), w \rangle = 2 \phi_\alpha(0) \phi_\beta(0) = 2\alpha\beta \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $L_0$ , by (11) we have that  $\lambda_1 = 0$ , and hence

$$d_{e_1}^0 = d_{e_1}^1 \perp L_0.$$

So

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle = 0 = \langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle.$$

On the other hand,

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle = \alpha e_1(0, \alpha) e_0(\alpha, \alpha) - \alpha \phi_0(\alpha) e_1(\alpha, \alpha) = \alpha e_1(0, \alpha) e_0(\alpha, \alpha)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle &= \beta e_1(0, \beta) e_0(\beta, \beta) - \beta \phi_0(\beta) e_1(\beta, \beta) \\ &= \beta e_1(0, \beta) e_0(\beta, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$e_1(0, \alpha) = e_1(0, \beta) = 0. \quad (12)$$

Observe that  $e_0, e_1$  and 1 are linearly independent. If this is not so, then  $1 = a e_0 + b e_1$  for some numbers  $a, b$ . But  $e_1(0, \alpha) = 0$  and  $e_0(0, \alpha) = 0$ . This forces that  $1 = 0$  and leads to a contradiction. By Theorem (1.1.1), we can take an element  $e \in M_2 \cap L_0$  such that

$$d_e^1 = d_e^0 + e_2 + \mu e_0$$

with  $e_2 \neq 0$  and  $e_2 \in M_2 \cap L_0$ . Thus we have that  $e_2$  is orthogonal to 1 and so  $e_2$  is in  $\{1, e_0, e_1\}^\perp$  and  $\{1, e_0, e_1, e_2\}$  form a basis for  $L_0$ . Moreover for any  $f \in M_2 \cap L_0$ ,

$$d_f^1 = d_f^0 + g + \lambda e_0$$

for some number  $\lambda$  and  $g \in M_2 \cap L_0$ . If  $g$  does not equal 0 then  $g$  is orthogonal to 1. Thus  $g$  is in  $\{1, e_0, e_1\}^\perp$  and hence

$$g = c e_2$$

for some number  $c$ . Therefore taking a nonzero element  $e_3 \in M_2 \cap L_0$  which is orthogonal to  $e_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_{e_2}^1 &= d_{e_2}^0 + \mu_2 e_2 + \lambda_2 e_0, \\ d_{e_3}^1 &= d_{e_3}^0 + \mu_3 e_2 + \lambda_3 e_0, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\{e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $L_0$ .

If  $\mu_2 = 0$ , then by the same reason as before we get

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_2 &= 0, \\ d_{e_2}^0 &= d_{e_2}^1 \perp L_0 \\ e_2(0, \alpha) &= e_2(0, \beta) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

So using

$$p_1 \in L_0 = \text{span}\{1, e_0, e_1, e_2\}$$

we have

$$\alpha = p_1(0, \alpha) = p_1(0, \beta) = \beta,$$

which contradicts our assumption that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Hence  $\mu_2 \neq 0$ .

Observe that 1 is in  $L_0 = \text{span}\{e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  and orthogonal to both  $e_0$  and  $e_2$ . Thus

$$1 = c_1 e_1 + c_3 e_3$$

for some numbers  $c_1$  and  $c_3$ . So

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= c_1 e_1(0, \alpha) + c_3 e_3(0, \alpha) \\ &= c_1 e_1(0, \beta) + c_3 e_3(0, \beta).\end{aligned}$$

By (12), we have

$$1 = c_3 e_3(0, \alpha) = c_3 e_3(0, \beta),$$

to obtain that  $c_3 \neq 0$  and

$$e_3(0, \alpha) = e_3(0, \beta) = 1/c_3.$$

If  $\mu_3 = 0$ , then by the same reason as before we get  $e_3(0, \alpha) = e_3(0, \beta) = 0$ . Hence  $\mu_3 \neq 0$ . Now by the linearity of  $d_{(\cdot)}^1$  and  $d_{(\cdot)}^0$  we have

$$d_{\mu_3 e_2 - \mu_2 e_3}^1 = d_{\mu_3 e_2 - \mu_2 e_3}^0 + (\mu_3 \lambda_2 - \mu_2 \lambda_3) e_0.$$

By the same reason as before we get

$$\mu_3 \lambda_2 - \mu_2 \lambda_3 = 0$$

and

$$d_{\mu_3 e_2 - \mu_2 e_3}^0 = d_{\mu_3 e_2 - \mu_2 e_3}^1 \perp L_0$$

and therefore

$$\mu_3 e_2(0, \alpha) - \mu_2 e_3(0, \alpha) = \mu_3 e_2(0, \beta) - \mu_2 e_3(0, \beta) = 0.$$

So we get

$$e_2(0, \alpha) = \mu_2/\mu_3 c_3 = e_2(0, \beta).$$

Hence

$$p_1 \in L_0 = \text{span}\{1, e_0, e_1, e_2\}.$$

This implies that

$$\alpha = p_1(0, \alpha) = p_1(0, \beta) = \beta$$

which again contradicts our assumption that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

Another case is that  $\mu_1$  is not equal to 0. In this case, (10) can be rewritten as

$$e_1 = \frac{1}{\mu_1} d_{e_1}^1 - \frac{1}{\mu_1} d_{e_1}^0 - \frac{\lambda_1}{\mu_1} e_0,$$

and we have that  $e_1$  is orthogonal to 1 since  $d_{e_1}^1, d_{e_1}^0$  and  $e_0$  are orthogonal to 1. Thus 1 is in  $M_2 \cap L_0$ .

By Theorem (1.1.1), there is an element  $e \in M_2 \cap L_0$  and a number  $\lambda_0$  such that

$$d_1^1 = d_1^0 + e + \lambda_0 e_0. \quad (13)$$

If  $e = 0$  then  $\lambda_0 = 0$ , and hence  $d_1^0 \perp L_0$  and

$$1 = 1(0, \alpha) = 1(0, \beta).$$

So  $e \neq 0$ .

Since  $d_1^1$  is in  $L_0^\perp$ ,  $d_1^1$  is orthogonal to 1. Noting that  $d_1^0$  and  $e_0$  are orthogonal to 1, we have that  $e \perp 1$ . Hence we get an orthogonal basis  $\{e_0, e_1, 1, e\}$  of  $L_0$ .

**Claim.**

$$e(0, \alpha) - e(0, \beta) = 0.$$

**Proof of the claim.** Using Theorem (1.1.1) again, we have that

$$d_e^1 = d_e^0 + g + \lambda e_0$$

for some  $g \in L_0 \cap M_2$ . If  $g \neq 0$ , we have that  $g \perp 1$  since  $d_e^1, d_e^0$ , and  $e_0$  are orthogonal to 1. Thus we have that  $g = \mu e$  for some number  $\mu$  to obtain

$$d_e^1 = d_e^0 + \mu e + \lambda e_0.$$

Furthermore by the linearity of  $d_{(\cdot)}^1$  and  $d_{(\cdot)}^0$  we have that

$$d_{e-\mu_1}^1 = d_{e-\mu_1}^0 + (\lambda - \mu\lambda_0)e_0.$$

By the same reason (namely  $d_{e-\mu_1}^1 \perp L_0, d_{e-\mu_1}^0 \perp 1$  and  $\langle e_0, 1 \rangle \neq 0$ ) we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda - \mu\lambda_0 &= 0, \\ d_{e-\mu_1}^0 &= d_{e-\mu_1}^1 \perp L_0 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(e - \mu_1)(0, \alpha) = (e - \mu_1)(0, \beta) = 0.$$

Hence we have

$$e(0, \alpha) - e(0, \beta) = \mu - \mu = 0,$$

to complete the proof of the claim.

Let us find the value of  $\lambda_0$  in (13) which will be used to make the coefficients symmetric with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . To do this, we first state a technical lemma which will be used in several other places in the sequel.

**Lemma (1.1.9)[1]:** If  $g$  is in  $H^2(\mathbb{T})$ , then

$$\langle wg\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle = g(0) + g(\alpha) + g(\beta).$$

**Proof.** Since  $\phi_0$  equals  $z\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta$ , simple calculations give

$$\begin{aligned} \langle wg\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle &= \langle wg(w\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta)', w\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta \rangle = \langle g(w\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta)', \phi_\alpha\phi_\beta \rangle \\ &= \langle g(\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta + w\phi'_\alpha\phi_\beta + w\phi_\alpha\phi'_\beta), \phi_\alpha\phi_\beta \rangle \\ &= \langle g, 1 \rangle + \langle wg\phi'_\alpha, \phi_\alpha \rangle + \langle wg\phi'_\beta, \phi_\beta \rangle \\ &= g(0) + \langle wg\phi'_\alpha, \phi_\alpha \rangle + \langle wg\phi'_\beta, \phi_\beta \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Writing  $\phi_\alpha$  as

$$\phi_\alpha = -\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} + \frac{\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} - \alpha}{1 - \bar{\alpha}w} = -\frac{1}{\bar{\alpha}} + \frac{1 - |\alpha|^2}{\bar{\alpha}} k_\alpha(w),$$

we have

$$\langle wg\phi'_\alpha, \phi_\alpha \rangle = \frac{1 - |\alpha|^2}{\alpha} (wg\phi'_\alpha)(\alpha) = g(\alpha).$$

The first equality follows from  $\langle wg\phi'_\alpha, 1 \rangle$  equals 0 and the second equality follows from

$$\phi'_\alpha(\alpha) = \frac{1}{1 - |\alpha|^2}.$$

By the symmetry of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , similar computations lead to

$$\langle wg\phi'_\beta, \phi_\beta \rangle = g(\beta)$$

and the proof is finished.

We state the values of  $\lambda_0$  and  $\langle e_0, e_0 \rangle$  as a lemma.

**Lemma (1.1.10)[1]:**

$$\lambda_0 = -\frac{\alpha + \beta}{4} \tag{14}$$

$$\langle e_0, e_0 \rangle = 4 \tag{15}$$

**Proof.** Since  $d_1^1$  is orthogonal to  $L_0$ ,  $e_0$  is in  $L_0$ , and  $e$  is orthogonal to  $e_0$ , (13) gives

$$0 = \langle d_1^1, e_0 \rangle = \langle d_1^0 + e + \lambda_0 e_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle d_1^0, e_0 \rangle + \lambda_0 \langle e_0, e_0 \rangle.$$

We need to compute  $\langle d_1^0, e_0 \rangle$  and  $\langle e_0, e_0 \rangle$  respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_1^0, e_0 \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w) + we_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle we_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle we_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle w(w\phi'_0 + \phi_0), \phi_0 \rangle = \langle w^2\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle + \langle w\phi_0, \phi_0 \rangle = \langle w^2\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle \\ &= \alpha + \beta. \end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from Lemma (1.1.9) with  $g = w$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_0, e_0 \rangle &= \langle e_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle = \langle w\phi'_0 + \phi_0, \phi_0 \rangle = \langle w\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle + \langle \phi_0, \phi_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle w\phi'_0, \phi_0 \rangle + 1 = 4, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from Lemma (1.1.9) with  $g = 1$ . Hence

$$\alpha + \beta + 4\lambda_0 = 0$$

and

$$\lambda_0 = -\frac{\alpha + \beta}{4}.$$

Let  $PL_0$  denote the projection of  $H^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$  onto  $L_0$ . The element  $PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w))$  has the property that for any  $g \in L_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle g, PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w)) \rangle &= \langle g, k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w) \rangle \\ &= g(0, \alpha) - g(0, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w))$  is orthogonal to  $g$  for  $g \in L_0$  with

$$g(0, \alpha) = g(0, \beta).$$

So  $PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w))$  is orthogonal to  $e_0, 1, e$ . On the other hand,

$$\langle p_1, PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w)) \rangle = \alpha - \beta \neq 0.$$

This gives that the element  $PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w))$  is a nonzero element. Therefore there exists a nonzero number  $b$  such that

$$PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w)) = be_1.$$

Without loss of generality we assume that

$$e_1 = PL_0(k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w)).$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w))e_1 + d_{e_1}^1 &\in M_1, \\ p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w)) + d_1^1 &\in M_2, \\ M_1 &\perp M_2, \end{aligned}$$

to get

$$\langle p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w))e_1 + d_{e_1}^1, p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w)) + d_1^1 \rangle = 0.$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w))e_1 + d_{e_1}^1, p_1(\phi(z), \phi(w)) + d_1^1 \rangle \\ &= \langle (\phi(z) + \phi(w))e_1, \phi(z) + \phi(w) \rangle + \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_1^1 \rangle \\ &= \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_1^1 \rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

The second equality follows from

$$d_{e_1}^1, d_1^1 \in \ker T_\phi^*(z) \cap \ker T_\phi^*(z).$$

The last equality follows from

$$e_1 \perp 1$$

and

$$e_1, 1 \in \ker T_\phi^*(z) \cap \ker T_\phi^*(w).$$

Substituting (13) into Equation (16), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_1^0 + e + \lambda_0 e_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^1, d_1^0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^1, -\phi(w) + we_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^1, we_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle d_{e_1}^0 + \mu_1 e_1 + \lambda_1 e_0, we_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^0, we_0 \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, we_0 \rangle + \lambda_1 \langle e_0, we_0 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The second equation comes from that  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $L_0$  and both  $e$  and  $e_0$  are in  $L_0$ .

The third equation follows from the definition of  $d_1^0$  and the fourth equation follows from that  $d_{e_1}^1$  is in  $\ker T_\phi^*(z) \cap \ker T_\phi^*(w)$ . We need to calculate  $\langle d_{e_1}^0, we_0 \rangle$ ,  $\langle e_1, we_0 \rangle$ , and  $\langle e_0, we_0 \rangle$  separately.

To get  $\langle d_{e_1}^0, we_0 \rangle$ , by the definition of  $d_{e_1}^0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, we_0 \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1 + we_1(0, w)e_0, we_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1, we_0 \rangle + \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we_0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Thus we need to compute  $\langle -\phi(w)e_1, we_0 \rangle$  and  $\langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we_0 \rangle$  one by one. The equality

$$\langle -\phi(w)e_1, we_0 \rangle = 0$$

follows from the following computations.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle -\phi(w)e_1, we_0 \rangle &= \langle -w\phi_0(w)e_1, we_0 \rangle = -\langle \phi_0(w)e_1, e_0 \rangle \\ &= -\langle \phi_0(w)e_1(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle = -\langle \phi_0(w)e_1(w, w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= -\langle e_1(w, w), 1 \rangle = -\langle e_1, 1 \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

To get  $\langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we_0 \rangle$ , we continue as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, we_0 \rangle &= \langle e_1(0, w)e_0, e_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w)e_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w)e_0(w, w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w)(\phi_0(w) + w\phi_0'(w)), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w)\phi_0(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle + \langle e_1(0, w)w\phi_0'(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w), 1 \rangle + \langle e_1(0, w)w\phi_0'(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= e_1(0, 0) + \langle e_1(0, w)w\phi_0'(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1, 1 \rangle + \langle e_1(0, w)w\phi_0'(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle e_1(0, w)w\phi_0'(w), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= e_1(0, \alpha) + e_1(0, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from Lemma (1.1.9) and

$$e_1(0, 0) = \langle e_1, 1 \rangle = 0.$$

Hence

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, we_0 \rangle = e_1(0, \alpha) + e_1(0, \beta)$$

Recall that

$$d_1^1 = d_1^0 + e + \lambda_0 e_0$$

is orthogonal to  $L_0$  and  $e_1$  is orthogonal to both  $e$ , and  $e_0$ . Thus

$$0 = \langle e_1, d_1^0 + e + \lambda_0 e_0 \rangle = \langle e_1, -\phi(w) + we_0 \rangle = \langle e_1, we_0 \rangle.$$

From the computation of  $\langle d_1^0, e_0 \rangle$  in the proof of Lemma (1.1.10) we have showed that

$$\langle we_0, e_0 \rangle = \alpha + \beta.$$

Therefore we have that

$$e_1(0, \alpha) + e_1(0, \beta) + \lambda_1(\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta}) = 0. \quad (17)$$

On the other hand,

$$0 = \langle d_{e_1}^1, e_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^0 + \mu_1 e_1 + \lambda_1 e_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle d_{e_1}^0, e_0 \rangle + 4\lambda_1$$



and

$$\begin{aligned}\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_0 \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1 + we_1(0, w)e_0, e_0 \rangle = \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, e_0 \rangle \\ &= \langle we_1(0, w)e_0(w, w), e_0(0, w) \rangle = \langle we_1(0, w)(\phi_0(w) + w\phi_0'), \phi_0(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle w^2 e_1(0, w)\phi_0', \phi_0(w) \rangle = \alpha e_1(0, \alpha) + \beta e_1(0, \beta).\end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from Lemma (1.1.9) with  $g = we_1(0, w)$ . Thus

$$\alpha e_1(0, \alpha) + \beta e_1(0, \beta) + 4\lambda_1 = 0.$$

So

$$\lambda_1 = -\frac{\alpha}{4} e_1(0, \alpha) - \frac{\beta}{4} e_1(0, \beta). \quad (18)$$

Substituting (18) into (17), we have

$$\left[ 1 - \frac{\alpha(\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})}{4} \right] e_1(0, \alpha) + \left[ 1 - \frac{\beta(\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta})}{4} \right] e_1(0, \beta) = 0.$$

Recall that

$$\lambda_0 = -\frac{\alpha + \beta}{4},$$

to get

$$(1 + \bar{\lambda}_0 \alpha) e_1(0, \alpha) + (1 + \bar{\lambda}_0 \beta) e_1(0, \beta) = 0. \quad (19)$$

We are going to draw another equation about  $e_1(0, \alpha)$  and  $e_1(0, \beta)$  from the property that  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $L_0$ . To do this, recall that

$$\begin{aligned}e_1 &= PL_0 (k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w)) \in M_1 \cap L_0, \\ d_{e_1}^1 &= d_{e_1}^0 + \mu_1 e_1 + \lambda_1 e_0 \perp L_0, \\ L_0 &= \text{span}\{1, p_1, e_\alpha, e_\beta\}, \\ e_\alpha &= k_\alpha(z)k_\alpha(w), e_\beta = k_\beta(z)k_\beta(w).\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $p_1, e_\alpha$  and  $e_\beta$ .

Since  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $p_1$  we have

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, p_1 \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, p_1 \rangle + \lambda_1 \langle e_0, p_1 \rangle = 0.$$

Noting

$$\begin{aligned}\langle d_{e_1}^0, p_1 \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1 + we_1(0, w)e_0, p_1 \rangle = \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, p_1 \rangle \\ &= \langle we_1(0, w)e_0(w, w), w \rangle = \langle e_1(0, w)e_0(w, w), 1 \rangle = 0,\end{aligned}$$

$$\langle e_1, p_1 \rangle = \langle PL_0 (K_\alpha(w) - K_\beta(w)), p_1 \rangle = \langle K_\alpha(w) - K_\beta(w), p_1 \rangle = \bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\langle e_0, p_1 \rangle &= \langle e_0(0, w), p_1(w, w) \rangle = \langle \phi_0(w), 2w \rangle = \langle w\phi_\alpha\phi_\beta, 2w \rangle = 2\langle \phi_\alpha\phi_\beta, 1 \rangle \\ &= 2\phi_\alpha(0)\phi_\beta(0) = 2\alpha\beta,\end{aligned}$$

we have

$$(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})\mu_1 + 2\alpha\beta\lambda_1 = 0,$$

to obtain

$$\lambda_1 = -\mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta}. \quad (20)$$

Since  $d_{e_1}^1 \perp e_\alpha$ , we have

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, e_\alpha \rangle + \lambda_1 \langle e_0, e_\alpha \rangle = 0,$$

to get

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, e_\alpha \rangle - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} \langle e_0, e_\alpha \rangle = 0. \quad (21)$$

We need to calculate  $\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle$ ,  $\langle e_1, e_\alpha \rangle$  and  $\langle e_0, e_\alpha \rangle$ . Simple calculations show that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\alpha \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1 + we_1(0, w)e_0, e_\alpha \rangle = \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, e_\alpha \rangle = \alpha e_1(0, \alpha) e_0(\alpha, \alpha), \\ \langle e_1, e_\alpha \rangle &= e_1(\alpha, \alpha) = \langle PL_0 \left( k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w) \right), e_\alpha \rangle = \langle k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w), e_\alpha \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - |\alpha|^2} - \frac{1}{1 - \alpha\bar{\beta}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})}{(1 - |\alpha|^2)(1 - \alpha\bar{\beta})}, \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_0, e_\alpha \rangle &= e_0(\alpha, \alpha) = \alpha\phi'_0(\alpha) + \phi_0(\alpha) \\ &= \alpha^2 \frac{1}{1 - |\alpha|^2} \frac{\alpha - \bar{\beta}}{1 - \alpha\bar{\beta}}. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Thus (22) and (23) give

$$\frac{e_1(\alpha, \alpha)}{e_0(\alpha, \alpha)} = \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{\alpha(\alpha - \beta)}.$$

Substituting the above equality in Equation (21) leads to

$$\alpha e_1(0, \alpha) e_0(\alpha, \alpha) + \mu_1 e_1(\alpha, \alpha) - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} e_0(\alpha, \alpha) = 0.$$

Dividing the both sides of the above equality by  $e_0(\alpha, \alpha)$  gives

$$\alpha e_1(0, \alpha) + \mu_1 \frac{e_1(\alpha, \alpha)}{e_0(\alpha, \alpha)} - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} = 0.$$

Hence we have

$$\alpha e_1(0, \alpha) + \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{\alpha(\alpha - \beta)} - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} = 0,$$

to obtain

$$\alpha e_1(0, \alpha) + (\beta + \lambda_0) \frac{2\mu_1(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})}{\alpha\beta(\alpha - \beta)} = 0. \quad (24)$$

Similarly, since  $d_{e_1}^1$  is orthogonal to  $e_\beta$ , we have

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, e_\beta \rangle + \lambda_1 \langle e_0, e_\beta \rangle = 0,$$

to obtain

$$\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle + \mu_1 \langle e_1, e_\beta \rangle - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} \langle e_0, e_\beta \rangle = 0. \quad (25)$$

We need to calculate  $\langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle$ ,  $\langle e_1, e_\beta \rangle$  and  $\langle e_0, e_\beta \rangle$ . Simple calculations as above show that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle d_{e_1}^0, e_\beta \rangle &= \langle -\phi(w)e_1 + we_1(0, w)e_0, e_\beta \rangle = \langle we_1(0, w)e_0, e_\beta \rangle \\ &= \beta e_1(0, \beta) e_0(\beta, \beta), \\ \langle e_1, e_\beta \rangle &= e_1(\beta, \beta) = \langle PL_0 \left( k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w) \right), e_\beta \rangle = \langle k_\alpha(w) - k_\beta(w), e_\beta \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - \alpha\bar{\beta}} - \frac{1}{1 - |\beta|^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{\beta(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})}{(1 - \alpha\bar{\beta})(1 - |\beta|^2)} \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_0, e_\beta \rangle &= e_0(\beta, \beta) = \beta\phi'_0(\beta) + \phi_0(\beta) \\ &= \beta^2 \frac{\beta - \alpha}{1 - \alpha\bar{\beta}} \frac{1}{1 - |\beta|^2} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Combining (26) with (27) gives

$$\frac{e_1(\beta, \beta)}{e_0(\beta, \beta)} = -\frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{\beta(\alpha - \beta)}.$$

Substituting the above equality in (25) gives

$$\beta e_1(0, \beta) e_0(\beta, \beta) + \mu_1 e_1(\beta, \beta) - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} e_0(\beta, \beta) = 0.$$

Dividing both sides of the above equality by  $e_0(\beta, \beta)$  gives

$$\beta e_1(0, \beta) + \mu_1 \frac{e_1(\beta, \beta)}{e_0(\beta, \beta)} - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} = 0$$

Hence we have

$$\beta e_1(0, \beta) - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{\beta(\alpha - \beta)} - \mu_1 \frac{\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}}{2\alpha\beta} = 0,$$

to get

$$\beta e_1(0, \beta) - (\alpha + \lambda_0) \frac{2\mu_1(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})}{\alpha\beta(\alpha - \beta)} = 0. \quad (28)$$

Eliminating  $\frac{2\mu_1(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})}{\alpha\beta(\alpha - \beta)}$  from (24) and (28) gives

$$\alpha(\alpha + \lambda_0)e_1(0, \alpha) + \beta(\beta + \lambda_0)e_1(0, \beta) = 0. \quad (29)$$

Now combining (19) and (29), we have the following linear system of equations about  $e_1(0, \alpha)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} e_1(0, \beta)(1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\alpha)e_1(0, \alpha) + (1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\beta)e_1(0, \beta) &= 0 \\ \alpha(\alpha + \lambda_0)e_1(0, \alpha) + \beta(\beta + \lambda_0)e_1(0, \beta) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

If

$$e_1(0, \alpha) = e_1(0, \beta) = 0,$$

then  $p_1$  is in  $L_0 = \text{span}\{e_0, e_1, 1, e\}$ . But noting

$$e_0(0, \alpha) = e_0(0, \beta)$$

and

$$e(0, \alpha) = e(0, \beta)$$

we have

$$p_1(0, \alpha) = p_1(0, \beta),$$

which contradicts the assumption that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . So at least one of  $e_1(0, \alpha)$  and  $e_1(0, \beta)$  is nonzero. Then the determinant of the coefficient matrix of System (30) has to be zero. This implies

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\alpha & 1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\beta \\ \alpha(\alpha + \lambda_0) & \beta(\beta + \lambda_0) \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Making elementary row reductions on the above the determinant, we get

$$\begin{vmatrix} (\alpha - \beta)\bar{\lambda}_0 & 1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\beta \\ (\alpha - \beta)(\alpha + \beta + \lambda_0) & \beta(\beta + \lambda_0) \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Since

$$\alpha + \beta = -4\lambda_0$$

and

$$\alpha - \beta \neq 0,$$

we have

$$\begin{vmatrix} \bar{\lambda}_0 & 1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\beta \\ -3\lambda_0 & \beta(\beta + \lambda_0) \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Expanding this determinant we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \bar{\lambda}_0(\beta^2 + \beta\lambda_0) + 3\lambda_0(1 + \bar{\lambda}_0\beta) = \bar{\lambda}_0(\beta^2 + \beta\lambda_0 + 3\beta\lambda_0) + 3\lambda_0 \\ &= \bar{\lambda}_0(\beta^2 + 4\beta\lambda_0) + 3\lambda_0 = \bar{\lambda}_0(-\alpha\beta) + 3\lambda_0 \end{aligned}$$

Taking absolute value on both sides of the above equation, we have

$$0 = |\bar{\lambda}_0(-\alpha\beta) + 3\lambda_0| \geq |\lambda_0|(3 - |\alpha\beta|) \geq 2|\lambda_0|,$$

to get

$$\lambda_0 = 0.$$

This implies

$$\alpha + \beta = 0,$$

to complete the proof.

### Section (1.2): Analytic Multipliers of the Bergman Space

The present is a continuation of [27] and a series of recent related works, such as [28], [29], [10]. We classify the reducing subspaces of analytic Toeplitz operators with a rational, inner symbol acting on the Bergman space of the unit disk. While a similar study in the case of the Hardy space was completed a long time ago (see [26], [33], [34]), investigation of the Bergman space setting was started only a few years ago. The structure and relative position of these reducing subspaces in the Bergman space reveal a rich geometric (Riemann surface) picture directly dependent on the rational symbol of the Toeplitz operator.

The Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  is the space of holomorphic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  which are square-integrable with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $dm$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ . For a bounded holomorphic function  $\phi$  on the unit disk, the multiplication operator,  $M_\phi : L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ , is defined by

$$M_\phi(h) = \phi h, \quad h \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D}).$$

The Toeplitz operator  $T_\phi$  on  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  with symbol  $\phi \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$  acts as

$$T_\phi(h) = P(\phi h), \quad h \in L_a^2,$$

where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{D})$  to  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Note that  $T_\phi = M_\phi$  whenever  $\phi$  is holomorphic.

An invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $M_\phi$  is a closed subspace of  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  satisfying  $\phi\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . If, in addition,  $M_\phi^*\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ , we call  $\mathcal{M}$  a reducing subspace of  $M_\phi$ . We say  $\mathcal{M}$  is a minimal reducing subspace if there is no nontrivial reducing subspace for  $M_\phi$  contained in  $\mathcal{M}$ . The study of invariant subspaces and reducing subspaces for various classes of linear operators has inspired much deep research and prompted many interesting problems. Even for the multiplication operator  $M_z$ , the lattice of invariant subspaces of  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  is huge and its order structure remains a mystery. Progress in understanding the lattice of reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  was only recently made, and only in the case of inner function symbols [27]–[10], [32], [1], [22].

For  $\{M_\phi\}' = \{X \in \mathcal{L}(L_a^2(\mathbb{D})) : M_\phi X = X M_\phi\}$  be the commutant algebra of  $M_\phi$ . The problem of classifying the reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  is equivalent to finding the projections in  $\{M_\phi\}'$ . This classification problem in the case of the Hardy space was the motivation of the highly original works by Thomson and Cowen (see [26],[33],[34]). They used the Riemann surface of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  as a basis for the description of the commutant of  $M_\phi$  acting on the Hardy space. We study that inner function symbols played a dominant role in their studies. In complete analogy, in the Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  framework, one can essentially use the same proof to show that for a “nice” analytic function  $f$ , there exists a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  such that  $\{M_f\}' = \{M_\phi\}'$ . Therefore, the structure of the reducing subspaces of the multiplier  $M_f$  on the Bergman space of the disk is the same as that for  $M_\phi$ .

Zhu showed in [22] that for each Blaschke product of order 2, there exist exactly 2 different minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$ . This result also appeared in [32]. Zhu also conjectured in [22] that  $M_\phi$  has exactly  $n$  distinct minimal reducing subspaces for a Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order  $n$ . The results in [10] disproved Zhu’s conjecture, they raised a modification in which  $M_\phi$  was conjectured to have at most  $n$  distinct minimal reducing subspaces for a Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order  $n$ . Some partial results on this conjecture were obtained in [28],[10],[1]. They proved the finiteness result in case  $n \leq 6$ , each using a different method. A notable result for the general case [10] is that there always exists a nontrivial minimal reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}$ , named the “distinguish subspace”, on which the action of  $M_\phi$  is unitarily equivalent to the action of  $M_z$  on the Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Guo and Huang also revealed in [29] an interesting connection between the structure of the lattice of reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  and an isomorphism problem in abstract von Neumann algebras.

The general case was recently studied by Sun and Zheng [27] using a systematic analysis of the local inverses of the ramified finite fibration  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  over the disk. They proved that the linear dimension of the commutant  $A_\phi = \{M_\phi, M_\phi^*\}'$  is finite. To give a glimpse into the reasoning culminating with the finite dimensionality of the von Neumann algebra  $A_\phi$  we recall that  $M_\phi$  is an operator belonging to the Cowen–Douglas class, that is, the iso-dimensional family of kernels  $\ker(M_\phi^* - \bar{z}), \bar{z} \in \mathbb{D}$ , is an anti-holomorphic hermitian vector bundle  $E_\phi$  on the disk. An operator  $X$  commuting with  $T_\phi^*$  leaves these kernels invariant:  $X(\ker(M_\phi^* - \bar{z})) \subset \ker(M_\phi^* - \bar{z})$ , whence it defines an anti-holomorphic bundle map  $X : E_\phi \rightarrow E_\phi$ . Moreover, if  $X$  commutes in addition with  $M_\phi$ , then  $X$  is also holomorphic, that is  $X$  is an endomorphism of the space of  $E_\phi$ . Thus, the fiber  $X(z_0)$  at a prescribed point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$  determines the full operator  $X$ , and consequently the algebra  $A_\phi$  is finite dimensional. Then the geometry of the branched covering map  $\phi$  takes over, implying, by arguments of the theory of subnormal operators, that  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} A_\phi$  equals the number of connected components of the Riemann surface  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ . In particular, the number of pairwise orthogonal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  is finite. Furthermore, they raised the following question in [27], whose validity they have established in degree  $n \leq 8$ .

For a Blaschke product  $\phi$  of finite order, the double commutant algebra  $A_\phi$  is abelian.

Several notable corollaries would follow once the conjecture is verified. For instance, the commutativity of the algebra  $A_\phi$  implies that, for every finite Blaschke product  $\phi$ , the

minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  are mutually orthogonal; in addition, their number is equal to the number  $q$  of connected components of the Riemann surface of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

The main result offers an affirmative answer to the above problem.

**Theorem (1.2.1)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product of order  $n$ . Then the von Neumann algebra  $A_\phi = \{M_\phi, M_\phi^*\}'$  is commutative of dimension  $q$ , and hence  $A_\phi \cong \underbrace{\mathbb{C} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{C}}_q$ ,

where  $q$  is the number of connected components of the Riemann surface of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

The key observation for the proof is that there is an invertible holomorphic function  $u$  such that  $\phi = u^n$  on  $\Omega$ , where  $\Omega$  is a domain in  $\mathbb{D}$  including an annulus of all points sufficiently close to the boundary  $\mathbb{T}$ . This representation provides a canonical ordered set of local inverses which implies that the local inverses for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  commute under composition on  $\Omega$ .

It also allows us to provide an indirect description of the reducing subspaces. Following [27], there is a partition  $\{G_1, \dots, G_q\}$  of the local inverses for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ . We now define a dual partition as follows. For two integers  $0 \leq j_1, j_2 \leq n - 1$ , write  $j_1 \sim j_2$  if

$$\sum_{\rho_k \in G_i} \zeta^{kj_1} = \sum_{\rho_k \in G_i} \zeta^{kj_2} \text{ for any } 1 \leq i \leq q. \quad (31)$$

Observing that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation, we partition the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  into equivalence classes  $\{G'_1, \dots, G'_p\}$ . Some information on the Riemann surface of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  is given by the following corollary.

**Corollary (1.2.2)[23]:** The number of components in the dual partition is also equal to  $q$ , the number of connected components of the Riemann surface for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$

We obtain the following characterization for the minimal reducing subspace of automorphic type. Here  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})$  denotes the space of holomorphic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Theorem (1.2.3)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product and  $\{G'_1, \dots, G'_q\}$  be the dual partition for  $\phi$ . Then the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  has exactly  $q$  nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_q\}$ , and for any  $1 \leq j \leq q$

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}) : f|_\Omega \in \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega\},$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_j^\Omega$  is a subspace of  $L^2(\Omega)$  with the orthogonal basis  $\{u^i u' : i + 1 \pmod{n} \in G'_j\}$ .

Note the  $\mathcal{M}_{n-1}$  coincides with the distinguished reducing subspace for  $M_\phi$  shown to exist in [10]. The latter theorem provides a possible way to calculate the reducing subspace if one knows the partition of the family of local inverses. The above corollary hints that the possible partitions are very restricted.

We list some algebraic conditions for the partitions, which offer an arithmetic path towards the classification of finite Blaschke products. The idea is displayed by the classification for the Blaschke products of order 8. In a similar way one can also explain the classifications of the Blaschke products of order 3 or 4 in [10], [1], which have been established by identifying the Bergman space of the disk with the restriction of the Hardy space of the bidisk to the diagonal. We point out that these results and examples provide some very detailed information about the branch covering space defined by a finite Blaschke product.

The notation below is borrowed from [27]. Accordingly,  $\phi$  is a finite Blaschke product having  $n$  zeros taking multiplicity into account. The finite set  $E' = \phi^{-1}(\phi(\{\beta \in \mathbb{D} : \phi'(\beta) = 0\}))$  denotes the branch points of  $\phi$ ,  $E = \mathbb{D} \setminus E'$  is its complement in  $\mathbb{D}$  and let  $\Gamma$  be a choice of curves passing through all points of  $E'$  and a fixed

point on the unit circle  $\beta_0$  such that  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$  is a simply connected region contained in  $E$ . Indeed, to be precise, one can construct  $\Gamma$  as follows: order  $E'$  as  $\{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_s\}$  such that  $k \leq j$  iff  $\operatorname{Re}\beta_k < \operatorname{Re}\beta_j$  or  $\operatorname{Re}\beta_k = \operatorname{Re}\beta_j$  and  $\operatorname{Im}\beta_k \leq \operatorname{Im}\beta_j$ , and set  $\beta_0 = \operatorname{Re}\beta_1 - i\sqrt{1 - (\operatorname{Re}\beta_1)^2}$ . Letting  $\Gamma_k, 0 \leq k \leq s - 1$ , be the line segment between  $\beta_k$  and  $\beta_{k+1}$ , we define

$$\Gamma = \bigcup_{0 \leq k \leq s-1} \Gamma_k. \quad (32)$$

By an observation made in [27], the family of analytic local inverses  $\{\rho_0, \dots, \rho_{n-1}\}$  for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  is well defined on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$ . That is, each  $\rho_j$  is a holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$  which satisfies  $\phi(\rho_j(z)) = \phi(z)$  for  $z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$ . We define the equivalence relation on the set of local inverses so that  $\rho_i \sim \rho_j$  if there exists an arc  $\gamma$  in  $E$  such that  $\rho_i$  and  $\rho_j$  are analytic continuations of each other along  $\gamma$ . The resulting equivalence classes are denoted  $\{G_1, \dots, G_q\}$ . For each  $G_k, 1 \leq k \leq q$ , define the map  $\mathcal{E}_k$ :

$$(\mathcal{E}_k f)(z) = \sum_{\rho \in G_k} f(\rho(z)) \rho'(z), \quad f \text{ holomorphic on } \mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma, z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma.$$

The central result in [27] asserts that the operators  $\{\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_q\}$  can naturally be extended to bounded operators on the Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  which are linearly independent, and the double commutant algebra  $A_\phi$  is linearly generated by these operators; that is,

$$A_\phi = \{M_\phi, M_\phi^*\}' = \operatorname{span}\{\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_q\}.$$

We prove that the von Neumann algebra  $A_\phi$  is commutative.

To accomplish this, we extend the given family of analytic local inverses on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$  to a larger region and prove that they commute under composition near the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . The key observation for the proof of the following lemma is that  $\sqrt[n]{(z - a_1) \cdots (z - a_n)}$  is a single-valued holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus L$ , where  $L$  is a curve drawn through the zero set  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ . One can construct an  $L$  and verify the above assertion as follows. Notice that  $\sqrt[n]{z + 1}$  is holomorphic outside any smooth simple curve connecting  $-1$  and  $\infty$ . By changing variables, we observe that, for each  $2 \leq i \leq n$ , the function

$$\sqrt[n]{\frac{z - a_i}{z - a_1}} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{a_1 - a_i}{z - a_1}} + 1$$

is holomorphic outside the line segment connecting  $a_1$  and  $a_i$ . Therefore,

$$\sqrt[n]{(z - a_1) \cdots (z - a_n)} = (z - a_1) \sqrt[n]{\frac{z - a_2}{z - a_1}} \cdots \sqrt[n]{\frac{z - a_n}{z - a_1}}$$

is holomorphic outside the arc which consists of the line segments connecting  $a_1$  and  $a_i$  for  $2 \leq i \leq n$ . See [31] for a complete argument.

Hereafter, let us set  $A_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : r < |z| < 1\}$  for any  $0 < r < 1$ , and let  $\zeta = e^{\frac{2i\pi}{n}}$  be a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity.

**Lemma (1.2.4)[23]:** For a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order  $n$ , there exists a holomorphic function  $u$  on a neighborhood of  $\mathbb{D} \setminus L$  such that  $\phi = u^n$ , where  $L$  is an arc inside  $\mathbb{D}$  containing the zero set of  $\phi$ . Moreover, there exists  $0 < r < 1$  such that  $\overline{A_r}$  is contained in the image of  $u$  and  $u : u^{-1}(\overline{A_r}) \rightarrow \overline{A_r}$  is invertible.

**Proof.** Suppose  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are the zeros of  $\phi$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  (taking multiplicity into account). Choose an analytic branch for  $w = \sqrt[n]{z}$ . By [31],  $w = \sqrt[n]{(z - a_1) \cdots (z - a_n)}$  is a singlevalued holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus L$ , where  $L$  is a curve drawn through the zero set. If we set

$$u(z) = \frac{\sqrt[n]{(z - a_1) \cdots (z - a_n)}}{\sqrt[n]{(z - \bar{a}_1 z) \cdots (z - \bar{a}_n z)}},$$

then  $u(z)$  is holomorphic on a neighborhood of  $\mathbb{D} \setminus L$  and  $u^n = \phi$ .

Additionally, one sees that  $|u|^n = |\phi|$  on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus L$  and hence  $u(\mathbb{T}) \subseteq \mathbb{T}$ . We claim that  $u(\mathbb{T}) = \mathbb{T}$ . Indeed, if  $u(\mathbb{T}) \neq \mathbb{T}$ , then  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  is homotopic to a constant map on  $\mathbb{T}$ . That is, there exists  $u(\theta, t) \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{T} \times [0, 1], \mathbb{T})$  such that  $u(\theta, 0) = u(\theta)$  and  $u(\theta, 1) = 1$ . This implies that  $\phi = u^n : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  is also homotopic to the constant map by the path  $t \rightarrow u^n(\cdot, t)$ . If we extend each  $u(\cdot, t)$  to be a continuous function  $\tilde{u}(\cdot, t)$  on  $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$ , then by [25] each Toeplitz operator  $T_{\tilde{u}^n(\cdot, t)}$  is Fredholm. Furthermore, using [25] one sees that  $t \rightarrow \text{Ind}(T_{\tilde{u}^n(\cdot, t)})$  is a continuous map from  $[0, 1]$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . This implies that it is a constant map, which leads to a contradiction since  $-n = \text{Ind}(M_\phi) = \text{Ind}(T_{\tilde{u}^n(\cdot, 0)}) = \text{Ind}(T_{\tilde{u}^n(\cdot, 1)}) = \text{Ind}(M_1) = 0$ . Therefore, we have that  $u(\mathbb{T}) = \mathbb{T}$ .

By the open mapping theorem, the image of  $u$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}$  including  $\mathbb{T}$ . Therefore, there exists  $0 < r < 1$  such that  $\bar{A}_r \subseteq u(\bar{\mathbb{D}} \setminus L)$ . Now we only need to prove that the map  $u : u^{-1}(\bar{A}_r) \rightarrow \bar{A}_r$  is injective. In fact, for any  $w \in \bar{A}_r$ , since  $\phi(u^{-1}(\zeta^k w)) = w^n$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ , we have that

$$\bigcup_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} u^{-1}(\{\zeta^k w\}) \subseteq \phi^{-1}(\{w^n\}).$$

Remarking that the set  $\phi^{-1}(\{w^n\})$  includes at most  $n$  points and each set  $u^{-1}(\{\zeta^k w\})$  is nonempty, one sees that each  $u^{-1}(\{\zeta^k w\})$  is a singleton. This means that  $u$  is one to one on  $u^{-1}(\bar{A}_r)$ . Therefore,  $u : u^{-1}(\bar{A}_r) \rightarrow \bar{A}_r$  is invertible, completing the proof.

The above lemma allows us to extend local inverses as follows. We denote  $\Omega = u^{-1}(A_r)$ , where  $A_r$  is the annulus appearing in Lemma (1.2.4). On the connected domain  $\Omega$ , define  $\tilde{\rho}_k(z) = u^{-1}(\zeta^k u(z))$  for each  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ . Note that  $\tilde{\rho}_k$  is holomorphic and  $\phi(\tilde{\rho}_k(z)) = \phi(z)$  for  $z \in \Omega$ . This means that  $\{\tilde{\rho}_k\}_k$  is also the family of local inverses on  $\Omega$  for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ . It follows that  $\rho_k = \tilde{\rho}_{i_k}$  for some  $i_k$  on  $\Omega \cap [\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma]$ . Matching the maps  $\tilde{\rho}_{i_k}$  and  $\rho_k$ , respectively, we obtain the family of local inverses on a larger domain  $\Omega \cup [\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma]$ . Furthermore, we can prove the following lemma.

**Lemma (1.2.5)[23]:** For a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$ , there exists a family of local inverses for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  on the domain  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma' = \bigcup_{1 \leq k \leq s-1} \Gamma_i$  is a proper subset of  $\Gamma$  appearing in (32), which just consists of the set of line segments passing through all critical points  $E'$  of  $\phi$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to show that the family of local inverses  $\{\rho_0, \rho_1, \dots, \rho_{n-1}\}$  can analytically be continued across the interior point set  $\dot{I}_0 = \{t\beta_0 + (1 - t)\beta_1 : 0 < t < 1\}$ .

To start, we prove that analytic continuation is possible when the points in  $\dot{I}_0$  are close enough to the boundary  $\mathbb{T}$ . By the continuity of  $u$  and the construction of  $\Gamma$ , we can choose a number  $r$  close to 1 such that  $u(A_{r'}) \subset A_r$  and  $A_{r'} \cap \Gamma' = \emptyset$ . For each  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ , let  $\tilde{\rho}_k(z) = u^{-1}(\zeta^k u(z))$  when  $z \in A_{r'}$  ( $\subseteq u^{-1}(A_r)$ ). Fix a point  $z_0 \in A_{r'} \cap [\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma]$ , and let  $U$  be a small open disk containing  $z_0$ . Notice that both  $\{\rho_0, \rho_1, \dots, \rho_{n-1}\}$  and



$\{\tilde{\rho}_0, \tilde{\rho}_1, \dots, \tilde{\rho}_{n-1}\}$  are local inverses of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  on  $U$ . So, after renumbering the local inverses if necessary, we can suppose that  $\rho_i = \tilde{\rho}_i$  on  $U$ . Since the domain  $A_{r'} \cap [\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma] = A_{r'} \setminus \Gamma_0$  is connected and includes  $U$ , one sees that  $\rho_i = \tilde{\rho}_i$  on this domain. Therefore, the family of analytic functions  $\{\rho_i \cup \tilde{\rho}_i\}$  defined as

$$[\rho_i \cup \tilde{\rho}_i](x) = \begin{cases} \rho_i(x) & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma, \\ \tilde{\rho}_i(x) & \text{if } x \in A_{r'} \end{cases}$$

are local inverses on  $A_{r'} \cup [\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma']$ . We still denote them by  $\{\rho_i\}_i$  whenever no confusion arises.

Now let  $S$  be a maximal subset of  $\Gamma'_0$  on which these local inverses can't be analytically continued across. That is,  $\{\rho_i\}_i$  are holomorphic on the domain  $\mathbb{D} \setminus (\Gamma' \cup S)$ , and can't be analytically continued across each point in  $S$ . We prove by contradiction that the set  $S$  is empty. Indeed, assume  $S$  is nonempty and let

$$s = \inf\{t: t\beta_0 + (1-t)\beta_1 \in S\}.$$

Then  $S$  is contained in the line segment from  $z_0 = s\beta_0 + (1-s)\beta_1$  to  $\beta_1$ . Since  $S \cap A_{r'} = \emptyset$ , one sees that  $0 < s$  and  $z_0$  is inside  $\mathbb{D}$ . This means that one can analytically extend the local inverses across  $t\beta_0 + (1-t)\beta_1: t < s$ ,

and the process stops at  $z_0$ . But, since  $z_0$  is a regular point of  $\phi$ , there exists an open disk  $V = \{z: |z - z_0| < r_0\}$  with a small  $r_0$ , such that  $V \cap \Gamma' = \emptyset$  and  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$  has  $n$  analytic branches on  $V$ . Notice that

$$V \cap [\mathbb{D} \setminus (\Gamma' \cup S)] = V \setminus S \supseteq V \setminus L,$$

where  $L$  is a line segment from the center  $z_0$  to the boundary of the disk  $V$ . It follows that  $V \cap [\mathbb{D} \setminus (\Gamma' \cup S)]$  is a connected domain. An argument similar to that in the preceding paragraph shows that the local inverses are holomorphic on  $V \cup [\mathbb{D} \setminus (\Gamma' \cup S)]$ . By the maximality of  $S$ , we have that  $V \cap S = \emptyset$ , which leads to a contradiction since  $z_0 \in \bar{S}$ . Therefore,  $S$  is empty and the local inverses are holomorphic on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma'$ , completing the proof.

From the proof of the above lemma one derives an intrinsic order for the local inverses. Specifically, we label the local inverses  $\{\rho_k(z)\}_{k=0}^{n-1}$  such that  $\rho_k(z) = u^{-1}(\zeta^k u(z))$  on  $\Omega$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$ . By a routine argument, we have that each  $\rho_k$  is invertible on  $\Omega$ , and for any pair  $\rho_k, \rho_{k'}$  and  $z \in \Omega$ , we have

$$\rho_k \circ \rho_{k'}(z) = \rho_{k+k' \bmod n}(z).$$

Moreover, with little extra effort, one sees that each  $\rho_k$  can also be analytically continued across the boundary  $T$ . We prove the main result.

**Theorem (1.2.6)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product of order  $n$ . Then the von Neumann algebra  $A_\phi = \{M_\phi, M_\phi^*\}'$  is commutative of dimension  $q$ , and hence  $A_\phi \cong \underbrace{\mathbb{C} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{C}}_q$ ,

where  $q$  is the number of connected components of the Riemann surface of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to show that  $\mathcal{E}_j \mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{E}_i \mathcal{E}_j$  for each  $1 \leq i, j \leq q$ . Indeed, for any  $0 \leq k, k' \leq n-1$ , we have that

$$\rho_k \circ \rho_{k'}(z) = \rho_k \circ \rho_{k'}(z) = \rho_{k+k' \bmod n}(z), \quad z \in \Omega.$$

Therefore, for any  $f \in L^2_\alpha(\mathbb{D})$  and  $z \in \Omega$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{E}_i \mathcal{E}_j f)(z) &= \sum_{\rho \in G_i} \sum_{\tilde{\rho} \in G_j} f(\tilde{\rho}(\rho(z))) \tilde{\rho}'(\rho(z)) \rho'(z) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{\rho} \in G_j} \sum_{\rho \in G_i} f(\rho(\tilde{\rho}(z))) \rho'(\tilde{\rho}(z)) \tilde{\rho}'(z) = (\mathcal{E}_j \mathcal{E}_i f)(z). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\mathcal{E}_j \mathcal{E}_i(f) = \mathcal{E}_j \mathcal{E}_i(f)$  for any  $f \in L^2_\alpha(\mathbb{D})$ , completing the proof.

By the final argument in the proof of [27], the statement that  $A_\phi$  is commutative is equivalent to the statement that the minimal reducing subspaces for  $M_\phi$  are pairwise orthogonal. This also means that the number of distinct minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_\phi$  is equal to the dimension of  $A_\phi$ . Hence, one derives the following corollary giving the structure of the reducing subspaces.

**Corollary (1.2.7)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product. Then the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  on the Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  has exactly  $q$  nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_q\}$ , and  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) = \bigoplus_{k=1}^q \mathcal{M}_k$ , where  $q$  is the number of connected components of the Riemann surface  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

In order to facilitate the comprehension of the rather involved computations included, we analyze first a simple, transparent example. If  $\phi = z^n$ , then the family of local inverses is  $\{\rho_k(z) = \zeta^k z : 0 \leq k \leq n-1\}$ , and we infer without difficulty that

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \overline{\text{span}}\{z^i : i \geq 0, i \equiv j \pmod{n}, 1 \leq j \leq n,$$

are the minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^n}$ . However, such a simple argument is not available in the general case, so we prefer to explain the above description of the  $\mathcal{M}_j$  in a less direct way, as follows. Recall that for  $\phi = z^n$ , we have that

$$(\mathcal{E}_k f)(z) = f(\rho_k(z))\rho_k'(z) = \zeta^k f(\zeta^k z), \quad 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

One verifies then that  $\mathcal{M}_j$  is the joint eigenspace for the  $\mathcal{E}_k$ 's corresponding to the eigenvalues  $\zeta^{k(j+1)}$ . Therefore, every  $\mathcal{M}_j$  is a reducing subspace since the  $\{\mathcal{E}_k\}$  are normal operators and  $A_\phi = \text{span}\{\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_n\}$ .

There is a second, more geometric description of  $\mathcal{M}_j$  which emerges from this simple example. Let  $F_j$  be the flat bundle on  $\mathbb{D}_0 = \mathbb{D} \setminus \{0\}$  with respect to the jump  $\zeta^j$  (see [24] for the precise definition). We cut  $\mathbb{D}_0$  along the line  $(0, 1)$  in  $\mathbb{D}_0$ , put the rank-one trivial holomorphic bundle over it, and identify the vector  $v$  on the lower copy of  $(0, 1)$  with the vector  $\zeta^j v$  on the above copy of  $(0, 1)$ . Then  $F_j$  is just the quotient space obtained from this process. One can easily see that the  $F_j$ 's are all the flat line bundles whose pullback bundle to  $\mathbb{D}_0$  induced by the map  $z^n : \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_0$  is the trivial bundle. This means that each holomorphic on  $F_j$  yields a holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{D}_0$  by the induced composition. Let

$$L_a^2(F_j) = \left\{ \text{holomorphic } s : \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow F_j : \int_{\mathbb{D}_0} |s|^2 dm < \infty \right\},$$

and let  $M_z$  be the corresponding bundle shift on  $L_a^2(F_j)$ . Note that  $|s|$  is well defined on  $\mathbb{D}_0$ . Then the operator  $U_j : L_a^2(F_j) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_j [\subseteq L_a^2(\mathbb{D})]$  defined by  $(U_j f)(z) = n z^{n-1} f(z^n)$  is a unitary map, which intertwines  $(L_a^2(F_j), M_z)$  and  $(\mathcal{M}_j, M_{z^n})$ . In this way flat line bundles provide a natural model for the action of  $M_{z^n}$  on the minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^n}$ . It is conceivable that some analogous geometric description exists for the action of  $M_\phi$  on the minimal reducing subspaces in general, but, if so, we do not know how to describe it. Thus we follow a different path below.

Returning to the general case of a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$ , we will prove the following theorem. Recall that the dual partition for  $\phi$  is the partition of the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  corresponding to the equivalence relation defined in (31). We will prove later that the number of components in the dual partition is also equal to  $q$ , the number of connected components of the Riemann surface for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

The remainder is devoted to the proof of this theorem. We begin with a characterization of the  $\mathcal{M}_j$ 's in term of eigenvalues and eigenspaces of the  $\mathcal{E}_k$ 's. Adapting, step by step, the proof of [27], we infer that

$$A_\phi = \{M_\phi, M_\phi^*\}' = \text{span}\{\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_q\} = \text{span}\{P_{\mathcal{M}_1}, \dots, P_{\mathcal{M}_q}\},$$

where  $P_{\mathcal{M}_k}$  is the projection onto  $\mathcal{M}_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq q$ . This means that there are unique constants  $\{c_{kj}, 1 \leq j, k \leq q\}$  such that

$$\mathcal{E}_k = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq q} c_{kj} P_{\mathcal{M}_j}. \quad (33)$$

On the other hand, by a dimension argument, the constant matrix  $[c_{kj}]$  turns out to be invertible. Since the rows of  $[c_{kj}]$  are linearly independent, it follows that  $c_{kj_1} = c_{kj_2}$  for each  $k$  if and only if  $j_1 = j_2$ .

For each tuple  $\{c_{kj}\}_k$ , let  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_j = \{f \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) : \mathcal{E}_k f = c_{kj} f, 1 \leq k \leq q\}$  be the corresponding common eigenspace for  $\{\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_q\}$ . As shown in Theorem (1.2.6), each  $\mathcal{E}_k$  is a normal operator. By spectral theory,  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_1} \perp \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{j_2}$  if  $j_1 \neq j_2$ . Since  $\mathcal{M}_j \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_j$  for each  $j$ , we obtain  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_j \perp \mathcal{M}_k$  for  $j \neq k$ . Noticing that  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) = \bigoplus_k \mathcal{M}_k$ , one sees that  $\mathcal{M}_j = \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_j$ . That is,

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \{f \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) : \mathcal{E}_k f = c_{kj} f, \quad 1 \leq k \leq q\}. \quad (34)$$

We also need the following lemmas concerning the domain  $\Omega = u^{-1}(A_r)$ . Let  $L_a^2(\Omega)$  be the Bergman space which consists of the holomorphic functions in  $L^2(\Omega)$ , and let  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  be the subspace of  $L_a^2(\Omega)$  which is the closure of the polynomial ring in  $L_a^2(\Omega)$ . Note that since  $z^{-1} \in L_a^2(\Omega)$ , we have  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega) \neq L_a^2(\Omega)$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})$  denotes the space of holomorphic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Lemma (1.2.8)[23]:** The restriction operator  $i_\Omega : L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  defined by  $i_\Omega(f) = f|_\Omega$  is invertible. Furthermore,  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}) : f|_\Omega \in L_a^2(\Omega)\}$ .

**Proof.** As shown in the proof of Lemma (1.2.5), there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $A_r \subseteq \Omega$ . It's well known that there exists a positive constant  $C_{r'}$  such that for any polynomial  $f$

$$\|f\|_{L_a^2(\mathbb{D})} \leq C_{r'} \|f\|_{L^2(A_{r'})}.$$

This implies for any polynomial  $f$  that

$$\|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{D})} \leq C_{r'} \|f\|_{L^2(A_{r'})} \leq C_{r'} \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C_{r'} \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{D})}.$$

Because the polynomial ring is dense in both of the two Hilbert spaces  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  and  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$ , one finds that  $i_\Omega$  is invertible.

In addition, we have that

$$L_a^2(\mathbb{D}) = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}) : f|_\Omega \in L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)\} \subseteq \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}) : f|_\Omega \in L_a^2(\Omega)\}.$$

It remains to show that, if  $f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $f|_\Omega \in L_a^2(\Omega)$ , then  $f \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Indeed, since  $A_{r'} \subseteq \Omega$ , one sees that  $f|_{A_{r'}} \in L_a^2(A_{r'})$ . Let  $f = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  be the Taylor series expansion of  $f$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Since the vectors  $\{z^k\}_k$  are pairwise orthogonal in  $L_a^2(A_{r'})$ , we have that the polynomial  $p_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k z^k$  tends to  $f$  in the norm of  $L_a^2(A_{r'})$  and hence  $f \in L_{a,p}^2(A_{r'})$ . Therefore, by the argument in the preceding paragraph, there exists  $g \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  such that  $f|_{A_{r'}} = g|_{A_{r'}}$ . This means that  $f = g \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ , as desired.

Now we introduce operators on  $L_a^2(\Omega)$  and  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  corresponding to  $\{\mathcal{E}_i\}$ . We also let  $M_\phi$  denote the multiplication operator on  $L_a^2(\Omega)$  or  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  with the bounded analytic symbol  $\phi$ . Recall that each  $\rho \in \{\rho_j\}_{j=0}^{n-1}$  is invertible on  $\Omega$ . Hence, the operator  $U_\rho^\Omega : L_a^2(\Omega) \rightarrow L_a^2(\Omega)$  defined by  $U_\rho^\Omega(f) = (f \circ \rho)\rho'$  is a unitary operator with the inverse  $U_{\rho^{-1}}^\Omega$ . Similarly, for each  $1 \leq k \leq q$ , define a linear operator  $\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega : L_a^2(\Omega) \rightarrow L_a^2(\Omega)$  as

$$\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) = \sum_{\rho \in G_k} U_\rho^\Omega(f) = \sum_{\rho \in G_k} (f \circ \rho)\rho', \quad f \in L_a^2(\Omega).$$

Moreover, for each  $f \in L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$ , there exists some  $g \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  such that  $g|_\Omega = f$ . A direct computation shows that  $\mathcal{E}_k(g)|_\Omega = \mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f)$ . Hence, one sees that  $\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) \in L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$ . This means that  $\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega$  is also a bounded operator on  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  and  $i_\Omega \mathcal{E}_k = \mathcal{E}_k^\Omega i_\Omega$ . Combining this identity with formula (33) we obtain

$$\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq q} c_{kj} i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}(f), \quad f \in L_{a,p}^2(\Omega). \quad (35)$$

Furthermore, by [27], for each  $1 \leq k \leq q$  there is an integer  $k^-$  with  $1 \leq k^- \leq q$  such that

$$G_{k^-} = G_{k^-} = \{\rho^{-1} : \rho \in G_k\}.$$

Similar to that used in the proof of [27], we infer that  $\mathcal{E}_{k^-}^\Omega = \mathcal{E}_k^{\Omega*}$ . Therefore,  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$  is a common reducing subspace of  $\{\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega\}$  and each  $\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega$  is a normal operator on  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$ .

For every  $1 \leq j \leq q$ , let

$$\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = i_\Omega(\mathcal{M}_j) = \{f|_\Omega : f \in \mathcal{M}_j\}.$$

We claim that  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1} = P_{\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega}$ . Since the range of  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is equal to  $\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega$ , it suffices to show that  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is a projection. Indeed, a direct computation shows that  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is an idempotent. Furthermore, combining formula (35) and the fact that  $[c_{kj}]$  is invertible, every  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is a linear combination of  $\{\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega\}$ . It follows that every  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is a normal operator. Therefore,  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1}$  is a projection and  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1} = P_{\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega}$ .

We summarize the consequences of the above argument as follows.

**Proposition (1.2.9)[23]:** Using the notation above,  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega) = \bigoplus_{j=1}^q \mathcal{M}_j^\Omega$ , and

$$\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \{f \in L_{a,p}^2(\mathbb{D}) : \mathcal{E}_k^\Omega f = c_{kj} f, \quad 1 \leq k \leq q\}. \quad (36)$$

In addition, one has

$$\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq q} c_{kj} P_{\mathcal{M}_j}^\Omega(f), \quad f \in L_{a,p}^2(\Omega). \quad (37)$$

**Proof.** Eq. (37) follows from formula (35) and the fact that  $i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1} = P_{\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega}$ . Combining this with the same argument at the beginning, one sees (36).

Moreover, since

$$P_{\mathcal{M}_i^\Omega} P_{\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega} = i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_i} P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1} = 0$$

if  $i \neq j$  and

$$\sum_{j=1}^q P_{\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega} = \sum_{j=1}^q i_\Omega P_{\mathcal{M}_j} i_\Omega^{-1} = I,$$

we have that  $L_{a,p}^2(\Omega) = \bigoplus_j \mathcal{M}_j^\Omega$ , completing the proof.

Since  $\rho_1$  is invertible and  $\rho_1^n = 1$  on  $\Omega$ , the operator  $U_{\rho_1}^\Omega : L_a^2(\Omega) \rightarrow L_a^2(\Omega)$  is unitary and  $(U_{\rho_1}^\Omega)^n = 1$ . By the spectral theory for unitary operators, the  $\{\zeta^i\}_{i=0}^{n-1}$  are possible eigenvalues of  $U_{\rho_1}^\Omega$ , and  $U_{\rho_1}^\Omega = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \zeta^i P_{\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega}$ , where  $P_{\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega}$  is the projection from  $L_a^2(\Omega)$  onto the eigenvector subspace

$$\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega = \{f \in L_a^2(\Omega) : U_{\rho_1}^\Omega(f) = \zeta^i f\}.$$

It follows that  $U_{\rho_j}^\Omega = (U_{\rho_1}^\Omega)^j = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \zeta^{ij} P_{\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega}$ , and

$$\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) = \sum_{\rho_j \in G_k} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \zeta^{ij} P_{\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega}(f), \quad f \in L_a^2(\Omega). \quad (38)$$

Furthermore, we have the following lemma. Recall that  $u : \Omega = u^{-1}(A_r) \rightarrow A_r$  is invertible as shown in Lemma (1.2.4).

**Lemma (1.2.10)[23]:**  $\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega = \overline{\text{span}}\{u^k u' : k \in \mathbb{Z}, k + 1 \equiv i \pmod{n}\}$ .

**Proof.** Since  $u \circ \rho_1 = \zeta u$  on  $\Omega$ , it is easy to check that

$$U_{\rho_1}(u^k u') = \zeta^i u^k u', \quad \text{for } k + 1 \equiv i \pmod{n}.$$

That is,  $\mathcal{N}_i^\Omega$  is contained in the eigenspace of  $U_{\rho_1}$  associated to the eigenvalue  $\zeta^i$ . It remains to show that  $\bigoplus_i \mathcal{N}_i^\Omega = L_a^2(\Omega)$ . In fact, we will prove that  $\{u^k u' : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a complete orthogonal system for  $L_a^2(\Omega)$ .

Define the pull-back operator  $C_u : L_a^2(A_r) \rightarrow L_a^2(\Omega)$  by

$$C_u f = (f \circ u) u'.$$

Since  $u : \Omega \rightarrow A_r$  is invertible,  $C_u$  is unitary. Noticing that  $\{z^k : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a complete orthogonal basis for  $L_a^2(A_r)$ , one sees that  $\{u^k u' = C_u(z^k) : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a complete orthogonal basis for  $L_a^2(\Omega)$ , as desired.

Recall that for the partition  $\{G_1, \dots, G_q\}$  of local inverses for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ , we say  $j_1 \sim j_2$  in the dual partition for two integers  $0 \leq j_1, j_2 \leq n - 1$ , if

$$\sum_{\rho_k \in G_i} \zeta^{kj_1} = \sum_{\rho_k \in G_i} \zeta^{kj_2} \quad \text{for any } 1 \leq i \leq q.$$

The above relation partitions the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  into equivalence classes  $\{G'_1, \dots, G'_p\}$ .

For each  $G'_j$  in the dual partition, let  $\mathcal{L}_j^\Omega = \bigoplus_{i \in G'_j} \mathcal{N}_i^\Omega$ ; that is,

$$\mathcal{L}_j^\Omega = \overline{\text{span}}\{u^i u' : i \in \mathbb{Z}, i + 1 \pmod{n} \in G'_j\}.$$

Then  $\bigoplus_{j=1}^p \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega = L_a^2(\Omega)$ . From formula (38)

$$\mathcal{E}_k^\Omega(f) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq p} c'_{kj} P_{\mathcal{L}_j^\Omega}(f), \quad f \in L_a^2(\Omega), \quad (39)$$

where  $c'_{kj} = \sum_{\rho_l \in G_k} \zeta^{il}$  for any  $l \in G'_j$ . By the equivalent condition for the dual partition,  $c'_{kj_1} = c'_{kj_2}$  for each  $k$  if and only if  $j_1 = j_2$ . Comparing formulas (36) and (39) yields the following result.

**Proposition (1.2.11)[23]:** For each  $\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega$ , there exists  $1 \leq k \leq p$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \cap L_{a,p}^2(\Omega)$ .

**Proof.** For each  $0 \neq f \in \mathcal{M}_j^\Omega \subseteq \bigoplus_k \mathcal{L}_k^\Omega = L_a^2(\Omega)$ , there exists at least one  $d_f$  such that  $1 \leq d_f \leq p$  and the projection of  $f$  on  $\mathcal{L}_{d_f}^\Omega$  is nonzero. We claim that  $d_f$  is unique. Indeed, suppose for  $k_1 \neq k_2$ ,  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}^\Omega}(f)$  and  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}^\Omega}(f)$  are nonzero. By formula (36), one sees for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$  that,

$$\left[ P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}} + P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}} \right] \mathcal{E}_i^\Omega(f) = c_{ij} P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}}(f) + c_{ij} P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}}(f).$$

Moreover, by formula (39),

$$\left[ P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}} + P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}} \right] \mathcal{E}_i^\Omega(f) = c'_{ik_1} P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}}(f) + c'_{ik_2} P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}}(f).$$

Hence  $c'_{ij} = c'_{ik_1} = c'_{ik_2}$  for each  $i$ . This leads to a contradiction since  $k_1 \neq k_2$ . Therefore, there exists only one integer  $d_f$  such that  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{d_f}^\Omega}(f) \neq 0$ .

We now prove that  $d_f$  is independent of  $f$ . Otherwise, there exist  $k_1 \neq k_2$  and  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{M}_j$  such that both  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}^\Omega}(f_1)$  and  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}^\Omega}(f_2)$  are nonzero. By the uniqueness proved in the preceding paragraph, we have that  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}^\Omega}(f_2) = P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}^\Omega}(f_1) = 0$ . However, this means that both  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_1}^\Omega}(f_1 + f_2)$  and  $P_{\mathcal{L}_{k_2}^\Omega}(f_1 + f_2)$  are nonzero, which contradicts the uniqueness of  $d_{f_1+f_2}$ . Therefore, there exists only one integer  $k$  such that  $P_{\mathcal{L}_k^\Omega} \mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \{0\}$ . Moreover, we have that  $c_{ij} = c'_{ik}$  for each  $i$ . Combining this fact with formulas (36) and (39), one sees that

$$\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \cap L_{a,p}^2(\Omega) = \{f \in L_{a,p}^2(\mathbb{D}) : \mathcal{E}_i^\Omega f = c_{ij} f, \quad 1 \leq i \leq q\},$$

completing the proof.

We will prove the converse of the above proposition. We begin with some lemmas.

**Lemma (1.2.12)[23]:** Let  $f$  be a function holomorphic on a neighborhood of  $\overline{A_r}$ . Then for any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $f \perp \overline{z^k}$  in  $L_a^2(A_r)$  if and only if  $\int_{z \in \mathbb{T}} f(z) \overline{z^k} dm(z) = 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $a_k$  be the coefficient for  $z^k$  in the Laurent series expansion of  $f$  on  $A_r$ . Observe that  $\{z^k\}_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty}$  is a complete orthogonal basis for both of  $L_a^2(A_r)$  and  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ . A direct computation shows that  $\langle f, z^k \rangle_{L_a^2(A_r)} = a_k \|z^k\|_{L_a^2(A_r)}$  and  $\langle f, z^k \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{T})} = a_k \|z^k\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T})}$ , which leads to the desired result.

We also need the following transformation formula.

**Lemma (1.2.13)[23]:** Let  $s : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  be an invertible differentiable map. Then there exists a constant  $\epsilon_s = 1$  or  $-1$ , such that for any  $f \in C(\mathbb{T})$

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} f(\theta) dm(\theta) = \epsilon_s \int_{\mathbb{T}} f(s(\theta)) \frac{s'(\theta)}{is(\theta)} dm(\theta).$$

If, in addition,  $s$  is holomorphic on a neighborhood of  $\mathbb{T}$ , then

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} f(z) dm(z) = \epsilon_s \int_{\mathbb{T}} f(s(z)) \frac{zs'(z)}{s(z)} dm(z).$$

**Proof.** It is sufficient to verify only the first equation. Indeed, the latter equation follows from the former equation and that

$$s'(\theta) = s'(z) \frac{dz}{d\theta} = ie^{i\theta} s'(z) = izs'(z), z \in \mathbb{T}.$$

Without loss of generality, we can suppose that  $s(1) = 1$ . Then there exists  $\tilde{s} : (0, 2\pi) \rightarrow (0, 2\pi)$  such that  $s(\theta) = e^{i\tilde{s}(\theta)}$ . An elementary calculus argument shows that

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} f(\theta) dm(\theta) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} f(s(\theta)) |\tilde{s}'(\theta)| dm(\theta).$$

Since  $s$  is invertible on  $\mathbb{T}$ , one has that  $\tilde{s} : (0, 2\pi) \rightarrow (0, 2\pi)$  is a monotonic function. Therefore, we can choose a constant  $\epsilon_s = 1$  or  $-1$  such that  $|\tilde{s}'| = \epsilon_s \tilde{s}'$ . Moreover, differentiating the equation  $s(\theta) = e^{i\tilde{s}(\theta)}$ , one sees that  $s'(\theta) = ie^{i\tilde{s}(\theta)} \tilde{s}'(\theta) = is(\theta) \tilde{s}'(\theta)$ . This implies that  $|\tilde{s}'(\theta)| = \frac{\epsilon_s s'(\theta)}{is(\theta)}$ , completing the proof.

**Lemma (1.2.14)[23]:** For any integer  $k \geq 0$ , there exists some integer  $i \geq 0$  such that  $\langle z^i, u^k u' \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)} \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $P_-(L^2_{a,p}(\Omega) \mathcal{N}_k^\Omega) = \{0\}$  for all  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ .

**Proof.** We prove the statement by contradiction. Suppose that for some  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$\langle z^i, u^k u' \rangle_{L^2(\Omega)} = 0, \quad \forall i \geq 0.$$

Since the operator  $C_u : L^2(A_r) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ , which appears in Lemma (1.2.10), is unitary, the above equation is equivalent to

$$\langle (u^{-1})^i (u^{-1})', z^k \rangle_{L^2(A_r)} = 0, \quad \forall i \geq 0.$$

Using Lemma (1.2.12), it follows that for each integer  $i \geq 0$

$$\langle (u^{-1})^i (u^{-1})', z^k \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{T})} = \int_{\mathbb{T}} (u^{-1})^i (u^{-1})' \overline{z^k} dm(z) = 0.$$

By Lemma (1.2.13), Lemma (1.2.4) and the fact that  $|u(z)| = 1$  for  $z \in \mathbb{T}$ , we have for each integer  $i \geq 0$ :

$$0 = \int_{\mathbb{T}} z^i (u^{-1})' \circ u(z) \overline{u^k} \frac{z u'(z)}{u(z)} dm(z) = \int_{\mathbb{T}} z^{i+1} \overline{u^{k+1}} dm(z) = \langle z^{i+1}, u^{k+1} \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{T})}.$$

This means that  $u^{k+1} \in \overline{H_2(\mathbb{T})}$  and hence  $\phi^{k+1} = u^{n(k+1)} \in \overline{H_2(\mathbb{T})}$ . Because  $\phi^{k+1}$  is holomorphic on  $\mathbb{D}$ , we deduce that  $\phi^{k+1}$  is a constant. This leads to a contradiction since  $\phi$  is a nontrivial Blaschke product, completing the proof.

Summarizing the above results, we obtain the converse of Proposition (1.2.11).

**Proposition (1.2.15)[23]:** For each  $k$ , there exists a unique  $j$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \cap L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)$ ; that is,

$$L^2_{a,p}(\Omega) = \bigoplus_k [\mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \cap L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)].$$

**Proof.** From Proposition (1.2.11), for each  $1 \leq j \leq q$ , there exists only one  $1 \leq k_j \leq p$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \mathcal{L}_{k_j}^\Omega \cap L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)$ . Hence,

$$L^2_{a,p}(\Omega) = \bigoplus_j [\mathcal{L}_{k_j}^\Omega \cap L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)].$$

We claim that the set  $\{k_1, \dots, k_q\}$  is just  $\{1, \dots, p\}$ . Indeed, if there exists  $k$  such that  $1 \leq k \leq p$  but  $k$  is not in the set  $\{k_1, \dots, k_q\}$ , then  $\mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \perp \bigoplus_{k_j} \mathcal{L}_{k_j}^\Omega$ . This means that  $P_{L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)} \mathcal{L}_k^\Omega = \{0\}$ , which leads to a contradiction, since  $\mathcal{L}_k^\Omega = \bigoplus_{j \in G'_k} \mathcal{N}_j^\Omega$  and by Lemma (1.2.14) we have that  $P_{L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)} \mathcal{N}_j^\Omega \neq \{0\}$  for each  $j$ . Therefore, the set  $\{k_1, \dots, k_q\}$  includes all integers between 1 and  $p$ . It follows that  $p = q$  and

$$L^2_{a,p}(\Omega) = \bigoplus_{k=1}^q [\mathcal{L}_k^\Omega \cap L^2_{a,p}(\Omega)],$$

as desired.

In the proof of Proposition (1.2.15), one identifies the following intrinsic property of the partition for a finite Blaschke product.

**Corollary (1.2.16)[23]:** The number of components in the dual partition is also equal to  $q$ , the number of connected components of the Riemann surface for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

Combining Lemma (1.2.8) with Propositions (1.2.11) and (1.2.15), we derive the main result.

**Theorem (1.2.17)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product, and  $\{G'_1, \dots, G'_q\}$  be the dual partition for  $\phi$ . Then the multiplication operator  $M_\phi$  has exactly  $q$  nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces  $\{\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_q\}$ , and for any  $1 \leq j \leq q$

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}): f|_\Omega \in \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega\},$$

where  $\Omega = u^{-1}(A_r)$  is defined in Lemma (1.2.4), and  $\mathcal{L}_j^\Omega$  is a subspace of  $L^2(\Omega)$  with orthogonal basis  $\{u^i u' : i + 1 \pmod{n} \in G'_j\}$ .

**Proof.** Combining Propositions (1.2.11) and (1.2.15), after renumbering if necessary, we have for each  $1 \leq j \leq q$  that,

$$\mathcal{M}_j^\Omega = \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega \cap L_{(a,p)}^2(\Omega).$$

Since  $i_\Omega$  is invertible, we have that

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \{f \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D}): f|_\Omega \in \mathcal{M}_j^\Omega\} = \{f \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D}): f|_\Omega \in \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega\}.$$

Combining this formula with Lemma (1.2.8), we conclude that

$$\mathcal{M}_j = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}): f_\Omega \in \mathcal{L}_j^\Omega\},$$

completing the proof of the theorem.

[10], [1] obtained a classification of the structure of the finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  in case  $\phi$  has order 3 or 4. We sketch an arithmetic way towards the classification of finite Blaschke products, displaying the details in the degree 8 case.

Following [27] we define an equivalence relation among finite Blaschke products so that  $\phi_1 \sim \phi_2$ , if there exist Möbius transformations  $\varphi_a(z) = \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z}$  and  $\varphi_b(z) = \frac{b-z}{1-\bar{b}z}$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $\phi_1 = \varphi_a \circ \phi_2 \circ \varphi_b$ . A finite Blaschke  $\phi$  is called reducible if there exist two nontrivial finite Blaschke products  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  such that  $\phi \sim \phi_1 \circ \phi_2$ , and  $\phi$  is irreducible if  $\phi$  is not reducible.

For a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order  $n$ , let  $G_1, \dots, G_q$  be the partition defined by the family of local inverses  $\{\rho_0, \dots, \rho_n\}$  for  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ . When no confusion arises, we write  $i \in G_k$  if  $\rho_i \in G_k$ , and  $G_k = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_j\}$  if  $G_k = \{\rho_{i_1}, \rho_{i_2}, \dots, \rho_{i_j}\}$ . In view of the above notations,  $\{G_1, \dots, G_q\}$  is a partition of the additive group  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ . One can immediately verify that, if  $\phi_1 \sim \phi_2$ , then  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  yield identical partitions.

Corollary (1.2.16) hints that there should exist some internal algebraic and combinatorial structures for the partitions arising from finite Blaschke products. Although we don't understand these properties completely, we list a few necessary conditions:

( $\alpha_0$ )  $\{0\}$  is a singleton in the partition, since  $\rho_0(z) = z$  is holomorphic on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

( $\alpha_1$ ) For any pair  $G_i$  and  $G_j$ , there exist some  $G_{k_1}, \dots, G_{k_m}$  such that

$$G_i + G_j = G_{k_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{k_m} \text{ (counting multiplicities on both sides),}$$

where “+” is defined using the addition of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . (This is a consequence of the fact that the product  $\mathcal{E}_i \mathcal{E}_j$  is a linear combination of some  $\mathcal{E}_k$ 's.) ( $\alpha_2$ ) By [27], for each  $G_i = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$ , there exists  $j$  such that

$$G_j = G_i^{-1} = \{n - i_1, \dots, n - i_k\}.$$

( $\alpha_3$ ) By Corollary (1.2.16), the number of elements in the dual partition is also  $q$ .

We also need the following generalization of [27]. Note that the additive structure for elements in  $G_k$ 's coincides with compositions near the boundary  $\mathbb{T}$ .

**Lemma (1.2.18)[23]:** For a finite Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order  $n$ ,  $\phi$  is reducible if and only if  $G_{k_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{k_m}$  forms a nontrivial proper subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , for some subset  $G_{k_1}, \dots, G_{k_m}$  of the partition arising from  $\phi$ .



**Proof.** Assume that  $\phi$  is reducible. Without loss of generality, suppose that  $\phi = \varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2$  for two nontrivial finite Blaschke products  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ . Since the family of local inverses  $\varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$  is a cyclic group under compositions near the boundary  $\mathbb{T}$ , and it is contained in the local inverses of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ , the set of the local inverses for  $\varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$  forms a nontrivial proper subgroup of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ .

On the other hand, suppose that  $G = G_{k_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{k_m}$  is a nontrivial proper subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  for some  $G_{k_1}, \dots, G_{k_m}$ . For each  $G_{k_i} = \{\rho_{i_1}, \dots, \rho_{i_j}\}$ , by [27] there exists a polynomial  $f_i(w, z)$  of degree  $j$  such that  $\{\rho_{i_1}(z), \dots, \rho_{i_j}(z)\}$  are solutions of  $f_i(w, z) = 0$ . This implies that  $\prod_{\rho \in G_{k_i}} \rho(z) = \frac{p_i(z)}{q_i(z)}$  is a quotient of two polynomials  $p_i(z), q_i(z)$  of degree at most  $j$ . So, if we define

$$\varphi_2(z) = \prod_{\rho \in G} \rho(z) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{\rho \in G_{k_i}} \rho(z) = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{p_i(z)}{q_i(z)},$$

then  $\varphi_2(z)$  is a rational function of degree at most  $G$ ; here  $G$  denotes the number of elements in  $G$ . It follows that  $\varphi_2(z)$  is holomorphic outside a finite point set  $S$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Since each local inverse is bounded by 1 on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma'$  and  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma'$  is dense in  $\mathbb{D}$ , we have that  $\varphi_2$  is also bounded on  $\mathbb{D} \setminus S$  and hence it can analytically be continued across  $S$ . This means that  $\varphi_2$  is a bounded holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{D}$ . By a similar argument involving local inverses, one sees that  $\varphi_2$  is also continuous on  $\mathbb{T}$  and  $|\varphi_2(z)| = 1$  whenever  $z \in \mathbb{T}$ . That implies  $\varphi_2$  is a finite Blaschke product of order  $G$ .

Furthermore, by the group structure of  $G$ ,  $\varphi_2(\rho_i(z)) = \varphi_2(z)$  for each  $\rho_i \in G$  if  $z$  is close enough to the boundary  $\mathbb{T}$ . Since  $\mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma'$  is a connected domain including  $\Omega$ , the equation still holds whenever  $z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \Gamma'$ . In other words, the family of local inverses of  $\varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$  is just,  $G$ , a subset in that of  $\phi^{-1} \circ \phi$ . Consequently,  $\phi(z_1) = \phi(z_2)$  if  $\varphi_2(z_1) = \varphi_2(z_2)$  and  $z_1, z_2$  are regular points of  $\varphi$ . Hence, if we define

$$\varphi_1(w) = \phi(z) \quad \text{for } w = \varphi_2(z),$$

then  $\varphi_1$  is well defined outside some finite set of points in  $\mathbb{D}$ . By a similar argument for  $\varphi_2$ , one sees that  $\varphi_1$  is also a finite Blaschke product, which satisfies  $\phi = \varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2$ , completing the proof of the lemma.

By the above proof, one sees that if  $\phi$  is reducible, then some of the local inverses can be analytically continued across some critical points of  $\phi$ . But it is not clear that this is a sufficient condition for  $\phi$  to be reducible.

Based on the above lemma, we explain the classification for a general Blaschke product of order four.

Let  $\phi$  be a Blaschke product of order 4. One of the following scenarios holds.

(i) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim z^4$ .

(ii) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{1, 3\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim \phi_a^2(z^2)$ , where  $\phi_a = \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z}$  is a Möbius transformation with  $a \neq 0$ .

(iii) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi$  is not reducible.

All possibilities above occur for some  $\phi$ , by computations due to Sun, Zheng and Zhong in [1].

We now classify, using purely arithmetical considerations, the possible structure for a finite Blaschke product of order eight.

**Theorem (1.2.19)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a Blaschke product of order 8. One of the following scenarios holds.

- (i) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}, \{7\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim z^8$ .
- (ii) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim \phi_a^2(z^4)$ , where  $\phi_a = \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z}$  is a Möbius transformation with  $a \neq 0$ .
- (iii) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim (z^2)$ , where  $\varphi$  is an irreducible Blaschke product of order 4.
- (iv) The partition of  $\phi$  is one of  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}$ ,  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{1, 3\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ ,  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$  or  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{1, 7\}, \{3, 5\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim \psi(\varphi_a^2(z^2))$ , where  $\psi$  is a Blaschke product of order 2 and  $\phi_a = \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z}$  is a Möbius transformation with  $a \neq 0$ .
- (v) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{2, 4, 6\}, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi \sim \psi \circ \varphi$ , where  $\psi$  is a Blaschke product of order 2 and  $\varphi$  is an irreducible Blaschke product of order 4.
- (vi) The partition of  $\phi$  is  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}\}$ ; equivalently,  $\phi$  is not reducible.

A similar approach would work for Blaschke products of arbitrary order. However, it seems difficult to decide whether a partition satisfying conditions  $(\alpha_0)$ ,  $(\alpha_1)$ ,  $(\alpha_2)$  and  $(\alpha_3)$  arises from a finite Blaschke product. For example, we cannot exhibit examples for each partition in case (4) in Theorem (1.2.19), although it is likely that they exist.

**Proof.** By condition  $(\alpha_0)$ ,  $\{0\}$  is a singleton in the partition for  $\phi$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $G_1 = \{0\}$ . We list all possibilities by the minimal number  $s = \min\{G_2, \dots, G_q\}$ , where  $G_k$  is the number of elements in  $G_k$ . Clearly  $s \neq 4, 5, 6$ .

**(I) Case  $s = 1$ .** Suppose without loss of generality that  $G_2$  is also a singleton.

**Subcase (A):** Suppose  $G_2$  consists of one of the primitive elements  $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  is generated by any element in  $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ , by conditions  $(\alpha_1)$  and  $(\alpha_2)$ , each  $G_k$  is a singleton. That is, the partition is just  $\{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}, \{7\}\}$ . By [27], one sees that this is equivalent to  $\phi \sim z^8$ .

**Subcase (B):** Suppose (A) does not hold and  $G_2$  consists of 2 or 6. By condition  $(\alpha_1)$ , the partition contains the singletons  $\{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}$ . We list all possible partitions as follows:

- (B1)**  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 5, 3, 7\}\}$ ;
- (B2)**  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 3\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ ;
- (B3)**  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$ ;
- (B4)**  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 7\}, \{3, 5\}\}$ .

Case (B2) is excluded by condition  $(\alpha_1)$ , since  $\{2\} + \{1, 3\} = \{3, 5\}$  is not a union of some  $G_k$  in (B2). One can get rid of (B4) in a similar way. The remaining cases, (B1) and (B3), satisfy  $(\alpha_0)$ ,  $(\alpha_1)$  and  $(\alpha_2)$ . But, by a direct computation they have the same dual partition  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$ . Using condition  $(\alpha_3)$ , we have that  $\{\{0\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$  is the unique choice. In this case, by Lemma (1.2.18), there exist a finite Blaschke product  $\varphi_1$  of order 4 and a finite Blaschke product  $\varphi_2$  of order 2 such that  $\phi = \varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1$ . Moreover, by the proof of Lemma (1.2.18), local inverses for  $\varphi_1$  are  $\rho_0, \rho_2, \rho_4, \rho_6$  in the family of local inverses of  $\phi$ . By [27], one sees that this condition is equivalent to  $\phi \sim z^4$ . This means that  $\phi \sim \psi(z^4)$  for some Blaschke product  $\psi$  of order 2. Observe that two local inverses for  $\psi$  are holomorphic on  $\mathbb{D}$ , since one of them,  $\rho_0(z) =$

$z$ , is holomorphic. By [27],  $\psi = \phi_b \circ z^2 \circ \phi_a$  for some Möbius transforms  $\phi_a, \phi_b$ . This implies that  $\phi \sim \phi_a^2(z^4)$ , and  $a \neq 0$ , since it would degenerate to subcase (A) if  $a = 0$ .

We now consider the most complicated case in which  $G_2 = \{4\}$  is the unique singleton other than  $G_1$ . We divide it into several distinct subcases looking again at the minimal number  $t = \min\{G_3, \dots, G_q\}$ . Clearly  $2 \leq t \leq 5$  and  $t \neq 4$ . So,  $t$  is 2, 3, or 5.

**Subcase (C):**  $G_1 = \{0\}, G_2 = \{4\}$  and  $t = 5$ .

The only possibility is the partition  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7\}\}$ . By Lemma (1.2.18) and the observation that  $\psi \sim z^2$  for each Blaschke product  $\psi$  of order 2, one sees that there exists a Blaschke product  $\phi$  of order 4 such that  $\phi \sim \varphi(z^2)$ . We prove that  $\phi$  is not reducible by contradiction. Otherwise,  $\phi \sim \varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2$ , where  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  are Blaschke products of order 2. This implies that  $\phi \sim \varphi_1 \circ B$  for a Blaschke product  $B$  of order 4, which leads to a contraction since by Lemma (1.2.18)  $B^{-1} \circ B$  forms a subgroup of order 4 in  $\phi - 1 \circ \phi$ , as desired.

**Subcase (D):**  $G_1 = \{0\}, G_2 = \{4\}$  and  $t = 3$ . Then the partition consists of  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4$  with  $G_3 = G_4 = 3$ . Considering condition  $(\alpha_2)$  and observing that 4 is the unique element other than 0 for which its inverse is itself, one sees that  $G_4^{-1} = G_3$ . The following partitions are all possible choices at this point:

- (D1)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{7, 6, 5\}\}$ ;
- (D2)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2, 5\}, \{7, 6, 3\}\}$ ;
- (D3)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 6, 3\}, \{7, 2, 5\}\}$ ;
- (D4)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 6, 5\}, \{7, 2, 3\}\}$ .

Case  $(D_1)$  is impossible by condition  $(\alpha_1)$ , since

$$\{1, 2, 3\} + \{7, 6, 5\} = \{0, 7, 6, 1, 0, 7, 2, 1, 0\}$$

is not a union of some subsets in  $(D_1)$ . One can prove similarly that  $(D_2), (D_3)$  and  $(D_4)$  don't satisfy condition  $(\alpha_1)$ .

**Subcase (E):**  $G_1 = \{0\}, G_2 = \{4\}$  and  $t = 2$ .

One possibility is that the partition consists of  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4$  with  $G_3 = 2$  and  $G_4 = 4$ . By condition  $(\alpha_2)$ , we have  $G_k^{-1} = G_k$  for each  $G_k$ . So, the only possibilities are:

- (E1)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 7\}, \{2, 3, 5, 6\}\}$ ;
- (E2)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}$ ;
- (E3)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{3, 5\}, \{1, 2, 6, 7\}\}$ .

One excludes case (E1) by

$$\{4\} + \{1, 7\} = \{5, 3\},$$

and case (E3) by

$$\{4\} + \{3, 5\} = \{7, 1\}.$$

Another possibility is that  $G_k = 2$  for any  $G_k$  in the partition other than  $G_1, G_2$ . There exist  $C_6^2 C_4^2 C_2^2 / A_3^3 = 15$  choices:

- (E4)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2\}, \{3, 5\}, \{6, 7\}\}$ ; (E5)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2\}, \{3, 6\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ ;
- (E6)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 2\}, \{3, 7\}, \{5, 6\}\}$ ; (E7)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 5\}, \{6, 7\}\}$ ;
- (E8)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 6\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ ; (E9)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 7\}, \{5, 6\}\}$ ;
- (E10)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 5\}, \{2, 3\}, \{6, 7\}\}$ ;
- (E11)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 5\}, \{2, 6\}, \{3, 7\}\}$ ;
- (E12)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 5\}, \{2, 7\}, \{5, 6\}\}$ ;
- (E13)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 6\}, \{2, 3\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ ;

(E14)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 6\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3, 7\}\}$ ;

(E15)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 6\}, \{2, 7\}, \{3, 5\}\}$ ;

(E16)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 7\}, \{2, 3\}, \{5, 6\}\}$ ;

(E17)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 7\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3, 6\}\}$ ;

(E18)  $\{\{0\}, \{4\}, \{1, 7\}, \{2, 6\}, \{3, 5\}\}$ .

One excludes most of them by the following observation: if  $\{a, b\}$  is included in one of the above partitions, then one of the equations  $a + b = 0, a + b = 4$  and  $a = 4 + b$  holds. Indeed, by condition  $(\alpha_1)$ ,

$$\{a, b\} + \{a, b\} = \{2a, a + b, a + b, 2b\}$$

is a union of some  $G_k$ 's. If  $\{a + b\}$  is a singleton, then  $a + b = 0$  or  $a + b = 4$ . Otherwise,  $a + b$  is including in some  $G_k$  satisfying  $G_k > 1$ . Noticing that each element of  $G_k$  is included in  $\{a, b\} + \{a, b\}$ , one sees that  $G_k \neq 3$ . It's easy to verify that  $G_k = 3$  since we assume that the singleton  $\{a + b\}$  is not in the partition. So,  $G_k = 2$  and

$$G_k = \{2a, a + b\} = \{a + b, 2b\}.$$

That is,  $2a = 2b$ . This means that  $a = 4 + b$ . Furthermore, noticing that both  $2a$  and  $a + b = 2a + 4$  are even in that case, one sees that  $G_k = \{2, 6\}$ .

By this observation, all the partitions other than (E8), (E11) and (E18) are excluded. By a direct computation, one sees that (E8), (E11) and (E18) satisfy the other conditions, too.

Moreover, the above argument shows that (E2), (E8), (E11) and (E18) are all the possible partitions that include the sets  $\{0\}, \{4\}, \{2, 6\}$ . By Lemma (1.2.18) and [1], there exist a Blaschke product  $\psi$  of order 2 and a Blaschke product  $\varphi$  of order 4, such that  $\phi = \psi \circ \varphi$  and  $\phi$  is included in case 2 in [1]. This implies that  $\phi$  has the desired decomposition.

We now turn to the cases  $s > 1$ . Firstly, by condition  $(\alpha_2)$ , 4 is not included in any  $G_k$  for which  $G_k$  is even. Otherwise, if  $4 \in G_k$ , then  $G_k^{-1} = G_k$  since 4 is the unique element other than 0 for which its inverse is itself. Therefore,

$$G_k = \{4, k_1, \dots, k_i, 8 - k_1, \dots, 8 - k_i\}$$

for some  $k_1, \dots, k_i$ . This contradicts the fact that  $G_k$  is even. So,  $4 \notin G_k$  if  $G_k$  is even.

Secondly, the argument used in analyzing subcase (E) is still valid. Hence, if  $\{a, b\}$  is in the partition, then  $a + b = 0$  or  $a = 4 + b$ . In the latter case,  $\{2, 6\}$  is in the partition. Moreover, since  $\{a, b\} + \{a, b\}$  is a union of some  $G_k$ 's satisfying  $G_k \leq 2$ , and 4 is not included in any such  $G_k$ , we have that  $4 \neq 2a, 2b, 2(a + b)$ . Therefore, neither 2 nor 6 can be included in any  $G_k$  when the partition satisfies  $s > 1$  and  $G_k = 2$ . It also implies that  $a + b = 0$  if  $\{a, b\}$  is in the partition.

**(II) Case  $s = 2$ .**

One possibility is that the partition consists of  $G_1, G_2, G_3$  satisfying  $G_2 = 2$  and  $G_3 = 5$ . By the above observation, the partition must be one of the following: (II1)  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 7\}, \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}\}$ ;

(II2)  $\{\{0\}, \{3, 5\}, \{1, 2, 4, 6, 7\}\}$ .

Obviously, none of them satisfies condition  $(\alpha_1)$ .

Another scenario is that the partition consists of  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4$  satisfying  $G_2 = G_3 = 2$  and  $G_4 = 3$ . By the above argument,  $G_4 = \{2, 4, 6\}$ . So, all the possibilities are listed below:

(II3)  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 3\}, \{5, 7\}, \{2, 4, 6\}\}$ ;

(II4)  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 5\}, \{3, 7\}, \{2, 4, 6\}\}$ ;

(II5)  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 7\}, \{3, 5\}, \{2, 4, 6\}\}$ .

None of them satisfies condition  $(\alpha_1)$ .

(III) Case  $s = 3$ .

In this case, the partition consists of  $G_1, G_2, G_3$  satisfying  $G_2 = 3$  and  $G_3 = 4$ . By the above argument and condition  $(\alpha_2)$ , one sees that  $G_2^{-1} = G_2, G_3^{-1} = G_3$  and  $4 \in G_2$ . So, the partition is one of the following:

(III1)  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 4, 7\}, \{2, 3, 5, 6\}\}$ ;

(III2)  $\{\{0\}, \{2, 4, 6\}, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}$ ;

(III3)  $\{\{0\}, \{3, 4, 5\}, \{1, 2, 6, 7\}\}$ .

Both (III1) and (III2) are excluded by condition  $(\alpha_1)$ , since  $\{1, 4, 7\} + \{1, 4, 7\}$  and  $\{3, 4, 5\} + \{3, 4, 5\}$  are not unions of some subsets in the partitions, respectively. For the final possibility  $\{\{0\}, \{2, 4, 6\}, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}$ , using an argument similar to the above, one sees that it is equivalent to the condition that  $\phi \sim \psi \circ \phi$ , where  $\psi$  is a Blaschke product of order 2 and  $\phi$  is a Blaschke product of order 4, and  $\phi$  is included in case 3 in [1].

(IV) Case  $s = 7$ .

The only choice is  $\{\{0\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}\}$ . By Lemma (1.2.18),  $\phi$  is not reducible in this case.

We conclude with the following corollary which follows after one summarizes all the possibilities listed above.

**Corollary (1.2.20)[23]:** Let  $\phi$  be a finite Blaschke product of order 8. Then  $M_\phi$  has exactly 2 nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces if and only if  $\phi$  is not reducible.

It is natural to ask if this result extends to the general case. One can obtain a similar result for order 6 by the above arithmetic way. But, the calculation for order 5 or 7 suggests that some counterexample may exist. A possible guess may be that the result holds whenever the order of  $\phi$  is not prime.

### Section (1.3): Toeplitz Operators on the Polydisk

For  $D$  denote the open unit disk in the complex plane. For  $-1 < \alpha < +\infty$ ,  $L^2(D, dA_\alpha)$  is the space of functions on  $D$  which are square integrable with respect to the measure  $dA_\alpha(z) = (\alpha + 1)(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha dA(z)$ , where  $dA$  denotes the normalized Lebesgue area measure on  $D$ .  $L^2(D, dA_\alpha)$  is a Hilbert space with the inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle_\alpha = \int_D f(z)\overline{g(z)}dA_\alpha$ . The weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2$  is the closed subspace of  $L^2(D, dA_\alpha)$  consisting of analytic functions on  $D$ . If  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $A_0^2$  is the Bergman space. We write  $A^2 = A_0^2$ .

It is known that  $\{\frac{z^n}{\|z^n\|_\alpha}\}_{n=0}^{+\infty}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $A_\alpha^2(D)$ . Let  $\gamma_n = \|z^n\|_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{n!\Gamma(2+\alpha)}{\Gamma(2+\alpha+n)}}$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Therefore,

$$\|f\|_\alpha^2 = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \gamma_n^2 |a_n|^2 < \infty$$

with  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} a_n z^n \in A_\alpha^2(D)$ . Denote the unit polydisk by  $D^n$ . The weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(D^n)$  is then the space of all holomorphic functions on  $L^2(D^n, dv_\alpha)$ , where  $dv_\alpha(z) = dA_\alpha(z_1) \dots dA_\alpha(z_n)$ . For multi-index  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n), \beta \geq 0$  means that  $\beta_i \geq 0$  for any  $i \geq 1$ . Denote by  $z_1^{\beta_1} z_2^{\beta_2} \dots z_n^{\beta_n}$  and

$$e_\beta = \frac{z^\beta}{\gamma_{\beta_1} \dots \gamma_{\beta_n}},$$

then  $\{e_\beta\}_\beta$  is an orthogonal basis in  $A_\alpha^2(D^n)$ . Let  $P$  be the Bergman orthogonal projection from  $L^2(D^n)$  onto  $A_\alpha^2(D^n)$ .

For a bounded measurable function  $f \in L^\infty(D^n)$ , the Toeplitz operator with symbol  $f$  is defined by  $T_f h = P(fh)$  for every  $h \in A_\alpha^2(D^n)$ .

Recall that in a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , a (closed) subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  is called a reducing subspace of the operator  $T$  if  $T(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  and  $T^*(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ . A nontrivial reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be minimal if the only reducing subspaces contained in  $\mathcal{M}$  are  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\{0\}$ . On the Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$ , the reducing subspaces of the Toeplitz operators with finite Blaschke product symbols are well studied (see [28], [10], [22] for example). On  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$ , Y. Lu and X. Zhou [37] characterized the reducing subspaces of Toeplitz operators  $T_{z_1^N z_2^N}, T_{z_1^N}$

We consider the reducing subspaces of the Toeplitz operators  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  and  $T_{z_i^N z_j^M}$  on  $A_\alpha^2(D^n)$ , where  $N, M \geq 1$  are integers and

$1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ . Usually, the Toeplitz operators on the unweighted Bergman space and the weighted Bergman space have similar properties (see [38], [39], [40], [41] for example). However, we obtain that the minimal reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  with  $N \neq M$  on  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  ( $\alpha \neq 0$ ) are less than that on  $A^2(D^2)$  (see Theorem (1.3.4) and Theorem (1.3.6)).

Let  $M, N$  be integers with  $M, N \geq 1$  and  $M \neq N$ . We consider the minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on  $A^2(D^2)$ . Here  $\gamma_k = \left\| \frac{z^k}{k+1} \right\|_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{k+1}}$ . Let  $\rho_1(k) = \frac{(k+1)N}{M} - 1$ ,  $\rho_2(k) = \frac{(k+1)M}{N} - 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}_{nm} = \text{Span}\{z_1^n, z_2^m, z_1^{\rho_1(m)}, z_2^{\rho_2(n)}\}$  and  $P_{nm}$  be the orthogonal projection from  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_{nm}$ .

**Lemma (1.3.1)[35]:** Let  $n, m, h$  be nonnegative integers. Then the following statements hold:

- (a) if  $\rho_1(m)$  is an integer, then  $\rho_1(m + hM) = \rho_1(m) + hN$  is an integer for every  $h \geq 0$ ;
- (b) if  $\rho_2(n)$  is an integer, then  $\rho_2(n + hN) = \rho_2(n) + hM$  is an integer for every  $h \geq 0$ ;
- (c) if  $\rho_1(m)$  and  $\rho_2(n)$  are positive integers, then  $\gamma_{\rho_1(m)} \gamma_{\rho_2(n)} = \gamma_m \gamma_n$ ;
- (d)  $\rho_1(\rho_2(n)) = n$  and  $\rho_2(\rho_1(m)) = m$

**Proof.** Notice that if  $\rho_1(m)$  and  $\rho_2(n)$  are positive integers, then  $\gamma_{\rho_1(m)} = \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}} \gamma_m$  and

$$\gamma_{\rho_2(n)} = \sqrt{\frac{N}{M}} \gamma_n.$$

So (c) holds. By the direct calculation, (a), (b) and (d) are obvious.

**Theorem (1.3.2)[35]:** Let  $n, m$  be integers such that  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$ , and both of  $\rho_1(m)$  and  $\rho_2(n)$  are integers. Then for  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{M} = \text{Span}\{a z_1^{n+hN} z_2^{m+hM} + b z_1^{\rho_1(m+hM)} z_2^{\rho_2(n+hN)}; h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on the polydisk.

**Proof.** By Lemma (1.3.1)(a) and (b), it is easy to check that  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ .

On the other hand,

$$T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^*(z_1^k z_2^l) = \sum_{\beta \geq 0} \langle T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^* z_1^N z_2^l, e^\beta \rangle e^\beta = \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_l^2}{\gamma_{k-N}^2 \gamma_{l-M}^2} z_1^{k-N} z_2^{l-M}, & \text{if } k \geq N, l \geq M \\ 0, & \text{if others} \end{cases}$$

For each  $h \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^* (z_1^{n+hN} z_2^{m+hM}) \\ &= \frac{\gamma_{n+hN}^2 \gamma_{m+hM}^2}{\gamma_{n+(h-1)N}^2 \gamma_{m+(h-1)M}^2} z_1^{n+(h-1)N} z_2^{m+(h-1)M} \\ & T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^* (z_1^{\rho_1(m+hM)} z_2^{\rho_2(n+hN)}) \\ &= \mu (a z_1^{n+hN-N} z_2^{m+hM-M} + b z_1^{\rho_1(m+hM-M)} z_2^{\rho_2(n+hN-N)}) \in \mathcal{M} \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\mu = \frac{\gamma_{n+hN}^2 \gamma_m^2 + hM}{\gamma_{n+(h-1)N}^2 \gamma_{m+(h-1)M}^2} = \frac{\gamma_{\rho_1(m+hM)}^2 \gamma_{\rho_2(n+hN)}^2}{\gamma_{\rho_1(m+hM)-N}^2 \gamma_{\rho_2(n+hN)-M}^2}$$

Since  $0 \leq n \leq N-1$  (or  $0 \leq m \leq M-1$ ), we get  $\rho_2(n) < M$  (or  $\rho_1(m) < N$ , respectively). Therefore,  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^* (a z_1^N z_2^M + b z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)}) = 0 \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^* (\mathcal{M}) \in \mathcal{M}\mathcal{M}$ . So, which finishes the proof.

**Lemma (1.3.3)[35]:** Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \neq 0$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  in  $A^2(D^2)$ . Let  $f = \sum_{(k,l) \geq 0} a_{k,l} z_1^k z_2^l \in \mathcal{M}$ . For each nonnegative integers  $n, m$  with  $a_{nm} \neq 0$ , the following statements hold:

(I) if  $\rho_1(m), \rho_2(n)$  are integers and  $a_{\rho_1(m)\rho_2(n)} \neq 0$  then

$$a_{nm} z_1^n z_2^m + a_{\rho_1(m)\rho_2(n)} z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \in \mathcal{M}$$

(II) if at least one of  $\rho_1(m), \rho_2(n)$  is not an integer, or  $a_{\rho_1(m)\rho_2(n)} = 0$ ,

**Proof.** For every integer  $h \geq 0$ , denote by  $T_h = T_{z_1^{hN} z_2^{hM}}$ . Notice that

$$T_h^* T_h (z_1^n z_2^m) = \frac{\gamma_{hN}^2 + n\gamma_{hM}^2 + m}{\gamma_n^2 \gamma_m^2} z_1^n z_2^m \in \mathcal{M}, \forall n, m \geq 0 \quad (40)$$

Let  $P_M$  be the orthogonal projection from  $A_\alpha^2(D)$  onto  $M$ , then for nonnegative integers  $m, n, k, l$ ,

$$\langle P_M T_h^* T_h z_1^n z_2^m, z_1^k z_2^l \rangle = \langle T_h^* T_h P_M z_1^n z_2^m, z_1^k z_2^l \rangle = \langle P_M z_1^n z_2^m, T_h^* T_h z_1^k z_2^l \rangle$$

thus  $\frac{\gamma_{hN+k}^2 \gamma_{hM+l}^2}{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_l^2} = \frac{\gamma_{hN+n}^2 \gamma_{hM+m}^2}{\gamma_n^2 \gamma_m^2}$ . Equivalently,

$$\frac{(k+1)(l+1)}{(n+1)(m+1)} = \frac{(k+hN+1)(l+hM+1)}{(n+hN+1)(m+hM+1)}, h \geq 0 \quad (41)$$

We claim that  $(k, l) = (n, m)$  or  $(k, l) = (\rho_1(m), \rho_2(n))$ . In fact, let  $h \geq +\infty$ , then

$$(k+1)(l+1) = (n+1)(m+1). \quad (42)$$

It follows that  $(k+hN+1)(l+hM+1) = (n+hN+1)(m+hM+1)$ . Since  $g(\lambda) = (k+\lambda N+1)(l+\lambda M+1) - (n+\lambda M+1)$  is an analytic polynormal on  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $g(\lambda) = 0$  for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . The coefficient of  $\lambda$  must be zero.

We get

$$M(n-k) = N(l-m) \quad (43)$$

This together with (42) implies the claim.

Therefore,  $P_M(z_1^n z_2^m) \in \mathcal{H}_{nm}$ . Hence,

$$P_{nm} P_M(z_1^n z_2^m) = P_M(z_1^n z_2^m)$$

Since  $P_M f$  for every  $f \in M$ , we arrive to

$$\langle P_M P_{nm} f, z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \rangle = \langle P_{nm} f, z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \rangle$$

Moreover,  $\langle P_M P_{nm} f, z_1^k z_2^l \rangle = \langle P_{nm} f, z_1^k z_2^l \rangle = \langle P_{nm} f, P_M P_{nm}(f) \rangle \in M$ . So we get the result.

**Theorem (1.3.4)[35]:** Suppose  $M \neq \{0\}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  in the Bergman space  $A^2(D^2)$ . Then there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$  and nonnegative integers  $m, n$  with  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$ , such that  $M$  contains a reducing subspace as follows

$$M_{n,m,a,b} = \text{Span} \left\{ a z_1^{hN+n} z_2^{hM+m} + b z_1^{\rho_1(m+hN)} z_2^{\rho_2(n+hM)} : h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \right\},$$

where  $\rho_1(m+hN) = \frac{(m+hN+1)M}{N} - 1$  and  $\rho_2(n+hM) = \frac{(n+hM+1)N}{M} - 1$ . In particular, if  $\rho_1(m)$  (or  $\rho_2(n)$ ) is not a positive integer, then  $b = 0$ . Moreover,  $M$  is minimal if and only if  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b}$ .

**Proof.** (I) If  $\mathcal{M} \neq 0$ , there exist nonzero function  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $k, l$ , such that  $P_{kl} f \neq 0$ . Lemma (1.3.3) implies that

$$g_{kl} = P_{kl} f = a z_1^k z_2^l + b z_1^{\rho_1(l)} z_2^{\rho_2(k)} \in \mathcal{M}$$

Observe that there is a positive integer  $h_0$  such that  $a z_1^n z_2^m + b z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} = (T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^*)^{h_0} (g_{kl}) \neq 0$ ,  $(T_{z_1^N z_2^M}^*)^{h_0+1} (g_{kl}) = 0$

where  $n = k - h_0 N$ ,  $m = l - h_0 M$ .

Clearly,  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$ . So Theorem (1.3.2) shows that

$$a z_1^n z_2^m + b z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \in M_{n,m,a,b} \subseteq M$$

(II) Suppose  $\mathcal{M}$  is minimal. As in (I), there is a nonzero function  $a z_1^n z_2^m + b z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \in M$ , then . Then the following statements hold:

(a) if  $z_1^n z_2^m \in \mathcal{M}$  then  $\mathcal{M} = \text{span}\{z_1^{n+hN} z_2^{m+hM}, h \geq 0\}$ ;

(b) if  $\rho_1(m), \rho_2(n)$  are integers, and  $z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \in \mathcal{M}$ , then

$$\mathcal{M} = \text{span}\{z_1^{\rho_1(m)+hN} z_2^{\rho_2(n)+hM}, h \geq 0\};$$

(c) if none of  $z_1^n z_2^m$  and  $z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)}$  is in  $\mathcal{M}$ , then  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b}$  with  $ab \neq 0$ .

So we finish the proof.

Let  $-1 < \alpha < +\infty$  with  $\alpha \neq 0$ . We consider the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^N}$  on the weighted Bergman Space  $A_\alpha^2(D)$ .

Here  $\gamma_n = \| |z^n| \|_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{n! \Gamma(2+\alpha)}{\Gamma(2+\alpha+n)}}$  We begin with a useful lemma.

**Lemma (1.3.5)[35]:** Let  $M, N, n, m, k, l$  be nonnegative integers with  $1 > m, n > k$  and  $M, N \geq 1$ . If

$$\gamma_{hN+k}^2 \gamma_{hM+l}^2 = \gamma_{hN+n}^2 \gamma_{hM+m}^2, h \geq 0 \quad (44)$$

then  $N = M$ ,  $l = n$  and  $m = k$ .

**Proof.** First, note that the equality (44) holds if and only if for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  the following equality holds:

$$\prod_{j=1}^{n-k} (\lambda N + j + k) \prod_{j=1}^{l-m} (\lambda M + 2 + \alpha + l - j)$$



$$\prod_{j=1}^{n-k} (\lambda N + 2 + \alpha + n - j) \prod_{j=1}^{l-m} (\lambda M + j + m) \quad (45)$$

By computing the coefficient of  $\lambda^{n-k+l-m-1}$  in the equality (45), we obtain

$$M \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} (j+k) + N \sum_{j=1}^{l-m} (2 + \alpha + l - j) = M \sum_{j=1}^{n-k} (2 + \alpha + n - j) + N \sum_{j=1}^{l-m} (j+m)$$

It follows that  $M(n-k) = N(l-m)$ .

Second, we prove that if  $\alpha$  is not an integer, then the following statements hold:

$$(m+1)N = (k+1)M \text{ and } (l+1+\alpha)N = (n+1+\alpha)M. \quad (46)$$

(a) Let  $\lambda_1 = \frac{k+1}{N}$ . Then  $\lambda_1 N + k + 1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_1 N + 2 + \alpha + n - j \neq 0$  for any  $1 \leq j \leq n-k$ , because  $\lambda_1 M + 2 + \alpha + n - j$  is not an integer. Therefore, the equality (45) implies that  $\prod_{j=1}^{l-m} (\lambda_1 M + j + m) = 0$ . That is, there exists  $1 \leq h_1 \leq l-m$  such that  $\lambda_1 M + m + h_1 = 0$ . So,  $h_1 = \frac{k+1}{N} M - m \geq 1$  follows that  $(m+1)N \leq (k+1)M$ .

(b) Let  $\lambda_2 = -\frac{m+1}{M}$ . Then  $\lambda_2 M + m + 1 = 0$ . Similarly, we can get an integer  $h_2$  such that  $1 \leq h_2 \leq l-m$  and  $\lambda_2 N + k + h_2 = 0$ , which implies that  $h_2 = \frac{m+1}{M} N - k \geq 1$ . Thus  $(m+1)N \geq (k+1)M$ .

Comparing (a) with (b), we arrive at  $(m+1)N \geq (k+1)M$ .

(c) Let  $\mu_1 = -\frac{n+1+\alpha}{M}$ . Then  $\mu_1 M + l + 1 + \alpha = 0$ ,  $\mu_1 N + k + j \neq 0$  for any  $1 \leq j \leq n-k$ . Therefore,  $\prod_{j=1}^{l-m} (\mu_1 M + 2 + \alpha + l - j) = 0$ . That is, there exists  $1 \leq h_3 \leq l-m$  such that  $\mu_1 M + 2 + \alpha + l - h_3 = 0$ . So,  $h_3 = -\frac{l+1+\alpha}{M} M + (2 + \alpha + l) \geq 1$ , i.e.,  $(l+1+\alpha)N \geq (n+1+\alpha)M$ .

(d) Let  $\mu_2 = -\frac{l+1+\alpha}{M}$ . Then  $\mu_2 M + l + 1 + \alpha = 0$ . As in (c), there exists  $1 \leq h_4 \leq n-k$  such that  $\mu_2 N + \alpha + 2 + n - h_4 = 0$ . So,  $1 \leq h_4 = -\frac{l+1+\alpha}{M} N + (2 + \alpha + n) \leq n-k$  and  $(l+1+\alpha)N \leq (n+1+\alpha)M$ .

Comparing (c) with (d), we arrive at  $(l+1+\alpha)N = (n+1+\alpha)M$ .

Third, we prove that if  $\alpha$  is an positive integer, then (46) holds. In fact, if  $1 + \alpha \geq 2$  is an integer, then (45) can be simplified into

$$\begin{aligned} & \prod_{j=1}^{k_1} (\lambda N + j + k) \prod_{j=1}^{m_1} (\lambda M + 2 + \alpha + l - j) \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^{k_1} (\lambda N + 2 + \alpha + n - j) \prod_{j=1}^{m_1} (\lambda M + j + m), \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \end{aligned}$$

where  $2 \leq k_1 \leq n-k$ ,  $2 \leq m_1 \leq l-m$ ,  $2 + \alpha + n - k_1 > k_1 + k$  and  $2 + \alpha + l - m_1 > m_1 + m$ . By the same technique as in second part of the proof, we can get the equalities in (46).

Finally, combining the equalities (46) with  $M(n-k) = N(l-m)$ , it is easy to get  $\alpha N = \alpha M$ . Since  $\alpha \neq 0$ , we have  $N = M, l = n, k = m$ .

**Theorem (1.3.6)[35]:** Let  $\alpha \neq 0, M, N \geq 1$  with  $M \neq N$ . Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \neq \{0\}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1 z_2}^N$  in the weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  then there exist nonnegative integers  $n, m$  with  $0 \leq n \leq N-1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M-1$  such that

$$\mathcal{M}_{nm} = \text{span}\{z_1^{hN+n} z_2^{hM+m} : h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$$

In particular,  $\mathcal{M}$  is minimal if and only if there exist  $n, m$  as in assumption such that  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{nm}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \neq \{0\}$  is a reducing subspace. As in the proof of Lemma (1.3.3), there exist integers  $n, m$  such that  $P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^n z_2^m) \neq 0$  and

$$\frac{\gamma_{hN+k}^2 \gamma_{hM+l}^2}{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_l^2} = \frac{\gamma_{hN+n}^2 \gamma_{hM+m}^2}{\gamma_n^2 \gamma_m^2}, \forall h \geq 0$$

whenever  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^n z_2^m), z_1^k z_2^l \rangle \neq 0$ . Considering that  $\{\gamma_j\}_{j=0}^{+\infty}$  is strictly decreasing  $\frac{\gamma_{hN+k}^2 \gamma_{hM+l}^2}{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_l^2} \rightarrow 1$  as  $h \rightarrow +\infty$  [36], we obtain that  $\gamma_k^2 \gamma_l^2 = \gamma_n^2 \gamma_m^2$  and  $\gamma_{hN+n}^2 \gamma_{hM+m}^2 = \gamma_n^2 \gamma_m^2$ ,  $h \geq 0$ .

This means that one of the following statements holds:

- (i)  $l = m, n = k$ ;
- (ii)  $n > m$  and  $n > k$ ;
- (iii)  $l < m$  and  $n < k$ .

Since  $N \neq M$ , Lemma (1.3.5) implies that (ii) does not hold. By the same technique, (iii) does not hold. So, (i) holds, that is, there exists  $c_{nm} \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^n z_2^m) = c_{nm} z_1^n z_2^m$ . For  $f = \sum_{(k,l) \geq 0} a_{kl} z_1^k z_2^l \in \mathcal{M}$ , we claim that if  $a_{nm} \neq 0$ , then  $c_{nm} \neq 0$ . In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{nm} f &= Q_{nm} P_{\mathcal{M}}(f) = Q_{nm} \left( \sum_{(k,l) \geq 0} P_{\mathcal{M}}(a_{kl} z_1^k z_2^l) \right) \\ &= c_{nm} a_{nm} z_1^n z_2^m = c_{nm} Q_{nm} f \end{aligned}$$

where  $Q_{nm}$  is the orthogonal projection from  $A_{\alpha}^2(D^2)$  onto  $\text{Span}\{z_1^n z_2^m\}$ .

Therefore,  $c_{nm} = 1 \neq 0$ .

Hence  $z_1^n z_2^m \in \mathcal{M}$ . Choose an integer  $h_0$  such that  $0 \leq n - h_0 N \leq N - 1$ ,  $m - h_0 M \geq 0$  or  $0 \leq m - h_0 M \leq M - 1$ ,  $n - h_0 N \geq 0$ . As in the proof of Theorem (1.3.4),  $\text{Span}\{z_1^{n+(h-h_0)N} z_2^{m+(h-h_0)M} : h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  is a minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$ . The proof is complete.

**Theorem (1.3.7)[35]:** Let  $N, M \geq 1$  and  $N \neq M$ . Every nonzero reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  in  $A_{\alpha}^2(D^2)$  for every  $\alpha > -1$  is a direct (orthogonal) sum of some minimal reducing subspaces.

**Proof.** We prove the theorem in two cases.

**Case one:**  $\alpha \neq 0$ . Let us denote

$$\mathcal{M}_{nm} = \text{Span}\{z_1^{hN+n} z_2^{hM+m} : h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

where  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$ . By Lemma (1.3.5), we have  $\mathcal{M}_{nm} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  if and only if there exist some  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $\langle f, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle \neq 0$ . Let  $E_1 = \{(n, m) : n \leq N - 1 \text{ or } 0 \leq m \leq M - 1, \langle f, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle \neq 0 \text{ for some } f \in \mathcal{M}\} \subseteq \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M} = \bigoplus_{(n,m) \in E_1} \mathcal{M}_{nm}$ .

**Case two:**  $\alpha = 0$ . For  $n, m \geq 0$ , there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\mathcal{M}$  contains the minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^n z_2^m}$  defined by  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b} = \text{span}\{a z_1^{hN+n} z_2^{hM+m} + b z_1^{\rho_1(m+hN)} z_2^{\rho_2(n+hM)} : h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

In fact,

- (i) If  $z_1^n z_2^m \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,1,0} = \mathcal{M}_{nm}$
- (ii) If  $z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)} \in \mathcal{M}$  then  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,0,1} = \mathcal{M}_{\rho_1(m)\rho_2(n)}$ .
- (iii) If neither  $z_1^n z_2^m$  nor  $z_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)}$  are in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and there exists  $f \in \mathcal{M}$

such that  $P_{nm}f \neq 0$ , then Theorem (1.3.4) implies that  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  is a minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  where  $P_{nm}f = az_1^n z_2^m + bz_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)}$ . It follows that  $P_{nm}g = \lambda (az_1^n z_2^m + bz_1^{\rho_1(m)} z_2^{\rho_2(n)})$  forevery  $g \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $P_{nm}g \neq 0$ .

(iv) If  $P_{nm}f = 0$  for any  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  if and only if  $a = 0, b = 0$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,0,0} = \{0\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}' = \mathcal{M} \ominus \mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}'$  is a reducing subspace. Continuing this process, sin  $A^2(D^2) = \bigoplus_{n,m \geq 0} z_1^n z_2^m$ , it is not different to prove that  $\mathcal{M}$  is the direct (orthogonal) sum of some minimal reducing subspaces as  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m,a,b}$ .

In [22], Kehe Zhu shows that a reducing subspace of  $T_{z^N}$  on  $A^2(D)$  is the direct (orthogonal) sum of at most  $N$  minimal reducing subspaces. However, the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on  $A^2(D^2)$  may be the direct (orthogonal) sum of infinity numbers of minimal reducing subspaces. For example,  $\mathcal{M} = \text{Span}\{z_1^{1+2h} f(z_2); f \in A_\alpha^2(D), h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^2 z_2^3}$  and  $\mathcal{M} = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{+\infty} \mathcal{M}_n$ , where  $\mathcal{M}_n = \text{Span}\{z_1^{1+2h} z_2^{n+3h}; h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

We consider the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_i^N z_j^M}$  ( $N, M \geq 1, N \neq M, i \neq j$ ) in the weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  with  $N \neq M$ .

**Theorem (1.3.8)[35]:** Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \neq \{0\}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T_{z_i^N z_j^M}$  ( $N, M \geq 1, N \neq M, i \neq j$ ) in weighted Bergman space.

Then the following statements hold:

(a) if  $\alpha = 0$ , then there exist functions  $g_1, g_2 \in A_\alpha^2(D^{n-2})$  and integers  $l, m$  with  $0 \leq l \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$ , such that  $\mathcal{M}$  contains the reducing subspace

$$\mathcal{M}' = \text{Span}\left\{\left(g_1(z')z_1^{hN+l}z_2^{hM+m} + g_2(z')z_1^{\rho_1(l+hN)}z_2^{\rho_2(m+hM)}\right); h \geq 0\right\};$$

(b) if  $\alpha \neq 0$ , then there exist a function  $g \in A_\alpha^2(D^{n-2})$  and integers  $l, m$  with  $0 \leq l \leq N - 1$  or  $0 \leq m \leq M - 1$  such that  $\mathcal{M}$  contains the reducing subspace

$$\mathcal{M}_{lm}g = \text{span}\{z_i^{hN+l}z_j^{hM+m}g(z'); h = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$$

where  $z' = (z_1, \dots, z_{i-1}, z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_{j+1}, \dots, z_n)$ .

Moreover,  $\mathcal{M}'$  is the only minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_i^N z_j^M}$  on  $A^2(D^2)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{lm}g$  is the only minimal reducing subspace of  $T_{z_i^N z_j^M}$  on  $A_\alpha^2$  with  $\alpha \neq 0$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, let  $i = 1$  and  $j = 2$ . Denote by  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  the orthogonal projection from  $A_\alpha^2(D^2)$  onto  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $z^k = z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} \dots z_n^{k_n}$  with  $P_{\mathcal{M}}(z^k) \neq 0$ . Let  $T_h = T_{z_1^{hN} z_2^{hM}}$ . Then  $\langle T_h^* T_h P_{\mathcal{M}} z^k, z^L \rangle = \langle P_{\mathcal{M}} T_h^* T_h z^K, z^L \rangle$  for any  $z^L = z_1^{l_1} z_2^{l_2} \dots z_n^{l_n}$ . Observe that

$$\langle P_{\mathcal{M}} z^K, T_h^* T_h z^L \rangle = \frac{\gamma_{hN+l_1}^2 \gamma_{hM+l_2}^2}{\gamma_{l_1}^2 \gamma_{l_2}^2} \langle P_{\mathcal{M}} z^K, z^L \rangle$$

and

$$\langle T_h^* T_h z^K, P_{\mathcal{M}} z^L \rangle = \frac{\gamma_{hN+l_1}^2 \gamma_{hM+k_2}^2}{\gamma_{k_1}^2 \gamma_{k_2}^2} \langle z^K, P_{\mathcal{M}} z^L \rangle$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\gamma_{hN+k_1}^2 \gamma_{hM+k_2}^2}{\gamma_{k_1}^2 \gamma_{k_2}^2} = \frac{\gamma_{hN+l_1}^2 \gamma_{hM+l_2}^2}{\gamma_{l_1}^2 \gamma_{l_2}^2}, \forall h \geq 0$$

Whenever  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}} z^K, z^L \rangle \neq 0$ .

If  $\alpha = 0$ , then as in Lemma (1.3.3) we have  $(l_1, l_2) = (k_1, k_2)$  or  $(l_1, l_2) = (\rho_1(k_2), \rho_2(k_1))$  where  $\rho_1(k_2), \rho_2(k_1)$  are integers. Thus  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^{\rho_1(k_2)} z_2^{\rho_2(k_1)} z'^{k'}$  and  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z^k$  are in  $z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} A^2(D^{n-2}) + z_1^{\rho_1(k_2)} z_2^{\rho_2(k_1)} A^2(D^{n-2})$ , where  $z' = (z_3, \dots, z_n)$ , and  $K' = (k_3, \dots, k_n)$ . Let  $P_{k_1 k_2}$  be the orthogonal projection from  $A^2(D^n)$  onto

$$\text{span} \left\{ z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} A^2(D^{n-2}) + z_1^{\rho_1(k_2)} z_2^{\rho_2(k_1)} A^2(D^{n-2}); h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \right\}.$$

Then  $P_{k_1 k_2} P_{\mathcal{M}} z^K = P_{\mathcal{M}} P_{k_1 k_2} z^K$ . For each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $f \neq 0$ , there are integers  $l, m \geq 0$  such that  $P_{lm} f \neq 0$ . By the similar technique, we can proof that  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}} P_{ml} f, z^K \rangle = \langle P_{ml} f, z^K \rangle$  for any  $K \geq 0$ , i.e.,  $P_{\mathcal{M}} P_{ml} f = P_{ml} f$ . So, there exist  $f_1(z')$  and  $g_2(z') \in A^2(D^{n-2})$  such that  $P_{ml} f = g_1(z') z_1^m z_2^l + g_2(z') z_1^{\rho_1(l)} z_2^{\rho_2(m)} \in \mathcal{M}$ , which implies that (a) holds.

If  $\alpha \neq 0$ , then we arrive at  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z^K \in z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} A_{\alpha}^2(D^{n-2})$ . Denote by  $P'_{k_1 k_2}$  the orthogonal projection from  $A_{\alpha}^2(D^n)$  onto

$$\text{Span} \{ z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} A^2(D^{n-2}); h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \}$$

Then  $P'_{k_1 k_2} (f) = P'_{k_1 k_2} P_{\mathcal{M}} (f) = P_{\mathcal{M}} P'_{k_1 k_2} (f) \in \mathcal{M}$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Hence (b) holds. The rest of the proof is obvious.

## Chapter 2

### Bergman and Generalized Weighted Fock Spaces

We obtain similar results for Hankel products  $H_f H_g^*$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are square integrable on the unit disk, and for the mixed Haplitz products  $H_f T_g$  and  $T_g H_f^*$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are square integrable on the unit disk and  $g$  is analytic. For a large class of measures, we find that these quantities satisfy asymptotic relations similar to the simple exact relations which hold in the model case  $m(t) = e^{-t}$ . We show that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is compact if and only if  $f$  is a polynomial of degree strictly smaller than  $\frac{m}{2}$ . We also establish that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p$  if and only if  $p > 2n$  and  $f$  is a polynomial of degree strictly smaller than  $m \frac{(p-2n)}{2p}$ .

#### Section (2.1): Products of Hankel and Toeplitz Operators

For  $dA$  denote Lebesgue area measure on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ , normalized so that the measure of  $\mathbb{D}$  equals 1. The Bergman space  $L_a^2$  is the Hilbert space consisting of the analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  that are also in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . For  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_f$  and the Hankel operator  $H_f$  with symbol  $f$  are defined densely on the Bergman space  $L_a^2$  by  $T_f(h) = P(fh)$  and  $H_f(h) = (1 - P)(fh)$  for all polynomials  $h$ , where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  onto  $L_a^2$ .

The techniques required to solve problems in the Bergman space setting may be very different from those that work in the Hardy space setting.

Often one sees similarities in the theorems, but not the proofs (although in both cases the proofs usually feature an interplay between function theory and operator theory).

On the Hardy space  $H^2$ , bounded Toeplitz operators arise only from bounded symbols. In [53] Sarason posed the problem for which  $f$  and  $g$  in  $H^2$  the densely defined operator  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $H^2$ . Sarason [53] conjectured that a necessary condition obtained by S. Treil is also sufficient for boundedness of such Toeplitz products. Cruz-Uribe [48] characterized the outer functions  $f$  and  $g$  for which the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded and invertible on  $H^2$ , providing support for Sarason's conjecture. [59] obtained a partial answer to Sarason's problem by showing that a condition slightly stronger than the one in Sarason's conjecture is sufficient for boundedness of these Toeplitz products on the Hardy space.

On the Bergman space, there are unbounded symbols that induce bounded Toeplitz operators. A Toeplitz operator with analytic symbol is, however, bounded if and only if its symbol is bounded on the unit disk.

Sarason [53] also asked for which analytic functions  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L_a^2$  the densely defined product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $L_a^2$ . We will obtain a partial answer to this question and prove results analogous to those obtained by [59] for such Toeplitz products on the Hardy space.

On the Bergman space, Luecking [51] has obtained complete characterizations of compactness and boundedness of Hankel operators with symbol in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Little is known concerning the products  $H_f^* H_g$  or  $H_f H_g^*$  for  $f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Even on the Hardy space, problems concerning the products of Toeplitz operators or Hankel operators are much harder than those dealing with a single operator; see [44], [46], [52], [53], [57] and [59]. Many interesting questions concerning products of Toeplitz operators or Hankel operators either on the Hardy space or the Bergman space still remain open. Using the beautiful theory of Hoffman [50] describing the maximal ideal space of  $H^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , [58] proved that if  $f$  and  $g$

are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ , then  $T_{\bar{f}}T_g - T_{\bar{g}}f$  is compact if and only if  $(1 - |z|^2) \min\{|\partial f/\partial \bar{z}|, |\partial g/\partial \bar{z}|\} \rightarrow 0$ , as  $|z| \rightarrow 1^-$ , which is analogous to the results on the Hardy space ([44], [57]). For symbols  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , the problems on the product are subtle. In addition to boundedness results for the Toeplitz products discussed in the previous paragraph, we obtain similar results for Hankel products  $H_f H_g^*$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , and for the mixed Haplitz products  $H_f T_g$  and  $T_g H_f^*$ , where  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $g \in L_a^2$ .

The Bergman space  $L_a^2$  has reproducing kernels  $K_w$  given by

$$K_w(z) = \frac{1}{(1 - \bar{w}z)^2},$$

for  $z, w \in \mathbb{D}$ : for every  $h \in L_a^2$  we have  $(h, K_w) = h(w)$ , for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . In particular, we have the following formula for the projection  $P$ :

$$Pu(w) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{u(z)}{(1 - \bar{w}z)^2} dA(z),$$

for  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

We will first discuss how the various Haplitz products are to be defined.

First we consider Toeplitz products. If  $g$  is a bounded analytic function on  $\mathbb{D}$ , then

$$(T_{\bar{g}} h)(w) = \langle T_{\bar{g}} h, K_w \rangle = \langle h, g K_w \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{\overline{g(z)} h(z)}{(1 - w\bar{z})^2} dA(z),$$

for all  $h \in L_a^2$  and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . If  $g \in L_a^2$  and  $h \in L_a^2$ , we define  $T_{\bar{g}} h$  by the latter integral:

$$(T_{\bar{g}} h)(w) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{g(z) h(z)}{(1 - w\bar{z})^2} dA(z)$$

for  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . If  $f$  is furthermore in  $L_a^2$ , then the meaning of  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} h$  is clear: it is the analytic function  $f T_{\bar{g}} h$ . We will be concerned with the question for which  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L_a^2$  the operator  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $L_a^2$ .

Next we consider Hankel products. If  $f$  is bounded and  $h \in L_a^2$ , then

$$(H_f h)(w) = f(w)h(w) - P(fh)(w) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{(f(w) - f(z))h(z)}{(1 - w\bar{z})^2} dA(z),$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . The latter formula is to be used to define  $H_f$  densely on  $L_a^2$  if  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ .

If  $g$  is bounded and  $u \in (L_a^2)^\perp$ , then

$$H_g^* u(w) = \langle H_g^* u, K_w \rangle = \langle u, H_g K_w \rangle = \langle u, g K_w \rangle,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . Since  $K_w$  is bounded, the latter formula makes sense for all  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , and we use it to define the operator  $H_g^*$  densely on  $(L_a^2)^\perp$ .

Note that the star need no longer be the adjoint (but would of course coincide with the adjoint in case the operator  $H_g$  is itself bounded).

By Lemma 1 in [51] the set of smooth functions with compact support in  $\mathbb{D}$  is dense in  $(L_a^2)^\perp$ , so certainly  $C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ , the set of compactly supported functions in  $(L_a^2)^\perp$  is dense in  $(L_a^2)^\perp$ . If  $f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $u \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ , then  $H_g^* u$  is bounded, and the meaning of  $H_f H_g^* u$  is clear: it is the function  $H_f(H_g^* u)$ . This defines the Hankel product  $H_f H_g^*$  on a dense subset of  $(L_a^2)^\perp$ , namely  $C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ .

The mixed Haplitz operators are defined as follows. For  $f \in L_a^2$ ,  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $u \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ ,  $T_f H_g^* u$  is the analytic function  $f(H_g^* u)$ .

If  $h \in H^\infty$ , then  $T_g \in L_a^2$ , and we define  $H_f T_{\bar{g}} h$  to be the function  $H_f(T_{\bar{g}} h)$ .

For  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ , the fractional linear transformation  $\varphi_w$  defined by

$$\varphi_w(z) = \frac{w - z}{1 - \bar{w}z}$$

is an automorphism of the unit disk; in fact, the mappings are involutions:

$\varphi_w^{-1} = \varphi_w$ . The real Jacobian for the change of variable  $\xi = \varphi_w(z)$  is equal to  $|\varphi_w'(z)|^2 = (1 - |w|^2)^2 / |1 - \bar{w}z|^4$ , thus we have the change-of-variable formula

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} h(\varphi_w(z)) dA(z) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{h(z)(1 - |w|^2)^2}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} dA(z),$$

where  $h$  is a positive measurable or integrable function on  $\mathbb{D}$ . The functions

$$k_w(z) = \frac{1 - |w|^2}{(1 - \bar{w}z)^2}$$

are the normalized reproducing kernels for  $L_a^2$ . The change-of-variable formula can be written as

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} h(\varphi_w(z)) dA(z) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} h(\varphi_w(z)) dA(z), \quad (1)$$

where  $h$  is a positive measurable or integrable function on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

For  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  the operator  $U_w$  on  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  is defined by

$$U_w f = (f \circ \varphi_w) k_w.$$

It is easy to see that  $U_w$  is a unitary operator which commutes with the Bergman projection. In particular,  $T_f U_w = U_w T_{f \circ \varphi_w}$ .

The Berezin transform of a function  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  is the function  $\tilde{f}$  defined on  $\mathbb{D}$  by

$$\tilde{f}(w) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} f(z) |k_w(z)|^2 dA(z).$$

In particular, it follows from change-of-variable formula (1) that

$|\tilde{f}|^2(w) = \|f \circ \varphi_w\|_2^2$ , for every  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

It is well-known ([43], [60]) that  $\|f\|_2^2$  is equivalent to  $\|(1 - |z|^2)f'\|_2$  for  $f$  in the Bergman space  $L_a^2$  with  $f(0) = 0$ . The following lemma for the inner product in the Bergman space in terms of derivatives of functions will be needed.

**Lemma (2.1.1)[42]:** If  $F$  and  $G$  are in  $L_a^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{D}} F(z) \overline{G(z)} dA(z) &= 3 \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^2 F(z) \overline{G(z)} dA(z) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^2 F'(z) \overline{G'(z)} dA(z) \\ &+ \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^3 F'(z) \overline{G'(z)} dA(z). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Using power series it is sufficient to show the identity for  $F(z) = G(z) = z^n$ . This is a standard calculation using  $\int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^n |z|^{2m} dA(z) = n! m! / (n + m + 1)!$ .

We will give estimates on the Toeplitz and Hankel operators that will be used in our sufficiency results for boundedness of certain products of these operators.

**Lemma (2.1.2)[42]:** Let  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Then

$$|(T_{\tilde{f}} h)(w)| \leq \frac{1}{1 - |w|^2} \|h\|_2 |\tilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2},$$

and

$$|(H_f^* u)(w)| \leq \frac{1}{1 - |w|^2} \|u\|_2 \|f \circ \varphi_w P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2,$$

for all  $h \in L_a^2$ ,  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** If  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  and  $h \in L_a^2$ , then

$$(T_{\bar{f}}h)(w) = \langle T_{\bar{f}}h, K_w \rangle = \langle h, fK_w \rangle = \frac{1}{1-|w|^2} \langle h, fk_w \rangle.$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,  $|\langle h, fk_w \rangle| \leq \|h\|_2 \|fk_w\|_2$ , thus

$$|(T_{\bar{f}}h)(w)| \leq \frac{1}{1-|w|^2} \|h\|_2 \|fk_w\|_2 = \frac{1}{1-|w|^2} \|h\|_2 |\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2},$$

proving the estimate for  $T_{\bar{f}}h$ .

Using  $H_f k_w = (f - P(f \circ \varphi_w) \circ \varphi_w) k_w$  (see [56]) we have

$$H_f^* u(w) = \frac{1}{1-|w|^2} \langle u, H_f k_w \rangle = \frac{1}{1-|w|^2} \langle u, (f - P(f \circ \varphi_w) \circ \varphi_w) k_w \rangle.$$

By change-of-variable formula (1) we have  $\|(f - P(f \circ \varphi_w) \circ \varphi_w) k_w\|_2 = \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2$ , so applying the inequality of Cauchy-Schwarz we get

$$|\langle u, (f - P(f \circ \varphi_w) \circ \varphi_w) k_w \rangle| \leq \|u\|_2 \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2.$$

In the following we write  $P_0$  for the integral operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  with kernel  $1/|1 - \bar{w}z|^2$ . It is well-known that  $P_0$  is  $L^p$ -bounded for  $1 < p < \infty$  (see [43] or [60]).

**Lemma (2.1.3)[42]:** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and let  $\delta = (2 + \varepsilon)/(1 + \varepsilon)$ .

(i) For every  $f \in L_a^2$  and  $h \in L_a^2$ :

$$|(T_{\bar{f}}h)'(w)| \leq \frac{4}{1-|w|^2} |\widetilde{f}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} P_0[|h|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta},$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

(ii) For every  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $u \in (L_a^2)^\perp$ :

$$|(H_g^*u)'(w)| \leq \frac{4}{1-|w|^2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta},$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Note that  $\delta = (2 + \varepsilon)/(1 + \varepsilon)$  is the conjugate index of  $2 + \varepsilon$ .

(i) For  $f \in L_a^2$  and  $h \in L_a^2$  we have

$$(T_{\bar{f}}h)(w) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{f(z)h(z)}{(1 - \bar{z}w)^2} dA(z),$$

for  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . Thus

$$(T_{\bar{f}}h)'(w) = 2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{zf(z)h(z)}{(1 - \bar{z}w)^3} dA(z),$$

for  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . Applying Hölder's inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |(T_{\bar{f}}h)'(w)| \\ & \leq 2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|f(z)| |h(z)|}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^3} dA(z) = 2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|f(z)| |h(z)| |1 - \bar{z}w|}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^4} dA(z) \\ & \leq 2 \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|f(z)|^{2+\varepsilon}}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^4} dA(z) \right)^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|h(z)|^\delta |1 - \bar{z}w|^\delta}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^4} dA(z) \right)^{1/\delta} \\ & = \frac{2 |f|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)^{1/(2+\varepsilon)}}{1 - |w|^2} \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|h(z)|^\delta (1 - |w|^2)^{\varepsilon/1+\varepsilon}}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^2 |1 - \bar{z}w|^{\varepsilon/1+\varepsilon}} dA(z) \right)^{1/\delta}, \end{aligned}$$

and the inequality follows, since  $(1 - |w|^2) / |1 - \bar{z}w| < 2$  and  $2^{\varepsilon/2+\varepsilon} < 2$ .

(ii) For  $u \in (L_a^2)^\perp$  we have

$$(H_g^*u)(w) = \langle H_g^*u, K_w \rangle = \langle u, H_g K_w \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{u(z)\overline{g(z)}}{(1 - \bar{z}w)^2} dA(z)$$



Thus

$$(H_g^* u)'(w) = 2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{u(z) \overline{z g(z)}}{(1 - \bar{z} w)^3} dA(z).$$

Letting  $G_w$  denote  $P(g \circ \varphi_w) \circ \varphi_w$ , the function  $z \mapsto z G_w(z)/(1 - \bar{w} z)^3$  is in  $L_a^2$ , and since  $u \in (L_a^2)^\perp$  we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{u(z) \overline{z G_w(z)}}{(1 - \bar{z} w)^3} dA(z) = 0.$$

Thus

$$(H_g^* u)'(w) = 2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{u(z) \overline{z(g(z) - G_w(z))}}{(1 - \bar{z} w)^3} dA(z).$$

Using the same argument as above, applying Hölder's inequality and change-of-variable formula (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |(H_g^* u)'(w)| &\leq 2 \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|g(z) - G_w(z)|^{2+\varepsilon}}{|1 - \bar{z} w|^4} dA(z) \right)^{1/2+\varepsilon} \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|u(z)|^\delta}{|1 - \bar{z} w|^{4-\delta}} dA(z) \right)^{1/\delta} \\ &\leq \frac{4}{1 - |w|^2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|u(z)|^\delta}{|1 - \bar{z} w|^2} dA(z) \right)^{1/\delta} \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

We discuss several basic identities and inequalities needed to prove necessary conditions for boundedness and compactness of Haplitz products.

For  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  let  $f \otimes g$  be the rank one operator defined by

$$(f \otimes g)h = \langle h, g \rangle f,$$

for  $h \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . It is easily verified that the norm of  $f \otimes g$  is  $\|f\|_2 \|g\|_2$ .

If  $T$  and  $S$  are bounded linear operators, then  $T(f \otimes g)S^* = (Tf) \otimes (Sg)$ .

**Proposition (2.1.4)[42]:** On  $L_a^2$  we have

$$k_w \otimes k_w = I - 2T_{\varphi_w} T_{\bar{\varphi}_w} + T_{\varphi_w}^2 T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}^2,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $e_n(z) = (n+1)^{1/2} z^n$ . Then  $\{e_n\}$  is a basis of the Bergman space. On this basis,  $T_z$  is a weighted shift operator, the so-called Bergman shift. More precisely,

$$T_z e_n = \left( \frac{n+1}{n+2} \right)^{1/2} e_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad T_{\bar{z}} e_n = T_z^* e_n = \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \right)^{1/2} e_{n-1},$$

for  $n > 0$ , and  $T_z^* e_0 = 0$ . Thus

$$T_z T_{\bar{z}} e_n = \frac{n}{n+1} e_n \quad \text{and} \quad T_z^2 T_{\bar{z}}^2 e_n = \frac{n-1}{n+1} e_n,$$

for  $n > 0$ , and hence

$$(I - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}} + T_z^2 T_{\bar{z}}^2) e_n = \left\{ 1 - \frac{2n}{n+1} + \frac{n-1}{n+1} \right\} e_n = 0,$$

for all  $n > 0$ . It follows that

$$I - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}} + T_z^2 T_{\bar{z}}^2 = e_0 \otimes e_0.$$

For  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  we apply the unitary operator  $U_w$  to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} k_w \otimes k_w &= (U_w e_0) \otimes (U_w e_0) = U_w (e_0 \otimes e_0) U_w^* \\ &= U_w (I - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}} + T_z^2 T_{\bar{z}}^2) U_w^* \end{aligned}$$

$$= I - 2T_{\varphi w}T_{\bar{\varphi} w} + T_{\varphi w}^2T_{\bar{\varphi} w}^2 ,$$

as desired.

**Proposition (2.1.5)[42]:** If  $f, g \in L_a^2$  , then

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)^{1/2} \leq 2x \|T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\varphi w} (T_f T_{\bar{g}}) T_{\bar{\varphi} w}\| ,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** Using the fact that both  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic, we have  $T_f T_{\varphi w} = T_{\varphi w} T_f$  and  $T_{\bar{\varphi} w} T_{\bar{g}} = T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi} w}$  , so by Proposition (2.1.4),

$$\begin{aligned} T_f (k_w \otimes k_w) T_{\bar{g}} &= T_f T_{\bar{g}} - 2T_{\varphi w} T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi} w} + T_{\varphi w}^2 T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi} w}^2 \\ &= T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_{\varphi w} T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi} w} - T_{\varphi w} (T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_{\varphi w} T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi} w}) T_{\bar{\varphi} w} . \end{aligned}$$

The triangle inequality, the fact that also here  $T_f(k_w \otimes k_w) T_{\bar{g}} = (T_f k_w) \otimes (T_{\bar{g}} k_w)$ , and the estimate  $\|T_{\varphi w}\| \leq 1$  imply that

$$\|(T_f k_w) \otimes (T_{\bar{g}} k_w)\| \leq 2 \|T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_{\varphi w} (T_f T_{\bar{g}}) T_{\bar{\varphi} w}\| .$$

Using change-of-variable formula (1) we have

$$\|(T_f k_w) \otimes (T_{\bar{g}} k_w)\| = \|fk_w\|_2 \|gk_w\|_2 = |\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)^{1/2} ,$$

and the stated result follows.

To deal with products involving Hankel operators, we introduce dual Toeplitz operators. The orthogonal complement  $(L_a^2)^\perp$  of  $L_a^2$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  is much larger than  $\overline{zL_a^2}$  . Under the decomposition  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA) = L_a^2 \otimes (L_a^2)^\perp$ , for  $f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$  the multiplication operator  $M_f$  is represented as

$$M_f = \begin{bmatrix} T_f & H_{\bar{f}}^* \\ H_f & S_f \end{bmatrix} .$$

The operator  $S_f$  is an operator on  $(L_a^2)^\perp$  we call  $S_f$  the dual Toeplitz operator with symbol  $f$ . Although these operators differ in many ways from Toeplitz operators, they do have some of the same basic algebraic properties. We have:  $S_f^* = S_{\bar{f}}$  and  $S_{\alpha f + \beta g} = \alpha S_f + \beta S_g$  , for  $f, g \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  The identity  $M_{fg} = M_f M_g$  implies the following basic algebraic relations between these operators:

$$T_{fg} = T_f T_g + H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g , \quad (2)$$

$$S_{fg} = S_f S_g + H_f H_{\bar{g}}^* , \quad (3)$$

$$H_{fg} = H_f T_g + S_f H_g . \quad (4)$$

Suppose  $\varphi \in H^\infty$  and  $\psi \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ . If we take  $f = \varphi$  and  $g = \psi$  in (4) we get  $H_{\varphi\psi} = S_\varphi T_\psi$ , since  $H_\varphi = 0$ ; on the other hand, taking  $f = \psi$  and  $g = \varphi$  in (4) gives  $H_{\psi\varphi} = H_\psi H_\varphi$ . Thus, if  $\varphi \in H^\infty$  and  $\psi \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , then

$$H_\psi T_\varphi = S_\varphi H_\psi , \quad (5)$$

and, by taking adjoints,

$$T_{\bar{\varphi}} H_\psi^* = H_\psi^* H_{\bar{\varphi}} . \quad (6)$$

For  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  we extend the dual Toeplitz operator  $S_f$  by defining  $S_f u = (I - P)(fu)$ , for  $u \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ .

We will show that identities (5) and (6) also hold if  $\varphi \in H^\infty$  and  $\psi \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . For a polynomial  $h$  we have  $P(\varphi H_\psi h) = P(\varphi\psi h - \varphi P(\psi h)) = P(\varphi\psi h) - \varphi P(\psi h)$ , thus

$$S_\varphi H_\psi h = \varphi(\psi h - P(\psi h)) - P(\varphi H_\psi h) = \varphi\psi h - P(\varphi\psi h) = H_\psi T_\varphi h ,$$

so that (5) also holds if  $\varphi \in H^\infty$  and  $\psi \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ .

For  $\varphi \in H^\infty$ ,  $\psi \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ ,  $u \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L^2_\alpha)^{\perp}$ , and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  we have  $(T_{\bar{\varphi}}H_\psi^*u)(w) = \langle T_{\bar{\varphi}}H_\psi^*u, K_w \rangle = \langle H_\psi^*u\varphi K_w \rangle$ . Using the definition of  $H_\psi^*u$  as well as Fubini's Theorem, it is easily verified that

$$\langle H_\psi^*u, \varphi K_w \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{D}} u(z)\psi(z)\varphi(z)K_w(z)dA(z).$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} H_\psi^*S_{\bar{\varphi}}u(w) &= \langle S_{\bar{\varphi}}u, \psi K_w \rangle = \langle u, S_\varphi\psi K_w \rangle = \langle u, (I - P)(\varphi\psi K_w) \rangle \\ &= \langle (I - P)u, \varphi\psi K_w \rangle = \langle u, \varphi\psi K_w \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have  $T_{\bar{\varphi}}H_\psi^*u = H_\psi^*S_{\bar{\varphi}}u$ , so that also (6) holds if  $\varphi \in H^\infty$  and  $\psi \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ .

**Proposition (2.1.6)[42]:** If  $f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} &\|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \\ &\leq 2\|H_fH_g^* - S_{\varphi_w}(H_fH_g^*)S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \end{aligned}$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** Using Proposition (2.1.4) and identities (5) and (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &H_f(k_w \otimes k_w)H_g^* \\ &= H_fH_g^* - 2H_fT_{\varphi_w}T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}H_g^* + H_fT_{\varphi_w}^2T_fT_{\bar{\varphi}_w}^2H_g^* \\ &= H_fH_g^* - 2S_{\varphi_w}H_fT_{\bar{\varphi}_w}S_{\bar{\varphi}_w} + S_{\varphi_w}^2H_fH_g^*S_{\bar{\varphi}_w} \\ &= H_fH_g^* - S_{\varphi_w}H_fH_g^*S_{\bar{\varphi}_w} - S_{\varphi_w}(H_fH_g^* - S_{\varphi_w}H_fH_g^*S_{\bar{\varphi}_w})S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}, \end{aligned}$$

and, because  $H_f(k_w \otimes k_w)H_g^* = (H_fk_w) \otimes (H_gk_w)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} &\|(H_fk_w) \otimes (H_gk_w)\| = \|H_fk_w\|_2 \|H_gk_w\|_2 \\ &= \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2, \end{aligned}$$

the stated result follows.

The following proposition shows that the estimates for the Toeplitz products and the Hankel products have their analogues for the mixed products.

**Proposition (2.1.7)[42]:** If  $f \in L^2_\alpha$  and  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , then

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \leq 2\|T_fH_g^* - T_{\varphi_w}(T_fH_g^*)S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\|,$$

and

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \leq 2\|H_gT_{\bar{f}} - S_{\varphi_w}(H_gT_{\bar{f}})T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\|,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** To prove the first inequality we use the identity

$$T_f(k_w \otimes k_w)H_g^* = T_fH_g^* - 2T_{\varphi_w}T_fH_g^*S_{\bar{\varphi}_w} + T_{\varphi_w}^2T_fH_g^*S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}$$

The second inequality follows from an analogous identity.  $\square$

We end this with an algebraic result for dual Toeplitz operators.

If  $f$  is analytic or  $\bar{g}$  is analytic, then  $H_fH_{\bar{g}}^* = 0$ , and by (3),  $S_fS_g = S_{fg}$ . The following proposition shows that the converse holds.

**Proposition (2.1.8)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . If  $S_fS_g = S_{fg}$ , then either  $f$  or  $\bar{g}$  is in  $H^\infty$ .

**Proof.** If  $S_fS_g = S_{fg}$ , then by (3),  $H_fH_{\bar{g}}^* = 0$ , and by Proposition (2.1.6),

$$\|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|\bar{g} \circ \varphi_w - P(\bar{g} \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ , so the stated result follows.

We give conditions for boundedness of the various Haplitz products.

**Theorem (2.1.9)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^2_\alpha$ . If  $T_fT_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded, then

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |\widetilde{f}|^2(w) |\widetilde{g}|^2(w) < \infty.$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded.

It follows from Proposition (2.1.5) that

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)^{1/2} \leq \|4 T_f T_{\bar{g}}\|,$$

for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ .

Although we are not able to prove the converse of Theorem (2.1.9), we have the following result.

**Theorem (2.1.10)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L_a^2$ . If there is a positive constant  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |f|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) |g|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) < \infty,$$

then the product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded.

**Proof.** Let  $u$  and  $v$  be in  $L_a^2$ . To show that the product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded we will estimate  $(T_f T_{\bar{g}} u, v)$  using Lemma (2.1.1) and Lemmas (2.1.2), (2.1.3). It follows from the inner product formula (Lemma (2.1.1)) that

$$\langle T_f T_{\bar{g}} u, v \rangle = (T_{\bar{g}} u, T_{\bar{f}} v) = I + II + III,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I &= 3 \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |w|^2)^2 (T_{\bar{g}} u)(w) \overline{(T_{\bar{f}} v)(w)} dA(w), \\ II &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |w|^2)^2 (T_{\bar{g}} u)'(w) \overline{(T_{\bar{f}} v)'(w)} dA(w), \\ III &= \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1 - |w|^2)^3 (T_{\bar{g}} u)'(w) \overline{(T_{\bar{f}} v)'(w)} dA(w). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Lemma (2.1.2) that

$$\begin{aligned} |I| &\leq 3 \int_{\mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^2(w) |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)]^{1/2} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2 dA(w) \\ &\leq 3 \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^2(w) |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)]^{1/2} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma (2.1.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |III| &\leq \frac{4}{2} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) |\widetilde{g}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)]^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \\ &\quad \times P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{(1/\delta)} P_0[|v|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta} dA(w) \\ &\leq 2 \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) |\widetilde{g}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)]^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \\ &\quad \times \int_{\mathbb{D}} P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta} P_0[|v|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta} dA(w). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p = 2 / \delta > 1$  and  $P_0$  is  $L^p$ -bounded, there exists a constant  $C$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{2/\delta} dA(w) \leq C \int_{\mathbb{D}} P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{2/\delta} dA(w) = C \|u\|_2^2.$$

By the Cauchy Schwarz inequality,

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} P_0[|u|^\delta](w)^{1/\delta} P_0[|v|^\delta](w)^{(1/\delta)} dA(w) \leq C \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2,$$

and thus

$$|III| \leq 2C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) |\widetilde{g}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)]^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2.$$

Term III is estimated similar to II. From the estimates of the three terms I, II, and III, we obtain

$$|T_f T_{\bar{g}} u, v| \leq M \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} [|\widetilde{f}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w) |\widetilde{g}|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)]^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2,$$

for some constant  $M > 0$ . So the product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded, as desired.

Using Proposition (2.1.6) we obtain a necessary condition on Boundedness of the product  $H_f H_g^*$ .

**Theorem (2.1.11)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . If  $H_f H_g^*$  is bounded, then

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 < \infty.$$

We have not been able to prove the converse of the above theorem. We do however have the following result.

**Theorem (2.1.12)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . If there is a positive constant  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} < \infty,$$

then the product  $H_f H_g^*$  is bounded.

**Proof.** Let  $u, v \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$ . Using the definitions of  $H_g^* u$  and  $H_f^* v$ , and Fubini's Theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_g^* u, H_f^* v \rangle &= \int_{\mathbb{D}} \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{\overline{g(z)} u(z)}{(1-w\bar{z})^2} dA(z) \right\} = \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{f(\lambda) \overline{v(\lambda)}}{(1-\lambda\bar{w})^2} dA(\lambda) \right\} dA(w) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{D}} f(\lambda) H_g^* u(\lambda) \overline{v(\lambda)} dA(\lambda) = \langle f H_g^* u, v \rangle = \langle H_f H_g^* u, v \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Lemma (2.1.1) we have

$$(H_f H_g^* u, v) = (H_g^* u, H_f^* v) = I + II + III,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I &= 3 \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1-|w|^2)^2 (H_g^* u)(w) \overline{(H_f^* v)(w)} dA(w), \\ II &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1-|w|^2)^2 (H_g^* u)'(w) \overline{(H_f^* v)'(w)} dA(w), \\ III &= \frac{1}{3} \int_{\mathbb{D}} (1-|w|^2)^3 (H_g^* u)'(w) \overline{(H_f^* v)'(w)} dA(w). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Lemma (2.1.2) that

$$|I| \leq 3 \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2.$$

Using Lemma (2.1.3) and the Lp-boundedness of operator  $P_0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |II| &\leq 2C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \\ &\quad \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \|v\|_2 \|u\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Term III is estimated similar to II, and combining the estimates we get

$$\begin{aligned} |(H_f H_g^* u, v)| &\leq M \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \\ &\quad \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \|v\|_2 \|u\|_2, \end{aligned}$$

for some constant  $M > 0$ . So the product  $H_f H_g^*$  is bounded, as desired.  $\square$

Analogous to the necessary conditions for boundedness of Toeplitz and Hankel products, Proposition (2.1.7) gives necessary conditions for boundedness of the mixed Haplitz products.

**Theorem (2.1.13)[42]:** Let  $f \in L_a^2$  and  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . If  $T_f H_g^*$  or  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded, then

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |\widehat{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 < \infty.$$

We have not been able to prove the converse of the above theorem, but we have the following result, which is proved similarly to Theorems (2.1.10) and (2.1.12).

**Theorem (2.1.14)[42]:** Let  $f \in L_a^2$  and  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  If for a constant  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |f|^{2+\varepsilon}(w)^{1/(2+\varepsilon)} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} < \infty,$$

then  $T_f H_g^*$  and  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  are bounded.

We discuss conditions for compactness of the various Haplitz products. The following lemma gives necessary conditions for compactness of operators on  $L_a^2$ , operators on  $(L_2^a)^\perp$ , or operators between these spaces.

**Lemma (2.1.15)[42]:** If  $A: L_a^2 \rightarrow L_a^2, B: L_a^2 \rightarrow (L_a^2)^\perp, C: (L_a^2)^\perp \rightarrow L_a^2$  and  $D: (L_a^2)^\perp \rightarrow (L_a^2)^\perp$  are compact operators, then

$$\begin{aligned}\|A - T_{\varphi_w} A T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ \|B - S_{\varphi_w} B T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ \|C - T_{\varphi_w} C S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ \|D - S_{\varphi_w} D S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| &\rightarrow 0,\end{aligned}$$

as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ .

**Proof.** If  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are Hilbert spaces and  $S: H_1 \rightarrow H_2$  is a compact operator, then, since operators of finite rank are dense in the set of compact operators, given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in H_1$  and  $g_1, \dots, g_n \in H_2$  so that

$$\|S - \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \otimes g_i\| < \varepsilon.$$

Thus the above statements follow once we prove them for operators of rank one.

If  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , then for every  $z \in \mathbb{D}$  we have  $w - \varphi_w(z) = (1 - |w|^2)z / 1 - \bar{w}z \rightarrow 0$ , so by the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem,  $\|wf - \varphi_w f\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ . It follows that  $\|\xi f - \varphi_w f\|_2 \rightarrow 0$ , if  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ .

If  $f \in L_a^2$ , we apply  $P$  to obtain

$$\|\xi f - T_{\varphi_w} f\|_2 = \|\xi f - P(\varphi_w f)\|_2 \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ . If  $f, g \in L_a^2$ , then writing

$$\begin{aligned}\|f \otimes g - T_{\varphi_w}(f \otimes g)T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| & \\ &= \|(\xi f) \otimes (\xi g) - (T_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (T_{\varphi_w} g)\| \\ &\leq \|(\xi f - T_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (\xi g)\| + \|(T_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (\xi g - T_{\varphi_w} g)\| \\ &\leq \|\xi f - T_{\varphi_w} f\|_2 \|g\|_2 + \|f\|_2 \|\xi g - T_{\varphi_w} g\|_2,\end{aligned}$$

we see that

$$\|f \otimes g - T_{\varphi_w}(f \otimes g)T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \rightarrow 0$$

as  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ . This proves the statement for operator  $A$ .

Suppose  $f \in (L_a^2)^\perp$ , then  $(I - P)(\xi f) = \xi f$ , so that

$$\|\xi f - S_{\varphi_w} f\|_2 = \|(I - P)(\xi f - \varphi_w f)\|_2 \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ . If  $f, g \in (L_a^2)^\perp$  then writing

$$\begin{aligned}\|f \otimes g - S_{\varphi_w}(f \otimes g)S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| & \\ &= \|(\xi f) \otimes (\xi g) - (S_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (S_{\varphi_w} g)\| \\ &\leq \|(\xi f - S_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (\xi g)\| + \|(S_{\varphi_w} f) \otimes (\xi g - S_{\varphi_w} g)\| \\ &\leq \|\xi f - S_{\varphi_w} f\|_2 \|g\|_2 + \|f\|_2 \|\xi g - S_{\varphi_w} g\|_2,\end{aligned}$$

we get

$$\|f \otimes g - S_{\varphi_w}(f \otimes g)S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \rightarrow 0$$

as  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ . This proves the statement for operator  $D$ .

If  $f \in L_a^2$  and  $g \in (L_a^2)^\perp$ , and  $w \in \mathbb{D}$  tends to  $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{D}$ , then  $\|\xi f - T_{\varphi_w} f\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  and  $\|\xi g - S_{\varphi_w} g\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  imply that  $\|f \otimes g - T_{\varphi_w}(f \otimes g)S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \rightarrow 0$

as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ . This proves the statement for operator  $B$ .

The statement for operator  $C$  is proved similarly.

**Theorem (2.1.16)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $H^\infty$ . Then  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is compact if and only if  $f \equiv 0$  or  $g \equiv 0$ .

**Proof.** If  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is compact, then by Lemma (2.1.15),  $\|T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_{\varphi_w} T_f T_{\bar{g}} T_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ . Using Lemma (2.1.5) it follows that  $|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)^{1/2} \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ . Since  $|f(w)|^2 \leq |\widetilde{f}|^2(w)$  and  $|g(w)|^2 \leq |\widetilde{g}|^2(w)$  we obtain  $|f(w)g(w)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , and by the Maximum Modulus Principle,  $fg \equiv 0$ , thus  $f \equiv 0$  or  $g \equiv 0$ .

**Theorem (2.1.17)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L \in (\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Then  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if

$$\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

**Proof.** First we show the "if part." If  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact, then by Lemma (2.1.15),  $\|H_f H_g^* - S_{\varphi_w} H_f H_g^* S_{\bar{\varphi}_w}\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ . Using Lemma (2.1.6) it follows that

$$\|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 - \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow 0$$

as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ .

Now we turn to the "only if" part. For  $u, v \in C_c(\mathbb{D}) \cap (L_a^2)^\perp$  we have

$$\langle H_f H_g^* u, v \rangle = \langle H_g^* u, H_f^* v \rangle = I + II + III,$$

where I, II, and III are as in the proof of Theorem (2.1.12). For  $0 < s < 1$  we write  $I = I_s + I'_s$ ,  $II = II_s + II'_s$ , and  $III = III_s + III'_s$ , where

$$I_s = 3 \int_{s < |w| < 1} (1 - |w|^2)^2 (w) (H_f^* v)(w) dA(w),$$

$$II_s = \frac{1}{2} \int_{s < |w| < 1} (1 - |w|^2)^2 (H_g^* u)'(w) \overline{(H_f^* v)'(w)} dA(w),$$

$$III_s = \frac{1}{3} \int_{s < |w| < 1} (1 - |w|^2)^3 (H_g^* u)'(w) \overline{(H_f^* v)'(w)} dA(w).$$

It is easy to see that there exist compact operators  $K_s^I$ ,  $K_s^{II}$  and  $K_s^{III}$  on  $(L_a^2)^\perp$  such that  $\langle K_s^I u, v \rangle = I'_s$ ,  $\langle K_s^{II} u, v \rangle = II'_s$  and  $\langle K_s^{III} u, v \rangle = III'_s$ . The operator  $K_s = K_s^I + K_s^{II} + K_s^{III}$  is compact, and  $\langle (H_f H_g^* - K_s) u, v \rangle = I_s + II_s + III_s$ . We will estimate each of the terms  $I_s$ ,  $II_s$  and  $III_s$ . It follows from Lemma (2.1.2) that

$$|I_s| \leq 3 \sup_{s < |w| < 1} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2.$$

Using Lemma (2.1.3) and the  $L^p$ -boundedness of operator  $P_0$  we have

$$|II_s| \leq 2C \sup_{s < |w| < 1} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2.$$

Term  $III_s$  is estimated similar to  $I_s$ , and we obtain

$$|\langle (H_f H_g^* - K_s) u, v \rangle| \leq C \sup_{s < |w| < 1} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2$$

for some constant  $C > 0$ . Since  $P$  is  $L^{2+2\varepsilon}$ -bounded, there exists a constant  $C_\varepsilon$  such that

$$\|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon} \leq C \|f\|_\infty^{1+\varepsilon/2+\varepsilon} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2^{1/2+\varepsilon}.$$

A similar inequality holds for  $\|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_{2+\varepsilon}$ . Thus there exists a constant  $C'$  such that

$$|\langle (H_f H_g^* - K_s) u, v \rangle| \leq C' \sup_{s < |w| < 1} \|(f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w))\|_2 \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2^{\frac{1}{1+\varepsilon}} \|u\|_2 \|v\|_2$$

from which we conclude that

$$H_f H_g^* - K_s \leq C' \sup_{s < |w| < 1} \|(f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w))\|_2^{1/2+\varepsilon} \times \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2^{1/2+\varepsilon}.$$

So if  $\|(f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w))\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , then it follows from the above inequality that  $K_s \rightarrow H_f H_g^*$  in operator norm, and since each of the  $K_s$  is

compact, we conclude that operator  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact. K Analogous to Theorems (2.1.16) and (2.1.17) we have the following result for the mixed Haplitz products.

**Theorem (2.1.18)[42]:** Let  $f \in H^\infty$  and  $g \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Then  $T_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  is compact if and only if

$$\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} \widetilde{|f|}^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

We discuss compactness of the various Haplitz products with symbols in the maximal ideal space. We first recall the definition and Hoffman's beautiful description of the maximal ideal space.

The maximal ideal space of  $H^\infty$  is the set  $M$  of multiplicative linear maps from  $H^\infty$  onto the field of complex numbers. The Gelfand transform allows us to think of  $H^\infty$  as a subalgebra of  $C(M)$ , the algebra of continuous complex-valued functions on  $M$ . By the Stone-Weierstrass theorem, the set of finite sums of functions of the form  $f_{\bar{g}}$ , with  $f, g \in H^\infty$ , is dense in  $C(M)$ , where  $C(M)$  is endowed with the usual supremum norm. Thus we can identify  $C(M)$  with the closed subspace of  $L^\infty(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  generated by functions of the form  $f_{\bar{g}}$ , with  $f, g \in H^\infty$ . With this viewpoint,  $C(M)$  is the  $C^*$ -subalgebra of  $L^\infty(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  generated by  $H^\infty$ . For  $m \in M$ , let  $\varphi_m: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow M$  denote the Hoffman map. This map is defined by setting

$$\varphi_m(w) = \lim_{z \rightarrow m} \varphi_z(w)$$

for  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ ; here we are taking a limit in  $M$ . The existence of this limit, as well as many other deep properties of  $\varphi_m$ , was proved by Hoffman [50]. An exposition of Hoffman's results can also be found in [49]. We shall use, without further comment, Hoffman's result that  $\varphi_m$  is a continuous mapping of  $\mathbb{D}$  into  $M$ . Note that  $\varphi_m(0) = m$ .

**Theorem (2.1.19)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $C(M)$ . Then the product  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $f \circ \varphi_m$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$  for every  $m$  in  $M/\mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem (2.1.17) it suffices to show that  $f \circ \varphi_m$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$ , for all  $m$  in  $M/\mathbb{D}$ , is equivalent to

$$\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

If  $m$  is in  $M/\mathbb{D}$ , and  $(w_j)$  is a net in  $\mathbb{D}$  converging to  $m$ , then it is easily seen that  $f \circ \varphi_{w_j} \rightarrow f \circ \varphi_m$  pointwise on  $\mathbb{D}$ . We claim that in fact  $f \circ \varphi_{w_j} \rightarrow f \circ \varphi_m$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Some care needs to be taken to prove this claim, since the bounded convergence theorem does not hold for nets, as opposed to sequences. A standard density argument shows that  $f \circ \varphi_{w_j} \rightarrow f \circ \varphi_m$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$  (see [54],). Using that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f \circ \varphi_{w_j} - f \circ \varphi_m\|_2^2 &= \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f \circ \varphi_{w_j}(z) - f \circ \varphi_m(z)|^2 dA \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{D}/r\bar{\mathbb{D}}} |f \circ \varphi_{w_j} - f \circ \varphi_m|^2 dA \\ &\leq \sup_{|z| \leq r} |f \circ \varphi_{w_j} - f \circ \varphi_m|^2 + 4(1 - r^2) \|f\|_\infty^2, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $0 < r < 1$ , we conclude that indeed  $f \circ \varphi_{w_j} \rightarrow f \circ \varphi_m$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . It follows that  $(I - P)(f \circ \varphi_{w_j}) \rightarrow (I - P)(f \circ \varphi_m)$ . Consequently,

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow m} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = \|f \circ \varphi_m - P(f \circ \varphi_m)\|_2.$$

So  $f \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$  if and only if

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow m} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

Hence the condition that  $f \circ \varphi_m$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$  is equivalent to



$$\lim_{w \rightarrow m} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

This completes the proof.

The above theorem should be compared with the following result.

**Theorem (2.1.20)[42]:** Let  $f, g \in C(M)$ . The following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact;
- (ii)  $(I - P)(f \circ \varphi_m) \perp = (I - P)(g \circ \varphi_m)$ , for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ ;
- (iii)  $H_{f \circ \varphi_m}^* H_{g \circ \varphi_m} = 0$ , for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** (i) (ii): If  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  converges to  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{w \rightarrow m} \langle H_f^* H_g k_w, k_w \rangle &= \lim_{w \rightarrow m} \langle (I - P)(g \circ \varphi_w), (I - P)(f \circ \varphi_w) \rangle \\ &= \langle (I - P)(g \circ \varphi_m), (I - P)(f \circ \varphi_m) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem (2.1.1) in [46],  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact if and only if  $(H_f^* H_g k_w, k_w) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , so  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact if and only if

$$\langle (I - P)(g \circ \varphi_m), (I - P)(f \circ \varphi_m) \rangle = 0$$

for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ .

(ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii): If  $w$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  converges to  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ , then by Lemma 2.8 in [45], we have

$$U_w H_f^* H_g U_w \rightarrow H_{f \circ \varphi_m}^* H_{g \circ \varphi_m},$$

where the limit is taken in the strong operator topology. For fixed  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , using that  $U_w k_z = \xi k_{\varphi_w(z)}$  for unimodular  $\xi$  it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{f \circ \varphi_m}^* H_{g \circ \varphi_m} k_z, k_z \rangle &= \lim_{w \rightarrow m} \langle U_w H_f^* H_g U_w k_z, k_z \rangle \\ &= \lim_{w \rightarrow m} \langle H_f^* H_g k_{\varphi_w(z)}, k_{\varphi_w(z)} \rangle \\ &= \langle (I - P)(g \circ \varphi_{m_z}), (I - P)(f \circ \varphi_{m_z}) \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where  $m = \varphi_m(z) \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ . Thus (ii) is equivalent to  $\langle H_{f \circ \varphi_m}^* H_{g \circ \varphi_m} k_z, k_z \rangle = 0$ , for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , which, by a result of Berezin (see, for example, [55]), is equivalent to  $H_{f \circ \varphi_m}^* H_{g \circ \varphi_m} = 0$ .

On the Bergman space, it is not clear that  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact because we don't know when the product  $H_f^* H_g$  is zero even if  $f$  and  $g$  are in  $C(M)$ . However, when  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ , combining a theorem in [58] with Theorem (2.1.19) yields the following result.

**Theorem (2.1.21)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk. Then  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact.

For mixed Haplitz products we have the following characterization of compactness.

**Theorem (2.1.22)[42]:** Let  $f \in H^\infty$  and  $g \in C(M)$ . Then  $T_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $f \circ \varphi_m = 0$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$  for every  $m$  in  $M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** If  $m$  is in  $M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ , then

$$\|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow \|g \circ \varphi_m - P(g \circ \varphi_m)\|_2$$

as  $w \rightarrow m$ . Likewise,

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} = \|f \circ \varphi_w\|_2 \rightarrow \|f \circ \varphi_m\|_2,$$

as  $w \rightarrow m$ . So

$$|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow \|f \circ \varphi_m\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_m - P(g \circ \varphi_m)\|_2$$

as  $w \rightarrow m$ . The condition  $|\widetilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$  is therefore equivalent to the condition  $\|f \circ \varphi_m\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_m - P(g \circ \varphi_m)\|_2 = 0$ , for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ , which is equivalent to  $f \circ \varphi_m = 0$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m = P(g \circ \varphi_m)$ , for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ , that is,  $g \circ \varphi_m = 0$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is analytic, for all  $m \in M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ . K Similarly, Theorem (2.1.18) implies:

**Theorem (2.1.23)[42]:** Let  $f \in H^\infty$  and  $g \in C(M)$ . Then  $T_f H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact if and only if  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  is compact if and only if  $f \circ \varphi_m = 0$  or  $g \circ \varphi_m$  is in  $H^\infty$  for every  $m$  in  $M \setminus \mathbb{D}$ .

Based on Theorems (2.1.9) and (2.1.10) we make the following conjecture, analogous to Sarason's conjecture [53] on the Hardy space.

**Conjecture (2.1.24)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^2_a$ . Then:

(i)  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded if and only if  $\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |\tilde{f}|^2(w) |\tilde{g}|^2(w) < \infty$ .

(ii)  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is compact if and only if  $\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} |\tilde{f}|^2(w) |\tilde{g}|^2(w) = 0$ .

Theorems (2.1.11), (2.1.12), (2.1.17) and (2.1.21) provide support for the following conjecture.

**Conjecture (2.1.25)[42]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ . Then:

(i)  $H_f H_g^*$  is bounded if and only if  $H_f^* H_g$  is bounded if and only if

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 < \infty.$$

(ii)  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact if and only if

$$\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} \|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

If  $H_f H_g^*$  is compact, then by Theorem (2.1.17),

$$\|f \circ \varphi_w - P(f \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 \rightarrow 0$$

as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , thus  $(H_f^* H_g k_w, k_w) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|w| \rightarrow 1^-$ , and by Theorem (2.1.1) in

[46],  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact. K Based on Theorems (2.1.13), (2.1.14) and (2.1.18) we furthermore make the following conjecture.

**Conjecture (2.1.26)[42]:** Let  $f$  be in  $L_2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  and  $g \in L^2_a$ . Then

(i)  $T_f H_g^*$  is bounded if and only if  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded if and only if

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |\tilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 < \infty.$$

(ii)  $T_f H_g^*$  is compact if and only if  $H_g T_{\bar{f}}$  is compact if and only if

$$\lim_{|w| \rightarrow 1^-} |\tilde{f}|^2(w)^{1/2} \|g \circ \varphi_w - P(g \circ \varphi_w)\|_2 = 0.$$

## Section (2.2): Bergman Kernel Asymptotics

Given a positive measure  $m(t)dt$  on  $\mathbf{R}^+$  and its moment sequence  $\gamma_n = \int_0^\infty t^n m(t)dt$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , we form the associated Bergman kernel function,  $K_m(x) = \sum \gamma_n^{-1} x^n$ . We also form the new measure  $(K_m(t))^{-1} m(t)dt$  and its kernel function,  $K_{(K_m)^{-1}m}$ . If we start with  $m(t) = e^{-t}$  and do the computations, we find three striking facts: for all  $t \in \mathbf{R}^+$  and all  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$m(t)K_m(t) = 1, \tag{A}$$

$$K_{(K_m)^{-1}m}(t) = 2K_m^2(t), \tag{B}$$

and

$$\iint |K_{(K_m)^{-1}m}(\bar{a}z)| m(|z|^2) \frac{dx dy}{\pi} = 2K_m(|a|^2). \tag{C}$$

We were doing operator theory on the Fock space, the Hilbert space of entire functions square integrable with respect to the Gaussian density. We wanted to know if similar relations or useful substitutes held in Bergman spaces of entire functions square integrable with respect to other radial measures,  $\pi^{-1} m(|z|^2) dx dy$ . However, although operator theoretic issues influence our discussion of the consequences of our main results, neither our results here nor our methods involve operator theory. See [72].

We collect background information about conjugate functions of convex functions (in the sense of Fenchel, Legendre, and Young) which arises both as we pass from the density  $m$  to its moments  $\gamma_n$ , and as we pass from the coefficients of  $K_m$  to its values. Informal statements and proof outlines for our two main technical results: Theorem (2.2.2)-which shows how the growth of the density function controls the asymptotic growth of the moment sequence-and Theorem (2.2.3)-which shows how the growth of the coefficient sequence controls the growth of  $K_m(re^{i\theta})$  for large  $r$ . The next have the statements and proofs of Theorems (2.2.2) and (2.2.3). The basic approach for Theorem (2.2.2) is Laplace's method for asymptotic estimation of integrals which depend on a parameter. To prove Theorem (2.2.3), we join Laplace's method with Poisson summation.

We combine Theorem (2.2.2) and Theorem (2.2.3) to give Theorem (2.2.4), our estimates for the Bergman kernel functions. A consequence of that Theorem (2.2.2) Corollary (2.2.17), which includes the result that, as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$m(r)K(r) \sim \frac{-\left(r \frac{d}{dr}\right)^2 \log m(r)}{r}.$$

In particular, if  $m(r) \sim ar^b e^{-cr^4}$ , with  $a, b, c, d > 0$ , we have

$$m(r)K(r) \sim cd^2 r^{d-1},$$

which is a version of (A). If we take the estimates for  $K$  in terms of  $m$  and then use Theorem (2.2.2) and Theorem (2.2.3) again to estimate  $K_{(K_m)^{-1}m}$ , we find that the two expressions in (B) are asymptotically equal. In fact, as is suggested by the example of the exponential density, we see in Theorem (2.2.18) that

$$K_{(K_m)^{-\alpha}m} \sim (1 + \alpha)(K_m)^{1+\alpha} \quad (7)$$

for  $\alpha > 0$ . We also show that the Berezin transform for these Bergman spaces is given asymptotically by integration against a Gaussian density. This and (7) are then used to give an asymptotic version of (C) in Corollary (2.2.20).

A summary of these and related results along with some discussion of the operator theory is in [72].

Suppose  $A(s)$  is a convex function defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbf{R}$ . (When convenient, we set  $A(s) = +\infty$  for  $s \notin I$ .) We recall the definition of the conjugate function of  $A$ .

$$A^*(x) = \sup_{s \in \mathbf{R}} \{xs - A(s)\}. \quad (8)$$

This transformation occurs in various contexts, at times associated with the names Fenchel, Legendre, or Young.

**Lemma (2.2.1)[61]:** Suppose  $A$  is smooth and  $A, A', A'' > 0$ . Set  $s(x) = A'^{-1}(x)$  and  $x(s) = A'(s)$ . Then  $A^*, A^{*'}, A^{*''} > 0$  and we have, for all  $s, x$ ,

- (i)  $s(x(s)) = s, x(s(x)) = x$ ,
- (ii)  $sx < A(s) + A^*(x)$ ,
- (iii)  $A^*(z) = xA'^{-1}(x) - A(A'^{-1}(x)) = xs(x) - A(s(x))$ ,
- (iv)  $s(x) = A^{*'}(x) = A'^{-1}(x)$ ,
- (v)  $A^{**}(s) = A(s)$ ,
- (vi)  $A^{*''}(x) = A''(s(x))^{-1}$ ,
- (vii)  $A^{*(3)}(x)A^{*''}(x)^{-\frac{3}{2}} = -A^{(3)}(s(x))A''(s(x))^{-\frac{3}{2}}$ ,
- (viii)  $A^{*(4)}(x)A^{*''}(x)^{-2} = -A^{(4)}(s(x))A''(s(x))^{-2} + 3A^{(3)}(s(x))^2 A''(s(x))^{-3}$ .

We are only interested in asymptotic behavior for large  $s$  and large  $x$ . Hence, if necessary to insure that the hypotheses are satisfied, we can first restrict  $A$  to an interval  $(M, \infty)$  and then set  $A = +\infty$  on  $(-\infty, M]$ . In that case, the conclusions of the lemma hold for all sufficiently large  $x, s$ .

**Proof.** The proof of related results under minimal smoothness assumptions requires care, but here there is no problem. The first statement follows from the definitions, as does the second, which is often called Young's conjugate function inequality. Our assumptions insure that the supremum in (8) is attained at the unique critical point of  $xs - A(s)$ . This gives the formula for  $A^*$ . The first equality in (iv) follows from differentiating (iii). The relation (v) comes from (iii) and (iv). Formula (vi) follows from differentiating (v). Equality (vii) follows from differentiating (vi) and noting that  $s'(x) = A^{*'}(x) = A''(s(x))^{-1}$ . Formula (viii) follows from differentiating (vii), using  $s'(x) = A''(x) = A''(s(x))^{-1}$ , and then using (vii).

The model pair for what we do later is

$$\begin{aligned} A(s) &= e^s - s, \\ A^*(x) &= (x+1) \log(x+1) - (x+1), \end{aligned}$$

which corresponds to  $m(t) = \exp(-t)$ . More generally, for  $m(t) = \exp(-t^\beta)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A(s) &= e^{\beta s} - s, \\ A^*(x) &= \left(\frac{x+1}{\beta}\right) \log\left(\frac{x+1}{\beta}\right) - \left(\frac{x+1}{\beta}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The theorems and proofs have substantial technical details. However, the basic ideas are quite straightforward. We present the ideas.

Given a positive function  $a(s)$  defined on  $\mathbf{R}^+$ , set

$$A(s) = -\log a(e^*) - s. \quad (10)$$

We suppose that for all large  $s$

$$A(s), A'(s), A''(s), A^{(3)}(s), A^{(4)}(s) > 0. \quad (11)$$

Set  $s_z = s(x) = A'^{-1}(x)$ . Suppose  $b$  is a positive function which varies slowly compared to  $a$  and set  $B(s) = \log b(e^*)$ . Let  $\gamma_n$  be the moments of the measure  $a(t)b(t)dt$ ;  $\gamma_n = \int_0^\infty t^n a(t)b(t)dt$ .

**Theorem (2.2.2)[61]:** (informal). As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\gamma_n \sim e^{A^*(n)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{A''(s_n)}} e^{B(s_n)}.$$

In the simplest case, when  $a(t) = e^{-t}$  and  $b(t) = 1$ , this is Stirling's formula. Now suppose  $c(x)$  is a positive function on  $\mathbf{R}^+$ . Set

$$\Gamma(x) = \log c(x). \quad (12)$$

Suppose that for all large  $x$

$$\Gamma(x), \Gamma'(x), \Gamma''(x) > 0. \quad (13)$$

However, in contrast to the previous theorem, we now require that as  $x \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma'(x) \rightarrow \infty, \quad \Gamma''(x), \Gamma^{(3)}(x), \Gamma^{(4)}(x) \rightarrow 0. \quad (14)$$

Let  $\Gamma^*$  be the conjugate function of  $\Gamma$  and set  $x_s = x(s) = \Gamma'^{-1}(s)$ . Suppose that  $d$  is a positive function which varies slowly compared to  $c$ . Let  $f$  be the holomorphic function

$$f(z) = \sum_0^\infty d(n)c(n)^{-1}z^n$$

**Theorem (2.2.3)[61]:** (informal).  $f$  is entire. For small  $\theta$  we have as  $s \rightarrow \infty$

$$f(e^{s+i\theta}) \sim e^{\Gamma^*(s)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{\Gamma''(x_s)}} d(x_s) e^{ix_s\theta} e^{\frac{\theta^2}{2\Gamma''(x_s)}}.$$

Our main kernel estimate, Theorem (2.2.4), follows quickly from these two results. First we apply Theorem (2.2.2) with the choices  $a(t) = m(t^2)$ ,  $b(t) = I$  and then Theorem (2.2.3) with the choices  $c(x) = A^*(x)$ ,  $d(x) = c(x)/\gamma_x$ . Because we are able to put some of the behavior of the moments into the correction term  $d$ , we obtain kernel estimates whose main term involves  $A^{**}$ . We then use the fact that  $A^{**} = A$ . To get estimates for  $K_{K_m^{-\alpha}m}$ , we repeat the cycle, using as our new starting choice for  $a$  the square of the function used the first time. This forces a nonconstant choice for  $b$ . However,  $b$  turns out to be slowly varying, so again the main term of the estimate involves  $A^{**} = A$ .

To prove Theorem (2.2.2), we use Laplace's method for asymptotic evaluation of integrals as it adapts to our situation. We want to estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_n &= \int_0^\infty t^n a(t) b(t) dt = \int_0^\infty e^{n \log t + \log \alpha(t)} b(t) dt \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{ns + \log \alpha(e^*) + s} b(e^*) ds = \int_0^\infty e^{ns - A(s)} e^{B(s)} ds. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

The hypotheses insure that, for fixed large  $n$ , the function  $ns - A(s)$  has a maximum value at the point  $s_n = A'^{-1}(n)$ . The value is  $A^*(n) = ns_n - A(s_n)$ . We now expand  $ns - A(s)$  in a Taylor series about its critical point  $s_n$ :

$$ns - A(s) = A^*(n) - \frac{1}{2} A''(s_n)(s - s_n) + R.$$

Here  $R$  is the remainder term. If we could drop  $R$  and replace  $B(s)$ , which is built from a slowly varying function, by  $B(s_n)$  then we could evaluate the integral and would have  $\gamma_n$  equal to the desired estimate. The technical details of the proof involve estimating the errors that result from dropping  $R$  and replacing  $B(s)$  by  $B(s_n)$ .

Introduce the new integration variable  $u = s - s_n$ . Using  $A'(s_n) = n$ , we have

$$ns - A(s) = A^*(n) - [A(u + s_n) - A(s_n) - A'(s_n)u].$$

We need to estimate

$$\gamma_n = e^{A^*(n)} \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-[A(s_n+u) - A(s_n) - A'(s_n)u]} e^{B(s_n+u)} du. \quad (16)$$

To do this we select a positive function  $\delta = \delta(n)$  and split the integral as

$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dots du = \int_{u < -\delta} \dots du + \int_{|u| < \delta} \dots du + \int_{u > \delta} \dots du = L + C + R$$

To estimate  $C$ , we want to know that, uniformly in  $\{u: |u| \leq \delta\}$ , we have for some appropriate small  $K$

$$\begin{aligned} A(s_n + u) &= A(s_n) + A'(s_n)u + A''(s_n)u^2/2 + O(K), \\ B(s_n + u) &= B(s_n) + O(K). \end{aligned}$$

Those estimates follow from the hypotheses on  $a$  and  $b$  and Taylor's theorem. Using them, we have

$$e^{A^*(n)} C = e^{A^*(n)} \int_{|u| < \delta} e^{-\frac{A''(s_n)u^2}{2}} e^{B(s_n)} [1 + O(K)] du.$$

Introducing the new variable  $v = u\sqrt{A''(s_n)}$ , we find that

$$e^{A^*(n)} C = \frac{e^{A^*(n)} e^{B(s_n)}}{\sqrt{A''(s_n)}} \int_{|v| < \delta\sqrt{A''(s_n)}} e^{-\frac{v^2}{2}} [1 + O(K)] dv.$$

If we know  $\delta^2(n)A''(s_n) \rightarrow \infty$ , we can conclude that

$$e^{A^*(n)}C = e^{A^*(n)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{A''(s_n)}} e^{B(s_n)} [1 + O(K)].$$

The tails, L and R, can be estimated by tails of Gaussian integrals and are seen to be  $O\left(e^{\frac{\delta^2(n)A''(s_n)}{10}}\right)$ . Combining the estimates for L, C, and R gives Theorem (2.2.2).

In the second theorem, we can pass from the sum to the corresponding integral and use a similar argument to get the estimates on the positive real axis. However, that approach doesn't capture the cancellation which occurs off the axis. Hence we split the sum into three terms and estimate the main term, the central one, using Poisson summation.

In Theorem (2.2.3), we show that if we are given the moments  $\{\gamma_n\}$  of a density, then the asymptotic growth of the kernel function is given by

$$f(e^s) \sim \sqrt{2\pi} e^{(\log \gamma)^*(s)}, \quad s \rightarrow \infty.$$

Rewriting this in terms of the Taylor coefficients  $a_n (= \gamma_n^{-1})$  off, we have

$$a_n \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{(\log f(e^*))^*(n)}, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

In the other direction, one can ask whether, given an entire function which satisfies appropriate conditions, we can conclude this sort of asymptotic growth for the coefficients. That such estimates do, in fact, hold for a large class of entire functions is a result of Hayman [71].

Suppose  $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty a_n z^n$  is an entire function with positive coefficients. Set

$$F(s) = \log f(e^s).$$

We say that f is admissible if  $F''(e^s) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$  and there is a positive function  $\delta(r)$ , defined for all sufficiently large r, such that  $0 < \delta(r) < \pi$ ,

$$f(re^{i\theta}) \sim f(r) e^{iF'(\log r)\theta} e^{-\frac{1}{2}F''(\log r)\theta^2} \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

uniformly for  $|\theta| \leq \delta(r)$ , and

$$f(re^{i\theta}) = o(1) \frac{f(r)}{\sqrt{F''(\log r)}},$$

uniformly for  $\delta(r) \leq |\theta| \leq \pi$ .

Corollary II of [71] is

**Theorem (2.2.5)[61]:** If  $f(z)$  is admissible, then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$a_{n+1} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{F''(F'^{-1}(n))}} e^{-F^*(n)}.$$

In fact, this follows quite easily from the admissibility of f. Most of the work in [71] is in establishing that a substantial number of functions are admissible, in showing that the class of admissible functions has interesting closure properties, and in deriving further consequences of admissibility. Our Theorem (2.2.3) insures that the kernel functions we construct are admissible.

In Hayman's theorem as well as Theorems (2.2.2) and (2.2.3), we see that the transforms have asymptotics described to leading order using the conjugate function. That is in keeping with the heuristic "principle of duality of phases", for describing the asymptotic behavior of Fourier (and related) transforms ([80], p. 358). The principle has a long tradition. Hayman's results are related to earlier results of Wiener and Martin [82], [83] and still earlier results

of Hardy and Fejér, both of whom attribute the basic insight to Riemann. (For this see the discussion in [70].) See Evgrafov [69] and Berndtsson [63].

Related questions have been considered for measures and kernel functions defined on the unit disk. The work goes back to Trent [81], Kriete and MacCluer [76] and Kriete [74]. Here are two of the results of [74].

Suppose that we are working on the Bergman space of the disk with radial weight  $(2\pi)^{-1} w(r)dx, dy$ . Thus  $K(x) = \sum \gamma_n^{-1} x^n$  with  $\gamma_n = \int_0^1 r^{2n+1} w(r) dr$ . Set  $A(s) = \log 2 - \log w\left(e^{-\frac{s}{2}}\right) + s$ . Under appropriate conditions on  $w$ , a result analogous to Theorem (2.2.2) is obtained.

**Theorem (2.2.6)[61]:** As  $r \rightarrow \infty, \gamma_n \sim \sqrt{\pi} \sqrt{A^{*''}(-n)} e^{A^*(-n)}$ .

This Theorem (2.2.2) is used in the proof of the following quantitative alternative to (A), which plays a major technical role in [74]:

**Theorem (2.2.7)[61]:** As  $r \sim 1^-, m(r)K(r) \nearrow \infty$ .

While preparing this, we learned that Kriete has taken his work further and obtained rather comprehensive results on the unit disk [75]. Although the detailed formalism of [74] and [75] differ, there is certainly a similarity between those methods.

Related questions have been studied for nonradial weights using a variety of function theoretic techniques. For instance, it is shown in [77] that under some regularity conditions on the function  $w(z) \geq 0$ , and with the assumption that  $-\log w$  is subharmonic, the Bergman kernel  $K(z, \zeta)$  for the space  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, w(z)dx dy) \cap Hol$  satisfies

**Proposition (2.2.8)[61]:** There are positive constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  so that

$$C_1 < \frac{K(z, z)w(z)}{\Delta \log w(z)} < C_2.$$

Similar techniques produce an analogous result for Bergman spaces on the plane. These should be compared with Theorem (2.2.16), which deals with smooth radial weights (on the plane). That result states that, as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{K(z, z)w(z)}{-\Delta \log w(z)} = 1 + o(1).$$

Christ, Berndtsson, Ortega-Cerd/L and Seip, Delin, and others have obtained refined estimates on Bergman kernel functions, including estimates off the diagonal, using  $\bar{\partial}$  techniques. Those results have a different focus from ours and we merely give [65], [64], [79], and [66].

It is a theorem of Miles and Williamson [78], which proved a conjecture of Renyi and Vincze, that  $m(t) = e^{-t}$  is essentially the only function which satisfies (A). It would be interesting to know if there were analogous uniqueness results related to (C).

We shall prove that for fixed  $\alpha$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$K_{(K_m)^{-\alpha m}} \sim (1 + \alpha) K_m^{1+\alpha}(t) \tag{17}$$

In his interesting study of Berezin quantization, Englis [67], [68] shows that in certain cases, for fixed  $t$ , (17) holds as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ . His methods and viewpoint are quite different. We discuss briefly the possibility of obtaining asymptotics as  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  by our methods.

Suppose  $m(t)dt$  is a positive measure on  $[0, \infty)$ . For  $x \geq 0$ , set  $\gamma_x = \gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^x m(t) dt$ . We assume that  $m$  does not have compact support and that  $\gamma(x)$  is finite for all  $x$ . We write  $m(t) = a(t)b(t)$  with  $a$  as the main term and  $b$  as a slowly varying

correction. Although  $m = ab$  is the object of interest, most of our computations, and hence also the hypotheses, are in terms of auxiliary functions, A and B, defined by

$$A(s) = -\log a(e^s) - s, \quad (18)$$

$$B(s) = \log b(e^s). \quad (19)$$

Set  $s_x = s(x) = A'^{-1}(x)$ . Fix  $\varepsilon$ ,  $1/4 < \varepsilon < 1/2$ . We suppose that for all sufficiently large  $x$

$$A^{(i)}(x) > 0, \quad i = 0, \dots, 4, \quad (20)$$

$$A'''(x) = O\left(A''^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon}(x)\right), \quad (21)$$

$$A^{(4)}(x) = O\left(A''^{2-2\varepsilon}(x)\right). \quad (22)$$

The core hypothesis for the proof of Theorem (2.2.2) is that we can find an auxiliary positive function  $\delta$  such that  $\delta^2(x)A''(s_x) \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\delta^3(x)A'''(s_x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . We surrendered a slight amount of generality by assuming (21), but that lets us make a simple choice for  $\delta$ . Select  $\alpha$  with  $0 < \alpha < \varepsilon/2 - 1/8$  and set

$$\delta(x) = A''(s_x)^{-\frac{1}{2\alpha}}. \quad (23)$$

The model case for the hypotheses is  $A(s) = e^{\beta s} - s$ . In that case, (21) and (22) hold with any  $\varepsilon < 1/2$ . The same is true for  $A(s) = e^{h(s)}$  with any function  $h$  of regular and modest growth. Hence, for the examples we have in mind, we could restrict attention to A which satisfy (21) and (22) for all  $e$  up to  $1/2$ . In fact, suppose A were to fail (21) for a fixed  $e$  because there is some  $\varphi < 1/2 - \varepsilon$  so that  $A''' \geq CA''^{1+\varphi}$ . In such a case, we could compare  $A''$  with the exact solution of  $f' = Cf^{1+\varphi}$  and conclude that  $A''(s)$  cannot be finite for all  $s > 0$ . Such A are not of interest here. However, we carry the extra generality of allowing (21) and (22) to fail for some  $\varepsilon < 1/2$  because it may be useful in some other context. We should note that in the following discussion it may be convenient to think of the model case  $\varepsilon = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^-, \alpha = 0^+$ .

The estimate on the derivatives of A imply interval estimates.

**Lemma (2.2.9)[61]:** If we have (21), (22), and (23), then we also have

$$\sup_{|t| < \delta} A''(s_x + t) = (1 + o(1))A''(s_x), \quad (24)$$

$$\sup_{|t| < \delta} A'''(s_x + t) = O\left(A''(s_x)^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon}\right), \quad (25)$$

$$\sup_{|t| < \delta} A^{(4)}(s_x + t) = O\left(A''(s_x)^{2-2\varepsilon}\right), \quad (26)$$

**Proof.** Set  $g(t) = A''(s_x + t)$ . By (21),  $g' = O(g^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon})$  and hence  $g^{-\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon}g' = O(1)$ . Pick and fix some  $t_0$ ,  $|t_0| < \delta$ . Integrating, we find

$$\left|g^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(t_0) - g^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(0)\right| = O(\delta).$$

Hence, recalling the definitions of  $g$  and  $\delta$ , we have

$$\frac{g^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(t_0)}{g^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(0)} = 1 + \left|g^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}(0)\right| O\left(g(0)^{-\frac{1}{2}+\alpha}\right) = 1 + O(g(0)^{\alpha-\varepsilon}),$$

as required for (24). For (25), note that by (21) we have

$$A'''(s_x + t) = O\left(A''^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon}(s_x + t)\right),$$



and by (24) we can replace  $A''^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon}(s_x + t)$  by  $A''^{\frac{3}{2}-\varepsilon}(s_x)$ . We obtain (26) by the same reasoning.

We say that a positive function  $b$  is slowly varying in the first sense with respect to  $a, \varepsilon$  and  $\alpha$  and write  $b \in SVI(a, \varepsilon, \alpha)$  if, for  $B$  given by (19),

$$B' = O(\delta^2 A''') = O\left(A'^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+2\alpha}\right), \quad (27)$$

$$B'' = O\left(\left(A''^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+2\alpha}\right)^2\right). \quad (28)$$

Note that  $0 < 1/2 - \varepsilon + 2\alpha < 1/4$ . We know from the previous lemma that  $A''$  and  $A'''$  satisfy interval estimates. Hence so do  $B'$  and  $B''$ .

We use the following. Write  $X = X(x) = O(\varepsilon)$  if there is a positive  $c$  such that  $X = O(\exp(-A''(s_x)^c))$ .

**Theorem (2.2.10)[61]:** Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are positive functions on  $\mathbf{R}^+$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  are defined by (18) and (19), and  $\delta$  is given by (23). Suppose  $A$  satisfies (20), (21), (22), and hence also (24), (25), and (26). Suppose  $b \in SVI(a, \varepsilon, \alpha)$ . Let

$$\gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^x a(t) b(t) dt.$$

As  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\gamma(x) = e^{A^*(x)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{A''(s_x)}} e^{B(s_x)} (1 + O(A''(s_x)^{6\alpha-2\varepsilon}) + O(\varepsilon)). \quad (29)$$

Furthermore, as  $x \rightarrow \infty$

$$(\log \gamma)'(x) \rightarrow \infty \quad (30)$$

$$A^*(x) - (\log \gamma)'(x) = O\left(A''^{-\frac{1}{2}+2\alpha-\varepsilon}(x)\right), \quad (31)$$

$$A^{**}(x) - (\log \gamma)''(x) = O(A''^{-1+6\alpha-2\varepsilon}(x)). \quad (32)$$

**Notes: (i)**

$$6\alpha - 2\varepsilon < -\frac{1}{4}, \quad -\frac{1}{2} + 2\alpha - \varepsilon < -\frac{3}{4}, \quad -1 + 6\alpha - 2\varepsilon < -5/4.$$

(ii) The formulation of (29) is redundant, as  $O(\varepsilon)$  is smaller than  $A''^{6\alpha-2\varepsilon}$ . We include it separately because, while the error term  $O(A''^{6\alpha-2\varepsilon})$  can obviously be refined by straightforward (but lengthy) analysis, the exponential error term appears to be intrinsic to the method.

(iii) (30), (31), and (32) are technical estimates we shall use when we use the output from this theorem as input for Theorem (2.2.3).

**Proof.** Fix  $x$  large. We write  $\delta$  for  $\delta(x)$ . Set

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i &= A^{(i)}(s_x), & i &= 0, 1, \dots, \\ B_i &= B^{(i)}(s_x), & i &= 0, 1, \dots, \end{aligned}$$

We saw at (10) in the proof outline that

$$\gamma(x) = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-[A(s_x+u)-\alpha_0-\alpha_1 u]} e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du.$$

We need to estimate

$$I_j = \int_{-\infty}^\infty u^j e^{-[A(s_x+u)-\alpha_0-\alpha_1 u]} e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du$$

For  $j = 0, 1, 2$ . The analysis of the tails, L and R, is the same for  $j = 0, 1$ , and 2; we present the discussion only for  $j = 0$ . We have

$$I_0 = \int_{u < -\delta} \dots du + \int_{|u| < \delta} \dots du + \int_{u > \delta} \dots du = L + C + R.$$

We first estimate L. Integration by parts gives

$$A(s_x + u) - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 u = \int_u^0 (r - u)A''(s_x + r)dr.$$

In the integral defining L,  $u < -\delta < 0$ ; thus the integrand in the previous integral is positive. Using this and the monotonicity of  $A''$ , we continue with

$$\begin{aligned} A(s_x + u) - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 u &\geq \int_{-\delta}^0 (r - u)A''(s_x + r)dr \\ &\geq A''(s_x - \delta) \int_{-\delta}^0 (r - u) dr = -\frac{1}{2}(2u + \delta)\delta A''(s_x - \delta) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$L \leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\frac{1}{2}(2u+\delta)\delta A''(s_x-\delta)+B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du = e^{\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 A''(s_x-\delta)} \int_{-\infty}^{\delta} e^{u\delta A''(s_x-\delta)+B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du$$

Now

$$e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} = \exp \int_0^u B'(s_x + t)dt.$$

Using (27) and recalling that  $A''$  is monotone, we find

$$e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} = \exp(O(1)|u|\alpha_2^\theta),$$

Where  $\theta = \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon + 2\alpha$  is between 0 and 1/4. Hence

$$L < e^{\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 A''(s_x-\delta)} \int_{-\infty}^{-\delta} \exp(u\delta A''(s_x - \delta) + O(1)|u|\alpha_2^\theta) du.$$

Taking into account (23), and recalling that u is negative in the region of integration, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u\delta A''(s_x - \delta) + O(1)|u|\alpha_2^\theta &= u\delta(\alpha_2(1 + o(1)) + O(1)\delta^{-1}\alpha_2^\theta) \\ &= u\delta(\alpha_2(1 + o(1)) + O(1)\alpha^{1+\alpha-\varepsilon}) = u\delta\alpha_2(1 + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can continue with

$$\begin{aligned} L &< e^{\frac{1}{2}\delta^2 A''(s_x-\delta)} \int_{-\infty}^{-\delta} \exp(u\delta\alpha_2(1 - o(1))) du \\ &= \frac{1}{(1 - o(1))^{\delta\alpha_2}} e^{\frac{1}{2}\delta^2\alpha_2(1+o(1))} e^{-\delta^2\alpha_2(1-o(1))} \leq \frac{(1 + o(1))}{\delta\alpha_2} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{2}-o(1)\right)\delta^2\alpha_2} \\ &= O(\varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Hence also  $\frac{1}{2}L = O(\varepsilon)$ , which is what we require.

We now look at R. We need to estimate

$$\int_{\delta}^{\infty} e^{-[A(s_x+u)-\alpha_0-\alpha_1u]} e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du.$$

By Taylor's theorem,

$$A(s_x + u) - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 u - [B(s_x + u) - \beta_0] = -\beta_1 u + \frac{1}{2}(A''(s_x + \xi) - B''(s_x + \xi))u^2$$

for some  $\xi \in (0, u)$ . Taking into account (27), (28), and the monotonicity of  $A''$ , we continue with

$$\begin{aligned} & A(s_x + u) - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 u - [B(s_x + u) - \beta_0] \\ &= o\left(\alpha_2^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)u + \left(A''(s_x + \xi) + o(A''(s_x + \xi))\right) \\ &\geq o\left(\alpha_2^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)u + \left(\frac{1}{2} + o(1)\right)\alpha_2 u^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-[A(s_x+u)-\alpha_0-\alpha_1u]} e^{B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du &\leq \int_{\delta}^{\infty} e^{-\left[o\left(\alpha_2^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)u + \left(\frac{1}{2} + o(1)\right)\alpha_2 u^2\right]} du \\ &\leq \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} \int_{\delta\alpha_2^{\frac{1}{2}}}^{\infty} e^{-\left[o(1)v + \left(\frac{1}{2} + o(1)\right)v^2\right]} dv = O(\varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\alpha_2^{\frac{1}{2}}R = O(\varepsilon)$ , which is what we needed.

We now estimate C. For  $j = 0, 1, 2$ , we need to estimate

$$C_j = \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-[A(s_x+u)-\alpha_0-\alpha_1u] + B(s_x+u)-\beta_0} du.$$

We now need to take the Taylor series analysis given in the proof outline one step further. By Taylor's theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & -[A(s_x + u) - \alpha_0 - \alpha_1 u] + B(s_x + u) - \beta_0 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}\alpha_2 u^2 - \frac{1}{6}\alpha_3 u^3 - \frac{1}{24}\tilde{\alpha}_4 u^4 + \beta_1 u + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\beta}_2 u^2. \end{aligned}$$

Here we use decoration to indicate terms which must be evaluated away from  $s_x$ :  $\tilde{\alpha}_4 = A^{(4)}(w)$  for some  $w, |s_x - w| < \delta$ ,  $\tilde{\beta}_2 = B''(w')$  for some  $w', |s_x - w'| < \delta$ . We separate the main quadratic term, the odd powers, and the error term. We set  $D = -\frac{1}{6}\alpha_3 u^3 + \beta_1 u$  and  $E = \frac{1}{24}\tilde{\alpha}_4 u^4 + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\beta}_2 u^2$ , Set  $A = \alpha_2^{3\alpha - \varepsilon}$  and note that  $3\alpha - \varepsilon < -1/8$ . Noting (21), (22), (27), and (28) and Lemma (2.2.9), we have  $D = O(A)$ ,  $E = O(A^2)$ , and  $D^2 = O(A^2)$ . Taking into account that  $A \rightarrow 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} C_j &= \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} e^D e^E du = \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} (1 + D + O(D^2))(1 + O(E)) du \\ &= \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} (1 + D + O(A^2)) du \\ &= \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} (1 + D) du + O(A^2) \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} du \\ &= \int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} (1 + D) du + O(A^2) \alpha_2^{\frac{j+1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $j = 0, 2$ ,  $\int_{|u| < \delta} u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} du$  is the integral of an odd function over a symmetric interval and hence we can drop D from the expressions for  $c_0$  and  $c_2$ . We next pass to integrals over the entire line. This introduces an error of  $O(\varepsilon)$ , which we absorb into the larger error terms. We have

$$C_0 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} du + O(\Lambda^2) \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\Lambda^2) \right);$$

$$C_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} du + O(\Lambda^2) \alpha_2^{-\frac{3}{2}} = \alpha_2^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\Lambda^2) \right).$$

For  $j = 1$  the integral involving  $u^j e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}}$  vanishes; and we have, using (21), (23), and (27),

$$C_1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2 u^2}{2}} du + O(\Lambda^2) \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} = O\left(\alpha_2^{-\frac{3}{2}} \beta_1\right) + O\left(\alpha_2^{\frac{5}{2}} \alpha_3\right) + O(\Lambda^2) \alpha_2^{-1}$$

$$= \alpha_2^{-1} O(\alpha_2^{-\varepsilon+2\alpha} + \alpha_2^{-\varepsilon} + \Lambda^2) = \alpha_2^{-1} (\alpha_2^{-\varepsilon+2\alpha}).$$

Hence

$$e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} I_0 = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\Lambda^2) \right), \quad (33)$$

$$e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} I_1 = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-1} O(\alpha_2^{-\varepsilon+2\alpha}), \quad (34)$$

$$e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} I_2 = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\Lambda^2) \right), \quad (35)$$

This gives us (29).

We now proceed to verify (30), (31), and (32). For appropriate  $K$ , we have

$$\gamma(x) = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(s_x + u) du.$$

If we differentiate (21) and then follow the same pattern of analysis we find

$$\gamma(j)(x) = e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (s_x + u)^j K(s_x + u) du$$

for  $j = 1, 2$ . If we set

$$J_j = s \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u^j K(s_x + u) du, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots,$$

then we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= e^{A^*} e^{\beta_0} J_0 \\ \gamma' &= e^{A^*} e^{\beta_0} (s_x J_0 + J_1), \\ \gamma'' &= e^{A^*} e^{\beta_0} (s_x^2 J_0 + 2s_x J_1 + J_2) \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

From Lemma (2.2.1), we know that  $A^{*'}(x) = s_x$  and  $A^{*''}(x) = A''(x)^{-1}$ . quantities we want to estimate are

$$\begin{aligned} (\log \gamma)' &= s_x + \frac{J_1}{J_0}, \quad A^{*'} - (\log \gamma)' = \frac{J_1}{J_0} \\ A^{*''} (\log \gamma) &= A''^{-1} - \frac{J_2}{J_0} + \left( \frac{J_1}{J_0} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

From (33) and (34), we know that

$$-\frac{J_1}{J_0} = \frac{e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-1} O(\alpha_2^{2\alpha-\varepsilon})}{e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\alpha_2^{6\alpha-2\varepsilon}) \right)} = \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} O(\alpha_2^{2\alpha-\varepsilon}) = O\left(\alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}+2\alpha-\varepsilon}\right).$$

This gives (31). Also, noting that  $s_x \rightarrow \infty$ , we have (30). required estimate for  $\left(\frac{J_1}{J_0}\right)^2$  in (31).

We complete (31) by noting

$$\begin{aligned}
A''^{-1}(s_x) - \frac{J_2}{J_0} &= \alpha_2^{-1} - \frac{e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\alpha_2^{6\alpha-2\epsilon}) \right)}{e^{A^*(x)} e^{\beta_0} \alpha_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + O(\alpha_2^{6\alpha-2\epsilon}) \right)} \\
&= \alpha_2^{-1} - \alpha_2^{-1} (1 + O(\alpha^{6\alpha-2\epsilon})) = O(\alpha^{-1+6\alpha-2\epsilon}),
\end{aligned}$$

as required.

We start with positive functions  $c$  and  $d$  defined on  $\mathbf{R}^+$ . We want to estimate  $f(z) = \sum c(n)^{-1} d(n) z^n$ . Here  $c$  will be our main term with  $d$  a slowly varying correction. We will do our computational work with the auxiliary functions

$$\Gamma(x) = \log c(x), \quad (37)$$

$$\Delta(x) = \log d(x). \quad (38)$$

Let  $\Gamma^*$  be the conjugate function to  $\Gamma$  and set  $x_x = x(s) = \Gamma'^{-1}(s) = \Gamma^{*'}(s)$ . We suppose that  $1/4 < \epsilon < 1/2$  is such that as  $x \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma(x), \Gamma'(x), \Gamma''(x), -\Gamma^{(3)}(x) > 0, \quad (39)$$

$$\Gamma(x), \Gamma'(x) \rightarrow \infty, \quad (40)$$

$$\Gamma''(x), \Gamma^{(3)}(x), \Gamma^{(4)}(x) \rightarrow \infty, \quad (41)$$

$$\Gamma'''(x) = O\left(\Gamma''^{\frac{3}{2}+\epsilon}(x)\right), \quad (42)$$

$$\Gamma^{(4)}(x) = O\left(z''^{2+2\epsilon}(x)\right). \quad (43)$$

Note that if this holds for  $e$ , then it also holds for any  $\epsilon'$  such that  $1/4 < \epsilon' < \epsilon$ .

In analogy to the previous theorem, the core hypothesis for the proof is now that we can find an auxiliary function  $\lambda$  such that  $\lambda^2 \Gamma'' \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\lambda \Gamma''' \rightarrow 0$ .

Assumption (42) allows us to use

$$\lambda(s) = \Gamma''(x_s)^{-\frac{1}{2}-\beta} \quad (44)$$

for some  $\beta$ ,  $0 < \beta < \epsilon/3 - 1/12$ , which we now regard as selected and fixed. As before, a convenient choice to keep in mind is  $\epsilon = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^-$ ,  $\beta = 0^+$ .

**Lemma (2.2.11)[61]:** If we have (42), (43), and (14), then we also have (45)

$$\sup_{|\theta| < \lambda} |\Gamma'''(x_s + \theta)| = (1 + o(1)) |\Gamma'''(x_s)|, \quad (45)$$

$$\sup_{|\theta| < \lambda} |\Gamma''''(x_s + \theta)| = O\left(\Gamma''''(x_s)^{\frac{3}{2}+\epsilon}\right), \quad (46)$$

$$\sup_{|\theta| < \lambda} |\Gamma^{(4)}(x_s + \theta)| = O\left(\Gamma^{(4)}(x_s)^{2+2\epsilon}\right), \quad (47)$$

**Proof.** The proof is the natural modification of the proof of Lemma (2.2.9).

Suppose that  $d$  is a positive  $C^2$  function. We say that  $d$  is slowly varying in the second sense with respect to  $c$ ,  $\epsilon$ , and  $\beta$ , and write  $d \in SVII(c, \epsilon, \beta)$ , if, as  $s \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Gamma'(s) - \Delta'(s) \rightarrow \infty, \quad (48)$$

$$\Delta' = O\left(\Gamma''^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon-\beta}\right), \quad (49)$$

$$\Delta'' = O\left(\left(\Gamma''^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon-\beta}\right)^2\right). \quad (50)$$

Note that the assumptions imply

$$\frac{3}{4} < \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon - \beta < 1.$$

In analogy with A and B, these estimates on  $\Gamma$  imply interval estimates for  $\Delta$ .

For these hypotheses the model case is

$$\Gamma(x) = \frac{x+1}{\gamma} \log \frac{x+1}{\gamma} - \frac{x+1}{\gamma}, \quad \Gamma'(x) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \log \frac{x+1}{\gamma}, \quad \Gamma''(x) = \frac{1}{\gamma(x+1)},$$

and  $\epsilon$  can be chosen as close as desired to  $1/2$ .

Set

$$\begin{aligned} c_i &= \Gamma^{(i)}(x_s), \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ d_i &= \Delta^{(i)}(x_s), \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ \sigma &= x_s - [x_s]. \end{aligned}$$

Define the scaled parameters

$$\begin{aligned} C_3 &= c_3 c_2^{-\frac{3}{2}}, \\ E &= d_1 c_2^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} c_3 C_2^{-\frac{3}{2}}, \\ \Theta &= \Theta(\theta, 0) = \theta c_2^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \\ \Theta(n) &= \Theta(\theta, n) = (\theta + 2\pi n) c_2^{-\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the previous assumptions insure that  $C_3, E = o(1)$ .

We write  $Y = Y(x_s) = O(\mathcal{F})$  if for some  $c > 0$ ,  $Y = O(\exp(-\Gamma''(x_s)^{-c}))$ .

Set

$$\tau = 2\epsilon - 6\beta - \frac{1}{2}. \quad (51)$$

The assumptions on  $\epsilon$  and  $\beta$  insure that  $0 < \tau < 1/2$ .

**Theorem (2.2.12)[61]:** Suppose  $\Gamma$  satisfies (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), and hence also (45), (46), and (47) and that  $d \in SVII(c, \epsilon, \beta)$ . Set  $f(z) = \sum_0^\infty d(n)c(n)^{-1}z^n$ . Then  $f$  is entire and, as  $s \rightarrow \infty$ , has the asymptotic growth

$$\begin{aligned} f(e^{s+i\theta}) &= e^{\Gamma^*(s)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{\Gamma''(x_s)}} d(x_s) e^{i\theta x_s} \left[ e^{-\frac{1}{2}\theta^2} (1 + i\Theta E + i\Theta^3 C_3) + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + O(\mathcal{F}) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

In particular, for  $c_2^{\frac{1}{2}-\beta} < |\theta| < \pi$ .

$$|f(e^{s+i\theta})| = f(e^s) O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right). \quad (53)$$

As with the previous theorem, the formulation in (46) is redundant. The  $O(\mathcal{F})$  error term, which is smaller, is intrinsic to the method; the other could be mechanically refined. Hence we present both.

We use the results of this theorem as input for Theorem (2.2.2). To do that, we require certain estimates on the derivatives of  $f$  on the axis. We present those estimates as a lemma now because it is convenient to include their proof along with the proof of Theorem (2.2.3).

**Lemma (2.2.13)[61]:** In the situation of Theorem (2.2.18), we have the following additional estimates:

$$z \frac{d}{dz} f(e^s) = x_s L_0 + L_1, \quad (54)$$

$$\left(z \frac{d}{dz}\right)^2 f(e^s) = x_s^2 L_0 + 2x_s L_1 + L_2, \quad (55)$$

where for  $j = 0, 1, 2$

$$L_j = e^{\Gamma^*(x)\Delta(x_s)} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{c_2}} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} J_j + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) + O(\mathcal{F}) \right] \quad (56)$$

with

$$J_0 = \sqrt{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_2}}, \quad J_1 = \sqrt{2\pi} \frac{-c_3 + 2d_1c_3}{2(\sqrt{c_2})^5}, \quad J_2 = \sqrt{2\pi} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{c_2})^3}. \quad (57)$$

**Proof.** The hypothesis (48) insures that  $\lim(d(n)c(n)^{-1})^{\frac{1}{n}} = 0$ . Thus  $f$  is entire.

We need to estimate

$$\left(z \frac{d}{dz}\right)^i f(z) = \sum_0^\infty n^i d(n)c(n)^{-1} z^n, \quad i = 0, 1, 2.$$

We split the sum into a central part and tails. The tails will be estimated by the corresponding integrals, using analysis similar to that in the previous proof. In order to capture the cancellation when  $\theta \neq 0$ , we treat the central part differently.

The analysis of the tail terms is not essentially changed by the factors  $n^i$ ; hence we present the estimates only for  $i = 0$ . We have

$$f(x) = \sum d(n)c(n)^{-1} x^n = \sum e^{n \log x - \Gamma(n) + \Delta(n)}.$$

Writing  $z = e^s$ , we have  $f(e^{s+i\theta}) = \sum \exp(ns - \Gamma(n) + \Delta(n) + in\theta)$ . Fix  $s$  large. For this  $s$ ,  $xs - \Gamma(x)$  has its maximum at  $x_s$ . Set  $u = n - x_s$ . Thus  $e^{in\theta} = e^{ix_s\theta} e^{iu\theta}$ . For typographic convenience, we set

$$\Omega = -(\Gamma(x_s - u) - c_0 - c_1u) + \Delta(x_s + u) - d_0.$$

Bringing a factor of  $e^{\Gamma^*(n)} e^{ix_s\theta}$  outside the sum, recalling that  $c_1 = \Gamma'(x_s) = s$ , and doing a bit of rearranging, we find

$$f(e^{s+i\theta}) = e^{\Gamma^*(s) + \Delta(x_s) + i\theta x_s} \sum_{-x_s}^\infty e^{\Omega + iu\theta}$$

We need to show

$$\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} \sum_{-x_s}^\infty e^{\Omega + iu\theta} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\theta^2} (1 + i\theta E + i\theta^3 C_3) + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) + O(\mathcal{F}). \quad (58)$$

We use  $\lambda = \lambda(s)$  as given by (44) to split the range of summation into three parts, again L, C, and R. We start the analysis with L. We drop the unimodular factor and dominate the sum by the corresponding integral. That is,

$$\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} L = O(1) \sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} \int_{x_s}^{-\lambda} e^{\Omega} du. \quad (59)$$

We now estimate the integrand. We have

$$\Gamma(x_s + u) - c_0 - c_1u = \int_u^0 (r - u) \Gamma''(x_s + r) dr.$$

By the monotonicity of  $\Gamma''$  we see that if  $u < -\lambda$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(x_s + u) - c_0 - c_1u &\geq \int_{-\lambda}^0 (r - u) \Gamma''(x_s + r) dr \\ &\geq \Gamma''(x_s) \int_{-\lambda}^0 (r - u) dr = -\frac{1}{2} \Gamma''(x_s) \lambda(2u + \lambda). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we continue (53) with

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}}L &= O(1)\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}}e^{\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}}\int_{-x_s}^{-\lambda}e^{c_2 u\lambda+\Delta(x_s+u)-d_0}du \\ &= O(1)e^{\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}}\int_{-\infty}^{-\lambda}e^{w\lambda+\left[\Delta\left(x_s+\frac{w}{\sqrt{c_2}}\right)-d_0\right]}dw\end{aligned}$$

We need to estimate the integral. Using (43) to estimate  $\left[\Delta\left(x_s+\frac{w}{\sqrt{c_2}}\right)-d_0\right]$  in the integral, we find that, for some positive  $K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}}\int_{-\infty}^{-\lambda\sqrt{c_2}}\dots dw w &= O(1)e^{\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}}\int_{-\infty}^{-\lambda\sqrt{c_2}}e^{w\lambda\sqrt{c_2}}e^{-Kw} \\ &= O(1)\frac{e^{\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}}e^{(-\lambda^2 c_2+K\lambda\sqrt{c_2})}}{\lambda\sqrt{c_2}-K} \\ &= O(1)\frac{e^{-\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}+K\lambda\sqrt{c_2}}}{\lambda\sqrt{c_2}-K} \\ &= O(1)O\left(\exp\left(-\frac{\lambda^2 c_2}{2}+\lambda\sqrt{c_2}K\right)\right)=O(\mathcal{F}),\end{aligned}$$

as required. We now look at  $R$ . If  $u \geq \lambda$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(x_s+u)-c_0-c_1u &= \int_0^u(u-r)\Gamma''(x_s+r)dr \\ &\geq \int_0^\lambda(u-r)\Gamma''(x_s+r)dr \\ &\geq \Gamma''(x_s+\lambda)\int_0^\lambda(u-r)dr \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\lambda\Gamma''(x_s+\lambda)(2u-\lambda)\end{aligned}$$

Set  $\tilde{c}_2 = \Gamma''(x_s + \lambda)$ . Then

$$R = O(1)\int_\lambda^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda\tilde{c}_2(2u-\lambda)+\Delta(x_s+u)-d_0}du.$$

Thus

$$\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}}R = O(1)\sqrt{c_2}e^{\frac{1}{2}\lambda^2\tilde{c}_2}\int_\lambda^\infty e^{-\lambda\tilde{c}_2u+\Delta(x_s+u)-d_0}du.$$

Lemma (2.2.11) insures  $\tilde{c}_2 \sim c_2$ . The hypothesis (43) and the monotonicity of  $\Gamma''$  insure  $\Delta(x_s+u)-d_0 = O(1)c_2^{\frac{1}{2}}u$ . Thus we need to estimate

$$\begin{aligned}I &= O(1)\sqrt{c_2}\exp\left(\left(1+\frac{o(1)c_2\lambda^2}{2}\right)\right)\int_\lambda^\infty\left(-\lambda(1+o(1))c_2u+O(1)c_2^{\frac{1}{2}}u\right)du \\ &= O(1)\sqrt{c_2}\exp\left(\left(1+\frac{o(1)c_2\lambda^2}{2}\right)\right)\int_\lambda^\infty\left(\left[-(1+o(1))\lambda^2c_2\right.\right. \\ &\quad \left.\left.+O(1)c_2^{\frac{1}{2}}\right]\frac{u}{\lambda}\right)du.\end{aligned}$$



We know  $\lambda c_2^{\frac{1}{2}} \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence, for large  $s$ ,

$$\left[ -(1 + o(1))\lambda^2 c_2 + O(1)\lambda c_2^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] \frac{u}{\lambda} \leq \left[ -\frac{2}{3}\lambda^2 c_2 \right] \frac{u}{\lambda} = \frac{2}{3}\lambda c_2 u.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} I &= O(1)\sqrt{c_2} \exp\left(\left(1 + \frac{o(1)c_2\lambda^2}{2}\right)\right) \int_{\lambda}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{2\lambda c_2 u}{3}\right) du \\ &= O(1)\sqrt{c_2} \exp\left(\frac{(1 + o(1))c_2\lambda^2}{2}\right) (c_2\lambda)^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{2\lambda^2 c_2}{3}\right) \\ &= O(1) \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_2}\lambda^{-1}} \exp\left(\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} + o(1)\right)c_2\lambda^2\right) = o(\mathcal{F}), \end{aligned}$$

as required.

We now need to estimate the center term,

$$\sum_c = e^{\Gamma^*(s) + \Delta(x_s) + i\theta x_s} \sum_{||u|| < \lambda} e^{\Omega + iu\theta}.$$

By Taylor's theorem, we have, for  $|u| < \lambda$ ,

$$\Omega = -\frac{1}{2}c_2 u^2 - \frac{1}{6}c_3 u^3 + d_1 u - \frac{1}{24}\tilde{c}_4 + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{d}_2 u^2.$$

Here  $\tilde{c}_4 = \Gamma^{(4)}(w)$  and  $\tilde{d}_2 = \Delta''(w')$ , with  $w, w' \Delta(x_s - \lambda, x_s + \lambda)$ . Using (42), (43), (49), and (50), we find

$$\begin{aligned} |\tilde{c}_4 u^4| + |\tilde{d}_2 u^2| &= O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2} + \tau}\right), \\ (|c_3 u^3| + |d_1 u|)^2 &= O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2} + \tau}\right). \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{||u|| < \lambda} e^{\Omega + iu\theta} &= \sum \left(1 + d_1 u - \frac{c_3 u^3}{6} + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2} + \tau}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 u^2}{2} + iu\theta\right) \\ &= \sum \left(1 + d_1 u - \frac{c_3 u^3}{6}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 u^2}{2} + iu\theta\right) \\ &\quad + \sum O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2} + \tau}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 u^2}{2} + iu\theta\right) \\ &= \sum_1 + \sum_2. \end{aligned} \tag{60}$$

We estimate  $\sum_2$  by passing to absolute values, estimating the truncated Gaussian sum by the corresponding Gaussian integral over the entire line, and then evaluating the integral.

This gives  $\sum_2 = O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2} + \tau}\right) O\left(c_2^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right) = O(c_2^{\tau})$ , which is what we needed. (Recall from (58)

that we pick up an additional factor of  $O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)$  outside of the sum  $\sum_{||u|| < \lambda}$ .)

Write  $u = k - \sigma$  with  $k \in Z$  and  $\sigma = x_s - [x_s]$ . Now  $\sum_1$  is a sum with the range  $|k| < \lambda$ . However, the natural estimates show that we change things only by  $O(\mathcal{F})$  if we replace that with the sum over all integers. We do that and thus now need to estimate

$$\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( 1 + d_1(k - \sigma) - \frac{c_3(k - \sigma)^3}{6} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{c_2(k - \sigma)^2}{2} + i(k - \sigma)\theta \right).$$

By the Poisson summation formula ([62]), this equals  $\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(n)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} h(n) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( 1 + d_1(x - \sigma) - \frac{c_3(x - \sigma)^3}{6} \right) \\ &\quad \times \exp \left( -\frac{c_2(x - \sigma)^2}{2} + i(x - \sigma)\theta \right) e^{2\pi i n x} dx \\ &= e^{2i\pi n \sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( 1 + d_1 y - \frac{c_3 y^3}{6} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{c_2 y^2}{2} + (2\pi n + \theta)iy \right) dy. \end{aligned}$$

Starting with the formula for  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ty^2+2xy} dy$  ([62],) and differentiating with respect to  $s, t$ , and then both, we find

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ty^2+2xy} dy = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{t}} e^{\frac{s^2}{t}}, \quad (61)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y e^{ty^2+2sy} dy = \frac{s\sqrt{\pi}}{t\sqrt{t}} e^{\frac{s^2}{t}}, \quad (62)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y^2 e^{-ty^2+2sy} dy = \left[ \frac{1}{2t} + \left( \frac{s}{t} \right)^2 \right] \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{t}} e^{\frac{s^2}{t}}, \quad (63)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y^3 e^{-ty^2+2sy} dy = \left[ \frac{3s}{2t^2} + \left( \frac{s}{t} \right)^3 \right] \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{t}} e^{\frac{s^2}{t}}. \quad (64)$$

For  $n = 0$ , direct computation gives

$$h(0) = e^{-\frac{\theta^2}{2c_2}} \left( 1 + i\theta \left( \frac{d_1}{c_2} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{c_3}{c_2^2} \right) \right) + i \frac{\theta^3 c_3}{c_2^3} \right) \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{c_2}}$$

or, in terms of the scaled parameters,

$$h(0) = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Theta^2 (1 + i\Theta E + i\Theta^3 C_3)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{c_3}}.$$

In general,

$$h(n) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \Theta^2 (1 + i\Theta(n)E + i\Theta(n)^3 C_3)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{c_2}} e^{\pi i n \sigma}.$$

In general,  $\sum_{n \neq 0} |h(n)|$  is dominated by a geometric series which is dominated by  $h(0)O(\mathcal{F})$ . However, this fails to be uniform in  $\theta$ ; in fact,  $\Theta(-\pi, 1) = O(\pi, 0)$ . However, this is only an issue if  $n = \pm 1$  and  $e^{i\theta}$  is near the negative real axis. In that case, however, both terms are  $O(e^{-c_2^{-1}}) = O(\mathcal{F})$ . Hence all the  $h(n)$ , for  $n > 0$ , can be absorbed into the various error

terms. Finally, notice that when  $c_2^{\frac{1}{2}-\beta} < |\theta|$ ,  $h(0) = O(\mathcal{F})$ . Hence the main term is the contribution associated to  $\sum_2$  in (54), which we saw was  $O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)$ . Thus (52) and (53) are done.

We now proceed to the proof of the lemma. For  $j = 1, 2$  we want to estimate

$$\left(z \frac{d}{dz}\right)^j f(e^s) = e^{\Gamma^*(s)} d(x_s) \sum_{-x_s}^{\infty} (x_s + u)^j e^{\Omega}.$$

Straightforward manipulation shows that (54) and (55) hold with

$$L_j = e^{\Gamma^*(s)} d(x_s) \sum_{-x_s}^{\infty} u^j e^{\Omega}$$

for  $j = 0, 1, 2$ . We estimate  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  using the same type of analysis as in the proof of the theorem (which, in fact, treated  $L_0$ ). That is, the tails contribute an error that is  $O(\mathcal{F})$ , and the central part of the sum is analyzed using Poisson summation. The situation here is slightly easier because we only want estimates on the positive real axis. Hence the terms in the Poisson summation corresponding to  $n \neq 0$  contribute a total error which is  $O(\mathcal{F})$ . This gives, up to an error term of  $O(e_2^T) + O(\mathcal{F})$ ,  $L_j = J_j$  This gives us (56) with

$$J_j = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(1 + d_1 y - \frac{c_3 y^3}{6}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 y^2}{2}\right) dy$$

for  $j = 0, 1, 2$ . Evaluating those integrals using (61)-(64) then produces the statements in the lemma.

We shall use the output of Theorem (2.2.2) as input for Theorem (2.2.12) and then use the output from Theorem (2.2.12) as input for Theorem (2.2.2). Here we collect the bookkeeping lemmas which show that the functions which arise in this process satisfy the required hypotheses.

First, suppose that we have a and b which satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem (2.2.2), that A and B are given by (18) and (19), and that  $\{\Gamma(n)\}$  are the associated moments. We want to use  $\{\gamma(n)^{-1}\}$  as power series coefficients in a way which keeps the focus on a as the primary term. We define  $c, d$  by  $c(x) = \exp(A^*(x))$ ,  $d(x) = c(x)\gamma(x)^{-1}$  and define  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  by (37) and (38).

**Lemma (2.2.14)[61]:** Suppose  $a, \epsilon$ , and  $\alpha$  satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem (2.2.2) and  $b \in SVI\left(a, \epsilon, \frac{\alpha}{3}\right)$ . Then, with the same  $\epsilon$ , with  $\beta = \alpha$ , and with  $\lambda = \Gamma''^{-\frac{1}{2}-\beta}$ , the data  $\epsilon, \beta, \Gamma$ , and  $\Delta$  satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem (2.2.2)1. That is, with the same  $\epsilon, \Gamma$  satisfies (39), (40), (41), (42), and (43), and  $d \in SVII(c, \epsilon, \beta)$ .

**Proof.** The statements about F follow from the hypotheses on A, the fact that  $\Gamma = A^*$ , and Lemma (2.2.1).

To see that  $d \in SVII(c, \epsilon, \beta)$ , note that

$$\Delta = \log c - \log \gamma = \Gamma - \log \gamma = A^* - \log \gamma.$$

Hence, by (30), (31), and (32), A satisfies (49) and (50).

Suppose, now, that we had a, that  $b = 1$ , that we had a choice of  $\alpha$ , and that we then invoked Theorem (2.2.2) with the choice  $\alpha^* = \alpha/3$ . Of course, for b a constant function,  $b \in SVI(\alpha, \epsilon, \alpha^*)$ . Noting the previous lemma, we can then apply Theorem (2.2.12) to the functions c and d just described. That will produce an entire function f. Suppose we have a fixed  $\sigma > -1$ . We want to apply Theorem (2.2.2) to the functions  $a_\sigma$  and  $b_\sigma$ , selected so that  $a_\sigma b_\sigma = a f^{-\sigma}$ . We set  $a_\sigma = a e^{-\sigma A}$ ,  $b_\sigma = e^{\sigma A} f^{-\sigma}$  and  $A_\sigma(s) = -\log a_\sigma(e^z) - s$ ,  $B_\sigma(s) = \log b_\sigma(e^*)$ .

**Lemma (2.2.15)[61]:** Using a new smaller  $\alpha$ , we can apply Theorem (2.2.2) to the functions  $a_\sigma$  and  $b_\sigma$ . That is, for a smaller  $\alpha$ ,  $A_\sigma$  satisfies (20), (21), (22), (25), and (26). Furthermore,  $b_\sigma \in SVI(a_\sigma, \epsilon, \alpha)$ .

**Proof.** Our choice  $c(x) = \exp(A^*(x))$  in Theorem (2.2.12) gives  $\Gamma = A^*$  and hence  $\Gamma^* = A^{**} = A$ . Thus

$A_\sigma(s) = -\log a_\sigma(e^s) - s = -\log a(e^s) - s + \sigma A(s) = (1 + \sigma)A(s)$ , and the conclusions for  $A_\sigma$  are immediate. We have  $B_\sigma(s) = \ln b_\sigma(e^s) = \sigma(\Gamma^*(s) - \log f(e^s))$ . Hence we need estimates for  $(\Gamma^* - \log f)'$  and  $(F^* - \log f)''$ . Set  $D = zd/dz$ . Direct computation yields

$$\begin{aligned} (\log f(e^s))'(e^s) &= \frac{Df(e^s)}{f(e^s)}, \\ (\log f(e^s))''(e^s) &= \frac{D^2f(e^s)}{f(e^s)} - \left(\frac{Df(e^s)}{f(e^s)}\right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $\Gamma^{*'}(s) = x_s = A'(s)$  and, by Lemma (2.2.1),  $\Gamma^{*''} = \Gamma''^{-1} = c_2^{-1}$ . Thus, using (54) and (55), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\Gamma^* - \log f)' &= \Gamma^{*'}(s) - \frac{Df(e^s)}{f(e^s)} \\ &= x_s - \left(\frac{x_s L_0 + L_1}{L_0}\right)^2 \\ &= -\frac{L_1}{L_0}. \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{c_2/2\pi} J_1 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})}{\sqrt{c_2/2\pi} J_0 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})}. \end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows by using (56) and absorbing  $O(\mathcal{F})$  into the other, larger, error term. Using the values of  $J_0$  and  $J_1$ , we continue with

$$\begin{aligned} &(\Gamma^* - \log f)' \\ &= \frac{-c_3 + 2d_1 c_2 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})}{2c_2^2} \\ &= \frac{-c_3 + 2d_1 c_2 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})}{1 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})} \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{-c_3 + 2d_1 c_2 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})}{c_2^2}\right) \left(1 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})\right) \\ &= \left(O(c_3 c_2^{-2}) + O(d_1 c_2^{-1}) O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})\right) \left(1 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})\right) \\ &= \left(O(c_2^{-1/2+\varepsilon}) + O(c_2^{-1/2+\varepsilon-\beta}) + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})\right) \left(1 + O(c_2^{1/2+\tau})\right) \\ &= O(c_2^{-1/2+\varepsilon-\beta}) = O(A''^{1/2-\varepsilon+\beta}). \end{aligned}$$

Using this estimate for  $L_1/L_0$ , we analyze the second derivative by

$$\begin{aligned} (\Gamma^* - \log f)'' &= \Gamma^{*''}(s) - \frac{D^2f(e^s)}{f(e^s)} + \left(\frac{Df(e^s)}{f(e^s)}\right)^2 \\ &= \Gamma''^{-1}(x_s) - \left(\frac{x_s^2 L_0 + 2x_s L_1 + L_2}{L_0}\right) + \left(\frac{x_s L_0 + L_1}{L_0}\right)^2 = c_2^{-1} - \frac{L_2}{L_0} + \left(\frac{L_1}{L_0}\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= c_2^{-1} - \frac{\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} J_2 + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{c_2}{2\pi}} J_0 + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)} + \left(O\left(A''^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+\beta}\right)\right)^2 \\
&= c_2^{-1} - \frac{c_2^{-1} + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)}{1 + O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)} + \left(O\left(A''^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+\beta}\right)\right)^2 \\
&= c_2^{-1} - c_2^{-1} + c_2^{-1} O\left(c_2^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) + \left(O\left(A''^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+\beta}\right)\right)^2 = O\left(c_2^{-\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) + \left(O\left(A''^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon+\beta}\right)\right)^2 \\
&= O\left(A''^{1-2\varepsilon+2\beta}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

This gives the required estimates for  $B'$  and  $B''$ .

We suppose that  $m$  is given and fixed and that  $A(s) = -\log m(e^s) - s$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem (2.2.2) for some selected  $\varepsilon, \alpha$ . We use the notation of Theorem (2.2.2) and its proof and of Theorem (2.2.12) and its proof with the choice  $\Gamma = A^*$ . In particular, we denote the derivatives of  $A$  by  $\sigma$ 's and of  $\Gamma$  by  $c$ 's.

Many of our estimates will be in terms of the function  $A''$ . We would like to be able to relate those estimates both to the starting function  $m$  and to the function  $\varphi$  defined by  $m(|z|^2) = \exp(-2\varphi(z))$ , which is often used as a parameterization in this context. By straightforward calculation, we have

$$A''(\log x^2) = -\left(x \frac{d}{dx}\right)^2 (\log m)(x^2) = x^2 (\Delta\varphi)(x).$$

Let  $H_m$  be the weighted Bergman space,

$$H_m = L^2\left(\mathbb{C}, m(r^2) \frac{\tau dr d\theta}{\pi}\right) \cap \text{Hol}.$$

For each  $w \in \mathbb{C}$ , there is a Bergman kernel function  $k_w = k_{m,w}$  which is characterized as that element of  $H_m$  which satisfies  $f(w) = \langle f, k_w \rangle$  for all  $f$  in  $H_m$ . Because the monomials are an orthogonal basis of  $H_m$ ,  $k_w(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|z^n\|^{-2} (\bar{w}z)^n$ . Thus, setting  $\gamma = \int_0^{\infty} x^n m(x) dx$  and  $k_w(z) = K_m(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n^{-1} z^n$ , we have  $k_w(z) = K(\bar{w}z)$ . We are interested in estimating  $k_w$  and related objects. Our approach is to start with  $m$ , use Theorem (2.2.2) to estimate the  $\gamma$ 's in terms of  $m$ , and then use those estimates in Theorem (2.2.12) to estimate  $K$ . There is no loss of generality in assuming that  $w$  is real and positive, and we make that assumption for the rest.

In describing various small quantities, we use the shorthand

$$S(x) = A''(\log x)^{-1}.$$

Here is our main estimate for the Bergman kernel.

**Theorem (2.2.16)[61]:** As  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , for  $|\theta| \leq S(wr)^{\frac{1}{2}-6\alpha}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
k_w(re^{i\theta}) &= e^{A(\log wr)} A''(\log wr) e^{i\theta A'(\log wr)} \left( e^{-\frac{A''(\log wr)\theta^2}{2}} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + O\left(S(wr)^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

and thus

$$k_w(re^{i\theta}) m(wr) \sim \frac{A''(\log wr)}{wr} e^{\frac{A''(\log wr)\theta^2}{2}} \tag{66}$$

On the diagonal,

$$k_w(w) = e^{A(2 \log w)} A''(2 \log w) \left( 1 + O\left(S(w^2)^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right) \right). \quad (67)$$

Far from the axis,  $|e| > S(wr)^\gamma$  for (any) fixed  $\gamma > 0$ ,

$$k_w(re^{i\theta}) = k_w(r) O\left(S(w^2)^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right). \quad (68)$$

**Note.** Recall from Theorem (2.2.12) that  $\tau = 2\varepsilon - 6\beta - 1/2$  and  $0 < \tau < 1/2$ .

**Proof.** We apply Theorem (2.2.2) with the choice  $A(s) = -\log m(e^s) - s$ ,  $B = 0$ . Let  $\gamma$  be the moment function we obtain. Lemma (2.2.14) insures that we can then use Theorem (2.2.12) with the choices  $c = \exp(A^*)$ ,  $d = \exp(A^*)\gamma^{-1}$  (and thus  $c^{-1}d = \gamma^{-1}$ ). Theorem (2.2.12) shows that on the positive axis

$$f(e^s) \sim e^{\Gamma^*(s)} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{\sqrt{\Gamma''(x_s)}} d(x_s) (1 + O\left(S(wr)^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right)).$$

We have  $\Gamma = A^*$  and hence  $\Gamma^* = A^{**} = A$ , the last by Lemma (2.2.1). We also know, from that lemma, that  $\Gamma'' = A^{*''} = A''^{-1}$  and hence  $c_2 = A''^{-1}$ . Finally,  $d = \sqrt{A''} \exp(B) / \sqrt{2\pi}$ . In this case,  $B = 0$  and hence  $f(e^s) \sim e^A A''$ . From the definitions, we have  $e^{A(\log t)} = \frac{1}{tm(t)}$ . Recalling that  $K = f$  gives (59). The other estimates follow by restricting to appropriate  $\theta$ .

From this theorem, we get an asymptotic version of (A)

**Corollary (2.2.17)[61]:**

$$m(r^2)k_r(r) \sim \frac{A''(\log r^2)}{r^2}.$$

In particular, if  $m(r) \sim ar^b e^{-cr^d} s(r)$ , where  $a, b, c, d > 0$  and  $s \in SVI(ar^b e^{-cr^d}, \varepsilon, \alpha)$  for  $\varepsilon, \alpha$  allowed in Theorem (2.2.2), then

$$m(r^2)k_r(r) \sim cd^2 r^{2d-2}.$$

Theorem (2.2.16) is not enough to give a version of (B). It shows that  $\log K_m = (-\log m)(1 + o(1))$ ; but to get to a version of (B), we need to know that a similar estimate holds after we apply  $\left(\frac{xd}{dx}\right)^2$  to each side. For that reason, we need to invoke (15) and Theorem (2.2.2) again.

**Theorem (2.2.18)[61]:** Fix  $\sigma > 0$  and set  $K_{\sigma w} = k_{mK_m^{-\sigma}, w}$ . As  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , for  $|\theta| \leq S(r)^{\frac{1}{2}-6\alpha}$ ,

$$K_{\sigma, w}(re^{i\theta}) \sim (1 + \sigma) K_{m, w}(re^{i\theta})^{1+\sigma}.$$

for  $\pi \geq |\theta| > S(r)^{\frac{1}{2}-6\alpha}$

$$K_{\sigma, w}(re^{i\theta}) \sim K_{\sigma, w}(r) O\left(S(r)^{\frac{1}{2}+\tau}\right).$$

**Proof.** We have  $A(s) = -\log m(e^s) - s$ . We want to apply Theorem (2.2.2) with the choices  $a_\sigma = me^{-\sigma A}$  and  $b_\sigma = e^{\sigma A} K_m(x)^{-\sigma}$ . The associated function  $A_\sigma$  is

$$A_\sigma(s) = -\log a_\sigma(e^s) - s = -\log m(e^s) - s - \sigma A(s) = (1 + \sigma)A(s).$$

We saw in the proof of Theorem (2.2.16) that  $K_m(e^s) \sim e^A A'' b = e^A A''$ . The same argument applied to  $a_\sigma$  and  $b_\sigma$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\sigma, w}(x) &\sim e^{A_\sigma} A''_\sigma b_\sigma \\ &= e^{(1+\sigma)A} (1 + \sigma) A'' b_\sigma \\ &= e(1 + \sigma) A (1 + \sigma) A'' (e^A K_{m, w}(x)^{-1})^\sigma \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sim e^{(1+\sigma)A}(1+\sigma)A''(A'')^\sigma \\
&= (1+\sigma)(e^A A'')^{1+\sigma} \\
&\sim (1+\sigma)K_{m,w}(x)^{1+\sigma}.
\end{aligned}$$

For small  $\theta$ , the proof of Theorem (2.2.12) goes through with  $\Theta(n)^2$  increased by a factor of  $1 + \Theta$ . For large  $\theta$ , the argument in that proof gives the required estimates.

Rather than integrate these estimates to get an asymptotic version of (C), we do a slightly more general computation in the following.

The Berezin transform  $B_m$  is a valuable tool for studying Toeplitz operators on  $H_m$ . For a smooth function  $F$ ,  $B_m(F)$  is defined by

$$B_m F(w) = \left\langle F \frac{k_w}{\|k_w\|}, \frac{k_w}{\|k_w\|} \right\rangle = \int \int_C F(z) \frac{|K(\bar{w}z)|^2}{K(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dx dy}{\pi} \quad (69)$$

If we look at the Fock spaces,  $m_\sigma(|z|^2) = \exp(-(1+\sigma)|z|^2)$ , then we have

$$B_{m_\sigma} F(w) = \int \int_C F(z) e^{-(1+\sigma)|z-w|^2} \frac{dx dy}{\pi} = F(w) + \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(1+\sigma)} \Delta F(w) + O\left(\frac{1}{(1+\sigma)^2}\right).$$

We would like analogues of these formulas for our more general weights. The general theory of reproducing kernels insures that the Berezin measure

$$d\mu = \frac{|K(\bar{w}z)|^2}{K(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dx dy}{\pi}$$

is always a probability measure. We now want to study  $d_\mu$  using our asymptotic estimates on the kernel function. First, however, we introduce a further restriction on  $a$ , which we formulate in terms of the auxiliary function  $A$  of (22). We require  $A''(s)$  to be dominated by  $\exp(s^2)$  in a controlled way. Suppose, therefore, that there exists constants  $C > 0, \alpha_0 > 0$  such that for  $\alpha > \alpha_0$  and  $t > A''(\alpha_0)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  we have

$$\log \frac{A''(\alpha + t)}{A''(\alpha)} < -Ct^2. \quad (70)$$

For context, note that in the model case  $A(t) = e^{\beta t} - t$  the left-hand side equals  $\beta$ . For smooth functions  $F$  defined on  $\mathbb{C}$ , set  $\|F\| = \sum_{n \leq 3} \sup |\nabla^n F|$ . In addition to rectangular coordinates on  $\mathbb{C}$  we will use coordinates  $(s, \theta)$  where  $w = e^w$  and  $z = e^{w+s+i\theta}$  and also use the scaled coordinates  $(S, \Theta)$  where  $S = \sqrt{A''(2w)}s$  and  $\Theta = \sqrt{A''(2w)}\theta$ . We continue to work of the previous. In particular, we still have the hypotheses and conclusions of Theorem (2.2.16) and Theorem (2.2.18).

**Theorem (2.2.19)[61]:** In addition to the hypotheses of the previous, suppose that (70) holds. Given  $F$  with  $\|F\| < \infty$ , we have

$$B_m F(w) = \int \int_C F(z) e^{-(s^2+\Theta^2)} \frac{dS d\Theta}{\pi} + O(1)\|F\|S(w^2)^{\epsilon-\alpha}.$$

**Proof.** We start from (69). We first estimate the integral over the unit disk. On  $\mathbb{D}$  we can bound  $F$  by  $\|F\|$  and  $|K(wz)|$  by  $K(w)$ . Thus we have

$$\left| \int \int_{\mathbb{D}} F(z) \frac{|K(wz)|^2}{K(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dx dy}{\pi} \right| \leq C_m \|F\| \frac{K(w)^2}{K(w^2)}.$$

To show that this can be absorbed into the error term, we need to control  $K(w)^2/K(w^2)$  for large  $w$ . Recall that  $\omega = \log w$ . By Theorem (2.2.16), it is enough to show that

$$\frac{e^{2A(\omega)} A''(\omega)^2}{e^{A(2\omega)} A''(2\omega)} = O(A''(2\omega)^{-1}).$$

Hence it suffices to show that

$$j(\omega) = 2A(\omega) - A(2\omega) + 2 \log A''(\omega)$$

is bounded above. We compute

$$j'(\omega) = 2A'(\omega) - 2A'(2\omega) + \frac{2A''(\omega)}{A''(\omega)}$$

and use the intermediate value theorem on the first pair of terms and the hypothesis (20) on the third. It follows that for some  $\tilde{\omega} \in (\omega, 2\omega)$

$$j'(\omega) \leq -2\omega A''(\tilde{\omega}) + 2A''(\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Recalling that  $A''$  is monotone increasing and unbounded, we see that  $j'$  is negative for all large  $\omega$ , which gives what we need.

We now pass to coordinates  $(s, \theta)$ , where  $\omega = e^\omega$  and  $z = e^{\omega+s+i\theta}$  and so  $dx dy = e^{2(\omega+s)} ds d\theta$ . By definition,  $m(|z|^2) = m(e^{2(\omega+s)}) = e^{-2(\omega+s)} e^{-A(2\omega+2s)}$ . Hence  $\pi^{-1} m(|z|^2) dx dy = \pi^{-1} e^{-A(2\omega+2s)} ds d\theta$ .

Set  $R = \{(s, \theta) : |\theta| < O(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}-6\alpha})\}$ . In  $R$  we use the asymptotic estimates for  $K$  given in Theorem (2.2.16). This lets us estimate the integrand by

$$F(z) \frac{\left| e^{A(2\omega+s)} A''(2\omega+s) e^{-\frac{A''(2\omega+s)\theta^2}{2}} \left( 1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right) \right) \right|^2}{e^{A(2\omega)} A''(2\omega) \left( 1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right) \right)} e^{-A(2\omega+2s)}.$$

Note that  $\frac{\left( 1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right) \right)^2}{1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right)} = - \left( 1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right) \right)$ . We shall see that our approximations

to the Berezin measure converge to a probability measure; in the course of that analysis, it will be clear that the norms of the approximations are uniformly bounded. Hence the error

made by dropping the factors  $\left( 1 + O\left(S(\omega r)^{\frac{1}{2}+r}\right) \right)$  in the integral can be safely absorbed

into the error term. Thus, in  $R$ , the integrand can be estimated by

$$F(z) e^{2A(2\omega+s) - A(2\omega) - A(2\omega+2s)} \frac{A''(2\omega+s)^2}{A''(2\omega)} e^{A''(2\omega+s)\theta^2}. \quad (71)$$

We have estimated the integral over the unit disk, i.e.,  $s < -\omega$ . We now consider the region where  $-\omega < s < -\delta$ . Set

$$h(s) = 2A(2\delta + s) - A(2\omega) - A(2\omega + 2s)$$

and put  $\delta = \delta(2\omega)$ . We dominate  $F(z)$  by  $\|F\|$  and first do the integral in  $\theta$ . Near the axis,

we use the Gaussian estimate of (71). Integrating that gives  $(\sqrt{\pi} + o(1)) A''(2\omega + s)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Using the estimate in (68) away from the axis, we get a further contribution of  $o\left(A''(2\omega + s)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)$ . Thus, integrating in  $\theta$  contributes a factor of  $O(1) A''(2\omega + s)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Hence we must estimate

$$\int_{-\omega}^{-\delta} e^{h(s)} \frac{A''(2\omega + s)^2}{A''(2\omega) A''(2\omega + s)^{\frac{1}{2}}} ds.$$

Now  $A''$  is increasing; hence the fraction in the integrand is at most 1. We need to estimate  $\int_{-\omega}^{-\delta} e^{h(s)} ds$ . We have  $h'(s) = 2A'(2\omega + s) - 2A'(2\omega + 2s)$ . Since  $A'$  is increasing and  $s$  is negative,  $h'$  is positive and thus  $h$  is increasing. Thus the integral is dominated by  $\omega e^{h(-\delta)}$ .



To estimate  $h(-\delta)$ , we compute  $h''(s) = 2A''(2\omega + s) - 4A''(2\omega + 2s)$  and take note of (18). We find that, on  $(-\delta, 0)$ ,  $h''(s) = -2A''(2\omega)(1 + o(1))$ . Noting that  $h(0) = h'(0) = 0$  and integrating twice gives  $h(-\delta) = -A''(2\omega)\delta^2(1 + o(1))$ . Recalling that  $A''^{\frac{1}{2}}\delta = A''^k$  for some  $k > 0$ , we conclude that the integral is dominated by any negative power of  $A''$ , a better estimate than needed.

Now we consider the integral over the region where  $s > \delta$ . Note that  $h(0) = h'(0) = 0$  and  $h''(0) = -2A''(2\omega)$ . Hence, by Taylor's theorem,

$$h(s) = -A''(2\omega)s^2 + \frac{1}{6}h'''(s^*)s^3,$$

with  $s^*$  between 0 and  $s$ . Again we dominate  $F(z)$  by  $\|F\|$  and first do the integral in  $\theta$ , making the same estimates as in the previous case. We are reduced to estimating

$$\int_{\delta}^{\infty} e^{-A''(2\omega)s^2 + \frac{1}{6}h'''(s^*)s^3} \frac{A''(2\omega + s)^2}{A''(2\omega)A''(2\omega + s)^{\frac{1}{2}}} dS.$$

We make the change of variables  $s = S/\sqrt{A''(2\omega)}$  and introduce the shorthand  $\varphi$ . We then need to estimate

$$\int_{\delta\sqrt{A''(2\omega)}}^{\infty} e^{-S^2 + \varphi S^3} \frac{A''\left(2\omega + SA''^{-\frac{1}{2}}(2\omega)\right)^{3/2}}{A''(2\omega)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dS.$$

In the region of integration,  $s$  is positive and hence  $s^*$  is positive. We compute  $h''(t) = 2A'''(2\omega + t) - 8A'''(2\omega + 2t)$ . Recalling that  $A'''$  is positive and increasing, we conclude that  $\varphi$  is negative. Hence we make the integral larger by dropping  $\varphi S^3$ . We thus need to estimate

$$\int_{\delta\sqrt{A''(2\omega)}}^{\infty} e^{-S^2} \frac{A''\left(2\omega + SA''^{-\frac{1}{2}}(2\omega)\right)^{3/2}}{A''(2\omega)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dS$$

The estimate (70) insures that the fraction in the integral is dominated by  $\exp(C'S^2A''^{-1}(2\omega))$ . This insures that the integral is  $O(e^{-\theta} - A''^{-\theta})$  for some  $\theta > 0$ , which is more than we need.

Now we look at the range  $|s| < \delta$ . First we consider the part of that region outside of  $R$ . Using (68), we see that, for fixed  $s$ , the integration in  $\theta$  (outside of  $R$ ) yields an integrand of the form

$$O(1)\|F\| e^{-A''(2\omega)s^2 + \frac{1}{6}h'''(s^*)s^3} A''(2\omega + s)^2/A''(2\omega)^{\frac{3}{2}+r}$$

In  $|s| < \delta$  the hypotheses on  $A$  insure that the quotient in this expression is  $O\left(A''(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}-\tau}\right)$  and that  $h'''(s^*)s^3$  is  $O(1)$ . Thus we must estimate the integral of  $O(1)\|F\|e^{-A''(2\omega)(1+o(1))s^2} A''(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}-\tau}$ . Doing the  $s$  integration gives  $O(1)\|F\| A''(2\omega)^{-\tau}$ , which is an acceptable error term.

What remains is the main contribution, the integral over the region where  $s$  and  $\theta$  are both small. In that region, we first note that the hypotheses on  $A$  and standard Taylor estimates insure that

$$e^{-A''(2\omega)s^2 + \frac{h'''(s^*)s^3}{6}} e^{-A''(2\omega+s)\theta^2} = e^{A''(2\omega)(s^2+\theta^2)}(1 + O(S(w^2)^\varepsilon)).$$

Hence, making the change of variable  $(S, \Theta) = (\sqrt{A''(2\omega)}s, \sqrt{A''(2\omega)}\theta)$ , we obtain, up to a term which can be safely absorbed into the error term,

$$\int_{|\theta| < A''(2\omega)^{6\omega}} \int_{|s| < \delta A''(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}}} F(z) e^{-(s^2 + \theta^2)} \frac{A''(2\omega + s)^2}{A''(2\omega)^2} \frac{dSd\Theta}{\pi}.$$

Using the Taylor expansion of  $A''(2\omega + s)$  about  $s = 0$ , (23), and (25), we see that  $A''(2\omega + s)^2 / A''(2\omega)^2 = 1 + O(A''(2\omega))^{\alpha - \varepsilon}$ . It remains only to note that the passage from  $\int_{|\theta| < A''(2\omega)^{6\omega}} \int_{|s| < \delta A''(2\omega)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$  to  $\int \int_C$  introduces an error which, in the notation of Theorem (2.2.12), is  $O(\mathcal{F})$ .

This estimate gives our asymptotic version of (C):

**Corollary (2.2.20)[61]:** As  $w \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\int \int_C |K_{K_m^{-1}m}(\bar{w}z)| m(|z|^2) \frac{dxdy}{\pi} \sim 2K_m(|w|^2). \quad (72)$$

**Proof.** We use the notation of Theorem (2.2.18), that is,  $K_0 = K_m$  and  $K_1 = K_{K_m^{-1}m}$ . We want to estimate

$$I = \int \int_C \frac{|K_1(\bar{w}z)|}{K_0(|wz|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dxdy}{\pi}.$$

The same arguments as those in the proof of Theorem (2.2.18) insure that

$$I \sim \int \int_R \frac{|K_1(\bar{w}z)|}{K_0(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dxdy}{\pi}$$

Where

$$R = \left\{ (s, \theta) : |s| < \delta, |\theta| < \frac{S(2w + r)^{\frac{1}{2} - 6\alpha}}{10} \right\}.$$

We rewrite this as

$$I \sim \int \int_R \frac{|K_1(\bar{w}z)|}{|K_0(\bar{w}z)|^2} \frac{|K_0(\bar{w}z)|^2}{K_0(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dxdy}{\pi} \sim \int \int_R F_w(z) \frac{|K_0(\bar{w}z)|^2}{K_0(|w|^2)} m(|z|^2) \frac{dxdy}{\pi}$$

where  $F_w = |K_1(\bar{w}z)| / |K_0(\bar{w}z)|^2$  on  $R$ . Theorem (2.2.18) insures that  $F_w \sim 2$  on  $R$ . There is no problem extending  $F_w$  to the entire plane with  $\|F_w\|$  bounded independently of  $w$ . We now apply the previous theorem with  $F = F_w$  and find that

$$I = \int \int_C F_w(z) e^{-(s^2 + \theta^2)} \frac{dSd\Theta}{\pi} + o(1).$$

Recalling that  $F_w \sim 2$ , we obtain  $I \sim 2$ , which is the desired conclusion.

Our results are estimates in a fixed Bergman space which are asymptotic as  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ . However, instead of a fixed density  $m$ , we could look at the family of densities  $m_\sigma = K_m^{-1-\sigma}$  and investigate the asymptotic behavior of the kernel function and Berezin transform for fixed  $z$  and as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ . Such questions are of interest in quantization, with  $(1 + \sigma)^{-1}$  playing the role of Planck's constant. See [67] and [68] for instances of such estimates as well as further discussion. Here we discuss briefly the type of results that could perhaps be obtained by the methods, and why we have not yet obtained them. First, consider Theorem (2.2.18).

We have  $K_\sigma(re^{i\theta}) \sim (1 + \sigma)K_m(re^{i\theta})^{1+\sigma}$ . There may be a more refined result such as

$$K_\sigma = (1 + \sigma)K_m^{1+\sigma} + (\text{something}) + \frac{1}{(\sigma + 1)} (\text{something}) + O\left(\frac{1}{\sigma^2}\right).$$

However, the proof which we give fails to produce such a result. That proof gives

$$K_\sigma(1 + \sigma)K_m^{1+\sigma} \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{A''\beta}\right) \right)^\sigma$$

for some positive  $\beta$ . This is fine for fixed  $\sigma$  and large  $r$ , but not for fixed  $r$  and large  $\sigma$ . The fact that the right-hand side involves a factor  $(1 + \text{small})^\sigma$  seems to be intrinsic to the structure of our proof.

It also seems plausible that more is true in Theorem (2.2.19). We can estimate the Gaussian integral by writing  $F$  near  $z = 2\omega$  as a Taylor polynomial of degree 2 in the variables  $s$  and  $\theta$ . The integral of the Taylor remainder gives a contribution smaller than the error term. The polynomial-times-Gaussian can be integrated explicitly, and we obtain

$$B_m F(w) = F(w) + \frac{w^2}{4A''(2\omega)} \Delta F(w) + O(1) \|F\| A''(2\omega)^{\alpha-\varepsilon}.$$

However, this presentation is misleading. We do not know that the third term on the right is smaller than the middle one. The difficulty is not in the estimation of the Gaussian integral, which produces an error that is  $O(A''^{-2})$ . The problem is the error terms on the estimates which led to the Gaussian integral. If it were known that the error terms resulting from that analysis were  $O(A''^{-2})$ , then we would in fact have

$$B_m F(w) = F(w) + \frac{w^2}{4A''(2\omega)} \Delta F(w) + O(1) \|F\| A''(2\omega)^{\alpha-\varepsilon}.$$

We can carry the speculation a step further. If, instead of fixed  $m$ , we now look at the family of densities  $m_\sigma = K_m^{-1-\sigma}$  and write  $B_\sigma$  for the corresponding Berezin transforms, we would have

$$B_\sigma F(w) \sim F(w) + \frac{w^2}{4A''_\sigma(2\omega)} \Delta F(w) + O(A''_\omega^{-2}) \|F\|.$$

Now recall from the proof of Theorem (2.2.18) that  $A_\sigma = (1 + \sigma)A_0$ . We could next regard  $m, F$ , and  $w$  as fixed and let  $\sigma$  grow. That would give, as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$

$$B_\sigma F(w) \sim F(w) + \frac{1}{1 + \sigma} \frac{w^2}{4A''_0(2\omega)} \Delta F(w) + O\left(\frac{1}{\sigma^2}\right).$$

Estimates such as this, even with an error term  $O\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}\right)$ , would be sufficient to give a correspondence principle for Berezin quantization schemes; see the Introduction of [67].

It may be that the methods here can be developed to obtain such estimates for large  $\sigma$ . However, it appears that doing this by direct estimation would be quite awkward. Hence we defer further analysis in the hope of finding a more effective way to organize the ideas.

### Section (2.3): Hankel Operators

We consider the Fock type space  $A^2(\mu_m)$  consisting of those holomorphic functions which are square integrable with respect to the measure  $d\mu_m(z) = e^{-|z|^m} dV(z)$ , where  $dV(z)$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $m > 0$  is a positive parameter.

When  $m = 2$  the space  $A^2(\mu_2)$  is the Fock space, called also the Segal-Bargmann space. Let  $I$  be the identity operator and  $P_2$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mu_2)$  onto  $A^2(\mu_2)$ . Let  $T(\mathbb{C}^n)$  be the subspace of  $L^2(\mu_2)$  consisting of those functions  $f$  that satisfy  $f(\cdot + a) \in L^2(\mu_2)$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . We recall that if  $f \in T(\mathbb{C}^n)$ , then the Hankel operator  $H_f$  with symbol  $f$  is defined by

$$H_f(\varphi) = (I - P_2)(f\varphi),$$

for all  $\varphi$  in the dense subspace of  $A^2(\mu_2)$  spanned by  $\{K_2(\cdot, a), a \in \mathbb{C}^n\}$  where  $K_2(z, a) := e^{(z,a)}$ ,  $z, a \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , is the Bergman kernel. In this case, the study of compactness of Hankel

operators with bounded symbols was considered in the works of Berger and Coburn [134] and Stroethoff [142]. In the more general case  $f \in T(\mathbb{C}^n)$ , the simultaneous membership of  $H_f$  and  $H_{\bar{f}}$  to the Schatten classes was characterized by Xia and Zheng [143] and by Bauer [130] in the Hilbert-Schmidt setting. A necessary and sufficient condition for simultaneous boundedness of  $H_f$  and  $H_{\bar{f}}$  was given recently by Bauer [131]. The tools used in these works use heavily the translation action of the group  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and related properties to the Bergman kernel.

We also mention that in the one dimensional case  $n = 1$  the study of Hankel operators in the setting  $m > 0$  was considered by Schneider [Sc] when the symbol is a monomial. His method is direct and relies on an approximation process.

We consider the general case  $m > 0$ . We begin by clarifying the appropriate definition of densely defined Hankel operators. Indeed, if  $f \in L^2(\mu_m)$  is a function of polynomial growth, then the Hankel operator  $H_f$  with symbol  $f$  is defined by  $H_f(\varphi) = (I - P_m)(f\varphi)$ , where  $P_m$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mu_m)$  onto  $A^2(\mu_m)$  given by

$$P_m(g)(z) := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_m(z, w)g(w)d\mu_m(w), \text{ for } g \in L^2(\mu_m)$$

where  $K_m$  is the Bergman kernel given. We shall show that the righthand side of the latter equality is well-defined for functions  $g$  of the form  $g = f\varphi$  for all  $f \in L^2(\mu_m)$  and  $\varphi$  in the space  $P$  of holomorphic polynomials. This allows us to extend the definition of  $P_m$  on such functions and, using this, we see that  $H_f$  is defined on holomorphic polynomials. In particular, it is densely defined.

We first point out that the techniques used the case  $m = 2$  to study Hankel operators do not apply to the case  $m \neq 2$ . Our goal herein is to develop new methods which are adequate to the setting  $m > 0$  in the case of anti-analytic symbols  $f$ .

The first main result is the following

We observe that when  $m$  is odd, then all bounded Hankel operators with anti-analytic symbols are also compact. This is not the case for  $m$  even.

In the particular case  $m = 2$ , Theorem (2.3.22) was established in a recent work by [131] using a technique which does not work at all when  $m \neq 2$ .

We recall that an operator  $T$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$  if  $(T * T)^{\frac{p}{2}}$  is in the trace class of  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . Our second result characterizes such a class of operators.

We discovered recently that a weaker version of our results was established by Knirsch and Schneider [89] in the one dimensional particular case.

We finally mention in passing that Hankel operators with antiholomorphic symbols are intimately related to the  $\bar{\partial}$ -canonical solution operator (see [85], [86] and [87]).

We recall some facts about Hankel operators with respect to certain rotation invariant measures, see [181]. Let  $\Omega$  be a rotation invariant open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $\mu$  be a rotation invariant measure on  $\Omega$ . We suppose that  $\mu$  has moments of every order; that is,

$$m_k = \int_{\Omega} |z|^{2k} d\mu(z) < +\infty, \text{ for all } k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

We consider the Hilbert space  $L^2(\Omega, \mu)$  of square integrable complex-valued functions on  $\Omega$  with respect to the measure  $\mu$  and  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  its subspace consisting of holomorphic elements. We assume that for each set compact  $K \subset \Omega$  there exists  $C = C(K) > 0$  such that

$$\sup_{z \in K} |f(z)| \leq C \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

for all  $f \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . Thus  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  is a closed space of  $L^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . The corresponding orthogonal projection  $P_\mu$  will be called the Bergman projection. We also assume that the subspace consisting of all holomorphic polynomials is dense in  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . Therefore, if  $f \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  has polynomial growth, then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  given by

$$H_{\bar{f}}(\varphi) = (I - P_\mu)(\bar{f}\varphi)$$

is well defined for all holomorphic polynomials  $\varphi$ . In particular,  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is densely defined.

Let  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$  denote the set of all  $n$ -tuples with components in the set  $\mathbb{N}_0$  of all nonnegative integers. If  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , we let  $|\alpha| := \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n$  denote the length of  $\alpha$ . If  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  satisfies  $\alpha_j \geq \beta_j$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , then we write  $\alpha \geq \beta$ . Otherwise, set  $\alpha \not\geq \beta$ .

The space of polynomials  $P$  is endowed with the Fischer inner product [182]  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_F$ , defined on the monomials by

$$\langle z^\alpha, z^\beta \rangle_F = \begin{cases} \alpha! & \text{if } \alpha = \beta \\ 0 & \text{if } \alpha \neq \beta. \end{cases}$$

Finally, if  $A$  and  $B$  are two quantities, we use the symbol  $A \approx B$  whenever  $A \leq C_1 B$  and  $B \leq C_2 A$ , where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are positive constants independent of the varying parameters.

We shall express the operators  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  and  $H_{\bar{z}^k}^* H_{\bar{z}^l}$  on holomorphic homogeneous polynomials.

**Lemma (2.3.1)[84]:** Suppose that  $\beta, k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then

$$(H_{\bar{z}^k} f)(\xi) = \bar{\xi}^k f(\xi) - \frac{m_d}{m_d - |k|} \frac{\Gamma(n + d - |k|)}{\Gamma(n + d)} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial \bar{\xi}^k} f(\xi)$$

for all holomorphic polynomials  $f$  of degree  $d$ . In particular, if  $f = \xi^\alpha$ , then

$$(H_{\bar{z}^k} f)(\xi) = \begin{cases} \bar{\xi}^k \xi^\alpha - \frac{m_{|\alpha|}}{m_{|\alpha| - |k|}} \frac{\Gamma(n + |\alpha| - |k|)}{\Gamma(n + |\alpha|)} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!} \xi^{\alpha - k}, & \text{if } \alpha \geq k \\ \bar{\xi}^k \xi^\alpha & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** It suffices to prove the lemma for  $f(\xi) = \xi^\alpha$ , where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ . Let  $g$  be a homogeneous polynomial in  $P$ . If  $g$  is a monomial of the form  $g(\xi) = \xi^\beta$ , where  $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then using the properties of  $P_\mu$ , we see that

$$\langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f), g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \langle f, z^k g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

and hence  $\langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f), g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$  as long as  $\alpha \neq k + \beta$ . Now let  $\alpha = k + \beta$ . By Lemma (2.3.1) in [181], we have the following identities

$$\int_\Omega z^\alpha \bar{z}^\alpha d\mu(z) = \frac{(n - 1)! m_{|\alpha|} \alpha!}{(n + |\alpha| - 1)!} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle z^\alpha, z^\alpha \rangle_F = \alpha!, \quad (72)$$

from which we obtain

$$\langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f), g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \frac{(n - 1)! m_{|\alpha|}}{(n + |\alpha| - 1)!} \langle f, z^k g \rangle_F.$$

Since the multiplication operator and the corresponding differentiation operator are adjoint to each other with respect to the Fischer inner product, this implies that

$$\langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f), g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \frac{m_{|\beta| + |k|}}{m_{|\beta|}} \frac{(n - 1 + |\beta|)!}{(n - 1 + |\beta| + |k|)!} \langle \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} f, g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

for all holomorphic homogeneous polynomials  $g$  of degree  $|\beta|$ . Therefore, if  $f$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ , we have

$$P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f) = \frac{m_d}{m_{d-|k|}} \frac{(n-1+d-|k|)!}{(n-1+d)!} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} f.$$

This completes the proof of the lemma.

**Lemma (2.3.2)[84]:** The domain  $\text{Dom}(H_{\bar{z}^k}^*)$  of  $H_{\bar{z}^k}^*$  contains all polynomials in  $w$  and  $\bar{w}$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to show that, if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are fixed in  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then the linear functional

$$g \mapsto \langle H_{\bar{z}^k}(g), z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

is bounded on  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . To do so, choose an integer  $d \geq |\alpha| + |\beta| + 2|k|$  and consider the subspace  $N_d$  of  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  consisting of polynomials with degree smaller than or equal to  $d$ . We denote by  $\pi_d$  the orthogonal projection from  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  onto  $N_d$ . If  $g \in P$ , then  $(I - \pi_d)g$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials in  $P$  with degree at least  $d + 1$ . In view of Lemma (2.3.1), we can write

$$H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g = \bar{z}^k f + h$$

where  $f$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials of degree at least  $d + 1$  and  $h$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials of degree at least  $d + 1 - |k|$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \langle \bar{z}^k f, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} + \langle h, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \langle f z^\beta, z^{\alpha+k} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} + \langle z^\beta h, z^\alpha \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $d + 1 + |\beta| \geq 1 + |\alpha| + 2|\beta| + 2|k| > |\alpha| + |k|$ , it follows that  $\langle f z^\beta, z^{\alpha+k} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$ . Also, due to the fact that the degree of  $z^\beta f$  is greater than  $|\alpha|$  we see that  $\langle z^\beta f, z^\alpha \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$ . Thus  $\langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$  for all  $g \in P$  and consequently

$$\langle H_{\bar{z}^k} g, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g, z^\alpha \bar{z}^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}.$$

The lemma now follows from the fact that  $H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ \pi_d$  is of finite rank and hence bounded.

We observe by Lemmas (2.3.1) and (2.3.2) that  $P$  is contained in the domain of the operator  $H_{\bar{v}}^* H_{\bar{u}}$  for all holomorphic polynomials  $u$  and  $v$ .

**Lemma (2.3.3)[84]:** Suppose that  $u, v$  and  $f$  are holomorphic polynomials. Then

$$H_{\bar{v}}^* H_{\bar{u}} f = P_\mu(v \bar{u} f) - v P_\mu(\bar{u} f).$$

**Proof.** A little computing shows that for all  $g \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle H_{\bar{u}} f, H_{\bar{v}} g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \langle \bar{u} f - P_\mu(\bar{u} f), \bar{v} g - P_\mu(\bar{v} g) \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \langle v \bar{u} f, g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} - \langle P_\mu(\bar{u} f), \bar{v} g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &\quad + \langle (P_\mu - I)(\bar{u} f), P_\mu(\bar{v} g) \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \langle v \bar{u} f, g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} - \langle P_\mu(\bar{u} f), \bar{v} g \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \end{aligned}$$

where the latter equality holds since  $P_\mu(\bar{v} g) \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  and  $(P_\mu - I)(\bar{u} f)$  is orthogonal to  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . This completes the proof.

**Lemma (2.3.4)[84]:** Assume that  $k$  and  $l$  are elements of  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ . If  $f$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ , then

$$P_\mu(z^l \bar{z}^k f) = \frac{m_{d+|l|}}{m_{d-|k|+|l|}} \frac{\Gamma(d+n-|k|+|l|)}{\Gamma(d+n+|l|)} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} f.$$

**Proof.** It is sufficient to establish the lemma for monomials  $f(z) = z^\alpha$ . If  $\beta$  is an arbitrary element of  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then, due to the properties of the Fischer product and (72), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P_\mu(z^l \bar{z}^k f), z^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \langle z^{l+\alpha}, z^{k+\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \frac{(n-1)! m_{|\alpha|+|l|}}{(n+|\alpha|+|l|-1)!} \left\langle \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} (z^{l+\alpha}), z^\beta \right\rangle_F \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{m_{|\alpha|+|l|}}{m_{|\alpha|+|l|-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(n + |\alpha| + |l| - |k|)}{\Gamma(n + |\alpha| + |l|)} \left\langle \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} (z^l f), z^\beta \right\rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

This completes the proof.

In what follows we shall compute  $c$  for a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial  $f$ .

**Lemma (2.3.5)[84]:** Suppose that  $k$  and  $l$  are in  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ . If  $f$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\bar{z}^l}^* H_{\bar{z}^k} f &= \frac{m_{d+|l|}}{m_{d+|l|-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(n + d + |l| - |k|)}{\Gamma(n + d + |l|)} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} (z^l f) \\ &\quad - \frac{m_d}{m_{d-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(d + n - |k|)}{\Gamma(d + n)} z^l \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} f \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $H_{\bar{z}^l}^* H_{\bar{z}^k} f$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d + |l| - |k|$ .

**Proof.** Follows from Lemmas (2.3.1) and (2.3.4).

An immediate consequence of Lemma (2.3.5) gives the following

**Proposition (2.3.6)[84]:** For each  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ , the monomial  $z^\alpha$  is an eigenvector for the operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}^* H_{\bar{z}^k}$  and the corresponding eigenvalue  $\lambda_\alpha$  is given by

$$\lambda_\alpha = \frac{m_{|\alpha|+|k|}}{m_{|\alpha|}} \frac{\Gamma(n + |\alpha|)}{\Gamma(n + |\alpha| + |k|)} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} - \frac{m_{|\alpha|}}{m_{|\alpha|-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(|\alpha| + n - |k|)}{\Gamma(|\alpha| + n)} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!}$$

if  $\alpha \geq k$  and

$$\lambda_\alpha = \frac{m_{|\alpha|+|k|}}{m_{|\alpha|}} \frac{\Gamma(n + |\alpha|)}{\Gamma(n + |\alpha| + |k|)} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!},$$

otherwise.

We consider the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$ , for  $m > 0$ . In this case, the moments of the measure  $d\mu_m(z) := e^{-|z|^m} dv(z)$  are given by

$$m_s = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |z|^{2s} e^{-|z|^m} dv(z) = \frac{1}{m} \Gamma\left(\frac{2s + 2n}{m}\right). \quad (73)$$

If  $k$  is a multi-index we set  $T = H_{\bar{z}^k}^* H_{\bar{z}^k}$ . Then  $T$  is defined on the dense subspace  $P$  of  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . For each multi-index  $\alpha$ , the eigenvalue  $\lambda_\alpha$  of  $T$  corresponding to the eigenvector  $\xi^\alpha$  is given by Proposition (2.3.6). In what follows we shall study the asymptotic of these eigenvalues. We distinguish the two cases  $m = 2$  and  $m \neq 2$ .

**Lemma (2.3.7)[84]:** Suppose  $m = 2$ . Then for each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , the operator  $H_{\bar{z}^j}$  is bounded but not compact on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . If  $|k| \geq 2$ ,  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is unbounded on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ .

**Proof.** In this case,  $\mu_2$  is the Gaussian measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Its moments reduce to  $m_s = \Gamma(s + n)$ . Moreover, if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ ,

$$\lambda_\alpha = \begin{cases} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} - \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!} & \text{if } \alpha \geq k, \\ \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} & \text{if } \alpha \not\geq k. \end{cases}$$

We first observe that if  $|k| = 1$ , then the eigenvalues of  $T$  are all equal to 1. Therefore,  $T$  is bounded but not compact on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . This proves the first part of the lemma.

Suppose now that  $|k| \geq 2$ . Choose  $j_0$  in  $[1, n]$  so that  $k_{j_0} = \max_j k_j$ . If  $d$  is a nonnegative integer, set  $\alpha(k, d) = (k_1, \dots, k_{j_0-1}, k_{j_0} + d, k_{j_0+1}, \dots, k_n)$ . Then

$$\lambda_{\alpha(k,d)} = \left( \prod_{j \neq j_0}^n \frac{(2k_j)!}{(k_j)!} \right) [(d + k_{j_0} + 1) \cdots (d + 2k_{j_0}) - (d + 1) \cdots (d + k_{j_0})]$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda_{\alpha(k,d)} = +\infty$ , showing that  $T$  is unbounded on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . This implies that  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is also unbounded.

Henceforth, we assume that  $m \neq 2, m > 0$ . From Proposition (2.3.6) and (73) we see that if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then the eigenvalue  $\lambda_\alpha$  can be written in the form

$$\lambda_\alpha = \begin{cases} A_{|\alpha|} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} - B_{|\alpha|} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!} & \text{if } \alpha \geq k \\ A_{|\alpha|} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} & \text{if } \alpha \not\geq k \end{cases} \quad (74)$$

where, for a nonnegative integer  $d$ ,

$$\begin{cases} A_d := \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d + 2n}{m} + \frac{2|k|}{m}\right) \Gamma(d + n)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d + 2n}{m}\right) \Gamma(d + n + |k|)}, \\ B_d := \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d + 2n}{m}\right) \Gamma(d + n - |k|)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d + 2n}{m} - \frac{2|k|}{m}\right) \Gamma(d + n)}. \end{cases} \quad (75)$$

The asymptotic behaviour of the eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_\alpha\}$  when  $|\alpha| = d \mapsto +\infty$  is given by the following

**Lemma (2.3.8)[84]:** The sequences  $(A_d)$  and  $(B_d)$  given by (75) have the asymptotic behavior

$$\begin{aligned} A_d &= \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{m}} (d + n)^{|k|\left(\frac{2}{m}-1\right)} \left[1 - \frac{|k|^2(m-2)}{2m(d+n)} + O\left(\frac{1}{(d+n)^2}\right)\right] \\ B_d &= \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{m}} (d + n)^{|k|\left(\frac{2}{m}-1\right)} \left[1 + \frac{|k|^2(m-2)}{2m(d+n)} + O\left(\frac{1}{(d+n)^2}\right)\right] \end{aligned}$$

as  $d \mapsto +\infty$ .

*Proof.* Follows from the property of the Gamma function [159]

$$\frac{\Gamma(x + y)}{\Gamma(x + z)} = x^{y-z} \left(1 + \frac{(y-z)(y+z-1)}{2x} + O\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)\right) \text{ as } x \mapsto +\infty, \quad (76)$$

where  $y$  and  $z$  are real numbers.

**Lemma (2.3.9)[84]:** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_\alpha$  have the form

$$\lambda_\alpha = \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{m}} (d + n)^{2\frac{|k|}{m}-1} \left(f_n\left(\frac{\alpha_1 + 1}{d + n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n + 1}{d + n}\right) + \varepsilon(\alpha)\right),$$

where  $\varepsilon(\alpha) = O\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$  and

$$f_n(t_1, \dots, t_n) := -(m-2) \frac{|k|^2}{m} t^k + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \frac{t^k}{t_j}$$

when  $\alpha \geq k$  and  $d = |\alpha| \mapsto +\infty$ .

**Proof.** We recall by (74) that if  $\alpha \geq k$ , then



$$\lambda_\alpha = A_{|\alpha|} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} - B_{|\alpha|} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!},$$

where  $(A_d)$  and  $(B_d)$  are given by (75). On the other hand, by (76) we see that

$$\frac{(\alpha_j + k_j)!}{\alpha_j!} = (1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j} + k_j(k_j - 1)(1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j - 1} + q_j(1 + \alpha_j)$$

$$\frac{\alpha_j!}{(\alpha_j - k_j)!} = (1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j} - k_j(k_j + 1)(1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j - 1} + r_j(1 + \alpha_j)$$

where  $q_j$  and  $r_j$  are one variable polynomials of degree at most  $k_j - 2$ . This implies that

$$\frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j} + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j(k_j - 1)(1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j - 1} \prod_{l \neq j} (1 + \alpha_l)^{k_l} + q(\alpha)$$

$$\frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - k)!} = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j} - \sum_{j=1}^n k_j(k_j + 1)(1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j - 1} \prod_{l \neq j} (1 + \alpha_l)^{k_l} + r(\alpha)$$

where  $q$  and  $r$  are polynomials of degree at most  $|k| - 2$ . These equalities, combined with Lemma (2.3.8), give the lemma.

**Lemma (2.3.10)[84]:** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_\alpha$  have the estimate

$$\lambda_\alpha = \left( O(d + n)^{2\frac{|k|}{m} - k_{j_0}} \right),$$

as long as  $\alpha_{j_0} < k_{j_0}$  and  $d = |\alpha| \mapsto +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $j_0 = 1, \dots, n$  and suppose that  $k_{j_0} \geq 1$ . We recall by (74) that if  $\alpha_{j_0} < k_{j_0}$ , then

$$\lambda_\alpha = \frac{A_{|\alpha|}(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!},$$

where  $(A_d)$  is as before. Set  $\alpha' = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{j_0-1}, 0, \alpha_{j_0+1}, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $k' = (k_1, \dots, k_{j_0-1}, 0, k_{j_0+1}, \dots, k_n)$ . Arguing as in the proof of Lemma (2.3.9) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(\alpha + k)!}{\alpha!} &\leq (2k_{j_0})! \frac{(\alpha' + k')!}{\alpha'!} \\ &= (2k_{j_0})! \left[ \prod_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n (1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j} + \sum_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n k_j(k_j - 1)(1 + \alpha_j)^{k_j - 1} \prod_{s \neq j, l} (1 + \alpha_s)^{k_s} \right] \\ &\quad + q(\alpha'), \end{aligned}$$

where  $q$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $|k'| - 2$ . These estimates, combined with Lemma (2.3.8), give the lemma.

**Theorem (2.3.11)[84]:** The operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded if and only if  $2\frac{|k|}{m} - 1 \leq 0$  and compact if and only if  $2\frac{|k|}{m} - 1 < 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\Sigma_n$  be the simplex consisting of those  $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such  $t_j \geq 0$  and  $t_1 + \dots + t_n = 1$ . By Lemmas (2.3.9) and (2.3.10) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{|\alpha|=d} |\lambda_\alpha| &\approx (d + n)^{2\frac{|k|}{m} - 1} \sup_{|\alpha|=d} \left| f_n \left( \frac{\alpha_1 + 1}{d + n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n + 1}{d + n} \right) \right| \\ &\approx (d + n)^{2\frac{|k|}{m} - 1} \sup_{t \in \Sigma_n} |f_n(t)| \end{aligned}$$

as  $d = |\alpha| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Now the lemma follows since the operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded if and only if the sequence  $\sup_{|\alpha|=d} |\lambda_\alpha|$  is bounded and  $H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is compact if and only if the sequence  $\sup_{|\alpha|=d} |\lambda_\alpha|$  tends to 0 as  $d = |\alpha| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Theorem (2.3.12)[84]:** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $m$  be a positive real number.

(i) The Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$  if and only if  $m \geq 2|k|$ .

(ii) The Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is compact on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$  if and only if  $m > 2|k|$ .

**Proof.** We use that the operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded and  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is compact if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is compact.

Next, assume that  $2\frac{|k|}{m} - 1 < 0$  and let  $p > 0$ . We shall investigate the membership of the operator  $T$  to a Schatten class  $S_p$ . Recall that  $T$  is in  $S_p$  if and only if the series  $\sum \lambda_\alpha^p$  is convergent.

Let  $d$  be an integer. We shall estimate the sum  $s_d = \sum_{|\alpha|=d} \lambda_\alpha^p$ , when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . The calculations above lead to study the cases  $\alpha \geq k$  and its opposite case separately. Let  $B_d := \{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n, |\alpha| = d\}$ . We partition  $B_d = B'_d \cup B''_d$ , where  $B'_d = \{\alpha \in B_d : \alpha \geq k\}$  and  $B''_d = B_d \setminus B'_d$ . Thus  $s_d$  can be written in the form  $s_d = s'_d + s''_d$ , where  $s'_d = \sum_{\alpha \in B'_d} \lambda_\alpha^p$  and  $s''_d = \sum_{\alpha \in B''_d} \lambda_\alpha^p$ .

We need to compare the cardinalities  $\#B_d, \#B'_d, \text{ and } \#B''_d$  of these sets.

**Lemma (2.3.13)[84]:** We have the estimates  $\#B_d \approx \#B'_d \approx \frac{d^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$  and  $\#B''_d \approx d^{n-2}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $P_{n,d}$  the space of  $n$  variables holomorphic polynomials of degree  $d$ . We have  $\#B_d = \dim P_{n,d} = \binom{n-1+d}{d} = \frac{(d+n-1)!}{(n-1)!d!}$ . Therefore,  $\#B_d \sim \frac{1}{(n-1)!} d^{n-1}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ .

On the other hand, for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , let  $B'_{d,j} = \{\alpha \in B_d, \alpha_j < kj\}$ . Since  $B'_d = \cup_{1 \leq j \leq n} B'_{d,j}$ , we see that  $\#B'_d \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \#B'_{d,j}$ .

If  $k_j \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} B'_{d,j} &= \cup_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \{ \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, l, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_n), |\alpha| = d \} \\ &= \cup_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \{ \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{j-1}, l, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_n) \mid \sum_{i \neq j} \alpha_i = d - l \}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $B'_{d,j} = \sum_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \dim P_{n-1,d-l}$ , and when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\#B'_{d,j} \sim k_j \frac{d^{n-2}}{(n-2)!}$ .

This shows that, when  $B'_d \approx d^{n-2}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . The lemma now follows from the observation  $\#B_d = \#B'_d + \#B''_d$ .

**Lemma (2.3.14)[84]:** Suppose that  $n \geq 2$  and  $g$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^n - 1$ . Consider the open set  $\Omega := \{(t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}, \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < 1\}$ . For a multi-index  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{n-1})$  in  $\mathbb{N}_0^{n-1}$ , set

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\gamma,d} &:= \left( \frac{\gamma_1 + 1}{d}, \dots, \frac{\gamma_{n-1} + 1}{d} \right) \\ \mathbb{J}_d &:= \left\{ \gamma \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n-1} : \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j + 1}{d} \subset \Omega \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} g(c_{\gamma, d}) = \int_{\Omega} g(t) dt$ .

**Proof.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , let  $\Omega_d = \cup_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_{j+1}}{d} \right]$ . It is clear that  $\Omega_d \subset \Omega$ . Next, we show that  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \chi_{\Omega_d} = \chi_{\Omega}$ . If  $s$  is a real number, let  $[s]$  denote the largest integer smaller than or equal to  $s$ . If  $t = (t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in \Omega$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ , then  $\frac{[dt_j]}{d} \leq t_j < \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{1}{d}$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} \leq n \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{n-1}{d}.$$

Since  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < 1$ , there is an integer  $d_0$  such that for all  $d > d_0$  we have

$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{n-1}{d} < 1$ . Thus,  $t \in \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{[dt_j]}{d}, \frac{[dt_{j+1}]}{d} \right]$  and hence  $t \in \Omega_d$  for all  $d > d_0$ . Thus  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \chi_{\Omega_d} = \chi_{\Omega}$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{d^{(n-1)}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} g(c_{\gamma, d}) - \int_{\Omega} g(t) dt &= \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \left[ \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} g(c_{\gamma, d}) - \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_{j+1}}{d} \right]} g(t) dt \right] \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega_d} g(t) dt - \int_{\Omega} g(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

Since  $g$  is a bounded continuous function on the compact set  $\Omega$ , we have, by Lebesgue's theorem,  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\Omega_d} g(t) dt = \int_{\Omega} g(t) dt$ . On the other hand, by continuity of  $g$  on the compact set  $\Omega$ , we see that

$$\sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \left[ \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} g(c_{\gamma, d}) - \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_{j+1}}{d} \right]} g(t) dt \right] = \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_{j+1}}{d} \right]} [g(c_{\gamma, d}) - g(t)] dt$$

also tends to 0 as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . This shows that

$$\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} g(c_{\gamma, d}) = \int_{\Omega} g(t) dt.$$

The above result enables us to estimate  $s_d$  when  $d = |\alpha| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Lemma (2.3.15)[84]:** If  $p \geq 1$ , then

$$s_d \approx d^{n-1} d^p \left( 2 \frac{|k|}{m} - 1 \right).$$

**Proof.** Recall that  $s_d = \sum_{\alpha \in B'_d} \lambda_{\alpha}^p$ . By Lemma (2.3.9), we know that the sequence  $\{\lambda_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in B'_d}$  has the following expansion when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\lambda_{\alpha} = \left( \frac{2}{m} \right)^{2 \frac{|k|}{m}} (d + n)^{2 \frac{|k|}{m} - 1} \left( f_n \left( \frac{\alpha_1 + 1}{d + n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n + 1}{d + n} \right) + \varepsilon(\alpha) \right),$$

where  $\varepsilon(\alpha) = O\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$  and

$$f_n(t_1, \dots, t_n) := -(m-2) \frac{|k|^2}{m} t^k + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \frac{t^k}{t_j}$$

Using the properties of the function  $x \rightarrow x^p$ , we see that there exists a constant  $M > 0$ , such that

$$\left| \left| f_n \left( \frac{\alpha_1 + 1}{d + n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n + 1}{d + n} \right) + \varepsilon(\alpha) \right|^p - \left| f_n \left( \frac{\alpha_1 + 1}{d + n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n + 1}{d + n} \right) \right|^p \right| \leq \frac{M}{d}.$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda_\alpha \approx \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{2\frac{|k|}{m}} (d+n)^{2\frac{|k|}{m}-1} \left(f_n\left(\frac{\alpha_1+1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n+1}{d+n}\right)\right),$$

as  $d = |\alpha| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Applying Lemmas (2.3.13) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} s_d &\approx \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{2p\frac{|k|}{m}} d^{p(2\frac{|k|}{m}-1)} \sum_{\alpha \in B_d} \left|f_n\left(\frac{\alpha_1+1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{\alpha_n+1}{d+n}\right)\right|^p \\ &\approx \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{2p\frac{|k|}{m}} d^{n-1} d^{p(2\frac{|k|}{m}-1)} \int_{\Omega} |f_n(t)|^p dt \end{aligned}$$

so that the lemma follows from Lemma (2.3.14).

We recall that an operator  $T$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$  if  $(T * T)^{\frac{p}{2}}$  is in the trace class of  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . Our second result characterizes such a class of operators.

**Theorem (2.3.16)[84]:** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $m$  be a positive real number. Then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$  if and only if  $p > 2n$  and  $m(p - 2n) > 2p|k|$ .

**Proof.** We use that the operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is in  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$  if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is  $S_{\frac{p}{2}}(A^2(\mu_m))$ . Therefore, the theorem follows from Lemma (2.3.15).

We first study the behavior of the Bergman kernel  $K_m(z, w)$  corresponding to  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . Let  $E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}$  be the generalized Mittag-Leffler's function. This is the entire function defined by

$$E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}(\lambda) := \sum_{d=0}^{+\infty} \frac{\lambda^d}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d}{m} + \frac{2n}{m}\right)}, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}.$$

We shall express the Bergman kernel in terms of this function. Namely,

**Lemma (2.3.17)[84]:** The Bergman kernel  $K_m(z, w)$  of  $A^2(\mu_m)$  is given by

$$K_m(z, w) = \frac{m}{(n-1)!} E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}^{n-1}(\langle z, w \rangle),$$

where  $E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}^{n-1}$  is the derivatives of  $E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}$  with order  $n - 1$ .

**Proof.** The monomials  $z^\alpha, \alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , form an orthogonal basis of  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . Since

$$\|z^\alpha\|_{L^2(\mu_m)}^2 = \frac{(n-1)!}{m} \frac{\alpha!}{(|\alpha| + n - 1)!} \Gamma\left(\frac{2|\alpha| + 2n}{m}\right)$$

it follows that the Bergman kernel is

$$\begin{aligned} K_m(z, w) &= \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n} \frac{z^\alpha}{\|z^\alpha\|_{L^2(\mu_m)}} \frac{w^\alpha}{\|w^\alpha\|_{L^2(\mu_m)}} \\ &= \frac{m}{(n-1)!} \sum_{d=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(d+n-1)!}{d! \Gamma\left(\frac{2d}{m} + \frac{2n}{m}\right)} (\langle z, w \rangle)^d \\ &= \frac{m}{(n-1)!} E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}^{n-1}(\langle z, w \rangle). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of the lemma.

The Bergman projection  $P_m$  is given by

$$P_m(f)(z) := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_m(z, w) f(w) d\mu_m(w), \text{ for } f \in L^2(\mu_m). \quad (77)$$

This definition can be extended to functions of the form  $fg$  where  $f \in L^2(\mu_m)$  and  $g \in P$ . Indeed,

**Lemma (2.3.18)[84]:** If  $g \in P$  and  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , then  $gK_m(z, \cdot)$  is in  $L^2(\mu_m)$ .

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 2, p. 6 in [90] that the generalized Mittag-Leffler's function is  $E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}$  is an entire function of finite order  $\frac{m}{2}$  and type 1. Therefore  $E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}^{n-1}$  is also an entire function of finite order  $\frac{m}{2}$  and type 1 and hence for any  $\varrho > 0$ , there is a positive constant  $C$  that

$$\left| E_{\frac{2}{m}, \frac{2n}{m}}^{n-1}(\lambda) \right| \leq C e^{|\lambda|^{\frac{m+\varrho}{2}}}, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}.$$

This shows that for all  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$$|K_m(z, w)| \leq C e^{|\langle z, w \rangle|^{\frac{m+\varrho}{2}}} \leq C e^{(|z||w|)^{\frac{m+\varrho}{2}}},$$

showing that for all  $g \in P$  and  $z$  fixed in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , the function  $w \mapsto g(w)K_m(z, w)$  is in  $L^2(\mu_m)$  as long as  $0 < \varrho < m$ .

It follows from Lemma (2.3.18) that if  $f \in L^2(\mu_m)$ , then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  with symbol  $\bar{f}$  is well-defined on  $P$  by

$$H_f(g)(z) := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} (f(z) - f(w)) K_m(z, w) g(w) d\mu_m(w), g \in P.$$

We point out that the measurable function  $z \mapsto H_{\bar{f}}(g)(z)$  is not necessarily an element of  $L^2(\mu_m)$ .

Denote by  $M$  the subspace of those functions  $f \in A^2(\mu_m)$  such that  $H_{\bar{f}}(g) \in L^2(\mu_m)$  for all  $g \in P$ , and the densely defined operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . We equip  $M$  with seminorm

$$\|f\| := \|H_{\bar{f}}\| + |f(0)|.$$

The subspace of  $M$  consisting of functions  $f$  such that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is a compact operator will be denoted by  $M_\infty$ . Then is not hard to see that  $M_\infty$  is a closed subspace of  $M$ .

If  $p \geq 1$ , we denote by  $M_p$  the subspace of those functions  $f \in M$  such that the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is the Schatten class  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$ . We equip  $M_p$  with seminorm

$$\|f\| := \|H_{\bar{f}}\|_{S_p} + |f(0)|.$$

**Lemma (2.3.19)[84]:** The spaces  $M$  and  $M_p$  are Banach spaces.

**Proof.** We prove the lemma for  $M$ , the proof for  $M_p$  is similar. Let  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $M$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $f_n(0) = 0$  for all  $n$ . The sequence  $(H_{\bar{f}_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  is a Cauchy sequence of bounded operators on  $A^2(\mu_m)$ . Therefore, there is an operator  $T$  in  $A^2(\mu_m)$  such that  $(H_{\bar{f}_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  converges to  $T$  in the norm operator.

Let  $f := \overline{T(1)}$  be the conjugate of the image  $T(1)$  of the constant function 1 under  $T$ . Since  $H_{\bar{f}_n}(1) = \bar{f}_n$ , it follows that

$$\|f_n - f\|_{L^2(\mu_m)} = \|\bar{f}_n - T(1)\|_{L^2(\mu_m)} = \|H_{\bar{f}_n}(1) - T(1)\|_{L^2(\mu_m)} \leq \|H_{\bar{f}_n} - T\|$$

showing that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n - f\|_{L^2(\mu_m)} = 0. \quad (78)$$

Thus  $f \in A^2(\mu_m)$ . We shall show that the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  with symbol  $f$  is bounded. It is well defined on  $P$ . We shall prove that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is equal to  $T$  on  $P$ . Let  $g$  be a holomorphic polynomial. We first observe by (77), (78) and Lemma (2.3.18) that for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  we have

$$|(P(\bar{f} - \bar{f}_n)g)(z)| \leq \|f_n - f\|_{L^2(\mu_m)} \|gK_m(z, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mu_m)}$$

showing that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} P((\bar{f} - \bar{f}_n)g)(z) = 0$ . Since again by (78) we have that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (\bar{f} - \bar{f}_n)g(z) = 0, \text{ it follows that}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} H_{\bar{f}_n} - H_{\bar{f}}(g)(z) = 0.$$

This proves that  $T_g = H_{\bar{f}}(g)$  and hence  $T = H_{\bar{f}}$ . Therefore  $M$  is a Banach space. The proof of that  $M_p$  is a Banach space is similar.

For  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $R_\theta$  be the unitary linear transformation in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  defined by  $R_\theta(z) = (e^{i\theta_1}z_1, \dots, e^{i\theta_n}z_n)$ , for all  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Lemma (2.3.20)[84]:** Let  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then the operator  $R_\theta f := f \circ R_\theta$  is a unitary isometry from  $L^2(\mu_m)$  onto itself and from  $A^2(\mu_m)$  onto itself. Moreover the following assertions hold.

- (i) If  $f \in M$  then  $R_\theta f \in M$  and  $\|R_\theta f\|_M = \|f\|_M$ .
- (ii) If  $f \in M_\infty$ , then  $R_\theta f \in M_\infty$ .
- (iii) If  $f \in M_p$ , then  $R_\theta f \in M_p$  and

$$\|R_\theta f\|_{M_p} = \|f\|_{M_p}$$

**Proof.** It is clear that the operator  $R_\theta$  is a unitary isometry from  $L^2(\mu_m)$  onto itself and from  $A^2(\mu_m)$  onto itself. Let  $f$  be in  $M$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $R_\theta f$  is clearly in  $A_2(\mu_m)$ . Moreover, if  $g$  is an element of  $P$ , then by a change of variable we see that

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\overline{R_\theta f}}(g)(z) &= \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_m(R_\theta z, w) g(R_{-\theta} w) [\overline{R_\theta f}(z) - \bar{f}(w)] d\mu_m(w) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_m(R_\theta z, w) (R_{-\theta} g)(w) [\bar{f}(R_\theta z) - \bar{f}(w)] d\mu_m(w) \\ &= H_{\bar{f}}(R_{-\theta} g)(R_\theta z) \\ &= (R_\theta H_{\bar{f}} R_{-\theta})(g)(z). \end{aligned}$$

Since the adjoint of  $R_{-\theta}$  is  $R_{-\theta}^* = R_\theta$ , it follows that

$$\|H_{\overline{R_\theta f}}\| = \|H_{\bar{f}}\|,$$

showing that

$$\|f \circ R_\theta\|_M = \|f\|_M.$$

This proves part (i) of the lemma. The proof of parts (ii) and (iii) of the lemma are similar.

**Lemma (2.3.21)[84]:** Let  $f \in A^2(\mu_m)$ .

(i) If  $f \in M$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M$ .

(ii) If  $f \in M_\infty$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M_\infty$ .

(iii) If  $p \geq 1$  and  $f \in M_p$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M_p$ .

**Proof.** To prove (i), suppose that  $f \in M$ . By the Cauchy formula we have

$$\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k} (0)z^k = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_0^{2\pi} \dots \int_0^{2\pi} f(R_\theta z) / e^{ik_1\theta_1 \dots eik_n\theta_n} d\theta,$$

where  $d\theta := d\theta_1 \dots d\theta_n$  for  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$ . By Lemmas (2.3.19) and (2.3.20) we see that  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k} (0)z^k \in M$ . Therefore,  $z^k \in M$  as long as  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k} (0) \neq 0$ . The proof of the remaining statements of the lemma is similar.

**Theorem (2.3.22)[84]:** Let  $f$  be an entire function in  $A^2(\mu_m)$ , where  $m$  is a positive real number.

(i) Then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$  if and only if  $f$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $\frac{m}{2}$ .

(ii) The Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is compact on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_m)$  if and only if  $f$  is a polynomial of degree smaller than  $\frac{m}{2}$ .

**Theorem (2.3.23)[84]:** Let  $f$  be an entire function in  $A^2(\mu_m)$ , where  $m$  is a positive real number. Then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p(A^2(\mu_m), L^2(\mu_m))$  if and only if  $p > 2n$  and  $f$  is a polynomial of degree smaller than  $\frac{m(p-2n)}{2p}$ .

**Proof of Theorems (2.3.22) and (2.3.23).** We first prove Theorem (2.3.22). Let  $f \in A^2(\mu_m)$ . Suppose that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is bounded and let  $k$  be a multi-index that satisfies  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial z^k} (0) \neq 0$ . By Lemma (2.3.21) we see that the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M$ . Now Theorem (2.3.12) implies that  $m \geq 2|k|$ . Hence  $f$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $\frac{m}{2}$ .

If  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is compact then a similar argument shows that  $f$  is a polynomial of degree strictly smaller than  $\frac{m}{2}$ . The converse follows from Theorem (2.3.12).

The proof of Theorem (2.3.23) is similar to that of Theorem (2.3.22).

**Corollary (2.3.24)[185]:** Suppose that  $\beta, k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then

$$\sum_r (H_{\bar{z}^k} f_r)(\xi_r) = \bar{\xi}_r^k \sum_r f_r(\xi_r) - \frac{(1+\epsilon)_d}{(1+\epsilon)_d - |k|} \frac{\Gamma(n+d-|k|)}{\Gamma(n+d)} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial \bar{\xi}_r^k} \sum_r f_r(\xi)$$

for all holomorphic polynomials  $f_r$  of degree  $d$ . In particular, if  $f_r = \xi^{k+\epsilon}$ , then

$$\sum_r (H_{\bar{z}^k} f_r)(\xi) = \begin{cases} \sum_r \bar{\xi}_r^k \xi_r^{k+\epsilon} - \frac{(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|}}{(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(n+|k+\epsilon|-|k|)}{\Gamma(n+|k+\epsilon|)} \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!} \sum_r \xi_r^\epsilon, & \text{if } \epsilon \geq 0 \\ \sum_r \bar{\xi}_r^k \xi_r^{k+\epsilon} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** It suffices to prove the corollary for  $f_r(\xi_r) = \xi_r^{k+\epsilon}$ , where  $k+\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ . Let  $g_r$  be a homogeneous polynomial in  $P$ . If  $g_r$  is a monomial of the form  $g_r(\xi_r) = \xi_r^\beta$ , where  $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then using the properties of  $P_\mu$ , we see that

$$\sum_r \langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f_r), g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \sum_r \langle f_r, z^k g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

and hence  $\sum_r \langle P_\mu(\bar{z}^k f_r), g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$  as long as  $k+\epsilon \neq k+\beta$ . Now let  $k+\epsilon = k+\beta$ . By Lemma 2.1 in [181], we have the following identities

$$\int_{\Omega} z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{k+\epsilon} d\mu(z) = \frac{(n-1)!(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|}(k+\epsilon)!}{(n+|k+\epsilon|-1)!} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle z^{k+\epsilon}, z^{k+\epsilon} \rangle_F = (k+\epsilon)!, \quad (79)$$

from which we obtain

$$\sum_r \langle P_{\mu}(\bar{z}^k f_r), g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \frac{(n-1)!(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|}}{(n+|k+\epsilon|-1)!} \sum_r \langle f_r, z^k g_r \rangle_F.$$

Since the multiplication operator and the corresponding differentiation operator are adjoint to each other with respect to the Fischer inner product, this implies that

$$\sum_r \langle P_{\mu}(\bar{z}^k f_r), g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \frac{(1+\epsilon)_{|\beta|+|k|}}{(1+\epsilon)_{|\beta|}} \frac{(n-1+|\beta|)!}{(n-1+|\beta|+|k|)!} \sum_r \langle \frac{\partial^{|\beta|}}{\partial \bar{z}^{\beta}} f_r, g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

for all holomorphic homogeneous polynomials  $g_r$  of degree  $|\beta|$ . Therefore, if  $f_r$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ , we have

$$\sum_r P_{\mu}(\bar{z}^k f_r) = \frac{(1+\epsilon)_d}{(1+\epsilon)_{d-|k|}} \frac{(n-1+d-|k|)!}{(n-1+d)!} \frac{\partial^{|\beta|}}{\partial \bar{z}^{\beta}} \sum_r f_r.$$

This completes the proof of the corollary.

**Corollary (2.3.25)[185]:** The domain  $\text{Dom}(H_{\bar{z}^k}^*)$  of  $H_{\bar{z}^k}^*$  contains all polynomials in  $w$  and  $\bar{w}$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to show that, if  $k+\epsilon$  and  $\beta$  are fixed in  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then the linear functional

$$g_r \mapsto \langle H_{\bar{z}^k}(g_r), z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}$$

is bounded on  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . To do so, choose an integer  $d \geq |k+\epsilon| + |\beta| + 2|k|$  and consider the subspace  $N_d$  of  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  consisting of polynomials with degree smaller than or equal to  $d$ . We denote by  $\pi_d$  the orthogonal projection from  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  onto  $N_d$ . If  $g_r \in P$ , then  $(I - \pi_d)g_r$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials in  $P$  with degree at least  $d+1$ . In view of Corollary (2.3.24), we can write

$$\sum_r H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g_r = \sum_r (\bar{z}^k f_r + h_r)$$

where  $f_r$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials of degree at least  $d+1$  and  $h_r$  is a sum of holomorphic homogeneous polynomials of degree at least  $d+1-|k|$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_r \langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \sum_r \langle \bar{z}^k f_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} + \sum_r \langle h_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \sum_r \langle f_r z^{\beta}, z^{k+\epsilon+k} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} + \sum_r \langle z^{\beta} h_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $d+1+|\beta| \geq 1+|k+\epsilon|+2|\beta|+2|k| > |k+\epsilon|+|k|$ , it follows that  $\sum_r \langle f_r z^{\beta}, z^{2k+\epsilon} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$ . Also, due to the fact that the degree of  $z^{\beta} f_r$  is greater than  $|k+\epsilon|$  we see that  $\sum_r \langle z^{\beta} f_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$ . Thus  $\langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = 0$  for all  $g_r \in P$  and consequently

$$\sum_r \langle H_{\bar{z}^k} g_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} = \sum_r \langle H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ (I - \pi_d)g_r, z^{k+\epsilon} \bar{z}^{\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)}.$$

The corollary now follows from the fact that  $H_{\bar{z}^k} \circ \pi_d$  is of finite rank and hence bounded.

**Corollary (2.3.26)[185]:** Suppose that  $u, v$  and  $f_r$  are holomorphic polynomials. Then



$$\sum_r H_{\bar{v}}^* H_{\bar{u}} f_r = \sum_r P_\mu(v\bar{u}f_r) - \sum_r vP_\mu(\bar{u}f_r).$$

**Proof.** A little computing shows that for all  $g_r \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_r \langle H_{\bar{u}} f_r, H_{\bar{v}} g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \sum_r \langle \bar{u}f_r - P_\mu(\bar{u}f_r), \bar{v}g_r - P_\mu(\bar{v}g_r) \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \sum_r \langle v\bar{u}f_r, g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} - \sum_r \langle P_\mu(\bar{u}f_r), \bar{v}g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &\quad + \sum_r \langle (P_\mu - I)(\bar{u}f_r), P_\mu(\bar{v}g_r) \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \sum_r \langle v\bar{u}f_r, g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} - \sum_r \langle P_\mu(\bar{u}f_r), \bar{v}g_r \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \end{aligned}$$

where the latter equality holds since  $P_\mu(\bar{v}g_r) \in A^2(\Omega, \mu)$  and  $(P_\mu - I)(\bar{u}f_r)$  is orthogonal to  $A^2(\Omega, \mu)$ . This completes the proof.

**Corollary (2.3.27)[185]:** Assume that  $k$  and  $l$  are elements of  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ . If  $f_r$  is a holomorphic homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d$ , then

$$\sum_r P_\mu(z^l \bar{z}^k f_r) = \frac{(1 + \epsilon)_{d+|l|}}{(1 + \epsilon)_{d-|k|+|l|}} \frac{\Gamma(d + n - |k| + |l|)}{\Gamma(d + n + |l|)} \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} \sum_r f_r.$$

**Proof.** It is sufficient to establish the corollary for monomials  $f_r(z) = z^{k+\epsilon}$ . If  $\beta$  is an arbitrary element of  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then, due to the properties of the Fischer product and (79), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_r \langle P_\mu(z^l \bar{z}^k f_r), z^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} &= \langle z^{l+k+\epsilon}, z^{k+\beta} \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \\ &= \frac{(n-1)!(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|+|l|}}{(n+|k+\epsilon|+|l|-1)!} \langle \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} (z^{l+k+\epsilon}), z^\beta \rangle_F \\ &= \frac{(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|+|l|}}{(1+\epsilon)_{|k+\epsilon|+|l|-|k|}} \frac{\Gamma(n+|k+\epsilon|+|l|-|k|)}{\Gamma(n+|k+\epsilon|+|l|)} \sum_r \langle \frac{\partial^{|k|}}{\partial z^k} (z^l f_r), z^\beta \rangle_{L^2(\Omega, \mu)} \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

**Corollary (2.3.28)[185]:** Suppose  $\epsilon = 1$ . Then for each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , the operator  $H_{\bar{z}_j}$  is bounded but not compact on  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . If  $|k| \geq 2$ ,  $H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is unbounded on  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ .

**Proof.** In this case,  $\mu_2$  is the Gaussian measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Its moments reduce to  $(1 + \epsilon)_s = \Gamma(s + n)$ . Moreover, if  $k + \epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ ,

$$\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \begin{cases} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} - \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!} & \text{if } \epsilon \geq 0, \\ \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} & \text{if } \epsilon \not\geq 0. \end{cases}$$

We first observe that if  $|k| = 1$ , then the eigenvalues of  $T$  are all equal to 1. Therefore,  $T$  is bounded but not compact on  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . This proves the first part of the corollary.

Suppose now that  $|k| \geq 2$ . Choose  $j_0$  in  $[1, n]$  so that  $k_{j_0} = \max_j k_j$ . If  $d$  is a nonnegative integer, set  $(k + \epsilon)(k, d) = (k_1, \dots, k_{j_0-1}, k_{j_0} + d, k_{j_0+1}, \dots, k_n)$ . Then

$$\lambda_{(k+\epsilon)(k,d)}^r = \left( \prod_{j \neq j_0}^n \frac{(2k_j)!}{(k_j)!} \right) [(d + k_{j_0} + 1) \cdots (d + 2k_{j_0}) - (d + 1) \cdots (d + k_{j_0})]$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \lambda_{(k+\epsilon)(k,d)}^r = +\infty$ , showing that  $T$  is unbounded on  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . This implies that  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is also unbounded.

Henceforth, we assume that  $\epsilon \neq 1, \epsilon \geq 0$ . From Proposition (2.3.6) and (73) we see that if  $k + \epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , then the eigenvalue  $\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r$  can be written in the form

$$\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \begin{cases} A_{|k+\epsilon|} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} - B_{|k+\epsilon|} \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!} & \text{if } \epsilon \geq 0 \\ A_{|k+\epsilon|} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} & \text{if } \epsilon \not\geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (80)$$

where, for a nonnegative integer  $d$ ,

$$\begin{cases} A_d := \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d+2n}{1+\epsilon} + \frac{2|k|}{1+\epsilon}\right) \Gamma(d+n)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d+2n}{1+\epsilon}\right) \Gamma(d+n+|k|)}, \\ B_d := \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d+2n}{1+\epsilon}\right) \Gamma(d+n-|k|)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2d+2n}{1+\epsilon} - \frac{2|k|}{1+\epsilon}\right) \Gamma(d+n)}. \end{cases} \quad (81)$$

The asymptotic behaviour of the eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r\}$  when  $|k+\epsilon| = d \mapsto +\infty$  is given by the following (see [84]).

**Corollary (2.3.29)[185]:** The sequences  $(A_d)$  and  $(B_d)$  given by (81) have the asymptotic behavior

$$\begin{aligned} A_d &= \left(\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{1+\epsilon}} (d+n)^{|k|\left(\frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}\right)} \left[1 - \frac{|k|^2(\epsilon-1)}{2(1+\epsilon)(d+n)} + o\left(\frac{1}{(d+n)^2}\right)\right] \\ B_d &= \left(\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{1+\epsilon}} (d+n)^{|k|\left(\frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}\right)} \left[1 + \frac{|k|^2(\epsilon-1)}{2(1+\epsilon)(d+n)} + o\left(\frac{1}{(d+n)^2}\right)\right] \end{aligned}$$

as  $d \mapsto +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Follows from the property of the Gamma function [159]

$$\frac{\Gamma(x+y)}{\Gamma(x+z)} = x^{y-z} \left(1 + \frac{(y-z)(y+z-1)}{2x} + o\left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)\right) \text{ as } x \mapsto +\infty, \quad (82)$$

where  $y$  and  $z$  are real numbers.

**Corollary (2.3.30)[185]:** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r$  have the form

$$\sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \left(\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}\right)^{\frac{2|k|}{1+\epsilon}} (d+n)^{2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon}-1} \sum_r \left( (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1+\epsilon+1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n+\epsilon+1}{d+n} \right) + \varepsilon(k+\epsilon) \right),$$

where  $\varepsilon(k+\epsilon) = o\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$  and

$$(f_r)_n(t_1, \dots, t_n) := -(\epsilon-1) \frac{|k|^2}{1+\epsilon} t^k + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \frac{t^k}{t_j}$$

when  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $d = |k+\epsilon| \mapsto +\infty$ .

**Proof.** We recall by (80) that if  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , then

$$\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = A_{|k+\epsilon|} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} - B_{|k+\epsilon|} \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!},$$

where  $(A_d)$  and  $(B_d)$  are given by (81). On the other hand, by (82) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(2k_j+\epsilon)!}{(k_j+\epsilon)!} &= (1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j} + k_j(k_j-1)(1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j-1} + q_j(1+k_j+\epsilon) \\ \frac{(k_j+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!} &= (1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j} - k_j(k_j+1)(1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j-1} + r_j(1+k_j+\epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

where  $q_j$  and  $r_j$  are one variable polynomials of degree at most  $k_j - 2$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} &= \prod_{j=1}^n (1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j(k_j-1)(1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j-1} \prod_{l \neq j} (1+k_l+\epsilon)^{k_l} + q(k+\epsilon) \\ \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(\epsilon)!} &= \prod_{j=1}^n (1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j} - \sum_{j=1}^n k_j(k_j+1)(1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j-1} \prod_{l \neq j} (1+k_l+\epsilon)^{k_l} + r(k+\epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

where  $q$  and  $r$  are polynomials of degree at most  $|k| - 2$ . These equalities, combined with Corollary (2.3.29), give the corollary.

**Corollary (2.3.31)[185]:** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r$  have the estimate

$$\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \left( O(d+n)^{2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - k_{j_0}} \right),$$

as long as  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $d = |k_{j_0} - \epsilon| \mapsto +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $j_0 = 1, \dots, n$  and suppose that  $k_{j_0} \geq 1$ . We recall by (80) that if  $\epsilon > 0$ , then

$$\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \frac{A_{|k+\epsilon|}(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!},$$

where  $(A_d)$  is as before. Set  $(k+\epsilon)' = (k_1+\epsilon, \dots, k_{j_0-1}+\epsilon, 0, k_{j_0+1}+\epsilon, \dots, k_n+\epsilon)$  and  $k' = (k_1, \dots, k_{j_0-1}, 0, k_{j_0+1}, \dots, k_n)$ . Arguing as in the proof of Corollary (2.3.30) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(2k+\epsilon)!}{(k+\epsilon)!} &\leq (2k_{j_0})! \frac{((k+\epsilon)' + k')!}{(k+\epsilon)'} \\ &= (2k_{j_0})! \left[ \prod_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n (1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1, j \neq j_0}^n k_j(k_j-1)(1+k_j+\epsilon)^{k_j-1} \prod_{s \neq j, l} (1+k_s+\epsilon)^{k_s} \right] + q((k+\epsilon)'), \end{aligned}$$

where  $q$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $|k'| - 2$ . These estimates, combined with Corollary (2.3.29), give the corollary.

**Corollary (2.3.32)[185]:** The operator  $H_{\bar{z}^k} * H_{\bar{z}^k}$  is bounded if and only if  $2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1 \leq 0$

and compact if and only if  $2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1 < 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\Sigma_n$  be the simplex consisting of those  $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such  $t_j \geq 0$  and  $t_1 + \dots + t_n = 1$ . By Corollaries (2.3.30) and (2.3.31) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{|k+\epsilon|=d} \sum_r |\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r| &\approx (d+n)^{2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon}-1} \sup_{|k+\epsilon|=d} \sum_r \left| (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1+\epsilon+1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n+\epsilon+1}{d+n} \right) \right| \\ &\approx (d+n)^{2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon}-1} \sup_{t \in \Sigma_n} \sum_r |(f_r)_n(t)| \end{aligned}$$

as  $d = |k + \epsilon| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Now the corollary follows since the operator  $H_{\bar{z}k} * H_{\bar{z}k}$  is bounded if and only if the sequence  $\sup_{|k+\epsilon|=d} |\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r|$  is bounded and  $H_{\bar{z}k} * H_{\bar{z}k}$  is compact if and only if the sequence  $\sup_{|k+\epsilon|=d} |\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r|$  tends to 0 as  $d = |k + \epsilon| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Corollary (2.3.33)[185]:** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $1 + \epsilon$  be a positive real number.

(i) The Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is bounded on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  if and only if  $1 + \epsilon \geq 2|k|$ .

(ii) The Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is compact on the Fock space  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  if and only if  $1 + \epsilon > 2|k|$ .

**Proof.** We use that the operator  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is bounded if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}k} * H_{\bar{z}k}$  is bounded and  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is compact if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}k} * H_{\bar{z}k}$  is compact.

Next, assume that  $2\frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1 < 0$  and let  $\epsilon \geq 0$ . We shall investigate the membership of the operator  $T$  to a Schatten class  $S_{1+\epsilon}$ . Recall that  $T$  is in  $S_{1+\epsilon}$  if and only if the series  $\sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^{r(1+\epsilon)}$  is convergent.

Let  $d$  be an integer. We shall estimate the sum  $s_d = \sum_{|k+\epsilon|=d} \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^{r(1+\epsilon)}$ , when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . The calculations above lead to study the cases  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and its opposite case separately. Let  $B_d := \{k + \epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n, |k + \epsilon| = d\}$ . We partition  $B_d = B'_d \cup B''_d$ , where  $B'_d = \{k + \epsilon \in B : \epsilon \geq 0\}$  and  $B''_d = B_d \setminus B'_d$ . Thus  $s_d$  can be written in the form  $s_d = s'_d + s''_d$ , where  $s_d = \sum_{k+\epsilon \in B'_d} \sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^{r(1+\epsilon)}$  and  $s''_d = \sum_{k+\epsilon \in B''_d} \sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^{r(1+\epsilon)}$ .

**Corollary (2.3.34)[185]:** We have the estimates  $\#B_d \approx \#B'_d \approx \frac{d^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$  and  $\#B''_d \approx d^{n-2}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $P_{n,d}$  the space of  $n$  variables holomorphic polynomials of degree  $d$ . We have  $\#B_d = \dim P_{n,d} = \binom{n-1+d}{d} = \frac{(d+n-1)!}{(n-1)!d!}$ . Therefore,  $\#B_d \sim \frac{1}{(n-1)!} d^{n-1}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . On the other hand, for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , let  $B'_{d,j} = \{k + \epsilon \in B_d, \epsilon > 0\}$ . Since  $B'_d = \cup_{1 \leq j \leq n} B'_{d,j}$ , we see that  $\#B'_d \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \#B'_{d,j}$ .

If  $k_j \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} B'_{d,j} &= \bigcup_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \{k + \epsilon = (k_1 + \epsilon, \dots, k_{j-1} + \epsilon, l, k_{j+1} + \epsilon, \dots, k_n + \epsilon), |k + \epsilon| = d\} \\ &= \bigcup_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \left\{ k + \epsilon \right. \\ &= \left. (k_1 + \epsilon, \dots, k_{j-1} + \epsilon, l, k_{j+1} + \epsilon, \dots, k_n + \epsilon) \sum_{i \neq j} k_i + \epsilon = d - l \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $B'_{d,j} = \sum_{l=0}^{k_j-1} \dim P_{n-1,d-l}$ , and when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\#B'_{d,j} \sim k_j \frac{d^{n-2}}{(n-2)!}$ .

This shows that, when  $B'_d \approx d^{n-2}$  as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . The corollary now follows from the observation  $\#B_d = \#B'_d + \#B''_d$ .

**Corollary (2.3.35)[185]:** Suppose that  $n \geq 2$  and  $g_r$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^n - 1$ . Consider the open set  $\Omega := \{(t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n-1}, \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < 1\}$ . For a multi-index  $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{n-1})$  in  $\mathbb{N}_0^{n-1}$ , set

$$c_{\gamma,d} := \left( \frac{\gamma_1 + 1}{d}, \dots, \frac{\gamma_{n-1} + 1}{d} \right)$$

$$\mathbb{J}_d := \left\{ \gamma \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n-1} : \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j + 1}{d} \subset \Omega \right\}.$$

Then  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \sum_r g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) = \int_{\Omega} \sum_r g_r(t) dt$ .

**Proof.** For  $d \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , let  $\Omega_d = \cup_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j + 1}{d} \right]$ . It is clear that  $\Omega_d \subset \Omega$ . Next, we show that  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \chi_{\Omega_d} = \chi_{\Omega}$ . If  $s$  is a real number, let  $[s]$  denote the largest integer smaller than or equal to  $s$ . If  $t = (t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) \in \Omega$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ , then  $\frac{[dt_j]}{d} \leq t_j < \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{1}{d}$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} \leq n \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{n-1}{d}.$$

Since  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} t_j < 1$ , there is an integer  $d_0$  such that for all  $d > d_0$  we have

$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{[dt_j]}{d} + \frac{n-1}{d} < 1$ . Thus,  $t \in \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{[dt_j]}{d}, \frac{[dt_j+1]}{d} \right]$  and hence  $t \in \Omega_d$  for all  $d > d_0$ . Thus  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \chi_{\Omega_d} = \chi_{\Omega}$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{d^{(n-1)}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \sum_r g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) - \int_{\Omega} \sum_r g_r(t) dt \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \sum_r \left[ \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) - \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j+1}{d} \right]} g_r(t) dt \right] \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega_d} \sum_r g_r(t) dt - \int_{\Omega} \sum_r g_r(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

Since  $g_r$  is a bounded continuous function on the compact set  $\Omega$ , we have, by Lebesgue's theorem,  $\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\Omega_d} \sum_r g_r(t) dt = \int_{\Omega} \sum_r g_r(t) dt$ . On the other hand, by continuity of  $g_r$  on the compact set  $\Omega$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \sum_r \left[ \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) - \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j+1}{d} \right]} g_r(t) dt \right] \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \int_{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\gamma_j}{d}, \frac{\gamma_j+1}{d} \right]} \sum_r [g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) - g_r(t)] dt \end{aligned}$$

also tends to 0 as  $d \rightarrow +\infty$ . This shows that

$$\lim_{d \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{d^{n-1}} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathbb{J}_d} \sum_r g_r(c_{\gamma,d}) = \int_{\Omega} \sum_r g_r(t) dt.$$

**Corollary (2.3.36)[185]:** If  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , then

$$s_d \approx d^{n-1} d^{1+\epsilon} \left( 2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1 \right).$$

**Proof.** Recall that  $s_d = \sum_{k+\epsilon \in B'_d} \sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^{r(1+\epsilon)}$ . By Corollary (2.3.30), we know that the sequence  $\{\lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r\}_{k+\epsilon \in B'_d}$  has the following expansion when  $d \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r = \left( \frac{2}{1+\epsilon} \right)^{2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon}} (d+n)^{2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1} \sum_r \left( (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1 + \epsilon + 1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n + \epsilon + 1}{d+n} \right) + \varepsilon(k+\epsilon) \right),$$

where  $\varepsilon(k+\epsilon) = O\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$  and

$$(f_r)_n(t_1, \dots, t_n) := -(\epsilon-1) \frac{|k|^2}{1+\epsilon} t^k + \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \frac{t^k}{t_j}$$

Using the properties of the function  $x \rightarrow x^{1+\epsilon}$ , we see that there exists a constant  $M > 0$ , such that

$$\sum_r \left\| (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1 + \epsilon + 1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n + \epsilon + 1}{d+n} \right) + \varepsilon(k+\epsilon) \right\|^{1+\epsilon} - \sum_r \left\| (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1 + \epsilon + 1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n + \epsilon + 1}{d+n} \right) \right\|^{1+\epsilon} \leq \frac{M}{d}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_r \lambda_{k+\epsilon}^r \approx \left( \frac{2}{1+\epsilon} \right)^{2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon}} (d+n)^{2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1} \sum_r \left( (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1 + \epsilon + 1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n + \epsilon + 1}{d+n} \right) \right),$$

as  $d = |k+\epsilon| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Applying Corollary (2.3.34) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} s_d &\approx \left( \frac{2}{1+\epsilon} \right)^{2|k|} d^{(1+\epsilon)(2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1)} \sum_{k+\epsilon \in B_d} \sum_r \left| (f_r)_n \left( \frac{k_1 + \epsilon + 1}{d+n}, \dots, \frac{k_n + \epsilon + 1}{d+n} \right) \right|^{1+\epsilon} \\ &\approx \left( \frac{2}{1+\epsilon} \right)^{2|k|} d^{n-1} d^{(1+\epsilon)(2 \frac{|k|}{1+\epsilon} - 1)} \int_{\Omega} \sum_r |(f_r)_n(t)|^{1+\epsilon} dt \end{aligned}$$

so that the corollary follows from Corollary (2.3.35).

**Corollary (2.3.37)[185]:** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and  $1+\epsilon$  be a positive real number. Then the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is in the Schatten class  $S_{2n+\epsilon}(A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon}), L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon}))$  if and only if  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\epsilon(1+\epsilon) > 2(2n+\epsilon)|k|$ .

**Proof.** We use that the operator  $H_{\bar{z}k}$  is in  $S_{2n+\epsilon}(A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon}), L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon}))$  if and only if  $T = H_{\bar{z}k} * H_{\bar{z}k}$  is  $S_{\frac{2n+\epsilon}{2}}(A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon}))$ . Therefore, the corollary follows from Corollary (2.3.36)

**Corollary (2.3.38)[185]:** The Bergman kernel  $K_{1+\epsilon}(z, w)$  of  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  is given by

$$K_{1+\epsilon}(z, w) = \frac{1+\epsilon}{(n-1)!} E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}(\langle z, w \rangle),$$

where  $E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}$  is the derivatives of  $E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}$  with order  $n-1$ .

**Proof.** The monomials  $z^{k+\epsilon}$ ,  $k+\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , form an orthogonal basis of  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . Since

$$\|z^{k+\epsilon}\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})}^2 = \frac{(n-1)!}{1+\epsilon} \frac{(k+\epsilon)!}{(|k+\epsilon|+n-1)!} \Gamma\left(\frac{2|k+\epsilon|+2n}{1+\epsilon}\right) \quad (83)$$

it follows that the Bergman kernel is

$$\begin{aligned} K_{1+\epsilon}(z, w) &= \sum_{k+\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}_0^n} \frac{z^{k+\epsilon}}{\|z^{k+\epsilon}\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})}} \frac{w^{k+\epsilon}}{\|w^{k+\epsilon}\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})}} \\ &= \frac{1+\epsilon}{(n-1)!} \sum_{d=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(d+n-1)!}{d! \Gamma\left(\frac{2d}{1+\epsilon} + \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}\right)} (\langle z, w \rangle)^d = \frac{1+\epsilon}{(n-1)!} E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}(\langle z, w \rangle). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of the corollary.

**Corollary (2.3.39)[185]:** If  $g_r \in P$  and  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , then  $g_r K_{1+\epsilon}(z, \cdot)$  is in  $L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Theorem 2, p. 6 in [90] that the generalized Mittag-Leffler's function is  $E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}$  is an entire function of finite order  $\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}$  and type 1. Therefore  $E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}$  is also an entire function of finite order  $\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}$  and type 1 and hence for any  $\varrho > 0$ , there is a positive constant  $C$  that

$$\sum_r \left| E_{\frac{2}{1+\epsilon}, \frac{2n}{1+\epsilon}}^{n-1}(\lambda^r) \right| \leq C \sum_r e^{|\lambda^r|^{\frac{1+\epsilon+\varrho}{2}}}, \quad \lambda^r \in \mathbb{C}.$$

This shows that for all  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$$|K_{1+\epsilon}(z, w)| \leq C e^{|\langle z, w \rangle|^{\frac{1+\epsilon+\varrho}{2}}} \leq C e^{(|z||w|)^{\frac{1+\epsilon+\varrho}{2}}},$$

showing that for all  $g_r \in P$  and  $z$  fixed in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , the function  $w \mapsto g_r(w) K_{1+\epsilon}(z, w)$  is in  $L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  as long as  $0 < \varrho < 1 + \epsilon$ .

**Corollary (2.3.40)[185]:** The spaces  $M$  and  $M_{1+\epsilon}$  are Banach spaces.

**Proof.** We prove the corollary for  $M$ , the proof for  $M_{1+\epsilon}$  is similar. Let  $((f_r)_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $M$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $(f_r)_n(0) = 0$  for all  $n$ . The sequence  $(H_{\Sigma_r(\overline{f_r})_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  is a Cauchy sequence of bounded operators on  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . Therefore, there is an operator  $T$  in  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  such that  $(H_{\Sigma_r(\overline{f_r})_n})_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  converges to  $T$  in the norm operator. Let  $f_r := \overline{T(i)}$  be the conjugate of the image  $T(i)$  of the constant function 1 under  $T$ . Since  $H_{\Sigma_r(\overline{f_r})_n}$

$(i) = \overline{(f_r)_n}$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_r \|(f_r)_n - f_r\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})} &= \sum_r \|\overline{(f_r)_n} - T(1)\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})} = \|H_{\Sigma_r(\overline{f_r})_n}(1) - T(1)\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})} \\ &\leq \|H_{\Sigma_r(\overline{f_r})_n} - T\| \end{aligned}$$

showing that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_r \|(f_r)_n - f_r\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})} = 0. \quad (84)$$

Thus  $f_r \in A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . We shall show that the Hankel operator  $H_{\Sigma_r \overline{f_r}}$  with symbol  $\Sigma_r f_r$  is bounded. It is well defined on  $P$ . We shall prove that  $H_{\Sigma_r \overline{f_r}}$  is equal to  $T$  on  $P$ . Let  $g_r$  be a holomorphic polynomial. We first observe by (83), (84) and Corollary (2.3.39) that for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$  we have

$$\sum_r |(P(\overline{f_r} - \overline{(f_r)_n})g_r)(z)| \leq \sum_r \|(f_r)_n - f_r\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})} \|g_r K_{1+\epsilon}(z, \cdot)\|_{L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})}$$

showing that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_r P(\overline{f_r} - \overline{(f_r)_n})g_r(z) = 0$ . Since again by (84) we have that

$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_r (\overline{f_r} - \overline{(f_r)_n})g_r(z) = 0$ , it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} H_{\Sigma_r \overline{(f_r)_n}} - H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r}(g_r)(z) = 0.$$

This proves that  $T_{g_r} = H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r}(g_r)$  and hence  $T = H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r}$ . Therefore  $M$  is a Banach space. The proof of that  $M_{1+\epsilon}$  is a Banach space is similar.

**Corollary (2.3.41)[185]:** Let  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then the operator  $R_\theta f_r := f_r \circ R_\theta$  is a unitary isometry from  $L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  onto itself and from  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  onto itself. Moreover the following assertions hold.

- (i) If  $f_r \in M$  then  $R_\theta f_r \in M$  and  $\sum_r \|R_\theta f_r\|_M = \sum_r \|f_r\|_M$ .
- (ii) If  $f_r \in M_\infty$ , then  $R_\theta f_r \in M_\infty$ .
- (iii) If  $f_r \in M_{1+\epsilon}$ , then  $R_\theta f_r \in M_{1+\epsilon}$  and

$$\sum_r \|R_\theta f_r\|_{M_{1+\epsilon}} = \sum_r \|f_r\|_{M_{1+\epsilon}}$$

**Proof.** It is clear that the operator  $R_\theta$  is a unitary isometry from  $L^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  onto itself and from  $A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$  onto itself. Let  $f_r$  be in  $M$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $R_\theta f_r$  is clearly in  $A_2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ . Moreover, if  $g_r$  is an element of  $P$ , then by a change of variable we see that

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\Sigma_r \overline{R_\theta f_r}}(g_r)(z) &= \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \sum_r K_{1+\epsilon}(R_\theta z, w) g_r(R_{-\theta} w) [\overline{R_\theta f_r}(z) - \bar{f}_r(w)] d\mu_{1+\epsilon}(w) \\ \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \sum_r K_{1+\epsilon}(R_\theta z, w) (R_{-\theta} g_r)(w) [\bar{f}_r(R_\theta z) - \bar{f}_r(w)] d\mu_{1+\epsilon}(w) &= H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r}(R_{-\theta} g_r)(R_\theta z) \\ &= (R_\theta H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r} R_{-\theta}) \sum_r (g_r)(z). \end{aligned}$$

Since the adjoint of  $R_{-\theta}$  is  $R_{-\theta}^* = R_\theta$ , it follows that

$$\|H_{\Sigma_r \overline{R_\theta f_r}}\| = \|H_{\Sigma_r \bar{f}_r}\|,$$

showing that

$$\sum_r \|f_r \circ R_\theta\|_M = \sum_r \|f_r\|_M.$$

This proves part (i) of the corollary. The proof of parts (ii) and (iii) of the corollary are similar.

**Corollary (2.3.42)[185]:** Let  $f_r \in A^2(\mu_{1+\epsilon})$ .

- (i) If  $f_r \in M$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M$ .
- (ii) If  $f_r \in M_\infty$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M_\infty$ .
- (iii) If  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $f_r \in M_{1+\epsilon}$ , then for any multi-index  $k$  that satisfies  $\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ , the monomial  $z^k$  is in  $M_{1+\epsilon}$ .

**Proof.** To prove (i), suppose that  $f_r \in M$ . By the Cauchy formula we have

$$\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) z^k = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_0^{2\pi} \cdots \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_r f_r(R_\theta z) / e^{ik_1 \theta_1 \cdots e^{ik_n \theta_n}} d\theta,$$

where  $d\theta := d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_n$  for  $\theta = (\theta_1, \cdots, \theta_n)$ . By Corollaries (2.3.40) and (2.3.41) we see that  $\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) z^k \in M$ . Therefore,  $z^k \in M$  as long as  $\sum_r \frac{\partial^k f_r}{\partial z^k}(0) \neq 0$ . The proof of the remaining statements of the corollary is similar.



### Chapter 3

## Toeplitz Operators on Bergman Space and Finite Rank Commutators

We show a conjecture of Axler that for bounded analytic functions  $f$  and  $g$  on the unit disk,  $T_f^*T_g - T_gT_f^*$  is compact iff either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each Gleason part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ . We provide examples that show that the Brown–Halmos theorem fails for general symbols, even for symbols continuous up to the boundary. We show that if the product of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols has finite rank, then one of the Toeplitz operators must be zero.

### Section (3.1): Hankel Operators

We consider the question of when the semi-commutator  $T_{fg} - T_fT_g$  on the Bergman space with bounded harmonic symbols is compact. Several conditions equivalent to compactness of  $T_{fg} - T_fT_g$  are given. As a consequence we show a conjecture of Axler that for bounded analytic functions  $f$  and  $g$  on the unit disk,  $T_f^*T_g - T_gT_f^*$  is compact iff either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each Gleason part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ . 1989 Academic Press, Inc.

We consider the question of when the product  $H_f^*H_g$  of two Hankel operators on the Bergman space with bounded harmonic symbols is compact. The product  $H_f^*H_g$  is equal to the semi-commutator  $T_{\bar{f}g} - T_{\bar{f}}T_g$ . Several conditions equivalent to compactness of  $H_f^*H_g$  are given. Consequently we prove Axler's conjecture [92].

As is well known, for  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^\infty(\partial D)$ , Axler, Chang, and Sarason [93] and Volberg [57] have shown that  $H_f^*H_g$  on the Hardy space is compact iff  $H^\infty[f] \cap H^\infty[g] \subset H^\infty + C(\partial D)$ . By means of the theorem of Axler and Shields [95], we also obtain that  $H_f^*H_g$  is compact iff

$$H^\infty[f] \cap H^\infty[g] \subset \{u \in \mathbb{C}(\mathcal{M}) : u|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty|_{P(m)} \text{ for thin part } P(m) \text{ in } \mathcal{M}\}$$

for bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$ .

For  $D$  denote the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , and  $dA$  the usual normalized area measure on  $D$ . The Bergman space  $L_a^2$  is the Hilbert space of analytic functions  $g: D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with inner product given by

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_D f(z)\bar{g}(z)dA(z).$$

As usual,  $L^\infty(D)$  denotes the set of bounded measurable functions on  $D$ , and  $H^\infty(D)$  is the set of bounded analytic functions on  $D$ . Let  $P$  denote the orthogonal projection of  $L^2(D, dA)$  onto  $L_a^2(D)$ . For  $f \in L^\infty(D)$ , the Hankel operator  $H_f: L_a^2 + (L_a^2(D))^\perp$  and the Toeplitz operator  $T_f: L_a^2 \rightarrow L_a^2$  are defined by  $H_f(h) = (I - P)(fh)$  and  $T_f(h) = P(fh)$ , respectively.

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the maximal ideal space of  $H^\infty(D)$ . The Gleason part  $P(m)$  corresponding to  $m$  is the equivalence class of a point  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ ,

$$P(m) = \{m_1 \in \mathcal{M} : \rho(m, m_1) < 1\},$$

where  $\rho(m, m_1)$  is the pseudo-hyperbolic distance from  $m_1$  to  $m$  defined by

$$\rho(m, m_1) = \sup\{|f(m_1)|; f \in H^\infty(D), \|f\|_\infty \leq 1 \text{ and } f(m) = 0\}.$$

If  $m$  and  $m_1$  are in the usual disk, the pseudo-hyperbolic distance is given by

$$\rho(m, m_1) = \left| \frac{m_1 - m}{1 - \bar{m}_1 m} \right|.$$

If  $a$  is a point of  $D$ , let  $L_a(z)$  be the linear fractional map

$$L_\alpha(z) = \frac{z + \alpha}{1 + \bar{\alpha}z}.$$

Call a sequence  $(z_n)$  in  $D$  thin if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{k \neq n} |z_n - z_k| / |1 - \bar{z}_n z_k| = 1$  and a part  $P(m)$  thin if  $m$  is in the closure of some thin sequence.

Now we state some of Hoffman's results [50].

**H1.** Let  $m$  be any point of  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$ . There exists a sequence  $\{\beta_n\}$  in  $D$  such that  $\{\beta_n\}$  has no accumulation points in  $D$ ,  $m$  is in the closure of  $\{\beta_n\}$ , the corresponding maps  $L_{\beta_n}$  converge pointwise to  $L_m$ , a map from  $D$  into  $\mathcal{M}$ , and for any bounded analytic function  $h$ ,  $h \circ L_{\beta_n}$  converges to  $h \circ L_m$ , uniformly on compacta, so that

$$(h \circ L'_m)(0) = \lim_{\beta_n \rightarrow m} (1 - |\beta_n|^2) h'(\beta_n).$$

**H2.** If the Gleason part  $P(m)$  contains at least two points,  $P(m)$  is an analytic disk, and  $L_m$  is a one-to-one analytic map from  $D$  onto the Gleason part  $P(m)$ .

The map  $L_m$  plays an important role. The Gleason part does the same job on the Bergman space as the support set on the Hardy space.

For  $f$  analytic on  $D$ , the Bloch norm  $\|f\|_\beta$  of  $f$  is defined by

$$\|f\|_\beta = \sup\{(1 - |\lambda|^2)|f'(\lambda)| : \lambda \in D\}.$$

The Bloch space  $\beta$  is the set of analytic functions  $f$  on  $D$  such that  $\|f\|_\beta < \infty$ .

$D(z, r)$  will denote the pseudo-hyperbolic disc  $\{w \in D : \rho(w, z) < r\}$  for  $z \in D$  and  $0 < r < 1$ , and  $k_z$  is the normalized Bergman reproducing kernel

$$\frac{1 - |z|^2}{(1 - \bar{z}w)^2}$$

**Theorem (3.1.1)[58]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact;
- (b)  $T_{\bar{f}} T_g - T_{\bar{f}g}$  is compact;
- (c) For each thin part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ , either  $f|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}$  or  $g|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}$ ;
- (d) For  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$ , either  $f \circ L_m \in H^\infty$  or  $g \circ L_m \in H^\infty$ ;
- (e)  $H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g] \subset \{u \in C(\mathcal{M}) : u|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D) \text{ for each thin part } P(m) \text{ except } D\}$ ;
- (f)  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|(\partial f / \partial \bar{z})(z)|, (1 - |z|^2)|(\partial g / \partial \bar{z})(z)|\} = 0$ .

The following theorem, which was conjectured by Axler [92], is valid.

**Theorem (3.1.2)[58]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded analytic functions on  $D$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a')  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact;
- (b')  $T_f T_g^* - T_{\bar{g}f}$  is compact;
- (c') For each thin part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ , either  $f|_{P(m)}$  or  $g|_{P(m)}$  is constant;
- (d') For each Gleason part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ , either  $f|_{P(m)}$  or  $g|_{P(m)}$  is constant;
- (e')  $H^\infty(D)[\bar{f}] \cap H^\infty(D)[\bar{g}] \subset \{u \in C(\mathcal{M}) : u|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)} \text{ for each thin part except } D\}$ ;
- (f')  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)|, (1 - |z|^2)|g'(z)|\} = 0$ .

We shall prove (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (f) and (f)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) and (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (e) and (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). It is easy to show that

$$T_{\bar{f}}T_g - T_{\bar{f}g} = -H_f^*H_g.$$

Hence the equivalence of (a) and (b) is true. The equivalence  $(f') \Leftrightarrow (c')$  that may have been known before will be proved. We show that if  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $H_f^*H_g = 0$ , then either  $f$  or  $g$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$ . This means that  $T_f^*T_g = T_{\bar{f}g}$  if either  $f$  or  $g$  is analytic.

In fact, it is natural that the thin part plays the special role since there is a function  $\phi$  in  $H^\infty$  such that  $\phi \circ L_m(z) = z$  for the thin part  $m$ , which is not true for all Gleason parts.

At the same time that the results were obtained, S. Axler and P. Gorkin [94] proved the same result as in Theorem (3.1.20), using methods different from ours.

We describe the function properties of a bounded analytic function  $f$  if  $f$  is constant on some Gleason part  $P(m)$ . We assume  $m \notin D$  from now on.

**Lemma (3.1.3)[58]:** If  $f$  is  $H^\infty$  and constant on  $P(m)$ , then for fixed  $0 < r < 1$

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow m} \max_{w \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |w|^2)f'(w) = 0.$$

**Proof:** Suppose that there is a net  $(z_\alpha)$  in  $D$  such that  $z_\alpha \rightarrow m$ . Then  $f \circ L_{z_\alpha} \rightarrow f \circ L_m$  uniformly on compacta from H1. Since  $f \circ L_m$  is constant,  $f \circ L'_m(z) = \lim(f \circ L_{z_\alpha})'(z) = 0$ .

Since for  $w$  in  $\bar{D}(z_\alpha, r)$  there is a  $z$  in  $\bar{D}(0, r)$  such that  $w = L_{z_\alpha}(z)$ , we get

$$\max_{\bar{D}(z_\alpha, r)} f'(w)(1 - |w|^2) = \max_{\bar{D}(0, r)} |(f \circ L_{z_\alpha})'(z)| (1 - |z|^2) \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus we have proved the lemma.

**Lemma (3.1.4)[58]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be in  $H^\infty(D)$ . If either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each thin part then for all  $0 < r < 1$

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} = 0.$$

**Proof.** Suppose either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each thin part, but there are points  $(z_n)$  in  $D$  with  $|z_n| \rightarrow 1$  such that for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  and fixed  $0 < r < 1$

$$\min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z_n, r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z_n, r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} \geq \varepsilon \quad \forall n. \quad (*)$$

Clearly  $z_n$  may be chosen so that  $\{z_n\}$  is a thin sequence.

Let  $m$  be in the closure of  $\{z_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . There is a subnet  $\{z_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{z_n\}$  converging to  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ ; then  $m$  is a thin part. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $f$  is constant on  $P(m)$ . It follows from Lemma (3.1.3) that

$$\lim_{z_{n_k} \rightarrow m} \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z_{n_k}, r)} (1 - |s|^2)f'(s) = 0.$$

The above equation contradicts (\*), so the proof is complete.

**Theorem (3.1.5)[58]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are in  $H^\infty(D)$ . Then the following are equivalent :

- (c') either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each thin part  $P(m)$ ;
- (f')  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)|, (1 - |z|^2)|g'(z)|\} = 0$ .

**Proof:** In fact Lemma (3.1.4) implies that

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)|, (1 - |z|^2)|g'(z)|\} = 0,$$

provided that either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each thin part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ . Suppose that a thin part  $m \in \mathcal{M} \setminus D$  and neither  $f$  nor  $g$  is constant on  $P(m)$ . From H1 we may assume that  $f \circ L'_m(0) \neq 0$  and  $g \circ L'_m(0) \neq 0$ . Thus there is a net  $\{z_n\}$  in  $D$  covering to  $m$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{z_n \rightarrow m} (1 - |z_n|^2)f'(z_n) &= f \circ L'_m(0) \\ \lim_{z_n \rightarrow m} (1 - |z_n|^2)g'(z_n) &= g \circ L'_m(0) \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $z_n$  may be chosen so that  $\{z_n\}$  is a thin part.

So

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)|, (1 - |z|^2)|g'(z)|\} \\ & = \min\{|f \circ L'_m(0)|, |g \circ L'_m(0)|\} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

The above contradiction completes the proof

**Lemma (3.1.6)[58]:** Let  $0 < r < 1$  and let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions in the Bloch space. If

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} = 0$$

then

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)||g(w) - g(z)||k_2|^2 dA(w) = 0.$$

**Proof.** For  $w \in D(z,r)$  we have

$$f(w) - f(z) = \int_0^1 f'[tw + (1-t)z](w-z) dt.$$

Thus

$$|f(w) - f(z)| \leq |w-z| \int_0^1 |f'[tw + (1-t)z]| dt \leq \max_{\bar{D}(z,r)} |f'(s)| |w-z|. \quad (1)$$

Because

$$|w-z| \leq \text{diam } D(z,r) \leq C \inf_{\bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |S|^2) |f'(s)| \quad (2)$$

it follows from (1) that

$$|f(w) - f(z)| \leq C \max_{\bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |S|^2) |f'(s)|$$

In fact the above inequality is also true if  $f$  is replaced by  $g$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)||g(w) - g(z)||k_2|^2 dA(w) \\ & \leq C^2 \int_{D(z,r)} \left[ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)| \right] \left[ \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right] |k_2|^2 dA \\ & \leq C^2 \min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} \\ & \quad \times \max\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are in the Bloch space, there is a constant  $B > 0$  such that

$$\max\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} \leq B.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)||g(w) - g(z)||k_2|^2 dA(w) \\ & \leq BC^2 \min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By the hypothesis we obtain

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)||g(w) - g(z)||k_2|^2 dA(w) = 0,$$

completing the proof.

**Lemma (3.1.7)[58]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are in the Bloch space and for all  $0 < r < 1$

$$\min\left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2)|f'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2)|g'(t)| \right\} \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $|z| \rightarrow 1$ , then

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_{\bar{D}} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) = 0.$$

**Proof.** Now we estimate the following integral for fixed  $0 < r < 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{D \setminus D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA \\ & \leq \left( \int_{D \setminus D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)|^2 |g(w) - g(z)|^2 |k_2|^2 dA \right)^{1/2} \\ & \quad \times \left( \int_{D \setminus D(z,r)} |k_2|^2 dA \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from [92] that there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \int_D |f(w) - f(z)|^4 |k_2|^2 dA \right)^{1/4} & \leq C \|f\|_\beta \leq \left( \int_\beta |f(w) - f(z)|^4 |k_2|^2 dA \right)^{1/4} \\ & \quad \times \left( \int_\beta |g(w) - g(z)|^4 |k_2|^2 \right)^{1/4} (1 - r^2)^{1/2} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

and

$$\left( \int_D |g(w) - g(z)|^4 |k_2|^2 dA \right)^{1/4} \simeq C \|g\|_\beta.$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we may choose

$$\delta = \frac{\varepsilon^2}{(1+r)C^4(\|f\|_\beta + 1)^2(\|g\|_\beta + 1)^2}.$$

If  $1 - r < \delta$  the inequality (3) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{D \setminus D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA & \leq C^2 \|f\|_\beta \|g\|_\beta (1 - r^2)^{1/2} \\ & \leq C \|f\|_\beta \|g\|_\beta \frac{\varepsilon}{C(\|f\|_\beta + 1)(\|g\|_\beta + 1)} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA \\ & \leq \int_{D \setminus D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA \\ & \quad + \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA \\ & \leq \varepsilon + \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA \end{aligned}$$

If  $1 - r < \delta$ . Lemma (3.1.6) says

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_{D(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) = 0$$

for fixed  $0 < r < 1$ . The above inequality gives

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) \leq \varepsilon.$$

so

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) = 0$$

since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary. The proof is finished.

We state the following lemma which is proved in [92] and will be used in the proof of Lemma (3.1.9).

**Lemma (3.1.8)[58]:** Let

$$K = \sup \left\{ \int_D |1 - z\alpha|^{-6/5} (1 - |\alpha|)^{-3/5} dA(\alpha) : z \in D \right\}$$

Then  $K < \infty$ .

The following lemma will be used twice in the proof of Theorem (3.1.10).

**Lemma (3.1.9)[58]:** There is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)|}{|1 - zw|^2 \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} dA(w) \\ & \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/12} \end{aligned}$$

For all  $z \in D$ .

**Proof:** Fix  $z \in D$ , and make the change of variables by  $\lambda = \phi_z(w)$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)|}{|1 - zw|^2 \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} dA(w) \\ & = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D \frac{|f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^\delta |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^\delta}{|1 - \bar{z}\lambda| \sqrt{1 - |\lambda|^2}} dA(\lambda) \right] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^\delta |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^\delta dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/6} \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_D |1 - \bar{z}\lambda|^{-6/5} (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{-3/5} dA(\lambda) \right]^{5/6}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Lemma (3.1.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)|}{|1 - zw|^2 \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} dA(w) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^\delta |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^\delta dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/6} K^{5/6} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)| |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)| dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/12} K^{5/6} \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^{11} |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^{11} dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/12} \end{aligned}$$

(by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)

$$\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^\delta |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^\delta dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/6} K^{5/6} \\ & \quad \times \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)|^{22} dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/66} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times \left[ \int_D |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)|^{22} dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/66} \\
& \text{(by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)} \\
& \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-|z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)| |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)| dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/12} \\
& \quad \times K^{5/6} \|f\|_{\beta}^{1/\delta} \|g\|_{\beta}^{1/\delta} \\
& \text{(this inequality comes from [92])} \\
& \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{1-|z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - f(z)| |g \circ \phi_2(\lambda) - g(z)| dA(\lambda) \right]^{1/12}.
\end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete.

**Theorem (3.1.10)[58]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are in the Bloch space and

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_z|^2 dA(w) = 0,$$

then  $H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact.

**Proof:** For any  $h \in L_a^2(D)$  and  $z \in D$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{g}} h)(z) &= \frac{1}{1-|z|^2} \langle H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{g}} h, k_z \rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{1-|z|^2} \langle H_{\bar{g}} h, H_{\bar{f}} k_z \rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{1-|z|^2} \langle (\bar{g} - \bar{g}(z)) h, (\bar{f} - \bar{f}(z)) k_z \rangle \\
&= \int_D \frac{(f(w) - f(z))(\bar{g}(w) - \bar{g}(z))}{(1 - z\bar{w})^2} h(w) dA(w)
\end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that for fixed  $0 < r < 1$  the operator  $S_r$  defined by

$$S_r h(z) = \int_D \frac{(f(w) - f(z))(\bar{g}(w) - \bar{g}(z))}{(1 - z\bar{w})^2} h(w) \chi_{D(0,r)}(z) dA(w)$$

is a compact operator from  $L_a^2(D)$  to  $L^2(D)$ . In fact,  $S_r$  is a Hilbert-Schmidt operator because

$$\frac{(f(w) - f(z))(\bar{g}(w) - \bar{g}(z))}{(1 - z\bar{w})^2} \chi_{D(0,r)}(z)$$

is in  $L^2(D \times D)$ .

For any  $h \in L_a^2(D)$  and  $z \in D$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \leq \int_D \frac{\chi_{D \setminus rD}(w) |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |h(w)|}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^2} dA(w) \\
& \leq \left[ \int_D \frac{\chi_{D \setminus rD}(z) |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)|}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^2 \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} dA(w) \right]^{1/2} \\
& \quad \times \left[ \int_D \frac{\chi_{D \setminus rD}(z) |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^2} |h(w)|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/2} \quad (4)
\end{aligned}$$

Combining (4) and Lemma (3.1.9) gives

$$\|(H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{g}} - S_r)h\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_D |[(H_f^* H_g - S_r)h](z)|^2 dA(z) \\
&\leq \int_D \left[ \int_D \frac{\chi_{D \setminus rD}(z) |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)|}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^2 \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} dA(w) \right] \\
&\times \left[ \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| - \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^2} |h(w)|^2 dA(w) \right] dA(z)
\end{aligned}$$

(by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \int_{D \setminus rD} \frac{C}{\sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/2} \\
&\times \left[ \int_D \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^2 \sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} |h(w)|^2 dA(w) \right] dA(z)
\end{aligned}$$

(by Lemma (3.1.9))

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq C \sup_{z \in D \setminus rD} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_2|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/2} \\
&\times \int_D \int_D \frac{|f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^2 \sqrt{1 - |z|^2}} |h(w)|^2 dA(w) dA(z)
\end{aligned}$$

(by Lemma (3.1.9) again)

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq C \sup_{u \in D \setminus rD} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(u)| |g(w) - g(u)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/2} \\
&\times \int_D |h(w)|^2 \frac{C \sqrt{1 - |w|^2}}{\sqrt{1 - |w|^2}} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_w|^2 dA(z) \right]^{1/12} dA(w) \\
&\leq C \sup_{u \in D \setminus rD} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(u)| |g(w) - g(u)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/12} \\
&\times C \sup_{u \in D} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(u)| |g(w) - g(u)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/12}
\end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that

$$C \sup_{u \in D} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(u)| |g(w) - g(u)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/2} = \mu^2$$

is bounded since  $f$  and  $g$  are in Bloch space. Thus

$$\|H_f^* H_{\bar{g}} - S_r\| \leq \mu C \sup_{u \in D \setminus rD} \left[ \int_D |f(w) - f(u)| |g(w) - g(u)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) \right]^{1/24}.$$

Since

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) = 0,$$

we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \|H_f^* H_{\bar{g}} - S_r\| = 0;$$

so  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact since  $S_r$  is compact for any  $0 < r < 1$ , completing the proof.

Although Theorem (3.1.11) is a corollary of Theorem (3.1.12), we give a proof of Theorem (3.1.11) by combining with the lemmas and Theorem (3.1.10).



**Theorem (3.1.11)[58]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are in  $H^\infty(D)$  and either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant on each Gleason part  $P(m)$  of  $\mathcal{M}$ , then  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact.

**Proof.** From Theorem (3.1.10) it suffices to prove

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \int_D |f(w) - f(z)| |g(w) - g(z)| |k_u|^2 dA(w) = 0. \quad (5)$$

Combining Lemmas (3.1.4) and (3.1.6) with Lemma (3.1.7) implies that the above equation (5) holds. So  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact.

**Theorem (3.1.12)[58]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$  and for each thin Part  $P(m)$  of  $\mathcal{M}$  either  $f|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty|_{P(m)}$  or  $g|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty|_{P(m)}$ , then

(a)  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact;

(f)  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min\{(1 - |z|^2)|(\partial f/\partial \bar{z})(z)\}, \{(1 - |z|^2)|(\partial g/\partial \bar{z})(z)\} = 0$

**Proof.** Since  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ , there are functions  $f_1, f_2, g_1,$  and  $g_2$  in the Bloch space such that  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$  and  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$ . Thus

$$H_f^* H_g = H_{f_2}^* H_{\bar{g}_2}$$

and  $(\partial f/\partial \bar{z})(z) = \bar{f}_2'(z), (\partial g/\partial \bar{z})(z) = \bar{g}_2'(z)$ .

Combining Lemmas (3.1.4)-(3.1.7) with Theorem (3.1.10) shows that it is sufficient to prove that for fixed  $0 < r < 1$

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \min \left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |s|^2) |f_2(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z,r)} (1 - |t|^2) |g_2'(t)| \right\} = 0. \quad (6)$$

Suppose that (6) does not hold. There are points  $\{z_n\} \subset D$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$\min \left\{ \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z_n,r)} (1 - |s|^2) |f_2'(s)|, \max_{t \in \bar{D}(z_n,r)} (1 - |t|^2) |g_2'(t)| \right\} \geq \varepsilon$$

and  $\{z_n\}$  has no accumulation points in  $D$ . Since there is a thin sub-sequence of  $\{z_n\}$ , we may assume that  $\{z_n\}$  is thin. Let  $m$  be in the closure  $\{z_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Without loss of generality we may assume  $f|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty|_{P(m)}$  and  $\{z_n\}$  converges to  $m$ . Let  $\{w_n\}$  be points in  $D$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 1. & w_n \in D(z_n, r) \\ 2. & (1 - |w_n|^2) |f'(w_n)| = \max_{s \in \bar{D}(z_n,r)} (1 - |s|^2) |f_2'(s)|. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Since  $\mathcal{M}$  is compact, there is a subnet of  $\{w_n\}$  converging to some  $m_1$ . For convenience we may assume that  $\{w_n\}$  converges to  $m_1$ . Since  $\rho(z_n, w_n) \leq r$ , then  $m_1$  is in  $P(m)$ .

Since  $f|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty|_{P(m)}$ , we have

$$f|_{P(m_1)} \in H^*|_{P(m_1)}$$

Thus

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} f \circ L_{m_1}(0) = 0.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} f \circ L_{m_1}(0) &= \lim_{w_n \rightarrow m_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} f \circ L_{w_n}(0) = \lim_{w_n \rightarrow m_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} (f_1 \circ L_{w_n} + \bar{f}_2 \circ L_{w_n})(0) \\ &= \lim_{w_n \rightarrow m_1} (1 - |w_n|^2) \bar{f}_2'(w_n). \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts (7). The proof is finished.

We first consider compactness of  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  for  $f$  and  $g$  in  $H^\infty(D)$  and make use of the maps  $L_m$  to turn the compactness of  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  into the condition

$$H_{\bar{f} \circ L_m}^* H_{\bar{g} \circ L_m} = 0$$

The following Lemma (3.1.13) is the partial result of [49].

**Lemma (3.1.13)[58]:** Let  $m(z) = L_m(z)$  be in  $P(m)$  for some  $z$  in  $D$ . Then there is a constant  $c$ ,  $|c| = 1$  such that

$$L_{m(z)}(cw) = L_m \circ \phi_z(w).$$

**Proof.** It follows from  $H^2$  that  $L_m$  and  $L_{m(z)}$  are one-to-one analytic maps from  $D$  onto the Gleason part  $P(m)$ . Thus  $L_{m(z)}^{-1} \circ L_m \circ \phi_z: D \rightarrow D$  is an onto, one-to-one, analytic function, and  $L_{m(z)}^{-1} \circ L_m \circ \phi_z(0) = 0$ . It is well known that there is a constant  $c$  such that  $|c| = 1$  and

$$L_{m(z)}^{-1} \circ L_m \circ \phi_z(w) = cw.$$

so  $L_{m(z)}(cw) = L_m \circ \phi_z(w)$ .

Although Proposition (3.1.14) is a corollary of Proposition (3.1.16), we give its proof since the proof is also interesting.

**Proposition (3.1.14)[58]:** If  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact for  $f$  and  $g$  in  $H^\infty(D)$ , then

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{\bar{g} \circ L_m} = 0$$

For all  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$ .

**Proof:** For any  $m \in \mathcal{M} \setminus D$  there is a net  $\{z_n\} \subset D$  converging to  $m$  (Corona Theorem), so

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ L_{z_n}(w) - f \circ L_{z_n}(0) &\rightarrow f \circ L_m(w) - f \circ L_m(0) \text{ pointwise,} \\ g \circ L_{z_n}(w) - g \circ L_{z_n}(0) &\rightarrow g \circ L_m(w) - g \circ L_m(0) \text{ pointwise.} \end{aligned}$$

In addition  $f \circ L_m(z)$  and  $g \circ L_m(z)$  are bounded on  $D$ . So for any bounded analytic function  $h$

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{z_n \rightarrow m} \int_D h(f \circ L_{z_n} - f \circ L_{z_n}(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_{z_n} - \bar{g} \circ L_{z_n}(0)) dA \\ &= \int_D h(f \circ L_m - f \circ L_m(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_m - \bar{g} \circ L_m(0)) dA. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_D h(f \circ L_{z_n} - f \circ L_{z_n}(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_{z_n} - \bar{g} \circ L_{z_n}(0)) dA \\ &= \int_D (f - f \circ L_{z_n}(0))(\bar{g} - \bar{g} \circ L_{z_n}(0)) |k_{z_n}|^2 h \circ L_{z_n} dA \\ &= \langle H_{\bar{g}} h \circ L_{z_n} k_{z_n}, H_j k_{z_n} \rangle = \langle h \circ L_{z_n} k_{z_n}, H_{\bar{g}}^* H_j k_{z_n} \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Since  $H_f^* H_{\bar{g}}$  is compact

$$\|H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f k_{z_n}\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } z_n \rightarrow m$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \langle h \circ L_{z_n} k_{z_n}, H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f k_{z_n} \rangle &\leq \|h \circ L_{z_n} k_{z_n}\| \|H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f k_{z_n}\| \\ &\leq \|h\|_m \|H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f k_{z_n}\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } z_n \rightarrow m. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Combining (8) and (9) we get that

$$\lim_{z_n \rightarrow m} \int_D h(f \circ L_{z_n} - f \circ L_{z_n}(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_{z_n} - \bar{g} \circ L_{z_n}(0)) dA = 0.$$

This implies that

$$\int_D h(f \circ L_m - f \circ L_m(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_m - \bar{g} \circ L_m(0)) dA = 0 \quad (10)$$

for all bounded analytic functions  $h$ . Replacing  $m$  by  $m(z)$  in (10) we obtain

$$\int_D h(f \circ L_{m(z)} - f \circ L_{m(z)}(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_{m(z)} - \bar{g} \circ L_{m(z)}(0)) dA = 0.$$

The above equality combined with Lemma (3.1.13) implies

$$\int_D h(f \circ L_m \circ \phi_z - f \circ L_m(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_m \circ \phi_z - \bar{g} \circ L_m(0)) dA = 0.$$

Changing the variables by  $\lambda = \phi_z(w)$  gives

$$\int_D h \circ \phi_z(f \circ L_m - f \circ L_m(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_m - \bar{g} \circ L_m(0))|k_2|^2 dA = 0.$$

We may substitute  $h \circ \phi_z$  for  $h$  to change the above equality into

$$\int_D h(f \circ L_m - f \circ L_m(0))(\bar{g} \circ L_m - \bar{g} \circ L_m(0))|k_2|^2 dA = 0.$$

Thus

$$\langle h, H_{\bar{g} \circ L_m}^* H_{f \circ L_m} k_2 \rangle = 0.$$

We know that  $H^\infty(D)$  is dense in  $L_a^2(D)$ . So

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{\bar{g} \circ L_m} k_2 = 0,$$

which implies that

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{\bar{g} \circ L_m} = 0.$$

Before we generalize the above proposition for bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$ , we need the following lemma which is proved in [91].

**Lemma (3.1.15)[58]:** Let  $\phi$  be a Mobius transformation from  $D$  onto  $D$  and define an operator  $U_\phi$  on  $L^2(D)$  by

$$U_\phi g(z) = g[\phi(z)][\phi'(z)].$$

Then

(a)  $U_\phi$  is unitary,

(b)  $PU_\phi = U_\phi P$ .

**Proposition (3.1.16)[58]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $H_f^* H_g$  is compact, then

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{g \circ L_m} = 0$$

for all  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$ .

**Proof.** Since  $f$  and  $g$  are harmonic functions, there are Bloch functions  $f_1, f_2, g_1$ , and  $g_2$  such that  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$  and  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$ . For any  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$  there is a net  $\{z_n\}$  converging to  $m$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [f \circ L_{z_n}(z)] &\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [f \circ L_m(z)] \quad \text{pointwise} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [g \circ L_{z_n}(z)] &\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [g \circ L_m(z)] \quad \text{pointwise.} \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Since  $f \circ L_m$  and  $g \circ L_m$  are bounded harmonic on  $D$ , there are Bloch functions  $f_3, f_4, g_1$ , and  $g_2$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ L_m &= f_3 + \bar{f}_4 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} (f \circ L_m) = \bar{f}'_4, \\ g \circ L_m &= g_3 + \bar{g}_4 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} (g \circ L_m) = \bar{g}'_4. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}_4(w) - \bar{f}_4(0) &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [f \circ L_m(tw)] dt \\ \bar{g}_4(w) - \bar{g}_4(0) &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} [g \circ L_m(tw)] dt. \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Now

$$\langle H_{f_{d_m}}^* H_{g_{d_m}} k_0, h k_0 \rangle = \int_D (f_4(w) - f_4(0))(\bar{g}_4(w) - \bar{g}_4(0)) h dA(w). \quad (13)$$

For fixed  $h$  in  $H^\infty(D)$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $r_0$  in  $(0, 1)$  such that if  $l > r > r_0$  then

$$\int_{D \setminus rD} |f_4(w) - f_4(0)| |g_4(w) - g_4(0)| |h| dA(w) < \varepsilon$$

$$\int_{D \setminus rD} |f_2 \circ \phi_{z_n}(w) - f_2 \circ \phi_{z_n}(0)| |g_2 \circ \phi_{z_n}(w) - g_2 \circ \phi_{z_n}(0)| |h| dA(w) < \varepsilon$$

for all  $z_n$  in  $D$ . Combining (11) with (12) implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_D [f_4(w) - f_4(0)][\bar{g}_4(w) - \bar{g}_4(0)] \bar{h} dA(w) \right| \\ &= \left| \int_D |w|^2 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} g \circ L_m(tw) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \bar{f} \circ L_m(sw) dt ds \bar{h}(w) dA(w) \right| \\ &\leq \varepsilon + \overline{\lim}_{z_n \rightarrow m} \left| \int_{rD} |w|^2 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} g \circ L_{z_n}(tw) \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \bar{f} \circ L_{z_n}(sw) dt ds \bar{h}(w) dA(w) \right| \\ &\text{(by Fatou's lemma and (11))} \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon + \overline{\lim}_{z_n \rightarrow m} \left| \int_D [f_2 \circ L_{z_n}(w) - f_2(z_n)][\bar{g}_2 \circ L_{z_n}(w) - \bar{g}_2(z_n)] dA(w) \right| \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon + \overline{\lim}_{z_n \rightarrow m} |\langle H_f^* H_g l_{z_n}, h \circ \phi_{z_n} k_{z_n} \rangle| \end{aligned}$$

$\leq 2\varepsilon$ .

Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary

$$\langle H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{g \circ L_m} k_0, h k_0 \rangle = 0.$$

Substituting  $m(z)$  for  $m$  we have

$$\langle H_{f \circ L_{m(z)}}^* H_{g \circ L_{m(z)}} k_0, h k_0 \rangle = 0.$$

Using Lemmas (3.1.13) and (3.1.15) we obtain

$$\langle H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{g \circ L_m} k_z, h \circ \phi_z k_z \rangle = 0.$$

This implies

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{g \circ L_m} = 0.$$

**Lemma (3.1.17)[58]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions. If  $H_f^* H_g = 0$  then for all  $Z \in D$  and  $\xi \in \partial D$

$$H_{f \circ \phi_z}^* H_{g \circ \phi_z} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H_{f_\xi}^* H_{g_\xi} = 0,$$

where  $f_\xi(w) = f(\xi w)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $\phi$  be a Mobius function mapping  $D$  onto  $D$ . From Lemma (3.1.15) it is easy to verify that

$$U_\phi H_f^* H_g U_\phi^* = H_{f \circ \phi}^* H_{g \circ \phi}.$$

So this implies the lemma if  $\phi(w)$  is replaced by  $\phi_z(w)$  or  $\xi w$ , respectively.

We comment on some facts that will be used in the proof of Theorem (3.1.19). Suppose that  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$  and  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$ , where  $f_1$  and  $g_1$  are in Bloch space and Hardy space  $H^2$ . If  $H_f^* H_g = 0$ , then

$$\int_D [f_2 \circ \phi_z(w) - f_2(z)][\bar{g}_2 \circ \phi_z(w) - \bar{g}_2(z)] dA(w) = 0.$$

This is equivalent to

$$\int_D f_2(w) \bar{g}_2(w) |k_2|^2 dA(w) = f_2(z) \bar{g}_2(z). \quad (14)$$

Replacing  $f_2$  and  $g_2$  by  $f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda$  and  $g_2 \circ \phi_\lambda$  or  $f_{2\xi}$  and  $g_{2\xi}$  respectively, by Lemma (3.1.17) we have

$$\int_D f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) \bar{g}_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) |k_2|^2 dA(w) = f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(z) \bar{g}_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(z).$$

and

$$\int_D f_2(\xi w) \bar{g}_2(\xi w) |k_2|^2 dA(w) = f_2(\xi z) \bar{g}_2(\xi z),$$

where  $z \in D$  and  $\xi \in \partial D$ .

We state the following lemma which is the special case of [91].

**Lemma (3.1.18)[58]:** Let  $f$  be a continuous function on the closed unit disk  $\bar{D}$ .

Then the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $f$  is harmonic on  $D$ ;
- (b) for each  $z$  in  $D$

$$f(z) = \int_D |k_2|^2 f(\xi) dA(\xi).$$

**Theorem (3.1.19)[58]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ . If  $H_f^* H_g = 0$ , then either  $f$  or  $g$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$  and  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  where  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  are in the Bloch space and  $H^2$ . Then  $H_f^* H_g = 0$  implies

$$H_{f_2}^* H_{\bar{g}_2} = 0.$$

The remark after Lemma (3.1.17) gives

$$\int_D f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) \bar{g}_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) |k_2|^2 dA(w) = f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(z) \bar{g}_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(z)$$

and

$$\int_D f_2(\xi w) \bar{g}_2(\xi w) |k_2|^2 dA(w) = f_2(\xi z) \bar{g}_2(\xi z).$$

Set

$$G(z) = \int_{\xi \in \partial D} f_2(\xi z) \bar{g}_2(\xi z) d\theta / 2\pi$$

and suppose  $f_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(\lambda) w^n$  and  $g_2 \circ \phi_\lambda(w) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n(\lambda) w^n$ . Then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n(\lambda)|^2 < \infty$  and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |b_n(\lambda)|^2 < \infty$ . Thus

$$G(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(0) \bar{b}_n(0) |z|^{2n}.$$

Since  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(0) \bar{b}_n(0) |z|^{2n}$  converges uniformly on  $\bar{D}$ , the function  $G$  is continuous. By (14) we get

$$\int_D G(w) |k_z(w)|^2 dA(w) = G(z).$$

It follows from Lemma (3.1.3) that  $G(z)$  is harmonic. Let  $\Delta$  denote the Laplace operator. It is easy to verify that

$$\Delta G(z) = 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^2 a_n(0) \bar{b}_n(0) |z|^{2(n-1)}.$$

So  $\Delta G(z) = 0$  implies that  $a_n(0) \bar{b}_n(0) = 0, n > 1$ . Similarly we can prove that  $a_n(z) \bar{b}_n(z) = 0, n > 1$ . Now we consider only  $a_1(z) b_1(z) = 0$ . Without loss of

generality we may assume that there are points  $\{w_n\}$  in  $D(0, r)$  for some  $0 < r < 1$  and  $\{w_n\}$  has at least one accumulation in  $D(0, r)$  such that  $a_1(w_n) = 0$  for all  $n$ . In fact  $a_1(z) = [f_2 \circ \phi_z]'(0) = (1 - |z|^2)f_2'(z)$ . Thus  $f_2'(w_n) = 0$ . Therefore  $f_2'(w) = 0$  for all  $w$  in  $D$ . This means that  $f$  is constant. The proof is complete.

Considering Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space we interpret the theorem to mean that  $T_f^*T_g = T_{\bar{f}g}$  for bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$  if either  $f$  or  $g$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$ . On the Hardy space the above result is true for all  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^\infty(\partial D)$ . But on the Bergman space we do not know when  $T_f^*T_g = T_{\bar{f}g}$  is true for  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^\infty(\bar{D})$ .

Now we turn to the proof of the following theorem.

**Theorem (3.1.20)[58]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ . If  $H_f^*H_g$  is compact, then either  $f \circ L_m$ , or  $g \circ L_m$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$  for  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$ .

**Proof.** Proposition (3.1.16) says that

$$H_{f \circ L_m}^* H_{g \circ L_m} = 0$$

for all  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$  if  $H_f^*H_g$  is compact. It follows from Theorem (3.1.19) that either  $f \circ L_m$  or  $g \circ L_m$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$ .

Theorem (3.1.20) gives that either  $f$  or  $g$  is in  $H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}$  on each thin part  $P(m)$  since  $b \circ L_m(z) = z$  for some  $b$  in  $H^\infty(D)$ . So far we have proved that  $(a) \Leftrightarrow (b) \Leftrightarrow (c) \Leftrightarrow (d) \Leftrightarrow (f)$ . We will prove  $(d) \Leftrightarrow (e)$ . The theorem of Axler and Shields makes the proof of the following theorem possible.

**Theorem (3.1.21)[58]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ . The following are equivalent:

(c) For each thin part  $P(m)$  except  $D$ , either  $f|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}$  or  $g|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}$ ;

(e)  $H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g] \subset \{u \in C(\mathcal{M}): u|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D) \text{ for each thin part } P(m)\}$ .

**Proof.** That (c) implies (e) is obvious. Now we prove that (e) implies (c). Let  $m$  in  $\mathcal{M} \setminus D$  and  $P(m)$  be an analytic disk. That  $H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g] \subset \{u \in C(\mathcal{M}): u|_{P(m)} \in H^\infty(D) \text{ for thin part } P(m)\}$  means that

$$H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g]|_{P(m)} \subset H^\infty(D)|_{P(m)}, \quad (15)$$

In fact  $H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g] \circ L_m = H^\infty \circ L_m(D)(f \circ L_m) \cap H^\infty L_m(D)[g \circ L_m]$  and  $H^\infty \circ L_m(D) = H^\infty$  since  $P(m)$  is thin. Thus

$$H^\infty(D)[f] \cap H^\infty(D)[g] \circ L_m = H^\infty(D)[f \circ L_m] \cap H^\infty(D)[g \circ L_m], \quad (16)$$

The theorem of Axler and Shields says that if  $u$  and  $v$  are bounded harmonic but not analytic on  $D$ , then  $H^\infty(D) + C(\bar{D}) \subset H^\infty(D)[u] \cap H^\infty(D)[v]$ . Equations (15) and (16) imply

$$H^\infty(D)[f \circ L_m] \cap H^\infty(D)[g \circ L_m] \subset H^\infty(D).$$

Thus either  $f \circ L_m$  or  $g \circ L_m$  is in  $H^\infty(D)$ . We have finished the proof.

(i) From the proof of Theorem (3.1.11) we see that the theorem is also valid if  $D$  is replaced by the unit ball  $B_n$  in  $C^n$ . It is natural to ask if Theorem (3.1.20) is true on  $B_n$ . But no one knows what the Gleason parts of the maximal ideal space of  $H^\infty(B_n)$  look like. In fact whether the Corona Theorem is valid on  $\mathcal{M}(H^\infty(B_n))$  is unknown.

(ii) Looking at our proof carefully we observe that the main results are also valid on the weighted Bergman space using the following Proposition (3.1.22) instead of Lemma (3.1.8) in the above process.

**Proposition (3.1.22)[58]:** Let  $\alpha, \beta > -1$ . Then if  $[\frac{1}{2} - (\alpha/2 - \beta/q)] < 1/p < 1$  and  $1/q + 1/p = 1$ , there is an  $M > 0$  such that for all  $z$  in  $D$

$$\int_D \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{P(\alpha/2 - \beta/q)}}{|1 - \bar{z}w|^2(1 - |w|^2)^{P/2}} dA(w) < M.$$

Indeed we can obtain the result on the weighted Bergman space analogous to that on the Bergman space in [58] by means of Proposition (3.1.22). Before we state the following theorem, we define the weighted Bergman space and  $VMO_\partial(D)$ . The weighted Bergman space  $A_{2\alpha}(\alpha > -1)$  is defined by  $\{f: f \text{ is analytic on the unit disk } D \text{ and } \int |f(z)|^2(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha dA(z) < \infty\}$ , and  $VMO_\partial(D)$  is the following set

$$\{f \in L^1(D): \int |\tilde{f}(z) - f \circ \phi_z(u)| dA(u) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } |z| \rightarrow 1\},$$

Where  $\tilde{f}(z) = \int f(u)|k_z(u)| dA(u)$ . Roughly speaking  $VMO_\partial(D)$  is the space of intergrable functions on  $D$  with vanishing mean oscillation near the boundary of  $D$ .

**Theorem (3.1.23)[58]:** Let  $\alpha > -1$  and  $f$  be in  $L^\infty(D)$ . Then  $H_f$  and  $H_f$  are compact on weighted Bergman space  $A_{2\alpha}$  iff  $f$  is in  $VMO_\partial(D)$ .

(iii) From many recent results on Hankel operators and Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space it seems more natural to deal with the Toeplitz operators and Hankel operators with bounded harmonic symbols than with the symbols in  $L^\infty(D)$ .

### Section (3.2): A Theorem of Brown–Halmos Type

For  $D$  denote the open unit disc in the complex plane. By  $L^2$  we mean the Lebesgue space with respect to the normalized Lebesgue measure  $dA = \frac{1}{\pi} dx dy$  on  $D$ . For  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^2$ ,  $\langle f, g \rangle$  will denote the usual  $L^2$  inner product and  $\|f\|_2$  will denote the norm in  $L^2$ . By  $B^2$ , the Bergman space, we mean the subspace of  $L^2$  consisting of the holomorphic functions on  $D$ . For a bounded function  $u$  on  $D$  we have the Toeplitz operator  $T_u: B^2 \rightarrow B^2$  given by  $T_u f = P(uf)$  where  $P: L^2 \rightarrow B^2$  is the orthogonal projection. The function  $u$  is called the symbol of  $T_u$ . An operator that will arise in our study of Toeplitz operators is the Berezin transform, defined for any integrable function  $f$  on  $D$  by the formula

$$Bf(z) = \int_D f \frac{1 - z\bar{\zeta}}{1 - \bar{z}\zeta} dA(\zeta).$$

If we make a change of variables we see that

$$Bf(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \int_D \frac{f(\zeta)}{|1 - z\bar{\zeta}|^4} dA(\zeta).$$

It is well known that  $Bu = u$  for any harmonic function  $u$ . However,  $B$  is not a projection onto the harmonic functions, that is,  $Bu$  is not always harmonic. In fact, if  $v = Bu$  is harmonic then  $B(u - v) = 0$  since  $B$  reproduces harmonic functions. It is easily seen that the Berezin transform is injective and hence  $u = v$ . In other words  $Bu$  is harmonic if and only if  $u$  is harmonic. We also have the kernel functions  $k_w$  for each  $w \in D$  defined by  $k_w(z) = 1/(1 - z\bar{w})^2$ . The relation of these kernel functions with the projection  $P$  is the following: if  $f \in L^2$  then  $(Pf)(z) = \langle f, k_z P \rangle$ . In particular, if  $f \in B^2$  then  $f(z) = \langle f, k_z \rangle$ . We shall denote the laplacian by  $\Delta = \partial^2 / (\partial z \partial \bar{z})$  and the invariant laplacian by  $\tilde{\Delta} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \Delta$ .

There is an extensive literature on Toeplitz operators on the Hardy space  $H^2$ . (See [98] for the definitions of the Hardy space and their Toeplitz operators.) In the Hardy space (and in the Bergman space as well, see property 2, below) it is routine that if  $\bar{u}$  or  $v$  is holomorphic then  $T_u T_v = T_{uv} \cdot I_n$  [98] it was shown by A. Brown and P. Halmos that, in the Hardy space case, the converse is true. That is, if  $T_u T_v = T_w$  then one of the two symbols  $\bar{u}$  or  $v$  must be holomorphic and in this case  $w = uv$ . From this they easily deduce that if  $T_u T_v = 0$  then

one of the symbols  $u$  or  $v$  must be identically zero. There are many other interesting corollaries to their result. Returning to the Bergman space case, it has been an open problem for some time to determine if there is a theorem of Brown–Halmos type for Toeplitz operators. We show that in general there is not. We show that there are functions  $u, v$  and  $w$  which are continuous on the closed unit disc with  $T_u T_v = T_w$  but neither  $\bar{u}$  nor  $v$  is holomorphic. This example will be given in Some Examples. We do have a theorem of Brown–Halmos type if we put some restrictions on the symbols. We show, in Corollary (3.2.12), that if  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $T_f T_g = 0$  then one of the two symbols  $f$  or  $g$  is identically zero. This “zero product” problem for arbitrary bounded symbols  $f$  and  $g$  is still open.

Next we describe the results.

**Theorem (3.2.1)[96]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and that  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function with the property that  $\bar{\Delta} h$  is also bounded in  $D$ . Assume that  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , then one of the following holds:

$f$  is conjugate holomorphic  $g$  is holomorphic and in either case  $h = fg$ .

We will make two comments on Theorem (3.2.1). There is a general feeling that if a theorem from the Hardy space theory of Toeplitz operators is not true for all Bergman space Toeplitz operators then it should be true for those operators whose symbols come from the algebra  $\mathcal{U}$ . Here  $\mathcal{U}$  is the uniform closure of the algebra generated by the bounded harmonic functions. This is not the case for Theorem (3.2.1) because in our counterexample, alluded to above, the symbols are continuous on the closed disc and hence belong to  $\mathcal{U}$ . The other comment has to do with the fact that the function  $h$  in Theorem (3.2.1) is required to satisfy a much weaker condition than is required of  $f$  and  $g$ . This leads us to ask if Theorem (3.2.1) remains true if we just require that the functions  $f, g$  and  $h$  all have their invariant laplacians bounded in  $D$ . The answer is no. We will give an example of functions  $f, g$  and  $h$  all of which are of class  $C^2$  up to the boundary of  $D$  and such that  $T_f T_g = T_h$  but neither  $\bar{f}$  nor  $g$  is holomorphic.

From Theorem (3.2.1) we get the following results on products of Toeplitz operators, some of which are parallel to results in [98].

The next rephrasing of Corollary (3.2.12) is a cancellation law for Toeplitz operators.

**Corollary (3.2.2)[96]:** If  $f, g$  and  $h$  are bounded harmonic symbols such that  $T_f T_g = T_f T_h$  and  $f$  is not identically 0 then  $g = h$ .

The next corollary says that if a Toeplitz operator with bounded harmonic symbol has an inverse of the same type then this can only happen in the most trivial way

**Corollary (3.2.3)[96]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded and harmonic and  $T_f T_g = I$  then either  $f$  and  $g$  are both holomorphic or they are both conjugate holomorphic and in either case  $f = \frac{1}{g}$ .

The next corollary says there are no idempotent Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbol other than the obvious ones.

**Corollary (3.2.4)[96]:** If  $f$  is bounded and harmonic and  $T_f^2 = T_f$  then  $f = 0$  or  $f = 1$ .

Our last corollary was proved by Zheng in [58] Theorem 5, by a different method.

**Corollary (3.2.5)[96]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic symbols and  $T_f T_g = T_{fg}$  then either  $g$  is holomorphic or  $f$  is conjugate holomorphic.

We would like to point out that our method, when applied to the Hardy space case, gives a simple “function theoretic” proof of the Brown–Halmos theorem. This proof will



be given in the paragraph following the proof of Proposition (3.2.6) This proof clarifies, for us, the differences between the Hardy space and Bergman space cases.

In Proposition (3.2.6) we give a pair of function theoretic identities involving  $f, g$  and  $h$  that are equivalent to  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , in the case that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h$  is only assumed to be nearly bounded in  $D$  (see below for the definition of nearly bounded). The proof of Theorem (3.2.1) is based on an analysis of these identities.

We list here some well known and easy properties of Toeplitz operators:

- (i) If  $T_u = 0$  then  $u = 0$  almost everywhere.
- (ii) If  $f$  is holomorphic then  $T_u T_f = T_{uf}$ , and  $T_{\bar{f}} T_u = T_{\bar{f}u}$  for any  $u$ .
- (iii)  $T_u^* = T_{\bar{u}}$ .
- (iv) If  $f$  is holomorphic and not identically zero then  $T_f$  is one to one.
- (v) If  $g \in B$  and  $w \in D$  then  $P(\bar{g}k_w) = \bar{g}(w)k_w$ .

A good reference for (ii) through (v) above is Axler's survey [97]. Property (i) does not seem to be stated specifically but it is very easy:  $T_u = 0$  implies that  $u$  is orthogonal to all polynomials (in  $z$  and  $\bar{z}$ ) and hence  $u = 0$  almost everywhere since such polynomials are dense in  $L^2$ . Before turning to the proofs of our results we need to say a few words about Toeplitz operators with unbounded symbols. Even though we are interested primarily in operators with bounded symbol, operators with unbounded symbol arise naturally. In contrast to the Hardy space case, unbounded symbols can give rise to bounded operators on the Bergman space. For example if  $F \in L^1(D)$  and has compact support  $K$  in  $D$  then we can define  $T_F f(z) = \int_D (F(\zeta) f(\zeta) / (1 - z \bar{\zeta})^2) dA(\zeta)$ . Then

$$|T_F f(z)| \leq C \int_K |F| dA (\sup_K |f|) \leq C_1 \int_K |F| dA \|f\|_2.$$

Here the last inequality follows from the fact that for  $f \in B^2$  the  $L^2$  norm dominates the sup norm over any compact set. This says that the sup norm of  $T_F f$  is dominated by a constant times the  $L^2$  norm of  $f$  and hence  $\|T_F f\|_2 \leq C \|f\|_2$  for some constant  $C$ . More generally, if  $F \in L^1(D)$  and there is an  $r < 1$  such that  $f$  is bounded on  $\{z : r < |z| < 1\}$  then  $T_F$  is bounded on  $B^2$  because  $F$  can be written as an  $L^1$  function with compact support plus a bounded function. Such a function will be called "nearly bounded". A function of this kind will arise in the construction of our counterexamples. The basic properties listed above for bounded symbols continue to be true for nearly bounded symbols but the only one we will use is the following: if  $u$  is nearly bounded and  $g$  is bounded and holomorphic then  $T_u T_g = T_{ug}$ , but this is obvious.

We prove the identities on which our other results are based. If  $f$  is a bounded complex valued harmonic function defined in  $D$  then there are holomorphic functions  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  such that  $f = f_1 + f_2$ . This decomposition is unique if we require  $f_2(0) = 0$ . Of course,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are not necessarily bounded but they are certainly Bloch functions.

**Proposition (3.2.6)[96]:** Suppose that  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2, g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  are bounded harmonic functions with  $f_i, g_i$  holomorphic and  $h$  is nearly bounded in  $D$ . Then the following are equivalent.

- (i)  $T_f T_g = T_h$ .
- (ii) For all  $z \in D$  we have
$$f_1(z)g_1(z) + \bar{f}_2(z)\bar{g}_2(z) + f_1(z)g_2(z) = B(h - \bar{f}_2 g_1)(z).$$

- (iii) For all  $(z, w) \in D \times D$  we have
$$f_1(z)g_1(z) + \bar{f}_2(\bar{w})g_2(\bar{w}) + f_1(z)g_2(-\bar{w})$$

$$= (1 - zw)^2 \int \frac{\int_D (h(\zeta) - f_2(\zeta)g_1(\zeta))}{(1 - \bar{\zeta}z)^2 (1 - \zeta w)^2} dA(\zeta).$$

**Proof.** Now  $T_f T_g = T_h$  if and only if  $T_f T_g k_w = T_h k_w$  for all  $w \in D$ . Using Property 5 above we see that

$$T_g k_w = P(g_1 k_w + \bar{g}_2 k_w) = g_1 k_w + \bar{g}_2(w) k_w.$$

It now follows from another application of Property 5 that

$$\begin{aligned} T_f T_g k_w &= P\left((f_1 + \bar{f}_2)(g_1 k_w + \bar{g}_2(w) k_w)\right) \\ &= f_1 g_1 k_w + \bar{g}_2(w) f_1 k_w + \bar{g}_2(w) \bar{f}_2(w) k_w + P(\bar{f}_2 g_1 k_w). \end{aligned}$$

So we see that  $T_f T_g = T_h$  is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(z)g_1(z) + \bar{f}_2(w)\bar{g}_2(w) + f_1(z)\bar{g}_2(w) + \frac{1}{k_w(z)} P(\bar{f}_2 g_1 k_w)(z) \\ = \frac{1}{k_w(z)} P(hk_w)(z), \end{aligned}$$

for all  $z, w$  in  $D$ . But this is just Eq. (iii) with  $w$  replaced by  $\bar{w}$ . This shows that (i) and (iii) are equivalent. If we let  $w = \bar{z}$  in (iii) we get (ii). It remains to show that (ii) implies (iii). Both sides of Eq. (iii) are holomorphic in  $(z, w)$  in the bidisc  $D \times D$ . Assuming (ii) they are equal on

$\{(z, w): w = \bar{z}\}$  and hence they are equal on the bidisc. This finishes the proof of the proposition. Before continuing with the proof of Theorem (3.2.1) we will discuss what happens when we apply our method to the Hardy space case. If  $f, g$  and  $h$  are  $L^\infty$  functions on the circle, then we can write  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$  where  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are in  $H^2 \cap BMO$  and similarly for  $g$  and  $h$ . If we let  $S_z(e^{i\theta}) = 1/(1 - \bar{z}e^{i\theta})$  be the Szego kernel and  $P_S$  the Szego projection of  $L^2$  onto  $H^2$  then application of the method of Proposition (3.2.6) leads to:

$$f_1(z)g_1(z) + \bar{f}_2(z)\bar{g}_2(z) + f_1(z)\bar{g}_2(z) + \frac{1}{S_z(z)} P_S(\bar{f}_2 g_1 S_z)(z) = h(z).$$

But now we see that  $\left(\frac{1}{S_z(z)}\right) P_S(u S_z)(z)$  is Poisson integral of  $u$  for any  $u$  which is integrable on the circle. So we see that every term in the above display with the exception of  $f_1 \bar{g}_2$  is obviously harmonic. It follows that  $f_1 \bar{g}_2$  is harmonic from which it follows that  $f_1$  or  $g_2$  is constant. This is the same as saying that  $f$  is conjugate holomorphic or that  $g$  is holomorphic. In the Bergman space case the Berezin transform appears rather than the Poisson integral and since the Berezin transform does not always yield harmonic functions, we have some more work to do.

Now assume that the hypotheses of Theorem (3.2.1) hold. From Proposition (3.2.6)(ii) we know that

$$f_1 g_1 + \bar{f}_2 \bar{g}_2 + f_1 \bar{g}_2 = B(h - \bar{f}_2 g_1).$$

Since  $B$  reproduces harmonic functions we see that

$$f_1 \bar{g}_2 = B(u),$$

where  $u = h - \bar{f}_2 g_1 - f_1 g_1 - \bar{f}_2 \bar{g}_2$ .

Notice that  $\tilde{\Delta}u = \tilde{\Delta}h - \tilde{\Delta}\bar{f}_2 g_1$  is bounded.

This is so because  $\tilde{\Delta}h$  is bounded by assumption and

$$\tilde{\Delta}\bar{f}_2 g_1(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \bar{f}_2'(z)g_1'(z)$$

is bounded since  $f_2$  and  $g_1$  are Bloch functions. We want to conclude that  $f_1$  or  $g_2$  is constant. This will follow from the following

**Proposition (3.2.7)[96]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are holomorphic in  $D$  and  $f\bar{g} = Bu$  where  $u \in L^1(D) \cap C^2(D)$  and  $\tilde{Z}u \in L^\infty(D)$  then either  $f$  is constant or  $g$  is constant.

In the proof of Proposition (3.2.7) we will want to use the fact that the invariant laplacian commutes with the Berezin transform. This last fact has been known for some time, (see the discussion in [99]); however, the proofs we have been able to find are given only for functions of compact support or are based on the fact that  $B$  is in some sense a function of  $D\tilde{Z}$ . Since this fact is crucial to our argument we have decided, with no claim to originality, to include a simple direct proof of what we need.

**Lemma (3.2.8)[96]:** Suppose that  $u$  is twice continuously differentiable in  $D$  and  $u$  and  $\tilde{Z}u$  are in  $L^1(D)$  then  $\tilde{Z}Bu = B(\tilde{Z}u)$ .

**Proof.** We fix  $0 < r < 1$  and  $z \in D$  and consider

$$\frac{\int_{D_r} ((r^2 - |w|^2)^2 \Delta u(w))}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} dA(w),$$

where  $D_r$  is the disc of radius  $r$  centered at the origin. By Green's theorem this is equal to

$$\int_{D_r} u(w) \Delta_w \frac{(r^2 - |w|^2)}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} dA(w)$$

(the boundary terms are 0 because  $(r^2 - |w|^2)^2$  and its normal derivative both vanish on the boundary).

Now  $|(r^2 - |w|^2)^2 \Delta u| \leq |(1 - |w|^2)^2 \Delta u|$  in  $D_r$  so we may take the limit as  $r \rightarrow 1$  under the integral sign in the first integral.

Now for each fixed  $z \in D$ ,  $\Delta_w((r^2 - |w|^2)^2 / |1 - \bar{w}z|^4)$  converges pointwise and boundedly to  $\Delta_w((1 - |w|^2)^2 / |1 - \bar{w}z|^4)$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ . So we obtain that

$$\int_D u(w) \Delta_w \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^2}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} dA(w) = \int_D \frac{\tilde{Z}u(w)}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} dA(w).$$

In the first integral we now use the remarkable but easily verified identity

$$\Delta_w \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^2}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4} = \Delta_z \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^2}{|1 - \bar{w}z|^4}.$$

If we multiply the resulting equation by  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$  we see that the lemma is proved.

Now we turn to the proof of Proposition (3.2.7). We are assuming that  $f\bar{g} = Bu$ . We take the invariant laplacian of both sides of this identity and we arrive at (after dividing by  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$ ),

$$f'(z)\bar{g}'(z) = \int_D \frac{\bar{Z}u(\xi)}{|1 - \bar{\xi}z|^4} dA(\xi).$$

Next we “complexify” this identity.

**Lemma (3.2.9)[96]:** For all  $z, w \in D$  we have

$$f'(z)\bar{g}'(\bar{w}) = \int_D \frac{\Delta u(\xi)}{(1 - \bar{\xi}z)^2 (1 - \xi w)^2} dA(\xi).$$

**Proof.** The functions on either side of the displayed equation are holomorphic in the bidisc  $\{(z, w): |z| < 1, |w| < 1\}$  and they are equal on the subset  $\{(z, \bar{z})\}$  and hence are equal on the whole bidisc.

Proceeding with the proof of Proposition (3.2.7) we take the identity of the Lemma (3.2.9) and we differentiate  $k$  times with respect to  $w$  and then let  $w = 0$ . We arrive at

$$\int_D \frac{\xi^k \sigma(\xi)}{(1 - \bar{\xi}z)^2} dA(\xi) = C_k f'(z),$$

for some constants  $C_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $\sigma(\xi) = \tilde{Z}u(\xi)$ .

Consider now the Toeplitz operator  $T_\sigma$  with the possibly non-harmonic bounded symbol  $\sigma(\xi)$ . The above display tells us that  $T_\sigma(\xi^k)$  is a multiple of  $f'$  for all non-negative integers  $k$ . There are two possibilities,  $T_\sigma(\xi^k) = 0$  for all  $k$ , or not. If the first holds then  $T_\sigma p = 0$  for all polynomials and hence  $T\sigma = 0$  on the Bergman space and hence  $\sigma = 0$ . In the other case  $T_\sigma(\xi^k) \neq 0$  for some  $k$ . That is, some  $C_k \neq 0$ . This means that  $f' \in B^2$  since it is a multiple of  $T_\sigma(\xi^k)$  for some  $k$ . So if  $s$  were not zero then  $T_s$  would be a rank one operator. So we need to know that there are no rank one Toeplitz operators with bounded symbol.

**Lemma (3.2.10)[96]:** If  $\sigma$  is a bounded (not necessarily harmonic) function in  $D$  and  $\dim T_\sigma B^2 [1$  then  $\sigma \equiv 0$ .

**Proof.** The proof depends on the following idea due to R. Rochberg valid for any bounded function  $\sigma$ : If  $w = u + iv$  and  $\hat{\sigma}$  denotes the Fourier transform of  $s$  then

$$\hat{\sigma}(v, u) = \int_D e^{-\frac{w}{2}} \overline{e^{\frac{w}{2}} \sigma} dA = \langle T_\sigma e^{-\frac{w}{2}}, e^{\frac{w}{2}} \rangle,$$

where  $e_w(z) = e^{wz}$ . Now the hypothesis of this lemma implies that

$$T_\sigma f = \langle f, \emptyset \rangle F$$

for some  $\emptyset, F \in B$  so we see that

$$\hat{\sigma}(v, u) = \langle e^{-\frac{w}{2}}, \emptyset \rangle \langle F, e^{\frac{w}{2}} \rangle = G(w) \bar{H}(w),$$

where  $G, H$  are entire functions. So we have  $|\hat{\sigma}| = |G\bar{H}| = |GH|$ . But  $\hat{\sigma}$  is continuous and goes to 0 at  $\infty$ . and  $GH$  is entire. It follows that  $GH$  and hence  $\hat{\sigma}$  is identically 0 from which it follows that  $\sigma \equiv 0$ .

So we see that in any case  $\sigma \equiv 0$ . This means that  $\Delta u \equiv 0$  and hence that  $f' \bar{g}' \equiv 0$  which implies that  $f$  is constant or  $g$  is constant. This finishes the proof of Proposition (3.2.7) and hence the proof of Theorem (3.2.1).

It is natural to ask if the hypothesis on  $\tilde{Z}u$  in Proposition (3.2.7) is necessary. Pursuing this question will lead us to the examples mentioned. The simplest question one could ask is: does there exist a function  $u \in L^1(D)$  such that  $z\bar{z} = Bu(z)$ ? The answer is yes, with  $u(\xi) = 1 - \log 1/|\xi|^2$ . To see this we need to show that if  $v(\xi) = \log 1/|\xi|^2$  then  $Bv(z) = 1 - |z|^2$ . If we use the second of the two formulas given for  $Bv$  we want to show that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^2 \int_D \frac{\log |\xi|^2}{|1 - \bar{\xi}z|^4} dA(\xi) = |z|^2 - 1.$$

Since  $|1 - \bar{\xi}z|^{-4} \sum_{n,k} (n+1)(k+1)(\bar{\xi}z)^n (\xi\bar{z})^k$  and since  $v$  is radial we see that

$$\int_D \frac{\log |\xi|^2}{|1 - \bar{\xi}z|^4} dA(\xi) = \sum_n (n+1)^2 \int_D |\xi|^{2n} \log |\xi|^2 dA(\xi) |z|^{2n}.$$

Now the integral in the right hand side of the above expression is easily calculated to be  $-1/(n+1)^2$ . So the sum on the right hand side of the above display is  $-1/1 - |z|^2$ . Multiplying by  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$  we see that  $Bv(z) = 1 - |z|^2$ , as claimed.

But now if we recall the equivalence of (i) and (ii) of Proposition (3.2.6) we see that we have

$$T_z T \bar{z} = T_{u(z)}$$

where  $u(z) = 1 - \log 1/|z|^2$ . Of course  $u$  is not bounded but it is nearly bounded so Proposition (3.2.6) applies. Now if we compose both sides of the above display on the right by  $T_z$  we get

$$T_z T_{|z|^2} = T_{zu(z)}.$$

This equation is of the form  $T_f T_g = T_h$  where  $f, g$  and  $h$  are continuous on the closed disc but neither  $\bar{f}$  nor  $g$  is holomorphic. If we compose on the right again by  $T_{z^2}$  we get

$$T_z T_{\bar{z}z^3} = T_{z^3} u(z).$$

In this equation of the form  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , all three symbols have bounded invariant laplacian since they are all of class  $C^2$  in the closed disc but neither  $\bar{f}$  nor  $g$  is holomorphic.

Next we discuss the proofs of the corollaries.

**Corollary (3.2.11)[96]:** If  $f, g$  and  $h$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $T_f T_g = T_h$  then one of the following holds:

- (i)  $f$  and  $g$  are holomorphic
- (ii)  $f$  and  $g$  are conjugate holomorphic
- (iii)  $f$  is constant
- (iv)  $g$  is constant.

**Proof.** Theorem (3.2.1) tells us that  $f$  is conjugate holomorphic or  $g$  is holomorphic. Suppose  $g$  is holomorphic then  $f g = h$ . In particular,  $f g$  is harmonic.  $\Delta f g = \frac{\sigma f}{\sigma \bar{z}} g'$ . It follows that  $f$  is holomorphic as well or that  $g$  is constant. If  $f$  is conjugate holomorphic the argument is similar.

**Corollary (3.2.12)[96]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $T_f T_g = 0$  then either  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem (3.2.1)  $f g = 0$  in  $D$  and since  $f$  and  $g$  are harmonic one of them is identically 0.

Corollary (3.2.2) follows from Corollary (3.2.12) since the hypothesis of Corollary (3.2.2) implies that  $T_f T_{g-h} = 0$ . Corollary (3.2.3) follows by observing that  $I = T_h$  where  $h$  is the constant function 1 and then applying Corollary (3.2.12). The proof of Corollary (3.2.4) is similar. To prove Corollary (3.2.5) we need only check that  $\tilde{\Delta} f g \in L^\infty$ . but this follows since  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded and harmonic.

### Section (3.3): Semicommutators of Toeplitz Operators with Harmonic Symbols

For  $dA$  denote Lebesgue area measure on the unit disk  $D$ , normalized so that the measure of  $D$  equals 1. The Bergman space  $L_a^2$  is the Hilbert space consisting of the analytic functions on  $D$  that are also in  $L^2(D, dA)$ . For  $z \in D$ , the Bergman reproducing kernel is the function  $K_z \in L_a^2$  such that

$$h(z) = \langle h, K_z \rangle$$

for every  $h \in L_a^2$ . The normalized Bergman reproducing kernel  $k_z$  is the function  $K_z / \|K_z\|_2$ . Here the norm  $\|\cdot\|_2$  and the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  are taken in the space  $L^2(D, dA)$ .

For  $f \in L^\infty(D, dA)$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_f$  with symbol  $f$  is the operator on  $L_a^2$  defined by  $T_f h = P(fh)$ ; here  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(D, dA)$  onto  $L_a^2$ . We denote the semicommutator and commutator of two Toeplitz operators  $T_f$  and  $T_g$  by

$$(T_f, T_g] = T_{fg} - T_f T_g$$

and

$$[T_f, T_g] = T_f T_g - T_g T_f$$

respectively. Note that if  $g \in H^\infty(D)$  (the set of bounded analytic functions on  $D$ ), then  $T_g$  is just the operator of multiplication by  $g$  on  $L^2_a$  and hence  $(T_f, T_g] = 0$  for any  $f \in L^\infty(D, dA)$ .

For a bounded operator  $S$  on  $L^2_a$ , the Berezin transform of  $S$  is the function  $B(S)$  on  $D$  defined by

$$B(S)(z) = \langle S k_z, k_z \rangle.$$

The Berezin transform  $B(u)(z)$  of a function  $u \in L^\infty(D, dA)$  is defined to be the Berezin transform of the Toeplitz operator  $T_u$ . In other words,

$$B(u)(z) = B(T_u)(z) = \int_D u \left( \frac{z-w}{1-\bar{z}w} \right) dA(w).$$

The last equality follows from the change of variable in the definition of the Berezin transform. The above integral formula extends the Berezin transform to  $L^1(D, dA)$  and clearly gives

$$B(u)(z) = u(z) \tag{17}$$

for any harmonic function  $u \in L^1(D, dA)$ .

Let  $\Delta$  denote the Laplace operator  $4 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}}$ . A function  $h$  on  $D$  is harmonic if  $\Delta h(z) \equiv 0$  on  $D$ . We use  $\tilde{\Delta}$  to denote the invariant Laplace operator  $(1 - |z|^2)^2 4 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}}$ . The invariant Laplace operator commutes with the Berezin transform [96], [103], which is useful in studying Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space [96].

An operator  $A$  on a Hilbert space  $H$  is said to have finite rank if the closure of  $\text{Ran}(A)$  of the range  $A(H)$  of the operator has finite dimension. For a bounded operator  $A$  on  $H$ , define  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim \text{Ran}(A)$ . If  $A$  has finite rank, then  $\text{rank}(A) < \infty$ .

We study the problem for which bounded harmonic functions  $f, g$  on the unit disk, the semicommutator  $(T_f, T_g]$  or commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  has finite rank on the Bergman space. The analogous problem on the Hardy space has been completely solved in [93], [102]. We will reduce the problem to the problem of when a Toeplitz operator has finite rank. Although the problem on finite rank Toeplitz operators remains open, Ahern and Cuckovic [96] have shown that for  $u \in L^\infty(D)$ , if  $T_u$  has rank one then  $u = 0$ . One naturally conjectures that for  $u \in L^\infty(D)$ , if  $T_u$  has finite rank, then  $u = 0$ . We will show that this conjecture is true provided that  $u$  is a finite sum of products of an analytic function and a co-analytic function in  $L^2(D, dA)$ . Using the result we shall completely characterize finite rank semicommutator or commutator of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols. The zero semicommutator or commutator of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols has been completely characterized in [101] and [105]. In fact, we shall show that if the semicommutator or commutator of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols has finite rank, then it must be zero. This is not the case on the Hardy space [93], [102]. Moreover on the Bergman space there exist nonzero compact semicommutators or commutators of two Toeplitz operators with bounded harmonic symbols [54], [105]. We will show that for two bounded harmonic functions  $f, g$ , if the product  $T_f T_g$  has finite rank, then either  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0, which extends the result on the zero products of Toeplitz operators in [96].

We study Toeplitz operators with finite rank. For a family  $\{A_n\}$  of operators on the Hilbert space  $H$  and an operator  $A$  on  $H$ , we say that  $A_n$  converges to  $A$  in weak operator topology, if for each  $x, y \in H$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle A_n x, y \rangle = \langle Ax, y \rangle.$$

The following result is implicitly contained in [104]. We include a proof for completeness.

**Lemma (3.3.1)[100]:** Suppose that  $A_n$  and  $A$  are bounded operators on the Hilbert space  $H$ . If  $A_n$  converges to  $A$  in the weak operator topology, then

$$\text{rank}(A) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{rank}(A_n).$$

**Proof.** Let  $l$  denote  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{rank}(A_n)$ . We need only consider the case  $l < \infty$ . We claim that  $\text{rank}(A) \leq l$ . If this is false, we may assume that  $\text{rank}(A) \geq l + 1$ . Thus there are  $(l + 1)$  elements  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^{l+1}$  in  $H$  such that  $\{Ax_j\}_{j=1}^{l+1}$  are linearly independent and so

$$\det[\langle Ax_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)} \neq 0$$

where  $\det[\langle Ax_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)}$  denotes the determinant of the  $(l + 1) \times (l + 1)$  matrix  $[\langle Ax_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)}$ . Since  $A_n$  converges to  $A$  in the weak operator topology, for each  $i, j$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle A_n x_i, Ax_j \rangle = \langle Ax_i, Ax_j \rangle.$$

This gives

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \det[\langle A_n x_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)} = \det[\langle Ax_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)}.$$

Thus for some large  $N$ ,

$$\det[\langle A_N x_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)} \neq 0, \quad (18)$$

but

$$\text{rank}(A_N) \leq l. \quad (19)$$

So (19) gives that there are constants  $c_i$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^{l+1} |c_i| \neq 0$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{l+1} c_i A_N x_i = 0$$

Hence

$$c[\langle A_N x_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)} = 0$$

where  $c = (c_1, \dots, c_{l+1})$ . This implies

$$[\langle A_N x_i, Ax_j \rangle]_{(l+1) \times (l+1)} = 0.$$

It contradicts (18) to complete the proof.

**Theorem (3.3.2)[100]:** Suppose that  $f$  is in  $L^\infty(D)$  and equal to  $\sum_{j=1}^l f_j(z) \overline{g_j(z)}$  for finitely many functions  $f_j(z)$  and  $g_j(z)$  analytic on the unit disk  $D$ . If  $T_f$  has finite rank, then  $f = 0$ .

**Proof.** First we will show that  $T_{|f|^2}$  has finite rank. To do so, for each  $0 < r < 1$ , define  $f_r(z) = f(rz)$ . Let  $g_r = \overline{f_r}$ . Since

$$f(z) = \sum_{j=1}^l f_j(z) \overline{g_j(z)}$$

for finitely many functions  $f_j(z)$  and  $g_j(z)$  in  $L_a^2$ , we have

$$T_{f g_r} = T_{f \overline{(\sum_{j=1}^l f_j(rz) \overline{g_j(rz)})}} = \sum_{j=1}^l T_{f \overline{f_j(rz)} g_j(rz)} = \sum_{j=1}^l T_{\overline{f_j(rz)}} T_f T_{g_j(rz)}.$$

The last equality follows from the basic properties of Toeplitz operators [43]

$$T_{\overline{h}} T_f = T_{\overline{h} f}$$

and

$$T_f T_h = T_{fh},$$

for  $f \in L^\infty(D, dA)$  and  $h \in H^\infty(D)$ . If  $T_f$  has finite rank and  $\text{rank}(T_f) = N$ , then for each  $0 < r < 1$ ,

$$\text{rank}(T_{fg_r}) \leq Nl.$$

Thus

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1} \text{rank}(T_{fg_r}) \leq Nl.$$

Next we shall show that  $T_{fg_r}$  converges to  $T_{|f|^2}$  in the weak operator topology. To do this, we observe that for each  $z \in D$ ,

$$|f(z)g_r(z)| = |f(z)f(rz)| \leq \|f\|_\infty^2,$$

and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} f(z)g_r(z) = |f(z)|^2.$$

By the dominant convergence theorem we have that for  $h_1, h_2 \in L_a^2$ ,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \int_D f(z)g_r(z)h_1(z)\overline{h_2(z)}dA(z) = \int_D |f(z)|^2 h_1(z)\overline{h_2(z)}dA(z),$$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \langle T_{fg_r} h_1, h_2 \rangle &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \langle f g_r h_1, h_2 \rangle \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \int_D f(z)g_r(z)h_1(z)\overline{h_2(z)}dA(z) \\ &= \int_D |f(z)|^2 h_1(z)\overline{h_2(z)}dA(z) \\ &= \langle T_{|f|^2} h_1, h_2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $T_{fg_r}$  converges to  $T_{|f|^2}$  in weak operator topology. By Lemma (3.3.1), we have that the Toeplitz operator  $T_{|f|^2}$  with nonnegative function symbol has finite rank and its rank is at most  $Nl$ .

To finish the proof we need to prove that if the Toeplitz operator with nonnegative function symbol has finite rank, it must be zero. This was well known. For completeness, we include a proof here. Since  $T_{|f|^2}$  has finite rank, the kernel of  $T_{|f|^2}$  contains a nonzero function  $h \in L_a^2$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle T_{|f|^2} h, h \rangle \\ &= \langle |f|^2 h, h \rangle \\ &= \int_D |f(z)|^2 |h(z)|^2 dA(z) \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$|f(z)|^2 |h(z)|^2 = 0$$

for a.e.  $z \in D$ . Noting that  $h(z)$  is in the Bergman space, we conclude that  $f = 0$  in  $L^\infty(D, dA)$  to complete the proof.

For  $f \in L^\infty(D, dA)$ , the Hankel operator  $H_f$  with symbol  $f$  is the operator on  $L_a^2$  defined by  $H_f h = (I - P)(fh)$ ; here  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(D, dA)$  onto  $L_a^2$ . The relation between Toeplitz operators and Hankel operators is established by the following well-known identity:

$$(T_f, T_g] = H_f^* H_g.$$



We shall reduce the problem of when a finite sum of products of two Hankel operators has finite rank to the problem of when a Toeplitz operator has finite rank.

For each bounded harmonic function  $f$  on the unit disk,  $f$  can be written uniquely as a sum of an analytic function and a co-analytic function on the unit disk  $D$  up to a constant. Let  $f_+$  denote the analytic part and  $f_-$  the co-analytic part with  $f_-(0) = 0$ . In fact, both  $f_+$  and  $\overline{f_-}$  are in both the Hardy space  $H^2$  and the Bloch space [43], [49].

For bounded harmonic functions  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  on the unit disk for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , define

$$\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k) = \tilde{\Delta} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k (f_i)_- (g_i)_+ \right].$$

For two bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$  on the unit disk, let  $\sigma_{sc}(f, g)$  denote  $\sigma(g; f)$  and  $\sigma_c(f, g)$  denote  $\sigma(f, -g; g, f)$ . Easy calculations give

$$\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{i=1}^k (f_i)'_- (g_i)'_+ \quad (20)$$

where  $(f_i)'_- = \partial_{\bar{z}} f_i$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{sc}(f, g) &= \tilde{\Delta}(f_+ g_-) \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 (\partial_z f) (\partial_{\bar{z}} g) \\ &= (1 - |z|^2) f'_+(z) (1 - |z|^2) g'_-(z), \\ \sigma_c(f, g) &= \tilde{\Delta}[f_- g_+ - f_+ g_-] \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 [(\partial_{\bar{z}} f) (\partial_z g) - (\partial_z f) (\partial_{\bar{z}} g)] \\ &= (1 - |z|^2) f'_-(z) (1 - |z|^2) g'_+(z) - (1 - |z|^2) f'_+(z) (1 - |z|^2) g'_-(z). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma (3.3.3)[100]:** Suppose that  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Then  $\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)$  is in  $L^\infty(D, dA)$ .

**Proof.** Since  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk,  $(f_i)_+$ ,  $\overline{(f_i)_-}$ ,  $(g_i)_+$  and  $\overline{(g_i)_-}$  are in the Bloch space

$$B = \{h : h \text{ analytic on } D, \sup_{z \in D} (1 - |z|^2) |h'(z)| < \infty\}$$

(see [43]). (20) gives that  $\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)$  is in  $L^\infty(D, dA)$ .

**Proposition (3.3.4)[100]:** Suppose that  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . If the finite sum  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}$  of products of Hankel operators has finite rank, then  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$  has finite rank.

**Proof.** For these bounded harmonic functions  $f_i, g_i$  on the unit disk, write

$$f_i = (f_i)_+ + (f_i)_-$$

and

$$g_i = (g_i)_+ + (g_i)_-,$$

where  $(f_i)_+, (g_i)_+, \overline{(f_i)_-}$ , and  $\overline{(g_i)_-}$  are in the Hardy space  $H^2$ . By Lemma (3.3.3),  $\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)(z)$  is in  $L^\infty(D, dA)$ . Thus  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$  is bounded on the Bergman space  $L^2_\alpha$ .

We shall get the Berezin transform of  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}$ . First we calculate the Berezin transform of  $B((T_f, T_g))(z)$  of the semicommutator  $(T_f, T_g)$ . By the basic properties of Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space [43], [14], we have

$$T_f k_z = (f_+ + f_-(z)) k_z,$$

for  $z \in D$ . Since  $f$  is harmonic in the unit disk, we also have

$$B(f)(z) = f(z).$$

For two bounded harmonic functions  $f, g$  on  $D$ , easy calculations give

$$\begin{aligned}
B((T_f, T_g])(z) &= B(T_{fg} - T_f T_g)(z) \\
&= \langle fgk_z, k_z \rangle - \langle (g_+ + g_-(z))k_z, \bar{f}k_z \rangle \\
&= \langle [fg - f(g_+ + g_-(z))]k_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= \langle [f(g_- - g_-(z))]k_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= \langle [f_+g_- + f_-g_- - fg_-(z)]k_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= \langle f_+g_-k_z, k_z \rangle + \langle f_-g_-k_z, k_z \rangle - g_-(z)\langle fk_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= B(f_+g_-)(z) + f_-(z)g_-(z) - g_-(z)B(f)(z) \\
&= B(f_+g_-)(z) + f_-(z)g_-(z) - g_-(z)f(z) \\
&= B(f_+g_-)(z) + f_-(z)g_-(z) - g_-(z)(f_+(z) + f_-(z)) \\
&= B(f_+g_-)(z) - f_+(z)g_-(z)
\end{aligned}$$

for all  $z \in D$ . Noting

$$(T_f, T_g] = H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g,$$

we have

$$B(H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g)(z) = B(f_+g_-)(z) - f_+(z)g_-(z).$$

Thus

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{\bar{g}_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z) = B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(f_j)_-\right)(z) - \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(z)(f_j)_-(z).$$

Applying the invariant Laplace operator  $\tilde{\Delta}$  to both sides of the above equation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
&\tilde{\Delta}B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{\bar{g}_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z) \\
&= [\tilde{\Delta}B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(f_j)_-\right)](z) - [\tilde{\Delta}\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(z)(f_j)_-(z)].
\end{aligned}$$

Since the invariant Laplace operator commutes with the Berezin transform [96], we have

$$B(\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k))(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left[ \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)'_+(f_j)'_-(z) \right] + \tilde{\Delta}B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{\bar{g}_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z)$$

In other words, the above equality becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} k_z, k_z \rangle &= B(\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k))(z) \\
&= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left[ \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)'_+(z)(f_j)'_-(z) \right] + \tilde{\Delta}B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{\bar{g}_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z).
\end{aligned}$$

For two functions  $x$  and  $y$  in  $L_a^2$ , define the operator  $x \otimes y$  of rank one to be

$$(x \otimes y)f = \langle f, y \rangle x$$

for  $f \in L_a^2$ . Then it is easy to verify

$$\begin{aligned}
B(x \otimes y)(z) &= \langle (x \otimes y)k_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \langle (x \otimes y)k_z, k_z \rangle \\
&= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \langle k_z, y \rangle \langle x, k_z \rangle \\
&= (1 - |z|^2)^2 x(z) \bar{y}(z),
\end{aligned}$$

for  $z \in D$ . If the semicommutator  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{\bar{g}_j}^* H_{f_j}$  has finite rank  $N$ , then there exist functions  $x_j$  and  $y_j$  in  $L_a^2$  for  $j = 1, \dots, N$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j} = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j.$$

Thus

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left(\sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}\right).$$

Observe

$$(1 - |z|^2)^2 \left(\sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}\right) = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{3N} \hat{x}_j(z) \overline{\hat{y}_j(z)}\right)$$

where  $\hat{x}_j$  and  $\hat{y}_j$  are in the Bergman space  $L_a^2$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} k_z, k_z \rangle \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left[ \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)'_+(z) (f_j)'_-(z) \right] + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left( \sum_{j=1}^{3N} \hat{x}_j'(z) \overline{\hat{y}_j'(z)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Dividing by  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$ , we obtain

$$\langle T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} K_z, K_z \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)'_+(z) (f_j)'_-(z) + \left( \sum_{j=1}^{3N} \hat{x}_j'(z) \overline{\hat{y}_j'(z)} \right). \quad (21)$$

As in [96] we complexify the above identity. Write the left hand side as an integral as in [96] to get

$$\langle T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} K_z, K_z \rangle = \int_D \sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)(\lambda) \frac{1}{|1 - \bar{z}\lambda|^4} dA(\lambda).$$

Since the right hand side of (21) and the above integral are real analytic functions of  $z$  and  $\bar{z}$  we obtain

$$\langle T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} K_w, K_z \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)'_+(z) (f_j)'_-(w) + \left( \sum_{j=1}^{3N} \hat{x}_j'(z) \overline{\hat{y}_j'(w)} \right).$$

Differentiating both sides of the above equation  $l$  times with respect to  $\bar{w}$  and then letting  $w = 0$  give

$$T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} z^l = \sum_{j=1}^k a_{lj} (g_j)'_+(z) + \sum_{j=1}^{3N} b_{lj} \hat{x}_j'(z) \quad (22)$$

for some constants  $a_{lj}, b_{lj}$ .

Although some of  $(g_j)'_+$  and  $\hat{x}_j'$  may not be in  $L_a^2$ , we observe that for each  $0 < r < 1$ , all of  $(g_j)'_+|_{rD}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\hat{x}_j'|_{rD}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, 3N$  are in  $L_a^2(rD, dA)$ .

$T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$  has finite rank on the Bergman space  $L_a^2$ .

If this claim is false, we may assume that there are  $3N + k + 1$  linearly independent functions  $\{\phi_\mu\}_{\mu=1}^{3N+k+1}$  in the range of  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$ . Thus for each  $0 < r < 1$ ,  $\{\phi_\mu|_{rD}\}_{\mu=1}^{3N+k+1}$  are also linearly independent in the space  $L_a^2(rD, dA)$ . Since analytic polynomials are dense in  $L_a^2$ , for each  $\mu$ , there are analytic polynomials  $p_{\mu l}$  such that  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} p_{\mu l}$  converges to  $\phi_\mu$ . Thus  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} p_{\mu l}$  converges uniformly to  $\phi_\mu$  on each compact subset of the unit disk  $D$ . Noting that  $rD$  is contained in a compact subset of the unit disk, we have

$$\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \int_{rD} |T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} p_{\mu l}(z) - \phi_{\mu}(z)|^2 dA(z) = 0.$$

On the other hand, (22) gives that  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)} p_{\mu l}|_{rD}$  is contained in the subspace spanned by  $(g_j)'_{+}|_{rD}$  and  $\hat{x}_j'|_{rD}$  of  $L_a^2(rD, dA)$ . But the subspace has dimension at most  $3N + k$ . This contradicts that  $\{\phi_{\mu}|_{rD}\}_{\mu=1}^{3N+k+1}$  are also linearly independent and hence gives that  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$  has finite rank to complete the proof.

**Theorem (3.3.5)[100]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk. The semicommutator  $(T_f, T_g]$  has finite rank if and only if either  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  is analytic on the unit disk.

**Proof.** If either  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  is analytic on the unit disk, then  $T_f T_g = T_f g$  and so the semicommutator  $(T_f, T_g]$  equals 0.

If the semicommutator  $(T_f, T_g]$  has finite rank, noting

$$(T_f, T_g] = H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g$$

by Proposition (3.3.4), the Toeplitz operator  $T_{-\sigma_{sc}(f, g)}$  has finite rank. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{sc}(f, g)(z) &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 f_+'(z) g_-'(z) \\ &= f_+'(z) g_-'(z) - 2z f_+'(z) g_-'(z) \bar{z} + z^2 f_+'(z) g_-'(z) \bar{z}^2, \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (3.3.2) gives that for  $z \in D$ ,

$$\sigma_{sc}(f, g)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 f_+'(z) g_-'(z) \equiv 0.$$

This implies

$$f_+'(z) g_-'(z) \equiv 0$$

on  $D$ . Thus either  $f_+$  or  $g_-$  is constant on  $D$ . So we conclude that either  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  is analytic on  $D$  to complete the proof.

**Theorem (3.3.6)[100]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk. The commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  has finite rank if and only if  $f$  and  $g$  are both analytic on  $D$ , or  $\bar{f}$  and  $\bar{g}$  are both analytic on  $D$ , or there are constants  $c_1, c_2$ , not both 0 such that  $c_1 f + c_2 g$  is constant on  $D$ .

**Proof.** If  $f$  and  $g$  are both analytic on  $D$ , both  $T_f$  and  $T_g$  are multiplication operators on the Bergman space and then they are commuting. Hence the commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  equals 0.

If  $\bar{f}$  and  $\bar{g}$  are both analytic on  $D$ , both  $T_f$  and  $T_g$  are adjoints of multiplication operators on the Bergman space and then they are commuting. Hence the commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  equals 0.

If there are constants  $c_1, c_2$ , not both 0 such that  $c_1 f + c_2 g$  is constant on  $D$ , noting that the Toeplitz operator with constant symbol commutes with any bounded operator on the Bergman space, we have that  $T_f$  commutes with  $T_g$  to obtain that the commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  equals 0.

Conversely, if the commutator  $[T_f, T_g]$  has finite rank, noting

$$\begin{aligned} [T_f, T_g] &= T_f T_g - T_g T_f \\ &= (T_{gf} - T_g T_f) - (T_{fg} - T_f T_g) \\ &= (T_g, T_f] - (T_f, T_g] \\ &= H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f - H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g, \end{aligned}$$

we have that  $H_{\bar{g}}^* H_f - H_{\bar{f}}^* H_g$  has also finite rank. Lemma (3.3.3) gives that  $\sigma_c(f, g)$  is bounded on  $D$ , and easy calculations give

$$\sigma_c(f, g)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 [f_-'(z) g_+'(z) - f_+'(z) g_-'(z)]$$

$$= f'_-(z)g'_+(z) - f'_+(z)g'_-(z) - 2\bar{z}f'_-(z)g'_+(z)z \\ + 2zf'_+(z)g'_-(z)\bar{z} + \bar{z}^2f'_-(z)g'_+(z)z^2 - z^2f'_+(z)g'_-(z)\bar{z}^2.$$

Thus Theorem (3.3.2) and Proposition (3.3.4) give that  $\sigma_c(f, g)(z) \equiv 0$  on the unit disk.

Let  $u = g_+ + ig_-$  and  $v = if_+ + f_-$ . Clearly,  $u$  and  $v$  are harmonic on  $D$ .

An easy calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Delta}(uv) &= \tilde{\Delta}[g_+f_- - f_+g_- + ig_+f_+ + ig_-f_-]\tilde{\Delta}[g_+f_- - f_+g_-] \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2[f'_-(z)g'_+(z) - f'_+(z)g'_-(z)] \\ &= \sigma_c(f, g)(z). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $uv$  is also harmonic on  $D$ . By Lemma 4.2 [45], we have that at least one of the following conditions holds

(i)  $u$  and  $v$  are both analytic on  $D$ ;

(ii)  $\bar{u}$  and  $\bar{v}$  are both analytic on  $D$ ;

(iii) there exist complex numbers  $\alpha, \beta$ , not both 0, such that  $\alpha u + \beta v$  and  $\bar{\alpha}\bar{u} - \bar{\beta}\bar{v}$  are both analytic on  $D$ .

Condition (i) gives that  $f$  and  $g$  are both analytic on  $D$ . Condition (ii) gives that  $\bar{f}$  and  $\bar{g}$  are analytic on  $D$ . Condition (iii) gives that  $\alpha(g_+ + ig_-) + \beta(if_+ + f_-)$  and  $\bar{\alpha}(\overline{g_+ + ig_-}) - \bar{\beta}(\overline{if_+ + f_-})$  are both analytic on  $D$ . Thus  $\alpha ig_- + \beta f_-$  and  $\bar{\alpha}\bar{g}_+ - \bar{\beta}\bar{if}_+$  are constants on  $D$ , and so  $\alpha g_- - \beta if_-$  and  $\alpha g_+ - \beta if_+$  are constants on  $D$ . Hence we conclude

$$\alpha g - i\beta f = (\alpha g_- - i\beta f_-) + (\alpha g_+ - \beta if_+)$$

is constant on  $D$ . This completes the proof.

**Theorem (3.3.7)[100]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk.  $T_f T_g$  has finite rank if and only if either  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0.

**Proof.** It is clear that if either  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0, then  $T_f T_g = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $T_f T_g$  has finite rank, we shall show that either  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0. An easy calculation gives

$$B(T_f T_g)(z) = B(fg)(z) - B(f_+g_-)(z) + f_+(z)g_-(z). \quad (23)$$

Applying the invariant Laplace operator  $\tilde{\Delta}$  to both sides of the above equation gives

$$[\tilde{\Delta}B(T_f T_g)](z) = \tilde{\Delta}B(fg - f_+g_-)(z) + \tilde{\Delta}[f_+(z)g_-(z)].$$

Since the invariant Laplace operator commutes with the Berezin transform (Lemma (3.3.1), [96]), we have

$$B(\tilde{\Delta}(fg - f_+g_-))(z) = [\tilde{\Delta}B(T_f T_g)](z) - \tilde{\Delta}[f_+(z)g_-(z)].$$

As in the proof of Proposition (3.3.4), the Toeplitz operator  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}(fg - f_+g_-)}$  has finite rank. Theorem (3.3.2) gives that  $\tilde{\Delta}(fg - f_+g_-) \equiv 0$ . This implies that  $fg - f_+g_-$  is harmonic and  $f'_-(z)g'_+(z) = 0$  on  $D$ . Thus either  $f_-$  or  $g_+$  is constant and hence either  $f$  or  $\bar{g}$  is analytic on  $D$ .

On the other hand, since  $fg - f_+g_-$  is harmonic (23) gives

$$B(T_f T_g)(z) = f(z)g(z).$$

By the main result of [46],

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} B(T_f T_g)(z) = 0.$$

Because the radial limits of both  $f$  and  $g$  exist on the unit circle, we have that  $f(z)g(z) \equiv 0$  on the unit circle and then either  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0 on the unit circle. Hence  $f$  or  $g$  equals 0 on the unit disk. This completes the proof.

**Theorem (3.3.8)[100]:** Suppose that  $f_i$  and  $g_i$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $D$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . The following are equivalent

(i)  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}$  has finite rank.

(ii)  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j} = 0$ .

(iii)  $\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k) \equiv 0$

**Proof.** It is clear that (ii) implies (i).

First we prove that (i) implies (iii). Proposition (3.3.4) immediately gives that  $T_{\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k)}$  has finite rank. Theorem (3.3.2) gives that

$$\sigma(f_1, \dots, f_k; g_1, \dots, g_k) \equiv 0.$$

To prove that (iii) implies (ii), we need the following equality obtained in the proof of Proposition (3.3.4)

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z) = B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(f_j)_-\right)(z) - \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(z)(f_j)_-(z).$$

(iii) implies that the function  $\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(z)(f_j)_-(z)$  is harmonic and hence

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(f_j)_-\right)(z) = \sum_{j=1}^k (g_j)_+(z)(f_j)_-(z).$$

Therefore

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}\right)(z) = 0.$$

By the injection of the Berezin transform [55], we conclude that the operator  $\sum_{j=1}^k H_{g_j}^* H_{f_j}$  must equal 0 to complete the proof.

## Chapter 4 Reducing Subspaces

We characterize the nontrivial reducing subspaces of the Toeplitz operator  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on the Bergman space  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , where  $N$  and  $M$  are positive integers. We study the reducing subspaces of  $A^k \otimes I + I \otimes B^l$  and give some examples. As an application, we study the reducing subspaces of multiplication operators  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$  on function spaces. We show that the von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{V}^*(\phi) = \{T_\phi, T_\phi^*\}$  is abelian.

### Section (4.1): A Class of Toeplitz Operators on the Bergman Space of the Bidisk

For  $\mathbb{D}$  be the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . For  $-1 < \alpha < \infty$ , let  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA_\alpha)$  be the Hilbert space of square integrable functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  with the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_\alpha = \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f(z)\overline{g(z)}| dA_\alpha(z), f, g \in A_\alpha^2(\mathbb{D}),$$

where

$$dA_\alpha(z) = (\alpha + 1)(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha dA(z),$$

and  $dA$  is the normalized area measure on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

The weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(\mathbb{D})$  is the subspace of  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA_\alpha)$  consisting of all the analytic functions in  $\mathbb{D}$ . We denote

$$\gamma_n = \|z^n\|_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{n! \Gamma(2 + \alpha)}{\Gamma(n + \alpha + 2)}}$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Therefore,

$$\|f\|_\alpha^2 = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \gamma_n^2 |a_n|^2 < \infty,$$

where  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} a_n z^n \in A_\alpha^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Especially when  $\alpha = 0$ , we write  $A^2(\mathbb{D}) = A_0^2(\mathbb{D})$ .

In this case,  $\gamma_n = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n+1}}$ .

Denote by  $\mathbb{D}^2 = \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D}$  the bidisk. The Bergman space  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  is the space of all holomorphic functions in  $L^2(D^2, d\mu)$  where  $d\mu(z) = dA(z_1)dA(z_2)$ . For multi-index  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2)$ , denote  $z^\beta = z_1^{\beta_1} z_2^{\beta_2}$  and

$$e_\beta = \frac{z^\beta}{\gamma_{\beta_1} \gamma_{\beta_2}}.$$

Then  $\{e_\beta\}_{\beta \geq 0}$  ( $\beta \geq 0$  means that  $\beta_1 \geq 0$  and  $\beta_2 \geq 0$ ) is an orthogonal basis in  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ .

For a bounded measurable function  $f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , the Toeplitz operator with symbol  $f$  is defined by  $T_f h = P(fh)$  for every  $h \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , where  $P$  is the Bergman orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{D}^2, d\mu)$  onto  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ .

Recall that for a bounded linear operator  $T$  on a Hilbert space  $H$ , a closed subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  is called a reducing subspace of the operator  $T$ , if  $T(\mathcal{M}) \subset \mathcal{M}$  and  $T^*(\mathcal{M}) \subset \mathcal{M}$ . A reducing subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be minimal if there is no nonzero reducing subspace  $\mathcal{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is properly contained in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

On the Bergman space over  $\mathbb{D}$ , it is proved that  $T_B$  has just two non-trivial reducing subspaces [32], [22], where  $B$  is the product of two Blaschke factors.

In [110], M. Stessin and K. Zhu gave a complete description of the reducing subspaces of weighted unilateral shift operators of finite multiplicity. In particular,  $T_{z^n}$  has  $n$  distinct minimal reducing subspaces. If  $B$  is a finite Blaschke product (order  $n \geq 2$ ), the number of nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces of  $T_B$  equals the number of connected components of the Riemann surface of  $B^{-1} \circ B$  over  $\mathbb{D}$  (see [23], [27], [28], [10], [109], [1]). Further, if  $B$  is an infinite Blaschke product or a covering map, the relative research can be founded in [29], [30], [108].

On the Bergman space of bidisk, Y. Lu and X. Zhou [37] characterized the reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^N}$ ,  $T_{z_1^N}$  and  $T_{z_2^N}$ , respectively. The reducing sub-spaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  on the weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  have been completely described in [35]. For  $p = \alpha z^k + \beta w^l$ , the minimal reducing subspaces of  $T_p$  on  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  and the commutant algebra  $\mathcal{V}^*(p) = \{T_p, T_p^*\}'$  was described in [107], [111]. We mainly consider the reducing subspaces for the Toeplitz operator  $T_{z_1^N z_2^{-M}}$  on the Bergman space  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , where  $N$  and  $M$  are positive integers.

We will give a complete characterization of the reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^{-M}}$ .

Through-out, denote  $T = T_{z_1^N z_2^{-M}}$ , where  $N$  and  $M$  are positive integers. Denote by  $[f]$  the reducing subspace of  $T$  generated by  $f \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ .

Let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of all the nonnegative integers.

By direct calculation, we know that

$$T^h(z_1^k z_2^l) = \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_l^2}{\gamma_l^2 - hM} z_1^{k+hN} z_2^{l-hM}, & \text{if } l \geq hM; \\ 0, & \text{if } l < hM \end{cases}$$

$$T^{*h}(z_1^k z_2^l) = \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_k^2}{\gamma_k^2 - hN} z_1^{k-hN} z_2^{l+hM}, & \text{if } k \geq hN \\ 0, & \text{if } k < hN \end{cases}$$

for  $k, l, h \in \mathbb{N}$ . Set

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq k < N, 0 \leq l < M\}, \\ E_1 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : k \geq 2N\}, \\ E_2 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : l \geq 2M, 0 \leq k < 2N\}, \\ E_3 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : N \leq k < 2N, M \leq l < 2M\}, \\ E_4 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq k < N, M \leq l < 2M\}, \\ E_5 &= \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq l < M, N \leq k < 2N\}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,

$$A^2(\mathbb{D}^2) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^5 \overline{\text{span}}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_i\}.$$

Notice that  $\mathcal{M}_0 = \text{span}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_0\}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$ . To find other reducing subspaces, we first study the orthogonal decomposition of  $z_1^k z_2^l$  with respect to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**Lemma (4.1.1)[106]:** Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$ . Let  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  be the orthogonal projection from  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  onto  $\mathcal{M}$ .

(i) If  $(k, l) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ , then  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l = \lambda z_1^k z_2^l$  with some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

(ii) If  $(k, l) \in E_4$ , then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l \in \text{span}\{z_1^n z_2^m : (n, m) \in E_4\}.$$

(iii) If  $(k, l) \in E_5$ , then

$$P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l \in \text{span}\{z_1^n z_2^m : (n, m) \in E_5\}.$$



**Proof.** Let  $k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\mathcal{M} \perp \mathcal{M}_0$ ,  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle = 0$  for  $(p, q) \in E_0$ .

In the following, we consider the inner product  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle = 0$  for  $(p, q) \in \cup_{i=1}^5 E_i$ .

For every nonnegative integer  $h$  satisfying  $l \geq hM$ ,

$$T^{h*} T^h(z_1^k z_2^l) = \frac{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+hN}^2}{\gamma_{l-hM}^2 \gamma_k^2} z_1^k z_2^l. \quad (1)$$

By computation,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+hN}^2}{\gamma_{l-hM}^2 \gamma_k^2} \langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle &= \langle P_{\mathcal{M}} T^{h*} T^h(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle \\ &= \langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) T^{h*} T^h(z_1^p z_2^q) \rangle \\ T^h(z_1^k z_2^l) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+hN}^2}{\gamma_{l-hM}^2 \gamma_k^2} \langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle & q \geq hM \\ 0, & q < hM \end{cases}. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $[s] = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z}: n \leq s\}$  for real number  $s$ . By above equality, we get that if  $\langle P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) z_1^p z_2^q \rangle \neq 0$ , then

$$\frac{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+hN}^2}{\gamma_{l-hM}^2 \gamma_k^2} = \frac{\gamma_q^2 \gamma_{p+hN}^2}{\gamma_{l-hM}^2 \gamma_p^2} \quad (2)$$

for  $0 \leq h \leq \left\lfloor \frac{l}{M} \right\rfloor, q \geq \left\lfloor \frac{l}{M} \right\rfloor M$ .

Equivalently,

$$\frac{(k+1)(q+1)}{(p+1)(l+1)} = \frac{(k+1+hN)(q+1-hM)}{(p+1+hN)(l+1-M)} \quad (3)$$

for  $0 \leq h \leq \left\lfloor \frac{l}{M} \right\rfloor, q \geq \left\lfloor \frac{l}{M} \right\rfloor M$ .

(i) If  $(k, l) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ , we will show that the equality (2) holds if and only if  $p = k$  and  $q = l$ .

**Case one:**  $l \geq 2M$ .

Let  $g_1(\lambda) = (k+1)(q+1)(p+1+\lambda N)(l+1-\lambda M)$ ,  $g_2(\lambda) = (p+1)(l+1)(k+1+\lambda N)(q+1-\lambda M)$  and  $g(\lambda) = g_1(\lambda) - g_2(\lambda)$ .

Since  $l \geq 2M$ , we have  $g(0) = g(1) = g(2) = 0$ . Considering  $g(\lambda)$  is a quadratic polynomial, we have  $g(\lambda) \equiv 0$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Therefore,  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  have the same zeros, i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} (k+1)(q+1)NM = (p+1)(l+1)NM \\ (k+1)(q+1)\frac{p+1}{N} = (p+1)(l+1)\frac{k+1}{N} \\ (k+1)(q+1)\frac{l+1}{M} = (p+1)(l+1)\frac{q+1}{M} \end{cases}.$$

It follows that  $p = k$  and  $q = l$ .

**Case two:**  $k \geq 2N$ .

Replacing  $T * T$  by  $T T^*$  in Case one, we can get the desire result. The details are listed as follows.

Since

$$T^h T^{h*}(z_1^k z_2^l) = \frac{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_{l+hM}^2}{\gamma_{k-hN}^2 \gamma_l^2} z_1^k z_2^l, \forall 0 \leq h \leq \left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor,$$

we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_{l+hM}^2}{\gamma_{k-hN}^2 \gamma_l^2} \langle PM(z_1^k z_l^2), z_1^p z_2^q \rangle &= \langle PM T^h T^{h*}(z_1^k z_l^2), z_1^p z_2^q \rangle \\ &= \langle PM(z_1^k z_l^2), T^h T^{h*}(z_1^p z_2^q) \rangle = \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_{l+hM}^2}{\gamma_{k-hN}^2 \gamma_l^2} \langle PM(z_1^k z_l^2), z_1^p z_2^q \rangle & \text{if } p \geq hN \\ 0 & \text{if } p < hN. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\langle PM(z_1^k z_l^2), z_1^p z_2^q \rangle \neq 0$  will give that

$$\frac{\gamma_k^2 \gamma_{l+hM}^2}{\gamma_{k-hN}^2 \gamma_l^2} = \frac{\gamma_p^2 \gamma_{q+hM}^2}{\gamma_{p-hN}^2 \gamma_q^2} \quad (4)$$

for  $0 \leq h \leq \left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor$  and  $p \geq \left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor N$ . Equivalently,

$$\frac{(k+1)(q+1)}{(p+1)(l+1)} = \frac{(k+1-hN)(q+1+hM)}{(p+1-hN)(l+1+hM)} \quad (5)$$

for  $0 \leq h \leq \left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor$  and  $p \geq \left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor N$ . So when  $k \geq 2N$ , the above equality follows for  $h = 0, 1, 2$ . In this case we will get  $p = k$  and  $q = l$  by the same arguments as the case  $l \geq 2M$  has done.

**Case three:**  $(k, l) \in E_3 = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : N \leq n < 2N, M \leq m < 2M\}$ .

In this case,  $\left\lfloor \frac{k}{N} \right\rfloor \geq 1$  and  $\left\lfloor \frac{l}{M} \right\rfloor \geq 1$ . Then equalities (3) and (5) hold for

$h = 0, 1$ . Recall that  $g(\lambda) = g_1(\lambda) - g_2(\lambda)$ , where  $g_1(\lambda) = (k+1)(q+1)(p+1+\lambda N)(l+1-\lambda M)$  and  $g_2(\lambda) = (p+1)(l+1)(k+1+\lambda N)(q+1-\lambda M)$ . We get  $g(0) = g(1) = g(-1) = 0$ . Therefore, we obtain that  $p = k$  and  $q = l$ .

(ii) Suppose that  $(k, l) \in E_4$ . We need only prove that

$$P_{\mathcal{M}}(z_1^k z_2^l) \perp \overline{\text{span}} \left\{ z_1^n z_2^m : (n, m) \in \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^3 E_i \right) \cup E_5 \right\}.$$

If  $(n, m) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ , the conclusion (i) implies that  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^n z_2^m = \lambda z_1^n z_2^m$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Thus

$$\langle P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = \langle z_1^k z_2^l, P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = \bar{\lambda} \langle z_1^k z_2^l, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = 0.$$

That is,  $P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l \perp \overline{\text{span}}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3\}$ .

If  $(n, m) \in E_5 = \{(k, l) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : 0 \leq l < M, N \leq k < 2N\}$ ,

$$\langle P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = \frac{\gamma_{l-M}^2 \gamma_l^2}{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+N}^2} \langle P_{\mathcal{M}} T^* T z_1^k z_2^l, z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = \frac{\gamma_{l-M}^2 \gamma_l^2}{\gamma_l^2 \gamma_{k+N}^2} \langle T P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l, T z_1^n z_2^m \rangle = 0,$$

where the last equality comes from  $\text{span}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_5\} \subseteq \text{Ker} T$ . Thus

$$P_{\mathcal{M}} z_1^k z_2^l \perp \overline{\text{span}}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_5\}.$$

(iii) Replacing  $T^* T$  by  $T T^*$  in (ii), we get the desired result.

**Remark (4.1.2)[106]:** Let  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  is a nonzero reducing subspace of  $T$ . In (i) of Lemma (4.1.1), we indeed get that  $\lambda = 0$  or  $1$ , that is  $z_1^k z_2^l \in \mathcal{M}$  or  $z_1^k z_2^l \in \mathcal{M}^\perp$  for each  $(k, l) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ .

If  $z_1^k z_2^l \in \mathcal{M}$ , then

$$[[z_1^k z_2^l]] = \text{span}\{z_1^{k-hN} z_2^{l+hM} : k-hN \geq 0, l+hM \geq 0, h \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad (6)$$

is a minimal reducing subspace of  $T$ , containing in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Moreover, if  $z_1^k z_2^l, z_1^p z_2^q \in \mathcal{M}$ , and  $(k, l), (p, q) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ , then it's clear that either  $[[z_1^k z_2^l]] \perp [[z_1^p z_2^q]]$  or  $[[z_1^k z_2^l]] = [[z_1^p z_2^q]]$ . So for any non-zero function  $(z) = \sum_{(k,l) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3} a_k z_1^k z_2^l$ ,

$[f]$  is the direct sum of some minimal reducing subspace as (6).

We define two equivalences on  $E_4$  and  $E_5$  respectively by:

- (i) for  $(p, q), (k, l) \in E_4, (p, q) \sim 1(k, l) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(k+1)(q+1)}{(p+1)(l+1)} = \frac{(k+1+N)(q+1-M)}{(p+1+N)(l+1-M)}$  ;  
(ii) for  $(p, q), (k, l) \in E_5, (p, q) \sim 2(k, l) \Leftrightarrow \frac{(k+1)(q+1)}{(p+1)(l+1)} = \frac{(k+1-N)(q+1+M)}{(p+1-N)(l+1+M)}$ .

It is easy to check that

- (i)  $(p, q) \in E_4 \Leftrightarrow (p + N, q - M) \in E_5$ ;  
(ii) for  $(p, q), (k, l) \in E_4, (p, q) \sim 1(k, l) \Leftrightarrow (p + N, q - M) \sim 2(k + N, l - M)$ ;  
(iii) for  $(p, q), (k, l) \in E_5, (p, q) \sim 2(k, l) \Leftrightarrow (p - N, q + M) \sim 1(k - N, l + M)$ .

For  $(n, m) \in E_4$  and  $(k, l) \in E_5$ , let

$$P_{n,m} : A^2(\mathbb{D}^2) \rightarrow \text{span}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \sim 1(n, m), (p, q) \in E_4\},$$

$$Q_{k,l} : A^2(\mathbb{D}^2) \rightarrow \text{span}\{z_1^k z_2^l : (p, q) \sim 2(k, l), (p, q) \in E_5\}$$

be two orthogonal projections. For  $f \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  and  $P_{n,m}f \neq 0$ , we have

$$[P_{n,m}f] = \text{span}\{P_{n,m}f, TP_{n,m}f\} \quad (7),$$

since  $T^*P_{n,m}f = 0, T^2P_{n,m}f = 0$  and  $T^*TP_{n,m}f = \frac{\gamma_m^2 \gamma_{n+N}^2}{\gamma_{m-M}^2 \gamma_n^2} P_{n,m}f$ . Similarly, if  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $Q_{k,l}f \neq 0$ , then

$$[Q_{k,l}f] = \text{span}\{Q_{k,l}f, T^*Q_{k,l}f\}. \quad (8)$$

**Lemma (4.1.3)[106]:** Let  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  be a reducing subspace of  $T$  and  $(n, m) \in E_4$ .

Then the following statements hold.

- (a) If  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $[P_{n,m}f] \subset \mathcal{M}$  and  $[Q_{n+N, m-M}f] \subset \mathcal{M}$ .  
(b) If  $f_1, f_2 \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}$  and  $f_1 \perp f_2$ , then  $[f_1] \perp [f_2]$ .  
(c)  $P_{n,m}T^*f = T^*Q_{n+N, m-M}f$  and  $TP_{n,m}f = Q_{n+N, m-M}Tf, \forall f \in \mathcal{M}$ .  
(d) If  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $[P_{n,m}f] = [Q_{n+N, m-M}Tf]$  and  $[Q_{n+N, m-M}f] = [P_{n,m}T^*f]$ .  
(e)  $P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N, m-M}\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$ .

**Proof.** (a) For every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , we know that  $P_{\mathcal{M}}P_{n,m}f = P_{n,m}f$ , since  $P_{\mathcal{M}}P_{n,m} = P_{n,m}P_{\mathcal{M}}$ , which obtained by the following simple facts:

- (i) if  $(k, l) \in E_4$ , then  $P_{\mathcal{M}}z_1^k z_2^l \in \text{span}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_4\}$ ;  
(ii) if  $(k, l) \notin E_4$ , then  $P_{\mathcal{M}}z_1^k z_2^l \perp \text{span}\{z_1^p z_2^q : (p, q) \in E_4\}$ ;

So  $P_{n,m}f \in \mathcal{M}$ , which implies that  $[P_{n,m}f] \subset \mathcal{M}$ .

Similarly, we have  $P_{\mathcal{M}}Q_{n+N, m-M}f = Q_{n+N, m-M}f$ , which shows that  $Q_{n+N, m-M}f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Thus  $[Q_{n+N, m-M}f] \subset \mathcal{M}$ .

(b) It is clear that  $Tf_1, Tf_2 \in \text{span}\{z_1^k z_2^l : (k, l) \in E_5\}$ ; and

$$\langle Tf_1, Tf_2 \rangle = \langle T^*Tf_1, Tf_2 \rangle = \frac{\gamma_{n+N}^2 \gamma_m^2}{\gamma_n^2 \gamma_{m-M}^2} \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle = 0.$$

Equality (7) shows that

$$[f_1] = \text{span}\{f_1, Tf_1\}, [f_2] = \text{span}\{f_2, Tf_2\}.$$

So  $[f_1] \perp [f_2]$ .

(c) For every  $(n, m) \in E_4$ , let

$$\mathcal{M}_{n,m} = \text{span}\{z_1^k z_2^l : (k, l) \sim 1(n, m), (k, l) \in E_4\};$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M} = \text{span}\{z_1^k z_2^l : (k, l) \sim 2(n + N, m - M), (k, l) \in E_5\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m}$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M}$  are finite dimension, and the following statements hold:

- (i)  $T\mathcal{M}_{n,m} = \mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M}$  and  $T^*\mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M} = \mathcal{M}_{n,m}$ ;  
(ii)  $T(\mathcal{M}_{n,m}^\perp) \subset \mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M}^\perp$  and  $T^*(\mathcal{M}_{n+N, m-M}^\perp) \subset \mathcal{M}_{n,m}^\perp$ .

Therefore,  $TP_{n,m}f = Q_{n+N,m-M}Tf$  and  $P_{n,m}T^*f = T^*Q_{n+N,m-M}f$  for any  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ .

(d) By equality (7), conclusion (c) and

$$T^*TP_{n,m}f = \frac{\gamma_{n+N}^2\gamma_m^2}{\gamma_n^2\gamma_{m-M}^2}P_{n,m}f, \quad (9)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} [Q_{n+N,m-M}Tf] &= \text{span}\{Q_{n+N,m-M}Tf, T^*Q_{n+N,m-M}Tf\} \\ &= \text{span}\{TP_{n,m}f\} \oplus \text{span}\{T^*TP_{n,m}f\} \\ &= \text{span}\{TP_{n,m}f\} \oplus \text{span}\{P_{n,m}f\} = [P_{n,m}f]. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $[Q_{n+N,m-M}f] = [P_{n,m}T^*f]$  comes from equality (8), conclusion (c) And

$$TT^*Q_{n+N,m-M}f = \frac{\gamma_{n+N}^2\gamma_m^2}{\gamma_n^2\gamma_{m-M}^2}Q_{n+N,m-M}f. \quad (10)$$

(e) By equalities (9), (10) and conclusion (c), we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M} &= TT^*(Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}) = TP_{n,m}T^*\mathcal{M}. \\ P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} &= T^*T(P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}) = T^*Q_{n+N,m-M}T\mathcal{M}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Therefore, we only need to show

that  $P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}$  is an invariant subspace of  $T$  and  $T^*$ . In fact

$$T(P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}) = TP_{n,m}\mathcal{M} = Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M},$$

where the last equality comes from  $TP_{n,m}f = Q_{n+N,m-M}Tf \in Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}$  and  $Q_{n+N,m-M}f \in TP_{n,m}T^*\mathcal{M} \subset TP_{n,m}\mathcal{M}$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Therefore,

$$T(P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}) \subset P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}.$$

Similarly, we can prove that

$$T^*(P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}) = T^*Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M} = P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}.$$

So we finish the proof.

**Theorem (4.1.4)[106]:** Let  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}_0^\perp$  be a non-zero reducing subspace of  $T$  on the bidisk. Then  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \mathcal{M}_2$ , where

- (i)  $\mathcal{M}_1$  is a direct sum of minimal reducing subspace  $[z_1^p z_2^q]$  with  $z_1^p z_2^q \in \mathcal{M}$  for some  $(p; q) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$ ;
- (ii)  $\mathcal{M}_2$  is a direct sum of minimal reducing subspace  $[f]$  with  $f \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}$  for some  $(n; m) \in E_4$ .

**Proof.** Firstly, we prove that

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \bigoplus_{(n;m) \in E} (P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}). \quad (12)$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_1 = \bigoplus_{(p;q) \in \Lambda} [z_1^p z_2^q]$  with  $\Lambda = \{(p; q) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3 : z_1^p z_2^q \in \mathcal{M}\}$ , and  $E$  is the partition of  $E_4$  by the equivalence  $\sim 1$ . Set  $\mathcal{H}_{n,m} = P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \oplus Q_{n+N,m-M}\mathcal{M}$ .

On the one hand,  $\mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \bigoplus_{(n;m) \in E} \mathcal{H}_{n,m} \subset \mathcal{M}$ , since  $\mathcal{M}_1 \subset \mathcal{M}$  is a reducing subspace of  $T$ , and conclusion (e) in Lemma (4.1.3) implies that  $\bigoplus_{(n;m) \in E} \mathcal{H}_{n,m} \subset \mathcal{M}$ . On the other hand, for  $g = g_1 + g_2 \in \mathcal{M}$  with

$$g_1(z) = \sum_{(p;q) \in E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3} a_{p;q} z_1^p z_2^q, g_2(z) = \sum_{(p;q) \in E_4 \cup E_5} a_{p;q} z_1^p z_2^q. \quad (13)$$

Remark (4.1.2) shows that  $g_1 \in \mathcal{M}_1 \subset \mathcal{M}$ , which implies that  $g_2 = g - g_1 \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Therefore,  $g_2 = \sum_{(n,m) \in E} (P_{n,m}g_2 + Q_{n+N,m-M}g_2) \in \bigoplus_{(n;m) \in E} \mathcal{H}_{n,m}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{M}$  is in the direct sum of  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\{\mathcal{H}_{n,m}\}$  with  $(n; m) \in E$ . So we have equality (12) holds.

Secondly, for each  $(n, m) \in E_4$ , we prove that  $\mathcal{H}_{n,m}$  is the direct sum of minimal reducing subspaces as  $[f] = \text{span}\{f, Tf\}$  with  $f \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}$ . There are some steps in the proof.

**Step 1.** Take  $0 \neq f_1 \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M}$ . Then  $[f_1] = \text{span}\{f_1, Tf_1\} \subset \mathcal{H}_{n,m}$ .

**Step 2.** If  $P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \neq \mathbb{C}f_1$ , take  $0 \neq f_2 \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \ominus \mathbb{C}f_1$ . Then

$$[f_2] = \text{span}\{f_2, Tf_2\} \subset \mathcal{H}_{n,m} \ominus [f_1]:$$

**Step 3.** If  $P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \neq \text{span}\{f_1, f_2\}$ , take  $0 \neq f_3 \in P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \ominus \text{span}\{f_1, f_2\}$ . Then

$$[f_3] = \text{span}\{f_3, Tf_3\} \subset \mathcal{H}_{n,m} \ominus [f_1] \ominus [f_2].$$

If  $P_{n,m}\mathcal{M} \neq \text{span}\{f_1, f_2, f_3\}$ , continue this process. This process will stop in finite steps, since the dimension of  $\mathcal{H}_{n,m}$  is finite. Thus, we finish the proof.

By conclusions (a) and (d) in Lemma (4.1.3) and equalities in (11), we get

$$\begin{aligned} [P_{n,m}g, Q_{n+N, m-M}g] &= [P_{n,m}g, P_{n,m}gT^*g] \\ &= \text{span}\{P_{n,m}g, P_{n,m}gT^*g\} \oplus \text{span}\{Q_{n+N, m-M}g, Q_{n+N, m-M}gT^*g\}. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\text{span}\{P_{n,m}g, P_{n,m}gT^*g\}$  has an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}$ ,

since the dimension of  $\text{span}\{P_{n,m}g, P_{n,m}gT^*g\}$  is finite. Conclusion (b) in Lemma (4.1.3) shows that  $[e_i] \perp [e_j]$  for  $i \neq j$ . Then we get

$$[P_{n,m}g, P_{n,m}gT^*g] = \bigoplus_{j=1}^k [e_j] = \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \text{span}\{e_j, Te_j\}.$$

Similarly, we can prove that

$$[g_2] = \bigoplus_{(n,m) \in E} [Q_{n+N, m-M}g, Q_{n+N, m-M}gT^*g],$$

And

$$[Q_{n+N, m-M}g, Q_{n+N, m-M}gT^*g] = \bigoplus_{j=1}^i [h_j] = \bigoplus_{j=1}^i \text{span}\{h_j, T^*h_j\},$$

where  $\{h_1, \dots, h_l\}$  is an orthonormal basis of

$$\text{span}\{Q_{n+N, m-M}g, Q_{n+N, m-M}gT^*g\}.$$

In the last part, we give some examples of the reducing subspaces of  $T_{z_1^N z_2^M}$  for the case that  $N = M$  and  $N \neq M$ , respectively.

**Example (4.1.5)[106]:** Fix  $a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $e \neq 0$ . Let

$$f(z_1, z_2) = az_1^9 z_2^{14} + bz_1^7 z_2^{15} + cz_1^5 z_2^{17} + dz_1^4 z_2^{19} + ez_1^{11} z_2^{12},$$

and  $[f]$  be the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^{10} z_2^{10}}$  generated by  $f$ . Then

$$[f] = \text{span}\{f_1, f_2\} \oplus \text{span}\{z_1^{11+10h} z_2^{12-10h} : h = -1, 0, 1\}.$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(z_1, z_2) &= az_1^9 z_2^{14} + bz_1^7 z_2^{15} + cz_1^5 z_2^{17} + dz_1^4 z_2^{19}, \\ f_2(z_1, z_2) &= \frac{a}{3} z_1^{19} z_2^4 + \frac{3b}{8} z_1^{17} z_2^5 + \frac{4c}{9} z_1^{15} z_2^7 + \frac{d}{2} z_1^{14} z_2^9. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Notice that  $(11, 12) \in E_3$  and  $(9, 14) \in E_4$ . A direct computation shows that  $(9, 14) \sim 1(7, 15) \sim 1(5, 17) \sim 1(4, 19)$ . Remark (4.1.2) implies that  $f_1 = P_{4,19}f$  and  $z_1^{11} z_2^{12}$  are in  $\mathcal{M}$ . There is  $\text{span}\{P_{4,19}f, P_{4,19}T^*f\} = [f_1] = \text{span}\{f_1, f_2\}$ . Therefore we get the desired result.

**Example (4.1.6)[106]:** Let  $f(z_1, z_2) = z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^7 z_2^7 + z_1^3 z_2^{15}$  and  $[f]$  be the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^5 z_2^{10}}$  generated by  $f$ . Then

$$[f] = \text{span}\left\{z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}, \frac{1}{3} z_1^9 z_2^4 + \frac{3}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5\right\} \oplus \text{span}\{z_1^7 z_2^7, z_1^2 z_2^{17}\}.$$

**Proof.** Notice that  $(7, 7) \in E_5$ ,  $(4, 14), (3, 15) \in E_4$  and  $(4, 14) \sim 1(3, 15)$ . Let  $f_1 = P_{4,14}f = z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}$  and  $f_2 = Q_{7,7}f = z_1^7 z_2^7$ . Then  $[P_{4,14}f, P_{4,14}T^*f] = [f_1] =$

$\text{span}\left\{z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}, \frac{1}{3} z_1^9 z_2^4 + \frac{3}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5\right\}, [P_{2,17}f, P_{2,17}T^*f] = [Q_{7,7}f, Q_{7,7}Tf] = [f_2] = \text{span}\{z_1^7 z_2^7, z_1^2 z_2^{17}\}$ . Then we finish the proof.

**Example (4.1.7)[106]:** Let  $f(z_1, z_2) = z_1^3 z_2^8 + z_1^7 z_2^3$ , and  $[f]$  be the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^4 z_2^5}$  generated by  $f$ . Then

$$[f] = \text{span}\{z_1^3 z_2^8, z_1^7 z_2^3\}$$

**Proof.** Notice that  $(3, 8) \in E_4, (7, 3) \in E_5$ . It is easy to check that  $T_{z_1^4 z_2^5} z_1^4 z_2^5 z_1^3 z_2^8 = \frac{4}{9} z_1^7 z_2^3$  and  $T_{z_1^4 z_2^5}^* z_1^7 z_2^3 = \frac{1}{2} z_1^3 z_2^8$ . So  $[z_1^3 z_2^8] = [z_1^7 z_2^3] = \text{span}\{z_1^3 z_2^8, z_1^7 z_2^3\}$ . It means that  $[f] = \text{span}\{z_1^3 z_2^8, z_1^7 z_2^3\}$ .

**Example (4.1.8)[106]:** Let  $f(z_1, z_2) = z_1^2 z_2^{17} + z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^3 z_2^{15} + z_1^8 z_2^5$  and  $[f]$  be the reducing subspace of  $T_{z_1^5 z_2^{10}}$  generated by  $f$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} [f] &= [z_1^2 z_2^{17}] \oplus [z_1^4 z_2^{14}] \oplus [z_1^3 z_2^{15}] \\ &= [z_1^2 z_2^{17}] \oplus [z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}] \oplus \left[ z_1^4 z_2^{14} - \frac{64}{75} z_1^3 z_2^{15} \right] \\ &= [z_1^7 z_2^7] \oplus [z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^8 z_2^5] \oplus \left[ z_1^9 z_2^4 - \frac{27}{25} z_1^8 z_2^5 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Notice that  $(2, 17), (4, 14), (3, 15) \in E_4, (9, 4), (8, 5) \in E_5$  and  $(4, 14) \sim 1(3, 15), (9, 4) \sim 2(8, 5)$ .

(i) Since  $P_{4,14}T^*f = T^*(z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^8 z_2^5) = \frac{1}{2} z_1^4 z_2^{14} + \frac{4}{9} z_1^3 z_2^{15}$ , we have

$$\text{span}\{P_{4,14}f, P_{4,14}T^*f\} = \text{span}\{z_1^4 z_2^{14}, z_1^3 z_2^{15}\}$$

Therefore,  $[f] = [z_1^2 z_2^{17}] \oplus [z_1^4 z_2^{14}] \oplus [z_1^3 z_2^{15}] = \text{span}[z_1^2 z_2^{17}, z_1^7 z_2^7] \oplus [z_1^4 z_2^{14}] \oplus \text{span}\{z_1^4 z_2^{14}, z_1^9 z_2^4\} \oplus \text{span}\{z_1^3 z_2^{15}, z_1^8 z_2^5\}$ .

(ii) It is easy to check that  $\langle z_1^4 z_2^{14} - \frac{64}{75} z_1^3 z_2^{15}, z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15} \rangle = 0$

$$\text{And } \text{span}\{P_{4,14}f, P_{4,14}T^*f\} = \text{span}\left\{z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}, z_1^4 z_2^{14} - \frac{64}{75} z_1^3 z_2^{15}\right\}.$$

So  $[f] = [z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}] \oplus \left[ z_1^4 z_2^{14} - \frac{64}{75} z_1^3 z_2^{15} \right] \oplus [z_1^2 z_2^{17}]$ .

(iii) Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Span}\{Q_{9,4}f, Q_{9,4}Tf\} &= \text{span}\left\{z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^8 z_2^5, \frac{1}{3} z_1^9 z_2^4 + \frac{3}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5\right\} \\ &= \text{span}\left\{z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^8 z_2^5, z_1^9 z_2^4 - \frac{27}{25} z_1^8 z_2^5\right\}, \end{aligned}$$

Where  $z_1^9 z_2^4 - \frac{27}{25} z_1^8 z_2^5 \perp Q_{9,4}f$ . Then

$$[f] = [z_1^7 z_2^7] \oplus [z_1^9 z_2^4 + z_1^8 z_2^5] \oplus \left[ z_1^9 z_2^4 - \frac{27}{25} z_1^8 z_2^5 \right].$$

For the case that  $a = \frac{9}{8}$ , we have

$$\left[ g + \frac{9}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5 \right] = \text{span}\left\{z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^3 z_2^{15}, z_1^9 z_2^4 + \frac{9}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5\right\} = [z_1^4 z_2^{14} + z_1^9 z_2^4] \text{ since } T^* \left( g + \frac{9}{8} z_1^8 z_2^5 \right) = \frac{1}{2} P_{4,14}g.$$

## Section (4.2): Tensor Products of Weighted Shifts

Suppose that  $H$  and  $K$  are two separable Hilbert spaces. If  $A \in B(H)$  and  $B \in B(K)$ , then  $M = A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is a bounded operator on the Hilbert space  $H \otimes K$ . If both  $H$  and  $K$  are of finite dimensions, then  $M$  is related to the famous Sylvester equation [113]. The Sylvester equation is a matrix equation of the form

$$AX + XB = C,$$

where  $A, B$  and  $C$  are given  $n \times n$  matrices. This equation has a unique solution  $X$  for any  $C$  if and only if  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B^T$  is invertible.

In the case of finite dimensions, the Jordan decomposition of  $M = A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  has been completely described [118], [119], [122]. It is proved that if  $A$  and  $B$  are both Jordan blocks, then  $M$  is not a single Jordan block unless  $H$  or  $K$  is of dimension one.

We consider the reducing subspaces of  $M$ . Recall that a closed subspace  $X \subseteq H$  is a reducing subspace of  $A$  if  $AX \subseteq X$  and  $A^*X \subseteq X$ . Denote  $\mathcal{V}^*(A) = \{A^*\}$ . It is easy to see that  $\mathcal{V}^*(A)$  is equal to the commutant of the von Neumann algebra generated by  $A$ . Then  $X$  reduces  $A$  if and only if the projection  $P_X$  from  $H$  onto  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{V}^*(A)$ .  $A$  is called irreducible if the only reducing subspaces are  $0$  and  $H$ . Obviously,  $A$  is irreducible if and only if  $\mathcal{V}^*(A) = \mathbb{C}$ .

It is easy to verify that  $\mathcal{V}^*(M) \supseteq \mathcal{V}^*(A) \otimes \mathcal{V}^*(B)$ . Thus, it is natural to ask when the equality holds. If we choose  $A$  and  $B$  to be both irreducible, then  $\mathcal{V}^*(A) \otimes \mathcal{V}^*(B) \cong \mathbb{C}$ . In this case, if  $M$  is irreducible, then the equality holds.

We prove that  $M$  is not irreducible if  $A$  is unitarily equivalent to  $B$ , see Proposition (4.2.13). However, we also show that there exists a class  $\mathcal{F}$  such that if  $A$  and  $B$  are both in  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $M$  is irreducible if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are not unitarily equivalent.

We study reducing subspaces of multiplication operators on function spaces. This topic began with [10],[110],[12],[111], [32], [17], [1], [22], and several brilliant results are obtained in [4], [5], [7]–[109]. This has already attracted a lot of attention and it is an opportunity to study the case where the underlying function space is defined on a higher-dimensional domain [108], [37], [35], [112]. One can see [108], [112]. Furthermore in [108], [112], the research objects can be recognized by  $M_z^k \otimes I + \alpha I \otimes M_w^l$ , where  $M_z$  and  $M_w$  are multiplication operators on the Bergman space  $L^2(\mathbb{D})$ . In that case,  $A$  and  $B$  are unilateral weighted shifts of finite multiplicity. It is well known that unilateral weighted shifts are always irreducible, hence it is natural to consider that  $M = A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are unilateral weighted shifts. See [114], [117], [121] for more on unilateral weighted shifts.

For  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  denote the set of all non-negative integers. Let  $\{e_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  (resp.  $\{f_m\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ ) be orthonormal basis for  $H$  (resp.  $K$ ), and  $Ae_n = \alpha_n e_{n+1}$  (resp.  $Bf_m = \beta_m f_{m+1}$ ) for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  (resp.  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ). Here  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  (resp.  $\{\beta_m\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ ) is the weight sequence of  $A$  (resp.  $B$ ). Note that  $\|A\| = \sup_n |\alpha_n| < \infty$  and  $\|B\| = \sup_m |\beta_m| < \infty$ . Then  $\{e_n \otimes f_m\}_{n,m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $H \otimes K$  and we have

$$Me_n \otimes f_m = \alpha_n e_{n+1} \otimes f_m + \beta_m e_n \otimes f_{m+1}, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+. \quad (14)$$

A unilateral weighted shift  $A$  is said to be simple if  $\nabla^3[|\alpha|^2](n) = 0$  whenever  $n^2$ , where  $\nabla$  is the backward difference operator defined by  $\nabla[f](n) = f(n) - f(n-1)$ . It is easy to check that the multiplication operators  $M_z$  are simple on both Dirichlet space and Bergman space.

Let  $X$  be a reducing subspace of  $A$ . Then  $X$  is minimal if there is no nonzero reducing subspace  $Y$  properly contained in  $X$ .

**Theorem (4.2.1)[112]:** If  $A \in B(H)$  and  $B \in B(K)$  are two simple unilateral weighted shifts, then  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is reducible if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent. In this case,  $H \otimes K$  is the direct sum of two minimal reducing subspaces.

Based on this theorem, we will classify  $\mathcal{V}^*(A \otimes I + I \otimes B)$ . We find that there are only two types:  $C$  and  $C \oplus C$ .

At last, we point out that although the reducing subspaces of  $A_k$  are completely solved in [111], it remains unclear in our setting  $A_k \otimes I + I \otimes B_l$ . We will also study the reducing subspaces of  $A_k \otimes I + I \otimes B_l$ .

Let  $H'$  be a Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis  $\{e_{n,m}\}_{n,m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ . We use the assumption of (14), and define an operator  $M$  acting on the Hilbert space  $H$  as follows:

$$M' e_{n,m} = \alpha_n e_{n+1,m} + \beta_m e_{n,m+1}, n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

then  $M'$  is bounded. Taking  $H_1 = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_{n,0}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  and  $H_2 = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_{0,m}\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ , and defining  $A'$  on  $H_1$  by  $A' e_{n,0} = \alpha_n e_{n+1,0}$ , and  $B'$  on  $H_2$  by  $B' e_{0,m} = \beta_m e_{0,m+1}$ , then there exists a unitary equivalence between  $H'$  and  $H_1 \otimes H_2$ . Furthermore,  $M'$  is unitarily equivalent to  $A' \otimes I + I \otimes B'$  in this case. Keeping this unitary equivalence in mind, we will suppress the tensor product symbol and write  $e_n \otimes f_m$  for  $e_n \otimes f_m$ . If  $A \in B(H)$  (resp.  $B \in B(K)$ ) is unitarily equivalent to  $A' \in B(H)$  (resp.  $B' \in B(K)$ ) by a unitary  $U \in B(H)$  (resp.  $V \in B(K)$ ), then  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is unitarily equivalent to  $A' \otimes I + I \otimes B'$  by the unitary  $U \otimes V$ . For unilateral weighted shifts  $A$  and  $A'$  with weight sequences  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  and  $\{\alpha'_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ , respectively, we have that  $A$  and  $A'$  are unitarily equivalent if and only if  $|\alpha_n| = |\alpha'_n|$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ .

Thus in (14), we can assume that  $\alpha_n$  and  $\beta_m$  are all strictly positive. Then  $A$  is simple if and only if  $\nabla^3[\alpha_2](n) \neq 0$  whenever  $n \geq 2$ .

A unilateral weighted shift can be represented by a multiplication operator acting on an analytic function space. We will use this systematically because of its convenience for computation. Let  $\omega = \{\omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \dots\}$  be a sequence of positive numbers. Let  $H_2(\omega)$  be the Hilbert space consisting of analytic functions

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k$$

such that

$$\|f\|^2 = \|f\|_{\omega}^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \omega_k |a_k|^2 < \infty.$$

Then  $\|z_n\|^2 = \omega_n$ , and  $\left\{ \frac{z_n}{\sqrt{\omega_n}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $H_2(\omega)$ . It is well known that the multiplication operator  $M_z$  is unitarily equivalent to a unilateral weighted shift  $A$  with the weight sequence

$$\left\{ \alpha_n = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{n+1}}{\omega_n}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}.$$

To ensure that  $M_z$  is bounded, we always assume  $\sup_n \frac{\omega_{n+1}}{\omega_n} < \infty$ . Similarly, we denote by  $H_2(\delta)$  the Hilbert space consisting of analytic functions  $g(w)$  such that  $\|g\|_{\delta} < \infty$ . Then the multiplication operator  $M_w$  is unitarily equivalent to a unilateral weighted shift  $B$  with weight sequence

$$\left\{ \beta_m = \sqrt{\frac{\delta_{m+1}}{\delta_m}} \right\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}.$$



Also,  $\supm \frac{\delta_{m+1}}{\delta_m} < \infty$ .

Then we realize the tensor product  $H^2(\omega) \otimes H^2(\delta)$  as the Hilbert space consisting of analytic functions

$$f(z, w) = \sum_{k,l=0}^{\infty} a_{kl} z^k w^l$$

such that

$$\|f\|^2 = \|f\|_{\omega, \delta}^2 = \sum_{k,l=0}^{\infty} \omega_k \delta_l |a_{kl}|^2 < \infty.$$

Under these notation,  $M = A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is unitarily equivalent to  $M_{z+w}$  on  $H^2(\omega) \otimes H^2(\delta)$ . It is not necessary to distinguish  $M_z$  from  $M_z \otimes I$ . We use  $M_z$  to represent multiplication operators both on  $H^2(\omega)$  and  $H^2(\omega) \otimes H^2(\delta)$ . It is similar for  $M_w$ . In this case,  $M_{z+w} = M_z + M_w$ . From now on,  $H^2(\omega) \otimes H^2(\delta)$  is denoted by  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$ .

For further simplicity of notation, we can assume  $\nabla[f](0) = f(0)$ .

By the above simplification, we can reduce the study of reducing subspaces of  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  to that of  $M_{z+w}$ . Firstly, we start with several definitions and lemmas, many of which originate from [108], [112]. We define  $T = [M_{z+w}^*, M_{z+w}] = M_{z+w}^* M_{z+w} - M_{z+w} M_{z+w}^*$ . Set  $\phi(n) = \nabla \left[ \frac{\omega_{+1}}{\omega} \right](n)$  and  $\psi(m) = \nabla \left[ \frac{\delta_{+1}}{\delta} \right](m)$ . Then a routine computation gives that

$$T z^n w^m = (\phi(n) + \psi(m)) z^n w^m, \quad n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{Z}_+^2$  by

$$(n, m) \sim (n', m') \Leftrightarrow \phi(n) + \psi(m) = \phi(n') + \psi(m').$$

Since  $T$  is diagonal with respect to the bases  $\{z^n w^m\}_{n,m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ , there is a spectral decomposition  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = \bigoplus Q_d$  such that  $z^n w^m$  and  $z^{n'} w^{m'}$  belong to the same  $Q_d$  if and only if  $(n, m) \sim (n', m')$ . It is easy to see that for each monomial  $z^n w^m$ , the projection  $Q_d$  maps it either to 0 or to itself. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a collection of bounded operators on a Hilbert space  $H$ . When  $F \subseteq H$ , we define

$$\mathcal{A}F = \overline{\text{span}}\{A h : A \in \mathcal{A}, h \in F\},$$

And

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^F = \{T \in B(H) : T F \subseteq \mathcal{A}F\}.$$

Then define  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \bigcap_{F \subseteq H} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^F.$$

Thus for all  $B \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $F \subseteq H$ , we have  $\mathcal{B}F \subseteq \mathcal{A}F$ .

In fact, there is a related concept. If  $\mathcal{B}$  is any linear subspace (not necessarily closed) of  $B(H)$ , then the attached space [114] for  $\mathcal{B}$  is defined as

$$\text{Ref } \mathcal{B} = \{T \in B(H) : T h \in \overline{\text{span}}\{\mathcal{B}h\} \text{ for all } h \in H\}.$$

Actually we have  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \text{Ref}(\text{span } \mathcal{A})$ , where  $\text{span } \mathcal{A}$  is the linear subspace spanned by  $\mathcal{A}$ . The fact that  $\text{Ref } \mathcal{B}$  is always strongly closed implies that  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  contains the SOT closure of  $\text{span } \mathcal{A}$ , where SOT means the strong operator topology.

In our concrete case, for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , define

$$\mathcal{S}^n = \left\{ \prod_{k=1}^m M_{z+w}^{i_k} M_{z+w}^{*j_k}, i_k, j_k \in \mathbb{Z}_+ : \sum_{k=1}^m (i_k - j_k) = n \right\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{S}^{*n} = \left\{ \prod_{k=1}^m M_{z+w}^{i_k} M_{z+w}^{*j_k}, i_k, j_k \in \mathbb{Z}_+ : \sum_{k=1}^m (i_k - j_k) = -n \right\}.$$

Note that  $\mathcal{S}^m(\mathcal{S}^n F) = \mathcal{S}^{m+n} F$ , for any  $F \subseteq H^2(\omega, \delta)$  and  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . For simplicity, write  $\mathcal{S}^n = \mathcal{S}^{*-n}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^{*n} = \mathcal{S}^{-n}$  if  $n < 0$ . Then

$$\mathcal{S}^m(\mathcal{S}^n F) \subseteq \mathcal{S}^{m+n} F, n, m \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $F \subseteq H^2(\omega, \delta)$ .

It is easy to see that  $\text{span} \mathcal{S}^0$  contains the linear span of all  $T^n$ 's whenever  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . By the spectral decomposition  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = \bigoplus Q_d$  with respect to  $T$ , since  $Q_d$  is a Borel functional calculus of  $T \in \text{span} \mathcal{S}^0$ , and  $\mathcal{S}^0$  contains the SOT closure of  $\text{span} \mathcal{S}^0$ , we get that  $Q_d \in \mathcal{S}^0$ . Thus, for any  $F \subseteq H^2(\omega, \delta)$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we obtain the following inequality:

$$Q_d \mathcal{S}^n F \subseteq \mathcal{S}^0(\mathcal{S}^n F) \subseteq \mathcal{S}^n F. \quad (15)$$

For each  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , we define

$$E_r = \text{span}\{z^n w^m : n + m = r\}.$$

It is easy to show that  $\dim E_r = r + 1$  and  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} E_r$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{S}^n E_r \subseteq E_{r+n}$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Actually, one of the main purposes is to determine whether  $\mathcal{S}^n E_r = E_{r+n}$  whenever  $r$  and  $n$  are given.

The following two lemmas generalize the corresponding results of [112].

**Lemma (4.2.2)[112]:** Suppose that  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . If the statement

$$(r + 1, 0) \sim (r, 1) \sim \dots \sim (0, r + 1) \quad (16)$$

does not hold, then  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_r = E_{r+1}$ .

**Proof.** The proof comes from [108].

Suppose (16) is false for  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_r \subseteq E_{r+1}$ . For the inverse inclusion, it suffices to show that

$$\dim \mathcal{S}^1 E_r \geq r + 2 = \dim E_{r+1}.$$

To see this, we first show that  $TM_{z+w}(E_r) \subseteq M_{z+w}(E_r)$ . Otherwise, for all  $j = 0, 1, \dots, r$ ,

$$T((z + w)z^{r-j}w^j) \in M_{z+w}(E_r).$$

Recall that

$$T z^n w^m = (\phi(n) + \varphi(m))z^n w^m, n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

and we will find that

$$(r - j + 1, j) \sim (r - j, j + 1), 0 \leq j \leq r.$$

Thus,

$$(r + 1, 0) \sim (r, 1) \sim \dots \sim (0, r + 1),$$

which leads to a contradiction. Therefore,  $TM_{z+w}(E_r) \subseteq M_{z+w}(E_r)$ . Hence,

$$\dim(\mathcal{S}^1 E_r) \geq \dim(M_{z+w}(E_r)) + 1 = r + 2,$$

as desired. The proof is finished.

**Lemma (4.2.3)[112]:**  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_{r+1} = E_r$  for each  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Consequently, if  $m \geq n \geq 0$ , then  $\mathcal{S}^{*n} E_m = E_{m-n}$ .

**Proof.** The proof comes from [112].

It suffices to prove that  $\mathcal{S}^{*1} E_{r+1} = E_r$ . Since it is clear that  $\mathcal{S}^{*1} E_{r+1} \subseteq E_r$ , it remains to show that  $\mathcal{S}^{*1} E_{r+1} \supseteq E_r$ .

By direct computation we get

$$M_{z+w}^* z^{r+1} = \frac{\omega_{r+1}}{\omega_r} z^r,$$

which yields that  $z^r \in \mathcal{S}^* E_{r+1}$ . By induction, we assume that for some integer  $j < r$ ,  $z^{r-i} w^i \in \mathcal{S}^* E_{r+1}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq j$ .

By simple calculations, we obtain that

$$M_{z+w}^* z^{r-j} w^{j+1} = \frac{\omega_{r-j}}{\omega_{r-j-1}} z^{r-j-1} w^{j+1} + \frac{\delta_{j+1}}{\delta_j} z^{r-j} w^j,$$

which yields  $z^{r-j-1} w^{j+1} \in \mathcal{S}^* E_{r+1}$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{S}^* E_{r+1} = E_r$ .

Finally, if  $K$  is a reducing subspace of  $M_{z+w}$  and  $\dim(K/SK) = 1$ , then  $K$  is minimal. For details, we refer the reader to [112].

Recall that a weighted shift  $A$  is simple if  $\nabla^3[\alpha^2](n) = 0$  whenever  $n \geq 2$ . For  $M_z$  it is equivalent to saying that

$$\varphi(n+1) - \varphi(n) \neq \varphi(n) - \varphi(n-1) \text{ for all } n \geq 1,$$

where  $\varphi(n) = \nabla \left[ \frac{\omega_{n+1}}{\omega_n} \right](n)$ . The statement for  $M_w$  is similar. Henceforth, all weighted shifts are assumed to be simple.

The following lemma weakens the assumptions of the corresponding result of [112].

**Lemma (4.2.4)[112]:** Let  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and  $n \geq 1$ . If  $(n, m) \sim (n-1, m+1)$ , then  $(n+1, m) \sim (n, m+1)$  and  $(n, m+1) \sim (n-1, m+2)$ .

**Proof.** Assume conversely that  $(n+1, m) \sim (n, m+1)$ , i.e.,

$$\varphi(n+1) + \psi(m) = \varphi(n) + \psi(m+1).$$

Combining this with  $(n, m) \sim (n-1, m+1)$ , i.e.,

$$\varphi(n) + \psi(m) = \varphi(n-1) + \psi(m+1),$$

yields

$$\varphi(n+1) - \varphi(n) = \varphi(n) - \varphi(n-1).$$

Since  $M_z$  is simple and  $n \geq 1$ , this leads to a contradiction. Hence  $(n+1, m) \not\sim (n, m+1)$ . Similarly,  $(n, m+1) \not\sim (n-1, m+2)$ .

Now we can prove the following result.

**Proposition (4.2.5)[112]:**  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_r = E_{r+1}$  for each integer  $r \geq 1$ .

**Proof.** The idea of this proof comes from [112]. If the statement was false for some  $r \geq 1$ , then by Lemma (4.2.2),

$$(r+1, 0) \sim (r, 1) \sim \dots \sim (0, r+1).$$

By Lemma (4.2.4), since  $(r+1, 0) \sim (r, 1)$ , we have  $(r+2, 0) \not\sim (r+1, 1)$  and  $(r+1, 1) \not\sim (r, 2)$ . Using the spectral decomposition for  $\cdot$ , there is a spectral projection  $Q \in \widetilde{\mathcal{S}}^0$  such that  $Qz^{r+2} = Qz^r w^2 = 0$ ,  $Qz^{r+1} w = z^{r+1} w$ .

Note that  $M_{z+w}^2 z^r = z^{r+2} + 2z^{r+1} w + z^r w^2 \in \mathcal{S}^2 E_r$ , thus we obtain  $z^{r+1} w = \frac{1}{2} Q M_{z+w}^2 z^r \in \mathcal{S}^2 E_r$  by (15).

Since  $(r, 1) \sim (r-1, 2)$ , applying Lemma (4.2.4) again we have  $(r+1, 1) \not\sim (r, 2)$  and  $(r, 2) \not\sim (r-1, 3)$ .

Note that  $M_{z+w}^2 z^{r-1} w = z^{r+1} w + 2z^r w^2 + z^{r-1} w^3$ . Using the same argument above, we can show that  $z^r w^2, z^{r-1} w^3 \in \mathcal{S}^2 E_r$ . Furthermore,  $z^{r+2} = M_{z+w}^2 z^r - 2z^{r+1} w - z^r w^2 \in \mathcal{S}^2 E_r$ . This induction will lead to  $\mathcal{S}^2 E_r = E_{r+2}$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{S}_1 E_r \supseteq \mathcal{S}^* \mathcal{S}^2 E_r = \mathcal{S}^* E_{r+2} = E_{r+1}$ , where the last identity follows from Lemma (4.2.3). This leads to a contradiction.

Based on the above lemma, we see that

$$\dim \left( \frac{H^2(\omega, \delta)}{\mathcal{S}^1 H^2(\omega, \delta)} \right) = \dim \left( \frac{(E_0 + E_1)}{\mathcal{S}^1 E_0} \right) \leq 2.$$

Due to this inequality, we obtain the following corollary:

**Corollary (4.2.6)[112]:** Any nontrivial reducing subspace of  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is all minimal. Hence  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is either minimal or a direct sum of two minimal reducing subspaces.

**Proof.** If  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is not minimal, let  $H = 0$  be a nontrivial reducing subspace of  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$ . Since  $\mathcal{S}$  increases degree by one,  $\mathcal{S}^1 H \subsetneq H$  and  $\mathcal{S}^1 H^\perp \subsetneq H^\perp$ . Writing  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = H \oplus H^\perp$ , then we see that

$$\dim \left( \frac{H^2(\omega, \delta)}{\mathcal{S}^1 H^2(\omega, \delta)} \right) = \dim \left( \frac{H}{\mathcal{S}^1 H} \right) + \dim \left( \frac{H^\perp}{\mathcal{S}^1 H^\perp} \right) \leq 2.$$

It yields

$$\dim \left( \frac{H}{\mathcal{S}^1 H} \right) = 1 \text{ and } \dim \left( \frac{H^\perp}{\mathcal{S}^1 H^\perp} \right) = 1.$$

This means that both  $H$  and  $H^\perp$  are minimal.

In fact, we claim that if  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is not minimal, then there are only two minimal reducing subspaces. However, the proof of this assertion requires more. We have to postpone.

We will find a method to judge whether

$$\varphi(n+1) - \varphi(n) \neq \varphi(n) - \varphi(n-1) \text{ for all } n \geq 1, \quad (17)$$

whenever  $\varphi$  is given and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . These results will be useful.

Suppose that  $n$  varies in  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ . Let  $\mathbb{R}_+$  denotes the set of all non-negative real numbers. In many examples, there is always a sufficiently smooth function  $f$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $\varphi(n) = \nabla[f](n)$  whenever  $n \geq 1$  and  $\varphi(0) = f(0)$ . In this case, (17) is equivalent to

$$\nabla^3[f](n) \neq 0 \text{ for all } n \geq 3 \quad (18)$$

and

$$f(1) - 2f(0) \neq f(2) - 2f(1) + f(0). \quad (19)$$

Such a function is called to be simple.

**Lemma (4.2.7)[112]:** Let  $f \in C^3(\mathbb{R}_+)$ . If  $f(x) = 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ , then  $\nabla^2[f](x)$  is strictly monotone for all  $x \geq 2$ , thus (18) is true.

**Proof.** If  $x \geq 2$ , by the differential mean value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla^2[f])(x) &= \nabla^2[f'](x) = [f'(x) - f'(x-1)] - [f'(x-1) - f'(x-2)] \\ &= f''(\xi_1) - f''(\xi_2) = f'''(\xi_3)(\xi_1 - \xi_2), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi_1 \in (x-1, x)$ ,  $\xi_2 \in (x-2, x-1)$ ,  $\xi_3 \in (x-2, x)$ .

It yields that  $(\nabla^2[f])(x) = 0$  for all  $x \geq 2$ . The proof is complete by Darboux theorem.

Thus, to verify that a function  $f \in C^3(\mathbb{R}_+)$  is simple, we will show  $f(x) = 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  first, which implies (18). Then we turn to check (19).

Next, some simple functions will be given. For further discussion, we introduce a new concept. Let  $f \in C^3(\mathbb{R}_+)$ . If  $f > 0$ ,  $f'' < 0$ ,  $f''' > 0$ ,  $f'''' < 0$ , then  $f$  is called to be strongly simple. For this we have the following key lemma.

**Lemma (4.2.8)[112]:** A strongly simple function is simple.

**Proof.** Let  $f \in C^3(\mathbb{R}_+)$  be strongly simple. Since  $f''' < 0$ , (18) is true by Lemma (4.2.7). Next we check (19),

$$f(1) - 2f(0) \neq f(2) - 2f(1) + f(0).$$

Put

$$g(x) = f(x+1) - 2f(x), x \in \mathbb{R}_+.$$

Taking differentiation, we get

$$g'(x) = f'(x+1) - 2f'(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_+.$$

Since  $f'' > 0$ ,  $f'$  is strictly increasing. It follows that  $0 > f'(x+1) > f'(x)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , thus

$$f'(x+1) > 2f'(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_+.$$

We obtain the inequality  $g > 0$ , i.e.,  $g$  is strictly increasing, hence we have

$$g(0) < g(1) < g(1) + f(0),$$

which is (19). This completes the proof. The following lemma tells us that the set of all strongly simple functions forms a semigroup.

**Lemma (4.2.9)[112]:** The product of finitely many strongly simple functions is strongly simple.

**Proof.** It suffices to prove that if  $f_1, f_2 \in C^3(\mathbb{R}_+)$  are both strongly simple, then  $f = f_1 f_2$  is strongly simple. Of course,  $f > 0$ . By Leibniz formula,

$$f^{(k)} = \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} f_1^{(j)} f_2^{(k-j)}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3,$$

where

$$\binom{k}{j} = \frac{k!}{j!(k-j)!}.$$

Since each  $f_i$  is strongly simple, we can see that each term in  $f', f''$  and  $f'''$  is strictly negative, strictly positive and strictly negative, respectively. Thus  $f$  is strongly simple.

There are many strongly simple functions.

**Lemma (4.2.10)[112]:**  $f(x) = \left(\frac{s+x}{t+x}\right)^y$ , where  $0 < s < 0$ , is strongly simple.

**Proof.** The proof is straightforward.

Suppose that  $H$  is a Hilbert space, and  $M \in B(H)$ . When  $F \subseteq H$ , we denote by  $[F]M$  the reducing subspace of  $M$  generated by  $F$ .

In what follows, set  $H = H^2(\omega, \delta)$  and  $M = M_{z+w}$ , then  $[F]_M$  will be written as  $[F]$ .

**Proposition (4.2.11)[112]:**  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is not minimal if and only if  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 \neq E_1$ . In this case,  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = [1] \oplus [z-w]$ .

**Proof.** If  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 = E_1$ , then  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is obviously minimal. Conversely, assume  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 \neq E_1$ , then  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0$  is a dimension one subspace. Since  $z+w \in \mathcal{S}_1 E_0$ , it must be that  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 = C\{z+w\}$ , i.e., for all  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{S}^1$ , there exists a complex number  $\lambda$  such that  $\mathcal{S}^1 = \lambda(z+w)$ . Solving the equation on  $\beta$ , i. e.,

$$\langle z+w, z+\beta w \rangle = 0,$$

we get

$$\bar{\beta} = -\frac{\delta_0 \omega_1}{\delta_1 \omega_0}. \quad (20)$$

Notice  $[113] = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}_r E_0$ , hence it yields that  $[113] \perp (z+\beta w)$ . Furthermore, we have  $[113] = H^2(\omega, \delta)$ . According to Corollary (4.2.6), we see that  $[113]$  and  $[113]^\perp$  are both minimal. Thus  $[113]^\perp = [z+\beta w]$ . Next we show that  $\beta = -1$ .

Since  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 \neq E_1$ , it follows that  $(1, 0) \sim (0, 1)$ . By Lemma (4.2.4), we obtain  $(2, 0) \sim (1, 1)$  and  $(1, 1) \sim (0, 2)$ . So we can select a spectral projection  $Q$  from  $\widetilde{\mathcal{S}}^0$  such that  $Qz^2 = Qw^2 = 0$  and  $Qzw = zw$ .

Using (15), we have

$$\mathcal{S}^{-1}(QS^2E_0) \subseteq \mathcal{S}^{-1}(\mathcal{S}^2E_0) \subseteq \mathcal{S}^1E_0.$$

Thus we will find that there exists a complex number  $\lambda$  such that

$$M_{z+w}^* T Q M_{z+w}^2 1 = \lambda(z + w). \quad (21)$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} M_{z+w}^* T Q M_{z+w}^2 1 &= M_{z+w}^* T Q(z^2 + 2zw + w^2) \\ &= 2M_{z+w}^* T z w \\ &= 2\mu M_{z+w}^* z w \\ &= 2\mu \left( \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_0} w + \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_0} z \right), \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

where  $\mu = \varphi(1) + \psi(1)$ . Comparing the corresponding coefficients of (21) and (22) gives

$$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_0} = \frac{\delta_1}{\delta_0},$$

thus  $\beta = -1$  by (20).

The following gives a necessary condition for  $\mathcal{S}^1E_0 = E_1$ . The sufficiency part will be shown later.

**Proposition (4.2.12)[112]:** If  $\mathcal{S}^1E_0 \neq E_1$ , then

$$\frac{\omega_{i+1}}{\omega_i} = \frac{\delta_{i+1}}{\delta_i}, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

i.e.,  $M_z$  and  $M_w$  are unitarily equivalent.

**Proof.** We have already shown that it is true for  $i = 0$ . By induction, assume it is true for all  $i < n - 1$ , we will prove it is true for  $i = n - 1$ .

It follows from Proposition (4.2.11) that  $[113] \perp [z - w]$ . We get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle (z + w)^n, (z - w)(z + w)^{n-1} \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \left( \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} z^{n-i} w^i \right), (z - w) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} z^{n-1-i} w^i \right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \left( \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} z^{n-i} w^i \right), \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} z^{n-1-i} w^i \right) - \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} z^{n-1-i} w^i \right) \right\rangle \\ &= \langle z^n + w^n, z^n - w^n \rangle + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \langle \binom{n}{i} z^{n-i} w^i, [ \binom{n-1}{i} \binom{n-1}{i-1} z^{n-i} w^i ] \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \langle \binom{n}{i} z^{n-i} w^i, [ \binom{n-1}{i} - \binom{n-1}{i-1} ] z^{n-i} w^i \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} [ \binom{n-1}{i} - \binom{n-1}{i-1} ] \langle z^{n-i} w^i, z^{n-i} w^i \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\theta(n)} \binom{n}{i} [ \binom{n-1}{i} - \binom{n-1}{i-1} ] (\omega_{n-i} \delta_i - \omega_i \delta_{n-i}) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\theta(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{n-1}{2}, & \text{for } n \text{ odd,} \\ \frac{n-2}{2}, & \text{for } n \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$0 = \langle z^n + w^n, z^n - w^n \rangle = \omega_n \delta_0 - \omega_0 \delta_n.$$

This together with the assumption gives that  $\frac{\omega_n}{\omega_{n-1}} = \delta_n / \delta_{n-1}$ , and the proof is finished.

For sufficiency, there is a general statement.

**Proposition (4.2.13)[112]:** Suppose that  $H$  and  $K$  both are of dimensions at least two. Let  $A \in B(H)$  and  $B \in B(K)$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent, then  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is reducible.

**Proof.** If  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent, suppose  $U \in B(H, K)$  is unitary such that  $UA = BU, AU^* = U^*B$ . Then  $U$  can be used to define a self-adjoint unitary  $V$  on  $H \otimes K$  by  $V(f \otimes g) = U^*g \otimes Uf$ . Note that  $V = I$  is impossible by dimensions of  $H$  and  $K$ . Since  $V$  is self-adjoint,  $\frac{I \pm V}{2}$  constitute a complete projection system. We have a decomposition as follows:

$$H \otimes K = (I + V)(H \otimes K) \oplus (I - V)(H \otimes K).$$

Furthermore, it is easy to verify that  $(A \otimes I + I \otimes B)V = V(A \otimes I + I \otimes B)$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} (A \otimes I + I \otimes B)V(f \otimes g) &= (A \otimes I + I \otimes B)(U^*g \otimes Uf) \\ &= AU^*g \otimes Uf + U^*g \otimes BUf \\ &= U^*Bg \otimes Uf + U^*g \otimes UAf \\ &= V(A \otimes I + I \otimes B)(f \otimes g). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\frac{I \pm V}{2}(H \otimes K)$  are nontrivial reducing subspaces of  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$ . This leads to the reducibility of  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$ .

Combining Propositions (4.2.11)–(4.2.13), we get the main result.

**Theorem (4.2.14)[112]:** If  $A$  and  $B$  are two simple unilateral weighted shifts on separable Hilbert spaces  $H$  and  $K$ , respectively, then

(i)  $M = A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  is reducible if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent. In this case,  $H \otimes K$  is the direct sum of two minimal reducing subspaces of  $M$ .

(ii) If  $Ae_n = \alpha_n e_{n+1}, Bf_m = \beta_m f_{m+1}$ , and  $\alpha_n = \beta_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , then  $H \otimes K = [e_0 f_0]M \oplus [e_1 f_0 - e_0 f_1]M$ , where the summands are the minimal reducing subspaces of  $M$ .

In fact, adopting the same argument as shown before, we can carry out the proof of the following.

**Corollary (4.2.15)[112]:** If  $A$  and  $B$  are two unilateral weighted shifts such that  $S^1 E_r = E_{r+1}$  for all  $r \geq 1$ , together with the property:  $(1, 0) \sim (0, 1)$  implies  $(2, 0) \not\sim (1, 1)$  and  $(1, 1) \not\sim (0, 2)$ , then the conclusions in Theorem (4.2.14) are still true.

According to Corollary (4.2.6),  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is either minimal or a direct sum of two minimal reducing subspaces. If  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  is minimal, then  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w}) = \mathbb{C}$ . When  $M_z$  and  $M_w$  are unitarily equivalent, we will prove that  $M_{z+w}$  has exactly 2 minimal reducing subspaces.

**Proposition (4.2.16)[112]:** If  $M_z$  and  $M_w$  are unitarily equivalent, then  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w}) \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ .

**Proof.** Due to Proposition (4.2.11), it follows that  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = [1] \oplus [z - w]$ , and  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 = \mathbb{C}\{z + w\}$ . Since both  $[113]$  and  $[z - w]$  are minimal, it is easy to verify that

$$[1] = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}^r E_0, \quad [z - w] = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}^r \{z - w\}. \quad (23)$$

Recalling that  $H^2(\omega, \delta) = \bigoplus E_r$ , we have

$$\mathcal{S}^{r+1} E_0 \oplus \mathcal{S}^r \{z - w\} = E_{r+1}, r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$$

In especial,  $\mathcal{S}^1 E_0 \oplus \mathcal{S}^0 \{z - w\} = E_1$ . It leads to  $\mathcal{S}^0 \{z - w\} = \mathbb{C}\{z - w\}$ .

Let  $P$  be the projection from  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  onto  $[113]$ , and  $Q = I - P$ . Clearly,  $Q$  is the projection from  $H^2(\omega, \delta)$  onto  $[z - w]$ , and both  $P$  and  $Q$  are in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ . We claim that  $P$  and  $Q$  are not equivalent in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ . If otherwise, then there is a partial isometry  $U \in \mathcal{V}_*(M_{z+w})$  with the initial space  $[113]$  and final space  $[z - w]$ . Using (23), we get

$$\begin{aligned} U(\mathcal{S}^r E_0) &= U(\mathcal{S}^r [1] \ominus \mathcal{S}^{r+1} [1]) \\ &= \mathcal{S}^r U[1] \ominus \mathcal{S}^{r+1} U[1] \\ &= \mathcal{S}^r [z - w] \ominus \mathcal{S}^{r+1} [z - w] \\ &= \mathcal{S}^r \{z - w\}, \end{aligned}$$

for  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Thus we obtain  $\dim(\mathcal{S}^r E_0) = \dim(\mathcal{S}^r \{z - w\})$ . Consequently, we infer that

$$\dim(\mathcal{S}^1 \{z - w\}) = \dim(\mathcal{S}^1 E_0) = 1.$$

Thus  $\mathcal{S}^1 \{z - w\} = \mathbb{C}\{z^2 - w^2\}$ . In summary, we have two equalities:

$$U E_0 = \mathbb{C}\{z - w\} \text{ and } U(\mathbb{C}\{z + w\}) = \mathbb{C}\{z^2 - w^2\}.$$

It tells us that there exist two nonzero numbers  $c_0$  and  $c_1$  such that

$$U_1 = c_0(z - w) \text{ and } U(z + w) = c_1(z_2 - w_2).$$

Since  $U \in \mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ , we have  $UT = TU$ . Notice  $M_z$  and  $M_w$  are unitarily equivalent, i.e.,  $\varphi = \psi$ . By straightforward computation, we get

$$UT1 = (\varphi(0) + \varphi(0))U1 = (\varphi(0) + \varphi(0))c_0(z - w),$$

and

$$TU1 = c_0 T(z - w) = (\varphi(1) + \varphi(0))c_0(z - w).$$

Thus

$$\varphi(0) = \varphi(1). \quad (24)$$

Also,

$$UT(z + w) = (\varphi(1) + \varphi(0))U(z + w) = (\varphi(1) + \varphi(0))c_1(z^2 - w^2),$$

and

$$TU(z + w) = c_1 T(z^2 - w^2) = (\varphi(2) + \varphi(0))c_1(z^2 - w^2).$$

Thus

$$\varphi(2) = \varphi(1).$$

But, this together with (24), implies that

$$0 = \varphi(2) - \varphi(1) = \varphi(1) - \varphi(0).$$

This contradicts the fact that  $M_z$  is simple. Hence,  $P$  and  $Q$  are not equivalent in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ .

We are now in a position to prove that there are only two nontrivial projections in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ . Let  $R \in \mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$  be another nontrivial projection and  $R$  will be minimal by Corollary (4.2.6). Since  $I = P + Q$ , we have  $R = PR + QR$ . If  $PR = 0$ , then  $QR = R$ . It yields that  $R \subseteq Q$ . Thus  $R = Q$  by minimality. Similarly, if  $QR = 0$  then  $R = P$ . The remaining case is that both  $PR$  and  $QR$  are not zero. Then  $R$  is equivalent to  $P$  and  $Q$  simultaneously in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$  by the theory of von Neumann algebra. This contradicts the fact that  $P$  and  $Q$  are not equivalent in  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$ .



The above reasoning shows that  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w})$  only contains 2 nontrivial projections  $P$  and  $Q$ , and hence  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+w}) \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ .

**Theorem (4.2.17)[112]:** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two simple unilateral weighted shifts on separable Hilbert spaces  $H$  and  $K$ , respectively. Then we have

- (i)  $\mathcal{V}^*(A \otimes I + I \otimes B) \cong \mathbb{C}$ , if  $A$  and  $B$  are not unitarily equivalent;
- (ii)  $\mathcal{V}^*(A \otimes I + I \otimes B) \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C}$ , if  $A$  and  $B$  are unitarily equivalent.

Theorems (4.2.14) and (4.2.17) have many applications. They can be used to investigate the reducing subspaces of  $N = A^k \otimes I + \alpha I \otimes B^l$  where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ . They also can be used to compute reducing subspaces of multiplication operators  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$  on some familiar function spaces such as weighted Dirichlet spaces over the bidisk.

In convention, an operator is called a standard model if it is unitarily equivalent to some  $A \otimes I + I \otimes B$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are unilateral weighted shifts. Of course,  $A \otimes I + \alpha I \otimes B$  is a standard model in this case. We will show that in fact,  $N$  is a direct sum of finite standard models. This idea comes from [108]. Suppose that

$$\Omega \triangleq \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2 : 0 \leq a \leq k-1, 0 \leq b \leq l-1\}.$$

Then  $|\Omega| = kl$ . For each  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , we define

$$H_a = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_{a+nk} : n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}, K_b = \overline{\text{span}}\{f_{b+ml} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\},$$

And

$$H_{a,b} = \overline{\text{span}}\{e_{a+nk}f_{b+ml} : n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\} = H_a \otimes K_b.$$

Then we have

$$H = \bigoplus_{0 \leq a \leq k-1} H_a, \quad K = \bigoplus_{0 \leq b \leq l-1} K_b,$$

And

$$H \otimes K = \bigoplus_{(a,b) \in \Omega} H_{a,b} = \bigoplus_{(a,b) \in \Omega} (H_a \otimes K_b).$$

If  $k$  is a positive integer, we denote

$$\alpha_n^{[k]} = \alpha_n \alpha_{n+1} \cdots \alpha_{n+k-1}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$$

and if  $k \leq n$  then

$$\alpha_n^{[-k]} = \frac{1}{\alpha_{n-1} \alpha_{n-2} \cdots \alpha_{n-k}} = \alpha_{n-k}^{[k]}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

**Proposition (4.2.18)[112]:**  $N$  is a direct sum of  $kl$  standard models.

**Proof.** For  $a$  and  $A^k$ , we have

$$A^k e_{a+nk} = \alpha_{a+nk}^{[k]} e_{a+(n+1)k}, A^{k*} e_{a+(n+1)k} = \alpha_{a+nk}^{[-k]} e_{a+nk}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

and

$$A^{k*} e_a = 0.$$

Thus  $H_a$  reduces  $A^k$ . Similarly,  $K_b$  reduces  $B^l$ .

Denote by  $A_a = A^k|_{H_a}$ ,  $B_b = B^l|_{K_b}$  and  $N_{a,b} = N|_{H_{a,b}}$ , then  $N_{a,b} = A_a \otimes I + \alpha I \otimes B_b$ . Furthermore,  $N = \bigoplus_{(a,b) \in \Omega} N_{a,b}$ .

In fact,  $A_a$  is a unilateral weighted shift  $A' : H_a$  has the weight sequence  $\{\alpha'_n = \alpha_{a+nk}^{[k]}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  with respect to the orthonormal basis  $\{e'_n = e_{a+nk}\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ .  $B_b$  is a

unilateral weighted shift  $B' : K_b$  has the weight sequence  $\{\beta'_m = \beta_{b+ml}^{[l]}\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  with respect to the orthonormal basis  $\{f'_m = f_{b+ml}\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$ . Thus  $N_{a,b}$  is a standard model and  $N$  is a direct sum of  $kl$  standard models.

There are two natural questions: When  $H_{a,b}$  is minimal and when they are not unitary equivalent? We will solve the first question in many cases and leave the second one to further consideration. Now let us translate them into function models. Then  $N$  will be translated into  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$ . For each  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , we define

$$H^2(\omega)_a = \overline{\text{span}}\{z^{a+nk} : n \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}, H^2(\delta)_b = \overline{\text{span}}\{w^{b+ml} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\},$$

and

$$H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b} = \overline{\text{span}}\{z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} : n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\} = H^2(\omega)_a \otimes H^2(\delta)_b.$$

According to the proof of Proposition (4.2.18), a routine computation gives rise to the following statements:

(i)  $H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b}$  is a reducing subspace;

(ii)  $M_{z^k}|_{H^2(\omega)_a}$  is a unilateral weighted shift  $A' : H^2(\omega)_a$  has the weight sequence

$$\left\{ \alpha'_n = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_{a+(n+1)k}}{\omega_{a+nk}}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \quad \text{with respect to the orthonormal basis } \left\{ e'_n = \frac{z^{a+nk}}{\sqrt{\omega_{a+nk}}} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+}.$$

$\alpha M_{w^l}|_{H^2(\delta)_b}$  is a unilateral weighted shift  $B' : H^2(\delta)_b$  has the weight sequence

$$\left\{ \beta'_m = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{\delta_{b+(m+1)l}}{\delta_{b+ml}}} \right\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \quad \text{with respect to the orthonormal basis } \left\{ f'_m = \frac{w^{b+ml}}{\sqrt{\delta_{b+ml}}} \right\}_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_+}.$$

Henceforth, we denote by  $[F]$  the reducing subspace of  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$  generated by  $F$ .

By Theorems (4.2.14) and (4.2.17), we obtain the following proposition:

**Proposition (4.2.19)[112]:** If  $M_{z^k}|_{H^2(\omega)_a}$  and  $M_{w^l}|_{H^2(\delta)_b}$  are simple, then  $H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b}$  is not minimal for  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$  if and only if  $M_{z^k}|_{H^2(\omega)_a} \cong \alpha M_{w^l}|_{H^2(\delta)_b}$ . In this case,  $H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b} = [z^a w^b] \oplus [z^a w^b (z^k - |\alpha| w^l)]$ , where the summands are the only nontrivial reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$ .

**Proof.** The first statement is given by Theorem (4.2.14). Next, we need to show that the decomposition of  $H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b}$  has the desired form. If we see  $A'$  and  $B'$  in (ii) above, then

$$\begin{aligned} H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b} &= [e'_0 f'_0] \oplus [e'_1 f'_0 - e'_0 f'_1] = [z^a w^b] \oplus \left[ \frac{z^{a+k} w^b}{\sqrt{\omega^{a+k} \delta_b}} - \frac{z^a w^{b+l}}{\omega^a \delta^{b+l}} \right] \\ &= [z^a w^b] \oplus [z^a w^b (z^k - |\alpha| w^l)], \end{aligned}$$

where

$$|\alpha| = \frac{\omega_{a+k} \delta_b}{\sqrt{\omega_a \delta_{b+l}}}$$

is given by  $M_{z^k}|_{H^2(\omega)_a} \cong \alpha M_{w^l}|_{H^2(\delta)_b}$ . Then the proof is completed by Theorem (4.2.17).

In what follows, we will check some classical function spaces.

For each standard model  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}|_{(H^2(\omega, \delta)_{a,b})}$ , denote

$$f_a(n) = \frac{\omega_{a+(n+1)k}}{\omega_{a+nk}}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

and

$$g_b(m) = \frac{\delta_{b+(m+1)l}}{\delta_{b+ml}}, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

Then  $M_{z^k}|_{H^2(\omega)_a}$  (resp.  $M_{w^l}|_{H^2(\delta)_b}$ ) is simple if and only if  $f_a$  (resp.  $g_b$ ) is simple.

Let  $H = D_\beta \otimes D_\gamma$  be the tensor product of two weighted Dirichlet spaces, where  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $H = H^2_{(\omega, \delta)}$ , where  $\omega_n = (n+1)^\beta, \delta_m = (m+1)^\gamma$ . For  $p_\alpha = z^k + \alpha w^l$  and  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , we have

$$f_a(n) = \left( \frac{a + (n+1)k + 1}{a + nk + 1} \right)^\beta,$$

$$g_b(m) = \left( \frac{b + (m+1)l + 1}{b + ml + 1} \right)^\gamma.$$

Denote  $(s, t) = \left( \frac{a+1}{k}, \frac{b+1}{l} \right)$ , then we obtain

$$f_a(n) = \left( \frac{s + n + 1}{s + n} \right)^\beta \quad \text{and} \quad g_b(m) = \left( \frac{t + m + 1}{t + m} \right)^\gamma.$$

**Proposition (4.2.20)[112]:** If  $H = D_\beta \otimes D_\gamma$  and  $\beta, \gamma \in (0, +\infty)$ , then

- (i)  $M_{z^k}|_{D_{\beta a}}$  and  $M_{w^l}|_{D_{\gamma b}}$  are simple for all admissible  $k, l, a, b$ ;
- (ii)  $M_{z^k}|_{D_{\beta a}}$  and  $\alpha M_{w^l}|_{D_{\gamma b}}$  are unitarily equivalent if and only if  $|\alpha| = 1, \beta = \gamma, s = t$ ;
- (iii) in (ii),  $H_{a,b} = [z^a w^b] \oplus [z^a w^b (z^k - w^l)]$ , where the summands are the only nontrivial reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^k + w^l}$ ;
- (iv) in other cases,  $H_{a,b}$ 's are minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$ .

**Proof.** By Lemma (4.2.10), if  $\beta, \gamma \in (0, +\infty)$ , then  $M_{z^k}|_{D_{\beta a}}$  and  $M_{w^l}|_{D_{\gamma b}}$  are all simple for all admissible  $k, l, a, b$ . This proves (i).

Next,  $M_{z^k}|_{D_{\beta a}}$  and  $\alpha M_{w^l}|_{D_{\gamma b}}$  are unitarily equivalent if and only if

$$\sqrt{\frac{\omega_{a+(n+1)k}}{\omega_{a+nk}}} = |\alpha| \frac{\delta_{b+(n+1)l}}{\delta_{b+nl}}$$

holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , i.e.,

$$\left( \frac{s + n + 1}{s + n} \right)^\beta = |\alpha|^2 \left( \frac{t + n + 1}{t + n} \right)^\gamma, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

First letting  $n$  tend to infinity, we get  $|\alpha| = 1$ . Then taking differentiation, we get  $-\beta \left( \frac{s+n+1}{s+n} \right)^{\beta-1} \frac{1}{(s+n)^2} = -\gamma \left( \frac{t+n+1}{t+n} \right)^{\gamma-1} \frac{1}{(t+n)^2}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , i.e.,

$$\frac{\beta}{\gamma} = \left( \frac{t + n + 1}{t + n} \right)^{\gamma-1} \left( \frac{s + n}{s + n + 1} \right)^{\beta-1} \left( \frac{s + n}{t + n} \right)^2, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

Letting  $n$  tend to infinity again, we get  $\beta = \gamma$ . Now we have

$$\frac{s + n + 1}{s + n} = \frac{t + n + 1}{t + n}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+.$$

This will lead to  $s = t$ . This completes (ii).

(iii) and (iv) are given by Proposition (4.2.19).

If  $\beta = \gamma = 1$ , then  $H = D_\beta \otimes D_\gamma$  is the Dirichlet space over the bidisk. For  $\beta < 0$  or  $\gamma < 0$ , it need to check the simple condition. If  $\beta = \gamma = -1$ , then  $H = D_\beta \otimes D_\gamma$  is the Bergman space  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  over the bidisk. Some similar and tedious manipulations still yield that  $f_a$  and  $g_b$  are simple functions, hence we obtain many results again in [108], [112]. This provides a good explanation for their different behavior on  $\alpha$ . If  $\beta = \gamma = 0$ , then  $H = H^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  is the Hardy space over the bidisk. Each  $H_{a,b}$  is minimal if and only if  $|\alpha|^2 = 1$ . If  $|\alpha|^2 = 1$ , then each  $H_{a,b}$  has the same structure as in Proposition (4.2.20)(iii). Dan [108] also considered this problem in a different way. In particular, the reducing subspaces of

multiplication operators  $M_{z+\alpha w}$  on the Hardy space, Dirichlet space and Bergman space over the bidisk all have the same structure. In other words, their  $\mathcal{V}^*(M_{z+\alpha w})$ 's are isomorphic. For more examples, we can introduce a new class of function spaces. We call them ultra-weighted Bergman spaces. Let  $A_{\alpha,\beta}^2 = H^2(\omega)$ , where  $\alpha > -1, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \omega_n = \left(\frac{n!\Gamma(2+\alpha)}{\Gamma(2+\alpha+n)}\right)^\beta$ . It is obvious that  $A_{0,\beta}^2 = D_{-\beta}$  and  $A_{\alpha,1}^2$  are the usual weighted Bergman spaces.

Let  $H = A_{\beta,\gamma}^2 \otimes A_{\delta,\lambda}^2$  be the tensor product of two ultra-weighted Bergman spaces, where  $\beta, \delta > -1, \gamma, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $H = H_{(\omega,\delta)}^2$ , where  $\omega_n = \left(\frac{n!\Gamma(2+\beta)}{\Gamma(2+\beta+n)}\right)^\gamma, \delta_m = \left(\frac{m!\Gamma(2+\delta)}{\Gamma(2+\delta+m)}\right)^\lambda$ . For  $p_\alpha = z^k + \alpha w^l$  and  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , we have

$$f_a(n) = \left( \frac{(a + (n + 1)k)! \Gamma(2 + \beta + a + nk)}{(a + nk)! \Gamma(2 + \beta + a + (n + 1)k)} \right)^\gamma,$$

and

$$g_b(m) = \left( \frac{(b + (m + 1)l)! \Gamma(2 + \delta + b + ml)}{(b + ml)! \Gamma(2 + \delta + b + (m + 1)l)} \right)^\lambda.$$

Denote  $(s, t) = (a + 1k, b + 1l)$ , then

$$f_a(n) = \frac{\left( (s + n + 1 - \frac{1}{k}) (s + n + 1 - \frac{2}{k}) \cdots (s + n + 1 - \frac{k}{k}) \right)}{\left( (s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{1}{k}) (s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{2}{k}) \cdots (s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{k}{k}) \right)^\gamma}$$

and  $g_b$  has the similar form.

Now we can state the following proposition:

**Proposition (4.2.21)[112]:** If  $H = A_{\beta,\gamma}^2 \otimes A_{\delta,\lambda}^2$ , where  $\beta, \delta > -1$  and  $\gamma, \lambda < 0$ , then

- (i)  $M_{z^k}|_{(A_{\beta,\gamma}^2)_a}$  and  $M_{w^l}|_{(A_{\delta,\lambda}^2)_b}$  are simple for all admissible  $k, l, a, b$ ;
- (ii) if  $|\alpha| = 1$  and  $\gamma(1 + \beta) = \lambda(1 + \delta)$ , then there may be many  $(a, b)$ 's which make  $M_{z^k}|_{(A_{\beta,\gamma}^2)_a}$  and  $\alpha M_{w^l}|_{(A_{\delta,\lambda}^2)_b}$  unitarily equivalent;
- (iii) in (ii),  $H_{a,b} = [z^a w^b] \oplus [z^{aw^b}(z^{k-w^l})]$ , where the summands are the only nontrivial reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^k+w^l}$ ;
- (iv) in other cases,  $H_{a,b}$ 's are minimal reducing subspaces of  $M_{z^k+\alpha w^l}$ .

**Proof.** By Lemmas (4.2.10) and (4.2.9), we find that  $M_{z^k}|_{(A_{\beta,\gamma}^2)_a}$  and  $M_{w^l}|_{(A_{\delta,\lambda}^2)_b}$  are all simple for all admissible  $k, l, a, b$ . This proves (i).

For unitarily equivalent, consider

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{(s + n + 1 - \frac{1}{k}) (s + n + 1 - \frac{2}{k}) \cdots (s + n + 1 - \frac{k}{k})}{(s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{1}{k}) (s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{2}{k}) \cdots (s + n + 1 + \frac{1+\beta}{k} - \frac{k}{k})} \right)^\gamma \\ &= |\alpha|^2 \left( \frac{(t + n + 1 - \frac{1}{l}) (t + n + 1 - \frac{2}{l}) \cdots (t + n + 1 - \frac{l}{l})}{(t + n + 1 + \frac{1+\delta}{l} - \frac{1}{l}) (t + n + 1 + \frac{1+\delta}{l} - \frac{2}{l}) \cdots (t + n + 1 + \frac{1+\delta}{l} - \frac{l}{l})} \right)^\lambda \end{aligned}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . First letting  $n$  tend to infinity, we get  $|\alpha| = 1$ . Set

$$h_i(n) = \frac{s + n + 1 - \frac{i}{k}}{s + n + 1 + \frac{1 + \beta}{k} - \frac{i}{k}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k, n \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

and

$$l_j(n) = \frac{t + n + 1 - \frac{j}{l}}{t + n + 1 + \frac{1 + \delta}{l} - \frac{j}{l}}, \quad j = 1, \dots, l, n \in \mathbb{Z}_+,$$

then the above equation becomes

$$(h_1(n) \cdots h_k(n))^\gamma = (l_1(n) \cdots l_l(n))^\lambda, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+. \quad (25)$$

Note that,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_i(n) = 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2 \frac{h'_i(n)}{h_i(n)} = \frac{1 + \beta}{k}, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

The similar result holds also for  $l_j, j = 1, \dots, l$ .

Taking differentiation to (25), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \gamma (h_1(n) \cdots h_k(n))^\gamma \left( \frac{h'_1(n)}{h_1(n)} + \cdots + \frac{h'_k(n)}{h_k(n)} \right) \\ &= \lambda (l_1(n) \cdots l_l(n))^\lambda \left( \frac{l'_1(n)}{l_1(n)} + \cdots + \frac{l'_l(n)}{l_l(n)} \right), \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}_+. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying both sides by  $n^2$ , then letting  $n$  go to infinity again, we get  $\gamma(1 + \beta) = \lambda(1 + \delta)$ . This completes (ii).

(iii) and (iv) are given by Proposition (4.2.19).

In conclusion, we see that if  $|\alpha| \neq 1$ , then  $H_{a,b}$  must be a minimal reducing subspace of  $M_{z^k + \alpha w^l}$  in many cases.

### Section (4.3): A Class of Non-Analytic Toeplitz Operators on the Bidisk

For  $\mathbb{D}$  denote the unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $dA(z)$  denote the normalized area measure over  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  denote the Bergman space consisting of all holomorphic functions over  $\mathbb{D}^2$ , which are square integrable with respect to the normalized volume measure  $dA(z)dA(w)$ . Then  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  is a Hilbert space with inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{D}^2} f \bar{g} dA(z)dA(w)$ . Given an essentially bounded function  $\phi$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_\phi$  is defined by  $T_\phi f = P(\phi f)$  for  $f \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ . Put  $\mathcal{V}^*(\phi) = \{T_\phi, T_\phi^*\}'$ , the commutant algebra of the  $C^*$ -algebra generated by  $T_\phi$  in  $B(A^2(\mathbb{D}^2))$ . As is given in [115],  $\mathcal{V}^*(\phi)$  is a von Neumann algebra and is the norm closed linear span of its projections.

For a bounded linear operator  $S$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , a closed subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  is called a reducing subspace for  $S$  if  $S\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  and  $S\mathcal{M}^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{M}^\perp$ . In addition,  $\mathcal{M}$  is called minimal if there is no nonzero reducing subspace  $\mathcal{N}$  satisfying  $\mathcal{N} \subsetneq \mathcal{M}$ . It is well known that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a reducing subspace for  $S$  if and only if  $SP_{\mathcal{M}} = P_{\mathcal{M}}S$ , where  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  is the orthogonal projection from  $\mathcal{H}$  onto  $\mathcal{M}$ . In this way, the range of projections in  $\mathcal{V}^*(\phi)$  and the reducing subspaces for  $T_\phi$  are in one-to-one correspondence. Therefore, in some sense, studying the structure of von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{V}^*(\phi)$  is equivalent to investigating the structure of the reducing subspaces for  $T_\phi$ .

For  $B_N$  denote a Blaschke product of finite order  $N$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ . In 2009, Zhu [128] proved that a multiplication operator  $M_{B_2}$  on  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  has two distinct nontrivial minimal reducing

subspaces, and conjectured  $M_{B_N}$  has exactly  $N$  distinct nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces. In particular, if  $B_N(z) = z^N$ ,  $M_{z^N}$  is a weighted unilateral shift operator of finite multiplicity on a weighted sequence space. Stessin and Zhu [111] showed that every reducing subspace for  $M_{z^N}$  contains a minimal reducing subspace as

$X_n = \overline{\text{span}\{z^{n+kN} : k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}}$  with  $0 \leq n \leq N - 1$ . What is worth mentioning, Hardy spaces, Bergman spaces and Dirichlet Spaces are three particular cases of the weighted sequence spaces.

Further, Douglas and Kim [125], Li, Lan and Liu [127] generalized the results to some weighted unilateral shift operators on  $L^2_\alpha(A_r)$  and  $F^2_\alpha$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ) (the square integrable analytic functions on the annulus  $A_r$  with respect to the normalized measure  $dA(z)$ , and the square integrable entire functions on the whole complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  with respect to the Gaussian measure, respectively). In 2004, Hu, Sun, Xu and Yu [126] proved that there is always a nontrivial reducing subspace for  $M_{B_N}$ . In 2009, Guo, Sun, Zheng and Zhong [10] disproved Zhu's conjecture and proposed the modified conjecture that  $M_{B_N}$  has at most  $N$  distinct nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces. On the basis of ([27], [28], [10], [1], [17], et al.) by Guo, Huang, Sun, Zheng and Zhong, et al., Douglas, Putinar and Wang [23] obtained that the number of nontrivial minimal reducing subspaces for  $M_{B_N}$  equals the number of connected components of the Riemann surface  $B_N^{-1} \circ B_N$  on the unit disk. As verified in [27], [28], this result is equivalent to the assertion that  $\mathcal{V}^*(B_N)$  is abelian. For infinite Blaschke products, Guo and Huang [8] proved that for "most" thin Blaschke products  $B$ ,  $M_B$  has no nontrivial reducing subspace.

For high-dimensional domains, research on reducing-subspace problems began with some special monomial symbols. Lu and Zhou [37] completely characterized the structure of the reducing subspaces for  $M_{z^k w^k}$  on the weighted Bergman spaces over  $\mathbb{D}^2$ . Shi and Lu [35] found all the minimal reducing subspaces for  $M_{z^k w^l}$  ( $k \neq l$ ) on  $A^2_\alpha(\mathbb{D}^n)$  ( $\alpha > -1$ ) and showed that the un-weighted case has more minimal reducing subspaces than the weighted case. Guo and Huang [30] gave the direct decompose of the reducing subspaces for  $M_{z^a}$  with  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d$  on a multi-dimensional separable Hilbert space by a different approach. For the case that  $p$  is a polynomial, the reducing subspaces for  $T_{\alpha z^k + \beta w^l}$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ ) and the structure of  $\mathcal{V}^*(\alpha z^k + \beta w^l)$  are investigated in [108], [112]. More generally, Guo and Wang [113] studied the reducing subspaces for  $A^k \otimes I + I \otimes B^l$  where  $A \in B(H)$ ,  $B \in B(K)$  are two simple unilateral weighted shifts.

Motivated by the research of multiplication operators, we wonder what the results about the Toeplitz operator with non-analytic symbols look like. Compared with the analytic conditions, the tools for the Toeplitz operators with general non-analytic symbols seem far fewer at present. Albaseer, Shi and Lu [107] characterized the reducing subspaces for  $T_{z^k \bar{w}^l}$  on  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ . Let  $\varphi(z, w) = \alpha z^k + \beta \bar{w}^l$  where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are nonzero complex numbers. We find all the minimal reducing subspaces for the Toeplitz operator  $T_\varphi$  on  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , and consider the algebraic structure of  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$ . Unlike the analytic condition, we obtain that  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$  is always abelian for every  $\alpha\beta \neq 0$ . The following theorem is the main result.

**Theorem (4.3.1)[124]:** Let  $\varphi(z, w) = \alpha z^k + \beta \bar{w}^l$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  are nonzero complex numbers and  $k, l$  are positive integers. Then

$$L_{a,b} = \overline{\text{span}\{z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} \mid n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}} \quad (0 \leq a \leq k - 1, 0 \leq b \leq l - 1)$$

are exactly all the minimal reducing subspaces for  $T_\varphi$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$  is  $*$ -isomorphic to

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^{kl} \mathbb{C},$$

and then  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$  is abelian.

Since  $\alpha \neq 0$ , the operators  $T_{\alpha z^k + \beta \bar{w}^l}$  and  $T_{z^k + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \bar{w}^l}$  have the same reducing subspaces. For each  $c \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ ,  $T_{z^k + c \bar{w}^l}$ ,  $T_{z^k + |c| \bar{w}^l}$  and  $T_{w^k + |c| \bar{z}^l} = T_{|c| \left( z^l + \frac{1}{|c|} \bar{w}^k \right)}$  are unitarily equivalent to each other. Therefore, we only need to prove the result under the assumption  $T_{z^k + \alpha \bar{w}^l}$  with  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ .

We determine all the minimal reducing subspaces for  $T_\varphi$  in Theorem (4.3.1). We prove that  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$  is abelian.

For  $\mathbb{Z}$  denote all integers,  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  denote all nonnegative integers and  $\mathbb{Q}$  denote the set of rational numbers. For positive integers  $k, l$ , define

$$\Omega = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2 \mid 0 \leq a \leq k - 1, 0 \leq b \leq l - 1\}.$$

For each  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , put  $s = \frac{a+1}{k}$ ,  $t = \frac{b+1}{l}$ . Then  $s, t \in (0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$ . For  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ , divide  $\Omega$  into two parts:

$$\Omega_{\alpha,1} = \{(a, b) \in \Omega \mid \frac{s}{s+1} - \alpha^2 \frac{t}{t+1} \neq 0\},$$

and

$$\Omega_{\alpha,2} = \{(a, b) \in \Omega \mid \frac{s}{s+1} - \alpha^2 \frac{t}{t+1} = 0\}.$$

Let  $p_\alpha(z, w) = z^k + \alpha \bar{w}^l$  ( $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ). Obviously, the subspace

$$L_{a,b} = \overline{\text{span}\{z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} \mid n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+\}}$$

is a reducing subspace for  $T_{p_\alpha}$ , and  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2) = \bigoplus_{(a,b) \in \Omega} L_{a,b}$ . Denote by  $T_\alpha = T_{p_\alpha}^* T_{p_\alpha} - T_{p_\alpha} T_{p_\alpha}^*$ , then

$$T_\alpha = (T_{z^k}^* T_{z^k} - T_{z^k} T_{z^k}^*) - \alpha^2 (T_{w^l}^* T_{w^l} - T_{w^l} T_{w^l}^*)$$

and

$$T_{\alpha z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml}} = (\phi(s, n) - \alpha^2 \phi(t, m)) z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml}, \quad (26)$$

where

$$\phi(u, p) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(u+p)(u+p+1)}, & p > 0, \\ \frac{u}{u+1}, & p = 0. \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

Set

$$\lambda_\alpha(a, b, n, m) = \phi(s, n) - \alpha^2 \phi(t, m). \quad (28)$$

For  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega$ , define an equivalence on  $\mathbb{Z}_+^2$  by

$$(a, b, n, m) \sim (a', b', n', m') \Leftrightarrow \lambda_\alpha(a, b, n, m) = \lambda_\alpha(a', b', n', m'). \quad (29)$$

If  $(a, b) = (a', b')$ , this notation can be simplified as

$$(n, m) \sim_{a,b} (n', m') \Leftrightarrow \lambda_\alpha(a, b, n, m) = \lambda_\alpha(a, b, n', m').$$

Define

$$\Delta'_{n,m} = \{(n', m') : (a, b, n, m) \sim (a', b', n', m'), (n', m') \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2\}$$

and

$$\Delta_{n,m} = \{(n', m') : (n, m) \sim_{a,b} (n', m'), (n', m') \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2\}.$$

Concerning  $\mathbb{Z}_+^2$ , define the partial order  $\geq$  by setting

$$(n_1, m_1) \geq (n_2, m_2) \text{ if } n_1 \geq n_2 \text{ and } m_1 \geq m_2.$$

Put  $\Gamma = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2 \mid (n, m) \geq (1, 1)\}$  and  $\Gamma^c = \mathbb{Z}_+^2 \setminus \Gamma$ . For each  $f \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ ,  $[f]_\alpha$  denotes the reducing subspace for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  generated by  $f$ , i.e., the smallest reducing subspace for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  containing  $f$ .

We provide some useful lemmas.

**Lemma (4.3.2)[124]:** If  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ,  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ ,  $n, n', m, m' \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , then

(i)  $(n, m) \sim_{a,b} (n, m_-)$  if and only if  $m = m'$ ;

(ii)  $(n, m) \sim_{a,b} (n', m)$  if and only if  $n = n'$ ;

(iii) if  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1} \cup \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ), then  $(0, 0) \not\sim_{a,b} (n, n)$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proof.** (i) Obviously, we only need to prove the necessity. By (27), (28) and (29), we know that  $\phi(t, m) = \phi(t, m')$ .

If  $m, m' \geq 1$ , then  $(t + m)(t + m + 1) = (t + m')(t + m' + 1)$ . It follows that  $m = m'$ .

If one of  $m, m'$  is 0, without loss of generality, assume  $m \geq 1$  and  $m' = 0$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{(t + m)(t + m + 1)} = \frac{t}{t + 1}.$$

That is,  $F(t) = t(t + m)(t + m + 1) - (t + 1) = 0$ , where  $F$  is a polynomial with integral coefficients, with leading coefficient equal to 1 and with degree at least 3. By the theory of algebra, all rational roots of  $F$  are integers. Since  $t \in (0, 1] \cap \mathbb{Q}$ , we have  $t = 1$  and  $m = 0$ . This leads to a contradiction.

(ii) By the symmetry of  $n$  and  $m$  in the proof of (i), we have (ii) holds.

(iii) The assumption  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1} \cup \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ) shows that  $s \neq t$ . Notice that  $(0, 0) \sim_{a,b} (n, n)$  for some  $n \geq 1$  if and only if

$$\frac{s}{s + 1} - \frac{1}{(s + n)(s + n + 1)} = \frac{\alpha^2 t}{t + 1} - \frac{\alpha^2}{(t + n)(t + n + 1)}.$$

If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1}$ , consider the function  $G(x) = \frac{x}{x+1} - \frac{1}{(x+n)(x+n+1)}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

Obviously,  $G(x)$  is strictly increasing on  $(0, +\infty)$ . Then  $G(s) \neq G(t)$ , i.e.,  $(0, 0) \not\sim_{a,b} (n, n)$ .

If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ), we have  $\frac{s}{s+1} = \alpha^2 \frac{t}{t+1} < \frac{t}{t+1}$ . Then  $t > s$ . It follows that

$$\frac{1}{(s+n)(s+n+1)} > \frac{1}{(t+n)(t+n+1)} > \frac{\alpha^2}{(t+n)(t+n+1)}.$$

Hence,  $(0, 0) \not\sim_{a,b} (n, n)$ .  
**Lemma (4.3.3)[124]:** If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1} \cup \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ),  $(a', b') \in \Omega$  and  $(n, m) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ , then  $(n \pm 1, m \pm 1) \notin \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $(n + 1, m + 1) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$ . For  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , we get two equations as follows:

$$\frac{s}{s + 1} - \frac{\alpha^2 t}{t + 1} = \frac{1}{(s' + n)(s' + n + 1)} - \frac{\alpha^2}{(t' + m)(t' + m + 1)}, \quad (30)$$

and

$$\frac{s}{s + 1} - \frac{\alpha^2 t}{t + 1} = \frac{1}{(s' + n + 1)(s' + n + 2)} - \frac{\alpha^2}{(t' + m + 1)(t' + m + 2)}. \quad (31)$$

If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ), Eq. (30) and Eq. (31) imply that

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{(t' + m)(t' + m + 1)}{(s' + n)(s' + n + 1)} = \frac{(t' + m + 1)(t' + m + 2)}{(s' + n + 1)(s' + n + 2)}.$$

Therefore,  $t' + m = s' + n$  and  $\alpha = 1$ , which is a contradiction.



If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1}$ , then  $t' + m = s' + n$ . Eq. (30) implies that  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,2}$ , which is also a contradiction. So  $(n + 1, m + 1) \notin \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ .

Replace  $(n, m)$  by  $(n - 1, m - 1)$ . Assume  $(n - 1, m - 1) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ . As the proof above, we have  $(n, m) = (n - 1 + 1, m - 1 + 1) \notin \Delta'_{0,0}$ , which is a contradiction. The proof is finished.

**Lemma (4.3.4)[124]:** If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,2}$  and  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , then the following statements hold:

(i)  $(n, m) \in \Delta_{0,0}$  if and only if  $n = m$ .

(ii)  $(n' + 1, n') \in \Delta_{n+1,n}$  if and only if  $n = n'$ .

**Proof.** (i) It is easy to see that  $(n, n) \in \Delta_{0,0}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , since  $\lambda_1(a, b, 0, 0) = \lambda_1(a, b, n, n) = 0$ . On the other hand, assume  $(n, m) \in \Delta_{0,0}$ . If  $n = 0$ , Lemma (4.3.2)(i) shows that  $m = 0$ . If  $n \geq 1$ , Eq. (27) and Eq. (28) imply that  $\phi(s, m) = \frac{1}{(s+n)(s+n+1)}$ .

Since  $F(s) = s(s + n)(s + n + 1) - (s + 1) = 0$  has no rational roots in  $(0, 1]$ , we have  $m \geq 1$  and  $\phi(s, m) = \frac{1}{(s+m)(s+m+1)} = \frac{1}{(s+n)(s+n+1)}$ . Hence  $m = n$ .

(ii) We only need to prove the necessity. If  $n = 0$  and  $n' \geq 1$ , then  $(n + 1, n) \sim_{a,b} (n' + 1, n')$  indicates

$$\frac{1}{(s + 1)(s + 2)} - \frac{s}{s + 1} = \frac{-2}{(s + n')(s + n' + 1)(s + n' + 2)}.$$

By the theory of algebra, we obtain  $s = 1$ , and then  $n' = 0$ , which is a contradiction with  $n' \geq 1$ .

If  $n \geq 1$ , by the argument above, we have  $n' \geq 1$ . Therefore,  $(n + 1, n) \sim_{a,b} (n' + 1, n')$  gives

$$\frac{2}{(s + n)(s + n + 1)(s + n + 2)} = \frac{2}{(s + n')(s + n' + 1)(s + n' + 2)}.$$

It follows that  $n = n'$ .

The following lemmas hold for every  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ .

**Lemma (4.3.5)[124]:** If  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega$  and  $(n_0, m_0) \in \Delta'_{n,m}$ , then the following conclusions hold:

(i) if  $(n, m), (n_0, m_0) \geq (1, 0)$  and  $n \neq n_0$ , then  $(n_0 + 1, m_0) \notin \Delta'_{n+1,m}$ ;

(ii) if  $(n, m), (n_0, m_0) \geq (0, 1)$  and  $m \neq m_0$ , then  $(n_0, m_0 + 1) \notin \Delta'_{n,m+1}$ ;

(iii) if  $(a, b) = (a', b')$ ,  $n = 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 1$ , then  $(n_0 + 1, m_0) \notin \Delta_{1,m}$ .

**Proof.** (i) If  $(n_0, m_0) \in \Delta'_{n,m}$  and  $(n_0 + 1, m_0) \in \Delta'_{n+1,m}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{(s' + n_0)(s' + n_0 + 1)} - \alpha^2 \phi(t', m_0) = \frac{1}{(s + n)(s + n + 1)} - \alpha^2 \phi(t, m),$$

and

$$\frac{1}{(s' + n_0 + 1)(s' + n_0 + 2)} - \alpha^2 \phi(t', m_0) = \frac{1}{(s + n + 1)(s + n + 2)} - \alpha^2 \phi(t, m).$$

It follows that

$$\frac{1}{(s' + n_0)(s' + n_0 + 1)(s' + n_0 + 2)} = \frac{1}{(s + n)(s + n + 1)(s + n + 2)}.$$

Thus  $s' + n_0 = s + n$ . Since  $-1 \leq -s' < n_0 - n = s - s' < s \leq 1$ , we have  $n_0 = n$ . This is a contradiction. So (i) holds.

(ii) Since the proof of this case is similar to the proof of (i), we omit the details.

(iii) Assume  $(n_0 + 1, m_0) \in \Delta_{1,m}$ . A computation shows that

$$\frac{s}{s+1} - \frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{2}{(s+n_0)(s+n_0+1)(s+n_0+2)}$$

As in the proof of Lemma (4.3.4) (ii), there is no solution on  $(0, 1]$  for any  $n_0 \geq 1$ . Therefore, the assumption is not true. We finish the proof.

**Lemma (4.3.6)[124]:** If  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , then  $[z^a w^b]_\alpha = L_{a,b}$ .

**Proof.** Obviously, we only need to show  $z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} \in [z^a w^b]_\alpha$  for  $n, m \geq 0$ .

Notice that

$$T_{p_\alpha}^n z^a w^b = z^{a+nk} w^b \in [z^a w^b]_\alpha, \quad T_{p_\alpha}^{*m} z^a w^b = \alpha^m z^a w^{b+ml} \in [z^a w^b]_\alpha.$$

Denote by  $\gamma_k = \|z^k\|^2 = \frac{1}{k+1}$ . Then we have

$$T_{p_\alpha}^* z^{a+nk} w^b = \alpha z^{a+nk} w^{b+l} + \frac{\gamma_{a+nk}}{\gamma_{a+(n-1)k}} z^{a+(n-1)k} w^b \in [z^a w^b]_\alpha.$$

It follows that  $z^{a+nk} w^{b+l} \in [z^a w^b]_\alpha$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . For every  $q \geq 1$ , since

$$\alpha z^{a+nk} w^{b+(q+1)l} = T_{p_\alpha}^* z^{a+nk} w^{b+ql} - \frac{\gamma_{a+nk}}{\gamma_{a+(n-1)k}} z^{a+(n-1)k} w^{b+ql},$$

it is easy to get the desired result by induction.

We will prove that  $L_{a,b}((a, b) \in \Omega)$  are the minimal reducing subspaces for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  and any two distinct parameter-pairs  $(a, b)$  generate nonequivalent reducing subspaces  $L_{a,b}$ .

**Theorem (4.3.7)[124]:** If  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ , then  $L_{a,b}$  is a minimal reducing subspace for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  for any  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ .

**Proof.** Obviously,  $L_{a,b}$  is a reducing subspace for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  for any  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . We only need to prove that  $L_{a,b}$  is minimal.

Suppose there is a reducing subspace  $M_1$  included in  $L_{a,b}$ . Denote by  $P_1$  the orthogonal projection from  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$  onto  $M_1$ . Recall that  $T_\alpha = T_{p_\alpha}^* T_{p_\alpha} - T_{p_\alpha} T_{p_\alpha}^*$ . By (26) and

$$T_\alpha P_1 z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} = P_1 T_\alpha z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} = \lambda_\alpha(a, b, n, m) z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml},$$

we get  $P_1 z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml} \in \text{span}\{z^{a+pk} w^{b+ql} : (p, q) \in \Delta_{n,m}\}$ . Further, Lemma (4.3.2) (i) and (ii) deduce that

$$f_1 = P_1 z^a w^b = a_{00} z^a w^b + \sum_{(n,m) \in \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma_b} a_{nm} z^{a+nk} w^{b+ml}.$$

Then

$$T_{p_\alpha} f_1 = a_{00} z^{a+k} w^b + \sum_{(n,m) \in \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma} a_{nm} \left[ z^{a+(n+1)k} w^{b+ml} + \frac{\alpha \gamma_{b+ml}}{\gamma_{b+(m-1)l}} z^{a+nk} w^{b+(m-1)l} \right]. \quad (32)$$

Notice that

$$T_{p_\alpha} f_1 = P_1 T_{p_\alpha} z^a w^b = P_1 z^{a+k} w^b \in \text{span}\{z^{a+pk} w^{b+ql} : (p, q) \in \Delta_{1,0}\}. \quad (33)$$

**Claim (4.3.8)[124]:**  $f_1 = a_{00} z^a w^b$ .

The proof of the above Claim (4.3.8) will be divided into three cases:  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1} \cup \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ),  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,2}$  and  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,1}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ).

**Case (1):**  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1} \cup \Omega_{\alpha,2}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ). Without confusion, the range of  $\alpha$  is  $(0, 1]$ .

Lemma (4.3.3) shows that  $(n \pm 1, m \pm 1) \notin \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ , since  $(n, m) \in \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ .

Thus the coefficient of  $z^{a+(n+1)k} w^{b+ml}$  in Eq. (32) is  $a_{nm}$ . Associated with Lemma (4.3.5) (iii) and Eq. (32), we deduce that  $a_{nm} = 0$  for  $(n, m) \in \Gamma$ . Hence,  $f_1 = a_{00} z^a w^b$ .

**Case (2):**  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,2}$ . Let  $a_n = a_{nn}$  for convenience. Lemma (4.3.4) deduces that

$$f_1 = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+} a_n z^{a+nk} w^{b+nl}.$$

By simple computations, Eq. (32) becomes

$$T_{p_\alpha} f_1 = \left( a_0 + a_1 \frac{\gamma_{b+l}}{\gamma_b} \right) z^{a+k} w^b + \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( a_n + a_{n+1} \frac{\gamma_{b+(n+1)l}}{\gamma_{b+nl}} \right) z^{a+(n+1)k} w^{b+nl}. \quad (34)$$

Lemma (4.3.5)(iii), along with Eq. (33) and (34), shows that

$$a_n + a_{n+1} \frac{\gamma_{b+(n+1)l}}{\gamma_{b+nl}} = 0, \quad \forall n \geq 1.$$

It follows that  $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{\gamma_{b+l}}{\gamma_{b+nl}} a_1$ . Thus

$$|a_n|^2 \|z^{a+nk} w^{b+nl}\|^2 = \frac{(b+nl+1)}{(a+nk+1)(b+l+1)^2} |a_1|^2.$$

Since  $f_1 \in A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , we have that  $|a_n|^2 \|z^{a+nk} w^{b+nl}\|^2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus  $a_1 = 0$ , which indicates that  $a_n = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Hence,  $f_1 = a_{00} z^a w^b$ .

**Case (3):**  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,1}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ). Firstly, we prove that  $\Delta_{0,0}$  is a finite set.

Otherwise, by Lemma (4.3.2) (i) and (ii), there exists  $(n_k, m_k) \geq (k, k)$  satisfying  $(n_k, m_k) \in \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$  for every  $k \geq 1$ . That is,  $\frac{s}{s+1} - \alpha^2 \frac{t}{t+1} = \frac{1}{(s+n_k)(s+n_k+1)} - \alpha^2 \frac{1}{(t+m_k)(t+m_k+1)}$ . Letting  $k \rightarrow +\infty$  shows that  $\frac{s}{s+1} - \alpha^2 \frac{t}{t+1} = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,

$$f_1 = a_{00} z^a w^b + \sum_{j=1}^N b_j z^{a+p_j k} w^{b+q_j l},$$

where  $N$  is a positive integer and  $(p_j, q_j) \in \Delta_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ . Reset  $\{(p_i, q_i)\} (1 \leq i \leq N)$  as  $1 \leq p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_N$ . Thus,

$$T_{p_\alpha} f_1 = a_{00} z^{a+k} w^b + \sum_{j=1}^N b_j \left( z^{a+(p_j+1)k} w^{b+q_j l} + \alpha \frac{\gamma_{b+q_j l}}{\gamma_{b+(q_j-1)l}} z^{a+p_j k} w^{b+(q_j-1)l} \right).$$

By Lemma (4.3.5)(iii) again, we have  $(p_N + 1, q_N) \notin \Delta_{1,0}$ . Then Eq. (33) shows that  $b_N = 0$ . Repeat this process until we get  $b_j = 0, j = 1, \dots, N$ . Therefore,  $f_1 = a_{00} z^a w^b$ . So we get the desired result.

According to the above Claim (4.3.8), we know that either  $z^a w^b \in M_1$  or  $z^a w^b \perp M_1$ .

Consequently, using Lemma (4.3.6), we obtain that either  $M_1 = L_{a,b}$  or  $M_1 = \{0\}$ . So  $L_{a,b}$  is minimal.

As in [30], we say that two reducing subspaces  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  of  $T_\varphi$  are called unitarily equivalent if there exists a unitary operator  $U$  from  $M$  onto  $N$  and  $U$  commutes with  $T_\varphi$ . One can show that  $M_1$  is unitarily equivalent to  $M_2$  if and only if  $P_{M_1}$  and  $P_{M_2}$  are equivalent in  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$ , that is, there is a partial isometry  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}^*(\varphi)$  such that

$$V^*V = P_{M_1}, \quad VV^* = P_{M_2}.$$

Now, we are ready to prove that  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are not unitarily equivalent if  $(a, b) \neq (a', b')$ . For  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , our proof is divided into two parts:

- (i)  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,2}, (a', b') \in \Omega$ ;
- (ii)  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega_{\alpha,1}$ .

For  $\alpha = 1$ , our proof is also divided into two parts:

(iii)  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1}, (a', b') \in \Omega$ ;

(iv)  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega_{1,2}$ .

Since the proof of (i) and (iii) are similar, we write the proof of them together.

**Theorem (4.3.9)[124]:** If  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{\alpha,2} (0 < \alpha < 1)$  (or  $(a, b) \in \Omega_{1,1}$ ),  $(a', b') \in \Omega$  and

$(a, b) \neq (a', b')$ , then  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are not unitarily equivalent reducing subspaces for  $T_{p_\alpha}$  (or  $T_{p_1}$ ).

**Proof.** Without confusion, the range of  $\alpha$  is  $(0, 1]$ . Assume conversely that  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are unitarily equivalent, then there is a partial isometry  $U \in \mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  such that  $U|_{L_{a,b}}$  is a unitary operator from  $L_{a,b}$  onto  $L_{a',b'}$ .

Recall that  $T_\alpha = T_{p_\alpha}^* T_{p_\alpha} - T_{p_\alpha} T_{p_\alpha}^*$ . For  $(n, m) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2$ , suppose

$$UZ^{a+nk}W^{b+ml} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2} a_{pq} Z^{a'+pk} W^{b'+ql},$$

where  $a_{pq} \in \mathbb{C}$ . Moreover, we have

$$UT_\alpha Z^{a+nk}W^{b+ml} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2} a_{pq} \lambda_\alpha(a, b, n, m) Z^{a'+pk} W^{b'+ql},$$

and

$$T_\alpha UZ^{a+nk}W^{b+ml} = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2} a_{pq} \lambda_\alpha(a', b', p, q) Z^{a'+pk} W^{b'+ql}.$$

Thus,  $UT_\alpha = T_\alpha U$  indicates that

$$UZ^{a+nk}W^{b+ml} \in \overline{\text{span}\{Z^{a'+pk}W^{b'+ql} : (p, q) \in \Delta'_{n,m}\}}. \quad (35)$$

By Lemma (4.3.2)(i) and (ii), we know that there is at most one  $n_0 \geq 1$  satisfying  $(n_0, 0) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$ , and there is at most one  $m_0 \geq 1$  satisfying  $(0, m_0) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} UZ^a W^b &= a_{00} Z^{a'} W^{b'} + a_{n_0,0} Z^{a'+n_0k} W^{b'} \\ &+ a_{0,m_0} Z^{a'} W^{b'+m_0l} + \sum_{(n,m) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma} a_{nm} Z^{a'+nk} W^{b'+ml}. \end{aligned}$$

By simple computations, we have

$$UT_{p_\alpha}^* T_{p_\alpha} Z^a W^b = \alpha UZ^{a+k} W^{b+l} + \frac{\gamma_{a+k}}{\gamma_a} UZ^a W^b, \quad (36)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} T_{p_\alpha}^* T_{p_\alpha} UZ^a W^b &= a_{00} \left( \alpha Z^{a'+k} W^{b'+l} + \frac{\gamma_{a'+k}}{\gamma_{a'}} Z^{a'} W^{b'} \right) \\ &+ a_{n_0,0} \left( \alpha Z^{a'+(n_0+1)k} W^{b'+l} + \frac{\gamma_{a'+(n_0+1)k}}{\gamma_{a'+n_0k}} Z^{a'+n_0k} W^{b'} \right) \\ &+ a_{0,m_0} \left[ \alpha Z^{a'+k} W^{b'+(m_0+1)l} + \left( \frac{\gamma_{a'+k}}{\gamma_{a'}} + \alpha^2 \frac{\gamma_{b'+m_0l}}{\gamma_{b'+(m_0-1)l}} \right) Z^{a'} W^{b'+m_0l} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{(n,m) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma} a_{nm} \left[ \alpha z^{a'+(n+1)k} w^{b'+(m+1)l} \right. \\
& + \left( \frac{\gamma_{a'+(n+1)k}}{\gamma_{a'+nk}} + \alpha^2 \frac{\gamma_{b'+ml}}{\gamma_{b'+(m-1)l}} \right) z^{a'+nk} w^{b'+ml} \\
& \left. + \alpha \frac{\gamma_{b'+ml}}{\gamma_{b'+(m-1)l}} \frac{\gamma_{a'+nk}}{\gamma_{a'+(n-1)k}} z^{a'+(n-1)k} w^{b'+(m-1)l} \right]. \tag{37}
\end{aligned}$$

Compare the coefficients of  $z^{a'+nk} w^{b'+ml}$  for  $(n, m) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ , respectively. If  $(n, m) \in \Gamma \setminus \{(1, 1), (n_0 + 1, 1), (1, m_0 + 1)\}$ , along with (35), we obtain that

$$\left( \frac{\gamma_{a'+(n+1)k}}{\gamma_{a'+nk}} + \alpha^2 \frac{\gamma_{b'+ml}}{\gamma_{b'+(m-1)l}} \right) a_{nm} = \frac{\gamma_{a+k}}{\gamma_a} a_{nm},$$

since  $\Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Delta'_{1,1} = \emptyset$  (by Lemma (4.3.2)(iii)),  $(n \pm 1, m \pm 1) \notin \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$  (by Lemma 2.2), and  $(n_0, 0), (0, m_0) \notin \Gamma$ . However,  $\frac{\gamma_{a'+(n+1)k}}{\gamma_{a'+nk}} + \alpha^2 \frac{\gamma_{b'+ml}}{\gamma_{b'+(m-1)l}} \geq \frac{\gamma_{a'+(n+1)k}}{\gamma_{a'+nk}} > \frac{\gamma_{a+k}}{\gamma_a}$ . So

$a_{nm} = 0$ . It means that

$$\begin{aligned}
UZ^a w^b & = c_0 z^{a'} w^{b'} + c_1 z^{a'+k} w^{b'+l} + c_2 z^{a'+n_0 k} w^{b'} + c_3 z^{a'+(n_0+1)k} w^{b'+l} \\
& + c_4 z^{a'} w^{b'+m_0 l} + c_5 z^{a'+k} w^{b'+(m_0+1)l}.
\end{aligned}$$

Some simple computations show that

$$\begin{aligned}
UZ^{a+k} w^b & = T_{p_\alpha} UZ^a w^b \\
& = \left( c_0 + \alpha c_1 \frac{\gamma_{b'+l}}{\gamma_{b'}} \right) z^{a'+k} w^{b'} + c_1 z^{a'+2k} w^{b'+l} \\
& + \left( c_2 + \alpha c_3 \frac{\gamma_{b'+k}}{\gamma_{b'}} \right) z^{a'+(n_0+1)k} w^{b'} + c_3 z^{a'+(n_0+2)k} w^{b'+l} + h_1(z, w),
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
UZ^{a+2k} w^b & = T_{p_\alpha} UZ^{a+k} w^b \\
& = \left( c_0 + 2\alpha c_1 \frac{\gamma_{b'+l}}{\gamma_{b'}} \right) z^{a'+2k} w^{b'} + c_1 z^{a'+3k} w^{b'+l} \\
& + \left( c_2 + 2\alpha c_3 \frac{\gamma_{b'+k}}{\gamma_{b'}} \right) z^{a'+(n_0+2)k} w^{b'} + c_3 z^{a'+(n_0+3)k} w^{b'+l} + T_{p_\alpha} h_1,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$h_1 \perp \{z^{a'+k} w^{b'}, z^{a'+2k} w^{b'+l}, z^{a'+(n_0+1)k} w^{b'}, z^{a'+(n_0+2)k} w^{b'+l}\}$$

and

$$T_{p_\alpha} h_1 \perp \{z^{a'+2k} w^{b'+l}, z^{a'+3k} w^{b'+l}, z^{a'+(n_0+2)k} w^{b'}, z^{a'+(n_0+3)k} w^{b'+l}\}.$$

By Lemma (4.3.5)(i), we obtain that  $(2, 1) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(3, 1) \in \Delta'_{2,0}$  are incompatible.

So  $c_1 = 0$ . Moreover, the incompatibility of  $(n_0 + 2, 1) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(n_0 + 3, 1) \in \Delta'_{2,0}$  shows that  $c_3 = 0$ ; the incompatibility of  $(n_0 + 1, 0) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(n_0 + 2, 0) \in \Delta'_{2,0}$  implies  $c_2 = 0$ .

Symmetrically, we consider  $UZ^a w^{b+l}$  and  $UZ^a w^{b+2l}$ . In a similar way, Lemma (4.3.5) (ii) implies that  $c_4 = c_5 = 0$ . So

$$UZ^a w^b = c_0 z^{a'} w^{b'}, \quad UZ^{a+k} w^b = c_0 z^{a'+k} w^{b'}, \quad UZ^a w^{b+l} = c_0 z^{a'} w^{b'+l}.$$

Since  $U|_{L_{a,b}}$  is a unitary operator, we get  $c_0 \neq 0$ . Then  $(0, 0) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$ ,  $(1, 0) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(0, 1) \in \Delta'_{0,1}$ . By some calculations, it is easy to check that

$$\frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)} - \frac{s}{s+1} = \frac{1}{(s'+1)(s'+2)} - \frac{s'}{s'+1};$$

$$\frac{1}{(t+1)(t+2)} - \frac{t}{t+1} = \frac{1}{(t'+1)(t'+2)} - \frac{t'}{t'+1}.$$

It follows that  $(a, b) = (a', b')$ , which is a contradiction. Hence, we complete the proof.  
**Theorem (4.3.10)[124]:** If  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega_{\alpha,1}$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ) and  $(a, b) \neq (a', b')$ , then  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are not unitarily equivalent.

**Proof.** Firstly, by the analogous proof in Theorem (4.3.7), we get that  $\Delta'_{0,0}$  is a finite set. Secondly, assume conversely  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are unitarily equivalent, then there is a partial isometry  $U \in \mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  such that  $U|_{L_{a,b}}$  is a unitary operator from  $L_{a,b}$  onto  $L_{a',b'}$ . As the analysis above, set

$$UZ^a W^b = a_0 z^{a'} w^{b'} + u_{n_0} z^{a'+n_0 k} w^{b'} + u_{m_0} z^{a'} w^{b'+m_0 l} + \sum_{i=1}^N a_i z^{a'+n_i k} w^{b'+m_i l},$$

where  $N$  is a positive integer,  $(n_i, m_i) \in \Delta'_{0,0} \cap \Gamma$ ,  $n_i \neq n_0, m_i \neq m_0$  and  $a_i, u_{n_0}, u_{m_0} \in \mathbb{C}$ . Rearrange  $\{(n_i, m_i)\} (1 \leq i \leq N)$  as  $1 \leq n_1 < n_2 < \dots < n_N$ .

By  $U \in \mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$ , we have

$$UZ^{a+k} W^b = a_N z^{a'+(n_N+1)k} w^{b'+m_N l} + g_1(z, w),$$

and

$$UZ^{a+2k} W^b = a_N z^{a'+(n_N+2)k} w^{b'+m_N l} + \alpha a_N \frac{\gamma_{b'+m_N l}}{\gamma_{b'+(m_N-1)l}} z^{a'+(n_N+1)k} w^{b'+(m_N-1)l} + T_{p_\alpha} g_1(z, w),$$

where  $g_1 \perp \{z^{a'+(n_N+1)k} w^{b'+m_N l}\}$ ,  $T_{p_\alpha} g_1 \perp \{z^{a'+(n_N+2)k} w^{b'+m_N l}\}$ .

By Lemma (4.3.5)(i),  $(n_N + 1, m_N) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(n_N + 2, m_N) \in \Delta'_{2,0}$  are incompatible. Since

$$UZ^{a+2k} W^b \subseteq \overline{\text{span}\{z^{a'+pk} w^{b'+ql} : (p, q) \in \Delta'_{2,0}\}}$$

and

$$UZ^{a+k} W^b \subseteq \overline{\text{span}\{z^{a'+pk} w^{b'+ql} : (p, q) \in \Delta'_{1,0}\}},$$

we have  $a_N = 0$ . Repeat this process until we get  $a_i = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Therefore, we deduce that

$$UZ^a W^b = a_0 z^{a'} w^{b'} + u_{n_0} z^{a'+n_0 k} w^{b'} + u_{m_0} z^{a'} w^{b'+m_0 l}.$$

By similar way as above, it is easy to get  $u_{n_0} = 0$ .

On the other hand, we have

$$UZ^a W^{b+l} = \alpha a_0 z^{a'} w^{b'+l} + \alpha u_{m_0} z^{a'} w^{b'+(m_0+1)l},$$

and

$$UZ^a W^{b+2l} = \alpha a_0 z^{a'} w^{b'+2l} + \alpha u_{m_0} z^{a'} w^{b'+(m_0+2)l}.$$

By Lemma (4.3.5)(ii), the incompatibility of  $(0, m_0 + 1) \in \Delta'_{0,1}$  and  $(0, m_0 + 2) \in \Delta'_{0,2}$  shows that  $u_{m_0} = 0$ .

Since  $U|_{L_{a,b}}$  is unitary, we have  $a_0 \neq 0$ . It follows that  $(0, 0) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$  and  $(0, 1) \in \Delta'_{0,1}$ . A simple calculation implies that  $t = t'$  and  $s = s'$ , i.e.,  $(a, b) = (a', b')$ . Thus the assumption is false and we finish the proof.

**Theorem (4.3.11)[124]:** If  $(a, b), (a', b') \in \Omega_{1,2}$  and  $(a, b) \neq (a', b')$ , then  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are not unitarily equivalent.

**Proof.** Assume conversely that  $L_{a,b}$  and  $L_{a',b'}$  are unitarily equivalent, then there is a partial isometry  $U \in \mathcal{V}^*(p_1)$  such that  $U|_{L_{a,b}}$  is a unitary operator from  $L_{a,b}$  onto  $L_{a',b'}$ . By the analogous argument in Theorem (4.3.9) and by Lemma (4.3.4), we have

$$UZ^a W^b = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+} a_n Z^{a'+nk} W^{b'+nl}.$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} UZ^{a+k} W^b &= T_p UZ^a W^b = \left( a_0 + a_1 \frac{\gamma_{b'+l}}{\gamma_{b'}} \right) Z^{a'+k} W^{b'} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( a_n + a_{n+1} \frac{\gamma_{b'+(n+1)l}}{\gamma_{b'+nl}} \right) Z^{a'+(n+1)k} W^{b'+nl}. \end{aligned}$$

By  $(a,b), (a',b') \in \Omega_{1,2}$ , we have  $s = t, s' = t'$  and  $(0,0) \in \Delta'_{0,0}$ . Obviously,  $(a,b) \neq (a',b')$  implies that  $s \neq s'$ , forcing  $(1,0) \notin \Delta'_{1,0}$ . Thus,  $a_0 + a_1 \frac{\gamma_{b'+l}}{\gamma_{b'}} = 0$ .

Lemma (4.3.4)(ii) shows that  $(q+1, q) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  for at most one  $q \geq 1$ . Therefore, we deduce that

$$UZ^{a+k} W^b = cZ^{a'+(q+1)k} W^{b'+ql},$$

where  $c \in \mathbb{C}$ . Moreover,

$$UZ^{a+2k} W^l = cZ^{a'+(q+2)k} W^{b'+ql} + c \frac{\gamma_{b'+ql}}{\gamma_{b'+(q-1)l}} Z^{a'+(q+1)k} W^{b'+(q-1)l}.$$

By Lemma (4.3.5)(i),  $(q+1, q) \in \Delta'_{1,0}$  and  $(q+2, q) \in \Delta'_{2,0}$  are incompatible.

So  $c = 0$ , which contradicts with  $U \neq 0$ . Hence, we arrive at the desired conclusion.

We consider the structure of the von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  for  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . Rewrite the minimal reducing subspaces  $L_{a,b}((a,b) \in \Omega)$  by  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_r$ , where  $r = kl$ . As mentioned,  $M_1$  is unitarily equivalent to  $M_2$  if and only if  $P_{M_1}$  and  $P_{M_2}$  are equivalent in  $\mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$ , thus we get any two of the minimal projections  $P_{M_i}, i = 1, \dots, r$ , are not equivalent.

As in [112], there are no other minimal projections in  $\mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  except  $\{P_{M_i} | i = 1, \dots, r\}$ . We briefly recall the main ideas of the proof. Let  $Q$  be a minimal projection, which is distinct from all  $P_{M_i} (1 \leq i \leq r)$ . Since the direct sum of  $P_{M_i} (1 \leq i \leq r)$  is the whole space  $A^2(\mathbb{D}^2)$ , there are at least two minimal projections  $P_{M_i}$  and  $P_{M_j}$  such that  $P_{M_i}Q \neq 0$  and  $P_{M_j}Q \neq 0$ . Then  $Q$  is equivalent to  $P_{M_j}$  and  $P_{M_i}$ , which is a contradiction.

The following proposition comes from [30]:

**Proposition (4.3.12)[124]:** Let  $\varepsilon$  denote the set of all minimal projections in a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and suppose

$$\bigvee_{E \in \varepsilon} E = I.$$

Then there is a family of  $\{\Lambda_i\}$  of subsets of  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$\sum_i \sum_{E \in \Lambda_i} E = I,$$

- (i) each  $\{\Lambda_i\}$  consists of pairwise orthogonal, mutually equivalent projections in  $\mathcal{A}$ ;
- (ii) if  $E', E''$  lie in different  $\{\Lambda_i\}$ , then  $E'$  is not equivalent to  $E''$ ;

Consequently, the von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $*$ -isomorphic to

$$\bigoplus_i M_{n_i}(\mathbb{C}),$$

where  $n_i$  denotes the cardinality of  $\{\Lambda_i\}$ , allowed to be infinity.

Associated with  $\bigvee_{i=1}^r P_{M_i} = I$ , we have the following result.

**Theorem (4.3.13)[124]:** If  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , then  $\mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  is \*- isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^{kl} \mathbb{C}$ .

Moreover,  $\mathcal{V}^*(p_\alpha)$  is abelian.



## Chapter 5

### Hankel Operators and Products of Toeplitz Operators

We show the characterization of boundedness relies on certain precise estimates for the Bergman kernel and the Bergman metric. Characterizations of compact Hankel operators and Schatten class Hankel operators are also given. In the latter case, results on Carleson measures and Toeplitz operators along with Hörmander's  $L^2$  estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$  operator are key ingredients in the proof. We show that the product  $T_f T_g$  of Toeplitz operators on the Fock  $F_\alpha^2$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is bounded if and only if  $f(z) = e^{q(z)}$  and  $g(z) = ce^{-q(z)}$ , where  $c$  is a nonzero constant and  $q$  is a linear polynomial. We provide a complete solution to the problem for a class of Fock spaces on the complex plane. In particular, this generalizes an earlier result of Cho, Park, and Zhu.

#### Section (5.1): Fock Spaces and Related Bergman Kernel Estimates

The basics of Hankel operators with anti-holomorphic symbols for a large class of weighted Fock spaces are presented. Thus certain natural analogues of BMOA, the Bloch space, the little Bloch space, and the Besov spaces are identified and shown to play similar roles as their classical counterparts do. We will see that these spaces contain all holomorphic polynomials and are infinite-dimensional whenever the weight decays so fast that there exist functions of infinite order belonging to the Fock space.

The setting is the following. Consider  $C^3$ -function  $\Psi : [0, +\infty[ \rightarrow [0, +\infty[$  such that

$$\Psi'(x) > 0, \quad \Psi''(x) \geq 0, \quad \text{and } \Psi'''(x) \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

We will refer to such a function as a logarithmic growth function. Note that (1) effectively says that should grow at least as a linear function. Set

$$d\mu_\Psi(z) := e^{-\Psi(|z|^2)} dV(z),$$

where  $dV$  denotes Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , and let  $A^2(\Psi)$  be the Fock space defined as the closure of the set of holomorphic polynomials in  $L^2(\mu_\Psi)$ . We observe that  $A^2(\Psi)$  coincides with the classical Fock space when  $\Psi$  is a suitably normalized linear function.

It is immediate that

$$s_d := \int_0^{+\infty} x^d e^{-\Psi(x)} dx < +\infty$$

for all nonnegative integers  $d$ . As shown in [137], the series

$$F_s(\zeta) := \sum_{d=0}^{+\infty} \frac{\zeta^d}{s_d}, \quad \zeta \in \mathbb{C}$$

has an infinite radius of convergence and  $A^2(\Psi)$  is a reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel

$$K_\Psi(z, w) = \frac{1}{(n-1)! F_s^{(n-1)}(\langle z, w \rangle)}, \quad (z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

This implies that the orthogonal projection  $P_\Psi$  from  $L^2(\mu)$  onto  $A^2(\Psi)$  can be expressed as

$$(P_\Psi g)(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_\Psi(z, w) g(w) d\mu_\Psi(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

for every function  $g$  in  $L^2(\mu)$ . The domain of this integral operator can be extended to include functions  $g$  that satisfy  $K_\Psi(z, \cdot)g \in L^1(\mu)$  for every  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . This extension allows us to define (big) Hankel operators. To do so, denote by  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi)$  the class of all  $f$  in

$L^2(\mu)$  such that  $f\phi K_\Psi(z, \cdot) \in L^1(\mu_\Psi)$  for all holomorphic polynomials  $\phi$  and  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and the function

$$H_f(\phi)(z) := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_\Psi(z, w)\phi(w)[f(z) - f(w)] d\mu_\Psi(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

is in  $L^2(\mu_\Psi)$ . This is a densely defined operator from  $A^2(\Psi)$  into  $L^2(\mu_\Psi)$  which will be called the Hankel operator  $H_f$  with symbol  $f$ . It can be written in the form

$$H_f(\phi) = (I - P_\Psi)(f\phi)$$

for all holomorphic polynomials  $\phi$ . It is clear that the class  $T(\Psi)$  contains all holomorphic polynomials.

The main theorem involves the analogues in our setting of the space BMOA and the Bloch space. The analogue of BMOA is most conveniently defined by the Berezin transform, which for a linear operator  $T$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  is the function  $\tilde{T}$  defined on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  by

$$\tilde{T}(z) := \frac{\langle T K_\Psi(\cdot, z), K_\Psi(\cdot, z) \rangle}{K_\Psi(z, z)}.$$

If  $T = M_f$  is the operator of multiplication by the function  $f$ , then we just set  $\tilde{M}_f = \tilde{f}$ . We set

$$\|f\|_{BMO} := \sup_{(z \in \mathbb{C}^n)} (MO_f)(z),$$

Where

$$(MO_f)(z) := \sqrt{|\tilde{f}|^2(z) - |\tilde{f}(z)|^2},$$

and define  $BMO(\Psi)$  as the set of functions  $f$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  for which  $|\tilde{f}|^2(z)$  is finite for every  $z$  and  $\|f\|_{BMO} < \infty$ . It is plain that  $BMO(\Psi)$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi)$ . The space  $BMOA(\Psi)$  is the subspace of  $BMO(\Psi)$  consisting of analytic elements; this space is in turn a subset of  $T(\Psi) \cap A^2(\Psi)$ .

We next introduce the Bergman metric associated with  $\Psi$ . To this end, set  $(z) = \log K_\Psi(z, z)$  and

$$\beta^2(z, \xi) := \sum_{j,k=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 \Lambda_\Psi(z)}{\partial z_j \partial \bar{z}_k} \xi_j \bar{\xi}_k$$

for arbitrary vectors  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  and  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . The corresponding distance is given by

$$\varrho(z, w) := \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \beta(\gamma(t), \gamma'(t)) dt, \quad (2)$$

where the infimum is taken over all piecewise  $C^1$ -smooth curves  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\gamma(0) = z$  and  $\gamma(1) = w$ . We define the Bloch space  $B(\Psi)$  to be the space of all entire functions  $f$  such that

$$f \in B(\Psi) := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}^n} \left[ \sup_{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\langle (\nabla f)(z), \bar{\xi} \rangle|}{\beta(z, \xi)} \right] < +\infty. \quad (3)$$

In what follows, the function

$$\Phi(x) := x\Psi'(x)$$

will play a central role. By (1), we have that both  $\Phi'(x) > 0$  and  $\Phi''(x) > 0$ , and it may be checked that  $\Phi'(|z|^2)$  coincides with the Laplacian of  $(|z|^2)$  when  $n = 1$  and in general is bounded below and above by positive constants times this Laplacian for arbitrary  $n > 1$ .

We state the main result.

**Theorem (5.1.1)[129]:** Let  $\Psi$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that

$$\Phi''(t) = O\left(t^{-\frac{1}{2}} [\Phi'(t)]^{1+\eta}\right) \text{ when } t \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4)$$

If  $f$  is an entire function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) The function  $f$  belongs to  $T(\Psi)$  and the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  is bounded;
- (ii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $BMOA(\Psi)$ ; (iii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $B(\Psi)$ .

Note that the additional assumption (4) is just a mild smoothness condition, which holds whenever  $\Psi$  is a nontrivial polynomial or a reasonably well-behaved function of super-polynomial growth. As part of the proof of Theorem (5.1.1), we will perform a precise computation of the asymptotic behavior of  $\beta(z, \xi)$  when  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ . We state this result as a separate theorem.

We observe that for the classical Fock space ( $\Psi$  a linear function) we have  $\Psi''(x) \equiv 0$ , and so the “directional” term in  $\beta(z, \xi)$  is not present. Note also that  $B(\Psi)$  contains all polynomials and is infinite-dimensional whenever the growth of  $\Psi'(x)$  is super-polynomial. In the language of entire functions, this means that  $A^2(\Psi)$  contains functions of infinite order. When  $n = 1$ ,  $\beta^2(v, \xi)$  can be replaced by  $\Phi'(|z|^2)|\xi|^2$ . The same is also true when  $\Psi$  is a polynomial, because then  $\Psi'$  and  $\Phi'$  have the same asymptotic behavior. In the latter case, our two theorems give the following precise result: If  $\Psi$  is a polynomial of degree  $d$ , then  $B(\Psi)$  consists of all holomorphic polynomials of degree at most  $d$ ; cf. Theorem (5.1.1) in [137].

The implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) in Theorem (5.1.1) is standard; it follows from general arguments for reproducing kernels. Likewise, the implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) can be established by a well-known argument concerning the Bergman metric. The proof of Theorem (5.1.1) therefore deals mainly with the implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). The crucial technical ingredients in the proof of this result are certain estimates for the Bergman kernel  $K_{\Psi}(z, w)$ . Such estimates have previously been obtained by F. Holland and R. Rochberg in [62]. The results of [62] are not directly applicable because we need more precise off-diagonal estimates for the kernel than those given. Our method of proof is similar to that of [62], but our approach highlights more explicitly the interplay between the smoothness of  $\Psi$  and the off-diagonal decay of the Bergman kernel. This is where the additional smoothness condition (4) comes into play; many of our estimates can be performed with sufficient precision without the assumption that (4) holds, but some condition of this kind seems to be needed for our off-diagonal estimates.

The fact that the Bergman metric is the notion used to define the Bloch space  $B(\Psi)$  suggests that Theorem (5.1.1) should be extendable beyond the case of radial weights. To obtain such an extension, one would need a replacement of our Fourier-analytic approach, which relies crucially on the representation of the Bergman kernel as a power series.

The machinery developed to prove Theorem (5.1.1) leads with little extra effort to a characterization of compact Hankel operators in terms of the obvious counterparts to  $VMOA$  and the little Bloch space; for details. In our study of Schatten class Hankel operators, however, some additional techniques will be used. We will need more precise local information about the Bergman metric, namely that balls of fixed radius in the Bergman metric are effectively certain ellipsoids in the Euclidean metric of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . These results appear to be of independent interest; in particular, they lead to a characterization of Carleson measures and in turn to a characterization of the spectral properties of Toeplitz

operators. Building on these results and using  $L^2$  estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$  operator, we obtain a characterization of Schatten class Hankel operators.

To place the present investigation, we close this introduction with a few words on the literature. Boundedness and compactness of Hankel operators with arbitrary symbols have previously been considered only for the classical Fock space ( $\Psi$  a linear function); see, [130], [131], [134], [135], [142], [143]. The methods, relying on the transitive self-action of the group  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , cannot be extended beyond this special case. Hankel operators with anti-holomorphic symbols defined on more general weighted Fock spaces were studied recently in [137] and [84], where it was shown that anti-holomorphic polynomials do not automatically induce bounded Hankel operators. For Bergman kernel estimates in similar settings, see [140] and [141]. We finally mention [73] and [132]; the first focuses on small Hankel operators and the Heisenberg group action, while the second deals with Hankel operators for the Bergman projection on smoothly bounded pseudoconvex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

The notation  $U(z) \lesssim V(z)$  (or equivalently  $V(z) \gtrsim U(z)$ ) means that there is a constant  $C$  such that  $U(z) \leq CV(z)$  holds for all  $z$  in the set in question, which may be a space of functions or a set of numbers. If both  $U(z) \lesssim V(z)$  and  $V(z) \lesssim U(z)$ , then we write  $U(z) \simeq V(z)$ .

The following standard argument shows that (i) implies (ii) in Theorem (5.1.1). To begin with, we note that if  $f$  is in  $A^2b(\psi)$ , then  $\tilde{f} = f$ . Moreover, by the definition of the reproducing kernel, a computation shows that

$$|\tilde{f}|^2(z) - |f(z)|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(\xi) - f(z)|^2 \frac{|K_\Psi(\xi, z)|^2}{K_\Psi(z, z)} d\mu(\xi) = \frac{\|H_{\tilde{f}}K_\Psi(\cdot, z)\|^2}{K(z, z)}. \quad (5)$$

Hence, if  $H_{\tilde{f}}$  is bounded, then  $\|f\|_{BMO} < +\infty$ . The implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is a consequence of the following lemma, the proof of which is exactly as the proof of Corollary 1 in [133].

**Lemma (5.1.2)[129]:** Suppose that  $f$  is in  $BMOA(\Psi)$ . Then for every piecewise  $C^1$ -smooth curve  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  we have

$$\left| \frac{d}{dt} (f \circ \gamma)(t) \right| \leq 2\sqrt{2}\beta(\gamma(t), \gamma'(t))(MO_f)(\gamma(t)).$$

If we choose  $\gamma(t) = z + t\xi$ , then we obtain

$$\frac{|\langle (\nabla f)(z), \bar{\xi} \rangle|}{\beta(z, \xi)} \leq 2\sqrt{2}(MO_f)(z) \quad (6)$$

for all  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $\xi$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ .

This is a somewhat elaborate preparation for the proof of Theorem (5.1.9) and also the proof of the implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) in Theorem (5.1.1).

Set

$$\theta_0(r) := [r\Phi'(r)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

The key estimates for the Bergman kernel are the following.

**Lemma (5.1.3)[129]:** Let  $\eta$  be as in Theorem (5.1.1). Then, for any fixed  $\alpha > \eta$ , we have

$$\sup_{|\tau| \leq t^{\frac{1}{2}}[\phi'(t)]^{-\alpha}} \phi(t + \tau) = (1 + o(1))\phi'(t)$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 6 in [62]. By (4),  $[\phi'(x)]^{-1} - \eta \times \phi'(x) = O(x^{-\frac{1}{2}})$  when  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , which implies that

$$|[\phi'(t + \tau)]^{-\eta} - [\phi'(t)]^{-\eta}| = |\tau| O(t^{-\frac{1}{2}\tau})$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . The result follows from this relation.

In order to estimate  $|K_{\Psi}(z, w)|$ , we need precise information about the moments  $s_d$ . To this end, note that the integrand of

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^t e^{-\Psi(x)} dx$$

attains its maximum at  $x = \phi^{-1}(t)$ . Set

$$h_t(x) = -t \log x + \Psi(x) - (-t \log \phi^{-1}(t) + (\phi^{-1}(t)))$$

and

$$I(t) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-h_t(x)} dx;$$

we may then write

$$s_d = e^{d \log \phi^{-1}(d) - \Psi(\phi^{-1}(d))} I(d).$$

We have the following precise estimate for  $I(t)$ .

**Lemma (5.1.4)[129]:** For the function  $I(t)$ , we have

$$I(t) = \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + o(1) \right) \left[ \frac{\phi^{-1}(t)}{\phi(\phi^{-1}(t))} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** Set  $\tau(x) = \sqrt{x} [\phi'(x)]^{-\alpha}$ , where  $\eta < \alpha < 1/2$ . Since

$$h_t''(x) = \frac{\phi(x)}{x} + \frac{t}{x^2} b - \frac{\phi'(x)}{x^2} = \frac{\phi'(x)}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2} [\phi(\phi^{-1}(t)) - \phi(x)],$$

we have, by Lemma (5.1.3),

$$h_t''(x) = h_t''(\phi^{-1}(t))(1 + o(1))$$

when  $|x - \phi^{-1}(t)| \leq \tau(\phi^{-1}(t))$ . On the other hand, by the convexity of  $h_t$ , we then have

$$|h_t(x)| \geq \frac{1}{2} (h_t''(\phi^{-1}(t)) + o(1)) \tau(\phi^{-1}(t)) |x - \phi^{-1}(t)|$$

for  $|x - \phi^{-1}(t)| \geq \tau(\phi^{-1}(t))$ . Setting for simplicity

$$c = h_t''(\phi^{-1}(t)) = \frac{\phi'(\phi^{-1}(t))}{\phi^{-1}(t)},$$

we then get

$$I(t) = \int_{|x| \leq \tau(\phi^{-1}(t))} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(c+o(1))x^2} dx + E(t), \quad (7)$$

Where

$$|E(t)| \leq 2 \int_{x \geq \tau(\phi^{-1}(t))} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(c+o(1))\tau(\phi^{-1}(t))x} dx.$$

Thus the result follows, since the integral in (7) can be estimated by the corresponding Gaussian integral from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$ .

We will estimate a number of integrals in a similar fashion, using Lemma (5.1.3) to split the domain of integration. The integrands will be of the type  $e^{-g_t(x)} S_t(x)$  and satisfy the following:

- (I)  $g_t$  attains its minimum at a point  $x_0 = x_0(t) \rightarrow \infty$  with  $g_t''(x) = (1 + o(1))c$  for  $|x - x_0| \leq \tau$  and  $\frac{1}{\tau} = o(c)$  when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

- (II) For  $|x - x_0| \leq \tau$ ,  $S_t(x)$  can be estimated by a constant  $C$  times  $|x - x_0|^m$  for some positive integer  $m$ .
- (III) When  $|x - x_0| \geq \tau$  and  $|x - x_0|$  grows, the function  $e^{-g_t(x)S_t(x)}$  decays so fast that

$$\int_0^\infty e^{g_t(x)} |S_t(x)| dx = (1 + o(1)) \int_{|x-x_0| \leq \tau} e^{-g_t(x)} |S_t(x)| dx.$$

Taking into account the formula

$$\int_0^\infty x^m e^{-\frac{1}{2}cx^2} dx = \left(\frac{c}{2}\right)^{-\frac{m+1}{2}} \int_0^\infty x^m e^{-x^2} dx, \quad (8)$$

we then arrive at the estimate

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-h_t(x)} S_t(x) dx = O\left(Cc^{-\frac{m+1}{2}}\right) \quad (9)$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

We will at one point encounter a slightly different variant of this scheme, obtained by replacing (II) by the following:

(II') For  $|x - x_0| \leq \tau$ , we have  $S(x) = (1 + o(1))(x - x_0)$  when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

In this case, because of the symmetry around the point  $x_0$ , we get the slightly better estimate

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-h_t(x)} S(x) dx = o(c^{-1}) \quad (10)$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

In the following we will omit most of the details of such calculus arguments. We will briefly state that conditions (I), (II), (III) (or, respectively, (I), (II'), (III)) are satisfied and conclude that this leads to the estimate (9) (or, respectively, (10)).

In the proof of the next lemma, we will use this scheme three times.

**Lemma (5.1.5)[129]:** We have

$$\begin{aligned} I'(t) &= O\left(\left[\Phi^{-1}(t)\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\right]^{-\frac{1}{2}}I(t)\right); \\ I''(t) &= O\left(\left[\Phi^{-1}(t)\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\right]^{-1}I(t)\right); \\ I'''(t) &= O\left(\left[\Phi^{-1}(t)\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}I(t)\right) \end{aligned}$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** We begin by noting that  $I'$  can be computed in the following painless way:

$$I'(t) = \int_0^\infty \log \frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} e^{-h_t(x)} dx; \quad (11)$$

this holds because  $h'_t(\Phi^{-1}(t)) = 0$ . For the same reason, we get

$$I''(t) = \int_0^\infty -\left[\frac{(\Phi^{-1})'(t)}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} + \log\left(\frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)}\right)^2\right] e^{-h_t(x)} dx \quad (12)$$

and

$$I''(t) = \int_0^\infty \left[ - \left[ \frac{(\Phi^{-1})'(t)}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right]' - 3 \frac{(\Phi^{-1})'(t)}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} \log \frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} + \left( \log \frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right)^3 \right] e^{-h_t(x)} dx. \quad (13)$$

We use that  $[\Phi^{-1}]'(t) = 1/\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))$ , and then in (13) we also use the fact that 
$$\left[ \frac{1}{\Phi'((\Phi^{-1})(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right]' = - \frac{\Phi''(\Phi^{-1}(t))}{[\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))]^3 \Phi^{-1}(t)} - \frac{1}{[\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)]^2}; \quad (14)$$
 we apply condition (4) to the first term on the right-hand side. When we estimate the integrals in (11), (12), and (13), we use that

$$\left| \log \frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right| \leq e^{\frac{|x - \Phi^{-1}(t)|}{-\Phi^{-1}(t)}}$$

for  $x \geq e^{-1}\Phi^{-1}(t)$  and that, say,

$$\left| \log \frac{x}{\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right| \leq \log \frac{1}{\Phi^{-1}(t)}$$

when  $1 \leq x < e^{-1}\Phi^{-1}(t)$ . In each case, the integrand satisfies conditions (I), (II), (III) with  $g_t = h_t$ , so that we may use (9). The desired results for  $I', I'', I'''$  now follow from (9).

We will need similar estimates for the function

$$L_r(t) = \exp \left( t \log r - t \log \Phi^{-1}(t) + \Psi \left( \Phi^{-1}(t) \right) \right),$$

where  $r$  is a positive real number.

**Lemma (5.1.6)[129]:** We have

$$\begin{aligned} L'_r(t) &= -\log \frac{\Phi^{-1}(t)}{r} L_r(t); \\ L''_r(t) &= \left[ \left( \log \frac{\Phi^{-1}(t)}{r} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right] L_r(t); \\ L'''_r(t) &= \left[ \left( -\log \frac{\Phi^{-1}(t)}{r} \right)^3 + \frac{3 \log \frac{\Phi^{-1}(t)}{r}}{\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left( [0\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)]^{-\frac{3}{2}} \right) \right] L_r(t) \end{aligned}$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** The first and the second of these formulas are obtained by direct computation. We arrive at the estimate for the third derivative by again using (14) and then applying condition (4).

**Lemma (5.1.7)[129]:** Suppose that (4) holds. Let  $z$  and  $w$  be arbitrary points in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\langle z, w \rangle \neq 0$ , and write  $\langle z, w \rangle = r e^{i\theta}$ , where  $r > 0$  and  $-\pi < \theta < \pi$ . Moreover, there exists a positive constant  $c$  such that if  $\theta < c\theta_0(r)$ , then

$$|K_\Psi(z, w)| \geq \phi'(r) [\Psi'(r)]^{n-1} e^{\Psi(r)}.$$

**Proof.** We begin by recalling that

$$K_{\Psi}(z, w) = k(\langle z, w \rangle),$$

Where

$$k(\zeta) := \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \sum_{d=n-1}^{\infty} \frac{d(d-1)\cdots(d-n+2)}{sd} \zeta^{-n+1}.$$

We set  $\langle z, w \rangle = re^{i\theta}$  and assume that  $r > 0$  and  $|\theta| \leq \pi$ . We may then write

$$\frac{(\langle z, w \rangle^d)}{s_d} = \frac{L_r(d)}{I(d)} \exp(id\theta)$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \langle z, w \rangle^{n-1} K_{\Psi}(z, w) &= r^{n-1} \exp(i(n-1)\theta) k(re^{i\theta}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \sum_{d=n-1}^{\infty} d(d-1)\cdots(d-n+2) \frac{L_r(d)}{I(d)} \exp(id\theta). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\Omega(t)$  be a function in  $C^3(\mathbb{R})$  so that

$$\Omega(t) = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \frac{t(t-1)\cdots(t-n+2)L_r(t)}{I(t)}$$

For  $t \geq n-1$  and  $\Omega(t) = 0$  for  $t \leq n-2$ . Then the Poisson summation formula gives

$$r^{n-1} \exp(i(n-1)\theta) k(re^{i\theta}) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\Omega}(j),$$

where

$$\tilde{\Omega}(j) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Omega(t) e^{i(2\pi j + \theta)t} dt = dt.$$

Integrating by parts, we obtain

$$r^{n-1} |k(re^{i\theta})| \leq |\tilde{\Omega}(0)| + \|\Omega'''\|_1 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3 \left(j - \frac{1}{2}\right)^3}.$$

Since

$$|\tilde{\Omega}(0)| \leq \min(\|\Omega\|_1, |\theta|^{-3} \|\Omega'''\|_1),$$

the proof of the first part of the lemma is complete if we can prove that

$$\|\Omega\|_1 \lesssim (\Phi(r))^{n-1} \Phi'(r) e^{\Psi(r)} \quad (15)$$

and

$$\|\Omega'''\|_1 \lesssim (\Phi(r))^{n-1} \frac{e^{\Psi(r)}}{r^{\frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{\Phi'(r)}}. \quad (16)$$

We first estimate  $\|\Omega\|_1$ . We write  $L_r(t) = xp(-g_r(t))$  and claim that conditions (I), (II), (III) above hold. To see this, we observe that, by the first formula of Lemma (5.1.6),  $L_r$  attains its maximum at  $t = \Phi(r)$ . Moreover,  $g_r$  is a convex function and

$$g_r''(t) = \frac{1}{\Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t))\Phi^{-1}(t)}.$$

Lemma (5.1.3) implies that

$$g_r''(t) = (1 + o(1))g_r''(\Phi(r))$$

When  $|t - \Phi(r)| \leq \sqrt{r}[\Phi'(r)]^{1-2\alpha}$ . The remaining details are carried out as in the proof of Lemma (5.1.4). Using (9) with  $m = 0$  and Lemma (5.1.4), we therefore get



$$\begin{aligned}\|\Omega\|_1 &= |\Phi(r)(\Phi(r) - 1) \cdots (\Phi(r) - n + 2)| \frac{L_r(\Phi(r))}{I(\Phi(r))} \left( \sqrt{2\pi} + o(1) \right) [\Phi'(r)r]^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= (1 + o(1))(\Phi(r))^{n-1} \Phi'(r) e^{\Psi(r)},\end{aligned}$$

which shows that (15) holds.

To arrive at (16), we need a pointwise estimate for  $\Omega'''$ . To simplify the writing, we set

$$a = \left| \log \frac{\Phi^{-1}(t)}{r} \right| \text{ and } b = \Phi'(\Phi^{-1}(t)) \Phi^{-1}(t)^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Then using the Leibniz rule along with Lemmas (5.1.5) and (5.1.6), we get

$$|\Omega'''(t)| \lesssim (a^3 + a^2b + ab^2 + b^3)\Omega(t).$$

By a straightforward calculus argument, we verify that each of the terms in this expression satisfies (I), (II), and III) above, again with

$$x_0 = \Phi(r) \tau = \sqrt{r}[\Phi'(r)]^{1-2\alpha}.$$

We now use (9) to achieve the desired estimate for each of the terms in this  $a^m b^{3-m} \Omega(t)$ .

The previous proof also gives the second estimate when  $\theta = 0$ , because then  $\tilde{\Omega}(0) = \|\Omega\|_1$ . To prove it in general, we need to check that  $k(r) \simeq |k(r)e^{i\theta}|$  when  $|\theta| \leq c[r\Phi'(r)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . To this end, note that

$$\tilde{\Omega}(0) = e^{i\theta(r)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Omega(t) e^{i\theta(t-r)} dt,$$

which implies that

$$|\tilde{\Omega}(0)| \geq \|\Omega\|_1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Omega(t) |\theta| |t - \Phi(r)| dt.$$

The integral on the right is computed using (5.1.4) with  $m = 1$ , and so we get

$$|\tilde{\Omega}(0)| \geq \|\Omega\|_1 \left( 1 - C|\theta|[r\Phi'(r)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \right).$$

Thus the second estimate in Lemma (5.1.7) holds for  $c$  sufficiently small.

We close by proving some estimates for another function that will be important later. Set

$$Q_x(r) = \frac{1}{2} (\Psi(r^2) + \Psi(x^2)) - \Psi(xr). \quad (17)$$

**Lemma (5.1.8)[129]:** Let  $\alpha$  be a positive number such that  $\eta < \alpha < 1/2$ , let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be the two points such that  $x_1 < x < x_2$  and

$$|x - x_1| = |x - x_2| = [\Phi(x)]^{-\alpha},$$

and set  $c = \Psi'(0)$ . When  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$Q_x''(r) = (1 + o(1))\Phi'(x^2), \quad x_1 \leq r \leq x_2; \quad (18)$$

$$Q_x(r) \geq \frac{c}{4} (x - r)^2 + \left( \frac{1}{4} + o(1) \right) [\Phi'(x^2)]^{1-2\alpha}, \quad r < x_1; \quad (19)$$

$$Q_x(r) \geq \frac{c}{4} (x - r)^2 + \left( \frac{1}{4} + o(1) \right) [\Phi'(x^2)]^{1-2\alpha}, \quad r > x_2. \quad (20)$$

**Proof.** We begin by noting that

$$Q_x'(r) = r\Psi'(r^2) - x\Psi'(xr)$$

and

$$Q_x''(r) = \Psi'(r^2) + 2r^2\Psi''(r^2) - x^2\Psi''(xr).$$

We observe that for  $x_1 \leq r \leq x_2$  Lemma (5.1.3) applies:

$$Q_x''(r) = \Psi'(r^2) + r^2\Psi'(r^2) - x^2\Psi''(xr) = (1 + o(1))\Psi'(x^2),$$

and so have established (18). For  $r < x_1$ , we use the following estimate:

$$\begin{aligned} Qx(r) &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_r^x \Psi'(s^2)(s-x)ds \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-[\Phi'(r^2)]^{-\alpha}}^x \int_{x-[\Phi'(r^2)]^{-\alpha}}^t Q_x''(u)dudt \\ &\geq \frac{c}{4} (x-r)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{4} + o(1)\right) [\Phi'(r^2)]^{1-2\alpha}, \end{aligned}$$

where Lemma (5.1.3) is applied once more. Hence (20) also holds.

**Theorem (5.1.9)[129]:** Let  $\beta$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds. Then we have, uniformly in  $\xi$ , that  $\beta^2(z, \xi) = (1 + o(1)) |\xi|^2 (|z|^2) + |z, \xi|^2 (|z|^2)$  when  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** Computation of the Bergman Metric We begin by recalling that

$$K_\psi(z, z) = k(r^2),$$

Where

$$k(r) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n r^n,$$

and

$$c_n := ((n+1) \dots \frac{d+n-1}{(n-1)! s_{d+n-1}}).$$

A computation shows that

$$\beta^2(z, \xi) := |\xi|^2 \left( \frac{k'(|z|^2)}{k(|z|^2)} + |z, \xi|^2 \left[ \frac{k''(|z|^2)}{k(|z|^2)} - \left( \frac{k'(|z|^2)}{k(|z|^2)} \right)^2 \right] \right).$$

Thus Theorem (5.1.9) is a consequence of the following lemma.

The proof of this lemma relies on the following estimates.

**Lemma (5.1.10)[129]:** Suppose that (4) holds and let the coefficients  $c_n$  be as defined above. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r)) r^d &= o\left([r\Phi'(r)]^{\frac{1}{2}} k(r)\right), \\ \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))^2 r^d &= (1 + o(1)) r \Phi'(r) k(r) \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

when  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** The proof is essentially the same as the proof for the diagonal estimates in Lemma (5.1.7). The only difference is that we replace the function  $\Omega(t)$  by  $(t - \Phi(r))\Omega(t)$  and  $(t - \Phi(r))^2 \Omega(t)$ , respectively. In the first case, we have a function that satisfies condition (II'). This means that we may use (10) to arrive at (21). To establish (4.2), we may apply (8) with  $m = 2$

and take into account that we have the explicit factor  $(t - \Phi(r))^2$  in front of  $\Omega(t)$ .

**Lemma (5.1.11)[129]:** Suppose that (4) holds. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{k'(r)}{k(r)} (1 + o(1)) \psi'(r), \\ \left( \frac{k'(r)}{k(r)} \right)' = (1 + o(1)) \psi''(r) + o(1) \frac{\psi'(r)}{r} \end{aligned}$$

when  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** We write

$$k'(r) = \frac{\Phi(r)}{r} (k(r) + O(1)) + \frac{1}{r} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))r^d;$$

using Lemma (5.1.10), we obtain

$$\frac{k'(r)}{k(r)} = (1 + o(1))\Psi'(r) + o\left(\left[\frac{\Phi'(r)}{r}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}\right).$$

The desired estimate for  $k''/k$  follows because, in view of lemma (5.1.3), we have

$$\Phi(r) \geq \int_{r-r1/2[\Phi'(r)]^{-\alpha}}^r \Phi'(t)dt = (1 + o(1))r^{\frac{1}{2}}[\Phi'(r)]^{1-\alpha}$$

for some  $\alpha < 1/2$ .

To arrive at the second estimate, we first observe that

$$\begin{aligned} k''(r) &= \frac{\Phi(r) - 1}{r} (k'(r) + O(1)) + \frac{1}{r} \sum_{d=2}^{\infty} c_d d (d - \Phi(r))r^{d-1} \\ &= \frac{\Phi(r) - 1}{r} (k'(r) + O(1)) + \frac{\Phi(r)}{r^2} \sum_{d=2}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))r^d \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{r^2} \sum_{d=2}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))^2 r^d. \end{aligned}$$

Combining our expressions for  $k'$  and  $k''$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} k''(r)k(r) - (k'(r))^2 &= \frac{k(r)}{r^2} \sum_{d=2}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))^2 r^d \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{r^2} \left[ \sum_{d=2}^{\infty} c_d (d - \Phi(r))r^d \right]^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{k(r)k'(r)}{r} + \Psi'(r)O(k(r) + k'(r)). \end{aligned}$$

Using again Lemma (5.1.10) and the estimate already obtained for  $k'/k$ , we get

$$\left(\frac{k'(r)}{k(r)}\right)' = (1 + o(1))\frac{\Phi'(r)}{r} - (1 + o(1))\frac{\Phi(r)}{r^2}$$

from which the second estimate in Lemma (5.1.11) follows.

We finally turn to the roof hat (iii) implies (i) in Theorem (5.1.1). A different proof, using  $L^2$  estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$  perator, will be given, subject to anadditional mild smoothness condition on. The proof gives  $a$  ore nformative norm estimate, which will be crucial in our study of Schatten class ankel operators. The proof to be given below has the advantage that it does not require  $f$  to be holomorphic.

Using the reproducing formula, we find that

$$H_{\bar{f}g}(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} (\bar{f}(z) - \bar{f}(w))K_{\psi}(z, w)g(w)d\mu\psi(w).$$

Therefore, by the definition of  $B(\Psi)$ , we have

$$|H_{\bar{f}}g(z)| \leq \|f\| B(\Psi) \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \varrho(z, w) K_{\Psi}(z, w) g(w) d\mu_{\Psi}(w).$$

Thus it suffices to prove that the operator  $A$  defined as

$$Ag(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \varrho(z, w) K_{\Psi}(z, w) g(w) d\mu_{\Psi}(w)$$

is bounded on  $L^2(\mu_{\Psi})$ .

We shall use a standard technique known as Schur's test [106]. Set

$$H(z, w) = \varrho(z, w) |K_{\Psi}(z, w)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\Psi(|z|^2) + \Psi(|w|^2))}.$$

By the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, we obtain

$$|(Ag)(z)|^2 e^{-\Psi(|z|^2)} \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} H(z, \zeta) dV(\zeta) \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} H(z, w) |g(w)|^2 e^{-\Psi(|w|^2)} dV(w).$$

this means that the operator  $A$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mu_{\Psi})$  if

$$\sup_z \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} H(z, \zeta) dV(\zeta) < \infty. \quad (22)$$

We therefore to establish (22).

Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $z = (x, 0, \dots, 0)$  with  $x > 0$ . We begin by estimating  $(z, w)$ . To this end, write  $w = (w_1, \xi)$  with  $\xi$  a vector in  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  and  $w_1 = re^{i\theta}$  when  $n > 1$ . Set  $e_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$  and consider the three curves

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_1(t) &= xe^{it} e_1, 0 \leq t \leq \theta, \\ \gamma_2(t) &= (x + t(r - x))e^{i\theta} e_1, 0 \leq t \leq 1, \\ \gamma_3(t) &= (re^{i\theta}, t\xi), 0 \leq t \leq 1, \end{aligned}$$

which together constitute a piecewise smooth curve from  $z$  to  $w$ . (When  $n = 1$ ,  $\gamma_3$  does not appear and can be neglected.) Note that

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle \gamma_1(t), \gamma_1'(t) \rangle| &= |\gamma_1'(t)| |\gamma_1(t)| = x^2, \\ |\langle \gamma_2(t), \gamma_2'(t) \rangle| &= |\gamma_2(t)| |\gamma_2'(t)| = (x + t(r - x)) |x - r|, \\ |\langle \gamma_3(t), \gamma_3'(t) \rangle| &= t |\xi|^2. \end{aligned}$$

By these observations and Theorem (5.1.9), we get the following estimate:

$$\begin{aligned} \varrho(z, w) &\lesssim x|\theta| [\Phi'(x^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + [\Phi'(\max(x^2, r^2))]^{\frac{1}{2}} |x - r| \\ &\quad + |\xi| [\Psi'(r^2 + |\xi|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |\xi|^2 [\Psi''(r^2 + |\xi|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

When estimating the last term on the right-hand side of his nequality, we will use that

$$[\Psi'(y)]^2 \gtrsim (y), \quad (23)$$

which is a consequence of our assumptions (1) and (4). Indeed, assuming  $\Psi'' > 0$ , we have  $\Psi''(y) \simeq \Phi'(y)$  ince  $\Psi''$  is a nondecreasing function. Thus (23) is equivalent to the following:

$$\Phi(t) \gtrsim t^{\frac{1}{2}} [\Phi'(t)]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

We arrive at this estimate because

$$\Phi(t) = \Phi(0) + \int_0^t \Phi'(\tau) d\tau \geq \Phi(0) (1 + o(1)) t^{\frac{1}{2}} [\Phi'(t)]^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

where in the second step we used Lemma (5.1.3) with  $\alpha = 1/2$ . For  $\zeta = |\zeta| e^{i\theta}$ , we set

$$h(\zeta) = \begin{cases} \Phi'(|\zeta|), & |\theta| \leq \theta_0(|\zeta|), \\ |\zeta|^{-\frac{3}{2}} [\Phi'(|\zeta|)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} |\theta|^{-3}, & |\theta| > \theta_0(|\zeta|). \end{cases}$$

Using this notation and Lemma (5.1.7), we hen obtain

$$H(z, w) \lesssim (x, w)h(xre^{i\theta})[\Psi'(xr)]^{n-1}e^{-\frac{1}{2}((x^2) + (r^2 + |\xi|^2))} - (xr).$$

By Fubini's Theorem, we may compute the integral in (22) by first integrating with respect to the vector  $\xi$  over  $\mathbb{C}^n - 1$  and then taking an area integral with respect to the complex variable  $w_1$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Since  $y \Psi' \rightarrow (r^2 + y^2)$  attains its maximum at  $y = 0$  and has a second derivative larger than  $2\Psi'(r^2)$ , we have that  $\Psi(r^2 + y^2) - \Psi(r^2) \geq \Psi'(r^2)y^2$ . Using spherical coordinates along with this fact, we find that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} e^{-(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) \lesssim e^{\Psi'-(r^2)} [\Psi'(r^2)]^{-n+1}.$$

Similarly, again using spherical coordinates, we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} \Theta(r, |\xi|) e^{\Psi-(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) = C \int_0^\infty \Theta(r, y) y^{2n-2} e^{\Psi-(r^2+y^2)} dy,$$

where  $C$  is the surface area of the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  and  $\Theta$  is any suitable function of two variables. From the estimate for  $\varrho(z, w)$  we see that we are interested in the following two choices: (1)  $\Theta(r, y) = y[\Psi'(r^2 + y^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and (2)  $\Theta(r, y) = y^2\Psi(r^2 + y^2)$ . In case (1), we use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, so that we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |\xi| [\Psi'(r^2 + |\xi|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{\Psi-(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) \\ \lesssim e^{-\Psi(r^2)} \left[ \int_0^\infty y^{4n-3} e^{-(\Psi(r^2+y^2)-\Psi(r^2))} dy \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Estimating  $\Psi(r^2 + y^2) - \Psi(r^2)$  as above, we therefore get

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |\xi| [\Psi'(r^2 + |\xi|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\Psi(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) \lesssim e^{-\Psi(r^2)} [\Psi'(r^2)]^{-n+1}.$$

In case (2), we integrate by parts and get

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |\xi|^2 \Psi'(r^2 + |\xi|^2) e^{-\Psi(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) \lesssim \int_0^\infty y^{2n-1} e^{-\Psi(r^2+y^2)} dy.$$

We proceed as above and obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |\xi|^2 \Psi'(r^2 + |\xi|^2) e^{-\Psi(r^2+|\xi|^2)} dV_{n-1}(\xi) \lesssim e^{-\Psi(r^2)} [\Psi'(r^2)]^{-n+1}.$$

With  $\sigma$  denoting Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{C}$ , we therefore get

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} H(z, w) dV(w) \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}} G(x, r, \theta) \left[ \frac{\Psi'(rx)}{\Psi'(r^2)} \right]^{n-1} h(xre^{i\theta}) e^{-Q_x(r)} d\sigma(re^{i\theta}),$$

Where

$$G(x, r, \theta) = x|\theta|[\Phi'(x^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + [\Phi'(\max(x^2, r^2))]^{\frac{1}{2}}|x - r| + 1$$

and  $Q_x$  is as defined by (17). We now resort to polar coordinates; simple calculations show that

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} h(xre^{i\theta}) d\theta \lesssim \left[ \frac{\Phi'(xr)}{xr} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\theta| h(xre^{i\theta}) d\theta \lesssim \frac{1}{xr}$$

so that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} (z, w) dV(w) \lesssim \int_0^\infty (S_x(r) + T_x(r)) e^{-Q_x(r)} r dr,$$

Where

$$S_x(r) = \left( \frac{[\Phi'(x^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}{r} + \left[ \frac{\Phi'(xr)}{xr} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left[ \frac{\Psi'(rx)}{\Psi'(r^2)} \right]^{n-1}$$

and

$$T_x(r) = \varphi(\max(x^2, r^2)) |x - r| \left[ \frac{\Phi'(xr)}{xr} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{\Psi'(rx)}{\Psi'(r^2)} \right]^{n-1}.$$

By Lemma (5.1.8) and a straightforward argument, we find that both  $S_x e^{-Q_x}$  and  $T_x e^{-Q_x}$  satisfy conditions (I), (II), (III) (with  $x = t, Q_x = g_t, x_0 = x$ , and  $\tau = [\Phi'(x)]^{-\alpha}$ ). Hence (9) applies with  $m = 0$  and  $m = 1$  for the respective integrands, so that we get

$$\sup_{x>0} \int_0^\infty S_x(r) e^{-Q_x(r)} r dr < \infty$$

And

$$\sup_{x>0} \int_0^\infty T_x(r) e^{-Q_x(r)} r dr < \infty.$$

We may therefore conclude that (22) holds.

We study the relation between the spectral properties of Hankel operators and the asymptotic behavior of their symbols. We begin with the case of compact Hankel operators.

An entire function is said to be of vanishing mean oscillation with respect to  $\Psi$  ( $MO_f$ )( $z$ ) =  $o(1)$  as  $|z| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Entire functions of vanishing mean oscillation form a closed subspace of  $BMOA(\Psi)$  which we will denote by  $VMOA(\Psi)$ . In accordance with our preceding discussion, we define the little Bloch space  $B_0(\Psi)$  as the collection of functions  $f$  in  $B(\Psi)$  for which

$$\sup_{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\langle \nabla f(z), \bar{\xi} \rangle|}{\beta(z, \xi)} = o(1) \text{ when } |z| \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Our proof of Theorem (5.1.14) requires the following two lemmas.

**Lemma (5.1.12)[129]:** The normalized Bergman kernels  $\frac{K_\Psi(\cdot, z)}{\sqrt{K(z, z)}}$  converge weakly to 0 in  $A^2(\Psi)$  when  $|z| \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Proof.** Since the holomorphic polynomials are dense in  $A^2(\Psi)$ , it suffices to show that for any non-negative integer  $m$ , we have

$$\frac{|z|^m}{\sqrt{K(z, z)}} \rightarrow 0$$

as  $|z| \rightarrow +\infty$ . But this holds tribylly because  $K(z, z)$  is an infinite power series in  $|z|^2$  with positive coefficients.

**Lemma (5.1.13)[129]:** Let  $f : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function for which there exist positive numbers  $R$  and  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$|f(z) - f(w)| \leq \varepsilon(z, w)$$

whenever  $|z| \geq R$ . Then there exists a function  $f_0 : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $f(z) = f_0(z)$  for  $|z| \geq R$  and

$$|f_0(z) - f_0(w)| \leq \varepsilon(z, w)$$

for all points  $z$  and  $w$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Proof.** We argue as in the proof of Lemma 5.1 in [130]. We assume without loss of generality that  $f$  is real-valued and set

$$f_0(z) := \inf_{w \in \mathbb{C}^n} \{f(w) + \varepsilon \varrho(z, w)\}.$$

Then a straightforward argument using the triangle inequality for the Bergman metric shows that  $f_0$  has the desired properties.

**Theorem (5.1.14)[129]:** Let  $\Psi$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds. If  $f$  is an entire function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) The function  $f$  belongs to  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi)$  and the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  is compact;
- (ii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $VMOA(\Psi)$ ;
- (iii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $B_0(\Psi)$ .

**Proof.** We first prove the implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Assuming that  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is compact, we obtain, using Lemma (5.1.12), that

$$[(MO_f)(z)]^2 = \frac{\|H_{\bar{f}}K_{\Psi}(\cdot, z)\|^2}{K(z, z)} \rightarrow 0$$

when  $|z| \rightarrow +\infty$ . This gives the desired conclusion.

We next note that the implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is immediate from (6). Finally, to prove that (iii) implies (i), in view of Theorem (5.1.1), we only need to prove that the bounded Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  is compact whenever (iii) is satisfied. To see that this holds, we choose an arbitrary positive  $\varepsilon$ . Assuming (iii), we may find a positive  $R_0$  such that

$$|\langle (\nabla f)(z), \bar{\xi} \rangle| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \beta(z, \xi)$$

whenever  $|z| \geq R_0$  and  $\xi$  is in  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . Then for some  $R > R_0$  we have

$$|f(z) - f(w)| \leq \varepsilon \rho(z, w)$$

as long as  $|z| \geq R$ . Indeed, this follows because  $\beta(z, \xi)/|\xi| \rightarrow \infty$  when  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$  so that, whenever  $|z|$  is sufficiently large,  $(z, w)$  is “essentially” determined by the contribution to the integral in (2) from the points that lie outside the ball of radius  $R_0$  centered at 0. Now let  $f_0$  be the function obtained from Lemma (5.1.13). We write

$$H_{\bar{f}} = H_{\bar{f}-\bar{f}_0} + H_{\bar{f}_0}$$

and observe that  $\bar{f} - \bar{f}_0$  is a compactly supported continuous function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Hence  $H_{\bar{f}-\bar{f}_0}$  is compact. On the other hand, if  $g$  is a holomorphic polynomial, then

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\bar{f}_0} g(z) &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |\bar{f}_0(w) - \bar{f}_0(z)| |K_{\Psi}(z, w) g(w)| d\mu_{\Psi}(w) \\ &\leq \varepsilon \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \beta(z, \xi) |K_{\Psi}(z, w) g(w)| d\mu_{\Psi}(w) \end{aligned}$$

so that, by the proof of Theorem (5.1.1), we see that  $\|H_{\bar{f}_0}\| \lesssim \varepsilon$ . The implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) follows because  $\varepsilon$  can be chosen arbitrarily small.

In what follows, we will need the analogue of Lemma (5.1.3) for the function when  $n > 1$ . We will therefore assume that

$$\Psi''(t) = O(t^{-\frac{1}{2}} [\Psi'(t)]^{1+\eta}) \text{ when } t \rightarrow \infty \tag{24}$$

for some  $\eta < 1/2$  whenever  $n > 1$ . This is again a mild smoothness condition on  $\Psi$ .

**Lemma (5.1.15)[129]:** Assume that (24) holds for some  $\eta < 1/2$ . Then, for any fixed  $\alpha > \eta$ , we have

$$\sup_{|t| \leq t^{\frac{1}{2}} [\Psi'(t)]^{-\alpha}} \Psi'(t + \tau) = (1 + o(1)) \Psi'(t)$$

when  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

We are interested in describing geometrically the Bergman ball

$$B(z, a) = \{w : \varrho(z, w) < a\}.$$

Let  $P_z$  denote the orthogonal projection in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  onto the complex line  $\{\zeta z : \zeta \in \mathbb{C}\}$ , where  $z$  is an arbitrary point in  $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . It will be convenient to let  $P_0$  denote the identity map. We use the notation

$$D(z, a) = \left\{ w : |z - P_z w| \leq a[\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}, |w - P_z w| \leq a[\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right\}.$$

Then we have the following result.

**Lemma (5.1.16)[129]:** Suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . Then, for every positive number  $a$ , there exist two positive numbers  $m$  and  $M$  such that

$$D(z, m) \subset B(z, a) \subset D(z, M)$$

for every  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to prove that

$$\varrho(z, w) \simeq |z - P_z w|[\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |w - P_z w|[\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (25)$$

for  $w$  in  $D(z, M)$  for any fixed positive number  $M$ . (The latter term vanishes and can be disregarded when  $n = 1$ .) To begin with, we note that theorem B gives that

$$\varrho(z, w) \simeq \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \left( |\gamma'(t)|[\Psi'(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |\langle \gamma(t), \gamma'(t) \rangle|[\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) dt, \quad (26)$$

where the infimum is taken over all piecewise smooth curves  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\gamma(0) = z$  and  $\gamma(1) = w$ . If we choose  $\gamma$  to be the line segment from  $z$  to  $P_z w$  followed by the line segment from  $P_z w$  to  $w$  and use that  $\Psi''(x) = o([\Psi'(x)]^{\frac{1}{2}})$  on the latter part of  $\gamma$ , we get from (26) that

$$\varrho(z, w) \lesssim |z - P_z w|[\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |P_z w - w|[\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |P_z w - w|^2 o(\Psi'(|z|^2)).$$

this gives the desired bound from above because, by assumption,  $|P_z w - w| \leq M[\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

To prove the bound from below, we argue in the following way. Let  $\ell(\gamma)$  denote the Euclidean length of  $\gamma$ . Set

$$e_{\gamma}^*(z, w) = \int_0^1 |\gamma'(t)|[\Psi'(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + |\langle \gamma(t), \gamma'(t) \rangle|[\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt$$

and  $\varrho^*(z, w) = \inf_{\gamma} e_{\gamma}^*(z, w)$ . We observe that (26) implies that

$$\varrho(z, w) \gtrsim \inf_t [\Psi'(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \ell(\gamma) \quad (27)$$

whenever, say,  $\varrho_{\gamma}^*(z, w) \leq 2\varrho^*(z, w)$ . Since we know by the first part of the proof that  $\varrho(z, w) \lesssim 1$ , this implies that

$$\ell(\gamma) \lesssim \inf_t [\Psi'(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

By Lemma (5.1.15), we therefore have

$$\ell(\gamma) \lesssim [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

which, in view of (27), in turn gives

$$\ell(\gamma) \lesssim [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varrho(z, w). \quad (28)$$

Now let  $\gamma$  be any curve such that  $\varrho_{\gamma}^*(z, w) \leq 2\varrho^*(z, w)$ . We then get from (26) that

$$\varrho(z, w) \gtrsim |z - w|[\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} + \int_0^1 |\langle \gamma(t), \gamma'(t) \rangle|[\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt. \quad (29)$$



Set  $\gamma_0(t) = P_z(\gamma(t))$  and  $\gamma_1(t) = \gamma(t) - \gamma_0(t)$ . Note that  $\gamma_1(0) = 0$  and that  $\ell(\gamma_1) \leq \ell(\gamma)$ . By orthogonality and the triangle inequality, we get

$$\int_0^1 |\langle \gamma(t), \gamma'(t) \rangle| [\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt \geq \int_0^1 |\gamma_0(t)| |\gamma_0'(t)| [\Psi''(|\gamma_0(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt \\ - \int_0^1 |\langle \gamma_1(t), \gamma_1'(t) \rangle| [\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt.$$

Let  $t_1$  be the smallest  $t$  such that  $|z - \gamma_0(t)| = |z - P_z w|$ . Using that  $\Psi''(x) = o([\Psi'(x)]^2)$  and (28), we then get

$$\int_0^1 |\langle \gamma(t), \gamma'(t) \rangle| [\Psi''(|\gamma(t)|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt \\ \geq (1 + o(1)) \int_0^{t_1} |z| |\gamma_0'(t)| [\Psi''(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} dt - [\ell(\gamma)]^2 o(\Psi'(|z|^2)) \\ \geq |z - P_z w| |z| [\Psi''(|z|^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}} - o(1) \varrho(z, w)$$

when  $|z| \rightarrow \infty$ . Plugging this estimate into (29), we obtain the desired bound from below.

It follows from the previous lemma that the Euclidean volume of  $B(z, r)$  can be estimated as

$$|B(z, r)| \simeq [\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \quad (30)$$

when  $r$  is a fixed positive number. We will now use this fact to establish two covering lemmas.

**Lemma (5.1.17)[129]:** Suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < \frac{1}{2}$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . Let  $R$  be a positive number and  $m$  a positive integer. Then there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that every Bergman ball  $B(a, r)$  with  $r \leq R$  can be covered by  $N$  Bergman balls  $B\left(a_k, \frac{r}{m}\right)$ .

**Proof.** Fix a ball  $B(a, r)$ . Choose  $a_0 := a$  and let  $a_1$  be a point in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\varrho(a, a_1) = r/m$ . Now iterate so that in the  $k$ -th step  $a_k$  is chosen as a point in the complement of  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{k-1} B(a_j, r/m)$  minimizing the distance from  $a$ , and let  $J$  be the smallest  $k$  such that  $\varrho(a, a_k) \geq r$ . Then the balls  $B(a_0, r/m), \dots, B(a_{J-1}, r/m)$  constitute a covering of  $B(a, r)$ . By the triangle inequality, we see that the sets  $B(a_j, r/(2m))$  are mutually disjoint, and they are all contained in  $B(a, r + r/(2m))$  when  $j < J$ . Hence

$$\sum_{j=0}^{J-1} |B(a_j, r/(2m))| \leq |B(a, r + r/(2m))|.$$

On the other hand, by (30), it follows that there is a positive number  $C$  depending on  $R$  and  $m$  but not on  $a$  such that

$$\frac{1}{C} \left| B\left(a, r + \frac{r}{2m}\right) \right| \leq \left| B\left(a_j, \frac{r}{2m}\right) \right|$$

for every  $j$ . We observe that it suffices to take  $N$  to be the smallest positive integer larger than or equal to  $C$ .

Inspired by the construction in the previous lemma, we introduce the following notion. We say that a sequence of distinct points  $(a_k)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a  $r$ -lattice if there exists a positive number  $r$  such that the balls  $B(a_k, r)$  constitute a covering of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and the balls  $B\left(a_k, \frac{r}{2}\right)$  are

mutually disjoint. Replacing  $a$  by, say,  $0$ , and  $\frac{r}{m}$  by  $r$  in the previous proof, we have a straightforward way of constructing a  $\Psi$ -lattice. Note that since the balls  $B\left(a_k, \frac{r}{2}\right)$  are mutually disjoint, we must have  $(a_k, a_j) \geq r$  when  $k \neq j$ . The number  $r$ , which may fail to be unique, is called a covering radius for the  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_k)$ . The supremum of all the covering radii is again a covering radius; it will be called the maximal covering radius for  $(a_k)$ .

**Lemma (5.1.18)[129]:** Suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < \frac{1}{2}$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ , and let  $R$  be a positive number. Then there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that if  $(a_k)$  is a  $\Psi$ -lattice with maximal covering radius  $r \leq \frac{R}{2}$ , then every point  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  belongs to at most  $N$  of the sets  $B(a_k, 2r)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $N$  be the integer obtained from Lemma (5.1.17) for the given  $R$  when  $m = 4$  and assume that  $z \in \bigcap_{j=1}^{N+1} B(a_{kj}, 2r)$ . Then  $a_{kj}$  is in  $B(z, 2r)$  for every  $j = 1, \dots, N + 1$ . If the sets  $B(z_1, r/2), \dots, B(z_N, r/2)$  constitute a covering of  $B(z, 2r)$ , the existence of which is guaranteed by Lemma (5.1.17), then at least one of the sets  $B(z_k, r/2)$  must contain two of the points  $a_{kj}, j = 1, \dots, N + 1$ . On the other hand, by the triangle inequality, we have reached a contradiction because the minimal distance between any two points in the sequence  $(a_k)$  cannot be smaller than  $r$ .

For a nonnegative Borel measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , we set

$$d\nu_\Psi(z) = e^{-\Psi(|z|^2)} d\nu(z).$$

Such a measure  $\nu$  is called a Carleson measure for  $A^2(\Psi)$  if there is a positive constant  $C$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(z)|^2 d\nu_\Psi(z) \leq C \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(z)|^2 d\mu_\Psi(z)$$

for every function  $f$  in  $A^2(\Psi)$ . Thus  $\nu$  is a Carleson measure for  $A^2(\Psi)$  if and only if the embedding  $E_\nu$  of  $A^2(\Psi)$  into the space  $L^2(\nu_\Psi)$  is bounded.

**Lemma (5.1.19)[129]:** Suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . Then there exists a positive number  $r_0$  such that

$$|K_\Psi(z, w)|^2 \simeq K(z, z)K(w, w)$$

holds for  $z$  and  $w$  whenever  $(z, w) \leq r_0$ .

**Proof.** The lemma follows from Lemma (5.1.7) along with Lemma (5.1.16).

**Lemma (5.1.20)[129]:** Suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ , and let  $r_0$  be the constant from Lemma (5.1.19). Then there is a constant  $C$  such that

$$|f(z)|^2 e^{-\Psi(|z|^2)} \leq \frac{C}{|B(z, r)|} \int_{B(z, r)} |f(w)|^2 d\mu_\Psi(w)$$

for every entire function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and every  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Proof.** By Lemma (5.1.19), the holomorphic function  $w \rightarrow K(z, w)$  does not vanish at any point in  $B(z, r)$ . Thus the function  $w \rightarrow |f(w)|^2 |K_\Psi(z, w)|^{-2}$  is subharmonic in  $B(z, r)$ . Choosing  $m$  as in Lemma (5.1.16), we therefore get

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)|^2 |K(z, z)|^{-2} &\lesssim \frac{1}{|D(z, m)|} \int_{D(z, m)} |f(w)|^2 |K_\Psi(z, w)|^{-2} dV(w) \\ &\lesssim \frac{1}{|B(z, r)|} \int_{B(z, r)} |f(w)|^2 |K_\Psi(z, w)|^{-2} dV(w). \end{aligned}$$

Applying Lemma (5.1.19) to the integrand to the left and then Lemma (5.1.7) to each side, we arrive at the desired estimate.

Note that, by (30), the lemma is valid for all positive  $r$ , with the additional proviso that  $C$  depends on  $r$ .

**Theorem (5.1.21)[129]:** Let  $\Psi$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . If  $\nu$  is a nonnegative Borel measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $\nu$  is a Carleson measure for  $A^2(\Psi)$ ;

(ii) There is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \frac{|K_{\Psi}(w, z)|^2}{K(z, z)} d\nu_{\Psi}(w) \leq C$$

for every  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ;

(iii) For every positive number  $r$ , there is a positive number  $C$  such that

$$\nu(B(z, r)) \leq C|B(z, r)|$$

for every  $z$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ;

(iv) There exist a  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_k)$  and a positive number  $C$  such that

$$\nu(B(a_k, r)) \leq C|B(a_k, r)|$$

for every point  $k$ , where  $r$  is the maximal covering radius for  $(a_k)$ . We prepare for the proof of Theorem (5.1.21) by establishing the following two lemmas.

**Proof.** We begin by noting that the implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) is trivial because it is just the statement that the Carleson measure condition holds for the functions  $K(\cdot, z)$ . To prove that (ii) implies (iii), we assume that (ii) holds and consider a ball  $B(z, r)$  where  $r$  is a fixed positive number. Then, by Lemma (5.1.19) and (30), we have

$$\frac{1}{|B(z, r)|} \lesssim \frac{|K_{\Psi}(z, w)|^2}{K_{\Psi}(z, z)} e^{-\Psi(|w|^2)}$$

when  $(z, w) \leq r_0$ , and therefore we obtain

$$\frac{\nu(B(z, r))}{|B(z, r)|} \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \frac{|K_{\Psi}(z, w)|^2}{K(z, z)} e^{-\Psi(|w|^2)} d\nu(w) \leq C.$$

The implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) is trivial (modulo the existence of  $\Psi$ -lattices), and we are therefore done if we can prove that (iv) implies (i). To this end, assume that (iv) holds, and let  $(a_k)$  be a  $\Psi$ -lattice with maximal covering radius  $r$ . By Lemma (5.1.20), we see that

$$\sup_{z \in B(a_k, r)} |f(z)|^2 e^{-\Psi(|z|^2)} \lesssim \frac{1}{|B(a_k, 2r)|} \int_{B(a_k, 2r)} |f(w)|^2 d\mu_{\Psi}(z)$$

for every  $k$ . We therefore get

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(z)|^2 d\nu_{\Psi}(z) \lesssim \sum_k \int_{B(a_k, 2r)} |f(w)|^2 d\mu_{\Psi}(w) \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(w)|^2 d\mu_{\Psi}(w),$$

where the latter inequality holds by Lemma (5.1.18).

For  $\nu$  a nonnegative Borel measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , we define the Toeplitz operator  $T_{\nu}$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  in the following way:

$$(T_{\nu}f)(z) := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} f(w) K_{\Psi}(z, w) e^{-\Psi(|w|^2)} d\nu(w).$$

A computation shows that  $E_{\nu}^* E_{\nu} = T_{\nu}$ . Thus Theorem (5.1.21) characterizes bounded Toeplitz operators. Compact Toeplitz operators can likewise be characterized by so-called vanishing Carleson measures; an obvious and straightforward modification of Theorem

(5.1.21) gives a description of such measures. Toeplitz operators belonging to the Schatten classes  $S_p$  are characterized by the following theorem.

**Lemma (5.1.22)[129]:** Suppose that  $(e_j)$  is an orthonormal basis for  $A^2(\Psi)$  and that  $(a_j)$  is a  $\Psi$ -lattice. Then the operator  $J$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  defined by

$$Je_j(z) := \frac{K_\Psi(z, a_j)}{\sqrt{K_\Psi(a_j, a_j)}}$$

is bounded.

**Proof.** For two arbitrary functions  $f = \sum_j c_j e_j$  and  $g$  in  $A^2(\Psi)$ , the reproducing formula and the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality give

$$|\langle Jf, g \rangle|^2 = \left| \sum_j c_j \frac{g(a_j)}{\sqrt{K_\Psi(a_j, a_j)}} \right|^2 \leq \left( \sum_j |c_j|^2 \right) \sum_k \frac{|g(a_k)|^2}{K_\Psi(a_k, a_k)}.$$

If we set

$$\nu := \sum_k \frac{e^{\Psi(|a_j|^2)}}{K_\Psi(a_j, a_j)} \delta_{a_j},$$

then we may write this estimate as

$$|\langle Jf, g \rangle|^2 \leq \|f\|_{A^2(\Psi)}^2 \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |g(z)|^2 d\nu_\Psi(z).$$

By Theorem (5.1.21), we see that  $\nu$  is a Carleson measure, which implies that  $J$  is a bounded operator on  $A^2(\Psi)$ .

**Lemma (5.1.23)[129]:** Suppose that  $T$  is a positive operator on  $A^2(\Psi)$ . Then the trace of  $T$  can be computed as

$$\text{Tr}(T) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \overline{T}(z) K_\Psi(z, z) d\mu(z).$$

**Proof.** We write  $K_\Psi(z, w) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e_k(z) \overline{e_k(w)}$ , where  $(e_k)$  is an orthonormal basis for  $A^2(\Psi)$ . The lemma is then proved by means of the following computation:

$$\text{Tr}(T) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \langle T f_k, f_k \rangle_{A^2(\Psi)} = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \overline{T} K_\Psi(\cdot, z), K_\Psi(\cdot, z) d\mu_\Psi(z).$$

**Theorem (5.1.24)[129]:** Let  $\Psi$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . If  $\nu$  is a nonnegative Borel measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $p \geq 1$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) The Toeplitz operator  $T_\nu$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  belongs to the Schatten class  $S_p$ ;
- (ii) There exists a  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_k)$  such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} \right)^p < +\infty,$$

where  $r$  is the maximal covering radius for  $(a_k)$ .

**Proof.** We begin by assuming that  $T_\nu$  is in  $S_p$ . Pick a  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_j)$  and let  $r$  be its maximal covering radius. By (30) and Lemma (5.1.19), we have

$$\sum_k \left( \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} \right)^p \simeq \sum_k \left( \int_{B(a_k, r)} K_\Psi(w, w) d\nu_\Psi(w) \right)^p$$

$$\simeq \sum_k \left( \int_{B(a_k, r)} \frac{|K_\Psi(a_k, w)|^2}{K_\Psi(a_k, a_k)} d\nu(w) \right)^p.$$

By Lemma (5.1.18) and our assumption on  $\nu$ , this gives

$$\sum_k \left( \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} \right)^p \lesssim \sum_k \left( \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \frac{|K_\Psi(a_k, w)|^2}{K_\Psi(a_k, a_k)} d\mu_\Psi(w) \right)^p.$$

If we construct  $J$  as in Lemma (5.1.22), then the right-hand side equals  $\sum_k |\langle J * T_\nu J e_k, e_k \rangle|^p$ . Since  $J$  is a bounded operator,  $J^* T_\nu J$  also belongs to  $S_p$ , and so the latter sum converges. We conclude that (i) implies (ii). We will use an interpolation argument to prove that (ii) implies (i). We already know from Theorem (5.1.21) that  $T_\nu$  is in the Schatten class  $S_\infty$  whenever  $\nu(B(a_k, r)) \leq C|B(a_k, r)|$  for some positive constant  $C$ . Suppose now that

$$\sum_k \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} < +\infty,$$

and let  $(e_j)$  be an orthonormal basis for  $A^2(\Psi)$ . By the reproducing formula, we have

$$\langle T_\nu e_j, e_j \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |e_j(w)|^2 d\nu_\Psi(w),$$

which implies that

$$\sum_j |\langle T_\nu e_j, e_j \rangle| = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K_\Psi(w, w) d\nu_\Psi(w) \leq \sum_k \int_{B(a_k, r)} K(w, w) d\nu_\Psi(w).$$

Again using Lemma (5.1.7), we then get

$$\sum_j |\langle T_\nu e_j, e_j \rangle| \lesssim \sum_k \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} < +\infty,$$

which means that  $T_\nu$  belongs to  $S_1$ . By interpolation, we conclude that (ii) implies (i).

We remark that the theorems proved generalize results for the classical Fock space when  $n = 1$  obtained recently in [139]. It may be noted that Theorem (5.1.21) above could be elaborated to include two additional conditions for membership in  $S_p$ , in accordance with Theorem 4.4 in [139]. The proof would be essentially the same as the proof of the latter theorem. Note that [139] also treats Schatten class membership of Toeplitz operators for  $p < 1$ .

We suggest two possible definitions of Besov spaces, in accordance with our respective definitions of  $BMOA(\Psi)$  and  $B(\Psi)$ . We let  $B_m^p(\Psi)$  denote the set of entire functions  $f$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} [MO_f(z)]^p K_\Psi(z, z) d\mu_\Psi(z) < \infty;$$

for a function  $h : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n b$ , we set

$$|h(z)|_\beta = \sup_{\xi \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\langle h(z), \bar{\xi} \rangle|}{\beta(z, \xi)},$$

and we let  $B_d^p(\Psi)$  be the set of entire functions  $f$  for which

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |\nabla f(z)|_\beta^p K_\Psi(z, z) d\mu_\Psi(z) < \infty.$$

These definitions are in line with those of K. Zhu for Hankel operators on the Bergman space of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  [144].

It is immediate from (6) that  $B_m^p(\Psi) \subset B_d^p(\Psi)$ . The basic question is whether these spaces coincide and in fact characterize Schatten class Hankel operators with anti-holomorphic symbols. The following theorem gives an affirmative answer to this question.

**Theorem (5.1.25)[129]:** Let  $\Psi$  be a logarithmic growth function, and suppose that there exists a real number  $\eta < 1/2$  such that (4) holds and that (24) holds if  $n > 1$ . If  $f$  is an entire function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $p \geq 2$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) The function  $f$  belongs to  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi)$  and the Hankel operator  $H_{\bar{f}}$  on  $A^2(\Psi)$  is in the Schatten class  $S_p$ ;
- (ii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $B_m^p(\Psi)$ ;
- (iii) The function  $f$  belongs to  $B_d^p(\Psi)$ .

**Proof.** We have already observed that the implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is an immediate consequence of (6). The implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) relies on the following general Hilbert space

argument. If (i) holds, then the operator  $\left[ H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{f}} \right]^{\frac{p}{2}}$  is in the trace class  $S_1$ . Applying Lemma (5.1.23) and using the spectral Theorem (5.1.1) along with Hölder's inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr} \left( \left[ H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{f}} \right]^{\frac{p}{2}} \right) &= \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \left\langle \left[ H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{f}} \right]^{\frac{p}{2}} K(\cdot, z), K_{\Psi}(\cdot, z) \right\rangle d\mu_{\Psi}(z) \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \left[ \frac{\| H_{\bar{f}} K_{\Psi}(\cdot, z) \|^2}{K_{\Psi}(z, z)} \right]^{\frac{p}{2}} K_{\Psi}(z, z) d\mu_{\Psi}(z). \end{aligned}$$

Recalling the computation made in (5), we arrive at (ii).

Our proof of the implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) will use a version of L. Hörmander's  $L^2$  estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$  operator. To this end, write  $\Delta_{\Psi}(z) = (|z|^2)$  and observe that

$$\alpha^2(z, \xi) := \sum_{j,k=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_{\Psi}(z)}{\partial z_j \partial \bar{z}_k} \xi_j \bar{\xi}_k = |\xi|^2 \Psi'(|z|^2) + |\langle z, \xi \rangle|^2 \Psi''(|z|^2)$$

for arbitrary vectors  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  and  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . By Theorem (5.1.9), we therefore have  $\alpha(z, \xi) \simeq \beta(z, \xi)$ . Now let  $L_{\beta}^2(\mu_{\Psi})$  be the space of vector-valued functions  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n)$ , identified with the corresponding (0, 1)-forms  $h_1 d\bar{z}_1 + \dots + h_n d\bar{z}_n$  such that

$$\|h\|_{L_{\beta}^2(\mu)}^2 := \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |h(z)|_{\beta}^2 d\mu_{\Psi}(z) < \infty.$$

It follows from Theorem 2.2 in [136] (a special case of a theorem proved by J. -P. Demailly in [138]) that the operator  $S$  giving the canonical solution to the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem is bounded from  $L_{\beta}^2(\mu_{\Psi})$  into  $L^2(\mu)$ .

Since  $f$  is holomorphic, we have

$$\tilde{\partial} (H_{\bar{f}} g) = \bar{\nabla} f g$$

when  $g$  is in  $A^2(\Psi)$ , whence  $H_{\bar{f}} g = S(\bar{\nabla} f g)$ . Thus it follows that

$$\|H_{\bar{f}} g\|_{L^2(\mu_{\Psi})} \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |\nabla f(z)|_{\beta}^2 |g(z)|^2 d\mu_{\Psi}(z). \quad (31)$$

If we set  $d\nu(z) = |\nabla f(z)|_{\beta}^2 dV(z)$ , this may be written as

$$H_{\bar{f}}^* H_{\bar{f}} M_{|\nabla f|_{\beta}}^* M_{|\nabla f|_{\beta}} = T\nu,$$

where as before  $M_h$  denotes the operator of multiplication by  $h$  from  $A^2(\Psi)$  into  $L^2(\mu_\Psi)$ . By Theorem (5.1.24), it remains to verify that (iii) implies that for some  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_k)$  we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\nu(B(a_k, r))}{|B(a_k, r)|} \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} < +\infty, \quad (32)$$

where  $r$  is the maximal covering radius for  $(a_k)$ . To this end, we first observe that Hölder's inequality gives that

$$\left( \frac{\nu(B(z, r))}{|B(z, r)|} \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} \lesssim \frac{1}{|B(z, r)|} \int_{B(z, r)} |\nabla f(B(z, r))|_{\beta}^p dV(w).$$

Hence, using (30) and Lemma (5.1.7), we obtain

$$\left( \frac{\nu(B(z, r))}{|B(z, r)|} \right)^{\frac{p}{2}} \lesssim \int_{B(z, r)} |\nabla f(z)|_{\beta}^p K(z, z) dV(w).$$

Now choosing any  $\Psi$ -lattice  $(a_k)$  and using Lemma (5.1.18), we arrive at (32). Several remarks are in order. First, note that (31) gives another proof of the implication (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) in Theorem (5.1.1), subject to the additional smoothness condition (24). Second, as shown in [137], there are nontrivial Hankel operators in  $S_p$  only when  $p > 2n$ . This fact is easy to see from Theorem (5.1.25) when  $n = 1$ , because then

$$|\nabla f(z)|_{\beta} \simeq |f'(z)| [\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}},$$

whence  $f$  is in  $B_d^p(\Psi)$  if and only if

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}} |f'(z)|^p [\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{1-\frac{p}{2}} dV(z) < \infty. \quad (33)$$

When  $n > 1$ , the computation of  $|\nabla f(z)|_{\beta}$  is less straightforward, but we always have

$$|\nabla f(z)| [\Phi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \lesssim |\nabla f(z)|_{\beta} |\nabla \Psi(z)| [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

The estimate from above shows that the condition

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |\nabla f(z)|^p \Phi'(|z|^2) [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{n-1-\frac{p}{2}} dV(z) < \infty \quad (34)$$

is sufficient for  $f$  to belong to  $B_d^p(\Psi)$ , and the estimate from below shows that this is also necessary when  $\Phi'/\Psi'$  is a bounded function. We conclude from (33) and (34) that if the growth of  $\Psi$  is super-polynomial, then  $B_d^p(\Psi)$  is infinite-dimensional and contains all polynomials if and only if  $p > 2n$ . This is immediate when  $n = 1$ , and it follows also when  $n > 1$  because

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\Psi''(t)}{[\Psi'(t)]^{1+\delta}} dt \leq (1)/(\delta[\Psi'(0)]^{\delta}) < \infty$$

for every  $\delta > 0$ . If, on the other hand,  $\Psi$  is a polynomial, then  $\Phi'/\Psi'$  is a bounded function, and one may use (34) and Theorem (5.1.25) to deduce Theorem (5.1.9) in [84]. It is not hard to check that if  $f$  is a monomial and  $n > 1$ , then

$$|\nabla f(z)|_{\beta} \simeq |\nabla f(z)| [\Psi'(|z|^2)]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

for  $z$  belonging to a set of infinite volume measure. By Lemma (5.1.2) in [84] and Theorem (5.1.25) above, one may therefore conclude as in [84] that  $B_d^p(\Psi)$  is nontrivial only if  $p > 2n$ .

## Section (5.2): The Fock Space

For  $\mathbb{C}^n$  be the complex  $n$ -space. For points  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  and  $w = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  we write

$$z \cdot \bar{w} = \sum_{j=1}^n z_j \bar{w}_j, \quad |z| = \sqrt{z \cdot \bar{z}}.$$

Let  $dv$  be ordinary volume measure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . For any positive parameter  $\alpha$  we consider the Gaussian measure

$$d\lambda_\alpha(z) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^n e^{-\alpha|z|^2} dv(z).$$

The Fock space  $F_\alpha^2$  is the closed subspace of entire functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, d\lambda_\alpha)$ . The orthogonal projection  $P : L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, d\lambda_\alpha) \rightarrow F_\alpha^2$  is given by

$$P f(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} K(z, w) f(w) d\lambda_\alpha(w),$$

where  $K(z, w) = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}}$  is the reproducing kernel of  $F_\alpha^2$ .

We say that  $f$  satisfies Condition (G) if the function  $z \mapsto f(z)e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}}$  belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{C}^n, d\lambda_\alpha)$  for every  $w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . Equivalently,  $f$  satisfies Condition (G) if every translate of  $f$   $z \mapsto f(z + w)$ , belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{C}^n, d\lambda_\alpha)$ . If  $f \in F_\alpha^2$ , then there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|f(z)| \leq C e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

This clearly implies that  $f$  satisfies Condition (G).

If  $f$  satisfies Condition (G), we can define a linear operator  $T_f$  on  $F_\alpha^2$  by  $T_f g = P(fg)$ , where

$$g(z) = \sum_{k=1}^N c_k K(z, w_k)$$

is any finite linear combination of kernel functions. It is easy to see that the set of all finite linear combinations of kernel functions is dense in  $F_\alpha^2$ . Here  $P(fg)$  is to be interpreted as the following integral:

$$T_f g(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} f(w) g(w) e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}} d\lambda_\alpha(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

Therefore, for  $g$  in a dense subset of  $F_\alpha^2$ ,  $T_f g$  is a well-defined entire function (not necessarily in  $F_\alpha^2$  though). We study the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_g$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are functions in  $F_\alpha^2$ . Such a product is well defined on the set of finite linear combinations of kernel functions. The main concern is the following: what conditions on  $f$  and  $g$  will ensure that the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_g$  extends to a bounded (or compact) operator on  $F_\alpha^2$ ?

This problem was first raised by Sarason in [53] in the context of Hardy and Bergman spaces. It was partially solved for Toeplitz operators on the Hardy space of the unit circle in [59], on the Bergman space of the unit disk in [42], on the Bergman space of the polydisk in [149], and on the Bergman space of the unit ball in [148], [150]. In all these cases, the necessary and/or sufficient condition for  $T_f T_g$  to be bounded is

$$\sup_{z \in \Omega} \widetilde{|f|^{2+\varepsilon}}(z) \widetilde{|g|^{2+\varepsilon}}(z) < \infty,$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is any positive number and  $\tilde{f}$  denotes the Berezin transform of  $f$ .

Note that in the Hardy space case, the Berezin transform is nothing but the classical Poisson transform.



We obtain a much more explicit characterization for  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  to be bounded on the Fock space.

**Main Theorem (5.2.1)[145]:** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions in  $F_\alpha^2$ , not identically zero. Then  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$  if and only if  $f = e^q$  and  $g = ce^{-q}$ , where  $c$  is a nonzero complex constant and  $q$  is a complex linear polynomial.

Furthermore, our proof reveals that when  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded, it must be a constant times a unitary operator. Consequently,  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is never compact unless it is the zero operator.

As another by-product of our analysis, we will construct a class of unbounded, densely defined, operators on the Fock space whose Berezin transform is bounded. It has been known that such operators exist, but our examples are very simple products of Toeplitz operators.

**Proof:** For any point  $a \in \mathbb{C}^n$  we consider the operator  $U_a : F_\alpha^2 \rightarrow F_\alpha^2$  defined by

$$U_a f(z) = f(z - a)k_a(z),$$

Where

$$k_a(z) = \frac{K(z, a)}{\sqrt{K(a, a)}} = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a} - \frac{\alpha}{2} |a|^2}$$

is the normalized reproducing kernel of  $F_\alpha^2$  at  $a$ . It follows from a change of variables that each  $U_a$  is a unitary operator on  $F_\alpha^2$ .

We begin with the very special case of Toeplitz operators induced by kernel functions.

**Lemma (5.2.2)[145]:** Let  $a \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $f(z) = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a}}$ , and  $g(z) = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a}}$ . We have

$$T_f T_{\bar{g}} = e^{\frac{\alpha}{2} |a|^2} U_a.$$

In particular,  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$ .

**Proof.** To avoid triviality we assume that  $a$  is nonzero. The Toeplitz operator  $T_f$  is just multiplication by  $f$ , as a densely defined unbounded linear operator. So we focus on the operator  $T_{\bar{g}}$ .

Given any function  $h \in F_\alpha^2$ , we have

$$T_{\bar{g}} h(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} \overline{g(w)} h(w) K(z, w) d\lambda_\alpha(w) = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} h(w) e^{\alpha(z-a) \cdot \bar{w}} d\lambda_\alpha(w) = h(z - a).$$

Therefore, the Toeplitz operator  $T_{\bar{g}}$  is an operator of translation, and

$$T_f T_{\bar{g}} h(z) = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a}} h(z - a) = e^{\frac{\alpha}{2} |a|^2} U_a h(z).$$

This proves the desired result.

An immediate consequence of Lemma (5.2.2) is that if  $f = C_1 e^q$  and  $g = C_2 e^{-q}$ , where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are complex constants and  $q$  is a complex linear polynomial, then there exists a complex constant  $c$  and a unitary operator  $U$  such that  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} = cU$ .

To deal with more general symbol functions, we need the following characterization of nonvanishing functions in  $F_\alpha^2$ .

**Lemma (5.2.3)[145]:** If  $f$  is a nonvanishing function in  $F_\alpha^2$ , then there exists a complex polynomial  $q$ , with  $\deg(q) \leq 2$ , such that  $f = e^q$ .

**Proof.** In the case when the dimension  $n = 1$ , the Weierstrass factorization of functions in the Fock space  $F_\alpha^2$  takes the form  $f(z) = P(z)e^{q(z)}$ , where  $P$  is the canonical Weierstrass product associated to the zero sequence of  $f$ , and  $q(z) = az^2 + bz + c$  is a quadratic polynomial with  $|a| < \frac{\alpha}{2}$ . In particular, if  $f$  is zero-free, then  $f = e^q$  for some quadratic polynomial. See [151].

When  $n > 1$ , we no longer have such a nice factorization. But the absence of zeros makes a special version of the factorization above still valid. More specifically, if  $f$  is any function in  $F_\alpha^2 = F_\alpha^2(\mathbb{C}^n)$  and  $f$  is nonvanishing, then the function  $z_1 \mapsto f(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  is in  $F_\alpha^2(\mathbb{C})$ , so by the factorization theorem stated in the previous paragraph,

$$f(z_1, \dots, z_n) = e^{az_1^2 + bz_1 + c},$$

where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are holomorphic functions of  $z_2, \dots, z_n$ . Repeat this for every independent variable, we conclude that  $f = e^q$  for some polynomial of degree  $2n$  or less.

Recall that every function  $f \in F_\alpha^2$  satisfies the pointwise estimate

$$|f(z)| \leq C e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

If  $q$  is a polynomial of degree  $N$  and  $N > 2$ , then for any fixed  $\zeta = (\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_n)$  on the unit sphere of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with each  $\zeta_k \neq 0$ , and for  $z = r\zeta$ , where  $r > 0$ , we have  $q(z) \sim r^N$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , which shows that the estimate  $|f(z)| \leq C e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}$  is impossible to hold. This shows that the degree of  $q$  is less than or equal to 2.

We can now prove the main result, which we restate as follows.

**Theorem (5.2.4)[145]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are functions in  $F_\alpha^2$ . Then the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$  if and only if one of the following two conditions holds:

(a) At least one of  $f$  and  $g$  is identically zero.

(b) There exists a linear polynomial  $q$  and a nonzero constant  $c$  such that  $f = e^q$  and  $g = ce^{-q}$ .

**Proof.** If condition (a) holds, then the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is 0. If condition (b) holds, the boundedness of  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  follows from Lemma (5.2.2).

Next assume that  $T = T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$ . Then the Berezin transform  $\tilde{T}$  is a bounded function on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , where

$$\tilde{T}(z) = (T_f T_{\bar{g}} k_z, k_z) \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

It follows from the integral representation of  $T_{\bar{g}}$  and the reproducing property of the kernel function  $e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}}$  that  $T_{\bar{g}} k_z = \overline{g(z)} k_z$ . Therefore,

$$\tilde{T}(z) = \overline{g(z)} (f k_z, k_z), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

Write the inner product above as an integral and apply the reproducing property of the kernel function  $e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}}$  one more time. We obtain  $\tilde{T}(z) = f(z) \overline{g(z)}$ . It follows that  $|f(z) \overline{g(z)}| \leq \|T\|$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . But  $fg$  is entire, so by Liouville theorem, there is a constant  $c$  such that  $fg = c$ .

If  $c = 0$ , then at least one of  $f$  and  $g$  must be identically zero, so condition (a) holds.

If  $c \neq 0$ , then both  $f$  and  $g$  are nonvanishing. By Lemma (5.2.3), there exists a complex polynomial  $q$ , with  $\deg(q) \leq 2$ , such that  $f = e^q$  and  $g = ce^{-q}$ .

It remains for us to show that  $\deg(q) \leq 1$ . Let us assume  $\deg(q) = 2$ , in the hope of reaching a contradiction, and write  $q = q_2 + q_1$ , where  $q_1$  is linear and  $q_2$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree 2. By the boundedness of  $T = T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  on  $F_\alpha^2$ , the function

$$T(z, w) = \langle T_f T_{\bar{g}} k_z, k_w \rangle, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n, w \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$ . We proceed to show that this is impossible unless  $q_2 = 0$ .

Again, by the integral representation for Toeplitz operators and the reproducing property of the kernel function  $e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{w}}$ , it is easy to obtain that

$$T(z, w) = f(w) \overline{g(z)} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2 + \alpha w \cdot \bar{z} - \frac{\alpha}{2}|w|^2}.$$

It follows that

$$|T(z, w)| = |f(w)g(z)|e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z-w|^2}$$

for all  $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$ . Using the explicit form of  $f$  and  $g$ , we can write

$$|T(z, w)| = |c \exp(q_2(w) - q_2(z) + q_1(w) - q_1(z))|e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z-w|^2}.$$

Since  $q_1$  is linear, it is easy to see that there is a point  $a \in \mathbb{C}^n$  such that

$$q_1(w) - q_1(z) = (w - z) \cdot \bar{a}$$

for all  $z$  and  $w$ .

For the second-degree homogeneous polynomial  $q_2$  we can find a complex matrix  $A = A_{n \times n}$ , symmetric in the real sense, such that  $q_2(z) = \langle Az, z \rangle$ , where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is the real inner product. Fix two points  $u$  and  $v$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\operatorname{Re}\langle Au, v \rangle \neq 0$ . This is possible as long as  $A \neq 0$ . Now let  $z = ru$  and  $w = ru + v$ , where  $r$  is any real number. We have

$$\begin{aligned} q_2(w) - q_2(z) &= q_2(z + v) - q_2(z) = \langle A(z + v), z + v \rangle - \langle Az, z \rangle \\ &= \langle Az, v \rangle + \langle Av, z \rangle + \langle Av, v \rangle = 2r\langle Au, v \rangle + \langle Av, v \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that there exists a positive constant  $M = M(u, v)$  such that

$$|T(z, w)| = M|\exp(2r\langle Au, v \rangle)| = M \exp(2r\operatorname{Re}\langle Au, v \rangle).$$

Since  $\operatorname{Re}\langle Au, v \rangle \neq 0$ , this shows that  $T(z, w)$  cannot be a bounded function on  $\mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$ . This contradiction shows that  $A = 0$  and the polynomial  $q$  must be linear.

As a consequence of the analysis above, we obtain an interesting class of unbounded operators on  $F_\alpha^2$  whose Berezin transforms are bounded.

**Corollary (5.2.5)[145]:** Suppose  $f(z) = e^q$  and  $g = e^{-q}$ , where  $q$  is any second-degree homogeneous polynomial whose coefficients are small enough so that  $f$  and  $g$  belong to  $F_\alpha^2$ . Then the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is unbounded on  $F_\alpha^2$ , but its Berezin transform is bounded.

**Proof.** By Theorem (5.2.4), the operator  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is unbounded. On the other hand, by the proof of Theorem (5.2.4), the Berezin transform of  $T = T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is given by

$$\tilde{T}(z) = f(z)\overline{g(z)}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

It follows that  $|T(z)| = |f(z)g(z)| = 1$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

Another consequence of the earlier analysis is the following.

**Corollary (5.2.6)[145]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions in  $F_\alpha^2$ , then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is compact.
- (b)  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} = 0$ .
- (c)  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ .

**Proof.** Combining Lemma (5.2.2) and Theorem (5.2.4), we see that whenever  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is compact on  $F_\alpha^2$ , we must have  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ . This clearly gives the desired result.

For any  $0 < p \leq \infty$  let  $F_\alpha^p$  denote the Fock space consisting of entire functions  $f$  such that the function  $f(z)e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}$  belongs to  $L^p(\mathbb{C}^n, dv)$ . When  $0 < p < \infty$ , the norm in  $F_\alpha^p$  is defined by

$$\|f\|_{p,\alpha} = \left[ \left( \frac{p\alpha}{2\pi} \right)^n \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} |f(z)e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}|^p dv(z) \right]^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

For  $p = \infty$ , the norm in  $F_\alpha^\infty$  is defined by

$$\|f\|_{\infty,\alpha} = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}^n} |f(z)|e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}.$$

It is easy to check that the normalized reproducing kernel

$$k_\alpha(z) = e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a} - \frac{\alpha}{2}|a|^2}$$

is a unit vector in each  $F_\alpha^p$ , where  $0 < p \leq \infty$ . Also, it can be shown that the set of functions of the form

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^N c_k K(z, a_k) = \sum_{k=1}^N c_k e^{\alpha z \cdot \bar{a}_k}$$

is dense in each  $F_\alpha^p$ , where  $0 < p < \infty$ . See [151].

Therefore, if  $0 < p < \infty$  and  $f$  satisfies Condition (G), we can consider the action of the Toeplitz operator  $T_f$  on  $F_\alpha^p$ . Also, if  $f \in F_\alpha^p$ , then it satisfies the pointwise estimate  $|f(z)| \leq C e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}|z|^2}$ , which implies that  $f$  satisfies Condition (G).

When  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $1/p + 1/q = 1$ , the dual space of  $F_\alpha^p$  can be identified with  $F_\alpha^q$  under the integral pairing

$$\langle f, g \rangle_\alpha = \int_{\mathbb{C}^n} f(z) \overline{g(z)} d\lambda_\alpha(z).$$

When  $0 < p \leq 1$ , the dual space of  $F_\alpha^p$  can be identified with  $F_\alpha^\infty$  under the same integral pairing above. See [73], [151].

Thus for functions  $f$  and  $g$  in  $F_\alpha^p$ , if the Toeplitz product  $T = T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^p$ , we can still consider the function

$$T(z, w) = \langle T_f T_{\bar{g}} k_z, k_w \rangle_\alpha$$

on  $\mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$ . Exactly the same arguments will yield the following result.

**Theorem (5.2.7)[145]:** Suppose  $0 < p < \infty$ . If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions in  $F_\alpha^p$ , not identically zero, then the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^p$  if and only if  $f = e^q$  and  $g = ce^{-q}$ , where  $c$  is a nonzero complex constant and  $q$  is a complex linear polynomial.

We extend the results here to more general Fock-type spaces. In particular, generalization to the Fock-Sobolev spaces studied in [146], [147] should be possible.

We take a second look at the original Hardy space setting. More specifically, if  $f$  and  $g$  are functions in the Hardy space  $H^2$  (of the unit disk, for example), the boundedness of the Toeplitz product  $T_f T_{\bar{g}}$  on  $H^2$  implies that the product function  $fg$  is in  $H^\infty$ . Is it possible to derive more detailed information about  $f$  and  $g$ , say in terms of inner and outer functions? A more explicit condition on  $f$  and  $g$  (as opposed to the condition  $|f|^{2+\varepsilon} |g|^{2+\varepsilon} \in L^\infty$ ) would certainly be more desirable.

We hope that will generate some further interest in this subject.

### Section (5.3): Sarason's Toeplitz Product Problem

For  $\mathbb{D}$  be the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and let  $\mathbb{T} = \partial\mathbb{D}$  denote the unit circle. The Hardy space  $H^2$  consists of functions  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{T})$  such that its Fourier coefficients satisfy  $\hat{f}_n = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ . Given a function  $\varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{T})$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_\varphi : H^2 \rightarrow H^2$  is densely defined by  $T_\varphi f = P(\varphi f)$ , where  $P : L^2(\mathbb{T}) \rightarrow H^2$  is the Riesz-Szego projection.

The original problem that Sarason proposed in [53] was this: characterize the pairs of outer functions  $u$  and  $v$  in  $H^2$  such that the operator  $T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $H^2$ . Inner factors can easily be disposed of, so it was only necessary to consider outer functions in the Hardy space case. It was further observed in [53] that a necessary condition for the boundedness of  $T_u T_v$  on  $H^2$  is that

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} P_w(|u|^2)P_w(|v|^2) < \infty,$$

where  $P_w(f)$  means the Poisson transform of  $f$  at  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . In fact, the arguments in [53] show that

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} P_w(|u|^2)P_w(|v|^2) \leq 4\|T_u T_v\|^2. \quad (35)$$

For  $A^2$  denote the Bergman space consisting of analytic functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , where  $dA$  is ordinary area measure on the unit disk. If  $P : L^2(\mathbb{D}, dA) \rightarrow A^2$  is the Bergman projection, then Toeplitz operators  $T_\varphi$  on  $A^2$  are defined by  $T_\varphi f = P(\varphi f)$ . Sarason also posed a similar problem in [53] for the Bergman space: characterize functions  $u$  and  $v$  in  $A^2$  such that the Toeplitz product  $T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $A^2$ . It was shown in [42] that

$$\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |\widetilde{u}|^2(w)|\widetilde{v}|^2(w) \leq 16\|T_u T_v\|^2 \quad (36)$$

for all functions  $u$  and  $v$  in the Bergman space  $A^2$ , where  $\widetilde{f}(w)$  is the so-called Berezin transform of  $f$  at  $w$ . This provides a necessary condition for the boundedness of  $T_u T_v$  on  $A^2$  in terms of the Berezin transform.

The Berezin transform is well defined in many other different contexts. In particular, the classical Poisson transform is the Berezin transform of the Hardy space  $H^2$ . So the estimates in (35) and (36) are in exactly the same spirit. Sarason stated in [53] that “it is tempting to conjecture that”  $T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $H^2$  or  $A^2$  if and only if  $|\widetilde{u}|^2(w)|\widetilde{v}|^2(w)$  is a bounded function on  $\mathbb{D}$ . It has by now become standard to call this “Sarason’s conjecture for Toeplitz products”.

It turns out that Sarason’s conjecture is false for both the Hardy space and the Bergman space of the unit disk, and the conjecture fails in a big way. See [153], [160] for counter-examples. In these cases, Sarason’s problem is naturally connected to certain two-weight norm inequalities in harmonic analysis, and counter-examples for Sarason’s conjecture were constructed by means of the dyadic model approach in harmonic analysis.

Another setting where Toeplitz operators have been widely studied is the Fock space. More specifically, we let  $\mathcal{F}^2$  be the space of all entire functions  $f$  on  $\mathbb{C}$  that are square-integrable with respect to the Gaussian measure

$$d\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} e^{-|z|^2} dA(z).$$

The function

$$K(z, w) = e^{z\bar{w}}, z, w \in \mathbb{C},$$

is the reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{F}^2$  and the orthogonal projection  $P$  from  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda)$  onto  $\mathcal{F}^2$  is the integral operator defined by

$$P f(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} K(z, w)f(w)d\lambda(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

If  $\varphi$  is in  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda)$  such that the function  $z \rightarrow \varphi(z)K(z, w)$  belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda)$  for any  $w \in \mathbb{C}$ , we can define the Toeplitz operator  $T_\varphi$  with symbol  $\varphi$  by  $T_\varphi f = P(\varphi f)$ , or

$$T_\varphi f(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} K(z, w)\varphi(w)f(w)d\lambda(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C},$$

When

$$f(w) = \sum_{k=1}^N c_k K(w, c_k)$$

is a finite linear combination of kernel functions. Since the set of all finite linear combinations of kernel functions is dense in  $\mathcal{F}^2$ , the operator  $T_\varphi$  is densely defined and  $T_\varphi f$  is an entire function. See [152] for basic information about the Fock space and Toeplitz operators on it.

In [146], Cho, Park and Zhu solved Sarason's problem for the Fock space. More specifically, they obtained the following simple characterization for  $T_u T_v$  to be bounded on  $\mathcal{F}^2$ : if  $u$  and  $v$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}^2$ , not identically zero, then  $T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}^2$  if and only if  $u = e^q$  and  $v = ce^{-q}$ , where  $c$  is a nonzero constant and  $q$  is a complex linear polynomial. As a consequence of this, it can be shown that Sarason's conjecture is actually true for Toeplitz products on  $\mathcal{F}^2$ .

We consider the weighted Fock space  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , consisting of all entire functions in  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda_m)$ , where  $d\lambda_m$  are the generalized Gaussian measure defined by

$$d\lambda_m(z) = e^{-|z|^{2m}} dA(z), \quad m \geq 1.$$

Toeplitz operators on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  are defined exactly the same as the cases above, using the orthogonal projection  $P : L^2(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda_m) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_m^2$ .

We will solve Sarason's problem and prove Sarason's conjecture for the weighted Fock spaces  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . The main result can be stated as follows.

**Main Theorem (5.3.1)[152]:** Let  $u$  and  $v$  be in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , not identically zero. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (i) The product  $T = T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ .
- (ii) There exist a polynomial  $g$  of degree at most  $m$  and a nonzero complex constant  $c$  such that  $u(z) = e^{g(z)}$  and  $v(z) = ce^{-g(z)}$ .
- (iii) The product  $|\widetilde{u}|^2(z)|\widetilde{v}|^2(z)$  is a bounded function on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Furthermore, in the affirmative case, we have the following estimate of the norm:

$$\|T\| \leq C_1 e^{C_2 \|g\|_{H^2}^2},$$

where  $\|g\|_{H^2}$  is the norm in the Hardy space of the unit disc, and  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are positive constants independent of  $g$ .

Let us mention that [158] contains partial results related to Sarason's conjecture on the Fock space. The arguments in [146] depend on the explicit form of the reproducing kernel and the Weyl operators induced by translations of the complex plane. Both of these are no longer available for the spaces  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ : there is no simple formula for the reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  and the translations on the complex plane do not induce nice operators on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . Therefore, we need to develop new techniques to tackle the problem.

We recall some properties of the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . It was shown in [84] that the reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  is given by the formula

$$K_m(z, w) = \frac{m}{\pi} \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(z\bar{w})^k}{\Gamma\left(\frac{k+1}{m}\right)}. \quad (37)$$

In terms of the Mittag-Leffler function

$$E_{\gamma, \beta}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{\Gamma(\gamma k + \beta)}, \quad \gamma, \beta > 0,$$

we can also write

$$K_m(z, w) = \frac{m}{\pi} E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}(z\bar{w}). \quad (38)$$

Recall that the asymptotics of the Mittag-Leffler function  $E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}(z)$  as  $|z| \rightarrow +\infty$  are given by

$$E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}(z) = \begin{cases} mz^{m-1}e^{z^m}(1 + o(1)), & |\arg z| \leq \frac{\pi}{2m}, \\ o\left(\frac{1}{z}\right), & \frac{\pi}{2m} < |\arg z| \leq \pi \end{cases} \quad (39)$$

for  $m > \frac{1}{2}$ , and by

$$E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}(z) = m \sum_{j=-N}^N z^{m-1} e^{2\pi i j(m-1)} e^{z^m e^{2\pi i j m}} + o\left(\frac{1}{z}\right), \quad -\pi < \arg z \leq \pi,$$

for  $0 < m \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , where  $N$  is the integer satisfying  $N < \frac{1}{2m} \leq N + 1$  and the powers  $z^{m-1}$  and  $z^m$  are the principal branches. See, for example, Bateman and Erdelyi [155], vol. III, 18.1, formulas (55)–(56).

The asymptotic estimates of the Mittag-Leffler function  $E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}$  provide the following estimates for the reproducing kernel  $K_m(z, w)$ , which is a consequence of the results in [84] and Lemma (5.3.4) in [130].

**Lemma (5.3.2)[152]:** For arbitrary points  $x, r \in (0, +\infty)$  and  $\theta \in (-\pi, \pi)$  we have

$$|K_m(x, r e^{i\theta})| \lesssim \begin{cases} (xr)^{m-1} e^{(xr)^m \cos(m\theta)} & |\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2m} \\ o\left(\frac{1}{xr}\right), & \frac{\pi}{2m} \leq |\theta| < \pi \end{cases}$$

as  $xr \rightarrow +\infty$ . Moreover, there is a constant  $c > 0$  such that for all  $|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(xr)$  we have

$$|K_m(x, r e^{i\theta})| \gtrsim (xr)^{m-1} e^{(xr)^m}$$

as  $xr \rightarrow +\infty$ , where  $\theta_0(r) = r^{-\frac{m}{2}}/m$ .

On several occasions later on we will need to know the maximum order of a function in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . For example, if we have a non-vanishing function  $f$  in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  and if we know that the order of  $f$  is finite, then we can write  $f = e^q$  with  $q$  being a polynomial. The following estimate allows us to do this.

**Lemma (5.3.3)[152]:** If  $f \in \mathcal{F}_m^2$ , there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|f(z)| \leq C |z|^{m-1} e^{\frac{1}{2}|z|^{2m}}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Consequently, the order of every function in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  is at most  $2m$ .

**Proof.** By the reproducing property and Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we have

$$|f(z)| = \left| \int_{\mathbb{C}} f(w) K_m(z, w) d\lambda_m(w) \right| \leq \|f\| K_m(z, z)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for all  $f \in \mathcal{F}_m^2$  and all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . The desired estimate then follows from Lemma (5.3.2). See [156].

Another consequence of the above lemma is that, for any function  $u \in \mathcal{F}_m^2$ , the Toeplitz operators  $T_u$  and  $T_{\bar{u}}$  are both densely defined on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ .

We prove the equivalence of conditions (35) and (36) in the Main Theorem (5.3.1) stated, which provides a simple and complete solution to Sarason's problem for Toeplitz products on the Fock space  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . We break the proof into several lemmas.

**Lemma (5.3.4)[152]:** Suppose that  $u$  and  $v$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , each not identically zero, and that the operator  $T = T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . Then there exists a polynomial  $g$  of

degree at most  $m$  and a nonzero complex constant  $c$  such that  $u(z) = e^{g(z)}$  and  $v(z) = ce^{-g(z)}$ .

**Proof.** If  $T = T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , then the Berezin transform  $T$  is bounded, where

$$T(z) = \langle T_u T_v k_z, k_z \rangle, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

By the reproducing property of the kernel functions, it is easy to see that

$$T(z) = u(z)\overline{v(z)}.$$

Since each  $k_z$  is a unit vector, it follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality that

$$|u(z)v(z)| = |\tilde{T}(z)| \leq \|T\|$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . This together with Liouville's theorem shows that there exist a constant  $c$  such that  $uv = c$ . Since neither  $u$  nor  $v$  is identically zero, we have  $c \neq 0$ . Consequently, both  $u$  and  $v$  are non-vanishing.

Recall from Lemma (5.3.3) that the order of functions in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  is at most  $2m$ , so there is a polynomial of degree  $d$ ,

$$g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^d a_k z^k, \quad d \leq [2m],$$

such that  $u = e^g$  and  $v = ce^{-g}$ . It remains to show that  $d \leq m$ .

Since  $T$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , the function

$$F(z, w) = \frac{\langle T(K_m(\cdot, w)), K_m(\cdot, z) \rangle}{\sqrt{K_m(z, z)}\sqrt{K_m(w, w)}}$$

must be bounded on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . On general reproducing Hilbert spaces, we always have

$$\langle T_u T_v K_w, K_z \rangle = \langle T_v K_w, T_u K_z \rangle = \langle \bar{v}(w)K_w, u(z)K_z \rangle = u(z)\bar{v}(w)K(z, w).$$

It follows that

$$F(z, w) = \bar{c}e^{g(z)-\overline{g(w)}} \frac{K_m(z, w)}{\sqrt{K_m(z, z)}\sqrt{K_m(w, w)}}.$$

From Lemma (5.3.2) we deduce that

$$|F(z, w)| \gtrsim e^{\operatorname{Re}(g(z)-g(w))} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z|^m - |w|^m)^2} \quad (40)$$

for all  $|\arg(z\bar{w})| \leq c\theta_0(|zw|)$  as  $|zw|$  grows to infinity. Choose  $x > 0$  sufficiently large and set

$$z(x) = xe^{i\frac{\pi}{2d}} e^{-i\frac{\arg(a_d)}{d}},$$

and

$$w(x) = xe^{i\frac{\pi}{2d}} e^{-i\frac{\arg(a_d) + \frac{c}{2mx^m}}{d}}.$$

Since

$$\theta_0(|z(x)w(x)|) = \frac{1}{mx^m},$$

we can apply (40) to  $z(x)$  and  $w(x)$  to get

$$e^{\operatorname{Re}(g(z(x))-g(w(x)))} \lesssim \sup_{(z,w) \in \mathbb{C}^2} |F(z, w)| < \infty \quad (41)$$

as  $x$  grows to infinity. On the other hand, a few computations show that

$$\operatorname{Re}(g(z(x)) - g(w(x))) = \sum_{j=0}^d x^j \operatorname{Re}\left(a_j e^{ij\frac{\pi}{2d} - i\frac{j}{d}\arg(a_d)} \left(1 - e^{-i\frac{c_j}{2mdx^m}}\right)\right)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \left(1 - e^{-i\frac{c_j}{2mdx^m}}\right) &= |a_d| x^d \sin\left(\frac{c}{2mx^m}\right) + g_{d-1}(x), \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\begin{aligned} g_{d-1}(x) &= \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} x^j \operatorname{Re}\left(a_j e^{i\frac{j\pi}{2d} - i\frac{j}{d} \arg(a_d)} \left(1 - e^{-i\frac{c_j}{2mdx^m}}\right)\right) \\ &= - \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} |a_j| x^j \sin\left(\frac{j\pi}{2d} + \arg a_j - \frac{j}{d} \arg(a_d)\right) \sin\frac{c_j}{2mdx^m} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} |a_j| x^j \cos\left[\frac{j\pi}{2d} + \arg a_j - \frac{j}{d} \arg(a_d)\right] \left[1 - \cos\frac{c_j}{2mdx^m}\right] \\ &\lesssim x^{d-1-m}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there exist some  $x_0 > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(g(z(x)) - g(w(x))\right) \geq \frac{\delta |a_d| x^d}{x^m}$$

for all  $x \geq x_0$ . Since  $a_d \neq 0$ , it follows from (41) that  $d \leq m$ .

On several occasions later on we will need to estimate the integral

$$I(a) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m} + ar^d} r^N dr,$$

where  $m > 0, 0 \leq d \leq m, N > -1$ , and  $a \geq 0$ .

First, suppose  $a > 1$ . By various changes of variables, we have

$$\begin{aligned} I(a) &= \int_0^1 e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m} + ar^d} r^N dr + \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m} + ar^d} r^N dr \\ &\leq e^a \int_0^1 r^N dr + \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m} + ar^m} r^N dr \\ &= \frac{e^a}{N+1} + e^{\frac{a^2}{2}} \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(r^m - a)^2} r^N dr \\ &= \frac{e^a}{N+1} + \frac{e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}}{m} \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t-a)^2} t^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\frac{N+1}{m} - 1 \leq 0$ , then

$$I(a) \leq \frac{e^a}{N+1} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{m} e^{\frac{a^2}{2}} \leq \left(\frac{\sqrt{e}}{N+1} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{m}\right) e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}.$$

Otherwise, we have  $\frac{N+1}{m} - 1 > 0$ . Using the fact that  $u \mapsto u^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1}$  is increasing, we see that

$$\int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt \leq \left(\frac{3a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \leq \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\frac{3a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1}.$$

For the same reason we also have

$$\int_{\frac{a}{2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt \leq \int_{\frac{a}{2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (3t)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq 3^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \int_0^{+\infty} t^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} (3\sqrt{2})^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \int_0^{+\infty} u^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} e^{-u} dt \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} (3\sqrt{2})^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \Gamma\left(\frac{N+1}{2m}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

In the case when  $1 - a < -a/2$  (or equivalently  $a > 2$ ),

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{1-a}^{-\frac{a}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt &\leq \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \int_{1-a}^{-\frac{a}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \\
&\leq \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \int_{1-a}^{-\frac{a}{2}} e^{\frac{at}{4}} dt \leq \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} \frac{4}{a} e^{-\frac{a^2}{8}} \leq 2 \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that there exists a constant  $C = C(m, N) > 0$  such that

$$\int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t-a)^2} t^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt = \int_{1-a}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} dt \leq C (1+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1}$$

for  $\frac{N+1}{m} - 1 > 0$ . It is then easy to find another positive constant  $C = C(m, N)$ , independent of  $a$ , such that

$$I(a) \leq C (1+a)^{\frac{N+1}{m}-1} e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}$$

for all  $a \geq 1$  and  $\frac{N+1}{m} - 1 > 0$ . Therefore,

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m}+ar^d} r^N dr \leq C (1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{N+1}{m}-1)} e^{\frac{a^2}{2}} \quad (42)$$

for all  $a \geq 1$ . Since  $I(a)$  is increasing in  $a$ , the estimate above holds for  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  as well.

**Lemma (5.3.5)[152]:** For any  $m > 0, \delta > 0, R \geq 1, N > -1$ , and  $p \geq 0$ , we can find a constant  $C > 0$  (depending on  $R, \delta, p, N, m$  but not on  $a, d, x$ ) such that

$$x^{N+1-p} \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1+r^{2m})+ax^d(1+\delta r^d)} r^N dr \leq C (1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{N+p+1}{m}-1)} e^{\frac{1+\delta^2}{2}a^2}$$

and

$$x^m \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2+ax^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \leq C(1+a)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}$$

for all  $x > 0, a > 0$ , and  $0 \leq d \leq m$ .

**Proof.** Let  $I = I(m, N, p, R, x, a, d)$  denote the first integral that we are trying to estimate. If  $x \geq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I &= x^{N+1-p} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}+ax^d} \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(xr)^{2m}}{2}+a\delta(xr)^d} r^N dr \\
&\leq x^{-p} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}+ax^m} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2}+a\delta r^d} r^N dr \\
&\leq e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-a)^2+\frac{a^2}{2}\frac{\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} r^p}{x}} \frac{1}{R^p} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m}+a\delta r^d} r^N dr \\
&\leq \frac{e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}}{R^p} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2}+a\delta r^d} r^{N+p} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

The desired result then follows from (42).

If  $0 < x < 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I &= x^{N+1-p} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}+ax^d} \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(xr)^{2m}}{2}+a\delta(xr)^d} r^N dr \leq e^a x^{-p} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2}+a\delta r^d} r^N dr \\
&\leq \frac{e^{\frac{a^2}{2}+1}}{R^p} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2}+a\delta r^d} r^{N+p} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

The desired estimate follows from (42) again.

To prove the second part of the lemma, denote by  $J = J(m, d, R, x, a)$  the second integral that we are trying to estimate. Then it is clear from a change of variables that for  $0 < x < 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
J(m, d, R, x, a) &= x^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \\
&\leq \frac{e^a}{R} x^{\frac{m}{2}} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}-2(xr)^m+r^{2m})} r^{\frac{m}{2}+1} dr \\
&\leq \frac{e^a}{R} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2}+r^m} r^{\frac{m}{2}+1} dr = C e^a \\
&\leq C'(1+a)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}},
\end{aligned}$$

where the constants  $C$  and  $C'$  only depend on  $R$  and  $m$ .

Next assume that  $x \geq 1$ . In case  $R \leq x^2$  we write  $J = J_1 + J_2$ , where

$$J_1 = J_1(m, d, R, x, a) = x^m \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2+ax^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr,$$

And

$$J_2 = J_2(m, d, R, x, a) = x^m \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2+ax^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr.$$

Otherwise we just use  $J \leq J_2$ . So it suffices to estimate the two integrals above.

To handle  $J_1(m, d, R, x, a)$ , we fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  and consider two cases. In the case  $x^m \leq a(1 + \varepsilon)$ , we have

$$J_1(m, d, R, x, a) \leq x^m \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2+ax^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr$$

$$\leq a(1 + \varepsilon)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}} \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m(1-r^m)-a)^2} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \leq a(1 + \varepsilon)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}.$$

When  $x^m \geq a(1 + \varepsilon)$ , we set  $y = x^m$  and  $\tau = (y - a)/2$ . Then we have

$$\tau \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2(1 + \varepsilon)} y \rightarrow +\infty$$

as  $y \rightarrow +\infty$ . By successive changes of variables we see that

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(m, d, R, x, a) &\leq x^m \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2 + ax^m(1-r^m)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \\ &= \frac{y}{m} \int_0^{1-\frac{R^m}{y^2}} (1-r)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{y^2 r^2}{2} + ay r} dr \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \int_0^{y-\frac{R^m}{y}} \left(1-\frac{r}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2} + ar} dr \\ &= \frac{e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}}{m} \int_{-a}^{y-a-\frac{R^m}{y}} \left(1-\frac{a}{y}-\frac{r}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that for  $1 \leq m \leq 2$  we have

$$J_1 \leq \frac{e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}}{m} \int_{-a}^{y-a-\frac{R^m}{y}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \leq \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{m} e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}.$$

Thus we suppose that  $m > 2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} \left(1-\frac{a}{y}-\frac{r}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr &\leq \left(1-\frac{a}{y}-\frac{\tau}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \\ &= \left(\frac{\tau}{2y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \leq \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{4(1+\varepsilon)}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, in case  $-a < -\tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-a}^{-\tau} \left(1-\frac{a}{y}-\frac{r}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dv &\leq \left(1-\frac{a}{y}+\frac{\tau}{y}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \int_{-a}^{-\tau} e^{-\frac{\tau|r|}{2}} dr \\ &\leq 2 \left(\frac{3\varepsilon}{2(1+\varepsilon)}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{e^{-\frac{\tau^2}{2}}}{\tau} \\ &\leq 4 \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\frac{\varepsilon^2}{8(1+\varepsilon)^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, in case  $y - a - \frac{R^m}{y} \geq \tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tau}^{y-a-\frac{R^m}{y}} \left[1-\frac{a}{y}-\frac{r}{y}\right]^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr &\leq \left[\frac{R^m}{y^2}\right]^{\frac{1}{m}-\frac{1}{2}} \int_{\tau}^{y-a-\frac{R^m}{y}} e^{-\frac{\tau r}{2}} dr \\ &\leq 2R^{1-\frac{m}{2}} \left[\frac{\varepsilon}{2(1+\varepsilon)}\right]^{\frac{2}{m}-1} \tau^{-\frac{2}{m}} e^{-\frac{\tau^2}{2}} \left(\text{since } \tau \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2(1+\varepsilon)}\right) \\ &\leq 4R^{1-\frac{m}{2}} \frac{1+\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} e^{-\frac{\varepsilon^2}{8(1+\varepsilon)^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

The last three estimates yield

$$J_1 \leq C(1 + a)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}$$

for some  $C > 0$  that is independent of  $x$  and  $a$ .

To establish the estimate for  $J_2$ , we perform a change of variables to obtain

$$J_2 \leq x^m \int_1^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr = \frac{1}{m} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} \left(\frac{r}{x^m} + 1\right)^{\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{2}} dr.$$

If  $m \geq 2$ , we have

$$J_2 \leq \frac{1}{m} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr,$$

and if  $1 \leq m < 2$ , we have

$$J_2 \leq \frac{1}{m} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} (r + 1)^{\frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{2}} dr.$$

Therefore,  $J_2 \leq C$  for some  $C > 0$  that is independent of  $x$  and  $a$ . This completes the proof of the lemma.

In the proof of the Main Theorem (5.3.1), we will have to estimate the following two integrals:

$$I(x, r) = \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-(xr)^m + 2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

and

$$J(x, r) = \int_{|\theta| \geq \frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-(xr)^m + a(x^d + r^d)} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

where  $x, r, a \in (0, +\infty)$  and  $0 \leq d \leq m$ .

**Lemma (5.3.6)[152]:** For any  $m > 0$  there exist positive constants  $C = C(m)$  and  $R = R(m)$  such that

$$I(x, r) \leq C(xr)^{m-1} \int_0^1 e^{-((xr)^m - ar^d)t^2} dt$$

And

$$J(x, r) \leq \frac{C e^{-(xr)^m + a(x^d + r^d)}}{xr}$$

for all  $a > 0, 0 \leq d \leq m$ , and  $x > 0$  with  $xr > R$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Lemma (5.3.2) that there exist positive constants  $C = C(m)$  and  $R = R(m)$  such that for all  $a > 0$  and  $xr > R$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} I(x, r) &\leq C(xr)^{m-1} \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-(xr)^m + (xr)^m \cos(m\theta) + 2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} d\theta \\ &= 2C(xr)^{m-1} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-2(xr)^m \sin^2\left(\frac{m\theta}{2}\right) + 2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} d\theta \\ &\leq 2C(xr)^{m-1} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-2(xr)^m \sin^2\left(\frac{m\theta}{2}\right) + 2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{m\theta}{2}\right)} d\theta \\ &\leq 2C(xr)^{m-1} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-2((xr)^m - ar^d) \sin^2\left(\frac{m\theta}{2}\right)} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{4C}{m} (xr)^{m-1} \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} e^{-2((xr)^m - ar^d)t^2} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} \\
&\leq \frac{4\sqrt{2}C}{m} (xr)^{m-1} \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} e^{-2((xr)^m - ar^d)t^2} dt \\
&\leq \frac{4\sqrt{2}C}{m} (xr)^{m-1} \int_0^1 e^{-((xr)^m - ar^d)t^2} dt.
\end{aligned}$$

The estimate

$$J(x, r) \leq \frac{C e^{-(xr)^m + a(x^d + r^d)}}{xr}, \quad xr > R,$$

also follows from Lemma (5.3.2).

**Lemma (5.3.7)[152]:** For any  $m \geq 1$  there exist constants  $R = R(m) > 1$  and  $C = C(m) > 0$  such that

$$\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2 + a(x^d - r^d)} I(x, r) r dr \leq C (1 + a)^{\frac{1}{m} - 1} e^{a^2}$$

and

$$\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2} J(x, r) r dr \leq C (1 + a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m} - 1)} e^{a^2}$$

for all  $x > 0, a > 0$ , and  $0 \leq d \leq m$ .

**Proof.** For convenience we write

$$A_I(x, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2 + a(x^d - r^d)} I(x, r) r,$$

and

$$A_J(x, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2} J(x, r) r.$$

Let  $R$  and  $C$  be the constants from Lemma (5.3.6). In the integrands we have  $r > R/x$ , or  $xr > R$ , so according to Lemma (5.3.6),

$$I(x, r) \leq C (xr)^{m-1} \int_0^1 e^{-(xr)^m t^2 + ar^d t^2} dt.$$

If, in addition,  $x \leq 1$ , then

$$I(x, r) \leq C r^{m-1} e^{ar^d},$$

and

$$A_I(x, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2} e^{ax^d - ar^d} I(x, r) r \leq C r^m e^a e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} A_I(x, r) dr &\leq C e^a \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} r^m e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m - r^m)^2} dr \\
&\leq C e^a \int_0^{\infty} r^m e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^{2m} + x^m r^m - \frac{1}{2}r^{2m}} dr \\
&\leq C e^a \int_0^{\infty} r^m e^{r^{m-\frac{1}{2}} r^{2m}} dr \\
&\leq C (1 + a)^{\frac{1}{m} - 1} e^{a^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

for all  $a > 0$  and  $0 < x \leq 1$ .

Similarly, if  $x \leq 1$  (and  $xr > R$ ), we deduce from Lemma (5.3.6) and (42) that

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} A_J(x, r) dr &\leq \frac{C}{R} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2} e^{-(x^r)^m+ax^d+ar^d} r dr \\
&\leq \frac{C e^a}{R} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2m}+ar^d} r dr \\
&\leq C'(1+a) \max\left(0, \frac{2}{m} - 1\right) e^{a^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Suppose now that  $x \geq 1$  and  $rx > R$ . By Lemma (5.3.6) again,

$$A_I(x, r) \leq Cr(xr)^{m-1} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)} \int_0^1 e^{-t^2((xr)^m-ar^d)} dt.$$

Fix a sufficiently small  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ . If  $(xr)m \geq ar^d(1 + \varepsilon)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^1 e^{-t^2((xr)^m-ar^d)} dt &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(xr)^m - ar^d}} \int_0^{\sqrt{(xr)^m - ar^d}} e^{-s^2} ds \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{(xr)^m - ar^d}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-s^2} ds \\
&= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \frac{(xr)^{-\frac{m}{2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{ar^d}{(xr)^m}\right)}} \\
&\leq \sqrt{\frac{\pi(1 + \varepsilon)}{4\varepsilon}} (xr)^{-\frac{m}{2}},
\end{aligned}$$

so there exists a constant  $C = C(m)$  such that

$$A_I(x, r) \leq Cr(xr)^{\frac{m}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)}.$$

If  $(xr)^m \leq ar^d(1 + \varepsilon)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
A_I(x, r) &\leq a \frac{m-1}{m} r^{\frac{d(m-1)+m}{m}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+ax^d} \int_0^1 e^{(1-t^2)((xr)^m-ar^d)} dt \\
&\leq a \frac{m-1}{m} r^{\frac{d(m-1)+m}{m}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+a(x^d+\varepsilon r^d)}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} A_I(x, r) dr &\lesssim x^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \\
&\quad + a \frac{m-1}{m} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+a(x^d+\varepsilon r^d)} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

The change of variables  $r \mapsto xr$  along with the second part of Lemma (5.3.5) shows that

$$x^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)} r^{\frac{m}{2}} dr \leq C(1+a)e^{\frac{a^2}{2}}.$$

Similarly, the change of variables  $r \mapsto xr$  together with the first part Lemma (5.3.5) shows that

$$\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} r^{\frac{d(m-1)+m}{m}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+a(x^d+\varepsilon r^d)} dr \leq C(1+a) \frac{d(m-1)+m}{m} e^{\frac{1+\varepsilon^2}{2}a^2}.$$

We may assume that  $\varepsilon < 1$ . Then we can find a positive constant  $C$  such that

$$a^{\frac{m-1}{m}} \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} r^{\frac{d(m-1)+m}{m}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+a(x^d+\varepsilon r^d)} dr \leq C(1+a)^{\frac{1}{m}-1} e^{a^2}.$$

It follows that

$$\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} A_I(x, r) dr \leq C(1+a)^{\frac{1}{m}-1} e^{a^2}$$

for some other positive constant  $C$  that is independent of  $a$  and  $x$ . This proves the first estimate of the lemma.

To establish the second estimate of the lemma, we use Lemma (5.3.6) to get

$$xA_J(x, xr) = x^2 r e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1-r^m)^2} J(x, xr) \leq C e^{-\frac{x^{2m}}{2}(1+r^{2m})+ax^d(1+r^d)}.$$

It follows from this and Lemma (5.3.5) that

$$\int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} A_J(x, r) dr = x \int_{\frac{R}{x^2}}^{+\infty} A_J(x, xr) dr \leq C(1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m}-1)} e^{a^2}.$$

This completes the proof of the lemma.

**Lemma (5.3.8)[152]:** If  $u(z) = e^{g(z)}$  and  $v(z) = e^{-g(z)}$ , where  $g$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $m$ , then the operator  $T = T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ .

**Proof.** To prove the boundedness of  $T = T_u T_{\bar{v}}$ , we shall use a standard technique known as Schur's test [162]. Since

$$T f(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} K_m(z, w) e^{g(z)-\overline{g(w)}} f(w) e^{-|w|^{2m}} dA(w),$$

we have

$$|T f(z)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z|^{2m}} \leq \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_g(z, w) |f(w)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}|w|^{2m}} dA(w),$$

where

$$H_g(z, w) := |K_m(z, w)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z|^{2m}+|w|^{2m})+Re(g(z)-\overline{g(w)})}.$$

Thus  $T$  will be bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  if the integral operator  $S_g$  defined by

$$S_g f(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} (H_g(z, w) + H_g(w, z)) f(w) dA(w)$$

is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, dA)$ . Let

$$H_g(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_g(z, w) dA(w), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Since

$$H_{-g}(z) = \int_{\text{calculus}} \mathbb{C} H_g(w, z) dA(w),$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , by Schur's test, the operator  $S_g$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, dA)$  if we can find a positive constant  $C$  such that

$$H_{g(z)} + H_{-g(z)} \leq C, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$H_{g_1+g_2}(z) \leq \sqrt{H_{2g_1}(z) H_{2g_2}(z)}$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  and holomorphic polynomials  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ . Moreover, if

$$U_{\theta}(z) = e^{i\theta} z, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}, \theta \in [-\pi, \pi],$$



Then

$$H_{g \circ U_\theta} = H_g \circ U_\theta$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$ , and holomorphic polynomials  $g$ . Therefore, we only need prove the theorem for  $g(z) = az^d$  with some  $a > 0$  and  $d \leq m$  and establish that

$$\sup_{x \geq 0} H_g(x) \leq C_1 e^{C_2 a^2}, \quad (43)$$

where  $C_k$  are positive constants independent of  $a$  and  $d$  (but dependent on  $m$ ). We will see that  $C_2$  can be chosen as any constant greater than 1.

It is also easy to see that we only need to prove (43) for  $x \geq 1$ . This will allow us to use the inequality  $x^d \leq x^m$  for the rest of this proof.

For  $R > 0$  sufficiently large (we will specify the requirement on  $R$  later) we write

$$H_g(x) = \int_{|xw| \leq R} H_g(x, w) dA(w) + \int_{|xw| \geq R} H_g(x, w) dA(w).$$

We will show that both integrals are, up to a multiplicative constant, bounded above by  $e^{(1+\varepsilon)a^2}$ .

By properties of the Mittag-Leffler function, we have

$$|K_m(x, w)| \leq \frac{m}{\pi} E_{\frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{m}}(R) := C_R, \quad |xw| \leq R.$$

It follows that the integral

$$I_1 = \int_{|xw| \leq R} H_g(x, w) dA(w)$$

Satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_{|xw| \leq R} |K_m(z, w)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z|^{2m} + |w|^{2m}) + a \operatorname{Re}(x^d - w^d)} dA(w) \\ &\leq C_R \int_{|xw| \leq R} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m} + |w|^{2m}) + a \operatorname{Re}(x^d - w^d)} dA(w) \\ &\leq C_R e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^{2m} + ax^d} \int_{|xw| \leq R} e^{-\frac{|w|^{2m}}{2} + a|w|^d} dA(w) \\ &\leq 2\pi C_R e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^{2m} + ax^d} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2} + ar^d} r dr \\ &\leq 2\pi C_R e^{\frac{a^2}{2}} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2m}}{2} + ar^d} r dr \\ &\leq C(1 + a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m} - 1)} e^{a^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from (42).

We now focus on the integral

$$I_2 = \int_{|xw| \geq R} H_g(x, w) dA(w).$$

Observe that for all  $x, r$ , and  $\theta$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta}) &= x^d - r^d \cos(d\theta) = x^d - r^d + r^d (1 - \cos(d\theta)) \\ &= x^d - r^d + 2r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from polar coordinates that

$$I_2 = \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} H_g(x, re^{i\theta}) r d\theta dr$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^{2m}+r^{2m})+a(x^d-r^d \cos(d\theta))} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| r d\theta dr \\
&= \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2+a(x^d-r^d)-(xr)^m} r dr \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| d\theta \\
&\leq \int_{\frac{R}{x}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^m-r^m)^2} \left( e^{a(x^d-r^d)} I(x, r) + J(x, r) \right) r dr,
\end{aligned}$$

Where

$$I(x, r) = \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-(xr)^m + 2ar^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

and

$$J(x, r) = \int_{|\theta| \geq \frac{\pi}{2m}} e^{-(xr)^m + a(x^d+r^d)} |K_m(x, re^{i\theta})| d\theta.$$

By Lemma (5.3.7), there exists another constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$I_2 \leq C(1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m}-1)} e^{a^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}} \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_g(z, w) dA(w) \leq C(1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m}-1)} e^{a^2}$$

for yet another constant  $C$  that is independent of  $a$  and  $d$ . Similarly, we also have

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}} \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_{-g}(z, w) dA(w) \leq C(1+a)^{\max(0, \frac{2}{m}-1)} e^{a^2}$$

This yields (43) and proves the lemma.

We show that Sarason's conjecture is true for Toeplitz products on the Fock type space  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . We will prove that condition (37) in the Main Theorem (5.3.1) stated in the introduction is equivalent to conditions (35) and (36). Again we will break the proof down into several lemmas.

**Lemma (5.3.9)[152]:** Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , not identically zero, such that the operator  $T = T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . Then the function  $|\widehat{u}|^2(z) |\widehat{v}|^2(z)$  is bounded on the complex plane.

**Proof.** Since  $T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , the operator  $(T_u T_{\bar{v}})^* = T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  and the products  $(T_u T_{\bar{v}})^* T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  and  $(T_v T_{\bar{u}})^* T_v T_{\bar{u}}$  are also bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ . Consequently, their Berezin transforms are all bounded functions on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

For any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  we let  $k_z$  denote the normalized reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$  at  $z$ . Then  $\langle (T_u T_{\bar{v}})^* T_u T_{\bar{v}} k_z, k_z \rangle = \langle T_u T_{\bar{v}} k_z, T_u T_{\bar{v}} k_z \rangle = \langle uv(z) k_z, uv(z) k_z \rangle = |v(z)|^2 |\widehat{u}|^2(z)$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Similarly  $|u(z)|^2 |\widehat{v}|^2(z)$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ . By the proof of Lemma (5.3.4), the product  $uv$  is a non-zero complex constant, say,  $u(z)v(z) = C$ . It follows that the function

$$|\widehat{v}|^2(z) |\widehat{u}|^2(z) = |u(z)|^2 |\widehat{v}|^2(z) |v(z)|^2 |\widehat{u}|^2(z) \frac{1}{|C|^2}$$

is bounded as well.

To complete the proof of Sarason's conjecture, we will need to find a lower bound for the function

$$\mathcal{B}(z) = |\widehat{v}|^2(z) |u(z)|^2,$$

where  $u = e^g, v = e^{-g}$ , and  $g$  is a polynomial of degree  $d$ . We write

$$g(z) = a_d z^d + g_{d-1}(z),$$

where

$$a_d = a e^{i\alpha d}, \quad a > 0,$$

and

$$g_{d-1}(z) = \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} a_l z^l.$$

In the remainder, we will have to handle several integrals of the form

$$I(x) = \int_J S_x(r) e^{-g_x(r)} dr,$$

where  $S_x$  and  $g_x$  are  $C^3$ -functions on the interval  $J$ , and the real number  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ . We will make use of the following variant of the Laplace method (see [130]).

**Lemma (5.3.10)[152]:** Suppose that

- (a)  $g_x$  attains its minimum at a point  $r_x$ , which tends to  $+\infty$  as  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ , with  $c_x = g_x''(r_x) > 0$ ;
- (b) there exists  $\tau_x$  such that for  $|r - r_x| < \tau_x$ ,  $g_x''(r) = c_x(1 + o(1))$  as  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ ;
- (c) for  $|r - r_x| < \tau_x$ ,  $S_x(r) \sim S_x(r_x)$ ;
- (d) we have

$$\int_J S_x(r) e^{-g_x(r)} dr = (1 + o(1)) \int_{|r-r_x| < \tau_x} S_x(r) e^{-g_x(r)} dr$$

Then we have the following estimate

$$I(x) = (\sqrt{2\pi} + o(1)) [c_x]^{-1/2} S_x(r_x) e^{-g_x(r_x)}, \quad x \rightarrow +\infty. \quad (44)$$

The computations in [130] ensure that, under the assumptions on  $g_x$  and  $S_x$ , we have

$$\int_{|r-r_x| > \tau_x} S_x(r) e^{-g_x(r)} dr (c_x \tau_x)^{-1} \int_{|t| > \tau_x} e^{-\frac{1}{3} \tau_x c_x t} dt. \quad (45)$$

In particular, if one of the two conditions  $c_x \tau_x^2 \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $c_x \tau_x \rightarrow +\infty$  is satisfied, then hypothesis (d) in Lemma (5.3.10) holds.

The study of  $\mathcal{B}(z)$  will require some additional technical lemmas.

**Lemma (5.3.11)[152]:** For  $z = x e^{i\phi}$ , with  $x > 0$  and  $e^{i(\alpha d + d\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(z) \gtrsim \int_0^{+\infty} (rx)^{-\frac{m}{2}} r^{2m-1} e^{-h_x(r)} dr$$

as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ , where

$$h_x(r) = (r^m - x^m)^2 - 2a(x^d - r^d) + C(r^{d-1} + x^{d-1} + 1), \quad (46)$$

for some positive constant  $C$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to see that

$$\mathcal{B}(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} |K_m(w, z)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z) - g(w))} [K_m(z, z)]^{-1} e^{-|w|^{2m}} dA(w),$$

which, in terms of polar coordinates, can be rewritten as

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \int_{\pi}^{-\pi} |K_m(r e^{i\theta}, z)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z) - g(r e^{i\theta}))} [K_m(x, x)]^{-1} e^{-r^{2m}} r dr d\theta.$$

By Lemma (5.3.2),  $\mathcal{B}(z)$  is greater than or equal to

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} |K_m(re^{i\theta}, z)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z)-g(re^{i\theta}))} [K_m(x, x)]^{-1} e^{-r2m} r dr d\theta.$$

This together with Lemma (5.3.2) shows that

$$\mathcal{B}(z) \int_0^{+\infty} r^{2(m-1)} e^{-(r^m-x^m)^2} I(r, z) r dr,$$

where

$$I(r, z) = \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} I(r, z) &= \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}[ae^{i\alpha d} (x^d e^{id\phi} - r^d e^{id\theta})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z) - g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta \\ &= \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}[ae^{i(\alpha d + d\phi)} (x^d - r^d e^{id(\theta-\phi)})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z) - g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

The condition on  $\phi$  yields

$$I(r, z) = \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}[a(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)})]} d\theta.$$

Since

$$g_{d-1}(z) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)}) = \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} a_l (x^l e^{il\phi} - r^l e^{il(\theta+\phi)}),$$

we have

$$\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)})] \geq -C(r^{d-1} + x^{d-1} + 1)$$

for some constant  $C$ . It follows that

$$I(r, z) \geq e^{-C(r^{d-1} + x^{d-1} + 1)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}[(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta})]} d\theta.$$

For the integral we have

$$\begin{aligned} J(r, z) &:= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}[(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta})]} d\theta = \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a(x^d - r^d \cos(d\theta))} d\theta \\ &= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a(x^d - r^d + (-\cos(d\theta) + 1)r^d)} d\theta \\ &= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2a(x^d - r^d + 2\left(\sin\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)^2\right)r^d)} d\theta \\ &\geq e^{2a(x^d - r^d)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{4|a_d| \sin\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)^2 r^d} d\theta \\ &\geq e^{2a(x^d - r^d)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx)} d\theta \\ &\gtrsim e^{2a(x^d - r^d)} (rx)^{\frac{m}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of the lemma.

**Lemma (5.3.12)[152]:** Assume  $d = 2m$ . For  $z = xe^{i\phi}$ , where  $x > 0$  and  $e^{i(\alpha d + d\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(z) e^{\frac{2a}{(1+2a)} x^{2m}}, \quad x \rightarrow +\infty.$$

**Proof.** For  $x$  large enough, the function  $h_x$  defined in (46) is convex on some interval  $[M_x, +\infty)$  and attains its minimum at some point  $r_x$ . In order to bound  $\mathcal{B}(z)$  from below, we shall use the modified Laplace method from Lemma (5.3.10). Since

$$h'_x(r) = 2mr^{m-1}(r^m - x^m) + 2adr^{d-1} + C(d-1)r^{d-2}, \quad (47)$$

we have

$$h'_x(r) = 2m(1+2a)r^{2m-1} - 2mx^m r^{m-1} + C(d-1)r^{d-2},$$

and

$$h''_x(r) = 2m(2m-1)(1+2a)r^{2m-2} - 2m(m-1)x^m r^{m-2} + C(d-1)(d-2)r^{d-3}.$$

Writing  $h'_x(r_x) = 0$  and letting  $x$  tend to  $+\infty$ , we obtain

$$m(1+2a)(r_x)^{2m-1} \sim mx^m r_x^{m-1},$$

or

$$r_x \sim (1+2a)^{-\frac{1}{m}} x. \quad (48)$$

Thus there exists  $\rho_x$ , which tends to 0 as  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ , such that

$$r_x = (1+2a)^{-\frac{1}{m}} x(1+\rho_x). \quad (49)$$

When  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} h_x(r_x) &\sim (r_x^m - x^m)^2 + 2a(r_x^{2m} - x^{2m}) \\ &\sim (r_x^m - x^m) [(r_x^m - x^m) + 2a(r_x^m + x^m)] \\ &\sim x^{2m} [(1+2a)^{-1}(1+\rho_x)^m - 1] [(1+2a)^{-1}(1+\rho_x)^m - 1 \\ &\quad + 2a((1+2a)^{-1}(1+\rho_x)^m + 1)] \sim -x^{2m} \frac{2a}{(1+2a)}, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$-h_x(r_x) \sim x^{2m} \frac{2a}{(1+2a)}. \quad (50)$$

In order to estimate  $c_x := h''_x(r_x)$ , we compute that

$$h''_x(r_x) \sim 2m^2 (1+2a)^{-1+\frac{2}{m}} x^{2m-2}.$$

Thus we get

$$c_x \approx x^{2m-2}. \quad (51)$$

For  $r$  in a neighborhood of  $r_x$  we set  $r = (1+\sigma_x)r_x$ , where  $\sigma_x = \sigma_x(r) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ; a little computation shows that

$$h''_x(r) \sim h''_x(r_x)$$

as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . Taking  $\tau_x = r_x^{1/2}$  and  $|r - r_x| < \tau_x$ , we have  $h''_x(r) = (1+o(1))c_x$ , so

$$h_x(r) - h_x(r_x) = \frac{1}{2} c_x (r - r_x)^2 (1+o(1)).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{|r-r_x|<\tau_x} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_x(r-r_x)^2(1+o(1))} dr &= \int_{|t|<\tau_x} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_x t^2(1+o(1))} dt \\ &\sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_x}} \int_{|y|<\tau_x\sqrt{c_x}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_x}}, \end{aligned}$$

because  $c_x \tau_x^2 \approx r_x^{2m-1}$  tends to  $+\infty$  as  $x$  tends to  $+\infty$ . Finally, the estimates

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(z) &\gtrsim \int_{|r-r_x|<\tau_x} (r_x)^{-\frac{m}{2}} r^{2m-1} e^{-h_x(r)} dr \\ &= \int_{|r-r_x|<\tau_x} (rx)^{-\frac{m}{2}} r^{2m-1} e^{-h_x(r_x)} e^{-[h_x(r)-h_x(r_x)]} dr \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= e^{-h_x(r_x)} \int_{|r-r_x|<\tau_x} (rx)^{-\frac{m}{2}} r^{2m-1} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_x(r-r_x)^2(1+o(1))} dr \\
&\sim e^{-h_x(r_x)} r_x^{\frac{3}{2}m-1} x^{-\frac{m}{2}} \int_{|r-r_x|<\tau_x} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_x(r-r_x)^2(1+o(1))} dr \\
&\approx e^{-h_x(r_x)} r_x^{\frac{3}{2}m-1} x^{-\frac{m}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_x}}
\end{aligned}$$

along with (48), (50), and (51) give the lemma.

**Lemma (5.3.13)[152]:** Assume  $d < 2m$ . For  $z = xe^{i\phi}$ , with  $x > 0$  and  $e^{i(\alpha_d+d\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$B(z) \gtrsim e^{(1+o(1))\frac{a^2d^2}{m^2}x^{2d-2m}-Cx^{d-1-m}}, \quad x \rightarrow +\infty$$

for some positive constant  $C$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tau_x = o(x)$  be a positive real number that will be specified later. As in the proof of Lemma (5.3.11) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
B(z) &\gtrsim \int_0^{+\infty} r^{2(m-1)} e^{-(r^m-x^m)^2} I(r, z) r dr \\
&\gtrsim \int_{|r-x|\leq\tau_x} r^{2(m-1)} e^{-(r^m-x^m)^2} I(r, z) r dr,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$I(r, z) = \int_{|\theta-\phi|\leq c\theta_0(rx)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta.$$

There exists  $c' > 0$  such that for  $|r-x| \leq \tau_x$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I(r, z) &\geq \int_{|\theta-\phi|\leq c'\theta_0(x^2)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta|\leq c'\theta_0(x^2)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}(x^d-r^d e^{id\theta})+2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z)-g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta|\leq c'\theta_0(x^2)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}(x^d-r^d e^{id\theta})} - 2 \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} |a_l| |x^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| d\theta.
\end{aligned}$$

Now for  $|r-x| \leq \tau_x$ , we write  $r = (1+\sigma)x$ , where  $\sigma$  tends to 0 as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . Thus for  $0 \leq l \leq d-1$  and  $|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x^2)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
|x^l - r^l e^{il\theta}|^2 &= x^{2l} [1 - 2(1+\sigma)^l \cos(l\theta) + (1+\sigma)^{2l}] \\
&= x^{2l} [1 - 2(1+l\sigma + O(\sigma^2)) \cos(l\theta) + 1 + 2l\sigma + O(\sigma^2)] \\
&= x^{2l} [2(1 - \cos(l\theta))(1+l\sigma) + O(\sigma^2)] \\
&\lesssim x^{2l} \left[ \sin^2\left(\frac{l\theta}{2}\right) + \sigma^2 \right] \lesssim x^{2l} [\theta^2 + \sigma^2].
\end{aligned}$$

Next choosing  $|\sigma| \leq x^{-m}$ , we get

$$|x^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \lesssim x^{2l} x^{-2m} \lesssim x^{2(d-1)-2m}$$

or

$$|x^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \lesssim x^{d-1-m}.$$

Thus there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that for  $|r-x| \leq \tau_x$  and  $|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x^2)$ ,

$$2 \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} |a_l| |x^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \leq Cx^{d-1-m}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} I(r, z) &\geq \int_{|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x^2)} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta})} - Cx^{d-1-m} d\theta \\ &\gtrsim x^{-m} e^{2a\operatorname{Re}(x^d - r^d e^{id\theta})} - Cx^{d-1-m}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(z) &\int_{|r-x| \leq \tau_x} r^{2m-1} e^{-(r^m - x^m)^2} x^{-m} e^{2a(x^d - r^d) - Cx^{d-1-m}} dr \\ &= x^{-m} e^{-Cx^{d-1-m}} \int_{|r-x| \leq \tau} r^{2m-1} e^{-h_x(r)} dr, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h_x(r) = (r^m - x^m)^2 - 2a(x^d - r^d).$$

It is easy to see that  $h_x$  attains its minimum at  $r_x$  with  $r_x \sim x$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . Again we write

$$r_x = x(1 + \rho_x), \quad (52)$$

where  $\rho_x$  tends to 0 as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ . Using the fact that  $h'_x(r_x) = 0$ , we have

$$2mx^{2m-1} (1 + \rho_x)^{m-1} [(1 + \rho_x)^m - 1] \sim -2adx^{d-1} (1 + \rho_x)^{d-1},$$

and

$$2mx^{2m-1} m\rho_x \sim -2adx^{d-1}.$$

Therefore,

$$\rho_x \sim -\frac{ad}{m^2} x^{d-2m}. \quad (53)$$

Since

$$h''_x(r) = 2m(2m-1)r^{2m-2} - 2m(m-1)x^m r^{m-2} + 2ad(d-1)r^{d-2}$$

and  $d < 2m$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} h''_x(r_x) &\sim 2mx^{2m-2} [(2m-1)(1+\rho_x)^{2m-2} - (m-1)(1+\rho_x)^{m-2}] \\ &\sim 2m^2 x^{2m-2}. \end{aligned}$$

also,

$$\begin{aligned} h_x(r_x) &\sim x^{2m} [(1 + \rho_x)^m - 1]^2 + 2ax^d [(1 + \rho_x)^d - 1] \\ &\quad + C(x^{d-1} + r_x^{d-1} + 1) \sim m^2 \rho_x^2 x^{2m} + 2ax^d d\rho_x \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$c_x \sim 2m^2 x^{2m-2}, \quad (54)$$

and

$$-h_x(r_x) \sim \frac{a^2 d^2}{m^2} x^{2d-2m}. \quad (55)$$

Reasoning as in the proof of Lemma (5.3.12), we arrive at

$$\mathcal{B}(z) \gtrsim x^{-m} e^{-Cx^{d-1-m}} e^{-h_x(r_x)} x^{2m-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_x}}.$$

The desired estimate then follows from (55), and (54).

**Lemma (5.3.14)[152]:** Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_m^2$ , not identically zero, such that  $|\widehat{u}|^2(z) |\widehat{v}|^2(z)$  is bounded on the complex plane. Then there exists a nonzero constant  $C$  and a polynomial  $g$  of degree at most  $m$  such that  $u(z) = eg(z)$  and  $v(z) = Ce^{-g(z)}$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to check that for  $u \in \mathcal{F}_m^2$  we have

$$u(z) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} u(x) |k_z(x)|^2 d\lambda_m(x) = \tilde{u}(z).$$

Also, it follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality that  $|u(z)|^2 \leq \widetilde{|u|^2}(z)$ . So if  $\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)\widetilde{|v|^2}(z)$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ , then  $\mathcal{B}(z)$  and  $|u(z)v(z)|^2$  are also bounded. Consequently,  $uv$  is a constant, there is a non-zero constant  $C$  and a polynomial  $g$  such that  $u = e^g$  and  $v = Ce^{-g}$ . The condition  $u \in \mathcal{F}_m^2$  implies that the degree  $d$  of  $g$  is at most  $2m$ ; see Lemma (5.3.3).

We shall consider the case where  $u(z) = e^{g(z)}$  and  $v(z) = e^{-g(z)}$ . We will show that the boundedness of  $\mathcal{B}(z)$  implies  $d \leq m$ . If  $2m$  is an integer, Lemma (5.3.12) shows that we must have  $d < 2m$ .

Thus, in any case ( $2m$  being an integer or not), a necessary condition is  $d < 2m$ . The desired result now follows from Lemma (5.3.13).

We specialize to the case  $m = 1$  and make several additional remarks. For convenience we will alter notation somewhat here.

Thus for any  $\alpha > 0$  we let  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  denote the Fock space of entire functions  $f$  on the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}} |f(z)|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(z) < \infty,$$

where

$$d\lambda_\alpha(z) = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} e^{-\alpha|z|^2} dA(z).$$

Toeplitz operators on  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  are defined exactly the same as before using the orthogonal projection  $P_\alpha : L^2(\mathbb{C}, d\lambda_\alpha) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$ .

Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$ , not identically zero. It was proved in [146] that  $T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on the Fock space  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  if and only if there is a point  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$u(z) = be^{\alpha\bar{a}z}, \quad v(z) = ce^{-\alpha\bar{a}z}, \quad (56)$$

where  $b$  and  $c$  are nonzero constants. This certainly solves Sarason's problem for Toeplitz products on the space  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$ . But [146] somehow did not address Sarason's conjecture, which now of course follows from our main result.

We want to make two points here. First, the proof of Sarason's conjecture for  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  is relatively simple after Sarason's problem is solved. Second, Sarason's conjecture holds for the Fock space  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  for completely different reasons than was originally thought, namely, the motivation for Sarason's conjecture provided in [53] for the cases of Hardy and Bergman spaces is no longer valid for the Fock space. It is therefore somewhat amusing that Sarason's conjecture turns out to be true for the Fock space but fails for the Hardy and Bergman spaces.

Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are given by (56). We have

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{|u|^2}(z) &= \|f k_z\|^2 = \int_{\mathbb{C}} |f(w) e^{\alpha w \bar{z}} - (\alpha 2)|z|^2|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(w) \\ &= |b|^2 e^{-\alpha|z|^2} \int_{\mathbb{C}} |e^{\alpha w(\bar{a} + \bar{z})}|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(w) \\ &= |b|^2 e^{-\alpha|z|^2 + \alpha|a+z|^2} \\ &= |b|^2 e^{\alpha(|a|^2 + \bar{a}z + a\bar{z})}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\widetilde{|v|^2}(z) = |c|^2 e^{\alpha(|a|^2 - \bar{a}z - a\bar{z})}.$$

It follows that



$$\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)\widetilde{|v|^2}(z) = |bc|^2 e^{2\alpha|a|^2}$$

is a constant and hence a bounded function on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

On the other hand, it follows from Hölder's inequality that we always have

$$|u(z)|^2 \leq \widetilde{|u|^2}(z), \quad u \in \mathcal{F}_\alpha^2, z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Therefore, if  $\widetilde{|u|^2}\widetilde{|v|^2}$  is a bounded function on  $\mathbb{C}$ , then there exists a positive constant  $M$  such that

$$|u(z)v(z)|^2 \leq \widetilde{|u|^2}(z)\widetilde{|v|^2}(z) \leq M$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . Thus, as a bounded entire function,  $uv$  must be constant, say  $u(z)v(z) = C$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ . Since  $u$  and  $v$  are not identically zero, we must have  $C \neq 0$ . Since functions in  $\mathcal{F}_\alpha^2$  must have order less than or equal to 2, we can write  $u(z) = e^{p(z)}$ , where

$$p(z) = az^2 + bz + c$$

is a polynomial of degree less than or equal to 2. But  $u(z)v(z)$  is constant, so  $v(z) = e^{q(z)}$ , where

$$q(z) = -az^2 - bz + d$$

is another polynomial of degree less than or equal to 2.

We will show that  $a = 0$ . To do this, we will estimate the Berezin transform  $\widetilde{|u|^2}$  when  $u$  is a quadratic exponential function as given above. More specifically, for  $C_1 = |e^c|^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{|u|^2}(z) &= C_1 \int_{\mathbb{C}} |e^{a(z+w)^2 + b(z+w)}|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(w) \\ &= C_1 |e^{az^2 + bz}|^2 \int_{\mathbb{C}} |e^{aw^2 + (b+2az)w}|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(w). \end{aligned}$$

Write  $b + 2az = \alpha\bar{\zeta}$ . Then it follows from the inequality  $|\widetilde{F}|^2 \geq |\overline{F}|^2$  for  $F \in F_\alpha^2$  again that

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{|u|^2}(z) &= C_1 |e^{az^2 + bz}|^2 e^{\alpha|\zeta|^2} \int_{\mathbb{C}} |e^{aw^2} k_\zeta(w)|^2 d\lambda_\alpha(w) \\ &\geq C_1 |e^{az^2 + bz}|^2 e^{\alpha|\zeta|^2} |e^{a\zeta^2}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

If we do the same estimate for the function  $v$ , the result is

$$\widetilde{|v|^2}(z) \geq C_2 |e^{-az^2 - bz}|^2 e^{\alpha|\zeta|^2} |e^{-a\zeta^2}|^2,$$

where  $\zeta$  is the same as before and  $C_2 = |e^d|^2$ . It follows that

$$\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)\widetilde{|v|^2}(z) \geq C_1 C_2 e^{2\alpha|\zeta|^2} = C_1 C_2 e^{2|b+2az|^2/\alpha}.$$

This shows that  $\widetilde{|u|^2}\widetilde{|v|^2}$  is unbounded unless  $a = 0$ . Therefore, the boundedness of  $\widetilde{|u|^2}\widetilde{|v|^2}$  implies that

$$u(z) = e^{bz+c}, \quad v(z) = e^{-bz+d}.$$

By [146], the product  $T_u T_v$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$ . In fact,  $T_u T_v$  is a constant times a unitary operator.

Combining the arguments above and the main result of [146] we have actually proved that the following conditions are equivalent for  $u$  and  $v$  in  $F_\alpha^2$ :

- (a)  $T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is bounded on  $F_\alpha^2$ .
- (b)  $T_u T_{\bar{v}}$  is a constant multiple of a unitary operator.
- (b)  $\widetilde{|u|^2}\widetilde{|v|^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- (c)  $\widetilde{|u|^2}\widetilde{|v|^2}$  is constant on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Recall that in the case of Hardy and Bergman spaces, there is actually an absolute constant  $C$  (4 for the Hardy space and 16 for the Bergman space) such that

$$|\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)| |\widetilde{|v|^2}(z)| \leq C \|T_u T_{\bar{v}}\|^2$$

for all  $u, v$ , and  $z$ . We now show that such an estimate is not possible for the Fock space. To see this, consider the functions

$$u(z) = e^{\alpha \bar{a}z}, \quad v(z) = e^{-\alpha \bar{a}z}.$$

By calculations done in [146], we have

$$T_u T_{\bar{v}} = e^{\alpha|a|^2/2} W_a,$$

where  $W_a$  is the Weyl unitary operator defined by  $W_a f(z) = f(z - a)k_a(z)$ . On the other hand, by calculations done earlier, we have

$$|\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)| |\widetilde{|v|^2}(z)| = e^{2\alpha|a|^2}.$$

It is then clear that there is NO constant  $C$  such that

$$e^{2\alpha|a|^2} \leq C e^{\alpha|a|^2/2}$$

for all  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ . Therefore, there is NO constant  $C$  such that

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}} |\widetilde{|u|^2}(z)| |\widetilde{|v|^2}(z)| \leq C \|T_u T_{\bar{v}}\|^2$$

for all  $u$  and  $v$ . In other words, the easy direction for Sarason's conjecture in the cases of Hardy and Bergman spaces becomes difficult for Fock spaces.

**Corollary (5.3.15)[185]:** If  $f_s \in \mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$ , there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|f_s(z_n)| \leq C |z_n|^{-\left(\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon\right)} e^{\frac{1}{2}|z_n|^{1-2\epsilon}}, \quad z_n \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Consequently, the order of every function in  $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$  is at most  $(1 - 2\epsilon)$ .

**Proof.** By the reproducing property and Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, we have

$$|f_s(z_n)| = \left| \int_{\mathbb{C}} \sum_s f_s(w_n) K_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}(z_n, w_n) d\lambda_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}(w_n) \right| \leq \sum_s \|f_s\| K_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}(z_n, z_n)^{1/2}$$

for all  $f_s \in \mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$  and all  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}$ . The desired estimate then follows from Lemma (5.3.2).

See [156] for more details.

**Corollary (5.3.16)[185]:** Suppose that  $u^2$  and  $v^2$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$ , each not identically zero, and that the operator  $T = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$ . Then there exists a polynomial

$g$  of degree at most  $\left(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon\right)$  and a nonzero complex constant  $c$  such that  $u^2(z_n) = e^{g(z_n)}$  and  $v^2(z_n) = c e^{-g(z_n)}$ .

**Proof.** If  $T = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{1}{2}-\epsilon}^2$ , then the Berezin transform  $T$  is bounded, where

$$T(z_n) = \langle T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2} k_{z_n}, k_{z_n} \rangle, \quad z_n \in \mathbb{C}.$$

By the reproducing property of the kernel functions, it is easy to see that

$$T(z_n) = u^2(z_n) \overline{v^2(z_n)}.$$

Since each  $k_{z_n}$  is a unit vector, it follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality that

$$|u^2(z_n) v^2(z_n)| = |\tilde{T}(z_n)| \leq \|T\|$$

for all  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}$ . This together with Liouville's theorem shows that there exist a constant  $c$  such that  $u^2 v^2 = c$ . Since neither  $u^2$  nor  $v^2$  is identically zero, we have  $c \neq 0$ . Consequently, both  $u^2$  and  $v^2$  are non-vanishing.

Recall from Corollary (5.3.15) that the order of functions in  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$  is at most  $2(d+\epsilon)$ , so there is a polynomial of degree  $d$ ,

$$g(z_n) = \sum_{k=0}^d (1+\epsilon)_k z_n^k, \quad d \leq [2(d+\epsilon)],$$

such that  $u^2 = e^g$  and  $v^2 = ce^{-g}$ . It remains to show that  $\epsilon \geq 0$ .

Since  $T$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$ , the function

$$F(z_n, w_n) = \frac{\langle T(K_{d+\epsilon}(\cdot, w_n)), K_{d+\epsilon}(\cdot, z_n) \rangle}{\sqrt{K_{d+\epsilon}(z_n, z_n)} \sqrt{K_{d+\epsilon}(w_n, w_n)}}$$

must be bounded on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . On general reproducing Hilbert spaces, we always have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2} K_{w_n}, K_{z_n} \rangle &= \langle T_{\bar{v}^2} K_{w_n}, T_{u^2} K_{z_n} \rangle = \langle \bar{v}^2(w_n) K_{w_n}, u^2(z_n) K_{z_n} \rangle \\ &= u^2(z_n) \bar{v}^2(w_n) K(z_n, w_n). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$F(z_n, w_n) = \bar{c} e^{g(z_n) - \overline{g(w_n)}} \frac{K_{d+\epsilon}(z_n, w_n)}{\sqrt{K_{d+\epsilon}(z_n, z_n)} \sqrt{K_{d+\epsilon}(w_n, w_n)}}.$$

From Lemma (5.3.2) we deduce that

$$|F(z_n, w_n)| \gtrsim e^{Re(g(z_n) - g(w_n))} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z_n|^{d+\epsilon} - |w_n|^{d+\epsilon})^2} \quad (57)$$

for all  $|\arg(z_n \bar{w}_n)| \leq c\theta_0(|z_n w_n|)$  as  $|z_n w_n|$  grows to infinity. Choose  $x_n > 0$  sufficiently large and set

$$z_n(x_n) = x_n e^{i\frac{\pi}{2d}} e^{-i\frac{\arg((1+\epsilon)d)}{d}},$$

and

$$w_n(x_n) = x_n e^{i\frac{\pi}{2d}} e^{-i\frac{\arg((1+\epsilon)d) + \frac{c}{2(d+\epsilon)x_n^{d+\epsilon}}}{d}}.$$

Since

$$\theta_0(|z_n(x_n) w_n(x_n)|) = \frac{1}{(d+\epsilon)x_n^{d+\epsilon}},$$

we can apply (57) to  $z_n(x_n)$  and  $w_n(x_n)$  to get

$$e^{Re(g(z_n(x_n)) - g(w_n(x_n)))} \lesssim \sup_{(z_n, w_n) \in \mathbb{C}^2} |F(z_n, w_n)| < \infty \quad (58)$$

as  $x_n$  grows to infinity. On the other hand, a few computations show that

$$\begin{aligned} &Re(g(z_n(x_n)) - g(w_n(x_n))) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^d x_n^j Re\left((1+\epsilon)_j e^{ij\frac{\pi}{2d} - i\frac{j}{d}\arg[(1+\epsilon)d]} \left(1 - e^{-i\frac{cj}{2(d+\epsilon)dx_n^{d+\epsilon}}}\right)\right) \\ &\left(1 - e^{-i\frac{cj}{2(d+\epsilon)dx_n^{d+\epsilon}}}\right) = |(1+\epsilon)_d| x_n^d \sin\left(\frac{c}{2(d+\epsilon)x_n^{d+\epsilon}}\right) + g_{d-1}(x_n), \\ &= |(1+\epsilon)_d| x_n^d \sin\left(\frac{c}{2(d+\epsilon)x_n^{d+\epsilon}}\right) + g_{d-1}(x_n), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
g_{d-1}(x_n) &= \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} x_n^j \operatorname{Re} \left( (1+\epsilon)_j e^{i\frac{j\pi}{2d} - i\frac{j}{d} \arg((1+\epsilon)_d)} \left( 1 - e^{-i\frac{cj}{2(d+\epsilon)dx_n^{d+\epsilon}}} \right) \right) \\
&= - \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} |(1+\epsilon)_j| x_n^j \sin \left( \frac{j\pi}{2d} + \arg(1+\epsilon)_j \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{j}{d} \arg((1+\epsilon)_d) \right) \sin \frac{cj}{2(d+\epsilon)dx_n^{d+\epsilon}} \\
&\quad + \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} |(1+\epsilon)_j| x_n^j \cos \left[ \frac{j\pi}{2d} + \arg(1+\epsilon)_j - \frac{j}{d} \arg((1+\epsilon)_d) \right] \left[ 1 \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \cos \frac{cj}{2(d+\epsilon)dx_n^{d+\epsilon}} \right] \lesssim x_n^{\epsilon-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there exist some  $(x_n)_0 > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left( g(z_n(x_n)) - g(w_n(x_n)) \right) \geq \frac{\delta |(1+\epsilon)_d| x_n^d}{x_n^{d+\epsilon}}$$

for all  $x_n \geq (x_n)_0$ . Since  $(1+\epsilon)_d \neq 0$ , it follows from (58) that  $\epsilon \geq 0$ .

On several occasions later on we will need to estimate the integral

$$I(1+\epsilon) = \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr,$$

where  $\epsilon \geq 0$ .

First, suppose  $\epsilon > 0$ . By various changes of variables, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I(1+\epsilon) &= \int_0^1 e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr + \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\
&\leq e^{1+\epsilon} \int_0^1 r^{\epsilon-1} dr + \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^{d+\epsilon}} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\
&= \frac{e^{1+\epsilon}}{\epsilon} + e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(r^{d+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon))^2} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\
&= \frac{e^{1+\epsilon}}{\epsilon} + \frac{e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}}{d+\epsilon} \int_1^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t-1+\epsilon)^2} t^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt.
\end{aligned}$$

If  $\frac{\epsilon}{d+\epsilon} - 1 \leq 0$ , then

$$I(1+\epsilon) \leq \frac{e^{1+\epsilon}}{\epsilon} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{d+\epsilon} e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \leq \left( \frac{\sqrt{e}}{\epsilon} + \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{d+\epsilon} \right) e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}.$$

Otherwise, we have  $\frac{\epsilon}{d+\epsilon} - 1 > 0$ . Using the fact that  $u^2 \mapsto u^{\frac{-2d}{d+\epsilon}}$  is increasing, we see that

$$\int_{-\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t+1+\epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt \leq \left( \frac{3(1+\epsilon)}{2} \right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \int_{-\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \leq \sqrt{2\pi} \left( \frac{3(1+\epsilon)}{2} \right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}}.$$

For the same reason we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t + 1 + \epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt &\leq \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (3t)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt \leq 3^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \int_0^{+\infty} t^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} (3\sqrt{2})^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \int_0^{+\infty} u^{\frac{-2d}{d+\epsilon}} e^{-u^2} dt = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} (3\sqrt{2})^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \Gamma\left(\frac{\epsilon-1}{2(d+\epsilon)}\right). \end{aligned}$$

In the case when  $\epsilon > 0$  (or equivalently  $\epsilon > 0$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{-\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t + 2 + \epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt &\leq \left(\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}\right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{-\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt \\ &\leq \left(\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}\right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{-\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}} e^{\frac{(2+\epsilon)t}{4}} dt \leq \left(\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}\right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} \frac{4}{2+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{(2+\epsilon)^2}{8}} \\ &\leq 2 \left(\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}\right)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that there exists a constant  $C = C(d + \epsilon, \epsilon - 1) > 0$  such that

$$\int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t-(2+\epsilon))^2} t^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt = \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} (t + 2 + \epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} dt \leq C (1 + 2 + \epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}}$$

for  $d < 0$ . It is then easy to find another positive constant  $C = C(d + \epsilon, \epsilon - 1)$ , independent of  $(1 + \epsilon)$ , such that

$$I(1 + \epsilon) \leq C (2 + \epsilon)^{\frac{-d}{d+\epsilon}} e^{\frac{-d}{2} \frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}$$

for all  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $d < 0$ . Therefore,

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \leq C (2 + \epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{-d}{d+\epsilon})} e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \quad (59)$$

for all  $\epsilon \geq 0$ . Since  $I(1 + \epsilon)$  is increasing in  $(1 + \epsilon)$ , the estimate above holds for  $0 \leq \epsilon \leq 1$  as well.

**Corollary (5.3.17)[185]:** For any  $\delta > 0, \epsilon > 0$ , we can find a constant  $C > 0$  (depending on  $1 + \epsilon, \delta, 1 + \epsilon, \epsilon - 1, 1 + \epsilon$  but not on  $1 + \epsilon, d, x_n$ ) such that

$$x_n^{-1} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} (1+r^{2(1+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d (1+\delta r^d)} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \leq C (2 + \epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon})} e^{\frac{1+\delta^2}{2} (1+\epsilon)^2}$$

and

$$x_n^{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} (1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d (1-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \leq C (2 + \epsilon) e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}$$

for all  $x_n > 0, \epsilon \geq 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $I = I(1 + \epsilon, \epsilon - 1, 1 + \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon, d)$  denote the first integral that we are trying to estimate. If  $x_n \geq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} I &= x_n^{-1} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x_n r)^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta(x_n r)^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\ &\leq x_n^{-(1+\epsilon)} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^{1+\epsilon}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon))^2 + \frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \frac{\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} r^{1+\epsilon}}{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(1+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)\delta r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\ &\leq \frac{e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}}{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta r^d} r^{2\epsilon} dr. \end{aligned}$$

The desired result then follows from (59).

If  $0 < x_n < 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} I &= x_n^{-1} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x_n r)^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta(x_n r)^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\ &\leq e^{1+\epsilon} x_n^{-(1+\epsilon)} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta r^d} r^{\epsilon-1} dr \\ &\leq \frac{e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2} + 1}}{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)\delta r^d} r^{2\epsilon} dr. \end{aligned}$$

The desired estimate follows from (59) again.

To prove the second part of the corollary, denote by  $J = J(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon)$  the second integral that we are trying to estimate. Then it is clear from a change of variables that for  $0 < x_n < 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} J(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon) &= x_n^{\frac{\epsilon-1}{2}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\ &\leq \frac{e^{1+\epsilon}}{1+\epsilon} x_n^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)} - 2(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + r^{2(1+\epsilon)})} r^{\frac{3+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\ &\leq \frac{e^{1+\epsilon}}{1+\epsilon} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2} + r^{1+\epsilon}} r^{\frac{3+\epsilon}{2}} dr = C e^{1+\epsilon} \leq C'(2 + \epsilon) e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the constants  $C$  and  $C'$  only depend on  $1 + \epsilon$ .

Next assume that  $x_n \geq 1$ . In case  $1 + \epsilon \leq x_n^2$  we write  $J = J_1 + J_2$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= J_1(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon) \\ &= x_n^{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr, \end{aligned}$$

And

$$\begin{aligned} J_2 &= J_2(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon) \\ &= x_n^{1+\epsilon} \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr. \end{aligned}$$

Otherwise we just use  $J_1 \leq J_2$ . So it suffices to estimate the two integrals above.

To handle  $J_1(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon)$ , we fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  and consider two cases. In the case  $x_n^{1+\epsilon} \leq (1 + \epsilon)^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon) &\leq x_n^{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d(1-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\
&\leq (1 + \epsilon)^2 e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon}(1-r^{1+\epsilon}) - (1+\epsilon))^2} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\
&\leq (1 + \epsilon)^2 e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

When  $x_n^{1+\epsilon} \geq (1 + \epsilon)^2$ , we set  $y_n = x_n^{1+\epsilon}$  and  $\tau = (y_n - (1 + \epsilon))/2$ . Then we have

$$\tau \geq \frac{y_n - (1 + \epsilon)}{2} \rightarrow +\infty$$

as  $y_n \rightarrow +\infty$ . By successive changes of variables we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1(1 + \epsilon, d, 1 + \epsilon, x_n, 1 + \epsilon) &\leq x_n^{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^1 e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)x_n^{1+\epsilon}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\
&= \frac{y_n}{1 + \epsilon} \int_0^{1 - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}}{y_n}} (1 - r)^{\frac{1}{1+\epsilon} - \frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{y_n^2 r^2}{2} + (1+\epsilon)y_n r} dr \\
&= \frac{1}{1 + \epsilon} \int_0^{y_n - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}}{y_n}} \left(1 - \frac{r}{y_n}\right)^{\frac{1-\epsilon}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2} + (1+\epsilon)r} dr \\
&= \frac{e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}}{1 + \epsilon} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{y_n - (1+\epsilon) - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}}{y_n}} \left(1 - \frac{1 + \epsilon}{y_n} - \frac{r}{y_n}\right)^{\frac{1}{1+\epsilon} - \frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

This shows that for  $0 \leq \epsilon \leq 1$  we have

$$J_1 \leq \frac{e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}}{1 + \epsilon} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{y_n - (1+\epsilon) - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{1+\epsilon}}{y_n}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \leq \frac{\sqrt{2\pi}}{1 + \epsilon} e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}.$$

Thus we suppose that  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-\tau}^{\tau} \left(1 - \frac{1 + \epsilon}{y_n} - \frac{r}{y_n}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr &\leq \left(1 - \frac{1 + \epsilon}{y_n} - \frac{\tau}{y_n}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \\
&= \left(\frac{\tau}{2y_n}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \leq \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{4(1 + \epsilon)}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover, in case  $-(1 + \epsilon) < -\tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{-\tau} \left(1 - \frac{1 + \epsilon}{y_n} - \frac{r}{y_n}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dv^2 \\
\leq \left(1 - \frac{1 + \epsilon}{y_n} + \frac{\tau}{y_n}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \int_{-(1+\epsilon)}^{-\tau} e^{-\frac{\tau|r|}{2}} dr \\
\leq 2 \left(\frac{3\epsilon}{2(1 + \epsilon)}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \frac{e^{-\frac{\tau^2}{2}}}{\tau} \leq 4 \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \left(\frac{\epsilon}{1 + \epsilon}\right)^{-\frac{5+\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} e^{-\frac{\epsilon^2}{8(1+\epsilon)^2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, in case  $y_n - (1 + \epsilon) - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{2+\epsilon}}{y_n} \geq \tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\tau}^{y_n^{-(1+\epsilon)} - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{2+\epsilon}}{y_n}} \left[ 1 - \frac{1+\epsilon}{y_n} - \frac{r}{y_n} \right]^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \\
& \leq \left[ \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{2+\epsilon}}{y_n^2} \right]^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} \int_{\tau}^{y_n^{-(1+\epsilon)} - \frac{(1+\epsilon)^{2+\epsilon}}{y_n}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr \\
& \leq 2(1+\epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2}} \left[ \frac{\epsilon}{2(1+\epsilon)} \right]^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2+\epsilon}} \tau^{-\frac{2}{2+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{\tau^2}{2}} \left( \text{since } \tau \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2(1+\epsilon)} \right) \\
& \leq 4(1+\epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2}} \frac{1+\epsilon}{\epsilon} e^{-\frac{\epsilon^2}{8(1+\epsilon)^2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

The last three estimates yield

$$J_1 \leq C(2+\epsilon)e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}$$

for some  $C > 0$  that is independent of  $x_n$  and  $(1+\epsilon)$ .

To establish the estimate for  $J_2$ , we perform a change of variables to obtain

$$J_2 \leq x_n^{2+\epsilon} \int_1^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(2+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{2+\epsilon})^2} r^{\frac{2+\epsilon}{2}} dr = \frac{1}{2+\epsilon} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} \left( \frac{r}{x_n^{2+\epsilon}} + 1 \right)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{2(2+\epsilon)}} dr.$$

If  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , we have

$$J_2 \leq \frac{1}{2+\epsilon} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} dr,$$

and if  $0 \leq \epsilon < 1$ , we have

$$J_2 \leq \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} (r+1)^{\frac{1-\epsilon}{2(1+\epsilon)}} dr.$$

Therefore,  $J_2 \leq C$  for some  $C > 0$  that is independent of  $x_n$  and  $(1+\epsilon)$ . This completes the proof of the corollary.

In the proof of the main theorem, we will have to estimate the following two integrals:

$$I(x_n, r) = \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + 2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} |K_{1+\epsilon}(x_n, r e^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

and

$$J(x_n, r) = \int_{|\theta| \geq \frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d + r^d)} |K_{1+\epsilon}(x_n, r e^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

where  $x_n, r, 1+\epsilon \in (0, +\infty)$  and  $\epsilon \geq 0$ .

**Corollary (5.3.18)[185]:** For any  $\epsilon > -1$  there exist positive constants  $C = C(1+\epsilon)$  and  $\epsilon = -1$  such that

$$I(x_n, r) \leq C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^1 e^{-((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d)t^2} dt$$

and

$$J(x_n, r) \leq \frac{C e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d + r^d)}}{x_n r}$$

for all  $\epsilon \geq 0$ , and  $x_n > 0$  with  $x_n r > 1+\epsilon$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Lemma (5.3.2) that there exist positive constants  $C = C(1+\epsilon)$  and  $\epsilon = -1$  such that for all  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $x_n r > 1+\epsilon$  we have



$$\begin{aligned}
I(x_n, r) &\leq C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + (x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} \cos((1+\epsilon)\theta) + 2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} d\theta \\
&= 2C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-2(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} \sin^2\left(\frac{(1+\epsilon)\theta}{2}\right) + 2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta d}{2}\right)} d\theta \\
&\leq 2C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-2(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} \sin^2\left(\frac{(1+\epsilon)\theta}{2}\right) + 2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{(1+\epsilon)\theta}{2}\right)} d\theta \\
&\leq 2C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-2((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d) \sin^2\left(\frac{(1+\epsilon)\theta}{2}\right)} d\theta \\
&= \frac{4C}{1+\epsilon} (x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} e^{-2((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d) t^2 \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1-t^2}}} \\
&\leq \frac{4\sqrt{2}C}{1+\epsilon} (x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}} e^{-2((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d) t^2} dt \\
&\leq \frac{4\sqrt{2}C}{1+\epsilon} (x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^1 e^{-((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d) t^2} dt.
\end{aligned}$$

The estimate

$$J(x_n, r) \leq \frac{C e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d + r^d)}}{x_n r}, \quad x_n r > 1 + \epsilon,$$

also follows from Lemma (5.3.2).

**Corollary (5.3.19)[185]:** For any  $\epsilon \geq 0$  there exist constants  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $C = C(1 + \epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} I(x_n, r) r dr \leq C (2 + \epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}$$

and

$$\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2} J(x_n, r) r dr \leq C (2 + \epsilon)^{\max(0, -\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}$$

for all  $x_n > 0$ ,  $\epsilon \geq 0$ .

**Proof.** For convenience we write  $x_n$

$$A_I(x_n, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} I(x_n, r) r,$$

and

$$A_J(x_n, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2} J(x_n, r) r.$$

Let  $(1 + \epsilon)$  and  $C$  be the constants from Corollary (5.3.18). In the integrands we have  $r > 1 + \epsilon/x_n$ , or  $x_n r > 1 + \epsilon$ , so according to Corollary (5.3.18),

$$I(x_n, r) \leq C(x_n r)^\epsilon \int_0^1 e^{-(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} t^2 + (1+\epsilon)r^d t^2} dt.$$

If, in addition,  $x_n \leq 1$ , then

$$I(x_n, r) \leq C r^\epsilon e^{(1+\epsilon)r^d},$$

and

$$A_I(x_n, r) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2} e^{(1+\epsilon)x_n^d - (1+\epsilon)r^d} I(x_n, r) r \leq Cr^{1+\epsilon} e^{1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} A_I(x_n, r) dr &\leq Ce^{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} r^{1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2} dr \\ &\leq Ce^{1+\epsilon} \int_0^{\infty} r^{1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)} + x_n^{1+\epsilon}r^{1+\epsilon} - \frac{1}{2}r^{2(1+\epsilon)}} dr \\ &\leq Ce^{1+\epsilon} \int_0^{\infty} r^{1+\epsilon} e^{r^{1+\epsilon} - \frac{1}{2}r^{2(1+\epsilon)}} dr \leq C(1 + 1 + \epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $0 < x_n \leq 1$ .

Similarly, if  $x_n \leq 1$  (and  $x_n r > 1 + \epsilon$ ), we deduce from Corollary (5.3.18) and (59) that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} A_J(x_n, r) dr &\leq \frac{C}{1 + \epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2} e^{-(x_n^r)^{1+\epsilon} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r dr \\ &\leq \frac{Ce^{1+\epsilon}}{1 + \epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}r^{2(1+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r dr \\ &\leq C'(2 + \epsilon) \max\left(0, \frac{1 - \epsilon}{1 + \epsilon}\right) e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose now that  $x_n \geq 1$  and  $rx_n > 1 + \epsilon$ . By Corollary (5.3.18) again,

$$A_I(x_n, r) \leq Cr(x_n r)^\epsilon e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} \int_0^1 e^{-t^2((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d)} dt.$$

Fix a sufficiently small  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ . If  $(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} \geq (1 + \epsilon)r^d(1 + \epsilon)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 e^{-t^2((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d)} dt &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1 + \epsilon)r^d}} \int_0^{\sqrt{(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d}} e^{-s^2} ds \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1 + \epsilon)r^d}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-s^2} ds = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \frac{(x_n r)^{-\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{(1 + \epsilon)r^d}{(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon}}\right)}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{\pi(1 + \epsilon)}{4\epsilon}} (x_n r)^{-\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

so there exists a constant  $C = C(1 + \epsilon)$  such that

$$A_I(x_n, r) \leq Cr(x_n r)^{\frac{\epsilon-1}{2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon} - r^{1+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)}.$$

If  $(x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} \leq r^d(1 + \epsilon)^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &A_I(x_n, r) (1 + \epsilon)^{\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} r^{\frac{d(\epsilon)+1+\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)} + r^{2(1+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d} \int_0^1 e^{(1-t^2)((x_n r)^{1+\epsilon} - (1+\epsilon)r^d)} dt \\ &\leq (1 + \epsilon)^{\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} r^{\frac{d(\epsilon)+1+\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)} + r^{2(1+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d + \epsilon r^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} A_I(x_n, r) dr \\
& \lesssim x_n^{\frac{\epsilon-1}{2}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon}-r^{1+\epsilon})^2+(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \\
& \quad + (1+\epsilon) \frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}+r^{2(1+\epsilon)})+(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d+\epsilon r^d)} dr.
\end{aligned}$$

The change of variables  $r \mapsto x_n r$  along with the second part of Corollary (5.3.17) shows that

$$x_n^{\frac{\epsilon-1}{2}} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{1+\epsilon}-r^{1+\epsilon})^2+(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d-r^d)} r^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}} dr \leq C(2+\epsilon) e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}}.$$

Similarly, the change of variables  $r \mapsto x_n r$  together with the first part Corollary (5.3.17) shows that

$$\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} r^{\frac{d(\epsilon)+1+\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}+r^{2(1+\epsilon)})+(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d+\epsilon r^d)} dr \leq C(2+\epsilon) \frac{d(\epsilon)+1+\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} e^{\frac{1+\epsilon^2}{2}(1+\epsilon)^2}.$$

We may assume that  $\epsilon < 1$ . Then we can find a positive constant  $C$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
(1+\epsilon) \frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} r^{\frac{d(\epsilon)+1+\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}+r^{2(1+\epsilon)})+(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d+\epsilon r^d)} dr \\
\leq C(2+\epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} A_I(x_n, r) dr \leq C(2+\epsilon)^{-\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon}} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}$$

for some other positive constant  $C$  that is independent of  $(1+\epsilon)$  and  $x_n$ . This proves the first estimate of the corollary.

To establish the second estimate of the corollary, we use Corollary (5.3.18) to get

$$\begin{aligned}
x_n A_J(x_n, x_n r) &= x_n^2 r e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1-r^{1+\epsilon})^2} J(x_n, x_n r) \\
&\leq C e^{-\frac{x_n^{2(1+\epsilon)}}{2}(1+r^{2(1+\epsilon)})+(1+\epsilon)x_n^d(1+r^d)}.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows from this and Corollary (5.3.17) that

$$\int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} A_J(x_n, r) dr = x_n \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n^2}}^{+\infty} A_J(x_n, x_n r) dr \leq C(2+\epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{1-\epsilon}{1+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}.$$

This completes the proof of the corollary.

**Corollary (5.3.20)[185]:** If  $u^2(z_n) = e^{g(z_n)}$  and  $v^2(z_n) = e^{-g(z_n)}$ , where  $g$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $1+\epsilon$ , then the operator  $T = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{1+\epsilon}^2$ .

**Proof.** To prove the boundedness of  $T = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$ , we shall use a standard technique known as Schur's test [162]. Since

$$T \left( \sum_s f_s(z_n) \right) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} \sum_s K_{1+\epsilon}(z_n, w_n) e^{g(z_n) - \overline{g(w_n)}} f_s(w_n) e^{-|w_n|^{2(1+\epsilon)}} dA(w_n),$$

we have

$$\left| T \left( \sum_s f_s(z_n) \right) \right| e^{-\frac{1}{2}|z_n|^{2(1+\epsilon)}} \leq \int_{\mathbb{C}} \sum_s H_g(z_n, w_n) |f_s(w_n)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}|w_n|^{2(1+\epsilon)}} dA(w_n),$$

where

$$H_g(z_n, w_n) := |K_{1+\epsilon}(z_n, w_n)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z_n|^{2(1+\epsilon)} + |w_n|^{2(1+\epsilon)}) + \operatorname{Re}(g(z_n) - \overline{g(w_n)})}.$$

Thus  $T$  will be bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{1+\epsilon}^2$  if the integral operator  $S_g$  defined by

$$S_g \left( \sum_s f_s(z_n) \right) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} \sum_s \left( H_g(z_n, w_n) + H_g(w_n, z_n) \right) f_s(w_n) dA(w_n)$$

is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, dA)$ . Let

$$H_g(z_n) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_g(z_n, w_n) dA(w_n), \quad z_n \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Since

$$H_{-g}(z_n) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C} H_g(w_n, z_n) dA(w_n),$$

for all  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}$ , by Schur's test, the operator  $S_g$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{C}, dA)$  if we can find a positive constant  $C$  such that

$$H_{g(z_n)} + H_{-g(z_n)} \leq C, \quad z_n \in \mathbb{C}.$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$H_{g_1+g_2}(z_n) \leq \sqrt{H_{2g_1}(z_n) H_{2g_2}(z_n)}$$

for all  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}$  and holomorphic polynomials  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ . Moreover, if

$$U_\theta(z_n) = e^{i\theta} z_n, \quad z_n \in \mathbb{C}, \theta \in [-\pi, \pi],$$

then

$$H_{g \circ U_\theta} = H_g \circ U_\theta$$

for all  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}, \theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$ , and holomorphic polynomials  $g$ . Therefore, we only need prove the theorem for  $g(z_n) = (1 + \epsilon)z_n^d$  with some  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and establish that

$$\sup_{x_n \geq 0} H_g(x_n) \leq C_1 e^{C_2(1+\epsilon)^2}, \quad (60)$$

where  $C_k$  are positive constants independent of  $(1 + \epsilon)$  and  $d$  (but dependent on  $d + \epsilon$ ). We will see that  $C_2$  can be chosen as any constant greater than 1.

It is also easy to see that we only need to prove (60) for  $x_n \geq 1$ . This will allow us to use the inequality  $x_n^d \leq x_n^{d+\epsilon}$  for the rest of this proof.

For  $\epsilon \geq 0$  sufficiently large (we will specify the requirement on  $(1 + \epsilon)$  later) we write

$$H_g(x_n) = \int_{|x_n w_n| \leq 1+\epsilon} H_g(x_n, w_n) dA(w_n) + \int_{|x_n w_n| \geq 1+\epsilon} H_g(x_n, w_n) dA(w_n).$$

We will show that both integrals are, up to a multiplicative constant, bounded above by  $e^{(1+\epsilon)(1+\epsilon)^2}$ .

By properties of the Mittag-Leffler function, we have

$$|K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, w_n)| \leq \frac{d + \epsilon}{\pi} E_{\frac{1}{d+\epsilon}, \frac{1}{d+\epsilon}}(1 + \epsilon) := C_{1+\epsilon}, \quad |x_n w_n| \leq 1 + \epsilon.$$

It follows that the integral

$$I_1 = \int_{x_n |w_n| \leq 1+\epsilon} H_g(x_n, w_n) dA(w_n)$$

Satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_{x_n |w_n| \leq 1+\epsilon} |K_{d+\epsilon}(z_n, w_n)| e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|z_n|^{2(d+\epsilon)} + |w_n|^{2(d+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}(x_n^d - w_n^d)} dA(w_n) \\ &\leq C_{1+\epsilon} \int_{x_n |w_n| \leq 1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(d+\epsilon)} + |w_n|^{2(d+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}(x_n^d - w_n^d)} dA(w_n) \\ &\leq C_{1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x_n^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d} \int_{x_n |w_n| \leq 1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{|w_n|^{2(d+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)|w_n|^d} dA(w_n) \\ &\leq 2\pi C_{1+\epsilon} e^{-\frac{1}{2}x_n^{2(d+\epsilon)} + (1+\epsilon)x_n^d} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(d+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r dr \\ &\leq 2\pi C_{1+\epsilon} e^{\frac{(1+\epsilon)^2}{2}} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{r^{2(d+\epsilon)}}{2} + (1+\epsilon)r^d} r dr \\ &\leq C(2+\epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{2-d-\epsilon}{d+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from (59).

We now focus on the integral

$$I_2 = \int_{x_n |w_n| \geq 1+\epsilon} H_g(x_n, w_n) dA(w_n).$$

Observe that for all  $x_n, r$ , and  $\theta$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(x_n^d - r^d e^{id\theta}) &= x_n^d - r^d \cos(d\theta) = x_n^d - r^d(2 - \cos(d\theta)) \\ &= x_n^d + r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from polar coordinates that

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} H_g(x_n, re^{i\theta}) r d\theta dr \\ &= \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{2(d+\epsilon)} + r^{2(d+\epsilon)}) + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d \cos(d\theta))} |K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, re^{i\theta})| r d\theta dr \\ &= \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{d+\epsilon} - r^{d+\epsilon})^2 + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d) - (x_n r)^{d+\epsilon}} r dr \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)} |K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, re^{i\theta})| \\ &\leq \int_{\frac{1+\epsilon}{x_n}}^{+\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_n^{d+\epsilon} - r^{d+\epsilon})^2} \left( e^{(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} I(x_n, r) + J(x_n, r) \right) r dr, \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$I(x_n, r) = \int_{|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2(d+\epsilon)}} e^{-(x_n r)^{d+\epsilon} + 2(1+\epsilon)r^d \sin^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)} |K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, re^{i\theta})| d\theta,$$

and

$$J(x_n, r) = \int_{|\theta| \geq \frac{\pi}{2(d+\epsilon)}} e^{-(x_n r)^{d+\epsilon} + (1+\epsilon)(x_n^d + r^d)} |K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, re^{i\theta})| d\theta.$$

By Corollary (5.3.19), there exists another constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$I_2 \leq C(2+\epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{2-d-\epsilon}{d+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sup_{z_n \in \mathbb{C}} \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_g(z_n, w_n) dA(w_n) \leq C(2 + \epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{2-d-\epsilon}{d+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}$$

for yet another constant  $C$  that is independent of  $(1 + \epsilon)$  and  $d$ . Similarly, we also have

$$\sup_{z_n \in \mathbb{C}} \int_{\mathbb{C}} H_{-g}(z_n, w_n) dA(w_n) \leq C(2 + \epsilon)^{\max(0, \frac{2-d-\epsilon}{d+\epsilon})} e^{(1+\epsilon)^2}$$

This yields (60) and proves the corollary.

**Corollary (5.3.21)[185]:** Suppose  $u^2$  and  $v^2$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$ , not identically zero, such that the operator  $T = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$ . Then the function  $|\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n) |\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n)$  is bounded on the complex plane.

**Proof.** Since  $T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$ , the operator  $(T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2})^* = T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  and the products  $(T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2})^* T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2}$  and  $(T_{v^2} T_{\bar{u}^2})^* T_{v^2} T_{\bar{u}^2}$  are also bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$ . Consequently, their Berezin transforms are all bounded functions on  $\mathbb{C}$ .

For any  $z_n \in \mathbb{C}$  we let  $k_{z_n}$  denote the normalized reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{F}_{d+\epsilon}^2$  at  $z_n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2})^* T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2} k_{z_n}, k_{z_n} \rangle &= \langle T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2} k_{z_n}, T_{u^2} T_{\bar{v}^2} k_{z_n} \rangle \\ &= \langle u^2 \bar{v}^2(z_n) k_{z_n}, u^2 \bar{v}^2(z_n) k_{z_n} \rangle = |v^2(z_n)|^2 |\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n) \end{aligned}$$

is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ . Similarly  $|u^2(z_n)|^2 |\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n)$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ . By the proof of Corollary (5.3.16), the product  $u^2 v^2$  is a non-zero complex constant, say,  $u^2(z_n) v^2(z_n) = C$ . It follows that the function

$$|\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n) |\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n) = |u^2(z_n)|^2 |\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n) |v^2(z_n)|^2 |\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n) \frac{1}{|C|^2}$$

is bounded as well.

To complete the proof of Sarason's conjecture, we will need to find a lower bound for the function

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) = |\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n) |u^2(z_n)|^2,$$

where  $u^2 = e^g, v^2 = e^{-g}$ , and  $g$  is a polynomial of degree  $d$ . We write

$$g(z_n) = (1 + \epsilon)_d z_n^d + g_{d-1}(z_n),$$

where

$$(1 + \epsilon)_d = (1 + \epsilon) e^{i(1+\epsilon)d}, \quad \epsilon > 0,$$

and

$$g_{d-1}(z_n) = \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} (1 + \epsilon)_l z_n^l.$$

In the remainder, we will have to handle several integrals of the form

$$I(x_n) = \int_J S_{x_n}(r) e^{-g_{x_n}(r)} dr,$$

where  $S_{x_n}$  and  $g_{x_n}$  are  $C^3$ -functions on the interval  $J$ , and the real number  $x_n$  tends to  $+\infty$ . We will make use of the following variant of the Laplace method (see [130]).

**Corollary (5.3.22)[185]:** For  $z_n = x_n e^{i\phi}$ , with  $x_n > 0$  and  $e^{i((1+\epsilon)d+d\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) \gtrsim \int_0^{+\infty} (rx_n)^{-\frac{d+\epsilon}{2}} r^{2(d+\epsilon)-1} e^{-h_{x_n}(r)} dr$$

as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ , where

$$h_{x_n}(r) = (r^{d+\epsilon} - x_n^{d+\epsilon})^2 - 2(1 + \epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d) + C(r^{d-1} + x_n^{d-1} + 1), \quad (61)$$

for some positive constant  $C$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to see that

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} |K_{d+\epsilon}(w_n, z_n)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(w_n))} [K_{d+\epsilon}(z_n, z_n)]^{-1} e^{-|w_n|^{2(d+\epsilon)}} dA(w_n),$$

which, in terms of polar coordinates, can be rewritten as

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \int_{\pi}^{-\pi} |K_{d+\epsilon}(re^{i\theta}, z_n)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(re^{i\theta}))} [K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, x_n)]^{-1} e^{-r^{2(d+\epsilon)}} r dr d\theta.$$

By Lemma (5.3.2),  $\mathcal{B}(z_n)$  is greater than or equal to

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} |K_{d+\epsilon}(re^{i\theta}, z_n)|^2 e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(re^{i\theta}))} [K_{d+\epsilon}(x_n, x_n)]^{-1} e^{-r^{2(d+\epsilon)}} r dr d\theta.$$

This together with Lemma (5.3.2) shows that

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) \int_0^{+\infty} r^{2(d+\epsilon-1)} e^{-(r^{d+\epsilon}-x_n^{d+\epsilon})^2} I(r, z_n) r dr,$$

where

$$I(r, z_n) = \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} I(r, z_n) &= \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}[(1+\epsilon)e^{i(1+\epsilon)d} (x_n^d e^{id\phi} - r^d e^{id\theta})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta \\ &= \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}[(1+\epsilon)e^{i((1+\epsilon)d+\phi)} (x_n^d - r^d e^{i(\theta-\phi)})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

The condition on  $\phi$  yields

$$I(r, z_n) = \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}[(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d e^{id\theta})] + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)})]} d\theta.$$

Since

$$g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)}) = \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} (1+\epsilon)_l (x_n^l e^{il\phi} - r^l e^{il(\theta+\phi)}),$$

we have

$$\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i(\theta+\phi)})] \geq -C(r^{d-1} + x_n^{d-1} + 1)$$

for some constant  $C$ . It follows that

$$I(r, z_n) \geq e^{-C(r^{d-1} + x_n^{d-1} + 1)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}[(x_n^d - r^d e^{id\theta})]} d\theta.$$

For the integral we have

$$\begin{aligned}
J(r, z_n) &:= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}[(x_n^d - r^d)e^{id\theta}]} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d \cos(d\theta))} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d + (-\cos(d\theta) + 1)r^d)} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\left(x_n^d - r^d + 2\left(\sin\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)^2\right)r^d\right)} d\theta \\
&\geq e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{4|(1+\epsilon)d| \sin\left(\frac{d\theta}{2}\right)^2 r^d} d\theta \\
&\geq e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} \int_{|\theta| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} d\theta \gtrsim e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d)} (rx_n)^{-\frac{d+\epsilon}{2}},
\end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of the corollary.

**Corollary (5.3.23)[185]:** Assume  $\epsilon = 0$ . For  $z_n = x_n e^{i\phi}$ , where  $x_n > 0$  and  $e^{i((1+\epsilon)d+\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) e^{(1+o(1))\frac{2(1+\epsilon)}{(1+2(1+\epsilon))}x_n^{d+2\epsilon}}, \quad x_n \rightarrow +\infty.$$

**Proof.** For  $x_n$  large enough, the function  $h_{x_n}$  defined in (61) is convex on some interval  $[M_{x_n}, +\infty)$  and attains its minimum at some point  $r_{x_n}$ . In order to bound  $\mathcal{B}(z_n)$  from below, we shall use the modified Laplace method from Lemma (5.3.10). Since

$$h'_{x_n}(r) = (d + 2\epsilon)r^{\frac{d+2\epsilon-2}{2}} \left( r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right) + 2(1 + \epsilon)dr^{d-1} + C(d - 1)r^{d-2}, \quad (62)$$

we have

$$h'_{x_n}(r) = (d + 2\epsilon)(1 + 2(1 + \epsilon))r^{d+2\epsilon-1} - (d + 2\epsilon)x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} r^{\frac{d+2\epsilon-2}{2}} + C(d - 1)r^{d-2},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
h''_{x_n}(r) &= (d + 2\epsilon)(d + 2\epsilon - 1)(1 + 2(1 + \epsilon))r^{d+2\epsilon-2} - (d \\
&\quad + 2\epsilon) \left( \frac{d + 2\epsilon - 2}{2} \right) x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-2} + C(d - 1)(d - 2)r^{d-3}.
\end{aligned}$$

Writing  $h'_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) = 0$  and letting  $x_n$  tend to  $+\infty$ , we obtain

$$\left( \frac{d}{2} + \epsilon \right) (1 + 2(1 + \epsilon))(r_{x_n})^{d+2\epsilon-1} \sim \left( \frac{d}{2} + \epsilon \right) x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} r_{x_n}^{\frac{d+2\epsilon-2}{2}},$$

or

$$r_{x_n} \sim (1 + 2(1 + \epsilon))^{\frac{1}{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}} x_n. \quad (63)$$

Thus there exists  $\rho_{x_n}$ , which tends to 0 as  $x_n$  tends to  $+\infty$ , such that

$$r_{x_n} = (1 + 2(1 + \epsilon))^{\frac{1}{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}} x_n (1 + \rho_{x_n}). \quad (64)$$

When  $x_n$  tends to  $+\infty$ , we have



$$\begin{aligned}
h_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) &\sim \left( r_{x_n}^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right)^2 + 2(1+\epsilon)(r_{x_n}^{d+2\epsilon} - x_n^{d+2\epsilon}) \\
&\sim \left( r_{x_n}^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right) \left[ \left( r_{x_n}^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right) + 2(1+\epsilon) \left( r_{x_n}^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} + x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right) \right] \\
&\sim x_n^{d+2\epsilon} \left[ (1+2(1+\epsilon))^{-1} (1+\rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 1 \right] \left[ (1+2(1+\epsilon))^{-1} (1+\rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - 1 + 2(1+\epsilon) \left( (1+2(1+\epsilon))^{-1} (1+\rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} + 1 \right) \right] \\
&\sim -x_n^{d+2\epsilon} \frac{2(1+\epsilon)}{(1+2(1+\epsilon))},
\end{aligned}$$

or

$$-h_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) \sim x_n^{d+2\epsilon} \frac{2(1+\epsilon)}{(1+2(1+\epsilon))}. \quad (65)$$

In order to estimate  $c_{x_n} := h''_{x_n}(r_{x_n})$ , we compute that

$$h''_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) \sim 2 \left( \frac{d}{2} + \epsilon \right)^2 (1+2(1+\epsilon))^{\frac{4-d-2\epsilon}{d+2\epsilon}} x_n^{d+2\epsilon-2}.$$

Thus we get

$$c_{x_n} \approx x_n^{d+2\epsilon-2}. \quad (66)$$

For  $r$  in a neighborhood of  $r_{x_n}$  we set  $r = (1 + \sigma_{x_n})r_{x_n}$ , where  $\sigma_{x_n} = \sigma_{x_n}(r) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ ; a little computation shows that

$$h''_{x_n}(r) \sim h''_{x_n}(r_{x_n})$$

as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Taking  $\tau_{x_n} = r_{x_n}^{1/2}$  and  $|r - r_{x_n}| < \tau_{x_n}$ , we have  $h''_{x_n}(r) = (1 + o(1))c_{x_n}$ , so

$$h_{x_n}(r) - h_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) = \frac{1}{2} c_{x_n} (r - r_{x_n})^2 (1 + o(1)).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{|r-r_{x_n}|<\tau_{x_n}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_{x_n}(r-r_{x_n})^2(1+o(1))} dr &= \int_{|t|<\tau_{x_n}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_{x_n}t^2(1+o(1))} dt \\
&\sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_{x_n}}} \int_{|y_n|<\tau_{x_n}\sqrt{c_{x_n}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y_n^2} dy_n \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_{x_n}}},
\end{aligned}$$

because  $c_{x_n} \tau_{x_n}^2 \approx r_{x_n}^{d+2\epsilon-1}$  tends to  $+\infty$  as  $x_n$  tends to  $+\infty$ . Finally, the estimates

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{B}(z_n) &\gtrsim \int_{|r-r_{x_n}| < \tau_{x_n}} (rx_n)^{-(d+2\epsilon)} r^{d+2\epsilon-1} e^{-h_{x_n}(r)} dr \\
&= \int_{|r-r_{x_n}| < \tau_{x_n}} (rx_n)^{-(d+2\epsilon)} r^{d+2\epsilon-1} e^{-h_{x_n}(rx_n)} e^{-[h_{x_n}(r)-h_{x_n}(rx_n)]} dr \\
&= e^{-h_{x_n}(rx_n)} \int_{|r-r_{x_n}| < \tau_{x_n}} (rx_n)^{-(d+2\epsilon)} r^{d+2\epsilon-1} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_{x_n}(r-r_{x_n})^2(1+o(1))} dr \\
&\sim e^{-h_{x_n}(rx_n)} r_{x_n}^{\frac{3}{2}(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon)-1} x_n^{-(d+2\epsilon)} \int_{|r-r_{x_n}| < \tau_{x_n}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}c_{x_n}(r-r_{x_n})^2(1+o(1))} dr \\
&\approx e^{-h_{x_n}(rx_n)} r_{x_n}^{\frac{3}{2}(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon)-1} x_n^{-(d+2\epsilon)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_{x_n}}}
\end{aligned}$$

along with (63), (65), and (66) give the corollary

**Corollary (5.3.24)[185]:** Assume  $\epsilon > 0$ . For  $z_n = x_n e^{i\phi}$ , with  $x_n > 0$  and  $e^{i((1+\epsilon)d+d\phi)} = 1$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) \gtrsim e^{\frac{(1+o(1))(1+\epsilon)^2 d^2}{(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon)} x_n^{d-2\epsilon} - C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-\epsilon-1}}, \quad x_n \rightarrow +\infty$$

for some positive constant  $C$

**Proof.** Let  $\tau_{x_n} = o(x_n)$  be a positive real number that will be specified later. As in the proof of Corollary (5.3.22) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{B}(z_n) &\gtrsim \int_0^{+\infty} r^{2(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-1)} e^{-\left(r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}\right)^2} I(r, z_n) r dr \\
&\gtrsim \int_{|r-x_n| \leq \tau_{x_n}} r^{2(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-1)} e^{-\left(r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}\right)^2} I(r, z_n) r dr,
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$I(r, z_n) = \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c\theta_0(rx_n)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta.$$

There exists  $c' > 0$  such that for  $|r - x_n| \leq \tau_{x_n}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I(r, z_n) &\geq \int_{|\theta-\phi| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)} e^{2\operatorname{Re}(g(z_n)-g(re^{i\theta}))} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}(x_n^d - r^d e^{i d\theta}) + 2\operatorname{Re}[g_{d-1}(z_n) - g_{d-1}(re^{i\theta})]} d\theta \\
&= \int_{|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\operatorname{Re}(x_n^d - r^d e^{i d\theta})} - 2 \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} |(1+\epsilon)_l| |x_n^l - r^l e^{i l\theta}| d\theta.
\end{aligned}$$

Now for  $|r - x_n| \leq \tau_{x_n}$ , we write  $r = (1 + \sigma)x_n$ , where  $\sigma$  tends to 0 as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Thus for  $0 \leq l \leq d - 1$  and  $|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
|x_n^l - r^l e^{i l\theta}|^2 &= x_n^{2l} [1 - 2(1 + \sigma)^l \cos(l\theta) + (1 + \sigma)^{2l}] \\
&= x_n^{2l} [1 - 2(1 + l\sigma + O(\sigma^2)) \cos(l\theta) + 1 + 2l\sigma + O(\sigma^2)] \\
&= x_n^{2l} [2(1 - \cos(l\theta))(1 + l\sigma) + O(\sigma^2)] \\
&\lesssim x_n^{2l} \left[ \sin^2\left(\frac{l\theta}{2}\right) + \sigma^2 \right] \lesssim x_n^{2l} [\theta^2 + \sigma^2].
\end{aligned}$$

Next choosing  $|\sigma| \leq x_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon\right)}$ , we get

$$|x_n^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \lesssim x_n^{2l} x_n^{-(d+2\epsilon)} \lesssim x_n^{d-2(1+\epsilon)}$$

or

$$|x_n^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \lesssim x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}.$$

Thus there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that for  $|r - x_n| \leq \tau_{x_n}$  and  $|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)$ ,

$$2 \sum_{l=0}^{d-1} |(1+\epsilon)_l| |x_n^l - r^l e^{il\theta}| \leq C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} I(r, z_n) &\geq \int_{|\theta| \leq c'\theta_0(x_n^2)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\text{Re}(x_n^d - r^d e^{id\theta})} - C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)} d\theta \\ &\gtrsim x_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon\right)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)\text{Re}(x_n^d - r^d e^{id\theta}) - C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(z_n) &\int_{|r-x_n| \leq \tau_{x_n}} r^{d+2\epsilon-1} e^{-\left(r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}\right)^2} x_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon\right)} e^{2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d) - C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}} dr \\ &= x_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon\right)} e^{-C x_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}} \int_{|r-x_n| \leq \tau} r^{d+2\epsilon-1} e^{-h_{x_n}(r)} dr, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h_{x_n}(r) = \left(r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}\right)^2 - 2(1+\epsilon)(x_n^d - r^d).$$

It is easy to see that  $h_{x_n}$  attains its minimum at  $r_{x_n}$  with  $r_{x_n} \sim x_n$  as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Again we write

$$r_{x_n} = x_n(1 + \rho_{x_n}), \quad (67)$$

where  $\rho_{x_n}$  tends to 0 as  $x_n \rightarrow +\infty$ . Using the fact that  $h'_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) = 0$ , we have  $(d+2\epsilon)x_n^{d+2\epsilon-1} (1 + \rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-1} [(1 + \rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - 1] \sim -2(1+\epsilon)dx_n^{d-1} (1 + \rho_{x_n})^{d-1}$ , and

$$(d+2\epsilon)x_n^{d+2\epsilon-1} \left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right) \rho_{x_n} \sim -2(1+\epsilon)dx_n^{d-1}.$$

Therefore,

$$\rho_{x_n} \sim -\frac{(1+\epsilon)d}{\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)^2} x_n^{-2\epsilon}. \quad (68)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} h''_{x_n}(r) &= (d+2\epsilon)(d+2\epsilon-1)r^{d+2\epsilon-2} - (d+2\epsilon)\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon - 1\right)x_n^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} r^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-2} + 2(1 \\ &\quad + \epsilon)d(d-1)r^{d-2} \end{aligned}$$

and  $\epsilon > 0$ , we get

$$h''_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) \sim (d + 2\epsilon)x_n^{d+2\epsilon-2} \left[ (d + 2\epsilon - 1)(1 + \rho_{x_n})^{d+2\epsilon-2} - \left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon - 1\right)(1 + \rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon-2} \right] \sim 2\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)^2 x_n^{d+2\epsilon-2}.$$

Also,

$$h_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) \sim x_n^{d+2\epsilon} \left[ (1 + \rho_{x_n})^{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon} - 1 \right]^2 + 2(1 + \epsilon)x_n^d \left[ (1 + \rho_{x_n})^d - 1 \right] + C(x_n^{d-1} + r_{x_n}^{d-1} + 1) \sim \left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)^2 \rho_{x_n}^2 x_n^{d+2\epsilon} + 2(1 + \epsilon)x_n^d d\rho_{x_n}$$

It follows that

$$c_{x_n} \sim 2\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)^2 x_n^{d+2\epsilon-2}, \quad (69)$$

and

$$-h_{x_n}(r_{x_n}) \sim \frac{(1 + \epsilon)^2 d^2}{\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)^2} x_n^{d-2\epsilon}. \quad (70)$$

Reasoning as in the proof of Corollary (5.3.23), we arrive at

$$\mathcal{B}(z_n) \gtrsim x_n^{-\left(\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon\right)} e^{-Cx_n^{\frac{d}{2}-(1+\epsilon)}} e^{-h_{x_n}(r_{x_n})} x_n^{d+2\epsilon-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c_{x_n}}}.$$

The desired estimate then follows from (70), and (69).

**Corollary (5.3.25)[185]:** Suppose  $u^2$  and  $v^2$  are functions in  $\mathcal{F}_{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}^2$ , not identically zero, such that  $|\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n)|\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n)$  is bounded on the complex plane. Then there exists a nonzero constant  $C$  and a polynomial  $g$  of degree at most  $\left(\frac{d}{2} + \epsilon\right)$  such that  $u^2(z_n) = eg(z_n)$  and  $v^2(z_n) = Ce^{-g(z_n)}$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to check that for  $u^2 \in \mathcal{F}_{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}^2$  we have

$$u^2(z_n) = \int_{\mathbb{C}} u^2(x_n) |k_{z_n}(x_n)|^2 d\lambda_{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}(x_n) = \tilde{u}^2(z_n).$$

Also, it follows from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality that  $|u^2(z_n)|^2 \leq |\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n)$ . So if  $|\widehat{u^2}|^2(z_n)|\widehat{v^2}|^2(z_n)$  is bounded on  $\mathbb{C}$ , then  $\mathcal{B}(z_n)$  and  $|u^2(z_n)v^2(z_n)|^2$  are also bounded. Consequently,  $u^2v^2$  is a constant, there is a non-zero constant  $C$  and a polynomial  $g$  such that  $u^2 = e^g$  and  $v^2 = Ce^{-g}$ . The condition  $u^2 \in \mathcal{F}_{\frac{d}{2}+\epsilon}^2$  implies that the degree  $d$  of  $g$  is at most  $(d + 2\epsilon)$ ; see Corollary (5.3.15).

Without loss of generality we shall consider the case where  $u^2(z_n) = e^{g(z_n)}$  and  $v^2(z_n) = e^{-g(z_n)}$ . We will show that the boundedness of  $\mathcal{B}(z_n)$  implies  $\epsilon \geq 0$ . If  $(d + \epsilon)$  is an integer, Corollary (5.3.23) shows that we must have  $\epsilon > 0$ .

Thus, in any case ( $(d + 2\epsilon)$  being an integer or not), a necessary condition is  $\epsilon > 0$ . The desired result now follows from Corollary (5.3.24).

## Chapter 6

### Finite Rank Perturbations and Theorem of Brown–Halmos Type

We study finite rank perturbations of the Brown-Halmos type results involving products of Toeplitz operators acting on the Bergman space. We show that operator is called the Toeplitz operator with symbol  $\mu$ . We show that  $T_\mu$  has finite rank if and only if  $\mu$  is a finite linear combination of point masses. Application to Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space is immediate. We show that there is no nontrivial rank one perturbation. However, in the case  $\text{rank } m \geq 2$ , we construct an example that shows there are bounded harmonic functions  $f, g$  and  $h$  such that  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has rank exactly  $m$ .

#### Section (6.1): Perturbations of Toeplitz Operators

Ahern and Cuckovic [101] proved an analogue of the well-known Brown- Halmos theorem for the Bergman space Toeplitz operators with harmonic symbols. To state the result, we introduce the notation. Let  $\mathbb{D}$  denote the open unit disk in the complex plane and let  $dA$  denote the normalized Lebesgue area measure on  $\mathbb{D}$ . As usual,  $L^2(\mathbb{D})$  is the space of measurable complex valued functions  $f$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $\int_{\mathbb{D}} |f(z)|^2 dA(z) < \infty$ . The Bergman space  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  is the closed subspace of  $L^2(\mathbb{D})$  consisting of the analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $P : L^2(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  denote the orthogonal projection. For a bounded function  $u$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  we have the Toeplitz operator  $T_u : L^2_a(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  given by  $T_u f = P(uf)$ . We denote the Laplacian  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z \partial \bar{z}}$  and the invariant Laplacian by  $\tilde{\Delta} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \Delta$ . We can now state the above mentioned theorem.

**Theorem (6.1.1)[163]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function such that  $\Delta h$  is bounded on  $D$ . If  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , then either  $f$  is conjugate analytic or  $g$  is analytic. In either case,  $h = fg$ .

Later on, Ahern [164] removed the assumptions on  $h$  and showed the theorem is true for  $h \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ . From Theorem (6.1.1), Ahern and Čučković obtained a sequence of results on products of Toeplitz operators that are parallel to the corollaries of the Brown-Halmos theorem for the Hardy space obtained in [98]. We list some of them.

**Corollary (6.1.2)[163]:** If  $f, g$  and  $h$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , then one of the following holds:

- (i)  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic.
- (ii)  $f$  and  $g$  are conjugate analytic.
- (iii)  $f$  is constant.
- (iv)  $g$  is constant.

The next one resolved an open problem about zero products.

**Corollary (6.1.3)[163]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $T_f T_g = 0$ , then either  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ .

**Corollary (6.1.4)[163]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded and harmonic and  $T_f T_g = I$ , then either  $f$  and  $g$  are both analytic or they are both conjugate analytic. In either case  $fg = 1$ .

**Corollary (6.1.5)[163]:** If  $f$  is bounded and harmonic and  $T_f^2 = T_f$ , then  $f \equiv 0$  or  $f \equiv 1$ .

**Corollary (6.1.6)[163]:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic and  $T_f T_g = T_f g$ , then either  $g$  is analytic or  $f$  is conjugate analytic.

This last corollary was proved earlier by Zheng [58] using a different method. We point out that in [165] we constructed examples of Toeplitz operators with radial symbols that show that some of these corollaries do not hold in general. One of the main steps in the

proof of Theorem (6.1.1) is the study of the range of the Berezin transform. For any integrable function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ , the Berezin transform is defined by

$$Bf(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{f(w)}{|1 - z\bar{w}|^4} dA(w).$$

Let  $K_z(w) = \frac{1}{(1 - w\bar{z})^2}$  denote the Bergman kernel for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Then  $k_z(w)$  denotes the normalized Bergman kernel:

$$k_z(w) = \frac{1 - |z|^2}{(1 - w\bar{z})^2}, w \in \mathbb{D}.$$

The Berezin transform can then be expressed as  $Bf(z) = \langle fk_z, k_z \rangle$ , where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the  $L^2(\mathbb{D})$  inner product. We can also define the Berezin transform of any bounded operator  $S$  as  $B(S)(z) = Sk_z, k_z$ , for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Another important step in the proof of Theorem (6.1.1) is the proof of the fact that a rank 1 Toeplitz operator on  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  must be 0. For any operator  $A$ ,  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim \text{Ran}(A)$ . Compact Toeplitz operators on  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  have been characterized by Axler and Zheng using the Berezin transform (see [46]). Surprisingly characterizing finite rank Toeplitz operators on  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  is still an open problem. The common conjecture among the experts is that a finite rank Toeplitz operator on  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  must be 0. In Guo, Sun and Zheng [100] have proved this conjecture in a special case.

**Theorem (6.1.7)[163]:** Suppose that  $f$  is in  $L^\infty(D)$  and  $f = \sum_{j=1}^l f_j(z) \overline{(g_j(z))}$  for finitely many functions  $f_j$  and  $g_j$  analytic on  $D$ . If  $T_f$  has finite rank, then  $f = 0$ .

Using this theorem, they obtained an extension of Corollary(6.1.2) on the zero products of Toeplitz operators. More specifically, they proved that for two bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$ , if the product  $T_f T_g$  has finite rank, then either  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ . We think of this product as  $T_f T_g = 0 + F$ ,  $F$  finite rank, so product is a finite rank perturbation of 0. Similarly, they also obtained a result characterizing finite rank semicommutators  $T_{fg} - T_f T_g$  of Toeplitz operators with harmonic symbols. This is a finite rank perturbation extension of Corollary (6.1.5), where we considered the case  $T_{fg} - T_f T_g = 0$ . Inspired by these results of Guo, Sun and Zheng, we want to obtain results on finite rank perturbations of the products in the other corollaries listed above. They will follow from the following result. Before we state it, we recall two known results. First, an operator  $F$  of finite rank  $N$  can be written as  $\sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$ , for some functions  $x_j, y_j$  in  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  for  $j = 1, \dots, N$ . Here  $x \otimes y$  is the rank one operator defined by  $(x \otimes y)h = h, yx$ , where  $x, y, h$  are in  $L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$ . Second, if  $f$  is a bounded harmonic function on  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $f$  can be written as  $f_1 + f_2$ , where  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are analytic functions that belong to the Bloch space  $B = \{f : f \text{ analytic on } \mathbb{D} \text{ and } \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)| < \infty\}$ .

**Theorem (6.1.8)[163]:** Suppose  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2, g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  and  $h = h_1 + \bar{h}_2$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $h_1, h_2 \in H^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $T_f T_g = T_{h^n} + F$ , where  $F = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  is of finite rank  $N, x_j, y_j \in L^2_a(\mathbb{D})$  for  $j = 1, \dots, N$  and  $N, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then:

- (i)  $g_1(z)\bar{f}_2(z) - h^n(z)$  is harmonic,
- (ii)  $f(z)g(z) = h^n(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)}, \text{ for } z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

Conversely, suppose  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2, g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  and  $h = h_1 + \bar{h}_2$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  such that (i) holds on  $\mathbb{D}$ . If there exist nonzero vectors

$x_1, \dots, x_N, y_1, \dots, y_N$  in  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ , such that (ii) holds for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , then  $T_f T_g = T_{h^n} + F$ , where  $F = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  is a finite rank operator.

In particular, condition (ii) implies that  $fg = h^n$  a. e. on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ . If in addition,  $T_{h^n} + F$  is an isometry, then

$$\|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{D})} = \|h\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = \|fg\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = 1.$$

**Proof.** Suppose that  $T_f T_g = T_{h^n} + F$ . Then we have

$$B(T_f T_g) = B(h^n) + B(F). \quad (1)$$

As in [101],

$B(T_f T_g)(z) = f_1(z)g_1(z) + f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)} + \overline{f_2(z)}\overline{g_2(z)} + B(\overline{f_2}g_1)(z)$ , for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . It is also easy to show that

$$B(F)(z) = \sum_{j=1}^N B(x_j \otimes y_j)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)}.$$

Thus (1) can be written as

$$f_1(z)g_1(z) + f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)} + \overline{f_2(z)}\overline{g_2(z)} + B(\overline{f_2}g_1) - B(h^n) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} \quad (2)$$

for  $z \in D$ . It is well known that the Berezin transform fixes  $L^1$ -harmonic functions, i.e.,  $B(u) = u$  if  $u$  is harmonic. Thus (2) can be written as

$$B(f_1g_1 + \overline{f_2}g_2 + \overline{f_2}g_1 - h^n)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} - f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)}.$$

Apply the invariant Laplacian  $\tilde{\Delta}$  to both sides and use the fact that  $\tilde{\Delta}$  commutes with  $B$  (see [101]), to obtain

$$B(\tilde{\Delta}(\overline{f_2}g_1 - h^n))(z) = \tilde{\Delta}[(1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)}] - \tilde{\Delta}[f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)}] \quad (3)$$

for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Let  $\sigma = \tilde{\Delta}(\overline{f_2}g_1 - h^n)$ . After cancelling  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$  on both sides of (3) we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{\sigma(\xi)}{|1 - \bar{\xi}z|^4} dA(\xi) = \Delta \left[ (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} \right] - f'_1(z)\overline{g'_2(z)}. \quad (4)$$

Notice that  $(1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N z x_j(z)\overline{z y_j(z)} + \sum_{j=1}^N z^2 x_j(z)\overline{z^2 y_j(z)}$  for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , which can be written as  $3 \sum_{j=1}^N \tilde{x}_j(z)\overline{\tilde{y}_j(z)}$  with  $\tilde{x}_j, \tilde{y}_j \in L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ . With this in mind, we can complexify (4) as was done in Lemma 2 of [101] to obtain

$$\frac{\sigma(\xi)}{(1 - \bar{\xi}z)^2(1 - \xi w)^2} dA(\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^{3N} \tilde{x}_j(z)\overline{\tilde{y}'_j(w)} - f'_1(z)\overline{g'_2(w)} \quad (5)$$

for all  $z, w \in \mathbb{D}$ . If we differentiate (5)  $k$  times with respect to  $w$  and then let  $w = 0$ , we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{\xi^k \sigma(\xi)}{(1 - \bar{\xi}z)^2} dA(\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^{3N} a_{kj} \tilde{x}'_j(z) - c_k f'_1(z) \quad (6)$$

for some constants  $a_{kj}, c_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then (6) tells us that for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$T_\sigma(\xi^k) = \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{\xi^k \sigma(\xi)}{(1 - \bar{\xi}z)^2} dA(\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^{3N} a_{kj} \tilde{x}'_j(z) - c_k f'_1(z)$$

Using the argument of Proposition 4 in [100] we have that  $T_\sigma$  has finite rank.

Notice that  $\tilde{\Delta}(\bar{f}_2 g_1) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \bar{f}'_2(z) g_1'(z)$  is bounded since  $f_2$  and  $g_1$  belong to the Bloch space. If  $n = 1$ , then  $\Delta h = 0$ . For  $n > 1$ ,

$$h^n = (h_1 + h_2)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} h_1^k \cdot h_2^{n-k}$$

so that

$$\tilde{\Delta}(h^n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} (1 - |z|^2)^2 k h_1^{k-1} \cdot h_1' \cdot (n - k) \bar{h}_2^{(n-k-1)} \bar{h}_2'$$

which is also bounded, since  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  are bounded by the assumption and they also belong to the Bloch space.

Thus  $\sigma(z)$  is in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$  and it is of the form  $\sum_{j=1}^{3n+3} F_j(z) \overline{G_j(z)}$  for some analytic functions  $F_j$  and  $G_j, j = 1, \dots, n$ . By Theorem B,  $\sigma \equiv 0$ , and hence  $\bar{f}_2 g_1 - h^n$  is a harmonic function. Thus (i) holds. Now (2) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & f_1(z)g_1(z) + f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)} + \overline{f_2(z)}g_2(z) \\ & + \bar{f}_2(z)g_1(z) - h^n(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . In other words  $(fg)(z) - h^n(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}$  which gives (ii). The expression on the right-hand side is equal to  $B(\sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j)(z)$  which goes to 0 as  $|z| \rightarrow 1$ , since  $\sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  is a finite rank operator and therefore compact. Hence  $fg = h^n$  a.e. on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ . Also notice that (3) implies that  $f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)} + u(z)$  for some harmonic function  $u$ . If the operator  $F = 0$ , then this would imply  $f_1'(z)\overline{g_2'(z)} = 0$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ . This means that  $f_1$  is constant or  $g_2$  is constant. In other words,  $f$  is conjugate analytic or  $g$  is analytic which is consistent with Theorem (6.1.1) from [101].

Conversely, suppose that  $g_1(z)\bar{f}_2(z) - h^n(z)$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{D}$ , and  $f(z)g(z) = h^n(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}$ . As calculated earlier,

$$\begin{aligned} & B(T_f T_g - T_{h^n})(z) \\ & = f_1(z)g_1(z) + f_1(z)\overline{g_2(z)} + \overline{f_2(z)}g_2(z) + B(\bar{f}_2 g_1 - h^n)(z) \\ & = (fg)(z) - h^n(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)} \\ & = B\left(\sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j\right). \end{aligned}$$

Since the Berezin transform is one-to-one, it follows that  $T_f T_g = T_{h^n} + \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  and the converse is proved.



Assume, in addition, that  $T_{h^n} + F$  is an isometry. Then  $(T_{h^n} + F) * (T_{h^n} + F) = I$  or

$$T_{\bar{h}^n} T_{h^n} + F^* T_{h^n} + T_{\bar{h}^n} F + F^* F = I. \quad (7)$$

We will recall some classical results about the algebra of bounded analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ , denoted by  $H^\infty$ . Let  $M$  denote the maximal ideal space of  $H^\infty$ . Hoffman ([50], Lemma 4.4) has proved that the algebra  $\mathcal{C}(M)$  is identical to the sup norm closure of the algebra generated by the bounded harmonic functions. Thus  $h^n \in \mathcal{C}(M)$ . On the ideal  $M$  we can introduce an equivalence relation:  $m_1 \sim m_2$  if and only if  $\rho(m_1, m_2) < 1$ , where

$$\rho(m_1, m_2) = \sup \{ |\hat{f}(m_2)| : f \in H^\infty, \|f\| \leq 1, \hat{f}(m_1) = 0 \}.$$

Here  $\hat{f}$  is the Gelfand transform of  $f$  defined by  $\hat{f}(m) = m(f)$ ,  $m \in M$ . The equivalence classes are called Gleason parts. Let  $M_1$  denote the set of one-point parts in  $M$ , and

$$J = \{ \varphi \in \mathcal{C}(M) : \varphi = 0 \text{ on } M_1 \}.$$

Let  $\tau(\mathcal{C}(M))$  be the closed subalgebra of the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  generated by  $\{T_\varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{C}(M)\}$  and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the commutator ideal of  $\tau(\mathcal{C}(M))$ . McDonald and Sundberg [167] have proved that  $\mathcal{C}(M)/J$  is isomorphic to  $\tau(\mathcal{C}(M))/\mathcal{C}$  with the isomorphism

$$\varphi + J \hat{=} T_\varphi + \mathcal{C}.$$

It is also well known that  $\mathcal{C}$  contains all compact operators. Let  $\Pi: \tau(\mathcal{C}(M)) \rightarrow \tau(\mathcal{C}(M))/\mathcal{C}$  be the quotient map. Apply  $\Pi$  to the equation (7) and notice that  $F$  is finite rank and hence  $F$  is compact. Therefore  $F^*$  is also compact so (7) becomes

$$\Pi(T_{\bar{h}^n}) \Pi(T_{h^n}) = \Pi(I).$$

Applying the isomorphism above, we obtain

$$(\bar{h}^n + J)(h^n + J) = 1 + J$$

or  $\bar{h}^n \cdot h^n - 1 \in J$ . This means  $\bar{h}^n \cdot h^n - 1 = 0$  on  $M_1$ . But the maximal ideal space of  $L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})$  is a subset of  $M_1$ . Hence

$$\varphi(\bar{h}^n) \cdot \varphi(h^n) = 1$$

or

$$|\varphi(h)| = 1 \text{ for all } \varphi \in M(L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})).$$

Since  $h$  is a bounded harmonic function on  $\mathbb{D}$ , we can identify it with its boundary value function, which we denote by  $h$  again. By Hoffman [166], p. 170 the Gelfand transform maps  $L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})$  isometrically and isomorphically onto  $\mathcal{C}(M(L^\infty))$ . Thus we have

$$\|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{D})} = \|h\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = \|\hat{h}\|_{\mathcal{C}(M(L^\infty))} = \sup \{ |\varphi(h)| : \varphi \in M(L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})) \} = 1.$$

Then clearly  $\|h^n\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = 1$  and since  $fg = h^n$  a.e. on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ , we have

$$\|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{D})} = \|h^n\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = \|fg\|_{L^\infty(\partial\mathbb{D})} = 1.$$

**Corollary (6.1.9)[163]:** Suppose  $f = f_1 + \bar{f}_2$ ,  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  and  $h = h_1 + \bar{h}_2$  are bounded harmonic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_N, y_1, \dots, y_N$  are in  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Then  $T_f T_g = T_h + \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  if and only if the following two conditions hold: (i) either  $f$  is analytic or  $g$  is conjugate analytic,

(ii)  $(fg)(z) = h(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}$ , for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** Apply Theorem (6.1.8) with  $n = 1$ . Then  $T_f T_g = T_h + F$  implies that  $g_1 \bar{f}_2$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{D}$ , so that  $\Delta(g_1 \bar{f}_2)(z) = g_1'(z) \bar{f}_2'(z) = 0$ . Hence  $g_1 = \text{constant}$  or  $f_2$  is constant on  $\mathbb{D}$  which means that either  $f$  is analytic or  $g$  is conjugate analytic. The other statements follow immediately from Theorem (6.1.8). If  $F = 0$ , then (3) implies  $f_1'(z) \bar{g}_2'(z) = 0$  and hence either  $f$  is conjugate analytic or  $g$  is analytic. If  $f$  is

analytic and  $f$  is conjugate analytic, then clearly  $f$  is constant. The same situation for  $g$  leads to the conclusion that  $g$  is constant. Otherwise, both  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic on  $\mathbb{D}$  or both  $f$  and  $g$  are conjugate analytic and Corollary (6.1.2) follows.

Conversely, if  $f$  is analytic, then  $f_2$  is constant so that  $g_1\bar{f}_2 - h$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Apply Theorem (6.1.8) now with  $n = 1$  and the converse follows. Similarly, the statement follows if  $g$  is conjugate analytic.

A finite rank perturbation version of Corollary (6.1.3) is contained in the following corollary.

**Corollary (6.1.10)[163]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded and harmonic on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $T_f T_g = I + \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \otimes y_j$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_N, y_1, \dots, y_N$  are in  $L_a^2(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if the following two conditions hold:

- (i) either  $f$  is analytic or  $g$  is conjugate analytic,
- (ii)  $f(z)g(z) = 1 + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^N x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)}$ , for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

**Corollary (6.1.11)[163]:** If  $f$  is bounded and harmonic and  $T_f^2 = T_f + F$ , then  $f = 0$  or  $f = 1$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Proof.** By Corollary (6.1.9),  $f$  is analytic or  $f$  is conjugate analytic and  $f^2 = f$  a.e. on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ . This means that  $f(f - 1) = 0$  a.e. on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ . If  $f$  is analytic, then either  $f = 0$  on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$  (and hence  $f \equiv 0$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ ) or  $f = 1$  on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$  (and hence  $f \equiv 1$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ ). The same conclusion follows if  $f$  is conjugate analytic.

If we slightly modify the argument in the proof of Theorem (6.1.7), we get the following proposition.

**Proposition (6.1.12)[163]:** Suppose  $E \subset \mathbb{D}$  is a starlike with respect to 0 compact set. Let

$$f(z) = \chi_E(z) \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} f_j(z)\overline{g_j(z)},$$

with  $f_j, g_j$  analytic on  $\mathbb{D}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, \ell$ . If  $T_f$  has finite rank  $N$ , then  $f = 0$ .

**Proof.** Clearly  $f$  is bounded. As in the proof of Theorem (6.1.7), for  $0 < r < 1$ , define  $f_r(z) = f(rz)$  and let  $g_r(z) = \bar{f}_r$ . Then

$$T_f g_r = T_{f\chi_E(rz)\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \overline{f_j(rz)}g_j(rz)} = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} T_{\overline{f_j(rz)}} T_{f\chi_E(rz)} T_{g_j(rz)}. \quad (8)$$

But notice  $f(z)\chi_E(rz) = \chi_E(z)\chi_E(rz)\sum_{j=1}^{\ell} f_j(z)\overline{g_j(z)}$ .

If  $z \in E$ , then  $rz \in E$  too since  $E$  is starlike. Thus  $\chi_E(z)\chi_E(rz) = 1$ .

If  $z \notin E$ ,  $\chi_E(z) = 0$ . Hence in both cases  $\chi_E(z)\chi_E(rz) = \chi_E(z)$ . Thus  $f(z)\chi_E(rz) = f(z)$ . Now (8) gives that  $T_f g_r = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} T_{\overline{f_j(rz)}} T_{f(z)} T_{g_j(rz)}$  and consequently  $\text{rank } T_f g_r \leq N\ell$ , for all  $r$ . Thus  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1} \text{rank } T_f g_r \leq N\ell$ . We continue as

in Theorem (6.1.7) and conclude that  $T_{|f|^2}$  has finite rank and therefore  $f \equiv 0$  see [100].

Finally we would like to prove another zero product result involving two Toeplitz operators.

**Proposition (6.1.13)[163]:** Suppose  $\mathbb{D}_r = r\mathbb{D}$  for some  $r \in (0, 1)$ ,  $h$  is an analytic function on  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  is a bounded harmonic function. If  $f = \chi_{\mathbb{D}_r} h$  and  $T_f T_g = 0$ , then either  $f = 0$  or  $g = 0$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ ,  $g = g_1 + \bar{g}_2$  is a bounded and harmonic function, and  $T_f T_g = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
B(T_f T_g)(z) &= \langle T_f T_g k_z, k_z \rangle = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \langle T_f P(g_1 + \overline{g_2}) K_z, K_z \rangle \\
&= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \{ \langle f g_1 K_z, K_z \rangle + \langle f P(\overline{g_2} K_z), K_z \rangle \} \\
&= B(f g_1)(z) + \overline{g_2(z)} (Bf)(z) = 0.
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Suppose now that  $f = \chi_{\mathbb{D}_r} h$ , where  $h$  is analytic. Then (9) means

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}_r} \frac{h(\xi) g_1(\xi)}{|1 - z \bar{\xi}|^4} dA(\xi) + g_2(z) \int_{\mathbb{D}_r} \frac{h(\xi)}{|1 - z \bar{\xi}|^4} dA(\xi) = 0. \tag{10}$$

Let  $w = \frac{\xi}{r}$ ; then (10) becomes

$$r^2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{h(wr) g_1(wr)}{|1 - z \bar{w} r|^4} dA(w) + r^2 \overline{g_2(z)} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{h(wr)}{|1 - z \bar{w} r|^4} dA(w) = 0$$

or

$$(1 - r^2 |z|^2)^2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{h(wr) g_1(wr)}{|1 - \bar{w} z r|^4} dA(w) + \overline{g_2(z)} (1 - r^2 |z|^2)^2 \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{h(wr)}{|1 - \bar{w} z r|^4} dA(w) = 0$$

so that

$$B[(h g_1)_r](rz) + \overline{g_2(z)} B(h_r)(rz) = 0.$$

Since the Berezin transform fixes analytic functions, we have

$$h(r^2 z) g_1(r^2 z) + \overline{g_2(z)} h(r^2 z) = 0, \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{D}$$

which implies

$$h(r^2 z) [g_1(r^2 z) + \overline{g_2(z)}] = 0.$$

Then either  $h = 0$  or  $g_1(r^2 z) = -\overline{g_2(z)}$  for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

If  $h = 0$ , then  $f = 0$ .

In the second case, an analytic function  $g_1 r^2$  is equal to the conjugate analytic function, so they both are constant functions; i.e.,  $g_1 = \text{constant}$  and  $g_2 = \text{constant}$ .

If  $g = \text{constant}$ , then  $T_f T_g = 0$  implies  $g = \text{constant} = 0$  or  $f = 0$ . Thus we have proved the proposition.

### Section (6.2): Finite Rank Toeplitz Operators

In classical function theory of the unit disk, Toeplitz operators were defined on the Hardy space  $H^2$  by  $T_\phi f = P(\phi f)$ , where  $\phi$  is a bounded measurable function on the unit circle  $\mathbb{T} = \partial \mathbb{D}$  and  $P$  is the Szegő projection from  $L^2$  (of the unit circle) to  $H^2$ . McDonald and Sundberg [167] defined Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space  $A^2$  analogously:  $\phi$  is a function on the interior of the disk and  $P$  is the Bergman projection from  $L^2(dA)$  ( $dA$  being area measure) to  $A^2$ .

In the Bergman space one can have  $\phi f \in L^2$  for all  $f \in A^2$  even if  $\phi$  is unbounded. Moreover, the formula for the Bergman projection as an integral can be applied even when the product  $\phi f$  is only in  $L^1$ . Given that, one quickly realizes that the formula for the Toeplitz operator

$$P(\phi f)(z) = \int \frac{\phi(w) f(w)}{(1 - \bar{w} z)^2} dA(w)$$

allows one to extend the notion of Toeplitz operators to symbols that are measures (or even compactly supported distributions): simply replace  $\phi dA$  with  $d\mu$  in the formula (or apply the distribution to the appropriate product). [171] determined necessary and sufficient conditions on a positive measure  $\mu$  for  $T_\mu$  to belong to the Schatten classes  $S_p$ . For complex measures the conditions were only sufficient. The same is true for the characterization of finite rank operators  $T_\mu$ : necessary and sufficient conditions for positive measures were obtained, only sufficient for complex measures.

The characterization obtained here (that  $\mu$  must be a finite sum of point masses) proves the conjecture that for  $\phi \in L^\infty$ ,  $T_\phi$  has finite rank only if it is 0. After was submitted, I learned of partial results on this conjecture in a preprint by A. Pushnitski, G. Rozenblum and N. Shirokov. They imposed some extra conditions on  $\phi$ . In addition, Namita Das communicated some incomplete work on the same conjecture.

Initially, let  $\mu$  be any complex regular Borel measure on the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . Integration with respect to area measure is denoted with  $dA$ .

The set of all analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  will be denoted  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  or simply  $\mathcal{H}$ .

The Bergman space  $A^2$  of the unit disk is the space of all functions analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$  which belong to  $L^2 = L^2(dA)$ , that is,  $A^2 = L^2 \cap \mathcal{H}$ . The inner product in  $L^2$  is denoted  $\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int f(z) \overline{g(z)} dA(z)$  and the corresponding norm is denoted  $\|f\| = \langle f, f \rangle^{1/2}$ . The Bergman kernel is the function  $K(z, w) = K_w(z) = (1 - \bar{w}z)^{-2}$ . It satisfies  $Pf(w) = \langle f, K_w \rangle$  for all  $f \in L^2$  where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2$  to  $A^2$ . In particular, if  $f \in A^2$ , then  $f(w) = \langle f, K_w \rangle$ .

The Toeplitz operator on  $A^2$  with symbol  $\mu$  is denoted  $T_\mu$  and is formally defined by

$$T_\mu(f)(w) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{f(z)}{(1 - z\bar{w})^2} d\mu(z). \quad (11)$$

If  $\mu$  has the form  $\phi dA$  for some bounded measurable function  $\phi$ , then  $T_\mu$  is denoted  $T_\phi$  and satisfies  $T_\phi f = P(\phi f)$ ,  $f \in A^2$ . For arbitrary measures on  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $T_\mu$  may be only densely defined because the integral (11) can only be guaranteed to converge for bounded  $f$ . Even if it converges, the result need not be in  $A^2$ . We will view  $T_\mu$  as an operator defined on the dense subset of polynomials with range in the set of all analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . The question of when  $T_\mu$  extends to  $A^2$  or has values in  $A^2$  will not be considered here. However, we note that if  $|\mu|$  is a Carleson measure for  $A^2$ , then it is always true that  $T_\mu$  is bounded from  $A^2$  to  $A^2$ . In particular this is true for measures  $\mu$  whose support is a compact subset of  $\mathbb{D}$  as well as for measures of the form  $\phi dA$  with  $\phi$  bounded.

The following is the main theorem, whose proof will occupy the majority.

**Theorem (6.2.1)[168]:** The rank of  $T_\mu$  is finite if and only if  $\mu$  is a finite linear combination of point masses.

The Bergman space setting is completely unnecessary and we will actually prove a Theorem (6.2.1) about operators on the space of analytic polynomials. Moreover, a large part of our proof does not require  $\mu$  to be a measure. We have, formally,  $\langle T_\mu f, g \rangle = \int f \bar{g} \mu$ . For this to be true in the strict sense of the definition of  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , we would need to justify the implied exchange of integrals. What is clear, however, is that if  $\mu$  is a measure on  $\mathbb{D}$ , then  $T_\mu f$  will always produce an analytic function in  $\mathbb{D}$ . If  $\mu$  is a measure on any disk, then we can use the same formula for  $T_\mu f$  and obtain a function analytic in some neighborhood of 0. The coefficients of any formal power series determine a linear functional on the space of polynomials in  $\bar{z}$  in a standard way. If we interpret  $T_\mu f$  in this way it is easy to prove that  $T_\mu f(\bar{g}) = \int f \bar{g} d\mu$ .

Thus  $T_\mu$  can always be seen as taking polynomials to linear functionals on the conjugate analytic polynomials and  $\mu$  can be seen as a linear functional on the space of polynomials in  $z$  and  $\bar{z}$ . Moreover, these two objects determine each other.

We now generalize these observations.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  denote the algebra of complex polynomials over  $\mathbb{C}$  in the variable  $z$  and let  $\bar{\mathcal{P}}$  denote the polynomials in  $\bar{z}$ . Both are subalgebras of  $\mathbb{C}[z, \bar{z}]$ , the polynomials in both variables. Let  $\mu$  be a linear functional on  $\mathbb{C}[z, \bar{z}]$  and let  $B_\mu(f, g) = \mu(f\bar{g})$ .

Let  $T_\mu f$  denote the linear functional on  $\bar{\mathcal{P}}$  defined by  $T_\mu f(\bar{g}) = B_\mu(f, g) = \mu(f\bar{g})$ .

One can determine the nature of  $\mu$  by defining a topology on  $\mathbb{C}[z, \bar{z}]$  and requiring that  $\mu$  be continuous in that topology. For example, if  $\mathbb{C}[z, \bar{z}]$  is given the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets, then a continuous  $\mu$  can be identified with a complex measure with compact support. Compactly supported distributions come from the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets of all derivatives. Continuity in the  $L^1(\mathbb{D}, dA)$  norm implies a bounded measurable function. We will need the exact nature of  $\mu$  only in the last stages of our proof.

If the operator  $T_\mu$  has rank less than  $N$ , then if we select  $N$  polynomials  $f_j$ , there will exist a nontrivial linear relation

$$\sum_{j=1}^N c_j T_\mu f_j = 0. \quad (12)$$

If we apply these functionals  $T_\mu f_j$  to polynomials  $\bar{g}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , we obtain a set of column vectors in  $\mathbb{C}^N$  that satisfies a linear relation with the same constants as (12). Thus, the matrix whose  $i, j$  entry is  $\mu(f_j \bar{g}_i)$  has a determinant equal to 0.

The determinant is linear in each column and  $\mu$  is a linear functional, so we can write

$$\mu \left( f_1(z) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \overline{g_1(z)} & \mu(f_2 \bar{g}_1) & \cdots & \mu(f_N \bar{g}_1) \\ \overline{g_2(z)} & \mu(f_2 \bar{g}_2) & \cdots & \mu(f_N \bar{g}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \overline{g_N(z)} & \mu(f_2 \bar{g}_N) & \cdots & \mu(f_N \bar{g}_N) \end{pmatrix} \right) = 0.$$

Let us introduce the variable  $z_1$  in place of  $z$  above and use  $\mu_1$  for  $\mu$  acting in the variable  $z_1$ . Now we repeat this process in each column (using the variable  $z_j$  in column  $j$  and the notation  $\mu_j$  for  $\mu$  acting in  $z_j$ ) to obtain

$$\mu_1 \left( \mu_2 \left( \cdots \mu_N \left( \prod_{k=1}^N f_k(z_k) \det(g_i(z_j)) \right) \cdots \right) \right) = 0. \quad (13)$$

We now specialize to the case where each  $g_i$  has the form  $g_i(z) = z^{k_i}$  with  $k_1 < k_2 < \cdots < k_N$ . Let  $J = (k_i)$  denote any such increasing  $N$ -tuple of nonnegative integers. Write  $Z$  for the  $N$ -tuple  $(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N)$  and write  $V_J(Z)$  for the determinant  $\det(z_j^{k_i})$ . Taking finite sums of equations (13), we get for any polynomial  $F(Z)$  in  $N$  variables:

$$\mu^N (F(Z) \overline{V_J(Z)}) = 0 \quad (14)$$

where  $\mu^N$  is our abbreviation for successive applications of  $\mu$  in each variable.

We now determine what one gets when we take linear combinations of  $V_J$  with varying  $J$  in this equation. We claim one gets

$$\mu^N (F(Z) \overline{G(Z)}) = 0 \quad (15)$$

for all polynomials  $F$  and all antisymmetric polynomials  $G$ . We now digress for a short discussion of symmetric and antisymmetric polynomials.

A polynomial  $F(Z)$  is called symmetric if it is invariant under permutations of the variables  $z_j$ , that is,  $F(\pi(Z)) = F(Z)$ , where  $\pi(Z)$  is the  $N$ -tuple consisting of the

permutation of the coordinates of  $Z$ . We call  $G(Z)$  antisymmetric (or alternating) if it changes sign with each transposition of coordinates. That is,  $G(\pi(Z)) = \epsilon_\pi G(Z)$ , where  $\epsilon_\pi$  is  $+1$  for an even permutation  $\pi$  and  $-1$  for an odd  $\pi$ .

Denote by  $SF(Z)$  and  $AF(Z)$  the symmetric and antisymmetric projections of a function  $F$ . That is,

$$SF(Z) = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\pi} F(\pi(Z)) \quad \text{and} \quad AF(Z) = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\pi} \epsilon_\pi F(\pi(Z)), \quad (16)$$

where each sum is over all permutations. For any polynomial  $F$ ,  $SF$  is symmetric and  $AF$  is antisymmetric. If  $F$  is symmetric and  $G$  is antisymmetric, then  $SF = F$ ,  $AF = 0$ ,  $SG = 0$  and  $AG = G$ .

We observe that the vector space of all antisymmetric polynomials is the range of  $A$  and is therefore the span of the images of all monomials. If  $G(Z) = Z^J = z_1^{k_1} z_2^{k_2} \dots z_N^{k_N}$  is a monomial, then  $AG(Z)$  is easily seen to be 0 if any of the exponents are equal. Moreover, if the monomial  $G'$  is obtained from the monomial  $G$  by a permutation of the exponents, then  $AG'(Z) = \pm AG(Z)$ . Thus, the set of antisymmetric polynomials is spanned by  $A(Z^J)$  as  $J$  varies over increasing  $N$ -tuples of nonnegative integers. It follows easily from the formula for the determinant as a signed sum of products that  $A(Z^J) = V_J(Z)/N!$ . Thus, summing equations (14) produces equation (15), as claimed.

If  $J = (0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1)$ , then  $V_J(Z) = V(Z)$  is the Vandermonde determinant. Clearly the product of a symmetric polynomial and  $V(Z)$  is antisymmetric. Ultimately, we will only need the fact that these products are in the range of  $A$ .

However, the argument of the following paragraph shows that every antisymmetric polynomial is in fact the product of a symmetric polynomial and  $V(Z)$ .

The Vandermonde determinant  $V(Z)$  is the minimal-degree polynomial  $G(Z)$  vanishing on all the varieties  $\mathcal{V}_{i,j} = \{Z : z_i = z_j\}$  for all pairs of indices  $(i, j)$  with  $i \neq j$ . Therefore the ideal generated by  $V(Z)$  is a radical ideal, and, by the Hilbert Nullstellensatz (see for example [170]), any other polynomial vanishing on  $\bigcup_{(i,j)} \mathcal{V}_{i,j}$  is divisible by  $V(Z)$ . It is clear that any antisymmetric polynomial  $G(Z)$  vanishes on  $\bigcup_{(i,j)} \mathcal{V}_{i,j}$  and hence  $G(Z)$  is divisible by  $V(Z)$ .

This fact that every antisymmetric polynomial is divisible by  $V(Z)$  is known. It is stated in the Encyclopedic Dictionary of Mathematics [169], but it has been hard to find a published proof.

Let us recall that the following equation:

$$\mu^N(F(Z)\overline{V_J(Z)}) = 0 \quad (17)$$

implies that for all polynomials  $F$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^N(F(Z)\overline{G(Z)}) &= 0 \quad \text{for all antisymmetric } G, \text{ and so} \\ \mu^N(F(Z)\overline{H(Z)V(Z)}) &= 0 \quad \text{for all symmetric } H. \end{aligned}$$

Specializing to  $F$  of the form  $F_1 V$  with  $F_1$  symmetric gives us

$$\mu^N(F_1(Z)\overline{F_2(Z)|V(Z)|^2}) = 0 \quad \text{for all symmetric polynomials } F_1 \text{ and } F_2. \quad (18)$$

Now is the time to use the fact that  $\mu$  is a measure, and to require that it have compact support. Let us restate our main theorem in the form of the ideas we have been using. In this form it is actually more general.

**Theorem (6.2.1)[168]:** (Restated). Let  $\mu$  be a measure on  $\mathbb{C}$  with compact support. Let  $T_\mu$  be the operator from  $\mathcal{P}$  to linear functionals on  $\bar{\mathcal{P}}$  by  $T_\mu f(\bar{g}) = \int f \bar{g} d\mu$ . Then  $T_\mu$  has finite rank if and only if the support of  $\mu$  is finite.

In the present case,  $\mu^N$  is just a product measure on  $\mathbb{C}^N$ . We formally state our conclusions thus far in the language of measures and integration:

**Proposition (6.2.2)[168]:** If  $T_\mu$  has rank less than  $N$ , then for all symmetric polynomials  $F_1$  and  $F_2$

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^N} F_1(Z) \overline{F_2(Z)} |V(Z)|^2 d\mu^N(Z) = 0. \quad (19)$$

It is clear that finite sums of products of the form  $F_1(Z) \overline{F_2(Z)}$  (with  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  symmetric) form an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  of functions on  $\mathbb{C}$  which contains the constants and is closed under conjugation. It doesn't separate points because each element is constant on sets of points that are permutations of one another. Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{C}^N$  by the fact that  $Z_1 \sim Z_2$  if and only if  $Z_2 = \pi(Z_1)$  for some permutation  $\pi$ . Let  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_N)$  and  $W = (w_1, \dots, w_N)$ . If  $Z \not\sim W$ , then the polynomials  $p(t) = \prod (t - z_j)$  and  $q(t) = \prod (t - w_j)$  have different zeros (or the same zeros with different multiplicities). This implies that the coefficient of some power of  $t$  in  $p(t)$  differs from the corresponding coefficient in  $q(t)$ . Thus there is an elementary symmetric function that differs at  $Z$  and  $W$ . Consequently,  $\mathcal{A}$  separates equivalence classes.

Let us give the quotient space  $\mathbb{C}^N/\sim$  the standard quotient space topology. If  $K$  is any compact set in  $\mathbb{C}^N$  that is invariant with respect to  $\sim$ , then  $K/\sim$  is compact and Hausdorff. Also, any symmetric continuous function on  $\mathbb{C}^N$  induces a continuous function on  $\mathbb{C}^N/\sim$  (and conversely). Thus we can apply the Stone-Weierstrass theorem (on  $K/\sim$ ) to conclude that  $\mathcal{A}$  is dense in the space of continuous symmetric functions, in the topology of uniform convergence on any compact set. Therefore, for any continuous symmetric function  $f(Z)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}^N} f(Z) |V(Z)|^2 d\mu^N(Z) = 0. \quad (20)$$

If  $f$  is an arbitrary continuous function, the above integral will be the same as the corresponding integral with  $Sf$  replacing  $f$ . This is because the function  $|V(Z)|^2$  and the product measure  $\mu^N$  are both invariant under permutations of the coordinates. We conclude that this integral vanishes for any continuous  $f$  and so the measure  $|V(Z)|^2 d\mu^N(Z)$  must be zero. Thus,  $\mu^N$  is supported on the set where  $V$  vanishes.

This means  $\mu$  must have fewer than  $N$  points in its support: for if  $z_j$  are  $N$  distinct points in the support of  $\mu$ , then the point  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_N)$  is in the support of  $\mu^N$  but  $V(Z) \neq 0$ , a contradiction.

In fact, when the number of points in the support is finite, it is precisely the rank of  $T_\mu$ : if the support of  $\mu$  is  $\{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_M\}$ , then the range of  $T_\mu$  contains the  $M$  independent evaluation functionals.

Note that the rank zero case has been known for at least a century:  $\int f \bar{g} d\mu = 0$  for all polynomials  $f$  and  $g$  clearly implies  $\mu = 0$  by the Stone-Weierstrass theorem.

Let  $X$  be any subspace of  $A^2$  with finite codimension. Let  $S$  be the closure of  $\{\sum f_j \bar{g}_j : f_j \in X, g_j \in A^2\}$  in the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets. Suppose  $S$  is not all of  $C(\mathbb{D})$ ; then there exists a measure  $\mu$  with compact support in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $\int f \bar{g} d\mu = 0$  for all  $f \in S$  and all  $g \in A^2$ . That is, the range  $Y_\mu$  of  $T_\mu$  is contained in  $X^\perp$ , a finite dimensional set. This implies that  $\mu$  is a finite sum of point masses and so  $Y_\mu$  is spanned

by the set of  $K_a$  for  $a$  in the support of  $\mu$ . If we repeat this for all possible measures that annihilate  $S$  we get a set  $E$  of all such points  $a$ . Then  $E$  is finite because the corresponding  $K_a$  are all independent and in  $X^\perp$ . Therefore,  $S$  has finite codimension and contains all functions that vanish on  $E$ .

Also,  $f \in X$  implies  $\langle f, K_a \rangle = 0$  for all  $a \in E$  so all the functions in  $S$  vanish on  $E$ . Thus  $S$  is the ideal of all functions vanishing on  $E$ . This gives us the following corollary.

**Corollary (6.2.3)[168]:** If  $X$  is a subspace of  $A^2$  with finite codimension, then the closure of the span of  $\overline{XA^2}$  in the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets is an ideal in  $C(\mathbb{D})$  with a finite zero set. If  $X$  has no common zeros, it is all of  $C(\mathbb{D})$ .

Note that it is not clear a priori that the closed span of  $\overline{XA^2}$  is even closed under multiplication.

One can define operators to which our results apply that seem to have little to do with Toeplitz operators and nothing to do with Bergman spaces. For example, let  $\mu$  be a measure on  $\mathbb{D}$  and define an operator from (say) the disk algebra to entire functions by  $S_\mu(f)(w) = \int \exp(\bar{z}w)f(z) d\mu(z)$ . Then, since  $\exp(\bar{z}w)$  is a reproducing kernel for some appropriate normalization of the Fock space, one obtains  $\langle S_\mu(f), g \rangle = \int f\bar{g} d\mu$  for all polynomials  $f$  and  $g$ . If  $S_\mu$  has finite rank, then  $\mu$  must have finite support.

### Section (6.3): Bergman Space Modulo Finite Rank Operators

Many algebraic properties of Toeplitz operators on analytic function spaces have been studied. We are concerned with the problem of when the product of two Toeplitz operators  $T_f T_g$  is a finite perturbation of another Toeplitz operator  $T_h$ . We take the Bergman space as the domain and study the question for  $f, g$  bounded harmonic and  $h$  in  $C^2$  class with the invariant Laplacian in  $L^1$ .

Let  $dA$  denote the Lebesgue area measure on the unit disk  $D$  in the complex plane, normalized so that the measure of the disk  $D$  is 1. The Bergman space  $L^2_a$  is the Hilbert space consisting of analytic functions on  $D$  that are square integrable with respect to the measure  $dA$ . For  $\varphi \in L^2(D, dA)$ , the Toeplitz operator  $T_\varphi$  with symbol  $\varphi$  is defined densely on  $L^2_a$  by

$$T_\varphi f = P(\varphi f),$$

where  $P$  is the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(D, dA)$  to  $L^2_a$ .

For general operator  $S$  on a Hilbert space, the  $\text{rank}(S)$  is defined as the dimension of closure of the range of  $S$ .  $S$  is called finite rank operator with rank  $r$  if it is bounded and  $\text{rank}(S) = r < \infty$ . On the Bergman space, the rank  $r$  operator has the expression

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i,$$

where  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^r, \{y_i\}_{i=1}^r$  are two sets of linearly independent functions in  $L^2_a$  and we use the standard notation for rank-one operators in the Hilbert space:  $x \otimes y: h \rightarrow \langle h, y \rangle x$ . A tool that arises in the study of the Bergman space is the Berezin transform. Given an (possibly unbounded) operator  $S$  on  $L^2_a$ , with its domain containing all the normalized reproducing kernels  $k_z(w) = \frac{(1-|z|^2)^2}{(1-\bar{z}w)^2}$ , the Berezin transform of  $S$  is the function

$$B[S](z) = \langle S k_z, k_z \rangle, \quad z \in D,$$

where  $\langle, \rangle$  is the inner product in  $L^2_a$ . It was proved that the Berezin transform is injective [55], which means  $B[S](z) = B[T](z)$  will imply  $S = T$  for two operators  $S, T$  on  $L^2_a$ . For an integrable function  $f$  on  $D$ , the Berezin transform of  $f$  is the function



$$B[f](z) = \langle f k_z, k_z \rangle$$

For  $u \in L^1(D)$ , it was shown in [173], [176] that  $B(u) = u$  if and only if  $u$  is harmonic. We shall denote the Laplacian by  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial_z \partial_{\bar{z}}}$  and the invariant Laplacian by  $\tilde{\Delta} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \Delta$ .

Since the Bergman projection maps  $L^\infty(D)$  to the Bloch space [43] and the Szego projection maps  $L^\infty(\partial D)$  into BMOA [177], we note that for a bounded harmonic function  $\phi$  on  $D$ ,  $\phi$  can be written uniquely as a sum of an analytic function  $\phi_+$  and a conjugate analytic function  $\phi_-$  with

$$\phi_-(0) = 0: \phi = \phi_+ + \phi_-,$$

where  $\phi_+$  and  $\phi_-$  are in the Bloch space and BMOA. We say that  $\phi_+$  and  $\phi_-$  are the analytic part of  $\phi$  and the conjugate analytic part of  $\phi$  respectively.

The earliest characterization of product problem is on the Hardy space of the unit circle  $\partial D$  by Brown and Halmos [98], said that for  $f, g \in L^\infty, T_f T_g = T_h$  if and only if either  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  is analytic and  $fg = h$  a. e.  $\partial D$ . One would expect if similar result holds on the Bergman space. The situation is more complicated on the Bergman space. For bounded harmonic functions  $f$  and  $g$  on  $D$ , the third author [58] proved that  $T_f T_g = T_{fg}$  on the Bergman space if either  $\bar{f}$  or  $g$  is analytic. Then Ahern and Čučković [96] obtained the characterization analogues to the Brown–Halmos theorem for the Bergman space Toeplitz operators with harmonic symbols.

**Theorem (6.3.1)[172]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk and  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  that  $\tilde{\Delta} h \in L^\infty(D)$ . If  $T_f T_g = T_h$ , then either  $f$  is conjugate analytic or  $g$  is analytic. In either case,  $h = fg$ .

Later in [165], Ahern removed the assumption on  $h$  and showed that the above theorem is true for the function  $h$  bounded on the unit disk. For more general symbols, surprisingly, Ahern [165] had the following example,

$$T_z T_{\bar{z}^2} = T_{2z\bar{z}-1}. \quad (21)$$

It means even if  $T_f T_g = T_h, h$  does not have to be equal to  $fg$ . More interesting examples are shown in [166].

Inspired by (21), we construct the following examples showing that the product of two Toeplitz operators can be a nonzero finite rank perturbation of another Toeplitz operator.

**Example (6.3.2)[172]:**

$$T_{z^2} T_{z^3} - T_{3\bar{z}-\frac{2}{z}} = 1 \otimes z,$$

$$T_{2z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3} - T_{(6|z|^2-4)} = 1 \otimes 1.$$

To get the first equation, applying Berezin transform to right hand side for each  $w \in D$ ,

$$\langle (1 \otimes z) k_w, k_w \rangle = (1 - |w|^2)^2 \bar{w}$$

Also by simple calculation

$$\langle (T_z - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}^2} + T_{z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3}) k_w, k_w \rangle = (1 - |w|^2)^2 \bar{w}.$$

This is  $B[1 \otimes z](w) = B[T_z - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}^2} + T_{z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3}](w)$ . Since the Berezin transform is injective, it follows

$$1 \otimes z = T_z - 2T_z T_{\bar{z}^2} + T_{z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3}.$$

Combining with Identity (21), we obtain the first example

$$T_{z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3} - T_{3\bar{z}-\frac{2}{z}} = 1 \otimes z.$$

To get the second equation, by using above we have

$$\left[ T_{z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3} - T_{3\bar{z} - \frac{2}{z}} \right] T_z = [1 \otimes z] T_z = 1 \otimes (T_z^* z) = 1 \otimes \frac{1}{2}.$$

Combining (21) with the above identity implies

$$T_{2z^2} T_{\bar{z}^3 z} - T_{(6|z|^2 - 4)} = 1 \otimes 1.$$

Note that in above examples, the two symbols are either not harmonic or unbounded. Naturally, one may ask the following question.

**Question (6.3.3)[172]:** Can  $T_f T_g - T_h$  be a nonzero finite rank operator on  $L_a^2$  if  $f, g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h \in L^\infty(D)$ ?

On the Hardy space, the symbol mapping [175] said  $fg$  must be equal to  $h$ . Axler, Chang and Sarason gave an affirmative answer to Question (6.3.3) in [93] as the following theorem.

**Theorem (6.3.4)[172]:** (The variant theorem of Axler–Chang–Sarason). Suppose  $f, \bar{g} \in BMOA$ . Then the semicommutator  $\hat{T}_{fg} - \hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g (= \hat{H}_f^* \hat{H}_g)$  is a finite rank operator if and only if either  $\hat{H}_{\bar{f}}$  or  $\hat{H}_g$  is a finite rank operator. Here  $\hat{T}_f$  and  $\hat{H}_f$  denote the Toeplitz operator and Hankel operator on the Hardy space respectively.

In [179], Richman obtained a formula on the ranks.

**Theorem (6.3.5)[172]:** Suppose that  $f, \bar{g} \in BMOA$

$$\text{rank } \hat{H}_{\bar{f}}^* \hat{H}_g = \min \left\{ \text{rank } \hat{H}_{\bar{f}}, \text{rank } \hat{H}_g \right\}.$$

On the Bergman space, Guo, Sun and the third author [100] showed that for bounded harmonic functions  $f, g$  and  $h = fg$ ,  $T_f T_g - T_h$  is a finite rank operator on  $L_a^2$  if and only if  $T_f T_g - T_h = 0$ . Hence by Ahern and Čučković theorem [96], either  $f$  or  $g$  is analytic. As Luecking [169] showed that there is no non-trivial finite rank Toeplitz operator with bounded symbol on the Bergman space, one may expect that the answer to Question (6.3.3) should be analogous to Ahern and Čučković's Theorem (Theorem (6.3.1)). Indeed, Čučković [164] has studied this question and obtained:

**Theorem (6.3.6)[172]:** Suppose  $f, g$  and  $h$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h_+$  and  $\overline{h_-}$  are in  $H^\infty(D)$ . Then  $T_f T_g - T_{h^n} = \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j$ , where  $x_j, y_j \in L_a^2$ , if and only if the following conditions hold:

- (a)  $f_- g_+ - h^n$  is harmonic,
- (b)  $f(z)g(z) = h^n(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z)y_j(z)$ , for  $z \in D$ .

Question (6.3.3) for other function spaces has been studied as well. In [174], Choe, Koo and Lee got a result similar to the above theorem for pluriharmonic functions  $f, g$  and  $n$ -harmonic function  $h$  on the polydisk.

Our first result is to give a negative answer to the question for the perturbation of rank one operators.

The above theorem may be viewed as the version of the Ahern–Čučković theorem (Theorem (6.3.1))–the Brown–Halmos type theorem for the Bergman Toeplitz operators modulo rank one operators. The main ideas of the proof are to use the Berezin transform on the Bergman space and the Hardy space, to exchange Toeplitz operators identities on the Bergman space to Toeplitz operators identities on the Hardy space, and to use the Bochner theorem on critical points of rational functions [180].

We get an affirmative answer to Question (6.3.3) for a perturbation of operators with higher rank.

**Theorem (6.3.7)[172]:** For each  $m \geq 2$ , there exist rational functions  $f, g, h_+$  and  $\overline{h_-}$  in  $H^\infty(D)$  such that  $T_f T_{\overline{g}} - T_{h_+} + h_-$  has finite rank and its rank equals  $m$ .

In general, we characterize when  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has finite rank if  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function such that  $\tilde{\Delta}h \in L^1(D)$ . For our purpose, let us introduce some notations. For each polynomial  $P(z)$  of  $z$  with degree  $N$ ,

$$P(z) = P_0 + P_1 z + \cdots + P_N z^N.$$

Denote

$$\tilde{P}(z) = z^N \overline{P\left(\frac{1}{\overline{z}}\right)} = P_0 z^N + P_1 z^{N-1} + \cdots + P_N.$$

For  $m \geq N$ , we define

$$\tilde{P}_m(z) = \tilde{P}(z) z^{m-N}.$$

The above theorem is analogous to the Axler, Chang and Sarason theorem (Theorem (6.3.4)) for finite rank perturbation on the Hardy space [93], where the third condition should be changed into that either  $f_+$  or  $\overline{g_-}$  is a rational function but the last two conditions are not required and the second condition is replaced by

$$h = fg$$

on  $\partial D$ .

We will extend the Čučković theorem (Theorem (6.3.6)) to obtain a necessary and sufficient condition for  $T_f T_g - T_h$  to have finite rank for more general  $h$  by using Luecking's theorem on the finite rank Toeplitz operators [169]. Next by the injective property of the Berezin transform on bounded operators on the Bergman space or the Hardy space, we will show that  $f_+, g_-, h_+$  and  $h_-$  are rational functions. By the Bochner's theorem [180] for rational functions and deriving some functions identities on  $f, g$  and  $h$ , we will prove Theorem (6.3.13). Then computing the action of the product of two Toeplitz operators on the orthogonal basis  $\{(k+1)z_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ , we get some identities on these symbols of Toeplitz operators to prove Theorem (6.3.16). Using these identities in Theorem (6.3.16), we will prove Theorem (6.3.7) by constructing examples.

Using the Luecking theorem on the finite rank Toeplitz operators [169], we get the following theorem which extends the Čučković theorem (Theorem (6.3.6)).

**Theorem (6.3.8)[172]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions,

$$h \in \cap_{q>1} L^q(D) \cap C^2, \tilde{\Delta}h \in L^1(D).$$

Then  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has finite rank on  $L_a^2$  if and only if the following conditions hold:

(a)  $f_- g_+ - h$  is harmonic.

(b) There exist nonzero vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_r, y_1, \dots, y_r$  in  $L_a^2$ , such that

$$f(z)g(z) = h(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z)y_j(z) \quad (22)$$

for  $z \in D$ .

We should point out that the idea in the proof is the combination of the proof of Theorem 1 in [164], Luecking Theorem on finite rank Toeplitz operators [169] and the proof of Proposition 4 in [100].

For operators  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  that are densely defined on  $L_a^2$  or  $H^2(D)$ , we say that  $S_1 = S_2$  if  $S_1 p = S_2 p$  for each analytic polynomial  $p$ .

**Proof.** Suppose

$$T_f T_g - T_h = F,$$

where  $F = \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j$  is a finite rank operator on  $L_a^2$  for two sets of linearly independent functions  $x_j, y_j \in L_a^2, j = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . Taking the Berezin transform both sides of the above equation gives

$$B[T_f T_g](z) = B[h](z) + B[F](z) \quad (23)$$

for each  $z$  in  $D$ . By hypothesis,  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions on the unit disk, we can write

$$f = f_+ + f_-, \quad g = g_+ + g_-,$$

where  $f^+, f^-, g^+$ , and  $g^-$  are in the Bergman space  $L_a^2$  and in the Bloch space contained in  $\cap_{p>1} L^p(D)$ . Using

$$T_g - k_z = g_-(z)k_z, \quad T_{f_+}^* k_z = \overline{f_+(z)}k_z,$$

we show

$$B[T_f T_g](z) = B[f_- g_+](z) + f_+(z)g_+(z) + f_-(z)g_-(z) + f_+(z)g_-(z), \quad (24)$$

$$B[F](z) = \sum_{j=1}^r \langle k_z, y_j \rangle \langle x_j, k_z \rangle = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z)y_j(z). \quad (25)$$

That is

$$B(f_- g_+ + f_- g_- + f_+ g_+ - h)(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z)y_j(z) - f_+(z)g_-(z).$$

Further expanding the right side,

$$(1 - |z|^2)^2 x_j(z)y_j(z) = x_j(z)\overline{y_j(z)} - 2zx_j(z)\overline{zy_j(z)} + z^2 x_j(z)z^2 \overline{y_j(z)}.$$

Then we obtain

$$B(f_- g_+ + f_- g_- + f_+ g_+ - h)(z) = 3 \sum_{j=1}^r X_j(z)Y_j(z) - f_+(z)g_-(z) \quad (26)$$

where  $X_j, Y_j \in L_a^2$ . Notice that  $f_-$  and  $g_+$  are in the algebra  $\cap_{p>1} L^p(D)$ , we have  $f_- g_+ \in \cap_{1<q<\infty} L^q(D)$

$$\tilde{\Delta}[f_-(z)g_+(z)] = [(1 - |z|^2)f'_-(z)][(1 - |z|^2)g'_+(z)] \in L_1(D)$$

where  $f'_-(z) = \frac{\partial f_-}{\partial \bar{z}}$  and  $g'_+(z) = \frac{\partial g_+}{\partial z}$ . Therefore

$$\tilde{\Delta}[f_-(z)g_+(z) + f_-(z)g_-(z) + f_+(z)g_+(z) - h(z)] = \tilde{\Delta}[f_-(z)g_+(z) - h(z)]$$

is in  $L^1(D)$ . By Lemma 1 in [96], the invariant Laplace operator commutes with the Berezin transform:

$$\tilde{\Delta}\{B[f_- g_+ - h](z)\} = B[\tilde{\Delta}(f_- g_+ - h)](z),$$

applying the invariant Laplacian  $\tilde{\Delta}$  to Equation (26), we get

$$\begin{aligned} B[\tilde{\Delta}(f_- g_+ - h)](z) &= \tilde{\Delta} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{3r} X_j(z)\overline{Y_j(z)} \right] - \tilde{\Delta}[f_+(z)g_-(z)] \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{3r} X'_j(z)\overline{Y'_j(z)} - f'_+(z)g'_-(z) \right] \end{aligned}$$

for  $z \in D$ . Canceling the factor  $(1 - |z|^2)^2$  in both sides of above equation we obtain

$$\langle \tilde{\Delta}(f_- g_+ - h)K_z, K_z \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{3r} X'_j(z)\overline{Y'_j(z)} - f'_+(z)g'_-(z) \quad (27)$$

Now one can “complexify” above equation to get

$$\langle \tilde{\Delta}(f_-g_+ - h)K_z, K_w \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{3r} X'_j(z) \overline{Y'_j(w)} - f'_+(z)g'_-(w) \quad (28)$$

since the above equation holds on the bidisc as both sides of the above equation are holomorphic in the bidisc  $\{(z, w): |z| < 1, |w| < 1\}$  and are equal on  $\{(z, w): |z| < 1, w = \bar{z}\}$ . Next we take the  $k$ th derivative to both sides of Equation (28) with respect to  $w$  and then evaluate the values at  $w = 0$ , it follows

$$\langle \tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+ - h]\xi^k, K_z(\xi) \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{3r} b_{j,k}X'_j(z) + a_k f'_+(z)$$

for some constants  $b_{j,k}, a_k$ .

Although some of the  $X'_j$  and  $f'_+$  may not be in  $L^2_\alpha$ , we observe that for each  $0 < s < 1$ , all of  $X'_j$  and  $f'_+$  are bounded and analytic on  $sD$ . Hence

$$\{T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}\xi^k\}(sz) = \sum_{j=1}^{3r} b_{j,k}X'_j(rz) + a_k f'_+(sz).$$

We claim that  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}$  has finite rank on the Bergman space  $L^2_\alpha$ . If the claim is false, we may assume that there are  $3r + 2$  linearly independent functions  $\{u_l\}_{l=1}^{3r+2}$  in the range of  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}$ . Then for each  $0 < s < 1$ ,  $\{u_l|sD\}_{l=1}^{3r+2}$  are also linearly independent in the space  $L^2_\alpha(sD)$ . Since analytic polynomials are dense in  $L^2_\alpha(sD)$ , for each  $l$  there are analytic polynomials  $p_{lj}$  such that  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}p_{lj}$  converges to  $u_l$  as  $(j \rightarrow \infty)$ . Thus  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}p_{lj}$  converges uniformly to  $u_l$  on every compact subset of the unit disk  $D$ . Note that  $sD$  is contained in a compact subset of the unit disk, we have

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_{sD} |T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}p_{lj} - u_l|^2 dA(z) = 0.$$

By the above formula,  $T_{\tilde{\Delta}[f_-g_+-h]}p_{lj}|sD$  is contained in the subspace  $\text{span}\{X'_j(sz), f'_+(sz)\}_{j=1}^{3r}$ , so

$$u_l(sz) \in \text{span}\{X'_j(sz), f'_+(sz)\}_{j=1}^{3r}$$

for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, 3r + 2$ . But this contradicts that  $\{u_l(sz)\}_{l=1}^{3r+2}$  are linearly independent, and hence the claim follows.

By Luecking’s Theorem in [169], which says that there is no nonzero finite rank Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space with symbol in  $L^1(D)$ , we have

$$\tilde{\Delta}[f_-(z)g_+(z) - h(z)] = 0$$

on  $D$ . This implies that  $f_-g_+ - h$  is a harmonic function and hence

$$B[f_-g_+ - h](z) = f_-(z)g_+(z) - h(z).$$

So Equation (23) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & f_-(z)g_+(z) - h(z) \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)} - f_-(z)g_-(z) - f_+(z)g_+(z) \\ & \quad - f_+(z)g_-(z). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we obtain

$$f(z)g(z) = h(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_{-j}(z) \overline{y_j(z)}.$$

Conversely, suppose that  $f_{-}g_{+} - h$  is harmonic on  $D$ , and

$$f(z)g(z) = h(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{j=1}^r x_j(z) \overline{y_j(z)}.$$

It follows from (24) and (25) that

$$B[T_f T_g - T_h](z) = f(z)g(z) - h(z) = B \left[ \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j \right](z).$$

Since the Berezin transform is injective [55], we conclude that

$$T_f T_g - T_h = \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j$$

The proof is complete.

The Hardy space  $H^2$  is the subspace of analytic functions on  $D$  whose Taylor coefficients are square summable. It can be also identified (by radial limits) with the subspace of  $L^2(\partial D)$  of functions whose negative Fourier coefficients vanish. For  $p \geq 1$ , the classical Hardy space  $H^p$  is the subspace of  $L^p(\partial D)$  consisting of those functions whose negative Fourier coefficients vanish. Let  $\hat{P}$  denote the Szego projection: the orthogonal projection from  $L^2(\partial D)$  onto  $H^2$ . Since  $\hat{P}$  is a bounded projection from  $L^q(\partial D)$  onto  $H^q$  for  $q > 1$ , for each bounded harmonic function  $\phi$  on  $D$ , we have that both  $\phi_{+}$  and  $\phi_{-}$  are in  $\bigcap_{q>1} H^q$ . We let  $\hat{T}_f$  denote the Toeplitz operator on the Hardy space  $H^2$  and  $\hat{H}_f$  the Hankel operator on  $H^2$  which are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}_f h &= \hat{P}(fh), \\ \hat{H}_f h &= (I - \hat{P})(fh) \end{aligned}$$

for  $h \in H^2$ . There is an extensive literature on Toeplitz operators on the Hardy space  $H^2$  [175]. We will give a characterization when  $f$  and  $g$  are holomorphic functions in  $BMOA$ . The main idea is to exchange an identity of the Toeplitz operators on the Bergman space to an identity of Toeplitz operators on Hardy space by the Berezin transforms.

For an operator (possibly unbounded)  $S$  on  $H^2$ , define the Berezin transform

$$B[S](z) = \frac{\langle S \hat{k}_z, \hat{k}_z \rangle}{H^2}$$

if the domain of the operator  $S$  contains all the normalized reproducing kernels  $\hat{k}_z$

$$k_z(w) = \frac{1 - |z|^2}{(1 - \bar{z}w)}$$

of  $H^2$ . The Berezin transform is also injective on the Hardy space.

A simple calculation gives that for two nonnegative integers  $k$  and  $l$ ,

$$T_{\bar{z}^k} z^l = 0$$

if  $k > l$  and

$$T_{\bar{z}^k} z^l = \frac{l - k + 1}{l + 1} z^{l-k}$$

if  $k \leq l$ . This immediately leads to the following lemma.

**Lemma (6.3.9)[172]:** If  $u(z) = u_0 + u_1z + \dots + u_{m-1}z^{m-1} + \dots$  is in  $L_a^2$ , then for each  $m \geq 0$ ,

$$T_{\bar{u}}z^{m+k} = \frac{(m+k+1)\bar{u}_0z^{m+k} + (m+k)\bar{u}_1z^{m+k-1} + \dots + (k+1)\bar{u}_m + \dots + \bar{u}_{m+k}}{m+k+1},$$

for  $k \geq -m$ . We will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem (6.3.10)[172]:** Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are two nonconstant functions in  $BMOA$  and  $h$  is in  $L^q(D)C^2(D)$  with  $\tilde{\Delta}h \in L^1(D)$ . If there are two families  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^r$  and  $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^r$  of linearly independent functions in  $L_a^2$  such that

$$T_f T_g - T_h = \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j,$$

where  $r \geq 1$ , then  $h$  is harmonic function, and

$$h = h_+ + \bar{h}_-,$$

where  $h_+$  and  $\bar{h}_-$  are analytic functions,  $f, g, h_+$ , and  $\bar{h}_-$  and all  $x_i, y_i$  are rational functions ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, r, r > 0$ ). Moreover there are analytic polynomials  $q(z), p(z), F(z), G(z), b(z), B(z), c_1(z), \dots, c_r(z), d_1(z), \dots, d_r(z)$  such that

$$f(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)}, \quad g(z) = \frac{G(z)}{p(z)}, \quad h_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \bar{h}_-(z) = \frac{B(z)}{p(z)} \quad (29)$$

$$x_j(z) = \frac{c_j(z)}{q(z)}, \quad y_j(z) = \frac{d_j(z)}{p(z)} \quad (30)$$

Where

$$\deg c_j \leq \max\{\deg F, \deg q\} - 2,$$

and

$$\deg d_j \leq \max\{\deg G, \deg p\} - 2,$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . In fact,

$$\text{rank}(\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_{\bar{g}} - \hat{T}_h) = \min\{\max\{\deg B, \deg p\}, \max\{\deg F, \deg q\}\}. \quad (31)$$

If

$$\min\{\max\{\deg B, \deg p\}, \max\{\deg F, \deg q\}\} < 2,$$

then

$$T_f T_g - T_h = 0.$$

**Proof.** Suppose

$$T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h = \sum_{j=1}^r x_j \otimes y_j \quad (32)$$

where  $x_j, y_j$  are in  $L_a^2$  such that  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r$  are linearly independent and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_r$  are linearly independent.

By Theorem (6.3.8), since  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic, we have that  $f_-(\bar{g})_+ - h = -h$  is harmonic. Thus  $h$  is harmonic. So we can write  $h = h_+ + \bar{h}_-$ , where  $h_+, \bar{h}_-$  are functions in  $H^2$ .

First we show that  $x_i, y_i$  are in  $H^2$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . By Theorem (6.3.8), we have that

$$f(z)\overline{g(z)} - h(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(z)} \quad (33)$$

By the “complexify” argument used in the proof of Theorem (6.3.8), we obtain

$$f(z)\overline{g(\overline{w})} - h_+(z) - h_-(\overline{w}) = (1 - zw)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(\overline{w})} \quad (34)$$

For a fixed  $t$  in  $(0, 1)$ , we have

$$f(z)\overline{g(t\overline{w})} - h_+(z) - h_-(t\overline{w}) = (1 - tzw)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(t\overline{w})}, \quad (35)$$

to get

$$\sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(t\overline{w})} = \frac{1}{(1 - tzw)^2} \left[ f(z)\overline{g(t\overline{w})} - h_+(z) - h_-(t\overline{w}) \right].$$

For each  $j$ , pairing both sides of the above equation with  $y_j(tw)$  and then integrating about  $w$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^r \left[ \int_D y_j(tw)\overline{y_i(t\overline{w})} dA(w) \right] x_i(z) \\ = \int_D \frac{y_j(tw)}{(1 - tzw)^2} \left[ f(z)\overline{g(t\overline{w})} - h_+(z) - h_-(t\overline{w}) \right] dA(w) = g_j(z), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g_j(z) = \int_D \frac{y_j(tw)}{(1 - tzw)^2} \left[ f(z)\overline{g(t\overline{w})} - h_+(z) - h_-(t\overline{w}) \right] dA(w)$$

is in  $H^2$  since  $f$  and  $h_+$  are in  $H^2$ . The coefficient matrix of the above system is given by

$$\left[ \int_D y_j(tw)\overline{y_i(t\overline{w})} dA(w) \right]_{i,j},$$

and is invertible since  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_r\}$  are linearly independent in  $L_a^2$ . Cramer’s rule gives

$$x_i(z) = \sum_{j=1}^r b_{ij} g_j(z)$$

for each  $z$  in  $D$  and some constants  $b_{ij}$ . This gives that each  $x_i$  is in  $H^2$  since  $g_j$  is in  $H^2$ . Similarly we can show that each  $y_i$  is also in  $H^2$ .

Next we will show that both  $f$  and  $g$  are rational functions. Rewriting Equation (33), for every  $z \in D$ , we have

$$f(z)\overline{g(z)} - h(z) = (1 - |z|^2) \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(z)} - \sum_{i=1}^r zx_i(z)\overline{zy_i(z)} \right\} \quad (36)$$

Simple computations give

$$\begin{aligned} \langle [\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_h] \hat{k}_z, \hat{k}_z \rangle &= f(z)\overline{g(z)} - h(z), \\ \left\langle \left[ \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i - \sum_{i=1}^r \varsigma x_i \otimes \varsigma y_i \right] \hat{k}_z, \hat{k}_z \right\rangle \\ &= (1 - |z|^2) \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r x_i(z)\overline{y_i(z)} - \sum_{i=1}^r zx_i(z)\overline{zy_i(z)} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then Equation (36) implies that



$$\langle [\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_h] \hat{k}_z, \hat{k}_z \rangle = \left\langle \left[ \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i - \sum_{i=1}^r \varsigma x_i \otimes \varsigma y_i \right] \hat{k}_z, \hat{k}_z \right\rangle. \quad (37)$$

Since the Berezin transform is one-to-one from the algebra of bounded operators on the Hardy space to  $L^\infty(D)$ , we have

$$\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_h = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i - \sum_{i=1}^r \varsigma x_i \otimes \varsigma y_i. \quad (38)$$

Thus  $\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_h$  is an operator at most  $2r$  rank and the well-defined symbol map on the Toeplitz algebra on the Hardy space [175] gives

$$f(z)g(z) - h(z) = 0$$

on the unit circle  $\partial D$ . Thus we have

$$\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_{f\bar{g}} = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i - \sum_{i=1}^r \varsigma x_i \otimes \varsigma y_i,$$

to get

$$-\hat{H}_{\bar{f}}^* \hat{H}_{\bar{g}} = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i - \sum_{i=1}^r \varsigma x_i \otimes \varsigma y_i$$

is a finite rank operator as

$$\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_{f\bar{g}} = -\hat{H}_{\bar{f}}^* \hat{H}_{\bar{g}}.$$

By Theorem (6.3.4), either  $\hat{H}_{\bar{f}}$  or  $\hat{H}_{\bar{g}}$  has finite rank. Let

$$n = \text{rank} (\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_g - \hat{T}_{f\bar{g}}).$$

By Theorem (6.3.5), either  $\text{rank} \hat{H}_{\bar{f}}$  or  $\text{rank} \hat{H}_{\bar{g}}$  equals  $n$ . By the Kronecker theorem (p. 21, [178]), we have that either  $f$  or  $g$  is a rational function with degree  $n$ . We may assume that the degree of  $f$  equals  $n$  and

$$f(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)},$$

where  $F(z)$  and  $q(z)$  are polynomials with degrees at most  $n$  and do not have any common factors.

Next we will show that  $h_+$  and  $x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, r$  are all rational functions with the same denominator  $q(z)$ . Moreover we can write

$$h_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}$$

and

$$x_j(z) = \frac{c_j(z)}{q(z)},$$

where  $b(z)$  is an analytic polynomial with degree at most  $n$  and  $c_j(z)$  is an analytic polynomial with degree less than  $n - 2$ , for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, r$ .

Since  $f\bar{g} = h$  on  $\partial D$ ,  $qf\bar{g} = qh_+ + qh_-$  and both  $q$  and  $F = qf$  are analytic polynomials with degree at most  $n$ , we have

$$b = qh_+ = \hat{P}[(qf)g] - \hat{P}[qh_-] = \hat{P}[Fg] - \hat{P}[qh_-]$$

is an analytic polynomial with degree at most  $\max\{\text{deg } F, \text{deg } q\} = \text{deg } f$ . Therefore  $h_+$  is a rational function:

$$h_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}.$$

Using Identity (32) and  $(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_F T_{\bar{g}} - T_q T_{h_-} - T_b &= T_q [T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h] = T_{qf} T_{\bar{g}} - T_q T_{h_-} - T_{qh^+} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^r (qx_i) \otimes y_i = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \otimes y_i \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

where  $c_i = qx_i$ .

Let  $P_N$  be the projection from  $L_a^2$  onto the subspace spanned by  $\{1, z, \dots, z_N\}$  which consists of polynomials of  $z$  with degree at most  $N$ . Since  $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^r$  are linearly independent in  $L_a^2$ , we see that for some sufficient large  $N$ ,  $\{P_N(y_i)\}_{i=1}^r$  are also linearly independent. Applying the operator identity (39) to each  $P_N(y_j)$  gives the following system of functions

$$\begin{aligned} F(z)T_{\bar{g}}P_N(y_j) - q(z)T_{h_-}P_N(y_j) - b(z)P_N(y_j) &= \sum_{i=1}^r \langle P_N(y_j), y_i \rangle c_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^r \langle P_N(y_j), P_N(y_i) \rangle c_i \end{aligned}$$

for  $j = 1, \dots, r$ . By Lemma (6.3.9), we have that  $T_{\bar{g}}P_N(y_j)$  and  $T_{h_-}P_N(y_j)$  are polynomials of  $z$ . This gives that the left hand side of each equation in the above system is a polynomial of  $z$ . Since the  $r \times r$  matrix  $(\langle P_N(y_j), P_N(y_i) \rangle)_{i,j}$  is invertible, solving the above system for  $c_i$  we have that  $c_i$  is a polynomial of  $z$ .

Next we will show that  $g, \bar{h_-}$  and  $y_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, r$  are all rational functions with the same denominator.

Taking partial derivative both sides of Equation (32) about  $z$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} f(z)\bar{g}(z) - h'_+(z) \\ = (1 - |z|^2) \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r \left[ (1 - |z|^2)x'_i(z)\overline{y_i(z)} - 2\bar{z}x_i(z)\overline{y_i(z)} \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Thus for each  $\zeta \in \partial D$ , we have

$$f'(\zeta)\overline{g(\zeta)} = h'_+(\zeta), \quad (41)$$

to get that  $g(\zeta)$  is a rational function on the unit circle as  $f'(\zeta)$  and  $h'_+(\zeta)$  are rational functions on the unit circle. This gives that  $g(z)$  is a rational function on the unit disk. Let

$$g(z) = \frac{G(z)}{p(z)}$$

for two polynomials  $G(z)$  and  $p(z)$  with degree at most degree  $m$  of  $g$ . Using

$$T_g T_{\bar{f}} - T_h = \sum_{i=1}^r y_i \otimes x_i,$$

and repeating the above argument, we can get that  $h_-$  and all  $y_i$  are rational functions:

$$\overline{h_-(z)} = \frac{B(z)}{p(z)}, \quad y_i(z) = \frac{d_i(z)}{p(z)}$$

for some polynomials  $B(z), d_1(z), \dots, d_r(z)$  with degree at most  $m$ .

Last we will obtain the remaining result of the theorem.

Theorem (6.3.5) implies

$$n = \text{rank } \widehat{H}_f^* \widehat{H}_g = \min \{ \text{rank } \widehat{H}_f, \text{rank } \widehat{H}_g \} = \min \{ n, m \}.$$

By the Kronecker theorem [178], we have

$$\text{rank } \widehat{H}_f = \max \{ \text{deg } F, \text{deg } q \}.$$

Thus we obtain (31). To complete the proof we need only to show

$$\text{deg } c_i(z) \leq n - 2, \quad \text{deg } d_i(z) \leq m - 2.$$

To do this, using (29), (30) and (34) we have

$$F(z)\overline{G(\overline{w})} - b(z)\overline{p(\overline{w})} - q(z)\overline{B(\overline{w})} = (1 - zw)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r c_i(z)\overline{d_i(\overline{w})}.$$

Since the left hand side of the above equation is a polynomial of  $z$  with degree at most  $n$  and is also a polynomial of  $w$  with degree at most  $m$  and the degree of  $(1 - zw)^2$  about  $z$  or  $w$  is 2, we conclude that the degree of each  $c_i(z)$  is at most  $n - 2$  and the degree of each  $d_i(w)$  is at most  $m - 2$ . If either  $n$  or  $m$  is less than 2, we have that

$$\sum_{i=1}^r c_i(z)\overline{d_i(\overline{w})} = 0.$$

This gives that

$$\sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i = 0,$$

and hence

$$T_f T_g - T_h = 0.$$

This completes the proof.

We will prove Theorems (6.3.13), (6.3.7), and (6.3.16). We need some notation. For each  $\alpha$  in the unit disk, define a unitary operator  $U_\alpha$  on  $L^2(D)$ :

$$U_\alpha \phi = \phi(\phi_\alpha(z))k_\alpha(z)$$

for  $\phi \in L^2(D)$ , where  $\phi_\alpha(z)$  is the Mobius transform  $\frac{\alpha - z}{1 - \alpha \bar{z}}$ . As pointed out in [46],  $U_\alpha U_\alpha = I$  and

$$U_\alpha T_f U_\alpha = T_{f \circ \phi_\alpha}.$$

Using the above properties one can easily get the following useful and simple lemma which we will use in the proof of Theorem (6.3.13). We omit its proof.

**Lemma (6.3.11)[172]:** For any  $\alpha \in D$ , if

$$T_f T_{\overline{g}} - T_h = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \otimes y_i,$$

then

$$T_{f \circ \phi_\alpha} T_{\overline{g} \circ \phi_\alpha} - T_{h \circ \phi_\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^r (U_\alpha x_i) \otimes (U_\alpha y_i).$$

In the proof of Theorem (6.3.13) we will use the following corollary of Bochner's theorem on critical points of a rational function [180].

**Theorem (6.3.12)[172]:** If the circular regions  $|z| \leq r_1$  and  $|z| \geq r_2 (> r_1)$  contain respectively the zeros and poles of a rational function  $R(z)$  of degree  $n$ , those regions contain all the critical points of  $R(z)$ , and the former region contains precisely  $n - 1$  critical points.

Now we are ready to present the proof of Theorem (6.3.13).

**Theorem (6.3.13)[172]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions and  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function such that  $\tilde{\Delta} h \in L^1(D)$ . If  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has the rank at most one, then either  $f$  is conjugate analytic or  $g$  is analytic. In either case,  $h = fg$ .

**Proof.** First we reduce Theorem (6.3.13) to the special case that  $f$  and  $\bar{g}$  are in  $BMOA$  and  $h$  is in  $L^q(D)C^2(D)$  for any  $q > 1$  with

$$\tilde{\Delta} h \in L^1(D).$$

To do so, write  $f = f_+ + f_-$  and  $g = g_+ + g_-$ . We have

$$T_f T_g - T_h = T_{f_+} T_{g_-} - T_{h-f-g_+-f_-g_- - f_+g_+}.$$

Let  $G = h - f_-g_+ - f_-g_- - f_+g_+$ . Then  $T_{f_+} T_{g_-} - T_G$  has rank at most one also. By Theorem (6.3.10),  $G$  is harmonic on the unit disk. So we may consider the finite rank operator  $T_f T_g - T_h$  with rank at most one where  $f = f_+, g = g_-$ , and  $h = G$ . We will show that either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant and  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h = 0$ . This gives that  $h = f\bar{g}$ .

Since  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h$  has rank at the most one, there are two functions  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  in  $L^2$  a such that

$$T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h = x_1 \otimes y_1. \quad (42)$$

By Theorem (6.3.10),  $h$  is harmonic on  $D$  and  $x_1 \in H^2$  and  $y_1 \in H^2$ . We write  $h = h_+ + h_-$  where  $h_+$  is analytic part of  $h$  and  $h_-$  is conjugate analytic part of  $h$ .

By Theorem (6.3.10), we may assume that  $\hat{T}_f \hat{T}_{\bar{g}} - \hat{T}_h$  is a finite rank operator with rank  $n = 2$  and there are analytic polynomials

$q(z), p(z), F(z), G(z), b(z), B(z), c_1(z), d_1(z)$  such that

$$f(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)}, \quad g(z) = \frac{G(z)}{p(z)}, \quad h_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \bar{h}_-(z) = \frac{B(z)}{p(z)}$$

and

$$x_1(z) = \frac{c_1(z)}{q(z)}, \quad y_1(z) = \frac{d_1(z)}{p(z)}.$$

As for  $\alpha$  in  $D$  except for one point, the degree of the denominator of  $R \circ \phi_\alpha$  is greater than or equal to the degree of the numerator of  $R \circ \phi_\alpha$  for a rational function  $R$ , by Lemma (6.3.11), we may assume  $\deg q = 2 \leq m = \deg p, \deg F \leq 2$  and  $\deg G \leq m$ . Then  $\deg F \leq 2, \deg G \leq m, \deg b \leq 2, \deg B \leq m,$

$$\deg c_1 = 0,$$

and

$$\deg d_1 \leq m - 2.$$

By Theorem (6.3.8) we have

$$f(z)\overline{g(z)} = h(z) + (1 - |z|^2)^2 x_1(z)\overline{y_1(z)} \quad (43)$$

holds for  $z \in D$ . Complexify (43) to get

$$f(z)\overline{g(w)} = h_+(z) + h_-(w) + (1 - z\bar{w})^2 x_1(z)\overline{y_1(w)}$$

holds for  $z$  and  $w$  in  $D$ . Since these functions in the above equation are rational functions we have

$$f(z)\overline{g(w)} = h_+(z) + h_-(w) + (1 - z\bar{w})^2 x_1(z)\overline{y_1(w)} \quad (44)$$

for  $z$  and  $w$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  except for finitely many points.

Taking partial derivative both sides of (44) with respect to  $z$  gives

$$f'(z)\overline{g(w)} = h'_+(z) - 2\bar{w}(1 - z\bar{w})x_1(z)\overline{y_1(w)} + (1 - z\bar{w})^2 x_1'(z)\overline{y_1(w)}.$$

Letting  $w = \frac{1}{\bar{z}}$  in the above equation, we have

$$f(z)g\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) = h'_+(z),$$

to get

$$f'(z)\frac{\tilde{G}_m(z)}{\tilde{p}(z)} = h'_+(z).$$

Noting that zeros of  $p(z)$  are outside of the unit disk, we see that zeros of  $\tilde{p}(z)$  are in the unit disk. In addition, poles of  $f$  lie outside of the unit disk. Observe that  $f$  equals zero at the zero set of  $\tilde{p}(z)$  in the unit disk which has two points  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  with multiplicity. Thus  $f$  has two critical points  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  with multiplicity in the unit disk. So  $f - f(\alpha_1)$  has two critical points  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  with multiplicity in the unit disk. On the other hand,  $f - f(\alpha_1)$  has only one repeated zero  $\alpha_1$  in the unit disk. Thus the unit circle separates the all zeros of  $f - f(\alpha_1)$  from all poles of  $f - f(\alpha_1)$ . Theorem (6.3.12) says that  $f - f(\alpha_1)$  has only one critical point in the unit disk. This contracts that  $f - f(\alpha_1)$  has two critical points  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  with multiplicity in the unit disk. This implies that  $f$  is a constant.

For each polynomial  $P(z)$  of  $z$  with degree  $N$ ,

$$P(z) = P_0 + P_1z + \cdots + P_N z^N,$$

recall

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{P}(z) &= z^N P\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) \\ &= P_0 z^N + P_1 z^{N-1} + \cdots + P_N.\end{aligned}$$

For  $m \geq N$ , recall

$$\tilde{P}_m(z) = \tilde{P}(z)z^{m-N}.$$

To get Theorem (6.3.16) we need only the following theorem.

**Theorem (6.3.14)[172]:** Suppose that  $F, G, q, p, b$  and  $B$  are polynomials of  $z$  and the degree of  $p$  equals  $m$ , degrees of  $G$  and  $B$  are at most  $m$ .  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}$  has finite rank if and only if

$$F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) = 0, \quad (45)$$

$$F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) = 0. \quad (46)$$

**Proof.** Let  $e_k = (k+1)z_k$ . Then  $\{e_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is an orthogonal basis of the Bergman space  $L^2_\alpha$ .

Using Lemma (6.3.9) first we calculate  $[T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}]e_{m+k-1}$ . Writing

$$G(z) = u_0 + u_1z + \cdots + u_{m_G} z^{m_G}, \quad B(z) = v_0 + v_1z + \cdots + v_{m_B} z^{m_B},$$

$$p(z) = p_0 + p_1z + \cdots + p_m z^m, \quad \max\{m_G, m_B\} \leq m.$$

By Lemma (6.3.9), we have that for  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}& [T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}}]e_{m+k-1} \\ &= F(z)[(m+k)\bar{u}_0 z^{m+k-1} + \cdots + (k+m-m_G)\bar{u}_{m_G} z^{m-m_G+k-1}] \\ & \quad - q(z)[(m+k)\bar{v}_0 z^{m+k-1} + \cdots + (k+m-m_B)\bar{v}_{m_B} z^{m-m_B+k-1}] \\ & \quad - b(z)[(m+k)\bar{p}_0 z^{m+k-1} + \cdots + k\bar{p}_m z^{k-1}] \\ &= F(z)(\tilde{G}_m(z)z^k) - q(z)(\tilde{B}_m(z)z^k) - b(z)(\tilde{p}_m(z)z^k) \\ &= [F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z)]kz^{k-1} \\ & \quad + [F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z)]z^k.\end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

If (45) and (46) hold, then the above equalities give that  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}$  vanishes on  $\{e_l\}_{l=m}^\infty$ . This gives that  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}$  has finite rank.

Conversely suppose that  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}$  has finite rank. We may assume that

$$T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \otimes d_i. \quad (48)$$

Thus taking the Berezin transform both sides of the above equality gives

$$F(z)\overline{G(z)} - b(z)\overline{p(z)} - q(z)\overline{B(z)} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r c_i(z)d_i(z)$$

for  $z$  in  $D$ . Complexify the above equation to obtain

$$F(z)\overline{G(w)} - b(z)\overline{p(w)} - q(z)\overline{B(w)} = (1 - |z|^2)^2 \sum_{i=1}^r c_i(z)d_i(w). \quad (49)$$

By Theorem (6.3.10), we notice that the both sides of the above equation are polynomials of both  $z$  and  $w$ . Letting  $w = \frac{1}{z}$  in (49) and then multiplying both sides of (49) give

$$F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) = 0, \quad (50)$$

which is (45). Thus (47) becomes

$[T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}}]e_{m+k-1} = [F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z)]z^k$  for  $k \geq 0$ . Since  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}}$  has finite rank, we have that the dimension of the range of  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}}$  is of finite dimension. On the hand, its range contains  $\{[F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z)]z^k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ . Thus

$$F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z) = 0,$$

which is (46). This completes the proof.

Solving for  $F$  and  $b$  in (45) and (46) gives the following theorem if  $F$  and  $q$  do not have any nontrivial common factors.

**Theorem (6.3.15)[172]:** Suppose that  $F, G, q, p, b$  and  $B$  are polynomials of  $z$  and degree of  $p$  equals  $m$ , degrees of  $G$  and  $B$  are at most  $m$ . If  $F$  and  $q$  do not have any nontrivial common factors and either  $\frac{G}{p}$  or  $\frac{B}{p}$  is not a constant, then (45) and (46) are equivalent to the existence of a nonzero polynomial  $P$  of  $z$  such that

$$\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m = qP, \quad (51)$$

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m = FP, \quad (52)$$

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m = bP. \quad (53)$$

**Proof.** Suppose that (51), (52) and (53) hold for a nonzero polynomial  $P$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} P[F\tilde{G}_m - b\tilde{p}_m - q\tilde{B}_m] \\ &= \tilde{G}_m(\tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m) - \tilde{p}_m(\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m) - \tilde{B}_m(\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m) \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} P[F\tilde{G}'_m - b\tilde{p}'_m - q\tilde{B}'_m] \\ &= \tilde{G}'_m(\tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m) - \tilde{p}'_m(\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m) - \tilde{B}'_m(\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

This gives (45) and (46). Conversely, suppose that (45) and (46) hold.

Then we have the following system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{G}_m & \tilde{p}_m \\ \tilde{G}'_m & \tilde{p}'_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F \\ -b \end{bmatrix} = q \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{B}_m \\ \tilde{B}'_m \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplying both sides of the above system by

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{p}'_m & -\tilde{p}_m \\ -\tilde{G}'_m & \tilde{G}_m \end{bmatrix}$$

gives

$$(\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m) \begin{bmatrix} F \\ -b \end{bmatrix} = q \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{p}'_m & -\tilde{p}_m \\ -\tilde{G}'_m & \tilde{G}_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{B}_m \\ \tilde{B}'_m \end{bmatrix} = q \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m \\ -\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m + \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since  $F$  and  $q$  do not have any common factors, the first equation in the above system gives that there is a polynomial  $P$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m &= qP, \\ \tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m &= FP. \end{aligned}$$

The second equation the above system gives

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m = bP.$$

If  $P$  equals 0, we have

$$\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m = \tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m = \tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m = 0,$$

to get

$$\tilde{G}'_m \tilde{G}_m = \tilde{p}'_m \tilde{p}_m = \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{B}_m.$$

Solving the above differential equations gives

$$\tilde{G}_m = \lambda \tilde{p}_m = \lambda \tilde{B}_m,$$

for some constant  $\lambda$  and hence

$$G = \lambda \bar{p} = \lambda \bar{B}.$$

Since either  $\frac{G}{p}$  or  $\frac{B}{p}$  is not a constant, we have that  $P$  is a nonzero polynomial. This completes the proof.

**Theorem (6.3.16)[172]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions,  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function such that  $\tilde{\Delta} h \in L^1(D)$ .  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has finite rank greater than one if and only if

(i)  $\bar{f}_-$  and  $g_+$  are in  $H^\infty(D)$ ;

(ii)  $H = h_-(f_- g_+ + f_- g_- + f_+ g_+)$  is harmonic on  $D$ ;

(iii)  $f_+$  is a rational function  $\frac{F}{q}$  with degree  $n > 2$ ,  $\bar{g}_-$  is a rational function  $\frac{G}{p}$  with degree  $m > 2$ ,  $H_+$  is a rational function  $\frac{b}{q}$  with degree  $n$  and  $\bar{H}_-$  is a rational function  $\frac{B}{p}$  with degree  $m$ ;

(iv)

$$F(z) \tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z) \tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z) \tilde{B}_m(z) = 0;$$

(v)

$$F(z) \tilde{G}'_m(z) - b(z) \tilde{p}'_m(z) - q(z) \tilde{B}'_m(z) = 0.$$

**Proof.** Since  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded and harmonic on  $D$ , first we write

$$f = f_+ + f_-;$$

and

$$g = g_+ + g_-$$

for  $f_+, \bar{f}_-, g_+$  and  $\bar{g}_-$  in  $BMOA$ .

Suppose that  $T_f T_g - T_h$  has finite rank on  $L^2_a$ . By Theorem (6.3.8), we have that  $H = h_-(f_- g_+ + f_- g_- + f_+ g_+)$  is harmonic on  $D$ , which is Condition (ii) Also we have

$$T_{f_+} T_{g_-} - T_H = T_f T_g - T_h$$

has finite rank. Theorem (6.3.10) gives that there are analytic polynomials  $q(z), p(z), F(z), G(z), b(z), B(z)$  such that

$$f_+(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \overline{g_-(z)} = \frac{G(z)}{p(z)}, \quad H_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \overline{H_-(z)} = \frac{B(z)}{p(z)}.$$

This gives Condition (i). Let

$$\min\{m = \max\{\deg B, \deg p\}, n = \max\{\deg F, \deg q\}\} > 2.$$

Theorem (6.3.10) gives Condition (iii). By Theorem (6.3.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) &= 0; \\ F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

which are Conditions (iv) and (v).

Conversely, suppose

(i)  $\overline{f_-}$  and  $g_+$  are in  $H^\infty(D)$ ;

(ii)  $H = h - (f_-g_+ + f_-g_- + f_+g_+)$  is harmonic on  $D$ ;

(iii)  $f_+$  is a rational function  $\frac{F}{q}$  with degree  $n > 2$ ,  $\overline{g_-}$  is a rational function  $\frac{G}{p}$  with degree  $m > 2$ ,  $H_+$  is a rational function  $\frac{b}{q}$  with degree  $n$  and  $\overline{H_-}$  is a rational function  $\frac{B}{p}$  with degree  $m$ ;

(iv)

$$F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) = 0;$$

(v)

$$F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) = 0,$$

By Theorem (6.3.14), using Conditions (iv) and (v) we have that  $T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}$  has finite rank:

$$T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}} = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \otimes d_i.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} T_{f_+} T_{\overline{g_-}} - T_H &= T_{\frac{F}{q}} T_{\frac{\tilde{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q+\tilde{p}}} = T_{\frac{1}{q}} [T_F T_{\tilde{G}} - T_b T_{\tilde{p}} - T_q T_{\tilde{B}}] T_{\frac{1}{p}} \\ &= T_{\frac{1}{q}} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} c_i \otimes d_i \right] T_{\frac{1}{p}} = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{c_i}{q} \otimes \frac{d_i}{p} \end{aligned}$$

has finite rank. So

$$T_f T_g - T_h = T_{f_+} T_{g_-} - T_H$$

has finite rank. This completes the proof of Theorem (6.3.16).

Using Theorem (6.3.16) and Theorem (6.3.15) we have the following corollary.

**Corollary (6.3.17)[172]:** Suppose  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded harmonic functions,  $h$  is a bounded  $C^2$  function such that  $\tilde{\Delta}h \in L^1(D)$ . If  $T_f T_{\overline{g}} - T_h$  has finite rank and either  $f$  or  $g$  is a polynomial of  $z$  or  $h$  is analytic or co-analytic and both  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic, then either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant and

$$f\overline{g} = h.$$

**Proof.** Let  $H = h - (f_-g_- + f_-g_+ + f_+g_-)$ . By Theorem (6.3.16),  $H$  is harmonic in the unit disk and there are analytic polynomials  $q(z), p(z), F(z), G(z), b(z), B(z)$  such that  $H = H_+ + H_-$ ,

$$f_+(z) = \frac{F(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \overline{g_+(z)} = \frac{G(z)}{p(z)}, \quad H_+(z) = \frac{b(z)}{q(z)}, \quad \overline{H_-(z)} = \frac{B(z)}{p(z)}.$$

By Theorem (6.3.13), we may assume that



$$\min\{m = \max\{\deg B, \deg p\}, n = \max\{\deg F, \deg q\}\} > 2.$$

We may assume that  $m \geq n$  and  $G(0) = 0$  and  $B(0) = 0$ . As the degree of  $f = \frac{F}{q}$  is equal to  $n$ , Theorem (6.3.10) gives that  $F$  and  $q$  do not have any common factors. Also both the degree of  $\tilde{G}_m$  and the degree of  $\tilde{B}_m$  are less than  $m$  as  $G(0) = 0$  and  $B(0) = 0$ . Since  $T_f T_{\bar{g}} - T_h = T_{f_+} T_{\bar{g}_+} - T_H$  has finite rank, Theorem (6.3.15) gives

$$\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m = qP, \quad (54)$$

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{p}_m = FP, \quad (55)$$

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m = bP. \quad (56)$$

Suppose that either  $f$  or  $g$  is a polynomial. In the first case that  $f$  is a polynomial, we have that  $f_- = 0$  and  $q = 1$ . Noting that the degree of  $\tilde{p}_m$  equals  $m$ , we have that the degree of  $\tilde{G}_m \tilde{p}'_m - \tilde{G}'_m \tilde{p}_m$  equals  $\deg \tilde{G}_m + m - 1$ . (54) gives

$$\deg P = \deg \tilde{G}_m + m - 1.$$

On the other hand, using (56) we have

$$\deg b + \deg P \leq \deg \tilde{B}_m + \deg \tilde{G}_m - 1 \leq m - 1 + \deg \tilde{G}_m - 1.$$

Thus  $b$  must equal 0 identically and so  $\tilde{B}_m$  equals  $\lambda \tilde{G}_m$  for some constant  $\lambda$ . Using (55) we have that

$$\deg F + \deg P = \deg \tilde{G}_m + m - 1,$$

to obtain that  $F$  is a constant. Thus  $f_+$  is constant and so is  $f$ . In the case that  $g$  is a polynomial, we have that  $g_- = 0$  and  $p = 1$ . Thus

$$\tilde{p}_m = z^m, \quad \tilde{p}'_m = mz^{m-1}.$$

(54) and (55) give

$$\tilde{G}_m mz^{m-1} - \tilde{G}'_m z^m = qP,$$

$$\tilde{B}_m mz^{m-1} - \tilde{B}'_m z^m = FP.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_+ &= \frac{F}{q} = \frac{FP}{qP} \\ &= \frac{\tilde{B}_m mz^{m-1} - \tilde{B}'_m z^m}{\tilde{G}_m mz^{m-1} - \tilde{G}'_m z^m} \\ &= \frac{\tilde{B}_m m - \tilde{B}'_m z}{\tilde{G}_m m - \tilde{G}'_m z} \end{aligned}$$

to get that the degree  $n$  of  $f_+$  must equal  $m$ . Repeating the argument in the first case we have that  $g$  must be a constant.

If  $h$  is co-analytic and both  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic, then  $f_- = g_- = 0$ . Since  $H = h - (f_- g_- + f_- \bar{g}_+ + f_+ \bar{g}_-) = h$  is co-analytic, we have that  $b$  equals 0 identically. (56) gives

$$\tilde{B}_m \tilde{G}'_m - \tilde{B}'_m \tilde{G}_m = 0.$$

Thus

$$\frac{\tilde{G}'_m}{\tilde{G}_m} = \frac{\tilde{B}'_m}{\tilde{B}_m}.$$

Integrating both sides of above equation gives that

$$\tilde{G}_m = \lambda^{-1} \tilde{B}_m,$$

for some constant  $\lambda$ . Thus we have

$$\bar{B} = \lambda \bar{G},$$

to get

$$H_-(z) = \frac{\overline{B(z)}}{p(z)} = \frac{\lambda \overline{G(z)}}{p(z)} = \lambda \overline{g_+}.$$

This gives that

$$T_{f_+} T_{\overline{g_+}} - T_{H_+ + H_-} = T_{f_+} T_{\overline{g_+}} - T_{H_-} = T_{f_+ - \lambda} T_{\overline{g_+}}$$

has finite rank and hence is compact. By the main theorem in [46], we have that the Berezin transform of  $T_{f_+ - \lambda} T_{\overline{g_+}}$  vanishes on the unit circle. On the other hand, the Berezin transform of  $T_{f_+ - \lambda} T_{\overline{g_+}}$  equals  $(f_+ - \lambda) \overline{g_+}$  and hence  $(f_+ - \lambda) \overline{g_+}$  vanishes on the unit circle and so does  $(f_+ - \lambda) g_+$ . We conclude that either  $f_+$  or  $g_+$  is a constant. Thus either  $f$  or  $g$  is constant.

If  $h$  is co-analytic and both  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic, then  $f_- = g_- = 0$ . Since  $H = h - (f_- g_- + f_- g_+ + f_+ g_-) = h$  is analytic, we have that  $B$  equals 0 identically. In this case we consider that  $T_{\overline{g}} T_{\overline{f}} - T_{\overline{H_+ + H_-}}$  has finite rank. Similarly we have that either  $f$  or  $g$  is a constant. This completes the proof.

We have the following theorem that implies Theorem (6.3.7).

**Theorem (6.3.18)[172]:** For each  $m \geq 3$ , if three nonzero real numbers  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  satisfy that  $|\beta| > 1, \alpha \neq \gamma$ ,

$$|\alpha|^{1/(m-1)} = |\beta|^{1/m},$$

and

$$\frac{m-1}{|\beta|} - 1 > \frac{m}{|\alpha|},$$

then  $T_{\frac{F}{q}} T_{\frac{\tilde{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q} + \frac{\tilde{B}}{\tilde{p}}}$  has finite rank and its rank equals  $m - 1$  where

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \alpha z + z^m, \\ p(z) &= \beta + z^m, \\ B(z) &= \gamma z + z^m, \\ F(z) &= \beta \gamma \left( z^m + \frac{m}{\gamma} z - \frac{m-1}{\beta} \right), \\ q(z) &= \beta \alpha \left( z^m + \frac{m}{\alpha} z - \frac{m-1}{\beta} \right), \\ b(z) &= (m-1)(\alpha - \gamma). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let polynomials  $F, q, b, G, B$  and  $p$  be given in the theorem. Simple calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{G}_m(z) &= \alpha z^{m-1} + 1, \\ \tilde{p}_m(z) &= \beta z^m + 1, \\ \tilde{B}_m(z) &= \gamma z^{m-1} + 1, \\ \tilde{G}'_m(z) &= (m-1)\alpha z^{m-2}, \\ \tilde{p}'_m(z) &= m\beta z^{m-1}, \\ \tilde{B}'_m(z) &= (m-1)\gamma z^{m-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) &= \beta \gamma \left( z^m + \frac{m}{\gamma} z - \frac{m-1}{\beta} \right) (\alpha z^{m-1} + 1) \\ &\quad - (m-1)(\alpha - \gamma)(\beta z^m + 1) \\ &\quad - \beta \alpha \left( z^m + \frac{m}{\alpha} z - \frac{m-1}{\beta} \right) (\gamma z^{m-1} + 1) = 0, \\ F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \beta\gamma\left(z^m + \frac{m}{\gamma}z - \frac{m-1}{\beta}\right)(m-1)\alpha z^{m-2} - (m-1)(\alpha-\gamma)m\beta z^{m-1} \\
&\quad - \beta\alpha\left(z^m + \frac{m}{\alpha}z - \frac{m-1}{\beta}\right)(m-1)\gamma z^{m-2} = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem (6.3.14) gives that  $T_{\frac{F}{q}}T_{\frac{\bar{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q+\bar{p}}}$  has finite rank. Let  $e_k = (k+1)z^k$ . Then  $\{e_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is an orthogonal basis of the Bergman space  $L^2_\alpha$ . Simple calculation gives that for  $1 \leq k \leq m-1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
&[T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}}]e_k = F(z)\alpha k z^{k-1} - q(z)\gamma k z^{k-1} - b(z)\beta(k+1)z^k \\
&= \beta\gamma\left(z^m + \frac{m}{\gamma}z - \frac{m-1}{\beta}\right)\alpha k z^{k-1} \\
&\quad - \beta\alpha\left(z^m + \frac{m}{\alpha}z - \frac{m-1}{\beta}\right)\gamma k z^{k-1} - (m-1)(\alpha-\gamma)\beta(k+1)z^k \\
&= k z^{k-1}\beta\alpha\gamma\left(\frac{m}{\gamma}z - \frac{m}{\alpha}z\right) - (m-1)(\alpha-\gamma)\beta(k+1)z^k \\
&= (k+1-m)\beta(\alpha-\gamma)z^k.
\end{aligned}$$

From (47) in the proof of Theorem (6.3.14) we also have that for  $l \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
&[T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}}]e_{m+l-1} = [F(z)\tilde{G}'_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}'_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}'_m(z)]z^l \\
&\quad + [F(z)\tilde{G}_m(z) - q(z)\tilde{B}_m(z) - b(z)\tilde{p}_m(z)]lz^{l-1} = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the range of  $T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}}$  is spanned by  $\{1, z, \dots, z^{m-2}\}$ . So  $T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}}$  has finite rank and its rank is  $m-1$ . Now we can write

$$T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}} = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} c_i \otimes d_i$$

for some polynomials  $c_i$  and  $d_i$ .

Since  $m-1 \geq 2$ , for any two nonzero real numbers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that  $|\beta| > 1$  and

$$\frac{m-1}{|\beta|} - 1 > \frac{m}{|\alpha|},$$

we have

$$\frac{|q(z)|}{|\alpha\beta|} \geq \frac{m-1}{|\beta|} - |z|^m - \frac{m}{|\alpha|}|z| \geq \frac{m-1}{|\beta|} - 1 - \frac{m}{|\alpha|} > 0,$$

for  $z$  in the closure of the unit disk. Thus  $q$  does not have any zero in the closure of the unit disk. The condition on  $\alpha, \beta$ , and  $\gamma$  in the theorem leads that  $F(z)$  and  $q(z)$  do not have any common factors and  $G(z)$  and  $p(z)$  do not have any common factors. Since

$$\begin{aligned}
&T_{\frac{F}{q}}T_{\frac{\bar{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q}} - T_{\frac{b}{\bar{p}}} = T_{\frac{1}{q}}[T_F T_{\bar{G}} - T_q T_{\bar{B}} - T_b T_{\bar{p}}]T_{\frac{1}{p}} = T_{\frac{1}{q}}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} c_i \otimes d_i\right]T_{\frac{1}{p}} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{c_i}{q}\right) \otimes \left(\frac{d_i}{p}\right),
\end{aligned}$$

we conclude that  $T_{\frac{F}{q}}T_{\frac{\bar{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q}} - T_{\frac{b}{\bar{p}}}$  has finite rank and its rank is also equal to  $m-1$  to complete the proof.

Letting  $m=3, \alpha=10, \beta=\frac{3}{2}$  and  $\gamma=1$  in the above theorem suggests the following concrete example.

**Example (6.3.19)[172]:** Let  $F(z) = \frac{3}{2} \left( z^3 + 3z - \frac{4}{3} \right)$ ,  $q(z) = 15 \left( z^3 + \frac{3}{10} z - \frac{4}{3} \right)$ ,  $b(z) = 18$ ,  $G(z) = 10z + z^3$ ,  $B(z) = z + z^3$ , and  $p(z) = \frac{3}{2} + z^3$ . The above theorem and some calculations used in the proof of the above theorem give

$$T_{\frac{F}{q}} T_{\frac{\tilde{G}}{p}} - T_{\frac{b}{q} + \frac{\tilde{B}}{p}} = -27 \left[ \frac{1}{q} \otimes \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{z}{q} \otimes \frac{z}{p} \right].$$

## List of Symbols

Symbol	Page
$L_a^p$ : Bergman space	1
$L^2$ : Hilbert space	1
$H^2$ : Hardy space	1
$\ominus$ : Direct difference	1
$L^\infty$ : Essential Lebesgue space	2
$\oplus$ : Orthogonal sum	2
cl : closure	2
Ker : Kernel	3
Mod : Modular	4
dim : dimension	8
Re : Real	23
Im : Imaginary	23
Ind : Index	24
inf : infimum	25
$L_{a,p}^2$ : Bergman space	27
min : minimal	34
$A_\infty^2$ : Bergman space	37
$H^\infty$ : Essential Hardy space	45
$\otimes$ : Tensor product	49
sup : Supremum	52
$\ell^2$ : space of sequences	53
Hol : Holomorphic	63
$A^2(\mu_m)$ : Fock space	83
$H_f$ : Hankel operators	84
max : maximum	108
diam : diameter	109
VMO : Vanishing mean Oscillation	120
$L^1$ : Lebesgue on the real line	120
$L_{\mathcal{M}}$ : Toepliz operator	120
BMO : Bounded mean Oscillation	123
ran : rang	127
det : determinant	128
$A_\alpha^2$ : Bergman space	136
SOT : Strong Operator Topology	146
BMOA : The space of analytic Bounded mean Oscillation	169
$A^2(\Psi)$ : Besov space	169
VMOA : The space of analytic functions of Vanishing mean Oscillation	171
$F_\alpha^2$ : Fock space	192
deg : degree	194
$\mathcal{F}_m^2$ : Fock space	198

$\arg$	: argument	199
a. e	: almost everywhere	240
$L^q$	: Dual of Lebesgue space	251
$L^p$	: Lebesgue space	252
$H^p$	: Hardy space	254
$H^q$	: Dual of Hardy space	254

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