

# THE MÖBIUS BOUNDEDNESS OF THE SPACE $Q_p$

HU PENGYAN, SHI JIHUAI and ZHANG WENJUN

(Received 2 December 1998; revised 24 February 1999)

Communicated by P. G. Fenton

## Abstract

In this note, a characterization of the Möbius invariant space  $Q_p$  for the range  $1 - 1/n < p \leq 1$  is given. As a special case  $p = 1$ , we get the Möbius boundedness of  $BMOA$  in the space  $H^2$ . This extends the corresponding result for 1-dimension.

1991 *Mathematics subject classification* (*Amer. Math. Soc.*): primary 32A37, 47B38.

*Keywords and phrases*: Möbius invariant space, Dirichlet type space, invariant volume measure, tangent gradient.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $B$  be the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) with boundary  $S$ ,  $\nu$  the Lebesgue measure on  $B$  normalized so that  $\nu(B) = 1$  and  $\sigma$  the normalized rotation invariant measure on  $S$ , that is  $\sigma(S) = 1$ . The class of all holomorphic functions with domain  $B$  will be denoted by  $H(B)$ .

Let  $f$  be in  $H(B)$  with Taylor expansion  $f(z) = \sum_{\alpha \geq 0} a_\alpha z^\alpha$ . For  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f$  is said to be in the *Dirichlet type space*  $\mathcal{D}_p$  provided that

$$(1) \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{D}_p}^2 = \sum_{\alpha \geq 0} (|\alpha| + n)^p \omega_\alpha |a_\alpha|^2 < \infty.$$

Here [Ru]

$$\omega_\alpha = \int_S |\zeta^\alpha|^2 d\sigma(\zeta) = \frac{(n-1)!\alpha!}{(n+|\alpha|-1)!}.$$

Project supported by the Natural Science Foundation of Guangdong Province and partially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China.

© 1999 Australian Mathematical Society 0263-6115/99 \$A2.00 + 0.00

The space  $\mathcal{D}_1$  is called *Dirichlet space*. The spaces  $\mathcal{D}_0$  and  $\mathcal{D}_{-1}$  are just the Hardy space  $H^2$  and the Bergman space  $L^2(B)$ , respectively.

For  $a \in B$ ,  $\varphi_a$  is the Möbius transformation of  $B$  which satisfies  $\varphi_a(0) = a$ ,  $\varphi_a(a) = 0$  and  $\varphi_a = \varphi_a^{-1}$ ,  $\varphi_a \in \text{Aut}(B)$ .  $\text{Aut}(B)$  is the group of biholomorphic automorphisms of  $B$  [Ru].

Let  $D_j = \partial/\partial z_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\nabla f = (D_1 f, \dots, D_n f)$  denote the complex gradient of  $f$ ,  $\mathcal{R}f = \sum_{j=1}^n z_j D_j f$  denote the radial derivative of  $f$ . If we let  $d\lambda(z) = d\nu(z)/(1 - |z|^2)^{n+1}$ , then  $d\lambda$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -invariant (see [Ru]), which means

$$(2) \quad \int_B f(z) d\lambda(z) = \int_B f \circ \psi(z) d\lambda(z)$$

for each  $f \in L^1(\lambda)$  and  $\psi \in \text{Aut}(B)$ . Let  $\tilde{\nabla} f(z) = \nabla(f \circ \varphi_z)(0)$  denote the invariant gradient of  $f$ . In [St], the invariant Green's function is defined as  $G(z, a) = g(\varphi_a(z))$ , where

$$(3) \quad g(z) = \frac{n+1}{2n} \int_{|z|}^1 (1-t^2)^{n-1} t^{-2n+1} dt.$$

We define (as in [OYZ]), for  $0 < p < \infty$ ,

$$Q_p(B) = \left\{ f \in H(B) : \sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 G^2(z, a) d\lambda(z) < \infty \right\}.$$

Obviously,  $Q_p(B)$  is  $\mathcal{M}$ -invariant.

In [OYZ], the authors proved that  $Q_p(B) = \text{Bloch}(B)$  (the Bloch space) for  $1 < p < n/(n-1)$ ,  $Q_1(B) = \text{BMOA}(S)$  and  $Q_p(B)$  is trivial when  $0 < p \leq (n-1)/n$  or  $p \geq n/(n-1)$ . For the case of  $(n-1)/n < p \leq 1$ , they proved that  $Q_p(B) = \{f \in H(B) : \sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 (1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2)^{np} d\lambda(z) < \infty\}$ . In this note, a new characterization of  $Q_p(B)$  for  $(n-1)/n < p \leq 1$  is given by using the Möbius boundedness in the space  $\mathcal{D}_{n(1-p)}$ . As a special case, we get a characterization of  $\text{BMOA}$ . These results in the setting of one dimension can be found in [ALXZ] and [Ba].

Our main result is the following theorem.

**THEOREM 1.** *For  $f \in H(B)$ , if  $1 - 1/n < p \leq 1$ , then  $f \in Q_p$  if and only if  $\text{Möb}(f)$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{D}_{n(1-p)}$ , where*

$$(4) \quad \text{Möb}(f) = \{f_a(z) = f(\varphi_a(z)) - f(a) : a \in B\}.$$

The fact  $\mathcal{D}_0 = H^2$  together with this theorem gives a corollary.

**COROLLARY 1.** *For  $f \in H(B)$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $f \in BMOA$ .
- (ii)  $Möb(f)$  is bounded in  $H^2$ .

In the following  $C$  denotes a positive constant which may be different from one occurrence to the next.

### 2. The proof of the main result

In order to prove the theorem, we first give some lemmas.

LEMMA 1 ([OYZ]). *Let  $0 < p \leq 1$  and  $f \in H(B)$ , then  $f \in Q_p$  if and only if  $\sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 (1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2)^{np} d\lambda(z)$  is finite.*

LEMMA 2. *Let  $p < 2$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{D}_p$  if and only if*

$$\int_B |\nabla f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{1-p} d\nu(z) < \infty,$$

and  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{D}_p}^2 - |f(0)|^2 \sim \int_B |\nabla f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{1-p} d\nu(z)$ .

The notation ' $A \sim B$ ' means that there exist constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  such that  $C_1 B \leq A \leq C_2 B$ .

PROOF. It is the direct result of calculation with integration in polar coordinates.  $\square$

LEMMA 3. *Let  $f \in H(B)$  and  $p > 1 - 1/n$ , then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\int_B |\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{-1-n+np} d\nu(z) < \infty$ ;
- (ii)  $\int_B |\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) < \infty$ ;
- (iii)  $\int_B |\nabla f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(z) < \infty$ .

Here  $|\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} f(z)|^2 = 2(|\nabla f(z)|^2 - \mathcal{R}f(z)|^2)$ , and  $\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} f(z)$  is called *the tangent gradient* of  $f$ .

PROOF. First we show that (i) is equivalent to (ii). This is a direct result of the equality in [JP]

$$|\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 = (1 - |z|^2) |\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} f(z)|^2.$$

Next we show that (ii) implies (iii). This we can get from

$$|\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} f(z)|^2 = |\nabla f(z)|^2 - |\mathcal{R}f(z)|^2 \geq (1 - |z|^2) |\nabla f(z)|^2.$$

Now suppose (iii) holds, we show that (ii) is true. Then

$$(5) \quad |\mathcal{R}f(z)|^2 \leq |z|^2 |\nabla f(z)|^2 \leq |\nabla f(z)|^2$$

implies that

$$(6) \quad \int_B |\mathcal{R}f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(z) < \infty.$$

Since

$$(7) \quad |z|^2 |\nabla_T f(z)|^2 = 2 \left( (1 - |z|^2) |\mathcal{R}f(z)|^2 + \sum_{i < j} |T_{ij} f(z)|^2 \right),$$

where  $T_{ij} = \bar{z}_i D_j - \bar{z}_j D_i$ . Since  $f$  is holomorphic, then by (6) and (7), we need only to prove that

$$(8) \quad \int_B |T_{ij} f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) < \infty$$

for all  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ .

An integration by parts shows that

$$(9) \quad f(z) = \int_0^1 (\mathcal{R}f(tz) + f(tz)) dt.$$

Then

$$T_{ij} f(z) = \int_0^1 \left( \sum_{k=1}^n tz_k T_{ij} D_k f(tz) + 2T_{ij} f(tz) \right) dt.$$

From this we conclude that it is sufficient to prove

$$(10) \quad \int_B \left( \int_0^1 |T_{ij} D_k f(tz)| dt \right)^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) < \infty$$

and

$$(11) \quad \int_B \left( \int_0^1 |T_{ij} f(tz)| dt \right)^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) < \infty.$$

To prove (10), we note that for any  $s > 0$ , [Je]

$$(12) \quad \int_0^1 |T_{ij} D_k f(tz)| dt \leq C \int_B \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^s |D_k f(w)|}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s+\frac{1}{2}}} d\nu(w)$$

Since  $p > 1 - 1/n$ , then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $p - \delta > 1 - 1/n$ . Using Hölder's inequality, Fubini's theorem and [Ru, Proposition 1.4.10], (12) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_B \left( \int_0^1 |T_{ij} D_k f(tz)| dt \right)^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) \\
 & \leq C \int_B \left( \int_B \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^s |D_k f(w)|}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s+\frac{1}{2}}} d\nu(w) \right)^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) \\
 & \leq C \int_B \left( \int_B \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^s |D_k f(w)|^2}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s-n\delta}} d\nu(w) \right) \\
 & \quad \cdot \left( \int_B \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^s}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s+1+n\delta}} d\nu(w) \right) (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n} d\nu(z) \\
 & \leq C \int_B (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n-n\delta} \int_B \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^s |D_k f(w)|}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s-n\delta}} d\nu(w) d\nu(z) \\
 & = C \int_B (1 - |w|^2)^s |D_k f(w)|^2 \int_B \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^{np-n-n\delta}}{|1 - \langle z, w \rangle|^{n+s-n\delta}} d\nu(z) d\nu(w) \\
 (13) \quad & \leq C \int_B |D_k f(w)|^2 (1 - |w|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(w).
 \end{aligned}$$

This gives (10).

In order to get (11), we first prove

$$(14) \quad \int_B |f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(z) < \infty.$$

From [Je], for  $s > 1$ ,

$$(15) \quad |f(z)|^2 \leq C \int_B \frac{|\nabla f(w)|^2 (1 - |w|^2)^s}{|1 - \langle w, z \rangle|^{n+1+s}} d\nu(w).$$

Fubini's theorem and [Ru, Proposition 1.4.10], and (15) gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_B |f(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(z) \\
 & \leq C \int_B |\nabla f(w)|^2 (1 - |w|^2)^s \int_B \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1}}{|1 - \langle w, z \rangle|^{n+1+s}} d\nu(z) d\nu(w) \\
 (16) \quad & \leq C \int_B |\nabla f(w)|^2 (1 - |w|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(w).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then (14) is valid. The similar method used in the proof of (10) gives (11). So the proof is complete. □

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. By Lemma 1, Lemma 2 and Lemma 3, and the invariance of  $\tilde{\nabla}$  for  $1 - 1/n < p \leq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} f \in Q_p &\iff \sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\tilde{\nabla} f(z)|^2 (1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2)^{np} d\lambda(z) < \infty \\ &\iff \sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\tilde{\nabla}(f \circ \varphi_a)(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np} d\lambda(z) < \infty \\ &\iff \sup_{a \in B} \int_B |\nabla(f \circ \varphi_a)(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{np-n+1} d\nu(z) < \infty \\ &\iff \text{M\"ob}(f) \text{ is bounded in the space } \mathcal{D}_{n(1-p)}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □

### References

- [ALXZ] R. Aulaskari, P. Lappan, J. Xiao and R. Zhao, 'On  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and multipliers of Dirichlet spaces', *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **209** (1997), 103–121.
- [Ba] A. Baernstein II, *Analytic functions of bounded mean oscillation, aspects of contemporary complex analysis* (Academic Press, New York, 1980) pp. 3–36.
- [Je] M. Jevtić, 'On the Carleson measure characterization of BMO functions on the unit sphere', *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* **123** (1995), 3371–3377.
- [JP] M. Jevtić and M. Pavlović, 'On  $\mathcal{M}$ -harmonic Bloch space', *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* **123** (1995), 1385–1392.
- [OYZ] C. Ouyang, W. Yang and R. Zhao, 'Möbius invariant  $Q_p$  spaces associated with the Green's function on the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ', *Pacific J. Math.* (to appear).
- [Ru] W. Rudin, *Function theory in the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$*  (Springer, New York, 1980).
- [St] M. Stoll, *Invariant potential theory in the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$* , London Math. Soc. Lecture Notes 199 (Cambridge Univ. Press, New York, 1994).

Department of Mathematics  
Normal College of Shenzhen University  
Shenzhen  
Guangdong 518060  
P. R. China  
e-mail: szuss@szu.edu.cn

Department of Mathematics  
University of Science and  
Technology of China  
Hefei  
Anhui 230026  
P. R. China