

## ON THE DUAL SPACE OF A WEIGHTED BERGMAN SPACE ON THE UNIT BALL OF $C^n$

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ABSTRACT. The weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  ( $0 < p < \infty$ ), of the holomorphic functions on the unit ball  $B_n$  of  $C^n$  forms an F-space. We find the dual space of  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  by determining its Mackey topology.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES. Hardy space, Bergman space, Mackey topology.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION.

Let  $B_n$  be the unit ball of  $C^n$ ,  $\nu$  be the normalized Lebesgue measure and  $\sigma$  be the rotation invariant positive Borel measure on  $S$ , the boundary of  $B_n$ , with  $\sigma(S) = 1$ . The weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  ( $0 < p < \infty, \alpha \geq -1$ ) consists of all functions holomorphic in  $B_n$  for which

$$\|f\|_{p,\alpha}^p = \begin{cases} \int_0^1 M_p^p(r;f) (1-r)^\alpha d\sigma(\zeta) 2nr^{2n-1} dr < \infty, & \text{if } \alpha > -1, \\ \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} M_p^p(r;f) < \infty, & \text{if } \alpha = -1, \end{cases}$$

where  $M_p^p(r;f) = \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^p d\sigma(\zeta)$ . Note that the weighted Bergman space  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  is, in fact, the Hardy space  $H^p(B_n)$  if  $\alpha = -1$  (See [1]).

The purpose of this paper is to compute the dual space  $(A_\alpha^p(B_n))^*$  for  $0 < p \leq 1$  by determining the Mackey topology of  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$ . The corresponding problems for the case  $n = 1$  are settled by Duren, Romberg and Shields [2], Shapiro [3] and Ahern [4]. Our computations are very similar to those of them.

Throughout this work,  $C_{\alpha,\beta,\dots}$  denotes a positive constant depending only on  $\alpha,\beta,\dots$  which may vary in the various places, and the notation  $a(z) \sim b(z)$  means that the ratio  $a(z)/b(z)$  has a positive finite limit as  $|z| \rightarrow 1$ .

### 2. SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS.

LEMMA 2.1. If  $f \in A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  ( $0 < p < \infty, \alpha \geq -1$ ), then

$$|f(z)| \leq C_{n,p,\alpha} \|f\|_{p,\alpha} (1 - |z|)^{\frac{n+\alpha+1}{p}}.$$

PROOF. The case  $\alpha = -1$  is proved in [1, Thm 7.2.5]. For the proof of the case  $\alpha > -1$ , it is enough to prove the result for  $\frac{1}{2} \leq |z| < 1$  since  $|f(z)|$  is bounded for  $|z| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . For this range of  $\rho$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{p,\alpha}^p &= \int_0^1 \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^p (1-r)^{\alpha} 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta) \\ &\geq C_{n,p} \int_{\rho}^1 \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^p (1-r)^{\alpha} d\sigma(\zeta) dr \\ &\geq C_{n,p} M_p^p(\rho; f) \int_{\rho}^1 (1-r)^{\alpha} dr \\ &= C_{n,p,\alpha} M_p^p(\rho; f) (1-\rho)^{\alpha+1}. \end{aligned}$$

By the result of the case  $\alpha = -1$  and the above result, we get

$$\begin{aligned} |f(\rho z)| &\leq C_{n,p} M_p(\rho; f) (1-|z|)^{-\frac{n}{p}} \\ &\leq C_{n,p,\alpha} \|f\|_{p,\alpha} (1-\rho)^{-\frac{\alpha+1}{p}} (1-|z|)^{-\frac{n}{p}}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently we have

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &= |f(\sqrt{r}\sqrt{r}\zeta)| \quad (z = r\zeta) \\ &\leq C_{n,p,\alpha} \|f\|_{p,\alpha} (1-\sqrt{r})^{-\frac{\alpha+1}{p}} (1-\sqrt{r})^{-\frac{n}{p}} \\ &\leq C_{n,p,\alpha} \|f\|_{p,\alpha} (1-r)^{-\frac{n+\alpha+1}{p}}. \end{aligned}$$

COROLLARY 2.2. (a) The convergence of  $A_{\alpha}^p(B_n)$  with its invariant metric

$$d(f,g) = \begin{cases} \|f-g\|_{p,\alpha}^p, & (0 < p < 1), \\ \|f-g\|_{p,\alpha}, & (p \geq 1) \end{cases}$$

implies the uniform convergence on any compact subset of  $B_n$ .

(b)  $A_{\alpha}^p(B_n)$  is an F-space if  $0 < p < 1$  and a Banach space if  $p \geq 1$ .

PROOF. (a) follows immediately from Lemma 2.1. The proof of (b) is routine and is omitted.

COROLLARY 2.3.  $A_{\alpha}^p(B_n) \subset A_{\beta}^q(B_n)$  if  $0 < p < q$  and  $\frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} = \frac{n+\beta+1}{q}$ .

In particular,

$$A_{\alpha}^p(B_n) \subset A_{\sigma}^1(B_n), \quad \text{where } \sigma = \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1).$$

PROOF. First, we prove the case  $\alpha > -1$ . We use Lemma 2.1 in the first inequality of the following.

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{q,\beta}^q &= \int_0^1 \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^q (1-r)^{\beta} 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta) \\ &\leq \int_0^1 \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^p C_{n,p,\alpha,q} \left[ (1-r)^{-\frac{n+\alpha+1}{p}} \right]^{q-p} \|f\|_{p,\alpha}^{q-p} \\ &\quad \times (1-r)^{\beta} 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta) \\ &\leq C_{n,p,\alpha,q} \|f\|_{p,\alpha}^{q-p} \int_0^1 \int_S |f(r\zeta)|^p (1-r)^{\alpha} 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta) \\ &\leq C_{n,p,\alpha,q} \|f\|_{p,\alpha}^q. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of the case  $\alpha > -1$ . The remaining case is essentially a result of Hardy and Littlewood, but we give a proof using Ahern's technique in [5]. Let  $f \in H^p(B_n)$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have

$$|f(z)| \leq K_{n,p} (1 - |z|)^{-\frac{n}{p}} \|f\|_p.$$

Set

$$Mf(\zeta) = \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} |f(r\zeta)|.$$

Then we have

$$\int_0^1 |f(r\zeta)| (1-r)^{\left(\frac{1}{p}-1\right)n-1} 2nr^{2n-1} dr \tag{2.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq K_{n,p} \|f\|_p \int_0^1 (1-r)^{-n-1} dr + C_{n,p} Mf(\zeta) \int_0^1 (1-r)^{\left(\frac{1}{p}-1\right)n-1} dr \\ &\leq K_{n,p} \|f\|_p \frac{(1-\lambda)^{-n}}{n} + C_{n,p} Mf(\zeta) \frac{(1-\lambda)^{\left(\frac{1}{p}-1\right)n}}{\left(\frac{1}{p}-1\right)n}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

If  $Mf(\zeta) \leq K_{n,p} \|f\|_p$ , by setting  $\lambda = 0$  in (2.2), (2.1) is dominated by  $C_{n,p} \|f\|_p$ .

If  $Mf(\zeta) \geq K_{n,p} \|f\|_p$ , by setting

$$\lambda = 1 - \left[ \frac{K_{n,p} \|f\|_p}{Mf(\zeta)} \right]^{\frac{p}{n}}$$

in (2.2), (2.1) is dominated by

$$C_{n,p} \|f\|_p^{1-p} Mf(\zeta)^p.$$

Hence, for any  $\zeta \in S$ ,

$$(2.1) \leq C_{n,p} \|f\|_p + C_{n,p} \|f\|_p^{1-p} Mf(\zeta)^p. \tag{2.3}$$

Integrating (2.3) with respect to  $d\sigma(\zeta)$  over  $S$  and using the complex maximal theorem [1, Thm. 5.6.5], we obtain

$$\int_S \int_0^1 |f(r\zeta)|(1-r)^{\left(\frac{1}{p}-1\right)n-1} 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta)$$

$$\leq C_{n,p} \|f\|_p + C_{n,p} \|f\|_p^{1-p} \|f\|_p^p$$

$$\leq C_{n,p} \|f\|_p.$$

3. THE MACKEY TOPOLOGY OF  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$ .

In this section, we will show that the Mackey topology of  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  is the restriction of the topology of  $A_\sigma^1(B_n)$ , where  $\sigma = \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1)$ .

First we give necessary definitions.

DEFINITION 3.1. The Mackey topology of a non-locally convex topological vector space  $(X, \tau)$  is the unique locally convex topology  $m$  on  $X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (1)  $m$  is weaker than  $\tau$ ,
- (2) the  $\tau$ -closure of the absolutely convex hull of each  $\tau$ -neighborhood of the origin contains an  $m$ -neighborhood of the origin (See [6, Thm 1]).

DEFINITION 3.2. For  $\beta > -n$  and  $z, w \in B_n$ , we define

$$K_\beta(z, w) = \binom{n+\beta}{n} \frac{(1-|w|^2)^\beta}{(1-\langle z, w \rangle)^{\beta+n+1}}$$

and

$$J_{\beta, \sigma}(w)(z) = (1-|w|^2)^{-\sigma} K_\beta(z, w).$$

The following proposition is useful in the sequel:

PROPOSITION 3.3. [1, p. 120] If  $\beta > -n$ , then  $K_\beta(z, w)$  is a reproducing kernel for the holomorphic functions in  $L^1\{(1-|w|^2)^\beta dv(w)\}$ . In other words, if  $f$  is holomorphic on  $B_n$  and integrable with respect to the measure  $(1-|w|^2)^\beta dv(w)$ , then

$$f(z) = \int_{B_n} K_\beta(z, w) f(w) dv(w).$$

LEMMA 3.4. [1, Prop. 1.4.10] For  $z \in B_n$  and  $c$  real, we define

$$I_c(z) = \int_S \frac{d\sigma(\zeta)}{|1-\langle z, \zeta \rangle|^{n+c}}.$$

If  $c > 0$ , then  $I_c(z) \sim (1-|z|^2)^{-c}$ .

LEMMA 3.5. [7, Lemma 6] If  $0 < r, \rho < 1$  and  $\alpha - \beta + 1 < 0$ , then

$$\int_0^1 (1-r)^\alpha (1-\rho r)^\beta dr \leq C_{\alpha, \beta} (1-\rho)^{\alpha-\beta+1}$$

for some positive constant  $C_{\alpha, \beta}$ .

The next lemma is an easy application of the above two lemmas.

LEMMA 3.6. Let  $0 < p < 1$  and fix  $\beta > \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1) \equiv \sigma$ . Then

$$\sup\{\|J_{\beta, \sigma}(w)\|_{p, \alpha}^p : w \in B_n\} < \infty.$$

PROOF. We only prove the case  $\alpha > -1$ . Let  $w \in B_n$ , and  $0 < r < 1$ .

Then we have, by Lemma 3.4 and 3.5,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|J_{\beta, \sigma}(w)\|_{p, \alpha}^p \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_S |J_{\beta, \sigma}(w)(r\zeta)|^p (1-r)^\alpha 2nr^{2n-1} dr d\sigma(\zeta) \\ &\leq C_{n, p, \beta} (1 - |w|^2)^{(\beta-\sigma)p} \int_0^1 (1-r)^\alpha \int_S \frac{d\sigma(\zeta)}{|1 - \langle r\zeta, w \rangle|^{(\beta+n+1)p}} dr \\ &\leq C_{n, p, \beta} (1 - |w|^2)^{(\beta-\sigma)p} \int_0^1 (1-r)^\alpha (1-r|w|^2)^{n-(\beta+n+1)p} dr \\ &\leq C_{n, p, \alpha, \beta} (1 - |w|^2)^{(\beta-\sigma)p} (1 - |w|^2)^{\alpha+n+1-(\beta+n+1)p} \\ &\leq C_{n, p, \alpha, \beta} \cdot \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\sup\{\|J_{\beta, \sigma}(w)\|_{p, \alpha}^p : w \in B_n\} < \infty.$$

The proofs of the following theorems are essentially the same as those of [3] (Prop. 4.4 and Prof. 4.5) and are omitted.

THEOREM 3.7. Let  $0 < p < 1$  and  $\beta > \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1) \equiv \sigma$ . Then there exists  $C_{n, p, \alpha, \beta} < \infty$  such that for each  $f \in A_\sigma^1(B_n)$  there exist a sequence  $(w_j)$  of the points in  $B_n$  and a sequence  $(\lambda_j)$  of the complex numbers such that

$$\sum_j |\lambda_j| \leq C_{n, p, \alpha, \beta} \|f\|_{1, \sigma} \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$f = \sum_j \lambda_j J_{\beta, \sigma}(w_j), \tag{3.2}$$

where the last series converges in  $A_\sigma^1(B_n)$ .

THEOREM 3.8. The Mackey topology of  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$  is the restriction of the topology of  $A_\sigma^1(B_n)$  where  $\sigma = \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1)$ .

4. THE DUAL SPACE OF  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$ .

Finally, we will find the dual space of  $A_\alpha^p(B_n)$ . For the proof of this main result, the following definition is needed:

DEFINITION 4.1. (Radial fractional derivatives of holomorphic functions in  $B_n$ ) Let  $g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty G_k(z)$  be the homogeneous expansion of  $g$ . For any real number  $q$ , the radial fractional derivative of  $g$  of order  $q$  is defined by

$$R^q g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty (k+1)^q G_k(z).$$

Let

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty F_k(z) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \sum_{|\gamma|=k} c(\gamma) z^\gamma,$$

and

$$g(z) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} G_{\ell}(z) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\delta|=\ell} d(\delta)z^{\delta}$$

be the homogeneous expansions of  $f$  and  $g$ , respectively. We note that for  $q > 0$ ,  $0 \leq \rho < 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\gamma|=k} c(\gamma)\overline{d(\gamma)} \frac{(n-1)!k!}{(n-1+k)!} \frac{2n(k+1)^q}{(k+n)^q} \rho^k \\ &= \frac{2^q}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^1 \left(\log \frac{1}{r}\right)^{q-1} \int_S R^{-a} \overline{f(r\zeta)R^{q+a}g(r\rho\zeta)} 2nr^{2n-1} drd\sigma(\zeta). \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

We can now prove the duality relation. We use the idea of Ahern [4] in the proof of the following.

**THEOREM 4.2.** Let  $0 < p < 1$  and  $\sigma = \frac{n+\alpha+1}{p} - (n+1)$ . Then

$$(A_{\alpha}^p(B_n))^* = \{f \in H(B_n) : \sup(1 - |z|) |R^{\sigma+2}f(z)| = \|f\|_{\Lambda_1} < \infty\}.$$

**PROOF.** By Theorem 3.8,  $(A_{\alpha}^p)^* = (A_0^1)^*$ . It suffices to compute  $(A_0^1)^*$ . For simplicity we assume  $\sigma = 0$ . Take  $g$  such that

$$\sup_{z \in B_n} (1 - |z|) |R^2g(z)| < \infty$$

and let  $f$  be a polynomial. Then by (4.1)

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\gamma|=k} c(\gamma)\overline{d(\gamma)} \frac{(n-1)!k!}{(n-1+k)!} \frac{2n(k+1)^q}{(k+n)^q} \rho^k \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 \int_S R^{-1} \overline{f(r\zeta)R^2g(r\rho\zeta)} 2nr^{2n-1} drd\sigma(\zeta) \\ &= 4 \int_0^1 \int_S \left(\log \frac{1}{r}\right) \overline{f(r\zeta)R^2g(r\rho\zeta)} 2nr^{2n-1} drd\sigma(\zeta). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\gamma|=k} c(\gamma)\overline{d(\gamma)} \frac{(n-1)!k!}{(n-1+k)!} \frac{2n(k+1)^q}{(k+n)^q} \rho^k \right) \right| \\ & \leq 4 \int_0^1 \int_S \frac{1 - \log \frac{1}{r}}{1-r} |f(r\zeta)| \sup_{z \in B_n} (1-r) |R^2g(r\zeta)| 2nr^{2n-1} drd\sigma(\zeta). \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

Since  $\log \frac{1}{r} \sim 1-r$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ , (4.2) is dominated by

$$C_{k,n} \|f\|_{A_0^1} \|g\|_{\Lambda_1}.$$

Since polynomials are dense in  $A_0^1$ , the mapping

$$\psi(f) = \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\gamma|=k} c(\gamma)\overline{d(\gamma)} \frac{(n-1)!k!}{(n-1+k)!} \frac{2n(k+1)^q}{(k+n)^q} \rho^k \right)$$

extends to be a bounded linear functional on  $A_0^1$ . Conversely, let  $\psi \in (A_0^1)^*$ . Since  $A_0^1 \subset L^1(2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta))$ , by the Hahn-Banach theorem  $\psi$  extends to be a bounded linear functional  $\psi$  on the space  $L^1(2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta))$ . But since  $(L^1)^* = L^\infty$ , there exists  $G$  in  $L^\infty(2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta))$  such that

$$\psi(f) = \int_0^1 \int_S f(r\zeta)\overline{G(r\zeta)}2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta)$$

for each  $f$  in  $A_0^1$ . Let

$$H(z) = \int_0^1 \int_S \frac{G(w)}{(1-\langle z, w \rangle)^{n+1}} 2n\rho^{2n-1}d\rho d\sigma(\eta) \quad (w = \rho\eta)$$

be the holomorphic projection of  $G$ . If  $f$  is a holomorphic polynomial, then

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(f) &= \int_0^1 \int_S f(r\zeta)\overline{G(r\zeta)}2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta) \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_S f(r\zeta)\overline{H(r\zeta)}2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta) \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_S R^{-1}f(r\zeta)\overline{RH(r\zeta)}2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta) \\ &= \int_0^1 \int_S R^{-1}f(r\zeta)\overline{R^2g(r\zeta)}2nr^{2n-1}drd\sigma(\zeta), \end{aligned}$$

where  $g$  is defined to be  $R^{-1}H$ . The proof will be complete if we can show that

$$\sup_{z \in B_n} (1 - |z|) |R^1H(z)| < \infty.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial H(r\zeta)}{\partial r} = \int_0^1 \int_S \frac{(n+1)}{r} \frac{\langle r\zeta, \rho\eta \rangle G(\rho\eta)}{(1-\langle r\zeta, \rho\eta \rangle)^{n+2}} 2n\rho^{2n-1}d\rho d\sigma(\zeta), \quad (z = r\zeta)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} r \left| \frac{\partial H(r\zeta)}{\partial r} \right| &\leq C_n \|G\|_\infty \int_0^1 \int_S \frac{d\sigma(\eta)}{|1-\langle r\zeta, \rho\eta \rangle|^{n+2}} d\rho \\ &\leq C_n \|G\|_\infty \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(1-\rho r)^2} d\rho \\ &= C_n \|G\|_\infty \frac{1}{1-r}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

By (4.3) and  $R^1H(r\zeta) = r \frac{\partial H(r\zeta)}{\partial r} + H(r\zeta)$ , we have

$$\sup_{z \in B_n} (1 - |z|) |R^1H(z)| < \infty.$$

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