

Composition operators on μ -Bloch spaces

Huaihui Chen and Paul Gauthier

Abstract. Given a positive continuous function μ on the interval $0 < t \leq 1$, we consider the space of so-called μ -Bloch functions on the unit ball. If $\mu(t) = t$, these are the classical Bloch functions. For μ , we define a metric $F_z^\mu(u)$ in terms of which we give a characterization of μ -Bloch functions. Then, necessary and sufficient conditions are obtained in order that a composition operator be a bounded or compact operator between these generalized Bloch spaces. Our results extend those of Zhang and Xiao.

1 Introduction

Let D denote the unit disk in the complex plane \mathbb{C} , and $H(D)$ the class of all holomorphic functions on D . A function $f \in H(D)$ is called a *Bloch function* if

$$\|f\| = \sup\{(1 - |z|^2)|f'(z)| : z \in D\} < \infty.$$

The Bloch functions, with the norm

$$(1.1) \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}} = |f(0)| + \|f\|,$$

form a Banach space, which is called the *Bloch space* and denoted by \mathcal{B} . The Bloch space of the unit disk has been investigated extensively, see [1].

The notion of Bloch function has been generalized to Riemann surfaces and domains in complex spaces of higher dimension. Let

$$B^n = \{z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) : |z_1|^2 + \dots + |z_n|^2 < 1\}$$

denote the unit ball in the complex space \mathbb{C}^n , and $H(B^n)$ the class of all holomorphic functions on B^n . For $f \in H(B^n)$, as in [8, 9], we define

$$Q_f(z) = \sup\left\{\frac{|\nabla f(z)u|}{H_z(u, u)^{1/2}} : 0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n\right\},$$

where $\nabla f(z) = (\partial f/\partial z_1, \dots, \partial f/\partial z_n)$ denotes the complex gradient of f , $\nabla f(z)u$ denotes the inner product $\langle \nabla f(z), \bar{u} \rangle$ of $\nabla f(z)$ and \bar{u} and $H_z(u, u)$ is the Bergman metric on B^n which is defined by

$$H_z(u, u) = \frac{n+1}{2} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)|u|^2 + |\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{(1 - |z|^2)^2}.$$

Received by the editors January 25, 2006; revised July 4, 2006.
 Research supported in part by NSFC (China), NSERC (Canada).
 AMS subject classification: Primary: 47B33; secondary: 32A18, 32A70, 46E15.
 ©Canadian Mathematical Society 2009.

We remark that $Q_f^\mu(z)$ is the norm of $u \rightarrow \nabla f(z)u$ as a linear functional on the tangent space at z ($u \in \mathbb{C}^n$ regarded as a tangent vector to the unit ball at z , taking the norm of u to be the norm on tangent vectors associated with the Bergman metric). A function $f \in H(B^n)$ is called a Bloch function on B^n if

$$(1.2) \quad \|f\| = \sup\{Q_f(z) : z \in B^n\} < \infty,$$

and the Bloch space of B^n consists of all Bloch functions on B^n with the same norm (1.1) and is also denoted by \mathcal{B} .

Let ϕ be a holomorphic mapping of D into itself. The composition operator C_ϕ on $H(D)$, induced by ϕ , is defined by $C_\phi(f) = f \circ \phi$ for $f \in H(D)$. Since the classical Schwarz–Pick lemma [2] asserts that

$$\frac{(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)|}{1 - |\phi(z)|^2} \leq 1 \quad \text{for } z \in D,$$

C_ϕ is always a bounded operator on \mathcal{B} . In 1995, K. Madigan and A. Matheson [4] proved that a composition operator C_ϕ is compact if and only if

$$\frac{(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)|}{1 - |\phi(z)|^2} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial D.$$

We recall that a linear operator is compact if the image of a bounded sequence contains a convergent subsequence.

In the case of higher dimension, for a holomorphic mapping ϕ of B^n into itself the composition operator C_ϕ induced by ϕ is defined in the same way. It is also a bounded operator on \mathcal{B} , because by the Schwarz–Pick lemma for the unit ball B^n ,

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{H_{\phi(z)}(\phi'(z)u, \phi'(z)u)}{H_z(u, u)} \leq 1$$

holds for $z \in B^n$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Similarly to the case of one dimension, the necessary and sufficient condition for C_ϕ to be compact on \mathcal{B} should be

$$\frac{H_{\phi(z)}(\phi'(z)u, \phi'(z)u)}{H_z(u, u)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n.$$

This has been proved by J. Shi and L. Luo [7]. Instead of the unit ball, Z. Zhou and J. Shi [13] consider the composition operators of the Bloch space on the polydisc.

The so-called α -Bloch spaces have been introduced and studied by a number of authors (for the general theory of α -Bloch functions see [14]). For $\alpha > 0$, a holomorphic function f on the unit disk D is called an α -Bloch function, if

$$\sup\{(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f(z)| : z \in D\} < \infty.$$

The α -Bloch space \mathcal{B}^α is defined in the same way. S. Ohno, K. Stroethoff and R. Zhao [6] studied the boundedness and compactness of a composition operator C_ϕ between

α -Bloch spaces, and proved that C_ϕ is a bounded operator of \mathcal{B}^α into \mathcal{B}^β if and only if

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\phi'(z)|}{(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)^\alpha} : z \in D \right\} < \infty,$$

and that a bounded composition operator C_ϕ of \mathcal{B}^α into \mathcal{B}^β is compact if and only if

$$\frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\phi'(z)|}{(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)^\alpha} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial D.$$

Let $\alpha > 0$. We may call an $f \in H(B^n)$ an α -Bloch function on B^n , if

$$\|f\|_{\alpha,1} = \sup \{ (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |\nabla f(z)| : z \in B^n \} < \infty.$$

Meanwhile, we define

$$\|f\|_{\alpha,2} = \sup \{ (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |\mathcal{R}f(z)| : z \in B^n \} < \infty,$$

where $\mathcal{R}f(z) = \nabla f(z)z = \langle \nabla f(z), \bar{z} \rangle$ is the radial derivative of f . The equivalence of these two norms is proved by W. Yang and C. Ouyang [11]. For $\alpha = 1$, they are equivalent to the norm (1.2), see [8, 9]. Now, the question is how to define the third equivalent norm, like (1.2), for an arbitrary α . For $\alpha > 1/2$, the answer can be found in [15]. In this paper, we solve this problem in a more general situation.

Let \mathcal{M} be the class of all positive and non-decreasing continuous functions $\mu(t)$, $0 < t \leq 1$, such that $\mu(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow 0$. In addition, we assume that every function in \mathcal{M} possesses the property

(†) there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\mu(t)/t^\delta$ is decreasing for small t .

As a consequence of property (†), we have

(††)
$$\mu(\sigma t) \geq \frac{\mu(t)}{C_{\mu,\sigma}} \quad \text{for } 0 < \sigma < 1, 0 < t \leq 1.$$

For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, a function $f \in H(B^n)$ is called a μ -Bloch function if

$$\|f\|_{\mu,1} = \sup \{ \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\nabla f(z)| : z \in B^n \} < \infty.$$

As in the case of α -Bloch functions, for $f \in H(B^n)$ and $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, we define

$$\|f\|_{\mu,2} = \sup \{ \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\mathcal{R}f(z)| : z \in B^n \} < \infty.$$

μ -Bloch functions were recently studied by Z. Hu [3] for the polydisc, and by X. Zhang and J. Xiao for the unit ball [12]. Since μ -Bloch functions are not invariant under Möbius mappings of B^n , it is more difficult to treat these function spaces. Zhang and Xiao gave another definition of μ -Bloch function and set necessary and sufficient conditions for the boundedness and compactness of C_ϕ , as a composition

operator between μ -Bloch spaces, under an appropriate assumption on μ such that the equivalence of their definition and the above is guaranteed.

In Section 2 of this paper, for $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, we give an estimate of the tangential derivative of a function $f \in H(B^n)$ in terms of the norm $\|f\|_{\mu,2}$. In Section 3, we define a metric $F_z^\mu(u)$, by which the third equivalent norm $\|f\|_{\mu,3}$ is defined. The equivalence of these norms is proved in Section 4. In Section 5, interesting examples of μ -Bloch functions are constructed by gap series for an arbitrary $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. They will be used in the proof of the necessity of the conditions for boundedness and compactness in Sections 6 and 7. One of them will show that our estimate for the tangential derivative in Section 2 is precise. Sections 6 and 7 are devoted to the discussion of boundedness and compactness. Necessary and sufficient conditions for the boundedness and compactness of C_ϕ as a composition operator between μ -Bloch spaces are obtained. Under an appropriate assumption on μ , our results become those of Zhang and Xiao [12].

2 The Radial Derivative and Tangential Derivative

In the following theorem and throughout this paper, C_μ denotes a positive number depending on μ only, which may assume different values when appearing at different places.

Theorem 2.1 *Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ and $f \in H(B^n)$. Then, for any $z \in B^n$ and $\zeta \in \partial B^n$ with $\zeta \perp z$, we have*

$$(2.1) \quad |\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,2} \left(1 + \int_{1-|z|^2}^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} \right).$$

If

$$(2.2) \quad I_\mu = \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} < \infty,$$

then (2.1) becomes

$$(2.3) \quad |\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,2}.$$

Proof To prove (2.1) and (2.3) we may, by a unitary change of coordinates, assume that $z = (r_0, 0, \dots, 0)$ with $0 \leq r_0 < 1$ and $\zeta = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$. Then

$$(2.4) \quad \nabla f(z)\zeta = \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(r_0, 0, \dots, 0).$$

Let $f(z) = \sum_\lambda a_\lambda z^\lambda$, where $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ with integers $\lambda_k \geq 0$ and $z^\lambda = z_1^{\lambda_1} \cdots z_n^{\lambda_n}$. Then,

$$\frac{\partial f(z)}{\partial z_2} = \sum_{\lambda_2 \neq 0} a_\lambda \lambda_2 z^\lambda / z_2, \quad \Re f(z) = \sum_\lambda a_\lambda |\lambda| z^\lambda,$$

where $|\lambda| = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(z_1, 0, \dots, 0) &= \sum_{\lambda_1=0}^{\infty} a_{(\lambda_1, 1, 0, \dots, 0)} z_1^{\lambda_1}, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}f}{\partial z_2}(z_1, 0, \dots, 0) &= \sum_{\lambda_1=0}^{\infty} (\lambda_1 + 1) a_{(\lambda_1, 1, 0, \dots, 0)} z_1^{\lambda_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$(2.5) \quad r_0 \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(r_0, 0, \dots, 0) = \int_0^{r_0} \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}f}{\partial z_2}(r, 0, \dots, 0) dr.$$

For a fixed $r \geq 0$, the function $g(z_2) = \mathcal{R}f(r, z_2, 0, \dots, 0)$ is estimated by

$$|g(z_2)| \leq \frac{\|f\|_{\mu, 2}}{\mu(3(1-r^2)/4)} \leq \frac{C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu, 2}}{\mu(1-r^2)} \quad \text{for } |z_2| < \frac{1}{2}(1-r^2)^{1/2}.$$

Here property $\dagger\dagger$ is used. Using Cauchy’s inequality, we have

$$(2.6) \quad \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}f}{\partial z_2}(r, 0, \dots, 0) \right| = |g'(0)| \leq \frac{C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu, 2}}{(1-r^2)^{1/2} \mu(1-r^2)},$$

and, by (2.4) – (2.6),

$$(2.7) \quad |\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq \frac{C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu, 2}}{|z|} \int_0^{|z|} \frac{dr}{(1-r^2)^{1/2} \mu(1-r^2)}.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|z|} \int_0^{|z|} \frac{dr}{(1-r^2)^{1/2} \mu(1-r^2)} &\leq C_\mu + 2 \int_{1/2}^{|z|^2} \frac{dr}{(1-r)^{1/2} \mu(1-r)} \\ &= C_\mu + 2 \int_{1-|z|^2}^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2} \mu(t)} \quad \text{for } |z| \geq 1/2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{|z|} \int_0^{|z|} \frac{dr}{(1-r^2)^{1/2} \mu(1-r^2)} \leq C_\mu \quad \text{for } 0 \neq |z| \leq 1/2,$$

(2.1) follows from (2.7) if $z \neq 0$. By continuity, (2.1) also holds for $z = 0$. (2.3) follows from (2.1) under the assumption (2.2). The theorem is proved. \blacksquare

The estimate (2.1) for $\mu(t) = t^\alpha$ with $0 < \alpha < 1/2$ or $1/2 < \alpha < 1$ can be found in Rudin’s book [5]. In Section 5, we will give an example to show that the estimate (2.1) is sharp.

Lemma 2.2 Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. Then, we have

$$(2.8) \quad 1 + \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \cdot \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \quad \text{for } 0 < t \leq 1.$$

Proof According to the property (\dagger), there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\mu(t)/t^\delta$ is decreasing for $0 < t \leq t_0 < 1$. Then, $t^{1/2+\delta}/\mu(t)$ is increasing for $0 < t \leq t_0$ and, consequently,

$$\int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} > \int_t^{t_0} \frac{\tau^{1/2+\delta} d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}\mu(\tau)} > \frac{1}{\delta} \frac{t^{1/2+\delta}}{\mu(t)} \left(\frac{1}{t^\delta} - \frac{1}{t_0^\delta} \right).$$

Thus, there exists a positive $t' < t_0$ such that

$$\int_t^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} > \frac{1}{2\delta} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \quad \text{for } 0 < t < t'.$$

This shows that (2.8) holds for $0 < t < t'$. (2.8) is obviously true for $t' \leq t \leq 1$. The lemma is proved. ■

Lemma 2.3 Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. If there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $\mu(t)/t^{1/2+\delta}$ is increasing for sufficiently small t , or $1/M \leq \mu(t)/t^{1/2+\delta} \leq M$ for $0 < t \leq 1$, then $I_\mu = \infty$ and

$$(2.9) \quad 1 + \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} \leq C_\mu \cdot \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \quad \text{for } 0 < t \leq 1.$$

Proof Let $\mu(t)/t^{1/2+\delta}$ be increasing for $0 < t \leq t_0 < 1$. Then,

$$I_\mu > \int_0^{t_0} \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} \geq \frac{t_0^{1/2+\delta}}{\mu(t_0)} \int_0^{t_0} \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}} = \infty.$$

As in the proof of the preceding lemma, for $0 < t < t_0$, we have

$$\int_t^{t_0} \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} = \int_t^{t_0} \frac{\tau^{1/2+\delta} d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}\mu(\tau)} < \frac{t^{1/2+\delta}}{\mu(t)} \int_t^{t_0} \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}} < \frac{1}{\delta} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)}.$$

Thus, there exists a positive $t' < t_0$ such that

$$1 + \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} < \frac{2}{\delta} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \quad \text{for } 0 < t < t',$$

since $t^{1/2}/\mu(t) \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \rightarrow 0$ by the assumption that $\mu(t)/t^{1/2+\delta}$ is increasing for small t . This shows that (2.9) holds for $0 < t < t'$. (2.9) is obviously true for $t' \leq t \leq 1$.

Now, assume that $1/M \leq \mu(t)/t^{1/2+\delta} \leq M$ for $0 < t \leq 1$. Then,

$$I_\mu = \int_0^1 \frac{\tau^{1/2+\delta} d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}\mu(\tau)} \geq \frac{1}{M} \int_0^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}} = \infty,$$

and there exist a $t' < 1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 + \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} &\leq 1 + M \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1+\delta}} \\
 &= 1 + \frac{M}{\delta} \left(\frac{1}{t^\delta} - 1 \right) \leq \frac{2M}{\delta t^\delta} \leq \frac{2M}{\delta} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)}, \quad \text{for } 0 < t < t'.
 \end{aligned}$$

This shows that (2.9) holds for $0 < t < t'$. (2.9) is obviously true for $t' \leq t \leq 1$. The lemma is proved. ■

The above lemmas show that if $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ satisfies the condition formulated in Lemma 2.3, then

$$(2.10) \quad \frac{1}{C_\mu} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \leq 1 + \int_t^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}\mu(\tau)} \leq C_\mu \cdot \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)}, \quad \text{for } 0 < t \leq 1,$$

and (2.1) can be replaced by

$$|\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq \frac{C_\mu(1 - |z|^2)^{1/2}}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)} \cdot \|f\|_{\mu,2}.$$

3 μ -Metrics

Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. If the integral I_μ defined in Theorem 2.1 is divergent, we denote

$$\nu(t) = \nu_\mu(t) = \left(\frac{1}{\mu(1)} + \int_t^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} \right)^{-1};$$

otherwise, let $\nu_\mu(t) \equiv \mu(1)$. The metric $F_z^\mu(u)$ corresponding to μ is defined by

$$F_z^\mu(u) = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \frac{1}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)} \left\{ \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} |u|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right) \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right\}^{1/2}$$

for $0 \neq z \in B^n$ and $u \in \mathbb{C}^n$. For $z = 0$, we put $F_0^\mu(u) = \sqrt{(n+1)/2} |u|/\mu(1)$.

It is easy to verify that for $z \in B^n$, we have

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{\sqrt{2} \max\{\mu(1 - |z|^2), \nu(1 - |z|^2)\}} \leq F_z^\mu(u) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{\sqrt{2} \min\{\mu(1 - |z|^2), \nu(1 - |z|^2)\}}.$$

Indeed, if $z \neq 0$, we may write $u = u_1 z/|z| + u_2 \zeta$, where $z \perp \zeta$ and $|\zeta| = 1$. Thus, $|u_1|^2 = |\langle u, z \rangle|^2/|z|^2$, $|u_2|^2 = |u|^2 - |u_1|^2$ and

$$F_z^\mu(u) = \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \left(\frac{|u_1|^2}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2} + \frac{|u_2|^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right)^{1/2},$$

from which (3.1) follows. Note that

$$\frac{1}{\nu(t)} \leq \frac{1}{\mu(1)} + \frac{1}{\mu(t)} \int_0^1 \frac{d\tau}{\tau^{1/2}} = \frac{1}{\mu(1)} + \frac{2}{\mu(t)} \leq \frac{3}{\mu(t)}.$$

Thus, (3.1) becomes

$$(3.2) \quad \frac{\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{3\sqrt{2}\nu(1-|z|^2)} \leq F_z^\mu(u) \leq \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{\sqrt{2}\mu(1-|z|^2)} \quad \text{for } z \in B^n.$$

It follows from (3.2) that

$$(3.3) \quad F_z^\mu(u) \geq \frac{\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{\sqrt{2}\mu(1)} \quad \text{for } z \in B^n,$$

and since μ is non-decreasing,

$$F_z^\mu(u) \leq \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}|u|}{\sqrt{2}\mu(1-r^2)} \quad \text{for } |z| \leq r < 1.$$

Lemma 3.1 *If μ satisfies the condition in Lemma 2.3, then $F_z^\mu(u)$ is equivalent to*

$$((1-|z|^2)/\mu(1-|z|^2))H_z(u, u)^{1/2},$$

where $H_z(u, u)$ is the Bergman metric of B^n formulated in the Introduction.

Proof Assume that μ satisfies the condition in Lemma 2.3. Then, by (2.10),

$$\frac{1}{C_\mu} \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)} \leq \frac{1}{\nu(t)} \leq C_\mu \cdot \frac{t^{1/2}}{\mu(t)}, \quad \text{for } 0 < t \leq 1,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F_z^\mu(u)^2 &= \frac{n+1}{2} \frac{1}{\mu(1-|z|^2)^2} \left\{ \frac{\mu(1-|z|^2)^2}{\nu(1-|z|^2)^2} \left(|u|^2 - \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right) + \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right\} \\ &\leq \frac{n+1}{2} \frac{C_\mu}{\mu(1-|z|^2)^2} \left\{ (1-|z|^2) \left(|u|^2 - \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right) + \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{n+1}{2} \frac{C_\mu}{\mu(1-|z|^2)^2} \left\{ (1-|z|^2)|u|^2 + |\langle u, z \rangle|^2 \right\} \\ &= C_\mu \left(\frac{1-|z|^2}{\mu(1-|z|^2)} \right)^2 H_z(u, u). \end{aligned}$$

For the same reason

$$F_z^\mu(u)^2 \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(\frac{1-|z|^2}{\mu(1-|z|^2)} \right)^2 H_z(u, u).$$

This proves the lemma. ■

Note that in terms of the function ν , (2.1) in Theorem 2.1 can be written in

$$(3.4) \quad |\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq \frac{C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,2}}{\nu(1-|z|^2)}.$$

4 Equivalent Norms of μ -Bloch Functions

For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ and $f \in H(B^n)$, we define

$$Q_f^\mu(z) = \sup \left\{ \frac{|\nabla f(z)u|}{F_z^\mu(u)} : 0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n \right\}, \quad \text{for } z \in B^n,$$

and

$$\|f\|_{\mu,3} = \sup \left\{ Q_f^\mu(z) : z \in B^n \right\}.$$

If μ satisfies the condition in Lemma 2.3, by Lemma 3.1 $F_z^\mu(u)$ is equivalent to

$$((1 - |z|^2)/\mu(1 - |z|^2))H_z(u, u)^{1/2},$$

and $\|f\|_{\mu,3}$ is equivalent to

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)u|}{(1 - |z|^2)H_z(u, u)} : 0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n \right\},$$

It is the norm that was defined by Zhang and Xiao in [12].

Theorem 4.1 For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, the norms $\|f\|_{\mu,1}$, $\|f\|_{\mu,2}$ and $\|f\|_{\mu,3}$ are equivalent.

Proof Assume that $f \in B^n$ and $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. It is obvious that $\|f\|_{\mu,2} \leq \|f\|_{\mu,1}$. Let $z \in B^n$. If $\nabla f(z) \neq 0$, letting $u = \nabla f(z)/|\nabla f(z)|$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)| &= \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)\bar{u}| \\ &\leq \mu(1 - |z|^2)Q_f^\mu(z)F_z^\mu(\bar{u}, \bar{u})^{1/2} \leq 3\sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}}Q_f^\mu(z), \end{aligned}$$

where (3.2) is used. This shows that

$$(4.1) \quad \|f\|_{\mu,1} \leq 3\sqrt{(n+1)/2}\|f\|_{\mu,3}.$$

Now, let $1/2 \leq |z| < 1$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$. There exists a ζ such that $|\zeta| = 1$, $\langle \zeta, z \rangle = 0$ and $u = u_1z/|z| + u_2\zeta$. Then, $|u|^2 = |u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2$ and $u_1 = \langle u, z \rangle/|z|$. By (3.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla f(z)u|^2 &= |u_1\nabla f(z)(z/|z|) + u_2\nabla f(z)\zeta|^2 \leq 8(|u_1|^2|\nabla f(z)z|^2 + |u_2|^2|\nabla f(z)\zeta|^2) \\ &\leq \frac{8C_\mu^2\|f\|_{\mu,2}^2}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \left(|u_1|^2 + |u_2|^2 \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{8C_\mu^2\|f\|_{\mu,2}^2}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \left(\frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2}|u|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right) |u_1|^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{8C_\mu^2\|f\|_{\mu,2}^2}{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \left(\frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2}|u|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)^2}{\nu(1 - |z|^2)^2} \right) \frac{|\langle u, z \rangle|^2}{|z|^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{16C_\mu^2\|f\|_{\mu,2}^2}{n+1} F_z^\mu(u)^2. \end{aligned}$$

It is proved that

$$(4.2) \quad \frac{|\nabla f(z)u|}{F_z^\mu(u)} \leq \frac{C_\mu}{\sqrt{n+1}} \|f\|_{\mu,2}$$

holds for $1/2 \leq |z| < 1$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Combining (4.2) with (3.2) gives

$$(4.3) \quad |\nabla f(z)u| \leq C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,2} |u|$$

for $|z| = 1/2$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Since $|\nabla f(z)u|$ is subharmonic for a fixed u , (4.3) holds for $|z| \leq 1/2$. It follows from (4.3) and (3.3) that (4.2) holds for $|z| \leq 1/2$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$ also. This shows that

$$(4.4) \quad \|f\|_{\mu,3} \leq \frac{C_\mu}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \|f\|_{\mu,2}.$$

The theorem is proved. ■

The equivalence of the norms for $\mu(t) = t^\alpha$ with $\alpha > 1/2$ was indicated in [14].

5 Examples of μ -Bloch functions

The following lemma is due to Z. Hu [3]. For the convenience of our readers, we include the proof.

Lemma 5.1 *Let $\gamma(\rho)$, $0 \leq \rho < 1$, be an non-decreasing and positive continuous function with the property that $\gamma(\rho) \rightarrow \infty$ as $\rho \rightarrow 1$ and there exist positive numbers δ and ρ_0 , $\rho_0 < 1$, such that $\gamma(\rho)(1 - \rho)^\delta$ is decreasing for $\rho_0 \leq \rho < 1$. Then, there exists a function $\Gamma(\omega)$, holomorphic in the unit disk D and represented by a gap series with positive coefficients, such that $\gamma(\rho)/M \leq \Gamma(\rho) \leq M\gamma(\rho)$ with $M > 0$ for $0 \leq \rho < 1$.*

Proof Let ρ_k be the smallest ρ such that

$$(*) \quad \frac{\gamma(\rho_{k+1})}{\gamma(\rho_k)} = 8^\delta \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Let $n_k = [A/\log(1/\rho_k)]$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, where $A = \log(4 \cdot 8^\delta)$. Then there exists a positive integer K such that for $k \geq K$, we have

$$\frac{1 - \rho_k}{1 - \rho_{k+1}} \geq \left(\frac{\gamma(\rho_{k+1})}{\gamma(\rho_k)} \right)^{1/\delta} = 8,$$

since $\gamma(\rho)(1 - \rho)^\delta$ is decreasing for $\rho_0 \leq \rho < 1$, and

$$(**) \quad e^{-A} = \rho_k^{A/\log(1/\rho_k)} \leq \rho_k^{n_k} < \rho_k^{A/\log(1/\rho_k)-1} < 2e^{-A} = \frac{8^{-\delta}}{2},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (***) \quad \frac{n_{k+1}}{n_k} &\geq \frac{A/\log(1/\rho_{k+1}) - 1}{A/\log(1/\rho_k)} > \frac{A/(2(1 - \rho_{k+1})) - 1}{A/(1 - \rho_k)} \\
 &= \frac{(1/2 - (1 - \rho_{k+1})/A)(1 - \rho_k)}{1 - \rho_{k+1}} \\
 &\geq 8(1/2 - (1 - \rho_{k+1})/A) > 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

We define

$$\Gamma(\omega) = \sum_{k=K}^{\infty} \gamma(\rho_k) \omega^{n_k}.$$

Let $\rho_K \leq \rho_{m-1} \leq \rho < \rho_m$. By (*), (**), and (***),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Gamma(\rho) < \Gamma(\rho_m) &= \sum_{k=K}^{\infty} \gamma(\rho_k) \rho_m^{n_k} = \sum_{k=K}^{m-1} \gamma(\rho_k) \rho_m^{n_k} + \sum_{k=m}^{\infty} \gamma(\rho_k) \rho_m^{n_k} \\
 &< \sum_{k=K}^{m-1} \gamma(\rho_k) + \sum_{k=m}^{\infty} \gamma(\rho_k) (\rho_m^{n_m})^{n_k/n_m} \\
 &< \gamma(\rho_m) \sum_{k=K}^{m-1} 8^{-(m-k)\delta} + \gamma(\rho_m) \sum_{k=m}^{\infty} 8^{(k-m)\delta} \left(\frac{8^{-\delta}}{2}\right)^{2^{k-m}} \\
 &< \gamma(\rho_m) \sum_{k=K}^{m-1} 8^{-(m-k)\delta} + \gamma(\rho_m) \sum_{k=m}^{\infty} 8^{(k-m)\delta} \left(\frac{8^{-\delta}}{2}\right)^{k-m+1} \\
 &< \gamma(\rho_m) \left(\frac{8^{-\delta}}{1 - 8^{-\delta}} + 8^{-\delta}\right) < \frac{2 \cdot 8^{-\delta}}{1 - 8^{-\delta}} \cdot \gamma(\rho_m).
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by (**),

$$\Gamma(\rho) \geq \Gamma(\rho_{m-1}) > \gamma(\rho_{m-1}) \rho_{m-1}^{n_{m-1}} \geq e^{-A} \gamma(\rho_{m-1}) = \frac{8^{-\delta}}{4} \cdot \gamma(\rho_{m-1}).$$

Thus, since γ is non-decreasing, we have

$$\frac{8^{-2\delta}}{4} = \frac{8^{-\delta}}{4} \cdot \frac{\gamma(\rho_{m-1})}{\gamma(\rho_m)} \leq \frac{\Gamma(\rho)}{\gamma(\rho)} \leq \frac{2 \cdot 8^{-\delta}}{1 - 8^{-\delta}} \cdot \frac{\gamma(\rho_m)}{\gamma(\rho_{m-1})} = \frac{2}{1 - 8^{-\delta}}.$$

The above estimate has been proved for $\rho \geq \rho_K$. For $0 \leq \rho \leq \rho_K$, the ratio $\Gamma(\rho)/\gamma(\rho)$ is bounded above and has a positive lower bound, since both $\Gamma(\rho)$ and $\gamma(\rho)$ are positive and continuous. This shows that $\Gamma(\omega)$ is the function required and the lemma is proved. \blacksquare

By using the above lemma, we may construct useful examples of μ -Bloch functions.

Example 1 For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, let $\Gamma_\mu(\omega)$ be the function constructed for $\gamma(\rho) = 1/\mu(1 - \rho)$ in the above lemma. Let

$$G_\mu(\omega) = \int_0^\omega \Gamma_\mu(w)dw \quad \text{for } \omega \in D.$$

For $z_0 \in \partial B^n$, define $g(z) = g_{\mu, z_0}(z) = G_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle)$ for $z \in B^n$. Then, for $z \in B^n$,

$$(5.1) \quad \nabla g(z) = \Gamma_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle)\bar{z}_0$$

and

$$\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla g(z)| = \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\Gamma_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle)| \leq \mu(1 - |z|^2)\Gamma_\mu(|z|) \leq \frac{C_\mu\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)}.$$

It follows from (††) that

$$(5.2) \quad \frac{\mu(1 - r^2)}{\mu(1 - r)} \leq \frac{\mu(1 - r^2)}{\mu((1 - r^2)/2)} \leq C_\mu \quad \text{for } 0 \leq r < 1.$$

Thus,

$$(5.3) \quad \|g\|_{\mu,1} = \sup_{z \in B^n} \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla g(z)| \leq C_\mu.$$

This means that $g \in \mathcal{B}^\mu$.

On the other hand, taking $z = rz_0$ with $0 \leq r < 1$, we have $\nabla g(z)\zeta = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla g(z)| &= \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla g(z)z_0| \\ &= \mu(1 - r^2)\Gamma_\mu(r) \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \cdot \frac{\mu(1 - r^2)}{\mu(1 - r)} \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu}. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that on the line $z = rz_0$ with $0 \leq r < 1$, all tangential derivatives of g are equal to 0, and the radial derivative attains $1/\mu(1 - |z|^2)$ up to a constant factor depending on μ only.

Example 2 For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, let $\Gamma_\mu(\omega)$ be the function formulated in Example 1,

$$\Lambda_\mu(\omega) = \frac{\Gamma(\omega)}{(1 - \omega)^{1/2}}$$

and

$$L_\mu(\omega) = 1 + \int_0^\omega \Lambda_\mu(z)dz \quad \text{for } \omega \in D.$$

Then, for $0 \leq r < 1$, since $1/(C_\mu\mu(1 - \rho)) \leq \Gamma(\rho) \leq C_\mu/\mu(1 - \rho)$ by Lemma 5.1, we have

$$(5.4) \quad L_\mu(r) \leq 1 + C_\mu \int_0^r \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \rho)^{1/2}\mu(1 - \rho)}$$

and

$$(5.5) \quad L_\mu(r) \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(1 + \int_0^r \frac{d\rho}{(1-\rho)^{1/2}\mu(1-\rho)} \right) = \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(1 + \int_{1-r}^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} \right).$$

For $z_0, \zeta \in \partial B^n$ with $\zeta \perp z_0$, define $l(z) = l_{\mu, z_0, \zeta} = \langle z, \zeta \rangle L_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle)$ for $z \in B^n$. Then, for $z \in B^n$,

$$(5.6) \quad \nabla l(z) = L_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle) \bar{\zeta} + \langle z, \zeta \rangle \Lambda_\mu(\langle z, z_0 \rangle) \bar{z}_0$$

and

$$(5.7) \quad \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\nabla l(z)| \leq \mu(1 - |z|^2) L_\mu(|z|) + \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\langle z, \zeta \rangle| \Lambda_\mu(|\langle z, z_0 \rangle|).$$

Since $\Lambda_\mu(\rho) \leq C_\mu / ((1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu(1 - \rho))$, by (5.2), we have

$$(5.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\langle z, \zeta \rangle| \Lambda_\mu(|\langle z, z_0 \rangle|) &\leq \frac{C_\mu |\langle z, \zeta \rangle|}{(1 - |\langle z, z_0 \rangle|)^{1/2}} \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |\langle z, z_0 \rangle|)} \\ &\leq \frac{C_\mu (1 - |\langle z, z_0 \rangle|)^{1/2}}{(1 - |\langle z, z_0 \rangle|)^{1/2}} \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \leq \frac{C_\mu \sqrt{2} \mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \leq C'_\mu, \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality $|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|^2 + |\langle z, z_0 \rangle|^2 \leq |z|^2 < 1$ is used, and by (5.4) and (5.2),

$$(5.9) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu(1 - |z|^2) L_\mu(|z|) &\leq \mu(1) + C_\mu \mu(1 - |z|^2) \int_0^{|z|} \frac{dr}{(1-r)^{1/2}\mu(1-r)} \\ &\leq \mu(1) + \frac{C_\mu \mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \int_0^1 \frac{dr}{(1-r)^{1/2}} \leq C'_\mu. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (5.2), (5.7), (5.8), and (5.9) that

$$(5.10) \quad \|l\|_{\mu, 1} = \sup_{z \in B^n} \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\nabla l(z)| \leq C_\mu$$

and $l \in \mathcal{B}^\mu$.

On the other hand, taking $z = rz_0$ with $r \geq 0$, we have $\nabla l(z)_{z_0} = 0$ and by (5.5),

$$\nabla l(z) \zeta = L_\mu(r) > L_\mu(r^2) \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(1 + \int_{1-r^2}^1 \frac{dt}{t^{1/2}\mu(t)} \right).$$

This shows that on the line $z = rz_0$ with $r \geq 0$, the radial derivative of l is equal to 0 and the tangential derivative along ζ attains the upper bound (2.1) in Theorem 2.1 up to a constant factor depending only on μ . So (2.1) is sharp.

6 Bounded Composition Operators Between μ -Bloch Spaces

Theorem 6.1 Let $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{M}$, and let ϕ be a holomorphic mapping of B^n into itself. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i) $C_\phi : \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ is bounded;
- (ii) $\sup\{\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) : z \in B^n\} = M_1 < \infty$;
- (iii)

$$\sup\left\{\frac{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)u)}{F_z^{\mu_2}(u)} : z \in B^n, 0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n\right\} = M_2 < \infty.$$

Proof It is immediate that (iii) implies (ii). In fact, for $0 \neq z \in B^n$, we have $F_z^{\mu_2}(z) = |z|/\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)$ and, by (iii),

$$M_2 \geq \frac{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z)}{F_z^{\mu_2}(z)} > \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z).$$

Now assume that (ii) holds. Let $f \in \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}$ and $z \in B^n$. If $\phi'(z)z = 0$,

$$\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla(f \circ \phi)(z)z| = \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(\phi(z))\phi'(z)z| = 0.$$

If $\phi'(z)z \neq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} &\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla(f \circ \phi)(z)z| \\ &= \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) \cdot \frac{|\nabla f(\phi(z))\phi'(z)z|}{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z)} \leq M_1 \|f\|_{\mu_1,3}. \end{aligned}$$

It is proved that $\|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mu_2,2} \leq M_1 \|f\|_{\mu_1,3}$. Consequently, by (4.1) and (4.4),

$$\|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mu_2,1} \leq \frac{C_{\mu_1} C_{\mu_2} M_1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \|f\|_{\mu_1,1} \leq \frac{C_{\mu_1} C_{\mu_2} M_1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} |f(\phi(0))| &\leq |f(0)| + \int_0^{|\phi(0)|} |\nabla f(\zeta)| |d\zeta| \\ &\leq |f(0)| + \|f\|_{\mu_1,1} \int_0^{|\phi(0)|} \frac{dr}{\mu_1(1 - r^2)} = C_{\mu_1,\phi} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} = |f(\phi(0))| + \frac{C_{\mu_1} C_{\mu_2} M_1}{\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \|f\|_{\mu_1,1} \leq C_{\mu_2} C_{\mu_1,\phi} (1 + M_1) \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}}.$$

This shows that $C_\phi : \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ is bounded. It is proved that (ii) implies (i).

Finally, assume that $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ is bounded. For $z' \in B^n$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$ with $\phi(z') \neq 0$ and $\phi'(z')u \neq 0$, let $w' = \phi(z')$, $z_0 = w'/|w'|$, $v' = \phi'(z')u = v_1z_0 + v_2\zeta = e^{i\theta_1}|v_1|z_0 + e^{i\theta_2}|v_2|\zeta$ with $\zeta \perp w'$ and $|\zeta| = 1$. Define

$$f(z) = f_{z',u}(z) = e^{-i\theta_1}g_{\mu_1,z_0}(z) + e^{-i\theta_2}l_{\mu_1,z_0,\zeta}(z) \quad \text{for } z \in B^n,$$

where g_{μ_1,z_0} and $l_{\mu_1,z_0,\zeta}(z)$ are the functions defined in Examples 1 and 2. Then,

$$(6.1) \quad f(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \|f\|_{\mu_1,1} \leq C_{\mu_1}$$

by (5.3) and (5.10). On the other hand, it follows from (5.1) and (5.6) that

$$\nabla f(w') = e^{-i\theta_1}\Gamma_{\mu_1}(|w'|)\bar{z}_0 + e^{-i\theta_2}L_{\mu_1}(|w'|)\bar{\zeta}$$

and

$$\nabla f(w')v' = |v_1|\Gamma_{\mu_1}(|w'|) + |v_2|L_{\mu_1}(|w'|).$$

We have

$$\Gamma(|w'|) \geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}\mu_1(1 - |w'|)}, \quad L_{\mu_1}(|w'|) \geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}\nu_{\mu_1}(1 - |w'|^2)}.$$

The last inequality follows from (5.2). Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla f(w')v'| &\geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}} \left(\frac{|v_1|}{\mu_1(1 - |w'|)} + \frac{|v_2|}{\nu_{\mu_1}(1 - |w'|^2)} \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}} \left(\frac{|v_1|^2}{\mu_1(1 - |w'|^2)^2} + \frac{|v_2|^2}{\nu_{\mu_1}(1 - |w'|^2)^2} \right)^{1/2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{C_{\mu_1}\sqrt{n+1}} F_{w'}^{\mu_1}(v'). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that

$$(6.2) \quad \frac{|\nabla f(w')v'|}{F_{w'}^{\mu_1}(v')} \geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}\sqrt{n+1}}.$$

Since C_ϕ is bounded, by (6.1) and (6.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mu_1}\|C_\phi\| &\geq \|C_\phi\| \cdot \|f\|_{\mu_1,1} = \|C_\phi\| \cdot \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}} \geq \|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} \\ &\geq \|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mu_2,1} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{C_{\mu_2}} \|C_\phi(f)\|_{\mu_2,3} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{C_{\mu_2}} \frac{|\nabla f(\phi(z'))\phi'(z')u|}{F_{z'}^{\mu_2}(u)} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{C_{\mu_2}} \frac{|\nabla f(\phi(z'))\phi'(z')u|}{F_{\phi(z')}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z')u)} \frac{F_{\phi(z')}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z')u)}{F_{z'}^{\mu_2}(u)} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{C_{\mu_2}} \frac{|\nabla f(w')v'|}{F_{w'}^{\mu_1}(v')} \frac{F_{\phi(z')}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z')u)}{F_{z'}^{\mu_2}(u)} \geq \frac{1}{C_{\mu_2}C_{\mu_1}} \frac{F_{\phi(z')}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z')u)}{F_{z'}^{\mu_2}(u)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{F_{\phi(z')}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z')u)}{F_{z'}^{\mu_2}(u)} \leq C_{\mu_2}C_{\mu_1}\|C_\phi\|,$$

when $\phi(z') \neq 0$ and $\phi'(z')u \neq 0$. The same inequality also holds if $\phi(z') = 0$ and $\phi'(z')u = 0$ by continuity. This shows that (i) implies (iii). The theorem is proved. ■

Lemma 6.2 $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^\mu \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}^\mu$ is bounded for any $\phi \in \text{Aut}(B^n)$ and $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$.

Proof Let $\phi \in \text{Aut}(B^n)$ and $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$. Assume that $\phi = \psi \circ \phi_a$, where ψ is a mapping defined by a unitary matrix and ϕ_a is a mapping in $\text{Aut}(B^n)$ which exchanges a with the origin. A well-known identity asserts that

$$1 - |\phi(z)|^2 = 1 - |\phi_a(z)|^2 = \frac{(1 - |a|^2)(1 - |z|^2)}{|1 - \langle z, a \rangle|^2}.$$

Thus,

$$(6.3) \quad \frac{1 - |\phi(z)|^2}{1 - |z|^2} \geq \frac{1 - |a|^2}{2} \quad \text{for } z \in B^n.$$

Let $z \in B^n$. If $|\phi(z)| \leq |z|$, by (3.2), we have

$$\mu(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^\mu(\phi'(z)z) \leq \frac{3\sqrt{n+1}\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)z|}{\sqrt{2}\mu(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} \leq C_n|\phi'(z)|,$$

where $|\phi'(z)|$ is the operator norm of $\phi'(z)$, which is defined by

$$|\phi'(z)| = \sup\{|\phi'(z)u| : u \in \partial B^n\}.$$

In the case $|\phi(z)| \geq |z|$, because of (6.3) and (\dagger),

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^\mu(\phi'(z)z) &\leq \frac{C_n\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)|}{\mu(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} \\ &\leq \frac{C_n\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)|}{\mu((1 - |a|^2)(1 - |z|^2)/2)} \leq C_nC_{a,\mu}|\phi'(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

Now ϕ is holomorphic on the closed ball \overline{B}^n and so $|\phi'(z)|$ is bounded on B^n . This shows that the condition (ii) in Theorem 6.1 is satisfied. By Theorem 6.1, $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^\mu \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}^\mu$ is bounded and the lemma is proved. ■

Lemma 6.3 Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with the property that $\mu(t)/t$ is increasing for small t or there is a $\delta \geq 0$ such that $mt^{1+\delta} \leq \mu(t) \leq Mt^{1+\delta}$ for $0 < t \leq 1$, and let ϕ be a holomorphic mapping of B^n into itself such that $\phi(0) = 0$. Then $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^\mu \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}^\mu$ is bounded.

Proof Assume that $\mu(t)/t$ is increasing for $0 < t \leq t_0 < 1$. Then μ satisfies the assumption in Lemma 2.3. By the Schwarz–Pick lemma, $|\phi(z)| \leq |z|$ and $1 - |z|^2 \leq 1 - |\phi(z)|^2$ since $\phi(0) = 0$. For $z \in B^n$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$, applying Lemma 3.1 and (1.3), we have

$$\frac{F_{\phi(z)}^\mu(\phi'(z)u)}{F_z^\mu(u)} \leq C_\mu \cdot \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{(1 - |z|^2)} \frac{1 - |\phi(z)|^2}{\mu(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)}.$$

If $1 - |\phi(z)|^2 \leq t_0$, since $\mu(t)/t$ is increasing for $0 < t \leq t_0$, we have

$$\frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{1 - |z|^2} \leq \frac{\mu(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)}{1 - |\phi(z)|^2}.$$

If $1 - |\phi(z)|^2 \geq t_0$, then

$$\frac{1 - |\phi(z)|^2}{\mu(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} \leq \max\{t/\mu(t) : t_0 \leq t \leq 1\}.$$

If $1 - |z|^2 \leq t_0$, since $\mu(t)/t$ is increasing for $0 < t \leq t_0$, we have

$$\frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{(1 - |z|^2)} \leq \frac{\mu(t_0)}{t_0}.$$

If $1 - |z|^2 \geq t_0$, then

$$\frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{(1 - |z|^2)} \leq \max\{\mu(t)/t : t_0 \leq t \leq 1\}.$$

Combining the above estimates we conclude that the condition (iii) in Theorem 6.1 is satisfied and $C_\phi : \mathcal{B}^\mu \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^\mu$ is bounded.

If there is a $\delta \geq 0$ such that $mt^{1+\delta} \leq \mu(t) \leq Mt^{1+\delta}$ for $0 < t \leq 1$, then μ satisfies the assumption in Lemma 2.3 also and, for $z \in B^n$ and $0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n$,

$$\frac{F_{\phi(z)}^\mu(\phi'(z)u)}{F_z^\mu(u)} \leq \frac{C_\mu M}{m} \cdot \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\delta}{(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)^\delta} \leq \frac{C_\mu M}{m}.$$

The condition (iii) is satisfied and C_ϕ is bounded. The lemma is proved. \blacksquare

As a consequence of the above two lemmas, we have the following theorem.

Theorem 6.4 *Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with the property that $\mu(t)/t$ is increasing for small t or there is a $\delta \geq 0$ such that $mt^{1+\delta} \leq \mu(t) \leq Mt^{1+\delta}$ for $0 < t \leq 1$, and let ϕ be a holomorphic mapping of B^n into itself. Then C_ϕ is a bounded operator of \mathcal{B}^μ into itself. Further, if $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{M}$ and $\mu_1(t) \geq m\mu(t)$ for small t with $m > 0$, then $C_\phi : \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^\mu$ is bounded.*

Proof Let $\phi = \psi \circ \sigma$, where $\psi \in \text{Aut}(B^n)$ and $\sigma(0) = 0$. Then $C_\phi = C_\sigma \circ C_\psi$. By the above lemmas, C_σ and C_ψ are both bounded operators of \mathcal{B}^μ into itself and, consequently, C_ϕ is.

If $\mu_1(t) \geq m\mu(t)$ for $0 < t \leq t_0 = 1 - r_0^2$, then, for $f \in H(B^n)$, we have

$$\sup_{|z| \geq r_0} \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{m} \sup_{|z| \geq r_0} \mu_1(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{m} \|f\|_{\mu_1, 1}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{|z| \leq r_0} \mu(1 - |z|^2) |\nabla f(z)| &\leq \mu(1) \max_{|z|=r_0} |\nabla f(z)| \\ &\leq \frac{\mu(1)}{\mu_1(t_0)} \max_{|z|=r_0} \mu_1(1 - |z|^2) |\nabla f(z)| \leq \frac{\mu(1)}{\mu_1(t_0)} \|f\|_{\mu_1,1}. \end{aligned}$$

It is proved that $\|f\|_{\mu,1} \leq \max\{1/m, \mu(1)/\mu_1(t_0)\} \|f\|_{\mu_1,1}$. So, if we let i be the identity mapping of B^n , then C_i is a bounded operator \mathcal{B}^{μ_1} into \mathcal{B}^μ . It follows that $C_\phi = C_\phi \circ C_i$ is a bounded operator of \mathcal{B}^{μ_1} into \mathcal{B}^μ , since we have proved that C_ϕ is a bounded operator of \mathcal{B}^μ into itself. The theorem is proved. ■

7 Compact Composition Operators Between μ -Bloch Spaces

Lemma 7.1 For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with $I_\mu = \infty$, $0 \neq w \in B^n$ and $0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C}^n$, there exists a function $f_{\mu,w,v}$ such that

- (i) $f_{\mu,w,v}(0) = 0$ and $\|f_{\mu,w,v}\|_{\mu,1} \leq C_\mu$;
- (ii) $|\nabla f_{\mu,w,v}(w)v|/F_w^\mu(v) \geq 1/C_{\mu,n}$.

Further, for a fixed μ , $f_{\mu,w,v}(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $w \rightarrow \partial B^n$ locally uniformly in B^n . Precisely speaking, for $\epsilon > 0$, $0 < r < 1$, there exists an $r'_{\mu,\epsilon,r}$ such that $|f_{\mu,w,v}(z)| < \epsilon$ for $|w| > r'$, $|z| \leq r$ and $0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C}^n$.

Proof Let $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$, $0 \neq w \in B^n$ and $0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C}^n$ be fixed, let $v = v_1 w/|w| + v_2 \zeta$ with $\zeta \perp w$ and $|\zeta| = 1$, and let $v_1 = |v_1|e^{i\theta_1}$ and $v_2 = |v_2|e^{i\theta_2}$. We define

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) = f_{\mu,w,v}(z) &= e^{-i\theta_1} (1 - |w|^2)^{1/2} L_\mu(\langle z, w \rangle) / |w| \\ &\quad + \frac{e^{-i\theta_2} \langle z, \zeta \rangle L_\mu(\langle z, w \rangle)^2}{L_\mu(|w|^2)} - \frac{e^{-i\theta_1} (1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{|w|}, \end{aligned}$$

where $L(\omega) = L_\mu(\omega)$ is the function defined in Example 2. Then, $f(0) = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f(z) &= e^{-i\theta_1} (1 - |w|^2)^{1/2} \Lambda(\langle z, w \rangle) \bar{w} / |w| \\ &\quad + \frac{e^{-i\theta_2} L(\langle z, w \rangle)^2 \bar{\zeta}}{L(|w|^2)} + \frac{2e^{-i\theta_2} \langle z, \zeta \rangle L(\langle z, w \rangle) \Lambda(\langle z, w \rangle) \bar{w}}{L(|w|^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that

$$\begin{aligned} |\Lambda(\langle z, w \rangle)| &\leq \Lambda(|\langle z, w \rangle|) \leq \Lambda(|z||w|) \leq \Lambda(|w|), \\ |L(\langle z, w \rangle)| &\leq L(|w|), \quad |L(\langle z, w \rangle)| \leq L(|z|). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, since $\Lambda(\rho) \leq C_\mu / ((1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu(1 - \rho))$ for $0 \leq \rho < 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla f(z)| &\leq (1 - |w|^2)^{1/2} \Lambda(|z||w|) + \frac{L(|z|)L(|w|)}{L(|w|^2)} + \frac{2|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|L(|w|)\Lambda(|\langle z, w \rangle|)}{L(|w|^2)} \\ &\leq \frac{C_\mu(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{(1 - |z||w|)^{1/2} \mu(1 - |z||w|)} + \frac{L(|z|)L(|w|)}{L(|w|^2)} \\ &\quad + \frac{2C_\mu|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|L(|w|)}{(1 - |\langle z, w \rangle|)^{1/2} \mu(1 - |\langle z, w \rangle|)L(|w|^2)} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (7.1) \quad \mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f_{\mu, w, v}(z)| &\leq \frac{C_\mu \mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \cdot \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{(1 - |w|)^{1/2}} \\ &\quad + \mu(1 - |z|^2)L(|z|) \cdot \frac{L(|w|)}{L(|w|^2)} + \frac{2C_\mu \mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \cdot \frac{|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|}{(1 - |\langle z, w \rangle|)^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{L(|w|)}{L(|w|^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

If $|w| \geq 1/2$, since

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{1/2}^{|w|} \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu(1 - \rho)} &\leq \int_{1/4}^{|w|^2} \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \sqrt{\rho})^{1/2} \mu(1 - \sqrt{\rho})} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} \int_{1/4}^{|w|^2} \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu((1 - \rho)/2)} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} C_\mu \int_{1/4}^{|w|^2} \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu((1 - \rho))}, \end{aligned}$$

where the property (††) is used, we have, by (5.4) and (5.5),

$$(7.2) \quad L(|w|) \leq C'_\mu \left(1 + \int_0^{|w|^2} \frac{d\rho}{(1 - \rho)^{1/2} \mu((1 - \rho))} \right) \leq C'_\mu L(|w|^2).$$

The above estimate is evidently true for $|w| \leq 1/2$.

It is obvious that

$$(7.3) \quad \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{(1 - |w|)^{1/2}} \leq \sqrt{2}$$

and, by (5.2),

$$(7.4) \quad \frac{\mu(1 - |z|^2)}{\mu(1 - |z|)} \leq C_\mu \quad \text{for } z \in B^n.$$

For $z \in B^n$, let $u = \langle z, w/|w| \rangle w/|w| + \langle z, \zeta \rangle \zeta$. Then, $(z - u) \perp u$ and

$$1 > |z|^2 \geq |u|^2 = |\langle z, w/|w| \rangle|^2 + |\langle z, \zeta \rangle|^2 > |\langle z, w \rangle|^2 + |\langle z, \zeta \rangle|^2.$$

Consequently,

$$(7.5) \quad \frac{|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|}{(1 - |\langle z, w \rangle|)^{1/2}} < \frac{\sqrt{2}|\langle z, \zeta \rangle|}{(1 - |\langle z, w \rangle|^2)^{1/2}} < \sqrt{2}.$$

Now, replacing (5.9), (7.2)–(7.5), in (7.1), we obtain

$$\mu(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla f(z)| \leq C_\mu \quad \text{for } z \in B^n.$$

This shows that $\|f\|_{\mu,1} \leq C_\mu$, and (i) is proved.

On the other hand, since $\Lambda(\rho) \geq 1/(C_\mu(1 - \rho)^{1/2}\mu(1 - \rho))$ for $0 \leq \rho < 1$ and $L(r) \geq 1/(C_\mu\nu(1 - r))$ by (5.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla f(w)v| &= |v_1|(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}\Lambda(|w|^2) + |v_2|L(|w|^2) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(\frac{|v_1|}{\mu(1 - |w|^2)} + \frac{|v_2|}{\nu_\mu(1 - |w|^2)} \right) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \left(\frac{|v_1|^2}{\mu(1 - |w|^2)^2} + \frac{|v_2|^2}{\nu_\mu(1 - |w|^2)^2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{C_{\mu,n}} \cdot F_w^\mu(v). \end{aligned}$$

This shows (ii).

Let $0 < r < 1$ be given. For $|z| \leq r$, we have

$$|f_{\mu,w,v}(z)| \leq \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}L_\mu(r)}{|w|} + \frac{L_\mu(r)^2}{L_\mu(|w|^2)} + \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{\mu(1)|w|}.$$

The right side of the above tends to 0 as $|w| \rightarrow 1$ since $L_\mu(|w|) \rightarrow \infty$ as $|w| \rightarrow 1$ for $I_\mu = \infty$. The second part of the lemma is proved. ■

Lemma 7.2 For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with $I_\mu < \infty$ and $0 \neq w \in B^n$, there exists a function $f_{\mu,w}$ such that

- (i) $f_{\mu,w}(0) = 0$ and $\|f_{\mu,w,v}\|_\mu \leq C_\mu$;
- (ii) $\mu(1 - |w|^2)|\nabla f_{\mu,w}(w)v|/|\langle v, w \rangle| \geq 1/C_\mu$.

Further, for a fixed μ , $f_{\mu,w}(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $w \rightarrow \partial B^n$ locally uniformly in B^n .

Proof For $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with $I_\mu < \infty$ and $0 \neq w \in B^n$, let

$$f(z) = f_{\mu,w}(z) = (1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}L_\mu(\langle z, w \rangle)/|w| - \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}}{|w|}.$$

Then, as in the proof of Lemma 7.1, we have $f_{\mu,w}(0) = 0$, $\|f_{\mu,w}\|_{\mu,1} \leq C_\mu$ and, for $0 \neq v = v_1w/|w| + v_2\zeta$ with $\zeta \perp w$ and $|\zeta| = 1$,

$$|\nabla f(w)v| = |v_1|(1 - |w|^2)^{1/2}\Lambda(|w|^2) \geq \frac{1}{C_\mu} \frac{|v_1|}{\mu(1 - |w|^2)} = \frac{1}{C_\mu} \frac{|\langle v, w \rangle|}{\mu(1 - |w|^2)}.$$

The second part of the lemma is obvious. ■

Lemma 7.3 *Let $f \in H(B^n)$ and $\mu \in \mathcal{M}$ with $I_\mu < \infty$. If $|\nabla f(z)| \leq m$ for $|z| \leq r_0$, $1/2 \leq r_0 < 1$, then for $r_0 \leq |z| < 1$ and $\zeta \perp z$ with $|\zeta| = 1$, we have*

$$|\nabla f(z)\zeta| \leq m + C_{\mu,r_0} \|f\|_{\mu,1},$$

where $C_{\mu,r_0} \rightarrow 0$ as $r_0 \rightarrow 1$.

Proof It is sufficient to prove the lemma for $z = (\rho, 0, \dots, 0)$ with $\rho \geq r_0$ and $\zeta = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$. As in the proof of Theorem 2.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(\rho, 0, \dots, 0) - r_0 \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(r_0, 0, \dots, 0) &= \int_{r_0}^\rho \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}f}{\partial z_2}(z_1, 0, \dots, 0) dz_1, \\ |\nabla f(z)\zeta| &= \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(\rho, 0, \dots, 0) \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2}(r_0, 0, \dots, 0) \right| + C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,2} \int_{r_0}^\rho \frac{dr}{(1-r^2)^{1/2} \mu(1-r^2)} \\ &\leq m + C_\mu \|f\|_{\mu,1} \int_0^{1-r_0^2} \frac{dt}{t^{1/2} \mu(t)}. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 7.4 *Let $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathcal{M}$, and let ϕ be a holomorphic mapping of B^n into itself and $C_\phi : B^{\mu_1} \rightarrow B^{\mu_2}$ be bounded. If $I_{\mu_1} = \infty$, then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) $C_\phi : B^{\mu_1} \rightarrow B^{\mu_2}$ is compact;
- (ii) $\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) \rightarrow 0$ as $\phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n$;
- (iii) $\frac{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)u)}{F_z^{\mu_2}(u)} \rightarrow 0$ as $\phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n$.

If $I_{\mu_1} < \infty$, then the following conditions and (i) are equivalent:

(ii')

$$\frac{\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z) \rangle|}{\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n;$$

(iii')

$$\frac{|\langle \phi'(z)u, \phi(z) \rangle|}{F_z^{\mu_2}(u)\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n.$$

Proof As in the proof of Theorem 6.1, it is obvious that (iii) implies (ii) and (iii') implies (ii'). Since C_ϕ is bounded, by Theorem 6.1,

$$(7.6) \quad \sup\{\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) : z \in B^n\} = M < \infty.$$

First assume that $I_\mu = \infty$. Let (ii) hold. Let $f_k \in B^{\mu_1}$ and $\|f_k\|_{B^{\mu_1}} = 1$, for $k = 1, 2, \dots$. Applying Montel's theorem, by choosing a subsequence, we may assume that f_k converges to a function f locally uniformly in B^n . It is easy to see that $\|f\|_{B^{\mu_1}} \leq 1$. Let $g_k = f_k - f$. Then, $g_k \rightarrow 0$ locally uniformly in B^n and

$$(7.7) \quad \|g_k\|_{B^{\mu_1}} \leq 2 \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. By the assumption (ii), there exists an $r_0 < 1$ such that

$$(7.8) \quad \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) < \epsilon \quad \text{if } |\phi(z)| > r_0.$$

Since $g_k(w) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly for $|w| \leq r_0$, by (3.3), there exists a K such that

$$(7.9) \quad \frac{|\nabla g_k(w)v|}{F_w^{\mu_1}(v, v)^{1/2}} \leq \frac{3\sqrt{2}\mu(1)}{\sqrt{n+1}} |\nabla g_k(w)| < \epsilon$$

for $k > K$, $|w| \leq r_0$ and $0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C}^n$.

Let $k > K$ and $z \in B^n$. To estimate $\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)|$, we distinguish three cases.

- (a) If $\phi'(z)z = 0$, $\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)| = \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi'(z)z| = 0$.
- (b) If $\phi'(z)z \neq 0$ and $|\phi(z)| \leq r_0$, then, by (7.6) and (7.9),

$$\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)| = \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) \frac{|\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi'(z)z|}{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z)} < M\epsilon.$$

- (c) If $\phi'(z)z \neq 0$ and $|\phi(z)| > r_0$, it follows from (7.7) and (7.8) that

$$\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)| \leq \epsilon \|g_k\|_{\mu_1,3} < C_{\mu_1}\epsilon.$$

We conclude that $\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mu_2,2} < \epsilon \max\{M, C_{\mu_1}\}$ for $k > K$. This shows that

$$\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mu_2,2} \rightarrow 0$$

and, consequently, $\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, since

$$\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mu_2,1} \leq C_{\mu_2}\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mu_2,2}$$

and $g_k(\phi(0)) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Thus, $f_k \circ \phi \rightarrow f \circ \phi$ according to the \mathcal{B}^{μ_2} norm. The compactness of C_ϕ is proved. This shows that (ii) implies (i).

Now, assume that (i) holds. Suppose on the contrary that (iii) doesn't hold. Then, there exist $\delta > 0$, sequences z_k and $u_k \neq 0$, such that

$$(7.10) \quad \frac{F_{\phi(z_k)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z_k)u_k)}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} > \delta, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

where $w_k = \phi(z_k) \rightarrow \partial B^n$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. For $k = 1, 2, \dots$, let $v_k = \phi'(z_k)u_k$ and $f_k = f_{\mu_1, w_k, v_k}$ be functions defined in Lemma 7.1. Then, f_k and, consequently, $C_\phi(f_k)$ converge to 0 locally uniformly in B^n . Since C_ϕ is compact and f_k is a bounded sequence in \mathcal{B}^{μ_1} by (i) in Lemma 7.1, by choosing a subsequence, we may assume that there is a function $g \in \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ such that $\|C_\phi(f_k) - g\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} \rightarrow 0$. g must be equal to 0 identically for $C_\phi(f_k)$ converges to 0 locally uniformly in B^n . Thus, $\|C_\phi(f_k)\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} \rightarrow 0$. In particular,

$$(7.11) \quad \frac{|\nabla C_\phi(f_k)(z_k)u_k|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} = \frac{|\nabla f_k(\phi(z_k))\phi'(z_k)u_k|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} \rightarrow 0.$$

However, by (ii) in Lemma 7.1,

$$(7.12) \quad \frac{|\nabla f_k(\phi(z_k))\phi'(z_k)u_k|}{F_{\phi(z_k)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z_k)u_k)} \geq \frac{1}{C_{n,\mu_1}}, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Combining (7.10) and (7.12), we have

$$\frac{|\nabla f_k(\phi(z_k))\phi'(z_k)u_k|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} \geq \frac{\delta}{C_{n,\mu_1}}.$$

This contradicts (7.11). This shows that (i) implies (iii). The theorem is proved for $I_\mu = \infty$.

Now we consider the case that $I_\mu < \infty$. Assume that (ii') holds. As above, for a bounded sequence in \mathcal{B}^{μ_1} , we have subsequence $f_k \in \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}$ and an $f \in \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}$ such that $g_k = f_k - f \rightarrow 0$ locally uniformly in the unit disk, $\|f_k\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}} \leq 1$ and (7.7) holds. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. By Lemma 7.3 and the assumption (ii'), there exists an $r_0 \geq 1/2$ such that $C_{\mu_1, r_0} < \epsilon$, where C_{μ_1, r_0} is the number in Lemma 7.3, and

$$(7.13) \quad \frac{\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z) \rangle|}{\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)} < \epsilon \quad \text{if } |\phi(z)| > r_0.$$

Since $g_k(w) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $|w| \leq r_0$, by (3.3), there exists a K such that

$$(7.14) \quad |\nabla g_k(w)| < \epsilon \quad \text{for } k > K, |w| \leq r_0,$$

and

$$\frac{|\nabla g_k(w)v|}{F_w^{\mu_1}(v)} < \epsilon \quad \text{for } k > K, |w| \leq r_0, 0 \neq v \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

Let $k > K$ and $z \in B^n$. By the same reasoning as in the case $I_\mu = \infty$, we have

$$\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)z| < M\epsilon$$

if $\phi'(z)z = 0$ or $\phi'(z)z \neq 0$ and $|\phi(z)| \leq r_0$. In the case $\phi'(z)z \neq 0$ and $|\phi(z)| > r_0$, let $\phi'(z)z = u_1\phi(z)/|\phi(z)| + u_2\zeta$ with $\zeta \perp \phi(z)$ and $|\zeta| = 1$. Then $u_1 = \langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z)/|\phi(z)| \rangle$, $u_2 = \langle \phi'(z)z, \zeta \rangle$, and we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)z| &= |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi'(z)z| \\ &= |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))(\langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z)/|\phi(z)| \rangle \phi(z)/|\phi(z)| + \langle \phi'(z)z, \zeta \rangle \zeta)| \\ &\leq 4|\langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z) \rangle| |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi(z)| + |\langle \phi'(z)z, \zeta \rangle| |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\zeta| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(7.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)z| &\leq \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\langle \phi'(z)z, \zeta \rangle| |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\zeta| \\ &\quad + 4\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)|\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi(z)| \cdot \frac{\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\langle \phi'(z)z, \phi(z) \rangle|}{\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Estimating the right side of (7.15), we have, by (3.3) and (7.6),

$$(7.16) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\langle \phi'(z)z, \zeta \rangle| &\leq \mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\phi'(z)z| \\ &\leq \mu_1(1)\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi'(z)z) \leq \mu_1(1)M, \end{aligned}$$

and, by Lemma 7.3 and (7.14),

$$(7.17) \quad |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\zeta| < \epsilon + C_{\mu_1, r_0} \|g_k\|_{\mu_1, 1} \leq \epsilon + \epsilon \|g_k\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}} < 3\epsilon,$$

and, by (7.7) and the definition of F_z^μ ,

$$(7.18) \quad \begin{aligned} \mu_1(1 - |\phi(z)|^2)|\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi(z)| &= \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \frac{|\phi(z)| |\nabla g_k(\phi(z))\phi(z)|}{F_{\phi(z)}^{\mu_1}(\phi(z))} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \|g_k\|_{\mu_1, 3} \leq C_{\mu_1} \|g_k\|_{\mu_1, 1} \\ &\leq C'_{\mu_1} \|g_k\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_1}} \leq 2C'_{\mu_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, substituting in (7.15) by (7.16), (7.17), (7.18) and (7.13), we obtain

$$\mu_2(1 - |z|^2)|\mathcal{R}C_\phi(g_k)(z)z| \leq (3\mu_1(1)M + 8C'_{\mu_1})\epsilon.$$

Thus, $\|C_\phi(g_k)\|_{\mu_2, 2} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. As above, this shows that $f_k \circ \phi \rightarrow f \circ \phi$ according to the \mathcal{B}^{μ_2} norm, and $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ is compact. We have proved that (ii') implies (i).

Now, assume that $C_\phi: \mathcal{B}^{\mu_1} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}$ is compact. To prove (iii'), suppose on the contrary that there exist $\delta > 0$, sequences z_k and $u_k \neq 0$, such that $\phi(z_k) \rightarrow \partial B^n$ and

$$(7.19) \quad \frac{|\langle \phi'(z_k)u_k, \phi(z_k) \rangle|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)\mu_1(1 - |\phi(z_k)|^2)} > \delta, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

For $k = 1, 2, \dots$, let $w_k = \phi(z_k)$ and $f_k = f_{\mu_1, w_k}$ be the functions defined in Lemma 7.2. Then, as above, by choosing a subsequence, we may assume that $\|C_\phi(f_k)\|_{\mathcal{B}^{\mu_2}} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. In particular,

$$(7.20) \quad \frac{|\nabla C_\phi(f_k)(z_k)u_k|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} = \frac{|\nabla f_k(w_k)\phi'(z_k)u_k|}{F_{z_k}^{\mu_2}(u_k)} \rightarrow 0.$$

However, by (ii) in Lemma 7.2,

$$(7.21) \quad \mu_1(1 - |w_k|^2) \frac{|\nabla f_k(w_k)\phi'(z_k)u_k|}{|\langle \phi'(z_k)u_k, w_k \rangle|} > \frac{1}{C_{\mu_1}} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots$$

(7.19) and (7.21) contradict (7.20). This shows that (i) implies (iii'). ■

If $v = v_1 w/|w| + v_2 \zeta$ with $\zeta \perp w$ and $|\zeta| = 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} F_w^\mu(v) &= \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \left(\frac{|v_1|^2}{\mu(1-|w|^2)^2} + \frac{|v_2|^2}{\nu_\mu(1-|w|^2)^2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \left(\frac{|\langle v, w/|w| \rangle|^2}{\mu(1-|w|^2)^2} + \frac{|\langle v, \zeta \rangle|^2}{\nu_\mu(1-|w|^2)^2} \right)^{1/2} \geq \sqrt{\frac{n+1}{2}} \frac{|\langle v, w \rangle|}{\mu(1-|w|^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that the conditions (ii') and (iii') are weaker than (ii) and (iii) respectively.

If μ_1 and μ_2 satisfy the condition in Lemma 2.3 (then $I_{\mu_1} = I_{\mu_2} = \infty$), then condition (iii) in Theorems 6.1 and condition (iii) in Theorem 7.4 become

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{\mu(1-|z|^2)(1-|\phi(z)|^2)H_{\phi(z)}(\phi'(z)u, \phi'(z)u)}{\mu(1-|\phi(z)|^2)(1-|z|^2)H_z(u, u)} : z \in B^n, 0 \neq u \in \mathbb{C}^n \right\} < \infty$$

and

$$\frac{\mu(1-|z|^2)(1-|\phi(z)|^2)H_{\phi(z)}(\phi'(z)u, \phi'(z)u)}{\mu(1-|\phi(z)|^2)(1-|z|^2)H_z(u, u)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \phi(z) \rightarrow \partial B^n,$$

respectively. These are the necessary and sufficient conditions established by Zhang and Xiao in [12].

References

- [1] J. M. Anderson, J. Clunie and Ch. Pommerenke, *On Bloch functions and normal functions*, J. Reine Angew. Math. **240**(1974), 12–37.
- [2] L. V. Ahlfors, *Conformal Invariants: topics in geometric function theory*. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1973.
- [3] Z. Hu, *Composition operators between Bloch-type spaces in the polydisc*, Sci. China, Ser. A **48**(Supp)(2005), 268–282.
- [4] K. Madigan and A. Matheson, *Compact composition operators on the Bloch space*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **437**(1995), no. 7, 2679–2687.
- [5] W. Rudin, *Function Theory in the Unit Ball of \mathbb{C}^n* . Springer-Verlag, New York-Heidelberg-Berlin, 1980, pp. 23–30.
- [6] S. Ohno, K. Stroethoff and R. Zhao, *Weighted composition operators between Bloch-type spaces*, Rocky Mountain J. Math. **33**(2003), no. 1, 191–215.
- [7] J. Shi and L. Luo, *Composition operators on the Bloch space of several complex variables*. Acta Math. Sin.(Engl. Ser.) **16**(2000), no. 1, 85–98.
- [8] R. Timoney, *Bloch functions in several complex variables I*. Bull. London Math. Soc. **12**(1980), no. 4, 241–267.
- [9] ———, *Bloch functions in several complex variables II*. J. Reine Angew. Math. **319**(1980), 1–22.
- [10] M. Tsuji, *Potential Theory in Modern Function Theory*. Maruzen Co., Ltd., Tokyo, 1959, pp. 259–260.
- [11] W. Yang and C. Ouyang, *Exact location of α -Bloch spaces in L_α^p and H^p of a complex unit ball*, Rocky Mountain J. Math. **30**(2000), no. 3, 1151–1169.
- [12] X. Zhang and J. Xiao, *Weighted composition operators between μ -Bloch spaces on the unit ball*. Sci.China Ser. A **48**(2005), no. 10, 1349–1368.
- [13] Z. Zhou and J. Shi, *Compact composition operators on the Bloch space of polydiscs*, Science in China, Series A, **31** (2001), 111–116.

- [14] K. Zhu, *Bloch type spaces of analytic functions*. Rocky Mountain J. Math. **23**(1993), no. 3, 1143–1177.
- [15] K. Zhu, *Spaces of holomorphic functions in the unit ball*. Graduate Texts in Mathematics, 226, Springer-Verlag, New York, 2005.

Department of Mathematics, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing 210097, P.R.China
e-mail: hhchen@nju.edu.cn

Mathématiques et statistique, Université de Montréal, CP-6128 Centre Ville, Montréal, QC, H3C 3J7
e-mail: gauthier@dms.umontreal.ca