

# ON FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVES AND STAR INVARIANT SUBSPACES

William S. Cohn

**1. Introduction and statement of main results.** Let  $\phi(z)$  be an inner function defined on the unit disk  $D = \{|z| < 1\}$ . Factor  $\phi$  canonically as

$$\phi(z) = \lambda B(z) s_\sigma(z),$$

where  $|\lambda| = 1$ ,

$$B(z) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\bar{a}_k}{|a_k|} \frac{a_k - z}{1 - \bar{a}_k z}$$

is a Blaschke product and

$$s_\sigma(z) = \exp\left(-\int_T \frac{\zeta + z}{\zeta - z} d\sigma(\zeta)\right)$$

where  $\sigma$  is a positive singular measure on the unit circle  $T$ .

In [4] we proved the following result, extending earlier work of Frostman, Riesz, and Ahern and Clark (see [6] and [1]).

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $\zeta_0 \in T$ ,  $\phi = Bs_\sigma$ , and  $1 < p < \infty$ .*

(1) *Necessary and sufficient that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(r\zeta_0)$  exist for all  $f \in K_*(\phi)$  is that*

$$\sum_k \frac{1 - |a_k|}{|\zeta_0 - a_k|} + \int_T \frac{d\sigma(\zeta)}{|\zeta_0 - \zeta|} < \infty.$$

(2) *Necessary and sufficient that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(r\zeta_0)$  exist for all  $f \in K_p(\phi)$  is that*

$$\sum_k \frac{1 - |a_k|}{|\zeta_0 - a_k|^q} + \int_T \frac{d\sigma(\zeta)}{|\zeta_0 - \zeta|^q} < \infty.$$

(Here and in the sequel, by  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} f(r\zeta_0)$  we mean  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1-} f(r\zeta_0)$ .)

The spaces  $K_p = K_p(\phi)$  and  $K_* = K_*(\phi)$  are the "star-invariant" subspaces of  $H^p$  and BMOA determined by

$$K_p(\phi) = \phi \bar{H}_0^p \cap H^p \quad \text{and} \quad K_*(\phi) = K_2(\phi) \cap \text{BMO},$$

where  $\bar{H}_0^p = \{\bar{z}\bar{f}(z) : f \in H^p\}$ .

Although derivatives are not mentioned in [4] it is not difficult to conjecture (and prove) the correct results for the radial behavior of  $f^{(1)}, f^{(2)}, \dots$  if  $f \in K_p$  or  $K_*$ , and arrive at the following result.

**THEOREM A'.** *Let  $\zeta_0 \in T$ ,  $\phi = Bs_\sigma$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .*

(1) *Necessary and sufficient that  $\lim_{f \rightarrow 1} f^{(n)}(r\zeta_0)$  exist for all  $f \in K_*$  is that*

$$\sum \frac{1 - |a_k|}{|\zeta_0 - a_k|^{n+1}} + \int_T \frac{d\sigma(\zeta)}{|\zeta_0 - \zeta|^{n+1}} < \infty.$$

Received September 17, 1986. Revision received February 5, 1987.

Research supported in part by NSF.

Michigan Math. J. 34 (1987).