

# TAUBERIAN THEOREMS FOR PLURIHARMONIC FUNCTIONS WHICH ARE BMO OR BLOCH

David C. Ullrich

**0. Introduction.** Suppose  $f$  is a bounded pluriharmonic function in the unit ball of  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . It is a corollary to Theorem 3 of [5] that  $f$  has a radial limit at a given boundary point if and only if the (a.e.) boundary values of  $f$  have a certain “derivative” at that point. The main result of the present paper is an analogous result for pluriharmonic functions satisfying a Bloch condition: see Theorem 1 below. Note that since Bloch functions need not have radial limits a.e., the statement of Theorem 1 involves instead certain linear functionals on the Bloch space which reduce to the average of the boundary values over certain sets, *if* these boundary values exist. Thus if  $f$  is Bloch and equals the Poisson–Szegő integral of a measure, the existence of a radial limit is equivalent to the existence of a “derivative” of the boundary measure (Corollary 1). In particular, in case  $f$  is both pluriharmonic and the Poisson–Szegő integral of a BMO function, we obtain Corollary 2. (The present Corollary 2 was the main result in the original version of this paper. Peter Jones, in collaboration with Carl Sundberg, suggested that exactly the same proof would yield Corollary 1, a stronger result.)

Theorem 1 will follow from Theorem 2, concerning Bloch functions in the unit *disc*. The averages in Theorem 2 are taken over open subsets of the disc, so that the non-existence of boundary values is no longer a problem. This reduction from a subset of the boundary of the unit ball in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  to an open subset of  $\mathbf{C}$  is available only if  $n \geq 2$ ; this is the reason for the hypothesis “ $n \geq 2$ ” in Theorem 1. (The statement of Theorem 1 is still true for  $n = 1$ , but the proof is very much different and will appear elsewhere. Note that the case  $n = 1$  of Corollary 2 is contained in [6].)

Theorem 2, in turn, will follow from Theorem 3, which may be regarded as a quantitative version of results implicit in [5]; Theorem 3 is possibly of some interest in itself.

This paper had its origin in conversations and joint work with Wade Ramey; I wish to thank him.

**1. Statement of results.** Let  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $B$  denote the unit ball of  $\mathbf{C}^n$ ,  $S = \partial B$ ; let  $\sigma$  denote the rotation-invariant probability measure on  $S$ . Let  $\mathfrak{B} = \mathfrak{B}(B)$  be the Bloch space, the space of all *pluriharmonic* functions  $f: B \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  such that the quantity

$$\frac{1 - |z|^2}{n + 1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\delta_{i,j} - z_i \bar{z}_j) \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_i} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{z}_j} + \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial z_i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_j} \right)$$

is bounded in  $B$ . (This is simply the square of the norm on covectors dual to the Bergman metric, applied to the gradient of  $f$ . Various other characterizations of

---

Received March 1, 1985. Final revision received August 13, 1985.  
Michigan Math. J. 33 (1986).

$\mathfrak{B}(\Omega)$  for strictly pseudoconvex  $\Omega$  are given in [2].) Note that “Bloch” usually entails “holomorphic”, but we shall find it convenient to allow pluriharmonic functions to be Bloch. For  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$  let

$$\|f\|_{\mathfrak{B}}^2 = |f(0)|^2 + \sup_{z \in B} \frac{1 - |z|^2}{n+1} \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\delta_{i,j} - z_i \bar{z}_j) \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_i} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \bar{z}_j} + \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial z_i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}_j} \right).$$

Then  $\mathfrak{B}$  is a Banach space.

Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  denote the group of biholomorphic automorphisms of  $B$ ; note that for  $f$  pluriharmonic in  $B$ ,  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$  if and only if  $\{f \circ \psi - f(\psi(0)) : \psi \in \mathfrak{M}\}$  is uniformly bounded on compact subsets of  $B$ .

Define a metric  $d$  on  $S$  by  $d(\zeta, \zeta') = |1 - \langle \zeta, \zeta' \rangle|^{1/2}$  (see [7, p. 65]). For  $\zeta \in S$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , let  $Q_\delta(\zeta) = \{\zeta' \in S : d(\zeta, \zeta') < \delta\}$ . Define  $\text{BMO}(S)$  with respect to these “balls”  $Q_\delta(\zeta)$  (so that this is “ $\text{BMO}_2$ ” in [4]). Let  $P$  denote the Poisson–Szegő integral in  $B$  (as defined on p. 41 of [7], where it is called the “Poisson integral”). Our seminorm on  $\text{BMO}$  is equivalent to a “Garsia norm” in terms of  $P$ :

$$\|g\|_{\text{BMO}} \approx \sup_{z \in B} P[|g - P[g](z)|](z).$$

(Imitate pp. 224–5 of [3], using Lemma 5.4.5 of [4].) It follows from the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -invariance of  $P$  that there exists an absolute constant  $c$  such that for all  $g \in \text{BMO}$  and  $\psi \in \mathfrak{M}$ ,  $\|g \circ \psi\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq c \|g\|_{\text{BMO}}$ . This shows that if  $g \in \text{BMO}(S)$  and  $f = P[g]$  happens to be pluriharmonic then  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$ . This fact in turn explains why Corollary 2 below is a corollary to Corollary 1.

Let  $e_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . We shall prove the following.

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . For any  $\delta > 0$  there exists a bounded linear functional  $A_\delta$  on  $\mathfrak{B}(B)$  such that for any  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$ ,*

$$A_\delta f = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{\sigma(Q_\delta)} \int_{Q_\delta(e_1)} f(r\zeta) d\sigma(\zeta).$$

(In fact, if we let  $g(\lambda) = f(\lambda e_1)$  for  $\lambda = x + iy$  in the unit disc, then

$$A_\delta f = \frac{1}{\alpha(\delta)} \int_{\mathfrak{V}_\delta} g(\lambda) (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{n-2} dx dy,$$

where  $\mathfrak{V}_\delta = \{\lambda : |\lambda| < 1, |1 - \lambda|^{1/2} < \delta\}$  and  $\alpha(\delta) = \int_{\mathfrak{V}_\delta} (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{n-2} dx dy$ .)

That is,  $A_\delta f$  would be the average of the boundary values of  $f$  over  $Q_\delta(e_1)$ , if only  $f$  had boundary values. Note that the formula for  $A_\delta f$  is nonsense if  $n = 1$ . Our main result is the following.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . For  $f \in \mathfrak{B}(B)$  we have  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} f(re_1) = 0$  if and only if  $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} A_\delta f = 0$ .*

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose  $f \in \mathfrak{B}(B)$ ; suppose  $f = P[\mu]$  for some measure  $\mu$  on  $S$ . Then  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} f(re_1) = 0$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\mu(Q_\delta(e_1))}{\sigma(Q_\delta(e_1))} = 0.$$

**COROLLARY 2.** *Suppose  $g \in \text{BMO}(S)$  and  $f = P[g]$  is pluriharmonic. Then  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} f(re_1) = 0$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{\sigma(Q_\delta)} \int_{Q_\delta(e_1)} g \, d\sigma = 0.$$

Note that the hypothesis that  $P[g]$  be pluriharmonic in Corollary 2 is essential; see Theorem 2 of [5].

Let us say a word about why Corollary 1 follows from Theorem 1. Combining Proposition 1 above with Lemma 4.2 in [5] shows that if  $f = P[\mu]$  is pluriharmonic, then

$$A_\delta f = \frac{\mu(Q_\delta(e_1))}{\sigma(Q_\delta(e_1))}.$$

(The hypothesis “ $\mu \geq 0$ ” was not essential in Lemma 4.2 of [5].) We have explained above why Corollary 2 follows from Corollary 1.

Let  $D \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be the unit disc; let  $\alpha(\delta)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\delta$  be as in Proposition 1 above. Theorem 1 will follow directly from Theorem 2.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose  $g \in \mathcal{B}(D)$ . Then  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} g(r) = 0$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{\alpha(\delta)} \int_{\mathcal{V}_\delta} g(\lambda) (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{n-2} \, dx \, dy = 0.$$

Theorem 2 will, in turn, follow from Theorem 3: Let  $\Pi^+ \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be the upper half plane. For  $\delta > 0$ , let  $D_\delta^+ = \{\lambda \in \Pi^+ : |\lambda| < \delta\}$ ; let

$$\beta(\delta) = \int_{D_\delta^+} y^{n-2} \, dx \, dy.$$

Let  $h^\infty(\Pi^+) = \{\text{bounded harmonic functions in } \Pi^+\}$ . For  $g$  integrable on bounded subsets of  $\Pi^+$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , let

$$L_\delta(g) = \frac{1}{\beta(\delta)} \int_{D_\delta^+} g(x + iy) y^{n-2} \, dx \, dy.$$

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . There exists a constant  $c$  such that if  $g \in h^\infty(\Pi^+)$  and for all  $\delta > 0$  we have  $|L_\delta(g)| \leq \gamma$ , then for all  $y > 0$*

$$|g(iy)| \leq c\gamma^{1/(n+2)} \|g\|_\infty^{(n+1)/(n+2)}.$$

In particular, if  $L_\delta(g) = 0$  for all  $\delta > 0$ , then  $g(iy) = 0$  for all  $y > 0$ . This fact is implicit in the proof of Proposition 4.4 of [5]. The results in [5] followed from Wiener’s Tauberian Theorem; the present result will follow from Proposition 2 in Section 4, which may be regarded as a quantitative version of Wiener’s Tauberian Theorem.

**2. Proof that Theorem 2 implies Theorem 1.** First let us prove Proposition 1.

Suppose  $f \in \mathcal{B}(B)$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . For  $\lambda \in D$  (i.e.,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|\lambda| < 1$ ) let  $g(\lambda) = f(\lambda e_1)$ . It is immediate from the definition that  $g \in \mathcal{B}(D)$ . For  $0 < r < 1$ , let  $f_r(z) = f(rz)$ ,  $g_r(\lambda) = g(r\lambda)$ . Since  $f_r$  is continuous on  $\bar{B}$  and pluriharmonic in  $B$ , application

of Lemma 3.2 of [5] to the function  $f_r \chi_{Q_\delta(e_1)}$  shows that

$$\frac{1}{\sigma(Q_\delta)} \int_{Q_\delta(e_1)} f(r\zeta) d\sigma(\zeta) = \frac{1}{\alpha(\delta)} \int_{\mathbb{V}_\delta} g_r(\lambda) (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{n-2} dx dy \quad (\lambda = x + iy).$$

Since  $g \in \mathfrak{B}(D)$ ,  $g$  blows up at most logarithmically at the boundary of  $D$ , so  $g \in L^1(D)$ . Thus  $g_r \rightarrow g$  in  $L^1(D)$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ , so that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{\sigma(Q_\delta)} \int_{Q_\delta(e_1)} f(r\zeta) d\sigma(\zeta) = \frac{1}{\alpha(\delta)} \int_{\mathbb{V}_\delta} g(\lambda) (1 - |\lambda|^2)^{n-2} dx dy,$$

giving Proposition 1. (If one keeps track of the sizes of things here, one sees that  $|A_\delta f| \leq c_\delta \|f\|_{\mathfrak{B}}$ .)

With Proposition 1 proved, it is evident that Theorem 2 implies Theorem 1.

**3. Proof that Theorem 3 implies Theorem 2.**

LEMMA 1. *Suppose  $\phi \in L^1((0, \pi))$  and, for some integer  $m \geq 0$ ,*

$$\int_0^\pi \phi(\theta) (\sin \theta)^m d\theta = 0.$$

Then

$$\left| \int_0^\pi \phi\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + t\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right) (\sin \theta)^m d\theta \right| \leq c \|\phi\|_1 (1 - t)$$

for  $0 < t \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$\chi(\theta) = \begin{cases} (\sin \theta)^m, & \theta \in (0, \pi), \\ 0, & \theta \notin (0, \pi). \end{cases}$$

Then  $\chi$  is Lipschitz and has compact support, so that if

$$\chi_t(\theta) = \frac{1}{t} \chi\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{t}\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right),$$

then  $\|\chi - \chi_t\|_\infty \leq c(1 - t)$  for  $0 < t \leq 1$ . Since  $\int \phi \chi = 0$ , the lemma follows:

$$\int_0^\pi \phi\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + t\left(\theta - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right) (\sin \theta)^m d\theta = \left| \int \phi \chi_t \right| = \left| \int \phi (\chi_t - \chi) \right| \leq c \|\phi\|_1 (1 - t). \quad \square$$

Let  $\mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)$  denote the space of functions  $g$  harmonic in  $\Pi^+$  for which  $|\nabla g(x + iy)| \leq c/y$ ; let

$$\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)} = |g(i)| + \sup\{y|\nabla g(x + iy)| : x + iy \in \Pi^+\}.$$

LEMMA 2. *Suppose  $g \in \mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)$ ,  $\delta > 0$ ; suppose  $n \geq 2$ . There exists  $c$  independent of  $\delta$  such that:*

- (i) *if  $0 < y \leq \delta$ ,  $|x| \leq \delta$ , then  $|g(i\delta) - g(x - iy)| \leq c\|v\|_{\mathfrak{B}}(1 + \log(\delta/y))$ ;*
- (ii)  *$(1/\beta(\delta)) \int_{D_\delta^+} |g(i\delta) - g(x + iy)| y^{n-2} dx dy \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}$ ; and*
- (iii)  *$|g(i\delta) - L_\delta(g)| \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}$ .*

The proof of (i) is an exercise; (i) implies (ii) and (ii) implies (iii).

Now suppose Theorem 3 is known. As a first step towards proving Theorem 2 we prove the following.

**THEOREM 1.9.** *Suppose  $g \in \mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)$ . Then  $g(i\delta) = 0$  for all  $\delta > 0$  if and only if  $L_\delta(g) = 0$  for all  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $g(i\delta) \equiv 0$ . The Schwarz reflection principle implies that  $g(x+iy) + g(-x+iy) \equiv 0$ , so that  $L_\delta(g) \equiv 0$ .

Suppose, on the other hand, that  $L_\delta(g) \equiv 0$ . Lemma 2(iii) implies that  $g$  is bounded on the imaginary axis:  $|g(i\delta)| \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}$  for all  $\delta > 0$ . For  $z \in \Pi^+$  and  $0 < t < 1$  define  $g_t(z) = g(i(z/i)^t)$ . (Here  $z/i$  lies in the right half-plane; the principal branch of  $(z/i)^t$  is intended.) Lemma 2(i) shows that  $g_t \in h^\infty(\Pi^+)$  and that, in fact,  $\|g_t\|_\infty \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}(1 + |\log(1-t)|)$ . Our hypothesis implies that for almost every  $r > 0$  (hence for every  $r > 0$ ) we have  $\int_0^\pi g(re^{i\theta})(\sin \theta)^{n-2} d\theta = 0$ . Hence an integration in polar coordinates shows that for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $|L_\delta(g_t)| \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}(1-t)$ , by Lemma 1. Now Theorem 3 shows that

$$|g_t(iy)| \leq c\|g\|_{\mathfrak{B}}(1-t)^{1/(n+2)}(1 + |\log(1-t)|)^{(n+1)/(n+2)}.$$

Let  $t$  approach 1: we obtain  $g(iy) = 0$ . □

A normal families argument which we omit (see, e.g., [6] for analogous arguments) leads from Theorem 1.9 to the following Theorem 1.99.

**THEOREM 1.99.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose  $g \in \mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)$ . Then  $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} g(i\delta) = 0$  if and only if  $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} L_\delta(g) = 0$ .*

Now the Cayley transform, with a bit of care, transfers Theorem 1.99 from  $\Pi^+$  to  $D$ , where it becomes Theorem 2. (Note that if  $\Phi: \Pi^+ \rightarrow D$  is the Cayley transform, then  $f \circ \Phi \in \mathfrak{B}(\Pi^+)$  if and only if  $f \in \mathfrak{B}(D)$ .)

**4. A version of Wiener’s Tauberian Theorem.** The present section is devoted to the proof of the following proposition, which may be regarded as a quantitative version of Wiener’s Tauberian Theorem (albeit with extra hypotheses).

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Suppose  $K \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  and the Fourier transform  $\hat{K}$  has no zero on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $\hat{K}$  is continuously differentiable; let  $\psi = (\hat{K})^{-1}$  and let*

$$N(R) = |\psi(0)| + R^{1/2} \left( \int_{-R}^R |\psi'|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

*Suppose  $u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\|K * u\|_\infty \leq \delta$ . Then if  $F \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$  is absolutely continuous (i.e.,  $F' \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ ) we have*

$$\|F * u\|_\infty \leq c \inf_{\epsilon > 0} (\epsilon \|F'\|_1 \|u\|_\infty + \delta \|F\|_1 N(1/\epsilon)).$$

Note that this shows  $F * u = 0$  if  $K * u = 0$ , which is Wiener’s theorem. The content of Proposition 2 is that  $F * u$  is “small” if  $K * u$  is “small”. We begin with a few lemmas.

**LEMMA 3.** *Suppose  $\psi \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ . Let*

$$N(R) = |\psi(0)| + R^{1/2} \left( \int_{-R}^R |\psi'|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Given  $R > 0$ , there exists  $\phi \in C_c^1(R)$  such that

$$\phi|_{[-R,R]} = \psi|_{[-R,R]} \quad \text{and} \quad \|\phi\|_1^{1/3} \|\phi'\|_2^{2/3} \leq cN(R).$$

*Proof.* By a dilation, we may assume  $R = 1$ . Note that

$$\int_{-1}^1 |\psi(x)| dx \leq 2|\psi(0)| + \int_{-1}^1 (1 - |x|) |\psi'(x)| dx \leq cN(1),$$

so that

$$\left( \int_{-1}^1 |\psi| \right)^{1/3} \left( \int_{-1}^1 |\psi'|^2 \right)^{1/3} \leq cN(1).$$

Similarly  $|\psi(\pm 1)| \leq cN(1)$ ; thus  $\psi|_{[-1,1]}$  may be extended to a  $\phi$  having support in  $[-2, 2]$ , having the required properties.  $\square$

LEMMA 4. For  $\phi \in C_c^1(R)$ ,  $\|\hat{\phi}\|_1 \leq c\|\phi\|_1^{1/3} \|\phi'\|_2^{2/3}$ .

*Proof.* Splitting the integral into two pieces  $\int_{|x| \leq R}$  and  $\int_{|x| > R}$ , standard estimates show that

$$\|\hat{\phi}\|_1 \leq c(R\|\phi\|_1 + R^{-1/2}\|\phi'\|_2)$$

for any  $R > 0$ . Let  $R = \|\phi\|_1^{-2/3} \|\phi'\|_2^{2/3}$ .  $\square$

Lemmas 3 and 4 immediately imply the following.

LEMMA 5. Suppose  $\psi \in C^1(R)$ ; let

$$N(R) = |\psi(0)| + R^{1/2} \left( \int_{-R}^R |\psi'|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Given  $R > 0$ , there exists  $g \in L^1(R)$  such that

$$\hat{g}|_{[-R,R]} = \psi|_{[-R,R]} \quad \text{and} \quad \|g\|_1 \leq cN(R).$$

For  $\phi \in L^1(R)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  define  $\phi_\epsilon(x) = (1/\epsilon)\phi(x/\epsilon)$ .

LEMMA 6. Suppose  $K \in L^1(R)$ ,  $\hat{K}$  has no zero on  $R$ ,  $\hat{K} \in C^1(R)$ . Define  $N(R)$  as in Proposition 2 above. Suppose  $\phi \in L^1(R)$  and the support of  $\hat{\phi}$  is contained in  $[-1, 1]$ . Then for any  $F \in L^1(R)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $g \in L^1(R)$  such that

$$F * \phi_\epsilon = g * K \quad \text{and} \quad \|g\|_1 \leq c\|F\|_1 \|\phi\|_1 N(1/\epsilon).$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 5 we may find  $h \in L^1(R)$  such that  $\hat{h}|_{[-1/\epsilon, 1/\epsilon]} = \psi|_{[-1/\epsilon, 1/\epsilon]}$  and  $\|h\|_1 \leq cN(1/\epsilon)$ . (Here  $\psi = (\hat{K})^{-1}$ , as above.) Let  $g = F * \phi_\epsilon * h$ . Then  $\|g\|_1 \leq \|F\|_1 \|\phi_\epsilon\|_1 \|h\|_1 \leq c\|F\|_1 \|\phi\|_1 N(1/\epsilon)$ . Note that  $\hat{\phi}_\epsilon$  is supported on  $[-1/\epsilon, 1/\epsilon]$ , on which interval  $\hat{h} = (\hat{K})^{-1}$ . Thus  $\hat{g}\hat{K} = \hat{F}\hat{\phi}_\epsilon\hat{h}\hat{K} = \hat{F}\hat{\phi}_\epsilon$ , so that  $g * K = F * \phi_\epsilon$ .  $\square$

LEMMA 7. Suppose  $F \in L^1(R)$  is absolutely continuous; suppose  $\phi \in L^1(R)$ ,  $\int \phi = 1$ , and  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x| |\phi(x)| dx < \infty$ . Then for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\|F - F * \phi_\epsilon\|_1 \leq \epsilon \|F'\|_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x| |\phi(x)| dx.$$

*Proof.* By Fubini's theorem,

$$\int |F(x) - F(x - y)| dx \leq |y| \|F'\|_1.$$

Since  $\int \phi = 1$ , we see that

$$F(x) - F * \phi_\epsilon(x) = \int (F(x) - F(x - y)) \phi_\epsilon(y) dy,$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \|F - F * \phi_\epsilon\|_1 &\leq \iint |F(x) - F(x - y)| |\phi_\epsilon(y)| dx dy \\ &\leq \|F'\|_1 \int |y| |\phi_\epsilon(y)| dy \\ &= \epsilon \|F'\|_1 \int |y| |\phi(y)| dy. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

*Proof of Proposition 2.* Suppose  $K, F$ , and  $u$  are as in the statement of Proposition 2. Pick  $\phi \in L^1(\mathbf{R})$  such that  $\hat{\phi}$  is supported in  $[-1, 1]$ ,  $\int \phi = 1$ , and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x| |\phi(x)| dx < \infty.$$

Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . By Lemma 6 there exists  $g \in L^1(\mathbf{R})$  with  $\|g\|_1 \leq cN(1/\epsilon) \|F\|_1$  and  $g * K = F * \phi_\epsilon$ . Now Lemma 7 implies  $\|F - g * K\|_1 = \|F - F * \phi_\epsilon\|_1 \leq c\epsilon \|F'\|_1$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|F * u\|_\infty &\leq \|(F - g * K) * u\|_\infty + \|g * (K * u)\|_\infty \\ &\leq \|F - g * K\|_1 \|u\|_\infty + \|g\|_1 \|K * u\|_\infty \\ &\leq c(\epsilon \|F'\|_1 \|u\|_\infty + \delta \|F\|_1 N(1/\epsilon)). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**5. Proof of Theorem 3.** Our application of Proposition 2 requires a bit of preliminary set-up.

DEFINITION. For  $m = 0, 1, \dots$  and  $\xi \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $I_m(\xi) = \int_0^\pi (\sin \theta)^m e^{-\xi\theta} d\theta$ .

LEMMA 8. For  $m = 0, 1, \dots$  there exists  $c_m > 0$  such that

$$I_m(\xi) \geq c_m \frac{1 + e^{-\pi\xi}}{(1 + |\xi|)^{m+1}}$$

for all  $\xi \in \mathbf{R}$ .

*Proof.* By induction on  $m$ . First

$$I_0(\xi) = \frac{1 - e^{-\pi\xi}}{\xi} \quad (\xi \neq 0);$$

integration by parts a few times shows that

$$I_1(\xi) = \frac{1 + e^{-\pi\xi}}{1 + \xi^2} \quad \text{and} \quad I_{m+2}(\xi) = \frac{(m+1)(m+2)I_m(\xi)}{(m+2)^2 + \xi^2}. \quad \square$$

PROPOSITION 3. Let  $n \geq 2$ . There exist  $K, F \in L^1(\mathbf{R})$  such that if  $g \in h^\infty(\Pi^+)$  and  $u(t) = g(e^t) + g(-e^t)$ , then

- (i)  $g(iy) = u * F(\log y)$  ( $y > 0$ ) and
- (ii)  $L_\delta(g) = u * K(\log \delta)$  ( $\delta > 0$ ).

Further:  $F$  is absolutely continuous,  $\hat{K}$  has no zero on  $R$ ,  $\hat{K} \in C^1(R)$ , and if  $N(R)$  is as in Proposition 2 then  $N(R) \leq c(1+R)^{n+1}$  ( $R > 0$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $s = \log y$ . The Poisson formula for  $\Pi^+$  shows that

$$\begin{aligned} g(iy) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty (g(t) + g(-t)) \frac{y}{t^2 + y^2} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty u(x) \frac{1}{e^{x-s} + e^{s-x}} dx \\ &= u * F(s) \end{aligned}$$

if  $F(x) = [\pi(e^x + e^{-x})]^{-1}$ . This gives (i) and shows that  $F$  is absolutely continuous.

Similarly the Poisson formula shows that (ii) holds for *some*  $K \in L^1(R)$ . As in [5], we may use (ii) to calculate  $\hat{K}(\xi)$  as follows.

Fix  $\xi \in \mathbf{R}$  and let  $g(z) = [1 + e^{-\xi\pi}]^{-1} e^{i\xi \log z}$  (here “log” denotes the principal branch). Then  $g \in h^\infty(\Pi^+)$  (in fact,  $g \in H^\infty(\Pi^+)$ ) and  $u(t) = g(e^t) + g(-e^t) = e^{i\xi t}$ . Thus (ii) and an integration in polar coordinates show that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{K}(\xi) &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty K(t) e^{-i\xi t} dt \\ &= K * u(0) = K * u(\log 1) = L_1(g) \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha(1)} \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\xi\pi}} \frac{1}{n + i\xi} I_{n-2}(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

This shows  $\hat{K}$  has no (real) zeros and  $\hat{K} \in C^1(R)$ . Lemma 8 shows that  $|\hat{K}(\xi)| \geq c/(1 + |\xi|)^n$ . A bit of calculus shows that

$$\left| \frac{d}{d\xi} \hat{K}(\xi) \right| \leq c |\hat{K}(\xi)|,$$

so that if  $\psi = (\hat{K})^{-1}$  then

$$|\psi'(\xi)| = \left| \frac{(\hat{K})'(\xi)}{(\hat{K}(\xi))^2} \right| \leq \frac{c}{|\hat{K}(\xi)|} \leq c(1 + |\xi|)^n.$$

This shows that  $N(R) \leq c(1+R)^{n+1}$ . □

We can now prove Theorem 3. Suppose  $g \in h^\infty(\Pi^+)$  and  $|L_\delta(g)| \leq \gamma$  for all  $\delta > 0$ . Pick  $K, F$  and define  $u$  as in Proposition 3. The fact that  $|L_\delta(\lambda)| \leq \gamma$  for all  $\delta$  means  $\|u * K\|_\infty \leq \gamma$ . So Propositions 2 and 3 show that for any  $y > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |g(iy)| &\leq \|u * F\|_\infty \\ &\leq c \inf_{\epsilon > 0} (\epsilon \|u\|_\infty + \gamma N(1/\epsilon)) \\ &\leq c \inf_{\epsilon > 0} (\epsilon \|g\|_\infty + \gamma(1 + 1/\epsilon)^{n+1}) \\ &\leq c\gamma^{1/(n+2)} \|g\|_\infty^{(n+1)/(n+2)}. \end{aligned}$$



(Let  $\epsilon = (\gamma/\|g\|)^{1/(n+2)}$ .) □

*Added in Proof:* Lemma 1 above is not true in the case  $m = 0$ . (In this case the function  $\chi$  appearing in the proof of Lemma 1 is not even continuous, much less Lipschitz.) One may revise this lemma by adding the hypothesis that  $\phi$  blows up at most logarithmically at 0 and  $\pi$ ; one then sees that

$$\left| \int_0^\pi \phi \left( \frac{\pi}{2} + t \left( \theta - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right) (\sin \theta)^m d\theta \right| \leq c \|\phi\|_1 (1-t) (1 + |\log(1-t)|).$$

This is sufficient for the application in the proof of Theorem 1.9.

### REFERENCES

1. J. M. Anderson, J. Clunie, and Ch. Pommerenke, *On Bloch functions and normal functions*, J. Reine Angew. Math. 270 (1974), 12–37.
2. J. A. Cima and I. Graham, *Removable singularities for Bloch and BMO functions*, Illinois J. Math. 27 (1983), 691–703.
3. J. B. Garnett, *Bounded analytic functions*, Academic Press, New York, 1981.
4. S. Krantz, *Holomorphic function of bounded mean oscillation and mapping properties of the Szegő projection*, Duke Math. J. 49 (1980), 743–761.
5. W. Ramey and D. Ullrich, *The pointwise Fatou theorem and its converse for positive pluriharmonic functions*, Duke Math. J. 49 (1982), 655–675.
6. ———, *On the behavior of harmonic functions near a boundary point*, to appear.
7. W. Rudin, *Function theory in the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$* , Springer, New York, 1980.

Department of Mathematics  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078

