

# Sampling Sequences for $A^{-\infty}$

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## I. Introduction

For every  $n > 0$ , we define  $A^{-n}$  to be the Banach space of all functions  $f$  analytic in the unit disc  $U$  such that

$$\|f\|_{A^{-n}} \equiv \sup_{z \in U} |f(z)|(1 - |z|^2)^n < \infty.$$

If  $f \in A^{-n}$  and if  $\Gamma \subset U$  is any subset then we can define

$$\|f|_{\Gamma}\|_{A^{-n}} = \sup_{z \in \Gamma} |f(z)|(1 - |z|^2)^n.$$

Thus we always have

$$\|f|_{\Gamma}\|_{A^{-n}} \leq \|f\|_{A^{-n}}.$$

$\Gamma$  is called an  $A^{-n}$  *sampling set* if there exists a constant  $L$  such that, for every  $f \in A^{-n}$ ,

$$\|f\|_{A^{-n}} \leq L\|f|_{\Gamma}\|_{A^{-n}}.$$

The smallest such  $L$ , designated  $L(\Gamma, n)$  is called the *sampling constant* of  $\Gamma$ . In an important paper, Seip [4] gave a complete characterization of  $A^{-n}$  sampling sets in terms of a certain density that he defined.

The space  $A^{-\infty}$  is defined by

$$A^{-\infty} = \bigcup_{n>0} A^{-n};$$

that is, it is the algebra of functions analytic in  $U$  satisfying

$$|f(z)| \leq \frac{M}{(1 - |z|)^n} \quad \text{for some constants } M \text{ and } n.$$

Equipped with the inductive limit topology,  $A^{-\infty}$  becomes a topological algebra. The zero sets and closed ideals of  $A^{-\infty}$  were completely characterized in [2] and [3].

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Received September 25, 1996. Revision received November 26, 1996.

This research was partially supported by the Minerva Foundation in Germany through the Emmy Noether Institute.

Michigan Math. J. 44 (1997).

For  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ , we define the type of  $f$  by

$$T(f) = \inf\{n : f \in A^{-n}\} = \overline{\lim}_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \frac{\log|f(z)|}{|\log(1 - |z|)|}. \quad (1.1)$$

For every subset  $E \subset U$  such that  $\sup_{z \in E} |z| = 1$  and for every  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ , we can define

$$\begin{aligned} T_E(f) &= \inf\{n : \sup_{z \in E} |f(z)|(1 - |z|^2)^n < \infty\} \\ &= \overline{\lim}_{\substack{|z| \rightarrow 1 \\ z \in E}} \frac{\log|f(z)|}{|\log(1 - |z|)|}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

Thus we always have  $T_E(f) \leq T(f)$ .

(1.3) DEFINITION.  $E \subset U$  is called an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling set if, for all  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ ,  $T_E(f) = T(f)$ . If  $E$  is also a discrete sequence in  $U$  then it is called an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence.

At first glance one might conjecture that  $E$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence if and only if it is a sampling sequence for all  $A^{-n}$ . In fact, one of our main results is the following.

(1.4) THEOREM. *Let  $E$  be a sampling sequence for all  $A^{-n}$ . Then  $E$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence. However, there exists an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence that is not a sampling set for any space  $A^{-n}$ .*

The structure of the paper is as follows. In Section 2 we prove Theorem 1.4. Section 3 deals with the characterization of certain circularly symmetric sampling sequences. In Section 4 we prove a general necessary condition for sampling sequences and show that it is sufficient (in a certain sense) for symmetric sequences of the type discussed in Section 3.

## II. Comparison with $A^{-\infty}$ Sampling Sequences

As stated previously, the purpose of this section is to prove Theorem (1.4). We first treat its positive assertion—namely, that any sequence which is sampling for all  $A^{-n}$  is also sampling for  $A^{-\infty}$ . We wish to thank the referee of this paper who suggested the very short proof which follows, replacing a much longer argument constructed by the authors.

(2.1) LEMMA. *Let  $n > 0$  be given, and let  $\Gamma$  be a sampling sequence for  $A^{-n}$ . If  $f \in A^{-\infty}$  and  $T(f) = n$ , then  $T_\Gamma(f) = n$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $T_\Gamma(f) \leq T(f) = n$  for any  $\Gamma$ , we need only prove that  $T_\Gamma(f) \geq n$ . To that end, it suffices to show that for all  $m < n$ ,

$$\sup_{z \in \Gamma} |f(z)|(1 - |z|^2)^m < \infty \implies \sup_{z \in U} |f(z)|(1 - |z|^2)^m < \infty. \quad (2.2)$$

To prove (2.2) we make use of a formula of Seip [4, eq. (30)], which for our purposes can be stated as follows.

Let  $\Gamma = \{z_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  be an  $A^{-n}$  sampling sequence. Then, for  $\varepsilon > 0$  sufficiently small, there exist functions  $h_k(\zeta)$  satisfying  $\sum_k |h_k(\zeta)| \leq C$  where  $C$  is independent of  $\zeta$ , such that for every  $f \in A^{-\infty}$  with  $T(f) = n$ , for every  $s > 0$ , and for all  $\zeta \in U$ ,

$$(1 - |\zeta|^2)^{n+\varepsilon} f(\zeta) = \sum_k (1 - |z_k|^2)^{n+\varepsilon} f(z_k) \left( \frac{1 - |\zeta|^2}{1 - \bar{\zeta} z_k} \right)^s h_k(\zeta). \tag{2.3}$$

Now, for  $m < n$  we set  $s = n - m + \varepsilon$  and rewrite (2.3) in the form

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |\zeta|^2)^{n+\varepsilon} f(\zeta) &= \sum_k (1 - |z_k|^2)^m f(z_k) \frac{(1 - |z_k|^2)^{n-m+\varepsilon}}{(1 - \bar{\zeta} z_k)^{n-m+\varepsilon}} (1 - |\zeta|^2)^{n-m+\varepsilon} h_k(\zeta). \end{aligned}$$

We conclude from this that if  $\sup_{z_k \in \Gamma} |f(z_k)| (1 - |z_k|^2)^m < \infty$  then, for all  $\zeta \in U$ ,

$$(1 - |\zeta|^2)^m |f(\zeta)| \leq M \sum_k |h_k(\zeta)|,$$

and thus  $\sup_{\zeta \in U} (1 - |\zeta|^2)^m |f(\zeta)| < \infty$ . This proves (2.2) and hence Lemma (2.1). □

An immediate corollary of the lemma is the first part of Theorem 1.4.

We turn to the negative converse assertion of Theorem (1.4). Specifically, we shall construct a sampling set for  $A^{-\infty}$  (as in Definition (1.3)) that is not a set of sampling for any  $A^{-n}$ . This example can easily be modified to a parallel result concerning sampling sequences; the procedure for passing from arbitrary sampling sets to sampling sequences will be described in detail in Section 3.

(2.4) PROPOSITION. *Let  $E = \bigcup_n \{z : |z| = r_n\}$  where  $0 < r_1 < r_2 \dots$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\log(1 - r_{n+1})| / |\log(1 - r_n)| = 1$ . Then  $E$  is a sampling set for  $A^{-\infty}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ , and let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Then we can find  $n_0$  such that, for all  $n > n_0$ ,

$$\frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} < 1 + \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{|\xi|=r_n} \frac{\log |f(\xi)|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} < T_E(f) + \varepsilon.$$

Now, if  $n > n_0$  and if  $r_n \leq |z| \leq r_{n+1}$  then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\log |f(z)|}{|\log(1 - |z|)|} &\leq \sup_{|\xi|=r_{n+1}} \frac{\log |f(\xi)|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} = \sup_{|\xi|=r_{n+1}} \frac{\log |f(\xi)|}{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|} \frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} \\ &\leq (1 + \varepsilon)[T_E(f) + \varepsilon]. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary, we can conclude that  $T(f) \leq T_E(f)$  for every  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ ; therefore,  $E$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling set. □

(2.5) EXAMPLE. *Let  $E = \bigcup_n \{z : |z| = r_n\}$  where*

$$r_n = 1 - \exp(-e^{\sqrt{n}}).$$

*Then  $E$  is a sampling set for  $A^{-\infty}$ , but not for any space  $A^{-n}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows immediately from Proposition (2.4) that  $E$  is a sampling set for  $A^{-\infty}$ . On the other hand, if  $E$  is a sampling set for some  $A^{-n}$  then Seip’s characterization in [4] shows that  $E$  must have a uniformly discrete subsequence of positive lower density (as defined there). However, if  $F \subset E$  is uniformly discrete then it is easy to see that, for each  $n$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{z \in F \\ |z|=r_n}} \log \frac{1}{|z|} = O(1).$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{\substack{z \in F \\ |z| \leq r_n}} \frac{\log \frac{1}{|z|}}{\log \frac{1}{1-r_n}} = \frac{O(n)}{e^{\sqrt{n}}} \rightarrow 0.$$

This implies that the set  $F$  has lower density zero, so it cannot be a sampling set for any  $A^{-n}$ . □

### III. Symmetric Sampling Sets and Sequences

We begin this section with a converse to Proposition (2.4). The proof will depend on the following theorem, which is an immediate consequence of [1, Thm. 2].

(3.1) THEOREM. *For  $r \in [0, 1]$ , let  $k(r)$  be an unbounded increasing function such that  $\sup_{0 \leq r < 1} k(r) - k(r^2) < \infty$ . Then there exists a function  $f(z)$  analytic in  $U$  such that, for  $0 < r < 1$ ,*

$$\max_{|z|=r} \log |f(z)| = k(r) + O(1). \tag{3.2}$$

*Proof.* In [1, Thm. 2] it was shown that, under our hypotheses, there exists  $f$  analytic in  $U$  satisfying

$$\log |f(z)| \leq k(|z|) + O(1)$$

and whose zeros  $\{z_k\}$  satisfy

$$\sum_{|z_k| < r} \log \frac{r}{|z_k|} = k(r) + O(1), \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

Thus, (3.2) follows directly from Jensen’s formula. □

We note that in [1] there was a standing assumption that  $k$  should be a convex function of  $\log r$ ; however, this was not used in the proof of the result cited here.

(3.3) PROPOSITION. *If  $0 < r_1 < r_2 < \dots \rightarrow 1$  and if*

$$\overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{\log(1 - r_{n+1})}{\log(1 - r_n)} \right| > 1$$

*then  $E = \bigcup_n \{z : |z| = r_n\}$  is not a sampling set for  $A^{-\infty}$ .*

*Proof.* Under our hypothesis we can define an increasing function  $k(r)$ ,  $0 < r < 1$ , such that

$$k(r_n) = \log \frac{1}{1 - r_n} \tag{3.4}$$

for each  $n$  and

$$1 < \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow 1} \frac{k(r)}{|\log(1 - r)|} \leq 2; \tag{3.5}$$

for example, for  $r_n < r < r_{n+1}$ , let

$$k(r) = \min(|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|, 2|\log(1 - r)| - |\log(1 - r_n)|).$$

In particular,  $k(r^2) - k(r)$  is bounded and so by Theorem (3.1) there exists a function  $f$  analytic in  $U$  such that, for  $0 < r < 1$ ,

$$\sup_{|z|=r} \log |f(z)| = k(r) + O(1).$$

By (3.4)  $T_E(f) = 1$  while by (3.5)  $T(f) > 1$ . Thus  $E$  is not an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling set. □

The following lemma will help us to pass from arbitrary sampling sets to sampling sequences.

(3.6) LEMMA. *Let  $f \in A^{-\infty}$  and let  $\{z_k\}$  be a discrete sequence in  $U$  such that  $|z_k| \rightarrow 1$  and*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |f(z_k)|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|} = T(f).$$

*(Clearly such sequences must exist.) Then if  $q > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and  $\{w_k\}$  is another sequence in  $U$  satisfying*

$$|z_k - w_k| < q(1 - |z_k|)^{1+\varepsilon}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

*we have also*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |f(w_k)|}{|\log(1 - |w_k|)|} = T(f).$$

*Proof.* Define  $N = T(f)$ . Thus, if  $N < N_1 < N + \varepsilon/2$  then  $f \in A^{-N_1}$  and, by [4, Lemma 2.1] for all  $k$  we have

$$|f(z_k)|(1 - |z_k|^2)^{N_1} - |f(w_k)|(1 - |w_k|^2)^{N_1} \leq M \|f\|_{A^{-N_1}} \left| \frac{z_k - w_k}{1 - \bar{z}_k w_k} \right|, \tag{3.7}$$

where  $M$  is a constant depending only on  $N$ . For each  $k$  and  $m$  define

$$p_{k,m} = |f(z_k)|(1 - |z_k|^2)^m \quad \text{and} \quad q_{k,m} = |f(w_k)|(1 - |w_k|^2)^m.$$

Then, for all  $k$ ,

$$p_{k,N} - q_{k,N} = (p_{k,N_1} - q_{k,N_1})(1 - |z_k|^2)^{N-N_1} + q_{k,N_1}[(1 - |z_k|^2)^{N-N_1} - (1 - |w_k|^2)^{N-N_1}]. \tag{3.8}$$

By our hypothesis, it follows that for all  $k$  we have

$$1 - |w_k| = 1 - |z_k| + O(1 - |z_k|)^{1+\varepsilon}.$$

Thus

$$c_1(1 - |z_k|) \leq 1 - |w_k| \leq c_2(1 - |z_k|)$$

and so, by the mean value theorem, for each real  $\alpha \neq 0$  there exists a constant  $c_\alpha$  such that

$$|(1 - |w_k|^2)^\alpha - (1 - |z_k|^2)^\alpha| \leq c_\alpha(1 - |z_k|)^{\alpha+\varepsilon}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Returning to (3.8), since  $f \in A^{-N_1}$ , the numbers  $q_{k,N_1}$  are bounded and

$$|(1 - |z_k|^2)^{N-N_1} - (1 - |w_k|^2)^{N-N_1}| \leq c(1 - |z_k|)^{N-N_1+\varepsilon} \tag{3.9}$$

Since  $|1 - \bar{z}_k w_k| \geq 1 - |z_k|^2 - |\bar{z}_k(w_k - z_k)| \geq c(1 - |z_k|^2)$ , we can conclude from (3.7), (3.8), and (3.9) that, for all  $k$ ,

$$|p_{k,N} - q_{k,N}| \leq c(1 - |z_k|^2)^{\varepsilon/2}. \tag{3.10}$$

Now our hypothesis in this lemma is just that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log p_{k,N}|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|} = 0.$$

Thus, if  $0 < \delta < \varepsilon/2$  then we have

$$\frac{\log \frac{1}{p_{k,N}}}{\log \frac{1}{1-|z_k|}} < \delta$$

for all large  $k$ , which means that  $p_{k,N} > (1 - |z_k|)^\delta$ . By (3.10) we obtain  $q_{k,N} > c(1 - |z_k|)^\delta$ , and it follows easily that

$$\overline{\lim}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log q_{k,N}|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|} < \delta.$$

Since  $\delta > 0$  is arbitrary, we have in fact

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log q_{k,N}|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|} = 0,$$

which proves the lemma. □

(3.11) PROPOSITION. *Let  $\{z_k\}$  be an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence, and let  $\{w_k\}$  be a neighboring sequence as in Lemma (3.6). Then  $\{w_k\}$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence.*

*Proof.* By hypothesis, if  $f \in A^{-\infty}$  then there is a subsequence  $\{z_{k_n}\}$  such that  $\log|f(z_{k_n})|/|\log(1 - |z_{k_n}|)| \rightarrow T(f)$ . By the lemma, the same holds for the subsequence  $\{w_{k_n}\}$ . □

CONJECTURE. *Proposition (3.11) is actually true under the weaker hypothesis that*

$$|z_k - w_k| = o\left(\frac{1 - |z_k|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|}\right). \tag{3.12}$$

We note that the analog of Lemma (3.6) is *not* true under the hypothesis (3.12). Indeed consider the function

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{1-z} \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_k - z}{1 - w_k z}$$

where, for all  $k$ ,  $w_k = 1 - 1/2^k$  and  $z_k$  are real numbers satisfying

$$|z_k - w_k| = \frac{1 - w_k}{\log_2^2(1 - w_k)} = \frac{1}{k^2 2^k}.$$

Then  $\{z_k\}$  “samples”  $f$  whereas  $\{w_k\}$  clearly does not.

(3.13) DEFINITION. Let  $0 < r_n \nearrow 1$ , let  $\sup[(1 - r_{n+1})/(1 - r_n)] < 1$ , and let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . A *symmetric sequence* based on  $\{r_n\}$  with exponent  $\varepsilon$  is a sequence consisting precisely of  $[(1 - r_n)^{-1-\varepsilon}]$  points symmetrically placed on the circle  $|z| = r_n$ .

(3.14) PROPOSITION. A *symmetric sequence based on  $\{r_n\}$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence if and only if*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} = 1.$$

*Proof.* If the sequence is sampling then clearly  $E = \bigcup_n \{|z| = r_n\}$  is sampling, which by Proposition (3.3) implies our condition. Conversely, if the condition holds then Proposition (2.4) shows that  $E$  is a sampling set. This means that, for every  $f \in A^{-\infty}$ , there is a sequence  $\{z_k\}$  contained in  $E$  such that  $|z_k| \rightarrow 1$  and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |f(z_k)|}{|\log(1 - |z_k|)|} = T(f).$$

Our given sequence (call it  $\{w_l\}$ ) is symmetric, so we can pair each  $z_k$  with an appropriate  $w_{l_k}$  such that  $|z_k - w_{l_k}| < q(1 - |z_k|)^{1+\varepsilon}$  for all  $k$ . Thus, by Lemma (3.6),

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |f(w_{l_k})|}{|\log(1 - |w_{l_k}|)|} = T(f).$$

It follows that  $\{w_l\}$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence. □

### IV. A General Necessary Condition

In this section we develop a general necessary condition for  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sets and prove that it is sufficient—in a certain sense—in the case of symmetric sets.

(4.1) DEFINITION.  $\xi = e^{i\alpha} \in \partial U$  is a *point of fast decline* for a function  $f \in H^\infty$  if  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} (1 - r)^{-n} |f(re^{i\alpha})| = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ .

(4.2) THEOREM. *If  $\Gamma$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence, then for all  $\xi \in \partial U$ , for all  $\beta > 1$ , and for all  $q < 1/4$ , either  $\Gamma \cap G_{\xi, \beta, q}$  is not a Blaschke sequence or  $\xi$  is a*

point of fast decline for the Blaschke product  $B_{\xi, \beta, q}$  vanishing on the subsequence  $\Gamma \cap G_{\xi, \beta, q}$ , where

$$G_{\xi, \beta, q} = \{z \in U : |z| < 1 - q|\text{Arg}(z/\xi)|^\beta\}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose that some  $\xi_0 \in \partial U$  is not a point of fast decline for  $B = B_{\xi_0, \beta, q}$ . Then there is a sequence  $r_n \nearrow 1$  and a number  $m > 0$  such that

$$|B(r_n \xi_0)| > (1 - r_n)^m \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots). \tag{4.3}$$

Now define

$$F_N(z) = B(z)(\xi_0 - z)^{-N}, \quad N \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Since  $F_N|_{\Gamma \cap G_{\xi, \beta, q}} = 0$ ,

$$T_\Gamma(F_N) \leq N/\beta.$$

However, (4.3) implies that

$$T(F_N) \geq N - m.$$

For  $N$  sufficiently large this implies

$$T(F_N) > T_\Gamma(F_N),$$

and so  $\Gamma$  is not an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling sequence. □

(4.4) DEFINITION. We call the condition in Theorem (4.2) “condition C”.

(4.5) THEOREM. Let  $0 < r_n \nearrow 1$  in such a way that

$$\sup_n \frac{1 - r_{n+1}}{1 - r_n} < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} \geq 1 + 2\varepsilon$$

for some  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ . If  $\beta > 1$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , and  $1 - 1/\beta + \delta < \varepsilon/3$ , then a symmetric sequence  $S$  of exponent  $\delta$  based on  $\{r_n\}$  (see Definition (4.11)) violates condition C with exponent  $\beta$ .

*Proof.* We shall show that condition C fails on the real positive radius. Let  $G = G_{1, \beta, \frac{1}{5}}$ , and let  $B$  be the Blaschke product vanishing at the points  $\{z_k\} = S \cap G$ . It will suffice to show that there exists a constant  $\gamma > 0$  such that, for every  $n$  satisfying

$$\frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} > 1 + \varepsilon$$

(i.e., for a full subsequence of  $\{r_n\}$ ), we can find a point  $r'_n$  such that

$$r_n < r'_n < r_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad |B(r'_n)| > \gamma.$$

Now, since

$$B(z) = \prod_{z_k \in G} \frac{|z_k|}{z_k} \frac{z_k - z}{1 - \bar{z}_k z},$$

if  $z > 0$  is a bit distant from all of the  $\{r_n\}$ , say



$$\inf_n \left| \frac{r_n - z}{1 - r_n z} \right|^2 \geq d > 0,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \log \frac{1}{|B(z)|} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{z_k \in G} \log \left| \frac{z_k - z}{1 - \bar{z}_k z} \right|^{-2} \leq \frac{1}{2d} \sum_{z_k \in G} 1 - \left| \frac{z_k - z}{1 - \bar{z}_k z} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2d} \sum_n \cdot \sum_{\substack{z_k \in G \\ |z_k|=r_n}} \frac{(1 - z^2)(1 - r_n^2)}{|1 - \bar{z}_k z|^2}. \end{aligned}$$

For a given  $n$ , we have approximately  $(1 - r_n)^{-1-\delta}$  points  $\{z_k\}$  on  $\{|z| = r_n\}$ , so that the fraction  $c(1 - r_n)^{1/\beta}$  of them belong to  $G$ . Hence we can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \log \frac{1}{|B(z)|} &\leq c \sum_n \frac{(1 - z^2)(1 - r_n)^{1/\beta-\delta}}{(1 - zr_n)^2} \\ &\leq c \sum_{r_n \leq z} \frac{(1 - z)(1 - r_n)^{1/\beta-\delta}}{(1 - r_n)^2} + c \sum_{r_n > z} \frac{(1 - r_n)^{1/\beta-\delta}}{(1 - z)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since, by assumption, the numbers  $(1 - r_n)$  decrease geometrically (at least) with  $n$ , we can estimate each of the foregoing sums by its largest term. Thus, if we choose  $N$  such that  $r_N < z < r_{N+1}$ , then

$$\log \frac{1}{|B(z)|} \leq c \left[ \frac{(1 - z)}{(1 - r_N)^{2-1/\beta+\delta}} + \frac{(1 - r_{N+1})^{1/\beta-\delta}}{1 - z} \right].$$

Now, if  $(1 - r_{N+1}) < (1 - r_N)^{1+\varepsilon}$  then we can choose  $z$ ,  $r_N < z < r_{N+1}$ , such that  $(1 - r_{N+1})^{1-\varepsilon/3} \leq (1 - z) \leq (1 - r_N)^{1+\varepsilon/3}$  and so obtain

$$\log \frac{1}{|B(z)|} \leq c \left[ (1 - r_N)^{\varepsilon/3-(1-1/\beta+\delta)} + (1 - r_{N+1})^{\varepsilon/3-(1-1/\beta+\delta)} \right].$$

By hypothesis,  $1 - 1/\beta + \delta < \varepsilon/3$ , so the last expression actually tends to zero as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , proving our theorem. □

The following theorem summarizes several of our results.

(4.6) THEOREM. Assume that

$$0 < r_n \nearrow 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_n \frac{1 - r_{n+1}}{1 - r_n} < 1.$$

Then the following are equivalent.

- (a) Every symmetric sequence based on  $\{r_n\}$  is an  $A^{-\infty}$  sampling set.
- (b) Every symmetric sequence based on  $\{r_n\}$  satisfies condition C.
- (c)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\log(1 - r_{n+1})|}{|\log(1 - r_n)|} = 1$ .

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