# BOUNDEDNESS OF VOLTERRA OPERATORS ON SPACES OF ENTIRE FUNCTIONS

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**Abstract.** In this paper we find some necessary and sufficient conditions on an entire function g for the Volterra operator  $V_g(f)(z) = \int_0^z f(\xi)g'(\xi) d\xi$  to be bounded between different weighted spaces of entire functions  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  or Fock-type spaces  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ .

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\Omega$  be the unit disc **D** or the complex plane **C** and, as usual, denote by  $\mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ the space of holomorphic functions in  $\Omega$ . Given  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  the Volterra operator with symbol g, to be denoted by  $V_g$ , is defined by

$$V_g(f)(z) = \int_0^z f(\xi)g'(\xi) \, d\xi, \quad z \in \Omega, \ f \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega).$$

In the case  $\Omega = \mathbf{D}$ , this operator was first introduced by Pommerenke [20]. He showed that it is bounded on the Hardy space  $H^2(\mathbf{D})$  if and only if  $g \in BMOA$ . A bit later the result was extended to  $H^p(\mathbf{D})$  for any  $1 \leq p < \infty$  by Aleman and Siskakis [1, 4]. In particular, they showed that, for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,

(1) 
$$||V_g(f)||_{H^p} \le C_p ||g||_{BMOA} ||f||_{H^p}, \quad f \in H^p(\mathbf{D}).$$

for a constant  $C_p > 0$  depending only on p. The boundedness, compactness and other properties of  $V_g$  acting on spaces of holomorphic functions defined in the unit disc have been deeply studied (see [5] for weighted Bergman spaces, [6, 15] for weighted spaces of holomorphic functions  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{D})$  and [17, 19] for several other spaces). The reader is also referred to [2, 3] for different results concerning the spectra of the Volterra operator in some cases.

In this article we are only concerned with spaces of entire functions. Throughout the paper we write  $\mathcal{P}$  for the space of polynomials (with the notation  $u_n(z) = z^n$ ) and  $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$  for the space of entire functions vanishing at the origin. For each 0 , $<math>0 < r < \infty$  and  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  we write  $M_{\infty}(f,r) = \sup_{|z|=r} |f(z)|$  and  $M_p(f,r) = \left(\int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{it})|^p \frac{dt}{2\pi}\right)^{1/p}$ .

Given  $0 and a measurable function <math>\phi: (0, \infty) \to \mathbf{R}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  the space of entire functions f such that  $\int_{\mathbf{C}} |f(z)|^p e^{-p\phi(|z|)} dm(z) < \infty$  and we write

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} = (2\pi)^{1/p} \left( \int_0^\infty M_p^p(f, r) r e^{-p\phi(r)} \, dr \right)^{1/p}$$

Key words: Volterra operator, weighted spaces, entire function, Fock-type spaces.

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The classical Fock spaces  $\mathcal{F}_p(\mathbf{C})$  correspond to  $\phi(z) = \frac{|z|^2}{2}$ .

For the limiting case  $\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  we shall also use the standard notation  $H^{\infty}_{v}(\mathbf{C})$ where  $v(z) = e^{-\phi(|z|)}$ , that is the space of entire functions f such that

$$||f||_{\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}} = ||f||_{v} = \sup_{r \ge 0} e^{-\phi(r)} M_{\infty}(f, r) < \infty.$$

As usual  $H_v^0(\mathbf{C})$  denotes the subspace of  $H_v^\infty(\mathbf{C})$  of functions such that  $\lim_{|z|\to\infty} v(|z|)|f(z)| = 0$ .

It is well known that we can change the values of  $\phi$  or v in a bounded interval  $[0, R_0]$  and even that we can replace  $\phi$  for another weight  $\varphi$  being continuous and increasing so that  $H^{\infty}_w(\mathbf{C}) = H^{\infty}_v(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\mathcal{F}^{\varphi}_p(\mathbf{C}) = \mathcal{F}^{\phi}_p(\mathbf{C})$  with equivalent norms. Since we are only interested in spaces containing the polynomials, that is  $\mathcal{P} \subset H^0_v(\mathbf{C})$  or  $\mathcal{P} \subset \bigcap_{p>0} \mathcal{F}^{\phi}_p(\mathbf{C})$ , we shall impose the following assumptions on the weights:

(2) 
$$\lim_{r \to \infty} r^m v(r) = 0, \quad \forall m \in \mathbf{N},$$

or

(3) 
$$\int_0^\infty r^m e^{-p\phi(r)} dr < \infty, \quad \forall m \in \mathbf{N}, \ \forall p > 0.$$

Due to the above considerations we introduce the following definition.

**Definition 1.1.** We write  $\mathcal{W}$  for the class of functions  $\phi \colon [0, \infty) \to \mathbf{R}$  which are continuous, increasing in  $[r_{\phi}, \infty)$  for some  $r_{\phi} > 0$  and for each  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  satisfy

(4) 
$$\sup_{r>0} r^m e^{-\phi(r)} < \infty.$$

Notice that conditions (2), (3) and (4) are in fact equivalent. Examples of weights in  $\mathcal{W}$  to have in mind are  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r) = \beta r^{\alpha} - \gamma \log r$  for  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  and  $\gamma \ge 0$ .

The study of the Volterra operator on certain spaces of entire functions was initiated by Constantin in [11]. She characterized continuity (and compactness) of  $V_q$  on the classical Fock spaces.

**Theorem 1.1.** [11, Theorem 1] Let  $0 < p, q < \infty$  and  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ .

- (i) Case  $0 : <math>V_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if  $g(z) = az^2 + bz$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbf{C}$ .
- (ii) Case q < p:  $V_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if  $\frac{1}{q} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{1}{2}$ and g(z) = az for some  $0 \neq a \in \mathbf{C}$ .

Later in collaboration with Peláez [12] the results were extended to a class of Fock-type spaces  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  defined by certain smooth radial weights  $\phi$ . In [12] certain class  $\mathcal{I}$  of twice differentiable and rapidly increasing weights was introduced. This class includes examples such as  $\phi(r) = r^{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha > 2$ ,  $\phi(r) = e^{\beta r}$  for  $\beta > 0$  or  $\phi(r) = e^{e^r}$ . For weights in this class they obtained the complete characterization of the symbols g which produce bounded Volterra operators  $V_g$  acting from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  (see [12, Theorem 3]). In particular for p = q they showed that for  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\phi \in \mathcal{I}$ , the Volterra operator  $V_g$  is bounded on  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if

(5) 
$$\sup_{z \in \mathbf{C}} \frac{|g'(z)|}{1 + \phi'(|z|)} < \infty.$$

Also they generalized Theorem 1.1 as follows:

**Theorem 1.2.** [12, Corollary 25] Let  $0 < p, q < \infty$ ,  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\phi(r) = r^{\alpha}$  with  $\alpha > 2$ .

- (i) Case  $0 and <math>1 + (\alpha 2)(1 \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q}) \ge 0$ :  $V_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if g is a polynomial with  $\deg(g) \le 2 + (\alpha 2)(1 \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q})$ .
- (ii) Case q < p:  $V_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if  $\frac{1}{q} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{\alpha 1}{2}$ and g is a polynomial with  $\deg(g) < \alpha - 2(1 - \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q})$ .

The study for  $\mathcal{F}_{\infty}^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) = H_{v}^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  was considered by Bonet and Taskinen [9] for certain classes of radial weights v. We refer also the interested reader to [8, 11, 13] for results concerning the spectra of the Volterra operator in this setting. In [9] certain class of weights  $\mathcal{J}$  (see conditions appearing in [9, Proposition 3.2]) was introduced. This class includes examples such as  $\psi(r) = \beta r^{\alpha} - \gamma \log r - \delta \log(\log(1+r))$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta > 0, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbf{R}, \ \psi(r) = (\log(1+r))^{1+\epsilon} - \gamma \log r - \delta \log(\log(1+r)))$ , for some  $\epsilon > 0, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbf{R}$  or, more generally twice differentiable weights satisfying certain conditions (see [9, Thm 3.6, Thm 3.7]). For such a class, using the notation  $\tilde{v}(z)$  for the so-called associate weight of v (see [10]), they obtained (see [9, Theorem 3.4]) that for  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C}), v(z) = e^{-\phi(|z|)}$  and  $w(z) = e^{-\psi(|z|)}$  with  $\psi \in \mathcal{J}$ , the boundedness of  $V_q$  from  $H_w^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $H_w^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  is equivalent to the condition

(6) 
$$\sup_{z \in \mathbf{C}} \frac{|g'(z)|w(z)}{\psi'(|z|)\tilde{v}(z)} < \infty.$$

As a consequence they established the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.3.** [9, Corollary 3.11] Let  $v(r) = e^{-\beta r^{\alpha}}$  for  $\beta > 0$  and  $\alpha \ge 1$  and let  $0 \ne g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Then  $V_g$  is bounded on  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only g is a polynomial of  $\deg(g) \le [\alpha]$ , where [a] stands for the integer part of a > 0.

Observe that  $V_g = \mathcal{IM}_{g'}$  where  $\mathcal{M}_{g'}(f) = fg'$  and  $\mathcal{I}(f)(z) = \int_0^z f(\xi) d\xi$ . All the previous results are obtained analyzing the action of  $\mathcal{M}_{g'}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  on the corresponding spaces independently, and using the equivalent definition of the norm of f in the spaces  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  in terms of the derivative f' (see [9, Proposition 3.2]) or Littlewood–Paley formula (see [12, Theorem 10]) respectively.

In this paper we would like to attack the boundedness of the Volterra operator  $V_g$  (and certain modification of it) directly and not relying on the boundedness of the multiplication or differentiation operators independently. Note that the results in [12] do not apply to  $\phi(r) = r^{\alpha}$  for  $0 < \alpha \leq 2$  and not cover different weights  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  and the results in [9] cover different weights but only for  $p = q = \infty$ . We shall present here some necessary and sufficient conditions for the boundedness of  $V_g$  from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  for different parameters  $0 < p, q \leq \infty$  and different weights  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  belonging to  $\mathcal{W}$ , extending and providing some alternative proofs of some results in [9, 11, 12].

Besides the introduction the paper is divided into four sections. The first section contains some results on the class  $\mathcal{W}$  while the second one is devoted to some preliminaries on the Volterra operator  $V_g$  and its modification  $\tilde{V}_g(f)(z) = \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(\xi) Dg(\xi) d\xi$ where Dg(z) = g(z) + zg'(z). The main contributions are in the last sections where some necessary and sufficient conditions for the boundedness of  $V_g$  and  $\tilde{V}_g$  on weighted spaces of holomorphic functions and Fock-type spaces and their applications are provided. It will be shown (see Corollary 4.6) that the existence of a function  $g \neq 0$  such that  $V_g$  is bounded  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  implies that  $V_{u_k}$  is also bounded  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  for all  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $g^{(k)}(0) \neq 0$ . This forces some relationship between p,

 $q, \phi$  and  $\psi$ . In particular we will show that there is no entire function  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ such that  $V_g$  maps boundedly  $H_{v_1}^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $H_{v_2}^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  for  $v_i = e^{-\varphi_{\alpha_i,\beta_i,\gamma_i}}$  for i = 1, 2whenever  $\alpha_1 > \alpha_2$  or  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$  and  $\beta_1 > \beta_2$  or  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2, \beta_1 = \beta_2$  and  $\alpha_1 - \gamma_2 + \gamma_1 < 1$ (this actually explains the restriction  $\alpha \geq 1$  in Theorem 1.3). Moreover once such a function exists it must be a polynomial of degree less or equal than  $\alpha_1 - \gamma_2 + \gamma_1$ . In order to provide some sufficient conditions for the boundedness of  $V_g$  for different weights we shall introduce a function inspired by the so-called distortion function of  $\phi$  considered in [12]. For each  $0 and weight <math>\phi$  the authors considered the function  $\psi_{p,\phi}(r) = \frac{\int_r^{\infty} se^{-p\phi(s)} ds}{(1+r)e^{-p\phi(r)}}, r \geq 0$ , which was crucial to describe the norm of fin  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  in terms of the derivative f'. We shall introduce for each pair  $(\phi, \psi)$  of weights and 0 the function

$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = \begin{cases} e^{-\phi(r)} (\frac{1}{r} \int_{r}^{\infty} e^{-p\psi(s)} ds)^{-1/p}, & 0$$

which will play an important role in finding sufficient conditions on the boudedness of  $V_g$ . Namely we shall establish in Theorem 5.7 below that, for  $0 , <math>\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ , the existence of a constant A > 0 such that

(7) 
$$M_{\infty}(Dg,r) \le AH_{\psi,\phi,p}(r), \quad r > 0.$$

implies that  $\tilde{V}_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$ . As a consequence one generalizes, at least for p = q, the results in [12] to a much wider class of weights.

# 2. Preliminaries on weights

We start by mentioning some classical families of weights. For each  $\varepsilon, \alpha, \beta > 0$ and  $\gamma \in \mathbf{R}$  the consider the weights  $\rho_{\varepsilon}$  and  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  given by

$$\rho_{\varepsilon}(r) = \left(\log(1+r)\right)^{1+\varepsilon}$$

and

$$e^{-\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r)} = \min\{(1+r)^{\gamma}, r^{\gamma}\}e^{-\beta r^{\alpha}}$$

that is  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r) = \beta r^{\alpha} - \gamma \log(1+r)$  for  $\gamma < 0$  and  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r) = \beta r^{\alpha} - \gamma \log r$  for  $\gamma \ge 0$ . It is easy to see that  $\rho_{\varepsilon}$  and  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  belong to  $\mathcal{W}$ .

The examples  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  can be obtained from a single one  $\phi(r) = r$  using the following modifications:

(8) 
$$\phi_{\beta}(r) = \phi(\beta r), \quad \beta > 0,$$

(9) 
$$\phi^{(\alpha)}(r) = \phi(r^{\alpha}), \quad \alpha > 0,$$

(10) 
$$e^{-\phi_{(\gamma)}(r)} = \min\{(1+r)^{\gamma}, r^{\gamma}\}e^{-\phi(r)}, \quad \gamma \in \mathbf{R}.$$

It is elementary to see that if  $\phi$  belongs to  $\mathcal{W}$  then  $\phi_{\beta}, \phi^{(\alpha)}$  and  $\phi_{(\gamma)}$  also belong to  $\mathcal{W}$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $0 and <math>\phi$  such that  $\int_r^{\infty} e^{-p\phi(s)} ds < \infty$  for r > 0. We define, for r > 0,

(11) 
$$\Phi_p(r) = -\frac{1}{p} \log\left(\frac{1}{r} \int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(s)} \, ds\right)$$

or, equivalently  $e^{-p\Phi_p(r)} = \frac{1}{r} \int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(s)} ds.$ 

**Lemma 2.1.** Let 
$$0 and  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}$ . Then  
(i)  $\Phi_p \in \mathcal{W}$ ,$$

(ii) if  $\phi \in C^1(0,\infty)$  and convex, then

(12) 
$$\sup_{r\geq 0} e^{\phi(r)-\Phi_p(r)} < \infty,$$

(iii) if  $\phi(r) = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  for some  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  and  $\gamma \in \mathbf{R}$ , then

(13) 
$$\sup_{r>0} r^{\frac{\alpha}{p}} e^{\phi(r) - \Phi_p(r)} < \infty$$

*Proof.* (i) Clearly  $e^{-\Phi_p(r)}$  is decreasing and  $\Phi_p(r)$  is increasing. Now for each  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  with mp > 1 we have that

$$r^{pm}e^{-p\Phi_p(r)} = r^{pm-1} \int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(s)} \, ds \le \int_0^\infty s^{pm-1}e^{-p\phi(s)} \, ds < \infty.$$

This shows that  $\Phi_p \in \mathcal{W}$ .

(ii) Note that  $r\phi'(r) \ge \phi'(1) = A$  for  $r \ge 1$ . Hence for  $r \ge 1$ 

$$e^{-p\Phi_p(r)} = \frac{1}{r} \int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(t)} dt \le \frac{1}{A} \int_r^\infty \phi'(t) e^{-p\phi(t)} dt = \frac{1}{pA} e^{-p\phi(r)}.$$

Since  $\sup_{0 \le r \le 1} e^{\phi(r) - \Phi_p(r)} < \infty$  this gives (12).

(iii) We claim that for any  $a \in \mathbf{R}$  there exists  $C_a > 0$  so that

(14) 
$$\int_{r}^{\infty} t^{a} e^{-t} dt \le C_{a} r^{a} e^{-r}, \quad r > 0.$$

Of course the result holds true for  $a \leq 0$  with  $C_a = 1$ . The case  $a \in \mathbf{N}$  follows by induction and integration by parts. Now for a > 0 write  $a = \lambda k_0 + (1 - \lambda)k_1$  with  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$  and  $k_0, k_1 \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}$ , apply Hölder's inequality and the previous case to get (14). To show (13) we consider the cases  $\gamma \geq 0$  and  $\gamma < 0$  separately.

Case  $\gamma \geq 0$ : From (14) we have

$$e^{-\Phi_p(r)} = \left(\frac{1}{r}\int_r^\infty t^{p\gamma} e^{-p\beta t^\alpha} dt\right)^{1/p} = C\left(\frac{1}{r}\int_{p\beta r^\alpha}^\infty s^{\frac{p\gamma+1}{\alpha}-1} e^{-s} dt\right)^{1/p}$$
$$\leq C'r^{\gamma-\frac{\alpha}{p}} e^{-\beta r^\alpha} = C'r^{-\frac{\alpha}{p}} e^{-\phi(r)}.$$

Case  $\gamma < 0$ : Arguing as above,

$$e^{-\Phi_p(r)} = \left(\frac{1}{r}\int_r^\infty (1+t)^{p\gamma} e^{-p\beta t^{\alpha}} dt\right)^{1/p} \le C \left(\frac{(1+r)^{p\gamma}}{r}\int_{p\beta r^{\alpha}}^\infty s^{\frac{1}{\alpha}-1} e^{-s} dt\right)^{1/p} \le C(1+r)^{\gamma} r^{-\alpha/p} e^{-\beta r^{\alpha}} \le r^{-\frac{\alpha}{p}} e^{-\phi(r)}.$$

The proof is complete.

Let us now consider a subclass of differentiable weights wide enough to include most of the classical weights.

**Definition 2.2.** Let us denote  $\mathcal{W}_0$  the collection of continuous functions  $\phi \colon [0, \infty)$  $\to \mathbf{R}$  such that  $\phi \in C^1([r_{\phi}, \infty))$  for some  $r_{\phi} \ge 0$  and

(15) 
$$\lim_{r \to \infty} r \phi'(r) = \infty$$

Note that the classical examples  $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  and  $\rho_{\varepsilon}$  belong to  $\mathcal{W}_0$  for any  $\epsilon, \alpha, \beta > 0$ and  $\gamma \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Lemma 2.2.  $\mathcal{W}_0 \subset \mathcal{W}$ .

Proof. Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_0$ . Then  $\phi'(r) > 0$  in some interval  $(R, \infty)$  and for each  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ , L'Hospital's rule gives  $\lim_{r\to\infty} \frac{\phi(r) - m\log r}{m\log r} = \infty$ . In particular  $\lim_{r\to\infty} (\phi(r) - m\log r) = \infty$ . Hence (2) holds and then  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $0 and let <math>\phi$  be differentiable with  $\phi'(r) > 0$  for r > 0. Then

$$\phi \in \mathcal{W}_0 \iff \Phi_p \in \mathcal{W}_0 \iff \lim_{r \to \infty} e^{\phi(r) - \Phi_p(r)} = 0.$$

*Proof.* Differentiating in the formula  $e^{-p\Phi_p(r)} = \frac{1}{r} \int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(s)} ds$  one has that  $pr\Phi'_p(r) = e^{p(\Phi_p(r) - \phi(r))} + 1$ . Now use L'Hospital's rule to obtain

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} pr \Phi'_p(r) = \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{r e^{-p\phi(r)}}{\int_r^\infty e^{-p\phi(s)} ds} + 1 = p \lim_{r \to \infty} r\phi'(r).$$

 $\square$ 

Thus both equivalences are shown.

Let us give a notation to the sequence of the norms of  $u_k$  in the space  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}$  for any weight  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}$  and 0 .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . We define

(16) 
$$C_k(\phi, p) = \left(\int_0^\infty r^{pk+1} e^{-p\phi(r)} dr\right)^{1/p} = (2\pi)^{-1/p} \|u_k\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^\phi},$$

(17) 
$$C_k(\phi, \infty) = \sup_{0 < r < \infty} r^k e^{-\phi(r)} = \|u_k\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}}.$$

Next result is immediate and left to the reader.

**Example 2.1.** Let  $\alpha, \beta, p > 0, \gamma \ge 0$  and  $\phi = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$ . Then

(18) 
$$C_k(\phi, \infty) = (\alpha\beta)^{-\frac{k+\gamma}{\alpha}} (k+\gamma)^{\frac{k+\gamma}{\alpha}} e^{-\frac{k+\gamma}{\alpha}}$$

and

(19) 
$$C_k^p(\phi, p) = \frac{(p\beta)^{-\frac{pk+2+p\gamma}{\alpha}}}{\alpha} \Gamma\left(\frac{pk+2+p\gamma}{\alpha}\right).$$

**Remark 2.1.** For  $0 < p, p_1, p_2 < \infty, k_1, k_2, k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  we have

(20) 
$$C_{k_1+k_2}(\phi+\psi,p) \le \min\{C_{k_1}(\phi,p)C_{k_2}(\psi,\infty), C_{k_2}(\phi,p)C_{k_1}(\psi,\infty)\},\$$

(21) 
$$C_k(\phi, p_3) \le C_k(\phi, p_1)C_k(\phi, p_2), \quad \frac{1}{p_3} = \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_2}$$

(22) 
$$C_k(\phi, p_2) \le C_k(\phi, p_1)^{p_1/p_2} C_k(\phi, \infty)^{1-p_1/p_2}, \quad p_1 < p_2.$$

**Lemma 2.4.** Let 
$$\phi \in \mathcal{W}$$
 and  $0 . Then the sequences  $\left( (C_0^{-1}(\phi, p)C_k(\phi, p))^{1/k} \right)_k$  and  $\left( C_{k+1}(\phi, p)/C_k(\phi, p) \right)_k$  are increasing with  $\lim_k \frac{C_{k+1}(\phi, p)}{C_k(\phi, p)} = \lim_{k \to \infty} C_k^{1/k}(\phi, p) = \infty.$$ 

Proof. Case  $p = \infty$ : Since  $e^{-\phi(r)/k} \leq e^{-\phi(r)/(k+1)}$  for all r > 0 and  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  then obviously  $(C_k(\phi, \infty)^{1/k})_k$  is increasing. Let us show that  $(\frac{C_{k+1}(\phi, \infty)}{C_k(\phi, \infty)})_k$  is also increasing. Since  $k = \frac{1}{2}(k-1) + \frac{1}{2}(k+1)$ , we have that

$$C_k(\phi,\infty) = \sup_{r>0} r^{\frac{(k-1)}{2}} e^{-\frac{\phi(r)}{2}} r^{\frac{(k+1)}{2}} e^{-\frac{\phi(r)}{2}} \le C_{k-1}(\phi,\infty)^{1/2} C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)^{1/2}$$

and then  $C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)/C_k(\phi,\infty)$  is increasing. Finally, using now that  $C_k(\phi,\infty)^{1/k} \leq C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)^{1/(k+1)}$  we have  $\frac{C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)}{C_k(\phi,\infty)} \geq C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)^{1/(k+1)}$ . Hence  $\lim_{k\to\infty} \frac{C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)}{C_k(\phi,\infty)} = C_{k+1}(\phi,\infty)^{1/(k+1)}$ .  $\lim_{k \to \infty} C_k(\phi, \infty)^{1/k} = \infty.$ 

Case 0 : Applying Cauchy–Schwarz we have

$$\left(\int_0^\infty r^{pk+p+1}e^{-p\phi(r)}\,dr\right)^2 \le \left(\int_0^\infty r^{pk+2p+1}e^{-p\phi(r)}\,dr\right)\left(\int_0^\infty r^{pk+1}e^{-p\phi(r)}\,dr\right).$$

This shows that  $C_{k+1}(\phi,p)^2 \leq C_{k+2}(\phi,p)C_k(\phi,p)$ . Thus  $C_{k+1}(\phi,p)/C_k(\phi,p)$  is increasing. Now consider the measure  $d\mu_p(r) = C_0(\phi, p)^{-p} r e^{-p\phi(r)} dr$  defined in  $\mathbf{R}^+$ . Of course,  $\mu_p(\mathbf{R}^+) = 1$  and  $(C_0(\phi, p)^{-1}C_k(\phi, p))^{1/k} = ||u_1||_{L^{pk}(\mathbf{R}^+, d\mu_p)}$  where  $u_1(r) = r$ . This gives  $(C_0(\phi, p)^{-1}C_{k_1}(\phi, p))^{1/k_1} \leq (C_0(\phi, p)^{-1}C_{k_2}(\phi, p))^{1/k_2}$  whenever  $k_1 \leq k_2$ . In particular  $(C_0(\phi, p)^{-1}C_k(\phi, p))^{1/k}$  is increasing. Now taking into account that

$$\frac{C_{k+1}(\phi, p)}{C_k(\phi, p)} \ge (C_0^{-1}(\phi, p)C_{k+1}(\phi, p))^{1/(k+1)} = \|u_1\|_{L^{p(k+1)}(\mu_p)}$$

we conclude that  $\lim_{k\to\infty} \frac{C_{k+1}}{C_k} \ge \lim_{k\to\infty} \|u_1\|_{L^{p(k+1)}(\mu_p)} = \|u_1\|_{L^{\infty}(\mu_p)} = \infty$ . The proof is complete. 

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}$  and 0 . Then

(23) 
$$C_k(\phi, p) \le C_{k_1}(\phi, p)^{\frac{k_2 - k}{k_2 - k_1}} C_{k_2}(\phi, p)^{\frac{k - k_1}{k_2 - k_1}}, \quad k_1 \le k \le k_2.$$

In particular  $C_k^2(\phi, p) \leq C_{2k}(\phi, p)C_0(\phi, p)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Proof. Let us denote  $M_k = C_k(\phi, \infty)$  and  $C_k = C_k(\phi, p)$  for 0 . We start $with the case <math>p = \infty$ . For each  $k, k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\frac{1}{k} = \frac{\theta}{k_1} + \frac{1-\theta}{k_2}$ , we obviously have  $M_k^{1/k} \leq M_{k_1}^{\theta/k_1} M_{k_2}^{(1-\theta)/k_2}$ . Hence for each  $k_1 \leq k \leq k_2$ , choosing  $\theta = \frac{k_1}{k} \frac{k_2 - k}{k_2 - k_1}$  one obtains  $M_k \leq M_{k_1}^{\frac{k_2 - k}{k_2 - k_1}} M_{k_2}^{\frac{k_2 - k}{k_2 - k_1}}$ . For  $0 , arguing as in the previous lemma we can write for <math>k_1 \leq k \leq k_2$  and  $\frac{1}{pk} = \frac{\theta}{pk_1} + \frac{1-\theta}{pk_2}$  that

$$\|u_1\|_{L^{pk}(\mathbf{R}^+,d\mu_p)} \le \|u_1\|_{L^{pk_1}(\mathbf{R}^+,d\mu_p)}^{\theta}\|u_1\|_{L^{pk_2}(\mathbf{R}^+,d\mu_p)}^{1-\theta}$$

Now (23) follows since  $\theta = \frac{k_1}{k} \frac{k_2 - k}{k_2 - k_1}$  and  $1 - \theta = \frac{k_2}{k} \frac{k - k_1}{k_2 - k_1}$ . Finally selecting  $k_1 = 0$  and  $k_2 = 2k$  one gets  $M_k^2 \leq M_{2k}M_0$  and  $C_k^2 \leq C_{2k}C_0$ . 

**Remark 2.2.** The conditions appearing in Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5 are closely related to the ones appearing when defining the Denjoy–Carleman classes (see for instance |16|).

# 3. Preliminaries on the Volterra operator

Given  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  we denote by  $\mathcal{M}_{q}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  the multiplication, differentiation and integration operators respectively, i.e. for  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  we have

$$\mathcal{M}_g(f)(z) = g(z)f(z), \quad \mathcal{D}f(z) = f'(z), \quad \mathcal{I}f(z) = \int_0^z f(\xi) \, d\xi.$$

Of course  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})) = \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C}), Id_{\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})} = \mathcal{DI}$  and  $Id_{\mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})} = \mathcal{ID}$  where  $Id_X$  stands for the identity operator acting on X. We denote by S and  $S^{-1}$  the shift and backwards

shift operators defined by

$$S^{-1}f(z) = \frac{f(z) - f(0)}{z} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+1}u_n, \quad Sf(z) = zf(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1}u_n,$$

for each  $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n u_n \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . Using the notation  $P_m(f)$  for the Taylor polynomial of degree m and  $R_m f = f - P_{m-1}(f)$  for the remainder of degree m we have

$$S^{m}f(z) = z^{m}f(z) = \sum_{k=m}^{\infty} a_{k-m}z^{k}, \quad S^{-m}f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k+m}z^{k} = \frac{R_{m}f(z)}{z^{m}}.$$

This gives that  $S^m S^{-m} f = R_m f$  and  $S^{-m} S^m f = f$  for  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ .

Since  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  we have that  $f \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if  $R_m f \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  for any  $m \in \mathbf{N}, 0 and <math>\phi \in \mathcal{W}$ . Note that  $\|S^m f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} = \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi(m)}}$  for each  $0 where <math>\phi_{(m)}$  was defined by  $e^{-\phi_{(m)}(r)} = r^m e^{-\phi(r)}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}$ . Then

$$||S^{-m}f||_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\phi(m)}} \le (m+1)||f||_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\phi}}$$

for  $f = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k u_k \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}).$ 

*Proof.* For each  $k \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}$ , r > 0 and  $p \ge 1$  we have  $|a_k| r^k \le M_1(f, r) \le M_p(f, r)$ . Thus

(24) 
$$|a_k|C_k(\phi, p) \le (2\pi)^{-1/p} ||f||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}, \quad k \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Therefore  $||P_{m-1}(f)||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \le m ||f||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}, ||R_m(f)||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \le (m+1) ||f||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}$  and  $||S^{-m}(f)||_{\mathcal{F}_n^{\phi(m)}} = ||R_m(f)||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \le (m+1) ||f||_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}.$ 

As mentioned in the introduction the *Volterra operator with symbol* g is defined by the formula

(25) 
$$V_g(f)(z) = \mathcal{IM}_{\mathcal{D}g}(z) = z \int_0^1 f(tz)g'(tz) \, dt, \quad z \in \mathbf{C},$$

for each  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ .

Note that  $V_g = 0$  for any constant function g and that also  $V_g(f) \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbb{C})$  for any  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$ . We shall consider the following modification to avoid these restrictions. For each  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  we write

(26) 
$$\tilde{V}_g(f)(z) = \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(\xi) Dg(\xi) \, d\xi, \quad z \in \mathbf{C},$$

where  $D = \mathcal{D}S$ , that is  $Df(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)a_n z^n = zf'(z) + f(z)$ . Denoting  $I = S^{-1}\mathcal{I}$ , we have for  $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n u_n$  that

$$If(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{(n+1)} z^n = \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(\xi) \, d\xi$$

and we obtain that  $\tilde{V}_g = I\mathcal{M}_{Dg}$ . In this way  $\tilde{V}_g$  is well defined for  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  and takes values in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . Moreover, for each  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ 

(27) 
$$\tilde{V}_g(f) = S^{-1}V_{Sg}(f), \quad V_g(f) = S\tilde{V}_{S^{-1}g}(f).$$

Since  $V_g$  is continuous (in the topology of the uniform convergence on compact sets) from  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$  and the map given by  $g \to V_g$  is linear and continuous from  $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$  into the space of continuous linear operators, using (27) similar results hold for  $\tilde{V}_q$ . Next result is immediate from the definitions.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ ,  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . Then  $V_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if  $\tilde{V}_{S^{-1}g}$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi_{(1)}}(\mathbf{C})$ .

Other expressions for the operators above are given as follows:

**Lemma 3.3.** Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  with  $f = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} b_m u_m$  and  $g = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n u_n$ . Then

(28) 
$$V_g(f)(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \left( \sum_{n+m=j} n a_n b_m \right) z^j,$$

(29) 
$$\tilde{V}_g(f)(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j+1} \left( \sum_{n+m=j} (n+1)a_n b_m \right) z^j$$

*Proof.* The proof is straightforward using

$$V_g(f)(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n z^n \left( \int_0^1 f(zs) s^{n-1} ds \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n z^n \left( \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_m}{n+m} z^m \right)$$
$$= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j} \left( \sum_{n+m=j} n a_n b_m \right) z^j.$$

The other formula follows from (27).

**Remark 3.1.** From (28) and (29) we obtain for any  $f, g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ ,

$$V_g(u_0) = g - g(0), \quad \tilde{V}_g(u_0) = g, \quad V_{u_0}(f) = 0, \quad \tilde{V}_{u_0}(f) = If,$$

(30) 
$$V_g(u_k) = u_k \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{na_n}{n+k} u_n, \quad \tilde{V}_g(u_k) = u_k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)a_n}{n+k+1} u_n,$$

and

(31) 
$$V_{u_k}(f) = ku_k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_n}{n+k} u_n, \quad \tilde{V}_{u_k}(f) = (k+1)u_k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_n}{n+k+1} u_n.$$

Let us reformulate the boundedness of  $V_g$  acting on  $\mathcal{F}_2^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ . Note that for each  $f = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} b_m u_m$  we can write

(32) 
$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2}^{\phi}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left( \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |b_{m}|^{2} C_{m}^{2}(\phi, 2) \right)^{1/2}$$

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  with  $g = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n u_n$ . Then  $\tilde{V}_g$  maps  $\mathcal{F}_2^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_2^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if the matrix  $A = (a(m, j))_{m,j=0}^{\infty}$  given by

$$a(m,j) = \begin{cases} \frac{j-m+1}{j+1} a_{j-m} \frac{C_j(\psi,2)}{C_m(\phi,2)}, & m \le j; \\ 0, & 0 \le j < m \end{cases}$$

defines a bounded operator on  $\ell^2(\mathbf{N} \cup \{0\})$ .

*Proof.* Using (32) and (29) we obtain

$$\begin{split} \|\tilde{V}_{g}(f)\|_{\mathcal{F}_{2}^{\psi}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sup_{\|(\gamma_{j})\|_{2}=1} \left| \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j+1} \left( \sum_{m=0}^{j} (j-m+1)a_{j-m}b_{m} \right) C_{j}(\psi,2)\gamma_{j} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sup_{\|(\gamma_{j})\|_{2}=1} \left| \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{j=m}^{\infty} \frac{j-m+1}{j+1}a_{j-m} \frac{C_{j}(\psi,2)}{C_{m}(\phi,2)}\gamma_{j} \right) C_{m}(\phi,2)b_{m} \right|. \end{split}$$

Hence

$$\|\tilde{V}_{g}\| = \sup_{\|(\gamma_{j})\|_{2}=1} \left( \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a(m,j)\gamma_{j} \right|^{2} \right)^{1/2}$$

This gives the result.

The analysis of  $V_g$  for  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  actually depends only on the integration operator. Let us denote by  $V_k$  and  $\tilde{V}_k$  the operators  $V_{u_k}$  and  $\tilde{V}_{u_k}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Hence from (31) we obtain

(33) 
$$V_0 = 0, \quad V_1 = \mathcal{I}, \quad V_k = k \mathcal{I} S^{k-1}, \quad k \in \mathbf{N},$$

and

(34) 
$$\tilde{V}_0 = I, \quad \tilde{V}_k = (k+1)IS^k, \quad k \in \mathbf{N}.$$

In particular  $V_k = SV_{k-1}$  for  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ . A simple consequence of Proposition 3.4 gives the following particular case.

**Corollary 3.5.** Let  $k \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$ . Then  $\tilde{V}_k$  maps  $\mathcal{F}_2^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_2^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  if and only if

$$\sup_{m \ge 0} \frac{C_{m+k}(\psi, 2)}{(m+k+1)C_m(\phi, 2)} < \infty.$$

The following reformulations are elementary and left to the reader.

**Lemma 3.6.** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ . The following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $V_k \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.
- (ii)  $\tilde{V}_{k-1} \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi_{(1)}}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.
- (iii)  $\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi_{(k-1)}}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.
- (iv)  $I: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi_{(k-1)}}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi_{(1)}}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.

## 4. On necessary conditions for the boundedness

Taking into account that  $V_g(u_0) = g - g(0)$  the first condition for  $V_g$  to map  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is that  $g \in \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$ . In particular we have the following trivial necessary condition.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let  $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ ,  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . If  $V_g: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded, then there exists a constant A > 0 such that

(35) 
$$M_{\infty}(g,r) \le AK_{\psi,q}(r), \quad r > 0,$$

where

(36) 
$$K_{\psi,q}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k(\psi,q)^{-1} z^k, \quad z \in \mathbf{C}$$

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Proof. Using (24) for  $V_g(u_0) = g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n$  we obtain

$$M_{\infty}(g,r) \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| r^n \leq (2\pi)^{-1/q} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(\psi,q)^{-1} \|V_g(u_0)\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} r^n$$
$$\leq (2\pi)^{1/p-1/q} \|V_g\| C_0(\phi,p) (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(\psi,q)^{-1} r^n).$$

This shows (35).

Let us find a necessary condition for the boundedness of  $V_g$  from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  in the case  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** Let  $0 < p, q \leq \infty, \phi, \psi \in W$  such that  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . If  $V_g \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded then there exists A > 0 such that

(37) 
$$M_{\infty}(g,r) \le A\phi(r), \quad r > 0.$$

Proof. Let  $A_0 = \max\{1, \|u_0\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}\}$  and  $C = \|\operatorname{Id}\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})}$ . We observe that  $V_g(u_0) = g \in \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$ . Hence  $g \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\|g\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \leq C \|g\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \leq C \|V_g\|A_0$ . Since  $V_g(g) = \frac{g^2}{2}$  we also obtain

$$\left\|\frac{g^2}{2}\right\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \le C \left\|\frac{g^2}{2}\right\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \le C^2 \|V_g\|^2 \|u_0\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \le (C\|V_g\|A_0)^2.$$

This allows to iterate the procedure to obtain  $\frac{g^n}{n!} \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $\|\frac{g^n}{n!}\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} \leq (C\|V_g\|A_0)^n$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  is a  $\tilde{p}$ -Banach space for  $\tilde{p} = \min\{p, 1\}$ . Hence if  $\sum_n \|f_n\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}^{\tilde{p}} <$ 

 $\infty \text{ implies that } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}. \text{ Therefore choosing } K > C \|V_g\| A_0 \text{ we conclude that } \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta_n g^n}{K^n n!} \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \text{ for any sequence of complex numbers with } \sup_n |\beta_n| \leq 1.$ 

In particular, choosing  $\beta_n = 1$  for all  $n \ge 0$  we obtain  $e^{g/K} \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ . Therefore  $\int_{\mathbf{C}} e^{-p(\phi(|z|) - \frac{\Re g(z)}{K})} dm(z) < \infty$  and  $\sup_{z \in \mathbf{C}} e^{-\phi(|z|) + \frac{\Re g(z)}{K}} < \infty$  in the cases  $p < \infty$  and  $p = \infty$  respectively. In both cases one gets  $\Re(g(z)) \le K\phi(|z|) + C$ . Selecting  $\beta_n$  as  $(-1)^n$ ,  $i^n$  and  $(-i)^n$  one concludes that  $|g(z)| \le A\phi(|z|)$  for some constant A > 0 and the proof is complete.

A simple consequence of Proposition 4.2 is the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.3.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi(r) = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  for some  $\alpha, \beta > 0, \gamma \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ .

- (i) Case  $0 < \alpha < 1$ :  $V_g: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded if and only if g = 0.
- (ii) Case  $\alpha \geq 1$ : If  $V_g \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded then  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $1 \leq \deg(g) \leq \alpha$ .

Let us now show that boundedness of  $V_g$  or  $\tilde{V}_g$  between spaces  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  or  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  forces certain a priori conditions on the weights.

**Proposition 4.4.** Let  $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ ,  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$ ,  $g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ and define  $\Lambda = \{n : a_n \neq 0\}$ . If  $\tilde{V}_g : \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded and  $k \in \Lambda$ , then  $\tilde{V}_k : \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is also bounded and  $\|\tilde{V}_k\| \leq \frac{\|\tilde{V}_g\|}{|a_k|}$ . In particular,  $I : \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded whenever  $g(0) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $k \in \Lambda$ . We have

$$(k+1)a_kw^k = \int_0^{2\pi} Dg(e^{i\theta}w)e^{-ik\theta}\frac{d\theta}{2\pi}, \quad w \in \mathbf{C},$$

and therefore

$$\begin{split} \tilde{V}_k f(z) &= \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(w)(k+1) w^k \, dw = \frac{1}{a_k} \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(w) \left( \int_0^{2\pi} Dg(e^{i\theta} w) e^{-ik\theta} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} \right) dw \\ &= \frac{1}{a_k} \int_0^{2\pi} \left( \frac{1}{z} \int_0^z f(w) Dg(e^{i\theta} w) \, dw \right) e^{-ik\theta} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}. \end{split}$$

Hence, making the change of variable  $e^{i\theta}w = w'$  and denoting  $f_{e^{-i\theta}}(z) = f(e^{-i\theta}z)$ , we have

$$\tilde{V}_k f(z) = \frac{1}{a_k} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{V}_g(f_{e^{-i\theta}})(e^{i\theta}z) e^{-ik\theta} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}$$

In particular,

$$\|\tilde{V}_k f\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \le \frac{1}{|a_k|} \int_0^{2\pi} \|\tilde{V}_g(f_{e^{-i\theta}})(e^{i\theta}z)\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}, \quad 1 \le q \le \infty,$$

and

$$\|\tilde{V}_k f\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_q}^q \le \frac{1}{|a_k|^q} \int_0^{2\pi} \|\tilde{V}_g(f_{e^{-i\theta}})(e^{i\theta}z)\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_q}^q \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}, \quad 0 < q < 1.$$

This gives, taking into account that  $\|f_{e^{-i\theta}}\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}} = \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}$  for any radial weight, the estimate  $\|\tilde{V}_k f\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \leq \frac{\|\tilde{V}_g\|}{|a_k|} \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}}$  and the proof is complete. 

Corollary 4.5. Let  $0 < p, q \leq \infty, \phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $0 \neq g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . If  $\tilde{V}_g \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  $\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded then there exists  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  and  $A_k > 0$  such that

$$C_{n+k}(\psi, q) \le A_k(n+1)C_n(\phi, p), \quad n \ge 0.$$

In particular,

$$IK_{\phi,p}(r) \le A_k S^{-k} K_{\psi,q}(r), \quad r > 0$$

where  $K_{\phi,p}$  stands for the kernel given in (36).

Proof. Since  $0 \neq g$  there exists  $k \in \Lambda$ , that is  $a_k \neq 0$ . Due to Proposition 4.4 and the fact  $\tilde{V}_k(u_n) = (k+1)I(u_{n+k}) = \frac{k+1}{n+k+1}u_{n+k}$  we have  $\frac{k+1}{n+k+1}\|u_{n+k}\|_{\mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}} \leq 1$  $||V_k|| ||u_n||_{\mathcal{F}_a^{\psi}}$ . In particular, for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ,

$$||u_{n+k}||_{\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_{q}} \le ||\tilde{V}_{k}||(n+1)||u_{n}||_{\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_{q}}.$$

This shows that

$$IK_{\phi,p}(r) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{(n+1)C_n(\phi,q)} \le A_k \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{C_{n+k}(\psi,q)} = A_k S^{-k} K_{\psi,q}(r),$$
  
e proof is complete.

and the proof is complete.

**Corollary 4.6.** Let  $0 < p, q \le \infty, \phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and let  $g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ such that  $V_g: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded. Then  $V_k: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is also bounded for each k such that  $g^{(k)}(0) \neq 0$ . Moreover, the estimate  $||V_k|| \leq \frac{k!}{|g^{(k)}(0)|} ||V_g||$ holds. In particular,  $\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded whenever  $g'(0) \neq 0$ .

Proof. Recall that due to Lemma 3.2 we have that  $\tilde{V}_{S^{-1}g} \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi_{(1)}}(\mathbf{C})$ where  $e^{-\psi_{(1)}(r)} = re^{-\psi(r)}$ . Therefore invoking Proposition 4.4 and Lemma 3.6 we obtain that  $V_k \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_q^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  whenever  $g^{(k)}(0) \neq 0$  and the corresponding estimate in norm holds.

**Corollary 4.7.** Let  $\alpha_i, \beta_i > 0$  and  $\gamma_i \ge 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, v(r) = e^{-\varphi_{\alpha_1,\beta_1,\gamma_1}(r)}$  and  $w(r) = e^{-\varphi_{\alpha_2,\beta_2,\gamma_2}(r)}$  and  $0 \ne g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Assume that  $V_g: H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow H_w^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded. Then either  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2$  or  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$  and  $\beta_1 \le \beta_2$  or  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2, \beta_1 = \beta_2$  and  $\gamma_2 \le \gamma_1 + \alpha_1 - 1$ . Moreover, in the case  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2, \beta_1 = \beta_2$  and  $\delta = \alpha_1 - \gamma_2 + \gamma_1 \ge 1$ , then  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  with  $\deg(g) \le \delta$ .

*Proof.* Due to Corollary 4.6 we have that  $V_k$  is bounded from  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $H_w^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  for all  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $g^{(k)}(0) \neq 0$ . Since  $V_k(u_n) = \frac{k}{n+k}u_{n+k}$  we have

$$C_{n+k}(\varphi_{\alpha_2,\beta_2,\gamma_2},\infty) \le \|V_k\| \frac{n+k}{k} C_n(\varphi_{\alpha_1,\beta_1,\gamma_1},\infty), \quad n \in \mathbf{N}$$

Now take into account Example 2.1 to obtain for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ 

$$(\alpha_2\beta_2)^{-\frac{k+n+\gamma_2}{\alpha_2}}(k+n+\gamma_2)^{\frac{k+n+\gamma_2}{\alpha_2}}e^{-\frac{k+n+\gamma_2}{\alpha_2}} \le \|V_k\|\frac{n+k}{k}(\alpha_1\beta_1)^{-\frac{n+\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}}(n+\gamma_1)^{\frac{n+\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}}e^{-\frac{n+\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}}.$$

Hence there exists C > 0 such that

$$n^{n(\frac{1}{\alpha_2}-\frac{1}{\alpha_1})} \le C(\alpha_2\beta_2 e)^{\frac{n}{\alpha_2}}(\alpha_1\beta_1 e)^{-\frac{n}{\alpha_1}}n^{1-\frac{k+\gamma_2}{\alpha_2}+\frac{\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This implies that  $\alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2$ .

In the case  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$  the inequality becomes  $\left(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_2}\right)^{\frac{n}{\alpha_1}} \leq C n^{1-\frac{k+\gamma_2-\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}}$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . This gives  $\beta_1 \leq \beta_2$ .

Finally in the case  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$ ,  $\beta_1 = \beta_2$  we would have  $n^{\frac{k+\gamma_2-\gamma_1}{\alpha_1}-1} \leq C$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . This implies  $\frac{k+\gamma_2-\gamma_1}{\alpha_1} \leq 1$ . This gives, in particular,  $\gamma_2 \leq \gamma_1 + \alpha_1 - 1$ .

To finish the proof notice that  $g^{(k)}(0) \neq 0$  implies  $k \leq \alpha_1 - \gamma_2 + \gamma_1$  which implies that  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  with  $\deg(g) \leq \alpha_1 - \gamma_2 + \gamma_1$ .

# 5. On sufficient conditions for the boundedness

Let us start presenting some sufficient conditions for the operators  $V_g$  and  $\tilde{V}_g$  to be bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  for any  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and for general weights.

**Proposition 5.1.** Let  $\phi, \psi \in W$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . Let us write  $g_r(z) = g(rz)$  for r > 0 and set

(38) 
$$A(\phi, \psi) = \sup_{r>0} e^{\phi(r) - \psi(r)} ||g_r||_{BMOA}$$

and

(39) 
$$B(\phi,\psi) = \sup_{r>0} e^{\phi(r) - \psi(r)} ||(g_r)'||_{H^1}.$$

- (i) If  $A(\phi, \psi) < \infty$ , then both  $\tilde{V}_g$  and  $V_g$  are bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  for any  $1 \le p < \infty$ .
- (ii) If  $B(\phi, \psi) < \infty$ , then both  $\tilde{V}_g$  and  $V_g$  are bounded from  $\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$ .

Proof. (i) Let  $1 \le p < \infty$  and set  $A(\phi, \psi) = A$ . Since  $(g_r)'(w) = rg'(rw)$  for each r > 0 and |w| < 1, we have

$$V_g(f)(rw) = \int_0^w f_r(\xi)(g_r)'(\xi) \, d\xi.$$

Hence, using the estimate (1) we have

(40) 
$$M_p(V_g(f), r) \le C_p \|g_r\|_{BMOA} M_p(f, r), \quad r > 0.$$

Since  $\tilde{V}_g = S^{-1}V_{Sg}$ ,  $(Sg)_r = rS(g_r)$  and  $||Sg_r||_{BMOA} = ||g_r||_{BMOA}$ , we also have

$$M_p(\tilde{V}_g(f), r) = \frac{1}{r} M_p(V_{Sg}(f), r) \le C_p \|g_r\|_{BMOA} M_p(f, r).$$

Therefore, we conclude that

$$\max\{\|V_{g}(f)\|_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\psi}}, \|\tilde{V}_{g}(f)\|_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\psi}}\} \leq 2\pi C_{p}^{p} \int_{0}^{\infty} M_{p}^{p}(f, r) \|g_{r}\|_{BMOA}^{p} re^{-p\psi(r)} dr$$
$$\leq 2\pi C_{p}^{p} A^{p} \int_{0}^{\infty} M_{p}^{p}(f, r) re^{-p\phi(r)} dr = C_{p}^{p} A^{p} \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\phi}}^{p}.$$

(ii) Let  $p = \infty$  and set  $B(\phi, \psi) = B$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Hence  $g(z) = z \int_0^1 g'(zt) dt$  and thus  $M_1(g,r) \leq r M_1(g',r) = ||(g_r)'||_{H^1}$ . In particular,

(41) 
$$M_1(Dg,r) \le rM_1(g',r) + M_1(g,r) \le 2rM_1(g',r) = 2||(g_r)'||_{H^1}.$$

Hardy's inequality (see [14]) gives for  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ 

$$M_{\infty}(If,r) \le \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{|a_n|r^n}{n+1} \le C_0 M_1(f,r), \quad r > 0.$$

Therefore,

$$M_{\infty}(\tilde{V}_g f, r) \leq C_0 M_1((Dg)f, r) \leq C_0 \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})} e^{\phi(r)} M_1(Dg, r)$$
$$\leq 2BC_0 \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})} e^{\psi(r)}.$$

This gives the boundedness of  $\tilde{V}_g$  from  $\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}^{\psi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$ . To handle the case  $V_g$  we use that  $M_1(D(S^{-1}g), r) = M_1(g', r)$ . Arguing as above, we have

$$M_{\infty}(V_{g}f, r) = rM_{\infty}(\tilde{V}_{S^{-1}g}f, r) \le C \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}^{\phi}_{\infty}(\mathbf{C})} e^{\phi(r)} \|(g_{r})'\|_{H^{1}}$$

and the result follows with the same argument.

**Proposition 5.2.** Let  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  where  $\psi$  is differentiable with  $\psi'(t) > 0$  for t > 0 and  $g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Set

(42) 
$$B_1(\phi,\psi) = \sup_{r>0} \frac{e^{\phi(r)-\psi(r)}}{r\psi'(r)} \|(g_r)'\|_{H^{\infty}}.$$

If  $B_1(\phi, \psi) < \infty$ , then both  $\tilde{V}_g$  and  $V_g$  are bounded from  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  to  $H_w^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$ , where  $v(z) = e^{-\phi(|z|)}$  and  $w(z) = e^{-\psi(|z|)}$ .

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Proof. Let  $B_1(\phi, \psi) = B_1$ . Arguing as in (41) we obtain that  $M_{\infty}(Dg, r) \leq M_{\infty}(Dg, r)$  $2||(q_r)'||_{H^{\infty}}$ . Now for |z| = r we can estimate

$$\begin{split} |\tilde{V}_{g}(f)(z)| &\leq \int_{0}^{1} |f(zt)| |Dg(zt)| \, dt \leq \int_{0}^{1} M_{\infty}(f,rt) M_{\infty}(Dg,rt) \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} M_{\infty}(f,t) M_{\infty}(Dg,t) \, dt = 2 \|f\|_{v} \frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} e^{\phi(t)} \|(g_{t})'\|_{H^{\infty}} \, ds \\ &\leq 2B_{1} \|f\|_{v} \frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} t\psi'(t) e^{\psi(t)} \, ds = 2B_{1} \|f\|_{v} (e^{\psi(r)} - e^{\psi(0)}) \leq 2B_{1} \|f\|_{v} e^{\psi(|z|)}. \end{split}$$

This completes the proof for  $\tilde{V}_q$ . The case  $V_q$  follows similarly using that

$$M_{\infty}(D(S^{-1}g), r) = M_{\infty}(g', r).$$

Let us apply the previous result to polynomials, in particular for  $V_k = V_{u_k}$ .

**Corollary 5.3.** Let  $v(z) = e^{-\varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}}$  for some  $\beta > 0, \gamma \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $\alpha \ge 1$  and let  $g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $V_g \colon H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C}) \to H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded. (ii)  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $1 \leq \deg(g) \leq [p]$ .

*Proof.* (i)  $\implies$  (ii) This is the case  $p = \infty$  in Corollary 4.3.

(ii)  $\implies$  (i). It suffices to show that  $V_k$  is bounded on  $H_v^{\infty}(\mathbf{C})$  for  $1 \leq k \leq \alpha$ . Now for each  $1 \le k \le [\alpha]$  we have

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{\varphi'_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r)}{r^{k-1}} = \begin{cases} \alpha\beta, & k = \alpha;\\ \infty, & k < \alpha. \end{cases}$$

We can then apply Proposition 5.2 for  $\phi = \psi = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}$  and  $g = u_k$  to finish the proof.  $\square$ 

Let us get now some conditions depending on p for the boundedness on  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ . We shall use the following result.

**Lemma 5.4.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi \in \mathcal{W}$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\Phi_p}(\mathbf{C})$ , then  $I(f) \in \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ .

*Proof.* Using that  $If(z) = \int_0^1 f(zt) dt$ , for any 0 we obtain

$$M_p^p(I(f), r) \le \int_0^1 M_p^p(f, rt) \, dt \le \frac{1}{r} \int_0^r M_p^p(f, t) \, dt.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \|I(f)\|_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\phi}}^{p} &\leq C \int_{0}^{\infty} \left( \int_{0}^{r} M_{p}^{p}(f,t) \, dt \right) e^{-p\phi(r)} dr \leq C \int_{0}^{\infty} M_{p}^{p}(f,t) \left( \int_{t}^{\infty} e^{-p\phi(r)} dr \right) dt \\ &\leq C \int_{0}^{\infty} M_{p}^{p}(f,t) t e^{-p\Phi_{p}(t)} \, dt = C \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}_{p}^{\Phi_{p}}}^{p}. \end{split}$$

The proof is now complete.

**Proposition 5.5.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi, \psi \in W$  and set

(43) 
$$A_1(\phi, \psi, p) = \sup_{r>0} e^{\phi(r) - \Psi_p(r)} M_\infty(Dg, r).$$

If  $A_1(\phi, \psi, p) < \infty$ , then  $\tilde{V}_q$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$ .

Proof. Let  $A_1(\phi, \psi, p) = A_1$ . Using Lemma 5.4 and recalling that  $re^{-p\Psi_p(r)} = \int_r^\infty e^{-p\psi(s)} ds$  we have

$$\begin{split} \|\tilde{V}_g(f)\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}}^p &= \|IM_{Dg}f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}}^p \leq C \|M_{Dg}f\|_{\mathcal{F}_p^{\Psi_p}}^p \\ &\leq C \int_0^\infty M_p^p(f,r) M_\infty^p(Dg,r) \left(\int_r^\infty e^{-p\psi(s)} ds\right) dr \\ &\leq C A_1^p \int_0^\infty M_p^p(f,r) r e^{-p\phi(r)} dr. \end{split}$$

The proof is finished.

We can actually weaken the condition (43) in the case p > 1 using the following modification of the *p*-distortion functions.

**Definition 5.1.** Let  $\psi, \phi \in \mathcal{W}$  and 0 . We define

$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = e^{\Psi_p(r) - \phi(r)}, \quad 0$$

and

$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = \frac{re^{-(\phi(r) + (p-1)\psi(r))}}{\int_r^\infty e^{-p\psi(s)} ds}, \quad 1$$

In particular,  $H_{\phi,\phi,p}(r) = e^{\max\{p,1\}(\Phi_p(r) - \phi(r))}$ .

**Remark 5.1.** Note that for  $p \ge 1$  we can write

(44) 
$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = e^{\Psi_p(r) - \phi(r)} e^{(p-1)(\Psi_p(r) - \psi(r))} = e^{p(\Psi_p(r) - \psi(r))} e^{\psi(r) - \phi(r)}.$$

In particular, due to (ii) in Lemma 2.1 if  $\psi$  is differentiable and convex, then

$$e^{\Psi_p(r)-\phi(r)} \le CH_{\psi,\phi,p}(r), \quad r > R,$$

and for  $\psi \in \mathcal{W}_0$ , from Proposition 2.3, one has

$$e^{\psi(r)-\phi(r)} \le CH_{\psi,\phi,p}(r), \quad r > R.$$

We shall use the following general fact.

**Lemma 5.6.** Let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , let  $U, W: (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$  be measurable functions with  $W \in L^1((0, \infty))$  and let  $G: [0, \infty) \to \mathbf{R}^+$  be a continuous function. Assume that there exists C > 0 such that

(45) 
$$G(r) \le C \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{r}^{\infty} W(t) dt\right)^{-1} U^{1/p}(r) W^{1/p'}(r), \quad r > 0.$$

Then

(46) 
$$\int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{r}\int_0^r F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^p rW(r)\,dr \le C\int_0^\infty F^p(r)rU(r)\,dr$$

for any continuous function  $F: [0, \infty) \to \mathbf{R}^+$ .

*Proof.* For p = 1 condition (45) becomes  $G(t)(\int_t^\infty W(r)dr) \leq CtU(t)$  for t > 0 and the result follows from Fubini's theorem.

Assume p > 1. For each  $R, \varepsilon > 0$  integrating by parts we have

$$\int_{\varepsilon}^{R} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p} rW(r) \, dr$$

Boundedness of Volterra operators on spaces of entire functions

$$\begin{split} &= \left(\int_0^{\varepsilon} F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^p \left(\int_{\varepsilon}^{\infty} \frac{W(t)}{t^{p-1}}\,dt\right) - \left(\int_0^R F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^p \left(\int_R^{\infty} \frac{W(t)}{t^{p-1}}\,dt\right) \\ &+ p \int_0^R \left(\int_0^r F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^{p-1} F(r)G(r) \left(\int_r^{\infty} \frac{W(t)}{t^{p-1}}\,dt\right)dr \\ &\leq \left(\varepsilon \int_0^{\infty} W(t)\,dt\right) \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_0^{\varepsilon} F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^p \\ &+ p \int_0^{\infty} \left(\int_0^r F(t)G(t)\,dt\right)^{p-1} F(r)G(r) \left(\int_r^{\infty} \frac{W(t)}{t^{p-1}}dt\right)dr. \end{split}$$

Now passing to the limit as  $R \to \infty$  and  $\varepsilon \to 0$ , applying (45) and Hölder's inequality we have

$$\begin{split} &\int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p} rW(r) \, dr \\ &\leq p \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p-1} F(r)G(r) \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{W(t)}{t^{p-1}} \, dt\right) dr \\ &\leq p \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p-1} F(r)G(r) \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} W(t) \, dt\right) dr \\ &\leq C \left(\int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p} rW(r) \, dr\right)^{1/p'} \\ &\quad \cdot \left(\int_{0}^{\infty} F(r)^{p}G(r)^{p}W^{1-p}(r)r \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{r}^{\infty} W(t) \, dt\right)^{p} dr\right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq C \left(\int_{0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{0}^{r} F(t)G(t) \, dt\right)^{p} rW(r) \, dr\right)^{1/p'} \left(\int_{0}^{\infty} F^{p}(r)rU(r) \, dr\right)^{1/p}. \end{split}$$
This implies (46) and the proof is then complete.

**Theorem 5.7.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$ . If there exists A > 0

such that 
$$M_{-}(D_{-}) < AH_{-}(C)$$

(47) 
$$M_{\infty}(Dg,r) \le AH_{\psi,\phi,p}(r), \quad r > 0$$

then  $\tilde{V}_g$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  into  $\mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$ .

*Proof.* The case 0 was shown in Proposition 5.5.

Let us assume now that  $1 . Writing <math>\tilde{V}_g(f)(z) = \int_0^1 f(zt) Dg(zt) dt$  we have for  $0 < r < \infty$  and  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ ,

$$|\tilde{V}_g(f)(re^{i\theta})| \le \int_0^1 |f(re^{i\theta}t)| M_\infty(Dg, rt) \, dt.$$

Using vector-valued Minkowski's inequality we have

(48) 
$$M_p(\tilde{V}_g(f), r) \le \frac{1}{r} \int_0^r M_p(f, t) M_\infty(Dg, t) dt.$$

Let  $U(r) = e^{-p\phi(r)}$  and  $W(r) = e^{-p\psi(r)}$  and observe that

$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = \left(\frac{1}{r} \int_{r}^{\infty} W(t) \, dt\right)^{-1} U^{1/p}(r) W^{1/p'}(r).$$

Consider now  $F(t) = M_p(f,t)$  and  $G(t) = M_{\infty}(Dg,t)$  and notice that (47) together with (48) allow us to apply Lemma 5.6 to obtain

$$\int_0^\infty M_p^p(\tilde{V}_g(f), r) r e^{-p\psi(r)} dr \le C \int_0^\infty M_p^p(f, r) r e^{-p\phi(r)} dr$$

This finishes the proof.

We can now extend the condition in Proposition 5.2 also for boundedness in Fock-type spaces, at least for convex functions  $\psi$ .

**Corollary 5.8.** Let  $0 and let <math>\psi \in W$  be differentiable and convex in  $(0,\infty)$ . If  $q \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{C})$  satisfies

(49) 
$$\sup_{r>0} \frac{e^{\phi(r)-\psi(r)}M_{\infty}(Dg,r)}{r\psi'(r)} = A < \infty,$$

then  $\tilde{V}_g \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\psi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded.

*Proof.* First observe that

$$r\psi'(r)e^{-p\Psi_p(r)} \le \int_r^\infty \psi'(s)e^{-p\psi(s)}ds \le \frac{1}{p}e^{-p\psi(r)}, \quad r > 0$$

Hence assumption (49) gives

$$M_{\infty}(Dg,r) \le \frac{A}{p}e^{(1-p)(\psi(r)-\Psi_{p}(r))}e^{\Psi_{p}(r)-\phi(r)}.$$

Hence, according to (44) we obtain the condition (47) in the case  $p \ge 1$ . On the other hand, for  $0 due to part (ii) in Lemma 2.1 to know that <math>\sup_{r>0} e^{\psi(r)-\Psi_p(r)} < \infty$ . Hence  $M_{\infty}(Dg,r) \leq K e^{\Psi_p(r)-\phi(r)} = K H_{\psi,\phi,p}(r)$ . The result now follows from Theorem 5.7. 

**Corollary 5.9.** Let  $0 , <math>\phi(r) = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma}(r)$  for  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\gamma \ge 0$  and  $\alpha \ge 1$ and let  $g \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{C})$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $V_g: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded. (ii)  $g \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $1 \leq \deg(g) \leq [\alpha]$ .

*Proof.* (i)  $\implies$  (ii) This was shown in Corollary 4.3.

(ii)  $\implies$  (i). Let  $1 \leq k \leq [\alpha]$  and let us show that  $V_k \colon \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C})$ is bounded, or equivalently  $\tilde{V}_{k-1}: \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi}(\mathbf{C}) \to \mathcal{F}_p^{\phi(1)}(\mathbf{C})$  is bounded. From Proposition 5.7 it suffices to see that (47) holds for  $g(z) = z^{k-1}$ . Recall that  $H_{\psi,\phi,p}^{-1}(r) =$  $e^{p(\psi(r)-\Psi_p(r))}e^{\phi(r)-\psi(r)}$  for  $p \ge 1$  and  $H^{-1}_{\psi,\phi,p}(r) = e^{\phi(r)-\Psi_p(r)}$  for 0 . Hence, inparticular for  $\psi = \phi_{(1)} = \varphi_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma+1}$  we have  $\phi(r) - \psi(r) = \log(r)$ , we obtain, invoking (iii) in Lemma 2.1, that

(50) 
$$H_{\psi,\phi,p}^{-1}(r) \le Cr^{-\alpha+1}, \quad r > 0.$$

This gives

$$\sup_{r \ge 1} H_{\psi,\phi,p}^{-1}(r) M_{\infty}(Du_{k-1},r) \le C_k \sup_{r \ge 1} r^{k-\alpha} < \infty.$$

The proof is now complete.

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