

# Composition Followed and Proceeded by Differentiation between $\alpha$ -Bloch Spaces

Rekha Kumari and Anshu Sharma

Department of Mathematics  
University of Jammu, Jammu-180006, India  
rekha\_ju@yahoo.co.in

**Abstract.** In this paper, we consider linear operators  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  acting between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces, where  $C_\varphi$  and  $D$  are composition and differentiation operators respectively. In fact we characterise those holomorphic self-maps of  $\mathbb{D}$ , that induce bounded and compact  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  between Bloch-type spaces.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . Denote by  $H(\mathbb{D})$ , the space of holomorphic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . For a holomorphic map  $\varphi$  of  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $\varphi(\mathbb{D}) \subset \mathbb{D}$ , we can define linear operators

$$C_\varphi Df = (f' \circ \varphi) \quad \text{and} \quad DC_\varphi f = (f \circ \varphi)', \quad (f \in H(\mathbb{D})),$$

where  $C_\varphi$  and  $D$  are composition and differentiation operators respectively. For general background on composition operators, we refer [2] and [7] and references therein. Recently, several authors have studied  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  on some spaces of analytic functions. For more information on these operators, one can refer to [4] and [8]. The main theme of this paper is to study these operators between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and the little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces. The plan of the rest of the paper is as follows. In the next section we introduce  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and the little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces. Section 3 is devoted to characterise boundedness and compactness of  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces whereas boundedness and compactness of  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  between little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces is tackled in section 4.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section we will concentrate on those aspects of the  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces that will be needed throughout this paper.

Let  $0 < \alpha < \infty$ . A function  $f$  holomorphic in  $\mathbb{D}$  is said to belong to the  $\alpha$ -Bloch space  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  if

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'(z)| < \infty$$

and to the little  $\alpha$ -Bloch space  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  if

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'(z)| = 0.$$

It is well known that  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  is a Banach space under the norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} = |f(0)| + \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'(z)| = |f(0)| + s(f)$$

and  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  is a closed subspace of  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$ . Note that  $\mathcal{B}^1 = \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0^1 = \mathcal{B}_0$  are the usual Bloch space and the usual little Bloch space respectively.

Two quantities  $a$  and  $b$  are said to be comparable, denoted by  $a \approx b$ , if there exist two positive constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  such that  $C_1 a \leq b \leq C_2 a$ .

Next result is an alternate characterisation of the  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces and little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces (see [1]).

**Theorem 2.1.** [1] *Let  $1 \leq \alpha < \infty$ . Then for  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  following are equivalent:*

$$s(f) \approx |f'(0)| + \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^{\alpha+1} |f''(z)|.$$

Further  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  ( $\alpha \geq 1$ ) if and only if

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^{\alpha+1} |f''(z)| = 0.$$

To be precise, the above theorem is shown in [1] for the case  $\alpha = 1$ , however the same proof given there works for  $\alpha > 1$ .

The following Lemma describes the compact subsets of  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ .

**Lemma 2.2** [6] *Let  $K \subset \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ . Then  $K$  is compact if and only if  $K$  is closed, bounded and satisfies*

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \sup_{z \in K} (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'(z)| = 0.$$

For general background on Bloch spaces and little Bloch spaces, one may consult [1] [3] [9] [10] and references therein. Madigan and Matheson [5] characterised the boundedness and compactness of composition operators on  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0$ .

### 3 Boundedness and Compactness of $C_\varphi D$ and $DC_\varphi$ between $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers and  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self-map of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| < \infty. \quad (3.1)$$

Proof. First suppose that (3.1) holds. Then for arbitrary  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df)'(z)| &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |f''(\varphi(z))| |\varphi'(z)| \\ &\leq C_\alpha \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha}, \end{aligned}$$

and consequently,  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Conversely, suppose that  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Fix a point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$  and let  $w = \varphi(z_0)$ . Consider the function  $f_w$  given by  $f_w(z) = (1 - |w|^2)/2^{\alpha+1}(1 - \bar{w}z)^\alpha$ . Then  $f_w \in \mathcal{B}^\alpha$  and  $\|f_w\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1$ . Moreover

$$f'_w(z) = \frac{1 - |w|^2}{2^{\alpha+1}(1 - \bar{w}z)^{\alpha+1}} (\alpha \bar{w}) \quad \text{and} \quad f''_w(z) = \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)(\bar{w})^2(1 - |w|^2)}{2^{\alpha+1}(1 - \bar{w}z)^{\alpha+2}}.$$

Since  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , so there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\|C_\varphi Df_w\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \leq C \|f_w\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq C$ , for all  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ . Hence for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , we have  $(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |f''_w(\varphi(z))| |\varphi'(z)| \leq C$ . In particular, when  $z = z_0$ , we have

$$(1 - |z_0|^2)^\beta \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)|\varphi(z_0)|^2(1 - |\varphi(z_0)|^2)}{2^{\alpha+1}(1 - |\varphi(z_0)|^2)^{\alpha+2}} |\varphi'(z_0)| \leq C.$$

Thus

$$\frac{(1 - |z_0|^2)^\beta}{2^{\alpha+1}(1 - |\varphi(z_0)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi(z_0)|^2 |\varphi'(z_0)| \leq \frac{C}{\alpha(\alpha+1)}. \quad (3.2)$$

Let  $K = \{z_0 \in \mathbb{D} : |\varphi(z_0)| \leq r\}$ . With  $K$  as defined above the equation (3.2) gives

$$\sup_{z \notin K} \left[ \frac{(1 - |z_0|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z_0)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z_0)| \right] \leq \frac{2^{\alpha+1}C}{\alpha(\alpha+1)r^2},$$

whence  $\sup_{z \notin K} \left\{ \left[ \dots \right] : z \notin K \right\}$  is bounded, and  $\sup_{z \in K} \left\{ \left[ \dots \right] : z \notin K \right\}$  is certainly bounded, whence (3.1). This completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Let  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self-map of  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Then  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| = 0. \quad (3.3)$$

Proof. Let  $\{f_n\}$  be a bounded sequence in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  that converges to zero uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then we have to show that  $\|C_\varphi Df_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $M = \sup_n \|f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} < \infty$ . Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist an  $r \in (0, 1)$

such that if  $|\varphi(z)| > r$ , then  $((1 - |z|^2)^\beta / (1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1})|\varphi'(z)| < \epsilon$ . Using Theorem 2.1, we have for  $|\varphi(z)| > r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df_n)'(z)| &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |f_n''(\varphi(z))||\varphi'(z)| \\ &\leq C_\alpha (1 - |z|^2)^\beta \frac{\|f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha}}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| \\ &< \epsilon M C_\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

for all  $n$ . On the other hand since  $f_n'' \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $\{w : |w| \leq r\}$ , there exists an  $n_0$  such that if  $|\varphi(z)| \leq r$  and  $n \geq n_0$ , then  $|f_n''(\varphi(z))| < \epsilon$ . Moreover, by (3.1), we have  $A = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)| < \infty$ . Thus

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df_n'(z)| \leq (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)||f_n''(\varphi(z))| < \epsilon A.$$

The above arguments, together with the fact that  $C_\varphi Df_n(0) = f_n'(\varphi(0)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , yields that  $\|C_\varphi Df_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ .

Conversely, suppose that (3.3) does not hold. Then there exists a positive number  $\lambda$  and a sequence  $\{z_m\}$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(z_m)| \rightarrow 1$  and

$$\frac{(1 - |z_m|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z_m)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z_m)| \geq \lambda,$$

for all  $m$ . For each  $m$  define  $f_m(z) = (1 - |\varphi(z_m)|^2) / 2^{\alpha+1} (1 - \overline{\varphi(z_m)}z)^\alpha$ . Then  $f_m \in \mathcal{B}^\alpha$  and  $\|f_m\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1$ . Since  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  and  $f_n$  is a norm bounded sequence that converges to zero uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ , it follows that a subsequence of  $\{C_\varphi Df_m\}$  tends to zero in  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \|C_\varphi Df_m\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} &\geq (1 - |z_m|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df_m)'(z_m)| \\ &= (1 - |z_m|^2)^\beta |f_m''(z_m)||\varphi'(z_m)| \\ &= \frac{\alpha(\alpha + 1)|\varphi(z_m)|^2(1 - |z_m|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z_m)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z_m)| \\ &\geq \alpha(\alpha + 1)|\varphi(z_m)|^2 \lambda, \end{aligned}$$

which is absurd and hence we are done.

**Theorem 3.3** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers and  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self-map of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$(i) \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} < \infty.$$

**Proof.** First suppose that

$$M = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad N = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} < \infty.$$

For arbitrary  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f)'(z)| &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(f \circ \varphi)''(z)| \\ &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta [|\varphi'(z)|^2 |f''(\varphi(z))| + |f'(\varphi(z))| |\varphi''(z)|] \\ &\leq \left( C_\alpha \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} + \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} \right) \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \\ &\leq (C_\alpha M + N) \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

and consequently,  $DC_\varphi f$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Then taking  $f(z) = z$  in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$ , we get  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Again taking  $f(z) = z^2/2$  in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$ , we get  $(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(\varphi'(z))^2 + \varphi(z)\varphi''(z)| \leq M$ . Since  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}^\beta$  and  $|\varphi(z)| < 1$ , we get  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 < \infty$ . Fix  $\lambda \in \mathbb{D}$  and consider the function  $f_\lambda$  defined by

$$f_\lambda(z) = \left\{ \frac{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)}{\alpha(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^\alpha} \right\} \quad (z \in \mathbb{D}).$$

Then

$$f'_\lambda(z) = \overline{\varphi(\lambda)} \left\{ \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+2}} - \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+1}} \right\}.$$

An easy calculation yields that  $(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'_\lambda(z)| \leq 3(\alpha + 1)2^{\alpha+1}$  and  $|f_\lambda(0)| \leq 1 + (\alpha + 1)/\alpha$ . Thus we have  $M = \sup\{\|f_\lambda\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}\} \leq (1 + (\alpha + 1)/\alpha + 3(\alpha + 1)2^{\alpha+1})$ . Moreover  $f'_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda)) = 0$ . Again

$$f''_\lambda(z) = \left( \frac{(\alpha + 1)(\alpha + 2)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+3}} - \frac{(\alpha + 1)^2(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+2}} \right) \overline{(\varphi(\lambda))^2}.$$

and so

$$f''_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda)) = \frac{(\alpha + 1)}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} \overline{(\varphi(\lambda))^2}$$

Since  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , so we can find a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\|DC_\varphi f_\lambda\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \leq C \|f_\lambda\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq CM$ . Hence

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |f''_\lambda(\varphi(z))(\varphi'(z))^2 + f'_\lambda(\varphi(z))\varphi''(z)| \leq CM$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . In particular

$$(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta |f''_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda))(\varphi'(\lambda))^2 + f'_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda))\varphi''(\lambda)| \leq CM$$

and so

$$(\alpha + 1) \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi(\lambda)|^2 |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2 \leq CM.$$

Thus for fixed  $\delta_1$ ,  $0 < \delta_1 < 1$ , we have

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2 : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}, |\varphi(\lambda)| > \delta_1 \right\} < \infty. \quad (3.4)$$

For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(\lambda)| \leq \delta_1$ , we have

$$\frac{1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{(1 - \delta_1^2)^{\alpha+1}} (1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2.$$

Since  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}^\beta$ , we have

$$\sup \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2 : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}, |\varphi(\lambda)| \leq \delta_1 < \infty. \quad (3.5)$$

Consequently, by (3.4) and (3.5), we have

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{D}} \left\{ \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(\lambda)|^2 \right\} < \infty.$$

Next for fixed  $\lambda \in \mathbb{D}$ , consider the function

$$f_\lambda(z) = \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^3}{(\alpha + 3)(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+2}} - \frac{1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+1}}$$

Then

$$f'_\lambda(z) = \left( \frac{(\alpha + 1)(\alpha + 2)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^3}{(\alpha + 3)(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+3}} - \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+2}} \right) \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}$$

Thus an easy calculation yields that  $(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha |f'_\lambda(z)| \leq (\alpha + 1)(5\alpha + 11)2^{\alpha+1}$  and  $|f_\lambda(0)| \leq 4(3\alpha + 5)/(\alpha + 3)$  and so, we have  $M = \sup\{\|f_\lambda\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}\} \leq 4(3\alpha + 5)/(\alpha + 3) + (\alpha + 1)(5\alpha + 11)2^{\alpha+1}$ . Also

$$f''_\lambda(z) = (\alpha + 1)(\alpha + 2) \left( \frac{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^3}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+4}} - \frac{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}z)^{\alpha+3}} \right) \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}^2.$$

Thus

$$f''(\varphi(\lambda)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f'_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda)) = -\frac{(\alpha + 1)}{(\alpha + 3)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} \overline{\varphi(\lambda)}.$$

Now we can find a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$C \geq (1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta |f''_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda))(\varphi'(\lambda))^2 + f'_\lambda(\varphi(\lambda))\varphi''(\lambda)|$$

and hence

$$\frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(\alpha + 3)(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi(\lambda)| |\varphi''(\lambda)| \leq C'.$$

Thus for fixed  $\delta_2$ ,  $0 < \delta_2 < 1$ , we have

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(\lambda)| : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}, |\varphi(\lambda)| > \delta_2 \right\} < \infty. \quad (3.6)$$

For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(\lambda)| \leq \delta_2$ , we have

$$\frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(\lambda)| \leq \frac{1}{(1 - \delta_2^2)^\alpha} (1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(\lambda)|$$

Since  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ , we have

$$\sup \left\{ \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(\lambda)| : \lambda \in \mathbb{D}, |\varphi(\lambda)| \leq \delta_2 \right\} < \infty. \tag{3.7}$$

Consequently, by (3.6) and (3.7) we have

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |\lambda|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(\lambda)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(\lambda)| < \infty.$$

This completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1, \beta > 0$  be two real numbers and  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self map of  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Then  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$(i) \lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} = 0.$$

Proof. Let  $\{f_n\}$  be a bounded sequence in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  that converges to zero uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $\|DC_\varphi f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $M = \sup_n \|f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} < \infty$ . Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist an  $r \in (0, 1)$  such that if  $|\varphi(z)| > r$ , then

$$\frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)|^2 < \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(z)|^2 < \epsilon.$$

Thus for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(z)| > r$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f_n)'(z)| &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta (|\varphi'(z)|^2 |f_n''(\varphi(z))| + |f_n'(\varphi(z))| |\varphi''(z)|) \\ &\leq \left( C_\alpha \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} + \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} \right) \|f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \\ &< \epsilon M (C_\alpha + 1) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $n$ . On the other hand since  $f_n'$  and  $f_n''$  converges uniformly on  $\{w : |w| \leq r\}$ , there exist an  $n_0$  such that if  $|\varphi(z)| \leq r$  and  $n \geq n_0$ , then  $|f_n'(\varphi(z))| < r$  and  $|f_n''(\varphi(z))| < \epsilon$ . Also conditions (1) and (2) of Theorem 3.3 implies that

$$A = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad B = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)| < \infty.$$

Thus we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f_n)'(z)| &\leq (1 - |z|^2)^\beta (|\varphi'(z)|^2 |f_n''(\varphi(z))| + |f_n'(\varphi(z))| |\varphi''(z)|) \\ &\leq (A + B)\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

The above arguments together with the fact that  $DC_\varphi f_n(0) = f_n'(\varphi(0)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  yields that  $\|DC_\varphi f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ . Let  $\{z_n\}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(z_n)| \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Let

$$f_n(z) = \frac{(1 - |\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1 - \overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+1}} - \frac{(\alpha + 1)(1 - |\varphi(z_n)|^2)}{\alpha(1 - \overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^\alpha}$$

for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Then as in Theorem 3.3,  $f_n \in \mathcal{B}^\alpha$ ,  $f_n$  is norm bounded in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  and  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Moreover

$$f'_n(z) = \overline{\varphi(z_n)} \left\{ \frac{(\alpha+1)(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+2}} - \frac{(\alpha+1)(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+1}} \right\}$$

$$f''_n(z) = \left\{ \frac{(\alpha+1)(\alpha+2)(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+3}} - \frac{(\alpha+1)^2(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+2}} \right\} \overline{(\varphi(z_n))^2}.$$

Note that

$$f'_n(\varphi(z_n)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f''_n(\varphi(z_n)) = \frac{(\alpha+1)}{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} \overline{(\varphi(z_n))^2}.$$

Since  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , it follows that  $\|DC_\varphi f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus

$$\|DC_\varphi f_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \geq \frac{(1-|z_n|^2)^\beta (\alpha+1) |\varphi(z_n)|^2 |\varphi'(z_n)|^2}{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^{\alpha+1}}$$

implies that

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z_n)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1-|z_n|^2)^\beta}{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z_n)|^2 = 0.$$

Next for  $\{z_n\} \in \mathbb{D}$  such that  $|\varphi(z_n)| \rightarrow 1$  consider the function

$$g_n(z) = \frac{(\alpha+1)(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^3}{(\alpha+3)(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+2}} - \frac{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+1}}.$$

Again as in Theorem 3.3,  $g_n \in \mathcal{B}^\alpha$ ,  $g_n$  is norm bounded in  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  and  $g_n \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Moreover

$$g'_n(z) = \left\{ \frac{(\alpha+1)(\alpha+2)}{\alpha+3} \frac{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^3}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+3}} - \frac{(\alpha+1)(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+3}} \right\} \overline{\varphi(z_n)}$$

and

$$g''_n(z) = (\alpha+1)(\alpha+2) \left\{ \frac{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^3}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+4}} - \frac{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^2}{(1-\overline{\varphi(z_n)}z)^{\alpha+3}} \right\} \overline{(\varphi(z_n))^2}.$$

Thus

$$g'_n(\varphi(z_n)) = -\frac{(\alpha+1)}{(\alpha+3)} \frac{1}{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^\alpha} \overline{\varphi(z_n)} \quad \text{and} \quad g''_n(\varphi(z_n)) = 0.$$

Since  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , so

$$\|DC_\varphi g_n\|_{\mathcal{B}^\beta} \geq \frac{(\alpha+1)}{(\alpha+3)} \frac{(1-|z_n|^2)^\beta}{(1-|\varphi(z_n)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(z_n)|$$

and hence

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1-|z|^2)^\beta}{(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi''(z)| = 0$$

This completes the proof.



## 4 Boundedness and Compactness of $C_\varphi D$ and $DC_\varphi$ between little $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces

In this section, we consider the operators  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  acting between little  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  and  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$ ,  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers and  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self map of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if the following conditions are satisfied*

$$(i) \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta.$$

Proof. First suppose that  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . Then (i) can be proved exactly in the same way as in the proof of the Theorem 3.1. By taking  $f(z) = z^2/2$  in  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ , we get  $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  which is (ii).

Next, suppose that (i) and (ii) are satisfied. Take any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ . Then by Theorem 2.1, there is  $\delta_1 \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ,  $|z| > \delta_1$ , we have  $|f''(z)| < \varepsilon/(1 - |z|^2)^{\alpha+1}$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| > \delta_1$ , by (i), we can find a constant  $M > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |f''(\varphi(z))\varphi'(z)| < \varepsilon |\varphi'(z)| \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} \leq \varepsilon M. \quad (4.1)$$

On the other hand, since by (ii)  $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ , so for above  $\varepsilon$ , there is  $\delta_2 \in (0, 1)$  such that  $|z| > \delta_2$  implies that  $(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)| < \varepsilon$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| \leq \delta_1$ , if  $|z| > \delta_2$ , we have a constant  $N > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)f''(\varphi(z))| < C_\alpha \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} |\varphi'(z)| \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - \delta_1^2)^{\alpha+1}} \leq \varepsilon N. \quad (4.2)$$

By combining (4.1) and (4.2), we see that whenever  $|z| > \delta_2$ , we have

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)f''(\varphi(z))| \leq \max(M, N)\varepsilon$$

which means

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df)'(z)| = 0.$$

Thus  $C_\varphi Df \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . By Closed Graph Theorem  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$ ,  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers and  $\varphi$  be a holomorphic self map of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| = 0. \quad (4.3)$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.2, the set  $\{C_\varphi Df : f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha, \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1\}$  has compact closure in  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \sup \{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df)'(z)| : f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha, \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1\} = 0. \quad (4.4)$$

Suppose that  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  is such that  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1$ , and (4.3) is satisfied. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(C_\varphi Df)'(z)| &= (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z) f''(\varphi(z))| \\ &\leq \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

By (4.2) above inequality implies (4.4). Hence  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . Using the same test as in the proof of Theorem 3.2, we see that

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} |\varphi'(z)| = 0. \quad (4.5)$$

Since  $C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ , Theorem 4.1 implies that  $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . It is easy to show that  $\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  and (4.5) is equivalent to (4.4).

**Remark.** The conditions in Theorem 4.2 include the necessary and sufficient conditions for boundedness of  $C_\varphi D$  from  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Then  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if the following conditions are satisfied.*

- (i)  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} < \infty$ , (ii)  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} < \infty$ ,  
 (iii)  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  and (iv)  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 = 0$ .

**Proof.** First suppose that  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . Then (i) and (ii) can be proved exactly in the same way as in the proof of the Theorem 3.1. By taking  $f(z) = z$  in  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ , we get  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  which is (ii). Again by taking  $f(z) = z^2/2$  in  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ , we get  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta (|\varphi'(z)|^2 + \varphi(z)\varphi''(z)) = 0$ . Since  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  and  $|\varphi(z)| < 1$ , we get  $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 = 0$ , which is (iv).

Next, suppose that (i) – (iv) are satisfied. Take any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ . Then by (2.2) there is  $\delta_1 \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ,  $|z| > \delta_1$ , we have  $|f''(z)| < \varepsilon/(1 - |z|^2)^{\alpha+1}$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| > \delta_1$ , by (i), we can find a constant  $C_1 > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(\varphi'(z))^2 f''(\varphi(z))| < \varepsilon |\varphi'(z)|^2 \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} \leq C_1 \varepsilon \quad (4.6)$$

On the other hand, by (iv) there is  $\delta_2 \in (0, 1)$  such that  $(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 < \varepsilon$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| \leq \delta_1$ , if  $|z| > \delta_2$ , we have a constant  $C_2 > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(\varphi'(z))^2 f''(\varphi(z))| < C_\alpha \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} |\varphi'(z)|^2 \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - \delta_1^2)^{\alpha+1}} \leq C_2 \varepsilon \quad (4.7)$$

By combining (4.6) and (4.7), we see that whenever  $|z| > \delta_2$ , we have

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(\varphi'(z))^2 f''(\varphi(z))| \leq \max(C_1, C_2)\varepsilon. \quad (4.8)$$

Again, since  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$ , there is  $\delta_3 \in (0, 1)$  such that  $|z| > \delta_3$  implies that  $|f'(z)| < \varepsilon/(1 - |z|^2)^\alpha$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| > \delta_3$ , by (ii), we can find a constant  $C_3 > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)f'(\varphi(z))| < \varepsilon |\varphi''(z)| \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} \leq C_3\varepsilon \quad (4.9)$$

On the other hand, by (iii)  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ , so for above  $\varepsilon$ , there is  $\delta_4 \in (0, 1)$  such that  $|z| > \delta_4$  implies that  $(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)| < \varepsilon$ . Thus for  $|\varphi(z)| \leq \delta_3$ , if  $|z| > \delta_4$ , we have a constant  $C_4 > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)f'(\varphi(z))| < \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} |\varphi''(z)| \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - \delta_3^2)^\alpha} \leq C_4\varepsilon \quad (4.10)$$

By combining (4.9) and (4.10), we see that whenever  $|z| > \delta_4$ , we have

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)f'(\varphi(z))| \leq \max(C_3, C_4)\varepsilon. \quad (4.11)$$

By combining (4.8) and (4.11), we have for  $\delta = \max(\delta_2, \delta_4)$ , if  $|z| > \delta$ , there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |z|^2)^\beta (|\varphi'(z)|^2 |f''(\varphi(z))| + |f'(\varphi(z))| |\varphi''(z)|) < \varepsilon C$$

which means that

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f)'(z)| = 0.$$

Thus  $DC_\varphi \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . The proof is complete.

**Theorem 4.4.** Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Then  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if

$$(i) \lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} = 0.$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.2, the set  $\{DC_\varphi f : f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha, \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1\}$  has compact closure in  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  if and only if

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \sup \{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f)'(z)| : f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha, \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1\} = 0. \quad (4.12)$$

Suppose that  $f \in \mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  is such that  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \leq 1$ , and  $\varphi$  satisfies (i) and (ii). Then

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |(DC_\varphi f)'(z)| &\leq (1 - |z|^2)^\beta [|\varphi'(z)|^2 |f''(\varphi(z))| + |f'(\varphi(z))| |\varphi''(z)|] \\ &\leq C_\alpha \left( \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} + \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} \right) \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

By (i) and (ii) above inequality implies (4.12). Hence  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ . Using the same test function as in the proof of Theorem 3.4, we see that

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{\alpha+1}} = 0 \quad (4.13)$$

and

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} = 0. \quad (4.14)$$

Since  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ , Theorem 4.3 implies that  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  and

$$\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} (1 - |z|^2)^\beta |\varphi'(z)|^2 = 0 \quad (4.15)$$

It is easy to show that  $\varphi' \in \mathcal{B}_0^\beta$  and (4.14) is equivalent to (i) and (4.13) and (4.15) is equivalent to (ii).

**Remark.** The conditions in Theorem 4.4 include the necessary and sufficient conditions for boundedness of  $DC_\varphi$  from  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ .

In the trivial case that  $\varphi(z) = z$ , our theorems give necessary and sufficient conditions for boundedness and compactness of the differentiation operator between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces. It seems that the results for the boundedness and compactness of the differentiation operator between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces has not appeared in the literature. Therefore we single these results as corollaries.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ ;
- (ii)  $D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ ;
- (iii)  $\alpha + 1 \leq \beta$ .

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ ;
- (ii)  $D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}_0^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}_0^\beta$ ;
- (iii)  $\alpha + 1 < \beta$ .

Before we give some examples, we state characterisations of boundedness and compactness of the  $C_\varphi$  between  $\alpha$ -Bloch spaces, obtained by Ohno, Stroethoff and Zhao in [6], (see Corollaries 2.4 and 3.2).

**Theorem 4.5.** [6] *Let  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $\beta > 0$  be two real numbers. Then  $C_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi'(z)| < \infty.$$

*Further, if  $C_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , then  $C_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  compactly into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$  if and only if*

$$\lim_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^\beta}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^\alpha} |\varphi'(z)| = 0.$$

**Example 1.** Let  $\varphi(z) = (1 - z)/2$ . Then  $1 - |\varphi(z)|^2 \geq (1 - |z|^2)/4$ . Thus by Theorem 4.5, we obtain that  $C_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly (respectively compactly) into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , when  $\alpha \leq \beta$  (respectively  $\alpha < \beta$ ).

Furthermore  $C_\varphi D$  and  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly (respectively compactly) into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , when  $\alpha + 1 \leq \beta$  (respectively  $\alpha + 1 < \beta$ ).

**Example 2.** Let  $\varphi_\gamma(z) = 1 - (1 - z)^\gamma$ ,  $0 < \gamma < 1$ . Then  $\varphi'_\gamma(z) = \gamma(1 - z)^{\gamma-1}$ . Again for  $z$  near to 1,  $1 - |\varphi_\gamma(z)|^2 \approx (1 - z)^\gamma$ . Thus by Theorem 4.5,  $C_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly (respectively compactly) into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , when  $\alpha - \gamma + 1 \leq \beta$  (respectively  $\alpha - \gamma + 1 < \beta$ ).

$C_\varphi D$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly (respectively compactly) into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , when  $\alpha - \gamma + 2 \leq \beta$  (respectively  $\alpha - \gamma + 2 < \beta$ ) and  $DC_\varphi$  maps  $\mathcal{B}^\alpha$  boundedly (respectively compactly) into  $\mathcal{B}^\beta$ , when  $\alpha - \gamma + 3 \leq \beta$  (respectively  $\alpha - \gamma + 3 < \beta$ ).

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