

## Composition operators on de Branges–Rovnyak spaces

مؤثرات التركيب على فضاءات دي برانجز روفنيك

Ghada Nasser<sup>1</sup>, Abdallah Hakawati and Muath Karaki\*

غادة ناصر، عبدالله حكواتي و معاذ كركي

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Sciences, An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine

\* Corresponding Author: muath.karaki@najah.edu

Received: (25/8/2018), Accepted: (27/11/2019 )

### Abstract

We obtain invariant de Branges–Rovnyak spaces for the composition operator  $C_\phi$ . We also find the images of the composition operators on the de Branges–Rovnyak spaces,  $\mathcal{H}(b)$ , for special cases of  $b$ .

**Keywords:** Compoition operators, Hardy spaces, de Branges–Rovnyak spaces.

### ملخص

نعرض في هذه الدراسة بعض فضاءات دي برانجز روفنيك التي لا تتغير تحت تأثير مؤثرات التركيب. كذلك نجد مدى بعض مؤثرات التركيب على حالات خاصة من هذه الفضاءات.

**الكلمات المفتاحية :** مؤثرات التركيب، فضاءات هاردي، فضاءات دي برانجز روفنيك..

<sup>1</sup>The information contained in this article was extracted from a master's thesis by the first the author, at An-Najah National University that was defended on 29/8/2017.

ان البحث مستل من رسالة الماجستير للطالبة غادة ناصر بعنوان مؤثرات التركيب على فضاء دي برانجز روفنيك والتي تم مناقشتها في جامعة النجاح الوطنية بتاريخ ٢٩-٨-٢٠١٧

## 1 Introduction

## 2 Introduction and preliminaries

Let  $\mathbb{D}$  denote the unit disc  $\{z : |z| < 1\}$ , and  $\mathbb{T}$  denote the unit circle  $\{z : |z| = 1\}$ . If  $\varphi : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  is analytic, then the composition operator  $C_\varphi$  is the linear operator defined by  $C_\varphi f = f \circ \varphi$ ,  $f$  is analytic on  $\mathbb{D}$ . The composition operator is intensively studied on various function spaces in the past decades; the list of references is too long, for example (Cowen & MacCluer, 1995; Fricain, Karaki, & Mashreghi, 2016; Hammond, 2003; Jafari & Consortium, 1998; Karsisto, 2003; Lefèvre, Li, Queffélec, & Rodríguez-Piazza, 2015; Li, Queffélec, & Rodríguez-Piazza, 2012; Lyubarskii & Malinnikova, 2012; Mashreghi & Shabankhah, 2014, 2013; Sarker & University, 2008; Shapishapirobookro, 1993; Singh & Manhas, 1993). We will focus on the Hilbert-Hardy space  $H^2$  and spaces live inside it, the monographs (Duren, 2000; Koosis, 1998) contain the basic theory of Hardy spaces. We present the basic definitions and properties. The Hardy space  $H^2$  is the space of all analytic functions  $f$  in the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ , for which the norm

$$\|f\|^2 = \sup_{0 < r < 1} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^2 d\theta, \quad (2.1)$$

is finite. The space  $H^\infty$  denotes the space of all bounded analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$  normed by

$$\|f\|_\infty = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |f(z)|.$$

It is well-known that  $H^2$  is a reproducing kernel Hilbert space, that is for  $f$  in  $H^2$ ,

$$f(\lambda) = \langle f, k_\lambda \rangle,$$

$\lambda \in \mathbb{D}$  with the kernel  $k_\lambda(z) = (1 - \bar{\lambda}z)^{-1}$ . If  $f$  is in  $H^2$  then it can be factorized in a canonical way, specifically,  $f(z) = B(z)S(z)O(z)$ , where  $B$

is a Blaschke product of the form

$$B(z) = e^{i\gamma} \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{z_j}{|z_j|} \frac{z - z_j}{1 - \bar{z}_j z},$$

$S$  is a singular inner function and  $O$  is an outer function, that is a function of the form

$$O(re^{i\theta}) = \exp \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{e^{it} + re^{i\theta}}{e^{it} - re^{i\theta}} k(e^{it}) dt \right),$$

where  $k$  is a real-valued integrable function.

The scene shifts to subspaces in  $H^2$ , the so called the de Branges-Rovnyak spaces. Let  $b$  be in the closed unit ball of  $H^\infty$ . Then the de Branges-Rovnyak space  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  is the range space of  $(I - T_b T_{\bar{b}})^{1/2} H^2$  equipped with the norm which makes  $(I - T_b T_{\bar{b}})^{1/2}$  a partial isometry, where  $T_b$  is the Toeplitz operator on  $H^2$ ,  $(T_b f = P_+ b f)$ . These spaces play an important role in many questions in function theory, operator theory, and in the model theory. For the detailed treatments of  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  one can consult (Fricain & Mashreghi, 2016; Sarason, 1994).  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  spaces are reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces with reproducing kernel

$$k_\lambda^b(z) = \frac{1 - \overline{b(\lambda)} b(z)}{1 - \bar{\lambda} z}, \quad \lambda, z \in \mathbb{D},$$

and  $f(\lambda) = \langle f, k_\lambda^b \rangle_b$  for all  $f$  in  $\mathcal{H}(b)$ . If  $b$  is an inner function, that is a function in  $H^\infty$  of modulus 1 almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{T}$ , then  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  becomes the well-known model space  $\mathcal{H}(b) = K_b := H^2 \ominus bH^2$ .

The exact contents of the de Branges-Rovnyak spaces  $\mathcal{H}(b)$ , for general  $b$ , are not clear. Recently authors of (Fricain, Hartmann, & Ross, 2016) characterized de Branges-Rovnyak spaces for  $b$  is rational or  $b = q^r$ , where  $q$  is a rational outer function in the unit ball of  $H^\infty$  and  $r \geq 0$ . They precisely determined which functions belong to  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  in such cases. For example we have,

$$\mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(1+z) \right) = (z-1)H^2 \oplus \mathbb{C},$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}\left(\frac{1}{2}(1-z)(1+z)\right) = (z-i)(z+i)H^2 \oplus \sqrt{\{z+i, z-i\}}.$$

These are examples from (Fricain, Hartmann, & Ross, 2016).

### 3 Composition operators on $\mathcal{H}(b)$ into itself

In this section we will study the composition operator  $C_\varphi$  on the space  $\mathcal{H}(b) = (z-\zeta)H^2 \oplus \mathbb{C}$  where  $\varphi$  is analytic and maps the unit disc  $\mathbb{D}$  into itself,  $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$ . We have obtained sufficient and necessary conditions for  $C_\varphi$  to map  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  into itself. We have,

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$ , and  $\mathcal{H}(b) = (z-\zeta)H^2 \oplus \mathbb{C}$ . If  $\varphi$  is an analytic self-map of  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\varphi(\zeta) = \zeta$  then*

$$C_\varphi : \mathcal{H}(b) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}(b).$$

*Proof.* Let  $f \in \mathcal{H}(b)$  such that  $f = (z-\zeta)g + c$ ,  $g \in H^2$  and  $c$  is constant, then

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ \varphi &= (\varphi(z) - \zeta)g(\varphi(z)) + c \\ &= (z - \zeta)h(z)g(\varphi(z)) + c \in \mathcal{H}(b), \end{aligned}$$

$g(\varphi(z)) \in H^2$ , and  $h(z) \in H^\infty$ . □

The converse of the previous theorem is still true if we assume that  $\varphi$  is rational.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Suppose  $\mathcal{H}(b) = (z-\zeta)H^2 \oplus \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$ . Let  $\varphi$  be a rational analytic function, such that  $\varphi$  maps the unit disc  $\mathbb{D}$  into itself, then*

$$C_\varphi : \mathcal{H}(b) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}(b)$$

*if and only if  $\varphi(\zeta) = \zeta$ .*

*Proof.* Theorem 3.1 proves the sufficiency. For the converse, suppose  $C_\varphi : \mathcal{H}(b) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(b)$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} f = k_0^b &= 1 - \overline{b(0)}b(z) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{c^2}(1 + \gamma z) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{c^2} - \frac{1}{c^2}\gamma z \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{c^2} - \frac{\gamma}{c^2}(z - \zeta + \zeta) \\ &= \frac{-\gamma}{c^2}(z - \zeta) + 1 - \frac{\zeta\gamma + 1}{c^2} \in \mathcal{H}(b), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$C_\varphi f = \frac{-\gamma}{c^2}(\varphi(z) - \zeta) + 1 - \frac{\zeta\gamma + 1}{c^2} \in \mathcal{H}(b),$$

therefore, we can write  $(\varphi(z) - \zeta)$  as  $(z - \zeta)h$ , where  $h \in H^2$ , thus  $\varphi(\zeta) = \zeta$ . □

#### 4 Composition operator on $\mathcal{H}(b)$

In this section we will give several examples of composition operators  $C_\varphi$  that map de Branges-Rovnyak spaces to different de Branges-Rovnyak spaces.

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $B(z) = \left(\frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z}\right)^2$  then*

$$C_B : \mathcal{H}\left(\frac{1}{2}(1+z)\right) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}\left(\frac{1}{2}(z-i)(z+i)\right)$$

where  $a \in (-1, 1)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f \in \mathcal{H}\left(\frac{1}{2}(1+z)\right)$  such that  $f = (z-1)g + c$  where  $g \in H^2$ ,

$c \in \mathbb{C}$  then

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_B f = f(B(z)) &= (B(z) - 1)g + c \\
 &= \left( \left( \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z} \right)^2 - 1 \right) g + c \\
 &= \left( \frac{(a-z)^2 - (1-\bar{a}z)^2}{(1-\bar{a}z)^2} \right) g + c \\
 &= \left( \frac{z^2(1-\bar{a}^2) + z(2\bar{a}-2a) + a^2 - 1}{(1-\bar{a}z)^2} \right) g + c \\
 &= \left( \frac{z^2(1-a^2) - (1-a^2)}{(1-az)^2} \right) g + c \quad (\text{since } a \text{ is real}) \\
 &= (z^2 - 1) \frac{(1-a^2)g}{(1-az)^2} + c \\
 &= (z-1)(z+1) \frac{(1-a^2)g}{(1-az)^2} + c \\
 &\in \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(z-i)(z+i) \right) \\
 &= (z-1)(z+1)H^2 \oplus \sqrt{\{1+z, 1-z\}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Using the same technique one can prove each of the followings,

**Theorem 4.2.** If  $b = \frac{1}{2}(z+1)$  and  $B(z) = \frac{z-a_1}{1-\bar{a}_1z} \cdot \frac{z-a_2}{1-\bar{a}_2z}$  then

$$C_B : \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(z+1) \right) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(z-i)(z+i) \right)$$

where  $a_1, a_2$  are real and  $|a_1| \leq 1, |a_2| \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** If  $b = \frac{1}{2}(1+z)$  and  $B(z) = \left( \frac{a-z}{1-\bar{a}z} \right)$  then

$$C_B : \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(1+z) \right) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(1-z) \right)$$

where  $a$  is real and  $|a| \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 4.4.** *If  $b = \frac{1}{2}(1 - z)$  and  $B(z) = z \left( \frac{a-z}{1-az} \right)$  then*

$$C_B : \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(1 - z) \right) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \left( \frac{1}{2}(z - i)(z + i) \right)$$

where  $a$  is real and  $|a| \leq 1$ .

**5 Composition operator on  $\mathcal{H}(b)$ , polynomials**

**Theorem 5.1.** *(Fricain, Hartmann, & Ross, 2016, Corollary 5.10) Suppose  $q$  is a polynomial outer function of degree  $s$  and let  $a$  be the Pythagorean mate for  $q$ . Let  $N$  be the number of zeros of  $a$  on  $\mathbb{T}$  counted with multiplicities. Then the following are equivalent:*

1.  $\mathcal{H}(q) = \mathcal{M}(a) \oplus \mathcal{P}_{N-1}$
2.  $N = s$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** *Suppose we have  $q$  that satisfies Theorem 5.1. If  $\varphi$  is an analytic self-map of  $\mathbb{D}$  and of the form*

$$\varphi(z) = a(z)h(z) + z,$$

then

$$C_\varphi : \mathcal{H}(q) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(q)$$

*Proof.* Let  $q$  be a polynomial of degree  $N$ , Suppose that its Pythagorean is of the form

$$a(z) = \prod_{k=1}^n (z - \zeta_k)^{m_k} h(z),$$

and  $\sum_{j=1}^n m_j = N$ .

Take  $f \in \mathcal{H}(q)$ . Say

$$f = \underbrace{\prod_{k=1}^n (z - \zeta_k)^{m_k} h(z)}_{f_1} + \underbrace{c_0 + c_1 z + \dots + c_{N-1} z^{N-1}}_{f_2}.$$

Then, the composition with  $f_1$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} (C_\varphi f_1)(z) &= \prod_{k=1}^n (a(z)h(z) + z - \zeta_k)^{m_k} h(z) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n (z - \zeta_k)^{m_k} \left( \frac{a(z)h(z)}{z - \zeta_k} + 1 \right)^{m_k} h(z) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n (z - \zeta_k)^{m_k} g(z) \in \mathcal{M}(a). \end{aligned}$$

And the composition with  $f_2$  is

$$(C_\varphi f_2)(z) = c_0 + c_1 \left( a(z)h(z) + z \right) + \dots + c_{N-1} \left( a(z)h(z) + z \right)^{N-1}.$$

The Binomial theorem easily implies that the last equality takes the form,

$$(C_\varphi f_2)(z) = a(z)g(z) + \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 z + \dots + \alpha_{N-1} z^{N-1} \in \mathcal{H}(q).$$

So,  $C_\varphi f = C_\varphi f_1 + C_\varphi f_2 \in \mathcal{H}(q)$ .

□

## References

- Cowen, C., & MacCluer, B. (1995). *Composition operators on spaces of analytic functions*. Taylor & Francis. Retrieved from [https://books.google.ps/books?id=WWMI52-GX\\_oC](https://books.google.ps/books?id=WWMI52-GX_oC)
- Duren, P. (2000). *Theory of hp spaces*. Dover Publications. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=fs4rPPcJ7HUC>
- Fricain, E., Hartmann, A., & Ross, W. T. (2016). Concrete examples of  $\mathcal{H}(b)$  spaces. *Computational Methods and Function Theory*, 16(2), 287–306.



- Fricain, E., Karaki, M., & Mashreghi, J. (2016). A group structure on  $\mathbb{D}$  and its application for composition operators. *Annals of Functional Analysis*, 7(1), 76–95.
- Fricain, E., & Mashreghi, J. (2016). *The theory of  $h(b)$  spaces*. Cambridge University Press. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=nVEYDQAAQBAJ>
- Hammond, C. (2003). *On the norm of a composition operator*. University of Virginia. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=pI0rAAAAYAAJ>
- Jafari, F., & Consortium, R. M. M. (1998). *Studies on composition operators: Proceedings of the rocky mountain mathematics consortium, july 8-19, 1996, university of wyoming*. American Mathematical Society. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=n9saCAAAQBAJ>
- Karsisto, K. (2003). *A new parallel composition operator for verification tools*. Tampere University of Technology. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=u4JfAAAACAAJ>
- Koosis, P. (1998). *Introduction to  $h_p$  spaces* (No. 115). Cambridge University Press. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=tWvb6AHsCVIC>
- Lefèvre, P., Li, D., Queffélec, H., & Rodríguez-Piazza, L. (2015). Approximation numbers of composition operators on the dirichlet space. *Arkiv for Matematik*, 53(1), 155–175.
- Li, D., Queffélec, H., & Rodríguez-Piazza, L. (2012). On approximation numbers of composition operators. *Journal of Approximation Theory*, 164(4), 431–459.
- Lyubarskii, Y., & Malinnikova, E. (2012). Composition operator on model spaces. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1205.5172*.

- Mashreghi, J., & Shabankhah, M. (2013). Composition operators on finite rank model subspaces. *Glasgow Mathematical Journal*, 55(01), 69–83.
- Mashreghi, J., & Shabankhah, M. (2014). Composition of inner functions. *Canad. J. Math*, 66(2), 387–399.
- Sarason, D. (1994). *Sub-hardy hilbert spaces in the unit disk*. J. Wiley & Sons. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=YCLvAAAAMAAJ>
- Sarker, A., & University, C. M. (2008). *Compact and hilbert-schmidt weighted composition operators on the hardy space*. Central Michigan University. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=tVcHbb6saC0C>
- Shapishapirobookro, J. (1993). *Composition operators: and classical function theory*. Springer New York. Retrieved from <https://books.google.ps/books?id=RyrvAAAAMAAJ>
- Singh, R., & Manhas, J. (1993). *Composition operators on function spaces*. Elsevier Science. Retrieved from <https://books.google.co.il/books?id=IkPACnn48P0C>