

## On Interpolation in Hardy- Orlicz Spaces

حول الاستكمال في فضاءات هاردي -اورلكس

**Mahmud Masri**

محمود المصري

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, An-Najah National University, Palestine

Sabbatical: Department of Mathematics, Palestine Polytechnic University, Visitor

E-mail: mhalaseh@najah.edu

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### Abstract

The Hardy-Orlicz space  $H_\phi$  is the space of all analytic functions  $f$  on the open unit disk  $D$  such that the subharmonic function  $\phi(|f|)$  has a harmonic majorant on  $D$ , where  $\phi$  is a modulus function.  $H_\phi^+$  is the subspace of  $H_\phi$  consisting of all  $f \in H_\phi$  such that  $\phi(|f|)$  has a quasi-bounded harmonic majorant on  $D$ . If  $\phi(x) = x^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ , then  $H_\phi$  is the Hardy space  $H^p$  and if  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$ , then  $H_\phi$  is the Nevanlinna class  $N$  and  $H_\phi^+$  is the Smirnov class  $N^+$ . In this paper we generalize some of N. Yanagihara's and A. Hartmann's and others interpolation results from  $N$  and  $N^+$  to  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$ . For that purpose we generalize a canonical factorization theorem to functions in  $H_\phi$  or  $H_\phi^+$  and introduce an F-space of complex sequences.

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**Key words:** Hardy-Orlicz space, F-space, modulus function, canonical factorization, interpolation.

## ملخص

فضاء هاردي-أورليتز  $H_\phi$  هو فضاء جميع الدوال التحليلية  $f$  على قرص الوحدة المفتوح  $D$  بحيث أن الدالة  $\phi(|f|)$  المتوافقة جزئياً على  $D$  يكون لها داله توافقيه تحدها من أعلى، علماً بأن  $\phi$  هي داله مطلقه القيمه.  $H_\phi^+$  هو الفضاء الجزئي من  $H_\phi$  والمحتوي على جميع الدوال  $f \in H_\phi$  بحيث أن  $\phi(|f|)$  يكون لها داله توافقيه شبه محدوده وتحدها من أعلى. إذا كان  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$  فإن  $H_\phi$  هو فضاء هاردي  $H^p$ ؛ وإذا كان  $\phi(x) = x^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ ، فإن  $H_\phi$  هو فئة نفاثلنا  $N$  بينما  $H_\phi^+$  هو فئة سميرنوف  $N^+$ . في هذا البحث نعمم بعض نتائج ياناجيهارا وهارتمان وآخرين في الاستكمال الدالي من  $N$  و  $N^+$  إلى  $H_\phi$  و  $H_\phi^+$ . من أجل الوصول لهذا الهدف سنعمم نظريه معروفه في التحليل إلى العوامل إلى الدوال في  $H_\phi$  و  $H_\phi^+$  وسنقدم فضاء  $F$  مكون من متتاليات عقديه.

## Introduction

If  $\phi$  is a real-valued function on  $[0, \infty)$  such that  $\phi$  is increasing, subadditive,  $\phi(x)=0$  iff  $x=0$ , and continuous at zero from the right (hence uniformly continuous on  $[0, \infty)$ ), then  $\phi$  is called a *modulus function*. Examples of modulus functions are  $x^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ , and  $\log(1+x)$ . We note that the composition of two modulus functions is a modulus function and if  $\phi$  is a modulus function, then  $\phi(|\alpha x|) \leq ([|\alpha|] + 1)\phi(|x|)$  for all  $x$  in the real numbers  $\mathbf{R}$  and for all  $\alpha$  in the complex numbers  $\mathbf{C}$ ; where  $[x]$  is the greatest integer in  $x$ .

Let  $D$  be the open unit disk in the complex plane  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $H$  be the space of all analytic functions in  $D$ . Throughout this paper we assume that  $\phi$  is a strictly increasing unbounded modulus function such that  $\phi(|f|)$  is subharmonic on  $D$  for all  $f \in H$ . The *Hardy-Orlicz space*  $H_\phi$  is the space of all  $f \in H$  such that  $\phi(|f|)$  has a *harmonic majorant* on  $D$ , i.e., there is a function  $u$  harmonic on  $D$  such that  $\phi(|f(z)|) \leq u(z)$  for all  $z \in D$ . It follows that [8] for each  $f \in H_\phi$ ,

$\phi(|f|)$  has a *least harmonic majorant*  $u_f$ , i.e.,  $\phi(|f(z)|) \leq u_f(z)$ , for all  $z \in D$  and  $u_f(z) \leq v(z)$  for all  $z \in D$ , where  $v$  is any harmonic majorant of  $\phi(|f|)$ . A non-negative harmonic function on  $D$  is called *quasi-bounded* if it is the pointwise increasing limit of non-negative bounded harmonic functions on  $D$ . The *Hardy-Orlicz space*  $H_\phi^+$  is the space of all  $f \in H_\phi$  such that  $\phi(|f|)$  has a quasi-bounded harmonic majorant on  $D$ .

The Hardy-Orlicz spaces  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  were studied by W. Deeb and M. Marzuq in [2]. M. Masri in [8] and [10] considered these spaces when  $D$  is replaced by a domain  $\Omega$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Special cases of these spaces were studied by several authors. (See, for example, [3], [4], [7], [11], [15] and [17]).

If  $\phi(x) = x^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ , then  $H_\phi = H^p$  and if  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$ , then  $H_\phi = N$  and  $H_\phi^+ = N^+$ . Also, if  $\phi(x) = (\log(1+x))^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ , then  $H_\phi = N^p$ , and if  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x^p)$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ , then  $H_\phi = N_p$ .

We note that the space  $H^\infty$  of bounded analytic functions in  $D$  is contained in  $H_\phi^+$ .

If  $z_0$  is a fixed point in  $D$ , which is called the *point of reference*, then the *quasi-norm*  $\| \cdot \|_\phi$  on  $H_\phi$  is defined by

$$\| f \|_\phi = u_f(z_0)$$

for all  $f \in H_\phi$ . If  $d(f, g) = \| f - g \|_\phi$  for all  $f, g \in H_\phi$ , then  $(H_\phi, d)$  is a metric space. If  $\phi$  is a strictly increasing unbounded modulus function, then  $(H_\phi^+, d)$  is an *F-space*, i.e., a topological vector space with complete translation invariant metric (See [1], [2] and [8]).

Let  $T = \partial D$  be the *boundary* of the open unit disk  $D$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $H^+$  be the set of all functions  $f \in H$  such that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} f(re^{i\theta}) = f^*(e^{i\theta}) \text{ exists a.e. } \sigma,$$

where  $\sigma$  is the *normalized Lebesgue measure* on  $T$ . The function  $f^*$  is called the *radial limit* of  $f$ . When there is no ambiguity we denote the function  $f$  and its radial limit by  $f$ . The *Hardy-Orlicz spaces*  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  are given by

$$H_\phi = \{ f \in H : \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \int_T \phi(|f_r|) d\sigma < \infty \}$$

and

$$H_\phi^+ = \{ f \in H^+ : \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \int_T \phi(|f_r(z)|) d\sigma(z) = \int_T \phi(|f(z)|) d\sigma(z) < \infty \},$$

where  $f_r(z) = f(rz)$ ,  $z \in T \cup D$ . [8].

For each  $f \in H_\phi$ , the quasi-norm of  $f$  is given by

$$\|f\|_\phi = u_f(0) = \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \int_T \phi(|f_r|) d\sigma = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \int_T \phi(|f_r|) d\sigma$$

and for each  $f \in H_\phi^+$

$$\|f\|_\phi = \int_T \phi(|f|) d\sigma. \text{ (See [8]).}$$

Moreover,  $f \in H_\phi^+$  iff  $u_f = P[\phi(|f|)]$ , where  $P$  denotes the Poisson kernel.

Using Harnack's inequality, it follows that:

$$\phi(|f(z)|) \leq \frac{2\|f\|_\phi}{1-|z|} \text{ for all } f \in H_\phi \text{ and } z \in D. \text{ (See [10]).}$$

Thus, if a sequence  $\{f_n\}$  converges to  $f$  in  $H_\phi$  or  $H_\phi^+$ , then it converges uniformly to  $f$  on compact subsets of  $D$ .

Let  $\Lambda = (\lambda_n)$  be a sequence in  $D$  such that  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty (1 - |\lambda_n|) < \infty$ . If  $\Lambda$  has non-zero terms,  $m$  is a non-negative integer and

$$B(z) = z^m \prod_{n=1}^\infty \left( \frac{|\lambda_n|}{\lambda_n} \right) \left( \frac{\lambda_n - z}{1 - \overline{\lambda_n}z} \right), z \in D,$$

then the function  $B$  is called a *Blaschke product*. The term *Blaschke product* will also be used if there are only finitely many factors of  $B$ .

In section 2 of this paper, we give a canonical factorization theorem for functions in  $H_\phi$  or  $H_\phi^+$  when  $\phi$  is a strictly increasing unbounded modulus function which is a generalization of the special cases  $\phi(x) = x^p, 0 < p \leq 1$  and  $\phi(x) = \log(1 + x)$ . Other similar canonical factorization theorems involving Blaschke products, singular inner functions and outer functions are still open problems even when  $\phi$  is *strongly modulus*, which is defined in [2] as a modulus function

satisfying  $\int_1^\infty \frac{\phi(x)}{x^2} dx < \infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(x)}{\log x} > 0$  and  $\phi(|f|)$  is subharmonic on  $D$  for

all  $f \in H$ . Some consequences of the constraint  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(x)}{\log x} = \alpha \in [0, \infty]$  on

$H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  are given in section 4 of this paper.

When  $\Lambda = (\lambda_n)$  is a sequence of distinct points in  $D$  such that  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty (1 - |\lambda_n|) < \infty$  we introduce the following class of complex sequences:

$$\ell_\Lambda(\phi) = \left\{ (c_n) : \sum_{n=1}^\infty (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n|) < \infty \right\}.$$

If  $\phi(x) = x^p, 0 < p \leq 1$ , then  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi) = \ell_\Lambda^p$  and if  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$ , then  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi) = \ell_\Lambda^+$ . For these special cases one can see [15] and [16] where  $\Lambda = (\lambda_n) = (z_n) = Z$ .

In section 3 of this paper we proved that  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  is an F-space. Also, when  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b), a, b \geq 0$ , we give a characterization of the bounded subsets of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ , a generalization to that of  $\ell_\Lambda^+$  in [16].

A space  $\ell$  of complex sequences is called an *ideal* if  $\ell^\infty \ell \subseteq \ell$ , i.e.,  $(w_n c_n) \in \ell$  whenever  $(w_n) \in \ell^\infty$  and  $(c_n) \in \ell$ . Let  $\Lambda = (\lambda_n)$  be sequence in  $D$  and  $X$  a space of analytic functions in  $D$ . The *interpolation problem* consists of describing the *trace*  $X|_\Lambda = \{(f(\lambda_n)) : f \in X\}$  of  $X$  on  $\Lambda$ . One approach is to fix a *target space*  $\ell$  and look for conditions so that  $X|_\Lambda = \ell$ . Another approach is to require that  $X|_\Lambda$  is an ideal and call  $\Lambda$  a *free interpolating sequence* for  $X$ . We denote this by  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(X)$ . For certain spaces such as the Hardy and Bergman spaces, the two approaches of interpolation are equivalent with  $\ell$  as an  $\ell^p$  with the appropriate weight (See [5]).

For any function algebra  $X$  containing the constants it is easily seen that [5]  $\ell^\infty \subseteq X|_\Lambda$  iff  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(X)$ . This implies that if  $Y$  is a subalgebra of a function algebra  $X$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(X)$  whenever  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(Y)$ .

Free interpolation for  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  requires the existence of nonzero functions vanishing on all the terms of the sequence  $\Lambda$  except one. Thus, we assume that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|) < \infty$ .

The *linear operators*  $T$  and  $T_\phi$ , given by:

$$Tf = (f(\lambda_n)) \text{ and } T_\phi f = \left( \frac{f(\lambda_n)}{\phi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{1-|\lambda_n|^2}\right)} \right) \text{ for all } f \in H_\phi,$$

are related to interpolation. We note that  $X | \Lambda = \{(f(\lambda_n)) : f \in X\} = T(X)$ . When  $\phi(x) = x^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ ,  $T_\phi$  is the operator  $T_p$  in [3, Theorem 9.1], where it is shown that  $T_p(H^p) = \ell^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq \infty$ ,  $T_\infty = T$  iff  $(\lambda_n)$  is *uniformly separated* (*Carleson sequence*). i.e., there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}}^{\infty} \left| \frac{\lambda_m - \lambda_n}{1 - \overline{\lambda_m} \lambda_n} \right| \geq \delta, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Some of the interpolation techniques of N. Yanagihara in [17] for  $N$  and  $N^+$  carry over to  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$ . A. Hartmann's characterizations of free interpolation in [5] are based on the canonical factorization of functions in  $N$  and  $N^+$  in terms of Blaschke products, singular inner functions and outer functions which is not available in  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  in general.

In section 4 of this paper, we extend some of their results to  $H_\phi$  and  $H_\phi^+$  and give some consequences in interpolation under certain restrictions on  $\phi$ .

Finally, the following version of the dominated convergence theorem [12] is found out to be useful:

Let  $\{g_n\}$  be a sequence of integrable functions which converges a.e. to an integrable function  $g$ . Let  $\{f_n\}$  be a sequence of measurable

functions such that  $|f_n| \leq g_n$  and  $\{f_n\}$  converges to  $f$  a.e. . If  $\int g = \lim \int g_n$ , then  $\int f = \lim \int f_n$ .

### Canonical factorization of functions in $H_\phi$ or $H_\phi^+$

The following canonical factorization theorem for functions in  $H_\phi$  or  $H_\phi^+$  is an extension of those in [3] and [4] for  $N^+$  and  $H^p$ ,  $0 < p \leq 1$ .

**Canonical factorization theorem** Let  $f \in H_\phi$  be not identically zero. Then  $f = Bg$ , where  $B$  is a Blaschke product,  $g \in H_\phi$  is unique with no zeros in  $D$  and

$$(1) \quad \|f\|_\phi \leq \|g\|_\phi \leq 2 \|f\|_\phi$$

Moreover, if  $f \in H_\phi^+$ , then  $g \in H_\phi^+$  and  $\|g\|_\phi = \|f\|_\phi$ .

**Proof:** First assume that  $f$  has infinitely many zeros  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots$  in  $D$  repeated according to their respective multiplicities and  $\lambda_n \neq 0$  for all  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Let

$$b_n(z) = \prod_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{|\lambda_j|}{\lambda_j} \right) \left( \frac{\lambda_j - z}{1 - \overline{\lambda_j} z} \right) \text{ and } g_n = \frac{f}{b_n}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots .$$

Then  $|b_n|$  is continuous on the closure  $\overline{D}$  of  $D$  and  $\equiv 1$  on  $T$ . Thus for a fixed  $n$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,  $|b_n(z)| > 1 - \varepsilon$  when  $r = |z|$  is sufficiently close to 1. Hence,

$$(2) \phi(|g_n(re^{i\theta})|) = \phi\left(\left|\frac{f(re^{i\theta})}{b_n(re^{i\theta})}\right|\right) \leq \phi\left(\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} |f(re^{i\theta})|\right) \leq \left(\left[\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}\right] + 1\right) \phi(|f(re^{i\theta})|),$$

which implies that  $\|g_n\|_\phi \leq 2\|f\|_\phi$ , by integrating (2), letting  $r \rightarrow 1^-$  and then  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . Noting that  $|g_n| = \left| \frac{f}{b_n} \right| \geq |f|$ , we obtain

$$\|f\|_\phi \leq \|g_n\|_\phi \leq 2\|f\|_\phi.$$

The subharmonicity of  $\phi(|g_n|)$  and  $f(0) \neq 0$  give

$$0 < \phi\left(\left|\frac{f(0)}{\prod_{j=1}^n |\lambda_j|}\right|\right) = \phi(|g_n(0)|) \leq \int_T \phi(|(g_n)_r|) d\sigma \leq 2\|f\|_\phi.$$

Therefore, for all  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ,  $\prod_{j=1}^n |\lambda_j| \geq \frac{|f(0)|}{\phi^{-1}(2\|f\|_\phi)} > 0$ .

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  it follows that

$$(3) \quad \prod_{j=1}^\infty |\lambda_j| \geq \frac{|f(0)|}{\phi^{-1}(2\|f\|_\phi)} > 0.$$

Thus, by [14, Theorem 15.5], (3) is equivalent to  $\sum_{j=1}^\infty (1 - |\lambda_j|) < \infty$ .

Hence,

$B(z) = \prod_{n=1}^\infty \left(\frac{|\lambda_n|}{\lambda_n}\right) \left(\frac{\lambda_n - z}{1 - \bar{\lambda}_n z}\right)$ ,  $z \in D$  is a Blaschke product and  $\{b_n\}$  converges uniformly on compact subsets of  $D$  to  $B$ . Therefore, [4, p. 56],  $\{g_n\}$  converges uniformly on compact subsets of  $D$  to  $g = \frac{f}{B}$ . Thus,

$$(4) \quad \int_T \phi(|g_r|) d\sigma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_T \phi(|(g_n)_r|) d\sigma \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|g_n\|_\phi \leq 2\|f\|_\phi.$$

Therefore, we obtain (1) from (4) and noting that  $|g| \geq |f|$ .

In case,  $f \in H_{\phi}^+$  the dominated convergence theorem and (2) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_n\|_{\phi} &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \int_T \phi(|(g_n)_r|) d\sigma = \int_T \phi(|g_n|) d\sigma = \int_T \phi\left(\left|\frac{f}{b_n}\right|\right) d\sigma \\ &= \int_T \phi(|f|) d\sigma = \|f\|_{\phi}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, by Fatou's lemma we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\phi} &= \int_T \phi(|g|) d\sigma = \int_T \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \phi(|g_r|) d\sigma \leq \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \int_T \phi(|g_r|) d\sigma = \|g\|_{\phi} \\ &= \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_T \phi(|(g_n)_r|) d\sigma \leq \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|g_n\|_{\phi} = \|f\|_{\phi}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $g \in H_{\phi}^+$  and  $\|f\|_{\phi} = \|g\|_{\phi}$ .

The above argument easily shows that the same results hold when  $f$  has finitely many zeros in  $D$  or  $f(0) = 0$ . The uniqueness of  $g$  follows from properties of zeros of analytic functions.

**The space  $\ell_{\Lambda}(\phi)$  and its bounded subsets**

As in  $H_{\phi}$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\phi$  induce on  $\ell_{\Lambda}(\phi)$  a quasi-norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\phi, \Lambda}$  given by:

$$\|u\|_{\phi, \Lambda} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - |\lambda_n|^2\right) \phi(|c_n(u)|), \quad \forall u = (c_n(u)) \in \ell_{\Lambda}(\phi).$$

For notation convenience we write  $\|\cdot\|_{\phi}$  instead of  $\|\cdot\|_{\phi, \Lambda}$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *The space  $\ell_{\Lambda}(\phi)$  is an F-space with the distance function  $\sigma$  defined by*

$$\sigma(u, v) = \|u - v\|_{\phi}, \quad \forall u, v \in \ell_{\Lambda}(\phi).$$

*That is,*

- (i)  $\sigma(u, v) = \sigma(u - v, 0)$
- (ii) If  $\sigma(u_k, u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\sigma(\alpha u_k, \alpha u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ .
- (iii) If  $\alpha_k \rightarrow \alpha$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\sigma(\alpha_k u, \alpha u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $u \in \ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ .
- (iv)  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  is complete.

**Proof:** The linearity of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  and (ii) follow from  $\phi(|\alpha x|) \leq (|\alpha| + 1)\phi(x)$ ,  $x \geq 0$ , while (i) is obvious from the definition of  $\sigma$ . To prove (iii), let  $u \in \ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  be fixed. Then, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u)|) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Let  $K > \max_{1 \leq n \leq n_0} |c_n(u)|$  and  $0 < \delta_1 = \min\left\{1, \frac{1}{K} \phi^{-1}\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2n_0}\right)\right\}$ . Then there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|\alpha_k - \alpha| < \delta_1$  for all  $k \geq k_0$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\alpha_k u, \alpha u) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|(\alpha_k - \alpha)c_n(u)|) \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} \phi(K|\alpha_k - \alpha|) + \sum_{n=n_0+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u)|) \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} = \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $k \geq k_0$ . Thus, (ii) holds.

To prove (iv) let  $(u_k)$  be a Cauchy sequence in  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ . First we show that for each fixed  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , the complex sequence  $(c_j(u_k))$  is Cauchy. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Then there exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $k, m \geq k_0$  we have

$$\sigma(u_k, u_m) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u_k) - c_n(u_m)|) < (1 - |\lambda_j|^2) \phi(\varepsilon).$$

Hence, for all  $k, m \geq k_o$ , we have  $|c_j(u_k) - c_j(u_m)| < \varepsilon$ , i.e.,  $(c_j(u_k))$  is Cauchy.

Let  $c_n = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} c_n(u_k)$ . For all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $k_o \in \mathbf{N}$  such that, for all  $k, m \geq k_o$ , we have  $\sigma(u_k, u_m) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u_k) - c_n(u_m)|) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ .

Therefore, for each

$j \in \mathbf{N}$  and for all  $k, m \geq k_o$  we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^j (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u_k) - c_n(u_m)|) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Letting  $m \rightarrow \infty$  and then  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows that  $u = (c_n) \in \ell_{\Lambda}(\phi)$  and  $\sigma(u_k, u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus,  $\ell_{\Lambda}(\phi)$  is complete.

In an F-space  $X$  with topology induced by a complete translation invariant metric  $\rho$ , there are two none equivalent notions of bounded sets. The first is in the metric sense, i.e., a subset  $E$  of  $X$  is  $\rho$ -bounded if there exists a constant  $M$  such that  $\rho(x, y) \leq M < \infty$  for all  $x, y \in E$ . The second is in the topological vector space sense, i.e., a subset  $E$  of  $X$  is *topologically bounded* if for each neighborhood  $V$  of zero there exists a number  $t_0 > 0$  such that  $E \subseteq tV$  for all  $t \geq t_0$ . We refer the interested reader to [13].

The bounded subsets of  $N^+$  and  $\ell_Z^+$  are studied by N. Yanagihara in [16]. When  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b)$  for all  $a, b \geq 0$ , his results about  $N^+$  were generalized to  $H_{\phi}^+$  in [9] where it is shown that a subset  $E$  of  $H_{\phi}^+$  is topologically bounded iff  $(\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that for

each subset  $A$  of  $T$  with  $\sigma(A) < \delta$  we have  $\int_A \phi(|f|) d\sigma < \varepsilon, \forall f \in E$ ).

Moreover, as a corollary of this, a necessary but not sufficient condition for topological bounded sets is given, namely if a subset  $E$  of  $H_\phi^+$  is topologically bounded, then there exists a positive continuous function  $\omega(r)$ , independent of  $f \in E$ ,  $\omega(r) \downarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow 1^-$ , and such that

$$M(r, f) \leq \phi^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega(r)}{1-r}\right), \text{ for all } f \in E \text{ and } 0 < r < 1,$$

where  $M(r, f) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|$ .

Here, we prove the corresponding results for  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ .

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b)$  for all  $a, b \geq 0$  and  $E$  be a subset of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ . Then  $E$  is topologically bounded iff*

$$(i) \quad \|u\|_\phi < M = M(E) < \infty, \forall u \in E$$

and

$$(ii) \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists n_o = n_o(\varepsilon, E) \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that}$$

$$\sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(c_n(u)) < \varepsilon, \forall u = (c_n(u)) \in E.$$

**Proof:** Assume that  $E$  is a topologically bounded subset of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ . Therefore,  $\forall \eta > 0, \exists \alpha = \alpha(\eta) > 0, 0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , such that  $\beta E \subseteq V(\eta) = \{u \in \ell_\Lambda(\phi); \|u\|_\phi < \eta\}$  whenever  $0 < \beta \leq \alpha$ . Let  $\eta = 1$ . Then  $\exists \alpha = \alpha(1), 0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , such that  $\beta E \subseteq V(1)$  whenever  $0 < \beta \leq \alpha$ . Let  $M = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{1}{\alpha} \right\rceil$ . Then for all  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$ , we have

$$\|u\|_\phi = \left\| \frac{1}{\alpha} \cdot \alpha u \right\|_\phi \leq \left( \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha} \right] + 1 \right) \|\alpha u\|_\phi < \left( \left[ \frac{1}{\alpha} \right] + 1 \right) = M.$$

Thus, (i) holds.

Next, let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Choose  $\eta$  such that  $0 < \eta < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$  and  $\alpha = \alpha(\eta)$  as above. Since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) < \infty$ , there exists  $n_o \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $\sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) < (\varepsilon / 2\phi(\alpha^{-1}))$ .

Then, (ii) holds, since for all  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u)|) &\leq \sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi\left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) + \sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|\alpha c_n(u)|) \\ &< \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \|\alpha u\|_\phi < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \eta < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, assume that (i) and (ii) hold. Let  $V(\eta)$  be any neighborhood of zero. Continuity of  $\phi$  at zero from the right implies that there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such  $\varepsilon < \eta/2$  and  $\phi(x) < \eta/2K$  whenever  $0 \leq x < \varepsilon$  where  $K = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) < \infty$ .

Therefore, there exists  $n_o \in \mathbf{N}$  as in (ii). For each  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$ , let

$$\delta = \min_{1 \leq n \leq n_o} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) > 0 \text{ and } A_u = \{n \in \mathbf{N} : \phi(|c_n(u)|) < \frac{M}{\delta}\}.$$

Thus,

$$M > \|u\|_\phi \geq \sum_{n \notin A_u} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u)|) \geq \frac{M}{\delta} \sum_{n \notin A_u} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2).$$

Hence,  $\sum_{n \notin A_u} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) < \delta$ . This implies that  $\{1, 2, \dots, n_o\} \subseteq A_u$ . Letting  $0 < \alpha < \min\left\{1, \frac{\varepsilon}{2\phi^{-1}(M/\delta)}\right\}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\alpha u\|_\phi &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{n_o} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|\alpha c_n(u)|) + \sum_{n=n_o+1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u)|) \\ &< \phi\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) \sum_{n=1}^{n_o} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) + \varepsilon < \phi\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) K + \frac{\eta}{2} < \eta. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\alpha E \subseteq V(\eta)$ , which shows that E is topologically bounded.

**Corollary 3.3** Let  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b)$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$  and E be a topologically bounded subset of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$ . Then there exists a positive sequence  $(\omega_n)$ ,  $\omega_n \downarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$|c_n(u)| \leq \phi^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega_n}{1 - |\lambda_n|^2}\right), \quad \forall u = (c_n(u)) \in E \text{ and } \forall n \in \mathbf{N}.$$

**Proof:** From the proof of theorem 3.2 it follows that, for all  $\eta > 0$ , there exists  $\delta = \delta(\eta) > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |\lambda_n|) \phi(|c_n(u)|) \leq (1 - |\lambda_n|) \frac{M}{\delta} + \frac{\eta}{2}$$

for all  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$  and for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ .

Let  $(\eta_k)$  be a positive sequence with  $\eta_k \downarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence, for each  $k \in \mathbf{N}$  there exists  $\delta_k = \delta(\eta_k) > 0$  such that

$$(1 - |\lambda_n|) \phi(|c_n(u)|) \leq (1 - |\lambda_n|) \frac{M}{\delta_k} + \frac{\eta_k}{2}$$

for all  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$  and for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ .

Choose a strictly increasing sequence  $(n_k)$  in  $\mathbf{N}$  such that  $n_k \uparrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and

$$(1 - |\lambda_n|)\phi(c_n(u)) \leq (1 - |\lambda_n|)\frac{M}{\delta_k} + \frac{\eta_k}{2} < \frac{\eta_k}{2} + \frac{\eta_k}{2} = \eta_k$$

for all  $n \geq n_k$  and for all  $u = (c_n(u)) \in E$ .

Define the positive sequence  $(\omega_n)$  by:

$$\omega_n = \begin{cases} \frac{M}{\delta_1} + \eta_1, & 1 \leq n < n_1 \\ \eta_k, & n_k \leq n < n_{k+1}, k = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{cases}$$

Then,  $(\omega_n)$  satisfies the required properties.

We mention that although the spaces  $H_\phi^+$  and  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  look similar, a topologically bounded subset of  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  could be relatively compact while a topologically bounded subset of  $H_\phi^+$  need not be relatively compact. This is the case when  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$  as in [16].

### Interpolation in $H_\phi$ and $H_\phi^+$

The first result of this section is a generalization from  $N^+$  [17, Theorem 1(second part)] to  $H_\phi^+$  while the second is a generalization from  $N$  [17, Theorem 4] to  $H_\phi$ .

**Theorem 4.1** *If  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi) \subseteq T(H_\phi^+)$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2)\phi\left(\frac{1}{|B_n(\lambda_n)|}\right) = 0$*

where

$$B_n(z) = \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}} \frac{|\lambda_m|}{\lambda_m} \frac{\lambda_m - z}{1 - \overline{\lambda_m} z}, \quad z \in D.$$

**Proof:** Let  $K = \ker T = \{f \in H_\phi^+ : f(\lambda_n) = 0, \forall n \in \mathbf{N}\}$ . Then  $K$  is a closed subspace of  $H_\phi^+$  since the convergence of a sequence in  $H_\phi^+$  implies its convergence on compact subsets of  $D$ . Thus, by [13, Theorem 1.41] the quotient space  $H_\phi^+ / K = \{f + K : f \in H_\phi^+\}$  is an F-space. Let  $\rho$  be the metric on  $H_\phi^+ / K$  and  $\pi : H_\phi^+ \rightarrow H_\phi^+ / K$  be the quotient map where  $\pi(f) = f + K$  for all  $f \in H_\phi^+$ . For each  $u = (c_n(u)) \in \ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  there exists  $f \in H_\phi^+$  such that  $Tf = (f(\lambda_n)) = u$ .

Let  $\tilde{T}u = \pi(f)$ . Then it is easy to see that  $\tilde{T} : \ell_\Lambda(\phi) \rightarrow H_\phi^+ / K$  is a well defined linear operator. Using the closed graph theorem we prove that it is continuous and hence bounded (See [13]).

Let  $u_k \rightarrow 0$  in  $\ell_\Lambda(\phi)$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\tilde{T}u_k = \pi(f_k) \rightarrow \pi(f^*)$  in  $H_\phi^+ / K$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

We show that  $f^* \in K$  i.e.  $\pi(f^*) = K$ .

Let  $Tf^* = (f^*(\lambda_n)) = (c_n)$ ,  $Tf_k = (f_k(\lambda_n)) = (c_n(u_k)) = u_k$  and  $n_0 \in \mathbf{N}$  be fixed. Then  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists k_0, k_1 \in \mathbf{N}$  such that if  $k \geq k_0$ , then

$$\|u_k\|_\phi = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u_k)|) < (1 - |\lambda_{n_0}|^2) \phi(\varepsilon).$$

Thus, if  $k \geq k_0$ , then  $|f_k(\lambda_{n_0})| = |c_{n_0}(u_k)| < \varepsilon$ . Therefore,  $f_k(\lambda_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . Also, if  $k \geq k_1$ , then  $\rho(\pi(f_k), \pi(f^*)) = \rho(\pi(f_k - f^*), \pi(0)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}$ .

For each  $k \geq k_1$ , choose  $g_k \in H_\phi^+$  such that  $\pi(g_k) = \pi(f_k - f^*)$  and  $\|g_k\|_\phi < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}$ .

(See [13, p. 30]). Thus, for each  $k \geq k_1$  and  $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|c_n(u_k) - c_n|) &= (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|f_k(\lambda_n) - f^*(\lambda_n)|) \\ &= (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|g_k(\lambda_n)|) \leq 4 \|g_k\|_\phi < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and then  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  we get  $f^*(\lambda_n) = c_n = 0 \forall n \in \mathbf{N}$ , i.e.,  $f^* \in K$ .

Next, let  $e_k = (c_n(e_k))$ , where  $c_n(e_k) = 1$  if  $n = k$  and  $c_n(e_k) = 0$  if  $n \neq k$ . Then  $\|e_k\|_\phi = (1 - |\lambda_k|^2) \phi(1) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, the continuity of  $\tilde{T}$  implies that  $\rho(\pi(f_k), \pi(0)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\tilde{T}e_k = \pi(f_k)$  and  $Tf_k = e_k$ .

Thus,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists k_2 \in \mathbf{N}$  such that if  $k \geq k_2$ , then  $\rho(\pi(f_k), \pi(0)) < \varepsilon$ . For each  $k \geq k_2$ , choose  $h_k \in H_\phi^+$  such that  $\pi(h_k) = \pi(f_k)$  and  $\|h_k\|_\phi < \varepsilon$ . Therefore, there exists a sequence  $(h_k)$  in  $H_\phi^+$  which converges to zero and  $(h_k(\lambda_n)) = (f_k(\lambda_n))$  for all  $k, n \in \mathbf{N}$ . For  $k > n$ , let

$$B_{n,k}(z) = \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}}^k \frac{|\lambda_m|}{\lambda_m} \frac{\lambda_m - z}{1 - \bar{\lambda}_m z} \text{ and } H_{n,k} = h_n / B_{n,k}.$$

Then,  $H_{n,k} \in H_\phi^+$  and  $\|H_{n,k}\|_\phi = \|h_n\|_\phi$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi\left(\frac{1}{|B_{n,k}(\lambda_n)|}\right) &= (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi\left(\left|\frac{f_n(\lambda_n)}{B_{n,k}(\lambda_n)}\right|\right) \\ &= (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi(|H_{n,k}(\lambda_n)|) \leq 4 \|h_n\|_\phi. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and then  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) \phi \left( \frac{1}{|B_n(\lambda_n)|} \right) = 0. \quad \blacksquare$$

**Theorem 4.2** Let  $(\lambda_n)$  be uniformly separated. Then  $T(H_\phi) \subseteq \ell_\Lambda(\psi)$ , where  $\psi(x) = (\phi(x))^p$ ,  $x \geq 0$  and  $0 < p < 1$ . Moreover, the above inclusion could be proper.

**Proof:** Let  $f \in H_\phi$ . Then  $f = Bg$  where  $B$  is the Blaschke product of the zeros of  $f$  in  $D$  and  $g \in H_\phi$  with no zeros in  $D$ . Let  $h = u_g + i v_g$  where  $v_g$  is a harmonic conjugate of  $u_g$  the least harmonic majorant of  $\phi(|g|)$ . Since the analytic function  $h$  has a positive real part, then by [3, Theorem 3.2]  $h \in H^p$ ,  $0 < p < 1$ . Then,  $Th \in \ell_\Lambda^p$ ,  $0 < p < 1$  (See [17, p. 429]). Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tf\|_\psi &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) (\phi(|f(\lambda_n)|))^p \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) (\phi(|g(\lambda_n)|))^p \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) (u_g(\lambda_n))^p \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|^2) |h(\lambda_n)|^p < \infty \end{aligned}$$

Next, let  $\lambda_n = 1 - b^n$  where  $0 < b < 1$  and  $(c_n) = (\phi^{-1}(n/b^n))$ . Then, by [3, Theorem 9.2, p. 155]  $(\lambda_n)$  is uniformly separated and

$$\|(c_n)\|_\psi \leq 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b^n \left( \frac{n}{b^n} \right)^p = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^p b^{n(1-p)} < \infty, \text{ i.e., } (c_n) \in \ell_\Lambda(\psi). \text{ Also, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|) \phi(|c_n|) = \infty. \text{ Thus, there is no } f \in H_\phi \text{ such that } Tf = (c_n) \text{ since}$$

$$(1 - |z|) \phi(|f(z)|) \leq 2 \|f\|_\phi, \quad \forall f \in H_\phi \text{ and } \forall z \in D.$$

We note that  $l^p \subseteq l^\infty \subseteq l_\Lambda(\phi), 0 < p \leq \infty$ . Moreover, for each  $f \in H_\phi^+$  we have [9, Theorem 2.1, p. 14]  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} (1-r)\phi(M(r, f)) = 0$ . Hence, it follows that  $T_\phi(H_\phi^+) \subseteq l^\infty$ . Also, when  $\phi(x) = x^p, 0 < p \leq 1$ , it is easy to see that

$$T_\phi(H_\phi^+) = l^p \text{ iff } T(H_\phi^+) = l_\Lambda(\phi).$$

Thus, in this case, theorem 9.1 in [3] can be restated as  $T(H_\phi^+) = l_\Lambda(\phi)$  iff  $(\lambda_n)$  is uniformly separated. So, it is natural to ask for what other kinds of  $\phi$  this is true. When  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$ , it is shown [17, Theorem 3] that there exists a uniformly separated sequence  $(\lambda_n)$  and  $f \in H_\phi^+$  such that  $T(f) \notin l_\Lambda(\phi)$ . Furthermore, if  $(\lambda_n)$  is uniformly separated, then  $l_\Lambda(\phi) \subseteq T(H_\phi^+)$

(See [17, Theorem 1]). This motivated the following theorem whose converse is still open.

**Theorem 4.3** *If  $T_\phi(H_\phi^+) = \ell^p, 0 < p \leq \infty, \phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b), a, b \geq 0$ , then  $(\lambda_n)$  is uniformly separated.*

**Proof:** The closed graph theorem implies that  $T_\phi : H_\phi^+ \rightarrow \ell^p$  for  $0 < p \leq \infty$  is continuous since  $T_\phi(H_\phi^+) \subseteq \ell^p$ . Then  $K_\phi = \text{kernel of } T_\phi$  is a closed subspace of  $H_\phi^+$  and the quotient space  $H_\phi^+ / K_\phi$  is an F-space. Since  $T_\phi(H_\phi^+) = \ell^p, T_\phi$  induces a bijective bounded linear operator  $\tilde{T}_\phi : H_\phi^+ / K_\phi \rightarrow \ell^p$  such that  $T_\phi = \tilde{T}_\phi \circ \pi$  where  $\pi : H_\phi^+ \rightarrow H_\phi^+ / K_\phi$  is the quotient map (see [13, p. 37]). The open mapping theorem [13] implies that  $\tilde{T}_\phi^{-1} : \ell^p \rightarrow H_\phi^+ / K_\phi$ , the inverse of  $\tilde{T}_\phi$ , is bounded, i.e., continuous. Let  $e_k = (c_n(e_k))$  be as before and  $E = \{e_k : k = 1, 2, \dots\}$ . For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $f_k \in H_\phi^+$  such that

$T_\phi f_k = e_k$ . Let  $E_1 = \{f_k \in H_\phi^+ : T_\phi f_k = e_k\}$ . We prove that  $E_1$  is a bounded subset of  $H_\phi^+$ . Let  $V = V(\eta) = \{f \in H_\phi^+ : \|f\|_\phi < \eta\}$ ,  $\eta > 0$ , be a neighborhood of zero in  $H_\phi^+$ . Since  $\pi$  and  $\tilde{T}_\phi$  are open there exists  $\alpha_1 > 0$  such that  $W = \{u \in \ell^p : \|u\|_p < \alpha_1\} \subseteq (\tilde{T}_\phi \circ \pi)(V)$

(See [13]). Let  $0 < \alpha < \min\{1, \alpha_1\}$ . Then  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and  $\beta E \subseteq W$  whenever  $0 < \beta \leq \alpha$ . Thus,  $\beta E \subseteq (\tilde{T}_\phi \circ \pi)(V) = T_\phi(V)$ . Hence,  $E \subseteq T_\phi\left(\frac{1}{\beta} V\right)$ . Therefore,

$$\beta E_1 \subseteq \beta T_\phi^{-1}(E) \subseteq \beta T_\phi^{-1}\left(T_\phi\left(\frac{1}{\beta} V\right)\right) \subseteq V$$

whenever  $0 < \beta \leq \alpha$ . Thus  $E_1$  is a topologically bounded subset of  $H_\phi^+$ .

Clearly,  $E_2 = \{f_n / B_{n,k} : n, k = 1, 2, \dots, k > n\}$  is bounded since  $f_n / B_{n,k} \in H_\phi^+$  and  $\|f_n / B_{n,k}\|_\phi = \|f_n\|_\phi$ . Therefore, by [9, Corollary 3.2, p. 18], there exists a positive continuous function  $\omega(r) \downarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow 1^-$  and

$$M(r, f_n / B_{n,k}) \leq \phi^{-1}\left(\frac{2\omega(r)}{1-r^2}\right)$$

$\forall r \in (0, 1)$  and  $\forall k, n \in \mathbf{N}$  where  $k > n$ . Since  $r_n = |\lambda_n| \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , there exists  $n_o \in \mathbf{N}$  such that

$$\left| \frac{f_n(\lambda_n)}{B_{n,k}(\lambda_n)} \right| \leq M(r_n, f_n / B_{n,k}) \leq \phi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{1-r_n^2}\right)$$

for all  $n \geq n_o$ . Thus,

$$\frac{1}{|B_{n,k}(\lambda_n)|} = \left| \frac{f_n(\lambda_n)}{\phi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{1-r_n^2}\right)B_{n,k}(\lambda_n)} \right| \leq 1$$

for all  $n \geq n_o$ . If  $|z| \leq r < 1$ , then

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left| 1 - \frac{z - \lambda_m}{1 - \bar{\lambda}_m z} \right| \leq \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left| 1 - \frac{|\lambda_m|}{\lambda_m} \left( \frac{\lambda_m - z}{1 - \bar{\lambda}_m z} \right) \right| \leq \frac{2}{1-r} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_m|) < \infty.$$

Therefore, by [14, Theorem 15.5],  $|B_n(\lambda_n)| > 0$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, n_o - 1$ . Let  $\delta = \min_{1 \leq n \leq n_o - 1} \{1, |B_n(\lambda_n)|\}$ . Then  $(\lambda_n)$  is uniformly separated since  $|B_n(\lambda_n)| \geq \delta > 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ .

Next we consider the relation between free interpolation and harmonic functions. Let  $Har(D)$  denote the space of harmonic functions in  $D$  and  $Har_+(D)$  the subspace of its positive functions.

When  $\Lambda = (\lambda_n)$  is a sequence in  $D$  such that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - |\lambda_n|) < \infty$ , we define

$$\ell_{\phi} = \{(c_n) : \exists h \in Har_+(D) \text{ such that } \phi(|c_n|) \leq h(\lambda_n), n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

and

$$\ell_{\phi}^+ = \{(c_n) : \exists \text{ a quaqsi-bounded } h \in Har_+(D) \text{ such that } \phi(|c_n|) \leq h(\lambda_n), n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

The main results of A. Hartmann [5] is giving equivalent conditions for free interpolation in  $N$  and  $N^+$  depending on the canonical factorization of functions in them in terms of Blaschke products, singular inner functions and outer functions which is not available in  $H_{\phi}$  and  $H_{\phi}^+$  in general. Also, in [6] he defined big Hardy-Orlicz spaces and characterized free interpolation in them. Here we prove the following

results noting that, according to his results, when  $\phi(x) = \log(1+x)$ , equivalence holds in theorem 4.4(i) and (iii) below.

**Theorem 4.4** Let  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b)$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$ .

- (i) If  $\ell_\phi = (H_\phi | \Lambda)$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$
- (ii) If  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$ , then  $(H_\phi | \Lambda) \subseteq l_\phi$
- (iii) If  $\ell_\phi^+ = (H_\phi^+ | \Lambda)$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+)$
- (iv) If  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+)$ , then  $(H_\phi^+ | \Lambda) \subseteq l_\phi^+$
- (v) Let  $\phi(x) = \psi(\log(1+x))$ ,  $x \geq 0$ , where  $\psi$  is a modulus function.

If  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N)$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$ . Moreover, If  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N^+)$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+)$ .

**Proof:** (i) Assume that  $\ell_\phi = (H_\phi | \Lambda)$  and  $(c_n) \in l^\infty$ . Then there exists a positive constant  $c$  such that  $\phi(|c_n|) \leq \phi(c) < \infty, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Therefore,  $(c_n) \in \ell_\phi = (H_\phi | \Lambda)$ .

This implies that  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$  since  $l^\infty \subseteq (H_\phi | \Lambda)$ .

(ii) Assume that  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$  and  $(c_n) \in (H_\phi | \Lambda)$ . Then there exists  $f \in H_\phi$  such that  $(c_n) = (f(\lambda_n))$ . Let  $h = u_f$ . Then  $\phi(|c_n|) = \phi(|f(\lambda_n)|) \leq h(\lambda_n), n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Therefore,  $(H_\phi | \Lambda) \subseteq l_\phi$ .

The proof of (iii) and (iv) is similar to (i) and (ii).

For (v) the inequalities  $x \leq 1 + [x] \leq 1 + x, x \geq 0$  imply that  $\psi(x) \leq \psi(1)(1+x), x \geq 0$ .

Hence,  $\phi(x) = \psi(\log(1+x)) \leq \psi(1)(1 + \log(1+x))$ ,  $x \geq 0$ . Thus,  
 $N \subseteq H_\phi$  and  $N^+ \subseteq H_\phi^+$

which implies (v).

Finally under certain constraints on  $\phi$  we get the following results.

**Theorem 4.5** Let  $\phi(ab) \leq \phi(a) + \phi(b)$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(x)}{\log x} = \alpha$ .

(i) If  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$  iff  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N)$  and  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+)$  iff

$$\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N^+)$$

(ii) If  $\alpha = \infty$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi) \Rightarrow \Lambda \in \text{Int}(N)$  and

$$\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+) \Rightarrow \Lambda \in \text{Int}(N^+).$$

(iii) If  $\alpha = 0$ , then  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N) \Rightarrow \Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi)$  and  $\Lambda \in \text{Int}(N^+) \Rightarrow$

$$\Lambda \in \text{Int}(H_\phi^+).$$

**Proof: (i)** Let  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$ . Then there exists  $x_0 > 1$  such that

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} \log x < \phi(x) < \frac{3\alpha}{2} \log x, \text{ for all } x \geq x_0.$$

Hence,

$$\log(1+x) \leq 1 + \log^+ x = 1 + \log x \leq 1 + \frac{2}{\alpha} \phi(x), \text{ for all } x \geq x_0.$$

Thus,

$$\log(1+x) \leq 1 + \log(1+x_0) + \frac{2}{\alpha} \phi(x), \text{ for all } x \geq 0,$$

implies that  $H_\phi \subseteq N$  and  $H_\phi^+ \subseteq N^+$ . Also, we have

$$\phi(x) \leq \frac{3\alpha}{2} \log(1+x) + \phi(x_0), \text{ for all } x \geq 0$$

implies that  $N \subseteq H_\phi$  and  $N^+ \subseteq H_\phi^+$ . Therefore, (i) holds since  $N = H_\phi$  and  $N^+ = H_\phi^+$ .

(ii) Let  $\alpha = \infty$ . Then there exists  $x_0 > 1$  such that

$$\log x < \phi(x), \text{ for all } x \geq x_0.$$

Hence,

$$\log(1+x) \leq 1 + \log(1+x_0) + \phi(x), \text{ for all } x \geq 0.$$

Thus,  $H_\phi \subseteq N$  and  $H_\phi^+ \subseteq N^+$  which implies (ii).

(iii) Let  $\alpha = 0$ . Then there exists  $x_0 > 1$  such that

$$\phi(x) < \log x, \text{ for all } x \geq x_0.$$

Hence,

$$\phi(x) < \log x < \log(1+x) < \log(1+x_0) + \log(1+x), \text{ for all } x \geq 0.$$

Thus,  $N \subseteq H_\phi$  and  $N^+ \subseteq H_\phi^+$  which implies (iii).

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