

On weighted composition operators acting between weighted Bergman spaces of infinite order and weighted Bloch type spaces

by ELKE WOLF (Paderborn)

Abstract. Let $\phi : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ and $\psi : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be analytic maps. They induce a weighted composition operator ψC_ϕ acting between weighted Bergman spaces of infinite order and weighted Bloch type spaces. Under some assumptions on the weights we give a characterization for such an operator to be bounded in terms of the weights involved as well as the functions ψ and ϕ .

1. Introduction. Let $H(\mathbb{D})$ denote the class of all analytic functions on the unit disk \mathbb{D} of the complex plane \mathbb{C} . In this note we consider an analytic self-map ϕ of \mathbb{D} , i.e. an analytic map on \mathbb{D} such that $\phi(\mathbb{D}) \subset \mathbb{D}$. (At some points we will need that this map is also bijective, but this will then be assumed additionally.) Each such map induces through composition a linear composition operator $C_\phi : H(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow H(\mathbb{D})$, $f \mapsto f \circ \phi$. For $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ we obtain by multiplication with ψ the weighted composition operator $\psi C_\phi : H(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow H(\mathbb{D})$, $f \mapsto \psi(f \circ \phi)$. Furthermore, let v and w be strictly positive continuous and bounded functions (*weights*) on \mathbb{D} . We are interested in weighted composition operators ψC_ϕ acting between weighted Bergman spaces of infinite order

$$H_v^\infty := \{f \in H(\mathbb{D}); \|f\|_v := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(z)|f(z)| < \infty\},$$

endowed with the weighted sup-norm $\|\cdot\|_v$, and the weighted Bloch type spaces

$$B_w := \{f \in H(\mathbb{D}); \|f\|_{B_w} := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z)|f'(z)| < \infty\}.$$

Provided we identify functions that differ by a constant, $\|\cdot\|_{B_w}$ becomes a norm and B_w a Banach space.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 47B38; Secondary 47B33.

Key words and phrases: weighted composition operators, weighted Bloch type spaces, weighted Banach spaces of holomorphic functions.

Weighted Banach spaces of holomorphic functions have important applications in functional analysis (spectral theory, functional calculus), complex analysis, partial differential equations and convolution equations, as well as distribution theory. For a deep study of these spaces we refer the reader to the articles of Bierstedt–Bonet–Galbis [1] and Bierstedt–Bonet–Taskinen [2].

The investigation of (weighted) composition operators has quite a long history. Operators of this type have been studied by many authors on various spaces of holomorphic functions such as the Bloch space, Bergman space, Hardy space and weighted Banach spaces of holomorphic functions (see e.g. [6], [15], [3], [5], [8], [12], [13], [14]). In [16] we already studied weighted composition operators acting between weighted Bergman spaces of infinite order and weighted Bloch type spaces. There we were only able to give different sufficient and necessary conditions for ψC_ϕ to be bounded resp. compact. Here, with a new approach, we give a full characterization.

2. Notation and auxiliary results. For general information on the concept of composition operators we refer the reader to the excellent monographs [6] and [15]. In the setting of weighted spaces the so-called *associated weights* play an important role. For a weight v its associated weight \tilde{v} is defined as follows:

$$\tilde{v}(z) = \frac{1}{\sup\{|f(z)|; f \in H(\mathbb{D}), \|f\|_v \leq 1\}} = \frac{1}{\|\delta_z\|_{H_v^\infty}},$$

where δ_z denotes the point evaluation at z . By [2] the associated weight \tilde{v} is continuous, $\tilde{v} \geq v > 0$ and for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$ we can find $f_z \in H_v^\infty$ with $\|f_z\|_v \leq 1$ such that $|f_z(z)| = 1/\tilde{v}(z)$. We say that a weight v is *radial* if $v(z) = v(|z|)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. A radial, non-increasing weight is called *typical* if $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} v(z) = 0$.

For a typical weight v , by [5] we know that a weighted composition operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded (resp. compact) if and only if $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z)|\psi(z)|/\tilde{v}(\phi(z)) < \infty$ (resp. $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} w(z)|\psi(z)|/\tilde{v}(\phi(z)) = 0$ and $\psi \in H_w^\infty$).

Throughout this article we consider the differentiation operator $D : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$. In the case that v and w are typical weights which are continuously differentiable with respect to $|z|$ such that H_w^∞ is isomorphic to ℓ^∞ , in [7] Harutyunyan and Lusky showed that the condition $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} (-w'(r)/v(r)) < \infty$ yields the boundedness of the operator $D : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$. Conditions ensuring that H_w^∞ is isomorphic to ℓ^∞ can be found in [11] and [7]. By [7] we know that the following weights have the desired properties:

$$w(z) = (1 - |z|)^\alpha, \quad \alpha > 0, \quad \text{and} \quad w(z) = e^{-1/(1-|z|)}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

We assume the following setting. Let ν be a holomorphic function on \mathbb{D} that is non-vanishing, strictly positive and decreasing on $[0, 1)$. Furthermore we suppose that $\lim_{|z| \rightarrow 1} \nu(z) = 0$ and that ν' is bounded on \mathbb{D} . Then we define the corresponding weight by

$$v(z) := \nu(|z|^2) \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Let us give some examples of weights of this type:

- (i) Consider $\nu(z) = (1 - z)^\alpha$, $\alpha \geq 1$, for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Then the corresponding weight is given by $v(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$.
- (ii) For $\nu(z) = e^{-1/(1-z)^\alpha}$, $\alpha \geq 1$, for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$, we obtain $v(z) = e^{-1/(1-|z|^2)^\alpha}$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$.
- (iii) Choose $\nu(z) = \sin(1 - z)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$; then $v(z) = \sin(1 - |z|^2)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$.

Next, we fix a point $p \in \mathbb{D}$ and introduce a function

$$v_p(z) := \nu(\overline{\phi(p)}z) \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Since ν is holomorphic on \mathbb{D} , so is the function v_p . Furthermore, $v_p(\phi(p)) = \nu(|\phi(p)|^2) = v(\phi(p))$ and $v'_p(z) = \overline{\phi(p)}\nu'(\overline{\phi(p)}z)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$, i.e. $v'_p(\phi(p)) = \overline{\phi(p)}\nu'(|\phi(p)|^2)$. Moreover, we assume that there is a constant $C > 0$ with

$$(2.1) \quad \sup_{p \in \mathbb{D}} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{v(z)}{|v_p(z)|} \leq C.$$

Here are some examples satisfying (2.1):

- (a) Consider $v(z) = 1 - |z|^2$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Then

$$\frac{v(z)}{|v_p(z)|} = \frac{1 - |z|^2}{|1 - \overline{\phi(p)}z|} \leq \frac{1 - |z|^2}{1 - |z|} \leq 1 + |z| \leq 2 \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

- (b) Set $v(z) = 1/(1 - \log(1 - |z|^2))$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. This weight has the desired property since $|1 - \log(1 - \overline{\phi(p)}z)| \leq 1 - \log(1 - |z|)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$ and the function $\frac{1 - \log(1 - |z|)}{1 - \log(1 - |z|^2)}$ is continuous and tends to 1 as $|z| \rightarrow 1$.

3. Boundedness of $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$. In this section we study when an operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is bounded.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let v and w be weights. Moreover, let $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ and ϕ be an analytic self-map of \mathbb{D} . If*

- (a) $\psi' C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded,
- (b) $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded,

then the operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is bounded. If we assume additionally that v is a weight as defined above, i.e. $v(z) = \nu(|z|^2)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$ and (2.1) is satisfied, then the converse is also true.

Proof. Obviously, the operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ can be considered as

$$\psi' C_\phi + \psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty,$$

since for $f \in H_v^\infty$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi C_\phi f\|_{B_w} &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi'(z) f(\phi(z)) + \psi(z) \phi'(z) f'(\phi(z))| \\ &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |(\psi' C_\phi + \psi DC_\phi) f(z)| = \|(\psi' C_\phi + \psi DC_\phi) f\|_w. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if (a) and (b) hold then $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is bounded as desired.

Conversely, to show (a), we fix a point $p \in \mathbb{D}$ and put

$$f_p(z) := \frac{1}{v_p(z)} - \frac{1}{v(\phi(p))} \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Then, by hypothesis,

$$\|f_p\|_v = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \left| \frac{v(z)}{v_p(z)} - \frac{v(z)}{v(\phi(p))} \right| \leq 2 \sup_{p \in \mathbb{D}} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{v(z)}{|v_p(z)|} \leq 2C,$$

where C is the constant of (2.1) and thus independent of the choice of p . Hence $f_p \in H_v^\infty$. Then $f_p'(z) = -v_p'(z)/v_p(z)^2$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$ and hence $f_p(\phi(p)) = 0$ and $f_p'(\phi(p)) = -v_p'(\phi(p))/v(\phi(p))^2$. Thus, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{w(p) |\psi(p)| |\phi'(p)| |v_p'(\phi(p))|}{v(\phi(p))^2} &= w(p) |\psi(p) \phi'(p) f_p'(\phi(p)) + \psi'(p) f_p(\phi(p))| \\ &= w(p) |(\psi C_\phi f_p)'(p)| \\ &\leq \|\psi C_\phi f_p\|_{B_w} \leq \|\psi C_\phi\| \|f_p\|_v \leq 2C \|\psi C_\phi\|. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| |v_z'(\phi(z))|/v(\phi(z))^2 < \infty$. We again fix a point $p \in \mathbb{D}$ and set

$$g_p(z) := \frac{1}{v_p(z)} \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Then $\|g_p\|_v \leq C$ for every $p \in \mathbb{D}$ and $g_p'(z) = -v_p'(z)/v_p(z)^2$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Hence $g_p(\phi(p)) = 1/v(\phi(p))$ and $g_p'(\phi(p)) = -v_p'(\phi(p))/v(\phi(p))^2$. We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} w(p) \left| \frac{\psi'(p)}{v(\phi(p))} - \frac{\psi(p) \phi'(p) v_p'(\phi(p))}{v(\phi(p))^2} \right| \\ = w(p) |\psi'(p) g_p(\phi(p)) + \psi(p) \phi'(p) g_p'(\phi(p))| = w(p) |(\psi C_\phi g_p)'(p)| \\ \leq \|\psi C_\phi g_p\|_{B_w} \leq \|\psi C_\phi\| \|g_p\|_v \leq C \|\psi C_\phi\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| |v'_z(\phi(z))| / v(\phi(z))^2 < \infty$, we get

$$(3.1) \quad \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi'(z)| w(z)}{v(\phi(z))} < \infty,$$

i.e. (a) is satisfied. By hypothesis, we can find a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$\|\psi C_\phi f\|_{B_w} = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z) \phi'(z) f'(\phi(z)) + \psi'(z) f(\phi(z))| \leq M \|f\|_v.$$

Since, by (a), $\psi' C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded, there must be a constant $L > 0$ with

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z) \phi'(z) f'(\phi(z))| \leq L \|f\|_v.$$

Thus, (b) follows. ■

Next, we analyze under which conditions the operator $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let v and w be weights. Moreover, let ϕ be an analytic, bijective self-map of \mathbb{D} and $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ be such that $\psi \phi' \in H^\infty$ and $|\psi(z) \phi'(z)| \geq \alpha > 0$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Then $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded if and only if we can find a weight u such that*

- (a) $D : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_u^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$, is bounded,
- (b) $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) / u(\phi(z)) < \infty$.

Proof. First, we assume that there is a weight u such that (a) and (b) hold. Let $f \in H_v^\infty$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi DC_\phi f\|_w &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z) |f'(\phi(z))| \\ &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} u(\phi(z)) |f'(\phi(z))| \\ &\leq \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} \|f'\|_u \leq \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} \|D\| \|f\|_v \end{aligned}$$

and the claim follows.

Conversely, assume that the operator $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded. Define $u := w \circ \phi^{-1}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| < \infty, \\ \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} &= |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| \geq \alpha > 0 \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}. \end{aligned}$$

By assumption the operator $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded, i.e. we can find a constant $L > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |\psi(z) \phi'(z) u(\phi(z)) f'(\phi(z))| = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z) |f'(\phi(z))| \leq L \|f\|_v.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \alpha \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} u(\phi(z)) |f'(\phi(z))| \leq L \|f\|_v \\
& \Leftrightarrow \alpha \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} u(\phi(\phi^{-1}(z))) |f'(\phi(\phi^{-1}(z)))| = \alpha \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} u(z) |f'(z)| \leq L \|f\|_v \\
& \Leftrightarrow \|Df\|_u \leq \frac{L}{\alpha} \|f\|_v.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we conclude that the operator $D : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_u^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$, is bounded. ■

4. Compactness of $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$. In this section we study under which conditions an operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is compact. To do this we need the following auxiliary result taken from [6].

LEMMA 4.1 (Cowen–MacCluer, [6, Proposition 3.11]). *A bounded operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is compact if and only if for every bounded sequence $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in H_v^∞ such that $f_n \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on compact subsets of \mathbb{D} , we have $\psi C_\phi f_n \rightarrow 0$ in B_w .*

THEOREM 4.2. *Let v and w be weights such that the operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is bounded. Moreover, let $\psi \in H_w^\infty$ and ϕ be an analytic self-map of \mathbb{D} . If*

- (a) $\psi' C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact,
- (b) $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact,

then the operator $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is compact. If we assume additionally that v is a weight as defined above, i.e. $v(z) = \nu(|z|^2)$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$ and (2.1) is satisfied, then the converse is also true.

Proof. Since $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ can be considered as $\psi' C_\phi + \psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$, the compactness of $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ follows immediately from (a) and (b).

Conversely, to show (a) the idea is to use Lemma 4.1. Thus, we select a sequence $(z_n)_n \subset \mathbb{D}$ such that $|\phi(z_n)| \rightarrow 1$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Moreover, we fix $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $k \geq 3$, and set

$$f_{n,k}(z) := v(\phi(z_n))^{1/2k} \left(\frac{k}{k-1} \frac{1}{v_{z_n}(z)^{k-1}} - \frac{v(\phi(z_n))}{v_{z_n}(z)^k} \right)^{1/k}$$

for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\|f_{n,k}\|_v &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(\phi(z_n))^{1/2k} \left| \frac{k}{k-1} \frac{v(z)^k}{v_{z_n}(z)^{k-1}} - \frac{v(\phi(z_n))v(z)^k}{v_{z_n}(z)^k} \right|^{1/k} \\
&\leq M^{1/2k} \left(\frac{k}{k-1} C^{k-1} M + C^k M \right)^{1/k},
\end{aligned}$$

where $M := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(z)$ and C is the constant of (2.1). Both M and C are independent of the choice of n and k . Thus, $f_{n,k} \in H_v^\infty$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Moreover, $(f_{n,k})_n$ tends to zero uniformly on compact sets as $n \rightarrow \infty$. We obtain the following derivative:

$$\begin{aligned} f'_{n,k}(z) &= v(\phi(z_n))^{1/2k} \left(\frac{k}{k-1} \frac{1}{v_{z_n}(z)^{k-1}} - \frac{v(\phi(z_n))}{v_{z_n}(z)^k} \right)^{-(k-1)/k} \\ &\quad \times \left(\frac{-v'_{z_n}(z)}{v_{z_n}(z)^k} + \frac{v(\phi(z_n))v'_{z_n}(z)}{v_{z_n}(z)^{k+1}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Hence

$$f_{n,k}(\phi(z_n)) = \frac{1}{(k-1)^{1/k}} \frac{1}{v(\phi(z_n))^{1-3/2k}} \quad \text{and} \quad f'_{n,k}(\phi(z_n)) = 0$$

for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\psi C_\phi) f_{n,k}\|_{B_w} &\geq w(z_n) |\psi'(z_n) f_{n,k}(\phi(z_n)) + \psi(z_n) \phi'(z_n) f'_{n,k}(\phi(z_n))| \\ &= w(z_n) |\psi'(z_n) f_{n,k}(\phi(z_n))| \\ &= \frac{1}{(k-1)^{1/k}} \frac{|\psi'(z_n)|}{v(\phi(z_n))^{1-3/2k}} w(z_n). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\psi C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow B_w$ is compact, by Proposition 4.1, $(\|\psi C_\phi f_{n,k}\|_{B_w})_n$ must tend to zero. Hence

$$\limsup_{|\phi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{(k-1)^{1/k}} \frac{|\psi'(z)|}{v(\phi(z))^{1-3/2k}} w(z) = 0.$$

Next, if $k \rightarrow \infty$, we arrive at

$$\limsup_{|\phi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{w(z) |\psi'(z)|}{v(\phi(z))} = 0.$$

By [5, Corollary 4.3] this implies that the operator $\psi' C_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact. With the argument we used to prove the other direction we can conclude that (b) must be true. ■

THEOREM 4.3. *Let v and w be weights, ϕ be an analytic, bijective self-map of \mathbb{D} , and $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ be such that $\psi\phi' \in H^\infty$ and $|\psi(z)\phi'(z)| \geq \alpha > 0$ for every $z \in \mathbb{D}$. Then $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact if and only if we can find a weight u such that*

- (a) $D : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_u^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$, is compact,
- (b) $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z)/u(\phi(z)) < \infty$.

Proof. First, we assume that (a) and (b) are satisfied. Let $(f_n)_n$ be a bounded sequence in H_v^∞ . We have to find a subsequence $(f_{n_k})_k$ such that $(\psi DC_\phi f_{n_k})_k$ is convergent in H_w^∞ . By hypothesis, we know that $D :$

$H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_u^\infty$, $f \mapsto f'$, is compact. Hence there is $g \in H_u^\infty$ such that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ with

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} u(z) |f'_{n_k}(z) - g(z)| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for every } k \geq k_0.$$

Next, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi DC_\phi f_{n_k}(z) - \psi(z) \phi'(z) g(\phi(z))| \\ &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| |f'_{n_k}(\phi(z)) - g(\phi(z))| \\ &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{w(z) |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)|}{u(\phi(z))} u(\phi(z)) |f'_{n_k}(\phi(z)) - g(\phi(z))| \leq K\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for every $k \geq k_0$, where $K := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| / u(\phi(z))$. Since by hypothesis, the operator $\psi \phi' C_\phi : H_u^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is bounded, we obviously have $\psi \phi' g \circ \phi \in H_w^\infty$. Hence, $(\psi DC_\phi f_{n_k})_k$ is a convergent sequence in H_w^∞ and the operator $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact.

Conversely, assume that $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact. Define $u := w \circ \phi^{-1}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| < \infty, \\ \frac{|\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| w(z)}{u(\phi(z))} &= |\psi(z)| |\phi'(z)| \geq \alpha > 0 \quad \text{for every } z \in \mathbb{D}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $(f_n)_n$ be a bounded sequence in H_v^∞ . By hypothesis, $\psi DC_\phi : H_v^\infty \rightarrow H_w^\infty$ is compact. This means that we can find a subsequence $(f_{n_k})_k$ of $(f_n)_n$ and a function $g \in H_w^\infty$ such that $\psi DC_\phi f_{n_k} \rightarrow g$ in H_w^∞ , i.e. for every $\varepsilon > 0$ we can find $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |(\psi DC_\phi)(f_{n_k})(z) - g(z)| \\ &= \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi(z) \phi'(z) f'_{n_k}(\phi(z)) - g(z)| < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for every $k \geq k_0$. Next, we fix $\varepsilon > 0$ and select k_0 as above. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} u(\phi(z)) \left| f'_{n_k}(\phi(z)) - \frac{g(z)}{\psi(z) \phi'(z)} \right| \\ & \leq \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{|\psi(z)| w(z) |\phi'(z)|}{u(\phi(z))} u(\phi(z)) \left| f'_{n_k}(\phi(z)) - \frac{g(z)}{\psi(z) \phi'(z)} \right| \\ & = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} w(z) |\psi DC_\phi f_{n_k}(z) - g(z)| < \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for every $k \geq k_0$ and the claim follows. ■

References

- [1] K. D. Bierstedt, J. Bonet and A. Galbis, *Weighted spaces of holomorphic functions on balanced domains*, Michigan Math. J. 40 (1993), 271–297.
- [2] K. D. Bierstedt, J. Bonet and J. Taskinen, *Associated weights and spaces of holomorphic functions*, Studia Math. 127 (1998), 137–168.
- [3] J. Bonet, P. Domański, M. Lindström and J. Taskinen, *Composition operators between weighted Banach spaces of analytic functions*, J. Austral. Math. Soc. Ser. A 64 (1998), 101–118.
- [4] J. Bonet, M. Lindström and E. Wolf, *Differences of composition operators between weighted Banach spaces of holomorphic functions*, *ibid.* 84 (2008), 9–20.
- [5] M. D. Contreras and A. G. Hernández-Díaz, *Weighted composition operators in weighted Banach spaces of analytic functions*, *ibid.* 69 (2000), 41–60.
- [6] C. C. Cowen and B. D. MacCluer, *Composition Operators on Spaces of Analytic Functions*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1995.
- [7] A. Harutyunyan and W. Lusky, *On the boundedness of the differentiation operator between weighted spaces of holomorphic functions*, Studia Math. 184 (2008), 233–247.
- [8] T. Hosokawa, K. Izuchi and S. Ohno, *Topological structure of the space of weighted composition operators on H^∞* , Integral Equations Operator Theory 53 (2005), 509–526.
- [9] M. Lindström and E. Wolf, *Essential norm of the difference of weighted composition operators*, Monatsh. Math. 153 (2008), 133–143.
- [10] W. Lusky, *On weighted spaces of harmonic and holomorphic functions*, J. London Math. Soc. 51 (1995), 309–320.
- [11] —, *On the isomorphism classes of weighted spaces of harmonic and holomorphic functions*, Studia Math. 175 (2006), 19–45.
- [12] B. MacCluer, S. Ohno and R. Zhao, *Topological structure of the space of composition operators on H^∞* , Integral Equations Operator Theory 40 (2001), 481–494.
- [13] S. Ohno, *Weighted composition operators between H^∞ and the Bloch space*, Taiwanese J. Math. 5 (2001), 555–563.
- [14] S. Ohno, K. Stroethoff and R. Zhao, *Weighted composition operators between Bloch-type spaces*, Rocky Mountain J. Math. 33 (2003), 191–215.
- [15] J. H. Shapiro, *Composition Operators and Classical Function Theory*, Springer, New York, 1993.
- [16] E. Wolf, *Weighted composition operators between weighted Banach spaces of holomorphic functions and weighted Bloch type spaces*, Ann. Polon. Math. 96 (2009), 43–50.

Elke Wolf
Institut für Mathematik
Universität Paderborn
Warburger Str. 100
D-33098 Paderborn, Germany
E-mail: lichte@math.uni-paderborn.de

Received 19.2.2010
and in final form 21.5.2010

(2174)

