

Generalized Hilbert Operators on Bergman and Dirichlet Spaces of Analytic Functions

by

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Summary. Let f be an analytic function on the unit disk \mathbb{D} . We define a generalized Hilbert-type operator $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ by

$$\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)(z) = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 \frac{f(t)(1-t)^b}{(1-tz)^{a+1}} dt,$$

where a and b are non-negative real numbers. In particular, for $a = b = \beta$, $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ becomes the generalized Hilbert operator \mathcal{H}_β , and $\beta = 0$ gives the classical Hilbert operator \mathcal{H} . In this article, we find conditions on a and b such that $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ is bounded on Dirichlet-type spaces S^p , $0 < p < 2$, and on Bergman spaces A^p , $2 < p < \infty$. Also we find an upper bound for the norm of the operator $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$. These generalize some results of E. Diamantopolous (2004) and S. Li (2009).

1. Introduction. Let $H(\mathbb{D})$ denote the class of all analytic functions in the unit disc \mathbb{D} of the complex plane. For $0 < p < \infty$, the *Bergman space* A^p consists of all $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ such that

$$\|f\|_{A^p}^p = \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f(z)|^p dm(z) < \infty,$$

where $dm(z) = \pi^{-1} r dr d\theta$ is the normalized Lebesgue area measure on \mathbb{D} . We refer to [DS1] and [Z2] for Bergman spaces.

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Let $p \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ with the Taylor expansion $f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n$. We say that f belongs to the space S^p if

$$\|f\|_{S^p}^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)^p |a_n|^2 < \infty.$$

S^p is a Hilbert space with the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+1)^p a_n \overline{b_n},$$

where $f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ and $g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n$ (see [S]). The spaces S^0 and S^{-1} are the Hardy space H^2 and the Bergman space A^2 , respectively, and S^1 is the Dirichlet space \mathcal{D} (see [L]).

For $0 < r < 1$ and $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n \in H(\mathbb{D})$, we define

$$M_2(r, f) = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^2 d\theta \right)^{1/2} = \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|^2 r^{2n} \right)^{1/2}.$$

If $0 < p < 2$ and $f \in S^p$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (1.1) \quad c_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 &\leq |f(0)|^2 + \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^2 (1 - |z|^2)^{1-p} dm(z) \\ &= |f(0)|^2 + 2 \int_0^1 r(1 - r^2)^{1-p} M_2^2(r, f') dr \leq C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2. \end{aligned}$$

The optimal constants c_p and C_p are given in the Appendix.

In 2009, S. Li and S. Stević [LS] for $\beta \geq 0$ defined the operator

$$\mathcal{H}_\beta(f)(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(n + \beta + 1)\Gamma(n + k + 1)}{\Gamma(n + 1)\Gamma(n + k + \beta + 2)} a_k \right) z^n,$$

which they called a *generalized Hilbert operator*. For $\beta = 0$ this is the classical Hilbert operator \mathcal{H} . In [LS] the authors proved the boundedness of generalized Hilbert operators on Hardy spaces on the polydisc. In [L], S. Li proved the boundedness of generalized Hilbert operators on Dirichlet-type spaces S^p for $0 < p < 1$.

In this article, we extend the class of generalized Hilbert operators. Let $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n \in H(\mathbb{D})$ and a, b be non-negative real numbers. We define

$$\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(n + a + 1)\Gamma(n + k + 1)}{\Gamma(n + 1)\Gamma(n + k + b + 2)} a_k \right) z^n,$$

and call it a *generalized Hilbert-type operator*. Note that $\mathcal{H}_{a,b} = \mathcal{H}_\beta$ for $a = b = \beta$ and $\mathcal{H}_{a,b} = \mathcal{H}$ for $a = b = 0$.

A simple computation shows that $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ has a representation as an integral-type operator:

$$\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f(z) = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 \frac{f(t)(1-t)^b}{(1-tz)^{a+1}} dt.$$

In particular, $a = b = \beta$ gives

$$\mathcal{H}_\beta(f)(z) = \int_0^1 \frac{f(t)(1-t)^\beta}{(1-tz)^{\beta+1}} dt$$

and $\beta = 0$ gives

$$\mathcal{H}(f)(z) = \int_0^1 \frac{f(t)}{1-tz} dt.$$

In [L], S. Li proved the boundedness of \mathcal{H}_β on S^p , $0 < p < 1$. The main objective of this article is to prove the boundedness of $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ on Dirichlet and Bergman spaces for some p, a, b . In Theorem 2.1 we extend the result of S. Li by proving the boundedness of $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ on S^p , $0 < p < 2$, and we give an estimate of the norm $\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}\|_{S^p}$. In Theorem 2.2 conditions on a, b, p are given which ensure the boundedness of $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ on A^p together with an estimate of its norm.

2. Main results. Throughout this article, $B(x, y)$ denotes the usual Beta function defined for $x, y > 0$ by

$$B(x, y) = \int_0^1 s^{x-1}(1-s)^{y-1} ds.$$

THEOREM 2.1. *Suppose $a, b \geq 0$ and $0 < p < 2$. Then $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ is bounded on S^p and*

$$c_p \|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f\|_{S^p}^2 \leq C_1^2(a, b, p) \left[\left(\frac{1}{b + (p-1)/2} \right)^2 + \frac{2^{2-p}(a+1)^2 C_1(b, p)}{(2a+p+1)(2a+p+2)} \right] C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2,$$

where

$$C_1(a, b, p) = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{(4-p)/2}}{\Gamma(b+1)} \quad \text{and} \quad C_1(b, p) = B^2\left(b + \frac{p-1}{2}, \frac{1-p}{2}\right).$$

THEOREM 2.2. *Let $p > 2$ and $b \geq a \geq 0$ with $|b - a - 1/p| < 1/p$. Then $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ is bounded on A^p and*

$$\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)\|_{A^p} \leq C(a, b) B \frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{b-a}}{\Gamma(b+1)} \|f\|_{A^p},$$

where

$$B = B\left(\frac{2}{p} + a - b, b - \frac{2}{p} + 1\right),$$

$$C(a, b) = \begin{cases} 2^{a-b} & \text{if } 4 \leq p < \infty, \\ \left(\frac{2^{7-p}}{9(p-2+p(b-a))} + 2^{4-p}\right)^{1/p} & \text{if } 2 < p < 4. \end{cases}$$

In order to prove Theorem 2.1 we establish the following lemma.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let $0 < p < 2$ and $f \in S^p$. Then for any $z \in \mathbb{D}$,*

$$|f(z)| \leq 2^{2-p/2} C_p^{1/2} \left(\frac{1}{1-|z|}\right)^{(3-p)/2} \|f\|_{S^p}.$$

Proof. By (1.1) we have

$$C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 \geq 2 \int_0^1 u(1-u^2)^{1-p} M_2^2(u, f') du + |f(0)|^2.$$

Hence and by the increasing property of integral mean we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2.1) \quad C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 &\geq 2 \int_0^1 u(1-u^2)^{1-p} M_2^2(u^2, f') du + |f(0)|^2 \\ &= \int_0^1 (1-u)^{1-p} M_2^2(u, f') du + |f(0)|^2 \\ &\geq \int_{(1+|z|)/2}^{(3+|z|)/4} (1-u)^{1-p} M_2^2(u, f') du + |f(0)|^2 \\ &\geq \left(\frac{1-|z|}{2}\right)^{1-p} M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f'\right) \int_{(1+|z|)/2}^{(3+|z|)/4} du + |f(0)|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{3-p}} (1-|z|)^{2-p} M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f'\right) + |f(0)|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the Cauchy integral formula to f^2 we get

$$(2.2) \quad (1-|z|)|f(z)|^2 < 2M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f\right).$$

The second equality in the definition of $M_2(r, f)$ easily implies that $M_2^2(r, f) \leq |f(0)|^2 + M_2^2(r, f')$ for all $0 < r < 1$. Hence we obtain

$$M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f\right) \leq |f(0)|^2 + M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f'\right).$$

By the previous inequality and (2.2), we have

$$M_2^2\left(\frac{1+|z|}{2}, f'\right) \geq \frac{1}{2}|f(z)|^2(1-|z|) - |f(0)|^2.$$

Hence inequality (2.1) gives

$$C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 \geq \frac{1}{2^{4-p}} |f(z)|^2 (1-|z|)^{3-p},$$

which is the required result. ■

Proof of Theorem 2.1. Differentiating the integral representation of $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ we get

$$|(\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f)'(z)| \leq \frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 \left| \frac{f(t)t(1-t)^b}{(1-tz)^{a+2}} \right| dt.$$

Now,

$$c_p \|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f\|_{S^p}^2 \leq |\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f(0)|^2 + 2 \int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p} M_2^2((\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f)', r) dr.$$

Minkowski's inequality together with the triangular inequality gives

$$\begin{aligned} M_2((\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f)', r) &\leq \frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 \left[\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{f(t)t(1-t)^b}{(1-tre^{i\theta})^{a+2}} \right|^2 d\theta \right]^{1/2} dt \\ &\leq \frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 |f(t)|t(1-t)^b(1-tr)^{-(a+2)} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$(2.3) \quad c_p \|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f\|_{S^p}^2 \leq |\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f(0)|^2 + I,$$

where

$$I = 2 \int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p} \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 |f(t)|t(1-t)^b(1-tr)^{-(a+2)} dt \right)^2 dr.$$

Using Lemma 2.3 we obtain

$$|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}f(0)|^2 \leq \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{2-p/2}}{\Gamma(b+1)(b+\frac{p-1}{2})} \right)^2 C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2.$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} I &\leq 2 \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \right)^2 \int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p} (1-r)^{-2(a+2)} \\ &\quad \times \left(\int_0^1 \frac{2^{2-p/2} C_p^{1/2} \|f\|_{S^p}}{(1-t)^{(3-p)/2}} t(1-t)^b dt \right)^2 dr \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq 2^{5-p} \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \right)^2 C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 \\
 &\quad \times \left[\int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p}(1-r)^{-2(a+2)} dr \right] \left(\int_0^1 (1-t)^{b+(p-3)/2} t dt \right)^2 \\
 &\leq \frac{2^{6-2p}}{(2a+p+1)(2a+p+2)} \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \right)^2 \\
 &\quad \times \left(\int_0^1 (1-t)^{b+(p-3)/2} t^{(-1-p)/2} dt \right)^2 C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 \\
 &= \frac{2^{6-2p}}{(2a+p+1)(2a+p+2)} \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \right)^2 \\
 &\quad \times B^2 \left(b + \frac{p-1}{2}, \frac{1-p}{2} \right) C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore inequality (2.3) gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 &c_p \|\mathcal{H}_{a,b} f\|_{S^p}^2 \\
 &\leq \left[\left(\frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{2-p/2}}{\Gamma(b+1)(b+\frac{p-1}{2})} \right)^2 + \frac{2^{6-2p}}{(2a+p+1)(2a+p+2)} \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+2)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \right)^2 C_1(b,p) \right] \\
 &\quad \times C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2 \\
 &= C_1^2(a,b,p) \left[\left(\frac{1}{b+\frac{p-1}{2}} \right)^2 + \frac{2^{2-p}(a+1)^2 C_1(b,p)}{(2a+p+1)(2a+p+2)} \right] C_p \|f\|_{S^p}^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

where $C_1(a,b,p)$ and $C_1(b,p)$ are as in the statement. ■

REMARK. If $a = b = \beta$, Theorem 2.1 gives the boundedness of \mathcal{H}_β on S^p for $0 < p < 2$, which extends [L, Theorem 1]. In particular, for $\beta = 0$, \mathcal{H} is bounded on S^p for $0 < p < 2$.

We recall the following result, to be used in the proof of Theorem 2.2.

LEMMA 2.4 ([D, p. 1069]). *Let $2 < p < \infty$ and $f \in A^p$. Then for any $z \in \mathbb{D}$,*

$$|f(z)| \leq \left(\frac{1}{1-|z|^2} \right)^{2/p} \|f\|_{A^p}.$$

Proof of Theorem 2.2. For $z \in \mathbb{D}$, we choose the path

$$\zeta(t) = \zeta_z(t) = \frac{t}{(t-1)z+1}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1,$$

i.e a circular arc in \mathbb{D} joining 0 to 1. A change of variable in the integral

representation of $\mathcal{H}_{a,b}$ gives

$$\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)(z) = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 f\left(\frac{t}{(t-1)z+1}\right) \times \frac{(1-t)^b(1-z)^{b-a}}{(1+(t-1)z)^{b-a+1}} dt.$$

We define a weighted composition operator T_t as follows:

$$T_t(f)(z) = f(\phi_t(z))\omega_t^{b-a+1}(z)$$

where

$$\phi_t(z) = \frac{t}{(t-1)z+1} \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_t(z) = \frac{1}{(t-1)z+1}.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)(z) = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 T_t(f)(z)(1-t)^b(1-z)^{b-a} dt.$$

We first estimate the norm of T_t . Proceeding much as in the proof [D, Lemma 2], for $4 \leq p < \infty$ we get

$$(2.4) \quad \|T_t(f)\|_{A^p} \leq \frac{t^{2/p+a-b-1}}{(1-t)^{2/p}} \|f\|_{A^p},$$

and for $2 < p < 4$ we get

$$(2.5) \quad \|T_t(f)\|_{A^p} \leq \left(\frac{2^{7-p+p(a-b)}}{9(p-2+p(b-a))} + 2^{4-p+p(a-b)} \right)^{1/p} \frac{t^{2/p+a-b-1}}{(1-t)^{2/p}} \|f\|_{A^p}.$$

Now we estimate the norm

$$\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)\|_{A^p} = \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \left(\int_{\mathbb{D}} \left| \int_0^1 T_t(f)(1-t)^b(1-z)^{b-a} dt \right|^p dm(z) \right)^{1/p}.$$

Applying Minkowski's inequality gives

$$\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)\|_{A^p} \leq \frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{b-a}}{\Gamma(b+1)} \int_0^1 \|T_t(f)\|_{A^p} (1-t)^b dt.$$

For $4 \leq p < \infty$, using (2.4) we get

$$\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)\|_{A^p} \leq \frac{\Gamma(a+1)2^{b-a}}{\Gamma(b+1)} B \|f\|_{A^p}.$$

For $2 < p < 4$, using (2.5) we get

$$\|\mathcal{H}_{a,b}(f)\|_{A^p} \leq \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(b+1)} \left(\frac{2^{7-p}}{9(p-2+p(b-a))} + 2^{4-p} \right)^{1/p} B \|f\|_{A^p}.$$

REMARK. For $a = b = \beta$, Theorem 2.2 gives a new result on the boundedness of \mathcal{H}_β on A^p for $2 < p < \infty$. In particular when $\beta = 0$, we obtain [D, Theorem 1].

3. Appendix. Here we give the calculations which give the optimal values for c_p and C_p . Let $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(0)|^2 + 2 \int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p} M_2^2(r, f') dr &= |a_0|^2 + 2 \int_0^1 r(1-r^2)^{1-p} M_2^2(r, f') dr \\ &= |a_0|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |na_n|^2 \int_0^1 (1-r)^{1-p} r^{n-1} dr = |a_0|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|^2 \frac{n(n!) \Gamma(2-p)}{\Gamma(n+2-p)} \\ &= |a_0|^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|^2 (n+1)^p \frac{n(n!)}{(2-p)(3-p) \cdots (n+1-p)(n+1)^p}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$L_n = \frac{(n-1)(n-1)!}{(2-p) \cdots (n-p)n^p} \quad \text{for } n \geq 2.$$

It is clear that the optimal choice for c_p is $\min(1, \inf_{n \geq 2} L_n)$, and for C_p it is $\max(1, \sup_{n \geq 2} L_n)$. We will show that L_n is an increasing sequence, which means that

$$\frac{L_{n+1}}{L_n} = \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^{p+1} \left(\frac{n}{n-1}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{p}{n+1}}\right) \geq 1.$$

Indeed, the last inequality is the same as

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^{p+2} \geq 1 - \frac{p+2}{n+1} + \frac{2p}{(n+1)^2}.$$

Therefore it is enough to prove that

$$(1-x)^r \geq 1-rx + (2r-4)x^2 \quad \text{for } 2 < r < 4 \text{ and } 0 < x \leq 1/2.$$

For some $0 \leq \theta \leq x \leq 1/2$, by the Taylor formula we get

$$(1-x)^r = 1-rx + \frac{r(r-1)}{2} x^2 - \frac{r(r-1)(r-2)}{6} x^3 (1-\theta)^{r-3}.$$

Thus the preceding inequality will be proved if we show that for $2 < r < 4$,

$$\frac{r(r-1)}{2} \geq 2r-4 + \frac{r(r-1)(r-2)}{12},$$

which is the same as

$$(4-r)(r^2-5r+12) \geq 0.$$

This is true for all $r < 4$. Therefore

$$\inf_{n \geq 2} L_n = \frac{1}{(2-p)2^p}.$$

Using the Gauss formula

$$\Gamma(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! n^x}{x(x+1) \cdots (x+n)} \quad \text{for } x > 0,$$

we get

$$\sup_{n \geq 2} L_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n = \Gamma(2 - p).$$

Thus

$$c_p = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{1}{(2-p)2^p} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad C_p = \max \{1, \Gamma(2-p)\}.$$

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