# THE v-BOUNDARY OF WEIGHTED SPACES OF HOLOMORPHIC FUNCTIONS

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**Abstract.** We commence a geometric theory of the weighted spaces of holomorphic functions on bounded open subsets of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  and  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  by finding an upper bound for the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . When U is balanced and v is radial we show that  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is not isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$ . We give a Choquet type theorem for  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and use it to study the centraliser of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ .

#### 1. Introduction

From a functional analysis point of view spaces of weighted holomorphic functions have been studied, to date, under at least four broad headings. The duality problem (see [37], [41], [42], [43], [19], [6], [38], [39]) which seeks to represent the dual and bidual of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  (defined below) as spaces of analytic functions. The theory of M-ideals (see [45], [46], [24]) which studies  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(\Delta)$  as an M-ideal in its bidual. The isomorphic theory (see [28], [29], [30], [31], [32], [33], [34], [9]) which seeks to classify  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  as a Banach space up to isomorphism. The theory of composition and multiplication operators on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and its bidual  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  (see [7], [8], [16], [17], [20], [40], [44], [15]). In this paper we examine a new aspect of weighted spaces of holomorphic functions—the isometric theory. As we shall see this new aspect leads to a deeper understanding of all the previous aspects mentioned above. The isometric theory of weighted spaces of holomorphic functions is further investigated in [11], [12] and [13].

Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . A continuous weight v on U is a bounded, strictly positive real valued function on U. We shall mainly concentrate on weights which converge to 0 on the boundary of U. On occasions we will restrict our attention to balanced domains. Here radial weights (weights v with the property that  $v(z) = v(\lambda z)$  whenever  $|\lambda| = 1$ ) will play an important role in both our theory and examples. We will use  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  to denote the space of all holomorphic functions f on U which have the property that  $||f||_v := \sup_{z \in U} v(z)|f(z)| < \infty$ .

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Endowed with  $\|\cdot\|_v$ ,  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  becomes a non-separable Banach space. A separable subspace of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  is got by considering all f in  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  with the property that |f(z)|v(z) converges to 0 as z converges to the boundary of U i.e. given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a compact subset K of U such that  $v(z)|f(z)| < \varepsilon$  for z in  $U \setminus K$ . This subspace is denoted by  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . Thus  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  may be regarded as all holomorphic functions on U which satisfy a growth condition of order O(1/v(z)) while  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  are those functions with a growth rate of order o(1/v(z)). Under moderate conditions on U and v (see [6]),  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  is the bidual of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . When this happens the dual of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is denoted by  $G_v(U)$ . The geometry of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  is the primary object of study of this paper. An upper bound for the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  is given by  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z: z \in U, |\lambda| = 1\}$ . We shall use  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  to denote the set of  $z \in U$  for which  $v(z)\delta_z$  is an extreme point of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . We study the topological properties of this set showing that the mapping which takes z to  $v(z)\delta_z$  is a homeomorphism onto its range.

The set  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  enables us to study the geometry of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . An example of the type of result we obtain is: if v is radial on a balanced domain then a bounded sequence  $(f_k)_k$  in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  converges weakly to f in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  if and only if  $(f_k)_k$  converges pointwise to f. Bonet and Wolf, [9], and Lusky, [28], [29], [30], [31], [32], [33] have shown that  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$ . We will show that when v is either complete or radial this isomorphism is never an isometry. A Choquet type theorem allows us to recover the values of functions in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  from the values it obtains on  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$ . This allows us to examine the centraliser of weighted spaces of holomorphic functions. In [11] we shall examine the weak\*-exposed and weak\*-strongly exposed points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and in [12] and [13] we make use of the v-boundary to classify isometries between weighted spaces of holomorphic functions.

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#### 2. Elementary theory of the v-boundary

Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $v: U \to \mathbb{R}^+$  be a continuous strictly positive weight. We use  $G_v(U)$  to denote the space of linear functionals on  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  whose restriction to the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ ,  $B_{\mathscr{H}_v(U)}$ , are continuous for the compact open topology,  $\tau_o$ . If we endow  $G_v(U)$  with the topology induced from  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)'$  then it follows from [6, Theorem 1.1(a)] that  $G_v(U)'$  is isometrically isomorphic to  $(\mathscr{H}_v(U), \|\cdot\|_v)$ . We shall say that v converges to 0 as z converges to the boundary of U if given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a compact subset K of U such that  $v(z) < \varepsilon$  for z in  $U \setminus K$ .

Given a bounded open subset U of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $v: U \to \mathbb{R}^+$  a continuous strictly

positive weight we use  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  to denote the subspace of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  defined by

$$\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U) := \Big\{ f \in \mathscr{H}_v(U) : \lim_{z \to \partial U} v(z) |f(z)| = 0 \Big\}.$$

We endow  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  with the norm induced from  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ . If we assume that v(z) converges to 0 as z converges to the boundary of U, that U is balanced and v is radial, then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is equal to the closure of the polynomials with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\|_v$ . Bierstedt and Summers, [6, Theorem 1.1(b)] show that the condition that  $B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)}$  is  $\tau_o$ -dense in  $B_{\mathscr{H}_v(U)}$  is a necessary and sufficient condition to ensure that  $G_v(U)$  is isometrically isomorphic to the dual of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . In particular, if  $B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)}$  is  $\tau_o$ -dense in  $B_{\mathscr{H}_v(U)}$  then as  $G_v(U)$  is a dual Banach space its unit ball will have extreme points.

The purpose of this paper is to examine the geometric structure of the space  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . In particular, we will investigate how the geometric theory of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  depends on the weight v. In the special case when  $U=\Delta$  is the unit disc in  $\mathbb{C}$ , and  $v(x)\equiv 1$ ,  $(\mathscr{H}_v(\Delta),\|\cdot\|_v)=(\mathscr{H}^\infty(\Delta),\|\cdot\|_\infty)$ , the Banach space of all bounded holomorphic functions on the unit disc. We let  $L^1(\delta\Delta)$  denote the space of all integrable functions on the unit circle and  $H^1_o$  denote the space of all holomorphic functions f on the unit disc with  $\sup_{0\leq r\leq 1}\left(\int_0^{2\pi}|f(re^{i\theta})|\,d\theta\right)<\infty$  and f(0)=0. The Banach space  $H^1_o$  can be identified with a subspace of  $L^1(\delta\Delta)$ . A classical result of Ando, [1], shows that  $L^1(\delta\Delta)/H^1_o(\Delta)$  is the unique isometric predual of  $(\mathscr{H}^\infty(\Delta),\|\cdot\|_\infty)$ . Furthermore, Ando, [1], shows that the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $L^1(\delta\Delta)/H^1_o(\Delta)$  is empty.

Let us begin our description of the geometry of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  with an upper bound on the possible extreme points this set may have. We shall use  $\Gamma$  to denote the set  $\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\lambda| = 1\}$ .

Given a Banach space E we use  $\operatorname{Ext} B_E$  to denote the set of extreme points of the closed unit ball of E.

**Proposition 1.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then the extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  are contained in the set  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z: z\in U,\ \lambda\in\Gamma\}$ .

Proof. The mapping  $f \to fv$  is an isometric isomorphism of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  onto a subspace of  $C(\overline{U})$  (fv tends to 0 on the boundary of U). Applying [18, Lemma V.8.6] we see that the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  is contained in the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $C(\overline{U})'$ . However the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $C(\overline{U})'$  is  $\{\lambda \delta_z : z \in U, \lambda \in \Gamma\}$ . Restricting these to the image of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  we get that the extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  are contained in the set  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z : z \in U, \lambda \in \Gamma\}$ .  $\square$ 

In particular, if U is a bounded balanced open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v is a continuous strictly positive radial weight on U which tends to 0 on the boundary

of U then the extreme points of the unit ball of  $G_v(U)$  are contained in the set  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z: z\in U,\ \lambda\in\Gamma\}$ .

From the remark before [5, Proposition 1.2], [5, Theorem 1.5(c)] and [6, Theorem 1.1] (see also [38, Proposition 2.2.1]) we have the following result:

**Proposition 2.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U. Then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  contains all polynomials on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  if and only if v extends continuously to the boundary of U with  $v|_{\partial U} \equiv 0$ . Furthermore, if U is balanced and v is radial, either of these equivalent conditions will imply that  $G_v(U)$  is isometrically isomorphic to the dual of  $(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U), \|\cdot\|_v)$ .

Under the conditions of Proposition 2 we have:

**Theorem 3.** Let U be a bounded balanced open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive radial weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $G_v(U)$  is the unique isometric predual of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ .

Proof. Since U is separable and the mapping  $z \to v(z)\delta_z$  is continuous the set  $\{v(z)\delta_z : z \in U\}$  is separable. Hence, its closed linear span,  $G_v(U)$ , is also separable. By Proposition 2  $G_v(U)$  is a separable dual space and so has the Radon–Nikodým Property. [21, Theorem 10] (see also [23, (b), p. 144]) implies that  $G_v(U)$  is the unique isometric predual of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ .

Suppose that  $z \in U$  is such that  $v(z)\delta_z$  is not an extreme point of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . Then  $v(z)\delta_z = \frac{1}{2}(\phi_1 + \phi_2)$  for some  $\phi_1$ ,  $\phi_2$  in the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . As  $\lambda v(z)\delta_z = \frac{1}{2}(\lambda\phi_1 + \lambda\phi_2)$  for every  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbf{C}$  with  $|\lambda| = 1$  we see that  $\lambda v(z)\delta_z$  will not be an extreme point of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  for any  $\lambda$  in  $\Gamma$ . With this observation, we give the following definition:

**Definition 4.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. The v-boundary of U,  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$ , is  $\{z \in U : v(z)\delta_z \text{ is an extreme point of the unit ball of <math>\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\}$ .

Radial weights have radial v-boundaries.

**Lemma 5.** Let U be a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. If v is radial then  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  is radial in the sense that  $z \in \mathscr{B}_v(U)$  implies  $\lambda z \in \mathscr{B}_v(U)$  for all  $\lambda \in \Gamma$ .

Proof. Given  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\lambda \in \Gamma$  we define  $f_{\lambda}$  by  $f_{\lambda}(z) = f(\lambda z)$ . We note that  $f \in B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)}$  if and only if  $f_{\lambda} \in B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)}$ . Given  $\phi \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  we define  $\phi_{\lambda}$  by  $\phi_{\lambda}(f) = \phi(f_{\lambda})$ . It follows from the definition of the norm on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ , that  $\|\phi_{\lambda}\| = \|\phi\|$ .

Suppose that  $z \in U$  but  $z \notin \mathscr{B}_v(U)$ . Then we can find  $\phi_1$ ,  $\phi_2$  in the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ ,  $\phi_1 \neq \phi_2$ , so that  $v(z)\delta_z = \frac{1}{2}(\phi_1 + \phi_2)$ . Then for  $\lambda \in \Gamma$  and each

 $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  we have

$$v(\lambda z)\delta_{\lambda z}(f) = v(z)f(\lambda z) = v(z)f_{\lambda}(z) = \frac{1}{2}(\phi_1(f_{\lambda}) + \phi_2(f_{\lambda})) = \frac{1}{2}((\phi_1)_{\lambda} + (\phi_2)_{\lambda})(f).$$

Therefore  $v(\lambda z)\delta_{\lambda z} = \frac{1}{2}((\phi_1)_{\lambda} + (\phi_2)_{\lambda})$ . Hence  $\lambda z \notin \mathscr{B}_v(U)$  and the result is proven.

**Definition 6.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. We shall say that v is a complete weight if  $\mathscr{B}_v(U) = U$ .

We recall the following definition:

**Definition 7.** Let E be a complex Banach space. A point x in E is said to be an exposed point of the unit ball of E if there is  $\phi \in E'$  of norm 1 such that  $\operatorname{Re}(\phi(x)) = 1$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\phi(y)) < 1$  for all  $y \in E$ ,  $||y|| \le 1$ ,  $y \ne x$ . When E = F' is a dual space and the vector  $\phi$  which exposes x in  $B_E$  is in F, we say that x is  $weak^*$ -exposed and that  $\phi$  weak\* exposes the unit ball of E at x.

A continuous strictly positive weight v on  $B_{\mathbb{C}^n}$  is said to be unitary if v(z) =v(Az) for every  $n \times n$  unitary matrix A. Hence v is unitary if and only if v(z) = v(w) whenever ||z|| = ||w||. If n = 1 the concept of a unitary weight coincides with the concept of a radial weight. For n=2 the weight v(z)= $(1-||z||^{1+2/\pi \tan^{-1}(|z_2|/|z_1|)})$  is a radial weight which is not unitary. It is readily shown that if v is unitary then  $\mathscr{B}_v(B_{\mathbf{C}^n})$  is unitary in the sense that  $z \in \mathscr{B}_v(B_{\mathbf{C}^n})$ if and only if  $Az \in \mathcal{B}_v(B_{\mathbf{C}^n})$  for all unitary matrices A.

In [11] we obtain the following sufficient condition for completeness of a unitary weight on  $B_{\mathbf{C}^n}$ .

Proposition 8. Let  $v: B_{\mathbf{C}^n} \to \mathbf{R}$  be a continuous strictly positive strictly decreasing unitary weight on the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  which converges to 0 on the boundary of  $B_{\mathbf{C}^n}$  such that v(x) is twice differentiable and  $(\partial v(x)/\partial x_1)^2 - v(x)\partial^2 v(x)/\partial x_1^2 > 0$  for x of the form  $(x_1, 0, \dots, 0)$  with  $x_1$  in (0,1). Then the weak\*-exposed points (and hence the extreme points) of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(B_{\mathbf{C}^n})'$  is the set  $\{v(z)\lambda\delta_z:\lambda\in\Gamma,\ z\in B_{\mathbf{C}^n}\}.$ 

This condition allows us to show that when  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\beta \ge 1$  each of the following weights on the unit ball of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is complete.

- (a)  $v_{\alpha,\beta}(z) = (1 ||z||^{\beta})^{\alpha}$ .
- (b)  $w_{\alpha,\beta}(z) = e^{-\alpha/(1-\|z\|^{\beta})}$ .
- (c)  $v(z) = (\log(2 ||z||))^{\alpha}$ .
- (d)  $v(z) = (1 \log(1 ||z||))^{-\alpha}$ .
- (e)  $v(z) = \cos(\frac{1}{2}\pi ||z||)$ . (f)  $v(z) = \cos^{-1} ||z||$ .
- (g) Finite products of the examples in (a) to (f).

## 3. Structure of the v-boundary

**Lemma 9.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U.

- (a) If  $\lambda, \mu \in \Gamma$  and  $z, w \in U$  then  $\lambda v(z)\delta_z = \mu v(w)\delta_w$  on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  implies z = w and  $\lambda = \mu$ .
- (b) Let  $z \in \overline{U}$ . If  $v(z)\delta_z = 0$  on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  then  $z \in \partial U$ .
- (c) Let  $\lambda, \mu \in \Gamma$  and  $z, w \in \overline{U}$ . If  $\lambda v(z)\delta_z = \mu v(w)\delta_w$  in  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  then z = w or  $z, w \in \partial U$ .

*Proof.* (a) If  $z \neq w$  we may suppose without loss of generality that  $z_1 \neq w_1$  and take

$$p(t) = \frac{2}{v(w)\mu} \frac{t_1 - z_1}{w_1 - z_1} + \frac{1}{v(z)\lambda} \frac{t_1 - w_1}{z_1 - w_1}.$$

Then  $p \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and

$$\lambda v(z)p(z) = 1 \neq 2 = \mu v(w)p(w).$$

(b) If  $z \in U$  then v(z) > 0 and the constant map  $p(w) \equiv 1/v(z) \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . But then  $v(z)\delta_z(p) = 1$ .

Part (c) follows from (a) and (b).

**Lemma 10.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then the map

$$\mu: U \to (\mathcal{H}_{v_0}(U)', \sigma(\mathcal{H}_{v_0}(U)', \mathcal{H}_{v_0}(U)))$$

given by  $\mu(z) := v(z)\delta_z$  is a homeomorphism onto its image.

Proof. Consider  $\mu: \overline{U} \to (\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)', \sigma(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)', \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)))$  given by  $\mu(z) := v(z)\delta_z$ . Define the relation  $\sim$  on  $\overline{U}$  by  $z \sim w$  if  $\mu(z) = \mu(w)$  and consider the quotient space  $\overline{U}/\mu$ . Consider the map  $\overline{\mu}: \overline{U}/\mu \to \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  given by  $\overline{\mu} \circ q = \mu$ , where  $q: \overline{U} \to \overline{U}/\mu$  is the natural quotient map. (The set  $\overline{U}/\mu$  may also be regarded as the one-point compactification of U.) Let us show that  $\overline{\mu}$  is continuous when  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  is endowed with the weak\*-topology. Let  $z_0 \in \overline{U}$  and consider the subbasic neighbourhood of  $v(z_0)\delta_{z_0}$ 

$$N(z_0; f, \varepsilon) := \{ \phi \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)' : |\phi(f) - v(z_0)\delta_{z_0}(f)| < \varepsilon \},$$

where  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since vf is continuous on  $\overline{U}$ , the set

$$N(z_0;\varepsilon):=\{z\in\overline{U}:|v(z)f(z)-v(z_0)f(z_0)|<\varepsilon\}$$

is an open neighbourhood of  $z_0$  in  $\overline{U}$  and  $\mu(N(z_0;\varepsilon)) \subset N(z_0;f,\varepsilon)$ .

As  $\overline{U}$  is compact  $\overline{U}/\mu$  is compact. Hence  $\overline{\mu}$  is a uniform homeomorphism onto its image. On the other hand, by Lemma 9  $\mu|_U$  is injective. Let us show that  $\mu|_U$  is an open map: given  $A\subset U$  open there exists an open subset  $B\subset \overline{U}$  such that  $A=B\cap U$ . Then  $\mu(B)$  is open in  $\mu(\overline{U})$ . By Lemma 9  $\mu(A)=\mu(B)\cap\mu(U)$  and therefore  $\mu(A)$  is open in  $\mu(U)$ . Thus  $\mu|_U$  is a homeomorphism onto its image.  $\square$ 

Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , and let v be a continuous strictly positive weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. We know that the extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  are contained in the set  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z : \lambda \in \Gamma, z \in U\}$ . Let us investigate the topological structure of this set.

**Lemma 11.** Let U be an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $\overline{\operatorname{Ext}(B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'})}^{\sigma^*} = \{\lambda v(z)\delta_z : z \in \overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}, \ \lambda \in \Gamma\}.$ 

Proof. As  $B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)}$  is separable it follows from [14, Proposition 2.5.12] that  $\left(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)', \sigma\left(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)', \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)\right)\right)$  is metrizable. Let  $\phi \in \overline{\operatorname{Ext}(B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'})}^{\sigma^*}$ . Then there exist  $(\lambda_n)_n \subset \Gamma$  and  $(z_n)_n \subset \mathscr{B}_v(U)$  such that

$$\phi = w^* \lim_n \lambda_n v(z_n) \delta_{z_n} = w^* \lim_n \lambda_n \mu(z_n).$$

Since  $\lambda_n \in \Gamma$ , there exists a subsequence  $(\lambda_{n_k})_k$  of  $(\lambda_n)_n$  converging to some  $\lambda_o$  of modulus 1. Then  $(\mu(z_{n_k}))_k$   $w^*$ -converges to  $1/\lambda_o\phi$ . By Lemma 10 and using that  $\bar{\mu}$  is a uniform homeomorphism onto its image,  $z_{n_k} = \mu^{-1}\mu(z_{n_k})$  converges to some  $z_o \in \overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$ . Hence  $\phi = w^* \lim_{k \to \infty} \lambda_{n_k} \mu(z_{n_k}) = \lambda_o v(z_o) \delta_{z_o}$ .

Conversely, if  $z \in \overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  we have  $z = \lim_n z_n$  where  $z_n$  belongs to  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$ . Then  $v(z)\delta_z = w^* \lim_n v(z_n)\delta_{z_n} \in \overline{\operatorname{Ext}(B_{\mathscr{H}_v(U)'})}^{\sigma^*}$ .  $\square$ 

Note that if we start in the proof with  $\phi \in \overline{\operatorname{Ext}(B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'})}^{\sigma^*} \setminus \operatorname{Ext}(B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'})$  then  $z_0 = \lim_k z_{n_k} \in \overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)} \setminus \mathscr{B}_v(U)$ .

**Proposition 12.** Let U be an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  is a  $G_\delta$  subset of U.

Proof. We use the fact that  $(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)', \sigma(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)', \mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)))$  is metrizable (see Lemma 11). Applying [35, Proposition 1.3] it follows that  $\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)'}$  is a  $G_{\delta}$  set in  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)' \setminus \{0\}$  endowed with the weak\*-topology. Let

$$\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n$$

with each  $G_n$  open in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}$  endowed with the weak\*-topology. We can assume by the proof of [35, Proposition 1.3] that each  $G_n$  is radial. Define an equivalence relation  $\equiv$  on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}$  by  $\phi_1\equiv\phi_2$  if  $\phi_1=\lambda\phi_2$  for some  $\lambda\in\Gamma$  and let  $\pi$  be the quotient mapping from  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}$  onto  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}/\equiv$ . We shall consider  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}/\equiv$  endowed with the quotient topology of the weak\* topology on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}$ . Since  $\pi^{-1}(\pi(A))=\bigcup_{\lambda\in\Gamma}\lambda A$ ,  $\pi$  is an open mapping. As each  $G_n$  is radial it is easily checked that  $\pi(\bigcap_{n=1}^\infty G_n)=\bigcap_{n=1}^\infty \pi(G_n)$  and then  $\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'}/\equiv$  is a  $G_\delta$  set in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}/\equiv$ . Further, as the image of each z in U under  $\mu$  lies in at most one  $\equiv$ -equivalence class of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'\setminus\{0\}$ , it is readily checked that  $\pi\circ\mu$  is a homeomorphism onto its image. Under this mapping  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  is mapped onto  $\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'}/\equiv$  and result follows.  $\square$ 

We shall see in [11] that U is equal to the intersection of U with the  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}$ convex hull of  $\mathscr{B}_{v}(U)$ .

## 4. Convergence of weighted holomorphic functions

The study of the v-boundary allows us to show in [11, Theorem 24 and 25] that  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{H}_v(U)$  are never smooth and (under moderate conditions on the weight) that both spaces are not rotund. In [12] the v-boundary is central in the isometric classification of  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{H}_v(U)$ .

We present some applications of the v-boundary to the geometry of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ . The following theorem characterises weak convergence and weak compactness in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ .

**Theorem 13.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then

- (a) A bounded sequence  $(f_k)_k$  in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  converges weakly to f in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  if and only if  $(f_k)_k$  converges pointwise to f.
- (b) A bounded subset of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is weakly relatively compact if and only if it is relatively countably compact for the topology of pointwise convergence on  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ .

*Proof.* We showed in Proposition 1 that the extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  are contained in the set  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z:z\in U,\ \lambda\in\Gamma\}$ . Part (a) now follows from Rainwater's theorem, [36], while part (b) is a consequence of a theorem of Bourgain and Talagrand, [10].  $\square$ 

**Proposition 14.** Let U be a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let v be a continuous strictly positive radial weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Let  $(z_{\alpha})_{\alpha}$  be a net in U and z be a point of U. If  $v(z_{\alpha})f(z_{\alpha}) \to v(z)f(z)$  for all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  then  $f(z_{\alpha})v(z_{\alpha}) \to f(z)v(z)$  for all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v}(U)$ .

*Proof.* By [24, Examples III.1.4]  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is an M-ideal in  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$ . (The proof in [24] is for the open unit disc  $\Delta$  but is easily extended to arbitrary balanced domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .) The result now follows by [24, Corollary III.2.15] (see also [22]).

**Proposition 15.** Let U be a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let v be a continuous strictly positive radial weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then given  $(z_n)_n$  in U and  $(f_m)_m$  in the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  we have that

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} \lim_{n \to \infty} v(z_n) f_m(z_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \lim_{m \to \infty} v(z_n) f_m(z_n).$$

Proof. It follows from Lemma 10 that the set  $\{v(z)\delta_z:z\in U\}$  is relatively compact for the  $\sigma(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)',\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U))$ -topology. Applying [24, Corollary III.2.15] we now see that it is therefore weakly relatively compact. It now follows from [25, Lemma 19.A.1] that for all  $(z_n)_n$  in U and  $(f_m)_m$  in the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  we have that

$$\lim_{m\to\infty}\lim_{n\to\infty}v(z_n)f_m(z_n)=\lim_{n\to\infty}\lim_{m\to\infty}v(z_n)f_m(z_n). \ \Box$$

## 5. C(K)-spaces

Let X be a locally compact Hausdorff space and A be a closed subspace of  $C_o(X)$ . According to Araujo and Font [2] A is strongly separating if for each pair of points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in X there is  $f \in A$  such that  $|f(x_1)| \neq |f(x_2)|$ . They define the Choquet boundary of A as  $\{x \in X : e_x \text{ is an extreme point of } B_{A'}\}$ ,  $e_x$  is evaluation at x. It follows from [2, Corollary 4.2] that if  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is isometrically isomorphic to a strongly separating subspace A of  $C_o(X)$  then  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  is homeomorphic to the Choquet boundary of A.

A compact set K is said to be *perfect* if it has no isolated points. A compact set K is said to be *scattered* (dispersed) if it contains no perfect subsets.

**Theorem 16.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. If  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of (complex) C(K) with K scattered then  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  is a countable (and therefore discrete) subset of U.

Proof. Define an equivalence relation  $\equiv$  on  $\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)'}$  by  $\lambda_1 v(z) \delta_z \equiv \lambda_2 v(w) \delta_w$  if z = w. Suppose that T is an isometry from  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)$  onto a subspace M of C(K). Then  $T^*$  maps  $\operatorname{Ext} B_{C(K)'}$  with the weak\*-topology, which is homeomorphic to  $\Gamma \times K$ , onto a set which contains  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z : \lambda \in \Gamma, z \in \mathcal{B}_v(U)\}$  endowed with the  $\sigma(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)', \mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U))$ -topology. As  $T^*$  is linear it induces a map  $T_1^*$  from K onto a set containing  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z : \lambda \in \Gamma, z \in \mathcal{B}_v(U)\}/\equiv$  or equivalently a set containing  $\mathcal{B}_v(U)$ . As  $T^*$  is continuous and surjective, it is  $\sigma(M', M) - \sigma(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)', \mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U))$  open, see [26, Proposition 3.17.17]. Hence  $\mu^{-1} \circ T_1^*$  is a continuous, open mapping and so  $\mu^{-1} \circ T_1^*(K)$  is scattered. It follows that  $\mathcal{B}_v(U)$  is also scattered. As U is metrizable the proof of [25, Lemma 25.D] gives us that  $\mathcal{B}_v(U)$  is countable and hence must be discrete.  $\square$ 

Corollary 17. Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. If v is complete or if U is balanced and v is radial then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  cannot be isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of C(K) with K scattered. In particular,  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  cannot be isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$ .

*Proof.* In either of the above cases  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  contains a non-trivial connected component and so cannot be scattered.  $\square$ 

In [28, Corollary 2.4(i)] Lusky proved that if v is a continuous strictly positive radial weight on  $\Delta$  which converges to 0 on the boundary of  $\Delta$  then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(\Delta)$  is isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$ . The weight  $v(z) = (1 - \log(1 - |z|))^{\beta}$ ,  $\beta < 0$ , is an example of a weight on  $\Delta$  which gives a Banach space  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(\Delta)$  which is isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$  yet not isomorphic to  $c_o$ . See [29]. Bonet and Wolf [9] have recently extended this result by showing that if U is an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v is a continuous strictly positive weight on U then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is almost isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of  $c_o$ . The previous corollary shows that

this isomorphism can never be an isometric embedding whenever U is bounded and v is either a complete or radial weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U.

### 6. A Choquet theorem

In this section we present an 'analytic' representation of the v-boundary obtained from an application of Choquet's theorem.

**Theorem 18** (A Choquet type theorem). Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then for each  $z \in U$  there is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued measure,  $\nu_z$ , of bounded variation with support contained in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}^U$  so that

$$f(z) = \int_{\overline{\mathscr{B}_{v}(U)}^{U}} f(w) \, d\nu_{z}(w)$$

for all f in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . Moreover we have that  $\nu_z(\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}^U) = 1$ .

*Proof.* We consider  $B_{\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)'}$  with the weak\*-topology. By definition the set of extreme points of the unit ball of  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  is equal to  $\{\lambda v(z)\delta_z:\lambda\in\Gamma,\ z\in\mathcal{B}_v(U)\}$ . Hence by the Choquet-Bishop-de Leeuw theorem, [35, Chapter 4, Theorem] and Lemma 11, for each z in U there is a probability measure,  $\mu_z$ , with support contained in  $\Gamma\times\overline{\mathcal{B}_v(U)}^U$  so that

$$f(z)v(z) = \int_{\Gamma \times \overline{\mathscr{B}_{\omega}(U)}^{U}} \lambda f(w)v(w) \, d\mu_{z}(\lambda, w)$$

for all f in  $\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . Define a measure  $\nu_z$  on  $\overline{\mathcal{B}_v(U)}^U$  by

$$\nu_z(E) = \frac{1}{v(z)} \int_{\Gamma \times E} \lambda v(w) \, d\mu_z(\lambda, w).$$

By the Radon–Nikodým theorem we have that

$$f(z) = \int_{\overline{\mathscr{B}_{v}(U)}^{U}} f(w) \, d\nu_{z}(w)$$

and the first part of the result is proven.

Let  $M=\sup_{w\in\mathscr{B}_v(U)}v(w)$  and E be a measurable subset of  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$ . Then  $|\nu_z(E)|\leq M/v(z)$  and thus  $\nu_z$  has total variation at most 4M/v(z). Taking  $f\equiv 1$  we get that  $\nu_z\big(\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}^U\big)=1$ .  $\square$ 

If z belongs to  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  then a result of Bauer, [3], (see [35, Proposition 1.4]) shows that the point mass  $\varepsilon_{v(z)\delta_z}$  is the unique probability measure with support contained in  $B_{\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'}$  which represents z. However, it is not possible to 'lift' this result and conclude  $\delta_z$  is the unique probability measure on U which satisfies (\*). To see this consider any strictly positive weight v on  $\Delta$  which converges to 0 on the boundary of  $\Delta$ . Let  $z \in \mathscr{B}_v(\Delta)$  and let r be such that |z| < r < 1. By Cauchy's integral formula

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\lambda| = r} \frac{f(\lambda)}{\lambda - z} d\lambda$$

for all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(\Delta)$  and thus

$$\rho_z(E) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{E \cap \{\lambda : |\lambda| = r\}} \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda - z}$$

is another probability measure representing z.

Theorem 18 shows that the v-boundary is a determining set for  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  in the sense that if  $f, g \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and f = g on  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  then f = g on U.

The above result should be compared with [6, Proposition 3.2]. Theorem 18 and [27, Chapter 9] explain our use of the term "v-boundary".

#### 7. The centralizer of weighted spaces of holomorphic functions

We introduce some notation of Behrends [4].

**Definition 19.** Let E be a Banach space and  $T: E \to E$  be a continuous linear operator. Then T is a multiplier if every extreme point of the unit ball of E' is an eigenvalue of  $T^*$ . That is

$$T^*(e) = a_T(e)e$$

for some real or complex number  $a_T(e)$  and every  $e \in \text{Ext}B_{E'}$ . We let Mult(E) denote the set of all multipliers on E.

**Definition 20.** Let E be a Banach space. The centralizer of E, Z(E), is the set of all  $T \in \text{Mult}(E)$  for which there is  $\overline{T}$  in Mult(E) with  $(\overline{T})^*(e) = \overline{a_T(e)}e$  for all  $e \in \text{Ext}B_{E'}$ .

We say that Z(E) is trivial if  $Z(E) = \mathbf{K}.\text{Id}$ , ( $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$  depending on whether E is a real or complex Banach space).

Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Given  $g \in \mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$  we let  $M_g: \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U) \to \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  be the pointwise multiplication operator

$$(M_g(f))(z) = g(z)f(z).$$

**Proposition 21.** Let U be a bounded connected open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Suppose that the  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  is non-empty. Then  $\mathrm{Mult}(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)) = \{M_g : g \in \mathscr{H}^\infty(U)\}$  and  $Z(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U))$  is trivial.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $T \in \text{Mult}(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U))$ . Then for  $z \in \mathscr{B}_v(U)$   $v(z)\delta_z$  is an extreme point of the unit ball of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . Therefore we have

$$T^*v(z)\delta_z = a(z)v(z)\delta_z$$

for some a(z) in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Hence for each f in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and z in  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  we have that

$$(Tf)(z) = a(z)f(z).$$

Taking  $f \equiv 1$  we see that a extends to a holomorphic function in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  which we also denote by a. By continuity we get that (Tf)(z) = a(z)f(z) for all z in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  and all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  for some  $a(z) \in \mathbb{C}$ . Since  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  is non-empty the principle of analytic continuation implies that

$$(Tf)(z) = a(z)f(z)$$

for all  $z \in U$ . As

$$|a(z)| = \frac{||T^*(\delta_z)||}{||\delta_z||} \le ||T^*||$$

a is bounded on U and this proves the first part of the proposition.

Suppose that  $T = M_g$  is in  $Z(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U))$ . Then  $\overline{M}_g$  is also a multiplier and so

$$\left(\overline{M}_g(f)\right)(z) = \overline{g}(z)f(z) = M_h(f)(z) = h(z)f(z)$$

for all z in  $\frac{\circ}{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}\mathscr{B}(U)$  all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and some  $h \in \mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$ . Thus g is both analytic and conjugate analytic on  $\frac{\circ}{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}\mathscr{B}(U)$  and therefore must be constant.  $\square$ 

Corollary 22. Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , v be a continuous strictly positive complete weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $\mathrm{Mult}(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)) = \{M_g : g \in \mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)\}$  and  $Z(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U))$  is trivial.

A different assumption also gives us trivial centralisers.

**Proposition 23.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Suppose that  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$  separates  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . Then  $\mathrm{Mult}\big(\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)\big) = \{M_g : g \in \mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)\}$ .

*Proof.* Arguing as in Proposition 21 we get a holomorphic function a in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  so that

$$(Tf)(z) = a(z)f(z)$$

for all z in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  and all f in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . For each f in  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$  we have that af belongs to  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . As

$$(Tf)(z) = a(z)f(z)$$

for all z in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  applying Theorem 18 we see that

$$T(f)(z) = \int_{\overline{\mathscr{B}_{v}(U)}^{U}} T(f)(w) d\nu_{z}(w) = \int_{\overline{\mathscr{B}_{v}(U)}^{U}} a(w)f(w) d\nu_{z}(w) = a(z)f(z)$$

for all z in U. Hence, we have that

$$\langle T^* \delta_z, f \rangle = \langle a(z) \delta_z, f \rangle$$

for all z in U and all f in  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$ . Since  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$  separates  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$  we have that  $T^*\delta_z = a(z)\delta_z$  for all z in U.

The remainder of the proposition follows as in Proposition 21. •

In particular we get:

**Proposition 24.** Let U be a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and v be a continuous strictly positive radial weight which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $\mathrm{Mult}(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U)) = \{M_g : g \in \mathcal{H}^{\infty}(U)\}$ . Furthermore, when n = 1  $Z(\mathcal{H}_{v_o}(U))$  is trivial.

*Proof.* It is shown in [5, Proposition 1.2] that polynomials are dense in  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . They therefore will separate  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)'$ . The first part of the result now follows from Proposition 23. Let n=1 and suppose that  $T=M_g$  is in the centraliser of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . As v is radial,  $\mathscr{B}_v(U)$  contains a circle and so we have h in  $\mathscr{H}^{\infty}(U)$  so that

$$(\overline{M}_g(f))(z) = \overline{g}(z)f(z) = M_h(f)(z) = h(z)f(z)$$

for all z in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  and all  $f \in \mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$ . Consider z in  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  with |z| = r. As v is radial we have  $\overline{g}(z) = h(z)$  for |z| = r. Taking a Poisson integral we get  $\overline{g}(z) = h(z)$  for  $|z| \le r$  which proves that all g for which  $M_g$  is in the centraliser of  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  are constant.  $\square$ 

From [24, Theorem III.2.3] we get:

**Proposition 25.** Let U be a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}$ , v be a continuous strictly positive radial weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $Z(\mathscr{H}_v(U))$  is trivial.

**Definition 26.** A Banach space E is a  $C_{\sigma}$ -space if there is a compact Hausdorff set K and an involutory homeomorphism  $\sigma: K \to K$  ( $\sigma^2 = \operatorname{Id}$ ) such that E is isometrically isomorphic to

$$\{f \in C(K) : f(x) = -f(\sigma(x)) \text{ for all } x \in K\}.$$

From Proposition 21 and [24, Theorem II.5.9] we get:

**Proposition 27.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , v be a continuous strictly positive complete weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  is not a  $C_{\sigma}$ -space.

The above proposition is also valid for radial weights on balanced bounded open subsets of C.

Given a Banach space E we shall use  $Z_E$  to denote  $\overline{\operatorname{Ext} B_{E'}}^{\sigma^*} \setminus \{0\}$ . For a Banach space E there is a canonical isometric embedding of E into  $C_o(Z_E)$  (see  $[24, \operatorname{Examples I.3.4}]$ ). We have seen that  $\overline{\operatorname{Ext} B_{\mathscr{H}_v(U)'}}^{\sigma^*} \setminus \{0\}$  may be identified with  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$ . Thus in this case we are identifying  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  with a subspace of  $C_o(U)$ .

**Definition 28.** A Banach space E has the strong Banach–Stone property if given locally compact Hausdorff spaces X and Y and an isometric isomorphism  $T: C_o(X; E) \to C_o(Y; E)$  there is a homeomorphism  $\phi: Y \to X$  and a continuous function h from Y into the isometries of E endowed with the strong operator topology such that

$$(T(f))(y) = h(x)f(\phi(y))$$

for all  $f \in C_o(X, E)$  and all  $y \in Y$ .

We have:

**Proposition 29.** Let U be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , v be a continuous strictly positive weight on U which converges to 0 on the boundary of U. Suppose that  $\overline{\mathscr{B}_v(U)}$  is non-empty. Then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  has the strong Banach-Stone property. Alternatively, if U is a balanced bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}$  and v is a continuous strictly positive radial weight then  $\mathscr{H}_{v_o}(U)$  and  $\mathscr{H}_v(U)$  have the strong Banach-Stone property.

*Proof.* Apply Proposition 21, Proposition 24, [4, Theorem 8.11] and Proposition 25. □

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