

ON THE SOLID HULLS OF THE NEVANLINNA AND SMIRNOV CLASSES

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Abstract. In the paper, the solid and positive solid hulls of the Nevanlinna class and the Smirnov class of the unit disc are described. The result is applied to find the best possible estimations of the Taylor coefficients and the multipliers from the Smirnov class into some large spaces of holomorphic functions. These results provide a much “softer” and easier way to obtain even stronger results on the multipliers and the mean growth of the Taylor coefficients proved by Yanagihara.

1. Introduction

In this paper we denote by ω the topological vector space consisting of all complex sequences $x = (x(n))$, $n \in \mathbf{Z}_+ = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, and equipped with the topology of coordinate-wise convergence. A subset X of ω is said to be *solid* if $y \in X$ whenever $y \in \omega$ and $|y| \leq |x|$ for some $x \in X$. For each subset X of ω , the *solid hull* of X defined as

$$(SH) \quad S(X) = \{y \in \omega : |y| \leq |x| \text{ for some } x \in X\}$$

is clearly the smallest solid subset $S(X)$ containing X .

To find the solid hull of a set $X \subset \omega$ we usually have to describe the strongest growth condition of absolute values of elements in X . This is often not an easy problem, especially when X is a space of holomorphic functions on the unit disc \mathbf{D} , each function $f \in X$ being identified with the sequence $(\hat{f}(n))$ of its Taylor coefficients. (Thus we are actually dealing with the subspace $\hat{X} = \{\hat{f} : f \in X\}$ of ω .) To illustrate this point, let us recall what is known in the case of the classical Hardy spaces $H^p = H^p(\mathbf{D})$ ($0 < p \leq \infty$). Evidently, $S(H^2) = l^2$, but the other cases are not that simple. Thus also $S(H^p) = l^2$ for $2 < p < \infty$ (by Littlewood’s theorem on random power series [D, Thm. A.5]) as well as $S(H^\infty) = l^2$ (by a result of Kisliakov [K]). Finally, for $0 < p < 1$, Jevtić and Pavlović [JP1] have recently proved that $S(H^p)$ is the space of all complex sequences $(x(n))$ such that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)^{p-2} \left(\sup_{0 \leq k \leq n} |x(n)|^p \right) < \infty.$$

The case $1 \leq p < 2$ is still open. The same authors have recently described the solid hulls of the Hardy–Lorenz spaces [JP2]. Moreover, Mastysłó and Mleczko [MM]

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constructed solid hulls for some quasi-Banach spaces of analytic functions which can be obtained by interpolation.

In this paper we describe the solid hulls of the largest spaces in the scale of Hardy spaces, that is, the Nevanlinna class N and the Smirnov class N_* of the unit disc.

Recall that the *Nevanlinna class* $N = N(\mathbf{D})$ on the unit disc is the space of all holomorphic functions f on \mathbf{D} such that

$$\|f\| = \sup_{r \in (0,1)} \int_0^{2\pi} \log(1 + |f(re^{it})|) dt < \infty,$$

and the *Smirnov class* $N_* = N_*(D)$ is the subspace of N consisting of all functions f such that the family $\{\log(1 + |f(re^{it})|) : 0 < r < 1\}$ is uniformly integrable on $[0, 2\pi]$.

More generally, if $p > 1$ LH^p is the *Hardy-Orlicz space* consisting of all holomorphic functions f on the unit disc such that

$$\|f\|_p^p = \sup_{r \in (0,1)} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^p(1 + |f(re^{it})|) dt < \infty.$$

Moreover, let F_*^p denote the space of all complex sequences $x = (x(n))$ such that

$$\|x\|_{p,c} = \sup_{n \in \mathbf{Z}_+} |x(n)| \exp(-cn^{\frac{1}{p+1}}) < \infty \quad \text{for each } c > 0,$$

with the topology defined by the sequence of norms $\|\cdot\|_{p,1/k}, k = 1, 2, \dots$

It is well known that each function in N is a quotient of two functions in H^∞ (see [D] Theorem 2.1), and that

$$H^\infty \subset H^p \subset H^q \subset N_* \subset N \quad \text{for } 0 < q < p < \infty.$$

In this paper we show that the solid hull of the Smirnov class can be identified with the space F_* of all complex sequences $((x(n)))$ such that $|x(n)| = O(\exp(c\sqrt{n}))$ for each $c > 0$ (Theorem 4.1). The space F_* was invented by Yanagihara [Y1] while studying Fréchet envelope of N_* (cf. [DRS]). The crucial points in Yanagihara's result were descriptions of the best possible mean growth of the Taylor coefficients of functions in N_* and the multipliers from N_* into H^∞ (cf. [Y2]). Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.2 provide a much "softer" and easier way to obtain even stronger result on the mean growth of the Taylor coefficients. Theorem 4.1 is applied in Theorem 5.1 to describe multipliers from N_* both into H^∞ and some "large" algebras $LH^p, p \geq 1$, of holomorphic functions still in a soft and easy way.

2. Positive solid hulls

If X is a vector subspace of ω then, in general, its solid hull $S(X)$ is not a linear set (it need not be closed under addition). Fortunately, for some applications it suffices to study solid hulls of the cone of nonnegative elements in the space.

For any subset X of ω we denote

$$X_+ = \{x \in X : x \geq 0\}.$$

Note that if X is a linear subspace, then X_+ is a convex cone in X .

Fact 2.1. *If X is a linear subspace of ω , then $S(X_+)$ is a solid linear subspace of ω containing X_+ .*

Proof. Let $y_j \in S(X_+)$, $\lambda_j \in \mathbf{C}$, $j = 1, 2$. Then $|y_j| \leq x_j$ for some $x_j \in X_+$, $j = 1, 2$. Since

$$|\lambda_1 y_1 + \lambda_2 y_2| \leq |\lambda_1| |y_1| + |\lambda_2| |y_2| \leq |\lambda_1| x_1 + |\lambda_2| x_2 \in X_+,$$

it follows that $\lambda_1 y_1 + \lambda_2 y_2 \in S(X_+)$. □

In this paper, all vector spaces under consideration have natural “sequence space” group or vector topologies. Assume that X is a vector subspace of ω equipped with a locally balanced group (vector) topology τ . We say that $X = (X, \tau)$ is a *sequence vector group (space)* if

(S) τ is stronger than the topology of coordinate-wise convergence, i.e., the coefficient functionals $x \mapsto x(n)$ are continuous on X for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$,

and that it is a *solid sequence group (space)* if X is solid and τ has a base of neighborhoods of zero consisting of solid sets.

Fact 2.2. *Let $X = (X, \tau)$ be a sequence space with a group [vector] topology τ , and let \mathcal{U} be a base of τ -neighborhoods of zero. Then the family*

$$\mathcal{U}_+(0) = \{S(U_+) : U \in \mathcal{U}\}$$

is a base of solid neighborhoods of zero for a solid group [vector] topology τ_+ on $S(X_+)$. Moreover, if τ is Hausdorff or metrizable, so is τ_+ , respectively.

Proof. To see the first part it is enough to observe that if $U, V \in \mathcal{U}$ and $V+V \subset U$, then $S(V_+) + S(V_+) \subset S(V_+ + V_+) \subset S(U_+)$, and that $S(U_+)$ is absorbing in $S(X_+)$ whenever U is absorbing in X .

Assume τ is Hausdorff and suppose an element $y \in S(X_+)$ is such that $x \in S(U_+)$ for all $U \in \mathcal{U}$. Thus for each $U \in \mathcal{U}$ one has $|y| \leq x_U$ for some $x_U \in U_+$. Then the net (x_U) is τ -convergent, hence also coordinate-wise convergent, to zero. It follows that $|y| = 0$, and τ_+ is Hausdorff.

Finally, if τ is metrizable, then τ_+ is Hausdorff and has a countable base at zero, hence it is metrizable, too. □

If a space $X = (X, \tau)$ as above is metrizable, then its topology is induced via the metric $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|$ by an *FG*-norm $\|\cdot\|$, i.e., a function $\|\cdot\| : X \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ which is subadditive, vanishes only at zero, and satisfies $\|\lambda x\| \leq \|x\|$ for all $x \in X$ and $|\lambda| \leq 1$. If, in addition, τ is a vector topology, then $\|\cdot\|$ can be chosen so that $\|\lambda x\| \rightarrow 0$ whenever $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ (i.e., $\|\cdot\|$ is an *F*-norm). Conversely, for every *FG*-norm [*F*-norm] $\|\cdot\|$ on X the associated metric induces a locally balanced group [vector] topology on X . If the resulting metric space is complete then we call X an *FG-space* [*F-space*].

We say that $\|\cdot\|$ is *solid* (monotone) if $|x| \leq |y|$ implies $\|x\| \leq \|y\|$.

Fact 2.3. *Let $X = (X, \tau)$ be a sequence space and $\|\cdot\|$ an *FG*-norm inducing the topology τ . Then the formula*

$$(ASF) \quad \|y\| = \inf\{\|x\| : |y| \leq x \in X_+\}$$

*defines a solid *FG*-norm inducing the topology τ_+ on $S(X_+)$. Moreover, if the space $X = (X, \|\cdot\|)$ is complete, so is the space $(S(X_+), \|\cdot\|)$.*

Proof. It is easily seen that $\|\cdot\|$ is an *FG*-norm inducing τ_+ .

In order to prove that $S(X_+)$ is complete it suffices to show that if a sequence (y_j) in $S(X_+)$ is such that $\sum_{j=1}^\infty \|y_j\| < \infty$, then the series $\sum_{j=1}^\infty y_j$ is convergent in $S(X_+)$.

By the definition of $\|\cdot\|$, there is a sequence $(x_j) \subset X_+$ such that $|y_j| \leq x_j$ and $\|x_j\| \leq 2\|y_j\|$ for each j . Then $\sum_{j=1}^\infty \|x_j\| < \infty$, hence by the completeness of $\|\cdot\|$ the series $\sum_{j=1}^\infty x_j$ converges unconditionally in X . Since X is a sequence space, this series is unconditionally (hence absolutely) coordinate-wise convergent to some $y \in \omega$. Let $s_J = \sum_{j=J}^\infty y_j$, $J = 1, 2, \dots$. Then $|s_J| \leq \sum_{j=J}^\infty x_j =: r_J \in X_+$, so $s_J \in S(X_+)$ and $\|s_J\| \leq \|r_J\| \leq \sum_{j=J}^\infty \|x_j\| \rightarrow 0$ as $J \rightarrow \infty$. Finally, the series $\sum_{j=1}^\infty y_j$ is convergent in $S(X_+)$ to $y = s_1$. \square

Fact 2.4. *Let $X = (X, \tau)$ be a sequence vector group, (Z, ζ) a solid sequence group, and $T: \omega \rightarrow \omega$ a positive linear operator, i.e., $Tx \geq 0$ whenever $x \geq 0$. If $T(X_+) \subset Z$, then also $T(S(X_+)) \subset Z$.*

Proof. Take any $y \in S(X_+)$, so that $|y| \leq x$ for some $x \in X_+$. If y is a real sequence, then $|Ty| = |Ty^+ - Ty^-| \leq Ty^+ + Ty^- = T|y| \leq Tx$. If y is a complex sequence, then $y = u + iv$, where u, v are real sequences, and

$$|Ty| = |Tu + iTv| \leq |Tu| + |Tv| \leq T|u| + T|v| \leq T(2x).$$

Since the space Z is solid, we conclude that $Ty \in Z$. \square

Remark 2.5. It is true, though not quite obvious, that $|Ty| \leq T|y|$ for all $y = (y(n)) \in \omega$. To see this, consider first a positive linear functional t on ω . Then it is also continuous, hence of the form $t(y) = \sum_{j=0}^k a_j y(j)$, where $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbf{R}_+$. In consequence, $|t(y)| \leq \sum_{j=0}^k a_j |y(j)| = t(|y|)$. Now, if $T: \omega \rightarrow \omega$ is a positive linear operator, then its components t_n ($n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$) are positive linear functionals on ω and, by the preceding part, $|Ty| = (|t_n(y)|) \leq (t_n(|y|)) = T|y|$.

3. The solid hull of the Nevanlinna class

Recall that

$$\|f\| = \sup_{r \in (0,1)} \int_0^{2\pi} \log(1 + |f(re^{it})|) dt$$

is an FG -norm on the Nevanlinna class $N = N(\mathbf{D})$ and $(N, \|\cdot\|)$ is an FG -space. It is well known [P] that for each function $f \in N$,

$$|\widehat{f}(n)| = O(\exp(O(\sqrt{n}))).$$

In view of the lemma below, this estimate is best possible, and this fact will quickly lead us to the [positive] solid hull of N .

Lemma 3.1. (see [P], pp. 151–153) *For each $c > 0$ define*

$$f_c(z) = \exp\left(\frac{c}{2} \frac{1+z}{1-z}\right), \quad z \in \mathbf{D}.$$

Then

$$f_c \in N, \quad \|f_c\| = \frac{c}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{f}_c(n) = \exp(2\sqrt{cn}[1 + o(1)]).$$

Proposition 3.2. *The solid hull $S(N)$ and the positive solid hull $S(N_+)$ of the Nevanlinna class $N = N(\mathbf{D})$ coincide, and they are equal to the space F consisting of all sequences $(x(n)) \in \omega$ such that*

$$(NCE) \quad \sup_n |x(n)| \exp(-c\sqrt{n}) < \infty \quad \text{for some } c > 0.$$

Proof. As it was mentioned above, $|\widehat{f}(n)| = O(\exp(O(\sqrt{n})))$ for each $f \in N$. Thus $N \subset F$ and so $S(N_+) \subset S(N) \subset F$ because F is solid. By Lemma 3.1, for each sequence $x = (x(n)) \in F$ there are $C, c > 0$ such that $|x(n)| \leq C\widehat{f}_c(n)$ for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$. Consequently, $x \in S(N_+)$ and finally $S(N_+) = S(N) = F$. \square

4. The solid hull of the Smirnov class

Recall that the *Smirnov class* $N_* = N_*(\mathbf{D})$ is the largest linear subspace of the Nevanlinna class which is a topological vector space in the relative topology (cf. [SS]). Moreover, $\|f - f(r\cdot)\| \rightarrow 0$ for each $f \in N_*$, where $f(r\cdot)(z) = f(rz)$ for $|z| < 1/r$.

Theorem 4.1. *The solid hull $S(N_*)$ and the positive solid hull $S((N_*)_+)$ of the Smirnov class $N_* = N_*(\mathbf{D})$ coincide, and they are equal to the space F_* consisting of all sequences $(x(n))$ such that*

$$(SCE) \quad \sup_n |x(n)| \exp(-c\sqrt{n}) < \infty \quad \text{for each } c > 0.$$

Proof. It is well known that $N_* \subset F_*$ (cf. [Y1, Theorem 1]). Consequently, $S((N_*)_+) \subset S(N_*) \subset F_*$ since F_* is solid. In order to prove that $F_* \subset S((N_*)_+)$, fix $x = (x(n)) \in F_*$. It suffices to show that the series $\sum_{n=0}^\infty x(n)e_n$ (which converges to x coordinate-wise) satisfies the Cauchy condition with respect to the F -norm $\|\cdot\|$ of the F -space $S((N_*)_+)$ (cf. Fact 2.3, (ASF)).

Take any $c > 0$ and consider the function f_c as in lemma 3.1. Then $\widehat{f}_c(n) \geq d \exp(d\sqrt{n})$ for some $d > 0$ and each $n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$. Since $x \in F_*$, there is $M \in \mathbf{Z}_+$ such that $|x(n)| \leq d \exp(d\sqrt{n})$ for each $n \geq M$.

Now, fix arbitrary $k \geq j \geq M$, and set $P_{j,k}(z) = \sum_{n=j}^k z^n$. Since $\|f_c\| = \frac{1}{2}c$, there is $\delta > 0$ so small that $\|f_c\| + \|\delta P_{j,k}\| < c$. Next, since $f_c(r\cdot) \rightarrow f_c$ (as $r \rightarrow 1$) uniformly on compact subsets of \mathbf{D} , we have $\sup_{r \in (0,1)} \|f_c(r\cdot)\| = \|f_c\|$. Moreover, $\widehat{f_c(r\cdot)}(n) = \widehat{f}_c(n)r^n > 0$, hence we can find $r \in (0, 1)$ such that $\widehat{f}_c(n) \leq \widehat{f_c(r\cdot)}(n) + \delta$ for $j \leq n \leq k$. Then the function $g = f_c(r\cdot) + \delta P_{j,k}$ belongs to $(N_*)_+$,

$$\|g\| \leq \|f_c(r\cdot)\| + \|\delta P_{j,k}\| \leq \|f_c\| + \|\delta P_{j,k}\| < c,$$

and

$$|x(n)| \leq d \exp(d\sqrt{n}) \leq \widehat{f}_c(n) \leq \widehat{f_c(r\cdot)}(n) + \delta = \widehat{g}(n) \quad \text{for } j \leq n \leq k.$$

It follows that $\|\sum_{n=j}^k x(n)e_n\| < c$. Consequently, the series $\sum_{n=1}^\infty x(n)e_n$ is Cauchy in $S((N_*)_+)$. \square

It is easily seen that F_* coincides with the space of all complex sequences $((x(n)))$ such that $|x(n)| = O(\exp(c_n\sqrt{n}))$ for some sequence of positive numbers (c_n) tending to zero.

As an immediate consequence of this observation and Theorem 4.1 we now may state the following.

Corollary 4.2. *For any sequence (c_n) of positive numbers tending to zero, there is a function $f \in (N_*)_+$ such that*

$$\widehat{f}(n) \geq \exp(c_n\sqrt{n}) \quad \text{for each } n \in \mathbf{Z}_+.$$

Remark 4.3. It follows that the estimate $|\widehat{f}(n)| = O(\exp(o(\sqrt{n})))$ for functions $f \in N_*$ is best possible in a very strong way. So far it was only known that for each positive sequence (c_n) tending to zero there is a function $f \in N_*$ such that $|\widehat{f}(n)| \neq O(\exp(c_n\sqrt{n}))$ [Y3, ST].

5. Multipliers

Suppose that X and Y are sequence spaces, and let $\llbracket X, Y \rrbracket$ denote the collection of all sequences $\lambda = (\lambda(n))$ in \mathbf{C} such that $\lambda x = (\lambda(n)x(n))$ belongs to Y whenever $(x(n))$ is a member of X . This is a linear space whose elements are called the (coefficient) multipliers from X into Y . By the Closed Graph Theorem, each $\lambda \in \llbracket X, Y \rrbracket$ gives rise to a continuous linear operator

$$\Lambda: X \rightarrow Y: x \mapsto \lambda x.$$

Yanagihara [Y1] described the space of multipliers from the Smirnov class N_* into the disc algebra $A = A(\mathbf{D})$ and the Hardy classes H^p for $0 < p \leq \infty$. Later, Jarchow, Montesinos, Wirths, and Xiao [JMWX] extended this result to the case of multipliers from the Nevanlinna algebras LH^p into “small” spaces like H^p above. The crucial point in the proofs of these results was that the topology of the space Y in question is defined by a norm or a q -norm for some $0 < q \leq 1$. The solid hull described in Theorem 4.1 allows us to find multipliers into “large spaces” F_*^p which natural topology is not locally bounded. It also seems to provide a much “softer” and easier way to obtain the result than the earlier method used by Yanagihara.

Recall that LH^p is the Hardy–Orlicz space consisting of all holomorphic functions f on the unit disc such that

$$\|f\| = \sup_{r \in (0,1)} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^p(1 + |f(re^{it})|) dt < \infty.$$

Moreover, let F_*^p denote the space of all complex sequences $x = (x(n))$ such that

$$\|x\|_{p,c} = \sup_{n \in \mathbf{Z}_+} |x(n)| \exp(-cn^{\frac{1}{p+1}}) < \infty \quad \text{for each } c > 0,$$

with the topology defined by the sequence of norms $\|\cdot\|_{p,1/k}, k = 1, 2, \dots$

Theorem 5.1. *For every sequence $\lambda = (\lambda(n))$ in \mathbf{C} , the following are equivalent:*

- (i) $\lambda(n) = O(\exp(-c\sqrt{n}))$ for some $c > 0$.
- (ii) $\lambda \in \llbracket N_*, A \rrbracket$.
- (iii) $\lambda \in \llbracket N_*, H^q \rrbracket$ for some [all] $0 < q \leq \infty$.
- (iv) $\lambda \in \llbracket N_*, LH^p \rrbracket$ for some [all] $1 < p < \infty$.
- (v) $\lambda \in \llbracket N_*, F_*^p \rrbracket$ for some [all] $1 < p < \infty$.
- (vi) $\lambda \in \llbracket F_*, F_*^p \rrbracket$ for some [all] $1 < p < \infty$.

Proof. The equivalences (i) \iff (ii) \iff (iii) were proved by Yanagihara [Y2], the implication (i) \implies (ii) being an easy part of the proof. Since $A \subset H^q \subset LH^p \subset F_*^p$ for $0 < q \leq \infty$ and $p > 1$, so (ii) \implies (iii) \implies (iv) \implies (v) (cf. [ST] for the inclusion $LH^p \subset F_*^p$).

Suppose now that $\lambda \in \llbracket N_*, F_*^p \rrbracket$ for some $1 < p < \infty$. Since F_*^p is solid, also $|\lambda| = (|\lambda(n)|) \in \llbracket N_*, F_*^p \rrbracket$. Now, the positive linear operator $\Lambda: x \mapsto |\lambda|x$ in ω maps N_* into F_*^p , hence it also maps $S((N_*)_+) = S(N_*) = F_*$ into F_*^p (cf. Fact 2.4 and Theorem 4.1).

Finally assume that $\lambda \in \llbracket F_*, F_*^p \rrbracket$ for some $1 < p < \infty$. Then the operator $\Lambda: F_* \rightarrow F_*^p: x \mapsto \lambda x$ is continuous, so there are $c > 0$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $|\lambda(n)x(n)| \leq \exp(n^{\frac{1}{p+1}})$ for each $x = (x(n)) \in F_* = F_*^1$ with $\|x\|_{1,c} \leq \varepsilon$. In particular, if $x_n = \varepsilon \exp(c\sqrt{n})e_n$, then $x_n \in F_*$ and $\|x_n\|_{1,c} \leq \varepsilon$, and therefore

$$|\lambda(n)| \leq \frac{\exp(n^{\frac{1}{p+1}})}{\varepsilon \exp(cn^{\frac{1}{2}})} \leq C \exp(-c\sqrt{n})$$

for some $C > 0$ and all $n \in \mathbf{Z}_+$. Thus (vi) \implies (i). \square

Remark 5.2. It was proved by Yanagihara [Y2] that each continuous linear functional T on the Smirnov class N_* is of the form

$$(LF) \quad Tf = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \widehat{f}(n)\lambda(n),$$

where $(\lambda(n))$ is a multiplier from N_* into H^∞ . This and Theorem 5.1 gives an easy “soft” proof that T is of the form (LF), where $\lambda(n) = O(\exp(-c\sqrt{n}))$ for some $c > 0$

6. Open problems

Problem 6.1. Find the solid hulls of the Hardy–Orlicz spaces LH^p , $p > 1$ on the unit disk.

Problem 6.2. Find the solid hulls of the Nevanlinna class $N(D)$ or the Smirnov class $N_*(D)$, where D is the unit polydisk or the unit ball in \mathbf{C}^n .

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