

## COMPACT COMPOSITION OPERATORS ON SOME WEIGHTED HARDY SPACES

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\beta = \{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of positive numbers such that  $\beta_0 = 1$  and  $\frac{\beta_{n+1}}{\beta_n} \rightarrow 1$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . The set  $H^2(\beta)$  of complex formal power series  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  with  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n|^2 \beta_n^2 < \infty$  is a Hilbert space of functions analytic in the unit disc  $\mathbf{D}$  with the inner product

$$(f, g)_{\beta} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \bar{b}_n \beta_n^2;$$

here  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  and  $g(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n z^n$ . A detailed study of spaces  $H^2(\beta)$  is given in [14].

The function  $\varphi$  in  $H^2(\beta)$  that maps the unit disc into itself induces a composition operator  $C_{\varphi}$  on  $H^2(\beta)$  defined by  $C_{\varphi} f = f \circ \varphi$ . The study of composition operators began with the work of Nordgren [9] and Schwartz [10] on classical Hardy space  $H^2$  (space  $H^2(\beta)$  with  $\beta_n = 1$  for all  $n$ ).

One of the questions that was open for many years was characterizing the compact composition operators on the space  $H^2$ . There were many partial results (see for example [10], [13], [2] and [3]) and finally the problem was solved in 1987 by J. Shapiro. He estimated the essential norm of composition operators on spaces  $H^2(\beta)$  with  $\beta_n = (n+1)^a$  and  $a \leq 1/2$ , using versions of Nevanlinna counting function (see [12]). When  $a > 1/2$ , the situation is more elementary: the function  $\varphi$  in such  $H^2(\beta)$  induces a compact composition operator if and only if the supnorm of  $\varphi$  is strictly smaller than 1 which is, furthermore, equivalent to  $C_{\varphi}$  being in every Schatten  $p$ -class,  $p > 0$ , of  $H^2(\beta)$  (see [16]).

The spectrum of compact composition operators on  $H^2$  was described by Caughran and Schwartz in [2] which also contains the fact that if  $C_\varphi$  is compact then  $\varphi$  has a fixed point in  $\mathbf{D}$ .

In this article we consider compact composition operators on some general classes of spaces  $H^2(\beta)$ . We investigate spectra of such  $C_\varphi$  and fixed points of the inducing functions.

These results are a part of the author's Ph. D. thesis written at the University of Toronto under the supervision of Professor Peter Rosenthal.

## 2. THE DENJOY-WOLFF POINT OF A FUNCTION THAT INDUCES A COMPACT COMPOSITION OPERATOR

If  $\varphi$  is a function analytic in the unit disc  $\mathbf{D}$  and mapping  $\mathbf{D}$  into itself, then there is a special "fixed point" for  $\varphi$  in  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$ . The theorem that shows the exact properties of that point, which we are going to call the Denjoy-Wolff theorem, actually contains the results obtained by Denjoy [4] and Wolff [15] and a part of the Julia-Caratheodory theorem [8, p. 57].

**THEOREM.** (Denjoy-Wolff). *Suppose  $\varphi$  is not a disc automorphism,  $\varphi$  is analytic in  $\mathbf{D}$  and maps  $\mathbf{D}$  into  $\mathbf{D}$ . Let  $\varphi^{(0)}(z) = z$  and  $\varphi^{n+1}(z) = \varphi^n(\varphi(z))$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Then there exists a point  $\alpha$  in  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$  such that the sequence of iterates of  $\varphi$ ,  $\{\varphi^{(n)}\}_{n=0}^\infty$ , converges to the constant function  $\alpha$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbf{D}$ . Moreover,  $|\alpha| = 1$ , then  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \varphi(r\alpha) = \alpha$  and  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \varphi'(r\alpha)$ , exists and is in  $(0, 1]$ .*

We say that  $\alpha$  is the *Denjoy-Wolff point* of  $\varphi$ .

We already mentioned that if  $C_\varphi$  is compact on  $H^2$ , then the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  must be in  $\mathbf{D}$ . But this is not true in all spaces  $H^2(\beta)$ . Shapiro gave an example in [11] of a function that induces a compact composition operator on some "small" spaces  $H^2(\beta)$  and has the point 1 as its Denjoy-Wolff point. The interesting fact is that in these spaces disc automorphisms that are not rotations induce unbounded composition operators. This connection continues to be important in some other  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces. (i.e., in the case when the sequence  $\beta$  is bounded), as we shall see below. But first we would like to state an interesting property of compact composition operators on the small  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces mentioned above.

The spaces that we are going to be working with will be the  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces with sequences  $\beta$  such that  $\sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$ . In this case functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  have absolutely convergent Taylor series on  $\partial\mathbf{D}$ , and there exists a constant  $c$  such that if  $f \in H^2(\beta)$ , then  $\|f\|_\infty \leq c \cdot \|f\|_\beta$ . This follows easily from the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for the series involved in the  $\beta$  norm of  $f$ .

There is one more reason why we will consider sequences  $\beta$  such that  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$ .

Let  $\beta$  be any sequence,  $\omega \in \mathbf{D}$  and

$$k_{\omega}^{\beta}(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} \bar{\omega}^n z^n.$$

Then  $k_{\omega}^{\beta} \in H^2(\beta)$  and  $k_{\omega}^{\beta}$  are point evaluations for  $H^2(\beta)$ , i.e. for  $f \in H^2(\beta)$ , we have

$$(f, k_{\omega}^{\beta})_{\beta} = f(\omega).$$

If  $\omega \in \partial\mathbf{D}$ , then  $k_{\omega}^{\beta} \in H^2(\beta)$  if and only if  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$ .

Now we are ready to proceed with the following proposition. The idea of the proof is taken from the proof of the Theorem 2.1 in [11].

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let the sequence  $\beta$  be such that  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$ , and let the function  $\varphi$  in  $H^2(\beta)$  induce a compact composition operator on  $H^2(\beta)$ . Then  $\varphi$  has exactly one fixed point in  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$ .*

*Proof.* The functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  are continuous on  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$ , and therefore can be evaluated on the boundary without any excuses. Let  $\alpha$  be the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  and

$$H_{\alpha}^2(\beta) = \{f : f \in H^2(\beta) \text{ and } f(\alpha) = 0\}.$$

If a sequence  $\{f_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  of functions in  $H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$  converges to  $f$  in the  $\beta$ -norm, then  $f \in H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$ , because  $(f_n, k_{\alpha}^{\beta})_{\beta}$  converges to  $(f, k_{\alpha}^{\beta})_{\beta}$  when  $\alpha \in \mathbf{D}$  and also when  $\alpha \in \partial\mathbf{D}$ . So,  $H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$  is a closed subspace of  $H^2(\beta)$ . If  $f \in H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$  then, because  $\alpha$  is a fixed point of  $\varphi$ , we have

$$f(\varphi(\alpha)) = f(\alpha) = 0;$$

i.e.,  $H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$  is an invariant subspace for  $C_{\varphi}$ . Let  $T$  be the restriction of  $C_{\varphi}$  to  $H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$ . Then  $T$  is a compact operator too, and the spectral radius  $r(T)$  is equal to the maximum of  $\{|\lambda| : \lambda \in \Pi_0(T)\}$  where  $\Pi_0(T)$  is the point spectrum of  $T$ . Let the function  $f \neq 0$  from  $H_{\alpha}^2(\beta)$  be such that  $Tf = \lambda f$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}$ . Then there exists a point  $z_0 \in \mathbf{D}$  such that  $f(z_0) \neq 0$ . Also

$$\lambda^n f(z_0) = (T^n f)(z_0) = f(\varphi^{(n)}(z_0)).$$

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\varphi^{(n)}(z_0) \rightarrow z$ ; i.e.,

$$\lambda^n f(z_0) \rightarrow f(z) = 0.$$

So  $|\lambda| < 1$  and  $r(T) < 1$ .

On the other hand

$$r(T) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T^{n-1}\|^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

and we have  $\|T^n\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $e_1(z) = z$  and  $e_0(z) = 1$ . Then  $e_1 - ze_0 \in H^2(\beta)$  and so

$$\|T^n(e_1 - ze_0)\|_{\beta} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

But

$$\|T^n(e_1 - ze_0)\|_{\beta} = \|\varphi^{(n)} - ze_0\|_{\beta}$$

and, because there exists a constant  $c$  such that

$$\|\varphi^{(n)} - ze_0\|_{\infty} \leq c \|\varphi^{(n)} - ze_0\|_{\beta},$$

we have

$$|\varphi^{(n)}(z) - z| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow \infty, \text{ for all } z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Now if  $z_1$  is another fixed point of  $\varphi$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , we have

$$|\varphi^{(n)}(z_1) - z_1| = |z_1 - z_1| = 0;$$

i.e.,  $z_1 = z$ . □

We say that the space  $H^2(\beta)$  is *disc-automorphism invariant* if disc automorphisms induce bounded composition operators on  $H^2(\beta)$ .

The following result was obtained in [11] in a more general context and by a slightly different approach.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let the space  $H^2(\beta)$  be disc-automorphism invariant and  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$ .*

*If the operator  $C_{\varphi}$  is compact on  $H^2(\beta)$ , then  $\varphi$  has a fixed point in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and the supremum of  $\varphi$  is strictly smaller than 1.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\varphi$  has a Denjoy-Wolff point  $\alpha$  in  $\partial\mathbb{D}$ . Composing  $\varphi$  with a disc-automorphism  $\psi$  such that  $\psi(z) = z$  and  $\psi(\varphi(0)) = 0$ , we get a new function  $\varphi_1 = \psi \cdot \varphi$  with two fixed points in  $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ . But  $C_{\varphi_1}$  is a compact composition operator on  $H^2(\beta)$  and that is a contradiction to Proposition 1.

The supremum norm of  $\varphi$  must be strictly smaller than 1, because otherwise composing  $\varphi$  with suitable rotations we shall get a function with a fixed point on  $\partial\mathbf{D}$ .  $\square$

What is happening with the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  if  $C_\varphi$  is compact on the “big spaces”  $H^2(\beta)$  such that  $H^2 \subset H^2(\beta)$ ? Note, that by Proposition in [16], this is the case when the sequence  $\beta$  is bounded. Then we can use the following result ([3], Corollary 4.4): if the Denjoy-Wolff point  $\alpha$  of  $\varphi$  is in  $\partial\mathbf{D}$  and  $\varphi'(\alpha) < 1$ , then every eigenvalue of  $C_\varphi$  on  $H^2$  has infinite multiplicity. But then every eigenvalue of  $C_\varphi$  on  $H^2(\beta)$  is also going to have infinite multiplicity, and so  $C_\varphi$  cannot be compact on  $H^2(\beta)$  since 1 is always an eigenvalue for  $C_\varphi$ . We still do not know what happens if  $\alpha$  is in  $\partial\mathbf{D}$  and  $\varphi'(\alpha) = 1$ . We can avoid this problem if we impose more restrictions on the space  $H^2(\beta)$ . We have the following:

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Suppose that the space  $H^2(\beta)$  is disc-automorphism invariant and  $H^2 \subset H^2(\beta)$ . If the operator  $C_\varphi$  is compact on  $H^2(\beta)$  then the Denjoy-Wolff point  $\alpha$  of  $\varphi$  is in  $\mathbf{D}$ .*

*Proof.* By the previous discussion we already know that if  $C_\varphi$  is compact and  $\alpha \in \partial\mathbf{D}$ , then  $\varphi'(\alpha) \geq 1$ ; i.e., by the Denjoy-Wolff theorem,  $\varphi'(\alpha) = 1$ . Let  $\psi$  be a disc-automorphism such that  $\psi(\alpha) = \alpha$  and  $\psi'(\alpha) < 1$ . Then  $(\psi \circ \varphi)(\alpha) = \alpha$  and

$$(\psi \circ \varphi)'(\alpha) = \psi'(\varphi(\alpha)) \cdot \varphi'(\alpha) = \psi'(\alpha) \cdot \varphi'(\alpha) < 1$$

and so  $\alpha$  is the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\psi \circ \varphi$ . But the operator  $C_{\psi \circ \varphi}$  is compact on  $H^2(\beta)$  because  $C_\varphi$  is compact and  $C_\psi$  is bounded. This contradicts the previous discussion since  $(\psi \circ \varphi)'(\alpha) < 1$ . So, we must have  $\alpha \in \mathbf{D}$ .  $\square$

Besides the cases  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^2} < \infty$  and  $\beta$  bounded (i.e.,  $H^2 \subset H^2(\beta)$ ) there are still a lot of cases of spaces  $H^2(\beta)$  for which we do not know if the compactness of  $C_\varphi$  on  $H^2(\beta)$  implies that the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  is in  $\mathbf{D}$ , even if we suppose that  $H^2(\beta)$  is disc-automorphism invariant. It would be helpful to know the answer because then, as we shall see below, we would be able to describe the spectrum of such compact composition operators.

### 3. SPECTRUM OF COMPACT COMPOSITION OPERATORS

If  $C_\varphi$  is a compact composition operator on  $H^2$  and  $\alpha$  is its Denjoy-Wolff point, Caughran and Schwartz have proved in [2] that  $\alpha$  is in  $\mathbf{D}$  and the spectrum of  $C_\varphi$  is the set  $\{0, 1\} \subseteq \{(\varphi'(\alpha))^k : k = 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.** Suppose that the function  $\varphi$  induces a compact composition operator on the space  $H^2(\beta)$ , and the Denjoy-Wolff point  $\alpha$  of  $\varphi$  is in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_\varphi)$  (the spectrum of  $C_\varphi$  on  $H^2(\beta)$ ) is the set  $\{0, 1\} \cup \{(\varphi'(\alpha))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$k_\alpha(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n^n} \bar{\alpha}^n z^n$$

be the point evaluation at  $\alpha$ , and for  $k \geq 1$ , let  $k_\alpha^{(k)} = \frac{d^k}{d\bar{\alpha}^k} k_\alpha$ . Then

$$k_\alpha^{(k)}(z) = \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}{\beta_n^n} \bar{\alpha}^{n-k} z^n$$

is a function in  $H^2(\beta)$  and for  $f$  in  $H^2(\beta)$  we have that  $(f, k_\alpha) = f^{(k)}(\alpha)$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (f, C_\varphi^* k_\alpha^{(k)}) &= (C_\varphi f, k_\alpha^{(k)}) = (f \cdot \varphi)^{(k)}(\alpha) = \\ &= f^{(k)}(\alpha)(\varphi'(\alpha))^{k_1} + \dots + f'(\alpha)\varphi^{(k)}(\alpha) = \\ &= (f, \overline{(\varphi'(\alpha))}^k k_\alpha^{(k)} + \dots + (f, \overline{\varphi^{(k)}(\alpha)} k_\alpha^{(1)})). \end{aligned}$$

The functions  $k_\alpha, k_\alpha^{(1)}, \dots, k_\alpha^{(k)}$  are a basis for a finite dimensional space invariant for  $C_\varphi^*$  and with respect to this basis the restriction of  $C_\varphi^*$  has an upper triangular matrix representation with diagonal  $(\overline{\varphi'(\alpha)})^s$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq k$ . Because the operator  $C_\varphi^*$  is compact, we have that the points  $(\varphi'(\alpha))^s$ ,  $s \geq 0$  are eigenvalues for the operator  $C_\varphi$ .

From the other side, if  $f$  in  $H^2(\beta)$  is such that there exists  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  with  $f \cdot \varphi = \lambda f$ , then  $f(\varphi(\alpha)) = f(\alpha) = \lambda f(\alpha)$  and either  $\lambda = 1$  and  $f = \text{const}$ , or  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . If  $\alpha$  is a zero of  $f$  of order  $s$ , taking the  $(s+1)$  derivative on the both sides of the equation  $f \cdot \varphi = \lambda f$  and evaluating at  $\alpha$ , we get that

$$f^{(s+1)}(\alpha)(\varphi'(\alpha))^{s+1} = \lambda f^{(s+1)}(\alpha),$$

i.e., that  $\lambda = (\varphi'(\alpha))^{s+1}$ . Thus

$$\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_\varphi) = \{0, 1\} \cup \{(\varphi'(\alpha))^k : k = 1, 2, \dots\}. \quad \blacksquare$$

There is a special interesting case when we can also describe the spectrum of some compact composition operators.

For example, let the space  $H^2(\beta)$  be given by  $\beta_n = \exp(n^\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha$  in  $[1/2, 1]$ , and  $\mu < 1/2$  be such that the function  $\varphi_\mu(z) = 1 - \mu + \mu z$  induces a compact composition operator on  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces are spaces of quasi-analytic functions on  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$  (see [1]). We will show that  $\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_{\varphi_\mu})$  (the spectrum of  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  on  $H^2(\beta)$ ) is  $\{0,1\} \cup \{(\varphi'_\mu(1))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ , while by Corollary 4.8 in [3], the spectrum of  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  on  $H^2$  is  $\{z : |z| \leq \mu^{-1/2}\}$ , and every point of its interior is an eigenvalue of infinite multiplicity ([3], p. 97). First we shall prove that  $\{0,1\} \cup \{(\varphi'_\mu(1))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\} \subset \sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_{\varphi_\mu})$ . Let  $f_n(z) = (1 - z)^n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then

$$(C_{\varphi_\mu} f_n)(z) = f_n(\varphi_\mu(z)) = f_n(1 - \mu + \mu z) = (\mu - \mu z)^n = \mu^n (1 - z)^n = (\mu^n f_n)(z).$$

So, for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  the functions  $f_n$  are eigenvectors of  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  corresponding to the eigenvalues  $\mu^n$ . But  $\varphi'_\mu(1) = \mu$  and so we got the needed inclusion. Note that up to now we did not use any of the restrictions imposed on the space  $H^2(\beta)$  and that the functions  $f_n$  belong to every  $H^2(\beta)$ . So the set  $\{0,1\} \cup \{(\varphi'_\mu(1))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a subset of the spectrum of  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  on all  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces on which  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  is bounded.

Next, we will show that there are no other eigenvalues of  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  on the given  $H^2(\beta)$  space except the ones given above. For suppose that  $f \in H^2(\beta)$  and  $f \circ \varphi_\mu = \lambda f$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\lambda \neq 1$ . The functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  are continuous on  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$  and we can evaluate them on the boundary. So  $(f \circ \varphi_\mu)(1) = f(1)$ ; i.e.,  $f(1) = \lambda f(1)$ , and, since  $\lambda \neq 1$ , we get  $f(1) = 0$ .

The functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  are such that every derivative has an absolutely convergent power series in  $\mathbf{D}$ , every function that is nonzero can have only finitely many zeroes in  $\mathbf{D}$  and every zero in  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$  has finite order (see [1] and [14], p. 103). Suppose that 1 is a zero of the function  $f$  of order  $k$ ; i.e.,  $f^{[s]}(1) = 0$  for  $s \leq k$  (where  $f^{[s]}$  denotes the derivative of order  $s$  of  $f$ ) and  $f^{[k+1]}(1) \neq 0$ . Then, by taking the  $(k+1)$  derivative on the both sides of the equation  $f \circ \varphi_\mu = \lambda f$  and by evaluating at the point  $z = 1$ , we get

$$f^{[k+1]}(1) \cdot (\varphi'_\mu(1))^{k+1} = \lambda \cdot f^{[k+1]}(1);$$

i.e.,  $\lambda = (\varphi'_\mu(1))^{k+1}$ .

Because the operator  $C_{\varphi_\mu}$  is compact on  $H^2(\beta)$ , every nonzero point in its spectrum has to be an eigenvalue. So, finally, we get that

$$\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_{\varphi_\mu}) = \{0,1\} \cup \{(\varphi'_\mu(1))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

In some parts of the proof of the last statement, we actually proved some more general results; we give them as remarks.

**REMARK 1.** If the function  $\varphi$  is not “of the type  $\varphi_\mu$ ” but still induces a compact composition operator on one of the quasi-analytic  $H^2(\beta)$  spaces discussed above and the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  is 1, then

$$\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_\varphi) = \{0, 1\} \cup \{(\varphi'(1))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}. \quad \blacksquare$$

**REMARK 2.** If the functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  are continuous on  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$ , and  $\varphi$  is not a disc automorphism, then  $\Pi_{H^2(\beta)}^1(C_\varphi)$  (the point spectrum of  $C_\varphi$  on  $H^2(\beta)$ ) is subset of  $\bar{\mathbf{D}}$  and  $\lambda = 1$  is the only eigenvalue of  $C_\varphi$  on  $\partial\mathbf{D}$ . (If  $\alpha$  is the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$ ;  $f \in H^2(\beta)$  such that  $f \circ \varphi = \lambda f$ , then either  $\lambda = 1$ , or  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . But for  $z_0 \in \mathbf{D}$  with  $f(z_0) \neq 0$

$$\lambda^n f(z_0) = f((\varphi^{(n)})(z_0)) \rightarrow f(\alpha) \quad \text{for } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

and if  $f(\alpha) = 0$ , then  $|\lambda| < 1$ .)

The cases mentioned above suggest the following conjecture: if  $C_\varphi$  is a compact composition operator on  $H^2(\beta)$  and  $\alpha$  is the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$ , then

$$\sigma_{H^2(\beta)}(C_\varphi) = \{0, 1\} \cup \{(\varphi'(\alpha))^n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

From the above discussion we know that if the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  ( $\varphi$  not a disc automorphism) is in  $\mathbf{D}$ , or if the functions in  $H^2(\beta)$  are continuous on  $\mathbf{D}$ , then every eigenvalue of  $C_\varphi$  different than 1 has absolute value strictly smaller than 1. Is that true for all other points in the interior of the spectrum of  $C_\varphi$  in these two cases? We know that in  $H^2$ , if the Denjoy-Wolff point of  $\varphi$  is in  $\mathbf{D}$ , then the spectral radius of  $C_\varphi$  is equal to 1 (see [3]), but that is all that is known about this problem.

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