

## Research Article

# Weighted Composition Operators from Dirichlet-Zygmund Spaces into Zygmund-Type Spaces and Bloch-Type Spaces

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The boundedness, compactness, and essential norm of weighted composition operators from Dirichlet-Zygmund spaces into Zygmund-type spaces and Bloch-type spaces are investigated in this paper.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $H(\mathbb{D})$  denote the space of all analytic functions in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . For  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , the Dirichlet type space  $\mathcal{D}_{p-1}^p$  is the set of all  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  such that

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{D}_{p-1}^p}^p = |f(0)|^p + \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^p (1 - |z|^2)^{p-1} dA(z) < \infty, \quad (1)$$

where  $dA(z) = (1/\pi) dx dy$  is the normalized Lebesgue area measure.  $\mathcal{D}_{p-1}^p$  is a Banach space under the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{D}_{p-1}^p}$ . If  $f' \in \mathcal{D}_{p-1}^p$ , we say that  $f$  belongs to the Dirichlet-Zygmund space, denoted by  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ . To the best of our knowledge, this is the first work to study the Dirichlet-Zygmund space.

Recall that the space  $B_1$ , called the minimal Möbius invariant space, is the space of all  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  that admit the representation  $f(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j \sigma_{t_j}(z)$  for some sequence  $\{b_j\}$  in  $l^1$  and  $t_j \in \mathbb{D}$ . The norm on  $f \in B_1$  is defined by

$$\|f\|_{B_1} = \inf \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |b_j| : f(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j \sigma_{t_j}(z) \right\}. \quad (2)$$

Here,  $\sigma_a(z) = (a - z)/(1 - \bar{a}z)$ . For any  $f \in B_1$ , the authors in [1] showed that there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such

that

$$C^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f''(z)| dA(z) \leq \|f - f(0) - f'(0)z\|_{B_1} \leq C \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f''(z)| dA(z). \quad (3)$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{X}_0^1$  is in fact the space  $B_1$ .

We call  $\nu : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  a weight, if  $\nu$  is a continuous, strictly positive and bounded function.  $\nu$  is called radial, if  $\nu(z) = \nu(|z|)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Let  $\nu$  be a radial weight. Recall that the Zygmund-type space  $\mathcal{X}_\nu$  is the space that consists of all  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  such that

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} = |f(0)| + |f'(0)| + \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(z) |f''(z)| < \infty. \quad (4)$$

$\mathcal{X}_\nu$  is a Banach space under the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu}$ . We say that  $f$  belongs to the Bloch-type space  $\mathcal{B}_\nu$ , if

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_\nu} = |f(0)| + \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(z) |f'(z)| < \infty. \quad (5)$$

When  $\nu(z) = 1 - |z|^2$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_\nu = \mathcal{X}$  is called the Zygmund space, and  $\mathcal{B}_\nu = \mathcal{B}$  is called the Bloch space, respectively. In particular,  $\mathcal{X}_\nu$  is just the Bloch space when  $\nu(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^2$ .

The weighted space, denoted by  $H_v^\infty$ , is the set of all  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  such that

$$\|f\|_{H_v^\infty} = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(z)|f(z)| < \infty. \quad (6)$$

When  $v(z) = v_\alpha(z) = (1 - |z|^2)^\alpha$  ( $0 \leq \alpha < \infty$ ), we denote  $H_v^\infty$  by  $H_{v_\alpha}^\infty$ . In particular, when  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $H_{v_0}^\infty = H^\infty$  is just the bounded analytic function space.

We denote by  $S(\mathbb{D})$  the set of all analytic self-maps of  $\mathbb{D}$  for simplicity. Let  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ . The weighted composition operator  $\psi C_\varphi$  is defined as follows.

$$(\psi C_\varphi f)(z) = \psi(z)f(\varphi(z)), f \in H(\mathbb{D}), z \in \mathbb{D}. \quad (7)$$

When  $\psi = 1$ ,  $\psi C_\varphi$  is called the composition operator, denoted by  $C_\varphi$ . See [2, 3] for more results about the theory of composition operators and weighted composition operators.

For any  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ , by the Schwarz-Pick lemma, we see that  $C_\varphi : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is bounded. It was shown in [4] that  $C_\varphi : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is compact if and only if  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi^j\|_{\mathcal{B}} = 0$ . Motivated by [4], Colonna and Li in [5, 6] studied the operators  $\psi C_\varphi : H^\infty \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and  $\psi C_\varphi : Lip_\alpha \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  by  $\|\psi\varphi^j\|_{\mathcal{X}}$  and  $\|j^{-\alpha}\psi\varphi^j\|_{\mathcal{X}}$ , respectively. Here,  $Lip_\alpha$  is the Lipschitz space. The composition operator on the space  $B_1$  was extensively studied in [1]. In [7], Colonna and Li studied the boundedness and compactness of weighted composition operators from the minimal Möbius invariant space  $B_1(\mathcal{X}_0^1)$  to the Bloch space  $\mathcal{B}$ . In [8], Li studied the boundedness and compactness of the weighted composition operator  $\psi C_\varphi : B_1(\mathcal{X}_0^1) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ . See [5, 6, 8–17] for more results for composition operators, weighted composition operators, and related operators on the Zygmund space and Zygmund-type spaces.

In this paper, we follow the methods of [17] and give some characterizations for the boundedness, compactness, and essential norm of the operator  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\mu$  and  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_\mu$ .

We denote by  $C$  a positive constant which may differ from one occurrence to the next. In addition, we will use the following notations throughout this paper:  $A \approx B$  means that there exists a constant  $C$  such that  $A \leq CB$ , while  $A \approx B$  means that  $A \leq B \leq A$ .

## 2. Main Results and Proofs

In this section, we formulate and prove our main results in this paper.

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose  $1 < p < \infty$ . Then, there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that*

$$|f'(z)| \leq \frac{C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}}{(1 - |z|^2)^{1/p}}, |f''(z)| \leq \frac{C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}}{(1 - |z|^2)^{1+(1/p)}}, \quad (8)$$

and  $\|f\|_\infty \leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $r > 0$  and  $g \in H(\mathbb{D})$ . Then, there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|g(z)|^p \leq \frac{C}{(1 - |z|^2)^{\alpha+2}} \int_{D(z,r)} |g(w)|^p (1 - |w|^2)^\alpha dA(w), \quad (9)$$

which implies that

$$|g(z)| \leq \frac{C\|g\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}}{(1 - |z|^2)^{1/p}} \text{ and } |g'(z)| \leq \frac{C\|g\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}}{(1 - |z|^2)^{1+(1/p)}}. \quad (10)$$

The inequalities in (8) hold. Here,  $D(z, r)$  is the hyperbolic disk (see [3]). From (8), we see that  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  are contained in the disk algebra for  $p > 1$ . Hence, we get that  $\|f\|_\infty \leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ , then for all  $t \in (0, 1)$  and  $z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \{0\}$ , there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that*

$$\left| f(z) - f\left(\frac{t}{|z|}z\right) \right| \leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} (1 - |z|)^{1-1/p}. \quad (11)$$

*Proof.* Fix  $f \in \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ . Let  $t \in (0, 1)$  and  $z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \{0\}$ . By Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(z) - f\left(\frac{t}{|z|}z\right) \right| &\leq \left| \int_1^{t/|z|} z f'(sz) ds \right| \leq \int_1^{t/|z|} |z| |f'(sz)| ds \\ &\leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \int_1^{t/|z|} \frac{|z|}{(1 - s^2|z|^2)^{1/p}} ds \\ &\leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} (1 - |z|)^{1-1/p}, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

as desired.  $\square$

Using Lemma 2 and similarly to the proof of Lemma 7 in [18], we get the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . Every sequence in  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  bounded in norm has a subsequence which converges uniformly in  $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$  to a function in  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ .*

**Lemma 4** (see [5]). *Let  $X$  be a Banach space that is continuously contained in the disk algebra, and let  $Y$  be any Banach space of analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Suppose that*

- (i) *The point evaluation functionals on  $Y$  are continuous*
- (ii) *For every sequence  $\{f_n\}$  in the unit ball of  $X$  that exists an  $f \in X$  and a subsequence  $\{f_{n_j}\}$  such that  $f_{n_j} \rightarrow f$  uniformly on  $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$*

(iii) The operator  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous if  $X$  has the supremum norm and  $Y$  is given by the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets

Then,  $T$  is a compact operator if and only if, given a bounded sequence  $\{f_n\}$  in  $X$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $\mathbb{D}$ , then the sequence  $\|Tf_n\|_Y \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

The following result is a direct consequence of Lemmas 3 and 4.

**Lemma 5.** Let  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $\mu$  be a weight. If  $T : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\nu$  is bounded, then  $T$  is compact if and only if  $\|Tf_k\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  for any sequence  $\{f_k\}$  in  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  bounded in norm which converge to 0 uniformly in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Theorem 6.** Let  $\nu$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Then, the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) The operator  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\nu$  is bounded
- (ii)  $\psi \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ ,

$$P := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{\nu(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}} < \infty, \tag{13}$$

and

$$Q := \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{\nu(z) |\psi(z)| |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}} < \infty, \tag{14}$$

- (iii)  $\psi \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ ,

$$\sup_{j \geq 1} j^{1/p} \|(2\psi' \varphi' + \psi \varphi'') \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H^\infty} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{j \geq 1} j^{(1/p)+1} \|\psi \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H^\infty} < \infty.$$

*Proof.* (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). For any  $z \in \mathbb{D}$  and  $f \in \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$ , by Lemma 1, we have

$$|(\psi C_\varphi f)(0)| \leq |\psi(0)| \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p},$$

$$|(\psi C_\varphi f)'(0)| \leq \left( |\psi'(0)| + \frac{|\psi(0)\varphi'(0)|}{(1 - |\varphi(0)|^2)^{1/p}} \right) \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nu(z) |(\psi C_\varphi f)''(z)| &\leq \nu(z) |\psi''(z)| |f(\varphi(z))| \\ &\quad + \nu(z) \left| f''(\varphi(z)) \right| |\psi(z) (\varphi'(z))^2| \\ &\quad + \nu(z) |f'(\varphi(z))| |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)| \\ &\leq \nu(z) |\psi''(z)| \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \\ &\quad + \frac{\nu(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}} \|\varphi(z)\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \\ &\quad + \frac{\nu(z) |\psi(z)| |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p}. \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi C_\varphi f\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} &= |(\psi C_\varphi f)(0)| + |(\psi C_\varphi f)'(0)| + \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(z) |(\psi C_\varphi f)''(z)| \\ &\leq \left( |\psi(0)| + |\psi'(0)| + \frac{|\psi(0)\varphi'(0)|}{(1 - |\varphi(0)|^2)^{1/p}} + P + Q \right) \|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \\ &< \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Therefore,  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\nu$  is bounded.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Applying the operator  $\psi C_\varphi$  to  $z^j$  with  $j = 0, 1, 2$  and using the boundedness of  $\psi C_\varphi$ , we get that  $\psi \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ ,  $\psi\varphi \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ , and  $\psi\varphi^2 \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ . Hence, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)| &< \infty, \\ \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(z) \left| \psi(z) (\varphi'(z))^2 \right| &< \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

For any  $a \in \mathbb{D}$ , set

$$f_a(z) = \frac{1 - |a|^2}{(1 - \bar{a}z)^{1/p}}, \quad g_a(z) = \frac{(1 - |a|^2)^2}{(1 - \bar{a}z)^{(1+p)/p}}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}. \tag{18}$$

It is easy to check that

$$\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \|f_a\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \|g_a\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} < \infty. \tag{19}$$

Therefore, by the boundedness of  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\nu$  and arbitrary of  $a \in \mathbb{D}$ , we get

$$\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \|\psi C_\varphi f_a\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \|\psi C_\varphi g_a\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} < \infty. \tag{20}$$

For  $w \in \mathbb{D}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi C_{\varphi} f_{\varphi(w)})''(w) &= \psi''(w)(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1-(1/p)} \\ &\quad + \frac{(2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w))\varphi(\bar{w})}{p(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(1+p)\psi(w)(\varphi'(w))^2\varphi(\bar{w})^2}{p^2(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}, \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\psi C_{\varphi} g_{\varphi(w)})''(w) &= \psi''(w)(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1-(1/p)} \\ &\quad + \frac{(1+p)(2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w))\varphi(\bar{w})}{p(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(1+p)(1+2p)\psi(w)(\varphi'(w))^2\varphi(\bar{w})^2}{p^2(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

From (21) and (22), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} -(1+p)(\psi C_{\varphi} f_{\varphi(w)})''(w) &+ (\psi C_{\varphi} g_{\varphi(w)})''(w) \\ &\quad + p\psi''(w)(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1-(1/p)} \\ &= \frac{(1+p)\psi(w)(\varphi'(w))^2\varphi(\bar{w})^2}{p(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}, \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{(2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w))\varphi(\bar{w})}{(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ &= -(\psi C_{\varphi} f_{\varphi(w)})''(w) + (\psi C_{\varphi} g_{\varphi(w)})''(w) \\ &\quad - \frac{2(1+p)\psi(w)(\varphi'(w))^2\varphi(\bar{w})^2}{p(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}} \\ &= (1+2p)(\psi C_{\varphi} f_{\varphi(w)})''(w) - (\psi C_{\varphi} g_{\varphi(w)})''(w) \\ &\quad - 2p\psi''(w)(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1-(1/p)}. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

From (24), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{\nu(w)|2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w)|\varphi(w)|}{(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ \leq (1+2p)\|\psi C_{\varphi} f_{\varphi(w)}\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} + \|\psi C_{\varphi} g_{\varphi(w)}\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} + 2p\|\psi\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

On one hand, from (25), we obtain

$$\sup_{|\varphi(w)| > 1/2} \frac{\nu(w)|2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w)|}{(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} < \infty. \quad (26)$$

On the other hand, from the fact that  $\psi, \psi\varphi \in \mathcal{X}_\nu$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{|\varphi(w)| \leq 1/2} \frac{\nu(w)|2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w)|}{(1 - |\varphi(w)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ \leq \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^{1/p} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \nu(w)|2\psi'(w)\varphi'(w) + \psi(w)\varphi''(w)| \\ \leq \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} (\|\psi\varphi\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu} + 2\|\psi\|_{\mathcal{X}_\nu}) < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

From (26) and (27), we see that  $P$  is finite. Using similar arguments, we see that  $Q$  is also finite.

(ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii). From [19], we see that the inequality in is equivalent to the operator  $(2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi : H_{\nu_{1/p}}^\infty \rightarrow H_\nu^\infty$  is bounded. By [20], the boundedness of  $(2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi$  is equivalent to

$$\sup_{j \geq 1} \frac{\left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty}}{\|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{\nu_{1/p}}^\infty}} < \infty. \quad (28)$$

From [21], we get  $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{1/p} \|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{\nu_{1/p}}^\infty} = \sqrt[p]{2/p\epsilon}$ , which together with (28) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{j \geq 1} j^{1/p} \left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty} \\ \approx \sup_{j \geq 1} \frac{j^{1/p} \left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty}}{j^{1/p} \|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{\nu_{1/p}}^\infty}} < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Similarly, the inequality in is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{j \geq 1} j^{(1/p)+1} \left\| \psi\varphi'^2\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty} \\ \approx \sup_{j \geq 1} \frac{j^{(1/p)+1} \left\| \psi\varphi'^2\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty}}{j^{(1/p)+1} \|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{\nu_{(1/p)+1}}^\infty}} \\ = \sup_{j \geq 1} \frac{\left\| \psi\varphi'^2\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_\nu^\infty}}{\|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{\nu_{(1/p)+1}}^\infty}} < \infty. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

The proof is complete.  $\square$

Next, we consider the essential norm of  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_\nu$ . Recall that the essential norm of  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is its distance to the set of compact operators  $K : X \rightarrow Y$ , that is,

$$\|T\|_{eX \rightarrow Y} = \inf \{ \|T - K\|_{X \rightarrow Y} : K \text{ is a compact operator} \}. \quad (31)$$

Here,  $X, Y$  are Banach spaces, and  $T$  is a bounded linear operator.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $v$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$  is bounded. Then,

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \approx \max \{E, G\} \approx \max \{M, T\}. \quad (32)$$

Here,

$$\begin{aligned} E &:= \limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{v(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}}, \\ G &:= \limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{v(z) |\psi(z)| |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}, \\ M &:= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{1/p} \left\| \left( 2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'' \right) \varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_v^\infty}, T \\ &:= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{(1/p)+1} \left\| \psi \left( \varphi' \right)^2 \varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_v^\infty}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

*Proof.* First we show that  $\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \geq \max \{E, G\}$ . Let  $\{z_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in the unit disk such that  $|\varphi(z_j)| \rightarrow 1$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . Define

$$\begin{aligned} k_j(z) &= \frac{1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{1/p}} - \frac{(1 + 2p)(1 + 3p) - (1 + p)}{2p(1 + 2p)} \frac{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^2}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{(1/p)+1}} \\ &\quad + \frac{1 + p}{1 + 2p} \frac{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^3}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{(1/p)+2}}, \\ m_j(z) &= \frac{1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{1/p}} - 2 \frac{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^2}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{(1/p)+1}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^3}{(1 - \varphi(\bar{z}_j)z)^{(1/p)+2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

After a calculation, we get all  $k_j$  and  $m_j$  belong to  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  and

$$\begin{aligned} k_j(\varphi(z_j)) &= 0, k''_j(\varphi(z_j)) = 0, |k'_j(\varphi(z_j))| \\ &= \frac{p}{1 + 2p} \frac{|\varphi(z_j)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^{1/p}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_j(\varphi(z_j)) &= 0, m'_j(\varphi(z_j)) = 0, |m''_j(\varphi(z_j))| \\ &= \frac{2|\varphi(z_j)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Moreover,  $k_j$  and  $m_j$  converge to 0 uniformly on  $\bar{\mathbb{D}}$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence, for any compact operator  $K : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$ , by Lemma 5, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi C_\varphi - K\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} &\geq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\psi C_\varphi(k_j)\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} - \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|K(k_j)\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} \\ &\geq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v(z_j) |2\psi'(z_j)\varphi'(z_j) + \psi(z_j)\varphi''(z_j)| |\varphi(z_j)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^{1/p}}, \\ \|\psi C_\varphi - K\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} &\geq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\psi C_\varphi(m_j)\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} - \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|K(m_j)\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} \\ &\geq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v(z_j) |\psi(z_j)| |\varphi'(z_j)|^2 |\varphi(z_j)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}. \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} &= \inf_K \|\psi C_\varphi - K\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \\ &\geq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{v(z_j) |2\psi'(z_j)\varphi'(z_j) + \psi(z_j)\varphi''(z_j)| |\varphi(z_j)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z_j)|^2)^{1/p}} \\ &= \limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{v(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}} = E, \end{aligned}$$

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \geq \limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{v(z) |\psi(z)| |\varphi'(z)|^2}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}} = G, \quad (37)$$

as desired.

Next, we show that

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \leq \max \{E, G\}. \quad (38)$$

Let  $r \in [0, 1)$ . Define  $K_r : H(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow H(\mathbb{D})$  by

$$(K_r f)(z) = f_r(z) = f(rz), f \in H(\mathbb{D}). \quad (39)$$

It is clear that  $K_r$  is compact on  $\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  and  $\|K_r\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \leq 1$ . Moreover,  $f_r - f \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ . Let  $\{r_j\} \subset (0, 1)$  such that  $r_j \rightarrow 1$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . Then,  $\psi C_\varphi K_{r_j} : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$  is compact for each  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence,

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\psi C_\varphi - \psi C_\varphi K_{r_j}\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v}. \quad (40)$$

Thus, we only need to prove that

$$\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\psi C_\varphi - \psi C_\varphi K_{r_j}\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \leq \max \{E, G\}. \quad (41)$$

For any  $f \in \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p$  with  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \leq 1$ , by the facts that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} |\psi(0)f(\varphi(0)) - \psi(0)f(r_j\varphi(0))| = 0, \\ & \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left| \psi'(0)(f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(0)) + \psi(0)(f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(0))\varphi'(0) \right| = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left\| (\psi C_\varphi - \psi C_\varphi K_{r_j})f \right\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} = \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} v(z) \left| (\psi \cdot (f - f_{r_j}) \circ \varphi)'(z) \right| \\ & \leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| \leq r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| 2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z) \\ & \quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| 2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z) \\ & \quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| |\psi''(z)| \\ & \quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| \leq r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})''(\varphi(z)) \right| |\varphi'(z)|^2 |\psi(z)| \\ & \quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})''(\varphi(z)) \right| |\varphi'(z)|^2 |\psi(z)| \\ & := P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + P_5, \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

where  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  is large enough such that  $r_j \geq 1/2$  for all  $j \geq t$ . Since  $f_{r_j} - f \rightarrow 0$ ,  $r_j f'_{r_j} - f' \rightarrow 0$ , and  $r_j^2 f''_{r_j} - f'' \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , by Lemma 3, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_3 &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| |\psi''(z)| \\ & \leq \|\psi\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}} |f(w) - f(r_j w)| = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| \leq r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| 2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z) \\ & \leq \left( \|\psi\varphi\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} + \|\psi\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} \right) \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|w| \leq r_t} |f'(w) - r_j f'(r_j w)| = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_4 &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| \leq r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})''(\varphi(z)) \right| |\varphi'(z)|^2 |\psi(z)| \\ & \leq \left( \|\psi\varphi^2\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} + \|\psi\varphi\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} + \|\psi\|_{\mathcal{X}_v} \right) \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|w| \leq r_t} |f''(w) - r_j^2 f''(r_j w)| = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

Using Lemma 1 and  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \leq 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_2 &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})'(\varphi(z)) \right| 2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z) \\ & \leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left\| f - f_{r_j} \right\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} \frac{v(z) |2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Taking the limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$P_2 \leq E. \quad (48)$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} P_5 &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} v(z) \left| (f - f_{r_j})''(\varphi(z)) \right| |\varphi'(z)|^2 |\psi(z)| \\ & \leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left\| f - f_{r_j} \right\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p} \sup_{|\varphi(z)| > r_t} \frac{v(z) |\varphi'(z)|^2 |\psi(z)|}{(1 - |\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}}. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Taking the limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$P_5 \leq G. \quad (50)$$

Hence, by (43), (44), (45), (46), (48), and (50), we get

$$\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \psi C_\varphi - \psi C_\varphi K_{r_j} \right\|_{\mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \leq \max \{E, G\}, \quad (51)$$

which with (40) implies the desired result.

Finally, we prove that

$$\left\| \psi C_\varphi \right\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \approx \max \{M, T\}. \quad (52)$$

On one hand, by the proof of Theorem 6, we see that the boundedness of  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$  is equivalent to the boundedness of  $(2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi : H_{v_{1/p}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty$  and  $\psi\varphi'^2 C_\varphi : H_{v_{(1/p)+1}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty$ . From [19, 20], we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v_{1/p}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \approx M, \quad \left\| \psi\varphi'^2 C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v_{(1/p)+1}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \approx T. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \psi C_\varphi \right\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} & \leq \left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v_{1/p}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \\ & \quad + \left\| \psi\varphi'^2 C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v_{(1/p)+1}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \leq M + T \\ & \leq \max \{M, T\}. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

On the other hand, from [19, 21], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \psi C_\varphi \right\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} & \geq E = \left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v_{1/p}}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \\ & = \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left\| (2\psi'\varphi' + \psi\varphi'')\varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_v^\infty}}{\|z^{j-1}\|_{H_{v_{1/p}}^\infty}} \approx M, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} &\geq G = \left\| \psi \varphi'^2 C_\varphi \right\|_{e, H_{v(1/p)+1}^\infty \rightarrow H_v^\infty} \\ &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left\| \psi \varphi'^2 \varphi^{j-1} \right\|_{H_v^\infty}}{\left\| z^{j-1} \right\|_{H_{v(1/p)+1}^\infty}} \approx T. \end{aligned} \tag{55}$$

Therefore,

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v} \geq \max \{M, T\}. \tag{56}$$

The proof is complete. □

From Theorem 7 and the well-known result that  $\|T\|_{e, X \rightarrow Y} = 0$  if and only if  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is compact, we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 8.** *Let  $v$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$  is bounded. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *The operator  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_v$  is compact*
- (ii)  $\limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} (v(z)|\psi(z)|\|\varphi'(z)\|^2/(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^{(1/p)+1}) = 0$   
*and*  $\limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} (v(z)|2\psi'(z)\varphi'(z) + \psi(z)\varphi''(z)|/(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}) = 0$
- (iii)  $\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{(1/p)+1} \|\psi(\varphi')^2 \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H_v^\infty} = \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{1/p} \|(2\psi' \varphi' + \psi \varphi'') \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H_v^\infty} = 0$

Similarly to the above proof, we can get the characterizations of the boundedness, compactness, and essential norm of the weighted composition operator  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v$  as follows. The details are left to the interested readers.

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $v$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Then, the following statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v$  is bounded
- (ii)  $\psi \in \mathcal{B}_v$ , and

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \frac{v(z)|\psi(z)\varphi'(z)|}{(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}} < \infty. \tag{57}$$

- (iii)  $\psi \in \mathcal{B}_v$  and  $\sup_{j \geq 1} j^{1/p} \|\psi \varphi' \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H_v^\infty} < \infty$

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $v$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v$  is bounded. Then,*

$$\|\psi C_\varphi\|_{e, \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v} \approx \limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} \frac{v(z)|\psi(z)\varphi'(z)|}{(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}} \approx \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{1/p} \|\psi \varphi' \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H_v^\infty}. \tag{58}$$

**Corollary 11.** *Let  $v$  be a radial, nonincreasing weight tending to zero at the boundary of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $\psi \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $\varphi \in S(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v$  is bounded. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *The operator  $\psi C_\varphi : \mathcal{X}_{p-1}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_v$  is compact*
- (ii)  $\limsup_{|\varphi(z)| \rightarrow 1} (v(z)|\psi(z)\varphi'(z)|/(1-|\varphi(z)|^2)^{1/p}) = 0$
- (iii)  $\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} j^{1/p} \|\psi \varphi' \varphi^{j-1}\|_{H_v^\infty} = 0$

### Data Availability

No data were used to support this study.

### Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that she has no conflicts of interest.

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