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# CARLESON MEASURES FOR HARDY AND BERGMAN SPACES IN THE QUATERNIONIC UNIT BALL

IRENE SABADINI AND ALBERTO SARACCO

ABSTRACT. We study a characterization of slice Carleson measures and of Carleson measures for both the Hardy spaces  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  and the Bergman spaces  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  of the quaternionic unit ball  $\mathbb{B}$ . In the case of Bergman spaces, the characterization is done in terms of the axially symmetric completion of a pseudohyperbolic disc in a complex plane. We also show that a characterization in terms of pseudohyperbolic balls is not possible.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Carleson measures have been introduced around 1960 by Carleson, see [6], to prove the corona theorem and to solve interpolation problems. A finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  on the open unit disc  $\mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{C}$  is called a Carleson measure for the Hardy space  $H^p(\mathbb{D})$  if

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} |f(z)| d\mu \leq C \|f\|_{H^p}, \quad f \in H^p(\mathbb{D})$$

where the constant  $C$  depends only on  $p \in (0, \infty)$ . Carleson also proved that the measure  $\mu$  is Carleson for  $H^p(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if for all Carleson squares of sidelength  $1 - r$ ,  $r \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\theta_0 \in [0, 2\pi]$

$$S(\theta_0, r) = \{\rho e^{i\theta} \in \mathbb{D} : r \leq \rho < 1, |\theta - \theta_0| \leq 1 - r\}$$

the condition

$$\mu(S(\theta_0, r)) \leq C(1 - r)$$

holds for some constant  $C > 0$ . This condition shows that, for a measure, the property of being Carleson for  $H^p(\mathbb{D})$  does not depend on  $p$ .

Later, Hastings [20] (but see also [22] for a wider context) proved a similar characterization for the measures which are Carleson for the Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{D})$  showing that a finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  is a Carleson measure for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if

$$\mu(S(\theta_0, r)) \leq C(1 - r)^2$$

for some constant  $C > 0$  for all Carleson squares  $S(\theta_0, r)$  of sidelength  $1 - r$ . In particular, for a measure, the property of being Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{D})$  does not depend on  $p$ .

The Carleson boxes are clearly not invariant under automorphism of the unit disc, so in order to obtain a characterization of the Carleson measures in an invariant way, one should consider the hyperbolic geometry of the disc and consider instead the pseudohyperbolic discs, see the work by Luecking [21] and also [19]. A pseudohyperbolic disc  $\Delta(z_0, r)$  with center  $z_0$  and radius  $r > 0$  is defined as

$$\Delta(z_0, r) = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \left| \frac{z - z_0}{1 - \bar{z}_0 z} \right| < r \right\}.$$

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Luecking showed that a finite, positive measure is Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if

$$\mu(\Delta(z_0, r)) \leq C|\Delta(z_0, r)|$$

for some constant  $C > 0$  depending only on  $r$  and for pseudohyperbolic discs  $\Delta(z_0, r)$ ,  $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$ , for some (and hence for all)  $r \in (0, 1)$ .

The characterization of Carleson measures of the Bergman spaces was then extended to more general settings, like strongly pseudoconvex domains, see e.g. [8] and [2].

In this paper we will study, in the quaternionic setting, the characterization of Carleson measures in the Hardy and Bergman spaces on the open unit ball  $\mathbb{B}$ . This study was initiated by Arcozzi and Sarfatti in [5] who treated the case of the Hardy space  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$ . Here we extend their result to the case of  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  and to the case of the Bergman spaces  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ , for any  $p$ . It is important to note that, in the complex case, to have a characterization of Carleson measures in  $H^2(\mathbb{D})$  allows to prove the result for  $H^p(\mathbb{D})$  for any  $p$ . In this setting, the method that applies in the complex case is not so immediately applicable as it is not true, in general, that the  $p/2$ -power of a slice regular function is slice regular.

Furthermore, it is a delicate question to understand which is an appropriate notion of pseudohyperbolic metric and pseudohyperbolic ball. In fact, the function  $\rho : \mathbb{B} \times \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  defined by

$$\rho(q, \alpha) = \left| \frac{\alpha - q}{1 - q\bar{\alpha}} \right|$$

is a distance only if  $q$  belongs to the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}_I$  containing  $\alpha$ . We can then define the disc  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r) \subset \mathbb{C}_I$  with center  $\alpha$  and radius  $r \in (0, 1)$  and its axially symmetric completion  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$ . The distance  $\rho$  (later on denoted by  $\rho_I$ ) is used to show a result which characterizes Carleson measure  $\mu$  in the Bergman spaces  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  as the measures for which

$$\mu(\Delta(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$$

for some (and hence for all)  $r \in (0, 1)$ , where  $C$  is a constant depending on  $r$  only. More in general, when  $q \in \mathbb{B}$ , the function  $\rho$  should be substituted by its slice regular extension, namely by the function, still denoted by  $\rho$ ,

$$\rho(q, \alpha) = |(1 - q\bar{\alpha})^{-*} * (q - \alpha)|.$$

The function  $\rho(q, \alpha)$  is now a distance in  $\mathbb{B}$ , see [4], which allows to define hyperbolic balls in  $\mathbb{H}$ . However, we show that it is not possible to characterize Carleson measures in terms of these balls. This is a major difference with respect to the complex case and shows that the pseudohyperbolic metric does not carry the intrinsic information needed to characterize Carleson measures.

The plan of the paper is as follows. After the introduction and some preliminary results, in Section 3 we characterize slice Carleson measures and then Carleson measures in  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $p$ . In Section 4 we prove the characterization in the case of the Bergman spaces  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $p$  in terms of the axially symmetric completion of a pseudohyperbolic disc in a complex plane. In Section 5 we study the quaternionic analog of pseudohyperbolic balls, also showing that it is not possible to characterize Carleson measures for the Bergman spaces in terms of these balls.

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## 2. PRELIMINARY RESULTS

There are several ways to generalize the notion of holomorphy to the quaternionic setting. In the past few years, slice regularity attracted the attention of several researchers and this will be the notion of holomorphy we will consider in this paper. We repeat here some useful definitions and results on this function theory, see [11], [17].

First of all, we recall that the skew field of quaternions  $\mathbb{H}$  is defined as the set of elements  $q = x_0 + x_1i + x_2j + x_3k$  where  $x_\ell \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\ell = 0, \dots, 3$  and  $i^2 = j^2 = -1$ ,  $ij = -ji = k$ . For any

$q \in \mathbb{H}$ , its conjugate  $\bar{q}$  is defined as  $\bar{q} = x_0 - x_1i - x_2j - x_3k$ , moreover the norm of  $q$  is the Euclidean norm  $|q| = (x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^{1/2}$ . It is immediate that  $|q|^2 = q\bar{q} = \bar{q}q$ .

By  $\mathbb{S}$  we denotes the 2-dimensional unit sphere of purely imaginary quaternions, namely

$$\mathbb{S} = \{q = ix_1 + jx_2 + kx_3, \text{ such that } x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 = 1\}.$$

An element  $I \in \mathbb{S}$  is such that  $I^2 = -1$  and thus the elements of  $\mathbb{S}$  are also called imaginary units. For any fixed  $I \in \mathbb{S}$  the set  $\mathbb{C}_I := \{x + Iy; | x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is a complex plane, moreover  $\mathbb{H} = \bigcup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \mathbb{C}_I$ . Obviously, the real axis belongs to  $\mathbb{C}_I$  for every  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ .

Any non real quaternion  $q$  is uniquely associated to an element in  $\mathbb{S}$ , specifically we can set  $I_q := (ix_1 + jx_2 + kx_3)/|ix_1 + jx_2 + kx_3|$ . It is obvious that  $q$  belongs to the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}_{I_q}$ . Thus the quaternion  $q = x_0 + x_1i + x_2j + x_3k$  can be written as  $q = x_0 + I_q y_0$  where  $y_0 = |ix_1 + jx_2 + kx_3|$ . The set of elements of the form  $x_0 + Iy_0$  when  $I$  varies in  $\mathbb{S}$  will be denoted by  $[q]$ ; it is a 2-dimensional sphere consisting of elements with the same real part and the same modulus as  $q$ . An open set  $U$  is said to be axially symmetric if for any  $q \in U$  the whole sphere  $[q]$  is contained in  $U$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $U$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  be real differentiable. The function  $f$  is said to be (left) slice regular or (left) slice hyperholomorphic if for every  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , its restriction  $f_I$  to the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}_I = \mathbb{R} + I\mathbb{R}$  passing through origin and containing  $I$  and 1 satisfies

$$\bar{\partial}_I f(x + Iy) := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + I \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) f_I(x + Iy) = 0,$$

on  $U \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ . Analogously, a function is said to be right slice regular in  $U$  if

$$(f_I \bar{\partial}_I)(x + Iy) := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f_I(x + Iy) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} f_I(x + Iy) I \right) = 0,$$

on  $U \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ .

In the sequel, given an open set  $U \subset \mathbb{H}$  and  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , we will sometimes write  $U_I$  to denote  $U \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ .

Let us consider  $I, J \in \mathbb{S}$  with  $I$  and  $J$  orthogonal, so that  $I, J, IJ$  is an orthogonal basis of  $\mathbb{H}$ . Let us write the restriction  $f_I(x + Iy) = f(x + Iy)$  of  $f$  to the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}_I$  as

$$f = f_0 + If_1 + Jf_2 + Kf_3 = F + GJ$$

where  $f_0 + If_1 = F$ , and  $f_2 + If_3 = G$ . This observation immediately gives the following result:

**Lemma 2.2** (Splitting Lemma). *If  $f$  is a slice regular function on  $U$ , then for every  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , and every  $J \in \mathbb{S}$ , orthogonal to  $I$ , there are two holomorphic functions  $F, G : U \cap \mathbb{C}_I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_I$  such that for any  $z = x + Iy$*

$$f_I(z) = F(z) + G(z)J.$$

Another useful result is the following:

**Theorem 2.3.** *A function  $f : B(0; r) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  is slice regular on  $B(0; r)$  if and only if it has a series representation of the form*

$$(1) \quad f(q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n \frac{1}{n!} \cdot \frac{\partial^n f}{\partial x^n}(0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n a_n,$$

uniformly convergent on  $B(0; r)$ .

To state the next fundamental property of slice regular functions, we recall that a domain  $U$  in  $\mathbb{H}$  is called s-domain if  $U \cap \mathbb{C}_I$  is connected for all  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ .

**Theorem 2.4** (Representation Formula). *Let  $f$  be a slice regular function defined on an axially symmetric  $s$ -domain  $U \subseteq \mathbb{H}$ . Let  $J \in \mathbb{S}$  and let  $x \pm Jy \in U \cap \mathbb{C}_J$ . Then the following equality holds for all  $q = x + Iy \in U$ :*

$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} f(x + Iy) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(x + Jy) + f(x - Jy) \right] + I \frac{1}{2} \left[ J[f(x - Jy) - f(x + Jy)] \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - IJ) f(x + Jy) + \frac{1}{2} (1 + IJ) f(x - Jy). \end{aligned}$$

This formula is important as it allows to reconstruct the values of a slice regular function when its values are known on a complex plane. In particular, we have that if  $J \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $U$  is an axially symmetric set, and  $f : U \cap \mathbb{C}_J \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  satisfies  $\bar{\partial}_J f = 0$  then the function

$$(3) \quad \text{ext}(f)(x + Iy) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(x + Jy) + f(x - Jy) \right] + I \frac{1}{2} \left[ J[f(x - Jy) - f(x + Jy)] \right]$$

is the unique slice regular extension of  $f$  to  $U$ .

Given an open set  $U_J \subseteq \mathbb{C}_J$  we can define the so-called axially symmetric completion as

$$U = \bigcup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \{x + Iy : x + Jy \in U_J\}.$$

It is clear that the sum of two slice regular functions is slice regular. However, in general, the pointwise product of two slice regular functions is not slice regular. Bearing in mind the definition of product between two power series  $f(q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n a_n$ ,  $g(q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n b_n$  with coefficients in a ring converging in  $B(0; R)$  for some  $R > 0$  (in particular two polynomials) we define

$$(f * g)(q) = \sum q^n c_n, \quad c_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k}.$$

This notion can be extended to functions  $f, g$  slice regular on an axially symmetric  $s$ -domain, but we do not enter the details here and we refer the interested reader to [11, 17]. A notion more important for us will be the one of inverse of a function with respect to the  $*$ -multiplication. To this end, we have to introduce some more notations which are of independent interest limiting the definitions to the case of functions slice regular on a ball  $B(0; R)$ :

**Definition 2.5.** Given the function  $f(q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n a_n$  slice regular on  $B(0; R)$ , we define its regular conjugate

$$f^c(q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n \overline{a_n}$$

and its symmetrization (or normal form)

$$f^s(q) = (f * f^c)(q) = (f^c * f)(q).$$

The inverse of  $f$  with respect to the slice regular multiplication is denoted by  $f^{-*}$  and is given by

$$f^{-*}(q) = (f^s(q))^{-1} f^c(q).$$

It is defined for  $q \in B(0; R)$  such that  $f^s(q) \neq 0$ .

It is not true, in general, that the composition of two slice regular functions, when it is defined, is a slice regular function. However, it is true in a suitable subclass of slice regular functions defined below:

**Definition 2.6.** A function  $f$  slice regular in an open set  $U$  is called quaternionic intrinsic if

$$f(U \cap \mathbb{C}_I) \subseteq \mathbb{C}_I, \quad \forall I \in \mathbb{S}.$$

If  $U$  is an axially symmetric open set, it can be shown that a slice regular function  $f$  is quaternionic intrinsic if and only if  $f(q) = \overline{f(\bar{q})}$  for all  $q \in U$ . This also justifies the terminology "intrinsic" that comes from the analogous property in the complex case. It is useful to note that a function slice regular on the ball  $B(0; R)$  with center at the origin and radius  $R$  is quaternionic intrinsic if and only if its power series expansion has real coefficients. Moreover, we have

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $f, g$  be slice regular in the open sets  $U', U \subseteq \mathbb{H}$ , respectively,  $g(U) \subseteq U'$  and let  $g$  be quaternionic intrinsic. Then  $f(g(q))$  is slice regular in  $U$ .*

### 3. CARLESON MEASURES IN HARDY SPACES

Purpose of this section is to define the (slice) Carleson measures for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  and to prove their characterization. Let us first recall the definition of Hardy spaces  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ , see [15]:

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $p \in (0, +\infty)$ . We define

$$H^p(\mathbb{B}) = \{f : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \mid f \text{ is slice regular and } \|f\|_p < +\infty\},$$

where

$$\|f\|_p = \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{I\theta})|^p d\theta \right)^{1/p}.$$

In the sequel, we will also be in need of the following spaces:

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $p \in (0, +\infty)$  and  $\mathbb{B}_I = \mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ . We define

$$H^p(\mathbb{B}_I) = \{f : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \mid f \text{ is slice regular and } \|f_I\|_p < +\infty\},$$

where

$$\|f_I\|_p = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{I\theta})|^p d\theta \right)^{1/p}.$$

**Remark 3.3.** It is clear that  $H^p(\mathbb{B}) \subseteq H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$  for any  $p \in (0, +\infty)$ . However, it can be proved that  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$  if and only if  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$  for some (and hence for all)  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ ; this is a quite general phenomenon which, basically, follows from the Representation Formula, see [7, 14], and [15] for this specific case.

In the sequel we will also use the reproducing kernel for  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$  that was introduced in [3]:

**Definition 3.4.** The reproducing kernel of  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$  is the function

$$(4) \quad k(q, w) = (1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(w)q + |w|^2q^2)^{-1}(1 - qw) = (1 - \bar{q}\bar{w})(1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(q)\bar{w} + |q|^2\bar{w}^2)^{-1}.$$

The kernel  $k(q, w)$  is defined for all  $q$  such that  $1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(w)q + |w|^2q^2 \neq 0$  (or, equivalently, for all  $w$  such that  $1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(q)\bar{w} + |q|^2\bar{w}^2 \neq 0$ ). It is the sum of the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} q^n \bar{w}^n$ . Moreover:

- a)  $k(q, w)$  is slice regular in  $q$  and right slice regular in  $\bar{w}$ ;
- b)  $\overline{k(q, w)} = k(w, q)$ .

The function  $k(q, w)$  is such that  $k(q, w) * (1 - q\bar{w}) = (1 - q\bar{w}) * k(q, w) = 1$ , as it can be easily verified and thus we can write  $k(q, w) = (1 - q\bar{w})^{-*}$  where the  $*$ -inverse is computed with respect to the variable  $q$  (but note that  $k(q, w)$  also equals the right  $*$ -inverse of  $(1 - q\bar{w})$  in the variable  $\bar{w}$ ).

**Definition 3.5.** A finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  on the unit ball  $\mathbb{B} \subset \mathbb{H}$  is said to be a *Carleson measure for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$*  if for any  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$

$$(5) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\mu(q) \leq C \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p \lesssim \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p,$$

the constant  $C$  in the estimate depending only on  $\mu$ .

Any measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{B}$  can be decomposed as  $\mu = \mu_{\mathbb{R}} + \tilde{\mu}$  where  $\text{supp}(\mu_{\mathbb{R}}) \subseteq \mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}(\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}) = 0$ . Obviously, a measure  $\mu$  is a Carleson measure if and only if  $\mu_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}$  are Carleson.

The Disintegration Theorem implies that any finite measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{B}$  such that  $\mu(\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}) = 0$  can be decomposed as

$$\mu(x + Iy) = \mu_I^+(x + Iy) \nu(I)$$

where  $\mu_I^+$  is a probability measure on

$$\mathbb{B}_I^+ = \{x + Iy \in \mathbb{B} : y \geq 0\}$$

and  $\nu$  is the measure on the Borel sets  $E$  of the sphere  $\mathbb{S}$  defined by

$$\nu(E) = \mu\{x + Iy \in \mathbb{B} : y > 0, I \in E\}.$$

With this notation, for any  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{B}, d\mu)$  we have (see [5], [16]):

$$(6) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} f(x + Iy) d\mu(x + Iy) = \int_{\mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} f(x + Iy) d\mu_I^+(x + Iy) d\nu(I).$$

Thus, if  $\mu$  is a finite measure on  $\mathbb{B}$  written in the above form  $\mu = \mu_{\mathbb{R}} + \tilde{\mu}$ , applying the Disintegration Theorem to  $\tilde{\mu}$  we can write

$$(7) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} f(x + Iy) d\mu(x + yI) = \int_{\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}} f(x) d\mu_{\mathbb{R}}(x) + \int_{\mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} f(x + yI) d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x + yI) d\nu(I).$$

We can introduce, for any  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , the measure  $\mu_I = \mu_{\mathbb{R}} + \tilde{\mu}_I^+ + \tilde{\mu}_{-I}^+$  which is the restriction of the measure  $\mu$  to  $\mathbb{B}_I$ , and we can write the definition of slice Carleson measure:

**Definition 3.6.** A finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  is said to be a *slice Carleson measure* for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  if for any  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$  and any  $I \in \mathbb{S}$

$$(8) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |f(x + yI)|^p d\mu_I(x + yI) \leq C \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p \lesssim \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p,$$

the constant  $C$  in the estimate depending only on  $\mu$ .

We can rewrite the left hand side of (8) obtaining the condition:

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |f(x + yI)|^p d\mu_I(x + yI) &= \int_{\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}} |f(x)|^p d\mu_{\mathbb{R}}(x) + \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} |f(x + yI)|^p d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x + yI) \\ &+ \int_{\mathbb{B}_{-I}^+} |f(x + y(-I))|^p d\tilde{\mu}_{-I}^+(x + y(-I)) \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p. \end{aligned}$$

We now define the analog of the Carleson box (or Carleson square, see [19]) in this framework, see [5].

**Definition 3.7.** Let  $q = re^{J\theta_0}$  be an element in  $\mathbb{B}$  and let  $A_I(\theta_0, r)$  be the arc of  $\partial\mathbb{B}_I$  defined by

$$A_I(\theta_0, r) = \{e^{I\theta} \in \partial\mathbb{B}_I : |\theta - \theta_0| \leq 1 - r\},$$

and let  $S_I(\theta_0, r)$  be the Carleson box in the plane  $\mathbb{C}_I$  defined by

$$S_I(\theta_0, r) = \{\rho e^{I\theta} \in \mathbb{B}_I : e^{I\theta} \in A_I(\theta_0, r), r \leq \rho < 1\}.$$

We say that the set

$$S(\theta_0, r) = \bigcup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} S_I(\theta_0, r)$$

is a symmetric box.

**Remark 3.8.** For any  $q = re^{I\theta_0}$ , the length of the arc  $A_I(\theta_0, r)$ , denoted by  $|A_I(\theta_0, r)|$ , is  $2(1-r)$  and it is independent of  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ .

The relation between slice Carleson measures and Carleson measures for  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$  given in Proposition 3.1 in [5] immediately extends to the spaces  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ :

**Proposition 3.9.** *If a measure  $\mu$  is slice Carleson for the Hardy space  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ , then it is also Carleson.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be a slice Carleson measure for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ , so that it is also finite by assumption. Moreover, using (7), we obtain that for any  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\mu(q) &= \int_{\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}} |f(x)|^p d\mu_{\mathbb{R}}(x) + \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\nu(I) \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} |f(z)|^p d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(z) \\ &\lesssim \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p + \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\nu(I) \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p \lesssim \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p. \end{aligned}$$

□

Next result is the generalization of Proposition 3.3 in [5] to the present setting.

**Proposition 3.10.** *A finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  is a slice Carleson measure for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  if and only if for all  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , and for all  $z = re^{I\theta_0} \in \mathbb{B}_I$*

$$(10) \quad \mu_I(S_I(r, \theta_0)) \lesssim |A_I(r, \theta_0)|.$$

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mu$  is slice Carleson. Then, in view of Remark 3.3, (8) holds for all  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$ , then it holds, in particular, also for any  $F \in H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$  that maps  $\mathbb{B}_I$  into itself. This means that  $\mu_I$  is a Carleson measure for complex Hardy space  $H^p(\mathbb{D}) \subset H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$ . The classical characterization theorem for Carleson measures of complex Hardy spaces (-from now on *classical Carleson theorem* - see e.g. [18]) gives us the statement.

Conversely, let  $\mu$  be such that (10) holds. Then, for the classical Carleson theorem,  $\mu_I$  is a Carleson measure for  $H^p(\mathbb{D}) \subset H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$ . According to the Splitting Lemma, any  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$  restricted to  $\mathbb{B}_I$  decomposes as  $f(z) = F(z) + G(z)J$ , with  $J \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $J \perp I$ , and  $F, G$  holomorphic on  $\mathbb{B}_I$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |f(z)|^p d\mu_I(z) &= \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} (|F(z)|^2 + |G(z)|^2)^{p/2} d\mu_I(z) \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} (2 \max(|F(z)|^2, |G(z)|^2))^{p/2} d\mu_I(z) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} 2^{p/2} \max(|F(z)|^p, |G(z)|^p) d\mu_I(z) \\ &\leq 2^{p/2} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |F(z)|^p d\mu_I(z) + \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |G(z)|^p d\mu_I(z) \right) \\ &\lesssim \|F\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)}^p + \|G\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)}^p \leq 2 \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B})}^p \end{aligned}$$

which means that  $\mu$  is slice Carleson. □

**Theorem 3.11.** *A finite, positive, Borel measure  $\mu$  is a Carleson measure for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$  if and only if for every  $q = re^{J\theta_0} \in \mathbb{B}$*

$$(11) \quad \mu(S(\theta_0, r)) \lesssim |A_I(\theta_0, r)|,$$

$|A_I(\theta_0, r)|$  being the length of the arc  $A_I(\theta_0, r)$ , and  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ .

*Proof.* The condition of being Carleson and condition (11) are both additive, hence we split any measure  $\mu$  as the sum of two measures  $\mu = \mu_{\mathbb{R}} + \tilde{\mu}$  with  $\text{supp } \mu_{\mathbb{R}} \subset \mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}(\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}) = 0$ , and prove the theorem for  $\mu_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}$ .

Let  $\mu_{\mathbb{R}}$  be a measure with support in  $\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}$ . Hence  $\mu_{\mathbb{R}}$  is Carleson if and only if it is slice Carleson. Moreover  $\mu_{\mathbb{R}}(S_I(\theta_0, r)) = \mu_{\mathbb{R}}(S(\theta_0, r))$  for any imaginary unit  $I$ . Hence Proposition 3.10 implies the thesis.

Let  $\tilde{\mu}$  be a measure such that  $\tilde{\mu}(\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}) = 0$ .

First, we suppose that  $\tilde{\mu}$  is a measure such that any symmetric box  $S(\theta_0, r) = S(q)$  if  $q = re^{I\theta_0}$  has measure controlled by  $|A_I(q)|$ . Thus, for any  $w \in \mathbb{B}$

$$\begin{aligned} |A_I(w)| &\gtrsim \tilde{\mu}(S(w)) = \int_{S(w)} d\tilde{\mu}(q) = \int_{\mathbb{S}} \left( \int_{S_I(w)} d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(z) \right) d\nu(I) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{S}} \left( \int_{S_{J_0}(x+yJ_0)} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ_0) \right) d\nu(I) \end{aligned}$$

where  $J_0$  is any fixed imaginary unit,  $S_{J_0}(w)$  is the projection of the symmetric box  $S(w)$  on the fixed  $\mathbb{B}_{J_0}^+$  and  $\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}$  is the projection of the measure  $\tilde{\mu}_I^+$  on the same slice:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(E) &= \tilde{\mu}_I^+(\{x+yI \mid y > 0, x+yJ_0 \in E\}) \\ d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ_0) &= d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x+yI), \end{aligned}$$

for any  $E \subset \mathbb{B}_{J_0}^+$ . Then, the measure

$$\int_{\mathbb{S}} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ_0) d\nu(I)$$

is Carleson for  $H^p(\mathbb{B}_{J_0})$ . Now, let  $f \in H^p(\mathbb{B})$ . Using the Representation Formula, if  $I$  denotes the imaginary unit of  $q$ , and  $J \neq \pm I$  is any imaginary unit, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu}(q) &= \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} \left| \frac{1-IJ}{2} f(x+yJ) + \frac{1+IJ}{2} f(x-yJ) \right|^p d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x+yI) d\nu(I) \\ &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} (|f(x+yJ)|^p + |f(x-yJ)|^p) d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x+yI) d\nu(I) \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that the map  $x \mapsto x^p$  is convex if  $p \geq 1$  and so

$$(12) \quad \left| \frac{1-IJ}{2} f(x+yJ) + \frac{1+IJ}{2} f(x-yJ) \right|^p \leq 2^{p-1} (|f(x+yJ)|^p + |f(x-yJ)|^p)$$

while if  $0 < p < 1$  the map  $x \mapsto x^p$  is subadditive on the positive real axis, thus

$$(13) \quad \left| \frac{1-IJ}{2} f(x+yJ) + \frac{1+IJ}{2} f(x-yJ) \right|^p \leq (|f(x+yJ)|^p + |f(x-yJ)|^p).$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu}(q) &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I^+} (|f(x+yJ)|^p + |f(x-yJ)|^p) d\tilde{\mu}_I^+(x+yI) d\nu(I) \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{B}_J^+} |f(x+yJ)|^p \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ) d\nu(I) + \\
&+ \int_{\mathbb{B}_{-J}^+} |f(x-yJ)|^p \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x-yJ) d\nu(I) \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{B}_J^+} |f(x+yJ)|^p \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ) d\nu(I) + \\
&+ \int_{\mathbb{B}_J^+} |f(x+yJ)|^p \int_{\mathbb{S}} d\tilde{\mu}_I^{+proj}(x+yJ) d\nu(I) \\
&= 2 \|f\|_{H^p(\mathbb{B}_I)}^p
\end{aligned}$$

and this concludes the proof. Conversely, suppose  $\tilde{\mu}$  is Carleson for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ . Consider the function

$$K(q) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} k_{u+vI}(q) dA(I)$$

where  $k_{u+vI}(q) = k_w(q) = k(q, w) = (1 - q\bar{w})^{-*}$  is the reproducing kernel for  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$  (see (4)) and  $dA(I)$  is the area element on  $\mathbb{S}$ . Then, using that  $k_w(q) = \overline{k_q(w)}$  for any  $w, q \in \mathbb{B}$ , the Representation Formula and the fact that  $\int_{\mathbb{S}} I dA(I) = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
K(q) &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} k_{u+vI}(q) dA(I) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} \overline{k_q(u+vI)} dA(I) \\
&= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} \left( \frac{1-IJ}{2} k_q(u+vJ) + \frac{1+IJ}{2} k_q(u-vJ) \right) dA(I) \\
&= \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \int_{\mathbb{S}} \overline{k_q(u+vJ)} \frac{1-JI}{2} dA(I) + \int_{\mathbb{S}} \overline{k_q(u-vJ)} \frac{1+JI}{2} dA(I) \right) \\
&= \overline{k_q(u+vJ)} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{J \int_{\mathbb{S}} I dA(I)}{8\pi} \right) + \overline{k_q(u-vJ)} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{J \int_{\mathbb{S}} I dA(I)}{8\pi} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (\overline{k_q(u+vJ)} + \overline{k_q(u-vJ)}) = \frac{1}{2} (k_{u+vJ}(q) + k_{u-vJ}(q)) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} ((1 - q\bar{w})^{-*} + (1 - qw)^{-*}).
\end{aligned}$$

From this formula we deduce

$$\begin{aligned}
K(\bar{q}) &= \frac{1}{2} ((1 - \bar{q}\bar{w})^{-*} + (1 - \bar{q}w)^{-*}) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} ((1 - 2\bar{q}\operatorname{Re}(\bar{w}) + \bar{q}^2|\bar{w}|^2)^{-1}(1 - \bar{q}w) + (1 - 2\bar{q}\operatorname{Re}(w) + \bar{q}^2|w|^2)^{-1}(1 - \bar{q}\bar{w})) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (1 - 2\bar{q}\operatorname{Re}(w) + \bar{q}^2|w|^2)^{-1} (2 - \bar{q}(w + \bar{w}))
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{K(q)} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \overline{(1 - q\bar{w})^{-*} + (1 - qw)^{-*}} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \left( \overline{(1 - 2q\operatorname{Re}(\bar{w}) + q^2|\bar{w}|^2)^{-1}(1 - qw) + (1 - 2q\operatorname{Re}(w) + q^2|w|^2)^{-1}(1 - q\bar{w})} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (2 - (\bar{w} + w)\bar{q})(1 - 2\bar{q}\operatorname{Re}(w) + \bar{q}^2|w|^2)^{-1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (1 - 2\bar{q}\operatorname{Re}(w) + \bar{q}^2|w|^2)^{-1} (2 - \bar{q}(w + \bar{w})),
\end{aligned}$$

where we used that  $w + \bar{w} \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus we have  $K(\bar{q}) = \overline{K(q)}$  and the function  $K(q)$  is quaternionic intrinsic. Note that  $K(q)$  is the sum of functions in  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$  and, as such, it belongs to  $H^2(\mathbb{B})$ . Moreover, it is a slice regular function in the ball, bounded, and never vanishing. Note that for any positive real number  $\nu$  we define  $q^\nu = \operatorname{ext}(z^\nu)$  which is everywhere defined. So the  $\frac{2}{p}$ -power  $K^{2/p}$  is defined for any  $p$  and it is a quaternionic intrinsic bounded slice regular function in the ball, hence it is a function in  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ .

Thanks to the fact that  $\tilde{\mu}$  is Carleson for  $H^p(\mathbb{B})$ , we get that

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |K^{2/p}(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu} \lesssim \|K^{2/p}\|_p^p$$

and thus the following chain of estimates:

$$\begin{aligned}
(14) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |K^{2/p}(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu} &\lesssim \|K^{2/p}\|_p^p \\
&= \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |K^{2/p}(re^{I\theta})|^p d\theta \\
&= \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |K(re^{I\theta})|^2 d\theta \\
&= \|K\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{1 - |w|}.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover

$$\begin{aligned}
(15) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |K^{2/p}(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu} &\gtrsim \int_{S(w)} |K^{2/p}(q)|^p d\tilde{\mu} \\
&= \int_{S(w)} |K|^2 d\tilde{\mu} \geq \int_{S(w)} \frac{1}{(1 - |w|^2)^2} d\tilde{\mu} \\
&= \frac{\tilde{\mu}(S(w))}{(1 - |w|^2)^2},
\end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that for all  $q \in \mathbb{B}$  (and thus also for all  $q \in S(w)$ ) the inequality  $|K(q)| \geq \frac{1}{1 - |w|^2}$  holds.

We conclude that

$$\tilde{\mu}(S(w)) \lesssim \frac{(1 - |w|^2)^2}{1 - |w|} \leq 4(1 - |w|)$$

and the assertion follows.  $\square$

#### 4. CARLESON MEASURES IN BERGMAN SPACES

The Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^2(U)$  has been studied in a series of papers, see [9], [12], [13], [14]. In [7] the authors study the weighted  $\mathcal{A}^p(U)$  Bergman spaces and, as a special case, we have the following definition:

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $U \subseteq \mathbb{H}$  be an axially symmetric s-domain. For  $p > 0$ , we define the slice regular Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^p(U)$  as the quaternionic right linear space of all slice regular functions on  $U$  such that

$$(16) \quad \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \int_{U \cap \mathbb{C}_I} |f(z)|^p d\lambda(z) < \infty,$$

where  $\lambda$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{C}_I$ . For  $p > 0$ , and any fixed  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ , we define the slice regular Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^p(U_I)$  as the quaternionic right linear space of all slice regular functions on  $U_I = U \cup \mathbb{C}_I$  such that

$$(17) \quad \int_{U \cap \mathbb{C}_I} |f(z)|^p d\lambda(z) < \infty.$$

As it is proved in [7], the slice regular Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^p(U)$  can be equipped with the norm

$$(18) \quad \|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p(U)} = \left( \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \int_{U \cap \mathbb{C}_I} |f(z)|^p d\lambda(z) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

From now on, we will consider  $U = \mathbb{B}$ , and the norm in  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  will be denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}$ .

In this section, we will characterize Carleson measures for the Bergman spaces. These measures are defined as follows:

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $\mu$  be a finite, positive, Borel measure on  $\mathbb{B}$ . We say that  $\mu$  is a Carleson measure for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  if for any  $f \in \mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  the inequality

$$(19) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(z)|^p d\mu \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p$$

holds. We say that  $\mu$  is a slice Carleson measure for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  if for any  $f \in \mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  the inequality

$$(20) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |f(z)|^p d\mu_I \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p$$

holds, where  $\mu_I = \mu_{\mathbb{R}} + \tilde{\mu}_I^+ + \tilde{\mu}_{-I}^+$ .

The argument used in the proof of Proposition 3.9 yields the following:

**Proposition 4.3.** *If a measure  $\mu$  is slice Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  then it is also Carleson.*

In [4] the authors define a pseudohyperbolic metric using the slice regular Moebius transformation:

$$(21) \quad \rho(w, \alpha) = |(1 - q\bar{\alpha})^{-*} * (q - \alpha)|_{q=w} = |(1 - q\bar{w})^{-*} * (q - w)|_{q=\alpha}.$$

If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}_I$  we can consider the restriction  $\rho_I$  to  $\mathbb{C}_I$ . Then  $\rho_I$  reduces to the pseudohyperbolic distance on the slice  $\mathbb{C}_I$ :

$$\rho_I(z, \alpha) = \left| \frac{z - \alpha}{1 - z\bar{\alpha}} \right|.$$

We define the pseudohyperbolic disc (in  $\mathbb{C}_I$ ) with center  $\alpha$  and radius  $r$  as

$$\Delta_I(\alpha, r) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}_I : \rho_I(z, \alpha) < r\},$$

and

$$\Delta(\alpha, r) = \{q = x + Jy \in \mathbb{H} : z = x + Iy \in \Delta_I(\alpha, r)\}.$$

Note that  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$  is the axially symmetric completion of  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ , i.e.

$$\Delta(\alpha, r) = \bigcup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \Delta_I(\alpha, r).$$

Let us denote by  $|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  the area of  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ . Since  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$  is a pseudohyperbolic disc in  $\mathbb{C}_I$ , we have

$$(22) \quad |\Delta_I(\alpha, r)| = \pi \frac{r^2(1 - |\alpha|^2)^2}{(1 - r^2|\alpha|^2)^2}.$$

Moreover, we recall the following results (see e.g. [19]) stated using our notations:

**Proposition 4.4.** *For any fixed  $I \in \mathbb{S}$  and for  $r \in (0, 1)$  there exist a sequence of points  $\{\alpha_k\} \subset \mathbb{B}_I$  and an integer  $n_0$  such that*

$$(23) \quad \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \Delta_I(\alpha_k, r) = \mathbb{B}_I.$$

Moreover, no point  $z \in \mathbb{B}_I$  belongs to more than  $n_0$  discs  $\Delta_I(\alpha_k, R)$ , where  $R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + r)$ .

**Proposition 4.5.** *Let  $\mu$  be a finite, positive, Borel measure on  $\mathbb{B}_I$ . Then  $\mu_I(\Delta_I(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  if and only if  $\mu_I(S_I(z)) \leq |A_I(z)|^2$ .*

We now prove a result characterizing slice Carleson measures.

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $\mu$  be a finite, positive, Borel measure on  $\mathbb{B}_I$  and let  $p \in (0, \infty)$  be fixed. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *The measure  $\mu$  is slice Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ .*
- (2) *The inequality  $\mu_I(\Delta_I(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  holds for all  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}_I$ .*
- (3) *The inequality  $\mu_I(\Delta_I(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  holds for some  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}_I$ .*

*Proof.* (1) $\implies$ (2). Let us assume that  $\mu$  is slice Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ . Then (20) holds in particular for the classical Bergman space  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{D})$  identified with a subset of  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B}_I)$  for some fixed  $I \in \mathbb{S}$ . Thus (2) follows from the complex case.

(2) $\implies$ (3) is trivial, so we show that (3) $\implies$ (1). Let  $I \in \mathbb{S}$  be fixed and let us write  $f(z) = F(z) + G(z)J$ , where  $F, G$  are holomorphic functions. We know that the statement holds for  $F, G$ , because it holds in the complex case, thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |F(z)|^p d\mu_I &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |F(z)|^p d\lambda \\ \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |G(z)|^p d\mu_I &\lesssim \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |G(z)|^p d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

from which, reasoning as in the proof of Proposition 3.10, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |f(z)|^p d\mu_I &= \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} (|F(z)|^2 + |G(z)|^2)^{p/2} d\mu_I \\ &\leq 2^{p/2} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |F(z)|^p d\mu_I + \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |G(z)|^p d\mu_I \right) \\ &\lesssim \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |F(z)|^p d\lambda + \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |G(z)|^p d\lambda \right) \\ &\leq \|F\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p + \|G\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p \leq 2\|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p. \end{aligned}$$

□

Next result characterizes Carleson measures in terms of the axially symmetric completion of a pseudohyperbolic disc.

**Theorem 4.7.** *Let  $\mu$  be a positive, finite measure on  $\mathbb{B}$  and let  $p \in (0, \infty)$  be fixed. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *The measure  $\mu$  is Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ .*
- (2) *The inequality  $\mu(\Delta(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  holds for all  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}_I$ .*
- (3) *The inequality  $\mu(\Delta(\alpha, r)) \leq C|\Delta_I(\alpha, r)|$  holds for some  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\Delta_I(\alpha, r)$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}_I$ .*

*Proof.* (1) $\implies$ (2). Let us assume that  $\mu$  is Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3.11, we can assume that  $\mu(\mathbb{B} \cap \mathbb{R}) = 0$ .

Let us set

$$H(q) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} h_{u+vI}(q) dA(I)$$

where

$$h_{u+vI}(q) = h_w(q) = (1 - q\bar{w})^{-2*} = (1 - 2\bar{q}w + \bar{q}^2\bar{w}^2)(1 - 2\operatorname{Re}(w)\bar{q} + |w|^2\bar{q}^2)^{-2}$$

is, modulo the factor  $\frac{1}{\pi}$ , the Bergman kernel for  $\mathcal{A}^2(\mathbb{B})$ , see [10], [14]. Reasoning as in the second part of the proof of Theorem 3.11, and using the fact that  $\overline{h_w(q)} = h_q(w)$  we have that

$$(24) \quad H(q) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{S}} h_{u+vI}(q) dA(I) = \frac{1}{2} (h_{u+Iv}(q) + h_{u-Iv}(q))$$

and so  $\overline{H(q)}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}^2(\mathbb{B})$  since it is superposition of functions in  $\mathcal{A}^2(\mathbb{B})$ . Moreover, we have  $H(\bar{q}) = \overline{H(q)}$  and so  $H(q)$  is quaternionic intrinsic, nonvanishing in  $\mathbb{B}$ . By its definition, it is clear that the function  $H(q)$  depends also on the variables  $u, v$ , even though this dependence is not explicitly stated. The Representation formula implies

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} h_w(q) + h_{\bar{w}}(q) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( h_w(q) + h_{\bar{w}}(q) + (h_{\bar{w}}(q)) - h_w(q) \right) II_w \\ &\quad + h_{\bar{w}}(q) + h_w(q) + (h_w(q)) - h_{\bar{w}}(q) \left( II_w \right) \\ &= h_w(q) + h_{\bar{w}}(q) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $w, \omega$  belonging to the same sphere.

For any  $p > 0$  we can consider  $H^{2/p}(q)$  (see Proposition 2.7) which is a function in  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$ . Since  $\mu$  is Carleson for  $\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})$  we have

$$(26) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |H^{2/p}(q)|^p d\mu &\lesssim \|H^{2/p}\|_{\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})}^p \\ &= \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |H^{2/p}(q)|^p d\lambda \\ &= \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |H(q)|^2 d\lambda \\ &= \sup_{I \in \mathbb{S}} \int_{\mathbb{B}_I} |h_w(q) + h_{\bar{w}}(q)|^2 d\lambda \\ &\lesssim \frac{1}{(1 - (u^2 + v^2))^2} \end{aligned}$$

where last inequality is due to the fact that by (25) we can choose  $w$  on the same complex plane as  $q$  and thus the inequality is obtained from the analogous inequality in the complex case.

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
(27) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |H^{2/p}(q)|^p d\mu &\gtrsim \int_{\Delta(w,r)} |H^{2/p}(q)|^p d\mu \\
&= \int_{\Delta(w,r)} |H(q)|^2 d\mu \\
&\geq \int_{\Delta(w,r)} \frac{1}{(1-|w|^2)^2} d\mu \\
&\geq \mu(\Delta(w,r)) \frac{(1-r|w|)^4}{(1-|w|^2)^4}.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mu(\Delta(w,r)) \frac{(1-r|w|)^4}{(1-|w|^2)^4} \\
&\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |H^{2/p}(q)|^p d\mu \\
&\lesssim \|H^{2/p}\|_{\mathcal{A}^p}^p.
\end{aligned}
\tag{28}$$

Using (26) and (27) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu(\Delta(w,r)) &\lesssim \|H\|_p^p \frac{(1-|w|^2)^4}{(1-r|w|)^4} \lesssim \frac{(1-|w|^2)^2}{(1-r|w|)^4} \\
&\lesssim |\Delta_I(w,r)| \frac{1}{r^2(1-r|w|)^2} \leq |\Delta_I(w,r)| \frac{1}{r^2(1-r)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

and the assertion follows.

The fact that (2) implies (3) is obvious, so we show that (3) implies (1). Thus we assume that (3) is in force for some  $r \in (0, 1)$ . Then we take the axially symmetric completion of both sides of (23), so that we obtain

$$\mathbb{B} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \Delta(\alpha_k, r),$$

from which it follows that, if  $z \in \mathbb{C}_J$  and  $q \in \mathbb{C}_J$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
(29) \quad \int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\mu &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} |f(q)|^p d\mu \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} \left| \frac{1-IJ}{2} f(z) + \frac{1+IJ}{2} f(\bar{z}) \right|^p d\mu \\
&\leq C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} (|f(z)|^p + |f(\bar{z})|^p) d\mu,
\end{aligned}$$

where we used the Representation Formula and (12), (13) so that  $C = 1$  or  $C = 2^{p-1}$ . Lemma 13 in [19] yields that for all  $z \in \Delta_J(\alpha_k, r)$  the following inequality holds:

$$(30) \quad |f(z)|^p \leq \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda(s), \quad R = \frac{1}{2}(1+r).$$

Note that if  $z \in \Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)$  then  $\bar{z} \in \Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)$  thus, continuing the computations in (29), and using (30) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} (|f(z)|^p + |f(\bar{z})|^p) d\mu \\
& \leq C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} \left( \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) d\mu \\
& \leq C \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(\Delta(\alpha_k, r)) \left( \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) \\
& \leq C_1 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |\Delta_J(\alpha_k, r)| \left( \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where we obtained last inequality using our assumption in point (3). Formula (22) yields

$$\frac{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, r)|}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} = \frac{r^2(1-R^2|\alpha|^2)^2}{R^2(1-r^2|\alpha|^2)^2} \leq \frac{1}{(1-r^2|\alpha|^2)^2} \leq \frac{1}{(1-R)^2}$$

and similarly

$$\frac{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, r)|}{|\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)|} \leq \frac{1}{(1-R)^2}.$$

Thus, using these inequalities, Proposition 4.4 and the fact that  $\Delta_J(\alpha_k, r) \subset \mathbb{B}_J$  for any  $\alpha_k$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& C_1 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |\Delta_J(\alpha_k, r)| \left( \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \frac{4(1-R)^{-4}}{|\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)|} \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) \\
& \leq C_1 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{(1-R)^6} \left( \int_{\Delta_J(\alpha_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \int_{\Delta_J(\bar{\alpha}_k, R)} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) \\
& \leq C_1 \frac{4n_0}{(1-R)^6} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}_J} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \int_{\mathbb{B}_J} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) \\
& \leq C_1 \frac{4n_0}{(1-R)^6} \sup_{J \in \mathbb{S}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}_J} |f(s)|^p d\lambda + \int_{\mathbb{B}_J} |f(s)|^p d\lambda \right) \\
& \lesssim \|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})}^p.
\end{aligned}$$

Following the chain of inequalities we have proved that

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |f(q)|^p d\mu \leq \tilde{C} \|f\|_{\mathcal{A}^p(\mathbb{B})}^p$$

and thus (1) holds.  $\square$

## 5. CARLESON MEASURES AND PSEUDOHYPERBOLIC BALLS

In this section, let  $\alpha = a + Ib \in \mathbb{B}$  and by  $d = d(\alpha, \partial\mathbb{B})$  denote the Euclidean distance of  $\alpha$  to the boundary of the unit ball.

Let  $\rho$  be the pseudohyperbolic distance defined in (21) and  $B(\alpha, r)$  be the pseudohyperbolic ball of center  $\alpha$  and pseudohyperbolic radius  $r$ , i.e.

$$B(\alpha, r) = \{q \in \mathbb{B} \mid \rho(q, \alpha) < r\}.$$

The result in Theorem 4.7 is essentially a result on the axially symmetric completion of a pseudohyperbolic disc in a complex plane. A similar result for pseudohyperbolic balls is false.

In order to show that, some estimations on the volume and shape of a pseudohyperbolic ball are needed. These cannot be obtained by straightforward generalizing the complex case, since a composition with a Moebius transformation is involved. Thus we will follow the strategy in [2], where a more intrinsic approach is used.

**Lemma 5.1.** *There exists a constant  $C_1$  such that for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$  and  $r \in (0, 1)$*

$$\forall q \in B(\alpha, r) \quad \frac{1-r}{C_1} d \leq d(q, \partial\mathbb{B}) \leq \frac{C_1}{1-r} d.$$

*Proof.* Observe that

$$B(\alpha, r) \cap \mathbb{C}_I = \Delta_I(\alpha, r)$$

and this is one of the connected components of  $\Delta(\alpha, r) \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ .

Let  $J \in \mathbb{S}$  be any imaginary unit. Then

$$\rho(\alpha, x + yJ) \geq \rho(\alpha, x + yI)$$

so we have that

$$B(\alpha, r) \subset \Delta(\alpha, r).$$

Hence, if  $q = q_1 + q_2J \in B(\alpha, r)$ , also  $q' = q_1 + q_2I \in B(\alpha, r)$  and  $d(q, \partial\mathbb{B}) = d(q', \partial\mathbb{B})$ . Thus it is sufficient to prove the statement for all  $q' \in B(\alpha, r) \cap \mathbb{C}_I$ . But this is the corresponding statement for the complex case, see e.g. [2].  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}_I$ . There exist two positive constant  $C_2(r), c_2(r)$ , depending only on  $r$  such that:*

$$c_2(r)d^4 \leq |\Delta_I(\alpha, r)| \leq C_2(r)d^4$$

*Proof.* As already remarked,  $\Delta_I$  is (see [5]) a disc of radius  $r_1 = r \frac{1-|\alpha|^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2}$  centered at the point  $q_1 = \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2} \alpha$ .

Notice that

$$|\Delta_I| = \pi r_1^2 = \pi r^2 \frac{(1-|\alpha|^2)^2}{(1-r^2|\alpha|^2)^2} = \pi r^2 \frac{d^4}{(1-r^2(1-d^2))^2}$$

Thus

$$\pi r^2 d^4 \leq |\Delta_I| \leq \pi r^2 \frac{d^4}{(1-r^2)^2},$$

since  $0 < d \leq 1$ .  $\square$

Let  $\eta$  be the Lebesgue 4-dimensional measure normalized so that  $\eta(\mathbb{B}) = 1$ , and let us now estimate the  $\eta$ -volume of a pseudohyperbolic ball:

**Lemma 5.3.** *For every  $r \in (0, 1)$  there exist two constants  $C_3(r)$  and  $c_3(r)$  such that for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$*

$$c_3(r)d^8 \leq \eta(B(\alpha, r)) \leq C_3(r)d^8.$$

*Proof.* To get such estimates on the  $\eta$ -volume of a pseudohyperbolic ball  $B(\alpha, r)$ , we will find two domains  $B_1(\alpha, r), B_2(\alpha, r)$  such that

$$B_1(\alpha, r) \subset B(\alpha, r) \subset B_2(\alpha, r)$$

and then estimate the  $\eta$ -volume of these.

*Estimate from above.* We will divide the construction of  $B_2(\alpha, r)$  in two cases. Let first  $\alpha$  be such that  $\rho(\alpha, a) < r$ . Then we set

$$B_2(\alpha, r) = B(a, 2r) \supset B(\alpha, r),$$

and  $B(a, 2r)$  is simply a Euclidean ball of Euclidean radius (see proof of the previous lemma, or [5])

$$R = 2r \frac{1 - |a|^2}{1 - 4r^2|a|^2} \leq \frac{2r}{1 - 4r^2}(d^2 + b^2).$$

Since  $|b|$  is the Euclidean distance between  $a$  and  $\alpha$ , and  $a \in \Delta_I(\alpha, r) \subset B(\alpha, r)$ , one gets in the same way that

$$|b| < 2 \cdot \text{radius}(B(\alpha, r)) < \left( \frac{2r}{1 - r^2} \right) d^2.$$

Hence

$$R \leq \frac{2r}{1 - 4r^2} d^2 \left( 1 + d^2 \frac{4r^2}{(1 - r^2)^2} \right) \leq C_4(r) d^2.$$

From these inequalities, the desired estimate on the  $\eta$ -volume follows immediately.

Second case:  $\rho(\alpha, a) \geq r$ . Notice that in this case  $B(\alpha, r) \subset B_2(\alpha, r)$ , where

$$B_2(\alpha, r) = \{q = x + Jy \in \mathbb{B} \mid \rho(x + Iy, \alpha) < r, \rho(a + Jb, \alpha) < r\}.$$

Since  $B_2(\alpha, r) \cap \mathbb{R} = \emptyset$ , the volume of  $B_2(\alpha, r)$  can be computed using Pappus-Guldinus theorem and thus it is given - up to a renormalization constant - by the area of  $\Delta_I$  (estimated in Lemma 5.2) times the area of the set  $\Gamma = B_2(\alpha, r) \cap [q_1]$  where  $q_1 = \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2} \alpha$  is the Euclidean center of  $\Delta_I$ .

Let  $q$  be any element in  $[\alpha]$ . Then  $q = a + I_q b$  and, by taking a suitable  $J \perp I$ , we can write  $I_q = \cos \theta I + \sin \theta J$ , so that  $q = a + b(\cos \theta I + \sin \theta J)$ . By direct computation of the pseudohyperbolic distance  $\rho(q, \alpha)$ , one gets that  $q = a + b(\cos \theta I + \sin \theta J) \in B_2(\alpha, r)$  if and only if

$$\frac{x^2}{d^4 + x^2} < r,$$

where  $x$  is the Euclidean distance between  $q$  and  $\alpha$ , i.e.

$$(31) \quad x^2 < \frac{d^4 r}{1 - r}.$$

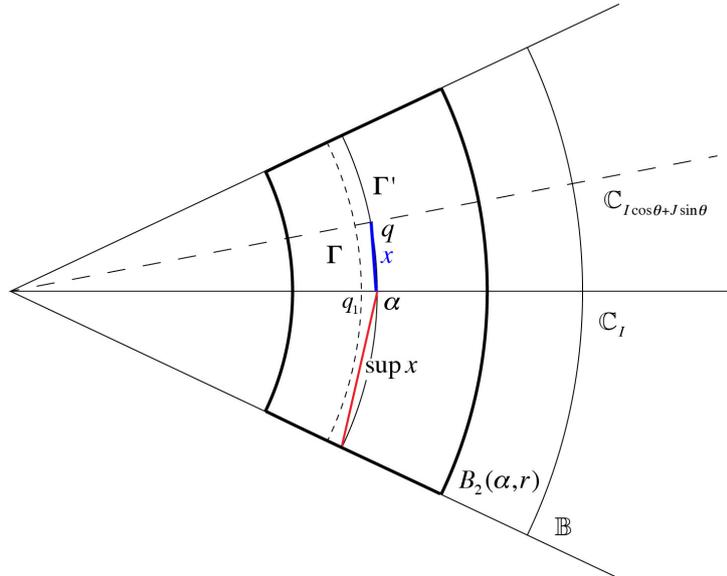


FIGURE 1.

The area  $|\Gamma|$  of  $\Gamma$  can be estimated by:

$$|\Gamma| \leq 2\pi(\sup x^2) \frac{|q_1|^2}{|\alpha|^2} = 2\pi \frac{d^4 r}{1-r} \cdot \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2} = 2\pi d^4 r \frac{1+r}{1-r^2(1-d^2)} \leq 2\pi d^4 r \frac{1+r}{1-r^2}$$

Thus

$$\eta(B(\alpha, r)) \leq C_3(r)d^8$$

as claimed.

*Estimate from below.* Let us consider again the intersection

$$\Delta_I = B(\alpha, r) \cap \mathbb{C}_I.$$

As already observed,  $\Delta_I$  is an Euclidean disc of radius  $r_1 = r \frac{1-|\alpha|^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2}$  centered at the point  $q_1 = \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2} \alpha$ .

The pseudohyperbolic ball  $B_1(\alpha, r)$  with same center and radius of  $\Delta_I$  is contained in  $B(\alpha, r)$  and it is a Euclidean ball of radius  $r_1$ .

Hence, since  $\eta(\mathbb{B}) = 1$ , the  $\eta$ -volume of a ball of radius  $r_1$  is  $r_1^4$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(B(\alpha, r)) &\geq \eta(B_1(\alpha, r)) = r^4 \left( \frac{1-|\alpha|^2}{1-r^2|\alpha|^2} \right)^4 \geq \\ &\geq r^4(1-|\alpha|^2)^4 = r^4 d^8. \end{aligned}$$

□

Now we give an estimate on the number of pseudohyperbolic balls needed to cover  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$ . Recall that by  $[\alpha]$  we denote the 2-sphere of points with same real part and same modulus as  $\alpha$ .

**Lemma 5.4.** *There exist two constants  $c_5(r)$  and  $C_5(r)$  such that*

- (1)  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$  can be covered with at most  $C_5(r)d^{-4}$  balls  $B(\alpha_j, 4r)$  such that all  $\alpha_j \in [\alpha]$ ;
- (2) if  $\alpha = Iy$ , then  $\Delta(Iy, r)$  contains at least  $c_5(r)d^{-4}$  disjoint balls  $B(J_j y, r)$ .

*Proof.* (1) If  $\alpha = a + Ib$  is such that  $\rho(\alpha, a) < r$ , then  $\alpha \in B(a, r)$  and  $B(\alpha, r) \subset B(a, 2r)$ . Thus it holds  $B(\alpha, 4r) \supset \Delta(\alpha, r)$ .

Second case: if  $\rho(\alpha, a) \geq r$ , then we can choose  $C_5(r)d^{-4}$  points  $\alpha_j \in [\alpha]$  such that any point  $\beta \in [\alpha]$  has the square of the Euclidean distance from at least one of the points  $\alpha_j$  less than

$$\frac{r}{1-r} d^4.$$

This can be done, indeed, if we choose  $C_5(r)d^{-4}$  imaginary units  $I_j \in \mathbb{S}$  with the property that any imaginary unit  $J \in \mathbb{S}$  has the square of the Euclidean distance from at least one of the points  $I_j$  less than  $\frac{r}{1-r} d^4$ , defining  $\alpha_j = a + I_j b$  one has the desired property. Thus

$$\min \rho(\beta, \alpha_j) < r,$$

thanks to (31).

Notice that for any point  $\gamma = x + Jy \in \Delta(\alpha, r)$  then for  $\beta = a + Jb \in [\alpha]$  there exists  $\alpha_j$  such that

$$\rho(\gamma, \alpha_j) \leq \rho(\gamma, \beta) + \rho(\beta, \alpha_j) < 2r$$

thus proving the thesis.

(2) If  $d^2 \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , then the inequality holds trivially with  $c_5(r) = \frac{1}{4}$ . So we can suppose  $d^2 > \frac{1}{2}$ . As remarked in the proof of Lemma 5.3 the center of each  $B(J_j y, r)$  spans an area  $|\Gamma|$

$$|\Gamma| \leq 2\pi d^4 r \frac{1+r}{1-r^2},$$

while the area spanned by the center of  $\Delta(Iy, r)$  is  $|T|$

$$|T| = 4\pi \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{(1-r^2(1-d^2))^2} (1-d^2)$$

Estimating  $1-d^2$  with  $\frac{1}{2}$ , we have that

$$|T| \geq 2\pi \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{(1-\frac{1}{2}r^2)^2}.$$

The number of disjoint balls contained in the  $\Delta(Iy, r)$  is approximately the ratio between these areas, so it is greater than  $c_5(r)d^{-4}$ , as claimed.  $\square$

We can now prove that a result similar to Theorem 4.7 using pseudohyperbolic balls for characterizing Carleson measures does not hold.

Notice that, due to Lemma 5.3 and Lemma 5.2, the Lebesgue measure of balls and their intersections with the  $\mathbb{C}_I$  plane are equivalent to  $d$  to some power. Hence a characterization of Carleson measure should be of the form

$\mu$  is Carleson if and only if  $\mu(B(\alpha, r)) \leq Cd^\beta$  holds for all  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$ ,

for some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . But, actually:

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $\mu$  be a finite, positive, Borel measure on  $\mathbb{B} \subset \mathbb{H}$*

- (1) *If  $\mu$  is Carleson, then  $\mu(B(\alpha, r)) \leq Cd^4$  holds for all  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$ .*
- (2) *If  $\mu(B(\alpha, r)) \leq Cd^8$  holds for all  $r \in (0, 1)$  for some constant  $C$  depending on  $r$  only, and for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$ , then  $\mu$  is Carleson.*
- (3) *The above are the two best estimates, i.e. one cannot fill the gap and get an if and only if condition using the  $\mu$ -measure of pseudohyperbolic balls.*

*Proof.* (1) Since  $B(\alpha, r) \subset \Delta(\alpha, r)$ , if  $\mu$  is Carleson, the estimate on the  $\mu$ -volume of  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$  gives the desired estimate on the  $\mu$ -volume of  $B(\alpha, r)$ .

(2) By Lemma 5.4,  $\Delta(\alpha, r)$  can be covered with  $C_5(r)d^{-4}$  balls  $B(\alpha_j, 4r)$ , where  $|\alpha_j| = |\alpha|$ , hence  $d(\alpha_j, \partial\mathbb{B}) = d$  for all  $j$ . If  $\mu(B(\alpha, 4r)) \leq Cd^8$ , then  $\mu(\Delta(\alpha, r)) \leq C_5(r)Cd^4$ , hence  $\mu$  is Carleson.

(3-1) Estimate (1) is the best possible. Suppose indeed that  $\mu$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{C}_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{S}$  fixed. Then  $\mu(\Delta(\alpha, r)) = |\Delta_i(\alpha, r)|$  if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}_i$ , and is less than that if  $\alpha \notin \mathbb{C}_i$ . Hence  $\mu$  is Carleson, and  $\mu(B(\alpha, r)) = |\Delta_i(\alpha, r)| \geq c_3(r)d^4$  if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}_i$  (thanks to Lemma 5.2).

(3-2) Estimate (2) is the best possible. Fix  $r$ . Let us fix a plane  $\mathbb{C}_I$  and a sequence of points  $\alpha_k = Iy_k \in \mathbb{B}_I$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ) such that  $y_k < y_{k+1}$  and the domains  $\Delta(\alpha_k, 2r)$  are pairwise disjoint. This can easily be done defining the points  $Iy_k$  by induction on  $k$ . Let us define the measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{B}$  such that

$$(i) \text{ supp } \mu = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \Delta(\alpha_k, r);$$

$$(ii) \mu|_{\Delta(\alpha_k, r)} = \frac{d(\alpha_k, \partial\mathbb{B})^{4-\varepsilon}}{\eta(\Delta(\alpha_k, r))} \eta.$$

By Theorem 4.7, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\mu$  is not a Carleson measure.

By Lemma 5.4, there exists a constant  $c_5(r)$  such that for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there are at least  $c_5(r)d(\alpha_k, \partial\mathbb{B})^{-4}$  disjoint pseudohyperbolic balls of centers  $\alpha_k^j = J_{j,k}y_k$ , where  $J_{j,k} \in \mathbb{S}$ , and pseudohyperbolic radius  $r$ . For these balls

$$\sum_j \mu(B(\alpha_k^j, r)) \leq \mu(\Delta(\alpha_k, r)) = d(\alpha_k, \partial\mathbb{B})^{4-\varepsilon}$$

hence

$$\mu(B(\alpha_k^j, r)) \leq \frac{1}{c_5(r)} d(\alpha_k, \partial\mathbb{B})^{8-\varepsilon}.$$

Let now  $B(\alpha, r)$  be any pseudohyperbolic ball of pseudohyperbolic radius  $r$ . Then it intersect at most one of the domains  $\Delta(\alpha_k, r)$ , let us say  $\Delta(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, r)$ . Arguing as before, this ball is one of a family of at least  $c_5(r)d(\alpha, \partial\mathbb{B})^{-4}$  pseudohyperbolic balls with disjoint intersection with  $\Delta(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, r)$ . For these balls

$$\sum_j \mu(B_j) \leq \mu(\Delta(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, r)) = d(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, \partial\mathbb{B})^{4-\varepsilon}$$

hence

$$\mu(B(\alpha, r)) \leq \frac{1}{c_5(r)} d(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, \partial\mathbb{B})^{8-\varepsilon}.$$

Since  $\alpha_{\tilde{k}} \in B(\alpha, 2r)$ , by Lemma 5.1,

$$d(\alpha_{\tilde{k}}, \partial\mathbb{B}) \leq \frac{C_1}{1-2r} d(\alpha, \partial\mathbb{B}),$$

hence

$$\mu(B(\alpha, r)) \leq C_6(r) d(\alpha, \partial\mathbb{B})^{8-\varepsilon},$$

for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{B}$ . This show that the 8<sup>th</sup> power in (2) is the best possible. □

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