# DERIVATIVE-FREE CHARACTERIZATIONS OF $Q_K$ SPACES II

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ABSTRACT. The  $Q_K$  spaces on the open unit disk are characterized by some oscillations in the Bergman metric without the use of derivatives. Our results are new even in the case of  $Q_p$  spaces.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\mathbb{D} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$  be the unit disk of complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . A particular class of Möbius invariant function spaces, the so-called  $Q_p$  spaces, has attracted a lot of attention in recent years. Denote by  $H(\mathbb{D})$  the space of analytic functions on  $\mathbb{D}$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{D}$ ,  $g(z, a) = \log \frac{1}{|\varphi_a(z)|}$  is the Green function in  $\mathbb{D}$ , where  $\varphi_a(z) = (a - z)/(1 - \overline{a}z)$  is the Möbius map of  $\mathbb{D}$ . For  $0 \le p < \infty$ , the space  $Q_p$  consists of all functions  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$  such that

$$||f||_{Q_p}^2 = \sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^2 g^p(z, a) \, dA(z) < \infty, \tag{1}$$

where dA is an area measure on  $\mathbb{D}$  normalized so that  $A(\mathbb{D}) = 1$ . We denote  $d\tau(z) = \frac{dA}{(1-|z|^2)^2}$  the Möbius invariant measure. We know that the Green function g(a, z) in (1) can be replaced by the expression  $1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2$  (cf. [1]). It is well known that  $Q_1 = BMOA$  and  $Q_0$  is the classical Dirichlet space  $\mathcal{D}$  with

$$||f||_{\mathcal{D}}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^2 dA(z) < \infty.$$

For  $1 , <math>Q_p = \mathcal{B}$ . Here  $\mathcal{B}$  is the Bloch space defined as follows.

$$\mathcal{B} = \{ f : f \in H(\mathbb{D}), \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}} = \sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|(1 - |z|^2) < \infty \}.$$

For more about  $Q_p$  spaces see [1], [2] and [7].

<sup>2000</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification. 30H05, 46E15.

This research is supported in part by the NSF of China (No. 10371069) and the NSF of Guangdong Province of China (No. 04011000).

For any nonnegative, nondecreasing and Lebesgue measurable function K on (0, 1], we say that f belongs to the space  $Q_K$  if

$$||f||_{Q_K}^2 = \sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^2 K(1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2) \, dA(z) < \infty.$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

The space  $Q_{K,0}$  consists of analytic functions f on  $\mathbb{D}$  for which

$$\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f'(z)|^2 K(1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2) dA(z) = 0.$$

Modulo constants,  $Q_K$  is a Banach space under the norm  $|f(0)| + ||f||_{Q_K}$ and  $Q_K$  is Möbius invariant; that is,  $||f \circ \varphi_a||_{Q_K} = ||f||_{Q_K}$  whenever  $f \in Q_K$ and  $a \in \mathbb{D}$ . It is easy to see that  $Q_{K,0}$  is a closed subspace in  $Q_K$ . For  $0 , <math>K(t) = t^p$  gives the space  $Q_p$ . K(t) = 1 gives the Dirichlet space  $\mathcal{D}$ . More results on  $Q_K$  spaces can be found in [3], [4] and [5].

Recently, the second author and Zhu [6] investigated some free - derivative characterizations of the spaces  $Q_k$  and  $Q_{K,0}$ . In this paper, we continue to give some free - derivative characterizations of the spaces  $Q_k$  and  $Q_{K,0}$ .

# 2. Preliminaries

If the function K is only defined on (0, 1], then we extend it to  $(0, \infty)$  by setting K(t) = K(1) for t > 1. We define an auxiliary function (see [4] and [6]) as follows:

$$\varphi_K(s) = \sup_{0 < t \le 1} \frac{K(st)}{K(t)}, 0 < s < \infty.$$
(3)

We assume that K is continuous and nondecreasing on (0, 1]. This ensures that the above function is continuous and nondecreasing on  $(0, \infty)$ .

The following Lemma is very useful in the proof of the main theorem in [6].

**Lemma 2.1.** Let K be any nonnegative and Lebesgue measurable function on  $(0, \infty)$  and  $f(z) = K(1 - |z|^2)$ . If

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\varphi_K(x)}{(1+x)^3} dx < \infty,\tag{4}$$

then there exists a positive constant C such that  $Bf(z) \leq Cf(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , where Bf is a Berezin transform of f.

Here and elsewhere constants are denoted by C which are positive and may be different from one occurrence to the next.

Let  $\beta(z, w)$  denote the Bergman metric between two points z and w in  $\mathbb{D}$ . It is well known that

$$\beta(z, w) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 + |\varphi_z(w)|}{1 - |\varphi_z(w)|}$$

For  $z \in \mathbb{D}$  and R > 0 we use

$$\mathbb{D}(z, R) = \{ w \in \mathbb{D} : \beta(z, w) < R \}$$

to denote the Bergman metric ball at z with radius R. If R is fixed, then it can be checked that the area of  $\mathbb{D}(z, R)$ , denoted by  $|\mathbb{D}(z, R)|$ , is comparable to  $(1-|z|^2)^2$  as z approaches the unit circle (see [8]).

Fix a positive r and denote by

$$\widehat{f_r}(z) = \frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} f(w) dA(w)$$

the average of f over the Bergman metric ball  $\mathbb{D}(z,r)$ . We define the mean oscillation of f at z in the Bergman metric to be (see [8])

$$MO_r(f)(z) = \left\{ \frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - \hat{f}_r(z)|^2 dA(w) \right\}^{1/2}.$$

It is easy to verify that for any  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ ,

$$[MO_r(f)(z)]^2 = \widehat{|f|^2}_r(z) - |\widehat{f}_r(z)|^2$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{2|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|^2} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(u) - f(v)|^2 dA(u) dA(v).$ 

Given a function  $f \in L^2_a(\mathbb{D}, dA)$ , define

$$MO(f)(z) = \left[\int_{\mathbb{D}} |f \circ \varphi_z(w) - f(z)|^2 dA(w)\right]^{1/2}$$

We call MO(f)(z) as the invariant mean oscillation of f in the Bergman metric at the point z, since we have

$$MO(f \circ \varphi)(z) = MO(f)(\varphi(z)),$$

where  $\varphi \in Aut (\mathbb{D})$ , the group of Möbius maps of the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . The main results in [6] can be stated as follows:

**Theorem 2.2.** Let K satisfy condition (4) and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $f \in Q_K$ ;

- (1)  $f \in QK$ , (2)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [MO(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) < \infty;$ (3)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [MO_r(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) < \infty;$ (4)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|f(z) f(w)|^2}{|1 z\overline{w}|^4} K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) dA(z) dA(w) < \infty.$

**Theorem 2.3.** Let K satisfy condition (4) and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $f \in Q_{K,0};$ (2)  $\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [MO(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0;$

(3) 
$$\lim_{|a|\to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [MO_r(f)(z)]^2 K(1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0;$$

(4) 
$$\lim_{|a|\to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} \frac{|f(z)-f(w)|^2}{|1-z\overline{w}|^4} K(1-|\varphi_a(z)|^2) dA(z) dA(w) = 0.$$

For a sub-arc I of  $\partial \mathbb{D}$ , |I| is the length of I and

 $S(I) = \{r\zeta: \zeta \in I, 1-|I| < r < 1\}$ 

is the corresponding Carleson square.

A positive Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  is called K-Carleson measure if

$$\sup_{I} \int_{S(I)} K\Big(\frac{1-|z|}{|I|}\Big) d\mu(z) < \infty,$$

where the supremum is taken over all sub-arcs  $I \subset \partial \mathbb{D}$ .

A positive Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  is called a vanishing K-Carleson measure if

$$\lim_{|I|\to 0} \int_{S(I)} K\Big(\frac{1-|z|}{|I|}\Big) d\mu(z) = 0.$$

See [4] for more results on the K-Carleson measure.

**Lemma 2.4.** Suppose K satisfies the following two conditions:

- (a) There exists a constant C > 0 such that  $K(2t) \leq CK(t)$  for all t > 0.
- (b) The auxiliary function  $\varphi_K$  has the property that

$$\int_0^1 \varphi_K(s) \frac{ds}{s} < \infty.$$

By [4] we know that a positive Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  is a K-Carleson measure if and only if

$$\sup_{a\in\mathbb{D}}\int_{\mathbb{D}}K(1-|\varphi_a(z)|^2)d\mu(z)<\infty.$$

Using Lemma 2.4, the second author and Zhu gave some characterizations of  $Q_K$  and  $Q_{K,0}$  spaces in terms of K-Carleson and vanishing K-Carleson measures, respectively (see [6]).

# 3. The spaces $Q_K$

For a function f on  $\mathbb{D}$ , the function  $w_r(f)(z)$  on  $\mathbb{D}$  defined by

$$w_r(f)(z) = \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(z) - f(w)|$$

is called the oscillation of f at z in the Bergman metric (see [8]). Similarly, define another oscillation of f at z in the Bergman metric as follows:

$$\widehat{w}_r(f)(z) = \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |\widehat{f}_r(z) - f(w)|.$$

For 1 write

$$O_1(f)(z) = \left\{ \frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)|^p dA(w) \right\}^{1/p}$$

and

$$O_2(f)(z) = \left\{ \frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - \widehat{f_r}(z)|^p dA(w) \right\}^{1/p}.$$

The main result in this note is the following.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let K satisfy condition (4) and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent for all functions  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ .

(1)  $f \in Q_K;$ 

(1)  $f \in \mathbb{Q}_{K}$ , (2)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [w_{r}(f)(z)]^{2} K(1 - |\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2}) d\tau(z) < \infty$ ; (3)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [\widehat{w}_{r}(f)(z)]^{2} K(1 - |\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2}) d\tau(z) < \infty$ ; (4)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [O_{1}(f)(z)]^{2} K(1 - |\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2}) d\tau(z) < \infty$ ; (5)  $\sup_{a \in \mathbb{D}} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [O_{2}(f)(z)]^{2} K(1 - |\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2}) d\tau(z) < \infty$ .

*Proof.* The proof will follow by the routes  $(2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (1) \Rightarrow (4)$  and (4) $\Rightarrow (2).$ (2)  $\Rightarrow (3)$  Since  $(1 - |z|^2) \sim (1 - |w|^2)$  for  $w \in \mathbb{D}(z, r)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2) &\Rightarrow (3). \text{ Since } (1-|z|^2) \sim (1-|w|^2) \text{ for } w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r), \text{ we have} \\ \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |\widehat{f_r}(z) - f(w)| &\leq C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} \frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(u)| dA(u) \\ &\leq C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} \sup_{u \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(u)| \\ &\leq C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} \sup_{u \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} (|f(w) - f(z)| + |f(z) - f(u)|) \\ &\leq C (\sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)| + \sup_{u \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(z) - f(u)|) \\ &= C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, there exists a constant C such that

$$\widehat{w}_r(f)(z) \le Cw_r(f)(z).$$

It follows that for each  $a \in \mathbb{D}$  the integral

$$\int_{\mathbb{D}} [\widehat{w}_r(f)(z)]^2 K(1 - |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z)$$

is less than or equal to C times the integral

$$\sup_{a\in\mathbb{D}}\int_{\mathbb{D}}[w_r(f)(z)]^2K(1-|\varphi_a(z)|^2)d\tau(z).$$

This shows that the condition (2) implies (3). (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). A simple calculation shows that

$$|g'(0)|^2 \le C \int_{\mathbb{D}(0,r)} |g(u)|^2 dA(u)$$

holds for all  $g \in H(\mathbb{D})$ , where C is a positive constant depending on r only. Replacing  $g = f \circ \varphi_z - \widehat{f_r}(z)$  and using the fact that  $(1 - |z|^2)$  is comparable to  $|1 - \overline{z}w|$  and  $|\mathbb{D}(z, r)|^{1/2}$  when  $w \in \mathbb{D}(z, r)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - |z|^2)^2 |f'(z)|^2 &\leq C \int_{\mathbb{D}(0,r)} |f \circ \varphi_z(u) - \widehat{f_r}(z)|^2 dA(u) \\ &\leq C \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(u) - \widehat{f_r}(z)|^2 \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^2}{|1 - \overline{z}u|^4} dA(u) \\ &\leq \frac{C}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(u) - \widehat{f_r}(z)|^2 dA(u) \\ &\leq C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - \widehat{f_r}(z)|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \sup_{a\in\mathbb{D}}\int_{\mathbb{D}}|f'(z)|^{2}K(1-|\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2})dA(z)\\ &\leq C\sup_{a\in\mathbb{D}}\int_{\mathbb{D}}[\widehat{w}_{r}(f)(z)]^{2}K(1-|\varphi_{a}(z)|^{2})d\tau(z). \end{split}$$

This completes that (3) implies (1).

 $(1) \Rightarrow (4)$ . For  $w \in \mathbb{D}(z, r)$ , we have (see [8])

$$\frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \sim \frac{(1-|z|^2)^2}{|1-z\overline{w}|^4} \sim \frac{1}{(1-|z|^2)^2}.$$

By making a change of variables, there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$\left(\frac{1}{|\mathbb{D}(z,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)|^p dA(w)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

$$\leq C \left(\int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} |f(w) - f(z)|^p \frac{(1-|z|^2)^2}{|1-z\overline{w}|^4} dA(w)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

$$= C \left(\int_{\mathbb{D}(0,r)} |f \circ \varphi_z(w) - f \circ \varphi_z(0)|^p dA(w)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

$$\leq C \left(\int_{\mathbb{D}(0,r)} (1-|w|^2)^p |(f \circ \varphi_z)'(w)|^p dA(w)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

$$= C \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} (1 - |\varphi_z(w)|^2)^p |f' \circ \varphi_z(w)|^p dA(w) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$
  
$$= C \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} (1 - |w|^2)^p |f'(w)|^p \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^2}{|1 - z\overline{w}|^4} dA(w) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$
  
$$\leq C \sup_{w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)} (1 - |w|^2) |f'(w)| \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}(z,r)} \frac{(1 - |z|^2)^2}{|1 - z\overline{w}|^4} dA(w) \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$
  
$$\leq C (1 - |w|^2) |f'(w)|.$$

Hence, (1) implies (4).

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Since  $|g(v)|^p$  is subharmonic for all functions  $g \in H(\mathbb{D})$  for 0 ,

$$|g(w)|^p \le \frac{C}{|\mathbb{D}(w,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(w,r)} |g(v)|^p dA(v).$$

Replacing g by f - f(z), we get

$$|f(w) - f(z)|^p \le \frac{C}{|\mathbb{D}(w,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{D}(w,r)} |f(u) - f(z)|^p dA(u).$$

For  $w \in \mathbb{D}(z,r)$ , we have  $\mathbb{D}(w,r) \subset \mathbb{D}(z,2r)$  and there is a constant N > 0 such that

$$\frac{C}{|\mathbb{D}(w,r)|} \le \frac{N}{|\mathbb{D}(z,2r)|}.$$

Therefore,

$$\sup_{w\in\mathbb{D}(z,r)}|f(w)-f(z)| \le \left(\frac{C}{|\mathbb{D}(z,2r)|}\int_{\mathbb{D}(z,2r)}|f(w)-f(z)|^p dA(w)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \le CO_1(f).$$

This gives (2) by (4). Carefully checking the above proof, we can see that (5) is equivalent to the other 4 conditions.  $\Box$ 

Similarly to Theorems 10 and 12 in [6], we have the following K-Carleson measure characterizations of  $Q_K$  spaces.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let K satisfy condition (4) and the conditions (a) and (b) in Lemma 2.4 and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent for all functions  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ .

- (1)  $f \in Q_K;$
- (2)  $d\mu(z) = [w_r(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a K-Carleson measure;
- (3)  $d\mu(z) = [\widehat{w}_r(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a K-Carleson measure;
- (4)  $d\mu(z) = [O_1(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a K-Carleson measure;
- (5)  $d\mu(z) = [O_2(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a K-Carleson measure.

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# 4. The spaces $Q_{K,0}$

Since our earlier estimates are pointwise estimates with respect to  $a \in \mathbb{D}$ , we have the corresponding "little o" version characterizations of  $Q_{K,0}$  spaces. We omit the details of the proofs.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let K satisfy the condition (4) and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent for all functions  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ .

- (1)  $f \in Q_{K,0};$
- (2)  $\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [w_r(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0;$ (3)  $\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [\widehat{w}_r(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0;$
- (4)  $\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [O_1(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0;$ (5)  $\lim_{|a| \to 1} \int_{\mathbb{D}} [O_2(f)(z)]^2 K(1 |\varphi_a(z)|^2) d\tau(z) = 0.$

**Theorem 4.2.** Let K satisfy the condition (4) and the conditions (a) and (b) in Lemma 2.4 and r > 0. Then the following statements are equivalent for all functions  $f \in H(\mathbb{D})$ .

- (1)  $f \in Q_{K,0};$
- (2)  $d\mu(z) = [w_r(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a vanishing K-Carleson measure;
- (3)  $d\mu(z) = [\widehat{w}_r(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a vanishing K-Carleson measure;
- (4)  $d\mu(z) = [O_1(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a vanishing K-Carleson measure:
- (5)  $d\mu(z) = [O_2(f)(z)]^2 d\tau(z)$  is a vanishing K-Carleson measure.

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(Received: October 26, 2005) (Revised: January 12, 2006)

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