## Harmonic functions in non-locally convex spaces

## By

## N. J. KALTON\*)

**1. Introduction.** Let  $\Omega$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}$  and let X be a complex quasi-Banach space. A function  $f: \Omega \to X$  is called *analytic* if given  $z_0 \in \Omega$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  so that if  $|z - z_0| < \delta$ , f(z) can be expanded in a power series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_n (z - z_0)^n$$

where  $x_n \in X$ . If  $\Omega = \Delta$  the open unit disk it follows from results of Turpin [7] that f can be expressed in the form

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} z^n, \quad |z| < 1.$$

The general properties of analytic functions were studied in [4]. Unfortunately, in the general non-locally convex setting there exist examples of analytic functions on  $\Delta$  which extend continuously to  $\overline{\Delta} = \Delta \cup \mathbb{T}$  and vanish on  $\mathbb{T}$ . However, in certain spaces X, such as  $L_p$  when 0 , a form of the maximum modulus principle holds i.e. for some C

$$|| f(z) || \le C \max_{|w|=1} || f(w) ||$$

whenever  $f: \overline{A} \to X$  is continuous and analytic on A. Such spaces are characterized in [5] and are termed A-convex.

At the other extreme one may ask at what rate one can have  $f(z) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|z| \rightarrow 1$ . In [3] it is shown that if X is p-normable and

$$|| f(z) || = o(1 - |z|)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1}$$

then  $f \equiv 0$ , while easy examples show that one can have f non-trivial and

$$|| f(z) || = O(1 - |z|)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1}.$$

Let us say a map  $h: \Delta \to X$  is harmonic if  $h(z) = f(z) + g(\overline{z})$  where f, g are both analytic. One may ask similar questions for harmonic functions. It is, in fact, trivial to show that a maximum modulus principle for harmonic functions will imply X is locally convex, so we shall concentrate on the rate of decay of h.

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Our main results show that if X is p-normable an harmonic function can still decay no faster than  $(1 - |z|)^{1/p-1}$ . Precisely we show that if  $\beta > \frac{1}{p} - 1$  and

$$||h(z)|| = O(1 - |z|)^{t}$$

then  $h \equiv 0$ , while for  $\frac{1}{2} we prove that if$ 

$$||h(z)|| = o(1 - |z|)^{\frac{1}{p}-1}$$

then  $h \equiv 0$ . In all probability this stronger conclusion holds for  $p \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

For  $\frac{1}{2} the maximal rate of decay can be achieved in <math>L_p$  (which contrasts very strongly with the analytic case since  $L_p$  is A-convex). The example is simply the Poisson kernel. However  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  is a natural barrier since we also show that if X is A-convex and  $h: \Delta \to X$  is harmonic with

$$||h(z)|| = O(1 - |z|)$$

then  $h \equiv 0$ . Thus the maximal rate of decay can be achieved in an A-convex p-normable space only when  $p \ge \frac{1}{2}$ .

We also relate our ideas to representing operators on  $L_p$  and give an atomic decomposition of  $L_p$  for  $\frac{1}{2} suggested by our theorems.$ 

For some further results on harmonic functions see [6]. We may add, that as the referee has pointed out, there is an extensive literature on analytic and harmonic vector-valued functions, using techniques of factorization through locally convex spaces and tensor products. (See e.g. [1], [2], [9].) These techniques are readily applicable to problems on open sets, but seem to give little information on boundary behaviour questions.

**2. Basic notation.** Throughout this paper we deal only with complex vector spaces, although our results on harmonic functions can easily be lifted to the real case by complexification. A *p*-Banach space  $(0 is a complete metrizable topological vector space whose topology is given by a quasi-norm <math>x \to ||x||$  such that

- (i) ||x|| = 0 if and only if x = 0;
- (ii)  $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}, x \in X;$
- (iii)  $||x_1 + x_2||^p \le ||x_1||^p + ||x_2||^p, x_1, x_2 \in X.$

A quasi-Banach space is a *p*-Banach space for some p, 0 .

We recall [4] that if  $\sigma > 0$  and X is a p-Banach space  $A_{\sigma}(X)$  denotes the space of all analytic functions  $f: \Delta \to X$  so that if  $v = [\sigma]$ ,

$$\|f\|_{\sigma} = \sum_{k=0}^{\nu} \|f^{(k)}(0)\| + \sup_{|z| \le 1} (1 - |z|^2)^{\nu + 1 - \sigma} \|f^{(\nu + 1)}(z)\| < \infty.$$

We set  $V_{\sigma}(X)$  to be the set of all analytic f so that

$$\sup_{|z|<1} (1-|z|^2)^{-\sigma} ||f(z)|| < \infty.$$

Then  $V_{\sigma}(X) \subset A_{\sigma}(X)$  (see [4]) and  $V_{\sigma}(X) = \{0\}$  if  $\sigma > \frac{1}{p} - 1$ .

We also need the class  $E_{\sigma}(X)$  of all continuous maps  $f: \mathbb{C} \to X$  so that  $f \mid \Delta$  and  $f(\frac{1}{z}) (z \in \Delta)$  are both in  $A_{\sigma}(X)$  and further  $\lim_{x \to \infty} f(z) = 0$ .

For  $0 let <math>L_p(\mathbb{T})$  denote the space of all measurable functions  $f: \mathbb{T} \to \mathbb{C}$  so that

$$\|f\|_{p} = \left\{\frac{1}{2\pi}\int |f(e^{i\theta})|^{p} d\theta\right\}^{1/p} < \infty.$$

If  $\sigma = \frac{1}{p} - 1$  and X is a p-Banach space, the space of operators  $\mathscr{L}(L_p, X)$  can be identified with  $E_{\sigma}(X)$  ([4]) by the identification  $T \leftrightarrow f$  where

$$T((1 - wz)^{-1}) = f(z).$$

Here  $w \to (1 - wz)^{-1} \in L_p(\mathbb{T})$ .

If  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a bounded closed interval then a function  $f: I \to X$  is in  $C_{\sigma}(I; X)$  if there is a constant  $\gamma \geq 0$  so that for every subinterval  $J \subset I$  there is a polynomial  $g: \mathbb{R} \to X$  of degree at most  $\nu = [\sigma]$ , with

$$\|f(t) - g(t)\| \leq \gamma |J|^{\sigma}, \quad t \in J.$$

The least such constant is denoted  $\gamma_{\sigma}(f)$  and we quasi-norm  $C_{\sigma}(I;X)$  by

$$\|f\|_{\sigma} = \gamma_{\sigma}(f) + \max_{t \in I} \|f(t)\|.$$

If X is p-normable and  $\sigma > \frac{1}{p} - 1$  then  $C_{\sigma}(I; X)$  admits an integration theory due to Turpin and Waelbroeck (cf. [4], [7], [8]). See the full discussion in [4]. If  $\mu \in M(I)$  is a regular Borel measure supported on I then we can define

$$L_{\mu}(f) = \int_{I} f \, d\mu$$

and further

$$\|L_{\mu}(f)\| \leq C \|f\|_{\sigma} \|\mu\|$$

where  $C = C(\sigma, p, I)$  is independent of  $f, \mu$ .

If **T** is the unit circle we transport these ideas to **T** by setting  $C_{\sigma}(\mathbf{T}, X)$  to be those functions  $f: \mathbf{T} \to X$  so that  $\tilde{f} \in C_{\sigma}([-2\pi, 2\pi], X)$  where  $\tilde{f}(t) = f(e^{it})$ . We set  $\|f\|_{\sigma} = \|\tilde{f}\|_{\sigma}$ .

If  $f \in A_{\sigma}(X)$  where  $\sigma > 0$  then f extends continuously to  $\overline{A}$  and its boundary values belong to  $C_{\sigma}$ . If  $\sigma > \frac{1}{p} - 1$  then the Turpin-Waelbroeck integral can be used to recapture f from its boundary values (see [2]).

Throughout this paper we use the convention that C denotes a constant which may vary from line to line and may depend on  $\sigma$ , p, q, v etc. but is independent of f, g, x etc.

**3. Harmonic functions.** Let X be a complex p-Banach space. A function  $h: A \to X$  is called *harmonic* if we can write

$$h(z) = f_1(z) + f_2(\bar{z})$$

where  $f_1, f_2$  are analytic. If h is harmonic then we can expand h in a series expansion

(\*) 
$$h(re^{i\theta}) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} x_n r^{|n|} e^{in\theta}$$

where  $\sum ||x_n||^p r^{|n|p} < \infty$  whenever  $0 \le r < 1$ . Conversely if h has such a series expansion then h is harmonic.

It is clear that if h is harmonic then h is infinitely differentiable and that the coefficients  $x_n$  in the series expansion (\*) can be computed from the partial derivatives of h. Thus we shall set

$$d_n(h) = x_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Let H(X) denote the space of all bounded harmonic functions  $h: \Delta \to X$  with the sup norm

$$\|h\| = \sup_{z \in \mathcal{A}} \|h(z)\|.$$

Then we first investigate the continuity of the maps  $d_n: H(X) \to X$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . For  $h \in H(X)$ ,  $v \ge 1$  and 0 < r < 1 we write

 $M_{\nu}(r;h) = \sup_{|z| \leq r} \| f^{(\nu)}(z) \| + \sup_{|z| \leq r} \| g^{(\nu)}(z) \|$ 

where

$$f(z) = \sum_{n \ge 0} d_n(h) z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n > 0} d_{-n}(h) z^n.$$

Let

$$M_{\nu}(h) = \sup_{r < 1} M_{\nu}(r;h)$$

so that  $M_{\nu}$  can be  $+\infty$ .

Now suppose  $\sigma$  is chosen with  $\sigma > \frac{1}{n} - 1$  and that  $v = [\sigma]$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** There exists  $C = C(p, \sigma)$  and  $0 < \beta < 1$  where  $\beta = \beta(p, \sigma)$  so that if  $h \in H(X)$  then for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

$$|| d_n(h) || \leq C(|| h ||^{1-\beta} M_{\nu+1}(h)^{\beta} + || h ||).$$

Proof. It suffices to consider the case  $M_{\nu+1} < \infty$ . We define

$$f_0(z) = \sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\infty} d_n(h) z^n, \quad g_0(z) = \sum_{n=\nu+1}^{\infty} d_{-n}(h) z^n$$

Then  $f_0, g_0 \in A_{\sigma}(X)$  and

$$|| f_0 ||_{\sigma} \leq CM_{\nu+1}, || g_0 ||_{\sigma} \leq CM_{\nu+1}.$$

In particular  $f_0$  and  $g_0$  extend continuously to  $\Delta \cup \mathbb{T}$ . Hence if we put

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_n(h) z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_{-n}(h) z^n$$

then f and g belong to  $A_{\sigma}(X)$  and extend continuously to  $\Delta \cup \mathbb{T}$ . Thus h extends continuously to  $\Delta \cup \mathbb{T}$ .

Note also that

$$h(e^{i\theta}) = f(e^{i\theta}) + g(e^{-i\theta})$$

for  $0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$  and that  $h \in C_{\sigma}(\mathbb{T}, X)$ . Further by Theorem 6.4 of [2] we can compute  $d_n(h)$   $(n \in \mathbb{Z})$  as Turpin-Waelbroeck integrals:

$$d_n(h) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} h(e^{i\theta}) e^{-in\theta} d\theta,$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

If we set

$$\phi(\theta) = f_0(e^{i\theta}) + g_0(e^{-i\theta})$$

then  $\phi \in C_{\sigma}([0, 2\pi], X)$  and in fact

$$\|\phi\|_{C_{\sigma}} \leq C(\|f_0\|_{\sigma} + \|g_0\|_{\sigma}) \leq CM_{\nu+1}.$$

Now ([2]) there is a sequence of  $C^{\infty}$ -functions  $u_m: [0, 2\pi] \to X$   $(m \ge 2(\nu + 1))$  with rank  $u_m \le m$  so that

$$\|\phi(\theta) - u_m(\theta)\| \leq C m^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1}$$

Let

$$v_m(\theta) = u_m(\theta) + \sum_{-\nu}^{\nu} d_n(h) e^{in\theta}.$$

Then rank  $v_m \leq 2m$  and

$$\|h(e^{i\theta}) - v_m(\theta)\| \leq C m^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1}.$$

Now by [2] Equation 3.7 we have

$$\left| d_n(h) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} v_m(\theta) e^{-in\theta} d\theta \right| \leq C m^{\frac{1}{p} - \sigma - 1} M_{\nu+1}.$$

However

$$||v_m(\theta)|| \leq C(||h|| + m^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1})$$

and as rank  $v_m \leq 2m$ 

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2\pi}\int_{0}^{2\pi}v_{m}(\theta) e^{-in\theta} d\theta\right\| \leq C m^{\frac{1}{p}-1}(\|h\| + m^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1}).$$

Combining

$$\|d_n(h)\| \leq C m^{\frac{1}{p}-1} (\|h\| + m^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1})$$

for  $m \ge 2(\nu + 1)$ . By adjusting the constant we may suppose  $\frac{1}{\nu-1}$ 

$$||d_n(h)|| \leq C t^{\overline{p}^{-1}} (||h|| + t^{-\sigma} M_{\nu+1})$$

for all  $t \ge 1$ . If  $M_{\nu+1} > \|h\|$  set  $t^{\sigma} = M_{\nu+1}/\|h\|$ , and conclude

$$\|d_n(h)\| \leq CM_{\nu+1}^{\beta} \|h\|^{1-\beta}$$

where  $\beta = \frac{1}{\sigma}(\frac{1}{p} - 1)$ . If  $M_{\nu+1} \leq ||h||$ ,  $||d_n(h)|| \leq C ||h||$ .

The conclusion now follows.

**Theorem 3.2.** For each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exists a constant  $C = C(p, \sigma, n)$  so that if  $h \in H(X)$ 

$$\|d_n(h)\| \leq C \|h\|.$$

Proof. Suppose ||h|| = 1 and,

$$h(z) = f(z) + g(\bar{z})$$

where f, g are analytic. If  $z_0 \in \Delta$  set

$$h_0(z) = h(z_0 + (1 - r)z)$$

where  $|z_0| = r$ . Note that

$$M_{\nu+1}(h_0) \leq (1-r)^{\nu+1} M_{\nu+1}(h).$$

Thus

$$\|d_n(h_0)\| \leq C((1-r)^{\beta(\nu+1)} M_{\nu+1}^{\beta} + 1)$$

by Lemma 3.1. In particular taking n = v + 1

$$\|f^{(\nu+1)}(z_0)\| \leq C(1-r)^{-(\nu+1)}[(1-r)^{\beta(\nu+1)}M_{\nu+1}^{\beta}+1]$$

and a similar inequality holds for  $g^{(\nu+1)}$ .

Thus

$$M_{\nu+1}(r,h) \leq C(1-r)^{-(\nu+1)} [(1-r)^{\beta(\nu+1)} M_{\nu+1}^{\beta} + 1].$$

Now if 0 < r < R < 1 we can utilize this to conclude

$$M_{\nu+1}(r,h) \leq C \left(1 - \frac{r}{R}\right)^{-(\nu+1)} \left( \left(1 - \frac{r}{R}\right)^{\beta(\nu+1)} M_{\nu+1}(R,h)^{\beta} + 1 \right).$$

Let us suppose  $M_{\nu+1}(\frac{1}{2}, h) \ge 1$ . Then for  $\frac{1}{2} \le r < R < 1$ ,

$$M_{\nu+1}(r) \leq 2C \left(1 - \frac{r}{R}\right)^{-(\nu+1)} M_{\nu+1}(R)^{\beta}.$$

Let  $r_n = \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4^n}$  for  $n \ge 1$ . Then

$$1-\frac{r_n}{r_{n+1}} \ge \frac{1}{4^n}$$

and so if

$$M_n = M_{\nu+1}(r_n, h), \quad M_n \leq (2C) \ 4^{n(\nu+1)} \ M_{n+1}^{\beta}.$$

Let  $A_n = \beta^n \log M_n$ . Then

$$A_n \leq \beta^n \log(2C) + n\beta^n(\nu+1) \log 4 + A_{n+1}$$

so that

$$A_{n+1} - A_1 \ge -\log(2C)\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\beta^n - \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}n\beta^n\right)(\nu+1)\log 4.$$

Since  $A_n \to 0$  we conclude  $\beta \log M_1 \leq C$  where  $C = C(p, \sigma)$  so that

 $M_1 \leq C$  or  $M_{\nu+1}(\frac{1}{2}, h) \leq C$ .

Now considering  $h_0(z) = h(\frac{1}{2}z)$  we have  $M_{\nu+1}(h_0) \leq C$  and so

$$\|d_n(h_0)\| \leq C$$

so that

$$||d_n(h)|| \leq C 2^{|n|}.$$

**Corollary 3.3.** If h is harmonic on  $\Delta$  and is written in the form  $h(z) = f(z) + g(\overline{z})$ where f and g are analytic then for  $n \ge 1$ 

$$\| f^{(n)}(z_0) \| \le C(p, \sigma, n) r^{-n} \max_{\substack{|z-z_0| \le r}} \| h(z) \|$$
$$\| g^{(n)}(z_0) \| \le C(p, \sigma, n) r^{-n} \max_{\substack{|z-z_0| \le r}} \| h(z) \|$$

for every *r* with  $0 < r < 1 - |z_0|$ .

4. The failure of the maximum modulus principle. Let us consider now an example. Let P(z, w) be the Poisson kernel

$$P(z,w) = \frac{1-|z|^2}{|w-z|^2}, \quad z \in A, \ w \in \mathbb{T}.$$

Let  $P(z) = P(z, \cdot)$ . Then the map  $z \to P(z)$   $(\Delta \to L_p(\mathbb{T}))$  is harmonic. In fact

$$P(z) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \bar{w}^n z^n + \sum_{n < 0} \bar{w}^n \bar{z}^n$$

If  $0 , P extends continuously to <math>\Delta \cup \mathbb{T}$  if we put P(z) = 0 for  $z \in \mathbb{T}$ .

Thus the maximum modulus principle fails for harmonic functions in  $L_p$  when 0 . It is not difficult to establish that if X is a p-Banach space satisfying an estimate of the form

$$\|h(0)\| \leq C \max_{w \in \mathbb{T}} \|h(w)\|$$

for every harmonic function, then X is locally convex. In fact if h has finite rank

$$h(0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} h(e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

and hence one can deduce without difficulty

$$\left|\frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}\right| \leq C \max_{\substack{i \leq n \\ i \leq n}} ||x_i||$$

for any  $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in X$ .

At the opposite extreme one may ask for the precise rate at which an harmonic function can decay at the boundary on  $\Delta$  in a *p*-normable space. In [2] it is shown that if X is *p*-normable and  $f: \Delta \to X$  is analytic and satisfies

$$|| f(z) || = o(1 - |z|^2)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1}$$

as  $|z| \rightarrow 1$  then  $f \equiv 0$ . The existence of an analytic f such that

$$|| f(z) || \le C(1 - |z|^2)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1}$$

is equivalent to  $\mathscr{L}(L_p/H_p, X) \neq \{0\}$ .

For  $\sigma > 0$  we let  $VH_{\sigma}(x)$  be the space of all harmonic functions  $h: \Delta \to X$  such that

 $||h(z)|| \leq C(1-|z|^2)^{\sigma}.$ 

**Lemma 4.1.** If  $h \in VH_{\sigma}(X)$  and

 $h(z) = f(z) + g(\bar{z})$ 

where f and g are analytic then  $f, g \in A_{\sigma}(X)$  and

$$\sup(1 - |z|^2)^{1-\sigma} ||f'(z)|| < \infty$$
  
$$\sup(1 - |z|^2)^{1-\sigma} ||g'(z)|| < \infty.$$

Proof. If

 $||h(z)|| \leq B(1-|z|^2)^{\sigma}$ 

then by Corollary 3.3 if  $n \ge 1$ 

$$\| f^{(n)}(z) \| \leq CB(1 - |z|^2)^{\sigma - n} \| g^{(n)}(z) \| \leq CB(1 - |z|^2)^{\sigma - n}.$$

If  $v = [\sigma]$  take n = v + 1 and then  $f, g \in A_{\sigma}(X)$ . The second conclusion takes n = 1. We see immediately that:

**Theorem 4.2.** If  $VH_{\sigma}(X) \neq \{0\}$  and  $\sigma > 1$  then  $V_{\sigma-1}(X) \neq \{0\}$ .

[Here  $V_{\sigma}(X)$  is the class of analytic functions  $f: \Delta \to X$  so that  $|| f(z) || \leq B(1-|z|^2)^{\sigma}$ ].

**Corollary 4.3.** Let X be an A-convex quasi-Banach space and suppose  $h: \Delta \to X$  is harmonic and

$$||h(z)|| = o(1 - |z|).$$

Then  $h \equiv 0$ .

Proof. The argument of Lemma 4.1 here shows that  $||f'(z)|| \to 0$  as  $|z| \to 1$  and  $||g'(z)|| \to 0$  as  $|z| \to 1$ . Since X is A-convex  $f' \equiv 0$  and  $g' \equiv 0$  so that h is constant.

R e m a r k. The example h(z) = P(z) in weak  $L_{1/2} = L(\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$  shows one can have ||h(z)|| = O(1 - |z|) in an A-convex space with  $h \neq 0$ .

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**Theorem 4.4.** Suppose X is p-normable and  $\sigma = \frac{1}{p} - 1$ . Suppose  $h \in VH_{\sigma}(X)$ . Then there exists  $T \in \mathcal{L}(L_p, X)$  so that

$$T(P(z)) = h(z).$$

Proof. Suppose

$$h(z) = f(z) + g(\bar{z})$$

where f, g are analytic and f(0) = 0. Then  $f, g \in A_{\sigma}(X)$ . Define  $F: \mathbb{C} \to X$  by

$$F(z) = g(z), \qquad |z| \le 1$$
$$= -f\left(\frac{1}{z}\right), \qquad |z| > 1.$$

Note that if  $|z_n| > 1$  and  $z_n \to z_0$  where  $|z_0| = 1$  then

$$F(z_n) = -f\left(\frac{1}{z_n}\right) = g\left(\frac{1}{\bar{z}_n}\right) - h\left(\frac{1}{z_n}\right)$$

so that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} F(z_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} g(\bar{z}_n^{-1}) = g(\bar{z}_0^{-1}) = F(z_0)$ . Thus  $F \in E_{\sigma}(X)$  and there exists ([4] Theorem 8.1)  $T \in \mathscr{L}(L_p, X)$  so that

$$T((1 - wz)^{-1}) = F(z).$$

Now if |z| < 1

$$P(z,w) = (1 - w\bar{z})^{-1} - (1 - wz^{-1})^{-1}$$

so that

$$TP(z) = g(\bar{z}) + f(z) = h(z).$$

**Corollary 4.5.** If X is p-normable and  $\sigma > \frac{1}{p} - 1$  then  $VH_{\sigma}(X) = \{0\}$ .

Proof. Let  $\frac{1}{q} = \sigma + 1$ . Then if  $h \in VH_{\sigma}(\overline{X})$  there exists  $T \in \mathcal{L}(L_q, X)$  so that T(P(z)) = h(z).

However X is p-normable and p > q so that T = 0.

**Corollary 4.6.** If  $\frac{1}{2} and <math>\sigma = \frac{1}{p} - 1$  then  $VH_{\sigma}(X) \neq \{0\}$  if and only if  $\mathscr{L}(L_p, X) \neq \{0\}$ .

**Proof.** In this case  $P(z) \in VH_{\sigma}(L_p)$ .

R e m a r k. For  $p < \frac{1}{2}$  this theorem is false by Corollary 4.3.

We conclude this section by proving an atomic decomposition for  $L_p$  where  $\frac{1}{2} , which is suggested by Corollary 4.6.$ 

For 0 < r < 1 and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  set

$$4(r, n) = \{r w_n^k: k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$$

where  $w_n = \exp(2\pi i/n)$ .

**Theorem 4.7.** Suppose  $\frac{1}{2} . There exists <math>\delta = \delta(p) > 0$  with the following property. Let  $r_k \to 1$  and  $n_k \to \infty$  be chosen so that  $\delta \leq n_k(1 - r_k) \leq M < \infty$ . Let  $A = \bigcup A(r_k, n_k)$  and let  $\{z_m\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$  be an ordering of A. Then there exists a constant C so that if  $f \in L_p(\mathbb{T})$ 

$$f = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} c_m P(z_m) \left(1 - |z_m|^2\right)^{1 - \frac{1}{p}}$$
  
and  $\left(\sum |c_m|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq C \|f\|_p$ .

Remark. Note that

$$\sup_{m} \|P(z_{m})(1-|z_{m}|^{2})^{1-\frac{1}{p}}\|_{p} = B < \infty.$$

Proof. We shall suppose

$$2^{2/p}\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-e^{-p\delta})^{1/p}}=\beta<1.$$

Define  $T: l_p \to L_p$  by

$$T(c_m) = \sum c_m P(z_m) (1 - |z_m|^2)^{1 - \frac{1}{p}}.$$

Then T is bounded and ||T|| = B. We must show that T is an open mapping. Suppose  $f \in L_p$  is a trigonometric polynomial i.e.

$$f(w) = \sum_{k=-N}^{N} a_k w^k.$$

Suppose  $A(r, n) \subset A$ , with n > 2N and  $r = r_m$ ,  $n = n_m$ . We compute  $g = g_m$  where

$$g = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} f(w_n^k) P(rw_n^k).$$

Then g = T(d) where  $d = d_m$  and

$$||d|| = \frac{1}{n} (1 - r^2)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |f(w_n^k)|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

Now

$$g = \sum_{-N}^{N} r^{|k|} a_k w^k + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{-N}^{N} r^{k+ln} a_k w^{k+ln} + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{-N}^{N} r^{ln-k} a_k w^{k-ln}.$$

Let

$$F_1 = F_1(r, w) = \sum_{-N}^{N} r^{|k|} a_k w^k$$
  

$$F_2 = F_2(r, w) = \sum_{-N}^{N} r^k a_k w^k$$
  

$$F_3 = F_3(r, w) = \sum_{-N}^{N} r^{-k} a_k w^k.$$

Then

$$\|f - g_m\|^p \leq \|f - F_1\|^p + \frac{r^{n_p}}{1 - r^{n_p}} (\|F_2\|^p + \|F_3\|^p).$$

Thus

$$\limsup_{m \to \infty} \|f - g_m\|^p \leq 2 \left(\limsup_{m \to \infty} \frac{r^{n_p}}{1 - r^{n_p}}\right) \|f\|^p \leq 2 \frac{e^{-p\delta}}{1 - e^{-p\delta}} \|f\|^p$$

while

$$\|d_m\|^p = n^{1-p}(1-r)^{1-p}(1+r)^{1-p}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\|f(w_n^k)\|^p$$

so that

$$\limsup_{m \to \infty} \|d_m\|^p \leq 2^{1-p} M^{1-p} \|f\|^p.$$

By a density argument we conclude that if  $f \in L_p$  there exists  $d \in l_p$  with

$$\|d\| < 2^{\frac{1}{p}} M^{\frac{1}{p}-1} \|f\|$$
$$\|f - Sd\| < 2^{2/p} \frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1 - e^{-p\delta})^{1/p}} \|f\|$$
$$= \beta \|f\|.$$

This implies that T is onto since  $\beta < 1$ .

**Corollary 4.8.** Suppose  $\frac{1}{2} . Let X be p-normable and suppose <math>h \in H(X)$  satisfies  $\|h(z)\| = o(1 - |z|)^{\frac{1}{p} - 1}$ .

Then 
$$h \equiv 0$$
.

P r o o f. Suppose p < 1. By Theorem 4.7 there is a set  $\{z_n\}$  so that the map  $S: l_p \to L_p$  is onto where

$$S(e_n) = P(z_n) (1 - |z_n|^2)^{1 - \frac{1}{p}}.$$

Let  $T: L_p \to X$  be the map given by Theorem 4.4. Then  $T \circ S(e_n) \to 0$  and hence T is compact. Thus [3] T = 0 and h = 0.

For p = 1, this follows from the Maximum Modulus Principle for harmonic functions.

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Anschrift des Autors:

Nigel J. Kalton College of Arts and Science Dept. of Mathematics University of Missouri-Columbia Columbia, Missouri 65211, USA

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