

# THE ATOMIC DECOMPOSITION FOR HARDY SPACES IN SEVERAL COMPLEX VARIABLES

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## Section 1. Introduction.

Recently characterizations of the classical Hardy spaces have been given which have obvious extensions to very general contexts. These characterizations are in terms of maximal functions [1], [9] and in terms of the atomic decomposition [4], [6]. The purpose of this paper is to study the relationships between these spaces in the context of the unit ball  $B^n$  in complex  $n$ -space. In fact, we will show that the atomic Hardy spaces and the maximal function Hardy spaces are the same for  $0 < p \leq 1$ . In addition, we will show the usual Hardy spaces  $\mathcal{H}^p$  of holomorphic functions in  $G^n$  are the spaces of "holomorphic parts" of functions in the atomic Hardy spaces. These results extend to  $0 < p < 1$  the corresponding results for  $p = 1$  due to Coifman, Rochberg and G. Weiss [5] and to L. Carleson [2], [3]. As a consequence of these results we obtain a characterization of the dual space of  $\mathcal{H}^p$ , and we derive an analogue of the factorization theorem of [5] for  $\mathcal{H}^p$  ( $0 < p \leq 1$ ).

Let us be more specific. We denote by  $\mathcal{H}^p(B^n)$  ( $0 < p < \infty$ ) the space of functions  $F(z)$  which are holomorphic in the unit ball  $B^n = \{z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n : |z| > 1\}$  and which satisfy

$$\|F\|_{\mathcal{H}^p}^p = \sup_{0 < r < 1} \int_{\Sigma} |F(rz)|^p d\sigma(z) < \infty,$$

where  $d\sigma$  is surface area measure on  $\Sigma = \Sigma_{2n-1} = \partial B^n$ . By identifying  $F \in \mathcal{H}^p$  with its boundary values we identify  $\mathcal{H}^p$  as a subspace of  $L^p(\Sigma)$ .

The space  $\mathcal{H}^2$  is of special interest because it is a Hilbert space. Let  $P : L^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^2$  be the orthogonal projection. Then  $P$  has a representation in terms of the Cauchy-Szëgo integral as follows: If  $F \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , then

$$(1.1) \quad SF(rz) = c \int_{\Sigma} \frac{F(\zeta)}{(1 - rz \cdot \bar{\zeta})^n} d\sigma(\zeta)$$

and

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