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#### ▶ To cite this version:

Daniel Alpay, Mamadou Mboup. A characterization of Schur multipliers between character-automorphic Hardy spaces. Integral Equations and Operator Theory, 2008, 62, pp.455-463. 10.1007/s00020-008-1635-0. inria-00259916

## HAL Id: inria-00259916 https://inria.hal.science/inria-00259916

Submitted on 29 Feb 2008

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# A characterization of Schur multipliers between character-automorphic Hardy spaces

D. Alpay and M. Mboup

#### Abstract

We give a new characterization of character-automorphic Hardy spaces of order 2 and of their contractive multipliers in terms of de Branges Rovnyak spaces. Keys tools in our arguments are analytic extension and a factorization result for matrix-valued analytic functions due to Leech.

**Keywords.** Character-automorphiuc functions, Hardy spaces, de Branges Rovnyak spaces, Schur multipliers.

Mathematics Subject Classification (2000). Primary: 30F35, 46E22. Secondary: 30B40

### 1 Introduction

Let  $\Gamma$  be a Fuchsian group of Möbius transformations of the unit disk  $\mathbb{D} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < 1\}$  onto itself. For  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and for any character  $\alpha$  of  $\Gamma$ , we consider the spaces

$$\mathcal{H}_{p}^{\alpha} = \{ f \in \mathcal{H}_{p} \mid f \circ \gamma = \alpha(\gamma)f, \quad \forall \gamma \in \Gamma \}.$$

These spaces are called character-automorphic Hardy spaces. A characterization of such spaces in terms of Poincaré theta series may be found in [15], [18], [13], [9]. In particular, Pommerenke showed in [15] that the series

$$f(z) = \frac{b_0(z)}{b'_0(z)} \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \overline{\alpha(\gamma)} \theta(\gamma(z)) h(\gamma(z)) \frac{\gamma'(z)}{\gamma(z)}$$
(1.1)

defines a bounded linear operator from the classical Hardy space  $\mathcal{H}_p(\mathbb{D})$  into the subspace  $\mathcal{H}_p^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$ .

In the present paper we restrict ourselves to the case p = 2. We first give a characterization of the character-automorphic Hardy space  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  in terms of an associated de Branges Rovnyak space of functions analytic in the open unit disk; see Theorem 3.2. We also characterize the contractive multipliers between  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  two given characters; see Theorem 4.2. Our method is mainly based on analytic extension of positive kernels and factorization results from Nevanlinna-Pick interpolation theory.

## 2 A review on character-automorphic Hardy spaces

#### 2.1 Fuchsian groups and automorphic functions

Let G be a group of linear transformations,  $T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ , ad-bc = 1, in the complex plane and let  $\iota$  denotes the identity transformation. Two points z and z' in  $\mathbb{C}$  are said to be *congruent* with respect to G, if z' = T(z) for some  $T \in G$  and  $T \neq \iota$ . Two regions  $R, R' \subset \mathbb{C}$  are said to be G-congruent or G-equivalent if there exists a transformation  $T \neq \iota$  which sends R to R'. A region R which does not contain any two G-congruent points and such that the neighborhood of any point on the boundary contains G-congruent points of R is called a fundamental region for G. A properly discontinuous group is a group G having a fundamental region [10]. This amounts to saying that the identity transformation is isolated.

**Definition 2.1** A Fuchsian group is a properly discontinuous group each of whose transformation maps  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $\mathbb{T}$  and  $\mathbb{C}\setminus\overline{\mathbb{D}}$  onto themselves.

A Fuchsian group  $\Gamma$  is said to be of convergence type (see *e.g.* [15]) if

$$\sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \left( 1 - |\gamma(z)|^2 \right) = \left( 1 - |z|^2 \right) \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} |\gamma'(z)| < \infty \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Then, the Green's function [15] of  $\Gamma$  with respect to a point  $\xi \in \mathbb{D}$  is defined as the Blaschke product

$$b_{\xi}(z) = \prod_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{\gamma(\xi) - z}{1 - \overline{\gamma(\xi)}z} \frac{|\gamma(\xi)|}{\gamma(\xi)}.$$
(2.2)

It satisfies

$$b_{\xi}(\varphi(z)) = \mu_{\xi}(\varphi)b_{\xi}(z), \quad \forall \varphi \in \Gamma,$$
(2.3)

where  $\mu_{\xi}$  is the character of  $\Gamma$  associated with  $b_{\xi}(z)$ . A function satisfying the relation (2.3) is said to be *character-automorphic* with respect to  $\Gamma$  while a  $\Gamma$ -periodic function, as for example  $|b_{\xi}(z)| = |b_{\xi}(\varphi(z))|$ , is called *automorphic* with respect to  $\Gamma$ .

#### 2.2 Spaces of character-automorphic functions

We now briefly mention the main properties pertaining to spaces of characterautomorphic functions. The materials presented here are essentially borrowed from [15] and [19] (see also [11, 18]). Let  $\widehat{\Gamma}$  be the dual group of  $\Gamma$ , *i.e.* the group of (unimodular) characters. For an arbitrary character  $\alpha \in \widehat{\Gamma}$ , associate the subspaces of the classical space  $L_2(\mathbb{T})$ 

$$L_2^{\alpha} = \{ f \in L_2 \mid f \circ \gamma = \alpha(\gamma) f, \, \forall \gamma \in \Gamma \}$$
$$\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D}) = L_2^{\alpha} \bigcap \mathcal{H}_2(\mathbb{D})$$

Let  $\Gamma$  be a Fuchsian group without elliptic and parabolic element. We say that  $\Gamma$  is of Widom type if, and only if, the derivative of  $b_0(z)$  is of bounded characteristic. In this case, Widom [20] has shown that the space  $\mathcal{H}^{\alpha}_{\infty}$  is not trivial for any character  $\alpha \in \widehat{\Gamma}$  and we have

**Theorem 2.2 (Pommerenke [15])** Let  $\Gamma$  be of Widom type and let  $\theta(z)$ be the inner factor of  $b'_0(z)$ . If  $\alpha$  is any character of  $\Gamma$  and if h(z) is in  $\mathcal{H}_p(\mathbb{D}), 1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , then the function defined by (1.1) is in  $\mathcal{H}_p^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  and

$$||f||_p \leq ||h||_p, \quad f(0) = \theta(0)h(0)$$

The Poincaré series [14] in (1.1) thus defines, in particular, a projection:  $P^{\alpha}: \theta \mathcal{H}_2(\mathbb{D}) \to \mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$ . An important property of the space  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  that we will need is that, point evaluation  $f \mapsto f(\xi), \xi \in \mathbb{D}$  is a bounded linear functional. The space therefore admits a reproducing kernel  $k^{\alpha}$ :

$$\langle f(z), k^{\alpha}(z,\xi) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})} = f(\xi), \xi \in \mathbb{D} \quad \text{for all } f \in \mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$$
  
with  $k^{\alpha}(z,\xi) \in \mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D}), \quad \forall \xi \in \mathbb{D}$ 

Since  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D}) \neq \{const\}$ , we have  $k^{\alpha}(\xi,\xi) = ||k^{\alpha}(\cdot,\xi)||_{\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})}^2 > 0$  for every  $\xi \in \mathbb{D}$ . In the sequel, the Green's function  $b_0(z)$  with respect to 0, will be denoted by b(z) for short.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a group of Widom type and let E be associated<sup>1</sup> to it in such a way that  $\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus E$  be equivalent to the Riemann surface  $\mathbb{D}/\Gamma$ , obtained by identifying  $\Gamma$ -congruent points. Then, there exists a universal covering map  $\mathfrak{z}: \mathbb{D} \to \overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus E \simeq \mathbb{D}/\Gamma$  such that

- $\mathfrak{z}$  maps  $\mathbb{D}$  conformally onto  $\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus E$ ,
- $\mathfrak{z}$  is automorphic with respect to  $\Gamma$ :  $\mathfrak{z} \circ \gamma = \mathfrak{z}$ ,  $\forall \gamma \in \Gamma$
- and  $\mathfrak{z}(z_1) = \mathfrak{z}(z_2) \Rightarrow \exists \gamma \in \Gamma \mid z_1 = \gamma(z_2)$

In particular,  $\mathfrak{z}$  maps one-to-one the *normal fundamental domain* of  $\Gamma$  with respect to the origin,

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ z \in \mathbb{D} : |\gamma'(z)| < 1 \text{ for all } \gamma \in \Gamma, \gamma \neq \iota \}$$
(2.4)

conformally onto some sub-domain of  $\overline{\mathbb{C}} \setminus E$ . We assume that  $\mathfrak{z}$  is normalized so that  $(\mathfrak{z}b)(0)$  is real and positive. In all the sequel, the character associated to the Green's function b(z) will be denoted by  $\mu$ . The starting point of the next section is the following result:

**Lemma 2.3** ([12]) The reproducing kernel for the space  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  has the form

$$k^{\alpha}(z,\omega) = c(\alpha) \frac{\frac{k^{\alpha\mu}(z,0)}{b(z)}k^{\alpha}(\omega,0)^{*} - \left(\frac{k^{\alpha\mu}(\omega,0)}{b(\omega)}\right)^{*}k^{\alpha}(z,0)}{\mathfrak{z}(z) - \mathfrak{z}(\omega)^{*}}$$
(2.5)

where

$$c(\alpha) = \frac{\mathfrak{z}(0)b(0)}{k^{\alpha\mu}(0,0)} > 0.$$
(2.6)

## 3 An associated de Branges-Rovnyak space

In this section we give a characterization of the space  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  in terms of an associated de Branges Rovnyak space. To begin, let

$$\Omega_{+} = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{D} \, ; \, \operatorname{Im} \, \mathfrak{z}(z) > 0 \right\}.$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See [21] for an example of a construction of a group  $\Gamma$  associated with a finite union of disjoint arcs of the unit circle.

Setting

$$A^{\alpha}(z) = \sqrt{\frac{c(\alpha)}{2}} \left( \frac{k^{\alpha\mu}(z,0)}{b(z)} + ik^{\alpha}(z,0) \right)$$
$$B^{\alpha}(z) = \sqrt{\frac{c(\alpha)}{2}} \left( \frac{k^{\alpha\mu}(z,0)}{b(z)} - ik^{\alpha}(z,0) \right)$$

we can rewrite the reproducing kernel  $k^{\alpha}$  as

$$k^{\alpha}(z,\omega) = \frac{2A^{\alpha}(z)}{1 - i\mathfrak{z}(z)} \frac{1 - S_{\alpha}(z)S_{\alpha}(w)^{*}}{1 - \sigma(z)\sigma(w)^{*}} \frac{2A^{\alpha}(w)^{*}}{1 + i\mathfrak{z}(w)^{*}}$$
(3.1)

where  $S_{\alpha}(z) = B^{\alpha}(z)/A^{\alpha}(z)$  and  $\sigma(z) = \frac{1+i\mathfrak{z}(z)}{1-i\mathfrak{z}(z)}$ . We note that the functions  $A^{\alpha}(z)$  and  $B^{\alpha}(z)$  are character-automorphic with the same character  $\alpha$  while  $S_{\alpha}$  and  $\sigma$  are automorphic functions. From now on, the notation  $f^{\nu}(z)$  will means that the function  $f^{\nu}(z)$  is character-automorphic with the superscript  $\nu \in \widehat{\Gamma}$  being the associated character, and the notation  $f_{\nu}(z)$  will stand for a function depending on the character  $\nu$  (automorphic or not).

**Proposition 3.1** There exists a Schur function  $\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}$  such that  $S_{\alpha}(z) = \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\sigma(z))$ .

**Proof:** Since the kernel  $k^{\alpha}(z, \omega)$  is positive in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and hence in  $\Omega_+$ , it is clear that  $\frac{1-S_{\alpha}(z)S_{\alpha}(w)^*}{1-\sigma(z)\sigma(w)^*}$  is also positive in  $\Omega_+$ . Now, observe that the function  $\sigma$ maps  $\Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$  into some subset  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{D}$  and this mapping is one-to-one. Let  $\varsigma$  be given by:  $(\varsigma \circ \sigma)(z) = z, \forall z \in \Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$  (in particular this will also hold for any region congruent to  $\Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ ) and let the function  $\widetilde{\mathscr{S}}_{\alpha}$  be defined on  $\Delta$  by:

$$\widetilde{\mathscr{S}}_{\alpha}(\lambda) = (S_{\alpha} \circ \varsigma)(\lambda), \, \forall \lambda \in \Delta.$$

Then it comes that the kernel

$$\frac{1 - \widetilde{\mathscr{I}}_{\alpha}(\lambda)\widetilde{\mathscr{I}}_{\alpha}(\mu)^{*}}{1 - \lambda\mu^{*}}$$

is positive on  $\Delta$ . Now, this implies (see for instance [1, Theorem 2.6.5]) the existence of a unique extension of  $\widetilde{\mathscr{S}}_{\alpha}(\lambda)$ , analytic and contractive in all  $\mathbb{D}$ . We subsequently call  $\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\lambda)$  this extension, and denote by  $\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})$  the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing kernel

$$K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\lambda,\mu) = \frac{1 - \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\lambda)\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\mu)^{*}}{1 - \lambda\mu^{*}}$$

By construction, the equality

$$S_{\alpha}(z) = \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\sigma(z))$$

holds for all  $z \in \Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $S_{\alpha}(z)$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$ , it must also hold for all  $\mathbb{D}$ .

In connection with the previous proposition and the next theorem, we recall that reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S})$  of functions analytic in the open unit disk and with a reproducing kernel of the form

$$\frac{1 - \mathscr{S}(\lambda)\mathscr{S}(\mu)^*}{1 - \lambda\mu^*}$$

were introduced and studied by de Branges and Rovnyak; see [5, Appendix], [6]. We also refer the reader to [8] and [1] for more information on these and on related spaces.

**Theorem 3.2** The character-automorphic Hardy space  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  can be described as

$$\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D}) = \left\{ F(z) = \frac{\sqrt{2}A^{\alpha}(z)}{1 - i\mathfrak{z}(z)} f(\sigma(z)) ; f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}) \right\}$$
(3.2)

with the norm

$$||F||_{\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})} = ||f||_{\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})}.$$

**Proof:** Recall that the map which to  $F \in \mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  associates its restriction  $F|_{\Omega_+}$  to  $\Omega_+$  is an isometry from  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  onto the reproducing kernel Hilbert space with reproducing  $k^{\alpha}(z, \omega)$  defined by (2.5), where  $z, \omega$  are now restricted to  $\Omega_+$ . We denote this last space by  $\mathcal{H}_2^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})|_{\Omega_+}$ . By Proposition 3.1 and using (3.1) we see that the operator of multiplication by  $\frac{2A^{\alpha}(z)}{1-i_{\delta}(z)}$  is an isometry from the reproducing kernel Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  with reproducing kernel

$$\frac{1 - \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\sigma(z))\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\sigma(w)^{*})}{1 - \sigma(z)\sigma(w)^{*}}$$

onto  $\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})|_{\Omega_{+}}$ . Furthermore, the composition map by  $\sigma$  is an isometry from the de Branges Rovnyak space  $\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})$  onto  $\mathcal{H}$ . We have that

$$\mathcal{H} = \{ f \circ \sigma \ ; \ f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}) \}$$

with norm  $||f \circ \sigma||_{\mathcal{H}} = ||f||_{\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})}$ , as follows from the equalities

$$f(\sigma(\omega)) = \langle f(\cdot), K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\cdot, \sigma(\omega)) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})} = \langle f \circ \sigma(\cdot), K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\sigma(\cdot), \sigma(\omega)) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Thus the restrictions of the elements of  $\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  to  $\Omega_{+}$  are of the form as in (3.2) for z restricted to  $\Omega_{+}$ . By analytic extension, the elements of  $\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  have the same form in the whole of  $\mathbb{D}$ .

### 4 Schur multipliers

A Schur function is a function analytic and contractive in the open unit disk. Equivalently, it is a function s such that the operator of multiplication by s is a contraction from the classical Hardy of the open unit disk into itself. This last definition is our starting point to define character-automorphic Schur multipliers.

**Definition 4.1** A character-automorphic function  $s^{\beta}(z)$ , with character  $\beta$ , will be called a Schur multiplier if the operator of multiplication by  $s^{\beta}(z)$  is a contraction from  $\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$  into  $\mathcal{H}_{2}^{\alpha}(\mathbb{D})$ .

Equivalently, the character-automorphic function  $s^{\beta}(z)$  is a Schur multiplier if and only if the kernel

$$K^{\alpha}_{s^{\beta}}(z,w) = k^{\alpha}(z,w) - s^{\beta}(z)s^{\beta}(w)^{*}k^{\beta\alpha}(z,w)$$
(4.1)

is positive in  $\mathbb{D}$ . The kernel  $K_{s^{\beta}}(z, w)$  is in particular positive in  $\Omega_+$ , and we will consider it in  $\Omega_+$ . We note that in view of [7, Lemma 2, p. 142], [4, Theorem 1.1.4, p. 10], the positivity of the analytic kernel  $K_{s^{\beta}}$  on  $\Omega_+$  implies its positivity on  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Theorem 4.2** A character-automorphic function  $s^{\beta}$  is a Schur multiplier if and only if there exists a  $\mathbb{C}^{2\times 2}$ -matrix valued Schur function  $\Sigma(z)$  such that

$$s^{\beta}(z) = \frac{A^{\alpha}(z)}{A^{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(z)} \frac{\Sigma_{12}(\sigma(z))}{1 - S_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(z)\Sigma_{22}(\sigma(z))}$$
(4.2)

$$S_{\alpha}(z) = \Sigma_{11}(\sigma(z)) + \frac{\Sigma_{12}(\sigma(z))S_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(z)\Sigma_{21}(\sigma(z))}{1 - S_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(z)\Sigma_{22}(\sigma(z))}$$
(4.3)

**Proof:** The positivity of the kernel (4.1) in  $\Omega_+$  is equivalent to the positivity in  $\Omega_+$  of the kernel

$$K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\sigma(z),\sigma(\omega)) - T(z)T(\omega)^* K_{\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}}(\sigma(z),\sigma(\omega)),$$

where

$$T(z) = \frac{A^{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(z)}{A^{\alpha}(z)} s^{\beta}(z).$$

As in the proof of Proposition 3.1, we note that the function  $\sigma$  maps  $\Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ into some subset  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{D}$  and this mapping is one-to-one, and consider again the function  $\varsigma$  defined by:  $(\varsigma \circ \sigma)(z) = z, \forall z \in \Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ . The kernel

$$K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\lambda,\mu) - T(\varsigma(\lambda))T(\varsigma(\mu))^* K_{\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}}(\lambda,\mu), \tag{4.4}$$

is positive in  $\Delta$ . We now show that  $T \circ \varsigma$  admits an analytic extension to  $\mathbb{D}$ . To that purpose we consider the linear relation in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}) \times \mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha})$  spanned by the elements of the form

$$(K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\cdot,\omega),T(\varsigma(\omega))^*K_{\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}}(\cdot,\omega)), \quad \omega \in \Delta.$$

It is densely defined and it is contractive because of the positivity of the kernel (4.4) in  $\Delta$ . It is therefore the graph of a densely defined contraction  $\widetilde{X}$ . We note its extension to  $\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})$  by X. For  $\omega \in \Delta$  and  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})$  we have

$$(X^*f)(\omega) = \langle X^*f, K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\cdot, \omega) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})}$$
  
=  $\langle f, T(\varsigma(\omega))^*K_{\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}_{\alpha}}}(\cdot, \omega) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(\mathscr{S}_{\alpha})}$   
=  $T(\varsigma(\omega))f(\omega).$ 

Let  $f_0(\lambda) = K_{\mathscr{F}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}}(\lambda, \omega_0)$  where  $\omega_0 \in \mathbb{D}$ . We have

$$T(\varsigma(\lambda)) = \frac{(X^* f_0)(\lambda)}{f_0(\lambda)}, \quad \lambda \in \Delta.$$

It follows that  $T \circ \varsigma$  has an analytic extension to  $\mathbb{D}$ , which we will denote by  $\mathscr{R}$ . Thus the kernel

$$K_{\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}}(\lambda,\mu) - \mathscr{R}(\lambda)\mathscr{R}(\mu)^* K_{\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}_{\alpha}}}(\lambda,\mu), \qquad (4.5)$$

is analytic in  $\lambda$  and  $\mu^*$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Therefore it is still positive in  $\mathbb{D}$ ; see [7, Lemma 2, p. 142], [4, Theorem 1.1.4, p. 10]. By [2, Theorem 11.1, p. 61], a necessary

and sufficient condition for the kernel (4.5) to be positive is that there exists a  $\mathbb{C}^{2\times 2}$ -matrix valued Schur function  $\Sigma(\lambda)$  such that

$$\mathscr{R}(\lambda) = \frac{\Sigma_{12}(\lambda)}{1 - \mathscr{I}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\lambda)\Sigma_{22}(\lambda)}$$
(4.6)

$$\mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\lambda) = \Sigma_{11}(\lambda) + \frac{\Sigma_{12}(\lambda)\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\lambda)\Sigma_{21}(\lambda)}{1 - \mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\lambda)\Sigma_{22}(\lambda)}.$$
(4.7)

The above mentioned result from [2] stems from rewriting the positive kernel (4.5) as

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}(\lambda)\mathcal{A}(\mu)^* - \mathcal{B}(\lambda)\mathcal{B}(\mu)^*}{1 - \lambda\mu^*}$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mathscr{R}(\lambda)\mathscr{S}_{\overline{\beta}\alpha}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathcal{B}(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}(\lambda) & \mathscr{R}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix},$$

and using a factorization result known as Leech's theorem, which insures the existence of a  $\mathbb{C}^{2\times 2}$ -valued Schur function  $\Sigma$  such that

$$\mathcal{B}(z) = \mathcal{A}(z)\Sigma(z),$$

from which (4.6) follows.

This unpublished result of R.B. Leech has been proved using the commutant lifting theorem by M. Rosenblum; see [16, Theorem 2, p. 134] and [17, Example 1, p. 107]. Further discussions and applications can also be found in [3]. It can also be proved using tangential Nevanlinna-Pick interpolation and Montel's theorem.

Finally we replace in (4.6)  $\lambda$  by  $\sigma(z)$  where  $z \in \Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ . We obtain the formulas in the statement of the theorem for  $z \in \Omega_+ \cap \mathcal{F}$ , and hence for  $z \in \mathbb{D}$  by analytic extension.  $\Box$ 

Acknowledgments. The first author thanks the Earl Katz family for endowing the chair which supports his research. This work was done while the second author was visiting the department of mathematics of Ben-Gurion University. The second author thanks the Center for Advanced Studies in Mathematics (CASM) of the department of mathematics of Ben-Gurion University which supported his stay.

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