## ON THE BROWN–SHIELDS CONJECTURE FOR CYCLICITY IN THE DIRICHLET SPACE

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be the Dirichlet space, namely the space of holomorphic functions on the unit disk whose derivative is square-integrable. We establish a new sufficient condition for a function  $f \in \mathcal{D}$  to be *cyclic*, i.e. for  $\{pf : p \text{ a polynomial}\}$  to be dense in  $\mathcal{D}$ . This allows us to prove a special case of the conjecture of Brown and Shields that a function is cyclic in  $\mathcal{D}$  iff it is outer and its zero set (defined appropriately) is of capacity zero.

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