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**INTEGRAL OPERATORS IN GRAND VARIABLE  
LEBESGUE SPACES**

1. INTRODUCTION

In this note new Banach function spaces are introduced. These spaces unify two non-standard function spaces: variable exponent Lebesgue spaces and grand Lebesgue space. Comprehensive study and some aspects of applications of one these spaces were delivered in the recently published books [1], [6], [23]. The variable exponent Lebesgue space represents the special case of that introduced by W. Orlicz in the 30-th of the last century and then generalized by I. Musielak and W. Orlicz. H. Nakano [28] then specified it.

The grand Lebesgue spaces were introduced in the 90-th of the last century by T. Iwaniec and C. Sbordone [12]. Lately number of problems of Harmonic analysis and the theory of non-linear differential equations were studied in these spaces (see e.g. the papers [9], [16], [17], [18], [15], [29], [20], [21], etc.).

The spaces introduced in this paper are non-reflexive, non-separable and non-rearrangement invariant. The boundedness results of the Hardy-Littlewood maximal and Calderón-Zygmund operators defined on spaces of homogeneous type are given. From the above-mentioned solutions quite a number of interesting results are obtained.

2. PRELIMINARIES

Throughout the paper we assume that  $(X, d, \mu)$  is a space of homogeneous type (SHT) with finite measure, i.e.  $X$  is a set,  $d$  is a quasi-metric on  $X$  and  $\mu$  is a finite measure on  $X$  satisfying the well-known doubling condition. We will assume that  $X$  does not contain any atoms. Let  $p$  be a measurable function on  $X$  satisfying the condition

$$1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty, \tag{1}$$

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where

$$p_- := \inf_X p; \quad p_+ := \sup_X p.$$

We denote the class of all exponent satisfying condition (1) by  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ .

Let us denote by  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  the class of bounded functions on  $X$  with compact support,  $d_X$  be the diameter of  $X$ .

Let  $p(\cdot) \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ . By the symbol  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  we denote the variable exponent Lebesgue spaces (see e.g. [26], [6] for the definition). Further, let  $\theta > 0$ . We denote by  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  the class of all measurable functions  $f : X \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  for which the norm

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)} := \sup_{0 < \varepsilon < p_- - 1} \varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p_- - \varepsilon}} \|f\|_{L^{p(x) - \varepsilon}(X)}$$

is finite.

Together with the space  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}$  it is interesting to consider the space  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}$  which is defined with respect to the norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}} := \sup_{0 < \varepsilon < p_- - 1} \left\| \varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p(x) - \varepsilon}} f \right\|_{L^{p(x) - \varepsilon}(X)}.$$

It is obvious that

$$\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X) \hookrightarrow L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X).$$

Further, there exists a function  $f$  such that  $f \in L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  but  $f \notin \mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$ .

It can be checked that  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  are Banach spaces.

*Remark.* Let  $X$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $d$  be an Euclidean metric, and let  $\mu$  be the Lebesgue measure. If  $p = p_c = \text{const}$ , then  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta} = \mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}$  is the grand Lebesgue space  $L^{p_c,\theta}$  introduced in [10]. In the case  $p = p_c = \text{const}$  and  $\theta = 1$ , then we have Iwaniec-Sbordone [12] space  $L^{p_c}$ . The space  $L^{p_c}$  naturally arises, for example, to study integrability problems of the Jacobian under minimal hypothesis (see [12]), while  $L^{p_c,\theta}$  is related to the investigation of the nonhomogeneous  $n$ - harmonic equation  $\text{div } A(x, \nabla u) = \mu$  (see [3]).

**Proposition A.** *The spaces  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  and  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  are complete. The closure of  $L^{p(\cdot)}(X)$  in  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  (resp. in  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$ ) consists of those  $f \in L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  (resp.  $f \in \mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$ ) for which  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p_- - \varepsilon}} \|f(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot) - \varepsilon}(X)} = 0$  (resp.  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \|\varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p(\cdot) - \varepsilon}} f(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot) - \varepsilon}(X)} = 0$ ).*

**Proposition B.** *Let  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ . Then the following embeddings hold:*

$$\begin{aligned} L^{p(\cdot)}(X) &\hookrightarrow L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X) \hookrightarrow L^{p(\cdot) - \varepsilon}(X), \quad 0 < \varepsilon < p_- - 1; \\ L^{p(\cdot)}(X) &\hookrightarrow \mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X) \hookrightarrow L^{p(\cdot) - \varepsilon}(X), \quad 0 < \varepsilon < p_- - 1. \end{aligned}$$

We define the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator on  $X$  by

$$(M_X f)(x) = \sup_{0 < r < d_X} \frac{1}{\mu B(x, r)} \int_{B(x, r)} |f(y)| d\mu(y), \quad x \in X,$$

where  $B(x, r)$  is the ball in  $X$  with center  $x$  and radius  $r$ .

**Definition 1.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}_{loc}^{\log}(X)$  is the class of those exponents  $p$  satisfying the local log-Hölder continuity condition: there is a positive constant  $c_0$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$  with  $d(x, y) < 1/2$ ,

$$|p(x) - p(y)| \leq \frac{c_0}{-\ln(d(x, y))}.$$

Further, let  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{loc}^{\log}(X)$  be the class of those exponents satisfying the condition: there exists a positive constants  $a$  and  $b$  such that if  $d(x, y) < b$ , then

$$|p(x) - p(y)| \leq \frac{a}{-\ln(\mu B(x, d(x, y)))}.$$

It is easy to check that  $\mathcal{P}_{loc}^{\log}(X) \subset \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{loc}^{\log}(X)$ .

The boundedness of  $M_X$  in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(X)$  spaces was established by L. Diening [5] for Euclidean spaces and by M. Khabazi [13] for an SHT.

### 3. THE MAIN RESULTS

Now we formulate the main results of this paper:

**Theorem 1** (General-type theorem). *Let  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  and let  $\theta > 0$ .*

(a) *Suppose that  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of pairs  $(f, g)$  such that*

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}} \leq c_{p,\varepsilon} \|g\|_{L^{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}}.$$

*If*

$$\sup_{0 < \varepsilon < \sigma} c_{p,\varepsilon} < \infty$$

*for some positive constant  $\sigma$ , then for all  $(f, g) \in \mathcal{F}$ ,*

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)} \leq c \|g\|_{L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)};$$

(b) *Suppose that  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of pairs  $(f, g)$  such that*

$$\|\varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}} f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}(X)} \leq b_{p,\varepsilon} \|\varepsilon^{\frac{\theta}{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}} g\|_{L^{p(\cdot)-\varepsilon}(X)}$$

*for some positive constant  $b_{p,\varepsilon}$ . If*

$$\sup_{0 < \varepsilon < \sigma} b_{p,\varepsilon} < \infty$$

*for some positive constant  $\sigma$ , then there exists a positive constant  $c$  such that for all  $(f, g) \in \mathcal{F}$ ,*

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)} \leq c \|g\|_{\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)}.$$

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X) \cap \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{loc}^{log}(X)$  and let  $\theta > 0$ . Then the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M_X$  is bounded in  $L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$ .*

Let  $k : X \times X \setminus \{(x, x) : x \in X\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a measurable function satisfying the conditions:

$$|k(x, y)| \leq \frac{c}{\mu B(x, d(x, y))}, \quad x, y \in X, \quad x \neq y;$$

$$|k(x_1, y) - k(x_2, y)| + |k(y, x_1) - k(y, x_2)| \leq c\omega\left(\frac{d(x_2, x_1)}{d(x_2, y)}\right) \frac{1}{\mu B(x_2, d(x_2, y))}$$

for all  $x_1, x_2$  and  $y$  with  $d(x_2, y) > d(x, x_2)$ , where  $\omega$  is a positive, non-decreasing function on  $(0, \infty)$  satisfying  $\Delta_2$  condition ( $\omega(2t) \leq c\omega(t)$ ,  $t > 0$ ) and the Dini condition  $\int_0^1 \omega(t)/t dt < \infty$ .

We also assume that for some  $p_0$ ,  $1 < p_0 < \infty$ , and all  $f \in L^{p_0}(X)$  the limit

$$(Kf)(x) = p.v. \int_X k(x, y)f(y)d\mu(y)$$

exists almost everywhere on  $X$  and that  $K$  is bounded in  $L^{p_0}(X)$ .

The following statement is known (see [24], [25]) (for Euclidean spaces see [7], [3]).

**Theorem A.** *Let  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X) \cap \mathcal{P}_{loc}^{log}(X)$ . Then  $K$  is bounded in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(X)$ .*

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $p \in \mathcal{P}(X) \cap \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_{loc}^{log}(X)$  and let  $\theta > 0$ . Then there is a positive constant  $c$  depending only on  $p$  such that the following inequality*

$$\|Kf\|_{L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)} \leq c\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)}, \quad f \in \mathcal{D}(X),$$

holds, where the positive constant  $c$  does not depend on  $f$ .

Regarding the space  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$  we have the following statement:

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $p$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 2. Then the operator  $M_X$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot),\theta}(X)$ .*

#### 4. SOME APPLICATIONS

Let  $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a connected rectifiable curve and let  $\nu$  be arc-length measure on  $\Gamma$ . By definition,  $\Gamma$  is regular if there is a positive constant  $c$  such that

$$\nu(D(z, r) \cap \Gamma) \leq cr$$

for every  $z \in \Gamma$  and all  $r > 0$ , where  $D(z, r)$  is a disc in  $\mathbb{C}$  with center  $z$  and radius  $r$ . The reverse inequality

$$\nu(D(z, r) \cap \Gamma) \geq r$$

holds for all  $z \in \Gamma$  and  $r < L/2$ , where  $L$  is a diameter of  $\Gamma$ . If we equip  $\Gamma$  with the measure  $\nu$  and the Euclidean metric, the regular curve becomes an SHT.

The associate kernel in which we are interested is

$$k(z, w) = \frac{1}{z - w}.$$

The Cauchy integral

$$S_{\Gamma}f(t) = \int_{\Gamma} \frac{f(\tau)}{t - \tau} d\nu(\tau)$$

is the corresponding singular operator.

The above-mentioned kernel in the case of regular curves is a Calderón-Zygmund kernel. As was proved by G. David [4], a necessary and sufficient condition for continuity of the operator  $S_{\Gamma}$  in  $L^r(\Gamma)$ , where  $r$  is a constant ( $1 < r < \infty$ ), is that  $\Gamma$  is regular.

We denote by  $M_{\Gamma}$  the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator defined on  $\Gamma$ .

The above-formulated results yield the next statement:

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a regular curve. Suppose that  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\Gamma) \cap \mathcal{P}_{loc}^{log}(\Gamma)$ . Assume that  $L < \infty$ . Then*

- (i)  $M_{\Gamma}$  is bounded in  $L^{p(\cdot), \theta}(\Gamma)$ ;
- (ii)  $M_{\Gamma}$  is bounded in  $\mathcal{L}^{p(\cdot), \theta}(\Gamma)$ ;
- (iii) the operator  $S_{\Gamma}$  is a bounded operator in  $L^{p(\cdot), \theta}(\Gamma)$ .

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