# TWO-WEIGHTED INEQUALITIES FOR HARDY-LITTLEWOOD MAXIMAL FUNCTIONS AND SINGULAR INTEGRALS IN $L^{p(\cdot)}$ SPACES

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Abstract. Two–weight criteria of various type for the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator and singular integrals in variable exponent Lebesgue spaces defined on the real line are established.

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#### Introduction

We study the two-weight problem for for Hardy-Littlewood maximal functions and singular integrals in variable exponent Lebesgue spaces  $L^{p(\cdot)}$ . In particular, we derive various type twoweight criteria for the maximal functions and the Hilbert transforms on the line. For a bounded interval we assume that the exponent p satisfies the local log-Hölder continuity condition and for the real line we require that p is constant outside some interval. In the framework of variable exponent analysis such a condition first appeared in the paper [4], where the author established the boundedness of the Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Unfortunately we do not know whether the established criteria remain valid or not when p satisfies log-Hölder decay condition at infinity (see [3] for this condition). It is known that the local log-Hölder continuity condition for the exponent p together with the log-Hölder decay condition guarantees the boundedness of operators of harmonic analysis in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  spaces (see [3], [26], [1], [2]).

The boundedness of the maximal, potential and singular operators in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  spaces was derived in the papers [4], [5], [7], [3], [26], [2], [1]. Weighted inequalities for classical operators in  $L_w^{p(\cdot)}$  spaces, were w is a power-type weight, were established in the papers [18]-[21], [30], [27], [8] etc, while the same problems with general weights for Hardy, maximal and fractional integral operators were studied in [10]-[12], [16], [20], [22], [24], [6]. Moreover, in [6] a complete solution of the one-weight problem for maximal functions defined on Euclidean spaces are given in terms of Muckenhoupt-type conditions. Finally we notice that in the paper [12] modular-type sufficient conditions governing the two-weight inequality for maximal and singular operators were established.

Throughout the paper J denotes an interval (bounded or unbounded) in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Let p be a non-negative function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that E is a measurable subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . We use the following notation:

$$p_{-}(E) := \inf_{E} p; \ p_{+}(E) := \sup_{E} p; \ p_{-} := p_{-}(\mathbb{R}); \ p_{+} := p_{+}(\mathbb{R}).$$

Assume that  $1 \leq p_{-}(J) \leq p_{+}(J) < \infty$ . The variable exponent Lebesgue space  $L^{p(\cdot)}(J)$ (sometimes it is denoted by  $L^{p(x)}(J)$ ) is the class of all  $\mu$ -measurable functions f on X for which  $S_{p}(f) := \int_{T} |f(x)|^{p(x)} dx < \infty$ . The norm in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(J)$  is defined as follows:

$$||f||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} = \inf\{\lambda > 0 : S_p(f/\lambda) \le 1\}.$$

It is known (see e.g. [23], [28], [18]) that  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  is a Banach space. For other properties of  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  spaces we refer, e.g., to [33], [23], [28].

Finally we point out that constants (often different constants in the same series of inequalities) will generally be denoted by c or C. The symbol  $f(x) \approx g(x)$  means that there are positive constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  independent of x such that the inequality  $f(x) \leq c_1 g(x) \leq c_2 f(x)$  holds. Throughout the paper by the symbol p'(x) is denoted the function p(x)/(p(x)-1).

# 1 Sawyer-type Condition for Maximal Operators in $L^{p(x)}$ Spaces.

#### 1.1 The case of bounded interval

Let J be bounded interval in  $\mathbb{R}$  and let

$$(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)(x) = \sup_{\substack{I \ni x \\ I \subset J}} \frac{1}{|I|^{1-\alpha}} \int_{I} |f(y)| dy, \quad x \in J,$$

where  $x \in J$  and  $\alpha$  is a constant satisfying the condition  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ .

For a weight function u we denote

$$u(E) := \int_{E} u(x) dx.$$

**Definition 1.1.** Let J be a bounded interval in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We say that a non-negative function u satisfies the doubling condition on J ( $u \in DC(J)$ ) if there is a positive constant b such that for all  $x \in J$  and all r, 0 < r < |J|, the inequality

$$u(I(x-2r,x+2r)\cap J) \le bu(I(x-r,x+r)\cap J)$$

holds.

**Definition 1.2.** We say that  $p \in LH(J)$  ( p satisfies the local log-Hölder condition) if there is a positive constant c such that

$$|p(x) - p(y)| \le \frac{c}{-|x-y|}$$

for all  $x, y \in J$  satisfying the condition  $|x - y| \le 1/2$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $1 < p_{-} \leq p(x) \leq p_{+} < \infty$  and let the measure  $d\nu(x) = w(x)^{-p'(x)}dx$ belongs to DC(J). Suppose that  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and that  $p \in LH(J)$ . Then the inequality

$$\|v(\cdot)M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \le c\|w(\cdot)f(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}$$

holds, if and only if there exist a positive constant c such that for all interval  $I, I \subset J$ ,

$$\int_{I} (v(x))^{p(x)} (M_{\alpha}^{(J)}(w(\cdot)^{-p'(\cdot)}\chi_{I(\cdot)}))^{p(x)} dx \le c \int_{I} w^{-p'(x)} dx < \infty.$$

To prove Theorem 1.1 we need some auxiliary statements.

**Proposition A.** ([32], Lemma 3.20) Let s be a constant satisfying the condition 1 < s < s $\infty$  and let  $u \geq 0$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that  $\{Q_i\}_{i \in A}$  is a countable collection of dyadic intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$ and that  $\{a_i\}_{i\in A}, \{b_i\}_{i\in A}$  are sequences of positive numbers satisfying the conditions:

 $(i) \int_{Q_i} u \leq a_i \text{ for all } i \in A;$   $(ii) \sum_{\{j \in A: Q_j \subset Q_i\}} b_j \leq ca_i \text{ for all } i \in A.$ 

Then there is a positive constant  $c_s$  depended on s such that the inequality

$$\left(\sum_{i\in A} b_i \left(\frac{1}{a_i} \int_{Q_i} gu\right)^s\right)^{1/s} \le c_s \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} g^s u\right)^{1/s}$$

holds for all non-negative functions q.

**Corollary A.** Let  $1 < s < \infty$  and let u be a non-negative measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that  $\{Q_i\}_{i\in A}$  is a sequence of dyadic cubes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and that  $\{b_i\}_{i\in A}$  is a sequence of positive numbers satisfying the condition

$$\sum_{\{j \in A: Q_j \subset Q_i\}} b_j \le cu(Q_i)$$

Then there is a positive constant c such that for all non-negative functions g the inequality

$$\sum_{i \in A} b_i \left( \frac{1}{u(Q_i)} \int_{Q_i} gu \right)^s \le c \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} g^s u \right)^{1/s}$$

holds.

**Lemma A.** Let J be a bounded interval and let  $1 \leq r_{-}(J) \leq r_{+}(J) < \infty$ . Suppose that  $r \in LH(J)$  and that the measure  $\mu$  satisfies the condition  $\mu \in DC(J)$ . Then there is a positive constant c such that for all f,  $||f||_{L^{r(\cdot)}(J,\mu)} \leq 1$ , intervals  $I \subseteq J$  and  $x \in I$  the inequality

$$\left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)}\int\limits_{I}|f(y)|d\mu(y)\right)^{r(x)} \le c\left[\left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)}\int\limits_{I}|f(y)|^{r(y)}d\mu(y)\right) + 1\right]$$

holds.

*Proof.* We follow the idea of L. Diening [4] (see also [14] for the similar statement in the case of metric measure spaces with doubling measure). We give the proof for completeness.

First recall that (see, e.g., [14]) since J with the Euclidean distance and the measure  $\mu$ is a bounded doubling space with the finite measure  $\mu$  the condition  $r \in LH(J)$  implies the following inequality:

$$(\mu(I))^{r_{-}(I)-r_{+}(I)} \le C$$
 (1.1)

for all subintervals I of J.

Assume that  $\nu B \leq 1/2$ . By Hölder's inequality we have that

$$\left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)| d\mu(y)\right)^{r(x)} \le \left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)|^{r_{-}(I)} d\mu(y)\right)^{r(x)/r_{-}(I)}$$

$$\leq c\mu(I)^{-r(x)/r_{-}(I)} \left[\frac{1}{2} \int_{I} |f(y)|^{r(y)} d\mu(x) + \frac{1}{2}\mu(I)\right]^{r(x)/r_{-}(I)}$$

Observe now that the expression in brackets is less than or equal to 1. Consequently, by (1.1) we find that

$$\left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)| d\mu(y)\right)^{r(x)} \le c\mu(I)^{1-r(x)/r_{-}(I)} \left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)|^{r(y)} d\mu(y) + 1\right)$$
$$\le c\mu(I)^{(r_{-}(I)-r_{+}(I))/r_{-}(I)} \left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)|^{r(y)} d\mu(y) + 1\right) \le c \left(\frac{1}{\mu(I)} \int_{I} |f(y)|^{r(y)} d\mu(y) + 1\right).$$

The case  $\mu(I) > 1/2$  is trivial.  $\Box$ 

Suppose that S is an interval in  $\mathbb{R}$  and let us introduce the dyadic maximal operator

$$(M_{\alpha}^{(d),S})f(x) = \sup_{\substack{x \in I \\ I \in D(S)}} |I|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I} |f(y)| dy,$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and D(S) is a dyadic lattice in S.

To prove Theorem 1.1 we need the following statement:

**Lemma 1.1.** Let S be a bounded interval on  $\mathbb{R}$  and let J be a subinterval of S. Suppose that  $\sigma(x) := w^{-p'(x)}$  belongs to the class DC(J) and that  $p \in LH(J)$ , where  $1 < p_{-}(J) \leq p(x) \leq p_{+}(J) < \infty$ . Let  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . If there is a positive constant c such that for all interval I,  $I \subset J$ ,

$$\int_{I} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} \left( \chi_{I}(\cdot)\sigma(\cdot) \right) \right)^{p(x)} (x) dx \le c \int_{I} \sigma(x) dx < \infty,$$

then the estimate

$$\|v(\cdot)M_{\alpha}^{(d),S}(f(\cdot)\chi_{J}(\cdot))\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \le c\|w(\cdot)f(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}$$

holds.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $||f||_{L^{p(\cdot)}_{w}(J)} \leq 1$ . Assume that  $f_1 := \chi_J f$ . Let us introduce the set

$$J_k = \{ x \in S : 2^k < (M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_1)(x) \le 2^{k+1} \}, \ k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Suppose that for  $k, J_k \neq \emptyset, \{I_j^k\}$  is a maximal dyadic interval,  $I_j^k \subset D(S)$ , such that

$$\frac{1}{|I_j^k|^{1-\alpha}} \int_{I_j^k} |f_1(y)| dy > 2^k.$$
(1.2)

It is obvious that such a maximal interval always exists. Now observe that

(i)  $\{I_j^k\}$  are disjoint for fixed k; (ii)

$$\overline{J}_k := \left\{ x \in S : \left( M_\alpha^{(d),S} f_1 \right)(x) > 2^k \right\} = \bigcup_j I_j^k$$

Indeed, (i) holds because if  $I_i^k \cap I_j^k \neq \emptyset$ , then  $I_i^k \subset I_j^k$  or  $I_j^k \subset I_i^k$ . Consequently, if  $I_i^k \subset I_j^k$ , then  $I_j^k$  is maximal interval for which (1.2) holds.

To see that (*ii*) holds, observe that if  $x \in \overline{J}_k$ , then  $M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_1(x) \ge 2^k$ . Hence, there is a maximal dyadic interval  $I_j^k$  containing x such that (1.2) hold for  $I_j^k$ . Let now  $x \in \bigcup_j I_j^k$ . Then

 $x \in I_{j_0}^k$  for some  $j_0$ . Hence,  $M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_1(x) > 2^k$  because (1.2) holds for  $I_{j_0}^k$ . Denote:

$$E_j^k := I_j^k \setminus \{ x \in S : M_\alpha^{(d),S} f_1(x) > 2^{k+1} \}.$$

Then  $E_j^k = I_j^k \cap J_k$ . Indeed, if  $x \in E_j^k$ , then  $x \in I_j^k$  and  $M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_1(x) \leq 2^{k+1}$ . Hence, by (1.2) we find that

$$2^{k} < |I_{i}^{k}|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{j}^{k}} |f_{1}(y)| dy \le M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_{1}(x) \le 2^{k+1}$$

This means that  $x \in I_j^k \cap J_k$ . Let now  $x \in I_j^k \cap J_k$ . Then obviously  $M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_1(x) \leq 2^{k+1}$ . Consequently,  $x \in E_j^k$ . Observe that  $\{E_j^k\}$  are disjoint for every j, k because, as we have seen,

$$E_j^k = \{ x \in I_j^k : 2^k < M_\alpha^{(d),S} f_1(x) \le 2^{k+1} \}.$$

Also,  $E_j^k \subset I_j^k$ . Assume that  $||w(\cdot)f_1(\cdot)||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(S)} \leq 1$ . Denote:

$$v_1 := v\chi_J, \quad \sigma_1 := \sigma\chi_J.$$

By the arguments observed above and using Lemma A with  $r(\cdot) = p(\cdot)/p_{-}$  and the measure

 $d\mu(x) = \sigma(x)dx$  we have that

$$\begin{split} &\int_{J} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_{1} \right)^{p(x)} (x) dx \\ &= \int_{S} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} f_{1} \right)^{p(x)} (x) dx \\ &\leq \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} 2^{(k+1)p(x)} dx \\ &\leq c \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{1}{|I_{j}^{k}|^{1-\alpha}} \int_{I_{j}^{k}} |f_{1}(y)| dy \right)^{p(x)} dx \\ &= c \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)}{|I_{j}^{k}|^{1-\alpha}} \right)^{p(x)} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)} \int_{I_{j}^{k}} \left| \frac{f_{1}}{\sigma} \right| \sigma \right)^{p(x)} dx \\ &= c \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)}{|I_{j}^{k}|^{1-\alpha}} \right)^{p(x)} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)} \int_{I_{j}^{k}} \left| \frac{f_{1}}{\sigma} \right| \sigma \right)^{p(x)} dx \\ &\leq c \sum_{j,k} \left( \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)}{|I_{j}^{k}|^{1-\alpha}} \right)^{p(x)} dx \right) \left( \frac{1}{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)} \int_{I_{j}^{k}} \left| \frac{f_{1}(y)}{\sigma(y)} \right|^{\frac{p(y)}{p_{-}}} \sigma(y) dy \right)^{p-1} \\ &+ c \sum_{j,k} \left( \int_{E_{j}^{k}} (v_{1}(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{\sigma(I_{j}^{k} \cap J)}{|I_{j}^{k}|^{1-\alpha}} \right)^{p(x)} dx \right) \\ &\equiv c \left( \sum_{j,k} A_{j}^{k} + \sum_{j,k} B_{j}^{k} \right). \end{split}$$

Notice that the sign of sum is taken over all those j ad k for which  $\sigma(I_j^k \cap J) > 0$ . To use Corollary A observe that

$$\sum_{\substack{I_j^k \subset I_i \\ I_j^k, I_i \in D(S)}} \int_{E_j^k} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left(\frac{\sigma(I_j^k \cap J)}{|I_j^k|^{1-\alpha}}\right)^{p(x)} dx$$

$$\leq \sum_{\substack{I_j^k \subset I_i \in E_j^k \\ J_i}} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left(M_\alpha^{(d),S}(\chi_{I_i \cap J}\sigma)\right)^{p(x)}(x) dx$$

$$\leq \int_{I_i} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left(M_\alpha^{(d),S}(\chi_{I_i \cap J}\sigma)\right)^{p(x)}(x) dx$$

$$\leq c \int_{I_i \cap J} \sigma(x) dx = c \int_{I_i} \sigma_1(x) dx.$$

Now Corollary A implies that

$$\sum_{j,k} A_j^k = \sum_{j,k} \left( \int_{E_j^k} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left( \frac{\sigma(I_j^k \cap J)}{|I_j^k|^{1-\alpha}} \right)^{p(x)} dx \right) \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_1(I_j^k)} \int_{I_j^k} \left| \frac{f_1(y)}{\sigma(y)} \right|^{\frac{p(x)}{p-}} \sigma_1(y) dy \right)^{p-1} \\ \leq c \int_{S} |f_1(x)|^{p(x)} \sigma(x)^{-p(x)} \sigma_1(x) dx = c \int_{S} |f_1(x)|^{p(x)} w^{p(x)} dx \le c.$$

For the second term we have that

$$\sum_{j,k} B_j^k = \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_j^k} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left(\frac{\sigma(I_j^k \cap J)}{|I_j^k|^{1-\alpha}}\right)^{p(x)} dx$$

$$\leq \sum_{j,k} \int_{E_j^k} (v_1(x))^{p(x)} \left(M_\alpha^{(d),S}(\chi_J\sigma)\right)^{p(x)}(x) dx$$

$$= \int_J (v(x))^{p(x)} \left(M_\alpha^{(d),S}(\chi_J\sigma)\right)^{p(x)}(x) dx$$

$$\leq c \int_J \sigma(x) dx < \infty.$$

Finally we conclude that

$$\|v(\cdot)(M_{\alpha}^{(d),S}f_{1})(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \le c$$

for  $||w(\cdot)f(\cdot)||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \le 1$ .  $\Box$ 

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Sufficiency. Let us take an interval S containing J. Without loss of generality we can assume that S is a maximal dyadic interval and that  $|J| \leq \frac{|S|}{8}$ . Further, suppose also that J and S have one and the same center. Without loss of generality assume that  $|S| = 2^{m_0}$  for some integer  $m_0$ . Then every interval  $I \subset J$  has the length |I| less than or equal to  $2^{m_0-3}$ . Assume that  $|I| \in [2^j, 2^{j+1})$  for some  $j, j \leq m_0 - 4$ . Let us introduce the set

$$F = \{t \in (-2^{m_0-4}, 2^{m_0-4}): \text{ there is } I_1 \in D(S) - t, I \subset I_1 \subset S, |I_1| = 2^{j+1}\}.$$

The simple geometric observation (see also [13], p. 431) shows that  $|F| \ge 2^{m_0-4}$ .

Further, let

$$(K_t f)(x) := \sup_{\substack{S \supset I_1 \ni x\\I_1 \in D(S) - t}} \frac{1}{|I_1|^{1-\alpha}} \int_{I_1} |f_1|, \ t \in F,$$

where  $f_1 = \chi_J f$ . Then for  $x \ (x \in J)$  there exist  $I \ni x, I \subset J$  such that

$$|I|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I} |f_1| > \frac{1}{2} (M_{\alpha}^{(J)} f_1)(x).$$

For the interval I, we have that  $|I| \in [2^j, 2^{j+1}), j \leq m_0 - 4$ . Therefore for  $t \in F$ , there is an interval  $I_1, I_1 \in D(S) - t, I \subset I_1 \subset S, |I_1| = 2^{j+1}$ , such that

$$|I|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I} |f_1| \le \frac{c}{|I_1|^{1-\alpha}} \int_{I_1} |f_1|.$$

Hence,

$$(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)(x) \le c(K_t f_1)(x), \text{ for every } t \in F, x \in J,$$

with the positive constant c depending only on  $\alpha$ . Consequently,

$$(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)(x) \leq \frac{1}{|F|} \int_{F} (K_{t}f_{1})(x)dt$$
  
$$\leq \frac{c}{|I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})|} \int_{I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})} (K_{t}f_{1})(x)dt.$$

Suppose that  $||w(\cdot)f(\cdot)||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \leq 1$ . Then by Lemma 1.1 we have that

$$S_{t} := \int_{J} (v(x))^{p(x)} ((K_{t}f_{1})(x))^{p(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{J} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( \sup_{\substack{S \supset I_{1} \ni x \\ I_{1} \in D(S) - t}} \frac{1}{|I_{1}|} \int_{I_{1}} |f_{1}| \right)^{p(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{J+t} (v_{t}(x))^{p(x-t)} \left( \sup_{\substack{S \supset I_{1} \ni x \\ I_{1} \in D(S)}} |I_{1}|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{1}} \chi_{J}(s-t)f_{1}(s-t) ds \right)^{p(x-t)} dx$$

$$= \int_{J+t} (v_{t}(x))^{p_{t}(x)} \left( \sup_{\substack{I_{1} \ni x \\ I_{1} \in D(S)}} |I_{1}|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{1}} \chi_{J+t}(s)f_{1}(s-t) ds \right)^{p_{t}(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{J+t} (v_{t}(x))^{p_{t}(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S} (\chi_{J+t}(\cdot)f_{1}(\cdot-t)) \right)^{p_{t}(x)} dx$$

$$\leq c$$

provided that

$$\int_{J+t} (w_t(x))^{p_t(x)} (f_1(x-t))^{p_t(x)} dx = \int_J w(x) |f(x)|^{p(x)} dx \le 1,$$

where  $v_t(x) = v(x-t)$ ,  $w_t(x) = w(x-t)$ ,  $p_t(x) = p(x-t)$ . To justify this conclusion we need to check that for every  $I, I \subset J + t$ ,

$$\int_{I} (v_t(x))^{p_t(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S}(\sigma_t \chi_I)(x) \right)^{p_t(x)} dx \le c \int_{I} \sigma_t(x) dx < \infty,$$

where the positive constant c is independent of I and t. Indeed, observe that

$$\int_{I} (v_{t}(x))^{p_{t}(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(d),S}(\sigma_{t}\chi_{I})(x) \right)^{p_{t}(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{I} (v_{t}(x))^{p_{t}(x)} \left( \sup_{\substack{I_{1} \ni x \\ I_{1} \in D(S)}} |I_{1}|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{1}} \chi_{I}(s)\sigma(s-t)ds \right)^{p_{t}(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{I} (v_{t}(x))^{p_{t}(x)} \left( \sup_{\substack{I_{1} \to x = t \\ I_{1} \in D(S)}} |I_{1} - t|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{1} - t} \chi_{I}(s+t)\sigma(s)ds \right)^{p_{t}(x)} dx$$

$$= \int_{I - t} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( \sup_{\substack{I_{1} \ni x \\ I_{1} \in D(S) - t}} |I_{1}|^{\alpha-1} \int_{I_{1}} \chi_{I-t}(s)\sigma(s)ds \right)^{p(x)} dx$$

$$\leq \int_{I - t} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(J)}(\chi_{I-t}\sigma) \right)^{p(x)} (x)dx \leq \int_{I - t} \sigma(x)dx$$

$$= \int_{I} \sigma_{t}(x)dx < \infty.$$

Further, let  $g \in L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)$  with  $||g||_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)} \leq 1$ . Then we find that

$$\int_{J} (M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)(x)v(x)g(x)dx$$

$$\leq \int_{J} \left(\frac{1}{|I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})|} \int_{I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})} (K_{t}f_{1})(x)dt\right)v(x)g(x)dx$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{|I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})|} \int_{I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})} \left(\int_{J} (K_{t}f_{1})(x)g(x)v(x)dx\right)dt$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{|I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})|} \int_{I(0,2^{m_{0}-4})} ||(K_{t}f_{1})v||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} ||g||_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)}dt$$

$$\leq c,$$

provided that  $\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}_w(J)} \leq 1.$ 

Finally we conclude that  $\|(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)v\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \leq c$  if  $\|fw\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)} \leq 1$ . Sufficiency is proved. Necessity. Let  $f_I(t) = \chi_I(t)w^{-p'(t)}(t)$ . Suppose that  $\beta = \|w^{-1}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)} \leq 1$ . We have that

$$\|v(\cdot)(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f)^{p(\cdot)}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \ge \|\chi_{I}(\cdot)v(\cdot)(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}(w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)\chi_{I}(\cdot)))(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} =: A.$$

Hence, by the boundedness of  $M_{\alpha}^{(J)}$ , Lemma B (recall that the measure  $d\nu(x) = w(x)^{-p'(x)}dx$  satisfies the doubling condition) and the fact that  $1/p \in LH(J)$  we find that

$$A = \|\chi_{I}(\cdot)v(\cdot)M_{\alpha}^{(J)}\left(w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)\chi_{I}(\cdot)\right)(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}$$

$$\leq c\|w(\cdot)w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)\chi_{I}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}$$

$$\leq c\left(\int_{I}w^{-p'(x)p(x)}(x)w^{p(x)}(x)dx\right)^{1/p_{+}(I)}$$

$$\leq \bar{c}\left(\int_{I}w^{-p'(x)}(x)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p_{-}(I)}} \leq \bar{c}.$$

On the other hand,

$$A = \bar{c} \left\| \frac{1}{\bar{c}} \chi_{I}(\cdot) v(\cdot) M_{\alpha}^{(J)} \left( w^{-p'(\cdot)} \chi_{I}(\cdot) \right)(\cdot) \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}$$

$$\geq \bar{c} \left( \int_{I} (\bar{c})^{-p(x)} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left[ M_{\alpha}^{(J)} \left( w^{-p'(\cdot)} \chi_{I}(\cdot) \right) \right](x) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p_{-}(I)}}$$

$$\geq c \left[ \int_{I} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(J)} \left( w^{-p'(\cdot)} \chi_{I}(\cdot) \right)(x) \right)^{p(x)} dx \right]^{\frac{1}{p_{-}(I)}}.$$

Summarizing these inequalities we conclude that

$$\int_{I} (v(x))^{p(x)} \left( M_{\alpha}^{(J)} \left( w^{-p'(\cdot)} \chi_{I}(\cdot) \right)(x) \right)^{p(x)} dx \le c \int_{I} w^{-p'(x)}(x) dx < \infty.$$

Suppose now that  $\beta \geq 1$ . Let us take

$$f(t) = \frac{w^{-p'(t)}(t)\chi_I(t)}{\beta}.$$

Then

$$\|f_{I}(\cdot)w(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} = \frac{\|w^{1-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)\chi_{I}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}}{\beta} \le 1.$$

Arguing as above we have desire result. It remains to show that

$$A := \int_{J} w^{-p'(x)}(x) dx < \infty.$$

Suppose that  $A = \infty$ . Then  $\|w^{-1}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(J)} = \infty$ . Hence, there exist a function g,  $\|g\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)}, g \ge 0$  such that

$$\int_{J} g(x)w^{-1}(x)dx = \infty.$$

Let  $f(x) = g(x)w^{-1}(x)$ . Then

$$\left\| v(\cdot) \left( M_{\alpha}^{(J)} f \right)(\cdot) \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \ge \left( \int_{J} w^{-1}(x) g(x) \right) \left\| v(\cdot) |J|^{\alpha - 1} \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} = \infty,$$

while

$$||fw||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} = ||g||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} < \infty.$$

**Corollary 1.1.** Let J be a bounded interval and let  $1 < p_-(J) \le p(x) \le p_+(J) < \infty$  and let  $0 \le \alpha < 1$ . Assume that  $p \in LH(J)$  then the inequity

$$\left\|v(\cdot)\left(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}f\right)(\cdot)\right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \le c\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(J)} \quad (Trace\ inequality)$$

holds if and only if

$$\sup_{I,I\subset J}\frac{1}{|I|}\int\limits_{I}(v(x))^{p(x)}|I|^{\alpha p(x)}dx<\infty.$$

Proof. Sufficiency. By Theorem 1.1 it is enough to see that

$$(M_{\alpha}^{(J)}\chi_I)(x) \le |I|^{\alpha} \quad \text{for} \quad x \in I$$

This is true because of the following estimates:

$$\sup_{\substack{S,S\subset J\\S\ni x}} |S|^{\alpha-1} \int_{S} \chi_I \le \sup_{\substack{S\cap I\ni x\\S\subset J}} |S\cap I|^{\alpha-1} \int_{S\cap I} dx = \sup_{\substack{S\cap I\ni x\\S\subset J}} |S\cap I|^{\alpha} = |I|^{\alpha}.$$

*Necessity* follows by choosing the appropriate test functions in the trace inequality.  $\Box$ 

#### 1.2 The case of unbounded interval

Now we derive criteria for the two–weight inequality for the following maximal operators:

$$\left(M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f\right)(x) = \sup_{h>0} \frac{1}{h^{1-\alpha}} \int\limits_{(x-h,x+h)\cap\mathbb{R}_{+}} |f(y)|dy$$

and

$$\left(M^{(\mathbb{R})}_{\alpha}f\right)(x) = \sup_{h>0} \frac{1}{h^{1-\alpha}} \int\limits_{x-h}^{x+h} |f(y)| dy,$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ .

In the sequel we will assume that  $v^{p(\cdot)}(\cdot)$  and  $w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)$  are a.e. positive locally integrable function.

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $0 \le \alpha < 1$ ,  $1 < p_{-}(\mathbb{R}_{+}) \le p \le p_{+}(\mathbb{R}_{+}) < \infty$  and let  $p \in LH(\mathbb{R}_{+})$ . Suppose that there is a bounded interval [0, a] such that  $w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot) \in DC([0, a])$  and  $p \equiv p_{c} \equiv const$  outside [0, a]. Then the inequity

$$\|vM_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \le \|wf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})},$$

holds if and only if there is a positive constant b such that for all bounded intervals  $I \subset \mathbb{R}_+$ ,

$$\|vM_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}(w^{-p'(\cdot)}\chi_{I})\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(I)} \le c\|w^{1-p'(\cdot)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(I)} < \infty.$$
(1.3)

Proof. Sufficiency. Suppose that  $||wf||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} < \infty$ . We will show that  $||vM_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_+)}||_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} < \infty$ . Represent  $M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_+)}f(x)$  as follows:

$$\begin{split} M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f(x) &= \chi_{[0,a]}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}\big(f\cdot\chi_{[0,a]}\big)(x) \\ &+ \chi_{[0,a]}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}\big(f\cdot\chi_{(a,\infty)}\big)(x) + \chi_{(a,\infty)}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}\big(f\cdot\chi_{[0,a]}\big)(x) \\ &+ \chi_{(a,\infty)}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}\big(f\cdot\chi_{(a,\infty)}\big)(x) \\ &=: \quad M_{\alpha}^{(1)}f(x) + M_{\alpha}^{(2)}f(x) + M_{\alpha}^{(3)}f(x) + M_{\alpha}^{(4)}f(x). \end{split}$$

Since  $\|wf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} < \infty$  we have that  $\|wf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}([0,a])} < \infty$ . Applying now Theorem 1.1 we find that  $\|vM_{\alpha}^{(1)}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} < \infty$ . Further, observe that

$$M_{\alpha}^{(2)}f(x) \leq \sup_{h > a - x} \frac{1}{h} \int_{a}^{x+h} |f(y)| dy \leq \left(M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f\right)(a) < \infty$$

Hence,

$$\|vM_{\alpha}^{(2)}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \leq \left(M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f\right)(a) \cdot \|v\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}([0,a])} < \infty.$$

Let us use the following representation for  $M_{\alpha}^{(3)}f(x)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_{\alpha}^{(3)}f \end{pmatrix}(x) = \chi_{(a,2a]}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})} (f \cdot \chi_{[0,a]})(x) + \chi_{(2a,\infty)}(x)M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})} (f \cdot \chi_{[0,a]})(x) =: (\overline{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)}f)(x) + (\widetilde{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)}f)(x).$$

It is easy to check that for  $x \in (a, 2a]$ ,

$$\left(\overline{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)}f\right)(x) \leq \sup_{h>a-x} \frac{1}{(a-x+h)^{1-\alpha}} \int_{x-h}^{a} |f(y)| dy \leq \left(M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f\right)(a).$$

Consequently,

$$\|v\overline{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \le \|f\|_{L^{p_{c}}((a,2a])} (M_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R}_{+})}f)(a) < \infty,$$

because  $v^{p(\cdot)}(\cdot)$  is locally integrable on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ . Further we have that for x > 2a,

$$\left(\widetilde{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)}f\right)(x) \leq \frac{1}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \int_{0}^{a} |f(y)| dy.$$

Hence, by using Hölder's inequality in  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  spaces, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| v \widetilde{M}_{\alpha}^{(3)} f \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} &\leq \left\| \frac{v(x)}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \right\|_{L^{p_{c}}\left((2a,\infty)\right)} \left( \int_{0}^{a} |f(y)| dy \right) \\ &\leq \left\| \frac{v(x)}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \right\|_{L^{p_{c}}\left((2a,\infty)\right)} \\ &\quad \| fw \|_{L^{p(\cdot)}\left((0,a]\right)} \| w^{-1} \|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}\left((0,a]\right)} \\ &= I_{1} \cdot I_{2} \cdot I_{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $I_2 < \infty$  and  $I_3 < \infty$ , we need to show that  $I_1 < \infty$ . This follows from the fact that condition (1.3) yields

$$\left\| v \overline{M}_{\alpha} \left( w^{-(p_c)'} \chi_I \right) \right\|_{L^{p_c} \left( (2a, \infty) \right)} \le \left\| w^{1 - (p_c)'} (\cdot) \chi_I (\cdot) \right\|_{L^{p_c} \left( (2a, \infty) \right)}, \quad I \subset (2a, \infty), \tag{1.4}$$

where  $\overline{M}_{\alpha}$  is the maximal operator defined on  $(2a, \infty)$  as follows:

$$\left(\overline{M}_{\alpha}f\right)(x) = \sup_{h>0} \frac{1}{h^{1-\alpha}} \int_{(2a,\infty)\cap(x-h,x+h)} |f(y)| dy.$$

Using the result by E. Sawyer see [31] (see also [13], Ch. 4) for Lebesgue spaces with constant parameter, we see that (1.4) implies the inequality

$$\left\| v \overline{M}_{\alpha} f \right\|_{L^{pc} \left( (2a, \infty) \right)} \le c \left\| f w \right\|_{L^{pc} \left( (2a, \infty) \right)}.$$

Since

$$\overline{M}_{\alpha}f(x) \ge \frac{1}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \int_{2a}^{x} |f(y)| dy \quad \text{for} \quad x > 2a,$$

we have that for the Hardy operator

$$(H_a f)(x) = \int_{2a}^{x} f(t)dt, \qquad x > 2a,$$

the two-weight inequality

$$\left\| v(x)(x-a)^{\alpha-1} H_a f \right\|_{L^{p_c}\left((2a,\infty)\right)} \le \left\| wf \right\|_{L^{p_c}\left((2a,\infty)\right)}$$
(1.5)

holds. Let us recall that (see e.g. [25], Section 1.3) necessary condition for (1.5) is that

$$\sup_{t>2a} \left( \int_{t}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{v(x)}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \right]^{p_c} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p_c}} \left( \int_{2a}^{t} w^{1-(p_c)'}(x) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{(p_c)'}} < \infty.$$

Hence,

$$\int_{2a}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{v(x)}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \right]^{p_c} dx = \int_{2a}^{3a} (\cdots) + \int_{3a}^{\infty} (\cdots)$$
$$\leq a^{\alpha-1} \int_{2a}^{3a} (v(y))^{p_c} + \int_{3a}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{v(x)}{(x-a)^{1-\alpha}} \right]^{p_c} dx < \infty.$$

It remains to estimate  $I := \|vM_{\alpha}^{(4)}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)}$ . But  $I < \infty$  because of the two-weight result by E. Sawyer [31] (see also [13], Ch.4) for the maximal operator defined on  $(a, \infty)$  in Lebesgue spaces with constant exponent. Sufficiency is proved.

Necessity follows easily by taking the test functions  $f(\cdot) = \chi_I(\cdot)w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot)$  in the two–weight inequality.

The next statement follows in the same way as the previous one; therefore we omit the proof.

**Theorem 1.3.** Let  $0 \le \alpha < 1$ ,  $1 < p_{-} \le p \le p_{+} < \infty$ , and let  $p \in LH(\mathbb{R})$ . Suppose that there is a positive number a such that  $w^{-p'(\cdot)}(\cdot) \in DC([-a, a])$  and  $p \equiv p_c \equiv const$  outside [-a, a]. Then the inequity

$$\|vM_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R})}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})} \le \|wf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})},$$

holds if and only if there is a positive constant b such that for all bounded intervals  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\|vM_{\alpha}^{(\mathbb{R})}(w^{-p'(\cdot)}\chi_{I})\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})} \le c\|w^{1-p'(\cdot)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(I)} < \infty.$$

## $\ \ \, {\rm Integral \ operators \ on \ } \mathbb{R}_+ \\$

In this section we derive two–weight criteria of other type for the operators

$$(\mathcal{H}f)(x) = (\text{p.v.}) \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{f(t)}{x-t} dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_{+},$$
$$(\mathcal{M}f)(x) = \sup_{I \ni x} \frac{1}{|I|} \int_{I} |f(t)| dt, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_{+},$$

provided that weights are monotonic, where the supremum is taken over all finite intervals  $I \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  containing x.

In this section we shall use the notation

$$g_{-} := g_{-}(\mathbb{R}_{+}); \quad g_{+} := g_{+}(\mathbb{R}_{+}),$$

for a measurable function  $g: \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$ .

First we present the following statement regarding the weighted Hardy transform

$$(H_{v,w}f)(x) = v(x)\int_{0}^{x} f(t)w(t)dt$$

and its dual

$$(H'_{v,w}f)(x) = v(x)\int_{x}^{\infty} f(t)w(t)dt$$

defined on  $\mathbb{R}_+$ .

**Theorem A.** Let  $1 < p_{-} \leq p(x) \leq q(x) \leq q_{-} < \infty$  and let  $p, q \in LH(\mathbb{R}_{+})$ . Suppose that  $p = p_{c} \equiv const$ ,  $q = q_{c} \equiv const$  outside some interval (0, a). Then

(i) the operator  $H_{v,w}$  is bounded from  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$  to  $L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$  if and only if

$$D := \sup_{t>0} D(t) := \sup_{t>0} \|v\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}((t,\infty))} \|w\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}((0,t))} < \infty;$$

(ii) the operator  $H'_{v,w}$  is bounded from  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$   $L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)$  if and only if

$$D' := \sup_{t>0} D'(t) := \sup_{t>0} \|v\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}((0,t))} \|w\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}((t,\infty))} < \infty.$$

*Proof.* We prove part (i). Part (ii) follows from the duality arguments. Let  $||f||_{L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \leq 1$ . We represent  $H_{v,w}f$  as follows:

$$H_{v,w}f(x) = \chi_{[0,a]}v(x)\int_{0}^{x} f(t)w(t)dt + \chi_{(a,\infty)}v(x)\int_{0}^{x} f(t)w(t)dt := H_{v,w}^{(1)}f(x) + H_{v,w}^{(2)}f(x).$$

Observe that the condition  $D < \infty$  implies that

$$D^{(a)} := \sup_{0 < t < a} \|v\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}((t,a))} \|w\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}((0,t))} < \infty.$$

Consequently (see [22]),

 $\|H_{v,w}^{(1)}f\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})} \le c\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}([0,a])} \le c.$ 

It remains to estimate  $\|H_{v,w}^{(2)}f\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)}$ . Let  $\|g\|_{L^{q'(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \leq 1$ . We have that

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} (H_{v,w}^{(2)}f)(x)g(x)dx = \int_{a}^{\infty} (H_{v,w}^{(2)}f)(x)g(x)dx$$
$$\leq \int_{a}^{\infty} v(x)\left(\int_{a}^{x} f(t)w(t)dt\right)g(x)dx + \left(\int_{a}^{\infty} v(x)g(x)dx\right)\left(\int_{0}^{a} f(t)w(t)dt\right) := S_{1} + S_{2}.$$

We can now apply the boundedness of the Hardy transform  $T_{v,w}^{(a)}f(x) = v(x)\int_{a}^{x} f(t)w(t)dt$ from  $L^{p_c}([a,\infty))$  to  $L^{q_c}([a,\infty))$  (see e.g. [25], Section 1.3) because

$$\sup_{t>a} \|v\|_{L^{q_c}((t,\infty))} \|w\|_{L^{(p_c)'}((a,t))} \le D < \infty.$$

Consequently, by this fact and Hölder's inequality we derive that

$$S_1 \le \|T_{v,w}^{(a)}f\|_{L^{q_c}([a,\infty))} \|g\|_{L^{q_c}([a,\infty))} \le c \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \le C.$$

Applying Hölder's inequality for  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  spaces we find that

$$S_2 \le \left(\int_{a}^{\infty} v(x)g(x)dx\right) \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}([0,a])} \|w\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}([0,a])} \le C.$$

*Necessity* follows by the standard way choosing the appropriate test functions.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem B ([12]).**  $1 < p_{-} \leq p_{+} < \infty$ . Suppose that  $p \in LH(\mathbb{R}_{+})$  and that  $p = p_{c} = const$  outside some interval. Then the inequality

$$\|vTf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \le c \|wf\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})},\tag{2.1}$$

where T is  $\mathcal{M}$  or  $\mathcal{H}$ , holds if

(i)  $H_{\overline{v},\widetilde{w}}$  is bounded in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $\overline{v}(x) := \frac{v(x)}{x}$ ,  $\widetilde{w}(x) := \frac{1}{w(x)}$ ; (ii)  $H'_{v,\widetilde{w}_1}$  is bounded in  $L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $\widetilde{w}_1(x) := \frac{1}{w(x)x}$ ;

- (ii)  $H_{v,\widetilde{w}_1}$  is bounded in  $L^{(v)}(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $w_1(x) := \frac{1}{w(x)x}$ (iii)
  - $v_+([x/4, 4x]) \le cw(x)$  a.e. or  $v(x) \le cw_-([x/4, 4x])$  a.e. (2.2)

Theorems A and B imply the following statement:

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $1 < p_{-} \leq p_{+} < \infty$  and let  $p \in LH(\mathbb{R}_{+})$ . Suppose that  $p = p_{c} \equiv const$  outside some interval [0, a]. Suppose also that v and w are weights on  $\mathbb{R}_{+}$ . Then the inequality (2.1), where T is  $\mathcal{M}$  or  $\mathcal{H}$ , holds if

$$E_{1} := \sup_{t>0} E_{1}(t) := \sup_{t>0} \|v(x)x^{-1}\|_{L^{p(x)}((t,\infty))} \|w^{-1}\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}((0,t))} < \infty;$$
(2.3)

(ii)

(i)

$$E_{2} := \sup_{t>0} E_{2}(t) := \sup_{t>0} \|v\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}((0,t))} \|w^{-1}(x)x^{-1}\|_{L^{p'(x)}((0,t))} < \infty;$$
(2.4)

(iii) condition (2.2) is satisfied.

Now we prove the next statement.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $1 < p_{-} \leq p_{+} < \infty$  and let  $p \in LH(\mathbb{R}_{+})$ . Suppose that  $p = p_{c} \equiv const$  outside some interval [0, a]. Suppose also that v and w are positive increasing functions on  $\mathbb{R}_{+}$ . Then inequality (2.1), where T is  $\mathcal{M}$  or  $\mathcal{H}$ , holds if and only if (2.3) is satisfied.

*Proof. Sufficiency.* Taking Theorem 2.1 into account it is enough to see that condition (2.3) implies conditions (2.4) and (2.2). For (2.2) we will show that there is a positive constant c such that for all t > 0 inequality

$$v(4t) \le cw(t), \quad t > 0.$$
 (2.5)

holds. Indeed, inequality (1.1) with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $d\mu(x) = dx$  and the exponent r = p' which belongs to LH([0, a]), for small t, yields that

$$E_{1}(t) \geq \|\chi_{[t,4t]}(\cdot)| \cdot |^{-1}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}_{v(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \|\chi_{[0,t/4]}(\cdot)w^{-1}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})}$$
$$\geq c\frac{v(t)}{t}t^{\frac{1}{p_{-}([t,4t])}}w^{-1}(t/4)t^{\frac{1}{(p')_{-}([0,t/4])}} \geq c\frac{v(t)}{w(t/4)}t^{-1}t^{\frac{1}{p_{-}([0,4t])}}t^{\frac{1}{(p')_{-}([0,t/4])}} = c\frac{v(t)}{w(t/4)}$$

Further, for large t, we have that

$$E_1(t) \ge \|v(x)x^{-1}\chi_{(t,2t)}(x)\|_{L^{p_c}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \|\chi_{[t/8,t/4]}(\cdot)w^{-1}(\cdot)\|_{L^{p'_c}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \ge c\frac{v(t)}{w(t/4)}t^{-1}t^{\frac{1}{p_c}}t^{\frac{1}{(p_c)'}} = c\frac{v(t)}{w(t/4)}t^{-1}t^{\frac{1}{p_c}}t^{\frac{1}{(p_c)'}} \le c\frac{v(t)}{w(t/4)}t^{\frac{1}{(p_c)'}} \le c\frac{v($$

Thus, condition (2.2) is satisfied.

Taking into account the fact that v and w are increasing and inequality (2.5) we can easily conclude that condition (2.4) is satisfied.

Necessity. First observe that inequality (2.1) implies that  $||w^{-1}||_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(0,t)} < \infty$  for all t > 0. Let  $T = \mathcal{M}$ . Then using the obvious inequality

$$\mathcal{M}f(x) \ge \frac{c}{x} \int_{0}^{x} f(t)dt, \quad x > 0,$$

and taking into account Theorem A we have necessity for  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let now  $T = \mathcal{H}$ . We take  $f \geq 0$  so that  $\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}_{w}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \leq 1$ . Then we have that

$$\|v\mathcal{H}f\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \le C. \tag{2.6}$$

Obviously, (2.6) yields that

$$C \ge \|v\mathcal{H}f\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)} \ge \|\chi_{(t,\infty)}(\cdot)v\mathcal{H}f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_+)}.$$

If f has support on (0, t), t > 0, then this inequality implies that

$$C \ge \left\|\chi_{(t,\infty)}(\cdot)v(\cdot)\bigg(\int_{0}^{t} \frac{f(y)}{\cdot - y} dy\bigg)\right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \ge c \left\|\chi_{(t,\infty)}(x)v(x)x^{-1}\right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}_{+})} \left(\int_{0}^{t} f(y) dy\right).$$

By taking now supremum with respect to f and using the inequality

$$||g||_{L^{p(\cdot)}} \le \sup_{||h||_{L^{p'(\cdot)}} \le 1} \left| \int gh \right|,$$

(see e.g. [28]) we have necessity.  $\Box$ .

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