

to know whether such an operator  $A$  has the property similar to the one stated in Theorem 3.3.

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## The dual of Besov spaces on fractals

by

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**Abstract.** For certain classes of fractal subsets  $F$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the Besov spaces  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  have been studied for  $\alpha > 0$  and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ . In this paper the Besov spaces  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  are introduced for  $\alpha < 0$ , and it is shown that the dual of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  is  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ ,  $\alpha \neq 0$ ,  $1 < p, q < \infty$ , where  $1/p + 1/p' = 1$ ,  $1/q + 1/q' = 1$ .

**1. Introduction and notation.** The Besov spaces  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  consisting of functions defined on a fractal subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  have been studied for  $\alpha > 0$  and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$  by the present authors, e.g. in [5]. In this paper we introduce Besov spaces  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  for negative indices  $\alpha$ , and show that the dual of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $1 \leq p, q < \infty$  or  $\alpha < 0$ ,  $1 < p, q < \infty$ , is  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ , where  $p'$  and  $q'$  are the dual indices of  $p$  and  $q$ . This is well known if  $F = \mathbb{R}^n$  (see e.g. [6, p. 178]). Duality theory involving the Lipschitz spaces  $B_{\alpha}^{\infty,\infty}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , where  $F$  is a fractal set (and in fact an arbitrary closed set if  $\alpha < 1$ ) was given in [3].

Our definition of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha < 0$ , is in terms of atomic decompositions and is inspired by the atomic decomposition of distributions in  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  given in [1]. If  $F = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\alpha < 0$ , our decomposition reduces to one given in [1], except that we use atoms normed in  $L^p$  rather than smooth atoms normed in  $L^\infty$ . Atomic decompositions of functions in  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $F$  a fractal set, were given in [4].

For the definition of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  we refer to Section 2 ( $\alpha > 0$ ) and Section 3 ( $\alpha < 0$ ). The duality results are given in Sections 4 and 5. In particular, Theorems 4.3 and 5.1 give precise statements describing the duality. Throughout the paper, the assumption on  $F$  is that  $F$  is a  $d$ -set preserving Markov's inequality. We now define these concepts, referring to [5, Chapter II] for the general theory.

Let  $F$  be a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $0 < d \leq n$ , and denote by  $B(x, r)$  the closed ball with center  $x$  and radius  $r$ . A positive Borel measure  $\mu$  with

support  $F$  is called a  $d$ -measure on  $F$  if, for some constants  $c_1, c_2 > 0$ ,

$$c_1 r^d \leq \mu(B(x, r)) \leq c_2 r^d, \quad x \in F, \quad 0 < r \leq 1.$$

The set  $F$  is a  $d$ -set if there exists a  $d$ -measure on  $F$ . Any two  $d$ -measures on  $F$  are equivalent [5, p. 30]. A closed set  $F \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  (not necessarily a  $d$ -set) preserves Markov's inequality if the following holds for all positive integers  $k$ : For all polynomials  $P$  in  $n$  variables of degree  $\leq k$  and all balls  $B(x, r)$ ,  $x \in F$ ,  $0 < r \leq 1$ , we have

$$\max_{F \cap B} |\text{grad } P| \leq c r^{-1} \max_{F \cap B} |P|$$

with a constant  $c$  depending on  $F, n$ , and  $k$  only. Any  $d$ -set with  $d > n - 1$  preserves Markov's inequality. Examples of  $d$ -sets preserving Markov's inequality are classes of self-similar fractals [7], the closure of Lipschitz domains and, more generally,  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -domains.

In Theorems 4.3 and 5.1 as well as in the propositions and lemmas we get constants depending only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ . However, the  $d$ -measure  $\mu$  can be chosen in a canonical way as the restriction to  $F$  of the  $d$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure [5, p. 32], and the dimension  $n$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  depends uniquely on  $F$  when  $F$  preserves Markov's inequality [7, Section 3]. Because of this we can make the constants depend only on  $F$  and  $\alpha$ .

As already mentioned, we assume throughout the paper that  $F$  is a  $d$ -set preserving Markov's inequality. Whenever we deal with the Besov spaces  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  with  $|\alpha| < 1$ , the results remain true, however, without the assumption that  $F$  preserves Markov's inequality.

NOTATION.

$F$	a closed subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ which is a $d$ -set preserving Markov's inequality, $0 < d \leq n$
$\mu$	a fixed $d$ -measure on $F$
$[\alpha]$	the integer part of $\alpha$
$f, g, \dots$	real-valued functions
$\ f\ _p$	the $L^p(\mu)$ -norm of $f$
$\ f\ _{p,E}$	the $L^p(\mu, E)$ -norm of $f$
$A, B, \dots$	real-valued sequences $A = (A_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty, B = (B_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty, \dots$
$\ A\ _q$	the $\ell^q$ -norm of $A$
supp $f$	the support of $f$
$Q$	halfopen cubes of the form $\{x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : a_i \leq x_i < a_i + r, i = 1, \dots, n\}$
$2Q$	the cube obtained by expanding $Q$ twice around its center
$B(x, r)$	the closed ball with center $x$ and radius $r$
$\mathcal{N}$	a net with mesh $r$ , i.e. a division of $\mathbb{R}^n$ into equally big cubes $Q$ with edges of length $r$ , obtained by intersecting

$\mathcal{N}_\nu$	$\mathbb{R}^n$ with hyperplanes orthogonal to the axes the net with mesh $2^{-\nu}$ such that the origin is a corner of some cube in the net
$\mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$	$\{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu : Q \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$
$\mathcal{P}_k$	the set of polynomials of total degree at most $k$
$\mathcal{P}_k(\mathcal{N})$	the set of functions which on each cube $Q$ in the net $\mathcal{N}$ coincide with a polynomial of degree at most $k$
$s(\mathcal{N})$	a non-smooth spline, element of $\mathcal{P}_k(\mathcal{N})$
$B'$	the topological dual of the Banach space $B$
$p', q'$	the dual indices of $p$ and $q$ , i.e. $1/p + 1/p' = 1, 1/q + 1/q' = 1$
$j = (j_1, \dots, j_n)$	a multi-index with length $ j  = j_1 + \dots + j_n$
$x^j$	$x_1^{j_1} \dots x_n^{j_n}, j$ a multi-index, $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$
$c$	a non-negative constant, not necessarily the same each time it appears.

**2. The space  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ .** There are different, equivalent definitions of the Besov space  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  for  $\alpha > 0$ . One of these is as follows (see [5, p. 135]).

DEFINITION 2.1.  $f \in B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0, 1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , if  $f \in L^p(\mu)$  and there is a sequence  $B = (B_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$  such that for every net  $\mathcal{N}$  with mesh  $2^{-\nu}$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , there exists a function  $s(\mathcal{N}) \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}(\mathcal{N})$  satisfying

$$(1) \quad \|f - s(\mathcal{N})\|_p \leq 2^{-\nu\alpha} B_\nu.$$

The  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ -norm of  $f$  is

$$\|f\|_p + \inf \|B\|_q,$$

where the infimum is over all such sequences  $B$ .

Next we shall give an alternative definition of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , where the functions in  $\mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}(\mathcal{N})$  are defined in a constructive way. Let  $\mathcal{N}_\nu, \nu = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , be the fixed net with mesh  $2^{-\nu}$  introduced in the notation in Section 1. For  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F) := \{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu : Q \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$ , let  $(\pi_j)_{|j| \leq [\alpha]}$  be an orthonormal basis in the subspace  $\mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$  of  $L^2(\mu, 2Q)$  and define the projection on  $\mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$  for every  $f \in L^1(\mu, 2Q)$ :

$$(2) \quad P_Q = P_Q(f) := \begin{cases} \sum_{|j| \leq [\alpha]} \pi_j \int_{2Q} f \pi_j d\mu & \text{for } \nu > 0, \\ 0 & \text{for } \nu = 0. \end{cases}$$

We shall need the following lemma. For its validity it is important that the integration in (2) is over a cube which is an expansion of  $Q$  by a factor larger than 1, for instance the factor 2 which we have chosen.

LEMMA 2.2 [2, p. 310]. For  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$  with  $\nu > 0$  we have

$$\|f - P_Q(f)\|_{p,2Q} \leq c\|f - P\|_{p,2Q}$$

for  $1 \leq p \leq \infty, P \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$ , and  $f \in L^1(\mu, 2Q)$ , where  $c$  depends only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ .

The alternative definition of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F), \alpha > 0$ , which we have in mind is given by the following proposition.

PROPOSITION 2.3. Let  $\alpha > 0$  and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , and let  $f$  be a  $\mu$ -measurable function defined on  $F$ . Introduce the sequence  $A = (A_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty$  by

$$(3) \quad \left( \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} = 2^{-\nu\alpha} A_\nu, \quad \nu = 0, 1, \dots,$$

where  $P_Q = P_Q(f)$  is given by (2). Then  $f \in B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  if and only if  $A \in \ell^q$  and the norm of  $f$  in  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  is equivalent to  $\|A\|_q$ . The constants in the inequalities giving the equivalence of the norms depend on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$  only.

Before we turn to the proof of the proposition we shall write (3) in a different form. The fact that in (2) and (3) we work with polynomials in  $2Q$ , and in (1) with polynomials in  $Q$ , causes some technical difficulties. One way to overcome this is as follows. The cubes  $2Q, Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu$ , belong to  $2^n$  different nets,  $\mathcal{N}_{\nu,1}, \dots, \mathcal{N}_{\nu,K}, K = 2^n$ , with mesh  $2^{-(\nu-1)}$ . Put

$$I_{\nu k} := \{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu : 2Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu k}\}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq K,$$

and define functions in  $2Q$  by

$$m_{\nu k}(x) := P_Q(x) \quad \text{if } x \in 2Q, Q \in I_{\nu k}, Q \cap F \neq \emptyset,$$

and, for  $Q \in I_{\nu k}$  with  $Q \cap F = \emptyset$ ,

$$m_{\nu k}(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in 2Q \cap F, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in 2Q \setminus F. \end{cases}$$

Then  $m_{\nu k}$  is defined in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and (3) may be written

$$(3') \quad \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \|f - m_{\nu k}\|_p^p \right)^{1/p} = 2^{-\nu\alpha} A_\nu.$$

Proof of Proposition 2.3. 1) Assume that  $f \in B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ . Take a sequence  $B = (B_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$  such that for every net  $\mathcal{N}$  with mesh  $2^{-\nu}, \nu \geq 0$ , there exists  $s(\mathcal{N}) \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}(\mathcal{N})$  satisfying (1) in Definition 2.1. By Lemma 2.2, if  $Q \in I_{\nu k}, Q \cap F \neq \emptyset, \nu \geq 1$ , and  $P_Q = P_Q(f)$  is given by (2) and  $s(\mathcal{N}_{\nu k}) \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}(\mathcal{N}_{\nu k})$  by (1), we obtain

$$\|f - P_Q\|_{p,2Q} \leq c\|f - s(\mathcal{N}_{\nu k})\|_{p,2Q}.$$

By summing over  $Q \in I_{\nu k}$  with  $Q \cap F \neq \emptyset$ , we obtain, for some constant  $c$ ,

$$\|f - m_{\nu k}\|_p \leq c2^{-\nu\alpha} B_{\nu-1},$$

and, consequently, by (3'),

$$2^{-\nu\alpha} A_\nu = \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \|f - m_{\nu k}\|_p^p \right)^{1/p} \leq K^{1/p} c 2^{-\nu\alpha} B_{\nu-1} \quad \text{for } \nu \geq 1.$$

For  $\nu = 0$  we get  $A_0 \leq c\|f\|_p$ . The last two inequalities prove that  $A = (A_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$  and that the  $\ell^q$ -norm of  $A$  is at most a constant times the norm of  $f$  in  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ .

2) Conversely, assume that  $A = (A_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$ , where  $A_\nu$  is defined by (3). By taking  $\nu = 0$  in (3) we see that  $f \in L^p(\mu)$ . Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be an arbitrary net with mesh  $2^{-\nu}$  and let  $Q \in \mathcal{N}$  with  $Q \cap F \neq \emptyset$ . For  $\nu > 0$ , take  $Q' \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu-1}$  such that  $Q' \cap Q \cap F \neq \emptyset$  and  $P_{Q'} = P_{Q'}(f)$  according to (2). Then  $Q \subset 2Q'$  and the function  $s(\mathcal{N}) \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}(\mathcal{N})$  defined by  $s(\mathcal{N})(x) = P_{Q'}(x)$  on  $Q$  will do in (1), and taking  $s(\mathcal{N})$  identically zero if  $\nu = 0$ , we see that the  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ -norm of  $f$  is at most a constant times the  $\ell^q$ -norm of  $A$ .

3. The space  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F), \alpha < 0$ . The definition of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  for  $\alpha < 0$  will be made by means of an atomic decomposition. We start by defining the atoms.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $\alpha < 0, 1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , and let  $Q$  with  $Q \cap F \neq \emptyset$  be a cube with edge length  $2^{-\nu}$ , where  $\nu$  is a non-negative integer. A function  $a = a_Q \in L^p(\mu)$  is an  $(\alpha, p)$ -atom associated with  $Q$  if

- (i)  $\text{supp } a \subset 2Q$ ,
- (ii)  $\int x^\gamma a(x) d\mu(x) = 0$  for  $|\gamma| \leq [-\alpha]$  if  $\nu > 0$ ,
- (iii)  $\|a\|_p \leq 2^{-\nu\alpha}$ .

We shall work with the fixed dyadic net  $\mathcal{N}_\nu, \nu = 0, 1, \dots$ , and cubes  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ . The following lemma is basic; notice that  $\alpha > 0$  in this lemma and that  $p'$  and  $q'$  are the conjugate indices to  $p$  and  $q$ , respectively.

LEMMA 3.2. Assume that  $\alpha > 0, 1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , and let  $f \in B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$ . For every  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ , let  $s_Q$  be a number and  $a_Q$  a  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atom. If  $S' = (S'_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^{q'}$  where

$$(4) \quad S'_\nu := \left( \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} |s_Q|^{p'} \right)^{1/p'},$$

and  $A = (A_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty$  where  $A_\nu$  is defined by (3), then

$$(5) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^\infty \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \left| s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu \right| \leq \|S'\|_{q'} \|A\|_q < \infty.$$

Proof. By using the moment condition in Definition 3.1(ii), we get, for  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ ,  $\nu \geq 0$ ,

$$\int a_Q f d\mu = \int_{2Q} a_Q (f - P_Q) d\mu,$$

where  $P_Q$  is the polynomial in (2) which has degree at most  $[\alpha] = [-(\alpha)]$ ; notice that  $P_Q = 0$  if  $\nu = 0$ . By combining this with Hölder's inequality and Definition 3.1(iii) we obtain

$$\left| \int a_Q f d\mu \right|^p \leq \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \cdot 2^{\nu\alpha p}.$$

Putting

$$M_\nu := \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \left| s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu \right|,$$

by Hölder's inequality, the previous estimate, and (3) we get

$$M_\nu \leq S'_\nu 2^{\nu\alpha} \left( \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} = S'_\nu A_\nu.$$

By Hölder's inequality we finally get

$$\sum_{\nu=0}^\infty M_\nu \leq \|S'\|_{q'} \|A\|_q,$$

which is (5). ■

By means of Lemma 3.2 (with  $\alpha, p, q$  changed to  $-\alpha, p', q'$ ) we shall now define  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  for  $\alpha < 0$  as a subspace of Schwartz's distributions  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . So we now take  $\alpha < 0$ . For  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ , let  $a_Q$  be an  $(\alpha, p)$ -atom associated with  $Q$  and let  $s_Q$  be numbers such that  $S = (S_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$  where  $S_\nu$  is given by

$$(6) \quad S_\nu := \left( \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} |s_Q|^p \right)^{1/p}.$$

Then the function

$$g_\nu := \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q a_Q$$

is locally in  $L^1(\mu)$  since the sum defining  $g_\nu$  is a finite sum on any compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We identify  $g_\nu$  with the distribution

$$\langle g_\nu, \varphi \rangle := \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q \int a_Q \varphi d\mu, \quad \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Then  $f_m := \sum_{\nu=0}^m g_\nu$  is the distribution given by

$$\langle f_m, \varphi \rangle := \sum_{\nu=0}^m \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q \int a_Q \varphi d\mu, \quad \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

We claim that by Lemma 3.2,  $f_m$  converges to  $f$  in the distribution sense, i.e. that

$$\langle f_m, \varphi \rangle \rightarrow \langle f, \varphi \rangle \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{for } \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

where the distribution  $f$  is given by

$$(7) \quad \langle f, \varphi \rangle := \sum_{\nu=0}^\infty \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q \int a_Q \varphi d\mu, \quad \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

In fact, since  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the trace theorem for Besov spaces [5, p. 141] gives  $\varphi|_F \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ , where  $\varphi|_F$  denotes the restriction of  $\varphi$  to  $F$ . Hence our claim follows from Lemma 3.2.

When (7) holds we write

$$(8) \quad f = \sum_{\nu=0}^\infty \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q a_Q,$$

and we refer to (8) as an *atomic decomposition* of  $f$ . Observe that the atomic decomposition (8) is not necessarily unique, i.e. different  $(\alpha, p)$ -atoms  $a_Q$  and numbers  $s_Q, S = (S_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q, S_\nu$  given by (6), may give the same distribution  $f$  in (7).

DEFINITION 3.3. We define  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F), \alpha < 0, 1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , to consist of those  $f \in \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$  which are given by (7) where we assume that  $a_Q$  are  $(\alpha, p)$ -atoms and  $s_Q$  are numbers such that  $S = (S_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty \in \ell^q$  and  $S_\nu$  is defined by (6). We define the norm of  $f$  by

$$\|f\|_{B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)} := \inf \|S\|_q,$$

where the infimum is taken over all possible atomic decompositions (8) of  $f$ .

With this definition  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F)$  is a normed linear space.

4. The dual of  $B_\alpha^{p,q}(F), \alpha > 0$ . The object of this section is to prove that

$$(9) \quad (B_\alpha^{p,q}(F))' = B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F) \quad \text{for } \alpha > 0, 1 \leq p, q < \infty.$$

One half of (9) essentially follows from the work already done in Section 3. In fact, if  $f \in B_\alpha^{p,q}(F), \alpha > 0, 1 \leq p, q < \infty, g \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ , and  $g$  is given

by the atomic decomposition

$$g = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q a_Q,$$

then the duality is given by

$$(10) \quad \langle g, f \rangle := \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu.$$

We need to prove that the value of the double sum in (10) is independent of the particular atomic decomposition used for  $g$ . This follows from

LEMMA 4.1. *Let  $f \in B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  and  $g \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ ,  $\alpha > 0, 1 \leq p, q < \infty$ , be given. Then the double sum in (10) has the same value for all atomic decompositions of  $g$ .*

Proof. By the trace theorem [5, p. 141],  $f = f_0|_F$  where  $f_0 \in B_{\beta}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\beta = \alpha + (n-d)/p$ . For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that

$$\|f_0 - \varphi\|_{B_{\beta}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)} < \varepsilon,$$

since  $C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is dense in  $B_{\beta}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  if  $p, q < \infty$ . By using again the trace theorem we get, for some constant  $c$ ,

$$(11) \quad \|f - \varphi\|_{B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)} < c\varepsilon.$$

Let

$$g = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q a_Q$$

be an atomic decomposition of  $g$ , i.e.  $a_Q$  are  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atoms and  $s_Q$  are numbers such that  $S' = (S'_{\nu})_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \in \ell^{q'}$ , where  $S'_{\nu}$  is given by (4). From Lemma 3.2, Proposition 2.3 and (11) we conclude

$$\sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} \left| s_Q \int a_Q (f - \varphi) d\mu \right| \leq c\varepsilon \|S'\|_{q'}.$$

This means that the value of the double sum in (10) is independent of the atomic decomposition of  $g$ . ■

From (10), Lemma 3.2, Proposition 2.3, and Lemma 4.1 we get

$$(12) \quad |\langle g, f \rangle| \leq c \|g\|_{B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)} \|f\|_{B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)},$$

where  $c$  depends only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ . This means that every  $g \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$  determines a bounded linear functional  $L$  on  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  by means of (10),

$L(f) = \langle g, f \rangle$ , and that

$$\|L\| \leq c \|g\|_{B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)}.$$

We also note that different functions  $g$  in  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$  give different bounded linear functionals  $L$  on  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$ , since the restriction to  $F$  of a function in  $C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is in  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$ .

In the proof of the second half of (9) we shall use the spaces  $\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L}_p)$  of sequences  $v = (v_{\nu})_{\nu=0}^{\infty}$  of vectors  $v_{\nu} = (v_{\nu 1}, \dots, v_{\nu K}), K = 2^n$ , of  $L^p(\mu)$  functions on  $F$  with norm  $\|v\|_{q,p}$  equal to the  $\ell^q$ -norm of the sequence

$$\|v_{\nu}\|_{\overrightarrow{L}_p} := \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \int |v_{\nu k}|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p}, \quad \nu = 0, 1, \dots$$

We shall need the following lemma and since we have not found any reference for it, it is proved in the Appendix.

LEMMA 4.2.  *$(\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L}_p))' = \ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L}_{p'})$  for  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $1 \leq q < \infty$ , and if  $v \in \ell^q(\overrightarrow{L}_p), v = (v_{\nu})_{\nu=0}^{\infty}, v_{\nu} = (v_{\nu 1}, \dots, v_{\nu K}),$  and  $g \in \ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L}_{p'}), g = (g_{\nu})_{\nu=0}^{\infty}, g_{\nu} = (g_{\nu 1}, \dots, g_{\nu K}),$  then the duality is given by*

$$(13) \quad L_1(v) := \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^K \int v_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} d\mu,$$

with  $\|L_1\| = \|g\|_{q',p'}$ . Here  $\|L_1\|$  denotes the norm of the element in  $(\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L}_p))'$  determined by (13).

We are now ready to prove the second half of (9) but first we state the duality result (9) in more detail.

THEOREM 4.3. *Assume that  $\alpha > 0$  and  $1 \leq p, q < \infty$ .*

(i) *If*

$$(14) \quad g = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q a_Q \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$$

and  $L$  is defined by

$$(15) \quad L(f) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu,$$

then  $L \in (B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F))'$  and

$$(16) \quad \|L\| \leq c \|g\|_{B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)},$$

where  $c$  is a constant depending only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ .



(ii) If  $L \in (B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F))'$ , then there exists a unique  $g$  as in (14) such that (15) and (16) hold and

$$(17) \quad \|g\|_{B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)} \leq c\|L\|,$$

where  $c$  is a constant depending only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ .

*Proof.* We have already proved (i); observe that the value of  $L(f)$  given by (15) depends on  $g$  but not on the particular atomic decomposition of  $g$ .

To prove (ii) we first return to the functions  $m_{\nu k}, 1 \leq k \leq K, K = 2^n$ , introduced before (3'). We define an operator  $T$  on  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  by  $Tf = (T_{\nu}f)_{\nu=0}^{\infty}$ , where  $T_{\nu}f = (T_{\nu 1}f, \dots, T_{\nu K}f)$  and

$$T_{\nu k}f := 2^{\nu\alpha}(f - m_{\nu k}), \quad \nu = 0, 1, \dots, 1 \leq k \leq K.$$

Since (3') is another way to write (3) we can use Proposition 2.3 to conclude that  $f \rightarrow Tf$  is an embedding of  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  in  $\ell^q(\vec{L}_p)$  such that the  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$ -norm of  $f$  is equivalent to the  $\ell^q(\vec{L}_p)$ -norm of  $Tf$ ; in particular,  $Tf = 0$  implies  $f = 0$ .

Now, for a given  $L \in (B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F))'$  we use the operator  $T$  to define a functional  $L_1$  on  $V := T(B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F))$  by

$$L_1(v) := L(f) \quad \text{if } v = Tf, v \in V.$$

Then  $L_1$  is a bounded linear functional on  $V \subset \ell^q(\vec{L}_p)$  with  $\|L_1\| \leq c\|L\|$  and by Hahn-Banach's theorem we can extend  $L_1$  to a bounded linear functional on  $\ell^q(\vec{L}_p)$  without increasing its norm. By Lemma 4.2 this functional is given by  $g \in \ell^{q'}(\vec{L}_{p'})$ ,  $g = (g_{\nu})_{\nu=0}^{\infty}$ ,  $g_{\nu} = (g_{\nu 1}, \dots, g_{\nu K})$  and (13). Hence, for  $f \in B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  we get

$$L(f) = L_1(Tf) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^K \int 2^{\nu\alpha}(f - m_{\nu k})g_{\nu k} d\mu.$$

By using the polynomials  $P_Q = P_Q(f)$  defined by (2) instead of  $m_{\nu k}$ , we find

$$L(f) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} \int_{2Q} 2^{\nu\alpha}(f - P_Q(f))g_{\nu k} d\mu.$$

(In this formula the index  $k$  in  $g_{\nu k}$  depends on  $Q$  and is determined by the condition  $2Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu k}$ .) But by (2) and Fubini's theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{2Q} P_Q(f)g_{\nu k} d\mu &= \int_{2Q} \left( \sum_{|j| \leq [\alpha]} \pi_j(x) \int_{2Q} f\pi_j d\mu(y) \right) g_{\nu k}(x) d\mu(x) \\ &= \int_{2Q} fP_Q(g_{\nu k}) d\mu, \end{aligned}$$

and consequently,

$$L(f) = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} \int_{2Q} f(g_{\nu k} - P_Q(g_{\nu k}))2^{\nu\alpha} d\mu(x).$$

We now introduce  $s_Q$  and  $a_Q$  for  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)$ :

$$s_Q := \|g_{\nu k} - P_Q(g_{\nu k})\|_{p', 2Q}$$

and, for  $x \in (2Q) \cap F$ ,

$$a_Q(x) := \begin{cases} 2^{\nu\alpha}(g_{\nu k} - P_Q(g_{\nu k}))/s_Q & \text{if } s_Q \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } s_Q = 0; \end{cases}$$

for  $x \notin (2Q) \cap F$  we put  $a_Q(x) = 0$ .

Since  $P_Q(g_{\nu k})$  is the projection of  $g_{\nu k}$  on  $\mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$ , it is easy to check that  $a_Q$  are  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atoms. We also have the desired representation (15) for  $L(f)$ . Furthermore, by Lemma 2.2 used with  $P = 0$ ,

$$s_Q \leq c\|g_{\nu k}\|_{p', 2Q},$$

which gives, with different constants  $c$  depending only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ , and  $I_{\nu k}(F) := \{Q \in I_{\nu k} : Q \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$ , with  $I_{\nu k}$  defined a few lines before (3'),

$$\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} |s_Q|^{p'} \leq c \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{Q \in I_{\nu k}(F)} \int_{2Q} |g_{\nu k}|^{p'} d\mu \leq c \sum_{k=1}^K \int |g_{\nu k}|^{p'} d\mu = c\|g_{\nu}\|_{L_{p'}}^{p'}$$

and, by the construction of  $L_1$  and Lemma 4.2,

$$\left\{ \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} |s_Q|^{p'} \right)^{q'/p'} \right\}^{1/q'} \leq c\|g\|_{\ell^{q'}(\vec{L}_{p'})} \leq c\|L\|.$$

It follows that (14)-(17) hold.

**5. The dual of  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F), \alpha > 0$ .** In the following theorem we prove that the dual of  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$  is  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  for  $\alpha > 0, 1 < p, q < \infty$ , proving the reflexivity of  $B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  for these indices. The first part of the theorem follows from the discussion at the beginning of Section 4.

**THEOREM 5.1.** Assume that  $\alpha > 0$  and  $1 < p, q < \infty$ .

(i) If  $f \in B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  and  $L$  is defined by

$$(18) \quad L(g) := \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu$$

$$\text{for } g = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)} s_Q a_Q \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F),$$

then

$$L \in (B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F))' \quad \text{and} \quad \|L\| \leq c \|f\|_{B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)},$$

where  $c$  is a constant depending only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ .

(ii) If  $L \in (B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F))'$ , then there is a unique  $f \in B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)$  such that (18) holds and

$$(19) \quad \|f\|_{B_{\alpha}^{p,q}(F)} \leq c \|L\|,$$

where the constant  $c$  depends only on  $n, F, \mu$ , and  $\alpha$ .

**Proof.** As remarked above, (i) is already proved. To prove (ii) we start from a bounded linear functional  $L$  on  $B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$  and proceed in several steps.

**Step 1.** To find  $f$  we first consider atoms associated with cubes in  $\mathcal{N}_0(F)$ , i.e. cubes with edge length 1. For  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_0(F)$ , take any function  $h_Q \in L^{p'}(\mu)$ ,  $h_Q \neq 0$ , such that  $\text{supp } h_Q \subset 2Q$ . Then  $h_Q/\|h_Q\|_{p'}$  is a  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atom associated with  $Q$ , which gives

$$|L(h_Q/\|h_Q\|_{p'})| \leq \|L\|, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad |L(h_Q)| \leq \|L\| \|h_Q\|_{p'}.$$

By Riesz's representation theorem there exists a function  $f_Q \in L^p(\mu)$  with  $\text{supp } f_Q \subset 2Q$  such that  $L(h_Q) = \int_{2Q} h_Q f_Q d\mu$  for  $h_Q \in L^{p'}(\mu, 2Q)$ . On overlapping cubes  $2Q$  and  $2Q'$  with  $Q, Q' \in \mathcal{N}_0(F)$  we get  $f_Q = f_{Q'}$   $\mu$ -a.e., which determines a unique  $f$  which is locally in  $L^p(\mu)$  and such that  $f = f_Q$  on  $2Q$ , and

$$L(h) = \int h f d\mu \quad \text{for } h \in L^{p'}(\mu), \text{ with compact support.}$$

**Step 2.** Now that we have found  $f$ , we want to prove (19). This is done by defining, step by step, a special  $g = \sum \sum s_Q a_Q \in B_{-\alpha}^{p',q'}(F)$ . First we want to estimate  $f - P_Q$  where  $P_Q = P_Q(f)$  is defined by (2). We start with the case  $\nu > 0$ . We fix  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)$  and introduce

$$\delta := \inf_{P \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}} \|f - P\|_{p,2Q},$$

and assume that  $\delta > 0$ . By Hahn-Banach's theorem there exists a  $\Psi \in (L^p(\mu, 2Q))'$  such that  $\Psi(f) = 1$ ,  $\Psi(P) = 0$  for  $P \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$  and  $\|\Psi\| = 1/\delta$ . Hence, there exists a  $\psi \in L^{p'}(\mu, 2Q)$  with  $\text{supp } \psi \subset 2Q$  satisfying  $\|\psi\|_{p'} = 1/\delta$  and

$$\Psi(\varphi) = \int \psi \varphi d\mu \quad \text{for } \varphi \in L^p(\mu, 2Q).$$

Now we put

$$a_Q := 2^{\nu\alpha} \psi / \|\psi\|_{p'} = 2^{\nu\alpha} \delta \psi.$$

Since  $\Psi(P) = 0$  for  $P \in \mathcal{P}_{[\alpha]}$  we see that  $a_Q$  is a  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atom associated with  $Q$ . Furthermore,

$$1 = \Psi(f) = \int \psi f d\mu = \frac{2^{-\nu\alpha}}{\delta} \int a_Q f d\mu,$$

i.e.

$$\delta 2^{\nu\alpha} = \int a_Q f d\mu.$$

By Lemma 2.2 this gives

$$\left( \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} 2^{\nu\alpha} \leq c \delta 2^{\nu\alpha} = c \int_{2Q} a_Q f d\mu,$$

and we have proved the desired estimate for  $\nu > 0, \delta > 0$ :

$$(20) \quad \left( \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} 2^{\nu\alpha} \leq c \int_{2Q} a_Q f d\mu.$$

If  $\delta = 0$  we let  $a_Q = 0$  and note that (20) still holds, using Lemma 2.2 to deduce that  $f = P_Q$  on  $2Q$ .

For  $\nu = 0$  we choose  $a_Q$  such that  $\text{supp } a_Q \subset 2Q, a_Q f \geq 0$   $\mu$ -a.e. on  $2Q$ , and  $|a_Q|^{p'} = c|f|^p$ , where  $c$  is chosen such that  $\|a_Q\|_{p'} = 1$ . Then  $a_Q$  is a  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atom associated with  $Q$  and

$$\int a_Q f d\mu = \|f\|_{p,2Q},$$

which gives (20) for  $\nu = 0$ , since  $P_Q = 0$  for  $\nu = 0$ .

**Step 3.** Let  $L, f$ , and  $a_Q$  for  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F)$  be as above and consider a fixed  $\nu$ . Let  $c_{\nu}$  be positive constants—which we shall choose in Step 4—and choose non-negative numbers  $s_Q$  such that

$$|s_Q|^{p'} := c_{\nu} \left| \int a_Q f d\mu \right|^p \quad \text{for } Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F).$$

For  $R > 0$  put

$$I(R) := \{Q \in \mathcal{N}_{\nu}(F) : Q \subset B(0, R)\}.$$

Then, by Step 1, Hölder's inequality with equality, and (20),

$$\begin{aligned} \left| L \left( \sum_{Q \in I(R)} s_Q a_Q \right) \right| &= \sum_{Q \in I(R)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu \\ &= \left( \sum_{Q \in I(R)} |s_Q|^{p'} \right)^{1/p'} \left( \sum_{Q \in I(R)} \left( \int_{2Q} a_Q f d\mu \right)^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &\geq \left( \sum_{Q \in I(R)} |s_Q|^{p'} \right)^{1/p'} \frac{1}{c} \left( \sum_{Q \in I(R)} \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \right)^{1/p} 2^{\nu\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$\left| L\left(\sum_{Q \in I(R)} s_Q a_Q\right) \right| \leq \|L\| \left(\sum_{Q \in I(R)} |s_Q|^{p'}\right)^{1/p'}$$

By combining the last two estimates and letting  $R$  tend to infinity we obtain

$$(21) \quad A_\nu := \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu\right)^{1/p} 2^{\nu\alpha} \leq c\|L\|$$

if  $s_Q \neq 0$  for some  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ . If  $s_Q = 0$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$ , then  $f = P_Q$  on  $2Q$  by (20) and (21) is trivially true.

Step 4. Let  $L, f, a_Q$  and  $s_Q$  for  $Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)$  be as in Step 3; note that we are still free to choose the constants  $c_\nu$  in the definition of  $s_Q$  in Step 3. We put

$$S'_\nu := \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} |s_Q|^{p'}\right)^{1/p'}$$

and observe that by the definition of  $s_Q$ , the fact that  $a_Q$  are  $(-\alpha, p')$ -atoms, and (21) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (S'_\nu)^{p'} &= c_\nu \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \left| \int a_Q f d\mu \right|^p = c_\nu \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \left| \int a_Q (f - P_Q) d\mu \right|^p \\ &\leq c_\nu \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} \|a_Q\|_{p'}^p \int_{2Q} |f - P_Q|^p d\mu \leq c_\nu (c\|L\|)^p < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This gives, using the calculations in Step 3 and  $A_\nu$  in (21),

$$L\left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q a_Q\right) = \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu \geq \frac{1}{c} S'_\nu A_\nu.$$

Consequently, for any positive integer  $M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \infty &> \|L\| \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^M |S'_\nu|^{q'}\right)^{1/q'} \geq \left| L\left(\sum_{\nu=0}^M \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q a_Q\right) \right| \\ &= \sum_{\nu=0}^M \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{N}_\nu(F)} s_Q \int a_Q f d\mu \geq \frac{1}{c} \sum_{\nu=0}^M S'_\nu A_\nu. \end{aligned}$$

In order to estimate the above sum we now choose  $c_\nu$  so that, for some constant  $c$ ,  $A_\nu^q = c(S'_\nu)^{q'}$ . This gives equality in Hölder's inequality and we get

$$\frac{1}{c} \sum_{\nu=0}^M S'_\nu A_\nu = \frac{1}{c} \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^M |S'_\nu|^{q'}\right)^{1/q'} \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^M A_\nu^q\right)^{1/q}$$

By combining this with the previous chain of inequalities we obtain

$$\left(\sum_{\nu=0}^M A_\nu^q\right)^{1/q} \leq c\|L\|,$$

and by letting  $M$  tend to infinity we see that (19) holds if  $S'_\nu \neq 0$  for some  $\nu$ . If  $S'_\nu = 0$  for all  $\nu$ , then  $f = 0$  so (19) holds in this case also.

By Step 1, linearity, continuity and Lemma 3.2, we finally conclude that (18) holds.

### Appendix

Proof Lemma 4.2. If  $L_1$  is given by (13), then applying Hölder's inequality twice one obtains

$$|L_1(v)| \leq \|v\|_{\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})} \|g\|_{\ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L_{p'}})},$$

so  $L_1$  defines an element in  $(\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p}))'$  with  $\|L_1\| \leq \|g\|_{\ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L_{p'}})}$ .

Let now a non-trivial, bounded linear functional  $L_1$  on  $\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})$  be given.

By restricting  $L_1$  to the subspace  $S_{\nu k}$  of  $\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})$  consisting of elements of the form  $v = (0, 0, \dots, 0, v_\nu, 0, \dots)$ ,  $v_\nu = (0, 0, \dots, 0, v_{\nu k}, 0, \dots, 0)$ ,  $L_1$  can be considered as a functional on  $L^p(\mu)$ , and thus there exists a unique  $g_{\nu k} \in L^{p'}(\mu)$  such that  $L_1(v) = \int v_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} d\mu$  for  $v \in S_{\nu k}$ . Let  $g = (g_\nu)_{\nu=0}^\infty$ ,  $g_\nu = (g_{\nu 1}, \dots, g_{\nu K})$ . We shall prove that  $g \in \ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L_{p'}})$  with norm at most  $\|L_1\|$ . Then, since (13) holds for all  $v$  of the form  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_N, 0, 0, \dots)$ , the desired representation (13) follows by continuity.

If  $s_{\nu k} \in L^p(\mu)$ , and  $s^N = (s_0, s_1, \dots, s_N, 0, 0, \dots)$ ,  $s_\nu = (s_{\nu 1}, \dots, s_{\nu K})$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |L_1(s^N)| &= \left| \sum_{\nu=0}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \int s_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} d\mu \right| \stackrel{1)}{\leq} \sum_{\nu=0}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \|s_{\nu k}\|_p \|g_{\nu k}\|_{p'} \\ &\stackrel{2)}{\leq} \sum_{\nu=0}^N A_\nu B_\nu \stackrel{3)}{\leq} \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^N A_\nu^q\right)^{1/q} \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^N B_\nu^{q'}\right)^{1/q'} \end{aligned}$$

where  $A_\nu = (\sum_{k=1}^K \|s_{\nu k}\|_p^p)^{1/p}$  and  $B_\nu = (\sum_{k=1}^K \|g_{\nu k}\|_{p'}^{p'})^{1/p'}$ . For  $p > 1$  we shall choose the functions  $s_{\nu k}$  in such a way that we have equality in 1), 2), and 3). Since  $(\sum_{\nu=0}^N A_\nu^q)^{1/q} = \|s^N\|_{\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})}$ , this gives

$$\|s^N\|_{\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})} \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^N B_\nu^{q'}\right)^{1/q'} = |L_1(s^N)| \leq \|L_1\| \|s^N\|_{\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})}$$

from which we deduce that  $\|g\|_{\ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L_{p'}})} = (\sum_{\nu=0}^\infty B_\nu^{q'})^{1/q'} \leq \|L_1\|$  (at least for  $N$  large enough,  $s^N$  will be non-zero in  $\ell^q(\overrightarrow{L_p})$ ).



Assume first that  $p > 1$  and  $q > 1$ . Choose  $s_{\nu k} \in L^p(\mu)$  in such a way that  $s_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} \geq 0$  and  $|s_{\nu k}|^p = c_{\nu k} |g_{\nu k}|^{p'}$  where  $c_{\nu k}$  is a positive constant. This gives equality in 1), and choosing  $c_{\nu k}$  not depending on  $k$ ,  $c_{\nu k} = c_\nu$ , we have  $\|s_{\nu k}\|_p^p = c_\nu \|g_{\nu k}\|_{p'}^p$ , which gives equality also in 2). By choosing  $c_\nu$  in such a way that  $A_\nu^q = B_\nu^{q'}$  we get equality in 3). This concludes the proof if  $p > 1$  and  $q > 1$ .

If  $q = 1$ , to get equality in 3) (with the usual interpretation) we choose  $c_\nu = 0$  if  $\nu \neq \nu_0$  and  $c_{\nu_0} > 0$  arbitrary, where  $\nu_0$  is such that  $B_{\nu_0} = \max_{0 \leq \nu \leq N} B_\nu$ . If  $p = 1$ , then define, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $E_{\nu k} = \{x : |g_{\nu k}(x)| \geq (1 - \varepsilon) \|g_{\nu k}\|_\infty\}$  and take  $s_{\nu k}$  such that  $s_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} \geq 0$  and  $|s_{\nu k}| = c_{\nu k} \chi_{E_{\nu k}} |g_{\nu k}|$ , where  $\chi_{E_{\nu k}}$  is the characteristic function of  $E_{\nu k}$ . Then  $\int s_{\nu k} g_{\nu k} d\mu \geq (1 - \varepsilon) \|g_{\nu k}\|_\infty \|s_{\nu k}\|_1$ , and taking  $c_{\nu k} = 0$  except for  $k = k_0$ , where  $k_0$  satisfies  $\|g_{\nu k_0}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq k \leq K} \|g_{\nu k}\|_\infty$ , and  $c_{\nu k_0} = c_\nu > 0$  we get equality in 2). This leads as above to

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|g\|_{\ell^{q'}(\overrightarrow{L_{p'}})} \leq \|L_1\|,$$

so we get the desired estimate.

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