

References

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On a generalized Carleson inequality

by

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Abstract. In this note we prove a generalized Carleson inequality

$$\left| \iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} A_p(F)(x) v_{p'}(x) dx,$$

where $1/p + 1/p' = 1$, $1 \leq p \leq \infty$,

$$A_p(F)(x) = \left(\iint_{I(x)} |F(y, t)|^p \frac{dy dt}{t} \right)^{1/p}, \quad v_{p'}(x) = \sup_{x \in I} \left(\frac{1}{|I|} \iint_I |v(y, t)|^{p'} dy dt \right)^{1/p'}.$$

Moreover, $v_{p'}$ belongs to the Muckenhoupt class A_1 for $p' > 1$.

1. Introduction. The inequality

$$(1) \quad \left| \iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} F^*(x) dx \quad (*)$$

is known as the Carleson inequality ([4], [5], p. 236), where $F^*(x)$ is the non-tangential maximal function of $F(x, t)$, i.e.,

$$F^*(x) = \sup_{|y-x| < t} |F(y, t)|,$$

and $v(x, t) dx dt$ is a Carleson measure on \mathbf{R}_+^2 , i.e., $v(x, t) \geq 0$ and

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_{I \times [0, |I|]} v(x, t) dx dt \leq C$$

for any interval I on \mathbf{R} . The purpose of this note is to give a more general form of inequality (1). To prove this we need to prove that a new kind of a maximal function gives rise to weights in A_1 . This is of independent interest. Our inequality incorporates various inequalities proved by C. Fefferman and E. M. Stein and easily extends to \mathbf{R}^n or, more generally, to the spaces of homogeneous type.

(*) As usual, throughout this note C will denote a constant not necessarily the same at each occurrence.

Let $O = UI_j$ be an open set on \mathbf{R} , where I_j are disjoint intervals. Let $\tilde{O} = U\tilde{I}_j$ be the open set on \mathbf{R}_+^2 , defined by

$$\tilde{I}_j = \{(x, t) \in \mathbf{R}_+^2 : t > 0, x \in I_j \text{ s.t. } (x-t, x+t) \subset I_j\}.$$

For any measurable function $v(x, t)$ defined on \mathbf{R}_+^2 and satisfying $v(x, t) \geq 0$ with $v \in \mathcal{L}_{loc}^p(\mathbf{R}_+^2)$, we introduce

$$(2) \quad v_{*p}(x) = \sup_{x \in I} \left(\frac{1}{|I|} \iint_I |v(y, t)|^p dy dt \right)^{1/p}.$$

Let $F(x, t)$ be given on \mathbf{R}_+^2 ; we define a p -area function as follows:

$$(3) \quad A_p(F)(x) = \left(\iint_{\Gamma(x)} |F(y, t)|^p dy dt/t \right)^{1/p},$$

where $\Gamma(x)$ is a cone with vertex at x :

$$\Gamma(x) = \{(y, t) \in \mathbf{R}_+^2 : |y-x| < t\},$$

and

$$A_\infty(F)(x) = F^*(x) = \sup_{\Gamma(x)} |F(y, t)|.$$

We have

THEOREM 1. If $1/p + 1/p' = 1$, $1 \leq p \leq \infty$, then

$$(4) \quad \left| \iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} A_p(F)(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx,$$

where $A_p(F)(x)$ and $v_{*p'}(x)$ are defined by (2), (3), respectively.

In particular, if $v_{*p'}(x) \leq C$, then

$$\left| \iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} A_p(F)(x) dx.$$

In the case $p' = 1$, the condition $v_{*p'}(x) \leq C$ means that $v(x, t) dx dt$ is a Carleson measure, and the area function becomes the non-tangential maximal function $A_x(F)(x) = F^*(x)$, this reduces to the Carleson inequality.

To prove Theorem 1, we need

THEOREM 2. For $p > 1$, $v_{*p}(x)$ is always in the class A_1 [1], i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I v_{*p}(x) dx \leq C \inf_{x \in I} v_{*p}(x).$$

For examples of applications of these results, let $\psi(x)$ be a C^1 function defined on \mathbf{R} satisfying

$$|\psi(x)| \leq \frac{C}{1+x^2}, \quad \int_{\mathbf{R}} \psi(x) dx = 0.$$

We introduce an area function of f

$$\bar{A}(f)(x) = \left(\iint_{\Gamma(x)} |\psi_t * f(y)|^2 dy dt/t^2 \right)^{1/2},$$

where $\psi_t(\cdot) = t^{-1} \psi(\cdot/t)$. From [2], [5] we know that $|\psi_t * a|^q dx dt/t$ is a Carleson measure if $a \in BMO$ and $q \geq 2$ and $\|\bar{A}(f)\|_p \leq C \|f\|_p$ if $1 < p < \infty$. Thus by using Theorem 1, for $1 < p < 2$ we have

$$(5) \quad \iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} |\psi_t * f|^p |\psi_t * a|^q dx dt/t \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} \bar{A}(f)^p dx \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} |f|^p dx,$$

provided $2\alpha/(2-p) \geq 2$, i.e., $\alpha \geq 2-p$ (clearly, (5) is valid for $p \geq 2, \alpha \geq 0$). In particular, pick $\alpha = 1$, we have

$$\iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} |\psi_t * f|^p |\psi_t * a| dx dt/t \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} |f|^p dx.$$

This is not a consequence of Carleson's inequality since $|\psi_t * a| dx dt/t$ may not be a Carleson measure.

Another easy consequence of Theorem 1 is the Fefferman-Stein inequality [3]

$$\iint_{\mathbf{R}_+^2} |\psi_t * f| |\psi_t * a| dx dt/t \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} \bar{A}(f) dx, \quad a \in BMO.$$

Finally, I would like to thank Professor R. R. Coifman for his effective suggestions in this work.

2. Proof of Theorem 1. First of all, assume $1 \leq p < \infty$. Consider

$$\Omega_k = \{x : A_p(F)(x) > 2^k\} = \bigcup_j J_j^{(k)},$$

where $J_j^{(k)}$ are disjoint open intervals, and

$$\Omega_k^* = \{x : \chi_{\Omega_k}^*(x) > \frac{1}{2}\} = \bigcup_j I_j^{(k)},$$

where χ_{Ω_k} is the characteristic function of Ω_k , $\chi_{\Omega_k}^*$ is the Hardy-Littlewood maximal function of χ_{Ω_k} , and $I_j^{(k)}$ are disjoint open intervals.

By Theorem 2 we know that

$$v_{*p'}(\Omega_k^*) \leq C v_{*p'}(\Omega_k).$$

In fact, since $v_{*p'} \in (A_1)$, we have [1]

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}} \chi_{\Omega_k}^{*2}(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx \leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} \chi_{\Omega_k}^2(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} v_{*p'}(\Omega_k^*) &= \int_{\Omega_k^*} v_{*p'}(x) dx \leq 4 \int_{\mathbf{R}} \chi_{\Omega_k}^{*2}(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx \\ &\leq C \int_{\mathbf{R}} \chi_{\Omega_k}^2(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx = C \int_{\Omega_k} v_{*p'}(x) dx = C v_{*p'}(\Omega_k). \end{aligned}$$

By the Hölder inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \\ & \leq \left| \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \iint_{\Omega_k^* - \Omega_{k+1}^*} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \\ & \leq \left| \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_j \iint_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \\ & \leq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_j \left(\iint_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}} |F(x, t)|^p dx dt \right)^{1/p} \left(\iint_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}} |v(x, t)|^{p'} dx dt \right)^{1/p'}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we need an inequality

$$(6) \quad \iint_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}} |F(x, t)|^p dx dt \leq C \iint_{I_j^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} (A_p(F)(x))^p dx.$$

If (6) is true and we observe

$$\int_{I_j^{(k)}} v_{*p'}(x) dx \geq \left(\frac{1}{|I_j^{(k)}|} \iint_{I_j^{(k)}} |v(y, t)|^{p'} dy dt \right)^{1/p'} |I_j^{(k)}|,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| \\ & \leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_j \left(\iint_{I_j^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} (A_p(F)(x))^p dx \right)^{1/p} \left(\iint_{I_j^{(k)}} |v(x, t)|^{p'} dx dt \right)^{1/p'} \\ & \leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_j 2^{k+1} |I_j^{(k)}| \left(\frac{1}{|I_j^{(k)}|} \iint_{I_j^{(k)}} |v(x, t)|^{p'} dx dt \right)^{1/p'} \\ & \leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} 2^k \sum_j \int_{I_j^{(k)}} v_{*p'}(x) dx \\ & = C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} 2^k v_{*p'}(\Omega_k^*) \leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} 2^k v_{*p'}(\Omega_k) \\ & \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}} A_p(F)(x) v_{*p'}(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

This is the desired inequality.

Now let us go back to the proof of (6). We introduce a characteristic function $\chi(s) = \chi_{[-1, 1]}(s)$. We start from the right-hand side of (6),

$$\begin{aligned} (7) \quad & \int_{I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} (A_p(F)(x))^p dx = \int_{I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} dx \iint_{\tilde{I}^{(k)}} |F(y, t)|^p \frac{dy dt}{t} \\ & = \iint_{(I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}) \times \mathbb{R}_+^2} |F(y, t)|^p \chi\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) \frac{dx dy dt}{t} \\ & \geq \int_{\tilde{I}^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}} |F(y, t)|^p \frac{dy dt}{t} \int_{I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} \chi\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) dx. \end{aligned}$$

For any fixed $(y, t) \in \tilde{I}^{(k)} - \cup \tilde{I}_1^{(k+1)}$ we clearly know that

$$I \cap \Omega_{k+1}^{*c} \neq \emptyset,$$

where $I = (y-t, y+t)$, Ω_{k+1}^{*c} is the complement of Ω_{k+1}^* . It means that there exists a point $x_0 \in I$ such that

$$\chi_{\Omega_{k+1}^*}(x_0) \leq \frac{1}{2},$$

which implies

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I \chi_{\Omega_{k+1}^*}(x) dx \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|I|} \int_{I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} \chi\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) dx &= \frac{1}{|I|} \int_{I - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} \chi\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{|I|} \int_I \{1 - \chi_{\Omega_{k+1}^* \cap I}(x)\} dx \geq \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\int_{I^{(k)} - \cup J_s^{(k+1)}} \chi\left(\frac{x-y}{t}\right) dx \geq t.$$

Substituting this into (7), we prove (6).

When $p = \infty$, the proof is easy. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} F(x, t) v(x, t) dx dt \right| &\leq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \iint_{\Omega_k^* - \Omega_{k+1}^*} |F(x, t) v(x, t)| dx dt \\ &\leq \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \sum_j 2^{k+1} \int_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)}} v(x, t) dx dt \leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} 2^k \sum_j \int_{\tilde{I}_j^{(k)}} v_{*1}(x) dx \\ &\leq C \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} 2^k v_{*1}(\Omega_k) \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}} A_\infty(F)(x) v_{*1}(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Modulo Theorem 2, the proof of Theorem 1 is complete.

3. Proof of Theorem 2. At first we prove that the operator

$$T: u(y, t) = |v(y, t)|^p \rightarrow u^*(x) = \sup_{x \in I} \frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u(y, t) dy dt$$

is of weak type (1,1). In fact, let $\Omega = \{x: u^*(x) > \lambda\}$. Thus, for every $x \in \Omega$, there exists $I_x \supset x$ such that

$$\frac{1}{|I_x|} \int_{I_x} u(y, t) dy dt > \lambda.$$

Then all $\{I_x: x \in \Omega\}$ constitute a cover of Ω . By a cover lemma ([5], p. 9) there exist $\{I_k\}$, $I_i \cap I_j = \emptyset$ ($i \neq j$), such that

$$|\Omega| \leq C \sum |I_k|.$$

Then

$$|\Omega| \leq (C/\lambda) \sum_k \int_{I_k} u(y, t) dy dt \leq (C/\lambda) \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} u(y, t) dy dt.$$

Secondly, we prove that

$$v_{**p}(x) = u^*(x)^{1/p} = u^*(x)^\delta \in (A_1) \quad (\delta = 1/p < 1).$$

For any I , decompose

$$u(y, t) = u_1(y, t) + u_2(y, t),$$

where

$$u_1(y, t) = u(y, t) \chi_{3I}(y, t).$$

Since T is of weak type (1, 1), by the Kolmogorov inequality we have

$$\int_I u_1^{*\delta} \leq C |I|^{1-\delta} \left(\iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} u_1(y, t) dt \right)^\delta,$$

i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u_1^{*\delta} \leq C \left(\frac{1}{|I|} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} u_1(y, t) dy dt \right)^\delta \leq C \left(\frac{1}{|3I|} \iint_{3I} u(y, t) dy dt \right)^\delta \leq C u^*(y)^\delta$$

for any $y \in I$. Thus

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u_1^{*\delta} \leq C \inf_{y \in I} u^*(y)^\delta.$$

On the other hand, for any $x, z \in I$ we have

$$u_2^*(x) \leq C u_2^*(z).$$

In fact, suppose that

$$u_2^*(x) = \frac{1}{|J|} \iint_J u_2(y, t) dy dt.$$

If $u_2^*(x) \neq 0$, then clearly $z \in 3J$. So

$$u_2^*(x) \leq \frac{1}{|J|} \iint_{3J} u_2(y, t) dy dt \leq C u_2^*(z).$$

Thus

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u_2^{*\delta} \leq C \inf_{z \in I} u_2^*(z)^\delta \leq C \inf_{z \in I} u^*(z)^\delta.$$

Since

$$u^*(x)^\delta \leq C (u_1^*(x)^\delta + u_2^*(x)^\delta),$$

we obtain

$$\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u^{*\delta} \leq C \left(\frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u_1^{*\delta} + \frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u_2^{*\delta} \right) \leq C \inf_{y \in I} u^*(y)^\delta,$$

and thus we end the proof of Theorem 2.

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(1759)