## SOBOLEV'S THEOREM FOR DOUBLE PHASE FUNCTIONALS

YOSHIHIRO MIZUTA, TAKAO OHNO\* AND TETSU SHIMOMURA

(Communicated by I. Perić)

Abstract. Our aim in this paper is to establish generalizations of Sobolev's theorem for double phase functionals  $\Phi(x,t) = t^p + \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^q$ , where  $1 , <math>\tau > 0$  and b is a nonnegative bounded function satisfying  $|b(x) - b(y)| \leq C|x-y|^{\theta} (\log(e+|x-y|^{-1}))^{-\tau}$  for  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ .

### 1. Introduction

In harmonic analysis, the maximal operator is a classical tool when studying Sobolev functions and partial differential equations. This also plays a central role in the study of differentiation, singular integrals, smoothness of functions and so on ([5, 21, 25], etc.). It is well known that the maximal operator is bounded on the Lebesgue space  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^N)$  if p > 1 ([25]).

One of important applications of the boundedness of the maximal operator is Sobolev's inequality; in the classical case,

$$||I_{\alpha} * f||_{p^*} \leqslant C ||f||_p$$

for  $f \in L^p(\mathbf{R}^N)$ ,  $0 < \alpha < N$  and  $1 , where <math>I_\alpha$  is the Riesz kernel of order  $\alpha$  and  $1/p^* = 1/p - \alpha/N$  (see, e.g. [2, Theorem 3.1.4]).

There has been a considerable amount of studies on the variable exponent Lebesgue spaces and Sobolev spaces; see [11, 13] for a survey. We refer to [1, 24] for the study of elasticity and fluid mechanics, [7, 19] for the study of image processing, and [9, 10] for double phase variational problems. Capone, Cruz-Uribe and Fiorenza [6] studied a Sobolev type inequality for Riesz potentials in the variable exponent Lebesgue space  $L^{p(.)}(\mathbf{R}^N)$ . For Sobolev's theorem for Riesz potentials, see also [12], [14], [20] etc..

Recently, regarding regularity theory of differential equations, Baroni, Colombo and Mingione [3, 4, 9, 10] studied a double phase functional  $\Phi(x,t) = t^p + a(x)t^q$ ,  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ,  $t \ge 0$  where  $1 , <math>a(\cdot)$  is non-negative, bounded and Hölder continuous of order  $\theta \in (0,1]$ . In [9], the minimization problem of the double phase functional was discussed under the assumption  $q < (1 + \theta/N)p$ . Regularity for general functionals

\* Corresponding author.



Mathematics subject classification (2010): 46E30, 42B25, 46E35.

*Keywords and phrases*: Riesz potentials, fractional maximal functions, maximal functions, Sobolev's theorem, Musielak-Orlicz spaces, double phase functionals, continuity.

was studied under the condition  $q \leq (1 + \theta/N)p$  in [4]. In [3], the border-line (p = q) double phase functional

$$\Phi(x,t) = t^p + a(x)t^p(\log(e+t))$$

was considered. In [18], Harjulehto, Hästö and Karppinen studied local higher integrability of the gradient of a quasiminimizer of the double phase functional  $\Phi(x,t) = t^p + a(x)t^q$ . See Colasuonno and Squassina [8] for the eigenvalue problem for the double phase functional  $\Phi(x,t) = t^p + a(x)t^q$ . See also [16].

In the present paper, for  $1 and <math>\tau \ge 0$ , let us consider the double phase functional

$$\Phi(x,t) = t^p + \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^q,$$

where b is a nonnegative bounded function satisfying

$$|b(x) - b(y)| \leq C|x - y|^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - y|^{-1}))^{-\tau}$$

for  $0 \le \theta < 1$ . Hästö [15, Theorem 4.7] showed the boundedness of the maximal operator on  $L^{\Phi}(G)$  when  $a(x) = b(x)^q$  is  $\theta$ -Hölder continuous and  $\tau = 0$ . See also [17, Proposition 7.2.3].

Our first aim in this paper is to give the boundedness of the maximal operator for the double phase functional  $\Phi(x,t)$  (Theorem 1), as an extension of [15, Theorem 4.7]. To show this, we apply [23, Corollary 3.2]. Our strategy is to check all the conditions required in [23, Corollary 3.2] as in the proof of [23, Corollary 5.3]. Next, we give a Sobolev type inequality for  $\Phi(x,t)$  (Theorem 2) by applying [23, Theorem 4.9] as in the proof of [23, Corollary 5.9].

For reader's convenience we give direct proofs of Theorems 1 and 2 in the Appendix, by applying the boundedness of the maximal operator on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^N)$  and  $L^q(\mathbf{R}^N)$ .

Finally, we discuss the continuity of the fractional maximal functions and Riesz potentials for the double phase functional  $\Phi(x,t)$  (see Theorems 3-5). The result is new even for the case  $\tau = 0$ .

Throughout this paper, let *C* denote various constants independent of the variables in question and  $C(a, b, \dots)$  be a constant that depends on  $a, b, \dots$ . The symbol  $g \sim h$  means that  $C^{-1}h \leq g \leq Ch$  for some constant C > 0.

#### 2. Preliminaries

In this paper, we consider the following double phase functional

$$\Phi(x,t) = t^{p} + \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^{q},$$

for  $1 and <math>\tau \geq 0$ , where b is a nonnegative bounded function satisfying

$$|b(x) - b(y)| \le C|x - y|^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - y|^{-1}))^{-\tau}$$
(1)

for  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ .

The Musielak-Orlicz space  $L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  is defined by

$$L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^{N}) = \left\{ f \in L^{1}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^{N}) : \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} \Phi\left(y, \frac{|f(y)|}{\lambda}\right) dy < \infty \text{ for some } \lambda > 0 \right\}.$$

It is a Banach space with respect to the norm

$$\|f\|_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^{N})} = \inf\left\{\lambda > 0 : \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} \Phi\left(y, \frac{|f(y)|}{\lambda}\right) dy \leq 1\right\}.$$

For later use, we prepare the following result.

LEMMA 1. Let  $1 \leq q < \infty$  and  $\tau \geq 0$ . Then there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} |f(y)| \, dy \leqslant C (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ & \times \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} |f(y)| \left(\log(e+|f(y)|)\right)^{\tau} \, dy + r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \end{aligned}$$

for all r > 0 and measurable sets  $E \subset \mathbf{R}^N$  of positive measure.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof. Set } R &= r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau}. \text{ We have} \\ &\frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} |f(y)| \, dy \leqslant \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} |f(y)| \left( \frac{\log(e+f(y))}{\log(e+R)} \right)^{\tau} \, dy + R \\ &\leqslant C (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} |f(y)| \left( \log(e+|f(y)|) \right)^{\tau} \, dy \\ &+ r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau}, \end{aligned}$$

as required.  $\Box$ 

COROLLARY 1. Let  $1 \leq q < \infty$  and  $\tau \geq 0$ . Then there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} b(y) |f(y)| \, dy &\leq C \bigg\{ r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} + (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ & \times \left( \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} \left( b(y) |f(y)| \left(\log(e+|f(y)|)\right)^{\tau} \right)^{q} \, dy \right)^{1/q} \bigg\} \end{aligned}$$

for all r > 0 and measurable sets  $E \subset \mathbf{R}^N$  of positive measure.

In fact, Lemma 1, the boundedness of b and Jensen's inequality give

$$\frac{1}{|E|} \int_E b(y) |f(y)| \, dy$$

$$\leq C \left\{ r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} + (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} b(y) |f(y)| (\log(e+|f(y)|))^{\tau} dy \right\}$$

$$\leq C \left\{ r^{-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} + (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \right.$$

$$\times \left( \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{E} \left( b(y) |f(y)| (\log(e+|f(y)|))^{\tau} \right)^{q} dy \right)^{1/q} \right\}.$$

#### 3. Maximal operator

For a locally integrable function f on  $\mathbf{R}^N$ , the Hardy-Littlewood maximal function Mf is defined by

$$Mf(x) = \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy,$$

where B(x,r) is the ball in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with center x and of radius r > 0 and |B(x,r)| denotes its Lebesgue measure. The mapping  $f \mapsto Mf$  is called the maximal operator.

Recall that

$$\Phi(x,t) = t^{p} + \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^{q},$$

where  $1 , <math>\tau \geq 0$  and *b* is a nonnegative bounded function satisfying (1) with  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ .

In [23], we consider the following conditions for  $\Phi(x,t)$ . It is easy to check the following conditions on  $\Phi$  required in [23]:

( $\Phi$ 1)  $\Phi(\cdot,t)$  is measurable on  $\mathbf{R}^N$  for each  $t \ge 0$  and  $\Phi(x,\cdot)$  is continuous on  $[0,\infty)$  for each  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ;

 $(\Phi 2)$  there exists a constant  $A_1 \ge 1$  such that

$$A_1^{-1} \leqslant \Phi(x,1) \leqslant A_1$$
 for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ;

( $\Phi$ 3;0;*p*)  $t \mapsto t^{-p}\Phi(x,t)$  is increasing on (0,1] for each  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ;

 $(\Phi 3; \infty; p) \ t \mapsto t^{-p} \Phi(x, t)$  is increasing on  $[1, \infty)$  for each  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ .

LEMMA 2.  $\Phi(x,t)$  satisfies

 $(\Phi 5; v)$  for every  $\gamma > 0$ , there exists a constant  $B_{\gamma, v} \ge 1$  such that

$$\Phi(x,t) \leqslant B_{\gamma,\nu} \Phi(y,t)$$

whenever  $x, y \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ,  $|x - y| \leq \gamma t^{-\nu}$  and  $t \geq 1$ 

for  $v \ge (q-p)/(q\theta)$ ; and

 $(\Phi 6; \omega)$  there exist a function g on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and a constant  $B_{\infty} \ge 1$  such that  $0 \le g(x) \le 1$ for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $g \in L^{\omega}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  and

$$B_{\infty}^{-1}\Phi(x,t) \leqslant \Phi(x',t) \leqslant B_{\infty}\Phi(x,t)$$

whenever  $x, x' \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ,  $|x'| \ge |x|$  and  $g(x) \le t \le 1$ ,

for every  $\omega > 0$ .

Proof. Let 
$$v \ge (q-p)/(q\theta)$$
. If  $|x-y| \le \gamma t^{-\nu}$  and  $t \ge 1$ , then  

$$\Phi(x,t) = t^p + \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^q$$

$$\le t^p + \{b(y)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau} + C|x-y|^{\theta}(\log(e+|x-y|^{-1}))^{-\tau}t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^q$$

$$\le C \{\Phi(y,t) + t^{(1-\theta\nu)q}\} \le C \{\Phi(y,t) + t^p\} \le C\Phi(y,t).$$

Hence  $\Phi(x,t)$  satisfies  $(\Phi 5; v)$ .

Let  $g \in L^{\omega}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  for  $\omega > 0$ . If  $g(x) \leq t \leq 1$ , then

$$\Phi(x,t) \leq (1+C||b||_{L^{\infty}(\mathbf{R}^{N})}^{q})t^{p} \leq (1+C||b||_{L^{\infty}(\mathbf{R}^{N})}^{q})\Phi(x',t)$$

for every  $x, x' \in \mathbf{R}^N$  and  $|x'| \ge |x|$ . Therefore  $\Phi(x,t)$  satisfies  $(\Phi 6; \omega)$ .  $\Box$ 

As an extension of [15, Theorem 4.7], we obtain the following result by Lemma 2 and [23, Corollary 3.2] (see also [17, Proposition 7.2.3] and [22]).

THEOREM 1. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \ge 0$  and  $1/p - 1/q \le \theta/N$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \Phi(x, Mf(x)) \, dx < C$$

for all  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

REMARK 1. When  $\tau = 0$ ,  $\Phi(x,t) = t^p + a(x)t^q$ ,  $1 , <math>G \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is bounded,  $a \in C^{\theta}(\overline{G})$  is non-negative and  $q \leq (1 + \theta/N)p$ , Hästö showed Theorem 1 in [15, Theorem 4.7].

### 4. Sobolev's inequality

For  $0 < \alpha < N$ , we define the Riesz potential of order  $\alpha$  of a function  $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  by

$$I_{\alpha}f(x) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^N} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} f(y) \, dy.$$

In this section, let  $g(x) = (1 + |x|)^{-(N+1)}$ . Then

$$g^*(x) = \min\{g(x), Mg(x)\} \leq C(1+|x|)^{-N}.$$

Further set

$$\Phi_{\infty}(t) = t^p$$

as in [23]. Then it satisfies the following conditions:

- $(\Phi_{\infty}0)$   $\Phi_{\infty}(t)$  is continuous,  $\Phi_{\infty}(t) > 0$  for t > 0 and  $\Phi_{\infty}(t)/t$  is increasing on  $[0,\infty)$ ;
- $(\Phi_{\infty}1)$  there exists a constant  $\tilde{B}_{\infty} \ge 1$  such that

$$\tilde{B}_{\infty}^{-1}\Phi(x,t) \leq \Phi_{\infty}(t) \leq \tilde{B}_{\infty}\Phi(x,t)$$
 whenever  $g(x) \leq t \leq 1$ 

for g(x) in condition ( $\Phi 6; \omega$ );

 $(\Phi_{\infty}2)$  there exists a constant  $c_{\infty} \ge 1$  such that

$$\Phi_{\infty}(g^*(x)) \leqslant c_{\infty}(1+|x|)^{-N}$$

for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ ;

 $(\Phi_{\infty}N) \quad r \mapsto r^{\gamma} \Phi_{\infty}^{-1}(r^{-N}) \text{ is increasing on } (1,\infty) \text{ for some } 0 < \gamma < N.$ 

- LEMMA 3. (1) If  $q < N/\alpha$ , then
- $(\Phi N\alpha)$   $r \mapsto r^{\alpha+\varepsilon} \Phi^{-1}(x, r^{-N})$  is uniformly almost decreasing on  $(0, \infty)$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ , that is, there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$r^{\alpha+\varepsilon}\Phi^{-1}(x,r^{-N}) \leqslant Cs^{\alpha+\varepsilon}\Phi^{-1}(x,s^{-N})$$

for all 0 < s < r and  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ .

(2) If  $p < N/\alpha$ , then

 $(\Phi_{\infty}N\alpha) \quad r\mapsto r^{\alpha+\varepsilon}\Phi_{\infty}^{-1}(r^{-N}) \text{ is increasing on } (1,\infty) \text{ for some } \varepsilon>0.$ 

Proof.

(1) Since

$$\Phi^{-1}(x,s) \sim \min\left\{s^{1/p}, \left(b(x)^{-q}s\right)^{1/q} \left(\log(e+b(x)^{-q}s)\right)^{-\tau}\right\}$$

for  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ , we have

$$r^{\alpha+\varepsilon}\Phi^{-1}(x,r^{-N})$$
  
~  $\min\left\{r^{\alpha-N/p+\varepsilon},b(x)^{-(\alpha+\varepsilon)q/N}(b(x)^{q}r^{N})^{(\alpha-N/q+\varepsilon)/N}(\log(e+b(x)^{-q}r^{-N}))^{-\tau}\right\}.$ 

Choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $N/q - \alpha > \varepsilon$ . Then we obtain that  $r \mapsto r^{\alpha + \varepsilon} \Phi^{-1}(x, r^{-N})$  is uniformly almost decreasing.

(2) Since  $\Phi_{\infty}^{-1}(r^{-N}) = r^{-N/p}$  for  $r \ge 1$ , we find  $r^{\alpha} \Phi_{\infty}^{-1}(r^{-N}) = r^{\alpha - N/p}$ . Thus,  $(\Phi_{\infty} N \alpha)$  holds if  $p < N/\alpha$ .  $\Box$ 

Now, consider the double phase functional

$$\Psi(x,t) = t^{p^*} + \{b(x)t \, (\log{(e+t)})^{\tau}\}^{q^*}$$

and

$$\Psi_1(x,t) = t^{p^*} + \left\{ b(x)t \left( \log\left(e + b(x)^{\alpha q/N}t\right) \right)^{\tau} \right\}^{q^*}$$

where  $1/p^* = 1/p - \alpha/N > 0$  and  $1/q^* = 1/q - \alpha/N > 0$ . Then there is C > 1 such that

$$C^{-1}\Psi(x,t) \leqslant \Psi_1(x,t) \leqslant C\Psi(x,t)$$
(2)

for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$  and t > 0. In fact, the right inequality is clear since b is bounded. To show the left inequality for t > 1, take  $\varepsilon$  such that  $0 < \varepsilon < p^*/q^*$ . If  $b(x)t \leq t^{\varepsilon}$  and t > 1, then

$$\left\{b(x)t\left(\log\left(e+t\right)\right)^{\tau}\right\}^{q^{*}} \leqslant Ct^{p}$$

and if  $b(x)t \ge t^{\varepsilon} > 1$ , then  $b(x)^{\alpha q/N}t \ge t^{1-(\alpha q/N)(1-\varepsilon)}$ , so that

$$\Psi_1(x,t) \ge t^{p^*} + \left\{ b(x)t \left( \log \left( e + t^{1 - (\alpha q/N)(1 - \varepsilon)} \right) \right)^{\tau} \right\}^{q^*} \ge C \Psi(x,t)$$

since  $\alpha q/N < 1$ , which proves (2).

Further we see that both  $\Psi$  and  $\Psi_1$  satisfy

- ( $\Psi$ 1)  $\Psi(\cdot,t)$  is measurable on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  for each  $t \ge 0$  and  $\Psi(x,\cdot)$  is continuous on  $[0,\infty)$  for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ;
- $(\Psi 2)$  there exists a constant  $\widehat{Q}_1 \ge 1$  such that

$$\widehat{Q}_1^{-1} \leqslant \Psi(x,1) \leqslant \widehat{Q}_1 \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbf{R}^N;$$

( $\Psi$ 3)  $t \mapsto \Psi(x,t)/t$  is increasing on  $(0,\infty)$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$ .

LEMMA 4. Both  $\Psi$  and  $\Psi_1$  satisfy

 $(\Psi 4)$  there exists a constant  $\hat{Q}_3 \ge 1$  such that

$$\Psi\left(x,t\Phi(x,t)^{-\alpha/N}\right) \leqslant \widehat{Q}_3\Phi(x,t)$$

for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^N$  and t > 0.

*Proof.* Since  $\Phi(x,t) \ge \max\{t^p, \{b(x)t(\log(e+t))^{\tau}\}^q\}$ , we see that

$$t\Phi(x,t)^{-\alpha/N} \leqslant \min\bigg\{t^{p/p^*}, b(x)^{-\alpha q/N}t^{q/q^*}(\log(e+t))^{-\alpha q\tau/N}\bigg\}.$$

Hence

$$\Psi_1(x, t\Phi(x, t)^{-\alpha/N}) \leqslant C \left[ \left\{ t^{p/p^*} \right\}^{p^*} + \left\{ b(x)^{q/q^*} t^{q/q^*} (\log(e+t))^{-\alpha q \tau/N} \right\} \right]$$

$$\times \left( \log \left( e + t^{q/q^*} (\log(e+t))^{-\alpha q \tau/N} \right) \right)^{\tau} \right\}^{q^*} \right]$$
  
 
$$\leqslant C \left[ t^p + \left\{ b(x)t (\log(e+t))^{\tau} \right\}^q \right] = C \Phi(x,t),$$

as required.  $\Box$ 

Consequently we apply [23, Theorem 4.9] to obtain the following result.

THEOREM 2. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \ge 0$  and  $1/p - 1/q \le \theta/N$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \Psi(x, |I_{\alpha}f(x)|) \, dx < C$$

for all  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

REMARK 2. If  $1/p - 1/q \leq \theta/N$ , then take  $\theta_1$  such that

$$1/p - 1/q = \theta_1/N.$$

Then b is  $\theta_1$ -Hölder continuous when it is  $\theta$ -Hölder continuous and bounded, and thus we may assume from the beginning that  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N$ .

#### 5. Continuity

For  $0 < \sigma < N$  and a function  $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  we define the fractional maximal function by

$$M_{\sigma}f(x) = \sup_{r>0} \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy.$$

THEOREM 3. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \geq 0$ ,  $\sigma - N/p \leq 0$ ,  $0 \leq \sigma + \theta - N/p < 1/p'$  and  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N \geq 0$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$|b(x)M_{\sigma}f(x) - b(z)M_{\sigma}f(z)| \leq C|x - z|^{\sigma + \theta - N/p} (\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau}$$
(3)

for all  $x, z \in \mathbf{R}^N$  with 0 < |x - z| < 1/2 and  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let f be a measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq 1$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and r > 0 set

$$I(x,r) = b(x) \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy.$$

First we consider the case 0 < r < 2|x - z| < 1. Then we have

$$I(x,r) = \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} (b(x) - b(y)) |f(y)| \, dy + \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} b(y) |f(y)| \, dy$$

$$\leq Cr^{\sigma+\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy + \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} b(y) |f(y)| \, dy = I_1 + I_2.$$

By Hölder's inequality, we have

$$I_{1} \leq Cr^{\sigma+\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \left(\frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)|^{p} dy\right)^{1/p} \leq Cr^{\sigma+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau}.$$

By Corollary 1 with E = B(x, r), we have

$$I_2 \leqslant Cr^{\sigma - N/q} (\log(e + r^{-1}))^{-\tau}$$

Therefore

$$I(x,r) \leq C \left\{ r^{\sigma+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} + r^{\sigma-N/q} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \right\}$$
  
$$\leq C r^{\sigma+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \leq C |x-z|^{\sigma+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau},$$

since  $\sigma + \theta - N/p \ge 0$ . Next we consider the case 0 < 2|x - z| < r < 1. We have

$$\begin{split} I(x,r) - I(z,r) = &b(x) \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| dy - b(z) \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(z,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ \leqslant &|b(x) - b(z)| \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ + &b(z) \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ \leqslant &C|x - z|^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(z,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ + &\frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)} |b(z) - b(y)| |f(y)| dy \\ + &\frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)} b(y) |f(y)| dy \\ \leqslant &C \Big\{ |x - z|^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ + &r^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)} |f(y)| dy \\ + &\frac{r^{\sigma}}{|B(z,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)} b(y) |f(y)| dy \Big\}. \end{split}$$

By Hölder's inequality and Corollary 1 with  $E = B(x, r)\Delta B(z, r)$ , we establish

$$I(x,r) - I(z,r) \leq C \Big\{ |x - z|^{\theta} (\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau} r^{\sigma - N/p} \Big\}$$

$$\begin{split} &+ |B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)|^{1/p'}r^{\sigma+\theta-N}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ |B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)|r^{\sigma-N-N/q}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ |B(x,r)\Delta B(z,r)|^{1/q'}r^{\sigma-N}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \Big\} \\ &\leqslant C \Big\{ |x-z|^{\theta}(\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau}r^{\sigma-N/p} \\ &+ (r^{N-1}|x-z|)^{1/p'}r^{\sigma+\theta-N}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ r^{N-1}|x-z|r^{\sigma-N-N/q}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ (r^{N-1}|x-z|)^{1/q'}r^{\sigma-N}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \Big\} \\ &\leqslant C \Big\{ |x-z|^{\theta}(\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau}r^{\sigma-N/p} \\ &+ |x-z|^{1/p'}r^{\sigma+\theta-N/p-1/p'}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ |x-z|r^{\sigma-1-N/q}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \\ &+ |x-z|^{1/q'}r^{\sigma-N/q-1/q'}(\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \Big\} \\ &\leqslant C \Big\{ |x-z|^{\sigma+\theta-N/p}(\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau} , \end{split}$$

since  $\sigma - N/p \le 0$  and  $\sigma - N/q = \sigma + \theta - N/p < 1/p' \le 1/q' < 1$ . Therefore

$$I(x,r) \leq I(z,r) + C|x-z|^{\sigma+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau},$$

which gives the theorem.  $\Box$ 

THEOREM 4. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau > 1/q'$ ,  $\alpha + \theta = N/p$  and  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N > 0$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$|b(x)I_{\alpha}f(x) - b(z)I_{\alpha}f(z)| \le C(\log(e + |x - z|^{-1}))^{-\tau + 1/q'}$$

for all  $x, z \in \mathbf{R}^N$  with 0 < |x - z| < 1/2 and  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $\|f\|_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leqslant 1$ .

*Proof.* Let f be a measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq 1$ . For  $x, z \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , write

$$\begin{split} b(x)I_{\alpha}f(x) - b(z)I_{\alpha}f(z) \\ = & \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N}(b(x) - b(y))f(y)\,dy + \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N}b(y)f(y)\,dy \\ & - \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |z - y|^{\alpha - N}(b(z) - b(y))f(y)\,dy - \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |z - y|^{\alpha - N}b(y)f(y)\,dy \\ = & J_{1}(x) + J_{2}(x) - J_{1}(z) - J_{2}(z). \end{split}$$

For  $\delta = 2|x-z| < 1$ , we have by Hölder's inequality

$$J_{11}(x) = \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} (b(x) - b(y)) f(y) \, dy$$

$$\leq C \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} |f(y)| \, dy$$

$$\leq C \left( \int_{B(x,\delta)} \left( |x-y|^{\alpha-N+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{p'} dy \right)^{1/p'} \left( \int_{B(x,\delta)} |f(y)|^p \, dy \right)^{1/p}$$

$$\leq C \left( \int_0^{\delta} t^N \left( t^{\alpha-N+\theta} \left( \log(e+t^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{p'} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/p'} \leq C \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau+1/p'},$$

since  $\alpha + \theta - N/p = 0$  and  $\tau > 1/p'$ . Further, we obtain by Hölder's inequality for  $0 < \beta < \alpha$ 

$$\begin{split} J_{21}(x) &= \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} b(y)f(y) \, dy \\ &\leqslant C \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} \left( \frac{\log(e+|f(y)|)}{\log(e+|x-y|^{-\beta})} \right)^{\tau} b(y)|f(y)| \, dy \\ &+ \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} b(y)|x-y|^{-\beta} \, dy \\ &\leqslant C \Big\{ \left( \int_{B(x,\delta)} \left( |x-y|^{\alpha-N} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{q'} \, dy \right)^{1/q'} \\ &\times \left( \int_{B(x,\delta)} (b(y)|f(y)| \left( \log(e+|f(y)|) \right)^{\tau} \right)^{q} \, dy \right)^{1/q} + \delta^{\alpha-\beta} \Big\} \\ &\leqslant C \Big\{ \left( \int_{0}^{\delta} t^{N} \left( t^{\alpha-N} \left( \log(e+t^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{q'} \, \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q'} + \delta^{\alpha-\beta} \Big\} \\ &\leqslant C \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau+1/q'}, \end{split}$$

since  $\alpha - N/q = 0$  and  $\tau > 1/q'$ . Similarly,

$$J_{11}(z) = \int_{B(x,\delta)} |z - y|^{\alpha - N} (b(z) - b(y)) f(y) \, dy \leq C \left( \log(e + \delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau + 1/p'}$$

and

$$J_{21}(z) = \int_{B(x,\delta)} |z-y|^{\alpha-N} b(y) f(y) \, dy \leq C \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau+1/q'}.$$

Noting that

$$||x-y|^{\alpha-N} - |z-y|^{\alpha-N}| \le C|x-z||x-y|^{\alpha-N-1}$$

when |x - y| > 2|x - z|, we have by Hölder's inequality

$$J_{31} = \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} \left( |x-y|^{\alpha-N} - |z-y|^{\alpha-N} \right) (b(x) - b(y)) f(y) \, dy$$
$$\leqslant C |x-z| \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N-1+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} |f(y)| \, dy$$

$$\begin{split} &\leqslant C|x-z| \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} \left( |x-y|^{\alpha-N-1+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{p'} dy \right)^{1/p'} \\ &\times \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |f(y)|^p dy \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leqslant C|x-z| \left( \int_{\delta}^{\infty} t^N \left( t^{\alpha-N-1+\theta} \left( \log(e+t^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{p'} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/p'} \leqslant C \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \end{split}$$

and

$$\begin{split} J_{32} &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |z - y|^{\alpha - N} (b(x) - b(z)) f(y) \, dy \\ &\leqslant C |x - z|^{\theta} \left( \log(e + |x - z|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |z - y|^{\alpha - N} f(y) \, dy \\ &\leqslant C |x - z|^{\theta} \left( \log(e + |x - z|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |z - y|^{(\alpha - N)p'} \, dy \right)^{1/p'} \\ &\times \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |f(y)|^p \, dy \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leqslant C |x - z|^{\theta} \left( \log(e + |x - z|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \delta^{\alpha - N/p} \leqslant C \left( \log(e + \delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau}. \end{split}$$

Therefore

$$J_{31} + J_{32} \leq C \left( \log(e + \delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau}$$
.

Similarly, we have for  $\max\{0, \alpha - 1\} < \beta < \alpha$ 

$$\begin{split} J_{33} &= \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} \left( |x - y|^{\alpha - N} - |z - y|^{\alpha - N} \right) b(y) f(y) dy \\ &\leqslant C |x - z| \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x - y|^{\alpha - N - 1} b(y)| f(y)| dy \\ &\leqslant C |x - z| \left\{ \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x - y|^{\alpha - N - 1} \left( \frac{\log(e + |f(y)|)}{\log(e + |x - y|^{-\beta})} \right)^{\tau} b(y)| f(y)| dy \\ &+ \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x - y|^{\alpha - N - 1} b(y)| x - y|^{-\beta} dy \right\} \\ &\leqslant C |x - z| \left\{ \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} \left( |x - y|^{\alpha - N - 1} \left( \log(e + |x - y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{q'} dy \right)^{1/q'} \\ &\times \left( \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N} \setminus B(x,\delta)} (b(y)| f(y)| \left( \log(e + |f(y)|) \right)^{\tau} \right)^{q} dy \right)^{1/q} + \delta^{\alpha - \beta - 1} \right\} \\ &\leqslant C \left\{ |x - z| \left( \int_{\delta}^{\infty} t^{N} \left( t^{\alpha - N - 1} \left( \log(e + t^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} \right)^{q'} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q'} + \delta^{\alpha - \beta} \right\} \\ &\leqslant C \left( \log(e + \delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau}. \end{split}$$

Now we establish

$$\begin{aligned} J(x) - J(z) &= J_1(x) + J_2(x) - J_1(z) - J_2(z) \\ &= J_{11}(x) + J_{11}(z) + J_{21}(x) + J_{21}(z) + J_{31} + J_{32} + J_{32} \\ &\leqslant C \left( \log(e + \delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau + 1/q'}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the theorem.  $\Box$ 

In the same way as above, we obtain the following result.

THEOREM 5. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \ge 0$ ,  $0 < \alpha + \theta - N/p < \theta$  and  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N > 0$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$|b(x)I_{\alpha}f(x) - b(z)I_{\alpha}f(z)| \leq C|x-z|^{\alpha+\theta-N/p}(\log(e+|x-z|^{-1}))^{-\tau}$$

for all  $x, z \in \mathbf{R}^N$  with 0 < |x - z| < 1/2 and  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

# 6. Appendix

For reader's convenience, we shall give direct proofs of Theorems 1 and 2 by the boundedness of the maximal operator on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^N)$  and  $L^q(\mathbf{R}^N)$ .

THEOREM 6. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \ge 0$  and  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N \ge 0$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \Phi(x, Mf(x)) \, dx < C$$

for all  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let f be a measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq 1$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and r > 0, we have

$$\begin{split} I &= b(x) \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy \\ &= \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} (b(x) - b(y)) |f(y)| \, dy + \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} b(y) |f(y)| \, dy \\ &\leqslant Cr^{\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy + \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} b(y) |f(y)| \, dy \\ &= I_1 + I_2. \end{split}$$

For  $0 < r < \delta$ 

$$I_1 \leqslant Cr^{\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} Mf(x) \leqslant C\delta^{\theta} (\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau} Mf(x)$$

and for  $0 < \delta \leq r$  by Hölder's inequality

$$I_{1} \leq Cr^{\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \left(\frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)|^{p} dy\right)^{1/p} \leq Cr^{\theta-N/p} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \leq C\delta^{\theta-N/p} (\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau},$$

since  $\theta - N/p = -N/q < 0$ . Thus

$$I_1 \leq C\left\{\delta^{\theta}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}Mf(x) + \delta^{\theta-N/p}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}\right\}.$$

Now, letting  $\delta^{-N/p} = Mf(x)$ , we obtain

$$I_1 \leq CMf(x)^{1-\theta p/N} (\log(e+Mf(x)))^{-\tau} = CMf(x)^{p/q} (\log(e+Mf(x)))^{-\tau}.$$

Moreover, for  $\delta > 0$  we find from Lemma 1 with E = B(x,r) and  $r = \delta$  and the boundedness of *b* 

$$I_2 \leq C\left\{\left(\log(e+\delta^{-1})\right)^{-\tau} Mh(x) + \delta^{-N/q} (\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}\right\},$$

where  $h(y) = b(y)|f(y)| (\log(e + |f(y)|))^{\tau}$ . Now, letting  $\delta^{-N/q} = Mh(x)$ , we obtain

$$I_2 \leqslant CMh(x)(\log(e+Mh(x)))^{-\tau}.$$

Now we establish

$$b(x)Mf(x) \leq C\left\{Mf(x)^{p/q}(\log(e+Mf(x)))^{-\tau} + Mh(x)(\log(e+Mh(x)))^{-\tau}\right\}.$$

When  $Mf(x)^{p/q} \ge Mh(x)$ , we have

$$\{b(x)Mf(x)\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{\tau}\}^{q}$$
  
 
$$\leqslant C\left(Mf(x)\right)^{p}\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{-\tau q}\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{\tau q} \leqslant CMf(x)^{p}$$

and when  $Mf(x)^{p/q} \leq Mh(x)$ , we have

$$\{b(x)Mf(x)\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{\tau}\}^{q} \leq C(Mh(x))^{q}\left(\log(e+Mh(x))\right)^{-\tau q}\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{\tau q} \leq CMh(x)^{q}.$$

Hence we obtain

$$\left\{b(x)Mf(x)\left(\log(e+Mf(x))\right)^{\tau}\right\}^{q} \leq C\left\{Mf(x)^{p}+Mh(x)^{q}\right\}$$

Therefore, the boundedness of the maximal operator on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^N)$  and  $L^q(\mathbf{R}^N)$  gives the theorem.  $\Box$ 

Recall that

$$\Psi(x,t) = t^{p^*} + \left\{ b(x)t \left( \log \left( e + t \right) \right)^{\tau} \right\}^{q^*}.$$

THEOREM 7. Suppose  $1 , <math>\tau \ge 0$ ,  $\alpha + \theta < N/p$  and  $1/p - 1/q = \theta/N \ge 0$ . Then there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^N} \Psi(x, |I_\alpha f(x)|) \, dx < C$$

for all  $f \in L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)$  with  $\|f\|_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^N)} \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let f be a measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}(\mathbb{R}^N)} \leq 1$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and r > 0, we have

$$\begin{split} b(x) &\int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} |f(y)| \, dy \\ = &\int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} (b(x) - b(y))| f(y)| \, dy + \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} b(y)| f(y)| \, dy \\ \leqslant &C \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N + \theta} \left( \log(e + |x - y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} |f(y)| \, dy + \int_{\mathbf{R}^{N}} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} b(y)| f(y)| \, dy \\ = &J_{1} + J_{2}. \end{split}$$

For  $\delta > 0$ , we have

$$\int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} |f(y)| \, dy \leq C\delta^{\alpha+\theta} \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} Mf(x)$$

and by Hölder's inequality

$$\begin{split} &\int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N+\theta} \left( \log(e+|x-y|^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} |f(y)| \, dy \\ \leqslant C \int_{\delta}^{\infty} r^{\alpha+\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \left( \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| \, dy \right) \frac{dr}{r} \\ \leqslant C \int_{\delta}^{\infty} r^{\alpha+\theta} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \left( \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)|^p \, dy \right)^{1/p} \frac{dr}{r} \\ \leqslant C \int_{\delta}^{\infty} r^{\alpha+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{dr}{r} \leqslant C \delta^{\alpha+\theta-N/p} (\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}, \end{split}$$

since  $\alpha + \theta - N/p < 0$ . Hence

$$J_1 \leq C\left\{\delta^{\alpha+\theta}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}Mf(x) + \delta^{\alpha+\theta-N/p}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}\right\}$$

Now, letting  $\delta^{-N/p} = Mf(x)$ , we obtain

$$J_1 \leq CMf(x)^{1-(\alpha+\theta)p/N} (\log(e+Mf(x)))^{-\tau} = CMf(x)^{p/q^*} (\log(e+Mf(x)))^{-\tau}$$

Moreover, for  $\delta > 0$ ,

$$\int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} b(y)|f(y)| \, dy$$

$$\leq \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} b(y)|f(y)| \left( \frac{\log(e+f(y))}{\log(e+\delta^{-N/q}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau})} \right)^{\tau} dy \\ + C\delta^{-N/q}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau} \int_{B(x,\delta)} |x-y|^{\alpha-N} dy \\ \leq C \left\{ \delta^{\alpha} \left( \log(e+\delta^{-1}) \right)^{-\tau} Mh(x) + \delta^{\alpha-N/q} (\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau} \right\},$$

where  $h(y) = b(y)|f(y)|(\log(e + |f(y)|))^{\tau}$ . Similarly, we have by Corollary 1 with E = B(x, r)

$$\begin{split} \int_{\mathbf{R}^N \setminus B(x,\delta)} |x - y|^{\alpha - N} [b(y)|f(y)|] \, dy &\leq C \int_{\delta}^{\infty} r^{\alpha} \left( \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} [b(y)|f(y)|] \, dy \right) \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq C \int_{\delta}^{\infty} r^{\alpha - N/q} (\log(e + r^{-1}))^{-\tau} \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq C \delta^{\alpha - N/q} (\log(e + \delta^{-1}))^{-\tau} \end{split}$$

since  $\alpha - N/q < 0$ . Thus

$$J_2 \leq C\left\{\delta^{\alpha}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}Mh(x) + \delta^{\alpha-N/q}(\log(e+\delta^{-1}))^{-\tau}\right\}.$$

Now, letting  $\delta^{-N/q} = Mh(x)$ , we obtain

$$J_2 \leq CMh(x)^{1-q\alpha/N} (\log(e+Mh(x)))^{-\tau} = CMh(x)^{q/q^*} (\log(e+Mh(x)))^{-\tau}$$

Now we establish

$$b(x)|I_{\alpha}f(x)| \leq C \left\{ Mf(x)^{p/q^*} (\log(e + Mf(x)))^{-\tau} + Mh(x)^{q/q^*} (\log(e + Mh(x)))^{-\tau} \right\}.$$

As in the final discussions of the previous proof, we have

$$\left\{b(x)|I_{\alpha}f(x)|\left(\log(e+|I_{\alpha}f(x)|)\right)^{\tau}\right\}^{q^{*}} \leq C\left\{Mf(x)^{p}+Mh(x)^{q}\right\}$$

Hence we obtain the required result by the boundedness of the maximal operator on  $L^p(\mathbf{R}^N)$  and  $L^q(\mathbf{R}^N)$ .  $\Box$ 

#### REFERENCES

- E. ACERBI AND G. MINGIONE, Regularity results for stationary electro-rheological fluids, Arch. Ration. Mech. Anal. 164 (2002), 213–259.
- [2] D. R. ADAMS AND L. I. HEDBERG, Function Spaces and Potential Theory, Springer, 1996.
- [3] P. BARONI, M. COLOMBO AND G. MINGIONE, Non-autonomous functionals, borderline cases and relatedfunction classes, St Petersburg Math. J. 27 (2016), 347–379.
- [4] P. BARONI, M. COLOMBO AND G. MINGIONE, Regularity for general functionals with double phase, Calc. Var. (2018) 57: 62.
- [5] B. BOJARSKI AND P. HAJŁASZ, Pointwise inequalities for Sobolev functions and some applications, Studia Math. 106(1) (1993), 77–92.
- [6] C. CAPONE, D. CRUZ-URIBE AND A. FIORENZA, *The fractional maximal operator and fractional integrals on variable L<sup>p</sup> spaces*, Rev. Mat. Iberoamericana 23 (2007), no.3, 743–770.

- [7] Y. CHEN, S. LEVINE AND M. RAO, Variable exponent, linear growth functionals in image restoration, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 66 (2006), no. 4, 1383–1406.
- [8] F. COLASUONNO AND M. SQUASSINA, Eigenvalues for double phase variational integrals, Ann. Mat. Pura Appl. (4) 195 (2016), no. 6, 1917–1959.
- [9] M. COLOMBO AND G. MINGIONE, Regularity for double phase variational problems, Arch. Rat. Mech. Anal. 215 (2015), 443–496.
- [10] M. COLOMBO AND G. MINGIONE, Bounded minimizers of double phase variational integrals, Arch. Rat. Mech. Anal. 218 (2015), 219–273.
- [11] D. CRUZ-URIBE AND A. FIORENZA, Variable Lebesgue spaces. Foundations and harmonic analysis. Applied and Numerical Harmonic Analysis. Birkhauser/Springer, Heidelberg, 2013.
- [12] L. DIENING, Riesz potential and Sobolev embeddings of generalized Lebesgue and Sobolev spaces  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  and  $W^{k,p(\cdot)}$ , Math. Nachr. 263 (2004), no. 1, 31–43.
- [13] L. DIENING, P. HARJULEHTO, P. HÄSTÖ AND M. RůŽIČKA, Lebesgue and Sobolev spaces with variable exponents, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, 2017, Springer, Heidelberg, 2011.
- [14] T. FUTAMURA, Y. MIZUTA AND T. SHIMOMURA, Sobolev embeddings for variable exponent Riesz potentials on metric spaces, Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn. Math. 31 (2006), 495–522.
- [15] P. HÄSTÖ, The maximal operator on generalized Orlicz spaces, J. Funct. Anal. 269 (2015), no. 12, 4038–4048; Corrigendum to "The maximal operator on generalized Orlicz spaces", J. Funct. Anal. 271 (2016), no. 1, 240–243.
- [16] P. HARJULEHTO AND P. HÄSTÖ, Boundary regularity under generalized growth conditions, Z. Anal. Anwendungen. 38 (2019), no. 1, 73–96.
- [17] P. HARJULEHTO AND P. HÄSTÖ, Orlicz Spaces and Generalized Orlicz Spaces, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, vol. 2236, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2019, to appear.
- [18] P. HARJULEHTO, P. HÄSTÖ AND A. KARPPINEN, Local higher integrability of the gradient of a quasiminimizer under generalized Orlicz growth conditions, Nonlinear Anal. 177 (2018), 543–552.
- [19] P. HARJULEHTO, P. HÄSTÖ, V. LATVALA AND O. TOIVANEN, Critical variable exponent functionals in image restoration, Appl. Math. Letters 26 (2013), 56–60.
- [20] V. KOKILASHVILI AND S. SAMKO, On Sobolev theorem for Riesz type potentials in the Lebesgue spaces with variable exponent, Z. Anal. Anwendungen 22 (2003), no. 4, 899–910.
- [21] J. L. LEWIS, On very weak solutions of certain elliptic systems, Comm. Partial Differential Equations 18(9) (10) (1993), 1515–1537.
- [22] F.-Y. MAEDA, Y. MIZUTA, T. OHNO AND T. SHIMOMURA, Boundedness of maximal operators and Sobolev's inequality on Musielak-Orlicz-Morrey spaces, Bull. Sci. math. 137 (2013), 76–96.
- [23] F.-Y. MAEDA, Y. MIZUTA, T. OHNO AND T. SHIMOMURA, Sobolev's inequality for double phase functionals with variable exponents, Forum. Math. 31 (2019), no. 2, 517–527.
- [24] M. RŮŽIČKA, Electrorheological Fluids: Modeling and Mathematical Theory, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2000.
- [25] E. M. STEIN, Singular integrals and differentiability properties of functions, Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, 1970.

(Received February 18, 2019)

Yoshihiro Mizuta 4-13-11 Hachi-Hom-Matsu-Minami Higashi-Hiroshima 739-0144, Japan e-mail: yomizuta@hiroshima-u.ac.jp

Takao Ohno Faculty of Education Oita University Dannoharu Oita-city 870-1192, Japan e-mail: t-ohno@oita-u.ac.jp

Tetsu Shimomura Department of Mathematics Graduate School of Education, Hiroshima University Higashi-Hiroshima 739-8524, Japan e-mail: tshimo@hiroshima-u.ac.jp