# A MAXIMAL INEQUALITY FOR FILTRATION ON SOME FUNCTION SPACES

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### 1. Introduction

In this paper we consider a maximal inequality associated with filtration on Lorentz spaces and Orlicz spaces. Let  $(X, \mu)$ ,  $(Y, \nu)$  be arbitrary measure spaces and let T be a bounded linear operator from a function space defined on  $(Y, \nu)$  to a function space on  $(X, \mu)$ . Let  $E_n$  be a sequence of measurable subsets of Y which are nested:  $E_n \subset E_{n+1}$  for all n. Such a sequence is called a *filtration* of Y. Denote by  $\chi_E$  the characteristic function of E. M. Christ and A. Kiselev in [3] considered the maximal operator

$$T^*f(x) = \sup_{n} |T(f\chi_{E_n})(x)|,$$

which was studied to obtain the a.e. convergence of an integral operator [4]. They obtained the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $1 \le p$ ,  $q < \infty$ , and suppose that  $T: L^p(Y) \to L^q(X)$  is a bounded linear operator. Then for any nested sequence of measurable subsets  $\{E_n\} \subset Y$ , the maximal operator  $T^*$  is a bounded operator from  $L^p(Y)$  to  $L^q(X)$  provided p < q. Moreover,

$$||T^*||_{p,q} \le (1 - 2^{-\{(1/p) - (1/q)\}})^{-1} ||T||_{p,q}$$

where  $||T||_{p,q}$  denotes the operator norm of T from  $L^p(Y)$  to  $L^q(X)$ .

It should be noted that the phenomena for the maximal inequality occur because of the strict difference of convexity between two functions  $(t^p, t^q)$  generating the function spaces  $(L^p)$  and  $L^q$ . Based on this fact, we extend the theorem above to some different function spaces which naturally contain the Lebesgue spaces. Especially, we thus show a version of Theorem 1.1 still holds on Lorentz spaces and Orlicz spaces reflecting the difference of convexity. For another reference concerning the Lorentz space, see the paper [5].

Let  $L^{p,r}(X) = L^{p,r}(X, d\mu)$  denote the space of all measurable functions satisfying

$$||f||_{p,q} = \left(\frac{q}{p} \int_0^\infty \left[t^{1/p} f^*(t)\right]^q \frac{dt}{t}\right)^{1/q} < \infty$$

where  $f^*$  is the decreasing rearrangement of f (see [6]). Then we first have the following result:

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $1 \le p \le r < s \le q < \infty$ , and suppose  $T: L^{p,r}(Y) \to L^{q,s}(X)$  is a bounded linear operator. Then  $T^*$  is bounded from  $L^{p,r}(Y)$  to  $L^{q,s}(X)$ . Moreover,

$$(1.1) ||T^*||_{L^{p,r}\to L^{q,s}} \le (1-2^{-\{(1/r)-(1/s)\}})^{-1}||T||_{L^{p,r}\to L^{q,s}}$$

where  $||T||_{L^{p,r}\to L^{q,s}}$  denotes the operator norm of T from  $L^{p,r}$  to  $L^{q,s}$ .

Now we consider a generalization to Orlicz spaces. The Young function  $\Phi$  is given by  $\Phi(s) = \int_0^s \phi(t) dt$  for an increasing left continuous function  $\phi$  with  $\phi(0) = 0$ . For the Young function, the Luxemburg norm is defined by

$$\rho^{\Phi}(f) = \inf \left\{ k \colon \int \Phi\left(\frac{|f(y)|}{k}\right) d\nu(y) \le 1 \right\}.$$

Then the Orlicz space  $L^{\Phi}(Y) = L^{\Phi}(Y, d\nu)$  is the function space with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{L^{\Phi}} = \rho^{\Phi}(\cdot)$ . For further details, see pp. 265–280 in [2].

Next, we consider a pair of Young functions  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$ . We impose several assumptions on  $\Phi$ ,  $\Psi$ . For any s,  $t \ge 0$ , let us assume

(1.2) 
$$\Psi(st) \sim \Psi(s)\Psi(t).$$

Here  $A \sim B$  means that there is a constant C > 0 such that

$$C^{-1}A \le B \le CA$$
.

For the function  $\Phi$ , we assume that there is a strictly convex function  $\overline{\Phi}$  such that for any  $\alpha \geq 1$ ,

(1.3) 
$$\Phi(\alpha t) \le C\widetilde{\Phi}(\alpha)\Phi(t) \quad \text{and} \quad \widetilde{\Phi}(\alpha) \sim \widetilde{\Phi}(1/\alpha)^{-1}.$$

Then the second result is the following:

**Theorem 1.3.** Let T be a bounded linear operator from  $L^{\Phi}(Y)$  to  $L^{\Psi}(X)$ . Assume  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  satisfy (1.3) and (1.2), respectively, and further assume

(1.4) 
$$\int_0^1 \Phi^{-1}(t) \Psi^{-1}(t^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} < \infty.$$

Then there is a constant C such that  $||T^*f||_{L^{\Psi}} \leq C||f||_{L^{\Phi}}$ .

Compared with the result in [3] where  $\Phi(t) = t^p$  and  $\Psi(t) = t^q$ , the result above is more general. For this particular example, the conditions (1.3) and (1.2) are satisfied and

$$\int_0^1 \Phi^{-1}(t) \Psi^{-1}(t^{-1}) \frac{dt}{t} = \int_0^1 t^{(1/p) - (1/q)} \frac{dt}{t} < \infty,$$

provided p < q. We obtain another example if we set  $\Psi(t) = t^q$ ,  $\Phi(t) = t^p (\log(2+t))^\beta$  with  $\beta > 0$ . The condition (1.2) is clearly satisfied. It is easily verified that for any  $\alpha \ge 1$ , there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\Phi(\alpha t) \lesssim \alpha^{p_\varepsilon} \Phi(t)$  with  $p_\varepsilon = p + \varepsilon \beta$ . So if we set  $\widetilde{\Phi}(t) = t^{p_\varepsilon}$ , then (1.3) is satisfied and we can find  $\varepsilon$  so that  $\widetilde{\Phi}$  satisfies the condition (1.4) for p < q.

The proof of these theorems follows the line of argument in [3]. But some technical difficulties arising in the consideration of Lorentz and Orlicz spaces will be settled by introducing several lemmas.

# 2. Proof of Theorem 1.2

We begin by proving an elementary but crucial lemma concerning Lorentz space.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let F, G be disjoint measurable sets in Y and let f, g be measurable functions on X. If  $r \le p < \infty$ , then

and if  $p \le r$ , then

$$(2.2) ||f\chi_F + g\chi_G||_{p,r}^r \ge ||f\chi_F||_{p,r}^r + ||g\chi_G||_{p,r}^r.$$

Proof. By a limiting argument, we may assume that f and g are simple functions. Without loss of generality, we may write  $f\chi_F$ ,  $g\chi_G$  as  $f\chi_F = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i\chi_{F_i}$ ,  $g\chi_G = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i\chi_{G_i}$  respectively, where  $F_i$ ,  $G_i$  are measurable sets contained in F, G respectively. We may also assume

$$|c_1| \ge |c_2| \ge \cdots \ge |c_i| \ge |c_{i+1}| \ge \cdots$$
.

Set  $a_i = \nu(F_i)$ ,  $b_i = \nu(G_i)$ . Also for  $1 \le i \le n$ , set  $A_i = \sum_{k=1}^i a_k$ ,  $B_i = \sum_{k=1}^i b_k$ . Then the decreasing rearrangements of  $f\chi_F$ ,  $g\chi_G$  are given by

$$(f\chi_F)^*(t) = \begin{cases} |c_i| & \text{if } A_{i-1} \le t < A_i \\ 0 & \text{if } A_n \le t \end{cases},$$

$$(g\chi_G)^*(t) = \begin{cases} |c_i| & \text{if } B_{i-1} \le t < B_i \\ 0 & \text{if } B_n \le t. \end{cases}$$

Since the supports of f and g are disjoint, we have  $f + g = \sum_i c_i \chi_{F_i \cup G_i}$ . Thus we have

$$(f\chi_F + g\chi_G)^*(t) = \begin{cases} |c_i| & \text{if } A_{i-1} + B_{i-1} \le t < A_i + B_i \\ 0 & \text{if } A_n + B_n \le t. \end{cases}$$

Now for i = 1, ..., n, let us set

$$S_i = (A_i + B_i)^{r/p} - (A_{i-1} + B_{i-1})^{r/p} - A_i^{r/p} + A_{i-1}^{r/p} - B_i^{r/p} + B_{i-1}^{r/p}.$$

Then a simple computation shows that

$$||f+g||_{L^{p,r}}^r - ||f||_{L^{p,r}}^r - ||g||_{L^{p,r}}^r = \sum_{i=1}^n |c_i|^r S_i.$$

Finally, we only need to observe that  $S_i \leq 0$  if  $0 < r/p \leq 1$  and  $S_i \geq 0$  if  $r/p \geq 1$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.1.

Now we prove Theorem 1.2. Fix p, r, q, s so that  $1 \le p \le r < s \le q < \infty$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume  $||f||_{L^{p,r}(Y)} = 1$ . Define a function  $\mathcal M$  from measurable sets of  $(Y, \nu)$  to  $\mathbb R$  by

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \|f\chi_S\|_{L^{p,r}(Y)}^r.$$

As mentioned in [3], we may assume that for  $\lambda > 0$  and for any measurable set E, if  $\lambda \leq \mathcal{M}(E)$ , then there is a measurable subset S such that  $S \subset E$  and  $\mathcal{M}(S) = \lambda$ . This can be achieved by replacing Y by  $Y \times [0,1]$ ,  $\nu$  by the product of  $\nu$  and Lebesgue measure on [0,1], T by  $T \circ \pi$  where  $\pi f(y) = \int_0^1 f(y,s) ds$ , and  $E_n$  by  $E_n \times [0,1]$ . Then we see that the boundedness of  $T^*$  is implied by the boundedness of  $(T \circ \pi)^*$ . Indeed, assume that  $(T \circ \pi)^*$  is bounded from  $L^{p,r}(Y \times [0,1])$  to  $L^{q,s}(X)$  and (1.1) holds for  $(T \circ \pi)^*$  instead of  $T^*$ . Given  $f \in L^{p,r}(Y)$ , apply the above assumption to  $f \otimes \chi_{[0,1]}$ . Since

$$(T \circ \pi)^* f \otimes \chi_{[0,1]} = \sup_n T \left( \int_0^1 \chi_{E_n \times [0,1]} (f \otimes \chi_{[0,1]}) \, ds \right) = T^* f$$

and since  $||f \otimes \chi_{[0,1]}||_{L^{p,r}(Y \times [0,1])} = ||f||_{L^{p,r}(Y)}$ , (1.1) follows.

We also need the following lemma which is a modification of the one in [3].

**Lemma 2.2.** Let f be a measurable function with  $||f||_{L^{p,r}(Y)} = 1$ . Then there is a collection  $\{B_k^l\}$  of measurable subsets of Y, with  $l \in \{0, 1, 2, ...\}$  and  $1 \le k \le 2^l$ ,

satisfying the following conditions.

- 1.  $\{B_k^l: 1 \le k \le 2^l\}$  is a partition of Y into disjoint measurable subsets.
- 2.  $\|\chi_{B_{i}^{l}}f\|_{L^{p,r}(Y)}^{r} \leq 2^{-l} \text{ for } 1 \leq k \leq 2^{l}$ .
- 3. For each n,  $E_n$  can be decomposed as an empty, finite or countable union such that for some sequences  $l_i^n$ ,  $k_i^n$ ,

$$E_n = \left(igcup_{i \geq 1} B_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n}
ight)igcup_{l} D_n \quad with \quad l_1^n < l_2^n < l_3^n < \cdots$$

where  $D_n$  is a measurable set for which  $\mathcal{M}(D_n) = 0$ .

Proof of Lemma 2.2. Define for  $1 \le k \le 2^l - 1$ ,

$$N_k^l = \min \left\{ n \in \mathbb{N} \colon \mathcal{M}(E_n) \geq 2^{-l}k \right\}.$$

By the divisibility assumption for  $1 \le k \le 2^l - 1$ , we can choose a subset  $A_k^l$  of  $E_{N_k^l}$  in such a way that  $\mathcal{M}(A_k^l) = k2^{-l}$  and  $A_{2^l}^l = Y$ . Since  $E_n$  is increasing, we may assume that  $A_i^l \subset A_{i+1}^l$  and  $A_k^{l-1} = A_{2k}^l$ . Now we define  $B_k^l$  by

$$B_1^l = A_1^l,$$
  
 $B_2^l = (A_2^l \setminus A_1^l), \dots, B_k^l = (A_k^l \setminus A_{k-1}^l), \dots,$   
 $B_{2^l}^l = (A_{2^l}^l \setminus A_{2^l-1}^l).$ 

Since  $p \le r$ , by (2.2) in Lemma 2.1  $\mathcal{M}(S_1 \cup S_2) \ge \mathcal{M}(S_1) + \mathcal{M}(S_2)$  if  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are disjoint. So for all  $1 \le k \le 2^l$ , we have

$$\mathcal{M}(B_k^l) = \mathcal{M}(A_k^l \setminus A_{k-1}^l) \le \mathcal{M}(A_k^l) - \mathcal{M}(A_{k-1}^l) = 2^{-l}.$$

Form the construction, it follows that for each n, there are sequences  $\{l_i^n\}, \{m_i^n\}$  so that

$$A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}\subset E_n,\quad A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}\subset A_{m_{i+1}^n}^{l_{i+1}^n},\quad \lim_{i o\infty}\mathcal{M}ig(A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}ig)=\mathcal{M}(E_n)$$

and  $l_i^n$  is strictly increasing as i increase. Indeed, using binary expansion, we can write  $\mathcal{M}(E_n) = \sum_{j=1}^\infty 2^{-l_j^n}$  where  $l_j^n$  is strictly increasing as j increases. By our construction of the sets  $\{A_k^l\}$ , we see that for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , there is a  $A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}$  such that  $A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n} \subset E_n$  and  $\mathcal{M}(A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}) = \sum_{j=1}^i 2^{-l_j^n}$ . Since  $A_i^l \subset A_{i+1}^l$  and  $A_k^{l-1} = A_{2k}^l$ , we have  $A_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n} \subset A_{k_{i+1}^n}^{l_{i+1}^n}$ .

Now observe  $\left(A_{m_{i-1}^n}^{l_{i+1}^n} \setminus A_{m_i^n}^{l_i^n}\right) = B_{k_i^n}^{l_{i+1}^n}$  for some sequence  $\{k_i^n\}$ . Since  $\bigcup_i A_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n} = \bigcup_i B_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n}$ , by the monotone convergence theorem, we have  $\mathcal{M}\left(E_n \setminus \bigcup_i B_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n}\right) = 0$ . Now we set  $D_n = E_n \setminus \bigcup_i B_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n}$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2.

Let  $N: X \to \mathbb{Z}$  be a measurable function. Define an operator  $T^N f(x) = T(f\chi_{E_{N(x)}})(x)$ . To prove Theorem 1.2, it is sufficient to show that

$$||T^N f||_{L^{q,s}(X)} \le C||f||_{L^{p,r}(Y)}$$

where C is independent of N. Set  $A_n = \{x \colon N(x) = n\}$  and define  $R_{l,k}$  to be the index set  $\{n \colon B_k^l \text{ appears in the decomposition of } E_n\}$ . Define measurable sets  $D_j^l$  by  $D_j^l = \bigcup_{n \in R_j^l} A_n$ . Observe  $D_i^l \cap D_j^l = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$ . Suppose not. Then there is an  $A_n$  such that  $A_n \subset D_i^l \cap D_j^l$  because  $A_n$  is pair-wise disjoint. So  $B_i^l$  and  $B_j^l$  appear in the decomposition of  $E_n$ . But scale- $2^l$  element is contained at most once in  $E_n$ . It is a contradiction.

Note 
$$f\chi_{E_n} = \sum_{(l,j): E_n = \bigcup B_i^l} f\chi_{B_j^l \cup D_n}$$
. We write

$$\begin{split} T^N f &= \sum_n \chi_{A_n} T(f \chi_{E_n}) = \sum_n \sum_{(l,j): E_n = \bigcup B_j^l} \chi_{A_n} T(f \chi_{B_j^l \cup D_n}) \\ &= \sum_l \sum_j \chi_{D_j^l} T(f \chi_{B_j^l \cup D_n}). \end{split}$$

Since T is bounded from  $L^{p,r}(Y)$  to  $L^{q,s}(X)$ , we may drop  $D_n$  in the above expression. Since q > 1, the Lorentz space  $L^{q,s}$  is a Banach space (see 1.6 of [1]). Thus we have

$$||T^N f||_{q,s} \le \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left\| \sum_j \chi_{D_j^l} T(f \chi_{B_j^l}) \right\|_{q,s}.$$

Now fix l and note that  $q \ge s$  and  $\{D_j^l\}$  are disjoint. By (2.1) in Lemma 2.1, we have the following.

$$\begin{split} \left\| \sum_{j} \chi_{D_{j}^{l}} T(f\chi_{B_{j}^{l}}) \right\|_{q,s}^{s} &\leq \sum_{j} \left\| \chi_{D_{j}^{l}} T(f\chi_{B_{j}^{l}}) \right\|_{q,s}^{s} \\ &\leq \sum_{i} \left( \|T\|_{L^{p,r} \to L^{q,r}} \right)^{s} \left\| f\chi_{B_{j}^{l}} \right\|_{p,r}^{s}. \end{split}$$

The second inequality is trivial. By the decomposition in Lemma 2.2, the last in the above inequality is bounded by

$$\sum_{i} (\|T\|_{L^{p,r} \to L^{q,r}})^{s} 2^{-\{(s/r)-1\}l} \|f\chi_{B_{j}^{l}}\|_{p,r}^{r}.$$

Since  $p \le r$  and for each l,  $B_j^l$  are disjoint, another application of Lemma 2.1 implies

 $\sum_{i} \|f\chi_{B_{i}^{l}}\|_{p,r}^{r} \leq \|f\|_{p,r}^{r}$ . Putting all things together, we have

$$||T^N f||_{q,s} \le \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2^{-l(r^{-1} - s^{-1})} (||T||_{L^{p,r} \to L^{q,r}}) ||f||_{p,r}$$

$$\le (1 - 2^{-\{(1/r) - (1/s)\}})^{-1} (||T||_{L^{p,r} \to L^{q,r}})$$

since r < s and  $||f||_{L^{p,r}} = 1$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.2.

## 3. Proof of Theorem 1.3

We begin with making several observations. Since  $\Psi$  is strictly increasing, its inverse  $\Psi^{-1}$  satisfies

(3.1) 
$$\Psi^{-1}(s)\Psi^{-1}(t) \leq \Psi^{-1}(Cst), \qquad \Psi^{-1}\left(\frac{st}{C}\right) \leq \Psi^{-1}(s)\Psi^{-1}(t).$$

Let  $L^{\Omega}$  be an Orlicz space with Young's function  $\Omega$ . If  $\Omega(st) \geq C\Omega(s)\Omega(t)$  for some C, then by the definition of Orlicz space norm, we have  $\int \Omega(|f(x)|/\|f\|_{L^{\Omega}})\,dx=1$ . The condition on  $\Omega$  implies  $1\leq C\int \Omega(|f(x)|)/\Omega(\|f\|_{L^{\Omega}})\,dx$  and hence  $\Omega(\|f\|_{L^{\Omega}})\leq C\int \Omega(|f(x)|)\,dx$ . Conversely if we assume  $\Omega(st)\leq C\Omega(s)\Omega(t)$  for some C, then we have  $\Omega(\|f\|_{L^{\Omega}})\geq C\int \Omega(|f(x)|)\,dx$ . By the assumptions (1.2) on  $\Psi$  we have

$$\Psi(\|f\|_{L^{\Psi}}) \sim \int \Psi(|f(x)|) dx.$$

In the similar way it is easy to see that for f satisfying  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}} \leq 1$ ,

$$\widetilde{\Phi}(\|f\|_{L^{\Phi}}) \leq C \int \widetilde{\Phi}(|f(x)|) dx.$$

As before, it is sufficient to show for all measurable  $N: X \to \mathbb{Z}$ , the operator  $T^N$  given by

$$T^{N} f(x) = T(f \chi_{E_{N(x)}})(x)$$

is bounded from  $L^{\Phi}$  to  $L^{\Psi}$ . Without loss of generality we may assume  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}} = 1$ . Now we introduce a decomposition for functions which is similar to Lemma 2.2.

**Lemma 3.1.** Let f be a measurable function with  $||f||_{L^{\Phi}} = 1$ . Then there is a collection  $\{B_j^l\}$  of measurable sets in X, indexed by  $l \in \{0, 1, 2, ...\}$  and  $1 \le j \le 2^l$ , satisfying the following conditions:

- 1.  $\{B_j^l: 1 \leq j \leq 2^l\}$  is a partition of X into disjoint measurable subsets.
- 2.  $\int \Phi(|f|\chi_{B^l}) dx = 2^{-l} \text{ for all } 1 \le j \le 2^l$ .

3. For each n,  $E_n$  can be decomposed as an empty, finite or countable union such that for some sequences  $l_i^n$ ,  $k_i^n$ ,

$$E_n = \left(\bigcup_{i \geq 1} B_{k_i^n}^{l_i^n}\right) \bigcup D_n \quad with \quad l_1^n < l_2^n < l_3^n < \cdots,$$

where  $\mathcal{M}(D_n) = 0$ .

The proof of the above lemma can be obtained by following the same line of argument as in [3]. So we omit the detailed proof. According to Lemma 3.1, we decompose f with the same notations for  $A_n$ ,  $R_j^l$ ,  $D_j^l$  as in the proof of Theorem 1.2. We write

$$\begin{split} T^N f(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T(f\chi_{E_n})(x) \chi_{A_n}(x) \\ &= \sum_{n=1} \sum_{j,l} T(f\chi_{B_j^l \cup D_n})(x) \chi_{A_n}(x) = \sum_{j,l} T(f_{j,l})(x) \chi_{D_j^l}(x), \end{split}$$

where  $f_{j,l} = f\chi_{B_j^l}$ . By the condition (1.2) on  $\Psi$  and the fact that  $D_i^l$  are mutually disjoint for each fixed l, we have

$$\Psi\left(\left\|\sum_{j}T(f_{j,l})\chi_{D_{j}^{l}}\right\|_{L^{\Psi}}\right)\leq C\sum_{j}\int\Psi\left(|T(f_{j,l})(x)|\chi_{D_{j}^{l}}(x)\right)\,dx.$$

On the other hand, using the boundedness of T from  $L^{\Phi}$  to  $L^{\Psi}$ , we have

$$\Psi\left(\left\|f_{j,l}\right\|_{L^{\Phi}}\right) \geq \Psi\left(\left\|Tf_{j,l}\right\|_{L^{\Psi}}\right) \sim \int \Psi\left(\left|Tf_{j,l}\right|\right) dx.$$

By the decomposition and the condition (1.3) on  $\Phi$ , we see that

$$\widetilde{\Phi}(\|f_{j,l}\|_{L^{\Phi}}) \leq \int \Phi(|f_{j,l}|) \, dx \sim 2^{-l}.$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{split} \Psi\left(\left\|\sum_{j}T(f_{j,l})\chi_{D_{j}^{l}}\right\|_{L^{\Psi}}\right) &\leq C\sum_{j}\Psi(\|Tf_{j,l}\|_{L^{\Psi}})\\ &\leq C\sum_{j}\Psi\big(\widetilde{\Phi}(2^{-l})\big) \leq C2^{l}\Psi\big(\widetilde{\Phi}(2^{-l})\big) \end{split}$$

since the number of j is not greater than  $2^{l}$  for each l. By the triangle inequality, we

have

$$||T^N f||_{L^{\Psi}} \le \sum_l \left\| \sum_j T(f_{j,l}) \chi_{D_j^l} \right\|_{L^{\Psi}}.$$

Summing with respect to l we get

(3.2) 
$$||T^N f||_{L^{\Psi}} \le C \sum_{l} \widetilde{\Phi}(2^{-l}) \Psi(2^l).$$

Finally, (1.4) implies the left hand side of the above is finite. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.3.

REMARK 1. In Theorem 1.3, if we set  $\Phi(t) = t^p (\log(2+t))^{\beta}$   $(\beta > 0)$  and  $\Psi(t) = t^q$ , then the inequality (3.2) can be expressed as

$$||T^N f||_{L^{\Psi}} \le C \sum_l 2^{-(1/p_{\varepsilon}-1/q)l} = C (1 - 2^{-(1/p_{\varepsilon}-1/q)})^{-1}.$$

Thus we have the similar result as in Theorem 1.1. It is interesting to prove Theorem 1.3 for the case  $\Psi(t) = t^p (\log(2+t))^\beta$  and  $\Phi(t) = t^p$  where the convexity difference between  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  is logarithmic. But the lack of convexity difference causes a difficulty in controlling the inequality (3.2).

REMARK 2. Theorem 1.1 can be easily extended to the vector valued function spaces (e.g.  $L_B^p$  where B is a Banach space). For example, if T is a linear operator from  $L_A^p(Y,d\nu)$  to  $L_B^q(X,d\mu)$  with  $1 \le p,\ q \le \infty$  and  $\{E_n\}$  is a nested set sequence, then the maximal operator  $T^*$  defined by

$$T^*F = \sup_{n} ||T(F\chi_{E_n})||_B$$

satisfies the same inequality as in Theorem 1.1.

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