

ON DILATION OPERATORS IN TRIEBEL-LIZORKIN SPACES

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Abstract: We consider dilation operators $T_k : f \rightarrow f(2^k \cdot)$ in the framework of Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If $s > n \max(\frac{1}{p} - 1, 0)$, T_k is a bounded linear operator from $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ into itself and there are optimal bounds for its norm. We study the situation on the line $s = n \max(\frac{1}{p} - 1, 0)$, an open problem mentioned in [ET96, 2.3.1]. It turns out that the results shed new light upon the diversity of different approaches to Triebel-Lizorkin spaces on this line, associated to definitions by differences, Fourier-analytical methods and subatomic decompositions.

Keywords: Triebel-Lizorkin spaces, Besov spaces, dilation operators, moment conditions.

Introduction

In this article dilation operators acting on Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ are investigated. The idea for this paper originates from its forerunners [Vy08] and [Sch09], where the authors studied corresponding problems for Besov spaces. Since the substantial theory of the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces is strongly linked with the theory of Besov spaces – in the sequel briefly denoted as F-spaces and B-spaces, respectively – the question came up whether those previous results could be carried over to the F-space setting. This paper aims at providing a rather final answer to this question.

We consider dilation operators of the form

$$T_k f(x) = f(2^k x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad (0.1)$$

which represent bounded operators from $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ into itself. Their behaviour is well known when $s > \sigma_p = n \max(\frac{1}{p} - 1, 0)$. Then we have for $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$,

$$\|T_k| \mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)) \| \sim 2^{k(s - \frac{n}{p})}, \quad s > \sigma_p,$$

cf. [ET96, 2.3.1, 2.3.2]. Here we investigate the situation on the line $s = \sigma_p$. For $1 < p < \infty$ and $0 < p \leq 1$ with $p \leq q$ we obtain sharp estimates for the norms of

the operators T_k , i.e.,

$$\|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \sim 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \cdot \begin{cases} k^{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{\max(q,2)}} & \text{if } 1 < p < \infty, \\ k^{1/p} & \text{if } 0 < p \leq 1, \quad p \leq q, \end{cases}$$

whereas, for $0 < q < p < 1$, we only have

$$2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/p} \lesssim \|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \lesssim 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/q}$$

or, when $0 < q < p = 1$,

$$2^{-kn} k^{\max(1, 1/q - 1/2)} \lesssim \|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{1,q}^0(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \lesssim 2^{-kn} k^{1/q}.$$

As a by-product, the results for the dilation operators lead to new insights concerning the nature of the different approaches to F-spaces with positive smoothness – namely the classical ($\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s$), the Fourier-analytical ($F_{p,q}^s$) and the subatomic approach ($\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s$) – on the line $s = \sigma_p$. Recent results by HEDBERG, NETRUSOV [HN07] on atomic decompositions and by TRIEBEL [Tri06, Sect. 9.2] on the reproducing formula prove coincidences

$$\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p, q)} - \frac{1}{p} \right), \quad 0 < p < \infty, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty,$$

and

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p, q, 1)} - 1 \right), \quad 0 < p < \infty, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty,$$

resulting in

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

whenever

$$0 < p < \infty, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty, \quad s > n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p, q)} - \frac{1}{\max(1, p)} \right)$$

(in terms of equivalent quasi-norms).

Furthermore, since for $s < n(\frac{1}{p} - 1)$ the δ -distribution belongs to $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ – which is a singular distribution and cannot be interpreted as a function – the spaces

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad 0 < s < \sigma_p,$$

cannot be compared. The situation on the line $s = \sigma_p$, $0 < p < 1$, so far remained an open problem. In this case $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is a subspace of $L_1^{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and the two spaces $F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ can be compared. But our results yield, that they do not coincide, i.e.,

$$F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad 0 < q \leq \infty.$$

1. Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$

We use standard notation. Let \mathbb{N} be the collection of all natural numbers and let $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$. Let \mathbb{R}^n be euclidean n -space, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, \mathbb{C} the complex plane. The set of multi-indices $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$, $\beta_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, is denoted by \mathbb{N}_0^n , with $|\beta| = \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n$, as usual. Moreover, if $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ we put $x^\beta = x_1^{\beta_1} \dots x_n^{\beta_n}$. We use the equivalence ‘ \sim ’ in

$$a_k \sim b_k \quad \text{or} \quad \varphi(x) \sim \psi(x)$$

always to mean that there are two positive numbers c_1 and c_2 such that

$$c_1 a_k \leq b_k \leq c_2 a_k \quad \text{or} \quad c_1 \varphi(x) \leq \psi(x) \leq c_2 \varphi(x)$$

for all admitted values of the discrete variable k or the continuous variable x , where $\{a_k\}_k, \{b_k\}_k$ are non-negative sequences and φ, ψ are non-negative functions. If $a \in \mathbb{R}$, then $a_+ := \max(a, 0)$ and $[a]$ denotes the integer part of a .

All unimportant positive constants will be denoted by c , occasionally with subscripts. For convenience, let both dx and $|\cdot|$ stand for the (n -dimensional) Lebesgue measure in the sequel. As we shall always deal with function spaces on \mathbb{R}^n , we may usually omit the ‘ \mathbb{R}^n ’ from their notation for convenience.

Let for $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ the numbers σ_p and σ_{pq} be given by

$$\sigma_p = n \left(\frac{1}{p} - 1 \right)_+ \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{pq} = n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p, q)} - 1 \right)_+. \quad (1.1)$$

Furthermore, let $Q_{\nu,m}$ with $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ denote a cube in \mathbb{R}^n with sides parallel to the axes of coordinates, centered at $2^{-\nu}m$, and with side length $2^{-\nu}$. For a cube Q in \mathbb{R}^n and $r > 0$, we denote by rQ the cube in \mathbb{R}^n concentric with Q and with side length r times the side length of Q . Moreover, $\chi_{\nu,m}^{(p)}$ stands for the p -normalized characteristic function of $Q_{\nu,m}$, i.e.,

$$\chi_{\nu,m}^{(p)}(x) = 2^{\frac{\nu n}{p}} \quad \text{if} \quad x \in Q_{\nu,m} \quad \text{and} \quad \chi_{\nu,m}^{(p)}(x) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad x \notin Q_{\nu,m}.$$

Of course

$$\|\chi_{\nu,m}^{(p)}\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} = 1.$$

The Fourier-analytical approach

The Schwartz space $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and its dual $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ of all complex-valued tempered distributions have their usual meaning here. Let $\varphi_0 = \varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ be such that

$$\text{supp } \varphi \subset \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : |y| < 2\} \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(x) = 1 \quad \text{if} \quad |x| \leq 1, \quad (1.2)$$

and for each $j \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\varphi_j(x) = \varphi(2^{-j}x) - \varphi(2^{-j+1}x)$. Then $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=0}^\infty$ forms a *smooth dyadic resolution of unity*. Given any $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we denote by $\mathcal{F}f$

and $\mathcal{F}^{-1}f$ its Fourier transform and its inverse Fourier transform, respectively. Let $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then the compact support of $\varphi_j \mathcal{F}f$ implies by the Paley-Wiener-Schwartz theorem that $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(\varphi_j \mathcal{F}f)$ is an entire analytic function on \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition 1.1. Let $s \in \mathbb{R}$, $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $\{\varphi_j\}_j$ a smooth dyadic resolution of unity. The space $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is the set of all distributions $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that

$$\|f\|_{F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)} = \left\| \left\| \{2^{js} \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\varphi_j \mathcal{F}f)(\cdot)\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0}\right\|_{\ell_q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \quad (1.3)$$

is finite.

Remark 1.2. The spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ are independent of the particular choice of the smooth dyadic resolution of unity $\{\varphi_j\}_j$ appearing in their definition. They are quasi-Banach spaces (Banach spaces for $p, q \geq 1$), and $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, where the first embedding is dense if $q < \infty$. An extension of Definition 1.1 to $p = \infty$ does not make sense if $0 < q < \infty$ (in particular, a corresponding space is not independent of the choice $\{\varphi_j\}_j$). The case $p = q = \infty$ yields the Besov spaces $B_{\infty,\infty}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

In general, the Fourier-analytical Besov spaces $B_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ are defined correspondingly to the spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ by interchanging the order in which the quasi-norms are taken, i.e., first using the L_p -norm and afterwards applying the ℓ_q -norm – in view of (1.3). These B-spaces are closely linked with the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ via

$$B_{p,\min(p,q)}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow B_{p,\max(p,q)}^s(\mathbb{R}^n). \quad (1.4)$$

The theory of the spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (and $B_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$) has been developed in detail in [Tri83] and [Tri92] (and continued and extended in the more recent monographs [Tri01], [Tri06]), but has a longer history already including many contributors; we do not further want to discuss this here.

Note that the spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ contain tempered distributions which can only be interpreted as regular distributions (functions) for sufficiently high smoothness. More precisely, we have

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset L_1^{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad \text{if, and only if,} \quad \begin{cases} s \geq \sigma_p, & \text{for } 0 < p < 1, \ 0 < q \leq \infty, \\ s > \sigma_p, & \text{for } 1 \leq p < \infty, \ 0 < q \leq \infty, \\ s = \sigma_p, & \text{for } 1 \leq p < \infty, \ 0 < q \leq 2, \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

cf. [ST95, Thm. 3.3.2]. In particular, for $s < \sigma_p$ one cannot interpret $f \in F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ as a regular distribution in general.

The scale $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ contains many well-known function spaces. We list a few special cases.

Let $1 < p < \infty$, then

$$F_{p,2}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = H_p^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s \in \mathbb{R},$$

are the (fractional) Sobolev spaces containing all $f \in S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(1 + |\xi|^2)^{s/2} \mathcal{F}f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

In particular, for $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, we obtain the classical Sobolev spaces

$$F_{p,2}^k(\mathbb{R}^n) = W_p^k(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad \text{i.e., } F_{p,2}^0(\mathbb{R}^n) = L_p(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

usually normed by

$$\|f|W_p^k(\mathbb{R}^n)\| = \left(\sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|D^\alpha f|L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)\|^p \right)^{1/p}.$$

Furthermore,

$$F_{p,2}^0(\mathbb{R}^n) = h_p(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad 0 < p < \infty,$$

the latter being the inhomogeneous Hardy spaces.

Local means and atomic decompositions

There are equivalent characterizations for the F-spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ in terms of local means and atomic decompositions. We first sketch the approach via local means. For further details we refer to [BPT96], [BPT97], and [Tri06] with forerunners in [Tri92, Sect. 2.5.3].

Let $B = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : |y| < 1\}$ be the unit ball in \mathbb{R}^n and let κ be a C^∞ function in \mathbb{R}^n with $\text{supp } \kappa \subset B$. Then

$$k(t, f)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \kappa(y) f(x + ty) dy = t^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \kappa\left(\frac{y-x}{t}\right) f(y) dy \quad (1.6)$$

with $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $t > 0$ are local means (appropriately interpreted for $f \in S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$). For given $s \in \mathbb{R}$ it is assumed that the kernel κ satisfies in addition for some $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\kappa^\vee(\xi) \neq 0 \text{ if } 0 < |\xi| < \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad (D^\alpha \kappa^\vee)(0) = 0 \text{ if } |\alpha| \leq s. \quad (1.7)$$

The second condition is empty if $s < 0$. Furthermore, let κ_0 be a second C^∞ function in \mathbb{R}^n with $\text{supp } \kappa_0 \subset B$ and $\kappa_0^\vee(0) \neq 0$. The meaning of $k_0(f, t)$ is defined in the same way as (1.6) with κ_0 instead of κ .

We have the following characterization in terms of local means, cf. [Tri06, Th. 1.10] and [Ryc99].

Theorem 1.3. *Let $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$ and $s \in \mathbb{R}$. Let κ_0 and κ be the above kernels of local means. Then for $f \in S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$,*

$$\|k_0(1, f)|L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)\| + \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 2^{jsq} |k(2^{-j}, f)(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} |L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \right\| \quad (1.8)$$

is an equivalent quasi-norm in $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Remark 1.4. We shall only need one part of Theorem 1.3, namely that $\|f\|_{F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)}$ can be estimated from below by (1.8). In that case some of the assumptions in (1.7) may be omitted. The inspection of the proof, cf. [Ryc99, Rem. 3], shows that if κ is a C^∞ function in \mathbb{R}^n with

$$\text{supp } \kappa \subset B \quad \text{and} \quad D^\alpha \kappa^\vee(0) = 0, \quad |\alpha| \leq N,$$

where $N > s - 1$, then

$$\|f\|_{F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)} \geq c \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 2^{jsq} |k(2^{-j}, f)(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

for some $c > 0$.

The following atomic characterization of function spaces of type $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is sometimes preferred (compared with the above Fourier-analytical approach), e.g. when establishing the lower bound for the dilation operators later on; we closely follow the presentation in [Tri97, Sect. 13].

Definition 1.5. Let $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $\lambda = \{\lambda_{\nu,m} \in \mathbb{C} : \nu \in \mathbb{N}_0, m \in \mathbb{Z}^n\}$. Then

$$f_{p,q} = \left\{ \lambda : \| \lambda \|_{f_{p,q}} = \left\| \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} |\lambda_{\nu,m} \chi_{\nu,m}^{(p)}(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} < \infty \right\}$$

(with the usual modification if $p = \infty$ and/or $q = \infty$).

Definition 1.6.

- (i) Let $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $d > 1$. A K -times differentiable complex-valued function a on \mathbb{R}^n (continuous if $K = 0$) is called a 1_K -atom if

$$\text{supp } a \subset dQ_{0,m} \quad \text{for some } m \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \tag{1.9}$$

and

$$|D^\alpha a(x)| \leq 1 \quad \text{for } |\alpha| \leq K.$$

- (ii) Let $s \in \mathbb{R}$, $0 < p \leq \infty$, $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $L + 1 \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and $d > 1$. A K -times differentiable complex-valued function a on \mathbb{R}^n (continuous if $K = 0$) is called an $(s,p)_{K,L}$ -atom if for some $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0$

$$\text{supp } a \subset dQ_{\nu,m} \quad \text{for some } m \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \tag{1.10}$$

$$|D^\alpha a(x)| \leq 2^{-\nu(s-\frac{n}{p})+|\alpha|\nu} \quad \text{for } |\alpha| \leq K, \tag{1.11}$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} x^\beta a(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{if } |\beta| \leq L. \tag{1.12}$$

It is convenient to write $a_{\nu,m}(x)$ instead of $a(x)$ if this atom is located at $Q_{\nu,m}$ according to (1.9) and (1.10). Assumption (1.12) is called a *moment condition*, where $L = -1$ means that there are no moment conditions. Furthermore, K denotes the smoothness of the atom, cf. (1.11). The atomic characterization of function spaces of type $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is given by the following result, cf. [Tri97, Thm. 13.8].

Theorem 1.7. *Let $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $s \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $K \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $L + 1 \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with*

$$K \geq (1 + [s])_+ \quad \text{and} \quad L \geq \max(-1, [\sigma_{pq} - s])$$

be fixed. Then $f \in S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$ belongs to $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if, and only if, it can be represented as

$$f = \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \lambda_{\nu,m} a_{\nu,m}(x), \quad \text{convergence being in } S'(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad (1.13)$$

where the $a_{\nu,m}$ are 1_K -atoms ($\nu = 0$) or $(s, p)_{K,L}$ -atoms ($\nu \in \mathbb{N}$) with

$$\text{supp } a_{\nu,m} \subset dQ_{\nu,m}, \quad \nu \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \quad d > 1,$$

and $\lambda \in f_{p,q}$. Furthermore,

$$\inf \|\lambda\|_{f_{p,q}},$$

where the infimum is taken over all admissible representations (1.13), is an equivalent quasi-norm in $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

2. Dilation Operators

In this section we present our main results concerning dilation operators T_k in F-spaces when $s = \sigma_p$. We distinguish between the cases $1 < p < \infty$ and $0 < p \leq 1$, when $\sigma_p = 0$ and $\sigma_p = n(1/p - 1)$, respectively.

Theorem 2.1. *Let $1 < p < \infty$ and $0 < q \leq \infty$. Then*

$$\|T_k \mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^0(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \sim 2^{-k \frac{n}{p}} \cdot k^{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{\max(q,2)}}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Proof. *Step 1.* Recall Definition 1.1, where in particular the dyadic resolution of unity was constructed such that

$$\varphi_j(x) = \varphi(2^{-j}x) - \varphi(2^{-j+1}x), \quad j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Elementary calculation yields

$$(\varphi_j(\xi) \widehat{f(2^k \cdot)}(\xi))^\vee(x) = 2^{-kn} (\varphi_j(\xi) \widehat{f}(2^{-k}\xi))^\vee(x) = (\varphi_j(2^k \xi) \widehat{f}(\xi))^\vee(2^k x). \quad (2.1)$$

For convenience we assume $q < \infty$ in the sequel, but the counterpart for $q = \infty$ is obvious.

From the definition of F-spaces with $f(2^k x)$ in place of $f(x)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\|f(2^k \cdot)|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)\| &= \left\| \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(2^k \cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&= 2^{-k \frac{n}{p}} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&\sim 2^{-k \frac{n}{p}} \left\{ \left\| (\varphi_0(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f}(\cdot))^\vee(\cdot) \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \right. \\
&\quad + \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&\quad \left. + \left\| \left(\sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \right\} \quad (2.2)
\end{aligned}$$

If $j \geq k+1$, then $\varphi_j(2^k x) = \varphi_{j-k}(x)$. This yields for the last term

$$\begin{aligned}
&2^{-k \frac{n}{p}} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&= 2^{-k \frac{n}{p}} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=k+1}^{\infty} 2^{(j-k)\sigma_p q} 2^{k\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_{j-k}(\cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&= 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \left\| \left(\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} 2^{l\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_l(\cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&\leq 2^{-\frac{kn}{p}} \|f|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)\|. \quad (2.3)
\end{aligned}$$

If $j = 0$, we use the Hausdorff-Young inequality and obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\|(\varphi_0(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee|L_p\| &= \|(\varphi_0(2^k \cdot) \varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|L_p\| \\
&= \|(\varphi_0(2^k \cdot)^\vee * (\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|L_p\| \\
&\leq \|(\varphi_0(2^k \cdot)^\vee|L_1\| \cdot \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|L_p\| \\
&\leq c \|f|F_{p,q}^0\|.
\end{aligned}$$

Step 2. In view of Step 1 it remains to consider $j = 1, \dots, k$. Using Hölder's inequality with

$$\frac{1}{u} = \frac{q}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{u'} = 1 - \frac{q}{2} \quad \text{if } q < 2$$

or

$$\|id : \ell_2^k \hookrightarrow \ell_q^k\| = 1 \quad \text{when } q \geq 2 \quad \text{and } k \in \mathbb{N}$$

together with the Littlewood-Paley theorem, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} &\leq k^{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{\max(q,2)}} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &\leq k^{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{\max(q,2)}} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p} \\ &\leq k^{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{\max(q,2)}} \|f\|_{F_{p,q}^0}, \end{aligned}$$

giving the desired upper bound.

Step 3. In order to establish the lower bound we take $\psi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with

$$\text{supp } \psi \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| \leq 1/8\}.$$

We define the functions f_k through their Fourier transforms

$$\widehat{f}_k(\xi) = \sum_{j=1}^k \psi(2^k(\xi - \xi_j)), \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$$

where $\xi_j = (2^{-j}, 0, \dots, 0)$. We shall show that

$$\|f_k\|_{F_{p,q}^0} \lesssim k^{1/2} 2^{kn(1/p-1)}, \tag{2.4}$$

and

$$\|f_k(2^k \cdot)\|_{F_{p,q}^0} \gtrsim k^{1/q} 2^{-kn}. \tag{2.5}$$

We deal with (2.4) first. As the support of \widehat{f}_k lies in the unit ball of \mathbb{R}^n , we may omit the terms with $j \geq 1$ in (1.3). Furthermore, since $1 < p < \infty$ we may use the Littlewood-Paley decomposition theorem to estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_k\|_{F_{p,q}^0} &= \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f}_k)^\vee\|_{L_p} \\ &\lesssim \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |(\varphi_1(2^j \cdot) \cdot \varphi_0 \widehat{f}_k)^\vee(x)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |\psi(2^k(\xi - \xi_j))^\vee(x)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |2^{-kn} \psi^\vee(2^{-k}x) e^{ix\xi_j}|^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= k^{1/2} 2^{-kn} \|\psi^\vee(2^{-k}x)\|_{L_p} = k^{1/2} 2^{kn(1/p-1)} \|\psi^\vee\|_{L_p}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

Let us mention, that (2.4) holds also for $p = 1$. In this case, the inequality on the second line of (2.6) follows (roughly speaking) by the embedding

$$F_{1,2}^0(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L_1(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

cf. [ST95, Th. 3.1.1]. To prove (2.5), observe that

$$\widehat{f_k(2^k \cdot)}(\xi) = 2^{-kn} \widehat{f_k}(2^{-k}\xi) = 2^{-kn} \sum_{j=1}^k \psi(\xi - 2^k \xi_j), \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Using again the support properties of ψ and φ_j , we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_k(2^k \cdot)|_{F_{p,q}^0}\| &= \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |(\varphi_j \widehat{f_k(2^k \cdot)}(\xi))^\vee(x)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= 2^{-kn} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |(\psi(\xi - 2^k \xi_j))^\vee(x)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= 2^{-kn} \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |(\psi^\vee(x) e^{ix2^k \xi_j})|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= 2^{-kn} k^{1/q} \|\psi^\vee\|_{L_p}. \end{aligned}$$

Observe, that also (2.5) holds even for $p = 1$.

This finally leads to

$$\|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^0)\| \geq \frac{\|f_k(2^k \cdot)|_{F_{p,q}^0}\|}{\|f_k|_{F_{p,q}^0}\|} \geq k^{1/q-1/2} 2^{-\frac{kn}{p}}.$$

Step 4. Let $1 < p < \infty$ and $q \geq 2$. Chose an arbitrary non-vanishing $\psi \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Using the trivial embedding $F_{p,2}^0 \hookrightarrow F_{p,q}^0$, we obtain

$$\|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^0)\| \geq \frac{\|\psi|_{F_{p,q}^0}\|}{\|\psi(2^{-k} \cdot)|_{F_{p,q}^0}\|} \geq \frac{\|\psi|_{F_{p,q}^0}\|}{\|\psi(2^{-k} \cdot)|_{F_{p,2}^0}\|} \sim 2^{-k\frac{n}{p}}.$$

■

Theorem 2.2. *Let $0 < p \leq 1$, $0 < q \leq \infty$. Then*

$$\|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \sim 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/p}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Proof. *Step 1.* We give an estimate for the upper bounds of the dilation operators T_k similar to Theorem 2.1. We need to find suitable substitutes when $0 < p \leq 1$.

For the further calculations we make use of the following Fourier multiplier theorem, cf. [Tri83, Prop. 1.5.1],

$$\|(M\widehat{h})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \leq c\|M^\vee|_{L_p}\| \cdot \|h|_{L_p}\|, \quad \text{if } 0 < p \leq 1, \quad (2.7)$$

with $M^\vee \in S' \cap L_p$, and $\text{supp } \widehat{h} \subset \Omega$, $\text{supp } M \subset \Gamma$, where Ω and Γ are compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^n (c does not depend on M and h , but may depend on Ω and Γ). Of course for $p = 1$ this is just the Hausdorff-Young inequality (which was also used in Theorem 2.1). We put $h = (\varphi_0\widehat{f})^\vee$, where $\text{supp } \widehat{h} \subset \text{supp } \varphi_0 = \Omega$.

If $j = 0$, we take $M_0 = \varphi_0(2^k \cdot)$ where $\text{supp } M_0 \subset \text{supp } \varphi_0 = \Gamma$ and calculate

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{-k\frac{n}{p}} \|(\varphi_0(2^k \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| &\leq c2^{-k\frac{n}{p}} \|\varphi_0(2^k \cdot)^\vee|_{L_p}\| \cdot \|(\varphi_0\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|, \\ &= c2^{-k\frac{n}{p}} 2^{k\sigma_p} \|\varphi_0^\vee|_{L_p}\| \cdot \|(\varphi_0\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \\ &= c'2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \|(\varphi_0\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \\ &= c2^{-kn} \|f|_{F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}}\|. \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

According to the observations in Step 1 of Theorem 2.1 it remains to consider $1 \leq j \leq k$. This is the crucial step, leading to $k^{1/p}$. In this case $\varphi_j(x) = \bar{\varphi}(2^{-j}x)$, where $\bar{\varphi} = \varphi_0(x) - \varphi_0(2x)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee(x)|^q \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^k \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} 2^{j\sigma_p p} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p \right)^{1/p} \quad (2.9) \\ &= \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 2^{j\sigma_p p} \|(\bar{\varphi}(2^{k-j} \cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p + 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\bar{\varphi}\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p \right)^{1/p} \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows from $\ell_{\frac{p}{q}} \hookrightarrow \ell_1$ since $p < q$.

The term for $j = k$ in (2.9) needs some extra care. Using (2.7) where we set $M_k = \varphi_0(2 \cdot)$, $\text{supp } M_k \subset \text{supp } \varphi_0 = \Gamma$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\widehat{\varphi} f)^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p &= 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee - (\varphi_0(2\cdot)\widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p \\
&\leq c 2^{k\sigma_p p} \left(\|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| + \|(\varphi_0(2\cdot)\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \right)^p \\
&\leq c' 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p (1 + \|\varphi_0^\vee(2\cdot)|_{L_p}\|)^p \\
&= c_1 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

This estimate can be incorporated into our further calculations. Now for $1 \leq j \leq k-1$ we use the multiplier theorem with $M_j = \widehat{\varphi}(2^{k-j}\cdot)$, and observe that

$$\text{supp } M_j \subset \{x : |2^{k-j}x| \leq 2\} \subset \{x : |x| \leq 2\} = \Gamma.$$

Now inserting (2.10) into (2.9) yields

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 2^{j\sigma_p p} \|(\widehat{\varphi}(2^{k-j}\cdot)\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p + c_1 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p \right)^{1/p} \\
&\leq c \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 2^{j\sigma_p p} \|(\widehat{\varphi}(2^{k-j}\cdot))^\vee(\cdot)|_{L_p}\|^p \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p + 2^{k\sigma_p p} \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p \right)^{1/p} \\
&\leq c \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 2^{j\sigma_p p} \|2^{(j-k)n} \widehat{\varphi}^\vee(2^{j-k}\cdot)|_{L_p}\|^p + 2^{k\sigma_p p} \right)^{1/p} \\
&= c \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee|_{L_p}\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 2^{j\sigma_p p} 2^{(j-k)np} 2^{-(j-k)\frac{n}{p}p} \|\widehat{\varphi}^\vee|_{L_p}\|^p + 2^{k\sigma_p p} \right)^{1/p} \\
&\leq c 2^{k\sigma_p p} k^{1/p} \|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)\|.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Now (2.2) together with (2.3), (2.8), and (2.11) give the upper estimate.

Step 2. We construct a function that gives the lower bound. Let $\psi \in S(\mathbb{R})$ be a non-negative function with $\text{supp } \psi \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| \leq 1/8\}$ and $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(x) dx = 1$. We show that

$$\|\psi(2^k \cdot)|_{F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)}\| \geq c 2^{-kn} k^{1/p}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty.$$

Let us take a function $\kappa \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with

$$(D^\alpha \kappa^\vee)(0) = 0, \quad |\alpha| \leq r, \tag{2.12}$$

where $r > \sigma_p - 1$, according to [Ryc99, Th. BPT]. In particular, by [Ryc99, Rem. 3] these conditions on κ are sufficient for our purposes. Furthermore, we require

$$\kappa(x) = 1 \quad \text{if } x \in M = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n : |z - (1/2, 0, \dots, 0)| < 1/4\}. \tag{2.13}$$

Such a function κ was constructed in [Sch09, Th. 2.1].

Simple calculation shows that if $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and $|x - (-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^j}, 0, \dots, 0)| < \frac{1}{2^j} \frac{1}{8}$, which is equivalent to writing

$$x \in B_{2^{-(j+3)}}(x_j), \quad x_j = (-2^{-(j+1)}, 0, \dots, 0),$$

then

$$\text{supp}_y \psi(2^k x + 2^{k-j} y) \subset M.$$

For these x we get

$$\mathcal{K}(2^{-j}, \psi(2^k \cdot))(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \kappa(y) \psi(2^k x + 2^{k-j} y) dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi(2^k x + 2^{k-j} y) dy = 2^{(j-k)n}.$$

Note that the for different values of j , the balls $B_{2^{-(j+3)}}(x_j)$ are pairwise disjoint. Hence we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi(2^k \cdot)|_{F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}}\| &\geq \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |\mathcal{K}(2^{-j}, \psi(2^k \cdot))(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |\mathcal{K}(2^{-j}, \psi(2^k \cdot))(x)|^q \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\geq \left(\sum_{l=1}^k \int_{B_{2^{-(l+3)}}(x_l)} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k \delta_{lj} 2^{j\sigma_p q} |\mathcal{K}(2^{-j}, \psi(2^k \cdot))(x)|^q \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p p} 2^{(j-k)np} 2^{-jn} \right)^{1/p} = 2^{-kn} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{jn(\frac{1}{p}-1)p} 2^{jnp} 2^{-jn} \right)^{1/p} \\ &= 2^{-kn} k^{1/p}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the desired result. Our estimate holds as well in the case $p = 1$. ■

Refining the methods used in Theorem 2.2 we obtain the following generalization. However, our estimates are not sharp and might still be improved.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $0 < q < p < 1$. Then*

$$2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/p} \lesssim \|T_k | \mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \lesssim 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/q}.$$

Furthermore, if $0 < q < p = 1$ we have

$$2^{-kn} k^{\max(1, 1/q-1/2)} \lesssim \|T_k | \mathcal{L}(F_{1,q}^0(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \lesssim 2^{-kn} k^{1/q}.$$

Proof. *Step 1.* Refining the estimates for the upper bound used in Step 1 of Theorem 2.2 we see that we only need to consider the 'critical terms' when $j = 1, \dots, k$. In this case we now calculate

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left\| \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(\cdot)|^q \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \\
&= \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(x)|^q \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\
&= \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(x)|^q \right)^{\frac{q}{p} \cdot \frac{1}{q}} dx \right)^{\frac{q}{p} \cdot \frac{1}{q}} \\
&\leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^k \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} 2^{j\sigma_p p} |(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee(x)|^p dx \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
&= \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} \|(\varphi_j(2^k \cdot) \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p}^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq c \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} \|\widehat{\varphi}(2^{k-j} \cdot)^\vee\|_{L_p}^q \cdot \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p}^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq c \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} \|\widehat{\varphi}(2^{k-j} \cdot)^\vee\|_{L_p}^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq c \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^{j\sigma_p q} 2^{(j-k)nq} 2^{-(j-k)\frac{q}{p}} \|\widehat{\varphi}(\cdot)^\vee\|_{L_p}^q \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq c' \|(\varphi_0 \widehat{f})^\vee\|_{L_p} \|2^{k\sigma_p n} k^{1/q}\| \\
&\leq c'' 2^{k\sigma_p n} k^{1/q} \|f\|_{F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}},
\end{aligned}$$

where in the third step we used the generalized triangle inequality, cf. [HLP52, p. 148], since $\frac{p}{q} > 1$, before applying the Fourier Multiplier theorem (2.7).

Step 2. The proof of the lower bound

$$\|T_k \mathcal{L}(F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \gtrsim k^{1/p} 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}$$

is the same as in Step 2 of Theorem 2.2.

Step 3. Finally, the estimate

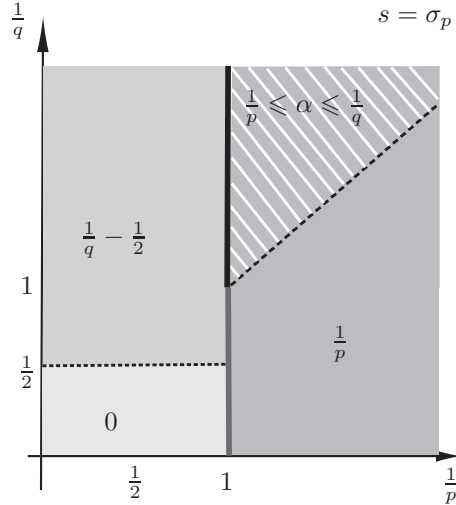
$$\|T_k|\mathcal{L}(F_{1,q}^0(\mathbb{R}^n))\| \gtrsim k^{1/q-1/2}2^{-kn}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}$$

for $0 < q < p = 1$ follows from the Step 3 of Theorem 2.1. ■

Remark 2.4. The picture aside summarizes our results and illustrates the dependency of the additional factors k^α on p and q that were obtained for upper bounds of the dilation operators when $s = \sigma_p$, i.e.

$$T_k \sim 2^{k(\sigma_p-n/p)} \cdot k^\alpha.$$

There is a jump at $p = 1$ in the exponent of k caused by the absence of the Littlewood-Paley assertion in this case. Furthermore, our estimates when $0 < q < p < 1$ and $0 < q < p = 1$ are not sharp and might be improved.



3. Applications

3.1. F-spaces with positive smoothness on \mathbb{R}^n

In this section we want to discuss the connection and diversity of three different approaches to F-spaces with positive smoothness, using the previous results on dilation operators.

In addition to the Fourier-analytical approach, cf. Definition 1.1, we now present two further characterizations – associated to definitions by differences and subatomic decompositions – before we come to some comparisons.

The classical approach: Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$

If f is an arbitrary function on \mathbb{R}^n , $h \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $r \in \mathbb{N}$, then

$$(\Delta_h^1 f)(x) = f(x+h) - f(x) \quad \text{and} \quad (\Delta_h^{r+1} f)(x) = \Delta_h^1(\Delta_h^r f)(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

For convenience we may write Δ_h instead of Δ_h^1 . Furthermore, for a function $f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $0 < p < \infty$, $r \in \mathbb{N}$, the *ball means* are denoted by

$$d_{t,p}^r f(x) = \left(t^{-n} \int_{|h| \leq t} |(\Delta_h^r f)(x)|^p dh \right)^{1/p}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad t > 0. \quad (3.1)$$

Definition 3.1. Let $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, $s > 0$, and $r \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $r > s$. Then $\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is the collection of all $f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ such that

$$\|f|_{\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)}\|_r = \|f|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)}\| + \left\| \left(\int_0^1 t^{-sq} d_{t,p}^r f(\cdot) \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q} |_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \right\| \quad (3.2)$$

(with the usual modification if $q = \infty$) is finite.

Remark 3.2. The approach by differences for the spaces $\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ has been described in detail in [Tri83, 2.5.10] for those spaces which can also be considered as subspaces of $S'(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Otherwise one finds in [Tri06, 9.2.2] the necessary explanations and references to the relevant literature. In particular, the spaces in Definition 3.1 are independent of r , meaning that different values of $r > s$ result in quasi-norms which are equivalent. Furthermore, the spaces are quasi-Banach spaces (Banach spaces, if $1 \leq p < \infty$, $1 \leq q \leq \infty$). Recall that we deal with subspaces of $L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$, in particular, we have the embedding

$$\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L_p(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > 0, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty, \quad 0 < p < \infty.$$

Further information on the classical approach to F-spaces – treated in a more general context – may be found in [HN07].

We add the following homogeneity estimate, which will serve us later on. Let $s > 0$, $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Then for all $f \in \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\|f(2^k \cdot)|_{\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)}\| \leq 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \|f|_{\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)}\|. \quad (3.3)$$

Let $f \in \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$. For the proof we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f|_{\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)}\| &= \|f|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)}\| \\ &+ \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\int_0^1 t^{-(s+\frac{n}{p})q} \left(\int_{|h| \leq t} |\Delta_h^r f(x)|^p dh \right)^{q/p} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\int_0^1 \dots \frac{dt}{t}$ can be replaced by $\int_0^\lambda \dots \frac{dt}{t}$ with arbitrary $0 < \lambda \leq \infty$ in the sense of equivalent quasi-norms.

Now straightforward calculation yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f(2^k \cdot)|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| = \|f(2^k \cdot)|L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \\ & + \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\int_0^1 t^{-(s+\frac{n}{p})q} \left(\int_{|h|\leq t} |\Delta_h^r f(2^k x)|^p dh \right)^{q/p} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq 2^{-k\frac{n}{p}} \|f|L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \\ & + 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\int_0^\infty t^{-(s+\frac{n}{p})q} \left(\int_{|h'|\leq t'} |\Delta_{h'}^r f(x')|^p dh' \right)^{q/p} \frac{dt'}{t'} \right)^{p/q} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq \max \left(2^{-k\frac{n}{p}}, 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \right) \|f|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \\ & = 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \|f|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\|, \end{aligned}$$

where we used in the second step that

$$\Delta_h^r f(2^k x) = \sum_{l=0}^r \binom{r}{l} (-1)^{r-l} f(2^k x + l2^k h) =: \Delta_{h'}^r f(x'),$$

by substituting $x' = 2^k x$, $h' = 2^k h$, and $t' = 2^k t$.

The subatomic approach: Triebel-Lizorkin spaces $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$

We complement our notation. Let

$$\mathbb{R}_{++}^n := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : y = (y_1, \dots, y_n), y_j > 0\}.$$

Moreover, $\chi_{\nu,m}$ denotes the characteristic function of the cube $Q_{\nu,m}$. The subatomic approach provides a constructive definition for Triebel-Lizorkin spaces, expanding functions f via building blocks and suitable coefficients, where the latter belong to certain sequence spaces $f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}$.

Definition 3.3. *Let k be a non-negative C^∞ -function in \mathbb{R}^n with*

$$\text{supp } k \subset \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : |y| < 2^{J-\varepsilon}\} \cap \mathbb{R}_{++}^n \tag{3.4}$$

for some fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ and some fixed $J \in \mathbb{N}$, satisfying

$$\sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} k(x - m) = 1, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \tag{3.5}$$

Let $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$, $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $m \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, and set $k^\beta(x) = (2^{-J}x)^\beta k(x)$. Then

$$k_{\nu,m}^\beta(x) = k^\beta(2^\nu x - m) \tag{3.6}$$

denote the building blocks related to $Q_{\nu,m}$.

Remark 3.4. The above definition implies that the building blocks are bounded by

$$0 \leq k_{\nu,m}^\beta(x) \leq 2^{-\varepsilon|\beta|}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \tag{3.7}$$

uniformly in $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $m \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, and for their supports we observe that

$$\text{supp } k_{\nu,m}^\beta \subset 2^{J-\varepsilon} Q_{\nu,m} \tag{3.8}$$

uniformly in $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$.

Definition 3.5. Let $\varrho \geq 0$, $s \in \mathbb{R}$, $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and

$$\lambda = \{ \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta \in \mathbb{C} : \beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n, m \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \nu \in \mathbb{N}_0 \}.$$

Then the sequence space $f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}$ is defined as

$$f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho} := \{ \lambda : \|\lambda|f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}\| < \infty \}, \tag{3.9}$$

where

$$\|\lambda|f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}\| = \sup_{\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n} 2^{|\beta|\varrho} \left\| \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} 2^{\nu s q} |\lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta|^q \chi_{\nu,m}(\cdot) \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \tag{3.10}$$

(with the usual modification if $p = \infty$ and/or $q = \infty$).

We now define the related function spaces.

Definition 3.6. Let $s > 0$, $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $\varrho \geq 0$. Then $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ contains all $f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ which can be represented as

$$f(x) = \sum_{\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n} \sum_{\nu=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta k_{\nu,m}^\beta(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \tag{3.11}$$

with coefficients $\lambda = \{ \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta \}_{\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0^n, \nu \in \mathbb{N}_0, m \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \in f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}$. Then

$$\|f|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| = \inf \|\lambda|f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}\|, \tag{3.12}$$

where the infimum is taken over all possible representations (3.11).

Remark 3.7. The definitions given above follow closely [Tri06, Sect. 9.2]. The spaces $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ are quasi-Banach spaces (Banach spaces for $p, q \geq 1$) and independent of k and ϱ (in terms of equivalent quasi-norms). Furthermore, for all admitted parameters p, q, s , we have

$$\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow L_p(\mathbb{R}^n) \quad .$$

see [Tri06, Th. 9.8]. Concerning the convergence of (3.11) one obtains as a consequence of $\lambda \in f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}$, that the series on the right-hand sides converge absolutely in $L_p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if $p < \infty$. Since this implies unconditional convergence we may simplify (3.11) and write in the sequel

$$f = \sum_{\beta, \nu, m} \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta k_{\nu,m}^\beta.$$

Remark 3.8. Considering the spaces $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ we obtain the following upper bounds for the dilation operators T_k . Let $s > 0$, $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$, and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Then for all $f \in \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\|f(2^k \cdot)|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \leq 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \|f|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\|. \tag{3.13}$$

The proof is fairly simple. We take $f \in \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with optimal representation

$$f(x) = \sum_{\beta,\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta k_{\nu,m}^\beta(x),$$

i.e.,

$$\|f|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| \sim \|\lambda|f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}\| = \sup_{\beta} 2^{\varrho|\beta|} \left\| \left(\sum_{\nu} \sum_m 2^{\nu sq} |\lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta|^q \chi_{\nu,m}(\cdot) \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p},$$

where $\chi_{\nu,m}(\cdot)$ is the characteristic function of $Q_{\nu,m}$. Put

$$g(x) := f(2^k \cdot) = \sum_{\beta,\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta k_{\nu,m}^\beta(2^k x) = \sum_{\beta,m} \sum_{l=k}^{\infty} \lambda_{l-k,m}^\beta k_{l,m}^\beta(x),$$

where $l := \nu + k$, since $k_{\nu,m}^\beta(2^k x) = (2^{\nu+k} x - m)^\beta k(2^{\nu+k} x - m) = k_{l,m}^\beta(x)$. This yields

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(2^k \cdot)|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\| &\leq \sup_{\beta} 2^{\varrho|\beta|} \left\| \left(\sum_{l=k}^{\infty} \sum_m 2^{l sq} |\lambda_{l-k,m}^\beta|^q \chi_{l,m}(\cdot) \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= \sup_{\beta} 2^{\varrho|\beta|} \left\| \left(\sum_{l=k}^{\infty} \sum_m 2^{k sq} 2^{(l-k) sq} |\lambda_{l-k,m}^\beta|^q \chi_{l-k,m}(2^k \cdot) \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \sup_{\beta} 2^{\varrho|\beta|} \left\| \left(\sum_{\nu} \sum_m 2^{\nu sq} |\lambda_{\nu,m}^\beta|^q \chi_{\nu,m}(\cdot) \right)^{1/q} \right\|_{L_p} \\ &= 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \|f|\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Connections and diversity

We now discuss the coincidence and diversity of the above presented concepts of F-spaces and may restrict ourselves to positive smoothness $s > 0$. In view of our Remarks 1.2, 3.2 and 3.7 concerning the different nature of these spaces, it is obvious that there cannot be established a complete coincidence of all approaches when $s < \sigma_p$.

In particular, no equivalent quasi-norms of type (3.2) can be expected for the spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if $s < \sigma_p$. It seems to be clear that such a characterization is also impossible if $\sigma_p < s < \sigma_{pq}$ (in particular, when $0 < q < p$), i.e.

$$\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad 0 < p < \infty, \quad 0 < q \leq \infty, \quad 0 < s < \sigma_{pq},$$

cf. [Tri06, Rem. 9.15], based on [CS06] – so the situation is even more complicated. Nevertheless, under certain restrictions on the smoothness parameter s , the above approaches result in the same F-space.

Theorem 3.9. *Let $s > 0$, $0 < p < \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$.*

(i) *Then*

$$\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p,q)} - \frac{1}{p} \right), \quad (3.14)$$

and

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > \sigma_{pq} \quad (3.15)$$

(in the sense of equivalent quasi-norms).

(ii) *Furthermore,*

$$F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad s > n \left(\frac{1}{\min(p,q)} - \frac{1}{\max(1,p)} \right) \quad (3.16)$$

(in the sense of equivalent quasi-norms).

Remark 3.10. The first equality in (3.16) is longer known, see [Tri83, Section 2.5.11], [Tri92, Thm. 3.5.3], whereas the second equality in (3.16) is a consequence of the recently proved coincidence (3.14), see [Tri06, Prop. 9.14] (with forerunners in [Tri97, Sect. 13.8], [Tri01, Thm. 2.9]). In the figures aside and below we have indicated the situation in the usual $(\frac{1}{p}, s)$ -diagram for different values of q .

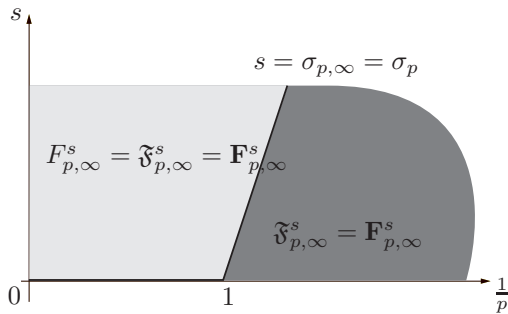


Figure 1: Parameter $q = \infty$

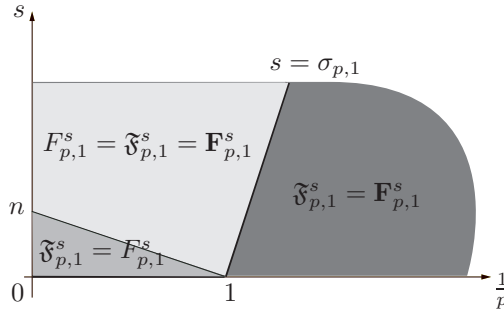


Figure 2: Parameter $q = 1$

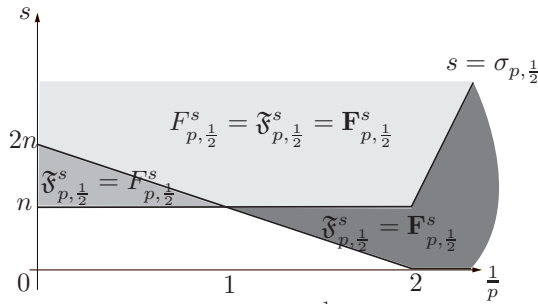


Figure 3: Parameter $q = \frac{1}{2}$

Our new results concerning the norms of the dilation operators T_k established in Section 2 now lead to new insights when dealing with different approaches for F-spaces in the limiting case $s = \sigma_p$. We obtain the following assertions which are especially interesting when $p < q$.

Corollary 3.11. *Let $0 < p < 1$ and $0 < q \leq \infty$. Then*

$$F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

and

$$F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

(in terms of equivalent quasi-norms) as sets of measurable functions.

Proof. We use the homogeneity estimate (3.3),

$$\|f(2^k \cdot)|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s\| \leq 2^{k(s-\frac{n}{p})} \|f|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^s\|,$$

where $s > 0$, $0 < p < \infty$, and $0 < q \leq \infty$. We proceed indirectly, assuming that $F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbf{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for $0 < q \leq \infty$. But then using Theorem 2.2 when $p \leq q$ or Theorem 2.3 for $q < p$, together with (3.3) we could find a function $\psi \in F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} k^{1/p} \|\psi|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| &\leq c \|\psi(2^k \cdot)|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| \sim \|\psi(2^k \cdot)|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| \\ &\leq 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \|\psi|\mathbf{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| \sim 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \|\psi|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\|, \end{aligned}$$

which leads to

$$k^{1/p} \leq c, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This gives the desired contradiction.

The proof for the spaces $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is the same; we only need to use the estimate (3.13) instead of (3.3). We give an alternative proof of this result in the next subsection. ■

Remark 3.12. We know that $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if $s > \sigma_{pq}$. Corollary 3.11 yields $F_{p,q}^{\sigma_{pq}}(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_{pq}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if $p \leq q$ since in this case $\sigma_{pq} = \sigma_p$. If $p > q$, then $\sigma_{pq} > \sigma_p$ and the sharp estimates for the norms of the dilation operators T_k in $F_{p,q}^{\sigma_{pq}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, cf. [ET96, 2.3.1], coincide with the bounds for spaces $\mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_{pq}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ as given in (3.13). So in this case studying dilation operators will not help solving the problem. It does not seem unlikely that the approaches coincide in this case.

3.2. A comment on atomic expansion

It might not be obvious immediately, but the building blocks $k_{\nu,m}^\beta$ in our subatomic approach differ from the atoms $a_{\nu,m}$ – used to characterize the spaces $F_{p,q}^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ in Theorem 1.7 – mainly by the imposed moment conditions on the latter and some unimportant technicalities. In particular, the normalizing factors $2^{\nu(s-\frac{n}{p})}$ are incorporated in the sequence spaces $f_{p,q}^{s,\varrho}$ in the subatomic approach; recall Definition 1.5. We refer as well to [Tri01, Th. 3.6]. Now following [Sch09, Sect. 3.2] one can show that first moment conditions on the line $s = \sigma_{pq}$ are necessary. This immediately leads to

$$F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n) \neq \mathfrak{F}_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

yielding an alternative proof of Corollary 3.11. We present the main ideas. Every $f \in F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ may be represented by optimal atomic decompositions

$$f(x) = \sum_{\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m} a_{\nu,m}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

with

$$\|\lambda|f_{p,q}\| \leq c\|f|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\|, \quad f \in F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

see [Tri06, Ch. 1.5] for details. If no moment conditions were required here, then

$$g_k(x) = f(2^k x) = \sum_{\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m} a_{\nu,m}(2^k x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

would represent an atomic decomposition of $f(2^k x)$. This can be seen by setting

$$g_k(x) = \sum_{\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m} 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} 2^{-k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} a_{\nu,m}(2^k x) = \sum_{\nu,m} \lambda_{\nu,m}^k a_{\nu,m}^k(x),$$

where $a_{\nu,m}^k(x) = 2^{-k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} a_{\nu,m}(2^k x) \sim \tilde{a}_{\nu+k,m}(x)$, since

$$\text{supp } a_{\nu,m}^k \subset Q_{\nu+k,m},$$

$$|D^\alpha a_{\nu,m}^k(x)| = 2^{-k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p}) + k|\alpha|} |D^\alpha a_{\nu,m}(x)| \leq 2^{-(\nu+k)(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p}) + (\nu+k)|\alpha|}.$$

Therefore we obtain

$$\|g_k|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| \leq \|\lambda^k|f_{p,q}\| = 2^{k(\sigma_p - \frac{n}{p})} \|\lambda|f_{p,q}\| = 2^{-nk} \|\lambda|f_{p,q}\|,$$

resulting in

$$\|f(2^k \cdot)|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\| \leq c2^{-nk} \|f|F_{p,q}^{\sigma_p}\|.$$

But we know by Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 2.3 that this is *not* true in general when $0 < p < \infty$.

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