

# Weighted Composition Operators on Sobolev - Lorentz Spaces

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## Abstract

For  $\Omega$  an open subset of the Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $T : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  a measurable non-singular transformation and  $u$  a real-valued measurable function on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , we study boundedness of the weighted composition operator  $uC_T : f \mapsto u \cdot (f \circ T)$  on the Sobolev-Lorentz space  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ , consisting of those functions of the Lorentz space  $L(n, q)$ , whose distributional derivatives of the first order belong to  $L(n, q)$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq n$ .

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## 1 Introduction

Suppose  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is a measure space where  $\Omega$  is an open subset of the Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  the  $\sigma$ -algebra of Lebesgue measurable subsets of  $\Omega$  and  $\mu$  the Lebesgue measure. Let  $f$  be a complex-valued Lebesgue measurable function defined on  $\Omega$ . For  $s \geq 0$ , define  $\mu_f$  the distribution function of  $f$  as

$$\mu_f(s) = \mu\{x \in \Omega : |f(x)| > s\}.$$

By  $f^*$  we mean the non-increasing rearrangement of  $f$  given as

$$f^*(t) = \inf\{s > 0 : \mu_f(s) \leq t\}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

For  $1 \leq q \leq n$ , the Lorentz norm of  $f$  is given by

$$\|f\|_{n,q} = \left( \int_0^\infty (t^{1/n} f^*(t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{1/q}.$$

The Lorentz space  $L(n, q)$  is the set of equivalence classes of complex-valued Lebesgue measurable functions  $f$  on  $\Omega$  with  $\|f\|_{n,q} < \infty$ .  $L(n, q)$  is a Banach space [11] with respect to above norm.

The Sobolev-Lorentz space  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  is defined as the set of all complex-valued functions  $f$  in  $L(n, q)$  whose weak partial derivatives  $\partial f / \partial x_i$  (in the distributional sense) belong to  $L(n, q)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . It is a Banach space [25] with respect to the norm:

$$\|f\|_{1,n,q} = \|f\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{n,q}.$$

On  $\sigma$ -finite measure space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$ , let  $T : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  be a measurable ( $T^{-1}(E) \in \mathcal{A}$  for every  $E \in \mathcal{A}$ ) non-singular transformation ( $\mu(T^{-1}(E)) = 0$ , whenever  $\mu(E) = 0$ ). Let the function  $f_T = d(\mu \circ T^{-1})/d\mu$  be the Radon-Nikodym derivative. Suppose  $u$  is a complex-valued measurable function defined on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Then  $T$  induces a well-defined linear transformation  $uC_T$  on  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  defined by

$$(uC_T f)(x) = u(x)f(T(x)), \quad x \in \Omega, \quad f \in W^{1,n,q}(\Omega).$$

If  $uC_T$  maps  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  into itself and is bounded, then we call  $uC_T$  a weighted composition operator on  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  induced by  $T$  with weight  $u$ . If  $u \equiv 1$ , then  $C_T$  is called a composition operator induced by  $T$ .

Our study here, of weighted composition operators, on Sobolev-Lorentz space  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  is motivated by the work of Herbert Kamowitz and Dennis Wortman [12]. Other similar references include [2–7, and 15–17]. The paper contains two sections. In the first section we define the composition operator on  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ , and the second section is devoted to the study of weighted composition operator on  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ .

## 2 Composition operator on $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$

**Lemma 2.1** Let  $f_T, \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \in L^\infty(\mu)$  with  $\left\| \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_\infty \leq M, (M > 0) i, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $T = (T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n)$  and  $\frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i}$  denotes the first order partial derivative (in the classical sense). Then for each  $f$  in  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  we have

$f \circ T \in L(n, q), 1 \leq q \leq n$ , and the first order distributional derivatives of  $(f \circ T)$ , given by,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(f \circ T) = \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \tag{1}$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , are in  $L(n, q)$ .

**Proof.** The Radon-Nikodym derivative  $f_T = d(\mu \circ T^{-1})/d\mu \in L^\infty(\mu)$  implies that for each  $E \in \mathcal{A}$ ,

$$(\mu \circ T^{-1})(E) = \int_E f_T d\mu \leq \|f_T\|_\infty \mu(E).$$

For  $f$  in  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ , the distribution of  $f \circ T$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{f \circ T}(s) &= \mu\{x \in \Omega : |f(T(x))| > s\} \\ &= (\mu \circ T^{-1})\{x \in \Omega : |f(x)| > s\} \\ &\leq \|f_T\|_\infty \mu\{x \in \Omega : |f(x)| > s\} = \|f_T\|_\infty \mu_f(s). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\{s > 0 : \mu_f(s) \leq t\} \subseteq \{s > 0 : \mu_{f \circ T}(s) \leq \|f_T\|_\infty t\}.$$

This gives

$$(f \circ T)^*(\|f_T\|_\infty t) \leq f^*(t), \text{ i.e., } (f \circ T)^*(t) \leq f^*(t/\|f_T\|_\infty).$$

Now  $f \in L(n, q), 1 \leq q \leq n$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned} \|f \circ T\|_{n,q}^q &= \int_0^\infty (t^{1/n} (f \circ T)^*(t))^q \frac{dt}{t} \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty (t^{1/n} f^*(t/b))^q \frac{dt}{t} = \|f_T\|_\infty^{q/n} \|f\|_{n,q}^q. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\|f \circ T\|_{n,q} \leq \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q}$ , and hence  $f \circ T \in L(n, q)$ .

By the same arguments, as each weak partial derivative  $\partial f/\partial x_k \in L(n, q)$ , it follows that  $\partial f/\partial x_k \circ T \in L(n, q)$ , for each  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Also  $\partial T_k/\partial x_i \in L^\infty(\mu)$ , therefore

$$\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \in L(n, q), \text{ for each } i, k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Hence, using triangle inequality, it follows that the function in right hand side of (1) belongs to  $L(n, q)$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Since  $f \in W^{1,n,q}(\Omega), 1 \leq q \leq n$ , following the same computation as in Friedrich's Theorem [14, Theorem 2.2.1, p. 57], there exists a sequence  $\langle f_m \rangle$

in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{R}^n) = C_0^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$  such that  $f_m \rightarrow f$  in  $L(n, q)(\Omega)$  and  $\frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_i} \rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$  in  $L(n, q)(\Omega')$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and for every relatively compact set  $\Omega'$  in  $\Omega$

Let  $g \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . We choose relatively compact set  $\Omega'$  in  $\Omega$  with  $\text{supp}(g) \subset \Omega'$ . Then by the ordinary chain rule for smooth function  $f_m$ , we have for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} (f_m \circ T) \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} d\mu &= \int_{\Omega'} (f_m \circ T) \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} d\mu \\ &= - \int_{\Omega'} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (f_m \circ T) g d\mu \\ &= - \int_{\Omega'} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Now  $g \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbf{R}^n)$  implies that for each  $i$ ,  $g \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \in X'$ , where  $X'$  is the associate space of the Banach function space  $X = L(n, q)(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq n$ . Therefore by using the *Hölder's inequality* in Banach function spaces, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} |f_m \circ T - f \circ T| \left| \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \right| d\mu &\leq \| (f_m - f) \circ T \|_X \left\| \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{X'} \\ &\leq \| f_T \|_\infty^{1/n} \| f_m - f \|_X \left\| \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{X'} \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$\int_{\Omega} (f_m \circ T) \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} d\mu \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} (f \circ T) \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} d\mu.$$

By the similar arguments, using  $\frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_k} \rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k}$  in  $L(n, q)(\Omega')$  and  $\frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \in L^\infty(\mu)$ , we obtain that in  $L(n, q)(\Omega')$ ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i}$$

So by the *Hölder's inequality* in Banach function spaces again, we obtain as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$\int_{\Omega'} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu \rightarrow \int_{\Omega'} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu.$$

Hence by taking limits on both the sides of (2) as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} (f \circ T) \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} d\mu &= - \int_{\Omega'} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu \\ &= - \int_{\Omega} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$-\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (f \circ T) g d\mu = -\int_{\Omega} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} g d\mu.$$

As  $g$  was chosen arbitrarily, the equation (1) follows.

**Theorem 2.2** *Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  be an open set and  $T : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  a measurable non-singular transformation with Radon-Nikodym derivative  $f_T = d(\mu \circ T^{-1})/d\mu$ ,  $\frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i}$  in  $L^\infty(\mu)$ , and  $\left\| \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_\infty \leq M, M > 0$ , for  $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $T = (T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n)$  and  $\frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i}$  denotes the first order partial derivatives (in the classical sense). Then the mapping  $C_T$  defined by  $C_T(f) = f \circ T$  is a composition operator on the Sobolev-Lorentz space  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq n$ .*

**Proof.** By the Lemma 2.1, we have  $f \circ T \in W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$  and its norm satisfies the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \|f \circ T\|_{1,n,q} &= \|f \circ T\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (f \circ T) \right\|_{n,q} \\ &= \|f \circ T\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{n,q} \\ &\leq \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \right\|_{n,q} \left\| \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_\infty \\ &\leq \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q} + \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} Mn \sum_{k=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \right\|_{n,q} \\ &\leq \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} (1 + nM) \|f\|_{1,n,q} \end{aligned}$$

The result follows.

### 3 Weighted composition operator on $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$

Suppose  $u$  is a real-valued measurable function defined on  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Also suppose that  $T : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  is a measurable non-singular transformation and  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  is the  $\sigma$ -finite measure space, where  $\Omega$  an open subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . On the same lines as in Lemma 2.1, we have the following, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (u \cdot (f \circ T)) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} (f \circ T) + u \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i}.$$

**Theorem 3.1** *If all the conditions stated in the Theorem 2.2 are satisfied and, in addition,  $u \in L^\infty(\mu)$  such that the first order classical partial derivatives  $\partial u/\partial x_i$  satisfy  $\|\partial u/\partial x_i\|_\infty \leq M_1$ ,  $M_1 > 0$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then the mapping  $uC_T$  defined by  $(uC_T)f = u \cdot (f \circ T)$  is a weighted composition operator on the Sobolev-Lorentz space  $W^{1,n,q}(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq n$ .*

**Proof.** By the same arguments as in Lemma 2.1, we find

$$\begin{aligned} \|u \cdot (f \circ T)\|_{n,q} &\leq \|u\|_\infty \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q}, \\ \left\| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}(f \circ T) \right\|_{n,q} &\leq M_1 \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left\| u \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{n,q} \leq \|u\|_\infty M \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \sum_{k=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \right\|_{n,q}.$$

Hence it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|(uC_T)f\|_{1,n,q} \\ &= \|u \cdot (f \circ T)\|_{1,n,q} = \|u \cdot (f \circ T)\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(u \cdot (f \circ T)) \right\|_{n,q} \\ &\leq \|u\|_\infty \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}(f \circ T) \right\|_{n,q} + \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| u \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \circ T \right) \frac{\partial T_k}{\partial x_i} \right\|_{n,q} \\ &\leq \|u\|_\infty \|f_T\|_\infty \|f\|_{1,n,q} + nM_1 \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{1,n,q} + nM \|u\|_\infty \|f_T\|_\infty^{1/n} \|f\|_{1,n,q} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\|(uC_T)f\|_{1,n,q} \leq K \|f\|_{1,n,q}$ , for some  $K > 0$ .

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