

GLOBAL INTEGRABILITY OF THE JACOBIAN OF A COMPOSITE MAPPING

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Received 18 September 2005; Accepted 24 October 2005

We first obtain an improved version of the Hölder inequality with Orlicz norms. Then, as an application of the new version of the Hölder inequality, we study the integrability of the Jacobian of a composite mapping. Finally, we prove a norm comparison theorem.

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1. Introduction

Carl Gustav Jacob Jacobi (1804–1851), one of the nineteenth century Germany's most accomplished scientists, developed the theory of determinants and transformations into a powerful tool for evaluating multiple integrals and solving differential equations. Since then, the Jacobian (determinant) has played a critical role in multidimensional analysis and related fields, including nonlinear elasticity, weakly differentiable mappings, continuum mechanics, nonlinear PDEs, and calculus of variations. The integrability of Jacobians has become a rather important topic in the study of Jacobians because one of the major applications of Jacobians is to evaluate multiple integrals. Higher integrability properties of the Jacobian first showed up in [2], where Gehring invented reverse Hölder inequalities and used these inequalities to establish the $L^{1+\varepsilon}$ -integrability of the Jacobian of a quasiconformal mapping, $\varepsilon > 0$. Recently, the integrability of Jacobians of orientation-preserving mappings of Sobolev class $W_{\text{loc}}^{1,n}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ has attracted the attention of mathematicians, see [1, 3–7], for instance. The purpose of this paper is to study the $L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ -integrability of the Jacobian of a composite mapping.

Let $0 < p < \infty$ and $\alpha \geq 0$ be real numbers and let E be any subset of \mathbb{R}^n . We define the functional on a measurable function f over E by

$$[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(E)} = \left(\int_E |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx \right)^{1/p}, \quad (1.1)$$

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where $\|f\|_p = (\int_E |f(x)|^p dx)^{1/p}$. In this paper, we always assume that Ω is a bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^n , $n \geq 2$. We write $L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ for the space of all measurable functions f on Ω such that $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)} < \infty$. As usual, we simply write $L^p(\Omega) = L^1(\log L)^0(\Omega)$ and $L \log L(\Omega) = L^1(\log L)^1(\Omega)$, respectively.

A continuously increasing function $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ with $\varphi(0) = 0$ and $\varphi(\infty) = \infty$ is called an Orlicz function. The Orlicz space $L^\varphi(\Omega)$ consists of all measurable functions f on Ω such that

$$\int_\Omega \varphi\left(\frac{|f|}{\lambda}\right) dx < \infty \quad (1.2)$$

for some $\lambda = \lambda(f) > 0$. $L^\varphi(\Omega)$ is equipped with the nonlinear Luxemburg functional

$$\|f\|_\varphi = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_\Omega \varphi\left(\frac{|f|}{\lambda}\right) dx \leq 1 \right\}. \quad (1.3)$$

A convex Orlicz function φ is often called a Young function. If φ is a Young function, then $\|\cdot\|_\varphi$ defines a norm in $L^\varphi(\Omega)$, which is called the Luxemburg norm. For $\varphi(t) = t^p \log^\alpha(e+t)$, $0 < p < \infty$ and $\alpha \geq 0$, we have

$$\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L} = \inf \left\{ k : \int_\Omega |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{k} \right) dx \leq k^p \right\}. \quad (1.4)$$

From Theorem 4.2 that will be proved later in this paper, we see that the Luxemburg norm $\|f\|_\varphi$ is equivalent to $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$ defined in (1.1) for any $0 < p < \infty$ and $\alpha \geq 0$. Hence, the Orlicz space $L^\psi(\Omega)$ with $\psi(t) = t^p \log^\alpha(e+t)$ can be denoted by $L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ and the corresponding norm can also be written as $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$. The following version of Hölder inequality appears in [3, Proposition 2.2].

THEOREM 1.1. *Let $1 < p, q < \infty$, $\alpha, \beta > 0$, $1/p + 1/q = 1/r$, $\alpha/p + \beta/q = \gamma/r$ and $f \in L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$, $g \in L^q(\log L)^\beta(\Omega)$. Then $fg \in L^r(\log L)^\gamma(\Omega)$ and*

$$\|fg\|_{L^r \log^\gamma L} \leq C \|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L} \|g\|_{L^q \log^\beta L}. \quad (1.5)$$

In this paper, we improve the condition $1 < p, q < \infty$ into $0 < p, q < \infty$ in Theorem 2.1. We enjoy the elementary method used in the proof of Theorem 2.1. Then, using the improved Hölder inequality, we study the $L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ -integrability of the Jacobian of the composition of mappings.

2. Improved Hölder inequality

Using Theorem 1.1 and the basic properties of logarithmic functions, we have the following generalized Hölder inequality.

THEOREM 2.1. *Let $m, n, \alpha, \beta > 0$, $1/s = 1/m + 1/n$, $\alpha/m + \beta/n = \gamma/s$. Assume that $f \in L^m(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ and $g \in L^n(\log L)^\beta(\Omega)$. Then, $fg \in L^s(\log L)^\gamma(\Omega)$ and*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{\Omega} |fg|^s \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{|fg|}{\|fg\|_s} \right) dx \right)^{1/s} \\ & \leq C \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^m \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right) dx \right)^{1/m} \left(\int_{\Omega} |g|^n \log^\beta \left(e + \frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right) dx \right)^{1/n}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where C is a positive constant.

Note that (2.1) can be written as

$$[fg]_{L^s(\log L)^\gamma(\Omega)} \leq C [f]_{L^m(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)} [g]_{L^n(\log L)^\beta(\Omega)}. \quad (2.2)$$

Proof. Using the elementary inequality $\log(e + x^a) \leq \log(e + x)^{a+1}$ for $a > 0, x > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log \left(e + \frac{(|f|^s |g|^s)^{1/s}}{\| |f|^s |g|^s \|_1^{1/s}} \right) & \leq \log \left(e + \frac{|f|^s |g|^s}{\| |f|^s |g|^s \|_1} \right)^{1/s+1} = \left(\frac{1}{s} + 1 \right) \log \left(e + \frac{|f|^s |g|^s}{\| |f|^s |g|^s \|_1} \right), \\ \log \left(e + \left(\frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right)^s \right) & \leq \log \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right)^{s+1} \leq (s+1) \log \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right), \\ \log \left(e + \left(\frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right)^s \right) & \leq \log \left(e + \frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right)^{s+1} \leq (s+1) \log \left(e + \frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

From Hölder inequality (1.5) with $1 = 1/m/s + 1/n/s$ (note that $m/s > 1, n/s > 1$ since $1/s = 1/m + 1/n$) and (2.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} |fg|^s \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{|fg|}{\|fg\|_s} \right) dx \\ & = \int_{\Omega} (|f|^s |g|^s) \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{\|f\|^s \|g\|^s}{\| |f|^s |g|^s \|_1^{1/s}} \right) dx \\ & \leq C_1 \int_{\Omega} (|f|^s |g|^s) \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{|f|^s |g|^s}{\| |f|^s |g|^s \|_1} \right) dx \\ & \leq C_2 \left(\int_{\Omega} (|f|^s)^{m/s} \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|^s}{\| |f|^s \|_{m/s}} \right) dx \right)^{s/m} \left(\int_{\Omega} (|g|^s)^{n/s} \log^\beta \left(e + \frac{|g|^s}{\| |g|^s \|_{n/s}} \right) dx \right)^{s/n} \\ & = C_2 \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^m \log^\alpha \left(e + \left(\frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right)^s \right) dx \right)^{s/m} \left(\int_{\Omega} |g|^n \log^\beta \left(e + \left(\frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right)^s \right) dx \right)^{s/n} \\ & \leq C_3 \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^m \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right) dx \right)^{s/m} \left(\int_{\Omega} |g|^n \log^\beta \left(e + \frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right) dx \right)^{s/n}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

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Hence, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{\Omega} |fg|^s \log^{\gamma} \left(e + \frac{|fg|}{\|fg\|_s} \right) dx \right)^{1/s} \\ & \leq C_4 \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^m \log^{\alpha} \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_m} \right) dx \right)^{1/m} \left(\int_{\Omega} |g|^n \log^{\beta} \left(e + \frac{|g|}{\|g\|_n} \right) dx \right)^{1/n}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

The proof of Theorem 2.1 has been completed. \square

From Theorem 2.1, we have the following general result immediately.

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let $p_i > 0$, $\alpha_i > 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, $1/p_1 + 1/p_2 + \dots + 1/p_k = 1/p$, and $\alpha_1/p_1 + \alpha_2/p_2 + \dots + \alpha_k/p_k = \alpha/p$. Assume that $f_i \in L^{p_i}(\log L)^{\alpha_i}(\Omega)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$. Then $f_1 f_2 \dots f_k \in L^p(\log L)^{\alpha}(\Omega)$ and*

$$[f_1 f_2 \dots f_k]_{L^p(\log L)^{\alpha}(\Omega)} \leq C [f_1]_{L^{p_1}(\log L)^{\alpha_1}(\Omega)} [f_2]_{L^{p_2}(\log L)^{\alpha_2}(\Omega)} \dots [f_k]_{L^{p_k}(\log L)^{\alpha_k}(\Omega)}, \quad (2.6)$$

where C is a positive constant and the norms $[f_1 f_2 \dots f_k]_{L^p(\log L)^{\alpha}(\Omega)}$ and $[f_i]_{L^{p_i}(\log L)^{\alpha_i}(\Omega)}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, are defined in (1.1).

3. Integrability of Jacobians of composite mappings

In this section, we explore applications of the new version of the Hölder inequality established in the last section. Specifically, we study the integrability of the Jacobian of the composition of mappings $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $f = (f^1(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n), f^2(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n), \dots, f^n(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n))$ of Sobolev class $W_{\text{loc}}^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$, where $u_i = u_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, are functions of $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \Omega$ with continuous partial derivatives $\partial u_i / \partial x_j$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Assume that the distributional differential $Df(u) = [\partial f^i / \partial u_j]$ and $Du(x) = [\partial u_i / \partial x_j]$ are locally integrable functions with values in the space $GL(n)$ of all $n \times n$ -matrices. As usual, we write

$$J(x, f) = \det Df(u(x)) = \frac{\partial(f^1 \dots f^n)}{\partial(x_1 \dots x_n)}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$J(u, f) = \det Df(u) = \frac{\partial(f^1 \dots f^n)}{\partial(u_1 \dots u_n)}, \quad (3.2)$$

$$J(x, u) = \det Du(x) = \frac{\partial(u_1 \dots u_n)}{\partial(x_1 \dots x_n)}, \quad (3.3)$$

respectively. Using Theorem 2.1, we have the following integrability theorem for the Jacobian of the composition of mappings.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let $s, t, \beta, \gamma > 0$, with $1/p = 1/s + 1/t$ and $\beta/s + \gamma/t = \alpha/p$. Assume that $J(x, f)$, $J(u, f)$, and $J(x, u)$ are Jacobians defined in (3.1), (3.2), and (3.3), respectively. If*

$J(u(x), f) \in L^s(\log L)^\beta(\Omega)$ and $J(x, u) \in L^t(\log L)^\gamma(\Omega)$, then $J(x, f) \in L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(x, f)|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|J(x, f)|}{\|J(x, f)\|_p} \right) dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq C \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(u, f)|^s \log^\beta \left(e + \frac{|J(u, f)|}{\|J(u, f)\|_s} \right) dx \right)^{1/s} \\ & \quad \times \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(x, u)|^t \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{|J(x, u)|}{\|J(x, u)\|_t} \right) dx \right)^{1/t}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

where C is a positive constant.

Proof. Note that the Jacobian of the composition of f and u can be expressed as

$$J(x, f) = \frac{\partial(f^1 \cdots f^n)}{\partial(x_1 \cdots x_n)} = \frac{\partial(f^1 \cdots f^n)}{\partial(u_1 \cdots u_n)} \cdot \frac{\partial(u_1 \cdots u_n)}{\partial(x_1 \cdots x_n)} = J(u, f) \cdot J(x, u). \quad (3.5)$$

Applying Theorem 2.1 and (3.5) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(x, f)|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|J(x, f)|}{\|J(x, f)\|_p} \right) dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & = \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(u, f) \cdot J(x, u)|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|J(u, f) \cdot J(x, u)|}{\|J(u, f) \cdot J(x, u)\|_p} \right) dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq C \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(u, f)|^s \log^\beta \left(e + \frac{|J(u, f)|}{\|J(u, f)\|_s} \right) dx \right)^{1/s} \\ & \quad \times \left(\int_{\Omega} |J(x, u)|^t \log^\gamma \left(e + \frac{|J(x, u)|}{\|J(x, u)\|_t} \right) dx \right)^{1/t} < \infty \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

since $J(u(x), f) \in L^s(\log L)^\beta(\Omega)$ and $J(x, u) \in L^t(\log L)^\gamma(\Omega)$. Thus, $J(x, f) \in L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$ from (3.6). The proof of Theorem 3.1 has been completed. \square

Applying the Hölder inequality with L^p -norms

$$\|fg\|_{s,E} \leq \|f\|_{\alpha,E} \cdot \|g\|_{\beta,E}, \quad (3.7)$$

where $0 < \alpha, \beta < \infty$, $s^{-1} = \alpha^{-1} + \beta^{-1}$, and f and g are any measurable functions on a measurable set $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, we have the following L^p -integrability theorem for the Jacobian of a composite mapping.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let $J(x, f)$, $J(u, f)$, and $J(x, u)$ be the Jacobians defined in (3.1), (3.2), and (3.3), respectively. If $J(u(x), f) \in L^s(\Omega)$ and $J(x, u) \in L^t(\Omega)$, $s, t > 0$, then $J(x, f) \in L^p(\Omega)$ and*

$$\|J(x, f)\|_{L^p(\Omega)} \leq C \|J(u(x), f)\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \|J(x, u)\|_{L^t(\Omega)}, \quad (3.8)$$

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where C is a positive constant and the integrability exponent p of $J(x, f)$ determined by $1/p = 1/s + 1/t$ is the best possible.

The following example shows that the integrability exponent p of $J(x, f)$ cannot be improved anymore.

Example 3.3. We consider the mappings

$$f(x, y) = (f^1, f^2) = \left(\frac{x}{(x^2 + y^2)^\sigma}, \frac{y}{(x^2 + y^2)^\sigma} \right), \quad (x, y) \in D = \{(x, y) : 0 < x^2 + y^2 \leq \rho^2\},$$

$$x = r^{-k} \cos \theta, \quad y = r^{-k} \sin \theta, \quad (r, \theta) \in \Omega = \{(r, \theta) : 0 < r < \rho, 0 < \theta \leq 2\pi\},$$
(3.9)

where σ and ρ are positive constants. After a simple calculation, we obtain the following Jacobians:

$$J_1 = \frac{\partial(f^1, f^2)}{\partial(r, \theta)} = \frac{k(2\sigma - 1)}{r^{4\sigma + 2k + 1}}, \quad J_2 = \frac{\partial(f^1, f^2)}{\partial(x, y)} = \frac{1 - 2\sigma}{r^{4\sigma}},$$

$$J_3 = \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, \theta)} = \frac{-k}{r^{2k + 1}}, \quad 0 < r < \rho.$$
(3.10)

It is easy to see that $J_1 \in L^{1/(4\sigma + 2k + 1)}(\Omega)$ but $J_1 \notin L^p(\Omega)$ for any $p > 1/(4\sigma + 2k + 1)$. Similarly, $J_2 \in L^{1/4\sigma}(\Omega)$ but $J_2 \notin L^s(\Omega)$ for any $s > 1/4\sigma$ and $J_3 \in L^{1/(2k + 1)}(\Omega)$ but $J_3 \notin L^t(\Omega)$ for any $t > 1/(2k + 1)$. Here, the integrability exponent $p = 1/(4\sigma + 2k + 1)$ of $\partial(f^1, f^2)/\partial(r, \theta)$ is determined by

$$\frac{1}{p} = (4\sigma + 2k + 1) = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{t},$$
(3.11)

where $s = 1/4\sigma$ and $t = 1/(2k + 1)$ are the integrability exponents of Jacobians $\partial(f^1, f^2)/\partial(x, y)$ and $\partial(x, y)/\partial(r, \theta)$, respectively.

The above example shows that, in Theorem 3.2, the integrability exponent p of $J(x, f)$ that is determined by $1/p = 1/s + 1/t$ is the best possible, where s is the integrability exponent of $J(u(x), f)$ and t is the integrability exponent of $J(x, u)$.

Example 3.4. Let $J_1 = \partial(f^1, f^2)/\partial(r, \theta)$, $J_2 = \partial(f^1, f^2)/\partial(x, y)$, and $J_3 = \partial(x, y)/\partial(r, \theta)$ be the Jacobians obtained in Example 3.3. For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a constant $C_1 > 0$ such that

$$|J_1|^p \log \left(e + \frac{|J_1|}{\|J_1\|_p} \right) \leq C_1 |J_1|^{p + \varepsilon / (4\sigma + 2k + 1)}.$$
(3.12)

Using (3.10) and (3.12), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\Omega} |J_1|^p \log \left(e + \frac{|J_1|}{\|J_1\|_p} \right) dr d\theta \\
&= 2\pi \int_0^\rho |J_1|^p \log \left(e + \frac{|J_1|}{\|J_1\|_p} \right) dr \\
&= C_2 \int_0^\rho \left(\frac{1}{r^{4\sigma+2k+1}} \right)^p \log \left(e + \frac{|(2\sigma-1)k/r^{4\sigma+2k+1}|}{\|(2\sigma-1)k/r^{4\sigma+2k+1}\|_p} \right) dr \\
&\leq C_3 \int_0^\rho r^{-(4\sigma+2k+1)p} (r^{-(4\sigma+2k+1)})^{\varepsilon/4\sigma+2k+1} dr \leq C_4 \int_0^\rho r^{-(4\sigma+2k+1)p-\varepsilon} dr = C_5 < \infty
\end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

for any p satisfying $0 < p \leq 1/(4\sigma + 2k + 1) - \varepsilon/(4\sigma + 2k + 1)$. Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, we know that $J_1 \in L^p \log L(\Omega)$ for any p with $0 < p < 1/(4\sigma + 2k + 1)$. Similarly, we have $J_2 \in L^s \log L(\Omega)$ for any s with $0 < s < 1/4\sigma$ and $J_3 \in L^t \log L(\Omega)$ for any t with $0 < t < 1/(2k + 1)$. This example shows that the integrability exponent p of $\partial(f^1, f^2)/\partial(r, \theta)$ that is determined by $1/p = 1/s + 1/t$ is the best possible when $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 1$ in Theorem 3.1.

4. The norm comparison theorem

In this section, we discuss the relationship between norms $\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}$ and $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$, which will provide a different way to prove Theorems 2.1 and 3.1. First, we recall the following more general inequality appearing in [3, Theorem A.1].

THEOREM 4.1. *Suppose that $A, B, C : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ are continuous, monotone increasing functions for which there exist positive constants c and d such that*

- (i) $B^{-1}(t)C^{-1}(t) \leq cA^{-1}(t)$ for all $t > 0$,
- (ii) $A(t/d) \leq 1/2A(t)$ for all $t > 0$.

Suppose that G is an open subset of \mathbb{R}^n , for $f \in L_B(G)$ and $g \in L_C(G)$. Then $fg \in L_A(G)$ and

$$\|fg\|_A \leq cd\|f\|_B\|g\|_C. \tag{4.1}$$

In [6], Iwaniec and Verde prove that the norm $\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}$ is equivalent to the norm $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$ for $1 < p < \infty$. Similar to the proof of [6, Lemma 8.6], we have the relationship between the norm $\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}$ and the norm $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$.

THEOREM 4.2. *For each $f \in L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)$, $0 < p < \infty$ and $\alpha \geq 0$,*

$$\|f\|_p \leq \|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L} \leq [f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)} \leq C\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}, \tag{4.2}$$

where $C = 2^{\alpha/p}(1 + (\alpha/ep)^\alpha)^{1/p}$ is a constant independent of f .

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Proof. Let $K = \|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}$. Then, by the definition of the Luxemburg norm, we have

$$K = \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{K} \right) dx \right)^{1/p}. \quad (4.3)$$

It is clear that $K \geq \|f\|_p$ and

$$K \leq \left(\int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx \right)^{1/p} = [f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}, \quad (4.4)$$

that is,

$$\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L} \leq [f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}. \quad (4.5)$$

On the other hand, using $K \geq \|f\|_p$ and the elementary inequality $|a + b|^s \leq 2^s(|a|^s + |b|^s)$, $s \geq 0$, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx &= \int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{K} \cdot \frac{K}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} |f|^p \left(\log \left(e + \frac{|f|}{K} \right) + \log \left(\frac{K}{\|f\|_p} \right) \right)^\alpha dx \\ &\leq 2^\alpha \int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{K} \right) + 2^\alpha \int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(\frac{K}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx \\ &= 2^\alpha K^p + 2^\alpha \|f\|_p^p \log^\alpha \left(\frac{K}{\|f\|_p} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

Note that the function $h(t) = t^p \log^\alpha(K/t)$, $0 < t \leq K$, has its maximum value $(\alpha/ep)^\alpha K^p$ at $t = K/e^{\alpha/p}$. Then

$$\|f\|_p^p \log^\alpha \left(\frac{K}{\|f\|_p} \right) \leq \left(\frac{\alpha}{ep} \right)^\alpha K^p. \quad (4.7)$$

Combining (4.6) and (4.7) gives

$$\int_{\Omega} |f|^p \log^\alpha \left(e + \frac{|f|}{\|f\|_p} \right) dx \leq 2^\alpha \left(1 + \left(\frac{\alpha}{ep} \right)^\alpha \right) K^p, \quad (4.8)$$

which is equivalent to

$$[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}, \quad (4.9)$$

where $C = 2^{\alpha/p} (1 + (\alpha/ep)^\alpha)^{1/p}$. The proof of Theorem 4.2 has been completed. \square

It is easy to see that Theorem 4.2 indicates that, for any $0 < p < \infty$ and $\alpha \geq 0$, the Luxemburg norm $\|f\|_{L^p \log^\alpha L}$ is equivalent to the norm $[f]_{L^p(\log L)^\alpha(\Omega)}$ defined in (1.1). Hence, we can also prove Theorems 2.1 and 3.1 using Theorem 4.1 with suitable choices of functions $A(t)$, $B(t)$, and $C(t)$.

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