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<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Tachizawa, Kazuya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citation</td>
<td>Hokkaido University Preprint Series in Mathematics, 702, 1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issue Date</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI</td>
<td>10.14943/83853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doc URL</td>
<td><a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2115/69507">http://hdl.handle.net/2115/69507</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>bulletin (article)</td>
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<td>File Information</td>
<td>pre702.pdf</td>
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HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY
Weighted $L^p$ Sobolev-Lieb-Thirring inequalities

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Abstract: We give a weighted $L^p$ version of the Sobolev-Lieb-Thirring inequality for suborthonormal functions.

Key words: Sobolev-Lieb-Thirring inequalities; $A_p$-weights.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 26D15; Secondary 42B25.

1 Introduction

In 1976 Lieb and Thirring proved the following inequality.

Theorem 1.1 ([4]). Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then there exists a positive constant $c_n$ such that for every family $\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^N$ in $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ which is orthonormal in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N |\phi_i(x)|^2 \right)^{1+2/n} dx \leq c_n \sum_{i=1}^N \| \nabla \phi_i \|^2.$$

In this theorem $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ denotes the Sobolev space and $\| \cdot \|$ is the norm of $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. In [4] Lieb and Thirring applied this inequality to the problem of the stability of matter. Ghidaglia, Marion, and Temam proved a generalization of (1) under the suborthonormal condition on $\{\phi_i\}$, where $\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^N$ in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is called suborthonormal if the inequality

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^N \xi_i \overline{\xi_j} (\phi_i, \phi_j) \leq \sum_{i=1}^N |\xi_i|^2$$

holds for all $\xi_i \in \mathbb{C}, i = 1, \ldots, N$, where $(\cdot, \cdot)$ means the $L^2$ inner product([2]). They applied the inequality (1) to the estimate of the dimension of attractors associated with partial differential equations. In this paper we shall give a weighted $L^p$ version of (1) under the suborthonormal condition on $\{\phi_i\}$.
For the statement of our result we need to recall the definition of \( A_p \)-weights (c.f. [3], [5]). By a cube in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) we mean a cube which sides are parallel to coordinate axes. Let \( w \) be a non-negative, locally integrable function on \( \mathbb{R}^n \). We say that \( w \) is an \( A_p \)-weight for \( 1 < p < \infty \) if there exists a positive constant \( C \) such that
\[
\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q w(x) \, dx \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q w(x)^{-1/(p-1)} \, dx \right)^{p-1} \leq C
\]
for all cubes \( Q \subset \mathbb{R}^n \). For example, \( w(x) = |x|^\alpha \) is an \( A_p \)-weight when \(-n < \alpha < n(p-1)\).

We say that \( w \) is an \( A_1 \)-weight if there exists a positive constant \( C \) such that
\[
\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q w(y) \, dy \leq C w(x) \quad \text{a.e. } x \in Q
\]
for all cubes \( Q \subset \mathbb{R}^n \). If \(-n < \alpha \leq 0\), then \( w(x) = |x|^\alpha \) is an \( A_1 \)-weight. Let \( A_p \) be the class of \( A_p \)-weights. The inclusion \( A_p \subset A_q \) holds for \( p < q \).

A nonnegative, locally integrable function \( w \) on \( \mathbb{R}^n \) is called a weight function. For a weight function \( w \) we define
\[
L^p(w) = \left\{ f : \text{measurable on } \mathbb{R}^n, \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)|^p w(x) \, dx < \infty \right\}.
\]

The following is a conclusion of [7, Theorem 1.2] and [6, Lemma 3.2].

**Theorem 1.2.** Let \( n \in \mathbb{N}, 3 \leq n, w \in A_2, \) and \( w^{-n/2} \in A_{n/2} \). Then there exists a positive constant \( c \) such that for every family \( \{ \phi_i \}_{i=1}^N \subset L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \) which is suborthonormal in \( L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \) and \( |\nabla \phi_i| \in L^2(w) \), \( i = 1, \ldots, N, \) we have
\[
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N |\phi_i(x)|^2 \right)^{1+2/n} w(x) \, dx \leq c \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla \phi_i(x)|^2 w(x) \, dx,
\]
where \( c \) depends only on \( n \) and \( w \).

By using this theorem we can prove the following weighted \( L^p \) version of the Sobolev-Lieb-Thirring inequality.

**Theorem 1.3.** Let \( n \in \mathbb{N} \) and \( 3 \leq n \). Let \( 2n/(n+2) < p < n, p \neq 2, \) and \( w \) be a weight function. When \( p > 2 \), we assume that \( w^{n/(n-p)} \in A_{p(n-2)/(2(n-p))} \). When \( p < 2 \), we assume that \( w^{n/(n-2)} \in A_1 \).

Then there exists a positive constant \( c \) such that for every family \( \{ \phi_i \}_{i=1}^N \subset L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \) which is suborthonormal in \( L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \) and \( |\nabla \phi_i| \in L^p(w) \), \( i = 1, \ldots, N, \) we have
\[
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N |\phi_i(x)|^2 \right)^{(1+2/n)p/2} w(x) \, dx \leq c \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^N |\nabla \phi_i(x)|^2 \right)^{p/2} w(x) \, dx,
\]
where \( c \) depends only on \( n, p \) and \( w \).
This is a new result even in the case $w \equiv 1$. When $2 < p < n$, an example of $w$ is given by $w(x) = |x|^\alpha$, $-n + p < \alpha < n(p - 2)/2$. When $2n/(n+2) < p < 2$, an example of $w$ is given by $w(x) = |x|^\alpha$, $-n + 2 < \alpha \leq 0$.

2 Proof of Theorem 1.3

Let $M$ be the Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator, that is,

$$M(f)(x) = \sup_{x \in Q} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q |f(y)| \, dy,$$

where $f$ is a locally integrable function on $\mathbb{R}^n$ and the supremum is taken over all cubes $Q$ which contain $x$. The following proposition is proved in [3, Chapter IV] or [5, Chapter V].

Proposition 2.1.

(i) Let $1 < p < \infty$ and $w$ be a weight function on $\mathbb{R}^n$. Then there exists a positive constant $c$ such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} M(f)^pw \, dx \leq c \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f|^pw \, dx$$

for all $f \in L^p(w)$ if and only if $w \in A_p$.

(ii) Let $1 < p < \infty$ and $w \in A_p$. Then there exists a $q \in (1, p)$ such that $w \in A_q$.

(iii) Let $0 < \tau < 1$ and $f$ be a locally integrable function on $\mathbb{R}^n$ such that $M(f)(x) < \infty$ a.e.. Then $M(f)^\tau \in A_1$.

(iv) Let $1 < p < \infty$. Then $w \in A_p$ if and only if $w^{1-p'} \in A_{p'}$, where $p^{-1} + p'^{-1} = 1$.

(v) Let $1 < p < \infty$ and $w_1, w_2 \in A_1$. Then $w_1w_2^{1-p} \in A_p$.

Proof of Theorem 1.3

Our proof is very similar to that of the extrapolation theorem in harmonic analysis (c.f.[1, Theorem 7.8]). In our proof the integral means that over $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Let $2 < p < n$ and $2/p + 1/q = 1$. We remark that the assumption $w^{n/(n-p)} \in A_{p(n-2)/(2(n-p))}$ leads to $w \in A_p$ by an easy calculation. Let $u \in L^2(w)$, $u \geq 0$, and $\|u\|_{L^2(w)} = 1$. Since $w^{n/(n-p)} \in A_{p(n-2)/(2(n-p))}$, we have $w^{-2/(p-2)} \in A_{p(n-2)/(n(p-2))}$ by (iv) of Proposition 2.1. Hence there exists a $\gamma$ such that $n/(n - 2) < \gamma < q$ and $w^{-2/(p-2)} \in A_{p/(\gamma(p-2))}$ by (ii) of Proposition 2.1. Then we have $uw \leq M((uw)^\gamma)^{1/\gamma}$ a.e. Because $w^{-2q/p} = w^{-2/(p-2)} \in A_{p/(\gamma(p-2))} = A_{q/\gamma}$. 

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and

\[ \int M((uw)^\gamma)^{\eta/\gamma} w^{-2q/p} \, dx \leq c \int (uw)^q w^{-2q/p} \, dx = c \int w^q \, dx = c \]

by (i) of Proposition 2.1, we get \( M((uw)^\gamma)(x) < \infty \) a.e. Hence \( M((uw)^\gamma)^{1/\gamma} \in A_1 \) by (iii) of Proposition 2.1. Let \( \alpha = \frac{n}{(n-2)\gamma} \). Then \( 0 < \alpha < 1 \) and

\[ M((u\gamma)^{-n/(2\gamma)} = \{M((u\gamma)^\alpha\}^{1-n/2} \in A_{n/2}, \]

where we used \( M((u\gamma)^\alpha \in A_1 \) and (v) of Proposition 2.1. Let

\[ \rho(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\phi_i(x)|^2. \]

Then we have

\[ \int \rho^{1+2/n} uw \, dx \leq \int \rho^{1+2/n} M((u\gamma)^{1/\gamma} \, dx \leq c \int \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla \phi_i|^2 \right)^{p/2} w \, dx \left( \int M((u\gamma)^{q/\gamma} w^{-2q/p} \, dx \right)^{1/q} \]

\[ \leq c \left( \int \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla \phi_i|^2 \right)^{p/2} w \, dx \right)^{2/p} \]

where we used Theorem 1.2 and (2). If we take the supremum for all \( u \in L^q(w), u \geq 0 \), and \( \|u\|_{L^q(w)} = 1 \), then we get

\[ \left( \int \rho^{(1+2/n)p/2} w \, dx \right)^{2/p} \leq c \left( \int \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla \phi_i|^2 \right)^{p/2} w \, dx \right)^{2/p}. \]

Next we consider the case \( 2n/(n+2) < p < 2 \). We remark that \( w \in A_1 \) by the assumption \( w^{n/(n-2)} \in A_1 \). Let

\[ f = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla \phi_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}. \]

We can take \( \gamma \) such that \( (2-p)n/2 < \gamma < p \). Then

\[ \int M(f^\gamma)^{p/\gamma} w \, dx \leq c \int f^p w \, dx < \infty, \]

where we used \( w \in A_1 \subset A_{p/\gamma} \) and (i) of Proposition 2.1. Hence we have \( M(f^\gamma)(x) < \infty \) a.e. and

\[ M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)n/(2\gamma)} \in A_1 \]

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by (iii) of Proposition 2.1. Furthermore we have

\[ M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma}w \in A_2, \]

where we used

\[ M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma} \in A_1, \quad w \in A_1, \]

and (v) of Proposition 2.1. Moreover

\[ \{M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma}w\}^{-n/2} = M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)n/(2\gamma)}(w^{n/(n-2)})^{(1-n/2)} \in A_{n/2} \]

because \( w^{n/(n-2)} \in A_1 \). Therefore

\[ \int \rho^{(1+2/n)p/2}w \, dx = \int \rho^{(1+2/n)p/2}wM(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma}w \, dx \]

\[ \leq \left( \int \rho^{1+2/n}M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma}w \, dx \right)^{p/2} \left( \int M(f^\gamma)^p/\gamma w \, dx \right)^{1-p/2} \]

\[ \leq c \left( \int f^2M(f^\gamma)^{(2-p)/\gamma}w \, dx \right)^{p/2} \left( \int f^pw \, dx \right)^{1-p/2} \]

\[ \leq c \left( \int M(f^\gamma)^{2/\gamma}w \, dx \right)^{p/2} \left( \int f^pw \, dx \right)^{1-p/2} \]

\[ \leq c \left( \int M(f^\gamma)^p/\gamma w \, dx \right)^{p/2} \left( \int f^pw \, dx \right)^{1-p/2} \leq c \int f^pw \, dx, \]

where we used Theorem 1.2 in the second inequality.

\textbf{Acknowledgment}

The author was partly supported by the Grants-in-Aid for formation of COE and for Scientific Research, The Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, Japan.

\textbf{References}


