

Non-Compact and Sharp Embeddings of Logarithmic Bessel Potential Spaces into Hölder-Type Spaces

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Abstract. In our recent paper [Compact and continuous embeddings of logarithmic Bessel potential spaces. *Studia Math.* 168 (2005), 229 – 250] we have proved an embedding of a logarithmic Bessel potential space with order of smoothness σ less than one into a space of $\lambda(\cdot)$ -Hölder-continuous functions. We show that such an embedding is not compact and that it is sharp.

Keywords. Generalized Lorentz-Zygmund spaces, logarithmic Bessel potential spaces, Hölder-continuous functions, embeddings

Mathematics Subject Classification (2000). Primary 46E35, secondary 46E30, 26D15

1. Introduction

In the recent paper [8] we have derived embeddings of Bessel potential spaces with smoothness $\sigma \in (0, 1)$, modelled upon generalized Lorentz-Zygmund spaces, into spaces of $\lambda(\cdot)$ -Hölder-continuous functions. Here we discuss non-compactness and sharpness of those embeddings.

To be more specific, we need some notation. Given two (quasi-)Banach spaces X and Y , we write $X \hookrightarrow Y$ or $X \hookrightarrow\hookrightarrow Y$ if $X \subset Y$ and the natural embedding is continuous or compact, respectively.

Let $p, q \in (0, \infty]$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$ and let Ω be a measurable subset of \mathbb{R}^n (with respect to n -dimensional Lebesgue measure). The *generalized*

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The research was partially supported by grant no. 201/01/0333 of the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, by NATO grant PST. CLG. 978694, and by Leverhulme Trust grant F/00407/E.

Lorentz-Zygmund (GLZ) space $L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\Omega)$ consists of all measurable (real or complex) functions f on Ω such that the quantity

$$\|f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} := \left\| t^{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{q}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{\alpha_j}(t) \right) f^*(t) \right\|_{q,(0,\infty)}$$

is finite. Here ℓ_1, \dots, ℓ_m are (logarithmic) functions defined on $(0, \infty)$ by

$$\ell_1(t) = \ell(t) = 1 + |\log t|, \quad \ell_j(t) = 1 + \log \ell_{j-1}(t) \quad (j > 1),$$

f^* denotes the *non-increasing rearrangement* of f given by

$$f^*(t) = \inf \{ \lambda > 0 ; |\{x \in \Omega ; |f(x)| > \lambda\}|_n \leq t \}, \quad t \geq 0,$$

$|G|_n$ stands for the n -volume of a measurable subset G of \mathbb{R}^n and $\|\cdot\|_{q,(a,b)}$ is the usual L^q -(quasi-)norm on an interval $(a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. (For more details about the spaces $L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\Omega)$ see [2]–[7], [9], and [11].)

The *Bessel kernel* g_σ , $\sigma > 0$, is defined to be that function on \mathbb{R}^n whose Fourier transform \widehat{g}_σ is

$$\widehat{g}_\sigma(\xi) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} (1 + |\xi|^2)^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}}, \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where by the Fourier transform \widehat{f} of a function f we mean

$$\widehat{f}(x) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-ixy} f(y) dy, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Let $\sigma > 0$, $p \in (1, \infty)$, $q \in [1, \infty]$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$. The *logarithmic Bessel potential space* $H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is defined by

$$H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) := \{u = g_\sigma * f; f \in L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)\},$$

and is equipped with the (quasi-)norm

$$\|u\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} := \|f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}. \quad (1)$$

(By $f * g$ we mean the convolution of functions f and g .)

Let \mathcal{L} be the class of all continuous functions $\lambda : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ which are increasing on some interval $(0, \delta)$, with $\delta = \delta(\lambda) > 0$, and satisfy $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} \lambda(t) = 0$. Let $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$ and let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{R}^n . The *space* $C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{\Omega})$ of $\lambda(\cdot)$ -Hölder-continuous functions consists of all those functions $u \in C(\overline{\Omega})$ for which the norm

$$\|u\|_{C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{\Omega})} := \sup_{x \in \Omega} |u(x)| + \sup_{\substack{x,y \in \Omega \\ x \neq y}} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|}{\lambda(|x - y|)}$$

is finite. Here $C(\overline{\Omega})$ stands for the family of all functions which are bounded and *uniformly* continuous on Ω . (For more information about such spaces see [1] or [10].)

We write $A \lesssim B$ (or $A \gtrsim B$) if $A \leq cB$ (or $cA \geq B$) for some positive constant c independent of appropriate quantities involved in the expressions A and B , and $A \approx B$ if $A \lesssim B$ and $A \gtrsim B$. If $p \in [1, \infty]$, the conjugate number p' is defined by $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1$ with the understanding that $1' = \infty$ and $\infty' = 1$.

In [8] we have extended Theorem 4.9 of [5] (to the range $\sigma \in (0, 1)$) and proved the following embedding.

Theorem 1. *Let $0 < \sigma < 1$, $\frac{n}{\sigma} < p < \infty$, $1 < q < \infty$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$ and let*

$$\lambda(t) = t^{\sigma - \frac{n}{p}} \prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{-\alpha_j}(t), \quad t > 0.$$

Then

$$H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{\mathbb{R}^n}). \quad (2)$$

The aim of this paper is to show that the embedding of $H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ into $C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{\Omega})$, where Ω is a nonempty domain in \mathbb{R}^n , cannot be compact and that the embedding (2) is sharp with respect to the function λ .

2. Main result and proofs

Our main result reads as follows.

Theorem 2. *Let the assumptions of Theorem 1 be satisfied. Let $n \geq 2$ and $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a nonempty domain. Then the embedding*

$$H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{\Omega}) \quad (3)$$

is not compact. Moreover, if a function $\mu \in \mathcal{L}$ satisfies $\frac{\mu}{\lambda} \in \mathcal{L}$, then the embedding

$$H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow C^{0,\mu(\cdot)}(\overline{\Omega})$$

does not hold.

To prove Theorem 2, we need some preliminary work. We modify the idea from [7] to construct suitable test functions. Assume that \mathcal{G} is a function with the following properties:

$$\mathcal{G} \text{ is positive and continuous on } (0, 1]; \quad (4)$$

$$t\mathcal{G}(t) \text{ is nonincreasing on } (0, r_0], \text{ where } r_0 \in (0, 1] \text{ is a fixed number; } \quad (5)$$

$$\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{t}{2}\right) \lesssim \mathcal{G}(t), \quad t \in (0, 1] \quad (6)$$

(notice that the assumption (5) is stronger than (4.2) of [7]). We use mollifiers to assign to the function \mathcal{G} a family of functions $\{\mathcal{G}_r\}$. Let $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ be a non-negative function such that $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi = 1$ and $\text{supp } \varphi = [-1, 1]$. We define the function φ_ε , $\varepsilon > 0$, by

$$\varphi_\varepsilon(t) := \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \varphi\left(\frac{t}{\varepsilon}\right), \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

and we put

$$\psi := \chi_{[-2+\frac{1}{16}, \frac{3}{4}-\frac{1}{16}]} * \varphi_{\frac{1}{16}}.$$

Now, we extend \mathcal{G} by zero outside the interval $(0, 1]$ and we define functions \mathcal{G}_r , $r \in (0, 1)$, by

$$\mathcal{G}_r(t) := ((\chi_{[r, \infty)} \psi \mathcal{G}) * \varphi_{\frac{r}{4}})(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (7)$$

For any $r \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$, let a_r be a positive number, let

$$h_r(x) := a_r \mathcal{G}_r(|x|), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (8)$$

and

$$u_r(x) := x_1 (g_\sigma * h_r)(x), \quad x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (9)$$

Our first aim is to show that the functions u_r belong to the source space in (3). To this end, we shall need the following result.

Lemma 1 (cf. Lemma 4.1 of [7]). *Let $r \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ and let \mathcal{G}_r be the functions defined by (7), where \mathcal{G} satisfies (4)–(6). Then*

$$\mathcal{G}_r \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}), \quad \text{supp } \mathcal{G}_r \subset \left[\frac{r}{2}, 1\right] \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{G}_r \geq 0. \quad (10)$$

Moreover, there are positive constants C_1 and C_2 (independent of r and t) such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_r(t) &\leq C_1 \mathcal{G}(t) \chi_{[\frac{r}{2}, 1]}(t), & t \in (0, 1] \\ \mathcal{G}_r(t) &\geq C_2 \mathcal{G}(t), & t \in [2r, \frac{1}{2}]. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

We shall make use of the next assertions.

Lemma 2. *Let h belong to the Schwartz space \mathcal{S} , $\sigma \geq 0$, $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and let \mathcal{R}_j be the Riesz transform. Then there exists a finite measure ν on \mathbb{R}^n such that, for any $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$,*

$$x_j (g_\sigma * h)(x) = -\sigma (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} [g_\sigma * (\mathcal{R}_j(\nu * g_1 * h))](x) + [g_\sigma * (y_j h(y))](x).$$

Proof. The equality can be derived analogously to (4.48) in [7]. \square

Lemma 3 (cf. Cor. 4.12 of [7]). *Let $1 < p < \infty$, $1 \leq q \leq \infty$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$ and let ν be the measure from Lemma 2. Then, for all $f \in L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)$,*

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_\alpha * f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} &\lesssim \|f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}, \quad \alpha \geq 0, \\ \|\mathcal{R}_j f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} &\lesssim \|f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n, \\ \|\nu * f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} &\lesssim \|f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \end{aligned}$$

We shall also need the following estimate.

Lemma 4. *Let $n \geq 2$, $p > \frac{n}{n-1}$, $q \in [1, \infty]$, $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{\tilde{p}} - \frac{1}{n}$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, for all $f \in L_{\tilde{p},q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)$,*

$$\|g_1 * f\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \lesssim \|f\|_{\tilde{p},q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}.$$

Proof. The assumption $p > \frac{n}{n-1}$ and the equality $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{\tilde{p}} - \frac{1}{n}$ imply that $\tilde{p} \in (1, n)$. Thus, the result follows on applying Theorem 3.1 of [7]. \square

Lemma 5. *Let $p, q \in (1, \infty)$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$. Let g be a positive function which is continuous in $(0, 1]$ and nonincreasing in some interval $(0, r_0] \subset (0, 1]$. Then, for all $r \in (0, r_0)$,*

$$\|g(|y|) \chi_{[r,1]}(|y|)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \lesssim \mathcal{V}_1(r) + \mathcal{V}_2(r),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_1(r) &:= \left\| t^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{1}{q}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{\alpha_j}(t) \right) g(t) \right\|_{q;(r,1)} \\ \mathcal{V}_2(r) &:= r^{\frac{n}{p}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{\alpha_j}(r) \right) g(r). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The estimate can be proved analogously to the estimate (4.3) in Lemma 4.1 of [4]. \square

The next lemma provides the upper estimate of $\|u_r\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}$, where u_r are the functions given by (9).

Lemma 6. *Let $n \geq 2$, $p > \frac{n}{n-1}$, $q \in (1, \infty)$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$. Then the functions u_r , $r \in (0, r_0)$, defined by (9) (with \mathcal{G} given by (4)–(6)), satisfy*

$$\|u_r\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \lesssim a_r (\mathcal{W}_1(r/2) + \mathcal{W}_2(r/2)),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_1(r) &:= \left\| t^{\frac{n}{p} + 1 - \frac{1}{q}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{\alpha_j}(t) \right) \mathcal{G}(t) \right\|_{q;(r,1)} \\ \mathcal{W}_2(r) &:= r^{\frac{n}{p} + 1} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{\alpha_j}(r) \right) \mathcal{G}(r). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Since $u_r \in \mathcal{S}$ (cf. (10) and the fact that $g_\sigma * f \in \mathcal{S}$ for $f \in \mathcal{S}$ and $\sigma > 0$), we can use Lemma 2 and the definition in (1) to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u_r\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & \lesssim \|g_\sigma * \mathcal{R}_1(\nu * g_1 * h_r)\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} + \|g_\sigma * (y_1 h_r(y))\|_{\sigma;p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & = \|\mathcal{R}_1(\nu * g_1 * h_r)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} + \|y_1 h_r(y)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Applying Lemma 3, Lemma 4, (8) and (11) to the first term, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{R}_1(\nu * g_1 * h_r)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} & \lesssim \|g_1 * h_r\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & \lesssim \|h_r\|_{\tilde{p},q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & \lesssim a_r \|\mathcal{G}(|y|) \chi_{[\frac{r}{2},1]}(|y|)\|_{\tilde{p},q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, using Lemma 5 with $g = \mathcal{G}$ (observe that this function satisfies the assumptions of Lemma 5) and the identity $\frac{n}{\tilde{p}} = \frac{n}{p} + 1$, we arrive at

$$\|\mathcal{G}(|y|) \chi_{[\frac{r}{2},1]}(|y|)\|_{\tilde{p},q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \lesssim \mathcal{W}_1(r/2) + \mathcal{W}_2(r/2).$$

Consequently,

$$\|\mathcal{R}_1(\nu * g_1 * h_r)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \lesssim a_r [\mathcal{W}_1(r/2) + \mathcal{W}_2(r/2)]. \quad (13)$$

Furthermore, we use (8), (11) and Lemma 5 with $g(t) = t \mathcal{G}(t)$ to get

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_1 h_r(y)\|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} & \leq \| |y| h_r(y) \|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & \lesssim a_r \| |y| \mathcal{G}(|y|) \chi_{[\frac{r}{2},1]}(|y|) \|_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m} \\ & \lesssim a_r [\mathcal{W}_1(r/2) + \mathcal{W}_2(r/2)]. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Finally, by (12), (13) and (14) we obtain the result. \square

To prove the non-compactness of the embedding (3), we shall need the following assertion.

Lemma 7. *Let $\sigma \in (0, n)$, $R \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ and let*

$$a_r \leq C \quad \text{for all } r \in (0, \frac{1}{4}) \text{ with some } C \in (0, \infty). \quad (15)$$

Moreover, let the function \mathcal{G} from (4)–(6) and the numbers a_r satisfy

$$a_r \int_{2r}^{\frac{R}{2}} t^{\sigma-1} \mathcal{G}(t) dt \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow 0_+. \quad (16)$$

Then there exist $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(\sigma) \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$, $r_1 = r_1(R) \in (0, \frac{R}{4})$ and a positive constant c (independent of R and r_1) such that for the functions u_r defined by (9), (8) and (7),

$$| [u_r(x) - u_R(x)] - [u_r(0) - u_R(0)] | \geq cr a_r \int_{2r}^{\frac{R}{2}} t^{\sigma-1} \mathcal{G}(t) dt \quad (17)$$

for every $r \in (0, r_1)$ and $x = (\varepsilon r, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Proof. The result immediately follows from Lemma 4.5 of [7]. \square

Now, we are ready to prove the main result.

Proof of Theorem 2. We can suppose without loss of generality that

$$B := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; |x| \leq 1\} \subset \Omega. \quad (18)$$

Let $r \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$. Take $\gamma < 0$ and put

$$\mathcal{G}(t) = t^{\gamma-1-\frac{n}{p}} \prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{-\alpha_j}(t), \quad t \in (0, 1], \quad \text{and} \quad a_r = r^{-\gamma}.$$

The function \mathcal{G} satisfies (4)–(6). Thus, by Lemma 6,

$$\|u_r\|_{\sigma; p, q; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m} \lesssim r^{-\gamma} \left[\left(\int_{\frac{r}{2}}^1 t^{\gamma q} \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} + r^{\gamma} \right] \lesssim 1 \quad \text{for all } r \in (0, r_0), \quad (19)$$

where u_r are the functions given by (9). (Observe, that the assumptions $\sigma \in (0, 1)$ and $n \geq 2$ yield $p > \frac{n}{\sigma} > n > \frac{n}{n-1}$.)

Taking $R \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$, we can see that the conditions (15) and (16) are satisfied and so, by Lemma 7, there exists $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ and $r_1 \in (0, \frac{R}{4})$ and a positive constant c (independent of R and r_1) such that

$$\begin{aligned} & | [u_r(x) - u_R(x)] - [u_r(0) - u_R(0)] | \\ & \geq c r^{1-\gamma} \int_{2r}^{\frac{R}{2}} t^{\sigma-1+\gamma-1-\frac{n}{p}} \prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{-\alpha_j}(t) dt \approx r^{\sigma-\frac{n}{p}} \prod_{j=1}^m \ell_j^{-\alpha_j}(r) = \lambda(r) \end{aligned}$$

for every $r \in (0, r_1)$ and $x = (\varepsilon r, 0, \dots, 0)$. Consequently, for any fixed $R \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ and every sufficiently small positive r ,

$$\|u_r - u_R\|_{C^{0, \lambda(\cdot)}(\bar{\Omega})} \geq \frac{|[u_r(x) - u_R(x)] - [u_r(0) - u_R(0)]|}{\lambda(\varepsilon r)} \geq c \frac{\lambda(r)}{\lambda(\varepsilon r)} \geq c_0, \quad (20)$$

where c and c_0 are positive constants independent of R and r .

Finally, consider the sequence of functions $\{u_{1/k}\}_{k=k_0}^{\infty}$ with k_0 sufficiently large. By (19), this sequence is bounded in $H^{\sigma} L_{p, q; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ however, in view of (20), it has no Cauchy subsequence in $C^{0, \lambda(\cdot)}(\bar{\Omega})$. Therefore, the embedding (3) is not compact.

To prove sharpness, suppose that there is a function $\mu \in \mathcal{L}$ such that $\frac{\mu}{\lambda} \in \mathcal{L}$ and $H^{\sigma} L_{p, q; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow C^{0, \mu(\cdot)}(\bar{\Omega})$ for some nonempty domain Ω in \mathbb{R}^n . Take a ball $B \subset \Omega$. Then

$$H^{\sigma} L_{p, q; \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow C^{0, \mu(\cdot)}(\bar{B}). \quad (21)$$

Moreover, by Lemma 4.15 (iv) of [5], the condition $\frac{\mu}{\lambda} \in \mathcal{L}$ implies that

$$C^{0,\mu(\cdot)}(\overline{B}) \hookrightarrow\hookrightarrow C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{B}).$$

Combining this embedding with (21), we arrive at

$$H^\sigma L_{p,q;\alpha_1,\dots,\alpha_m}(\mathbb{R}^n) \hookrightarrow\hookrightarrow C^{0,\lambda(\cdot)}(\overline{B}),$$

which contradict the non-compactness of the embedding (3) with $\Omega = B$. \square

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Received August 9, 2004