

Stein–Weiss inequalities on Herz spaces with variable exponent

Kwok-Pun Ho

Abstract. This paper extends the celebrated Stein–Weiss inequalities to the Herz spaces with variable exponents. It is an extension of the classical Stein–Weiss inequalities and the Stein–Weiss inequalities on Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents. The Stein–Weiss inequalities to the Herz spaces with variable exponents are presented as the boundedness of the fractional integral operators on the power weighted Herz spaces with variable exponents.

1. Introduction

This paper extends the Stein–Weiss inequalities to the Herz spaces with variable exponents. These inequalities are presented as the boundedness of the fractional integral operators on the power weighted Herz spaces with variable exponents.

The Stein–Weiss inequalities were established by Stein and Weiss in [40]. It gives the boundedness of the fractional integral operators on the power weighted Lebesgue spaces. The Stein–Weiss inequalities had been extended to the weighted norm inequalities for fractional integral operators in [34] and the two weight norm inequalities for potential operators in [36]. They are extended to the setting on the Carnot group in [11].

The Stein–Weiss inequalities were extended to the Lebesgue spaces with variable exponent in [5]. It gives the boundedness of the fractional integral operators on the power weighted Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents. The reader is referred to [6, 9] for the studies of the Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents. The Stein–Weiss inequalities had been further extended to the local Morrey spaces with variable exponents in [23].

The Herz space was introduced by Herz in [12] to study the Fourier series. It had been developed into one of the important function spaces in harmonic analysis. The boundedness of the singular integral operators, the fractional integral operators, and bilinear operators had been extended to the Herz spaces, see [21, 30–33]. The Herz spaces had been generalized to the Herz spaces with variable exponents in [1]. It is an extension of the Herz spaces and the Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents. For the extrapolation, the boundedness of the singular integral operators, the fractional integral operators, the

Mathematics Subject Classification 2020: 42B20 (primary); 42B35, 46E30 (secondary).

Keywords: Stein–Weiss inequalities, Herz spaces, two weighted norm inequalities, fractional integral operators, variable exponents.

wavelet characterizations, the spherical maximal function, the maximal Bochner-Riesz mean, the geometric maximal function and applications on partial differential equations of the classical Herz spaces, the Herz spaces with variable exponents, and the Herz type spaces, the reader is referred to [1, 3, 10, 16, 18–20, 24–33, 37, 38, 41].

The results obtained in [5, 23] motivate us to investigate the validity of the Stein–Weiss inequalities on the Herz spaces with variable exponents. We establish the Stein–Weiss inequalities on the Herz spaces with variable exponents by using a characterization of the Herz spaces with variable exponent obtained in [1] and the ideas from [22, 23].

This paper is organized as follows. The definitions and some properties of the power weighted Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents and the power weighted Herz spaces with variable exponents are presented in Section 2. The Stein–Weiss inequalities on the Herz spaces with variable exponents are established in Section 3.

2. Definitions and preliminaries

Let $\mathcal{M}$ and L^1_{loc} denote the space of Lebesgue measurable functions and the space of locally integrable functions on $\mathbb{R}^n$, respectively.

For any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $r > 0$, define

$$B(x, r) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x - y| < r\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{B} = \{B(x, r) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n, r > 0\}.$$

Let $1 \leq p < \infty$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}$. The power weighted Lebesgue space $L^{p,a}$ consists of all $f \in \mathcal{M}$ satisfying

$$\|f\|_{L^{p,a}} = \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x|^{ap} |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} < \infty.$$

Let $\alpha \in (0, n)$. For any locally integrable function f , the fractional integral operator I_α is defined as

$$I_\alpha f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(y)}{|x - y|^{n-\alpha}} dy.$$

The following theorem presents the celebrated Stein–Weiss inequality for the fractional integral operator.

Theorem 2.1. *Let $n \geq 1$, $\alpha \in (0, n)$, $1 < p < \infty$, $a < \frac{n}{p'}$, $b < \frac{n}{q'}$, $a + b \geq 0$, and let $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{a+b-\alpha}{n}$. If $p \leq q < \infty$, then there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that*

$$\|I_\alpha f\|_{L^{q,-b}} \leq C \|f\|_{L^{p,a}} \quad \forall f \in L^{p,a}.$$

The reader is referred to [40, Theorem B*] for the proof of Theorem 2.1. The Stein–Weiss inequalities had been generalized into different settings and function spaces, see [7, 11, 13, 15, 17, 23, 34, 36].

Definition 2.1. Let $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function. The Lebesgue space with variable exponent $L^{p(\cdot)}$ consists of all Lebesgue measurable functions $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ so that

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} = \inf\{\lambda > 0 : \rho_{p(\cdot)}(f(x)/\lambda) \leq 1\} < \infty,$$

where

$$\rho_{p(\cdot)}(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)|^{p(x)} dx.$$

The function $p(x)$ is called the exponent function of $L^{p(\cdot)}$.

For any Lebesgue measurable function $p(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$, define $p_- = \text{ess inf}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} p(x)$ and $p_+ = \text{ess sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} p(x)$.

The associate space of $L^{p(\cdot)}$ is given in [9, Theorem 3.2.13]. For the definition of associate space of Banach function space, see [2, Chapter 1, Definitions 2.1 and 2.3].

Theorem 2.2. Let $p(\cdot)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function on $\mathbb{R}^n$. If $1 < p(x) < \infty$, then the associate space of $L^{p(\cdot)}$ is $L^{p'(\cdot)}$, where p' satisfies $\frac{1}{p(x)} + \frac{1}{p'(x)} = 1$.

We call $p'(x)$ the conjugate function of $p(x)$. Whenever $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} p(x) < \infty$, the dual space of $L^{p(\cdot)}$ is equal to the associate space of $L^{p(\cdot)}$, see [9, Theorem 3.4.6].

Definition 2.2. A continuous function g is belonging to $g \in C_0^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ if

$$|g(x) - g(0)| \leq \frac{c_{\log}}{\log(e + 1/|x|)} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (2.1)$$

for $c_{\log} > 0$. We say that g is log-Hölder continuous at the origin if $g \in C_0^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

A continuous function $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is locally log-Hölder continuous if there exists $c_{\log} > 0$ such that

$$|g(x) - g(y)| \leq \frac{c_{\log}}{\log(e + 1/|x - y|)} \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (2.2)$$

We denote the class of locally log-Hölder continuous function by $C_{\text{loc}}^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Furthermore, a continuous function is globally log-Hölder continuous if $g \in C_{\text{loc}}^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, and there exists $g_{\infty} \in \mathbb{R}$ so that

$$|g(x) - g_{\infty}| \leq \frac{c_{\log}}{\log(e + |x|)} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (2.3)$$

The class of globally log-Hölder continuous function is denoted by $C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

When $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, then $p'(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$. Moreover, we have $(p')_{\infty} = (p_{\infty})'$. Therefore, we write $p'_{\infty} = (p')_{\infty}$.

Whenever $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator

$$(\mathbf{M}f)(x) = \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} |f(y)| dy, \quad f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1,$$

is bounded on $L^{p(\cdot)}$.

Theorem 2.3. If $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, then the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator is bounded on $L^{p(\cdot)}$.

For the proof of the above theorem, the reader is referred to [4, Theorem 1.5], [8, Theorem 3.5], [9, Theorem 4.3.8], and [35].

We now define the power weighted Lebesgue spaces with variable exponent.

Definition 2.3. Let $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$, the power weighted Lebesgue space with variable exponent consists of all $f \in \mathcal{M}$ such that

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} = \|v_b f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} < \infty,$$

where $v_b(x) = |x|^b$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

The associate space of $L^{p(\cdot),b}$, denoted by $(L^{p(\cdot),b})'$, consists of all $f \in \mathcal{M}$ satisfying

$$\|f\|_{(L^{p(\cdot),b})'} = \sup \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)g(x)|dx : \|g\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \leq 1 \right\} < \infty.$$

The associate space of the power weighted Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents is given in [23, Lemma 2.4].

Lemma 2.4. Let $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$. If $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, then

$$(L^{p(\cdot),b})' = L^{p'(\cdot),-b}.$$

Consequently, we have the Hölder inequality for $L^{p(\cdot),b}$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)g(x)|dx \leq C \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \|g\|_{L^{p'(\cdot),-b}} \quad (2.4)$$

for some $C > 0$.

Furthermore, we have the following estimate from [23, Lemma 2.6].

Lemma 2.5. Let $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$. If $b \in (-\frac{n}{p_+}, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, then there exist constants $C_0, C_1 > 0$ such that, for any $R > 0$, we have

$$C_0 R^b \|\chi_{B(0,R)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} \leq \|\chi_{B(0,R)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \leq C_1 R^b \|\chi_{B(0,R)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}. \quad (2.5)$$

In view of Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5, the power weighted Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents is a ball quasi-Banach function space. For simplicity, we refer the readers to [39] for the definition of the ball quasi-Banach function space.

We recall the Stein–Weiss inequalities for the Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents from [5, Theorem 3.1].

Theorem 2.6. Let $\alpha \in (0, n)$, $p(\cdot), q(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $p(x) \leq q(x) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, and $1 < q_- \leq q_+ < \infty$. If $a, b, p(\cdot), q(\cdot)$ satisfy

$$-\frac{n}{q_+} < a \leq b < \frac{n}{(p_-)'} \quad (2.6)$$

$$\frac{1}{p(x)} - \frac{1}{q(x)} = \frac{\alpha}{n} + \frac{a-b}{n}, \quad (2.7)$$

then there is a constant $C > 0$ such that, for any $f \in L^{p(\cdot),b}$, we have

$$\|I_\alpha f\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \leq C \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}.$$

For the proof of the above theorem, the reader is referred to [5, Section 4].

We have the following estimate from [23, Lemma 2.8].

Lemma 2.7. *Let $\alpha \in (0, n)$, $p(\cdot), q(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $p(x) \leq q(x) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, and $1 < q_- \leq q_+ < \infty$. If $a, b, p(\cdot), q(\cdot)$ satisfy (2.6)–(2.7), then there is a constant $C > 0$ such that, for any $B \in \mathbb{B}$, we have*

$$\|\chi_B\|_{L^{p'(\cdot),-b}} \|\chi_B\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \leq C |B|^{1-\frac{\alpha}{n}}. \quad (2.8)$$

In fact, the above estimate is a consequence of the Stein–Weiss inequalities in Theorem 2.6, see the proof of [23, Lemma 2.8].

We now give the definition of the Herz spaces with variable exponents [1]. Let $R_0 = B(0, 1)$ and $\chi_0 = \chi_{R_0}$; then,

$$B_k = B(0, 2^k), \quad R_k = B_k \setminus B_{k-1}, \quad \chi_k = \chi_{R_k}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}.$$

Definition 2.4. Let $\theta \in (0, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. The Herz space with variable exponent $K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot)}$ consists of all Lebesgue measurable functions f satisfying

$$\|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot)}} = \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\alpha(\cdot)} f \chi_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta \right)^{1/\theta} < \infty.$$

When $p(\cdot) = p$ and $\alpha(\cdot) = \alpha$ are constant functions, then the Herz space with variable exponent becomes the Herz space $K_{p,\theta}^\alpha$.

We have the following characterization of the Herz spaces with variable exponents from [1, Proposition 3.8].

Proposition 2.8. *Let $\theta \in (0, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If α satisfies (2.3), then*

$$K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot)} = K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha_\infty}.$$

The reader is referred to [1, 16, 19, 25, 26] for the boundedness of singular integral operators, potential operators, and some sublinear operators and inequalities on Herz spaces with variable exponents.

Definition 2.5. Let $b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in (0, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. The power weighted Herz space with variable exponent $K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$ consists of all Lebesgue measurable functions f satisfying

$$\|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}} = \|v_b f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot)}} < \infty,$$

where $v_b(x) = |x|^b$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

When $p(\cdot) = p$ and $\alpha(\cdot) = \alpha$ are constant functions, then the power weighted Herz space with variable exponent becomes the power weighted Herz space $K_{p,\theta}^{\alpha,b}$.

Lemma 2.9. *Let $b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in (0, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$; then, the following statements hold.*

- (1) *If $b \geq 0$ and α satisfies (2.3), then, for any $B \in \mathbb{B}$, $\chi_B \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$.*
- (2) *If $b > -\frac{n}{p_+}$, $p(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, and α satisfies (2.3), then, for any $B \in \mathbb{B}$, $\chi_B \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$.*

Proof. It suffices to prove that for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$, $\chi_{B(0,2^j)} \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$. When $b \geq 0$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\alpha_\infty} \chi_{B(0,2^j)} \chi_k v_b\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta &= \sum_{k=0}^j \|2^{k\alpha_\infty} \chi_k v_b\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^j 2^{k\alpha_\infty \theta} 2^{kb\theta} \|\chi_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta \\ &\leq C(j+1) \max(1, 2^{j\alpha_\infty \theta}) 2^{jb\theta} \|\chi_{B(0,2^j)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\chi_{B(0,2^j)} \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$.

When $b \in (-\frac{n}{p_+}, 0)$, Lemma 2.5 yields

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\alpha_\infty} \chi_{B(0,2^j)} \chi_k v_b\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta &= \sum_{k=0}^j 2^{k\alpha_\infty \theta} \|\chi_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^j 2^{k\alpha_\infty \theta} 2^{(k-1)b\theta} \|\chi_{B(0,2^k)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta \\ &\leq C(j+1) \max(1, 2^{j\alpha_\infty \theta} 2^{(j-1)b\theta}) \|\chi_{B(0,2^j)}\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}^\theta \\ &< \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\chi_{B(0,2^j)} \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$. ■

The above result shows that the power weighted Herz spaces with variable exponent is non-trivial.

In view of [16, Corollaries 2.7 and 2.8] and Definition 2.5, we obtain the following Hölder inequalities and characterization of $K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}$.

Proposition 2.10. *Let $b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in (1, \infty)$ and let $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If α satisfies (2.3), then*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)g(x)|dx \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\alpha(\cdot),b}} \|g\|_{K_{p'(\cdot),\theta'}^{-\alpha(\cdot),-b}}$$

for some $C > 0$.

Proposition 2.11. *Let $b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in (1, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and let $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If α satisfies (2.3), then there exist constants $C_1, C_2 > 0$ such that, for any $f \in K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}$,*

$$C_1 \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}} \leq \sup_{g \in K_{p'(\cdot), \theta'}^{-\alpha(\cdot), -b}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)g(x)| dx \leq C_2 \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}}. \quad (2.9)$$

Proposition 2.12. *Let $b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\theta \in (1, \infty)$, $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a Lebesgue measurable function and let $\alpha(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$. If $b < n - \frac{n}{p_-}$ and α satisfies (2.3), then $K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b} \subset L_{\text{loc}}^1$.*

Proof. It suffices to show that for any $f \in K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\int_{B(0, 2^k)} |f(x)| dx < \infty.$$

As $b < n - \frac{n}{p_-}$ yields $-b > -\frac{n}{p'_+}$, Lemma 2.9 guarantees that $\chi_{B(0, 2^k)} \in K_{p'(\cdot), \theta'}^{-\alpha(\cdot), -b}$.

Proposition 2.10 asserts that for any $f \in K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}$,

$$\int_{B(0, 2^k)} |f(x)| dx \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}} \|\chi_{B(0, 2^k)}\|_{K_{p'(\cdot), \theta'}^{-\alpha(\cdot), -b}} \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}}.$$

Therefore, f is locally integrable. ■

In addition, Lemma 2.9 and Proposition 2.12 show that whenever $1 \leq p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, $\theta \in (1, \infty)$, $-\frac{n}{p_+} < b < n - \frac{n}{p_-}$ and $\alpha \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ satisfies (2.3), then the weighted Herz space with variable exponent $K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\alpha(\cdot), b}$ is a ball Banach function space. For simplicity, we refer the reader to [39] for the definition and properties of ball Banach function spaces.

3. Main result

We establish the Stein–Weiss inequalities on the Herz spaces with variable exponents in this section.

Theorem 3.1. *Let $\alpha \in (0, n)$, $\theta \in (0, \infty)$, $\beta(\cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $p(\cdot), q(\cdot) \in C^{\log}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $p(x) \leq q(x) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$, and $1 < q_- \leq q_+ < \infty$. If $a, b, p(\cdot), q(\cdot)$ satisfy (2.6), (2.7), α satisfies (2.3), and*

$$-\frac{n}{p_+} + \alpha - b < \beta_\infty < n - \frac{n}{p_-} - b, \quad (3.1)$$

then, there is a constant $C > 0$ such that, for any $f \in K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\beta(\cdot), b}$,

$$\|I_\alpha f\|_{K_{q(\cdot), \theta}^{\beta(\cdot), a}} \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot), \theta}^{\beta(\cdot), b}}.$$

Proof. For any $f \in K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}$, Proposition 2.8 gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|I_\alpha f\|_{K_{q(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),a}}^\theta &= \|v_a I_\alpha f\|_{K_{q(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot)}}^\theta \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} v_a \chi_k I_\alpha f\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}}^\theta \\
 &= C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha f\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \\
 &\leq C \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left\| \sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha(f \chi_j) \right\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \right. \\
 &\quad + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left\| \sum_{j=\min(k-1,0)}^{k+1} 2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha(f \chi_j) \right\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left\| \sum_{j=k+2}^{\infty} 2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha(f \chi_j) \right\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \right) = I + II + III. \quad (3.2)
 \end{aligned}$$

In view of Theorem 2.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 II &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=\min(k-1,0)}^{k+1} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} I_\alpha(f \chi_j) \chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=\min(k-1,0)}^{k+1} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} f \chi_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}}^\theta \quad (3.3)
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $C > 0$.

Next, we consider I for the case $\theta \in (0, 1]$. Since $j \leq k-2$, we have a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\chi_k(x) I_\alpha(f \chi_j)(x) \leq C 2^{-k(n-\alpha)} \int_{R_j} |f(y)| dy.$$

The Hölder inequality (2.4) yields

$$\|\chi_k I_\alpha(f \chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \leq C 2^{-k(n-\alpha)} \|\chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \|f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \|\chi_j\|_{L^{p'(\cdot),-b}}.$$

Lemma 2.7 gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\chi_k I_\alpha(f \chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} &\leq C 2^{-(k-j)(n-\alpha)} \frac{\|\chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}}{\|\chi_j\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}} \|f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \\
 &\leq C 2^{-(k-j)(n-\alpha)} 2^{(k-j)a} \frac{\|\chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}}}{\|\chi_j\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}}} \|f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

According to (2.7), we have

$$\frac{1}{p_-} = \frac{1}{q_-} + \frac{\alpha + a - b}{n},$$

and hence, (3.1) gives

$$\beta_\infty < n - \frac{n}{p_-} - b = n - \frac{n}{q_-} - \alpha - a.$$

Thus, there is a $\gamma \in (1, q_-)$ such that

$$\beta_\infty < n - \frac{n}{\gamma} - \alpha - a. \quad (3.4)$$

According to [14, Proposition 2.5 and Lemma 6.3], for any $\gamma \in (1, q_-)$, there is a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\|\chi_k I_\alpha(f\chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \leq C 2^{-(k-j)(n-\alpha-a)} 2^{(k-j)\frac{n}{\gamma}} \|f\chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}. \quad (3.5)$$

When $\theta \in (0, 1)$, by using the θ -inequality, (3.4), and (3.5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha(f\chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^\theta \\ &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{-(k-j)(n-\frac{n}{\gamma}-\alpha-a)\theta} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} f\chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \\ &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=j}^{\infty} 2^{-(k-j)(n-\frac{n}{\gamma}-\alpha-a-\beta_\infty)\theta} \|2^{j\beta_\infty} f\chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \\ &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \|2^{j\beta_\infty} f\chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^\theta \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}}^\theta \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

for some $C > 0$.

For the case $\theta \in [1, \infty)$, (3.5) yields

$$\begin{aligned} I &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} \|2^{k\beta_\infty} \chi_k I_\alpha(f\chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \right)^\theta \\ &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{-(k-j)(n-\frac{n}{\gamma}-\alpha-a-\beta_\infty)} \|2^{j\beta_\infty} f\chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \right)^\theta. \end{aligned}$$

The Hölder inequality and (3.4) assert that

$$\begin{aligned}
 I &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{-\theta \frac{(k-j)}{2} (n - \frac{n}{\gamma} - \alpha - a - \beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{-\theta' \frac{(k-j)}{2} (n - \frac{n}{\gamma} - \alpha - a - \beta_{\infty})} \right)^{\frac{\theta}{\theta'}} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\min(k-2,0)} 2^{-\frac{(k-j)}{2} (n - \frac{n}{\gamma} - \alpha - a - \beta_{\infty})\theta} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=j}^{\infty} 2^{-\frac{(k-j)}{2} (n - \frac{n}{\gamma} - \alpha - a - \beta_{\infty})\theta} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \quad (3.7)
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $C > 0$.

We now consider III. As $j \geq k + 2$, we have

$$\chi_k(x) I_{\alpha}(f \chi_j)(x) \leq C 2^{-j(n-\alpha)} \int_{R_j} |f(y)| dy.$$

Thus, Lemmas 2.5 and 2.7 guarantee that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\chi_k I_{\alpha}(f \chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} &\leq C 2^{-j(n-\alpha)} \|\chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \|f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \|\chi_j\|_{L^{p'(\cdot),-b}} \\
 &\leq C 2^{(k-j)a} \frac{\|\chi_k\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}}}{\|\chi_j\|_{L^{q(\cdot)}}} \|f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $C > 0$.

In view of (2.7), we have

$$\frac{1}{p_+} = \frac{1}{q_+} + \frac{\alpha + a - b}{n}.$$

Hence, (3.1) gives

$$-\frac{n}{q_+} - a = -\frac{n}{p_+} + \alpha - b < \beta_{\infty}.$$

There is a $\gamma \in (q_+, \infty)$ such that

$$-\frac{n}{\gamma} - a < \beta_{\infty}. \quad (3.8)$$

Consequently, [14, Proposition 2.5 and Lemma 6.3] assure that, for any $\gamma \in (q_+, \infty)$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\|2^{k\beta_{\infty}} \chi_k I_{\alpha}(f \chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}} \leq C 2^{(k-j)(a + \frac{n}{\gamma} + \beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}. \quad (3.9)$$

When $\theta \in (0, 1]$, (3.8), (3.9) and the θ -inequality give

$$\begin{aligned}
 III &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=\min(k-1,0)}^{\infty} \|2^{k\beta_{\infty}} \chi_k I_{\alpha}(f \chi_j)\|_{L^{q(\cdot),a}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=\min(k-1,0)}^{\infty} 2^{\theta(k-j)(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^j 2^{\theta(k-j)(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} = C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}}^{\theta}. \tag{3.10}
 \end{aligned}$$

When $\theta \in (1, \infty)$, (3.8), (3.9), and the Hölder inequality yield

$$\begin{aligned}
 III &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j=\min(k-2,0)}^{\infty} 2^{(k-j)(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}} \right)^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j=\min(k-2,0)}^{\infty} 2^{\theta \frac{(k-j)}{2}(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left(\sum_{j=\min(k-2,0)}^{\infty} 2^{\theta' \frac{(k-j)}{2}(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \right)^{\frac{\theta}{\theta'}} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=\min(k-2,0)}^{\infty} 2^{\theta \frac{(k-j)}{2}(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^j 2^{\theta \frac{(k-j)}{2}(a+\frac{n}{\gamma}+\beta_{\infty})} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \|2^{j\beta_{\infty}} f \chi_j\|_{L^{p(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} = C \|f\|_{K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b}}^{\theta} \tag{3.11}
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $C > 0$. Therefore, (3.2), (3.3), (3.6), (3.7), (3.10), and (3.11) establish the boundedness of $I_{\alpha} : K_{p(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),b} \rightarrow K_{q(\cdot),\theta}^{\beta(\cdot),a}$. ■

As a special case of the above main result, we have the Stein–Weiss inequalities on the power weighted Herz spaces.

Corollary 3.2. Let $\alpha \in (0, n)$, $\theta, \beta \in (0, \infty)$, $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, and $p, q \in (1, \infty)$. If a, b, p, q satisfy $p \leq q$,

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{n}{q} < a \leq b < \frac{n}{p'}, \\ \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{q} &= \frac{\alpha}{n} + \frac{a-b}{n}, \\ -\frac{n}{p} + \alpha - b < \beta < n - \frac{n}{p} - b, \end{aligned}$$

then there is a constant $C > 0$ such that, for any $f \in K_{p,\theta}^{\beta,b}$, we have

$$\|I_\alpha f\|_{K_{q,\theta}^{\beta,a}} \leq C \|f\|_{K_{p,\theta}^{\beta,b}}.$$

Acknowledgments. The author thanks the reviewers for their valuable suggestions which have improved the presentation of this paper.

References

- [1] A. Almeida and D. Drihem, [Maximal, potential and singular type operators on Herz spaces with variable exponents](#). *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **394** (2012), no. 2, 781–795 Zbl [1250.42077](#) MR [2927498](#)
- [2] C. Bennett and R. Sharpley, *Interpolation of operators*. Pure Appl. Math. 129, Academic Press, Boston, MA, 1988 Zbl [0647.46057](#) MR [0928802](#)
- [3] X. Cen and Z. Song, Extrapolation on product Morrey–Herz spaces and applications. 2024, arXiv:[2402.12321](#)
- [4] D. Cruz-Uribe, A. Fiorenza, and C. J. Neugebauer, The maximal function on variable L^p spaces. *Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn. Math.* **28** (2003), no. 1, 223–238 Zbl [1037.42023](#) MR [1976842](#)
- [5] D. Cruz-Uribe and D. Suragan, [Hardy–Leray inequalities in variable Lebesgue spaces](#). *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **530** (2024), no. 2, article no. 127747 Zbl [1526.35193](#) MR [4641614](#)
- [6] D. V. Cruz-Uribe and A. Fiorenza, *Variable Lebesgue spaces*. Appl. Numer. Harmon. Anal., Birkhäuser/Springer, Heidelberg, 2013 Zbl [1268.46002](#) MR [3026953](#)
- [7] P. L. De Nápoli, I. Drelichman, and R. G. Durán, [On weighted inequalities for fractional integrals of radial functions](#). *Illinois J. Math.* **55** (2012), no. 2, 575–587 Zbl [1277.26026](#) MR [3020697](#)
- [8] L. Diening, [Maximal function on generalized Lebesgue spaces \$L^{p\(\cdot\)}\$](#) . *Math. Inequal. Appl.* **7** (2004), no. 2, 245–253 Zbl [1071.42014](#) MR [2057643](#)
- [9] L. Diening, P. Harjulehto, P. Hästö, and M. Ruzička, *Lebesgue and Sobolev spaces with variable exponents*. Lecture Notes in Math. 2017, Springer, Heidelberg, 2011 Zbl [1222.46002](#) MR [2790542](#)
- [10] H. G. Feichtinger and F. Weisz, [Herz spaces and summability of Fourier transforms](#). *Math. Nachr.* **281** (2008), no. 3, 309–324 Zbl [1189.42001](#) MR [2392115](#)
- [11] V. S. Guliyev, R. C. Mustafayev, and A. Serbetci, [Stein–Weiss inequalities for the fractional integral operators in Carnot groups and applications](#). *Complex Var. Elliptic Equ.* **55** (2010), no. 8–10, 847–863 Zbl [1205.42023](#) MR [2674868](#)

- [12] C. S. Herz, Lipschitz spaces and Bernstein's theorem on absolutely convergent Fourier transforms. *J. Math. Mech.* **18** (1969), 283–323 Zbl 0177.15701 MR 0438109
- [13] K. Hidano and Y. Kurokawa, Weighted HLS inequalities for radial functions and Strichartz estimates for wave and Schrödinger equations. *Illinois J. Math.* **52** (2008), no. 2, 365–388 Zbl 1183.35068 MR 2524642
- [14] K.-P. Ho, Vector-valued singular integral operators on Morrey type spaces and variable Triebel–Lizorkin–Morrey spaces. *Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn. Math.* **37** (2012), no. 2, 375–406 Zbl 1261.42016 MR 2987074
- [15] K.-P. Ho, Two-weight norm, Poincaré, Sobolev and Stein–Weiss inequalities on Morrey spaces. *Publ. Res. Inst. Math. Sci.* **53** (2017), no. 1, 119–139 Zbl 1366.26023 MR 3615043
- [16] K.-P. Ho, Extrapolation to Herz spaces with variable exponents and applications. *Rev. Mat. Complut.* **33** (2020), no. 2, 437–463 Zbl 1465.42015 MR 4082594
- [17] K.-P. Ho, Stein–Weiss inequalities for radial local Morrey spaces. *Port. Math.* **76** (2020), no. 3-4, 301–310 Zbl 1451.42033 MR 4126277
- [18] K.-P. Ho, Mapping properties of the fractional integral operators on Herz–Hardy spaces with variable exponents. *Bull. Belg. Math. Soc. Simon Stevin* **28** (2021), no. 5, 723–736 Zbl 1498.42022 MR 4489196
- [19] K.-P. Ho, Spherical maximal function, maximal Bochner–Riesz mean and geometrical maximal function on Herz spaces with variable exponents. *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo (2)* **70** (2021), no. 1, 559–574 Zbl 1462.42030 MR 4234327
- [20] K.-P. Ho, Sublinear operators on Herz–Hardy spaces with variable exponents. *Math. Nachr.* **295** (2022), no. 5, 876–889 Zbl 1523.42024 MR 4453941
- [21] K.-P. Ho, Bilinear operators on ball Banach function spaces. *J. Geom. Anal.* **34** (2024), no. 11, article no. 337 Zbl 1547.42029 MR 4796796
- [22] K.-P. Ho, Localized operators on weighted Herz spaces. *Math. Nachr.* **297** (2024), no. 11, 4067–4080 Zbl 07954368 MR 4827263
- [23] K.-P. Ho, Stein–Weiss inequalities on local Morrey spaces with variable exponents. *Illinois J. Math.* **68** (2024), no. 2, 399–413 Zbl 1542.42023 MR 4760281
- [24] L. Huang, F. Weisz, D. Yang, and W. Yuan, Summability of Fourier transforms on mixed-norm Lebesgue spaces via associated Herz spaces. *Anal. Appl. (Singap.)* **21** (2023), no. 2, 279–328 Zbl 1518.42015 MR 4539218
- [25] M. Izuki, Boundedness of sublinear operators on Herz spaces with variable exponent and application to wavelet characterization. *Anal. Math.* **36** (2010), no. 1, 33–50 Zbl 1224.42025 MR 2606575
- [26] M. Izuki and T. Noi, Boundedness of some integral operators and commutators on generalized Herz spaces with variable exponents. 2011, available at https://www.sci.osaka-cu.ac.jp/math/OCAMI/preprint/2011/11_15.pdf, visited on 30 March 2025
- [27] M. Izuki, T. Noi, and Y. Sawano, Extrapolation to two-weighted Herz spaces with three variable exponents. *Adv. Oper. Theory* **9** (2024), no. 3, article no. 44 Zbl 07952232 MR 4739884
- [28] M. Izuki and Y. Sawano, The Haar wavelet characterization of weighted Herz spaces and greediness of the Haar wavelet basis. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **362** (2010), no. 1, 140–155 Zbl 1180.42023 MR 2557675
- [29] Y. Li, D. Yang, and L. Huang, *Real-variable theory of Hardy spaces associated with generalized Herz spaces of Rafeiro and Samko*. Lecture Notes in Math. 2320, Springer, Singapore, 2022 Zbl 1521.42001 MR 4628102

- [30] S. Lu, K. Yabuta, and D. Yang, Boundedness of some sublinear operators in weighted Herz-type spaces. *Kodai Math. J.* **23** (2000), no. 3, 391–410 Zbl 0986.42010 MR 1787673
- [31] S. Lu and D. Yang, Hardy–Littlewood–Sobolev theorems of fractional integration on Herz-type spaces and its applications. *Canad. J. Math.* **48** (1996), no. 2, 363–380 Zbl 0893.42005 MR 1393038
- [32] S. Lu, D. Yang, and G. Hu, *Herz type spaces and their applications*. Science Press, Beijing, 2008
- [33] S. Z. Lu and D. C. Yang, The Littlewood–Paley function and ϕ -transform characterizations of a new Hardy space HK_2 associated with the Herz space. *Studia Math.* **101** (1992), no. 3, 285–298 Zbl 0811.42005 MR 1153785
- [34] B. Muckenhoupt and R. Wheeden, Weighted norm inequalities for fractional integrals. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **192** (1974), 261–274 Zbl 0289.26010 MR 0340523
- [35] A. Nekvinda, Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator on $L^{p(x)}(\mathbb{R})$. *Math. Inequal. Appl.* **7** (2004), no. 2, 255–265 Zbl 1059.42016 MR 2057644
- [36] C. Pérez, Two weighted inequalities for potential and fractional type maximal operators. *Indiana Univ. Math. J.* **43** (1994), no. 2, 663–683 Zbl 0809.42007 MR 1291534
- [37] M. A. Ragusa, Homogeneous Herz spaces and regularity results. *Nonlinear Anal.* **71** (2009), no. 12, e1909–e1914 Zbl 1238.35021 MR 2671966
- [38] M. A. Ragusa, Parabolic Herz spaces and their applications. *Appl. Math. Lett.* **25** (2012), no. 10, 1270–1273 Zbl 1255.35131 MR 2947392
- [39] Y. Sawano, K.-P. Ho, D. Yang, and S. Yang, Hardy spaces for ball quasi-Banach function spaces. *Dissertationes Math.* **525** (2017), article no. 102 Zbl 1392.42021 MR 3687096
- [40] E. M. Stein and G. Weiss, Fractional integrals on n -dimensional Euclidean space. *J. Math. Mech.* **7** (1958), 503–514 Zbl 0082.27201 MR 0098285
- [41] Y. Zhao, D. Yang, and Y. Zhang, Mixed-norm Herz spaces and their applications in related Hardy spaces. *Anal. Appl. (Singap.)* **21** (2023), no. 5, 1131–1222 Zbl 1522.42050 MR 4641377

Received 19 November 2024; revised 16 March 2025.

Kwok-Pun Ho

Department of Mathematics and Information Technology, The Education University of Hong Kong, 10 Lo Ping Road, Tai Po, Hong Kong, P. R. China; vkpho@eduhk.hk