

## SOME FUNCTION SPACES RELATIVE TO MORREY-CAMPANATO SPACES ON METRIC SPACES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, the author introduces the Morrey-Campanato spaces  $L_p^s(X)$  and the spaces  $C_p^s(X)$  on spaces of homogeneous type including metric spaces and some fractals, and establishes some embedding theorems between these spaces under some restrictions and the Besov spaces and the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces. In particular, the author proves that  $L_p^s(X) = B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$  if  $0 < s < \infty$  and  $\mu(X) < \infty$ . The author also introduces some new function spaces  $A_p^s(X)$  and  $B_p^s(X)$  and proves that these new spaces when  $0 < s < 1$  and  $1 < p < \infty$  are just the Triebel-Lizorkin space  $F_{p,\infty}^s(X)$  if  $X$  is a metric space, and the spaces  $A_p^1(X)$  and  $B_p^1(X)$  when  $1 < p \leq \infty$  are just the Hajlasz-Sobolev spaces  $W_p^1(X)$ . Finally, as an application, the author gives a new characterization of the Hajlasz-Sobolev spaces by making use of the sharp maximal function.

### §1. Introduction

On metric spaces including fractals, how to reasonably introduce some well-known functions on the Euclidean spaces is the main subject of a lot of recent papers and books; see [26], [21], [29], [30], [16], [17]. The main purpose of this paper is to introduce the Morrey-Campanato spaces  $L_p^s(X)$  and the spaces  $C_p^s(X)$  on spaces of homogeneous type including metric spaces and some fractals, whose versions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and its domains are studied by DeVore and Sharpley in [6], Christ in [3] and Miyachi in [24], [25]; see also [28] for more references. Moreover,  $L_1^0(\Omega)$  is just the usual space  $bmo(\Omega)$  if  $\Omega$  is a bounded  $C^\infty$  domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; see [28, p. 49]. We will establish some embedding theorems between these spaces under some restrictions and the Besov spaces and the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces in [12], [13], [16], [17]. In particular, we will prove that  $L_p^s(X) = B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$  if  $0 < s < \infty$  and  $\mu(X) < \infty$  (see Theorem 2.1 below), which is known if  $X$  is a bounded  $C^\infty$

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domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; see [28, pp. 50, 247–248]. Motivated by [21], we also introduce some new function spaces  $A_p^s(X)$  and  $B_p^s(X)$ , which can be regarded as the fractional versions of the function spaces studied in [21]. However, the metric spaces studied in [21] have the segment property and we do not need this property by assuming some other properties. It is easy to find a metric space satisfying our assumptions (see Definition 2.1 below), which has no segment property. For example, consider  $X = [0, 1] \cup [2, 3]$  with the euclidean distance and the 1-dimensional Lebesgue measure. We will prove that these new spaces  $A_p^s(X)$  and  $B_p^s(X)$ , when  $0 < s < 1$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $X$  is a metric space, are just the Triebel-Lizorkin space  $F_{p,\infty}^s(X)$  (see Theorem 2.4 below), and that the spaces  $A_p^1(X)$  and  $B_p^1(X)$ , when  $1 < p \leq \infty$  and  $X$  is a metric space, are just the Hajłasz-Sobolev spaces  $W_p^1(X)$  in [9] (see Theorem 3.3 below). Finally, as an application of this result, we will establish a new characterization of the Sobolev space  $W_p^1(X)$  by means of the sharp maximal function introduced by Triebel in [28, p. 246] (see Theorem 3.4 below), which is also known if  $X$  is a bounded  $C^\infty$  domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; see [28, pp. 50, 247–248].

We remark that although some of our results are known if  $X$  is a bounded  $C^\infty$  domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , some new ideas and techniques are needed to obtain their counterparts on spaces of homogeneous type. In particular, we need the Calderón reproducing formulae established by Han in [11] and we will also use some ideas from [21].

Section 2 is devoted to the study of the Morrey-Campanato spaces and the  $C_p^s(X)$  spaces, and the new characterization of the Hajłasz-Sobolev spaces  $W_p^1(X)$  is given in Section 3.

## §2. Morrey-Campanato spaces and $C_p^s$ spaces

Let us first recall some definitions and notation on spaces of homogeneous type. A quasi-metric  $\rho$  on a set  $X$  is a function  $\rho: X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfying that

- (i)  $\rho(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ;
- (ii)  $\rho(x, y) = \rho(y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ ;
- (iii) there exists a constant  $A \in [1, \infty)$  such that for all  $x, y$  and  $z \in X$ ,

$$\rho(x, y) \leq A[\rho(x, z) + \rho(z, y)].$$

Any quasi-metric defines a topology, for which the balls

$$B(x, r) = \{y \in X : \rho(y, x) < r\}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and all  $r > 0$  form a basis.

In what follows, we set  $\text{diam } X = \sup\{\rho(x, y) : x, y \in X\}$ . We also make the following conventions. We denote by  $f \sim g$  that there is a constant  $C > 0$  independent of the main parameters such that  $C^{-1}g < f < Cg$ . Throughout the paper, we will denote by  $C$  a positive constant which is independent of the main parameters, but it may vary from line to line. Constants with subscripts, such as  $C_1$ , do not change in different occurrences. We denote  $\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  simply by  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  and for any  $q \in [1, \infty]$ , we denote by  $q'$  its conjugate index, namely,  $1/q + 1/q' = 1$ . If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are two quasi-Banach spaces,  $B_1 \subset B_2$  means that there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in B_1$ ,

$$\|f\|_{B_2} \leq C\|f\|_{B_1}.$$

DEFINITION 2.1. ([16]) Let  $d > 0$  and  $0 < \theta \leq 1$ . A space of homogeneous type,  $(X, \rho, \mu)_{d, \theta}$ , is a set  $X$  together with a quasi-metric  $\rho$  and a nonnegative Borel regular measure  $\mu$  on  $X$  with  $\text{supp } \mu = X$  such that for some constant  $C_0 > 0$  and for all  $0 < r < \text{diam } X$  and all  $x, x', y \in X$ ,

$$(2.1) \quad \mu(B(x, r)) \sim r^d$$

and

$$(2.2) \quad |\rho(x, y) - \rho(x', y)| \leq C_0 \rho(x, x')^\theta [\rho(x, y) + \rho(x', y)]^{1-\theta}.$$

Obviously,  $d$  can be regarded as the Hausdorff dimension of  $X$  (see [23]). Moreover, if  $\rho$  is a metric, then  $\theta$  in (2.2) can be 1; and, if  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\rho$  is the usual Euclidean metric and  $\mu$  is the  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure, then  $d = n$  and  $\theta = 1$ .

Space of homogeneous type defined above is a variant of space of homogeneous type introduced by Coifman and Weiss in [4]. In [22], Macias and Segovia have proved that one can replace the quasi-metric  $\rho$  of space of homogeneous type in the sense of Coifman and Weiss by another quasi-metric  $\bar{\rho}$  which yields the same topology on  $X$  as  $\rho$  such that  $(X, \bar{\rho}, \mu)$  is the space defined by Definition 2.1 with  $d = 1$ .

Moreover, the spaces of homogeneous type in Definition 2.1 include the Euclidean space, the  $C^\infty$ -compact Riemannian manifolds, the boundaries

of Lipschitz domains and, in particular, the Lipschitz manifolds introduced recently by Triebel in [31] and the isotropic and anisotropic  $d$ -sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . It has been proved by Triebel in [29] that the isotropic and anisotropic  $d$ -sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  include various kinds of self-affine fractals, for example, the Cantor set (see also [23]), the generalized Sierpinski carpet, the fern-like fractals, Picasso-Xmas-Tree fractals and Oval-Ferny fractals; see [30], [1], [2] and [8]. We particularly point out that the spaces of homogeneous type in Definition 2.1 also include the post critically finite self-similar fractals studied by Kigami in [20] and by Strichartz in [26], and the metric spaces with heat kernel studied by Grigor'yan, Hu and Lau in [8].

We now recall the definition of the Besov and Triebel-Lizorkin spaces on spaces of homogeneous type. To do so, let us first recall the definition of the spaces of test functions on  $X$  in [15]; see also [11].

**DEFINITION 2.2.** Fix  $\gamma > 0$  and  $\theta \geq \beta > 0$ . A function  $f$  defined on  $X$  is said to be a test function of type  $(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)$  with  $x_0 \in X$  and  $r > 0$ , if  $f$  satisfies the following conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & |f(x)| \leq C_1 \frac{r^\gamma}{(r + \rho(x, x_0))^{d+\gamma}}; \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & |f(x) - f(y)| \leq C_1 \left( \frac{\rho(x, y)}{r + \rho(x, x_0)} \right)^\beta \frac{r^\gamma}{(r + \rho(x, x_0))^{d+\gamma}} \\ & \text{for } \rho(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{2A}[r + \rho(x, x_0)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $C_1 > 0$  is independent of  $x, y$  and  $r$ . If  $f$  is a test function of type  $(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)$ , we write  $f \in \mathcal{G}(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)$ , and the norm of  $f$  in  $\mathcal{G}(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)$  is defined by

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{G}(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)} = \inf\{C_1 : \text{(i) and (ii) hold}\}.$$

Here and in what follows,  $\theta$  is the same as in (2.2).

Now fix  $x_0 \in X$  and let  $\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma) = \mathcal{G}(x_0, 1, \beta, \gamma)$ . It is easy to see that

$$\mathcal{G}(x_1, r, \beta, \gamma) = \mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$$

with the equivalent norms for all  $x_1 \in X$  and  $r > 0$ . Furthermore, it is easy to check that  $\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$  is a Banach space with respect to the norm in  $\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$ .

Also, let the dual space  $(\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma))'$  be all linear functionals  $\mathcal{L}$  from  $\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$  to  $\mathbb{C}$  with the property that there exists a finite constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$ ,

$$|\mathcal{L}(f)| \leq C\|f\|_{\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)}.$$

We denote by  $\langle h, f \rangle$  the natural pairing of elements  $h \in (\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma))'$  and  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$ . It is easy to see that, for all  $h \in (\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma))'$ ,  $\langle h, f \rangle$  is well defined for all  $f \in \mathcal{G}(x_0, r, \beta, \gamma)$  with  $x_0 \in X$  and  $r > 0$ . Moreover, in what follows, we will denote by  $\dot{\mathcal{G}}(\beta, \gamma)$ , for  $0 < \beta, \gamma < \theta$ , the completion of  $\mathcal{G}(\theta, \theta)$  in  $\mathcal{G}(\beta, \gamma)$ .

To state the definition of the inhomogeneous Besov spaces  $B_{p,q}^s(X)$  and the inhomogeneous Triebel-Lizorkin spaces  $F_{p,q}^s(X)$  studied in [12], we need the following approximations to the identity which were first introduced in [11].

DEFINITION 2.3. A sequence  $\{S_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  of linear operators is said to be an approximation to the identity of order  $\epsilon \in (0, \theta]$  if there exist  $C_2, C_3 > 0$  such that for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and all  $x, x', y$  and  $y' \in X$ ,  $S_k(x, y)$ , the kernel of  $S_k$  is a function from  $X \times X$  into  $\mathbb{C}$  satisfying

- (i)  $S_k(x, y) = 0$  if  $\rho(x, y) \geq C_2 2^{-k}$  and  $\|S_k\|_{L^\infty(X \times X)} \leq C_3 2^{dk}$ ;
- (ii)  $|S_k(x, y) - S_k(x', y)| \leq C_3 2^{k(d+\epsilon)} \rho(x, x')^\epsilon$ ;
- (iii)  $|S_k(x, y) - S_k(x, y')| \leq C_3 2^{k(d+\epsilon)} \rho(y, y')^\epsilon$ ;
- (iv)  $|[S_k(x, y) - S_k(x, y')] - [S_k(x', y) - S_k(x', y')]| \leq C_3 2^{k(d+2\epsilon)} \rho(x, x')^\epsilon \rho(y, y')^\epsilon$ ;
- (v)  $\int_X S_k(x, y) d\mu(y) = 1$ ;
- (vi)  $\int_X S_k(x, y) d\mu(x) = 1$ .

Here, that  $S_k(x, y)$  is the kernel of  $S_k$  means that for suitable functions  $f$ ,

$$S_k f(x) = \int_X S_k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y).$$

We point out that by a similar Coifman's construction to that in [5], one can construct an approximation to the identity with compact supports as in Definition 2.3 for those spaces of homogeneous type in Definition 2.1.

Now, we can introduce the spaces  $B_{p,q}^s(X)$  and  $F_{p,q}^s(X)$  via the approximations to the identity defined above, which were first studied in [12].

DEFINITION 2.4. Suppose  $s \in (-\theta, \theta)$  and that  $\{S_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is an approximation to the identity of order  $\theta$  and let  $D_k = S_k - S_{k-1}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $D_0 = S_0$ . The inhomogeneous Besov space  $B_{p,q}^s(X)$  for  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$  is the collection of  $f \in (\mathring{\mathcal{G}}(\beta, \gamma))'$  for  $|s| < \beta < \theta$  and  $0 < \gamma < \theta$  such that

$$\|f\|_{B_{p,q}^s(X)} = \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^\infty [2^{ks} \|D_k(f)\|_{L^p(X)}]^q \right\}^{1/q} < \infty.$$

The inhomogeneous Triebel-Lizorkin space  $F_{p,q}^s(X)$  for  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $1 < q \leq \infty$  is the collection of  $f \in (\mathring{\mathcal{G}}(\beta, \gamma))'$  for  $|s| < \beta < \theta$  and  $0 < \gamma < \theta$  such that

$$\|f\|_{F_{p,q}^s(X)} = \left\| \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^\infty [2^{ks} |D_k(f)|]^q \right\}^{1/q} \right\|_{L^p(X)} < \infty.$$

It was proved in [12] that the above definitions of the spaces  $B_{p,q}^s(X)$  and  $F_{p,q}^s(X)$  are independent of the choices of approximations to the identity and the pair  $(\beta, \gamma)$  with  $\max(0, -s) < \beta < \theta$  and  $0 < \gamma < \theta$ . Moreover, in [16], it was also proved that the above definitions are also independent of the equivalent quasi-metrics satisfying (2.2). We say that a quasi-metric  $\rho$  is equivalent to another quasi-metric  $\rho'$  if there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$C^{-1}\rho'(x, y) \leq \rho(x, y) \leq C\rho'(x, y).$$

Moreover, it was proved in [32] that the Besov spaces on  $d$ -sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined by two different and equivalent methods, namely, traces and quarkonial decompositions in the sense of Triebel in [29], [30] are the same spaces as those introduced in [12], [17] by regarding the  $d$ -set as a space of homogeneous type when  $0 < s < 1$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $1 \leq q \leq \infty$ .

For  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $C_4 > 0$ ,  $u \in (0, \infty]$  and  $x \in X$ , we introduce the sharp maximal function

$$f_{u,C_4}^s(x) = \sup_{0 < t < C_4} t^{-s} \left( \oint_{B(x,t)} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^u d\mu(y) \right)^{1/u},$$

where  $\oint_{B(x,t)} f(y) d\mu(y)$  means the average on  $B(x, t)$  of  $f$ , that is,

$$\oint_{B(x,t)} f(y) d\mu(y) = \frac{1}{\mu(B(x, t))} \int_{B(x,t)} f(y) d\mu(y).$$

Using this sharp maximal function, we can now introduce the so-called Morrey-Campanato spaces and the spaces  $C_p^s(X)$ , whose versions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and its domains have been introduced by DeVore and Sharpley in [6] and Christ in [3]; see also [24], [25] and [28, pp. 48–49, 246] for some applications of these spaces, the detailed references, further explanations and a short history of the versions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and its domains of these spaces.

DEFINITION 2.5. Let  $C_4 > 0$ .

(i) Let  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $-d/p \leq s < 1$ . Then

$$L_p^s(X) = \left\{ f \in L^p(X) : \|f\|_{L_p^s(X)} = \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \sup_{x \in X} f_{p,C_4}^s(x) < \infty \right\}.$$

(ii) Let  $0 < s < 1$ ,  $0 < p \leq \infty$  and  $\bar{p} = \max(1, p)$ . Then

$$C_p^s(X) = \left\{ f \in L^{\bar{p}}(X) : \|f\|_{C_p^s(X)} = \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|f_{p,C_4}^s\|_{L^p(X)} < \infty \right\}.$$

Remark 2.1. It is easy to see that the definition of the spaces  $L_p^s(X)$  and  $C_p^s(X)$  are independent of the choice of  $C_4 > 0$ .

The following is one of the main theorems of this section.

THEOREM 2.1. Let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .

(i)  $L_p^{-d/p}(X) = L^p(X)$  with equivalent norms, and for  $\min(-\theta, -d/p) < s < \theta$ ,  $L_p^s(X) \subset B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$ , that is, there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in L_p^s(X)$ ,

$$\|f\|_{B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{L_p^s(X)}.$$

(ii) If  $0 < s < \theta$  and  $\mu(X) < \infty$ , then  $B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X) \subset L_p^s(X)$ , that is, there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$ ,

$$\|f\|_{L_p^s(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)}.$$

Remark 2.2. The space  $B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$  for  $0 < s < \theta$  is usually called the Hölder-Zygmund space; see [28], [27].

To establish Theorem 2.1, we need the following inhomogeneous Calderón reproducing formulae established in [11].

LEMMA 2.1. *Suppose that  $\{S_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  is an approximation to the identity of order  $\epsilon_1 \in (0, \theta]$  as defined in Definition 2.3. Let  $D_k = S_k - S_{k-1}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $D_0 = S_0$ . Then there exist a family of linear operators  $\tilde{D}_k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that for  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\beta_1, \gamma_1)$  with  $0 < \beta_1, \gamma_1 < \epsilon_1$ ,*

$$(2.3) \quad f = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} D_k \tilde{D}_k(f),$$

where the series converge in the norm of  $\mathcal{G}(\beta'_1, \gamma'_1)$  for  $0 < \beta'_1 < \beta_1$  and  $0 < \gamma'_1 < \gamma_1$ . Moreover, the kernel,  $\tilde{D}_k(x, y)$ , of the operator  $\tilde{D}_k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  satisfies the conditions

- (i)  $|\tilde{D}_k(x, y)| \leq C \frac{2^{-k\epsilon}}{(2^{-k} + \rho(x, y))^{d+\epsilon}},$
- (ii)  $|\tilde{D}_k(x, y) - \tilde{D}_k(x, y')| \leq C \left( \frac{\rho(y, y')}{2^{-k} + \rho(x, y)} \right)^\epsilon \frac{2^{-k\epsilon}}{(2^{-k} + \rho(x, y))^{d+\epsilon}}$   
for  $\rho(y, y') \leq \frac{1}{2A}(2^{-k} + \rho(x, y)),$

and

$$(iii) \quad \int_X \tilde{D}_k(x, y) d\mu(y) = \int_X \tilde{D}_k(x, y) d\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & k = 0; \\ 0, & k \in \mathbb{N}, \end{cases}$$

where  $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_1)$ .

The following lemma can be found in [12]; see also [15].

LEMMA 2.2. *Let  $\{\tilde{D}_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  be as in Lemma 2.1 with  $\theta > |s|$ .*

- (i) *For  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$  and all  $f \in B_{p,q}^s(X)$ ,*

$$\left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{ksq} \|\tilde{D}_k f\|_{L^p(X)}^q \right\}^{1/q} \leq C \|f\|_{B_{p,q}^s(X)},$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $f$ .

- (ii) *For  $1 < p < \infty, 1 < q \leq \infty$  and all  $f \in F_{p,q}^s(X)$ ,*

$$\left\| \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{ksq} |\tilde{D}_k f|^q \right\}^{1/q} \right\|_{L^p(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{F_{p,q}^s(X)},$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $f$ .

*Proof of Theorem 2.1.* We first show (i). Let  $f \in L_p^{-d/p}(X)$ . From Definition 2.5, we know that  $f \in L^p(X)$  and

$$(2.4) \quad \|f\|_{L^p(X)} \leq \|f\|_{L_p^{-d/p}(X)}.$$

We now suppose that  $f \in L^p(X)$  and the Hölder inequality and  $\mu(B(x, t)) \sim t^d$  tell us that for all  $x \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_{p,C_4}^{-d/p}(x) &= \sup_{0 < t < C_4} t^{d/p} \left( \oint_{B(x,t)} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^p d\mu(y) \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $f \in L_p^{-d/p}(X)$  and

$$(2.5) \quad \|f\|_{L_p^{-d/p}(X)} = \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \sup_{x \in X} f_{p,C_4}^{-d/p}(x) \leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)}.$$

The estimates (2.4) and (2.5) show that  $L_p^{-d/p}(X) = L^p(X)$  with equivalent norms.

Let  $\{D_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  be as in Definition 2.4. Let  $\min(-\theta, -d/p) < s < \theta$  and  $f \in L_p^s(X)$ . We denote  $B_1 = B(x, 2C_1 2^{-k})$ . The Hölder inequality yields that

$$\begin{aligned} (2.6) \quad |D_0 f(x)| &= \left| \int_X D_0(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \\ &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} \left\{ \int_X |D_0(x, y)|^{p'} d\mu(y) \right\}^{1/p'} \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)}, \end{aligned}$$

and, by the fact that

$$(2.7) \quad \int_X D_k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) = 0$$

and  $\text{supp } D_k(x, \cdot) \subset B_1$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2.8) \quad |D_k f(x)| &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \\ &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) \left[ f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right] d\mu(y) \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq C \oint_{B_1} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq C \left\{ \oint_{B_1} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^p d\mu(y) \right\}^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the estimates (2.6) and (2.8) tell us that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)} &= \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} \sup_{x \in X} 2^{ks} |D_k f(x)| \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C \sup_{x \in X} f_{p,2C_1}^s(x) \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{L_p^s(X)}. \end{aligned}$$

This proves (i).

We now turn to the proof of (ii). Let  $f \in B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)$ . By the Hölder inequality, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (2.9) \quad \|f\|_{L^p(X)} &= \left\{ \int_X \left| \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} D_k f(x) \right|^p d\mu(x) \right\}^{1/p} \\ &\leq \left\{ \int_X \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{-ks} \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, x \in X} 2^{ks} |D_k f(x)| \right]^p d\mu(x) \right\}^{1/p} \\ &\leq C \mu(X) \|f\|_{B_{\infty,\infty}^s(X)}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, let  $C_4 = 1$  and  $2^{-k_0-1} \leq t < 2^{-k_0}$  for some  $k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Let  $y, z \in B(x, 2^{-k_0})$ . By Lemma 2.1, we decompose  $f(y) - f(z)$  into

$$\begin{aligned} (2.10) \quad f(y) - f(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left[ D_k \tilde{D}_k f(y) - D_k \tilde{D}_k f(z) \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \left[ D_k \tilde{D}_k f(y) - D_k \tilde{D}_k f(z) \right] \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} \left[ D_k \tilde{D}_k f(y) - D_k \tilde{D}_k f(z) \right] \\ &= I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned}$$

For  $I_1$ , noting that  $\rho(y, z) \leq C2^{-k_0}$  if  $\rho(y, x) \leq C2^{-k_0}$  and  $\rho(z, x) \leq C2^{-k_0}$ ,

by Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.11) \quad |I_1| &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \int_X |D_k(y, u) - D_k(z, u)| |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{k(d+\theta)} \int_{\{u \in X: \rho(y,u) \leq C2^{-k} \text{ or } \rho(z,u) \leq C2^{-k}\}} \rho(y, z)^\theta |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{-(k_0-k)\theta} \sup_{u \in X} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \\
 &= C 2^{-k_0 s} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{-(k_0-k)(\theta-s)} \right] \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, u \in X} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \\
 &\leq C 2^{-k_0 s} \|f\|_{B_{\infty, \infty}^s(X)},
 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $I_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.12) \quad |I_2| &\leq \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} \left[ |D_k \tilde{D}_k f(y)| + |D_k \tilde{D}_k f(z)| \right] \\
 &\leq \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} 2^{-ks} \left[ \int_X |D_k(y, u)| d\mu(u) + \int_X |D_k(z, u)| d\mu(u) \right] \\
 &\quad \times \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+, u \in X} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \\
 &\leq C 2^{-k_0 s} \|f\|_{B_{\infty, \infty}^s(X)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The definition of  $f_{p,1}^s$  and the estimates (2.11) and (2.12) imply that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.13) \quad f_{p,1}^s(x) &= \sup_{0 < t < 1} t^{-s} \left( \int_{B(x,t)} \left| f(y) - \int_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^p d\mu(y) \right)^{1/p} \\
 &\leq \sup_{0 < t < 1} t^{-s} \left( \int_{B(x,t)} \left[ \int_{B(x,t)} |f(y) - f(z)| d\mu(z) \right]^p d\mu(y) \right)^{1/p} \\
 &\leq C \sup_{k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{k_0 s} \left( \int_{B(x,2^{-k_0})} \left[ \int_{B(x,2^{-k_0})} |f(y) - f(z)| d\mu(z) \right]^p d\mu(y) \right)^{1/p} \\
 &\leq C \|f\|_{B_{\infty, \infty}^s(X)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally, (2.9) and (2.13) yield that

$$\|f\|_{L^s_p(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{B^s_{\infty,\infty}(X)}.$$

This finishes the proof of Theorem 2.1. □

On the relation between  $C^s_p(X)$  and the Triebel-Lizorkin space  $F^s_{p,q}(X)$ , we have the following result.

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $0 < s < \theta$ .*

- (i) *If  $1 < p < \infty$ , then  $C^s_p(X) \subset F^s_{p,\infty}(X)$ , namely, there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in C^s_p(X)$ ,*

$$\|f\|_{F^s_{p,\infty}(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{C^s_p(X)}.$$

- (ii) *If  $1 < p_2 < p_1 < \infty$  and  $\mu(X) < \infty$ , then  $F^s_{p_1,\infty}(X) \subset C^s_{p_2}(X)$ , namely, there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $f \in F^s_{p_1,\infty}(X)$ ,*

$$\|f\|_{C^s_{p_2}(X)} \leq C\mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1}\|f\|_{F^s_{p_1,\infty}(X)}.$$

*Proof.* We first show (i). Let  $f \in C^s_p(X)$  and  $\{D_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  be as in Definition 2.4. We first have

$$(2.14) \quad |D_0 f(x)| = \left| \int_X S_0(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \leq CMf(x),$$

where  $M$  is the Hardy-Littlewood maximal function. Thus, for  $1 < p < \infty$ , by the  $L^p(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  (see [4], [18]), we obtain

$$(2.15) \quad \|D_0 f\|_{L^p(X)} \leq C\|Mf\|_{L^p(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{L^p(X)}.$$

Let  $B_1 = B(x, 2C_1 2^{-k})$ . The estimate (2.8) tells us that for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and all  $x \in X$ ,

$$(2.16) \quad 2^{ks} |D_k f(x)| \leq C f^s_{p,C_1}(x),$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $x$ . The estimates (2.15) and (2.16) yield that

$$C^s_p(X) \subset F^s_{p,\infty}(X)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.17) \quad \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)} &= \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |D_k f| \right\|_{L^p(X)} \\
 &\leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C \|f_{p,C_1}^s\|_{L^p(X)} \\
 &\leq C \|f\|_{C_p^s(X)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves (i).

We now turn to prove (ii). By the properties of  $F_{p,q}^s(X)$  in [12], [14] (see also [16]), we have that

$$F_{p_1,\infty}^s(X) \subset F_{p_1,2}^0(X) = L^{p_1}(X) \subset L^{p_2}(X),$$

since  $s > 0$ ,  $p_2 < p_1$  and  $\mu(X) < \infty$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.18) \quad \|f\|_{L^{p_2}(X)} &\leq \mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \|f\|_{L^{p_1}(X)} \\
 &\leq C \mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \|f\|_{F_{p_1,\infty}^s(X)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, without loss of generality, we may assume that  $C_4 = 1$  in the definition of  $C_{p_2}^s(X)$  by Remark 2.1. Let  $2^{-k_0-1} \leq t < 2^{-k_0}$  for some  $k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  and we decompose  $f(y) - f(z)$  as in (2.10) of the proof of Theorem 2.1 by means of Lemma 2.1. Then, for  $y, z \in B(x, 2^{-k_0})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.19) \quad |I_1| &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \int_X |D_k(y, u) - D_k(z, u)| |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{k(d+\theta)} \int_{\{u \in X: \rho(y,u) \leq C2^{-k} \text{ or } \rho(z,u) \leq C2^{-k}\}} \rho(y, z)^\theta |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{(k-k_0)\theta} 2^{kd} \int_{\{u \in X: \rho(y,u) \leq C2^{-k} \text{ or } \rho(z,u) \leq C2^{-k}\}} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\
 &\leq C 2^{-k_0 s} \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{(k-k_0)(\theta-s)} \\
 &\quad \times \left\{ 2^{kd} \int_{\{u \in X: \rho(y,u) \leq C2^{-k}\}} \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right) d\mu(u) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + 2^{kd} \int_{\{u \in X: \rho(z,u) \leq C2^{-k}\}} \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right) d\mu(u) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq C2^{-k_0s} \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} 2^{(k-k_0)(\theta-s)} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left\{ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (y) + M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (z) \right\} \\ &\leq C2^{-k_0s} \left\{ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (y) + M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (z) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (2.20) \quad |I_2| &\leq \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} \int_X [|D_k(y, u)| + |D_k(z, u)|] |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| d\mu(u) \\ &\leq C \left[ \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} 2^{-ks} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left\{ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (y) + M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (z) \right\} \\ &\leq C2^{-k_0s} \left\{ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (y) + M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (z) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then similarly to (2.13), the estimates (2.19) and (2.20) and the Minkowski inequality yield that

$$(2.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &f_{p_2,1}^s(x) \\ &\leq C \sup_{k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{k_0s} \left( \int_{B(x,2^{-k_0})} \left[ \int_{B(x,2^{-k_0})} |f(y) - f(z)| d\mu(z) \right]^{p_2} d\mu(y) \right)^{1/p_2} \\ &\leq CM^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right) (x) + C \left\{ M \left[ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) \right]^{p_2} \right\}^{1/p_2}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $M$  is the Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator and  $M^2$  means  $M \circ M$ , the composition of  $M$ . The estimate (2.21), the Hölder inequality, Lemma 2.2 and the  $L^p(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  for  $p \in (1, \infty]$  then imply that

$$(2.22)$$

$$\|f_{p_2,1}^s\|_{L^{p_2}(X)} \leq C \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right\|_{L^{p_2}(X)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ C\mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \left\| M \left[ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) \right]^{p_2} \right\|_{L^{p_1/p_2}(X)}^{1/p_2} \\
 &\leq C\mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \left\{ \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right\|_{L^{p_1}(X)} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \left\| M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) \right\|_{L^{p_1}(X)} \right\} \\
 &\leq C\mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f(u)| \right\|_{L^{p_1}(X)} \\
 &\leq C\mu(X)^{1/p_2-1/p_1} \|f\|_{F_{p_1, \infty}^s(X)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The estimates (2.18) and (2.22) imply (ii) and we finish the proof of Theorem 2.2. □

Motivated by [21], we now introduce some new function spaces on spaces of homogeneous type. These spaces under some restrictions will be proved to be the special cases of the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces.

**DEFINITION 2.6.** Let  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $s > 0$ . The space  $B_p^s(X)$  is the set of functions  $f \in L^p(X)$  satisfying that there exists a function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that

$$(2.23) \quad \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \leq r(B)^s g(x)$$

for  $\mu$ -a. e.  $x \in B$  and any ball  $B \subset X$ , where  $r(B)$  is the radius of the ball  $B$ . Moreover, if  $f \in B_p^s(X)$ , we define its norm by

$$\|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} = \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \inf_g \|g\|_{L^p(X)},$$

where the infimum is taken over all functions  $g$  satisfying (2.23).

We remark that in some sense, the function  $g$  in Definition 2.6 behaves like the fractional derivative of  $f$ , which is also the main subject of [7].

The following theorem will indicate the relation between the space  $B_p^s(X)$  and the Triebel-Lizorkin space.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $0 < s < \theta$ . Then  $B_p^s(X) = F_{p, \infty}^s(X)$  with equivalent norms.*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in F_{p,\infty}^s(X)$ . If  $r(B) \geq 1$ , then, for  $y \in B$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.24) \quad & \left| f(y) - \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B [f(y) - f(z)] d\mu(z) \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [D_k \tilde{D}_k f(y) - D_k \tilde{D}_k f(z)] d\mu(z) \right| \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B [M(\tilde{D}_k f)(y) + M(\tilde{D}_k f)(z)] d\mu(z) \\
 &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} M^2(\tilde{D}_k f)(y) \\
 &\leq CM^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(y) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{-ks} \\
 &\leq CM^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(y) \\
 &\leq Cr(B)^s M^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(y),
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $s > 0$ , where we used the facts that

$$(2.25) \quad |f(x)| \leq Mf(x)$$

and

$$(2.26) \quad |D_k f(x)| \leq Mf(x).$$

If  $2^{-(k_0+1)} \leq r(B) < 2^{-k_0}$  for some  $k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , then for  $y, z \in B$ , we write  $f(y) - f(z)$  as in (2.10) and the estimates (2.19) and (2.20) tell us that

$$|f(y) - f(z)| \leq Cr(B)^s \left\{ M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(y) + M \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(z) \right\}.$$

Therefore, this estimate and (2.25) yield

$$(2.27) \quad \left| f(y) - \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \leq Cr(B)^s M^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right)(y)$$

for all  $y \in B$ .

Let

$$g(y) = CM^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) (y).$$

By Lemma 2.2 and the  $L^p(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  for  $p \in (1, \infty)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2.28) \quad \|g\|_{L^p(X)} &\leq C \left\| M^2 \left( \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right) \right\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |\tilde{D}_k f| \right\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &= C \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)}. \end{aligned}$$

The estimates (2.24), (2.27) and (2.28) show that  $f \in B_p^s(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)}.$$

Now suppose  $f \in B_p^s(X)$ . By Definition 2.6, for any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that (2.23) holds for any ball  $B \subset X$  and

$$(2.29) \quad \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Let  $B_1$  be the same as in the proof of Theorem 2.1. For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , by (2.7) and Definition 2.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2.30) \quad |D_k f(x)| &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \\ &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) \left[ f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right] d\mu(y) \right| \\ &\leq C 2^{-ks} \int_X |D_k(x, y)| |g(y)| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq C 2^{-ks} M g(x). \end{aligned}$$

The estimates (2.14) and (2.30) tell us that

$$(2.31) \quad \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |D_k f(x)| \leq C [M f(x) + M g(x)].$$

Finally the estimates (2.31) and (2.29) and the  $L^p(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  yield that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)} &= \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |D_k f| \right\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C \{ \|Mf\|_{L^p(X)} + \|Mg\|_{L^p(X)} \} \\ &\leq C \{ \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} \} \\ &\leq C [\|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} + \epsilon]. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain that  $B_p^s(X) \subset F_{p,\infty}^s(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{B_p^s(X)}.$$

This finishes the proof of Theorem 2.3. □

We now introduce some other space of functions and we will prove that these spaces under some restrictions are just the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces.

**DEFINITION 2.7.** Let  $1 < p \leq \infty$  and  $s > 0$ . The space  $A_p^s(X)$  is the set of functions  $f \in L^p(X)$  satisfying that there exist some  $q \in [1, p)$  and a non-negative function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that

$$(2.32) \quad \oint_B \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(y) d\mu(y) \right| d\mu(x) \leq r(B)^s \left( \oint_B g^q(x) d\mu(x) \right)^{1/q}$$

for every ball  $B \subset X$ . Moreover, if  $f \in A_p^s(X)$ , we define its norm by

$$\|f\|_{A_p^s(X)} = \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \inf_{\{g\}} \|g\|_{L^p(X)},$$

where the infimum is taken over all functions  $g$  satisfying (2.32).

The following theorem will indicate the relations among these spaces, the Triebel-Lizorkin spaces and the spaces  $B_p^s(X)$  under some restrictions.

**THEOREM 2.4.** Let  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $0 < s < \theta$ . Then  $A_p^s(X) = F_{p,\infty}^s(X) = B_p^s(X)$  with equivalent norms.

*Proof.* Let  $f \in A_p^s(X)$ . For any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a non-negative function  $g \in L^p(X)$  and some  $q \in (0, p)$  satisfying (2.32) and

$$(2.33) \quad \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{A_p^s(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Let  $\{D_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+}$  be as in Definition 2.4. For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $B_1 = B(x, 2C_1 2^{-k})$ . By (2.7), we then have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.34) \quad |D_k f(x)| &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \\
 &= \left| \int_X D_k(x, y) \left[ f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right] d\mu(y) \right| \\
 &\leq C \oint_{B_1} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\
 &\leq C 2^{-ks} \left( \oint_{B_1} g^q(y) d\mu(y) \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C 2^{-ks} \{M(g^q)(x)\}^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the estimates (2.14), (2.34) and (2.33), the fact  $q < p$  and the  $L^{p/q}(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  tell us that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)} &= \left\| \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_+} 2^{ks} |D_k f| \right\|_{L^p(X)} \\
 &\leq C \|Mf\|_{L^p(X)} + C \|\{M(g^q)\}^{1/q}\|_{L^p(X)} \\
 &\leq C \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C \|g\|_{L^p(X)} \\
 &\leq C \{\|f\|_{A_p^s(X)} + \epsilon\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain that  $A_p^s(X) \subset F_{p,\infty}^s(X)$  and

$$(2.35) \quad \|f\|_{F_{p,\infty}^s(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{A_p^s(X)}.$$

On another hand, let  $f \in B_p^s(X)$ . Then, by Definition 2.6, there is a function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that (2.23) holds and

$$(2.36) \quad \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Then the estimate (2.23) and the Hölder inequality tell us that for any ball  $B \subset X$  and any  $q \in [1, p)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \oint_B \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(y) d\mu(y) \right| d\mu(x) &\leq r(B)^s \oint_B g(x) d\mu(x) \\
 &\leq r(B)^s \left\{ \oint_B g^q(x) d\mu(x) \right\}^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $f \in A_p^s(X)$  and, by (2.36),

$$\|f\|_{A_p^s(X)} \leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^s(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we finally obtain that  $B_p^s(X) \subset A_p^s(X)$  and

$$(2.37) \quad \|f\|_{A_p^s(X)} \leq \|f\|_{B_p^s(X)}.$$

Then (2.35) and (2.37) together with Theorem 2.3 imply Theorem 2.4 and we finish this proof. □

### §3. Sobolev spaces

The main purpose of this section is to give several new characterizations of the Hajlasz-Sobolev spaces of order 1 on spaces of homogeneous type. We will first show that the space  $A_p^1(X)$  is the same space as the space  $B_p^1(X)$  by using some ideas from [21]. In fact, Theorem 3.1 below is similar to Theorem 1 in [21]. However, we do not suppose that the space of homogeneous type,  $X$ , has the segment property as in [21].

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $1 \leq q < \infty$ ,  $f$  be a locally integrable function on  $X$  for which there is a non-negative function  $g \in L^q(X)$  such that the Poincaré inequality*

$$(3.1) \quad \oint_B \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(x) \leq Cr(B) \left( \oint_B g^q(x) d\mu(x) \right)^{1/q}$$

holds for every ball  $B \subset X$ . Then for  $\mu$ -a. e.  $x \in B$ ,

$$\left| f(x) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \leq Cr(B)M(g^q)(x)^{1/q},$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $x$  and  $B$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in B$  be a Lebesgue point of  $\left| f(y) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right|$  and  $g(y)$ . Let  $B_0 = B$  and  $B_j = B(x, 2^{-j}r(B))$  for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \oint_{B_j} \left| f(y) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \oint_{B_j} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B_j} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left| \oint_{B_j} f(z) d\mu(z) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &= I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned}$$

For  $I_1$ , by (3.1), we have

$$I_1 \leq C \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} r(B_j) \left( \int_{B_j} g^q(y) d\mu(y) \right)^{1/q} = 0 \cdot g(x) = 0.$$

We further control  $I_2$  by

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{l=0}^{j-1} \left| \int_{B_{l+1}} f(z) d\mu(z) - \int_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left| \int_{B_{l+1}} f(z) d\mu(z) - \int_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) - \int_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &= I_2^1 + I_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

For  $I_2^1$ , the facts that  $B_{l+1} \subset B_l$  and  $\mu(B_{l+1}) \sim \mu(B_l)$  for  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and (3.1) imply that

$$\begin{aligned} I_2^1 &\leq C \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \int_{B_l} \left| f(y) - \int_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq C \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} 2^{-l} r(B) \left[ \int_{B_l} g^q(y) d\mu(y) \right]^{1/q} \\ &\leq Cr(B)M(g^q)(x)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

We estimate  $I_2^2$ . Let  $\bar{B} = B(x, 2Ar(B))$ . Then  $B \cup B_1 \subset \bar{B}$  and

$$\mu(\bar{B}) \sim \mu(B) \sim \mu(B_1).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} I_2^2 &\leq \left| \int_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) - \int_{\bar{B}} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| + \left| \int_{\bar{B}} f(z) d\mu(z) - \int_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\leq \int_{B_1} \left| f(y) - \int_{\bar{B}} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) + \int_B \left| f(y) - \int_{\bar{B}} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq C \int_{\bar{B}} \left| f(y) - \int_{\bar{B}} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq Cr(B)M(g^q)(x)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

This proves Theorem 3.1. □

Using Theorem 3.1, we can establish the relation between the space  $A_p^1(X)$  and  $B_p^1(X)$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $1 < p \leq \infty$ . Then  $A_p^1(X) = B_p^1(X)$  with equivalent norms.*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in A_p^1(X)$ . For any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , Definition 2.7 then tells us that there exist some  $q \in [1, p)$  and a non-negative function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that (2.32) holds for any ball  $B \subset X$ , and

$$\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{A_p^1(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Therefore, Theorem 3.1 yields that

$$\left| f(x) - \oint_B f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \leq C_5 r(B) M(g^q)(x)^{1/q}$$

for a. e.  $x \in B$  and all  $B \subset X$ . Let  $h = C_5 M(g^q)(x)^{1/q}$ . Then (2.23) holds with  $g$  replaced by  $h$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|h\|_{L^p(X)} &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C_5 \|M(g^q)^{1/q}\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C \{ \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} \} \\ &\leq C \{ \|f\|_{A_p^1(X)} + \epsilon \}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the  $L^{p/q}(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$ . Let  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . We therefore obtain that  $A_p^1(X) \subset B_p^1(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{A_p^1(X)}.$$

Conversely, by an argument similar to the proof of Theorem 2.4, it is easy to show that  $B_p^1(X) \subset A_p^1(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{A_p^1(X)} \leq C \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)},$$

which finishes the proof of Theorem 3.2. □

We now recall the definition of the Sobolev spaces of Hajlasz in [9]; see also [10], [18].

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $1 < p \leq \infty$ . The Sobolev space  $W_p^1(X)$  is defined by

$$W_p^1(X) = \{u \in L^p(X) : \text{there is a set } E \subset X, \mu(E) = 0, \\ \text{and a function } g \geq 0, g \in L^p(X) \text{ such that} \\ |u(x) - u(y)| \leq \rho(x, y)[g(x) + g(y)] \text{ for all } x, y \in X \setminus E\},$$

where  $g$  is called a generalized gradient of  $u$ . Moreover, we define

$$\|u\|_{W_p^1(X)} = \|u\|_{L^p(X)} + \inf_{\{g\}} \|g\|_{L^p(X)},$$

where the infimum is taken over all generalized gradients of the function  $u$  in the definition of  $W_p^1(X)$ .

The following theorem indicates the relations among the Hajlasz-Sobolev space, the space  $A_p^1(X)$  and the space  $B_p^1(X)$ .

THEOREM 3.3. Let  $1 < p \leq \infty$ . Then  $W_p^1(X) = A_p^1(X) = B_p^1(X)$  with equivalent norms.

*Proof.* Let  $1 < p \leq \infty$  and  $f \in W_p^1(X)$ . For any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there is a non-negative function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \rho(x, y)[g(x) + g(y)]$$

for a. e.  $x, y \in X$ , and

$$\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Thus, for any ball  $B \subset X$  and a. e.  $x \in B$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(x) - \oint_B f(y) d\mu(y) \right| &\leq \oint_B |f(x) - f(y)| d\mu(y) \\ &\leq r(B) \oint_B [g(x) + g(y)] d\mu(y) \\ &\leq r(B)[g(x) + Mg(x)] \\ &\leq 2r(B)Mg(x), \end{aligned}$$

where we used the estimate (2.25). Thus, (2.23) holds with  $g$  replaced by  $2Mg$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + 2\|Mg\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + 2C\|g\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C[\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} + \epsilon], \end{aligned}$$

where we used the  $L^p(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$ . Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we then obtain that  $W_p^1(X) \subset B_p^1(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)}.$$

Let  $f \in B_p^1(X)$ . Then, for any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a non-negative function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that for any ball  $B \subset X$  and a.e.  $x \in B$ ,

$$\left| f(x) - \oint_B f(y) d\mu(y) \right| \leq r(B)g(x)$$

and

$$\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} + \epsilon.$$

From this, it follows that for a.e.  $x, y \in B$ ,

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq r(B)[g(x) + g(y)].$$

By suitably choosing  $r(B)$ , we finally obtain that for a.e.  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \rho(x, y)[g(x) + g(y)].$$

Thus,  $f \in W_p^1(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} \leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain that  $B_p^1(X) \subset W_p^1(X)$  and

$$\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} \leq \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)}.$$

Thus,  $W_p^1(X) = B_p^1(X)$  with equivalent norms. Furthermore, this fact and Theorem 3.2 imply Theorem 3.3. This finishes the proof of Theorem 3.3.  $\square$

Finally, the following theorem gives another new characterization of the Sobolev space  $W_p^1(X)$ .

**THEOREM 3.4.** *Let  $1 \leq u < p \leq \infty$ . Then  $f \in W_p^1(X)$  if and only if  $f \in L^p(X)$  and  $f_{u,C_4}^1 \in L^p(X)$ . Moreover,*

$$\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} \sim \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|f_{u,C_4}^1\|_{L^p(X)}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $f \in W_p^1(X)$ . Then Theorem 3.3 tells us that  $f \in B_p^1(X)$ . By Definition 2.6, for any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a function  $g \in L^p(X)$  such that (2.23) holds for all  $B \subset X$  and a. e.  $x \in B$ , and

$$\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} < \|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} + \epsilon.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} f_{u,C_4}^1(x) &= \sup_{0 < t < C_4} t^{-1} \left[ \oint_{B(x,t)} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^u d\mu(y) \right]^{1/u} \\ &\leq \sup_{0 < t < C_4} \left[ \oint_{B(x,t)} g^u(y) d\mu(y) \right]^{1/u} \\ &\leq M(g^u)(x)^{1/u}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the  $L^{p/u}(X)$ -boundedness of  $M$  implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|f_{u,C_4}^1\|_{L^p(X)} &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|M(g^u)^{1/u}\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C\|g\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C(\|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} + \epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain

$$\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|f_{u,C_4}^1\|_{L^p(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{B_p^1(X)} \leq C\|f\|_{W_p^1(X)}.$$

Let now  $f \in L^p(X)$  and  $f_{u,C_4}^1 \in L^p(X)$ . Let  $x$  be a Lebesgue point of  $f$ . For any fixed  $0 < t < C_4$ , consider the Lebesgue point of the function

$$f(v) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z).$$

Moreover, let  $B_0 = B(x, t)$  and  $B_j = B(y, 2^{-j}t/A)$  for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then, for

a. e.  $y \in B(x, t/2A)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| f(y) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \oint_{B_j} \left| f(v) - \oint_{B(x,t)} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(v) \\ &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \oint_{B_j} \left| f(v) - \oint_{B_j} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(v) \\ &\quad + \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left| \oint_{B_j} f(z) d\mu(z) - \oint_{B_0} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &= J_1 + J_2. \end{aligned}$$

The Hölder inequality tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \oint_{B_j} \left| f(v) - \oint_{B_j} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^u d\mu(v) \right\}^{1/u} \\ &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} 2^{-j} t f_{u,C_4}^1(y) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

We now estimate  $J_2$ . The Hölder inequality and the fact that  $\mu(B_{l+1}) \sim \mu(B_l)$  for  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  yield that

$$\begin{aligned} J_2 &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{l=0}^{j-1} \left| \oint_{B_{l+1}} f(z) d\mu(z) - \oint_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left| \oint_{B_{l+1}} f(z) d\mu(z) - \oint_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \oint_{B_1} f(z) d\mu(z) - \oint_{B_0} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \oint_{B_{l+1}} \left| f(v) - \oint_{B_l} f(z) d\mu(z) \right|^u d\mu(v) \right\}^{1/u} \\ &\quad + C \left\{ \oint_{B_0} \left| f(v) - \oint_{B_0} f(z) d\mu(z) \right| d\mu(v) \right\}^{1/u} \\ &\leq C \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} 2^{-l} t f_{u,1}^1(y) + C t f_{u,1}^1(x) \\ &\leq C t [f_{u,1}^1(y) + f_{u,1}^1(x)]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for a. e.  $y \in B(x, t/2A)$ ,

$$|f(y) - f(x)| \leq Ct[f_{u,1}^1(y) + f_{u,1}^1(x)].$$

By suitably choosing  $t$ , we obtain that for a. e.  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$|f(y) - f(x)| \leq C_6\rho(x, y)[f_{u,1}^1(y) + f_{u,1}^1(x)].$$

Therefore, letting  $g(x) = C_6f_{u,1}^1(x)$ , we then verify that  $f \in W_p^1(X)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{W_p^1(X)} &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|g\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq \|f\|_{L^p(X)} + C_6\|f_{u,1}^1\|_{L^p(X)} \\ &\leq C[\|f\|_{L^p(X)} + \|f_{u,C_4}^1\|_{L^p(X)}]. \end{aligned}$$

This proves Theorem 3.4. □

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