

# Interior and Boundary-Regularity for Fractional Harmonic Maps on Domains

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We prove continuity on domains up to the boundary for  $n/2$ -polyharmonic maps into manifolds. Technically, we show how to adapt Hélein's direct approach to the fractional setting. This extends a remark by the author that this is possible in the setting of Rivière's famous regularity result for critical points of conformally invariant variational functionals. Moreover, pointwise behavior for the involved three-commutators is established. Continuity up to the boundary is then obtained via an adaption of Hildebrandt and Kaul's technique to the non-local setting.

**Keywords:** Harmonic maps, nonlinear elliptic PDE, regularity of solutions, boundary regularity.

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Preliminaries</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Lorentz Spaces . . . . .	5
2.2	Some Facts about the Fractional Laplacian and its Inverse . . . . .	6
2.3	Sobolev And Poincaré Inequalities . . . . .	7
2.4	Compactness . . . . .	11
<b>3</b>	<b>Lower Order Products: Proof of Lemma 1.4</b>	<b>12</b>
3.1	Multiplier Estimates . . . . .	12
3.2	Proving lower order behavior . . . . .	12
<b>4</b>	<b>General estimates and inequalities</b>	<b>16</b>
4.1	Estimates on commutator-operators with cut-off functions . . . . .	16
4.2	Localizing Effects of Locally Supported Functions . . . . .	18
<b>5</b>	<b>Picking a good Frame: Improved Control by Energy Minimizing</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1	Adaption of Hélein's Energy Method . . . . .	22
5.2	Local integrability gain: Proof of Lemma 1.3 . . . . .	24
<b>6</b>	<b>Preparations for Dirichlet Growth Theorem</b>	<b>28</b>
6.1	Estimates on the left-hand side . . . . .	29
6.2	Estimates on the right-hand side . . . . .	31
6.3	Controlled Local Behavior: Proof of Lemma 1.5 . . . . .	32
<b>7</b>	<b>Continuity Estimates: Proof of Theorem 1.2</b>	<b>34</b>
7.1	In the Interior . . . . .	34
7.2	On the Boundary . . . . .	35
<b>A</b>	<b>Iteration Arguments</b>	<b>39</b>

# 1 Introduction

In his seminal work [Hél91], Hélein proved that harmonic maps from a two-dimensional surface  $D$  into a compact manifold  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  are smooth, by an optimal choice of frame  $(Pe)_i$  which was obtained by minimizing a simple energy functional of the general form

$$E(P) := \int_D |P\nabla P^T + P\Omega P^T|^2, \quad \text{for } P - I \in W_0^{1,2}(D, \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}), P \in SO(N) \text{ a.e.,}$$

where  $\Omega \in L^2(D, so(N) \otimes \mathbb{R}^2)$  is a tensor stemming from the right-hand side of the respective Euler-Lagrange System. In [Sch09] the author remarked that this kind of minimizing approach might still be considered helpful in the general setting of Rivière's celebrated result in [Riv07] where it was shown that in general critical points  $u$  of conformally invariant variational functionals between  $D$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfy an equation like

$$\Delta u = \Omega \cdot \nabla u,$$

and are – because of the antisymmetry of  $\Omega$  – continuous. In fact, instead of constructing a Coulomb gauge adapting the powerful, yet indirect and involved techniques by Uhlenbeck [Uhl82], one can still minimize  $E(\cdot)$  in order to construct the same gauge, see [Sch09] for more details.

Nevertheless, there are several settings inspired by Rivière's result where adaptations of Uhlenbeck's method have seemed more viable in order to show regularity. One of these settings is the work by Da Lio and Rivière regarding fractional polyharmonic maps, [DLR10], [DL10] - cf. also [DLR09], [Sch10b]. Here, we'd like to show how to adapt Hélein's moving frame approach – in a similar fashion as in [Sch09] – to the following setting, which can be considered a fairly general model case for these fractional polyharmonic maps  $u$  if  $v \approx \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u$  – as was shown in [DLR10], [DL10]:

Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution to

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v = \Omega v \quad \text{in } D \subset \mathbb{R}^n. \quad (1.1)$$

We then can prove the following theorem, which for  $D = \mathbb{R}^n$  was proven first in [DL10] – but we will be using Hélein's direct approach instead of Uhlenbeck's.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution of (1.1). Then, for any  $\tilde{D} \subset\subset D$  there exists an  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $R > 0$  such that*

$$\sup_{\substack{x \in \tilde{D} \\ r \in (0, R)}} r^{-\alpha} \|v\|_{(2, \infty), B_r(x)} < \infty.$$

*In particular, (see [DLR10], [DL10]) we have  $v \in L_{loc}^p(D)$  for any  $p \in (1, \infty)$ .*

Moreover, by an extension of techniques by Hildebrandt and Kaul [HK72], see also [Str03], we are able to show that solutions are continuous up to the boundary similar to the two-dimensional case as in [MS09]. More precisely, we have

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $v := \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution of (1.1). Then for some  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  we have  $u \in C^{0, \alpha}(D)$ . Moreover, if  $D \subset\subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $u \in C^0(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus D)$  and  $\partial D \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  we have  $u \in C^{0, \alpha}(D) \cap C^0(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , in other words  $u$  is continuous up to the boundary  $\partial D$ .*

Let us sketch the new arguments involved (for necessary definitions we refer to Section 2): Transforming equation (1.1) as Da Lio and Rivière, we have (cf. (6.2)) for  $w := Pv$  and  $P - I \in H_0^{\frac{n}{2}}(D)$ ,  $P \in SO(N)$  almost everywhere, for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega_P) w \varphi + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \frac{1}{2} H(P - I, P^T - I) \varphi - H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \right) w.$$

Here, we denote

$$\Omega_Q := Q \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (Q^T - I) + Q \Omega Q^T,$$

$$so(A) := \frac{1}{2} (A - A^T),$$

and

$$H(a, b) := \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(ab) - a \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} b - b \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} a.$$

Again, similar in its spirit to [Sch09], instead of using the ingenious adaption of Uhlenbeck’s approach by Da Lio and Rivière, we simply minimize

$$E(Q) := \|\Omega_Q\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}^2$$

on a suitable class of  $Q$ , cf. Section 5. Note, that the arguments in [DLR10] suggest, that the minimal value should be attained for some  $P$  with  $E(P) = \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} P\|_2^2$ , although we were not able to prove that with this kind of direct method. Instead, we are able to prove that Euler-Lagrange equations of this functional imply that

$$so(\Omega_P) \in L_{loc}^{2,1}(D). \quad (1.2)$$

Indeed, in Lemma 5.2 we prove that

$$\int so(\Omega_P) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int so(H(\varphi, P - I)P^T \Omega_P) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in C_0^\infty(D).$$

This and the following Lemma, whose localized version will be shown in Lemma 5.3, imply (1.2).

**Lemma 1.3.** *Assume that  $f, g, h \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and that for all  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_{10r})$*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g H(h, \varphi).$$

Then,

$$\|f\|_{(2,1), B_r} \leq C \|g\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + C \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

In order to show the “gain in integrability”-effect of Lemma 1.3, we need some results on the behavior of  $H(\cdot, \cdot)$  similar to the one used in [DLR09], although we prefer to view these, as in [Sch10a], in the form of lower order operators:

In [Sch10a] the author remarked that by a fairly simple argument inspired by Tartar’s approach to Wente’s inequality [Tar85], quantities like  $H(\cdot, \cdot)$  behave like a product of lower order operators – after taking the Fourier transform. As we deal here with spaces different from  $L^2$ , Tartar’s argument (which for our purposes relies on Plancherel’s theorem) does not apply that easily any more in order to get our needed estimates. One might try bilinear real interpolation on the fractional “Leibniz rule” originally due to Kato and Ponce [KP88], see also [Hof98]. Another possibility is the following, and it is closer to the argument in [Sch10a]: Using simple estimates on multipliers appearing in the representation as *potential* of the involved operators rather than their representation as Fourier multiplier, one can be quite specific (even pointwise) about how  $H(\cdot, \cdot)$  behaves like a product of lower order operators<sup>1,2</sup>:

**Lemma 1.4.** *For some constants  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s_k \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $t_k \in (0, s_k]$ ,  $C > 0$ , for zero-multiplier operators  $M_{k,1}$ ,  $M_{k,2}$ ,  $M_{k,3}$ , and for any  $a, b \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$*

$$|H(\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b)|(x) \leq C \sum_{k=1}^L M_{k,1} \Delta^{-\frac{s_k - t_k}{2}} \left( M_{k,2} \Delta^{-\frac{t_k}{2}} |a| M_{k,3} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |b| \right)(x).$$

With this, instead of dealing with paraproducts (although, of course, the underlying arguments are similar), Sobolev’s inequality shows all the necessary “integrability gain” or “compensation phenomena” to be used (see Proposition 2.11).

Then, an argument similar to the one in [DLR10] (though locally in  $D$  instead of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ), implies the following Lemma, of which Theorem 1.1 is a consequence by an iteration result as in Lemma A.1

**Lemma 1.5.** *Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution of (1.1). Then there exists  $\Lambda_0 > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $C \equiv C_{v, \Omega} > 0$  such that for any  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$  there is an  $R \in (0, 1)$  such that if  $B_{\Lambda r}(x) \subset D$ ,  $r \in (0, R)$*

$$\|v\|_{(2, \infty), B_r(x)} \leq C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|v\|_{(2, \infty), B_{\Lambda r}(x)} + C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-\gamma k} \|v\|_{(2, \infty), B_{2^k \Lambda r}(x) \setminus B_{2^{k-1} \Lambda r}(x)}.$$

<sup>1</sup>For the sake of shortness of presentation, we will restrict the proof to cases where  $n \geq 5$  and  $n - 1 \in 4\mathbb{N}$ .

<sup>2</sup>It seems likely, that using the general potential representation of  $\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}}$  for arbitrary  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , cf. [SKM93], by arguments similar to the ones we use here, one might obtain a more precise estimate. Nevertheless, this is not needed for our argument.

We will use fairly standard *notation*, similar to [Sch10a]:

As usual, we denote by  $\mathcal{S} \equiv \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  the Schwartz class of all smooth functions which at infinity tend faster to zero than any quotient of polynomials, and by  $\mathcal{S}' \equiv \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$  its dual. We say that  $A \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  if  $A$  is a bounded subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For a set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  we will denote its  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure by  $|A|$ , and  $rA$ ,  $r > 0$ , will be the set of all points  $rx \in \mathbb{R}^n$  where  $x \in A$ . By  $B_r(x) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  we denote the open ball with radius  $r$  and center  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . If no confusion arises, we will abbreviate  $B_r \equiv B_r(x)$ . For a real number  $p \geq 0$  we denote by  $\lfloor p \rfloor$  the biggest integer below  $p$  and by  $\lceil p \rceil$  the smallest integer above  $p$ . If  $p \in [1, \infty]$  we usually will denote by  $p'$  the Hölder conjugate, that is  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1$ . By  $f * g$  we denote the convolution of two functions  $f$  and  $g$ . We set  $f^\wedge$  to be the Fourier transform and  $f^\vee$  to be the inverse Fourier transform, which on the Schwartz class  $\mathcal{S}$  shall be defined as

$$f^\wedge(\xi) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} dx, \quad f^\vee(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\xi) e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} d\xi.$$

By  $\mathbf{i}$  we denote here and henceforth the imaginary unit  $\mathbf{i}^2 = -1$ . We will speak of a zero-multiplier operator  $M$ , if there is a function  $m \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\})$  homogeneous of order 0 and such that  $(Mv)^\wedge(\xi) = m(\xi) v^\wedge(\xi)$  for all  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . For a measurable set  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , we denote the integral mean of an integrable function  $v : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  to be  $(v)_D \equiv \int_D v \equiv \frac{1}{|D|} \int_D v$ . Lastly, our constants – frequently denoted by  $C$  or  $c$  – can possibly change from line to line and usually depend on the space dimensions involved, further dependencies will be denoted by a subscript, though we will make no effort to pin down the exact value of those constants. If we consider the constant factors to be irrelevant with respect to the mathematical argument, for the sake of simplicity we will omit them in the calculations, writing  $<$ ,  $>$ ,  $\approx$  instead of  $\leq$ ,  $\geq$  and  $=$ .

We will use the same cutoff-functions as in, e.g., [DLR09], [Sch10a]:  $\eta_r^k \in C_0^\infty(A_{r,k})$  where

$$B_{r,k}(x) := B_{2^k r}(x)$$

for  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$A_{r,k}(x) := B_{r,k+1}(x) \setminus B_{r,k-1}(x),$$

and for  $k = 0$

$$A_{r,0}(x) := B_{r,0}(x).$$

Moreover,  $\sum_k \eta_r^k \equiv 1$  pointwise everywhere, and we assume that  $|\nabla^l \eta_r^k| \leq C_l (2^k r)^{-l}$ .

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## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Lorentz Spaces

In this section, we recall the definition of Lorentz spaces, which are a refinement of the standard  $L^p$ -spaces. For more on Lorentz spaces, the interested reader might consider [Hun66], [Zie89], [Gra08, Section 1.4], and also [Tar07].

**Definition 2.1** (Lorentz Space). *Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a Lebesgue-measurable function. We denote*

$$d_f(\lambda) := |\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |f(x)| > \lambda\}|.$$

*The decreasing rearrangement of  $f$  is the function  $f^*$  defined on  $[0, \infty)$  by*

$$f^*(t) := \inf\{s > 0 : d_f(s) \leq t\}.$$

*For  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq \infty$ , the Lorentz space  $L^{p,q} \equiv L^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , is the set of measurable functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\|f\|_{L^{p,q}} < \infty$ , where*

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \equiv \|f\|_{(p,q)} \equiv \|f\|_{L^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)} := \begin{cases} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( t^{\frac{1}{p}} f^*(t) \right)^q \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}, & \text{if } q < \infty, \\ \sup_{t>0} t^{\frac{1}{p}} f^*(t), & \text{if } q = \infty, p < \infty, \\ \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)}, & \text{if } q = \infty, p = \infty. \end{cases}$$

*As usual, if  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\chi_A$  denotes its characteristic function, we define*

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),A} := \|\chi_A f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

*If  $p = q$ , and as a consequence  $L^{p,q} = L^p$ , we write instead of  $\|\cdot\|_{(p,p),A}$  mostly  $\|\cdot\|_{p,A}$ .*

**Remark 2.2.** *Observe that  $\|\cdot\|_{(p,q)}$  as defined here does not satisfy the triangle inequality. Nevertheless, if one defines  $\|\cdot\|_{(p,q)}$  replacing  $f^*$  by the averaged version  $f^{**}$ ,*

$$f^{**}(t) := \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t f^*(s) ds,$$

*one obtains an equivalent quantity for  $1 < p < \infty$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$ , and this is in fact a norm, see [Hun66] or [Gra08, Ex. 1.4.3]. We will switch between the two definitions without mentioning it again.*

**Proposition 2.3** (Some facts about Lorentz spaces). (i)  $(L^{p,q})^* = L^{p',q'}$  for  $1 < p, q < \infty$ .

(ii)  $(L^{p,1})^* = L^{p',\infty}$  for  $1 < p < \infty$ .

(iii) Simple functions are dense in  $L^{p,q}$  for  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty)$ .

(iv) Simple functions are not dense in  $L^{p,\infty}$ ,  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .

(v)  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is dense in  $L^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and for smoothly bounded  $A \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  also  $C_0^\infty(A)$  is dense in  $L^{p,q}(A)$  for  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty)$ .

(vi) For  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$ ,  $A = \mathbb{R}^n$  or  $A$  a smoothly bounded domain

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),A} \approx \sup_{\substack{g \in C_0^\infty(A) \\ \|g\|_{(p',q'),A} \leq 1}} \int fg.$$

**Proof of Proposition 2.3.**

Facts (i), (ii) are stated and proven in [Gra08, Theorem 1.4.17]. Claim (iii) can be found in [Gra08, Theorem 1.4.13]. And claim (iv) is explained in [Gra08, Ex. 1.4.4]. Claim (v) and (vi) then can be proven by an approximation scheme.

Proposition 2.3  $\square$

**Remark 2.4.** *Note, however, that there is no reason for  $q \neq p$  that*

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),A}^p + \|f\|_{(p,q),B}^p = \|f\|_{(p,q),A \cup B}^p$$

*even if  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint sets.*

## 2.2 Some Facts about the Fractional Laplacian and its Inverse

**Definition 2.5.** (cf. [SKM93, Chapter 5, §26])  
For  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $s \geq 0$ , we define the operator  $\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}}$  via

$$(\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f)^\wedge(\xi) := (\omega_n)^s |\xi|^s f^\wedge(\xi),$$

where  $\omega_n \in \mathbb{R}$  is chosen such that the classic differential operator  $\Delta = \sum_i \partial_i \partial_i$  suffices

$$\Delta f \equiv \Delta^{\frac{2}{2}} f \quad \text{for any } f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

For  $s \in (0, 2)$  we set for a function  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) + L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f(x) := c_s \text{ P.V.} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x-y) + f(x+y) - 2f(x)}{|y|^{n+s}} dy,$$

whenever this integral is defined. One can show (see, e.g., [Sch10b]), that these operators coincide on  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  if  $c_s$  is chosen appropriately.

Finally, for  $s \in (0, -n)$  we set for  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) + L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} f(x) := c_s \text{ P.V.} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |x-y|^{-n+|s|} f(y),$$

whenever this integral is well-defined. One checks, that this is the case if  $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for any  $p \in [1, \frac{n}{s})$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  then for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} f \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\cdot|^{-s} f^\wedge(\cdot) \varphi^\vee(\cdot),$$

that is  $(\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} f)^\wedge = c|\cdot|^{-s} f^\wedge$  in the sense of distributions, and by the same argument  $\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} f = f = \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} \Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f$  in the sense of distributions for any  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and this is true also pointwise, see for example [SKM93, Chapter 5, §26.3].

**Definition 2.6** (Fractional Sobolev Spaces). For  $s \geq 0$  we set

$$H^s \equiv H^s(\mathbb{R}^n) := \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad \Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)\}.$$

Moreover, for a domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  we denote

$$H_0^s(D) := \{f \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^n), \quad \text{supp } f \subset \overline{D}\},$$

and more generally for measurable  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  we define

$$H_\varphi^s(D) := \{f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) + L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n), f - \varphi \in H_0^s(D)\}.$$

As usual for any finitely dimensional vectorspace  $V$  and any subset  $A \subset V$  we mean by  $H^s(\mathbb{R}^n, A)$  all these vectorvalued functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow V$  such that  $f \in A$  almost everywhere and  $\langle f, v \rangle \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Similar definitions are used for  $H_0^s(D, A)$  and  $H_\varphi^s(D, A)$ .

**Proposition 2.7.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  then  $\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f \in L^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for any  $s \geq 0$  and arbitrary  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$ , as well as  $(p, q) = (1, 1)$  and  $(p, q) = (\infty, \infty)$ . In particular,

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} \eta_r^k\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{p,q} (2^k r)^{\frac{n}{p} - s}.$$

**Proof of Proposition 2.7.**

It suffices to show the claim for  $s \in [0, 2)$ , as  $\Delta^k f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . The operator  $\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f$  is defined by the Fourier-definition, so for any  $p \in [2, \infty]$

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{s}{2}} f\|_{p, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \| |\cdot|^s f^\wedge \|_{p', \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C,$$

because  $f^\wedge \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . By interpolation arguments, it now suffices to show that the claim holds also for  $p = 1$ . In this case,

$$\int_{|y| \geq 2} \frac{1}{|y|^{n+s}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x+y)| + |f(x-y)| + 2|f(x)| \, dx \, dy \prec \|f\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

And

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{|y| \leq 2} \frac{1}{|y|^{n+s}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x+y) + f(x-y) - 2f(x)| \, dx \, dy \\ & \prec \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_{|y| \leq 2} \frac{1}{|y|^{n+s-2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\nabla^2 f(x+sty)| \, dx \, dy \, dt \, ds \\ & \prec \|\nabla^2 f\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 2.7  $\square$

### 2.3 Sobolev And Poincaré Inequalities

As we stated in the introduction, once we show that certain quantities behave like products of lower order operators, all we need are Sobolev inequality, some versions of which we are going to state in this section.

**Proposition 2.8** (Sobolev inequality). *For  $s \in (0, n)$ ,  $p_1 \in (1, \frac{n}{s})$ ,  $p \in (\frac{n}{n-s}, \infty)$  such that*

$$\frac{1}{p_1} - \frac{s}{n} = \frac{1}{p},$$

and for any zero-multiplier operator  $M$  there is a constant  $C_{M,p,s}$  such that for any  $q \in [1, \infty]$

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}a\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{M,p,s} \|a\|_{(p_1,q), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

**Lemma 2.9** (Convolution, one limit case). *([Hun66, Lemma 4.7, p. 25])*

For any  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$  we have a constant  $C_p > 0$  such that

$$\|f * g\|_\infty \leq C_p \|f\|_{(p,q)} \|g\|_{(p',q')}.$$

**Proof of Lemma 2.9.**

We have for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  (see, e.g., [Gra08, Exercise 1.4.1(b)])

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) g(x-y) \, dy \leq \int_0^\infty f^*(t) (g(x-\cdot))^*(t) \, dt.$$

As

$$(g(x-\cdot))^*(t) = g^*(t),$$

this implies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) g(x-y) \, dy & \leq \int_0^\infty f^*(t) g^*(t) \, dt \\ & = \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{q}} f^*(t) t^{\frac{1}{p'} - \frac{1}{q'}} g^*(t) \, dt \\ & \approx \|f\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \|g\|_{(p',q'), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2.9  $\square$

**Lemma 2.10** (Sobolev inequality for  $\infty$ ). *For any  $s \in (0, n)$  and any zero-multiplier operator  $M$  there is a constant  $C_{M,s} > 0$  such that for any  $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,*

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}g\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{M,s} \|g\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 1), \mathbb{R}^n}$$

**Proof of Lemma 2.10.**

Consequence of Lemma 2.9 and of the fact, that  $m(\cdot)|\cdot|^{-n+s} \in L^{\frac{n}{n-s},\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , where  $m(\cdot)$  is the zero-homogeneous symbol of  $M$ .

Lemma 2.10  $\square$

**Proposition 2.11** (Lorentz Space Estimates for Products of Lower Order Operators). *For any  $\beta \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$  and  $\alpha \in (0, \beta]$  and zero-multiplier-operators  $M_1, M_2, M_3$  the following holds: For any  $p \in (\frac{n}{n-(\beta-\alpha)}, \frac{n}{\alpha})$  (and in particular for  $p = 2$ ) and any  $q, q_1, q_2 \in [1, \infty]$  such that*

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{q_1} + \frac{1}{q_2}$$

there exists a constant  $C_{\alpha,\beta,p,q,q_1,M}$  such that for any  $a, b \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}} \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b| \right)\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{\alpha,\beta,p,q,q_1} \|a\|_{(p,q_1),\mathbb{R}^n} \|b\|_{(2,q_2),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

**Remark 2.12.** Note that for, say,  $\alpha = \frac{n}{2}$  and  $\beta = 0$  (or vice versa), the estimate

$$\|(\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a) b\|_{(2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|a\|_{(2,q_1),\mathbb{R}^n} \|b\|_{(2,q_2),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

does not need to hold.

**Proof of Proposition 2.11.**

First of all, by Proposition 2.8 we have

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}} \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b| \right)\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b|\|_{(p_1,q)},$$

for

$$\frac{1}{p_1} - \frac{\beta - \alpha}{n} = \frac{1}{p},$$

if  $p \in (\frac{n}{n-(\beta-\alpha)}, \infty)$  (of course, this holds also if  $\beta - \alpha = 0$ ). Moreover,

$$\|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a|\|_{(p_2,q_1),\mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|a\|_{(p,q_1),\mathbb{R}^n},$$

for

$$\frac{1}{p} - \frac{\alpha}{n} = \frac{1}{p_2},$$

if  $p \in (1, \frac{n}{\alpha})$ . Next we define  $p_3 \in (2, \infty)$  via

$$\frac{1}{p_3} = \frac{1}{p_1} - \frac{1}{p_2} = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\beta - \alpha}{n} - \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha}{n} = \frac{\beta}{n}.$$

Then

$$\|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b|\|_{(p_3,q_2)} \prec \|b\|_{(p_4,q_2)},$$

(the condition  $p_3 \in (\frac{n}{\frac{n}{2} + \beta}, \infty)$  is satisfied because  $p_3 > 2$ ) for  $p_4 \in (1, \infty)$  such that

$$\frac{1}{p_3} = \frac{1}{p_4} - \frac{\frac{n}{2} - \beta}{n},$$

i.e.

$$\frac{1}{p_4} = \frac{1}{p_3} + \frac{\frac{n}{2} - \beta}{n} = \frac{1}{2},$$

that is,  $p_4 = 2$ . Together we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}} M_2 \left( \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b| \right)\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \\ & \prec \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} |a| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b|\|_{(p_1,q)} \\ & \prec \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{\beta-\alpha}{2}} |a|\|_{(p_2,q_1)} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2}} |b|\|_{(p_3,q_2)} \\ & \prec \|a\|_{(p,q_1)} \|b\|_{(2,q_2)}. \end{aligned}$$



**Lemma 2.13** (Localized Sobolev Inequality). *Let  $p_1, p_2 \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$  and  $s \in [0, n)$  so that*

$$\frac{1}{p_2} = \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{s}{n}.$$

*For any zero-multiplier operator  $M$  there is a constant  $C_{p_1, q, s, M} > 0$  and  $\gamma \equiv \gamma_{p_1, s} > 0$  such that for any  $a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 1$  and  $B_r \subset \mathbb{R}^n$*

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}a\|_{(p_1, q), B_r} \leq C_{p_1, s} (\|a\|_{(p_2, q), B_{2\Lambda r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n}).$$

**Proof of Lemma 2.13.**

W.l.o.g. we assume  $\Lambda \geq 4$ ; For all smaller  $\Lambda$ , the claim is just Sobolev's inequality. We have

$$|\eta_r M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}a| \leq |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}(\eta_{\Lambda r}a)| + |\eta_r M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a)|,$$

so

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}a\|_{(p_1, q), B_r} \prec \|\eta_{\Lambda r}a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n} + \|\eta_r M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a)\|_{(p_1, q), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

It remains to estimate the second term, which can be done by duality, cf. Proposition 2.3: For some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(B_{2r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(p'_1, q'), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\eta_r M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a\|_{p_1, B_r} \\ & \prec \int \psi M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a \\ & \prec \int |\xi|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\xi| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} (|\psi| * |a|)(\xi) d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $p_3 \in (1, p'_1)$  be close enough to  $p'_1$  such that still

$$\frac{1}{p_4} := \frac{1}{p_3} - \frac{1}{p'_1} + \frac{s}{n} \in \left(\frac{s}{n}, 1\right).$$

Then, for the  $\psi$  from above

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\eta_r M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a\|_{(p_1, q), B_r} \\ & \prec \| |\cdot|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} \|_{p'_4, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\psi * |a|\|_{p_4, \mathbb{R}^n} \\ & \prec \| |\cdot|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} \|_{p'_4, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\psi\|_{(p_3, q'), \mathbb{R}^n} \|a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ & \prec \| |\cdot|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} \|_{p'_4, \mathbb{R}^n} r^{\frac{n}{p_3} - \frac{n}{p'_1}} \|\psi\|_{(p'_1, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \|a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ & \leq \| |\cdot|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} \|_{p'_4, \mathbb{R}^n} r^{\frac{n}{p_3} - \frac{n}{p'_1}} \|a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Because  $p_4 < \frac{n}{s}$ , we have  $\frac{1}{p'_4} < 1 - \frac{s}{n}$  and thus  $(-n+s)p'_4 < -n$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \| |\cdot|^{-n+s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} \|_{p'_4, \mathbb{R}^n} & \approx \left( \int_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}^{\infty} t^{(-n+s)p'_4+n-1} dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_4}} \\ & \approx \left( (\Lambda r)^{(-n+s)p'_4+n} \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_4}} \\ & = (\Lambda r)^{(-n+s)+n-\frac{n}{p'_4}} \\ & = (\Lambda r)^{s-\frac{n}{p'_4}} \\ & = (\Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p'_1} - \frac{n}{p_3}}. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that

$$\|\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})a\|_{(p_1, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \Lambda^{\frac{n}{p'_1} - \frac{n}{p_3}} \|a\|_{(p_2, q), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Lemma 2.13  $\square$ 

The following lemma is the Poincaré inequality. There are several ways to prove it, but in the general setting of Lorentz spaces, we preferred the following.

**Lemma 2.14** (Poincaré Inequality). *For any  $B_r \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$  there exists a constant  $C_{p,q} > 0$  such that*

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{s,p,q} r^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n}, \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(B_r). \quad (2.1)$$

**Proof of Lemma 2.14.**

Let

$$p_1 := \begin{cases} p & \text{if } p > 2, \\ 4 & \text{if } p = 2, \\ \frac{2p}{2-p} & \text{if } p < 2, \end{cases}$$

$$q_1 := \begin{cases} q & \text{if } p \geq 2, \\ \infty & \text{if } p < 2, \end{cases}$$

and

$$p_2 := \begin{cases} \frac{2p}{2+p} & \text{if } p > 2, \\ \frac{4}{3} & \text{if } p = 2, \\ p & \text{if } p < 2. \end{cases}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} &= \|f\|_{(p,q),B_r} \\ &< r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_1,q_1),B_r} \\ &< r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q_1),\mathbb{R}^n} \end{aligned}$$

If  $p_2 = p$ , i.e. if  $p < 2$ , this proves the claim. If  $p \geq 2$ , so  $q_1 = q$ , let

$$p_3 \in (1, p_2),$$

and  $p_4 \in (1, \infty)$  such that

$$1 - \frac{1}{p_4} = \frac{1}{p_3} - \frac{1}{p_2}.$$

Then, for some  $\Lambda > 4$  to be chosen later,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} &< r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} + r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &< r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} (\Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p_2} - \frac{n}{p}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n} + r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= \Lambda^{\frac{n}{p_2} - \frac{n}{p}} r^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} + r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1}} \|(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

For some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(p'_2,q')} \leq 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} &< \int |\cdot|^{-\frac{3}{2}n} \chi_{|\cdot| > \frac{\Lambda}{2}r} |f| * |\psi| \\ &< (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4}} \|f\|_{(p_3,q),B_r} \|\psi\|_{(p'_2,q')} \\ &< (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4}} r^{\frac{n}{p_3} - \frac{n}{p}} \|f\|_{(p,q),B_r}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} &< \Lambda^{\frac{n}{p_2} - \frac{n}{p}} r^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n} + \Lambda^{-\frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4}} r^{\frac{n}{p} - \frac{n}{p_1} - \frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4} + \frac{n}{p_3} - \frac{n}{p}} \|f\|_{(p,q),B_r} \\ &\approx \Lambda^{\frac{n}{p_2} - \frac{n}{p}} r^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n} + \Lambda^{-\frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4}} \|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $-\frac{3}{2}n + \frac{n}{p_4} < 0$  we can pick some  $\Lambda > 1$  large enough, so that

$$\|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_\Lambda r^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{(p,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n} + \frac{1}{2}\|f\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n}$$

which implies the claim.

Lemma 2.14  $\square$

## 2.4 Compactness

The proof of the following lemma can be found in, e.g., [Sch10b].

**Lemma 2.15** (Compactness). *Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a smoothly bounded domain,  $s > 0$ . Assume that there is a constant  $C > 0$  and  $f_k \in H^s(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  the conditions  $\text{supp } f_k \subset \bar{D}$  and  $\|f_k\|_{H^s} \leq C$  hold. Then there exists a subsequence  $f_{k_i}$ , such that  $f_{k_i} \xrightarrow{i \rightarrow \infty} f \in H^s$  weakly in  $H^s$ , strongly in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and pointwise almost everywhere. Moreover,  $\text{supp } f \subset \bar{D}$ .*

### 3 Lower Order Products: Proof of Lemma 1.4

In this section, we prove that

$$H(u, v) = \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(uv) - u\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}v - v\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}u$$

behaves in some sense like a product of lower order operators, as one can see immediately if  $n \in 4\mathbb{N}$ . As in [Sch10a] we use elementary multiplier estimates derived in Section 3.1 in order to give in Section 3.2 the proof of Lemma 1.4. For the latter we restrict our attention to dimensions  $n \in 2\mathbb{N} + 1$  for the sake of decent size of presentation.

#### 3.1 Multiplier Estimates

Similar to the multiplier estimates in [Sch10a], we will need the following estimates which are again basically just consequences of the mean value theorem:

**Proposition 3.1** (Yet Another Silly Estimate). *Let  $\lambda := \min\{|a|, |b|\} > 0$ . Then for any  $s \geq 0$  there is a constant  $C_s > 0$  such that.*

$$\left| |a|^{-s} - |b|^{-s} \right| \leq C_s \lambda^{-s-1} |a - b|.$$

If one replaces in Proposition 3.1  $|\cdot|^{-s}$  by  $m(\cdot)|\cdot|^{-s}$  for some zero-multiplier  $m$ , the same result is to be expected. In order to prove this, first we have the following

**Proposition 3.2** (Silly Zero-Multiplier Estimates). *Let  $m(\cdot) \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\})$  be a zero-homogeneous function. Then there is a constant  $C_m$  such that for any  $a \neq b \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ , denoting  $\Lambda := \max\{|a|, |b|\}$*

$$|m(a) - m(b)| \leq C_m \frac{|a - b|}{\Lambda}.$$

**Proposition 3.3** (Multiplier-Estimates). *For any zero-multiplier  $m \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\})$  and any  $s \geq 0$  there exists a constant  $C_{m,s} > 0$  such that for any  $a \neq b \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  we have for  $\lambda := \min\{|a|, |b|\}$*

$$\left| |a|^{-s} m(a) - |b|^{-s} m(b) \right| \leq C_{m,s} \lambda^{-s-1} |a - b|. \quad (3.1)$$

If  $|a| \approx |b| \approx \lambda$ , for any  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{R}$

$$||a|^s m(a) - |b|^s m(b)| \leq C_{m,s} \lambda^{s-\varepsilon} |a - b|^\varepsilon. \quad (3.2)$$

#### 3.2 Proving lower order behavior

In order to give the proof of Lemma 1.4, we need the following intermediate result.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $s \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $M$  and  $N$  zero-multiplier operators and  $a, b \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \int M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}|b|(y) \frac{\left| N\Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4}+\frac{s}{2}}a(x) - N\Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4}+\frac{s}{2}}a(y) \right|}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\ & \prec \left| |M|\Delta^{-\frac{s+\delta}{2}}|b|(x) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+\frac{s}{2}+\frac{\delta}{2}}|a|(x) + \left| \Delta^{-\frac{\delta}{2}} \left( |M|\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}|b| \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+\frac{s}{2}+\frac{\delta}{2}}|a| \right)(x) \right| \right|, \end{aligned}$$

for some  $\delta \in (0, \frac{n}{2} - s)$ .

**Proof of Lemma 3.4.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}|b|(y) \frac{\left| N\Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4}+\frac{s}{2}}a(x) - N\Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4}+\frac{s}{2}}a(y) \right|}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\ & \prec \int \int M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}|b|(y) |a(\xi)| \frac{\left| n(x-\xi)|x-\xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}+\frac{1}{2}-s} - n(y-\xi)|y-\xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}+\frac{1}{2}-s} \right|}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

We set

$$k(x, y, \xi) := \frac{|n(x - \xi)|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - s} - n(y - \xi)|y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - s}|}{|x - y|^{n + \frac{1}{2}}}.$$

We decompose the space  $(x, y, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  into several subspaces depending on the relations of  $|y - \xi|$ ,  $|x - y|$ ,  $|x - \xi|$ :

$$1 \leq \chi_1(x, y, \xi) + \chi_2(x, y, \xi) + \chi_3(x, y, \xi) + \chi_4(x, y, \xi) \quad \text{for } x, y, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where

$$\chi_1 := \chi_{|x-y| \leq 2|y-\xi|} \chi_{|x-y| \leq 2|x-\xi|},$$

$$\chi_2 := \chi_{|x-y| \leq 2|y-\xi|} \chi_{|x-y| > 2|x-\xi|},$$

$$\chi_3 := \chi_{|x-y| > 2|y-\xi|} \chi_{|x-y| \leq 2|x-\xi|} \chi_{|x-\xi| \leq 2|y-\xi|}.$$

$$\chi_4 := \chi_{|x-y| > 2|y-\xi|} \chi_{|x-y| \leq 2|x-\xi|} \chi_{|x-\xi| > 2|y-\xi|}.$$

In fact, if we assumed  $|x - y| > 2|x - \xi|$  and  $|x - y| > 2|y - \xi|$ , then

$$|x - y| \leq |x - \xi| + |y - \xi| < \frac{1}{2}|x - y| + \frac{1}{2}|x - y| = |x - y|,$$

which is clearly impossible. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & k(x, y, \xi) \\ & \leq \chi_1(x, y, \xi) k(x, y, \xi) + \chi_2(x, y, \xi) k(x, y, \xi) + \chi_3(x, y, \xi) k(x, y, \xi) + \chi_4(x, y, \xi) k(x, y, \xi) \\ & =: k_1(x, y, \xi) + k_2(x, y, \xi) + k_3(x, y, \xi) + k_4(x, y, \xi). \end{aligned}$$

As for  $k_1$ , note that

$$|x - \xi|\chi_1 \leq |x - y|\chi_1 + |y - \xi|\chi_1 \leq 3|y - \xi|\chi_1 \leq \dots \leq 9|x - \xi|\chi_1,$$

that is  $|x - \xi|\chi_1 \approx |y - \xi|\chi_1$  for some uniform constants. Then, by Proposition 3.3 for  $\varepsilon := \frac{1}{2} + \delta$ ,  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$

$$k_1(x, y, \xi) \prec C_\delta |x - y|^{-n+\delta} |x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta},$$

and we choose  $\delta < \frac{n}{2} - s$ , i.e. small enough so that  $-\frac{n}{2} - s - \delta > -n$ . As for  $k_2$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} k_2(x, y, \xi) & \leq \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}} + |y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}}}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} \chi_2 \\ & \prec \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}}}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} \chi_2 \\ & \prec \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta}}{|x - y|^{n-\delta}} \chi_2. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $k_3$ , we argue in the same way as for  $k_2$

$$\begin{aligned} k_3(x, y, \xi) & \leq \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}} + |y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}}}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} \chi_3 \\ & \prec \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}}}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} \chi_3 \\ & \prec \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta}}{|x - y|^{n-\delta}} \chi_3. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$k_1(x, y, \xi) + k_2(x, y, \xi) + k_3(x, y, \xi) \prec \frac{|x - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta}}{|x - y|^{n-\delta}}.$$

Thus, for  $i = 1, 2, 3$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int \int |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}b(y)| |a(\xi)| k_i(x, y, \xi) dy d\xi \\
\prec & \int \int |M|\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}|b|(y) |a(\xi)| \frac{|x-\xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta}}{|x-y|^{n-\delta}} dy d\xi \\
\approx & \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+\frac{s}{2}+\frac{\delta}{2}}|a|(x) \Delta^{-\frac{s+\delta}{2}}|M||b|(x).
\end{aligned}$$

It remains to consider the case of  $\chi_4 \neq 0$ : We have

$$k_4(x, y, \xi) \leq |y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s+\frac{1}{2}} |x - y|^{-n-\frac{1}{2}} \chi_4 \leq |y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta} |x - y|^{-n+\delta}.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int \int |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}b(y)| |a(\xi)| k_4(x, y, \xi) dy d\xi \\
\prec & \int \int |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}b(y)| |a(\xi)| |y - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s-\delta} |x - y|^{-n+\delta} dy d\xi \\
\approx & \int |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}b(y)| \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+\frac{s}{2}+\frac{\delta}{2}}|a|(y) |x - y|^{-n+\delta} dy \\
\approx & \Delta^{-\frac{\delta}{2}} \left( |M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}b| \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+\frac{s}{2}+\frac{\delta}{2}}|a| \right) (x)
\end{aligned}$$

*Lemma 3.4*  $\square$

Now we are able to give the

**Proof of Lemma 1.4.**

We prove only the case where  $n - 1$  is divisible by 4 and  $n \geq 5$ . Generally,

$$\Delta^{\frac{1}{4}}(uv)(x) = v(x)\Delta^{\frac{1}{4}}u(x) + c_n \int u(y) \frac{v(x) - v(y)}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy. \quad (3.3)$$

Set  $K = \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor = \frac{n-1}{4} \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\gamma$  denote multi-indices  $\gamma \in (\mathbb{N}_0)^n$ , and let  $M_\gamma, N_\gamma$  be certain zero-multiplier operators such that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}a \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v) &= \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \sum_{|\gamma|=1}^{2K-1} M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|-n}{4}} a N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{4K-2|\gamma|-n}{4}} b \\
&+ \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} b \right) \\
&+ \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} a \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b \right) \\
\stackrel{(3.3)}{=} & \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \sum_{|\gamma|=1}^{2K-1} M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|-n}{4}} a N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{4K-2|\gamma|-n}{4}} b \\
&+ \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a b + c_n \int \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} b(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(y)}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&+ a \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b + c_n \int \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} a(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(y)}{|x - y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b) - a \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b - b \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a &= \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \sum_{|\gamma|=1}^{2K-1} M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|-n}{4}} a N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{4K-2|\gamma|-n}{4}} b \\
&+ c_n \int \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} b(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(y)}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&+ c_n \int \Delta^{\frac{4K-n}{4}} a(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(y)}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&= \sum_{|\gamma|=1}^{\frac{n-3}{2}} \Delta^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|-n}{4}} a N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{-1-2|\gamma|}{4}} b \right) \\
&+ c_n \int \Delta^{-\frac{1}{4}} b(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a(y)}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&+ c_n \int \Delta^{-\frac{1}{4}} a(y) \frac{\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b(y)}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&=: \sum_{|\gamma|=1}^{\frac{n-3}{2}} I_\gamma + II + III.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
&|I_\gamma(x)| \\
\stackrel{(3.3)}{\prec} &\left| M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|+1-n}{4}} a(x) \right| \left| N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{-1-2|\gamma|}{4}} b(x) \right| \\
&+ \left| \int M_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{2|\gamma|-n}{4}} a(y) \frac{N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{-1-2|\gamma|}{4}} b(x) - N_\gamma \Delta^{\frac{-1-2|\gamma|}{4}} b(y)}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \right|.
\end{aligned}$$

Because of  $1 \leq |\gamma| \leq \frac{n-3}{2}$  we have altogether for some constants  $L \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $s_k \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$

$$\begin{aligned}
&H(\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} a, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} b)(x) \\
\prec &\sum_{k=1}^{L_1} M_k \Delta^{-\frac{s_k}{2}} |a|(x) N_k \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |b|(x) \\
&+ \int M_k \Delta^{-\frac{s_k}{2}} |a|(y) \frac{\left| N_k \Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} b(x) - N_k \Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} b(y) \right|}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy \\
&+ \int N_k \Delta^{-\frac{s_k}{2}} |b|(y) \frac{\left| M_k \Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} a(x) - M_k \Delta^{-\frac{n+1}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} a(y) \right|}{|x-y|^{n+\frac{1}{2}}} dy.
\end{aligned}$$

Now one estimates the integral terms with Lemma 3.4, and concludes.

Lemma 1.4  $\square$

**Remark 3.5.** In particular, Proposition 2.11 is applicable, and we have for  $a := \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u$ ,  $b := \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v$ ,

$$\|H(u, v)\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}, \quad (3.4)$$

for  $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{q_1} + \frac{1}{q_2}$ . In fact, this holds whenever  $u, v, \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u, \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , via approximation  $u_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} u$ ,  $v_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} v$  in  $H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , because then

$$\|H(u_k, v_k) - H(u_l, v_l)\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \xrightarrow{k, l \rightarrow \infty} 0,$$

because of bilinearity of  $H(\cdot, \cdot)$ , and as the pointwise limit of  $H(u_k, v_k) = H(u, v)$ , we have that  $H(u, v) \in L^{2,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and (3.4) holds. In the same way one can show that

$$\|H(u, v)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

## 4 General estimates and inequalities

### 4.1 Estimates on commutator-operators with cut-off functions

**Proposition 4.1.** *For any  $s, t \in (0, n)$ , and a zero-multiplier operator  $M$*

$$\left\| M \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} \left| \Delta^{\frac{t}{2}} (1 - \eta_r) \right| \right\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{t,s} r^{-t+s},$$

**Proof of Proposition 4.1.**

This follows by scaling, once we prove that

$$\left\| M \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} \left| \Delta^{\frac{t}{2}} (1 - \eta_1) \right| \right\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^n} \stackrel{t \geq 0}{\leq} \left\| M \Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}} \left| \Delta^{\frac{t}{2}} \eta_1 \right| \right\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec C_{s,t,M}.$$

But this again follows from the fact that  $\left| \Delta^{\frac{t}{2}} \eta_1 \right| \in L(p, q)(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for any  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in (1, \infty)$ , as shown in Proposition 2.7: In particular,  $\left| \Delta^{\frac{t}{2}} \eta_1 \right| \in L^{\frac{n}{s}, 1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and one concludes via Lemma 2.10.

Proposition 4.1  $\square$

**Proposition 4.2.** *For all  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$ , there is a constant  $C_{p,q} > 0$  and  $\gamma \equiv \gamma_p > 0$  such that*

$$\left\| (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \right\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} = \left\| (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \right\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{p,q} \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\varphi\|_{(p,\infty)}$$

for all  $\Lambda \geq 1$  and  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $B_r \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof of Proposition 4.2.**

We have,

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) = -\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}.$$

Let  $p \in (1, \infty)$ , pick  $p_1, p_2 \in (2, \infty)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{p} &= \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_2}, \\ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_2} &\in \left( \frac{1}{p}, 1 \right). \end{aligned}$$

We set  $p_3 \in (1, p)$  such that

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_3} = 1 + \frac{1}{p_2}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \right\|_{(p,q), \mathbb{R}^n} &\leq \left\| \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r} \right\|_{(p_1,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \left\| \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \right\|_{(p_2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\stackrel{P.2.7}{\prec} (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{p_1}} \|\varphi\|_{(p_3,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{p_1}} r^{\frac{n}{p_3} - \frac{n}{p}} \|\varphi\|_{(p,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{p_1}} (r^n)^{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_3} - \frac{1}{p}} \|\varphi\|_{(p,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_3} - \frac{1}{p} = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p_2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p_2} = 0.$$

Proposition 4.2  $\square$

**Proposition 4.3.** *There is  $\gamma > 0$  and for any  $q \in [1, \infty]$  there is a constant  $C_q > 0$  such that for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 1$ ,  $B_r \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$*

$$\|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2,q), \mathbb{R}^n} = \|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_q \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\varphi\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$



**Proof of Proposition 4.3.**

We have

$$\|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2,q), \mathbb{R}^n} \stackrel{P.2.3}{\prec} \sup_{\substack{\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \\ \|\psi\|_{(2,q') \leq 1 \mathbb{R}^n}} \int H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) \psi.$$

For such a  $\psi$  using Lemma 1.4 and the fact that

$$H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) = H(\eta_{\Lambda r}, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) = H(\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)$$

we have for certain  $s_k \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$  and  $t_k \in (0, s_k]$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) \psi \\ & \prec \sum_{k=1}^L \int \Delta^{-\frac{s_k - t_k}{2}} \left( M_{k,1} \Delta^{-\frac{t_k}{2}} \left| \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r} \right| M_{k,2} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |\varphi| \right) |\psi| \\ & = \sum_{k=1}^L \int M_{k,1} \Delta^{-\frac{t_k}{2}} \left| \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r} \right| M_{k,2} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |\varphi| \Delta^{-\frac{s_k - t_k}{2}} |\psi| \\ & \stackrel{P.4.1}{\prec} \sum_{k=1}^L (\Lambda r)^{t_k - \frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |\varphi|\|_{(p_1, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{-\frac{s_k - t_k}{2}} |\psi|\|_{(p_2, q'), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, (fixing  $s := s_k, t := t_k$ )

$$\frac{1}{p_1} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{s - t}{n} \in \left[ \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right),$$

and

$$\frac{1}{p_2} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{s - t}{n} \in \left( 0, \frac{1}{2} \right].$$

Then,

$$\|\Delta^{-\frac{s_k - t_k}{2}} |\psi|\|_{(p_2, q'), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\psi\|_{(2, q'), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1.$$

and for  $\frac{1}{p_3} = 1 - \frac{t}{n} \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$

$$\|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s_k}{2}} |\varphi|\|_{(p_1, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\varphi\|_{(p_3, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_{p_2} r^{n(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{t}{n})} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \approx r^{\frac{n}{2} - t} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Proposition 4.3  $\square$

Proposition 4.2 and Proposition 4.3 imply in particular

**Proposition 4.4.** For all  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 1$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_q \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n},$$

and for any  $\Lambda \geq 1$ ,

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, q), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq C_q \|\varphi\|_{(2, q), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

**Proof of Proposition 4.4.**

This follows from

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) = H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + 0,$$

and

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) = H(\eta_{\Lambda r}, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + \eta_{\Lambda r} \varphi.$$

Proposition 4.4  $\square$

## 4.2 Localizing Effects of Locally Supported Functions

**Proposition 4.5.** For  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(A_{r,k})$ , for any  $l \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , if  $|l - k| \geq 2$

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}\varphi\|_{(p_1,q),A_{r,l}} \leq C_{p_1,q} 2^{\max\{l,k\}(-n+s)+k(n-\frac{n}{p_1}-s)+l\frac{n}{p_1}} \|\varphi\|_{(p_2,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n},$$

where  $\frac{1}{p_1} = \frac{1}{p_2} - \frac{s}{n} \in (0, 1)$ .

**Proof of Proposition 4.5.**

For some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(A_{r,l})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(p'_1,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$  we have to estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \int M\Delta^{-\frac{s}{2}}\varphi \psi &\prec \int |\cdot|^{-n+s}|\varphi| * |\psi| \\ &\prec \left(2^{\max\{l,k\}r}\right)^{-n+s} \|\varphi\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} \|\psi\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec \left(2^{\max\{l,k\}r}\right)^{-n+s} (2^k r)^{\frac{n}{p_2}} \|\varphi\|_{(p_2,\infty)} (2^l r)^{\frac{n}{p_1}} \\ &\approx 2^{\max\{l,k\}(-n+s)+k(n-\frac{n}{p_1}-s)+l\frac{n}{p_1}} \|\varphi\|_{(p_2,\infty)}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 4.5  $\square$

**Proposition 4.6.** For any zero-multiplier operator  $M$  and any  $p \in (1, \infty)$ ,  $q \in [1, \infty]$  there is a constant  $C_{M,p,q}$  such that for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 8$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  the following holds,

$$\|M\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \leq C_{M,p,q} (2^k \Lambda)^{-\left(\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{p}\right)n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

**Proof of Proposition 4.6.**

We have to estimate for some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(A_{\Lambda r,k})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(p',q'),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \int |\cdot|^{-\frac{3}{2}n}|\varphi| * |\psi| &\prec (2^k \Lambda r)^{-\frac{3}{2}n} \|\varphi\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} \|\psi\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec (2^k \Lambda r)^{-\frac{3}{2}n} r^{\left(\frac{n}{p'}\right)} \|\varphi\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} (2^k \Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p}} \|\psi\|_{(p',q'),\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\stackrel{L.2.14}{\prec} (2^k \Lambda r)^{-\frac{3}{2}n} r^{\left(\frac{n}{p'}+\frac{n}{2}\right)} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n} (2^k \Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p}} \|\psi\|_{(p',q'),\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &= (2^k \Lambda)^{-\left(\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{p}\right)n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p,q),\mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 4.6  $\square$

**Proposition 4.7.** Let  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $t \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 8$ , and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then,

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi|\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \leq C_{M,p,q} (2^k \Lambda)^{-\frac{3}{2}n+\frac{n}{p_2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n},$$

and

$$\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi|\|_{(p_1,q),B_{\Lambda r}} \leq C_{M,p,q} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n},$$

where  $\frac{1}{p_1} = \frac{1}{p_2} - \frac{t}{n} \in (0, 1)$ .

**Proof of Proposition 4.7.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi|\right\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} &\prec \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}^l \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\right\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \\ &\prec \sum_{l=k}^{k+2} \left\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}^l \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\right\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \\ &\quad + \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \left\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}^l \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\right\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \\ &\quad + \sum_{l=k+2}^{\infty} \left\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}^l \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\right\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} \\ &=: \sum_{l=k}^{k+2} I_l + \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} II_l + \sum_{l=k+2}^{\infty} III_l. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $I_l$ , i.e.  $l \approx k$ ,  $l \geq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r}^l\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} &< \|\eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r}^l\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\leq \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),A_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r,l}} \\
&\stackrel{P.4.6}{\prec} (2^l\Lambda)^{-\left(\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{p_2}\right)n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),A_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r,l}} \\
&\approx (2^k\Lambda)^{-\left(\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{p_2}\right)n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,q),\mathbb{R}^n}.
\end{aligned}$$

For  $II_l$ ,  $III_l$ , we have by the different support

$$\begin{aligned}
\|M\Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left|\eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r}^l\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\right|\|_{(p_1,q),A_{\Lambda r,k}} &< \left(2^{\max\{k,l\}}\Lambda r\right)^{-n+t} (2^k\Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p_1}} (2^l\Lambda r)^{\frac{n}{p_2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,\infty),A_{\frac{\Delta}{2}r,l}} \\
&\stackrel{P.4.6}{\prec} \left(2^{\max\{k,l\}}\right)^{-n+t} (2^k)^{\frac{n}{p_1}} (2^l)^{\frac{n}{p_2}} (2^l\Lambda)^{-\left(\frac{3}{2}-\frac{1}{p_2}\right)n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(p_2,\infty)}.
\end{aligned}$$

The claim now follows since

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{l=k}^{\infty} 2^{l(-n+t)+k\frac{n}{p_1}+l\frac{n}{p_2}-\frac{3}{2}nl+l\frac{n}{p_2}} &= \sum_{l=k}^{\infty} 2^{k\frac{n}{p_1}+l(t-\frac{3}{2}n)} \\
&\approx 2^{k(-\frac{3}{2}n+\frac{n}{p_2})}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{l=0}^k 2^{k(-n+t)+k\frac{n}{p_1}+l\frac{n}{p_2}-\frac{3}{2}nl+l\frac{n}{p_2}} &= \sum_{l=0}^k 2^{k(-n+t)+k\frac{n}{p_1}-l\frac{n}{2}} \\
&\approx 2^{k(-\frac{3}{2}n+\frac{n}{p_2})},
\end{aligned}$$

*Proposition 4.7*  $\square$

Finally, we are able to have the following

**Lemma 4.8.** *Let  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $f \in H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then for all  $\Lambda \geq 50$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned}
\|H(\varphi, f)g\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} &\leq C \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}f\|_{2,B_{2\Lambda^3r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma}\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}f\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n}\right) \|g\|_{(2,\infty),B_{2\Lambda r}} \\
&\quad + C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-\gamma k} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}f\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} \|g\|_{(2,\infty),A_{k,\Lambda r}}.
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Lemma 4.8.**

As always, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|H(\varphi, f)g\|_{1,\mathbb{R}^n} &< \|H(\varphi, f)\|_{(2,1),B_{2\Lambda r}} \|g\|_{(2,\infty),B_{2\Lambda r}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|H(\varphi, f)\|_{(2,1),A_{k,\Lambda r}} \|g\|_{(2,\infty),A_{k,\Lambda r}} \\
&=: I \|g\|_{(2,\infty),B_{2\Lambda r}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} II_k \|g\|_{(2,\infty),A_{k,\Lambda r}}.
\end{aligned}$$

As for  $II_k$ , by Lemma 1.4 we have to estimate terms of the following form for some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(A_{k,\Lambda r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(2,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n} \leq$

1,  $s \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $t \in (0, s]$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\
&= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r}^l M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\
&=: II_{k,0} + \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} \int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r}^l M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\
&\prec II_{k,0} \\
&\quad + \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\prec II_{k,0} + \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}
\end{aligned}$$

By Proposition 4.5 if  $|k-l| \geq 2$ ,

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \prec 2^{\max\{l, k\}(-n+s-t) + k\frac{n}{2} + l\frac{n-2(s-t)}{2}} \|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n},$$

and else

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \prec \|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Moreover, by Proposition 4.7 if  $|l| \geq 2$ .

$$\|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), A_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r, l}} \prec (2^l \Lambda)^{-n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\
&\prec II_{k,0} + \Lambda^{-n} \sum_{l=2}^{k-1} 2^{k(-n+s-t) + k\frac{n}{2} + l\frac{n-2(s-t)}{2} - ln} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\quad + \Lambda^{-n} \sum_{l=k+1}^{\infty} 2^{l(-n+s-t) + k\frac{n}{2} + l\frac{n-2(s-t)}{2} - ln} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\quad + \Lambda^{-n} 2^{-kn} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\approx II_{k,0} + \Lambda^{-n} 2^{k(-\frac{n}{2} + s - t)} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\quad + 2^{-kn} \Lambda^{-n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\quad + 2^{-kn} \Lambda^{-n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
&\approx II_{k,0} + 2^{-k\gamma} \Lambda^{-n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.
\end{aligned}$$

It remains to estimate  $II_{k,0}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
|II_{k,0}| &\prec \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_2 \\
&\quad + \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), B_{2\Lambda r}} \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_2.
\end{aligned}$$

Again, because  $\text{dist}(\text{supp } \psi, B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}) \succ 2^k \Lambda r$

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} \prec (2^k \Lambda)^{-\gamma} \|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n},$$

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), B_{2\Lambda r}} \prec (2^k)^{-\gamma} \|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n},$$

and Proposition 4.7 implies again (using that Lorentz spaces are normable and thus infinite triangular inequalities hold)

$$\begin{aligned} \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} &\prec \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (2^i \sqrt{\Lambda})^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_2 \\ &\prec \sqrt{\Lambda}^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $I$ ,

$$H(\varphi, f) = H(\varphi, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda^{3r}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f)) + H(\varphi, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f)),$$

and by the arguments in Remark 3.5,

$$\|H(\varphi, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda^{3r}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f))\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\eta_{\Lambda^{3r}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

It remains to estimate

$$\|H(\varphi, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f))\|_{(2,1), B_{2\Lambda r}}.$$

Again, this is done using Proposition 1.4 and we have to control for some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(B_{2\Lambda r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |(1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\ = &\int M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| \eta_{\Lambda^{2r}} M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |(1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\ &+ \int (1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{2r}}) M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |(1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f| \\ \prec &\|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |(1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 2), B_{\Lambda^{2r}}} \\ &+ \left\| M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \right\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda^{2r}}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \end{aligned}$$

As before, one has

$$\|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |(1 - \eta_{\Lambda^{3r}}) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 2), B_{\Lambda^{2r}}} \prec \Lambda^{-3s} \Lambda^{-2s} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n},$$

and

$$\left\| M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \right\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2(s-t)}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda^{2r}}} \prec \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|\psi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

So,

$$|I| \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \left( \|\eta_{\Lambda^{3r}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \right).$$

*Lemma 4.8*  $\square$

## 5 Picking a good Frame: Improved Control by Energy Minimizing

In this section, we prove that we can replace  $\Omega \in L^2(\mathfrak{so}(N))$  by an  $\Omega_P \in L_{loc}^{2,1}$  for an appropriate choice of  $P$ .

### 5.1 Adaption of Hélein's Energy Method

Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a smoothly bounded set. We define the energy functional

$$E(Q) \equiv E_D(Q) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |Q \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q^T - I) + Q \Omega Q^T|^2, \quad Q \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N)).$$

Here, similar to Definition 2.6, we have denoted for the identity matrix  $I \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$

$$H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N)) := \{Q \in L^2(D) : Q - I \in H^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}), \text{ supp}(Q - I) \subset \overline{D}\}.$$

We are going to prove the following two Lemmata which are adaptations of Hélein's moving frame argument (see [Hél02], also [Cho95]), and in their spirit similar to [Sch09, Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.4].

**Lemma 5.1** (Existence of a Minimizer). *Let  $\Omega \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{N \times N})$ . Then there exists  $P \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, SO(N))$  such that  $E(P) \leq E(Q)$  for any  $Q \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N))$ . Moreover,*

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 2 \|\Omega\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

**Lemma 5.2** (Euler-Lagrange Equations). *A critical point  $P \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N))$  of  $E(\cdot)$  satisfies*

$$\int \mathfrak{so}(\Omega_P) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int \mathfrak{so}(H(\varphi, P - I)P^T \Omega_P) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in C_0^\infty(D).$$

Here,  $\Omega_P = P \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) + P \Omega P^T$  and  $\mathfrak{so}(A) := \frac{1}{2}(A - A^T)$ .

**Proof of Lemma 5.1.**

Obviously,  $Q \equiv I$  is a feasible mapping for  $E(\cdot)$ . Hence, we can assume the existence of a minimizing sequence  $Q_k \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N))$  such that

$$E(Q_k) \leq \|\Omega\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}^2.$$

In particular

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_k - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 2\|\Omega\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}. \quad (5.1)$$

We denote  $R_k = Q_k - I \in H^{\frac{n}{2}}$ . The mappings  $R_k$  are uniformly bounded in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  because  $Q_k \in SO(N)$  a.e. As  $D$  is a bounded domain and  $\text{supp } R_k \subset \overline{D}$  we have a uniform  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ -bound of  $R_k$  which together with (5.1) implies a uniform  $H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ -bound for  $R_k$ . Consequently, we can choose a subsequence (again denoted with  $R_k$ ) which converges weakly in  $H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$  to some  $R \in H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ .

Moreover, using the boundedness of  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and Lemma 2.15, up to taking yet again a subsequence, we can assume that  $R_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} R$  strongly in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and pointwise almost everywhere. Pointwise convergence implies that  $P := R + I \in SO(N)$  almost everywhere, and thus  $P \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N))$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(Q_k) &= \int |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_k^T - P^T) + \Omega(Q_k^T - P^T) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T + \Omega P^T)|^2 \\ &= \int |I_k + II_k + III|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_k &:= \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_k^T - P^T), \\ II_k &:= \Omega(Q_k^T - P^T), \\ III &:= \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T + \Omega P^T. \end{aligned}$$

We have that  $II_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0$  almost everywhere by the pointwise convergence of  $Q_k$ . On the other hand, as  $Q_k, P$  are bounded in  $L^\infty$  and  $\Omega \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , by Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem  $II_k \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . This and the weak convergence of  $\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_k^T - P^T) \rightharpoonup 0$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  imply that the mixed terms

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} I_k II_k, \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} I_k III, \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} II_k III \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

Furthermore,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |III|^2 = E(P).$$

Consequently, for  $k \rightarrow \infty$

$$E(Q_k) = \|I_k\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}^2 + E(P) + o(1).$$

Taking the limit  $k \rightarrow \infty$  on both sides this implies

$$\inf_Q E(Q) \geq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|I_k\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}^2 + E(P).$$

As  $E(P) \geq \inf_Q E(Q)$  this implies  $E(P) = \inf_Q E(Q)$  and  $Q_k - P \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0$  in  $H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ .

*Lemma 5.1*  $\square$

**Proof of Lemma 5.2.**

Let  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(D)$ ,  $\alpha \in so(N)$ . We distort  $P$  by

$$Q_\varepsilon := e^{\varepsilon\varphi\alpha} P = P + \varepsilon\varphi \alpha P + o(\varepsilon) \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, SO(N)).$$

Then,

$$Q_\varepsilon^T = P^T - \varepsilon\varphi P^T \alpha + o(\varepsilon),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_\varepsilon^T - I) \\ = & \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\varphi P^T) \alpha + o(\varepsilon) \\ = & \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\varphi (P^T - I)) \alpha - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi \alpha + o(\varepsilon) \\ = & \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - \varepsilon(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi)(P^T - I) \alpha - \varepsilon\varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) \alpha - \varepsilon H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi \alpha + o(\varepsilon) \\ = & \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - \varepsilon(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi) P^T \alpha - \varepsilon\varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) \alpha - \varepsilon H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha + o(\varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

We compute

$$\begin{aligned} & Q_\varepsilon \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q_\varepsilon^T - I) \\ = & (P + \varepsilon\varphi \alpha P) (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - \varepsilon(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi) P^T \alpha - \varepsilon\varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) \alpha - \varepsilon H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha) + o(\varepsilon) \\ = & P \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) + \varepsilon\varphi(\alpha P \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) - P \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T - I) \alpha) - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi \alpha - \varepsilon P H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha + o(\varepsilon), \end{aligned} \tag{5.2}$$

and

$$Q_\varepsilon \Omega Q_\varepsilon^T = P \Omega P^T + \varepsilon\varphi (\alpha P \Omega P^T - P \Omega P^T \alpha) + o(\varepsilon). \tag{5.3}$$

Recall that we denote the term  $Q \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(Q^T - I) + Q \Omega Q^T$  by  $\Omega_Q$ . Then we infer from (5.2) and (5.3)

$$\Omega_{Q_\varepsilon} = \Omega_P + \varepsilon\varphi (\alpha \Omega_P - \Omega_P \alpha) - \varepsilon\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi \alpha - \varepsilon P H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha + o(\varepsilon).$$

In order to compute  $|\Omega_{Q_\varepsilon}|^2$  let us denote for  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$

$$A : B := A_{ij} B_{ij},$$

thus in particular  $|A|^2 = A : A$ . Note, that for any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  and any Matrix  $B \in so(N)$ ,

$$A : BA = B^T A : A = -BA : A = -A : BA,$$

hence  $A : BA = A : AB = 0$ . Consequently,

$$|\Omega_{Q_\varepsilon}|^2 = |\Omega_P|^2 + o(\varepsilon) - 2\varepsilon \Omega_P : (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \alpha + P H(\varphi, P^T - I) \alpha). \quad (5.4)$$

Again we use a fact from Linear Algebra to continue: For any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  and any  $B \in so(N)$  we have

$$A : B = so(A) : B.$$

Hence, (5.4) becomes

$$|\Omega_{Q_\varepsilon}|^2 = |\Omega_P|^2 + o(\varepsilon) - 2\varepsilon (so(\Omega_P) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + so(H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \Omega_P)) : \alpha.$$

We integrate this,

$$E(Q_\varepsilon) - E(P) = o(\varepsilon) - 2\varepsilon \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega_P) : \alpha \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + so(H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \Omega_P) : \alpha.$$

Dividing by  $\varepsilon$  and taking the limit  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  we infer for a critical point  $P$

$$0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega_P) : \alpha \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + so(H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \Omega_P) : \alpha.$$

This holds for every  $\alpha \in so(N)$ , so component-wise

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega_P) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \Omega_P).$$

Lemma 5.2  $\square$

## 5.2 Local integrability gain: Proof of Lemma 1.3

We want to show, that Euler-Lagrange systems as in Lemma 5.2 imply  $L_{loc}^{2,1}$ -integrability, because of the  $H(\cdot, \cdot)$  appearing on the right-hand side. To this end, we are going to show in this section a localized version of Lemma 1.3, more precisely we have

**Lemma 5.3.** *There exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that the following holds: Assume that  $f, g, h \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Lambda > 8$ , and that for all  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_{\Lambda r})$*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g H(h, \varphi). \quad (5.5)$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{(2,1),B_r} &\leq C (\|g\|_{2,B_{\Lambda^3 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|g\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n}) \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\quad + C \|g\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2,B_{\Lambda^3 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n}) + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|f\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Before giving the proof, let us state several intermediate results.

**Proposition 5.4.** *There is  $\gamma > 0$  and  $C > 0$  such that for any  $B_r \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and  $\Lambda > 8$*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f \varphi \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|f\|_{2,\mathbb{R}^n} \|\varphi\|_{(2,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$



**Proof of Proposition 5.4.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) \\
& \leq \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})\|_{4, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{4, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
& \stackrel{P.2.7}{\prec} \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{4}} \|\varphi\|_{\frac{4}{3}, \mathbb{R}^n} \\
& \prec \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|H((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}), \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{4}} r^{\frac{n}{4}} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}
\end{aligned}$$

The result then follows by Proposition 4.3.

Proposition 5.4  $\square$

**Proposition 5.5.** For any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\Lambda > 8$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\|g H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} & \prec (\|g\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^2 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|g\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \\
& + \|g\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^2 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof of Proposition 5.5.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
g H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) & = \eta_{\Lambda r} g H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) g H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) \\
& =: I + II.
\end{aligned}$$

We use Remark 3.5 in order to have

$$\|I\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|g\|_{2, B_{2\Lambda r}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

By Proposition 4.4,

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty)},$$

and thus

$$\|I\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|g\|_{2, B_{2\Lambda r}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

As for II,

$$\|II\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|g\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda r}}.$$

In order to estimate

$$\|H(h, \eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda r}},$$

by the lower order estimates in Lemma 1.4 and a usual duality approach we have to estimate for some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$ , finitely many quantities like the following one, for some  $s \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $t \in (0, s]$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int (M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi) (M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h|) (M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|) \\
& = \int \eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2} r} (M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi) (M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h|) (M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|) \\
& + \int (1 - \eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2} r}) (M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi) (M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h|) (M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|) \\
& =: A_1 + A_2.
\end{aligned}$$

As for A<sub>1</sub>, by Hölder's inequality,

$$|A_1| \prec \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\eta_{\frac{\Delta}{2} r} M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

By Sobolev inequality Proposition 2.8,

$$\|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\psi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1.$$

By the localized Sobolev inequality, Lemma 2.13,

$$\|\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r} M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h|\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2t}, 2), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^2 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Finally, by Proposition 4.4

$$\|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \stackrel{P.4.4}{\prec} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Consequently,

$$|A_1| \prec (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^2 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

It remains to estimate  $A_2$ , and we have again by Hölder's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} |A_2| &\stackrel{P.2.8}{\prec} \|\psi\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}} \\ &\prec \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} h\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}}. \end{aligned}$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned} &\|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}} \\ &\prec \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} \eta_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}} + \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} (1 - \eta_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r}) |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}} \\ &\prec \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}+s} \eta_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r}} + \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r}} \\ &=: A_{2,1} + A_{2,2}. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $A_{2,1}$  set  $F := |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_r \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi)|$ , then as above by Proposition 4.4

$$\|F\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \prec \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}. \quad (5.6)$$

We have for some  $\phi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\frac{\Lambda}{2}r})$ ,  $\|\phi\|_{\frac{n}{n-s}, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2,1} &\prec \int |\cdot|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \Lambda r} |\Phi| * |\eta_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r} F| \\ &\prec \left\| |\cdot|^{-\frac{n}{2}-s} \chi_{|\cdot| \geq \Lambda r} \right\|_{\frac{n}{s}, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Phi\|_{\frac{n}{n-s}, \mathbb{R}^n} \|\eta_{\sqrt{\Lambda}r} F\|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec (\Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|\Phi\|_{(\frac{n}{n-s}, 1), \mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sqrt{\Lambda}r\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \|F\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\stackrel{(5.6)}{\prec} \Lambda^{-\frac{n}{4}} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $A_{2,2}$ ,

$$A_{2,2} \stackrel{P.4.6}{\prec} \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|F\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \stackrel{(5.6)}{\prec} \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

Proposition 5.5  $\square$

Now we are able to give the

**Proof of Lemma 5.3.**

By Proposition 5.4 (using Proposition 2.3)

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{(2,1), B_r} &\stackrel{P.5.4}{\prec} \sup_{\substack{\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r) \\ \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty)} \leq 1}} \int f \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\stackrel{(5.5)}{=} \sup_{\substack{\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r) \\ \|\varphi\|_{(2, \infty)} \leq 1}} \int g H(h, \eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|f\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \end{aligned}$$

The claim then follows from Proposition 5.5.

*Lemma 5.3*  $\square$

## 6 Preparations for Dirichlet Growth Theorem

Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^N)$  be a solution of (1.1) in  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e.

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} v^i \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Omega_{il} v^l \varphi \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in C_0^\infty(D). \quad (6.1)$$

Let  $P - I \in H_0^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ ,  $P \in SO(m)$  almost everywhere. Set  $w := Pv$ . Then  $w \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and moreover

**Proposition 6.1.**  $\tilde{\varphi} := P\varphi$  for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(D)$  is a feasible test function for (6.1).

*Proof of Proposition 6.1.*

Observe that  $P\varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi} = P \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi + \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (P - I) + H(\varphi, P - I) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Thus, for any small  $\varepsilon > 0$  (depending only on the support of  $\varphi$ )

$$\begin{aligned} & \int v \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi} - \int \Omega v \tilde{\varphi} \\ &= \int v \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\tilde{\varphi} - \eta_\varepsilon * \tilde{\varphi}) + \int \Omega v (\eta_\varepsilon * \tilde{\varphi} - \tilde{\varphi}) \\ &=: I_\varepsilon + II_\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

By Lebesgue's dominated convergence one sees that  $II \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0$ . As for  $I$ , pointwise almost everywhere,

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\tilde{\varphi} * \eta_\varepsilon) = \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi} * \eta_\varepsilon.$$

Indeed, for any  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\tilde{\varphi} * \eta_\varepsilon) \psi &= \int (\tilde{\varphi} * \eta_\varepsilon) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \psi \\ &= \int \int \tilde{\varphi}(x - y) \eta_\varepsilon(y) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \psi(x) dx dy \\ &= \int \int (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi})(x - y) \eta_\varepsilon(y) \psi(x) dx dy \\ &= \int (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi}) * \eta_\varepsilon \psi. \end{aligned}$$

Since moreover, denoting  $\mathcal{M}$  the Hardy-Littlewood Maximal function,

$$|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi} * \eta_\varepsilon| \leq \mathcal{M}(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \tilde{\varphi}) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

again, Lebesgue's dominated convergence implies  $I \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0$ .

*Proposition 6.1*  $\square$

Having taken care of this, we start computing

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\varphi P) v + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\varphi P) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) P) v.$$

As for the second part,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\varphi P) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) P + \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} P - \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} P) v \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (\varphi(P - I)) + (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi) (P - I) + \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (P - I) - \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (P - I)) v \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-H(\varphi, P - I) - \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (P - I)) v. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, using Proposition 6.1,

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi &= \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\varphi P_{ji}) v^i + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-H(\varphi, P-I)_{ji} - \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I)_{ji}) v^i \right)_j \\
&\stackrel{(6.1)}{=} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varphi P_{ji} \Omega_{il} v^l + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (-H(\varphi, P-I)_{ji} - \varphi \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I)_{ji}) v^i \right)_j \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (P\Omega - \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I)) v \varphi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} H(\varphi, P-I) v \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (P\Omega P^T - (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T) w \varphi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} H(\varphi, P-I)P^T w \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (P\Omega P^T - (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T) w \varphi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} H(\varphi, P-I)P^T w.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&H(P-I, P^T-I) \\
&= \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}((P-I)(P^T-I)) - (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))(P^T-I) - (P-I)(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T-I)) \\
&= \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(2I - P^T - P) - (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P)(P^T-I) - (P-I)(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T) \\
&= -\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T - \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P - (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P)P^T + \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P - P\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T + \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}P^T \\
&= -((\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T + P\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T-I)).
\end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T &= \frac{1}{2}(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T - \frac{1}{2}P\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T-I) + \frac{1}{2}(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I))P^T + \frac{1}{2}P\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P^T-I) \\
&= so(\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P-I)P^T) - \frac{1}{2}H(P-I, P^T-I).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(D)$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega_P) w \varphi + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \frac{1}{2}H(P-I, P^T-I) \varphi - H(\varphi, P-I)P^T \right) w. \quad (6.2)$$

## 6.1 Estimates on the left-hand side

We have

$$\|w\|_{(2,\infty),B_r} \stackrel{P,2,3}{=} \sup_{\substack{g \in C_0^\infty(B_r) \\ \|g\|_{(2,1)} \leq 1}} \int w g.$$

For  $g \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g \in L^p$  for any  $p \in (2, \infty]$  for  $\Lambda > 2$

$$\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g = \eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g + (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g.$$

Note, that  $\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}$  is well-defined on both parts with estimates by Proposition 4.4, so

$$g = \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g) + \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g),$$

and both parts are in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then,

$$\int w g = \int w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(\eta_{\Lambda r} \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g) + \int w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}g)$$

As for the second term, it is 'nicely' controlled:

**Lemma 6.2.** *There are constants  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $C > 0$  such that if  $\|g\|_{(2,1)} \leq 1$ ,  $\text{supp } g \subset \overline{B_r}$ ,  $\Lambda \geq 8$ ,*

$$\int w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \leq C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_{4\Lambda r}} + C \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} 2^{-\gamma k} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), A_{4\Lambda r, k}}$$

**Proof of Lemma 6.2.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \\ &= \int \eta_{2\Lambda r} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) + \int (1 - \eta_{2\Lambda r}) w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \\ &=: I + II. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $I$ , by Proposition 4.4,

$$|I| \prec \|\eta_{2\Lambda r} w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|g\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|\eta_{2\Lambda r} w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

As for  $II$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} II &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int \eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} ((1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int \eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int \eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w H(1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int \eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})) \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int \eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w H(-\eta_{\Lambda r}, \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} g) \\ &=: \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (II_{1,k} + II_{2,k}). \end{aligned}$$

As for  $II_{1,k}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} II_{1,k} &\prec (2^k \Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|g\|_1 \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w (\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r}))\|_1 \\ &\prec (2^k \Lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|g\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec (2^k \Lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}\|_{(2,1), \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\stackrel{P.2.7}{\prec} (2^k \Lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

In order to estimate  $II_{k,2}$ , we have consider (finitely many) terms of the following form for  $s \in (0, \frac{n}{2})$ ,  $t \in (0, s]$

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w\| M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g| \right) \|_{1, \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec \|\eta_{2\Lambda r}^k w\|_{(2,\infty), \mathbb{R}^n} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g| \right)\|_{(2,1), A_{k, 2\Lambda r}}. \end{aligned}$$

For some  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(A_{k, 2\Lambda r})$ ,  $\|\psi\|_{(2,\infty)} \leq 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})| M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g| \right)\|_{(2,1), A_{k, \Lambda r}} \\ &\prec \int \left( M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \right) \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})| \right) \left( M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g| \right) \\ &=: A_0 + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \int (\eta_{\frac{\Lambda}{4} r}^l) \left( M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi \right) \left( M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} (1 - \eta_{\Lambda r})| \right) \left( M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g| \right) \\ &\prec |A_0| + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, \infty), A_{l, \frac{\Lambda}{4} r}} \|M_2 \Delta^{-\frac{t}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \eta_{\Lambda r}|\|_{\frac{2n}{n-2t}, A_{\Lambda r}^l} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 1), A_{\Lambda r}^l} \\ &\stackrel{P.4.7}{\prec} |A_0| + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} 2^{-ln} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, \infty), A_{l, \frac{\Lambda}{4} r}} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 1), A_{\Lambda r}^l}. \end{aligned}$$

As usual, if  $l \geq 1$ ,

$$\|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} |g|\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 1), A_{\Lambda^l}^k} \prec (2^l \Lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \|g\|_{(2, 1), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq (2^l \Lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}}.$$

Moreover, by Proposition 4.5,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} 2^{-ln} \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, \infty), A_l, \frac{\Lambda}{4} r} \\ \prec & 2^{-kn} + \sum_{l=1}^k 2^{k(-n+s-t) + k(n - \frac{n-2s+2t}{2} - s+t) + l \frac{n-2s+2t}{2} - nl} \\ & + \sum_{l=k}^{\infty} 2^{l(-n+s-t) + k(n - \frac{n-2s+2t}{2} - s+t) + l \frac{n-2s+2t}{2} - nl} \\ \prec & 2^{-kn} + 2^{k(-\frac{n}{2} + s-t)} \sum_{l=1}^k 2^{l(-\frac{n}{2} - s+t)} \\ & + 2^{k \frac{n}{2}} \sum_{l=k}^{\infty} 2^{-\frac{3}{2} nl} \\ \prec & 2^{-\gamma k}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $l = 0$  we argue as in the proof of Lemma 4.8:

$$\begin{aligned} |A_0| & \prec \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, \infty), B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} + \|M_1 \Delta^{-\frac{s-t}{2}} \psi\|_{(\frac{2n}{n-2s+2t}, \infty), B_{2\Lambda r}} \|M_3 \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4} + \frac{s}{2}} g\|_{(\frac{n}{s}, 1), B_{\sqrt{\Lambda} r}} \\ & \prec 2^{-k\gamma} \sqrt{\Lambda}^{-\gamma}. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that

$$|II_{k,2}| \prec \Lambda^{-\gamma} 2^{-k \frac{n}{2}} \|w\|_{(2, \infty), A_{\Lambda^k}^k}.$$

Lemma 6.2  $\square$

## 6.2 Estimates on the right-hand side

**Lemma 6.3** (Estimates on the right-hand side). *Let  $w \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution to (6.2), where  $P - I \in H^{\frac{n}{2}}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ ,  $P \in SO(m)$  a.e., which is a minimizer of  $E(\cdot)$  defined in Lemma 5.1. Then there exists constants  $C_w, \gamma > 0, \Lambda_0 > 0$  and for any  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$  an  $R \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ , if  $B_r \subset D$ ,  $r \in (0, R)$ , and  $\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi\|_{(2, 1), \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1$*

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} w \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi \right| \leq C_w \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|w\|_{(2, \infty), B_{\Lambda r}} + C_w \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k\gamma} \|w\|_{(2, \infty), A_{\Lambda^k, k}}.$$

**Proof of Lemma 6.3.**

Let  $\tilde{\gamma}$  be the smallest of the various exponents of  $\Lambda^{-1}$  and  $2^{-k}$  appearing (see below). Pick first  $\Lambda_0 > 0$  such that for all  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$

$$\Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1 \tag{A1}$$

$$\Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}} \|\Omega\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq 1 \tag{A2}$$

Next, for fixed  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$  pick  $R \in (0, 1)$  such that for all  $B_r \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $r \in (0, R)$

$$\|H(P - I, P^T - I)\|_{(2, 1), B_{\Lambda^5 r}} \leq \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \tag{R1}$$

$$\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^5 r}} \leq \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \tag{R2}$$

$$\|\Omega_P\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^5 r}} \leq \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \tag{R3}$$

Let  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(B_r)$ ,  $\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}\varphi\|_{(2,1),B_r} \leq 1$ . We denote the three parts to be estimated

$$\begin{aligned} I &:= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} so(\Omega)_P w \varphi \\ II &:= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} H(P - I, P^T - I) \varphi w \\ III &:= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} H(\varphi, P - I) P^T w. \end{aligned}$$

There is a constant  $C$  depending only on the dimensions involved, such that

$$|II| \stackrel{(R1)}{\leq} \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \|\varphi\|_{\infty, \mathbb{R}^n} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_r} \stackrel{L.2.10}{\leq} C \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_r}.$$

By Lemma 4.8,

$$\begin{aligned} |III| &\leq C (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^3 r}} + \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_{\Lambda r}} \\ &\quad + C \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-\tilde{\gamma}k} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), A_{k, \Lambda r}} \\ &\stackrel{(R2)}{\leq} 2C \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{2}} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_{\Lambda r}} + C \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{2}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-\tilde{\gamma}k} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), A_{k, \Lambda r}}. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $I$ , by the choice of  $P$  and Lemma 5.2, we have

$$\int so(\Omega_P) \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} \varphi = \frac{1}{2} \int so(H(\varphi, P - I) P^T \Omega_P) \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in C_0^\infty(D).$$

Lemma 5.3 implies

$$\begin{aligned} \|so(\Omega_P)\|_{(2,1), B_r} &\prec (\|\Omega_P\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^3 r}} + \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \|\Omega_P\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \\ &\quad + \|\Omega_P\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, B_{\Lambda^3 r}} + \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}(P - I)\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \\ &\quad + \Lambda^{-\tilde{\gamma}} (\|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} P\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} + \|\Omega\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}) \\ &\leq C \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$|I| \leq C \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}} \|\varphi\|_{\infty} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_r} \leq C \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_r}.$$

Now we set  $\gamma := \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{4}$ , and the claim is proven.

Lemma 6.3  $\square$

### 6.3 Controlled Local Behavior: Proof of Lemma 1.5

Lemma 6.2 and Lemma 6.3 imply<sup>3</sup>:

<sup>3</sup>Here we use also that

$$\begin{aligned} &\Lambda^{-\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_{\Lambda r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), A_{\Lambda r, k}} \\ &\prec \Lambda^{-\gamma} \log \Lambda \|w\|_{(2,\infty), B_{\Lambda^2 r}} + \Lambda^{-\gamma} \log \Lambda \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty), A_{\Lambda^2 r, k}} \end{aligned}$$

and note that  $\Lambda^{-\gamma} \log \Lambda \leq \Lambda^{-\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{2}}$  for sufficiently large  $\Lambda$ .



**Lemma 6.4** (Estimates on the left-hand side). *Let  $w \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution to (6.2), where  $P \in H_I^{\frac{n}{2}}(D, \mathbb{R}^{m \times m})$ ,  $P \in SO(m)$  a.e., which is a minimizer of  $E(\cdot)$  defined in Lemma 5.1. Then there exists  $\Lambda_0 > 0, \gamma > 0, C_w > 0$  such that for any  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$  there is an  $R \in (0, 1)$  such that if  $B_{\Lambda r} \subset D$ ,  $r \in (0, R)$*

$$\|w\|_{(2,\infty),B_r} \leq C_w \Lambda^{-\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty),B_{\Lambda r}} + C_w \Lambda^{-\gamma} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k\gamma} \|w\|_{(2,\infty),A_{\Lambda r,k}}.$$

In particular, for  $K := \log_2 \Lambda \in \mathbb{N}$  for some  $\Lambda > \Lambda_0$ ,  $q := 2^{-\gamma}$ ,  $\varepsilon := \Lambda^{-\gamma}$  the condition (A.1) of the Iteration Lemma A.1 is satisfied, where

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\lambda) &:= \|w\|_{(2,\infty),B_{\lambda\Lambda^{-1}R}} \\ \psi(\lambda) &:= \|w\|_{(2,\infty),B_{\lambda\Lambda^{-1}R} \setminus B_{\frac{1}{2}\lambda\Lambda^{-1}R}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that also

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} q^k \psi(\lambda) \prec \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \|w\|_{2,B_{\lambda\Lambda^{-1}R} \setminus B_{\frac{1}{2}\lambda\Lambda^{-1}R}}^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \prec \|w\|_2.$$

As a consequence, we have shown Theorem 1.1; More precisely, we have

**Theorem 6.5.** *Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution to (1.1), i.e.*

$$\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} v = \Omega v \quad \text{in } D.$$

*Then for certain constants  $\Lambda > 0, R \in (0, 1), C > 0$  depending all on  $v$  we have that for some  $\alpha > 0$*

$$\|v\|_{(2,\infty),B_r} \leq C r^\alpha$$

*whenever  $B_{\Lambda r} \subset D$ , and  $r \in (0, R)$ .*

In particular, we have the following

**Corollary 6.6.** *Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a solution to (1.1). Then for certain constants  $\Lambda > 0, R \in (0, 1), C > 0$  depending all on  $v$  we have that whenever  $B_{\Lambda r} \subset D$ , and  $r \in (0, R)$ , for some  $\alpha > 0$*

$$\sup_{B_t \subset \mathbb{R}^n} t^{-\alpha} \|\chi_{B_r} v\|_{(2,\infty),B_t} \leq C.$$

## 7 Continuity Estimates: Proof of Theorem 1.2

In Theorem 6.5 we have shown, that  $v$  satisfies local Morrey space estimates in  $D$ . In this section, we will show how regularity for  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v$  in the interior and on the boundary follows.

### 7.1 In the Interior

First of all, we note that local behavior of  $v$  essentially controls local Hölder continuity of  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v$ . More precisely,

**Proposition 7.1.** *Let  $v \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , then for any  $\Lambda \geq 2$ ,  $x, y \in B_r(\bar{x})$*

$$|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(y)| \prec \frac{|x-y|}{\Lambda r} \|v\|_{2,\infty} + |\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(y)|.$$

*In particular, if  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)$  is Hölder-continuous in  $B_r(\bar{x})$ , so is  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(x)$ .*

**Proof of Proposition 7.1.**

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(y) \\ & \leq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_{|\xi-\bar{x}| \in (2^k \Lambda r, 2^{k+1} \Lambda r)} \left| |\xi-x|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |\xi-y|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| |v(\xi)| d\xi + |\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(y)| \\ & =: \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} I_k + |\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}(\chi_{B_{\Lambda r}(\bar{x})}v)(y)|. \end{aligned}$$

If  $|\xi - \bar{x}| \in (2^k \Lambda r, 2^{k+1} \Lambda r)$  and  $x \in B_r(\bar{x})$ ,

$$|\xi - x| \geq |\xi - x_0| - |x_0 - x| \geq 2^k \Lambda r - r \stackrel{\Lambda \geq 2}{\geq} 2^{k-1} \Lambda r,$$

so if  $x, y \in B_r(\bar{x})$  and  $|\xi - \bar{x}| \in (2^k \Lambda r, 2^{k+1} \Lambda r)$ ,

$$\left| |\xi - x|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |\xi - y|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| \stackrel{P.3.1}{\prec} (2^k \Lambda r)^{-\frac{n}{2}-1} |x - y|.$$

Hence,

$$I_k \leq (2^k \Lambda r)^{-1} |x - y| \|v\|_{(2,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n},$$

which implies that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} I_k \leq \frac{|x-y|}{\Lambda r} \|v\|_{(2,\infty),\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

*Proposition 7.1*  $\square$

The following is a consequence of [Ada75, Proposition 3.3.] and the corollary afterwards.

**Proposition 7.2.** *For any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  there exists  $\beta > 0$  and a constant  $C_\alpha$  such that the following holds. If for some  $K > 0$*

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sup_{B_t(x)} t^{-\alpha} \|v\|_{(2,\infty),B_t(x)} \leq K, \tag{7.1}$$

*then for any  $D \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  there exists a constant  $C_{D,\alpha}$  such that*

$$\sup_{x \neq y} \frac{|\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(x) - \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v(y)|}{|x-y|^\beta} \leq C_{D,\alpha} K.$$

For the convenience of the reader, we sketch (for  $n \geq 3$ ) the

**Proof of Proposition 7.2.**

This can be done very similarly to the proof of Proposition 7.1: It suffices to show that  $\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v$  belongs to a Morrey-Campanato space, cf. [Gia83, Chapter III], that is

$$\sup_{B_r(x)} r^{-n-\alpha} \int_{B_r(x)} |\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v - (\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v)_{B_r(x)}| \prec K.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{B_r(x)} |\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v - (\Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}}v)_{B_r(x)}| \\ \prec & r^{-n} \int_{B_r(x)} \int_{B_r(x)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left| |z_1 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |z_2 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| |v(\xi)| d\xi dz_1 dz_2 \\ \prec & r^{-n} \int_{B_r(x)} \int_{B_r(x)} \int_{B_{2r}(x)} \left| |z_1 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |z_2 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| |v(\xi)| d\xi dz_1 dz_2 \\ & + \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in B_r(x)} r^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_{|\xi-x| \in (2^k, 2^{k+1})} \left| |z_1 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |z_2 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| |v(\xi)| d\xi \\ =: & r^{-n}I + \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in B_r(x)} r^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} II_k. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $II_k$ , by virtually the same arguments as in the proof of Proposition 7.1

$$II_k \stackrel{(7.1)}{\leq} C_\alpha r^{-1+\alpha} |z_1 - z_2| K \leq C_\alpha r^\alpha K.$$

As for  $I_k$ ,

$$r^{-n}I_k \prec r^n \|v\|_{(2,\infty), B_{4r}} \stackrel{(7.1)}{\leq} r^{n+\alpha} K.$$

*Proposition 7.2*  $\square$

This and Corollary 6.6 imply the interior Hölder continuity of Theorem 1.2.

## 7.2 On the Boundary

We adapt the famous technique by Hildebrandt and Kaul, [HK72], in order to obtain boundary regularity. A crucial part of this is, that the  $BMO$ -Norm is small on small sets.

**Lemma 7.3** (Local BMO-estimate). *Let  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}}u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Set*

$$\mathcal{M}(\lambda) := \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sup_{\tilde{\lambda} \in (0, \lambda)} \tilde{\lambda}^{-n} \int_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)} |u(z) - (u)_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)}| dz.$$

Here,

$$(u)_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)} := |B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)|^{-1} \int_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)} u.$$

Then

$$\mathcal{M}(\lambda) \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow 0} 0.$$

**Proof of Lemma 7.3.**

If  $n = 1$ , one just checks that

$$\mathcal{M}(\lambda) \prec \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \sup_{\tilde{\lambda} \in (0, \lambda)} \left( \int_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)} \int_{B_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x)} \frac{|u(z_1) - u(z_2)|^2}{|z_1 - z_2|^2} dz dz_2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

which tends to zero as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ , cf. [Sch10b]. So let from now on  $n \geq 2$ . We adapt an approach in [Ada75, Proposition 3.3]. Let  $\Lambda \geq 2$  and decompose

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u \\ &= \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} (\chi_{B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u) + \Delta^{-\frac{n}{4}} (\chi_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)} \Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u) \\ &=: u_1 + u_2. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_\lambda(x)} |u(z_1) - (u)_{B_\lambda(x)}| dz_1 \\ &\prec 2 \int_{B_\lambda(x)} |u_1(z)| dz + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in B_\lambda(x)} \int_{2^k \Lambda \lambda \leq |\xi - x| \leq 2^{k+1} \Lambda \lambda} \left| |z_1 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} - |z_2 - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \right| |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u(\xi)| d\xi \\ &=: 2I + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in B_\lambda(x)} II_k. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $I$  we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_\lambda(x)} |u_1(z)| dz &\prec \int_{B_\lambda(x)} \int_{|\xi - x| \leq \Lambda \lambda} |z - \xi|^{-\frac{n}{2}} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u(\xi)| d\xi dz \\ &\approx (\Lambda \lambda)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)} |\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u(\xi)| d\xi \\ &\prec \Lambda^n \lambda^n \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

As for  $II_k$ , by Proposition 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned} II_k &\prec (2^k \Lambda \lambda)^{-\frac{n}{2}-1} |z_1 - z_2| (2^k \Lambda \lambda)^{\frac{n}{2}} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \\ &\prec 2^{-k} \Lambda^{-1} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\lambda^{-n} \int_{B_\lambda(x)} |u(z_1) - (u)_{B_\lambda(x)}| dz_1 \prec \Lambda^n \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)} + \Lambda^{-1} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

In particular,

$$\mathcal{M}(\lambda) \prec \Lambda^n \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, B_{\Lambda\lambda}(x)} + \Lambda^{-1} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n}.$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we choose then  $\Lambda > 2$  such that  $\Lambda^{-1} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, \mathbb{R}^n} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Afterwards we pick  $\lambda_0 > 0$  such that

$$\Lambda^{\frac{n}{2}} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u\|_{2, B_{\Lambda\lambda_0}(x)} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Then, for any  $\lambda \in (0, \lambda_0)$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}(\lambda) \prec \varepsilon.$$

*Lemma 7.3*  $\square$

Then, we have the following theorem, which implies the boundary regularity claimed in Theorem 1.2.

**Theorem 7.4.** *Let  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Assume that  $D \subset \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\partial D \in C^\infty$  and that for some  $\Lambda \geq 1$ ,  $K \geq 0$*

$$|u(x) - u(y)| \leq K \left( \frac{|x - y|^\alpha}{r^\alpha} + |x - y|^\alpha \right) \quad \text{for almost all } x, y \in B_r \text{ where } B_{\Lambda r} \subset D. \quad (7.2)$$

If there exists  $\gamma > 0$  such that

$$u \in C^0(B_\gamma(D) \setminus D), \quad (7.3)$$

then  $u \in C^0(B_\gamma(D)) \cap C^{0,\alpha}(B)$ .

**Proof of Theorem 7.4.**

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given, and let  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\mu \in (0, \Lambda^{-1})$  to be chosen later depending on  $\varepsilon$ . Take  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda)$  from Lemma 7.3.

Because of  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Delta^{\frac{n}{4}} u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  we have that  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda) \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow 0} 0$ .

Since  $\partial D$  is a closed, smooth manifold we assume w.l.o.g. that  $\gamma > 0$  is small enough so that there exists the nearest-point projection  $\Pi \in C^\infty(B_\gamma(\partial D), \partial D)$ , cf. [Sim96]. Denote the mirroring function at  $\partial D$  by  $\psi : B_\gamma(\partial D) \cap \bar{D} \rightarrow B_\gamma(D) \setminus D$ ,

$$\psi(x) := 2\Pi(x) - x.$$

Fix  $\bar{x} \in D$ ,  $\bar{z} \in \partial D$ , and assume that  $|\bar{x} - \bar{z}| \leq \delta < \frac{1}{2}\gamma$ . Set  $\bar{y} := \Pi(\bar{x}) \in \partial D$ . As  $\Pi$  is well defined around  $\bar{x}$  this implies as well  $\tau := |\bar{x} - \bar{y}| \leq \delta$  and since  $\Pi$  is the (unique) nearest point projection into the boundary  $\partial D$ , we know that  $B_\tau(\bar{x}) \subset D$ . Denote  $\sigma := \mu\tau$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_\sigma(\bar{x})} |u(x) - u(\psi(x))| &\leq \int_{B_\sigma(\bar{x})} |u(x) - (u)_{B_{2\tau}(\bar{y})}| dx + \int_{B_\sigma(\bar{x})} |u(\psi(x)) - (u)_{B_{2\tau}(\bar{y})}| dx \\ &\prec \tau^n \mathcal{M}(2\tau) + \int_{B_\sigma(\psi^{-1}(\bar{x}))} |u(x) - (u)_{B_\tau(\bar{y})}| dx \\ &\prec \tau^n \mathcal{M}(2\tau). \end{aligned}$$

Here we used the following computation of the behavior of the transformation  $x \rightarrow \psi(x)$ : For  $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$d\psi_x[z] := \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} \psi(x + tz) = 2d\Pi_x[z] - z.$$

One can show then (again, cf. [Sim96]) that  $d\Pi_x[\cdot]$  is an orthogonal projection of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $T_x\partial D$ , thus if we take an orthonormal basis  $o_1, \dots, o_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  where  $o_n \perp T_x\partial D$ , we have that

$$d\psi_x[o_i] = 2o_i - o_i = o_i \quad \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq n-1$$

and

$$d\psi_x[o_n] = 0 - o_n = -o_n \quad \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

Thus,

$$\int_{B_\sigma(\bar{x})} |u(x) - u(\psi(x))| \prec \tau^n \mathcal{M}(2\tau).$$

By a contradiction argument this implies that there exists a set of positive measure  $E_\sigma \subset B_\sigma(\bar{x})$  such that for any  $x' \in E_\sigma$ .

$$|u(x') - u(\psi(x'))| \prec \left(\frac{\tau}{\sigma}\right)^n \mathcal{M}(2\tau).$$

This and (7.2) for  $r := \Lambda^{-1}\tau$  imply (using that  $B_\tau(\bar{x}) \subset D$ )

$$\begin{aligned} |u(\bar{x}) - u(\bar{y})| &\leq |u(\bar{x}) - u(x')| + |u(x') - u(\psi(x'))| + |u(\psi(x')) - u(\bar{y})| \\ &\prec \left(\Lambda \frac{\sigma}{\tau}\right)^\alpha + \left(\frac{\tau}{\sigma}\right)^n \mathcal{M}(2\tau) + |u(\psi(x')) - u(\bar{y})|. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that  $\sigma := \mu\tau$  we have shown

$$|u(\bar{x}) - u(\bar{y})| \leq C_{\Lambda, K, \alpha} \mu^\alpha (1 + \mu^{\alpha-n} \mathcal{M}(2\tau)) + |u(\psi(x')) - u(\bar{y})|.$$

Picking  $\mu \ll 1$  depending only on  $\Lambda$ ,  $K$  and  $\alpha$  such that

$$C_{\Lambda, K} \mu^\alpha \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4},$$

and then  $\delta \ll 1$  only depending on  $\mu$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  such that

$$\mu^{\alpha-n} \mathcal{M}(\tau) \leq \mu^{\alpha-n} \mathcal{M}(\delta) \leq 1,$$

as well as for any  $x' \in B_{\frac{\delta}{2}}(x) \cap D$

$$|u(\psi(x')) - u(\bar{y})| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2},$$

we have shown,

$$|u(\bar{x}) - u(\bar{y})| \prec \varepsilon.$$

As  $\bar{z} \in D \cap B_{\delta}(\bar{y})$ , this implies the claim, as  $\delta$  was chosen uniformly for  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{z}$ .

*Theorem 7.4*  $\square$

## A Iteration Arguments

We give the proof of the iteration argument which is used in [DLR10], [DL10]. Note, that an argument as in [DLR09] is not viable for our setting here, cf. Remark 2.4.

**Lemma A.1.** *Let  $q \in (0, 1)$ ,  $K \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and assume (say)*

$$\varepsilon + q^{2K} + 2K \varepsilon q^K + \varepsilon \left( 1 + \frac{1}{1-q} + 2K \frac{1}{1-q} \right) \leq \frac{1}{4}. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

Let moreover  $\Phi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  be monotone rising,  $\psi : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  such that for all  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$

$$\psi(\lambda) \leq \Phi(\lambda). \quad (\text{A.2})$$

Assume that for all  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$

$$\Phi(2^{-K}\lambda) \leq \varepsilon \Phi(\lambda) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^k \lambda). \quad (\text{A.3})$$

If there is  $G < \infty$  so that for all  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^k \lambda) \leq G.$$

Then, for all  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$\Phi(\lambda) \leq 32 \lambda^{\frac{1}{2K}} (\Phi(\infty) + G).$$

**Proof of Lemma A.1.**

Let  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $l \geq 2$ . We claim that for all  $j \in \{0, \dots, \lfloor \frac{l-1}{2} \rfloor\}$

$$\Phi(2^{-Kl}) \leq \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j)}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j+1)+k}). \quad (\text{A.4})$$

This is true for  $j = 0$  by the monotonicity of  $\Phi$ . Assume now (A.4) to be true for some  $j$ , then in order to show (A.4) also for  $j + 1$ , we estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi(2^{-Kl}) \\ \stackrel{(\text{A.4})}{\leq} & \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j)}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j+1)+k}) \\ \stackrel{(\text{A.3})}{\leq} & \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \left( \varepsilon \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)}) + \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k}) \right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j+1)+k}) \\ = & \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k}) \\ & + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=2K}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k-2K}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{2K-1} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k-2K}) \\ \stackrel{(\text{A.2})}{\leq} & \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \Phi(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k}) \\ & + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j q^{2K} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{2K-1} q^k \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k-2K}) \\ = & \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \Phi(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}) \\ & + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \sum_{k=0}^{2K-1} q^k \Phi(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k-2K}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \stackrel{(A.3)}{\leq} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{2K-1} q^k \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))+k-2K}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \sum_{k=0}^{2K-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} q^{k+i} \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+k+i-K}\right) \\
& \leq \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} q^i \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+i-K}\right) \\
& = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-q}\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} q^i \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2j-1)+i-K}\right) \\
& = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-q}\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K q^K \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} q^i \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+i}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} q^i \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+i-K}\right) \\
& \stackrel{(A.2)}{\leq} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-q}\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K} + \varepsilon 2K q^K) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} q^i \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))+i-2K}\right) \\
& \leq \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-q}\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K} + \varepsilon 2K q^K) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon 2K \frac{1}{1-q} \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

which finally gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(2^{-Kl}) & \leq \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{1-q} + 2K \frac{1}{1-q}\right) \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^j (\varepsilon + q^{2K} + \varepsilon 2K q^K) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right) \\
& \stackrel{(A.1)}{\leq} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{j+1} \Phi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1))}\right) \\
& \quad + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{j+1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k \psi\left(2^{-K(l-2(j+1)+1)+k}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, the claim is proven. In particular, if  $\lambda \in (2^{-K(l+1)}, 2^{-kl})$  for some  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\Phi(\lambda) \leq \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{\lfloor \frac{l-1}{2} \rfloor} (\Phi(\infty) + G) \leq 32 \lambda^{\frac{1}{2K}} (\Phi(\infty) + G)$$

Lemma A.1  $\square$



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