

On some Hardy-Sobolev's type variable exponent inequality and its application

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Abstract. *In this paper, it has been proved a Sobolev's type variable exponent inequality*

$$\left\| \frac{u(x)}{x(l-x)} \right\|_{p(x);(0,l)} \leq \frac{C}{l} \|u'(x)\|_{p(x);(0,l)}, \quad \forall u \in \dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$$

where the exponent function $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$, is a monotone increasing near little neighborhood of origin and monotone decreasing near l satisfying the conditions:

$$\int_a^l t^{-\frac{1}{p'(t)}} \frac{dt}{t} \leq C_2 a^{-\frac{1}{p'(a)}}, \quad \text{and} \quad \int_a^l t^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-t)}} \frac{dt}{t} \leq C_1 a^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-a)}},$$

for $0 < a < l$. Applying this inequality and Browder-Minty theory methods, it has been proved an existence result of solution for some variable exponent equation.

Keywords. variable exponent spaces, inequality, solvability, Dirichlet problem

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1 Introduction

One of the results of this paper is the following assertion on variable exponent boundedness of the conjugate Hardy operator $\int_x^l f(t) dt$ on finite interval $(0, l)$.

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Theorem 1.1 Let $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a measurable function such that $1 < p(x) \leq p^+ < \infty$. Assume that, p monotone decreases on a little neighborhood $(l - \varepsilon, l)$ of the right end of interval $(0, l)$.

Then it holds an inequality

$$\left\| \frac{1}{l-x} \int_x^l f(t) dt \right\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)} \leq C \|f(\cdot)\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)} \tag{1.1}$$

for all measurable positive functions $f : (0, l) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ if and only if

$$\int_a^l t^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-t)}} \frac{dt}{t} \leq C_1 a^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-a)}}, \quad 0 < a < l, \tag{1.2}$$

where a positive constant C depends on p^+, C_1, ε, l and $p_{(0,l-\varepsilon)}^- > 1$.

This assertion looks as following for an absolutely continuous functions.

Theorem 1.2 Let $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a measurable function such that $1 < p(x) \leq p^+ < \infty$. Assume that, p monotone decreases on a little neighborhood of right hand side of the interval $(0, l)$, i.e. on $(l - \varepsilon, l)$ by some $\varepsilon > 0$.

Then it holds an inequality

$$\left\| \frac{u(x)}{l-x} \right\|_{p(x);(0,l)} \leq C \|u'(x)\|_{p(x);(0,l)} \tag{1.3}$$

for all absolutely continuous functions $u : (0, l) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $u(l) = 0$ if and only if

$$\int_a^l t^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-t)}} \frac{dt}{t} \leq C_1 a^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-a)}}, \quad 0 < a < l, \tag{1.4}$$

where a positive constant C depends on $p^+, C_1, C_2, \varepsilon, l$ and $p_{(0,l-\varepsilon)}^- > 1$.

The proof of this assertions may be composed using the following boundedness result for the Hardy operator $Hf(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(t) dt$ in $L^p(\cdot)(0, l)$ from [3].

Theorem 1.3 Let $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a measurable function such that $1 < p(x) \leq p^+ < \infty$. Assume that, p monotone increases on a little neighborhood $(0, \varepsilon)$ of the origin.

Then it holds an inequality

$$\left\| \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)} \leq C \|f(\cdot)\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)} \tag{1.5}$$

for all measurable positive functions $f : (0, l) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ if and only if

$$\int_a^l t^{-\frac{1}{p'(t)}} \frac{dt}{t} \leq C_2 a^{-\frac{1}{p'(a)}}, \quad 0 < a < l, \tag{1.6}$$

where a positive constant C depends on p^+, C_2, ε, l and $p_{(\varepsilon,l)}^- > 1$.

Combining Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 one gets the following result.

Theorem 1.4 *Let $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a measurable function such that $1 < p(x) \leq p^+ < \infty$. Assume that, p monotone increases near origin, decreases near l on a little neighborhood, i.e. $p \uparrow$ on $(0, \varepsilon)$ and $p \downarrow$ on $(l - \varepsilon, l)$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.*

Then it holds the inequality

$$\left\| \frac{u(x)}{x(l-x)} \right\|_{p(x);(0,l)} \leq \frac{C}{l} \|u'(x)\|_{p(x);(0,l)} \tag{1.7}$$

for all absolutely continuous functions $u : (0, l) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $u(0) = u(l) = 0$ if and only if (1.6) and (1.4) is satisfied; moreover, a positive constant C in (1.7) depends on $p^+, C_1, C_2, \varepsilon$ and $p_{(\varepsilon, l-\varepsilon)}^- > 1$

For a proof of Theorem 1.4 let us note the inequality

$$\frac{u(x)}{x(l-x)} \leq \frac{2}{l} \left(\frac{u(x)}{x} + \frac{u(x)}{l-x} \right).$$

□

To prove Theorem 1.1 we shall use the inequality

$$\left\| \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \leq \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \tag{1.8}$$

for a measurable function $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ which is monotone increasing near the origin $(0, \varepsilon)$ and be such that $1 < p(x) \leq p^+ < \infty$. According to the resent works (see, e.g. [3], [4], [5]) for the inequality (1.5) it is necessary and sufficiently that the condition

$$\int_a^l x^{-\frac{1}{p'(x)}} \frac{dx}{x} \leq C a^{-\frac{1}{p'(a)}}, \quad 0 < a < l \tag{1.9}$$

be fulfilled. In our setting concerning Theorem 1.1 we have the condition (1.6) and the monotone decreasing of p near the right end of interval $(0, l)$, in $(l - \varepsilon, l)$ by some $\varepsilon > 0$. Insert a new exponent function $\tilde{p}(x) = p(l - x)$. Then we are in region of application of inequality (1.5) for the exponent \tilde{p} interval $(0, l)$, space $L^{\tilde{p}(\cdot)}(0, l)$, and the operator H . Indeed, check the condition (1.9):

$$\int_a^l x^{-\frac{1}{\tilde{p}'(x)}} \frac{dx}{x},$$

inserting the expression of the function $\tilde{p}(x)$

$$= \int_a^l x^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-x)}} \frac{dx}{x},$$

using condition (1.6)

$$\leq C a^{-\frac{1}{p'(l-a)}} = C a^{-\frac{1}{\tilde{p}'(a)}},$$

that means the condition (1.9) is fulfilled for a function $\tilde{p}(x)$.

In order to show (1.3) it suffices to prove the inequality

$$\left\| \frac{1}{(l-x)} \int_x^l g(t) dt \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \leq C \|g(\cdot)\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)} \tag{1.10}$$

for any measurable function $g \in L^{p(\cdot)}(0, l)$. The monotone increasing near origin of the function $\tilde{p}(x)$ follows from its expression $\tilde{p}(x) = p(l - x)$ and the monotone decreasing of p near l . Let $f : (0, l) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ be a measurable function and the condition (1.4) be satisfied. Using the cited above result, we get the inequality (1.8)

$$\left\| \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right\|_{L^{\tilde{p}(\cdot)}(0,l)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}.$$

Using the definition of variable exponent norm, calculate both hand sides of this inequality separately. In this way,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{x} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right\|_{L^{\tilde{p}(\cdot)}(0,l)} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{1}{x\lambda} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right)^{\tilde{p}(x)} dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

inserting the expression of the function $\tilde{p}(x)$

$$= \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{1}{x\lambda} \int_0^x f(t) dt \right)^{p(l-x)} dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

making the change of variable $z = l - x$ in the exterior integral

$$= \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : - \int_l^0 \left(\frac{1}{(l-z)\lambda} \int_0^{l-z} f(t) dt \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

changing the limits of integration

$$= \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{1}{(l-z)\lambda} \int_0^{l-z} f(t) dt \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

changing the variable $t = l - y$ in the interior integral

$$= \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(- \frac{1}{(l-z)\lambda} \int_l^z f(l-y) dy \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

inserting $g(y) = f(l - y)$ and changing the limits of integration in the interior integral,

$$= \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{1}{(l-z)\lambda} \int_z^l g(y) dy \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

using the definition of variable exponent norm

$$= \left\| \frac{1}{(l-z)} \int_z^l g(t) dt \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}.$$

Applying the inequality (1.8), we get that is exceeded:

$$\leq C \|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)},$$

using the definition of variable exponent norm

$$= C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{f(x)}{\lambda} \right)^{\tilde{p}(x)} dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

inserting the expression of the function $\tilde{p}(x)$,

$$= C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{f(x)}{\lambda} \right)^{p(l-x)} dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

making the change of variable $z = l - x$ in the exterior integral

$$= C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : - \int_l^0 \left(\frac{f(l-z)}{\lambda} \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

changing the limits of integration

$$= C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{f(l-z)}{\lambda} \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

by notation $g(z) = f(l - z)$

$$= C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_0^l \left(\frac{g(z)}{\lambda} \right)^{p(z)} dz \leq 1 \right\},$$

using the definition of variable exponent norm

$$= C \|g(\cdot)\|_{p(\cdot);(0,l)}.$$

Therefore, the inequality (1.10) has been established, which completes the proof of inequality (1.5) since g is arbitrary. □

Define $Lip_0(0, l)$ a class of Lipschitz continuous functions $f : (0, l) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(0) = f(l) = 0$. Define a norm

$$\|f\| = \|f\|_{L^1(0,l)} + \|f'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}$$

in this class and close it in this norm. The obtained variable exponent space denote as $\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$. Space $\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$. is reflexive Banach space if $1 < p^-, p^+ < \infty$ (see, e.g. [1]).

Consider the Dirichlet problem

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{d}{dx} \left(\left| \frac{dy}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \frac{dy}{dx} \right) + \lambda \left| \frac{y}{x(l-x)} \right|^{p(x)-1} \frac{y}{x(l-x)} &= F(x) \\ y(0) = y(l) &= 0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.11}$$

where $\lambda > 0$ is a parameter, $F = \frac{f_0(x)}{x(l-x)} + \frac{df_1}{dx}$ with $f_0, f_1 \in L^{p'}(0, l)$.

Let $p(x)$ be measurable function satisfying Hardy's type inequality (1.11) to hold, e.g. it is satisfied conditions (1.6), (1.9) and $p(x)$ increases near origin decreases near l .

To prove the existence of solution of problem (1.11) we shall use a monotone operator method. To carry out its insert an operator $A : X \rightarrow X^*$, where $X = \dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$, X^* its dual space. Insert an operator $A : u \in X \rightarrow A(u) \in X^*$. We define it as following

$$\langle A(u), \varphi \rangle = \int_0^l \left| \frac{dy}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{d\varphi}{dx} dx + \lambda \int_0^l \left| \frac{y}{x(l-x)} \right|^{p(x)} \varphi dx, \quad \forall \varphi \in X. \tag{1.12}$$

We say, $y = y(x)$ is a solution of problem (1.11) if

$$\langle A(y), \varphi \rangle = (F, \varphi), \quad \forall \varphi \in X,$$

i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^l \left| \frac{dy}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{d\varphi}{dx} dx + \lambda \int_0^l \left| \frac{y}{x(l-x)} \right|^{p(x)} dx \\ & = \int_0^l \frac{f_0(x)}{x(l-x)} \varphi(x) dx - \int_0^l f_1(x) \varphi'(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

In order to carry out the monotone operator method approach we have to show that the operator A is

- 1) monotone property, that is $\langle A(y_1) - A(y_2), y_1 - y_2 \rangle \geq 0$,
- 2) coercivity, that is $\frac{\langle A(y), y \rangle}{\|y\|} \rightarrow \infty$ as $\|y\| \rightarrow \infty$,
- 3) semi continuity, that is $\langle A(y_1 + \lambda_k y_2), \varphi \rangle \rightarrow \langle A(y_1 + \lambda y_2), \varphi \rangle$ as $\lambda_k \rightarrow \lambda$.

Verify 1): for any $y_1, y_2 \in X$ on base of inequality

$$(|a|^{p-2}a - |b|^{p-2}b)(a - b) \geq 0$$

for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A(y_1) - A(y_2), y_1 - y_2 \rangle &= \int_0^l (|y_1'|^{p(x)-2} y_1' - |y_2'|^{p(x)-2} y_2') (y_1' - y_2') dx \\ &+ \lambda \int_0^l (x(l-x))^{-p(x)} (|y_1|^{p(x)-2} y_1 - |y_2|^{p(x)-2} y_2) (y_1 - y_2) dx \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Verify 2). Let $\|y_k\|_{\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$. Then it is easily seen that $\|y_k'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Indeed, if $\|y_k'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \leq C$ by some $C > 0$ not depending on $k \in \mathbb{N}$ on base of Holder's inequality for $p(\cdot)$ -norms (see, [1,2]) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} &\leq C_0 \left\| \frac{y_k}{x(l-x)} \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \cdot \max_{0 < x < l} x(l-x) \\ &\leq C_0 l^2 \cdot \left\| \frac{y_k}{x(l-x)} \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}, \end{aligned}$$

on base of Hardy's type inequality,

$$\leq C_0 l \|y_k'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)},$$

which contradicts the assumption $\|y_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, from $\|y_k\|_{\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$ it follows $\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$.

On other hand, by the Holder's and Hardy's inequalities it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_k\|_{\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0,l)} &= \|y_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} + \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \\ &\leq [C_0 l + 1] \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, to verify the convergence

$$\frac{\langle A(y_k), y_k \rangle}{\|y_k\|_{\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0,l)}} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

it suffices to show that

$$\frac{\langle A(y_k), y_k \rangle}{\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle A(y_k), y_k \rangle}{\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} &= \int_0^l \left[\left(\frac{y'_k}{\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} \right)^{p(x)} + \left(\frac{y_k}{x(l-x)\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} \right)^{p(x)} \right] dx \\ &\geq \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}^{p^- - 1} \int_0^l \left(\frac{y'_k}{\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} \right)^{p(x)} dx \\ &\geq \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}^{p^- - 1} \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

as $\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \rightarrow \infty$.

We have used that $\int_0^l \left(\frac{y'_k}{\|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}} \right)^{p(x)} dx = 1$, by definition. Therefore,

$$\frac{\langle A(y_k), y_k \rangle}{\|y_k\|} \geq \|y'_k\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)}^{p^- - 1} \rightarrow \infty$$

as $k \rightarrow \infty$ provided $\lambda \geq 0$.

The coercivity has been shown.

3) Verify the semi continuity. Let the number sequence $\lambda_k \rightarrow \lambda$ and $y_1, y_2, \varphi \in X$. Then by using the Lebesgue majorant theorem and the convergence $\lambda_k \rightarrow \lambda$ it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A(y_1 + \lambda_k y_2), \varphi \rangle &= \int_0^l \left| \frac{dy_1}{dx} + \lambda_k \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \left(\frac{dy_1}{dx} + \lambda_k \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right) \frac{d\varphi}{dx} dx \\ &\quad + \lambda \int_0^l \left(\frac{|y_1 + \lambda_k y_2|}{x(l-x)} \right)^{p(x)-2} \left(\frac{y_1 + \lambda_k y_2}{x(l-x)} \right) \varphi dx \\ &\rightarrow \int_0^l \left| \frac{dy_1}{dx} + \lambda \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \left(\frac{dy_1}{dx} + \lambda \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right) \frac{d\varphi}{dx} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$-\lambda \int_0^l \left(\frac{|y_1 + \lambda y_2|}{x(l-x)} \right)^{p(x)-2} \left(\frac{y_1 + \lambda y_2}{x(l-x)} \right) \varphi dx$$

as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Therefore, all conditions 1)-3) have been verified. By assertion of the Browder-Minty theory it follows: *there exists a unique solution $y \in \dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$ of the problem (1.11).*

Verify $f \in X^*$ by using Holder's and Hardy's inequalities.

$$\begin{aligned} |(F, \varphi)| &= \left| \int_0^l \frac{f_0}{x(l-x)} \varphi dx - \int_0^l f_1(x) \varphi'(x) dx \right| \leq \left| \int_0^l f_0 \frac{\varphi}{x(l-x)} dx \right| \\ &+ \left| \int_0^l f_1 \varphi' dx \right| \leq \|f_0\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(0,l)} \left\| \frac{\varphi}{x(l-x)} \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} + \|f_1\|_{L^{p'(\cdot)}(0,l)} \|\varphi'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \\ &\leq C \left(\|f_0\|_{L^{p'}(0,l)} + \|f_1\|_{L^{p'}(0,l)} \right) \|\varphi'\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}(0,l)} \\ &\leq C \left(\|f_0\|_{L^{p'}(0,l)} + \|f_1\|_{L^{p'}(0,l)} \right) \|\varphi\|_{\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0,l)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $F \in X^*$ if $f_0, f_1 \in L^{p'(\cdot)}(0, l)$.

To show the uniqueness apply the monotone condition on operator A . Let y_1, y_2 are two solutions of the problem (1.11) from space $\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^l \left(\left| \frac{dy_1}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \frac{dy_1}{dx} - \left| \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right|^{p(x)-2} \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right) \left(\frac{dy_1}{dx} - \frac{dy_2}{dx} \right) dx \\ &+ \lambda \int_0^l \left(|y_1|^{p(x)-2} y_1 - |y_2|^{p(x)-2} y_2 \right) (y_1 - y_2) dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

That implies $y_1 = y_2$.

Hence, it has been proved the following result on the solvability of the Dirichlet problem (1.11).

Theorem 1.5 *Let $p : (0, l) \rightarrow (1, \infty)$ be a measurable function that is monotone increasing near the origin and decreasing near l . Moreover, are satisfied the conditions (1.6), (1.4) for the function p . Then there exists a unique solution of the Dirichlet problem (1.11) from space $\dot{W}_{p(\cdot)}^1(0, l)$ for any measurable functions $f_0, f_1 \in L^{p'}(0, l)$ and $\lambda \geq 0$.*

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