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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
Gainesville, Florida 32611, U.S.A.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5S7

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Homogeneous Besov spaces on locally compact Vilenkin groups

by

C. W. ONNEWEER (Albuquerque, N.M.) and SU WEIYI* (Nanjing)

Abstract. In this paper we shall show the equivalence of various characterizations of the homogeneous Besov spaces defined on certain topological groups G that are the locally compact analogue of the compact groups introduced by Vilenkin in 1947. We then apply some of the results to study the regular extension to $G \times Z$ of the distributions belonging to such Besov spaces.

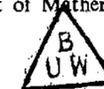
1. Introduction. For $\alpha > 0$ and $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ there exist a large number of equivalent characterizations of the Besov or generalized Lipschitz spaces B_{pq}^α on \mathbb{R}^n . For early results, subject to the restrictions $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$, see the papers by Besov [2] and Taibleson [13]–[15]. For additional results, see [11] or [20], whereas for the atomic decomposition of Besov spaces on \mathbb{R}^n , see [6]. In [12] Ricci and Taibleson considered the harmonic extension to the upper half-plane \mathbb{R}_+^2 of functions belonging to certain Besov spaces on \mathbb{R} . They introduced a class of function spaces, called A_{pq}^α , on \mathbb{R}_+^2 and showed that the boundary values of the functions in A_{pq}^α can be identified as linear functionals on certain Besov spaces. In [3] Bui extended their results to \mathbb{R}^n . These papers were the motivation for the present paper in which we consider this circle of ideas in the context of a certain class of topological groups instead of \mathbb{R} or \mathbb{R}^n .

We now summarize the content of this paper. In the remainder of this section we describe the topological groups G that will be considered here and we give a brief outline of the distribution theory on these groups. In Section 2 we introduce the inhomogeneous and homogeneous Besov spaces on G . We present several equivalent (quasi-) norms for these spaces and state a duality theorem. In that section we also compare the inhomogeneous and the

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homogeneous Besov spaces with each other. In Section 3 we present a characterization for the homogeneous Besov spaces on G in terms of mean oscillation spaces, whereas in Section 4 we treat the atomic decomposition of the Besov spaces. Finally, in Section 5 we treat the regularization of the distributions belonging to certain homogeneous Besov spaces. We introduce a new class of function spaces and we show that, under suitable restrictions on the parameters involved, their elements can be identified with the elements of the Besov spaces on G .

In this paper G will denote a locally compact Abelian topological group containing a strictly decreasing sequence of open compact subgroups $(G_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ such that

$$(i) \quad \bigcup_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} G_n = G \text{ and } \bigcap_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} G_n = \{0\},$$

$$(ii) \quad M := \sup \{\text{order}(G_n/G_{n+1}) : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} < \infty.$$

Such groups are totally disconnected and they are the locally compact analogue of the groups described by Vilenkin in [21]. Several examples of such groups are given in [5, § 4.1.2]. Additional examples are the p -adic numbers and, more general, the additive group of a local field (see [16] or [19]).

Let Γ denote the dual group of G and for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, let Γ_n denote the annihilator of G_n , i.e.,

$$\Gamma_n = \{\gamma \in \Gamma; \gamma(x) = 1 \text{ for all } x \in G_n\}.$$

Then (cf. [5, § 4.1.4]) the $(\Gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ form a strictly increasing sequence of open compact subgroups of Γ and we have

$$(i)^* \quad \bigcup_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \Gamma_n = \Gamma \text{ and } \bigcap_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \Gamma_n = \{1\},$$

$$(ii)^* \quad \text{order}(\Gamma_{n+1}/\Gamma_n) = \text{order}(G_n/G_{n+1}).$$

If we choose Haar measures μ on G and λ on Γ such that $\mu(G_0) = \lambda(\Gamma_0) = 1$ then $\mu(G_n) = (\lambda(\Gamma_n))^{-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$; we set $m_n := \lambda(\Gamma_n)$.

We mention here three simple inequalities for the m_n that will be used frequently. For each $\alpha > 0$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ we have

$$(1) \quad 2m_k \leq m_{k+1} \leq Mm_k,$$

$$(2) \quad \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-\alpha} \leq C(m_k)^{-\alpha},$$

$$(3) \quad \sum_{n=-\infty}^k (m_n)^{\alpha} \leq C(m_k)^{\alpha}.$$

Inequality (1) follows from (ii), whereas (2) and (3) follow easily from (1). Here, like elsewhere in this paper, C denotes a constant whose value may change from one occurrence to the next.

For each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ we choose elements $z_{l,n} \in G$ ($l \in \mathbb{Z}_+$) so that the subsets $G_{l,n} := z_{l,n} + G_n$ of G satisfy $G_{k,n} \cap G_{l,n} = \emptyset$ if $k \neq l$ and $\bigcup_{l=0}^{\infty} G_{l,n} = G$; moreover, we choose $z_{0,n}$ so that $G_{0,n} = G_n$.

If we define the function $d: G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x - y = 0, \\ (m_n)^{-1} & \text{if } x - y \in G_n \setminus G_{n+1}, \end{cases}$$

then d defines a metric on $G \times G$ and the topology on G induced by this metric is the same as the original topology on G . Next, for $x \in G$ we set $\|x\| = d(x, 0)$ if $x \in G_n \setminus G_{n+1}$, and $\|0\| = 0$; then $\|x\| = (m_n)^{-1}$ if and only if $x \in G_n \setminus G_{n+1}$. In a similar way we can define a metric \tilde{d} on $\Gamma \times \Gamma$ such that if we set $\|\gamma\| = \tilde{d}(\gamma, 1)$ then $\|\gamma\| = m_n$ if and only if $\gamma \in \Gamma_n \setminus \Gamma_{n-1}$.

For p with $0 < p \leq \infty$ we define p' by $p' = \infty$ if $0 < p \leq 1$ and p' is the usual conjugate of p if $1 \leq p \leq \infty$, i.e., $1/p + 1/p' = 1$. For a given set A we denote its characteristic function by ξ_A . The symbols $\hat{\cdot}$ and $\check{\cdot}$ will be used to denote the Fourier transform and the inverse Fourier transform, respectively. It is easy to see that if we define the functions Δ_n , $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, on G by

$$\Delta_n(x) = (\mu(G_n))^{-1} \xi_{G_n}(x) = m_n \xi_{G_n}(x),$$

then, for $\gamma \in \Gamma$,

$$(\Delta_n)^\wedge(\gamma) = \xi_{\Gamma_n}(\gamma),$$

and, for $0 < p \leq \infty$, we have

$$\|\Delta_n\|_p = (m_n)^{1-1/p}.$$

To simplify our notation later on, we define the functions φ_n on G by $\varphi_n = \Delta_n - \Delta_{n-1}$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Following Taibleson's development of a distribution theory on local fields (cf. [16] or [19]), we define $\mathcal{S}(G)$ to be the set of functions on G that have compact support and are constant on the cosets of some G_n in G . A sequence $(\psi_n)_n^\infty$ in $\mathcal{S}(G)$ is said to converge to $\psi \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ if all ψ_n, ψ vanish outside a fixed G_k in G , all ψ_n, ψ are constant on the cosets of a fixed G_l in G and $\psi_n(x)$ converges uniformly to $\psi(x)$ on G . Then $\mathcal{S}(G)$ is called the space of test functions on G . The space of linear functionals on $\mathcal{S}(G)$ is denoted by $\mathcal{S}'(G)$, its elements are called distributions on G . We say that a sequence $(f_n)_n^\infty$ of elements in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$ converges to $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ if for all $\psi \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f_n, \psi \rangle = \langle f, \psi \rangle.$$

Clearly, similar spaces of test functions and distributions can be defined

on Γ . It can be shown that the Fourier transform maps $\mathcal{S}(G)$ one-to-one onto $\mathcal{S}(\Gamma)$. Moreover, if we extend the Fourier transform to $\mathcal{S}'(G)$ in the usual way then the Fourier transform maps $\mathcal{S}'(G)$ one-to-one onto $\mathcal{S}'(\Gamma)$. Additional results for such test functions and distributions in case $G = K^+$, the additive group of a local field K , can be found in [19]. These results easily extend to groups G as considered here and will be used without further comment. In particular, for $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ and $\psi \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ such that ψ is constant on the cosets of G_n in G , the convolution $f * \psi$ is defined both as a distribution in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$ and as a function on G that is constant on the cosets of G_n (cf. [18] or [19, Ch. III, (3.15)]).

2. Homogeneous and inhomogeneous Besov spaces. Before giving the definition of the Besov spaces on G we need to introduce a second space of test functions and distributions. Our approach here is similar to Triebel's approach to defining the homogeneous Besov spaces on \mathbb{R}^n [20], but with appropriate changes to account for the topological structure of G . Let

$$Z(G) = \{\psi \in \mathcal{S}(G) : \hat{\psi}(0) = \int_G \psi(t) d\mu(t) = 0\},$$

and define convergence in $Z(G)$ like in $\mathcal{S}(G)$. Let $Z'(G)$ be the space of linear functionals on $Z(G)$ with convergence in $Z'(G)$ defined like in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$. If \mathcal{C} denotes the set of constant distributions in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$ then $Z'(G)$ can be identified with $\mathcal{S}'(G)/\mathcal{C}$ in the sense that (i) for each $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ its restriction to $Z(G)$ belongs to $Z'(G)$, (ii) if $f, g \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ and if $g = f + c$ for some constant $c \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ then the restrictions of f and g to $Z(G)$ determine the same element of $Z'(G)$, (iii) if $\tilde{f} \in Z'(G)$ then there exists an $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ so that its restriction to $Z(G)$ equals \tilde{f} ; moreover, modulo constants f is determined uniquely by \tilde{f} . These facts are easy to establish and we omit the proof. At times we shall disregard the difference between $\tilde{f} \in Z'(G)$ and a corresponding $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$.

We now give the definition of the homogeneous Besov spaces on G .

DEFINITION 1. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $0 < p, q \leq \infty$. Then

$$\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) = \{f \in Z'(G) : \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} := \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} < \infty\},$$

with the usual modification if $q = \infty$.

We first make a simple observation about the distributions belonging to $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ in case $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p \leq \infty$.

PROPOSITION 1. If $\alpha > 0$, $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ and $0 < q \leq \infty$ then $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) \subset L^1_{\text{loc}}(G)$.

Proof. Take any $f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$. Since $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ we have

$$f = f * \Delta_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n,$$

with convergence in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$. If $1 < q \leq \infty$, then it follows from the inequalities of Minkowski and Hölder that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n \right\|_p &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-\alpha} (m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-\alpha q} \right)^{1/q'} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

by inequality (2). If $0 < q \leq 1$, the inclusion relation for sequence spaces, $l^q \subset l^1$, implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n \right\|_p &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \leq \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for $0 < q \leq \infty$, we have $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n \in L^p(G)$. Since $f * \Delta_0$ is continuous, we may conclude that $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(G)$.

Interlude. In his Ph.D. dissertation Ombe defined and studied the inhomogeneous Besov spaces $B(\alpha, p, q)$ on G . For $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ these spaces are defined as follows (with the usual modification if $q = \infty$):

$$\begin{aligned} B(\alpha, p, q) = \{f \in \mathcal{S}'(G) : \|f\|_{B(\alpha, p, q)} := &\left(\|f * \Delta_0\|_p^q \right. \\ &\left. + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} < \infty \}. \end{aligned}$$

As is to be expected, a number of the results proved in [9] for inhomogeneous Besov spaces extend immediately to homogeneous Besov spaces. We mention here two such results. Since the proofs for the homogeneous case closely resemble the proofs in [9] for the inhomogeneous case, they will be omitted. Observe that Theorem 1(c) shows that the spaces $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ are generalizations to $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ of the generalized Lipschitz spaces on G .

THEOREM 1. Let $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$. For $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(G)$ the following quantities define equivalent norms on $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$:

- (a) $\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}$,
- (b) $\left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f - f * \Delta_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q}$,
- (c) $\left(\int_G |\tau_y f - f|_p^q \|y\|^{-(q\alpha+1)} d\mu(y) \right)^{1/q}$,

where $\tau_y f(x) = f(x-y)$ for $x, y \in G$. (For $q = \infty$, replace the expressions in (b) and (c) by $\sup_n (m_n)^\alpha \|f - \Delta_n * f\|_p$ and $\text{ess sup}_y \|y\|^{-\alpha} \|\tau_y f - f\|_p$, respectively.)

A special case of the inhomogeneous version of this theorem, namely, where G is the additive group of a local field, was proved earlier by Taibleson (cf. [19, Ch. VI, Theorem (2.2)]). His proof served as model for Ombe's proof in [9].

The second theorem whose proof can be based on Ombe's work identifies the dual spaces $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)^*$ of the homogeneous Besov spaces on G .

THEOREM 2. Let $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$ and $0 < q < \infty$.

- (a) If $1 \leq p < \infty$ we have $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)^* \cong \dot{B}(-\alpha, p', q)$.
- (b) If $0 < p < 1$ we have $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)^* \cong \dot{B}(-\alpha-1+1/p, p', q)$.

In the remainder of this section we turn briefly to a comparison between the B -spaces and the \dot{B} -spaces on G . In [1, Theorem 6.3.2] it was shown that for the Besov spaces on \mathbf{R}^n we have $B_{pq}^\alpha = L^p \cap \dot{B}_{pq}^\alpha$ when $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$. In [10] one of the present authors obtained a similar result for the Besov spaces on G (see also [9]).

THEOREM 3. Let $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$. Then

$$B(\alpha, p, q) = L^p \cap \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q).$$

Proof. If $f \in B(\alpha, p, q)$ then an argument like in the proof of Proposition 1 shows that $f \in L^p(G)$. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}^q &\leq \sum_{n=-\infty}^0 ((m_n)^\alpha \|f\|_p (\|\Delta_n\|_1 + \|\Delta_{n-1}\|_1))^q \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \\ &\leq 2^q \|f\|_p^q \sum_{n=-\infty}^0 (m_n)^{\alpha q} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \\ &\leq C \|f\|_p^q + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, if $f \in L^p \cap \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{B(\alpha, p, q)} &= (\|f * \Delta_0\|_p^q + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q)^{1/q} \\ &\leq (\|f\|_p^q \|\Delta_0\|_1^q + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q)^{1/q} \\ &\leq \|f\|_p + \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

A second result relating the spaces $B(\alpha, p, q)$ and $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ is given in Theorem 4. This result is similar to a result of Johnson for Besov spaces on \mathbf{R}^n (see [7, Theorem 1.1]). In both [7] and [8] several applications of Johnson's theorem are given. We intend to give some applications of Theorem 4 elsewhere.

THEOREM 4. Let $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$. Let

$$\pi \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) := \{f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q); \text{ for all } \gamma \in \Gamma \text{ we have}$$

$$\gamma f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) \text{ and } \|\gamma f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} \leq C(\|\gamma\|^\alpha \|f\|_p + \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)})\}.$$

Then $\pi \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) = B(\alpha, p, q)$.

Proof. First assume $f \in \pi \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$. Take any $\gamma \in \Gamma \setminus \Gamma_0$; then $\gamma \in \Gamma_n \setminus \Gamma_{n-1}$ for some $n \geq 1$ and we have

$$(4) \quad \gamma(f * \Delta_0) = \gamma f * \gamma \Delta_0 * \varphi_n.$$

To see this, take any $\sigma \in \Gamma$; then

$$(\gamma(f * \Delta_0))^\wedge(\sigma) = \hat{f}(\sigma - \gamma) \hat{\Delta}_0(\sigma - \gamma),$$

whereas

$$(\gamma f * \gamma \Delta_0 * \varphi_n)^\wedge(\sigma) = \hat{f}(\sigma - \gamma) \hat{\Delta}_0(\sigma - \gamma) \hat{\varphi}_n(\sigma).$$

Now observe that $\Delta_0(\sigma - \gamma) \neq 0$ if and only if $\sigma - \gamma \in \Gamma_0$, i.e., if $\sigma \in \gamma + \Gamma_0$. Since $n \geq 1$, $\gamma + \Gamma_0 \subset \Gamma_n \setminus \Gamma_{n-1}$. Furthermore, for $\sigma \in \Gamma_n \setminus \Gamma_{n-1}$ we have $\hat{\varphi}_n(\sigma) = 1$. Thus we see that $(\gamma(f * \Delta_0))^\wedge(\sigma) = (\gamma f * \gamma \Delta_0 * \varphi_n)^\wedge(\sigma)$ for all $\sigma \in \Gamma$, which implies (4).

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * \Delta_0\|_p &= \|\gamma(f * \Delta_0)\|_p = \|\gamma \Delta_0 * (\varphi_n * \gamma f)\|_p \quad (\text{since } 1 \leq p \leq \infty) \\ &\leq \|\gamma \Delta_0\|_1 \|\varphi_n * \gamma f\|_p \leq (m_n)^{-\alpha} \|\gamma f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{B(\alpha, p, q)} &= \left(\|f * \Delta_0\|_q^p + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq ((m_n)^{-\alpha q} \|\gamma f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}^q + \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}^q)^{1/q} < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

i.e., $\pi\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q) \subset B(\alpha, p, q)$. Note that this inclusion is true for all $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$ and $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ and $0 < q \leq \infty$.

Next, assume $f \in B(\alpha, p, q)$. If $\gamma = 1$ then $\gamma f = f$ and $\gamma f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ by Theorem 3. If $\gamma \neq 1$ then $\gamma \in \Gamma_n \setminus \Gamma_{n-1}$ for some $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ and, moreover, $\|\gamma\| = m_n$. Now we observe that for all $x, h \in G$ we have

$$(\tau_{-h}(\gamma f) - \gamma f)(x) = \tau_{-h}\gamma(x)(\tau_{-h}f - f)(x) + f(x)\gamma(x)(\gamma(h) - 1).$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tau_{-h}(\gamma f) - \gamma f\|_p &\leq \|\tau_{-h}\gamma(\tau_{-h}f - f)\|_p + |\gamma(h) - 1| \|\gamma f\|_p \\ &= \|\tau_{-h}f - f\|_p + |\gamma(h) - 1| \|f\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, applying Theorem 1(c), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\gamma f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} &\leq C \left(\int_G \|\tau_{-h}(\gamma f) - \gamma f\|_p^q \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \left(\int_G \|\tau_{-h}f - f\|_p^q \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) \right)^{1/q} \\ &\quad + C \left(\int_G |\gamma(h) - 1|^q \|f\|_p^q \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} + 2C \|f\|_p \left(\int_{G \setminus G_n} \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) \right)^{1/q}, \end{aligned}$$

since $\gamma(h) = 1$ for $\gamma \in \Gamma_n$ and $h \in G_n$. For the integral in the last term we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{G \setminus G_n} \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) &= \sum_{l=-\infty}^{n-1} \int_{G_l \setminus G_{l+1}} \|h\|^{-\alpha q - 1} d\mu(h) \\ &\leq \sum_{l=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_l)^{\alpha q + 1} (m_l)^{-1} \leq C (m_n)^{\alpha q} = C \|\gamma\|^{\alpha q}, \end{aligned}$$

according to inequality (3). Thus we see that

$$\|\gamma f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} \leq C (\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} + \|\gamma\|^\alpha \|f\|_p),$$

which implies that $f \in \pi\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$.

3. Homogeneous Besov spaces and mean oscillation spaces. In this section we give a characterization of the spaces $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ in terms of the so-called mean oscillation spaces on G . The equivalence between homogeneous Besov spaces and mean oscillation spaces on \mathbf{R} was observed by Ricci and

Taibleson in [12]; for extensions to \mathbf{R}^n , see [3] or [4]. Because the groups G considered here have a natural decomposition into $G = \bigcup_{l=0}^{\infty} G_{l,n}$ for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}$, there is an obvious way of defining the mean oscillation spaces in this context.

DEFINITION 2. Let $0 < p \leq \infty$, $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ and $f \in L^1_{loc}(G)$. Then

$$\text{osc}_p(f, n) := \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_l \int_{G_{l,n}} |f(x) - f_{G_{l,n}}| d\mu(x))^p \right)^{1/p},$$

where $f_{G_{l,n}} = m_n \int_{G_{l,n}} f(t) d\mu(t) = f * \Delta_n(z_{l,n}) = f * \Delta_n(x)$ for $x \in G_{l,n}$.

DEFINITION 3. For $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$ the space $\text{MO}(\alpha, p, q)$ is defined as the space of equivalence classes of locally integrable functions f modulo constants, i.e., $f \in L^1_{loc}/\mathcal{C}$, such that

$$\text{MO}(\alpha, p, q)(f) := \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \text{osc}_p(f, n))^q \right)^{1/q} < \infty.$$

We have the following result.

THEOREM 5. (a) Let $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$. If $f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ then $f \in \text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p, p, q)$ and

$$\text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p, p, q)(f) \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}.$$

(b) Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$. If $f \in \text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p, p, q)$ then $f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ and

$$\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} \leq C \text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p, p, q)(f).$$

Proof. (a) If $1 \leq p < \infty$ then Hölder's inequality implies that for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{osc}_p(f, n) &= m_n \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(\int_{G_{l,n}} |f(x) - f * \Delta_n(x)| d\mu(x) \right)^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq m_n \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int_{G_{l,n}} |f(x) - f * \Delta_n(x)|^p d\mu(x) (m_n)^{-p/p'} \right)^{1/p} \\ &= (m_n)^{1/p'} \left(\int_G |f(x) - f * \Delta_n(x)|^p d\mu(x) \right)^{1/p} \\ &= (m_n)^{1/p'} \|f - f * \Delta_n\|_p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, for each q with $1 \leq q < \infty$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p, p, q)(f) &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{\alpha - 1/p} \text{osc}_p(f, n))^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f - f * \Delta_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}, \end{aligned}$$

according to Theorem 1(b). Clearly, the above inequality also holds if $q = \infty$.

If $p = \infty$ we have for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}$,

$$\text{osc}_\infty(f, n) = \sup_{l \geq 0} (m_n \int_{G_{l,n}} |f(x) - f_{G_{l,n}}| d\mu(x)) \leq \|f - \Delta_n * f\|_\infty.$$

Consequently, for each q with $1 \leq q < \infty$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MO}(\alpha, \infty, q)(f) &\leq \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f - \Delta_n * f\|_\infty)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, \infty, q)}, \end{aligned}$$

according to Theorem 1(b). If $q = \infty$ the foregoing argument can be simplified slightly.

(b) For $0 < p < \infty$ and $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p^p &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int_{G_{l,n}} |f * \varphi_n(x)|^p d\mu(x) \\ &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-1} |f * \Delta_n(z_{l,n}) - f * \Delta_{n-1}(z_{l,n})|^p, \end{aligned}$$

because both $f * \Delta_n$ and $f * \Delta_{n-1}$ are constant on the sets $G_{l,n}$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p^p &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-1} \left| m_n \int_{G_{l,n}} f(x) d\mu(x) - f * \Delta_{n-1}(z_{l,n}) \right|^p \\ &\leq \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_n)^{p-1} \left(\int_{G_{l,n}} |f(x) - f * \Delta_{n-1}(z_{l,n})| d\mu(x) \right)^p. \end{aligned}$$

We now observe that each coset of G_{n-1} contains $p_n := m_n/m_{n-1}$ cosets of G_n . Thus there are p_n different elements $z_{l,n}$ such that the cosets $z_{l,n} + G_{n-1}$ coincide. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p^p &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (m_n)^{p-1} p_n \left(\int_{z_{j,n-1} + G_{n-1}} |f(x) - f * \Delta_{n-1}(z_{j,n-1})| d\mu(x) \right)^p \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{m_n}{m_{n-1}} \right)^p \frac{1}{m_{n-1}} (m_{n-1} \int_{G_{j,n-1}} |f(x) - f * \Delta_{n-1}(z_{j,n-1})| d\mu(x))^p \\ &= \left(\frac{m_n}{m_{n-1}} \right)^p \frac{1}{m_{n-1}} (\text{osc}_p(f, n-1))^p, \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$\|f * \varphi_n\|_p \leq C (m_{n-1})^{-1/p} \text{osc}_p(f, n-1).$$

The same inequality holds if $p = \infty$ and its proof is simpler. Consequently,

for each q with $0 < q \leq \infty$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_{n-1})^{\alpha-1/p} \text{osc}_p(f, n-1))^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= C \cdot \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p, p, q)(f). \end{aligned}$$

COROLLARY 1. *If $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$ then $\text{MO}(\alpha-1/p, p, q) = \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ and for f belonging to these spaces we have*

$$\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} \approx \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p, p, q)(f).$$

4. Atomic decomposition of the spaces $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$. A further description of the homogeneous Besov spaces on G involves an atomic decomposition for the elements of these spaces. On \mathbf{R}^n comparable results were obtained by Bui [3, Theorem 7]; for additional results see the paper by Frazier and Jawerth [6] who considered both homogeneous and inhomogeneous Besov spaces on \mathbf{R}^n .

DEFINITION 4. A function $a: G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ is an (s, ∞) atom, $s \in \mathbf{R}$, if

- (i) a is supported on a set $z + G_n$ for some $z \in G$ and $n \in \mathbf{Z}$,
- (ii) $|a(x)| \leq (\mu(z + G_n))^{-s} = (m_n)^s$,
- (iii) $\int_G a(x) d\mu(x) = 0$.

We have the following result.

THEOREM 6. *Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$. For each $f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ there exist constants $\lambda_{l,j}$, $l \in \mathbf{Z}_+$ and $j \in \mathbf{Z}$, and $(-\alpha+1/p, \infty)$ atoms $a_{l,j}$ with $\text{supp}(a_{l,j}) \subset z_{l,j} + G_{j-1}$ such that*

$$f = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j} a_{l,j} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{S}'/\mathcal{C}.$$

Moreover,

$$\|\lambda\|_{p,q} := \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)}.$$

(b) *Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha < 0$. Let $\lambda_{l,j}$, $l \in \mathbf{Z}_+$ and $j \in \mathbf{Z}$, be constants such that $\|\lambda\|_{p,q} < \infty$. For each $l \in \mathbf{Z}_+$ and $j \in \mathbf{Z}$, let $a_{l,j}$ be an $(-\alpha+1/p, \infty)$ atom supported on $z_{l,j} + G_j$. If*

$$f = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j} a_{l,j},$$

then $f \in \dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$ and $\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}$.

Proof. (a) For each $f \in \mathcal{S}'/\mathcal{G}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} f * \varphi_n * \varphi_n(x) \\
 &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_G f * \varphi_n(t) \varphi_n(x-t) d\mu(t) \\
 &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int_{G_{l,n}} f * \varphi_n(t) \varphi_n(x-t) d\mu(t) \\
 &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_n)^{-1} f * \varphi_n(z_{l,n}) \varphi_n(x-z_{l,n}) \\
 &= \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,n} a_{l,n}(x),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda_{l,n} = (m_{n-1})^{\alpha-1/p} f * \varphi_n(z_{l,n})$ and $a_{l,n} = (m_{n-1})^{-\alpha+1/p} (m_n)^{-1} \varphi_n(x-z_{l,n})$. For each $a_{l,n}$ we have

- (i) $\text{supp}(a_{l,n}) \subset z_{l,n} + G_{n-1}$.
- (ii) $|a_{l,n}(x)| \leq (m_{n-1})^{-\alpha+1/p}$,
- (iii) $\int_G a_{l,n}(x) d\mu(x) = 0$.

Thus $a_{l,n}$ is an $(-\alpha+1/p, \infty)$ atom on G with support in $z_{l,n} + G_{n-1}$. Moreover, for the $\lambda_{l,n}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\lambda\|_{p,q} &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |(m_{n-1})^{\alpha-1/p} f * \varphi_n(z_{l,n})|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int_{z_{l,n} + G_n} |f * \varphi_n(t)|^p d\mu(t) \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &= C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of (a).

(b) Let $a_{l,j}$ be a $(-\alpha+1/p, \infty)$ atom with support in $z_{l,j} + G_j$. We first derive an estimate for $\|a_{l,j} * \varphi_n\|_p$ and we distinguish two cases.

(i) If $j \geq n$ then the function φ_n , which is constant on the cosets of G_n , is constant on the cosets of G_j in G . Therefore, for each $x \in G$ we have

$$a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x) = \int_G a_{l,j}(t) \varphi_n(x-t) d\mu(t) = C \int_{G_{l,j}} a_{l,j}(t) d\mu(t) = 0,$$

since $a_{l,j}$ is an atom. Consequently, for all atoms $a_{l,j}$ with $j \geq n$ and all p with $0 < p \leq \infty$ we have $\|a_{l,j} * \varphi_n\|_p = 0$.

(ii) If $j < n$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{supp}(a_{l,j} * \varphi_n) &\subset \text{supp}(a_{l,j}) + \text{supp}(\varphi_n) \\
 &= (z_{l,j} + G_j) + G_{n-1} = z_{l,j} + G_j.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if $0 < p \leq \infty$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|a_{l,j} * \varphi_n\|_p &\leq \|a_{l,j} * \varphi_n\|_{\infty} (\mu(\text{supp}(a_{l,j} * \varphi_n)))^{1/p} \\
 &\leq \|a_{l,j}\|_{\infty} \|\varphi_n\|_1 (m_j)^{-1/p} \\
 &\leq 2(m_j)^{-\alpha+1/p-1/p} = 2(m_j)^{-\alpha}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Next, if $f = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j} a_{l,j}$, we estimate $\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)}$ as follows.

(A) If $0 < p \leq 1$ then for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\|f * \varphi_n\|_p^p \leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \|a_{l,j} * \varphi_n\|_p^p \leq C \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p (m_j)^{-\alpha p}.$$

Thus for each q with $0 < q < \infty$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5) \quad \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)} &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{\alpha} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $0 < q \leq p$, so that $0 < q/p \leq 1$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)} &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} ((m_j)^{-\alpha p} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &= C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha q} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &= C \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_j)^{-\alpha q} \sum_{n=j+1}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} = C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $p < q < \infty$, so that $1 < q/p < \infty$, then we can apply Hölder's inequality to (5) with $r = q/p$ and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)} &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} ((m_j)^{-\alpha p/r} (m_j)^{-\alpha p/r} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p/r} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} (m_{n-1})^{-\alpha p r'} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/q} \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_{n-1})^{\alpha p} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}, \end{aligned}$$

by the same argument as was used in case $0 < q \leq p$.

If $q = \infty$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,\infty)} &= \sup_n (m_n)^\alpha \|f * \varphi_n\|_p \\ &\leq C \sup_n (m_n)^\alpha \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Now observe that for each sum in this expression we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p &\leq \sup_j \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right) \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha p} \\ &\leq C (m_n)^{-\alpha p} \sup_j \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that

$$\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,\infty)} \leq C \sup_n (m_n)^\alpha (m_n)^{-\alpha} \left(\sup_j \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/p} = C \|\lambda\|_{p,\infty}.$$

(B) If $1 < p < \infty$, we have for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $x \in G$ and each τ with $0 < \tau < 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} |f * \varphi_n(x)| &\leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}| |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^{\tau+(1-\tau)} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (|\lambda_{l,j}| |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^\tau)^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^{(1-\tau)p'} \right)^{1/p'}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, if $j < n$ then $\text{supp}(a_{l,j} * \varphi_n) \subset z_{l,j} + G_j$. Thus the functions in the last sum all have different and disjoint supports, so that for each $x \in G$ this sum consists of (at most) one nonzero term. Hence,

$$|f * \varphi_n(x)| \leq C \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (|\lambda_{l,j}| |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^\tau)^p \right)^{1/p} (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)(1-\tau)}.$$

Thus we see that

$$\|f * \varphi_n\|_p \leq C \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)(1-\tau)} \left\| \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (|\lambda_{l,j}| |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^\tau)^p \right)^{1/p} \right\|_p.$$

Again, since the functions in the last sum have disjoint supports we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^\tau \right)^{1/p} \right\|_p &= \left(\int_G \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^{\tau p} d\mu(x) \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \int_G |a_{l,j} * \varphi_n(x)|^{\tau p} d\mu(x) \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)\tau p} (m_j)^{-1} \right)^{1/p} \\ &= C (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)\tau-1/p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p &\leq C \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)(1-\tau)} (m_j)^{(-\alpha+1/p)\tau-1/p} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= C \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

From this we see immediately that for $0 < q < \infty$ and $\alpha < 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,p,q)} &\leq C \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{n-1} (m_j)^{-\alpha q} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \right)^{1/q} \\ &= C \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} (m_j)^{-\alpha q} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}|^p \right)^{q/p} \sum_{n=j+1}^{\infty} (m_n)^{\alpha q} \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}. \end{aligned}$$

For $q = \infty$ the foregoing proof can be simplified somewhat.

(C) If $p = \infty$, $0 < q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha < 0$ we can still show that $\|f\|_{\dot{B}(\alpha,\infty,q)} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{\infty,q}$. The proof is simpler than for the cases considered in (A) and in (B), and will be omitted.

Remark. 1. In [6] Frazier and Jawerth defined their atoms to be functions on \mathbb{R}^n whose partial derivatives up to a certain order, depending on α , satisfy certain growth restrictions. Using such atoms they proved a result for the spaces $\dot{B}_{pq}^\alpha(\mathbb{R}^n)$, like our Theorem 6(b), for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. It would be interesting to obtain a more general condition than condition (ii) in Definition 4 for atoms on G so that we could extend Theorem 6(b) to all $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

5. The regularization of Besov spaces and the spaces $A(\alpha, p, q)$. In [17] Taibleson gave convincing reasons for his claim that the functions $A_n(x)$, called $R(x, -n)$ in [17], on a local field K play the same rôle there as the Poisson kernels $P(x, y)$ do on \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} . That is, if for a given $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ we define $F: K \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by $F(x, n) = f * A_n(x)$, then the function F plays the

rôle of a harmonic function on $K \times Z$. F is called the *regularization* of f and F is an example of a regular function on $K \times Z$. Here a *regular function* is defined to be a function u on $K \times Z$ so that (i) for each $k \in Z$ the function $u_k(x) := u(x, k)$ is constant on the cosets of G_k in G , and (ii) $u_l(x) = u_k * u_l(x)$ for all $x \in G$ and $k, l \in Z$ such that $k \leq l$. In [17, Lemma 1] (see also [19, Ch. IV, Lemma (1.5)]) Taibleson proved that every regular function $u(x, k)$ is the regularization of some distribution $f \in \mathcal{S}'(K)$ and that f is the boundary value of u , in the sense that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu(x, k) = f$ in $\mathcal{S}'(K)$. Moreover, u is the regularization of its boundary value f . Clearly, we can replace K by G in the foregoing without any difficulty.

In this section we study the regularization of distributions F belonging to certain Besov spaces on G . We now give a definition.

DEFINITION 5. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. For a measurable function $u: G \times Z \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ we set

$$\|u\|_{\alpha, p, q} = \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|u(\cdot, n)\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q},$$

with the usual modification if $q = \infty$, and we define $A(\alpha, p, q)$ to be the space of all regular functions u on $G \times Z$ for which $\|u\|_{\alpha, p, q} < \infty$.

Remark 2. Since the spaces $A(\alpha, p, q)$ are, in fact, mixed norm spaces the usual inclusion relations hold. Specifically, if $0 < p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \infty$, $0 < q \leq q_1 \leq \infty$ and $\alpha + 1/p = \alpha_1 + 1/p_1$ then $A(\alpha, p, q) \subset A(\alpha_1, p_1, q_1)$, with continuous embedding.

As we shall see, the spaces $A(\alpha, p, q)$ play an important rôle in the study of the regularization of the elements of Besov spaces. We first prove a representation theorem for the functions in $A(\alpha, p, q)$.

THEOREM 7. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > -1/p$. If $u \in A(\alpha, p, q)$ then u can be represented as

$$u(x, k) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^k u(\cdot, j) * \varphi_j(x),$$

with the sum converging absolutely for each $x \in G$.

Proof. We have

$$A := \sum_{j=-\infty}^k |u_j * \varphi_j(x)| \leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \int_G |u(z, j) \varphi_j(x-z)| d\mu(z).$$

(a) If $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ we can apply Hölder's inequality and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} A &\leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \left(\int_G |u(z, j)|^p d\mu(z) \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_G |\varphi_j(x-z)|^{p'} d\mu(z) \right)^{1/p'} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \|u_j\|_p (\|A_j\|_{p'} + \|A_{j-1}\|_{p'}). \end{aligned}$$

$$A \leq C \|u\|_{\alpha, p, q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^k (m_j)^{\alpha+1/p} < \infty,$$

Since $u \in A(\alpha, p, q)$ we have for each $j \in Z$, $(m_j)^{-\alpha} \|u_j\|_p \leq \|u\|_{\alpha, p, q}$. Thus

by inequality (3), which can be applied since $\alpha + 1/p > 0$.

(b) If $0 < p < 1$ then

$$A \leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \|u_j\|_1 \|\varphi_j\|_{\infty}.$$

Since u_j is constant on the cosets of G_j we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_j\|_1 &= \int_G |u(z, j)| d\mu(z) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_l)^{-1} |u(z_{l,j}, j)| \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |(m_l)^{-1} u(z_{l,j}, j)|^p \right)^{1/p} \\ &= ((m_j)^{1-p}) \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_l)^{-1} |u(z_{l,j}, j)|^p \\ &= (m_j)^{1/p-1} \left(\int_G |u(z, j)|^p d\mu(z) \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if $0 < p < 1$ then

$$A \leq C \sum_{j=-\infty}^k (m_j)^{1/p} \|u_j\|_p \leq C \|u\|_{\alpha, p, q} \sum_{j=-\infty}^k (m_j)^{\alpha+1/p} < \infty.$$

Thus the series $\sum_{j=-\infty}^k u(\cdot, j) * \varphi_j(x)$ converges absolutely and it obviously converges to $u(x, k)$.

COROLLARY 2. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > -1/p$. If $u \in A(\alpha, p, q)$ then there exist constants $\lambda_{l,j}$ with $l \in Z_+$ and $j \in Z$, so that u can be represented as

$$u(x, k) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_j)^{\alpha-1+1/p} \lambda_{l,j} \varphi_j(x-z_{l,j}).$$

Moreover, $\|\lambda\|_{p, q} \leq C \|u\|_{\alpha, p, q}$.

Proof. According to Theorem 7 we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, k) &= \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \int_{G_{l,j}} u(z, j) \varphi_j(x-z) d\mu(z) \\ &= \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_j)^{\alpha-1+1/p} \lambda_{l,j} \varphi_j(x-z_{l,j}), \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda_{l,j} = (m_j)^{-\alpha-1/p} u(z_{l,j}, j)$. An easy computation shows that

$$\|\lambda\|_{p, q} = \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^k ((m_j)^{-\alpha} \|u_j\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \leq \|u\|_{\alpha, p, q}.$$

We now state a converse to this corollary. Its proof will be omitted, because it is virtually the same as the proof of Theorem 6(b).

THEOREM 8. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$. If $\lambda_{i,j}$ satisfies $\|\lambda\|_{p,q} < \infty$ and if $u: G \times \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ is defined by

$$u(x, k) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_j)^{\alpha-1+1/p} \lambda_{l,j} \varphi_j(x-z_{l,j}),$$

then the series defining $u(x, k)$ converges absolutely for every $x \in G$ and uniformly on each set

$$E_{k_0} := \{(x, k); x \in G \text{ and } -\infty < k \leq k_0\}, \quad k_0 \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

Moreover, $\|u\|_{\alpha,p,q} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}$.

Remark 3. Corollary 2 and Theorem 8 are the analogue on G of Theorem (1.10) in [12] or Proposition 4 in [3].

We now turn to the final results of this paper which, in fact, are its *raison d'être*, namely, a description of the regularization of the elements of a Besov space $\dot{B}(\alpha, p, q)$.

THEOREM 9. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$.

(a) If $f \in \dot{B}(-\alpha, p, q)$ then its regularization F belongs to $A(\alpha, p, q)$ and $\|F\|_{\alpha,p,q} \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)}$.

(b) If $F \in A(\alpha, p, q)$ then for each $k \in \mathbf{Z}$, $F_k \in \dot{B}(-\alpha, p, q)$ and $\|F_k\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha,p,q}$. Moreover, if f denotes the boundary value of F , i.e., if $f = \lim F_k$ in $\mathcal{S}'(G)$, then $f \in \dot{B}(-\alpha, p, q)$ and $\|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha,p,q}$.

Proof. (a) If $f \in \dot{B}(-\alpha, p, q)$ then, according to Theorem 6(a), there exist constants $\lambda_{i,j}$ such that $\|\lambda\|_{p,q} \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)}$ and there exist $(\alpha+1/p, \infty)$ atoms $a_{i,j}$ with $\text{supp}(a_{i,j}) \subset z_{i,j} + G_{j-1}$ such that

$$f = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j} a_{l,j}.$$

Also (compare the proof of Theorem 6(a), replacing φ_n by Δ_n there), for each $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|a_{l,j} * \Delta_n\|_p &= 0 && \text{if } j > n, \\ \|a_{l,j} * \Delta_n\|_p &\leq C(m_j)^{-\alpha} && \text{if } j \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

An argument like in the proof of Theorem 6(b) then shows that for all p, q

with $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ we have

$$\left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^\alpha \|f * \Delta_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q}.$$

Thus we may conclude that

$$\|F\|_{\alpha,p,q} \leq C \|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)}.$$

(b) Let $F_k = F(\cdot, k) = f * \Delta_k$. For $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ with $n > k$ we have $F_k * \varphi_n = 0$, whereas $F_k * \varphi_n = F_n - F_{n-1} = f * \varphi_n$ if $n \leq k$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_k\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|F_k * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^k ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the representation for the functions F_k given in Corollary 2, a proof like that for Theorem 6(b) shows that for each $k \in \mathbf{Z}$, $\|F_k\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha,p,q}$. Therefore,

$$\|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} = \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha,p,q},$$

which completes the proof of Theorem 9.

We can reformulate Theorem 9 as follows.

COROLLARY 3. Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > 0$. For any distribution $f \in \mathcal{S}'(G)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|f * \varphi_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\approx \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_n)^{-\alpha} \|f * \Delta_n\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see, by means of an example, that Theorem 9(a) does not extend to $\alpha \leq 0$. Namely, if we take $f = \Delta_0$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta_0\|_{\dot{B}(-\alpha,p,q)} &= \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_k)^{-\alpha} \|\Delta_0 * \varphi_k\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^0 ((m_k)^{-\alpha} \|\varphi_k\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^0 (m_k)^{(-\alpha+1-1/p)q} \right)^{1/q} < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

in case $-\alpha+1-1/p > 0$ and $q > 0$. Also, if F denotes the regularization of

Δ_0 then

$$\begin{aligned} \|F\|_{\alpha, p, q} &= \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} ((m_k)^{-\alpha} \|\Delta_0 * \Delta_k\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^0 ((m_k)^{-\alpha} \|\Delta_k\|_p)^q + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} ((m_k)^{-\alpha} \|\Delta_0\|_p)^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^0 (m_k)^{(-\alpha+1-1/p)q} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (m_k)^{-\alpha q} \right)^{1/q} \end{aligned}$$

and the last series diverges when $\alpha \leq 0$ and $q > 0$. Thus if $0 < p \leq \infty$, $q > 0$ and $\alpha < \min(0, 1-1/p)$ then $\Delta_0 \in \dot{B}(-\alpha, p, q)$ and $F \notin A(\alpha, p, q)$.

If $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ then Theorem 9(b) can be extended to values of α with $\alpha > -1/p$ in the sense that in this case the boundary value of a given $F \in A(\alpha, p, q)$ can be identified as a bounded linear functional on the mean oscillation space $\text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q')$. We first present a simple lemma.

LEMMA 1. *Let $0 < p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > -1$. For each $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ the function Δ_k belongs to $\text{MO}(\alpha, p, q)$ and $\text{MO}(\alpha, p, q)(\Delta_k) \leq C(m_k)^{\alpha+1}$.*

Proof. We first estimate $\text{osc}_p(\Delta_k, n)$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $n \leq k$ then $G_k \subset G_n$ and we have

$$(\Delta_k)_{G_{0,n}} = m_n \int_{G_n} \Delta_k(t) d\mu(t) = m_n,$$

whereas for $l \geq 1$ we have

$$(\Delta_k)_{G_{l,n}} = m_n \int_{z_{l,n} + G_n} \Delta_k(t) d\mu(t) = 0.$$

A simple computation shows that $\text{osc}_p(\Delta_k, n) \leq 2m_n$. If $n > k$ and if $z_{l,n} + G_n \subset G_k$ then $(\Delta_k)_{G_{l,n}} = m_k$, whereas if $(z_{l,n} + G_n) \cap G_k = \emptyset$ we have $(\Delta_k)_{G_{l,n}} = 0$. Thus we see immediately that $\text{osc}_p(\Delta_k, n) = 0$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MO}(\alpha, p, q)(\Delta_k) &= \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^k ((m_n)^\alpha \text{osc}_p(\Delta_k, n))^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq 2 \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^k (m_n)^{(\alpha+1)q} \right)^{1/q} \leq C(m_k)^{\alpha+1}, \end{aligned}$$

because $(\alpha+1)q > 0$.

THEOREM 10. *Let $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ and $\alpha > -1/p$ and let $F \in A(\alpha, p, q)$. For each $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ define*

$$A_k: \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q') \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

by $A_k(g) = \langle F_k, g \rangle$. Then A_k is a continuous linear functional on $\text{MO}(\alpha$

$-1/p', p', q')$ and

$$|A_k(g)| \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha, p, q} \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q')(g).$$

Moreover, if we define $A(g) = \lim_{k \rightarrow -\infty} A_k(g)$, then $A \in \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q')^*$ and

$$|A(g)| \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha, p, q} \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q')(g).$$

In addition, we have $F(x, n) = A(\tau_x \Delta_n)$ for $(x, n) \in G \times \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. According to Corollary 2, each F_k can be represented as

$$F_k(x) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j}(m_j)^{\alpha-1/p'} \varphi_j(x-z_{l,j}),$$

where $\lambda_{l,j}$ satisfies $\|\lambda\|_{p,q} \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha, p, q}$. Thus, for each $g \in \text{MO}(\alpha-1/p', p', q')$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} |A_k(g)| &= \left| \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \lambda_{l,j}(m_j)^{\alpha-1/p'} \int_G \varphi_j(x-z_{l,j}) g(x) d\mu(x) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{j=-\infty}^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |\lambda_{l,j}| (m_j)^{\alpha-1/p'} |\varphi_j * g(z_{l,j})|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$, Hölder's inequality implies that

$$|A_k(g)| \leq \|\lambda\|_{p,q} \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^k (m_j)^{(\alpha-1/p')q'} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |(\varphi_j * g)(z_{l,j})|^{p'} \right)^{1/q'} \right).$$

We now derive an inequality for the inner sum. For each $l \geq 0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi_j * g(z_{l,j})| &= |(\Delta_j * g)(z_{l,j}) - (\Delta_{j-1} * g)(z_{l,j})| \\ &\leq m_j \int_{z_{l,j} + G_j} |g(t) - (\Delta_{j-1} * g)(z_{l,j})| d\mu(t) \\ &\leq C m_{j-1} \int_{z_{l,j} + G_{j-1}} |g(t) - (\Delta_{j-1} * g)(z_{l,j})| d\mu(t). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |(\varphi_j * g)(z_{l,j})|^{p'} \right)^{1/p'} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (m_{j-1}) \int_{z_{l,j} + G_{j-1}} |g(t) - (\Delta_{j-1} * g)(z_{l,j})| d\mu(t) \right)^{1/p'}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we observe that each coset of G_{j-1} contains precisely m_j/m_{j-1} different

cosets of G_j ; hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} |(\varphi_j * g)(z_{l,j})|^{p'} \right)^{1/p'} \\ & \leq C \left(\frac{m_j}{m_{j-1}} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} (m_{j-1}) \int_{z_{s,j-1} + G_{j-1}} |g(t) - (A_{j-1} * g)(z_{s,j-1})| d\mu(t) \right)^{1/p'} \\ & \leq C (m_j/m_{j-1})^{1/p'} \text{osc}_{p'}(g, j-1). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} |A_k(g)| & \leq C \|\lambda\|_{p,q} \left(\sum_{j=-\infty}^k ((m_j)^\alpha (m_{j-1})^{-1/p'}) \text{osc}_{p'}(g, j-1) \right)^{q'1/q'} \\ & \leq C \|F\|_{\alpha,p,q} \text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p', p', q')(g). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, with A as defined in the theorem, A satisfies the inequality stated there. Finally, according to Lemma 1, each A_n belongs to $\text{MO}(\alpha - 1/p', p', q')$ and a straightforward computation shows that

$$A(\tau_x A_n) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A_k(\tau_x A_n) = F(x, n)$$

for every $(x, n) \in G \times Z$, which completes the proof of Theorem 10.

Remark 4. In view of the identification of the mean oscillation spaces with certain B -spaces, as given in Corollary 1, and the duality theorem for B -spaces, as given in Theorem 2, Theorem 10, when restricted to $\alpha > 0$ and $1 \leq p, q < \infty$, agrees with Theorem 9(b).

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131, U.S.A.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
NANJING UNIVERSITY
Nanjing, P.R.C.

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