

WEAK TYPE (1, 1) BEHAVIOR FOR THE  
LITTLEWOOD–PALEY  $\mathfrak{g}$ -FUNCTION

BY

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**Abstract.** For  $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ), the classical Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function is defined by

$$\mathfrak{g}(f)(x) = \left( \int_0^\infty |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 t \, dt \right)^{1/2},$$

where  $u(x, t)$  denotes the Poisson integral of  $f$ . The following two weak type (1, 1) behaviors for the operator  $\mathfrak{g}$  are established:

$$\lambda m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f)(x) > \lambda\}) \lesssim n^3 \|f\|_1,$$

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0_+} \lambda m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f)(x) > \lambda\}) = \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \, dx \right|,$$

for any  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , where  $c_n$  is the constant in the Poisson kernel and  $\omega_{n-1}$  is the area of the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**1. Introduction.** The problem of best constant behavior of operators is an interesting topic in harmonic analysis; see e.g. [1, 2, 3, 5, 4, 7, 8, 11, 13] for the  $L^p$  and the weak type (1, 1) norms of the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator and the Hilbert transform. In 1986, E. M. Stein summarized the dimension free properties of centered Hardy–Littlewood maximal function in his survey paper [12]. In addition, he stated similar properties of the Riesz transforms and the classical Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function.

In this paper, we are interested in the weak type (1, 1) norm of the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function defined by

$$(1.1) \quad \mathfrak{g}(f)(x) = \left( \int_0^\infty |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 t \, dt \right)^{1/2},$$

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where  $u(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} P_t(x - y)f(y) dy$  is the Poisson integral of  $f$  and

$$P_t(y) = \frac{c_n t}{(|y|^2 + t^2)^{(n+1)/2}}, \quad c_n = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\pi^{(n+1)/2}},$$

is the Poisson kernel. Moreover,  $\nabla$  denotes the gradient operator on  $\mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}$ , which means that  $|\nabla u(x, t)|^2 = |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n |\partial_{x_j} u(x, t)|^2$ . It is well known that the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathbf{g}$ -function is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$  and of weak type  $(1, 1)$  (see [10]). In [12], E. M. Stein stated the following result.

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $1 < p < \infty$ . Then*

$$\|\mathbf{R}(f)\|_p \approx \|f\|_p \approx \|\mathbf{g}(f)\|_p,$$

where  $\mathbf{R}(f) = (\sum_{j=1}^n |R_j f|^2)^{1/2}$  with  $R_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, n$ ) the Riesz transforms. In particular, the equivalence bounds are independent of the dimension  $n$ .

For  $p = 1$ , in 2004, P. Janakiraman [6] showed that the weak type  $(1, 1)$  bound of  $R_j$  (a special singular integral) is at worst  $O(\log n)$ . Thus, a natural problem is: what is the weak type  $(1, 1)$  bound of the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathbf{g}$ -function? The first goal of this paper is to give an answer to this problem.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *The weak type  $(1, 1)$  bound of the  $\mathbf{g}$ -function is at worst  $O(n^3)$ . That is, for any  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\lambda > 0$ ,*

$$\lambda m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(f)(x) > \lambda\}) \lesssim n^3 \|f\|_1.$$

Our second result on the limiting weak type  $(1, 1)$  behavior of  $\mathbf{g}$  is as follows.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *Suppose  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then we have the following limiting weak type  $(1, 1)$  behavior:*

$$(1.2) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0_+} \lambda m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(f)(x) > \lambda\}) = \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) dx \right|,$$

where  $\omega_{n-1}$  is the area measure of  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  and  $c_n$  is defined as above.

**REMARK 1.3.** Theorem 1.2 gives an exact constant of limiting weak type  $(1, 1)$  behavior of  $\mathbf{g}$ . Since  $\omega_{n-1} = \frac{n\pi^{n/2}}{\Gamma(n/2+1)}$  and  $c_n = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\pi^{(n+1)/2}}$ , by using Stirling's formula we have

$$(1.3) \quad c_n \omega_{n-1} \approx n^{1/2}.$$

Thus by Theorems 1.1 and 1.2,  $n^{-1/2} \lesssim \|\mathbf{g}\|_{w(1,1)} \lesssim n^3$ .

We give the proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 in Sections 2 and 3, respectively. Since  $\mathbf{g}$  is a nonlinear operator, the proofs here are more elaborate than that for linear singular integral operators. Here we would like to emphasize that hitherto, to the best knowledge of the author, there has been no

serious progress in getting specific information on the weak type constant of the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function. The bounds presented in Remark 1.3 may be rough, but they give the first dimension-specific estimations of the weak type constant. We hope this paper will attract more people’s attention to the weak type constant for the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function. Specially, it is an interesting problem to find the best weak  $(1, 1)$  constant for  $\mathfrak{g}$  when  $n = 1$  since the best constants for the Hilbert transform and the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator are known in this case (see [3, 7]).

Throughout this paper, the letter  $C$  will stand for a positive constant which is independent of the dimension  $n$  and not necessarily the same at each occurrence. The notation  $A \lesssim B$  means that there exists a constant  $C$  independent of the dimension such that  $A \leq CB$ , and  $A \lesssim_\varepsilon B$  means the constant depends on  $\varepsilon$  but is independent of the dimension.  $A \approx B$  means that  $A \lesssim B$  and  $B \lesssim A$ .

**2. Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Let us begin by recalling a modified Calderón–Zygmund decomposition which plays a key role in the proof of Theorem 1.1.

LEMMA 2.1 (see [6, pp. 540–541]). *Let  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\lambda > 0$ . Then the following conclusions hold:*

- (i)  $\mathbb{R}^n = G \cup E$ ,  $G \cap E = \emptyset$ ,  $E = \bigcup_k Q_k$ , where  $Q_k$  are semi-cubes  $\prod_{i=1}^n [a_i, b_i]$  whose interiors are disjoint and for every  $Q_k$ , there exists  $a > 0$  such that  $|b_i - a_i| \in \{a, 2a\}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ;
- (ii)  $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{|Q_k|} \int_{Q_k} |f(y)| dy \leq 2\lambda$  for each  $k$ ;
- (iii)  $m(E) \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \|f\|_1$ ;
- (iv)  $|f(x)| \leq \lambda$  a.e. on  $G$ ;
- (v)  $f = g + b$ ;
- (vi)  $\|g\|_2^2 \leq 5\lambda \|f\|_1$ ;
- (vii)  $b = \sum_k b_k$  with  $b_k$  supported in  $Q_k$ ,  $\int b_k(x) dx = 0$  and  $\|b\|_1 = \sum_k \|b_k\|_1 \leq 2\|f\|_1$ .

Let us now turn to the proof of Theorem 1.1. For  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\lambda > 0$ , we make a modified Calderón–Zygmund decomposition in Lemma 2.1 of  $f$  at level  $\lambda$ . By Lemma 2.1(i), we can get semi-cubes  $\{Q_j\}_j$  whose interiors are disjoint. An obvious fact is that if  $Q_j$  is a semi-cube with center  $y_0$  and side-length  $a$  or  $2a$  for some  $a > 0$ , then

$$\frac{a}{2} \leq \inf_{y \in \partial Q_j} |y - y_0| \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{y \in \partial Q_j} |y - y_0| \leq a\sqrt{n}.$$

Let  $\bar{d}$  be the maximal distance from the corner points of  $Q_j$  to the center  $y_0$ . Then  $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}a \leq \bar{d} \leq a\sqrt{n}$ . Denote  $Q_j^* = \bigcup_{y \in Q_j} B(y, \frac{\bar{d}}{2n^{3/2}})$ . Then  $Q_j^* \subseteq (1 + 1/n)Q_j$ . In fact, if  $x \in Q_j^*$ , then

$$d(x, Q_j) \leq \bar{d}/(2n^{3/2}) \leq \frac{1}{n} \frac{a}{2},$$

where  $d(x, Q_j)$  denotes the distance between  $x$  and  $Q_j$ . Hence we have  $x \in (1 + 1/n)Q_j$  since  $Q_j$  has side-length  $a$  or  $2a$ . By the fact that  $\mathbf{g}$  is a sublinear operator and Lemma 2.1(v), we have

$$\begin{aligned} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(f)(x) > \lambda\}) \\ \leq m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(g)(x) > \lambda/2\}) + m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(b)(x) > \lambda/2\}). \end{aligned}$$

Using Chebyshev's inequality, Lemma 2.1(vi) and Theorem A, we get

$$(2.1) \quad m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(g)(x) > \lambda/2\}) \lesssim \lambda^{-1} \|f\|_1.$$

Let  $H = \bigcup_j Q_j^*$  and  $F = H^c$ . We have

$$m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(b)(x) > \lambda/2\}) \leq m(H) + m(\{x \in F : \mathbf{g}(b)(x) > \lambda/2\}).$$

Applying Lemma 2.1(iii) gives

$$(2.2) \quad m(H) \leq \sum_j m(Q_j^*) \leq \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \sum_j m(Q_j) \leq em(E) \leq e\lambda^{-1} \|f\|_1.$$

Therefore, it remains to estimate  $m(\{x \in F : \mathbf{g}(b)(x) > \lambda/2\})$ . By Lemma 2.1(vii), we have

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} m(\{x \in F : \mathbf{g}(b)(x) > \lambda/2\}) &\leq \frac{2}{\lambda} \int_F \mathbf{g}(b)(x) dx \\ &\leq \frac{2}{\lambda} \sum_k \int_F \mathbf{g}(b_k)(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

So we only consider a fixed  $b_k$  which is supported in  $Q_k$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that  $Q_k$  is the semi-cube with center  $y_0$  and side-length  $a$  or  $2a$  for some  $a > 0$ . Recall that

$$\mathbf{g}(b_k)(x) = \left( \int_0^\infty |\nabla P_t * b_k(x)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2},$$

where  $P_t(x) = c_n \frac{t}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}$  with  $c_n = \frac{\Gamma((n+1)/2)}{\pi^{(n+1)/2}}$  and

$$|\nabla P_t * b_k(x)|^2 = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} (\partial_{x_i} P_t * b_k(x))^2 + (\partial_t P_t * b_k(x))^2.$$

Denote  $u(x, t) = P_t * b_k(x)$ . Since the mean value of  $b_k$  vanishes, we can write

$$u(x, t) = \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) (P_t(x - y) - P_t(x - y_0)) dy.$$

By (3.6) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{x_i} u(x, t) &= \int_{Q_k} b_k(y)(n+1)c_n \frac{(y_i - y_{0,i})t}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} dy \\ &\quad - \int_{Q_k} b_k(y)c_n(n+1)t \left\{ \frac{x_i - y_{0,i}}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{x_i - y_{0,i}}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right\} dy \\ &=: A_i(x, t) - B_i(x, t), \end{aligned}$$

where  $y_i$ ,  $x_i$  and  $y_{0,i}$  are the  $i$ th components of  $y$ ,  $x$  and  $y_0$ , respectively. By (3.7) we write  $\partial_t u(x, t)$  as  $D(x, t) + E(x, t)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} D(x, t) &= c_n \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) \left[ \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} \right] dy, \\ E(x, t) &= c_n \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) \left[ \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right] dy. \end{aligned}$$

In the following subsections, we will estimate  $A_i$ ,  $B_i$ ,  $D$  and  $E$ , respectively. First we give some useful inequalities. For  $s > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (2.4) \quad \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + s^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} &= \frac{1}{s^{n+1}} \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + 1)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2s^{n+1}} \left( \int_1^\infty \frac{t-1}{t^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\lesssim \frac{1}{ns^{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$(2.5) \quad \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + s^2)^{n+5}} dt \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{1}{ns^{n+3}},$$

$$(2.6) \quad \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t}{(t^2 + s^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{1}{n^{1/2}s^{n+2}},$$

$$(2.7) \quad \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t}{(t^2 + s^2)^{n+1}} dt \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{1}{n^{1/2}s^n},$$

$$(2.8) \quad \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^5}{(t^2 + s^2)^{n+5}} dt \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \frac{1}{n^{3/2}s^{n+2}}.$$

**2.1. Estimate of  $A_i$ .** We split  $A_i$  into  $A_{i,1} + A_{i,2}$ , where

$$A_{i,1}(x, t) = \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| > n|y-y_0|\}} b_k(y)(n+1)c_n \frac{(y_i - y_{0,i})t}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} dy,$$

$$A_{i,2}(x, t) = \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} b_k(y)(n+1)c_n \frac{(y_i - y_{0,i})t}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} dy.$$

For  $A_{i,1}$ , note that  $|x-y| > n|y-y_0|$  for  $x \in F$  and  $y \in Q_k$ , and we have

$$|x-y| > \frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0| \quad \text{and} \quad |x-y_0| > \frac{n-1}{n}|x-y|.$$

Since  $|y_i - y_{0,i}| \leq a$ , we have the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} |A_{i,1}(x, t)| &\lesssim c_n n \int_{Q_k} |b_k(y)| \frac{at}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|)^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} dy \\ &= \|b_k\|_1 c_n n \frac{at}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|)^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that this will produce a factor  $n$  by taking the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n$ . Hence combining with (2.4), we have the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} &\left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n |A_{i,1}(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \|b_k\|_1 a c_n n^{3/2} \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|)^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\lesssim \|b_k\|_1 a n^{1/2} c_n |x-y_0|^{-n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x \in F$ , we have  $|x-y_0| \geq a/2$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (2.9) \quad &\int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n |A_{i,1}(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ &\lesssim \|b_k\|_1 a n^{1/2} c_n \int_{\{x: |x-y_0| \geq a/2\}} \frac{1}{|x-y_0|^{n+1}} dx \\ &\lesssim \|b_k\|_1 a n^{1/2} c_n \omega_{n-1} \int_{a/2}^\infty \frac{dr}{r^2} \lesssim n \|b_k\|_1, \end{aligned}$$

where in the third inequality we use (1.3).

Now consider the term  $A_{i,2}$ . Since  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in Q_k$  and  $|x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|$ , by the definition of  $F$  we have  $|x-y| \geq |y-y_0|/(2n^{3/2})$ . Using Minkowski's inequality, Fubini's theorem interchanging  $dy$  and  $dx$ , (2.4), changing to polar

coordinates and applying (1.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.10) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n |A_{i,2}(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n \int_{Q_k \cap F \cap \{x: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} \int |b_k(y)| |y-y_0| \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} dx dy \\
 & \lesssim c_n \int_{Q_k} \left( \int_{\{x: |y-y_0|/(2n^{3/2}) \leq |x-y|\}} \frac{|y-y_0| dx}{|x-y|^{n+1}} \right) |b_k(y)| dy \\
 & \lesssim n^2 \|b_k\|_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

**2.2. Estimate of  $B_i$ .** We argue much as before, breaking  $B_i$  into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_i(x, t) &= \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) c_n (n+1) t \left\{ \frac{x_i - y_{0,i}}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{x_i - y_{0,i}}{(t^2 + |x-y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right\} dy \\
 &= \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| > n|y-y_0|\}} + \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} \dots \\
 &=: B_{i,1}(x, t) + B_{i,2}(x, t).
 \end{aligned}$$

First let us consider  $B_{i,1}$ . We have  $|x-y| > \frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|$  and  $|x-y_0| > \frac{n-1}{n}|x-y|$  since  $|x-y| > n|y-y_0|$ . Note  $|y-y_0| \leq \sqrt{n}a$ . So by the mean value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |B_{i,1}(x, t)| &\lesssim c_n n^2 \int_{Q_k} |b_k(y)| |x_i - y_{0,i}| t \frac{|x-y_0| |y-y_0|}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|)^2)^{(n+5)/2}} dy \\
 &\lesssim c_n n^{5/2} \|b_k\|_1 |x_i - y_{0,i}| |x-y_0| a t \left( t^2 + \left( \frac{n}{n+1} |x-y_0| \right)^2 \right)^{-(n+5)/2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x \in F$ , we have  $|x-y_0| \geq a/2$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.11) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n |B_{i,1}(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n^{5/2} \|b_k\|_1 a \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|)^2)^{n+5}} dt \right)^{1/2} |x-y_0|^2 dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n^{3/2} \|b_k\|_1 a \int_{\{x: |x-y_0| > a/2\}} \frac{dx}{|x-y_0|^{n+1}} \lesssim n^2 \|b_k\|_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where we use (2.5) in the second inequality and (1.3) in the third.

Now we consider  $B_{i,2}$ . Since  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in Q_k$  and  $|x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|$ , we have  $|x - y| \geq |y - y_0|/(2n^{3/2})$  by the definition of  $F$ . In particular,  $|x - y_0| \geq |y - y_0|/(2n^{3/2})$ . It is easy to see that

$$|x - y_0| \leq (n + 1)|y - y_0|.$$

Applying Minkowski's inequality, (2.4), Fubini's theorem and (1.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.12) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n |B_{i,2}(x, t)|^2 t \, dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
& \lesssim c_n n \int_{F \cap Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} |x - y_0| |b_k(y)| \\
& \quad \times \left[ \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} + \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \right] dy dx \\
& \lesssim c_n \int_{Q_k} |b_k(y)| \left[ \int_{\{x: |y-y_0|/(2n^{3/2}) \leq |x-y|\}} \frac{|x - y_0|}{|x - y|^{n+1}} dx \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \int_{\{x: |y-y_0|/(2n^{3/2}) \leq |x-y_0| \leq (n+1)|y-y_0|\}} |x - y_0|^{-n} dx \right] dy \\
& \lesssim n^3 \|b_k\|_1.
\end{aligned}$$

**2.3. Estimate of  $D$ .** We split  $D$  into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned}
D(x, t) &= \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) c_n \left[ \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} \right] dy \\
&= \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| > n|y-y_0|\}} + \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} \dots \\
&=: D_1(x, t) + D_2(x, t).
\end{aligned}$$

We consider  $D_1$  first. Since  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in Q_k$  and  $|x - y| > n|y - y_0|$ , we have

$$|x - y| > \frac{n}{n+1}|x - y_0|, \quad |x - y_0| \geq \frac{a}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad |y - y_0| \leq n^{1/2}a.$$

Using the mean value theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.13) \quad & |D_1(x, t)| \\
& \lesssim c_n \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| > n|y-y_0|\}} |b_k(y)| \frac{(n+1)|x - y_0| |y - y_0|}{(t^2 + (|x - y_0| \frac{n}{n+1})^2)^{n+3/2}} dy \\
& \lesssim c_n n^{3/2} a \|b_k\|_1 \frac{|x - y_0|}{(t^2 + (|x - y_0| \frac{n}{n+1})^2)^{n+3/2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, using (2.13), (2.6), changing to polar coordinates and (1.3),

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.14) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty |D_1(x, t)|^2 t \, dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n^{3/2} a \|b_k\|_1 \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{|x - y_0|^2 t}{(t^2 + (\frac{n}{n+1}|x - y_0|)^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n a \|b_k\|_1 \int_{\{x: a/2 \leq |x - y_0|\}} \frac{dx}{|x - y_0|^{n+1}} \\
 & \lesssim n^{3/2} \|b_k\|_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Consider the term  $D_2$ . Since  $x \in F$ ,  $y \in Q_k$  and  $|x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|$ , as in estimating  $B_{i,2}$  we have  $|y - y_0|/(2n^{3/2}) \leq |x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|$  and  $\frac{|y - y_0|}{2n^{3/2}} \leq |x - y_0| \leq (n + 1)|y - y_0|$ .

Applying Minkowski's inequality, (2.7), Fubini's theorem and (1.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.15) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty |D_2(x, t)|^2 t \, dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n \int_{F \cap Q_k \cap \{y: |x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|\}} |b_k(y)| \\
 & \quad \times \left[ \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{n+1}} dt \right)^{1/2} + \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{n+1}} dt \right)^{1/2} \right] dy dx \\
 & \lesssim c_n n^{-1/2} \int_{Q_k} |b_k(y)| \left[ \int_{\{x: \frac{|y - y_0|}{2n^{3/2}} \leq |x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|\}} \frac{1}{|x - y|^n} dx \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \int_{\{x: \frac{|y - y_0|}{2n^{3/2}} \leq |x - y_0| \leq (n+1)|y - y_0|\}} \frac{1}{|x - y_0|^n} dx \right] dy \\
 & \lesssim \log n \|b_k\|_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

**2.4. Estimate of  $E$ .** We split  $E$  into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(x, t) &= \int_{Q_k} b_k(y) c_n \left[ \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x - y_0|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x - y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right] dy \\
 &= \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x - y| > n|y - y_0|\}} + \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x - y| \leq n|y - y_0|\}} \dots \\
 &=: E_1(x, t) + E_2(x, t).
 \end{aligned}$$

For the term  $E_1$ , we have  $|x - y| > \frac{n}{n+1}|x - y_0|$ ,  $|x - y_0| \geq \frac{a}{2}$  and  $|y - y_0| \leq n^{1/2}a$ . So, by the mean value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} & |E_1(x, t)| \\ & \leq c_n \int_{Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| > n|y-y_0|\}} |b_k(y)| (n+1)(n+3)t^2 \frac{|x-y_0||y-y_0|}{\left(t^2 + \left(\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|\right)^2\right)^{\frac{n+5}{2}}} dy \\ & \lesssim c_n n^{5/2} a \|b_k\|_1 \frac{|x-y_0|t^2}{\left(t^2 + \left(\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|\right)^2\right)^{\frac{n+5}{2}}}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore by (2.8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (2.16) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty |E_1(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ & \lesssim c_n n^{5/2} a \|b_k\|_1 \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{|x-y_0|^2 t^5}{\left(t^2 + \left(\frac{n}{n+1}|x-y_0|\right)^2\right)^{n+5}} dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ & \lesssim a c_n n \|b_k\|_1 \int_{\{x: |x-y_0| \geq a/2\}} \frac{dx}{|x-y_0|^{n+1}} \\ & \lesssim n^{3/2} \|b_k\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Now we consider  $E_2$ . In the same way as in estimating  $B_{i,2}$  or  $D_2$  before, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2.17) \quad & \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty |E_2(x, t)|^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ & \lesssim c_n n \int_{F \cap Q_k \cap \{y: |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} |b_k(y)| \\ & \quad \times \left[ \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^5}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} + \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^5}{(t^2 + |x-y_0|^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} \right] dy dx \\ & \lesssim c_n n^{-1/2} \int_{Q_k} |b_k(y)| \left[ \int_{\{x: \frac{|y-y_0|}{2n^{3/2}} \leq |x-y| \leq n|y-y_0|\}} \frac{1}{|x-y|^n} dx \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_{\{x: \frac{|y-y_0|}{2n^{3/2}} \leq |x-y_0| \leq (n+1)|y-y_0|\}} \frac{1}{|x-y_0|^n} dx \right] dy \\ & \lesssim (\log n) \|b_k\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the inequality  $(|a| + |b|)^{1/2} \leq |a|^{1/2} + |b|^{1/2}$ , and then (2.9)–(2.12) and (2.14)–(2.17), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_F \mathfrak{g}(b_k)(x) dx &= \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (\partial_{x_i} u(x, t))^2 + (\partial_t u(x, t))^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
&\lesssim \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{i,1}(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{i,2}(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
&\quad + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (B_{i,1}(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (B_{i,2}(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
&\quad + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty (D_1(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty (D_2(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
&\quad + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty (E_1(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx + \int_F \left( \int_0^\infty (E_2(x, t))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
&\lesssim n^3 \|b_k\|_1.
\end{aligned}$$

Combining (2.1)–(2.3) with the above estimate, we get the bound of Theorem 1.1.

REMARK 2.2. It seems that by using the method presented here, the upper bound  $n^3$  in Theorem 1.1 cannot be improved.

**3. Proof of Theorem 1.2.** Before the proof, we make some observations.

Define

$$f_s(y) = \frac{1}{s^n} f\left(\frac{y}{s}\right) \quad \text{for } s > 0.$$

Then  $\mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x)$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x-y) f_s(y) dy \right)^2 + \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t P_t)(x-y) f_s(y) dy \right)^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} \\
&= \left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x-sy) f(y) dy \right)^2 + \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t P_t)(x-sy) f(y) dy \right)^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} \\
&= \frac{1}{s^n} \left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_{x_i} P_t) \left( \frac{x}{s} - y \right) f(y) dy \right)^2 \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t P_t) \left( \frac{x}{s} - y \right) f(y) dy \right)^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} \\
&= \frac{1}{s^n} \mathfrak{g}(f) \left( \frac{x}{s} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) &= m\left(\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \frac{1}{s^n} \mathfrak{g}(f)\left(\frac{x}{s}\right) > 1\right\}\right) \\ &= s^n m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f)(x) > s^n\}). \end{aligned}$$

Now by setting  $\lambda = s^n$ , we get Theorem 1.2 if we can prove the equality

$$(3.1) \quad \lim_{s \rightarrow 0_+} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) = \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) dx \right|$$

for any  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

In the rest of this section, we will prove (3.1). Without loss of generality, we may assume  $\|f\|_1 = 1$ . Let  $\delta$  be small enough,  $0 < \delta \ll 1$ . Assume that  $0 < \epsilon < \delta/2$ . Since  $\|f\|_1 = 1$ , there exists an  $a_\epsilon$  with  $0 < a_\epsilon < \infty$  such that  $\int_{B(0, a_\epsilon)} |f(x)| dx = 1 - \epsilon$ . Set  $f^0 = f \chi_{B(0, a_\epsilon)}$  and  $f^\infty = f - f^0$ , where  $\chi_E$  is the characteristic function of  $E$ . For  $s > 0$ , let

$$f_s^0(\cdot) = \frac{1}{s^n} f^0\left(\frac{\cdot}{s}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad f_s^\infty(\cdot) = \frac{1}{s^n} f^\infty\left(\frac{\cdot}{s}\right).$$

Then  $f_s = f_s^0 + f_s^\infty$ ,  $\|f_s^0\|_1 = 1 - \epsilon$  and  $\|f_s^\infty\| = \epsilon$ .

For any  $\lambda > 0$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} D^s &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}, \\ E_\lambda^s &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s^\infty)(x) > \lambda\}, \\ F_\lambda^s &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) > \lambda\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function is a sublinear operator, hence

$$F_{1+\delta}^s \subset E_\delta^s \cup D^s \quad \text{and} \quad D^s \subset E_\delta^s \cup F_{1-\delta}^s.$$

Therefore

$$(3.2) \quad m(F_{1+\delta}^s) - m(E_\delta^s) \leq m(D^s) \leq m(E_\delta^s) + m(F_{1-\delta}^s).$$

Since the Littlewood–Paley  $\mathfrak{g}$ -function is of weak type  $(1, 1)$ , we have

$$(3.3) \quad m(E_\delta^s) = m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s^\infty)(x) > \delta\}) \leq \frac{C_n}{\delta} \|f_s^\infty\|_1 = \frac{C_n \epsilon}{\delta},$$

where  $C_n$  is a constant depending on  $n$  (here there is no need to care about the relationship between  $C_n$  and  $n$ ; see below).

By the choice of  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$ ,  $m(F_{1-\delta}^s)$  and  $m(F_{1+\delta}^s)$  should approximate  $m(D^s)$  as  $s \rightarrow 0$ . This will be exploited in what follows.

Choose  $\eta > 2sa_\epsilon$ . It is easy to see that

$$m(F_{1-\delta}^s) - v_n \eta^n \leq m(F_{1-\delta}^s \cap B(0, \eta)^c) \leq m(F_{1-\delta}^s),$$

where  $v_n$  is the measure of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Therefore  $m(F_{1-\delta}^s \cap B(0, \eta)^c)$  approximates  $m(F_{1-\delta}^s)$  as  $\eta \rightarrow 0$ . Similarly,  $m(F_{1+\delta}^s \cap B(0, \eta)^c)$  approximates

$m(F_{1+\delta}^s)$  as  $\eta \rightarrow 0$ . To get the estimate of  $m(D^t)$ , we should give a lower estimate of  $m(F_{1+\delta}^s)$  and an upper estimate of  $m(F_{1-\delta}^s)$ . Write

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.4) \quad \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x-y) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\partial_t P_t)(x-y) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\leq \left\{ \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} ((\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x-y) - (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x)) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} ((\partial_t P_t)(x-y) - (\partial_t P_t)(x)) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 \right] t dt \right\}^{1/2} \\
 &\quad + \left( \int_0^\infty \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (\partial_{x_i} P_t(x))^2 + (\partial_t P_t(x))^2 \right] t dt \right)^{1/2} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| \\
 &=: H(f_s^0)(x) + J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, it can be showed that

$$(3.5) \quad \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) \geq J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| - H(f_s^0)(x).$$

Recall that

$$(3.6) \quad \partial_{x_i} P_t(x) = -c_n \frac{x_i(n+1)t}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}},$$

$$(3.7) \quad \partial_t P_t(x) = c_n \left[ \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} - \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right].$$

Let us first manipulate  $J(x)$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (\partial_{x_i} P_t(x))^2 t dt &= c_n^2 (n+1)^2 |x|^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{n+3}} dt \\
 &= \frac{c_n^2}{|x|^{2n}} (n+1)^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(1+t^2)^{n+3}} dt = \frac{c_n^2}{|x|^{2n}} \frac{n+1}{2(n+2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^\infty (\partial_t P_t(x))^2 t dt &= \frac{c_n^2}{|x|^{2n}} \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{t}{(1+t^2)^{n+1}} + \frac{(n+1)^2 t^5}{(1+t^2)^{n+3}} - \frac{2(n+1)t^3}{(1+t^2)^{n+2}} \right] dt \\
 &= \frac{c_n^2}{2|x|^{2n}} \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{2(n+1)}{n(n+2)} - \frac{2}{n} \right) = \frac{c_n^2}{|x|^{2n}} \frac{1}{2(n+2)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$(3.8) \quad J(x) = \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n (\partial_{x_i} P_t(x))^2 t dt + \int_0^\infty (\partial_t P_t(x))^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \frac{c_n}{|x|^n}.$$

On the other hand, write

$$\begin{aligned} & (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x-y) - (\partial_{x_i} P_t)(x) \\ &= c_n \frac{y_i(n+1)t}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - c_n \left( \frac{x_i(n+1)t}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{x_i(n+1)t}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right) \\ &=: K_{i,1}(x, y, t) - K_{i,2}(x, y, t) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_t P_t)(x-y) - (\partial_t P_t)(x) &= c_n \left( \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} \right) \\ &\quad - c_n \left( \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x-y|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} - \frac{(n+1)t^2}{(t^2 + |x|^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} \right) \\ &=: K_3(x, y, t) - K_4(x, y, t). \end{aligned}$$

Denote

$$G_s = \{x \in B(0, \eta)^c : H(f_s^0)(x) \geq \delta\}.$$

Then, by Chebyshev's inequality and Fubini's theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} m(G_s) &\leq \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{B(0, \eta)^c} \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} K_{i,1}(x, y, t) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{B(0, \eta)^c} \left( \int_0^\infty \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} K_{i,2}(x, y, t) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{B(0, \eta)^c} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} K_3(x, y, t) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{B(0, \eta)^c} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} K_4(x, y, t) f_s^0(y) dy \right)^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\ &=: I + II + III + IV. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the term  $I$  first. Since  $|y| < sa_\epsilon$ ,  $|x| > \eta$  and  $\eta > 2sa_\epsilon$ , we get

$$(3.9) \quad \frac{1}{2}|x| < |x-y| < \frac{3}{2}|x|.$$

Combining (3.9) and Minkowski's inequality with variable  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.10) \quad I &\leq \frac{C_n}{\delta} \int_{B(0,\eta)^c} \left( \int_0^\infty \left( \int_{B(0,sa_\epsilon)} \frac{|y|t}{(t^2 + (|x|/2)^2)^{\frac{n+3}{2}}} |f_s^0(y)| dy \right)^2 t dt \right)^{1/2} dx \\
 &\leq \frac{C_n}{\delta} \int_{B(0,\eta)^c} \int_{B(0,sa_\epsilon)} \left( \int_0^\infty \frac{t^3}{(t^2 + (|x|/2)^2)^{n+3}} dt \right)^{1/2} |y| |f_s^0(y)| dy dx \\
 &\leq C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\delta} \int_{B(0,sa_\epsilon)} \int_{B(0,\eta)^c} \frac{|f_s^0(y)|}{|x|^{n+1}} dx dy \\
 &\leq C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\delta \eta},
 \end{aligned}$$

where in the third inequality we use  $|y| \leq sa_\epsilon$ , Fubini's theorem and (2.4).

By arguing with the term  $I$  with the estimate (2.4) replaced by (2.5), (2.6) and (2.8) respectively, we can get  $II, III, IV \leq C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\delta \eta}$ . Combining the above estimates, we have

$$(3.11) \quad m(G_s) \leq C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\delta \eta}.$$

Now consider  $x \in B(0,\eta)^c \cap G_s^c$ , so that  $H(f_s^0)(x) \leq \delta$ . By (3.4) and (3.5), we have

$$(3.12) \quad J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| - \delta \leq \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) \leq \delta + J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right|.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\{x \in B(0,\eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 - \delta\} \\
 &\quad \subset \left\{ x \in B(0,\eta)^c \cap G_s^c : J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| > 1 - 2\delta \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\{x \in B(0,\eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathfrak{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 + \delta\} \\
 &\quad \supset \left\{ x \in B(0,\eta)^c \cap G_s^c : J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| > 1 + 2\delta \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$(3.13) \quad m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : 1/|x|^n > \lambda\}) = \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n\lambda}.$$

By the definition of  $f^0$  and  $f^\infty$ , we have

$$(3.14) \quad \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| - \epsilon \leq \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| \leq \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| + \epsilon.$$

Then by (3.8), (3.13) and (3.14),

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.15) \quad m(\{x \in B(0, \eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathbf{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 - \delta\}) \\
 \leq m\left(\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| > 1 - 2\delta\right\}\right) \\
 \leq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n(1-2\delta)} \left( \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| + \epsilon \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by (3.8), (3.13), (3.14) and (3.11),

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.16) \quad m(\{x \in B(0, \eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathbf{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 + \delta\}) \\
 \geq m\left(\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : J(x) \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_s^0(y) dy \right| > 1 + 2\delta\right\}\right) - v_n \eta^n - m(G_s) \\
 \geq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n(1+2\delta)} \left( \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| - \epsilon \right) - v_n \eta^n - C \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\eta \delta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.3), (3.2), (3.11), (3.15) and (3.16), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.17) \quad m(D^s) &\leq m(F_{1-\delta}^s) + C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta} \\
 &\leq m(\{x \in B(x, \eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathbf{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 - \delta\}) + v_n \eta^n + m(G_s) + C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta} \\
 &\leq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n(1-2\delta)} \left( \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| + \epsilon \right) + v_n \eta^n + C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\eta \delta} + C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.18) \quad m(D^s) &\geq m(F_{1+\delta}^s) - C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta} \\
 &\geq m(\{x \in B(x, \eta)^c \cap G_s^c : \mathbf{g}(f_s^0)(x) > 1 + \delta\}) - C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta} \\
 &\geq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n(1+2\delta)} \left( \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| - \epsilon \right) - v_n \eta^n - C_n \frac{sa_\epsilon}{\eta \delta} - C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $s \rightarrow 0$ . Then by (3.17),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \limsup_{s \rightarrow 0_+} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) \\
 \leq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n(1-2\delta)} \left( \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right| + \epsilon \right) + v_n \eta^n + C_n \frac{\epsilon}{\delta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note  $\epsilon \leq \delta/2$ . Let first  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , then  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ , and finally  $\eta \rightarrow 0$ . Then we get

$$\limsup_{s \rightarrow 0_+} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) \leq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right|.$$

Arguing similarly with (3.18), we have

$$\liminf_{s \rightarrow 0_+} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) \geq \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right|.$$

Combining these two estimates we have

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0_+} m(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathfrak{g}(f_s)(x) > 1\}) = \frac{\sqrt{2} c_n \omega_{n-1}}{2n} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(y) dy \right|.$$

So we have proved (3.1). This finishes the proof of Theorem 1.2.

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