#### SOME CHARACTERIZATIONS OF MAGNETIC SOBOLEV SPACES

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ABSTRACT. The aim of this note is to survey recent results contained in [30–33, 39], where the authors extended to the magnetic setting several characterizations of Sobolev and BV functions.

#### 1. Introduction

Let  $\{\rho_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of radial mollifiers, i.e.  $\rho_n(x)=\rho_n(|x|)$ , such that

$$\rho_n \ge 0, \quad \int_0^\infty \rho_n(r) r^{N-1} dx = 1, \quad \text{ and } \quad \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_\delta^\infty \rho_n(r) r^{N-1} dr = 0 \quad \text{ for every } \delta > 0.$$

Let  $\Omega$  be a smooth bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and let  $p \geq 1$ . In [5], Bourgain, Brézis, and Mironescu proved that, if  $u \in L^p(\Omega)$  and

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \, \rho_n(|x - y|) \, dx \, dy \le C,$$

for some positive constant C, then  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$  if p > 1 and  $u \in BV(\Omega)$  if p = 1. Moreover, one has

(1.1) 
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^p} \rho_n(|x - y|) dx dy = pQ_{p,N} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx.$$

Here

$$(1.2) Q_{p,N} := \frac{1}{p} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{N-1}} |\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}|^p d\boldsymbol{\sigma},$$

where  $\mathbb{S}^{N-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  denotes the unit sphere and  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  stands for an arbitrary unit vector of  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . Assertion (1.1) is established by Bourgain, Brézis, and Mironescu in [5] for  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$  with  $p \geq 1$ . Assertion (1.1) with p = 1 and  $u \in BV(\Omega)$  is obtained by Davila [13]. In particular, we have the following celebrated Bourgain-Brézis-Mironescu (BBM) formula, for every  $u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ ,

(1.3) 
$$\lim_{s \to 1^{-}} (1-s) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{p}}{|x - y|^{N+sp}} dx dy = Q_{p,N} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p} dx.$$

Other properties related to the BBM formula can be found in [9,11,12]. In the spirit of (1.3), Maz'ya and Shaposhnikova proved in [22] that for any  $p \in [1,\infty)$ ,

$$\lim_{s \searrow 0} s \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy = \frac{4\pi^{N/2}}{p\Gamma(N/2)} ||u||_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^N)}^p,$$

whenever  $u \in D_0^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  for some  $s \in (0,1)$ . Here  $\Gamma$  denotes the Gamma function and the space  $D_0^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  is the completion of  $C_c^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  with respect to the Gagliardo semi-norm.

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Other characterizations of Sobolev spaces and BV functions which are somewhat related to the one of Bourgain, Brézis, and Mironescu are established in [7, 24]. For example, in the case p = 2, the following characterization of  $H^1(\Omega)$  is given in [7, 24]. Set

$$I_{\delta}(u) := \iint_{\substack{\Omega \times \Omega \\ \{|u(y) - u(x)| > \delta\}}} \frac{\delta^2}{|x - y|^{N+2}} dx \, dy, \quad \text{ for } u \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta > 0.$$

Then for any  $u \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  if and only if  $\sup_{0 < \delta < 1} I_{\delta}(u) < \infty$ . Moreover, for every  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$ 

$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} I_{\delta}(u) = Q_{2,N} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 dx,$$

where  $Q_{2,N}$  is the same positive constant appearing in (1.3) for p=2. Other results related to the nonlocal operator  $I_{\delta}$  can be found in [10, 26–29]. The aim of this note is to survey recent results contained in [30–33, 39], where the authors have extended the aforementioned results to the magnetic setting. We refer the interested reader to these papers for the proofs and further details.

## 2. Magnetic Sobolev and BV spaces

An important role in the study of particles which interact with a magnetic field  $B = \nabla \times A$ ,  $A : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ , is played by an *extension* of the Laplacian, known as *magnetic Laplacian*  $(\nabla - iA)^2$  (see [3,37]). Nonlinear magnetic Schrödinger equations like

$$-(\nabla - iA)^2 u + u = f(u)$$

have been extensively studied (see e.g. [2,3,16,38] and the references therein). The functional framework to work with these equations is the magnetic Sobolev spaces which will be now recalled, see [21] for a concise introduction to the topic. For  $p \geq 1$ , let us endow the vector space  $\mathbb{C}^N$  with the norm

$$|z|_p := (|(\Re z_1, \dots, \Re z_N)|^p + |(\Im z_1, \dots, \Im z_N)|^p)^{1/p},$$

where  $\Re a$ ,  $\Im a$  denote the real and imaginary parts of  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  respectively, and  $|\cdot|$  the Euclidean norm of  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . We notice that  $|z|_p = |z|$  whenever  $z \in \mathbb{R}^N$ . We warn the reader that in the non Hilbert case  $p \neq 2$ , this choice for a norm on  $\mathbb{C}^N$  is different from the standard one. Continuing with the notation, we will denote the imaginary unit by i, and we denote by  $L^p(\Omega,\mathbb{C})$  the Lebesgue space naturally associated to  $|\cdot|_p$ .

We are ready to introduce

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $p \geq 1$  and  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be a measurable function. The magnetic Sobolev space  $W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)$  is given by

$$W_A^{1,p}(\Omega):=\left\{u\in L^p(\Omega,\mathbb{C}):[u]_{W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)}<\infty\right\},$$

where

$$[u]_{W^{1,p}_A(\Omega)} := \Big(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u - \mathrm{i} A(x) u|_p^p dx\Big)^{1/p}.$$

The space  $W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)$  is equipped with the following norm

$$||u||_{W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)} := (||u||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p + [u]_{W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p)^{1/p}.$$

We can also define the space  $W^{1,p}_{0,A}(\Omega)$  as the closure of  $C_c^{\infty}(\Omega)$  in  $W^{1,p}_A(\Omega)$ . As a notational remark, as it is customary, when p=2 we will denote the magnetic Sobolev space  $W^{1,p}_A(\Omega)$  by  $H^1_A(\Omega)$ .

A possibility to define a suitable notion of fractional magnetic Sobolev space is to use the energy space of a non-local operator on  $\mathbb{R}^N$ , see [15,18]. There are at least three possible notions of magnetic fractional Laplacian which are in general not equivalent, see the survey of Ichinose in [18]. The most frequently used operator is  $(-\Delta)_A^s$ , which is defined as the gradient of the non-local energy functional

$$u \mapsto \iint_{\mathbb{R}^{2N}} \frac{|u(x) - e^{\mathrm{i}(x-y) \cdot A\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)} u(y)|^2}{|x-y|^{N+2s}} dx \, dy,$$

namely

$$(-\Delta)_A^s u(x) = c(N,s) \lim_{\varepsilon \searrow 0} \int_{B_\varepsilon^c(x)} \frac{u(x) - e^{\mathrm{i}(x-y) \cdot A\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)} u(y)}{|x-y|^{N+2s}} dy,$$

where

$$\lim_{s \nearrow 1} \frac{c(N,s)}{1-s} = \frac{4N\Gamma(N/2)}{2\pi^{N/2}}.$$

Recently, the operator  $(-\Delta)_A^s$  has been investigated in several directions. Here is a brief (and far from being complete) list of references: [4, 14, 17, 23, 41]

We are ready to introduce the non-local counterpart of the magnetic Sobolev spaces:

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $A: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be a locally bounded measurable function and let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open set. For any  $s \in (0,1)$  and  $p \geq 1$ , the magnetic Gagliardo semi-norm is defined as

$$[u]_{W^{s,p}_A(\Omega)} := \Big(\int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - e^{\mathrm{i}(x-y) \cdot A\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)} u(y)|_p^p}{|x-y|^{N+ps}} dx dy\Big)^{1/p}.$$

The fractional magnetic Sobolev space  $W_A^{s,p}(\Omega)$  is given by

$$W^{s,p}_A(\Omega):=\left\{u\in L^p(\Omega,\mathbb{C}):[u]_{W^{s,p}_A(\Omega)}<\infty\right\},$$

and it is equipped with the norm

$$||u||_{W_A^{s,p}(\Omega)} := \left(||u||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p + [u]_{W_A^{s,p}(\Omega)}^p\right)^{1/p}$$

We stress that for  $A \equiv 0$  and u real-valued, the above definition is consistent with the usual fractional Sobolev space  $W^{s,p}(\Omega)$  endowed with the classical norm

$$\|\cdot\|_{W^{s,p}(\Omega)} = \left(\|u\|_{L^p(\Omega)}^p + \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|_p^p}{|x - y|^{N+ps}} dx dy\right)^{1/p}.$$

**Remark 2.1.** As it is pointed out in [18], in place of the magnetic norm defined via the simple midpoint prescription  $(x,y) \mapsto A((x+y)/2)$ , other prescriptions are viable in applications such as the averaged one

$$(x,y) \mapsto \int_0^1 A((1-\vartheta)x + \vartheta y) d\vartheta =: A_{\sharp}(x,y).$$

If  $(-\Delta)_A^s$  and  $(-\Delta)_{A_{\sharp}}^s$  are the fractional operators associated with A((x+y)/2) and  $A_{\sharp}(x,y)$  respectively, it follows that  $(-\Delta)_{A_{\sharp}}^s$  is Gauge covariant, which is relevant for Schrödinger operators, i.e. for all  $\phi \in \mathscr{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ 

$$(-\Delta)^s_{(A+\nabla\phi)_{\sharp}} = e^{\mathrm{i}\phi}(-\Delta)^s_{A_{\sharp}}e^{-\mathrm{i}\phi}$$

see e.g. [18, Proposition 2.8].

We present now the notion of magnetic bounded variation functions introduced in [32].

**Definition 2.3** (A-bounded variation functions). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open set and let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be a locally bounded function. A function  $u \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{C})$  is said to be of A-bounded variation and we write  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ , if

$$|Du|_A(\Omega) := C_{1,A,u}(\Omega) + C_{2,A,u}(\Omega) < \infty,$$

where we set

$$\begin{split} C_{1,A,u}(\Omega) &:= \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \Re u(x) \mathrm{div} \varphi(x) - A(x) \cdot \varphi(x) \, \Im u(x) dx \mid \varphi \in C_c^{\infty}(\Omega,\mathbb{R}^N), \ \|\varphi\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \leq 1 \right\}, \\ C_{2,A,u}(\Omega) &:= \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \Im u(x) \mathrm{div} \varphi(x) + A(x) \cdot \varphi(x) \, \Re u(x) dx \mid \varphi \in C_c^{\infty}(\Omega,\mathbb{R}^N), \ \|\varphi\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \leq 1 \right\}. \end{split}$$

A function  $u \in L^1_{loc}(\Omega, \mathbb{C})$  is said to be of locally A-bounded variation and we write  $u \in BV_{A,loc}(\Omega)$ , if  $|Du|_A(U) < \infty$ , for every open set  $U \subseteq \Omega$ .

We endow the space  $BV_A(\Omega, \mathbb{C})$  with the following norm:

$$||u||_{BV_A(\Omega)} := ||u||_{L^1(\Omega)} + |Du|_A(\Omega).$$

With this choice, the space  $(BV_A(\Omega), \|\cdot\|_{BV_A(\Omega)})$  is a real Banach space, see [32, Lemma 3.8].

As for the magnetic Sobolev spaces, in the case  $A \equiv 0$ , the previous definition is consistent with the classical one of  $BV(\Omega)$ . We summarize now the basic properties of the space  $BV_A(\Omega)$  that has been fully proved in [32]. The coming results can be considered as the natural extension to the magnetic setting of the classical theory, see e.g. [1].

**Lemma 2.1** (Lemma 3.2 [32]). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open and bounded set,  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  locally bounded and  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ . Let  $E \subset \Omega$  be a Borel set then

$$|Du|_A(E) := \inf\{C_{1,A,u}(U) \mid E \subset U, \ U \subset \Omega \ open\} + \inf\{C_{2,A,u}(U) \mid E \subset U, \ U \subset \Omega \ open\}$$

extends  $|Du|_A(\cdot)$  to a Radon measure in  $\Omega$ . For any open set  $U \subset \Omega$ ,  $C_{1,A,u}(U)$  and  $C_{2,A,u}(U)$  are defined requiring the test functions to be supported in U and  $|Du|_A(\emptyset) := 0$ .

**Lemma 2.2** (Lemma 3.3 [32]). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open set. Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be locally bounded. Then  $W^{1,1}_{loc}(\Omega) \subset BV_{A,loc}(\Omega)$ .

**Lemma 2.3** (Lemma 3.4 [32]). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open set. Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be locally bounded. Assume that  $u \in W_A^{1,1}(\Omega)$ . Then  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$  and it holds

$$|Du|_A(\Omega) = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u - iA(x)u|_1 dx.$$

Furthermore, if  $u \in BV_A(\Omega) \cap C^{\infty}(\Omega)$ , then  $u \in W_A^{1,1}(\Omega)$ .

**Lemma 2.4** (Lemma 3.5 [32]). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open and bounded set. Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be locally bounded. Then  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$  if and only if  $u \in BV(\Omega)$ . Moreover, for every  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ , there exists a positive constant  $K = K(A, \Omega)$  such that

$$K^{-1}||u||_{BV(\Omega)} \le ||u||_{BV_A(\Omega)} \le K||u||_{BV(\Omega)}.$$

**Lemma 2.5** (Lemma 3.7 [32]). Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be locally bounded. Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open set and  $\{u_k\}_{k\in\mathbb{N}} \subset BV_A(\Omega)$  a sequence converging locally in  $L^1(\Omega)$  to a function u. Then

$$\liminf_{k \to \infty} |Du_k|_A(\Omega) \ge |Du|_A(\Omega).$$

**Lemma 2.6** (Lemma 3.10 [32]). Suppose that  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  is locally Lipschitz. Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open and bounded set and let  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ . Then there exists a sequence  $\{u_k\}_{k\in\mathbb{N}} \subset C^\infty(\Omega,\mathbb{C})$  such that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \int_{\Omega} |u_k - u|_1 \, dx = 0 \quad and \quad \lim_{k \to \infty} |Du_k|_A(\Omega) = |Du|_A(\Omega).$$

**Lemma 2.7** (Lemma 3.14 [32]). Assume that  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a bounded domain with Lipschitz boundary and that  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  is locally bounded. Let  $\{u_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a bounded sequence in  $BV_A(\Omega)$ . Then, up to a subsequence, it converges strongly in  $L^1(\Omega)$  to some function  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ .

**Lemma 2.8** (Lemma 3.12 [32]). Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be an open bounded set with Lipschitz boundary and let  $A: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be locally Lipschitz. Then for any open set  $W \supset \overline{\Omega}$ , there exists a linear and continuous extension operator  $E: BV_A(\Omega) \to BV_A(\mathbb{R}^N)$  such that

$$Eu = 0$$
, for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N \setminus W$ , and  $|DEu|_A(\partial\Omega) = 0$ ,

for every  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$ .

A few words concerning the proofs of the aforementioned results are now in order. Roughly speaking, the strategy of the proofs follow the classical ones as in e.g. [1]. From the technical point of view, once we ask for local boundedness of A we can usually control the extra-terms coming from A. In particular, the *norm* equivalence provided by Lemma 2.4 and the pointwise Diamagnetic inequality, see e.g., [14] allow sometimes to get magnetic results from the classical ones. We refer to [32, Section 3] for more details.

#### 3. Magnetic BBM-type formulas

The introduction of the magnetic counterpart of classical Sobolev spaces and BV space leads to the following natural question: do BBM-type formulas still hold in the magnetic setting? The aim of this section is to collect some results that provide a positive answer to the above question. An useful equality to get BBM-type formulas is

(3.1) 
$$\int_{\mathbb{S}^{N-1}} |v \cdot \sigma|_p^p d\sigma = p Q_{p,N} |v|_p^p, \quad \text{for all } v \in \mathbb{C}^N, p \ge 1.$$

This motivates the introduction of the norm  $|\cdot|_p$  on  $\mathbb{C}^N$ . Indeed, (3.1) does not hold with the classical Euclidean norm for  $p \neq 2$ . Given  $u : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{C}$  a measurable complex-valued function, we denote

$$\Psi_u(x,y) := e^{i(x-y)\cdot A\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)}u(y), \quad x,y \in \mathbb{R}^N.$$

The function  $\Psi_u(\cdot,\cdot)$  also depends on A but for notational ease, we ignore it

**Theorem 3.1** (Magnetic Bourgain-Brezis-Mironescu type result). Let  $p \geq 1$ ,  $A : \bar{\Omega} \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be of class  $C^1$  and let  $\{\rho_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of nonnegative radial mollifiers. Then  $u \in W_A^{1,p}(\Omega)$  if p > 1 and  $u \in BV_A(\Omega)$  if p = 1 if and only if  $u \in L^p(\Omega)$  and

$$\sup_{n\in\mathbb{N}}\int_{\Omega}\int_{\Omega}\frac{|\Psi_u(x,y)-\Psi_u(x,x)|_p^p}{|x-y|^p}\rho_n(|x-y|)\,dx\,dy<+\infty.$$

Moreover,

(3.3) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|\Psi_u(x,y) - \Psi_u(x,x)|_p^p}{|x - y|^p} \rho_n(|x - y|) \, dx dy = Q_{1,N} |Du|_A(\Omega).$$

Statement (3.2) is proved in [39] for p=2, in [32] for p=1 both under the assumption that  $A \in C^2(\bar{\Omega})$ , in [31] for p>1 and  $A \in C^1(\bar{\Omega})$ , and for  $p\geq 1$  for a more general (anisotropic) setting in [30]. The proof of (3.3) is given in [31] for p>1 and for  $p\geq 1$  for a more general setting in [30] <sup>1</sup>. The proof of Theorem 3.1 is essentially based on the works in the case without magnetic field, see [5, 8, 13]. Nevertheless work is required to deal with the presence of the magnetic field A.

### 4. A magnetic version of the result by Maz'ya and Shaposhnikova

The aim of this section is to describe the generalization proved in [33] of [22] to the magnetic case. For a locally bounded A, let the space of complex valued functions  $D_{A,0}^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^N,\mathbb{C})$  be the completion of  $C_c^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^N,\mathbb{C})$  with respect to the norm

$$||u||_{D^{s,p}_{A,0}} = \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|\Psi_u(x,y) - \Psi_u(x,x)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy\right)^{1/p}.$$

**Theorem 4.1** (Magnetic Maz'ya-Shaposhnikova type result). Let  $N \ge 1$  and  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . Then for every

$$u \in \bigcup_{0 < s < 1} D_{A,0}^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^N, \mathbb{C}),$$

there holds

$$\lim_{s \searrow 0} s \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|\Psi_u(x, x) - \Psi_u(x, y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy = \frac{4\pi^{N/2}}{p\Gamma(N/2)} ||u||_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^N)}^p.$$

In one direction the proof is based on the Diamagnetic inequality to reduce the problem to the non-magnetic case. For the converse inequality, the magnetic effects has to be controlled, and this can be done because the magnetic effect becomes negligible as  $s \to 0$ .

**Remark 4.1.** We point out that when  $A \equiv 0$  then Theorem 4.1 boils down to the result proved in [22]. It also remains valid for the operator  $A_{\sharp}$  and its proof carries on by trivial modifications of our arguments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Some of these works only deal with the whole space setting, nevertheless, one can extend them for a smooth bounded domains as stated.

## 5. A MAGNETIC VERSION OF THE RESULTS BY BOURGAIN AND NGUYEN

In this section, we present some results in [31]. Set

$$J_{\delta}(u):=\iint_{\{|\Psi_u(x,y)-\Psi_u(x,x)|>\delta\}}\frac{\delta^2}{|x-y|^{N+2}}\,dxdy,\quad\text{for }u\in L^1_{\mathrm{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^N),\qquad \delta>0.$$

We prove

**Theorem 5.1.** Let  $A: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be Lipschitz. Then  $u \in H^1_A(\mathbb{R}^N)$  if and only if  $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^N)$  and

$$\sup_{0<\delta<1}J_{\delta}(u)<+\infty.$$

Moreover, we have, for  $u \in H^1_A(\mathbb{R}^N)$ ,

$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} J_{\delta}(u) = Q_N \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |\nabla u - iA(x)u|^2 dx$$

and

$$\sup_{\delta>0} J_{\delta}(u) \le C_N \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |\nabla u - iA(x)u|^2 dx + \left( \|\nabla A\|_{L^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^N)}^2 + 1 \right) \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} |u|^2 dx \right).$$

This provides a new characterization of the  $H_A^1$  norm in terms of nonlocal functionals extending to the magnetic setting further results in the spirit of Bourgain, Brézis and Mironescu [5,6] (see also [13,34]).

# 6. Almost everywhere and $L^1$ convergence

In this section we collect other results obtained in [31] in the spirit of the works [11] and [36]. We are there interested in other modes of convergence of functionals related to those appearing in Theorems 3.1 and 5.1. We only recall some results for the case p = 2. For  $u \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^N)$ , set

$$D_n(u,x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|\Psi_u(x,y) - \Psi_u(x,x)|^2}{|x - y|^2} \rho_n(|x - y|) \, dy, \quad \text{ for } x \in \mathbb{R}^N.$$

Concerning Theorem 3.1, we have

**Proposition 6.1** (Proposition 4.1 [31]). Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be Lipschitz,  $u \in H_A^1(\mathbb{R}^N)$ , and let  $(\rho_n)$  be a sequence of radial mollifiers such that

$$\sup_{t>1} \sup_{n} t^{-2} \rho_n(t) < +\infty.$$

We have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} D_n(u, x) = 2Q_N |\nabla u(x) - iA(x)u(x)|^2, \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \mathbb{R}^N,$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} D_n(u, \cdot) = 2Q_N |\nabla u(\cdot) - iA(\cdot)u(\cdot)|^2, \quad in \ L^1(\mathbb{R}^N).$$

Concerning Theorem 5.1, we set, for  $u \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^N)$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,

$$J_{\delta}(u,x) := \int_{\{|\Psi_u(x,y) - \Psi_u(x,x)| > \delta\}} \frac{\delta^2}{|x - y|^{N+2}} dy.$$

We have

**Proposition 6.2** (Proposition 4.2 [31]). Let  $A: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^N$  be Lipschitz and let  $u \in H^1_A(\mathbb{R}^N)$ . Then

(6.1) 
$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} J_{\delta}(u, x) = Q_N |\nabla u(x) - iA(x)u(x)|^2, \quad \text{for a.e. } x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

and

(6.2) 
$$\lim_{\delta \searrow 0} J_{\delta}(u, \cdot) = Q_N |\nabla u(\cdot) - iA(\cdot)u(\cdot)|^2, \quad \text{in } L^1(\mathbb{R}^N).$$

In both cases, we prove the results on smooth functions relying on delicate estimates of maximal-type functions with their roots in [11]. We can then conclude arguing by density. We refer to [31] for detailed proofs of both results.

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