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KOLMOGOROV WIDTHS OF THE INTERSECTION  
OF A FINITE FAMILY OF SOBOLEV CLASSES

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**Abstract.** In the present article, order estimates for the Kolmogorov widths of the intersection of Sobolev classes on a John domain are obtained.

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In this paper, the problem of estimating the Kolmogorov widths of the intersection of a finite family of Sobolev classes  $W_{p_j}^{r_j}(\Omega)$  ( $1 \leq j \leq s$ ) in  $L_q(\Omega)$  is studied, where  $\Omega$  is a John domain. The similar problem on the Kolmogorov widths of intersections of periodic function classes was investigated by Galeev [2, 3, 4]. The idea of the proof of the lower estimate was as follows: by the discretization method the problem was reduced to estimating the Kolmogorov  $n$ -widths of intersections of the balls  $\{(x_1, \dots, x_{2n}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n} : |x_1|^{p_j} + \dots + |x_{2n}|^{p_j} \leq n^{-p_j \beta_j}\}$  in  $l_q^{2n}$  (here  $\beta_j \in \mathbb{R}$ ). For some conditions on the parameters, the lower estimate of the widths of the function classes was the same as the upper estimate. However, in [2, 3, 4] no order estimates were obtained if these conditions are not satisfied.

In [10], Galeev's result about the  $n$ -widths of intersections of  $2n$ -dimensional balls was generalized to  $N$ -dimensional spaces with  $N \geq 2n$ . In the present paper, by applying the discretization method together with the estimates from [10], we evaluate the orders of the Kolmogorov widths of intersections of Sobolev classes on a John domain for all parameters except some limiting cases (see Theorems 1.2–1.4 below).

Recall some definitions.

- Let  $X$  be a normed space, and let  $C \subset X$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . The Kolmogorov  $n$ -width of the set  $C$  in the space  $X$  is defined as follows:

$$d_n(C, X) = \inf_{L \in \mathcal{L}_n(X)} \sup_{x \in C} \inf_{y \in L} \|x - y\|;$$

here  $\mathcal{L}_n(X)$  is the family of all linear subspaces in  $X$  of dimension at most  $n$ . For details, see [5, 8, 9].

- Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a bounded domain,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Given  $f \in L_1^{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ , we denote by  $\nabla^r f$  the vector of all partial derivatives of order  $r$ . If all its components are elements of  $L_p(\Omega)$ , we write  $f \in \mathcal{W}_p^r(\Omega)$ . The Sobolev class is defined as follows:

$$W_p^r(\Omega) = \{f \in \mathcal{W}_p^r(\Omega) : \|\nabla^r f\|_{L_p(\Omega)} \leq 1\};$$

here  $\|\nabla^r f\|_{L_p(\Omega)}$  is the  $L_p$ -norm of  $|\nabla^r f(\cdot)|$ ,  $|\cdot|$  is the Euclidean norm.



- We denote by  $B_a(x)$  the open Euclidean ball of radius  $a$  centered at point  $x$ .

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a bounded domain. We say that  $\Omega$  is a John domain if there exist a number  $a > 0$  and a point  $x_* \in \Omega$  such that for each  $x \in \Omega$  there are a number  $T(x) > 0$  and a curve  $\gamma_x : [0, T(x)] \rightarrow \Omega$  with the following properties:

- (i)  $\gamma_x$  has the natural parametrization in the Euclidean norm on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,
- (ii)  $\gamma_x(0) = x$ ,  $\gamma_x(T(x)) = x_*$ ,
- (iii)  $B_{at}(\gamma_x(t)) \subset \Omega$  for all  $t \in [0, T(x)]$ .

If  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is a John domain, then 1) (see [6, 7]) the conditions ensuring the embedding  $\mathcal{W}_p^r(\Omega)$  into  $L_q(\Omega)$  are the same as for  $\Omega = (0, 1)^d$ , 2) (see [1]) the order estimates for the Kolmogorov widths of  $W_p^r(\Omega)$  in  $L_q(\Omega)$  are the same as for  $\Omega = (0, 1)^d$  (if the orders are known). For some results on the estimates of the Kolmogorov widths of weighted Sobolev spaces on a John domain, see, e.g., [11, 12].

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a John domain, let  $s \geq 2$ ,  $r_i \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ ,

$$r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_s, \quad (1.1)$$

$1 < p_i \leq \infty$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . We set

$$M = \bigcap_{j=1}^s W_{p_j}^{r_j}(\Omega) \quad (1.2)$$

(i.e.,  $M$  is the intersection of a finite family of Sobolev classes).

Suppose that

$$\frac{r_j}{d} - \frac{1}{p_j} < \frac{r_i}{d} - \frac{1}{p_i} \quad \text{for } j > i. \quad (1.3)$$

Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq n_0}$ ,  $\{b_n\}_{n \geq n_0}$  be sequences of positive numbers. We write  $a_n \asymp b_n$  if there is a number  $c \geq 1$  such that  $c^{-1}a_n \leq b_n \leq ca_n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Now we formulate the main result.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a John domain,  $1 \leq q < \infty$ ,  $r_j \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,  $1 < p_j \leq \infty$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . Suppose that (1.1) and (1.3) hold, and  $\frac{r_1}{d} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{p_1} > 0$ . Let  $M$  be defined by (1.2).*

- (i) *If  $p_i \geq q$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ , then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\frac{r_s}{d}}.$$

- (ii) *If  $q \leq 2$ ,  $p_i \leq q$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ , then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\frac{r_1}{d} - \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{p_1}}.$$

- (iii) *If  $q > 2$ ,  $p_i \leq 2$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$  and  $\frac{r_1}{d} \neq \frac{1}{p_1}$ , then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\min\left\{\frac{r_1}{d} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p_1}, \frac{q}{2} \left(\frac{r_1}{d} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{p_1}\right)\right\}}.$$

(iv) Let  $q \leq 2$ ,

$$I := \{i \in \overline{1, s} : p_i \geq q\} \neq \{1, \dots, s\},$$

$$J := \{i \in \overline{1, s} : p_i \leq q\} \neq \{1, \dots, s\}.$$

For  $i \in I, j \in J$  we define the numbers  $\lambda_{ij}$  by

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1 - \lambda_{ij}}{p_j} + \frac{\lambda_{ij}}{p_i}.$$

Let

$$(i_0, j_0) = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in I, j \in J} ((1 - \lambda_{ij})r_j/d + \lambda_{ij}r_i/d).$$

Then

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-((1 - \lambda_{i_0 j_0})r_{j_0}/d + \lambda_{i_0 j_0}r_{i_0}/d)}.$$

(v) Let  $q > 2$ ,

$$I := \{i \in \overline{1, s} : p_i \geq q\} \neq \{1, \dots, s\}, \quad (1.4)$$

$$J := \{i \in \overline{1, s} : 2 \leq p_i \leq q\}, \quad (1.5)$$

$$K := \{i \in \overline{1, s} : p_i \leq 2\} \neq \{1, \dots, s\}. \quad (1.6)$$

Define the numbers  $\lambda_{ij}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}_{ij}$  by

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1 - \lambda_{ij}}{p_j} + \frac{\lambda_{ij}}{p_i}, \quad i \in I, j \in J \cup K,$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{ij}}{p_j} + \frac{\tilde{\lambda}_{ij}}{p_i}, \quad i \in I \cup J, j \in K,$$

and set

$$(i_0, j_0) = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in I, j \in J \cup K} ((1 - \lambda_{ij})r_j/d + \lambda_{ij}r_i/d),$$

$$(i_1, j_1) = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in I \cup J, j \in K} ((1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{ij})r_j/d + \tilde{\lambda}_{ij}r_i/d).$$

Define the functions  $h_0, h_1, h_2 : [1, q/2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$  by

$$h_0(t) = \begin{cases} t \left( (1 - \lambda_{i_0 j_0}) \frac{r_{j_0}}{d} + \lambda_{i_0 j_0} \frac{r_{i_0}}{d} \right) & \text{if } I \neq \emptyset, \\ -\infty & \text{if } I = \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

$$h_1(t) = \begin{cases} t \left( (1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1}) \frac{r_{j_1}}{d} + \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1} \frac{r_{i_1}}{d} - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } K \neq \emptyset, \\ -\infty & \text{if } K = \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

$$h_2(t) = \begin{cases} \max_{j \in J} \varphi_j(t) & \text{if } J \neq \emptyset, \\ -\infty & \text{if } J = \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

where

$$\varphi_j(t) = t \left( \frac{r_j}{d} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_j - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_j - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}.$$

We set

$$h = \max\{h_0, h_1, h_2\}.$$

Suppose that the function  $h$  has a unique minimum point  $t_* \in [1, q/2]$ . Then

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-h(t_*)}.$$

**Remark 1.** If condition (1.3) fails, we can reduce the problem to estimating the widths of the intersection of a subfamily of Sobolev classes, for which (1.3) holds.

Consider two particular cases when there is an explicit formula for  $h(t_*)$ .

**Theorem 1.3.** *Suppose that the conditions of Theorem 1.2 hold. Let  $q > 2$ ,  $\{1, \dots, s\} = I \cup K$ , the sets  $I$  and  $K$  are defined by (1.4), (1.6),  $I \neq \{1, \dots, s\}$ ,  $K \neq \{1, \dots, s\}$ . Let*

$$(i_0, j_0) = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in I, j \in K} ((1 - \lambda_{ij})r_j/d + \lambda_{ij}r_i/d),$$

$$(i_1, j_1) = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in I, j \in K} ((1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{ij})r_j/d + \tilde{\lambda}_{ij}r_i/d).$$

(i) *If  $(1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1})\frac{r_{j_1}}{d} + \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1}\frac{r_{i_1}}{d} - \frac{1}{2} > 0$ , then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-(1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1})r_{j_1}/d - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1}r_{i_1}/d}.$$

(ii) *If  $(1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1})\frac{r_{j_1}}{d} + \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1}\frac{r_{i_1}}{d} - \frac{1}{2} < 0$ , then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\hat{\theta}},$$

where

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{(1 - \lambda_{i_0 j_0})\frac{r_{j_0}}{d} + \lambda_{i_0 j_0}\frac{r_{i_0}}{d}}{\frac{1}{2} - (1 - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1})\frac{r_{j_1}}{d} - \tilde{\lambda}_{i_1 j_1}\frac{r_{i_1}}{d} + (1 - \lambda_{i_0 j_0})\frac{r_{j_0}}{d} + \lambda_{i_0 j_0}\frac{r_{i_0}}{d}}.$$

**Theorem 1.4.** *Let the conditions of Theorem 1.2 hold,  $q > 2$ ,  $\{1, \dots, s\} = J$  (see (1.5)), and let  $\frac{r_1}{d} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{p_1} > 0$ .*

(i) *Let  $\frac{r_s}{d} > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_s - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}$ . Then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\frac{r_s}{d}}.$$

(ii) *Let  $\frac{r_1}{d} < \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_1 - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}$ . Then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\frac{q}{2} \left( \frac{r_1}{d} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{p_1} \right)}.$$

(iii) *Let  $\frac{r_s}{d} < \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_s - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}$ ,  $\frac{r_1}{d} > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_1 - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}$ . We set*

$$\varphi_j(t) = t \left( \frac{r_j}{d} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_j - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1/p_j - 1/q}{1/2 - 1/q}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq s,$$

$h(t) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq s} \varphi_j(t)$ . *Suppose that  $h$  has a unique minimum point  $t_*$  on  $[1, q/2]$ . Then*

$$d_n(M, L_q(\Omega)) \asymp n^{-\theta_{i_* j_*}},$$

where

$$\theta_{ij} = \frac{\frac{r_j}{d} \left( \frac{1}{p_i} - \frac{1}{q} \right) - \frac{r_i}{d} \left( \frac{1}{p_j} - \frac{1}{q} \right)}{\left( \frac{r_j}{d} - \frac{r_i}{d} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{2}{q} \right) + \frac{1}{p_i} - \frac{1}{p_j}},$$

and the indices  $i_* \neq j_*$  are such that  $\varphi_{i_*}(t_*) = \varphi_{j_*}(t_*) = h(t_*)$ .

**The algorithm for construction of the function  $h$  in Theorem 1.4.**

There exist a partition  $1 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m = \frac{q}{2}$  of  $[1, q/2]$  and a sequence  $\{j_l\}_{l=1}^m \subset \{1, \dots, s\}$  such that  $h|_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]} = \varphi_{j_l}|_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]}$ . The points  $t_l$  and the indices  $j_l$  are defined by induction.

First we notice that  $\varphi_s(1) > \varphi_j(1)$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s-1$ ; hence  $h(t) = \varphi_s(t)$  in a neighbourhood of 1. We set  $t_0 = 1$ ,  $j_1 = s$ .

Suppose that the points  $1 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{l-1} < \frac{q}{2}$  and the indices  $\{j_k\}_{k=1}^l$  are found, and, in addition,  $h(t) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq j_l} \varphi_j(t)$  for  $t \in [t_{l-1}, q/2]$ ,

$$\varphi_{j_l}(t_{l-1}) > \varphi_j(t_{l-1}), \quad 1 \leq j < j_l.$$

Hence  $h(t) = \varphi_{j_l}(t)$  in a right neighbourhood of  $t_{l-1}$ .

If  $j_l = 1$ , then  $h(t) = \varphi_1(t)$  for  $t \in [t_{l-1}, q/2]$ , and the construction is finished.

Let  $j_l > 1$ . We set

$$t_l = \min\{t \in (t_{l-1}, q/2) : \exists j \in \overline{1, j_l - 1} : \varphi_{j_l}(t) = \varphi_j(t)\},$$

$$j_{l+1} = \min\{j \in \overline{1, j_l - 1} : \varphi_{j_l}(t_l) = \varphi_j(t_l)\}.$$

Then  $h(t) = \varphi_{j_l}(t)$  for  $t_{l-1} \leq t \leq t_l$ . We claim that

$$h(t) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq j_{l+1}} \varphi_j(t) \text{ for } t_l \leq t \leq q/2,$$

$$\varphi_{j_{l+1}}(t_l) > \varphi_j(t_l), \quad 1 \leq j < j_{l+1}.$$

**Remark 2.** Applying this algorithm we can similarly construct the function  $h_2$  in Theorem 1.2; after that it is easy to construct the function  $h$  and to find its minimum point.

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