

## A Note on Rough Parametric Marcinkiewicz Functions

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**Abstract.** In this note, we obtain sharp  $L^p$  estimates of parametric Marcinkiewicz integral operators. Our result resolves a long standing open problem. Also, we present a class of parametric Marcinkiewicz integral operators that are bounded provided that their kernels belong to the sole space  $L^1(S^{n-1})$ .

**Key Words:** Marcinkiewicz integrals, parametric Marcinkiewicz functions, rough kernels, Fourier transform, Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorem.

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### 1 Introduction

Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $S^{n-1}$  be the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  equipped with the normalized Lebesgue measure  $d\sigma$ . Suppose that  $\Omega$  is a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that satisfies  $\Omega \in L^1(S^{n-1})$  and

$$\int_{S^{n-1}} \Omega(x') d\sigma(x') = 0. \quad (1.1)$$

In 1960, Hörmander (see [6]) introduced the following parametric Marcinkiewicz function  $\mu_{\Omega}^{\rho}$  of higher dimension by

$$\mu_{\Omega}^{\rho} f(x) = \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| 2^{-\rho t} \int_{|y| \leq 2^t} f(x-y) |y|^{-n+\rho} \Omega(y) dy \right|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (1.2)$$

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where  $\rho > 0$ . When  $\rho = 1$ , the corresponding operator  $\mu_\Omega = \mu_\Omega^1$  is the classical Marcinkiewicz integral operator introduced by Stein (see [7]). When  $\Omega \in Lip_\alpha(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$ , ( $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ), Stein proved that  $\mu_\Omega$  is bounded on  $L^p$  for all  $1 < p \leq 2$ . Subsequently, Benedek-Calderón-Panzone proved the  $L^p$  boundedness of  $\mu_\Omega$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$  under the condition  $\Omega \in C^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$  (see [4]). Since then, the  $L^p$  boundedness of  $\mu_\Omega$  has been investigated by several authors. For background information, we advise readers to consult [1-3,7], among others.

Concerning the problem whether there are some  $L^p$  results on  $\mu_\Omega^\rho$  similar to those on  $\mu_\Omega$  when  $\Omega$  satisfies only some size conditions, Ding, Lu, and Yabuta (see [5]) studied the general operator

$$\mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f(x) = \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| 2^{-\rho t} \int_{|y| \leq 2^t} f(x-y) |y|^{-n+\rho} h(|y|) \Omega(y) dy \right|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{1.3}$$

where  $h$  is a radial function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $h(|x|) \in l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq \infty$ , where the class  $l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  is defined by

$$l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+) = \left\{ h : |h|_{l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)} = \sup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \left( \int_{2^{j-1}}^{2^j} |h(r)|^q \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} < \infty \right\}.$$

For  $q = \infty$ , we set  $l^\infty(L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^+) = L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+)$ . It is clear that

$$l^\infty(L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^+) \subset l^\infty(L^r)(\mathbb{R}^+) \subset l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+) \subset l^\infty(L^1)(\mathbb{R}^+),$$

$1 < q < r < \infty$ . Ding, Lu, and Yabuta (see [5]) proved the following result:

**Theorem 1.1** ([5]). *Suppose that  $\Omega \in L(\log^+ L)(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$  is a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying (1.1) and  $h(|x|) \in l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  for some  $1 < q \leq \infty$ . If  $Re(\rho) = \alpha > 0$ , then  $\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_2 \leq C\alpha^{-\frac{1}{2}} |f|_2$ , where  $C$  is independent of  $\rho$  and  $f$ .*

In [1], Al-Salman and Al-Qassem considered the  $L^p$  boundedness of  $\mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho$  for  $p \neq 2$ , which was left open in [5]. They proved the following result:

**Theorem 1.2** ([1]). *Suppose that  $\Omega \in L(\log^+ L)(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$  is a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying (1.1). If  $h(|x|) \in l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $1 < q \leq \infty$ , and  $\alpha = Re(\rho) > 0$ , then  $\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq C\alpha^{-1} |f|_p$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$ , where  $C$  is independent of  $\rho$  and  $f$ .*

In light of Theorem 1.1, it is clear that the dependence of the  $L^p$  bounds on  $\alpha$  in Theorem 1.2 is not sharp. More precisely, we have the following long standing natural open problem:

**Problem:**

- (a) Is the power  $(-1/2)$  of  $\alpha$  in Theorem 1.1 sharp?

(b) Does the result in Theorem 1.2 hold with power of  $\alpha$  greater than  $(-1)$ ?

It is our aim in this note to consider this problem. In fact, we shall prove the following result which completely resolves the above problem:

**Theorem 1.3.** *Suppose that  $\Omega \in L(\log^+ L)(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$  is a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying (1.1). If  $h(|x|) \in l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $1 < q \leq \infty$ , and  $\alpha = \text{Re}(\rho) > 0$ , then*

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq C \alpha^{-\frac{1}{p}} |f|_p \quad \text{for all } 1 < p < \infty,$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $\rho$  and  $f$ . Moreover, the power  $(-1/p)$  is sharp in the sense that it can not be replaced by larger power.

It is clear that Theorem 1.3 substantially improves Theorem 1.2 as far as the power of  $\alpha$  is concerned. Concerning the function  $\Omega$ , we present in Section 3 of this note a subclass of the class  $l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  where the corresponding operator  $\mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho$  is bounded on  $L^2$  under the sole integrability condition  $\Omega \in L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$ .

Throughout the rest of the paper the letter  $C$  will stand for a constant but not necessarily the same one in each occurrence.

## 2 Proof of main result

This section is devoted to present a proof of Theorem 1.3. We start by recalling the following well known interpolation theorem:

**Theorem 2.1** ([8]). *Let  $T$  be a sublinear operator satisfying*

$$|T(f)|_{L^{p_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C_{p_1} |f|_{L^{p_1}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

and

$$|T(f)|_{L^{p_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C_{p_2} |f|_{L^{p_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

for some  $1 \leq p_1, p_2 \leq \infty$  and  $C_{p_1}, C_{p_2} > 0$ . Then for all  $\theta \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$|T(f)|_{L^{p_\theta}(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C_{p_\theta} |f|_{L^{p_\theta}(\mathbb{R}^n)},$$

where  $p_\theta$  satisfies  $\frac{1}{p_\theta} = \frac{\theta}{p_1} + \frac{1-\theta}{p_2}$  and  $C_{p_\theta} = C_{p_1}^\theta C_{p_2}^{1-\theta}$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* The proof is based on an interpolation argument. By Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2, we have

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{\alpha}} |f|_2 \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_{1+\epsilon} \leq \frac{C}{\alpha} |f|_{1+\epsilon}, \tag{2.2}$$

for any  $\epsilon > 0$ . Thus, (2.1) and (2.2) show that the operator  $\mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho$  is a bounded operator from  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and from  $L^{1+\epsilon}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to  $L^{1+\epsilon}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , respectively. Thus, by Theorem 2.1, (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq C \alpha^{-\left(\frac{\epsilon-\frac{1}{p}}{\epsilon-1}\right)} |f|_p \tag{2.3}$$

for all  $1 + \epsilon < p < 2$ . Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ , we would get

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq \frac{C}{\alpha^{\frac{1}{p}}} |f|_p$$

for  $1 < p < 2$ . Similarly, for  $M > 2$ , we have by Theorem 1.2 that

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_M \leq \frac{C}{\alpha} |f|_M. \tag{2.4}$$

Interpolating between (2.1) and (2.4) yields

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq C \alpha^{-\left(\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{M}{2}-1}\right)} |f|_p \tag{2.5}$$

for all  $2 < p < M$ . Letting  $M \rightarrow \infty$  gives

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_p \leq \frac{C}{\alpha^{\frac{1}{p}}} |f|_p$$

for  $2 < p < \infty$ .

Now, we show that the power  $(1/p)$  is sharp. We shall work out the case  $p = 2$  and  $\rho = \alpha$  is a positive real number. We shall also assume  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Set

$$\Omega(x) = (x_1)' = \frac{x_1}{|x|}.$$

Then  $\Omega$  satisfies (1.1) and  $\Omega \in L^2(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$ . On the other hand, let  $f(x) = x_1$  if  $|x| < 1$  and  $f(x) = 0$  if  $|x| \geq 1$ . Then  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . In fact,

$$|f|_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+2}} |\Omega|_2.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho f \right|_2^2 &\geq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_3^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \int_0^t \Omega(y') f(x - ry') \frac{dr}{r^{1-\alpha}} d\sigma(y') \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t^{1+2\alpha}} dx \\ &\geq \int_{|x|<1} \int_3^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \int_0^t \Omega(y') f(x - ry') \frac{dr}{r^{1-\alpha}} d\sigma(y') \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t^{1+2\alpha}} dx. \end{aligned}$$

By noticing that  $f(x - ry') = 0$  whenever  $|x| < 1$  and  $r > 2$ , it follows from the last integral that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^p \right|_2^2 &\geq \int_{|x|<1} \int_3^\infty \left| \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_0^2 \Omega(y')(x_1 - ry'_1) \frac{dr}{r^{1-\alpha}} d\sigma(y') \right|^2 \frac{dx}{t^{1+2\alpha}} \\ &= \int_{|x|<1} \int_3^\infty \left| \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_0^2 (\Omega(y'))^2 r^\alpha dr d\sigma(y') \right|^2 \frac{dx}{t^{1+2\alpha}} \\ &= |\Omega|_2^4 \left( \frac{2^{\alpha+1}}{1+\alpha} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1}{3^{2\alpha}} \right) \frac{1}{2\alpha} |B(0,1)| \\ &\geq \frac{C}{\sqrt{\alpha}} |f|_2, \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

where  $|B(0,1)|$  is the volume of the ball  $B(0,1) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| < 1\}$  and  $C$  is a constant independent of  $\alpha$ . Here, (2.6) follows by (1.1). This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3 Further study

As pointed out in the introduction section, in this section we present a subclass of the class  $l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  where the corresponding operator  $\mu_{\Omega,h}^p$  is bounded on  $L^2$  under the condition  $\Omega \in L^1(S^{n-1})$ . If  $q = \infty$ ,  $l^\infty(L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^+) = L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+)$ . For  $1 \leq q < \infty$ , let  $\mathcal{D}_q$  be the space of all measurable radial functions  $h$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which satisfy

$$\frac{h(r)}{r^{1/q'}} \in l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+), \tag{3.1a}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^\infty \left( \int_{2^j}^{2^{j+1}} |h(r)|^q \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/q} < \infty. \tag{3.1b}$$

It is obvious that  $\mathcal{D}_q \subset l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  and this inclusion is proper for  $1 \leq q < \infty$ . In fact, for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}^-$ , we have

$$\left( \int_{2^j}^{2^{j+1}} |h(r)|^q \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/q} = \left( \int_{2^j}^{2^{j+1}} \left| \frac{h(r)}{r^{1/q'}} \right|^q r^{\frac{q}{q'}} \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/q} \leq C \left| h/r^{1/q'} \right|_{l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)}.$$

On the other hand, for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , by (3.1b) we have

$$\left( \int_{2^j}^{2^{j+1}} |h(r)|^q \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/q} \leq \sum_{j=1}^\infty \left( \int_{2^j}^{2^{j+1}} |h(r)|^q \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/q} < \infty.$$

Notice further that the constant functions are contained in  $l^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}^+)$  but not in  $\mathcal{D}_q$ .

On the other hand,

$$\mathcal{D}_q \not\subset L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+). \tag{3.2}$$

To see (3.2), we construct a function  $h \in \mathcal{D}_q \setminus L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^+)$ . For convenience, we consider the case  $q = 2$ . Define  $h$  on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  by  $h(r) = \sqrt[n]{r}$ , if  $r \in [1 + \frac{1}{n+1}, 1 + \frac{1}{n}]$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h(r) = 0$  otherwise. It is clear that  $h$  is not bounded. To see that  $h \in \mathcal{D}_q$ , we first observe that since  $h(r) = 0$  for all  $r \geq 2$ , it follows that  $h$  satisfies (3.1b). To see that  $h$  satisfies (3.1a), notice

$$\left( \int_1^2 \left| \frac{h(r)}{r^{1/2}} \right|^2 \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \sum_{n=1}^\infty \int_{1+\frac{1}{n+1}}^{1+\frac{1}{n}} \left| \frac{h(r)}{r^{1/2}} \right|^2 \frac{dr}{r} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left( \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{\sqrt{n}}{n(n+1)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} < \infty.$$

Now, we have the following result:

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $h \in \mathcal{D}_q$  for some  $1 \leq q < \infty$  and  $\Omega \in L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$  is a homogeneous function of degree zero on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying (1.1), then  $\mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .*

*Proof.* By simple change of variables and Plancherel’s theorem, we have

$$\left| \mu_{\Omega,h}^\rho \right|_2^2 \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left| \widehat{f}(\xi) \right|^2 \left[ \int_0^\infty \left| t^{-\rho} \int_{|y| \leq t} e^{-2\pi i y \cdot \xi} |y|^{-n+\rho} h(|y|) \Omega(y) dy \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t} \right] d\xi. \tag{3.3}$$

On the other hand, by Minkowski’s integral inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \int_0^\infty \left| t^{-\rho} \int_{|y| \leq t} e^{-2\pi i y \cdot \xi} |y|^{-n+\rho} h(|y|) \Omega(y) dy \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left( \int_0^\infty \left| \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') \chi_{[0,t]}(r) r^{\rho-1} d\sigma(y') dr \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t^{1+2\rho}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty \left( \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') \chi_{[0,t]}(r) d\sigma(y') \right|^2 \frac{dt}{t^{1+2\alpha}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dr}{r^{1-\alpha}} \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \left( \int_r^\infty \frac{dt}{t^{1+2\alpha}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dr}{r^{1-\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\alpha}} \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

In view of (3.4), we need only to show that

$$\sup_{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n - \{0\}} \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} < \infty. \tag{3.5}$$

We consider two cases:

Case 1. If  $|\xi| > 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &= \int_0^{2/|\xi|} \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ & \quad + \int_{2/|\xi|}^1 \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ & \quad + \int_1^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &=: I + II + III. \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

By the cancellation property (1.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{2/|\xi|} \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &= \int_0^{2/|\xi|} \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} (e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} - 1) h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &= \sum_{-\infty}^1 \int_{2^{j-1}/|\xi|}^{2^j/|\xi|} \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} (e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} - 1) h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq C |\Omega|_{L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})} \|h\|_{L^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}_+)}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

where the last inequality was obtained using (3.1b). Next, choose  $j_\xi \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $2^{j_\xi} \leq 2/|\xi|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} II &= \int_{2/|\xi|}^1 \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq \int_{2^{j_\xi}}^1 \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq |\Omega|_{L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})} \left\| h/r^{1/q'} \right\|_{L^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}_+)} \sum_{j=j_\xi+1}^0 (2^{j-1})^{1/q'} \\ &\leq C |\Omega|_{L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})} \left\| h/r^{1/q'} \right\|_{L^\infty(L^q)(\mathbb{R}_+)}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

where  $C$  does not depend on the choice of  $j_\xi$ . Finally, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} III &= \int_1^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \xi} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &\leq C |\Omega|_{L^1(\mathbb{S}^{n-1})}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

where the last inequality was obtained using (3.1b). This proves (3.5) for all  $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $|\zeta| > 2$ .

Case 2. If  $|\zeta| \leq 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \zeta} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ &= \int_0^2 \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \zeta} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r} \\ & \quad + \int_2^\infty \left| \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} e^{-2\pi i r y' \cdot \zeta} h(r) \Omega(y') d\sigma(y') \right| \frac{dr}{r}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

To estimate (3.10), we follow similar argument as in Case 1. This completes the proof.  $\square$

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