

ON A WEAK TYPE ESTIMATE FOR SPARSE OPERATORS OF  
STRONG TYPE

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**Abstract.** We define sparse operators of strong type on abstract measure spaces with ball-bases. Weak and strong type inequalities for such operators are proved.

**MSC2010 numbers:** 42B20, 42B25, 28A25.

**Keywords:** Calderón-Zygmund operator; sparse operator; abstract measure space; ball-basis; weak type estimate.

1. INTRODUCTION

The sparse operators are very simple positive operators recently appeared in the study of weighted estimates of Calderón-Zygmund and other related operators. It was proved that some well-known operators (Calderón-Zygmund operators, martingale transforms, maximal function, Carleson operators, etc.) can be dominated by sparse operators, and this kind of dominations imply a series of deep results for the mentioned operators (see [1, 2, 4 – 7]). In particular, Lerner's [6] norm domination of the Calderón-Zygmund operators by sparse operators gave a simple alternative proof to the  $A_2$ -conjecture solved by Hytönen [3]. Lacey [5] established a pointwise sparse domination for the Calderón-Zygmund operators with an optimal condition (Dini condition) on the modulus of continuity, getting a logarithmic gain to the result previously proved by Conde-Alonso and Rey [1]. The paper [5] also proves a pointwise sparse domination for the martingale transforms, providing a short approach to the  $A_2$ -theorem proved by Treil-Thiele-Volberg [8]. For the Carleson operators norms sparse domination was proved by Di Plinio and Lerner [2], while the pointwise domination follows from a general result proved later in [4].

In this paper we consider sparse operators based on ball-bases in abstract measure spaces. The concept of ball-basis was introduced by the first author in [4]. Based on ball-basis the paper [4] defines a wide class of operators (including, in particular, the

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<sup>1</sup>Research was supported by a grant from Science Committee of Armenia 18T-1A081.

above mentioned operators) that can be pointwisely dominated by sparse operators. Some estimates of sparse operators in abstract spaces were obtained in [4]. In this paper we define a stronger version of sparse operators, and prove weak and strong type estimates for such operators.

We first recall the definition of the ball-basis from [4].

**Definition 1.1.** *Let  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  be a measure space. A family of sets  $\mathfrak{B} \subset \mathfrak{M}$  is said to be a ball-basis if it satisfies the following conditions.*

- B1)  $0 < \mu(B) < \infty$  for any ball  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$ .
- B2) For any two points  $x, y \in X$  there exists a ball  $B \ni x, y$ .
- B3) If  $E \in \mathfrak{M}$ , then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a finite or infinite sequence of balls  $B_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , such that

$$\mu\left(E \triangle \bigcup_k B_k\right) < \varepsilon.$$

- B4) For any  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$  there is a ball  $B^* \in \mathfrak{B}$  (called a hull of  $B$ ) satisfying the conditions:

$$\bigcup_{A \in \mathfrak{B}: \mu(A) \leq 2\mu(B), A \cap B \neq \emptyset} A \subset B^*, \quad \mu(B^*) \leq \mathcal{K}\mu(B),$$

where  $\mathcal{K}$  is a positive constant.

A ball-basis  $\mathfrak{B}$  is said to be doubling if there is a constant  $\eta > 1$  such that for any  $A \in \mathfrak{B}$ ,  $A^* \neq X$ , one can find a ball  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$  to satisfy

$$(1.1) \quad A \subsetneq B, \quad \mu(B) \leq \eta \cdot \mu(A).$$

In [4], it was shown that the condition (1.1) in the definition can equivalently be replaced by a stronger condition  $\eta_1 \leq \mu(B)/\mu(A) \leq \eta_2$ , where  $\eta_2 > \eta_1 > 1$ . It is well-known the non-standard features of non-doubling bases in many problems of analysis.

One can easily check that the family of Euclidean balls in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  forms a ball-basis and it is doubling. An example of non-doubling ball-basis can serve us the martingale-basis defined as follows. Let  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  be a measure space, and let  $\{\mathfrak{B}_n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  be a collection of measurable sets such that 1) each  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  is a finite or countable partition of  $X$ , 2) for each  $n$  and  $A \in \mathfrak{B}_n$  the set  $A$  is a union of sets  $A' \in \mathfrak{B}_{n+1}$ , 3) the collection  $\mathfrak{B} = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathfrak{B}_n$  generates the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathfrak{M}$ , 4) for any points  $x, y \in X$  there is a set  $A \in \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $x, y \in A$ . One can easily check that  $\mathfrak{B}$  satisfies all the ball-basis conditions B1)-B4). On the other hand, it is not always doubling. Obviously, it is

doubling if and only if  $\mu(\text{pr}(B)) \leq c\mu(B)$ ,  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$ , where  $\text{pr}(B)$  (parent of  $B$ ) denotes the minimal ball satisfying  $B \subsetneq \text{pr}(B)$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{B}$  be a ball-basis in a measure space  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$ . For  $f \in L^r(X)$ ,  $1 \leq r < \infty$ , and a ball  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$  we set

$$\langle f \rangle_{B,r} = \left( \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \int_B |f|^r \right)^{1/r}, \quad \langle f \rangle_{B,r}^* = \sup_{A \in \mathfrak{B}: A \supset B} \langle f \rangle_{A,r}.$$

A collection of balls  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathfrak{B}$  is said to be sparse or  $\gamma$ -sparse if for any  $B \in \mathcal{S}$  there is a set  $E_B \subset B$  such that  $\mu(E_B) \geq \gamma\mu(B)$  and the sets  $\{E_B : B \in \mathcal{S}\}$  are pairwise disjoint, where  $0 < \gamma < 1$  is a constant. We associate with  $\mathcal{S}$  the operators:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}f(x) = \sum_{A \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f \rangle_{A,r} \cdot \mathbb{I}_A(x), \quad \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*f(x) = \sum_{A \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f \rangle_{A,r}^* \cdot \mathbb{I}_A(x),$$

called sparse and strong type sparse operators, respectively. The weak- $L^1$  estimate of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},1}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (case  $r = 1$ ) as well as its boundedness on  $L^p$  ( $1 < p < \infty$ ) were proved by Lerner [6]. The  $L^p$ -boundedness of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}$  for general ball-bases was shown by the first author in [4].

We will say that a constant is admissible if it depends only on  $p$  and on the constants  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\gamma$  from the above definitions, and the notation  $a \lesssim b$  will stand for the inequality  $a \leq c \cdot b$ , where  $c > 0$  is an admissible constant. The main result of this paper is the weak- $L^r$  estimate of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*$  generated by general ball-bases. More precisely, we have the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *A sparse operator of strong type  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*$ ,  $1 \leq r < \infty$ , corresponding to a general ball-basis, is a bounded operator on  $L^p$  for  $r < p < \infty$ , and satisfies the weak- $L^r$  estimate, that is,*

$$(1.2) \quad \|\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*(f)\|_p \lesssim \|f\|_p, \quad r < p < \infty,$$

$$(1.3) \quad \mu\{\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*(f) > \lambda\} \lesssim \frac{\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r}, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

The proof of  $L^p$ -boundedness of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*$  is simple and uses the duality argument as in [6]. Lerner's [6] proof of weak- $L^1$  estimate in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  applies the standard Calderón-Zygmund decomposition argument. The Calderón-Zygmund decomposition may fail if the ball-basis is not doubling, so for the weak- $L^r$  estimate in the case of general ball-basis we apply the function flattening technique displayed in Lemma 2.7. That is, we reconstruct the function  $f \in L^r$  around the big values to get a  $\lambda$ -bounded function  $g \in L^{2r}$ , having ball averages of  $f$  dominated by those of  $g$ . As a result we will have  $\|\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*f\|_{r,\infty} \lesssim \|\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*g\|_{2r,\infty}$ , reducing the weak- $L^r$  estimate of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*$  to weak- $L^{2r}$ .

## 2. AUXILIARY LEMMAS

Recall some definitions and propositions from [4]. We say that a set  $E \subset X$  is bounded if  $E \subset B$  for a ball  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([4]). *Let  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  be a measure space with a ball-basis  $\mathfrak{B}$ . If  $E \subset X$  is bounded and  $\mathcal{G}$  is a family of balls with  $E \subset \bigcup_{G \in \mathcal{G}} G$ , then there exists a finite or infinite sequence of pairwise disjoint balls  $G_k \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $E \subset \bigcup_k G_k^*$ .*

**Definition 2.1.** *For a set  $E \in \mathfrak{M}$  a point  $x \in E$  is said to be a density point if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a ball  $B \ni x$  such that  $\mu(B \cap E) > (1 - \varepsilon)\mu(B)$ . We say that a measure space  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  satisfies the density property if almost all points of any measurable set are density points.*

**Lemma 2.2** ([4]). *Any ball-basis satisfies the density property.*

The  $L^r$  maximal function associated to the ball-basis  $\mathfrak{B}$  we denote by

$$M_r f(x) = \sup_{B \in \mathfrak{B}: x \in B} \langle f \rangle_{B,r}$$

**Lemma 2.3** ([4]). *If  $1 \leq r < p \leq \infty$ , then the maximal function  $M_r$  satisfies the strong  $L^p$  and weak- $L^r$  inequalities.*

**Definition 2.2.** *We say that  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$  is a  $\lambda$ -ball for a function  $f \in L^r(X)$  if*

$$\langle f \rangle_{B,r} > \lambda.$$

*If, in addition, there is no  $\lambda$ -ball  $A \supset B$  satisfying  $\mu(A) \geq 2\mu(B)$ , then  $B$  is said to be a maximal  $\lambda$ -ball for  $f$ .*

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let the function  $f \in L^r(X)$  have bounded support, and let  $\lambda > 0$ . There exist pairwise disjoint maximal  $\lambda$ -balls  $\{B_k\}$  such that*

$$(2.1) \quad G_\lambda = \{x \in X : M_r f(x) > \lambda\} \subset \bigcup_k B_k^*.$$

**Proof.** Since  $f$  has bounded support, one can easily check that the set  $G_\lambda$  is also bounded. Besides, any  $\lambda$ -ball is in some maximal  $\lambda$ -ball. Thus we conclude that  $G_\lambda = \bigcup_\alpha B_\alpha$ , where each  $B_\alpha$  is a maximal  $\lambda$ -ball. Applying the above covering lemma, we find a sequence of pairwise disjoint balls  $B_k$  such that

$$G_\lambda \subset \bigcup_k B_k^*$$

and so we have (2.1). □

Let  $B \subset (a, b)$  be a Lebesgue measurable set. For a given positive real  $\kappa \leq |B|$  denote

$$a(\kappa, B) = \inf\{a' : |(a, a') \cap B| \geq \kappa\}, \quad L(\kappa, B) = (a, a(\kappa, B)) \cap B.$$

Observe that  $L(\kappa, B)$  determines the "leftmost" set of measure  $\kappa$  in  $B$  and  $a(\kappa, B)$  does not depend on the choice of  $a$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $A \subset B \subset (a, b)$  be Lebesgue measurable sets on the real line, and let  $0 < \kappa \leq |A|$ . Then we have*

$$|L(\kappa, B) \triangle L(\kappa, A)| \leq 2|B \setminus A|.$$

**Proof.** Obviously, we have  $a \leq a(\kappa, B) \leq a(\kappa, A) \leq b$ . Since  $|L(\kappa, B)| = |L(\kappa, A)|$ , the sets

$$\begin{aligned} L(\kappa, B) \setminus L(\kappa, A) &= ((a, a(\kappa, B)) \cap (B \setminus A)), \\ L(\kappa, A) \setminus L(\kappa, B) &= ((a(\kappa, B), a(\kappa, A)) \cap A). \end{aligned}$$

have the same measure. So, we get

$$|L(\kappa, B) \triangle L(\kappa, A)| = 2|((a, a(\kappa, B)) \cap (B \setminus A))| \leq 2|B \setminus A|.$$

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  be a non-atomic measure space and  $G_k$  be a finite or infinite sequence of measurable sets in  $X$ . If a sequence of numbers  $\xi_k \geq 0$  satisfies  $\sum_k \xi_k < \infty$  and the condition*

$$(2.2) \quad \sum_{j: \mu(G_j) \leq \mu(G_k), G_j \cap G_k \neq \emptyset} \xi_j \leq \mu(G_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

*then there exist pairwise disjoint measurable sets  $\tilde{G}_k \subset G_k$  such that*

$$(2.3) \quad \mu(\tilde{G}_k) = \xi_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

**Proof.** Without loss of generality we can suppose that  $\mu(G_k)$  is decreasing. Since the measure space is non-atomic, we can also suppose that  $G_k$  are Lebesgue measurable sets in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We first assume that the sequence  $G_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , is finite. We apply backward induction. The existence of  $\tilde{G}_n \subset G_n$  satisfying  $\mu(\tilde{G}_n) = \xi_n$  follows from (2.2), since the latter implies  $\xi_n \leq \mu(G_n)$  and we have that the measure is non-atomic. We define  $\tilde{G}_n$  to be the leftmost set in  $G_n$ , that is,  $\tilde{G}_n = L(\xi_n, G_n)$ . Suppose by induction we have defined pairwise disjoint sets  $\tilde{G}_k \subset G_k$  satisfying (2.3) for  $l \leq k \leq n$ . From (2.2) it follows that

$$\mu\left(G_{l-1} \setminus \bigcup_{k=l}^n \tilde{G}_k\right) \geq \mu(G_{l-1}) - \sum_{l \leq j \leq n: G_j \cap G_{l-1} \neq \emptyset} \mu(\tilde{G}_j) \geq \xi_{l-1}.$$

Hence we can define  $\tilde{G}_{l-1} = L(\xi_{l-1}, G_{l-1} \setminus \bigcup_{k=l}^n \tilde{G}_k)$ . To proceed the general case we apply the finite case that we have proved. Then for each  $n$  we find a family of pairwise disjoint sets  $G_k^{(n)}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  such that  $\mu(G_k^{(n)}) = \xi_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . Applying Lemma 2.5 and analyzing once again the leftmost selection argument of the tilde sets, one can observe that

$$\mu(G_k^{(n+1)} \Delta G_k^{(n)}) \leq \sum_{j=k}^n \mu(G_{n+1}^{(n+1)} \cap G_j^{(n)}) \leq \xi_{n+1}.$$

So, we conclude that

$$\mu(G_k^{(m)} \Delta G_k^{(n)}) \leq \sum_{k=n+1}^m \xi_k, \quad m > n \geq k.$$

The last inequality implies that for a fixed  $k$  the sequence  $\mathbb{I}_{G_k^{(m)}}$  converges in  $L^1$ -norm as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . Moreover, one can see that the limiting function is again an indicator function of a set  $\tilde{G}_k$ , and the sequence  $\tilde{G}_k$  satisfies the conditions of the lemma.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  be a non-atomic measure space, and let  $f \in L^r(X)$ ,  $1 \leq r < \infty$ , be a boundedly supported positive function. Then for any  $\lambda > 0$  there exists a measurable set  $E_\lambda \subset X$  such that*

$$(2.4) \quad \mu(E_\lambda) \lesssim \|f\|_r^r / \lambda^r, \quad \{x \in X : M_r f(x) > \lambda\} \subset E_\lambda,$$

and the function

$$(2.5) \quad g(x) = f(x) \cdot \mathbb{I}_{X \setminus E_\lambda}(x) + \lambda \cdot \mathbb{I}_{E_\lambda}(x)$$

satisfies the conditions:

$$(2.6) \quad g(x) \leq \lambda \text{ a.e. on } X, \quad \langle f \rangle_{B,r} \lesssim \langle g \rangle_{B^*,r} \text{ whenever } B \in \mathfrak{B}, B \not\subset E_\lambda.$$

**Proof.** Applying Lemma 2.4 we find a sequence of pairwise disjoint maximal  $\lambda$ -balls  $B_k$  satisfying (2.1). Thus, applying the density property (Lemma 2.2), one can conclude that

$$(2.7) \quad f(x) \leq \lambda \text{ for a.a. } x \in X \setminus \bigcup_k B_k^*.$$

Given  $B_k$ , we associate the family of balls

$$(2.8) \quad \mathfrak{B}_k = \{B \in \mathfrak{B} : B \cap B_k^* \neq \emptyset, \mu(B) > 2\mu(B_k^*)\}.$$

Observe that if one of these families, say  $\mathfrak{B}_{k_0}$ , is empty, then in view of conditions B2) and B4), one can easily check that  $X \subset B_{k_0}^{**}$ . Then defining  $E_\lambda = X$ , the claim

of the lemma will be satisfied. Hence we can assume that each  $\mathfrak{B}_k$  is nonempty, and so, there is a ball  $G_k \in \mathfrak{B}_k$  such that

$$(2.9) \quad \mu(G_k) \leq 2 \inf_{B \in \mathfrak{B}_k} \mu(B).$$

From  $\lambda$ -maximality of  $B_k$  and the inequality  $\mu(G_k) > 2\mu(B_k^*)$ , we get  $B_k^* \subset G_k^*$ ,  $\langle f \rangle_{G_k^*, r} \leq \lambda$ . This implies

$$(2.10) \quad \frac{1}{\lambda^r} \int_{G_k^*} f^r \leq \mu(G_k^*) \leq c \cdot \mu(G_k),$$

where  $c > 0$  is an admissible constant. Denote

$$D_1 = B_1^*, \quad D_k = B_k^* \setminus \cup_{1 \leq j \leq k-1} B_j^*, \quad k \geq 2,$$

and consider the numerical sequence  $\xi_k = \frac{\delta}{\lambda^r} \int_{D_k} f^r$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , for some constant  $\delta > 0$ . Taking into account (2.10), for a small admissible constant  $\delta > 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{j: \mu(G_j) \leq \mu(G_k), G_j \cap G_k \neq \emptyset} \xi_j &= \frac{\delta}{\lambda^r} \bigcup_{j: \mu(G_j) \leq \mu(G_k), G_j \cap G_k \neq \emptyset} \int_{D_j} f^r \\ &\leq \frac{\delta}{\lambda^r} \int_{G_k^*} f^r \leq c\delta \mu(G_k) \leq \mu(G_k), \end{aligned}$$

which gives condition (2.2). Since our measure space is non-atomic, applying Lemma 2.6, we find pairwise disjoint subsets  $\tilde{G}_k \subset G_k$  such that

$$(2.11) \quad \mu(\tilde{G}_k) = \frac{\delta}{\lambda^r} \int_{D_k} f^r, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

The disjointness of the sets  $D_k$  implies

$$(2.12) \quad \sum_k \mu(\tilde{G}_k) = \frac{\delta}{\lambda^r} \sum_k \int_{D_k} f^r \lesssim \frac{\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r}.$$

From the  $\lambda$ -maximality and disjointness property of  $B_k$ , we get

$$(2.13) \quad \mu\left(\bigcup_k B_k^{**}\right) \lesssim \sum_k \mu(B_k) \leq \frac{1}{\lambda^r} \sum_k \int_{B_k} f^r \leq \frac{\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r}.$$

Denote  $E_\lambda = \left(\bigcup_k \tilde{G}_k\right) \cup \left(\bigcup_k B_k^{**}\right)$ . From (2.12) and (2.13) we get  $\mu(E_\lambda) \lesssim \|f\|_r^r / \lambda^r$ , and (2.7) implies (2.6). Hence it remains to prove that the function  $g$  satisfies (2.6). Take a ball  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$  with  $B \not\subset E_\lambda$ . First of all observe that for each  $B_k$  satisfying  $B \cap B_k^* \neq \emptyset$  we have  $\mu(B) > 2\mu(B_k^*)$ , since otherwise we would have  $B \subset B_k^{**} \subset E_\lambda$ , which is not true. Thus, whenever  $B \cap B_k^* \neq \emptyset$  we have  $B \in \mathfrak{B}_k$ , then we get  $\mu(G_k) \leq 2\mu(B)$ , and so  $\tilde{G}_k \subset G_k \subset B^*$ . Besides, from (2.7) and the definition of  $g$  it

follows that  $f(x) \leq g(x)$  a.e. on  $X \setminus \cup_k B_k^*$ . Hence, using (2.11) and the disjointness of  $\tilde{G}_k$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f \rangle_{B,r}^r &= \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \left( \int_{B \cap (\cup_k B_k^*)} f^r + \int_{B \setminus \cup_k B_k^*} f^r \right) \leq \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \left( \sum_{k: B_k^* \cap B \neq \emptyset} \int_{B \cap D_k} f^r + \int_{B \setminus \cup_k B_k^*} g^r \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \left( \sum_{k: B_k^* \cap B \neq \emptyset} \int_{D_k} f^r + \int_B g^r \right) = \frac{1}{\mu(B)} \left( \sum_{k: B_k^* \cap B \neq \emptyset} \frac{\lambda^r \mu(\tilde{G}_k)}{\delta} + \int_B g^r \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\delta \mu(B^*)} \left( \sum_{k: B_k^* \cap B \neq \emptyset} \int_{\tilde{G}_k} g^r + \int_{B^*} g^r \right) \lesssim \langle g \rangle_{B^*,r}^r. \end{aligned}$$

This implies (2.6).  $\square$

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

*Proof of  $L^p$ -boundedness.* For any  $B \in \mathfrak{S}$  we have  $\langle f \rangle_{B,r}^* \leq M_r f(x)$  for all  $x \in B$ , and therefore  $\langle f \rangle_{B,r}^* \leq \langle M_r f \rangle_{B,r}$ ,  $B \in \mathfrak{B}$ . Let  $E_B$  be the disjoint portions of the sparse collection of balls satisfying  $\mu(E_B) \geq \gamma \cdot \mu(B)$ . Also, suppose that  $r < p < \infty$  and  $q = p/(p-1)$ . Thus, for positive functions  $f \in L^p$  and  $g \in L^q(X)$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_X \mathcal{A}_{\mathfrak{S},r}^* f \cdot g d\mu &\leq \sum_{B \in \mathfrak{S}} \langle M_r f \rangle_{B,r} \int_B g d\mu = \sum_{B \in \mathfrak{S}} \langle M_r f \rangle_{B,r} \cdot \langle g \rangle_{B,1} \cdot \mu(B) \\ &\leq \gamma^{-1} \sum_{B \in \mathfrak{S}} \langle M_r f \rangle_{B,r} \cdot (\mu(E_B))^{1/p} \cdot \langle g \rangle_{B,1} \cdot (\mu(E_B))^{1/q} \\ &\leq \gamma^{-1} \left( \sum_{B \in \mathfrak{S}} \langle M_r f \rangle_{B,r}^p \cdot \mu(E_B) \right)^{1/p} \cdot \left( \sum_{B \in \mathfrak{S}} \langle g \rangle_{B,1}^q \cdot \mu(E_B) \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq \gamma^{-1} \|M_r(M_r f)\|_p \|M_1(g)\|_q \lesssim \|M_r f\|_p \cdot \|g\|_q \lesssim \|f\|_p \cdot \|g\|_q, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of  $L^p$ -boundedness.  $\square$

*Proof of weak- $L^r$  estimate.* Without loss of generality, we can assume that our measure space  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  is non-atomic, since any measure space can be extended to a non-atomic measure space by splitting the atoms as follows. Suppose  $A \subset \mathfrak{M}$  is the family of atomic elements of the measure space  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$ , that is, for any  $a \in A$  we have  $\mu(a) > 0$  and there is no proper  $\mathfrak{M}$ -measurable set in  $a$ . We can suppose that each atom is continuum and let  $(a, \mathfrak{M}_a, \mu_a)$  be a non-atomic measure space on  $a \in A$  such that  $\mu_a(a) = \mu(a)$ . Denote by  $\mathfrak{M}'$  the  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$  generated by  $\mathfrak{M}$  and by all  $\mathfrak{M}_a$ ,  $a \in A$ . Let  $\mu'$  be an extension of  $\mu$  such that  $\mu'(E) = \mu_a(E)$  for any  $\mathfrak{M}_a$ -measurable



set  $E \subset a$ . Hence,  $(X, \mathfrak{M}', \mu')$  provides a non-atomic extension of the measure space  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$ .

Now let  $f$  be a  $\mathfrak{M}$ -measurable function. The balls are  $\mathfrak{M}$ -measurable, and so they can not contain an atom  $a$  partially. Thus, the left and right sides of inequality (1.3) are not changed if we consider  $(X, \mathfrak{M}', \mu')$  instead of the initial measure space. Hence, we can suppose that  $(X, \mathfrak{M}, \mu)$  is itself non-atomic. Applying Lemma 2.7, we find a function  $g$  satisfying the conditions of the lemma. From (2.6) we get  $\langle f \rangle_{B,r}^* \leq \langle g \rangle_{B,r}^*$  for any  $B \in \mathcal{S}$  with  $B \not\subset E_\lambda$  and hence,  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^* f(x) \leq \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^* g(x)$ ,  $x \in X \setminus E_\lambda$ . Therefore, using the  $L^{2r}$  bound of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^*$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mu\{x \in X : \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^* f(x) > \lambda\} &\leq \mu(E_\lambda) + \mu\{x \in X \setminus E_\lambda : \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{S},r}^* g(x) > \lambda\} \\ &\lesssim \frac{\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r} + \frac{1}{\lambda^{2r}} \int_{X \setminus E_\lambda} |g|^{2r} \leq \frac{\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r} + \frac{\lambda^r}{\lambda^{2r}} \int_{X \setminus E_\lambda} f^r \leq \frac{2\|f\|_r^r}{\lambda^r}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of theorem 1.1.  $\square$

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Поступила 26 октября 2018

После доработки 25 февраля 2019

Принята к публикации 25 апреля 2019