# Sparse bounds and sharp weighted inequalities 

Andrei Lerner<br>Bar-Ilan University<br>15th Discussion meeting in Harmonic Analysis Bangalore<br>December 18-21, 2017

## Sparse families and sparse bounds

- Given $0<\eta \leqslant 1$, we say that a family $\mathcal{S}$ of cubes from $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ is $\eta$-sparse if for any $Q \in \mathcal{S}$ there exists a subset $E_{Q} \subset Q$ such that
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(3) Fix a cube $Q_{0} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$. Take an arbitrary collection of pairwise disjoint cubes $Q_{1}^{j} \subset Q_{0}$ such that $\sum_{j}\left|Q_{1}^{j}\right| \leqslant(1-\eta)\left|Q_{0}\right|$. In a similar way take collections of cubes in every $Q_{1}^{j}$, and so on. Then the resulting family of all the cubes appearing in the process will be $\eta$-sparse.


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(4) Define the dyadic maximal operator

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M^{\mathcal{D}} f(x)=\sup _{Q \ni x, Q \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_{Q}|f|,
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- By a sparse bound (or a sparse domination) for a given operator $T$ one typically means an estimate of the form

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|\langle T f, g\rangle| \leqslant C \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}\langle f\rangle_{p, Q}\langle g\rangle_{r, Q}|Q| \quad(1 \leqslant p, r<\infty)
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- It has been observed that such an estimate with the best possible (that is, the smallest possible) $p$ and $r$ typically yields the sharp quantitative weighted inequalities for $T$.


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(1) $T$ is $L^{2}$ bounded;
(2) $T$ is represented as

$$
T f(x)=\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} K(x, y) f(y) d y \quad \text { for all } x \notin \operatorname{supp} f
$$

(3) $K$ satisfies the size condition $|K(x, y)| \leqslant \frac{C_{K}}{|x-y|^{n}}, x \neq y$;
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\begin{aligned}
& \left|K(x, y)-K\left(x^{\prime}, y\right)\right|+\left|K(y, x)-K\left(y, x^{\prime}\right)\right| \leqslant \omega\left(\frac{\left|x-x^{\prime}\right|}{|x-y|}\right) \frac{1}{|x-y|^{n}} \\
& \text { for }|x-y|>2\left|x-x^{\prime}\right| \text {, where } \omega:[0,1] \rightarrow[0, \infty) \text { is continuous, } \\
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for $|x-y|>2\left|x-x^{\prime}\right|$, where $\omega:[0,1] \rightarrow[0, \infty)$ is continuous, increasing, subadditive and $\omega(0)=0$.

- The standard assumption on $\omega$ is that $\omega(t)=C t^{\delta}, 0<\delta \leqslant 1$. In this case we will skip $\omega$. More general assumptions are

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{1} \omega(t) \log \frac{1}{t} \frac{d t}{t}<\infty \quad(\log -\text { Dini }), \quad \int_{0}^{1} \omega(t) \frac{d t}{t}<\infty \tag{Dini}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Sharp quantitative weighted inequalities

- By a weight we mean a non-negative, locally integrable function. Given a weight $w$, set

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- We say that a weight $w$ satisfies the $A_{p}, 1<p<\infty$, condition if

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[w]_{A_{p}}=\sup _{Q}\left(\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_{Q} w\right)\left(\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_{Q} w^{-\frac{1}{p-1}}\right)^{p-1}<\infty
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- S. Buckley (1993): for the maximal operator,

$$
\|M\|_{L^{p}(w) \rightarrow L^{p}(w)} \leqslant C(n, p)[w]_{A_{p}}^{\frac{1}{p-1}} \quad(p>1)
$$

and the exponent $\frac{1}{p-1}$ is best possible for every $p>1$.

## The $A_{2}$ conjecture

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## The $A_{2}$ conjecture

- S. Petermichl and A. Volberg (2002) settled the $A_{2}$ conjecture for $B$.
- S. Petermichl (2004): the $A_{2}$ conjecture is true for the Hilbert transform

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- The key idea of the proof: a representation of Calderón-Zygmund operators in terms of the so-called Haar shift operators

$$
\mathbb{S}_{\mathscr{D}}^{m, k} f(x)=\sum_{Q \in \mathscr{D}} \sum_{\substack{Q^{\prime}, Q^{\prime \prime} \in \mathscr{\mathscr { O } , Q ^ { \prime } , Q ^ { \prime \prime } \subset Q} \\ \ell\left(Q^{\prime}\right)=2^{-m} \ell(Q), \ell\left(Q^{\prime \prime}\right)=2^{-k} \ell(Q)}} \frac{\left\langle f, h_{Q^{\prime}}^{Q^{\prime \prime}}\right\rangle}{|Q|} h_{Q^{\prime \prime}}^{Q^{\prime}}(x)
$$

with their subsequent analysis.

## A sparse domination approach to the $A_{2}$ conjecture

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## A.L. (2009), T.Hytönen (2012), A.L. and F. Nazarov (2014)

For every measurable function $f$ with $\mu_{f}(\alpha)<\infty$, there exists a $\frac{1}{6}$-sparse family $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathscr{D}$ such that for a.e. $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$,

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- Some history:
(1) L. Carleson (1976): a different proof of the $H^{1}-B M O$ duality;
(2) J. Garnett and P. Jones (1982): a dyadic version;
(3) N. Fujii (1991): BMO can be replaced by $L_{l o c}^{1}$.


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where the supremum is taken over all $\frac{1}{2}$-sparse families $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathscr{D}$ and all dyadic lattices $\mathscr{D}$.

## The proof of $\left\|A_{\mathcal{S}, \mathscr{D}}\right\|_{L^{2}(w) \rightarrow L^{2}(w)} \leqslant C[w]_{A_{2}}$.

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- A.L. and F. Nazarov, J. Conde-Alonso and G. Rey (2014):

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- (2016 - ): $\approx 60$ "sparse domination" papers.


## The maximal operator $M_{T}$

Given a sublinear operator $T$, define the maximal operator $M_{T}$ by

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- The idea of the proof: for all $x, \xi \in Q$,

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\left|T\left(f \chi_{\mathbb{R}^{n} \backslash 3 Q}\right)(\xi)\right| & \leqslant\left|T\left(f \chi_{\mathbb{R}^{n} \backslash B_{x}}\right)(\xi)-T\left(f \chi_{\mathbb{R}^{n} \backslash B_{x}}\right)(x)\right| \\
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where $B_{x}$ is the smallest ball centered at $x$ containing $3 Q$.

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- By $(*), M_{T}$ is of weak type $(1,1)$ and

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\left\|M_{T} f\right\|_{L^{1, \infty}} \leqslant C_{n} C_{T}\|f\|_{L^{1}}
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where $C_{T}=\|T\|_{L^{2} \rightarrow L^{2}}+C_{K}+[\omega]_{\text {Dini }}$.

## Theorem (A.L. (2015))

Assume that $T$ and $M_{T}$ are of weak type $(1,1)$. Then, for every compactly supported $f \in L^{1}\left(\mathbb{R}^{n}\right)$, there exists a sparse family $\mathcal{S}$ such that for a.e. $x$,

$$
|T f(x)| \leqslant K A_{\mathcal{S}}|f|(x)
$$

where $K=C_{n}\left(\|T\|_{L^{1} \rightarrow L^{1, \infty}}+\left\|M_{T}\right\|_{L^{1} \rightarrow L^{1, \infty}}\right)$.

## The proof of $|T f(x)| \leqslant K A_{\mathcal{S}}|f|(x)$

- The key recursive claim: there exist pairwise disjoint cubes $P_{j} \subset Q_{0}$ such that $\sum_{j}\left|P_{j}\right| \leqslant \frac{1}{2}\left|Q_{0}\right|$ and for a.e. on $Q_{0}$,

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- Hence, the statement holds with the $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^{n}}$-sparse family

$$
\mathcal{S}=\{3 Q: Q \in \mathcal{F}\}
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## The proof of $|T f(x)| \leqslant C(n, T) A_{\mathcal{S}}|f|(x)$

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A=\left\{x \in Q_{0}:\left|T\left(f \chi_{3 Q_{0}}\right)(x)\right|>C_{n}\|T\|_{L^{1} \rightarrow L^{1, \infty}}|f|_{3 Q_{0}}\right\}
$$

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- From this, (1), (2) and (3) follow.


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- if $Q \in \mathscr{D}$, then each child of $Q$ is in $\mathscr{D}$ as well;
- every 2 cubes $Q^{\prime}, Q^{\prime \prime} \in \mathscr{D}$ have a common ancestor, i.e., there exists $Q \in \mathscr{D}$ such that $Q^{\prime}, Q^{\prime \prime} \in \mathcal{D}(Q)$;
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- for every compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$, there is a cube $Q \in \mathscr{D}$ containing $K$.
- The "classical" dyadic lattice

$$
\left\{2^{-k}\left([0,1)^{n}+j\right), k \in \mathbb{Z}, j \in \mathbb{Z}^{n}\right\}
$$

is not a dyadic lattice in this sense.

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- for every compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$, there is a cube $Q \in \mathscr{D}$ containing $K$.
- In order to construct a dyadic lattice $\mathscr{D}$, it suffices to fix any cube $Q_{0}$ and then expand it dyadically, including all dyadic children into $\mathscr{D}$.



## Dyadic lattices

The three lattice theorem (A.L. and F. Nazarov (2014))
For every dyadic lattice $\mathscr{D}$, there exist $3^{n}$ dyadic lattices $\mathscr{D}^{(1)}, \ldots, \mathscr{D}^{\left(3^{n}\right)}$ such that

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- The one-third trick: there are $3^{n}$ dyadic lattices $\mathscr{D}^{(j)}$ such that for every cube $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$, there is a cube $P \in \mathscr{D}^{(j)}$ for some $j$, containing $Q$ and such that $|P| \leqslant 3^{n}|Q|$.


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- Proof: fix a dyadic lattice $\mathscr{D}$. Let $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$. Take a cube $Q^{\prime} \in \mathscr{D}$ containing the center of $Q$ and such that $\ell_{Q} / 2<\ell_{Q^{\prime}} \leqslant \ell_{Q}$. Then $Q \subset 3 Q^{\prime}$. But $3 Q^{\prime} \in \mathscr{D}^{(j)}$.


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- Assume that $\mathcal{S}$ is an $\eta$-sparse family. For $Q \in \mathcal{S}$, let $P_{Q}$ be a cube from the above statement. Then the family

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$$
\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}|f|_{Q} \chi_{Q} \leqslant 3^{n} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}|f|_{P_{Q}} \chi_{P_{Q}} \leqslant 3^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{3^{n}} \sum_{P \in \mathcal{S}_{j}}|f|_{P} \chi_{P}
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## A general sparse domination principle

- We have seen that if $T$ and

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- The main application is based on the estimate of

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}}\left(A_{\mathcal{S}} f\right) g d x=\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} f_{Q} g_{Q}|Q|
$$

so instead of the pointwise domination of $T$ by $A_{\mathcal{S}}$, it suffices to establish a weaker estimate

$$
|\langle T f, g\rangle| \leqslant C \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}|f|_{Q}|g|_{Q}|Q| .
$$

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are of weak type $(1,1)$, then $|T f(x)| \leqslant K A_{\mathcal{S}}|f|(x)$.

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\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}}\left(A_{\mathcal{S}} f\right) g d x=\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} f_{Q} g_{Q}|Q|
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so instead of the pointwise domination of $T$ by $A_{\mathcal{S}}$, it suffices to establish a weaker estimate

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- This leads naturally to more general estimates of the form

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\begin{equation*}
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Let $r, s \geqslant 1$. Assume that $T$ is a sublinear operator of weak type $(q, q)$ for some $1 \leqslant q \leqslant r$, and $\mathcal{M}_{T}$ maps $L^{r} \times L^{s}$ into $L^{\nu, \infty}$, where $\frac{1}{\nu}=\frac{1}{r}+\frac{1}{s}$.
Then, for every compactly supported $f \in L^{r}\left(\mathbb{R}^{n}\right)$ and every $g \in L_{\text {lac }}^{s}$, there exists a $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^{n}}$-sparse family $\mathcal{S}$ such that ( $*$ ) holds, where

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- If $s=1$, then a stronger, pointwise estimate holds:

$$
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## Rough singular integrals

- Consider a class of rough homogeneous singular integrals defined by

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\begin{aligned}
& \qquad T_{\Omega} f(x)=\text { p.v. } \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} f(x-y) \frac{\Omega(y /|y|)}{|y|^{n}} d y, \\
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on $\lambda$ for a given operator $T$ of weak type $(1,1)$.

- (*) is equivalent to

$$
\Phi_{T_{\Omega}}(\lambda) \leqslant C_{n}\|\Omega\|_{L^{\infty}} \log \frac{\mathrm{e}}{\lambda}
$$

## Some words about the proof

Let

$$
M_{\lambda, T_{\Omega}} f(x)=\sup _{Q \ni x}\left(T_{\Omega}\left(f \chi_{\mathbb{R}^{n} \backslash 3 Q}\right) \chi_{Q}\right)^{*}(\lambda|Q|)
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- The key statement: if $\left\|T_{\Omega}\right\|_{L^{2} \rightarrow L^{2}} \lesssim \delta$, then

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This part is based heavily on the decomposition of A. Seeger (1996).

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- Applying the key statement with $\Omega=\Omega-\Omega_{\varepsilon}$ and $\delta=\varepsilon^{1 / 2}$ yields

$$
\left\|M_{\lambda, T_{\Omega}}\right\|_{L^{1} \rightarrow L^{1, \infty}} \lesssim\left(\frac{\varepsilon^{1 / 2}}{\lambda}+\log \frac{\mathrm{e}}{\varepsilon}\right)
$$

It remains to optimize the argument with respect to $\varepsilon$ : take $\varepsilon=\lambda^{2}$.

## A sharp quadratic bound

- T. Hytönen, L. Roncal, O. Tapiola (2015):

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\left\|T_{\Omega}\right\|_{L^{2}(w) \rightarrow L^{2}(w)} \leqslant C_{n}\|\Omega\|_{L^{\infty}}[w]_{A_{2}}^{2}
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- Hence, $\left\|M_{1, T_{\Omega}}\right\|_{L^{2}(w) \rightarrow L^{2}(w)} \lesssim[w]_{A_{2}}^{2}$, and (1) follows from the first estimate along with Buckley's linear $[w]_{A_{2}}$ bound for $M$.


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- The sharpness of (1) follows from

$$
\left\|M \circ T_{\Omega}\right\|_{L^{p} \rightarrow L^{p}} \geqslant \frac{c}{(p-1)^{2}}
$$

as $p \rightarrow 1$, and a general extrapolation argument found by T. Luque, C. Pérez and E. Rela (2015).

## An open question

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- The example of interest here is the iterated Ahlfors-Beurling operator $B^{m}=B \circ \cdots \circ B$ (T. Hytönen, L. Roncal, O. Tapiola). In this case $B^{m}=T_{\Omega_{m}}$ with

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- Conjecture:

$$
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## Commutators of Calderón-Zygmund operators

- Let $T$ be an $\omega$-Calderón-Zygmund operator with $\omega$ satisfying the Dini condition. The commutator of $T$ with a locally integrable function $b$ is defined by

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- It follows from the approach by S . Janson that $[b, T]$ is bounded on $L^{p}(w)$ if $w \in A_{p}$.
- D. Chung, C. Pereyra, C. Pérez (2012): for all $p>1$,

$$
\|[b, T]\|_{L^{p}(w) \rightarrow L^{p}(w)} \leqslant C(n, T)\|b\|_{B M O}[w]_{A_{p}}^{2 \max \left(1, \frac{1}{p-1}\right)},
$$

and the exponent $2 \max \left(1, \frac{1}{p-1}\right)$ is best possible.

## Two-weighted theory

- We say that $b \in B M O_{\nu}$ if

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- I. Holmes, M. Lacey and B. Wick (2015) extended this result to general Calderón-Zygmund operators.


## A sparse domination of commutators

- Introduce the sparse operator $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}, b}$ defined by

$$
\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}, b} f(x)=\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}\left|b(x)-b_{Q}\right| f_{Q} \chi_{Q}(x)
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Let $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}, b}^{\star}$ be the adjoint operator to $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}, b}$ :

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- A.L., S. Ombrosi, I. Rivera-Ríos (2016): for every compactly supported $f \in L^{\infty}\left(\mathbb{R}^{n}\right)$, there are $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 9^{n}}$-sparse families $\mathcal{S}_{j} \subset \mathscr{D}^{(j)}, j=1, \ldots, 3^{n}$, such that for a.e. $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$,

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- If $\lambda=\mu=w$, this recovers the sharp bound by Chung-Pereyra-Pérez:

$$
\|[b, T]\|_{L^{p}(w) \rightarrow L^{p}(w)} \leqslant C(n, T)\|b\|_{B M O}[w]_{A_{p}}^{2 \max \left(1, \frac{1}{p-1}\right)}
$$

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- Consider $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{S}, b}^{\star} f(x)=\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}\left(\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_{Q}\left|b-b_{Q}\right| f\right) \chi_{Q}(x)$.


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- Applying

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\left\|A_{\mathcal{S}}\right\|_{L^{p}(w) \rightarrow L^{p}(w)} \leqslant c_{n, p}[w]_{A_{p}}^{\max \left(1, \frac{1}{p-1}\right)}
$$

twice yields $(*)$.

## Iterated commutators

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- On the other hand, the assumption $b \in B M O_{\nu^{1 / m}}$ appeared much earlier, in the work of J. García-Cuerva, E. Harboure, C. Segovia, J.L. Torrea (1991) about commutators of strongly singular integrals.


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- A.L., S. Ombrosi, I. Rivera-Ríos (2017): assume that

$$
T_{\Omega} f(x)=\int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \Omega\left(\frac{x-y}{|x-y|}\right) \frac{1}{|x-y|^{n}} f(y) d y \quad(x \notin \operatorname{supp} f)
$$

where $\Omega$ is a measurable function on $S^{n-1}$, which does not change sign and is not equivalent to zero on some open subset from $S^{n-1}$. If there is $C>0$ such that for every bounded measurable set $E \subset \mathbb{R}^{n}$,

$$
\left\|\left(T_{\Omega}\right)_{b}^{m}\left(\chi_{E}\right)\right\|_{L^{p}(\lambda)} \leqslant C \mu(E)^{1 / p}
$$

then $b \in B M O_{\nu^{1 / m}}$.

Thank you for your attention!

