

## OPERATOR VALUED BMO AND COMMUTATORS.

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ABSTRACT. If  $E$  is a Banach space,  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  and  $T$  is a  $\mathcal{L}(E)$ -valued Calderón-Zygmund type operator with operator-valued kernel  $k$ , we show the boundedness of the commutator  $T_b(f) = bT(f) - T(bf)$  on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for  $1 < p < \infty$  whenever  $b$  and  $k$  verify some commuting properties. Some endpoint estimates are also provided.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND NOTATION

We shall work on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  endowed with the Lebesgue measure  $dx$  and use the notation  $|A| = \int_A dx$ . Given a Banach space  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$  we shall denote by  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  the space of Bochner  $p$ -integrable functions endowed with the norm  $\|f\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, X)} = (\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|f(x)\|^p dx)^{1/p}$ , by  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  the closure of the compactly supported functions in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  and by  $L_{weak, \alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  the space of measurable functions such that  $|\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|f(x)\| > \lambda\}| \leq \alpha(\lambda)$  where  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a non increasing function. We write  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  for the Hardy space defined by  $X$ -valued atoms, that is the space of integrable functions  $f = \sum_k \lambda_k a_k$  where  $\lambda_k \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\sum_k |\lambda_k| < \infty$  and  $a_k$  belong to  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$ ,  $supp(a_k) \subset Q_k$  for some cube  $Q_k$ ,  $\int_{Q_k} a(x) dx = 0$  and  $\|a(x)\| \leq \frac{1}{|Q_k|}$ . We also write, for a positive function  $\phi$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $BMO_\phi(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  for the space of locally integrable functions such that there exists  $C > 0$  such that for all cube  $Q$

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|f(x) - f_Q\| dx \leq C\phi(|Q|)$$

where  $f_Q = \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q f(x) dx$ . For  $\phi(t) = 1$  we denote the space  $BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  and the above condition is equivalent to

$$osc_p(f, Q) = \left(\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|f(x) - f_Q\|^p dx\right)^{1/p} < \infty$$

for each (equivalently for all)  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . The infimum of the constants satisfying the above inequalities define the "norm" in the space.

Let us denote by  $f^\#$  and  $M(f)$  the sharp and the Hardy-Littlewood maximal functions of  $f$  defined by

$$f^\#(x) = \sup_{x \in Q} osc_1(f, Q) \quad \text{and} \quad M(f)(x) = \sup_{x \in Q} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|f(x)\| dx.$$

We write  $M_q(f) = M(\|f\|^q)^{1/q}$  for  $1 \leq q < \infty$ .

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It is well known that

$$(1) \quad f^\#(x) \approx \sup_{x \in Q} \inf_{c_Q \in X} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|f(x) - c_Q\| dx$$

and that  $f^\# \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  implies that  $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  for  $1 < p < \infty$ .

Recall also that  $M_q$  maps  $L^q(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  into  $L_{weak,1/t^q}$  and

$$(2) \quad M_q : L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, X) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbb{R}^n) \text{ is bounded for } q < p \leq \infty.$$

Throughout the paper  $E$  denotes a Banach space and  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  denotes the space of bounded linear operators on  $E$ .

**Definition 1.1.** *We shall say that  $T$  is a  $\mathcal{L}(E)$ -Calderón-Zygmund type operator if the following properties are fulfilled:*

$$(3) \quad T : L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E) \text{ is bounded for some } 1 < p < \infty,$$

there exists a locally integrable function  $k$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{(x, x)\}$  into  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  such that

$$(4) \quad Tf(x) = \int k(x, y)f(y)dy$$

for every  $E$ -valued bounded and compactly supported function  $f$  and  $x \notin \text{supp } f$ , and there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$(5) \quad \|k(x, y) - k(x', y)\| \leq C \frac{|x - x'|^\varepsilon}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}}, \quad |x - y| \geq 2|x - x'|.$$

**Remark 1.2.** *It is well known (see [RRT] or [GR]) that in such a case  $T$  is bounded on  $L^q(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for any  $1 < q < \infty$ .*

Throughout the literature, after the result on commutators in [CRW], many results appeared in connection with the boundedness of commutators of Calderón-Zygmund type operators and multiplication by a function  $b$  given by  $T_b(f) = bT(f) - T(bf)$  on many different function spaces and on their weighted and vector-valued versions (see [ST1, ST2, ST3, ST4, ST5]). Also endpoint estimates for the commutator was a topic that attracted several people on different directions (see [CP, HST, PP, P1, P2, PT1, PT2]).

We shall deal in this paper with the unweighted but operator-valued version of the commutators and will give some results about its boundedness on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  and produce some endpoint estimates.

The following result was shown by C. Segovia and J.L. Torrea (even with some weights and two different Banach spaces).

**Theorem 1.3.** ([ST1, Theorem 1]) *Let  $T$  be an  $\mathcal{L}(E)$ -valued Calderón-Zygmund type operator and let  $\ell \rightarrow \tilde{\ell}$  be a correspondence from  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  to  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  such that*

$$(6) \quad \tilde{\ell}T(f)(x) = T(\ell f)(x)$$

and

$$(7) \quad k(x, y)\ell = \tilde{\ell}k(x, y).$$

If  $b$  is an  $\mathcal{L}(E)$ -valued function such that  $b$  and  $\tilde{b}$  belong to  $BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  then

$$T_b(f) = bT(f) - T(bf)$$

is bounded from  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$ .

The endpoint estimates of that result were later studied by E. Harboure, C. Segovia and J.L. Torrea (see Theorem A and Theorem 3.1 in [HST]) when  $b$  was assumed to be scalar-valued. From their results one concludes that non-constant scalar valued  $BMO$  functions do not define bounded commutators from  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  to  $BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, F)$  when kernel of the Calderón-Zygmund type operators are  $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ -valued. Also it was shown that, in general,  $T_b$  does not map  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $L^1(\mathbb{R}, F)$ .

The aim of this note is to use the techniques developed in the papers [ST1, HST] to get some extensions for operator-valued  $BMO$ -functions having some commuting properties with the kernel. In particular we show that if  $\|k(x, y)\| \leq \psi(|x - y|^n)$  for certain function  $\psi$  then the commutators of operator-valued  $BMO$  functions and operator-valued Calderón-Zygmund operators map  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $BMO_\phi(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for a function  $\phi$  depending on  $\psi$ . Also we shall see that the commutator is bounded from  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $L_{weak, \alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for a suitable  $\alpha$  defined from  $\psi$ .

Throughout the paper  $b : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(E)$  is locally integrable and  $T$  is a Calderón-Zygmund type operator defined on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  with a kernel  $k$  satisfying (3), (4) and (5). We write

$$T_b(f)(x) = b(x)(T(f)(x)) - T(bf)(x)$$

where we understand the product  $bf$  as the  $E$ -valued function  $b(y)(f(y))$ .

As usual, we shall use the notation  $Q$  for a cube in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x_Q$  for its center,  $\ell(Q)$  for the side length,  $\lambda Q$  for a cube centered at  $x_Q$  with side length  $\lambda\ell(Q)$  and  $Q^c = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus Q$ . Finally, as usual,  $C$  stands for a constant that may vary from line to line.

## 2. THE RESULTS

We improve Theorem 1.3 by realizing that conditions (6) and (7) are not of independent nature. Our basic assumptions throughout the paper are the following ones:

$$(A1) \quad b(z)k(x, y) = k(x, y)b(z), \quad x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^n, x \neq y.$$

$$(A2) \quad b_Q T(e\chi_A)(x) = T(b_Q e\chi_A)(x), \quad x \in Q, A \subseteq Q \text{ measurable}, e \in E.$$

We would like to point out that (A1) produces the following cancelation property.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $b$  satisfy (A1), let  $Q, Q'$  be cubes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  be compactly supported  $E$ -valued with  $\text{supp} f_1 \subset Q'$  and  $\text{supp} f_2 \subset (Q')^c$ . Then*

$$(8) \quad b_Q T(f_2)(x) = T(b_Q f_2)(x), \quad x \in Q'.$$

$$(9) \quad b_Q T(f_1)(x) = T(b_Q f_1)(x), \quad x \in (Q')^c.$$

*Proof.* Let us show (8). Recall that if  $F \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n, X)$  and  $\Phi \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  for a given Banach space then  $\Phi(\int F(x)dx) = \int \Phi F(x)dx$ . Hence, considering  $X = \mathcal{L}(E)$  and

$\Phi(T) = Tb_Q$  or  $\Phi(T) = b_Q T$  one gets, for  $x \in Q'$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
b_Q T(f_2)(x) &= b_Q \left( \int_{(Q')^c} k(x, y) f_2(y) dy \right) \\
&= \int_{(Q')^c} b_Q k(x, y) f_2(y) dy \\
&= \int_{(Q')^c} \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q b(z) dz \right) k(x, y) f_2(y) dy \\
&= \int_{(Q')^c} \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q b(z) k(x, y) dz \right) f_2(y) dy \\
&= \int_{(Q')^c} k(x, y) \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q b(z) dz \right) f_2(y) dy \\
&= T(b_Q f_2)(x).
\end{aligned}$$

(9) follows similarly and it is left to the reader.  $\blacksquare$

The assumptions **(A1)** and **(A2)** hold true, for instance, in the following cases.

**Example 2.2.** Let  $T, S$  be operators in  $\mathcal{L}(E)$  with  $ST = TS$ . Let  $b(x) = b_0(x)T$  and  $k(x, y) = k_0(x, y)S$  for scalar valued functions  $b_0$  and  $k_0$ .

Hence our results will apply whenever either  $b$  or  $k$  are scalar-valued.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $E$  be a Banach space,  $b_0(x) \in E^*$  and let  $k(x, y)$  be scalar valued function such that  $T$  is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ . The case  $T_{b_0}(f) = \langle b_0, T(f) \rangle - T(\langle b_0, f \rangle)$  follows from the operator-valued case by selecting  $e \in E$  and  $b(x)(f) = \langle b_0(x), f \rangle e$  in  $\mathcal{L}(E)$ .

We state here the results of the paper. The first one is just a modification of a similar result from [ST1] but stated here under slightly weaker assumptions.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  and let  $T$  be a Calderón-Zygmund type operator defined on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  where the kernel and  $b$  satisfy **(A1)** and **(A2)**. Then  $T_b$  is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for any  $1 < p < \infty$ .

Next we analyze the endpoint estimates. We construct a function  $\phi$  for the commutator  $T_b$  to be bounded from  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $BMO_\phi(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $T$  be a Calderón-Zygmund type operator with operator-valued kernel  $k$  and assume that

$$(10) \quad \|k(x, y)\| \leq \psi(|x - y|^n), \quad x \neq y$$

for some  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\int_s^\infty \psi(u) du = \phi(s) < \infty$  for all  $s > 0$ .

If  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  satisfies **(A1)** and that  $T_b$  is bounded on some  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  then  $T_b$  is bounded from  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $BMO_{1+\phi}(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ .

We also discover a the function  $\alpha$  such that the commutator of a function  $b$  in  $BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  with a Calderón-Zygmund type operator  $T_b$  maps the space  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $L_{weak, \alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $T$  be a Calderón-Zygmund type operator with operator-valued kernel  $k$ . Assume that

$$(11) \quad \|k(x, y)\| \leq \gamma(|x - y|^n), \quad x \neq y$$

for some decreasing function  $\gamma : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  and

$$(12) \quad \|k(x, y) - k(x, y')\| \leq C \frac{|y - y'|^\varepsilon}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}}, \quad |x - y| \geq 2|y - y'|.$$

If  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{L}(E))$  satisfies **(A1)** and  $T_b$  is bounded on some  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  then  $T_b$  is bounded from  $H^1(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $L^1_{weak, \alpha}(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  for  $\alpha(\lambda) = \gamma^{-1}(\|b\|_{BMO}^{-1}\lambda)$ .

As corollaries of these results one obtains the following applications.

**Corollary 2.7.** (see [ST1]) Let  $H$  be the Hilbert transform

$$H(f)(x) = p.v. \int \frac{f(y)}{x - y} dy,$$

and  $E$  be a UMD space (see [GR]). If  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{L}(E))$  then

- (i)  $H_b$  maps  $L^p(\mathbb{R}, E)$  to  $L^p(\mathbb{R}, E)$  for  $1 < p < \infty$  and
- (ii)  $H_b$  maps  $H^1(\mathbb{R}, E)$  to  $L_{weak, 1/t}(\mathbb{R}, E)$ .

Although our results are stated in  $\mathbb{R}$ , similar ones work in  $\mathbb{T}$ . In this case we can obtain

**Corollary 2.8.** (see [HST]) Let  $\tilde{H}$  be the conjugate function in the torus

$$\tilde{H}(f)(x) = p.v. \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \cot\left(\frac{x - y}{2}\right) f(y) dy, \quad x \in [-\pi, \pi]$$

and  $E$  be a UMD space. If  $b \in BMO(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{L}(E))$  then

- (i)  $H_b$  maps  $L^p(\mathbb{T}, E)$  to  $L^p(\mathbb{T}, E)$  for  $1 < p < \infty$ ,
- (ii)  $H_b$  maps  $H^1(\mathbb{T}, E)$  to  $L_{weak, 1/t}(\mathbb{T}, E)$  and
- (iii)  $H_b$  maps  $L^\infty(\mathbb{T}, E)$  to  $BMO_{|\log t|^{-1}}(\mathbb{T}, E)$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THE RESULTS

Let us start by showing some consequences from **(A1)** and **(A2)**.

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $b$  satisfy **(A1)** and **(A2)**, let  $Q$  be cube in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f$  be simple  $E$ -valued. Then

$$(13) \quad b_Q T(f)(x) = T(b_Q f)(x) \quad x \in Q.$$

*Proof.* Take  $f_1 = f\chi_Q$  and  $f_2 = f - f_1$ . Using Lemma 2.1 one obtains  $b_Q T(f_2)\chi_Q = T(b_Q f_2)\chi_Q$  and **(A2)** shows that  $b_Q T(f_1)\chi_Q = T(b_Q f_1)\chi_Q$ .  $\blacksquare$

The following useful lemma is essentially included in [HST].

**Lemma 3.2.** let  $Q$  be a cube, denote  $Q_j = 2^j Q$  and let  $f$  be compactly supported  $E$ -valued with  $\text{supp} f \subset (2Q)^c$ . Then there exists  $C > 0$  such that

$$(14) \quad \|T(f)(x) - T(f)(x')\| \leq C \frac{|x - x'|^\varepsilon}{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon} \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \frac{2^{-j\varepsilon}}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\| dy, \quad x, x' \in Q.$$

*Proof.* Using (4) and (5) one has

$$\begin{aligned}
\|T(f)(x) - T(f)(x')\| &\leq \int_{(2Q)^c} \|k(x, y) - k(x', y)\| \|f(y)\| dy \\
&\leq C|x - x'|^\varepsilon \int_{(2Q)^c} \frac{\|f(y)\|}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} dy \\
&\leq C|x - x'|^\varepsilon \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{Q_{j+1}-Q_j} \frac{\|f(y)\|}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} dy \\
&\leq C|x - x'|^\varepsilon \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ell(Q_j)^{n+\varepsilon}} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\| dy \\
&\leq C \frac{|x - x'|^\varepsilon}{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon} \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\| dy.
\end{aligned}$$

■

### Proof of Theorem 2.4

Let  $f$  be a simple  $E$ -valued function. Let  $Q$  be a cube,  $f_1 = f\chi_{2Q}$  and  $f_2 = f - f_1$ . Put  $c_Q = T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x_Q)$ .

For each  $x \in Q$  one has, applying Lemma 3.1,

$$T_b f(x) - c_Q = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sigma_i(x)$$

where

$$\sigma_1(x) = (b - b_Q)Tf(x),$$

$$\sigma_2(x) = T((b_Q - b)f_1)(x)$$

and

$$\sigma_3(x) = T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x) - T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x_Q).$$

Observe that for  $1 < q < \infty$  and  $1/q + 1/q' = 1$  we can write

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|\sigma_1(x)\| dx \leq \text{osc}_{q'}(b, Q) \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|Tf(x)\|^q dx \right)^{1/q}.$$

For any  $q > q_1 > 1$  one can use Remark 1.2, for  $1/r + 1/q = 1/q_1$ , to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|\sigma_2(x)\| dx &\leq \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|T(b_Q - b)f_1(x)\|^{q_1} dx \right)^{1/q_1} \\
&\leq C \|T\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n, E))} \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|(b - b_Q)f_1(x)\|^{q_1} dx \right)^{1/q_1} \\
&\leq C \|T\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{q_1}(\mathbb{R}^n, E))} \text{osc}_r(b, Q) \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|f(x)\|^q dx \right)^{1/q}.
\end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 3.2, and taking into account that  $\|b_Q - b_{2Q}\| \leq C \text{osc}_{q_1}(b, 2Q)$ , we also can estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\sigma_3(x)\| &\leq C \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|(b(y) - b_Q)f(y)\| dy \\
&\leq C \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \left( \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|b(y) - b_Q\|^{q'} dy \right)^{1/q'} \left( \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\|^q dy \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq C \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \left( \sum_{k=2}^j \text{osc}_{q'}(b, Q_k) \right) \left( \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\|^q dy \right)^{1/q} \\
&\leq C \sup_{j \geq 2} \left( \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\|^q dy \right)^{1/q} \left( \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \left( \sum_{k=2}^j \text{osc}_{q'}(b, Q_k) \right) \right) \\
&\leq C \|b\|_{BMO} \sup_{j \geq 2} \left( \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|f(y)\|^q dy \right)^{1/q} \sum_j j 2^{-j\varepsilon}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, combining the previous estimates, one obtains

$$T_b(f)^\#(x) \leq C \|b\|_{BMO} (M_q(Tf)(x) + M_q(f)(x)).$$

Now, for a given  $1 < p < \infty$ , select  $1 < q < p$  and apply (2), which, combined with the boundedness of  $T$  on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ , shows that  $\|T_b(f)^\#\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)}$ . Now use the vector-valued analogue of Fefferman-Stein's result (see [FS, RRT]) to obtain that  $\|T_b(f)\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)}$ . ■

### Proof of Theorem 2.5

As in the previous theorem, let  $f$  be a simple  $E$ -valued function. Let  $Q$  be a cube,  $f_1 = f \chi_{2Q}$ ,  $f_2 = f - f_1$  and  $c_Q = T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x_Q)$ . Now, using Lemma 2.1, we write

$$T_b f(x) = T_b(f_1)(x) + (b(x) - b_Q)T(f_2)(x) + T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x).$$

Denote now

$$\sigma_1(x) = T_b(f_1)(x),$$

$$\sigma_2(x) = (b(x) - b_Q)T(f_2)(x),$$

$$\sigma_3(x) = T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x) - T((b_Q - b)f_2)(x_Q).$$

Hence  $T_b f - c_Q = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sigma_i$ . Note that the boundedness of  $T_b$  on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  gives

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|\sigma_1(x)\| dx \leq C \|T_b\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^p)} \left( \frac{1}{|2Q|} \int_{2Q} \|f(x)\|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C \|f\|_\infty.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|\sigma_2(x)\| dx &\leq \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left\| \int_{(2Q)^c} k(x, y) f(y) dy \right\| dx \\
&\leq C \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left( \int_{(2Q)^c} \psi(|x - y|^n) \|f(y)\| dy \right) dx \\
&\leq C \|f\|_\infty \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left( \int_{|u| > \ell(Q)} \psi(|u|^n) du \right) dx \\
&\leq C \|f\|_\infty \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b(x) - b_Q\| dx \right) \left( \int_{\ell(Q)}^\infty r^{n-1} \psi(r^n) dr \right) \\
&\leq C \|f\|_\infty \|b\|_{BMO} \left( \int_{|Q|}^\infty \psi(t) dt \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Finally Lemma 3.2 gives immediately

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|\sigma_3(x)\| dx \leq C \|b\|_{BMO} \|f\|_\infty.$$

This allows us to conclude the estimate

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|T_b f(x) - c_Q\| dx \leq C \|f\|_\infty (1 + \phi(|Q|)).$$

This shows that  $T_b$  maps  $L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$  into  $BMO_{1+\phi}(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ . ■

### Proof of Theorem 2.6

Let  $a$  be an  $E$ -valued atom supported on  $Q$ . Using Lemma 2.1 we can write

$$T_b a(x) = \chi_{2Q}(x) T_b(a)(x) + \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) (b(x) - b_Q) T(a)(x) + \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) T((b_Q - b)a)(x).$$

Denote now

$$\sigma_1(x) = \chi_{2Q}(x) T_b(a)(x),$$

$$\sigma_2(x) = \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) (b(x) - b_Q) T(a)(x),$$

$$\sigma_3(x) = \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) T((b_Q - b)a)(x).$$

Now, using the boundedness of  $T_b$  on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\sigma_1(x)\| dx &\leq C |Q|^{1/p'} \|T_b(a)\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, E)} \\
&\leq C \|T_b\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^p)} |Q| \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|a(x)\|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\
&\leq C \|T_b\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^p)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Also we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\sigma_2(x)\| dx &\leq \int_{(2Q)^c} \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left\| \int_Q k(x, y) a(y) dy \right\| dx \\
&\leq \int_{(2Q)^c} \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left\| \int_Q (k(x, y) - k(x, x_Q)) a(y) dy \right\| dx \\
&\leq C \int_{(2Q)^c} \|b(x) - b_Q\| \left( \int_Q \frac{|y - x_Q|^\varepsilon}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} \|a(y)\| dy \right) dx \\
&\leq C \frac{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon}{|Q|} \int_Q \left( \int_{(2Q)^c} \frac{\|b(x) - b_Q\|}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} dx \right) dy \\
&\leq C \frac{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon}{|Q|} \int_Q \left( \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\ell(Q_j)^{n+\varepsilon}} \int_{Q_j - Q_{j-1}} \|b(x) - b_Q\| dx \right) dy \\
&\leq C \left( \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} 2^{-j\varepsilon} \frac{1}{|Q_j|} \int_{Q_j} \|b(x) - b_Q\| dx \right) \leq C \|b\|_{BMO}.
\end{aligned}$$

Now decompose  $\sigma_3 = \sigma_{3,1} + \sigma_{3,2}$  where

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_{3,1}(x) &= \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) \int_Q (k(x, y) - k(x, x_Q)) (b_Q - b(y)) a(y) dy, \\
\sigma_{3,2}(x) &= \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) k(x, x_Q) \int_Q b(y) a(y) dy.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\sigma_{3,1}(x)\| dx &\leq \int_{(2Q)^c} \int_Q \|k(x, y) - k(x, x_Q)\| \|b_Q - b(y)\| \|a(y)\| dy dx \\
&\leq \int_{(2Q)^c} \frac{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon}{|Q|} \left( \int_Q \frac{\|b_Q - b(y)\|}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} dy \right) dx \\
&\leq \frac{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b_Q - b(y)\| \left( \int_{(2Q)^c} \frac{dx}{|x - y|^{n+\varepsilon}} \right) dy \\
&\leq \frac{\ell(Q)^\varepsilon}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b_Q - b(y)\| \left( \int_{|x| > \ell(Q)} \frac{dx}{|x|^{n+\varepsilon}} \right) dy \leq C \|b\|_{BMO}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|\int_Q b(y) a(y) dy\| \leq \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q \|b(y) - b_Q\| dy$  we can estimate

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_{3,2}(x) &\leq \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) \|k(x, x_Q)\| \|b\|_{BMO} \\
&\leq \|b\|_{BMO} \chi_{(2Q)^c}(x) \gamma(|x - x_Q|^n)
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
|\{x : \sigma_{3,2}(x) > \lambda\}| &\leq |\{x \in (2Q)^c : \gamma(|x - x_Q|^n) > \|b\|_{BMO}^{-1} \lambda\}| \\
&= |\{x \in (2Q)^c : |x - x_Q| < [\gamma^{-1}(\|b\|_{BMO}^{-1} \lambda)]^{1/n}\}|.
\end{aligned}$$

This gives the estimate  $|\{x : \sigma_{3,2}(x) > \lambda\}| \leq \psi^{-1}(\|b\|_{BMO}^{-1} \lambda) = \alpha(\lambda)$ .

The proof is then easily concluded.  $\blacksquare$

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