

$L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  BOUNDS FOR  
COMMUTATORS OF CONVOLUTION OPERATORS

BY

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**Abstract.** The  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness is established for commutators generated by  $\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  functions and convolution operators whose kernels satisfy certain Fourier transform estimates. As an application, a new result about the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness is obtained for commutators of homogeneous singular integral operators whose kernels satisfy the Grafakos–Stefanov condition.

**1. Introduction.** We will work in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . Let  $T$  be a standard Calderón–Zygmund operator and  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Define the first order commutator of  $T$  and  $b$  by

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

In the remarkable work [3], Coifman and Meyer observed that the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  ( $1 < p < \infty$ ) boundedness of  $T_b$  can be obtained from the weighted  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  estimates with  $A_p$  weights for the operator  $T$ , where  $A_p$  denotes the weight function class of Muckenhoupt (see [7, Chapter V] for definition and properties of  $A_p$ ). Alvarez, Bagby, Kurtz and Pérez [2] developed the idea of Coifman and Meyer, and established a generalized boundedness result for commutators of linear operators. They showed that if  $1 < p, q < \infty$ , and the linear operator  $T$  is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n, w(x)dx)$  with bound independent of  $w$  for any  $w \in A_q$ , then for any positive integer  $k$  and  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , the  $k$ th order commutator of  $T$  defined by

$$T_{b,k} f(x) = b(x)T_{b,k-1} f(x) - T_{b,k-1}(bf)(x), \quad T_{b,0} f(x) = Tf(x)$$

is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(n, k, p) \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k$ . In [5], Hu considered the  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness for commutators of convolution operators and proved the following result.

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**THEOREM H.** *Let  $k$  be a positive integer,  $K(x)$  be a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $K(x) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} K_j(x)$ . Suppose that there are some constants  $C > 0$ ,  $0 < A \leq 1/2$  and  $\alpha > k + 1$  such that for each  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} \|K_j\|_1 &\leq C, \quad \|\nabla \widehat{K}_j\|_\infty \leq C2^j, \\ |\widehat{K}_j(\xi)| &\leq C \min\{A|2^j \xi|, \log^{-\alpha}(2 + |2^j \xi|)\}. \end{aligned}$$

*Then for  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $0 < \nu < 1$  such that  $\alpha\nu > k + 1$ , the commutator*

$$T_{b,k}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (b(x) - b(y))^k K(x - y)f(y) dy, \quad f \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

*is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(n, k, \alpha, \nu) \log^{-\alpha\nu+k+1}(1/A) \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k$ .*

In this paper, we will continue the study begun in [5]. By Fourier transform estimates and approximation of the identity, we will establish the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness for commutators of convolution operators. We remark that in this paper, we are very much motivated by the work of Watson [8]; some ideas are from Pérez's paper [6]. For a function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , denote by  $\widehat{f}$  the Fourier transform of  $f$ . For a nonnegative integer  $m$ , let  $\Phi_m(t) = t \log^m(2 + t)$ . For a locally integrable function  $f$  and a bounded measurable set  $E$  with Lebesgue measure  $|E|$ , define

$$\|f\|_{L(\log L)^m, E} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_E \Phi_m \left( \frac{|f(y)|}{\lambda} \right) dy \leq 1 \right\}$$

and

$$\|f\|_{\exp(L^{1/m}), E} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_E \exp \left( \frac{|f(y)|}{\lambda} \right)^{1/m} dy \leq 2 \right\}.$$

Our main result is

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $k$  be a positive integer,  $K(x)$  be a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $K_j(x) = K(x)\chi_{\{2^j \leq |x| < 2^{j+1}\}}(x)$  for  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\chi_A$  is the characteristic function of the set  $A$ . Suppose that there exist constants  $C > 0$  and  $\alpha > k + 1$  such that for each  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,*

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \|K_j\|_1 &\leq C, \quad |\widehat{K}_j(\xi)| \leq C \min\{|2^j \xi|, \log^{-\alpha}(2 + |2^j \xi|)\}, \\ \|\nabla \widehat{K}_j\|_\infty &\leq C2^j. \end{aligned}$$

*Then for  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $2\alpha/(2\alpha - (k + 1)) < p < 2\alpha/(k + 1)$ , the commutator*

$$(2) \quad T_{b,k}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (b(x) - b(y))^k K(x - y)f(y) dy, \quad f \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n),$$

*is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(n, k, p, \alpha) \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k$ .*

As an application of Theorem 1, we will obtain

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $k$  be a positive integer and  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Omega$  be homogeneous of degree zero and have mean value zero. Suppose that for some  $\alpha > k + 1$ ,*

$$(3) \quad \sup_{\zeta \in S^{n-1}} \int_{S^{n-1}} \Omega(\theta) \left( \log \frac{1}{|\theta \cdot \zeta|} \right)^\alpha d\theta < \infty.$$

*Then for  $2\alpha/(2\alpha - (k + 1)) < p < 2\alpha/(k + 1)$ , the commutator defined by*

$$\bar{T}_{b,k}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (b(x) - b(y))^k \frac{\Omega(x - y)}{|x - y|^n} f(y) dy$$

*is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(n, k, p, \alpha) \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k$ .*

**REMARK.** The size condition (3) for  $\alpha \geq 1$  was introduced by Grafakos and Stefanov [4] in order to study the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness for the homogeneous singular integral operator defined by

$$\bar{T}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\Omega(x - y)}{|x - y|^n} f(y) dy.$$

It has been proved in [4] that there exist integrable functions on  $S^{n-1}$  which are not in  $H^1(S^{n-1})$ , but satisfy (3) for all  $\alpha > 1$ . Thus our Theorem 2 shows that there exists  $\Omega \in L^1(S^{n-1}) \setminus H^1(S^{n-1})$  such that the corresponding commutator  $\bar{T}_{b,k}$  is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$  and a positive integer  $k$ .

**2. Proof of theorems.** By the estimates used in [4], it is easy to see that Theorem 2 follows from Theorem 1 directly, so we only prove Theorem 1. We begin with some preliminary lemmas.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $m$  and  $k$  be integers such that  $0 \leq m \leq k$ . Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are functions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with compact support. Then for any bounded measurable set  $E$ ,*

$$\|f * g\|_{L(\log L)^k, E} \leq C|E| \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m} \left( \frac{|f(x)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\} \\ \times \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_m \left( \frac{|g(x)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\}.$$

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we may assume that

$$\inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m} \left( \frac{|f(x)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\} = \frac{1}{2\|g\|_1}.$$

Thus, by homogeneity,

$$\inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m} \left( \frac{|f(x)| \cdot \|g\|_1}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m}(|f(x)| \cdot \|g\|_1) dx \leq 1.$$

Suppose that  $\text{supp } g$  is contained in some ball  $B$ . By the Jensen inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{k-m}(|f * g(x)|) &\leq \Phi_{k-m} \left( \int_B |f(x-y)| \cdot \|g\|_1 \frac{|g(y)|}{\|g\|_1} dy \right) \\ &\leq \int_B \Phi_{k-m}(|f(x-y)| \cdot \|g\|_1) \frac{|g(y)|}{\|g\|_1} dy. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\bar{B}$  be the support of  $f$ . Invoking the Jensen inequality again, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\Phi_m(\Phi_{k-m}(|f * g(x)|)) \\ &\leq \Phi_m \left( \int_{\bar{B}} \frac{|g(x-y)| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m}(|f(z)| \cdot \|g\|_1) dz}{\|g\|_1} \cdot \frac{\Phi_{k-m}(|f(y)| \cdot \|g\|_1) dy}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m}(|f(z)| \cdot \|g\|_1) dz} \right) \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_m \left( \frac{|g(x-y)| \cdot |E|}{\|g\|_1} \right) \frac{\Phi_{k-m}(|f(y)| \cdot \|g\|_1)}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_{k-m}(|f(z)| \cdot \|g\|_1) dz} dy, \end{aligned}$$

which via the Young inequality gives

$$\int_E \Phi_m(\Phi_{k-m}(|f * g(x)|)) dx \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_m \left( \frac{|g(y)| \cdot |E|}{\|g\|_1} \right) dy.$$

Note that for each  $t > 0$ ,  $\Phi_k(t) \leq \Phi_m(\Phi_{k-m}(t))$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f * g\|_{L(\log L)^k, E} &\leq \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_m \left( \frac{|g(x)| \cdot |E|}{\|g\|_1 \lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\} \\ &= |E| \cdot \|g\|_1^{-1} \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|E|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_m \left( \frac{|g(x)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

This leads to our desired estimate. ■

LEMMA 2. Let  $k$  be a positive integer and  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $K(x)$  be a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  such that for all  $R > 0$  and  $|y| < R/2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{d \geq 1} d^k \int_{B(0, 2^{d+1}R) \setminus B(0, 2^d R)} |K(x-y) - K(x)| dx \\ &+ \sum_{d \geq 1} |B(0, 2^d R)| \cdot \|K(\cdot - y) - K(\cdot)\|_{L(\log L)^k, B(0, 2^{d+1}R) \setminus B(0, 2^d R)} \leq A. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that for each  $0 \leq m \leq k$ , the operator

$$T_{b,m}f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (b(x) - b(y))^m K(x - y)f(y) dy$$

is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C_m \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^m$ . Then the commutator  $T_{b,k}$  is a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(A + \sum_{m=0}^k C_m) \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k$  for all  $1 < p < \infty$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)} = 1$ . By duality, it suffices to prove that for  $0 \leq m \leq k$  and  $1 < p < 2$ ,

$$(4) \quad \|T_{b,m}f\|_p \leq C \left( A + \sum_{l=0}^m C_l \right) \|f\|_p.$$

We shall carry out the argument by induction on the order  $m$ . For  $m = 0$ , it is obvious that the operator  $T_{b,0}$  is bounded from  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to weak  $L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C(C_0 + A)$ , and the estimate (4) holds for  $m = 0$ . Now let  $m$  be a positive integer and  $m \leq k$ . We assume that (4) holds for all  $0 \leq l \leq m - 1$ . By the Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorem, it is enough to show that for each  $1 < p < 2$  and  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$(5) \quad |\{x : T_{b,m}f(x) > \lambda\}| \leq C \lambda^{-p} \left( A + \sum_{l=0}^m C_l \right) \|f\|_p^p.$$

For given  $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\lambda > 0$ , applying the Calderón–Zygmund decomposition of  $|f|^p$  at the level  $\lambda^p$ , we can write  $f(x) = g(x) + h(x)$ , where  $\|g\|_\infty \leq C\lambda$ ,  $\|g\|_p \leq C\|f\|_p$ ;  $h(x) = \sum_j h_j(x)$ ,  $h_j$  is supported on  $Q_j$ ,  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} h_j(x) dx = 0$ ,  $\int |h_j(x)|^p dx \leq C\lambda^p |Q_j|$  and  $\sum_j |Q_j| \leq C\lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p$ . The  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness of  $T_{b,m}$  states that

$$|\{x : T_{b,m}g(x) > \lambda\}| \leq \lambda^{-2} \|T_{b,m}g\|_2^2 \leq C\lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p.$$

For each fixed  $j$ , let  $y_j^0$  and  $r_j$  be the center and the side length of  $Q_j$ . Set  $B_j = B(y_j^0, 4nr_j)$  and  $E = \bigcup_j B_j$ . It is obvious that

$$|E| \leq C \sum_j |Q_j| \leq C\lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p.$$

Thus, the proof of (5) can be reduced to proving that for  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$|\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus E : |T_{b,m}h(x)| > \lambda\}| \leq C\lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p.$$

For each fixed  $j$ , denote by  $m_{B_j}(b)$  the mean value of  $b$  on  $B_j$ . With the aid of the formula

$$(b(x) - b(y))^m = (b(x) - m_{B_j}(b))^m - \sum_{l=0}^{m-1} C_m^l (b(x) - b(y))^l (b(y) - m_{B_j}(b))^{m-l}, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_{b,m}h(x) &= \sum_j (b(x) - m_{B_j}(b))^m Th_j(x) \\ &\quad - \sum_{l=0}^{m-1} C_m^l T_{b,l} \left( \sum_j (b(\cdot) - m_{B_j}(b))^{m-l} h_j \right) (x). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $1 < p_0 < p$  and  $r = p/p_0$ . For each fixed  $0 \leq l \leq m-1$ , our inductive hypothesis together with the Hölder inequality tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \left| T_{b,l} \left( \sum_j (b(\cdot) - m_{B_j}(b))^{m-l} h_j \right) (x) \right| > \lambda \right\} \right| \\ &\leq \lambda^{-p_0} \left\| T_{b,l} \left( \sum_j (b(\cdot) - m_{B_j}(b))^{m-l} h_j \right) \right\|_{p_0}^{p_0} \\ &\leq C \left( A + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} C_i \right) \lambda^{-p_0} \sum_j \int_{B_j} |b(y) - m_{B_j}(b)|^{(m-l)p_0} |h_j(y)|^{p_0} dy \\ &\leq C \left( A + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} C_i \right) \lambda^{-p_0} \\ &\quad \times \sum_j \left( \int_{B_j} |b(y) - m_{B_j}(b)|^{(m-l)p_0 r'} dy \right)^{1/r'} \left( \int_{B_j} |h_j|^p dy \right)^{1/r} \\ &\leq C \left( A + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} C_i \right) \sum_j |B_j| \leq C \left( A + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} C_i \right) \lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that  $\Phi_m(t) = t \log^m(2+t)$  is a Young function and its complementary Young function is  $\Psi_m(t) \approx e^{t^{1/m}}$ . For  $y \in Q_j$  and positive integer  $d$ , it follows from the generalized Hölder inequality (see [1, Chapter 8] or [6, p. 168]) that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |K(x-y) - k(x-y_0^j)| \cdot |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m dx \\ &\leq C |m_{B_j} - m_{2^d B_j}(b)|^m \int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |K(x-y) - K(x-y_0^j)| dx \\ &\quad + C \int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |b(x) - m_{2^d B_j}(b)|^m |K(x-y) - K(x-y_0^j)| dx \\ &\leq Cd^m \int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |K(x-y) - K(x-y_0^j)| dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + C|2^d B_j| \cdot \|(b(x) - m_{2^d B_j}(b))^m\|_{\exp(L^{1/m}), 2^d B_j} \\
 & \times \|K(\cdot - y) - K(\cdot - y_0^j)\|_{L(\log L)^m, 2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} \\
 & \leq Cd^m \int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |K(x - y) - K(x - y_0^j)| dx \\
 & + C|2^d B_j| \cdot \|K(\cdot - y) - K(\cdot - y_0^j)\|_{L(\log L)^m, 2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j},
 \end{aligned}$$

where in the last but one inequality, we have invoked the fact that

$$|m_{B_j}(b) - m_{2^d B_j}(b)| \leq Cd\|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)},$$

and in the last inequality, we have used the John–Nirenberg inequality which states that for some positive constants  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ ,

$$\frac{1}{|2^d B_j|} \int_{2^d B_j} \exp\left(\frac{|b(z) - m_{2^d B_j}(b)|}{\lambda_1 \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}}\right) dz \leq \lambda_2.$$

By the vanishing mean value of  $h_j$ , we see that for each fixed  $j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_j} |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m |Th_j(x)| dx \\
 & = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_j} |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} [K(x - y) - K(x - y_0)] h_j(y) dy \right| dx \\
 & \leq C \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \int_{B_j} |h_j(y)| \\
 & \quad \times \int_{2^d B_j \setminus 2^{d-1} B_j} |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m |K(x - y) - K(x - y_0)| dx dy \\
 & \leq CA \int_{B_j} |h_j(y)| dy \leq CA|B_j|^{1-1/p} \|h_j\|_p \leq CA\lambda|Q_j|,
 \end{aligned}$$

which in turn implies

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus E : \sum_j |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m |Th_j(x)| > \lambda \right\} \right| \\
 & \leq \lambda^{-1} \sum_j \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus E} |b(x) - m_{B_j}(b)|^m |Th_j(x)| dx \leq CA \sum_j |Q_j| \leq CA\lambda^{-p} \|f\|_p^p.
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining the estimates above yields the desired estimate. ■

*Proof of Theorem 1.* By duality, it suffices to consider the case  $2 < p < 2\alpha/(k+1)$ . As in the proof of [8, Theorem 1], let  $\phi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a radial nonnegative function such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \phi(x) dx = 1$ ,  $\text{supp } \phi \subset \{x : |x| \leq 1/4\}$ .

For  $l \in \mathbb{Z}$ , set  $\phi_l(x) = 2^{-nl}\phi(2^{-l}x)$ . For a positive integer  $j$ , define

$$\tilde{K}_j(x) = \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} K_l * \phi_{l-j}(x).$$

Let  $S_j$  be the convolution operator whose kernel is  $\tilde{K}_j$ . Note that

$$|\hat{\phi}_{l-j}(\xi) - 1| \leq C \min\{|2^{l-j}\xi|, 1\}, \quad \|\nabla \hat{\phi}_{l-j}(\xi)\|_{\infty} \leq C2^{l-j}.$$

Now the Fourier transform estimate of  $K_l$  gives

$$|\hat{K}_l(\xi)\hat{\phi}_{l-j}(\xi) - \hat{K}_l(\xi)| \leq C \min\{2^{-j}|2^l\xi|, \log^{-\alpha}(2 + |2^l\xi|)\},$$

and

$$\|\nabla(\hat{K}_l\hat{\phi}_{l-j}) - \nabla\hat{K}_l\|_{\infty} \leq \|\nabla\hat{K}_l\|_{\infty}\|\hat{\phi}_{l-j} - 1\|_{\infty} + \|\hat{K}_l\|_{\infty}\|\nabla\hat{\phi}_{l-j}\|_{\infty} \leq C2^l.$$

This together with Theorem H says that for  $0 \leq m \leq k$ ,  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $0 < \nu < 1$  such that  $\alpha\nu > k + 1$ ,

$$\|T_{b,m}f - S_{j;b,m}f\|_2 \leq C(n, m)\|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^m j^{-\alpha\nu+m+1}\|f\|_2, \quad 0 \leq m \leq k.$$

By the  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness of  $T_{b,m}$ , we know that for all positive integers  $j$  and  $0 \leq m \leq k$ ,  $S_{j;b,m}$  is also bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with bound  $C\|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^m$ . Note that

$$(6) \quad \|S_{2^{j+1};b,k}f - S_{2^j;b,k}f\|_2 \leq C2^{(-\alpha\nu+k+1)j}\|f\|_2.$$

Therefore, the series

$$(7) \quad T_{b,k} = S_{1;b,k} + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (S_{2^{j+1};b,k} - S_{2^j;b,k})$$

converges in the  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  operator norm.

Now we turn to the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  boundedness of  $S_{2^j;b,k}$ . For  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , it is easy to verify that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_1 &\leq C \min\{1, 2^{j-l}|y|\}, \\ \|\phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_{\infty} &\leq C2^{-(n+1)(l-j)}|y|. \end{aligned}$$

Set  $\lambda_0 = R^{-n}j^k \min\{1, 2^j|y|/R\}$ . Straightforward computation shows that if  $|y| < R/2$  and  $R \approx 2^l$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} CR^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{|\phi_{l-j}(z-y) - \phi_{l-j}(z)|}{\lambda_0} \log^k \left( 2 + \frac{|\phi_{l-j}(z-y) - \phi_{l-j}(z)|}{\lambda_0} \right) dz \\ \leq Cj^{-k} \log^k \left( 2 + \frac{2^{-(n+1)(l-j)}|y|}{R^{-n} \min\{1, 2^j|y|/R\}} \right) \\ \leq Cj^{-k} \max \left\{ \log^k \left( 2 + \frac{2^{(n+1)j}|y|}{2^{(n+1)l}R^{-n}} \right), \log^k \left( 2 + \frac{2^{(n+1)j}R}{2^{(n+1)l}2^jR^{-n}} \right) \right\} \leq C. \end{aligned}$$



Thus,

$$\inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|B(0, 2R) \setminus B(0, R)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_k \left( \frac{|\phi_{l-j}(z-y) - \phi_{l-j}(z)|}{\lambda} \right) dz \leq 1 \right\} \\ \leq CR^{-n} j^k \min\{1, 2^j |y|/R\}.$$

Note that for  $R > 0$  and  $|y| < R/2$ ,

$$\|\tilde{K}_j(\cdot - y) - \tilde{K}_j(\cdot)\|_{L(\log L)^k, B(0, 2R) \setminus B(0, R)} \\ \leq \sum_{2^l \approx R} \|K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_{L(\log L)^k, B(0, 2R) \setminus B(0, R)}.$$

Applying Lemma 1, we find that for  $l \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $2^l \approx R$ ,

$$\|K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_{L(\log L)^k, B(0, 2R) \setminus B(0, R)} \\ \leq C \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \frac{1}{|B(0, 2R) \setminus B(0, R)|} \right. \\ \left. \times \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi_k \left( \frac{|\phi_{l-j}(z-y) - \phi_{l-j}(z)|}{\lambda} \right) dz \leq 1 \right\} \|K_l\|_1 \\ \leq CR^{-n} j^k \min\{1, 2^j |y|/R\}.$$

On the other hand, it is easy to verify that

$$\int_{R < |x| \leq 2R} |\tilde{K}_j(x-y) - \tilde{K}_j(x)| dx \leq \sum_{2^l \approx R} \|K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - K_l * \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_1 \\ \leq \sum_{2^l \approx R} \|K_l\|_1 \|\phi_{l-j}(\cdot - y) - \phi_{l-j}(\cdot)\|_1 \\ \leq C \min\{1, 2^j |y|/R\}.$$

This leads to

$$\sum_{d=1}^{\infty} d^k \int_{B(0, 2^{d+1}R) \setminus B(0, 2^d R)} |\tilde{K}_j(x-y) - \tilde{K}_j(x)| dx \\ + \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} |B(0, 2^d R)| \cdot \|\tilde{K}_j(\cdot - y) - \tilde{K}_j(\cdot)\|_{L(\log L)^k, B(0, 2^{d+1}R) \setminus B(0, 2^d R)} \\ \leq C j^k \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} (2^d R)^n \min\{1, 2^{j-d} |y|/R\} (2^d R)^{-n} + \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} d^k \min\{1, 2^{j-d} |y|/R\} \\ \leq C j^{k+1}.$$

Lemma 2 now shows that for  $1 < p < \infty$ ,

$$(8) \quad \|S_{2^{j+1}; b, k} f - S_{2^j; b, k} f\|_p \leq C 2^{(k+1)j} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k \|f\|_p.$$

By the Riesz–Thorin interpolation theorem, it follows from the inequalities (6) and (8) that for  $2 < p < \infty$  and any  $\theta_0 > 0$ ,

$$(9) \quad \|S_{2^{j+1};b,k}f - S_{2^j;b,k}f\|_p \leq C(n, k, p, \alpha, \nu, \theta_0)2^{(-2\alpha\nu/p+k+1+\theta_0)j} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)}^k \|f\|_p.$$

For each fixed  $2 < p < 2\alpha/(k+1)$ , we can choose  $\theta_0 > 0$  small enough and  $0 < \nu < 1$  such that  $-2\alpha\nu/p+k+1+\theta_0 < 0$ . So summing up the inequalities (9) over all nonnegative integers  $j$  shows that the series (7) converges in the  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  operator norm. This completes the proof of Theorem 1. ■

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