

# The John–Nirenberg inequality in ball Banach function spaces and application to characterization of BMO

Mitsuo Izuki <sup>\*</sup>, Takahiro Noi <sup>†</sup> and Yoshihiro Sawano <sup>‡</sup>

June 26, 2019

## Abstract

Our goal is to obtain the John–Nirenberg inequality for ball Banach function spaces  $X$ , provided that the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M$  is bounded on the associate space  $X'$  by using the extrapolation. As an application we characterize BMO, the bounded mean oscillation, via the norm of  $X$ .

**2010 Classification** 42B25, 42B35

**Key words** extrapolation, ball Banach function space, BMO, John–Nirenberg inequality.

## 1 Introduction

The classical BMO semi-norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{BMO}}$  is defined by

$$\|b\|_{\text{BMO}} := \sup_{Q:\text{cube}} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q |b(y) - m_Q(b)| dy = \sup_{Q:\text{cube}} m_Q(|b - m_Q(b)|)$$

for  $b \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Here and below  $m_Q(f)$  denotes the average of the locally integrable function  $f$  over a cube  $Q$ . We follow the standard convention of the usage of the word “cube”: By a cube we mean a compact cube whose edges are parallel to the coordinate axes. The BMO space consists of all locally integrable functions  $b$  such that  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}} < \infty$ . Due to the John–Nirenberg inequality and the  $L^\infty$ -BMO boundedness of singular integral operators, the BMO space is one of the important function spaces in real analysis. For example, equivalent expressions of the BMO norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{BMO}}$  are necessary in order to prove boundedness of commutators involving BMO functions on various function spaces.

---

<sup>\*</sup>E-mail: izuki@tcu.ac.jp Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Tokyo City University

<sup>†</sup>E-mail: taka.noi.hiro@gmail.com Department of Mathematics and Information Science, Tokyo Metropolitan University

<sup>‡</sup>E-mail: ysawano@tmu.ac.jp Department of Mathematics and Information Science, Tokyo Metropolitan University

Given a constant  $1 \leq p < \infty$  we define

$$\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^p}} := \sup_{Q:\text{cube}} \frac{1}{\|\chi_Q\|_{L^p}} \|(b - m_Q(b))\chi_Q\|_{L^p}.$$

It is known that the value  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^p}}$  is a semi-norm equivalent to  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$ . The estimate  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^p}}$  is easily obtained by the usual Hölder inequality. On the other hand, the opposite estimate  $C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^p}} \leq \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$  is not obvious. The following is a famous result named the John–Nirenberg inequality [21] which proves the estimate.

**Theorem 1.1.** There exist  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that for all  $\lambda > 0$ , cubes  $Q$  and  $b \in \text{BMO}$ ,

$$|\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > \lambda\}| \leq c_1 |Q| \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 \lambda}{\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}}\right).$$

We next consider a further generalization of  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^p}}$  in terms of variable exponent. Replacing the constant  $p$  by a measurable function  $p(\cdot)$  we define

$$\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^{p(\cdot)}}} := \sup_Q \frac{1}{\|\chi_Q\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}} \|(b - m_Q(b))\chi_Q\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}}.$$

The authors have considered the equivalence between  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{BMO}}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^{p(\cdot)}}}$  and obtained some results:

1. (Izuki [15]) If  $p(\cdot) \in \mathcal{P} \cap \mathcal{B}$ , then  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^{p(\cdot)}}}$  and  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$  are equivalent.
2. (Izuki–Sawano [18]) If  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty)$  satisfies  $p_- = 1$ ,  $p_+ < \infty$  and  $p(\cdot) \in LH$ , then  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^{p(\cdot)}}}$  and  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$  are equivalent.
3. (Izuki–Sawano–Tsutsui [20]) If  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty)$  satisfies  $p_+ < \infty$  and the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M$  is of weak type  $(p(\cdot), p(\cdot))$ , then  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^{p(\cdot)}}}$  and  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$  are equivalent.

The precise definition of the operator  $M$  and the classes  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $LH$  including variable exponent Lebesgue spaces are found in the next section. We note that the result due to Izuki–Sawano–Tsutsui [20] is not included in Theorem 1.2 below.

Finally we consider the replacement of not only the exponent but also the norm of  $L^p$ . Ho [12] has obtained the following result as a byproduct of atomic decomposition via Banach function spaces.

**Theorem 1.2.** Suppose that we are given a Banach function space  $X$  such that the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M$  is bounded on  $X'$ . We define

$$\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X} := \sup_Q \frac{1}{\|\chi_Q\|_X} \|(b - m_Q(b))\chi_Q\|_X$$

for  $b \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then the norms  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X}$  and  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$  are equivalent. That is, for some constant  $C \geq 1$ , we have

$$C^{-1} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X} \leq \|b\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X}$$

for any  $b \in \text{BMO}$ .

The first author [16] has given another simple proof of the theorem by virtue of the Rubio de Francia algorithm ([5, 25, 26, 27]). The proof due to [16] is applicable to the case that  $X$  is a ball Banach function space and to characterization of Campanato spaces ([19]). In particular Theorem 1.2 is true for the ball Banach function spaces.

On the other hand, Ho [13] has proved a generalization of the John–Nirenberg inequality to the case of variable exponent.

**Theorem 1.3.** Suppose that  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty]$  satisfies  $p_+ < \infty$  and  $p(\cdot) \in LH$ . Then there exist  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that for all  $\lambda > 0$ , cubes  $Q$  and  $b \in \text{BMO}$ ,

$$\left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > \lambda\}} \right\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} \leq c_1 \|\chi_Q\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} \exp\left(-\frac{c_2 \lambda}{\|b\|_{\text{BMO}}}\right).$$

Our first aim in this paper is to obtain the John–Nirenberg inequality in ball Banach function spaces via an extrapolation theorem. Applying the inequality and the extrapolation again we will give another proof of Theorem 1.2 in the setting of ball Banach function spaces.

In this paper we use the following notation:

1. Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a measurable set. The symbol  $|E|$  denotes the Lebesgue measure and  $\chi_E$  means the characteristic function.
2. Given a measurable set  $E$  such that  $|E| > 0$ , a measurable function  $f$  and a positive constant  $q$ , we define

$$m_E^{(q)}(f) := \left( \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q f(x)^q dx \right)^{1/q}$$

and  $m_E(f) := m_E^{(1)}(f)$ .

3. Let  $w$  be a locally integrable and positive function defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The usual weighted  $L^1$  norm is defined by

$$\|f\|_{L^1(w)} := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)|w(x) dx.$$

In particular, for a measurable set  $E$ , we write

$$w(E) := \|\chi_E\|_{L^1(w)} = \|w\chi_E\|_{L^1} = \int_E w(x) dx.$$

4. The symbol  $C$  always denotes a positive constant independent of the main parameters.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 The Muckenhoupt $A_p$ weights

In this subsection we recall the definition of the Muckenhoupt  $A_p$  weights and state some fundamental results. For further informations on the weights we refer to [9, 10, 24, 30].

**Definition 2.1.** Given a locally integrable function  $f$  we define the operator  $M$  by

$$Mf(x) := \sup_{Q \ni x} \frac{1}{|Q|} \int_Q |f(y)| dy \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}),$$

where the supremum is taken over all cubes  $Q$  containing  $x$ . The operator  $M$  is said to be the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator.

**Definition 2.2.** A weight  $w$  is a locally integrable and positive function defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Furthermore a weight  $w$  is said to be an  $A_1$  weight if

$$Mw(x) \leq C w(x) \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}^n)$$

holds. On the other hand, let  $1 < p < \infty$  be a constant. A weight  $w$  is said to be an  $A_p$  weight if  $w$  satisfies

$$\sup_Q \frac{1}{|Q|} \|w^{1/p} \chi_Q\|_{L^p} \|w^{-1/p} \chi_Q\|_{L^{p'}} < \infty,$$

where  $p'$  is the conjugate exponent of  $p$ , namely  $1/p + 1/p' = 1$  holds. We denote the set of all  $A_p$  weights by  $A_p$  for every  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .

**Remark 2.3.** We can rephrase the definition of  $A_p$  without using the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M$  as follows. A weight  $w$  is an  $A_1$  weight if and only if

$$[w]_{A_1} := \sup_B \left\{ \frac{1}{|B|} \int_B w(x) dx \cdot \|w^{-1}\|_{L^\infty(B)} \right\}$$

is finite. The value  $[w]_{A_1}$  is said to be an  $A_1$  constant of  $w$ . On the other hand, if  $1 < p < \infty$ , then the following value

$$[w]_{A_p} := \sup_B \left( \frac{1}{|B|} \|w^{1/p} \chi_B\|_{L^p} \|w^{-1/p} \chi_B\|_{L^{p'}} \right)^p$$

is called an  $A_p$  constant of  $w$ .

By the Hölder inequality the Muckenhoupt class is nested;  $A_p \subset A_q$  for  $1 \leq p \leq q < \infty$ . In view of the relation we can define the class  $A_\infty$  as follows:

**Definition 2.4.** We define  $A_\infty := \bigcup_{1 < p < \infty} A_p$  and an  $A_\infty$  weight is a weight in the class  $A_\infty$ .

There are several known definitions equivalent to above; see [22] for example.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $w$  be a weight. Then the following three conditions are equivalent:

1.  $w \in A_\infty$ .
2. There exist two constants  $\delta, C > 0$  such that for all cubes  $Q$  and  $S \subset Q$ ,

$$\frac{w(S)}{w(Q)} \leq C \left( \frac{|S|}{|Q|} \right)^\delta.$$

3. The following value, called the  $A_\infty$  constant, is finite:

$$[w]_{A_\infty} := \sup_Q m_Q(w) \exp(m_Q(\log w^{-1})).$$

## 2.2 Lebesgue spaces with variable exponent

In this subsection we define Lebesgue spaces with variable exponent and some classes of variable exponents.

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty]$  be a measurable function. The Lebesgue space  $L^{p(\cdot)} = L^{p(\cdot)}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with variable exponent  $p(\cdot)$  consists of all functions  $f$  satisfying that  $\rho_p(f/\lambda) < \infty$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ , where

$$\rho_p(f) := \int_{\{p(x) < \infty\}} |f(x)|^{p(x)} dx + \|f\|_{L^\infty(\{p(x) = \infty\})}. \quad (2.1)$$

Additionally we can give the norm of  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  by

$$\|f\|_{L^{p(\cdot)}} := \inf \{ \lambda > 0 : \rho_p(f/\lambda) \leq 1 \}. \quad (2.2)$$

In the statement of variable exponent analysis we use the following notations.

**Definition 2.7.** 1. Given a measurable function  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty]$ , we denote the conjugate exponent by  $p'(\cdot)$ , namely  $1/p(\cdot) + 1/p'(\cdot) \equiv 1$  holds. In addition we define

$$p_+ := \text{ess.sup}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} p(x), \quad p_- := \text{ess.inf}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} p(x)$$

2. The set  $\mathcal{P}$  consists of all measurable functions  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty]$  satisfying  $1 < p_- \leq p_+ < \infty$ .
3. The set  $LH$  consists of all measurable functions  $r(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  satisfying

$$|r(x) - r(y)| \leq \frac{C}{-\log(|x - y|)} \quad (|x - y| \leq 1/2)$$

and

$$|r(x) - r_\infty| \leq \frac{C}{\log(e + |x|)} \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}^n)$$

for some real constant  $r_\infty$ .

4. The set  $\mathcal{B}$  consists of all  $p(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [1, \infty]$  such that  $M$  is bounded on  $L^{p(\cdot)}$ .

The class  $LH$  is established by Cruz-Uribe–Fiorenza–Neugebauer [3, 4] and Diening [6]. Some conditions equivalent to  $p(\cdot) \in \mathcal{B}$  are obtained by Diening [7]. For further informations including many properties of function spaces with variable exponent or recent development of the theory of variable exponent analysis we refer to [2, 8, 17].

## 2.3 Ball Banach function spaces

Below  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes the set of all complex-valued measurable functions defined on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Based on Bennet–Sharpley [1] we define Banach function spaces.

**Definition 2.8.** Let  $X$  be a linear subspace of  $\mathcal{M}$ . The space  $X$  is said to be a Banach function space if there exists a functional  $\|\cdot\|_X : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfying the following conditions for all  $f, g, f_k \in \mathcal{M}$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ):

(P1) (Norm property)

(P1-1)  $\|f\|_X = 0$  holds inf and only if  $f(x) = 0$  for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(P1-2)  $\|\lambda f\|_X = |\lambda| \|f\|_X$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

(P1-3)  $\|f + g\|_X \leq \|f\|_X + \|g\|_X$ .

(P2) (Lattice property) If  $0 \leq g(x) \leq f(x)$  holds for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then we have  $\|g\|_X \leq \|f\|_X$ .

(P3) (Fatou property) If  $0 \leq f_1(x) \leq f_2(x) \leq \dots$  and  $f_k(x) \rightarrow f(x)$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ) hold for almost every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then we have  $\|f_k\|_X \rightarrow \|f\|_X$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ).

(P4) If a measurable set  $E$  satisfies  $|E| < \infty$ , then we have  $\|\chi_E\|_X < \infty$ .

(P5) If a measurable set  $E$  satisfies  $|E| < \infty$ , then  $\int_E |f(x)| dx \leq C_E \|f\|_X$  holds, where  $C_E$  is a positive constant independent of  $f$ .

We next define the associate space and give some fundamental properties.

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $X$  be a Banach function space. The associate space  $X'$  consists of all  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  satisfying

$$\|f\|_{X'} := \sup \left\{ \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)g(x) dx \right| : \|g\|_X \leq 1 \right\} < \infty.$$

The value  $\|\cdot\|_{X'}$  is called the associate norm of  $X$ .

**Lemma 2.10.** Let  $X$  be a Banach function space. Then the following hold:

1. The associate space  $X'$  is a Banach function space.
2. (The Lorentz–Luxemburg theorem)  $(X')' = X$  holds, in particular, the norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$  is equivalent to  $\|\cdot\|_{(X')'}$ .
3. (Generalized Hölder's inequality) We have that for all  $f \in X$  and  $g \in X'$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)g(x)| dx \leq \|f\|_X \|g\|_{X'}.$$

It is known that not only the usual Lebesgue spaces  $L^p$  with constant exponent  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  but also  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  are Banach function spaces and that the associate space of  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  is  $L^{p'(\cdot)}$  ([23]). Thus we can consider some function spaces including  $L^{p(\cdot)}$  in the context of Banach function spaces. But there exist some examples which does not satisfy the definition of Banach function spaces. In order to treat them we need a class of generalized function spaces wider than Banach function spaces. Based on Hakim–Sawano [11] we define ball Banach function spaces.

**Definition 2.11.** A ball Banach function space  $X$  is defined by replacing (P4), (P5) by the following conditions (P4)', (P5)' respectively in Definition 2.8:

(P4)' For all open balls  $B$  we have  $\|\chi_B\|_X < \infty$ .

(P5)' For all open balls  $B$  we have  $\int_B |f(x)| dx \leq C_B \|f\|_X$ , where  $C_B$  is a positive constant independent of  $f$ .

The associate space of ball Banach function space can be defined by the same way of the case for Banach function spaces.

We can replace “all open balls” by “all open cubes” or “all compact sets” in (P4)' and (P5)'. The Morrey space  $\mathcal{M}_q^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $1 < q < p < \infty$  satisfy not (P5) but (P5)', that is, the space is not a Banach function space but a ball Banach function space. This fact is proved by Sawano–Tanaka [29].

We finally note that the norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$  has a property similar to the Muckenhoupt  $A_p$  weights provided that  $M$  is bounded on  $X$ .

**Lemma 2.12** (Izumi [16]). Let  $X$  be a ball Banach function space and suppose that the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator  $M$  is weakly bounded on  $X$ , that is,  $\|\chi_{\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Mf(x) > \lambda\}}\|_X \leq C\lambda^{-1}\|f\|_X$  holds for all  $\lambda > 0$  and all  $f \in X$ . Then we have that for all cubes  $Q$ ,

$$\frac{1}{|Q|} \|\chi_Q\|_X \|\chi_Q\|_{X'} \leq C.$$

Applying the Hölder inequality, we can obtain that the opposite estimate:

$$1 \leq \frac{1}{|Q|} \|\chi_Q\|_X \|\chi_Q\|_{X'}$$

is also true.

## 3 Main results

### 3.1 The John–Nirenberg inequality

The aim of this note is to prove the following theorem which extends the well-known John–Nirenberg inequality:

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $X$  be a ball Banach function space such that  $M$  is bounded on  $X'$  and write  $B := \|M\|_{X' \rightarrow X'}$ . Then for all  $b \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$\left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_X \leq C 2^{\frac{-k}{1+2^{n+4}B}} \|\chi_Q\|_X$$

**Remark 3.2.** We remark that Theorem 3.1 is significant only when  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . That is, if Theorem 3.1 is true for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the theorem is valid for general  $k \geq 0$ .

In fact, for  $k \geq 0$  consider the decomposition  $k = [k] + (k - [k])$ . Then once we show Theorem 3.1 for  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_X \\ & \leq \left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > [k] 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_X \\ & \leq C 2^{\frac{-[k]}{1+2^{n+4}B}} \|\chi_Q\|_X \\ & \leq C 2^{\frac{-k}{1+2^{n+4}B}} \|\chi_Q\|_X \end{aligned}$$

holds. Furthermore, if  $k = 0$ , then the result is clear. So, one may assume  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

### 3.2 An extrapolation theorem

The proof of Theorem 3.1 is given by the extrapolation result in [5, Theorem 4.6]. We reexamine the proof of [5, Theorem 4.6] to show the following extrapolation result:

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $X$  be a ball Banach function space such that  $M$  is bounded on  $X'$  and write  $B := \|M\|_{X' \rightarrow X'}$ . Define  $\mathfrak{F}$  to be the set of all pairs  $(f, g)$  of non-negative measurable functions. Suppose that for every  $w \in A_1$  satisfying  $[w]_{A_1} \leq 2B$  the inequality

$$\|f\|_{L^1(w)} \leq \|g\|_{L^1(w)}$$

holds for all  $(f, g) \in \mathfrak{F}$  such that  $\|f\|_{L^1(w)} < \infty$ . Then we have

$$\|f\|_X \leq 2\|g\|_X$$

for all  $(f, g) \in \mathfrak{F}$  such that  $\|f\|_X < \infty$ .

*Proof.* We set  $\mathcal{R}h(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2B)^k} M^k h(x)$ , where it will be understood that  $M^k$  denotes the  $k$ -fold composition of the Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator and that  $M^0 h(x) = |h(x)|$ . As in [5, p. 74] or as we can check directly, we have  $|h(x)| \leq \mathcal{R}h(x)$ ,  $\|\mathcal{R}h\|_{X'} \leq 2\|h\|_{X'}$  and  $[\mathcal{R}h]_{A_1} \leq 2B$ . By the duality we have

$$\|f\|_X = \sup \left\{ \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)h(x) dx \right| : \|h\|_{X'} \leq 1 \right\}.$$

Fix  $h \in X'$  such that  $\|h\|_{X'} \leq 1$  arbitrarily. If  $h = 0$ , then  $|\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)h(x) dx| \leq 2\|g\|_X$  is obvious. We consider the case  $0 < \|h\|_{X'} \leq 1$ . Since  $[\mathcal{R}h]_{A_1} \leq 2B$ , our

assumption is applicable. Therefore we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)h(x) dx \right| &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)h(x)| dx \\
&\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)\mathcal{R}h(x) dx \\
&\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(x)\mathcal{R}h(x) dx \\
&\leq \|\mathcal{R}h\|_{X'} \|g\|_X \\
&\leq 2\|g\|_X.
\end{aligned}$$

□

### 3.3 Proof of Theorem 3.1

For the proof of Theorem 3.1 we will need two additional lemmas: In [28, p.400], we showed the following local estimates for BMO functions.

**Lemma 3.4.** For any  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , a cube  $Q$  and a nonconstant  $\text{BMO}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ -function  $b$ , we have

$$|\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}| \leq 2^{1-k} |Q|.$$

Hytönen and Pérez proved the following quantitative estimate [14, Theorem 2.3].

**Lemma 3.5.** Let  $w \in A_\infty$ , and let  $q := 1 + \frac{1}{2^{n+3}[w]_{A_\infty}}$ . Then for all cubes  $Q$ ,

$$m_Q^{(q)}(w) \leq 2m_Q(w). \quad (3.1)$$

We complete the proof of Theorem 3.1. Let  $w \in A_1$ , and write  $\varepsilon := \frac{1}{2^{n+3}[w]_{A_\infty}} > 0$ . Then we have  $m_Q^{(1+\varepsilon)}(w) \leq 2m_Q(w)$  for all cubes  $Q$ . Consequently  $\frac{w(E)}{w(Q)} \leq 2 \left( \frac{|E|}{|Q|} \right)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{1+\varepsilon}}$ . As a result, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
w(\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}) &\leq 2^{1+\frac{\varepsilon(1-k)}{1+\varepsilon}} w(Q) \\
&\leq 2^{1+\frac{1-k}{1+2^{n+3}[w]_{A_1}}} w(Q).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, if  $[w]_{A_1} \leq 2B$ , then we apply Theorem 3.3 to

$$\left( 2^{-1-\frac{1-k}{1+2^{n+4}B}} \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}}, \chi_Q \right) \in \mathfrak{F}$$

and obtain

$$\left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_X \leq 2^{2+\frac{1-k}{1+2^{n+3}B}} \|\chi_Q\|_X. \quad (3.2)$$

### 3.4 Another proof of Theorem 1.2

Applying Theorem 3.1 (the John–Nirenberg inequality) and Theorem 3.3 (the extrapolation) we can give another proof of Theorem 1.2. We note that we do not use the Rubio de Francia algorithm directly. In this paper we have used the algorithm only to get the extrapolation.

Take  $b \in \text{BMO}$  and a cube  $Q$  arbitrarily. The estimate  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X}$  is easily obtained by Lemmas 2.10 and 2.12. We next prove the opposite inequality. We remark that the norm of the associated space of  $L^1(w)$  satisfies

$$\|f\|_{L^1(w)'} = \|w^{-1}f\|_{L^\infty}.$$

We observe that if  $w \in A_1$ , then  $M$  is bounded on this associate space, that is

$$\|w^{-1}M(fw)\|_{L^\infty} \leq [w]_{A_1} \|f\|_{L^\infty}.$$

Thus, we are in the position of applying Theorem 3.1 to  $X = L^1(w)$  to have

$$\left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_{L^1(w)} \leq 2^{3 + \frac{-k}{1+2^{n+4}[w]_{A_1}}} \|\chi_Q\|_{L^1(w)}$$

for all  $k > 0$ . Here we have used the precise estimate (3.2) and Remark 3.2 below Theorem 3.1. If we integrate this inequality against  $k > 0$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_Q \frac{|b(x) - m_Q(b)|}{2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}} w(x) dx &= \left\| \int_0^\infty \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} dk \right\|_{L^1(w)} \\ &= \int_0^\infty \left( \left\| \chi_{\{x \in Q : |b(x) - m_Q(b)| > k 2^{n+2} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}\}} \right\|_{L^1(w)} \right) dk \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^\infty 2^{3 + \frac{-k}{1+2^{n+4}[w]_{A_1}}} dk \right) \|\chi_Q\|_{L^1(w)} \\ &= \frac{8 + 2^{n+7}[w]_{A_1}}{\log 2} \|\chi_Q\|_{L^1(w)}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\int_Q |b(x) - m_Q(b)| w(x) dx \leq 2^{2n+11} [w]_{A_1} \|b\|_{\text{BMO}} \int_Q w(x) dx.$$

If we use Theorem 3.3, then we have

$$\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X} \leq C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}.$$

**Remark 3.6.** In [16, 19] the authors have applied the Rubio de Francia algorithm to get the estimate  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X} \leq C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}_{L^q}}$  for some  $1 < q < \infty$ . On the other hand, the proof above has directly yields the estimate  $\|b\|_{\text{BMO}_X} \leq C \|b\|_{\text{BMO}}$ .

## Acknowledgements

This work was (partly) supported by Osaka City University Advanced Mathematical Institute (MEXT Joint Usage/Research Center on Mathematics and Theoretical Physics).

## Funding

Mitsuo Izuki was partially supported by Grand-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C), No. 15K04928, for Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Takahiro Noi was partially supported by Grand-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B), No. 17K14207, for Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Yoshihiro Sawano was partially supported by Grand-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C), No. 19K03546, for Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

## Availability of data and materials

Not applicable.

## Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

## Authors' contributions

The authors contributed equally to the writing of this paper. The authors read and approved the final manuscript.

## References

- [1] C. Bennet and R. Sharpley, Interpolation of Operators, Pure and Applied Mathematics **129**, Academic Press, Inc., Boston, MA, 1988.
- [2] D. V. Cruz-Uribe and A. Fiorenza, Variable Lebesgue Spaces. Foundations and Harmonic Analysis, Applied and Numerical Harmonic Analysis. Birkhäuser/Springer, Heidelberg, 2013.
- [3] D. Cruz-Uribe, A. Fiorenza and C. J. Neugebauer, The maximal function on variable  $L^p$  spaces, Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn., Math. **28** (2003), 223–238.
- [4] D. Cruz-Uribe, A. Fiorenza and C. J. Neugebauer, Corrections to “The maximal function on variable  $L^p$  spaces” [Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn. Math. **28** (2003), 223–238], Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn., Math. **29** (2004), 247–249.
- [5] D. Cruz-Uribe, J. M. Martell and C. Pérez, Weights, Extrapolation and the Theory of Rubio de Francia. Operator Theory: Advances and Applications, **215**. Birkhäuser/Springer Basel AG, Basel, 2011.
- [6] L. Diening, Maximal function on generalized Lebesgue spaces  $L^{p(\cdot)}$ , Math. Inequal. Appl. **7** (2004), 245–253.

- [7] L. Diening, Maximal function on Musielak-Orlicz spaces and generalized Lebesgue spaces, *Bull. Sci. Math.* **129** (2005), 657–700.
- [8] L. Diening, P. Harjulehto, P. Hästö and M. Růžička, *Lebesgue and Sobolev Spaces with Variable Exponents*, Springer, Lecture Notes in Mathematics **2017**, Springer, 2011.
- [9] J. Duoandikoetxea, *Fourier Analysis*. Graduate Studies in Math., **29**. Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, 2001.
- [10] J. García-Cuerva and J. L. Rubio de Francia, *Weighted norm inequalities and related topics*. North-Holland Mathematics Studies, **116**. Notas de Matemática [Mathematical Notes], 104. North-Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, 1985.
- [11] D.-I. Hakim and Y. Sawano, Interpolation of generalized Morrey spaces, *Rev. Mat. Complut.* **29** (2016), 295–340.
- [12] K.-P. Ho, Atomic decomposition of Hardy spaces and characterization of BMO via Banach function spaces, *Anal. Math.* **38** (2012), 173–185.
- [13] K.-P. Ho, John-Nirenberg inequalities on Lebesgue spaces with variable exponents, *Taiwanese J. Math.* **18** (2014), 1107–1118.
- [14] T. Hytönen and C. Pérez, Sharp weighted bounds involving  $A_\infty$  Anal. PDE **6** (2013), 777–818.
- [15] M. Izuki, Boundedness of commutators on Herz spaces with variable exponent, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo (2)* **59** (2010), 199–213.
- [16] M. Izuki, Another proof of characterization of BMO via Banach function spaces, *Rev. Un. Mat. Argentina* **57** (2016), 103–109.
- [17] M. Izuki, E. Nakai and Y. Sawano, Function spaces with variable exponents –an introduction–, *Sci. Math. Jpn.* **77** (2014), 187–315.
- [18] M. Izuki and Y. Sawano, Variable Lebesgue norm estimates for BMO functions, *Czechoslovak Math. J.* **62(137)** (2012), 717–727.
- [19] M. Izuki and Y. Sawano, Characterization of BMO via ball Banach function spaces, *Vestn. St.-Peterbg. Univ. Mat. Mekh. Astron.* **4(62)** (2017), 78–86.
- [20] M. Izuki, Y. Sawano and Y. Tsutsui, Variable Lebesgue norm estimates for BMO functions. II, *Anal. Math.* **40** (2014), 215–230.
- [21] F. John and L. Nirenberg, On functions of bounded mean oscillation, *Comm. Pure Appl. Math.* **14** (1961), 415–426.
- [22] J. García-Cuerva and J.L. Rubio de Francia, *Weighted Norm Inequalities and Related Topics*, North-Holland Math. Stud., **116** (1985).

- [23] O. Kováčik and J. Rákosník, On spaces  $L^{p(x)}$  and  $W^{k,p(x)}$ , Czechoslovak Math. J. **41** (1991), 592–618.
- [24] B. Muckenhoupt, Weighted norm inequalities for the Hardy maximal function, Trans. Am. Math. Soc. **165** (1972), 207–226.
- [25] J. L. Rubio de Francia, Factorization and extrapolation of weights, Bull. Am. Math. Soc. (N.S.) **7** (1982), 393–395.
- [26] J. L. Rubio de Francia, A new technique in the theory of  $A_p$  theory. In: Topics in Modern Harmonic Analysis, vol. I, II (Turin/Milan, 1982), pp. 571–579, Ist. Naz. Alta Mat. Francesco Severi, Rome, 1983.
- [27] J. L. Rubio de Francia, Factorization theory and  $A_p$  weights, Amer. J. Math. **106** (1984), 533–547.
- [28] Y. Sawano, Theory of Besov spaces, **56** Springer, Singapore, 2018. xxiii+945 pp.
- [29] Y. Sawano and H. Tanaka, The Fatou property of block spaces, J. Math. Sci. Univ. Tokyo **22** (2015), 663–683.
- [30] E. M. Stein, Singular Integrals and Differentiability Properties of Functions. Princeton Mathematical Series, No. 30 Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1970.