

10. Commutators on Dyadic Martingales

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§ 1. Introduction. A characterization of $BMO(\mathbf{R}^n)$ by commutators with singular integrals was given by Coifman-Rochberg-Weiss [7]. (See also [8].) Later, an analogue for regular martingales is shown by Janson [9]. Recently, Chanillo [3] and Rochberg-Weiss [11] and Komori [10] obtained a similar result on commutators with fractional integrals. It is the purpose of this note to study fractional integrals and commutators in the dyadic martingale setting. A version of fractional integrals I^α for dyadic martingales is introduced which is parallel to that on Walsh-Fourier series studied by Watari [14], and that on local fields by Taibleson [13]. The boundedness of commutators $[b, I^\alpha]$ shall be used to characterize the multiplying function b .

§ 2. Fractional integrals. Let \mathcal{F}_n be the sub- σ -field generated by dyadic intervals of length 2^{-n} in $[0, 1]$, $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$. A martingale $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ relative to $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ is a dyadic martingale. For an integrable function f on $[0, 1)$, the conditional expectations $f_n \equiv E(f | \mathcal{F}_n)$, $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$, form a dyadic martingale whose L^p norm, $\sup_n \|f_n\|_p$, equals to the L^p norm of the function f , for $p \geq 1$. We shall identify f with $\{f_n\}$ by writing $f = \{f_n\}$ and assume $f_0 = 0$. Let $\{d_n\}$ be the difference sequence of $f = \{f_n\}$, i.e. $f_n = \sum_{k=1}^n d_k$. The maximal function and square function of $f = \{f_n\}$ are given by $f^* = \sup |f_n|$ and $S(f) = (\sum_{k=1}^\infty d_k^2)^{1/2}$, respectively. The following are well-known. (See [1], [2] and [5].)

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \|f^*\|_p &\approx \|f\|_p \approx \|S(f)\|_p, & \text{for } 1 < p < \infty, \text{ and} \\ \|f^*\|_p &\approx \|S(f)\|_p, & \text{for } 0 < p < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Now for a dyadic martingale $f = \{f_n\}$ and $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$, we define the fractional integral $I^\alpha f = \{(I^\alpha f)_n\}$ of f (of order α) by $(I^\alpha f)_n = \sum_{k=1}^n 2^{-k\alpha} d_k$, whose maximal function is $(I^\alpha f)^* = \sup_n |\sum_{k=1}^n 2^{-k\alpha} d_k|$. If $\alpha > 0$, $I^\alpha f$ is simply a martingale transform introduced by Burkholder [1]. It is trivial that $\|(I^\alpha f)^*\|_p \leq C \|I^\alpha f\|_p \leq C \|f\|_p$ for $0 < \alpha < \infty$ and $1 < p < \infty$. Moreover, we have

Theorem 1. For integrable f ,

$$(2) \quad \|(I^\alpha f)^*\|_q \leq C \|f\|_p \quad \text{where } 1 < p < q < \infty$$

and $\alpha = 1/p - 1/q$;

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$$(3) \quad P[(I^\alpha f)^* > \lambda] \leq C \left(\frac{\|f\|_1}{\lambda} \right)^{1/(1-\alpha)} \quad \text{for all } \lambda > 0.$$

Note that Watari [14] proved these results for $|I^\alpha f|$ in the place of $(I^\alpha f)^*$ by using some orthogonal properties of the Walsh-Fourier series. (2) follows from his version and (1). (3) (as well as (2)) can be obtained by a Calderón-Zygmund type of decomposition argument (or a stopping time) for regular martingales similar to the one used in [4] and [6]. Another proof of (2) is by applying (1) to certain norm estimates of d_k .

§ 3. Commutators and BMO. Martingales of bounded mean oscillation (BMO) are those martingales $b = \{b_n\}$ such that

$$\sup_n \|E(|b - b_n| | \mathcal{F}_n)\|_\infty \equiv \|b\|_* < \infty.$$

This is equivalent, for dyadic martingales, to that $\sup_n \|E(|b - b_{n-1}| | \mathcal{F}_n)\|_\infty < \infty$. The John-Nirenberg inequality gives other equivalent norms:

$$\|b\|_* \approx \sup_n \| [E(|b - b_n|^s | \mathcal{F}_n)]^{1/s} \|_\infty \quad \text{for each } 1 \leq s < \infty.$$

The sharp function of b is given by $b^* = \sup_n E(|b - b_n| | \mathcal{F}_n)$. We note that $\|b^*\|_\infty = \|b\|_*$ and $\|b^*\|_p \approx \|b\|_p$, $1 < p < \infty$.

For an integrable function b , we define the commutator with I^α by $[b, I^\alpha]f = bI^\alpha f - I^\alpha(bf)$.

Our main result generalizing the one in Euclidean spaces by Chanillo [3], Rochberg-Weiss [11] and Komori [10] is the following

Theorem 2. *Let $1 < p < q < \infty$ and $\alpha = 1/p - 1/q > 0$. Then b is in BMO if and only if the commutator $[b, I^\alpha]$ is bounded from L^p to L^q , i.e., $[b, I^\alpha] \in \mathcal{B}(L^p, L^q)$.*

We need a preliminary result on $f_\alpha^* \equiv \sup_n 2^{-n\alpha} |f_n|$ where $f = \{f_n\}$ is a dyadic martingale.

Lemma. *Let $1 < p < q < \infty$ and $\alpha = 1/p - 1/q$. Then $\|f_\alpha^*\|_q \leq C \|f\|_p$.*

The lemma follows from a decomposition (or a stopping time) argument as mentioned before. See also [12] or [3].

Proof of Theorem 2. Suppose $b \in \text{BMO}$. Given a dyadic interval J in \mathcal{F}_n with length 2^{-n} , let b_J be the average value of b on J . Write

$$\begin{aligned} g &\equiv [b, I^\alpha]f = (b - b_J)I^\alpha f - I^\alpha((b - b_J)f\chi_J) - I^\alpha((b - b_J)f\chi_{J^c}) \\ &\equiv g^{(1)} + g^{(2)} + g^{(3)}, \quad \text{say.} \end{aligned}$$

Now, we choose a t such that $1 < t < q$ and $1/s + 1/t = 1$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(|g^{(1)}| | \mathcal{F}_n)(x) &= E(|(b - b_J)I^\alpha f| | \mathcal{F}_n)(x) \\ &\leq [E(|b - b_J|^s | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/s} [E(|I^\alpha f|^t | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/t} \\ &\leq C_1 \|b\|_* [(|I^\alpha f|^t)^*(x)]^{1/t}. \end{aligned}$$

To estimate $g^{(2)}$, we first choose p_1 and v such that $1 < p_1 < v < p$ and suppose $\alpha = 1/p_1 - 1/q_1$, $1/u + 1/v = 1/p_1$. We have $1 < p_1 < q_1 < \infty$ and $1 < u, v < \infty$. Then it follows from Theorem 1 that

$$\begin{aligned} E(|g^{(2)}| | \mathcal{F}_n)(x) &\leq [E(|I^\alpha((b - b_J)f\chi_J)|^{q_1} | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/q_1} \\ &\leq C_2 2^{-n\alpha} [E(|(b - b_J)f|^{p_1} | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/p_1} \\ &\leq C_2 2^{-n\alpha} [E(|b - b_J|^u | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/u} [E(|f|^v | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/v} \\ &\leq C_3 \|b\|_* [(|f|^v)^*(x)]^{1/v}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $g^{(8)}$ is constant on J . Hence we have

$$g^*(x) \leq C \|b\|_* \{[(I^\alpha f)^\dagger]^*(x)]^{1/v} + [(f^v)_{\alpha v}^*(x)]^{1/v}\}.$$

Therefore, by Theorem 1 and Lemma, we obtain

$$\|[b, I^\alpha]f\|_q = \|g\|_q \leq C \|b\|_* \|f\|_p.$$

Conversely, consider a dyadic interval $J \in \mathcal{F}_n$ with length 2^{-n} . Let J_1 be its adjacent dyadic interval of the same size, i.e. $J \cup J_1 \in \mathcal{F}_{n-1}$. An easy computation shows that for $x \in J$,

$$[b, I^\alpha]\chi_{J_1}(x) = (b(x) - b_{J_1})2^{-n\alpha}(2^\alpha - 1 - 2^{-n(1-\alpha)})(2 - 2^\alpha)^{-1}.$$

Hence if $n > N(\alpha) \equiv (\alpha - 1)^{-1} \log_2(2^\alpha - 1)$, then

$$|[b, I^\alpha]\chi_{J_1}(x)| \geq C(\alpha)2^{-n\alpha} |b(x) - b_{J_1}|,$$

for some $C(\alpha) > 0$. Thus for $x \in J \in \mathcal{F}_n$ with $n > N(\alpha)$,

$$\begin{aligned} [E(|b - b_{J_1}|^q | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/q} &\leq C2^{n\alpha} [E(|[b, I^\alpha]\chi_{J_1}|^q | \mathcal{F}_n)(x)]^{1/q} \\ &\leq C2^{n\alpha} 2^{n/q} \|[b, I^\alpha]\chi_{J_1}\|_q \\ &\leq C_1 2^{n\alpha} 2^{n/q} \|\chi_{J_1}\|_p = C_1 \end{aligned}$$

where $C_1 = \|[b, I^\alpha]\|/C(\alpha)$. This implies that $b \in BMO$.

Therefore the proof of Theorem 2 completed.

§4. Hardy and Lipschitz spaces. H^p martingales, $0 < p < \infty$, are those martingales f whose maximal function f^* is in L^p . For $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$, a dyadic martingale $f = \{f_n\}$ is said to be in $\text{Lip } \lambda$ if

$$\|f\|_{(\lambda)} = \sup 2^{n\lambda} \|E(|f - f_n| | \mathcal{F}_n)\|_\infty < \infty.$$

Note that $\text{Lip } 0 = BMO$ and for $0 < p \leq 1$, the dual of H^p is $\text{Lip}(1/p - 1)$.

The results in the previous sections about fractional integrals and commutators on L^p and BMO can be extended to H^p and Lipschitz spaces also. We shall state some generalizations and omit the proofs.

Theorem 3.

- (i) $I^\alpha \in \mathbf{B}(H^p, H^q)$, $0 < p < q < \infty$ and $\alpha = 1/p - 1/q$.
- (ii) $I^\alpha \in \mathbf{B}(\text{Lip } \lambda, \text{Lip } (\alpha + \lambda))$, $0 < \alpha, \lambda < \infty$.
- (iii) $I^\alpha \in \mathbf{B}(BMO, \text{Lip } \alpha)$, $\alpha > 0$.
- (iv) $I^\alpha \in \mathbf{B}(H^p, \text{Lip } (\alpha - 1/p))$, $1 < p < \infty, \alpha > 1/p$.
- (v) $I^\alpha \in \mathbf{B}(H^p, BMO)$, $1 < p < \infty, \alpha = 1/p$.

Theorem 4. Let $1 < p < q < \infty, \alpha + \lambda = 1/p - 1/q$ and $0 < \alpha, \lambda < \infty$. Then $b \in \text{Lip } \lambda$ if and only if $[b, I^\alpha] \in \mathbf{B}(L^p, L^q)$.

Finally, we remark that the results in this note can be easily generalized to regular martingales and to the local field setting.

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