



Research article

An extension of the classical John-Nirenberg inequality of martingales

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Abstract: In this paper, we prove the John-Nirenberg theorem of the bmo_p martingale spaces for the full range $0 < p < \infty$. We also consider the John-Nirenberg inequality on symmetric spaces of martingales.

Keywords: martingale; interpolation; Hardy spaces; symmetric spaces; inequality

Mathematics Subject Classification: 60G42, 60G46

1. Introduction

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space and $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ an increasing sequence of sub- σ -algebras of \mathcal{F} with the associated conditional expectations $(\mathbb{E}_n)_{n \geq 0}$. A sequence $f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0}$ adapted to $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is said to be a martingale if $\mathbb{E}(|f_n|) < \infty$ and $E_n(f_{n+1}) = f_n$ for every $n \geq 0$. For the sake of simplicity, we assume $f_0 = 0$. Let $1 \leq p < \infty$. The quasi-Banach spaces bmo_p are defined as follows:

$$bmo_p = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{bmo_p} = \sup_n \|\mathbb{E}_n(|f - f_n|^p)\|_\infty^{\frac{1}{p}} < \infty\}.$$

Here, the notation f in $|f - f_n|^p$ stands for f_∞ . It follows from [7] that

$$\|f\|_{bmo_p} = \sup_n \sup_{a \in L_p(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_p \leq 1} \|(f - f_n)a\|_p.$$

Before describing our main results, we recall the classical John-Nirenberg inequality in the martingale theory (see [6, 7]).

Theorem 1. *If the stochastic basis $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ is regular, then for $1 \leq p < \infty$ we have that*

$$bmo_p = bmo_1$$

with equivalent norms.

In 2014, Yi et al. [8] proved the John-Nirenberg inequality on the rearrangement-invariant Banach function space E with $1 \leq p_E \leq q_E < \infty$. In 2019, Li [4] considered the John-Nirenberg theorem on Lorentz space $bmo_{p,q}$ with $1 < p < \infty$ and $0 < q < \infty$.

In this paper, we first prove the John-Nirenberg inequality of bmo_p martingale spaces for $0 < p < \infty$, extending Theorem 1 via a new interpolation method. Then, we extend this result to a wider class of the symmetric quasi-Banach function space E with $0 < p_E \leq q_E < \infty$.

2. Preliminaries and notations

Let us first recall some basic facts on the symmetric quasi-Banach function spaces. Let $((0, \infty), \mathcal{F}, P)$ be the Lebesgue measure space and $L_0(0, \infty)$ be the space of all Lebesgue measurable real-valued functions defined on $(0, \infty)$. Let E be a quasi-Banach subspace of $L_0(0, \infty)$, simply called a quasi-Banach function space on $(0, \infty)$ in the sequel. A quasi-Banach function space E on $(0, \infty)$ is called symmetric if for any $g \in E$ and any measurable function f with $\mu_t(f) \leq \mu_t(g)$ ($\mu_t(f)$ and $\mu_t(g)$ respectively represent the non-increasing rearrangement of f and g) for all $t \geq 0$, $f \in E$ and $\|f\|_E \leq \|g\|_E$. E is said to have the Fatou property if for every net $(x_i)_{i \in I}$ in E satisfying $0 \leq x_i \uparrow$ and $\sup_{i \in I} \|x_i\|_E < \infty$ the supremum $x = \sup_{i \in I} x_i$ exists in E and $\|x_i\|_E \uparrow \|x\|_E$.

The Köthe dual of a symmetric Banach function space E on $(0, \infty)$ is given by

$$E^\times = \{f \in L_0(0, \infty) : \int_0^\infty |f(t)g(t)|dt < \infty : \forall g \in E\},$$

with the norm $\|f\|_{E^\times} := \sup\{\int_0^\infty |f(t)g(t)|dt : \|g\|_E \leq 1\}$. The space E^\times is symmetric and has the Fatou property. Refer to [1, 5] for more details.

For a quasi-Banach function space E on $(0, \infty)$, the lower and upper Boyd indices p_E and q_E of E are respectively defined by

$$p_E := \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log s}{\log \|D_s\|} \quad \text{and} \quad q_E := \lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\log s}{\log \|D_s\|},$$

where the dilation operator D_s on $L_0(0, \infty)$ is defined by $(D_s f)(t) = f(t/s)$ for all $t \in (0, \infty)$. For a symmetric quasi-Banach function space E on $(0, \infty)$, D_s is a bounded linear operator on E for every $s > 0$ and $0 \leq p_E \leq q_E \leq \infty$ (see [2, Lemma 2.2]).

Given a quasi-Banach function space E on $(0, \infty)$, for $0 < r < \infty$, $E^{(r)}$ will denote the quasi-Banach function space on $(0, \infty)$ defined by $E^{(r)} = \{x : |x|^r \in E\}$ and equipped with the quasi-norm $\|x\|_{E^{(r)}} = \||x|^r\|_E^{\frac{1}{r}}$. Note that

$$p_{E^{(r)}} = rp_E, \quad q_{E^{(r)}} = rq_E. \quad (2.1)$$

Let E_i be a quasi-Banach function space on $(0, \infty)$ for $i = 1, 2$. The pointwise product space $E_1 \odot E_2$ is defined by

$$E_1 \odot E_2 = \{f \in L_2(0, \infty) : f = f_1 f_2, f_i \in E_i, i = 1, 2\}$$

with the functional $\|\cdot\|_{E_1 \odot E_2}$ being defined by

$$\|f\|_{E_1 \odot E_2} = \inf\{\|f\|_{E_1} \|f\|_{E_2} : f = f_1 f_2, f_i \in E_i, i = 1, 2\}.$$

We need the following lemmas (see Theorem 2.1 in [1]).

Lemma 1. Let E and F be two symmetric Banach function spaces on $(0, \infty)$.

(i) If $0 < p < \infty$, then $(E \odot F)^{(p)} = E^{(p)} \odot F^{(p)}$.

(ii) $L_1(0, \infty) = E \odot E^\times$.

Lemma 2. Let E be a symmetric quasi-Banach function space on $(0, \infty)$ with the Fatou property. If $p_E > p$, then $E^{(\frac{1}{p})}$ can be renormed as a symmetric Banach function space.

Proof. By (2.1), we have that $p_{E^{(\frac{1}{p})}} = \frac{1}{p}p_E > 1$. Thus $E^{(\frac{1}{p})}$ is an interpolation space for the couple $(L_1(0, \infty), L_\infty(0, \infty))$ (see [3, Lemma 3.6]). Therefore, according to Lemma 2.2 in [1], we get that $E^{(\frac{1}{p})}$ can be renormed as a symmetric Banach function space. \square

Now we define the Hardy spaces and *BMO* spaces of martingales. For a martingale $f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0}$, we denote its martingale difference by $df_i = f_i - f_{i-1}$ (with convention $f_0 = 0$). Then the conditional quadratic variation and the square function are defined by

$$s_n(f) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_{i-1} |df_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad s(f) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}_{i-1} |df_i|^2 \right)^{1/2},$$

$$S_n(f) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |df_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad S(f) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |df_i|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Let $0 < p < \infty$. Define

$$H_p^s = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{H_p^s} = \|s(f)\|_p < \infty\},$$

$$H_p^S = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{H_p^S} = \|S(f)\|_p < \infty\},$$

$$bmo_p = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{bmo_p} = \sup_n \sup_{a \in L_p(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_p \leq 1} \|(f - f_n)a\|_p < \infty\},$$

$$BMO_p = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{BMO_p} = \sup_n \sup_{a \in L_p(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_p \leq 1} \|(f - f_{n-1})a\|_p < \infty\}.$$

Here, the notation f in $|f - f_{n-1}|^p$ stands for f_∞ .

A stochastic basis $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is said to be regular if, for $n \geq 0$ and $A \in \mathcal{F}_n$, there exists $B \in \mathcal{F}_{n-1}$ such that $A \subset B$ and $\mathbb{P}(B) \leq R\mathbb{P}(A)$, where R is a positive constant independent of n . A martingale is said to be regular if it is adapted to a regular σ -algebra sequence. This means that there exists a constant $R > 0$ such that $f_n \leq Rf_{n-1}$ for all nonnegative martingales $(f_n)_{n \geq 0}$ adapted to the stochastic basis $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$. We refer the reader to Long [6] and Weisz [7] for the theory of martingales.

In what follows, unless otherwise specified, for two nonnegative quantities A and B , by $A \lesssim B$ we mean that there exists an absolute constant $C > 0$ such that $A \leq CB$, and by $A \approx B$ that $A \lesssim B$ and $B \lesssim A$.

3. Main results

In this section, we first establish the John-Nirenberg theorem of the bmo_p spaces for $0 < p < 1$.

Theorem 2. If the stochastic basis $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is regular, then, for any $f \in bmo_1$

$$\|f\|_{bmo_p} \approx \|f\|_{bmo_1} \quad 0 < p < 1. \quad (3.1)$$

Proof. From Hölder's inequality it follows that

$$\|f\|_{bmo_p} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_1}.$$

To prove the converse we choose $1 < p_1 < \infty$ and $0 < \theta < 1$ such that $1 = (1 - \theta)/p + \theta/p_1$. Fix n , and for any $0 < r < \infty$, let $T_n : L_r(\mathcal{F}_n) \rightarrow L_p(\mathcal{F})$ be a linear operator with $T_n(a) = (f - f_n)a$. Then by the definition of bmo_p , we have the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_n\|_{L_p \rightarrow L_p} &= \sup_{a \in L_p(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_p \leq 1} \|(f - f_n)a\|_p \leq \|f\|_{bmo_p}, \\ \|T_n\|_{L_{p_1} \rightarrow L_{p_1}} &= \sup_{a \in L_{p_1}(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_{p_1} \leq 1} \|(f - f_n)a\|_{p_1} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_{p_1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by interpolation, we have that

$$\|T_n\|_{(L_p, L_{p_1})_\theta \rightarrow (L_p, L_{p_1})_\theta} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_p}^{1-\theta} \|f\|_{bmo_{p_1}}^\theta.$$

Noting that $(L_p, L_{p_1})_\theta = L_1$ with equal norms and using the inequality

$$\|f\|_{bmo_q} \leq C_q \|f\|_{bmo_1} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq q < \infty,$$

(see [7, Corollary 2.51]) we reduce that

$$\|T_n\|_{L_1 \rightarrow L_1} \leq (C_{p_1})^\theta \|f\|_{bmo_p}^{1-\theta} \|f\|_{bmo_1}^\theta$$

which implies that

$$\|f\|_{bmo_1} \leq (C_{p_1})^{\frac{\theta}{1-\theta}} \|f\|_{bmo_p}.$$

□

Remark 1. (i) If, in the proof of Theorem 2, we replace $f - f_n$ with $f - f_{n-1}$ and bmo_p and bmo_1 with BMO_p and BMO_1 then

$$\|f\|_{BMO_p} \approx \|f\|_{BMO_1} \quad \text{for } 0 < p < 1.$$

(ii) According to Theorem 1, bmo_p coincides with bmo_1 for $1 \leq p < \infty$. While for $0 < p < 1$, if a priori we assume that $f \in bmo_1$. Theorem 2 tells us the norms of bmo_p and bmo_1 are also equivalent.

Recall that if $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is regular, then $H_1^s = H_1^S$ which follows that their dual spaces bmo_2 and BMO_2 are equivalent. Hence, by Theorem 2, Theorem 1, (i) of Remark 1 and [7, Theorem 2.50], we obtain the following result.

corollary 1. Let $0 < p < \infty$. If the stochastic basis $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is regular, then for any $f \in BMO_1$ and $f \in bmo_1$

$$\|f\|_{bmo_p} \approx \|f\|_{bmo_1} \approx \|f\|_{BMO_p} \approx \|f\|_{BMO_1}.$$

Now we present the John-Nirenberg inequality of martingale spaces associated with symmetric quasi-Banach function spaces, generalizing the results obtained in [8, 4].

Theorem 3. Let E be a symmetric quasi-Banach function space on $(0, \infty)$ with $0 < p_E \leq q_E < \infty$ that has the Fatou property. If $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is regular, then for any $f \in bmo_1$,

$$\|f\|_{bmo_E} \approx \|f\|_{bmo_1}, \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$bmo_E = \{f = (f_n)_{n \geq 0} : \|f\|_{bmo_E} = \sup_n \sup_{a \in E(\mathcal{F}_n), \|a\|_E \leq 1} \|(f - f_n)a\|_E < \infty\}.$$

Proof. Choose p and q such that $0 < p < p_E \leq q_E < q < \infty$. Then by Lemma 2, $E^{(\frac{1}{p})}$ can be renormed as a symmetric Banach function space; so, we assume that $E^{(\frac{1}{p})}$ is a symmetric Banach function space. By (ii) of Lemma 1, we have that $L_1(0, \infty) = E^{(\frac{1}{p})} \odot E^{(\frac{1}{p})^\times}$. It follows that

$$L_p(0, \infty) = E \odot F, \quad (3.3)$$

where $F = (E^{(\frac{1}{p})^\times})^p$ (see (i) of Lemma 1). Fix n . Take $a \in L_p(\mathcal{F}_n)$ with $\|a\|_p \leq 1$. Then by (3.3), there exist $a_1 \in E$ and $a_2 \in F$ such that $a = a_1 a_2$ and $\|a_1\|_E, \|a_2\|_F \leq 1$. Thus we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(f - f_n)a\|_p &= \|(f - f_n)a_1 a_2\|_p \\ &\leq \|a_2\|_F \|(f - f_n)a_1\|_E \\ &\leq \|f\|_{bmo_E}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies $\|f\|_{bmo_p} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_E}$. Therefore, by Theorem 2, $\|f\|_{bmo_1} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_E}$.

Now we turn to the converse inequality. Fix n . Similar to the definition of the operator T_n in Theorem 3.1, we can view $f - f_n$ as an operator from $L_p(\mathcal{F}_n)$ to $L_p(\mathcal{F})$ and from $L_q(\mathcal{F}_n)$ to $L_q(\mathcal{F})$; then, we get that

$$\|f - f_n\|_{L_p \rightarrow L_p} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_p} \quad \text{and} \quad \|f - f_n\|_{L_q \rightarrow L_q} \leq \|f\|_{bmo_q}. \quad (3.4)$$

By Lemma 3.6 in [3], we have that E is an interpolation space in $(L_p(0, \infty), L_q(0, \infty))$ which implies that

$$\|f - f_n\|_{E \rightarrow E} \leq C \max\{\|f - f_n\|_{L_p \rightarrow L_p}, \|f - f_n\|_{L_q \rightarrow L_q}\}, \quad (3.5)$$

where $C > 0$ is a constant depending only on p and q . Putting (3.4) and (3.5) together and using Corollary 1, we obtain that

$$\|f - f_n\|_{E \rightarrow E} \leq C \max\{\|f\|_{bmo_p}, \|f\|_{bmo_q}\} \leq C \|f\|_{bmo_1}.$$

It follows that $\|f\|_{bmo_E} \leq C \|f\|_{bmo_1}$. This completes the proof. \square

Remark 2. When $E = L_p(0, \infty)$ for $0 < p < \infty$, (3.2) implies that

$$\|f\|_{bmo_p} \approx \|f\|_{bmo_1}.$$

Acknowledgments

The second author was supported in part by NSFC No.11801489.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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