



Sparse domination implies vector-valued sparse domination

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Abstract

We prove that scalar-valued sparse domination of a multilinear operator implies vector-valued sparse domination for tuples of quasi-Banach function spaces, for which we introduce a multilinear analogue of the UMD condition. This condition is characterized by the boundedness of the multisublinear Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator and goes beyond examples in which a UMD condition is assumed on each individual space and includes e.g. iterated Lebesgue, Lorentz, and Orlicz spaces. Our method allows us to obtain sharp vector-valued weighted bounds directly from scalar-valued sparse domination, without the use of a Rubio de Francia type extrapolation result. We apply our result to obtain new vector-valued bounds for multilinear Calderón-Zygmund operators as well as recover the old ones with a new sharp weighted bound. Moreover, in the Banach function space setting we improve upon recent vector-valued bounds for the bilinear Hilbert transform.

Keywords Sparse domination · Multilinear · UMD · Muckenhoupt weights · Banach function space · Bilinear Hilbert transform

Mathematics Subject Classification Primary 42B25; Secondary 46E30

1 Introduction

Vector-valued extensions of operators prevalent in the theory of harmonic analysis have been actively studied in the past decades. A centerpoint of the theory is the result of Burkholder [7] and Bourgain [5] that the Hilbert transform on $L^p(\mathbf{R})$ extends to a bounded operator on

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$L^p(\mathbf{R}; X)$ if and only if the Banach space X has the so-called UMD property. From this connection one can derive the boundedness of the vector-valued extension of many operators in harmonic analysis, like Fourier multipliers and Littlewood–Paley operators.

In the specific case where X is a Banach function space, i.e. a lattice of functions over some measure space, very general extension theorems are known. These follow from the deep result of Bourgain [6] and Rubio de Francia [45] on the connection between the boundedness of the lattice Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator on $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ and the UMD property of X . The boundedness of the lattice Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator often allows one to use the scalar-valued arguments to show the boundedness of the vector-valued extension of an operator, using very elaborate Fubini-type techniques. Moreover it connects the extension problem to the theory of Muckenhoupt weights. Combined this enabled Rubio de Francia to show a very general extension principle in [45], yielding vector-valued extensions for operators on $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$ satisfying bounds with respect to these Muckenhoupt weights to any UMD Banach function space. This result was subsequently extended by Amenta, Veraar and the first author in [1] to a rescaled setting and by both authors in [36] to a multilinear setting. In this latter result, sufficient conditions were given to extend a bounded multilinear operator

$$T : L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_1) \times \cdots \times L^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_m) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbf{R}^d, w)$$

to a bounded multilinear operator

$$\tilde{T} : L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_1; X_1) \times \cdots \times L^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_m; X_m) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbf{R}^d, w; X),$$

where each of the (quasi-)Banach function spaces X_j satisfies some rescaled UMD condition and each weight w_j some Muckenhoupt condition.

From the point of view of weights, it was made clear by Li, Martell, and Ombrosi in [31] that rather than assuming a condition on each individual weight, it is more appropriate to consider the multilinear weight classes characterized by the multisublinear analogue of the Hardy Littlewood maximal operator, introduced by Lerner, Ombrosi, Pérez, Torres, and Trujillo-González in [29]. Subsequently, through the extrapolation theorems of the second author [40] and Li, Martell, Martikainen, Ombrosi, and Vuorinen [30], it was shown that these weight classes allow one to handle vector-valued extensions with Banach function spaces outside of the class of UMD spaces, such as ℓ^∞ . However, these methods do not exceed the example of iterated L^q -spaces.

Our main goal is to prove a multilinear extension theorem in which we use the multilinear structure to its fullest. Just as for the weights, we will impose a condition on the tuple of Banach function spaces (X_1, \dots, X_m) rather than a condition on each X_j individually. In parallel to the weighted theory, we will introduce this condition using the boundedness of a certain rescaled multisublinear Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator. In the linear case this condition reads as follows:

$$\|\tilde{M}_{(1,1)}(f, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} \lesssim \|f\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)}$$

for all $f \in L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$, $g \in L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)$ and some $p \in (1, \infty)$, where $\tilde{M}_{(1,1)}$ is the bisublinear lattice maximal operator introduced in Sect. 3. In Sect. 4 we will show that this condition is equivalent to the UMD condition for Banach function spaces and motivated by this result, we will call our multilinear analog a multilinear UMD condition, although our definition only makes sense for tuples of Banach *function* spaces.

Both the Banach function space extension principle from [1,36,45] and the iterated L^q -space extension principle using the extrapolation results in [30,40] use the weighted

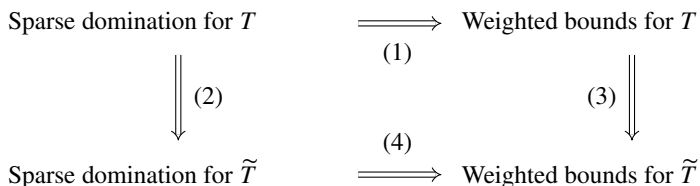
boundedness of a multilinear operator

$$T : L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_1) \times \cdots \times L^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_m) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbf{R}^d, w)$$

to deduce the weighted boundedness of its extension

$$\tilde{T} : L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_1; X_1) \times \cdots \times L^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d, w_m; X_m) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbf{R}^d, w; X).$$

Initiated by the sparse representation and domination results for Calderón–Zygmund operators of Hytönen [20] and Lerner [26], such weighted bounds for an operator T are in recent years often deduced from a sparse domination result for T . So to deduce the weighted boundedness of the vector-valued extension \tilde{T} of an operator T one typically goes through implications (1) and (3) in the following diagram



in which arrows (1) and (4) are well-known and unrelated to the operator T , see e.g [28,31,32, 40]. In this paper we will deduce the weighted boundedness of the vector-valued extension \tilde{T} of T through implications (2) and (4) in this diagram. In particular we will show that scalar-valued sparse domination implies vector-valued sparse domination (implication (2)) with respect to tuples of spaces satisfying our multilinear UMD-condition. Such a result was established by Culiuc, Di Plinio, and Ou in [13] for ℓ^q -spaces with $q \geq 1$, which in particular satisfy our multilinear UMD condition. We point out that even in the linear case $m = 1$ the result of obtaining vector-valued extensions of operators in UMD Banach function spaces from sparse domination without appealing to a Rubio de Francia type extrapolation theorem is new.

The advantage of the route through implications (2) and (4) over the route through implications (1) and (3) is that for general tuples of quasi-Banach function spaces the Fubini-type techniques needed for implication (2) are a lot less technical than the ones needed for implication (3). Moreover implication (4) yields quantitative and in many cases sharp weighted estimates for \tilde{T} , while the weight dependence in the arguments used for implication (3) is not easily tracked and certainly not sharp. A downside of our approach through implications (2) and (4) is the fact that we need sparse domination for T as a starting point, while one only needs weighted bounds in order to apply (3). It therefore remains an interesting open problem whether (3) also holds under our multilinear UMD-condition, rather than a UMD condition on each individual space as in [36].

Our main result relies on the following two key ingredients:

- The equivalence between sparse form and the L^1 -norm of the multisublinear maximal function. This equivalence seems to have been used for the first time in [13] by Culiuc, Di Plinio, and Ou.
- A sparse domination result for the multisublinear lattice maximal operator under the multilinear UMD condition assumption. For this we extend the idea of Hänninen and the first author in [19], where a linear version of this result was obtained.

Combining these ingredients, we obtain the following theorem in the linear case:

Theorem 1.1 *Let T be an operator such that for any $f, g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection of cubes \mathcal{S} such that*

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |Tf| \cdot |g| dx \leq C_T \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f \rangle_{1,Q} \langle g \rangle_{1,Q} |Q|$$

Let X be a UMD Banach function space over a measure space (Ω, μ) and suppose that for any simple function $f \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ the function $\tilde{T}f : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow X$ given by

$$\tilde{T}f(x, \omega) := T(f(\cdot, \omega))(x), \quad (x, \omega) \in \mathbf{R}^d \times \Omega$$

is well-defined and strongly measurable. Then for all simple functions $f \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d, X)$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection of cubes \mathcal{S} such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} \|\tilde{T}f\|_X \cdot |g| dx \lesssim_X C_T \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \langle \|f\|_X \rangle_{1,Q} \langle |g| \rangle_{1,Q} |Q|.$$

Note that if T is linear, then for any simple $f \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ we have $\tilde{T}f = (T \otimes I_X)f$, which is always well-defined and strongly measurable.

Theorem 1.1 can be generalized to operators that are sparsely dominated by forms

$$\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f \rangle_{r,Q} \langle g \rangle_{s',Q} |Q|,$$

for $0 < r < s \leq \infty$, in which case we have to replace the UMD condition on X by the rescaled $\text{UMD}_{r,s}$ condition, see Sect. 4. A rescaled UMD condition was already used in the previous work [36] where the condition that $((X^r)^*)^{(s'/r)'}$ has the UMD property was imposed. However, the condition $X \in \text{UMD}_{r,s}$ we impose in this work is seemingly weaker if $r \geq 1$ and we refer to Proposition 4.5 for a comparison.

For the multilinear version of this result we require the $\text{UMD}_{\vec{r},s}$ condition imposed on an m -tuple of Banach spaces $\vec{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$, which will be introduced in Sect. 4. This yields the following more general version of Theorem 1.1, which is our main result.

Theorem 1.2 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $s \in (1, \infty]$ and let T be an operator defined on m -tuples of functions such that for any $\vec{f}, g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that*

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} |T(\vec{f})| \cdot |g| dx \leq C_T \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j,Q} \right) \langle g \rangle_{s',Q} |Q|.$$

Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of Banach function spaces over a measure space (Ω, μ) such that $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r},s}$ and suppose that for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d, \vec{X})$ the function $\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow X$ given by

$$\tilde{T}(\vec{f})(x, \omega) := T(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega))(x), \quad (x, \omega) \in \mathbf{R}^d \times \Omega$$

is well-defined and strongly measurable. Let $X := \prod_{j=1}^m X_j$. Then for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d, \vec{X})$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection of cubes \mathcal{S} such that

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot |g| dx \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{r}, s} C_T \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j,Q} \right) \langle \|g\|_{X^*} \rangle_{s',Q} |Q|.$$

Note that we only allow Banach function spaces in Theorem 1.2. However, in the multilinear setting it is natural to expect estimates also for quasi-Banach function spaces. We are able to consider these spaces by the more general Theorem 5.1, which is facilitated by introducing a rescaling parameter. For a discussion on this we refer the reader to Sect. 6.

By the known sharp weighted bounds for the sparse forms we can deduce vector-valued weighted bounds as a corollary from our main result, which is the extension theorem we were after. Note that these bounds are new even in the case $\vec{w} \equiv 1$.

Corollary 1.3 *Assume the conditions of Theorem 1.2 and additionally suppose that T is either m -linear or positive-valued m -sublinear. Then for all $p \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{p} > \vec{r}$ and $\frac{1}{p} := \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{1}{p_j} > \frac{1}{s}$, and all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}$ we have*

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_{L_{\vec{w}}^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, q, \vec{r}, s} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}, \frac{1-\frac{1}{s}}{\vec{p}}\right\}} \prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}$$

for all $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^n; \vec{X})$.

This paper is organized as follows:

- In Sect. 2 we discuss the preliminaries on product quasi-Banach function spaces, sparse forms, and multilinear weight classes.
- In Sect. 3 we introduce a rescaled multilinear analogue of the Hardy-Littlewood property and prove sparse domination of the multisublinear Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator using this condition.
- In Sect. 4 we introduce a limited range multilinear UMD property for tuples of quasi-Banach function spaces.
- In Sect. 5 we state and prove our main results.
- In Sect. 6 we discuss how our results can be applied in the quasi-Banach range as well as prove new vector-valued bounds for various operators.

Notation

We consider \mathbf{R}^d with the Lebesgue measure dx and write $|E|$ for the measure of a measurable set $E \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$. For $r \in (0, \infty)$, a function $f \in L_{loc}^r(\mathbf{R}^d)$ and a measurable $E \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$ of positive finite measure we use the notation

$$\langle f \rangle_{r,E} = \left(\frac{1}{|E|} \int_E |f|^r dx \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}.$$

Moreover, we denote by $\langle f \rangle_{\infty,E}$ the essential supremum of $|f|$ in E . We let $\mathbf{1}_E$ denote the characteristic function of E .

Throughout the paper we write $C_{a,b,\dots}$ to denote a constant, which only depends on the parameters a, b, \dots and possibly on the dimension d and multilinearity m . By $\lesssim_{a,b,\dots}$ we mean that there is a constant $C_{a,b,\dots}$ such that inequality holds and by $\approx_{a,b,\dots}$ we mean that both $\lesssim_{a,b,\dots}$ and $\gtrsim_{a,b,\dots}$ hold.

Convention 1.4 For a vector $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ we denote its coordinates by p_1, \dots, p_m and set $\frac{1}{p} := \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{1}{p_j}$. We denote $\max \vec{p} := \max\{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ and

$$L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d) := L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d) \times \dots \times L^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d).$$

For $\vec{q} \in (0, \infty)^m$ we write $\vec{p} \leq \vec{q}$ if $p_j \leq q_j$ and $\vec{p} > \vec{q}$ if $p_j > q_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$. We define arithmetic operations on \vec{p} and \vec{q} coordinate wise, e.g. $\vec{p}/\vec{q} := (p_1/q_1, \dots, p_m/q_m)$, and similarly $\vec{p}^\alpha = (p_1^\alpha, \dots, p_m^\alpha)$ for $\alpha > 0$.

For an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces $\vec{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$ and we will write $X := \prod_{j=1}^m X_j$, for $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty)$ and for a vector of m weights $\vec{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_m)$ (see Sect. 2.2) we write $w := \prod_{j=1}^m w_j$. Moreover we will use the shorthand notation

$$L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}) := L_{w_1}^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_1) \times \dots \times L_{w_m}^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_m)$$

and $L_{\text{loc}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ is defined similarly. We say \vec{X} is \vec{r} -convex for $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ if X_j is r_j -convex for $1 \leq j \leq m$.

2 Preliminaries

2.1 Product quasi-Banach function spaces

Let (Ω, μ) be a σ -finite measure space. An order ideal $X \subseteq L^0(\Omega)$ equipped with a quasi-norm $\|\cdot\|_X$ is called a *quasi-Banach function space* if it satisfies the following properties

- *Compatibility:* If $\xi, \eta \in X$ with $|\xi| \leq |\eta|$, then $\|\xi\|_X \leq \|\eta\|_X$.
- *Weak order unit:* There is a $\xi \in X$ with $\xi > 0$ a.e.
- *Fatou property:* If $0 \leq \xi_n \uparrow \xi$ for $(\xi_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ in X and $\sup_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \|\xi_n\|_X < \infty$, then $\xi \in X$ and $\|\xi\|_X = \sup_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \|\xi_n\|_X$.

If $\|\cdot\|_X$ is a norm then X is called a *Banach function space*.

A quasi-Banach function space X is called *order-continuous* if for any sequence $0 \leq \xi_n \uparrow \xi \in X$ we have $\|\xi_n - \xi\|_X \rightarrow 0$. As an example we note that all reflexive Banach function spaces are order-continuous. Order-continuity of X ensures that the Bochner space $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ for $p \in (0, \infty)$ coincides with the *mixed-norm space* of all measurable functions $\mathbf{R}^d \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ such that

$$\|x \mapsto \|f(x, \cdot)\|_X\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d)} < \infty,$$

which is again a quasi-Banach function space. Moreover if X is an order-continuous Banach function space, then its dual X^* is also a Banach function space. For an introduction to Banach function spaces we refer the reader to [34, Section 1.b] or [4].

We call a quasi-Banach function space p -convex for $p \in (0, \infty)$ if for any $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n \in X$ we have

$$\left\| \left(\sum_{k=1}^n |\xi_k|^p \right)^{1/p} \right\|_X \leq \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \|\xi_k\|^p \right)^{1/p}.$$

Often a constant is allowed in the defining inequality for p -convexity, but as shown in [34, Theorem 1.d.8] X can always be renormed equivalently such that this constant equals 1. The *p -conconvification* of X for $p \in (0, \infty)$ is defined as

$$X^p := \{|\xi|^p \operatorname{sgn} \xi : \xi \in X\} = \{\xi \in L^0(\Omega) : |\xi|^{1/p} \in X\}$$

equipped with the quasinorm $\|\xi\|_{X^p} := \|\xi\|_X^{1/p}$. Note that $\|\cdot\|_{X^p}$ is a norm if and only if X is p -convex. In particular for $f \in L_{\text{loc}}^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ and a set $E \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$ of finite measure

the p -convexity of X ensures that $\langle |f| \rangle_{p,E}$ is well-defined as a Bochner integral. See [34, Section 1.d] and [24] for a further introduction to p -convexity and related notions.

For m quasi-Banach function spaces X_1, \dots, X_m over the same measure space we define the product space

$$\prod_{j=1}^m X_j := \left\{ \xi : |\xi| \leq \prod_{j=1}^m \xi_j \text{ for some } 0 \leq \xi_j \in X_j, 1 \leq j \leq m \right\},$$

which can easily be seen to be a vector space and for $\xi \in \prod_{j=1}^m X_j$ we define

$$\|\xi\|_{\prod_{j=1}^m X_j} := \inf \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^m \|\xi_j\|_{X_j} : |\xi| \leq \prod_{j=1}^m \xi_j, 0 \leq \xi_j \in X_j, 1 \leq j \leq m \right\}.$$

We call $\vec{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$ an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces if X_1, \dots, X_m are quasi-Banach function spaces over the same measure space and the product $\prod_{j=1}^m X_j$ equipped with the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\prod_{j=1}^m X_j}$ is also quasi-Banach function space. We refer to [8,37,46] for background on product Banach function spaces. Let us give a few examples:

Proposition 2.1 *Let (Ω, μ) be a σ -finite measure space.*

- (i) *For any quasi-Banach function space X we have $X \cdot L^\infty(\Omega) = X$.*
- (ii) *Lebesgue spaces: $L^{\vec{p}}(\Omega) = \prod_{j=1}^m L^{p_j}(\Omega)$ for $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$.*
- (iii) *Lorentz spaces: $L^{\vec{p},\vec{q}}(\Omega) = \prod_{j=1}^m L^{p_j,q_j}(\Omega)$ for $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty)^m, \vec{q} \in (0, \infty]^m$.*
- (iv) *Orlicz spaces: $L^\Phi(\Omega) = \prod_{j=1}^m L^{\Phi_j}(\Omega)$ for Young functions Φ_j and $\Phi^{-1} = \prod_{j=1}^m \Phi_j^{-1}$.*

In all these cases the (quasi)-norm of the product is equivalent to the usual (quasi)-norm.

Proof The first claim follows directly from the definitions. For (ii), (iii), and (iv), the inclusion $\prod_{j=1}^m X_j \subseteq X$ with X respectively equal to $L^{\vec{p}}(\Omega), L^{\vec{p},\vec{q}}(\Omega)$, and $L^\Phi(\Omega)$ and X_j respectively equal to $L^{p_j}(\Omega), L^{p_j,q_j}(\Omega)$, and $L^{\Phi_j}(\Omega)$, follows from the generalized Hölder’s inequality $\|\prod_{j=1}^m \xi_j\|_X \lesssim \prod_{j=1}^m \|\xi_j\|_{X_j}$ valid for these spaces, see [41,42].

For the converse in (ii) and (iii) in the case that $q = q_1 = \dots = q_m = \infty$, let $\xi \in L^{\vec{p}}(\Omega)$ or $\xi \in L^{\vec{p},\infty}(\Omega)$ respectively. If $p = p_1 = \dots = p_m = \infty$, the result follows from (i).

Otherwise, we set $\xi_j := |\xi|^{\frac{p}{p_j}}$. Then $\xi_j \in L^{p_j}(\Omega)$ or $\xi_j \in L^{p_j,\infty}(\Omega)$ respectively, $|\xi| = \prod_{j=1}^m \xi_j$, and $\prod_{j=1}^m \|\xi_j\|_{L^{p_j}(\Omega)} = \|\xi\|_{L^{\vec{p}}(\Omega)}$ or similarly in the weak case, proving the result.

The converse for (iv) is proven analogously with $\xi_j := \Phi_j^{-1}(\Phi(|\xi|))$.

Finally, for (iii) in the case $q_k < \infty$ for some $1 \leq k \leq j$ we take $s > 0$ such that $X_j := L^{p_j/s,q_j/s}(\Omega)$ are all Banach spaces. Then X_k is reflexive, which means that we can identify the product space $\prod_{j=1}^m L^{p_j/s,q_j/s}(\Omega)$ with an iterated complex interpolation space by [8]. So $\prod_{j=1}^m L^{p_j/s,q_j/s}(\Omega) = L^{p/s,q/s}(\Omega)$ by [47, Theorem 1.10.3 and 1.18.6]. The assertion now follows by rescaling. \square

2.2 Sparse forms and multilinear weight classes

In this section we briefly outline some of the results on dyadic grids and sparse collections of cubes that we will use. For proofs of these result and other relevant properties we refer the reader to [28]. Furthermore we will introduce multilinear weight classes and state some weighted results, for which we refer the reader to [40]. We note these results also hold in

the more general setting of spaces homogeneous type, provided one uses the right notion of dyadic cubes in this setting, see [22].

By a *cube* $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$ we mean a half-open cube whose sides are parallel to the coordinate axes. We define the standard dyadic grid as

$$\mathcal{D} := \bigcup_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \{2^{-k}([0, 1)^d + m) : m \in \mathbf{Z}^d\}.$$

An important property pertaining to cubes is the fact that there exist 3^d translates $(\mathcal{D}^\alpha)_{\alpha=1}^{3^d}$ of \mathcal{D} such that for each cube $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$ there exists an α and a cube $Q' \in \mathcal{D}^\alpha$ such that $Q \subseteq Q'$ and $|Q'| \leq 6^d|Q|$. This so-called three lattice lemma will allow us to reduce our arguments to only having to consider dyadic grids.

A collection of cubes \mathcal{S} is called *sparse* if there is pairwise disjoint collection $(E_Q)_{Q \in \mathcal{S}}$ of measurable sets satisfying $E_Q \subseteq Q$ and $|E_Q| \geq \frac{1}{2}|Q|$. Note that the constant $\frac{1}{2}$ in the estimate $|E_Q| \geq \frac{1}{2}|Q|$ is not essential in the arguments and could be replaced by an $\eta \in (0, 1)$. What is important is that this constant stays fixed throughout the arguments.

Definition 2.2 For $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$ we define the m -sublinear Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator

$$M_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f})(x) := \sup_Q \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d$$

where the supremum is taken over all cubes $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$. Similarly, for a collection of cubes \mathcal{D} we define

$$M_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x) := \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{D}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

A *weight* w is a measurable function $w : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow (0, \infty)$. For a weight w and $p \in (0, \infty]$ we define the weighted Lebesgue space $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$ as the space of those measurable functions f satisfying $\|fw\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d)} < \infty$. Note that if $p \in (0, \infty)$, then $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$ is the L^p space over \mathbf{R}^d with respect to the measure $w^p dx$. It should be noted that our definition of $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d)$ is often denoted by $L^p(w^p)$ in the literature when $p < \infty$. The advantage of our definition is that we also obtain a sensible definition when $p = \infty$, which does play a role in the theory.

Definition 2.3 Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $s \in (0, \infty]$ and let $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} \leq \vec{p}$ and $p \leq s$. Let \vec{w} be a vector of m weights. We say that \vec{w} is a multilinear Muckenhoupt weight and write $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)}$ if

$$[\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)} := \sup_Q \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle w_j^{-1} \rangle_{\frac{1}{r_j - \frac{1}{p_j}}, Q} \right) \langle w \rangle_{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s}}, Q} < \infty,$$

where the supremum is taken over all cubes $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$.

These weight classes characterize the weak boundedness of the Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator in the sense that $[\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, \infty)} \asymp_d \|M_{\vec{r}}\|_{L_w^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow L_w^{p, \infty}(\mathbf{R}^d)}$. In the case where we have the strict inequalities $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ this improves to a strong bound. More precisely, we have the following result, which is shown in [40, Proposition 2.14].

Proposition 2.4 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$. Then for all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, \infty)}$*

$$\|M_{\vec{r}}\|_{L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d) \rightarrow L_w^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_{\vec{p}, \vec{r}} [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, \infty)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}, \frac{1}{\vec{p}}\right\}}.$$

We wish to elaborate on the intimate connection between the multisublinear Hardy-Littlewood maximal operator and sparse forms. Indeed, for $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ we have the equivalence

$$\|M_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f})\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \approx \sup_S \sum_{Q \in S} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right) |Q|, \tag{2.1}$$

which is valid for all $\vec{f} \in L_{\text{loc}}^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$, where the supremum is taken over all sparse collections S , see [13, Remark 1.5]. Applying (2.1) with $m = 2, r_1 = r_2 = 1$ allows us rewrite the sparse domination results in Theorem 1.1 in terms of multisublinear maximal functions, which is an essential step in its proof.

For the sparse domination in our main result (Theorem 5.1), our sparse domination is in fact written in terms of a multisublinear maximal function. We emphasize how one can view this in terms of sparse forms, being a particular case of (2.1), in the following proposition:

Proposition 2.5 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$, and $s \in (q, \infty]$. Then for all $\vec{f} \in L_{\text{loc}}^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$ and $g \in L_{\text{loc}}^{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$*

$$\|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}\right)(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \approx_{q, r, s} \sup_S \left(\sum_{Q \in S} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^q \langle g \rangle_{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}, Q}^q |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q}},$$

where the supremum is over all sparse collections S .

Proof Note that the left-hand side can be written as

$$\|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}\right)(|f_1|^q, \dots, |f_m|^q, |g|^q)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)}^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

while the right-hand side can be written as

$$\left(\sup_S \sum_{Q \in S} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle |f_j|^q \rangle_{\frac{r_j}{q}, Q} \right) \langle |g|^q \rangle_{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}, Q} |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

Thus, the result follows as a special case of (2.1). □

We point out that pointwise domination of an operator by a sparse operator of course implies that this operator also satisfies sparse domination in form. Since we will use this fact several times, we record it here.

Proposition 2.6 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$ and let T be an operator defined on m -tuples of functions such that for $\vec{f} \in L_{\text{loc}}^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection S such that*

$$|T(\vec{f})(x)| \leq C_T \left(\sum_{Q \in S} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^q \mathbf{1}_Q(x) \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}, \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

Then

$$\|T(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_q C_T \|M_{(\vec{r},q)}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}$$

for all $g \in L^q_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$.

Proof By Proposition 2.5 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(\vec{f})g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} &\leq C_T \left\| \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^q \mathbf{1}_Q \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} g \right\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \\ &= C_T \left(\int_{\mathbf{R}^d} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^q \mathbf{1}_Q |g|^q \, dx \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &= C_T \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^q \langle g \rangle_{q, Q}^q |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &\lesssim_q C_T \|M_{(\vec{r},q)}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}, \end{aligned}$$

for all $g \in L^q_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$, as desired. □

Next we note that vector-valued sparse domination can be written in two equivalent ways. The first way uses duality in X , which is useful as it allows one to apply Fubini’s theorem. The second is domination with the norm of X on the inside, which is the form that is usually used in the literature.

Proposition 2.7 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$, $s \in (q, \infty]$ and let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over a measure space (Ω, μ) such that X is q -convex and order-continuous. Let \tilde{T} be an operator defined on an m -tuple $\vec{f} \in L^r_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ with $\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \in L^0(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

(i) For all $g \in L^\infty_c(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})$

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))} \leq C \|M_{\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q}-s}\right)}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, \|g\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}})\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.$$

(ii) For all $g \in L^\infty_c(\mathbf{R}^d)$

$$\|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \leq C \|M_{\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q}-s}\right)}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.$$

Proof For (ii) \Rightarrow (i), note that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\Omega)} &= \left(\int_{\Omega} |\tilde{T}(\vec{f})|^q |g|^q \, d\mu \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_{\vec{X}^q}^{\frac{1}{q}} \|g\|_{(X^q)^*}^{\frac{1}{q}} \\ &= \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \|g\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \end{aligned}$$

so that $\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))} \leq \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})}$. Since for $g \in L^\infty_c(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})$ we have $\|g\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \in L^\infty_c(\mathbf{R}^d)$, applying (ii) with g replaced by $\|g\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}}$ proves (i).

For (i)⇒(ii) we note that by duality (see e.g. [23, Proposition 1.3.1]) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} &= \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|^q\|_{X^q} \cdot |g|^q\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)}^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &= \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|^q |g|^q\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; X^q)}^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &= \sup_{\|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{1/q})} = 1} \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|^q \cdot |g|^q \cdot |h|^q\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))}^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
 &= \sup_{\|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{1/q})} = 1} \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot gh\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

Since $gh \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})$ for any $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ and $h \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})$ of norm 1 with $\|gh\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \leq \|g\| \|h\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})} = |g|$, it follows from (i) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot gh\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))} &\leq C \left\| M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{s}}\right) (\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, \|gh\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}}) \right\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \\
 &\leq C \left\| M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{s}}\right) (\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g) \right\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By combining this result with (2.2) we have proven (ii). □

In the following result we will deduce weighted bounds from domination by the multi-sublinear Hardy–Littlewood operator. To this end we introduce some terminology.

Definition 2.8 Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over a measure space (Ω, μ) . Let \vec{Y}, V be $m + 1$ quasi-normed linear subspaces of $L^0(\mathbf{R}^n; \vec{X})$ and $L^0(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$ respectively and let $T : \vec{Y} \rightarrow V$. We say that T is m -linear if it is linear in each of its components. We say that T is m -sublinear if it is positive-valued and subadditive in each of its components, i.e., the function $T(\vec{f})$ takes values in the positive functions, and for all $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

$$T(f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, f_j + g_j, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_m) \leq T(\vec{f}) + T(f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, g_j, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_m)$$

for all $\vec{f} \in \vec{Y}, g_j \in Y_j$.

We will generally consider operators that are either m -linear or m -sublinear, which we shorten by saying that the operator is m -(sub)linear. We point out that the modulus of any m -linear operator is m -sublinear.

Proposition 2.9 Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m, q \in (0, \infty), s \in (q, \infty]$ and let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over a measure space (Ω, μ) such that X is q -convex and order-continuous. Let \tilde{T} be an m -(sub)linear operator initially defined for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$. Suppose that

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \leq C_T \left\| M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{s}}\right) (\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g) \right\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}. \tag{2.3}$$

for all simple $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}), g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$. Then for all $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ and $p < s$, all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)}$, \tilde{T} has a unique extension satisfying

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_{L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{p}, q, \vec{r}, s} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)} \max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}, \frac{1}{\vec{p}}, \frac{1}{\vec{q}-\frac{1}{s}}\right\} \prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_w^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}$$

for all $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$.

Proposition 2.9 is essentially a consequence of Proposition 2.4 and, in certain cases, the quantitative multilinear extrapolation result in [40]. The reason we might have to use extrapolation is because sparse domination by forms yields, a priori, weighted bounds for the range of exponents where one can dualize the operator. Typically, in the multilinear case, this does not yield the full range of exponents where the operator satisfies weighted bounds. To recover this full range of exponents, we will use the following version of the extrapolation theorem in [40]:

Theorem 2.10 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$, $s \in (q, \infty]$ and let $\vec{t} \in (0, \infty]^m$ satisfy $\vec{t} \geq \vec{r}$ and $q \leq t \leq s$. Suppose we are given $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ satisfying $\vec{p} > \vec{r}$, $q \leq p < s$, $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}$, and $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^n)$, $g \in L_{w^{-1}}^{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}}}(\mathbf{R}^n)$. Then there is a $\vec{W} \in A_{\vec{t},(\vec{r},s)}$ such that*

$$\left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{W_j}^{t_j}(\mathbf{R}^n)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{t}}}} \leq 2^{\frac{m^2}{q}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^n)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}}}} \tag{2.4}$$

and

$$[\vec{W}]_{\vec{t},(\vec{r},s)} \lesssim_{\vec{p},\vec{r},s,\vec{t}} [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)} \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{t}}{\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{p}}, \frac{\frac{1}{t}-\frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{s}} \right\}. \tag{2.5}$$

Proof This follows from an application of [40, Theorem 3.1] with $\mathbf{r} = (\frac{r}{q}, (\frac{s}{q})')$, $\mathbf{q} = (\frac{t}{q}, (\frac{t}{q})')$, $\mathbf{p} = (\frac{p}{q}, (\frac{p}{q})')$, $\mathbf{w} = (\vec{w}^q, w^{-q})$, and $\mathbf{f} = (|\vec{f}|^q, |g|^q)$. \square

Next, we prove an extension lemma for multi(sub)linear operators, which will be needed in the proof of Proposition 2.9. In the case $m = 1$, a bounded (sub)linear operator satisfies a reverse triangle inequality type estimate and thus, in particular, is uniformly continuous. Therefore, if it takes values in a complete space, it extends to an operator on the closure of its domain. For $m > 2$ this uniform continuity needs to be replaced by a local uniform continuity. This again suffices to extend the operator to the closure of its domain. While this result is straightforward, we include it here for convenience of the reader.

Lemma 2.11 *Let \vec{Y} be an m -tuple of quasi-normed vector spaces, let Z be a quasi-Banach function space, and let $U_j \subseteq Y_j$ be a dense subspace for each $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$. If $T : \vec{U} \rightarrow Z$ is bounded and satisfies the pointwise a.e. estimate*

$$\begin{aligned} |T(\vec{f}) - T(\vec{g})| &\leq \sum_{j=1}^m |T(f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, f_j - g_j, g_{j+1}, \dots, g_m)| \\ &\quad + |T(g_1, \dots, g_{j-1}, g_j - f_j, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_m)| \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

for all $\vec{f}, \vec{g} \in \vec{U}$, then T uniquely extends to a bounded operator $\vec{Y} \rightarrow Z$ with a comparable bound.

If T is m -(sub)linear, then it satisfies (2.6) and its extension, again denoted by T , is an m -(sub)linear operator as well.

Proof By the compatibility of the norm on Z with pointwise estimates, (2.6) and boundedness of T yields for $\vec{f}, \vec{g} \in \vec{U}$

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(\vec{f}) - T(\vec{g})\|_Z &\lesssim \sum_{j=1}^m \|T(f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, f_j - g_j, g_{j+1}, \dots, g_m)\|_Z \\ &\quad + \|T(g_1, \dots, g_{j-1}, g_j - f_j, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_m)\|_Z \\ &\lesssim \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\prod_{\substack{l=1 \\ l \neq j}}^m (\|f_l\|_{Y_l} + \|g_l\|_{Y_l}) \right) \|f_j - g_j\|_{Y_j}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Now, if $\vec{f} \in \vec{Y}$ and $(f_j^k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a sequence in U_j converging to f_j in Y_j for all $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, then (2.7) implies that $(T(\vec{f}^k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a Cauchy-sequence in Z . The first assertion then follows by defining $T(\vec{f})$ to be the limit of this sequence in Z . Note that this is well-defined since it follows from another application of (2.7) that this limit does not depend on the approximating sequences of the f_j . For the bound we have

$$\|T(\vec{f})\|_Z \leq \beta \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|T(\vec{f}^k)\|_Z \leq \beta c \prod_{j=1}^m \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|f_j^k\|_{Y_j} \leq \beta \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \alpha_j \right) c \prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{Y_j}.$$

where c, α_j , and β are respectively the bound for T , the quasi-triangle inequality constant of Y_j , and the quasi-triangle inequality constant of Z .

If T is m -sublinear, then it follows from iterating the inequality

$$T(\vec{f}) \leq T(g_1, f_2, \dots, f_m) + T(f_1 - g_1, f_2, \dots, f_m)$$

for all f_j in the first term on the right for $j = 2$ to $j = m$, that

$$T(\vec{f}) \leq T(\vec{g}) + \sum_{j=1}^m T(f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, f_j - g_j, g_{j+1}, \dots, g_m).$$

By symmetry, we obtain

$$T(\vec{g}) \leq T(\vec{f}) + \sum_{j=1}^m T(g_1, \dots, g_{j-1}, g_j - f_j, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_m)$$

and by combining these two estimates we obtain (2.6). If T is m -linear, these first two inequalities are actually equalities, so we can proceed analogously. The final assertion is a consequence of the fact that m -(sub)linearity is a pointwise property and that convergence in Z implies local convergence in measure (see e.g. [4, Theorem 1.4]), and thus a.e. convergence on a subsequence. □

Note that if $Z = L_w^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for a weight w and a $p \in (0, \infty]$, then by continuity of the (quasi-)norm $\|\cdot\|_{L_w^p(\mathbb{R}^n)}$, the extension T will have the same bound as the original T .

Since we are working with weights that are not necessarily locally integrable, it is not a-priori clear that the simple functions of compact support are dense in the weighted Lebesgue spaces. We prove that this density result does indeed hold.

Lemma 2.12 *Let w be a weight, $p, q \in (0, \infty)$ and X a q -convex quasi-Banach function space. Then the simple functions in $L_w^p(\mathbb{R}^n; X) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n; X)$ are dense in $L_w^p(\mathbb{R}^n; X)$.*

Proof First suppose that $p, q \geq 1$ and fix $f \in L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$. By [23, Corollary 1.1.21] and the dominated convergence theorem there exists a sequence of simple functions $(f_k)_{k \in \mathbf{N}}$ such that $f_k \rightarrow f$ in $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$, and $f_k(x) \rightarrow f(x)$ and $\|f_k(x)\|_X \leq \|f\|_X$ for a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$. Setting $(g_k)_{k \in \mathbf{N}} = (f_k \mathbf{1}_{B(0,k)})_{k \in \mathbf{N}}$ it follows that $g_k \in L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$ for all $k \in \mathbf{N}$ and $g_k \rightarrow f$ in $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$ by the dominated convergence theorem, proving the lemma.

Now consider the case $p < 1$ and/or $q < 1$. Fix $n \in \mathbf{N}$ so that $2^n p, 2^n q > 1$. For $f \in L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$ we can pick a positive $g \in L_{w^{2^{-n}}}^{2^n p}(\mathbf{R}^n; X^{2^{-n}})$ with $g^{2^n} = |f|$. By our previous result we can find a positive sequence of simple functions $(g_k)_{k \in \mathbf{N}}$ in $L_{w^{2^{-n}}}^{2^n p}(\mathbf{R}^n; X^{2^{-n}}) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n; X^{2^{-n}})$ converging to g . Setting $f_k := g_k^{2^n} \operatorname{sgn}(f) \in L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$ we compute

$$|f_k - f| = |g_k^{2^n} - g^{2^n}| = |g_k - g| \prod_{l=0}^{n-1} |g_k^{2^l} + g^{2^l}|$$

so that by Hölder’s inequality

$$\|f_k - f\|_{L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X)} \leq \|g_k - g\|_{L_{w^{2^{-n}}}^{2^n p}(\mathbf{R}^n; X^{2^{-n}})} \prod_{l=0}^{n-1} \|g_k^{2^l} + g^{2^l}\|_{L_{w^{2^{-(n-l)}}}^{2^n p}(\mathbf{R}^n; X^{2^{-(n-l)}})}.$$

Since $\|g_k^{2^l} + g^{2^l}\|$ is bounded in k , we conclude that $f_k \rightarrow f$ in $L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^n; X)$. □

We are now ready to prove Proposition 2.9.

Proof of Proposition 2.9 Set $\frac{1}{t_j} := \frac{\tau}{r_j}$ with $\frac{1}{t} = \frac{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{q}}{\frac{1}{q}} > 1$. Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{t} &= \frac{\tau}{r} = \frac{\frac{1}{r}}{\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}} \frac{1}{q} \in \left(\frac{1}{s}, \frac{1}{q} \right), \\ \frac{\frac{1}{r_1}}{\frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{t_1}} &= \dots = \frac{\frac{1}{r_m}}{\frac{1}{r_m} - \frac{1}{t_m}} = \frac{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{s}} = \frac{1}{1 - \tau}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$[(\vec{W}, W^{-1})]_{\left(\vec{t}, \frac{1}{\vec{q} - \vec{t}}\right)} \cdot \left(\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\vec{q} - \vec{r}}\right), \infty \right) = [\vec{W}]_{\vec{t}, (\vec{r}, s)},$$

for $\vec{W} \in A_{\vec{t}, (\vec{r}, s)}$, it follows from (2.3) and Proposition 2.4 that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} &\leq C_T \|M_{\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\vec{q} - \vec{r}}\right)}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \\ &\lesssim_{\vec{t}, \vec{r}} C_T [\vec{W}]_{\vec{t}, (\vec{r}, s)}^{\frac{1}{1-\tau}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{W_j}^{t_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{W^{-1}}^{\left(\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{t}\right)^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

for all $\vec{W} \in A_{\vec{t}, (\vec{r}, s)}$ and all simple $f_j \in L_{W_j}^{t_j}(\mathbf{R}^d) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$, $g \in L_{W^{-1}}^{\left(\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{t}\right)^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d) \cap L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$. By Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12, \tilde{T} has a unique extension satisfying this estimate for all $\vec{W} \in A_{\vec{t}, (\vec{r}, s)}$, $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{W}}^{\vec{t}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$, and $g \in L_{W^{-1}}^{\left(\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{t}\right)^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$.

Now let $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ and $p < s$, $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}$, and $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^n; \vec{X})$, $g \in L_{w^{-1}}^{(\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p})^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$. It follows from applying Theorem 2.10 with f_j replaced by $\|f_j\|_{X_j}$, that there is a $\vec{W} \in A_{\vec{r},(\vec{r},s)}$ such that

$$\left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{W_j}^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^n; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \leq 2^{\frac{m^2}{q}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^n; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d)}$$

and

$$[\vec{W}]_{\vec{r},(\vec{r},s)} \lesssim_{\vec{p},\vec{r},s,\vec{r}} [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}^{(1-\tau) \cdot \max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}, \frac{1}{\vec{p}}-\frac{1}{s}\right\}}.$$

Then it follows from (2.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \\ & \lesssim_{\vec{r},\vec{r}} C_T [\vec{W}]_{\vec{r},(\vec{r},s)}^{\frac{1}{1-\tau}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{W_j}^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{(\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{r})^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \\ & \lesssim_{\vec{p},q,\vec{r},s,\vec{r}} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}, \frac{1}{\vec{p}}-\frac{1}{s}\right\}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{(\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p})^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

The assertion now follows from the duality

$$\|T(\vec{f})\|_{L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} = \|T(\vec{f})\|_X^{\frac{1}{q}} \|g\|_{L_{w^q}^{\frac{p}{q}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} = \sup_{\|g\|_{L_{w^{-1}}^{(\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p})^{-1}}(\mathbf{R}^d)} = 1} \|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.$$

□

3 The multisublinear lattice maximal operator

In this section we will introduce and study properties of the multilinear lattice maximal operator, which will play a major role in the proof of our main theorem. We will start by reviewing the case $m = 1$. Let X be a Banach function space and let \mathcal{D} be a finite collection of cubes in \mathbf{R}^d . For any $f \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ we define

$$\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}} f(x) := \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{D}} \langle f \rangle_{1,Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

where the supremum is taken in the lattice sense. We say that X has the *Hardy–Littlewood property* and write $X \in \text{HL}$ if for some $p \in (1, \infty)$

$$\|\tilde{M}\|_{p,X} := \sup_{\mathcal{D}} \|\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} < \infty,$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite collection of cubes \mathcal{D} . This property is independent of the exponent p and the dimension d (see [18]) and even the operator norm $\|\tilde{M}\|_{p,X}$ can be bounded by a constant independent of the dimension d (see [15]).

As an example we note that (iterated) L^p -spaces for $p \in (1, \infty]$ have the Hardy–Littlewood property. Moreover by a deep result of Bourgain [6] and Rubio de Francia [45, Theorem 3] we have that both X and X^* have the Hardy–Littlewood property if and only if X has the so-called UMD property. We will elaborate on the connection between the Hardy–Littlewood property and the UMD property in Sect. 4.

If X is an order-continuous Banach function space with the Hardy–Littlewood property and $p \in [1, \infty)$, we define the *lattice Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator* for $f \in L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ by

$$\tilde{M}f(x) := \sup_Q \langle f \rangle_{1,Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

where the supremum is taken in the lattice sense over all cubes $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$. To see that $\tilde{M}f : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow X$ is strongly measurable, let \mathcal{D}_n be a finite collection of cubes for each $n \in \mathbf{N}$ such that $\mathcal{D}_n \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{n+1}$ and such that

$$\tilde{M}f(x) = \sup_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}_n} f(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

By the Hardy–Littlewood property of X we know that $\sup_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \|\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}_n} f\|_{L^{p,\infty}(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} < \infty$ (see [18, Theorem 1.7]). Thus using the Fatou property of X it follows that $\tilde{M}f(x) \in X$ for a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$. Moreover since X is order-continuous, $(\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}_n} f(x))_{n \in \mathbf{N}}$ converges to $\tilde{M}f(x)$ for a.e. $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$. As $\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}_n} f$ is a simple function for each $n \in \mathbf{N}$, we can conclude that $\tilde{M}f$ is strongly measurable, i.e. $\tilde{M}f \in L^0(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$.

Let us now turn to the multisublinear, rescaled generalization of the lattice Hardy–Littlewood maximal operator that we will need for our main result. Take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and let \vec{X} be an \vec{r} -convex m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces. For $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and a finite collection of cubes \mathcal{D} in \mathbf{R}^d we define the multilinear analog of $\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}}$ as

$$\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x) := \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{D}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d,$$

where the supremum is taken in the lattice sense. Note that $\tilde{M}_{(1)}^{\mathcal{D}} = \tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}}$.

Definition 3.1 Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces and take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$. We say that \vec{X} has the \vec{r} -Hardy–Littlewood property and write $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ if \vec{X} is \vec{r} -convex and for some $\vec{r} < \vec{p} \leq \infty$ we have

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{\vec{p}, \vec{X}} := \sup_{\mathcal{D}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}; \vec{X}) \rightarrow L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}; X)} < \infty,$$

where the supremum is taken over all finite collection of cubes.

As in the linear case, the definition of $\text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ is independent of the exponent p and the dimension d . The independence of d can be shown using the method of rotations (see e.g. [18, Remark 1.3]), and the independence of p will follow from Corollary 3.6 below.

The multilinear Hardy–Littlewood property has the following properties:

Proposition 3.2 *Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces and take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$. If $X_j^{r_j} \in \text{HL}$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$, then $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$.*

Proof Fix a finite collection of dyadic cubes \mathcal{D} . Let $r_j < p_j \leq \infty$ be such that $\|\tilde{M}\|_{p_j/r_j, X_j^{r_j}} < \infty$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$. For $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d, \vec{X})$ we have by Hölder’s inequality

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}} \vec{f}\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \leq \prod_{j=1}^m \|\tilde{M}^{\mathcal{D}}(|f_j|^{r_j})\|_{L^{p_j/r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j^{r_j})}^{1/r_j} \leq \prod_{j=1}^m \|\tilde{M}\|_{p_j/r_j, X_j^{r_j}}^{1/r_j} \|f_j\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}.$$

Thus taking the supremum over all \vec{f} of norm 1 and all finite collection of cubes \mathcal{D} yields $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$. \square

We point out that Proposition 3.2 does not provide a necessary condition. Indeed, for $m = 3$ we can take $X_1 = \ell^2(\ell^\infty)$, $X_2 = \ell^\infty(\ell^2)$ and $X_3 = \ell^2(\ell^2)$. It is shown in [39, Proposition 8.1] that X_2 does not satisfy the Hardy-Littlewood property. However, noting that $X_3 = (X_1 \cdot X_2)^*$, it follows from Proposition 4.8 below that $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{(1,1,1)}$.

Take $\vec{r}, \vec{p} \in (0, \infty)^m$ with $\vec{r} \leq \vec{p}$, assume that $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ and that X is order-continuous. We define the *multisublinear lattice maximal operator*

$$\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f})(x) := \sup_Q \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x), \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d,$$

for $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$, where the supremum is taken in the lattice sense over all cubes $Q \subseteq \mathbf{R}^d$. As in the case $m = 1$, the order-continuity of X ensures that $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f}) \in L^0(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$.

We will show a sparse domination result for $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}$, which is key in the proof of our main result. Sparse domination in the case $m = 1$ was studied in [19]. Here we will adapt the arguments from [19] to the case where $m > 1$. As a first step we will show a weak endpoint for $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}$.

Lemma 3.3 *Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces, take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and suppose $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$. Then we have for $\vec{r} < \vec{p} \leq \infty$*

$$\sup_{\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D} \text{ finite}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}) \rightarrow L^{r, \infty}(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{p}, \vec{r}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{\vec{p}, X}$$

Proof Fix $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ finite and take $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$. By scaling we may assume that $\|f_j\|_{L^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} = 1$ for $1 \leq j \leq m$. For $\lambda > 0$ and $1 \leq j \leq m$ define

$$S_j := \{Q \in \mathcal{D} : Q \text{ maximal (w.r.t inclusion) such that } \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} > \lambda^{r/r_j}\}$$

and set $O_j := \bigcup_{Q \in S_j} Q = \{M_{r_j}^{\mathcal{D}}(|f_j|) > \lambda^{r/r_j}\}$. For a fixed $P \in \mathcal{D}$ and $1 \leq j \leq m$ we have if $P \setminus O_j \neq \emptyset$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P &= \left\langle f_j \mathbf{1}_{O_j^c} + \sum_{\substack{Q \in S_j: \\ Q \subseteq P}} f_j \mathbf{1}_Q \right\rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P \\ &= \left\langle f_j \mathbf{1}_{O_j^c} + \sum_{Q \in S_j} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q \right\rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P \end{aligned}$$

using the disjointness of the cubes in S_j and

$$\langle \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q \rangle_{r_j, P} = \langle f_j \mathbf{1}_Q \rangle_{r_j, P}, \quad Q \subseteq P$$

in the second equality. Taking the product over $1 \leq j \leq m$ and the supremum over $P \in \mathcal{D}$ we can estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}) &\leq \sup_{P \in \mathcal{D}} \prod_{j=1}^m \left(\left\langle f_j \mathbf{1}_{O_j} + \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}_j} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q \right\rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P + \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_{O_j} \right) \\ &\leq \widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g}) + b \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g_j := g_j^1 + g_j^2 := f_j \mathbf{1}_{O_j} + \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}_j} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m.$$

and $b : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow X$ is the sum of all terms of the product over $1 \leq j \leq m$ except $\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g})$. By the disjointness of the cubes in \mathcal{S}_j we have $\|g_j\|_{L^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} = \|f_j\|_{L^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} = 1$. Moreover since

$$\text{supp } b \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^m O_j = \bigcup_{j=1}^m \{M_{r_j}^{\mathcal{Q}}(\|f_j\|_{X_j}) > \lambda^{r/r_j}\}$$

and since $M_{r_j}^{\mathcal{Q}}$ is weak L^{r_j} -bounded we have

$$|\|b\|_X > \lambda| \leq \sum_{j=1}^m |M_{r_j}^{\mathcal{Q}}(\|f_j\|_{X_j}) > \lambda^{r/r_j}| \leq \frac{m}{\lambda^r}.$$

Next we estimate the L^∞ -norm of \vec{g} . For $1 \leq j \leq m$ we have by the Lebesgue differentiation theorem that

$$\|g_j^1\|_{X_j} = \|f_j\|_{X_j} \mathbf{1}_{O_j} \leq M_{r_j}^{\mathcal{Q}}(\|f_j\|_{X_j}) \mathbf{1}_{O_j} \leq \lambda^{r/r_j}.$$

and, using the disjointness of the cubes in \mathcal{S}_j , the r_j -convexity of X_j , and the maximality of the cubes in \mathcal{S}_j , we have

$$\|g_j^2\|_{X_j} = \left\| \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}_j} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q}^{r_j} \mathbf{1}_Q \right)^{\frac{1}{r_j}} \right\|_{X_j} \leq 2^{d/r_j} \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}_j} \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, \hat{Q}}^{r_j} \mathbf{1}_Q \right)^{\frac{1}{r_j}} \leq 2^{d/r_j} \lambda^{r/r_j},$$

where \hat{Q} is the dyadic parent of $Q \in \mathcal{S}_j$. Thus we have $\|g_j\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \lesssim_{r_j} \lambda^{r/r_j}$.

Combining the estimates for \vec{g} and b we obtain for $\vec{r} < \vec{p} < \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \|\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})\|_X > 2\lambda \right| &\leq \left| \|\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g})\|_X > \lambda \right| + |\|b\|_X > \lambda| \\ &\leq \|\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{\vec{p}, X} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^m \|g_j\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}^p}{\lambda^p} + \frac{m}{\lambda^r} \\ &\lesssim_{\vec{p}, \vec{r}} \|\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{\vec{p}, X} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^m \|g_j\|_{L^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}^{\frac{r_j}{p_j} p} \lambda^{\left(\frac{1}{r_j} - \frac{1}{p_j}\right) p r}}{\lambda^p} + \frac{1}{\lambda^r} \leq \|\widetilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{\vec{p}, X} \frac{2}{\lambda^r} \end{aligned}$$

and the case where $p_j = \infty$ for some (or all) $1 \leq j \leq m$ is similar. Taking the supremum over $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and all finite collections of cubes $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ yields the conclusion. \square

Using this lemma we now come to the main theorem of this section, which establishes sparse domination of the multisublinear lattice maximal operator. Recall that sparse domination is equivalent to domination by a multisublinear maximal operator, see Proposition 2.6, and recall Convention 1.4 for the definition of r and X .

Theorem 3.4 *Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces, take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $q \in [r, \infty)$. Suppose that $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ and that X is an order-continuous q -convex quasi-Banach function space. Then for any $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L^q_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$ we have*

$$\| \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g \|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{r}} \|M_{(\vec{r}, q)}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)},$$

In particular, we have

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}(\vec{f})\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{r}} \|M_{\vec{r}}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}})\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.$$

Note that X is Theorem 3.4 is automatically r -convex, since X_j is r_j -convex for $1 \leq j \leq m$. If X is q -convex for $q > r$ we get a sparse domination result with a smaller sparse operator, which in turn yields better weighted bounds (see also Corollary 3.6).

Proof We will first show that $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}$ is sparsely dominated for any finite collection of dyadic cubes \mathcal{D} with an estimate independent of \mathcal{D} , from which we will deduce the claimed estimates for $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}$. Let $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$, fix a finite collection of dyadic cubes $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ and set

$$A_0 := \sup_{\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D} \text{ finite}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}) \rightarrow L^{r, \infty}(\mathbf{R}^d; X)},$$

which is finite by Lemma 3.3. For a cube $Q \in \mathcal{D}$, we define its stopping children $\text{ch}_{\mathcal{D}}(Q)$ to be the collection of maximal cubes $Q' \in \mathcal{D}$ such that $Q' \subsetneq Q$ and

$$\left\| \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D} \\ Q' \subseteq P \subseteq Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \right\|_X > 2^{1/r} A_0 \prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q}. \tag{3.1}$$

Let \mathcal{S}^1 be the maximal cubes in \mathcal{D} , define recursively $\mathcal{S}^{k+1} := \bigcup_{Q \in \mathcal{S}^k} \text{ch}_{\mathcal{D}}(Q)$ and set $\mathcal{S} := \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}^k$.

Fix $Q \in \mathcal{S}$ and let $E_Q := Q \setminus \bigcup_{Q' \in \text{ch}_{\mathcal{D}}(Q)} Q'$. Define the set

$$Q^* := \left\{ x \in \mathbf{R}^d : \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f} \mathbf{1}_Q)(x)\|_X > 2^{1/r} A_0 \prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right\}.$$

Then by the definition of A_0 we have

$$|Q^*|^{1/r} \leq \frac{1}{2^{1/r}} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j \mathbf{1}_Q\|_{L^{r_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}}{\prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q}} = \frac{1}{2^{1/r}} |Q|^{1/r}. \tag{3.2}$$

Moreover, for $Q' \in \text{ch}_{\mathcal{S}}(Q)$ and $x \in Q'$, we have by (3.1)

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f} \mathbf{1}_Q)(x)\|_X \geq \left\| \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D} \\ Q' \subseteq P \subseteq Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \right\|_X > 2^{1/r} A_0 \prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q},$$

so $x \in Q^*$ and thus $Q' \subseteq Q^*$. Using the disjointness of the cubes in $\text{ch}_{\mathcal{D}}(Q)$ and (3.2), we get

$$\sum_{Q' \in \text{ch}_{\mathcal{S}}(Q)} |Q'| \leq |Q^*| \leq \frac{1}{2}|Q|.$$

So $|E_Q| \geq \frac{1}{2}|Q|$, which means that \mathcal{S} is a sparse collection of dyadic cubes.

Next, we check that $\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})$ is pointwise dominated by the sparse operator associated to \mathcal{S} . For each $P \in \mathcal{D}$ we define

$$\pi_{\mathcal{S}}(P) := \{Q \in \mathcal{S} : Q \text{ minimal such that } P \subseteq Q\},$$

which allows us to partition \mathcal{D} as follows

$$\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \{P \in \mathcal{D} : \pi_{\mathcal{S}}(P) = Q\}$$

Fix $Q \in \mathcal{S}$, $x \in Q$ and let $Q' \in \mathcal{D}$ be the minimal cube such that $x \in Q'$ and $\pi_{\mathcal{S}}(Q') = Q$. If $Q' \subsetneq Q$ we have by the definition of Q' that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D}: \\ \pi_{\mathcal{S}}(P) = Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P(x) \right\|_X &= \left\| \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D}: \\ Q' \subseteq P \subseteq Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \right\|_X \\ &\leq 2^{1/r} A_0 \prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q(x). \end{aligned}$$

If $Q' = Q$ the same estimate follows directly from the r_j -convexity of X_j for $1 \leq j \leq m$. Using the fact that $\|\cdot\|_{\ell^\infty} \leq \|\cdot\|_{\ell^q}$ and the q -convexity of X we can conclude for any $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x)\|_X &= \left\| \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D}: \\ \pi_{\mathcal{S}}(P) = Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P(x) \right\|_X \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left\| \sup_{\substack{P \in \mathcal{D}: \\ \pi_{\mathcal{S}}(P) = Q}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, P} \mathbf{1}_P(x) \right\|_X^q \right)^{1/q} \\ &\leq 2^{1/r} A_0 \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle \|f_j\|_{X_j} \rangle_{r_j, Q}^q \mathbf{1}_Q(x) \right)^{1/q}. \end{aligned}$$

which is a pointwise sparse domination result for $\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}$. Using the Fatou property of X we know that

$$\|\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x)\|_X \leq \sup_{\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D} : \mathcal{D} \text{ finite}} \|\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x)\|_X, \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d,$$

so our claim for $\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}$ instead of \tilde{M}_r follows from Proposition 2.6. Our claim for \tilde{M}_r then follows from the three lattice lemma. The final statement follows by taking $g = \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{R}^d}$. \square

Remark 3.5 Note that the proof of Theorem 3.4 actually proves a pointwise sparse domination result for $\tilde{M}_r^{\mathcal{D}}$. Indeed, under the assumptions of Theorem 3.4 we have that for any finite

collection of dyadic cubes $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ and $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ there exists a sparse collection of cubes $S \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ such that

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x)\|_X \lesssim_{X,r} \left(\sum_{Q \in S} \prod_{j=1}^m (\|f_j\|_{X_j})_{r_j, Q}^q \mathbf{1}_Q(x) \right)^{1/q} \quad x \in \mathbf{R}^d.$$

Using Proposition 2.9, Theorem 3.4 and the density of simple functions we can now directly conclude weighted estimates for $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}$. In particular this proves the p -independence of the \vec{r} -Hardy–Littlewood property.

Corollary 3.6 *Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces, take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $q \in [r, \infty)$. Suppose $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ and assume X is an order-continuous q -convex quasi-Banach function space. Then for $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty)^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ and $p < \infty$ and any $w \in A_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},\infty)}$*

$$\|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}\|_{L^{\vec{p}}_{w}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}) \rightarrow L^p_w(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, q, \vec{r}} [\tilde{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},\infty)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{\vec{r}} - \frac{1}{\vec{p}}}, \frac{p}{q}\right\}}.$$

We point out that the condition $p < \infty$ here is necessary. Indeed, it is shown in [18, Remark 2.9] that \tilde{M} is not bounded on $L^\infty(\mathbf{R}; \ell^2)$.

Remark 3.7 The arguments presented in this section also go through in a space of homogeneous type instead of \mathbf{R}^d with the Lebesgue measure, provided one uses the dyadic cubes from e.g. [22]. Furthermore, for the dyadic counterpart of $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}$ one can also work on \mathbf{R}^d with any locally finite measure μ , see [19] for details.

4 A limited range multilinear UMD property for quasi-Banach function spaces

A Banach space has the UMD property if the martingale difference sequence of any finite martingale in $L^p(\Omega; X)$ is unconditional for some (equivalently all) $p \in (1, \infty)$, i.e. if for $(f_k)_{k=0}^n$ any finite martingale in $L^p(\Omega; X)$ for some (equivalently all) $p \in (1, \infty)$ and a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}) and all scalars $|\epsilon_0| = |\epsilon_n| = 1$ we have

$$\left\| \sum_{k=1}^n \epsilon_k df_k \right\|_{L^p(\Omega; X)} \lesssim \left\| \sum_{k=1}^n df_k \right\|_{L^p(\Omega; X)}, \tag{4.1}$$

where $(df_k)_{k=1}^n$ is the difference sequence of $(f_k)_{k=0}^n$. The least admissible constant in (4.1) is denoted by $\beta_{p,X}$. The class of UMD Banach function spaces includes for example all reflexive Lebesgue, Lorentz and Musielak–Orlicz spaces. As the UMD property implies reflexivity, L^1 and L^∞ do not have the UMD property. For an introduction to the UMD property we refer the reader to [23,43].

As already noted in the previous section, for Banach function spaces the UMD property is intimately connected to the Hardy–Littlewood property. As shown by Bourgain [6] and Rubio de Francia [45, Theorem 3], a Banach function space X has the UMD property if and only if both X and X^* have the Hardy–Littlewood property. This connection between the Hardy–Littlewood property and the UMD property is made quantitative in [25], where it is shown that $\|\tilde{M}\|_{p,X} \lesssim (\beta_{p,X})^2$.

Motivated by this connection between the Hardy–Littlewood property and the UMD property and using the extension of the Hardy–Littlewood property to the rescaled, multilinear

setting from Sect. 3, we will now define a limited range, multilinear version of the UMD property for m -tuples of quasi-Banach function spaces.

Definition 4.1 Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces, take $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $s \in (r, \infty]$. We say that \vec{X} has the (\vec{r}, s) -UMD property and write $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r},s}$ if $X = \prod_{j=1}^m X_j$ is an order-continuous Banach function space and $(\vec{X}, X^*) \in \text{HL}_{(\vec{r},s')}$.

Note that while the UMD property is well-defined in terms of martingale difference sequences for any Banach space, our limited range multilinear version is only given for quasi-Banach function spaces and has no immediate connection to martingales. It would be interesting to have an equivalent characterization of either the limited range or the multilinear generalization (for example in terms of martingale difference sequences) that does not use the lattice structure of \vec{X} .

Remark 4.2 In the linear case the class $\text{UMD}_{2,\infty}$ has already been implicitly used in [44] in connection to the so-called *Littlewood–Paley–Rubio de Francia property* for Banach function spaces. Indeed, although [44, Theorem 3.1] assumes X^2 to have the UMD property, the proof only uses $X^2, X^* \in \text{HL}$, which by Proposition 4.3 is equivalent to $X \in \text{UMD}_{2,\infty}$.

As a first result on the limited range multilinear UMD property we will show that our nomenclature makes sense, i.e. that the $\text{UMD}_{\vec{r},s}$ property is actually related to the UMD property for Banach function spaces. If X is a Banach function space, then X has the UMD property if and only if $X \in \text{UMD}_{1,\infty}$. This follows directly from the result of Bourgain and Rubio de Francia and the case $m = r = s' = 1$, of the following proposition.

Proposition 4.3 Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces and let $\vec{r} \in [1, \infty)^m$ and $s \in (1, \infty]$. The following are equivalent:

- (i) $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r},s}$;
- (ii) $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$ and $(X_1, \dots, X_{j-1}, X_{j+1}, \dots, X_m, X^*) \in \text{HL}_{(r_1, \dots, r_{j-1}, r_{j+1}, \dots, r_m, s')}$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

Proof For (i) \Rightarrow (ii) we only prove $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$. The other results with $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ follow from an analogous argument by interchanging the roles of X^* and X_j and the roles of s' and r_j .

Let (Ω, μ) denote the underlying measure space over which the \vec{X} are defined and fix $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$, $1 \leq p < s$ and a finite collection of cubes \mathcal{D} . By the pointwise sparse domination result for $M_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}$, it follows from Proposition 2.6 that

$$\|M_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})g\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_{\vec{r}} \|M_{(\vec{r},1)}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)}$$

for $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{r}}_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$, $g \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{R}^d)$. Since $\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})(x, \omega) = M_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega))(x)$, combining this with Fubini’s theorem we obtain for $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}_c(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\mathbf{R}^d} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})g \, d\mu \, dx \right| &\leq \int_{\Omega} \|M_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega))g(\cdot, \omega)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \, d\mu(\omega) \\ &\lesssim_{\vec{r}} \int_{\Omega} \|M_{(\vec{r},1)}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega), g(\cdot, \omega))\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \, d\mu(\omega) \\ &= \|\tilde{M}_{(\vec{r},1)}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} \leq \|\tilde{M}_{(\vec{r},s')}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} \\ &\leq \|\tilde{M}_{(\vec{r},s')}\|_{(\vec{p},p'),(\vec{X},X^*)} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \right) \|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)}, \end{aligned}$$

where in the second to last step we used Hölder’s inequality with $s' \geq 1$ and (i) and Corollary 3.6 in the last. Taking a supremum over all $g \in L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)$ with $\|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)} = 1$ proves that $\vec{X} \in \text{HL}_{\vec{r}}$, as asserted.

The proof of (ii) \Rightarrow (i) relies on some combinatorics. To facilitate this, we set $r_{m+1} := s'$ and $X_{m+1} := X^*$. Fix $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty)^{m+1}$ with $\min \vec{p} > \max \vec{r}$, $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$, and a finite collection of cubes \mathcal{D} . Note that

$$\prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \left(\prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^{m+1} \langle f_k \rangle_{r_k, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q \right)^{\frac{1}{m}}$$

for all $Q \in \mathcal{D}$ so that

$$\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}) \leq \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \tilde{M}_{\vec{q}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g})^{\frac{1}{m}}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{q} &= (r_1, \dots, r_{j-1}, r_{j+1}, \dots, r_{m+1}) \\ \vec{g} &= (f_1, \dots, f_{j-1}, f_{j+1}, \dots, f_{m+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore setting $\vec{Y}_j = (X_1, \dots, X_{j-1}, X_{j+1}, \dots, X_{m+1})$, we have

$$\prod_{j=1}^{m+1} Y_j^{\frac{1}{m}} = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^{m+1} X_k^{\frac{1}{m}} = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} X_j = L^1(\Omega).$$

Thus setting $A_j := \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{q}}\|_{(p_j, \dots, p_j), \vec{Y}_j}$, which is finite by Corollary 3.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f})\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} &\leq \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{q}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g})^{\frac{1}{m}}\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; Y_j^{\frac{1}{m}})} = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{q}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{g})\|_{L^{\frac{p_j}{m}}(\mathbf{R}^d; Y_j)}^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &\leq \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} A_j^{\frac{1}{m}} \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^{m+1} \|f_k\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_k)}^{\frac{1}{m}} = \prod_{j=1}^{m+1} A_j^{\frac{1}{m}} \|f_k\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_k)}, \end{aligned}$$

proving (i). The assertion follows. □

Example 4.4 Let (Ω, μ) be a σ -finite measure space. In the case $m = 1$, it follows from Proposition 4.3 that $X \in \text{UMD}_{r,s}$ for $1 \leq r < s \leq \infty$ if and only if $X^r \in \text{HL}$ and $(X^*)^{s'}$ \in HL. This implies the following:

- (i) If $X = L^p(\Omega)$ with $p \in (r, s)$, then $X \in \text{UMD}_{r,s}$.
- (ii) If $X = L^{p,q}(\Omega)$ with $p, q \in (r, s)$, then $X \in \text{UMD}_{r,s}$.
- (iii) If $X = L^\Phi(\Omega)$ is a Musielak-Orlicz space such that $(\omega, t) \mapsto \Phi(\omega, t^{\frac{1}{r}})$ and $(\omega, t) \mapsto \Phi^*(\omega, t^{\frac{1}{s'}})$ are Young functions satisfying the Δ_2 condition, then $X \in \text{UMD}_{r,s}$. See [17,33] for the UMD (and thus the HL) property of these spaces.

In [36] vector-valued extensions of multilinear operators in quasi-Banach function spaces were constructed through weighted techniques. In that work the condition that $((X_j^{r_j})^*)^{(s_j/r_j)'}$

has the UMD property for $1 \leq j \leq m$ was imposed. In the next proposition we wish to compare this assumption to our limited range multilinear UMD property.

Proposition 4.5 *Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces, let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and take $\vec{r} < \vec{s} \leq \infty$. Suppose that X_j is r_j -convex, s_j -concave and $((X_j^{r_j})^*)^{(s_j/r_j)'}$ has the UMD property for $1 \leq j \leq m$. Then for all $q \in (0, r]$ we have $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, \vec{s}, q}$. In particular, $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, \vec{s}}$ if $r \geq 1$.*

Proof Note that $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, \vec{s}, q}$ per definition means that

$$(X_1^q, \dots, X_m^q, (X^q)^*) \in \text{HL}_{\left(\vec{r}, \left(\frac{\vec{s}}{q}\right)'\right)}.$$

So by Proposition 3.2 it suffices to show $(X_j^q)^{\frac{r_j}{q}} = X_j^{r_j} \in \text{HL}$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$ and $((X^q)^*)^{(s/q)'}$ in HL. Since $(s_j/r_j)' \geq 1$, we know that $(X_j^{r_j})^*$ has the UMD property (see [45, Theorem III.4]) and thus $X_j^{r_j} \in \text{HL}$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$. To show $((X^q)^*)^{(s/q)'}$ in HL we note that by [36, Proposition 3.4] we have $((X^r)^*)^{(s/r)'}$ in UMD. Then, by [36, Proposition 3.3(iii)] this implies that also $((X^q)^*)^{(s/q)'}$ in UMD for all $q \in (0, r]$. In particular, we have $((X^q)^*)^{(s/q)'}$ in HL, as desired. The assertion follows. \square

the $\text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, \vec{s}}$ class is stable under iteration. Recall that for quasi-Banach function spaces X and Y respectively over measure spaces (Ω_1, μ_1) and (Ω_2, μ_2) the mixed-norm space $X(Y)$ is given by all measurable functions $f : \Omega_1 \times \Omega_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ such that

$$\|\omega_1 \mapsto \|f(\omega_1, \cdot)\|_Y\|_X < \infty.$$

Proposition 4.6 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $s \in (1, \infty]$ and let \vec{X} and \vec{Y} be m -tuples of quasi-Banach function spaces. If $\vec{X}, \vec{Y} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$, then $\vec{X}(\vec{Y}) \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$.*

Proof Denote by $(\Omega_1, \mu_1), (\Omega_2, \mu_2)$ the σ -finite measure spaces that \vec{X}, \vec{Y} are respectively defined over and write

$$A_1 := \sup_{\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{O} \text{ finite}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}) \rightarrow L^{r, \infty}(\mathbf{R}^d; X)}, \quad A_2 := \sup_{\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{O} \text{ finite}} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{L^{\vec{r}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{Y}) \rightarrow L^{r, \infty}(\mathbf{R}^d; Y)}.$$

Let \mathcal{D} denote a finite collection of cubes and let $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X}(\vec{Y}))$. By Fubini’s Theorem and by applying Theorem 3.4 twice we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}, s}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2))} &= \int_{\Omega_1} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}, s}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega_1, \cdot), g(\cdot, \omega_1, \cdot))\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega_1))} \, d\mu_1(\omega_1) \\ &\lesssim A_2 \int_{\Omega_1} \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}, s}^{\mathcal{D}}(\|\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega_1, \cdot)\|_{\vec{Y}}, \|g(\cdot, \omega_1, \cdot)\|_{Y^*})\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \, d\mu_1(\omega_1) \\ &= A_1 \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}, s}^{\mathcal{D}}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{Y}}, \|g\|_{Y^*})\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega_1))} \\ &\lesssim A_1 A_2 \|\tilde{M}_{\vec{r}, s}^{\mathcal{D}}(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}(\vec{Y})}, \|g\|_{X^*(Y^*)})\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Proposition 2.4 and a density argument we conclude that $\vec{X}(\vec{Y}) \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$, as desired. \square

Next we show that we can add L^∞ spaces to existing UMD tuples to create new ones. Note in particular that in the case $m = 2$, this following result implies that if X has the UMD property, then $(X, L^\infty(\Omega)) \in \text{UMD}_{(1,1), \infty}$.

Proposition 4.7 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $s \in (1, \infty]$. Let \vec{X} be an $m - 1$ -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over a measure space Ω . If $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{(r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}), s}$, then*

$$(X_1, \dots, X_{m-1}, L^\infty(\Omega)) \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}.$$

Proof We first note that by Proposition 2.1(i) we have $(\prod_{j=1}^{m-1} X_j) \cdot L^\infty(\Omega) = X \cdot L^\infty(\Omega) = X$. Next, let \mathcal{D} denote a finite collection of cubes and fix $\vec{p} \in (1, \infty]^m$ with $p_m = \infty$ and $\vec{p} > \vec{r}$, $p < s$. For $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$, $g \in L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)$ we have

$$\tilde{M}_{(\vec{r}, s')}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g) \leq \tilde{M}_{(r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}, s')}^{\mathcal{D}}(f_1, \dots, f_{m-1}, g) \tilde{M}_{r_m}^{\mathcal{D}}(f_m).$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{M}_{(\vec{r}, s')}^{\mathcal{D}}(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} \\ & \leq \|\tilde{M}_{(r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}, s')}^{\mathcal{D}}(f_1, \dots, f_{m-1}, g)\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d; L^1(\Omega))} \|\tilde{M}_{r_m}^{\mathcal{D}}(f_m)\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; L^\infty(\Omega))} \\ & \leq \|\tilde{M}_{(r_1, \dots, r_{m-1}, s')}^{\mathcal{D}}\|_{(p_1, \dots, p_{m-1}, p'), \vec{X}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^{m-1} \|f_j\|_{L^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)} \right) \|f_m\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; L^\infty(\Omega))} \|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}^d; X^*)}, \end{aligned}$$

proving that $(X_1, \dots, X_{m-1}, L^\infty(\Omega)) \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$. The assertion follows. □

To end this section we will give a family of examples in the form of iterated L^p -spaces that belong to the $\text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$ -class.

Proposition 4.8 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$ and $s \in (1, \infty]$. Let $K \in \mathbf{N}$ and let $\vec{t}^1, \dots, \vec{t}^K \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{t}^k > \vec{r}$ and $1 \leq t^k < s$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$. Let (Ω_k, μ_k) for $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ be σ -finite measure spaces and for $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ we set*

$$X_j := L^{t_j^1}(\Omega_1; \dots; L^{t_j^K}(\Omega_K)).$$

Then $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$.

Proof By Proposition 4.6 it suffices to consider the case $K = 1$ and write $\vec{t}^1 = \vec{t}$ and $\vec{r}^1 = \vec{r}$. Write $X_j = L^{t_j}(\Omega)$ so that $X = \prod_{j=1}^m X_j = L^t(\Omega)$ by Proposition 2.1(ii). Note that since $\frac{t_1}{r_1}, \dots, \frac{t_m}{r_m}, \frac{t'}{s'} \in (1, \infty]$, we have $X_j^{r_j} = L^{\frac{t_j}{r_j}}(\Omega) \in \text{HL}$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ and $(X^*)^{s'} = L^{\frac{t'}{s'}}(\Omega) \in \text{HL}$. Thus, it follows from Proposition 3.2 that $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$. The assertion follows. □

The main interest in the above result is that we can go beyond assuming that each individual X_j has the UMD property. We can even consider examples such as $\ell^\infty(\ell^2)$, which by [39, Proposition 8.1] does not even satisfy the Hardy-Littlewood property.

Remark 4.9 By mimicking the proof of Proposition 4.8 we can also obtain a version of Proposition 4.8 for Lorentz and Orlicz spaces. We point out however that it is not clear if we can consider the appropriate endpoint cases outside of the range of UMD spaces. More precisely, in the case of Lorentz spaces it is unknown whether $L^{p, \infty}(\Omega)$ for $p \in (1, \infty)$ satisfies the Hardy-Littlewood property. Similarly it is unknown whether there are Orlicz spaces that are not UMD, but satisfy the Hardy-Littlewood property. If there are such spaces, we obtain more examples beyond the setting of individual UMD conditions that fall within our range.

5 Main results

In this section we state and prove our main results. We will first show that scalar-valued sparse domination implies vector-valued sparse domination. In view of Proposition 2.5, Theorem 1.2 is a consequence of the following result. Note that we introduce the parameter q into the theorem here, which is essential in obtaining the full range of vector-valued bounds, including the quasi-Banach range. We elaborate further on this in Sect. 6. Recall Convention 1.4 for the definition of p, r and X .

Theorem 5.1 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$, $s \in (q, \infty]$ and let T be an operator defined on m -tuples of functions such that for any $\vec{f}, g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$*

$$\|T(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \leq C_T \|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}. \quad (5.1)$$

Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over a measure space (Ω, μ) such that $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, \frac{s}{q}}$. Furthermore suppose that for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ the function $\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow X$ given by

$$\tilde{T}(\vec{f})(x, \omega) := T(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega))(x), \quad (x, \omega) \in \mathbf{R}^d \times \Omega$$

is well-defined and strongly measurable. Then for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, q, \vec{r}, s} C_T \|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}. \quad (5.2)$$

Note that if T is m -linear, then $\tilde{T}(\vec{f})$ is always well-defined and strongly measurable for simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ through the tensor extension.

Proof The proof essentially consists of applying Fubini's Theorem twice and then using the vector-valued sparse domination result for the multisublinear maximal operator. Let $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}})$ be simple. Then for a.e. $\omega \in \Omega$ we have $f_j(\cdot, \omega), g(\cdot, \omega) \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$. Thus, using Fubini's Theorem and (5.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{T}(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))} &= \|\omega \mapsto \|T(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega), g(\cdot, \omega))\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}\|_{L^q(\Omega)} \\ &\leq C_T \|\omega \mapsto \|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\vec{f}(\cdot, \omega), g(\cdot, \omega))\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}\|_{L^q(\Omega)} \\ &= C_T \|\tilde{M}\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

We set $X_{m+1} := ((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}$ so that

$$\prod_{j=1}^{m+1} X_j = (X^q \cdot (X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}} = L^1(\Omega)^{\frac{1}{q}} = L^q(\Omega),$$

which is an order-continuous q -convex quasi-Banach function space. Then it follows from the sparse domination result in Theorem 3.4 that

$$\|\tilde{M}\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\vec{f}, g)\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d; L^q(\Omega))} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, q, \vec{r}, s} \|M\left(\vec{r}, \frac{1}{\frac{q}{q-s}}\right)(\|\vec{f}\|_{\vec{X}}, \|g\|_{((X^q)^*)^{\frac{1}{q}}})\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)}.$$

By combining this with (5.3) and Proposition 2.7, the assertion follows. □

We will now use Theorem 5.1 to deduce weighted boundedness for the vector-valued extension of an operator T from a scalar-valued sparse domination result for T , which is new even in the unweighted setting. In view of Proposition 2.5, Corollary 1.3 is a consequence of the following result with $q = 1$.

Theorem 5.2 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q \in (0, \infty)$, $s \in (q_+, \infty]$ and let T an m -linear or positive-valued m -sublinear operator satisfying (5.1) and let \vec{X} satisfy the assumptions in Theorem 5.1. Then for all $p \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{p} > \vec{r}$ and $p < s$, and all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}$ we have*

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_{L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, q, \vec{r}, s} C_T[\vec{w}]_{\vec{p},(\vec{r},s)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{\vec{r}-\vec{p}}, \frac{1}{\vec{q}-\vec{s}}\right\}} \prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}$$

for all $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$.

Proof This follows from combining Theorem 5.1 with Proposition 2.9. □

Remark 5.3 As a consequence of the fact that the sparse domination of the lattice multisublinear maximal operator also holds in spaces of homogeneous type (see Remark 3.7), the results in this section also hold in spaces of homogeneous type.

6 Applications

In this section we provide a discussion regarding obtaining vector-valued estimates beyond the Banach range. Furthermore, we provide applications of our result specifically to multilinear Calderón-Zygmund operator and the bilinear Hilbert transform. We point out that our results are applicable far beyond these examples as they include all operators satisfying sparse domination, but we restrict ourselves to these examples as they highlight the utility of our techniques in various settings.

6.1 Vector-valued estimates in the quasi-Banach range

In the multilinear setting it is a natural occurrence that an operator maps into a Lebesgue space with exponents smaller than 1 and hence, no longer in the Banach range. For this reason one also expects the vector-valued extensions of the operator to map into spaces in the quasi-Banach range. However, in our multilinear UMD condition we assume that the product of the spaces in a tuple is a Banach space. This is partly because we are obtaining our estimates after a dualization argument which is usually possible in the quasi-Banach setting. Thanks to the quantitative extrapolation result [40] this does not hinder us in obtaining sharp bounds in the full range of exponents, but we are still hindered in how much convexity we are allowed to assume on our spaces.

In this subsection we explain how the parameter q in our main theorems can be used to recover the expected results in the quasi-Banach range, at the cost of a worse exponent in the weighted estimate. We illustrate this in the following proposition:

Proposition 6.1 *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q_0 \in (0, \infty)$, and let T be an m -linear operator. Suppose that for any $f_1, \dots, f_m \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that*

$$|T(\vec{f})| \leq C_T \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q}^{q_0} \right) \mathbf{1}_Q \right)^{1/q_0}. \tag{6.1}$$

Then for all $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m$, $\vec{t} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$, \vec{t} and $p, t < \infty$ and all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, \infty)}$ the tensor extension \tilde{T} of T satisfies

$$\|\tilde{T}\|_{L_{w_1}^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^1) \times \dots \times L_{w_m}^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^m) \rightarrow L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^t)} \lesssim_{\vec{p}, q_0, \vec{r}, \vec{t}} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, \infty)}^\gamma, \tag{6.2}$$

with

$$\gamma = \begin{cases} \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}}{\frac{1}{\vec{r}} - \frac{1}{\vec{p}}}, \frac{\frac{1}{q_0}}{\frac{1}{\vec{p}}} \right\} & \text{if } t \in [q_0, \infty); \\ \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}}{\frac{1}{\vec{r}} - \frac{1}{\vec{p}}}, \frac{\frac{1}{t}}{\frac{1}{\vec{p}}} \right\} & \text{if } t \in (r, q_0]. \end{cases}$$

The above result also holds for m -sublinear T as in Theorem 5.1. Of course, our methods go much beyond the setting of ℓ^t -spaces, but we restrict our attention to this particular case for now for the sake of clarity and for the sake of comparing our result to previous results in the literature.

Proof Write $\vec{X} = (\ell^{t_1}, \dots, \ell^{t_m})$. We consider the two cases separately.

For the case $t \in [q_0, \infty)$, we note that $\vec{X}^{q_0} = (\ell^{\frac{t_1}{q_0}}, \dots, \ell^{\frac{t_m}{q_0}}) \in \text{UMD}_{\frac{\vec{r}}{q_0}, \infty}$ by Proposition 4.8. Thus, the result follows from an application of Proposition 2.6 and Theorem 5.2 with $q = q_0$ and $s = \infty$.

In the other case $t \in (r, q_0]$ we have $\vec{X}^t = (\ell^{\frac{t_1}{t}}, \dots, \ell^{\frac{t_m}{t}}) \in \text{UMD}_{\frac{\vec{r}}{t}, \infty}$ by Proposition 4.8. Note that the inequality $\|\cdot\|_{\ell^{q_0}} \leq \|\cdot\|_{\ell^t}$ implies that (6.1) holds with q_0 replaced by t . Hence, an application of Proposition 2.6 and Theorem 5.2 with $q = t$ and $s = \infty$ proves the result. \square

Note that in case $t \in [q_0, \infty)$ we did not need to assume the pointwise sparse domination (6.1) in our proof, but it would have sufficed to assume domination in form. For example, if we instead assumed that for an $s \in (q_0, \infty]$ and any $\vec{f}, g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that

$$\|T(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^{q_0}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \leq C_T \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^{q_0} \langle g \rangle_{\frac{1}{q_0 - \frac{1}{s}}, Q} \right)^{\frac{1}{q_0}}, \tag{6.3}$$

then exactly as in the proof we obtain (6.2) for $t \in [q_0, \infty)$ with

$$\gamma = \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{\vec{r}}}{\frac{1}{\vec{r}} - \frac{1}{\vec{p}}}, \frac{\frac{1}{q_0} - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{\vec{p}} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\}. \tag{6.4}$$

However, at this point it is not clear how to deal with the cases $t \in (r, q_0]$. In the case of (6.1) we can simply apply the estimate $\|\cdot\|_{\ell^{q_0}} \leq \|\cdot\|_{\ell^t}$ to obtain the domination required to complete the argument. However, if we only assume the sparse domination in form (6.3), it is unknown whether we automatically also have (6.3) with q_0 replaced by a smaller exponent $0 < q \leq q_0$, meaning that it is not clear whether we have the flexibility to cover the cases $t \in (r, q_0]$ or not without assuming that (6.3) also holds with q_0 replaced by t .

We point out that replacing q_0 by $0 < q < q_0$ qualitatively yields the same weighted bounds, but the result is quantitatively worse in that it yields a worse exponent γ in the bound. Thus, on all accounts it seems that the following conjecture should hold:

Conjecture 6.2 (Sparse form domination implies worse sparse form domination) *Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m$, $q_0 \in (0, \infty)$, and $s \in (q_0, \infty]$. Let T be an operator defined on m -tuples of functions and suppose that for any $f_1, \dots, f_m \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that*

$$\|T(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^{q_0}(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right)^{q_0} \langle g \rangle_{\frac{1}{q_0} - \frac{1}{s}, Q} |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q_0}}.$$

Then the same estimate also holds when we replace q_0 by any $q \in (0, q_0]$.

We point out that even the simplest case $m = 1, r = 1, q_0 = 1, s = \infty$ is unknown. For specific cases of T one can usually verify the conjecture by going back to the proof of (6.3) and insert the estimate $\|\cdot\|_{\ell^q} \leq \|\cdot\|_{\ell^{q_0}}$ at the right place in the proof. Examples where this is the case include:

- In [35, Theorem 3.5] a general theorem to obtain sparse domination for an operator T is shown. In this theorem a *localized ℓ^r -estimate* is imposed on T to deduce (6.3) with $q_0 = r$. The localized ℓ^r -estimate for T becomes weaker for smaller r , so [35, Theorem 3.5] also yields the result of Conjecture 6.2.
- One of the main results in [10] is (6.3) with $q_0 = 1$ for rough homogeneous singular operators T_Ω , see also [27] for an alternative proof. Adapting the technique in [27], Conjecture 6.2 was verified for these operators in [9, Theorem 5.1], which has implications for weighted norm inequalities for T_Ω with so-called C_p -weights.

To conclude this subsection, we wish to compare our result with the result [40, Corollary 4.6]. Let $\vec{r} \in (0, \infty)^m, s \in (1, \infty]$, and let T be an operator defined on m -tuples of functions such that for any $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$ there exists a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that

$$\|T(\vec{f}) \cdot g\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \right) \langle g \rangle_{s', Q} \right) |Q|.$$

Then, by [40, Corollary 4.6], we find that for all exponents $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m, \vec{t} \in (0, \infty]^m$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}, \vec{r} < \vec{t}$ and $p, t < s$ and all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)}$ we have

$$\|\tilde{T}\|_{L_w^{p_1}(\ell^1) \times \dots \times L_w^{p_m}(\ell^m) \rightarrow L_w^p(\ell^s)} \lesssim [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)} \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r}}{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{t}}, \frac{1 - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\} \cdot \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{t}}{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{p}}, \frac{\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\}.$$

Since

$$\max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r}}{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{p}}, \frac{1 - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\} \leq \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r}}{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{t}}, \frac{1 - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\} \cdot \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{t}}{\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{p}}, \frac{\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{s}}{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s}} \right\},$$

the exponent (6.4) we obtain from our method improves this result in the Banach range $t \in [1, \infty)$. We point out that our method of improving this bound is exactly as was discussed in [40, Remark 4.7].

6.2 Multilinear Calderón–Zygmund operators

A multilinear Calderón–Zygmund operators (see [11,28] for the definition) satisfies the sparse domination (5.1) for $q = 1$ and $r_1 = \dots = r_m = 1, s = \infty$, see [11,14,28]. Moreover, it is known that these operators have vector-valued extensions with respect to tuples $\vec{X} = (\ell^{t_1}, \dots, \ell^{t_m})$ where $\vec{t} \in (1, \infty]^m$ with $t \in (\frac{1}{m}, \infty)$, see [30,40]. More precisely, multilinear Calderón–Zygmund operators T satisfy an a.e. pointwise sparse domination result

$$|T(\vec{f})| \leq C_T \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \prod_{j=1}^m \langle f_j \rangle_{r_j, Q} \mathbf{1}_Q.$$

Hence, by applying Proposition 6.1 with $q_0 = 1$ we find that for all $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^m, \vec{t} \in (1, \infty]^m$ with $p, t < \infty$ and all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{t}, \infty)}$ we have

$$\|\tilde{T}\|_{L_{w_1}^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^{t_1}) \times \dots \times L_{w_m}^{p_m}(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^{t_m}) \rightarrow L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; \ell^t)} \lesssim_{\vec{p}, q_0, \vec{r}, \vec{t}} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{t}, \infty)}^\gamma$$

with

$$\gamma = \begin{cases} \max \{p'_1, \dots, p'_m, p\} & \text{if } t \in [1, \infty); \\ \max \{p'_1, \dots, p'_m, \frac{p}{t}\} & \text{if } t \in (\frac{1}{m}, 1]. \end{cases}$$

As discussed in the previous subsection, in the case $t \in [1, \infty)$ our quantitative bound improves the previously known ones. As a matter of fact, it is sharp, since the bound is the same as the one in the scalar case.

By applying Propositions 2.5, 2.6, Theorems 5.1, and 5.2, the full result for the tensor extension \tilde{T} of an m -linear Calderón–Zygmund operator T we obtain is as follows:

Proposition 6.3 *Let T be an m -linear Calderón–Zygmund operator. Let \vec{X} be an m -tuple of quasi-Banach function spaces over Ω such that $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\frac{1}{q}, \infty}$ for some $q \in (0, 1]$. Then for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}^d)$, there exists a sparse collection of cubes \mathcal{S} such that*

$$\|\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_X \cdot g\|_{L^q(\mathbf{R}^d)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, q} C_T \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^m (\|f_j\|_{X_j})_{1, Q} \right)^q (\| |g|^q \|_{(X^q)^*})_{1, Q} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Moreover, we have

$$\|\tilde{T}(\vec{f})\|_{L_w^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, q} C_T [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{t}, \infty)}^{\max\{p'_1, \dots, p'_m, \frac{p}{q}\}} \prod_{j=1}^m \|f_j\|_{L_{w_j}^{p_j}(\mathbf{R}^d; X_j)}$$

for all $\vec{p} \in (1, \infty]^m$ with $p < \infty$, all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{t}, \infty)}$, and all $\vec{f} \in L_{\vec{w}}^{\vec{p}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$.

To optimize the weighted bound, for each tuple of spaces \vec{X} one should determine the largest $q \in (0, 1]$ such that $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\frac{1}{q}, \infty}$. For $q = 1$ our bound coincides with the known sharp bound in the scalar case, so in this case our bound is optimal.

Finally, we point out that by Proposition 4.5 we recover the results obtained in [36, Theorem 5.2] where each X_j was assumed to be a UMD space. In fact, we improve upon these results both in that our new bounds are quantitative as well as that we are able to handle more m -tuples of spaces. In conclusion, our result recovers the full known range of

vector-valued extensions of multilinear Calderón-Zygmund operators as well as prove new ones with new sharp weighted bounds.

Remark 6.4 In the linear case $m = 1$, the sharpness of the $T(b)$ theorem in [38] enabled Hytönen in [21, Theorem 3] to prove boundedness of the tensor extension of a Calderón-Zygmund operator T on $L^p(\mathbf{R}^d; X)$ for general UMD Banach spaces X from scalar-valued boundedness of T . It would be of great interest to develop techniques to extend more general multilinear operators beyond the function space setting.

6.3 The bilinear Hilbert transform

The bilinear Hilbert transform is defined as

$$\text{BHT}(f_1, f_2)(x) := \text{p. v.} \int_{\mathbf{R}} f_1(x - y)f_2(x + y) \frac{dy}{y}, \quad x \in \mathbf{R}.$$

As shown in [12], if $r_1, r_2, s \in (1, \infty)$ satisfy the property that there exist $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3 \in [0, 1)$ with $\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 = 1$ such that

$$\frac{1}{r_1} < \frac{1 + \theta_1}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{r_2} < \frac{1 + \theta_2}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{s} > \frac{1 - \theta_3}{2} \tag{6.5}$$

or equivalently

$$\max \left\{ \frac{1}{r_1}, \frac{1}{2} \right\} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{r_2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{s'}, \frac{1}{2} \right\} < 2,$$

then for all $f_1, f_2, g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R})$ there is a sparse collection \mathcal{S} such that

$$\| \text{BHT}(f_1, f_2) \cdot g \|_{L^1(\mathbf{R})} \lesssim \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f_1 \rangle_{r_1, Q} \langle f_2 \rangle_{r_2, Q} \langle g \rangle_{s', Q} |Q|.$$

It was later shown in [3] that for $r_1, r_2, s \in (1, \infty)$ satisfying (6.5) we also have the ℓ^q -type sparse domination

$$\| \text{BHT}(f_1, f_2) \cdot g \|_{L^q(\mathbf{R})} \lesssim \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} \langle f_1 \rangle_{r_1, Q}^q \langle f_2 \rangle_{r_2, Q}^q \langle g \rangle_{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}, Q}^q |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \tag{6.6}$$

for all $q \in (0, s)$, verifying Conjecture 6.2 for this operator. Hence, by Proposition 2.5, Theorem 5.1, and Theorem 5.2, we obtain the following result for the tensor extension $\widetilde{\text{BHT}}$:

Proposition 6.5 *Let $r_1, r_2, s \in (1, \infty)$ satisfy (6.5) and let (X_1, X_2) be a pair of quasi-Banach function spaces Ω such that $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{X}, \frac{s}{q}}$ for some $q \in (0, 1]$. Then for all simple functions $\vec{f} \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R}; \vec{X})$ and $g \in L_c^\infty(\mathbf{R})$ there exists a sparse collection of cubes \mathcal{S} such that*

$$\| \|\widetilde{\text{BHT}}(f_1, f_2)\|_X \cdot g \|_{L^q(\mathbf{R})} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{f}, s} \left(\sum_{Q \in \mathcal{S}} (\|f_1\|_{X_1})_{r_1, Q}^q (\|f_2\|_{X_2})_{r_2, Q}^q \langle g \rangle_{\frac{1}{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{s}}, Q}^q |Q| \right)^{\frac{1}{q}}. \tag{6.7}$$

Moreover, we have

$$\|\widetilde{\text{BHT}}(f_1, f_2)\|_{L^p_w(\mathbf{R}; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, \vec{r}, s} [\vec{w}]_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)}^{\max\left\{\frac{1}{r_1}, \frac{1}{r_2}, \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{s}\right\}} \|f_1\|_{L^{p_1}_{w_1}(\mathbf{R}; X_1)} \|f_2\|_{L^{p_2}_{w_2}(\mathbf{R}; X_2)}$$

for all $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^2$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ and $p < s$, all $\vec{w} \in A_{\vec{p}, (\vec{r}, s)}$, and all $\vec{f} \in L^{\vec{p}}_{\vec{w}}(\mathbf{R}^d; \vec{X})$.

Note that in particular we find that for all $r_1, r_2, s \in (1, \infty)$ satisfying (6.5) and all $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$ we have

$$\|\widetilde{\text{BHT}}(f_1, f_2)\|_{L^p(\mathbf{R}; X)} \lesssim_{\vec{X}, \vec{p}, \vec{r}, s} \|f_1\|_{L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}; X_1)} \|f_2\|_{L^{p_2}(\mathbf{R}; X_2)}$$

for all $f_j \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; X_j)$.

We point out here that [3] actually proved the vector-valued sparse domination (6.7) in the cases where the X_j are iterated Lebesgue spaces with the same range of exponents we obtain (see Proposition 4.8), through the helicoidal method. It is worth to note that Proposition 6.5 extends the main result of [3] to our more general vector spaces by only using the scalar-valued sparse domination (6.6) as an input.

We wish to compare Proposition 6.5 with [36, Theorem 5.1]. First of all, in terms of weights, Proposition 6.5 improves [36, Theorem 5.1] by considering more general bilinear weight classes. As for the spaces, in [36, Theorem 5.1], combined with [36, Proposition 3.3(iii) and Theorem 3.6], bounds in terms of pairs of quasi-Banach function spaces (X_1, X_2) are obtained where there exist $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in [0, 1)$ with $\theta_1 + \theta_2 \in (0, 1]$ such that

$$\frac{1}{r_1} < \frac{1 + \theta_1}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{r_2} < \frac{1 + \theta_2}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{s_1} > \frac{\theta_1}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{s_2} > \frac{\theta_2}{2}$$

and $((X_1^{r_1})^*)^{(s_1/r_1)'}$, $((X_2^{r_2})^*)^{(s_2/r_2)'}$ \in UMD. To compare this to our spaces, we set $\theta_3 := 1 - \theta_1 - \theta_2 \in [0, 1)$ and note that

$$\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{s_1} + \frac{1}{s_2} > \frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2}{2} = \frac{1 - \theta_3}{2}$$

so that $(r_1, r_2, s) \in (1, \infty)$ satisfies (6.5). Moreover, by Proposition 4.5 we find that for all $q \in (0, r]$ we have $\vec{X}^q \in \text{UMD}_{\frac{\vec{r}}{q}, \frac{s}{q}}$. Thus, Proposition 6.5 recovers the bounds from [36, Theorem 5.1].

We point out that Proposition 6.5 implies bounds for many spaces that were not attainable in [36], since we are no longer restricted to requiring a UMD property on each individual space. In particular, we recover the bounds with respect to the spaces $\vec{X} = (\ell^{t_1}, \ell^{t_2})$ from [40, Corollary 4.9] for $t_1, t_2 \in (0, \infty]$ with $\vec{t} > \vec{r}, t < s$.

To end this section, we compare our results to the results obtained by Amenta and Uraltsev [2] and Di Plinio, Li, Martikainen, and Vuorinen [16]. In their work they prove vector-valued bounds for BHT for triples of complex Banach spaces (X_1, X_2, X_3) that are not necessarily Banach function spaces, but that are compatible in the sense that there is a bounded trilinear form $\Pi : X_1 \times X_2 \times X_3 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$. Then the trilinear form $\text{BHF}(f_1, f_2, f_3) := \langle \text{BHT}(f_1, f_2) f_3 \rangle$ has the vector-valued analogue

$$\text{BHF}_{\Pi}(f_1, f_2, f_3) := \int_{\mathbf{R}} \text{p. v.} \int_{\mathbf{R}} \Pi(f_1(x - y), f_2(x + y), f_3(x)) \frac{dy}{y} dx,$$

whose boundedness properties can then be studied. We point out that the main result in [16] considers estimates for the same tuples of spaces as in [2], but for a larger range of exponents. Since our main interest is in the spaces, for simplicity we compare our result to the main result

of [2]. To state the result we need to introduce the notion of intermediate UMD spaces. We say that a Banach space X is a u -intermediate UMD space for $u \in [2, \infty]$ if it is isomorphic to the complex interpolation space $[E, H]_{\frac{1}{u}}$, where E is a UMD space and H is a Hilbert space and the couple (E, H) is compatible. For $\vec{u} \in [2, \infty]^m$ We say that a tuple of Banach spaces \vec{X} is \vec{u} -intermediate UMD if X_j is u_j -intermediate UMD for $1 \leq j \leq m$.

Theorem 6.6 ([2, Theorem 1.1]) *Take $\vec{u} \in [2, \infty]^m$ and let \vec{X} be a triple of \vec{u} -intermediate Banach spaces and let $\Pi : X_1 \times X_2 \times X_3 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ be a bounded trilinear form. For all $p_1, p_2 \in (1, \infty)$ with $p \in (1, \infty)$ satisfying*

$$1 < \frac{1}{u_1} \min \left\{ \frac{u'_1}{p'_1}, 1 \right\} + \frac{1}{u_2} \min \left\{ \frac{u'_2}{p'_2}, 1 \right\} + \frac{1}{u_3} \min \left\{ \frac{u'_3}{p}, 1 \right\}, \tag{6.8}$$

we have

$$|\text{BHF}_\Pi(f_1, f_2, g)| \lesssim \|f_1\|_{L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}; X_1)} \|f_2\|_{L^{p_2}(\mathbf{R}; X_2)} \|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}; X_3)} \tag{6.9}$$

for all $f_j \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; X_j)$, $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; X_3)$.

Even though we are not able to recover any of their results for spaces that are not Banach function spaces, in the setting of Banach function spaces our results go much beyond theirs. Indeed, consider a pair of complex quasi-Banach function spaces (X_1, X_2) over (Ω, μ) . Then we define

$$\Pi : X_1 \times X_2 \times X^* \rightarrow \mathbf{C}, \quad \Pi(f_1, f_2, g) := \int_{\Omega} f_1 f_2 g \, d\mu.$$

By an application of Fubini’s Theorem, we find that for all $f_j \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; X_j)$, $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; X^*)$ we have

$$|\text{BHF}_\Pi(f_1, f_2, g)| = \left| \int_{\mathbf{R}} \int_{\Omega} \text{BHT}(f_1(\cdot, \omega), f_2(\cdot, \omega))(x) g(x, \omega) \, d\mu(\omega) \, dx \right| \tag{6.10}$$

$$\leq \|\widetilde{\text{BHT}}(f_1, f_2)g\|_{L^1(\mathbf{R}; L^1(\Omega))}.$$

This means that the sparse domination result in Proposition 6.5 combined with Proposition 2.7 implies that whenever $r_1, r_2, s \in (1, \infty)$ satisfy (6.5) and $\vec{X} \in \text{UMD}_{\vec{r}, s}$, we obtain (6.9) for all $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^2$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$ and $p < s$, as well as weighted bounds.

Since intermediate UMD spaces are themselves UMD spaces, any of our results where X_1 or X_2 is not UMD improve on Theorem 6.6 in the function space setting. This includes examples such as $X_1 = L^\infty(\Omega)$, $X_2 = L^2(\Omega)$, or $X_1 = \ell^2(\ell^\infty)$, $X_2 = \ell^\infty(\ell^2)$, see Proposition 4.8.

Next, let $\vec{t} \in (0, \infty]^2$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{t}$, $1 \leq t < s$ and consider the case

$$X_1 = L^{t_1}(\Omega), \quad X_2 = L^{t_2}(\Omega), \quad X^* = L^{t'}(\Omega).$$

Then by (6.10) and Proposition 6.5 with $q = 1$ we obtain

$$|\text{BHF}_\Pi(f_1, f_2, g)| \lesssim \|f_1\|_{L^{p_1}(\mathbf{R}; L^{t_1}(\Omega))} \|f_2\|_{L^{p_2}(\mathbf{R}; L^{t_2}(\Omega))} \|g\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbf{R}; L^{t'}(\Omega))} \tag{6.11}$$

for all $f_j \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; L^{t_j}(\Omega))$, $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{R}; L^{t'}(\Omega))$ and $\vec{p} \in (0, \infty]^2$ with $\vec{r} < \vec{p}$, $p < s$. This is beyond the reach of Theorem 6.6, as Theorem 6.6 does not include Lebesgue space over non-atomic measure spaces because of the restrictions in (6.8), see [2, Example 6.2.3].

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