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MODIFIED HARDY–LITTLEWOOD MAXIMAL OPERATORS
ON NONDOUBLING METRIC MEASURE SPACES

We investigate the modified Hardy–Littlewood maximal operators, uncentered $M_k f(x) = \sup_{x \in B} \frac{1}{\mu(kB)} \int_B |f| d\mu$, and centered $M_k^c f(x) = \sup_{\frac{1}{\mu(B(x,kr))}} \int_{B(x,r)} |f| d\mu$, $k \geq 1$, in the setting of a general metric measure space (X, d, μ) . The following result enhances the ‘basic covering theorem’, [1, Theorem 1.2].

Theorem 1. *Let (X, d) be an arbitrary metric space and let $\tau > 3$ be fixed. Every family \mathcal{F} of balls of uniformly bounded radii contains a disjointed family \mathcal{G} such that*

$$\bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{F}} B \subset \bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{G}} \tau B.$$

This result is sharp in the sense that $\tau = 3$ is not enough. Theorem 1 is the main ingredient in the proof of the main result, Theorem 2, which may be seen as an enhancement of the results of Nazarov, Treil and Volberg [3] (the case of a separable metric space and the centered maximal operator), Tolsa [6] (the case of $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, $d = d_\infty$), Sawano [4] (the case of a separable locally compact metric space and a Radon measure), and Hytönen [2] (the case of a geometrically doubling metric space).

Theorem 2. *The maximal operators M_3 and M_2^c are of weak type $(1, 1)$ with the weak type constants equal to one.*

This result is sharp in the sense that, in general, any $k < 3$ or any $k < 2$ is not enough in the uncentered or in the centered case, respectively, for M_k or M_k^c to be of weak type $(1, 1)$.

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