



A COMBINATORIAL APPROACH TO MUSIELAK–ORLICZ SPACES

JOSCHA PROCHNO

Communicated by D. E. Alspach

ABSTRACT. In this paper we show that, using combinatorial inequalities and Matrix-Averages, we can generate Musielak–Orlicz spaces, *i.e.*, we prove that $\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \sim \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i}$, where the Orlicz functions $M_1, \dots, M_n$ depend on the matrix $(y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$. We also provide an approximation result for Musielak–Orlicz norms which already in the case of Orlicz spaces turned out to be very useful.

1. INTRODUCTION

Understanding the structure of the classical Banach space L_1 is an important goal of Banach Space Theory, since this space naturally appears in various areas of mathematics, *e.g.*, Functional Analysis, Harmonic Analysis and Probability Theory. One way to do this is to study the “local” properties of a given space, *i.e.*, the finite-dimensional subspaces, which on the other hand bear information about the “global” structure.

In [3] and [4], Kwapień and Schütt proved several combinatorial and probabilistic inequalities and used them to study invariants of Banach spaces and finite-dimensional subspaces of L_1 . Among other things, they considered for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{\pi(i)}|,$$

and gave the order of the combinatorial expression in terms of an Orlicz norm of the vector x . In fact, this is not only a main ingredient to prove that every

Date: Received: 9 April 2012; Revised: 8 July 2012; Accepted: 22 August 2012.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 39B82; Secondary 44B20, 46C05.

Key words and phrases. Orlicz space, Musielak–Orlicz space, combinatorial inequality.

finite-dimensional symmetric subspace of L_1 is C -isomorphic to an average of Orlicz spaces (see [3]), but also to show that an Orlicz space with a 2-concave Orlicz function is isomorphic to a subspace of L_1 (see [7]). Here, we are going to generalize these results and consider combinatorial Matrix-Averages, *i.e.*,

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}|, \quad (1.1)$$

with $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, and express their order in terms of Musielak–Orlicz norms. The new approach is to average over matrices instead of just vectors. This corresponds to the idea of considering random variables that are not necessary identically distributed. In fact, using this idea one can also generalize the results from [1] to the case of Musielak–Orlicz spaces. We prove that

$$C_1 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} \leq \text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq C_2 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*},$$

where $C_1, C_2 > 0$ are absolute constants and the conjugate Orlicz functions $M_1^*, \dots, M_n^*$ depend on $y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. In Section 4, we also provide the converse result, *i.e.*, given Orlicz functions $M_1, \dots, M_n$, we show which matrix $y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ yields the equivalence of (1.1) to the corresponding Musielak–Orlicz norm $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}$. In the last section we prove an approximation result for Musielak–Orlicz norms. In applications, a corresponding result for Orlicz norms turned out to be quite fruitful and simplified calculations (see [1]).

However, these Musielak–Orlicz norms are generalized Orlicz norms in the sense that one considers a different Orlicz function in each component. Since one can use the combinatorial results in [3], [4] to study embeddings of Orlicz and Lorentz spaces into L_1 (see [5], [7], [8]), the results we obtain can be seen as a point of departure to obtain embedding theorems for more general classes of finite-dimensional Banach spaces into L_1 , *e.g.*, Musielak–Orlicz spaces. This, on the other hand, is crucial to extend the understanding of the geometric properties of L_1 .

2. PRELIMINARIES

A convex function $M : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ with $M(0) = 0$ and $M(t) > 0$ for $t > 0$ is called an Orlicz function. Given an Orlicz function M we define its conjugate or dual function M^* by the Legendre-Transform

$$M^*(x) = \sup_{t \in [0, \infty)} (xt - M(t)).$$

Again, M^* is an Orlicz function and $M^{**} = M$, which yields that an Orlicz function M is uniquely determined by the dual function M^* . For instance, taking $M(t) = \frac{1}{p} t^p$, $p \geq 1$, the dual function is given by $M^*(t) = \frac{1}{p^*} t^{p^*}$ with $\frac{1}{p^*} + \frac{1}{p} = 1$. We define the n -dimensional Orlicz space ℓ_M^n to be $\mathbb{R}^n$ equipped with the norm

$$\|x\|_M = \inf \left\{ \rho > 0 : \sum_{i=1}^n M \left(\frac{|x_i|}{\rho} \right) \leq 1 \right\}.$$

Notice that to each decreasing sequence $y_1 \geq \dots \geq y_n > 0$ there corresponds an Orlicz function $M := M_y$ via

$$M\left(\sum_{i=1}^k y_i\right) = \frac{k}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n,$$

and where the function M is extended linearly between the given values.

Let $M_1, \dots, M_n$ be Orlicz functions. We define the n -dimensional Musielak–Orlicz space $\ell_{\Sigma M_i}^n$ to be the space $\mathbb{R}^n$ equipped with the norm

$$\|x\|_{\Sigma M_i} = \inf \left\{ \rho > 0 : \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \left(\frac{|x_i|}{\rho} \right) \leq 1 \right\}.$$

These spaces can be considered as generalized Orlicz spaces. One can easily show [5, Lemma 7.3], using Young’s inequality, that the norm of the dual space $(\ell_{\Sigma M_i}^n)^*$ is equivalent to

$$\|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} = \inf \left\{ \rho > 0 : \sum_{i=1}^n M_i^* \left(\frac{|x_i|}{\rho} \right) \leq 1 \right\},$$

which is the analog result as for the classical Orlicz spaces. To be more precise, we have $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} \leq \|\cdot\|_{(\Sigma M_i)^*} \leq 2 \|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}$. A more detailed and thorough introduction to Orlicz spaces can be found in [2] and [6].

We will use the notation $a \sim b$ to express that there exist two positive absolute constants c_1, c_2 such that $c_1 a \leq b \leq c_2 a$. The letters $c, C, C_1, C_2, \dots$ will denote positive absolute constants, whose value may change from line to line. By k, m, n we will denote natural numbers.

In the following, π is a permutation of $\{1, \dots, n\}$ and we write Ave to denote the average over all permutations in the group $\mathfrak{S}_n$, i.e., $\text{Ave} := \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_n}^\pi$.

We need the following result from [3].

Theorem 2.1. [3, Theorem 1.1] *Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a real $n \times n$ matrix. Then*

$$\frac{1}{2n} \sum_{k=1}^n s(k) \leq \text{Ave} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n s(k),$$

where $s(k)$, $k = 1, \dots, n^2$, is the decreasing rearrangement of $|y_{ij}|$, $i, j = 1, \dots, n$.

3. COMBINATORIAL GENERATION OF MUSIELAK–ORLICZ SPACES

We will prove that a Matrix-Average, in fact, yields a Musielak–Orlicz norm. Following [3], we start with a structural lemma.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a real $n \times n$ matrix with $y_{i1} \geq \dots \geq y_{in} > 0$ and $\sum_{j=1}^n y_{ij} = 1$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. Let M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, be convex*

functions with

$$M_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^k y_{ij} \right) = \frac{k}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n. \quad (3.1)$$

Furthermore, let

$$B_{\Sigma M_i} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{i=1}^n M_i(|x_i|) \leq 1 \right\}$$

and

$$B = \text{convexhull} \left\{ \left(\varepsilon_i \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij} \right)_{i=1}^n : \sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq n, \varepsilon_i = \pm 1, i = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

Then, we have

$$B \subset B_{\Sigma M_i} \subset 3B.$$

Proof. We start with the left inclusion:

We have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n M_i \left(\left| \varepsilon_i \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij} \right| \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\ell_i}{n} \leq 1.$$

Therefore, $B \subset B_{\Sigma M_i}$.

Now the right inclusion:

W.l.o.g. let

$$\sum_{i=1}^n M_i(|x_i|) = 1,$$

i.e., $x \in B_{\Sigma M_i}$ and $x_1 \geq \dots \geq x_n \geq 0$. Furthermore, let $J, I \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ indexsets with $I \cap J = \emptyset$ s.t.

$$x = x_J + x_I, \quad x_J, x_I \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where we choose J s.t.

$$M_i(x_i) > \frac{1}{n} \text{ for all } i \in J$$

and I s.t.

$$M_i(x_i) \leq \frac{1}{n} \text{ for all } i \in I.$$

Let $|J| = r$ and thus $|I| = n - r$. We complete the vectors x_J and x_I in the other components with zeros. We disassemble x in two vectors such that the associated Orlicz functions M_i are greater $1/n$ and on the other segment less or equal to $1/n$. By our requirement we have

$$M_i(y_{i1}) = \frac{1}{n} \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Therefore, $x_I \leq (y_{11}, \dots, y_{n1})$, since $M_i(x_i) \leq \frac{1}{n} = M_i(y_{i1})$ for all $i \in I$. We have $(y_{11}, \dots, y_{n1}) \in B$, which follows immediately from the choice of $\ell_i = 1, \varepsilon_i = 1$ for

all $i = 1, \dots, n$, and therefore finally $x_I \in B$. It is left to show that $x_J \in 2B$. For each $i \in J$ there exists a $k_i \geq 1$ with

$$\frac{k_i}{n} \leq M_i(x_i) \leq \frac{k_i + 1}{n}. \quad (3.2)$$

Summing up all $i \in J$, we obtain by (3.1) and (3.2)

$$\sum_{i \in J} \frac{k_i}{n} \stackrel{(3.1)}{=} \sum_{i \in J} M_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k_i} y_{ij} \right) \stackrel{(3.2)}{\leq} \sum_{i \in J} M_i(x_i) \leq 1.$$

Now, let $z_J \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be the vector with the entries $\sum_{j=1}^{k_i} y_{ij}$ at the points $i \in J$ and zeros elsewhere. Then, we have $z_J \in B$, because $\sum_{i \in J} k_i \leq n$. Let $w_J \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be the vector with the entries $\sum_{j=1}^{k_i+1} y_{ij}$ at the points $i \in J$ and zeros elsewhere. We have $2z_J \geq w_J$, because y_{ij} is decreasing in j and therefore y_{ik_i+1} can be estimated by $\sum_{j=1}^{k_i} y_{ij}$. Furthermore, we have for all $i \in J$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{k_i+1} y_{ij} \geq x_i,$$

since

$$M_i(x_i) \stackrel{(3.2)}{\leq} \frac{k_i + 1}{n} = M_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k_i+1} y_{ij} \right) \text{ for all } i \in J.$$

Hence, $2z_J \geq x_J$ and thus $x_J \in 2B$. Altogether, we obtain

$$x = x_J + x_I \in 3B.$$

□

Note that the condition $\sum_{j=1}^n y_{ij} = 1$ is just a matter of normalization so that we have normalized Orlicz functions with $M_i(1) = 1$, and therefore can be omitted. In addition, replacing the conditions (3.1) by

$$M_i^* \left(\sum_{j=1}^k y_{ij} \right) = \frac{k}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n,$$

yields the result for the dual balls. However, from this lemma we can deduce that our combinatorial expression generates a Musielak–Orlicz norm.

Theorem 3.2. *Let $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. Let the assumptions be as in Lemma 3.1. Then, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,*

$$\frac{1}{6n} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} \leq \text{Ave}_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq \frac{2}{n} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*},$$

where M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ are given by formula (3.1).

Proof. By Theorem 2.1

$$\frac{1}{2n} \sum_{k=1}^n s(k) \leq \text{Ave}_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n s(k),$$

where $s(k)$, $k = 1, \dots, n^2$, is the decreasing rearrangement of $|x_i y_{ij}|$, $i, j = 1, \dots, n$. Rewriting the expression gives

$$\sum_{k=1}^n s(k) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} x_i y_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij},$$

where ℓ_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ are chosen to maximize the upper sum and satisfy $\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq n$. We have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij} = \left\langle x, \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} y_{ij} \right)_{i=1}^n \right\rangle.$$

Now, taking the supremum over all $z \in B_{\Sigma M_i}$ instead of the supremum over all elements of B , and using the fact that by Lemma 3.1 $B \subset B_{\Sigma M_i}$, we get

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq \frac{1}{n} \|x\|_{(\Sigma M_i)^*}.$$

As mentioned above, we have that $\|\cdot\|_{(\Sigma M_i)^*} \leq 2 \|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}$ and hence

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq \frac{2}{n} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}.$$

Similarly, now using the fact that by Lemma 3.1 $\frac{1}{3} B_{\Sigma M_i} \subset B$ and that $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} \leq \|\cdot\|_{(\Sigma M_i)^*}$, we obtain

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \geq \frac{1}{6n} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}.$$

□

If we choose a slightly different normalization as in the beginning, we obtain the following version of the theorem.

Theorem 3.3. *Let $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ be a real $n \times n$ matrix with $y_{i1} \geq \dots \geq y_{in}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$. Let M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, be Orlicz functions with*

$$M_i \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^k y_{ij} \right) = \frac{k}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n. \quad (3.3)$$

Then, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\frac{1}{6} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} \leq \text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \leq 2 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}.$$

Again, if we assume

$$M_i^* \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^k y_{ij} \right) = \frac{k}{n}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n.$$

instead of condition (3.3), we obtain

$$\text{Ave} \max_{\pi} \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i y_{i\pi(i)}| \sim \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i}.$$

4. THE CONVERSE RESULT

We will now prove a converse to Theorem 3.3, *i.e.*, given a Musielak–Orlicz norm, and therefore Orlicz functions M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, we show how to choose the matrix $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ to generate the given Musielak–Orlicz-Norm $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}$.

Theorem 4.1. *Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and let M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$, be Orlicz functions. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*} &\leq \text{Ave}_\pi \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left| x_i \cdot n \cdot \left(M_i^{-1} \left(\frac{\pi(i)}{n} \right) - M_i^{-1} \left(\frac{\pi(i) - 1}{n} \right) \right) \right| \\ &\leq C_2 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}, \end{aligned}$$

where $C_1, C_2 > 0$ are absolute constants.

Proof. Let's consider an Orlicz function M_i for a fixed $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. We approximate this function by a function which is affine between the given values $\frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}, \dots, \frac{n-1}{n}, 1$. The appropriate inverse images of the defining values are

$$M_i^{-1} \left(\frac{j}{n} \right), \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Now we choose

$$y_{ij} = M_i^{-1} \left(\frac{j}{n} \right) - M_i^{-1} \left(\frac{j-1}{n} \right), \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

The vector $(y_{ij})_{j=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^n$ generates the Orlicz function M_i in the 'classical sense'. The matrix $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ fulfills the conditions of Theorem 3.2. Using Theorem 3.2, we finish the proof. $\square$

Notice that using M_i^* , $i = 1, \dots, n$ to define the matrix $y = (y_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ yields the Musielak–Orlicz norm $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i}$.

5. APPROXIMATION OF MUSIELAK–ORLICZ NORMS

It turned out to be useful to approximate Orlicz norms by a different norm and work with this expressions instead (see [1]). We will provide a corresponding result for Musielak–Orlicz norms.

Let $n, N \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n \leq N$. For a matrix $a \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times N}$ with $a_{i1} \geq \dots \geq a_{iN} > 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, we define a norm on $\mathbb{R}^n$ by

$$\|x\|_a = \max_{\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq N} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{ij} \right) |x_i|, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

We will show that this norm is equivalent to a Musielak–Orlicz norm, which generalizes Lemma 2.4 in [4].

Lemma 5.1. *Let $n, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \leq N$. Furthermore, let $a \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times N}$ such that $a_{i1} \geq \dots \geq a_{iN} > 0$ and $\sum_{j=1}^N a_{i,j} = 1$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. Let M_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ be Orlicz functions such that for all $m = 1, \dots, N$*

$$M_i^* \left(\sum_{j=1}^m a_{i,j} \right) = \frac{m}{N}. \quad (5.1)$$

Then, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x\|_a \leq \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i} \leq 2 \|x\|_a.$$

Proof. We start with the second inequality. Let $|||\cdot|||$ be the dual norm of $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i^*}$. Then, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\|x\|_{\Sigma M_i} \leq |||x||| \leq 2 \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i}.$$

Now, consider $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $x_1 \geq \dots \geq x_n > 0$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n M_i^*(x_i) = 1$, i.e., $x \in B_{\Sigma M_i^*}$. For each $i = 1, \dots, n$ there exist $\ell_i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ so that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \leq x_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i+1} a_{i,j}. \quad (5.2)$$

Since for each $i = 1, \dots, n$ the sequence $a_{i,j}$ is arranged in a decreasing order

$$x_i \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} + a_{i,\ell_i+1} \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} + a_{i,1}.$$

We are going to prove that $(a_{i,1})_{i=1}^n$ and $\left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j}\right)_{i=1}^n$ are in $(B_a)^*$, because then $x \in 2(B_a)^*$ and therefore $B_{\Sigma M_i^*} \subseteq 2(B_a)^*$, where we denote by B_a the closed unit ball with respect to the norm $\|\cdot\|_a$. We have

$$(B_a)^* = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n | \forall x \in B_a : \langle x, y \rangle \leq 1\}.$$

Let $y \in B_a$, i.e.,

$$\max_{\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq N} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right) |y_i| \leq 1.$$

Define $\tilde{\ell}_i = 1$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then, $\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{\ell}_i \leq N$ and therefore

$$\langle (a_{i,1})_{i=1}^n, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\tilde{\ell}_i} a_{i,j} \right) y_i \leq \max_{\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq N} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right) |y_i| \leq 1.$$

Thus, $(a_{i,1})_{i=1}^n \in (B_a)^*$. Furthermore, by (5.2)

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^n M_i^*(x_i) \geq \sum_{i=1}^n M_i^* \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\ell_i}{N},$$

and therefore

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq N.$$

Hence

$$\left\langle \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right)_{i=1}^n, y \right\rangle \leq \max_{\sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \leq N} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right) |y_i| \leq 1.$$

So we have

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^{\ell_i} a_{i,j} \right)_{i=1}^n \in (B_a)^*,$$

and thus, $B_{\Sigma M_i^*} \subseteq 2(B_a)^*$. Hence,

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i} \leq \frac{1}{2} |||x||| \leq \|x\|_a.$$

Let us now prove the first inequality. Notice that

$$(B_a)^* = \text{convexhull} \left\{ \left(\varepsilon_i \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} a_{i,j} \right)_{i=1}^n : \sum_{i=1}^n k_i \leq N, \varepsilon_i = \pm 1, i = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

Hence, from equation (5.1) it follows that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n M_i^* \left(\left| \varepsilon_i \sum_{j=1}^{k_i} a_{i,j} \right| \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{k_i}{N} \leq 1,$$

since $\sum_{i=1}^n k_i \leq N$. Therefore, $(B_a)^* \subset B_{\Sigma M_i^*}$ and by duality, $B_{|||\cdot|||} = B_{(\Sigma M_i^*)^*} \subset B_a$. Since $|||\cdot||| \leq 2 \|\cdot\|_{\Sigma M_i}$, we obtain for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x\|_a \leq \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i}.$$

Altogether this yields

$$\frac{1}{2} \|x\|_a \leq \|x\|_{\Sigma M_i} \leq 2 \|x\|_a,$$

for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. □

Again, the condition $\sum_{j=1}^N a_{i,j} = 1$ is just a matter of normalization so we obtain normalized Orlicz functions and can be omitted.

Acknowledgement. First of all, I would like to thank the anonymous referee for helpful comments that improved the quality of this work. Since part of this work was done while I visited the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences in Toronto in the framework of the “Thematic Program on Asymptotic Geometric Analysis”, I am also grateful to the organizers for inviting me.

REFERENCES

1. Y. Gordon, A.E. Litvak, C. Schütt and E. Werner, *Orlicz Norms of Sequences of Random Variables*, Ann. Probab. **30** (2002), 1833–1853.
2. M.A. Krasnoselski and Y.B. Rutickii, *Convex Functions and Orlicz Spaces*, P. Noordhoff LTD., Groningen, 1961.
3. C. Schütt and S. Kwapień, *Some combinatorial and probabilistic inequalities and their application to Banach space theory*, Studia Math. **82** (1985), no. 1, 91–106.
4. C. Schütt and S. Kwapień, *Some combinatorial and probabilistic inequalities and their application to Banach space theory II*, Studia Math. **95** (1989), 141–154.
5. J. Prochno, *Subspaces of L_1 and combinatorial inequalities in Banach space theory*, Dissertation (german), 2011.
6. M.M. Rao and Z.D. Ren, *Theory of Orlicz Spaces*, Marcel Dekker, 1991.

7. C. Schütt, *On the embedding of 2-concave Orlicz spaces into L_1* , Studia Math. **113** (1995), no. 1, 73–80.
8. C. Schütt, *Lorentz Spaces Isomorphic to Subspaces of L_1* , Trans. Amer Math. Soc. **314** (1989), 583–595.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL AND STATISTICAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA,
505 CENTRAL ACADEMIC BUILDING, EDMONTON T6G 2G1, ALBERTA, CANADA.

E-mail address: prochno@ualberta.ca