

Essay for the Specialised Course in Integration
Theory, VT23

The Malý-Pfeffer integral

Theo Koppenhöfer

Lund

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Introduction

The following essay presents the R_* -integral defined in [1] as part of the course MATP39, Specialised Course in Integration Theory. We will refer to this integral also as the Malý-Pfeffer integral. First we will briefly motivate the integral. Then we describe the construction of the integral. After that we show the uniqueness of the definition and the linearity of the integral. Then we state some facts regarding this integral to motivate why the integral is potentially interesting. Finally we give a conclusion. The report and the presentation of this topic can be found online under [2].

Motivation of the Malý-Pfeffer integral

Given a suitable set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and a suitable vector field $w: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ the divergence theorem states that

$$\int_A \operatorname{Div} w \, d\mathcal{L}^n = \int_{\partial A} w \cdot \nu_A \, d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \quad (1)$$

Here $\nu_A: \partial A \rightarrow S^{n-1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the exterior unit normal, Div denotes the divergence, \mathcal{L}^n refers to the n -dimensional Lebesgue measure and \mathcal{H}^{n-1} to the $(n-1)$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure. A relatively general formulation of the divergence theorem was presented in [3] (1991) with few requirements on w . For this the integral on the left hand side of (1) is formulated using the Pfeffer integral, referred to in [1] as the R -integral. This integral was relatively recently generalised to the R_* -integral in [1] (2016) by Malý and Pfeffer which is why we also call it the Malý-Pfeffer integral. It was shown that the R_* -integral generalises the Lebesgue, the Pfeffer and the Henstock-Kurzweil integral in such way that the formulation of the divergence theorem for the Pfeffer integral still holds (see Theorem 22).

Definition of the integral

In this section we will define \mathcal{BV} -sets, charges, partitions and finally the Malý-Pfeffer integral. We begin by defining the essential interior, exterior and boundary.

Definition 1 (essential interior, exterior, boundary). *We call the set of density points of a set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ essential interior $\operatorname{int}_*(A)$ of A . The essential exterior $\operatorname{ext}_*(A) = \operatorname{int}_*(A^c)$ is the essential interior of the complement of A . The essential boundary is given by*

$$\partial_*(A) = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus (\operatorname{int}_*(A) \cup \operatorname{ext}_*(A)).$$

Let now $x \in \operatorname{int}(A)$ be an interior point. Then there exists $R > 0$ such that $B_R(x) \subseteq A$. Since we have

$$\frac{|A \cap B_r(x)|}{|B_r(x)|} = 1$$

for all $r < R$ it follows that x is a density point and thus $x \in \operatorname{int}_*(A)$. Therefore we have that $\operatorname{int}(A) \subseteq \operatorname{int}_*(A)$. It then follows further that $\operatorname{ext}(A) \subseteq \operatorname{ext}_*(A)$ and also $\partial_*(A) \subseteq \partial(A)$. We can now introduce the notion of relative perimeter of a set

Definition 2 (relative perimeter). We define the relative perimeter of a measurable set $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with respect to a measurable set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ to be

$$P(E, \text{in } A) = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\partial_*(E) \cap \text{int}_*(A)).$$

where \mathcal{H}^{n-1} is the $(n-1)$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure which is defined for example in [4, Chapter 2.10]. For convenience we write

$$P(E) = P(E, \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n).$$

To illustrate this definition one can take $A = \mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R}$ and $E = B_1(0) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ as shown in Figure 1. Then one can see that $\partial_*(E) = \partial(E)$ and $\text{int}_*(A) = \text{int}(A)$ so we have in this particular case that $P(E, \text{in } A) = \pi$ and $P(E) = 2\pi$.

We proceed to define \mathcal{BV} -sets where \mathcal{BV} stands for bounded variation

Definition 3 (\mathcal{BV} -sets). A measurable set $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is called a \mathcal{BV} -set if $|A| + P(A) < \infty$ where $|\cdot| = \mathcal{L}^n$ denotes the Lebesgue measure of a set. We denote by \mathcal{BV} the set of all \mathcal{BV} -sets and by \mathcal{BV}_c the set of all bounded \mathcal{BV} -sets.

The reason for looking at \mathcal{BV} -sets is the following. Given a \mathcal{BV} -set A there exists an exterior normal $\nu_A: \partial_* A \rightarrow S^{n-1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ which is unique up to thin sets, that is sets of \mathcal{H}^{n-1} -measure zero (see also [1]). One can now define a topology on \mathcal{BV}_c .

Definition 4 (Topology on \mathcal{BV}_c). We say a sequence $A: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{BV}_c$ converges to A_* if there exists a compact $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $A_k \subseteq K$, $\sup_k P(A_k) < \infty$ and $|A_* \triangle A_k| \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Here $A \triangle B = (B \setminus A) \cup (A \setminus B)$ denotes the symmetric difference.

Using this topology on \mathcal{BV}_c we can proceed to define charges (not the legal sort).

Definition 5 (Charge). A function $F: \mathcal{BV}_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called

- finitely additive if $F(A \sqcup B) = F(A) + F(B)$ for all disjoint $A, B \in \mathcal{BV}_c$.
- continuous if $A_k \rightarrow A_*$ implies that $F(A_k) \rightarrow F(A_*)$.
- a charge if it is finitely additive and continuous

One sees from the definition that charges form a linear space. In the following we call a cube C dyadic if there exist $l \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$C = 2^{-k} \prod_{i=1}^n [l_i, l_i + 1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The following Lemma is a consequence of the density of dyadic cubes in \mathcal{BV}_c .

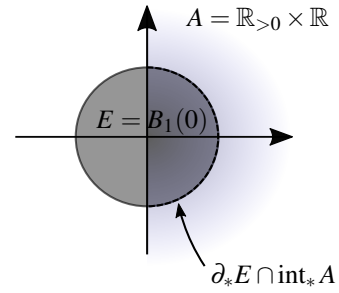


Figure 1: An illustration of the relative perimeter.

Lemma 6 (Density of cubes). *Let F be a charge such that $F(C) = 0$ for all dyadic cubes $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. Then $F = 0$.*

Proof. Since [5, Corollary 1.10.4] states that the space of dyadic cubes is dense in \mathcal{BV}_c there exists for a given set $A_* \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ a sequence $A: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{BV}_c$ of dyadic cubes for which $A_k \rightarrow A$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. The claim then follows from

$$0 = F(A_k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} F(A_*).$$

□

We now give some important examples of charges.

Claim (Indefinite Lebesgue-Integrals are charges). *Let $f \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ then the indefinite Lebesgue integral of f*

$$F: A \mapsto \int_A f \, d\mathcal{L}^n \quad (2)$$

is a charge.

Proof. F is finitely additive. Let $A_k \rightarrow A_*$ then we have by the dominated convergence theorem with majorant $\mathbb{1}_K f$ that

$$\int_{A_k} f \, d\mathcal{L}^n \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{A_*} f \, d\mathcal{L}^n$$

and hence F is a charge. □

A consequence of this example and the Radon-Nikodym derivative (see also [6, Chapter 4.2]) is that every measure which is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure is a charge. In particular charges generalise the Lebesgue measure. For the next example we require an alternative characterisation of charges.

Lemma 7 (Alternative characterisation of charges). *Let $F: \mathcal{BV}_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be finitely additive. Then the following are equivalent*

(i) *F is a charge*

(ii) *for every $\varepsilon > 0$ then there exists a $\theta > 0$ such that for all $A \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ with $A \subseteq B_{1/\varepsilon}(0)$, $P(A) < 1/\varepsilon$ and $|A| \leq \theta$ we have that $|F(A)| < \varepsilon$.*

Proof. Assume the alternative characterisation (ii) holds. Let $A_k \rightarrow A_*$ in \mathcal{BV}_c and let $\varepsilon > 0$ small such that $A_* \cup A_k \subseteq B = B_{1/\varepsilon}(0)$ and $P(A_*) + P(A_k) < 1/\varepsilon$ for all k . Choose $\theta > 0$ according to the alternative characterisation. We set $B_k = A_* \setminus A_k$ then also $B_k \subseteq B$, $P(B_k) \leq 1/\varepsilon$ and $|B_k| \leq \theta$ for k large enough. Thus $|F(B_k)| \leq \varepsilon$ for k large enough and as $\varepsilon > 0$ was arbitrarily small it follows that $F(B_k) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. For $C_k = A_k \setminus A_*$ we also have $C_k \subseteq B$, $P(C_k) \leq 1/\varepsilon$ and $|C_k| \leq \theta$ for k large enough. Analogously it follows that $F(C_k) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Now

$$F(A_k) + F(A_* \setminus A_k) = F(A_k \cup A_*) = F(A_*) + F(A_k \setminus A_*)$$

implies

$$F(A_k) = F(A_*) + F(C_k) - F(B_k) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} F(A_*)$$

so F is a charge and (i) holds.

Assume the alternative characterisation (ii) does not hold. Then there exists an $\varepsilon > 0$ and a sequence of $A_k \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ such that $A_k \subseteq B_{1/\varepsilon}(0)$, $P(A_k) < 1/\varepsilon$, $|A_k| \leq 1/k$ and $|F(A_k)| > \varepsilon$. But then $A_k \rightarrow 0$ in \mathcal{BV}_c and $|F(A_k)| \not\rightarrow 0$ in \mathbb{R} so F is not a charge. \square

A further example for a charge is given by fluxes.

Claim (Fluxes are charges). *For a set $E \in \mathcal{BV}$ and $w \in C(\text{cl}(E); \mathbb{R}^n)$ we have that the flux of w*

$$F : A \mapsto \int_{\partial_*(A \cap E)} w \cdot \nu_{A \cap E} \, d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

is a charge. Here $\nu_{A \cap E} : \partial_(A \cap E) \rightarrow S^{n-1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ denotes the outer unit normal and the integral is constructed according to [6, Chapter 2.3].*

Proof. We follow [5, Example 2.1.4]. We have that F is finitely additive. Let $\varepsilon > 0$, $\eta > 0$ and $\theta > 0$. Choose $v \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $|v - w| < \eta$ on $B \cap \text{cl} E$. Let $A \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ such that $P(A) < 1/\varepsilon$, $A \subseteq B = B_{1/\varepsilon}(0)$ and $|A| \leq \theta$. It then follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |F(A)| &= \left| \int_{\partial_*(A \cap E)} (v - w) \cdot \nu_{A \cap E} \, d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} + \int_{A \cap E} \text{Div } v \, d\mathcal{L}^n \right| \\ &\leq \int_{\partial_*(A \cap E)} |v - w| \, d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} + \int_{A \cap E} |\text{Div } v| \, d\mathcal{L}^n \\ &\leq \eta P(A \cap E) + |A \cap E| \|\text{Div } w\|_\infty \\ &\leq \eta (P(A) + P(B \cap E)) + |A| \|\text{Div } w\|_\infty \\ &\leq \eta \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} + P(B \cap E) \right) + \theta \|\text{Div } w\|_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Now choosing η and then θ small enough we obtain that

$$|F(A)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

The claim now follows from Lemma 7 with the alternative characterisation of charges. \square

We now define the regularity of \mathcal{BV}_c -sets.

Definition 8 (Regularity of \mathcal{BV}_c -sets). *For $E \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ we define the regularity*

$$r(E) = \begin{cases} \frac{|E|}{\text{diam}(E)^{P(E)}} & \text{if } |E| > 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

And we define what an ε -isoperimetric sets are.

Definition 9 (ε -isoperimetric). *We call $E \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ ε -isoperimetric if for all $T \in \mathcal{BV}$*

$$\min\{P(E \cap T), P(E \setminus T)\} \leq \frac{P(T, \text{in } E)}{\varepsilon}.$$

This property is rather technical and is used for example in [1, Definition 3.11] for extending the integral to functions which are defined on arbitrary sets $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. For cubes one can obtain the following result.

Proposition 10 (Cubes are ε -isoperimetric). *There exists a constant $c_1 > 0$ which depends only on the dimension n such that every cube $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is ε -isoperimetric for every $\varepsilon < c_1$.*

Proof. See [1, Lemma 3.1]. □

We call a set thin if it is σ -finite with respect to \mathcal{H}^{n-1} . A mapping $\delta: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ for which $\{\delta = 0\}$ is thin is called a gauge. Note that this definition of a gauge differs from the typical definition of a gauge used for the Henstock-Kurzweil integral in that it allows for δ to vanish. Now we can give a definition of partitions.

Definition 11 (Partitions). *Let δ be a gauge and $\varepsilon > 0$. We call*

$$\mathcal{P} = \{(E_1, x_1), \dots, (E_p, x_p)\}$$

a partition of the set $\sqcup \mathcal{P} = \sqcup_i E_i$ if for all i the $E_i \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ are disjoint sets and $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$. A partition is called

- *dyadic if E_i is a dyadic cube and $x_i \in \text{cl}(E_i)$ for all i*
- *ε -regular if $r(E_i \cup \{x_i\}) > \varepsilon$ for all i*
- *strongly ε -regular if it is ε -regular, E_i is ε -isoperimetric and $x_i \in \text{cl}_* E_i$ for all i*
- *δ -fine if $E_i \subseteq B_{\delta(x_i)}(x_i)$ for all i*

In Figure 2 one can see an example of a δ -fine dyadic partition of the interval $[a, b]$. Note that the intervals get smaller as δ gets smaller. Also note that δ can be arbitrarily irregular as long as it is a map from \mathbb{R}^n to $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ which only vanishes on a thin set.

We are finally able to define the Malý-Pfeffer integral. One of the main ideas of the definition is to identify charges with integrals in the sense of equation 2. Thus one defines the R_* -integral of a function with respect to a charge to be itself a certain charge.

Definition 12 (R_* -integral). *A function $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called R_* -integrable with respect to a charge G if there is a charge F , such that for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a gauge δ such that we have*

$$\sum_{i=1}^p |f(x_i)G(E_i) - F(E_i)| < \varepsilon$$

for each strongly ε -regular δ -fine partition $\{(E_1, x_1), \dots, (E_p, x_p)\}$. We call F an indefinite integral of f with respect to G and write

$$F = (R_*) \int f \, dG.$$

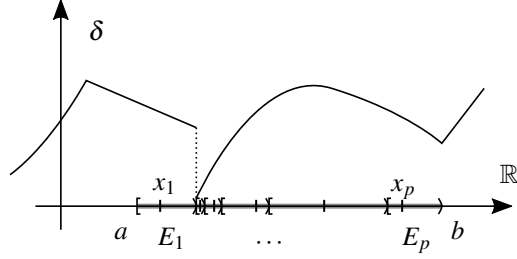


Figure 2: Example of a partition.

Uniqueness of the integral

We now would like to prove the uniqueness of the integral. For this we require a version of Cousin's Lemma.

Definition 13 (Nice dyadic cubes). *Let $\sigma: C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ be a nonvanishing gauge on a dyadic cube C . The dyadic cube C is called nice if there exists a dyadic σ -fine partition of C . A dyadic cube which is not nice is called faulty.*

Lemma 14 (Cousin). *All dyadic cubes are nice.*

Proof. Assume a dyadic cube $C = C^1$ is faulty and has diameter r . Then C^1 can be written as the disjoint union $C = \bigsqcup_i C_i$ of dyadic cubes C_i with diameters less than $r/2$. Since C is faulty at least one of the C_i , say $C^2 = C_i$ is also faulty. Inductively we obtain a sequence of nested faulty dyadic cubes C^j with diameters less than $r/2^j$. Thus

$$\bigcap_j \text{cl}(C^j) = \{x\}$$

for some $x \in \text{cl}(C)$. Since σ is a nonvanishing gauge there exists j such that $r/2^j < \sigma(x)$. Then we have that $\text{diam}(C^j) < \sigma(x)$ and $x \in \text{cl}(C^j)$ so C^j is nice. This is a contradiction. \square

We cite without proof the following proposition from [5, Lemma 1.3.2].

Proposition 15. *There exists a constant $c_2 > 0$ which depends only on the dimension n such that for all $\delta > 0$ and $T \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with $t = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(T) < \infty$ there exists a family of dyadic cubes \mathcal{K} with diameters less than δ and*

$$T \subseteq \text{int} \bigcup \mathcal{K} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}} P(K) < c_2 t.$$

With this proposition we can prove the following result from [5, Lemma 2.6.4].

Lemma 16. *Let C be a cube, F be a charge, $\varepsilon > 0$ and δ be a gauge. Then there exists a δ -fine dyadic partition $\mathcal{P} = \{(C_1, x_1), \dots, (C_q, x_q)\}$ such that*

$$\left| F\left(C \setminus \bigsqcup \mathcal{P}\right) \right| < \varepsilon.$$

Proof. We essentially follow [5, Lemma 2.6.4].

The idea is to involve Cousin's lemma. Since Cousin's lemma only applies for $\sigma > 0$ everywhere but our definition of a gauge allows for δ to vanish on a thin set we have to choose our σ wisely. Set $T = \{\delta = 0\}$. Since T is thin there exist $T_i \subseteq C$ such that $T = \bigcup_{i \geq 1} T_i$ and $t_i = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(T_i) < \infty$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Now define $\varepsilon_i > 0$ such that

$$\varepsilon_i \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2^i} \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon_i \leq \frac{1}{c_2 t_i}$$

and $C \subseteq B_{1/\varepsilon_i}(0)$ for all i . The reason for the choice of the ε_i in this way will become clear later. By the alternative characterisation of charges there exist for all i constants $\theta_i > 0$ such that $|F(A)| < \varepsilon_i$ for each $A \in \mathcal{BV}_c$ such that $A \subseteq C$, $P(A) < 1/\varepsilon_i$ and $|A| < \theta_i$. By Proposition 15 there exist families \mathcal{K}_i of dyadic cubes with diameters less than $\theta_i \varepsilon_i$ and such that

$$T_i \subseteq \text{int}\left(\bigcup \mathcal{K}_i\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}} \text{diam}(K)^{n-1} < c_2 t_i.$$

Let \mathcal{K} be a disjoint subfamily of $\mathcal{K}_0 = \bigcup_i \mathcal{K}_i$ such that $\bigsqcup \mathcal{K} = \bigcup \mathcal{K}_0$. Define a function $\sigma : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ by

$$\sigma(x) = \begin{cases} \text{diam}(K) & \text{if } x \in K \cap T \text{ for a } K \in \mathcal{K} \\ \delta(x) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

By Cousin's Lemma there exists a dyadic σ -fine partition $\mathcal{C} = \{(C_1, x_1), \dots, (C_p, x_p)\}$ of C . We now do a reordering of indices such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C} = & \left\{ \underbrace{(C_1, x_1), \dots, (C_q, x_q)}_{C_k \cap (\bigcup \mathcal{K}) = \emptyset \text{ for } 1 \leq k \leq q}, \underbrace{(C_{k_1+1}, x_{k_1+1}), \dots, (C_{k_2}, x_{k_2})}_{\substack{C_k \subseteq \bigcup \mathcal{K}_1 \text{ for all} \\ q=k_1 < k \leq k_2}} \right. \\ & , \quad \dots \quad , \quad \left. \underbrace{(C_{k_m+1}, x_{k_m+1}), \dots, (C_{k_{m+1}}, x_{k_{m+1}})}_{\substack{C_k \subseteq \mathcal{K}_m \text{ for all} \\ k_m < k \leq k_{m+1} = p}} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

We set $\mathcal{P} = \{(C_1, x_1), \dots, (C_q, x_q)\}$. Since by construction we have that $x_j \in T$ implies that there exists a cube $K \in \mathcal{K}_i$ such that $C_i \subseteq K$ it follows that \mathcal{P} is a δ -fine dyadic partition. We now have by Proposition 15 and the choice of ε_i that

$$P\left(\bigsqcup_{k_i < k \leq k_{i+1}} C_k\right) \leq \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_i} P(K) \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i}$$

and also

$$\left| \bigsqcup_{k_i < k \leq k_{i+1}} C_k \right| \leq \left| \bigcup \mathcal{K}_i \right| \leq \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_i} \text{diam}(K) P(K) < \varepsilon_i \theta_i \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_i} P(K) \leq \theta_i.$$

Thus it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| F\left(C \setminus \bigsqcup_{i=1}^q C_i\right) \right| &= \left| F\left(\bigsqcup_{i=q+1}^p C_j\right) \right| \\
&\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \left| F\left(\bigsqcup_{k_i < k \leq k_{i+1}} C_k\right) \right| \\
&\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \varepsilon_i \\
&\leq \sum_{i \geq 1} 2^{-i} \varepsilon = \varepsilon
\end{aligned}$$

which yields the claim. \square

Claim. *The integral is unique.*

Proof. We follow [1, Proposition 3.4]. Let F_1 and F_2 be R_* -integrals of f with respect to G . We set $H = F_1 - F_2$. Now choose a cube $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ and $0 < \varepsilon < c_1$. Let δ be the corresponding gauge to ε in the definition of the integral. By Lemma 16 there exists a δ -fine dyadic partition $\mathcal{P} = \{(C_1, x_1), \dots, (C_q, x_q)\}$ such that

$$\left| H\left(C \setminus \bigsqcup \mathcal{P}\right) \right| < \varepsilon.$$

It then follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
|H(C)| &\leq \left| H\left(C \setminus \bigsqcup \mathcal{P}\right) \right| + \left| H\left(\bigsqcup \mathcal{P}\right) \right| \\
&\leq \varepsilon + \left| \sum_i (F_1(C_i) - F_2(C_i)) \right| \\
&\leq \varepsilon + \sum_i |F_1(C_i) - f(x_i)G(C_i)| + \sum_i |f(x_i)G(C_i) - F_2(C_i)| \\
&\leq 3\varepsilon \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0
\end{aligned}$$

and thus $H(C) = 0$. Since C was an arbitrary dyadic cube it follows from Lemma 6 on the density of cubes that $H = 0$ and hence $F_1 = F_2$. \square

To give a feeling for the definition of the integral we will also show the linearity.

Claim (Linearity of the integral). *Let f_1, f_2 be R_* -integrable and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $f_1 + \alpha f_2$ is also R_* -integrable and*

$$(R_*) \int f_1 dG + \alpha (R_*) \int f_2 dG = (R_*) \int f_1 + \alpha f_2 dG.$$

Proof. We write $F_i = (R_*) \int f_i dG$. For all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exist gauges δ_i such that

$$\sum_j |f_i(x_j)G(E_j) - F_i(E_j)| < \varepsilon$$

for each strongly ε -regular δ -fine partition $\{(E_1, x_1), \dots, (E_p, x_p)\}$. Since the space of charges is a linear space we have that also $F_1 + \alpha F_2$ is a charge. If we now set $\delta = \min_i \delta_i$ we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_j |(f_1 + \alpha f_2)(x_j)G(E_j) - (F_1 + \alpha F_2)(E_j)| \\ & \leq \sum_j |f_1(x_j)G(E_j) - F_1(E_j)| + |\alpha| \sum_j |f_2(x_j)G(E_j) - F_2(E_j)| \\ & \leq (1 + |\alpha|)\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for every strongly ε -regular δ -fine partition $\{(E_1, x_1), \dots, (E_p, x_p)\}$. Thus $f_1 + \alpha f_2$ is integrable with integral $F_1 + \alpha F_2$. \square

What this integral is good for

In this section we cite some interesting results for the Malý-Pfeffer without giving much deeper motivation or proof. The first result shows that the R_* -integral is an extension of the Lebesgue integral on \mathbb{R}^n .

Proposition 17 (Generalisation of the Lebesgue integral on \mathbb{R}^n). *Each Lebesgue-integrable function is also R_* -integrable and the integrals coincide. Here the Lebesgue integral is identified with a charge as given by equation 2.*

Proof. See [1, Proposition 3.5]. \square

From this it follows that the Malý-Pfeffer integral does not depend on \mathcal{L}^n -nullsets. We now define the according to [6, Appendix H] the Henstock-Kurzweil integral.

Definition 18 (Henstock-Kurzweil integral). *Given a bounded interval $[a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and a function $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ we call f Henstock-Kurzweil integrable with integral $L \in \mathbb{R}$ if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a nowhere vanishing gauge δ such that*

$$\left| \sum_i F|E_i| - L \right| < \varepsilon$$

for all δ -fine dyadic partitions $\{(E_1, x_1), \dots, (E_p, x_p)\}$ of $[a, b]$.

Since the definition of the R_* -integral and the Henstock-Kurzweil integral on \mathbb{R} the following result should not be too surprising.

Proposition 19 (Generalisation of the Henstock-Kurzweil integral on \mathbb{R}). *A function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Henstock-Kurzweil integrable on a compact $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ iff it is R_* -integrable and the two integrals coincide on A .*

Proof. See [1, Proposition 3.6]. \square

We now turn back to the divergence theorem. For this we need some additional conditions on our sets.

Definition 20 (Admissible sets). *We call a set admissible if $\text{int}_* A \subseteq A \subseteq \text{cl}_* A$ and ∂A is compact. The set of admissible \mathcal{BV} -sets is denoted by \mathcal{ABV} .*

One can then show that for admissible sets the R_* -integral and the classical Pfeffer integral which is defined in [7] coincide.

Proposition 21 (Generalisation of the Pfeffer-Integral on \mathbb{R}^n). *Let $A \in \mathcal{ABV}$. Then each Pfeffer-integrable function is also R_* -integrable and the integrals coincide on A .*

Proof. See [1, Corollary 3.18]. \square

We now turn our attention to the divergence theorem which is one of the major motivations for the Pfeffer integral and hence also the R_* -integral. The following definition is from [3]. We say that a vector field $w \in C(\text{cl}(A); \mathbb{R}^n)$ is pointwise Lipschitz on a set $E \subseteq A$ if we have that

$$\limsup_{y \rightarrow x} \frac{|w(x) - w(y)|}{|x - y|} < \infty$$

for all $x \in E$ where w was possibly extended in a neighbourhood around x . Then by Stepanoff's theorem it follows that w is differentiable almost everywhere on E . Hence it is possible to define the divergence

$$\text{Div } w = \sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i w_i$$

almost everywhere on E . [3, Lemma 5.16] shows that $\text{Div } w$ is well defined, that is, it does not depend on the extension around a neighbourhood of E . With this we obtain

Theorem 22 (Divergence theorem). *Let $A \in \mathcal{ABV}$, let $S \subseteq A$ be a thin set and $w \in C(\text{cl}(A); \mathbb{R}^n)$ a continuous vector field which is pointwise Lipschitz on $A \setminus S$. Then $\text{Div } w$ is R_* -integrable and*

$$(R_*) \int_A \text{Div } w \, d\mathcal{L}^n = \int_{\partial_* A} w \cdot \nu_A \, d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

where $\nu_A: \partial_* A \rightarrow S^{n-1} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the unit normal to A .

Proof. Follows from [3, Theorem 5.19] and Proposition 21. \square

Summary

In summary the Malý-Pfeffer integral is an interesting extension of the Henstock-Kurzweil integral. Similarly, it is defined using gauges albeit with slight differences to the gauges used when defining the Henstock-Kurzweil integral. On the one hand these gauges are required to be strongly ε -regular. On the other they are allowed to vanish on thin sets. These additional requirements guarantee that a relatively general version of the divergence theorem holds for this integral. A further interesting concept is the concept of charges. This approach to integration however also has visible limitations. For one, the space over which one integrates is not particularly general. Another problem is that the construction is quite technical in many parts because otherwise the integral would lack the desired properties.

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