

Pacific Journal of Mathematics

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INTEGRAL OVER A BV VARIETY**

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The aim of the present paper is that of developing a theory for the Weierstrass-Cesari integral of the calculus of variations $\mathcal{J} = \int_T F(p, q)$ over a variety T (not necessarily continuous nor Sobolev's), with respect to a nonlinear parametric integrand $F(p, q)$. As is well known, in the case of continuous BV varieties, Cesari framed the integral \mathcal{J} in an abstract, general setting by means of the Burkill-Cesari integration process on a "quasi-additive" set function. We introduce here a suitable condition of quasi-additivity type for a couple of set functions (the Γ -quasi additivity) which allows to adopt Cesari formulation, even in this more general situation and represents the key-idea for the outcome of our research.

1. Introduction. In [16] Cesari established a very general axiomatization of the non-linear Weierstrass-type integral $\mathcal{J} = \int_T F(p, q)$ over a variety T . Indeed, first Cesari introduced the concepts of quasi-additivity for set functions $\phi(I)$ and of an integral of such set functions, now usually called the Burkill-Cesari integral and denoted $BC \int \phi$, an extension of the classical Burkill process. Then, for any given set function $\phi(I)$ and continuous map T , Cesari considered the set function $\Phi(I) = F(T(\omega(I)), \phi(I))$, where ω is a choice function, i.e. $\omega(I) \in I$, and proved that, if T is any continuous map, F is any parametric integrand, and ϕ is quasi-additive and BV, then also Φ is quasi-additive and BV. In other words, the non-linear transformation F preserves quasi-additivity and bounded variation, and then the Weierstrass-type integral $\mathcal{J} = \int_T F(p, q)$ can be defined as the Burkill-Cesari integral

$$\mathcal{J} = BC \int \Phi(I),$$

and can be computed by a process of limit which is an extension of the classic Burkill integral. Cesari proved a number of properties of the Weierstrass-type integral $\mathcal{J} = BC \int \Phi(I)$ [16]. Moreover, for functions ϕ with values in R^n and under mild assumptions, Cesari proved

further that the integral $\text{BC} \int \phi(I)$ defines a non-negative measure μ and a vector measure ν such that the Radon-Nikodym derivative $\theta(s) = d\nu/d\mu$ behaves as a generalized Jacobian vector, and \mathcal{S} has a representation as a Lebesgue-Stieltjes integral [17]

$$\mathcal{S} = \text{BC} \int \Phi(I) = \int_T F(p, q) = \int F(T(s), \theta(s)) d\mu.$$

We extended this representation statement to the case of ϕ with values in any reflexive Banach space, and to do this we used the concept of martingales from random analysis [6, 7].

Successively many authors studied the integral $\text{BC} \int \Phi(I)$, both in the parametric and in the non-parametric cases, established further properties of the integral and showed that a number of recent processes of integration can be framed in terms of quasi-additive set functions and related Burkill-Cesari integral (see [21] for a survey).

Note that, if the integrand does not depend explicitly on the variety, i.e. is of the type $F(q)$, then it is possible to extend the definition of Weierstrass integrals over BV curves and surfaces T —not necessarily continuous—in terms of quasi-additive set functions Φ (cf. [1, 20, 8, 10, 11, 12]). The continuity assumption on the variety T has not been removed yet in the general case $F(p, q)$.

The aim of the present paper is to extend the definition of \mathcal{S} to the case of BV varieties T , possibly discontinuous, and complete integrand functions $F(p, q)$. To do this we deepen the study we started in [11]. Namely, first we avoid the use of a choice function ω , and replace the term $T(\omega(I))$ by an arbitrary set function $p(I)$. Then we introduce a new condition of quasi-additivity type, on the couple (p, ϕ) that we call Γ -quasi-additivity. We are able to prove that, if (p, ϕ) is Γ -quasi-additive and ϕ is BV, then the set function $\Phi(I) = F(p(I), \phi(I))$ is quasi-additive and BV, and thus a Weierstrass type integral $\mathcal{S} = \int_T F(p, q)$ can still be defined as a Burkill-Cesari integral $\text{BC} \int \Phi(I)$, even for BV curves and surfaces, possibly discontinuous, not Sobolev's, and complete integrands $F(p, q)$. Note that the new global condition is weaker than the couple of assumptions: continuity on T and quasi-additivity on ϕ .

After the preliminaries (§2), we prove the statement above which guarantees the existence of the integral $\text{BC} \int \Phi$, and in §3 we compare the new condition of quasi-additivity with previous conditions.

In §4 we prove that, even in the new general situation, the integral $\text{BC} \int \Phi$ has a Lebesgue-Stieltjes integral representation in terms of a finite measure μ , a vector measure ν and Radon-Nikodym derivative $d\nu/d\mu$, extending therefore Cesari's results in [17], as well our previous results in [6, 7]. Finally, in §5 we present some applications of the previous discussion on the integrals of the calculus of variations over a BV curve, also in the presence of a BV weight (not necessarily continuous nor positive).

We wish to mention that in [13] we carried over analogous results for the nonparametric Weierstrass-type integral. Moreover in [14] we established the lower semicontinuity, both for the parametric and the non-parametric Weierstrass-integral in terms of a global convergence, for couples of sets functions (p_n, ϕ_n) which is inspired to the present Γ -quasi-additivity. This result found application to L_1 -convergence of equi BV varieties.

2. Preliminaries. Let (A, \mathcal{E}) be a topological space, we denote by \mathcal{M} the family of all the subsets of A and by \mathcal{B} the σ -algebra generated by \mathcal{E} . We consider a subfamily $\{I\} \subset \mathcal{M}$ and call intervals the sets I . A finite system $D = [I_1, \dots, I_N]$ is a finite collection of non-overlapping intervals, i.e.

$$I_i^0 \neq \emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad I_i^0 \cap \bar{I}_j = \emptyset, \quad i \neq j, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, N.^1$$

Let (T, \gg) be a directed set and let $(D_t)_{t \in T}$ be a given net of finite systems. Let $s: \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be the function defined by : $s(H, K) = 1$ when $H \subset K$, $s(H, K) = 0$ otherwise.

Let $\phi: \{I\} \rightarrow E$ be a given interval function, where E is a real Banach space.

The function ϕ is said to be *Burkill-Cesari integrable* (BC-integrable) ([16]) over $M \in \mathcal{M}$ if the limit below exists

$$\lim_T \sum_{I \in D_t} s(I, M) \phi(I);$$

in this case, we shall denote by $\text{BC} \int_M \phi$ its value.

¹ Where I^0 and \bar{I} denote the G -interior and the G -closure of I , respectively.

The function ϕ is said to be of *bounded variation* (BV) over $M \in \mathcal{M}$ if

$$V(\phi, M) = \overline{\lim}_T \sum_{I \in D_t} s(I, M) \|\phi(I)\| < +\infty.$$

The function ϕ is said to be *quasi-additive* (q.a.) ([16]) over $M \in \mathcal{M}$ if

(q.a.) given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $t_1 = t_1(M, \varepsilon)$ such that, for every $t_0 \gg t_1$ there exists $t_2 = t_2(M, \varepsilon, t_0)$ such that, if $t \gg t_2$ then

- (i) $\sum_I s(I, M) \|\sum_J s(J, I) \phi(J) - \phi(I)\| < \varepsilon$,
- (ii) $\sum_J s(J, M) [1 - \sum_I s(J, I) s(I, M)] \|\phi(J)\| < \varepsilon$

where $D_{t_0} = [I]$, $D_t = [J]$.

The following results are well known ([16, 15, 22, 4]).

P₁. If ϕ is q.a. on M , then it is BC-integrable over M .

P₂. If ϕ is q.a. and BV on M , then $\|\phi\|$ is q.a. on M .

P₃. If ϕ is q.a. and BV on M , then ϕ is q.a. on M for every $M \in \mathcal{M}$.

3. Existence of the integral $\text{BC} \int_A F(p, \phi)$. Let (K, d) be a metric space, E be a uniformly convex Banach space and B be a real Banach space.

We consider the following functions:

$$F: K \times E \rightarrow B, \quad p: \{I\} \rightarrow K \quad \text{and} \quad \phi: \{I\} \rightarrow E$$

and denote by $\Phi: \{I\} \rightarrow B$ the set function defined by

$$\Phi(I) = F(p(I), \phi(I)).$$

Following Cesari ([16]), the BC-integral of the function Φ , when it exists, will be called the *parametric Weierstrass integral of the Calculus of Variations* (W-integral) and denoted by $\text{BC} \int_A F(p, \phi)$.

Thus, any sets of conditions guaranteeing that Φ is q.a. and BV is an existence theorem for the integral $\text{BC} \int_A F(p, \phi)$.

All throughout the paper, we will suppose that the integrand F satisfies the following conditions:

- (F₁) F is bounded on $K \times S_1$, where $S_1 = \{x \in E: \|x\| = 1\}$;
- (F₂) F is uniformly continuous on $K \times S_1$;
- (F₃) $F(k, tx) = tF(k, x)$, for every $t \geq 0$, $(k, x) \in K \times E$.

We recall here that the function p is said to satisfy the condition (γ) ([2, 9]) if

(γ) given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $t_1 = t_1(\varepsilon)$ such that for every $t_0 \gg t_1$ there exists $t_2 = t_2(\varepsilon, t_0)$ such that, if $t \gg t_2$ then

$$\max_I \max_{J \subset I} d(p(J), p(I)) < \varepsilon,$$

where $D_{t_0} = [I]$, $D_t = [J]$.

The following existence theorem for the parametric W-integral is well known ([16, 23, 9]).

THEOREM 3.1. *Suppose that*

F satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) ;

p satisfies condition (γ) ;

ϕ is q.a. and BV on A ;

then the function Φ is q.a. and BV on A .

We propose now a joint condition on the couple of set functions (p, ϕ) that will lead to an improvement of this result.

DEFINITION 3.2. We say that the couple (p, ϕ) is Γ -quasi-additive (Γ -q.a.) if

$(\Gamma$ -q.a.) given $\varepsilon > 0$, there exist $0 < \sigma = \sigma(\varepsilon) \leq \varepsilon$ and $t_1 = t_1(\varepsilon)$ such that for every $t_0 \gg t_1$ there exists $t_2 = t_2(\varepsilon)$ such that if $t \gg t_2$ then

- (i) $\sum_I \|\sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \phi(J) - \phi(I)\| < \varepsilon,$
- (ii) $\sum_I \|\sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I)\phi(J)\| < \varepsilon,$
- (iii) $\sum_J [1 - \sum_I s(J, I)]\|\phi(J)\| < \varepsilon$

where $D_{t_0} = [I]$, $D_t = [J]$ and Γ_I is a subfamily (even empty) of the set $\{J \subset I: d(p(I), p(J)) < \sigma\}$.

The following propositions, which can be easily proved, point out the connections between the new condition (Γ -q.a.) and the previous ones, i.e. (γ) and (q.a.).

P₄. *If ϕ is q.a. on A and p satisfies condition (γ) , then the couple (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a.*

P₅. *If the couple (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a., then ϕ is q.a. on A .*

However note that condition $(\Gamma\text{-q.a.})$ does not necessarily imply that p satisfies condition (γ) , as the applications will show (see §5).

In the following we shall need the result below.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *If (p, ϕ) is $\Gamma\text{-q.a.}$ and ϕ is BV , then the couple $(p, \|\phi\|)$ is $\Gamma\text{-q.a.}$, with the same $\sigma = \sigma(\varepsilon)$ and $\Gamma_I, I \in \{I\}$.*

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be fixed and let $t_0, t \in T$ be given, corresponding to $\frac{\varepsilon}{4}$, in force of condition $(\Gamma\text{-q.a.})$.

By virtue of P_5 and P_2 , we can suppose without loss of generality that

$$\left| \sum_I \|\phi(I)\| - V(\phi, A) \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \sum_J \|\phi(J)\| - V(\phi, A) \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4},$$

where $D_{t_0} = [I]$ and $D_t = [J]$. Then we have²

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_I \left| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \|\phi(J)\| - \|\phi(I)\| \right| + \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I) \|\phi(J)\| \right] \\ & \quad + \sum_J \left[1 - \sum_I s(J, I) \right] \|\phi(J)\| \\ & = \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \|\phi(J)\| - \|\phi(I)\| \right] + 2 \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \|\phi(J)\| - \|\phi(I)\| \right]^- \\ & \quad + \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I) \|\phi(J)\| \right] + \sum_J \left[1 - \sum_I s(J, I) \right] \|\phi(J)\| \\ & \leq \sum_J \|\phi(J)\| - \sum_I \|\phi(I)\| + 2 \sum_I \left\| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \phi(J) - \phi(I) \right\| \\ & < \left| \sum_J \|\phi(J)\| - V(\phi, A) \right| + \left| \sum_I \|\phi(I)\| - V(\phi, A) \right| + 2 \frac{\varepsilon}{4} < 4 \frac{\varepsilon}{4} = \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the proposition.

² Where $m^+ = \max(m, 0)$ and $m^- = \max(-m, 0)$, $m \in \mathbb{R}$.

The main result of this section is the following existence theorem which improves (3.1). For the convenience of the reader we recall the result below, due to Warner ([23]) which will be used in the proof.

LEMMA 1.1 OF [23]. *Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be fixed. Then a positive number $H = H(\varepsilon)$ exists such that, given two finite subsets of E $\{e_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ and $e'_j, j = 1, \dots, m\}$ and a map \mathcal{J} from $\{1, \dots, n\}$ into the subsets of $\{1, \dots, m\}$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2H^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{+}^i \|e'_j\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| e_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}(i)} e'_j \right\| \\ + \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \|e_i\| - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}(i)} \|e'_j\| \right|, \end{aligned}$$

where \sum_{+}^i denotes the summation relative to the indices $j \in \mathcal{J}(i)$ such that

$$\left\| \frac{e_i}{\|e_i\|} - \frac{e'_j}{\|e'_j\|} \right\| \geq \varepsilon.$$

THEOREM 3.4. *Suppose that F satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) ; the couple (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a. and ϕ is BV; then the function Φ is q.a. and BV on A .*

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be fixed. Then, by force of (F_2) , there is $\tau = \tau(\varepsilon/6V) > 0$ such that $|F(p, x) - F(p', x')| \leq \varepsilon/6V$ whenever $p, p' \in K$, $x, x' \in S_1$ with $d(p, p') + \|x - x'\| \leq r$, where $V = V(\phi, A)$. Let $H = H(\tau) > 0$ be the number determined in force of the Lemma 1.1 of [23]. If $M > 0$ is such that $|F(k, x)| < M$, $(k, x) \in K \times S_1$ (see (F_1)), we put

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = \min(\tau, \varepsilon/6M, \varepsilon\tau^2/48H^2M).$$

Now let $\sigma = \sigma(\bar{\varepsilon}) \leq \bar{\varepsilon}$ and $t_1 = t_1(\bar{\varepsilon})$ be determined by $(\Gamma$ -q.a.) and for every $t_0 \gg t_1$ let $t_2 = t_2(t_0, \bar{\varepsilon})$ be also given by $(\Gamma$ -q.a.). Fix $t \gg t_2$ and let $D_{t_0} = [I]$, $D_t = [J]$. If we denote by $\alpha(I) = \phi(I)/\|\phi(I)\|$ and $\beta(J) = \phi(J)/\|\phi(J)\|$ (where $\alpha(I) = 0$ if $\phi(I) = 0$ and analogously for β), then from Proposition 3.3 above and the

Lemma 1.1 of [23] we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad & \sum_I \left| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \Phi(J) - \Phi(I) \right| \\
&= \sum_I \left| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} F(p(J), \alpha(J)) \|\phi(J)\| - F(p(I), \alpha(I)) \|\phi(I)\| \right| \\
&\leq \sum_I |F(p(I), \alpha(I))| \left| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \|\phi(J)\| - \|\phi(I)\| \right| \\
&\quad + \sum_I \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} |F(p(J), \beta(J)) - F(p(I), \alpha(I))| \|\phi(J)\| \\
&\leq M\bar{\varepsilon} + \frac{\varepsilon}{6V} \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \in \Gamma_I, \|\beta(J) - \alpha(I)\| < \tau} \|\phi(J)\| \right] \\
&\quad + 2M \sum_I \left[\sum_{J \in \Gamma_I, \|\beta(J) - \alpha(I)\| \geq \tau} \|\phi(J)\| \right] \\
&\leq M \frac{\varepsilon}{6M} + \frac{\varepsilon}{6V} V \\
&\quad + 2M \frac{2H^2}{\tau^2} \left[\sum_I \left\| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \phi(J) - \phi(I) \right\| \right. \\
&\quad \quad \left. + \sum_I \left| \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \|\phi(J)\| - \|\phi(I)\| \right| \right] \\
&\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{6} + \frac{\varepsilon}{6} + 2M \frac{2H^2}{\tau^2} 2 \frac{\varepsilon \tau^2}{48H^2M} = \frac{\varepsilon}{6} + \frac{\varepsilon}{6} + \frac{\varepsilon}{6} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(2) \quad & \sum_I \left| \sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I) \Phi(J) \right| \\
&\leq \sum_I \sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I) |F(p(J), \beta(J))| \|\phi(J)\| \leq M\bar{\varepsilon} < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus from (1) and (2) the first condition (i) of the q.a. of Φ is verified.

Finally, from

$$(3) \quad \sum_J \left[1 - \sum_I s(J, I) \right] \|\Phi(J)\| \\ \leq M \sum_J \left[1 - \sum_I s(J, I) \right] \|\phi(J)\| < M\bar{\varepsilon} < \varepsilon,$$

the q.a. of Φ is completely proved.

Furthermore, since $\|\Phi(I)\| \leq M\|\phi(I)\|$ (by (F₃)), the function Φ is trivially BV.

Note that, by force of P₄, Theorem 3.4 improves the previous existence result (Theorem 3.1). The applications given in §5 will emphasize the value of this result.

REMARK 3.5. Let $p': \{I\} \rightarrow K$ be another set function and suppose that p and p' satisfy the condition

(i) given $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $t_1 = t_1(\varepsilon)$ such that for every $t \gg t_1$ we have

$$\max_{I \in D_t} d(p(I), p'(I)) < \varepsilon.$$

It is easy to see that, if (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a., then also (p', ϕ) is Γ -q.a., and moreover we have that $\text{BC} \int_A F(p, \phi) \equiv \text{BC} \int_A F(p', \phi)$.

Thus in the particular case (see [9]) where $p(I) = P(\omega(I))$ and $p'(I) = P(\omega'(I))$, i.e. the set function p comes from the composition of a point function $P: A \rightarrow K$ and a choice function $\omega: \{I\} \rightarrow A$ (with $\omega(I) \in I$), then the W -integral is independent from the choice function ω , within a class of choices which satisfy invariance condition (i).

Moreover in [23] Warner proposes an invariance condition for W -integrals which contains, as a particular case, the Fréchet equivalence condition for parametric curves and surfaces. Note that Warner's condition can be easily carried over the present setting.

REMARK 3.6. In [9, 10, 11] following an idea developed by Kaiser ([18]) for the variation, we introduced the weighted W -integral. We recall here its definition.

Let $e_1 \cdot e_2: \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow E$ be a bilinear form such that $\|e_1 \cdot e_2\| \leq L\|e_1\| \|e_2\|$, with $L > 0$, $e_1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $e_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$. We consider the functions:

$$F: K \times E \rightarrow B, \quad p: \{I\} \rightarrow K, \quad \phi: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad q: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

and define the interval function $\Phi_q: \{I\} \rightarrow F$ by

$$\Phi_q(I) = F(p(I), \phi(I) \cdot q(I)).$$

The BC-integral of Φ_q , when it exists, will be called the *weighted parametric Weierstrass integral of the Calculus of Variations* and denoted by $\text{BC} \int_A F(p, \phi \cdot q)$.

The following result shows that this new integral can be handled as a usual W-integral (see [9]). In order to see this, we consider the function $H: (K \times \mathbb{R}^n) \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow B$ defined by

$$H(k, e_2; e_1) = F(k, e_1 \cdot e_2).$$

P₆. If K is compact and the function F satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) , then also H satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) on any subset of the form $K \times B_r$, where

$$B_r = \{e_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n: \|e_2\| \leq r\}, \quad r > 0.$$

Thus, as an immediate consequence of **P₆** and Theorem 3.4, we have the following existence result.

THEOREM 3.7. Suppose that F satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) ; the system $((p, q), \phi)$ is Γ -q.a., ϕ is BV and q is bounded; then Φ_q is q.a. and BV on A .

REMARK 3.8. Note that if q satisfies condition (γ) and the couple (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a., then the system $((p, q), \phi)$ is Γ -q.a.

4. Representation. In this section, for the sake of simplicity, we shall consider the following particular case of our setting. Note that this special case is quite natural since it always occurs in usual applications (see §5).

Note that we could obtain our representation theorem also in the general setting by strengthening the conditions on the function ϕ . Instead, we prefer to consider the following restrictions:

- A is a metric space
- there exists a subnet $(D_{t_k})_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$I = \bigcup_{J \subset I} J, \quad I \in D_{t_k}, \quad J \in D_{t_{k+1}} \quad (\text{i.e. a sequence of refinements});$$

- the intervals $\{I\}^* = \{I \in D_{t_k}, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ are compact and connected;
- $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \max\{\text{diam}(I), I \in D_{t_k}\} = 0$.

Moreover we shall suppose that E is a reflexive Banach space.

We recall that an interval function $\phi: \{I\} \rightarrow E$ is said to be (0)-quasi-additive ((0)-q.a.) ([17]) on $M \in \mathcal{M}$, if it satisfies condition (q.a.) where $s(J, I)$ is substituted by $s(J, I^0)$. Obviously (0)-q.a. is stronger than q.a.

In the present context the BC-integrals of the interval functions ϕ and $\|\phi\|$ can be extended to regular measures (see [17, 15, 5]). More precisely, if ϕ is (0)-q.a. and BV on A , then there exists a regular measure of bounded variation $\mu: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow E$ such that

$$\mu(G) = \text{BC} \int_G \phi \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mu\|(G) = \text{BC} \int_G \|\phi\|, \quad G \in \mathcal{E},$$

where $\|\mu\|$ denotes the variation of μ . For further properties of μ and $\|\mu\|$ we refer to [17, 5, 6, 9].

Let ϕ , p and q be the functions considered in §3. We define now the following sequences of step functions, $\eta_k: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $p_k: A \rightarrow K$, $q_k: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_k(a) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\mu(I)}{\|\mu\|(I)}, & a \in I^0, I \in D_{t_k}, \|\mu\|(I) \neq 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases} \\ p_k(a) &= \begin{cases} p(I), & a \in I^0, I \in D_{t_k}, \\ p_0, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases} \\ q_k(a) &= \begin{cases} q(I), & a \in I^0, I \in D_{t_k} \\ q_0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where $p_0 \in K$ and $q_0 \in \mathbb{R}^m$ are fixed.

As a consequence of a well-known convergence theorem for martingales, in [6, 7] we have proved the following result.

P₇. *If ϕ is (0)-q.a. and BV on A , then $\eta_k \rightarrow d\mu/d\|\mu\|$ μ -almost everywhere, where $d\mu/d\|\mu\|$ denotes the Radon-Nikodym derivative.*

In the following we will make use of the condition

- (c) *there exists a μ -measurable function $\pi: A \rightarrow K$ such that $p_k \rightarrow \pi$ μ -almost everywhere.*

Note that if p satisfies condition (γ) then (c) holds; but this result is still valid under weaker assumptions on p , as §5 shows.

Finally the following representation result can be proved in an analogous way to Propositions 2, 3 and Theorem 1 of [6], taking into account P₆.

THEOREM 4.1. *Suppose that K is compact and F satisfies conditions (F₁), (F₂) and (F₃); the functions $((p, q), \phi)$ are Γ -q.a., ϕ is*

(0)-q.a. and BV on A , p , q satisfy condition³ (c) and q is bounded, then

$$\text{BC} \int_G F(p, \phi \cdot q) \equiv \int_G F(\pi(a), \frac{d\mu}{d\|\mu\|}(a) \cdot q(a)) d\|\mu\|, \quad G \in \mathcal{E}.$$

Note that in the absence of the weight q the compactness of K can be omitted and the function ϕ can be taken with values in E .

REMARK 4.2. In the previous theorem the function ϕ is (0)-q.a. and satisfies, together with p , condition (Γ -q.a.). Thus it could be natural to introduce a new condition of Γ -(0)-quasi additivity (Γ -(0)-q.a.); i.e. we say that the couple is Γ -(0)-q.a. if condition (Γ -q.a.) holds, where Γ_I is substituted by Γ_{I^0} and $s(J, I)$ by $s(J, I^0)$. However note that these two conditions are equivalent:

- (1) (p, ϕ) is Γ -q.a. and ϕ is (0)-q.a. on A ,
- (2) (p, ϕ) is Γ -(0)-q.a.

In fact it is easy to see that (1) implies (2) with $\Gamma_{I^0} = \{J \in \Gamma_I : J \subset I^0\}$ and (2) implies (1) with $\Gamma_I \equiv \Gamma_{I^0}$.

5. Applications.

5.1. The parametric W-integral over a BV curve. Let $x: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a BV curve. As is well known ([1, 20]), $\lim_{t \rightarrow c \pm} x(t) = x(c \pm 0)$ exists for every $c \in [a, b]$ and if we take $E_x = \{c \in]a, b[: x(c) = x(c+0) = x(c-0)\}$ and $S_x = \{c \in]a, b[: x(c+0) \neq x(c-0)\}$, then $[a, b] - E_x$ is a null set and S_x is at most denumerable.

Let $\{I\}$ be the family of all closed sub-intervals of $[a, b]$ whose end-points belong to E_x and let \mathcal{D}_x be the collection of all finite subdivisions of the type $D = [I_1, \dots, I_N]$ with $I_i \in \{I\}$ and $\bigcup_1^N i = [\alpha_1, \alpha_{N+1}]$.

We consider the mesh function $\delta: \mathcal{D}_x \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $\delta(D) = \max\{(\alpha_1 - a), (b - \alpha_{N+1}), |I|, I \in D\}$ which makes \mathcal{D}_x a directed set.

Let $\Delta x(t) = x(t+0) - x(t-0)$. Observe now that for every $I \in \{I\}$, $\max_{t \in I} \|\Delta x(t)\| = m_I$ exists and we denote by $t_I \in I$ a point such that $\|\Delta x(t_I)\| = m_I$. If $m_I = 0$ then $t_I \in I$ is arbitrary, otherwise $t_I \in I^0$.

Let $p_x: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be an interval function such that $p_x(I) \in \overline{\text{co}} x_{\text{ess}}(I)$ and consider the function $\Delta x: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\nu$ with $1 \leq \nu \leq n$, defined by $\Delta x(I) = \Delta x([\alpha, \beta]) = x(\beta - 0) - x(\alpha + 0)$.

³ I.e. $p_k \rightarrow \pi$ and $q_k \rightarrow \xi$ μ -almost everywhere.

Note that Δx may involve only ν -components of the n -vector x .

The following condition on the function p_x will play a fundamental role in the existence result.

DEFINITION 5.1. We say that p_x satisfies condition $(\gamma)^*$ if

$(\gamma)^*$ for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\eta = \eta(\varepsilon) > 0$ such that for every $D_0 = [I] \in \mathcal{D}_x$ with $\delta(D_0) < \eta$ there exists $\lambda = \lambda(\varepsilon, D_0) > 0$ in such a way that, if $D = [J] \in \mathcal{D}_x$ with $\delta(D) < \lambda$, then for every $I \in D_0$, there exists $J_I \in D$ with $J_I \subset I$, $t_I \in J_I$ and $\|p_x(I) - p_x(J_I)\| < \varepsilon$.

LEMMA 5.2. *If p_x satisfies condition $(\gamma)^*$ then the couple $(p_x, \Delta x)$ is Γ -q.a. with respect to \mathcal{D}_x and δ .*

Proof. Observe that if $S_x = \{t_l, l \in \mathbb{N}\}$ then $\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \|\Delta x(t_l)\| \leq V(x) < +\infty$, where V denotes the generalized variation of x . Thus, given $\varepsilon > 0$, let $k = k(\varepsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that

(1) $\sum_{l=k+1}^{\infty} \|\Delta x(t_l)\| < \varepsilon/2$.

Then let $\delta_1 = \delta_1(\varepsilon) > 0$ be such that⁴

(2) if $|I| < \delta_1$ and $t_l \notin I$, $l = 1, \dots, k$, then $\omega_{\text{ess}}(x, I) < \varepsilon$; and moreover in such a way that

(3) $\|x(t_l + 0) - x(t)\| < \varepsilon/8k$, for almost every $t \in [t_l, t_l + \delta_1]$,
 $\|x(t_l - 0) - x(t)\| < \varepsilon/8k$, for almost every $t \in [t_l - \delta_1, t_l]$,
 $l = 1, \dots, k$.

Observe now that, without loss of generality, we can also suppose that (see [1, 20])

(4) $V(x, [a, \alpha]) < \varepsilon/4$, $V(x, [\beta, b]) < \varepsilon/4$ if $\alpha - a < \delta_1$ and $b - \beta < \delta_1$.

Now let $D_0 \in \mathcal{D}_x$ be fixed with $\delta(D_0) < \min\{\delta_1, \eta, |t_l - t_{l'}|, l \neq l', l, l' = 1, \dots, k\}$ where $\eta = \eta(\varepsilon) > 0$ is given by $(\gamma)^*$; and denote by $D_0 = [I_1, \dots, I_N]$, $I_i = [\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1}]$, $i = 1, \dots, N$ its elements. Let $\delta_2 = \delta_2(\varepsilon, D_0) > 0$ be such that

(5) $\|x(\alpha_i) - x(t)\| < \varepsilon/4N$ for almost every $t \in [\alpha_i - \delta_2, \alpha_i + \delta_2]$,
 $i = 1, \dots, N + 1$.

Let $\lambda = \lambda(\varepsilon, D_0) > 0$ be given in $(\gamma)^*$ and denote by $D = [J] \in \mathcal{D}_x$ any finite division with $\delta(D) < \min\{\delta_2, \lambda, \alpha_1 - a, b - \alpha_{N+1}, |I|, I \in D_0\}$. Now let $I = [\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1}] \in D_0$ be fixed.

⁴ Where $\omega_{\text{ess}}(x, I)$ denotes the essential oscillation of x over I .

Suppose first that $t_l \notin I$, $l = 1, \dots, k$. In this case we can take $\Gamma_I = \{J: J \subset I\}$, in fact by (2) we have that $\|p_x(I) - p_x(J)\| < \omega_{\text{ess}}(x, I) < \varepsilon$, for every $J \in \Gamma_I$ and by (5)

$$(6) \quad \|\Delta x(I) - \sum_{J \subset I} \Delta x(J)\| \leq \|x(\alpha_i) - x(\beta_j)\| + \|x(\gamma_j) - x(\alpha_{i+1})\| \\ \leq 2 \frac{\varepsilon}{4N} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2N}$$

where $\bigcup_{J \subset I} J = [\beta_j, \gamma_j]$.

Otherwise I contains only one point of the set $\{t_l, l = 1, \dots, k\}$ which coincides with t_I . Thus if we take $\Gamma_I = \{J_I\}$, where $J_I = [\delta_j, \delta_{j+1}]$ is such that $t_I \in J_I$ and $\|p_x(I) - p_x(J_I)\| < \varepsilon$, then by (3) we have

$$(7) \quad \|\Delta x(I) - \Delta x(J_I)\| \leq \|x(\alpha_i) - x(\delta_j)\| + \|x(\delta_{j+1}) - x(\alpha_{i+1})\| \\ \leq \|x(\alpha_i) - x(t_I - 0)\| + \|x(t_I - 0) - x(\delta_j)\| \\ + \|x(\delta_{j+1}) - x(t_I + 0)\| + \|x(t_I + 0) - x(\alpha_{i+1})\| \\ \leq 4 \frac{\varepsilon}{8k} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2k}.$$

Moreover, in this second case, again by force of (3) we also have

$$(8) \quad \left\| \sum_{J \neq J_I} s(J, I) \Delta x(J) \right\| \leq \|x(\beta_j) - x(\delta_j)\| + \|x(\delta_{j+1}) - x(\gamma_j)\| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2k}.$$

Thus from (6), (7) and (8) we deduce that

$$(9) \quad \sum_I \left\| \Delta x(I) - \sum_{J \in \Gamma_I} \Delta x(J) \right\| < \varepsilon$$

and

$$(10) \quad \sum_I \left\| \sum_{J \notin \Gamma_I} s(J, I) \Delta x(J) \right\| < \varepsilon.$$

Finally, from (5) and (4) we have

$$(11) \quad \sum_J \left[1 - \sum_I s(J, I) \right] \|\Delta x(J)\| \\ \leq V(x, [a, \alpha_1]) + N 2 \frac{\varepsilon}{4N} + V(x, [\alpha_{N+1}, b]) < \varepsilon,$$

which completes the proof.

REMARK 5.3. Let us consider now the function $p_x = (p_x^1, \dots, p_x^n)$ defined by

$$(1) \quad p_x^i(I) = \lambda^i \inf \text{ess}(x^i, I) + (1 - \lambda^i) \sup \text{ess}(x^i, I), \quad I \in \{I\},$$

where $0 \leq \lambda^i \leq 1$ is fixed, $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Observe that *the function p_x satisfies condition $(\gamma)^*$* . In order to see this, for sake of simplicity we take $n = 1$. Given $\varepsilon > 0$, let $k = k(\varepsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $\sum_{l=k+1}^{\infty} |\Delta x(t_l)| < \varepsilon/2$, where $S_x = \{t_l, l \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

We denote by $m = \min\{|\Delta x(t_l)|, l = 1, \dots, k\}$ and by $\bar{\varepsilon} = \min\{m/4, \varepsilon/4\}$; moreover let $\delta_1 = \delta_1(\varepsilon) > 0$ be such that

$$(2) \quad \text{if } |I| < \delta_1 \text{ and } t_l \notin I, l = 1, \dots, k, \text{ then } \omega_{\text{ess}}(x, I) < \varepsilon \text{ and}$$

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} |x(t_l + 0) - x(t)| &< \bar{\varepsilon}, \text{ for almost all } t \in [t_l, t_l + \delta_1] \\ |x(t_l - 0) - x(t)| &< \bar{\varepsilon}, \text{ for almost all } t \in [t_l - \delta_1, t_l], \\ & \quad \quad \quad l = 1, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

We fix $D_0 = [I_1, \dots, I_N]$ and with $I_i = [\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1}]$, $i = 1, \dots, N$ and with $\delta(D_0) < \eta = \eta(\varepsilon) = \min\{\delta_1, |t_l - t_{l'}|, l \neq l', l, l' = 1, \dots, k\}$ and let $D = [J] \in \mathcal{D}_x$ be given with $\delta(D) < \lambda = \lambda(\varepsilon, D_0) = \min\{|\alpha_i - t_l|, i = 1, \dots, N+1, l = 1, \dots, k\}$. Now let $I = [\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1}]$ be fixed.

In the case $t_l \notin I$, $l = 1, \dots, k$, by (2) we have for every $J \subset I$

$$(4) \quad |p_x(I) - p_x(J)| < \omega_{\text{ess}}(x, I) < \varepsilon.$$

Conversely, suppose that $t_l = t_I \in I^0$, with $l \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, and let $J_I = [\beta_j, \beta_{j+1}]$ be the interval of D such that $t_I \in J^0$. By the choice of $\delta(D)$ we have $J \subset I$. Suppose now, without loss of generality, that $\inf \text{ess}(x, I) = \inf \text{ess}(x, [\alpha_i, t_I])$; then by virtue of (3) it is easy to see that also $\inf \text{ess}(x, J_I) = \inf \text{ess}(x, [\beta_j, t_I])$. Thus again from (3) we have that

$$(5) \quad |\inf \text{ess}(x, I) - \inf \text{ess}(x, J_I)| < \varepsilon.$$

Analogously we can prove that

$$(6) \quad |\sup \text{ess}(x, I) - \sup \text{ess}(x, J_I)| < \varepsilon$$

and from (5) and (6) it follows that

$$(7) \quad |p_x(I) - p_x(J_I)| < \varepsilon.$$

REMARK 5.4. As a consequence of P_5 and Lemma 5.2, the function Δx is q.a., but it is easy to prove that Δx is also (0)-q.a. with respect to \mathcal{D}_x and δ (see (5) of the proof of Lemma 5.2).

Let $\mu: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be the measure which extends the BC-integral of Δx (see §4); then $\|\mu\|$ is exactly the variation-measure associated to x (see [8]). Moreover, if $(p_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ denotes the sequence of step functions

defined in §4, with respect to p_x , it can be proved that

(c) $p_n \rightarrow \pi$ μ -almost everywhere, with

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^i(t) &= \lambda^i \min(x^i(t+0), x^i(t-0)) \\ &\quad + (1 - \lambda^i) \max(x^i(t+0), x^i(t-0)), \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

As a consequence of Theorems 3.4 and 4.1, by force of Lemma 5.1 and Remarks 5.3, 5.4 we have the following result.

THEOREM 5.5. *Let $F: K \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a function satisfying (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) and let $x: [a, b] \rightarrow K$ be a BV function. Then the interval function $\Phi: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by*

$$\Phi(I) = F(p_x(I), \Delta x(I))$$

where $p_x^i(I) = \lambda^i \inf \text{ess}(x^i, I) + (1 - \lambda^i) \sup \text{ess}(x^i, I)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, is q.a. and BV with respect to \mathcal{D}_x and δ ; moreover

$$\text{BC} \int_{[a, b]} \Phi = \int_a^b F\left(\pi(t), \frac{d\mu}{d\|\mu\|}(t)\right) d\|\mu\|.$$

In particular, if x is absolutely continuous in the generalized sense, then

$$\text{BC} \int_{[a, b]} \Phi = \int_a^b F(x(t), x'(t)) dt.$$

Theorem 5.5 allows to define the W-integral over a BV curve obtaining an extension of the well-known results given for continuous BV-curves (see [20] for a survey). Moreover note that, since the function p_x does not satisfy condition (γ) , Theorem 5.5 could not be proved as a consequence of the already known existence results for the W-integral.

Note that the results presented here improve the analogous ones given in [11]. For a different approach to a Weierstrass-type integral over a BV curve, see [19].

REMARK 5.6. The function p_x of Remark 5.3 provides a choice in $\overline{\text{co}} x(I)$ which works well. On the contrary the interval function $p_x: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $p_x(I) = |I|^{-1} \int_I x(t) dt$ is not a good choice as the following example shows.

EXAMPLE 5.7. Let $x: [-1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be the curve defined by $x(t) = 0$ for $t \in [-1, 0]$, $x(t) = 1$ for $t \in]0, 1]$ and consider the integrand $F: [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $F(k, x) = k|x|$.

Then the interval function $\Phi(I) = F(p_x(I), \Delta x(I))$ is not BC-integrable. In fact note that $\Phi(I) \neq 0$ if and only if $0 \in I^0$, but in this

case $\Phi(I) = |I \cap [0, 1]|/|I|$ and this shows easily that $\lim_{|I| \rightarrow 0} \Phi(I)$ does not exist.

5.2. *The weighted parametric W-integral over a BV curve.* According to Remark 3.6, we shall introduce a weight in the W-integral of §5.1.

In order to do this, besides the BV curve x , we consider a BV function $y: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. We denote by $\mathcal{D}_{x,y}$ and δ the family of finite systems and the mesh introduced in §5.1 with regard to the curve (x, y) . Moreover, let $q_y: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be an interval function such that $q_y(I) \in \overline{\text{co}} y_{\text{ess}}(I)$.

As an application of Lemma 5.2 we have the following result.

LEMMA 5.7. *If the function (p_x, q_y) satisfies condition $(\gamma)^*$, then the system $(p_x, q_y; \Delta x)$ is Γ -q.a. with respect to $\mathcal{D}_{x,y}$ and δ .*

By virtue of Lemma 5.7 and Remarks 5.3 and 5.4, as an application of Theorem 3.7, we have the following existence result.

THEOREM 5.8. *Suppose that the function $F: K \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, with $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, satisfies conditions (F_1) , (F_2) and (F_3) ; moreover let $x: [a, b] \rightarrow K$ and $y: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be two BV functions. Then the function $\Phi_q: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by*

$$\Phi_q(I) = F(p_x(I), \Delta x(I) \cdot q_x(I)),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} p_x^i(I) &= \alpha^i \inf \text{ess}(x^i, I) + (1 - \alpha^i) \sup \text{ess}(x^i, I), \\ q_y^i(I) &= \beta^i \inf \text{ess}(y^i, I) + (1 - \beta^i) \sup \text{ess}(y^i, I), \quad \alpha^i, \beta^i \in [0, 1], \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

is q.a. and BV with respect to $\mathcal{D}_{x,y}$ and δ . Moreover we have

$$\text{BC} \int_{[a,b]} \Phi_q = \int_a^b F(\pi(t), \frac{d\mu}{d\|\mu\|}(t) \cdot \xi(t)) d\|\mu\|$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^i(t) &= \alpha^i \min(x^i(t+0), x^i(t-0)) \\ & \quad + (1 - \alpha^i) \max(x^i(t+0), x^i(t-0)) \quad \text{and} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^i(t) &= \beta^i \min(y^i(t+0), y^i(t-0)) \\ & \quad + (1 - \beta^i) \max(y^i(t+0), y^i(t-0)), \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

In the particular case that x is absolutely continuous in the generalized sense, then we have

$$\text{BC} \int_{[a,b]} \Phi_q = \int_a^b F(x(t), x'(t) \cdot \xi(t)) dt.$$

REMARK 5.9. If $y: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous then any function $q_y: \{I\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $q_y(I) \in \overline{\text{co}} y(I) = y(I)$ satisfies condition (y). Therefore also in this case a result analogous to Theorem 5.7 holds. Moreover note that now we have $\xi(t) = y'(t)$.

The weighted W-integral presented in this section extends the weighted generalized length of a parametric BV curve (see [1, 20, 3]). Note that here the weight is not necessarily continuous and positive.

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Received October 20, 1988. This research has been carried out within the GNAFA-CNR.

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