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GENERALIZATIONS OF THE RIEMANN-LEBESGUE  
AND CANTOR-LEBESGUE LEMMAS

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**I. Introduction.** The purpose of this paper is to consider the problem of evaluating limits of the type

$$(0.1) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_I f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt$$

under various assumptions regarding the functions  $f$  and  $\beta$  and the interval  $I$ . Perhaps the most familiar example of such a limit occurs in the Riemann-Lebesgue lemma which asserts that

$$(0.2) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_I f(t) \sin(\lambda t) dt = 0$$

provided that  $f$  is an integrable function over the interval  $I$ ; and so our results may be viewed as a generalization of that well-known lemma. These results, for  $I$  infinite and finite, will be stated and proved in Sections 1 and 2, respectively. We will then apply them in Section 3 to establish a generalization of the Cantor-Lebesgue lemma. In the final section of the paper we will briefly consider the evaluation of (0.1) in the higher dimensional case.

**1. Infinite Intervals.** We begin with the following

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\beta \in L_\infty[0, \infty)$ , then the necessary and sufficient condition for*

$$(1.1) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^\infty f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt$$

*to exist for every function  $f \in L_1[0, \infty)$  is that  $\beta$  have a mean value  $M(\beta)$  in the sense that*

$$(1.2) \quad M(\beta) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \beta(t) dt$$

exist. This being the case, the limit (1.1) is then given by the formula

$$(1.3) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \left( \int_0^{\infty} f(t) dt \right) M(\beta).$$

**Corollary 1.** Let  $\beta \in L_{\infty}(-\infty, +\infty)$ , then the necessary and sufficient condition for

$$(1.4) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt$$

to exist for every function  $f$  in  $L_1(-\infty, +\infty)$  is that the functions

$$\beta_+(t) = \beta(t) \quad \text{for } t \geq 0, \quad \beta_-(t) = \beta(-t) \quad \text{for } t \geq 0,$$

which belong to  $L_{\infty}[0, +\infty)$ , have mean values

$$(1.5) \quad M(\beta_{\pm}) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \beta_{\pm}(t) dt.$$

When these mean values exist, the limit (1.4) is given by

$$(1.6) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \left( \int_0^{+\infty} f(t) dt \right) M(\beta_+) + \left( \int_{-\infty}^0 f(t) dt \right) M(\beta_-).$$

Remarks. Clearly Theorem 1 and Corollary 1 contain the usual statement for the evaluation of the limit (0.2) in the Riemann-Lebesgue lemma. We mention some other well-known limits which are obviously subsumed under the Theorem or Corollary

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f(t) |\sin \lambda t| dt = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_a^b f(t) dt$$

due to FEJÉR [3]; more generally, along the same lines, assuming  $f$  and  $\beta$  to be periodic functions of period  $2\pi$  with  $f$  integrable and  $\beta$  bounded

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \beta(nt) dt = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) dt \right) \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \beta(t) dt \right)$$

which appears in ZYGMUND [7, p. 49]. A further example is

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda t} f(t) dt = 0$$

which is familiar from Laplace transform theory; this generalizes as

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{\infty} \alpha(\lambda t) f(t) dt = 0$$

provided that  $\alpha(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . Some additional examples can be found in POLYA-SZEGÖ [5].

**Proof of Theorem 1.** According to the principle of uniform boundedness, for the limit (1.1) to exist for every  $f \in L_1[0, \infty)$  it is first of all necessary that  $\int_0^\infty f(t) \cdot \beta(\lambda t) dt$ , regarded as a collection of linear functionals on  $L_1[0, \infty)$ , be uniformly bounded for  $\lambda > 0$ . But this is certainly the case since the estimate

$$\left| \int_0^\infty f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt \right| \leq \|f\|_1 \|\beta\|_\infty \quad (\lambda > 0),$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_1$  and  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  denote the  $L_1[0, \infty)$  and  $L_\infty[0, \infty)$  norms, respectively, clearly holds. Accordingly, the necessary and sufficient condition for the limit (1.1) to exist for all  $f \in L_1[0, \infty)$ , now is that it exists on a dense set of functions in  $L_1[0, \infty)$ . Since the span of the set of characteristic functions  $\chi_{[0, b]}$  of intervals  $[0, b]$ , with arbitrary  $b > 0$ , is dense in  $L_1[0, \infty)$ , we need only verify the existence of the limit (1.1) for  $f = \chi_{[0, b]}$ , ( $b > 0$ ):

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^\infty \chi_{[0, b]}(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^b \beta(\lambda t) dt = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\lambda b} \beta(t) dt;$$

and the existence of these limits is tantamount to the existence of the limit (1.2) defining  $M(\beta)$ . In fact

$$(1.7) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^\infty \chi_{[0, b]}(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = b M(\beta).$$

Thus, when the mean value  $M(\beta)$  exists, the formula (1.3) for the limit (1.1) holds in the case where  $f = \chi_{[0, b]}$ . By linearity, it will then hold for  $f$  any element in the span of the functions  $\chi_{[0, b]}$  ( $0 < b$ ); and since these are dense in  $L_1[0, \infty)$ , it follows, by an obvious approximation argument, that (1.3) holds, as well, for  $f$  an arbitrary function in  $L_1[0, \infty)$ .

**2. Finite Intervals.** We now want to consider the limit problem (0.1) under the assumption that  $I$  is a finite interval lying in  $[0, \infty)$ , i.e. we wish to consider

$$(2.1) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^b f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt \quad (0 \leq a < b < \infty).$$

By so doing we will be able to deal with  $\beta$ 's that are not necessarily bounded. Specifically, we will assume  $\beta$  to be a function on  $[0, \infty)$  which is locally in  $L_q$ , i.e. whose restrictions to any finite subinterval of  $[0, \infty)$  are in  $L_q$ . Using the notation  $L_q^{\text{loc}}[0, \infty)$  to denote this class of locally  $q$ -integrable functions, we will establish the following result.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\beta \in L_q^{\text{loc}}[0, \infty)$ ,  $q > 1$ . Then, in order that the limit (2.1) exist for every  $f \in L_p[a, b]$ , with  $p$  the Hölder conjugate of  $q$ , it is necessary and sufficient that*

(i) the averages

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |\beta(t)|^q dt$$

be bounded as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ ; and that

(ii)  $\beta$  have a mean value

$$M(\beta) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \beta(t) dt.$$

These conditions (i) and (ii) holding, the limit (2.1) is then given by

$$(2.2) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^b f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \left( \int_a^b f(t) dt \right) M(\beta).$$

Remark. In case  $\beta$  is a periodic function in  $L_q$ , the conditions (i) and (ii) are automatically fulfilled.

For the proof of Theorem 2 will need the following.

**Lemma 1.** Suppose  $g(t) \in L_1^{loc}[0, \infty)$  and that  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ . We consider the averages

$$A(T) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T g(t) dt, \quad A_\theta(T) = \frac{1}{T - \theta T} \int_{\theta T}^T g(t) dt.$$

Then the boundedness of either set of averages as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  implies the same for the other set of averages. Similarly, the convergence of either set of averages as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  implies the convergence of the other set of averages, and to the same limit:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T).$$

Proof of the Lemma. In one direction the lemma is easy to establish. Namely, the identity

$$A_\theta(T) = \frac{1}{1 - \theta} A(T) - \frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} A(\theta T)$$

allows us to conclude that  $A_\theta(T)$  is bounded as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ , if  $A(T)$  is bounded as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ . Furthermore, the convergence of  $A(T)$  as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  implies the convergence of  $A_\theta(T)$  as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  and to the same limit:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T) = \frac{1}{1 - \theta} \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) - \frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T).$$

In the other direction our proof will be based on showing that the boundedness of  $A_\theta(T)$  from above as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  implies the like property for  $A(T)$ . More precisely,

we will show that from

$$(2.3) \quad A_\theta(T) \leq L \quad \text{for } T > T_0,$$

it follows that

$$(2.4) \quad A(T) \leq L + \frac{1}{T} \left( |L| T_0 + \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)| dt \right) \quad \text{for } T > T_0.$$

A similar result can be established with respect to boundedness from below; hence, the boundedness of  $A_\theta(T)$  as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$  will imply the same for  $A(T)$ .

Next, since (2.3) holds with  $L = \overline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T) + \varepsilon$ ,  $\varepsilon$  an arbitrary positive number, we may apply (2.4) with  $L$  equal to this value, to conclude that  $\overline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) \leq \overline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T) + \varepsilon$ ; and hence that

$$\overline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) \leq \overline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T).$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\underline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T) \leq \underline{\lim}_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T).$$

Consequently, if  $A_\theta(T)$  converges as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ , so also will  $A(T)$  converge as  $T \rightarrow +\infty$ , and to the same limit:  $\lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(T) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A_\theta(T)$ .

It remains only to show that (2.4) follows from (2.3). For this purpose set

$$I(T) = \int_0^T g(t) dt.$$

Then, since  $I(T) - I(\theta T) = (T - \theta T) A_\theta(T)$ , (2.3) gives

$$I(T) - I(\theta T) \leq L(T - \theta T), \quad (T > T_0).$$

Replacing  $T$  by  $\theta^k T$  in this inequality we have

$$(2.5) \quad I(\theta^k T) - I(\theta^{k+1} T) \leq L(\theta^k T - \theta^{k+1} T)$$

provided that  $\theta^k T > T_0$ . For given  $T > T_0$ , let  $n$  now be the unique integer for which  $\theta^n T > T_0 \geq \theta^{n+1} T$ . Adding the inequalities (2.5) for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$  we obtain

$$(2.6) \quad I(T) - I(\theta^{n+1} T) \leq LT - L\theta^{n+1} T.$$

Since  $I(\theta^{n+1} T) \leq \int_0^{\theta^{n+1} T} |g(t)| dt \leq \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)| dt$ , and  $-L\theta^{n+1} T \leq |L| \theta^{n+1} T \leq |L| T_0$ , (2.6) yields

$$I(T) \leq LT + |L| T_0 + \int_0^{T_0} |g(t)| dt$$

for  $T > T_0$ . Dividing this through by  $T$  we obtain the desired estimate (2.4) for  $A(T) = I(T)/T$ .

**Proof of Theorem 2.** The proof proceeds exactly as in the case of Theorem 1. We need, first of all, to assure that the integrals  $\int_a^b f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt$  regarded as a collection of linear functionals on  $L_p[a, b]$  are uniformly bounded as  $\lambda \rightarrow +\infty$ . Since the norms of these functionals is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \int_a^b |\beta(\lambda t)|^q dt \right)^{1/q} &= (b-a)^{1/q} \left( \frac{1}{\lambda b - \lambda a} \int_{\lambda a}^{\lambda b} |\beta(t)|^q dt \right)^{1/q} = \\ &= (b-a)^{1/q} \left( \frac{1}{T - \theta T} \int_{\theta T}^T |\beta(t)|^q dt \right)^{1/q} \end{aligned}$$

where  $T = \lambda b$  and  $\theta = a/b$ , the desired boundedness is assured by condition (i) together with Lemma 1.

Next, we need to check that the limit (2.1) exists for a dense set of functions in  $L_p[a, b]$ ; and as this dense set of functions we take the span of the characteristic functions  $\chi_{[a, c]}$  of intervals  $[a, c]$  with  $a < c \leq b$ . It will, therefore, be enough to ascertain the convergence of (2.1) for  $f = \chi_{[a, c]}$  ( $a < c \leq b$ ). A formal calculation yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^b \chi_{[a, c]}(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt &= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^c \beta(\lambda t) dt = (c-a) \left( \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda c - \lambda a} \int_{a\lambda}^{c\lambda} \beta(t) dt \right) = \\ &= (c-a) \left( \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{T - \theta T} \int_{\theta T}^T \beta(t) dt \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $T = c\lambda$  and  $\theta = a/c$  here. Thus, by Lemma 1, the existence of the limit (2.1) for  $f = \chi_{[a, c]}$  is seen to be equivalent to the condition (ii), the existence of the mean value  $M(\beta) = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} (1/T) \int_0^T \beta(t) dt$ . Moreover, when the mean value exists we obtain

$$(2.7) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^b \chi_{[a, c]}(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = (c-a) M(\beta) = \left( \int_a^b \chi_{[a, c]}(t) dt \right) M(\beta),$$

which is formula (2.2) for  $f = \chi_{[a, c]}$ . By the same kind of approximation argument mentioned in the proof of Theorem 1, we will then be able to extract formula (2.2) in the general case, for any  $f \in L_p[a, b]$ , out of the particular case (2.7).

**3. An Application.** As an application of the preceding material we will establish a generalization of the Cantor-Lebesgue lemma. The classical version of this lemma asserts that if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt)] = 0$$

at each point  $t$  of a set of positive measure, then  $a_n$  and  $b_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . The generalization we have in mind is the following:

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\phi_1(t), \dots, \phi_\mu(t)$  be linearly independent periodic functions of

period  $\tau$  in  $L_r$ , with  $r > 1$ . Suppose that as  $n$  runs through the positive integers

$$(3.1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\mu} a_n^{(j)} \phi_j(nt) = 0$$

at all points  $t$  of a set of positive measure, then

$$(3.2) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n^{(j)} = 0 \quad (j = 1, \dots, \mu).$$

For the proof we require the following.

**Lemma 2.** Given  $\mu$  linearly independent functions  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_\mu$  in  $L_\varrho[a, b]$ ,  $1 \leq \varrho < \infty$ , there exist  $\mu$  functions  $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_\mu$  in  $L_\sigma[a, b]$ ,  $\sigma$  the Hölder conjugate of  $\varrho$ , so that

$$\det \left( \left[ \int_a^b \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt \right]_{j,k=1}^{\mu} \right) \neq 0.$$

Proof. Let  $[c_{j,k}]_{j,k=1}^{\mu}$  be any  $\mu \times \mu$  matrix with non-zero determinant. Define linear functionals  $F_k$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \mu$ , on  $\text{Sp}(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_\mu)$ , the span of  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_\mu$ , by setting

$$(3.3) \quad F_k(\phi_j) = c_{j,k} \quad \text{for } j, k = 1, \dots, \mu,$$

and then using the linearity to define  $F_k$  on the rest of the span, i.e. by putting  $F_k(\phi) = \sum_{j=1}^{\mu} \alpha_j F_k(\phi_j)$  if  $\phi = \sum_{j=1}^{\mu} \alpha_j \phi_j$ ; in view of the linear independence of the  $\phi_j$ 's,  $F_k$  is well-defined by this procedure.

Now, since  $\text{Sp}(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_\mu)$  can be regarded as a subspace of  $L_\varrho[a, b]$ , we may apply the Hahn-Banach theorem to extend each  $F_k$  as a bounded linear functional to all of  $L_\varrho[a, b]$ . By the Riesz representation theorem, there then exist uniquely determined functions  $\psi_k \in L_\sigma[a, b]$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, \mu$  which generate these functionals  $F_k$  according to the formula

$$F_k(\phi) = \int_a^b \phi(t) \psi_k(t) dt \quad (k = 1, \dots, \mu)$$

for all  $\phi \in L_\varrho[a, b]$ . Hence, on account of (3.3),

$$\int_a^b \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt = c_{j,k};$$

and this proves the Lemma, since the  $c_{j,k}$ 's were chosen so that their determinant is non-vanishing.

Proof of Theorem 3. We begin by applying Lemma 2 to the  $\mu$  linearly independent periodic functions  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_\mu$  in  $L_r$ . Regarding their restrictions to  $[0, \tau]$  as elements in  $L_1[0, \tau]$ , the Lemma then assures us of the existence of  $\mu$  functions



$\psi_1, \dots, \psi_\mu$  in  $L_\infty[0, \tau]$  satisfying the condition

$$(3.4) \quad \det \left( \left[ \int_0^\tau \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt \right]_{j,k=1}^\mu \right) \neq 0;$$

and which we then immediately extend periodically to  $[0, \infty)$  as functions of period  $\tau$ .

Next, we may clearly suppose that (3.1) holds at all points of a set  $E$  of positive measure lying in  $[0, \tau]$ . By Egoroff's theorem, we can, therefore, find a subset  $F$  of  $E$  with positive measure on which  $\sum_{j=1}^\mu a_n^{(j)} \phi_j(nt) \rightarrow 0$  uniformly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Setting

$$(3.5) \quad b_n^{(k)} = \int_F \left[ \sum_{j=1}^\mu a_n^{(j)} \phi_j(nt) \right] \psi_k(nt) dt \quad (k = 1, \dots, \mu)$$

it then follows immediately, bearing in mind the boundedness of  $\psi_k$ , that

$$(3.6) \quad b_n^{(k)} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

By introducing the matrix  $\Gamma_n = [\gamma_n^{(j,k)}]_{j,k=1}^\mu$  whose elements are

$$(3.7) \quad \gamma_n^{(j,k)} = \int_F \phi_j(nt) \psi_k(nt) dt \quad (j, k = 1, \dots, \mu)$$

together with the column vectors  $\mathbf{a}_n$  and  $\mathbf{b}_n$  whose  $i^{\text{th}}$  components are  $a_n^{(i)}$  and  $b_n^{(i)}$ , respectively, we may re-write (3.5) in vector-matrix notation as

$$(3.8) \quad \mathbf{b}_n = \Gamma_n \mathbf{a}_n.$$

We are now going to show, by means of Theorem 2, that the matrix  $\Gamma_n$  just introduced converges. This is accomplished by recognizing the integrals in (3.7) defining  $\gamma_n^{(j,k)}$  to be of the form  $\int_0^\tau f(t) \beta(nt) dt$  considered in Theorem 2, provided that we take  $f(t) = \chi_F(t)$  and  $\beta(t) = \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t)$ . We now note that as  $\phi_j$  and  $\psi_k$  are periodic functions in  $L_r$  and  $L_\infty$ , respectively, their product  $\phi_j \cdot \psi_k = \beta$  is a periodic function in  $L_r$ . Thus  $\beta \in L_q^{\text{loc}}[0, \infty)$  with  $q = r > 1$ , while  $f(t) = \chi_F(t) \in L_\infty[0, \tau] \subset L_p[0, \tau]$  with  $p = q'$ , the Hölder conjugate of  $q$ , as required by the hypotheses of Theorem 2. Finally, the periodicity of  $\beta$  assures us that it satisfies conditions (i) and (ii) of Theorem 2, with the mean value of  $\beta$  being given by  $M(\beta) = (1/\tau) \int_0^\tau \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt$ . Applying the conclusion (2.2) of the Theorem, we, therefore find that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_n^{(j,k)} = m(F) \left( \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau \phi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt \right) = \gamma^{(j,k)}$$

where  $m(F)$  denotes the Lebesgue measure of  $F$ . This proves that the matrix  $\Gamma_n$  converges to the matrix  $\Gamma = [\gamma^{(j,k)}]_{j,k=1}^\mu$ .

Next, it is clear from condition (3.4), that the determinant of the limiting matrix  $\Gamma$  is non-zero. Hence  $\Gamma$  is invertible; and since  $\Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , so also is  $\Gamma_n$  invertible for  $n$  sufficiently large; moreover

$$(3.9) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_n^{-1} = \Gamma^{-1}.$$

Inverting (3.8) we find that

$$\mathbf{a}_n = \Gamma_n^{-1} \mathbf{b}_n,$$

for  $n$  sufficiently large; from which it follows, by passing to the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , taking (3.6) and (3.9) into account, that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{a}_n = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_n^{-1} \right) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{b}_n = \Gamma^{-1} \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0},$$

the desired conclusion.

**4. Higher Dimensions.** As far as generalizations to higher dimensional situations are concerned, there do not appear to be simple conditions which are both necessary and sufficient for the existence of

$$(4.1) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{E^n} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt$$

for every  $f \in L_1(E^n)$  assuming  $\beta \in L_\infty(E^n)$ . We can, however, give a sufficient condition on  $\beta$  which will assure the existence of the limits (4.1).

**Theorem 4.** *Suppose that  $\beta \in L_\infty(E^n)$  has radial mean values in almost every direction, i.e. for almost all  $\xi$  with  $|\xi| = 1$  assume that the limit*

$$(4.2) \quad M(\beta)(\xi) = \lim_{R \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{R} \int_0^R \beta(r\xi) dr$$

*exists. Then the limit (4.1) exist for all  $f \in L_1(E^n)$  and is given by*

$$(4.3) \quad \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{E^n} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \int_{E^n} f(t) M(\beta) \left( \frac{t}{|t|} \right) dt.$$

**Proof.** We will avail ourselves of the change to “polar coordinates” formula for the evaluation of integrals over  $E^n$  (cf. [2, p. 1049]):

$$(4.4) \quad \int_{E^n} F(t) dt = \int_{|\xi|=1} \int_0^\infty F(r\xi) r^{n-1} dr d\sigma(\xi),$$

here  $t = r\xi$  with  $r = |t|$  and  $\xi = t/|t|$ , while  $d\sigma(\xi)$  denotes the element of area on the unit sphere  $|\xi| = 1$ .

Once again, it suffices to prove (4.1) for a dense set of functions  $f(t) \in L_1(E^n)$ . For this dense set we take the span of the set of functions of the form

$$(4.5) \quad f(t) = g(r) \phi(\xi) \quad \text{with} \\ \int_0^\infty |g(r)| r^{n-1} dr < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{|\xi|=1} |\phi(\xi)| d\sigma(\xi) < \infty.$$

Making use of (4.4) for such functions we have

$$\int_{E^n} f(t) \beta(\lambda t) dt = \int_{|\xi|=1} \left( \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} \beta(\lambda r \xi) dr \right) \phi(\xi) d\sigma(\xi).$$

Applying Theorem 1 to the one-dimensional inner integral on the right, we find, in view of our hypothesis (4.2), that

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} \beta(\lambda r \xi) dr = \left( \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} dr \right) M(\beta)(\xi)$$

holds for almost all  $\xi$  with  $|\xi| = 1$ . Hence, taking account of the estimate

$$\left| \left( \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} \beta(\lambda r \xi) dr \right) \phi(\xi) \right| \leq \left( \int_0^\infty |g(r)| r^{n-1} dr \right) \|\beta\|_\infty |\phi(\xi)|,$$

the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem allows us to conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{|\xi|=1} \left( \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} \beta(\lambda r \xi) dr \right) \phi(\xi) d\sigma(\xi) = \\ & = \int_{|\xi|=1} \left( \int_0^\infty g(r) r^{n-1} dr \right) M(\beta)(\xi) \phi(\xi) d\sigma(\xi) = \int_{E^n} f(t) M(\beta) \left( \frac{t}{|t|} \right) dt \end{aligned}$$

(using (4.4) once more). This establishes (4.3) for functions of the form (4.5), and thereby completes the proof of the Theorem.

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