

# QUASIREGULARLY ELLIPTIC LINK COMPLEMENTS

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ABSTRACT. We show that the only quasiregularly elliptic link complements are complements of the unknot and the Hopf link. The proof of non-existence of other link complements is obtained from a Varopoulos type theorem for open manifolds.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This article is motivated by the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *There exist a smooth unknot  $S$  and a smooth Hopf link  $H$  in  $S^3$ , and Riemannian metrics  $g_S$  and  $g_H$  in  $S^3 \setminus S$  and  $S^3 \setminus H$ , respectively, so that  $(S^3 \setminus S, g_S)$  and  $(S^3 \setminus H, g_H)$  are quasiregularly elliptic.*

A connected and oriented Riemannian  $n$ -manifold  $N$  is said to be *quasiregularly elliptic* if it receives a non-constant *quasiregular mapping* from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . A continuous mapping  $f$  between oriented Riemannian  $n$ -manifolds  $M$  and  $N$  is *quasiregular* if it is a Sobolev mapping in  $W_{\text{loc}}^{1,n}(M, N)$  and satisfies the distortion inequality

$$(1.1) \quad |Df|^n \leq K J_f \quad \text{a.e. } M,$$

where  $|Df|$  is the operator norm of the differential  $Df$  and  $J_f$  is the Jacobian determinant of  $Df$ .

Recall that a subset  $X$  of  $S^3$  is a *knot* if it is homeomorphic to  $S^1$ , and a *link* if it is a disjoint union of finitely many knots. We consider only tame, i.e. smoothly embedded, knots and links. The unknot (circle) and the Hopf link (two circles linked once) in Theorem 1.1 are special cases among all links in  $S^3$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $L$  be a link in  $S^3$ . If there exists a Riemannian metric  $g$  in  $S^3 \setminus L$  so that  $(S^3 \setminus L, g)$  is quasiregularly elliptic, then  $L$  is either an unknot or a Hopf link.*

We find it interesting that Theorem 1.2 can be viewed as an analog to the classical Picard theorem for analytic functions. In the case of Picard's theorem, the non-existence of analytic functions into twice punctured plane can be traced to the fundamental group  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0, 1\})$ , which is a free group of two generators. The same topological obstruction is present in Theorem 1.2. Indeed, by classical theorems of Papakyriakopoulos [11, Theorem 28.1]

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and Neuwirth [10], the unknot is the only knot with the group  $\pi_1(S^3 \setminus L) = \mathbb{Z}$  and the Hopf link is the only link with  $\pi_1(S^3 \setminus L) = \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Moreover, for all other knots and links  $\pi_1(S^3 \setminus L)$  contains a free group of rank at least 2. In the knot case this fact is explicitly stated in [9, Corollary 3], while in the case of links it follows by combining [14, Theorem 2] and [15, Theorem 3.6].

Theorem 1.2 can be viewed, in light of Theorem 1.1, as a non-Euclidean Picard type theorem for quasiregular mappings in dimension 3. In the context of Euclidean 3-spaces, Picard's theorem is due to Rickman. Rickman's fundamental result [12] states that quasiregular mappings from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{S}^n$  can omit only finitely many values. In a celebrated construction [13] he also shows that this result is sharp in dimension 3, since for any finite set of points  $\{q_1, \dots, q_d\}$  in  $\mathbb{S}^3$  there exists a quasiregular mapping from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  into  $\mathbb{S}^3$  omitting exactly those points.

Theorem 1.2 bears similarity to the classification of closed quasiregularly elliptic manifolds due to Jormakka [6]: *all closed quasiregularly elliptic 3-manifolds are quotients of  $\mathbb{S}^3$ ,  $\mathbb{S}^2 \times \mathbb{S}^1$ , or  $\mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^1 \times \mathbb{S}^1$* . A proof of Theorem 1.2 can probably be obtained also along the lines of Jormakka's path-family argument.

Theorem 1.2, and parts of Jormakka's result, can also be viewed in light of a theorem due to Varopoulos [17, pp. 146–147]: *the order of growth of the fundamental group of a closed quasiregularly elliptic  $n$ -manifold is at most  $n$* . Whereas Jormakka's result follows from Varopoulos's theorem and the *geometrization conjecture*, Theorem 1.2 can be deduced from the following Varopoulos type theorem for open manifolds.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $N$  be a connected and oriented Riemannian  $n$ -manifold without boundary and  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow N$  a quasiregular mapping. If  $\pi_1(N)$  has order of growth at least  $d > n$  then  $f$  is constant.*

Since the fundamental group of an open manifold need not be finitely generated, we use the following definition. A group  $\Gamma$  has *order of growth at least  $d$*  if there exists a finite set  $S \subset \Gamma$  and a constant  $C > 0$  so that any ball of radius  $r$  in the subgroup  $\langle S \rangle$  generated by  $S$  has at least  $Cr^d$  elements for all  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  when  $\langle S \rangle$  is endowed with the word metric determined by  $S$ ; see [3, Section 5B] for the terminology and discussion on the growth of groups.

The constructions in Theorem 1.1 are based on the existence of covering maps from  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Although there is no formal connection, our debt to the work of Semmes [16] is apparent regarding the construction of Riemannian metrics  $g_S$  and  $g_H$ .

The proof of Theorem 1.3 is a localized version of the original proof of Varopoulos' theorem. Since the universal cover  $\tilde{N}$  of  $N$  need neither be roughly isometric to  $\langle S \rangle$  nor have bounded local geometry, we construct a submanifold  $\tilde{X}$  of  $\tilde{N}$  satisfying these conditions. Using results of Coulhon and Saloff-Coste [2] and Kanai [7], we show that  $\tilde{X}$  supports a Sobolev inequality

$$(1.2) \quad \|u\|_{\frac{d}{d-1}} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_1$$

for compactly supported Lipschitz functions  $u$  on  $\tilde{X}$ , where  $C > 0$  does not depend on  $u$ . But a standard application of conformal capacity shows that (1.2) cannot hold for a quasiregularly elliptic  $N$  when  $d > n$ .

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## 2. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

We consider first the construction in the case of an unknot. Let  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}^3$  be the one-point compactification of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\sigma: \hat{\mathbb{R}}^3 \rightarrow S^3$  the inverse of the stereographic projection. Let also  $Z = \{(0, 0)\} \times \mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $S = \sigma(\bar{Z})$ . We construct a Riemannian metric  $g$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z$  and a quasiregular mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z, g)$ . Then  $\sigma \circ f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (S^3 \setminus S, (\sigma^{-1})_*g)$  is quasiregular.

The mapping we construct is, in complex notation,  $(z, t) \mapsto (e^z, t)$ . For simplicity, however, we use only real coordinates, and define  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z$ ,  $f = (f_1, f_2, f_3)$ , by  $f(x, y, t) = (e^x \cos y, e^x \sin y, t)$ .

To construct the metric  $g$ , we denote

$$(2.1) \quad A(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & r \end{bmatrix}.$$

The metric  $g$  is now defined in the standard basis  $(\partial_x, \partial_y, \partial_t)$  by the matrix field  $G: \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ ,  $G(x, y, t) = A(x^2 + y^2)$ . Thus, in this metric,  $(\partial_x, \partial_y, (x^2 + y^2)\partial_t)$  is an orthonormal basis in  $T_{(x,y,t)}\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Since  $f_1(x, y, t)^2 + f_2(x, y, t)^2 = e^{2x}$ , we have, for  $p = (x, y, t)$ , that

$$(Df)_p^t G_{f(p)} (Df)_p = e^{2x} I,$$

where  $I$  is the identity matrix.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} g_{f(p)}((Df)_p(v), (Df)_p(w)) &= \langle G_{f(p)}(Df)_p(v), (Df)_p(w) \rangle \\ &= \langle (Df)_p^t G_{f(p)} (Df)_p(v), w \rangle = e^{2x} \langle v, w \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for  $v, w \in T_p\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $p \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Hence  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus Z, g)$  is a conformal map. Especially,  $f$  is quasiregular.

The construction of a quasiregular mapping  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow S^3 \setminus H$ , where  $H$  is a Hopf link, is based on observation that  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is the universal cover of  $S^3 \setminus H$  and that  $S^3$  is a union of two solid tori. The construction of the Riemannian metric and the mapping could be done similarly as in the case of the unknot, but to avoid technicalities, we proceed more abstractly.

Let  $S_0 = \{(x, y, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^3: x^2 + y^2 = 4\}$  and  $S_1 = Z$ . Then  $H = \sigma(S_0 \cup \bar{S}_1)$  is a Hopf link in  $S^3$ . We denote  $L = S_0 \cup S_1$ .

Let  $T = \{p \in \mathbb{R}^3: \text{dist}(p, S_0) = 1/2\}$ . Then  $T$  is a 2-torus and  $S^3 \setminus \sigma(T)$  consists of two open solid tori in  $S^3$ . We fix an orientation preserving diffeomorphism  $\Theta: T \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L$  so that  $\Theta(p, 0) = p$  for  $p \in T$ . We define  $g_L$  to be the push-forward metric in  $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L$  by

$$(g_L)_p(v, w) = \langle (D\Theta)_p^{-1}v, (D\Theta)_p^{-1}w \rangle,$$

where  $v, w \in T_p\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $p \in T \times \mathbb{R}$ .

We fix a diffeomorphism  $\varphi: S^1 \times S^1 \rightarrow T$  and define  $\tilde{\varphi}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow T$  to be the composition of  $\varphi$  with the covering map  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S^1 \times S^1$ ,  $(t, s) \mapsto$

$(e^{i2\pi t}, e^{i2\pi s})$ . We define  $\hat{\varphi}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow T \times \mathbb{R}$  by  $\hat{\varphi}(x, y, t) = (\tilde{\varphi}(x, y), t)$ . Since  $\varphi$  is a diffeomorphism and  $S^1 \times S^1$  is compact,  $\varphi$  is bilipschitz. Thus  $\hat{\varphi}$  is quasiregular. Since  $\Theta: T \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus L, g)$  is conformal by construction, we have that  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow (S^3 \setminus H, g_H)$ ,  $f = \sigma \circ \Theta \circ \hat{\varphi}$ , is quasiregular, where  $g_H$  is the push-forward metric of  $g_L$  under  $\sigma$ .

*Remark 2.1.* Semmes [16] has constructed topologically interesting metric spaces whose geometry is controlled in the sense that they are Ahlfors regular and satisfy Poincaré inequalities. Concerning the examples above, the metric constructed in  $S^3 \setminus H$  can be modified to have controlled geometry. In contrast, we do not know if  $S^3 \setminus S$  has a metric with controlled geometry such that the resulting space is quasiregularly elliptic. Similarly, we do not know if the Whitehead manifold, an example also considered by Semmes, admits a metric as above which makes it quasiregularly elliptic.

### 3. PROOFS OF THEOREMS 1.2 AND 1.3

We first assume that Theorem 1.3 holds. Let  $L$  be a link which is neither unknot nor Hopf link. Then the fundamental group of  $S^3 \setminus L$  contains a free group of at least two generators by the discussion in the introduction. Such groups have exponential growth, in particular growth at least  $d$  for any positive  $d$ . Thus  $S^3 \setminus L$  is not quasiregularly elliptic by Theorem 1.3. Theorem 1.2 follows.

We now prove Theorem 1.3. Since the quasiregularity of the mapping depends only on the conformal class of the Riemannian metric on  $N$ , we may assume that  $N$  is complete, see e.g. [18]. We denote by  $g$  a fixed complete Riemannian metric on  $N$ .

**3.1. Construction of the submanifold.** Since the fundamental group of  $N$  has a order of growth at least  $d > n$ , we can fix a finite set  $S \subset \pi_1(N)$  so that the subgroup  $\langle S \rangle$  generated by  $S$  has order of growth at least  $d$ .

Let  $x_0 \in N$ . We fix loops  $\gamma_s: S^1 \rightarrow N$ ,  $s \in S$ , so that  $S = \{[\gamma_s]: s \in S\}$  and  $\gamma_s(1) = x_0$  for every  $s \in S$ .

Since  $N$  is complete, we may fix, by Sard's theorem, a closed ball  $X$  in  $N$  so that  $\partial X$  is a smooth manifold and loops  $\gamma_s(S^1)$  are contained in the interior of  $X$ .

Let  $\tilde{N}$  be the universal cover of  $N$  and  $\pi: \tilde{N} \rightarrow N$  a covering map. We fix a component  $\tilde{X}$  of  $\pi^{-1}(X)$ . Then  $\tilde{X}$  is a submanifold of  $\tilde{N}$  with smooth boundary  $\partial \tilde{X} = \pi^{-1}(\partial X)$ . We show first that  $\tilde{X}$  is *roughly isometric* to the subgroup  $\langle S \rangle$  with a word metric determined by  $S$ . A mapping  $\varphi: Y \rightarrow Z$  between metric spaces  $(Y, d_Y)$  and  $(Z, d_Z)$  is said to be a *rough isometry* if there exist constants  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b > 0$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$  so that

$$\frac{1}{a}d_Y(y, y') - b \leq d_Z(\varphi(y), \varphi(y')) \leq ad_Y(y, y') + b$$

for all  $y, y' \in Y$  and

$$\text{dist}_Z(z, \varphi(Y)) < \varepsilon$$

for all  $z \in Z$ . Spaces  $Y$  and  $Z$  is said to be *roughly isometric* if there exists a rough isometry  $Y \rightarrow Z$ ; see e.g. [7] for more details on rough isometries. We would like to note that rough isometries are also called *quasi-isometries* and *rough quasi-isometries* in the literature.

To see that  $\langle S \rangle$  and  $\tilde{X}$  are roughly isometric, we observe that, by compactness of  $X$ , the submanifold  $\tilde{X}$  and the net  $\tilde{P} = \pi^{-1}(x_0) \cap \tilde{X}$  are roughly isometric. Since  $\tilde{P}$  and  $\langle S \rangle$  are bilipschitz equivalent, also  $\tilde{X}$  and  $\langle S \rangle$  are roughly isometric.

**3.2. Proof of Theorem 1.3.** The proof of Theorem 1.3 is based on the following Sobolev inequality. For the statement, we say that an  $\varepsilon$ -net  $P$  on a manifold admits a *d-dimensional isoperimetric inequality* if there exists a constant  $C > 0$  so that

$$\#Q \leq C (\#\partial_P Q)^{d/(d-1)}$$

for all finite subsets  $Q \subset P$ , where  $\partial_P Q = \{p \in P \setminus Q : \text{dist}(p, Q) \leq 2\varepsilon\}$ ; see [7] for more details.

For the statement of the Sobolev inequality, we denote by  $\text{Lip}_0(\tilde{M})$  the space of compactly supported Lipschitz functions on  $\tilde{M}$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a compact submanifold with boundary of a Riemannian manifold  $N$ ,  $\tilde{N}$  the universal cover of  $N$ , and  $\tilde{M}$  a component of the lift of  $M$  in a covering map  $\tilde{N} \rightarrow N$ . If  $\tilde{M}$  contains an  $\varepsilon$ -net  $P$  admitting a  $d$ -dimensional isoperimetric inequality for  $d \geq n$ , then there exists  $C > 0$  so that*

$$(3.1) \quad \|u\|_{\frac{d}{d-1}} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_1$$

for all  $u \in \text{Lip}_0(\tilde{M})$ .

We postpone the proof of this proposition to the next section and consider first the proof of Theorem 1.3.

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* Since  $\langle S \rangle$  has an order of growth at least  $d > n$ , it supports a  $d$ -dimensional isoperimetric inequality; see [2, Théorème 1] for a precise statement. Since  $P = \pi^{-1}(x_0) \cap \tilde{X}$  is bilipschitz equivalent to  $\langle S \rangle$ , we have that  $P$  supports a  $d$ -dimensional isoperimetric inequality by [7, Lemma 4.2]. Thus  $\tilde{X}$  admits  $d$ -dimensional Sobolev inequality (3.1) by Proposition 3.1.

Since  $d > n$ , we have  $d/(d-1) < n/(n-1)$ . Let  $\gamma > 1$  be so that

$$\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} \frac{d}{d-1} = \frac{n}{n-1}.$$

We fix a closed ball  $B \subset \tilde{X}$ . Let  $v \in C_0^\infty(\tilde{N})$  be so that  $v|_B \geq 1$ . We define  $u = v|_{\tilde{X}}$ . Then, by Proposition 3.1 and Hölder's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \int_{\tilde{X}} |u|^{\gamma d/(d-1)} \right)^{(d-1)/d} &\leq C \int_{\tilde{X}} |\nabla u|^\gamma \leq C \int_{\tilde{X}} \gamma |u|^{\gamma-1} |\nabla u| \\ &\leq C \gamma \left( \int_{\tilde{X}} |u|^{(\gamma-1)n/(n-1)} \right)^{(n-1)/n} \left( \int_{\tilde{X}} |\nabla u|^n \right)^{1/n}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C > 0$  as in (3.1).

Since  $\gamma d/(d-1) = (\gamma-1)n/(n-1)$  and  $(d-1)/d > (n-1)/n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |B|^{\frac{d-1}{d}-\frac{n-1}{n}} &\leq \left( \int_B |u|^{\gamma d/(d-1)} \right)^{\frac{d-1}{d}-\frac{n-1}{n}} \leq C\gamma \left( \int_{\tilde{X}} |\nabla u|^n \right)^{1/n} \\ &\leq C\gamma \left( \int_{\tilde{N}} |\nabla v|^n \right)^{1/n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the ball  $B$  has positive  $n$ -capacity with respect to  $\tilde{N}$ , that is,

$$\text{cap}_n(B, \tilde{N}) = \inf_v \int_{\tilde{N}} |\nabla v|^n > 0,$$

where the infimum is taken over all functions  $v \in C_0^\infty(\tilde{N})$  so that  $v|_B \geq 1$ , and hence  $\tilde{N}$  is  $n$ -hyperbolic, that is, there exists a compact set in  $\tilde{N}$  with positive  $n$ -capacity with respect to  $\tilde{N}$ . We refer to [5, Section 5.1] for a detailed discussion on  $n$ -hyperbolicity.

The  $n$ -hyperbolicity of  $\tilde{N}$  now yields that there are no non-constant quasiregular mappings  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow N$ . Indeed, let  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow N$  be a quasiregular mapping and fix a lift  $\tilde{f}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \tilde{N}$  of  $f$  to the universal cover  $\tilde{N}$ . Since the covering map  $\tilde{N} \rightarrow N$  is a local isometry,  $\tilde{f}$  is quasiregular. Since  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $n$ -parabolic, that is, compact sets have zero  $n$ -capacity relative to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\tilde{N}$  is  $n$ -hyperbolic we have that  $\tilde{f}$  is constant by [5, Theorem 5.10]. This is due to the basic fact that the  $n$ -capacities of image sets are controlled by the  $n$ -capacities on the domain side under quasiregular mappings. Thus also the mapping  $f$  is constant. This completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 4. A SOBOLEV INEQUALITY

In this section we prove Proposition 3.1. We obtain the Sobolev inequality by constructing a *double* of  $\tilde{M}$ . Proposition 3.1 follows almost directly from this construction. The *bounded local geometry* in the following statement refers to the standard assumptions that the Ricci curvature is bounded from below and the manifold has positive injectivity radius; see e.g. condition (\*) in [7, p.394], or [1].

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $M$ ,  $N$ ,  $\tilde{M}$ , and  $\tilde{N}$  be as in the statement of Proposition 3.1. Then there exists  $L \geq 1$ , a connected and complete Riemannian manifold  $\hat{M}$  with bounded local geometry, and mappings  $\iota: \tilde{M} \rightarrow \hat{M}$  and  $\hat{\pi}: \hat{M} \rightarrow \hat{M}$  so that*

- (i) *the mapping  $\iota$  is an  $L$ -bilipschitz embedding, and*
- (ii)  *$\hat{\pi}$  is a 1-Lipschitz mapping so that  $\hat{\pi}|_{\iota(\tilde{M})} = \text{id}$ ,  $\hat{\pi}(\hat{M}) = \iota(\tilde{M})$ , and  $\hat{\pi}(\hat{M} \setminus \iota(\tilde{M}))$  is a local isometry.*

*Proof.* We construct a *double*  $M_D$  of  $M$  by  $M_D = (M \times \{0, 1\}) / \sim$ , where  $\sim$  is the equivalence relation  $(x, 0) \sim (x, 1)$  if  $x \in \partial M$ . Then  $M_D$  is an  $n$ -manifold without boundary and there exists an open neighborhood  $\Omega$  of  $M$  in  $N$  and a smooth embedding  $\psi_M: \Omega \rightarrow M_D$ , so that  $\psi_M(x) = [(x, 0)]$  for  $x \in M$ ; see e.g. [8, Chapter IV §5.]. We denote by  $\pi_D: M_D \rightarrow M_D$  the projection  $[(x, k)] \mapsto [(x, 0)]$  and by  $\sigma_D: M_D \rightarrow M_D$  the reflection  $[(x, k)] \mapsto [(x, 1-k)]$ . The double  $\tilde{M}_D$  of  $\tilde{M}$  is constructed similarly.

We fix a Riemannian metric  $g_D$  on  $M_D$  so that  $\sigma_D$  is a local isometry, that is,  $\sigma_{D*}g_D = g_D$ .

Since  $M$  is compact, there exists a constant  $L \geq 1$  so that

$$\frac{1}{L^2}g \leq g_D \leq L^2g$$

as tensors on  $M \subset M_D$ . Here  $g$  is the Riemannian metric fixed in the beginning of Section 3. Since  $\sigma_D$  is a local isometry, we have that the standard embedding  $\iota_D: M \rightarrow M_D$  is  $L$ -bilipschitz. By the choice of  $g_D$ , the projection  $\pi_D$  is a local isometry on  $M_D \setminus M$ .

By construction of the double,  $\tilde{M}_D$  is a covering space of  $M_D$  and  $\tilde{M}_D \rightarrow M_D$ ,  $[(\tilde{x}, k)] \mapsto [(\pi(\tilde{x}), k)]$ , is a covering map. We denote by  $\tilde{g}$  and  $\tilde{g}_D$  the lifts of Riemannian metrics  $g$  and  $g_D$  on  $\tilde{M}$  and  $\tilde{M}_D$ , respectively. We denote also by  $\tilde{\iota}_D: \tilde{M} \rightarrow \tilde{M}_D$  and by  $\tilde{\pi}_D: \tilde{M}_D \rightarrow \tilde{M}_D$  the lifts of  $\iota_D$  and  $\pi_D$ , respectively. Then  $\tilde{\iota}_D$  is an  $L$ -bilipschitz embedding and  $\tilde{\pi}_D$  is an local isometry in  $\tilde{M}_D \setminus \tilde{M}$ . Thus we may take  $\hat{M} = \tilde{M}_D$ ,  $\iota = \tilde{\iota}_D$  and  $\hat{\pi} = \tilde{\pi}_D$ . This concludes the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 3.1.* Let  $\hat{M}$  be a manifold as in Lemma 4.1. We denote  $M_0 = \iota(\tilde{M})$  and  $M_1 = \hat{M} \setminus M_0$ . We show first that  $\hat{\pi}: \hat{M} \rightarrow M_0$  is a rough isometry. Since  $\hat{\pi}$  is 1-Lipschitz, it suffices to show that

$$(4.1) \quad d(\hat{\pi}(\hat{x}), \hat{\pi}(\hat{y})) \geq d(\hat{x}, \hat{y}) - 8L \operatorname{diam} X$$

for all  $\hat{x}, \hat{y} \in \hat{M}$ .

Let  $\hat{x} \in \hat{M}$ . Since  $M$  is compact there exists  $z \in \partial\tilde{M}$  so that  $d(\hat{\pi}(\hat{x}), \iota(z)) \leq 2 \operatorname{diam} M$ . Let  $\hat{z} = \iota(z)$ . Since  $\hat{z} \in \partial M_1$ , we have that  $d(\hat{x}, \hat{z}) \leq Ld(\hat{\pi}(\hat{x}), \hat{z}) \leq 2L \operatorname{diam} M$ . Since

$$d(\hat{\pi}(\hat{x}), \hat{x}) \leq d(\hat{\pi}(\hat{x}), \hat{z}) + d(\hat{z}, \hat{x}) \leq 4L \operatorname{diam} X$$

for  $\hat{x} \in \hat{M}$ , we have, by the triangle inequality, that (4.1) follows.

Let  $P$  be an  $\varepsilon$ -net on  $\tilde{M}$  admitting a  $d$ -dimensional isoperimetric inequality. Then  $\iota(P)$  is bilipschitz equivalent to  $P$  and roughly equivalent to  $\hat{M}$ . Since  $\iota(P)$  supports a  $d$ -dimensional isoperimetric inequality by [7, Lemma 4.2] and  $\hat{M}$  has locally bounded geometry, we have by [7, Lemma 4.5] that  $\hat{M}$  supports  $d$ -dimensional Sobolev inequality, that is, there exists  $C > 0$  so that

$$(4.2) \quad \|v\|_{d/(d-1)} \leq C \|\nabla v\|_1$$

for all  $v \in C_0^\infty(\hat{M})$ .

Let  $u \in \operatorname{Lip}_0(\tilde{M})$ . Then  $v = u \circ \iota^{-1} \circ \hat{\pi}$  is a compactly supported Lipschitz function on  $\hat{M}$ . By the density of smooth functions, we have that

$$\|v\|_{d/(d-1)} \leq C \|\nabla v\|_1,$$

where  $C$  is the constant in (4.2). Since  $\iota^{-1}$  and  $\hat{\pi}$  are  $L$ -Lipschitz and  $\hat{\pi} = \operatorname{id}$  on  $\iota(\tilde{M})$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \int_{\tilde{M}} |u|^{d/(d-1)} d\mathcal{H}^n \right)^{(d-1)/d} &\leq \left( L^n \int_{\hat{M}} |v|^{d/(d-1)} d\mathcal{H}^n \right)^{(d-1)/d} \\ &\leq C' \int_{\hat{M}} |\nabla v| d\mathcal{H}^n \leq C' \int_{\tilde{M}} |\nabla u| d\mathcal{H}^n, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C' = C'(C, L, n)$ . This concludes the proof.  $\square$

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