

## COMPACTNESS CRITERIA FOR RIEMANNIAN MANIFOLDS WITH COMPACT UNSTABLE MINIMAL HYPERSURFACES

By

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### 1. Introduction

In this paper, we shall prove the following Theorem.

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $N$  be a complete Riemannian manifold with a compact embedded unstable minimal hypersurface  $M$ . Suppose that there exists a positive constant  $s_0$  such that along each unit speed geodesic  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  emanating from each point in the tubular neighborhood  $U_{s_0}(M) := \{q \in N; \text{dist}_N(q, M) < s_0\}$  the Ricci curvature satisfies*

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^r \text{Ric}_N(d\gamma/dt, d\gamma/dt) dt \geq 0.$$

*Then  $N$  is compact.*

The Myers' theorem [11] is one of the most well-known results relating the curvature and the topology of a complete Riemannian manifold  $N$ , which states that if the Ricci curvature has a positive lower bound then  $N$  is compact. In [1], Ambrose proved a generalization of Myers' theorem, that is, if there is a point  $q \in N$  such that along each unit speed geodesic  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  emanating from  $q$  the Ricci curvature satisfies

$$\int_0^\infty \text{Ric}_N(d\gamma/dt, d\gamma/dt) dt = +\infty$$

then  $N$  is compact. It should be pointed out that in this result the Ricci curvature is not required to be everywhere nonnegative. Further developments can be found in Galloway [9] and different sorts of extensions of Myers' theorem can be found in Avez [3], Calabi [5] and Shiohama [12].

Theorem A is an Ambrose-type theorem for Riemannian manifolds with compact embedded unstable hypersurfaces (see also Remark in section 3). It should be also pointed out that in Theorem A the existence of the global unit normal vector field on  $M$  is not required.

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## § 2. Definitions and formulas

Let  $N=(N, g)$  be a complete Riemannian manifold of dimension  $n \geq 2$  with a compact embedded hypersurface  $M$ . We choose a local orthonormal frame field  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  in  $N$  such that, restricted to  $M$ , the vectors  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$  are tangent to  $M$ . Let denote the Levi-Civita connection of  $N$  by  $\nabla$ , the component normal to  $M$  by  $(\cdot)^{\perp}$  and the restriction of  $e_n$  to  $M$  by  $\nu$ . The second fundamental form  $A_M$  of  $M$  is defined by

$$A_M(X, Y)\nu = (\nabla_X Y)^{\perp},$$

where  $X$  and  $Y$  are local vector fields on  $M$ .  $M$  is called *minimal* if  $H_M = \text{Trace } A_M$  is identically zero.

We shall derive the equation  $H_M=0$  by another elegant way. For a smooth function  $f \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathcal{D}(\nu))$  with compact support in  $\mathcal{D}(\nu)$  and a small positive constant  $\delta$ , let  $\{M(\varepsilon f; \nu)\}_{\varepsilon \in (-\delta, \delta)}$  denote the one-parameter family of hypersurfaces  $\{S(\varepsilon f; \nu) \cup \{M - \mathcal{D}(\nu)\}\}_{\varepsilon \in (-\delta, \delta)}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}(\nu)$  is the domain of  $\nu$  and  $S(\varepsilon f; \nu) = \{\exp_x \varepsilon f(x)\nu \in N; x \in \mathcal{D}(\nu)\}$ . We then get a local deformation  $\{M(\varepsilon f; \nu)\}_{\varepsilon \in (-\delta, \delta)}$  of  $M$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$  denote the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional area functional of hypersurfaces. Then  $\mathcal{A}(M(\varepsilon f; \nu))$  is class of  $C^{\infty}$  with respect to  $\varepsilon$  and

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \mathcal{A}(M(\varepsilon f; \nu)) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = - \int_M f \cdot H_M dv_g,$$

where  $dv_g$  is the induced volume element of  $M$ . If  $M$  is a critical point of  $\mathcal{A}$ , then  $H_M=0$ .

Suppose that  $M$  is minimal. Then

$$(1) \quad \frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \mathcal{A}(M(\varepsilon f; \nu)) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = \int_M [|\nabla^M f|^2 - (\text{Ric}_N(\nu, \nu) + |A_M|^2)f^2] dv_g,$$

where  $\nabla^M f = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} e_i(f) \cdot e_i$  and  $|A_M|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [A_M(e_i, e_i)]^2$ .  $M$  is called *unstable* if there exist a local unit normal vector field  $\nu$  on  $M$  and a smooth function  $f \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathcal{D}(\nu))$  such that

$$\frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \mathcal{A}(M(\varepsilon f; \nu)) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} < 0.$$

For later references, we also give the second variational formula of arc length functional of rays with respect to special variations. Let  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  be a ray satisfying  $\gamma(0) \in M$  and  $\text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(t)) = \text{dist}_N(\gamma(0), \gamma(t)) (=t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}(\cdot)$  denote the arc length functional. We note that for each  $r > 0$   $\gamma|_{[0, r]}$

is a critical point of  $\mathcal{L}$ . Choose a local orthonormal frame field  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  in  $N$  around  $\gamma(0)$  such that, restricted to  $M$ , the vectors  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$  are tangent to  $M$  and the vector  $\nu=e_n|_M$  satisfies  $\nu(\gamma(0))=(d\gamma/dt)(0)$ . Let  $\gamma_{i,r}: [0, r] \times (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow N$  be a variation of  $\gamma|_{[0,r]}$  satisfying  $\gamma_{i,r}(\{0\} \times (-\delta, \delta)) \subset M$ ,  $\gamma_{i,r}(\{r\} \times (-\delta, \delta)) = \gamma(r)$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \gamma_{i,r}(t, \varepsilon) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = \cos \frac{\pi t}{2r} \cdot e_i(t)$ , where each  $e_i(t)$  is the parallel translate vector of  $e_i(\gamma(0))$  along  $\gamma$ . We then obtain (cf. [4, Chapter 11])

$$(2) \quad \frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{i,r}([0, r] \times \{\varepsilon\})) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} \\ = (n-1)\pi^2/8r - \int_0^r \text{Ric}_N(d\gamma/dt, d\gamma/dt) \left(\cos \frac{\pi t}{2r}\right)^2 dt - H_M(\gamma(0)),$$

where  $H_M$  is the mean curvature of  $M$  with respect to  $\nu$ .

### § 3. Proof of Theorem A

Theorem A is an immediate consequence of the following.

**THEOREM B.** *Let  $N=(N, g)$  be a complete Riemannian manifold with a compact embedded unstable minimal hypersurface  $M$ . Suppose that there exist positive constants  $s_0$  and  $\theta$  such that along each unit speed geodesic  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  satisfying  $\gamma(0) \in M$  and  $|g((d\gamma/dt)(0), V)| \geq 1 - \theta$ , the Ricci curvature satisfies*

$$(3) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_s^r \text{Ric}_N(d\gamma/dt, d\gamma/dt) dt \geq 0$$

for all  $0 \leq s < s_0$ , where  $V$  is a unit vector normal to  $M$  at  $\gamma(0)$ . Then  $N$  is compact.

To prove Theorem B, we will suppose that  $N$  is noncompact and, finally, lead a contradiction.

Since  $N$  is noncompact, there exists a ray  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  satisfying  $\gamma(0) \in M$  and

$$(4) \quad \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(t)) = \text{dist}_N(\gamma(0), \gamma(t)) = t$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ .

From the unstability of  $M$ , we will first construct  $C^0$ -hypersurfaces  $\{M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})\}_{\varepsilon \in (0, \sigma)}$  near  $M$ , which are smooth and have positive mean curvature around  $\gamma \cap M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *There exist a continuous nonnegative function  $u \in C(M)$ , a local unit normal vector field  $\bar{\nu}$  on  $M$  and a positive constant  $\sigma$  such that*

- (i)  $\gamma(0) \in \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu}) = \{x \in M; u(x) > 0\}$ ,
- (ii)  $u$  is smooth in  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ ,
- (iii)  $M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu}) \subset U_{s_0}(M)$ ,
- (iv)  $H_{M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})} > 0$  in  $\{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in W, 0 \leq t < s_0\}$

for all  $\varepsilon (0 < \varepsilon < \sigma)$ , where  $W = \{x \in M; u(x) > \frac{1}{2}u(\gamma(0))\} \subset \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ .

PROOF. From the unstability of  $M$ , there exist a local unit normal vector field  $\bar{\nu}$  on  $M$  and a function  $f \in C^\infty(\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu}))$  such that

$$(5) \quad \frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \mathcal{A}(M(\varepsilon f; \bar{\nu})) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} < 0.$$

We may assume that the closure  $\bar{\mathcal{D}}(\bar{\nu})$  is contained in a coordinate neighborhood of  $M$ . Let  $\nu$  be a local unit normal vector field on  $M$  around  $\gamma(0)$  satisfying  $(d\gamma/dt)(0) = \nu(\gamma(0))$ . Replacing  $\bar{\nu}$  by  $-\bar{\nu}$  if necessary, we can choose a local unit normal vector field  $\bar{\nu}$  on  $M$ , which is an extension of  $\bar{\nu}, \nu$  and satisfies that  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$  is connected with  $C^\infty$ -boundary  $\partial\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ .

Consider the functional

$$I_{\bar{\nu}}(\phi) = \int_M [|\nabla^M \phi|^2 - (\text{Ric}_N(\bar{\nu}, \bar{\nu}) + |A_M|^2)\phi^2] dv_g$$

and define  $\lambda = \inf I_{\bar{\nu}}(\phi)$  for all  $\phi \in C_0^\infty(\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu}))$  satisfying  $\phi = 0$  on  $M - \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$  and  $\int_M \phi^2 dv_g = 1$ . From (1) and (5) we then obtain a continuous function  $u \in C(M)$  satisfying  $\lambda = I_{\bar{\nu}}(u) < 0$ , which  $u$  has the following properties (cf. [2], [7] and [8])

- (6)  $u > 0$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$  and  $u|_{\partial\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})} = 0$ ,
- (7)  $u$  is smooth in  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ ,
- (8)  $Lu := -\Delta_M u - (\text{Ric}_N(\bar{\nu}, \bar{\nu}) + |A_M|^2)u = \lambda u (< 0)$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ ,

where  $\Delta_M u = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} g(e_i, \nabla_{e_i} \nabla^M u)$ . In particular, the property (6) is an immediate consequence of Courant's nodal domain theorem for the linear elliptic operator of second order  $L$  (cf. [6, Chapter 1], [7, VI-§6]). From (6)-(8) and an easy calculation we obtain

$$(9) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} H_{M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = \Delta_M u + (\text{Ric}_N(\bar{\nu}, \bar{\nu}) + |A_M|^2)u = -\lambda u > 0 \text{ in } \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu}).$$

It follows from (6), (7) and (9) that there exists a positive constant  $\sigma$  such that for any  $\varepsilon (0 < \varepsilon < \sigma)$   $M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu}) \subset U_{s_0}(M)$  and  $H_{M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})} = \int_0^\varepsilon \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} H_{M(\rho u; \bar{\nu})} \Big|_{\rho=s} \right) ds > 0$  in  $\{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in W, 0 \leq t < s_0\}$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 1.

LEMMA 2. *There exist positive constants  $\varepsilon_0 (0 < \varepsilon_0 < \sigma)$ ,  $t_0 (0 < t_0 < s_0)$  and a unit*

speed geodesic  $\bar{\gamma}: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  such that

- (i)  $\bar{\gamma}(t_0) \in M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{\nu}) \cap \{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in W, 0 \leq t < s_0\}$ ,
- (ii)  $\bar{\gamma}(0) \in W \subset \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ ,
- (iii)  $g((d\bar{\gamma}/dt)(0), \bar{\nu}(\bar{\gamma}(0))) \geq 1 - \theta$ ,
- (iv)  $\text{dist}_N(M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{\nu}), \bar{\gamma}(t)) = \text{dist}_N(\bar{\gamma}(t_0), \bar{\gamma}(t)) = t - t_0$  for all  $t \geq t_0$ .

PROOF. Take  $\varepsilon(0 < \varepsilon < \sigma)$  arbitrarily and fix it. For each  $i \in N$ , there exists a minimizing geodesic  $\gamma_{\varepsilon, i}$ , emanating from  $M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})$ , between  $M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})$  and  $\gamma(i)$ . Put  $\tilde{W} = \{x \in M; u(x) \geq u(\gamma(0))\} \subset W \subset \mathcal{D}(\bar{\nu})$ . Suppose that there exists  $j_1 \in N$  such that

$$(10) \quad \gamma_{\varepsilon, j_1}(0) \notin M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu}) \cap \{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in \tilde{W}, 0 \leq t < s_0\}.$$

From (4), (10) and Lemma 1-(iii) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(j_1)) &\leq \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma_{\varepsilon, j_1}(0)) + \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_1}) \\ &< \mathcal{L}(\gamma|_{[0, j_1]}) = \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(j_1)). \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction. Then we obtain for all  $i \in N$

$$(11) \quad \gamma_{\varepsilon, i}(0) \in M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu}) \cap \{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in \tilde{W}, 0 \leq t < s_0\} \subset U_{s_0}(M).$$

We also note that for each  $i \in N$  the vector  $(d\gamma_{\varepsilon, i}/dt)(0)$  is perpendicular to  $TM(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})$  and

$$(12) \quad \gamma_{\varepsilon, i} \cap M(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu}) = \{\gamma_{\varepsilon, i}(0)\}.$$

Suppose that there exists  $j_2 \in N$  such that

$$g((d\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}/dt)(0), (d(\exp t \bar{\nu})/dt)(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}(0))) < 0.$$

From (11) and (12) that there exists  $c(0 < c < \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}))$  such that

$$(13) \quad \gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}(c) \in \tilde{W} \cup \{\exp_x t \bar{\nu} \in N; x \in \partial \tilde{W}, 0 \leq t < \varepsilon u(\gamma(0))\}.$$

It then follows from (4), (11) and (13) that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(j_2)) &\leq \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}(c)) + \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}|_{[c, \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2})]}) \\ &< \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}(c)) + \mathcal{L}(\gamma_{\varepsilon, j_2}) \\ &< \mathcal{L}(\gamma|_{[0, j_2]}) = \text{dist}_N(M, \gamma(j_2)). \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction, too. Then we obtain for all  $i \in N$

$$(14) \quad g((d\gamma_{\varepsilon, i}/dt)(0), (d(\exp t \bar{\nu})/dt)(\gamma_{\varepsilon, i}(0))) \geq 0.$$

Let  $v_\varepsilon \in \{v \in TM(\varepsilon u; \bar{\nu})^\perp; \|v\| = 1\}$  be an accumulation point of the sequence

$\{(d\gamma_{\varepsilon,i}/dt)(0)\}_{i \in N}$ . Let  $\gamma_\varepsilon: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  be the geodesic such that  $\gamma_\varepsilon(0) = \mathcal{P}(v_\varepsilon)$  and  $(d\gamma_\varepsilon/dt)(0) = v_\varepsilon$ , where  $\mathcal{P}: TN \rightarrow N$  is the bundle projection. Then  $\gamma_\varepsilon$  is a ray satisfying

$$(15) \quad \text{dist}_N(M(\varepsilon u; \bar{v}), \gamma_\varepsilon(t)) = \text{dist}_N(\gamma_\varepsilon(0), \gamma_\varepsilon(t))$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . We say that  $\gamma_\varepsilon$  is a *limit ray* of the sequence of minimizing geodesics  $\{\gamma_{\varepsilon,i}\}_{i \in N}$ . It then follows from (11) and (14) that

$$(16) \quad \gamma_\varepsilon(0) \in M(\varepsilon u; \bar{v}) \cap \{\exp_x t \bar{v} \in \tilde{W}, 0 \leq t < s_0\},$$

$$(17) \quad g((d\gamma_\varepsilon/dt)(0), (d(\exp t \bar{v})/dt)(\gamma_\varepsilon(0))) \geq 0.$$

Let  $\tilde{\gamma}$  be a limit ray of the sequence of rays  $\{\gamma_{1/i}\}_{i \geq i_0}$ , where  $1/i_0 < \sigma$ . It then follows from (15)–(17) that

$$(18) \quad \tilde{\gamma}(0) \in \tilde{W} \subset W \subset \mathcal{D}(\bar{v})$$

$$(19) \quad g((d\tilde{\gamma}/dt)(0), \bar{v}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))) \geq 0,$$

$$(20) \quad \text{dist}_N(M, \tilde{\gamma}(t)) = \text{dist}_N(\tilde{\gamma}(0), \tilde{\gamma}(t))$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . Also from (19) and (20)  $(d\tilde{\gamma}/dt)(0) = \bar{v}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))$  and then

$$(21) \quad g((d\tilde{\gamma}/dt)(0), \bar{v}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))) = 1.$$

By the construction of  $\tilde{\gamma}$ , (18) and (21) there exists a positive constant  $\varepsilon_0$  ( $\varepsilon_0 = 1/i$ ,  $i \geq i_0$ ) such that

$$(22) \quad s_0 > t_0 := \inf\{t > 0; \gamma_{\varepsilon_0}^{-1}(t) \in W\},$$

$$(23) \quad |g((d\gamma_{\varepsilon_0}^{-1}/dt)(t_0), \bar{v}(\gamma_{\varepsilon_0}^{-1}(t_0)))| \geq 1 - \theta,$$

where  $\gamma_{\varepsilon_0}^{-1}(t) = \exp_{\gamma_{\varepsilon_0}(0)}(-t(d\gamma_{\varepsilon_0}/dt)(0))$ .

Let  $\bar{\gamma}: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  be the geodesic such that

$$\bar{\gamma}(t) = \begin{cases} \gamma_{\varepsilon_0}^{-1}(t_0 - t) & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq t_0 \\ \gamma_{\varepsilon_0}(t - t_0) & \text{if } t \geq t_0. \end{cases}$$

It then follows from (15), (16), (22) and (23) that  $\bar{\gamma}$  satisfies the properties (i)–(iv). This completes the proof of Lemma 2.

Let  $\{\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_{n-1}\}$  be a local orthonormal frame field on  $M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{v})$  around  $\bar{\gamma}(t_0)$  and each  $\bar{e}_i(t)$  be the parallel translate vector of  $\bar{e}_i(\bar{\gamma}(t_0))$  along  $\bar{\gamma}$  with the initial condition  $\bar{e}_i(t_0) = \bar{e}_i(\bar{\gamma}(t_0))$ . Let  $\bar{\gamma}_{i,r}: [0, r] \times (-\delta, \delta) \rightarrow N$  be a variation of  $\bar{\gamma}|_{[t_0, t_0+r]}$  satisfying  $\bar{\gamma}_{i,r}(\{0\} \times (-\delta, \delta)) \subset M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{v})$ ,  $\bar{\gamma}_{i,r}(\{r\} \times (-\delta, \delta)) = \bar{\gamma}(t_0 + r)$  and  $(\partial \bar{\gamma}_{i,r} / \partial \varepsilon)(t, \varepsilon)|_{\varepsilon=0} = \cos \frac{\pi t}{2r} \cdot \bar{e}_i(t_0 + t)$ . From (2) we then obtain

$$(24) \quad \frac{d^2}{d\varepsilon^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{L}(\bar{\gamma}_{i,r}([0, r] \times \{\varepsilon\})) \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} \\ = (n-1)\pi^2/8r - \int_{t_0}^{t_0+r} \text{Ric}_N(d\bar{\gamma}/dt, d\bar{\gamma}/dt) \left(\cos \frac{\pi(t-t_0)}{2r}\right)^2 dt - H_{M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{v})}(\bar{\gamma}(t_0)).$$

It follows from (3), (24), Lemma 1, Lemma 2 and Lemma 3 below that there exists a large constant  $r_0$  such that

$$(n-1)\pi^2/8r_0 - \int_{t_0}^{t_0+r_0} \text{Ric}_N(d\bar{\gamma}/dt, d\bar{\gamma}/dt) \left(\cos \frac{\pi(t-t_0)}{2r_0}\right)^2 dt \\ - H_{M(\varepsilon_0 u; \bar{v})}(\bar{\gamma}(t_0)) < 0.$$

This contradicts that  $\bar{\gamma}|_{[t_0, \infty)}$  is a ray. This completes the proof of Theorem B.

LEMMA 3. For each constant  $K$

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^r \text{Ric}_N(d\bar{\gamma}/dt, d\bar{\gamma}/dt) dt \geq K$$

implies

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^r \text{Ric}_N(d\bar{\gamma}/dt, d\bar{\gamma}/dt) \left(\cos \frac{\pi t}{2r}\right)^2 dt \geq K.$$

COROLLARY. Let  $N$  be a complete Riemannian manifold of nonnegative Ricci curvature with a compact embedded minimal hypersurface  $M$ . Suppose that either

- (i)  $M$  is unstable in  $N$  or
- (ii)  $(N-M)$  is connected.

Then  $N$  is compact. In the case (ii) it is also established that  $(N-M)$  is isometric to a product Riemannian manifold  $M \times (0, l)$ , where  $l$  is a suitable positive constant.

PROOF. In the case (ii), Corollary was proved by Ichida [10].

REMARK. Without the unstability of  $M$  it follows immediately from (2) and Lemma 3 that

“Let  $N$  be a complete Riemannian manifold with a compact embedded minimal hypersurface  $M$ . Suppose that along each unit speed geodesic  $\gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow N$  emanating perpendicularly from each point in  $M$  the Ricci curvature satisfies

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^r \text{Ric}_N(d\gamma/dt, d\gamma/dt) dt > 0.$$

Then  $N$  is compact.”

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