

## SOBOLEV INEQUALITY AND STABILITY OF MINIMAL SUBMANIFOLDS

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional connected minimal submanifold in an  $(n+l)$  dimensional simply connected space form  $\bar{M}^{n+l}(b)$  with constant nonpositive sectional curvature  $b$ . We denote the  $L^p$  norm of a function  $f$  by  $\|f\|_p$ . Sobolev inequalities of the following types play important roles in studying stability of  $M$  in  $\bar{M}$ :

$$(1) \quad \|f\|_{n/(n-1)} \leq A_1 \|\nabla f\|_1 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(M),$$

in particular, when  $n > 2$ ,

$$(2) \quad \|f\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq A_2 \|\nabla f\|_2 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(M).$$

We notice that (i) (1) is also called an isoperimetric inequality, (ii)  $A_2 \leq (2(n-1)/n-2)A_1$ , and (iii) when  $M^n$  is a bounded domain in  $\bar{M}^n(b)$ ,  $A_1 = A_1(n)$  and  $A_2 = A_2(n)$  have the following asymptotic behaviors as  $n$  tends to  $\infty$ :

$$A_1 = A_1(n) = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{(n-1)/n} \omega_{n-1}^{-1/n} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi e}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}},$$

and

$$A_2 = A_2(n) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{n(n-2)}} \omega_{n-1}^{-1/n} \sim \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi e}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

Here  $\omega_{n-1}$  is the volume of  $(n-1)$  dimensional unit sphere  $S^{n-1}(1)$ .

D. Hoffman-J. Spruck [7] derived (2) from (1) with constant  $A_1 = A_1(n) \sim \text{const. } 2^n \sqrt{n}$  for minimal submanifolds in  $\mathbf{R}^N$  (see also J. H. Michael - L. M. Simon [11]).

On the other hand, S-Y. Cheng - P. Li - S. T. Yau [3] gave a comparison theorem for the heat kernel of the Laplacian  $\Delta$  and P. Li - G. Tian [8] showed a similar comparison theorem for the heat kernel of the Laplacian of an algebraic subvariety in a complex projective space. We point out that E. B. Davies [4] derived a Sobolev inequality of type (2) from an estimate of the heat kernel. But the constant is not given concretely.

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In this paper, we give the constant explicitly (Theorem 3) and prove the following:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional minimal submanifold ( $n > 2$ ) in  $\bar{M}^{n+l}(b)$  ( $b \leq 0$ ). Then we have that*

$$\|f\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq \frac{4\sqrt{6}}{\pi} \|\nabla f\|_2 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(M).$$

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional algebraic subvariety ( $n > 1$ ) with a singular set  $\Sigma_M$  in an  $(n+l)$  dimensional complex projective space  $CP^{n+l}$  ( $l > 0$ ) with sectional curvature  $K$ ,  $1 \leq K \leq 4$ . Then for the induced Riemannian metric on  $M^n \setminus \Sigma_M$  from the standard Fubini-Study metric on  $CP^{n+l}$ , we have*

$$\|f\|_{2n/(n-1)}^2 \leq \left(\frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}}\right)^2 e^{1/4n} \max\left\{\frac{\pi^2}{4}, n\right\} \omega_n^{-1/n} (\|\nabla f\|_2^2 + \|f\|_2^2),$$

for all  $f \in C_0^\infty(M \setminus \Sigma_M)$ .

As geometric applications of Theorem 1, we study stability of a minimal submanifold in  $\bar{M}^{n+l}(b)$  in section 3.

## 2. Proof of Theorems 1 and 2

We denote the operator norm of a linear operator  $H$  of  $L^p$  to  $L^q$  by  $\|H\|_{q,p}$ . Let  $\Omega$  be an  $n$  dimensional compact Riemannian manifold. Let  $H$  be a positive definite elliptic differential operator on  $\Omega$  and  $H_t = e^{-tH}$  be the semi-group generated by  $H$  (under Dirichlet boundary condition if  $\Omega$  has boundary) with positive kernel function  $H_\Omega(t, x, y)$ . Then the following inequalities (1) and (2) are equivalent to each other.

- (1)  $H_\Omega(t, x, y) \leq \alpha t^{-n/2}$  for all  $t > 0$  and  $x, y \in \Omega$ ,
- (2)  $\|H_t\|_{\infty,1} \leq \alpha t^{-n/2}$  for all  $t > 0$ .

When  $H$  is a Laplacian  $\Delta$ ,  $H_\Omega(t, x, y)$  is the heat kernel  $p_\Omega(t, x, y)$  of  $\Delta$  and  $p_\Omega$  and  $e^{-t\Delta}$  satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\Omega p_\Omega(t, x, y) dy &\leq 1 && \text{for all } t > 0 \text{ and } x \in \Omega, \\ \|e^{-t\Delta}\|_{p,p} &\leq 1 && \text{for all } t > 0 \text{ and } 1 \leq p \leq \infty, \\ \|\Delta^{1/2} f\|_2 &= \|df\|_2 && \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

The following theorem is proved in E.B. Davies [4] (Theorem 2.4.2). But the constant is not given concretely.

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $\Omega$  be an  $n$  dimensional compact Riemannian manifold with boundary ( $n > 2$ ). Assume that*

$$\|H_t\|_{p,p} \leq 1 \quad \text{for all } t > 0 \text{ and } 1 \leq p \leq \infty,$$

and there exists a positive constant  $\alpha$  such that

$$\|H_t\|_{\infty,1} \leq \alpha t^{-n/2} \quad \text{for all } t > 0.$$

Then we have

$$\|f\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq \frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \alpha^{1/n} \|H^{1/2} f\|_2 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(\Omega).$$

*Proof.* By Riesz interpolation theorem, we have for all  $p \in [1, \infty]$  and  $t > 0$ ,

$$\|H_t\|_{\infty,p} \leq \alpha^{1/p} t^{-n/2p}.$$

In particular, for  $p \in [1, n)$  and  $f \in L^p$ , we can define  $L$  by

$$Lf = \Gamma(1/2)^{-1} \int_0^\infty t^{-1/2} H_t f \, dt,$$

where  $\Gamma(x)$  is the Gamma function and  $\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi}$ . We notice here that  $L_1 C_0^\infty(\Omega) = (H_1 C_0^\infty(\Omega))^{-1/2}$ . For  $f \in L^p$  ( $1 \leq p < n$ ) and a positive constant  $T$ , we write  $Lf$  by

$$Lf = g_T + h_T$$

where

$$g_T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^T t^{-1/2} H_t f \, dt, \quad h_T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_T^\infty t^{-1/2} H_t f \, dt.$$

Define  $q(p)$ ,  $C_1(p)$  and  $M(p)$  by  $1/q(p) = 1/p - 1/n$ ,

$$C_1(p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \alpha^{1/p} \frac{2p}{n-p} \quad \text{and} \quad M(p) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \alpha^{1/n} \left(\frac{p}{n-p}\right)^{p/n}.$$

And define  $T_\lambda$  for all  $\lambda > 0$  by  $\lambda/2 = C_1(p) \|f\|_p T_\lambda^{(1/2) - (n/2p)}$ . Then we see that  $\|h_{T_\lambda}\|_\infty \leq \lambda/2$  and  $\{x \in \Omega : |Lf(x)| \geq \lambda\} \subset \{x \in \Omega : |g_{T_\lambda}(x)| \geq \lambda/2\}$ . So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol}\{x \in \Omega : |Lf(x)| \geq \lambda\} &\leq \text{vol}\{x \in \Omega : |g_{T_\lambda}(x)| \geq \lambda/2\} \\ &\leq (\lambda/2)^{-p} \int_{|g_{T_\lambda}| \geq \lambda/2} |g_{T_\lambda}(x)|^p \, dx \\ &\leq (\lambda/2)^{-p} \|g_{T_\lambda}\|_p^p. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_{T_\lambda}\|_p &= \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{T_\lambda} t^{-1/2} H_t f \, dt \right\|_p \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{T_\lambda} t^{-1/2} \|H_t f\|_p \, dt \\ &\leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \|f\|_p T_\lambda^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\text{vol}\{x \in \Omega : |Lf(x)| \geq \lambda\} \leq \left(\frac{M(\lambda)}{\lambda} \|f\|_p\right)^{q(p)}.$$

For all  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  ( $1 \leq p_1 < 2 < p_2 < n$ ), define  $q_1, q_2$  and  $\theta(p_1, p_2)$  by  $q_1 = q(p_1)$ ,  $q_2 = q(p_2)$  and  $1/2 = (1 - \theta(p_1, p_2))/p_1 + \theta(p_1, p_2)/p_2$ . We here apply Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorem to  $L$  for  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  above. We use the constant  $K$  in A. Zygmund [16] (see also D. Gilbarg - N.S. Trudinger [6], p. 228 and p. 254). Then we have for all  $f \in L^2$ ,

$$\|Lf\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq K(p_1, p_2) M(p_1)^{1-\theta(p_1, p_2)} M(p_2)^{\theta(p_1, p_2)} \|f\|_2.$$

Here

$$K(p_1, p_2) = 2q(2)^{1/q(2)} \left( \frac{(p_1/2)^{q_1/p_1}}{|q_1 - q(2)|} + \frac{(p_2/2)^{q_2/p_2}}{|q_2 - q(2)|} \right)^{1/q(2)}.$$

Set  $F(p_1, p_2, x)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} F(p_1, p_2, x) &= \frac{8}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( \frac{p_1}{2-p_1} (1-p_1x)(p_1/2)^{p_1x/(1-p_1x)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{p_2}{p_2-2} (1-p_2x)(p_2/2)^{p_2x/(1-p_2x)} \right)^{1/2-x} \\ &\quad \times \left( \frac{p_1x}{1-p_1x} \right)^{p_1x(1/2-1/p_2)/(1/p_1-1/p_2)} \\ &\quad \times \left( \frac{p_2x}{1-p_2x} \right)^{p_2x(1/p_1-1/2)/(1/p_1-1/p_2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|Lf\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq F(p_1, p_2, 1/n) \|f\|_2$ , we may show

$$\inf_{1 \leq p_1 < 2 < p_2 < 1/x} F(p_1, p_2, x) < \frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \quad \text{for } x = 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, \dots$$

Since  $F(1.7, 2.2, 1/3) = 10.3946 \dots < 8\sqrt{6}/\sqrt{\pi}$ , we consider  $F(1, 5/2, x)$  for all  $0 < x \leq 1/4$ . We easily see that

$$F(1, 5/2, 1/4) = 7.59103 \dots,$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x/(1-x)} \leq 1 \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1,$$

$$1 < 5\left(1 - \frac{5}{2}x\right)\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^{5x/(2-5x)} \leq 5 \quad \text{for } 0 < x \leq \frac{1}{4} < \frac{2}{5} \log \frac{4e}{5},$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{1-x}\right)^x \leq 1 \quad \text{for } 0 < x \leq 1/2.$$

Therefore we have

$$F(1, 5/2, x) < \frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \quad \text{for } x=1/5, 1/6, \dots,$$

and

$$\|\phi\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq \frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \alpha^{1/n} \|H^{1/2}\phi\|_2 \quad \text{for all } \phi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega).$$

□

To prove Theorems 1 and 2, we prepare some comparison theorems for the heat kernel of the Laplacian. We notice here that the heat kernel  $p(t, x, y)$  of Laplacian on a symmetric space depends only on  $t > 0$  and the distance  $d(x, y)$  of  $x$  and  $y$ . So we can write  $p(t, x, y)$  on a symmetric space as  $p(t, d(x, y))$ .

**THEOREM 4** (S-Y. Cheng-P. Li-S. T. Yau [3]). *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional minimal submanifold of  $\bar{M}^{n+l}(b)$  ( $l > 0, b \leq 0$ ) and  $\Omega$  compact domain in  $M$  and any  $p \in \Omega$ . Let  $p(t, x, y)$  be the heat kernel of the Laplacian on  $M$  under Dirichlet boundary condition. We define the extrinsic outer radius at  $p$  by*

$$a = \sup_{z \in \Omega} d(p, z).$$

Then

$$p(t, p, y) \leq \bar{p}_a(t, \bar{d}(p, y))$$

for all  $y \in \Omega$  and  $t \in (0, \infty)$ . Here  $\bar{d}(p, z)$  is the distance function on  $\bar{M}$  and  $\bar{p}_a(t, d(p, y))$  stands for the heat kernel under Dirichlet boundary condition on the ball centered at some fix point with radius  $a$  in  $\bar{M}^n(b)$ .

**THEOREM 5** (P. Li-G. Tian [8]). *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional embedded algebraic submanifold of  $CP^{n+l}$ . Let  $p(t, x, y)$  be the heat kernel of  $M$  with respect to the induced metric. When  $M$  has boundary,  $p(t, x, y)$  is taken to be the heat kernel under Dirichlet boundary condition. Then for all  $x, y \in M$  and  $t \in (0, \infty)$ , we have*

$$p(t, x, y) \leq \bar{p}(t, \bar{d}(x, y)).$$

Here  $\bar{p}(t, \bar{d}(x, y))$  is the heat kernel of  $CP^n$  and  $\bar{d}(x, y)$  is the distance function of  $\bar{M}$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $p_\Omega(t, x, y)$  be the heat kernel of the Laplacian of a bounded domain  $\Omega$  in  $M$  under Dirichlet boundary condition. By Theorem 4, we have

$$p_\Omega(t, x, y) \leq \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{n/2}} \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \Omega \text{ and } t > 0.$$

So by Theorem 3, we have

$$\|f\|_{2n/(n-2)} \leq \frac{4\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \|\nabla f\|_2 \quad \text{for all } f \in C_0^\infty(M),$$

□

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain  $M \setminus \Sigma$  and let  $\tilde{p}(t, \tilde{d}(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}))$  be the heat kernel of the Laplacian on  $CP^n$  with the Fubini-Study metric. The kernel function  $H(t, x, y)$  of  $e^{-tH}$  for  $H = (-\Delta + 1)$  on  $\Omega$  under Dirichlet boundary condition is  $e^{-t}p_\Omega(t, x, y)$ . By Theorem 5, we have

$$p_\Omega(t, x, y) \leq \tilde{p}(t, 0) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \Omega \text{ and } t > 0.$$

On the other hand, a heat kernel  $\tilde{p}(t, \tilde{x}, \tilde{y})$  on an  $m$  dimensional compact connected Riemannian manifold  $(\tilde{M}^m, \tilde{g})$  with nonnegative Ricci curvature satisfies

$$\tilde{p}(t, \tilde{x}, \tilde{x}) \leq \tilde{p}(t+s, \tilde{x}, \tilde{y}) \left(\frac{t+s}{t}\right)^{m/2} \exp\left(\frac{\tilde{d}^2(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y})}{4s}\right),$$

for all  $t, s > 0$  and  $\tilde{x}, \tilde{y} \in \tilde{M}$  (see P. Li and S. T. Yau [10]). Let  $\tilde{D}$  be the diameter of  $\tilde{M}$ . Integrating the both sides in  $\tilde{y} \in \tilde{M}$  and substituting  $s = \tilde{D}^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-t}\tilde{p}(t, \tilde{x}, \tilde{x}) &\leq e^{-t}\left(\frac{t+\tilde{D}^2}{t}\right)^{m/2} \frac{1}{\text{vol}(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g})} \\ &\leq (e^{1/2m} \max\{\tilde{D}^2, \frac{m}{2}\})^{m/2} \frac{1}{\text{vol}(\tilde{M}, \tilde{g})} t^{-m/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} H(t, x, y) &\leq e^{-t}\tilde{p}(t, 0) \\ &\leq \left(e^{1/4n} \max\left\{\frac{\pi^2}{4}, n\right\}\right)^n \frac{1}{\text{vol}(CP^n)} t^{-n} \\ &= \left(e^{1/4n} \max\left\{\frac{\pi^2}{4}, n\right\}\right)^n \frac{1}{2\pi\omega_{2n}} t^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

Applying Theorem 3 to  $H$ , we have for all  $f \in C_0^\infty(M \setminus \Sigma_M)$ ,

$$\|f\|_{2n/(n-1)}^2 \leq \left(\frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{\pi}}\right)^2 e^{(1/4n)} \max\left\{\frac{\pi^2}{4}, n\right\} \omega_{2n}^{-1/n} (\|\nabla f\|_2^2 + \|f\|_2^2).$$

□

### 3. Applications

A compact minimal submanifold  $\Omega$  with boundary is a critical point of volume functional for variations fixing boundary. Define the index of  $\Omega$ ,  $index(\Omega)$ , by the number of negative eigenvalues of the elliptic differential operator  $J$  called a Jacobi operator arising from the second variation of the

volume functional. For a noncompact minimal submanifold  $M$ , define the index of  $M$ ,  $index(M)$ , by  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \{index(\Omega_i) : \{\Omega_i\}$  is an exhaustion of  $M\}$ . And  $M$  (resp.  $\Omega$ ) is said to be stable when  $index(M)=0$  (resp.  $index(\Omega)=0$ ).

As geometric applications of Theorem 1, we give an estimate of the index of a minimal submanifold  $M^n$  in  $\bar{M}^{n+l}(b)$  ( $b \leq 0$ ) and give some conditions for  $M^n$  in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+l}$  to be an  $n$  dimensional plane.

For  $index(M)$ , J. Tysk [15] showed the following theorem using Sobolev inequality of type (2) derived from Sobolev inequality of type (1).

We denote the second fundamental form of  $M$  in  $\bar{M}$  by  $B$ .

**THEOREM 6** (J. Tysk [16]). *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional oriented complete minimal hypersurface in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+1}$  ( $n > 2$ ). Then we have*

$$index(M) \leq \frac{n}{\omega_{n-1}} \left( \frac{\sqrt{e}(n-1)2^{2n+3}}{n-2} \right)^n \int_M |B|^n.$$

So we can prove the following theorem in the same way as in [13]. Since we only replace the Sobolev inequality of type (2) in [13] by the inequality in Theorem 1, we omit the proof. Set  $f_+ = \max(f, 0)$ .

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional oriented noncompact complete minimal hypersurface ( $n > 2$ ) in  $\bar{M}^{n+1}(b)$  ( $b \leq 0$ ). Then we have*

$$index(M) \leq e^{n/2} \left( \frac{4\sqrt{6}}{\pi} \right)^n \int_M (|B|^2 + nb)_+^{n/2}.$$

We next study the stability of a minimal submanifold in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+l}$ .

**THEOREM 8** (P.H. Bérard [1]). *Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional noncompact complete minimal submanifold ( $n > 2$ ) in  $\mathbf{R}^N$ . Set*

$$\alpha(n, N) = \frac{2}{(n+2)(N-n)-2}, \quad \beta(n, N) = 2 - \frac{1}{N-n},$$

$$C_1(n) = 2^{n-1} \pi (n+1)^{(n+1)/n} \omega_n^{-1/n} / (n-1),$$

$$C_2(n) = 2C_1(n) \frac{n-1}{n-2},$$

$$C_3(n, N) = 2 \frac{n + \alpha(n, N) - 1}{n^2 C_2(n)^2 \beta(n, N)}.$$

If  $\|B\|_n^2 < C_3(n, N)$ , then  $M$  is an  $n$  dimensional plane.

In [1], P.H. Bérard used an inequality of J. Simons [13] and a Sobolev inequality of type (2) in section 1. Replacing an inequality of J. Simons by T. Okayasu [12] and a Sobolev inequality of type (2) by Theorem 1, we can improve the above condition.

THEOREM 9. Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional noncompact complete minimal submanifold ( $n > 2$ ) in  $\mathbf{R}^N$ . If

$$\|B\|_n^2 < 4 \frac{n+(2/n)-1}{n^2 \beta(n, N)} \left(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{6}}\right)^2,$$

then  $M$  is an  $n$  dimensional plane.

Under a weaker condition, we show that  $M$  is stable as follows (see J. Spruck [14]).

THEOREM 10. Let  $M^n$  be an  $n$  dimensional noncompact complete minimal submanifold ( $n > 2$ ) in  $\bar{M}^{n+1}(b)$  ( $b \leq 0$ ). If

$$\|\sqrt{(|B|^2 + nb)_+}\|_n \leq \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{6}},$$

then  $M$  is stable.

In particular, if  $M^n$  is a minimal hypersurface in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+1}$  satisfying  $\|B\|_n \leq \pi/4\sqrt{6}$  and  $\|B\|_2 < \infty$ , then  $M$  is an  $n$  dimensional hyperplane.

*Proof.* Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain in  $M$ . By Theorem 1, for a variation vector field  $X$  on  $\Omega$  in  $M$  fixing boundary,  $u = |X|$  satisfies that  $u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} V''(0) &= \int_{\Omega} \langle JX, X \rangle \\ &\cong \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 - (|B|^2 + nb) + u^2 \\ &\cong \left(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{6}}\right)^2 \left(\int_{\Omega} u^{2n/(n-2)}\right)^{(n-2)/n} \\ &\quad - \left(\int_{\Omega} (|B|^2 + nb)_+^{n/2}\right)^{2/n} \left(\int_{\Omega} u^{2n/(n-2)}\right)^{(n-2)/n} \\ &\cong \left(\left(\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{6}}\right)^2 - \|\sqrt{(|B|^2 + nb)_+}\|_n^2\right) \left(\int_{\Omega} u^{2n/(n-2)}\right)^{(n-2)/n} \\ &\cong 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, every bounded domain in  $M$  is stable. And a complete stable minimal hypersurface in  $\mathbf{R}^{n+1}$  with  $\|B\|_2 < \infty$ , it is a hyperplane (see M. do Carmo and C. K. Peng [5]).  $\square$



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