

LOCAL HARNACK ESTIMATE FOR MEAN CURVATURE FLOW IN EUCLIDEAN SPACE*

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Abstract. We obtain the local Harnack estimate of mean curvature flow in Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^{n+1} , under the condition $-m(t)g_{ab} \leq h_{ab} \leq Mg_{ab}$, s.t. $0 \leq m(t) \leq M$, and $D_t m(t) \geq (n+3)mM^2$, on $t \in [0, \frac{\pi^2}{4(n+1)M^2}]$. As a corollary, we get a sharp gradient estimate of mean curvature in some directions.

Key words. Mean curvature flow, Local Harnack estimate.

AMS subject classifications. 53C21, 53C44

1. Introduction. The differential Harnack estimate of mean curvature flow was done by R. Hamilton in [1]. Recently, Hamilton find a new method to get local Harnack inequality for Ricci flow in [2].

THEOREM 1. (*Hamilton's Local Harnack estimate for Ricci-flow*) Let M^n is a Riemannian manifold. $(M, g(t))$ is the solution of the Ricci-flow equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g_{ij} = -2R_{ij}, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

$U \subset M^n$ is an open set. On $U \times [0, t_0]$, $t_0 < T$ it satisfies the following curvature condition: $\exists C_0, \forall M > 0$, where M is a positive constant

$$\begin{cases} -m(t)(g_{ac}g_{bd} - g_{ad}g_{bc}) \leq R_{abcd} \leq M(g_{ac}g_{bd} - g_{ad}g_{bc}), \\ 0 \leq m(t) \leq M \\ m'(t) \geq C_0 mM \end{cases} \begin{array}{l} t \in [0, t_0] \\ t \in [0, t_0] \\ t \in [0, t_0] \end{array}$$

$O \in U$, set $C_1 = Mr^2$, s.t. $B_r(O, t_0) \subset\subset U$, then for $\forall (p, t) \in B_{\frac{r}{2}}(O, t_0) \times [t_0 - \frac{r^2}{4}, t_0]$ and $\forall V \in T_p M^n$, we have

$$DR(V)^2 \leq CM^2(Rc(V, V) + Cm|V|^2).$$

Where C only depends on n , C_1 is a positive constant.

Then by using the inequality, Hamilton get a theorem of curvature bound at finite distance for Ricci-flow in [3].

Motivated by his work, the author do a similar work in mean curvature flow. Maybe the work will be used in mean curvature flow as the same way.

Let M^n be a smooth manifold without boundary, and let $F_0: M^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ a smooth immersion. Let

$$F(\cdot, t) : M^n \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1},$$

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be a one-parameter family of smooth hypersurface immersions in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} . We say that it is a solution to mean curvature flow if

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} F(x, t) = H(x, t) \vec{\nu}, \quad x \in M^n, t > 0,$$

where H and $\vec{\nu}$ are mean curvature and unit inward unit normal respectively, so $H \vec{\nu}$ is the mean curvature vector.

Set $U \subset M^n$ is an open subset, and on $U \times [0, t_0]$, s.t. $t_0 < T$, we have the curvature condition $-Mg_{ab}(t) \leq H_{ab}(t) \leq Mg_{ab}(t)$. Let $0 \leq R \leq \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{n+1}M}$, $O \in M^n$, $B_R(O, t)$ is a geodesic ball centered at O , R is the radius at time t , s.t. $B_R(O, t) \subset\subset U$ at $t \in [0, t_0]$. So we can set $MR = C_0$. Set $d_t(x) = d_t(x, O)$ is the geodesic distance function from O to x respect to $g_{ij}(t)$.

Through out the paper, we call the curvature condition

$$(\star) \begin{cases} (1) -m(t)g_{ab}(t) \leq H_{ab}(t) \leq Mg_{ab}(t) \\ (2) 0 \leq m(t) \leq M \\ (3) D_t m(t) \geq (n+3)mM^2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{on } t \in [0, R^2] \\ \text{on } t \in [0, R^2] \\ \text{on } t \in [0, R^2] \end{array} .$$

MAIN THEOREM 1. *If on $B_R(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$ the condition (\star) is satisfied, then at $\forall(x, t) \in B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$, $\forall V \in T_x M^n$, we can find some constant $B > 0$, depend only on n and C_0 , then the local Harnack estimate holds, $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b + BM(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}) \geq 0$.*

Then we get a sharp gradient estimate of mean curvature:

COROLLARY 1. *Under the same condition of Main Theorem1, at point (O, R^2) ,*

we have

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1) |DH(V)|^2 \leq CM^3(H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b, \quad M \geq 1 \\ (2) |DH(V)|^2 \leq C(H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b, \quad 0 \leq M < 1 \\ (3) |DH(V)| = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{if } [D_t H + m(t)H^2 \\ + BM(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t})](O, R^2) = 0 \\ \text{or } (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b(O, R^2) = 0 \end{array} ,$$

C is depend only on n and C_0 .

Now we introduce the structure of the paper. In section 2, we introduce the notations and conventions. In section 3, we use the Huisken-Ecker gradient estimate in [4] to get a proper form of gradient estimate of curvature under the curvature condition (\star) . In section 4, we introduce a good extra term, it has positive lower bound and it play an important role in the local Harnack estimate. In section 5, we estimate the lower bound of another extra term in Harnack calculation, using the gradient estimate we got in section 3. Then we use the good extra term to get local Harnack estimate under condition (\star) in section 6. In section 7, we have some remarks to verify the inequality and the method are not trivial.

2. Notations and conventions. M is an n -dimensional manifold without boundary immersed in Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^{n+1} , it is parametrized locally by $X = \{x^i\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n , which ($i = 1, \dots, n$). We denote $Y = \{y^\alpha\}$ in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} ($\alpha = 1, \dots, n+1$), M is locally by $y^\alpha = F^\alpha(x^i)$. The tangent vectors on M in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} is denoted by $D_i Y = \frac{\partial Y}{\partial x^i}$. The Euclidean metric is $I = \{I_{\alpha\beta}\}$, then the induced metric $G = \{g_{ij}\}$ on M is

$$g_{ij} = I(D_i Y, D_j Y) = I_{\alpha\beta} D_i y^\alpha D_j y^\beta.$$

The unit normal $\vec{\nu} = \{N^\alpha\}$ is defined by

$$I_{\alpha\beta} N^\alpha N^\beta = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad I_{\alpha\beta} N^\alpha D_i y^\beta = 0.$$

On the convex surfaces we take $\vec{\nu}$ to be inward. The metric $G = \{g_{ij}\}$ induces a Levi-Civita connection $\Gamma = \{\Gamma_{jk}^i\}$ on M . So we can take covariant derivatives $D = \{D_i\}$ of tensors on M .

We denote $A = \{h_{ij}\}$ be the second fundamental form of M , $H = g^{ij} h_{ij}$ is the mean curvature.

3. Gradient Estimate of second fundamental form. In this section, we will use Hessian comparison theorem and Huisken-Ecker gradient estimate in [4] to get the gradient estimate in a proper form.

We know on $U \times [0, t_0]$, we have $-Mg_{ab}(t) \leq h_{ab}(t) \leq Mg_{ab}(t)$, then $R_{abab} = H_{aa}H_{bb} - H_{ab}H_{ab}$. So we have

$$-(n+1)M^2 \leq R_{abab} \leq (n+1)M^2.$$

We now use the Hessian comparison theorem in Chapter 6 in [5].

THEOREM 2. (*Hessian comparison theorem*) Assume that (M, g) satisfies $k \leq \sec \leq K$. If g_r represents the metric in the polar coordinates, then we have

$$\frac{Sn'_K(r)}{Sn_K(r)} g_r \leq \text{Hess}(r) \leq \frac{Sn'_k(r)}{Sn_k(r)} g_r,$$

where

$$Sn_K(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{K}} \sin(\sqrt{K}r) & \text{if } K > 0 \\ r & \text{if } K = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{|K|}} \sinh(\sqrt{|K|}r) & \text{if } K < 0 \end{cases}.$$

By this theorem, we get

$$(n-1) \frac{Sn'_K(r)}{Sn_K(r)} \leq \Delta r \leq (n-1) \frac{Sn'_k(r)}{Sn_k(r)}.$$

LEMMA 1. If $U \subset M^n$ is an open subset, and on $U \times [0, t_0]$, s.t. $t_0 < T$, we have the curvature condition $-Mg_{ab}(t) \leq h_{ab}(t) \leq Mg_{ab}(t)$. Let $0 \leq R \leq \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{n+1M}}$, $O \in M^n$, $B_R(O, t)$ is a geodesic ball centered at O , R is the radius at time t . Set

$d_t(x) = d_t(x, O)$ is the geodesic distance function from O to x respect to $g_{ij}(t)$. Then on $B_R(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$ we have

$$|d\Delta d| \leq \frac{(n-1)\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{e^\pi + 1}{e^\pi - 1}.$$

Proof. Because $-(n+1)M^2 \leq R_{abab} \leq (n+1)M^2$, then

$$(n-1)d \frac{Sn'_{\sqrt{n+1}M}(d)}{Sn_{\sqrt{n+1}M}(d)} \leq d\Delta d \leq (n-1)d \frac{Sn'_{-\sqrt{n+1}M}(d)}{Sn_{-\sqrt{n+1}M}(d)},$$

so we get

$$(n-1)(\sqrt{n+1}Md)ctg(\sqrt{n+1}Md) \leq d\Delta d \leq (n-1)(\sqrt{n+1}Md) \frac{e^{2\sqrt{n+1}Md} + 1}{e^{2\sqrt{n+1}Md} - 1}.$$

It is easy to verify that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} xctgx = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \coth(x) = 1$, and on $[0, \pi)$, $xctgx$ is a decreasing function, $x \coth(x)$ is a increasing function. When $d \leq R \leq \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{n+1}M}$, then $x = \sqrt{n+1}Md \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, so $0 \leq d\Delta d(x, t) \leq (n-1)\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{e^\pi + 1}{e^\pi - 1}$, $(x, t) \in B_R(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$. \square

LEMMA 2. On $(x, t) \in B_R(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$,

$$\left| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right) d^2 \right| \leq C, \quad |\nabla d^2|^2 = 4d^2,$$

where C is a positive constant depend only on n .

Proof. Because $\frac{\partial d^2}{\partial t} = 2d \frac{\partial d}{\partial t} = 2d \frac{d}{dt} \int_\gamma \sqrt{g_{ij}x^i x^j} ds = 2d \int_\gamma -HH_{ij}x^i x^j ds$. So $\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} d^2 \right| \leq nM^2 d^2 \leq \frac{n\pi^2}{4(n+1)}$. In another hand, $|\Delta d^2| = |2|Dd|^2 + 2d\Delta d| = |2 + (n-1)\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{e^\pi + 1}{e^\pi - 1}| \leq C$. So we have

$$\left| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right) d^2 \right| \leq C.$$

And $|\nabla d^2|^2 = |4d^2 \nabla d|^2 = 4d^2$. \square

Now we state the Theorem3.7 in [4] as follow.

THEOREM 3. (Theorem 3.7 in [4]) Let $r = r(x, t) \geq 0$, satisfies

$$\left| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right) r \right| \leq C(n), \quad |\nabla r|^2 \leq C(n)r.$$

Let $R > 0$, s.t. $\{x \in M_t | r(x, t) \leq R^2\}$ is compact for $t \in [0, T]$. Then for $0 \leq \theta < 1$, $t \in [0, T]$ and integers $l \geq 0$, we have the estimate

$$\sup_{\{x \in M_t | r(x, t) \leq \theta R^2\}} |\nabla^l A|^2 \leq C(n, \theta) \sup_{\{x \in M_t | r(x, t) \leq \theta R^2, s \in [0, t]\}} |A|^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)^l.$$

We see if $r(x, t) = d_t^2(x, O)$, $\theta = \frac{1}{4}$, then

$$\sup_{\{x \in M_t \mid d_t(O, x) \leq \frac{R}{2}\}} |\nabla^l A|^2 \leq C(n)M^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)^l.$$

So we get the gradient estimate in a proper form as follow.

COROLLARY 2 (Derivative estimates of second fundamental form). *If on $B_R(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$, where $0 \leq R \leq \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{n+1}M}$, holds the curvature condition (\star) , then we have on $B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$*

$$|\nabla A|^2 \leq CM^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right),$$

$$|\nabla^2 A|^2 \leq CM^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)^2.$$

Where C is a positive constant depend only on n .

4. Good extra term. In this section, we will change the Harnack quantities in [1], then we will find a good positive extra term.

We now recall the Harnack quantities in [1].

$$X_a = D_a H + H_{ab} V_b,$$

$$Y_{ab} = D_a V_b - H H_{ab},$$

$$Z = D_t H + 2V_a D_a H + H_{ab} V_a V_b,$$

$$W_{ab} = D_t H_{ab} + V_c D_c H_{ab},$$

$$W = D_t H + V_c D_c H,$$

$$U_a = (D_t - \Delta)V_a + H_{ab} D_b H.$$

$$(D_t - \Delta)Z = |H_{ab}|^2 Z + 2X_a U_a - 2H_{bc} Y_{ab} Y_{ac} - 4W_{ab} Y_{ab}.$$

We now change the Y_{ab} to $\widetilde{Y}_{ab} = D_a V_b - H H_{ab} + \widetilde{E}_{ab}$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (D_t - \Delta)Z \\ = & |H_{ab}|^2 Z + 2X_a U_a - 2H_{bc} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ac} - 4W_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4H_{bc} \widetilde{E}_{ac} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4\widetilde{E}_{ab} W_{ab} - 2H_{bc} \widetilde{E}_{ab} \widetilde{E}_{ac}. \end{aligned}$$

We set $\widetilde{E}_{ab} = H_{bc}^{-1} W_{ac}$. So

$$\begin{aligned} & -4W_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4H_{bc} \widetilde{E}_{ac} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\ = & -4W_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4H_{bc} H_{ce}^{-1} W_{ae} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\ = & -4W_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4W_{ab} \widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\ = & 0, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& 4\widetilde{E}_{ab}W_{ab} - 2H_{bc}\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ac} \\
&= 4H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} - 2H_{bc}H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}H_{cf}^{-1}W_{af} \\
&= 4H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} - 2H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} \\
&= 2H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab}.
\end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
(D_t - \Delta)(Z + \varphi) &= |H_{ab}|^2(Z + \varphi) + 2X_aU_a - 2H_{bc}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} \\
&\quad + [(D_t - \Delta)\varphi + 2H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} - |H_{ab}|^2\varphi].
\end{aligned}$$

When $0 \leq H_{ab} \leq Mg_{ab}$, we see $2H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} \geq \frac{2}{M}W_{ab}W_{ab}$. So it is a good positive term to make $[(D_t - \Delta)\varphi + 2H_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}W_{ab} - |H_{ab}|^2\varphi]$ positive. We will show the details in section 6.

5. Estimate of another extra term. Under the condition (\star) , we will have another extra term, we call it *CNS*. So in this section we will estimate it.

First, under the condition (\star) , we change the quantities in last section again as follow.

$$\widetilde{H}_{ab} = H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab},$$

$$\widetilde{X}_a = D_aH + \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_b,$$

$$\widetilde{Y}_{ab} = D_aV_b - HH_{ab} + \widetilde{E}_{ab},$$

$$\widetilde{Z} = D_tH + m(t)H^2 + 2V_aD_aH + \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_aV_b,$$

$$\widetilde{W}_{ab} = D_tH_{ab} + mHH_{ab} + V_cD_cH_{ab},$$

$$\widetilde{W} = D_tH + mH^2 + V_cD_cH,$$

$$\widetilde{U}_a = (D_t - \Delta)V_a + \widetilde{H}_{ab}D_bH.$$

We will define \widetilde{E}_{ab} later.

Recall the equation

$$\begin{aligned}
(D_t - \Delta)Z &= |H_{ab}|^2Z + 2X_aU_a - 2H_{bc}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} - 4W_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\
&\quad + 4H_{bc}\widetilde{E}_{ac}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4\widetilde{E}_{ab}W_{ab} - 2H_{bc}\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ac}.
\end{aligned}$$

We hope $(D_t - \Delta)\widetilde{Z}$ have following form,

$$\begin{aligned}
(D_t - \Delta)\widetilde{Z} &= |H_{ab}|^2\widetilde{Z} + 2\widetilde{X}_a\widetilde{U}_a - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} - 4\widetilde{W}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\
&\quad + 4\widetilde{H}_{bc}\widetilde{E}_{ac}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{W}_{ab} - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc}\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ac} + CNS.
\end{aligned}$$

So we get

$$\begin{aligned} CNS &= (D_t - \Delta)(\widetilde{Z} - Z) + |H_{ab}|^2(Z - \widetilde{Z}) + 2(X_a U_a - \widetilde{X}_a \widetilde{U}_a) + 2(\widetilde{H}_{bc} - H_{bc})\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} \\ &\quad + 4\widetilde{Y}_{ab}(\widetilde{W}_{ab} - W_{ab}) + 4(H_{bc} - \widetilde{H}_{bc})\widetilde{E}_{ac}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4\widetilde{E}_{ab}(W_{ab} - \widetilde{W}_{ab}) \\ &\quad + 2(\widetilde{H}_{bc} - H_{bc})\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ac}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we calculate them carefully as follow.

1.

$$\begin{aligned} (D_t - \Delta)(\widetilde{Z} - Z) &= (D_t - \Delta)(mH^2 + m|V|^2) \\ &= (D_t m)H^2 + (D_t m)|V|^2 - 2m|DH|^2 - 2m|DV|^2 \\ &\quad + 2mH(D_t - \Delta)H + 2mV_a(D_t - \Delta)V_a. \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$|H_{ab}|^2(Z - \widetilde{Z}) = -m|H_{ab}|^2H^2 - m|H_{ab}|^2|V|^2.$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned} &2(X_a U_a - \widetilde{X}_a \widetilde{U}_a) \\ &= -2m|DH|^2 - 4mH_{ab}V_b D_a H - 2mV_a(D_t - \Delta)V_a - 2m^2V_a D_a H. \end{aligned}$$

4.

$$2(\widetilde{H}_{bc} - H_{bc})\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} = 2m\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}.$$

5.

$$4\widetilde{Y}_{ab}(\widetilde{W}_{ab} - W_{ab}) = 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}.$$

6.

$$4(H_{bc} - \widetilde{H}_{bc})\widetilde{E}_{ac}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} = -4m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}.$$

7.

$$4\widetilde{E}_{ab}(W_{ab} - \widetilde{W}_{ab}) = -4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab}.$$

8.

$$2(\widetilde{H}_{bc} - H_{bc})\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ac} = 2m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab}.$$

So we get

$$\begin{aligned} CNS &= (D_t m)H^2 + (D_t m)|V|^2 - 2m|DH|^2 - 2m|DV|^2 + 2mH(D_t - \Delta)H \\ &\quad + 2mV_a(D_t - \Delta)V_a - m|H_{ab}|^2H^2 - m|H_{ab}|^2|V|^2 - 2m|DH|^2 \\ &\quad - 4mH_{ab}V_b D_a H - 2mV_a(D_t - \Delta)V_a - 2m^2V_a D_a H + 2m\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} \\ &\quad + 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab} + 2m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab}. \end{aligned}$$

Because

$$\begin{aligned} 2m\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 2m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab} &= 2m(\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - \widetilde{E}_{ab})^2 \\ &= 2m(D_a V_b - HH_{ab})^2 \\ &= 2m|DV|^2 - 4mD_a V_a HH_{ab} + 2mH^2|H_{ab}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab} = 4mD_aV_bHH_{ab} - 4mH^2|H_{ab}|^2.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} & 2m\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} + 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ab} - 4mHH_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab} + 2m\widetilde{E}_{ab}\widetilde{E}_{ab} \\ &= 2m|DV|^2 - 2mH^2|H_{ab}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} -4mH_{ab}V_bD_aH &\geq -2mH_{ac}H_{ab}V_cV_b - 2m|DH|^2 \\ &\geq -2mM^2|V|^2 - 2m|DH|^2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$-2m^2V_aD_aH \geq -m^3|V|^2 - m|DH|^2.$$

So we get on $B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O, t) \times [0, R^2]$

$$\begin{aligned} CNS &= (D_tm - m|H_{ab}|^2)H^2 + |V|^2(D_tm - m|H_{ab}|^2 - 2mM^2 - m^3) - 7m|DH|^2 \\ &\geq (D_tm - nmM^2)H^2 + |V|^2(D_tm - (n+3)mM^2) - 7m|DH|^2 \\ &\geq -CmM^2(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}). \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality is hold by curvature condition (\star) .

6. Local Harnack estimate for curvature condition (\star) . In this section we will prove the local Harnack estimate for curvature condition (\star) .

If we add some function φ , and set $\widetilde{E}_{ab} = \widetilde{H}_{bc}^{-1}W_{ac}$, then we get the equality

$$\begin{aligned} (D_t - \Delta)(\widetilde{Z} + \varphi) &= |H_{ab}|^2(\widetilde{Z} + \varphi) + 2\widetilde{X}_a\widetilde{U}_a - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} + 2\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1}\widetilde{W}_{ac}\widetilde{W}_{bc} \\ &\quad + CNS + (D_t - \Delta)\varphi - |H_{ab}|^2\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

If $-m(t)g_{ab}(t) \leq H_{ab}(t) \leq M g_{ab}(t)$, then $0 \leq \widetilde{H}_{ab} \leq (M + m(t))g_{ab}$, so $\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1} \geq \frac{1}{M+m(t)}g_{ab}$.

So

$$\begin{aligned} 2\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1}\widetilde{W}_{ac}\widetilde{W}_{bc} &\geq \frac{2}{M+m(t)}\widetilde{W}_{ab}\widetilde{W}_{ab} \\ &= \frac{2}{M+m(t)}(\widetilde{W}_{ab} + \frac{\varphi}{n}g_{ab})^2 - \frac{4}{M+m(t)}(\widetilde{W} + \varphi)\frac{\varphi}{n} \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{M+m(t)}\frac{\varphi^2}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (D_t - \Delta)(\widetilde{Z} + \varphi) \\ &\geq |H_{ab}|^2(\widetilde{Z} + \varphi) + 2\widetilde{X}_a\widetilde{U}_a - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc}\widetilde{Y}_{ab}\widetilde{Y}_{ac} + \frac{2}{M+m(t)}|\widetilde{W}_{ab} + \frac{\varphi}{n}g_{ab}|^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{4}{M+m(t)}(\widetilde{W} + \varphi)\frac{\varphi}{n} + [(D_t - \Delta)\varphi + \frac{2}{M+m(t)}\frac{\varphi^2}{n} - |H_{ab}|^2\varphi + CNS]. \end{aligned}$$

Now we prove Main theorem 1.

Proof of the Main Theorem 1. Let $\varphi = BM(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t})$, B will be chosen later. We see $\varphi = +\infty$ at $B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O,0) \cup \partial B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O,t)$, $t \in [0, R^2]$. If $\tilde{Z} + \varphi$ attain zero in $B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O,t) \times [0, R^2]$ at (x_0, t_0, V) for the first time, then it must be $(x_0, t_0) \in \text{int}(B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O,t)) \times (0, R^2]$. And we know

$$0 = \frac{\partial(\tilde{Z} + \varphi)(V + s\tilde{V})}{\partial s} \Big|_{s=0} = 2 \sum_a \tilde{X}_a \tilde{V}_a, \text{ for } \forall \tilde{V} \in T_{x_0} M^n.$$

So $\tilde{X}_a = 0$. On the other hand, we see $\tilde{Z} + \varphi - \tilde{X}_a V_a = \tilde{W} + \varphi = 0$. We set the expansion of V as $\tilde{Y}_{ab} = 0$, and we see $CNS \geq -CmM^2(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t})$ on $B_{\frac{R}{2}}(O,t) \times [0, R^2]$. Now we get

$$(D_t - \Delta)(\tilde{Z} + \varphi) \geq (D_t - \Delta)\varphi + \frac{2}{M+m(t)} \frac{\varphi^2}{n} - |H_{ab}|^2 \varphi - CmM^2(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}).$$

If we can hold the right hand side > 0 , then the theorem holds. We calculate the R.H.S. as follow.

1. $D_t \varphi = D_t [BM(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t})] = BM(\frac{16R^2 d D_t d}{(R^2-4d^2)^3} - \frac{1}{t^2})$. Because $|D_t d| = |D_t \int_\gamma \sqrt{g_{ij} x^i x^j} ds| = |\int_\gamma -H H_{ij} x^i x^j ds| \leq CM^2 d$, so

$$\begin{aligned} D_t \varphi &\geq BM(-\frac{16R^2 d^2 CM^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^3} - \frac{1}{t^2}) \\ &\geq BM(-\frac{16R^2 d^2 (R^2-4d^2) CM^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^4} - \frac{1}{t^2}) \\ &\geq BM(-\frac{CR^4}{(R^2-4d^2)^4} - \frac{1}{t^2}) \\ &\geq -\frac{C}{BM} \varphi^2. \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta \varphi &= -BM(\frac{16R^2 |Dd|^2 + 16R^2 d \Delta d}{(R^2-4d^2)^3} + \frac{384R^2 d^2 |Dd|^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^4}) \\ &\geq -BM(\frac{CR^2}{(R^2-4d^2)^3} + \frac{CR^4}{(R^2-4d^2)^4}) \\ &\geq -BM(\frac{CR^4}{(R^2-4d^2)^4}) \\ &\geq -\frac{C}{BM} \varphi^2. \end{aligned}$$

3. $\frac{2}{M+m(t)} \frac{\varphi^2}{n} \geq \frac{1}{M} \frac{\varphi^2}{n}$.
4. $-CmM^2 \varphi \geq -\frac{C}{BM} \varphi^2$.
5. $-CmM^2(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}) \geq -\frac{C}{B^2 M} \varphi^2$.

So we get

$$\begin{aligned} (D_t - \Delta)(\tilde{Z} + \varphi) &\geq -\frac{C}{BM}\varphi^2 + \frac{1}{M}\frac{\varphi^2}{n} - \frac{C}{B^2M}\varphi^2 \\ &\geq \frac{\varphi^2}{nMB^2}(B^2 - nBC - nC) \\ &> 0, \end{aligned}$$

when $B > \frac{nC + \sqrt{n^2C^2 + 4nC}}{2}$. \square

Now we can prove the corollary 1.

Proof of Corollary 1. At (O, R^2) , for $\forall V \in T_O M^n$, we have

$$D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \geq 0.$$

Then $|2DH(V)| \leq D_t H + m(t)H^2 + \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)$. And if $V = 0$, we see $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \geq 0$.

Case 1. If $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) > 0$, $\widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b > 0$, then we can find $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, s.t. $[D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)](O, R^2) = \lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b(O, R^2)$.
So

$$\begin{aligned} |2DH(\lambda V)|^2 &\leq [D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + \lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)]^2 \\ &\leq 4(D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right))\lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b, \end{aligned}$$

so

$$|DH(V)|^2 \leq (D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right))\widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b.$$

Case 2. If $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) = 0$, $\widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b > 0$, then for $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, we can find $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, s.t. $\varepsilon = \lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b(O, R^2)$. So

$$\begin{aligned} |2DH(\lambda V)|^2 &< [\varepsilon + \lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b]^2 \\ &= 4\varepsilon\lambda^2 \widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b, \end{aligned}$$

let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have $|DH(V)| = 0$.

Case 3. If $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) > 0$, $\widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b = 0$, then for $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, we can find $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, s.t. $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) = \varepsilon\lambda^2 g_{ab}V_a V_b(O, R^2)$.
So

$$|2DH(\lambda V)|^2 < 4[D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)]\varepsilon\lambda^2 g_{ab}V_a V_b$$

let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have $|DH(V)| = 0$.

Case 4. If $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) = 0$, $\widetilde{H}_{ab}V_a V_b = 0$, then $|DH(V)| = 0$.
For at (O, R^2)

$$\begin{aligned}
& D_t H + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \\
&= \Delta H + H|H_{ab}|^2 + m(t)H^2 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \\
&\leq CM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) + CM^3 + BM\left(1 + \frac{1}{R^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \\
&\leq CM + CM^3.
\end{aligned}$$

So for $M \geq 1$,

$$|DH(V)|^2 \leq CM^3 \widetilde{H}_{ab} V_a V_b,$$

and for $0 \leq M < 1$,

$$|DH(V)|^2 \leq C \widetilde{H}_{ab} V_a V_b. \quad \square$$

REMARK1. If we set $m(t) = 0$, then it obviously satisfies the condition (\star) , then we also get the local Harnack under the condition $0 \leq H_{ab} \leq M g_{ab}$ as a corollary.

7. Conclusion remarks.

1. The inequality

$$D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \geq 0,$$

cannot be got from gradient estimate directly.

Set $V_a = -\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1} D_b H$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
& D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \\
&= D_t H + m(t)H^2 - \widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1} D_a H D_b H + BM\left(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right),
\end{aligned}$$

we know $BM\left(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right)$ can control $D_t H + m(t)H^2$ by gradient estimates, but $-\infty \leq -\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1} \leq -\frac{1}{M+m(t)}g_{ab}$, so $-\widetilde{H}_{ab}^{-1} D_a H D_b H$ can't find the lower bound.

2. It is hard to get $D_t H + m(t)H^2 + 2DH(V) + (H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab})V_a V_b + BM\left(1 + \frac{R^2}{(R^2 - 4d^2)^2} + \frac{1}{t}\right) \geq 0$ directly without using "good extra term". We can have some calculation to show the hard point.

If we set

$$\widetilde{H}_{ab} = H_{ab} + m(t)g_{ab},$$

$$\widetilde{X}_a = D_a H + \widetilde{H}_{ab} V_b,$$

$$Y_{ab} = D_a V_b - H H_{ab},$$

$$\widetilde{Z} = D_t H + 2V_a D_a H + \widetilde{H}_{ab} V_a V_b.,$$

$$W_{ab} = D_t H_{ab} + V_c D_c H_{ab},$$

$$W = D_t H + V_c D_c H,$$

$$\widetilde{U}_a = (D_t - \Delta)V_a + \widetilde{H}_{ab} D_b H.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (D_t - \Delta)\widetilde{Z} &= |H_{ab}|^2 \widetilde{Z} + 2\widetilde{X}_a \widetilde{U}_a - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc} Y_{ab} Y_{ac} - 4W_{ab} Y_{ab} \\ &\quad + (D_t m)|V|^2 + 2m(D_t - \Delta)V_a V_a - 2mY_{ab} Y_{ab} \\ &\quad - 2mH^2 |H_{ab}|^2 - 4mH H_{ab} Y_{ab} - m|H_{ab}|^2 |V|^2 \\ &\quad - 2m|DH|^2 - 4mH_{ab} V_b D_a H - 2mV_a (D_t - \Delta)V_a \\ &\quad - 2m^2 V_a D_a H + 2mY_{ab} Y_{ab}. \\ &\geq |H_{ab}|^2 \widetilde{Z} + 2\widetilde{X}_a \widetilde{U}_a - 2\widetilde{H}_{bc} Y_{ab} Y_{ac} - 4W_{ab} Y_{ab} - 4mH H_{ab} Y_{ab} \\ &\quad + (D_t m - (n+3)mM^2)|V|^2 - 5m|DH|^2 - 2n^3 m M^4. \end{aligned}$$

From conditon (\star) , $m'(t) - (n+3)mM^2 \geq 0$. When $\widetilde{Z} + \varphi$ attains zero for the first time, we have $\widetilde{X}_a = 0$, we can let $Y_{ab} = 0$. Then

$$(D_t - \Delta)(\widetilde{Z} + \varphi) \geq (D_t - \Delta)\varphi - 5m|DH|^2 - |H_{ab}|^2 \varphi - 2n^3 m M^4.$$

We see, all these terms have non-positive lower bound, so we need a “good” term which has big positive lower bound to cancel these terms, this term is in our method.

3. The additive term $m(t)H^2$ is used to make the calculation easier, but it is not the only way, one can add something else.

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