ASYMPTOTICALLY OPTIMAL DESIGNS ON COMPACT ALGEBRAIC MANIFOLDS

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ABSTRACT. We find t-designs on compact algebraic manifolds with a number of points comparable to the dimension of the space of polynomials of degree t on the manifold. This generalizes results on the sphere by Bondarenko, Radchenko and Viazovska in [BRV13]. Of special interest is the particular case of the Grassmannians where our results improve the bounds that had been proved previously.

1. INTRODUCTION

Given a real affine algebraic manifold \( \mathcal{M} \) endowed with the normalized Lebesgue measure \( \mu_\mathcal{M} \), we say that a collection of \( N \) points \( x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathcal{M} \) is a t-design, also called averaging set or Chebyshev quadrature formula, if

\[
\int_{\mathcal{M}} P(x) \, d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i),
\]

for all polynomials \( P(x) \) of total degree less or equal than \( t \).

The results for Chebyshev quadrature on the interval are classic, see for example the survey paper by Gautschi and the commentaries by Korevaar, [Gau14].

In the case of the sphere, these sets are known as spherical designs and were introduced by Delsarte, Goethals and Seidel [DGS77] in the context of algebraic combinatorics on spheres.

Since then, spherical designs have gained popularity in different areas of mathematics, ranging over geometry, algebraic and geometric combinatorics, and numerical analysis. See for instance the review [BB09] by Bannai and Bannai or the more recent review of Brauchart and Grabner [BG15].

Very early the notion of t-designs was considered in other contexts beyond the sphere. The projective designs were introduced by Hoggar and further investigated by Lyubich and Shalatova, [LS04], as a tool to embed isometrically \( l^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \) in \( l^2(\mathbb{R}^m) \).

When they are separated, the points in t-designs tend to be evenly distributed along the sphere or the projective space, and they are close to optimal for other problems, like minimization of Newtonian energy as observed in [HL08] and [BRV15].

For this reason, in order to have evenly distributed subspaces, the t-designs on Grassmannians were considered by Bachoc, Coulageon and Nebe.

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in [BCN02]. In [BEG16] Breger, Ehler and Gräf make some numerical study of approximation problems in Grassmannians and make the observation that two possible notions of designs in Grassmannians (one of them using polynomials as we did and another when one replaces polynomials by eigenvectors of the Laplacian as in [BCN02]) are indeed related.

The existence of designs in a very general setting was proved by Seymour and Zaslavsky in [SZ84], see also [AdR88]. One challenging problem is to find designs with as few points as possible for every \( t \).

In [Kan15] Kane studied the existence of designs in path-connected spaces. In particular for the Grassmanian \( G(k, \mathbb{R}^n) \), linear subspaces of \( \mathbb{R}^n \) of dimension \( k \), he proved that one can find \( t \)-designs with a number of points of order \( O(t^{2k(n-k)}) \) and he conjectures that it should be of order \( O(t^{k(n-k)}) \) since this is the dimension of the corresponding space of polynomials.

A breakthrough on the existence of designs of size of optimal asymptotic order was obtained in [BRV13], where the conjecture by Korevaar and Meyers was settled. There are \( t \)-designs with \( O(t^d) \) points in the \( d \)-dimensional sphere. This is asymptotically the best rate possible. The proof is obtained by a fixed point theorem, thus it is not constructive. On the other hand their method is very flexible, so they could improve it in [BRV15] to obtain separated spherical designs with the same cardinality.

As a further evidence of the flexibility of their method we are going to adapt it to the setting of a general algebraic manifold and obtain sharp estimates on the number of points needed for a \( t \)-design. The two main ingredients that are needed to adapt their method to this setting are the construction of area regular partitions in manifolds (this has been recently proved by Gigante and Leopardi in [GL15]) and the existence of a sampling-type inequalities (Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities) for polynomials for sequences of points sufficiently close and separated. This last ingredient essentially follows from a Bernstein-type inequality for polynomials in algebraic varieties proved in [BOC15]. If we specialize our results to the Grassmannians we confirm the conjecture in [Kan15].

2. Definitions and Main results

Let \( \mathcal{M} \) be a smooth, connected and compact affine algebraic manifold of dimension \( d \) in \( \mathbb{R}^n \)

\[ \mathcal{M} = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n : p_1(x) = \cdots = p_r(x) = 0 \}, \]

where \( p_1, \ldots, p_r \in \mathbb{R}[X] \) are polynomials with real coefficients and the normal space at \( x \in \mathcal{M} \), generated by \( \nabla p_1(x), \ldots, \nabla p_r(x) \), is of dimension \( n-d \).

We consider in \( \mathcal{M} \) the \( d \)-dimensional Hausdorff measure (i.e. the Lebesgue measure) \( \mu_\mathcal{M} \), normalized by \( \mu_\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{M}) = 1 \). We denote as \( d(x, y) \) the geodesic distance between \( x, y \in \mathcal{M} \).

Let \( X \subset \mathbb{C}^n \) be the complexification of \( \mathcal{M} \), i.e. the complex zero set of the real polynomials \( p_1(x), \ldots, p_r(x) \). The Lebesgue measure in \( X \) will be denoted by \( \mu_X \).

The space of real algebraic polynomials on \( \mathcal{M} \) of total degree at most \( t \), denoted by \( P_t = P_t(\mathcal{M}) \) is the restriction to \( \mathcal{M} \) of the space of real polynomials in \( n \) variables. The dimension of the space \( P_t(\mathcal{M}) \) is given by
the Hilbert polynomial and it satisfies:

$$\dim \mathcal{P}_t(\mathcal{M}) = \deg(\mathcal{M})t^d + O(t^{d-1}).$$

Let $\mathcal{P}_t^0$ be the Hilbert space of polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_t$ with zero mean

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} P(x) d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = 0,$$

with respect to the usual inner product

$$\langle P, Q \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{M}} P(x)Q(x) d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x),$$

this space has a reproducing kernel i.e. for each $x \in \mathcal{M}$ there exists a unique polynomial $K_x \in \mathcal{P}_t^0$ such that

$$\langle Q, K_x \rangle = Q(x),$$

for all $Q \in \mathcal{P}_t^0$.

It is clear that $x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathcal{M}$ is a $t$-design if and only if

$$\sum_{i=1}^N K_{x_i} = 0. \quad (1)$$

The existence of designs was already proved in a very general setting in [SZ84], our aim is to show, adapting the techniques from [BRV13], that one can reach the right order, given by the following result.

**Proposition 2.1.** If $x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathcal{M}$ is a $t$-design in $\mathcal{M}$, then $N \gtrsim t^d$.

**Proof.** Let $s$ be such that $2s = t$, if $t$ is even, and such that $2s + 1 = t$ otherwise. We have that

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} P^2(x) d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N P^2(x_i), \text{ for } P \in \mathcal{P}_s.$$

Suppose that $N < \dim \mathcal{P}_s$. Then for $P_1, \ldots, P_N \in \mathcal{P}_s$ linearly independent we have that

$$\det(P_j(x_i))_{i,j=1,\ldots,N} \neq 0.$$

Indeed, if the determinant above vanishes, there exist a non-trivial linear combination

$$\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j P_j(x_i) = 0, \quad i = 1, \ldots, N,$$

and we get a contradiction from

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j P_j(x)\right)^2 d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = 0.$$

As $\det(P_j(x_i))_{i,j=1,\ldots,N} \neq 0$, there exist $Q_1, \ldots, Q_N \in \mathcal{P}_s$ such that $Q_j(x_i) = \delta_{ij}$, for $i, j = 1, \ldots, N$, and $Q \in \text{span}\{Q_1, \ldots, Q_N\}^\perp$. Then

$$0 = \int_{\mathcal{M}} Q(x)Q_j(x) d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = \frac{1}{N} Q(x_j), \quad j = 1, \ldots, N$$

and from $\int_{\mathcal{M}} Q(x)^2 d\mu_\mathcal{M}(x) = 0$ we get that $Q(x) = 0$. \qed
Remark. If $x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathcal{M}$ is a $t$-design in $\mathcal{M}$, for even $t$, and $N = \dim \mathcal{P}_{t/2}(\mathcal{M})$, it is easy to see that the set of reproducing kernels of the space $\mathcal{P}_{t/2}(\mathcal{M})$ on those points
\[ K_{t/2}(\cdot, x_j), \quad j = 1, \ldots, N, \]
form an orthogonal basis of $\mathcal{P}_{t/2}(\mathcal{M})$ and
\[ K_{t/2}(x_j, x_j) = \|K_{t/2}(\cdot, x_j)\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 = N, \]
for all $j = 1, \ldots, N$. The existence (or not) of these, so-called, tight designs in a variety $\mathcal{M}$ seems to be a difficult problem.

In the case of the sphere $S^d$ the (sharp) lower bounds tell us that if $x_1, \ldots, x_N \in S^d$ is a $t$-design
\[ N \geq \left( \frac{d+s}{d} \right) + \left( \frac{d+s-1}{d} \right) = \dim \mathcal{P}_s(S^d), \quad N \geq 2 \left( \frac{d+s}{d} \right) \]
for $t = 2s$ and $t = 2s+1$, respectively. For the sphere $S^d$ there are a few tight spherical designs, see [BD79, BD80], for which these lower bound are attained. The tight spherical designs with larger cardinality are the kissing tight 4-design for $S^{21}$ of $275 = \dim \mathcal{P}_2(S^{21})$ points for even $t$, and the $11$-design for $S^{23}$ of $196560$ points from the Leech lattice for odd $t$.

Our main result is the following theorem where we show the existence of designs with cardinality $N$ for all $N \gtrsim \dim \mathcal{P}_t(\mathcal{M})$.

**Theorem 2.2.** There is a constant $C_\mathcal{M}$ depending only on $\mathcal{M}$ such that for each $N \geq C_\mathcal{M} t^d$ there are $t$-designs in $\mathcal{M}$ with $N$ points.

Besides the sharp result for the sphere in [BRV13], Kuijlaars has proved on the torus on $\mathbb{R}^3$ the existence of Chebyshev quadratures with $Ct^2$ points for polynomials of degree $t$, [Kui95]. In [Kan15] the author obtained results in the very general setting of path-connected topological spaces. His result in our setting provides designs for any $N \gtrsim t^{2d}$ so twice as much as in our result.

To prove Theorem 2.2, we follow the strategy of [BRV13]. The main ingredients are a result from Brouwer degree theory and Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities for spaces of polynomials $\mathcal{P}_t(\mathcal{M})$. In [BRV13] the authors borrow the Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities on the sphere from [MNW01, Theorem 3.1], see also [DX13, Theorem 6.4.4]. We will prove the analogue for algebraic polynomials on algebraic varieties.

To state our results we have to define area regular partitions.

A finite family of closed sets $R_1, \ldots, R_N \subset \mathcal{M}$ is an area regular partition of $\mathcal{M}$ if
\[ \mu_\mathcal{M}(R_i) = 1/N, \quad \bigcup_{i=1}^N R_i = \mathcal{M}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_\mathcal{M}(R_i \cap R_j) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad i \neq j. \]

The diameter of the partition $\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\}$ is
\[ \|\mathcal{R}\| = \max_{i=1, \ldots, N} \max_{x, y \in R_i} d(x, y). \]

Following previous constructions for the sphere, it is not difficult to deduce the existence of area regular partitions with diameter comparable to $N^{-1/d}$
for any compact algebraic variety, see for example [RSZ94] and the references therein. The existence of such a partition in our case can be deduced also from a recent result by Gigante and Leopardi for Ahlfors regular metric measure spaces, see [GL15, Theorem 2].

**Proposition 2.3.** For any $N \geq N_0 = N_0(M) \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists an area regular partition $\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\}$ of $M$, with $\mu_M(R_i) = 1/N$ for all $1 \leq i \leq N$, and such that

\begin{equation}
B(c_1 N^{-1/d}) \subset R_i \subset B(c_2 N^{-1/d}),
\end{equation}

where $B(r)$ is a geodesic ball in $M$ of radius $r > 0$ and the constants $c_1, c_2$ depend only on $M$.

Our result about Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities is the following:

**Theorem 2.4.** There exists a constant $A = A(M) > 0$ such that if $N \geq At^d$ and $\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\}$ is an area regular partition of $M$ as in (2). Then for all $P \in P_t$

\begin{equation}
\frac{1}{2} \int_M |P(x)| d\mu_M(x) \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |P(x_i)| \leq \frac{3}{2} \int_M |P(x)| d\mu_M(x),
\end{equation}

for any choice of $x_i \in R_i$, with $1 \leq i \leq N$.

We will need also Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities for tangential gradients of polynomials. Observe that, unlike for the sphere, for a general variety the tangential gradient is not necessarily a polynomial.

**Definition 2.5.** Given a differentiable function $f$ in $M \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. The tangential gradient of $f$ at a point $x \in M$, denoted as $\nabla_t f(x)$ is the orthogonal projection of the gradient $\nabla f(x)$ onto the tangent space of $M$ at $x$.

**Corollary 2.6.** There exists a constant $A = A(M) > 0$ such that if $N \geq At^d$ and $\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\}$ is an area regular partition of $M$ as in (2).

Then for all $P \in P_t$

\begin{equation}
\frac{1}{K_M} \int_M |\nabla_t P(x)| d\mu_M(x) \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |\nabla_t P(x_i)| \leq K_M \int_M |\nabla_t P(x)| d\mu_M(x),
\end{equation}
where $K_M = 3\sqrt{d} \frac{r}{n-d} C_M$ for $C_M > 0$ depending only on $M$ and for any choice of $x_i \in R_i$, with $1 \leq i \leq N$.

As in [BRV13], the last ingredient of the proof of Theorem 2.2 is the following result from Brouwer degree theory:

**Theorem 2.7** ([CC06, Theorem 1.2.9]). Let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a continuous mapping and $\Omega$ an open bounded subset, with boundary $\partial \Omega$, such that $0 \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. If $\langle x, f(x) \rangle > 0$ for all $x \in \partial \Omega$, then there exists $x \in \Omega$ satisfying $f(x) = 0$.

Defining the convenient mapping from $\mathcal{P}_t$ into itself, this result will give us (1).

3. Proofs

First we prove the Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities in the algebraic variety $M$ (Theorem 2.4). Similar results have been obtained also in general compact Riemannian manifolds for spaces of, so-called, diffusion polynomials (i.e. eigenfunctions of elliptic differential operators, in particular, for the Laplace-Beltrami operator), [FM10, FM11]. In the proof we use the following result from Berman and Ortega-Cerdà [BOC15, Theorem 10]. This result is analogous to Plancherel-Polya inequality for entire functions of exponential type, [You01].

**Lemma 3.1.** There exists a constant $C = C_M > 0$ such that for all polynomials $P \in \mathcal{P}_t$ the following inequality holds

$$\int_{U(\frac{1}{t})} |P(x)| d\mu_X(x) \leq \frac{C}{t^a} \int_{M} |P(x)| d\mu_M(x),$$

where $U(\frac{1}{t}) = \{ x \in X : d(x, M) \leq \frac{1}{t} \}$.

**Proof of Theorem 2.4.** It is enough to show that

$$\left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |P(x_i)| - \int_{M} |P(x)| d\mu_M(x) \right| \leq Ca \int_{M} |P(x)| d\mu_M(x),$$

where $C = C(M) > 0$ is a constant depending only $M$ and $1 \geq aA$. Just take $A \geq 2C$.

During all the proof, we will call $C$ all the constants depending on $M$.

Let $N = t^d/a^d$, for some constant $a > 0$ such that $1 \geq aA$. By assumption

$$B(a_1 ct^{-1}) \subset R_i \subset B(a_2 ct^{-1}),$$
and
\[ \frac{2ac_1}{t} \leq \|\mathcal{R}\| \leq \frac{2ac_2}{t}. \]

Then
\[ \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |P(x_i)| - \int_{\mathcal{M}} |P(x)|d\mu_{\mathcal{M}}(x) \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left| \int_{R_i} |P(x_i)| - |P(x)|d\mu_{\mathcal{M}}(x) \right| \leq \frac{\|\mathcal{R}\|}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla_t P(x'_i)|, \]
(5)

where \( x'_i \) is such that \( |\nabla_t P(x'_i)| \geq |\nabla_t P(x)| \) for all \( x \in R_i \). Observe that we can take \( x'_i \) in the ball \( B(ac_2 t^{-1}) \) containing \( R_i \).

Consider now each \( x'_i \) as a point of \( X \), the complex variety, and apply Cauchy’s inequality
\[ |\nabla_t P(x'_i)| \leq C \left( \frac{1}{t} \right)^{d+1} \int_{B_X(x'_i, \frac{1}{t})} |P(z)|d\mu_X(z), \]
where \( C \) is a constant depending on \( M \) and \( B_X(x'_i, t^{-1}) \) is a ball in \( X \).

We assume that \( a < 1/2c_2 \) and then \( B_X(x'_i, 2ac_2 t^{-1}) \subset B_X(x'_i, t^{-1}) \). With this assumption, as \( R_i \subset B_X(x'_i, 2ac_2 t^{-1}) \) and each \( R_i \) contains a disjoint ball of radius \( ac_1 t^{-1} \), we get that
\[ \bigcap_{j=1}^{m} B_X(x'_i, t^{-1}) \neq \emptyset, \]

implies that
\[ m \leq \frac{C}{a^d}. \]

We can bound the sum on the balls by the integral on a tubular domain around \( \mathcal{M} \) defined as in Lemma 3.1 (see [BOC15]) and taking into account the multiplicities:
\[ \sum_{i=1}^{N} \int_{B_X(x'_i, \frac{1}{t})} |P(z)|d\mu_X(z) \leq \frac{C}{a^d} \int_{U(\frac{1}{t})} |P(z)|d\mu_X(z). \]

Finally, we apply Lemma 3.1 and we get that (5) is bounded by
\[ \frac{\|\mathcal{R}\|}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla_t P(x'_i)| \leq C \frac{\|\mathcal{R}\|}{a^d N} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |P(x)|d\mu_{\mathcal{M}}(x), \]
so by using that \( N = t^d/a^d \) and the upper bound for \( \|\mathcal{R}\| \) we get the result. \( \square \)

To prove the Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities for the tangential gradient (Corollary 2.6) we use the following inequality for vectors of polynomials.

**Corollary 3.2.** Let \( k \in \mathbb{N} \) be a fixed constant. There exists a constant \( A = A(\mathcal{M}, k) > 0 \) such that if \( N \geq At^d \) and \( \mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\} \) is an
area regular partition as in (2). Then, for all vector of polynomials $Q(x) = (Q_1(x), \ldots, Q_m(x))$ with $m \leq 2d$ and $Q_j(x) \in \mathcal{P}_{t+k}(M)$ we have that

$$
\frac{1}{3\sqrt{d}} \int_M |Q(x)|d\mu_M(x) \leq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |Q(x_i)| \leq 3\sqrt{d} \int_M |Q(x)|d\mu_M(x),
$$

for any election of $x_i \in R_i$.

Proof. Let $A$ be the constant given by the previous theorem when we replace $t + k$ instead of $t$. Then we use that

$$
|Q(x)| \leq \sum_{j=1}^m |Q_j(x)| \leq \sqrt{m}|Q(x)|,
$$

and we apply the previous result for each $Q_j(x)$. □

In [BRV13] this result above was enough because the tangential gradient on the sphere of a spherical polynomial can be written as a vector of spherical polynomials (i.e. polynomials restricted to the sphere). In our case this is no longer the case and we have to be more careful.

Proof of Corollary 2.6. Let $M$ be given as the common zero set of the real polynomials $p_1(x), \ldots, p_r(x)$.

Since $M$ is smooth of dimension $d$, for all $x \in M$ the normal space to $M$ on $x$ is generated by

$$
\nabla p_{i_1}(x), \ldots, \nabla p_{i_{n-d}}(x),
$$

where the index $i_1 < \ldots < i_{n-d}$ (which may depend on $x$) is a subset of $\{1, \ldots, r\}$.

Assume that $i_j = j$ for $j = 1, \ldots, n-d$. By the Gram-Schmidt determinant-type formula we obtain an orthogonal basis $u_1(x), \ldots, u_{n-d}(x)$ of the normal space at $x$ by the following determinants

$$
u_i(x) =
\begin{vmatrix}
\langle \nabla p_1(x), \nabla p_1(x) \rangle & \langle \nabla p_2(x), \nabla p_1(x) \rangle & \cdots & \langle \nabla p_i(x), \nabla p_1(x) \rangle \\
\langle \nabla p_1(x), \nabla p_2(x) \rangle & \langle \nabla p_2(x), \nabla p_2(x) \rangle & \cdots & \langle \nabla p_i(x), \nabla p_2(x) \rangle \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\langle \nabla p_1(x), \nabla p_{i-1}(x) \rangle & \langle \nabla p_2(x), \nabla p_{i-1}(x) \rangle & \cdots & \langle \nabla p_i(x), \nabla p_{i-1}(x) \rangle \\
\nabla p_1(x) & \nabla p_2(x) & \cdots & \nabla p_i(x)
\end{vmatrix}.
$$

Observe that since every $\nabla p_i(x)$ is a vector of polynomials, the product $\langle \nabla p_i(x), \nabla p_j(x) \rangle$ is also a polynomial an therefore $u_i(x)$ is also a vector of polynomials of total degree bounded by a constant depending only on $M$.

The tangential gradient of $P$ at $x \in M$ is then

$$
\nabla_t P(x) = \nabla P(x) - \sum_{i=1}^{n-d} \frac{\langle \nabla P(x), u_i(x) \rangle u_i(x)}{\|u_i(x)\|^2}.
$$

If there are $n - d$ polynomials defining the normal space to $M$ in all the variety, in particular, for the sphere or any other algebraic hypersurface, the result follows because one can apply Corollary 3.2 to the vector of polynomials

$$
\left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-d} \|u_i(x)\|^2\right) \nabla_t P(x),
$$
and use that as $\mathcal{M}$ is smooth

$$0 < C_{\mathcal{M}}^{-1} \leq \prod_{i=1}^{n-d} \|u_i(x)\|^2 \leq C_{\mathcal{M}},$$

for some $C_{\mathcal{M}} > 0$.

Now for any $I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}$ with $|I| = n - d$ we can define the vectors of polynomials $u_j^I(x)$ for $j = 1, \ldots, n - d$ (where maybe some of the polynomials are zero) and by the previous corollary the Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities hold for

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-d} \|u_i^I(x)\|^2\right) \nabla P(x) - \sum_{i=1}^{n-d} \langle \nabla P(x), u_i^I(x) \rangle u_i^I(x) \prod_{j \neq i} \|u_j^I(x)\|^2.$$

Clearly, Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund inequalities hold also taking supremum for the subsets $I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}$ with $|I| = n - d$.

Indeed, now as

$$C_{\mathcal{M}}^{-1} |\nabla_t P(x)| \leq \sup_{I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}} \prod_{i=1}^{n-d} \|u_i^I(x)\|^2 |\nabla_t P(x)| \leq C_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla_t P(x)|,$$

for some constant $C_{\mathcal{M}} > 0$, the result follows because for $v_I(x)$ as in (8)

$$\left(\frac{r}{n-d}\right)^{-1} \sum_{I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}} \|v_I(x)\| \leq \sup_{I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}} \|v_I(x)\| \leq \sum_{I \subset \{1, \ldots, r\}} \|v_I(x)\|,$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{M}$. \qed

Now we define the mapping.

**Lemma 3.3.** There exists a constant $A = A(\mathcal{M}) > 0$ such that if $N \geq At^d$ then there exist a continuous mapping

$\mathcal{P}_t^0 \to \mathcal{M}^N$

$$P \mapsto (x_1(P), \ldots, x_N(P)),$$

such that for all $P \in \mathcal{P}_t^0$ with $\int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla_t P(x)| d\mu(x) = 1$

$$\left\langle P, \sum_{i=1}^N K_{x_i(P)} \right\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^N P(x_i(P)) > 0.$$

**Proof.** Let $A = A(\mathcal{M}) > 0$ be given by Corollary 2.6. Let $N \geq At^d$ and $\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, \ldots, R_N\}$ be an area regular partition of $\mathcal{M}$ as in (2).

Given a polynomial $P$, we define in $\mathcal{M}$ the vector field $X_P = \nabla_t P / U_t(|\nabla_t P|)$, where $U_t : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}$ is a smooth increasing function such that $U_t(x) = \epsilon/2$ if $0 \leq x \leq \epsilon/2$ and $U_t(x) = x$ if $x \geq \epsilon$ for some $\epsilon$ fixed. Since $U_t(x)$ is smooth, the vector field $X_P$ is smooth on $\mathcal{M}$ and depends continuously on $P$.

Now for each $1 \leq i \leq N$ we consider the map $y_i : [0, \infty) \to \mathcal{M}$ that satisfies the differential equation

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{\partial}{\partial s} y_i(s) = X_P(y_i(s)) \\
y_i(0) = x_i
\end{cases}$$

(9)
where \( x_i \in R_i \). The differential equation changes for each \( P \in \mathcal{P} \), thus we will sometimes denote \( y_i(s) \) as \( y_i(P, s) \) to stress the dependence on \( P \).

**Remark.** Note that the quantity \( \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i) \) is small since \( \int_M P(x) d\mu(x) = 0 \). In order to increase this quantity, we move from the point \( x_i \) in the direction that increases \( P(x_i) \), that is, the direction given by the vector \( \nabla_t P(x_i) \).

Since the vector field \( X_P \) is smooth, each \( y_i \) is well defined and continuous in both \( P \) and \( s \). For a fixed \( s_0 > 0 \) to be determined, define the continuous mapping

\[
\mathcal{P}^0 \ni P \mapsto (x_1(P), \ldots, x_N(P)) = (y_1(P, s_0), \ldots, y_N(P, s_0)).
\]

Now, following [BRV13] we split

\[
\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i(P)) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i) + \int_{0}^{s_0} \frac{d}{ds} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(y_i(P, s)) \right] ds
\]

\[
\geq \int_{0}^{s_0} \frac{d}{ds} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(y_i(P, s)) \right] ds - \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i) \right|
\]

Observe that if \( x'_i \) belongs to a ball \( B(C_M \|R\|) \) containing \( R_i \), where \( C_M > 0 \) is a constant depending only on \( M \) then, defining

\[ R'_i = (R_i \setminus \cup_{j=1}^{N} \{x'_j\}) \cup \{x'_i\}, \]

we get an area regular partition with the same properties, i.e.

\[ B(c'_1 N^{-1/d}) \subset R'_i \subset B(c'_2 N^{-1/d}), \]

for some constants \( c'_1, c'_2 \) depending only on \( M \).

As in (5) and using that \( P \in \mathcal{P}^0 \) has mean zero, we get

\[
\left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i) \right| \leq \frac{\|R\|}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla_t P(x'_i)|,
\]

where \( x'_i \) is a point in the ball \( B(c'_2 N^{-1/d}) \) containing \( R_i \) where \( |\nabla_t P(x)| \) attains its maximum. Applying Corollary 2.6 we get that

\[
\left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i) \right| \leq K_M \|R\|.
\]

For any fixed \( 0 < s < C_M \|R\| \) we apply the remark above about the area regular partition and Corollary 2.6 to get

\[
\frac{d}{ds} \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(y_i(P, s)) \right] ds = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{|\nabla_t P(y_i(P, s))|^2}{U(t(|\nabla_t P(y_i(P, s))|))}
\]

\[
\geq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i : |\nabla_t P(y_i(P, s))| \geq \epsilon} |\nabla_t P(y_i(P, s))| \geq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\nabla_t P(y_i(P, s))| - \epsilon
\]

\[
\geq \frac{1}{K_M} - \epsilon.
\]
So, finally taking \( s_0 = 3K^2_M \| R \| \) and \( \epsilon = \frac{1}{2K_M} \) we get from (11)

\[
\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i(P)) \geq \frac{K_M \| R \|}{2} > 0.
\]

\( \square \)

**Proof of Theorem 2.2.** Fix \( t \) and define

\[
\Omega = \left\{ P \in P^0_t : \int_M |\nabla_t P(x)| d\mu_M(x) < 1 \right\},
\]

which is clearly an open, bounded subset of \( P^0_t \) such that \( 0 \in \Omega \subset P^0_t \). Take \( N \geq At^d \) for \( A \) given by the previous lemma and let \( x_i(P) \) be the points defined for \( P \in \partial \Omega \).

From the continuity of \( P \mapsto (x_1(P), \ldots, x_N(P)) \) it follows that

\[
P^0_t \ni P \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_{x_i(P)},
\]

is continuous and from Lemma 3.3, for all \( P \in \partial \Omega \),

\[
\langle P, \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_{x_i(P)} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{N} P(x_i(P)) > 0.
\]

Applying Theorem 2.7 we get the existence of some \( Q \in \Omega \) for which

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_{x_i(Q)} = 0.
\]

\( \square \)

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