

REMARKS ON LIOUVILLE-TYPE THEOREMS ON COMPLETE NONCOMPACT FINSLER MANIFOLDS

SONGTING YIN AND PAN ZHANG

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we give a gradient estimate of positive solution to the equation

$$\Delta u = -\lambda^2 u, \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

on a complete non-compact Finsler manifold. Then we obtain the corresponding Liouville-type theorem and Harnack inequality for the solution. Moreover, on a complete non-compact Finsler manifold we also prove a Liouville-type theorem for a C^2 -nonnegative function f satisfying

$$\Delta f \geq cf^d, \quad c > 0, d > 1,$$

which improves a result obtained by Yin and He.

1. INTRODUCTION

A Finsler space $(M, F, d\mu)$ is a differential manifold equipped with a Finsler metric F and a volume form $d\mu$. The class of Finsler spaces is one of the most important metric measure spaces. Up to now, Finsler geometry has developed rapidly in its global and analytic aspects. In [7][9][11][14][16][17], the study was well implemented on Laplacian comparison theorem, Bishop-Gromov volume comparison theorem and Liouville-type theorem, and so on.

In [13], Yau derived a gradient estimate for harmonic functions on complete, noncompact Riemannian manifolds with the Ricci curvature bounded below by negative constant and proved that complete Riemannian manifolds with nonnegative Ricci curvature must have Liouville property. Recently, the result was extended by Xia ([12]) to the Finsler manifolds under the condition that the weighted Ricci curvature has a lower bound, and by Zhang-Zhu ([18]) to the Alexandrov spaces.

Let

$$\Delta u = -\lambda^2 u, \quad \lambda \geq 0 \tag{1.1}$$

be an equation on the Finsler manifold $(M, F, d\mu)$. Using the gradient estimate obtained in [12], we can give a gradient estimate of the positive solution to (1.1). This is inspired by the work by Ma ([3]) on similar result in Riemannian geometry. Specifically, we prove

Theorem 1.1. *Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be a complete noncompact Finsler n -manifold, equipped with a uniformly smooth and uniformly convex Finsler structure F . Assume that $\text{Ric}_N \geq -K$ for some real numbers $N \in [n, +\infty)$ and $K \geq 0$. Let u be a positive solution to (1.1) in a forward geodesic ball $B_{2R}^+(p) \subset M$. Then there exists some*

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constant $C = C(N, \Lambda_1, \Lambda_2)$, depending on N , the uniform constants Λ_1 and Λ_2 , such that, in $B_R^+(p)$

$$\max\{F(x, \nabla \log u(x)), F(x, \nabla(-\log u(x)))\} \leq C \left(\frac{1 + R\sqrt{K}}{R} \right). \quad (1.2)$$

Using (1.2) we obtain the corresponding Liouville-type theorem and a Harnack inequality for the solution in Section 3 below. We remark that if $\lambda = 0$ in (1.1), Theorem 1.1 becomes the main result in [12].

On the other hand, Nishikawa ([4]) proved that if a C^2 -nonnegative function f satisfies $\Delta f \geq 2f^2$ on a complete Riemannian manifold with Ricci curvature bounded from below, then f vanishes identically. The result was extended by Choi, Kwon and Suh ([2]) to the general case $\Delta f \geq cf^d$ for $c > 0, d > 1$. Recently, Zhang ([15]) generalized it to Finsler manifolds if the weighted Ricci curvature $\text{Ric}_N \geq -\tilde{c}$ ($\tilde{c} > 0$). Jointed with He, the first author further generalized it under the condition that the weighted Ricci curvature is bounded from below by some function, and F is reversible (see Corollary 4.7 in [14]). Now we show that the last condition is redundant.

Theorem 1.2. *Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be a complete noncompact Finsler n -manifold, and $r(x) = d_F(p, x)$ be the distance function from a fixed point $p \in M$. Assume that the weighted Ricci curvature satisfies $\text{Ric}_N(x, y) \geq -G^2(r(x)), \forall y \in T_x M, N \in [n, \infty)$, where G is a smooth function satisfying*

$$G \geq 1, \quad G' \geq 0, \quad \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{G(s)} = \infty.$$

If a nonnegative function $f \in C^2(M)$ satisfies

$$\Delta f \geq cf^d, \quad c > 0, \quad d > 1, \quad (1.3)$$

then f vanishes identically.

Some definitions such as Finsler manifold, the weighted Ricci curvature, gradient and Finsler Laplacian will be given in Section 2 below. We remark that the Finsler gradient and Laplacian are nonlinear operators, which are much different from those on Riemannian manifolds. Besides, the results obtained do not coincide with those on weighted Riemannian manifolds, since the two kinds of weighted Ricci curvature $\text{Ric}_N(x, y)$ and $\text{Ric}_N^{\nabla u}$ are not the same.

To prove the theorems, we borrow some methods from the related literatures (see [2][3][10]) and give them some adjustments. Precisely, let $\tilde{M} = M \times \mathbb{R}$ be a Finsler $(n+1)$ -manifold equipped with the product metric $\tilde{F} = \sqrt{F^2 + t^2}$. Then its weighted Ricci curvature are also not less than $-K$. By setting $f(x, t) = e^{\lambda t} u(x)$ we find a harmonic function $f(x, t)$ on \tilde{M} , and the gradient estimate is obtained from [12]. Then (1.2) follows, as required. As to the proof of Theorem 1.2, we make full use of the relationship between the gradient and the reverse gradient, as well as the Finsler-Laplacian and the reverse Finsler-Laplacian of a function. Then the arguments can be followed step by step as in [2] (see also in [14]).

2. PRELIMINARIES

To meet the requirements in the next section, here, some fundamentals of Finsler geometry are briefly presented.

Let M be an n -dimensional smooth manifold and $\pi : TM \rightarrow M$ be the natural projection from the tangent bundle TM . A *Finsler metric* on M is a function $F : TM \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ satisfying the following properties:

- (i) *Regularity*: F is smooth in $TM \setminus 0$;
- (ii) *Positive homogeneity*: $F(x, \lambda y) = \lambda F(x, y)$ for all $(x, y) \in TM$ and all $\lambda > 0$;
- (iii) *Strong convexity*: for every $(x, y) \in TM \setminus 0$, the matrix

$$g_{ij}(x, y) := \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^i \partial y^j} \left(\frac{1}{2} F^2 \right) (x, y)$$

is positively definite.

Such a pair (M, F) is called a Finsler manifold. We say that F is *uniformly smooth* and *uniformly convex* if there exist two uniform constants $0 < \Lambda_1 \leq \Lambda_2 < \infty$ such that for $x \in M, y \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}$ and $W \in T_x M$,

$$\Lambda_1 F^2(x, W) \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^n g_{ij}(W, W) \leq \Lambda_2 F^2(x, W).$$

It is proved that a large class of Finsler manifolds satisfies the above property (see [6]).

Define the distance function on (M, F) by

$$d_F(p, q) := \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 F(\gamma, \dot{\gamma}) dt,$$

where the infimum is taken over all differentiable curves $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ with $\gamma(0) = p$ and $\gamma(1) = q$.

The reversibility η of (M, F) is defined by [8]

$$\eta = \max_{X \in TM \setminus 0} \frac{F(X)}{F(-X)}.$$

(M, F) is called reversible if $\eta = 1$. It is clear that the distance function d_F of F satisfies

$$d_F(p, q) \leq \eta d_F(q, p), \quad \forall p, q \in M.$$

For every non-vanishing vector V on an open set $U \subset M$, $g_{ij}(x, V)$ induces a Riemannian structure g_V on U via

$$g_V(X, Y) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n g_{ij}(x, V) X^i Y^j, \quad \forall X, Y \in T_x U.$$

In particular, $g_V(V, V) = F^2(x, V)$.

There exists a unique linear connection, which is called the Chern connection, on Finsler manifolds. The Chern connection is determined by the following structure equations, which characterize torsion freeness:

$$D_X^V Y - D_Y^V X = [X, Y]$$

and almost g -compatibility

$$Z(g_V(X, Y)) = g_V(D_Z^V X, Y) + g_V(X, D_Z^V Y) + 2C_V(D_Z^V V, X, Y)$$

for $V \in TU \setminus 0, X, Y, Z \in TU$. Here C_V is the Cartan tensor given by

$$C_V(X, Y, Z) := C_{ijk}(V) X^i Y^j Z^k = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial^3 F^2}{\partial V^i \partial V^j \partial V^k}(\cdot, V) X^i Y^j Z^k.$$

Given two linearly independent vectors $V, W \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}$, the flag curvature is defined by

$$K(V, W) := \frac{g_V(R^V(V, W)W, V)}{g_V(V, V)g_V(W, W) - g_V(V, W)^2},$$

where R^V is the *Chern curvature*:

$$R^V(X, Y)Z = D_X^V D_Y^V Z - D_Y^V D_X^V Z - D_{[X, Y]}^V Z.$$

Then the Ricci curvature for (M, F) is given by

$$\text{Ric}(V) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n-1} K(V, e_\alpha),$$

where $e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}, \frac{V}{F(V)}$ form an orthonormal basis of $T_x M$ with respect to g_V .

Given a Finsler manifold (M, F) , the dual Finsler metric F^* on M is defined by

$$F^*(\xi_x) = \sup_{Y \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\xi(Y)}{F(Y)}, \quad \forall \xi \in T^*M,$$

and the corresponding fundamental tensor is defined by

$$g^{*kl}(\xi) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial F^{*2}(\xi)}{\partial \xi_k \partial \xi_l}.$$

The Legendre transformation $\mathcal{L} : TM \rightarrow T^*M$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}(Y) = \begin{cases} g_Y(Y, \cdot), & Y \neq 0, \\ 0, & Y = 0. \end{cases}$$

It is well-known that for any $x \in M$, the Legendre transformation is a smooth diffeomorphism from $T_x M \setminus \{0\}$ onto $T_x^* M \setminus \{0\}$, and it is norm-preserving, namely, $F(Y) = F^*(\mathcal{L}(Y))$, $\forall Y \in TM$. Consequently, $g_{ij}(Y) = g^{*ij}(\mathcal{L}(Y))$.

For a smooth function u on M , the *gradient vector* of u at x is defined by $\nabla u(x) := \mathcal{L}^{-1}(du)$. Locally we can write in coordinates

$$\nabla u = \sum_{i,j=1}^n g^{ij}(x, \nabla u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \quad \text{in } M_u,$$

where $M_u := \{x \in M \mid du(x) \neq 0\}$.

A volume form $d\mu$ on (M, F) is nothing but a global nondegenerate n -form on M . In local coordinates we can express $d\mu$ as $d\mu = \sigma(x) dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$. Let $V = V^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ be a smooth vector field on M . Then the *divergence* of V with respect to $d\mu$ and the *Finsler-Laplacian* of u are defined by

$$\text{div} V := \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\partial V^i}{\partial x^i} + V^i \frac{\partial \log \sigma}{\partial x^i} \right), \quad \Delta u := \text{div}(\nabla u).$$

The Finsler-Laplacian is better to be viewed in a weak sense due to the lack of regularity, that is, for $u \in W^{1,2}(M)$,

$$\int_M \phi \Delta u d\mu = - \int_M d\phi(\nabla u) d\mu \quad \text{for } \phi \in C_0^\infty(M).$$

Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be a Finsler n -manifold. For $V \in T_x M \setminus \{0\}$, define

$$\tau(x, V) := \log \frac{\sqrt{\det(g_{ij}(x, V))}}{\sigma(x)}.$$

τ is called the distortion of $(M, F, d\mu)$. To measure the rate of distortion along geodesics, we define

$$S(x, V) := \frac{d}{dt}[\tau(\dot{\gamma}(t))]_{t=0},$$

where $\gamma : (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \rightarrow M$ is a geodesic with $\gamma(0) = x$, $\dot{\gamma}(0) = V$. S is called the S -curvature (see [9]). Define

$$\dot{S}(V) := F^{-2}(V) \frac{d}{dt}[S(\gamma(t), \dot{\gamma}(t))]_{t=0},$$

Then the *weighted Ricci curvature* of $(M, F, d\mu)$ is defined by (see [5])

$$\begin{cases} \text{Ric}_n(V) := \begin{cases} \text{Ric}(V) + \dot{S}(V), & \text{for } S(V) = 0, \\ -\infty, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \\ \text{Ric}_N(V) := \text{Ric}(V) + \dot{S}(V) - \frac{S(V)^2}{(N-n)F(V)^2}, \quad \forall N \in (n, \infty), \\ \text{Ric}_\infty(V) := \text{Ric}(V) + \dot{S}(V). \end{cases}$$

3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

Let $(\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|, m)$ be the 1-dimensional Euclidean space with Lebesgue measure. Then $\widetilde{M} = M \times \mathbb{R}$ have the product metric $\widetilde{F} = \sqrt{F^2 + t^2}$ and the volume form $d\widetilde{\mu} = d\mu dt = \sigma(x) dx dt$. It is easy to check that \widetilde{F} is a Finsler metric on \widetilde{M} . Moreover, we have

$$(\widetilde{g}_{\alpha\beta}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_{ij} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad 1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq n+1; 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

Denote by $\widetilde{\nabla}, \widetilde{\Delta}$ the gradient and the Laplacian on \widetilde{M} . Let $f(x, t)$ be a smooth function defined on \widetilde{M} . Then

$$\widetilde{\nabla} f = \widetilde{g}^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha} = g^{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \nabla f + f'(t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{\Delta} f &= \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha} \left(\sigma \widetilde{g}^{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^\beta} \right) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left(\sigma g^{ij} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^j} \right) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\sigma \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right) \\ &= \Delta f + f''(t). \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Recall that the Christoffel symbol with respect to the Chern connection on $(\widetilde{M}, \widetilde{F})$ (see [1])

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \widetilde{g}^{\alpha\eta} \left(\frac{\delta \widetilde{g}_{\eta\beta}}{\delta x^\gamma} + \frac{\delta \widetilde{g}_{\eta\gamma}}{\delta x^\beta} - \frac{\delta \widetilde{g}_{\beta\gamma}}{\delta x^\eta} \right),$$

where

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta x^\alpha} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha} - \widetilde{N}_\alpha^\beta \frac{\partial}{\partial y^\beta}, \quad \widetilde{N}_\alpha^\beta = \widetilde{\Gamma}_{\alpha\gamma}^\beta y^\gamma.$$

Therefore, one obtains

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha = \begin{cases} \Gamma_{jk}^i, & 1 \leq i, j, k \leq n, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By a direct computation, we further have

$$\widetilde{R}(X, Y)Z = R(X, Y)Z, \quad \widetilde{R}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, Y\right)Z = \widetilde{R}(X, Y)\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = 0, \quad \forall X, Y, Z \in TM.$$

Besides, the S -curvature of \widetilde{M}

$$\widetilde{S} = \frac{\partial \widetilde{G}^\alpha}{\partial y^\alpha} - y^\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x^\alpha} (\log \sigma(x)) = \frac{\partial G^i}{\partial y^i} - y^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (\log \sigma(x)) = S,$$

and $\widetilde{S} = \dot{S}$, where $\widetilde{G}^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \widetilde{\Gamma}_{\beta\gamma}^\alpha y^\beta y^\gamma$. Thus we still have the lower bound for the weighted Ricci curvature of \widetilde{M} . That is $\widetilde{\text{Ric}}_N \geq -K$. Set

$$f(x, t) = e^{\lambda t} u(x).$$

Then, from (3.2), $f(x, t)$ is a positive harmonic function on \widetilde{M} . Namely, $\widetilde{\Delta} f = 0$. By using the gradient estimate in [12], we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \max\{F(x, \nabla \log u(x)), F(x, \nabla(-\log u(x)))\} \\ & \leq \max\{\widetilde{F}(x, \widetilde{\nabla} \log f(x, t)), \widetilde{F}(x, \widetilde{\nabla}(-\log f(x, t)))\} \\ & \leq C \left(\frac{1 + R\sqrt{K}}{R} \right). \end{aligned}$$

□

As applications of Theorem 1.1, we give a Liouville property and a Harnack inequality in the following.

Corollary 3.1. *Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be as in Theorem 1.1 with $K = 0$. If u is a non-negative solution of (1.1) on M , then u vanishes identically provided $\lambda > 0$.*

Proof. Assume that $u > 0$. Letting $K = 0$ and $R \rightarrow +\infty$ in (1.2), we have

$$F(x, \nabla \log u(x)) = F(x, \nabla(-\log u(x))) = 0,$$

which implies that u is constant. Then from Equation (1.1) we get $u \equiv 0$ on M . This contradicts the assumption. □

Corollary 3.2. *Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be as in Theorem 1.1 and u be a positive solution of (1.1) in forward geodesic ball $B_{2R}^+(p) \subset M$. Then there exists some constant $C = C(N, \Lambda_1, \Lambda_2)$, depending on N , the uniform constants Λ_1 and Λ_2 , such that*

$$\sup_{B_R^+(p)} u \leq e^{C(1+\sqrt{K}R)} \inf_{B_R^+(p)} u.$$

Proof. Choose two point $x_1, x_2 \in B_R^+(p)$ such that $u(x_1) = \sup_{B_R^+(p)} u$ and $u(x_2) = \inf_{B_R^+(p)} u$. Draw a minimal geodesic γ from x_1 to x_2 . Then by triangle inequality, $\gamma \subset B_{(\eta/2+1)R}^+(p)$, where η is the reversibility of F . Since F is uniformly smooth and uniformly convex, $\eta < +\infty$ and depends on Λ_1 and Λ_2 . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \log \frac{u(x_1)}{u(x_2)} &= \left| \int_\gamma \frac{d \log u}{ds} \right| \leq \max_{B_{(\eta/2+1)R}^+(p)} F(x, \nabla \log u(x)) \int_\gamma ds \\ &\leq C(1 + \sqrt{K}R). \end{aligned}$$

□

4. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

Set

$$G = (f + a)^{\frac{1-q}{2}}, \quad a > 0, \quad q > 1.$$

Then $0 < G \leq a^{\frac{1-q}{2}}$. Taking the differential in both sides, we have

$$dG = -\frac{q-1}{2}(f+a)^{-\frac{q+1}{2}}df.$$

For a positive number λ and any smooth function u , we have

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}(\lambda du) = \lambda \mathcal{L}^{-1}(du) = \lambda \nabla u, \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}(-du) = -\overleftarrow{\nabla} u.$$

Thus, by a straight calculation we obtain

$$\overleftarrow{\nabla} G = -\frac{q-1}{2}(f+a)^{-\frac{q+1}{2}}\nabla f = -\frac{q-1}{2}G^{\frac{q+1}{q-1}}\nabla f. \quad (4.1)$$

$$\overleftarrow{\Delta} G = -\frac{q-1}{2}G^{\frac{q+1}{q-1}}\Delta f - \frac{q+1}{2}G^{\frac{2}{q-1}}dG(\nabla f) \quad \text{on } M_G = M_f. \quad (4.2)$$

Here the notations $\overleftarrow{\nabla}, \overleftarrow{\Delta}$ denote the gradient and the Finsler Laplacian with respect to the reverse Finsler metric $\overleftarrow{F}(x, y) =: F(x, -y)$. It is easy to check that $\overleftarrow{\nabla} u = -\nabla(-u)$, $\overleftarrow{\Delta} u = -\Delta(-u)$ for a smooth function u . From (4.1) and (4.2), we deduce that

$$\frac{1-q}{2}G^{\frac{2q}{q-1}}\Delta f = G\overleftarrow{\Delta} G - \frac{q+1}{q-1}\overleftarrow{F}(\overleftarrow{\nabla} G)^2,$$

which can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\Delta f}{(f+a)^q} = -\frac{2}{q-1}G\overleftarrow{\Delta} G + \frac{2(q+1)}{(q-1)^2}\overleftarrow{F}(\overleftarrow{\nabla} G)^2. \quad (4.3)$$

Observe that $-G$ is bounded from above, we can apply the Omori-Yau maximum principle (Theorem 0.3 in [14]) on $-G$. That is, there exists a point sequence $\{p_k\} \subset M_G$ such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F(\nabla(-G))(p_k) = 0, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta(-G)(p_k) \leq 0, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (-G)(p_k) = \sup_M(-G).$$

The first two formulas imply

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \overleftarrow{F}(\overleftarrow{\nabla} G)(p_k) = 0, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \overleftarrow{\Delta} G(p_k) \geq 0.$$

Using (4.3),

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Delta f(p_k)}{(f(p_k) + a)^q} \leq 0.$$

From the definition of G , we have $f(p_k) \rightarrow \sup_M f$ when $-G(p_k) \rightarrow \sup_M(-G)$. Since $\Delta f \geq cf^d$, we obtain

$$\frac{c(\sup_M f)^d}{(\sup_M f + a)^q} \leq 0$$

for $d > 1$ and any $q > 1$. We claim that $\sup_M f < +\infty$. If not, then we choose $q < d$, the left side of the above inequality is $+\infty$, which is a contradiction. Thus $\sup_M f < +\infty$. Using the inequality above again, we find $\sup_M f = 0$. This means $f \equiv 0$. \square

If f has an upper bound, the restriction on $d > 1$ in (1.3) can be improved to $d > 0$.

Proposition 4.1. *Let $(M, F, d\mu)$ be a Finsler n -manifold, and $r(x) = d_F(p, x)$ be the distance function from a fixed point $p \in M$. Assume that the weighted Ricci curvature satisfies $\text{Ric}_N(x, y) \geq -G^2(r(x)), \forall y \in T_x M, N \in [n, \infty)$, where G is a smooth function satisfying*

$$G \geq 1, \quad G' \geq 0, \quad \int_0^\infty \frac{ds}{G(s)} = \infty.$$

If a nonnegative function $f \in C^2(M)$ bounded above satisfies

$$\Delta f \geq cf^d, \quad c > 0, \quad d > 0,$$

then f vanishes identically.

Proof. Applying the Omori-Yau maximum principle (Theorem 0.3 in [14]), there exists a point sequence $\{p_k\} \subset M_f$ such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f = \sup_M f, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta f(p_k) \leq 0.$$

Thus,

$$0 \geq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta f(p_k) \geq c \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f^d = c \sup_M f^d \geq 0.$$

Since $f \geq 0$, we have $f \equiv 0$ on M . □

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S.T. Yin

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Tongling University, Anhui 244000, P.R. China
yst419@163.com

P. Zhang

School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Science and Technology of China, Anhui 230026, P.R. China
panzhang@mail.ustc.edu.cn