

# Uniform Rectifiability from Mean Curvature Bounds

*Stephan Luckhaus*

**Abstract.** A version of Allard’s rectifiability theorem with explicit bounds is given. The condition on the mean curvature would correspond to a bound in Sobolev spaces with fractional negative exponents.

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## 1. Introduction

The present paper deals with an extension of Allard’s famous rectifiability theorem. The way Allard’s theorem is stated, it deals with varifolds whose density is bounded from below and whose first variation is a vector valued measure. Recall that

**Definition 1.** A  $d$ -dimensional varifold  $\mu$  in an open domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a Radon measure on  $\Omega \times G_d(n)$ , where  $G_d(n) = \{P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid P = P^2 = P^t, \text{Tr}(P) = d\}$ .

And the first variation or mean curvature is given by

**Definition 2.** The first variation  $H_\mu$  of a varifold  $\mu$  is defined by

$$H_\mu(\xi) = \int \text{Tr}(PD\xi(x))d\mu(x, P) \quad \text{for } \xi \in C_0^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n),$$

where  $D\xi$  denotes the derivative of  $\xi$ .

For classical  $d$  dimensional surfaces Allard’s theorem entails, that from (local) bounds on the  $d$ -dimensional measure and the  $L_1$  norm of the mean curvature, compactness of the tangent planes w.r.t. convergence in measure follows. I.e., there exists for arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  an abstract modulus of continuity  $\omega_\varepsilon$  of the tangent planes outside of a set of measure  $\varepsilon$ .

The present paper gives a short proof of this result using no more geometric measure theory than the Vitali covering lemma, and it extends the result in two ways. It makes the modulus of continuity and the estimate on the exceptional set explicit. And it allows for mean curvature estimates which are weaker than  $L^1$ . The interest in the latter comes from free boundary problems with surface tension effects, e.g. the Stefan Gibbs Thompson problem. For these the functional whose first variation is taken, has a bulk and a surface term. From the bulk term one gets terms which still are integrals of  $D\xi$  rather than  $\xi$ , but these integrals are with respect to a  $d + 1$  dimensional measure.

The main tool in the proof of the main result of this paper, Theorem 1 below, is the monotonicity formula, just as in Allard's paper [1]. The simplifying trick used here is integration of the monotonicity formula w.r.t. its base point.

Further, we use the following notation:

- a) For a  $d$ -dimensional varifold  $\mu$ , we will use the representation

$$\int \psi(x, P) d\mu = \int \left( \int \psi(x, P) d\mu_x(P) \right) d|\mu|(x)$$

for  $\psi \in C_0(\Omega \times G_d(n))$ , where  $\mu_x$  is a probability measure on  $G_d(n)$  depending on  $x$  in a weakly measurable way.

- b)  $\delta_p$  will denote the Dirac measure concentrated at  $p$ .
- c)  $H^d$  denotes the  $d$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure.

## 2. Main result

The main result is an explicit estimate on the measure of the exceptional set, where the logarithmic continuity of the tangent plane is violated.

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose  $\mu$  is a  $d$ -dimensional varifold in  $\Omega$  an open domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Suppose the following assumptions are satisfied:*

- A1. *The density of  $|\mu|$  is bounded below, i.e., there exists  $\Theta > 0$  such that for  $|\mu|$  a.a.  $x \in \Omega$*

$$\Theta \leq \limsup_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \rho^{-d} |\mu| (B_\rho(x)).$$

- A2. *There exist a Radon measure  $\nu$ , a vector valued density  $v$ , and an  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  valued density  $A$  with  $|v| \leq 1, |A| \leq 1$  such that the first variation of  $\mu$  satisfies the identity*

$$H_\mu(\xi) = \int_\Omega \xi \cdot v d\nu + \int_\Omega \text{Tr}(A D\xi) d\nu \quad \text{for } \xi \in C_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n). \quad (1)$$

A3. The  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  valued density  $A$  satisfies the inequality

$$\rho^{-d-1} \int_{B_\rho(x)} |A| d\nu \leq \partial_1 F \left( \rho, \sup_{\rho < R < \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)} R^{-d} \nu(B_R(x)) \right) \quad (2)$$

for  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $0 < \rho < \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$ , with a function  $F : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  satisfying

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \partial_2 F &\geq 0, \quad \partial_1 F \geq 0, \quad \partial_1^2 F \leq 0 \\ \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} F(\rho, L) &= 0 \quad \text{for all } L \\ \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} L^{-1} \inf \{ R^{-d} + F(R, L) \mid R > 0 \} &= 0. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (3)$$

Then one has for  $|\mu|$  a.a.  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $\mu_x = \delta_{P_x}$ . And for  $\epsilon > 0$  arbitrary there exist  $K_\epsilon$  with  $|\mu|(K_\epsilon) \leq \epsilon$  such that, if  $x_1, x_2 \notin K_\epsilon$ ,  $\text{dist}(x_i, \partial\Omega) > R_0$ ,

$$|P_{x_1} - P_{x_2}| \leq \omega_F(\epsilon, R_0, \nu(\Omega), |\mu|(\Omega)) \left| \ln^{\frac{1}{4}} |x_1 - x_2| \right|^{-1},$$

where the constant  $\omega_F(\epsilon, R_0, \nu(\Omega), |\mu|(\Omega))$  can be given explicitly.

### 3. Proof

**3.1. Structure of the proof.** Outside of a set of “exceptionally large mean curvature”  $K_{1(L)}$ , characterized in terms of the measure  $\nu$ , the monotonicity formula for  $|\mu|$  is used. The formula is integrated with respect to radius and base point. This yields an estimate of the form

$$\int_{\hat{\Omega} \setminus K_{1(L)}} \int_{\hat{\Omega}} |x - y|^{-d} \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 d\mu d|\mu|, \quad \text{for } \hat{\Omega} \subset\subset \Omega.$$

Since  $|x - y|^{-d}$  is not integrable by the assumption on the density of  $|\mu|$ ,  $\mu_x$  has to be a Dirac measure  $\delta_{P_x}$  and the continuity estimate for  $P_x$  can be derived.

### 3.2. Proof of Theorem 1.

**Step 1: the monotonicity formula.** The monotonicity estimate is used for  $u(\rho, x) = \rho^{-d} \int \varphi\left(\frac{|x-y|}{\rho}\right) d|\mu|(y)$  where  $\varphi' \leq 0$ ;  $\varphi(s) = 1$  for  $s \leq \frac{1}{2}$ ;  $\varphi(s) = 0$  for  $s \geq 1$  and  $|\varphi'| \leq 3$ . One derives

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\rho u(\rho, x) &= -d\rho^{-d-1} \int \varphi\left(\frac{|x-y|}{\rho}\right) d|\mu|(y) \\ &\quad - \rho^{-d-1} \int \varphi'\left(\frac{|x-y|}{\rho}\right) \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} d|\mu|(y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= - \int \text{Tr} \left( PD \left( \frac{x-y}{\rho^{d+1}} \varphi \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \right) \right) d\mu(P, y) \\
 &\quad - \rho^{-d-1} \int \varphi' \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \left[ 1 - \left| P \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \right|^2 \right] d\mu(P, y).
 \end{aligned}$$

And using Assumption A1 one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial_\rho u(\rho, x) &\geq - \rho^{-d-1} \int \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \varphi' \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \left| (Id - P) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \right|^2 d\mu(P, y) \\
 &\quad - \rho^{-d-1} \int (x-y) \nu \varphi \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) d\nu \\
 &\quad - \rho^{-d-1} \int \text{Tr} \left( AD \left[ (x-y) \varphi \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \right] \right) d\nu.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now with the Assumption A3 (2) one can estimate, either

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\partial_\rho \left( u(\rho, x) + F(\rho, L)(d+3) + \rho L \right) \\
 &\geq - \rho^{-d-1} \int \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \varphi' \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \left| (Id - P) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \right|^2 d\mu(P, y)
 \end{aligned}$$

or there exists  $\rho \leq \tilde{\rho} \leq \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$  with  $\nu(B_{\tilde{\rho}}(x)) \geq L\tilde{\rho}^d$ . Define  $R_L$  by the equation  $(d+3)F(R_L, L) + R_L L = R_L^{-d}$  then, using the monotonicity of  $F$  in  $R$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_L^{-d} &\leq \inf \{ (d+3)F(R, L) + RL + R^{-d}, R > 0 \} \\
 &\leq (d+3) \inf \{ F(R, L) + R^{-d}, R > 0 \} + \inf \{ RL + R^{-d}, R > 0 \} \\
 &= (d+3) \inf \{ F(R, L) + R^{-d}, R > 0 \} + \frac{d+1}{d} \left( \frac{L}{d} \right)^{\frac{d}{d+1}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

So by Assumption A3 (3),  $R_L < L^{-1}R_L^{-d} \rightarrow 0$  as  $L \rightarrow \infty$ . Define  $K_1(L)$  by

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_1(L) &= \left\{ x \mid \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \geq R_L, \limsup_{\rho \rightarrow 0} u(\rho, x) < \frac{\Theta}{2} \right\} \\
 &\quad \cup \left\{ x \mid \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \geq R_L, \sup_{\Theta < R < \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)} R^{-d} \nu(B_R(x)) > L \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then if  $x \notin K_1(L)$ ,  $\rho \leq \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$ ,  $\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \geq R_L$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(\rho, x) + (d+3)F(\rho, L) + \rho L &\geq \frac{\Theta}{2} \\
 \partial_\rho (u(\rho, x) + (d+3)F(\rho, L) + \rho L) &\geq - \rho^{-d-1} \int \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \varphi' \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left| (Id - P) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \right|^2 d\mu(P, y),
 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $|\mu|$  a.a.  $x \in K_1(L)$  there exists

$$\rho_x = \max \{ \rho \mid \rho^{-d} \nu(B_\rho(x)) \geq L, \rho \leq \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \}.$$

If  $10\rho_x \geq R_L$ , then  $|\mu|(B_{5\rho_x}(x)) \leq \frac{|\mu|(\Omega)}{LR_L^d} \nu(B_{\rho_x}(x))$ . If  $10\rho_x \leq R_L \leq \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$ , then

$$|\mu|(B_{5\rho_x}(x)) \leq (10\rho_x)^d u(10\rho_x, x) \leq (10\rho_x)^d (u(R_L, x) + R_L L + (d+3)F(R_L, L)).$$

In the latter case,

$$|\mu|(B_{5\rho_x}(x)) \leq (10\rho_x)^d R_L^{-d} (|\mu|(\Omega) + 1) \leq 10^d \frac{|\mu|(\Omega) + 1}{LR_L^d} \nu(B_{\rho_x}(x)).$$

To sum up one has the following

**Lemma 1.** *For  $L$  arbitrary,  $R_L$  defined by  $(d+3)F(R_L, L) + R_L L = R_L^{-d}$  there exists  $K_1(L) \subset \Omega$  with*

$$\text{a) } |\mu|(K_1(L)) \geq 10^d \nu(\Omega) (|\mu|(\Omega) + 1) L^{-1} R_L^{-d},$$

and if  $\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \leq R_L$  for  $x \notin K_1(L)$ , then for  $\rho \leq \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$ ,

$$\text{b) } u(\rho, x) + (d+3)F(\rho, L) + L\rho \geq \frac{\Theta}{2};$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } & \partial_\rho (u(\rho, x) + (d+3)F(\rho, L) + L\rho) \\ & \geq -\rho^{-d-1} \int \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \varphi' \left( \frac{|x-y|}{\rho} \right) \left| (Id - P) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|} \right|^2 d\mu(P, y). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover  $R_L \leq L^{-1} R_L^{-d} \rightarrow 0$  as  $L \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* We use Vitali's covering theorem to cover  $K_1(L)$  by balls  $B_{5\rho_{x_i}}(x_i)$  such that  $B_{\rho_{x_i}}(x_i)$  are disjoint.  $\square$

With the same methods we can prove another lemma whose use will become apparent later. Roughly speaking it is a bound from below on the right hand side in statement c) in the case that  $\text{supp}(|\mu|)$  is not locally flat.

**Lemma 2.** *Define  $K_2(L) = \{x \mid \exists \rho > 0 \mid |\mu|(B_\rho(x) \cap K_1(L)) > \epsilon(d) |\mu|(B_{5\rho}(x))\}$ . Then:*

$$\text{a) } |\mu|(K_2(L)) > \frac{1}{\epsilon(d)} |\mu|(K_1(L)),$$

and with  $\epsilon(d)$  specified below, for any  $\Pi \in G_{d-1}^{(n)}$ ,  $x \notin K_2(L)$ ,  $B_{6R_L}(x) \subset \Omega$ ,  $\rho < R < R_L$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } & \int_{(B_R(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)) \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - \Pi) \frac{y-x}{|y-x|} \right|^2 |y-x|^{-d} d|\mu|(y) \\ & \geq \Theta c_1(d) \cdot \ln \left( \frac{R}{\rho} \right) - c_2(d, L). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\epsilon(d) = \frac{1}{4}5^{-d}$ ,  $c_1(d) = d5^{-2d}2^{-d-9}$ ,  $c_2(d, L) = 2\left(\frac{\Theta}{8r_0} + L\right)R_L + 2^{d+2}|\mu|(\Omega)R_L^{-d}$ , where  $F(r_0, L) = \frac{\Theta}{8(d+3)}$ .

*Proof.* To prove a) cover  $K_2(L)$  by balls  $B_{\xi\rho_i}(x_i)$  such that  $B_{\rho_i}(x_i)$  are disjoint and  $|\mu|B_{\rho_i}(x_i) \cap K_1(L) \geq \epsilon(d)\mu(B_{5\rho_i}(x_i))$ . Then

$$|\mu|(K_2(L)) \leq \sum |\mu|(B_{5\rho_i}(x_i)) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon(d)} \sum |\mu|(B_{\rho_i}(x_i) \cap K_1(L)) \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon(d)} |\mu|(K_1(L)).$$

To prove b) set  $\psi(r) = |\mu|((B_r(x) \setminus K_1(L)) \cap \{|(Id - \Pi)(y - x)| \geq \delta(d)|y - x|\})$ , then with  $\delta(d)$  to be specified later

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{(B_R(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)) \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - \Pi) \frac{y - x}{|y - x|} \right|^2 |y - x|^{-d} d|\mu|y \\ \geq \delta(d)^2 \int_\rho^R r^{-d} d\psi(r) \\ \geq d\delta(d)^2 \int_\rho^R r^{-d-1} \psi(r) dr - \delta(d)^2 \rho^{-d} \psi(\rho). \end{aligned}$$

In order to estimate  $\psi(r)$  from below cover

$$(B_r(x) \setminus K_1(L)) \cap \{|y|(Id - \Pi)(y - x)| < \delta(d)(y - x)\} =: \hat{B}_r(x)$$

by balls  $B_{2\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r}(y_i)$  such that  $y_i \in \hat{B}_r(x)$  and  $B_{\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r}(y_i)$  are disjoint. □

The number of  $y_i$  is estimated by  $(1 + \delta(d))^{d-1} \delta(d)^{1-d}$ , and by Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu|(B_{2\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r}(y_i)) &< (4\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r)^d u(4\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r, y_i) \\ &\leq (4\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r)^d (u(4r), y_i) + (d + 3)F(4r, L) + L(4r) \\ &\leq (4\sqrt{2}\delta(d)r)^d (|\mu|(B_{5r}(x))(4r)^{-d} + (d + 3)F(4r, L) + 4rL). \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} |\mu|(\hat{B}_r(x)) &\leq (\sqrt{2})^d \delta(d) (1 + \delta(d))^{d-1} |\mu|(B_{5r}(x)) \\ &\quad + (4\sqrt{2})^d \delta(d) (1 + \delta(d))^{d-1} [(d + 3)F(4r, L)r^d + 4Lr^{d+1}]. \end{aligned}$$

Now choose  $\delta(d) = \left(\frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}}\right)^d \frac{1}{8}$ , so

$$|\mu|(\hat{B}_r(x)) \leq \frac{1}{4} 5^{-d} |\mu|(B_{5r}(x)) + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \frac{1}{4} [(d + 3)F(4r, L)r^d + 4Lr^{d+1}].$$

Using the concavity of  $F$  for any  $r_0$  one can estimate further

$$\begin{aligned} & |\mu|(\hat{B}_r(x)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}5^{-d}|\mu|(B_{5r}(x)) \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \left((d+3)\frac{F(r_0, L)}{r_0} + L\right) r^{d+1} + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \frac{d+3}{4}F(r_0, L)r^d. \end{aligned}$$

That means:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\rho}^R r^{-d-1}\psi(r)dr & \geq \int_{\rho}^R r^{-d-1} \left[ |\mu|(B_r(x)) - \left(\epsilon(d) + \frac{1}{4}5^{-d}\right) |\mu|(B_{5r}(x)) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \left((d+3)\frac{F(r_0, L)}{r_0} + L\right) - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \frac{d+3}{4}F(r_0, L)r^{-1} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $\epsilon(d) = \frac{1}{4}5^{-d}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\rho}^R r^{-d-1}\psi(r) & \geq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\rho}^R r^{-d-1} |\mu|(B_r(x)) - \frac{1}{2} \int_R^{5R} r^{-d-1} |\mu|(B_r(x)) \\ & \quad - \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^d \left((d+3)F(r_0, L) \left(\frac{R}{r_0} + \frac{1}{4} \ln R\right) + LR\right). \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} r^{-d-1}|\mu|(B_r(x)) & \geq r^{-1} \frac{\Theta}{2} - (d+3)F(r, L)r^{-1} - L \\ & \geq r^{-1} \left(\frac{\Theta}{2} - (d+3)F(r_0, L)\right) \frac{(d+3)F(r_0, L) + L}{r_0}, \end{aligned}$$

again using Lemma 1. Finally

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\rho}^R r^{-d-1}\psi(r) & \geq \left[\frac{\Theta}{4} - (d+3)F(r_0, L)\right] \ln \frac{R}{\rho} \\ & \quad - 2 \left((d+3)\frac{F(r_0, L)}{r_0} + L\right) R - 52^{d-1} \frac{|\mu|(\Omega)}{|\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)|^g} \end{aligned}$$

and  $\rho^{-d}\psi(\rho) \leq 2^d \frac{|\mu|(\Omega)}{(\text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega))^g} d$ . Choose  $(d+3)F(r_0, L) = \frac{\Theta}{8}$  and the result follows.

**Step 2: integration of the monotonicity formula w.r.t. its base point.**

Take  $L$  fixed  $R_L$  as in Lemma 1,  $R_L < R_0$  define

$$\Omega_{R_0} = \{x \in \Omega \mid \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) \geq R_0\}.$$

Integrate the monotonicity formula Lemma 1 c) over  $x \in \Omega_{R_0} \setminus K_1(L)$  w.r.t.  $|\mu|$  and over  $\rho$  from 0 to  $R_0$ . That gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( R_0^{-d} |\mu|(\Omega) + (d + 3)F(R_0, L) + R_0 L \right) |\mu|(\Omega) \\ & \geq - \int_0^{R_0} \left( \int_{\Omega_{R_0} \setminus K_1(L)} \left( \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_{G_d(n)} \frac{|x - y|}{\rho} \varphi' \left( \frac{|x - y|}{\rho} \right) \right. \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \left. \times \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 d\mu_y(P) \right) d|\mu|(y) \right) d|\mu|(x) \right) \rho^{-d-1} d\rho \\ & = \int_{\Omega_{R_0} \setminus K_1(L)} \left( \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_{\frac{|x-y|}{R_0}}^{\infty} \sigma^d |\varphi'|(\sigma^{-1}) d\sigma \right) |x - y|^{-d} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times \left[ \int_{G_d(n)} \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 d\mu_y(P) \right] d|\mu|(y) \right) d|\mu|(x). \end{aligned}$$

Interchanging the order of integration one gets

$$\begin{aligned} & c_\varphi \int_{\Omega} \left( \int_{G_d(n)} \left( \int_{B_{R_0/2}(y) \cap \Omega_{R_0} \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \times |x - y|^{-d} d|\mu|(x) \right) d\mu_y(P) \right) d|\mu|(y) \\ & \leq \left( R_0^{-d} |\mu|(\Omega) + (d + 3)F(R_0, L) + R_0 L \right) |\mu|(\Omega), \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_\varphi = \int_0^\infty \sigma^d |\varphi'|(\sigma^{-1}) d\sigma$ . Define

$$\begin{aligned} & K_3(M) \\ & = \left\{ y \mid \int_{G_d(n)} \int_{B_{R_0/2}(y) \cap \Omega_{R_0} \setminus K_1(L)} |x - y|^{-d} \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 d|\mu|(x) d\mu_y(P) > M \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $|\mu|(K_3(M)) < \frac{1}{M} |\mu|(\Omega) \left( R_0^{-d} |\mu|(\Omega) + (d + 3)F(R_0, L) + R_0 L \right)$ .

Let us summarise the result of the second step in a lemma.

**Lemma 3.** *Outside of a set  $K_3(M)$  with measure*

$$|\mu|(K_3(M)) < \frac{1}{M} |\mu|(\Omega) \left( R_0^{-d} |\mu|(\Omega) + (d + 3)F(R_0, L) + R_0 L \right)$$

one has

$$\int_{G_d(n)} \int_{B_{R_0/2}(x) \setminus K_1(L)} |x - y|^{-d} \left| (Id - P) \frac{x - y}{|x - y|} \right|^2 d|\mu|(y) d\mu_x(P) < M.$$



**Step 3: proof of the theorem.** With the help of a linear algebra lemma it is possible to combine the estimate from below in Lemma 2 with the one from above in Lemma 3. Let us state the lemma first:

**Lemma 4.** *For  $P_1, P_2 \in G_d(n)$  one has a  $\Pi$  in  $G_{d-1}(n)$  such that for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  arbitrary*

$$|(Id - \Pi)x|^2 \leq \left(1 + \frac{2}{|P_1 - P_2|^4}\right) \left[|(Id - P_1)x|^2 + |(Id - P_2)x|^2\right].$$

*Proof.* Choose  $x_1, |x_1| = 1, |(P_1 - P_2)x_1| = |P_1 - P_2|$ . It follows that  $(P_1 - P_2)x_1 = \pm|P_1 - P_2|x_1$  and we may assume wlog that  $P_1x_1 \neq 0$ . Define  $\Pi$  by  $\Pi x = P_1x - \frac{\langle x, P_1x_1 \rangle}{|P_1x_1|^2} P_1x_1$ , then  $\Pi \in G_{d-1}(n)$ . We have  $|x - \Pi x|^2 = |x - P_1x|^2 + \langle x, P_1x_1 \rangle^2 |P_1x_1|^{-2}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, P_1x_1 \rangle^2 &= \langle P_1x, x_1 \rangle^2 \\ &= \langle P_1x_1 (Id - P_2)x_1 \rangle^2 |P_1 - P_2|^{-2} \\ &= |P_1 - P_2|^{-4} \langle P_1x, (Id_2)P_1x_1 \rangle^2 \\ &= |P_1 - P_2|^{-4} \langle (Id - P_2)x - (Id - P_2)(Id - P_1)x, P_1x_1 \rangle^2 \\ &\leq 2 \left[ |(Id - P_2)x|^2 + |(Id - P_1)x|^2 \right] |P_1x_1|^2 |P_1 - P_2|^{-4}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

To finish the proof of the theorem, suppose now  $x_1, x_2 \notin K_2(L) \cup K_3(M)$ ,  $|x_1 - x_2| = \rho$ ,  $\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2} = x$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} M &\geq \int_{G_d(n)} d\mu_{x_i}(P_i) \int_{B_R(x_i) \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - P_i)(y - x_i) \right|^2 |y - x_i|^{-d-2} d|\mu| \\ &\geq \int_{G_d(n)} d\mu_{x_i}(P_i) \int_{(B_{R-\rho/2}(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)) \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - P_i)(y - x_i) \right|^2 (2|y - x|)^{-d-2} d|\mu| \\ &\geq \int_{G_d(n)} d\mu_{x_i}(P_i) \int_{(B_{R-\rho/2}(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)) \setminus K_1(L)} \left| (Id - P_i)(y - x) \right|^2 (2|y - x|)^{-d-2} d|\mu| \\ &\quad - \int_{B_{R-\rho/2}(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)} \left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)^2 (2|y - x|)^{-d-2} d|\mu|. \end{aligned}$$

The last integral is estimated by

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_R(x) \setminus B_\rho(x)} \left(\frac{\rho}{2}\right)^2 (2|y - x|)^{-d-2} d|\mu| \\ &= 2^{-d} \rho^2 \int_\rho^R \tau^{-d-2} d|\mu|(B_\tau(x)) \\ &\leq 2^{-d} \rho^2 R^{-d-2} |\mu|(B_R(x)) + 2^{-d} \rho^2 \int_\rho^R (d+2) \tau^{-d-3} |\mu|(B_\tau(x)) d\tau \\ &\leq 2^{-d} \rho^2 R^{-d-2} |\mu|(B_R(x)) + 4(d+2) \rho^2 \int_{2\rho}^{2R} \tau^{-3} u(\tau, x) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq 2^{-d} \rho^2 R^{-d-2} |\mu|(B_R(x)) \\ &\quad + 2(d+2) \frac{\rho^2}{(2\rho)^2} (u(2R, x) + (d+3)F(R, L) + RL) \\ &\leq (d+2) \left( \frac{|\mu(\Omega)|}{(2R)^d} + (d+3)F(R, L) + RL \right). \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with Lemmas 2 and 4 one gets

$$\begin{aligned} &(2^{d+2} + 1)M + (d+2) \left( \frac{|\mu(\Omega)|}{(2R)^d} + (d+3)F(R, L) + RL \right) \\ &\geq \int_{G_d(n) \times G_d(n)} d\mu_{x_1} \times d\mu_{x_2} \left( \frac{|P_1 - P_2|^4}{|P_1 - P_2|^4 + 2} \right) \left( \Theta_{c_1}(d) \ln(R/\rho) - c_2(d, L) \right). \end{aligned}$$

This implies directly that  $\mu_x$  is a Dirac measure if  $x \notin K_2(L) \cup K_3(M)$ .

And secondly,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| P_1 - P_2 \right|^4 &\leq \left| \ln \frac{1}{|x_1 - x_2|} \right|^{-1} \frac{2 + 2^4}{\Theta_{c_1}(d)} \left( (2^{d+2} + 1)M - \Theta_{c_1}(d) \ln(R_L) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + c_2(d, L) + (d+2) \left( \frac{|\mu(\Omega)|}{2R_L^d} + (d+3)F(R_L, L) + R_L L \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

That proves the theorem. □

### 4. Further conclusions

Rectifiability is now an easy conclusion of the result stated in Theorem 1. First we state a lemma identifying the projections on almost tangent planes, in order to be able to quote standard results from the literature.

**Lemma 5.** *With the definition of  $K_3(M)$  as in Lemma 3 one has: If  $x \notin \bigcap_{M \in \mathbb{R}^+} K_3(M)$ , then for  $\delta > 0$  arbitrary*

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \rho^{-d} |\mu| \left( \left\{ y \mid |y - x| < \rho, |(\text{Id} - P_x)(y - x)| > \delta \rho \right\} \right) = 0.$$

*Proof.* This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum (2^{-n})^{-d} |\mu| \left( \left\{ y \mid |y - x| < 2^{-n}, |(\text{Id} - P_x)(y - x)| > \delta 2^{-n} \right\} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{1 - 2^{-d}} \delta^{-d} \int |x - y|^{-d} |(\text{Id} - P_x)|y - x|^2 d|\mu|. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Remark.** So  $P_x$  is an almost tangent space for  $|\mu|$  a.a.  $x$ . Note though that Lemma 5 is not an explicite estimate. As a conclusion one has with standard results from [7, Theorem 3.8.3].

**Theorem 2.** *Suppose for the  $d$ -dimensional varifold  $\mu$  that its density is positive, i.e.,*

$$0 < \limsup_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \rho^{-d} |\mu| (B_\rho(x)) \quad \text{for } |\mu| \text{ a.a. } x,$$

*and that the assumptions (1), (2), (3) from Theorem 1 hold. Then  $\mu$  is rectifiable.*

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