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Convergence of the point integral method for Laplace–Beltrami equation on point cloud

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Abstract

The Laplace–Beltrami operator, a fundamental object associated with Riemannian manifolds, encodes all intrinsic geometry of manifolds and has many desirable properties. Recently, we proposed the point integral method (PIM), a novel numerical method for discretizing the Laplace–Beltrami operator on point clouds (Li et al. in *Commun Comput Phys* 22(1):228–258, 2017). In this paper, we analyze the convergence of PIM for Poisson equation with Neumann boundary condition on submanifolds that are isometrically embedded in Euclidean spaces.

Keywords: Laplace–Beltrami operator, Neumann boundary, Point cloud, Point integral method, Convergence analysis

Mathematics Subject Classification: 65N12, 65N25, 65N75

1 Background

The partial differential equations on manifolds arise in a wide variety of applications. In many problems, including material science [10,20], fluid flow [22,25], biology and biophysics [2,3,21,37], people need to study the physical process, for instance diffusion and convection, in curved surfaces which introduce different kinds of PDEs in surfaces. It has been several decades to develop numerical methods for solving PDEs in surfaces. Many methods have been developed, such as surface finite element method [19], level set method [9,48], grid-based particle method [31,32] and closest point method [35,43].

Recently, manifold model attracts more and more attentions in data analysis and image processing [4,11,13,23,26,29,30,36,40–42,47]. In the manifold model, data or images are represented as a point cloud, which is defined as a collection of points that are embedded in a high-dimensional Euclidean space. One fundamental assumption in the manifold model is that the point cloud samples a smooth manifold. Thus, the information of the manifold is very useful to understand the data or images. PDEs on the manifold, particularly the Laplace–Beltrami equation, encode several intrinsic information of the manifold, thus helping reveal the underlying structures in the data or images. To get the information encoded in PDEs, we need to solve them in the unstructured point cloud. Given that the point cloud is embedded in a high-dimensional space, the traditional methods for PDEs on 2D surfaces do not work.

In the past few years, efforts have been devoted to develop alternative numerical methods to discretize differential operators on point cloud. Liang and Zhao [34] proposed to discretize differential operators on point cloud via local least square approximations of the manifold. Their method achieves high-order accuracy and flexibility because no mesh is required. In principle, their method can be applied to manifolds with arbitrary dimensions and co-dimensions with or without boundaries. However, if the dimension of the manifold is high, then this method may be unstable because a high-order polynomial is used to fit the data. Lai et al. [28] later proposed the local mesh method to approximate differential operators on point cloud. The principle of the proposed method involves the use of K nearest neighbors to construct local mesh around each points, which is easier to construct than global mesh. Based on the local mesh, discretizing differential operators and computing integrals is then facilitated. When the dimension of the manifold is high, even the construction of local mesh is difficult. Although lacking proof, moving least square or local mesh-based methods achieve high-order accuracy. In principle, the accuracy of the moving least square is arbitrarily high. The accuracy of the local mesh method is second order because the local mesh approximation to the manifold has at most second-order accuracy.

In [33], we proposed the point integral method (PIM), a novel numerical method, for solving the Poisson equation on point cloud. The main idea of the point integral method is to approximate the Poisson equation via the following integral equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \int_{\mathcal{M}} \Delta_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \approx & \frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y})) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 & - 2 \int_{\partial \mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}},
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where \mathbf{n} is the out normal of $\partial \mathcal{M}$, \mathcal{M} is a smooth k -dimensional manifold embedded in \mathbb{R}^d , $\partial \mathcal{M}$ is the boundary of \mathcal{M} . $R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ and $\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ are kernel functions given as follows

$$R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right), \quad \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = C_t \bar{R} \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right), \tag{2}$$

where $C_t = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{k/2}}$ is the normalizing factor. $R \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^+)$ be a positive function that is integrable over $[0, +\infty)$,

$$\bar{R}(r) = \int_r^{+\infty} R(s) ds.$$

$\Delta_{\mathcal{M}} = \text{div}(\nabla)$ is the Laplace–Beltrami operator (LBO) on \mathcal{M} . Let $\Phi : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be a local parametrization of \mathcal{M} and $\theta \in \Omega$. For any differentiable function $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, define the gradient on the manifold

$$\nabla f(\Phi(\theta)) = \sum_{i,j=1}^m g^{ij}(\theta) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \theta_i}(\theta) \frac{\partial f(\Phi(\theta))}{\partial \theta_j}(\theta), \tag{3}$$

and for vector field $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ on \mathcal{M} , where $T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ is the tangent space of \mathcal{M} at $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$, the divergence is defined as

$$\text{div}(F) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} \sum_{k=1}^d \sum_{i,j=1}^m \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{ij} F^k(\Phi(\theta)) \frac{\partial \Phi^k}{\partial \theta_j} \right), \tag{4}$$

where $(g^{ij})_{i,j=1,\dots,k} = G^{-1}$, $\det G$ is the determinant of matrix G and $G(\theta) = (g_{ij})_{i,j=1,\dots,k}$ is the first fundamental form which is defined by

$$g_{ij}(\theta) = \sum_{k=1}^d \frac{\partial \Phi_k}{\partial \theta_i}(\theta) \frac{\partial \Phi_k}{\partial \theta_j}(\theta), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, m. \tag{5}$$

and $(F^1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, F^d(\mathbf{x}))^t$ is the representation of F in the embedding coordinates.

Using the integral approximation, we transfer the LBO to an integral operator. The integral operator is easily discretized on point clouds with proper quadrature rule, because differential operators are nonexistent inside. This is the essential component of PIM. Similar integral approximation is also used in nonlocal diffusion and peridynamic models [1, 15–17, 49].

PIM is also related with graph Laplacian, a discrete object that is associated with a graph and reveals many properties of graphs [12]. As observed in [5, 24, 27, 44], the graph Laplacian with the Gaussian weights well approximates the LBO when the vertices of the graph are assumed to be a sample of the underlying manifold. When no boundary is present, Belkin and Niyogi [6] showed that the spectra of the graph Laplacian with Gaussian weights converge to that of $\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}$. Dealing with the boundary remains an unresolved issue. In fact, near the boundary, graph Laplacian is dominated by the first-order derivative and thus fails to be a true Laplacian [7, 27]. Recently, Singer and Wu [45] showed the spectral convergence of the graph Laplacian in the presence of the Neumann boundary. the convergence analysis in both [6] and [45] is based on the connection between the graph Laplacian and the heat operator. Therefore, Gaussian weights are essential.

The main contribution of this paper is that, for Poisson equation with Neumann boundary condition, we prove that the numerical solution computed by the PIM converges to the exact solution in H^1 norm as the density of the sample points tends to infinity. Unlike the methods used in graph Laplacian, we do not relate the integral operator to heat kernel. Instead, we use a strategy that is standard in numerical analysis to prove convergence.

It is well known that the convergence is an easy consequence of consistency and stability. We imply that PIM is stable by proving that PIM preserves the coercivity of the original Laplace–Beltrami operator. Together with the truncation error estimate, we get the convergence of PIM.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Sect. 2, we describe the point integral method for Poisson equation with Neumann boundary condition. The convergence result is stated in Sect. 3. The structure of the proof is shown in Sect. 4. The main body of the proof is presented in Sects. 5, 6 and 7. Finally, the conclusions and discussion of future work are provided in Sec. 8.

2 Point integral method

In this paper, we consider Poisson equation on a smooth, compact k -dimensional submanifold \mathcal{M} in \mathbb{R}^d , $d \geq k$ with the Neumann boundary

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{x}) = b(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\mathcal{M}. \end{cases} \tag{6}$$

The manifold \mathcal{M} is sampled with a set of sample points P and a subset $S \subset P$ sampling the boundary of \mathcal{M} . The points are listed in a fixed order $P = (\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n)$ where $\mathbf{p}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $1 \leq i \leq n$ and without loss of generality, let $S = (\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_m) \subset P$ with $m < n$.

In addition, assuming that we are given two vectors, $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_n)^t$, where V_i is an volume weight of \mathbf{p}_i in \mathcal{M} , and $\mathbf{A} = (A_1, \dots, A_m)^t$, where A_i is an area weight of \mathbf{p}_i in $\partial\mathcal{M}$, thus, for any $f \in C^1(\mathcal{M})$ and $g \in C^1(\mathcal{M})$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{p}_i)V_i \approx \int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m g(\mathbf{p}_i)A_i \approx \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} g(\mathbf{x})d\tau_{\mathbf{x}}.$$

Here $d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$ and $d\tau_{\mathbf{x}}$ are the volume form of \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$, respectively.

Using the integral approximation (1), the Poisson equation is approximated with an integral equation,

$$\frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - 2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})b(\mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{y})\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \quad (7)$$

No differential operators exist in the integral equation. Therefore, it is easy to discretize on the point cloud with the weight vectors, \mathbf{V} and \mathbf{A} ,

$$\frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)(u_i - u_j)V_j - 2 \sum_{j=1}^m \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)b(\mathbf{p}_j)A_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)f(\mathbf{p}_j)V_j. \quad (8)$$

The solution $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ to the above linear system provides an approximation of the solution to problem (6).

3 Main results

The main contribution of this paper is the establishment of the convergence results for the point integral method for solving problem (6). To simplify the notation and make the proof concise, in the analysis, we consider the homogeneous Neumann boundary conditions, i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{x}) = 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\mathcal{M}. \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

The analysis can be easily generalized to nonhomogeneous boundary conditions.

The corresponding numerical scheme is

$$\frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)(u_i - u_j)V_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)f_jV_j, \quad (10)$$

where $f_j = f(\mathbf{p}_j)$.

Before proving the convergence of the point integral method, we need to clarify the meaning of the convergence between the point cloud (P, \mathbf{V}) and the manifold \mathcal{M} . In this paper, we consider the convergence in the sense that $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M}) \rightarrow 0$ where $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is the *integral accuracy index* defined as following,

Definition 1 (*Integral accuracy index*) For the point cloud (P, \mathbf{V}) that samples the manifold \mathcal{M} , the integral accuracy index $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is defined as

$$h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M}) = \sup_{f \in C^1(\mathcal{M})} \frac{|\int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{p}_i)V_i|}{|\text{supp}(f)|\|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}},$$

where $\|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})} = \|f\|_{\infty} + \|\nabla f\|_{\infty}$ and $|\text{supp}(f)|$ is the volume of the support of f .

Using the definition of integrable index, the point cloud (P, \mathbf{V}) converges to the manifold \mathcal{M} if $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M}) \rightarrow 0$. In the convergence analysis, we assume that $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is small enough.

Remark 1 In some sense, $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is a measure of the point cloud density.

1. If the volume weight \mathbf{V} comes from a mesh, one can obtain the integral accuracy index $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M}) = O(\rho)$ where ρ is the size of the elements in the mesh and the angle between the normal space of an element and the normal space of \mathcal{M} at the vertices of the element is of order $\rho^{1/2}$ [46].
2. If the point cloud is sampled from some distribution, from central limit theorem, $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M}) \sim O(1/\sqrt{n})$ where n is the number of point in P .

Remark 2 To consider the nonhomogeneous Neumann boundary condition or Dirichlet boundary condition, we also have to also assume that $h(S, \mathbf{A}, \partial\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow 0$, where S is the point set that samples the boundary $\partial\mathcal{M}$ and \mathbf{A} is the corresponding volume weight on the boundary $\partial\mathcal{M}$.

To obtain the convergence, we also need some assumptions on the regularity of the submanifold \mathcal{M} and the integral kernel function R .

- Assumption 1**
1. Smoothness of the manifold: $\mathcal{M}, \partial\mathcal{M}$ are both compact and C^∞ smooth k -dimensional submanifolds isometrically embedded in a Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^d .
 2. Assumptions on the kernel function $R(r)$:
 - (a) Smoothness: $\frac{d^2}{dr^2}R(r)$ is bounded, i.e., there exists a constant C such that $\left| \frac{d^2}{dr^2}R(r) \right| \leq C, \forall r \geq 0$;
 - (b) Nonnegativity: $R(r) \geq 0$ for any $r \geq 0$;
 - (c) Compact support: $R(r) = 0$ for $\forall r > 1$;
 - (d) Nondegeneracy: $\exists \delta_0 > 0$ so that $R(r) \geq \delta_0$ for $0 \leq r \leq \frac{1}{2}$.

Remark 3 The assumption on the kernel function is very mild. Almost all the smoothed delta functions in the literatures satisfy these condition. One frequently used choice is given by cos function:

$$R(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \pi r), & 0 \leq r \leq 1, \\ 0, & r > 1. \end{cases}$$

The compact support assumption can be relaxed to exponentially decay, like Gaussian kernel. In the nondegeneracy assumption, $1/2$ may be replaced by a positive number θ_0 with $0 < \theta_0 < 1$. Similar assumptions on the kernel function is also used in analysis the nonlocal diffusion problem [18].

Remark 4 For simplicity, R is assumed to be compactly supported. After some mild modifications of the proof, the same convergence results also hold for any kernel function that decays exponentially, like the Gaussian kernel $G_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = C_t \exp\left(-\frac{|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right)$. In fact, for any $s \geq 1$ and any $\epsilon > 0$, the H^s mass of the Gaussian kernel over the domain $\Omega = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M} \mid |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2 \geq t^{1+\epsilon}\}$ decays faster than any polynomial in t as t goes to 0, i.e.,

$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|G_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\|_{H^s(\Omega)}}{t^\alpha} = 0$ for any α . In this way, we can bound any influence of the integral outside a compact support.

All the analysis in this paper is conducted under the assumptions in Assumption 1 and $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$, t are small enough. One upper bound of t , T_0 , is given by $15\sqrt{2T_0} = \delta$ with $\delta = \rho\sigma/20$, $\rho = 0.1$ and σ is the minimum of the reaches defined in Proposition 1. In the theorems and the proof, we omit the statement of the assumptions without introducing any confusion.

The solution of the point integral method is a vector \mathbf{u} , while the solution of problem (9) is a function defined on \mathcal{M} . To make these two solutions comparable, for any solution $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ to the problem (10), we construct a function on \mathcal{M}

$$I_f(\mathbf{u})(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)u_j V_j - t \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)f_j V_j}{\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)V_j}. \tag{11}$$

It is easy to verify that $I_f(\mathbf{u})$ interpolates \mathbf{u} at the sample points P , i.e., $I_f(\mathbf{u})(\mathbf{p}_j) = u_j$ for any $\mathbf{p}_j \in P$. The following theorem guarantees the convergence of the point integral method.

Theorem 1 *Let u be the solution to Problem (9) with $f \in C^1(\mathcal{M})$ and the vector \mathbf{u} be the solution to the problem (10). Then, there exists constants C and T_0 only depend on \mathcal{M} , such that for any $t \leq T_0$*

$$\|u - I_f(\mathbf{u})\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \leq C \left(t^{1/2} + \frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^{3/2}} \right) \|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{12}$$

where $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is the integral accuracy index.

4 Structure of the proof

To simplify the notation, we introduce an integral operator,

$$L_t u = \frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \tag{13}$$

Roughly speaking, the proof the convergence includes an estimate of the truncation error $L_t(u - I_f(\mathbf{u}))$ and the stability of the integral operator L_t . Here $u(\mathbf{x})$ is the solution of the problem (9) and \mathbf{u} is the solution of the problem (10).

First, we have following theorem regarding the stability of the operator L_t .

Theorem 2 *Let $u(\mathbf{x})$ solve the integral equation*

$$L_t u = r(\mathbf{x}),$$

where $r \in H^1(\mathcal{M})$ with $\int_{\mathcal{M}} r(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} = 0$. There exist constants $C > 0$, $T_0 > 0$ independent on t , such that

$$\|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \leq C (\|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} + t\|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})})$$

provided that $t \leq T_0$.

To apply the stability result, we need L_2 estimate of $L_t(u - I_f(\mathbf{u}))$ and $\nabla L_t(u - I_f(\mathbf{u}))$. These truncation errors are analyzed in following two theorems by splitting the truncation error $L_t(u - I_f(\mathbf{u}))$

$$L_t(u - I_f(\mathbf{u})) = L_t(u - u_t) + L_t(u_t - I_f(\mathbf{u})),$$

where u_t is the solution of the integral equation

$$\frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{y})\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \tag{14}$$

For the second term, we have

Theorem 3 *Let $u_t(\mathbf{x})$ be the solution of the problem (14) and \mathbf{u} be the solution of the problem (10). If $f \in C^1(\mathcal{M})$, then there exists constants C, T_0 depending only on \mathcal{M} , so that*

$$\|L_t(I_f\mathbf{u} - u_t)\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq \frac{Ch(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^{3/2}} \|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{15}$$

$$\|\nabla L_t(I_f\mathbf{u} - u_t)\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq \frac{Ch(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^2} \|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{16}$$

as long as $t \leq T_0$ and $\frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{\sqrt{t}} \leq T_0$, $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ is the integral difference index in Definition 1.

In the analysis, we found that the error term $L_t(u - u_t)$ has boundary layer structure. In the interior region, it is $O(\sqrt{t})$ and in a layer adjacent to the boundary with width $O(\sqrt{t})$, the error is $O(1)$.

Theorem 4 *Let $u(\mathbf{x})$ be the solution of the problem (9) and $u_t(\mathbf{x})$ be the solution of the corresponding integral equation (14). Let*

$$I_{bd} = \sum_{j=1}^d \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} n^j(\mathbf{y})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla(\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y}))\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}}, \tag{17}$$

and

$$L_t(u - u_t) = I_{in} + I_{bd}.$$

where $\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{y}) = (n^1(\mathbf{y}), \dots, n^d(\mathbf{y}))$ is the out normal vector of $\partial\mathcal{M}$ at \mathbf{y} , ∇^j is the j th component of gradient ∇ .

If $u \in H^3(\mathcal{M})$, then there exists constants C, T_0 depending only on \mathcal{M} and $p(\mathbf{x})$, so that,

$$\|I_{in}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/2}\|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}, \quad \|\nabla I_{in}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq C\|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{18}$$

as long as $t \leq T_0$.

To utilize the boundary layer structure, we need a stability result specifically for the boundary term.

Theorem 5 *Let $u(\mathbf{x})$ solve the integral equation*

$$L_t u = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} - \bar{b},$$

where $|\mathcal{M}| = \int_{\mathcal{M}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$ and

$$\bar{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{M}|} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mathbf{x}.$$

Then, there exist constant $C > 0, T_0 > 0$ independent on t , such that

$$\|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}.$$

as long as $t \leq T_0$.

Theorem 1 is an easy corollary from Theorems 2, 3, 4 and 5. Theorems 2 and 3 imply that

$$\|u_t - I_t(\mathbf{u})\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} = O\left(\frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^{3/2}}\right)$$

and Theorems 2, 4 and 5 imply

$$\|u - u_t\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} = O(t^{1/2}),$$

which prove Theorem 1.

In the rest of the paper, we prove Theorems 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively.

5 Error analysis of the integral approximation (Theorem 4)

In this section, we need to introduce a special parametrization of the manifold \mathcal{M} . This parametrization is based on following proposition. First, we define the reaches of a manifold following the definition in [38]. Consider a compact Riemannian submanifold \mathcal{M} of a Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^d . We can define the set

$$G(\mathcal{M}) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \text{there exist distinct } p, q \in \mathcal{M} \text{ such that } d(x, \mathcal{M}) = |x - p| = |x - q|\}$$

where $d(x, \mathcal{M}) = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{M}} |x - y|$. The closure of $G(\mathcal{M})$, denoted as $\bar{G}(\mathcal{M})$, is called the medial axis of \mathcal{M} . For any $p \in \mathcal{M}$, the reach at p is defined as the distance of p to the medial axis, i.e.,

$$\tau(p, \mathcal{M}) = \inf_{y \in \bar{G}(\mathcal{M})} |p - y|.$$

Proposition 1 Assume both \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$ are compact and C^2 smooth. σ is the minimum of the reaches of \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$, i.e.,

$$\sigma = \min \left\{ \inf_{p \in \mathcal{M}} \tau(p, \mathcal{M}), \inf_{p \in \partial\mathcal{M}} \tau(p, \partial\mathcal{M}) \right\}.$$

For any point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$, there is a neighborhood $U \subset \mathcal{M}$ of \mathbf{x} , so that there is a parametrization $\Phi : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow U$ satisfying the following conditions. For any $\rho \leq 0.1$,

- (i) Ω is convex and contains at least half of the ball $B_{\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x})}(\frac{\rho}{5}\sigma)$, i.e., $\text{vol}(\Omega \cap B_{\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x})}(\frac{\rho}{5}\sigma)) > \frac{1}{2}(\frac{\rho}{5}\sigma)^k w_k$ where w_k is the volume of unit ball in \mathbb{R}^k ;
- (ii) $B_{\mathbf{x}}(\frac{\rho}{10}\sigma) \cap \mathcal{M} \subset U$.
- (iii) The determinant the Jacobian of Φ is bounded: $(1 - 2\rho)^k \leq |D\Phi| \leq (1 + 2\rho)^k$ over Ω .
- (iv) For any points $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in U$, $1 - 2\rho \leq \frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}|}{|\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) - \Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{z})|} \leq 1 + 3\rho$.

This proposition basically says there exists a local parametrization of small distortion if $(\mathcal{M}, \partial\mathcal{M})$ satisfies certain smoothness, and moreover, the parameter domain is convex and big enough. The proof of this proposition can be found in ‘‘Appendix A.’’ Next, we introduce a special parametrization of the manifold \mathcal{M} .

Let $\rho = 0.1$, σ be the minimum of the reaches of \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$ and $\delta = \rho\sigma/20$. For any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$, denote

$$B_{\mathbf{x}}^{\delta} = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M} : |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq \delta\}, \quad \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M} : |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2 \leq 4t\} \tag{19}$$

and we assume t is small enough such that $2\sqrt{t} \leq \delta$.

Since the manifold \mathcal{M} is compact, there exists a δ -net, $\mathcal{N}_{\delta} = \{\mathbf{q}_i \in \mathcal{M}, i = 1, \dots, N\}$, such that

$$\mathcal{M} \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^N B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{\delta},$$

and there exists a partition of \mathcal{M} , $\{\mathcal{O}_i, i = 1, \dots, N\}$, such that $\mathcal{O}_i \cap \mathcal{O}_j = \emptyset, i \neq j$ and

$$\mathcal{M} = \bigcup_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_i \quad \mathcal{O}_i \subset B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{\delta}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

Using Proposition 1, there exist a parametrization $\Phi_i : \Omega_i \subset \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow U_i \subset \mathcal{M}, i = 1, \dots, N$, such that

1. (Convexity) $B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta} \subset U_i$ and Ω_i is convex;
2. (Smoothness) $\Phi_i \in C^3(\Omega_i)$;
3. (Locally small deformation) For any points $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in \Omega_i$,

$$\frac{1}{2} |\theta_1 - \theta_2| \leq \|\Phi_i(\theta_1) - \Phi_i(\theta_2)\| \leq 2 |\theta_1 - \theta_2|.$$

Using the partition, $\{\mathcal{O}_i, i = 1, \dots, N\}$, for any $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M}$, there exists unique $J(\mathbf{y}) \in \{1, \dots, N\}$, such that

$$\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{O}_{J(\mathbf{y})} \subset B_{\mathbf{q}_{J(\mathbf{y})}}^{\delta}. \tag{20}$$

Moreover, using the condition, $2\sqrt{t} \leq \delta$, we have $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t \subset B_{\mathbf{q}_{J(\mathbf{y})}}^{2\delta} \subset U_{J(\mathbf{y})}$. Then, $\Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$ are both well defined for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t$.

Now, we define an auxiliary function, $\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ for any $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t$. Let

$$\xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) \in \mathbb{R}^k, \quad \eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \cdot \partial\Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}(\alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})) \in \mathbb{R}^d, \tag{21}$$

where $\alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$ and ∂ is the gradient operator in the parameter space, i.e.,

$$\partial\Phi_j(\theta) = \left(\frac{\partial\Phi_j}{\partial\theta_1}(\theta), \frac{\partial\Phi_j}{\partial\theta_2}(\theta), \dots, \frac{\partial\Phi_j}{\partial\theta_k}(\theta) \right), \quad \theta \in \Omega_j \subset \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Now, we state the proof of Theorem 4.

Proof Let $r(\mathbf{x}) = -(L_t u - L_t u_t)$ be the residual, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} r(\mathbf{x}) &= -\frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad + 2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})g(\mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} - \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})f(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y})R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, we use that fact that

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})f(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})g(\mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} &= \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{y})d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{y}}\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y})R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality comes from:

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla u(\mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{y}}\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\partial_{i'}\Phi^l g^{i'j'} \partial_{j'} u(\mathbf{y}) \right) \left(\partial_{m'}\Phi^l g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'}\Phi^j (x^j - y^j)R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\partial_{n'}\Phi^j g^{j'n'} \partial_{j'} u(\mathbf{y}) \right) \left((x^j - y^j)R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (x^j - y^j)\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y})R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

Here, Φ^i , $i = 1, \dots, d$, is the i th component of the parameterization function Φ and the parameterization function $\Phi = \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}$, $J(\mathbf{y})$ is the index function given in (20). In the rest of the proof, without introducing any confusion, we always drop the subscript of the parameterization function.

First, we split the residual $r(\mathbf{x})$ to four terms

$$r(\mathbf{x}) = r_1(\mathbf{x}) + r_2(\mathbf{x}) + r_3(\mathbf{x}) - r_4(\mathbf{x}),$$

where

$$r_1(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{1}{2} \eta^i \eta^j (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \right) R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_2(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{2t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \eta^i \eta^j (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \int_{\mathcal{M}} \eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \\
 r_3(\mathbf{x}) &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \operatorname{div} \left(\eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla u(\mathbf{y})) \right) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \\
 r_4(\mathbf{x}) &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \operatorname{div} \left(\eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla u(\mathbf{y})) \right) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \Delta_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

where ∇^i , $i = 1, \dots, d$, is the i th component of the gradient ∇ , η^i , $i = 1, \dots, d$ is the i th component of $\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ defined in (21). To simplify the notation, we drop the variable (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) in the function $\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$.

Next, we will prove the theorem by estimating above four terms one by one. First, we consider r_1 . Let

$$d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{1}{2} \eta^i \eta^j (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})).$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\mathcal{M}} |r_1(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq (\max_{\mathbf{y}})^2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_i^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Using Newton–Leibniz formula, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla u(\mathbf{y}) - \frac{1}{2} \eta^i \eta^j (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \\
 &= \xi^i \xi^{i'} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1 \frac{d}{ds_3} \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) \right) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\
 &= \xi^i \xi^{i'} \xi^{i''} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1^2 s_2 \partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i''} \partial_{i'} \Phi^j \\
 &\quad \times (\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\
 &\quad + \xi^i \xi^{i'} \xi^{i''} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1^2 \partial_{i''} \partial_i \Phi^j \\
 &\quad \times (\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\
 &\quad + \xi^i \xi^{i'} \xi^{i''} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1^2 s_2 \partial_i \Phi^j \\
 &\quad \times (\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i''} \Phi^{j''}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \\
 &\quad \times \nabla^{j''} \nabla^j \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1
 \end{aligned}$$

Here, $\alpha = \alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$, $\xi = \xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$. In above derivation, we need the convexity property of the parameterization function to make sure all the integrals are well defined.

Using above equality and the smoothness of the parameterization functions, it is easy to show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_y^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \leq Ct^3 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \int_{\mathcal{M}_y^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^{2,3}u(\Phi_{J(\mathbf{y})}(\alpha + s_3s_2s_1\xi))|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\ & \leq Ct^3 \max_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \int_{\mathcal{M}_y^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^{2,3}u(\Phi_i(\alpha + s\xi))|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we use the fact that $J(\mathbf{y}) = i$, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{O}_i$ and

$$|D^{2,3}u(\mathbf{x})|^2 = \sum_{j,j''=1}^d |\nabla^{j''} \nabla^j u(\mathbf{x})|^2 + \sum_{j'=1}^d |\nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\mathbf{x})|^2.$$

Let $\mathbf{z}_i = \Phi_i(\alpha + s\xi)$, $0 \leq s \leq 1$, then for any $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{O}_i \subset B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^\delta$ and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}_y^t$,

$$|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{y}| \leq 2s|\xi| \leq 4s|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq 8s\sqrt{t}, \quad |\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{q}_i| \leq |\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{y}| + |\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{q}_i| \leq \delta + 8s\sqrt{t}.$$

We can assume that t is small enough such that $8\sqrt{t} \leq \delta$, then we have

$$\mathbf{z}_i \in B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}.$$

After changing of variable, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \int_{\mathcal{M}_y^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^{2,3}u(\Phi_i(\alpha + s\xi))|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \leq \frac{C}{\delta_0} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} \frac{1}{s^k} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{y}|^2}{128s^2t} \right) |D^{2,3}u(\mathbf{z}_i)|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{z}_i} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & = \frac{C}{\delta_0} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \frac{1}{s^k} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_i - \mathbf{y}|^2}{128s^2t} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} |D^{2,3}u(\mathbf{z}_i)|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{z}_i} \\ & \leq C \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} |D^{2,3}u(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}. \end{aligned}$$

This estimate would give us that

$$\|r_1(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/2} \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})} \tag{23}$$

Now, we turn to estimate the gradient of r_1 .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} r_1(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ & \quad + C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ is the gradient in \mathcal{M} with respect to \mathbf{x} .

Using the same techniques in the calculation of $\|r_1(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$, we get that the first term of right-hand side can be bounded as follows

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \leq C \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}^2.$$

The estimation of second term is a little involved. First, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ & = C \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_y^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Also using Newton–Leibniz formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \xi^i \xi^{i'} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1 \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_2 s_1 \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_2 s_1 \xi)) \right) ds_2 ds_1 \\ &\quad - \xi^i \xi^{i'} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1 \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha) \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha)) \right) ds_2 ds_1 \end{aligned}$$

Then, the gradient of $d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ has following representation,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \xi^i \xi^{i'} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1 \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_2 s_1 \xi) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_2 s_1 \xi)) \right) ds_2 ds_1 \right) \\ &\quad + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\xi^i \xi^{i'} \right) \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 s_1 \frac{d}{ds_3} \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) \right) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\ &= d_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + d_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}). \end{aligned}$$

For d_1 , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq Ct^2 \max_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^{2,3} u(\Phi(\alpha + s\xi))|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \end{aligned}$$

which means that

$$\int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \leq C \int_{B_{4i}^{2\delta}} |D^{2,3} u(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \tag{24}$$

For d_2 , we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\xi^i \xi^{i'} \right) \int_{[0,1]^3} s_1 \frac{d}{ds_3} \left(\partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) \right) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\ &= \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\xi^i \xi^{i'} \right) \xi^{i''} \int_{[0,1]^3} s_1^2 s_2 \partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i''} \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \\ &\quad \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\ &\quad + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\xi^i \xi^{i'} \right) \xi^{i''} \int_{[0,1]^3} s_1^2 \partial_{i''} \partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_3 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i'} \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \\ &\quad \times \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \\ &\quad + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\xi^i \xi^{i'} \right) \xi^{i''} \int_{[0,1]^3} s_1^2 s_2 \partial_i \Phi^j(\alpha + s_2 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i''} \\ &\quad \times \Phi^{j'}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \partial_{i''} \Phi^{j''}(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi) \\ &\quad \times \nabla^{j''} \nabla^{j'} \nabla^j u(\Phi(\alpha + s_3 s_2 s_1 \xi)) ds_3 ds_2 ds_1 \end{aligned}$$

This formula tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |d_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq Ct^2 \max_{0 \leq s \leq 1} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{y}}^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^{2,3} u(\Phi(\alpha + s\xi))|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the same arguments as that in the calculation of $\|r_1\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$, we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}_i^t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \leq C \int_{B_{\frac{2\delta}{4i}}^{2\delta}} |D^3 u(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \tag{25}$$

Combining (24) and (25), we have

$$\|\nabla r_1(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq C \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})} \tag{26}$$

For r_2 , first, notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \frac{1}{2t} \partial_{m'} \Phi^j(\alpha) g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'} \Phi^i(\alpha) (x^i - y^i) R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \\ \frac{\eta^j}{2t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \frac{1}{2t} \partial_{m'} \Phi^j(\alpha) g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'} \Phi^i(\alpha) \xi^{i'} \partial_{i'} \Phi^i R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}). \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - \frac{\eta^j}{2t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \frac{1}{2t} \partial_{m'} \Phi^i g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'} \Phi^j (x^j - y^j - \xi^{i'} \partial_{i'} \Phi^j) R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2t} \xi^{i'} \xi^{j'} \partial_{m'} \Phi^i g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'} \Phi^j \left(\int_0^1 \int_0^1 s \partial_{j'} \partial_{i'} \Phi^j(\alpha + \tau s \xi) d\tau ds \right) R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - \frac{\eta^j}{2t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \right| &\leq \frac{C|\xi|^2}{t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ \left| \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left(\nabla^j \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - \frac{\eta^j}{2t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \right) \right| &\leq \frac{C|\xi|}{t} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{C|\xi|^3}{t^2} |R'_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})|. \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have following bound for r_2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |r_2(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} &\leq Ct \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})| d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq Ct \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq Ct \max_{\mathbf{y}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \int_{\mathcal{M}} |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq Ct \|u\|_{H^2(\mathcal{M})}^2. \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla r_2(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} &\leq Ct \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq C\sqrt{t} \max_{\mathbf{y}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \int_{\mathcal{M}} |D^2 u(\mathbf{y})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq C \|u\|_{H^2(\mathcal{M})}^2. \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

r_3 is relatively easy to estimate by using the well known Gauss formula.

$$r_3(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} n^j \eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} = \tilde{I}_{bd}, \tag{29}$$

where $\tilde{I}_{bd} = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} n^j \eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}}$.

Now, we turn to bound the last term r_4 . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^j (\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) &= (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j) g^{k'l'} \partial_{l'} \left((\partial_{m'} \Phi^j) g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) \right) \\ &= (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j) g^{k'l'} \left(\partial_{l'} (\partial_{m'} \Phi^j) \right) g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) \\ &\quad + (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j) g^{k'l'} (\partial_{m'} \Phi^j) \partial_{l'} \left(g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} (\partial_{m'} \sqrt{\det G}) g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) + \partial_{m'} \left(g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} \partial_{m'} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{m'n'} (\partial_{n'} u) \right) = \Delta_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{y}), \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

where $\det G$ is the determinant of G and $G = (g_{ij})_{i,j=1,\dots,k}$. Here, we use the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j) g^{k'l'} \left(\partial_{l'} (\partial_{m'} \Phi^j) \right) &= (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j) g^{k'l'} \left(\partial_{m'} (\partial_{l'} \Phi^j) \right) \\ &= (\partial_{m'} (\partial_{k'} \Phi^j)) g^{k'l'} (\partial_{l'} \Phi^j) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} g^{k'l'} \partial_{m'} (g_{k'l'}) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} (\partial_{m'} \sqrt{\det G}). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{i'} \xi^l) (\partial_{l'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \\ &= -g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{i'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \\ &= -g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{i'} \Phi^i) (\partial_{m'} \Phi^i) g^{m'n'} \partial_{n'} \left(\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y}) \right) \\ &= -g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) \partial_{i'} \left(\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y}) \right) \\ &= -\nabla^j \left(\nabla^j u(\mathbf{y}) \right), \end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

where the first equalities are due to that $\partial_{i'} \xi^l = -\delta_{i'}^l$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{div} \left(\eta^i (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \right) + \Delta_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{y}) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} \partial_{i'} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) \xi^l (\partial_{l'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \right) \\ &\quad - g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{i'} \xi^l) (\partial_{l'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \\ &= \frac{\xi^l}{\sqrt{\det G}} \partial_{i'} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{i'j'} (\partial_{i'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{l'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Here, we use the equalities (30), (31), $\eta^i = \xi^l \partial_{i'} \Phi^l$ and the definition of div ,

$$\operatorname{div} X = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det G}} \partial_{i'} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{i'j'} \partial_{i'} \Phi^k X^k \right), \tag{32}$$

where X is a smooth tangent vector field on \mathcal{M} and $(X^1, \dots, X^d)^t$ is its representation in embedding coordinates.

Hence,

$$r_4(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{\xi^l}{\sqrt{\det G}} \partial_{i'} \left(\sqrt{\det G} g^{i'j'} (\partial_{j'} \Phi^j) (\partial_{l'} \Phi^i) (\nabla^i \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \right) \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.$$

Then, it is easy to get that

$$\|r_4(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/2} \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{33}$$

$$\|\nabla r_4(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq C \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{34}$$

By combining (23), (26), (27), (28), (29), (33), (34), we know that

$$\|r - \tilde{I}_{bd}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/2} \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{35}$$

$$\|\nabla(r - \tilde{I}_{bd})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq C \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{36}$$

Using the definition of I_{bd} and \tilde{I}_{bd} , we obtain

$$I_{bd} - \tilde{I}_{bd} = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} r^j(\mathbf{y})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} - \eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})) \cdot (\nabla \nabla^j u(\mathbf{y})) \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}}.$$

Using the definition of $\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, it is easy to check that

$$|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} - \eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})| = O(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2), \quad |\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} - \eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))| = O(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|),$$

which implies that

$$\|I_{bd} - \tilde{I}_{bd}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{3/4} \|u\|_{H^2(\mathcal{M})}, \tag{37}$$

$$\|\nabla(I_{bd} - \tilde{I}_{bd})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/4} \|u\|_{H^3(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{38}$$

The theorem is proved by putting (35), (36), (37), (38) together.

6 Error analysis of the discretization (Theorem 3)

In this section, we estimate the discretization error introduced by approximating the integrals in (14) that is to prove Theorem 3. To simplify the notation, we introduce an intermediate operator defined as follows,

$$L_{t,h}u(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{p}_j))V_j. \tag{39}$$

If $u_{t,h} = I_t(\mathbf{u})$ with \mathbf{u} satisfying equation (10), one can verify that the following equation is satisfied,

$$L_{t,h}u_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)f(\mathbf{p}_j)V_j. \tag{40}$$

We introduce a discrete operator $\mathcal{L} : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ where $n = |P|$. For any $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$, denote

$$(\mathcal{L}\mathbf{u})_i = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j)(u_i - u_j)V_j. \tag{41}$$

For this operator, we have the following important theorem.

Theorem 6 *Under the assumptions in Assumption 1, there exist constants $C > 0$, $C_0 > 0$, T_0 independent on t so that for any $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t \in \mathbb{R}^d$ with $\sum_{i=1}^n u_i V_i = 0$, $t \leq T_0$ and sufficient small $\frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{\sqrt{t}}$*

$$\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathcal{L}\mathbf{u} \rangle_{\mathbf{V}} \geq C \left(1 - \frac{C_0 h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle_{\mathbf{V}}, \tag{42}$$

where $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\mathbf{V}} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i V_i$ for any $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)$, $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$.

The proof of the above theorem is deferred to ‘‘Appendix D.’’

It has an easy corollary which gives a priori estimate of $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ solving the discrete problem (10).

Lemma 1 *Suppose $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ with $\sum_i u_i V_i = 0$ solves the problem (10) and $\mathbf{f} = (f(\mathbf{p}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{p}_n))^t$ for $f \in C(\mathcal{M})$,*

there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \leq C \|f\|_{\infty}, \tag{43}$$

provided t and $\frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{\sqrt{t}}$ are small enough.

Proof From Theorem 6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j) f_j V_j \right) u_i V_i \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\|f\|_{\infty} \sum_{p_j \in P} \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right)^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \|f\|_{\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the lemma.

We are now ready to prove Theorem 3.

Proof of Theorem 3 Denote

$$u_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j - t \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f_j V_j \right), \tag{44}$$

where $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ with $\sum_{i=1}^n u_i V_i = 0$ solves the problem (10), $f_j = f(\mathbf{p}_j)$ and $w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j$. For convenience, we set

$$\begin{aligned} a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j, \\ c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) &= -\frac{t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j, \end{aligned}$$

and thus $u_{t,h} = a_{t,h} + c_{t,h}$.

In the proof, to simplify the notation, we denote $h = h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ and $n = |P|$. First we upper bound $\|L_t(u_{t,h}) - L_{t,h}(u_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$. For $c_{t,h}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |(L_t c_{t,h} - L_{t,h} c_{t,h})(\mathbf{x})| \\ &= \frac{1}{t} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})(c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) - c_{t,h}(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)(c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) - c_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j))V_j \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{t} |c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})| \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)V_j \right| \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{t} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})c_{t,h}(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)c_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j)V_j \right| \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} |c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})| + \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \|c_{t,h}\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} t\|f\|_{\infty} + \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} (t\|f\|_{\infty} + t^{1/2}\|f\|_{\infty}) \leq \frac{Ch}{t} \|f\|_{\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

For $a_{t,h}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} (a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}))^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)u_j V_j \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)u_j^2 V_j \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)V_j \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 V_j \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j)d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 V_j. \end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} A &= C_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{y})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad - C_t \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j)} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t}\right) R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t}\right) V_j. \end{aligned}$$

We have $|A| < \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}}$ for some constant C independent of t . In addition, notice that only when $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2 \leq 16t$ is $A \neq 0$, which implies

$$|A| \leq \frac{1}{\delta_0} |A| R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t}\right).$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n C_t u_i V_i A \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n C_t |u_i| V_i R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right) \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right) u_i^2 V_i \right) \left(\sum_{\mathbf{p}_i \in P} C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right) V_i \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} (u_i^2 V_i) \right) \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right). \tag{46}
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining Eqs. (45), (46) and Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|L_t a_{t,h} - L_{t,h} a_{t,h}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\
 &= \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} |(L_t(a_{t,h}) - L_{t,h}(a_{t,h}))(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}))^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \|f\|_{\infty}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Assembling the parts together, we have the following upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|L_t u_{t,h} - L_{t,h} u_{t,h}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\
 &\leq \|L_t a_{t,h} - L_{t,h} a_{t,h}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} + \|L_t c_{t,h} - L_{t,h} c_{t,h}\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\
 &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \|f\|_{\infty} + \frac{Ch}{t} \|f\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \|f\|_{\infty} \tag{47}
 \end{aligned}$$

At the same time, since u_t respectively $u_{t,h}$ solves equation (14) respectively equation (40), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|L_t(u_t) - L_{t,h}(u_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\
 &= \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} ((L_t u_t - L_{t,h} u_{t,h})(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &= \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) f(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{48}
 \end{aligned}$$

The complete L^2 estimate follows from Eqs. (47) and (48).

The estimate of the gradient, $\|\nabla(L_t(u_t) - L_{t,h}(u_{t,h}))\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$, can be obtained similarly. The details can be found in ‘‘Appendix E.’’

7 Stability analysis (Theorems 2 and 5)

To prove Theorem 2 and 5, we need following two theorems regarding the coercivity of the operator L_t .

Theorem 7 *For any function $u \in L^2(\mathcal{M})$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ independent on t and u , such that*

$$\langle u, L_t u \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} \geq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla v|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}, \tag{49}$$

where $\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} = \int_{\mathcal{M}} f(\mathbf{x})g(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$ for any $f, g \in L_2(\mathcal{M})$, and

$$v(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{C_t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \tag{50}$$

and $w_t(\mathbf{x}) = C_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}$.

Theorem 8 *Assume both \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$ are C^∞ . There exists a constant $C > 0$ independent on t so that for any function $u \in L_2(\mathcal{M})$ with $\int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} = 0$ and for any sufficient small t*

$$\langle u, L_t u \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} \geq C \|u\|_{L_2(\mathcal{M})}^2. \tag{51}$$

Theorem 2 is a direct corollary of following two lemmas.

Lemma 2 *For any function $u \in L^2(\mathcal{M})$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ independent on t and u , such that*

$$\frac{C_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \geq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla v|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$$

where v is the same as defined in (50).

Lemma 3 *If t is small enough, then for any function $u \in L^2(\mathcal{M})$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ independent on t and u , such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

The proofs of the above two lemmas are put in ‘‘Appendix B’’ and ‘‘C.’’ Once we have Lemmas 2 and 3, Theorem 7 becomes obvious by noticing that:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u, L_t u \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) u(\mathbf{x})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= - \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) u(\mathbf{y})(u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we turn to prove Theorem 51.

Proof of Theorem 51 By Theorem 7 and the Poincaré inequality, there exists a constant $C > 0$, such that

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} (v(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{v})^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \leq \frac{CC_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}},$$

where $\bar{v} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{M}|} \int_{\mathcal{M}} v(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}$ and

$$v(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{C_t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) u(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.$$

At the same time, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{M}||\bar{v}| &= \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} v(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C_t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{x})) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \\ &\leq \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C_t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C_t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C|\mathcal{M}|^{1/2} \left(C_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality comes from $\int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} = 0$. This enables us to upper bound the L_2 norm of v as follows. For t sufficiently small,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (v(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} &\leq 2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} (v(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{v})^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + 2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{v}^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{CC_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\delta = \frac{w_{\min}}{2w_{\max} + w_{\min}}$ where $w_{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{x}} w_t(\mathbf{x})$ and $w_{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{x}} w_t(\mathbf{x})$. If u is smooth and close to its smoothed version v , in particular,

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} |v(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \geq \delta^2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}, \tag{52}$$

then the theorem is proved.

Now, consider the case where (52) does not hold. Note that we now have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} &\geq \|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} - \|v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} > (1 - \delta)\|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\ &> \frac{1 - \delta}{\delta} \|v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} = \frac{2w_{\max}}{w_{\min}} \|v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{C_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \frac{2C_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y})) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \frac{2}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} u^2(\mathbf{x}) w(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} - \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) v(\mathbf{x}) w(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{2}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 w(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))v(\mathbf{x})w(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \\
 &\geq \frac{2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 w(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\quad - \frac{2}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} v^2(\mathbf{x})w(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 w(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\geq \frac{2w_{\min}}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\quad - \frac{2w_{\max}}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} v^2(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\
 &\geq \frac{w_{\min}}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u(\mathbf{x}) - v(\mathbf{x}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \geq \frac{w_{\min}}{t} (1 - \delta)^2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} u^2(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof for the theorem.

7.1 Proof of Theorem 2

With Theorem 7 and 51, the proof of Theorem 2 is straightforward.

Proof of Theorem 2 Using Theorem 51, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 &\leq C \langle u, L_t u \rangle = C \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x})(r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq C \|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{53}$$

To show the last inequality, we use the fact that

$$|\bar{r}| = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{M}|} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} r(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \leq C \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}.$$

This inequality (53) implies that

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq C \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}.$$

Now, we turn to estimate $\|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$. Notice that we have the following expression for u , since u satisfies the integral equation (14).

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = v(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} (r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r}),$$

where

$$v(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})u(\mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}, \quad w_t(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.$$

By Theorem 7, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 &\leq 2\|\nabla v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + 2t^2 \left\| \nabla \left(\frac{r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r}}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \right) \right\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 &\leq C \langle u, L_t u \rangle + Ct \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + Ct^2 \|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 &\leq C \|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} + Ct \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + Ct^2 \|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 &\leq C \|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + Ct^2 \|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 &\leq C (\|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} + t \|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})})^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

7.2 Proof of Theorem 5

The proof of Theorem 5 is more involved.

Proof First, we denote

$$r(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}},$$

$$\bar{r} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{M}|} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}},$$

where $|\mathcal{M}| = \int_{\mathcal{M}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}$.

The key point of the proof is to show that

$$\left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) (r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{54}$$

First, notice that

$$|\bar{r}| \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{L^2(\partial\mathcal{M})} \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}.$$

Then, it is sufficient to show that

$$\left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{55}$$

Direct calculation gives that

$$|2t\nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})| \leq C|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}),$$

where $\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = C_t\bar{R}\left(\frac{\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}\|^2}{4t}\right)$ and $\bar{R}(r) = \int_r^\infty \bar{R}(s)ds$. This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \left((\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + 2t\nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \right) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| \\ & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})| \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} |\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})| |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2 \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ & \leq Ct \|\mathbf{b}\|_{L^2(\partial\mathcal{M})} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})|^2 \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \right)^{1/2} \\ & \leq Ct \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})|^2 \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ & \leq Ct^{3/4} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned} \tag{56}$$

On the other hand, using the Gauss integral formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ & = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) T_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})) \cdot \nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot T_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})) u(\mathbf{x}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_{\mathbf{x}} d\tau_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \quad - \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}}[u(\mathbf{x}) T_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))] \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\tau_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned} \tag{57}$$

Here, $T_{\mathbf{x}}$ is the projection operator to the tangent space on \mathbf{x} . To get the first equality, we use the fact that $\nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ belongs to the tangent space on \mathbf{x} , such that $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \cdot \nabla\bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) =$

$T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})) \cdot \nabla \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ and $\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})) = \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})$ where $\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x})$ is the out normal of $\partial\mathcal{M}$ at $\mathbf{x} \in \partial\mathcal{M}$.

For the first term, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})) u(\mathbf{x}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_x d\tau_y \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) u(\mathbf{x}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_x d\tau_y \right| \\ &\leq C \|\mathbf{b}\|_{L^2(\partial\mathcal{M})} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})| \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_x \right)^2 d\tau_y \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_x \right) \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} |u(\mathbf{x})|^2 \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_x \right) d\tau_y \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq Ct^{-1/2} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{L^2(\partial\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{-1/2} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

We can also bound the second term on the right-hand side of (57). By using the assumption that $\mathcal{M} \in C^\infty$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\operatorname{div}_x [u(\mathbf{x}) T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))]| \\ &\leq |\nabla u(\mathbf{x})| |T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))| + |u(\mathbf{x})| |\operatorname{div}_x [T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))]| + |\nabla| |u(\mathbf{x}) T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))| \\ &\leq C(|\nabla u(\mathbf{x})| + |u(\mathbf{x})|) |\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y})| \end{aligned}$$

where the constant C depends on the curvature of the manifold \mathcal{M} .

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \operatorname{div}_x [u(\mathbf{x}) T_x(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}))] \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_x d\tau_y \right| \\ &\leq C \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \int_{\mathcal{M}} (|\nabla u(\mathbf{x})| + |u(\mathbf{x})|) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_x d\tau_y \\ &\leq C \|\mathbf{b}\|_{L^2(\partial\mathcal{M})} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (|\nabla u(\mathbf{x})|^2 + |u(\mathbf{x})|^2) \left(\int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_y \right) d\mu_x \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq Ct^{-1/4} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned} \tag{59}$$

Then, the inequality (55) is obtained from (56), (57), (58) and (59). Now, using Theorem 51, we have

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) L_t u(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_x \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \tag{60}$$

Note $r(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial\mathcal{M}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{y}) \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\tau_y$. Direct calculation gives us that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|r(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{1/4} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}, \text{ and} \\ & \|\nabla r(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq Ct^{-1/4} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned}$$

The integral equation $L_t u = r - \bar{r}$ gives that

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = v(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{t}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} (r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r}),$$

where

$$v(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) u(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_y, \quad w_t(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_y.$$

By Theorem 7, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 & \leq 2\|\nabla v\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + 2t^2 \left\| \nabla \left(\frac{r(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{r}}{w_t(\mathbf{x})} \right) \right\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x}) L_t u(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + Ct\|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + Ct^2\|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 & \leq C\sqrt{t} \|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} + Ct\|r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 + Ct^2\|\nabla r\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}^2 \\
 & \leq C\|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \left(\sqrt{t}\|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} + Ct^{3/2} \right). \tag{61}
 \end{aligned}$$

Using (60) and (61), we have

$$\|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})}^2 \leq C\|\mathbf{b}\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} \left(\sqrt{t}\|u\|_{H^1(\mathcal{M})} + Ct^{3/2} \right),$$

which proves the theorem.

8 Discussion and future work

We have proven the convergence of the point integral method for Poisson equations on submanifolds that are isometrically embedded in Euclidean spaces. Our analysis shows that the convergence rate of PIM is $h^{1/4}$ in H^1 norm. However, our experimental results in [33] show that the empirical convergence rate is approximately linear. In some parts in our analysis, we believe that the error bounds could be improved.

Nevertheless, the quadrature rule we used in the point integral method is of low accuracy. If we have more information, such as the local mesh or local hypersurface, we could use high-order quadrature rule to improve the accuracy of the point integral method.

Based on the convergence result in this paper, we can show that the spectra of the graph Laplacian with proper normalization converge to the spectra of $\Delta_{\mathcal{M}}$ with the Neumann boundary condition. Moreover, we can obtain an estimate of the rate of spectral convergence. The point integral method also applies to Poisson equation with Dirichlet boundary. Moreover, we can also show the convergence of the point integral method for the Dirichlet boundary. These results will be reported in the subsequent papers.

Another interesting problem is generalizing PIM to solve other type of PDEs. PIM can handle elliptic equations with anisotropic or discontinuous coefficients. The generalization to the diffusion equation seems to be natural. If the equation is dominated by convection term, it may need more careful study.

Proof of Proposition 1

To prove the proposition, we first cite a few results from Riemannian geometry on isometric embeddings. For a submanifold \mathcal{M} embedded in \mathbb{R}^d , let $d_{\mathcal{M}} : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the geodesic distance on \mathcal{M} , and $T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ and $N_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ be the tangent space and the normal space of \mathcal{M} at point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$, respectively.

Lemma 4 (e.g., [14]) *Assume \mathcal{M} is a submanifold isometrically embedded in \mathbb{R}^d with reach $\sigma > 0$. For any two \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} on \mathcal{M} with $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq \sigma/2$,*

$$|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq d_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \leq |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \left(1 + \frac{2|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{\sigma^2} \right).$$

Lemma 5 (e.g., [8]) *Assume \mathcal{M} is a submanifold isometrically embedded in \mathbb{R}^d with reach $\sigma > 0$. For any two \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} on \mathcal{M} with $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq \sigma/2$,*

$$\cos \angle T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}, T_{\mathbf{y}}\mathcal{M} \leq 1 - \frac{2|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{\sigma^2}.$$

Lemma 6 (e.g., [39]) *Assume \mathcal{M} is a submanifold isometrically embedded in \mathbb{R}^d with reach $\sigma > 0$. Let N be any local normal vector field around a point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$. Then, for any tangent vector $Y \in T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$*

$$\frac{\langle Y, D_Y N \rangle}{\langle Y, Y \rangle} \leq \frac{1}{\sigma},$$

where D and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ are the standard connection and the standard inner product in \mathbb{R}^d .

In what follows, assume the hypotheses on \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$ in Proposition 1 hold. We prove the following two lemmas which bound the distortion of certain parametrization, which are used to build the parametrization stated in Proposition 1.

For a point $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}$, let $U_\rho = B_{\mathbf{x}}(\rho\sigma) \cap \mathcal{M}$ with $\rho \leq 0.2$. We define the following projection map $\Psi : U_\rho \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^k$ as the restriction to U_ρ of the projection of \mathbb{R}^d onto $T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$. It is easy to verify that Ψ is one-to-one. Then, $\Phi = \Psi^{-1} : \Psi(U_\rho) \rightarrow U_\rho$ is a parametrization of U_ρ (see Fig. 1). We have the following lemma which bounds the distortion of this parametrization.

Lemma 7 *For any point $\mathbf{y} \in \Psi(U_\rho)$ and any $Y \in T_{\mathbf{y}}(T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M})$ for any $\rho \leq 0.2$,*

$$|Y| \leq |D_Y \Phi(\mathbf{y})| \leq \frac{1}{1 - 2\rho^2} |Y|.$$

Proof We have $\Phi(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y} - l_T(\mathbf{y})N_T(\mathbf{y})$ where $N_T(\mathbf{y}) \perp T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ for any \mathbf{y} and $l_T(\mathbf{y}) = |\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\mathbf{y})|$. So $D_Y N_T(\mathbf{y}) \perp T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ for any \mathbf{y} and any $Y \in T_{\mathbf{y}}(T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M})$. Since $D_Y \Phi = Y - N_T(D_Y l_T) - l_T(D_Y N_T)$, the projection of $D_Y \Phi$ to $T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}$ is Y . At the same time, $D_Y \Phi$ is on $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M}$. Since $|\mathbf{x} - \Phi(\mathbf{y})| \leq \rho\sigma$, from Lemma 5, $\cos \angle T_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{M}, T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M} \leq 1 - 2\rho^2$. This proves the lemma.

To ensure the convexity of the parameter domain Ω in Proposition 1, we need a different parametrization for the points near the boundary. For a point $\mathbf{x} \in \partial\mathcal{M}$, let $U_\rho = B_{\mathbf{x}}(\rho\sigma) \cap \mathcal{M}$ with $\rho \leq 0.1$. We construct a map $\tilde{\Psi} : U_\rho \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{x}}\partial\mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^k$ as follows. For any point $\mathbf{z} \in U_\rho$, let $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$ be the closest point on $\partial\mathcal{M}$ to \mathbf{z} . Such $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$ is unique. Let \mathbf{n} be the outward normal of $\partial\mathcal{M}$ at $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$. The projection P of \mathbb{R}^d onto $T_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}}\mathcal{M}$ maps \mathbf{z} to a point on the line ℓ passing through $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$ with the direction \mathbf{n} . In fact, P projects $N_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}}\partial\mathcal{M}$ onto the line ℓ . If let $V_{\rho_1} = N_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}}\partial\mathcal{M} \cap B_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}}(\rho_1\sigma) \cap \mathcal{M}$ with $\rho_1 \leq 0.2$, P maps V_{ρ_1} to the line ℓ in the one-to-one manner. Let $y^k = -(P(\mathbf{z}) - \tilde{\mathbf{z}}) \cdot \mathbf{n}$. Think of $\partial\mathcal{M}$ as a submanifold. It is isometrically

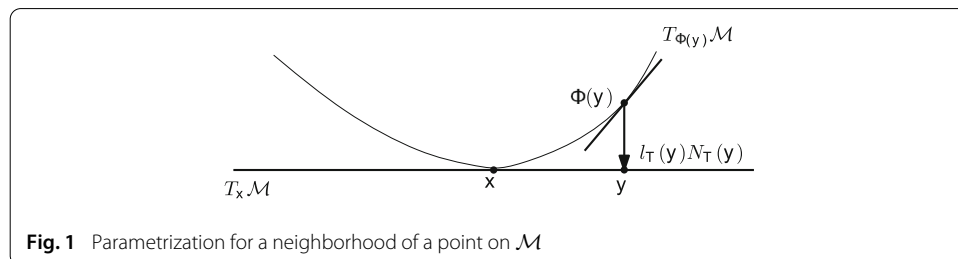


Fig. 1 Parametrization for a neighborhood of a point on \mathcal{M}

embedded in \mathbb{R}^d as is \mathcal{M} . As $|\tilde{\mathbf{z}} - \mathbf{x}| \leq 2|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}| \leq 2\rho\sigma$, we apply Lemma 7 by replacing \mathcal{M} with $\partial\mathcal{M}$ and obtain the map $\tilde{\Psi}$ that maps $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}$ onto $T_{\mathbf{x}}\partial\mathcal{M}$. Define $\tilde{\Psi}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}) = (\Psi(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}), y^k)$. Since both $P|_{V_{\rho_1}}$ and Ψ are one-to-one, so is $\tilde{\Psi}$. Then $\tilde{\Phi} = \tilde{\Psi}^{-1} : \tilde{\Psi}(U_\rho) \rightarrow U_\rho$ is a parametrization of U_ρ . See Fig. 2. We have the following lemma which bounds the distortion of this parametrization $\tilde{\Phi}$.

Lemma 8 For any point $(\mathbf{y}, y^k) \in \tilde{\Psi}(U_\rho)$ with $\rho \leq 0.1$ and any tangent vector Y at (\mathbf{y}, y^k) ,

$$(1 - 2\rho)|Y| \leq |D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)| \leq (1 + 2\rho)|Y|.$$

Proof Let $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = \Phi(\mathbf{y}) - y^k \mathbf{n}$. We have $\tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) = \Phi(\mathbf{y}) - y^k \mathbf{n}(\Phi(\mathbf{y})) - l_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}})N_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}})$ where $N_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}) \perp T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M}$. See Fig. 2. We have

$$D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) = D_Y \Phi - y^k D_Y \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{n} D_Y y^k - N_T D_Y l_T - l_T D_Y N_T.$$

Using the similar strategy of proving Lemma 7, we consider the projection of $D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$ to the space $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M}$ to which it is almost parallel. Denote P this projection map. We bound $P(D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k))$. Let $Y = (Y^1, \dots, Y^k)$, $Y_1 = (Y^1, \dots, Y^{k-1}, 0)$ and $Y_2 = (0, \dots, 0, Y^k)$. We have $D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) = D_{Y_1} \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) + D_{Y_2} \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$. First consider each term involved in $D_{Y_1} \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$.

- (i) $D_{Y_1} \Phi(\mathbf{y})$ is a vector in $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\partial\mathcal{M}$, thus $P(D_{Y_1} \Phi(\mathbf{y})) = D_{Y_1} \Phi(\mathbf{y})$. In addition, from Lemma 7, $|Y_1| \leq |D_{Y_1} \Phi(\mathbf{y})| \leq \frac{1}{1-2\rho^2}|Y_1|$.
- (ii) $D_{Y_1} \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) = D_{D_{Y_1} \Phi} \mathbf{n}(\Phi(\mathbf{y}))$. First note that $\mathbf{n} \cdot D_{D_{Y_1} \Phi} \mathbf{n} = 0$. Second, from Lemma 6, we have that the projection of $D_{D_{Y_1} \Phi} \mathbf{n}$ to the space $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\partial\mathcal{M}$ is upper bounded by $\frac{1}{\sigma} |D_{Y_1} \Phi|$. Since $|y^k| < \rho\sigma$, $|P(y^k D_{Y_1} \mathbf{n})| \leq \frac{\rho}{1-2\rho^2} |Y_1|$.
- (iii) Consider $D_{Y_1} N_T(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$. We have $N_T \perp T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M}$. Let e_1, \dots, e_k be the orthonormal basis of $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})}\mathcal{M}$ so that $D_{e_i} N_T \cdot e_j = 0$ for $i \neq j$. Locally extend e_1, \dots, e_k to be an orthonormal basis of $T\mathcal{M}$ in a neighborhood of $\Phi(\mathbf{y})$. We have for any e_i

$$\begin{aligned} |D_{Y_1} N_T(\mathbf{y}, y^k) \cdot e_i| &= |D_{D_{Y_1} \Phi} N_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}) \cdot e_i| \\ &= |D_{(D_{Y_1} \Phi \cdot e_i) e_i} N_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}) \cdot e_i| \\ &= |D_{(D_{Y_1} \Phi \cdot e_i) e_i} N_T(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}) \cdot e_i| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sigma} |D_{Y_1} \Phi \cdot e_i|, \end{aligned}$$

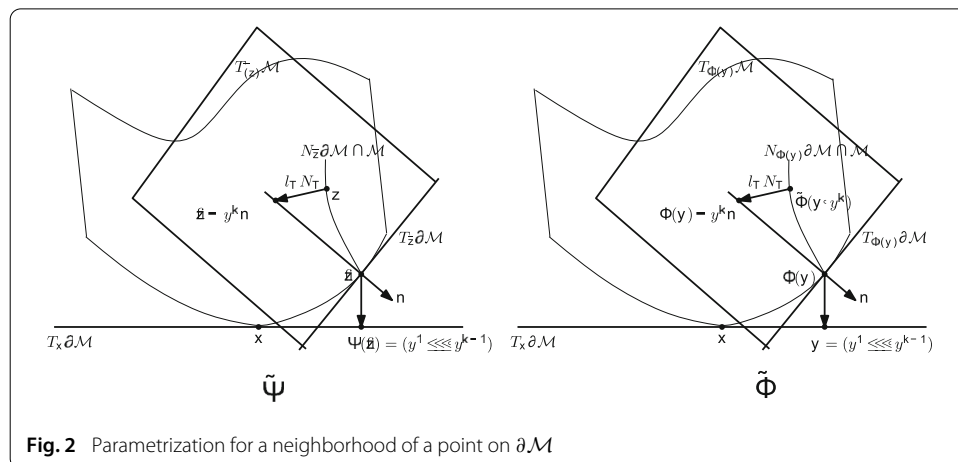


Fig. 2 Parametrization for a neighborhood of a point on $\partial\mathcal{M}$

where the last inequality is due to Lemma 6. Moreover, one can verify that $l_T(\bar{\mathbf{y}}) \leq \frac{\rho^2\sigma}{2}$, which leads to

$$|P(l_T D_{Y_1} N_t)| \leq \frac{\rho^2}{2} |D_{Y_1} \Phi| \leq \frac{\rho^2}{2(1-2\rho^2)} |Y_1|.$$

(iv) It is obvious that $\mathbf{n} D_{Y_1} y^k = P(N_T D_{Y_1} l_T) = 0$.

Next, consider each term involved in $D_{Y_2} \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$.

- (i) $\mathbf{n} D_{Y_2} y^k = Y^k \mathbf{n}$, which lies on $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})} \mathcal{M}$. Moreover, $\mathbf{n} \perp D_{Y_1} \Phi(\mathbf{y})$.
- (ii) As $N_T(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$ remains perpendicular to $T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})} \mathcal{M}$ if we only vary y^k , we have

$$P(D_{Y_2} N_t(\mathbf{y}, y^k)) = 0.$$

(iii) For the remaining terms, we have $D_{Y_2} \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}) = y^k D_{Y_2} \mathbf{n} = P(N_T D_{Y_2} l_T) = 0$.

On the other hand, we hand $D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)$ lie in the tangent space $T_{\tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)} \mathcal{M}$, and $\cos \angle T_{\tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k)} \mathcal{M}, T_{\Phi(\mathbf{y})} \mathcal{M} \leq 1 - 2\rho^2$.

Putting everything together, we have

$$|Y| - \frac{\rho^2 + 2\rho}{2(1 - 2\rho^2)} |Y_1| \leq D_Y \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{y}, y^k) \leq \frac{1}{(1 - 2\rho^2)^2} |Y| + \frac{\rho^2 + 2\rho}{2(1 - 2\rho^2)^2} |Y_1|.$$

This proves the lemma.

Now, we are ready to prove Proposition 1

Proof of Proposition 1 First consider the case where $d(\mathbf{x}, \partial \mathcal{M}) > \frac{\rho}{2} \sigma$. Set $U' = B_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}}(\frac{\rho}{2} \sigma) \cap \mathcal{M}$, and parametrize U' using map $\Phi : \Psi(U') \rightarrow U'$. Since for any $\mathbf{y} \in \partial U'$, $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| = \frac{\rho}{2} \sigma$, from Lemma 7, we have that $B_{\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x})}(\frac{\rho}{2(1+\rho)} \sigma)$ is contained in $\Psi(U')$. Set $\Omega = B_{\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x})}(\frac{\rho}{2(1+\rho)} \sigma)$ and $U = \Phi(\Omega)$. This shows the parametrization $\Phi : \Omega \rightarrow U$ satisfies the condition (i). By Lemma 7 and Lemma 4, it is easy to verify that Φ satisfies the other three conditions.

Next, consider the case where $d(\mathbf{x}, \partial \mathcal{M}) \leq \frac{\rho}{2} \sigma$. Let $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ be the closest point on $\partial \mathcal{M}$ to \mathbf{x} . Set $U' = B_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}}(\rho \sigma) \cap \mathcal{M}$ and parametrize U' using map $\tilde{\Phi} : \tilde{\Psi}(U') \rightarrow U'$. By Lemma 8, $\tilde{\Psi}(U')$ contains half of the ball $B_{\tilde{\Phi}^{-1}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})}(\frac{\rho \sigma}{1+2\rho})$. Let Ω be that half ball and $U = \tilde{\Phi}(\Omega)$. It is easy to verify that the parametrization $\tilde{\Phi} : \Omega \rightarrow U$ satisfies the condition (iii) and (iv). To see (i), note that $|\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}| \leq \frac{\rho}{2} \sigma$. From Lemma 8 and Lemma 4, $|\tilde{\Psi}(\mathbf{x}) - \tilde{\Psi}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})| \leq (1+2\rho)(1+2\rho^2)|\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}|$. We have that Ω contains at least half of the ball centered at $\tilde{\Phi}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$ with radius $(\frac{\rho}{1+2\rho} - \frac{\rho(1+2\rho)(1+2\rho^2)}{2})\sigma \geq \frac{\rho}{5} \sigma$. This shows that $\tilde{\Phi}$ satisfies the condition (i). Similarly, the condition (ii) follows from (i) as $\tilde{\Phi}$ has bounded distortion (Lemma 8) and geodesic distance is bounded by Euclidean distance (Lemma 4).

Proof of Lemma 2

Proof We start with the evaluation of the x^i component of ∇v .

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^i v(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{C_t^2}{2tw_t^2(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla^i x^j (x^j - y^j) R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) u(\mathbf{y}) d\mu'_y d\mu_y \\ &\quad - \frac{C_t^2}{2tw_t^2(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla^i x^j (x^j - y^j) R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) u(\mathbf{y}) d\mu'_y d\mu_y \\ &= \frac{C_t^2}{4tw_t^2(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}')) d\mu'_y d\mu_y, \end{aligned}$$

where we set

$$K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t) = \nabla^i x^j (x^j - y^j) R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) - \nabla^i x^j (x^j - y'^j) R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right).$$

Think of $\nabla^i x^j$ as the i, j entry of the matrix $[\nabla^i x^j]$ and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^i x^j \nabla^l x^i &= (\partial_{i'} x^i) g^{i'j'} (\partial_{j'} x^j) (\partial_{s'} x^l) g^{s't'} (\partial_{t'} x^i) \\ &= g_{i't'} g^{i'j'} (\partial_{j'} x^j) g^{s't'} (\partial_{s'} x^l) \\ &= \delta_{j't'} (\partial_{j'} x^j) g^{s't'} (\partial_{s'} x^l) \\ &= (\partial_{j'} x^j) g^{s'j'} (\partial_{s'} x^l) \\ &= \nabla^l x^j. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that the matrix $[\nabla^i x^j]$ is idempotent. At the same time, $[\nabla^i x^j]$ is symmetric, which implies that the eigenvalues of $\nabla \mathbf{x}$ are either 1 or 0. Then, we have the following upper bounds. There exists a constant C depending only on the maximum of R and R' so that

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{i=1}^d K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t)^2 \\ &\leq 2 \left(R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) \right)^2 \|[\nabla^i x^j](\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2 \left(R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) \right)^2 \|[\nabla^i x^j](\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}')\|^2 \\ &\leq CR' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \\ &\quad + CR' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

There exists a constant C independent of t so that

$$\begin{aligned} &C_t^2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^d K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t)^2}{t} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} C_t R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) \frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2}{t} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\quad + C \int_{\mathcal{M}} C_t R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{4t} \right) \frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}'\|^2}{t} d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq C. \end{aligned}$$

Since R has a compact support, only when $|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2 < 16t$ and $|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2 < 4t$ is $K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t) \neq 0$. Thus from the assumption on R , we have

$$K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t)^2 \leq \frac{1}{\delta_0^2} K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t)^2 R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right).$$

We can upper bound the norm of ∇v as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\nabla v(\mathbf{x})|^2 &= \frac{C_t^4}{16t^2 w_t^4(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{i=1}^d \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}')) d\mathbf{y}' d\mathbf{y} \right)^2 \\
 &\leq \frac{C_t^4}{16t^2 w_t^4(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{i=1}^k \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} K_i^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t) \\
 &\quad \times \left(R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) \right)^{-1} d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &\quad \times \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &= \frac{C_t^4}{16t\delta_0^2 w_t^4(\mathbf{x})} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^d K^i(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}'; t)^2}{t} d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &\quad \times \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &\leq \frac{CC_t^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla v(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &\leq \frac{CC_t^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\
 &= \frac{CC_t^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \frac{\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'}{2}|^2}{8t} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &\leq \frac{CC_t}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}'|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{y}) - u(\mathbf{y}'))^2 d\mu'_{\mathbf{y}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves the lemma.

Proof of Lemma 3

Based on the partition and the parametrization of the manifold \mathcal{M} introduced in Sect. 5, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t} \right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \tag{62}
 \end{aligned}$$

For any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{O}_i$ and $\mathbf{y} \in B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}$, let

$$\mathbf{z}_j = \Phi_i \left(\left(\frac{j}{16} \right) \Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \left(1 - \frac{j}{16} \right) \Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) \right), \quad j = 0, \dots, 16. \tag{63}$$

Apparently, $\mathbf{z}_0 = \mathbf{x}$, $\mathbf{z}_{16} = \mathbf{y}$. Since Ω_i is convex, we have $\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{z}_j) \in \Omega_i$, $i = 0, \dots, 16$. Then utilizing *locally small deformation* property of the parametrization, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}\| &\leq 2\|\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{z}_j) - \Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{z}_{j+1})\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8}\|\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{y})\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we are ready to estimate the integrals in (62).

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq 16 \sum_{j=0}^{15} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= 16 \sum_{j=0}^{15} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left[\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\mu_{\mathbf{x}}. \end{aligned}$$

For any $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t$,

$$\|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{16}\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|^2 \leq 2t, \quad j = 0, \dots, 15, \tag{64}$$

which implies that

$$R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) \geq \delta_0, \quad j = 0, \dots, 15. \tag{65}$$

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left[\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left[\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) \left(R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) \right)^{-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\delta_0} \int_{\mathcal{O}_i} \left[\int_{\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\delta_0} \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_i)} \left[\int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t)} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 |\nabla\Phi(\theta_{\mathbf{y}})| d\theta_{\mathbf{y}} \right] \\ &\quad \times |\nabla\Phi(\theta_{\mathbf{x}})| d\theta_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{4}{\delta_0} \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_i)} \left[\int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t)} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\theta_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\theta_{\mathbf{x}} \end{aligned}$$

where $\theta_{\mathbf{x}} = \Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$, $\theta_{\mathbf{y}} = \Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{y})$.

Let

$$\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j} = \Phi_i^{-1}(\mathbf{z}_j) = \frac{j}{16}\theta_{\mathbf{x}} + \left(1 - \frac{j}{16}\right)\theta_{\mathbf{y}}, \quad j = 0, \dots, 16. \tag{66}$$

It is easy to show that $\Phi_i(\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j}) = \mathbf{z}_j \in B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}$, $j = 0, \dots, 16$ by using the facts that for any $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t$

$$\|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{x}\| \leq \sum_{l=1}^j \|\mathbf{z}_l - \mathbf{z}_{l-1}\| \leq \frac{j}{4}\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| \leq 15\sqrt{2}t, \quad j = 1, \dots, 15, \tag{67}$$

and $\mathbf{x} \in B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^\delta$ and $15\sqrt{2t} \leq \delta$. Then we have

$$\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j} \in \Phi_i^{-1}\left(B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}\right), \quad j = 0, \dots, 16. \tag{68}$$

By changing variable, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{O}_i)} \left[\int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(\mathcal{M}_{\mathbf{x}}^t)} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\theta_{\mathbf{y}} \right] d\theta_{\mathbf{x}} \\ & \leq 8^k \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta})} \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j} d\theta_{\mathbf{z}_{j+1}} \\ & \leq 4 \cdot 8^k \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta})} \int_{\Phi_i^{-1}(B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta})} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 \\ & \quad \times \left| \nabla \Phi(\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j}) \right| \left| \nabla \Phi(\theta_{\mathbf{z}_{j+1}}) \right| d\theta_{\mathbf{z}_j} d\theta_{\mathbf{z}_{j+1}} \\ & = 4 \cdot 8^k \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{z}_j - \mathbf{z}_{j+1}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{z}_j) - u(\mathbf{z}_{j+1}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{z}_j} d\mu_{\mathbf{z}_{j+1}} \\ & \leq C \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we can prove the lemma as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{32t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \leq C \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{B_{\mathbf{q}_i}^{2\delta}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ & \leq CN \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) (u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 6

First, we introduce a smooth function u_t that approximates \mathbf{u} at the samples P .

$$u_t(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{C_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{i=1}^n R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{4t}\right) u_i V_i, \tag{69}$$

where $w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = C_t \sum_{i=1}^n R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{4t}\right) V_i$. We have the following lemma about the function $w_{t,h}$.

Lemma 9 Assume the submanifold \mathcal{M} and $\partial\mathcal{M}$ are C^2 smooth and $t, \frac{h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^{1/2}}$ are sufficiently small. There exists a constant C_1, C_2 and C , so that

$$C_1 \leq w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) \leq C_2, \quad \text{and} \quad |\nabla w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})| \leq \frac{C}{t^{1/2}}$$

Proof Using the definition of $h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$,

$$\left| w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) - C_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t}\right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right| \leq \frac{Ch(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})}{t^{1/2}},$$

which shows the bounds on $w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})$. Next, we show the bound on the gradient.

$$\begin{aligned} |\nabla w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|^2 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^d \left(\frac{\partial w_{t,h}}{\partial x^i} \right)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^d \left(\sum_{j=1}^n C_t R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) \frac{x^i - p_j^i}{2t} V_j \right)^2 \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^n C_t R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) \frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t^2} V_j \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n C_t R' \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) V_j \right) \\ &\leq \frac{C}{t}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we are ready to give the proof of Theorem 6.

Proof In the definition of u_t and $w_{t,h}$ in (69), replace t with $t' = t/18$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) (u_t(\mathbf{x}) - u_t(\mathbf{y}))^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \left(\frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{i=1}^n R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) u_i V_i \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{y})} \sum_{j=1}^n R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) u_j V_j \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \left(\frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{x}) w_{t',h}(\mathbf{y})} \sum_{i,j=1}^n R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) V_i V_j (u_i - u_j) \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{x}) w_{t',h}(\mathbf{y})} \sum_{i,j=1}^n R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) V_i V_j (u_i - u_j)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{x}) w_{t',h}(\mathbf{y})} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \right) V_i V_j (u_i - u_j)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Denote

$$A = \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{w_{t',h}(\mathbf{x}) w_{t',h}(\mathbf{y})} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}}$$

and then notice only when $|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2 \leq 36t'$ is $A \neq 0$. For $|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2 \leq 36t'$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A &\leq \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ &\quad \times R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{72t'} \right)^{-1} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{72t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq \frac{CC_t}{\delta_0} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{72t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq CC_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{t'}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_i) R_{t'}(\mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{y}) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{72t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} \\ &\leq CC_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above two inequalities and using Lemma 51, we obtain

$$C \frac{C_t}{t} \sum_{i,j=1}^n R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) (u_i - u_j)^2 V_i V_j \geq \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u_t(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{u}_t)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \tag{70}$$

We now lower bound the RHS of the above equation.

$$|\mathcal{M}|\bar{u}_t| = \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} u_t(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right| = \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \left(u_j V_j \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \right|.$$

Let $q(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right)$. There exists a constant C so that $|q(\mathbf{x})| \leq CC'_t$ and

$$|\nabla q(\mathbf{x})| \leq \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \left| \nabla R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) \right| + \frac{C'_t |\nabla w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|}{w_{t,h}^2(\mathbf{x})} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) \leq \frac{CC'_t}{t^{1/2}}.$$

Then, using the definition of the integral accuracy index, there exists a constant C

$$\left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i)} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) V_i \right| \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}}.$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{M}|\bar{u}_t| &\leq \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i)} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) u_j V_i V_j \right| + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |u_j V_j| \right) \\ &\leq \left| \sum_{i=1}^n u_t(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \right| + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |u_i V_i| \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{M}|} \left| \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{C'_t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i)} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) (u_j - u_i) V_i V_j \right| + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \frac{CC_t^{1/2}}{\sqrt{|\mathcal{M}|}} \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^n R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) (u_i - u_j)^2 V_i V_j \right)^{1/2} + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2}, \quad (71) \end{aligned}$$

where the first equality is due to $\sum_{i=1}^n u_i V_i = 0$. Denote

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{C_t}{w_{t,h}^2(\mathbf{x})} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{4t'} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_l|^2}{4t'} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\quad - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{C_t}{w_{t,h}^2(\mathbf{p}_j)} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{4t'} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_j - \mathbf{p}_l|^2}{4t'} \right) V_j \end{aligned}$$

and then $|A| \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}}$. At the same time, notice that only when $|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_l|^2 < 16t'$ is $A \neq 0$.

Thus, we have

$$|A| \leq \frac{1}{\delta_0} |A| R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_l|^2}{32t'} \right),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} u_t^2(\mathbf{x}) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} - \sum_{j=1}^n u_t^2(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{i,l=1}^n |C_t u_i u_l V_i V_l| |A| \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \sum_{i,l=1}^n \left| C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_l|^2}{32t'} \right) u_i u_l V_i V_l \right| \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \sum_{i,l=1}^n C_t R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_l|^2}{32t'} \right) u_i^2 V_i V_l \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i. \quad (72) \end{aligned}$$

Now combining Eqs. (70), (71) and (72), we have for small t

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n u_t^2(\mathbf{p}_i)V_i &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} u_t^2(\mathbf{x})d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \\ &\leq 2 \int_{\mathcal{M}} (u_t(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{u}_t)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} + 2\bar{u}_t^2 |\mathcal{M}| + \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}} \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \\ &\leq \frac{CC_t}{t} \sum_{i,j=1}^n R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) (u_i - u_j)^2 V_i V_j + \frac{Ch}{t} \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i. \end{aligned}$$

Here, we use the fact that $t = 18t'$ hence

$$R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) \leq \frac{1}{\delta_0} R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right).$$

Let $\delta = \frac{w_{\min}}{2w_{\max} + w_{\min}}$ with $w_{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{x}} w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})$ and $w_{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{x}} w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})$. If

$$\sum_{i=1}^n u^2(\mathbf{p}_i)V_i \geq \delta^2 \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i,$$

we have completed the proof. Otherwise, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 V_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i + \sum_{i=1}^n u_t(\mathbf{p}_i)^2 V_i - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n u_i u_t(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \\ &\geq (1 - \delta)^2 \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i. \end{aligned}$$

This enables us to prove the theorem as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} C_t \sum_{i,j=1}^n R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) (u_i - u_j)^2 V_i V_j &= 2C_t \sum_{i,j=1}^n R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t'} \right) u_i (u_i - u_j) V_i V_j \\ &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n u_t(\mathbf{p}_i) (u_i - u(\mathbf{p}_i)) w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \\ &\geq 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \\ &\quad - 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_t^2(\mathbf{p}_i) w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \right)^{1/2} \\ &\geq 2w_{\min} \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 V_i - 2w_{\max} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_t^2(\mathbf{p}_i) V_i \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - u_t(\mathbf{p}_i))^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \\ &\geq 2(w_{\min}(1 - \delta)^2 - w_{\max}\delta(1 - \delta)) \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \geq w_{\min}(1 - \delta)^2 \sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i. \end{aligned}$$

Estimation of $\|\nabla L_t(u_t - u_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$

In this section, we upper bound $\|\nabla L_t(u_t - u_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$. Remember that u_t satisfies the integral equation (14) and

$$u_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j - t \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f_j V_j \right),$$

where $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$ with $\sum_{i=1}^n u_i V_i = 0$ solves the problem (10), $f_j = f(\mathbf{p}_j)$ and $w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j$.

$\nabla L_t(u_t - u_{t,h}) \|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})}$ is splitted to two terms,

$$\nabla L_t(u_t - u_{t,h}) = \nabla(L_t u_t - L_{t,h} u_{t,h}) + \nabla(L_{t,h} u_{t,h} - L_t u_{t,h}).$$

The second term is easy to bound.

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \nabla (L_t(u_t) - L_{t,h}(u_{t,h})) \|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) f(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t} \|f\|_{C^1(\mathcal{M})}. \end{aligned} \tag{73}$$

The first term is further splitted by defining

$$\begin{aligned} a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j, \\ c_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}) &= -\frac{t}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{R}_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) f(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j. \end{aligned}$$

To simplify the notation, we denote $h = h(P, \mathbf{V}, \mathcal{M})$ and $n = |P|$. Consider $\| \nabla(L_t a_{t,h} - L_{t,h} a_{t,h}) \|_{L_2}$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |\nabla a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \frac{\nabla w_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})}{w_{t,h}^2(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \sum_{j=1}^n R_{2t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) u_j V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 V_j \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_{2t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right) \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 V_j. \end{aligned} \tag{74}$$

where $R_{2t}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) = C_t R\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{p}_j|^2}{8t}\right)$. Here, we use the assumption that $R(s) > \delta_0$ for all $0 \leq s \leq 1/2$.

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} |a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} |a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \sum_{j=1}^n u_j^2 V_j. \end{aligned} \tag{75}$$

Let

$$B = C_t \int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{y})} \nabla R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{y}|^2}{4t} \right) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - C_t \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{w_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j)} \nabla R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_j|^2}{4t} \right) V_j.$$

We have $|B| < \frac{Ch}{t^{1/2}}$ for some constant C independent of t . In addition, notice that only when $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i|^2 \leq 16t$ is $B \neq 0$, which implies

$$|B| \leq \frac{1}{\delta_0} |B| R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right).$$

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n C_t u_i V_i B \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n C_t |u_i| V_i R \left(\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{p}_i|^2}{32t} \right) \right)^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch^2}{t^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right). \end{aligned} \tag{76}$$

Combining Eqs. (74), (75) and (76), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\nabla(L_t a_{t,h} - L_{t,h} a_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} |(L_t(a_{t,h}) - L_{t,h}(a_{t,h}))(\mathbf{x})|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (\nabla a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}))^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad \times \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} (a_{t,h}(\mathbf{x}))^2 \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{t} \left(\int_{\mathcal{M}} \left| \int_{\mathcal{M}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{y}) d\mu_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{j=1}^n \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} R_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}_j) a_{t,h}(\mathbf{p}_j) V_j \right|^2 d\mu_{\mathbf{x}} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq \frac{Ch}{t^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i^2 V_i \right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{Ch}{t^2} \|f\|_{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

Using a similar argument, we obtain

$$\|\nabla(L_t c_{t,h} - L_{t,h} c_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq \frac{Ch}{t^{3/2}} \|f\|_{\infty},$$

and thus

$$\|\nabla(L_t u_{t,h} - L_{t,h} u_{t,h})\|_{L^2(\mathcal{M})} \leq \frac{Ch}{t^2} \|f\|_{\infty}. \tag{77}$$

Then, the estimation is completed by putting (73) and (77) together.

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