COUNTING MANIFOLDS WITH CONTROLLED TOPOLOGY

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Abstract. We consider the problem of counting manifolds with bounded embolic volume and bounded systolic volume. Yamguchi proved that there are finitely many homotopy types of compact manifolds with bounded embolic volume. For closed hyperbolic manifolds of dimension at least three, Sabourau showed that there are finitely many isometry types with bounded systolic volume. Main results of this paper are quantitative versions of these finiteness theorems of curvature type.

Contents

1. Introduction

Yamaguchi [Yam88] proved that there are only finitely many homotopy types for compact manifolds with bounded embolic volume. Moreover, Grove, Petersen and Wu [GPW90] showed that homeomorphism types are also finite if the embolic volume is bounded. In [Sab07], Sabourau proved that hyperbolic manifolds with bounded systolic volume is finite. In contrast, it is well known that hyperbolic manifolds with dimension at least four is finite when the volume is bounded. While hyperbolic 3-manifolds are finite, if volume is bounded from above and the injectivity radius is bounded from below. Quantitative version of geometric finiteness theorems are given by Burger, et al. [BGLM02]. In this paper, we study the problem of counting manifolds with bounded embolic volume or bounded systolic volume.

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Homotopy type of aspherical manifolds. Quantitative study of homotopy types of compact manifolds can be traced back to Mather [Mat65] and Kister [Kis68]. They proved that homotopy types of compact manifolds are countable. Weinstein [Wei67] showed finiteness of homotopy types with curvature constraints. A complete geometric description of homotopy finiteness is given by Grove and Petersen [GP88]. Furthermore, Yamaguchi [Yam88] showed the finiteness of homotopy types of compact manifolds with bounded embolic volume. Our first result in this paper is a quantitative version of Yamaguchi's theorem.

Let M be a compact n-dimensional manifold endowed with a Riemannian metric $\mathcal{G}$, denoted $(M,\mathcal{G})$. Denote by $\mathsf{Inj}(M,\mathcal{G})$ the injectivity radius of $(M,\mathcal{G})$. The embolic volume of M, denoted $\mathsf{Emb}(M)$, is defined to be

$$\inf_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\mathsf{Inj}(M,\mathcal{G})^n},$$

where the infimum is taken over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M. According to Berger's embolic inequality (see [Ber03, Section 7.2.4])

$$\mathsf{Inj}(M,\mathcal{G})^n \leqslant C_n \, \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M), \tag{1.1}$$

any compact manifold M of dimension n has a positive embolic volume.

Theorem 1.1 (Yamaguchi [Yam88])**.** *For any positive constant L, there are only finitely many homotopy types of compact manifolds M with $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L$.*

The first result of this paper is the following quantitative version of the above Yamaguchi's theorem.

Theorem 1.2. *Let $\varphi_n(L)$ be the number of homotopy types of compact aspherical manifolds of dimension n, with $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L$. We have*

$$a_n \, L^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log L \leqslant \log \varphi_n(L) \leqslant b_n \tilde{L}^3 \log \tilde{L}, \tag{1.2}$$

where a_n, b_n are two positive constants only depending on n, $\tilde{L}$ is a positive constant only depending on L.

Remark 1.3. The constant $\tilde{L}$ is taken as

$$\sup\{\mathsf{CV}(M) | \, \mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L\},$$

where the supremum is taken over all compact aspherical n-manifolds M with $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L$, see the proof of this theorem in the following.

Let convexity radius of $(M,\mathcal{G})$ be denoted by $\mathsf{Conv}(M,\mathcal{G})$. Note that $2\,\mathsf{Conv}(M,\mathcal{G}) \leqslant \mathsf{Inj}(M,\mathcal{G})$,

$$\mathsf{Conv}(M,\mathcal{G})^n \leqslant C_n \, \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M) \tag{1.3}$$

also holds for any compact manifold M of dimension n. Analogous to embolic volume, we define convex volume of a compact n-dimensional manifold M to be

$$\mathsf{CV}(M) = \inf_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\mathsf{Conv}(M,\mathcal{G})^n},$$

where the infimum is taken over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M. For a sufficiently large positive number C, denote by $\theta_n(C)$ the number of homotopy types of compact aspherical manifolds of dimension n, with $\mathsf{CV}(M) \leqslant C$. Theorem 1.2 is proved by the following counting estimate with $\mathsf{CV}(M)$.

Theorem 1.4. *Let C be a sufficiently large positive number. Then there exist positive constants c_n and d_n, which only depend on n, such that*

$$c_n C^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log C \leqslant \log \theta_n(C) \leqslant \tilde{c}_n C^3 \log C. \tag{1.4}$$

Remark 1.5. Theorem 1.4 is a quantitative and curvature free version of Weinstein's geometric homotopy finiteness theorem (see [Wei67]).

Homeomorphism type of aspherical manifolds. After Mather's work on homotopy types, Cheeger and Kister [CK70] showed that homeomorphism types of compact manifolds are also countable. Moreover, Cheeger's finiteness theorem implies finiteness of homeomorphism types of Riemannian manifolds with geometric constraints. Grove, Petersen and Wu [GPW90, GPW91] proved finiteness of homeomorphism types of manifolds with bounded embolic volume, which is a curvature free finiteness theorem. In this paper, we give a quantitative version of the theorem in [GPW90].

The method used in the proof of Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.4 is based on counting in terms of fundamental groups. Therefore, for manifolds whose homeomorphism types are determined by fundamental groups, we get counting estimates of homeomorphism types. A manifold M is topologically rigid, if any homtopy equivalence $f : N \to M$ from a manifold N is homotopic to a homeomorphism. Hence homeomorphism types of topogically rigid aspherical manifolds are determined by fundamental groups.

Theorem 1.6. *Let M be a compact aspherical manifold with homeomorphism type determined by its fundamental group. For a sufficiently large positive constant C, denote by $\mu_n(C)$ the number of homeomorphism types of M with $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant C$, and by $\nu_n(C)$ the number of homeomorphism types of M with $\mathsf{CV}(M) \leqslant C$. Then we have*

(1)
$$f_n C^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log C \leqslant \log \mu_n(C) \leqslant g_n \tilde{C}^3 \log \tilde{C},$$
where f_n and g_n are two positive constants only depending on n, and $\tilde{C}$ is a positive constant only depending on C.

(2)
$$k_n C^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log C \leqslant \log \nu_n(C) \leqslant l_n C^3 \log C,$$
where k_n and l_n are two positive constants only depending on n.

Remark 1.7. Borel's conjecture asserts that fundamental group of aspherical manifolds determines homeomorphism type. Hence if Borel's conjecture becomes true, Theorem 1.6 holds for all compact aspherical manifolds.

Remark 1.8. A complete Riemannian manifold M has normalized bounded negative curvature, if sectional curvature of M lies in a closed subinterval of $[-1, 0)$. For complete Riemannian manifold of dimension $n \geqslant 5$ and with normalized bounded negative curvature, assume that volume is at least v, in [BGS20] it is shown that the number $\mathcal{P}_n(v)$ of homeomorphism types satisfies

$$\alpha v \log v \leqslant \log \mathcal{P}_n(v) \leqslant \beta v \log v,$$

where α and β are two positive constants, $n \geqslant 5$. This result is based on Farrell and Jones's work [FJ98] of Borel conjecture. If we apply Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.4, then we get counting results with embolic volume and convex volume for manifolds with a complete Riemannian structure of normalized bounded negative curvature.

Counting hyperbolic manifolds. For complete hyperbolic manifolds of dimension at least 4, Wang's theorem implies that there are finitely many of them with bounded volume, see [Wan72]. In [BGLM02], Burger and Gelander et al. proved a quantitative version of Wang's theorem.

Let M be a closed n-dimensional manifold endowed with Riemannian metric $\mathcal{G}$, denoted $(M,\mathcal{G})$. The systole of $(M,\mathcal{G})$, denoted $\mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(M,\mathcal{G})$, is defined to be the shortest length of a non contractible loop in M. Then the systolic volume of a closed manifold M of dimension n, denoted $\mathsf{SR}(M)$, is defined to be

$$\inf_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(M,\mathcal{G})^n},$$

where the infimum is taken over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M.

Combining Gromov's theorem on systolic volume (see Theorem 2.4 in the following) and Burger and Gelander et al.'s theorem , we know that the finiteness theorem holds for hyperbolic n-manifolds ($n \geqslant 4$) with bounded systolic volume. Moreover, in [Sab07] Sabourau showed that the finiteness also holds for hyperbolic 3-manifolds with bounded systolic volume. In this paper, we show a quantitative version of the finiteness theorem with bounded systolic volume by using the method of Burger, Gelander et al. in [BGLM02]. This result can be obtained directly from the method of [BGLM02] and Gromov's theorem in systolic geometry. We further study the problem of counting hyperbolic manifold by using embolic volume.

Theorem 1.9. *Let $n \geqslant 3$, and $C > 0$ be a sufficiently large positive number. Denote by $\rho_n(C)$ the number of closed hyperbolic n-manifolds M with $\mathsf{SR}(M) \leqslant C$. Then we have*

$$a'_n S \log^{n+1} S \leqslant \log \rho_n(S) \leqslant \begin{cases} b'_n S \log^{n+1} S, & n \geqslant 4, \\ c(S)\, S \log^{n+1} S, & n = 3. \end{cases}$$

where a'_n, b'_n are constants only depending on n, and $c(S)$ is a constant only depending on S.

Remark 1.10. In the above theorem, the constant $c(s)$ is the lower bound of injectivity radius for any closed hyperbolic 3-manifolds M with $\mathsf{SR}(M) \leqslant s$.

Theorem 1.9 is proved by using the method in [BGLM02] and Gromov's theorem of connecting simplicial volume with systolic volume.

Mostow's rigidity theorem implies isometry type of compact hyperbolic manifolds are determined by fundamental group. Therefore, Theorem 1.6 can be applied to have the following counting estimate.

Proposition 1.11. *Assume that $n \geqslant 3$, then for any sufficiently large positive constant C, the number ρ'_n of compact hyperbolic manifolds M of dimension n and with $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant C$ satisfies*

$$a''_n C \log^{n+1} C \leqslant \log \rho'_n(C) \leqslant b''_n C \log^{n+1} C, \tag{1.5}$$

where a''_n and b''_n are two positive constant only depending on n.

Remark 1.12. By proof of Theorem 1.6, we know (1.5) also holds for compact hyperbolic manifolds M with bounded $\mathsf{CV}(M)$.

Homotopy complexity and covering type. The approach of proving counting theorems is related to the problem of uniform homotopy complexity. A (d,v)-simplicial complex is a simplicial complex with at most v vertices, and degree of each vertex is at most d. A family $\mathcal{F}$ of d-dimensional Riemannian manifolds has uniform homotopy complexity, if each $M \in \mathcal{F}$ is homotopy equivalent to some $(D, \alpha \cdot \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M))$-simplicial complex, where D, α are some fixed positive constants. Uniform homotopy complexity of locally symmetric Riemannian manifolds is studied in [Gel04]. Recent progresses can be found in [Frą21, GV21].

We prove the following curvature free version of uniform homotopy complexity for all compact manifolds.

Theorem 1.13. *Let M be a compact manifold of dimension n. Then M is homotopy equivalent to a $(A_n \cdot \mathsf{CV}(M), A_n \cdot \mathsf{CV}(M))$-simplicial complex, with A_n a positive constant only depending on n.*

Remark 1.14. Theorem 1.13 can be considered as a curvature free generalization of Weinstein's theorem (see [Wei67]).

Covering type of compact manifolds is defined in [KW16]. The covering type of a compact manifold M is defined to be the minimum number of contractible subsets in an open cover of any space homotopy equivalent to M. One application of Theorem 1.13 is the following result of covering type.

Corollary 1.15. *The covering type $\mathsf{ct}(M)$ of a compact n-dimensional manifold M has the following upper bound,*

$$\mathsf{ct}(M) \leqslant \delta_n \, \mathsf{CV}(M),$$

where δ_n is a positive constant only depending on n.

Organization. This paper is organized as follows: We introduce necessary and related backgroup knowledge in Section 2. The estimate of the number of homotopy types of compact manifolds is in Section 3. The estimate of homeomorphism types of aspherical manifolds is contained in Section 4. In section 5, we prove the counting estimate of hyperbolic manifolds in terms of systolic volume and embolic volume. In section 6, homotopy complexity of compact manifolds is studied in terms of embolic volume.

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2. Preliminary knowledge

2.1. **Nerve of good cover.** Given a topological space X and a covering $\mathcal{C}$ on X, the nerve $\mathcal{N}$ associated to X is a simplicial complex, such that for each subset in $\mathcal{C}$ there is a corresponding vertex in $\mathcal{N}$, and for each nonempty intersection of subsets in $\mathcal{C}$, there is a simplex spanned by the corresponding vertices.

Definition 2.1. An open covering $\mathcal{C}$ of X is called a good cover, if any nonempty intersection of subsets in $\mathcal{C}$ is contractible.

We have the following result for nerve of good covers.

Theorem 2.2 (Nerve lemma ,see Hatcher [Hat02, Corollary 4G.3.]). *If $\mathcal{C}$ is a good cover of a topological space X, then the nerve Y associated to $\mathcal{C}$ is homotopy equivalent to X.*

2.2. **Hyperbolic volume and simplicial volume.** A closed manifold M of dimension n is hyperbolic if it admits a complete Riemannian metric of constant sectional curvature -1. Denote by hyp the hyperbolic metric on M, and by $\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M)$ the hyperbolic volume of M. The simplicial volume of M, denoted $\|M\|$, is defined in terms of generator of homology group $H_n(M;\mathbb{R})$ with real coefficients. Gromov and Thurston showed that the simplicial volume is a topological description of hyperbolic volume, see [BP92] for reference.

Theorem 2.3 (Gromov, Thurston). *If M is an oriented compact hyperbolic manifold then*

$$\|M\| = \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M)}{\mathcal{V}_n},$$

where $\mathcal{V}_n$ is maximal volume of an ideal n-simplex in the hyperbolic space $\mathbb{H}^n$.

2.3. **Topological complexity and systolic volume.** A central theorem in systolic geometry is Gromov's work of relating systolic volume to simplicial volume.

Theorem 2.4 (Gromov 1983, [Gro83]). *Let M be a closed essential manifold of dimension n. There exist constants C_n and C_n' only depending on n, such that*

$$\|M\| \leqslant C_n \,\mathsf{SR}(M) \log^n \big(C_n' \,\mathsf{SR}(M)\big). \tag{2.1}$$

Gromov's theorem (Theorem 2.4) indicates that systolic volume is representing that how topologically complicated a manifold is.

Moreover, there are other geometric invariants analogous to systole: filling radius $\mathsf{FillRad}(M, \mathcal{G})$, injectivity radius $\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathcal{G})$, convex radius $\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$. Define the invariant $\mathsf{FR}(M)$ of M to be

$$\inf_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\mathsf{FillRad}(M, \mathcal{G})^n},$$

where the infimum is taken over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M. Then we have the following topological invariants defined on a manifold M: $\mathsf{FR}(M), \mathsf{SR}(M), \mathsf{Emb}(M), \mathsf{CV}(M)$. Since we have the following comparison relation,

$$4 \,\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G}) \leqslant 2 \,\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathcal{G}) \leqslant \mathsf{Sys}\, \pi_1(M, \mathcal{G}) \leqslant 6 \,\mathsf{FillRad}(M, \mathcal{G}),$$

the related above four invariants satisfy

$$\mathsf{CV}(M) \geqslant \mathsf{Emb}(M) \geqslant \mathsf{SR}(M) \geqslant \frac{1}{6^n} \,\mathsf{FR}(M).$$

It is proved by Brunnbauer [Bru08] that $\mathsf{FR}(M)$ does not relate to the topology of M, which only depends on the dimension of M. And Gromov's work indicates that the left three invariants are all related to topological complexity of M. The relation between systolic volume $\mathsf{SR}(M)$ is studied a lot by Gromov and other people, while the relation between embolic volume $\mathsf{Emb}(M)$ and topology is also studied (see [Ber03] and [Che19]). We show counting results with these three invariants in the following.

3. Counting hyperbolic manifolds

We show a brief introduction to the counting theorem of Burger, Gelander, Lubotzky and Mozes [BGLM02].

Let C be a sufficiently large positive constant. For $n \geqslant 4$, let $\rho_n(C)$ be the number of complete hyperbolic n-manifolds with $\mathsf{Vol}(M) \leqslant C$.

Theorem 3.1 ([BGLM02]). *There exist two positive constants a_n and b_n only depending on n,*

$$a_n C \log C \leqslant \log \rho_n(C) \leqslant b_n C \log C. \tag{3.1}$$

Let $PO(n, 1)$ be the isometry group of hyperbolic n-space $\mathbb{H}^n$. In the proof of Theorem 3.1, lower bound of (3.1) is yielded by counting subgroups of non-arithmetic lattices in $PO(n, 1)$.

Proposition 3.2. *Let r be a sufficiently large positive integer. There exist positive constants m_1 and v_0, such that the number of hyperbolic manifolds with volume equal to $r \cdot v_0$ is at least $\frac{1}{m_1} r!$.*

Proof. The proof of this proposition can be found in [BGLM02]. For the purpose of completeness, we show some details here. Gromov constructed a non-arithmetic lattice $\Lambda \subset PO(n,1)$. According to Lubotzky, there exists a subgroup $\triangle$ of Λ, so that a surjective homomorphism from $\triangle$ to the free group F_2 of rank two exists. Moreover, Selberg's lemma implies that there exists a torsion free subgroup $\tilde{\triangle}$ of $\triangle$. Hence $M_0 = \mathbb{H}^n/\tilde{\triangle}$ is a complete hyperbolic manifold of dimension n. Denote by v_0 the volume of M_0.

Let $s_n(F_2)$ be the number of index n subgroups of the free group F_2. The following estimate of $s_n(F_2)$ holds,

$$s_n(F_2) \sim n \cdot n!.$$

Therefore we also get an estimate of n-sheeted covering manifolds of M_0. Two n-sheeted covering manifolds of M_0 are isometric, if the corresponding subgroups are commensurable. Let m_1 be the size of commnesurator of $\tilde{\triangle}$. Then n-sheeted covering hyperbolic manifolds of M_0 has the lower bound $\frac{1}{m_1}n!$. Hence we get the lower bound estimate in (3.1). □

Upper bound estimate in Theorem 3.1 is obtained by counting the 2-skeletons of simplicial complex homotopy equivalent to M.

4. Counting homotopy types of compact aspherical manifolds

In this section we consider the problem of counting homotopy types in terms of embolic volume and convex volume. We prove Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.4 in the following.

The proof of Theorem 1.2 is yielded by Theorem 1.4.

4.1. Proof of Theorem 1.2.

(1) **Lower bound**

All closed hyperbolic manifolds are asphercial. We give the lower bound in (1.2) by counting hyperbolic manifolds M satisfying $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L$.

In [Rez95], Reznikov proved that for a hyperbolic manifold M with dimension $n \geqslant 4$,

$$\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathsf{hyp}) \geqslant C_n \, \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M)^{-\frac{n+1}{n-3}}, \tag{4.1}$$

where C_n is a positive constant only depending on n. Now if we assume

$$\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M) \leqslant C_n^{-\frac{n+1}{n-3}} L^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-3)}}, \tag{4.2}$$

then

$$\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M)}{\mathsf{Inj}^n_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M)} \leqslant L. \tag{4.3}$$

By applying (3.1), we have

$$\varphi_n(L) \geqslant a_n L^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log L, \tag{4.4}$$

where a_n is a positive constant only depending on n.

In dimension 3, if we let injectivity radius be bounded by below, the method in [BGLM02] still produces the same amount of hyperbolic manifolds. Hence (4.4) also holds.

(2) **Upper bound**

Let $L > 0$ be a sufficiently large number. Set

$$\tilde{L} = \sup\{\mathsf{CV}(M) | \, \mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant L\},$$

then we have $\varphi_n(L) \leqslant \theta_n(\tilde{L})$, so that Theorem 1.4 implies that

$$\log \varphi_n(L) \leqslant b_n \tilde{L}^3 \log \tilde{L}.$$

$\square$

Now we prove Theorem 1.4 in the following.

4.2. **Proof of Theorem 1.4.** The proof proceeds according to lower bound and upper bound respectively.

(1) **Lower bound:**
We show that the number of closed hyperbolic manifolds with bounded convex volume $\mathsf{CV}(M)$ satisfies the lower bound in (1.4).
Since under hyperbolic metric hyp on M,

$$\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathsf{hyp}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathsf{hyp}),$$

we apply the same strategy in the proof of Theorem 1.2. Then we use (3.1) to get

$$\log \theta_n(C) \geqslant c_n' C^{\frac{n+1}{n(n-1)}} \log C,$$

where c_n is some constant only depending on n.

(2) **Upper bound:**
Let $(M, \mathcal{G})$ be a compact manifold of dimension n. Take $r = \frac{1}{10} \mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$. Let $\mathcal{U}_1 = \{B(p_j, r)\}$ be a maximal system of metric balls with radius r in M. Then $\mathcal{U}_2 = \{B(p_j, 2r)\}$ is a covering to the manifold M. The nerve of covering $\mathcal{U}_2$ is denoted by $\mathcal{N}$. Each pair of balls in $\mathcal{U}_2$ has either empty intersection or convex intersection. Hence, according to nerve lemma (see Theorem 2.2), $\mathcal{N}$ is a simplicial complex homotopy equivalent to M. Let $\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})$ be the number of vertices in the nerve $\mathcal{N}$.
For any ball $(B(p_j, r)) \in \mathcal{U}_1$, inequality (1.3) yields

$$\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p_j, r)) \geqslant C_n r^n.$$

We estimate upper bound of $\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})$ as follows,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_0(\mathcal{G}) &\leqslant \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\inf_j \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p_j, r))} \\ &\leqslant \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{c_n r^n} \\ &= \frac{10^n}{c_n} \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})^n}. \end{aligned}$$

Denote by λ_0 the universal lower bound of $\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})$, i.e.,

$$\lambda_0 = \inf_{\mathcal{G}} \lambda_0(\mathcal{G}),$$

where the infimum is over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M. We have

$$\lambda_0 \leqslant \frac{10^n}{c_n} \mathsf{CV}(M).$$

Denote by d the upper bound of degree of vertices in the nerve $\mathcal{N}$. A very crude estimate of d is λ_0. Hence we can choose the upper bound of d to be any upper bound of λ_0. In the following, we take $d = c_n' \mathsf{CV}(M)$, where $c_n' = 10^n / c_n$.

Let $\lambda_1(\mathcal{G})$ be the number of 1-skeletons of $\mathcal{N}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1(\mathcal{G}) &\leqslant \lambda_0(\mathcal{G})^{d\,\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})}\\ &= e^{d\,\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})\log\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})}.\end{aligned}$$

Take infimum over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M, then we know that the universal lower bound λ_1 of the number of 1-skeletons satisfies

$$\lambda_1 \leqslant e^{c''_n\,\mathsf{CV}(M)^2\log\mathsf{CV}(M)},$$

where c''_n is a positive constant only depending on n.

Let $\lambda_2(\mathcal{G})$ be the number of 2-skeletons of $\mathcal{N}$. We have

$$\lambda_2(\mathcal{G}) \leqslant 2^{d^2\lambda_0(\mathcal{G})}\lambda_1(\mathcal{G}).$$

After taking infimum over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M, we obtain that the universal lower bound λ_2 satisfies

$$\lambda_2 \leqslant e^{\tilde{c}_n\,\mathsf{CV}(M)^3\log\mathsf{CV}(M)},$$

where $\tilde{c}_n$ is a positive constant only depending on n.

Since the manifold M is aspherical, by Whitehead theorem we know the homotopy type of M is determined by its fundamental group. Moreover, in a simplicial complex the 2-skeleton determines its fundamental group. Therefore, upper bound of λ_2 yields an upper bound of the number of homotopy types of M.

□

5. Counting hyperbolic manifolds with systolic volume

5.1. **Proof of Theorem 1.9.** The proof is separated into two cases of dimension $n \geqslant 4$ and $n = 3$.

1. $\mathbf{n \geqslant 4}$. Let M be a closed hyperbolic manifold of dimension n, with $n \geqslant 4$. For a sufficiently large positive constant S, if $\mathsf{SR}(M) \leqslant S$, then according to Gromov's theorem of systolic volume (Theorem 2.4),

$$\begin{aligned}\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M) &= \mathcal{V}_n\|M\|\\ &\leqslant \mathcal{V}_n C_n\,\mathsf{SR}(M)\log^n\left(C'_n\,\mathsf{SR}(M)\right)\\ &< \tilde{C}_n S\log^n S.\end{aligned}$$

. Hence if we apply Theorem 3.1, the number $\rho_n(S)$ of closed hyperbolic manifolds M with $\rho_n(S) \leqslant S$ satisfies

$$a'_n S\log^{n+1} S \leqslant \log\rho_n(S) \leqslant b'_n S\log^{n+1} S,$$

where a'_n and b'_n are two positive constants only depending on n.

2. $\mathbf{n = 3}$.

(1) Lower bound. In [BGLM02], it is shown that there exists a hyperbolic manifold $M_0 = \mathbb{H}^n/\triangle$, where $\triangle$ is a discrete subgroup of $PO(n,1)$. Moreover, the hyperbolic 3-manifold M_0 has at least $\frac{1}{m_1}r!$ r-sheeted mutually non-isometric covering 3-manifolds, where m_1 and r are positive integers.

Note that

$$\mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(M_0,\mathsf{hyp}) \leqslant \mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(\tilde{M},\widetilde{\mathsf{hyp}}).$$

If we let $\delta_0 = \mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(M_0, \mathsf{hyp})$, then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathsf{SR}(\tilde{M}) &\leqslant \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\tilde{\mathsf{hyp}}}(\tilde{M})}{\mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(\tilde{M}, \tilde{\mathsf{hyp}})}\\ &\leqslant \frac{r \cdot \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M_0)}{\cdot\,\mathsf{Sys}\,\pi_1(M_0, \mathsf{hyp})}\\ &= \frac{r}{\delta_0}\,\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M_0).\end{aligned}$$

Hence when $\mathsf{Vol}_{\tilde{\mathsf{hyp}}}(\tilde{M}) = r \cdot \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathsf{hyp}}(M_0) \leqslant S$, then $\mathsf{SR}(\tilde{M}) \leqslant \frac{1}{\delta_0} S$.

(2) Upper bound

Let S be a sufficiently large positive number. When M is a closed 3-dimensional hyperbolic manifold with $\mathsf{SR}(M) \leqslant S$, then according to Sabourau's theorem, there are only finitely many of them. Hence the injectivity radii of these closed hyperbolic 3-manifolds have a lower bound $c(S)$. Then in terms of Gromov's theorem of relating systolic volume with simplicial volume (Theorem 2.4) and the homotopy counting method from [BGLM02], we have

$$\log \rho_n(S) \leqslant C(S)\, S \log^{n+1}(S),$$

where $C(S)$ is a constant only depending on $c(S)$.

5.2. **Counting hyperbolic manifolds with embolic volume.** We show the proof of Propostion 1.11 here.

Proof of Propostion 1.11. Concerning embolic volume of a compact manifold M with nonzero simplicial volume $\|M\|$, Katz and Sabourau showed that

$$\|M\| \leqslant C_n\, \mathsf{Emb}(M) \log^n \left(C_n'\, \mathsf{Emb}(M)\right). \tag{5.1}$$

Let M be a compact hyperbolic manifold of dimension n. For a sufficiently large positive constant C, if $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant C$, then we can get a similar counting estimate in terms of (5.1). When the dimension $n \geqslant 4$, we get the following counting estimate by using the method of Burger, Gelander et al. [BGLM02],

$$a_n' S \log^{n+1} S \leqslant \rho_n'(S) \leqslant b_n' S \log^{n+1} S,$$

where a_n'' and b_n'' are two positive constants only depending on n. When the dimension $n = 3$, $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant C$ leads to a lower bound of the injectivity radius $\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathsf{hyp})$, since there are only finitely many compact hyperbolic 3-manifolds satisfying $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant C$. Upper bound of hyperbolic volume and lower bound of injectivity radius then result in the following counting estimate,

$$a_3' S \log^4 S \leqslant \rho_3'(S) \leqslant C(S)\, S \log^4(S),$$

where $C(S)$ is a positive constant depending on S.

$\square$

5.3. **Counting hyperbolic manifolds using convex volume.** If we consider convex volume $\mathsf{CV}(M)$, we still get the similar counting result by using (5.2). Since $\mathsf{Emb}(M) \leqslant \mathsf{CV}(M)$, (5.1) implies

$$\|M\| \leqslant C_n\, \mathsf{CV}(M) \log^n \left(C_n'\, \mathsf{CV}(M)\right). \tag{5.2}$$

The above argument could be applied to get counting over the number $\rho''_n(C)$ of hyperbolic n-manifolds with convex volume at most C,

$$a''_n C \log^{n+1} C \leqslant \rho''_n(C) \leqslant \begin{cases} b''_n C \log^{n+1} C, & n \geqslant 4, \\ b(C)\, C \log^4 C, & n = 3. \end{cases}$$

where a''_n, b''_n are positive constants only depending on n, and $b(C)$ a positive constant related to the given constant C.

6. Homotopy complexity and covering type

Recall that a (d, v)-simplicial complex is a simplicial complex with at motst v vertices, and valence of each vertex is at most d. A family $\mathcal{M}$ of Riemannian manifolds has uniform homotopy complexity if any $M \in \mathcal{M}$ is homotopy equivalent to a (d, v)-simplicial complex, where v is a multiple of the Riemannian volume of M. We show that the family of all compact manifolds has the following uniform homotopy complexity in terms of $\mathsf{CV}(M)$.

Theorem 6.1. *Let M be a compact manifold of dimension n. Then M is homotopy equivalent to a $(A_n \mathsf{CV}(M), A_n \mathsf{CV}(M))$-simplicial complex, where A_n is a positive constant only depending on n.*

Proof. Let $R = \frac{1}{2}\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$. Cover M by a maximal system $\mathcal{U} = \{B(p_j, R)\}_{j=1}^{\delta}$ of disjoint metric balls with common radius R, so that if any metric ball of radius R is added into $\mathcal{U}$, there will be intersections. Hence the manifold M is covered by the system $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}} = \{B(p_j, 2R)\}_{j=1}^{\delta}$ of balls with the same centers but doubled radius $2R$.

According to Croke's local embolic inequality (see [Cro80, Proposition 14]), for any point $p \in M$,

$$\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p, r)) \geqslant \alpha_n r^n \tag{6.1}$$

holds if $0 < r \leqslant \frac{1}{2}\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathcal{G})$, where α_n is a positive constant only depending on n. Since $\mathsf{Inj}(M, \mathcal{G}) \geqslant 2\,\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$ (see [Ber76] for a proof), the local embolic inequality (6.1) implies that similar local estimate is also true for convex radius.

Lemma 6.2. *On a compact n-dimensional Riemannian manifold $(M, \mathcal{G})$, inequality*

$$\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p, r)) \geqslant \alpha_n r^n \tag{6.2}$$

holds for any point $p \in M$ if $r \leqslant \mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$, where α_n is a constant only depending on the manifold dimension n.

Lemma 6.2 implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M) &\geqslant \sum_{j=1}^{\delta} \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p_j, R)) \\ &\geqslant \sum_{j=1}^{\delta} \alpha_n R^n \\ &= \delta\, \alpha_n R^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$\delta \leqslant \frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(M)}{\alpha_n R^n}.$$

After taking infimum over all Riemannian metrics $\mathcal{G}$ on M, we have

$$\delta \leqslant \frac{2^n}{\alpha_n}\,\mathsf{CV}(M).$$

Let $\mathcal{N}$ be the nerve of the covering $\widetilde{U} = \{B(p_j, 2R)\}_{j=1}^{\delta}$. According to the definition of nerve, the number δ of balls in the covering $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ is equal to the number of vertices of $\mathcal{N}$. A metric ball of radius $\frac{1}{2}\,\mathsf{Conv}(M, \mathcal{G})$ is geodesically convex. Hence the covering $\widetilde{\mathcal{U}}$ is a good cover (see Definition 2.1). In terms of the nerve theorem (see Theorem 2.2), we know that $\mathcal{N}$ is homotopy equivalent to M.

Two balls $B(p_i, 2R)$ and $B(p_j, 2R)$ in $\widetilde{U}$ have intersections, if and only if $B(p_i, R) \subset B(p_j, 5R)$. Therefore, an upper bound of the number of intersections for a given ball $B(p_j, 2R)$ is

$$\frac{\mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p_j, 5R))}{\inf_j \mathsf{Vol}_{\mathcal{G}}(B(p_i, R))},$$

where the infimum is taken over all balls $B(p_i, R)$ such that $B(p_i, 2R)$ having nonempty intersections with $B(p_j, 2R)$. By the local inequality (6.2), an estimate for this upper bound is $\frac{2^n}{\alpha_n}\,\mathsf{CV}(M)$. □

The proof of Theorem 6.1 yields the following application to covering type.

Corollary 6.3. *The covering type* $\mathsf{ct}(M)$ *of a compact* n*-dimensional manifold* M *has the following upper bound,*

$$\mathsf{ct}(M) \leqslant C_n\,\mathsf{CV}(M), \tag{6.3}$$

where C_n *is a positive constant only depending on* n*.*

Proof. In the proof of Theorem 6.1, a nerve $\mathcal{N}$ homotopy equivalent to the compact manifold M is constructed. Moreover, the number δ of the vertices of $\mathcal{N}$ satisfies

$$\delta \leqslant \frac{2^n}{\alpha_n}\,\mathsf{CV}(M).$$

Let $C_n = \frac{2^n}{\alpha_n}$. Then we get the inequality (6.3). □

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