

In the paper we do not give a proof of equation (18), a key statement of Theorem 4.2. The statement is not at all trivial and requires indeed a certain amount of work.

Proof of (18). Let $\{x_i\}$ be the set such that $\mathcal{L}^3(F(x_i)) > 0$.

Step 1 First of all we show that each $F(x_i)$ is a Caccioppoli set. Set $x = x_i$, let $r \in R_x$ and consider the Caccioppoli set $C = \text{im}_T(u, B(x, r))$. For \mathcal{L}^3 -a.e. y , $u(y)$ is a point of density 1 for $\text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$. A standard Fubini argument implies that for \mathcal{L}^1 -a.e. r we have the property that \mathcal{H}^2 -a.e. point $y \in u(\partial B(x, r))$ is of density 1 for $\text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$. Assume that r enjoys this property. $D := \text{im}_T(u, B(x, r)) \setminus \text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$ is a Caccioppoli set and $\partial^* D \subset \partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x, r)) \cup \partial^* \text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$. By Lemma 3.10, $\mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x, r)) \setminus u(\partial B(x, r))) = 0$. Thus, since \mathcal{H}^2 a.e. $y \in u(\partial B(x, r))$ is of density 1 for $\text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$, we conclude that, up to \mathcal{H}^2 -null sets, $\partial^* D \subset \partial^* \text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$.

Consider now a sequence of radii $r_j \downarrow 0$ as above and the corresponding sets $D_j := \text{im}_T(u, B(x, r_j)) \setminus \text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$. By the monotonicity property of Lemma 3.12(ii), $\bigcap D_j = F(x)$. On the other hand, $\text{Per } D_j \leq \text{Per } \text{im}_G(u, \Omega) = 0$. Thus we conclude that $F(x)$ is a Caccioppoli set and that

$$\text{Per}(F(x)) \leq \text{Per } \text{im}_G(u, \Omega). \quad (1)$$

Step 2 Consider a finite number of points x_1, \dots, x_N . We can argue as above and define the set $D_j := (\bigcup_{i=1}^N \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r_j))) \setminus \text{im}_G(u, \Omega)$. Choosing suitable radii $r_j \downarrow 0$ we then conclude that

$$\text{Per}(\bigcup_{i=1}^N F(x_i)) \leq \text{Per } \text{im}_G(u, \Omega).$$

We next claim that $\mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* F(x_i) \cap \partial^* F(x_j)) = 0$ if $i \neq j$. Consider indeed a radius $r \in R_{x_i} \cap R_{x_j}$ with $r < \|x_i - x_j\|$. By Lemma 3.12, $\text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r)) \cap \text{im}_T(u, B(x_j, r)) = \emptyset$. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r)) \setminus u(\partial B(x_i, r))) \\ &= \mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x_j, r)) \setminus u(\partial B(x_i, r))) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that u is injective on Ω_d and that Definition 3.11(ii) holds, if we choose the radius r appropriately we conclude that

$$\mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r)) \cap \partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x_j, r))) = 0.$$

Since $F(x_i) \subset \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r))$, we must have

$$\partial^* F(x_i) \subset \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r)) \cup \partial^* \text{im}_T(u, B(x_i, r)).$$

Thus, we conclude that $\mathcal{H}^2(\partial^* F(x_i) \cap \partial^* F(x_j)) = 0$. But then, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \text{Per } F(x_i) = \text{Per} \left(\cup_{i=1}^N F(x_i) \right) \leq \text{Per } \text{im}_G(u, \Omega). \quad (2)$$

Letting $N \uparrow \infty$ we conclude the desired inequality. \square

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