

## Isoperimetric inequality on CR-manifolds with nonnegative $Q'$ -curvature

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**Abstract.** In this paper we study contact forms on the three-dimensional Heisenberg manifold with its standard CR structure. We discover that the  $Q'$ -curvature, introduced by Branson, Fontana and Morpurgo [3] on the CR three-sphere and then generalized to any pseudo-Einstein CR three-manifold by Case and Yang [6], controls the isoperimetric inequality on such a CR-manifold. As the first and important step to show this, we prove that the nonnegative Webster curvature at infinity implies that the metric is normal, which is analogous to the behavior on a Riemannian four-manifold.

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### 1. Introduction

On a four-dimensional manifold, the Paneitz operator  $P_4$  and Branson's  $Q$ -curvature [2] have many properties analogous to those of the Laplacian operator  $\Delta_g$  and the Gaussian curvature  $K_g$  on surfaces. The Paneitz operator is defined as

$$P_g = \Delta^2 + \delta \left( \frac{2}{3} Rg - 2 \text{Ric} \right) d,$$

where  $\delta$  is the divergence,  $d$  is the differential,  $R$  is the scalar curvature of  $g$ , and  $\text{Ric}$  is the Ricci curvature tensor. The  $Q$ -curvature is defined as

$$Q_g = \frac{1}{12} \left\{ -\Delta R + \frac{1}{4} R^2 - 3|E|^2 \right\},$$

where  $E$  is the traceless part of  $\text{Ric}$ , and  $|\cdot|$  is taken with respect to the metric  $g$ . The two most important properties for the pair  $(P_g, Q_g)$  are that under the conformal change  $g_w = e^{2w} g_0$ ,

1.  $P_g$  transforms by  $P_{g_w}(\cdot) = e^{-4w} P_{g_0}(\cdot)$ ;
2.  $Q_g$  satisfies the fourth-order equation

$$P_{g_0} w + 2Q_{g_0} = 2Q_{g_w} e^{4w}.$$

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As proved by Beckner [1] and Chang-Yang [4], the pair  $(P_g, Q_g)$  also appears in the Moser-Trudinger inequality for higher order operators.

On CR manifolds, it is a fundamental problem to study the existence and properties of CR invariant pairs analogous to  $(P_g, Q_g)$ . Graham and Lee [14] have studied a fourth-order CR covariant operator with leading term  $\Delta_b^2 + T^2$  and Hirachi [16] has identified the  $Q$ -curvature which is related to  $P$  through a change of contact form. However, although the integral of the  $Q$ -curvature on a compact three-dimensional CR manifold is a CR invariant, it is always equal to zero. And in many interesting cases when the CR three-manifold is the boundary of a strictly pseudoconvex domain, by [11] the  $Q$ -curvature vanishes everywhere. As a consequence, it is desirable to search for some other invariant operators and curvature invariants on a CR manifold that are more sensitive to the CR geometry. The work of Branson, Fontana and Morpurgo [3] aims to find such a pair  $(P', Q')$  on the CR sphere. Later, the definition of  $Q'$ -curvature is generalized to all pseudo-Einstein CR manifolds by the work of Case-Yang [4] and that of Hirachi [17]. The construction uses the strategy of analytic continuation in dimension by Branson [2], restricted to the subspace of the CR pluriharmonic functions:

$$P'_4 := \lim_{n \rightarrow 1} \frac{2}{n-1} P_{4,n}|_{\mathcal{P}}. \tag{1.1}$$

Here  $P_{4,n}$  is the fourth-order CR covariant operator that exists for every contact form  $\theta$  by the work of Gover and Graham [13]. By [14], the space of CR pluriharmonic functions  $\mathcal{P}$  is always contained in the kernel of  $P_{4,1}$ . On the Heisenberg spaces with its standard contact structure, the expression of  $P'$  simplifies to be

$$P'u = 2\Delta_b^2 u. \tag{1.2}$$

In this paper, we want explore the geometric meaning of this newly introduced conformal invariant  $Q'$ -curvature.

In Riemannian geometry, a classical isoperimetric inequality on a complete simply connected surface  $M^2$ , called Fiala-Huber's [12, 18] isoperimetric inequality, states that

$$\text{Vol}(\Omega) \leq \frac{1}{2(2\pi - \int_{M^2} K_g^+ dv_g)} \text{Area}(\partial\Omega)^2, \tag{1.3}$$

where  $K_g^+$  is the positive part of the Gaussian curvature  $K_g$ . Also  $\int_{M^2} K_g^+ dv_g < 2\pi$  is the sharp bound for the isoperimetric inequality to hold.

In [20], the first author generalizes the Fiala-Huber's isoperimetric inequality to all even dimensions, replacing the role of the Gaussian curvature in dimension two by that of the  $Q$ -curvature in higher dimensions.

Let  $(M^n, g) = (\mathbb{R}^n, e^{2u}|dx|^2)$  be a complete noncompact even dimensional manifold. Let  $Q^+$  and  $Q^-$  denote the positive and negative part of  $Q_g$  respectively, and let  $dv_g$  denote the volume form of  $M$ . Suppose  $g = e^{2u}|dx|^2$  is a *normal* metric, *i.e.*

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{c_n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \log \frac{|y|}{|x-y|} Q_g(y) dv_g(y) + C, \tag{1.4}$$

where  $c_n = 2^{n-2}(\frac{n-2}{2})!\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}$ , and  $C$  is some constant. If

$$\beta^+ := \int_{M^n} Q^+ dv_g < c_n, \tag{1.5}$$

and

$$\beta^- := \int_{M^n} Q^- dv_g < \infty, \tag{1.6}$$

then  $(M^n, g)$  satisfies the isoperimetric inequality with isoperimetric constant depending only on  $n, \beta^+$  and  $\beta^-$ . Namely, for any bounded domain  $\Omega \subset M^n$  with smooth boundary,

$$|\Omega|_g \leq C(n, \beta^+, \beta^-)|\partial\Omega|_g^{\frac{n}{n-1}}. \tag{1.7}$$

It is well known that if the scalar curvature is nonnegative at infinity, then one can show that the metric is a normal metric. For interested readers, the proof of such a fact when  $n = 4$  was given in [5]. For higher even dimensions, one can prove by a similar manner.

In the main result of this paper, we prove that the  $Q'$ -curvature and  $P'$  operator are the relevant CR scalar invariant and CR covariant operator to study the isoperimetric inequalities in the CR setting. The Webster [21] curvature at infinity imposes important geometric rigidity on the CR manifold. We also notice that the class of pluriharmonic functions  $\mathcal{P}$  is the relevant subspace of functions for the conformal factor  $u$ . We derive the following isoperimetric inequality on any CR three-manifold with  $Q'$  curvature assumptions.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $(\mathbb{H}^1, e^u\theta)$  be a complete CR manifold, where  $\theta$  denotes the standard contact form on the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^1$  and  $u$  is a pluriharmonic function on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . Suppose additionally the  $Q'$  curvature is nonnegative, the Webster scalar curvature is nonnegative at infinity and*

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^1} Q' e^{4u}\theta \wedge d\theta < c'_1. \tag{1.8}$$

*Then the isoperimetric inequality is valid, i.e. for any bounded domain  $\Omega$ ,*

$$\text{Vol}(\Omega) \leq C \text{Area}(\partial\Omega)^{4/3}. \tag{1.9}$$

*Here  $C$  depends only on the integral of the  $Q'$ -curvature, and  $c'_1$  is the constant in the fundamental solution of  $P'$  operator. (See Section 2.)*

**Remark 1.2.** It is worth noting that the homogeneous dimension  $N$  of  $M^3$  is 4. Therefore the power on the right-hand side of the isoperimetric inequality is equal to  $\frac{N}{N-1} = 4/3$ .

**Remark 1.3.** We also remark that  $c'_1$  is the critical constant for the validity of the isoperimetric inequality. In fact, there is a CR contact form  $e^u\theta$  with  $\int_{\mathbb{H}^1} Q' e^{4u}\theta \wedge d\theta = c'_1$ , that does not satisfy the isoperimetric inequality. We give this example in Example 4.6.

In fact, we have proved a stronger result.

**Theorem 1.4.** *Suppose the  $Q'$ -curvature of  $(\mathbb{H}^1, e^u\theta)$  is nonnegative. Suppose additionally the metric is normal and  $u$  is a pluriharmonic function on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . If*

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^1} Q' e^{4u} \theta \wedge d\theta < c'_1, \tag{1.10}$$

then  $e^{4u}$  is an  $A_1$  weight.

We will introduce the meaning of  $A_1$  weight in Section 4.

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## 2. Fundamental solution of $P'$ operator

In this section we compute the fundamental solution of the Paneitz operator  $P'$  on the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . Let  $p, q$  be two points on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . Let  $\rho$  denotes the distance function on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . We show that  $P'(\log \rho(q^{-1} p))$  is equal to the real part of Szegő kernel. Therefore,  $P'$  restricted to the space of pluriharmonic functions has the fundamental solution  $\log \rho(q^{-1} p)$ .

Let us first consider the case for  $p = (z, t) \in \mathbb{H}^1$ , and  $q = (0, 0) \in \mathbb{H}^1$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_b \log \rho(q^{-1} p) &= \Delta_b \log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t)(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t) \log(|z|^4 + t^2) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4}(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t)(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t) \log(|z|^4 + t^2). \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t)(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t) \log(|z|^4 + t^2) \\ &= (\partial_x + 2y\partial_t) \left[ \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt) \right] \\ &= \frac{-1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt)^2 + \frac{1}{|z|^4 + t^2} (4|z|^2 + 8x^2 + 8y^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \left[ -16(x^2|z|^4 + 2xyt|z|^2 + y^2t^2) + 12|z|^2(|z|^4 + t^2) \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

Similarly, one can see

$$\begin{aligned} &(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t)(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t) \log(|z|^4 + t^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \left[ -16(y^2|z|^4 - 2xyt|z|^2 + x^2t^2) + 12|z|^2(|z|^4 + t^2) \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Thus, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_b \log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{\frac{1}{4}} &= \frac{1}{4(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \left[ -16(|z|^6 + |z|^2 t^2) + 24|z|^2(|z|^4 + t^2) \right] \\ &= \frac{2|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2}.\end{aligned}\tag{2.4}$$

We now need to compute  $\Delta_b \frac{|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t)(\partial_x + 2y\partial_t) \frac{|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2} &= (\partial_x + 2y\partial_t) \left[ \frac{2x}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{-|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt) \right] \\ &= \frac{-2x}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt) + \frac{2}{|z|^4 + t^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{2|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^3} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt)^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{-|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4|z|^2 + 8x^2 + 8y^2) \frac{-2x}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4x|z|^2 + 4yt) \\ &= \frac{2}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \left[ -8x^2|z|^2 - 16xyt - 12|z|^4 - 8x^2|z|^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{32|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^3} (x|z|^2 + yt)^2.\end{aligned}\tag{2.5}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t)(\partial_y - 2x\partial_t) \frac{|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2} &= (\partial_y - 2x\partial_t) \left[ \frac{2y}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{-|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4y|z|^2 - 4xt) \right] \\ &= \frac{-2y}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4y|z|^2 - 4xt) + \frac{2}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{2|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^3} (4y|z|^2 - 4xt)^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{-|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4|z|^2 + 8x^2 + 8y^2) + \frac{-2y}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (4y|z|^2 - 4xt) \\ &= \frac{2}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \left[ -8y^2|z|^2 + 16xyt - 12|z|^4 - 8y^2|z|^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{32|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^3} (y|z|^2 - xt)^2.\end{aligned}\tag{2.6}$$

Therefore, by (2.5) and (2.6) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_b \frac{|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2} &= \frac{4}{|z|^4 + t^2} + \frac{1}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} (-8|z|^4 - 24|z|^4 - 8|z|^4) \\
 &\quad + \frac{32|z|^2}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^3} (|z|^6 + |z|^2 t^2) \\
 &= \frac{4}{|z|^4 + t^2} - \frac{8|z|^4}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2} \\
 &= 4 \frac{t^2 - |z|^4}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

So we have show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 P'(\log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{\frac{1}{4}}) &= 2\Delta_b \frac{|z|^2}{|z|^4 + t^2} \\
 &= 8 \frac{t^2 - |z|^4}{(|z|^4 + t^2)^2}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

Note that this is equal to the real part of the Szegő kernel  $\text{Re}(S_{\mathbb{H}^1}(p, q))$ , up to a multiplicative constant. So we have proved that  $\log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{\frac{1}{4}}$  is proportional to the fundamental solution of the operator  $P'$  on the space of pluriharmonic functions at point  $p = (z, t)$  and  $q = (0, 0)$ . Since the norm  $\rho$  and  $P'$  are both left invariant, this computation is also valid for arbitrary value of  $q$ . Thus we have proved that  $\log(\rho(q^{-1}p))$  is proportional to the fundamental solution of  $P'$ . We denote  $G_{\mathbb{H}^1}(u, v) = c'_1 \cdot \log \rho(q^{-1}p)$ .

### 3. Nonnegative Webster scalar curvature at $\infty$

In this section we describe the property of CR-manifolds with nonnegative Webster scalar curvature at infinity. We will see this geometric condition has a strong analytic implication. We denote the volume form  $\theta \wedge d\theta$  of  $\mathbb{H}^1$  by  $dv$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $\theta$  be the standard contact form of the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^1$ , and  $\hat{\theta} = e^u \theta$  be the conformal change of it. Suppose  $u \in \mathcal{P}$  is a pluriharmonic function on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ ,  $\Delta_b^2 u \in L^1(\mathbb{H}^1)$  and  $\hat{\theta}$  has nonnegative Webster scalar curvature near  $\infty$ , i.e.  $-\Delta_b u \geq |\nabla_b u|^2$ . Then  $\hat{\theta}$  is a normal, i.e.*

$$u(p) = \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} G_{\mathbb{H}^1}(p, q) P' u(q) dv(q) + C, \tag{3.1}$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

It is proved by [3] that the Green function for  $P'_{\mathbb{S}^3}$  is given by

$$G_{\mathbb{S}^3}(\zeta, \eta) = \log |1 - \zeta \cdot \bar{\eta}|. \tag{3.2}$$

It satisfies the equation

$$P'_{\mathbb{S}^3} G_{\mathbb{S}^3}(u, v) = S_{\mathbb{S}^3}(u, v) - \frac{1}{\text{vol}(\mathbb{S}^3)}, \tag{3.3}$$

where  $S_{\mathbb{S}^3}(u, v)$  is the real part of the Szegő kernel. We proved in section 2 that the fundamental solution for  $P'_{\mathbb{H}^1}$  is given by  $\log \rho(v^{-1}u)$ . We recall that the homogeneous norm on  $\mathbb{H}^1$  is given by  $\rho(z, t) = (|z|^4 + t^2)^{1/4}$ .

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $u \in \mathcal{P}$  such that  $P'u \in L^1(\mathbb{H}^1)$ . Define

$$v(p) := \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} G_{\mathbb{H}^1}(p, q) P'u(q) dv(q).$$

This is well-defined when  $P'u \in L^1(\mathbb{H}^1)$ . We want to prove that  $w := u - v$  is a linear function in  $t$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Under the same assumption as Proposition 3.1, we have  $\Delta_b w = \text{constant}$ .*

*Proof.* First, we observe that

$$P'w = P'u - P'v = 0.$$

We can then apply the mean value property to the function  $\Delta_b w$  which satisfies the equation  $\Delta_b(\Delta_b w) = 0$ . Let  $K_r(x, y)$  denotes the Poisson kernel. We apply the Poisson integral formula to  $\Delta_b w$  and derive

$$\Delta_b w(p) = \int_{\partial B(p,r)} \Delta_b w(q) K_r(p, q) dv(q), \tag{3.4}$$

for arbitrary sphere  $B(p, r)$  of radius  $r$ . Here the radius is with respect to the distance given by  $\rho(\cdot)$  on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . Note that  $\Delta_b u \leq -|\nabla_b u|^2 \leq 0$ , and  $\Delta_b v$  tends to zero for large spheres  $\partial B(p, r)$ . Thus by taking  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\Delta_b w \leq 0,$$

at  $\infty$ . Thus  $\Delta_b w$  is bounded from above by (3.4) and the fact that the Poisson kernel is nonnegative.

Now  $\Delta_b w$  is bounded from above and  $\Delta_b(\Delta_b w) = 0$ . Thus, analogously to the harmonic function on the Euclidean spaces, by the Liouville's theorem for  $\Delta_b$  operator, we have

$$\Delta_b w = c_1. \tag{3.5}$$

□

Next, besides  $\Delta_b w = c_1$ , we observe that  $Tw$  is also a constant, because  $\Delta_b^2 w + T^2 w = 0$ . We denote the constant of  $Tw$  by  $c_2$ . This allows us to show that

**Lemma 3.4.**  $w_x(x, y, t)$  is independent of variable the  $t$ , i.e.

$$w_x(x, y, t) = w_x(x, y, 0).$$

*Proof.* We recall that

$$X = \partial_x + 2y\partial_t, \quad Y = \partial_y - 2x\partial_t, \quad T = \partial_t.$$

Since  $X$  and  $T$  commute, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= XT w = TX w = T(w_x + 2y w_t) \\ &= T w_x. \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Thus  $w_x$  is independent of  $t$  variable. In other words, for any  $(x, y, t)$ ,

$$w_x(x, y, t) = w_x(x, y, 0). \quad \square$$

Similarly since  $Y$  and  $T$  commute,  $w_y$  is independent of  $t$  variable.

**Lemma 3.5.**  $w_{xx} + w_{yy}$  is independent of  $t$  variable, i.e.

$$w_{xx}(x, y, t) + w_{yy}(x, y, t) = w_{xx}(x, y, 0) + w_{yy}(x, y, 0).$$

*Proof.* This can be seen from the following computation

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= T \Delta_b w \\ &= T[(XX + YY)]w \\ &= T[(\partial_x + 2yT)(\partial_x + 2yT) + (\partial_y - 2xT)(\partial_y - 2xT)]w \\ &= T[w_{xx} + 2yT \partial_x w + \partial_x(2yT w) + 2yT(2yT w) \\ &\quad + w_{yy} - \partial_y(2xT w) - 2xT(\partial_y w) + 2xT(2xT w)]. \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

By the fact that  $Tw$  is a constant, and that  $T$  commutes with both  $\partial_x$  and  $\partial_y$ , we obtain the above is equal to

$$T(w_{xx} + w_{yy}).$$

Thus the lemma holds. □

**Lemma 3.6.** It holds  $\Delta_b \partial_x w = 0$  and  $\Delta_b \partial_y w = 0$ .



*Proof.* If  $\Delta_b$  and  $\partial_x$  commute, then since  $\Delta_b w = c_1$ , we have proved the lemma. In general,  $\Delta_b$  and  $\partial_x$  might not commute. However, we will use the fact that  $Tw$  is a constant to achieve the goal.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_b \partial_x w &= [(\partial_x + 2yT)(\partial_x + 2yT)\partial_x w + (\partial_y - 2xT)(\partial_y - 2xT)\partial_x w] \\ &= w_{xxx} + \partial_x(2yT\partial_x w) + 2yT\partial_x(\partial_x w) + 2yT(2yT\partial_x w) \\ &\quad + w_{xyy} - 2xT\partial_y\partial_x w - \partial_y(2xT\partial_x w) + 2xT(2xT\partial_x w) \\ &= w_{xxx} + w_{xyy}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

The last equality uses the fact that  $T$  commutes with both  $\partial_x$  and  $\partial_y$ , and the fact that  $Tw$  is a constant: thus cross terms

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_x(2yT\partial_x w); \quad 2yT\partial_x(\partial_x w); \quad 2yT(2yT\partial_x w); \\ 2xT\partial_y\partial_x w; \quad \partial_y(2xT\partial_x w); \quad 2xT(2xT\partial_x w) \end{aligned}$$

vanish. □

**Lemma 3.7.** *The functions  $|w_x|$  and  $|w_y|$  are at most of linear growth.*

*Proof.* We have

$$|\nabla_b w|^2 = w_x^2 + w_y^2 + 4c_2^2(x^2 + y^2) - 4c_2(xw_y - yw_x). \tag{3.9}$$

The right-hand side is greater than

$$(1 - \alpha)(w_x^2 + w_y^2) + 4c_2^2 \left( -\frac{1}{\alpha} + 1 \right) (x^2 + y^2),$$

for any  $\alpha > 0$ . Let us fix  $\alpha = 1/2$ . Note that  $|\nabla_b w|^2 \leq 2|\nabla_b u|^2 + 2|\nabla_b v|^2$  and

$$|\nabla_b u|^2 \leq -\Delta_b u$$

near  $\infty$ . Also,  $|\nabla_b v|$  tends to 0 near  $\infty$ . Thus  $|\nabla_b w|^2 \leq -2c_1 + 1$  near  $\infty$ , where  $c_1 \leq 0$  is the constant value of function  $\Delta_b w$ . Thus  $|\nabla_b w|$  has an upper bound. It follows that  $|\partial_x w|$  and  $|\partial_y w|$  are at most of linear growth. □

This together with Lemma 3.6 implies that  $\partial_x w$  is a linear function. Similarly,  $\partial_y w$  is also a linear function. Suppose both  $\partial_x w$  and  $\partial_y w$  are not constant, then  $w$  is a quadratic function. Since  $c_1 \leq 0$ , we see that  $e^{u\theta}$  gives rise to an incomplete metric. This is a contradiction. Thus both  $\partial_x w$  and  $\partial_y w$  are constant. So  $w$  is linear in both  $x$  and  $y$ . Again,  $e^{u\theta}$  is incomplete unless  $w$  is a constant in both  $x$  and  $y$ . In other words,  $w$  only depends on  $t$ . On the other hand, we also have  $Tw = c_2$ . So  $w$  is a linear function of  $t$ . We now use the assumption that the Webster scalar curvature  $R$  is nonnegative to show that  $w$  must be a constant.

To do this, we first note that by a simple computation,

$$-\Delta_b(e^{c_2 t}) = -4c_2^2(x^2 + y^2)e^{c_2 t} < 0.$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}^{2u} &= -\Delta_b(e^u) \\ &= -\Delta_b(e^{c_2 t + v}) \\ &= -\Delta_b(e^{c_2 t})e^v - 2X(e^{c_2 t})X(e^v) - 2Y(e^{c_2 t})Y(e^v) - \Delta_b(e^v)e^{c_2 t} \\ &= -4c_2^2(x^2 + y^2)e^{c_2 t}e^v - 4c_2 y e^{c_2 t} X(e^v) + 4c_2 x e^{c_2 t} Y(e^v) \\ &\quad - (\Delta_b v + |\nabla_b v|^2)e^v e^{c_2 t}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

**Lemma 3.8.**

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} |\nabla_b v|(x) d\sigma(x) = O\left(\frac{1}{r}\right) \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow \infty. \tag{3.11}$$

*Proof.* By direct computation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} X\left(\log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{1/4}\right) &= \frac{1}{\rho^4}(|z|^2 x + ty) \leq \frac{|z|}{\rho^2} \leq \frac{1}{\rho}, \\ Y\left(\log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{1/4}\right) &= \frac{1}{\rho^4}(|z|^2 y - tx), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|\nabla_b\left(\log(|z|^4 + t^2)^{1/4}\right)| = \frac{|z|}{\rho^2} \leq \frac{1}{\rho}.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} |\nabla_b v|(x) d\sigma(x) \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} \frac{1}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} |Q'(y)| e^{4u(y)} dv(y) dv(x). \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

Now we need to show

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} \frac{1}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x) \leq O\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $y$ .

This is true because we can dilate and take the integration over the unit sphere.

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} \frac{1}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{1}{|\partial B_1|} \int_{\partial B_1} \frac{1}{\rho((r^{-1}y)^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x).$$

If  $|r^{-1}y| \geq 1 + \delta$  or  $|r^{-1}y| \leq 1 - \delta$ , then it is easy to see that

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_1|} \int_{\partial B_1} \frac{1}{\rho((r^{-1}y)^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x) \leq C$$

for a constant  $C$  independent of  $x$ .

If  $1 - \delta \leq |r^{-1}y| \leq 1 + \delta$ , then we need to use spherical coordinates to prove

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_1|} \int_{\partial B_1} \frac{1}{\rho((r^{-1}y)^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x) \leq C. \tag{3.13}$$

It is obvious that we only need to deal with the limiting case when  $r^{-1}y$  is on the unit sphere  $\partial B_1$ . Let  $r^{-1}y = (y_1, y_2, s)$  and  $x = (x_1, x_2, t)$ . Let  $(r', \theta')$  be the polar coordinates centered at  $(y_1, y_2)$  in the  $xy$ -plane (by our notation  $x = (x_1, x_2, t)$ , it is the  $x_1x_2$ -plane).

$$\rho((y_1, y_2, s), (x_1, x_2, t)) \geq \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2} = r'. \tag{3.14}$$

The area form of the unit sphere is given by

$$d\sigma = \sqrt{(u_{x_1} - x_2)^2 + (u_{x_2} + x_1)^2} dx_1 dx_2,$$

where  $u(x_1, x_2) = t = \pm\sqrt{1 - (x_1^2 + x_2^2)}$ . One can directly compute that

$$d\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1 + 3r^4)}{(1 - r^2)(1 + r^2)}} r dr d\theta.$$

Here  $(r, \theta)$  are polar coordinates of  $(x_1, x_2)$  centered at  $(0, 0)$ . It is obvious that  $r dr d\theta = r' dr' d\theta'$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\partial B_1} \frac{1}{\rho((r^{-1}y)^{-1}x)} d\sigma(x) \\ & \leq 2 \int_{x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq 1} \frac{1}{r'} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1 + 3r^4)}{(1 - r^2)(1 + r^2)}} r' dr' d\theta'. \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

Case 1:  $\sqrt{y_1^2 + y_2^2} < 1$ .

We can denote  $\sqrt{y_1^2 + y_2^2} = 1 - \eta$ , where  $\eta > 0$ . Then the integral (3.15) is bounded by

$$C + 2 \int_{1-\frac{\eta}{2} \leq r \leq 1} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1 + 3r^4)}{(1 - r^2)(1 + r^2)}} dr' d\theta'. \tag{3.16}$$

Here  $r$  is a function of  $(r', \theta')$  by the change of variable formula. The last inequality in (3.15) is because  $r = 1$  is the only singularity of such an integration.

Now, since  $\sqrt{y_1^2 + y_2^2} = 1 - \eta$  and  $1 - \frac{\eta}{2} \leq r \leq 1$ , we have  $r' \geq \frac{\eta}{2}$ . Thus  $dr'd\theta' = \frac{r'}{r}drd\theta \leq \frac{2}{\eta}rdrd\theta$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{1-\frac{\eta}{2} \leq r \leq 1} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} dr'd\theta'. \\ & \leq \frac{2}{\eta} \int_{1-\frac{\eta}{2} \leq r \leq 1} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} r dr d\theta. \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

The last integral is bounded, because

$$2 \int_{r \leq 1} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} r dr d\theta = 2 \int_{r \leq 1} d\sigma = |\partial B_1| < \infty. \tag{3.18}$$

Case 2:  $\sqrt{y_1^2 + y_2^2} = 1$ .

Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $(y_1, y_2) = (1, 0)$ . We adopt the notation that  $\theta'$  is the angle between the ray and the positive  $x_2$ -axis. Since the unit sphere on the  $x_1x_2$ -plane is completely on the left-hand side of  $(1, 0)$ , we have  $\theta' \in [0, \pi]$ .

Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{x_1^2+x_2^2 \leq 1} \frac{1}{r'} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} r' dr' d\theta' \\ & \leq \int_0^\pi \int_{r' > \epsilon/2} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} dr' d\theta' + \int_0^\pi \int_{r' \leq \epsilon/2} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} dr' d\theta'. \end{aligned} \tag{3.19}$$

Note that

$$\int_0^\pi \int_{r' > \epsilon/2} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} dr' d\theta' \leq C$$

because when  $r' > \epsilon/2$ , we can apply the argument in Case 1 again, using  $dr'd\theta' = \frac{r'}{r}drd\theta \leq \frac{2}{\epsilon}rdrd\theta$ .

For  $r' \leq \epsilon/2$ , by a direct computation, for very small  $\epsilon$ ,  $1 - r \approx r'\theta'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^\pi \int_{r' \leq \epsilon/2} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} dr' d\theta' \\ & \leq \int_0^\pi \int_{r' \leq \epsilon/2} \sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1-r^2)(1+r^2)}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r'\theta'}} dr' d\theta'. \end{aligned} \tag{3.20}$$

Since we have

$$\sqrt{\frac{r^2(1+3r^4)}{(1+r)(1+r^2)}} < C,$$

$$\int_{r' < \epsilon/2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{r'}} dr' < \infty,$$

and

$$\int_0^\pi \frac{1}{\sqrt{\theta'}} d\theta' < \infty,$$

the integration in the second line of (3.20) is finite. This completes the proof of (3.13).  $\square$

By a similar proof, one can show the average estimate of  $|\Delta_b v|$  and  $|v|$  as well.

**Lemma 3.9.**

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} |\Delta_b v|(x) d\sigma(x) = O\left(\frac{1}{r^2}\right) \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow \infty. \tag{3.21}$$

**Lemma 3.10.**

$$\frac{1}{|\partial B_r|} \int_{\partial B_r} |v|(x) d\sigma(x) = O(1) \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow \infty. \tag{3.22}$$

So there exists a sequence of points  $\{p_i\}$ ,  $|p_i| \rightarrow \infty$ , such that

$$|v|(p_i) \leq C, \tag{3.23}$$

$$|\nabla_b v|(p_i) + |\Delta_b v|(p_i) \leq \epsilon. \tag{3.24}$$

Moreover, we can choose  $p_i$ , such that they lie in the half space  $c_2 t \geq 0$ , and away from the  $t$ -axis. In other words, we can require that  $c_2 t(p_i) \geq 0$ , and that  $(x(p_i), y(p_i))$  does not tend to  $(0, 0)$ . Here we adopt the notation that  $p_i = (x(p_i), y(p_i), t(p_i))$ .

When  $|x| + |y| \geq L$  for some  $L > 0$ , we have

$$|4c_2 y e^{c_2 t} X(e^v)| \leq |y| e^{c_2 t} e^v |\nabla_b v| \leq \epsilon |y| e^{c_2 t} e^v \leq \epsilon(x^2 + y^2) e^{c_2 t} e^v; \tag{3.25}$$

$$|4c_2 x e^{c_2 t} Y(e^v)| \leq |x| e^{c_2 t} e^v |\nabla_b v| \leq \epsilon |x| e^{c_2 t} e^v \leq \epsilon(x^2 + y^2) e^{c_2 t} e^v; \tag{3.26}$$

and

$$|\Delta_b(e^v) e^{c_2 t}| = |(\Delta_b v + |\nabla_b v|^2) e^v e^{c_2 t}| \leq \epsilon e^v e^{c_2 t}.$$

Thus

$$|2X(e^{c_2 t})X(e^v) + 2Y(e^{c_2 t})Y(e^v) + \Delta_b(e^v) e^{c_2 t}| \leq 3\epsilon(x^2 + y^2) e^{c_2 t} e^v. \tag{3.27}$$

We want to show  $c_2 = 0$ . We prove this by contradiction. Suppose  $c_2 \neq 0$ . Then, by applying (3.27) in (3.10), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}^{2u}(p_i) &= -4c_2^2(x^2 + y^2)e^{c_2t}e^v - 4c_2ye^{c_2t}X(e^v) \\ &\quad + 4c_2xe^{c_2t}Y(e^v)d - (\Delta_b v + |\nabla_b v|^2)e^v e^{c_2t} \\ &\leq -3c_2^2(x(p_i)^2 + y(p_i)^2)e^{c_2t(p_i)}e^v(p_i), \end{aligned} \tag{3.28}$$

when  $\epsilon$  is small enough.

By our choice of  $\{p_i\}$ ,  $|v(p_i)| \leq C$  and  $c_2t(p_i) \geq 0$  for all  $i$ . Thus  $e^v \geq \eta > 0$ , and  $e^{c_2t(p_i)} \geq 1$ . Since  $c_2 \neq 0$ , we get

$$-3c_2^2(x(p_i)^2 + y(p_i)^2)e^{c_2t(p_i)}e^v(p_i) < 0,$$

as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . In fact, this quantity goes to  $-\infty$  unless  $(x(p_i), y(p_i))$  tends to  $(0, 0)$ . Because if  $(x(p_i)^2 + y(p_i)^2)$  is bounded, then  $c_2t(p_i) \rightarrow +\infty$ . This contradicts the assumption on the nonnegativity of Webster scalar curvature  $R$ . Therefore  $c_2 = 0$ .

This completes the proof of Proposition 3.1.

#### 4. Main results

To begin this section, we recall some preliminary Poincaré inequalities for Heisenberg groups  $\mathbb{H}^n$  of arbitrary dimension. Let us denote the homogenous dimension by  $N$ . For  $\mathbb{H}^n$ ,  $N = 2n + 2$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *For any ball  $B$  in Heisenberg group,*

$$\int_B \int_B |g(x) - g(y)|dv(x)dv(y) \leq C|B|^{\frac{N+1}{N}} \int_{2B} |\nabla_b g|dv(x). \tag{4.1}$$

Here  $2B$  denotes the concentric ball of  $B$  with double radius, and  $|\cdot|$  denotes the volume with respect to the Haar measure on  $\mathbb{H}^n$ .

In fact, the above inequality is a direct consequence of the following 1-Poincaré inequality.

**Proposition 4.2 ([19]).** *For any ball  $B$  in Heisenberg group,*

$$\int_B |g(x) - g_B|dv(x) \leq C|B|^{\frac{1}{N}} \int_{2B} |\nabla_b g|dv(x). \tag{4.2}$$

Here  $2B$  denotes the concentric ball of  $B$  with double radius,  $g_B$  denotes the average of  $g(x)$  on  $B$ , and  $|\cdot|$  denotes the volume with respect to the Haar measure on  $\mathbb{H}^n$ .

This implies Proposition 4.1 because

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_B \int_B |g(x) - g(y)| dv(x) dv(y) \\ & \leq \int_B \int_B |g(x) - g_B| + |g(y) - g_B| dv(x) dv(y) \\ & \leq C|B|^{\frac{N+1}{N}} \int_{2B} |\nabla_b g| dv(x). \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

David Jerison [19] proved a stronger version of the 2-Poincaré inequality:

$$\int_B |g(x) - g_B|^2 dv(x) \leq C|B|^{\frac{2}{N}} \int_B |\nabla_b g|^2 dv(x). \tag{4.4}$$

The same method also implies a stronger version of 1-Poincaré inequality (see [15]).

$$\int_B |g(x) - g_B| dv(x) \leq C|B|^{\frac{1}{N}} \int_B |\nabla_b g| dv(x). \tag{4.5}$$

For the purpose of this paper, we only need the weaker statement Proposition 4.1, in which the integration is over  $2B$  on the right-hand side of the inequality.

Given a bounded domain with smooth boundary, as a special case of the above proposition, one can take  $g$  to be (a smooth approximation of) the characteristic function  $\chi_\Omega$ , and derive

$$|B \cap \Omega| \cdot |B \cap \Omega^c| \leq C|\partial\Omega \cap 2B| \cdot |B|^{\frac{N+1}{N}}. \tag{4.6}$$

This immediately gives rise to the following:

**Corollary 4.3.** *For all balls  $B \subset \mathbb{H}^n$ , such that,*

$$|B \cap \Omega| \geq \frac{1}{2}|B| \quad \text{and} \quad |B \cap \Omega^c| \geq \frac{1}{2}|B|,$$

*we have, by (4.6),*

$$|B|^{\frac{N-1}{N}} \leq C|\partial\Omega \cap 2B|.$$

**Theorem 4.4.** *Suppose  $\omega(x) \geq 0$  is an  $A_1$  weight on  $\mathbb{H}^n$ . Namely, there exists a constant  $C_0$  (independent of  $B$ ), so that for any ball  $B \subset \mathbb{H}^n$ ,*

$$\frac{1}{|B|} \int_B \omega(p) dv(p) \leq C_0 \inf_{z \in B} \omega(z). \tag{4.7}$$

*Then the weighted isoperimetric inequality holds for  $\omega(x)$ : for any domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{H}^n$  with smooth boundary,*

$$\int_\Omega \omega(x) dv(x) \leq C_1 \left( \int_{\partial\Omega} \omega(x)^{\frac{N-1}{N}} d\sigma(x) \right)^{\frac{N}{N-1}}, \tag{4.8}$$

*where  $C_1$  only depends on the  $A_1$  bound  $C_0$  of  $\omega(x)$  and the homogeneous dimension  $N = 2n + 2$ .*

We now give the proof of this theorem by Proposition 4.1.

*Proof.* Consider a covering  $\cup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} B_\alpha$  of the domain  $\Omega$  such that each  $B_\alpha$  satisfies the properties:

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \cap \Omega \right| \geq \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \right|, \quad \left| \frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \cap \Omega^c \right| \geq \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \right|. \tag{4.9}$$

In other words,  $|\frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \cap \Omega|$  and  $|\frac{1}{2} B_\alpha \cap \Omega^c|$  are both comparable to  $|\frac{1}{2} B_\alpha|$ . By Vitali covering theorem, there exists a countable subset  $\cup_{i=1}^\infty B_i$  such that  $\Omega \subset \cup_{i=1}^\infty B_i$ , and  $\{\frac{1}{2} B_i\}$  are mutually disjoint. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(\Omega) &= \int_\Omega \omega(x) dv(x) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^\infty \int_{B_i \cap \Omega} \omega(x) dv(x) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^\infty \int_{B_i} \omega(x) dv(x) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^\infty C_0 |B_i| \omega(p_i) \\ &\leq C_2(n) \sum_{i=1}^\infty \left| \frac{1}{4} B_i \right| \omega(p_i). \end{aligned} \tag{4.10}$$

Here  $\omega(p_i) = \inf_{x \in B_i} \omega(x)$ .

By using Corollary 4.3 to  $B = \frac{1}{4} B_i$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(\Omega) &\leq C_3 \sum_{i=1}^\infty \left| \partial\Omega \cap \frac{1}{2} B_i \right|^{\frac{N}{N-1}} \omega(p_i) \\ &\leq C_3 \sum_{i=1}^\infty \left( \int_{\partial\Omega \cap \frac{1}{2} B_i} \omega(x)^{\frac{N-1}{N}} d\sigma(x) \right)^{\frac{N}{N-1}} \\ &\leq C_3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^\infty \int_{\partial\Omega \cap \frac{1}{2} B_i} \omega(x)^{\frac{N-1}{N}} d\sigma(x) \right)^{\frac{N}{N-1}} \\ &\leq C_3 \left( \int_{\partial\Omega} \omega(x)^{\frac{N-1}{N}} d\sigma(x) \right)^{\frac{N}{N-1}}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.11}$$

□



**Lemma 4.5.**  $\frac{1}{\rho(u)^\alpha}$  is an  $A_1$  weight for  $0 < \alpha < N = 2n + 2$  on the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^n$ .

One can directly check this fact by estimating the maximal function of  $\frac{1}{\rho(u)^\alpha}$ .

In the following, we will give a proof of Theorem 1.4. Theorem 1.1 is then a consequence of Theorem 1.4, because if  $e^{4u}$  is an  $A_1$  weight, by Theorem 4.4, on such a conformal Heisenberg group, the isoperimetric inequality is valid. Moreover, the isoperimetric constant depends only on the integral of the  $Q'$ -curvature.

*Proof of Theorem 1.4.* The PDE that the conformal factor  $u$  satisfies is

$$P'u = Q'e^{4u}.$$

Since  $u$  is a pluriharmonic function, one has  $\Delta_b^2 u = T^2 u$ . Recall that the fundamental solution of Paneitz operator  $P' = 2\Delta_b^2$  is given by  $c'_1 \log \frac{1}{\rho(y^{-1}x)}$ . By section 3, as the Webster scalar curvature at  $\infty$  is nonnegative, we have the metric is normal. Namely,  $u$  has an integral representation

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(y)}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} Q'(y) e^{4u(y)} dv(y) + C. \tag{4.12}$$

We now want to prove  $e^{4u}$  is an  $A_1$  weight. In other words, for any ball  $B \subset \mathbb{H}^1$ ,

$$M(e^{4u})(x) \leq C(\alpha) e^{4u(x)}, \tag{4.13}$$

for a.e.  $x \in \mathbb{H}^1$ , where

$$M(f)(x) := \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |f(y)| dv(y).$$

Define  $\alpha := \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} Q' e^{4u} dv(x)$ . By assumption,  $\alpha < c'_1$ . Note that we can assume  $\alpha \neq 0$ . As if  $\alpha = 0$ , then  $u$  is a constant. So the conclusion follows directly.

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{M(e^{4u})(x)}{e^{4u(x)}} \\ &= \sup_{r>0} \frac{\frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} \exp\left(\frac{4}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(p)}{\rho(p^{-1}y)} Q'(p) e^{4u(p)} dv(p)\right) dv(y)}{\exp\left(\frac{4}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(p)}{\rho(p^{-1}x)} Q'(p) e^{4u(p)} dv(p)\right)} \\ &= \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} \exp\left(\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(p^{-1}x)}{\rho(p^{-1}y)} \cdot \frac{Q'(p) e^{4u(p)}}{\alpha} dv(p)\right) dv(y). \end{aligned} \tag{4.14}$$

This is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{r>0} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \left( \frac{\rho(p^{-1}x)}{\rho(p^{-1}y)} \right)^{\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}} \frac{Q'(p)e^{4u(p)}}{\alpha} dv(p)dv(y) \\ &= \sup_{r>0} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} \left( \frac{\rho(p^{-1}x)}{\rho(p^{-1}y)} \right)^{\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}} dv(y) \frac{Q'(p)e^{4u(p)}}{\alpha} dv(p). \end{aligned} \tag{4.15}$$

We know that by Lemma 4.5  $\rho(x)^{-\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}}$  is an  $A_1$  weight. And so is  $(\rho(p^{-1}x))^{-\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}}$  for each fixed  $p$ . This means

$$\frac{\frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} \frac{1}{\rho(p^{-1}y)^{\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}}} dv(y)}{\frac{1}{\rho(p^{-1}x)^{\frac{4\alpha}{c'_1}}}} \leq C(\alpha), \tag{4.16}$$

for each fixed  $p$ . Observe that  $C$  is independent of  $p$ , one can substitute this inequality to the estimate (4.15) and obtain that (4.15) is bounded by

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^1} C(\alpha) \frac{Q'(p)e^{4u(p)}}{\alpha} dv(p) = C(\alpha).$$

This shows that  $e^{4u}$  is an  $A_1$  weight. Once we have the  $A_1$  property of  $e^{4u}$ , we can apply Theorem 4.4 to it. It completes the proof of Theorem 1.4.  $\square$

Finally, we give the example that shows  $c'_1$  is the critical constant for the validity of the isoperimetric inequality.

**Example 4.6.** Let  $e^u\theta$  be a contact form on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ . And suppose  $u$  is given by the following integral formula.

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(y)}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} c'_1 \delta_0 dv(y), \tag{4.17}$$

where  $\delta_0$  denotes Dirac delta function. It is obvious that the volume form  $e^{4u(x)} = \frac{1}{\rho(x)^4}$  on  $\mathbb{H}^1$  is not an  $A_1$  weight. Moreover, such a CR manifold does not satisfy the isoperimetric inequality. This is because  $e^u\theta = \frac{1}{\rho}\theta$  is the standard contact form on the cylinder  $\mathbb{R} \times S^2 \cong \mathbb{H}^1 \setminus \{(0, 0, 0)\}$ . In particular, one can choose a sequence of rotationally symmetric annular domains  $A(r_0, r)$  on  $\mathbb{H}^1$ ,  $r \rightarrow \infty$ . The area of  $\partial A(r_0, r)$  with respect to  $e^u\theta$  is bounded in  $r$ . But the volume of  $A(r_0, r)$  with respect to  $e^u\theta$  tends to  $\infty$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ . This gives a counterexample to the isoperimetric inequality. In this construction,  $u$  is singular at the origin. But we can use the approximation argument to deal with the issue. By choosing  $\phi_\epsilon(y)$  to

be a sequence of compactly supported smooth functions approximating  $c'_1 \delta_0$ , and defining

$$u_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{c'_1} \int_{\mathbb{H}^1} \log \frac{\rho(y)}{\rho(y^{-1}x)} \phi_\epsilon(y) dv(y), \quad (4.18)$$

we construct a sequence of  $u_\epsilon$  that approximates  $u(x) = \log \frac{1}{\rho(x)}$  locally uniformly away from the origin. Since  $\phi_\epsilon(y)$  are compactly supported, when the annular domains  $A(r_0, r)$ ,  $r \rightarrow \infty$  are chosen such that  $r_0$  is big enough (but fixed), the CR manifold  $(\mathbb{H}^1, e^{u_\epsilon} \theta)$  does not satisfy the isoperimetric inequality.

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