

Exam of M2 course “Introduction à l’analyse géométrique”

20th Dec. 2024. Length: 3 hours. No document allowed.

One recalls the Sobolev embedding theorem:

- $W^{k,p} \subset L^q$ if $\frac{k}{n} - \frac{1}{p} \geq -\frac{1}{q}$,
- $W^{k,p} \subset C^0$ if $\frac{k}{n} - \frac{1}{p} > 0$.

Exercice 1. (Course question) Let (M^n, g) be a fixed compact, connected, oriented Riemannian manifold. Let R^g be the scalar curvature. Fix $p = \frac{2n}{n-2}$. One recalls the formula

$$R^{u^{4/(n-2)}g} = 4 \frac{n-1}{n-2} u^{-p+1} L_g u, \quad \text{where} \quad L_g u = \Delta u + \frac{n-2}{4(n-1)} R^g u.$$

The Yamabe functional is defined by $I(\tilde{g}) = \int_M R^{\tilde{g}} \text{vol}^{\tilde{g}}$ and the Yamabe invariant is defined by

$$\lambda(M, g) = \inf_{\text{Vol}(\tilde{g})=1, \tilde{g} \text{ conformal to } g} I(\tilde{g}).$$

1° Express the Yamabe functional in terms of u . Prove that if the inf in the definition of $\lambda(M, g)$ is attained at a metric \tilde{g} , then $R^{\tilde{g}}$ is constant.

Explain why a direct minimisation method of I is not successful to produce a metric with constant scalar curvature in the conformal class of g .

2° Suppose that on the sphere $\tilde{g} = \varphi^2 g_{S^n}$ has constant scalar curvature. Prove that there exists a conformal transformation f of S^n such that $\tilde{g} = f^* g_{S^n}$.

One recalls the formula:

$$\text{Ric}(g_{S^n}) = \text{Ric}(\tilde{g}) + \varphi^{-1} \left(\nabla d\varphi - (n-1) \frac{|d\varphi|^2}{\varphi} \tilde{g} - (\Delta\varphi) \tilde{g} \right),$$

where all the operators (∇, Δ, \dots) are calculated with respect to \tilde{g} .

3° Come back to the case of a general M but suppose that g is conformally flat with $R^g > 0$. Fix $x_0 \in M$. Explain how one can construct on $M \setminus \{x_0\}$ a metric \hat{g} which is conformal to g , has $R^{\hat{g}} = 0$, and which outside some compact set has a chart diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_R$ with the following asymptotic behaviour when the coordinate y in \mathbb{R}^n goes to infinity:

$$\hat{g} = \gamma(y) \sum_1^n (dy^i)^2, \quad \gamma(y) = 1 + \frac{A}{|y|^{n-2}} + O\left(\frac{1}{|y|^{n-1}}\right).$$

Prove that

$$\lambda(M, g) = \inf_{u \in C_c^\infty(M \setminus \{x_0\})} \frac{\int_{M \setminus \{x_0\}} |du|^2 \text{vol}^{\hat{g}}}{\left(\int_{M \setminus \{x_0\}} u^p \text{vol}^{\hat{g}} \right)^{2/p}}.$$

Explain the role of the constant A in the Yamabe problem (no calculation is requested).

Exercice 2. Let (M^n, g) be a fixed compact, connected, oriented Riemannian manifold. If $\rho > 0$ is small enough (smaller than the injectivity radius of g) then the metric on any ball of radius ρ can be written in normal coordinates as $g = dr^2 + g_r$, where g_r is a metric on the sphere S^{n-1} . One recalls that if the sectional curvature K^g satisfies $-a^2 \leq K^g \leq b^2$, then

$$\frac{\sin^2(br)}{b^2} g_{S^{n-1}} \leq g_r \leq \frac{\sinh^2(ar)}{a^2} g_{S^{n-1}}.$$

Let $p = \frac{2n}{n-2}$ the exponent for the Sobolev embedding $H^1 \subset L^p$, and μ be the Sobolev constant such that on \mathbb{R}^n we have $\|df\|_{L^2}^2 \geq \mu \|f\|_{L^p}^2$ for any compactly supported f .

1° Prove that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $\rho > 0$ such that one can cover M with a finite number of balls B_i of radius ρ with coordinates such that

$$(1 + \varepsilon)^{-1} g_{\mathbb{R}^n} \leq g \leq (1 + \varepsilon) g_{\mathbb{R}^n}.$$

2° Given such covering, prove that there exist smooth nonnegative functions (χ_i) such that (χ_i^2) is a partition of unity subordinate to the covering. Prove that

$$\left(\int_M f^p \text{vol}^g \right)^{2/p} \leq (1 + c\varepsilon) \sum_i \left(\int_{B_i} |\chi_i f|^p |dx|^n \right)^{2/p}$$

where $|dx|^n = dx^1 \cdots dx^n$ is the standard volume form of \mathbb{R}^n in the normal coordinates of B_i , and c is some constant.

3° Prove that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a constant C_ε such that for any function f on M one has

$$\left(\int_M f^p \text{vol}^g \right)^{2/p} \leq (\mu^{-1} + \varepsilon) \int_M |df|^2 \text{vol}^g + C_\varepsilon \int_M f^2 \text{vol}^g.$$

Exercise 3. Let (M^n, g) be a fixed compact, connected, oriented Riemannian manifold.

1° Suppose $p_0, p_1 \in [1, \infty[$ and $\theta \in [0, 1]$. Define p_θ by

$$\frac{1}{p_\theta} = \frac{1 - \theta}{p_0} + \frac{\theta}{p_1}.$$

Prove that for any function f one has the interpolation inequality:

$$\|f\|_{L^{p_\theta}} \leq \|f\|_{L^{p_0}}^{1-\theta} \|f\|_{L^{p_1}}^\theta.$$

2° Prove that for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that for any λ and any eigenfunction f of the Laplacian for the eigenvalue λ one has

$$\|f\|_{C^0} \leq c \lambda^{\frac{n}{4} + \varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^2}.$$

Note. The optimal bound is actually $\lambda^{\frac{n-1}{4}}$ and is obtained on the sphere.

Exercise 4. (*The vortex equation*). Let (S^2, g) be a compact, oriented, Riemannian surface. Let h, φ and ψ be smooth functions on S . We consider the equation for a function f :

$$\Delta f + e^f \varphi - e^{-f} \psi = h.$$

1° Prove the existence and uniqueness of smooth solutions f to this equation under the hypothesis that $\varphi > 0$ and $\psi > 0$.

2° Study the existence and uniqueness of solutions in the case $\psi = 0$ and $\varphi > 0$.

3° We now suppose that $\psi = 0$ and $\varphi \geq 0$, but φ can have zeroes. Moreover we suppose that $\Delta \ln \varphi$ is bounded on S .

- Can you give an example of such function φ on a ball in \mathbb{R}^2 with a zero at the origin?
- Prove that any smooth solution f of the equation satisfies an a priori bound of the type $\sup e^f \varphi \leq C$ for some fixed constant C .
- Study the existence of solutions to the equation.