

# 全スカラー曲率の極限定理

## 小研究会「一般相対論と幾何」

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February 8th, 2024

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## Weak notions of $R \geq K$

Gromov (and Bamler) proved the following.

Gromov (2014 [G1]), Bamler (2016 [B])

Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold and  $g$  a  $C^2$ -Riemannian metric on  $M$ . Suppose that a sequence of  $C^2$ -Riemannian metrics  $g_i$  on  $M$  that converges to  $g$  in the local  $C^0$ -sense. Assume that for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots$   $R(g_i) \geq \kappa$  on  $M$  for some  $\kappa \in C^0(M)$ . Then  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  on  $M$ .

### Definition [G]

For a  $C^0$ -met.  $g$  and a conti. fct.  $\kappa$ , we say “ $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the Gromov sense” if  $\exists C^2$ -Riem. met's  $(g_i)$  s.t.  $R(g_i) \geq \kappa$  and  $g_i \xrightarrow{C^0} g$ .

## Gromov type theorem in even weaker topology

Recently, Lee and Topping proved that non-negativity of scalar curvature is **NOT** preserved on the sphere in dimension at least four in the sense of uniform convergence of Riemannian distance. More precisely,

### Lee–Topping (2022 [LTo])

Let  $n \geq 4$ ,  $f \in C^0(S^n)$ . Then  $\exists (g_i) \subset \mathcal{M}(S^n)$  s.t.  $R(g_i) > 0$  and  $d_{g_i} \rightarrow d_f$  uniformly on  $S^n \times S^n$ , where  $d_f$  is the Riemannian distance of the met.  $e^f g_{std}$ .

In particular,  $(S^n, d_{g_i}) \rightarrow (S^n, d_f)$  in the Gromov-Hausdorff sense as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ .

Moreover,  $\exists C > \infty$  s.t.

$$C^{-1} g_{std} \leq g_i \leq C g_{std}$$

on  $S^n$  for all  $i$ .

Note: We can always choose the function  $f \in C^2(S^n)$  s.t.  $e^f g_{std}$  has negative scalar curvature at **some** point on  $S^n$ . Q.:  $n = 3$ ?

## Weak notions of $R \geq K$

- **[Bamler 2016 [B]]** An alternative proof using Ricci(-DeTurck) flow.
- **[Burkhardt-Guim 2019 [BG]]** Gave a definition of scalar curvature lower bounds of metric tensors with only  $C^0$ -regularity on a closed mfd using Ricci(-DeTurck) flow.  
Note: [BG]  $\Leftrightarrow$  [G].
- **[D.Lee and P. G. LeFloch 2015 [LL]]** Defined “scalar curvature lower bounds in the distributional sense” for  $g \in L_{loc}^\infty \cap W_{loc}^{1,2}$  with  $g^{-1} \in L_{loc}^\infty$ .
- **[W.Jiang, W.Sheng and H.Zhang 2021 [JSZ]]** For  $g \in W^{1,p}(M)$  ( $\dim(M) < p \leq \infty$ ), ( $g$  can be flowed by a RF  $((g(t))_{t \in (0, \exists T)})$  a smooth RF and  $(M, d_{g(t)}) \xrightarrow{GH} (M, d_g)$ ) and “ $R(g) \geq \kappa$  ( $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ ) in the distributional sense” is preserved under the RF.  
Note: As a corollary,  
“ $R(g) \geq \kappa$  ( $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ ) in the distributional sense”  $\Rightarrow R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the sense of [BG] ( $\Leftrightarrow$  [G]).

- **[T.Lamm and M.Simon 2021 [LS]]** For  $g \in L^\infty \cap W^{2,2}(M^4)$  ( $M^4$  : closed 4-mfd) with  $a^{-1}h \leq G \leq ah$  for some  $a > 0$ , the following are equivalent.
  - ▶  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  ( $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ ) in the distributional sense
  - ▶  $\exists (g_{i,0}) \in \mathcal{M}(M^4)$  with  $b^{-1}h \leq g_{i,0} \leq bh$  for some  $1 < b < \infty$ , s.t.  $R(g_{i,0}) \geq \kappa$  and  $g_{i,0} \rightarrow g \in W^{2,2}(M^4)$
  - ▶ the RDF  $(g(t))_{t \in (0,T)}$  of  $g$  constructed in [LS] has  $R(g(t)) \geq \kappa$  for all  $t \in (0, T)$ .
- **[Tian and Wang 2023 [TW]]**  
A precompactness theorem for warped product metrics on  $S^2 \times S^1$ .
- **[Gromov 2014 [G1]]**  
A characterization of  $R \geq 0$  on cube-type polyhedrons. (Rigidity  $+\alpha \cdots$  C. Li [L1, L2])

## Main Theorem 1 (H. 2022 [H1] arXiv:2208.01865)

$M^n$  : a closed (i.e., cpt without boundary)  $n$ -mfd ( $n \geq 3$ ) and  $g$  : a  $C^2$  Riem. met. on  $M$ .  
 $(g_i)$  : a sequence of Ricci solitons on  $M$  (i.e.,  $-2 \operatorname{Ric}(g_i) = \mathcal{L}_{Y_i} g_i - 2\lambda_i g_i$  for some constant  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and a vector field  $Y_i \in \Gamma(TM)$ ) with s.t.  $g_i \xrightarrow{C^0} g$  on  $M$  as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Assume

$$(*) \quad \int_M R(g_i) d\operatorname{vol}_{g_i} \geq \kappa \quad \text{for some constant } \kappa \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Moreover, assume  $\lambda_i \leq C_+$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ) for some constant  $C_+ \in \mathbb{R}$  if  $\kappa \geq 0$  (resp.  $\lambda_i \geq C_-$ ,  $C_- \in \mathbb{R}$  if  $\kappa < 0$ ).

Then  $\int_M R(g) d\operatorname{vol}_g \geq \kappa$ .

## Main Theorem 2 (H. 2022 [H1])

Let  $p > n$ . Let  $M^n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) be a closed mfd. Suppose that a sequence of  $C^2$ -Riem. met's  $g_i$  converges to  $g$  in the  $W^{1,p}$ -sense. Assume that for all  $i$ ,  $R(g_i) \geq 0$  and  $(*)$  as above.

Then  $\int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g \geq \kappa$ .

Moreover, in dimension 3, the assumption " $R(g_i) \geq 0$ " is not needed.

Q.: Is " $R(g_i) \geq 0$ " necessary (in dim.  $\geq 4$ )?

## Direct Corollary (H. 2022 [H1])

Let  $p > n$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the space of all  $C^2$ -Riem. met.s on a closed mfd  $M$ . For any nonnegative conti. fct.  $\sigma : M \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  and  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ , the space

$$\left\{ g \in \mathcal{M} \mid \int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g \geq \kappa, R(g) \geq \sigma \text{ on } M \right\}$$

is  $W^{1,p}$ -closed in  $\mathcal{M}$ .



Rem: In Main thm 2, “ $R_g \geq 0$ ” can be replaced with “ $R_g \geq \sigma$  and  $\text{Vol}(M, g_i) \geq \text{Vol}(M, g)$ ”.

## Corollary

- $p > n$ .
- $M^n$  : closed  $n$ -mfd.
- $g$  :  $C^2$ -Riem. metric on  $M$ .

$(g_i)$  : a sequence of  $C^2$ -Riem. metrics on  $M$  s.t.  $g_i \xrightarrow{W^{1,p}} g$  on  $M$  and  $\text{Vol}(M, g_i) = 1$ .

Assume that  $g$  is a Yamabe metric of  $[g]$  (i.e.,  $Y(M, g) = \inf_{h \in [g]_1} \int_M R(h) d\text{vol}_h = R(g)$ ), and  $\exists \kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\exists \sigma \in C^0(M)$  s.t.  $\forall i$ ,

$$Y(M, g_i) \geq \kappa \text{ and } R(g_i) \geq \sigma \text{ on } M.$$

Then  $Y(M, g) \geq \kappa$ .

More generally, we can also show the following.

### Main Theorem 3 (H. 2022 [H1])

Let  $p > n^2/2$ . Let  $M^n$  be a closed  $n$ -manifold ( $n \geq 2$ ),  $g$  a  $C^2$  Riem. met. on  $M$ , and  $(g_i)$  a sequence of  $C^2$  Riem. met.s on  $M$  s.t.  $g_i$  converges to  $g$  on  $M$  in the  $W^{1,p}$ -sense as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Let  $m$  be a measure on  $M$  and set  $e^{-f} d\text{vol}_g := dm =: e^{-f_i} d\text{vol}_{g_i}$ . Assume the followings.

- (1)  $\exists \Lambda > 0$  s.t.  $f$  and  $f_i$  ( $i \geq 0$ ) are  $\Lambda$ -Lipschitz functions on  $M$ ,
- (2)  $f_i \xrightarrow{C^0} f$  uniformly on  $M$ ,
- (3)  $R(g_i) \geq 0$  on  $M$  for all  $i$ ,
- (4)  $\int_M R(g_i) dm \geq \kappa$  ( $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ ).

Then

$$\int_M R(g) dm \geq \kappa.$$

## Corollary of Main thm 3

Let  $p > n^2/2$ . Let  $M$  be a closed  $n$ -manifold ( $n \geq 2$ ) and  $g$  a  $C^2$  Riemannian metric on  $M$ . Let  $\kappa$  be a **positive** continuous function on  $M$ . Let  $(g_i)$  be a sequence of metrics such that  $g_i \in W^{1,p}$ ,  $R(g_i) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense, and  $g_i$  converges to  $g$  in the  $W^{1,p}$ -sense. Then  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense.

Rem:

Since the limiting metric  $g$  is  $C^2$ , for any test function  $\phi \in C^\infty(M)$ ,  $\langle R_g, \phi \rangle = \int_M R_g \phi \, d\text{vol}_g$ . Therefore,  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense  $\Leftrightarrow R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the classical sense.

## A Gromov type of definition

Let  $M^n$  be a closed  $n$ -manifold ( $n \geq 2$ ) and  $g_0$  a  $W^{1,p}$  ( $p > n^2/2$ ) metric on  $M$ . Let  $\kappa$  be a **positive** continuous function on  $M$ . We say that  $g_0$  is of  $R(g_0) \geq \kappa$  if there exists a sequence of  $W^{1,p}$  metrics ( $g_i$ ) on  $M$  such that

- $R(g_i) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense, and
- $g_i \rightarrow g_0$  with respect to the  $W^{1,q}$  ( $q > n^2/2$ ) topology.

## [G] and this definition

A difference of Gromov's definition and this one is that in this definition each metric in the approximate sequence can have some singularities. For example, on tori, there is NO metric  $g$  with  $R(g) \geq \kappa > 0$  in the Gromov's sense ( $\Leftrightarrow$  [BG]) from the resolution of Geroch's conjecture. In contrast, a metric  $g$  with  $R(g) \geq \kappa > 0$  in the sense of this definition might exist on a torus. ( $\rightsquigarrow$  Schoen's conjecture)

NOTE: The Morrey embedding says

$$C^1 \hookrightarrow W^{1,p} \hookrightarrow C^{0,1-\frac{n}{p}} \hookrightarrow C^0 \quad \text{if } p > n.$$

Therefore the same statement of Main Theorem 2 still holds even though one replace  $W^{1,p}$  ( $p > n$ ) with  $C^{0,\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

On the other hand, in Main Theorem 2, if we weaken the assumption from  $W^{1,p}$  to  $C^0$ , then the same statement (without the assumption  $R(g_i) \geq 0$ ) does **NOT** hold in general. Indeed, we will give some examples in the appendix.

All metrics  $g_i$  in such examples have sign-changing scalar curvatures, i.e., for each  $i$ , there are some points  $x_i, y_i \in M$  s.t.  $R(g_i)(x_i) < 0 < R(g_i)(y_i)$ .

## Questions

In dim 3, Main thm 2 follows from the fact that every orientable closed 3-mfd is parallelizable, and the Bochner identity for 1-forms. (As far as I know, the original idea is due to Lohkamp.)

## Questions

- What is the relation between **parallelizability** and  $W^{1,2}$ -**convergence** of metric tensors?  
Fact  $M$  is closed, parallelizable  $\Rightarrow \int_M R(g_i) d\text{vol}_{g_i} \rightarrow \int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g$  as  $g_i \xrightarrow{W^{1,2}} g$   
 (Rem. Every oriented closed 3-mfd is parallelizable)
- Define  $\int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g \geq \kappa$  for  $g$  with only  $W^{1,p}$  ( $p > n$ )-regularity using a geometric flow and investigate its properties (cf. Burkhardt-Guim's work [BG] and [JSZ]).
- “ $\int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g \geq \kappa$  in a distributional sense” by Lee–LeFloch [LL]  $\Rightarrow$  in the weaker sense defined as in the sense of [G] from Main thm 2 (for  $g \in W^{1,p}$  ( $p > n$ ) with “ $R(g) \geq 0$ ” in the sense of [G])?
- Is  $p > n^2/2$  sharp in Main thm 3? (i.e.,  $\exists$  counterexample for  $p = n^2/2$ ?),  $R(g) \rightsquigarrow$  “weighted scal.” (in the integrand)?

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Fix a smooth background metric  $g_0$  and denote the Levi-Civita connection  $\bar{\nabla}$  of  $g_0$ .

### Definition (Lee–LeFloch, [LL])

For  $g \in L_{loc}^\infty \cap W_{loc}^{1,2}$  with  $g^{-1} \in L_{loc}^\infty$ , for every test function  $u \in C_0^\infty(M)$ , the *scalar curvature distribution*  $R_g$  is defined as

$$\langle R_g, u \rangle := \int_M \left( -V \cdot \bar{\nabla} \left( u \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{d\text{vol}_{g_0}} \right) + F u \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{d\text{vol}_{g_0}} \right) d\text{vol}_{g_0},$$

where  $V = (V^k) \in \Gamma(M)$  is given by  $V^k := g^{ij}\Gamma_{ij}^k - g^{ik}\Gamma_{ji}^j$ ,  $F$  is a function as

$$F := R_{g_0} - \bar{\nabla}_k g^{ij}\Gamma_{ij}^k + \bar{\nabla}_k g^{ik}\Gamma_{ji}^j + g^{ij} \left( \Gamma_{kl}^k \Gamma_{ij}^l - \Gamma_{jl}^k \Gamma_{ik}^l \right)$$

and  $\Gamma_{ij}^k := \frac{1}{2}g^{kl} (\bar{\nabla}_i g_{jl} + \bar{\nabla}_j g_{il} - \bar{\nabla}_l g_{ij})$ .

For  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ , “ $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense” if for any nonnegative test function  $u \in C_0^\infty(M)$ ,  $\langle R_g, u \rangle - \kappa \int_M u d\text{vol}_g \geq 0$ .

## Def (Sormani–Tian–Wang, [STW])

The *total distributional scalar curvature* of metric  $g$  is defined as  $\langle R_g, 1 \rangle$ .

### Remark:

- $\langle R_g, u \rangle$  is independent of the choice of  $g_0$ , as long as  $g$  is in  $C^0 \cap W_{loc}^{1,2}$ .
- For a metric  $g$  with the above regularity, one has

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k \in L_{loc}^2, \quad V \in L_{loc}^2, \quad F \in L_{loc}^1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{d\text{vol}_{g_0}} \in L_{loc}^\infty \cap W_{loc}^{1,2}.$$

Therefore

$$\int_M \left( -V \cdot \bar{\nabla} \left( \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{d\text{vol}_{g_0}} \right) \right) d\text{vol}_{g_0} \quad \text{and} \quad \int_M \left( Fu \frac{d\text{vol}_g}{d\text{vol}_{g_0}} \right) d\text{vol}_{g_0}$$

are both finite.

- BUT the total distributional scalar curvature  $\langle R_g, 1 \rangle$  may be infinite.

### Approximation lemma 1 ([GL, Lemma 4.1])

Let  $M^n$  be a cpt smooth mfd and  $g$  a  $C^0 \cap W^{1,p}$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) metric on  $M$ , then  $\exists (g_\delta)_{\delta>0}$  s.t.  $g_\delta$  converges to  $g$  both in the  $C^0$ -norm and in the  $W^{1,p}$ -norm as  $\delta \rightarrow 0^+$ .

### Approximation lemma 2 ([JSZ, Lemma 2.2])

Let  $M^n$  be a cpt smooth mfd and  $g$  a  $C^0 \cap W^{1,n}$  metric on  $M$ . Let  $(g_\delta)$  be the approximation in the previous lemma. Then,  $\exists \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta_0 = \delta_0(g) > 0$  s.t.

$$|\langle R_{g_\delta}, u \rangle - \langle R_g, u \rangle| \leq \varepsilon \|u\|_{W^{1, \frac{n}{n-1}}(M)}, \quad \forall u \in C^\infty(M), \quad \forall \delta \in (0, \delta_0).$$

- When  $M$  is open, we can construct the following counterexamples.

Fix  $r_0 > 0$ . Consider  $\left( \mathbb{R}^n, g_i := u_i^{\frac{4}{n-2}} \cdot g_{Eucl} \right)$  ( $n \geq 3, i = 2, 3, \dots$ ). Here,  $u_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$u_i := \phi \left( i^{-1} \sin(ir^2) \right) + 1,$$

where  $r(\cdot) := |o - \cdot|_{Eucl}$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a smooth cut-off fct. s.t.  $\phi \equiv 1$  on  $\overline{B_{r_0}} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid r(x) \leq r_0\}$  and  $\phi \equiv 0$  outside of  $B_{2r_0}$ . Then,

- ▶  $u_i$  is smooth positive,  $u_i - 1$  is compactly supported, and  $g_i$  is complete smooth ( $i = 2, 3, \dots$ ),
  - ▶  $g_i \xrightarrow{C^0} g_{Eucl}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  uniformly. **BUT**  $g_i \not\xrightarrow{C^1} g_{Eucl}$ ,
  - ▶  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} R(g_i) d\text{vol}_{g_i} \geq \exists \kappa(n) > 0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} R(g_{Eucl.}) d\text{vol}_{g_{Eucl.}}$ .
- In the same manner, we can also construct the following example on a closed manifold:  
When  $(M, g_0)$  is closed,  $\exists g_i \in \mathcal{M}(M)$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) s.t.  $g_i \xrightarrow{C^0} g_0$  on  $M$ . **BUT**  $g_i \not\xrightarrow{C^1} g_0$  and

$$\int_M R(g_i) d\text{vol}_{g_i} \geq \kappa + \int_M R(g_0) d\text{vol}_{g_0} \quad \text{for some } \kappa = \kappa(n) > 0.$$

## Counterexamples (Continuation)

Consider  $\left( \mathbb{R}^n, g_i := u_i^{\frac{4}{n-2}} \cdot g_{Eucl} \right)$  ( $n \geq 3, i = 2, 3, \dots$ ). Here,  $u_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$u_i := \phi_i (i^{-2} \sin(ir^2)) + 1,$$

where  $\phi_i : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a smooth cut-off fct. s.t.  $\phi_i \equiv 1$  on  $\overline{B_{r_i}}$  ( $r_i := i^{\frac{2}{n+2}}$ ) and  $\phi_i \equiv 0$  outside of  $B_{2r_i}$ . Then,

- $u_i$  is positive smooth ( $i = 2, 3, \dots$ ), and  $r_i \rightarrow \infty$ ,
- $g_i$  complete smooth ( $i = 2, 3, \dots$ ),
- $g_i \xrightarrow{C^1} g_{Eucl.}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  uniformly. **BUT**  $g_i \not\xrightarrow{C^2} g_{Eucl.}$ ,
- $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} R(g_i) d\text{vol}_{g_i} \geq \exists \kappa(n) > 0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} R(g_{Eucl.}) d\text{vol}_{g_{Eucl.}}$ .

## Counterexamples (Continuation)

Consider  $(\mathbb{R}^2, e^{u_i} g_{Eucl})$ , where

$$u_i := e^{-ir^2} \sin\left(-\frac{i}{2}r^2\right) \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Then,

- $g_i$  complete smooth ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ),
- $g_i \xrightarrow{C^1} g_{Eucl.}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  uniformly. **BUT**  $g_i \not\xrightarrow{C^2} g_{Eucl.}$ ,
- $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} R(g_i) d\text{vol}_{g_i} = \frac{128\pi}{25} > 0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} R(g_{Eucl.}) d\text{vol}_{g_{Eucl.}}$ .

**Note:** All metrics  $g_i$  in the above examples have sign-changing scalar curvatures, i.e., for each  $i$ , there are points  $x_i, y_i \in M$  s.t.  $R(g_i)(x_i) < 0 < R(g_i)(y_i)$ .

## Further Questions

### Llarull's Sphere Rigidity Theorem (1998 [LI])

$(M^n, g)$  : a closed spin Riemannian mfd. If  $f : (M, g) \rightarrow (S^n, g_{\text{std}})$  is a dist. decreasing map of non-zero degree and if  $R(g) \geq n(n-1)$ , then  $f$  must be a Riemannian isometry.

### Lee–Tam (2022 [LT]) (A weak top. ver. of Llarull's thm)

$M^n$  : a closed spin mfd and  $g_0$  a  $C^0$ -met. on  $M$  with  $R(g_0) \geq n(n-1)$  in the “Gromov sense”. Suppose there is a 1-Lip. conti. map  $f : (M, d_{g_0}) \rightarrow (S^n, d_{\text{std}})$  with non-zero degree, then  $f$  is a dist. isometry.

- Recall: For a  $C^0$ -met.  $g$  and a conti. fct.  $\kappa$ , we say “ $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the Gromov sense” if  $\exists C^2$ -Riem. met's  $(g_i)$  s.t.  $R(g_i) \geq \kappa$  and  $g_i \xrightarrow{C^0} g$ .
- A stability version of Llarull's theorem (Allen-Bryden-Kazaras [ABK]).



## Further Questions

For example, the following is known.

Green (1963 [Gr])

Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a closed Riem. mfd w/  $(\text{Vol}(M, g))^{-1} \int_M R(g) d\text{vol}_g$  is at least  $n(n-1)$ . Then the conjugate radius  $\text{conj}(M, g)$  of  $(M, g)$  is  $\leq \pi$ . If "=", then  $(M, g)$  has  $\text{sec} \equiv 1$ .

Very Rough Question

Does a weaker topology version of this hold? (This question, of course, also includes what the appropriate statement is.)

## About the new definition

(Shi–Tam, [ST] Corollary 4.11)

Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a compact manifold s.t.  $M$  is the topological torus and  $g$  is smooth away from some compact set  $\Sigma \subset M$  with codimension at least 2. Here, “codimension at least 2” means that  $\text{Vol}(\Sigma_\varepsilon, g) = O(\varepsilon^2)$ , where  $\Sigma_\varepsilon := \{x \in M \mid d_g(x, \Sigma)\} \leq \varepsilon$ . Moreover, assume  $g \in W_{\text{loc}}^{1,p}(M)$  for some  $p > n$ . Suppose  $R(g) \geq 0$  in  $M \setminus \Sigma$ , then  $g$  must be flat.

(Jiang–Sheng–Zhang, [JSZ] Lemma A.1)

Let  $M^n$  be a smooth manifold and  $g \in L^\infty \cap W_{\text{loc}}^{1,p}(M)$  ( $n \leq p \leq \infty$ ) a metric on  $M$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be a closed subset of  $M$ . Assume that  $g \in C^\infty(M \setminus \Sigma)$  (or  $g \in C^2(M \setminus \Sigma)$ ). Suppose  $\mathcal{H}^{n-\frac{p}{p-1}}(\Sigma) < +\infty$  if  $n < p < \infty$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\Sigma) = 0$  if  $p = \infty$ , and  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  on  $M \setminus \Sigma$ . Here,  $\kappa$  is a constant  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  on  $M$  in the distributional sense.

Q. How do we know that a metric  $g$  is of  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense in general?

## About the new definition

(Lee–LeFloch, [LL] Proposition 5.1)

Let  $M_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) be smooth  $n$ -manifolds with boundaries, carrying  $C^2$  (up to boundaries) metrics  $g_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively. Assume  $\exists \Phi : (\partial M_1, g_1) \rightarrow (\partial M_2, g_2)$  an isometry. Let  $(M, g := g_1 \sqcup g_2)$  be the manifold obtained by gluing these along  $\Phi$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be the identification of these boundaries in  $M$ . Let  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) be the (scalar) mean curvatures computed w.r.t.  $g_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively. (Locally, for a Fermi coordinates  $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  where  $x_0 < 0$  corresponds to  $M_1$ ,  $H_1 = g_1(\nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_i, -\partial_0)$  and  $H_2 = g_2(\nabla_{\partial_i} \partial_i, \partial_0)$ .) Assume that  $R(g_1), R(g_2) \geq \kappa$ , and that at each point  $\Sigma$ ,  $H_1 \geq H_2$ . Then,  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  on  $M$  in the distributional sense.

(cf. P. Miao, Positive mass theorem on manifolds admitting corners along a hypersurface, Adv. Theor. Math. Phys. **6** (2002), 1163–1182.)

NOTE: Conversely, if there exists a point  $p \in \Sigma$  at which  $H_1(p) < H_2(p)$ , then we can show that  $R(g) \not\geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense.

## About the new definition

- Burkhardt-Guim [BG] suggested a sequence of metrics such as the one in the definition of Gromov can be taken along a Ricci flow. Roughly speaking, this is based on the fact that Ricci flows preserve the minimum of the scalar curvatures.
- Jiang–Sheng–Zhang [JSZ] proved that such property is also true for every  $W^{1,p}$  ( $p > \dim$ ) metric, and thereby proved that  $R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the distributional sense  $\Rightarrow R(g) \geq \kappa$  in the sense of [G]( $\Leftrightarrow$  [BG]).
- BUT, such a Ricci flow  $g(t)$  is smooth for  $t > 0$ . Therefore, it CANNOT be used to construct a NONTRIVIAL example of the new definition.

## About the new definition

- For example, in the above situation of Lee–LeFloch (or Miao), it is conceivable to use a Ricci flow *with boundary*. However, some convexities of the boundary are required to obtain the above scal-preservation-property. (i.e., Such convexities are necessary to apply a maximum principle.)
- Unfortunately, as far as I know, such convexities are stronger than the Bartnik's boundary condition (i.e., the condition in the above statement of Lee–LeFloch).
- Hence, at least on a torus, this method cannot be used because there is no psc metric on the torus. (i.e., If one can construct a sequence of psc  $C^2$ -metric on  $[0, 1] \times \mathbb{T}^{n-1}$  with Bartnik's boundary conditions, then from the result of Miao, one can also construct a psc metric on the whole torus  $\mathbb{T}^n$  by gluing them. However, such a metric cannot exist from the resolution of Geroch's conjecture.)

## About the new definition

- RF on mfd with boundary (related literatures)
  - ▶ T.-K. A. Chow, T.-K.A.Chow, Ricci flow on manifolds with boundary with arbitrary initial metric, J. Reine Angew. Math. (Crelles Journal), **2022** (2022), 159–216.
  - ▶ J. C. Cortissoz, On the Ricci flow in rotationally symmetric manifolds with boundary, Dissertation (Cornell University), 2004.
  - ▶ J. C. Cortissoz, The Ricci flow on the two ball with a rotationally symmetric metric, arXiv:0509128v2 (2007).
  - ▶ J. C. Cortissoz, Three-manifolds of positive Ricci curvature and convex weakly umbilic boundary, arXiv:0704.2081 (2007).
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  - ▶ P. Gianniotis, The Ricci flow on manifolds with boundary, J. Differential Geom. **104** (2016), 291–324.
  - ▶ A. Pulemotov, Quasilinear parabolic equations and the Ricci flow on manifolds with boundary, J. Reine Angew. Math. **683** (2013), 97–118.

## About the new definition

Q.:  $\exists$  PSC metrics on a torus with prescribed singular set of non-integer dim.?

- PSC metrics with prescribed singularities on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{S}^n$  (related literatures)
  - ▶ T. Ju and J. Viaclovsky, Conformally prescribed scalar curvature on orbifolds, Commun. Math. Phys. **398** (2023), 877–923.
  - ▶ R. Mazzeo and F. Pacard, A construction of singular solutions for a semilinear elliptic equation using asymptotic analysis, J. Differential Geom. **44** (1996), 331–370.
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  - ▶ J. Viaclovsky, Monopole metrics and the orbifold Yamabe problem, Ann. Inst. Fourier **60** (2010), 2503–2543.