

On Hardy's and Caffarelli, Kohn, Nirenberg's inequalities.

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Hoai-Minh Nguyen
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne EPFL, Switzerland

joint with Marco Squassina

- 1 Known results related to Hardy's and Caffarelli, Kohn, Nirenberg's (CKN's) inequalities
- 2 CKN's inequalities for fractional Sobolev spaces
- 3 New perspectives of Hardy's and CKN's inequalities in Sobolev spaces.

Section 1: Known results related to Hardy's and CKN's inequalities

Hardy's inequalities

1 For $1 \leq p < d$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^p dx \quad \forall u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

2 For $p > d$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^p dx \quad \forall u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}).$$

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Standard proof is based on integration by parts.

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Standard proof is based on integration by parts.

Let $p \geq 1$, $q \geq 1$, $\tau > 0$, $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$. One has

$$\| |\chi|^\gamma \mathbf{u} \|_{L^\tau(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \| |\chi|^\alpha \nabla \mathbf{u} \|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)}^\alpha \| |\chi|^\beta \mathbf{u} \|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)}^{(1-\alpha)} \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

under the following conditions

$$\frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d} = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha - 1}{d} \right) + (1 - \alpha) \left(\frac{1}{q} + \frac{\beta}{d} \right),$$

with $\gamma = \alpha\sigma + (1 - \alpha)\beta$,

$$0 \leq \alpha - \sigma \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\alpha - \sigma \leq 1 \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d} = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha - 1}{d} \right),$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d}, \quad \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha}{d}, \quad \frac{1}{q} + \frac{\beta}{d} > 0.$$

Comments on the CKN inequality

- This inequality is related to Gagliardo-Nirenberg's inequality when $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$, Gagliardo RM 59, Nirenberg ASNSP 59.
- A full story of Gagliardo-Nirenberg's inequality for fractional Sobolev spaces is due to Brezis and Mironescu AIHP 18.
- The proof of CKN's inequality is based on
 - Integration by parts and symmetrization in the case $0 \leq \alpha - \sigma \leq 1$.
 - Interpolation & the application of the previous case when $\alpha - \sigma > 1$ and $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{\gamma}{d} \neq \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha-1}{d}$
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Section 2: CKN's inequality for fractional Sobolev spaces

CKN's inequality for fractional Sobolev spaces

- **Goals:** extending CKN's inequality for fractional Sobolev spaces and searching for variants of Hardy's inequality when $p > d$. Recall

$$|u|_{W^{s,p}}^p := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{d+sp}} dx dy \text{ for } u \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

- **Known results:** (Hardy's type-inequalities):
 - Mazya & Shaposhnikova JFA 02 (harmonic analysis, extension technique), Frank & Seiringer JFA 08 (ground state representation formula): $\alpha = 1$, $\tau = p$, $\alpha = 0$ and $\gamma = -s$.
 - Abdellaoui & Bentifour JFA 17 (Picone's inequality): $\alpha = 1$, $\tau = pd/(d - sp)$, $-(d - sp)/p < \alpha = \gamma < 0$, and $1 < p < d/s$.
 - Sharp constant and the remainder are considered by Frank & Seiringer and Abdellaoui & Bentifour.
- Notation:

$$|u|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^p = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|x|^{\frac{\alpha p}{2}} |y|^{\frac{\alpha p}{2}} |u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{d+sp}} dx dy.$$

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Statement of the results

Let $p > 1$, $q \geq 1$, $\tau > 0$, $0 < s < 1$, $0 < a \leq 1$, $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ be s.t.

$$\frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d} = a \left(\frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha - s}{d} \right) + (1 - a) \left(\frac{1}{q} + \frac{\beta}{d} \right), \quad (2.1)$$

and, with $\gamma = a\sigma + (1 - a)\beta$,

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Theorem (Ng. & Squassina JFA 17)

Assume (2.1) and (2.2). If $1/\tau + \gamma/d > 0$ then

$$\| |x|^\gamma u \|_{L^\tau(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^a \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)}^{(1-a)} \quad \forall u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

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Our approach

- Starting point: Sobolev's and Poincare's inequalities; NO integration by parts.
- Inspiration: harmonic analysis; however, instead of localizing frequency, we localize space variables.
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A new proof of Hardy's inequality

Recall Hardy's inequality, for $1 \leq p < d$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^p dx \quad \text{for } u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Here is the proof. Set

$$C_k := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : 2^k \leq |x| < 2^{k+1}\}.$$

By Poincaré's inequality, we have

$$\int_{C_k} \left| u - \int_{C_k} u \right|^p dx \leq C 2^{kp} \int_{C_k} |\nabla u|^p dx,$$

which yields

$$\int_{C_k} \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \sim 2^{-kp} \int_{C_k} |u|^p \leq C \int_{C_k} |\nabla u|^p dx + C 2^{k(d-p)} \left| \int_{C_k} u \right|^p.$$

By Poincaré's inequality, we also have

$$\left| \int_{C_{k+1}} u - \int_{C_k} u \right|^p dx \leq C 2^{kp} \int_{C_k \cup C_{k+1}} |\nabla u|^p dx.$$

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$$C_k := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : 2^k \leq |x| < 2^{k+1}\}.$$

By Poincaré's inequality, we have

$$\int_{C_k} \left| u - \int_{C_k} u \right|^p dx \leq C 2^{kp} \int_{C_k} |\nabla u|^p dx,$$

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$$\int_{C_k} \frac{|u|^p}{|x|^p} dx \sim 2^{-kp} \int_{C_k} |u|^p \leq C \int_{C_k} |\nabla u|^p dx + C 2^{k(d-p)} \left| \int_{C_k} u \right|^p.$$

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Proof of CKN's inequality for the main case

Let $p > 1$, $q \geq 1$, $\tau > 0$, $0 < s < 1$, $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ be s.t.

$$\frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d} = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha - s}{d} \right) + (1 - \alpha) \left(\frac{1}{q} + \frac{\beta}{d} \right), \quad (2.3)$$

and, with $\gamma = \alpha\sigma + (1 - \alpha)\beta$,

$$0 \leq \alpha - \sigma \leq s \quad (2.4)$$

Theorem

Assume (2.3) and (2.4). We have, for $1/\tau + \gamma/d > 0$,

$$\| |x|^\gamma u \|_{L^\tau(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^\alpha \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)}^{(1-\alpha)} \quad \forall u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

$$\|u\|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^p = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|x|^{\frac{\alpha p}{2}} |y|^{\frac{\alpha p}{2}} |u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{d+sp}} dx dy.$$

Lemma (Gagliardo-Nirenberg's inequality)

Let $d \geq 1$, $0 < s < 1$, $p > 1$, $q \geq 1$, $\tau > 0$, and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ be s.t.

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{s}{d} \right) + (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{q}.$$

We have

$$\|u\|_{L^\tau(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|u\|_{W^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^\alpha \|u\|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)}^{1-\alpha} \quad \text{for } u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

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Lemma

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Let $\lambda > 0$, $0 < r < R$, and set $D := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \lambda r < |x| < \lambda R\}$. Then, $\forall u \in C^1(\bar{D})$,

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Proof. By scaling, one can assume that $\lambda = 1$. Let $0 < s' \leq s$ and $\tau' \geq \tau$ be such that

$$\frac{1}{\tau'} = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{s'}{d} \right) + (1 - \alpha) \frac{1}{q}.$$

From the previous lemma, we derive that

$$\left\| u - \int_{\mathbb{D}} u \right\|_{L^{\tau'}(\mathbb{D})} \leq C |u|_{W^{s',p}(\mathbb{D})}^{\alpha} \|u\|_{L^q(\mathbb{D})}^{1-\alpha}.$$

Since $|u|_{W^{s',p}(\mathbb{D})} \leq C |u|_{W^{s,p}(\mathbb{D})}$, $\|u\|_{L^{\tau}(\mathbb{D})} \leq C \|u\|_{L^{\tau'}(\mathbb{D})}$, the conclusion follows. \square

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Proof of CKN's inequality

Recall $\mathbb{C}_k := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : 2^k \leq |x| < 2^{k+1}\}$. We have, ($\alpha - \sigma \geq 0$ + balance law),

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \geq a \left(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{s}{d} \right) + (1-a) \frac{1}{q}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{\mathbb{C}_k} |u - \int_{\mathbb{C}_k} u|^\tau dx \right)^{1/\tau} \\ & \leq C \left(2^{-(d-sp)k} |u|_{W^{s,p}(\mathbb{C}_k)}^p \right)^{a/p} \left(\int_{\mathbb{C}_k} |u|^q dx \right)^{(1-a)/q}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the balance law, we derive that

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}_k} |x|^{\gamma\tau} |u|^\tau dx \leq C |u|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{C}_k)}^{\alpha\tau} \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(\mathbb{C}_k)}^{(1-a)\tau} + C 2^{(\gamma\tau+d)k} \left| \int_{\mathbb{C}_k} u \right|^\tau, \quad (2.5)$$

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we obtain, with $c = 2/(1 + 2^{\gamma\tau+d}) < 1$,

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$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x|^{\gamma\tau} |u|^\tau dx \leq C |u|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(U_{k=m}^\infty C_k)}^{\alpha\tau} \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(U_{k=m}^\infty C_k)}^{(1-\alpha)\tau},$$

since $\alpha/p + (1-\alpha)/q \geq 1/\tau$ thanks to the fact $\alpha - \sigma \leq s$. □

Combining (2.5) and (2.6) yields

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |x|^{\gamma\tau} |u|^\tau dx \leq C \sum_k |u|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(C_k \cup C_{k+1})}^{\alpha\tau} \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(C_k \cup C_{k+1})}^{(1-\alpha)\tau}.$$

One has, for $s \geq 0$, $t \geq 0$ with $s + t \geq 1$, and for $x_k \geq 0$ and $y_k \geq 0$,

$$\sum_{k=m}^n x_k^s y_k^t \leq \left(\sum_{k=m}^n x_k \right)^s \left(\sum_{k=m}^n y_k \right)^t.$$

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On the limiting case

Theorem (Ng. & Squassina JFA 17)

Let $d \geq 1$, $p > 1$, $0 < s < 1$, $q \geq 1$, $\tau > 1$, $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that (2.3) holds and

$$0 \leq \alpha - \sigma \leq s.$$

Let $u \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, and $0 < r < R$. We have

i) if $1/\tau + \gamma/d = 0$ and $\text{supp } u \subset B_R$, then

$$\left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|x|^{\gamma\tau}}{\ln^\tau(2R/|x|)} |u|^\tau dx \right)^{1/\tau} \leq C |u|_{W^{s,p,\alpha}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^\alpha \| |x|^\beta u \|_{L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)}^{(1-\alpha)},$$

ii) if $1/\tau + \gamma/d = 0$ and $\text{supp } u \cap B_r = \emptyset$, then

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Section 3: New perspectives of Hardy's and Caffarelli, Kohn, Nirenberg's inequalities

Motivations

Define, for $d \geq 1$ and $p \geq 1$,

$$I_\delta(\mathbf{u}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\delta^p}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^{d+p}} \, d\mathbf{x} \, d\mathbf{y} \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

$|u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y})| > \delta$

1 I_δ is related to the semi-norm of $W^{s,q}(\mathbb{R}^d)$:

$$|u|_{W^{s,q}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^q := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y})|^q}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^{d+sq}} \, d\mathbf{x} \, d\mathbf{y}.$$

2 I_δ appears in an estimate for the topological degree due to Bourgain, Brezis, & Ng., CRAS 05, and Ng. JAM 07

$$|\deg u| \leq C_d \int_{S^d} \int_{S^d} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^{2d}} \, d\mathbf{x} \, d\mathbf{y}, \quad \forall u \in C(S^d, S^d),$$

$|u(\mathbf{x}) - u(\mathbf{y})| \geq \ell_d$

where $\ell_d = \sqrt{2 + \frac{2}{d+1}}$.

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$$I_\delta(\mathbf{u}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\delta^p}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|^{d+p}} \, d\mathbf{x} \, d\mathbf{y} \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

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Theorem (Ng. JFA 06, Bourgain & Ng. CRAS 06)

Let $d \geq 1$, $1 < p < +\infty$ and $u \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Then

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$$I_\delta(u) \leq C_{d,p} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^p \quad \forall u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

2

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} I_\delta(u) = K_{d,p} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\nabla u|^p \quad \forall u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

3 If

$$\liminf_{\delta \rightarrow 0} I_\delta(u) < +\infty,$$

then $u \in W^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^d)$.

Related works: Bourgain, Brezis, & Mironescu 01, Davila 02.

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Theorem (Ng. CVPDE, 11)

Let $p \geq 1$, Q be a cube or a ball of \mathbb{R}^d . Then $\exists C > 0$ s.t. for all $\delta > 0$:

$$\iint_{Q^2} |u(x) - u(y)|^p dx dy \leq C \left(|Q|^{\frac{d+p}{d}} \iint_{\substack{Q^2 \\ |u(x)-u(y)| > \delta}} \frac{\delta^p}{|x-y|^{d+p}} dx dy + \delta^p |Q|^2 \right).$$

A variant of Sobolev's inequality also holds for I_δ for $1 < p < d$.

Question: How's about Hardy's and Caffarelli, Kohn, Nirenberg's inequalities?

Variants of Hardy's inequalities

Theorem (Ng. & Squassina JAM, to appear)

Let $d \geq 1$, $p \geq 1$, $0 < r < R$, and $u \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^d)$. We have

i) if $1 \leq p < d$ and $\text{supp } u \subset B_R$, then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{|u(x)|^p}{|x|^p} dx \leq C (I_\delta(u) + R^{d-p} \delta^p),$$

ii) if $p > d$ and $\text{supp } u \subset \mathbb{R}^d \setminus B_r$, then

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Similar results hold for the case $p = d$.

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Theorem (Ng. & Squassina JAM, to appear)

Let $d \geq 2$, $1 < p < d$, $\tau > 0$, $0 < r < R$, and $u \in L^p_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Assume that

$$\frac{1}{\tau} + \frac{\gamma}{d} = \frac{1}{p} + \frac{\alpha - 1}{d} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha - \gamma \leq 1.$$

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i) if $d - p + p\alpha > 0$ and $\text{supp } u \subset B_R$, then

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- Variants for $p = d \geq 2$ and also for $p = d = 1$ hold.
- Variants for $0 < \alpha < 1$ hold.

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Thank you for your attention!