

## The singular Nirenberg problem

I will consider the problem of prescribing the Gaussian curvature (under pointwise conformal change of the metric) on surfaces with conical singularities. This question has been first raised by Troyanov in [6] and it is a generalization of the Kazdan-Warner problem for regular surfaces, known as the Nirenberg problem on the sphere.

Answer this question amounts to solve the following differential problem on a surface  $\Sigma$

$$(1) \quad -\Delta_g u + 2K_g = 2Ke^u - 4\pi \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j \delta_{p_j},$$

where  $K_g$  is the Gaussian curvature of the background metric  $g$ ,  $K$  is the curvature we want to prescribe,  $p_j$  are the singular points and  $\alpha_j$  the orders of the singularities of the new metric we are looking for:  $\tilde{g} = e^u g$ , verifying  $K_{\tilde{g}} = K$ .

This equation has been studied first in the case  $K > 0$ . I will present some new results (obtained in collaboration with R. López-Soriano) in the case  $K$  sign-changing.

When  $\Sigma = S^2$ , under some mild conditions on the nodal set of  $K$  we derived some sufficient conditions on  $K$  and on the singularities for the existence of solutions of (1). Even if we do not expect these conditions to be necessary, I will explain why they are somehow sharp.