

Hardy type inequalities on balls*

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Hardy inequality for $n \geq 3$

$$\left\| \frac{f}{|x|} \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq \frac{2}{n-2} \|\nabla f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}, \quad f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

- A special case of Pitt's inequality (Beckner, Proc. AMS, 2008)
- Uncertainty principle lemma (Reed & Simon, Methods of MMP II, 1975)
- Dilational characterization (Sasaki & T. O, Commun. Contemp. Math., 2009)

Hardy inequality for $n = 2$ (Edmunds & Triebel, Math. Nachr., 1999) :

$$\left\| \frac{f}{|x|(1 + |\log |x||)} \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)} \leq C \|f\|_{H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)}, \quad f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

an equivalent form :

$$\left\| \frac{f}{|x|(1 + |\log |x||)} \right\|_{L^2(B_1)} \leq C \|f\|_{H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)}, \quad f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$$

where $B_R \equiv \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; |x| < R\}$, $R > 0$.

Hardy inequality on $B_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2; |x| < 1\}$

$$\left\| \frac{f}{|x| |\log |x||} \right\|_{L^2(B_1)} \leq 2 \|\nabla f\|_{L^2(B_1)}, \quad f \in C_0^\infty(B_1)$$

Leray, J. Math. Pures Appl., 1933.

Ladyzhenskaya, "The mathematical theory of viscous incompressible flow," 1969.

By density, the inequality holds for all $f \in H_0^1(B_1)$.

Question

1. $H^1(B_R)$ vs $H_0^1(B_R)$? ... Boundary behavior of functions
2. $\|f\|_{H^1}$ vs $\|\nabla f\|_{L^2}$? ... Homogeneous norm control

Theorem 1. $n \geq 3, R > 0.$

(1)

$$\left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{2}{n-2} \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f(x) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

holds for all $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^n).$

(2)

$$\left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2} |f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{2}{n-2} \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f(x) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

holds for all $f \in H_0^1(B_R)$ and fails for some $f \in H^1(B_R).$

Theorem 2. $n = 2, R > 0.$

(1)

$$\left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2 \left| \log \frac{R}{|x|} \right|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx \right) \leq 2 \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f(x) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

holds for all $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2).$

(2)

$$\left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2 \left| \log \frac{R}{|x|} \right|^2} |f(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \leq 2 \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f(x) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

holds for all $f \in H_0^1(B_R)$ and fails for some $f \in H^1(B_R).$

Theorem 3. $n = 2$, $R > 0$, $f \in H^1(B_R)$. Then

$$\frac{f}{|x| \left| \log \frac{R}{|x|} \right|} \in L^2(B_R) \iff f \in H_0^1(B_R).$$

Theorem 4. $n = 2$

$$\left(\int_{B_1} \frac{|f(x)|^2}{(1 + |x|)^2 (1 + |\log |x||)^2} dx \right)^{1/2} \leq C \|\nabla f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)}$$

fails for some $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$.

Proof of Theorem 1 (1)

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx = \int_0^R r^{n-3} \int_{S^{n-1}} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \\
& = \left[\frac{1}{n-2} r^{n-2} \int_{S^{n-1}} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) \right]_{r=0}^{r=R} \\
& \quad - \frac{1}{n-2} \int_0^R r^{n-2} \left(\frac{d}{dr} \int_{S^{n-1}} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) \right) dr \\
& = - \frac{2}{n-2} \int_0^R r^{n-2} \operatorname{Re} \int_{S^{n-1}} (f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)) \omega \cdot \overline{\nabla f(r\omega)} d\sigma(\omega) dr \\
& \leq \frac{2}{n-2} \left(\int_0^R r^{n-3} \int_{S^{n-1}} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \right)^{1/2} \\
& \quad \cdot \left(\int_0^R r^{n-1} \int_{S^{n-1}} |\omega \cdot \nabla f(r\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \right)^{1/2} \\
& = \frac{2}{n-2} \left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 2 (1)

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2 |\log(R/|x|)|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx = \int_0^R \frac{1}{r (\log(R/r))^2} \int_{S^1} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \\
& = \left[\frac{1}{\log(R/r)} \int_{S^1} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) \right]_{r=0}^{r=R} \\
& \quad - \int_0^R \frac{1}{\log(R/r)} \left(\frac{d}{dr} \int_{S^1} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) \right) dr \\
& = -2 \int_0^R \frac{1}{\log(R/r)} \operatorname{Re} \int_{S^1} (f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)) \omega \cdot \overline{\nabla f(r\omega)} d\sigma(\omega) dr \\
& \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{where the boundary value at } r = R \text{ vanishes since} \\ 0 \leq \log \frac{R}{r} = \log \left(1 + \left(\frac{R}{r} - 1 \right) \right) \leq \frac{R}{r} - 1 = \frac{R-r}{r}, \\ |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 \leq \|\nabla f\|_{L^\infty}^2 |R-r|^2. \end{array} \right) \\
& \leq 2 \left(\int_0^R \frac{1}{r (\log(R/r))^2} \int_{S^1} |f(r\omega) - f(R\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_0^R r \int_{S^1} |\omega \cdot \nabla f(r\omega)|^2 d\sigma(\omega) dr \right)^{1/2} \\
& = 2 \left(\int_{B_R} \frac{1}{|x|^2 |\log(R/|x|)|^2} \left| f(x) - f\left(R \frac{x}{|x|}\right) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{B_R} \left| \frac{x}{|x|} \cdot \nabla f(x) \right|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 3. Let $f \in H^1(B_R)$ satisfy $f/(|x|\log(R/|x|)) \in L^2(B_R)$.

Then $\frac{f}{|x| - R} \in L^2(B_R)$. Let $\zeta \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ satisfy $0 \leq \zeta \leq 1$,

$\zeta = 0$ on $(-\infty, 1/2]$, $\zeta = 1$ on $[1, \infty)$. Define $\rho_j(x) = \zeta(j(1 - |x|/R))$.

Then $\rho_j = 1$ on $\overline{B_{R(1-1/j)}}$ and $\rho_j = 0$ on $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B_{R(1-1/2j)}$,

$$|(\nabla \rho_j)(x)| \leq \frac{\|r\zeta'\|_\infty}{R - |x|} \chi_{B_{R(1-\frac{1}{2j})} \setminus \overline{B_{R(1-\frac{1}{j})}}}(x).$$

Therefore, $\text{supp}(\rho_j f)$ is compact in B_R , $\rho_j f \rightarrow f$, $\rho_j \nabla f \rightarrow \nabla f$,

$(\nabla \rho_j)f \rightarrow 0$ in $L^2(B_R)$. By mollifying $\rho_j f$, we see that $f \in H_0^1(B_R)$.

Proof of Theorem 4. Define $f_j(x) = \varphi_j(|x|)$, where

$$\varphi_j(r) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |\log r| \leq j, \\ 2 - |\log r|/j & \text{if } j < |\log r| < 2j, \\ 0 & \text{if } |\log r| \geq 2j. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1} \frac{1}{(1+|x|)^2(1+|\log|x||)^2} |f_j(x)|^2 dx &= 2\pi \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(1+r)^2(1+|\log r|)^2} |\varphi_j(r)|^2 r dr \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{e^{2t}(1+e^{-t})^2(1+t)^2} |\varphi_j(e^{-t})|^2 dt \\ &\geq 2\pi \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(e^t+1)^2(1+t)^2} |\varphi_j(e^{-t})|^2 dt \geq \frac{2\pi}{(e+1)^2} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(1+t)^2} dt = \frac{2\pi}{(e+1)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

while, with $\psi_j(t) = \varphi_j(e^{-t})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla f_j\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)}^2 &= 2\pi \int_0^\infty |\varphi_j'(r)|^2 r dr = 2\pi \int_{-\infty}^\infty |\varphi_j'(e^{-t})|^2 e^{-2t} dt \\ &= 2\pi \int_{-\infty}^\infty |\psi_j'(t)|^2 dt = 4\pi \int_j^{2j} \frac{1}{j^2} dt = \frac{4\pi}{j} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } j \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$