



The Yamabe flow on incomplete manifolds

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Abstract. This article is concerned with developing an analytic theory for second-order nonlinear parabolic equations on singular manifolds. Existence and uniqueness of solutions in an L_p -framework are established by maximal regularity tools. These techniques are applied to the Yamabe flow. It is proven that the Yamabe flow admits a unique local solution within a class of incomplete initial metrics.

1. Introduction

Nowadays, there is a rising interest in the study of differential operators on manifolds with singularities, which is motivated by a variety of applications from applied mathematics, geometry and topology. All the work is more or less related to the seminal paper by Kondrat'ev [26]. Among the tremendous amount of the literature on this topic, I would like to mention two lines of research on the study of differential operators of Fuchs type, which have been introduced independently by Melrose [36, 37], Nazaikinskii et al. [38], Schulze [45, 46] and Schulze and Seiler [47].

One important direction of research on singular analysis is connected with the so-called b -calculus and its generalizations on manifolds with cylindrical ends. See [36, 37]. Many authors have been very active in this direction.

Research along another line, known as cone differential operators, has also been known for a long time. Operators in this line of research are modeled on conical manifolds. During the recent decade, many mathematicians have applied analytic tools like bounded imaginary powers, \mathcal{H}^∞ -calculus and \mathcal{R} -sectoriality, c.f. Sect. 4.1 for precise definitions, to study the closed extensions of cone differential operators in Mellin–Sobolev spaces and to investigate many interesting nonlinear parabolic problems on conical manifolds. See for instance [13, 42–44]. A comparison between the b -calculus and the cone algebra can be found in [27].

There has been more recent progress in understanding elliptic operators on manifolds with higher-order singularities, e.g., manifolds with edge ends. The reader may refer to [7, 30–33, 46–48] for more details. The amount of research on differential

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operators of Fuchs type is enormous, and thus it is literally impossible to list all the work.

Geometric evolution equations by now are a well-established tool in the analysis of geometric and topological problems, and thus forms probably the most important class of differential equations on Riemannian manifolds. In this article, our focus will mainly be the Yamabe flow on incomplete manifolds. As an alternative approach to the Yamabe problem, Hamilton introduced the Yamabe flow, which asks whether one can drive a given metric by this flow conformally to a metric with constant scalar curvature. More precisely, on a Riemannian manifold (M, g_0) , the Yamabe flow studies the conformal evolution of metrics driven by the following rule.

$$\partial_t g = -R_g g \text{ on } M_T, \quad g(0) = g_0 \text{ on } M, \tag{1.1}$$

where R_g is the scalar curvature with respect to the metric g , and $M_T := M \times [0, T]$. Let $g = u^{\frac{4}{m-2}} g_0$. This flow is equivalent to the following scalar quasilinear parabolic equation.

$$\partial_t u = u^{-\frac{4}{m-2}} \Delta_{g_0} u - c(m) u^{\frac{m-6}{m-2}} R_{g_0} \text{ on } M_T, \quad u(0) = \mathbf{1}_M \text{ on } M, \tag{1.2}$$

where $c(m) := \frac{m-2}{4(m-1)}$. On a compact closed manifold (M, g_0) , the short-time existence of the Yamabe flow is just a consequence of the positivity of the conformal factor u and the compactness of (M, g_0) . Nevertheless, the theory for the Yamabe flow on non-compact manifolds is far from being settled. Even local well-posedness is only established for restricted situations. Its difficulty can be observed from the fact that, losing the compactness of (M, g_0) , Eq. (1.2) can exhibit degenerate and singular behaviors simultaneously. The investigation of the Yamabe flow on non-compact manifolds was initiated by Ma and An [28]. Later, conditions on extending local in time solutions were explored in [29]. In [28], the authors showed that for a complete closed non-compact Riemannian manifold (M, g_0) with Ricci curvature bounded from below and with a uniform bound on the scalar curvature in the sense that:

$$\text{Ric}_{g_0} \geq -K g_0, \quad |R_{g_0}| \leq C,$$

Equation (1.1) has short-time solution on $M \times [0, T(g_0)]$ for some $T(g_0) > 0$. If in addition $R_{g_0} \leq 0$, then this solution is global. Here Ric_{g_0} is the Ricci curvature tensor with respect to g_0 . The proof is based on the widely used technique consisting of exhausting M with a sequence of compact manifolds with boundary and studying the solutions to a sequence of initial boundary value problems. Then uniform estimates of these solutions and their gradients are obtained by means of the maximum principle on manifolds with Ricci curvature bounded from below in the sense given above.

The more challenging case is to study the Yamabe flow on incomplete manifolds. Bahuaud and Vertman started the research in this direction in [8] by considering the Yamabe flow on a compact manifold with asymptotically simple edge singularities. Their proof for short-time existence is based on a careful analysis of the mapping

property of the heat operator between Hölder spaces defined with respect to an edge metric. Very recently, the same authors established the long-time existence of the Yamabe flow on edge manifolds in [9].

Another line of work on the Yamabe flow on geodesically incomplete manifolds is to extend the problem onto manifolds with boundary. Brendle in [10] commenced the exploration of existence and convergence results on compact manifolds with vanishing mean curvature H_g on the boundary, i.e.,

$$\partial_t g = -R_g g \text{ on } M_T, \quad H_g = 0 \text{ on } \partial M_T, \quad g(0) = g_0 \text{ on } M. \tag{1.3}$$

Under the conformal change $g = u^{\frac{4}{m-2}} g_0$, H_g is related to H_{g_0} by

$$H_g = \frac{2}{m-2} u^{-\frac{m}{m-2}} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_0} + \frac{m-2}{2} H_{g_0} u \right), \tag{1.4}$$

where \mathbf{n}_0 is the unit inward normal vector with respect to the metric g_0 , cf. [19, Formula (1.4)]. Then the boundary condition $H_g \equiv 0$ becomes the homogeneous Neumann condition $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_0} = 0$.

I feel it worthwhile mentioning the studies of the well-known Ricci flow on incomplete manifolds. So far the research in this line mainly focuses on dimension two, in which case the Ricci flow coincides with the Yamabe flow up to a constant multiple. A remarkable feature of the Ricci flow for incomplete metrics is the loss of uniqueness. One important new notion of solutions is the instantaneously complete solutions, which originally appeared in a paper by DiBenedetto and Diller [16], and was later simplified and generalized by Giesen and Topping. To describe it in more details, we look at the Ricci flow on a possibly incomplete manifold (M, g_0) .

$$\partial_t g = -2\text{Ric}_g \text{ on } M_T, \quad g(0) = g_0 \text{ on } M. \tag{1.5}$$

A solution $(M, g(t))$ is called instantaneously complete solution if for all $t > 0$ $(M, g(t))$ is complete. Many aspects of instantaneously complete solutions have been investigated in a series of papers by Giesen and Topping [20–22] and Topping [52, 53].

Another line of research on the Ricci flow, which indicates the loss of uniqueness of solutions to (1.5) on incomplete manifolds, studies those solutions starting from an incomplete metric and remaining incomplete for all time. In [24, 34, 55], the analysis of the Ricci flow on manifolds with conical singularities was carried out. Roughly speaking, a conical metric near an isolated conical point can be expressed in polar coordinates $(t, x) \in (0, 1] \times S^1$ by

$$g_0 = dt^2 + t^{2\tau} dx^2 + \kappa,$$

where κ is a 2-tensor decaying like t^τ with $\tau > 1$. Note that the conical point $r = 0$ stays at a finite distance, and thus (M, g_0) is incomplete. The existence of both instantaneously complete solutions and conical solutions indicates the nonuniqueness of the solutions to the Ricci flow. A survey on the Ricci flow for incomplete metrics

up to the year 2011 can be found in [23]. To the best of the author's knowledge, the only results on Ricci flow on incomplete manifolds in higher dimension is by Vertman [54].

In 2014, the author of this article established an existence and uniqueness result for the Yamabe flow on singular manifolds under some mild initial regularity assumption. The result [50, Theorem 4.4] shows how to construct examples of the Yamabe flow starting at a metric with unbounded scalar curvature. The work in the current article extends the result in [50] and shows that the Yamabe flow can start with a class of incomplete metrics. This class includes examples different from those that have been studied for the Yamabe flow and the Ricci flow so far; the results are established via a totally different approach from the previous literature. As a first example, we look at the following theorem.

THEOREM 1.1. *Suppose that (\mathcal{M}, g_0) is a compact manifold with boundary $\partial\mathcal{M} = \partial_0\mathcal{M} \sqcup \partial_1\mathcal{M}$, and $\partial_i\mathcal{M}$ are both open. Let $(\mathbf{M}, g_0) := (\mathcal{M} \setminus \partial_0\mathcal{M}, g_0|_{\mathbf{M}})$. Then the Yamabe flow (1.3) admits a local in time L_p solution.*

The proof for this theorem is given in Theorem 5.1, Proposition 5.3 and Example 5.4(ii). The explicit definition of L_p solutions can be found in Sect. 3. The Riemannian manifold (\mathbf{M}, g_0) defined in Theorem 1.1 is incomplete. At first glance, the Yamabe flow in Theorem 1.1 can be viewed as a flow on manifolds with boundary but with no boundary condition on $\partial_0\mathcal{M}$, and thus is seemingly ill-posed. But as we will show in Sect. 5, this flow is a well-posed problem. Indeed, considering this problem on the conformally complete manifold $(\mathbf{M}, g_0/\rho^2)$ for some $\rho \in C^\infty(\mathbf{M}; (0, \infty))$, (1.1) becomes a singular parabolic equation. The core of the analysis of (1.1) in Theorem 1.1 is how to offset the singular behavior of the conformal factor u with a proper adaptation of the function spaces.

This paper is organized as follows.

In Sects. 2 and 3, some preliminary materials are presented. I introduce the precise definitions and properties of singular manifolds and function spaces used in this paper.

The theoretic basis of this paper is Sect. 4. Based on the results from [51] and a modification of Duong's method in [18], we can prove that a class of second-order singular elliptic operators defined in (4.1) is \mathcal{R} -sectorial. By the maximal L_p -regularity theory, cf. [15], this implies that the class of singular parabolic equations considered in this article admits a unique local solution in an L_p -framework.

In Sect. 5, the theory developed in Sect. 4 is applied to the Yamabe flow to establish existence and uniqueness of local solutions with incomplete initial metrics. The main theorem of this article, Theorem 5.1, is presented in Sect. 5.1. In Sect. 5.2, explicit examples of incomplete manifolds satisfying the conditions in Theorem 5.1 are given.

Notations Given any topological set U , $\overset{\circ}{U}$ denotes the interior of U .

For any two Banach spaces X, Y , $X \doteq Y$ means that they are equal in the sense of equivalent norms. The notation $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ means the set of all bounded linear maps from X to Y , and $\mathcal{L}\text{is}(X, Y)$ stands for the set of all bounded linear isomorphisms from X to Y .

Given any Banach space X and manifold \mathcal{M} , let $\|\cdot\|_\infty, \|\cdot\|_{s,\infty}, \|\cdot\|_p$ and $\|\cdot\|_{s,p}$ denote the usual norm of the X -valued Banach spaces $BC(\mathcal{M}; X)(L_\infty(\mathcal{M}; X)), BC^s(\mathcal{M}; X), L_p(\mathcal{M}; X)$ and $W_p^s(\mathcal{M}; X)$, respectively. If the letter X is omitted in the definition of these space, e.g., $BC(\mathcal{M})$, it means that the corresponding space is \mathbb{C} -valued.

2. Singular manifolds satisfying property \mathcal{H}_λ

2.1. Uniformly regular Riemannian manifolds and singular manifolds

In [2,3], Amann introduced the concepts of *uniformly regular Riemannian manifolds* and *singular manifolds*

Let (M, g) be a C^∞ -Riemannian manifold of dimension m with or without boundary endowed with g as its Riemannian metric such that its underlying topological space is separable. An atlas $\mathfrak{A} := (\mathcal{O}_\kappa, \varphi_\kappa)_{\kappa \in \mathfrak{K}}$ for M is said to be normalized if

$$\varphi_\kappa(\mathcal{O}_\kappa) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Q}^m, & \mathcal{O}_\kappa \subset \mathring{M}, \\ \mathbb{Q}^m \cap \mathbb{H}^m, & \mathcal{O}_\kappa \cap \partial M \neq \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

where \mathbb{H}^m is the closed half space $\bar{\mathbb{R}}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^{m-1}$ and \mathbb{Q}^m is the unit cube at the origin in \mathbb{R}^m . We put $\mathbb{Q}_\kappa^m := \varphi_\kappa(\mathcal{O}_\kappa)$ and $\psi_\kappa := \varphi_\kappa^{-1}$.

The atlas \mathfrak{A} is said to have *finite multiplicity* if there exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that any intersection of more than K coordinate patches is empty. Put

$$\mathfrak{N}(\kappa) := \{\tilde{\kappa} \in \mathfrak{K} : \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{\kappa}} \cap \mathcal{O}_\kappa \neq \emptyset\}.$$

The finite multiplicity of \mathfrak{A} and the separability of M imply that \mathfrak{A} is countable.

An atlas \mathfrak{A} is said to fulfill the *uniformly shrinkable* condition, if it is normalized and there exists $r \in (0, 1)$ such that $\{\psi_\kappa(r\mathbb{Q}_\kappa^m) : \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}\}$ is a cover for M .

Following Amann [2,3], we say that (M, g) is a **uniformly regular Riemannian manifold** if it admits an atlas \mathfrak{A} such that

- (R1) \mathfrak{A} is uniformly shrinkable and has finite multiplicity. If M is oriented, then \mathfrak{A} is orientation preserving.
- (R2) $\|\varphi_\eta \circ \psi_\kappa\|_{k,\infty} \leq c(k), \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}, \eta \in \mathfrak{N}(\kappa)$, and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.
- (R3) $\psi_\kappa^*g \sim g_m, \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$. Here g_m denotes the Euclidean metric on \mathbb{R}^m and ψ_κ^*g denotes the pull-back metric of g by ψ_κ .
- (R4) $\|\psi_\kappa^*g\|_{k,\infty} \leq c(k), \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

Here $\|u\|_{k,\infty} := \max_{|\alpha| \leq k} \|\partial^\alpha u\|_\infty$, and it is understood that a constant $c(k)$, like in (R2), depends only on k . An atlas \mathfrak{A} satisfying (R1) and (R2) is called a *uniformly regular atlas*. (R3) reads as

$$|\xi|^2/c \leq \psi_\kappa^*g(x)(\xi, \xi) \leq c|\xi|^2, \text{ for any } x \in \mathbb{Q}_\kappa^m, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^m, \kappa \in \mathfrak{K} \text{ and some } c \geq 1.$$

In [17], it is shown that the class of *uniformly regular Riemannian manifolds* coincides with the family of complete Riemannian manifolds with bounded geometry, when $\partial M = \emptyset$.

Assume that $\rho \in C^\infty(M, (0, \infty))$. Then (ρ, \mathfrak{K}) is a *singularity datum* for M if

- (S1) $(M, g/\rho^2)$ is a *uniformly regular Riemannian manifold*.
- (S2) \mathfrak{A} is a uniformly regular atlas.
- (S3) $\|\psi_\kappa^* \rho\|_{k, \infty} \leq c(k)\rho_\kappa$, $\kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, where $\rho_\kappa := \rho(\psi_\kappa(0))$.
- (S4) $\rho_\kappa/c \leq \rho(\mathbf{p}) \leq c\rho_\kappa$, $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbf{O}_\kappa$ and $\kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$ for some $c \geq 1$ independent of κ .

Two *singularity data* (ρ, \mathfrak{K}) and $(\tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\mathfrak{K}})$ are equivalent, if

- (E1) $\rho \sim \tilde{\rho}$.
- (E2) $\text{card}\{\tilde{\kappa} \in \tilde{\mathfrak{K}} : \mathbf{O}_{\tilde{\kappa}} \cap \mathbf{O}_\kappa \neq \emptyset\} \leq c, \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$.
- (E3) $\|\varphi_{\tilde{\kappa}} \circ \psi_\kappa\|_{k, \infty} \leq c(k)$, $\kappa \in \mathfrak{K}$, $\tilde{\kappa} \in \tilde{\mathfrak{K}}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$

The notation \sim has the same meaning as in (R3). In particular, in scalar case, \sim means Lipschitz equivalence. We write the equivalence relationship as $(\rho, \mathfrak{K}) \sim (\tilde{\rho}, \tilde{\mathfrak{K}})$. (S1) and (E1) imply that

$$1/c \leq \rho_\kappa/\tilde{\rho}_{\tilde{\kappa}} \leq c, \kappa \in \mathfrak{K}, \tilde{\kappa} \in \tilde{\mathfrak{K}} \text{ and } \mathbf{O}_{\tilde{\kappa}} \cap \mathbf{O}_\kappa \neq \emptyset. \tag{2.1}$$

A *singularity structure*, $\mathfrak{S}(M)$, for M is a maximal family of equivalent *singularity data*. A *singularity function* for $\mathfrak{S}(M)$ is a function $\rho \in C^\infty(M, (0, \infty))$ such that there exists an atlas \mathfrak{A} with $(\rho, \mathfrak{A}) \in \mathfrak{S}(M)$. The set of all *singularity functions* for $\mathfrak{S}(M)$ is the *singular type*, $\mathfrak{T}(M)$, for $\mathfrak{S}(M)$. By a **singular manifold** we mean a Riemannian manifold M endowed with a singularity structure $\mathfrak{S}(M)$. Then M is said to be *singular of type* $\mathfrak{T}(M)$. If $\rho \in \mathfrak{T}(M)$, then it is convenient to set $\llbracket \rho \rrbracket := \mathfrak{T}(M)$ and to say that $(M, g; \rho)$ is a *singular manifold*. A *singular manifold* is a *uniformly regular Riemannian manifold* iff $\rho \sim \mathbf{1}_M$.

We refer to [4,5] for examples of *uniformly regular Riemannian manifolds* and *singular manifolds*.

Lastly, for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the concept of **C^k -uniformly regular Riemannian manifold** is defined by modifying (R2), (R4) and (L1), (L2) in an obvious way. Similarly, **C^k -singular manifolds** are defined by replacing the smoothness of ρ by $\rho \in C^k(M, (0, \infty))$ and altering (S1)–(S3) accordingly.

2.2. Singular manifolds satisfying property \mathcal{H}_λ

In this subsection, a class of *singular manifolds*, called *singular manifolds* satisfying property \mathcal{H}_λ , is introduced. This concept has proven itself useful for the theory of second-order differential equations on *singular manifolds* in [51].

DEFINITION 2.1. A function $h \in C^2(M; \mathbb{R})$ is said to belong to the class $\mathcal{H}_\lambda(M, g; \rho)$ with parameters (c, M) for some $c \geq 1$ and $M > 0$, if

- ($\mathcal{H}_\lambda 1$) $M/c \leq \rho|\text{grad}h|_g \leq Mc$;
- ($\mathcal{H}_\lambda 2$) $M/c \leq \rho^\lambda \text{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad}h) \leq Mc$.

The precise definition of the divergence operator div is given in (3.5). Observe that if $h \in \mathcal{H}_\lambda(\mathbb{M}, g; \rho)$ with parameters $(c, 1)$, then $Mh \in \mathcal{H}_\lambda(\mathbb{M}, g; \rho)$ with parameters (c, M) .

DEFINITION 2.2. A singular manifold $(\mathbb{M}, g; \rho)$ is said to enjoy property \mathcal{H}_λ , if there exists some $h \in \mathcal{H}_\lambda(\mathbb{M}, g; \rho)$.

Examples of *singular manifolds* with property \mathcal{H}_λ can be found in [51, Section 5.2]. We will introduce one example, which will be of particular interest in the following sections.

Let $J_0 := (0, 1]$. We denote by $\mathcal{R}(J_0)$ the set of all $R \in C^\infty(J_0, (0, \infty))$ with $R(1) = 1$ such that $R(0) := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} R(t)$ exists in $[0, \infty]$. We write $R \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}(J_0)$ if

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad R \in \mathcal{R}(J_0); \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \int_{J_0} dt/R(t) = \infty; \\ \text{(iii)} \quad \|\partial_t^k R\|_\infty < \infty, \quad k \geq 1; \\ \text{(iv)} \quad \partial_t R \sim \mathbf{1}_{J_0}, \quad |\partial_t^2 R| < \infty. \end{array} \right. \tag{2.2}$$

Then we call R a *uniformly mild cusp characteristic*. The first three conditions were introduced by Amann [5] to define *cusp characteristics*.

Assume that (B, g_B) is a d -dimensional uniformly regular Riemannian submanifold without boundary of $\mathbb{R}^{\vec{d}}$, and $R \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{R}}(J_0)$. The (model) (R, B) -cusp, denoted by $P(R, B)$, on J_0 , also called R -cusp over B on J_0 , is defined by

$$P(R, B) = P(R, B; J_0) := \{(t, R(t)y) : t \in J_0, y \in B\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{1+\vec{d}}.$$

It is a $(1 + d)$ -dimensional submanifold of $\mathbb{R}^{1+\vec{d}}$. The map

$$\phi_P = \phi_P(R) : P \rightarrow J_0 \times B : (t, R(t)y) \mapsto (t, y)$$

is a diffeomorphism, the *canonical stretching diffeomorphism* of P .

Assume that (Γ, g_Γ) is a compact connected Riemannian manifold without boundary. Then the (model) Γ -wedge over the (R, B) -cusp, $P(R, B)$, is defined by

$$W = W(R, B, \Gamma) := P(R, B) \times \Gamma.$$

If Γ is a one-point space, then W is naturally identified with P . Thus every cusp is also a wedge.

We call (\mathbb{M}, g) a *closed uniformly mild Γ -wedge over $P(R, B)$* , if there is a diffeomorphism $f : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow W(R, B, \Gamma)$ such that $g = f^*(\phi_P^*(dt^2 + g_B) + g_\Gamma)$.

EXAMPLE 2.3. Let $\lambda \in [0, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$. Assume that (\mathbb{M}, g) is a closed uniformly mild Γ -wedge over $P(R, B)$. Then (\mathbb{M}, g) is a singular manifold satisfying property \mathcal{H}_λ -end.

Proof. See [51, Remark 5.11]. □

3. Weighted function spaces on singular manifolds

In this section, I follow the work of Amann in [2] and [3] to introduce some concepts and properties of weighted function spaces on *singular manifolds*.

3.1. Tensor bundles

Suppose $(M, g; \rho)$ is a *singular manifold*. Given $\sigma, \tau \in \mathbb{N}_0$,

$$T_\tau^\sigma M := TM^{\otimes \sigma} \otimes T^*M^{\otimes \tau}$$

is the (σ, τ) -tensor bundle of M , where TM and T^*M are the (complexified) tangent and the cotangent bundle of M , respectively. We write $\mathcal{T}_\tau^\sigma M$ for the $C^\infty(M)$ -module of all smooth sections of $T_\tau^\sigma M$, and $\Gamma(M, T_\tau^\sigma M)$ for the set of all sections.

For abbreviation, we set $\mathbb{J}^\sigma := \{1, 2, \dots, m\}^\sigma$, and \mathbb{J}^τ is defined alike. Given local coordinates $\varphi = \{x^1, \dots, x^m\}$, $(i) := (i_1, \dots, i_\sigma) \in \mathbb{J}^\sigma$ and $(j) := (j_1, \dots, j_\tau) \in \mathbb{J}^\tau$, we set

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x^{(i)}} := \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i_\sigma}}, \quad dx^{(j)} := dx^{j_1} \otimes \dots \otimes dx^{j_\tau}.$$

The local representation of $a \in \Gamma(M, T_\tau^\sigma M)$ with respect to these coordinates is given by

$$a = a_{(j)}^{(i)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{(i)}} \otimes dx^{(j)} \tag{3.1}$$

with coefficients $a_{(j)}^{(i)}$ defined on O_κ

We denote by $\nabla = \nabla_g$ the extension of the Levi-Civita connection over $\mathcal{T}_\tau^\sigma M$. $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathcal{T}_\tau^\sigma M \times \mathcal{T}_\sigma^\tau M \rightarrow C^\infty(M)$ stands for the extension of the fiber-wise defined duality pairing on M , cf. [2, Section 3]. Set $\nabla_i := \nabla_{\partial_i}$ with $\partial_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$. For $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$, we define

$$\nabla^k : \mathcal{T}_\tau^\sigma M \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{\tau+k}^\sigma M, \quad a \mapsto \nabla^k a$$

by letting $\nabla^0 a := a$ and $\nabla^{k+1} a := \nabla \circ \nabla^k a$. We can also extend the Riemannian metric $(\cdot|\cdot)_g$ from the tangent bundle to any (σ, τ) -tensor bundle $T_\tau^\sigma M$, which is still written as $(\cdot|\cdot)_g$. Meanwhile, $(\cdot|\cdot)_{g^*}$ stands for the induced contravariant metric. In addition,

$$|\cdot|_g := |\cdot|_{g_\sigma^\tau} : \mathcal{T}_\tau^\sigma M \rightarrow C^\infty(M), \quad a \mapsto \sqrt{(a|a)_g}$$

is called the (vector bundle) *norm* induced by g .

We assume that V is a \mathbb{C} -valued tensor bundle on M , i.e.,

$$V = V_\tau^\sigma := \{T_\tau^\sigma M, (\cdot|\cdot)_g\},$$

for some $\sigma, \tau \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

Throughout the rest of this paper, unless stated otherwise, we always assume that

- $(M, g; \rho)$ is a *singular manifold*.
- $\rho \in \mathfrak{T}(M)$, $s \geq 0, k \in \mathbb{N}_0, 1 < p < \infty$ and $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$.
- $\sigma, \tau \in \mathbb{N}_0, V = V_\tau^\sigma := \{T_\tau^\sigma M, (\cdot|\cdot)_g\}$.

3.2. Weighted function spaces

We denote by $\mathcal{D}(M, V)$ the space of smooth sections of V that is compactly supported in M . Then the weighted Sobolev space $W_p^{k,\vartheta}(M, V)$ is defined as the completion of $\mathcal{D}(M, V)$ in $L_{1,loc}(M, V)$ with respect to the norm

$$\|\cdot\|_{k,p;\vartheta} : u \mapsto (\sum_{i=0}^k \|\rho^{\vartheta+i+\tau-\sigma} |\nabla^i u|_g\|_p^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

Note that $W_p^{0,\vartheta}(M, V) = L_p^\vartheta(M, V)$ with equal norms. In particular, we can define the weighted spaces $L_q^\vartheta(M, V)$ for $q \in \{1, \infty\}$ in a similar manner.

Define

$$BC^{k,\vartheta}(M, V) := (\{u \in C^k(M, V) : \|u\|_{k,\infty;\vartheta} < \infty\}, \|\cdot\|_{k,\infty;\vartheta}),$$

where $\|u\|_{k,\infty;\vartheta} := \max_{0 \leq i \leq k} \|\rho^{\vartheta+i+\tau-\sigma} |\nabla^i u|_g\|_\infty$. We also set

$$BC^{\infty,\vartheta}(M, V) := \bigcap_k BC^{k,\vartheta}(M, V).$$

The weighted Sobolev–Slobodeckii spaces are defined as

$$W_p^{s,\vartheta}(M, V) := (L_p^\vartheta(M, V), W_p^{k,\vartheta}(M, V))_{s/k,p}, \tag{3.2}$$

for $s \in \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \mathbb{N}_0, k = [s] + 1$, where $(\cdot, \cdot)_{\theta,p}$ is the real interpolation method [1, Chapter I.2.4.1].

In the special case of uniformly regular (M, g) , since $\rho \sim \mathbf{1}_M$, the definition of any weighted space $\mathfrak{F}^{s,\vartheta}(M, V)$ is actually independent of the weight ϑ . In this case, all spaces are indeed unweighted. We thus denote these spaces simply by $\mathfrak{F}^s(M, V)$.

In the rest of this subsection, several properties of weighted function spaces are presented without proof. Their proofs can be found in [51].

Let $V_j = V_{\tau_j}^{\sigma_j} := \{T_{\tau_j}^{\sigma_j} M, (\cdot|\cdot)_g\}$ with $j = 1, 2, 3$ be \mathbb{C} -valued tensor bundles on M . By bundle multiplication from $V_1 \times V_2$ into V_3 , denoted by

$$m : V_1 \times V_2 \rightarrow V_3, \quad (v_1, v_2) \mapsto m(v_1, v_2),$$

we mean a smooth bounded section m of $\text{Hom}(V_1 \otimes V_2, V_3)$, i.e.,

$$m \in BC^\infty(M, \text{Hom}(V_1 \otimes V_2, V_3)), \tag{3.3}$$

such that $m(v_1, v_2) := m(v_1 \otimes v_2)$. Equation (3.3) implies that for some $c > 0$

$$|m(v_1, v_2)|_g \leq c|v_1|_g|v_2|_g, \quad v_i \in \Gamma(M, V_i) \text{ with } i = 1, 2.$$

Its point-wise extension from $\Gamma(M, V_1 \oplus V_2)$ into $\Gamma(M, V_3)$ is defined by:

$$m(v_1, v_2)(p) := m(p)(v_1(p), v_2(p))$$

for $v_i \in \Gamma(M, V_i)$ and $p \in M$. We still denote it by m . We can formulate the following point-wise multiplier theorem for function spaces over *singular manifolds*.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Assume that the tensor bundles $V_j = V_{\tau_j}^{\sigma_j} := \{T_{\tau_j}^{\sigma_j} M, (\cdot|\cdot)_g\}$ with $j = 1, 2, 3$ satisfy*

$$\sigma_3 - \tau_3 = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 - \tau_1 - \tau_2. \tag{3.4}$$

Suppose that $m : V_1 \times V_2 \rightarrow V_3$ is a bundle multiplication, and $\vartheta_3 = \vartheta_1 + \vartheta_2$. Then $[(v_1, v_2) \mapsto m(v_1, v_2)]$ is a bilinear and continuous map for $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $s \leq k$

$$BC^{k, \vartheta_1}(M, V_1) \times W_p^{s, \vartheta_2}(M, V_2) \rightarrow W_p^{s, \vartheta_3}(M, V_3).$$

PROPOSITION 3.2. *For $\mathfrak{F} \in \{BC, W_p\}$, we have*

$$\nabla \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{F}^{s+1, \vartheta}(M, V_\tau^\sigma), \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta}(M, V_{\tau+1}^\sigma)),$$

and

$$\text{grad} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{F}^{s+1, \vartheta}(M, V_\tau^\sigma), \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta+2}(M, V_\tau^{\sigma+1})).$$

PROPOSITION 3.3. *For $\mathfrak{F} \in \{BC, W_p\}$, we have*

$$f_{\vartheta} := [u \mapsto \rho^\vartheta u] \in \mathcal{L}is(\mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta'+\vartheta}(M, V), \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta'}(M, V)).$$

We denote by $C_{\tau+1}^{\sigma+1} : V_{\tau+1}^{\sigma+1} \rightarrow V_\tau^\sigma$ the contraction with respect to position $\sigma + 1$ and $\tau + 1$, that is for any $(i) \in \mathbb{J}^\sigma$, $(j) \in \mathbb{J}^\tau$ and $k, l \in \mathbb{J}^1$ and $p \in M$

$$C_{\tau+1}^{\sigma+1} a := C_{\tau+1}^{\sigma+1} a_{(j;l)}^{(i;k)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{(i)}} \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \otimes dx^{(j)} \otimes dx^l := a_{(j;k)}^{(i;k)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{(i)}} \otimes dx^{(j)}$$

in every local chart. Recall that the surface divergence of tensor fields with respect to the metric g is the map

$$\text{div} = \text{div}_g : C^1(M, V_\tau^{\sigma+1}) \rightarrow C(M, V_\tau^\sigma), \quad a \mapsto C_{\tau+1}^{\sigma+1}(\nabla a). \tag{3.5}$$

Put $V' := V_\sigma^\tau$. Let $C : V_{\tau+\tau_1}^{\sigma+\sigma_1} \times V' \rightarrow V_{\tau_1}^{\sigma_1}$ denote the complete contraction. For any $a \in V_{\tau+\tau_1}^{\sigma+\sigma_1}$ and $b \in V'$, the complete contraction (on the right) is defined by

$$C(a, b) = a_{(j;j_1)}^{(i;i_1)} b_{(i)}^{(j)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{(i_1)}} \otimes dx^{(j_1)},$$

with $(i) \in \mathbb{J}^\sigma$, $(i_1) \in \mathbb{J}^{\sigma_1}$, $(j) \in \mathbb{J}^\tau$, $(j_1) \in \mathbb{J}^{\tau_1}$, in local coordinates. The complete contraction (on the left) is defined in an analogous manner. Note that the complete contraction is a bundle multiplication.

Suppose that $\partial M \neq \emptyset$. Since $T(\partial M)$ is a subbundle of codimension 1 of the vector bundle $(TM)_{\partial M}$ over ∂M , there exists a unique vector field \mathbf{n} in $(TM)_{\partial M}$ of length 1 orthogonal to $T(\partial M)$, and inward pointing. In every local coordinate system, $\varphi_\kappa = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g_{11}|\partial O_\kappa}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^1}.$$

We consider the boundary operator

$$\mathcal{B}_i u = \begin{cases} \gamma u & \text{on } \partial M \text{ when } i = 0, \\ \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}) & \text{on } \partial M \text{ when } i = 1. \end{cases}$$

Here γ is the trace operator on ∂M . We define for $s > i + 1/p$ the space

$$W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M, V) := \{u \in W_p^{s, \vartheta}(M, V) : \mathcal{B}_i u = 0\}. \tag{3.6}$$

Note that this is a well-defined closed subspace of $W_p^{s, \vartheta}(M, V)$. For $0 \leq s < i + 1/p$, we set

$$W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M, V) := W_p^{s, \vartheta}(M, V).$$

See [3, Section 21].

PROPOSITION 3.4. *For $\mathfrak{F} \in \{BC, W_p\}$, it holds*

$$\operatorname{div} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathfrak{F}^{s+1, \vartheta}(M, V_\tau^{\sigma+1}), \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta}(M, V_\tau^\sigma)).$$

The following results are not contained in [51].

THEOREM 3.5. *For any $a \in W_2^{1, -\vartheta}(M, V')$ and $b \in W_2^{1, \vartheta}(M, V_\tau^{\sigma+1})$*

$$\int_{\partial M} \langle \mathbf{C}(b, \mathbf{n}), a \rangle d\mu_g - \int_M \langle \operatorname{div} b, a \rangle d\mu_g = \int_M \langle b, \nabla a \rangle d\mu_g.$$

Proof. This follows from the divergence theorem and the proof for [51, Theorem 2.6]. □

PROPOSITION 3.6. *Suppose that $k_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $\vartheta_i \in \mathbb{R}$ with $i = 0, 1$, $0 < \theta < 1$ and $k_0 < k_1$. Then*

$$(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{k_0, \vartheta_0}(M, V), W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{k_1, \vartheta_1}(M, V))_{\theta, p} \doteq W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{k_\theta, \vartheta_\theta}(M, V).$$

Here $\xi_\theta := (1 - \theta)\xi_0 + \theta\xi_1$ for any $\xi_0, \xi_1 \in \mathbb{R}$. When $\partial M = \emptyset$, $k_i \notin \mathbb{N}$; while $\partial M \neq \emptyset$, $k_i \neq i + 1/p$, where $i = 0, 1, \theta$.

Proof. This follows from [3, Theorem 8.2(i), Formula (8.3), Theorem 21.3] and the proof of [3, Formula (21.2)] □

PROPOSITION 3.7. *Suppose that $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $s > k + \frac{m}{p}$. Then*

$$W_p^{s, \vartheta}(\mathbb{M}) \hookrightarrow BC^{k, \vartheta + \frac{m}{p}}(\mathbb{M}).$$

Proof. See [2, Theorem 14.2(ii)]. □

PROPOSITION 3.8. *Suppose that $\vartheta_1 < \vartheta_0$ and $\mathfrak{F} \in \{BC, W_p, W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}\}$. Then*

$$\begin{cases} \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta_1}(\mathbb{M}) \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta_0}(\mathbb{M}) & \text{if } \rho \leq 1; \\ \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta_0}(\mathbb{M}) \hookrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{s, \vartheta_1}(\mathbb{M}) & \text{if } \rho \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof. See [3, Theorem 15.1]. □

4. Maximal L_p -regularity of second-order elliptic differential operators

Suppose that $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{M}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathbb{M})$ is a second-order differential operator defined as follows.

$$\mathcal{A}u := -\operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad}u) + \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, a_1) + a_0u, \tag{4.1}$$

with $a_1 \in \Gamma(\mathbb{M}, T\mathbb{M})$ and $a_0 \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{M}}$, for any $u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{M})$ and some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$. We say that \mathcal{A} is $(\rho, \lambda)_{\mathbb{R}}$ -regular if its coefficients satisfy

$$a_1 \in W_\infty^{1, \lambda}(\mathbb{M}; T_{\mathbb{R}}\mathbb{M}), \quad a_0 \in L_\infty^\lambda(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}).$$

Here $T_{\mathbb{R}}\mathbb{M}$ denotes the real tangent bundle.

Throughout, we assume that the singular data $\llbracket \rho \rrbracket$ and the constant λ satisfy

$$\|\rho\|_\infty \leq 1, \quad \lambda > 0. \tag{4.2}$$

4.1. \mathcal{R} -sectorial operators on singular manifolds

I first introduce several basic concepts in the study of elliptic differential operators. The reader may refer to the treatises [1, 6, 15, 41] for more details of these concepts.

For $\theta \in (0, \pi]$, the open sector with angle 2θ is denoted by

$$\Sigma_\theta := \{\omega \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\} : |\arg \omega| < \theta\}.$$

DEFINITION 4.1. Let X be a complex Banach space, and \mathcal{A} be a densely defined closed linear operator in X with dense range. \mathcal{A} is called sectorial if $\Sigma_\theta \subset \rho(-\mathcal{A})$ for some $\theta > 0$ and

$$\sup\{\|\mu(\mu + \mathcal{A})^{-1}\| : \mu \in \Sigma_\theta\} < \infty.$$

The class of sectorial operators in X is denoted by $\mathcal{S}(X)$. The spectral angle $\phi_{\mathcal{A}}$ of \mathcal{A} is defined by

$$\phi_{\mathcal{A}} := \inf \left\{ \phi : \Sigma_{\pi-\phi} \subset \rho(-\mathcal{A}), \sup_{\mu \in \Sigma_{\pi-\phi}} \|\mu(\mu + \mathcal{A})^{-1}\| < \infty \right\}.$$

Let $\phi \in (0, \pi]$. Define

$$\mathcal{H}^\infty(\Sigma_\phi) := \{f : \Sigma_\phi \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : f \text{ is analytic and } \|f\|_\infty < \infty\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}_0(\Sigma_\phi) = \bigcup_{\alpha, \beta < 0} \mathcal{H}_{\alpha, \beta}(\Sigma_\phi),$$

where

$$\mathcal{H}_{\alpha, \beta}(\Sigma_\phi) = \{f \in \mathcal{H}(\Sigma_\phi) : |f|_{\alpha, \beta}^\phi < \infty\}$$

with $|f|_{\alpha, \beta}^\phi = \sup_{|\mu| \leq 1} |\mu^\alpha f(\mu)| + \sup_{|\mu| \geq 1} |\mu^{-\beta} f(\mu)|$.

DEFINITION 4.2. Suppose that $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}(X)$. Then \mathcal{A} is said to admit a bounded \mathcal{H}^∞ -calculus if there are $\phi > \phi_{\mathcal{A}}$ and a constant K_ϕ such that

$$|f(\mathcal{A})| \leq K_\phi \|f\|_\infty, \quad f \in \mathcal{H}_0(\Sigma_\phi). \tag{4.3}$$

The class of such operators is denoted by $\mathcal{H}^\infty(X)$. The \mathcal{H}^∞ -angle of \mathcal{A} is defined by

$$\phi_{\mathcal{A}}^\infty := \inf\{\phi > \phi_{\mathcal{A}} : (4.3) \text{ holds}\}.$$

DEFINITION 4.3. Let X and Y be two Banach spaces. A family of operators $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{L}(X, Y)$ is called \mathcal{R} -bounded, if there is a constant $C > 0$ and $p \in [1, \infty)$ such that for each $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $T_j \in \mathcal{T}$ and $x_j \in X$ and for all independent, symmetric, $\{-1, 1\}$ -valued random variables ε_j on a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{M}, \mu)$ the inequality

$$\left| \sum_{j=1}^N \varepsilon_j T_j x_j \right|_{L_p(\Omega; Y)} \leq C \left| \sum_{j=1}^N \varepsilon_j x_j \right|_{L_p(\Omega; X)}$$

is valid. The smallest such C is called \mathcal{R} -bound of \mathcal{T} . We denote it by $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{T})$.

DEFINITION 4.4. Suppose that $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}(X)$. Then \mathcal{A} is called \mathcal{R} -sectorial if there exists some $\phi > 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{A}}(\phi) := \mathcal{R}\{\mu(\mu + \mathcal{A})^{-1} : \mu \in \Sigma_\phi\} < \infty.$$

The \mathcal{R} -angle $\phi_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathcal{R}}$ is defined by

$$\phi_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathcal{R}} := \inf\{\theta \in (0, \pi) : \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi - \theta) < \infty\}.$$

The class of \mathcal{R} -sectorial operators in X is denoted by $\mathcal{RS}(X)$.

DEFINITION 4.5. A Banach space X is said to belong to the class \mathcal{HT} if the Hilbert Transform defined by

$$H(f)(t) := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{|s| > \epsilon} f(t-s) \frac{ds}{\pi s}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, f \in C_0(\mathbb{R}, X)$$

can be extended to a bounded linear operator on $L_p(\mathbb{R}, X)$ for some $p \in (1, \infty)$.

It is a well-known fact that $L_p(\mathbb{M})$ is of class \mathcal{HT} . This immediately implies that for any $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$

$$L_p^\vartheta(\mathbb{M}) \text{ is of class } \mathcal{HT}, \quad 1 < p < \infty. \tag{4.4}$$

Suppose that X is a Banach space of class \mathcal{HT} . Then by [15, Formula (2.15), Remark 3.2(1), Theorem 4.5], we obtain the inclusions

$$\mathcal{H}^\infty(X) \subset \mathcal{RS}(X) \subset \mathcal{S}(X), \tag{4.5}$$

and the inequalities

$$\phi_{\mathcal{A}}^\infty \geq \phi_{\mathcal{A}}^R \geq \phi_{\mathcal{A}}.$$

Recall an operator \mathcal{A} is said to belong to the class $\mathcal{H}(X_1, X_0)$ for some densely embedded Banach couple $X_1 \xhookrightarrow{d} X_0$, if $-\mathcal{A}$ generates a strongly continuous analytic semigroup on X_0 with $\text{dom}(\mathcal{A}) = X_1$. $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{H}(X_1, X_0)$ iff there exists some $\omega \geq 0$ such that

$$\omega + \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}(X_0)$$

with spectral angle $\phi_{\mathcal{A}} < \pi/2$ and $\text{dom}(\mathcal{A}) = X_1$.

Let $X_{\mathbb{R}}$ be a real Banach lattice with an order \leq . See [6, Chapter C–I]. The complexification of $X_{\mathbb{R}}$ is a complex Banach lattice defined as follows

$$X := X_{\mathbb{R}} \oplus iX_{\mathbb{R}}. \tag{4.6}$$

The positive cone of $X_{\mathbb{R}}$ is defined by

$$X_{\mathbb{R}}^+ := \{x \in X_{\mathbb{R}} : 0 \leq x\}.$$

DEFINITION 4.6. Let $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$, and X be a complex Banach lattice defined as in (4.6). Suppose that $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}(X)$. Then the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is real if

$$e^{-t\mathcal{A}}X_{\mathbb{R}} \subset X_{\mathbb{R}}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

We say that $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is positive if

$$e^{-t\mathcal{A}}X_{\mathbb{R}}^+ \subset X_{\mathbb{R}}^+, \quad t \geq 0.$$

For example, taking $X = L_2^\vartheta(\mathbb{M})$, $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}}\}_{t \geq 0}$ real means

$$e^{-t\mathcal{A}}L_2^\vartheta(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}) \subset L_2^\vartheta(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}), \quad t \geq 0,$$

and $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}}\}_{t \geq 0}$ positive means

$$e^{-t\mathcal{A}}L_2^\vartheta(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}_+) \subset L_2^\vartheta(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}_+), \quad t \geq 0.$$

PROPOSITION 4.7. *Suppose that $(M, g; \rho)$ is a C^2 -singular manifold. Let $\lambda' \in \mathbb{R}$, and $\lambda > 0$. Furthermore, assume that the differential operator*

$$\mathcal{A}u := -\operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad}u) + \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, a_1) + a_0u$$

is $(\rho, \lambda)_{\mathbb{R}}$ -regular and satisfies that $\operatorname{Re}(\rho^\lambda a_0)$ is so large that there exists some $C_1 < 2$ and $\omega < 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{ess\,inf}(\operatorname{Re}(\rho^\lambda a_0) + \omega) &> 0; \\ \rho^{\lambda-1} |2\lambda' \rho^{1-\lambda} \operatorname{grad}\rho + a_1|_g &\leq C_1 \sqrt{\operatorname{Re}(\rho^\lambda a_0) + \omega}; \\ \rho^{\lambda-1} |(2\lambda' - \lambda) \rho^{1-\lambda} \operatorname{grad}\rho + a_1|_g &\leq C_1 \sqrt{\operatorname{Re}(\rho^\lambda a_0) + \omega}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_0}^{\lambda'} := \mathcal{A}|_{W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M)}$. Then $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_0}^{\lambda'}$ generates an analytic contractive strongly continuous semigroup on $L_p^{\lambda'}(M)$ with domain $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M)$ for all $1 < p < \infty$.

It is proved under the same conditions (with $\sigma = \tau = 0$ and $\vec{a} = \rho^{2-\lambda}$) in [51, Section 3] that $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_0}^{\lambda'}$ generates an analytic contractive strongly continuous semigroup on $L_p^{\lambda'}(M)$ with domain $\dot{W}_p^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M)$ where

$$\dot{W}_p^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M) = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M) \cap W_{p, \mathcal{B}_1}^{2, \lambda'-\lambda}(M).$$

However, the characterization of the domain of \mathcal{A} given in [51] is erroneous. We will fix this error and state the necessary changes herein.

Proof. For ω satisfying the given conditions, let $\mathcal{A}_\omega := \mathcal{A} + \omega\rho^{-\lambda}$ and we associate with \mathcal{A}_ω a form operator \mathfrak{a}_ω with $D(\mathfrak{a}_\omega) = X = W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda'-\lambda/2}(M)$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{a}_\omega(u, v) &= \langle \vec{a} \cdot \operatorname{grad}u | \operatorname{grad}v \rangle_{2, \lambda'} + \langle \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, 2\lambda' \vec{a} \cdot \operatorname{grad} \log \rho + a_1) | v \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \\ &\quad + \langle (a_0 + \omega\rho^{-\lambda})u | v \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \end{aligned}$$

for all $u, v \in X$ and $\vec{a} = \rho^{2-\lambda}$. Here $\langle u | v \rangle_{2, \lambda'}$ is the inner product in $L_2^{\lambda'}(M)$ defined by

$$\langle u | v \rangle_{2, \lambda'} := \int_M \rho^{2\lambda'} (u | v)_g \, dV_g.$$

By the given conditions, \mathcal{A} satisfies the conditions (A1), (A2) and (A3') in [51]. Following the argument in [51, Section 3.1], we can show that \mathfrak{a}_ω is continuous and X -coercive, cf. [51, Proposition 3.2]. This shows that \mathfrak{a}_ω with $D(\mathfrak{a}_\omega) = X$ is densely defined, sectorial and closed on $L_2^{\lambda'}(M)$. By [25, Theorems VI.2.1, IX.1.24], there exists an associated operator T such that $-T$ generates a contractive strongly continuous analytic semigroup on $L_2^{\lambda'}(M)$, i.e., $\|e^{-tT}\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_2^{\lambda'}(M))} \leq 1$ for all $t \geq 0$, with domain

$$D(T) := \{u \in X, \exists! v \in L_2^{\lambda'}(M) : \mathfrak{a}_\omega(u, \phi) = \langle v | \phi \rangle_{2, \lambda'}, \forall \phi \in X\}, \quad Tu = v,$$

which is a core of \mathfrak{a}_ω . T is unique in the sense that there exists only one operator satisfying

$$\mathfrak{a}_\omega(u, v) = \langle Tu, v \rangle_{2, \lambda'}, \quad u \in D(T), v \in X.$$

On the other hand, we can infer from [51, Formula (2.9), Definition (2.12)] that

$$\langle \mathcal{A}_\omega u | v \rangle_{2, \lambda'} = \mathfrak{a}_\omega(u, v), \quad u, v \in X.$$

So by the uniqueness of T , we have

$$\mathcal{A}_\omega|_{D(T)} = T.$$

Therefore, $-\mathcal{A}_\omega$ generates a contractive strongly continuous analytic semigroup on $L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})$ with domain $D(\mathcal{A}_\omega)$:

$$D(\mathcal{A}_\omega) := \{u \in X, \exists! v \in L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}) : \mathfrak{a}_\omega(u, \phi) = \langle v | \phi \rangle_{2, \lambda'}, \forall \phi \in X\}, \quad \mathcal{A}_\omega u = v.$$

It can be verified that $D(\mathcal{A}_\omega)$ can be equivalently stated as

$$D(\mathcal{A}_\omega) := \{u \in X : \mathcal{A}_\omega u \in L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})\}.$$

One can conclude from Propositions 3.1, 3.2 and [51, Propositions 2.5, 2.9] that

$$W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}) \subset D(\mathcal{A}_\omega).$$

Define

$$\mathcal{B}_\omega u := \rho^\lambda \mathcal{A}_\omega u.$$

By the previous discussions and Proposition 3.3, we infer that

$$\mathcal{B}_\omega \in \mathcal{L}is(D(\mathcal{A}_\omega), L_2^{\lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})). \tag{4.7}$$

On the other hand, in view of [4, Theorem 5.2], by the given conditions and a similar discussion to \mathcal{A}_ω , we can prove that

$$\mathcal{B}_\omega \in \mathcal{H}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}), L_2^{\lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})) \cap \mathcal{L}is(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}), L_2^{\lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})).$$

Combining with (4.7), we can infer that

$$D(\mathcal{A}_\omega) \doteq W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}).$$

The rest of the proof follows the same arguments as in [51, Section 3.2]. □

REMARK 4.8. Note that the exclusion of $p \in \{3, 3/2\}$ in [4, Theorem 5.2] is only necessary for maximal regularity theory, cf. Sect. 4.2, to guarantee $2 - 2/p \neq i + 1/p$ for $i = 0, 1$. So the generation of analytic semigroup in [4, Theorem 5.2] actually holds for all $1 < p < \infty$.

The following theorem is the theoretical basis of this paper.

THEOREM 4.9. *Suppose that $(M, g; \rho)$ is a C^2 -singular manifold satisfying $\rho \leq 1$,*

$$|\nabla \rho|_g \sim \mathbf{1}, \quad \|\Delta \rho\|_\infty < \infty$$

on $M_r := \{\mathbf{p} \in M : \rho(\mathbf{p}) < r\}$ for some $r \in (0, 1]$. Moreover, assume that the set

$$S_{r_0} := \{\mathbf{p} \in M : \rho(\mathbf{p}) = r_0\}$$

is compact and closed for $r_0 \in (0, r)$. Let $\lambda' \in \mathbb{R}$, and $\lambda \in (0, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$. Furthermore, assume that the differential operator

$$\mathcal{A}u := -\operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad} u) + \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, a_1) + a_0 u$$

is $(\rho, \lambda)_{\mathbb{R}}$ -regular. Let $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} := \mathcal{A}|_{W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M)}$ for $i = 0, 1$. Then there exists some $\omega \geq 0$ such that

$$\omega + \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} \in \mathcal{RS}(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M), L_p^{\lambda'}(M)), \quad 1 < p < \infty,$$

with \mathcal{R} -angle $\phi_{\omega + \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'}}^{\mathcal{R}} < \pi/2$.

Proof. (i) For $M > 0$, we set

$$h(\mathbf{p}) = M \operatorname{sign}(1 - \lambda) \log \rho(\mathbf{p}), \quad \mathbf{p} \in M. \tag{4.8}$$

A direct computation shows that

$$\rho \operatorname{grad} h = M \operatorname{sign}(1 - \lambda) \operatorname{grad} \rho,$$

and

$$\rho^\lambda \operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad} h) = M \operatorname{sign}(1 - \lambda) \rho \Delta \rho + M |1 - \lambda| |\operatorname{grad} \rho|_g^2.$$

Together with (S3) and (S4), one can then show that $h \in BC^{2,0}(M)$, and

$$h \in \mathcal{H}_\lambda(M_{r_1}, g; \rho) \tag{4.9}$$

with parameters (c, M) for some $r_1 \leq r$ sufficiently small. Hence, $(M_{r_1}, g; \rho)$ is a singular manifold with property \mathcal{H}_λ .

(ii) Following the proof of [51, Theorem 5.17], we introduce a retraction-coretraction system on the weighted Sobolev spaces over M . Choose $r_2 \in (0, r_1)$, where r_1 is defined in (4.9). Define

$$M_0 := \{\mathbf{p} \in M : \rho(\mathbf{p}) \in [r_2, 1]\}.$$

Note that M_0 is a *uniformly regular Riemannian manifold* with boundary. With a little abuse of notation, we put $M_1 := M_{r_1}$.

Based on the collar neighborhood theorem, we can find an open neighborhood U of S_{r_1} in $M_1 \cap M_0$ such that there exists a diffeomorphism

$$\phi : U \rightarrow S_{r_1} \times [0, 1), \quad \phi^*g|_U = g|_{S_{r_1}} + dt^2,$$

with $\phi(S_{r_1}) = S_{r_1} \times \{0\}$. We choose functions $\xi, \tilde{\xi} \in BC^\infty([0, 1), [0, 1])$ such that

$$\xi|_{[0,1/2]} \equiv 1, \quad \xi|_{[3/4,1]} \equiv 0; \quad \tilde{\xi}|_{[0,1/4]} \equiv 0, \quad \tilde{\xi}|_{[1/2,1]} \equiv 1.$$

Set $\hat{\pi}_0 := \phi^*(\mathbf{1}_{S_{r_1}} \otimes \xi)$ and $\hat{\pi}_1 := \phi^*(\mathbf{1}_{S_{r_1}} \otimes \tilde{\xi})$. We define ,

$$\tilde{\pi}_1(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \mathbf{p} \in M_1 \setminus U, \\ \hat{\pi}_1, & \mathbf{p} \in U, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\pi}_0(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \mathbf{p} \in M \setminus M_1, \\ \hat{\pi}_0, & \mathbf{p} \in U, \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

For $j = 0, 1$, we set

$$\pi_j = \frac{\tilde{\pi}_j}{\sqrt{\tilde{\pi}_0^2 + \tilde{\pi}_1^2}}.$$

Then $\{\pi_0^2, \pi_1^2\}$ forms a partition of unity on M , and $\pi_j \in BC^{\infty,0}(M)$. Define

$$W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M) := W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M_0) \times W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{s, \vartheta}(M_1).$$

It is understood that on M_0 , the singularity function can be taken as $\mathbf{1}_{M_0}$, and thus the definition of weighted function spaces on M_0 is independent of the choice of the weight ϑ . We further introduce two maps:

$$\Lambda^c : W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M) \rightarrow W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M) : \quad u \mapsto (\pi_0 u, \pi_1 u),$$

and

$$\Lambda : W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M) \rightarrow W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M) : \quad (u_0, u_1) \mapsto \pi_0 u_0 + \pi_1 u_1.$$

By Proposition 3.1, we immediately conclude that Λ is a retraction from the space $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M)$ to $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{s, \vartheta}(M)$ with Λ^c as a contraction.

(iii) We will prove that $\mathcal{A}_1 := \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'}|_{M_1}$ generates an analytic contractive positive strongly continuous semigroup on $L_p^{\lambda'}(M_1)$ with domain $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1)$ for $1 < p < \infty$.

Based on Proposition 4.7, we can follow the proof of [51, Theorem 5.18] and immediately prove that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1), L_p^{\lambda'}(M_1))$$

For this reason, I will only point out necessary modifications to show the contraction property and then present a proof for positivity-preserving herein.

Let

$$A_z := -z \operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad} h) - z^2 \rho^{2-\lambda} |\operatorname{grad} h|_g^2 + zC(a_1, \nabla h) + a_0.$$

For any $z = a + ib \in \mathbb{C}$ with $|z| = 1$ and (c, M) , the parameters of h in (4.9), we quote two conditions from [51, Section 5.1].

(H2) $a \in (-\frac{1}{2Mc^3}, 0)$, and $|z| = 1$.

(H3) M is sufficiently large such that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^\lambda \operatorname{Re}(A_z) &> C_0 \rho^2 |\operatorname{grad} h|_g^2 - \omega \\ \rho^{\lambda-1} | -2z\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad} h + t\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad} \log \rho + a_1 |_g &< \frac{2}{\sqrt{C_1}} \sqrt{\rho^\lambda \operatorname{Re}(A_z) + \omega} \end{aligned}$$

for some $\omega < 0$, $C_0 > 1$ and $C_1 \in (1, C_0)$. Here $t \in \{2\lambda', 2\lambda' - \lambda\}$.

Let $\mathcal{A}_h = e^{-zh} \circ \mathcal{A}_1 \circ e^{zh}$. $(M_1, g; \rho)$ is a singular manifold with property \mathcal{H}_λ . Based on Proposition 4.7, the only changes we need to make to the results in [51, Section 5] is to change the domain of \mathcal{A}_1 from $\mathring{W}_p^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1)$ to $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1)$. A modification of [51, formula (5.5), Remark 5.22] implies that

$$\mathcal{A}_h \in \mathcal{H}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1), L_2^{\lambda'}(M_1)) \cap \mathcal{L}is(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1), L_2^{\lambda'}(M_1)), \tag{4.10}$$

and the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}_h}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is contractive.

We have $e^{zh} = \rho^{\operatorname{sign}(1-\lambda)zM} = \rho^{\operatorname{sign}(1-\lambda)aM} \rho^{\operatorname{sign}(1-\lambda)bMi}$. In Step (iii) of the proof for [51, Theorem 5.18], we have proved

$$\rho^{\operatorname{sign}(1-\lambda)bMi} \in BC^{2,0}(M_1).$$

By Propositions 3.1, 3.3 and the fact that $e^{zh} e^{-zh} = e^{-zh} e^{zh} = \mathbf{1}_{M_1}$, we infer that

$$[u \mapsto e^{zh} u] \in \mathcal{L}is(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{s, \vartheta}(M_1), W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{s, \vartheta + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1)), \quad 1 < p < \infty, \quad 0 \leq s \leq 2.$$

Note that $|\rho^{\operatorname{sign}(1-\lambda)bMi}| \equiv 1$, in particular, we have

$$[u \mapsto e^{zh} u] \text{ is an isometry from } L_p^\vartheta(M_1) \text{ to } L_p^{\vartheta + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1). \tag{4.11}$$

A similar argument to [51, Theorem 5.2] (with proper change from $\mathring{W}_p^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1)$ to $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(M_1)$) and (4.10) yield

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1 &\in \mathcal{H}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1), L_2^{\lambda' + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1)) \\ &\cap \mathcal{L}is(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1), L_2^{\lambda' + \operatorname{sign}(\lambda-1)aM}(M_1)). \end{aligned}$$

Since λ' is arbitrary and $\text{sign}(\lambda - 1)aM \in (-1/2c^3, 1/2c^3)$, it implies that for any $\lambda' \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1), L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)) \cap \mathcal{L}\text{is}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1), L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)).$$

By (4.11), the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is contractive.

The assertion that \mathcal{A}_1 generates an analytic contractive strongly continuous semigroup on $L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)$ with domain $W_{p, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1)$ for $1 < p < \infty$ now follows from (4.11) and a similar argument to Step (iv) and (v) of the proof for [51, Theorem 5.18].

The only thing left to prove is the positivity-preserving of the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1}\}_{t \geq 0}$. It is easy to see that

$$u \in W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1) \text{ implies that } \bar{u} \in W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1) \text{ and } \mathcal{A}_1 \bar{u} = \overline{\mathcal{A}_1 u}.$$

Here \bar{u} stands for the complex conjugate of u . By [6, Chapter C-II, Remark 3.1], the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is real.

On the other hand, one can verify that $L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$ is a real Banach lattice. If $u \in W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\nabla u^+ = \begin{cases} \nabla u & u > 0, \\ 0 & u \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

This implies $u^+ \in W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$. By [2, Formulas (12.1), (12.3)] and Proposition 3.3, for $s \in [0, 1/2) \cup (1/2, 1]$ and $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$, we can define the weighted Sobolev space of negative order $W_2^{-s, 2\lambda' - \vartheta}(\mathbf{M}, V)$ as the dual space of $W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{s, \vartheta}(\mathbf{M}, V_\sigma^\tau)$ with respect to

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbf{M}, \lambda'} := \int_{\mathbf{M}} \rho^{2\lambda'} \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle dV_g.$$

Recall $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the duality pairing, cf. Sect. 3.1. Note that it follows from [2, Theorem 11.3(ii)] that $W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{s, \vartheta}(\mathbf{M}; \mathbb{R}) = \mathring{W}_2^{s, \vartheta}(\mathbf{M}; \mathbb{R})$ in [2].

It is known that in local coordinates the divergence operator div reads as

$$\text{div} a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_i (\sqrt{g} a^i), \quad a = a^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}.$$

Since $\partial_j \in \mathcal{L}(L_2(X), W_2^{-1}(X))$ with $X \in (\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{H}^m)$ and \sqrt{g}/ρ_κ^m is uniformly bounded for all κ (see (S1) and (S4)), in every local patch \mathbf{O}_κ

$$\|\text{div} a\|_{W_2^{-1}(X)} = \left\| \frac{\rho_\kappa^m}{\sqrt{g}} \partial_i \left(\frac{\sqrt{g}}{\rho_\kappa^m} a^i \right) \right\|_{W_2^{-1}(X)} \leq C \|a\|_{L_2(X)}$$

for some C independent of κ . Now it follows from [2, Page 17, Theorem 12.1] that

$$\text{div} \in \mathcal{L}(L_2^\vartheta(\mathbf{M}, T\mathbf{M}), W_2^{-1, \vartheta}(\mathbf{M})).$$

Combining with Propositions 3.2 and 3.3, we infer that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{L}(W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R}), W_2^{-1, \lambda' + \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1, \mathbb{R})).$$

Since, by Proposition 3.8, $u^- \in W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R}) \hookrightarrow W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$, we have

$$\mathcal{A}_1 u^- \in W_2^{-1, \lambda' + \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1, \mathbb{R}).$$

Take a sequence $(v_k)_k \subset \mathcal{D}(\mathring{\mathbf{M}})$ converging to u^- in $W_{2, \mathcal{B}_0}^{1, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$. Then by Theorem 3.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} v_k | \text{grad} u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} + \langle 2\lambda' \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} \log \rho + a_1 | u^+ \text{grad} v_k \rangle_{2, \lambda'} + \langle a_0 v_k | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \\ &= \langle \mathcal{A}_1 v_k | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{A}_1 u^- | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'}. \end{aligned}$$

The convergence follows from $\mathcal{A}_1 v_k \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_1 u^-$ in $W_2^{-1, \lambda' + \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1, \mathbb{R})$. On the other hand, $a_0 v_k \rightarrow a_0 u^-$ in $L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$ and thus in $L_2^{\lambda' + \lambda}(\mathbf{M}_1; \mathbb{R})$. This implies

$$\langle a_0 v_k | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \rightarrow \langle a_0 u^- | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'}.$$

Observe that, by Propositions 3.2 and 3.3, we have $\rho^{2-\lambda} \nabla v_k \rightarrow \rho^{2-\lambda} \nabla u^-$ in $L_2^{\lambda' - 2}(\mathbf{M}, T^* \mathbf{M})$ and $\text{grad} u^+ \in L_2^{\lambda' - \lambda + 2}(\mathbf{M}, T \mathbf{M})$. The fact $\lambda > 0$ implies that

$$\langle \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} v_k | \text{grad} u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \rightarrow \langle \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} u^- | \text{grad} u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'}.$$

Similarly,

$$\langle 2\lambda' \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} \log \rho + a_1 | u^+ \text{grad} v_k \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \rightarrow \langle 2\lambda' \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} \log \rho + a_1 | u^+ \text{grad} u^- \rangle_{2, \lambda'}.$$

This establishes

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \mathcal{A}_1 u^-, u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} = \langle \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} u^- | \text{grad} u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \\ &+ \langle 2\lambda' \rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} \log \rho + a_1 | u^+ \text{grad} u^- \rangle_{2, \lambda'} + \langle a_0 u^- | u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We thus infer that

$$\langle \mathcal{A}_1 u, u^+ \rangle_{2, \lambda'} \geq 0.$$

This implies that $-\mathcal{A}_1$ is dispersive. It now follows from [39, Theorem 2.1] or [6, Chapter C-II, Theorem 1.2] that the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is positive.

(iv) In this step, we will show that $\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1))$ with $\phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^\infty < \pi/2$ for all $1 < p < \infty$.

Given any $\psi \in L_1(\mathbb{R}_+)$ with compact support, we have

$$m(\mathcal{A}_1) := \int_0^\infty e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1} \psi(t) dt \in \mathcal{L}(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)).$$

By the discussion in Step (iii), it is not hard to verify that the semigroup $\{\rho^{\lambda'} \circ e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1} \circ \rho^{-\lambda'}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is positive contractive strongly continuous on $L_p(\mathbf{M}_1)$. We immediately have

$$\hat{m}(\mathcal{A}_1) := \int_0^\infty \rho^{\lambda'} \circ e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1} \circ \rho^{-\lambda'} \psi(t) dt \in \mathcal{L}(L_p(\mathbf{M}_1)).$$

It was established in [12, Theorem 3.5] that

$$\|\hat{m}(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_p(\mathbf{M}_1))} \leq \|\psi^*\|,$$

where $\|\psi^*\|$ is the norm of the convolution operator $[u \mapsto u * \psi]$ on $L_p(\mathbb{R})$. This gives rise to the following estimate. For any $u \in L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|m(\mathcal{A}_1)u\|_{L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)} &= \left(\int_{\mathbf{M}_1} |\rho^{\lambda'} \int_0^\infty e^{-t\mathcal{A}_1} u \psi(t) dt|^p d\mu_g \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathbf{M}_1} |\hat{m}(\mathcal{A}_1)\rho^{\lambda'} u|^p d\mu_g \right)^{1/p} = \|\hat{m}(\mathcal{A}_1)\rho^{\lambda'} u\|_{L_p(\mathbf{M}_1)} \\ &\leq \|\psi^*\| \|\rho^{\lambda'} u\|_{L_p(\mathbf{M}_1)} = \|\psi^*\| \|u\|_{L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\|m(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1))} \leq \|\psi^*\|. \tag{4.12}$$

Based on (4.12), we can follow the proof of [18, Theorem 2] and prove that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)), \quad \phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^\infty = \pi/2, \quad 1 < p < \infty. \tag{4.13}$$

When $p = 2$, we infer from [35, Theorem 8] that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(L_2^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_1)), \quad \phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^\infty < \pi/2. \tag{4.14}$$

Let us denote this angle by ϕ_2 .

We can follow the ideas in [14] to prove $\phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^\infty < \pi/2$ for all $1 < p < \infty$. Given $0 < \phi < \varphi < \frac{\pi}{2} < \beta$, where $\phi \in (\phi_2, \frac{\pi}{2})$ and $\beta > \frac{\pi}{2}$. There exists $\theta \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$\varphi = (1 - \theta)\phi_2 + \theta \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

For $\psi \in (0, \pi)$, let

$$S_\psi := \{x + iy \in \mathbb{C} : y \in (-\psi, \psi), x \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

For any $f \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(\Sigma_\varphi)$, set $n(z) := f(e^z)$, where $z \in \Sigma_\varphi$. Then n is analytic and bounded in S_φ . By [14, Lemma 1], there exists a family $\{n_\zeta : \zeta = \xi + i\eta : \xi \in (0, \pi), \eta \in \mathbb{R}\}$ of functions satisfying the following properties:

- (a) n_ζ is analytic and bounded in $S_{\xi-\varepsilon}$ for any small $\varepsilon > 0$ and

$$\sup\{|n_\zeta(z)| : z \in S_{\xi-\varepsilon}\} \leq C \|n\|_\infty \varepsilon^{-1/2}$$

for some fixed $C > 0$.

- (b) $n_\varphi = n$.
- (c) For any $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $[\zeta \mapsto n_\zeta(x)]$ is analytic.

Now we define

$$f_\zeta(z) = n_\zeta(\log(z)), \quad \zeta = \xi + i\eta, \quad z \in \Sigma_\xi.$$

Then $f_\zeta \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(\Sigma_{\xi-\varepsilon})$ for any small $\varepsilon > 0$ and $f_\varphi = f$.

We first look at ζ with $\text{Re}\zeta = \phi$. Then for any $\phi_1 \in (\phi_2, \phi)$, we have $f_\zeta \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(\Sigma_{\phi_1})$. By (4.14), it holds

$$\|f_\zeta(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{\lambda'}_2(\mathbb{M}))} \leq C_0 \|f_\zeta\|_\infty \leq CC_0 \|f\|_\infty (\phi - \phi_1)^{-1/2} =: B_0.$$

When $\text{Re}\zeta = \beta$, by (4.13) and a similar argument as above

$$\|f_\zeta(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{\lambda'}_q(\mathbb{M}))} \leq B_1$$

for some fixed constant B_1 .

We put $m_\zeta := \rho^{\lambda'} f_\zeta(\mathcal{A}_1) \rho^{-\lambda'}$. Then

$$\|m_{\phi+i\eta}\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_2(\mathbb{M}))} \leq B_0, \quad \|m_{\beta+i\eta}\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_q(\mathbb{M}))} \leq B_1.$$

Now for p satisfying $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1-\theta}{2} + \frac{\theta}{q}$, applying the Stein interpolation theorem, we obtain

$$\|m_\varphi\|_{\mathcal{L}(L_p(\mathbb{M}))} \leq B_0^{1-\theta} B_1^\theta.$$

This implies that

$$\|f(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{\lambda'}_p(\mathbb{M}))} = \|f_\varphi(\mathcal{A}_1)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{\lambda'}_p(\mathbb{M}))} \leq B_0^{1-\theta} B_1^\theta.$$

Since the choice of q is arbitrary, we have proved that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{H}^\infty(L^{\lambda'}_p(\mathbb{M}_1)), \quad \phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^\infty < \pi/2, \quad 1 < p < \infty.$$

(v) By (4.4) and (4.5), it holds that

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \in \mathcal{RS}(L^{\lambda'}_p(\mathbb{M}_1)), \quad 1 < p < \infty \tag{4.15}$$

with $\phi_{\mathcal{A}_1}^R < \pi/2$.

On the other hand, (\mathbb{M}_0, g) is uniformly regular, and thus $\rho|_{\mathbb{M}_0} \sim \mathbf{1}_{\mathbb{M}_0}$. Therefore, the choice of weights is immaterial in the definition of function spaces on (\mathbb{M}_1, g) . $\mathcal{A}_0 := \mathcal{A}|_{\mathbb{M}_0}$ is uniformly strongly ρ -elliptic in the sense of [4, formula (5.1)]. It is proved in [4, Theorem 5.2] that

$$\omega_0 + \mathcal{A}_0 \in \mathcal{RS}(L^{\lambda'}_p(\mathbb{M}_0)), \quad 1 < p < \infty, \tag{4.16}$$

for some $\omega_0 \geq 0$ with $\phi_{\mathcal{A}_0}^R < \pi/2$ and domain $W^{2,\lambda'-\lambda}_{p,B_i}(\mathbb{M}_0)$ for $i = 0, 1$.

(vi) An easy computation shows that for $j = 0, 1$ and any $v \in \mathcal{D}(\mathbf{M})$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_j \mathcal{A} v &= \mathcal{A}_j(\pi_j v) + 2\rho^{2-\lambda} \mathbf{C}(\nabla v, \text{grad} \pi_j) + [\text{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \text{grad} \pi_j) - \mathbf{C}(\nabla \pi_j, a_1)]v \\ &=: \mathcal{A}_j(\pi_j v) + \mathcal{B}_j v. \end{aligned} \tag{4.17}$$

Note that

$$\text{grad} \pi_j \in BC^{\infty, \vartheta}(\mathbf{M}, T\mathbf{M})$$

for any $\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}$. Based on this observation and Propositions 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, and [2, Corollaries 7.2, 12.2], we infer that

$$\mathcal{B}_j \in \mathcal{L}(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{1+r, \lambda' - \lambda(1+r)/2}(\mathbf{M}), L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}_j)), \quad i, j = 0, 1. \tag{4.18}$$

for any $r \in (0, 1)$. Put $\vec{\mathcal{A}} := (\mathcal{A}_j)_{j=0}^1$ and

$$E_1 := W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}), \quad E_0 := L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}), \quad E_\gamma := (E_0, E_1)_{\gamma, p}.$$

By the definition and convexity of \mathcal{R} -boundedness, c.f. [15, Proposition 3.8], it is clear that (4.15) and (4.16) imply

$$\omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathcal{RS}(E_0), \quad 1 < p < \infty \tag{4.19}$$

for some $\omega_0 \geq 0$ with $\phi_{\omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}}}^R < \pi/2$. By [15, Proposition 3.4, Theorem 4.4], for some $\theta \in (\pi/2, \pi - \phi_{\omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}}}^R)$

$$\mathcal{R}\{(\omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}})(\mu + \omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}})^{-1} : \mu \in \Sigma_\theta\} < \infty.$$

By (4.18), we have

$$\mathcal{B} := (\mathcal{B}_j)_{j=0}^1 \in \mathcal{L}(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{1+r, \lambda' - \lambda(1+r)/2}(\mathbf{M}), E_0).$$

One can conclude that

$$\mathcal{B}\Lambda \in \mathcal{L}(E_{\frac{1+r}{2}}, E_0).$$

Interpolation theory thus implies that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists some positive constant $C(\varepsilon)$ such that for all $\mathbf{u} = (u_j)_{j=0}^1 \in E_1$

$$\|\mathcal{B}\Lambda \mathbf{u}\|_{E_0} \leq \varepsilon \|\mathbf{u}\|_{E_1} + C(\varepsilon) \|\mathbf{u}\|_{E_0}. \tag{4.20}$$

It is well known that (4.19) implies that there is a constant $\mathcal{E} > 0$ such that

$$|\omega|^{1-j} \|(\omega + \vec{\mathcal{A}})^{-1}\|_{\mathcal{L}(E_0, E_j)} \leq \mathcal{E}, \quad j = 0, 1, \quad \omega \geq \omega_0.$$

Together with (4.20), it implies

$$\|\mathcal{B}\Lambda \mathbf{u}\|_{E_0} \leq \varepsilon \mathcal{E} \|(\omega_0 + \vec{\mathcal{A}})\mathbf{u}\|_{E_0} + C(\varepsilon) \|\mathbf{u}\|_{E_0}.$$

By [15, Proposition 4.3, Theorem 4.4], we can find some $\omega_1 \geq \omega_0$ such that

$$\omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda \in \mathcal{RS}(E_0), \quad 1 < p < \infty \tag{4.21}$$

with $\phi_{\omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda}^R < \pi/2$, and for some $\theta > \pi/2$

$$\mathcal{R}\{\mu(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda)^{-1} : \mu \in \Sigma_\theta\} < \infty. \tag{4.22}$$

(4.17) shows that

$$\Lambda^c(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}})u = (\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}})\Lambda^c u + \mathcal{B}\Lambda\Lambda^c u = (\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda)\Lambda^c u.$$

One readily checks that

$$\begin{aligned} &\Lambda(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda)^{-1}\Lambda^c(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}}) \\ &= \Lambda(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda)^{-1}(\mu + \omega_1 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \mathcal{B}\Lambda)\Lambda^c = \text{id}_{W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbb{M})}. \end{aligned}$$

(vii) On the other hand, one can also view

$$\mathcal{B}_j \in \mathcal{L}(W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{1+r, \lambda' - \lambda(1+r)/2}(\mathbb{M}_j), L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbb{M})).$$

Let $\mathfrak{B}u := \sum_{j=0}^1 \mathcal{B}_j u_j$ for $u = (u_j)_{j=0}^1 \in E_{\frac{1+r}{2}}$. Following a similar argument as in Step (vi), we have for some $\omega_2 \geq \omega_1$

$$\begin{aligned} &(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}})\Lambda(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} - \Lambda^c \mathfrak{B})^{-1}\Lambda^c \\ &= \Lambda(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} - \Lambda^c \mathfrak{B})(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} - \Lambda^c \mathfrak{B})^{-1}\Lambda^c = \text{id}_{L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbb{M})} \end{aligned}$$

and for some $\theta > \pi/2$

$$\mathcal{R}\{\mu(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} - \Lambda^c \mathfrak{B})^{-1} : \mu \in \Sigma_\theta\} < \infty. \tag{4.23}$$

Therefore, we have

$$(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}})^{-1} = \Lambda(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}} - \Lambda^c \mathfrak{B})^{-1}\Lambda^c$$

and by [15, Proposition 3.4]

$$\mathcal{R}\{\mu(\mu + \omega_2 + \bar{\mathcal{A}})^{-1} : \mu \in \Sigma_\theta\} < \infty$$

The asserted statement now is an easy consequence of [15, Theorem 4.4]. □

We say $u, v \in C^k(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R})$ are C^k -equivalent, which is denoted by $u \sim_k v$, if

$$u \sim v, \quad |\nabla^i u|_g \sim |\nabla^i v|_g, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Given any compact submanifold $\Sigma \subset (\mathbb{M}, g)$, the distance function is a well-defined smooth function in a collar neighborhood \mathcal{U}_Σ of Σ . The distance ball at Σ with radius r is defined by

$$\mathbb{B}_\mathbb{M}(\Sigma, r) := \{\mathfrak{p} \in \mathbb{M} : \text{dist}_\mathbb{M}(\mathfrak{p}, \Sigma) < r\}.$$

DEFINITION 4.10. Suppose that (\mathcal{M}, g) is an m -dimensional uniformly regular Riemannian manifold.

- (i) (\mathcal{M}, g) is an m -dimensional uniformly regular Riemannian manifold, and $\Sigma = \{\Sigma_j : j = 1, \dots, k\}$ is a finite set of disjoint $(m - 1)$ -dimensional compact submanifolds such that $\Sigma_j \subset \overset{\circ}{\mathcal{M}}$ or $\Sigma_j \subset \partial\mathcal{M}$. Put $G_0 := \mathcal{M} \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^k \Sigma_j$ and

$$\mathcal{B}_{j,r} := \bar{\mathbb{B}}_{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_j, r) \cap G_0, \quad j = 1, \dots, k.$$

Furthermore, the singularity function ρ satisfies

$$\rho \sim_2 \text{dist}_{\mathcal{M}}(\cdot, \Sigma_j) \quad \text{in } \mathcal{B}_{j,r} \tag{4.24}$$

for some $r \in (0, \delta)$, where $\delta < \text{diam}(\mathcal{M})$ and $\mathcal{B}_{i,\delta} \cap \mathcal{B}_{j,\delta} = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and

$$\rho \sim \mathbf{1}, \quad \text{elsewhere on } G_0.$$

- (i') Assume that $\Sigma := \{\mathbf{p}_j : j = 1, \dots, k\}$ is a family of points in $\overset{\circ}{\mathcal{M}}$. In addition, G_0 and ρ are defined as in (i).
- (ii) $\mathbf{G} = \{G_1, \dots, G_n\}$ is a finite set of disjoint m -dimensional closed uniformly mild wedges. More precisely, there is a diffeomorphism $f_i : G_i \rightarrow W(R_i, B_i, \Gamma_i)$ with $R_i \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}(J_0)$. Let $I_r := (0, r]$ and

$$\mathcal{G}_{i,r} := f_i^{-1}(\phi_P(I_r \times B_i) \times \Gamma_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Moreover, the singularity function ρ satisfies

$$\rho \sim_2 f_i^*(\phi_P^*(R_i|_{I_r} \otimes \mathbf{1}_{B_i}) \otimes \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma_i}) \quad \text{in } \mathcal{G}_{i,r} \tag{4.25}$$

for some $r \in (0, 1]$, and

$$\rho \sim \mathbf{1}, \quad \text{elsewhere on } G_i.$$

- (iii) $\{G_0\} \cup \mathbf{G}$ forms a covering for \mathbf{M} , and $G_0 \cap G_i \subset \partial G_0 \cap \partial G_i$.

If $(\mathbf{M}, g; \rho)$ satisfies condition (i)–(iii), then it is called a *torn singular manifold with closed uniformly mild wedge ends*. If $(\mathbf{M}, g; \rho)$ satisfies (i'), (ii) and (iii), then it is called a *punctured singular manifold with closed uniformly mild wedge ends*. Analogues of these two concepts were first introduced in [51] and then slightly modified here.

One can show that (4.24) and (4.25) imply that

$$|\Delta\rho| < \infty \quad \text{in } \mathcal{B}_{j,r} \text{ and } \mathcal{G}_{j,r}. \tag{4.26}$$

THEOREM 4.11. Suppose that $\lambda \in [0, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$ when $(\mathbf{M}, g; \rho)$ is a torn C^2 -singular manifold with closed uniformly mild wedge ends, or $\lambda \in [0, m) \cup (m, \infty)$ when $(\mathbf{M}, g; \rho)$ is an m -dimensional punctured C^2 -singular manifold with closed uniformly mild wedge ends. Let $\lambda' \in \mathbb{R}$. Furthermore, assume that the differential operator

$$\mathcal{A}u := -\text{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \text{gradu}) + \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, a_1) + a_0u$$

is $(\rho, \lambda)_{\mathbb{R}}$ -regular. Then there exists some $\omega \geq 0$ such that $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} := \mathcal{A}|_{W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})}$ satisfies

$$\omega + \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} \in \mathcal{RS}(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})), \quad 1 < p < \infty, ,$$

with \mathcal{R} -angle $\phi_{\omega + \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'}}^{\mathcal{R}} < \pi/2$.

Proof. This follows from [51, Proposition 5.10, Corollary 5.20, Remarks 5.16, 5.21, 5.22] and a similar argument as in Theorem 4.9. □

4.2. Maximal L_p -regularity of second-order elliptic differential operators

In order to study nonlinear parabolic equations on *singular manifolds*, we will establish maximal L_p -regularity for differential operators of the form (4.1). To this end, we consider the following abstract Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(t) + \mathcal{A}u(t) = f(t), & t \geq 0 \\ u(0) = 0. \end{cases} \tag{4.27}$$

DEFINITION 4.12. Assume that $X_1 \xrightarrow{d} X_0$ is some densely embedded Banach couple. Suppose that $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{S}(X_0)$ with $dom(\mathcal{A}) = X_1$. The Cauchy problem (4.27) has maximal L_p -regularity if for any

$$f \in L_p(\mathbb{R}_+; X_0),$$

(4.27) has a unique solution

$$u \in L_p(\mathbb{R}_+; X_1) \cap H_p^1(\mathbb{R}_+; X_0).$$

We denote this by

$$\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{MR}_p(X_0).$$

THEOREM 4.13. Let $\lambda' \in \mathbb{R}$ and $p \neq 3/2, 3$. Suppose that a C^2 -singular manifold $(\mathbf{M}, g; \rho)$ and λ satisfy the conditions in Theorems 4.9 or 4.11. Furthermore, assume that the differential operator

$$\mathcal{A}u := -\operatorname{div}(\rho^{2-\lambda} \operatorname{grad}u) + \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, a_1) + a_0 u$$

is $(\rho, \lambda)_{\mathbb{R}}$ -regular. Let $J = [0, T]$ with $T \in (0, \infty)$ and $i = 0, 1$. Then for every

$$(f, u_0) \in L_p(J; L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})) \times W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2-\frac{2}{p}, \lambda' - \lambda(1-\frac{1}{p})}(\mathbf{M}),$$

and

$$h \in L_p(J; W_p^{2-i-\frac{1}{p}, \lambda' - \lambda + i + \frac{1}{p}}(\partial\mathbf{M})) \cap W_p^{1-\frac{i}{2}-\frac{1}{2p}}(J; L_p^{\lambda' + i + \frac{1}{p} - \lambda(\frac{i}{2} + \frac{1}{2p})}(\partial\mathbf{M}))$$

satisfying the compatibility condition

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{B}_0 u_0 = h(0) \text{ on } \partial\mathbf{M} & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ and } 3/2 < p, \\ \mathcal{B}_1 u_0 = h(0) \text{ on } \partial\mathbf{M} & \text{if } i = 1 \text{ and } 3 < p, \end{cases}$$

the Cauchy problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(t) + \mathcal{A}u(t) = f(t) & \text{on } \mathbf{M}_T; \\ \mathcal{B}_i u = h & \text{on } \partial\mathbf{M}_T; \\ u(0) = u_0 & \text{on } \mathbf{M}. \end{cases} \tag{4.28}$$

has a unique solution

$$u \in L_p(J; W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})) \cap H_p^1(J; L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})).$$

Proof. Theorems 4.9, 4.11 and [15, Theorem 4.4] show that, for some $\omega \geq 0$, $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} := \mathcal{A}|_{W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})}$ satisfies

$$\omega + \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'} \in \mathcal{MR}_p(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})). \tag{4.29}$$

By Proposition 3.6, we have

$$(L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}), W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M}))_{1-1/p, p} = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2 - \frac{2}{p}, \lambda' - \lambda(1 - \frac{1}{p})}(\mathbf{M}).$$

We set

$$\mathbb{E}_0(J) := L_p(J; L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M})),$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}_1(J) := L_p(J; W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2, \lambda' - \lambda}(\mathbf{M})) \cap H_p^1(J; L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbf{M}));$$

and put

$$\mathbb{F}_0(J) := L_p(J; L_p^{\lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbf{M})),$$

and

$$\mathbb{F}_1(J) := L_p(J; W_p^{2, \lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbf{M})) \cap H_p^1(J; L_p^{\lambda' + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbf{M})),$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}_\theta(J) = (\mathbb{E}_0(J), \mathbb{E}_1(J))_{\theta, p}, \quad \mathbb{F}_\theta(J) = (\mathbb{F}_0(J), \mathbb{F}_1(J))_{\theta, p}.$$

[3, Definition (8.3), Theorem 20.3] show that for $\theta = 1 - \frac{i}{2} - \frac{1}{2p}$

$$\mathcal{B}_i \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{E}_1(J), \mathbb{F}_\theta(J))$$

is a retraction and there exists a coretraction $\mathcal{B}_i^c \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{F}_\theta(J), \mathbb{E}_1(J))$ such that $\mathcal{B}_i \circ \mathcal{B}_i^c = \text{id}$. Note that in [3] the author used the following notations:

$$\mathbb{E}_1(J) = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2/\bar{2}, (\lambda' - \lambda, \lambda)}(\mathbb{M})$$

and

$$\mathbb{F}_1(J) = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{0/\bar{2}, (\lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p, \lambda)}(\partial\mathbb{M}), \quad \mathbb{F}_1(J) = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2/\bar{2}, (\lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p, \lambda)}(\partial\mathbb{M}).$$

To obtain a precise characterization for $\mathbb{F}_\theta(J)$, we apply interpolation theory and infer that

$$\begin{aligned} &(L_p(J; L_p^{\lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbb{M})), L_p(J; W_p^{2, \lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbb{M})))_{\theta, p} \\ &\doteq L_p(J; W_p^{2\theta, \lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbb{M})). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, following the proof for [3, Theorem 21.1], we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} &(L_p(J; L_p^{\lambda' - \lambda + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbb{M})), H_p^1(J; L_p^{\lambda' + i + 1/p}(\partial\mathbb{M})))_{\theta, p} \\ &\doteq W_p^\theta(J; L_p^{\lambda' + i + \frac{1}{p} - \lambda(1 - \theta)}(\partial\mathbb{M})). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{F}_\theta(J) \doteq L_p(J; W_p^{2\theta, \lambda' - \lambda + i + \frac{1}{p}}(\partial\mathbb{M})) \cap W_p^\theta(J; L_p^{\lambda' + i + \frac{1}{p} - \lambda(1 - \theta)}(\partial\mathbb{M}))$$

is the boundary trace space for $\mathbb{E}_1(J)$. Let $u^* = \mathcal{B}_i^c(h)$. Then $u = u^* + \hat{u}$ solves (4.28), where \hat{u} is a solution to

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u + \mathcal{A}u = f - \partial_t u^* - \mathcal{A}u^* =: f^* & \text{on } \mathbb{M}_T; \\ \mathcal{B}_i u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\mathbb{M}_T; \\ u(0) = u_0 - u^*(0) =: \hat{u}_0 & \text{on } \mathbb{M}. \end{cases} \tag{4.30}$$

We will show (4.30) has a unique solution in $\mathbb{E}_1(J)$.

Given Banach spaces E and \mathbb{E} such that $\mathbb{E} \hookrightarrow L_{1,loc}(J; E)$, define

$$e^{\omega t} \mathbb{E} := \{u \in L_{1,loc}(J; E) : e^{-\omega t} u \in \mathbb{E}\},$$

equipped with the norm

$$\|u\|_{e^{\omega t} \mathbb{E}} := \|e^{-\omega t} u\|_{\mathbb{E}}.$$

The boundedness of J gives

$$e^{\omega t} \mathbb{E}_j(J) \doteq \mathbb{E}_j(J), \quad j = 0, 1. \tag{4.31}$$

One readily checks that $w(t) = e^{-t \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{B}_i}^{\lambda'}} \hat{u}_0$ solves

$$\partial_t u(t) + \mathcal{A}u(t) = 0, \quad \mathcal{B}_i u = 0 \quad u(0) = \hat{u}_0.$$

[1, formula (III.1.5.6), Proposition 4.10.3] and (4.31) imply that $w \in \mathbb{E}_1(J)$.

Hence it only remains to prove that for any $f \in \mathbb{E}_0(J)$, the Cauchy problem

$$\partial_t v(t) + (\omega + \mathcal{A})v(t) = e^{-\omega t} f(t), \quad v(0) = 0$$

has a unique solution $v \in \mathbb{E}_1(J)$, or equivalently,

$$u = e^{\omega t} v \in e^{\omega t} \mathbb{E}_1(J)$$

uniquely solves (4.30) with $\hat{u}_0 = 0$. This is an immediate consequence of (4.29).

Let $\gamma : \mathbb{E}_1(J) \rightarrow E := W_{p, \mathcal{B}_i}^{2-\frac{2}{p}, \lambda' - \lambda(1-\frac{1}{p})}(\mathbb{M}) : u \mapsto u(0)$. Then

$$\gamma \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{E}_1(J), E). \tag{4.32}$$

By the maximal regularity property, cf. [40, Formula (1.2)] and (4.32), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{\mathbb{E}_1(J)} &\leq \|u^*\|_{\mathbb{E}_1(J)} + \|\hat{u}\|_{\mathbb{E}_1(J)} \\ &\leq C(\|h\|_{\mathbb{F}_\theta(J)} + \|f^*\|_{\mathbb{E}_0(J)} + \|\hat{u}_0\|_E) \\ &\leq C(\|h\|_{\mathbb{F}_\theta(J)} + \|f\|_{\mathbb{E}_0(J)} + \|\partial_t u^* + \mathcal{A}u^*\|_{\mathbb{E}_0(J)} + \|u_0\|_E + \|u^*(0)\|_E) \\ &\leq C(\|h\|_{\mathbb{F}_\theta(J)} + \|f\|_{\mathbb{E}_0(J)} + \|u_0\|_E). \end{aligned}$$

This establishes the uniqueness of the solution $u = u^* + \hat{u}$. □

COROLLARY 4.14. *Under the same conditions as in Theorem 4.13, if (f, h, u_0) is real valued, so is the solution u .*

Proof. If h is real, then $u^* = \mathcal{B}_i^c(h)$ is real. Since the semigroup $\{e^{-t\mathcal{A}}\}_{t \geq 0}$ is real on $L_p^{\lambda'}(\mathbb{M})$, the variation of parameters formula for the solution \hat{u} to (4.30), i.e.,

$$\hat{u}(t) = e^{-t\mathcal{A}}(u_0 - u^*(0)) + \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)\mathcal{A}} f^*(s) dt, \quad t \geq 0$$

immediately gives the desired assertion. □

5. The Yamabe flow

Suppose that $(\mathbb{M}, g_0; \rho)$ is a C^2 -singular manifold of dimension m for $m \geq 3$. The Yamabe flow reads as

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t g = -R_g g & \text{on } \mathbb{M}_T; \\ H_g = 0 & \text{on } \partial\mathbb{M}_T; \\ g(0) = g_0 & \text{on } \mathbb{M}, \end{cases} \tag{5.1}$$

where R_g is the scalar curvature with respect to the metric g , and H_g is the mean curvature of $g_{\partial\mathbb{M}}$. The evolving metric g is in the conformal class of the background metric g_0 , i.e., $[g_0]$.

Note that a *singular manifold* satisfying the conditions in Theorem 4.9 (in addition, we ask \overline{M}_r to be bounded for some $r \in (0, 1]$) or 4.11 must be incomplete. Indeed, it is not hard to verify that the manifolds in Theorem 4.11 are incomplete. Since a manifold with non-empty boundary is incomplete, we consider a manifold (M, g) with $\partial M = \emptyset$ satisfying the conditions in Theorem 4.9 and \overline{M}_r is bounded for some $r \in (0, 1]$. Assume that (M, g) is complete. Then by the closedness and boundedness of \overline{M}_r and Hopf-Rinow Theorem, one immediately concludes that \overline{M}_r is compact. We can pick a sequence $(x_n)_n \subset \overline{M}_r$ such that $\rho(x_n) < 1/n$. From the compactness of \overline{M}_r and the continuity of ρ , we infer that there exists a subsequence $(x_{n_k})_{n_k} \rightarrow x$ for some $x \in \overline{M}_r$ and $\rho(x) = 0$. A contradiction. Through the rest of this paper, we always assume that either (M, g_0) satisfies the conditions in Theorem 4.9 with \overline{M}_r being bounded for some $r \in (0, 1]$ or the conditions in Theorem 4.11. By the above discussions, (5.1) actually starts with an incomplete metric.

5.1. Well-posedness of the Yamabe flow on singular manifolds

In this subsection, we apply Theorem 4.13 and Corollary 4.14 to establish the general theory for existence and uniqueness of solutions to the Yamabe flow (5.1) on (M, g_0) .

Let $c(m) := \frac{m-2}{4(m-1)}$. The conformal Laplacian operator L_g with respect to the metric g is defined by

$$L_g u := \Delta_g u - c(m)R_g u.$$

Here Δ_g is the Laplace–Beltrami operator with respect to g defined by

$$\Delta_g := \operatorname{div}_g \circ \operatorname{grad}.$$

Let $g = u^{\frac{4}{m-2}} g_0$ for $u > 0$. By rescaling the time variable, Eq. (5.1) is equivalent to

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u^{\frac{m+2}{m-2}} = \frac{m+2}{m-2} L_{g_0} u & \text{on } M_T; \\ \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = 0 & \text{on } \partial M_T; \\ u(0) = \mathbf{1}_M & \text{on } M, \end{cases}$$

where \mathbf{n}_0 is the inward pointing normal of g_0 on ∂M . The vanishing mean curvature condition $H_g = 0$ has been transformed into the Neumann boundary condition $\mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = 0$. See (1.4) in Sect. 1. Note that $\mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_0}$. It is equivalent to solving the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = u^{-\frac{4}{m-2}} L_{g_0} u & \text{on } M_T; \\ \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = 0 & \text{on } \partial M_T; \\ u(0) = \mathbf{1}_M & \text{on } M. \end{cases} \tag{5.2}$$

Put

$$P(u)v := u^{-\frac{4}{m-2}} \Delta_{g_0} v, \quad Q(u) := -c(m)u^{\frac{m-6}{m-2}} R_{g_0}.$$

We set

$$E_0 := L_p^{2-\frac{m+2}{p}}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}), \quad E_1 := W_{p, \mathcal{B}_1}^{2, -\frac{m+2}{p}}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}).$$

Then it follows from Proposition 3.6 that

$$E_{1-1/p} := (E_0, E_1)_{1-1/p, p} = W_{p, \mathcal{B}_1}^{2-\frac{2}{p}, -\frac{m}{p}}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}).$$

By Theorem 4.13 and Corollary 4.14, the operator

$$P(u_0) = \Delta_{g_0} \in \mathcal{MR}_p(E_0), \quad 1 < p < \infty \tag{5.3}$$

with domain E_1 . We assume that

$$p > m + 2.$$

Proposition 3.7 then implies

$$E_{1-1/p} \hookrightarrow BC^{1,0}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}).$$

We first look at the linear problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \Delta_{g_0} u & \text{on } \mathbb{M}_T; \\ \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = 0 & \text{on } \partial\mathbb{M}_T; \\ u(0) = \mathbf{1}_M & \text{on } \mathbb{M}. \end{cases} \tag{5.4}$$

It is clear that $u^* \equiv \mathbf{1}_M$ solves (5.4).

Then we look at the nonlinear problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - P(u + u^*)u = Q(u + u^*) & \text{on } \mathbb{M}_T; \\ \mathbf{C}(\nabla u, \mathbf{n}_0) = 0 & \text{on } \partial\mathbb{M}_T; \\ u(0) = \mathbf{0}_M & \text{on } \mathbb{M}. \end{cases} \tag{5.5}$$

We take

$$\hat{U} := \mathbb{B}_R(\mathbf{0}_M) := \{v \in BC^{1,0}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R}) : \|v\|_{1,\infty;0} < R\}$$

to be an open ball around $\mathbf{0}_M$ in $BC^{1,0}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R})$ with $R < 1$, and set $U := i^{-1}(\hat{U})$, where i is the embedding of $E_{1-1/p}$ into $BC^{1,0}(\mathbb{M}; \mathbb{R})$. Then U is open in $E_{1-1/p}$ and

$$\inf(v + \mathbf{1}_M) \geq 1 - R > 0, \quad v \in U.$$

On the C^2 -uniformly regular Riemannian manifold $(\mathbb{M}, \hat{g}) := (\mathbb{M}, g/\rho^2; \mathbf{1}_M)$, we can define unweighted BC^k -spaces as in Sect. 2.2 with respect to the metric \hat{g} and by

taking $\rho = \mathbf{1}_M$. We denote these spaces by $BC^k(\hat{M})$. By [4, Formula (4.4)], it holds that

$$BC^k(\hat{M}) \doteq BC^{k,0}(M)$$

An observation into the proof for [49, Proposition 6.3] shows that this proposition remains true for $BC^k(\hat{M}; \mathbb{R})$. Therefore, it holds for any $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ that

$$[v \mapsto v^\alpha] \in C^\omega(\hat{U} + \mathbf{1}_M, BC^{1,0}(M; \mathbb{R})),$$

where ω is the symbol of real analyticity, and

$$\hat{U} + \mathbf{1}_M := \{u \in L_{1,loc}(M; \mathbb{R}) : u = u_1 + \mathbf{1}_M \text{ with } u_1 \in \hat{U}; \|\cdot\|_{1,\infty;0}\}$$

is open in $BC^{1,0}(M; \mathbb{R})$. Moreover, $[v \mapsto (v + \mathbf{1}_M)] \in C^\omega(U, \hat{U} + \mathbf{1}_M)$. Therefore,

$$[v \mapsto (v + \mathbf{1}_M)^\alpha] \in C^\omega(U, BC^{1,0}(M; \mathbb{R})), \tag{5.6}$$

In view of Propositions 3.2 and 3.4, we have

$$\Delta_{g_0} \in \mathcal{L}(E_1, E_0).$$

Now one infers from Proposition 3.1 and (5.6) that

$$[v \mapsto P(v + u^*)] \in C^\omega(U, \mathcal{L}(E_1, E_0)) \tag{5.7}$$

Our most important assumption for the Yamabe flow can be stated as follows.

(YF) There exists some $\varepsilon \in (\frac{2}{p}, \infty)$ such that

$$\rho^{\varepsilon - \frac{m+2}{p}} \in L_p(M; \mathbb{R}), \quad R_{g_0} \in BC^{\infty,2-\varepsilon}(M; \mathbb{R}). \tag{5.8}$$

We would like to comment on the second entry of (5.8). This condition is not optimal. Indeed, in [50, Formula (4.13)], it is shown that

$$R_{g_0} \in BC^{\infty,2}(M; \mathbb{R}).$$

So (YF) actually asks R_{g_0} to be less singular. However, we will show in Sect. 5.2 that (YF) is satisfied by plenty of examples of *singular manifolds*.

As a consequence of (5.6) and (YF), we conclude from Proposition 3.1 that

$$[v \mapsto Q(v + u^*)] \in C^\omega(U, BC^{1,2-\varepsilon}(M; \mathbb{R}))$$

and for any $v \in BC^{1,2-\varepsilon}(M; \mathbb{R})$

$$\|v\|_{p;2-\frac{m+2}{p}} \leq \|v\|_{\infty;2-\varepsilon} \|\rho^{\varepsilon - \frac{m+2}{p}}\|_p \leq C \|v\|_{\infty;2-\varepsilon}.$$

Combining the above two results, we infer that

$$[v \mapsto Q(v + u^*)] \in C^\omega(U, E_0). \tag{5.9}$$

[11, Theorem 2.1], (5.3), (5.7) and (5.9) imply that there exists a unique solution

$$\tilde{u} \in \mathbb{E}_1(J) := L_p(J; E_1) \cap H_p^1(J; E_0)$$

solving (5.5). Now it is clear that $\hat{u} := \tilde{u} + u^*$ solves (5.2). We will show that \hat{u} is indeed the unique solution in the class $\mathbb{E}_1(J) \oplus \mathbb{R}_M$, where \mathbb{R}_M is the space of all real-valued constant functions on M . First we have

$$\mathbb{E}_1(J) \hookrightarrow C(J; E_{1-1/p}),$$

and $\mathbb{R}_M \cap E_{1-1/p} = \{\mathbf{0}_M\}$. If $u \in \mathbb{E}_1(J) \oplus \mathbb{R}_M$ solves (5.2), then we have a unique decomposition of the solution $u = u_1 + u_2$ with $u_1 \in \mathbb{E}_1(J)$ and $u_2 \in \mathbb{R}_M$. Since $u(0) = u_1(0) + u_2 = \mathbf{1}_M$, we infer that $u_2 = \mathbf{1}_M$. Thus $u_1 \in \mathbb{E}_1(J)$ is a solution to (5.5) by our construction, and the uniqueness follows immediately.

Now we are in a position to state the following well-posedness theorem for the Yamabe flow.

THEOREM 5.1. *Suppose that $(M, g_0; \rho)$ is a C^2 -singular manifold satisfying either the conditions in Theorem 4.9 with \overline{M}_r being bounded for some $r \in (0, 1]$ or the conditions in Theorem 4.11. Suppose in addition that $p > m + 2$ and condition (YF) is fulfilled. Then the Yamabe flow (5.2) has a unique positive solution*

$$u \in L_p(J; W_{p, \mathcal{B}_1}^{2, -\frac{m+2}{p}}(M; \mathbb{R})) \cap H_p^1(J; L_p^{2, -\frac{m+2}{p}}(M; \mathbb{R})) \oplus \mathbb{R}_M.$$

for some $J := [0, T]$ with $T > 0$. Moreover,

$$u \in C(J; W_{p, \mathcal{B}_1}^{2-\frac{2}{p}, -\frac{m}{p}}(M; \mathbb{R})) \oplus \mathbb{R}_M.$$

The local positivity of the solution u in the above theorem follows from the fact that $u \in C(J; W_p^{2-\frac{2}{p}, -\frac{m}{p}}(M; \mathbb{R})) \oplus \mathbf{1}_M$ and $W_p^{2-\frac{2}{p}, -\frac{m}{p}}(M; \mathbb{R}) \hookrightarrow BC^{1,0}(M; \mathbb{R})$.

REMARK 5.2. We observe that our solution to the Yamabe flow (5.1) remains in the set $U \oplus \mathbf{1}_M$ at least for a short period of time $J = [0, T]$. For any fixed $t_0 \in J$, we have

$$0 < \inf u(t_0) \leq \sup u(t_0) < \infty.$$

This means that $(M, g(t); \rho)$ is a *singular manifold* for all $t \in J$. So the unique solution obtained in Theorem 5.1 preserves the type of singularities and is not instantaneously complete. This has the same feature of the solution obtained in [8] for compact manifold with an incomplete edge singularity.

5.2. Examples of the Yamabe flow starting on incomplete manifolds

PROPOSITION 5.3. *Suppose that $(M, g_0; \rho)$ is a torn or punctured C^2 -singular manifold with $\text{Vol}_{g_0}(M) < \infty$. Then condition (YF) is satisfied for all $\varepsilon \in (\frac{m+1}{p}, 2]$.*

Proof. By Definition 4.10, $(M, g_0; \rho)$ is constructed by removing a finite family of $(m - 1)$ -dimensional compact submanifolds $\Sigma := \{\Sigma_j : j = 1, \dots, k\}$ or a finite family of points $\mathbf{p} := \{\mathbf{p}_j : j = 1, \dots, k\}$ from a uniformly regular Riemannian manifold (\mathcal{M}, \tilde{g}) with $\tilde{g}|_M = g_0$.

The proof of [17, Theorem 1.2(b)] also applies to the scalar curvature $R_{\tilde{g}}$. This implies that the covariant derivatives of $R_{g_0} = R_{\tilde{g}}|_M$ are uniformly bounded, i.e., $R_{g_0} \in BC^{\infty,0}(M)$. Hence, by taking $\varepsilon \leq 2$, we infer from Proposition 3.8 that

$$R_{g_0} \in BC^{\infty,2-\varepsilon}(M).$$

Set $\mathcal{B}_{j,r} := \mathbb{B}_{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_j, r) \cap M$ with $j = 1, \dots, k$. By the collar neighborhood theorem, there exists an open neighborhood $\mathcal{V}_{j,\varepsilon}$ of $\partial\Sigma_j$ in \mathcal{M} , and a diffeomorphism f_j such that

$$f_j : \mathcal{V}_{j,\varepsilon} \rightarrow \partial\Sigma_j \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon), \quad (f_j)_* \tilde{g}|_{\mathcal{V}_{j,\varepsilon}} = \tilde{g}|_{\partial\Sigma_j} + dt^2,$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $T^\perp \partial\Sigma_j$ denote the normal bundle of $\partial\Sigma_j$ in \mathcal{M} . At every point $\mathbf{p} \in \partial\Sigma_j$, there exists a unique $v_{\mathbf{p}} \in T_{\mathbf{p}}^\perp \partial\Sigma_j$ such that

$$T_{\mathbf{p}} f_j v_{\mathbf{p}} = e_1 \in T_0 \mathbb{R}.$$

Then, $f_j^{-1}(\mathbf{p}, t) = \exp_{\mathbf{p}}(tv_{\mathbf{p}})$, where $\exp_{\mathbf{p}}$ is the exponential map at \mathbf{p} . Therefore, letting $J_\varepsilon = (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \setminus \{0\}$, we have

$$(f_j)_* \rho(\mathbf{p}, t) := t\beta_j(\mathbf{p}), \quad \text{in } \partial\Sigma_j \times J_\varepsilon,$$

for some $\beta_j \in C^\infty(\partial\Sigma_j)$ and $\beta_j \sim \mathbf{1}_{\partial\Sigma_j}$. Because of the compactness of $\partial\Sigma_j$, it is easy to compute that

$$\|\rho^{\varepsilon - \frac{m+2}{p}}\|_p^p = \int_{\partial\Sigma_j \times J_\varepsilon} |t\beta_j(\mathbf{p})|^{\varepsilon p - m - 2} (f_j)_* d\mu_{\tilde{g}} \leq C \int_{\partial\Sigma_j \times J_\varepsilon} |t|^{\varepsilon p - m - 2} dt d\mu_{\tilde{g}|_{\partial\Sigma_j}}.$$

Therefore, $\varepsilon > \frac{m+1}{p}$ will guarantee

$$\rho^{\varepsilon - \frac{m+2}{p}} \in L_p(M; \mathbb{R}).$$

The case of punctured singular manifolds follows by considering the polar coordinates around each \mathbf{p}_j . □

EXAMPLE 5.4. The following are examples of C^2 -singular manifolds satisfying the conditions in Proposition 5.3.

- (i) Assume that $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ is a bounded C^3 -domain, g_m is the Euclidean metric in \mathbb{R}^m , and $d(\cdot) := \text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega)$ near $\partial\Omega$. The fact that $(\Omega, g_m; d)$ is a C^2 -singular manifold follows from [5, Theorem 1.6] or [50, Proposition 3.7].

By [5, Corollary 4.3], $(\tilde{\Omega}, g_m)$ is a uniformly regular Riemannian manifold. Definition 4.10 implies that $(\Omega, g_m; d)$ is a C^2 -torn singular manifold satisfying the conditions in Proposition 5.3, and thus the Yamabe flow (5.1) admits a unique local solution on the incomplete manifold $(M, g_0; \rho) = (\Omega, g_m; d)$.

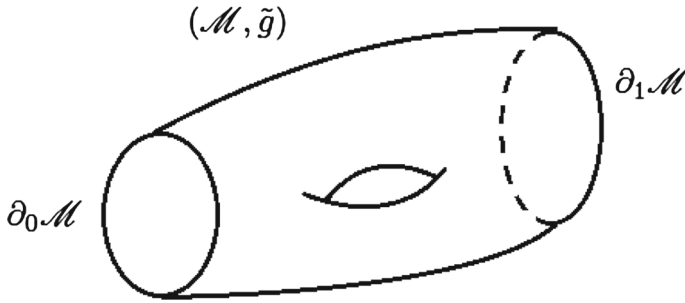


Figure 1. Example 5.4(ii)

- (ii) More generally, suppose that (\mathcal{M}, \tilde{g}) is a C^2 compact manifold with boundary; $\partial_0 \mathcal{M} \sqcup \partial_1 \mathcal{M} = \partial \mathcal{M}$ and $\partial_i \mathcal{M}$ are both open. See Fig. 1. Then by Definition 4.10, $(M, g_0) := (\mathcal{M} \setminus \partial_0 \mathcal{M}, \tilde{g}|_M)$ is a C^2 -torn singular manifold satisfying the conditions in Proposition 5.3. So Theorem 5.1 holds true in this case. In contrast to the situation in [10], we do not require any boundary condition on $\partial_0 \mathcal{M}$.

REMARK 5.5. Theorem 1.1 is a direct consequence of Example 5.4(ii).

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