• Hermann, Andreas: The mass of a compact manifold (204)

This is joint work with Emmanuel Humbert. Let (M,g) be a compact Riemannian manifold without boundary. Assume that the conformal Laplace operator L acting on smooth functions on M is strictly positive and that the metric g is flat on an open neighborhood of a point p in M. Then the mass m(g,p) of (M,g) at the point p is defined as the constant term in the expansion of the Green function of L at p. We prove a variational characterization of m(g,p). Then we give some applications to the ADM mass of an asymptotically flat Riemannian manifold which might be useful to obtain a proof of the Positive Mass Theorem in the general case.