

# Classifications of solutions to the higher order Liouville's equation on $\mathbb{R}^{2m}$

Luca Martinazzi

23 October 2007

## Abstract

Solutions to the higher order Liouville's equation on  $\mathbb{R}^{2m}$

$$(-\Delta)^m u = (2m - 1)!e^{2mu} \quad (1)$$

correspond to conformal metrics  $g = e^{2u}g_{\mathbb{R}^{2m}}$  of constant  $Q$ -curvature  $Q_g \equiv (2m - 1)!$ . We classify the solutions to (1) with finite total  $Q$ -curvature in terms of analytic and geometric properties. The analytic conditions involve the growth rate of  $u$  and the asymptotic behavior of  $\Delta u(x)$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ . As a consequence we give a geometric characterization in terms of the scalar curvature of the metric  $e^{2u}g_{\mathbb{R}^{2m}}$  at infinity, and we observe that the pull-back of this metric to  $S^{2m}$  via the stereographic projection can be extended to a smooth Riemannian metric if and only if it is round.