Actions of Large Groups, Geometric Structures, and the Zimmer Program

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Lichnerowicz conjecture(s)

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A priori, the conformal group of a compact Riemannian manifold has no reason to be compact, since it only preserves angles and not distances. A posteriori, however, it turns out that this group is compact, with a single exception: the round sphere! The Lichnerowicz conjecture refers to similar rigidity statements in the cases of pseudo-Riemannian conformal and projective structures.

Orateur: ZEGHIB, Abdelghani (ENS Lyon)