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# MODULES WITH SLIDING DEPTH

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## Abstract

Several bounds for the depth of quotients of the symmetric algebra of a finitely generated module over a local C.M. ring are obtained, when its maximal irrelevant ideal is generated by a proper sequence of 1-forms and modulo conditions on the depth of the homology modules of the Koszul complex associated to this ideal (sliding depth conditions).

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Let  $R$  be a commutative noetherian ring, and let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module with rank.

We denote by  $Sym_R(E)$  or  $S(E)$ , the symmetric algebra of  $E$  over  $R$ , that is the graded algebra over  $R$ :

$$S(E) = \bigoplus_{t \geq 0} Sym_t(E)$$

and with  $S_+$  the maximal irrelevant ideal of  $S(E)$ .

In [2], J.Herzog, A.Simis, W.V.Vasconcelos, introduced the sliding depth condition for a module that is precisely the following:

Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ . Let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module,  $S(E)$  the symmetric algebra of  $E$  and  $S_+ = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\mathbf{x})$  its maximal irrelevant ideal generated by the linear forms  $x_i$ .

We say that  $E$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD_k$ , with  $k$  integer, if

$$depth_{(m)} H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i \geq d - n + i + k \quad 0 \leq i \leq n - k,$$

where  $H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i$  is the  $i$ -th graded component of the Koszul homology module  $H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))$ , and the elements of the ring  $R$  have degree 0.

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Key Words: Symmetric algebra, sliding depth.

If  $k = \text{rank}(E)$  we shall say that  $E$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD$ .

When the  $R$ -module  $E$  satisfies the  $SD$  condition and  $E$  verifies  $\mathcal{F}_0$  (for every  $k$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_k$  is a condition on the Fitting ideals of a presentation of  $E$ , that is a condition on the height of the ideal generated by the minors of the presentation of  $E$  [see [2], Section 2]), this implies that  $S(E)$  is Cohen Macaulay and the approximation complex  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$  associated to  $E$  is acyclic (see [2], theorem 6.2).

The aciclicity of the  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$ -complex can be obtained for modules for which the ideal  $S_+$  of the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  is generated by a proper sequence (see [7]) or a proper sequence in  $E$  (see [6]).

Then an important way to obtain informations about theoretic properties of  $S(E)$  is that  $S_+$  is generated by a proper sequence in  $E$ .

If  $E$  satisfies  $SD_k$  and  $S_+$  is generated by a proper sequence in  $E$ , we are able to obtain bounds for the depth of quotients of  $S(E)$  by ideals generated by a subsequence of a system of generators of  $S_+$ .

The idea arises from some results about ideals of J. Herzog, W.V. Vasconcelos, R. Villarreal in [3].

Our results concern modules  $E$  finitely generated over a local  $C.M.$  ring  $R$  and that are not necessarily ideals of  $R$ . Moreover, in the case  $E = I =$  faithful ideal of  $R$ , we obtain the classical results on ideals.

More precisely, in section 2, we define the depth condition  $SD_k$  for a module  $E$  and we prove some properties related to it.

In section 3, we study the Koszul complex associated to a sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  generating the ideal  $S_+ = \bigoplus_{t>0} S_t(E)$  of the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  and when this sequence is a proper sequence in  $E$ , we investigate the link between the  $SD_k$  condition and the existence of bounds for quotients of  $S(E)$  by a subsequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_i)$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$  of  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  (that is a proper sequence again) and special quotients of ideals of  $S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i)$  constructed starting from  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

The main theorem is the following: Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  a proper sequence of the module  $E$ , under a condition on the depth of the homology module of the Koszul complex (see theorem 3.3), the following conditions are equivalent:

- i)  $E$  satisfies  $SD_k$ ;
- ii)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ;
- iii)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)}(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .

Finally we remark that in the case  $E = I$ , our results complete those contained in [3].

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## 2 PRELIMINARIES

Let  $R$  be a commutative noetherian ring and let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module.

We denote with  $Sym_R(E)$  or with  $S(E)$ , the symmetric algebra of  $E$  over  $R$ , that is the graded algebra over  $R$ :

$$S(E) = \bigoplus_{t \geq 0} Sym_t(E)$$

and with  $S_+$  the maximal irrelevant ideal of  $S(E)$ .

$$S_+ = \bigoplus_{t > 0} Sym_t(E).$$

Let  $S_+ = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\mathbf{x})$ , where  $x_i$  are elements of degree 1. We can consider the Koszul complex on the generating set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $S_+$

$$K(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) : 0 \rightarrow K_n \xrightarrow{d_n} \dots \xrightarrow{d_2} K_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} K_0 \rightarrow 0$$

where

$$K_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) = \bigwedge^p (S(E))^n \cong \bigwedge^p R^n \otimes S(E)$$

$K$  is a graded complex and in degree  $t > 0$  we have

$$0 \rightarrow \bigwedge^n R^n \otimes S_{t-n}(E) \xrightarrow{d_n} \bigwedge^{n-1} R^n \otimes S_{t-n+1}(E) \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}} \dots \\ \dots \bigwedge^2 R^n \otimes S_{t-2}(E) \xrightarrow{d_2} R^n \otimes S_{t-1}(E) \xrightarrow{d_1} S_t(E) \rightarrow 0$$

with differential  $d_p$  defined as follows:

$$d_p(e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p} \otimes f(\mathbf{x})) = \sum_{j=1}^p (-1)^{p-j} e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_{j-1}} \wedge e_{i_{j+1}} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_p} \otimes x_{i_j} f(\mathbf{x}).$$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  is a standard basis of  $R^n$ ,  $f(\mathbf{x}) \in S_{t-p}(E)$ .

We also denote by  $Z_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E))$  and by  $B_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E))$  the cycles and boundaries of this complex, i.e.

$$Z_p = \ker(K_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) \rightarrow K_{p-1}(\mathbf{x}; S(E)))$$

$$B_p = \text{im}(K_{p+1}(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) \rightarrow K_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E))).$$

Finally we denote by  $H_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E))_j$ ,  $j \geq p$ , the  $j$ -th graded component of the Koszul homology  $H_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) = Z_p/B_p$ .

We observe that:

$$H_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) = \bigoplus_{j \geq p} H_p(\mathbf{x}; S(E))_j$$

Since the ring  $S(E)$  is positively graded, if  $(R, m)$  is a local ring we can consider the ring  $S(E)$  as a \*local ring with \*maximal ideal  $m_0 = m \oplus S_+$  (see [1] Chapter 1.5 for details).

Consequently, for any finitely generated  $S(E)$ -graded module we will calculate the depth of its graded components, that are  $R$ -modules, with respect to the maximal ideal  $m$ , and for any  $S(E)$ -module its depth with respect to the \*maximal ideal  $m_0 = m \oplus S_+$ .

**Definition 2.1 ([2], section 6)** *Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ . Let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module,  $S(E)$  the symmetric algebra of  $E$ ,  $S_+ = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\mathbf{x})$  its maximal irrelevant ideal generated by the linear forms  $x_i$ .*

*We say that  $E$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD_k$ , with  $k$  integer, if*

$$\text{depth}_{(m)} H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i \geq d - n + i + k \quad 0 \leq i \leq n - k$$

*If  $k = \text{rank}(E)$  we shall say that  $E$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD$ .*

**Remark 2.2** *By definition  $\mathcal{Z}_i(E) = H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i$  and since that  $(B_i)_i = 0$  we have*

$$\mathcal{Z}_i = (Z_i)_i = \ker(K_i(\mathbf{x}; S(E)) \rightarrow K_{i-1}(\mathbf{x}; S(E)))_i$$

*Therefore*

$$\mathcal{Z}_i = \ker\left(\bigwedge^i R^n \otimes S_0(E) \cong R \rightarrow \bigwedge^{i-1} R^n \otimes S_1(E) \cong E\right)$$

*and*

$$\mathcal{Z}_1 = \ker(R^n \rightarrow E)$$

*that is the first syzygy module of  $E$ .*

Since  $\mathcal{Z}_i, \forall i$ , is an  $R$ -module, in the definition 2.1, we have to calculate  $\text{depth}_{(m)} H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i$ . The module  $\mathcal{Z}_i(E)$  appears in the  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$ -complex of the module  $E$ . We can find more information about  $S(E)$  in [6]. We remember that, if  $E$  is torsion-free and with rank  $e > 1$ ,  $\mathcal{Z}_{n-e}(E) \cong R$ , and the complex is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}(E) : 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_n \otimes S[-n] \xrightarrow{d_n} \mathcal{Z}_{n-1} \otimes S[-n+1] \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}} \dots \mathcal{Z}_1 \otimes S[-1] \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \rightarrow S = S(R^n) \xrightarrow{d_0} S(E) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

with the related maps  $d_i$  induced from the Koszul complex.

$\mathcal{Z}_i(E) = 0$  for  $i > n - e$ , and the cokernel of  $d_1$  is the symmetric algebra of  $E$ . When the  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$ -complex is acyclic, we can obtain the depth of the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  of  $E$ , by the acyclicity lemma of Peskine-Szpyro ([5]).

**Proposition 2.3**  $SD_k(E)$  does not depend on the generating set of  $E$ .

**Proof:** See [2] section 6, remark 1.

We recall the following

**Proposition 2.4** ([7], chapter 3.3) *Let  $R$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$  with canonical module  $\omega_R$  and  $E$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then we have:*

- 1)  $depth(E) = dim(R) - sup\{j | Ext_R^j(E; \omega_R) \neq 0\}$
- 2)  $depth(E_P) = ht(P) - sup\{j | Ext_R^j(E_P; \omega_P) \neq 0\}$ , where  $\omega_P = \omega_R \otimes R_P$ , is a canonical module for  $R_P$  for all  $P \in Spec(R)$ ,

**Proposition 2.5** *Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ , and let  $E$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module of rank  $e$  that verifies  $SD_k$ . Then,  $\forall P \in Spec(R)$ ,  $E_P$  verifies  $SD_k$ .*

**Proof:** This is clear if  $R$  admits a canonical module  $\omega$ , since  $\omega_P$  is the canonical module for  $R_P$  and we can apply proposition 2.4 to the module  $H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i$ .

When  $R$  does not have a canonical module, we reach the same result by applying the  $m$ -adic completion of  $R$ , obtaining a quotient of a regular ring.

We recall the definition of a proper sequence for any ring

**Definition 2.6** *Let  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$  a sequence of elements in a ring  $R$ . The sequence  $\mathbf{x}$  is called a proper sequence if:*

$$x_{i+1}H_j(x_1, \dots, x_i; R) = 0$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, n, j > 0$ , where  $H_j(x_1, \dots, x_i; R)$  denotes the Koszul homology associated to the initial subsequence  $x_1, \dots, x_i$ .

If we consider the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  of a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $E$ , for the ring  $S(E)$ , the definition of proper sequence applied to a sequence of 1-forms generating the maximal irrelevant ideal of  $S(E)$ , is the following

**Definition 2.7** A sequence  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$  of 1-forms generating the maximal irrelevant ideal  $S_+$  of  $S(E)$  is called a proper sequence if:

$$x_{i+1}H_j(x_1, \dots, x_i; S(E))_l = 0$$

for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ ,  $j \geq 1$ ,  $l \geq j$ .

We give the following

**Definition 2.8** Let  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$  be a sequence of 1-form generating the maximal irrelevant ideal  $S_+$  of  $S(E)$ . Then  $\mathbf{x}$  is called a proper sequence in  $E$  if:

$$x_{i+1}Z_j(x_1, \dots, x_i; S(E))_j/B_j(x_1, \dots, x_i; S(E))_{j+1} = 0$$

for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ ,  $j > 0$ .

**Remark 2.9** The definition of proper sequence in  $E$ , where  $E$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, is introduced and discussed in [6].

In [6] is also proved the acyclicity of the complex  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$ , when  $S_+$  is generated by a proper sequence in  $E$ .

This definition will be used in the rest of this work.

**Definition 2.10** ([3], Introduction) Let  $I$  be an ideal of the local ring  $(R, m)$  of dimension  $d$ . Let  $K$  be the Koszul complex on a set  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$  of generators of  $I$ , and let  $k$  be a positive integer.

We say that  $I$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD_k$ , if

$$\text{depth}_{(m)}H_i(\mathbf{x}, R) \geq d - n + i + k \quad \forall i \geq 0$$

If  $k = 0$  we shall say that  $I$  satisfies the sliding depth condition  $SD$ .

Let  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  a sequence of elements in  $I$ , where  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ . We call  $\mathbf{x}_i = \{x_1, \dots, x_i\}$  the initial subsequence of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

An easy extension of lemma 3.7 in [3] is the following:

**Theorem 2.11** Let  $I$  be an ideal of local ring  $(R, m)$  of dimension  $d$ . Suppose  $I$  is generated by a proper sequence  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

The following conditions are equivalent:

- 1)  $I$  satisfies  $SD_k$ ;
- 2)  $\text{depth}_{(m)}R/(\mathbf{x}_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ;
- 3)  $\text{depth}_{(m)}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ .

**Proof:** The proof follows directly from lemma 3.7 [3] and by depth lemma (see [1] proposition 1.2.9) applied on the following exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i, R) \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, R) \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i, R)[-1] \rightarrow 0$$

$$\forall j > 1, 0 \leq i \leq n - 1;$$

$$0 \rightarrow Q_i \rightarrow R/(\mathbf{x}_i) \rightarrow R/(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0,$$

with  $Q_i = (\mathbf{x}_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ;

$$0 \rightarrow M_i \rightarrow R/(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} Q_i \rightarrow 0,$$

with  $M_i = ((\mathbf{x}_i) : x_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ;

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i) \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \rightarrow M_i \rightarrow 0,$$

with  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ .

### 3 THE MAIN RESULT

In this section we look at the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  of a finitely generated module  $E$  on a C.M. local ring  $(R, m)$ , and a proper sequence in  $E$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$ , generating the maximal irrelevant ideal  $S_+$ .

The depth of each  $S_R(E)$ -modules, is calculated with respect to the \*maximal ideal  $m \oplus S_+$ .

In the following, for any graded  $R$ -module  $M$ , if  $a$  is an integer,  $M(-a)$  is a graded  $R$ -module such that  $M(-a)_i = M_{-a+i}$ ,  $\forall i \geq a$ .

Let  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  a proper sequence in the  $R$ -module  $E$ . We call  $\mathbf{x}_i = \{x_1, \dots, x_i\}$  the initial subsequence of  $\mathbf{x}$ , and  $H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_l = H_j(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_l$ . We have the following :

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ ,  $E$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  a proper sequence in  $E$ .*

*The following sequences are exact for  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ :*

1)  $0 \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_j \rightarrow H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_j[-1] \rightarrow 0, \forall j > 1;$

2)  $0 \rightarrow Q^{(i)} \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0$ , with  $Q^{(i)} = (\mathbf{x}_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ;

3)  $0 \rightarrow M^{(i)} \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} Q^{(i)} \rightarrow 0$ , with  $M^{(i)} = ((\mathbf{x}_i) : x_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ;

4)  $0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i) \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \rightarrow M^{(i)} \rightarrow 0$ .

**Proof:**

1) There exists an exact sequence of complexes:

$$0 \rightarrow K(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E)) \xrightarrow{i} K(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}; S(E)) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} K(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))[-1] \rightarrow 0$$

where  $i$  is the natural inclusion and  $\epsilon$  is defined as follows:

Given  $a \in K_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}; S(E))_{j+\rho}$ , then

$$a = b + c \wedge e_{i+1},$$

with  $b \in K_j(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j+\rho}$ ,  $c \in K_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j-1+\rho}$  and  $\epsilon(a) = (-1)^{i+1}c$ .  
It is clear that

$$\epsilon(a) = \epsilon(b + c \wedge e_{i+1}) = \epsilon(b) + \epsilon(c \wedge e_{i+1}) = 0 + (-1)^{i+1}c,$$

is an epimorphism on  $K_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j-1+\rho}$  and its kernel is  $K_j(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j+\rho}$ .

We obtain the long exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{i} H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)[-1] \xrightarrow{\partial} \\ H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{i} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} H_{j-2}(\mathbf{x}_i)[-1] \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{j-2}(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdots \end{aligned}$$

We consider the degree  $j + \rho$

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_{j+\rho}[-1] \xrightarrow{\partial} H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_{j+\rho} \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_{j+\rho} \rightarrow \\ H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{j+\rho}[-1] \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{j+\rho} \rightarrow H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_{j+\rho} \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

In particular when  $\rho = 0$  we have for the Koszul complex

$$a \in K_j(x_{i+1}; S(E))_j = \left( \bigwedge^j R^{i+1} \otimes S(E) \right)_j \cong \bigwedge^j R^{i+1}$$

$$b \in K_j(x_i; S(E))_j = \left( \bigwedge^j R^i \otimes S(E) \right)_j \cong \bigwedge^j R^i$$

$$c \in K_{j-1}(x_i; S(E))_j[-1] = K_{j-1}(x_i; S(E))_{j-1} = \left( \bigwedge^{j-1} R^i \otimes S(E) \right)_{j-1} \cong \bigwedge^{j-1} R^{i+1}$$

and in the Koszul homology

$$a \in H_j(x_{i+1}; S(E))_j = \text{Ker} \left( \bigwedge^j R^{i+1} \rightarrow \bigwedge^{j-1} R^{i+1} \otimes S_1(E) \right)$$

$$b \in H_j(x_i; S(E))_j = \text{Ker} \left( \bigwedge^j R^i \rightarrow \bigwedge^{j-1} R^i \otimes S_1(E) \right)$$

$$c \in H_{j-1}(x_i; S(E))_j[-1] \cong H_{j-1}(x_i; S(E))_{j-1} = \text{Ker} \left( \bigwedge^{j-1} R^i \rightarrow \bigwedge^{j-2} R^i \otimes S_1(E) \right)$$

The assertion follows from the following sequence



$$H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j[-1] \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j \xrightarrow{i_1} H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_j \xrightarrow{\epsilon_1} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_j[-1] \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_j \xrightarrow{i_2} H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_j$$

In fact, by consideration on the degree  $H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j[-1] \cong (0)$  and since  $\mathbf{x}$  is a proper sequence in  $E$ , the homomorphism  $i_2$  is injective.

In fact, we have:

$$x_{i+1}H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_j[-1] \cong x_{i+1}Z_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j-1}$$

$$x_{i+1}Z_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_{j-1} \subseteq B_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_j.$$

2) Obvious.

3) It is sufficient to observe that

$$0 \rightarrow ((x_1, \dots, x_i) : x_{i+1}) \rightarrow S(E) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} (x_1, \dots, x_{i+1}) / (x_1, \dots, x_i) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact and  $(\mathbf{x}_i) \subset ((x_1, \dots, x_i) : x_{i+1})$ ,  $(\mathbf{x}_i) \subset S(E)$ .

4) This sequence follows directly from the Koszul homology. In fact we have

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_1 \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0$$

and substituting  $Q^{(i)}$  in the tail of the sequence by 2), we have

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_1 \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} Q^{(i)} \rightarrow 0$$

At the end, replacing  $M^{(i)}$  by 3) we have the assertion.

**Proposition 3.2** *Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ . Let  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  a proper subsequence of the module  $E$ . We call  $H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_l = H_j(\mathbf{x}_i; S(E))_l$ , and let  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

*We have the following properties:*

- 1) *If  $\mathbf{x}$  satisfies  $SD_k$  then  $\text{depth}(H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1) \geq d - i + k + 1$*
- 2) *If  $\text{depth}(H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1) \geq d - i + k + 1$  then  $\text{depth}(H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j) \geq d + k - n + j$*

**Proof:**

- 1) Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is a proper sequence, by lemma 3.1 1) we have

$$0 \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_i)_j \rightarrow H_j(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_j \rightarrow H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_j[-1] \cong H_{j-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{j-1} \rightarrow 0$$

for all  $j > 1$ .

In particular for  $i = n - 1$  and  $j = n$ , the exact sequence is

$$0 \rightarrow H_n(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_n = 0 \rightarrow H_n(\mathbf{x}_n)_n \rightarrow H_{n-1}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-1} \rightarrow 0$$

and  $\text{depth}_m H_{n-1}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-1} \geq d + k$ .

Now it is possible to compute an estimation for the depth of  $H_{n-2}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-2}$

$$0 \rightarrow H_{n-1}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-1} \rightarrow H_{n-1}(\mathbf{x}_n)_{n-1} \rightarrow H_{n-2}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-2} \rightarrow 0$$

that is  $\text{depth}_m H_{n-2}(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_{n-2} \geq d + k - 1$ .

At the end we will have  $\text{depth}_m H_1(\mathbf{x}_{n-1})_1 \geq d + k - n + 2$ .

We can continue with the same argument and we have the assertion.

2) Let  $\mathbf{x}$  is a proper sequence in  $E$  and  $\text{depth}(H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1) \geq d - i + k + 1$ , then by the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(x_1)_2 = (0) \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2 \rightarrow H_1(x_1)_2[-1] \rightarrow 0$$

we obtain  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2) \geq d + k$ .

Now, considering the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2 \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_3)_2 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_2)_2[-1] \rightarrow 0$$

we obtain  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_3)_2) \geq d + k - 1$ .

At the end we will have  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_n)_2) \geq d + k - n + 2$ .

With the same technique we can calculate  $\text{depth}(H_3(\mathbf{x}_n)_3) \geq d + k - n + 3$ , and so on. Finally we have  $\text{depth}(H_j(\mathbf{x}_n)_j) \geq d + k - n + j$ .

**Theorem 3.3** *Let  $(R, m)$  be a C.M. local ring of dimension  $d$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  a proper sequence of the module  $E$ , and let  $M^{(i)}$  the  $S(E)$ -module  $((\mathbf{x}_i : x_{i+1})/(\mathbf{x}_i), M_1^{(i)})$  the component of degree 1 of  $M^{(i)}$ . Suppose that for every  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$*

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} M^{(i)} \geq d - i + k$$

*implies*

$$\text{depth}_{(m)} M_1^{(i)} \geq d - i + k.$$

*Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- 1)  $E$  satisfies  $SD_k$ ;
- 2)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ;
- 3)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)}(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + k$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .

**Proof:**

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2). We prove by induction on  $i$  (the length of the subsequence  $\mathbf{x}_i$ ).

For  $i = 0$  we have to calculate  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)$ . As we already observed in remark 2.2 we can use the  $\mathcal{Z}(E)$ -complex that is acyclic since  $\mathbf{x}$  is a proper sequence ([6], theorem 2).

The complex is

$$\mathcal{Z}(E) : 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_n \otimes S[-n] \xrightarrow{d_n} \mathcal{Z}_{n-1} \otimes S[-n+1] \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}} \cdots \mathcal{Z}_1 \otimes S[-1] \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \rightarrow S = S(R^n) \xrightarrow{d_0} S(E) \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $S = S(R^n) = R[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ .

It is possible to calculate a depth estimation, with respect to the ideal  $(m, S_+)$  (where  $S_+$  is the maximal irrelevant ideal of  $S$ ), of every  $\mathcal{Z}_j \otimes S[-j] \cong H_j(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_j \otimes S[-j]$ . That is

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} H_j(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_j \otimes S[-j] \geq d - n + j + k + n$$

In particular we have

$$0 \rightarrow \ker d_n \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_n \otimes S[-n] \rightarrow \ker d_{n-1} \rightarrow 0$$

and since  $\ker d_n = 0$ ,  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} \ker d_{n-1} \geq d + n + k$ , hence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker d_{n-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{n-1} \otimes S[-n+1] \rightarrow \ker d_{n-2} \rightarrow 0$$

with  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} \ker d_{n-2} \geq d + n + k - 1$ , and so on.

Therefore, considering the tail of the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker d_0 \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0$$

since  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} \ker d_0 \geq d + k + 1$  and  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S = d + n$ , by depth lemma we have  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E) \geq d + k$ .

Observing that

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq \text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})$$

the assertion follows.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3). We consider the exact sequence of  $S(E)$ -modules

$$0 \rightarrow Q^{(i)} \rightarrow S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \rightarrow S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0$$

and by the depth lemma we have

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} Q^{(i)} \geq \\ \geq \min\{\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i), \\ \text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1}) + 1\} = d + k - i.$$

3)  $\Rightarrow$  2). We consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (x_1) \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow S(E)/(x_1) \rightarrow 0$$

where by hypothesis  $\text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}(x_1) \geq d+k$  and  $\text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}S(E) \geq d+k$  then for depth lemma,  $\text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}S(E)/(x_1) \geq d+k-1$ . Watching the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Q^{(i)} \rightarrow S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \rightarrow S(E)/(x_1, \dots, x_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0$$

we have the assertion by induction on  $i$ .

2)  $\Rightarrow$  1).

By the exact sequence (lemma 3.1)

$$0 \rightarrow M^{(i)} \rightarrow S(E)/(\mathbf{x}_i) \xrightarrow{x_{i+1}} Q^{(i)} \rightarrow 0$$

we have  $\text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}M^{(i)} \geq d-i+k$ .

By the hypothesis  $\text{depth}_{(m)}M_1^{(i)} \geq d-i+k$ , and if we consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_1 \rightarrow M_1^{(i)} \rightarrow 0$$

for  $i=0$ , then we have  $\text{depth}_{(m)}H_1(\mathbf{x}_1)_1 = \text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}M_1^{(0)} \geq d+k$ .

For  $i=1$ ,  $\text{depth}_{(m,S_+)}H_1(\mathbf{x}_2)_1 \geq d+k-1$ , and so on, for all  $i$ ,  $\text{depth}_{(m)}H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1 \geq d+k-i+1$

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_i)_1 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})_1 \rightarrow M^{(i)} \rightarrow 0.$$

By the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(x_1)_2 = (0) \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2 \rightarrow H_1(x_1)_1 \rightarrow 0$$

we obtain  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2) \geq d+k$ .

Now, considering the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_2)_2 \rightarrow H_2(\mathbf{x}_3)_2 \rightarrow H_1(\mathbf{x}_2)_1 \rightarrow 0$$

we obtain  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_3)_2) \geq d+k-1$ .

At the end we will have  $\text{depth}(H_2(\mathbf{x}_n)_2) \geq d+k-n+2$ .

With the same technique we can calculate  $\text{depth}(H_3(\mathbf{x}_n)_3) \geq d+k-n+3$ , and so on. Finally we have  $\text{depth}(H_j(\mathbf{x}_n)_j) \geq d+k-n+j$  and 2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) is proved.

**Example 3.4** Let  $E = R^n$ , then  $E$  satisfies  $SD$  (that is  $k = e = n$ ).

$$H_i(\mathbf{x}, S(E))_i = \mathcal{Z}_i = \ker\left(\bigwedge^i R^n \rightarrow \bigwedge^{i-1} R^n \otimes R^n\right) = 0$$

with  $S(E) = R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ , for  $i > n - e = 0$ .

For  $i = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{Z}_0 \cong R$ , for any  $i = 0, \dots, n$ , we have

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(E)/(X_1, \dots, X_i) = \text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} R[X_{i+1}, \dots, X_n] = d + n - i$$

Then 1) and 2) of theorem 3.3 are verified.

For 3), by the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \rightarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \rightarrow R[x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow 0$$

and by depth lemma 1, we have:

$$\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} (x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d + n - i, \quad \forall i = 0, \dots, n - 1.$$

Moreover  $M_i = 0$ . In fact  $(x_1, \dots, x_i) : x_{i+1} = (x_1, \dots, x_i)$  and

$$(x_1, \dots, x_i)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \cong (0).$$

**Remark 3.5** By def. 5, given in [2], ideals of rank 1 or faithful ideals (i.e. containing some regular element of  $R$ ), satisfy  $SD_0$ . By definition 2.1, they satisfy  $SD_1$ . Therefore we obtain the following:

**Corollary 3.6** Let  $I$  be an ideal of a local ring  $(R, m)$  of dimension  $d$ , containing some regular element (rank  $I = 1$ ). Suppose  $I$  is generated by a proper sequence  $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

The following conditions are equivalent:

- 1)  $I$  satisfies  $SD_0$  (for ideals);
- 2)  $\text{depth}_{(m)} R/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ;
- 3)  $\text{depth}_{(m)} (x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ ;
- 4)  $I$  satisfies  $SD_1$  (for modules);
- 5)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} S(I)/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + 1$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ;
- 6)  $\text{depth}_{(m, S_+)} (x_1, \dots, x_{i+1})/(x_1, \dots, x_i) \geq d - i + 1$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .

**Proof:** We use the results of theorem 2.11 and theorem 3.3 together.

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