

URiCA 2025

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

May 3-4 ,2025

Table of Contents

1	Lecture 1 — Perfect Ideals with Fixed Deviation & Type by Xianglong Ni	2
2	Lecture 2 — Stability Patterns in free resolutions of symmetric ideals by Kartik Ganapathy	6
3	Lecture 3 — The Lefschetz properties for some modules over polynomial rings by Bek Chase	8
4	Lecture 4 — Modules of Finite Length & Finite Projective Dimension by Nawaj KC	11

1. Lecture 1 — Perfect Ideals with Fixed Deviation & Type by Xianglong Ni

Let S be a regular local or graded ring with $S \supseteq \mathbb{Q}$. For example, $S = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ or a localization (completion).

Definition 1.1. An ideal $I \subseteq S$ is **perfect** if \mathbb{F}^* is acyclic, where \mathbb{F} is a minimal free resolution of S/I .

Let \mathbb{F} be the minimal free resolution:

$$\mathbb{F}: 0 \rightarrow F_c \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 = S \rightarrow S/I \rightarrow 0$$

The dual of the minimal free resolution is:

$$0 \rightarrow F_0^* \rightarrow F_1^* \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow F_c^* \rightarrow \text{Ext}_S^c(S/I, S) \rightarrow 0$$

Let $c = \text{pdim } S/I = \text{grade } I = \text{codim } I$. (Since I is perfect, S is Cohen-Macaulay). By the Auslander-Buchsbaum formula:

$$I \text{ perfect} \iff S/I \text{ is C.M.}$$

Define the Betti numbers β_i :

$$\beta_i = \beta_i(S/I) = \text{rk } F_i = \dim_k(\text{Tor}_i(S/I, k))$$

We define two invariants:

- **Deviation** $d = \beta_1 - c$
- **Type** $t = \beta_c$

Example 1.2. • $d = 0$: “complete intersection”

- $t = 1$: “Gorenstein”
- $d = 1$: “almost complete intersection”

Question: Can we upper bound the “complexity” of perfect ideals? (Fixing c, d, t) e.g., bounds for β_i for $2 \leq i \leq c - 1$.

Example 1.3. For $c = 4, d = 2, t = 2$, the Betti sequence is $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots) = (1, 6, \beta_2, \beta_3, 2)$.

If $d = 0$, \mathbb{F} is isomorphic to the Koszul complex. In this case, $t = 1$, and $\beta_i = \binom{c}{i}$.

Observation 1.4. $\sum (-1)^i \beta_i = 0$.

- For $c = 2$: $0 \rightarrow S^t \rightarrow S^{2+d} \rightarrow S \rightarrow 0$. We have $t = d + 1$.
- For $c = 3$: trivial case. $0 \rightarrow S^t \rightarrow S^{2+d+t} \rightarrow S^{3+d} \rightarrow S \rightarrow 0$.

- First interesting case, $c = 4, t = 1 \implies \mathbb{F}^* \cong \mathbb{F}$.

$$0 \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow S^{\beta_3} \rightarrow S^{\beta_2} \rightarrow S^{4+d} \rightarrow S \rightarrow 0$$

This implies $\beta_3 = 4 + d$ and $\beta_2 = 6 + 2d$.

For $c = 4, d = 1$, we have:

$$0 \rightarrow S^t \rightarrow S^{\beta_3} \rightarrow S^{\beta_2} \rightarrow S^5 \rightarrow S \rightarrow 0$$

Linkage

Let $I \subset S$, and let $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c) \subset I$ (i.e., $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c \in I$ is a regular sequence). Define:

$$J = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c) : I = \{x \in S : xI \subset (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c)\}$$

If $I = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c) : J$, we say I and J are **directly linked**, denoted $I \sim J$.

Remark 1.5. I is in the linkage class of a complete intersection (licci) if there exists a sequence of links: $I \sim \dots \sim \text{c.i.}$

If I is perfect, then J is perfect is automatic.

Ferrand Mapping Cone

Let \mathbb{F} and \mathbb{K} be the following resolutions, with a map ϕ between them:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathbb{F}: & 0 & \longrightarrow & F_c & \longrightarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & F_1 & \longrightarrow & S & \longrightarrow & (S/I \rightarrow 0) \\ & & & \downarrow \phi & & & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \\ \mathbb{K}: & 0 & \longrightarrow & \wedge^c K & \longrightarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & S & & \text{(where } K = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c)) \end{array}$$

Then $\text{Cone}(\phi)^*$ resolves S/J :

$$S \leftarrow F_c^* \oplus K^* \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow F_2^* \oplus K \leftarrow F_1^* \leftarrow 0$$

For $c = 4, d = 1 \implies 0 \rightarrow S^t \rightarrow S^{\beta_3} \rightarrow S^{\beta_2} \rightarrow S^5 \rightarrow S \rightarrow S/I \rightarrow 0$ ($I \sim J$ for some Gorenstein J). From the resolutions:

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow S^n \rightarrow S^{2n-2} \rightarrow S^n \rightarrow S \rightarrow (S/J) \\ 0 \rightarrow S \rightarrow S^4 \rightarrow S^6 \rightarrow S^4 \rightarrow S \rightarrow S/(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4) \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

By the mapping cone construction:

$$\implies S \leftarrow S^5 \leftarrow S^{m+t} \leftarrow S^{2n+2} \leftarrow S^m \quad (\text{yielding } \beta_2 \leq t + 10)$$

Known Bounds and Maximums

- $c = 5, t = 1$: $(d, t) \neq (1, 1)$ by [Kunz].
- $c = 5, d = 2, t = 1$: [Lopez]: A licci ideal in the above parameter has β one of the following:
 - $\beta = (1, 7, 16, 16, 7, 1)$ (hypersurface of codim 3 of 5 gen)
 - $\beta = (1, 7, 21, 21, 7, 1)$ (Huneke-Ulrich Examples)

There are no known non-licci examples of perfect ideals with $(d, t) = (2, 1)$.

Theorem 1.6 (Huneke-Vascancelos '96). *For $(d, t) = (2, 1)$ & S/I is generically C.I. & unobstructed (e.g. licci), explicitly construct an exact sequence:*

$$S^{\binom{c+3}{2}} \rightarrow S^{c+2} \rightarrow S \rightarrow (S/I \rightarrow 0)$$

In particular, $\beta_2 = \beta_{c-2} \leq \binom{c+3}{2}$.

- $(c, d, t) = (6, 2, 1) \implies \beta = (1, 8, \leq 36, \leq 36, 8, 1)$.

Fact (M2). *There is an ideal attaining these maximums.*

- $(c, d, t) = (7, 2, 1) \implies \beta = (1, 9, \leq 45, -, -, 9, 1)$.
- $(c, d, t) = (4, 2, 2) \implies \beta = (1, 6, -, -, 2)$.

For these two cases, there exist ideals with arbitrarily large intermediate β_i .

Proof Sketch. 1. Take a “suitable” homogeneous $I_0 \subsetneq \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $n \geq c$.

2. Define $I_j = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_c) : I_{j-1} \implies$ regular sequence of maximum degree among minimal generators of I_{j-1} .

This process yields $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \beta_3(S/I_N) = \infty$. □

Herzog Classes

Let $S = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ($n \geq c$). Define P_c of ideals in S as follows:

- $(l_1, \dots, l_c) \in P_c$, where l_1, \dots, l_c are independent linear forms.
- If $I \in P_c$ with minimal free resolution:

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_{j=1}^t S(-b_{cj}) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \bigoplus_{j=1}^{c+d} S(-b_{1j}) \rightarrow S \rightarrow S/I \rightarrow 0$$

- $\varkappa = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^t (b_{cj} - c + 2)}{t+1} = \frac{1 + \sum_{j=1}^{c+d} (b_{1j} - 1)}{d+1}$
- $\lambda_i = \varkappa + 1 - b_{1i}$

2. Lecture 2 — Stability Patterns in free resolutions of symmetric ideals by Kartik Ganapathy

$$I_\infty = \langle x_i^2 x_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq 3 \rangle$$

Theorem 2.1 (Murai). $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq I_3 \subseteq \dots \subseteq I_n \subseteq \dots$

Each I_n is monomial & stable under the action of $S_n \curvearrowright k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. $\exists N$ s.t.

$$\beta(I_N) = \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{Betti-table} \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta(I_{N+1}) = \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{Betti-table} \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \diamond \\ \square \\ \triangle \end{array}$$

Problem 2.2. Interpret Murai's result algebraically. \rightarrow Given an ideal I , what contributes the lines of a fixed slope?

Theorem 2.3 (Cohen '67). Let $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq I_3 \subseteq \dots \subseteq I_n \subseteq \dots$ be a chain of homogeneous symmetric ideals, with $I_n \subseteq k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. Then $\exists f_1, f_2, \dots, f_r \in I_N$ s.t.

$$I_{N+t} = \langle S_{N+t} \cdot f_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq r, \forall t \geq 0 \rangle$$

Given such a chain, define

$$H_I(s, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} H_{I_n}(t) \cdot s^n$$

By Nagel-Römer: This is a rational function in s & t .

Nagpal-Snowden have studied S_∞ -stable ideals in $k[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots]$, & also S_∞ -equivariant modules on $k[x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots]$.

Conjecture 2.4 (Le-Nagel-Nguyen-Römer). (i) $\exists a \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\text{pdim}(I_n) = n - a$ for $n \gg 0$

(ii) $\exists b, c \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\text{reg}(I_n) = bn + c$ for $n \gg 0$

By Auslander-Buchsbaum formula, $\text{pdim}(I_n) + \text{depth}(I_n) = n$

$$\implies \text{depth}(I_n) = a \text{ for } n \gg 0$$

Idea: For fixed $i \geq 0$, endow $\{\text{Ext}_{R_n}^i(k, I_n)\}$ with some algebraic structure with an \mathbb{N} -grading, & prove for finitely generated results

$$\text{endow } \{H_{m_n}^i(I_n)\} \curvearrowright$$

Definition 2.5. k an infinite field, of char $p > 0$. $V = k^\infty = \langle e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n, \dots \rangle$.

$GL = GL_\infty = GL(k^\infty)$; $R = \text{Sym}(V) = k[x_1, x_2, \dots]$

A GL_∞ -equivariant R -module is an R -module M with an action of GL_∞ such that:

(i) $g(rm) = g(r) \cdot g(m) \quad \forall r \in R, m \in M, g \in GL$ ($R \otimes M \rightarrow M$ is GL -equiv)

(ii) M is a smooth representation of GL_∞ (in char p subquotients of Schur functions)
 M is a polynomial/smooth GL_∞ -representation, and $M_n = M^{GL_\infty - n}$ is an R_n -module.
 $M \longleftrightarrow M_n = M^{GL_\infty - n}$ will be a module over R_n .

Definition 2.6. Fix $e \in \mathbb{N}$, $\Gamma_e : \text{Mod}_R \rightarrow \text{Mod}_R$

$$M \mapsto \{x \in M \mid (m^{[p^e]})^n \cdot x = 0 \text{ for } n \gg 0\}$$

Taking 0th local-cohomology with respect to $m^{[p^e]}$.

The definition is meaningful since $m^{[p^e]}$ & $m^{[p^d]}$ are not copotent if $d \neq e$.

$\Gamma : \text{Mod}_R \rightarrow \text{Mod}_R$

$$M \mapsto \{x \in M \mid \exists \text{ GL-stable ideal } 0 \neq I \subseteq R \text{ s.t. } I^n \cdot x = 0 \text{ for } n \gg 0\}$$

Theorem 2.7. Let M be a f.g. GL-equiv R -module. Then $\forall e \in \mathbb{N}$, the right derived functor $R\Gamma_e(M)$ is also a f.g. GL-equiv R -module. $\mathcal{E}^j(R\Gamma(M))$

Theorem 2.8. (i) The non-linear lines occurring in $\beta(M)$ all have slope of the form $p^e - 1$ with e allowed to vary.

(ii) $R\Gamma_e(M)$ has pure slope $p^e - 1$ resolution agrees with that of M eventually.

Definition 2.9. We say a \mathbb{Z} -graded k -alg R is Koszul if the resolution of R/m looks like:

$$0 \leftarrow k \leftarrow R \leftarrow R(-1)^{b_1} \leftarrow R(-2)^{b_2} \leftarrow \dots$$

Weighted rational curves:

Example 2.10. w.r.c. of type (3, 2)

$$D = [0 : 1]$$

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2, 2)$$

$$[s, t] \mapsto \left[\underbrace{s^3 : s^2t : st^2}_{\substack{\text{deg } d \\ \text{monomials} \\ \text{vanishing at} \\ D}} : \underbrace{st^5 : t^6}_{\substack{\text{rest of} \\ \text{deg } d.e. \\ \text{monomials}}} \right]$$

$$S = k[x_0, x_1, x_2, y_0, y_1] \xrightarrow{\phi} k[s, t]$$

$$x_0 \mapsto s^3$$

$$x_1 \mapsto s^2t$$

$$x_2 \mapsto st^2$$

$$y_0 \mapsto st^5$$

$$y_1 \mapsto t^6$$

$$I = \ker \phi$$

$$R = S/I$$

Facts:

- ⊙ I is determinantal,

$$I = I_2 \begin{pmatrix} x_0 & x_1 & x_2^2 & y_0 \\ x_1 & x_2 & y_0 & y_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ⊙ R is Cohen-Macaulay.

What about Koszul property?

$$0 \leftarrow k \leftarrow R \leftarrow \begin{array}{c} R(-1)^3 \\ \oplus \\ R(-2)^2 \end{array} \leftarrow \dots$$

Definition 2.11 (Herzog-Reiner-Welker). A \mathbb{Z} -graded k -alg R is nonstandard Koszul if $\text{gr}_m R$ is Koszul.

Recall:

$$\text{gr}_m R = \underbrace{R/m}_0 \oplus \underbrace{m/m^2}_1 \oplus \underbrace{m^2/m^3}_2 \oplus \dots$$

Example 2.12. $R = k[x, y]/(y^2 - x^3)$. $\text{gr}_m R = k[x, y]/(y^2)$ is Koszul. So, R is non-standard Koszul.

Example 2.13. $R = k[x, y]/(y^2 - x^3 - x^6)$. $\text{gr}_m(R) = k[x, y]/(y^2)$ is Koszul. So R is non-standard Koszul. (R - coordinate ring of a weighted rational curve).

Question 2.14. Is R nonstandard Koszul?

$$\text{gr}_m(R) = k[x_0, x_1, x_2, y_0, y_1] / I_2 \begin{pmatrix} x_0 & x_1 & 0 & y_0 \\ x_1 & x_2 & y_0 & y_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In fact, minors are a (quadratic) Gröbner basis (GB). So, R is nonstandard Koszul.

Theorem 2.15 (Davis, Sabionka '24). *If R is the coordinate ring of a weighted rational curve. Then,*

- (1) I is determinantal.
- (2) R is Cohen-Macaulay.
- (3) R is non-standard Koszul.

3. Lecture 3 — The Lefschetz properties for some modules over polynomial rings by Bek Chase

Definitions and Basics

Let k be a field of characteristic 0. Let $S = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be a standard graded polynomial ring.

Let $A = S/I = \bigoplus_{i=0}^c A_i$ be an Artinian algebra, and let $M = \bigoplus_{i=a}^b M_i$ be an Artinian module over S .

Definition 3.1. The **Hilbert Function** of M is given by $i \mapsto \dim_k M_i$. The **Hilbert Series** of M is given by $\text{HS}(M) = \sum_{i=a}^b (\dim_k M_i) t^i$.

Definition 3.2. M has the **weak Lefschetz Property (WLP)** if there exists $\ell \in S_1$ such that multiplication by ℓ ,

$$\times \ell : M_i \rightarrow M_{i+1}$$

has maximal rank for all i .

Definition 3.3. M has the **strong Lefschetz Property (SLP)** if multiplication by ℓ^d ,

$$\times \ell^d : M_i \rightarrow M_{i+d}$$

has maximal rank for all i and for all d .

Fact. 1. If M has monomial generators, then $\ell = x_1 + \cdots + x_n$ is enough to check.

2. If M has WLP/SLP, then $\text{HS}(M)$ is unimodal.

Theorem 3.4 (Stanley, 1980). *The quotient $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/(x_1^{a_1}, \dots, x_n^{a_n})$ has the SLP.*

Remark 3.5. This is a monomial complete intersection \implies regular sequence, $\dim(S/I) = 0$.

Main Questions

1. Do all complete intersections have the SLP?
 - Note that $\text{soc}(A) = (0 : \mathfrak{m})$, $\dim = 1$ -type. If $n = 4$, no!
2. Do all Gorenstein algebras have the SLP?
 - If $n = 4$, no!
3. What other algebras/modules have the SLP?

Consider Type 2 Artinian Algebras:

$$A_F = S/\text{ann}(F) = \{P \mid P \circ F = 0\}$$

where F is a Macaulay dual generator and \circ is differentiation.

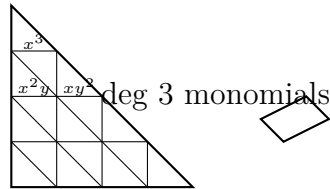
- If F is a monomial $\implies A_F$ is a monomial complete intersection \implies SLP.
- If F is a binomial $\implies A_F = ?$

Proposition 3.6 (ADFMRSV). *Let $n = 3$. Then for all F binomial, $\text{in}_{<}(A_F)$ is one of the following:*

1. *is a monomial complete intersection (type 2).*
2. *$(x^a, y^b, z^c, x^\alpha y^\beta z^\gamma)$.*
3. *an intersection of (1) and (2).*

Biannular Regions and Central-Simple Modules

Let $I = (x^a, y^b, z^c, x^\alpha z^\gamma, y^\beta z^\gamma)$. WLP is characterized by Cook II, Nagel [07] \implies biannular regions, lozenge tilings.



Central-Simple Modules [HW, 07]

Let A be an Artinian k -algebra, and $\ell \in A_1$. Let $P = \min\{\text{integer } s \text{ s.t. } \ell^P = 0\}$. We have the filtration:

$$A = (0 : \ell^P) + (\ell) \supseteq (0 : \ell^{P-1}) + (\ell) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq (0 : \ell^0) + (\ell) = (\ell)$$

Definition 3.7. The i -th Central-Simple Module (CSM) is:

$$V_{i,\ell} = \frac{(0 : \ell^i) + (\ell)}{(0 : \ell^{i-1}) + (\ell)}$$

Let $\tilde{V}_\ell = \bigoplus_{i=1}^P V_{i,\ell}$.

Fact. $\text{HS}(\tilde{V}_\ell) = \text{HS}(\text{Gr}_\ell A) = \text{HS}(A)$ for $0 \leq i \leq P$.

Theorem 3.8 (HW '07, Chase '24). A has SLP $\iff \exists \ell \in A_1$ such that \tilde{V}_ℓ has the SLP.

Now apply this to the specific ideal: Let $I = (x^a, y^b, z^c, x^\alpha z^\gamma, y^\beta z^\gamma)$ and $\ell = z$. Then the Central-Simple Modules of A with respect to ℓ are:

$$V_{1,z} = \frac{(0 : z^1) + (z)}{(0 : z^0) + (z)} \cong \frac{k[x, y]}{(x^a, y^b)}$$

$$V_{2,z} \cong \frac{(x^\alpha, y^\beta)}{(x^a, y^b)} (-\alpha - \beta) \otimes \frac{k[z]}{(z^\gamma)}$$

Remark 3.9. Tensor products do not always have the SLP. Example: $(1, 3, 3, 1) \otimes (1, 3, 1, 1)$.

Theorem 3.10 (Chase '24). Let $I \subset k[x, y]$ be a homogeneous Artinian ideal. Let $J = (x^a, y^b) \subseteq I$. Then I/J has the SLP.

Remark 3.11. (S/I) has SLP $\iff (S/\text{in}_<(I))$ has SLP.

Lindström-Gessel-Viennot and Lattice Paths

The Lindström-Gessel-Viennot lemma relates determinants to lattice paths:

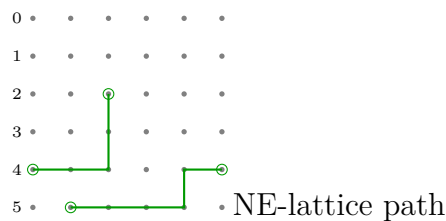
$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \text{matrix of} \\ \text{bin coefficients} \end{pmatrix} = \text{enumeration of lattice paths}$$

Recall the expansion:

$$\ell^d = (x + y)^d = \binom{d}{0}x^d + \binom{d}{1}x^{d-1}y + \dots$$

Example matrix evaluation:

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \binom{3}{0} & \binom{3}{1} \\ \binom{3}{3} & \binom{3}{3} \\ \binom{2}{2} & \binom{3}{3} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \binom{5}{2} & \binom{4}{2} & \binom{3}{2} \\ \binom{5}{5} & \binom{4}{4} & \binom{3}{3} \\ \binom{4}{4} & 0 & \binom{3}{4} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



Theorem 3.12 (Chase '24). S/I has the SLP if:

1. $\alpha + \beta \leq a + b - c \leq \alpha + \beta + 1$
2. $\min(\alpha, \beta) \neq \max(\alpha, \beta) = \min(\alpha + \beta, a, b) \implies S/I$ has a symmetric HS.
3. $\sim \sim \sim$

where $I = \text{in}_{<}(A_F)$.

Theorem 3.13 (ADFMMRSV). For any A_F with $n = 3$, if F is binomial, then A_F has the SLP.

4. Lecture 4 — Modules of Finite Length & Finite Projective Dimension by Nawaj KC

Q: How large can the annihilator of an R -module of finite pdim be?

Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a Noetherian local ring, $M \neq 0$ an R -module.

$$\text{ann}_R(M) = \{r \in R \mid r \cdot M = 0\} \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$$

Theorem 4.1 (Auslander-Buchsbaum-Serre). If $M \neq 0$ is an R -module, with $\text{ann}_R(M) = \mathfrak{m}$ and yet $\text{pdim}_R M < \infty$, then R is regular.

Remark 4.2. $\mathfrak{m}M \subsetneq M \iff M \otimes_R k \neq 0$.

Theorem 4.3 (New Intersection Theorem). (*“large annihilator”*) If $M \neq 0$ is an R -module with $\text{ann}_R M \supseteq \mathfrak{m}^n$ for some $n \geq 1$ and yet, $\text{pdim}_R M < \infty$, then R is Cohen-Macaulay.

Goal: Quantify these theorems.

$$U_R(M) = \min\{i \mid \mathfrak{m}^i \subseteq \text{ann}_R(M)\}$$

Small $U_R(M) \iff$ large annihilator.

Question: $\min\{U_R(M) \mid M \neq 0, \text{pdim}_R M < \infty\} = ?$

Guiding Philosophy: Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a Cohen-Macaulay local ring and \underline{x} a maximal regular sequence.

Note that $R/(\underline{x}) = R/(x_1, \dots, x_d)$ has:

1. Finite length: $\mathfrak{m}^n \subseteq (x_1, \dots, x_d) \implies \text{ann}_R(R/(x_1, \dots, x_d))$ is large.
2. $\text{pdim}_R(R/\underline{x}) = d < \infty$.

Such quotients by system of parameters (s.o.p.'s) are “simplest” or “smallest” R -modules of finite length & finite projective dimension.

Koszul complex: $\text{Kos}(x_1, \dots, x_d) \xrightarrow{\cong} R/(x_1, \dots, x_d)$

Conjectures: Let $M \neq 0$ be an R -module with $\ell_R(M) < \infty$ ($\implies U_R(M) < \infty$) and $\text{pdim}_R M < \infty$. Then,

1. $\beta_i(M) \geq \beta_i(R/(\underline{x}))$ for some, hence any s.o.p. \underline{x} . [B-E-M]
2. $\ell_R(M) \geq \min\{\ell_R(R/(\underline{x})) \mid \underline{x} \text{ s.o.p.}\}$. [I-M-N]
 - Open in the local case.
 - For cyclic modules in $\dim R \leq 2$ [Nawaj - Andrew].
3. $U_R(M) \geq \min\{U_R(R/(\underline{x})) \mid \underline{x} \text{ s.o.p.}\}$. [C-H-P-R]

Remark 4.4. Conjecture (3) is true when R is Gorenstein & $\text{gr}_{\mathfrak{m}}(R)$ is C.M. [A-B-I-M - 2010]. Assume R/\mathfrak{m} is infinite.

Theorem 4.5 (Nawaj, Pollitz '25). *Conj (3) holds, when $\text{gr}_{\mathfrak{m}}(R)$ is Cohen-Macaulay.*

Remark 4.6. $R = k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]_{\mathfrak{m}}/(f_1, \dots, f_t) \rightsquigarrow \text{gr}_{\mathfrak{m}}(R)$ is C.M. $\implies R$ is C.M.

$\implies \underline{x} = x_1, \dots, x_d \in \mathfrak{m} \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$ sufficiently general.
 $\implies \underline{x}^* = x_1^*, \dots, x_d^*$ in $\text{gr}_{\mathfrak{m}}(R)$ is a regular sequence.

Key Lemma

$$1 \longmapsto S$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k & \longrightarrow & R/(x_1, \dots, x_d) \\ \uparrow \simeq & & \uparrow \\ F & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & K \end{array}$$

where $S = \text{socle element of maximal order}$.

$S \in \mathfrak{m}^n$ but $\mathfrak{m}^{n+1} = 0$ in $R/(x_1, \dots, x_d)$.

$n = \text{ord}(S) \implies U_R(R/(x_1, \dots, x_d)) = n + 1$.

We have $\sigma(F) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}^n K$.

M is an R -mod.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & F_{d+1} & \longrightarrow & F_d & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & F_0 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma_d & & & & \downarrow \sigma_0 & & \\ \cdots & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & K_d & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & K_0 & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\sigma \otimes_R M : F \otimes_R M \rightarrow K \otimes_R M.$$

Key notes: If $U_R(M) \leq n$ (i.e., $\mathfrak{m}^n \subseteq \text{ann}_R(M)$):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} F_{d+1} \otimes_R M & \longrightarrow & F_d \otimes_R M & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & F_0 \otimes_R M & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \sigma_d \otimes M \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \sigma_0 \otimes M & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K_d \otimes_R M & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & K_0 \otimes_R M & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Then $\sigma \otimes_R M = 0$ map.

$$\text{Cone}(\sigma \otimes_R M) = \text{cone}(F \otimes_R M \xrightarrow{0} K \otimes_R M) = K \otimes_R M \oplus \Sigma F \otimes_R M$$

Also notice that $\text{cone}(\sigma) \simeq_R R/(\underline{x}, S)$.

From the equalities:

$$\text{Cone}(\sigma \otimes_R M) = \text{cone}(\sigma) \otimes_R M$$

Taking homology gives:

$$H_{d+1}(\text{cone}(\sigma) \otimes_R M) = H_{d+1}(K \otimes_R M) \oplus H_d(F \otimes_R M)$$

We know $H_{d+1}(K \otimes_R M) = 0$, so:

$$\text{Tor}_{d+1}(R/(\underline{x}, S), M) = \text{Since } M \text{ has finite length, } \text{depth}_R(M) = 0.$$

If $\text{pd}_R(M) < \infty$ and R is CM of dim d , then Auslander–Buchsbaum gives $\text{pd}_R(M) = d$.

Hence $\text{Tor}_d^R(k, M) \neq 0$.

$\implies \text{pd}_R M = \infty$.

Proof Sketch: Assume $\text{pd}_R M < \infty$, $U_R(M) < \infty$.
Then, $U_R(M) \geq n + 1 = \min\{U_R(R/(\underline{y})) \mid \underline{y} \text{ s.o.p.}\}$.

Some new idea! (?)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k & \longrightarrow & R/(x_1, \dots, x_d) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ F & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & K \end{array}$$

$\sigma_d : F_d \rightarrow K_d = R$.