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## Integrity of the symmetric algebra of modules of projective dimension two (\*\*)

### 1 - Introduction

Let  $R$  denote a commutative Noetherian ring and  $E$  denote a finitely generated module with a presentation

$$(1) \quad R^m \xrightarrow{\phi} R^n \xrightarrow{\varphi} E \rightarrow 0.$$

If  $R$  is an integral domain and  $E$  is a torsion free module of projective dimension one, the integrity of the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  of  $E$  over  $R$  is studied in [1].

Now, let

$$(2) \quad 0 \rightarrow R^s \xrightarrow{\psi} R^m \xrightarrow{\phi} R^n \xrightarrow{\varphi} E \rightarrow 0$$

be a projective resolution of  $E$ .

If the second Betti number  $s$  is equal to 1,  $R$  is a Cohen-Macaulay domain,  $E$  is a torsion-free  $R$ -module,  $E^* = \text{Hom}_R(E, R)$  is a 3-syzygy module, in [12] the acyclicity of the  $Z(E)$ -complex, the approximation complex of  $E$ , is proved by using syzygetic properties of the ideal  $I_1(\psi)$  generated by the entries of a matrix representation of the inclusion  $0 \rightarrow R \xrightarrow{\psi} R^m$ .

When the second Betti number is two and the rank of the first syzygy module  $N$  of  $E$  is odd, sufficient conditions for  $E$  to admit an acyclic  $Z(E)$ -complex are established in [9] in terms of theoretic properties of the ideal  $I_s(\psi)$  generated by the largest sized minors of a matrix representation of the inclusion  $0 \rightarrow R^s \xrightarrow{\psi} R^m$  (i.e. the ideal  $I_2(\psi)$ ). Moreover in that paper some relationships between the ideal  $J(\phi)$  of relations of  $S(E)$  and  $I_2(\psi)$  are described.

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(\*\*) Received June 20 1995. AMS classification 13 D 25. Work supported by CNR.

We study the case rank  $N$  even and  $s = 2$ . We intend in this case too, to connect the syzygetic properties of  $S(E)$  with the syzygetic properties of  $I_2(\psi)$ . If  $R$  is a regular ring, a positive result was obtained in [11]. However, if we don't suppose that all modules have a finite projective resolution, we obtain a similar result when  $R$  is only a CM-ring.

More precisely, in Section 2 we state *sufficient conditions for the acyclicity of  $Z(E)$ -complex* and prove that  $J(\phi)$  is a *Cohen-Macaulay prime ideal* of  $S(R^n)$ , by using notions of duality and counting depths of the modules, which appear in the complex  $Z(E)$ .

In Section 3 at last we study some modules  $E$  of projective dimension two for which  $Z(E)$  is acyclic, requiring higher depths of the modules  $Z_i(E)$ . We point out the connection among the syzygetic properties of  $\text{Coker } \mathcal{A}^s \phi$ , where  $s$  is the second Betti number, and those of  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ .

## 2 - The main theorem

Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring and let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module with a presentation (1) where  $\phi = (a_{ij})$  is a matrix representation of a map between  $R^m$  and  $R^n$ ,  $a_{ij} \in R$ .

Let  $S(E)$  be the symmetric algebra of  $E$ , with the ideal-theoretic presentation  $S(E) = R[T_1, \dots, T_n]/J$  where  $R[T_1, \dots, T_n] = S_R(R^n)$  and  $J$  is the ideal of relations of  $S(E)$  generated by the 1-forms

$$f_j = \sum_i^n a_{ij} T_i \in S(R_n) \quad 1 \leq j \leq m.$$

We assume that  $E$  has rank  $e$ , i.e.  $E \otimes K = K^e$ , where  $K$  is the total quotient ring of  $R$ .

We consider some conditions on the sizes of Fitting ideals of  $E$ .

For any integer  $t \geq 1$  we denote  $I_t(\phi)$  the ideal generated by the  $t \times t$  minors of  $\phi$ , i.e.  $I_t(\phi)$  is the  $(n-t)$ -th *Fitting ideal* of  $E$  and we consider the *condition*

$$F_k : \text{ht}(I_t(\phi)) \geq \text{rank } \phi - t + 1 + k \quad 1 \leq t \leq \text{rank } \phi \quad k \geq 0$$

where  $\text{rank } \phi = \sup \{t \mid I_t(\phi) \neq 0\}$ .

Condition  $F_k$  can be given in terms of the local number of generators of  $E$

$F_k$  : for each prime ideal  $\wp$  of  $R$ , if  $E_\wp$  is not a free  $R_\wp$ -module, then

$$\nu(E_\wp) \leq \text{depth } \wp + \text{rank } E - k$$

where  $\nu = \nu(E_\wp)$  is the minimal number of generators of  $E_\wp$ .

Hence, if  $E$  is  $F_k$  and  $L_\varphi \neq 0$  then  $\text{rank } L_\varphi \leq \text{ht } \varphi - k$  where  $L_\varphi$  is such that the sequence  $0 \rightarrow L_\varphi \rightarrow R_\varphi \rightarrow E_\varphi \rightarrow 0$  is exact [12], [13].

We want to study when the symmetric algebra of a module of projective dimension two over a Cohen-Macaulay domain is a Cohen-Macaulay domain, too.

The approximation complex  $Z(E)$  of  $E$  gives useful information about the theoretic properties of  $S(E)$  [3].

If  $E$  has the presentation (1), then the  $Z(E)$ -complex is a complex of graded  $S = S(R^n)$ -modules

$$Z(E): 0 \rightarrow Z_n \otimes S[-n] \xrightarrow{\partial} \dots \rightarrow Z_1 \otimes S[-1] \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0$$

where:

$$Z_i = Z_i(E) = \ker(A^i R^n \xrightarrow{\partial^i} A^{i-1} R^n \otimes E) \quad S[-r]_t = S_{t-r}$$

$$\partial^i(a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_i) = \sum_1^i (-1)^j (a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \widehat{a}_j \wedge \dots \wedge a_i) \otimes \varphi(a_j)$$

$$\partial(e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_r} \otimes p(e)) = \sum_{j=1}^r (-1)^{r-j} e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \widehat{e}_{i_j} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_r} \otimes e_{i_j} p(e)$$

where  $e = e_1, \dots, e_n$  is a standard basis of  $R^n$  and  $\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  means omission.

If  $E$  has rank  $e$ ,  $Z_i = 0$  for  $i > n - e$  and the homology of  $Z(E)$  does not depend on the chosen presentation of  $E$ .

Let us briefly remember that an ideal  $\mathfrak{S}$  of a Cohen-Macaulay ring  $R$  is said *strongly Cohen-Macaulay*, SCM for short, if

$$\text{depth } Z_i(\mathfrak{S}) \geq \min \{d, d - g + 2\}$$

where  $g = \text{ht } \mathfrak{S}$  and  $Z_i$  is the module of cycles of the Koszul complex associated to a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{S}$  [4].

Moreover we will use the acyclicity lemma of Peskine and Szpiro ([8]) and the criterion of Buchsbaum-Eisenbud-Northcott, formulated again by Matsumura ([7], Th. 3.3.2). The following theorem is crucial to state the results of this section.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring,  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$  and*

$$0 \rightarrow F_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

*be an exact complex of finitely generated  $R$ -modules ( $k \geq 1$ ) such that there exists  $n \geq k$  with  $\text{depth}_I F_i \geq n$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .*

*Then  $\text{depth}_I M \geq n + 1 - k$ .*

Proof. See [5], Lemma 3.3.

Now we consider a module  $E$  of projective dimension two, with the free resolution (2).

In [9] e [10] basic result on the syzygies of  $E$  and some consequences about some modules were obtained. More explicitly, let us denote by  $N$  the first syzygy module of  $E$ , by  $Q$  the Coker  $\mathcal{A}^s \psi$ , by  $Z_1(\mathfrak{S}_s)$  the first syzygy module of  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ , where  $\mathfrak{S}_s$  is the ideal generated by the  $s \times s$  minors of a matrix presentation of  $\psi$ , and by  $Z_i(\mathfrak{S}_s)$  the  $i$ -th module of cycles of the Koszul complex associated with a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{S}_s$ .

If  $E$  is a torsion-free  $R$ -module, the maps concerning these modules are:

- a:  $(\mathcal{A}^l N)^{**} \simeq Z_l \quad l \leq \text{rank } N$
- b:  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow Z_{st}(E) \quad t \geq 1$
- c:  $(\mathcal{A}^l N)^{**} \simeq (\mathcal{A}^{\sigma-l} N)^* \quad \sigma = \text{rank } N.$

Moreover, if  $R$  is a Cohen-Macaulay domain containing a field  $k$ , then:

- d:  $Q \simeq (Z_1(\mathfrak{S}_s))^*$
- e:  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \simeq (\mathcal{A}^{r-t} Z_1(\mathfrak{S}_s))^{**} \simeq Z_{r-t}(\mathfrak{S}_s) \quad r = \text{rank } Q$

f:  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^{r-t} Q)^*$  and  $f$  is an isomorphism, if  $Q$  is a reflexive module.

See [9] for a description of these maps.

The conditions under which the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  is an *integral domain* have been a source of interest. We study now when a module  $E$  of projective dimension two and  $s = 2$  has acyclic  $Z(E)$ -complex and for which the symmetric algebra  $S(E)$  is an integral domain. If  $\text{rank } N = m - 2$  is odd we have the results of [9].

Thanks to **b**, it exists a map  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow Z_{2t}(E)$ ,  $t \geq 1$ , hence the even terms of the  $Z(E)$ -complex can be connected with the exterior power  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**}$  and consequently with the homology modules of  $\mathfrak{S}_2$ .

Moreover, for the odd terms  $Z_l(E)$ , since we have

$$(3) \quad Z_l(E) \simeq (\mathcal{A}^l N)^{**} \simeq (\mathcal{A}^{\text{rank } N - l} N)^*$$

and  $\text{rank } N - l$  is still even, it is possible to connect such powers with the exterior powers  $(\mathcal{A}^{\frac{\text{rank } N - l}{2}} Q)^*$ , by the *dual map*  $(\mathcal{A}^{\text{rank } N - l} N)^* \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^{\frac{\text{rank } N - l}{2}} Q)^*$ .

The case  $m - 2$  even is more complicated. In fact it is not possible to connect the odd terms of the complex with the homology modules of  $\mathfrak{S}_2$ . In fact, for  $l$  odd we have again (3) but  $\text{rank } N - l$  is still odd. Consequently the use of the dual module is ineffectual, in general. However it is possible to connect the module  $(A^l N)^{**}$  with  $(A^{\frac{l-1}{2}} Q)^* \otimes N$ , and of this latter module it is possible to evaluate the depth. Such reasonings are contained in

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $R$  be a Cohen-Macaulay integral domain containing a field and let  $E$  be a torsion-free module of projective dimension two with the free resolution (2), with  $s = 2$ . Let  $N = Z_1(E)$  be the first syzygy module of  $E$  and  $Q$  be  $\text{Coker}(A^2 \psi)$ .*

*Suppose that:*

- i.  $E$  satisfies  $F_1$
- ii.  $\text{rank } N = m - 2$  is even
- iii.  $(A^t Q)^{**} \otimes N$  is reflexive for any  $t$  such that  $2t + 1 < \text{rank } N$
- iv.  $\text{depth}(A^{2t+\varrho} N)_{\mathfrak{p}}^{**} \geq \text{depth}((A^t Q)^{**} \otimes A^{\varrho} N)_{\mathfrak{p}}^{**} \quad \varrho = 0, 1$

for any  $t$  such that  $2t + \varrho < \text{rank } N$ , and for any  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$ ,  $\mathfrak{p} \supset \mathfrak{S}_2$

- v.  $\mathfrak{S}_2$  is a strongly Cohen-Macaulay ideal of height 3.

Then  $Z(E)$  is acyclic and  $J = J(\phi)$  is a Cohen-Macaulay prime ideal of  $S(R^n) = R[T_1, \dots, T_n]$ , therefore  $S(E)$  is an integral domain.

**Proof.** Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a maximal ideal of  $R$  containing  $\mathfrak{S}_2$ . We may assume that  $(R, \mathfrak{p})$  is a local ring and  $\dim R = d$ .

Thanks to a if  $\text{rank } N = m - 2 = 2\nu$ ,  $Z(E)$  is the complex

$$0 \rightarrow R \otimes S[-2\nu] \rightarrow (A^{2\nu-1} N)^{**} \otimes S[-2\nu+1] \rightarrow (A^{2\nu-2} N)^{**} \otimes S[-2\nu+2] \\ \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow (A^3 N)^{**} \otimes S[-3] \rightarrow (A^2 N)^{**} \otimes S[-2] \rightarrow N \otimes S[-1] \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0$$

From hypothesis iv and from e it follows

$$\text{depth}(A^{2t} N)^{**} \geq \text{depth}(A^t Q)^{**} = \text{depth}(A^{r-t} Q^*) = \text{depth } Z_{r-t}(\mathfrak{S}_2)$$

with  $r = \text{rank } Q$ . Moreover  $(A^t Q)^{**} \simeq (A^t Z_1(\mathfrak{S}_2))^{**} \simeq Z_t(\mathfrak{S}_2)$ . From  $\mathbf{v}$  we derive  $\text{depth } Z_i(\mathfrak{S}_2) \geq d-1$ . Moreover, from  $\mathbf{i}$  we get  $\text{rank } N \leq d-1$ , with  $d-1 \geq m-2$ .

For even terms in the  $Z(E)$ -complex we have  $\text{depth}(A^{2t} N)^* \geq m-2$ . For odd terms we consider the following steps:

Step 1. Consider the epimorphisms:

$$(4) \quad A^{2t} N \otimes N \rightarrow A^{2t+1} N \rightarrow 0 \quad A^t Q \rightarrow A^{2t} N \rightarrow 0$$

and the sequences obtained by double dualization of  $(4)_1$  and tensorizing  $(4)_2$  by  $N$ :

$$(A^{2t} N \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow (A^{2t+1} N)^{**} \rightarrow 0 \quad A^t Q \otimes N \rightarrow A^{2t} N \otimes N \rightarrow 0.$$

Moreover we have

$$(A^t Q \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow (A^{2t} N \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{hence} \quad (A^t Q \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow (A^{2t+1} N)^{**} \rightarrow 0.$$

Then we can consider the homomorphism

$$(A^t Q \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow ((A^t Q)^{**} \otimes N) \rightarrow 0$$

which is an isomorphism for all prime ideals  $\wp$  of  $R$  such that  $\text{ht}(\wp) \leq 1$ , then it is an isomorphism for all prime ideals of  $R$ .

Then, we obtain the following exact sequence

$$((A^t Q)^{**} \otimes N)^{**} \rightarrow (A^{2t+1} N)^{**} \rightarrow 0.$$

Step 2. We have the exact sequences (2) where  $s = 2$  and

$$(5) \quad 0 \rightarrow R^2 \xrightarrow{\psi} R^m \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0.$$

Since  $E$  is torsion free, by Buchsbaum-Eisenbud criterion of exactness, it follows  $\text{depth } \mathfrak{S}_2(\psi) \geq 3$ . By tensoring (5) with  $(A^t Q)^{**}$ , we obtain

$$(6) \quad R^2 \otimes (A^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow R^m \otimes (A^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow N \otimes (A^t Q)^{**} \rightarrow 0.$$

The sufficient conditions in order that (6) is exact are verified.

In fact  $\text{depth}(\mathfrak{S}_2(\psi), (\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**}) \geq 2$  (since  $(\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**}$  is a reflexive module). Then from Theorem 1 we can conclude that  $\text{depth}((\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \otimes N) \geq d - 2$ . Since  $E$  is  $F_1$ , then  $d - 2 \geq m - 3$ . From iv we have

$$\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^{2t+1} N)^{**} \geq \text{depth}((\mathcal{A}^t Q)^{**} \otimes N)^{**} \geq d - 2 \geq m - 3.$$

So the  $Z(E)$ -complex is *exact* and  $\text{depth } S(E) > 0$ .

The acyclicity of the  $Z(E)$ -complex implies that each symmetric power  $S_t(E)$  is a torsion-free module, then  $S(E)$  is an *integral domain* and  $J$  is a *prime ideal*.

Moreover  $E$  is  $F_0$ , but in this situation  $\dim S(E) = \dim R + \text{rank } E = d + e$ , the acyclicity of  $Z(E)$  implies  $\text{depth } S(E) \geq d + e$ , hence  $S(E)$  is *Cohen-Macaulay*.

**Example 1.** Let  $R$  be a Cohen-Macaulay integral domain containing a field and let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, of projective dimension two, the second Betti number  $s = 2$ ,  $\text{rank } N = 4$ . In this case since  $(\mathcal{A}^3 N)^{**} = N^*$  thanks to c, the  $Z(E)$ -complex is

$$0 \rightarrow R \otimes S[-4] \rightarrow N^* \otimes S[-3] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**} \otimes S[-2] \rightarrow N \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0.$$

If we define the morphism  $(\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**} \rightarrow Q \rightarrow 0$ , if  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**} \geq \text{depth } Q \geq d - 1$ ,  $d = \dim R$ , then the acyclicity of  $Z(E)$  comes from  $\text{depth } N^*$ . But if  $N$  is self-dual, then  $N = N^*$  and  $\text{depth } N = d - 1$ ; hence  $Z(E)$  is exact.

Moreover, in the general case  $N$  is not necessarily self-dual, we have

$$(\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**} = (\mathcal{A}^2 N)^* = ((\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**})^*$$

and the reflexive power  $(\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**}$  is self-dual.

If  $\mathcal{A}^2 N$  is reflexive, then it is self-dual, too.

**Example 2.** Let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module of projective dimension two,  $s = 2$ ,  $\text{rank } N = 6$ . In this case the  $Z(E)$ -complex is

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow R \otimes S[-6] \rightarrow N^* \otimes S[-5] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^4 N)^{**} \otimes S[-4] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^3 N)^{**} \otimes S[-3] \\ \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^2 N)^{**} \otimes S[-2] \rightarrow N \otimes S[-1] \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Consider now the morphism  $(\mathcal{A}^{2t}N)^{**} \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^tQ)^{**} \rightarrow 0$ ,  $2t < \text{rank } N$ . If  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^{2t}) \geq \text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^tQ)^{**}$ , we have to evaluate  $\text{depth } N^*$  and  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**}$ .

We have  $(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**} = (\mathcal{A}^3N)^*$  and the third reflexive power  $(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**}$  is self-dual. If  $N = N^*$ , we have to evaluate only  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**}$  or alternatively  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^3N)^*$ .

**Example 3.** Let  $E$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module of projective dimension two,  $s = 2$ ,  $\text{rank } N = 8$ . The  $Z(E)$ -complex is

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow R \otimes S[-8] \rightarrow N^* \otimes S[-7] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^6N)^{**} \otimes S[-6] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^5N)^{**} \otimes S[-5] \\ \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^4N)^{**} \otimes S[-4] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**} \otimes S[-3] \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^2N)^{**} \otimes S[-2] \\ \rightarrow N \otimes S[-1] \rightarrow S \rightarrow S(E) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

It results that  $(\mathcal{A}^3N)^*$  and  $(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**}$  are not isomorphic and if we suppose that  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^{2t}N)^{**} \geq \text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^tQ)^{**}$ , then we have to evaluate  $\text{depth } N^*$ ,  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^3N)^{**}$  and  $\text{depth}(\mathcal{A}^3N)^*$ .

### 3 - Further results

Let  $E$  be a  $R$ -module, having projective dimension two and the free resolution (2) with  $s = 1$ .

In the following we need some conditions, whose the first one was introduced in [3].

More explicitly, let  $R$  be a Cohen-Macaulay ring and  $E$  be a torsion-free module. The *first condition* is

$$F_t^*: \nu(E_\varphi) \leq \frac{1}{2} (\text{ht } \varphi - t) + \text{rank } E \quad \forall \varphi \in \text{Spec } R.$$

Note that, if  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ , then  $E$  satisfies also  $F_t$ .

Now, let  $R$  be a local Cohen-Macaulay ring and let  $E$  be rank  $e$ , finitely generated  $R$ -module with the presentation

$$(7) \quad 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow R^n \rightarrow E \rightarrow 0.$$



The second condition (sliding depth condition) is

$$SD_k : \text{depth } Z_i(E) \geq d - n + 1 + k \quad \forall i \leq n - e$$

where  $d = \dim R$  and  $k$  is a fixed integer.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $R$  be a Cohen-Macaulay ring, let  $E$  be a  $R$ -module of rank  $e$  having the free resolution (2) with  $s = 1$ . Let  $\mathfrak{S}_1 = \mathfrak{S} = (a_1, \dots, a_m)$  be the ideal defined by the entries of a matrix presentation of  $\psi$ . Then we have:*

1. *If  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ , then  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ .*
2. *If  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $E$  is torsion-free and  $E^* = \text{Hom}_R(E, R)$  is a 3-syzygy module, then  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\wp \in \text{Spec } R$ . We may assume that  $(R, \wp)$  is a local ring and the resolution above is minimal.

Since  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ , from the exact sequences (7) and

$$0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow R^m \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$$

we have  $\text{rank } N \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t)$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ . Then  $m - 1 \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t)$ . Since  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_1) \leq m$ , we get  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_1) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t) + 1$ . Therefore  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ .

Since  $E$  is torsion-free,  $N$  is a reflexive module. We shall prove that  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ , then  $m - 1 \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t)$ .

We consider the exact sequence (7) and its dual sequence. Then  $\phi : R^m \rightarrow R^n$  is the composite of the maps:

$$R^m \rightarrow N \quad N \rightarrow N^{**} \quad N^{**} \xrightarrow{\alpha^*} R^n .$$

If  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_1) = r \leq m$ ,  $N$  has a free summand of rank  $m - r$  and  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \phi' \end{pmatrix}$  where 1 is the identity matrix of size  $m - r$  and  $\phi'$  has all of its entries in  $\wp$ .

This contradicts the minimality hypothesis, thus we have  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_1) = m$ ,  $m - 1 \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t)$ , and  $E$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1\}$ .

Corollary 1. *Let  $R$  be an integral Cohen-Macaulay domain and let  $E$  be a torsion-free module with the free resolution (2) with  $s = 1$ . If  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $F_1^*$  and  $E^*$  is a 3-syzygy module, then  $Z(E)$  is acyclic and  $S(E)$  is a domain.*

Proof. By Theorem 3,  $E$  satisfies  $F_1^*$  and we can conclude as in Example 4.6 of [3].

Theorem 4. *Let  $R$  be an integral Cohen-Macaulay ring of dimension  $d$  and  $E$  be a torsion-free  $R$ -module with a resolution (2),  $s = 1$ . Then:*

1. *If  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $SD_m$ , then  $E$  satisfies  $SD_e$  and  $Z(E)$  is acyclic.*
2. *If  $E$  satisfies  $SD_{e+2(m-1)}$ , then  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  satisfies  $SD_m$ .*

Proof. The assumption about  $\mathfrak{S}_1$  implies  $\text{depth } Z_i(\mathfrak{S}_1) \geq d + i$ . It follows

$$\text{depth } (A^r L)^{**} = \text{depth } Z_{m-1-r}(\mathfrak{S}_1) \geq d + m - 1 - r \geq d - n + r + e.$$

But  $(A^r L)^{**} \simeq Z_r(E)$  and we can conclude that  $E$  has  $SD_e$ .

Put  $k = e + 2(m - 1)$ . If  $E$  satisfies  $SD_k$ , we have:

$$\text{depth } (Z_r(E)) \geq d - n + r + k.$$

But  $\text{depth } Z_r(E) = \text{depth } (A^r L)^{**} = \text{depth } Z_{m-1-r}(\mathfrak{S}_1)$

and  $\text{depth } Z_t(\mathfrak{S}_1) \geq d - n + m - 1 + k \geq d + t.$

Theorem 5. *Let  $R$  be a Cohen-Macaulay ring,  $E$  a module having projective dimension two with the free resolution (2),  $P = \text{Coker } A^s \phi$ . Let  $\mathfrak{S}_s$  be the ideal defined by the entries of a matrix representation of  $\psi$ . Then:*

1. *If  $P$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t = \text{rank}(L)$ , with  $L$  such that*

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow A^s R^m \xrightarrow{A^s \phi} A^s R^n \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$$

*is an exact sequence, then  $\mathfrak{S}_s$  satisfies  $F_{2-t}^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ .*

2. If  $P$  is a torsion-free module,  $\forall \wp \in \text{Spec } R$ ,  $\wp \supset \mathfrak{S}_s$  for which the presentation

$$\mathcal{A}^s R_\wp^m \xrightarrow{\mathcal{A}^s \phi} \mathcal{A}^s R_\wp^n \rightarrow P_\wp \rightarrow 0$$

is minimal, if  $P^*$  is a 3-syzygy module, then if  $\mathfrak{S}_s$  satisfies  $F_{2-t}^*$ ,  $P$  satisfies  $F_t^*$ ,  $t \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ .

Proof. If  $\wp$  is a prime ideal,  $\wp \supset \mathfrak{S}_s$ , we may assume that  $(R, \wp)$  is a local ring and that the resolution

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^s R^m \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^s R^n \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$$

is minimal.

Since  $P$  satisfies the condition  $F_t^*$ , it follows  $\text{rank } \mathcal{A}^s \phi \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t)$ , that is  $\binom{m}{s} \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp + t)$ .

Therefore we have  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_s) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp + t - 2) + 1$  and **1** is proved.

Let us consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^s R^n \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$$

with  $M = \text{Im } \mathcal{A}^s \phi$ . By dualizing and remembering that  $M$  is a reflexive module and  $P^*$  is a 3-syzygy module, we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P^* \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^s R^n)^* \rightarrow M^* \rightarrow 0.$$

$\mathcal{A}^s \phi$  is the composite of the following maps:

$$\mathcal{A}^s R^m \rightarrow M \quad M \rightarrow M^{**} \quad M^{**} \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}^s R^n)^{**}.$$

We want to prove that  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_s) = \binom{m}{s}$ .

If  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_s) = r < \binom{m}{s}$ ,  $M$  would have a free summand of rank  $\binom{m}{s} - r$  and  $\mathcal{A}^s \phi$  could be written as  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \phi' \end{pmatrix}$  where 1 is an identity matrix of size  $\binom{m}{s} - r$  and  $\phi'$  has all of its entries in  $\wp$ , contradicting the minimality hypothesis of the resolution.

Therefore it is  $\nu(\mathfrak{S}_s) = \binom{m}{s} = \text{rank } (\mathcal{A}^s \phi) + t$  and since  $\mathfrak{S}_s$  has the property  $F_{2-t}^*$ , we have

$$\text{rank } (\mathcal{A}^s \phi) + t \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t) \quad \text{that is} \quad \text{rank } (\mathcal{A}^s \phi) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\text{ht } \wp - t),$$

and **2** is proved.

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## Sommarario

*Si stabiliscono risultati sull'aciclicità del complesso di approssimazione di un  $R$ -modulo  $E$  di dimensione proiettiva 2. Se  $R$  è un dominio Cohen-Macaulay, il secondo numero di Betti è 2 ed il primo modulo di sizigie di  $E$  ha rango pari, si prova l'integrità dell'algebra simmetrica di  $E$ , modulo proprietà sizigetiche del modulo  $E$ .*

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