

Filter Regular Sequence and Generalized Local Cohomology with Respect to a Pair of Ideals

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Abstract. Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a Noetherian local ring. Two notions of filter regular sequence and generalized local cohomology module with respect to a pair of ideals are introduced, and their properties are studied. Some vanishing and non-vanishing theorems are given for this generalized version of generalized local cohomology module.

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1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, let R be a commutative Noetherian ring and I, J two ideals of R . Let M and N be two R -modules. For notations and terminologies not given in this paper, the reader is referred to [3], [4] and [7] if, necessary.

As a generalization of the usual local cohomology modules, in [7], the authors introduced the local cohomology modules with respect to a pair of ideals (I, J) . To be more precise, let $W(I, J) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{spec}(R) | I^n \subseteq \mathfrak{p} + J \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$. For an R -module M , the (I, J) -torsion submodule $\Gamma_{I,J}(M)$ of M , which consists of all elements x of M with $\text{Supp}(Rx) \subseteq W(I, J)$, is considered. Let i be an integer, the local cohomology functor $H_{I,J}^i$ with respect to (I, J) is defined to be the i -th right derived functor of $\Gamma_{I,J}$.

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In this paper, we introduce a generalization of the notion of generalized local cohomology module, which we call a generalized local cohomology module with respect to a pair of ideals (I, J) . Let $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ denote the set of ideals \mathfrak{a} of R such that $I^n \subseteq \mathfrak{a} + J$ for some integer n . For each integer $i \geq 0$, we define the functor $H_{I,J}^i(-, -) : \xi_R \times \xi_R \rightarrow \xi_R$ by $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N)$, $M, N \in \xi_R$ (where ξ_R denotes the category of all R -modules and all R -homomorphisms). Then $H_{I,J}^i(-, -)$ is an additive, R -linear functor which is contravariant in the first variable and covariant in the second variable. This functor do indeed generalize all the functors described in [5], [6] and [7]. One of our main goals is to give criteria for the vanishing and non-vanishing of $H_{I,J}^i(M, N)$ by using (I, J) -grade $_N M$.

The organization of this paper is as follows.

We introduce the notion of filter regular sequence with respect to a pair of ideals (I, J) . Some their characterizations are presented in Section 2. In Section 3, we define a generalization of generalized local cohomology modules and their basic properties are studied. In the final section we discuss the vanishing and non-vanishing of generalized local cohomology with respect to (I, J) by using the length of filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) .

2. Regular Sequences with Respect to Pair of Ideals

Throughout this note R is a Noetherian ring and I, J are two ideals of R and M is a finitely generated R -module. Let $W(I, J)$ denote the set of prime ideals \mathfrak{p} of R such that $I^n \subseteq J + \mathfrak{p}$ for some integer n .

Definition 2.1. *Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n be a sequence of R . We say that x_1, \dots, x_t is an M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) if and only if, $\text{Supp}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : x_i}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}) \subseteq W(I, J)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, t$.*

Note that as a special case of the notion, if $J = 0$ then x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t is called an I -filter regular sequence with respect to M in sense of [2].

The following theorem gives an equivalent condition for the existence of M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) .

Theorem 2.2. *Let M be a finitely generated module over a local ring R with maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t is M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) ;
- (ii) $x_i \notin \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_{\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1})M}} - W(I, J)}$ for $i = 1, \dots, t$;
- (iii) $\frac{x_1}{1}, \frac{x_2}{1}, \dots, \frac{x_t}{1}$ is a poor $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -sequence for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}M - W(I, J)$;
- (iv) For all $i = 1, \dots, t$, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i is M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) and $x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots, x_t$ is $\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i)M}$ -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) .

Proof. $ii \implies i$: Suppose the contrary and let $1 \leq i \leq n$ be such that $W(I, J) \not\subseteq \text{Supp}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M})$.

Then there is $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Supp}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}) - W(I, J)$. Thus there exist $\mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathfrak{q}$, which $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M})$. Then there is $m \in (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}$ such that $0 : m + (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M = \mathfrak{p}$. Therefore

$$x_i \in \mathfrak{p} \subseteq \bigcup_{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ass}_{\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i)M}} - W(I, J)}$$

This is contradiction and the proof is completed.

$i \implies ii$: Suppose that contrary. Let $1 \leq i \leq t$ be such that

$$x_i \in \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_{\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i)M}} - W(I, J)}$$

Then there is $x_i \in \mathfrak{p}$ for some $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i)M}) - W(I, J)$.

Thus $\mathfrak{p} = (0 : (x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M + m)$ for some $m \in M$. So, $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}) - W(I, J)$. This is a contradiction. Therefore $x_i \notin \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_{\frac{M}{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i)M}} - W(I, J)}$ for all $i = 1, \dots, t$ and the proof is completed.

$iii \implies i$: Let $\text{Supp}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}) \not\subseteq W(I, J)$, then there is $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M : M^{x_i}}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}) - W(I, J)$, hence $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(M) - W(I, J)$, it follows from (iii) that $(\frac{x_1}{1}, \dots, \frac{x_{i-1}}{1})M_{\mathfrak{p}} = (\frac{x_1}{1}, \frac{x_2}{1}, \dots, \frac{x_{i-1}}{1})M_{\mathfrak{p}} : \frac{x_i}{1}$. Thus

$\mathfrak{p} \notin \text{Supp}\left(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M :_M x_i}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}\right)$, which is a contradiction.

The equivalence of (iii) and (iv), and (i) \implies (iii) are clear. \square

Remark 2.3. (i) Let R be Noetherian let \mathfrak{a} be an arbitrary ideal of $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ and $\text{Supp}\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \not\subseteq W(I, J)$, it is straightforward to see that, any two maximal M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) in \mathfrak{a} have the same length. We denote the length of a maximal M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) in \mathfrak{a} by $g(\mathfrak{a}, M)$.

(ii) Let $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ denote the set of ideals \mathfrak{a} of R such that $I^n \subseteq \mathfrak{a} + J$ for some integer n . We define a partial order on $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ by letting $\mathfrak{a} \leq \mathfrak{b}$ if $\mathfrak{a} \supseteq \mathfrak{b}$ for $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$. $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ is non-empty. We shall apply Zorn's lemma to this partially ordered set. Let φ be a non-empty totally ordered subset of $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$. Then $\bigcap_{\mathfrak{a}_i \in \varphi} \mathfrak{a}_i$ is in $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$. Thus J is an upper bound for φ in $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$, and so it follows from Zorn's lemma that $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ has at least one maximal element.

Definition 2.4. We use the notation $g((I, J), M)$ to denote the length of a maximal M -filter regular sequence with respect to (I, J) , as $g((I, J), M) = \inf\{g(\mathfrak{a}, M) \mid \mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)\} = \inf\{g(\mathfrak{a}, M) \mid \mathfrak{a} \text{ is maximal element of directed set } \widetilde{W}(I, J)\}$.

As an important special case of the previous remark we have, if $\text{Supp}\left(\frac{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M :_M x_i}{(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M}\right) = \emptyset$, then $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i$ is poor M -regular sequence with respect to (I, J) and if, in addition, $(x_1, \dots, x_t)M \neq M$, we call x_1, \dots, x_t an M -regular sequence.

Remark 2.5. Let R be a Noetherian ring, M a finitely generated R -module, and \mathfrak{a} an ideal such that $\mathfrak{a}M \neq M$. Then all maximal M -regular sequence in \mathfrak{a} have the same length and the common length of the maximal M -regular sequence in \mathfrak{a} called the grade of \mathfrak{a} on N , denoted by $\text{grade}(\mathfrak{a}, M)$.

Definition 2.6. Suppose that M is finitely generated R -module and that I and J are ideals of R . We define the grade of (I, J) on M , denoted by $\text{grade}((I, J), M)$, as $\text{grade}((I, J), M) = \inf\{\text{grade}(\mathfrak{a}, M) \mid \mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)\} = \inf\{\text{grade}(\mathfrak{a}, M) \mid \mathfrak{a} \text{ is maximal element of directed set } \widetilde{W}(I, J)\}$.

3. Generalized Local Cohomology Modules Defined by a Pair of Ideals

In the present section, we recall definition and basic properties of generalized local cohomology modules defined by a pair of ideals that we shall use.

Let M and N be finitely generated R -module over a local ring (R, \mathfrak{m}) and let I and J be two ideals of R . For each integer $i \geq 0$, we define the $H_{I,J}^i(-, -) : \xi_R \times \xi_R \longrightarrow \xi_R$ by $H_{I,J}^i(-, -) : \xi_R \times \xi_R \longrightarrow \xi_R$ by $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N)$, $M, N \in \xi_R$. Then $H_{I,J}^i(-, -)$ is an additive, R -linear functor which is contravariant in the first variable and covariant in the second variable.

Theorem 3.1. *Let M be a fixed R -module. Then, for each $i \geq 0$, the functors $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, -)$ and $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, -)$ (from ξ_R to ξ_R) are naturally equivalent.*

Proof. We must first explain the construction of the functor $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, -)$. Let $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$ with $\mathfrak{a} \leq \mathfrak{b}$ ($\mathfrak{a} \supseteq \mathfrak{b}$). Also, let $n \geq 1$ be an integer. Then the natural homomorphism $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}^n M} \longrightarrow \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}^n M}$ induces the homomorphism $\text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}^n M}, N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}^n M}, N)$ for any integer $i \geq 0$ and any R -module N . Also, if $n \leq m$, then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}^n M}, N) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}^n M}, N) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}^m M}, N) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}^m M}, N) \end{array}$$

commutes. Thus we have a homomorphism $\Pi_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\mathfrak{b}} : \varinjlim_n \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}^n M}, N) \longrightarrow \varinjlim_n \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}^n M}, N)$, that is $\Pi_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\mathfrak{b}} : H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, N) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{b}}^i(M, N)$.

It is easy to see that these homomorphisms together with the modules $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, N)$ form a direct system of R -modules and R -homomorphisms over the directed set $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$.

Since $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(M, -)$ and $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Hom}_R(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N)$ are naturally equivalent functors (from ξ_R , to ξ_R) and the sequences

$\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, -)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ and $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, -)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ are negative

strongly connected sequences of functors, these two sequences are isomorphic.

In particular $\varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, N) \cong \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N) \cong H_{I,J}^i(M, N)$ for any integer $i \geq 0$ and any R -module N . \square

In this part, we investigate some basic properties of generalized local cohomology modules defined by a pair of ideals. We first write a remark.

Remark 3.2. (i) For an R -module M , we denote by $\Gamma_{I,J}(M)$ the set of elements x of M such that $I^n x \subseteq Jx$ for some integer n .

(ii) We say that M is (I, J) -torsion (respectively (I, J) -torsion-free) precisely when $\Gamma_{I,J}(M) = M$ (respectively $\Gamma_{I,J}(M) = 0$). It is clear that if $M = R$, then $H_{I,J}^i(M, N)$ is converted to $H_{I,J}^i(N)$. In addition, $H_{I,J}^i(N)$ coincides with $H_I^i(N)$ with the support in the closed subset $V(I)$ if $J = 0$.

Lemma 3.3. Let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Then

(i) $\text{Supp}N \subseteq W(I, J)$ if and only if $\Gamma_{I,J}(N) = N$.

(ii) $H_{I,J}^0(M, N) = \text{Hom}(M, \Gamma_{I,J}(N))$.

(iii) If $\text{Supp}M \cap \text{Supp}N \subseteq W(I, J)$, then $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = \text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$.

Proof. (i) This is immediate by [7, 1.8].

(ii) $H_{I,J}^0(M, N) = \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(M, N) = \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \text{Hom}(M, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N)) = \text{Hom}(M, \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N)) = \text{Hom}(M, \Gamma_{I,J}(N))$.

(iii) There is a minimal injective resolution E^* of N such that $\text{Supp}(E^i) \subseteq \text{Supp}N$ for all $i \geq 0$. Since $\text{Supp}(\text{Hom}(M, E^i)) \subseteq \text{Supp}M \cap \text{Supp}N \subseteq W(I, J)$, so $\text{Hom}(M, E^i)$ is (I, J) -torsion. Therefore, for all $i \geq 0$, $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) \cong \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, N) \cong \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} H^i \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(\text{Hom}(M, E^*)) \cong H^i \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I,J)} \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(\text{Hom}(M, E^*)) \cong H^i \Gamma_{I,J}(\text{Hom}(M, E^*)) \cong H^i \text{Hom}(M, E^*) \cong \text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$.

It is obvious that if $J = 0$, then $H_{I,J}^i(M, N)$ coincides with the generalized local cohomology module was introduced by Herzog in [6]. On the other hand, if J contains I then it is easy to see that $\Gamma_{I,J}(N) = N$ and $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = \text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$. \square

4. Vanishing and Non-Vanishing of $H_{I,J}^i(M, N)$

Lemma 4.1. *Suppose that I and J are ideals of R , M a non-zero finitely generated R -module of finite projective dimension, and N an R -module of finite krull dimension. Then $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i > \text{pd}(M) + \dim(N)$.*

Proof. Suppose $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$. Then, in view of [1], $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i > \text{pd}(M) + \dim(N)$. The claim now follows immediately from Theorem 3.1. \square

Remark 4.2. *Suppose that M and N are finitely generated R -modules and that $(0 : M)N \neq N(M \otimes N \neq 0)$. Recall that the N -grade of M written $\text{grade}_N M$, is the length of any maximal N -sequence contained in $(0 : M)$. Then $\text{grade}_N M$ is equal to the least integer r such that $\text{Ext}_R^r(M, N) \neq 0$.*

For any ideal \mathfrak{a} of R for which $\mathfrak{a}N \neq N$, we define the grade of \mathfrak{a} on N as $\text{grade}_N \frac{R}{\mathfrak{a}}$ ($\text{grade}(\mathfrak{a}, N)$) in sense of Remark 2.5.

Definition 4.3. *Let I and J ideals of R , M and N finitely generated R -modules. We define N -grade of M with respect to (I, J) , denoted by (I, J) - $\text{grade}_N M$, as (I, J) - $\text{grade}_N M = \inf\{\text{grade}_N \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \mid \mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)\} = \inf\{\text{grade}_N \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \mid \mathfrak{a} \text{ is maximal element of directed set } \widetilde{W}(I, J)\}$.*

Note: If every $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$, $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \otimes N = 0$, then (I, J) - $\text{grade}_N M = \infty$, otherwise we have (I, J) - $\text{grade}_N M < \infty$.

Theorem 4.4. *Suppose that M and N are finitely generated R -modules and that I and J are ideals of R . Also, let (I, J) - $\text{grade}_N M = t < \infty$. Then $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i < t$ and $H_{I,J}^t(M, N) \neq 0$.*

Proof. By Theorem 3.1, $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) \cong \varinjlim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N)$ for all i . Let $i < t$. Then $i < \text{grade}_N \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}$ for all $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$. This implies that $H_{I,J}^i(M, N) = 0$. Next there is an ideal, \mathfrak{b} say, in $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ for which $\text{grade}_N \frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M} = t$. Let $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$ be such that $\mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{a}$ ($\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{b}$). Since $\text{grade}_N \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \geq t$, there is an N -sequence x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t which is contained

in $\text{ann} \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}$. Consider the natural epimorphism $\varphi : \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \longrightarrow \frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M}$. Let $A = \ker \varphi$ so that the sequence $0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M} \longrightarrow \frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M} \longrightarrow 0$ is exact. This induces the long exact sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^{t-1}(A, N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^t\left(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M}, N\right) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^t\left(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N\right).$$

It is clear that $(0 : \frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}) \subseteq (0 : A)$, and hence x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t is an N -sequence contained in $(0 : A)$. Thus $\text{Ext}_R^{t-1}(A, N) = 0$. Therefore for every \mathfrak{a} in $\widetilde{W}(I, J)$ with $\mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{a}$, the map $\text{Ext}_R^t(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M}, N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^t(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N)$ is monomorphism. Since $\text{Ext}_R^t(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{b}M}, N) \neq 0$, it follows that $\lim_{\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)} \text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{a}M}, N) \neq 0$ and the proof is completed. \square

Corollary 4.5. *Suppose that N is finitely generated R -module and that I and J are ideals of R . Then $\inf\{i | H_{I, J}^i(N) \neq 0\} = \inf\{\text{depth} N_{\mathfrak{p}} | \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J)\}$.*

Proof. By Theorem 4.3, $\inf\{i | H_{I, J}^i(N) \neq 0\} = \text{grade}((I, J), N)$. It is clear from the definition that $\text{grade}((I, J), N) \leq \text{grade}(\mathfrak{p}, M)$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J)$, and it follows from Theorem 2.2 that $\text{grade}(\mathfrak{p}, N) \leq \text{depth} N_{\mathfrak{p}}$. Furthermore, if $\text{grade}((I, J), N) = \infty$, then $\mathfrak{a}N = N$ for all $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$, so that $\text{depth} M_{\mathfrak{p}} = \infty$ for all $p \in W(I, J)$. Thus suppose $N \neq \mathfrak{a}N$ for some $\mathfrak{a} \in \widetilde{W}(I, J)$ and choose a maximal N -filter regular sequence x in \mathfrak{a} . By Theorem 2.2, there exists $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass} \frac{M}{xM} - W(I, J)$, and $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$. Now since $\mathfrak{p}R_{\mathfrak{p}} \in \text{Ass}(\frac{M}{xM})_{\mathfrak{p}}$, it follows that the $\mathfrak{p}R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ consists of zero-divisors of $\frac{M_{\mathfrak{p}}}{xM_{\mathfrak{p}}}$. Therefore x is a maximal $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -sequence, as required. \square

This result coincides with [7, Theorem 4.1].

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