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**Cohomology of Vector
Bundles and Syzygies**



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1

Introductory Material

1.1. Multilinear Algebra and Combinatorics

1.1.1. Exterior, Divided, and Symmetric Powers; Multiplication and Diagonal Maps

Let \mathbf{K} be a commutative ring, and let E be a free \mathbf{K} -module with a basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$.

We define the r -th exterior power $\bigwedge^r E$ of E to be the r -th tensor power $E^{\otimes r}$ of E divided by the submodule generated by the elements:

$$u_1 \otimes \dots \otimes u_r - (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} u_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes u_{\sigma(r)}$$

for all $\sigma \in \Sigma_r$, $u_1, \dots, u_r \in E$. We denote the coset of $u_1 \otimes \dots \otimes u_r$ by $u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r$.

The following basic properties of exterior powers are proved in [L, chapter XIX, section 1].

(1.1.1) Proposition.

- (a) Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be an ordered basis of E . Then the elements $e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_r}$ for $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq n$ form a basis of $\bigwedge^r E$. In particular, $\bigwedge^r E$ is a free \mathbf{K} -module of dimension $\binom{n}{r}$.
- (b) (Universality property of exterior powers) We have a functorial isomorphism

$$\theta_M : \text{Alt}^r(E^r, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{K}} \left(\bigwedge^r E, M \right)$$

where $\text{Alt}^r(E^r, M)$ denotes the set of multilinear alternating maps from $E^{\times r}$ to M , given by the formula $\theta_M^r(f)(u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r) = f(u_1, \dots, u_r)$.

(c) We have natural isomorphisms

$$\alpha^r : \bigwedge^r (E^*) \rightarrow \left(\bigwedge^r E \right)^*$$

sending the exterior product $l_1 \wedge \dots \wedge l_r$ to the linear function l on $\bigwedge^r E$ defined by the formula

$$l(u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma^r} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} l_{\sigma(1)}(u_1) \dots l_{\sigma(r)}(u_r).$$

The r -th exterior power is an endofunctor on the category of free \mathbf{K} -modules and linear maps. More precisely, for two free \mathbf{K} -modules E, F and a linear map $\phi : E \rightarrow F$ we have a well-defined linear map

$$\bigwedge^r \phi : \bigwedge^r E \rightarrow \bigwedge^r F$$

defined by the formula $\bigwedge^r \phi(u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r) = \phi(u_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \phi(u_r)$. Let us denote $m = \dim F$. Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be a basis of E and let $\{f_1, \dots, f_m\}$ be a basis of F . In these bases ϕ correspond to the $m \times n$ matrix $(\phi_{j,i})$ where

$$\phi(e_i) = \sum_{j=1}^m \phi_{j,i} f_j.$$

The map $\bigwedge^r \phi$ can be written in the corresponding bases of $\bigwedge^r E, \bigwedge^r F$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \bigwedge^r \phi(e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_r}) \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_r \leq m} M(j_1, \dots, j_r | i_1, \dots, i_r; \phi) f_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge f_{j_r}, \end{aligned}$$

where $M(j_1, \dots, j_r | i_1, \dots, i_r; \phi)$ denotes the $r \times r$ minor of the matrix $(\phi_{j,i})$ corresponding to the rows j_1, \dots, j_r and columns i_1, \dots, i_r .

The vector space

$$\dot{\bigwedge}(E) := \bigoplus_{r \geq 0} \bigwedge^r E$$

has a natural multiplication

$$m : \dot{\bigwedge}(E) \otimes \dot{\bigwedge}(E) \rightarrow \dot{\bigwedge}(E)$$

given by the formula

$$m(u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r \otimes v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_s) = u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_r \wedge v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_s.$$

This gives $\bigwedge^\bullet(E)$ the structure of associative, graded commutative algebra (meaning that the commutative law reads $fg = (-1)^{\deg(f)\deg(g)}gf$). We call this algebra *the exterior algebra on E*. The algebra $\bigwedge^\bullet(E)$ has a unit $\eta : \mathbf{K} \rightarrow \bigwedge^\bullet(E)$.

The components of the multiplication map will be denoted by $m : \bigwedge^r E \otimes \bigwedge^s E \rightarrow \bigwedge^{r+s} E$.

The diagonal map $\Delta : E \rightarrow E \oplus E$ induces an algebra map

$$\Delta : \dot{\bigwedge}(E) \rightarrow \dot{\bigwedge}(E \oplus E) \cong \dot{\bigwedge}(E) \otimes \dot{\bigwedge}(E)$$

which we will call *the diagonal* (or *comultiplication*) *map*.

The components of Δ will be denoted by $\Delta : \bigwedge^{r+s} E \rightarrow \bigwedge^r E \otimes \bigwedge^s E$. In terms of elements we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(u_1 \wedge \dots \wedge u_{r+s}) \\ = \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_{r+s}^{r,s}} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} u_{\sigma(1)} \wedge \dots \wedge u_{\sigma(r)} \otimes u_{\sigma(r+1)} \wedge \dots \wedge u_{\sigma(r+s)} \end{aligned}$$

where $\Sigma_{r+s}^{r,s} = \{\sigma \in \Sigma_{r+s} \mid \sigma(1) < \dots < \sigma(r); \sigma(r+1) < \dots < \sigma(r+s)\}$.

Finally we have the counit map

$$\epsilon : \dot{\bigwedge}(E) \rightarrow \mathbf{K},$$

defined to be zero on all spaces $\bigwedge^r E$ for $r > 0$, and satisfying $\epsilon\eta(1) = 1$.

The following proposition is an elementary calculation.

(1.1.2) Proposition.

- (a) *The maps $m, \Delta, \epsilon, \eta$ define on $\bigwedge^\bullet(E)$ the structure of commutative, cocommutative bialgebra.*
- (b) *The map $\alpha : \bigwedge^\bullet(E^*) \rightarrow (\bigwedge^\bullet E)^*$ defined in (1.1.1) (c) is an isomorphism of bialgebras.*

Part (b) of the proposition means that the dual map to the multiplication map m on $\bigwedge^\bullet(E)$ is the diagonal map Δ on $\bigwedge^\bullet(E^*)$ and vice versa.

We define *the r-th symmetric power* $S_r E$ of E to be the r -th tensor power $E^{\otimes r}$ of E divided by the submodule generated by the elements

$$u_1 \otimes \dots \otimes u_r - u_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes u_{\sigma(r)}$$

for all $\sigma \in \Sigma_r, u_1, \dots, u_r \in E$. We denote the coset of $u_1 \otimes \dots \otimes u_r$ by $u_1 \dots u_r$.

The following basic properties of symmetric powers are proved in [L, chapter XVI, section 8].

(1.1.3) Proposition.

- (a) Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be an ordered basis of E . Then the elements $e_1^{i_1} \dots e_n^{i_n}$ for $i_1 + \dots + i_n = r$ form a basis of $S_r E$. In particular $S_r E$ is a free \mathbf{K} -module of dimension $\binom{n+r-1}{r}$.
- (b) (Universality property of symmetric powers) We have a functorial isomorphism

$$\theta_M : \text{Sym}^r(E^r, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{K}}(S_r E, M)$$

where $\text{Sym}^r(E^r, M)$ denotes the set of multilinear symmetric maps from $E^{\times r}$ to M , given by the formula $\theta_M^r(f)(u_1 \dots u_r) = f(u_1, \dots, u_r)$.

The r -th symmetric power is an endofunctor on the category of free \mathbf{K} -modules and linear maps. More precisely, for two free \mathbf{K} -modules E, F and a linear map $\phi : E \rightarrow F$ we have a well-defined linear map

$$S_r \phi : S_r E \rightarrow S_r F$$

defined by the formula $S_r \phi(u_1 \dots u_r) = \phi(u_1) \dots \phi(u_r)$. Let us denote $m = \dim F$. Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be a basis of E , and let $\{f_1, \dots, f_m\}$ be a basis of F . In these bases ϕ correspond to the $m \times n$ matrix $(\phi_{j,i})$ where

$$\phi(e_i) = \sum_{j=1}^m \phi_{j,i} f_j.$$

The map $S_r \phi$ can be written in the corresponding bases of $S_r E, S_r F$ as follows:

$$S_r \phi(e_{i_1} \dots e_{i_r}) = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_r \leq m} P(j_1, \dots, j_r | i_1, \dots, i_r; \phi) f_{j_1} \dots f_{j_r},$$

where $P(j_1, \dots, j_r | i_1, \dots, i_r; \phi)$ denotes the permanent of the $r \times r$ submatrix of the matrix $(\phi_{j,i})$ corresponding to the (possibly repeated) rows j_1, \dots, j_r and (possibly repeated) columns i_1, \dots, i_r . More precisely, if the columns (i_1, \dots, i_r) with repetitions are written as $i_1^{b_1}, \dots, i_s^{b_s}$ with $b_1 + \dots + b_s = r$, we have

$$P(j_1, \dots, j_r | i_1^{b_1}, \dots, i_s^{b_s}) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_r / (\Sigma_{b_1} \times \dots \times \Sigma_{b_s})} \phi(j_1, i_{\sigma(1)}) \dots \phi(j_r, i_{\sigma(r)}).$$

where $\Sigma_{b_1} \times \dots \times \Sigma_{b_s}$ is the subgroup of permutations from Σ_r preserving the groups of repeating symbols among j_1, \dots, j_r .

The vector space

$$\text{Sym}(E) := \bigoplus_{r \geq 0} S_r E$$

has a natural multiplication

$$m : \text{Sym}(E) \otimes \text{Sym}(E) \rightarrow \text{Sym}(E)$$

given by the formula

$$m(u_1 \dots u_r \otimes v_1 \dots v_s) = u_1 \dots u_r v_1 \dots v_s.$$

This gives $\text{Sym}(E)$ the structure of associative, commutative algebra. We call this algebra *the symmetric algebra on E* . It can be identified with the polynomial ring over \mathbf{K} in n variables e_1, \dots, e_n . In order to keep the notion of commutativity the same as for the exterior algebras, we assume that $\text{Sym}(E)$ is generated by elements of degree 2.

The components of the multiplication map will be denoted by $m : S_r E \otimes S_s E \rightarrow S_{r+s} E$.

We also have an obvious unit map $\eta : \mathbf{K} \rightarrow \text{Sym}(E)$ sending \mathbf{K} to the degree zero component of $\text{Sym}(E)$.

The diagonal map $\Delta : E \rightarrow E \oplus E$ induces an algebra map

$$\Delta : \text{Sym}(E) \rightarrow \text{Sym}(E \oplus E) \cong \text{Sym}(E) \otimes \text{Sym}(E),$$

which we will call *the diagonal (or comultiplication) map*.

The components of Δ will be denoted by $\Delta : S_{r+s} E \rightarrow S_r E \otimes S_s E$. In terms of elements we have

$$\Delta(u_1 \dots u_{r+s}) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_{r+s}^{r,s}} u_{\sigma(1)} \dots u_{\sigma(r)} \otimes u_{\sigma(r+1)} \dots u_{\sigma(r+s)}$$

where $\Sigma_{r+s}^{r,s} = \{\sigma \in \Sigma_{r+s} \mid \sigma(1) < \dots < \sigma(r); \sigma(r+1) < \dots < \sigma(r+s)\}$.

Finally we have the counit map

$$\epsilon : \text{Sym}(E) \rightarrow \mathbf{K}$$

defined to be zero on all spaces $S_r E$ for $r > 0$, and satisfying $\epsilon \eta(1) = 1$.

We have the following analogue of (1.1.2) (a).

(1.1.4) Proposition. *The maps $m, \Delta, \epsilon, \eta$ define on $\text{Sym}(E)$ the structure of a commutative, cocommutative bialgebra.*

Let us investigate the duality. The algebra $\text{Sym}(E) = \bigoplus_{r \geq 0} S_r E$ is not finite dimensional, so instead of the dual we have to work with the graded dual

$$\text{Sym}(E)_{gr}^* := \bigoplus_{r \geq 0} (S_r E)^*.$$

The module map

$$E^* = (S_1 E)^* \rightarrow \text{Sym}(E)_{gr}^*$$

induces by universality an algebra map

$$\beta : \text{Sym}(E^*) \rightarrow \text{Sym}(E)_{gr}^*.$$

This map β is an isomorphism only when \mathbf{K} contains a field of rational numbers. In fact it is given by the formula

$$\beta(l_1 \dots l_r)(u_1 \dots u_r) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_r} l_{\sigma(1)}(u_1) \dots l_{\sigma(r)}(u_r).$$

In particular, when $l_1 = \dots = l_r$, $u_1 = \dots = u_r$ we see that $\beta(l_1^r) = r!(u_1^r)^*$.

In order to describe the graded dual of the symmetric algebra we introduce the divided powers.

We define *the r -th divided power $D_r(E)$* as the dual of the symmetric power.

$$D_r(E) := (S_r(E^*))^*.$$

Its basis is the dual basis to the natural basis of the symmetric power. If $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is a basis of E , we define $e_1^{(i_1)} \dots e_n^{(i_n)}$ to be the element of the dual basis to the basis $\{(e_1^*)^{j_1} \dots (e_n^*)^{j_n}\}$, dual to $(e_1^*)^{i_1} \dots (e_n^*)^{i_n}$.

For every $u \in E$ we can define its *r -th divided power $u^{(r)} \in D_r E$* . It is given by the formula

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n u_i e_i \right)^{(r)} = \sum_{p_1 + \dots + p_n = r} u_1^{p_1} \dots u_n^{p_n} e_1^{(p_1)} \dots e_n^{(p_n)}.$$

It is easy to check that this definition does not depend on the choice of basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$.

(1.1.5) Proposition. *The divided powers have the following properties:*

- (a) $u^{(0)} = 1$, $u^{(1)} = u$, $u^{(r)} \in D_r E$,
- (b) $u^{(p)} u^{(q)} = \binom{p+q}{q} u^{(p+q)}$,
- (c) $(u + v)^{(p)} = \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} u^{(k)} v^{(p-k)}$,
- (d) $(uv)^{(p)} = u^{(p)} v^{(p)}$,
- (e) $(u^{(p)})^{(q)} = [p, q] u^{(pq)}$ for $u \in E$; $[p, q] = [(pq)!]/(q! p^q!)$.

(1.1.6) Remark. *In the notation used above, $e_1^{(i_1)} \dots e_n^{(i_n)}$ has a double meaning. It is the element of the dual basis to the basis in the symmetric power,*

and it is the product of divided powers. It is not difficult to see that the two elements coincide.

The r -th divided power is an endofunctor on the category of free \mathbf{K} -modules and linear maps. More precisely, for two free \mathbf{K} -modules E, F and a linear map $\phi : E \rightarrow F$ we have a well-defined linear map

$$D_r \phi : D_r E \rightarrow D_r F$$

which is best described as the transpose of the map $S_r(\phi^*) : S_r(F^*) \rightarrow S_r(E^*)$. This also gives the description of the matrix coefficients for $D_r \phi$ as polynomials in the entries of ϕ , which we leave to the reader.

The divided power algebra $D(E) := \bigoplus D_r(E)$ on E is a commutative, cocommutative algebra because it is a graded dual of the symmetric algebra on E^* . Again we denote the components of the multiplication map by

$$m : D_r E \otimes D_s E \rightarrow D_{r+s} E,$$

and the components of the comultiplication by

$$\Delta : D_{r+s} E \rightarrow D_r E \otimes D_s E.$$

Let us record the duality statements.

(1.1.7) Proposition.

(a) *The multiplication map*

$$m : D_r E \otimes D_s E \rightarrow D_{r+s} E$$

is the dual of the diagonal map

$$\Delta : S_{r+s} E^* \rightarrow S_r E^* \otimes S_s E^*.$$

(b) *The diagonal map*

$$\Delta : D_{r+s} E \rightarrow D_r E \otimes D_s E$$

is the dual of the multiplication map

$$m : S_r E^* \otimes S_s E^* \rightarrow S_{r+s} E^*.$$

(c) *The diagonal map $\Delta : D_{r+s} E \rightarrow D_r E \otimes D_s E$ is given by the formula*

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta(e_1^{(i_1)} \dots e_n^{(i_n)}) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{j_1 + \dots + j_n = r, \\ 0 \leq j_s \leq i_s \text{ for } s=1, \dots, n}} e_1^{(j_1)} \dots e_n^{(j_n)} \otimes e_1^{(i_1 - j_1)} \dots e_n^{(i_n - j_n)}. \end{aligned}$$

**1.1.2. Partitions, Skew Partitions. Combinatorics
of \mathbf{Z}_2 -Graded Tableaux.**

Let n be a natural number. A *partition* λ of n is a sequence $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s)$ of natural numbers such that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_s \geq 0$ and $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_s = n$. We identify the partitions $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s)$ and $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s, 0)$. To each partition λ we associate its Young frame (or Ferrers diagram) $D(\lambda)$. It can be defined as

$$D(\lambda) = \{(i, j) \in \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} \mid (1 \leq i \leq s, 1 \leq j \leq \lambda_i)\}.$$

To represent the Young frames graphically we think of them as contained in the fourth quadrant. A Young frame is a set of boxes with λ_i boxes in the i -th row from the top. Formally it could be achieved by considering the point $(j, -i)$ instead of (i, j) .

(1.1.8) Example. $\lambda = (4, 2, 1)$:

$$D(\lambda) = \begin{array}{cccc} \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & & \\ \square & & & \end{array}.$$

Formally the boxes of $D((4, 2, 1))$ correspond to the set of points

$$\{(1, -1), (2, -1), (3, -1), (4, -1), (1, -2), (2, -2), (1, -3)\}$$

in the grid $\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$.

Let λ be a partition. We say that λ has a *Durfee square* of size r (or rank $\lambda = r$) if $\lambda_r \geq r$, $\lambda_{r+1} \leq r$, i.e., if the biggest square fitting inside of λ is an $r \times r$ square.

Let λ be a partition, and let X be a box in λ . The set of boxes to the right of X (including X) is called an *arm* of X . The set of boxes below X (including X) is called the *leg* of X . The arm length (leg length) of X are defined as the numbers of boxes in the arm (leg) of X .

The arm and leg of X form a *hook* of X . The number of boxes in the hook of X is called the hook length of X .

Let λ be a partition of rank r . Let a_i (b_i) be the arm length (leg length) of the i -th box on the diagonal of λ . The partition λ is uniquely determined by its rank r and the numbers a_i, b_i ($1 \leq i \leq r$). These numbers satisfy the conditions $a_1 > \dots > a_r > 0$, $b_1 > \dots, b_r > 0$.

(c) *The tableau*

$$T_3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & 1 & 2 \\ \hline & 1' & \\ \hline 1' & 2' & \\ \hline 2' & & \\ \hline 3' & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

is standard.

Let λ/μ be a skew partition, and let $A = (A_0, A_1)$ be a \mathbf{Z}_2 -graded set ordered by the total order \triangleleft . We define the orders \leq (relative to \triangleleft) on the sets of row standard (column standard, standard) tableaux as follows.

Consider the set $\text{RST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$. Given two tableaux T, U , we have $T \leq U$ if $T = U$. Assume that $T \neq U$. Let us write them as $T = (T_1, \dots, T_s), U = (U_1, \dots, U_s)$ with $T_i (U_i)$ being the part of $T (U)$ from the i -th row of λ/μ . Let j be the minimal i for which $T_i \neq U_i$. We have $T_j = (T(j, 1), \dots, T(j, \lambda_j - \mu_j)), U_j = (U(j, 1), \dots, U(j, \lambda_j - \mu_j))$. Now let k be the smallest index for which $T(j, k) \neq U(j, k)$ (such a k exists by the choice of j). We say that $T \leq U$ if and only if $T(j, k) \triangleleft U(j, k)$.

The order \leq on $\text{ST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$ is defined to be the restriction of \leq from $\text{RST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$.

Finally we define the order \leq on $\text{CST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$. Given two tableaux T, U from $\text{CST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$, then $T = U$ implies $T \leq U$. Assume $T \neq U$. We write $T = (T^1, \dots, T^s), U = (U^1, \dots, U^s)$ with $T^i (U^i)$ being the part of $T (U)$ from the i -th column of λ/μ . Let j be the minimal i for which $T^i \neq U^i$. We have $T^j = (T(1, j), \dots, T(\lambda'_j - \mu'_j, j)), U^j = (U(1, j), \dots, U(\lambda'_j - \mu'_j, j))$. Now let k be the smallest index for which $T(k, j) \neq U(k, j)$ (such k exists by the choice of j). We say that $T \leq U$ if and only if $T(k, j) \triangleleft U(k, j)$.

Note. *The order \leq on $\text{ST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$ is the restriction of the order \leq on $\text{RST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$. It is different from the restriction of \leq on $\text{CST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$.*

(1.1.15) Examples. *Let $\lambda = (2, 1), \mu = (0)$. Set $A = [1, 2] \cup [1, 2]'$. In $\text{RST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$ we have*

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1' & \\ \hline \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1' \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1' \\ \hline 1 & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

In $\text{CST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$ we have

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1' \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1' & \\ \hline \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 1' & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

In $\text{ST}(\lambda/\mu, A)$ we have

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 1' & \\ \hline \end{array} \leq \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1' \\ \hline 2 & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

1.2. Homological and Commutative Algebra

1.2.1. Regular Sequences, Koszul Complexes, Depth

Let R be a commutative Noetherian ring. Let M be an R -module. The dimension $\dim M$ of M is defined to be the Krull dimension of $R/\text{Ann}(M)$, where

$$\text{Ann}(M) = \{x \in R \mid xM = 0\}$$

is the annihilator of M .

Let I be an ideal in R . If $IM \neq M$, we define the I -depth of M as

$$\text{depth}_R(I, M) = \min \{i \mid \text{Ext}_R^i(I, M) \neq 0\}.$$

In the case $IM = M$ we define $\text{depth}_R(I, M) = \infty$. For a finitely generated R -module M we have $IM \neq M$ if and only if $\text{depth}_R(I, M) < \infty$ if and only if $\text{depth}_R(I, M) \leq \dim M$.

A sequence $\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ of elements from R is an M -sequence (or a regular sequence on M) if $M \neq (a_1, \dots, a_n)M$ and the multiplication $a_i : M_{i-1} \rightarrow M_{i-1}$ is injective for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$, where $M_i := M/(a_1, \dots, a_i)M$.

The connection between these notions is expressed in

(1.2.1) Theorem. *Let R be a Noetherian ring, and M a finitely generated R -module. Let I be an ideal in R . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a) $\text{depth}_R(I, M) \geq n$.
- (b) $\text{Ext}_R^i(R/I, M) = 0$ for $i < n$.
- (c) There exists an M -sequence $\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ of length n with $a_i \in I$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

A regular sequence (a_1, \dots, a_n) is a maximal regular M -sequence if there is no b such that (a_1, \dots, a_n, b) is an M -sequence. In particular the theorem

implies that two maximal regular M -sequences with terms from I must have the same length, equal to $\text{depth}(I, M)$.

Let M be an R -module, and let $\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be a sequence of elements from R . We define the *Koszul complex* $K(\underline{a}, M)_\bullet$ as follows. For an n -dimensional free R -module $E = R^n$ with a basis e_1, \dots, e_n we set $K(\underline{a}, M)_i = \bigwedge^i E \otimes_R M$, and the differential

$$d : \bigwedge^i E \otimes_R M \rightarrow \bigwedge^{i-1} E \otimes_R M$$

is defined by the formula

$$d(e_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{j_i} \otimes m) = \sum_{u=1}^i (-1)^{u+1} e_{j_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \hat{e}_{j_u} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{j_i} \otimes a_{j_u} m.$$

Let M be a finitely generated R -module. We define the codimension of M ,

$$\text{codim}_R(M) := \text{ht Ann}(M),$$

where ht denotes the height of an ideal. We also define the grade of M ,

$$\text{grade}_R(M) = \text{depth}_R(\text{Ann}(M), R).$$

The homological properties of Koszul complex include the information about the depth.

(1.2.2) Theorem. *Let M be a finitely generated R -module, and let $\underline{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ be a sequence of elements from R . Denote $I = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$. Then*

$$\text{depth}_R(I, M) = n - \max\{i \mid H_i(K(\underline{a}, M)) \neq 0\}.$$

(1.2.3) Corollary. *Let R be a commutative ring. Assume that $I = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ is an ideal generated by a regular sequence. Then the Koszul complex $K(\underline{a}, R)_\bullet$ is a free resolution of the R -module R/I .*

The ideal I is a *complete intersection ideal of codimension n* if there exists a regular sequence (a_1, \dots, a_n) such that $I = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$. Thus the finite free resolutions of complete intersection ideals are provided by Koszul complexes.

The projective dimension, codimension, and grade of an R -module are related.

(1.2.4) Theorem. For an R -module $M \neq 0$ we have

$$\mathrm{pd}_R(M) \geq \mathrm{codim}(M) \geq \mathrm{grade}_R(M).$$

A finitely generated R -module N is *perfect* if $\mathrm{pd}_R(N) = \mathrm{grade}(N)$. In that case the inequalities in (1.2.4) become equalities. We call $\mathrm{codim}(N)$ the *codimension of N* . Sometimes by abuse of notation we call the grade of R/I the *grade of the ideal I* .

Let us note the following consequence of Theorem (1.2.4) applied to $N = R$.

(1.2.5) Proposition. Let I be an ideal of codimension n . The functor $N \mapsto \mathrm{Ext}_R^n(N, R)$ is an exact contravariant involution on the category of perfect modules N with $\mathrm{Ann}(N) = I$ up to radical.

If R/I is a perfect module, we call I a *perfect ideal*. An ideal I is *Gorenstein* if I is perfect and $\mathrm{Ext}^n(R/I, R) \cong R/I$ for $n = \mathrm{codim}(R/I)$.

1.2.2. Cohen–Macaulay Rings and Modules, Gorenstein Rings

Let (R, m) be a local ring. The depth of a module M is defined as

$$\mathrm{depth}_R(M) := \mathrm{depth}_R(m, M).$$

We have the following inequalities:

(1.2.6) Proposition. Let M be a finitely generated module over a local ring R . Then

$$\mathrm{depth}(M) \leq \dim M \leq \dim R.$$

An R -module M is *Cohen–Macaulay* if $\mathrm{depth}(M) = \dim M$. If $\mathrm{depth}(M) = \dim R$, we say that M is *maximal Cohen–Macaulay*. The zero module is by definition maximal Cohen–Macaulay. The ring R is Cohen–Macaulay if it is Cohen–Macaulay as a module over itself.

The projective dimension and depth of a module over a local ring are complementary to each other.

(1.2.7) Theorem (Auslander–Buchsbaum Formula). Let R be a Noetherian local ring. Assume that $\mathrm{pd}_R(M) < \infty$. Then we have

$$\mathrm{pd}_R(M) + \mathrm{depth}(M) = \mathrm{depth}(R).$$

It follows that if R is Cohen–Macaulay and M is a maximal Cohen–Macaulay module of finite projective dimension over R , then M is R -free.

If R is a Cohen–Macaulay local ring and M is a finitely generated R -module of finite projective dimension, then M is Cohen–Macaulay if and only if it is perfect.

If R is a Cohen–Macaulay local ring, then $\dim R = \dim R/P$ for every associated prime P of R . This means that R is equidimensional.

A local ring (R, m) is *Gorenstein* if and only if R has a finite injective dimension as an R -module.

(1.2.8) Theorem. *Let (R, m) be a local ring of dimension d . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a) R is Gorenstein,
- (b) for $i \neq d$ we have $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$, $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$,
- (c) there exists $i > d$ such that $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$,
- (d) $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$ for $i < d$, $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$,
- (e) R is Cohen–Macaulay and $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$.

Recall that the *embedding dimension* of a local ring is $\text{emdim}(R) = \dim_K m/m^2$. A local ring R is *regular* if $\text{emdim}(R) = \dim R$.

We denote by $\text{gl dim } R$ the *global dimension* of R .

(1.2.9) Theorem (Auslander and Buchsbaum, Serre). *Let (R, m) be a local ring of dimension d . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (a) R is a regular local ring,
- (b) $\text{gl.dim } R < \infty$,
- (c) $\text{gl.dim } R = d$,
- (d) $\text{pd}_R K = d$,
- (e) m is generated by a regular sequence of length d .

The connection between the notions of Cohen–Macaulay (Gorenstein) ring and perfect (Gorenstein) ideal is stated in the next proposition.

(1.2.10) Proposition.

- (a) *Let R be a Cohen–Macaulay local ring. Then the ring R/I is Cohen–Macaulay if and only if I is perfect,*
- (b) *Let R be a Gorenstein local ring. Then R/I is Gorenstein if and only if I is a Gorenstein ideal.*

The theory outlined above for local rings has an analogue for graded rings and graded modules. Let us state the corresponding statements.

Let R be a graded ring $R = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} R_i$ where $R_0 = K$ is a field and R_i are finite dimensional vector spaces over K . We assume that R is generated as a K -algebra by elements of degree 1, which implies that R is Noetherian. We denote by m the maximal ideal $m = R_+ = \bigoplus_{i > 0} R_i$. For a graded R -module M we denote $\text{depth}_R(M) := \text{depth}_R(m, M)$.

Then the following statements hold.

(1.2.6)' Proposition. *Let M be a finitely generated graded module over a graded ring R . Then*

$$\text{depth}_R(M) \leq \dim M \leq \dim R.$$

(1.2.7)' Theorem (Auslander–Buchsbaum formula). *Let R be a graded ring, and let M be a graded R -module. Assume that $\text{pd}_R(M) < \infty$. Then we have*

$$\text{pd}_R(M) + \text{depth}_R(M) = \text{depth}_R(R).$$

(1.2.8)' Theorem. *Let R be a graded ring of dimension d with the maximal ideal $m = R^+$. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a) R is Gorenstein,
- (b) for $i \neq d$ we have $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$, $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$,
- (c) there exists $i > d$ such that $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$,
- (d) $\text{Ext}_R^i(K, R) = 0$ for $i < d$, $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$,
- (e) R is Cohen–Macaulay and $\text{Ext}_R^d(K, R) = K$.

The theorem characterizing the regular rings differs because the only graded regular ring is a polynomial ring.

The embedding dimension of a graded ring R is $\text{emdim}(R) = \dim_K m/m^2$. A graded ring R is *regular* if $\text{emdim}(R) = \dim R$.

(1.2.9)' Theorem. *Let R be a graded ring of dimension d with the maximal ideal $m = R^+$. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (a) R is a regular graded ring,
- (b) $\text{gl.dim } R < \infty$,
- (c) $\text{gl.dim } R = d$,
- (d) $\text{pd}_R K = d$,
- (e) m is generated by a regular sequence of length d ,
- (f) R is a polynomial ring over K in d variables.