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*Polynomial growth for Betti numbers.*

It is well known that the asymptotic patterns of the Betti sequences of the finitely generated modules over a local ring  $R$  reflect the structure of  $R$ . For instance, these sequences are eventually zero if and only if  $R$  is regular and they are eventually constant if and only if  $R$  is a hypersurface. We consider the problem of characterizing the rings  $R$  such that every  $R$ -module has Betti numbers eventually given by some polynomial. We give necessary and sufficient conditions for  $R$  to have this property. In some important cases, for example when  $R$  is homogeneous, these conditions coincide and therefore characterize  $R$ . (Received January 09, 2016)