

## EXISTENCE OF HOMOGENEOUS IDEALS FITTING INTO LONG BOURBAKI SEQUENCES

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(Communicated by Wolmer V. Vasconcelos)

ABSTRACT. For any finitely generated torsion-free graded module over a polynomial ring, there exists a homogeneous ideal fitting into an exact sequence similar to a Bourbaki sequence even though its height is not restricted to two.

### INTRODUCTION

Given a homogeneous ideal  $I$  of height  $p \geq 2$  in a polynomial ring  $R := k[x_1, \dots, x_r]$ , there is a finitely generated torsion-free graded  $R$ -module  $M$  with no free direct summand satisfying  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, R) = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p-1$  that fits into an exact sequence of the form

$$(*) \quad 0 \longrightarrow S_{p-1} \longrightarrow S_{p-2} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow S_1 \longrightarrow S_0 \oplus M \longrightarrow I(c) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $c$  is an integer and  $S_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq p-1$ ) are finitely generated graded free  $R$ -modules (see e.g. [6, Section 1], [12, Section 1]). By this sequence one obtains

$$H_m^{i-1}(R/I)(c) \cong H_m^i(M) \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, \dim(R/I) = r - p.$$

Since  $H_m^i(M) = 0$  for  $i = r - p + 1, \dots, r - 1$  and  $i = 0$  by local duality, considering the local cohomologies of  $R/I$  is the same thing as considering those of  $M$ .

Keeping the above observation in mind we are interested in the following problem. First, fix an integer  $p \geq 2$  and a finitely generated torsion-free graded  $R$ -module  $M$  with no free direct summand satisfying  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, R) = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p-1$ . Next, let  $\mathfrak{I}(M, p)$  be the set of all homogeneous ideals  $I$  in  $R$  of height  $p$  fitting into exact sequences of the form  $(*)$ . With this notation, describe all the members of  $\mathfrak{I}(M, p)$  in full generality.

Perhaps the most popular way to study the structure of  $\mathfrak{I}(M, p)$  is to do so in the framework of even linkage theory (see [8, 11, 12, 14]). But we want to propose another approach based on the analysis of basic sequences. Roughly speaking, the basic sequence  $B_R(I) = (\bar{n}^1; \bar{n}^2; \dots; \bar{n}^{r+1})$  of a homogeneous ideal  $I$  is a sequence of integers obtained by arranging in a suitable order the degrees of the Gröbner basis of  $I$  with respect to generic coordinates, where  $\bar{n}^i$  denotes a subsequence for each  $i$  (see [3, Section 1], [5, Example 4.1]). A similar sequence can also be defined for an arbitrary finitely generated graded  $R$ -module (see [5, Section 2]) and, if  $I \in \mathfrak{I}(M, p)$

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Received by the editors September 26, 1997 and, in revised form, February 10, 1998.  
1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 13D02; Secondary 13D03.

with  $B_R(I) = (\bar{n}^1; \bar{n}^2; \dots; \bar{n}^{r+1})$ ,  $B_R(M) = (\bar{\nu}^1; \bar{\nu}^2; \dots; \bar{\nu}^{r+1})$ , then we have

$$(**) \quad \begin{cases} \bar{n}^p = (\bar{w}^p, \bar{\nu}^p + c) & \text{up to permutation and} \\ \bar{n}^i = \bar{\nu}^i + c & \text{for } i = p + 1, \dots, r + 1 \end{cases}$$

with a suitable sequence of integers  $\bar{w}^i$ , where  $\bar{a} + c = (a_1 + c, \dots, a_l + c)$  for a sequence  $\bar{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_l)$  (see [6, Section 2]). This formula, however, is not enough for characterizing all possible basic sequences of the elements of  $\mathcal{J}(M, p)$ .

So far we have been successful only in two special cases. In the case  $p = 2$ , the formula (\*\*) can further be developed to give a complete description of the basic sequences of the elements of  $\mathcal{J}(M, 2)$  (see [7, Section 2]). Our results describe also in a different way the main theorem in the above-mentioned two codimensional even linkage theory. In particular, one can understand the numerical function  $\theta_X$  defined by Nollet in [13] from a structural point of view (see [7, Theorem 3.3]). When  $M$  is Buchsbaum, or equivalently, when the ring  $R/I$  is Buchsbaum, the relation (\*\*), together with the Borel fixedness of generic initial ideals, determines almost completely the basic sequences of the elements of  $\mathcal{J}(M, p)$  (see [1, Sections 2 and 3], [2], [3, Sections 5 and 6]).

Before proceeding further, we have to know first whether the set  $\mathcal{J}(M, p)$  is empty or not. The aim of this paper is to settle this question. In fact we will prove that  $\mathcal{J}(M, p) \neq \emptyset$  for an arbitrary finitely generated torsion-free graded  $R$ -module  $M$  with no free direct summand satisfying  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, R) = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p - 1$ . To the best of our knowledge, there seems no published proof of this fact except for the case  $p = 2$  (see e.g. [9, Chapitre VII, Section 4, Théorème 6]).

MODULES AND IDEALS VIA COMPLEXES

Given integers  $p \geq 2$ ,  $s \leq -1$  and a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  of height larger than or equal to  $p$ , let  $\mathcal{C}(p, s, \mathfrak{a})$  denote the set of complexes  $F_\bullet$  of finitely generated graded free  $R$ -modules bounded on both sides satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $H_i(F_\bullet) = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$ ,
- (ii)  $F_s \neq 0$  and  $F_i = 0$  for  $i < s$ ,
- (iii)  $\mathfrak{a}^l H_i(F_\bullet) = 0$  for all  $i < 0$  and  $l \gg 0$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $p \geq 2$ ,  $s \leq -1$  be integers,  $\mathfrak{a}$  a homogeneous ideal in  $R$  of height larger than or equal to  $p$ , and  $F_\bullet$  an element of  $\mathcal{C}(p, s, \mathfrak{a})$ .*

- (1) *If  $s < -1$ , then there exist a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a}' \subset \mathfrak{a}$  of height larger than or equal to  $p$  and a complex  $F'_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, s + 1, \mathfrak{a}')$  such that  $F'_i = F_i$  for  $i > p - 1$ .*
- (2) *If  $s = -1$  and  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) > 1$ , then there exist a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a}' \subset \mathfrak{a}$  of height  $p$  and a complex  $F'_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, -1, \mathfrak{a}')$  such that  $\text{rank}_R(F'_{-1}) = \text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) - 1$  and  $F'_i = F_i$  for  $i > p - 1$ .*
- (3) *If  $s = -1$  and  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) = 1$ , then there exist a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a}' \subset \mathfrak{a}$  of height  $p$  and a complex  $F'_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, -1, \mathfrak{a}')$  such that  $\text{rank}_R(F'_{-1}) = 1$ ,  $\text{codim}(H_{-1}(F'_\bullet)) = p$ , and  $F'_i = F_i$  for  $i > p - 1$ .*

*Proof.* We denote by  $\varphi_i : F_i \rightarrow F_{i-1}$  ( $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ ) the differentials of  $F_\bullet$ . By the Artin-Rees lemma, there exists for each  $i < 0$  an integer  $l_i$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}^l F_i \cap \text{Ker}(\varphi_i) = \mathfrak{a}^{l-l_i}(\mathfrak{a}^{l_i} F_i \cap \text{Ker}(\varphi_i))$  for all  $l \geq l_i$ . Since  $\mathfrak{a}^l H_i(F_\bullet) = 0$  for all  $i < 0$  and  $l \gg 0$  and  $F_i = 0$  for  $i < s$ , there is therefore an integer  $\bar{l}$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad \mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}} F_i \cap \text{Ker}(\varphi_i) \subset \mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}-l_i} \text{Ker}(\varphi_i) \subset \text{Im}(\varphi_{i+1})$$

for all  $i < 0$ . Since  $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}}) = \text{ht}(\mathfrak{a}) \geq p$ , we can pick  $p$  homogeneous elements  $f_1, \dots, f_p \in \mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}}$  which form an  $R$ -regular sequence. Using these elements, let  $K_{\bullet} := K(f_1, \dots, f_p; R)_{\bullet}$  be the Koszul complex with differential  $\partial_{\bullet}$ . Note that

$$H_i(K_{\bullet}) = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (f_1, \dots, f_p)H_0(K_{\bullet}) = 0.$$

From now on, given a complex  $C_{\bullet}$  of graded  $R$ -modules and an integer  $n$ , we denote by  $C_{\bullet}[n]$  (resp.  $C_{\bullet}(n)$ ) the complex  $C'_{\bullet}$  (resp.  $C''_{\bullet}$ ) such that  $C'_i = C_{i+n}$  (resp.  $C''_i = C_i(n)$ ).

(1) For proving the first assertion, we construct a chain map  $\mu_{\bullet} : K_{\bullet}[-s] \otimes_R F_s \rightarrow F_{\bullet}$  such that  $\mu_s$  is an isomorphism and then consider its mapping cone. To begin with, let  $\mu_s : K_0 \otimes F_s = F_s \rightarrow F_s$  be the identity mapping and  $\mu_i := 0$  for  $i < s$ . Let  $j \geq s$  be an integer. If we have already defined homomorphisms  $\mu_i : K_{i-s} \otimes F_s \rightarrow F_i$  for all  $i \leq j$  satisfying  $\mu_{i-1} \circ (\partial_{i-s} \otimes \text{id}_{F_s}) = \varphi_i \circ \mu_i$ , then, since

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im}(\mu_j \circ (\partial_{j+1-s} \otimes \text{id}_{F_s})) &\subset (f_1, \dots, f_p)F_j \cap \text{Ker}(\varphi_j) \\ &\subset \mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}}F_j \cap \text{Ker}(\varphi_j) \subset \text{Im}(\varphi_{j+1}) \end{aligned}$$

by (1.1) and condition (i), there exists a homomorphism  $\mu_{j+1} : K_{j+1-s} \otimes F_s \rightarrow F_{j+1}$  satisfying  $\mu_j \circ (\partial_{j+1-s} \otimes \text{id}_{F_s}) = \varphi_{j+1} \circ \mu_{j+1}$ . Thus, we obtain a desired chain map  $\mu_{\bullet}$  inductively. Let  $\text{con}\mu_{\bullet}$  be its mapping cone with differential  $\lambda_{\bullet}$ . Since  $K_{i-s} = 0$  for  $i < s$ ,  $i \geq p-1$ , we have  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_i = F_i$  for  $i > p-1$  and  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_i = 0$  for  $i < s$ . Moreover, it follows from the long exact sequence arising from

$$0 \rightarrow F_{\bullet} \rightarrow \text{con}\mu_{\bullet} \rightarrow K_{\bullet}[-s-1] \otimes_R F_s \rightarrow 0$$

that  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_{\bullet}) = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$  and that  $(f_1, \dots, f_p)^l H_i(\text{con}\mu_{\bullet}) = 0$  for all  $i < 0$  and  $l \gg 0$ . Since  $\lambda_{s+1}|_{K_0 \otimes F_s} = \mu_s$  is an isomorphism, we can cancel out free direct summands  $K_0 \otimes F_s$  and  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_s = F_s = \lambda_{s+1}(K_0 \otimes F_s)$  from  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_{s+1}$  and  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_s$  respectively, to obtain a new complex  $F'_{\bullet}$  such that  $F'_i = \text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_i$  for  $i > s+1$ ,  $F'_{s+1} = \text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_{s+1}/K_0 \otimes F_s$ ,  $F'_i = 0$  for  $i < s+1$ , and  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_{\bullet}) \cong H_i(F'_{\bullet})$  for all  $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{a}' := (f_1, \dots, f_p)$ . Since  $\text{rank}_R(F'_{s+1}) = \text{rank}_R(F_{s+1}) > 0$  by conditions (ii) and (iii), we obtain  $F'_{\bullet} \in \mathcal{C}(p, s+1, \mathfrak{a}')$  as desired.

(2) In the second case, we construct a chain map  $\mu_{\bullet} : K_{\bullet}[2](c) \rightarrow F_{\bullet}$  with a suitable  $c \in \mathbf{Z}$  such that the image of  $\mu_{-1} : K_1(c) \rightarrow F_{-1}$  is a free direct summand of  $F_{-1}$  of rank two, and then consider its mapping cone. To this end, let  $R(-a) \oplus R(-b)$  be a free direct summand of  $F_{-1}$  with  $a \geq b$ , so that  $F_{-1} = (R(-a) \oplus R(-b)) \oplus P$  for some graded free  $R$ -module  $P$ . By multiplying either  $f_1$  or  $f_2$  by a suitable homogeneous polynomial, if necessary, we may assume with no loss of generality that  $\deg(f_1) - \deg(f_2) = a - b$ . Let  $c := \deg(f_1) - a$ . Then, since  $K_1 = \bigoplus_{i=1}^p R(-\deg(f_i))$ , we have  $K_1(c) = (R(-a) \oplus R(-b)) \oplus Q$  with  $Q := \bigoplus_{i=3}^p R(c - \deg(f_i))$ . Let  $\mu_i := 0$  for  $i < -1$ , and let

$$\mu_{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,  $\text{Im}(\mu_{-1} \circ \partial_2) \subset \mathfrak{a}^{\bar{l}}F_{-1} \subset \text{Im}(\varphi_0)$ . There is therefore a homomorphism  $\mu_0 : K_2(c) \rightarrow F_0$  such that  $\mu_{-1} \circ \partial_2 = \varphi_0 \circ \mu_0$ . Since  $H_i(F_{\bullet}) = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$ , we can construct  $\mu_i$  ( $i \geq 0$ ) successively so that  $\mu_{\bullet}$  becomes a chain map. Let  $\text{con}\mu_{\bullet}$  be its mapping cone with differential  $\lambda_{\bullet}$ . Then  $\text{con}(\mu_{\bullet})_i = F_i$  for  $i > p-1$  and

$\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_i = 0$  for  $i < -1$  since  $K_{i+2} = 0$  for  $i \geq p - 1$ ,  $i < -2$ . Moreover it follows from the long exact sequence arising from

$$0 \longrightarrow F_\bullet \longrightarrow \text{con}\mu_\bullet \longrightarrow K_\bullet[1](c) \longrightarrow 0$$

that  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$  and that  $(f_1, \dots, f_p)^l H_{-1}(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) = 0$  for  $l \gg 0$ . Since  $\mu_{-1}$  maps  $R(-a) \oplus R(-b) \subset K_1(c)$  isomorphically onto  $R(-a) \oplus R(-b) \subset F_{-1}$ , we can cancel out  $R(-a) \oplus R(-b)$  and  $\lambda_0(R(-a) \oplus R(-b))$  from  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_0$  and  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_{-1}$  respectively, to obtain a complex  $F'_\bullet$  such that  $F'_i = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_i$  for  $i > 0$ ,  $F'_0 = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_0 / (R(-a) \oplus R(-b))$ ,  $F'_{-1} = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_{-1} / \lambda_0(R(-a) \oplus R(-b)) \cong P \oplus K_0(c)$ , and  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) \cong H_i(F'_\bullet)$  for all  $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Let  $\mathbf{a}' := (f_1, \dots, f_p)$ . Since  $\text{rank}_R(F'_{-1}) = \text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) + 1 - 2 = \text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) - 1$ , we get  $F'_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, -1, \mathbf{a}')$  as desired.

(3) In the last case, we construct a chain map  $\mu_\bullet : K_\bullet[2](c) \longrightarrow F_\bullet$  such that  $\mu_{-1}$  is a surjection and then consider its mapping cone. Let  $a$  be an integer with  $F_{-1} = R(-a)$  and let  $c := \text{deg}(f_1) - a$ . Let further  $\mu_i := 0$  for  $i < -1$ ,  $P := \bigoplus_{i=2}^p R(c - \text{deg}(f_i))$ , and  $\mu_{-1} := (1, 0)$  a homomorphism from  $K_1(c) = R(-a) \oplus P$  to  $F_{-1} = R(-a)$ . Then, the  $\text{Im}(\mu_{-1} \circ \partial_2)$  is contained in  $\text{Im}(\varphi_0)$  as in the preceding case. Hence we can construct  $\mu_i$  ( $i \geq 0$ ) successively so that  $\mu_\bullet$  becomes a chain map. Let  $\text{con}\mu_\bullet$  be its mapping cone with differential  $\lambda_\bullet$ . Then, again as in the preceding case, we have  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_i = F_i$  for  $i > p - 1$ ,  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_i = 0$  for  $i < -1$ ,  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) = 0$  for  $i \geq 0$ , and moreover, it follows from the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H_{-1}(F_\bullet) \longrightarrow H_{-1}(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) \longrightarrow H_0(K_\bullet(c)) \longrightarrow 0$$

that  $(f_1, \dots, f_p)^l H_{-1}(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) = 0$  for all  $l \gg 0$  and that  $\text{codim}(H_{-1}(\text{con}\mu_\bullet)) = p$  in  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . Since  $\mu_{-1}|_{R(-a)}$  is an isomorphism, we can cancel out  $R(-a)$  and  $\lambda_0(R(-a))$  from  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_0$  and  $\text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_{-1}$  respectively, to obtain a complex  $F'_\bullet$  such that  $F'_i = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_i$  for  $i > 0$ ,  $F'_0 = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_0 / R(-a)$ ,  $F'_{-1} = \text{con}(\mu_\bullet)_{-1} / \lambda_0(R(-a)) \cong K_0(c)$ ,  $\text{rank}_R(F'_{-1}) = -1$ ,  $H_i(\text{con}\mu_\bullet) \cong H_i(F'_\bullet)$  for all  $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Hence  $F'_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, -1, \mathbf{a}')$  with  $\mathbf{a}' := (f_1, \dots, f_p)$  as desired.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $p \geq 2$ ,  $s \leq -1$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ , and  $F_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, s, \mathbf{a})$  be as in the previous lemma. In each of the three cases there, we may assume that the differential  $\varphi'_\bullet$  of  $F'_\bullet$  satisfies  $\text{Im}(\varphi'_p{}^\vee) = \text{Im}(\varphi_p{}^\vee)$  and  $\varphi'_i = \varphi_i$  for  $i > p$ .*

*Proof.* In each case, the differential  $\varphi'_p$ , obtained by the method described in the proof above, is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varphi_p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} : F_p \longrightarrow F_{p-1} \oplus L$$

with a graded free  $R$ -module  $L$ . Hence  $\text{Im}(\varphi'_p{}^\vee) = \text{Im}(\varphi_p{}^\vee)$ . Likewise  $\varphi'_i = \varphi_i$  for all  $i > p$ . □

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $p \geq 2$  be an integer and let  $M$  be a finitely generated torsion-free graded  $R$ -module with no free direct summand satisfying  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, R) = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p - 1$ . Then there exists a homogeneous ideal  $I$  in  $R$  of height  $p$  which fits into an exact sequence of the form*

$$0 \longrightarrow S_{p-1} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow S_1 \longrightarrow S_0 \oplus M \longrightarrow I(c) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $c$  is an integer and  $S_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$ ) are finitely generated graded free  $R$ -modules.

*Proof.* If  $M = 0$ , then any Cohen-Macaulay homogeneous ideal  $I$  of height  $p$  will do. Suppose  $M \neq 0$ . Let

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_{p+1}} F_p \xrightarrow{\varphi_p} F_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{p-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} F_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} F_0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

be a minimal free resolution of  $M$  over  $R$ . Let further

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_{-2}^\vee} F_{-2}^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_{-1}^\vee} F_{-1}^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_0^\vee} F_0^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_1^\vee} \text{Im}(\varphi_1^\vee) \longrightarrow 0$$

be a minimal free resolution of  $\text{Im}(\varphi_1^\vee)$  over  $R$ . Connecting the former to the dual of the latter, we obtain a complex

$$F_\bullet : \dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_{p+1}} F_p \xrightarrow{\varphi_p} F_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{p-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} F_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{\varphi_0} F_{-1} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{-1}} F_{-2} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{-2}} \dots$$

bounded on both sides (cf. [4]). Since  $H_i(F_\bullet) = \text{Ext}_R^{p-i}(\text{Coker}(\varphi_p^\vee), R)$  for  $i < p$ , the codimension of  $H_0(F_\bullet)$  in  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is larger than or equal to  $p$ . Besides,

$$0 \longrightarrow H_0(F_\bullet) \longrightarrow M = F_0/\text{Im}(\varphi_1) \longrightarrow F_{-1}$$

is exact and  $M$  is torsion-free. Hence  $H_0(F_\bullet) = 0$  and  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) > 0$ . On the other hand,  $\text{Ext}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}^i(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, R_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$  ( $1 \leq i \leq p-1$ ) for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  with  $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq p-1$  by hypothesis, so that there is a homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  of height larger than or equal to  $p$  such that  $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is free if  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  and  $\mathfrak{p} \not\supseteq \mathfrak{a}$ . By our construction of the complex  $F_\bullet$ , this means that the localization  $(F_\bullet)_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is split exact for all prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}$  not containing  $\mathfrak{a}$ . The support of  $H_i(F_\bullet)$  is therefore contained in  $\text{Spec}(R/\mathfrak{a})$ ; in other words,  $\mathfrak{a}^l H_i(F_\bullet) = 0$  for all  $i < 0$  and  $l \gg 0$ . Thus  $F_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, s, \mathfrak{a})$  for some  $s \leq -1$ . Applying Lemmas 1 and 2 to  $F_\bullet$ , we can obtain a complex  $G_\bullet \in \mathcal{C}(p, -1, \mathfrak{b})$  such that  $\text{rank}_R(G_{-1}) = 1$ ,  $\text{codim}(H_{-1}(G_{-1})) = p$ ,  $\text{Im}(\psi_p^\vee) = \text{Im}(\varphi_p^\vee)$ , and  $G_i = F_i$ ,  $\psi_{i+1} = \varphi_{i+1}$  for  $i > p-1$ , where  $\mathfrak{b}$  is a homogeneous ideal in  $R$  of height larger than or equal to  $p$  and  $\psi_\bullet$  is the differential of  $G_\bullet$ . In fact, if  $s < -1$ , then apply (1) repeatedly to reduce  $s$  to  $-1$ . If  $s = -1$  but  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) > 1$ , then apply (2) repeatedly to reduce  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1})$  to one. If  $s = -1$  and  $\text{rank}_R(F_{-1}) = 1$  but  $\text{codim}(H_{-1}(F_\bullet)) > p$ , then apply (3) to reduce  $\text{codim}(H_{-1}(F_\bullet))$  to  $p$ . For such a  $G_\bullet$ , let  $c$  be the integer such that  $G_{-1} = R(c)$  and  $I \subset R$  the ideal of height  $p$  such that  $\text{Im}(\psi_0) = I(c)$ . Now, reverse the procedure. The complex

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\psi_{p+1}} G_p \xrightarrow{\psi_p} G_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\psi_{p-1}} \dots \xrightarrow{\psi_1} G_0 \xrightarrow{\psi_0} G_{-1} \longrightarrow \text{Coker}(\psi_0) \longrightarrow 0$$

is a free resolution of  $\text{Coker}(\psi_0) = R/I(c)$ , and

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_{-1}^\vee} F_{-1}^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_0^\vee} F_0^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_1^\vee} \dots \xrightarrow{\varphi_{p-1}^\vee} F_{p-1}^\vee \xrightarrow{\varphi_p^\vee} \text{Im}(\varphi_p^\vee) = \text{Im}(\psi_p^\vee) \longrightarrow 0$$

is a free resolution of  $\text{Im}(\psi_p^\vee)$ . Since  $F_i = G_i$  for all  $i > p-1$ , our assertion follows from [6, Lemma 1.3].  $\square$

*Remark 4.* One can give another proof of [10, Theorem 1.3] by an argument similar to that in the proof of (2) of Lemma 1.

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