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**Andrew R. Kustin\*** (kustin@math.sc.edu), Mathematics Department, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, and **Adela Vraciu**. *Socle degrees and the Frobenious homomorphism*. Preliminary report.

Let  $k$  be a field of positive characteristic  $p$ ,  $R$  be a positively graded algebra over  $k$ , and  $\mathfrak{m}$  the irrelevant maximal ideal of  $R$ . For each  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary homogeneous ideal  $J$  of  $R$ , we compare the degrees of the generators  $\{d_i\}$  of the socle of  $R/J$  to the degrees of the generators  $\{D_i\}$  of the socle of  $R/J^{[p]}$ , where  $J^{[p]}$  is the  $p^{\text{th}}$  Frobenious power of  $J$ . If  $R/J$  has finite projective dimension over  $R$ , then  $D_i = pd_i - (p-1)a$ , for all  $i$ , where  $a$  is the  $a$ -invariant of the ring  $R$ . We are interested in establishing the converse, and have had our most success when  $R$  is a hypersurface ring. We use the Avramov-Miller characterization of modules of finite projective dimension over complete intersections in positive characteristic. (Received August 03, 2005)