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Ananthnarayan Hariharan* (ahariharan2@math.unl.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and **Craig Huneke** (huneke@math.ku.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Kansas. *Three-standardness of the maximal ideal.*

We first define and study some consequences of the notion of n -standardness of a filtration associated to an ideal primary to the maximal ideal in a Cohen-Macaulay local ring. Using techniques borrowed from the world of prime characteristic, we then give some conditions under which the maximal ideal is three-standard. (Received February 22, 2010)