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Mousumi Mandal. *The positivity of the first normalized Hilbert coefficients.*

In this joint work with Goto and Mandal, we are interested in the analysis of the first normalized Hilbert coefficient $\bar{e}_1(I)$. Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be an analytically unramified local ring of positive dimension. For an \mathfrak{m} -primary ideal I , the normalized Hilbert function of R with respect to I is the length $\lambda_R(R/\overline{I^{n+1}})$, where $\overline{I^{n+1}}$ denotes the integral closure of I^{n+1} . This function is of polynomial type with degree d and we write

$$\lambda_R(R/\overline{I^{n+1}}) = \bar{e}_0(I) \binom{n+d}{d} - \bar{e}_1(I) \binom{n+d-1}{d-1} + \cdots + (-1)^d \bar{e}_d(I)$$

for sufficiently large n . One of our main results is to settle the positivity conjecture on $\bar{e}_1(I)$ posed by Wolmer V. Vasconcelos. More specifically we proved that if (R, \mathfrak{m}) is unmixed and analytically unramified local ring of positive dimension, then $\bar{e}_1(I)$ is nonnegative for every \mathfrak{m} -primary ideal I of R . (Received September 11, 2010)