

Artinianness of local cohomology modules

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Abstract. Let A be a commutative noetherian ring, \mathfrak{a} an ideal of A and M a finitely generated A -module. We prove that the local cohomology module $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ is artinian if and only if $i \geq \dim(A/\mathfrak{a})$.

1. Introduction

Throughout, A is a commutative noetherian ring. As a general reference to homological and commutative algebra we use [7] and [11]. The main problems in the study of local cohomology modules are to determine when they are artinian, finite, zero and non-zero and when their sets of associated primes are finite. Recently some results have been proved about the artinianness of graded local cohomology modules in [4], [5], [14] and [15].

In those papers the local cohomology modules $H_{R_+}^i(M)$ of a finitely generated graded module $M = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} M_n$ over a noetherian homogeneous ring $R = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} R_n$ are studied. Here R_+ is the irrelevant homogeneous ideal and the base ring (R_0, \mathfrak{m}_0) is assumed to be local.

We prove, with uniform proofs, some general results about artinianness of local cohomology modules in the context of an arbitrary noetherian ring A . They have the special cases in the above references as immediate consequences.

In [15, Theorem 2.4] Sazeeleh showed that if n is a non-negative integer such that $H_{R_+}^i(M)$ is artinian for all $i > n$, then $H_{R_+}^n(M)/\mathfrak{m}_0 H_{R_+}^n(M)$ is an artinian R -module.

We generalize this in two ways. First we replace the graded ring R by an arbitrary noetherian ring A and consider ideals \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} such that $A/(\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b})$ is artinian, in Corollary 2.3. We get this result as a corollary of a general theorem, Theorem 2.1, in which we consider arbitrary Serre subcategories of the category of A -modules.

A Serre subcategory of the category of A -modules is a full subcategory closed under taking submodules, quotient modules and extensions. An example is given by the class of artinian A -modules. A useful method to prove that a certain module belongs to such a Serre subcategory is to apply the homological principle of [13, Corollary 3.2]:

- Suppose we are given a (strongly) connected sequence $\{T^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ of functors between the abelian categories \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} and a Serre subcategory \mathcal{S} of \mathcal{B} (i.e., a full subcategory such that whenever $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence in \mathcal{B} , then X and Z both belong to \mathcal{S} if and only if Y belongs to \mathcal{S}), then for $f: X \rightarrow Y$, a morphism in \mathcal{A} and $i \geq 0$, if $T^i \text{Coker } f$ and $T^{i+1} \text{Ker } f$ are in \mathcal{S} , then also $\text{Coker } T^i f$ and $\text{Ker } T^{i+1} f$ are in \mathcal{S} .

Let A be a noetherian ring and \mathfrak{a} be an ideal of A . An A -module M is called \mathfrak{a} -cofinite if $\text{Supp}_A(M) \subset V(\mathfrak{a})$ and $\text{Ext}_A^i(A/\mathfrak{a}, M)$ are finite A -modules (i.e., finitely generated A -modules) for all i . This notion was introduced by Hartshorne in [9]. For more information about cofiniteness with respect to an ideal, see [10], [8] and [13].

2. Main results

Theorem 2.1. *Let \mathcal{S} be a Serre subcategory of the category of A -modules. Let M be a finite A module, \mathfrak{a} be an ideal of A and n be a non-negative integer such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ belong to \mathcal{S} for all $i > n$. If \mathfrak{b} is an ideal of A such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M/\mathfrak{b}M)$ belongs to \mathcal{S} , then the module $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)/\mathfrak{b}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)$ belongs to \mathcal{S} .*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$ and consider the map $f: M^r \rightarrow M$ that is defined by $f(x_1, \dots, x_r) = \sum_{i=1}^r b_i x_i$. Then $\text{Im } f = \mathfrak{b}M$ and $\text{Coker } f = M/\mathfrak{b}M$. Since $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ is in \mathcal{S} for all $i > n$ and $\text{Supp}_A \text{Ker } f \subset \text{Supp}_A M$ it follows from [1, Theorem 3.1] that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n+1}(\text{Ker } f)$ is also in \mathcal{S} . By hypothesis $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(\text{Coker } f)$ belongs to \mathcal{S} . Hence by [13, Corollary 3.2] $\text{Coker } H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(f)$, which equals $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)/\mathfrak{b}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)$, is in \mathcal{S} .

Corollary 2.2. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be two ideals of A . Let M be a finite A -module and n be a non-negative integer. If $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ is artinian for $i > n$ and $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M/\mathfrak{b}M)$ is artinian, then $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)/\mathfrak{b}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)$ is artinian.*

Proof. In Theorem 2.1 take \mathcal{S} as the category of artinian A -modules.

The next corollary generalizes [15, Theorem 2.4], as said in the introduction.

Corollary 2.3. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be two ideals of A such that $A/(\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b})$ is artinian and let M be a finite A -module and n be a non-negative integer. If $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ is artinian for $i > n$, then $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)/\mathfrak{b}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M)$ is artinian.*

With the notation as in the introduction, the modules $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}^i(H_{R_+}^j(M))$ were shown to be artinian for all i and j when $\dim R_0=1$ in [4, Theorem 2.5(b)], or when the ideal R_+ is principal in [14, Proposition 2.6]. This is obtained as a special case of the following general result.

Corollary 2.10. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be ideals of A such that $A/(\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b})$ is artinian. Let M be a finite module such that $\dim M/\mathfrak{a}M \leq 1$ or $\text{cd } \mathfrak{a}=1$. Then $H_{\mathfrak{b}}^i(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M))$ is an artinian module for all i and j .*

Proof. The modules $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M)$ are \mathfrak{a} -cofinite by [3, Corollary 2.7] resp. [13, Corollary 3.14].

In [5, Proposition 5.10] Brodmann, Röhrer and Saezede (with the notation as in the introduction) showed that $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}^1(H_{R_+}^i(M))$ is artinian for all i if $\dim R_0 \leq 2$. They also give an example [5, Example 5.11] where this does not hold if $\dim R_0 > 2$ and in [4, Example 4.2] there is an example with $\dim R_0=2$ but where $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}(H_{R_+}^2(M))$ not artinian.

In the next theorem we generalize this result.

Theorem 2.11. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be ideals of A such that $A/(\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b})$ is artinian. Let M be a finite module such that $\dim M/\mathfrak{a}M \leq 2$. Then $H_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M))$ is an artinian module for all i .*

Proof. Take $x \in \mathfrak{b}$ outside all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p} \supset \mathfrak{a} + \text{Ann}(M)$, such that $\dim A/\mathfrak{p}=2$. Then $\dim M/(\mathfrak{a}+xA)M \leq 1$.

Consider for a fixed i the exact sequence [6, Proposition 8.1.2]

$$H_{\mathfrak{a}+xA}^i(M) \xrightarrow{g} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) \xrightarrow{f} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)_x \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}+xA}^{i+1}(M).$$

Put $K = \text{Ker } f$ and $L = \text{Ker } g$. From the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}+xA}^i(M) \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow 0$$

we get the exact sequence

$$H_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}+xA}^i(M)) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(K) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{b}}^2(L).$$

Since

$$\text{Supp}_A L \subset V(\mathfrak{a}+xA + \text{Ann } M)$$

and $\dim(A/(\mathfrak{a}+xA + \text{Ann } M)) \leq 1$, we get $H_{\mathfrak{b}}^2(L)=0$. Hence $H_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(K)$ is a homomorphic image of $H_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}+xA}^i(M))$, which is artinian by Corollary 2.10. Moreover,

Theorem 2.15. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be ideals of A such that $A/(\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b})$ is artinian. For each finite module M , the modules $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M))$ and $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M))$ are artinian.*

Proof. Corollary 2.14 with $n=1$ implies that $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M))$ is artinian. We may assume that $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)=0$, so there is an M -regular element x in \mathfrak{a} . From the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{x} M \rightarrow M/xM \rightarrow 0$, we get the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/xM) \longrightarrow \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M) \xrightarrow{f} \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M) \longrightarrow \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M/xM),$$

where the map f is defined as multiplication with x on $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M)$.

We get

$$\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(\mathrm{Ker} f) \cong \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/xM)) \cong \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b}}^1(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/xM)),$$

which is artinian. We also get the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{Coker} f) \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M/xM)).$$

Since $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M/xM))$ is artinian by Corollary 2.14, $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(\mathrm{Coker} f)$ is artinian. We use [13, Lemma 3.1] with $S=\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}(-)$ and $T=\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(-)$ to conclude that $\mathrm{Ker} \mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(f)$ is artinian. But $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(f)$ is multiplication by the element $x \in \mathfrak{a}$ on $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M))$. Again using [13, Lemma 3.1], we conclude that $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^1(\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M))$ is artinian.

Recall that the *arithmetic rank*, $\mathrm{ara}(\mathfrak{a})$, of an ideal \mathfrak{a} in a noetherian ring A is defined as the least number of elements of A required to generate an ideal with the same radical as \mathfrak{a} .

In [14, Theorem 2.3] it was shown that (with the notation given in the introduction) if $\mathrm{ara}(R_+)=2$, then for $i \geq 0$, the module $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}^i(\mathrm{H}_{R_+}^2(M))$ is artinian if and only if $\mathrm{H}_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}^{i+2}(\mathrm{H}_{R_+}^1(M))$ is artinian. Before we state and prove a result of this kind in general form, we need a homological lemma, which might also have independent interest.

Lemma 2.16. *Let $\{T^i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ be a strongly connected sequence of functors between the abelian categories \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} and let \mathcal{S} be a Serre subcategory of \mathcal{B} . Suppose $f: L \rightarrow M$ is a morphism in \mathcal{A} and i is a positive integer such that*

$$\mathrm{Ker} T^{i+1} f, \quad \mathrm{Ker} T^i f, \quad \mathrm{Coker} T^i f \quad \text{and} \quad \mathrm{Coker} T^{i-1} f$$

are all in \mathcal{S} . Then $T^{i+1}(\mathrm{Ker} f)$ is in \mathcal{S} if and only if $T^{i-1}(\mathrm{Coker} f)$ is in \mathcal{S} .

By [6, Proposition 8.1.2], there is an exact sequence

$$\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}+yA}^j(\mathbf{H}_{xA}^1(M)) \longrightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}}^j(\mathbf{H}_{xA}^1(M)) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}}^j(f)} \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}}^j(\mathbf{H}_{xA}^1(M)_y) \longrightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}+yA}^{j+1}(\mathbf{H}_{xA}^1(M)).$$

The outer modules are artinian, by Corollary 2.10. Hence $\text{Ker } \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}}^j(f)$ and $\text{Coker } \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{b}}^j(f)$ are artinian for all j .

We now extend [14, Proposition 2.8], where it was shown (for notation see the introduction) that if $\dim R_0 = d$ and $\mathbf{H}_{R_+}^i(M) = 0$ for all $i > c$, then $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{m}_0 R}^d(\mathbf{H}_{R_+}^c(M))$ is artinian. We will now again use Lemma 2.16 in our proof.

Theorem 2.18. *Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be two ideals of A such that $A/(\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b})$ is artinian. Let M be a finite A -module and n be a non-negative integer such that $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M) = 0$ for all $j > n$. If $\dim A/\mathfrak{a} = d$, then the modules $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M))$ and $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^{d-1}(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M))$ are artinian. Moreover $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^{d-2}(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M))$ is an artinian module if and only if $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n-1}(M))$ is artinian.*

Proof. Since $\dim A/\mathfrak{a} = d$, $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^j(X) = 0$ for all $j > d$ and each A -module X with $\text{Supp}_A(X) \subset V(\mathfrak{a})$. Hence if $X' \rightarrow X \rightarrow X'' \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence, where the modules have support in $V(\mathfrak{a})$, then the sequence $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(X') \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(X'') \rightarrow 0$ is exact.

Let $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E^0 \xrightarrow{\partial^0} E^1 \xrightarrow{\partial^1} E^2 \rightarrow \dots$ be a minimal injective resolution of M . The modules $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b}}(E^i)$ are artinian, since they are finite direct sums of modules of the form $E(A/\mathfrak{m})$, where \mathfrak{m} is a maximal ideal containing $\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}$.

Let $L = \text{Ker } \partial^n$ and $N = \text{Ker } \partial^{n-1}$. Since $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M) = 0$ for $j > n$,

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(L) \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^n) \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^{n+1}) \longrightarrow \dots$$

is an injective resolution of $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(L)$. For each j , the module $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^j(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(L))$ is a subquotient of $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{b}}(E^{n+j})$ and is therefore an artinian module. Also the modules $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^i(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^{n-1}))$ are artinian for all i , actually zero for $i > 0$.

Thus we can apply Lemma 2.16 to the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N) \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^{n-1}) \xrightarrow{f} \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(L) \longrightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Consequently, for each i the module $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^i(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^n(M))$ is artinian if and only if the module $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^{i+2}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N))$ is artinian. Since the latter module even vanishes if $i = d$ or $i = d - 1$, we conclude that the former is artinian if $i = d$ or $i = d - 1$.

The exact sequence $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^{n-2}) \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n-1}(M) \rightarrow 0$ gives the exact sequence $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(E^{n-2})) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(N)) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n-1}(M)) \rightarrow 0$, by the right exactness of $\mathbf{H}_{\mathfrak{b}}^d(-)$

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