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# **Results of Formal Local Cohomology Modules**

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Abstract. Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a commutative Noetherian local ring,  $\mathfrak{a}$  an ideal of R, and M a finitely generated R-module. We show that for a non-negative integer t the following cases are equivalent:

(a) The formal local cohomology modules  $\varprojlim_{\mathfrak{m}}^{i}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)$  are Artinian for all i < t;

(b)  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Ann}(\underset{n}{\lim} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)))$  for all i < t. If one of the above cases holds, then  $\underset{n}{\lim} H^{t}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)/\mathfrak{a}\underset{n}{\lim} H^{t}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)$  is Artinian. Also, there are some results concerning finiteness properties of formal local cohomology modules.

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## 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, we assume that  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is a commutative Noetherian local ring with non-zero identity and a an ideal of R. For an integer i and a finitely generated R-module M let  $H^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  denote the local cohomology module of M with respect to  $\mathfrak{a}$  (see [3] for the basic definitions). Huneke [11] asked the question: When the modules  $H^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  are Artinian. In general, this question is not true see for example [14] and [10], also the question is still true in many situations (see [16], [6], [13] and [1]). Recently Schenzel [19] has examined the structure of the modules  $\underset{m}{\lim} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)$  extensively. For each *i*, he called

 $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) := \underset{n}{\lim} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M)$  the *i*th formal local cohomology module of M with respect to

a. Not so much is known about these modules. In the case of a regular local ring they have been studied by Peskine and Szpiro (cf. [18], Chapter III) in relation to the vanishing of local cohomology modules. Another kind of investigations about formal cohomology has been done by Faltings (cf. [7]). For more details on the notion of formal cohomology, we refer the reader to [12] and [2]. Now it is natural to ask the following question for the formal cohomology: When are the formal local cohomology modules  $\mathfrak{F}^{l}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  Artinian?

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The main aim of this paper is to prove the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let t be a non-negative integer and M be a finitely generated R-module. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (a)  $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{g}}(M)$  is Artinian for all i < t;
- (b)  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Ann}(\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)))$  for all i < t.

Moreover if one of the above cases holds, then  $\mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian.

Note that if R = M and R is Gorenstein, then the formal local cohomology is the Matlis dual of local cohomology this was observed in [9, see 7.1.1]. In this sense Theorem 1.1 seems to be the precise dual of a well known finiteness criterion for local cohomology [Proposition 9.1.2, see [3]].

The following result extends [19, Theorem 3.9].

**Theorem 1.2.** Let M be an  $\mathfrak{a}$ -cofinite R-module. Then for all j, there are the following isomorphisms

$$H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M)) \cong \begin{cases} \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M) & i = 0\\ 0 & i \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

### 2. The results

For an *R*-module *N*, a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of *R* is said to be a *co-support* of *N* if the module  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(R_{\mathfrak{p}}, N) \neq 0$ . The set of all co-support prime ideals of *N* is denoted by  $\operatorname{Cos}_R(N)$  (cf. [17]).

**Proposition 2.1.** Let *M* be an *R*-module. Then for all i,  $\cap_{t>0}\mathfrak{a}^t\mathfrak{F}^i_\mathfrak{a}(M) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Note that for any inverse system  $\{N_t\}$ ,  $\mathfrak{a} \varprojlim N_t \subseteq \underset{t}{\varprojlim} \mathfrak{a} N_t$ . Thus

$$\bigcap_{t>0} \mathfrak{a}^{t} \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \cong \varprojlim_{t} \mathfrak{a}^{t} \varprojlim_{n} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M) \subseteq \varprojlim_{t} \operatornamewithlimits{timlim}_{n} \mathfrak{a}^{t} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M) \cong \varprojlim_{n} \operatornamewithlimits{timlim}_{t} \mathfrak{a}^{t} H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^{n}M) = 0,$$

as  $\mathfrak{a}^t H^i_\mathfrak{m}(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M) = 0$  for all  $t \ge n$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** Let M be an R-module and S be a multiplicative set of R such that  $S \cap \mathfrak{a} \neq \emptyset$ . Then for all i,  $\operatorname{Hom}_{R}(S^{-1}R, \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(M)) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $S \cap \mathfrak{a} \neq \emptyset$ , there is an element  $s_1 \in S \cap \mathfrak{a}$ . Assume that  $f \in \operatorname{Hom}_R(S^{-1}R, \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))$ and so  $f(r/s) = s_1{}^t f(r/s_1{}^t s) \in \mathfrak{a}^t \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  for all  $r/s \in S^{-1}R$  and all t > 0. Therefore  $f \in \bigcap_{t>0} \mathfrak{a}^t \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = 0$ . Hence f = 0, that means  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(S^{-1}R, \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) = 0$ .

**Corollary 2.1.** Let *M* be an *R*-module. Then for all *i*,  $Cos(\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \subseteq V(\mathfrak{a})$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Cos}(\mathfrak{F}^i_\mathfrak{a}(M))$ . Then  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(R_\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{F}^i_\mathfrak{a}(M)) \neq 0$  and hence, by Lemma 2.1,  $\mathfrak{a} \cap (R \setminus \mathfrak{p}) = \emptyset$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ .

A module *M* is a-cofinite if  $\text{Supp}(M) \subseteq V(\mathfrak{a})$  and  $\text{Ext}_R^i(R/\mathfrak{a}, M)$  is finitely generated for all *i*.

**Lemma 2.2.** [15, Section 2]. Let *M* be an *a*-cofinite *R*-module. Then the following cases hold:

- (1)  $N \otimes_R M$  is finitely generated for all finitely generated module N with  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Ann}(N)$ .
- (2)  $M/\mathfrak{a}^n M$  is finitely generated for all  $n \ge 1$ .

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Proof. See Section 2 of [15].

Let  $L_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(-)$  denote the ith left derived functor of the  $\mathfrak{a}$ -adic completion functor  $\lim_{n \to \infty} (R/\mathfrak{a}^n \otimes_R \mathfrak{a}^n)$ 

-) (cf.[8] and [20] for the basic results). Cuong and Nam [4], for an *R*-module M, define the ith local homology module  $H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  by  $H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = \lim_{i \to \infty} \operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a}^n, M)$ . Furthermore they

proved for an Artinian module  $M, H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \cong L_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  [4, Proposition 4.1].

**Theorem 2.1.** (Compare with [19, Theorem 3.9]) Let M be an a-cofinite R-module. Then for all *j*, there are the following isomorphisms

$$H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M)) \cong \begin{cases} \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M) & i = 0\\ 0 & i \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* Note that  $H^i_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M)$  is Artinian for all *i* by Lemma 2.4 and [3, Exercise 7.1.4]. Hence, by [5, Proposition 3.4] we have

$$H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M)) \cong \underset{n}{\underset{m}{\lim}} H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(H_{\mathfrak{m}}^j(M/\mathfrak{a}^nM)).$$

Let  $\underline{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$  be a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\underline{x}(t) = (x_1^t, \dots, x_m^t)$ . Then by [4, Theorem 3.6]  $H_i^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M)) \cong \liminf_{m \in \mathcal{M}} H_i(\underline{x}(t), H_{\mathfrak{m}}^j(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M))$ . Since  $\underline{x}(t) H_{\mathfrak{m}}^j(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M) = 0$  for

all t > n, we get

$$\lim_{t \to t} H_0(\underline{x}(t), H^j_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M)) = H^j_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{t \to t} H_i(\underline{x}(t), H^j_{\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{a}^n M)) = 0$$

for all i > 0. This finishes the proof.

**Remark 2.1.** As the referee suggested, in the proof of Theorem 2.5, let  $\mathfrak{U}_{i}^{\mathfrak{a}}(.)$  denote the left derived functor on the a-adic completion functor (see [20]). Then it seems that  $\mathfrak{U}_{i}^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(M)) = 0$  for all j > 0. Therefore  $H_{i}^{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(M)) = 0$  for all j > 0 is a consequence of [21, Theorem 3.5.8].

Corollary 2.2. (Compare with [19, Corollary 3.10]) Let M be an a-cofinite R-module. Let  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Suppose that  $\mathfrak{F}^{j}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = \mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^{j}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}^{j}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Set  $X = \mathfrak{F}^{j}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$ . Then the assumption provides  $X = \mathfrak{a}^{n}X, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore by Theorem 2.5 we have  $\lim X / a^n X = X$  and so X = 0, as required.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let t be a non-negative integer and M be a finitely generated R-module. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (a)  $\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian for all i < t; (b)  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Ann}(\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)))$  for all i < t.

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.*  $(a) \Longrightarrow (b)$ . Let i < t. Since  $\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian for all i < t, we have  $\mathfrak{a}^{s}\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = 0$  for some positive integer *s* by Proposition 2.1. Hence  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Ann}(\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)))$ for all i < t.

 $(b) \Longrightarrow (a)$ . We use induction on t. Let t = 1. Without loss of generality we may and do assume that R is complete with respect to m-adic completion (cf. [19, Proposition 3.3]). Then it follows that  $\mathfrak{F}^0_\mathfrak{a}(M)$  is a finitely generated *R*-module. From [19, Lemma 4.1] we get that  $\operatorname{Ass}(\mathfrak{F}^0_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Ass}(M) : \dim R/\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{p} = 0\}$ . Therefore, by the hypothesis we have

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Supp $(\mathfrak{F}^0_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \subseteq \{\mathfrak{m}\}\)$  and so  $\mathfrak{F}^0_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  has finite length. Hence in this case the claim holds. Now, let t > 1 and assume that the claim holds for all values less than t - 1. Since  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is annihilated by some power of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , by [19, Theorem 3.11] one has the following long exact sequence

$$(2.1) \quad \dots \longrightarrow H^{i}_{\mathfrak{m}}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow H^{i+1}_{\mathfrak{m}}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow \dots$$

Hence, it is enough to prove that  $\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))$  is Artinian for all i < t. Thus, we may and do assume that M is  $\mathfrak{a}$ -torsion free. Take  $x \in \mathfrak{a} \setminus \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Ass}(M)} \mathfrak{p}$  (cf. [3, Lemma 2.1.1]). Therefore, by the hypothesis there exists a positive integer s such that  $x^s \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = 0$  for all

i < t. By [19, Theorem 3.11] the exact sequence  $0 \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{x^s} M \longrightarrow M/x^s M \longrightarrow 0$  implies the following exact sequence of formal local cohomology modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^{s}M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i+1}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow 0$$

for all i < t - 1. It follows that  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Ann}(\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^{s}M)))$  and by the inductive hypothesis that  $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^{s}M)$  is Artinian for all i < t - 1. Hence  $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian for all i < t. This finishes the inductive step.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let M be a finitely generated R-module and t be a non-negative integer such that  $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian for all i < t. Then  $\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian.

*Proof.* We proceed by induction on *t*. When t = 0,  $\mathfrak{F}^0_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^0_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian by [2, Theorem 3.7] Now, let t > 0 and the claim has been proved for t - 1. From the exact sequence (2.1) that used in the proof of Theorem 1.1, we deduce that  $\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))$  is Artinian for all i < t. We split the exact sequence

$$H^{t}_{\mathfrak{m}}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \xrightarrow{f} \mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \xrightarrow{g} H^{t+1}_{\mathfrak{m}}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))$$

to the exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow \ker f \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} f \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} f \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{t}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} g \longrightarrow 0$$

From these exact sequences, we deduce the following exact sequences

(2.2) 
$$\ker f/\mathfrak{a}\ker f \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^{t}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} f/\mathfrak{a}\operatorname{im} f \longrightarrow 0$$

and

(2.3) 
$$\operatorname{Tor}_{1}^{R}(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{im} g) \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} f/\mathfrak{a} \operatorname{im} f \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{t}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))/\mathfrak{a} \mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{t}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)) \longrightarrow \operatorname{im} g/\mathfrak{a} \operatorname{im} g \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since ker *f* and im *g* are Artinian, in view of (2.2) and (2.3), it turn out that if  $\mathfrak{F}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))/\mathfrak{F}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{G}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is Artinian, then  $\mathfrak{F}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{G}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  is also Artinian. Hence we may and do assume that *M* is a-torsion free and so there exists  $x \in \mathfrak{a} \setminus \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \operatorname{Ass}(M)} \mathfrak{p}$ . Thus by Theorem 1.1 there exists a positive integer *s* such that  $x^s \mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) = 0$  for all i < t. From the exact sequence  $0 \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{x^s} M \longrightarrow M/x^s M \longrightarrow 0$  we deduce the following exact sequence

(2.4) 
$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^{s}M) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{i+1}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \longrightarrow 0$$

for all i < t - 1. Hence  $\mathfrak{F}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^sM)$  is Artinian for all i < t - 1 and so by the inductive hypothesis  $\mathfrak{F}^{t-1}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^sM)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^{t-1}_{\mathfrak{a}}(M/x^sM)$  is Artinian. By using the functor  $R/\mathfrak{a} \otimes_R -$  on

the exact sequence (2.4), we deduce that  $\mathfrak{F}^t_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}^t(M)$  is Artinian. This complete the inductive step.

The following consequence immediately follows by Theorem 2.1 and [19, Theorem 1.1].

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let M be a finitely generated R-module. Then* 

$$\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\mathrm{fgrade}(\mathfrak{a},M)}(M)/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{F}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\mathrm{fgrade}(\mathfrak{a},M)}(M)$$

is Artinian.

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