

## The Artinianness of Formal Local Cohomology Modules

YAN GU

Department of Mathematics, Soochow University, Suzhou 215006, P. R. China  
guyan@suda.edu.cn

**Abstract.** Let  $I$  be an ideal of a commutative Noetherian local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ ,  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $\varprojlim_n H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M/I^n M)$  the  $i$ -th formal local cohomology module of  $M$  with respect to  $I$ . We prove some results concerning artinianness of  $\varprojlim_n H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M/I^n M)$ . We discuss the maximum and minimum integers such that  $\varprojlim_n H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M/I^n M)$  is artinian.

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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,  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$  and  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Schenzel [9] has called  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) := \varprojlim_n H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M/I^n M)$  the  $i$ -th formal local cohomology module of  $M$  with respect to  $I$  and investigated their structure extensively. Let  $t$  be an integer. It is shown that the local cohomology module  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M)$  is finitely generated for all  $i < t$  if and only if there is some integer  $r > 0$  such that  $I^r H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i < t$ . Recently, in [7, Theorem 2.8], it is proved that a similar result, that is,  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i < t$  if and only if there is some integer  $r > 0$  such that  $I^r \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i < t$ . In this paper, we get the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $t \geq 0$  be an integer. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i > t$ ;
- (b)  $I \subseteq \text{Rad}(0 : \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M))$  for all  $i > t$ .

Set  $q(I, M) := \sup\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \text{ is not artinian}\} = \sup\{i \mid I \not\subseteq \text{Rad}(0 : \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M))\}$ . We prove that if  $\text{Supp} L \subseteq \text{Supp} M$ , then  $q(I, L) \leq q(I, M)$ . In particular, if  $\text{Supp} L = \text{Supp} M$ , then  $q(I, L) = q(I, M)$ . In [3] and [8], the artinianness of local cohomology modules is considered. In [7, Theorem 2.9], it is shown that if  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i < t$ , then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)/I\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)$  is artinian. As the dual case of the above result, we get another main result of this paper.

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**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $t$  be an integer such that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i < t$ . Then  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M))$  is artinian.*

**2. Main results**

First, we give the following definition.

**Definition 2.1.** *For an ideal  $I$  of  $R$ , we define the formal filter depth,  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M)$ , by  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) := \inf\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \text{ is not artinian}\}$ .*

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $I$  and  $J$  be ideals of  $R$  and  $\text{Rad}(I) = \text{Rad}(J)$ . Then we have that  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) = \text{ff-depth}(J, M)$ .*

*Proof.* By [9, Proposition 3.3], we have  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I\widehat{R}}^i(\widehat{M})$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . Therefore, we may assume that  $R$  is complete. Then, by Cohen’s Structure Theorem,  $R$  is a homomorphic image of a regular complete local ring  $(T, \mathfrak{n})$  such that  $R = T/J$  for some ideal  $J$  of  $T$ . Set  $b_1 := I \cap T$  and  $b_2 := J \cap T$ . In view of [1, Lemma 2.1], we have that

$$\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{b_1}^i(M) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_{b_1}^{\dim T - i}(M, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n}))$$

and

$$\mathfrak{F}_J^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{b_2}^i(M) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_{b_2}^{\dim T - i}(M, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n}))$$

for all  $i \geq 0$ . Since  $\text{Rad}(I) = \text{Rad}(J)$ , then  $\text{Rad}(b_1) = \text{Rad}(b_2)$ . Let  $E^\bullet$  be a minimal injective resolution of  $T$ . We know that  $H_{b_1}^{\dim T - i}(M, T) = H^{\dim T - i}(\text{Hom}_T(M, \Gamma_{b_1}(E^\bullet)))$  and  $H_{b_2}^{\dim T - i}(M, T) = H^{\dim T - i}(\text{Hom}_T(M, \Gamma_{b_2}(E^\bullet)))$ . Now the result follows by  $\text{Rad}(b_1) = \text{Rad}(b_2)$ . ■

**Proposition 2.2.**  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) = \text{ff-depth}(I\widehat{R}, \widehat{M})$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I\widehat{R}}^i(\widehat{M})$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . The result is clear. ■

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $I \subseteq J$  be ideals of  $R$ . Then we have that  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{ff-depth}(J, M) + \text{ara}(J/I)$ .*

*Proof.* By Proposition 2.1, we may assume that there are  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in R$  such that  $J = I + (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . By induction on  $n$ , it suffices to treat only the case  $n = 1$ . So, let  $J = I + (x)$  for some  $x \in R$ . By [9, Theorem 3.15], there is the following long exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow \text{Hom}(R_x, \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_J^i(M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(R_x, \mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M)) \rightarrow \dots$$

For all  $i < \text{ff-depth}(I, M) - 1$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M)$  are artinian, then  $\mathfrak{F}_J^i(M)$  is artinian by the above exact sequence, and so  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{ff-depth}(J, M) + 1$ . ■

In [1, Proposition 4.4], it is proved that if  $L$  is a pure submodule of  $M$ . Then  $\inf\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(L) \neq 0\} \geq \inf\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \neq 0\}$ . Next, we give a similar result.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $L$  be a pure submodule of  $M$ . Then  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{ff-depth}(I, L)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $L$  is a pure submodule of  $M$ , we have that the natural map  $L/I^n L \rightarrow M/I^n M$  is pure for all  $n > 0$ . [6, Corollary 3.2(a)] implies the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_m^i(L/I^n L) \rightarrow H_m^i(M/I^n M)$$

for all  $i \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ . This induces the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(L) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  and so  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{ff-depth}(I, L)$ . ■

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is a local ring possessing a dualizing complex  $D_R$  and let  $p$  denote a prime ideal and  $i$  be an integer such that  $\mathfrak{F}_{IR_p}^i(M_p)$  is not artinian. Then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^{i+\dim R/p}(M)$  is not artinian.*

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the one of [9, Corollary 3.7], here we omit it. ■

**Proposition 2.5.**

- (1) *Let  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  be an  $M$ -filter regular element. Then we have that  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M/xM) \geq \text{ff-depth}(I, M) - 1$ .*
- (2) *Suppose that  $\text{f-depth} M < \infty$ . Then  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \min\{\text{f-depth} M, \dim M/IM\}$ .*
- (3) *Suppose that  $R$  possesses a dualizing complex. Then*

$$\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{ff-depth}(IR_p, M_p) + \dim R/p$$

*for all  $p \in \text{Supp} M \cap V(I)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) It is easy to prove by [9, Theorem 3.14].

(2) Since  $\text{f-depth} M = \text{f-depth} \widehat{M}$  and  $\dim M/IM = \dim \widehat{M}/I\widehat{M}$ , we can assume that  $R$  is complete by Proposition 2.2. Note that

$$\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \sup\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \text{ is not artinian}\} \leq \sup\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \neq 0\} = \dim M/IM.$$

Now we prove  $\text{ff-depth}(I, M) \leq \text{f-depth} M$  by induction on  $t = \text{ff-depth}(I, M)$ . When  $t = 0$ , the claim holds. Let  $t \geq 1$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^0(M)$  is artinian. It follows that  $\dim R/(I+p) > 0$  for all  $p \in \text{Ass} M \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$  by [5, Proposition 2.2]. Then we can choose  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  which forms a parameter of  $R/(I, p)$  for all  $p \in \text{Ass} M \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ , so  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  be an  $M$ -filter regular element. Thus

$$t - 1 \leq \text{ff-depth}(I, M/xM) \leq \text{f-depth}(M/xM) = \text{f-depth} M - 1$$

by (1) and the inductive hypothesis. So  $t \leq \text{f-depth} M$ .

- (3) We get the result by Lemma 2.1. ■

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be a non-zero finitely generated  $R$ -module and let  $t \geq 1$  be an integer. Then the following four conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i \geq t$ ;
- (2)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is finitely generated for all  $i \geq t$ ;
- (3)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(R/p) = 0$  for all  $i \geq t, p \in \text{Supp} M$ ;
- (4)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(R/p)$  is finitely generated for all  $i \geq t, p \in \text{Supp} M$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). It is clear.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). We use induction on  $d = \dim M$ . For  $d = 0$ , then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .

Now let  $d > 0$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i > t$ . Now we will prove that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) = 0$ . First, we assume that  $\text{depth} M > 0$ , then there is an element  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  which is  $M$ -regular. From the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{x} M \rightarrow M/xM \rightarrow 0$ , we can get the long exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \xrightarrow{x} \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/xM) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M) \rightarrow \cdots,$$

then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/xM) = 0$  for all  $i \geq t$ . By the inductive hypothesis, we get that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M/xM) = 0$ , then  $x\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) = \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)$ . Since  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)$  is finitely generated, then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) = 0$ .

Now let  $\text{depth} M = 0$  and  $N = H_{\mathfrak{m}}^0(M)$ , then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^0(N) = \varprojlim_n H_{\mathfrak{m}}^0(N/I^n N) = N$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(N) = 0$

for all  $i \geq 1$ . From the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/N \rightarrow 0$ , we get that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/N)$  for all  $i \geq 1$ . Since  $\text{depth} M/N > 0$ , the desired result follows the above argument.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Note that  $\dim M/IM = \sup\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \neq 0\}$ . For all  $p \in \text{Supp } M$ ,  $\dim R/(I + p) \leq \dim M/IM$ , hence  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(R/p) = 0$  for all  $i \geq t$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). It is enough for us to prove that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) = 0$ . There is a prime filtration  $0 = M_0 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq M_s = M$  of submodules of  $M$  such that  $M_j/M_{j-1} \cong R/p_j$ , where  $p_j \in \text{Supp } M$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . From the exact sequence  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M_{j-1}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M_j) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^t(R/p_j)$ , we obtain that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) = 0$  by the assumption and induction on  $j$ .

The proof of (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) is similar to the proof of (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2). ■

Next corollary is proved in [1, Theorem 2.6 (ii)]. Here we provide an easy method.

**Corollary 2.1.** *Assume that  $\dim M/IM = c > 0$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^c(M)$  is not finitely generated.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathfrak{F}_I^c(M)$  is finitely generated, then  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is finitely generated for all  $i \geq c$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i \geq c$  by Theorem 2.1. In fact,  $\mathfrak{F}_I^c(M) \neq 0$ . It is a contradiction. ■

Now, we will present one of the main results in this paper.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $t$  be a non-negative integer such that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i < t$ . Then  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M))$  is artinian.*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I\widehat{R}}^i(\widehat{M})$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\widehat{R}}(\widehat{R}/I\widehat{R}, \mathfrak{F}_{I\widehat{R}}^t(\widehat{M})) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\widehat{R}}(R/I \otimes \widehat{R}, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)) \\ &= \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \text{Hom}_{\widehat{R}}(\widehat{R}, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M))) = \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can assume that  $R$  is complete. Next, we use induction on  $t$ . When  $t = 0$ , we get that  $\text{Ass}_R(\mathfrak{F}_I^0(M)) = \{p \in \text{Ass } M : \dim R/(I + p) = 0\}$  by [9, Lemma 4.1], then  $V(I) \cap \text{Supp}(\mathfrak{F}_I^0(M)) \subseteq \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ , it turns out that  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^0(M))$  is artinian.

Now we suppose that  $t > 0$ , and the result holds for all values less than  $t$ . From the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow H_I^0(M) \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/H_I^0(M) \rightarrow 0$ , one has the following long exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{i+1}(H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \dots$$

by [1, Lemma 2.3], so  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/H_I^0(M))$  is artinian for all  $i < t$ . We split the exact sequence

$$H_{\mathfrak{m}}^t(H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) \xrightarrow{f} \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M/H_I^0(M)) \xrightarrow{g} H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{t+1}(H_I^0(M))$$

to the following exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M) \rightarrow \text{im } f \rightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow \text{im } f \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M/H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \text{img} \rightarrow 0.$$

Then we have the following exact sequences

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \ker f) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)) \\ &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \text{im } f) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, \ker f) \rightarrow \dots, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \text{im } f) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M/H_I^0(M))) \\ &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \text{img}) \rightarrow \dots. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\ker f$  and  $\text{img}$  are artinian, it is enough to show that  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M/H_I^0(M)))$  is artinian. So, we may assume that  $H_I^0(M) = 0$ . Then there is an  $M$ -regular element  $x \in I$ . The short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{x} M \rightarrow M/xM \rightarrow 0$  provides the long exact sequence

$$(2.1) \quad \cdots \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \xrightarrow{x} \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/xM) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M) \xrightarrow{x} \mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M) \rightarrow \cdots.$$

This induces that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/xM)$  is artinian for all  $i < t - 1$ . So  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M/xM))$  is artinian by the inductive hypothesis. From (2.1) we get the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M)/x\mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M/xM) \rightarrow (0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)} x) \rightarrow 0,$$

which induces the exact sequence

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M/xM)) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, (0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)} x)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M)/x\mathfrak{F}_I^{t-1}(M)).$$

It follows that  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, (0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)} x))$  is artinian. Since  $x \in I$ , we have that

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, (0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)} x)) \cong \text{Hom}_R(R/I \otimes R/xR, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)) \cong \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M)),$$

and so  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \mathfrak{F}_I^t(M))$  is artinian. ■

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be a non-zero finitely generated  $R$ -module and let  $t$  be a non-negative integer. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i > t$ ;
- (b)  $I \subseteq \text{Rad}(0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)})$  for all  $i > t$ .

*Proof.* (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). Let  $i > t$ . Since  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian, we get that  $I^s \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for some positive integer  $s$  by [7, Proposition 2.1]. So  $I \subseteq \text{Rad}(0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)})$  for all  $i > t$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). We use induction on  $d = \dim M$ . For  $d = 0$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ . So, in this case the claim holds. Now, let  $d > 0$  and assume that the claim holds for all values less than  $d$ . One has the following long exact sequence

$$(2.2) \quad \cdots \rightarrow H_m^i(H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow H_m^{i+1}(H_I^0(M)) \rightarrow \cdots$$

by [1, Lemma 2.3]. So, it is enough to prove that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/H_I^0(M))$  is artinian for all  $i > t$ . From (2.2) we can see that  $I \subseteq \text{Rad}(0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/H_I^0(M))})$  for all  $i > t$ . Thus, we may assume that  $H_I^0(M) = 0$ . Then there is an  $M$ -regular element  $x \in I$ . For all  $i > t$ , there exists a positive integer  $s_i$  such that  $x^{s_i} \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) = 0$  by hypothesis. The short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{x^{s_i}} M \rightarrow M/x^{s_i}M \rightarrow 0$  provides the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/x^{s_i}M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_I^{i+1}(M)$$

for all  $i > t$ . This induces that  $I \subseteq \text{Rad}(0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/x^{s_i}M)})$  is artinian and by the inductive hypothesis  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M/x^{s_i}M)$  is artinian for all  $i > t$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)$  is artinian for all  $i > t$ . ■

Assume that  $M$  and  $N$  are finitely generated  $R$ -modules. Set  $q(I, M) := \sup\{i \mid \mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \text{ is not artinian}\} = \sup\{i \mid I \not\subseteq \text{Rad}(0 :_{\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M)})\}$  and  $f_I(M, N) = \inf\{i \mid H_I^i(M, N) \text{ is not finitely generated}\}$ .

**Remark 2.1.** [1, Example 4.3(i)] In general,  $\text{Supp} M = \text{Supp} N$  not necessarily lead to  $\text{fgrade}(I, M) = \text{fgrade}(I, N)$  for any finitely generated  $R$ -modules  $M$  and  $N$ . For example, let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a 2-dimensional regular local ring and  $I$  an ideal with  $\dim R/I = 1$ . The Hartshorne-Lichtenbaum Vanishing Theorem yields that  $\text{cd}(I, R) = 1$ ,  $\text{cd}(I, R/\mathfrak{m}) = 0$ ,

$\text{fgrade}(I, R) = 1$  and  $\text{fgrade}(I, R/\mathfrak{m}) = 0$ . Set  $M := R \oplus R/\mathfrak{m}$ . Then  $M$  is a 2-dimensional sequentially Cohen-Macaulay  $R$ -module and  $\text{Supp} M = \text{Supp} R$ , but  $\text{fgrade}(I, M) = \inf\{\text{fgrade}(I, R), \text{fgrade}(I, R/\mathfrak{m})\} = 0$ . However, we have the following result.

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $M$  and  $L$  be finitely generated  $R$ -modules and  $\text{Supp} L \subseteq \text{Supp} M$ . Then  $q(I, L) \leq q(I, M)$ . In particular, if  $\text{Supp} L = \text{Supp} M$ . Then  $q(I, M) = q(I, L)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathfrak{F}_I^i(K) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I\bar{R}}^i(\widehat{K})$  for any  $R$ -module  $K$  and all  $i \geq 0$ . Therefore, we may assume that  $R$  is complete. Then, by Cohen’s Structure Theorem,  $R$  is a homomorphic image of a regular complete local ring  $(T, \mathfrak{n})$  such that  $R = T/J$  for some ideal  $J$  of  $T$ . Set  $b := I \cap T$ . In view of [1, Lemma 2.1], we have that

$$\mathfrak{F}_I^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_b^i(M) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_b^{\dim T - i}(M, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n}))$$

and

$$\mathfrak{F}_I^i(L) \cong \mathfrak{F}_b^i(L) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_b^{\dim T - i}(L, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n}))$$

for all  $i \geq 0$ . It induces that

$$\begin{aligned} q(I, M) &= \sup\{i \mid H_b^{\dim T - i}(M, T) \text{ is not finitely generated}\} \\ &= \dim T - \inf\{i \mid H_b^i(M, T) \text{ is not finitely generated}\} = \dim T - f_b(M, T) \end{aligned}$$

and  $q(I, L) = \dim T - \inf\{i \mid H_b^i(L, T) \text{ is not finitely generated}\} = \dim T - f_b(L, T)$ . The claim follows by [2, Theorem 2.1]. ■

Next, we will give a proposition, before this, we give a lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow 0$  be an exact sequence of finitely generated  $R$ -modules. Then  $q(I, M_1 \oplus M_2) = \sup\{q(I, M_1), q(I, M_2)\}$ .*

*Proof.* As formal local cohomology functor is additive, the result is clear. ■

**Proposition 2.7.**  $q(I, M) = \sup\{q(I, R/p) \mid p \in \text{Supp} M\}$ .

*Proof.* Set  $K := \bigoplus_{p \in \text{Ass} M} R/p$ . Then  $K$  is finitely generated and  $\text{Supp} K = \text{Supp} M$ . So we have that

$$q(I, M) = q(I, K) = \sup\{q(I, R/p) \mid p \in \text{Ass} M\} = \sup\{q(I, R/p) \mid p \in \text{Supp} M\},$$

where the first equality is by Proposition 2.6, the second equality follows by Lemma 2.2. ■

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a commutative Noetherian local ring,  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  be two ideals of  $R$  such that  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$ , and  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module of dimension  $n$ . Then there is a surjective homomorphism:  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^n(M) \rightarrow \mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^n(M)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{R} = R/\text{Ann}_R M$ . Note that  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I_1\bar{R}}^i(M)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^i(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{I_2\bar{R}}^i(M)$ . So we can assume that  $\text{Ann}_R M = 0$ , and then  $\dim R = n$ . We may assume that  $R$  is complete by [9, Theorem 3.3]. Then, by Cohen’s Structure Theorem, there exists a complete regular local ring  $(T, \mathfrak{n})$  such that  $R = T/J$  for some ideal  $J$  of  $T$ . Set  $J_1 = I_1 \cap J$  and  $J_2 = I_2 \cap J$ . Since  $\dim_R M = \dim_T M$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^n(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{J_1}^n(M)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^n(M) \cong \mathfrak{F}_{J_2}^n(M)$ . Thus we may assume that  $R = T$ . Then by [1, Lemma 2.1], it follows that

$$\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^n(M) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_{J_1}^0(M, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n}))$$

and

$$\mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^n(M) \cong \text{Hom}_T(H_{J_2}^0(M, T), E_T(T/\mathfrak{n})).$$

Since  $H_{J_2}^0(M, T)$  is a submodule of  $H_{J_1}^0(M, T)$ , the result is follows. ■

**Remark 2.2.** In the above theorem, if  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^n(M) = \mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^n(M) = 0$ , then the result always holds. Now, we construct an example such that  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^n(M) \neq 0$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^n(M) \neq 0$ . Let  $k$  be a field. Let  $R = k[[x, y]]$  denote the formal power series ring in two variables over  $k$ . Put  $I_1 = (x^2)R$ ,  $I_2 = (x)R$  and  $M = R/I_2$ . Then  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$  and  $\dim M = 1$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_1}^1(M) \neq 0$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_{I_2}^1(M) \neq 0$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a commutative Noetherian local ring of dimension  $n$  and  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $\text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^n(M) \subseteq \{p \in \text{Spec } R \mid p \supseteq \text{Ann } M, \dim R/p = n\}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^n(M) = \text{Coass}(\mathfrak{F}_I^n(R) \otimes M) = \text{Supp } M \cap \text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^n(R)$ , let  $p \in \text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^n(M)$ , we have that  $p \supseteq \text{Ann } M$  and  $p \in \text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^n(R/p)$ , then  $\dim R/p = n$ . ■

**Remark 2.3.**

- (1) In Proposition 2.8, if  $\mathfrak{F}_I^n(M) = 0$ , then the result is clear. Here, we give an example such that  $\mathfrak{F}_I^n(M) \neq 0$ . To this end, let  $R$  be a local domain of dimension 3,  $I = (0)$  and  $M = R$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}_{(0)}^3(R) \neq 0$ .
- (2) The inclusion in the above Proposition is not an equality in general. Let  $R$  be a local domain of dimension 3 and  $I$  an ideal of  $R$  of dimension 1. Then  $\text{Coass } \mathfrak{F}_I^3(R) = \emptyset$ , but  $(0) \in \{p \in \text{Spec } R \mid p \supseteq \text{Ann } R, \dim \text{Ann } R, \dim R/p = 3\}$ .

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