

# Some results on local cohomology modules defined by a pair of ideals

By

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## Abstract

Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring, and let  $I$  and  $J$  be two ideals of  $R$ . Assume that  $R$  is local with the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , we mainly prove that (i) there exists an equality

$$\inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \text{ is not Artinian}\} = \inf\{\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}\}$$

for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ , where  $W(I, J) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid I^n \subseteq \mathfrak{p} + J \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$ ; (ii) for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $\dim M = d$ ,  $H_{I,J}^d(M)$  is Artinian. Also, we give a characterization to the supremum of all integers  $r$  for which  $H_{I,J}^r(M) \neq 0$ .

## 1. Introduction

Local cohomology theory has been an significant tool in commutative algebra and algebraic geometry. Throughout this note, let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring, and let  $I$  and  $J$  be two ideals of  $R$ . For notations and terminologies not given in this paper, the reader is referred to [1] if necessary.

As a generalization of the usual local cohomology modules, Takahashi, Yoshino and Yoshizawa [6] introduced the local cohomology modules with respect to a pair of ideals  $(I, J)$ . To be more precise, let  $W(I, J) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid I^n \subseteq \mathfrak{p} + J \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$ . For an  $R$ -module  $M$ , the  $(I, J)$ -torsion submodule  $\Gamma_{I,J}(M)$  of  $M$ , which consists of all elements  $x$  of  $M$  with  $\text{Supp}(Rx) \subseteq W(I, J)$ , is considered. Let  $i$  be an integer, the local cohomology functor  $H_{I,J}^i$  with respect to  $(I, J)$  is defined to be the  $i$ -th right derived functor of  $\Gamma_{I,J}$ . The  $i$ -th local cohomology module of  $M$  with respect to  $(I, J)$  is denoted by  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$ . When  $J = 0$ , then  $H_{I,J}^i$  coincides with the usual local cohomology functor  $H_J^i$  with the support in the closed subset  $V(I)$ .

It is interesting to discuss the vanishing and non-vanishing of the local cohomology modules. The authors of [6] investigated the local cohomology

modules  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$  extensively. In particular, they proved that, for a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ , there is an equality

$$\inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \neq 0\} = \inf\{\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J)\},$$

which generalizes the result for the usual local cohomology modules case. Huncke [3] proposed the following question: for an integer  $i$ , when is  $H_I^i(M)$  Artinian? It is well-known that (i) when  $\dim R/I = 0$ ,  $H_I^i(M)$  is Artinian for all  $i$ , and (ii) let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ ,  $H_I^d(M)$  is Artinian for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $\dim M = d$ . How to determine the least integer  $r$  such that  $H_I^r(M)$  is not Artinian is studied by Melkersson [5], Lü and Tang [4]. In [2], Chu and Tang generalized the main result of [4] to the generalized local cohomology modules case.

This note is concerned with the Artinianness, vanishing and non-vanishing of  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$ . Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Assume that  $R$  is local with the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ . We mainly prove that (i) if  $\dim M = d$ , then  $H_{I,J}^d(M)$  is Artinian; (ii) suppose that  $\sqrt{I+J} = \mathfrak{m}$ , and if, for some integer  $t$ ,  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$  is Artinian for all  $i > t$ , then  $H_{I,J}^t(M)/JH_{I,J}^t(M)$  is Artinian; (iii) there exists an equality

$$\inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \text{ is not Artinian}\} = \inf\{\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}\}.$$

On the other hand, let  $\text{cd}(I, J, M)$  be the supremum of all integers  $r$  for which  $H_{I,J}^r(M) \neq 0$ . We call this integer *cohomological dimension of  $R$ -module  $M$  with respect to a pair of ideals  $(I, J)$* . We give a characterization to  $\text{cd}(I, J, M)$  and prove that

$$\text{cd}(I, J, M) = \inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0 \text{ for all } \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M\} - 1.$$

## 2. Artinianness of $H_{I,J}^i(M)$

**Theorem 2.1.** *Assume  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is local. Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module with  $\dim M = d$ . Then  $H_{I,J}^d(M)$  is Artinian.*

*Proof.* Since  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, there is a finite filtration

$$0 = M_0 \subsetneq M_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq M_t = M$$

of submodules of  $M$  such that  $M_j/M_{j-1} \cong R/\mathfrak{p}_j$  for  $\mathfrak{p}_j \in \text{Supp}_R M, j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ . For each  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, t\}$ , from the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M_{j-1} \longrightarrow M_j \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p}_j \longrightarrow 0,$$

we have the corresponding long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^d(M_{j-1}) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^d(M_j) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^d(R/\mathfrak{p}_j) \longrightarrow \cdots.$$

From the above long exact sequence, it suffice to prove that  $H_{I,J}^d(R/\mathfrak{p}_j)$  is Artinian for each  $j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ . Let  $\mathfrak{p}_j = \mathfrak{p}$ . If  $J \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $R/\mathfrak{p}$  is  $J$ -torsion

and then  $H_{I,J}^d(R/\mathfrak{p}) \cong H_I^d(R/\mathfrak{p})$ . Since  $\dim R/\mathfrak{p} \leq d$ ,  $H_I^d(R/\mathfrak{p})$  is Artinian. Thus,  $H_{I,J}^d(R/\mathfrak{p})$  is Artinian. If  $J \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\dim (R/\mathfrak{p})/J(R/\mathfrak{p}) = \dim R/(J + \mathfrak{p}) < \dim R/\mathfrak{p} \leq d$ , and so  $H_{I,J}^d(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0$  by [6, Theorem 4.3]. The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Remark.** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module over a local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ . Suppose that  $I + J$  is an  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary. Let  $t = \dim M/JM$ . Then  $t = \sup\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \neq 0\}$  (see [6, Theorem 4.5]). In general,  $H_{I,J}^t(M)$  is not always Artinian. For example, let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Gorenstein local ring of dimension  $d$  and assume that  $J$  is a perfect ideal of grade  $s > 1$ , then  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^{d-s}(R)$  is not Artinian (see [6, Proposition 5.6]).

**Theorem 2.2.** Assume  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is local. Let  $I$  and  $J$  be two ideals such that  $\sqrt{I + J} = \mathfrak{m}$ . Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. If, for some integer  $t$ ,  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$  is Artinian for all  $i > t$ . Then  $H_{I,J}^t(M)/JH_{I,J}^t(M)$  is Artinian.

*Proof.* Since  $\sqrt{I + J} = \mathfrak{m}$ , we have  $H_{I,J}^i(M) = H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(M)$  for any  $i$ . Thus, we may assume that  $I = \mathfrak{m}$ .

We prove it by induction on  $n =: \dim M$ .

When  $n = 0$ ,  $M$  is  $(I, J)$ -torsion. Then, by [6, Corollary 4.2],  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(M) = 0$  for any  $i > 0$ , and  $H_{I,J}^0(M)$  is Artinian by Theorem 2.1. Therefore, the result is clearly true.

Next, we assume that  $n > 0$  and that the claim is true for all values less than  $n$ . From the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_J(M) \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M/\Gamma_J(M) \longrightarrow 0,$$

we have the long exact sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/\Gamma_J(M)) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^{t+1}(\Gamma_J(M)) \longrightarrow \dots$$

Since  $\Gamma_J(M)$  is  $J$ -torsion, we have  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(\Gamma_J(M)) \cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(\Gamma_J(M))$  for any  $i$ . Then  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(\Gamma_J(M))$  is Artinian for any  $i$ . Therefore, from the above long exact sequence, we may assume that  $\Gamma_J(M) = 0$ . Take an  $M$ -regular element  $x \in J$  and so that  $\dim M/xM = n - 1$ . Then we have that the exact sequence  $0 \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{x} M \longrightarrow M/xM \longrightarrow 0$ , which implies the following long exact sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \xrightarrow{x} H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM) \xrightarrow{\beta} H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^{t+1}(M) \longrightarrow \dots$$

Since  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(M)$  is Artinian for any  $i > t$ , the above long exact sequence implies that  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^i(M/xM)$  is Artinian for any  $i > t$ . Then  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM)/JH_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM)$  is Artinian by induction hypothesis. We can get the following short exact sequences from the above long sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Im } \alpha \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM) \longrightarrow \text{Im } \beta \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \xrightarrow{x} H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \longrightarrow \text{Im } \alpha \longrightarrow 0.$$

Therefore, the following two sequences

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tor}_1^R(R/J, \text{Im } \beta) &\longrightarrow \text{Im } \alpha/J \text{Im } \alpha \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM)/JH_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M/xM) \\ &\longrightarrow \text{Im } \beta/J \text{Im } \beta \longrightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M)/JH_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \xrightarrow{x} H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M)/JH_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \longrightarrow \text{Im } \alpha/J \text{Im } \alpha \longrightarrow 0$$

are both exact. We denote the above two exact sequences by  $(*)$  and  $(**)$ , respectively. Note that  $x \in J$ , it follows that  $H_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M)/JH_{\mathfrak{m},J}^t(M) \cong \text{Im } \alpha/J \text{Im } \alpha$  from the exact sequence  $(**)$ . Since  $\text{Im } \beta$  is Artinian,  $\text{Tor}_1^R(R/J, \text{Im } \beta)$  and  $\text{Im } \beta/J \text{Im } \beta$  is Artinian. Then the result follows from the exact sequence  $(*)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.3.** *Assume  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is local. Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module such that  $t = \dim M/JM$ . Then  $H_{I,J}^t(M)/JH_{I,J}^t(M)$  is Artinian.*

*Proof.* We claim that, for a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  such that  $\dim M/JM \leq t$ ,  $H_{I,J}^t(M)/JH_{I,J}^t(M)$  is Artinian. Using the similar method in the proof of Theorem 2.2, we prove this claim by induction on  $n =: \dim M$ . Then the result follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** *Assume  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is local. Then there is an equality*

$$\inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \text{ is not Artinian}\} = \inf\{\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}\}$$

for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ .

*Proof.* We set  $r = \inf\{\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}\}$  and let  $E^\bullet(M)$  be a minimal injective resolution of  $M$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ . Then  $r \leq \text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} = \inf\{i \mid \text{Ext}_R^i(R_{\mathfrak{p}}/\mathfrak{p}R_{\mathfrak{p}}, M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \neq 0\} = \inf\{i \mid \mu_i(\mathfrak{p}, M) \neq 0\}$ , where  $\mu_i(\mathfrak{p}, M) = \dim \text{Ext}_R^i(R_{\mathfrak{p}}/\mathfrak{p}R_{\mathfrak{p}}, M_{\mathfrak{p}})$ , which is the  $i$ -th Bass number of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Note that  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E(R/\mathfrak{p})) = 0$  if  $\mathfrak{p} \notin W(I, J)$  and that  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E(R/\mathfrak{p})) = E(R/\mathfrak{p})$  if  $\mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J)$  ([6, Proposition 1.11]), therefore, we have that, for any  $i < r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{I,J}(E^i(M)) &= \bigoplus_{\mathfrak{p} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}} E(R/\mathfrak{p})^{\mu_i(\mathfrak{p}, M)} \bigoplus E(R/\mathfrak{m})^{\mu_i(\mathfrak{m}, M)} \\ &= E(R/\mathfrak{m})^{\mu_i(\mathfrak{m}, M)} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $E(R/\mathfrak{m})$  is Artinian and  $\mu_i(\mathfrak{m}, M)$  is finite,  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^i(M))$  is Artinian for any  $i < r$ , and so  $H_{I,J}^i(M)$  is Artinian as a subquotient module of  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^i(M))$  for any  $i < r$ . On the other hand, we can see that there exists  $\mathfrak{q} \in W(I, J) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$

such that  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ass}_R(\Gamma_{I,J}(E^r(M)))$ , which shows that  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^r(M))$  is not Artinian. There is a commutative graph:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{I,J}(d^{r-1})} & \Gamma_{I,J}(E^r(M)) & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{I,J}(d^r)} & \Gamma_{I,J}(E^{r+1}(M)) & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_{I,J}(d^{r+1})} & \dots \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 \dots & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & E^r(M) & \xrightarrow{d^r} & E^{r+1}(M) & \xrightarrow{d^{r+1}} & \dots
 \end{array}$$

Since  $\text{Ker } d^r \subseteq E^r(M)$  is an essential extension, then  $\text{Ker } \Gamma_{I,J}(d^r) = \text{Ker } d^r \cap \Gamma_{I,J}(E^r(M)) \subseteq \Gamma_{I,J}(E^r(M))$  is an essential extension. Note that if  $K \subseteq L$  is an essential extension, then  $K$  is Artinian if and only if  $L$  is Artinian. So  $\text{Ker } \Gamma_{I,J}(d^r)$  is not Artinian. On the other hand, since  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^{r-1}(M))$  is Artinian, we have that  $\text{Im } \Gamma_{I,J}(d^{r-1})$  is Artinian. Therefore, the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Im } \Gamma_{I,J}(d^{r-1}) \longrightarrow \text{Ker } \Gamma_{I,J}(d^r) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^r(M) \longrightarrow 0$$

implies that  $H_{I,J}^r(M)$  is not Artinian. This completes the proof. □

**Proposition 2.5.** *Assume  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is local. Then there is an equality*

$$\inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \text{ is not Artinian}\} = \inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \not\cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M)\}$$

for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ .

*Proof.* We set  $r = \inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \text{ is not Artinian}\}$ . From the proof of the above theorem, we have that  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^i(M))$  is Artinian for  $i < r$ . Then it is clear that  $\Gamma_{I,J}(E^i(M)) = \Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(E^i(M))$  for  $i < r$ . So  $H_{I,J}^i(M) \cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M)$  for  $i < r$ . On the other hand, since  $H_{I,J}^r(M)$  is not Artinian and  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^r(M)$  is Artinian, we have  $H_{I,J}^r(M) \not\cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^r(M)$ . □

### 3. Vanishing and Non-vanishing of $H_{I,J}^i(M)$

Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module over a local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ . Suppose that  $I + J$  is an  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary. Then  $\dim M/JM = \sup\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(M) \neq 0\}$  ([6, Theorem 4.5]). This result characterizes  $\text{cd}(I, J, M)$ , cohomological dimension of  $R$ -module  $M$  with respect to a pair of ideals  $(I, J)$ , by using the data of  $M/JM$  under some conditions. In this section, we will give a new characterization to the integer  $\text{cd}(I, J, M)$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $r \geq 0$  be a given integer such that  $H_{I,J}^r(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M$ . Then*

- (i)  $H_{I,J}^r(N) = 0$  for any finitely generated  $R$ -module  $N$  with  $\text{Supp}_R N \subseteq \text{Supp}_R M$ . In particular,  $H_{I,J}^r(M) = 0$ .
- (ii)  $\text{cd}(I, J, R/\mathfrak{p}) < r$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M$ . In particular,  $\text{cd}(I, J, M) < r$ .

*Proof.* (i) It suffices to show that  $H_{I,J}^r(M) = 0$ . Clearly, there exists a filtration of the submodules of  $M$

$$0 = M_0 \subsetneq M_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq M_s = M$$

such that for each  $1 \leq j \leq s$ ,  $M_j/M_{j-1} \cong R/\mathfrak{p}_j$ , where  $\mathfrak{p}_j \in \text{Supp}_R M$ . From the exact sequence

$$H_{I,J}^r(M_{j-1}) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^r(M_j) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^r(R/\mathfrak{p}_j),$$

which is induced by the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M_{j-1} \longrightarrow M_j \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p}_j \longrightarrow 0,$$

we eventually see that  $H_{I,J}^r(M) = 0$ .

(ii) We will show that  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0$  for any  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M$ . Suppose that  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0) \neq 0$  for some  $\mathfrak{p}_0 \in \text{Supp}_R M$ , so that  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}_0$  and  $\text{Ass}_R(H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0)) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ass}_R(H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0))$ . Clearly,  $\mathfrak{p}_0 \subseteq \mathfrak{q}$ .

We claim that  $\mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{q}$ . Otherwise, we can take  $x \in \mathfrak{q} \cap I \setminus \mathfrak{p}_0$ . The exact sequence  $0 \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p}_0 \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p}_0 \longrightarrow R/(\mathfrak{p}_0 + xR) \longrightarrow 0$  implies that the exact sequence

$$H_{I,J}^r(R/(\mathfrak{p}_0 + xR)) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0) \xrightarrow{x} H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0).$$

By (i),  $H_{I,J}^r(R/(\mathfrak{p}_0 + xR)) = 0$ , and so  $x$  is  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0)$ -regular. However, the fact that  $x \in \mathfrak{q}$  and  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ass}_R(H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0))$  implies that  $x$  is a zero-divisor on  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0)$ . This is a contradiction. Hence, we have  $\mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{q}$ .

Since  $\text{Ass}_R(H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0)) \subseteq W(I, J)$ , we have that  $\mathfrak{p}_0 \in W(I, J)$ . Then  $R/\mathfrak{p}_0$  is  $(I, J)$ -torsion. Thus, by [6, Corollary 4.2],  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}_0) = 0$ , which is a contradiction. This shows that  $H_{I,J}^{r+1}(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0$  for any  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M$ . By using (1), we see that  $H_I^{r+1}(N) = 0$  for all finitely generated  $R$ -modules  $N$  with  $\text{Supp}_R N \subseteq \text{Supp}_R M$ . We can now apply induction to complete the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of a commutative Noetherian ring  $R$  and  $M, N$  be finitely generated  $R$ -modules such that  $\text{Supp}_R N \subseteq \text{Supp}_R M$ . Then  $\text{cd}(I, J, N) \leq \text{cd}(I, J, M)$ .*

*Proof.* By virtue of [6, Theorem 4.7],  $H_{I,J}^i(M) = 0$  for  $i > \dim M/JM + 1$ , so it is enough to prove that  $H_{I,J}^i(N) = 0$  for any  $i$  with  $\text{cd}(I, J, M) < i \leq \dim M/JM + 2$  and any finitely generated  $R$ -module with  $\text{Supp}_R(N) \subseteq \text{Supp}_R(M)$ . We prove it by using the descending induction on  $i$ ,  $\text{cd}(I, J, M) < i \leq \dim M/JM + 2$ .

If  $i = \dim M/JM + 2$ , note that  $\dim M/JM \geq \dim N/JN$ , the assertion is clear by [6, Theorem 4.7]. So we can assume that  $i \leq \dim M/JM + 1$ . Then, since  $\text{Supp}_R N \subseteq \text{Supp}_R M$ , by Gruson's Theorem [7, Theorem 4.1], we see that there is a chain

$$0 = N_0 \subseteq N_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq N_t = N$$

such that the factors  $N_j/N_{j-1}$  are homomorphic images of a direct sum of finitely many copies of  $M$ . By using the short exact sequences  $0 \longrightarrow N_{j-1} \longrightarrow$

$N_j \longrightarrow N_j/N_{j-1} \longrightarrow 0$ , the situation can be reduced to the case  $t = 1$ . Therefore, for some positive integer  $m$  and some finitely generated  $R$ -module  $L$ , there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow M^m \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

which yields the corresponding exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^i(L) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^i(M^m) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^i(N) \longrightarrow H_{I,J}^{i+1}(L) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Hence, by induction hypothesis, we see that  $H_{I,J}^{i+1}(L) = 0$ . Since  $H_{I,J}^i(M^m) = 0$ ,  $H_{I,J}^i(N) = 0$ .  $\square$

By virtue of Theorem 3.1 and Proposition 3.2, we give a characterization to  $\text{cd}(I, J, M)$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** *For a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ , there exists an equality*

$$\text{cd}(I, J, M) = \inf\{i \mid H_{I,J}^i(R/\mathfrak{p}) = 0 \text{ for all } \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R M\} - 1.$$

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