



Research Paper

**A NEW LOWER BOUND FOR COHOMOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

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ABSTRACT. Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Noetherian local ring,  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and  $\mathfrak{a}$  an ideal of  $R$ . We define the  $\mathfrak{a}$ -minimum dimension  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  of  $M$  by

$$d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \text{Min}\{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} : \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)\}.$$

In this paper, we show that  $cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) \geq \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  and we give some sufficient conditions and characterization for the equality to hold true.

1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper, let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a commutative Noetherian local ring (with identity) and let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. For an  $R$ -module  $M$ , the  $i$ -th local cohomology module of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{a}$  is defined as

$$H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) = \varinjlim_{n \geq 1} \text{Ext}_R^i\left(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{a}^n}, M\right).$$

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For the basic properties of local cohomology the reader can refer to [1] of Brodmann and Sharp.

Recall that the cohomological dimension of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{a}$  is defined as

$$\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) := \max\{i \in \mathbb{Z} : H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) \neq 0\}.$$

The cohomological dimension has been studied by several authors; see, for example, Faltings [5], Hartshorne [6], Huneke-Lyubeznik [7] and Varbaro [10]. In particular in [5] and [7], several upper bounds for cohomological dimension were obtained. It follows from [1, Theorem 6.2.7] that  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  is greater than or equal to the  $\text{grade}(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . A natural question to ask is under what conditions one can obtain a better lower bound for  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . The main aim of this article is to establish a new lower bound for cohomological dimension of finitely generated modules over a local ring.

Throughout this article, we denote  $\{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R : \mathfrak{p} \supseteq \mathfrak{a}\}$  by  $V(\mathfrak{a})$ ,  $\text{Min } V(\mathfrak{a})$  by  $\text{Min}(\mathfrak{a})$ , and  $\{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_R(M) : \dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}} = \dim M\}$  by  $\text{Assh}_R(M)$ . The radical of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , denoted by  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ , is defined to be the set  $\{x \in R : x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Recall that an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $\mathfrak{a}$ -cofinite if  $\text{Supp}(M) \subseteq V(\mathfrak{a})$  and  $\text{Ext}_R^i(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{a}}, M)$  is finitely generated for all  $i \geq 0$ . For any unexplained notation and terminology, we refer the reader to [1] and [8].

## 2. Main results

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$ . We define the  $\mathfrak{a}$ -minimum dimension  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  of  $M$  by

$$d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \text{Min}\{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} : \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)\}.$$

To prove the main results of this paper, we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.2.** (see [4, Lemma 2.5]) *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then*

$$\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx, M) \leq \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) + 1$$

for any element  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$  with  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) > 0$ . Then there exists an element  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  such that  $\dim \frac{M}{xM} = \dim M - 1$  and  $d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM}) \leq d(\mathfrak{a}, M) - 1$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) > 0$ , we have  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} \neq \mathfrak{m}$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$ , and so there exists

$$x \in \mathfrak{m} - \bigcup_{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}), \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)} \mathfrak{q}.$$

By the definition, there exists  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$  such that  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p}+\mathfrak{a})M}$ . Now let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Assh}_R(\frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p}+Rx)M})$ , then by the choice of  $x$  we have

$$\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}} = \dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p} + Rx)M} = \dim M - 1 = \dim \frac{M}{xM}.$$

As  $\text{Assh}_R(\frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p}+Rx)M}) \subseteq \text{Supp} \frac{M}{xM}$ , we have  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Supp} \frac{M}{xM}$ , and so by the above equalities we have  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Assh}_R(\frac{M}{xM})$ . It follows that

$$d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM}) \leq \dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{q} + \mathfrak{a})M} \leq \dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a} + Rx)M} = \dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a})M} - 1 = d(\mathfrak{a}, M) - 1.$$

This element  $x$  has the requested properties.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) \geq \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ .*

*Proof.* We prove this by induction on  $n = d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . If  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = 0$  then we have  $\dim \frac{M}{(\mathfrak{p}+\mathfrak{a})M} = 0$  for some  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$  and so  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p}+\mathfrak{a}} = \mathfrak{m}$  for some  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$ . It follows from [1, Exercise 6.1.9] and Non-vanishing Theorem [1, 6.1.4] that

$$H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim M}(M) \otimes \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}} \cong H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim M}(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{p}M}) \cong H_{\mathfrak{a}+\mathfrak{p}}^{\dim M}(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{p}M}) \cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\dim \frac{M}{\mathfrak{p}M}}(\frac{M}{\mathfrak{p}M}) \neq 0,$$

and so  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim M}(M) \neq 0$ .

Now suppose, inductively, that  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) > 0$ , and the result has been proved for all finitely generated  $R$ -modules  $N$  with  $d(\mathfrak{a}, N) < d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . By Lemma 2.3, there exists an element  $x \in \mathfrak{m}$  such that  $\dim M = \dim \frac{M}{xM} + 1$  and  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) \geq d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM}) + 1$ . So by induction hypothesis we have  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M/xM) \geq \dim \frac{M}{xM} - d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM})$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M) &= \dim \frac{M}{xM} + 1 - d(\mathfrak{a}, M) \\ &\leq \dim \frac{M}{xM} - d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM}) \\ \text{[by induction hypothesis]} &\leq \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{M}{xM}) \\ \text{[4, Theorem 2.2]} &\leq \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

The following examples shows that the equality does not hold in general.

**Example 2.5.** Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module such that  $\bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)} \mathfrak{p} \not\subseteq \mathfrak{q}$  for some  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Ass}_R(M)$ . Then for  $x \in \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)} \mathfrak{p} - \mathfrak{q}$  we have

$$\text{cd}(Rx, M) = 1 > 0 = \dim(M) - d(Rx, M).$$

For example, let  $R = K[[X, Y, Z]]$ ,  $M = \frac{K[[X, Y, Z]]}{\langle X \rangle \cap \langle Y, Z \rangle}$ , and  $x = X$ , where  $K$  is a field and  $X, Y, Z$  are independent indeterminates.

**Example 2.6.** Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic 0. Let  $R' := K[X_1, X_2, X_3]$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}' := (X_1, X_2, X_3)$  and  $\mathfrak{b} = (X_2^2 - X_1^2 - X_1^3)$ . Set  $R := (\frac{R'}{\mathfrak{b}})_{\frac{\mathfrak{m}'}{\mathfrak{b}}}$  and let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be the extension of the ideal

$$(X_1 + X_2 - X_2X_3, (X_3 - 1)^2(X_1 + 1) - 1)$$

of  $R'$  to  $R$ . Then  $R$  is a 2-dimensional local domain, and  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  with  $\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}} = 1$  (see [1, Exercise 8.2.9]), and we have

$$\text{cd}(\mathfrak{p}, R) = 2 > 1 = \dim(R) - d(\mathfrak{p}, R).$$

Therefore, it is natural to ask, under what conditions does the equality hold?

Our second aim is to find such conditions. The following theorem gives us a characterization for the equality  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ ;
- (ii) *There exists a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l$ , where  $l = d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ , such that for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$*

$$x_i \in \mathfrak{m} - \bigcup_{\substack{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a} + Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_{i-1}) \\ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)}} \mathfrak{q}$$

and  $H^1_{Rx_i}(\mathbb{H}^{c+i-1}_{\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_{i-1}}(M)) \neq 0$ , where  $c = \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ .

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) We use induction on  $l = d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . When  $l = 0$ , there is nothing to prove. So suppose that  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = l > 0$  and that the result has been proved for each ideal  $\mathfrak{b}$  with  $d(\mathfrak{b}, M) < l$ . Choose  $x_1 \in \mathfrak{m} - \bigcup_{\substack{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}) \\ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)}} \mathfrak{q}$ ; then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a}, M) &= \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) - 1 \\ &\leq \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) - 1 \\ \text{[by lemma 2.2]} &\leq \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = \dim M - d(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M)$  and  $d(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = l - 1$ . Therefore, by the inductive hypothesis, there exists a sequence  $x_2, x_3, \dots, x_l \in \mathfrak{m}$  such that, for each  $i = 2, 3, \dots, l$ ,

$$x_i \in \mathfrak{m} - \bigcup_{\substack{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a} + Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_{i-1}) \\ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)}} \mathfrak{q}$$

and  $H_{Rx_i}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}+Rx_1+\dots+Rx_{i-1}}^{c+i-1}(M)) \neq 0$ .

On the other hand, we have  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) + 1$  and so  $H_{\mathfrak{a}+Rx_1}^{c+1}(M) \neq 0$ . By [1, Proposition 8.1.2 (i)], there is an exact sequence

$$H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M_{x_1}) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}+Rx_1}^{c+1}(M) \longrightarrow 0.$$

It follows that the natural homomorphism  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M_{x_1})$  is not surjective. So  $H_{Rx_1}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M)) \neq 0$  by [1, Remark 2.2.17]. This completes the proof of (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii).

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) For  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = 0$  the result is obvious. Now suppose, inductively, that  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = l > 0$  and the result has been proved for each ideal  $\mathfrak{b}$  with  $d(\mathfrak{b}, M) < l$ . Assume that there exists a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l \in \mathfrak{m}$  such that, for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$ ,

$$x_i \in \mathfrak{m} - \bigcup_{\substack{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a} + Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_{i-1}) \\ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)}} \mathfrak{q}$$

and  $H_{Rx_i}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}+Rx_1+\dots+Rx_{i-1}}^{c+i-1}(M)) \neq 0$ .

Note that  $d(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = d(\mathfrak{a}, M) - 1 = l - 1$ , and so, by the inductive hypothesis, we have  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M)$ . It follows that  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) - 1 = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . Since  $H_{Rx_1}^1(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M)) \neq 0$ , the natural homomorphism  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^c(M_{x_1})$  is not surjective by [1, Remark 2.2.17] and so  $H_{\mathfrak{a}+Rx_1}^{c+1}(M) \neq 0$  by [1, Proposition 8.1.2 (i)]. Hence  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a} + Rx_1, M) = \text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) + 1$  and the result follows.  $\square$

Recall that a sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l \in \mathfrak{a}$  is called an  $\mathfrak{a}$ -filter regular sequence of  $M$  if  $x_i \notin \mathfrak{p}$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_R(\frac{M}{\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1} \rangle M}) - V(\mathfrak{a})$  and all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$ . For an  $R$ -module  $M$ , we shall denote  $\frac{M}{\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)}$  by  $\overline{M}$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$  such that  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) \neq M$ . If  $M$  is an equidimensional  $R$ -module, then*

- (i)  $\overline{M}$  is an equidimensional  $R$ -module and we have  $\dim M = \dim \overline{M}$ , and  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = d(\mathfrak{a}, \overline{M})$ .
- (ii) If  $R$  is a catenary ring then  $\frac{\overline{M}}{x\overline{M}}$  is an equidimensional  $R$ -module for each  $\mathfrak{a}$ -filter regular element  $x$  of  $M$ .

*Proof.* (i) This is immediate from the fact that

$$\text{Min Ass}_R(\overline{M}) = \text{Min Ass}_R(M) - V(\mathfrak{a}) = \text{Assh}_R(M) - V(\mathfrak{a}) = \text{Assh}_R(\overline{M}).$$

(ii) Let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min Ass}_R(\frac{\overline{M}}{x\overline{M}})$ . So we have  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\text{Ann}_R(\overline{M}) + Rx)$ . It follows that there exists  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Min}(\text{Ann}_R(\overline{M})) = \text{Assh}_R(\overline{M})$  such that  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Min}(\mathfrak{p} + Rx)$ . As  $R$  is a catenary ring,

we have  $h(\mathfrak{q}) = h(\mathfrak{p}) + 1$  and so  $\dim(R/\mathfrak{q}) = \dim(R/\mathfrak{p}) - 1$ .

It follows that

$$\dim(R/\mathfrak{q}) = \dim(R/\mathfrak{p}) - 1 = \dim(\overline{M}) - 1 = \dim\left(\frac{\overline{M}}{x\overline{M}}\right).$$

Hence  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Assh}_R\left(\frac{\overline{M}}{x\overline{M}}\right)$  and so the claim follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $R$  be a catenary ring,  $M$  a finitely generated equidimensional  $R$ -module, and  $l = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ . If there exists an  $\mathfrak{a}$ -filter regular sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l$  of  $M$  such that  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M_{i-1}) = d(\mathfrak{a}, M_i)$ , where  $M_0 = M$  and  $M_i = \frac{\overline{M_{i-1}}}{x_i M_{i-1}}$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, l$ , then*

$$cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M).$$

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4, it is enough for us to show that  $cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) \leq l$ . We argue by induction on  $l$ . When  $l = 0$ , since  $M$  is equidimensional, by the definition of  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  we have  $M = \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M)$  and so  $cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ .

Now suppose, inductively, that  $l > 0$  and the result has been proved for smaller values of  $l$ . By the pervious lemma, in this case,  $\overline{M}$  is an equidimensional  $R$ -module, and we have  $\dim(M) = \dim(\overline{M})$ ,  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = d(\mathfrak{a}, \overline{M})$ , and  $cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) = cd(\mathfrak{a}, \overline{M})$ . So in view of the inductive hypothesis we can replace  $M$  by  $\overline{M}$ , and assume that  $M$  is  $\mathfrak{a}$ -torsion free. The exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{x_1} M \longrightarrow M_1 \longrightarrow 0$$

induces an exact sequence

$$H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i-1}(M_1) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) \xrightarrow{x_1} H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M).$$

Since  $d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = d(\mathfrak{a}, M_1)$  and  $\dim(M_1) = \dim(M) - 1$ , we obtain

$$\dim(M_1) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M_1) = l - 1.$$

By the pervious lemma,  $M_1$  is an equidimensional  $R$ -module, so by induction hypothesis  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M_1) = 0$  for all  $i > l - 1$ . Therefore, in view of the above exact sequence,  $(0 \begin{smallmatrix} : \\ H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) \end{smallmatrix} x_1) = 0$  for all  $i > l$ . But  $x_1 \in \mathfrak{a}$  and  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$  is an  $\mathfrak{a}$ -torsion  $R$ -module, and so  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i > l$ . This complete the inductive step, and the proof.  $\square$

The following is an example to illustrate Theorem 2.9.

**Example 2.10.** Let  $R = K[[X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5]]$  denote the formal power series ring in five variables over a field  $K$ . Put  $M = \frac{K[[X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5]]}{\langle X_2 \rangle \cap \langle X_3 \rangle}$  and  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle X_1, X_2, X_3 \rangle$ . In this case we have  $\dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M) = 2$ , and  $x_1, x_2 + x_3$  is an  $\mathfrak{a}$ -filter regular sequence of  $M$  which has the property mentioned in Theorem 2.9. It follows that  $cd(\mathfrak{a}, M) = 2$  and  $H_{\langle X_1, X_2, X_3 \rangle}^3\left(\frac{K[[X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5]]}{\langle X_2 \rangle \cap \langle X_3 \rangle}\right) = 0$ .

Before proving Theorem 2.12, we need the following lemma which is proved in [2].

**Lemma 2.11.** (see [2, Lemma 4.3]) *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module, and let  $\mathfrak{q} \in V(\text{Ann}_R(H_m^{\dim M}(M)))$  such that  $\dim M_{\mathfrak{q}} = \dim M - \dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}}$ . Then  $\text{Ann}_R(0 :_{H_m^{\dim M}(M)} \mathfrak{q}) = \mathfrak{q}$ .*

**Theorem 2.12.** *Let  $R$  be a catenary ring, and let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be an ideal of  $R$  such that  $\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{a}} = 1$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim(M) - d(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  for each finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$ ;
- (ii)  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) = \dim(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) - d(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})$  for each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $R$ ;
- (iii)  $\text{Ann}_R(0 :_{H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})} \mathfrak{q}) = \mathfrak{q}$  for each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $R$  and each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{q} \in V(\text{Ann}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})))$  with  $\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}} = 1$ .

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) is clear.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii) For  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ , let  $\mathfrak{q}$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  such that  $\mathfrak{q} \supseteq \text{Ann}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}))$  and  $\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}} = 1$ . Since  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) \neq 0$ , it follows from statement (ii) that  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} = \mathfrak{m}$  and so  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) \cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})$ . Therefore the proof is complete if we show that

$$\text{Ann}_R(0 :_{H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})} \mathfrak{q}) = \mathfrak{q}.$$

Since  $R$  is catenary, we have

$$\dim(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})_{\mathfrak{q}} = \dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}} - 1 = \dim(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) - \dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}}.$$

The result now follows from Lemma 2.11.

(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) It is enough, in order to prove this part, to show that, if  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, M) = \dim(M)$ , then there exists  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$  such that  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} = \mathfrak{m}$ . By [9, Corollary 2.2], there exists  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)$  such that  $\text{cd}(\mathfrak{a}, \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}) = \dim(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})$ . We show that for this  $\mathfrak{p}$ , we have  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} = \mathfrak{m}$ . Suppose, on the contrary, that  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}} \neq \mathfrak{m}$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $R$  such that  $\mathfrak{q} \supseteq \sqrt{\mathfrak{p} + \mathfrak{a}}$  and  $\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{q}} = 1$ . Since  $\mathfrak{q} \supseteq \mathfrak{p} = \text{Ann}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}))$ , by assumption (iii), we have  $\text{Ann}_R(0 :_{H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})} \mathfrak{q}) = \mathfrak{q}$ . It follows that  $(0 :_{H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})} \mathfrak{a})$  is not finitely generated. But by [3, Theorem 3], Artinian local cohomology module  $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\dim \frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}}}(\frac{R}{\mathfrak{p}})$  is  $\mathfrak{a}$ -cofinite, and this is a contradiction.  $\square$

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