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Betti Numbers of Syzygies and Cohomology of Coherent Sheaves

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Theorem (Hilbert's Syzygy Theorem, 1890)

M has a finite free resolution F

$$(0 \leftarrow M \leftarrow) F_0 \leftarrow F_1 \leftarrow F_2 \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow F_{n+1} \leftarrow 0$$

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of length $\leq n + 1$ (= the number of variables), where each $F_i = \bigoplus_j S(-j)^{\beta_{i,j}}$ is a direct sum of free modules generated in degree *j*.

Hilbert polynomial

The polynomial nature of the Hilbert function of M

$$h_M : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}, \ k \mapsto \dim_{\mathbb{K}} M_k.$$

was Hilbert's main application the Syzygy Theorem. Indeed, in terms of the Betti numbers $\beta_{i,j}$ of the *F*, we have

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$$h_{M}(k) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^{i} \dim_{\mathbb{K}}(F_{i})_{k} = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^{i} \sum_{j} \beta_{i,j} \binom{k-j+n}{n}$$

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= $p_{M}(k)$ for $k \gg 0$,

for the Hilbert polynomial $p_M(t) \in \mathbb{Q}[t]$.

4. Application

5. Cohomology of Sheaves

Syzygies und Hilbert series

$$h_M(k) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i \sum_j \beta_{i,j} \binom{n+k-j}{n}$$

implies also the rationality of the Hilbert series:

$$H_M(z) = \sum_k h_M(k) z^k = \frac{\sum_j (\sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i \beta_{i,j}) z^j}{(1-z)^{n+1}} \quad ,$$

because

$$H_{S}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{k+n}{n} z^{k} = \frac{1}{(1-z)^{n+1}}$$

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Geometric interpretation of the Hilbert polynomial

Let $A = S/\langle f_1, \dots, f_\ell \rangle$ be an algebra with the f_j homogeneous polynomials and let $X = V(f_1, \dots, f_\ell) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ be the vanishing loci. Then:

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$$r = \deg p_A(t) = \dim X = \dim A - 1$$

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• deg X = r! (lead coefficient of $p_A(t)$) = $mult(A) = Q_A(1)$, where $H_M(z) = \frac{Q_A(z)}{(1-z)^{r+1}}$ is the coprime rational expression for the Hilbert series. In particular, the numerator in the formula

$$H_M(z) = \frac{\sum_j (\sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i \beta_{ij}) z^j}{(1-z)^{n+1}} \quad ,$$

vanishes at z = 1 to the order c = codim X.

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 for all k .

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- $p_M(k) = \chi(\mathcal{F}(k)) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i h^i(\mathcal{F}(k))$ for all k.
- A family of sheaves *F*_τ is flat, iff the coefficients of the Hilbert polynomials are constant as functions of *τ*.

Graded Betti numbers

The coefficients of the Hilbert polynomial are the fundamental numerical invariants of a graded *S*-module.

The graded Betti numbers $\beta_{i,j}$ of a minimal resolution

$$0 \leftarrow M \leftarrow F_0 \leftarrow F_1 \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow F_{n+1} \leftarrow 0$$

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Minimal means that at each step we choose a minimal homogeneous generating system. Then

$$image(F_{i+1}) \subset \langle x_0, \ldots, x_n \rangle F_i$$

and

$$\beta_{i,j} = \dim(F_i \otimes \mathbb{K})_j = \dim_{\mathbb{K}} Tor_i^{\mathcal{S}}(M, \mathbb{K})_j.$$

Betti Tables

We abbreviate the numerical information of a minimal free resolution, say

$$egin{array}{rcl} S \leftarrow S(-2)^{10} \leftarrow & S^{16}(-3) & & S^3(-4) \ \oplus & \leftarrow & \oplus \ & S^3(-4) & & S^{16}(-5) & \leftarrow S^{10}(-6) \leftarrow S(-8) \leftarrow 0 \end{array}$$

in a table

$\beta_{i,i+k}$		<i>i</i> = 0	1	2	3	4	5
<i>k</i> = 0		1	_	_	—	—	_
1		_	10	16	3	_	_
2		_	_	3	16	10	_
3	- İ	_	_	_	_	_	1

The traditional approach to the study of Betti numbers is the question, which Betti numbers are possible for a module with given Hilbert function or Hilbert polynomial.

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Example: Canonical curves of genus 7 [S 1986]

The Betti table of a smooth canonically embedded curve $C \subset \mathbb{P}^6$ of genus g = 7 is one of the following:

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_	10	20	15	4	_	_	10	16	9	_	_
_	4	15	20	10	_	_	_	9	16	10	_
_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	1
4						4					
I	_	_		_	_	I	_	_		_	_
—	10	16	3	_	_	_	10	16	_	_	_
_	_	3	16	10	_	_	_	_	16	10	_
_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	1

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_	10	20	15	4	_	_	10	16	9	_	_				
_	4	15	20	10	_	_	_	9	16	10	_				
_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	1				
		trig	onal			$\exists \ g_6^2$									
1	_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_				
_	10	16	3	_	_	_	10	16	_	_	_				
_	_	3	16	10	_	_	_	_	16	10	_				
_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	_	_	1				
4-gonal							eral	case	e, cha	ar(K) ≠ 2				
_	10 _	16 3	3 16	_ 10	_	_	10 _	16 _	_ 16		_ 10				

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Boij-Söderberg Cone

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Boij and Söderberg conjectured a complete description of this cone.

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Pure resolution

A pure resolution is the resolution of a CM-module, which has shape

$$0 \leftarrow \textit{\textsf{M}} \leftarrow \textit{\textsf{S}}(-\textit{\textsf{d}}_0)^{\beta_0} \leftarrow \textit{\textsf{S}}(-\textit{\textsf{d}}_1)^{\beta_1} \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow \textit{\textsf{S}}(-\textit{\textsf{d}}_c)^{\beta_c} \leftarrow 0$$

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Proposition

The Betti numbers $\beta_i = \beta_{i,d_i}$ of a pure resolution are determined by the degree sequence

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up to a common factor r.

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Proof: The numerator of the Hilbert series $\sum_{i=0}^{c} (-1)^{i} \beta_{i} z^{d_{i}}$ vanishes to order *c* at z = 1. This gives *c* equations for c + 1 Betti numbers $\beta_{0}, \ldots, \beta_{c}$.

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Corollary

The Betti table of a pure resolution spans an extremal ray of the Boij-Söderberg cone.

5. Cohomology of Sheaves

Rays of the Boij-Söderberg Cone

Theorem (Eisenbud-S, Boij-Söderberg, 2008)

Existence. For every degree sequence there exists a CM-module with a pure resolution. Spanning and Decomposition. Each Betti table is a unique

positive rational linear combination of pure Betti tables in a unique chain of degree sequences.

Here "chain" refers to the natural partial order on degree sequences

$$(d_0, d_1, \ldots, d_c) \leq (e_0, e_1, \ldots, e_{c'}) : \Leftrightarrow c \geq c' \text{ and } d_i \leq e_i \, \forall i \leq c'.$$

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1st Application: Decomposition and Bounds

Let B_x denote the Betti table

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							_	_	_	_	_	1	
According to the Theorem, B_x is a linear combination of													
5	_	_	_	_	_		3	_	_	_	_		
<u> </u>	60	128	90	_	_	۸ *		20	_	_	_		
A = _	_	_	_	20	_	A =	_	_	90	128	3 6) —	
_	_	_	_	_	3		_	_	_	_	_	- 5	

and B_0 . Clearly, only A can contribute to x in the first row of B_x .

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$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{16} \le \frac{90}{128} \Leftrightarrow x \le 11.25.$$

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$$B_{11} = \frac{1}{45}B_0 + \frac{11}{90}A + \frac{11}{90}A^*.$$

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Boij-Söderberg monoid

We do not think that B_{11} can be realized by an algebra. Only an integral multiple actually occurs. One can see the same phenomenon already with pure sequences.



is the smallest integral point on the ray corresponding to the degree sequence (0, 1, 3, 4), but impossible.

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Dependence on the characteristic [Kunte 2008]

The monoid of actual Betti tables depends on the characteristic of the ground field.

occurs for all fields of $char(\mathbb{K}) \neq 2$, while in $char(\mathbb{K}) = 2$ an algebra which this Hilbert function has Betti number at least

Fan Structure

In a bounded range, say

$$\beta_{i,j} \neq 0$$
 only for *j* with $\underline{d}_i \leq j \leq \overline{d}_i$

with bounds $\underline{d} = (\underline{d}_0, \dots, \underline{d}_c) \le \overline{d} = (\overline{d}_0, \dots, \overline{d}_c)$, every maximal chain has the same number of elements $b = \sum_{i=0}^{c} (\overline{d}_i - \underline{d}_i)$.

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Theorem (Erman, 2009)

The Boij-Söderberg monoid of actual Betti tables in a bounded range is a finitely generated monoid.

The index of actual Betti tables along a ray may be abitrarily large.

2nd: Multiplicity Conjecture [Huneke-Srinivasan, 1998]

Theorem (Eisenbud-S, 08)

Let A = S/I be a CM-algebra. If the resolution

$$0 \leftarrow A \leftarrow S \leftarrow F_1 \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow F_c \leftarrow 0$$

has nonzero terms $\beta_{i,j} \neq 0$ only in the range $\underline{d}_i \leq j \leq \overline{d}_i$, then

$$\frac{1}{c!}\prod_{i=1}^{c}\underline{d}_{i} \leq mult(A) \leq \frac{1}{c!}\prod_{i=1}^{c}\overline{d}_{i}$$

with equality on either side iff A has a pure resolution.

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Proof [Boij-Söderberg]. Write the Betti table of *A* as a convex combination of pure Betti tables in a chain.

3rd App: Betti numbers over regular local rings

Let R be a regular local ring and M a finitely generated R-module of projective dimension c. The minimal finite free resolution of M has shape

$$0 \leftarrow M \leftarrow R^{\beta_0} \leftarrow R^{\beta_1} \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow R^{\beta_c} \leftarrow 0$$

Theorem (Erman, 09)

The cone of Betti tables of R-modules of projective dimension = c is the cone over interior of the simplex spanned by

 $(1, 1, 0, \dots, 0), (0, 1, 1, \dots 0), \dots, (0, \dots, 0, 1, 1) \in \mathbb{Q}^{c+1}$

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Introduction

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Plot of possible Betti numbers over a regular local ring



naive expectation

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also possible

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Facet equation

The simplices of the Boij-Söderberg cone correspond to chains of degree sequence. A facet of a simplex is obtained by dropping a vertex. The following chain corresponds to a typical outer facet of the simplicial fan.

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 $(1,2,3,4) > (0,2,3,4) > (0,1,3,4) > (0,1,2,4) > (0,1,2,3) > \ldots > (0,1,2,3,6) > (0,1,2,3,5) > \ldots$

$$\delta = (\delta_{i,j}) = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 21 & -12 & 5 & 0 & -3 \\ 12 & -5 & 0 & 3 & -4 \\ 5 & 0 & -3 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 3 & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

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Our key discovery was that such $\delta_{i,j}$'s are the dimensions of cohomology groups of certain coherent sheaves.

Cohomology Tables

Let \mathcal{E} be a coherent sheaf on \mathbb{P}^n , for example a vector bundle. We have the dimensions of the cohomology groups

$$\gamma_{i,j} = h^i(\mathbb{P}^n, \mathcal{E}(j)).$$

We identify the cohomology table $\gamma(\mathcal{E}) = (\gamma_{i,j})$ with an element of

$$\prod_{j\in\mathbb{Z}}\mathbb{Q}^{n+1}.$$

5. Cohomology of Sheaves

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Supernatural Bundles

A vector bundle \mathcal{E} on \mathbb{P}^n has natural cohomology, if for each twist *k* at most one group $H^i(\mathcal{E}(k)) \neq 0$. It is supernatural, if in addition the Hilbert polynomial

$$\chi(\mathcal{E}(t)) = \frac{\operatorname{rank} \mathcal{E}}{n!} \prod_{k=1}^{n} (t - z_k)$$

has pairwise distinct integral roots $z = (z_1 > ... > z_n)$.

Boij-Söderberg Analog for Vector Bundles

Theorem (E-S, 08)

The cohomology table of an arbitrary vector bundle on \mathbb{P}^n is a unique positive rational linear combination of cohomology tables of supernatural bundles, whose degree sequences form a unique chain.

Here chain refers to the natural partial order

$$z = (z_1 < \ldots < z_n) \ge z' = (z'_1 < \ldots, < z'_n) :\Leftrightarrow z_i \ge z'_i$$

on zero sequences.

The crucial new concept is the following pairing between Betti tables of modules and cohomology tables of coherent sheaves. We define $\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle$ for a Betti table $\beta = (\beta_{i,k})$ and a cohomology table $\gamma = (\gamma_{j,k})$ by

$$\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle = \sum_{i \ge j} (-1)^{i-j} \sum_{k} \beta_{i,k} \gamma_{j,-k}$$

Note that if $\widetilde{F}_i = \oplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{O}(-k)^{\beta_{i,k}}$ then

$$\langle eta(F), \gamma(\mathcal{E}) \rangle = \sum_{i \geq j} (-1)^{i-j} h^j (\widetilde{F}_i \otimes \mathcal{E})$$

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Positivity 1

Theorem (E-S, 2008/09)

For F any free resolution of a finitely generated graded $\mathbb{K}[x_0, \ldots, x_n]$ -module M and \mathcal{E} any coherent sheaf on \mathbb{P}^n , we have

$$\langle \beta(F), \gamma(\mathcal{E}) \rangle \geq \mathsf{0}.$$

Moreover, if M has finite length and $H^{i+1}(\widetilde{F}_i \otimes \mathcal{E}) = 0$ for all $i \ge 0$, then

$$\langle \beta(F), \gamma(\mathcal{E}) \rangle = \mathsf{0}.$$

Sketch of Proof. We treat the case where \mathcal{E} is a vector bundle. In this case we have an exact complex

$$0 \leftarrow \mathcal{M}_0 \leftarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_0 \otimes \mathcal{E} \to \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_1 \otimes \mathcal{E} \leftarrow \ldots \leftarrow \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_r \otimes \mathcal{E} \leftarrow 0$$

with $\mathcal{M}_0 = \widetilde{M} \otimes \mathcal{E}$. Breaking it up in short exact sequences

$$0 \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_0 \ \leftarrow \ \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_0 \otimes \mathcal{E} \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_1 \ \leftarrow \ 0$$

$$0 \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_1 \ \leftarrow \ \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_1 \otimes \mathcal{E} \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_2 \ \leftarrow \ 0$$

$$0 \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_2 \ \leftarrow \ \widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_2 \otimes \mathcal{E} \ \leftarrow \ \mathcal{M}_3 \ \leftarrow \ 0$$

we get the desired functional by taking the alternating sum of the Euler characteristics of initial parts of the corresponding long exact sequences in cohomology:

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$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} H^{0}(\widetilde{F}_{0}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{0}(\mathcal{M}_{1}) &\leftarrow & 0 \\ \\ H^{0}(\mathcal{M}_{1}) &\leftarrow & H^{1}(\widetilde{F}_{1}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{1}(\mathcal{M}_{2}) &\leftarrow \\ & & H^{0}(\widetilde{F}_{1}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{0}(\mathcal{M}_{2}) &\leftarrow & 0 \\ \\ & & & H^{2}(\widetilde{F}_{2}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{2}(\mathcal{M}_{3}) &\leftarrow \\ & & H^{1}(\mathcal{M}_{2}) &\leftarrow & H^{1}(\widetilde{F}_{2}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{1}(\mathcal{M}_{3}) &\leftarrow \\ & & & H^{0}(\mathcal{M}_{2}) &\leftarrow & H^{0}(\widetilde{F}_{2}\otimes \mathcal{E}) &\leftarrow & H^{0}(\mathcal{M}_{3}) &\leftarrow & 0 \\ & & & & \vdots \end{array}$$

Hence,

$$\langle \beta(F), \gamma(\mathcal{E}) \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^{n} \operatorname{dim} \operatorname{coker} \left(H^{j}(\mathcal{M}_{j+1}) \to H^{j}(\widetilde{F}_{j} \otimes \mathcal{E}) \right) \geq 0.$$

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Facet equation 2

The facet equation in the example above is obtained from the vector bundle \mathcal{E} on $\mathbb{P}^2 \stackrel{\iota}{\hookrightarrow} \mathbb{P}^3$, that is the kernel of a general map $\mathcal{O}^5_{\mathbb{P}^2}(-1) \to \mathcal{O}^3_{\mathbb{P}^2}$.

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•	•	•	•	•
21	-12	5	0	-3
12	-5	0	3	-4
5	0	-3	4	-3
0	3	-4	3	0
0	4	-3	0	5
0	3	0	$^{-5}$	12
0	0	5	-12	21
0	0	12	-21	32
	•			

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0	4	-3	0	5
0	3	0	-5	12
0	0	5	-12	21
0	0	12	-21	32
•	•	•	•	•

This is not quite the functional we wanted, which had zeros in places of some of the nonzero values.

Positivity 2

We define "truncated" functionals $\langle -,\gamma
angle_{ au,\kappa}$ by

$$\langle \beta, \gamma \rangle_{\tau,\kappa} = \sum_{k \leq \kappa} \beta_{\tau,k} \gamma_{\tau,-k} + \sum_{j < \tau} \sum_{k} \beta_{j,k} \gamma_{j,-k}$$
$$- \sum_{k \leq \kappa+1} \beta_{\tau+1,k} \gamma_{\tau,-k} - \sum_{j < \tau} \sum_{k} \beta_{j+1,k} \gamma_{j,-k}$$
$$+ \sum_{i > j+1} (-1)^{i-j} \sum_{k} \beta_{i,k} \gamma_{j,-k}$$

Theorem

For *F* the <u>minimal</u> free resolution of a finitely generated graded $\mathbb{K}[x_0, \ldots, x_n]$ -module and \mathcal{E} any coherent sheaf on \mathbb{P}^n , we have

$$\langle eta(F), \gamma(\mathcal{E}) \rangle_{ au,\kappa} \geq 0.$$

Existence

With these functionals, the proof of both Main Theorems reduce to proof of the existence of supernatural vector bundles and CM-modules for arbitrary zero or degree sequences.

Theorem (Eisenbud-S, 08)

- There exists a CM-module with pure resolution for any given degree sequence (d₀,..., d_c).
- 2 There exists supernatural vector bundle for any given zero sequence $z = (z_1, ..., z_n)$.

In case $char(\mathbb{K}) = 0$, Eisenbud-Fløystad-Weyman [2007] gave different construction.

Supernatural sheaves

A coherent (possibly torsion) sheaf \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P}^n with *supernatural cohomology* has the Hilbert polynomial

$$\chi(\mathcal{F}(d)) = \frac{\deg \mathcal{F}}{s!} \prod_{i=1}^{s} (d-z_i)$$

with distinct integral roots. It will be convenient to put $z_{s+1} = z_{s+2} = \ldots = -\infty$, and to define a partial order on all root sequences by $z \ge z'$ by

$$z_1 \geq z'_1,\ldots,z_n \geq z'_n.$$

Let γ^z denote the cohomology table of a supernatural sheaf with root sequence *z* and degree = *s*!.

Boij-Söderberg analog for coherent sheaf

If *Z* is an infinite set of zero sequences, $(q_z)_{z \in Z}$ a sequence of numbers, and γ is a cohomology table, we write $\gamma = \sum_{z \in Z} q_z \gamma^z$, to mean that each entry $\sum_{z \in Z} q_z \gamma_{i,d}^z$ converges to $\gamma_{i,d}$.

Theorem (Eisenbud-S, 2009)

Let $\gamma(\mathcal{F})$ be the cohomology table of a coherent sheaf \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P}^n . There is a unique chain of zero-sequences Z and a unique expression

$$\gamma(\mathcal{F}) = \sum_{z \in Z} q_z \gamma^z,$$

where the q_z are positive numbers.

Example

The ideal sheaf \mathcal{I}_p of a point in \mathbb{P}^2 has the following cohomology table $(h^i \mathcal{I}_p (d - i))$

where we dropped zero entries for the better visibility of the shape. Then

$$\gamma(\mathcal{I}_{p}) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} q_{(0,-k)} \gamma^{(0,-k)}$$

with

$$q_{(0,-k)} = \frac{2}{(k-1)k(k+1)}.$$
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Idea of proof, 2nd step

Now look at

subtract a multiple of $\gamma^{(0,-3)}$:

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					4	10	18	28	 0

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Proposition (Key claim)

All entries of the table stay non-negative through out this process.

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All entries of the table stay non-negative through out this process.

Of course, our inequalities help to prove this.



We can look at the Boij-Söderberg cone of cohomology tables of coherent sheaves (vector bundles) on an arbitrary ample polarized (smooth) variety.

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Outlook

We can look at the Boij-Söderberg cone of cohomology tables of coherent sheaves (vector bundles) on an arbitrary ample polarized (smooth) variety.

Conjecture

If $(X, \mathcal{O}_X(1))$ is a very ample polarized variety of dimension d then its Boij-Söderberg cone of cohomology tables coincides with the one for $(\mathbb{P}^d, \mathcal{O}(1))$.

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Necessary and sufficient for this is that *X* has a sheaf whose cohomology table lies on the same ray as $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^d}$.

The conjecture holds for curves and hypersurfaces. It remains true under the formation of Segre-products and transversal intersections.

Outlook

In another direction one could ask for

- graded modules over polynomial rings with different grading, e.g. Zⁿ- graded,
- arbitrary graded rings, or
- cohomology tables of sheaves on varieties with respect to several polarization, for example vector bundles on P¹ × P¹.

Little is kown in this area and beautiful things wait to be discovered.