

Ulrich ideals and modules

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1. Introduction

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Maximally Generated Maximal Cohen-Macaulay

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Why the theory of MGMCM modules works so well?

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Definitions
- 3 Examples
- 4 Relation between Ulrich ideals and modules
- 5 Structure of minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals

2. Definitions

Let

- (A, \mathfrak{m}) a Cohen-Macaulay local ring, $d = \dim A \geq 0$
- I an \mathfrak{m} -primary ideal in A
- $I \supseteq Q$ as a reduction, where Q is a parameter ideal of A .

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Definition 2.1. I is an **Ulrich ideal** of A , if

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If $I = \mathfrak{m}$, then (3) is automatically satisfied and

(1)+(2)

\iff

$A \neq$ a RLR,
 $v(A) = e(A) + \dim A - 1$.

2. Definitions (Cont.)

If I is an **Ulrich** ideal, then

- I/Q is also a free A/I -module, since $I/I^2 \cong Q/I^2 \oplus I/Q$.



$$I/Q \cong (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)}$$

where $n = \mu_A(I)$ ($> d$).

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where $n = \mu_A(I)$ ($> d$).

Therefore, since $I/Q \subseteq A/Q$, we get

$$0 < n - d \leq (n - d) \cdot r(A/I) = r_A(I/Q) \leq r(A/Q) = r(A)$$

where $r_A(*)$ denotes the Cohen–Macaulay type.

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where $r_A(*)$ denotes the Cohen–Macaulay type.

Hence, if A is a **Gorenstein** local ring, A/I is a **Gorenstein** ring and $Q : I = I$, so that

Ulrich ideals are **good** ideals in the sense of [GIW].

2. Definitions (Cont.)

Let M be a finitely generated A -module.

Definition 2.2. M is an **Ulrich A -module with respect to I** , if

- (1) M is a **maximal** Cohen-Macaulay A -module,
- (2) $e_I^0(M) = \ell_A(M/IM)$, and
- (3) M/IM is A/I -free.

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Suppose that M is a **maximal** Cohen–Macaulay A -module.
Then

$$e_I^0(M) = e_Q^0(M) = \ell_A(M/QM) \geq \ell_A(M/IM) \geq \ell_A(M/\mathfrak{m}M) = \mu_A(M).$$

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Hence

- Condition (2) $\iff QM = IM$.

- If $I = \mathfrak{m}$, in general we have $e_{\mathfrak{m}}^0(M) \geq \mu_A(M)$

and

$$e_{\mathfrak{m}}^0(M) = \mu_A(M) \iff M \text{ is a } \mathbf{MGMC}M \text{ module.}$$

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Definition 2.1. I is an **Ulrich ideal** of A , if

- (1) $I \supsetneq Q$,
- (2) $I^2 = QI$, and
- (3) I/I^2 is A/I -free.

Definition 2.2. M is an **Ulrich A -module with respect to I** , if

- (1) M is a Cohen-Macaulay A -module of dimension d ,
- (2) $IM = QM$, and
- (3) M/IM is A/I -free.

3. Examples

Example

Let R be a Cohen-Macaulay local ring of dimension $d > 0$. Let $F = R^n$ for $n > 0$ and look at the **idealization** of F over R :

$$A = R \times F.$$

Let \mathfrak{q} be an **arbitrary** parameter ideal of R and put

$$I = \mathfrak{q} \times F, \quad Q = \mathfrak{q}A.$$

Then A is a d -dimensional Cohen-Macaulay local ring and I is an **Ulrich ideal** of A with Q a reduction.

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In the local ring

$$A = k[[X, Y, Z]]/(Z^2 - XY),$$

$\mathfrak{m} = (x, y, z)$ is a **unique** Ulrich ideal and $\mathfrak{p} = (z, x)$ is an Ulrich A -module with respect to \mathfrak{m} .

3. Examples (Cont.)

Theorem 3.2

Let I be an *Ulrich ideal* in A . Then for $\forall i \geq d$,

$$\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$$

is an *Ulrich A -module with respect to I* .

Here $\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$ denotes the i -th syzygy module of A/I in a minimal free resolution.

Proof of Theorem 3.2

- Assume that I is an **\mathfrak{m} -primary ideal** of A with Q a **minimal reduction**.
- Suppose $d > 0$, choose $a \in Q \setminus \mathfrak{m}Q$, and put

$$\bar{A} = A/(a), \quad \bar{I} = I/(a), \quad \bar{Q} = Q/(a).$$

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Fact 1

If I is an *Ulrich ideal* of A , then \bar{I} is an *Ulrich ideal* of \bar{A} .

Proof.

The exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow [I^2 + (a)]/I^2 \rightarrow I/I^2 \rightarrow \bar{I}/\bar{I}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is split, since I/I^2 is A/I -free. □

Fact 2. [Vasconcelos [V]]

Suppose that I/I^2 is A/I -free. Then for $\forall i \geq 1$,

$$\mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I)/\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I) \cong \mathrm{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^{i-1}(\bar{A}/\bar{I}) \oplus \mathrm{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^i(\bar{A}/\bar{I}).$$

Fact 2. [Vasconcelos [V]]

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$$I/\mathfrak{a}I$$

$$\bar{A}/\bar{I} \oplus \bar{I}$$

Proof of Fact 2

ETS: $I/aI \cong \bar{A}/\bar{I} \oplus \bar{I}$ as \bar{A} -modules.

ETS: $I/aI \cong \overline{A/I} \oplus \overline{I}$ as \overline{A} -modules.

Let $I = (a) + (a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$ with $n = \mu_A(I)$. Then

$$I/aI = A\overline{a} + \sum_{i=2}^n A\overline{a}_i.$$

Assume that $c\overline{a} + \sum_{i=2}^n c_i\overline{a}_i = 0$ in $\underline{I/aI}$ with $c, c_i \in A$. Then

$$c\overline{a} + \sum_{i=2}^n c_i\overline{a}_i = 0 \text{ in } \underline{I/I^2}.$$

Since $\{\overline{a}, \overline{a}_i \in I/I^2 \ (2 \leq i \leq n)\}$ forms a **free A/I -basis** of I/I^2 , we get $c \in I$. Thus

$$c\overline{a} = \sum_{i=2}^n c_i\overline{a}_i = 0 \text{ in } I/aI,$$

so that $A\overline{a} \cong \overline{A/I}$ and $I/aI \cong \overline{A/I} \oplus \overline{I}$.

Theorem 3.2

Let I be an *Ulrich ideal* in A . Then for $\forall i \geq d$,

$$\mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$$

is an *Ulrich A -module with respect to I* .

Proof of Theorem 3.2

$d = 0$:

- Look at the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow A \rightarrow A/I \rightarrow 0$. Then $I^2 = (0)$ and $I \cong (A/I)^{\oplus n}$ ($n = \mu_A(I) > 0$).
- Hence $\boxed{\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I) \cong (A/I)^{\oplus n^i}}$ for $\forall i \geq 0$.

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$d > 0$:

Assume that our assertion holds true for $d - 1$. Let $i \geq d$. Then

- $\boxed{\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)/\mathfrak{a} \cdot \text{Syz}_A^i(A/I) \cong \text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^{i-1}(\bar{A}/\bar{I}) \oplus \text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^i(\bar{A}/\bar{I})}$
and $\text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^{i-1}(\bar{A}/\bar{I}), \text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^i(\bar{A}/\bar{I})$ are Ulrich \bar{A} -modules w.r.t. \bar{I} .

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- Hence $\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)/\mathfrak{a} \cdot \text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$ is an Ulrich \bar{A} -module w.r.t. \bar{I} ,
so that $\boxed{\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$ is an Ulrich A -module w.r.t. I .

4. Relation between Ulrich ideals and modules

The converse of Theorem 3.2 is also true:

Theorem 4.1(cf. [BHU]). TFAE.

- (1) I is an *Ulrich ideal* of A .
- (2) $\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$ is an *Ulrich A -module w.r.t. I* for $\forall i \geq d$.
- (3) There exists an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow F \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

of finitely generated A -modules such that

- (a) F is free,
- (b) $X \subseteq \mathfrak{m}F$, and
- (c) X and Y are *Ulrich A -modules w.r.t. I* .

When $d > 0$, we can add the following.

- (4) $\mu_A(I) > d$, I/I^2 is A/I -free, and $\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$ is an *Ulrich A -module w.r.t. I* for *some* $i \geq d$.

4. Relation between Ulrich ideals and modules (Cont.)

The implication (3) \Rightarrow (1) in Theorem 4.1 is based on the following.

Lemma 4.2

Let

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow F \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

be an exact sequence of finitely generated A -modules and assume that

- (a) F is a free A -module,
- (b) $X \subseteq \mathfrak{m}F$, and
- (c) Y is an Ulrich A -module w.r.t. I .

Then X is an Ulrich A -module w.r.t. $I \Leftrightarrow I$ is an Ulrich ideal of A .

Proof of (4) \Rightarrow (1) in Theorem 4.1

Let $a \in Q \setminus \mathfrak{m}Q$ and put

$$\bar{A} = A/(a), \quad \bar{I} = I/(a), \quad \bar{Q} = Q/(a).$$

Proof of (4) \Rightarrow (1) in Theorem 4.1

Let $a \in Q \setminus \mathfrak{m}Q$ and put

$$\bar{A} = A/(a), \quad \bar{I} = I/(a), \quad \bar{Q} = Q/(a).$$

Then

- $\text{Syz}_A^i(A/I)/a \cdot \text{Syz}_A^i(A/I) \cong \text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^{i-1}(\bar{A}/\bar{I}) \oplus \text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^i(\bar{A}/\bar{I}).$

Proof of (4) \Rightarrow (1) in Theorem 4.1

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- Hence $\text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^{i-1}(\bar{A}/\bar{I})$ and $\text{Syz}_{\bar{A}}^i(\bar{A}/\bar{I})$ are Ulrich modules w.r.t \bar{I} , so that \bar{I} is an Ulrich ideal of \bar{A} by [(3) \Rightarrow (1)].
- Hence $I^2 \subseteq Q$, which yields $I^2 = QI$, because I/I^2 is A/I -free.

4. Relation between Ulrich ideals and modules (Cont.)

Remark 4.3 ([BHU])

Let $A = k[[X]]/(X^3)$. We look at the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}^2 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{x} A \rightarrow A/\mathfrak{m} \rightarrow 0,$$

where $\mathfrak{m} = (x)$. Then, since $\mathfrak{m}^3 = (0)$,

$$\mathfrak{m}^2 = \text{Syz}_A^2(A/\mathfrak{m})$$

is an Ulrich module w.r.t \mathfrak{m} , but \mathfrak{m} is not an Ulrich ideal of A , because $\mathfrak{m}^2 \neq (0)$.

This example shows that (4) \Rightarrow (1) in Theorem 4.1 is not true in general, when $d = 0$.

Question 4.4

How many Ulrich ideals are contained in a given Cohen–Macaulay local ring?

How many Ulrich ideals?

Example

Look at the numerical semigroup ring

$$A = k[[t^{a_1}, t^{a_2}, \dots, t^{a_\ell}]] \subseteq k[[t]] = \bar{A},$$

where $0 < a_1, a_2, \dots, a_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\text{GCD}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_\ell) = 1$.

Let $\mathcal{X}_A^g = \{ \text{Ulrich ideals } I \text{ in } A \text{ s.t. } I = (\text{monomials in } t) \}$.

Then \mathcal{X}_A^g is finite, and for example, we have the following.

- (1) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^3, t^4, t^5]]}^g = \{ \mathfrak{m} \}$.
- (2) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^4, t^5, t^6]]}^g = \{ (t^4, t^6) \}$.
- (3) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^a, t^{a+1}, \dots, t^{2a-2}]]}^g = \emptyset$, if $a \geq 5$.
- (4) Let $1 < a < b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\text{GCD}(a, b) = 1$. Then $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^a, t^b]]}^g \neq \emptyset$ if and only if a or b is even.
- (5) Let $A = k[[t^4, t^6, t^{4\ell-1}]]$ ($\ell \geq 2$). Then $\#\mathcal{X}_A^g = 2\ell - 2$.

Proof of the finiteness of χ_A^g .

Remember that

$$I/Q \cong (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{I}{a} = A\left[\frac{I}{a}\right]$$

where $Q = (a)$ and we have

$$A/I \subseteq I/Q \cong \frac{I}{a}/A = A\left[\frac{I}{a}\right]/A \subseteq \bar{A}/A.$$

Hence

$$A : \bar{A} \subseteq I$$

for every Ulrich ideal I of A . □

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals

Assume that I is an **Ulrich ideal** of A which contains a parameter ideal Q of A as a reduction. Let

$$\mathbb{F}_\bullet : \cdots \rightarrow F_i \xrightarrow{\partial_i} F_{i-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow F_1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} F_0 \rightarrow A/I \rightarrow 0$$

be a **minimal** free resolution of A/I and $\beta_i = \text{rank}_A F_i$ ($i \geq 0$) the i -th Betti number of A/I . We put $n = \mu_A(I)$.

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Theorem 5.1. *The following assertions hold true.*

(1) $A/I \otimes_A \partial_i = 0$ for $\forall i \geq 1$.

(2)

$$\beta_i = \begin{cases} (n-d)^{i-d} \cdot (n-d+1)^d & (i \geq d), \\ \binom{d}{i} + (n-d)\beta_{i-1} & (1 \leq i \leq d), \\ 1 & (i = 0) \end{cases}$$

for $i \geq 0$. Hence $\beta_i = \binom{d}{i} + (n-d)\beta_{i-1}$ for $\forall i \geq 1$.

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals (Cont.)

By the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Q \rightarrow I \rightarrow (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)} \rightarrow 0,$$

we get a free resolution of I which is the "direct sum" of minimal free resolutions of Q and A/I . This resolution is actually **minimal**.

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals (Cont.)

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Corollary 5.2

A *minimal* free resolution of I is obtained by the "direct sum" of those of Q and $(A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)}$.

Corollary 5.3

$\mathrm{Syz}_A^{i+1}(A/I) \cong [\mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I)]^{\oplus(n-d)}$ for all $i \geq d$. Hence

$$\mathrm{Syz}_A^{i+1}(A/I) \cong \mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I)$$

for all $i \geq d$, if A is a *Gorenstein* local ring.

Example 5.4

Suppose that A is a **Gorenstein** local ring of dimension 1 and I an **Ulrich** ideal of A . Then $\mu_A(I) = 2$. We write $I = (a, x)$ ($x \in A$) with $Q = (a)$ is a reduction of I . Then $x^2 = ay$ for some $y \in I$, since $I^2 = aI$, and a minimal free resolution of A/I is given by

$$\mathbb{F}_\bullet : \cdots \rightarrow A^2 \begin{pmatrix} -x & -y \\ a & x \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow A^2 \begin{pmatrix} -x & -y \\ a & x \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow A^2 \begin{pmatrix} a & x \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} A/I \rightarrow 0.$$

Example 5.5

Suppose that A is a **Gorenstein** local ring of dimension 2 and I an **Ulrich** ideal of A . Then $\mu_A(I) = 3$. Let $I = (a, b, x)$ ($x \in A$) with $Q = (a, b)$ a reduction of I . Hence $x^2 = ay + bz$ for some $y, z \in I$, and a minimal free resolution of I is given by

$$\cdots \rightarrow A^4 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} x & -z & y & 0 \\ b & -x & 0 & -y \\ -a & 0 & -x & -z \\ 0 & a & b & x \end{pmatrix}} A^4 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} b & -x & 0 & -y \\ -a & 0 & -x & -z \\ 0 & a & b & x \end{pmatrix}} A^3 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} a & b & x \end{pmatrix}} I \rightarrow 0.$$

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals (Cont.)

Let $I_1(\partial_i)$ ($i \geq 1$) be the ideal of A generated by the **entries** of the matrix ∂_i .

Theorem 5.6

$I_1(\partial_i) = I$ for $\forall i \geq 1$.

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals (Cont.)

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Theorem 5.6

$I_1(\partial_i) = I$ for $\forall i \geq 1$.

Proof.

- $I_1(\partial_i) + Q = I$ for $\forall i \geq 1$ by induction on d .
- $I_1(\partial_i) \supseteq Q$ for $1 \leq i \leq d$ by Corollary 5.2.
- $I_1(\partial_{i+1}) = I_1(\partial_i)$ for $\forall i \geq d + 1$, since

$$[F_{i+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{i+1}} F_i] = [F_i \xrightarrow{\partial_i} F_{i-1}]^{\oplus(n-d)}.$$

- $I_1(\partial_{d+1}) \supseteq I_1(\partial_d) = I$, since $\partial_{d+1} = \begin{pmatrix} * \\ \partial_d^{\oplus(n-d)} \end{pmatrix}$.

Hence $I_1(\partial_i) = I$ for $\forall i \geq 1$. □

5. Minimal free resolutions of Ulrich ideals (Cont.)

Corollary 5.7

Let I and J be *Ulrich* ideals of A . Then $I = J$ if and only if

$$\mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/I) \cong \mathrm{Syz}_A^i(A/J)$$

for **some** $i \geq 0$.

Is \mathcal{X}_A a finite set?

Let $\mathcal{X}_A = \{I \mid I \text{ is an **Ulrich** ideal of } A\}$.

Theorem 5.8

*Suppose that A is of **finite C-M representation type**. Then \mathcal{X}_A is a **finite set**.*

Proof of Theorem 5.8

- Let $\mathcal{Y}_A = \{[\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)] \mid I \in \mathcal{X}_A\}$, where $[\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)]$ denotes the **isomorphism class** of $\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)$.
- Let $I \in \mathcal{X}_A$ and $n = \mu_A(I)$.

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- Let $I \in \mathcal{X}_A$ and $n = \mu_A(I)$.

Then

$$n - d \leq (n - d) \cdot r(A/I) = r_A(I/Q) \leq r(A)$$

because $I/Q \cong (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)}$.

Proof of Theorem 5.8

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$$n - d \leq (n - d) \cdot r(A/I) = r_A(I/Q) \leq r(A)$$

because $I/Q \cong (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)}$. Hence

$$\mu_A(\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)) = \beta_d^A(A/I) = (n - d + 1)^d \leq (r(A) + 1)^d \ll \infty.$$

Proof of Theorem 5.8

- Let $\mathcal{Y}_A = \{[\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)] \mid I \in \mathcal{X}_A\}$, where $[\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)]$ denotes the **isomorphism class** of $\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)$.
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Then

$$n - d \leq (n - d) \cdot r(A/I) = r_A(I/Q) \leq r(A)$$

because $I/Q \cong (A/I)^{\oplus(n-d)}$. Hence

$$\mu_A(\text{Syz}_A^d(A/I)) = \beta_d^A(A/I) = (n - d + 1)^d \leq (r(A) + 1)^d \ll \infty.$$

Since A is of **finite C-M representation type**, \mathcal{Y}_A is **finite**.

Hence \mathcal{X}_A is also **finite**, because $\mathcal{X}_A = \mathcal{Y}_A$ by Corollary 5.7.

Is \mathcal{X}_A a finite set?

Theorem 5.8

Suppose that A is of *finite C-M representation type*. Then \mathcal{X}_A is a *finite* set.

Is \mathcal{X}_A a finite set?

Example

Let $A = k[[X, Y, Z]]/(Z^2 - XY)$. Then $\mathcal{X}_A = \{\mathfrak{m}\}$.

Is \mathcal{X}_A a finite set?

Example

Let $A = k[[X, Y, Z]]/(Z^2 - XY)$. Then $\mathcal{X}_A = \{\mathfrak{m}\}$.

Proof.

The **indecomposable** maximal Cohen-Macaulay A -modules are A and $\mathfrak{p} = (z, x)$. We get $\mathfrak{m} \in \mathcal{X}_A$ since $\mathfrak{m}^2 = (x, y)\mathfrak{m}$. Let $I \in \mathcal{X}_A$. Then $\mu_A(I) = 3$. Put $X = \text{Syz}_A^2(A/I)$.

Then

$$X = \text{Syz}_A^2(A/I) \cong \mathfrak{p} \oplus \mathfrak{p} \cong \text{Syz}_A^2(A/\mathfrak{m}),$$

because $\mu_A(X) = 4$ and $\text{rank}_A X = 2$. Hence $I = \mathfrak{m}$ by Corollary 5.7. □

Example (One-dimensional Cohen-Macaulay local rings of finite CM-representation type)

(1) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^3, t^4]]} = \{(t^4, t^6)\}$.

(2) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^3, t^5]]} = \emptyset$.

(3) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[X, Y]]/(Y(X^2 - Y^{2\ell+1}))} = \{(x, y^{2\ell+1}), (x^2, y)\}$, where $\ell \geq 1$.

(4) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[X, Y]]/(Y(Y^2 - X^3))} = \{(x^3, y)\}$.

(5) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[X, Y]]/(X^2 - Y^{2\ell})} =$
 $\{(x^2, y), (x - y^\ell, y(x + y^\ell)), (x + y^\ell, y(x - y^\ell))\}$,
where $\ell \geq 1$ and $\text{ch } k \neq 2$.

Example (N. Taniguchi)

- (1) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^3, t^5]]} = \emptyset$.
- (2) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^3, t^7]]} = \{(t^6 - ct^7, t^{10}) \mid 0 \neq c \in k\}$.
- (3) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^{2q+i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq 2q]]} = \emptyset$ for $\forall q \geq 2$.
- (4) $\mathcal{X}_{k[[t^{2q+i} \mid 0 \leq i \leq 2q-2]]} = \emptyset$ for $\forall q \geq 3$.
- (5) $\#(\mathcal{X}_{k[[X, Y]]}/(Y^n)) = \infty$ for $\forall n \geq 2$.

Thank you very much for your attention!

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