

# Du Bois singularities, positivity and Frobenius

Matteo Varbaro (Università di Genova, Italy)

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If  $d = \dim R$ , Hilbert proved that

$$H_R(t) = \frac{h(t)}{(1-t)^d}$$

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where  $h(t) = h_0 + h_1 t + h_2 t^2 + \dots + h_s t^s \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$  is the *h-polynomial* of  $R$ . We will name the coefficients vector  $(h_0, h_1, h_2, \dots, h_s)$  the *h-vector* of  $R$ .

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If  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay (CM), then it is easy to see that  $h_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \geq 0$ , however without the CM assumption things get complicated. In the first part of the talk I want to discuss conditions on  $R$  and/or on  $X$  which ensure at least the nonnegativity of the first  $h_i$ 's and that the degree of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  is bounded below by their sum.

For  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , we say that  $R$  satisfies the Serre condition  $(S_r)$  if:

$$\text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{\dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}, r\} \quad \forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R.$$

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It turns out that this is equivalent to  $\text{depth } R \geq \min\{\dim R, r\}$  and

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In particular, if  $X$  is nonsingular,  $R$  satisfies the Serre condition  $(S_r)$  if and only if  $\text{depth } R \geq \min\{\dim R, r\}$ .

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In particular, if  $X$  is nonsingular,  $R$  satisfies the Serre condition  $(S_r)$  if and only if  $\text{depth } R \geq \min\{\dim R, r\}$ . So, the fact that there is some embedding of  $X$  such that  $R$  satisfies the Serre condition  $(S_r)$  is equivalent to  $H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 0$  for all  $0 < i < r - 1$ .

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If  $R$  satisfies  $(S_r)$ , is it true that  $h_i \geq 0$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, r$ ?



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The above question is known to have a positive answer for Stanley-Reisner rings  $R$  (i.e. if  $R$  is defined by squarefree monomial ideals) by a result of Murai and Terai ...

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Such an  $R$  can be even chosen to be Buchsbaum of Castelnuovo-Mumford regularity  $\text{reg } R = 1$ . So the question must be adjusted:

## Question

If  $R$  satisfies  $(S_r)$  and  $X$  has nice singularities, is it true that  $h_i \geq 0$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, r$ ?

## Theorem (Dao-Ma-)

Let  $R$  satisfy Serre condition  $(S_r)$ . Suppose either

- $K$  has characteristic 0 and  $X$  is Du Bois, or
- $K$  has positive characteristic and  $X$  is globally  $F$ -split.

Then  $h_i \geq 0$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, r$  and the degree of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  is at least  $h_0 + h_1 + \dots + h_{r-1}$ .

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- If  $\text{char}(K) = 0$ ,  $R$  Stanley-Reisner (SR) ring  $\Rightarrow X$  Du Bois.
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- If  $\text{char}(K) = 0$ ,  $X$  nonsingular  $\Rightarrow X$  Du Bois.
- If  $\text{char}(K) > 0$ ,  $R$  SR ring  $\Rightarrow X$  globally  $F$ -split.
- If  $\text{char}(K) > 0$ ,  $X$  nonsingular  $\not\Rightarrow X$  globally  $F$ -split.

# Du Bois singularities by examples

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We say that  $X$  is *locally Stanley-Reisner* if  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}_{X,x}} \cong K[[\Delta_x]]$  for all  $x \in X$  (for some simplicial complex  $\Delta_x$ ).

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- $X$  locally Stanley-Reisner  $\Rightarrow X$  Du Bois.
- $R$  Stanley-Reisner ring  $\Rightarrow X$  locally Stanley-Reisner.
- $X$  nonsingular  $\Rightarrow X$  locally Stanley-Reisner.
- $X$  has simple normal crossing singularities  $\Rightarrow X$  locally SR.

# Globally $F$ -split varieties

If  $K$  has characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  is globally  $F$ -split if the Frobenius

$$F : \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$$

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## Example (Fedder-Knutson)

Let  $K = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  and  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  be a complete intersection defined by homogeneous polynomials  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in K[X_0, \dots, X_n]$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^m \deg(f_i) \leq n + 1$ .

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(A result of Schwede implies that, in characteristic 0, if infinitely many reductions modulo primes  $X_p$  are  $F$ -split, then  $X$  is Du Bois).

# The condition $MT_r$

Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module, where  $S = K[X_0, \dots, X_n]$ . We say that  $M$  satisfies the condition  $MT_r$  if

$$\text{reg Ext}_S^{n+1-i}(M, \omega_S) \leq i - r \quad \forall i = 0, \dots, \dim M - 1.$$

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This notion is good for several reasons:

- The condition  $MT_r$  does not depend on  $S$ .
- The condition  $MT_r$  is preserved by taking general hyperplane sections.
- The condition  $MT_r$  is preserved by saturating.

## Lemma (Murai-Terai, Dao-Ma-...)

Let  $M$  be a finitely generated graded  $S$ -module generated in degree  $\geq 0$  with  $h$ -vector  $(h_0, \dots, h_s)$  satisfying  $MT_r$ .



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- $h_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \leq r$ .
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- $h_r + h_{r+1} + \dots + h_s \geq 0$ , or equivalently the multiplicity of  $M$  is at least  $h_0 + h_1 + \dots + h_{r-1}$ .

Furthermore, if  $\text{reg } M < r$  or  $M$  is generated in degree 0 and  $h_i = 0$  for some  $i \leq r$ , then  $M$  is Cohen-Macaulay.

Let  $\dim_K R_1 = n + 1$  and  $S = K[X_0, \dots, X_n]$ . We want to show that, if  $R$  satisfies Serre condition  $(S_r)$ , then it also satisfies  $MT_r$ , namely

$$\operatorname{reg} \operatorname{Ext}_S^{n+1-i}(R, \omega_S) \leq i - r \quad \forall i = 0, \dots, \dim R - 1,$$

provided  $X$  is Du Bois (in characteristic 0) or globally  $F$ -split (in positive characteristic). By the previous lemma this would imply the desired result...

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- 1  $R$  satisfies Serre condition  $(S_r)$ .
- 2  $\dim \operatorname{Ext}_S^{n+1-i}(R, \omega_S) \leq i - r \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

# Regularity of Ext's

So, under our assumptions on  $X$ , in order to prove that  $R$  satisfies  $MT_r$  provided it satisfies  $(S_r)$ , it is enough to show that

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We show more:

Dao-Ma-

Let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be the homogeneous maximal ideal of  $S$  and assume either

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Then, the minimal generators of  $I$  of degree  $r$  are  $\leq \binom{c+r-1}{r}$ ; if equality holds, then  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay.

The main result is an immediate consequence of the previous facts.  
A further corollary is the following:

## Corollary

Let  $R = S/I$  satisfies  $(S_r)$  and assume  $I$  has height  $c$  and does not contain elements of degree  $< r$ . Suppose either

- $K$  has characteristic 0 and  $X$  is Du Bois, or
- $K$  has positive characteristic and  $X$  is globally  $F$ -split.

Then, the minimal generators of  $I$  of degree  $r$  are  $\leq \binom{c+r-1}{r}$ ; if equality holds, then  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay.

If  $r = 2$ , the above corollary is true just assuming that  $X$  is reduced...



# Frobenius and squarefree initial ideals

Let us fix  $K$  of positive characteristic. If  $X$  is globally  $F$ -split, then the Frobenius  $F$  acts injectively on  $H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  for all  $i$ .

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One could try to introduce the notion of *globally  $F$ -injective*:  $X$  is globally  $F$ -injective if the Frobenius acts injectively on  $H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  for all  $i$ .

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Koley, -

If the defining ideal of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  admits a squarefree initial ideal, then  $X$  is globally  $F$ -injective.

# Frobenius and squarefree initial ideals

## Conjecture (Constantinescu, De Negri, -)

If  $X$  is smooth and the defining ideal of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  admits a squarefree initial ideal, then  $H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ .

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By the previous result with Koley, in characteristic 0, if the defining ideal of  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  admits a squarefree initial ideal, then it is not difficult to see that  $X_p$  must be globally  $F$ -injective for almost all reductions modulo prime numbers  $p$ .

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## Question

If  $X$  is smooth over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , is it true that  $X_p$  is not globally  $F$ -injective for infinitely many reductions modulo prime numbers  $p$ ?

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To be honest, in my opinion the question is more interesting than the conjecture. **THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION.**