

INJECTIVE DIMENSIONS OF LOCAL COHOMOLOGY MODULES

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ABSTRACT. Assume that R is a commutative Noetherian ring with non-zero identity, \mathfrak{a} is an ideal of R , X is an R -module, and t is a non-negative integer. In this paper, we present upper bounds for the injective dimension of X in terms of the injective dimensions of its local cohomology modules and an upper bound for the injective dimension of $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)$ in terms of the injective dimensions of the modules $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)$, $i \neq t$, and that of X . As a consequence, we observe that R is Gorenstein whenever $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(R)$ is of finite injective dimension for all i .

1. Introduction

Let R be a commutative Noetherian ring with non-zero identity. We use symbols \mathfrak{a} , M , X , and t as an ideal of R , a finite (i.e., finitely generated) R -module, an arbitrary R -module which is not necessarily finite, and a non-negative integer. We denote $\text{id}_R(X)$ and $\text{fd}_R(X)$ as the injective dimension and the flat dimension of X , respectively. We also write $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)$ for the i th local cohomology module of X with respect to \mathfrak{a} . For basic results, notations, and terminologies not given in this paper, the reader is referred to [1], [2], and [7].

The main ideas of this paper come from the article [8] in which it is shown that there are some inequalities between the flat dimensions of a module and its local cohomology modules. Although one may expect some consistency for the injective dimensions, the similarities are far from obvious. For the local case, in [8, Corollary 4.1], it is shown that

$$\text{fd}_R(M) \leq \sup\{\text{fd}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) - i : i \geq 0\}$$

while we show, in Theorem 2.4, that

$$\text{id}_R(M) \leq \sup\{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) + i : i \geq 0\}.$$

Received July 9, 2016; Revised November 11, 2016; Accepted December 15, 2016.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. 13D05, 13D45, 13H10.

Key words and phrases. Gorenstein rings, injective dimensions, local cohomology modules.

This research was in part supported by a grant from Payame Noor University (No. 54093).

Also, it is proven in [8, Corollary 4.3] that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fd}_R(H_a^t(X)) \leq & \sup \{ \text{fd}_R(H_a^i(X)) + t - i + 1 : i < t \} \\ & \cup \{ \text{fd}_R(X) + t \} \cup \{ \text{fd}_R(H_a^i(X)) + t - i - 1 : i > t \}. \end{aligned}$$

We prove, in Theorem 2.8, that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{id}_R(H_a^t(X)) \leq & \sup \{ \text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) - t + i - 1 : i < t \} \\ & \cup \{ \text{id}_R(X) - t \} \cup \{ \text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) - t + i + 1 : i > t \}. \end{aligned}$$

As applications, we show that R is Gorenstein whenever $\text{id}_R(H_a^i(R)) < \infty$ for all i , and we find that if $H_a^i(M)$ is injective for all i , then $\text{cd}_{R_p}(\mathfrak{a}R_p, M_p) = \dim_{R_p}(M_p) = \text{id}_{R_p}(M_p) = \text{depth}(R_p)$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R(M)$. Recall that cohomological dimension of X with respect to \mathfrak{a} , denoted by $\text{cd}_R(\mathfrak{a}, X)$, is the largest integer i in which $H_a^i(X)$ is not zero [4]. We also prove that if $H_a^i(X)$ is injective (resp. $H_a^i(X) = 0$) for all $i \neq t$, then $\text{id}_R(H_a^t(X)) \leq \text{id}_R(X) - t + 1$ (resp. $\text{id}_R(H_a^t(X)) \leq \text{id}_R(X) - t$). When R is local and $\text{id}_R(H_a^i(M)) < \infty$ (resp. $H_a^i(M) = 0$) for all $i \neq t$, we observe that $\text{id}_R(H_a^t(M)) < \infty$ if and only if $\text{id}_R(M) < \infty$ (resp. $\text{id}_R(H_a^t(M)) = \text{id}_R(M) - t$).

2. Main results

Let Y be an arbitrary R -module. We denote

$$H_a^i(Y, X) = \varinjlim_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text{Ext}_R^i(Y/\mathfrak{a}^n Y, X),$$

as the i th generalized local cohomology module of Y and X with respect to \mathfrak{a} [5]. We have the isomorphisms $H_a^i(M, X) \cong H^i(\text{Hom}_R(M, \Gamma_a(E^{\bullet X})))$, where $E^{\bullet X}$ is a deleted injective resolution of X [3, Lemma 2.1(i)]. Thus $\Gamma_a(M, X) \cong \text{Hom}_R(M, \Gamma_a(X))$ and if $\text{Supp}_R(M) \cap \text{Supp}_R(X) \subseteq \text{Var}(\mathfrak{a})$, then $H_a^i(M, X) \cong \text{Ext}_R^i(M, X)$. Here, we denote $\text{Var}(\mathfrak{a}) = \{ \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) : \mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{p} \}$.

Lemma 2.1. *Suppose that X is an arbitrary R -module and that N is a finite R -module. Assume also that $\overline{X} = X/\Gamma_a(X)$ and $Q = E_R(\overline{X})/\overline{X}$, where $E_R(\overline{X})$ is an injective hull of \overline{X} . Then the following statements hold true.*

- (i) $H_a^i(Q) \cong H_a^{i+1}(X)$ for all $i \geq 0$.
- (ii) $H_a^i(N, Q) \cong H_a^{i+1}(N, \overline{X})$ for all $i \geq 0$.

Proof. Since $\Gamma_a(\overline{X}) = 0$, $\Gamma_a(E_R(\overline{X})) = 0$ and so

$$\Gamma_a(N, E_R(\overline{X})) \cong \text{Hom}_R(N, \Gamma_a(E_R(\overline{X}))) = 0.$$

Applying the derived functors of $\Gamma_a(-)$ and $\Gamma_a(N, -)$ to the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \overline{X} \longrightarrow E_R(\overline{X}) \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow 0,$$

we obtain the isomorphisms

$$H_a^i(Q) \cong H_a^{i+1}(\overline{X}) \cong H_a^{i+1}(X)$$

and

$$H_a^i(N, Q) \cong H_a^{i+1}(N, \overline{X})$$

for all $i \geq 0$. □

The following lemma is crucial to prove the main results of this paper.

Lemma 2.2. *Let s be a non-negative integer, X an arbitrary R -module such that*

$$\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) + i : i \geq 0\} < s,$$

and N a finite R -module. Then $H_a^s(N, X) = 0$.

Proof. We prove by using induction on s . The case $s = 0$ is clear. Suppose that $s > 0$ and that $s - 1$ is settled. Let $\overline{X} = X/\Gamma_a(X)$ and $Q = E_R(\overline{X})/\overline{X}$. Since $\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) + i : i \geq 0\} < s$, $\text{id}_R(\Gamma_a(X)) < s$ and $\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) + i : i \geq 1\} < s$. Thus $H_a^s(N, \Gamma_a(X)) = 0$ and $\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(Q)) + i : i \geq 0\} < s - 1$ from Lemma 2.1(i). Hence, by the induction hypothesis on Q , we have $H_a^{s-1}(N, Q) = 0$ and so, by Lemma 2.1(ii), $H_a^s(N, \overline{X}) = 0$. Now, by the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_a(X) \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow \overline{X} \longrightarrow 0,$$

we get the long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H_a^s(N, \Gamma_a(X)) \longrightarrow H_a^s(N, X) \longrightarrow H_a^s(N, \overline{X}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

which shows that $H_a^s(N, X) = 0$. □

For an R -module X , we say that $\text{id}_R(\mathfrak{a}, X) \leq n$ if $\text{Ext}_R^s(R/\mathfrak{p}, X) = 0$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Var}(\mathfrak{a})$ and all $s > n$. We call $\text{id}_R(\mathfrak{a}, X)$ the \mathfrak{a} -relative injective dimension of X [6].

Corollary 2.3. *Let X be an arbitrary R -module and \mathfrak{b} an ideal of R such that $\text{Var}(\mathfrak{b}) \subseteq \text{Var}(\mathfrak{a})$. Then*

$$\text{id}_R(\mathfrak{b}, X) \leq \sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) + i : i \geq 0\}.$$

In particular,

$$\text{id}_R(\mathfrak{a}, X) \leq \sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(X)) + i : i \geq 0\}.$$

Proof. Assume that the right-hand side of the inequality is a finite number, say n . Assume also that $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Var}(\mathfrak{b})$ and $s > n$. Take $N = R/\mathfrak{p}$ in Lemma 2.2 to get $H_a^s(R/\mathfrak{p}, X) = 0$. The assertion follows because we have the isomorphism $\text{Ext}_R^s(R/\mathfrak{p}, X) \cong H_a^s(R/\mathfrak{p}, X)$. □

The following theorem is the first main result of this paper and, among other things, shows that, in the local case, if $\text{id}_R(M) = \infty$, then for every ideal \mathfrak{a} of R there exists an integer $n_{\mathfrak{a}}$ such that $\text{id}_R(H_a^{n_{\mathfrak{a}}}(M)) = \infty$.

Theorem 2.4. *Let (R, \mathfrak{m}) be a local ring and M a finite R -module. Then*

$$\text{id}_R(M) \leq \sup\{\text{id}_R(H_a^i(M)) + i : i \geq 0\}.$$

In particular, if $\text{id}_R(H_a^i(M)) < \infty$ for all i , then $\text{id}_R(M) < \infty$.

Proof. Since $\text{id}_R(M) = \text{id}_R(\mathfrak{m}, M)$, the assertion follows from Corollary 2.3. For the last part, note that $\text{cd}_R(\mathfrak{a}, M)$ is finite from [1, Theorem 3.3.1 or Theorem 6.1.2] and we have

$$\sup \{ \text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) + i : i \geq 0 \} = \sup \{ \text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) + i : 0 \leq i \leq \text{cd}_R(\mathfrak{a}, M) \}$$

because for all $i > \text{cd}_R(\mathfrak{a}, M)$, $\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) + i = -\infty + i = -\infty$ (see [1, Conventions 11.1.8]). \square

It is well known that if (R, \mathfrak{m}) is a Cohen-Macaulay local ring and

$$H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\dim(R)}(R) \cong E_R(R/\mathfrak{m}),$$

then R is Gorenstein. That means R is Gorenstein whenever $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\dim(R)}(R) \cong E_R(R/\mathfrak{m})$ and $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R) = 0$ for all $i \neq \dim(R)$. In the following corollary, we prove that R is Gorenstein if $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(R)$ has finite injective dimension for all i , where R is not necessarily local and \mathfrak{a} is an arbitrary ideal of R .

Corollary 2.5. *Suppose that $\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(R)) < \infty$ for all i . Then R is Gorenstein.*

Proof. Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime ideal of R . By assumption, we have $\text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(H_{\mathfrak{a}R_{\mathfrak{p}}}^i(R_{\mathfrak{p}})) < \infty$ for all i . Thus we get $\text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) < \infty$ from Theorem 2.4. Therefore $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a Gorenstein local ring. Hence R is Gorenstein, as we desired. \square

Corollary 2.6. *Let M be a finite R -module such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)$ is injective for all i . Then*

$$\text{cd}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(\mathfrak{a}R_{\mathfrak{p}}, M_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \dim_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \text{depth}(R_{\mathfrak{p}})$$

for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R(M)$.

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}_R(M)$. For all i , $H_{\mathfrak{a}R_{\mathfrak{p}}}^i(M_{\mathfrak{p}})$ is injective from assumption. Hence, by Theorem 2.4, we get $\text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \leq \text{cd}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(\mathfrak{a}R_{\mathfrak{p}}, M_{\mathfrak{p}})$. Thus $\text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \text{depth}(R_{\mathfrak{p}})$ and

$$\text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \leq \text{cd}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(\mathfrak{a}R_{\mathfrak{p}}, M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \leq \dim_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \leq \text{id}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}).$$

The assertion follows. \square

We need the following lemma to prove the second main result of this paper.

Lemma 2.7. *Let s, t be non-negative integers, X an arbitrary R -module such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup \{ \text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i - 1 : i < t \} \\ & \cup \{ \text{id}_R(X) - t \} \cup \{ \text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i + 1 : i > t \} < s, \end{aligned}$$

and N a finite R -module. Then $\text{Ext}_R^s(N, H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)) = 0$.

Proof. Let $\overline{X} = X/\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ and $Q = E_R(\overline{X})/\overline{X}$. We prove by using induction on t . Let $t = 0$. Since $\text{id}_R(X) < s$ and $\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) + i + 1 : i > 0\} < s$, $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^s(N, X) = 0$ and $\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(\overline{X})) + i : i \geq 0\} < s - 1$. Thus $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{s-1}(N, \overline{X}) = 0$ from Lemma 2.2. Hence by the long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{s-1}(N, \overline{X}) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^s(N, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)) \longrightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^s(N, X) \longrightarrow \cdots,$$

we get $\text{Ext}_R^s(N, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)) \cong H_{\mathfrak{a}}^s(N, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)) = 0$.

Suppose that $t > 0$ and that $t - 1$ is settled. From the exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow \overline{X} \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \overline{X} \longrightarrow E_R(\overline{X}) \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow 0,$$

we get $\text{id}_R(Q) < s + t - 1$ because we have $\text{id}_R(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)) < s + t + 1$ and $\text{id}_R(X) < s + t$ by assumptions. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i - 1 : 0 < i < t\} \\ &\cup \{\text{id}_R(Q) - (t - 1)\} \cup \{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i + 1 : i > t\} < s \end{aligned}$$

and so by Lemma 2.1(i),

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup\{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(Q)) - (t - 1) + i - 1 : i < t - 1\} \\ &\cup \{\text{id}_R(Q) - (t - 1)\} \cup \{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(Q)) - (t - 1) + i + 1 : i > t - 1\} < s. \end{aligned}$$

Now, from the induction hypothesis on Q , we have $\text{Ext}_R^s(N, H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{t-1}(Q)) = 0$. Therefore, again by Lemma 2.1(i), $\text{Ext}_R^s(N, H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)) = 0$. \square

Now, we can state our second main result.

Theorem 2.8. *Let X be an arbitrary R -module and t a non-negative integer. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)) \leq &\sup \{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i - 1 : i < t\} \\ &\cup \{\text{id}_R(X) - t\} \cup \{\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)) - t + i + 1 : i > t\}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Assume that the right-hand side of the inequality is a finite number, say n . Assume also that $s > n$ and N is a finite R -module. By Lemma 2.7, $\text{Ext}_R^s(N, H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)) = 0$. Thus the assertion follows. \square

The following results are immediate applications of the above theorems.

Corollary 2.9. *Let R be a local ring, M a finite R -module, and t a non-negative integer such that $\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M)) < \infty$ for all $i \neq t$. Then $\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(M)) < \infty$ if and only if $\text{id}_R(M) < \infty$.*

Proof. This follows from Theorems 2.4 and 2.8. \square

Corollary 2.10. *Let X be an arbitrary R -module and t a non-negative integer such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(X)$ is injective for all $i \neq t$. Then*

$$\text{id}_R(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(X)) \leq \text{id}_R(X) - t + 1.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.8, we have $\text{id}_R(\mathbf{H}_a^t(X)) \leq \sup \{\text{id}_R(X) - t, \text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, X) - t + 1\}$. Thus the assertion follows because $\text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, X) \leq \text{id}_R(X)$. \square

Corollary 2.11. *Let R be a local ring, M a finite R -module, and t a non-negative integer such that $\mathbf{H}_a^i(M)$ is injective for all $i < \text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, M)$. Then*

$$\text{id}_R(M) - \text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, M) \leq \text{id}_R(\mathbf{H}_a^{\text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, M)}(M)) \leq \text{id}_R(M) - \text{cd}_R(\mathbf{a}, M) + 1.$$

Proof. It follows from Theorem 2.4 and Corollary 2.10. \square

Let R be a local ring and t a non-negative integer such that $\mathbf{H}_a^i(X) = 0$ for all $i \neq t$. Zargar and Zakeri, in [9, Theorem 2.5], proved that if $\text{id}_R(X) < \infty$, then $\text{id}_R(\mathbf{H}_a^t(X)) < \infty$. In the first part of the following corollary, we generalize this result for a general ring R as an application of Theorem 2.8.

Corollary 2.12. *Let X be an arbitrary R -module and t a non-negative integer such that $\mathbf{H}_a^i(X) = 0$ for all $i \neq t$. Then the following statements hold true:*

- (i) $\text{id}_R(\mathbf{H}_a^t(X)) \leq \text{id}_R(X) - t$.
- (ii) $\text{id}_R(\mathbf{H}_a^t(X)) = \text{id}_R(X) - t$ whenever R is local and X is finite.

Proof. (i) This follows from Theorem 2.8.

(ii) It follows from Theorem 2.4 and the first part. \square

Acknowledgments. The author would like to thank the referee for the invaluable comments on the manuscript.

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