

ISSN: 1017-060X (Print)



ISSN: 1735-8515 (Online)

**Bulletin of the**  
**Iranian Mathematical Society**

Vol. 41 (2015), No. 3, pp. 749–757

**Title:**

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Published by Iranian Mathematical Society  
<http://bims.ims.ir>

## NOTES ON AMALGAMATED DUPLICATION OF A RING ALONG AN IDEAL

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(Communicated by Mohammad Taghi Dibaei)

**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we study some ring theoretic properties of the amalgamated duplication ring  $R \bowtie I$  of a commutative Noetherian ring  $R$  along an ideal  $I$  of  $R$  which was introduced by D'Anna and Fontana. Indeed, it is determined that when  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's conditions  $(R_n)$  and  $(S_n)$ , and when is a normal ring, a generalized Cohen-Macaulay ring and finally a filter ring.

**Keywords:** Amalgamated ring, Cohen-Macaulay ring, Serre condition, normal ring, filter ring.

**MSC(2010):** Primary: 13A15; Secondary: 13C14, 13D45, 13E05.

### 1. Introduction

In [6], D'Anna and Fontana considered a construction obtained involving a ring  $R$  and an ideal  $I \subset R$  that is denoted by  $R \bowtie I$ , called amalgamated duplication of  $R$  along  $I$ .

D'Anna in [5] studied that when  $R \bowtie I$  is Cohen-Macaulay or a Gorenstein ring. In [1], the authors determined when  $R \bowtie I$  is a quasi-Gorenstein ring. In Section 2 of this paper, we provide an answer to the question [1, Remark 3.7], asking that when the ring  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's conditions  $(R_n)$  (see Theorem 2.3). Also we determine when  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_n)$ . In particular, we show that if  $R$  is an integral domain then  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(S_n)$  if and only if  $R$  and  $I$  satisfy  $(S_n)$  (see Theorem 2.5). Then, in Corollary 2.9, we determine when  $R \bowtie I$  is a normal ring. In Section 3, we generalize D'Anna's result to generalized Cohen-Macaulay rings and filter rings (we recall the definitions of generalized Cohen-Macaulay rings and filter rings in suitable places).

Next, we deal with some applications of a general construction, introduced in [6], called amalgamated duplication of a ring along an ideal.

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Article electronically published on June 15, 2015.

Received: 16 November 2013, Accepted: 19 April 2014.

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Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unit element 1 and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$ . Set

$$R \bowtie I = \{(r, s) | r, s \in R, s - r \in I\}.$$

It is easy to check that  $R \bowtie I$  is a subring of  $R \times R$  with unit element  $(1, 1)$  (with the usual componentwise operations) and that  $R \bowtie I = \{(r, r+i) | r \in R, i \in I\}$ . In the following proposition, we collect some of the main properties of the ring  $R \bowtie I$  from [5, 6].

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Noetherian local ring and  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. We will denote the common length of the maximal  $M$ -regular sequences in  $\mathfrak{m}$  by  $\text{depth } M$ . Also, we will denote the Krull dimension of  $M$  by  $\dim M$ .

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then the following statements hold.*

- (1) ([5, Page 509]) *By introducing a multiplicative structure in the  $R$ -module direct sum  $R \oplus I$  by setting*

$$(r, i)(s, j) = (rs, rj + si + ij),$$

*one can show that the map  $f : R \oplus I \rightarrow R \bowtie I$  defined by  $f((r, i)) = (r, r + i)$  is a ring isomorphism and  $R$ -module isomorphism too. Moreover, there is a split exact sequence of  $R$ -modules*

$$0 \rightarrow R \xrightarrow{\varphi} R \bowtie I \xrightarrow{\psi} I \rightarrow 0$$

*where  $\varphi(r) = (r, r)$  for all  $r \in R$ , and  $\psi((r, s)) = s - r$ , for all  $(r, s) \in R \bowtie I$ .*

- (2) ([5, Propositions 5 and 7]) *Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  and set:*

$$\mathfrak{p}_0 = \{(p, p + i) | p \in \mathfrak{p}, i \in I \cap \mathfrak{p}\},$$

$$\mathfrak{p}_1 = \{(p, p + i) | p \in \mathfrak{p}, i \in I\} \text{ and}$$

$$\mathfrak{p}_2 = \{(p + i, p) | p \in \mathfrak{p}, i \in I\}.$$

- (a) *If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{p}_2$  is a prime ideal of  $R \bowtie I$  and it is the unique prime ideal of  $R \bowtie I$  lying over  $\mathfrak{p}$  and  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$ .*

- (b) *If  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{p}_1 \neq \mathfrak{p}_2$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{p}_1 \cap \mathfrak{p}_2$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  are the only prime ideals of  $R \bowtie I$  lying over  $\mathfrak{p}$ .*

*Moreover we have, in case (a),  $R/\mathfrak{p} \cong (R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_0$  and, in case (b),  $R/\mathfrak{p} \cong (R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_i$  (for  $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_1} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \cong (R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ .*

- (3) ([5, Corollary 6] and [6, Corollary 2.11])  *$R$  and  $R \bowtie I$  have the same Krull dimension and if  $R$  is a local ring with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , then  $R \bowtie I$  is local with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_0 = \{(r, r + i) | r \in \mathfrak{m}, i \in I\}$ . Also, if  $R$  is a Noetherian ring, then  $R \bowtie I$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module.*

Hence the extension  $R \rightarrow R \bowtie I$  is integral. Moreover, if  $R$  is local, then

$$\text{depth}(R \bowtie I) = \min\{\text{depth } R, \text{depth}_R I\} \leq \text{depth}_R I.$$

Throughout  $R$  stands for a commutative Noetherian ring with identity and  $I$  denotes a proper ideal of  $R$ . Also, in the course of the paper, we will denote the height of  $I$  by  $\text{ht } I$ .

## 2. Serre's conditions $(R_n)$ and $(S_n)$

In this section, we describe when the amalgamated duplication of a ring along an ideal satisfies the Serre's conditions  $(R_n)$  and  $(S_n)$  for a non-negative integer  $n$ . Also in [1, Remark 3.7], the authors asked that when  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(R_n)$ . Recall that a Noetherian ring  $R$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(R_n)$  if, for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$  such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq n$ , the local ring  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is regular. By a regular local ring we mean a local Noetherian ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  such that the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  can be generated by  $\dim R$  elements.

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $R \bowtie I$  is an integral domain, then  $I = 0$ .*

*Proof.* By [6, Corollary 2.5],  $O_1 := \{(0, i) | i \in I\}$  and  $O_2 := \{(i, 0) | i \in I\}$  are the only minimal prime ideals of  $R \bowtie I$ . Then, by assumption,  $O_1 = O_2 = 0$ . Therefore  $I = 0$ .  $\square$

The following corollary shows that  $R \bowtie I$  can never be a regular ring except in the trivial case that  $I = 0$ .

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $R$  be a local ring. If  $R \bowtie I$  is a regular local ring, then  $I = 0$ .*

*Proof.* It is well known that a regular local ring is an integral domain. So the assertion is clear from Lemma 2.1.  $\square$

The above corollary enables us to determine when  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(R_n)$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** *The ring  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(R_n)$  if and only if  $R$  satisfies  $(R_n)$  and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$  for each  $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq I$  such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq n$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(R_n)$ . Then, by [1, Proposition 3.7],  $R$  also satisfies  $(R_n)$ . Now let  $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq I$  be such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq n$ . Then, by Proposition 1.1,  $\mathfrak{q} := \mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{p}_2$  and  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{q} \leq n$ . So that  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is a regular local ring. Therefore Corollary 2.2 shows that  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ . Conversely assume that  $R$  satisfies  $(R_n)$  and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$  for each  $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq I$  such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq n$ . In order to prove the assertion, let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R \bowtie I)$  be such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{q} \leq n$  and set  $\mathfrak{p} := \mathfrak{q} \cap R$ . Hence  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq n$ . If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}_0 = \mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{p}_2$ . Thus, by the hypothesis,  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ . So that  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is regular by assumption. Finally if  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}_1$  or  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  and we have  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  which is regular by assumption.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Suppose that  $\text{ht } I > n$ . Then  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(R_n)$  if and only if  $R$  satisfies  $(R_n)$ .*

A finitely generated module  $M$  over a Noetherian ring  $R$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_n)$  if  $\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{n, \dim M_{\mathfrak{p}}\}$ , for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . In the following theorem, we determine when  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_n)$ , which is also a generalization of [1, Theorem 3.1].

**Theorem 2.5.** *If  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_n)$ , then so does  $R$  and  $I$ . The converse holds if  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is of maximal Krull dimension for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . In particular, if  $\text{Ann}(I) = 0$  (e.g.  $R$  is an integral domain), then  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(S_n)$  if and only if  $R$  and  $I$  satisfy  $(S_n)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(S_n)$ . Then, by [1, Theorem 3.1(2)],  $R$  satisfies  $(S_n)$ . Now let  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . If  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ . Hence, we have

$$\text{depth } I_{\mathfrak{p}} = \text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{n, \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}\} = \min\{n, \dim I_{\mathfrak{p}}\}.$$

If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$ . Thus, by assumption, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{depth } I_{\mathfrak{p}} &\geq \text{depth}(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} \\ &\geq \min\{n, \dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0}\} \\ &= \min\{n, \dim I_{\mathfrak{p}}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $I$  satisfies  $(S_n)$ .

Conversely suppose that  $R$  and  $I$  satisfy  $(S_n)$  and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is of maximal Krull dimension for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R \bowtie I)$  and put  $\mathfrak{p} := \mathfrak{q} \cap R$ . If  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}_1$  or  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  and  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ . Thus

$$\text{depth}(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} = \text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{n, \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}\} = \min\{n, \dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}}\}.$$

If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{depth}(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} &= \text{depth}(R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}) \\ &= \min\{\text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}}, \text{depth } I_{\mathfrak{p}}\} \\ &\geq \min\{n, \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}, \dim I_{\mathfrak{p}}\} \\ &= \min\{n, \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}}\} \\ &= \min\{n, \dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(S_n)$ .

For the in particular case, note that if  $\text{Ann}(I) = 0$ , then  $\dim I = \dim(R/\text{Ann}(I)) = \dim R$ . That is  $I$  is of maximal Krull dimension. □

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $x \in R$  be a regular element. Then  $R \bowtie Rx$  satisfies  $(S_n)$  if and only if  $R$  satisfies  $(S_n)$ .*

Note that if the ring  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay, then  $R$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_n)$  for any integer  $n$ . Also, when  $\dim R = d$  and  $R$  satisfies Serre's condition  $(S_d)$ , then  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay. Thus we obtain D'Anna's result [5, Page 512].

**Corollary 2.7.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring. Then  $R \bowtie I$  is Cohen-Macaulay if and only if  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $I$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay.*

Recall that a ring  $R$  is called *normal* if all its localizations are integrally closed domains (see [3]). In [7] (see also [3, Theorem 2.2.22]) Serre characterized normal Noetherian rings: a Noetherian ring is normal if and only if it satisfies conditions  $(R_1)$  and  $(S_2)$ . The next theorem describes the behavior of normality under amalgamated duplication.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$  such that  $\text{ht } I \leq 1$  and  $R \bowtie I$  is normal. Then  $I = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Using Serre's characterization of normality for  $R \bowtie I$  in conjunction with Theorems 2.3 and 2.5, one can deduce that  $R$  is normal and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$  for each  $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq I$  such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq 1$ . Then  $R \cong R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n$  for integrally closed integral domains  $R_i$  by [3, Page 71]; so that one can write  $I \cong I_1 \times \cdots \times I_n$  for some ideals  $I_i$  of  $R_i$  such that  $\text{ht } I_i \leq 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Now for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , choose  $\mathfrak{p}_i \supseteq I_i$  such that  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p}_i \leq 1$  and set  $\mathfrak{p} \cong R_1 \times \cdots \times \mathfrak{p}_i \times \cdots \times R_n$ . Then  $\mathfrak{p} \supseteq I$  and  $\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} \leq 1$ . Thus  $0 = I_{\mathfrak{p}} \cong (I_i)_{\mathfrak{p}_i}$  and since  $R_i$  is an integral domain, we see that  $I_i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Therefore  $I = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $I$  be a nontrivial ideal of  $R$ . If  $R \bowtie I$  is normal, then  $R$  is normal,  $\text{ht } I \geq 2$  and  $I$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ . The converse holds if  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is of maximal Krull dimension for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . In particular, if  $\text{Ann}(I) = 0$  (e.g.  $R$  is an integral domain), then  $R \bowtie I$  is normal if and only if  $R$  is normal,  $\text{ht } I \geq 2$  and  $I$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R \bowtie I$  is normal. Then, one can use Serre's characterization of normality together with Theorems 2.3 and 2.5 to deduce that  $R$  is normal and that  $I$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ . Now if  $\text{ht } I \leq 1$ , then, by Lemma 2.8, we have  $I = 0$  which is a contradiction. Conversely, again, Theorems 2.3 and 2.5 imply that  $R \bowtie I$  satisfies  $(R_1)$  and  $(S_2)$ . Thus  $R \bowtie I$  is a normal ring.  $\square$

### 3. Cohen-Macaulay rings

In [5], D'Anna showed that  $R \bowtie I$  is Cohen-Macaulay if and only if  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $I$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. In this section, we are interested in establishing a similar result for generalized Cohen-Macaulay rings and filter rings.

Let us recall that a finitely generated module  $M$  over a Noetherian local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is said to be a generalized Cohen-Macaulay  $R$ -module if  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M)$ , the  $i$ -th local cohomology module of  $M$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{m}$ , is of finite length

for all  $i < \dim M$ . A local ring is called generalized Cohen-Macaulay if it is a generalized Cohen-Macaulay module over itself. It is known that over a local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ , a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  is Cohen-Macaulay if and only if  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i < \dim M$  (see [2, Corollary 6.2.8]). Therefore every Cohen-Macaulay module is a generalized Cohen-Macaulay module.

**Remark 3.1.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $I$  be a nontrivial ideal of  $R$ . Consider the local ring homomorphism  $\varphi : R \rightarrow R \bowtie I$ , where  $\varphi(r) = (r, r)$ . By [6, Theorem 3.5(a)(v)], we have  $\mathfrak{m}_0 = \sqrt{\mathfrak{m}(R \bowtie I)}$ . Thus, by the Independence Theorem of local cohomology [2, Theorem 4.2.1], we have*

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I) &\cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R \bowtie I) \\ &\cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R \oplus I) \\ &\cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R) \oplus H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(I) \end{aligned}$$

as  $R$ -modules; so that  $R \bowtie I$  is Cohen-Macaulay if and only if  $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I) = 0$  for all  $i < \dim R \bowtie I$  if and only if  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R) = 0 = H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(I)$  for all  $i < \dim R$  if and only if  $R$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $I$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Thus, we obtain a second alternate proof of D’Anna’s result.

Next we generalize D’Anna’s result to generalized Cohen-Macaulay rings. To this end, we need an auxiliary lemma.

In the course of next lemma and its proof, for a finite length  $R$ -module  $M$ , we use  $\ell_R(M)$  to denote the length of  $M$  over  $R$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $M$  be an  $R \bowtie I$ -module. If  $\ell_{R \bowtie I}(M) < \infty$ , then,  $\ell_R(M) < \infty$  and  $\ell_{R \bowtie I}(M) = \ell_R(M)$ . Here  $M$  is considered as an  $R$ -module via  $\varphi : R \rightarrow R \bowtie I$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $n := \ell_{R \bowtie I}(M)$ . Then, there is a composition series  $0 = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset \dots \subset M_n = M$  of  $R \bowtie I$ -modules such that  $M_i/M_{i-1} \cong R \bowtie I/\mathfrak{m}_0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . On the other hand,  $R \bowtie I/\mathfrak{m}_0 \cong R/\mathfrak{m}$  as  $R$ -modules. Thus, we have a composition series of  $R$ -modules  $0 = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset \dots \subset M_n = M$  such that  $M_i/M_{i-1} \cong R/\mathfrak{m}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Therefore  $\ell_R(M) < \infty$  and  $\ell_R(M) = n$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $I$  be a nontrivial ideal of  $R$ . Then  $R \bowtie I$  is generalized Cohen-Macaulay if and only if  $R$  and  $I$  are generalized Cohen-Macaulay and  $\dim I \in \{0, \dim R\}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R \bowtie I$  is generalized Cohen-Macaulay. Then the local cohomology module  $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I)$  is of finite length over  $R \bowtie I$  for all  $i < \dim(R \bowtie I)$ . Thus, by the previous lemma,  $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I)$  has finite length over  $R$  for  $i < \dim R$ . Notice that we have the  $R$ -isomorphism  $H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I) \cong H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R) \oplus H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(I)$ . Hence  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R)$  and  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(I)$  have finite length over  $R$

for all  $i < \dim R$ . Therefore  $R$  and  $I$  are generalized Cohen-Macaulay and  $\dim I = \dim R$  or  $0$  by [2, Corollary 7.3.3]. Conversely suppose that  $R$  and  $I$  are generalized Cohen-Macaulay and  $\dim I = \dim R$  or  $0$ . Thus, there exists a positive integer  $t$  such that  $\mathfrak{m}^t H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R) = 0 = \mathfrak{m}^t H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(I)$  for all  $i < \dim R$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{m}^t H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I) = 0$  for all  $i < \dim(R \bowtie I)$ . On the other hand, by [6, Theorem 3.5(a)(v)], we know  $\mathfrak{m}_0 = \sqrt{\mathfrak{m}(R \bowtie I)}$ ; so that there exists a positive integer  $s$  such that  $\mathfrak{m}_0^s \subseteq \mathfrak{m}(R \bowtie I)$ . Consequently  $\mathfrak{m}_0^{st} H_{\mathfrak{m}_0}^i(R \bowtie I) = 0$  for all  $i < \dim(R \bowtie I)$ . Therefore  $R \bowtie I$  is generalized Cohen-Macaulay.  $\square$

In [4], Cuong, Schenzel, and Trung introduced the notion of filter regular sequence as an extension of the more known concept of regular sequences. By using this notion they defined the filter modules.

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Recall from [4] that a sequence  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of elements in  $\mathfrak{m}$  is an  $M$ -filter regular sequence if  $x_i \notin \mathfrak{p}$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(M/(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})M) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$  and for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .  $M$  is called a *filter module* if every system of parameters of  $M$  is an  $M$ -filter regular sequence. A ring is called filter ring if it is a filter module over itself.

In general, every generalized Cohen-Macaulay module is a filter module.

**Proposition 3.4.** ([4, Satz 2.5]) *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module such that  $\dim M > 0$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a filter module.
- (2)  $\text{depth } M_{\mathfrak{p}} = \dim M - \dim R/\mathfrak{p}$ , for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(M) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ .
- (3)  $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay, for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(M) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ , and  $\text{Supp}(M)$  is catenary and equidimensional.
- (4)  $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay, of dimension  $\dim M_{\mathfrak{p}} = \dim M - \dim R/\mathfrak{p}$ , for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(M) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ .

Finally, using above proposition, we obtain the following generalization of D'Anna's result to filter rings.

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local ring and  $I$  be a nontrivial ideal of  $R$ . Then  $R \bowtie I$  is a filter ring if and only if  $R$  is a filter ring and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ .*

*Proof.* First suppose that  $R \bowtie I$  is a filter ring. Let  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ . Consider the following two cases.

**Case 1.** If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{p}_0$  is the only prime ideal of  $R \bowtie I$  lying over  $\mathfrak{p}$ , and we have the isomorphisms  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_0 \cong R/\mathfrak{p}$ . Note that in this case  $\mathfrak{p}_0 \neq \mathfrak{m}_0$ . Since  $R \bowtie I$  is a filter ring, then, by Proposition 3.4,  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and

$$\dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} = \dim(R \bowtie I) - \dim(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_0.$$



Therefore, the Cohen-Macaulayness of  $R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  in conjunction with Proposition 2.7 implies that  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Also one has

$$\begin{aligned} \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}} &= \dim(R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}) \\ &= \dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_0} \\ &= \dim(R \bowtie I) - \dim(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_0 \\ &= \dim R - \dim R/\mathfrak{p}. \end{aligned}$$

**Case 2.** If  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  are the only prime ideals of  $R \bowtie I$  lying over  $\mathfrak{p}$ , and we have the isomorphisms  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_i} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_i \cong R/\mathfrak{p}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Again note that  $\mathfrak{p}_i \neq \mathfrak{m}_0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Thus,  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_i} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and

$$\dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{p}_i} = \dim(R \bowtie I) - \dim(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{p}_i.$$

Note also that  $I_{\mathfrak{p}} = R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Hence, we obtain that

$$\dim R_{\mathfrak{p}} = \dim R - \dim R/\mathfrak{p}.$$

Therefore  $R$  is a filter ring by Proposition 3.4.

Conversely assume that  $R$  is a filter ring and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R \bowtie I) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}_0\}$  and set  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q} \cap R$ . Consider the following two cases.

**Case 1.** If  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then we have  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{q} \cong R/\mathfrak{p}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$ , by assumption, we have that  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $I_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Consequently  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and we have the following equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} &= \dim(R_{\mathfrak{p}} \bowtie I_{\mathfrak{p}}) \\ &= \dim R_{\mathfrak{p}} \\ &= \dim R - \dim R/\mathfrak{p} \\ &= \dim(R \bowtie I) - \dim(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{q}. \end{aligned}$$

**Case 2.** If  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $\mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}_1$  or  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  and we have the isomorphisms  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{q} \cong R/\mathfrak{p}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$ , by assumption, we have that  $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay. Consequently  $(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and we have the following equality

$$\dim(R \bowtie I)_{\mathfrak{q}} = \dim(R \bowtie I) - \dim(R \bowtie I)/\mathfrak{q}.$$

Therefore  $R \bowtie I$  is a filter ring. □

### Acknowledgments

Parviz Sahandi was in part supported by a grant from IPM (No. 91130030).

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