## **Problem Set 4: Solutions**

1. Since the  $F_1, \ldots, F_d \in \mathfrak{m}$ , they generated a proper ideal in both rings. We have already seen the flat base change preserves the property of being a nonzerodivisor and commutes with taking quotients. It follows that if  $F_1, \ldots, F_d$  is a regular sequence R, it remains one in  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$ . For the converse, note that since the associated primes of each ideal  $J_i = (F_1, \ldots, F_i)R, 0 \le i \le d-1$ , are ntahomogenous, and so contained in  $\mathfrak{m}$ , no element of  $W := R \setminus \mathfrak{m}$  is a zerodivisor on  $R/J_i$ , we have that  $R/J_i$  inject into  $(R/J_i)_{\mathfrak{m}} \cong R_{\mathfrak{m}}/J_iR\mathfrak{m}$ . It follows that for  $0 \le i \le d-1$ , if the image of  $F_i$  is a nonzerodivisor on  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}/J_iR_{\mathfrak{m}}$ , it is a nonzerodivisor in  $R/J_i$ .

**2.** (a)  $Ru \cong Ku$ , and u has a nonzero multiple in M. This multiple must have the form cu, where  $c \in K$  is nonzero, and so  $u \in M$ .

(b)  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(K, E_i)$  is the socle  $S_i$  in  $E_i$ . Since this is an minimal injective resolution,  $E_i$  is the injective hull of the image  $B_i$  of  $E_{i-1}$  in  $E_i$ . By part (a), each element of  $S_i$  is in  $B_i$ , and so maps to 0 in  $E_{i+1}$ .

**3.** We compute the Ext module by applying  $\operatorname{Hom}_{S}(-, S)$  to the resolution and taking cohomology. When we do this, the arrows are reversed, and the matrices with respect to the dual bases for the dual free modules are the transposes. It follows that  $\operatorname{Ext}_{S}^{2}(R, S)$  is the cokernel of the map  $S^3 \to S^2$  with matrix Xtr. We know a priori that this is an R-module, since  $\operatorname{Ann}_S R$  kills the Ext module. Map  $S^2$  onto  $(x_{11}, x_{12})R$  by  $(f, g) \mapsto x_{12}f - x_{11}g$ . Then it suffices to show that the kernel of this map is spanned by the columns of Xtr, i.e., by the rows of X. The columns are in the kernel, since the size 2 minors  $\Delta_i$  of X vanish in R. Working over S, an element (f, g) of the kernel corresponds to a solution of  $x_{12}f - x_{11}g = a\Delta_1 + b\Delta_2 + c\Delta_3$ . Note that all relations with  $f, g \in (\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \Delta_3) := P$ are obtainable from the three rows, because we know that the the cokernel of Xtr , which is  $\operatorname{Ext}^2_S(R,S)$ , is killed by  $\operatorname{Ann}_S R = (\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \Delta_3)$ . We then have that  $x_{12}f \in$  $(x_{11}, \Delta_i : 1 \leq i \leq 3) \subseteq (x_{11}, x_{21}, x_{31})S$ . It follows that  $f \in (x_{11}, x_{21}, x_{31})S$ . Hence by subtracting an S-linear combination of the rows of X from (f, g), we get a new relation in which f = 0. It will then suffice to show that  $g \in (\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \Delta_3)$ . In this case, we have  $-x_{11}g = a\Delta_1 + b\Delta_2 + c\Delta_3 \in (x_{11}, x_{12}x_{21}, x_{12}x_{31}, \Delta_1)$ . The result now follows if we know that P is prime. In fact, P is the kernel Q of the map from K[X] to the Segre product  $T := K[s_1, s_2, s_3] \#_K K[t_1, t_2]$  such that  $x_{ij} \mapsto s_i t_j$ . In the latter ring, each monomial such that the degree in the  $s_i$  is equal to the degree in the  $t_i$  can be written uniquely as a product of  $s_i t_j$  so as to use as many as possible terms of the form  $s_1 t_1$ , then  $s_1 t_2$ , then  $s_2t_2$ , then  $s_2t_2$ , then  $s_3t_1$ , then  $s_3t_2$ . The relations given by the minors enable to one to prove congruent mod P any two monomials  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  in the  $x_{ij}$  with the same image  $\mu$  in T. Use induction on the degrees of  $\alpha, \beta$ . Let i be smallest such that  $s_i$  occurs in  $\mu$  and j be smallest such that  $t_j$  occurs in  $\mu$ . If each of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  is congruent to a monomial involving  $x_{ij}$ , we can factor  $x_{ij}$  out and use the induction hypothesis. Suppose  $x_{ij}$  does not occur, say, in  $\alpha$ . Then  $x_{ij'}$  occurs, where 1' = 2 and 2' = 1. Then j' = 1 or we could have made a smaller choice of j. Also,  $x_{i*i}$  must occur for some i\*, and i\* > i or we could have made a smaller choice of i, But  $x_{i*j}x_{ij'} \equiv x_{ij}x_{i*j'}$ , so  $\alpha$  is congruent to a monomial involving  $x_{ij}$ mod the minors generating P. The same argument can be applied to  $\beta$ .

4. Since we are in an N-graded ring and working with homogeneous elements of positive degree, it suffices to show that the off-diagonal entries of the matrix and the coefficients (other than 1) form a regular sequence, for that regular sequence will be permutable

and we can place the coefficients first. It is clear that the off-diagonal variables form a regular sequence. Once we have killed these, the matrix becomes diagonal with entries  $x_i := x_{i,i}$ , and the characteristic polynomial become the coefficiens of  $(z-x_1)\cdots(z-x_n) =$  $z^n + c_1 z^{n-1} + \cdots + c_n$ . Any value of z is a root of this polynomial satisfies the condition that  $z^n \in (c_1, \ldots, c_n)$ . Since each  $x_i$  is a root of this polynomial, it follows that each  $x_i$  has its n th power in the ideal generated by the coefficients. Hence, the coefficients generate an ideal whose radical in  $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n](x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  is the maximal ideal. Thus, the coefficients are a system of parameters in the regular (hence, Cohen-Macaulay) ring  $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ . Thus, they are a regular sequence in this localized ring. By Problem 1., they form a regular sequence in  $K[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ .  $\Box$ 

**5.** The ring has dimension 2, since its integral extension K[x, y] does, and the maximal ideal is nilpotent modulo  $(x^4, y^4)$ , so  $x^4, y^4$  will be a system of parameters in  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$ . It is easy to show by induction on n that the monomials in the ring in degree 4n, for  $n \geq 1$ , are all monomials of degree 4n except  $x^{4n-1}y$ . It is clear that one cannot obtain any monomial linear in y, and one does get all the others: once  $n \geq 2$  if the exponent on x is at least 4 one can factor out  $x^4$ . If the exponent i on x is  $\leq 3$ , the exponent on y is at least 4n-3 and one may factor out  $y^4$  except when n=2, but when i=3, n=2. But  $x^3y^5 = (x^2y^2)(xy^3)$ . If there is a relation  $fx^4 = gy^4, g$  is divisible by  $x^4$  in the polynomial ring, and  $g/x^4$  cannot have a term that is linear in y unless g does, so  $g \in x^4R$ . Thus  $x^4, y^4$  is a regular sequence in R, and so in  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$ . Hence,  $R_{\mathfrak{m}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay.  $\Box$ 

6. Elements form a possibly improper regular sequence on a direct sum if and only if they form a form a possibly improper regular sequence in each nontrivial summand. Hence,  $x_1^d, \ldots, x_n^d$  is a possibly improper regular sequence on S. Since these elements generate a proper ideal, they form a regular sequence. This remains true in  $S_{\mathfrak{m}}$ , where they are a system of parameters. Hence,  $S_{\mathfrak{m}}$  is Cohen-Macaaulay. It remains to determine the dimension of the socle in  $S/(x_1^d, \ldots, x_n^d)$ . (This ring is already local.) This will be generated by all monomials  $x_1^{d-1-a_1} \cdots x_n^{d-1-a_n}$  where  $0 \le a_i \le d-1$  ( $a_i \ge 0$  guarantees that the monomial is not divisible by  $x_i^d$ ) such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + 1)$  is a multiple of d (so that the monomial is in S) and such that for any choice of  $x_1^{b_1} \cdots x_n^{b_n}$  with the  $b_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sum_{i} b_i = d$ , one has that at least one  $a_i - 1 + b_i \ge d$ . This precisely forces  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i < d$ . (Otherwise one may choose values for  $b_i \leq a_i$  whose sum is d, and  $x_1^{b_1} \dots x_n^{b_n}$  will not multiply  $x_1d - 1 - a_1 \cdots x_n^{d-1-a_n}$  into  $(x_1^d, \dots, x_n^d)$ . Hence, we wish to count the *n*-tuples of nonnegative integers in with sum s < d such that s - n is divisible by d. Thus, the possibilities for s are the integers dk - n with  $0 \le dk - n < d$ , i.e.,  $n/d \le k < (n/d) + 1$ . Thus,  $k = \lceil \frac{n}{d} \rceil$ , s = dk - n, and we must count the number of choices of  $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \mathbb{N}$ with  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i = s$ . Use consecutive dots to represent values of the  $a_i$  separated by n-1slashes. The number of choices for the  $a_i$  is the number of strings consisting of s + n - 1 =dk - n + n - 1 = dk - 1 elements with s dots and n - 1 slashes. These are determined by the placement of the slashes. Hence, the type is  $\binom{\lceil \frac{n}{d} \rceil d - 1}{n-1}$ .

**EC7.** The injective hull of R/I is an maximal essential extension of K as an R/I-module, and one may take a maximal extension of this as an R-module, which will also be a maximal essential extension of K. This gives an injection of  $E_{R/I}(K)$  into  $E_R(K)$ . It is contained in the annihilator M of I in  $E_R(K)$ . But M is an (R/I)-module, and is an essential extension of K. Since  $E_{R/I}(K) \subseteq M$  and  $E_{R/I}(K)$  is a maximal essential extension, we must have  $E_{R/I}(K) = M.$ 

**EC8.** The number of elements in the proposed system of parameters is corrected, so it suffices to show that the homogeneous maximal ideal is nilpotent mod these. If we renumber the first row by omitting the subscript 1, then after killing prescribed elements the matrix has 0 below the first diagonal,  $x_1$  on the first diagonal,  $x_2$  on the second diagonal, as so forth. We shall prove by induction on r and s that the ideal of minors is  $(x_1, \ldots, x_{s-r+1})^r$  power. The base cases are easy to check. For example, one of them is when s = r. In that case, the matrix is diagonal with  $x_1$  all along the diagonal.

We shall also use induction on k to prove that we get all monomials that are divisible by any of  $x_1, \ldots, x_k$ . From the size r minors that involve the first column and r-1 later columns, we get the product of  $x_1$  and each minor of a similar matrix with r, s replace by r-1, s-1. By the induction hypothesis, we get all monomials of degree r that are divisible by  $x_1$ . Now consider the matrix formed from by omitting the first column. Modulo  $x_1$ , this is an  $r \times (s-1)$  matrix of the same form, except that the variables on the diagonals are  $x_2, \ldots, x_{s-r+1}$ . By the induction hypothesis, modulo  $(x_1)$  the minors generate the ideal  $(x_2, \ldots, x_{s-r+1})^r$ . If we do not kill  $x_1$ , from the minors of this matrix we get, for every monomial  $\mu$  of degree r in the variables  $x_2, \ldots, x_r$ , an element of the form  $\mu + x_1\delta$ , where  $\delta$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree r-1. Since we already know that all degree r polynomials that are multiples of  $x_1$  are in the ideal,  $x_1\delta$  is in the ideal, and it follows that  $\mu$  is in the ideal.

The type is the number of monomials of degree r-1 in s-r+1 variables, which is  $\binom{s-r+r-1}{s-r} = \binom{s-1}{s-r} = \binom{s-1}{r-1}$ .