

CRITERIA FOR VANISHING OF TOR OVER COMPLETE INTERSECTIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we exploit properties of Dao's η -pairing [12] as well as techniques of Huneke, Jorgensen, and Wiegand [24] to study the vanishing of $\mathrm{Tor}_i(M, N)$ for finitely generated modules M, N over complete intersections. We prove vanishing of $\mathrm{Tor}_i(M, N)$ for all $i \geq 1$ under depth conditions on M, N , and $M \otimes N$. Our arguments improve a result of Dao [13] and establish a new connection between the vanishing of Tor and the depth of tensor products.

1. INTRODUCTION

In his seminal 1961 paper [1], Auslander proved that if R is a local ring and M and N are nonzero finitely generated R -modules such that $\mathrm{pd}(M) < \infty$ and $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, then

$$(1.0.1) \quad \mathrm{depth}(M) + \mathrm{depth}(N) = \mathrm{depth}(R) + \mathrm{depth}(M \otimes_R N),$$

that is, the *depth formula* holds. Huneke and Wiegand [25, Theorem 2.5] established the depth formula for Tor-independent modules (not necessarily of finite projective dimension) over complete intersection rings. Christensen and Jorgensen [11] extended that result to AB rings [23], a class of Gorenstein rings strictly containing the class of complete intersections. The depth formula is important for the study of depths of tensor products of modules [1, 25], as well as of complexes [20, 28]. We seek conditions on the modules M, N and $M \otimes_R N$ forcing such a formula to hold, in particular, conditions implying $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. The following conjecture, implicit in [24], guides our search:

Conjecture 1.1 (see [24]). *Let M, N be finitely generated modules over a complete intersection R of codimension c . If $M \otimes_R N$ is a $(c+1)^{\mathrm{st}}$ syzygy and M has rank, must $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$?*

The conjecture is true if $c = 0$ or 1 , by [32, Corollary 1] and [25, Theorem 2.7] respectively. Without the assumption of rank, there are easy counterexamples, e.g., $R = k[[x, y]]/(xy)$ and $M = N = R/(x)$; M is an n^{th} syzygy for all n , but the odd index Tors are non-zero.

A finitely generated module over a complete intersection is an n^{th} syzygy of some finitely generated module if and only if it satisfies *Serre's condition* (S_n); see (2.6). Our methods yield a sharpening of the following theorem due to Dao:

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Theorem 1.2 (Dao [13]). *Let R be a complete intersection in an unramified regular local ring, of relative codimension c , and let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume*

- (i) *M and N satisfy (S_c) ,*
- (ii) *$M \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_{c+1}) , and*
- (iii) *$M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a free $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}$ of height at most c .*

Then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ (and hence the depth formula holds).

By analyzing Serre's conditions, we remove Dao's assumption that the ambient regular local ring be unramified; see Corollary 3.14. Even though complete intersections in unramified regular local rings suffice for many applications, our conclusion is of interest: Dao's proof uses the nonnegativity of partial Euler characteristics, but nonnegativity remains unknown for the ramified case; see [13, Theorem 6.3 and the proof of Lemma 7.7].

If the ambient regular local ring *is* unramified, we can replace c with $c - 1$ in both hypotheses (i) and (ii), remove hypothesis (iii), and still conclude that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ *provided* that $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$; see (3.1) for the definition of $\eta_c^R(-, -)$ and Theorem 3.10 for our result.

Moore, Piepmeyer, Spiroff, and Walker [36],[41] have proved vanishing of the η -pairing in several important cases. These, in turn, yield results on vanishing of Tor . See Proposition 4.1, Theorem 4.2, and Corollary 4.3.

Our proofs rely on a reduction technique using *quasi-liftings*; see (2.8). Quasi-liftings were initially defined and studied by Huneke, Jorgensen and Wiegand in [24]. Lemma 3.9 is the key ingredient for our argument. It shows that if $R = S/(f)$ and S is a complete intersection of codimension $c - 1$, and if $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$, then $\eta_{c-1}^S(E, F) = 0$, where E and F are quasi-liftings of M and N to S , respectively. By induction, we obtain that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, F) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$: this allows us to prove the vanishing of $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ from the depth and syzygy relations between the pairs E, F and M, N .

In the Appendix we revisit the paper of Huneke and Wiegand [25] and use our work to obtain one of the main results there. Moreover, we point out an oversight in Miller's paper [34] and state her result in its corrected form as Corollary B.3.

2. PRELIMINARIES

We review a few concepts and results, especially universal pushforwards and quasi-liftings [24, 25]. Throughout R will be a commutative noetherian ring.

Let $\nu_R(M)$ denote the minimal number of generators of the R -module M . If $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ is local, the *codimension* of R is $\mathrm{codim}(R) := \nu_R(\mathfrak{m}) - \dim(R)$; it is a non-negative integer. We have $\mathrm{codim}(\widehat{R}) = \mathrm{codim}(R)$, where $\widehat{R}$ is the $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic completion of R .

2.1. Complete intersections. R is a *complete intersection in a local ring* $(Q, \mathfrak{n})$ if there a surjection $\pi: Q \twoheadrightarrow R$ with $\ker(\pi)$ generated by a Q -regular sequence in $\mathfrak{n}$; the length of this regular sequence is the *relative codimension of R in Q* . A *hypersurface in Q* is a complete intersection of relative codimension one in Q .

Assume $\widehat{R}$ is a complete intersection in a regular local ring $(Q, \mathfrak{n})$, of relative codimension c . Then $\widehat{R} = Q/(\underline{f})$ for a regular sequence $\underline{f} = f_1, \dots, f_c$, where $\mathrm{codim}(R) \leq c$. Moreover, the codimension of R is c if and only if $(\underline{f}) \subseteq \mathfrak{n}^2$.

A ring is a *complete intersection* (resp., *hypersurface*) if it is local and its completion is a complete intersection (resp., hypersurface) in a regular local ring.

2.2. Ramified regular local rings. A regular local ring $(Q, \mathfrak{n}, k)$ is said to be *unramified* if either (i) Q is equicharacteristic, i.e., contains a field, or else (ii) $Q \supset \mathbb{Z}$, $\text{char}(k) = p$, and $p \notin \mathfrak{n}^2$. In contrast, the regular local ring $R = V[x]/(x^2 - p)$, where V is the ring of p -adic integers, is *ramified*. Every localization, at a prime ideal, of an unramified regular local ring is again unramified; see [1, Lemma 3.4].

Let $(Q, \mathfrak{n}, k)$ be a d -dimensional complete regular local ring. If Q is ramified, then k has characteristic p . Further, there is a complete unramified discrete valuation ring (V, pV) such that $Q \cong T/(p - f)$, where $T = V[[x_1, \dots, x_d]]$ and f is contained in the square of the maximal ideal of T ; see for example [5, Chapter IX, §3]. Hence every complete regular local ring is a hypersurface in an unramified one. Consequently, when R is a complete intersection, $\widehat{R}$ is a complete intersection in an unramified regular local ring Q such that $\text{codim } R \leq c \leq \text{codim } \widehat{R} + 1$, where c is the relative codimension of $\widehat{R}$ in Q .

2.3. The depth formula ([25, Theorem 2.5]). Let R be a complete intersection and let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. If $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, then the *depth formula* (1.0.1) holds, that is,

$$\text{depth}(M) + \text{depth}(N) = \text{depth}(R) + \text{depth}(M \otimes_R N).$$

Recall that $\text{depth}(0) = \infty$, so the formula holds trivially if a zero module appears.

2.4. Torsion submodule. The *torsion submodule* $\mathcal{T}_R M$ of M is the kernel of the natural homomorphism $M \rightarrow Q(R) \otimes_R M$, where $Q(R) = \{\text{non-zero-divisors}\}^{-1}R$ is the total quotient ring of R . The module M is *torsion* if $\mathcal{T}_R M = M$, and *torsion-free* if $\mathcal{T}_R M = 0$. To restate, M is torsion-free if and only if every non-zero-divisor of R is a non-zero-divisor on M , that is, if and only if $\bigcup \text{Ass } M \subseteq \bigcup \text{Ass } R$. Similarly, M is torsion if and only if $M_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(R)$. For notation, the inclusion $\mathcal{T}_R M \subseteq M$ has cokernel $\perp_R M$:

$$(2.4.1) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}_R M \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow \perp_R M \longrightarrow 0.$$

2.5. Torsionless and reflexive modules. Let M be a finitely generated R -module; M^* denotes its dual $\text{Hom}_R(M, R)$. The module M is *torsionless* if it embeds in a free module, equivalently, the canonical map $M \rightarrow M^{**}$ is injective. Torsionless modules are torsion-free, and the converse holds if $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is Gorenstein for every associated prime $\mathfrak{p}$ of R ; see [40, Theorem A.1]. The module M is *reflexive* provided the map $M \rightarrow M^{**}$ is an isomorphism.

2.6. Serre's conditions (see [31, Appendix A, §1] and [18, Theorem 3.8]). Let M be a finitely generated R -module and let n be a nonnegative integer. Then M is said to satisfy *Serre's condition* (S_n) provided that

$$\text{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) \geq \min\{n, \text{height}(\mathfrak{p})\} \text{ for all } \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp}(M).$$

A finitely generated module M over a local ring R is *maximal Cohen-Macaulay* if $\text{depth}(M) = \dim(R)$; necessary for this equality is that $M \neq 0$.

If M satisfies (S_1) , then M is torsion-free, and the converse holds if R has no embedded primes, e.g., is reduced or Cohen-Macaulay; see (2.4). If R is Gorenstein, M satisfies (S_2) if and only if M is reflexive; see (2.5) and [18, Theorem 3.6]. Moreover, if R is Gorenstein, M satisfies (S_n) if and only if M is an n^{th} syzygy module; see [31, Corollary A.12].

A localization of a torsion-free module need not be torsion-free; see, for example, [38, Example 3.9]. However, over Cohen-Macaulay rings, we have:

Remark 2.7. Assume R is Cohen-Macaulay and M is a finitely generated R -module. Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal of R . Note that, since $\mathbb{T}_R M$ is killed by a non-zero-divisor of R , $(\mathbb{T}_R M)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a torsion $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module. Next, $\perp_R M$ satisfies (S_1) as R is Cohen-Macaulay, and so $(\perp_R M)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a torsion-free $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module; see (2.6). Localizing the exact sequence (2.4.1) at $\mathfrak{p}$, we see that $(\mathbb{T}_R M)_{\mathfrak{p}} \cong \mathbb{T}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}})$. In particular, if M is a torsion-free R -module, then $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a torsion-free $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module.

We recall a technique from [24, §1] for lowering the codimension.

2.8. Pushforward and quasi-lifting (see [24, §1]). Let R be a Gorenstein local ring and let M be a finitely generated torsion-free R -module. Choose a surjection $\varepsilon: R^{(\nu)} \twoheadrightarrow M^*$ with $\nu = \nu_R(M^*)$. Applying $\text{Hom}(-, R)$ to this surjection, we obtain an injection $\varepsilon^*: M^{**} \hookrightarrow R^{(\nu)}$. Let M_1 be the cokernel of the composition $M \hookrightarrow M^{**} \hookrightarrow R^{(\nu)}$. The exact sequence

$$(2.8.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow R^{(\nu)} \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow 0$$

is called a *pushforward* of M . The extension (2.8.1) and the module M_1 are unique up to non-canonical isomorphism; see [7, pp. 174–175]. We refer to such a module M_1 as the pushforward of M . Note $M_1 = 0$ if and only if M is free.

Assume $R = S/(f)$ where $(S, \mathfrak{n})$ is a local ring and f is a non-zero-divisor in $\mathfrak{n}$. Let $S^{(\nu)} \twoheadrightarrow M_1$ be the composition of the canonical map $S^{(\nu)} \twoheadrightarrow R^{(\nu)}$ and the map $R^{(\nu)} \twoheadrightarrow M_1$ in (2.8.1). The *quasi-lifting* of M to S is the module E in the exact sequence of S -modules:

$$(2.8.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow E \rightarrow S^{(\nu)} \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow 0.$$

The quasi-lifting of M is unique up to isomorphism of S -modules.

Proposition 2.9 is from [24, Propositions 1.6 & 1.7]; Proposition 2.10 is embedded in the proofs of [24, Propositions 1.8 & 2.4] and is recorded explicitly in [7, Proposition 3.2(3)(b)]. We will use Proposition 2.10 in the proofs of Theorem 3.10 and Theorem B.2 below.

Proposition 2.9 ([24]). *Let R be a Gorenstein local ring and let M be a finitely generated torsion-free R -module. Let M_1 denote the pushforward of M .*

- (i) *Let $n \geq 0$. Then M satisfies (S_{n+1}) if and only if M_1 satisfies (S_n) .*
- (ii) *Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal. If $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a maximal Cohen-Macaulay $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module, then $(M_1)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is either zero or a maximal Cohen-Macaulay $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module.*

Proposition 2.10 ([24]). *Let $R = S/(f)$ where S is a complete intersection and f is a non-zero-divisor in S . Let N be a finitely generated torsion-free R -module such that $M \otimes_R N$ is reflexive. Assume $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, and for all primes $\mathfrak{p}$ of R with $\text{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq 1$.*

- (i) *Then $M_1 \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free.*
- (ii) *Let E and F denote the quasi-liftings of M and N to S , respectively; see (2.8). Assume $\text{Tor}_i^S(E, F) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.*

Serre's conditions (S_n) need not ascend along flat local homomorphisms. This can be problematic:

Example 2.11. The ring $\mathbb{C}[[x, y, u, v]]/(x^2, xy)$ has depth two and therefore, by Heitmann's theorem [21, Theorem 8], it is the completion $\widehat{R}$ of a unique factorization domain $(R, \mathfrak{m})$. Then R , being normal, satisfies (S_2) , but $\widehat{R}$ does not even satisfy (S_1) , since the localization at the height-one prime ideal (x, y) has depth zero.

For flat local homomorphisms between Cohen-Macaulay rings, and more generally when the fibers are Cohen-Macaulay, however, (S_n) *does* ascend and descend:

Lemma 2.12. *Let R be a local ring, $\mathfrak{p}$ a prime ideal of R , and M a finitely generated R -module.*

- (1) *If M is reflexive, then so is the $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$.*
- (2) *Suppose R is Cohen-Macaulay. Then $(\tau_R M)_{\mathfrak{p}} = \tau_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}} M_{\mathfrak{p}}$; in particular, if M is torsion-free, then so is $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$.*
- (3) *Suppose $R \rightarrow S$ is a flat local homomorphism. If $S \otimes_R M$ satisfies (S_n) as an S -module, then M satisfies (S_n) as an R -module; the converse holds when the fibers of the map $R \rightarrow S$ are Cohen-Macaulay.*

Proof. For part (1), localize the isomorphism $M \rightarrow M^{**}$. Part (2) is Remark 2.7. Part (3) can be proved along the same lines as [33, Theorem 23.9]: For any $\mathfrak{q}$ in $\text{Spec } S$ with $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q} \cap R$, it follows from [33, Theorem 15.1 and Theorem 23.3] that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{height}(\mathfrak{q}) &= \text{height}(\mathfrak{p}) + \dim(S_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{p}S_{\mathfrak{q}}) \quad \text{and} \\ \text{depth}_{S_{\mathfrak{q}}}(S \otimes_R M)_{\mathfrak{q}} &= \text{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) + \text{depth}(S_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{p}S_{\mathfrak{q}}). \end{aligned}$$

When $S \otimes_R M$ satisfies (S_n) , for $\mathfrak{q}$ minimal in $S/\mathfrak{p}S$ these equalities give

$$\text{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \text{depth}_{S_{\mathfrak{q}}}(S \otimes_R M)_{\mathfrak{q}} \geq \min\{n, \text{height}(\mathfrak{q})\} = \min\{n, \text{height}(\mathfrak{p})\}.$$

Thus M satisfies (S_n) . Conversely, if $S_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{p}S_{\mathfrak{q}}$ is Cohen-Macaulay and the R -module M satisfies (S_n) , one gets

$$\text{depth}_{S_{\mathfrak{q}}}(S \otimes_R M)_{\mathfrak{q}} \geq \min\{n, \text{height}(\mathfrak{p})\} + \dim(S_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathfrak{p}S_{\mathfrak{q}}) \geq \min\{n, \text{height}(\mathfrak{q})\}.$$

This completes the proof of part (3). $\square$

3. MAIN THEOREM

Our main result, Theorem 3.10, is here. We use the θ and η -pairings introduced by Hochster [22] and Dao [13]. After preliminaries on these, we focus on complete intersections; see (2.1), the setting of our applications.

3.1. The θ and η pairings (Hochster [22] and Dao [12, 13]). Let R be a local ring and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume that there exists an integer f (depending on M and N), such that $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \geq f$.

If R is a hypersurface, then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) \cong \text{Tor}_{i+2}^R(M, N)$ for all $i \gg 0$; see [17]. Hochster [22] introduced the θ pairing as follows:

$$\theta^R(M, N) = \text{length}(\text{Tor}_{2n}^R(M, N)) - \text{length}(\text{Tor}_{2n-1}^R(M, N)) \text{ for } n \gg 0.$$

When R is any complete intersection, Dao [13, Definition 4.2.] defined:

$$\eta_e^R(M, N) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^e} \sum_{i=f}^n (-1)^i \text{length}(\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)).$$

The η -pairing is a natural extension to complete intersections of the θ -pairing. Moreover the following statements hold; see [13, 4.3].

- (i) $\eta_e^R(M, -)$ and $\eta_e^R(-, N)$ are additive on short exact sequences, provided η_e^R is defined on the pairs of modules involved.
- (ii) If R is a hypersurface, then $\eta_1^R(M, N) = \frac{1}{2}\theta^R(M, N)$. Hence $\eta_1^R(M, N) = 0$ if and only if $\theta^R(M, N) = 0$.

Assume R is a complete intersection.

- (iii) $\eta_e^R(M, N) = 0$ if $e \geq \text{codim } R$ and either M or N has finite length.
- (iv) η_e^R is finite when $e = \text{codim}(R)$, and η_e^R is zero when $e > \text{codim } R$.

The next result (Dao [13, Theorem 6.3]), on *Tor-rigidity*, shows the utility of the η -pairing.

Theorem 3.2 (Dao [13]). *Let R be a local ring whose completion is a complete intersection, of relative codimension $c \geq 1$, in an unramified regular local ring. Let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$, and that $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$. Then the pair M, N is c -Tor-rigid, that is, if $s \geq 0$ and $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i = s, \dots, s + c - 1$, then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq s$.*

The following conjectures have received quite a bit of attention:

Conjectures 3.3. Assume R is a local ring which is an isolated singularity, i.e., $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a regular local ring for all non-maximal prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}$ of R .

- (i) (Dao [12, Conjecture 3.15]) If R is an equicharacteristic hypersurface of even dimension, then $\eta_1^R(M, N) = 0$ for all finitely generated R -modules M, N .
- (ii) (Moore, Piepmeyer, Spiroff and Walker [36, Conjecture 2.4]) If R is a complete intersection of codimension $c \geq 2$, then $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$ for all finitely generated R -modules M, N .

Moore, Piepmeyer, Spiroff and Walker [35] have settled Conjecture 3.3(i) in the affirmative for certain types of affine algebras. Polishchuk and Vaintrob [39, Remark 4.1.5], as well as Buchweitz and Van Straten [6, Main Theorem], have since given other proofs, in somewhat different contexts, of this result; see Theorem 4.2 for a recent result of Walker [41] concerning Conjecture 3.3(ii), and Corollary 4.3 for an application of his result.

Our proofs of Lemma 3.6 and Theorem B.2 use the following (see [1, Lemma 3.1] or [25, Lemma 1.1]).

Remark 3.4. Let R be a local ring, and let M and N be nonzero finitely generated R -modules. Assume $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free. Then $M \otimes_R N \cong M \otimes \perp_R N$. Moreover, if $\text{Tor}_1^R(M, \perp_R N) = 0$, then $\text{Tor}_1^R(M, N) = 0$, and hence N is torsion-free.

We encounter the same hypotheses often enough to warrant a piece of notation.

Notation 3.5. Let c be a positive integer. A pair M, N of finitely generated modules over a ring R satisfies (SP_c) provided the following conditions hold:

- (i) M and N satisfy Serre's condition (S_{c-1}) .
- (ii) $M \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_c) .
- (iii) $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$.

Hypersurfaces. We begin with a lemma analogous to [14, Proposition 3.1]; however, we do not assume any depth properties on M or N ; see (2.1) and (3.5).

Lemma 3.6. *Let R be a local ring whose completion is a hypersurface in an unramified regular local ring, and let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume the following hold:*

- (i) $\dim(R) \geq 1$.
- (ii) *The pair M, N satisfies (SP_1) .*
- (iii) $\text{Supp}_R(\tau_R N) \subseteq \text{Supp}_R(M)$.
- (iv) $\theta^R(M, N) = 0$.

Then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, and N is torsion-free.

Proof. Consider the following conditions for a prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ of R :

$$(3.6.1) \quad (\tau_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} \text{ has finite length over } R_{\mathfrak{p}}, \text{ and } \dim(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) \geq 1.$$

CLAIM: If $\mathfrak{p}$ is as in (3.6.1), then $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.

We may assume that $M_{\mathfrak{p}} \neq 0$. We know from (ii) that $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, N_{\mathfrak{p}})$ has finite length over $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for all $i \gg 0$. Since $(\tau_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ has finite length, the exact sequence (2.4.1) for N , localized at $\mathfrak{p}$, shows that $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}})$ has finite length over $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for all $i \gg 0$.

Using the additivity of $\theta^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}$ along the same exact sequence, we see that

$$(3.6.1) \quad \theta^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}) = -\theta^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\tau_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0,$$

the last by (3.1).

Since $\perp_R N$ is a torsionless R -module (see (2.5)), there exists an exact sequence

$$(3.6.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow \perp_R N \rightarrow R^{(n)} \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0.$$

Localizing this sequence at $\mathfrak{p}$, we see that, for $i \gg 0$, $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}})$ has finite length and hence (since $\dim(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) \geq 1$) is torsion. Now Corollary A.2 forces $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}})$ to be torsion for all $i \geq 1$.

From (3.6.2), we see that $\text{Tor}_1^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}})$ embeds into $M_{\mathfrak{p}} \otimes_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}} (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$. But $\text{Tor}_1^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}})$ is torsion, and (by Remarks 2.7 and 3.4) $M_{\mathfrak{p}} \otimes_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}} (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is torsion-free; therefore $\text{Tor}_1^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$.

Next we note that $\theta^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}}) = -\theta^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$; see (3.6.2) and (3.6.1). This implies, by Theorem 3.2, that $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, Z_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$; see (3.1). The claim now follows from (3.6.2).

If $\tau_R N \neq 0$, then there is a prime $\mathfrak{p}$ minimal in $\text{Supp}_R(\tau_R N)$, and so $(\tau_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a nonzero module of finite length. Moreover $\dim(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) \geq 1$: otherwise $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}(R)$ and hence $(\tau_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$; see (2.4). Thus $\mathfrak{p}$ satisfies (3.6.1) and, by our claim, $\text{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, (\perp_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for $i \geq 1$. The hypothesis (iii) on supports implies that $M_{\mathfrak{p}} \neq 0$, and now Remark 3.4 yields a contradiction. We conclude that $\tau_R N = 0$.

Applying the claim to the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ of R yields the required vanishing. $\square$

Remark 3.7.

- (i) The hypothesis (iii) of Lemma 3.6 holds when, for example, the support of N is contained in that of M . Moreover, if R is a domain and M and N are nonzero, then, since $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free, we see that $\text{Supp}(M \otimes_R N) = \text{Spec}(R)$, whence $\text{Supp}(M) = \text{Spec}(R)$.
- (ii) Most of the hypotheses in Lemma 3.6 are essential; see the discussion after [27, Remark 1.5]. Notice, without the assumption that $\dim(R) \geq 1$, the lemma would fail. Take, for example, $R = \mathbb{C}[x]/(x^2)$ and $M = R/(x) = N$. The

vanishing of θ is also essential: let $R = \mathbb{C}[[x, y]]/(xy)$, $M = R/(x)$ and $N = R/(x^2)$. Then the pair M, N satisfies the conditions (ii) and (iii) of Lemma 3.6. On the other hand $\mathrm{Tor}_{2i+1}^R(M, N) \cong k$ for all $i \geq 0$, and $\mathrm{Tor}_{2i}^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. (Thus $\theta^R(M, N) = -1$.)

The completion of any regular ring is a hypersurface in an unramified regular local ring; see (2.2). Hence the following consequence of Lemma 3.6 extends Lichtenbaum's [32, Corollary 3], which in turn builds on Auslander's [1, Theorem 3.2]; cf. C. Miller's result recorded as Corollary B.3 here.

Proposition 3.8. *Let $(R, \mathfrak{m})$ be a d -dimensional local ring whose completion is a hypersurface in an unramified regular local ring, with $d \geq 1$, and let M be a finitely generated R -module. Assume $\mathrm{pd}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}) < \infty$ for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$ and that $\theta^R(M, -) = 0$. If $\otimes_R^n M$ is torsion-free for some integer $n \geq 2$, then $\mathrm{pd}(M) \leq (d-1)/n$. Consequently, if M is not free, then $\otimes_R^n M$ has torsion for each $n \geq \max\{2, d\}$.*

Proof. We may assume $M \neq 0$. Iterating Lemma 3.6 shows that $\otimes_R^p M$ is torsion-free for $p = 1, \dots, n$, and that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, \otimes_R^{p-1} M) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Taking $p = 2$, we see from [27, Theorem 1.9] that $\mathrm{pd}(M) < \infty$. Since $\mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^n M) \geq 1$, one obtains, using [1, Corollary 1.3] and the Auslander-Buchsbaum formula [3, Theorem 3.7], $n \cdot \mathrm{pd}(M) = \mathrm{pd}(\otimes_R^n M) = d - \mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^n M) \leq d - 1$. $\square$

Complete intersections. Hypersurfaces in complete intersections give the inductive step for our proof of Theorem 3.10; see (2.8) on pushforwards.

Lemma 3.9. *Let $(S, \mathfrak{n})$ be a complete intersection, and let R be a hypersurface in S . Let M and N be finitely generated torsion-free R -modules, and let E and F be the quasi-liftings of M and N , respectively, to S . Assume $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$. Let e be an integer with $e \geq \max\{2, \mathrm{codim}(S) + 1\}$. Then*

- (i) $\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, F)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$, and
- (ii) $\eta_{e-1}^S(E, F) = 2 \cdot e \cdot \eta_e^R(M, N)$.

Proof. By hypothesis, $R \cong S/(f)$, where f is a non-zerodivisor in S . The spectral sequence associated to the change of rings $S \rightarrow R$ yields the following exact sequence, see [32, pp. 223–224] or [37, p. 561], for all $n \geq 1$:

$$\cdots \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_{n-1}^R(M, N) \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_n^S(M, N) \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_n^R(M, N) \rightarrow \cdots$$

Consequently $\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(M, N)$ has finite length for $i \gg 0$. Let M_1 and N_1 be the pushforwards of M and N , respectively. Since $\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(R, -) = 0$ for all $i \geq 2$, the sequences (2.8.2) and (2.8.1) yield isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, N) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_{i+1}^S(M_1, N) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_i^S(M, N) \text{ for all } i \geq 2.$$

Arguing in the same vein, one gets isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, F) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, N) \text{ for all } i \geq 2.$$

Hence the length of $\mathrm{Tor}_i^S(E, F)$ is finite for all $i \gg 0$, and so (i) holds.

Similar arguments show the η -pairing, over both R and S , as appropriate, is defined for all pairs (X, Y) with $X \in \{M, M_1, E\}$ and $Y \in \{N, N_1, F\}$.

By hypothesis, $\text{codim}(S) \leq e - 1$, and hence $\text{codim}(R) \leq e$; see (2.1). Additivity of η along the exact sequences (2.8.1) and (2.8.2) thus gives

$$\begin{aligned}\eta_e^R(M, N) &= -\eta_e^R(M_1, N) = \eta_e^R(M_1, N_1) \text{ and} \\ \eta_{e-1}^S(E, F) &= -\eta_{e-1}^S(M_1, F) = \eta_{e-1}^S(M_1, N_1).\end{aligned}$$

Our assumption that $e \geq \max\{2, \text{codim } S + 1\}$, together with [13, Theorem 4.1(3)], allow us to invoke [13, Theorem 4.3(3)], which says that

$$2e \cdot \eta_e^R(M_1, N_1) = \eta_{e-1}^S(M_1, N_1).$$

This gives (ii), completing the proof. $\square$

The next theorem is our main result. As its hypotheses are technical, several of its consequences are discussed in section 4; see section 2 for background.

Theorem 3.10. *Let R be a local ring whose completion is a complete intersection in an unramified regular local ring, of relative codimension $c \geq 1$. Let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume the following hold:*

- (i) $\dim(R) \geq c$.
- (ii) *The pair (M, N) satisfies (SP_c) .*
- (iii) $\text{Supp}_R(\tau_R N) \subseteq \text{Supp}_R(M)$.
- (iv) $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$

Then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.

Proof. The case $c = 1$ is Lemma 3.6. For $c \geq 2$, proceed by induction on c . We can assume R is complete, so that $R = Q/(\underline{f})$, where Q is an unramified regular local ring and $\underline{f} = f_1, \dots, f_c$ is a Q -regular sequence; see (2.2) and (2.12). Let $R = S/(\underline{f})$, where $S = Q/(f_1, \dots, f_{c-1})$ and $\underline{f} = f_c$.

Hypothesis (ii) implies $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$; see (3.5). Hence Corollary A.3 implies that, for all primes $\mathfrak{p}$ with $\text{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq c - 1$,

$$(3.10.1) \quad \text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0 \text{ for all } i \geq 1.$$

Condition (ii) also implies M and N are torsion-free since $c \geq 2$; see (3.5). Hence quasi-liftings E and F of M and N to S exist; see (2.8). Using the vanishing of Tors in (3.10.1) and [24, Theorem 4.8] (cf. [7, Proposition 3.1(7)]), one gets that

$$(3.10.2) \quad E \otimes_S F \text{ satisfies } (S_{c-1}) \text{ as an } S\text{-module.}$$

It follows from [24, Propositions 1.6 and 1.7] (see also [7, Proposition 3.1(2) and 3.1(6)]) that the assumptions in (i) of (SP_c) pass to E and F ; see (3.5).

$$(3.10.3) \quad E \text{ and } F \text{ satisfy } (S_{c-1}) \text{ as } S\text{-modules.}$$

Lemma 3.9 guarantees that $\text{Tor}_i^S(E, F)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$ and that $\eta_{c-1}(E, F) = 0$. In particular the pair E, F satisfies (SP_{c-1}) over the ring S . Moreover, E and F , being syzygies, are torsion-free, so we indeed have that $\text{Supp}_S(\tau_S F) \subseteq \text{Supp}_S(E)$. Now the inductive hypothesis implies that

$$(3.10.4) \quad \text{Tor}_i^S(E, F) = 0 \text{ for all } i \geq 1.$$

Condition (ii) also implies that $M \otimes_R N$ is reflexive since $c \geq 2$; see (2.6). Further $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ and for all $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ with $\text{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq 1$; see (3.10.1). Thus Proposition 2.10 and (3.10.4) yield $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. $\square$

Remark 3.11. In Theorem 3.10, if $c \geq 2$, hypothesis (ii) implies that N is torsion-free, i.e., $\tau_R N = 0$; see (2.6) and (3.5). Thus, when $c \geq 2$, hypothesis (iii) of Theorem 3.10 is redundant.

When $\dim(R) > c$, the equivalence of (i) and (ii) in the following corollary seems interesting; see also (2.3). Actually, in that case the equivalence of (ii) and (iii) holds without the assumption that $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$. See [7, Corollary 2.4].

Corollary 3.12. *Let R be an isolated singularity whose completion is a complete intersection in an unramified regular local ring, of relative codimension c . Let M and N be maximal Cohen-Macaulay R -modules. Assume $\dim(R) \geq c$. Assume further that $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) $M \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_c) .
- (ii) $M \otimes_R N$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay.
- (iii) $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, and hence the depth formula holds.

Over a complete intersection, vanishing of Ext is closely related to vanishing of Tor : $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \gg 0$ if and only if $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \gg 0$; see [2, Remark 6.3]. Our next example shows the hypotheses of Theorem 3.10 do *not* force the vanishing of $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$ for all $i \geq 1$.

Example 3.13. Let $(R, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ be a complete intersection with $\text{codim}(R) = 2$ and $\dim(R) \geq 3$. Let N be the d th syzygy of k , where $d = \dim(R)$, and let M be the second syzygy of $R/(\underline{x})$, where $\underline{x}$ is a maximal R -regular sequence.

Note that N is maximal Cohen-Macaulay, $\text{depth}(M) = 2$ and $N_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is free over $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for all primes $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$. It follows, since $\text{pd}(M) < \infty$, that $\eta_2^R(M, N) = 0$ and $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$; see (3.1) and Theorem A.1. Therefore the depth formula (2.3) shows that $\text{depth}(M \otimes_R N) = 2$. Since M is a second syzygy, it satisfies (S_2) and hence $M \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_2) ; see (2.6). In particular, the pair M, N satisfies (SP_2) ; see (3.5). However $\text{Ext}_R^{d-2}(M, N) = \text{Ext}^d(R/(\underline{x}), N) \neq 0$; see, for example, [33, Chapter 19, Lemma 1(iii)].

Here is the extension of Dao's theorem [13, Theorem 7.7] promised in the introduction (cf. Theorem 1.2):

Corollary 3.14. *Let R be a local ring that is a complete intersection, and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume that the following conditions hold for some integer $e \geq \text{codim}(R)$:*

- (i) M and N satisfy (S_e) .
- (ii) $M \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_{e+1}) .
- (iii) $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a free for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}$ of R of height at most e .

Then $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ and hence the depth formula holds.

Proof. If $e = 0$ this is the theorem of Auslander [1] and Lichtenbaum [32, Corollary 2]. Assume now that $e \geq 1$. We use induction on $\dim R$. If $\dim R \leq e$, condition (iii) implies that M is free, and there is nothing to prove. Assuming $\dim R \geq e + 1$, we note that the hypotheses localize, so $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for each $i \geq 1$ and each prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ in the punctured spectrum of R ; that is to say, $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \geq 1$. Thus the pair M, N satisfies (SP_{e+1}) . Moreover, since $\text{codim } R < e + 1$, we have $\eta_{e+1}^R = 0$ by item (iv) of (3.1). The completion of R can be realized as a complete intersection, of relative codimension $e + 1$, in

an unramified regular local ring (see 2.2). Hence the desired result follows from Theorem 3.10. $\square$

4. VANISHING OF η

In this section we apply our results to situations where the η -pairing is known to vanish. We know, from Theorem 3.10, that, as long as the critical hypothesis $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$ holds, we can replace c with $c - 1$ in the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2 and still conclude the vanishing of Tor. Although it is not easy to verify vanishing of η (see Conjectures 3.3), there are several classes of rings R for which it is known that $\eta^R(M, N) = 0$ for all finitely generated R -modules M and N . For example, if R is an even-dimensional simple (“ADE”) singularity in characteristic zero, then Dao [12, Corollary 3.16] observed that $\theta^R(M, N) = 0$; see [12, Corollary 3.6] and also [12, §3] for more examples.

Now we give a localized version of a vanishing theorem for graded rings, due to Moore, Piepmeyer, Spiroff, and Walker [36].

Proposition 4.1. *Let k be a perfect field and $Q = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ the polynomial ring with the standard grading. Let $\underline{f} = f_1, \dots, f_c$ be a Q -regular sequence of homogeneous polynomials, with $c \geq 2$. Put $A = Q/(\underline{f})$ and $R = A_{\mathfrak{m}}$, where $\mathfrak{m} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Assume that $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a regular local ring for each $\mathfrak{p}$ in $\text{Spec}(A) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\}$. Then $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$ for all finitely generated R -modules M and N . In particular, if $n \geq 2c$ and the pair M, N satisfies (SP_c) , then M and N are Tor-independent.*

Proof. Choose finitely generated A -modules U and V such that $U_{\mathfrak{m}} \cong M$ and $V_{\mathfrak{m}} \cong N$. For any maximal ideal $\mathfrak{n} \neq \mathfrak{m}$, the local ring $A_{\mathfrak{n}}$ is regular and hence $\text{Tor}_i^A(U, V)_{\mathfrak{n}} = 0$ for $i \gg 0$. It follows that the map $\text{Tor}_i^A(U, V) \rightarrow \text{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ induced by the localization maps $U \rightarrow M$ and $V \rightarrow N$ is an isomorphism for $i \gg 0$. Also, for any A -module supported at $\mathfrak{m}$, its length as an A -module is equal to its length as an R -module. In conclusion, $\eta_c^R(M, N) = \eta_c^A(U, V)$.

As k is perfect, the hypothesis on A implies that the k -algebra $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is smooth for each non-maximal prime $\mathfrak{p}$ in A ; see [19, Corollary 16.20]. Thus, the morphism of schemes $\text{Spec}(R) \setminus \{\mathfrak{m}\} \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is smooth. Now [36, Corollary 4.7] yields $\eta_c^A(U, V) = 0$, and hence $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$. It remains to note that if $n \geq 2c$, then $\dim R \geq c$, so Theorem 3.10 applies. $\square$

Next, we quote a recent theorem due to Walker; it provides strong support for Conjectures 3.3, at least in equicharacteristic zero.

Theorem 4.2. (Walker [41, Theorem 1.2]) *Let k be a field of characteristic zero, and let Q a smooth k -algebra. Let $\underline{f} = f_1, \dots, f_c$ be a Q -regular sequence, with $c \geq 2$, and put $A = Q/(\underline{f})$. Assume the singular locus $\{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(A) : A_{\mathfrak{p}} \text{ is not regular}\}$ is a finite set of maximal ideals of A . Then $\eta_c^A(U, V) = 0$ for all finitely generated A -modules U, V .*

Corollary 4.3. *With A as in 4.2, put $R = A_{\mathfrak{m}}$ where $\mathfrak{m}$ is any maximal ideal of A . Then $\eta_c^R(M, N) = 0$ for all finitely generated R -modules M and N . In particular, if $\dim R \geq c$ and the pair M, N satisfies (SP_c) , then M and N are Tor-independent.*

Proof. By inverting a suitable element of Q , we may assume that $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a regular local ring for every prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{m}$. Now proceed as in the first paragraph of the proof of Proposition 4.1. $\square$

Theorem 4.4. *Let $(R, \mathfrak{m}, k)$ be a two-dimensional, equicharacteristic, normal, excellent complete intersection of codimension c , with $c \in \{1, 2\}$, and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume k is contained in the algebraic closure of a finite field. Assume further that M, N satisfy the conditions (i) and (ii) of (SP_c) . Then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.*

Proof. The completion $\widehat{R}$ is an isolated singularity because R is excellent; see [31, Proposition 10.9], and so $\widehat{R}$ is a normal domain. Replacing R by $\widehat{R}$, we may assume that $R = S/(\underline{f})$, where $(S, \mathfrak{n}, k)$ is a regular local ring and $\underline{f}$ is a regular sequence in $\mathfrak{n}^2$ of length c . Let $\bar{k}$ be an algebraic closure of k , and choose a *gonflement* $S \hookrightarrow (\bar{S}, \bar{\mathfrak{n}}, \bar{k})$ lifting the field extension $k \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$; see [31, Chapter 10, §3]. This is a flat local homomorphism and is an inductive limit of étale extensions. Moreover, $\mathfrak{n}\bar{S} = \bar{\mathfrak{n}}$, so $\bar{S}$ is a regular local ring. By [31, Proposition 10.15], both $\bar{S}$ and $\bar{R} := \bar{S}/(\underline{f})$ are excellent, and $\bar{R}$ is an isolated singularity. Therefore $(\bar{R}, \bar{\mathfrak{m}}, \bar{k})$ is a normal domain. Finally, we pass to the completion $\widehat{S}$ of $\bar{S}$ and put $\Lambda = \widehat{S}/(\underline{f})$. This is still an isolated singularity, a normal domain, and a complete intersection of codimension c . Moreover, our hypotheses on M and N ascend along the flat local homomorphism $R \rightarrow \Lambda$; see (2.12). Since Λ is an isolated singularity, $\mathrm{Tor}_i^\Lambda(\Lambda \otimes_R M, \Lambda \otimes_R N)$ has finite length for $i \gg 0$; thus the pair $\Lambda \otimes_R M, \Lambda \otimes_R N$ satisfies (SP_c) .

It follows from [8, Proposition 2.5 and Remark 2.6] that $G(\Lambda)/L$ is torsion, where $G(\Lambda)$ is the Grothendieck group of Λ and L is the subgroup generated by classes of modules of finite projective dimension. This implies that $\eta_c^\Lambda(\Lambda \otimes_R M, \Lambda \otimes_R N) = 0$; see [12, Corollary 3.1] and the paragraph preceding it. Now Theorem 3.10 implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^\Lambda(\Lambda \otimes_R M, \Lambda \otimes_R N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$: the requirement on supports is automatically satisfied, since Λ is a domain; see Remark 3.7(i). Faithfully flat descent completes the proof. $\square$

APPENDIX A. AN APPLICATION OF PUSHFORWARDS

In Theorem A.4 we use pushforwards to generalize a theorem due to Celikbas [7, Theorem 3.16]. We have two preparatory results. The first one is a special case of a theorem of Jorgensen:

Theorem A.1. ([29, Theorem 2.1]) *Let R be a complete intersection and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume M is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. If $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \gg 0$, then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.*

Corollary A.2. *Let R be a complete intersection and let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. If $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ is torsion for all $i \gg 0$, then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ is torsion for all $i \geq 1$.*

Proof. Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a minimal prime ideal of R . By (2.4), it suffices to prove that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, N_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. For that we may assume $M_{\mathfrak{p}} \neq 0$. Then, since $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is artinian, it follows that $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a maximal Cohen-Macaulay $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module. Therefore Theorem A.1 gives the desired vanishing. $\square$

Corollary A.3. *Let R be a complete intersection, and let M, N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume M satisfies (S_w) , where w is a positive integer, and that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$. Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a non-maximal prime ideal of R such that $\mathrm{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq w$. Then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.*

Proof. Serre's condition (S_w) localizes, so $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is either zero or a maximal Cohen-Macaulay $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module; see (2.6). As $\mathrm{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, N_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for $i \gg 0$, Theorem A.1 implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{\mathfrak{p}}, N_{\mathfrak{p}}) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. $\square$

The next theorem generalizes a result due to Celikbas [7, 3.16]; we emphasize that the ambient regular local ring in Theorem A.4 is allowed to be ramified.

Theorem A.4. *Let R be a complete intersection with $\dim R \geq \mathrm{codim} R$, and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. Assume the pair M, N satisfies (SP_c) for some $c \geq \mathrm{codim} R$. If $c = 1$, assume further that M or N is torsion-free. If $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N) = 0$, then $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.*

Proof. Without loss of generality, one may assume that $c = \mathrm{codim} R$. When $c = 0$, the desired result is the rigidity theorem of Auslander [1] and Lichtenbaum [32], so in the remainder of the proof we assume that $c \geq 1$.

Assume first that $c = 1$. By hypotheses $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for $i \gg 0$ and $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free; see (3.5). Moreover, we may assume N (say) is torsion-free. Tensoring M with the pushforward (2.8) for N gives the following:

$$(A.4.1) \quad \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N_1) \hookrightarrow M \otimes_R N$$

$$(A.4.2) \quad \mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N_1) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_{i-1}^R(M, N) \text{ for all } i \geq 2.$$

Equation (A.4.2) implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N_1)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$. Therefore, since $\dim(R) \geq 1$, $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N_1)$ is torsion for all $i \gg 0$; see (2.4). Now Corollary A.2 implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N_1)$ is torsion for all $i \geq 1$. As $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free, we deduce from (A.4.1) that $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N_1) = 0$. By (A.4.2) we have $\mathrm{Tor}_2^R(M, N_1) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N) = 0$. Therefore $\mathrm{Tor}_2^R(M, N_1) = 0 = \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N_1)$, and hence Murthy's rigidity theorem [37, Theorem 1.6] implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N_1) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Now (A.4.2) completes the proof for the case $c = 1$.

Assume now that $c \geq 2$. We define a sequence $M_0, M_1, \dots, M_{c-1}$ of finitely generated modules by setting $M_0 = M$, and M_n to be the pushforward of M_{n-1} , for all $n = 1, \dots, c-1$. These pushforwards exist: M_0 satisfies (S_{c-1}) by hypothesis (3.5)(i), and so, by Proposition 2.9(i),

- (1) each M_n satisfies (S_{c-n-1}) .

For the desired result, it suffices to prove that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq c$. We will, in fact, prove this for all $i \geq 1$. To this end, we establish by induction that the following hold for $n = 0, \dots, c-1$:

- (2) $M_n \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_{c-n}) ;
- (3) $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_n, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$;
- (4) $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_n, N) = 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n+1$.

For $n = 0$, conditions (2) and (3) are part of (3.5), while (4) is from our hypothesis that $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N) = 0$; recall that $M_0 = M$. Assume that (2), (3) and (4) hold for some integer n with $0 \leq n \leq c-2$.

Tensor the pushforward of M_n with N , see (2.8), to obtain

$$(A.4.3) \quad \mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{n+1}, N) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_{i-1}^R(M_n, N) \text{ for all } i \geq 2,$$

and the following exact sequence in which F is finitely generated and free:

$$(A.4.4) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{n+1}, N) \rightarrow M_n \otimes_R N \rightarrow F \otimes_R N \rightarrow M_{n+1} \otimes_R N \rightarrow 0.$$

Induction and (A.4.3) imply that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{n+1}, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$, so (3) holds; furthermore, by Corollary A.2, $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{n+1}, N)$ is torsion for all $i \geq 1$. (Recall that $\dim(R) \geq \mathrm{codim}(R) = c \geq 1$ so that finite length modules are torsion.) Since $n \leq c - 1$, condition (2) implies that $M_n \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_1) and hence $M_n \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free; therefore the exact sequence (A.4.4) forces $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{n+1}, N)$ to vanish. Now (A.4.3) gives (4). It remains to verify (2), namely, that $M_{n+1} \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_{c-n-1}) . To that end, let $\mathfrak{p} \in \mathrm{Supp}(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)$. We will verify that $\mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{c - n - 1, \mathrm{height}(\mathfrak{p})\}$; see (2.6).

Suppose $\mathrm{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \geq c - n$. Recall, by hypothesis (3.5)(i), N satisfies (S_{c-1}) . Hence $F \otimes_R N$, a direct sum of copies of N , satisfies (S_{c-n-1}) . In particular it follows that $\mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(F \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq c - n - 1$. Furthermore, by (2) of the induction hypothesis, we have that $\mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_n \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq c - n$. Recall that $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{n+1}, N) = 0$. Therefore, localizing the short exact sequence in (A.4.4) at $\mathfrak{p}$, we conclude by the depth lemma that $\mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq c - n - 1$.

Next assume $\mathrm{height}(\mathfrak{p}) \leq c - n - 1$. We want to show that $(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. By the induction hypotheses, $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_n, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$. As $n \geq 0$, we see that $\dim(R) \geq \mathrm{codim}(R) = c \geq c - n$, whence $\mathfrak{p}$ is not the maximal ideal. Thus $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_n, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \gg 0$. Now, setting $w = c - n - 1$ and using Corollary A.3 for the pair M_n, N , we conclude that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_n, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Then (A.4.3) and the already established fact that $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{n+1}, N) = 0$ give $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{n+1}, N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Thus the depth formula holds; see (2.3):

$$\mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{n+1})_{\mathfrak{p}} + \mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(N)_{\mathfrak{p}} = \mathrm{depth}(R_{\mathfrak{p}}) + \mathrm{depth}_{R_{\mathfrak{p}}}(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}.$$

Since Serre's conditions localize, $N_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay over $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$; see hypothesis (3.5)(i). Also, $(M_{n+1})_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay whether or not $(M_n)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is zero; see the pushforward sequence or Proposition 2.9(ii). By the depth formula, $(M_{n+1} \otimes_R N)_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Thus $M_{n+1} \otimes_R N$ satisfies (2), and the induction is complete.

Now we parallel the argument for the case $c = 1$. At the end, $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N)$ has finite length for all $i \gg 0$, and is equal to 0 for $i = 1, \dots, c$. Tensoring M_{c-1} with the pushforward of N , we get

$$(A.4.5) \quad \mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_{i-1}^R(M_{c-1}, N) \text{ for all } i \geq 2,$$

$$(A.4.6) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) \hookrightarrow M_{c-1} \otimes_R N.$$

In view of (A.4.5), it suffices to show that $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) = 0$: this will imply $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, c + 1$, and hence Murthy's rigidity theorem [37, Theorem 1.6] will yield that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$, and consequently $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_{c-1}, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ by (A.4.5). We know that $M_{c-1} \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free. Therefore we use (A.4.6) and Corollary A.2, and obtain $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_{c-1}, N_1) = 0$, as we did in the case $c = 1$. $\square$

APPENDIX B. AMENDING THE LITERATURE

We use Theorem A.4 to give a different proof of an important result of Huneke and Wiegand; see Theorem B.2 and the ensuing paragraph. We also point out a missing hypothesis in a result of C. Miller [34, Theorem 3.1], and state the corrected form of her theorem in Corollary B.3. At the end of the paper we indicate an alterate

route to the proof of the following result [25, Theorem 3.1], the main theorem of the 1994 paper of Huneke and Wiegand:

Theorem B.1 (Huneke and Wiegand [25]). *Let R be a hypersurface, and let M and N be finitely generated R -modules. If M or N has rank, and $M \otimes_R N$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay, then both M and N are maximal Cohen-Macaulay, and either M or N is free.*

Theorem B.1 and its variations have been analyzed, used, and studied in the literature; see [10] and [16] for some history and many consequences of the theorem. The following result [25, Theorem 2.7] played an important role in its proof.

Theorem B.2 (Huneke and Wiegand [25]). *Let R be a hypersurface and let M, N be nonzero finitely generated R -modules. Assume $M \otimes_R N$ is reflexive and that N has rank. Then the following conditions hold:*

- (i) $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$.
- (ii) M is reflexive, and N is torsion-free.

Theorem B.2 was established by Huneke and Wiegand in [25, Theorem 2.7]: however their conclusion was that *both* M and N are reflexive, and the proof of this stronger claim is flawed. Dao realized the oversight of [25, Theorem 2.7], and Huneke and Wiegand addressed it in the erratum [26]. A similar flaw can be found in Miller's paper; see [34, Theorems 1.3 and 1.4] and compare it with our correction in Corollary B.3. The version stated above reflects our current understanding and is from the paper [9]. We do not yet know whether N is forced to be reflexive, that is, the question below remains open; cf. [25, Theorem 2.7] and [34, Theorem 1.3].

Question. Let R be a hypersurface and M, N nonzero finitely generated R -modules. If N has rank and $M \otimes_R N$ is reflexive, must *both* M and N be reflexive?

This question has been recently studied in [9], which gives partial answers using the New Intersection Theorem.

We now show how Theorem B.2 follows from Theorem A.4. In fact, one needs only the case $c = 1$ of Theorem A.4.

Proof of Theorem B.2 using Theorem A.4. Set $d = \dim R$. If $d = 0$, then N is free (since it has rank), so all is well. From now on assume $d \geq 1$. We remark at the outset that neither M nor N can be torsion, i.e., $\perp_R M \neq 0$ and $\perp_R N \neq 0$. Also, by the assumption of rank, $\mathrm{Supp}(N) = \mathrm{Spec}(R)$. Suppose first that both M and N are torsion-free; we will prove (i) by induction on $d = \dim R$. Let M_1 denote the pushforward of M ; see (2.8). Then $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_1, N)$ is torsion as N has rank. Since $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free, applying $-\otimes_R N$ to (2.8.1) shows that

$$(B.2.1) \quad \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_1, N) = 0.$$

Suppose for the moment that $d = 1$. Since N has rank, there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow F \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0,$$

in which F is free and C is torsion. (See [25, Lemma 1.3].) Note that C is of finite length since $d = 1$. Note also that $\mathrm{Tor}_2^R(M_1, C) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M_1, N) = 0$; see (B.2.1). Therefore [25, Corollary 2.3] implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_1, C) = 0$ for all $i \geq 2$, and hence $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_1, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. Now (2.8.1) establishes (i).

Still assuming that both M and N are torsion-free, let $d \geq 2$. The inductive hypothesis implies that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)$ has finite length for all $i \geq 1$. In particular

$\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N)_{\mathfrak{q}} = 0$ for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{q}$ of R of height at most one. Therefore Proposition 2.10 shows that $M_1 \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free, that is, $M_1 \otimes_R N$ satisfies (S_1) ; see (2.5) and (2.6). Furthermore, from the pushforward exact sequence (2.8.1), we see that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_1, N)$ has finite length for all $i \geq 2$. Consequently the pair M_1, N satisfies (SP_1) . Now Theorem A.4, applied to M_1, N , shows that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M_1, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. By (2.8.1), we see that $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. This proves (i) under the additional assumption that M and N are torsion-free.

Since $M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free, it follows from (3.4) that there are isomorphisms

$$M \otimes_R N \cong M \otimes_R \perp_R N \cong \perp_R M \otimes_R N \cong \perp_R M \otimes_R \perp_R N.$$

In particular, $\perp_R M \otimes_R \perp_R N$ is also reflexive. As noted before, neither M nor N is torsion so $\perp_R M$ and $\perp_R N$ are nonzero. As N has rank so does $\perp_R N$, so the already established part of the result (applied to $\perp_R M$ and $\perp_R N$) yields

$$\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(\perp_R M, \perp_R N) = 0 \quad \text{for } i \geq 1.$$

Given this, since $\perp_R M \otimes_R N$ is torsion-free by the isomorphisms above, applying (3.4) to the R -modules $\perp_R M$ and N gives $N = \perp_R N$; then applying (3.4) to M and N yields $M = \perp_R M$. In conclusion, M and N are torsion-free, and hence $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$. From the last, the depth formula holds.

The remaining step is to prove that M is reflexive. Since $\mathrm{Supp}(N) = \mathrm{Spec}(R)$, we have $\mathrm{depth}(N_{\mathfrak{p}}) \leq \mathrm{height}(\mathfrak{p})$ for all primes $\mathfrak{p}$ of R . Localizing the depth formula (2.3) shows Serre's condition (S_2) on M ; see (2.6). $\square$

The next result is due to C. Miller. In her paper [34], the essential requirement — that M have rank — is missing: for example, the module $M = R/(x)$ over the node $k[[x, y]]/(xy)$ is not free, yet $M \otimes_R M$, which is just M , is maximal Cohen-Macaulay and hence reflexive. We state her result here in its corrected form and include a proof for completeness.

Corollary B.3. (C. Miller [34, Theorem 3.1]) *Let R be a d -dimensional hypersurface and let M a finitely generated R -module with rank. If $\otimes_R^n M$ is reflexive for some $n \geq \max\{2, d-1\}$, then M is free.*

Proof. If $d \leq 2$, then $\otimes_R^n M$ is maximal Cohen-Macaulay, and Theorem B.1 gives the result. Assume now that $d \geq 3$. Applying Theorem B.2 and [27, Theorem 1.9] repeatedly, we conclude the following:

- (i) $\otimes_R^r M$ is reflexive for all $r = 1, \dots, n$.
- (ii) $\mathrm{Tor}_i^R(M, \otimes_R^{r-1} M) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ and all $r = 2, \dots, n$.
- (iii) $\mathrm{pd}(M) < \infty$.

It follows from (i) that $\mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^r M) \geq 2$ for all $r = 1, \dots, n$; see (2.6). Also, (ii) implies the depth formula:

$$\mathrm{depth}(M) + \mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^{r-1} M) = d + \mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^r M),$$

for all $r = 2, \dots, n$. One checks by induction on r that

$$r \cdot \mathrm{depth}(M) = (r-1) \cdot d + \mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^r M),$$

for $r = 2, \dots, n$. Setting $r = n$, and using the inequalities $n \geq d-1$ and $\mathrm{depth}(\otimes_R^n M) \geq 2$, we obtain:

$$n \cdot \mathrm{depth}(M) \geq (n-1) \cdot d + 2 = n \cdot (d-1) + n - d + 2 \geq n \cdot (d-1) + 1.$$

Therefore $\text{depth}(M) \geq d$, that is, M is maximal Cohen-Macaulay. Now (iii) and the Auslander-Buchsbaum formula [3, Theorem 3.7] imply that M is free. $\square$

A consequence of Theorems B.1 and B.2 is the following result [27, Theorem 1.9], observed by Huneke and Wiegand in their 1997 paper:

Proposition B.4 ([27]). *Let M and N be finitely generated modules over a hypersurface R , and assume that $\text{Tor}_i^R(M, N) = 0$ for $i \gg 0$. Then at least one of the modules has finite projective dimension.*

At about the same time Miller [34] obtained the same result independently, by an elegant, direct argument. As Miller observed in [34], one can turn things around and easily deduce Theorem B.1 from Proposition B.4 and the vanishing result Theorem B.2.

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