

# Matrix factorizations with more than two factors

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Let  $S$  be a regular local ring.

Fix  $f \in S$  (non-zero / non-unit)  
( $S = \mathbb{C}[[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]]$ )

Theme: Compare maximal Gorenstein-Macaulay modules over

$$R = S/(f) \quad \text{and} \quad R^\# = \frac{S[[z]]}{(f + z^d)},$$

$d \geq 2.$

(assume  $S$  is complete char  $k \nmid d$ )

Def. A finitely generated module  $M$  over a local ring  $A$  is maximal Cohen-Macaulay (MCM) if

$$\text{depth } M = \dim A$$

(For Gorenstein  $A$ ,  $\text{MCM} = \text{Gproj}$ )

For this talk:  $S \rightarrow R$

$$M \text{ is MCM over } R \iff \text{pd}_S M = 1$$

Let  $\text{MCM}(A) = \text{category of MCM } A\text{-modules.}$

Why these modules?

(1) (Buchsatz) For a Gorenstein ring  $A$ ,

$$\underline{\text{MCM}}(A) \simeq \frac{D^b(A)}{\text{Perf}(A)}$$

→ Homological perspective

(2) (Auslander) For an  $S$ -algebra  $A$

$\text{MCM}(A)$  has AR sequences  $\iff A$  is an isolated singularity.

→ Representation theoretic perspective

⋮

A local ring  $A$  has finite CM type if  $\text{MCM}(A)$  has only finitely many indecomposable objects up to iso.

Q: When does a local ring have finite CM type?

Hard question.

Theorem. (Knörrer 87')  $d=2$

$R$  has finite CM type  $\iff R^\# = \frac{S[[z]]}{(f+z^2)}$  has finite CM type.

MatTool: Matrix factorizations.

Def. A matrix factorization of  $f$  is a pair of  $n \times n$  matrices  $(\varphi, \psi)$  with entries in  $S$  s.t.

$$\varphi \psi = f \cdot I_n = \psi \varphi.$$

$MF(f) =$  category of MFs of  $f$ .

Ex 1  $f = x^3 + y^4$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & -y^2 \\ y^2 & x^2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x^2 & y^2 \\ -y^2 & x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} x^3 + y^4 & 0 \\ 0 & x^3 + y^4 \end{pmatrix}$$

is a  $2 \times 2$  MF of  $x^3 + y^4$ .

Open Question: Given a polynomial  $f$ ,  
What is the smallest possible size  
for a MF of  $f$ ?

Very few cases are known!

Connection with MCM modules.

Two observations

(1) Given  $(\varphi, \psi) \in \text{MF}(f)$ , both  
 $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are injective.

$$0 \rightarrow S^n \xrightarrow{\varphi} S^n \rightarrow \text{Coker } \varphi \rightarrow 0$$

(2)  $f(S^n) = \varphi \psi(S^n) \subseteq \text{Im } \varphi$

$\Rightarrow \text{Cok } \varphi$  is an  $R$ -module with  
 $\text{pd } \leq \text{Cok } \varphi = 1$

$\Rightarrow \text{Cok } \varphi \in \text{MCM}(R)$  (same for  $\text{Cok } \psi$ )

Conversely: Let  $M \in \text{MCM}(R)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & S^n & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & S^n & \longrightarrow & M \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow f & \dashrightarrow \psi & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f = 0 \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & S^n & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & S^n & \longrightarrow & M \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow (\varphi, \psi) \in \text{MF}(f)$  with  
 $\text{Cok } \varphi = M.$

Theorem (Eisenbud 80')

$$\begin{array}{ccc} MF(f) & \longrightarrow & MCM(R) \\ (\varphi, \psi) & \longleftarrow & \text{wk}\varphi \end{array}$$

induces an equivalence of categories

$$\underline{MF(f)} \underset{\sim}{\simeq} \underline{MCM(R)}$$

So// Knörrer's Thm can be viewed as:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R \text{ has finite} & \iff & R^\# \text{ has finite} \\ \text{CM type} & & \text{CM type} \\ \Downarrow \text{Eis} & & \Downarrow \text{Eis} \\ f \text{ has finite} & \iff & f + z^2 \text{ has finite} \\ \text{"MF type"} & & \text{"MF type"} \end{array}$$



Ex  $R = \mathbb{C} \llbracket x, y \rrbracket / (x^2 y)$  is not  
of finite CM type.

[BGS 87'] For each  $k \geq 1$

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} xy & y^{k+1} \\ 0 & -xy \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x & y^k \\ 0 & -x \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

is an indecomposable MF of  $x^2 y$ .

Knörrer's Theorem:

- $R = S / (f)$
  - $R^\# = \frac{S \llbracket z \rrbracket}{(f + z^2)}$
  - $\sigma : R^\# \rightarrow R^\#$ 

$$\begin{array}{l} s \mapsto s \\ z \mapsto -z \end{array}$$
- $\sigma^2 = 1_{R^\#}$

Form the skew group algebra  $R^\#[\sigma]$

- formal sums  $a + b\sigma$ ,  $a, b \in R^\#$
- multiplication:  $a, b \in R^\#$

$$(a \sigma^i) \cdot (b \cdot \sigma^j) = a \sigma^i(b) \cdot \sigma^{i+j}.$$

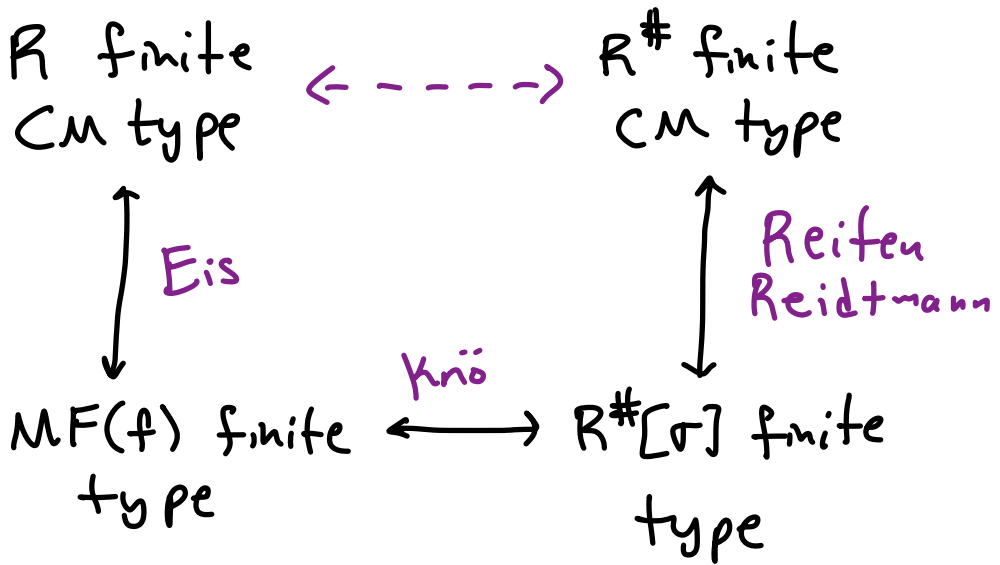
Thm (Knörrer 87')

$$\text{MF}(f) \simeq \text{MCM}(R^\#[\sigma])$$

where

$$\text{MCM}(R^\#[\sigma]) = \text{MCM } R^\# \cap \text{mod } R^\#[\sigma]$$

$(R^\# \hookrightarrow R^\#[\sigma])$



Now consider  $d > 2$ .

Def. A matrix factorization of  $f$  with  $d \geq 2$  factors is a tuple of  $n \times n$  matrices with entries in  $S$  s.t.

$$\varphi_1 \varphi_2 \cdots \varphi_d = f \cdot I_n.$$

Note:  $\varphi_i \varphi_{i+1} \cdots \varphi_d \varphi_1 \cdots \varphi_{i-1} = f \cdot I_n \quad \forall i$

$MF^d(f) =$  category of  $d$ -fold MF of  $f$ .

Examples.

(0)  $d=3$ , For any  $f$

$(f, 1, 1)$ ,  $(1, f, 1)$ ,  $(1, 1, f)$

are  $1 \times 1$  3-fold MFs of  $f$

(1)  $f = xyz$ ,  $(x, y, z) \in MF^3(xyz)$

(2)  $f = x^3 + y^4 \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$  and  $\omega \in \mathbb{C}$   
is a primitive 3<sup>rd</sup> root of 1.

$\begin{pmatrix} y^2 & 0 & x \\ x & y & 0 \\ 0 & x & y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y & 0 & \omega x \\ \omega x & y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega x & y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y & 0 & \omega^2 x \\ \omega^2 x & y & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^2 x & y^2 \end{pmatrix}$

is a  $3 \times 3$  3-fold MF of  $x^3 + y^4$ .

Rmk. The category  $MF^d(f)$  is Frobenius exact for any  $d \geq 2$

↳ the indecomposable projective/injective objects are the MFs from example (0)

↳  $MF^d(f)$  is triangulated

↳  $\Omega X \cong \Omega^{-1} X$  for all  $X \in MF^d(f)$

↳  $\Omega^2 X \cong X$  up to projective summands.

↳ Every object in  $MF^d(f)$  has a 2-periodic projective resolution.

Thm(-)  $d \geq 2$ ,  $\omega \in S$  a primitive  $d^{\text{th}}$  root of 1

•  $R = S/(f)$

•  $\sigma: R^{\#} \longrightarrow R^{\#}$

$s \longmapsto s$

•  $R^{\#} = \frac{S[z]}{(f+z^d)}$

$z \longmapsto \omega z$

$\sigma^d = 1_{R^{\#}}$

Form  $R^{\#}[\sigma]$  similar to before.

Then

$$MF^d(f) \simeq \text{MCM}(R^{\#}[\sigma])$$

Where

$$\text{MCM}(R^{\#}[\sigma]) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} R^{\#}[\sigma]\text{-modules} \\ \text{MCM over } R^{\#} \end{array} \right\}$$

Idea of the proof:

Let  $N \in \text{MCM}(R^\#[\sigma])$ . Then  $N$  is  
MCM over  $R^\# \Rightarrow$  f.g. free over  $S$ .

Let  $\varphi: N \rightarrow N$  be multiplication by  $z$ .  
Pick an  $S$ -basis for  $N$  and write  
 $\varphi$  as an  $n \times n$  matrix with entries in  $S$ .

Then  $\varphi^d =$  mult by  $z^d = -f \cdot I_n$

Get a MF of  $f$

$\approx (\underbrace{\varphi, \varphi, \dots, \varphi}_d)$  with  $d$  factors.  
 $d$ -times

Notice that this applies to any MCM  $R^\#$ -module.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{MCM}(R^\#) & & \\
 \downarrow \uparrow & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{b} \\ \xleftarrow{\#} \end{array} & \\
 \text{MCM}(R^\#[\sigma]) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{MF}^d(f)
 \end{array}$$

$\#$  and  $b$  do not form an equivalence  
but:

(Lenschke, -) Let  $N \in \text{MCM}(R^\#)$   
and  $X \in \text{MF}^d(f)$ .

$$N^{b\#} \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{d-1} (\sigma^i)^* N \quad \text{and}$$



$$X^{\#b} \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{d-1} T^i(X)$$

where

- $(\sigma^i)^* N$  is the module obtained by restricting scalars along  $\sigma^i: R^{\#} \rightarrow R^{\#}$
- $T^i(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_d) = (\varphi_i, \varphi_{i+1}, \dots, \varphi_{i-1})$

**Theorem** (Leuschke, -)

$f$  has finite  $d$ -MF type  $\iff R^{\#} = \frac{S[[z]]}{(f+z^d)}$  has finite CM type.

## Connecting back to MCM(R)

For  $X = (\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_d) \in MF^d(f)$

$X \mapsto$  chain of surjective maps  
between MCM  $R$ -modules.

$$\text{GK } \psi_1, \psi_2 \dots \psi_{d-1} \twoheadrightarrow \dots \twoheadrightarrow \text{GK } \psi_1, \psi_2 \twoheadrightarrow \text{GK } \psi_1.$$

Thm (Hopkins  $d=3, -$ )

$$\frac{MF^d(f)}{\sim} \simeq \text{epimorphism category of MCM } R$$

