

Cofiniteness of weakly Laskerian local cohomology modules

by

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Dedicated to Professor Leif Melkersson

Abstract

Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R and M be a finitely generated R -module. We introduce the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by the class of all modules T with $\dim T \leq n$ and we denote it by $\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ where $n \geq -1$ is an integer. We prove that for any $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or minimax) submodule N of $H_I^t(M)$ the R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$ are finitely generated, whenever the modules $H_I^0(M), H_I^1(M), \dots, H_I^{t-1}(M)$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ (or weakly Laskerian). As a consequence, it follows that the set of associated primes of $H_I^t(M)/N$ is finite. This generalizes the main results of Bahmanpour and Naghipour [4] and [5], Brodmann and Lashgari [6], Khashyarmanesh and Salarian [21] and Hong Quy [18]. We also show that the category $\text{FD}^1(R, I)_{\text{cof}}$ of I -cofinite $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -modules forms an Abelian subcategory of the category of all R -modules.

Key Words: Local cohomology module, cofinite module, Weakly Laskerian modules.

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1 Introduction

The following conjecture was made by Grothendieck in [15]:

Conjecture: *For any ideal I of a Noetherian ring R and any finite R -module M , the module $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^j(M))$ is finitely generated for all $j \geq 0$.*

Here, $H_I^j(M)$ denotes the j^{th} local cohomology module of M with support in I . Although the conjecture is not true in general as was shown by Hartshorne in [16], there are some attempts to show that under some conditions, for some number t , the module $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M))$ is finite, see [2, Theorem 3.3], [11, Theorem 6.3.9], [13, Theorem 2.1], [4, Theorem 2.6] and [5,

Theorem 2.3]. In [16], Hartshorne defined an R -module L to be I -cofinite, if $\text{Supp}(L) \subseteq V(I)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^i(R/I, L)$ is finitely generated module for all i . He asked:

If I is an ideal of R and M is a finitely generated R -module, when is $H_I^i(M)$ I -cofinite for all i ?

In this direction in section 3 we generalize [2, Theorem 3.3], [4, Theorem 2.6] and [5, Theorem 2.3] to the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by the class of all modules T with $\dim T \leq 1$ ($\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$). Note that the class of weakly Laskerian modules is contained in the class of $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules. More precisely, we shall show that:

Theorem 1.1. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I an ideal of R . Let M be a finitely generated R -module and $t \geq 1$ be a positive integer such that the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -modules (or weakly Laskerian) for all $i < t$. Then, the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *The R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are I -cofinite for all $i < t$.*
- (ii) *For all $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or minimax) submodule N of $H_I^t(M)$, the R -modules*

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \text{ and } \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$$

are finitely generated.

As an immediate consequence we prove the following corollary that is a generalization of Bahmanpour-Naghypour's results in [4] and also the Delfino-Marley's result in [10] and Yoshida's result in [28] for an arbitrary Noetherian ring.

Corollary 1.2. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I an ideal of R . Let M be a finitely generated R -module such that the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ (or weakly Laskerian) R -modules for all i . Then,*

- (i) *the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are I -cofinite for all i .*
- (ii) *For any $i \geq 0$ and for any $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or minimax) submodule N of $H_I^i(M)$, the R -module $H_I^i(M)/N$ is I -cofinite.*

Abazari and Bahmanpour in [1] studied cofiniteness of extension functors of cofinite modules as a generalization of Huneke-Koh's results in [17]. In Corollary 3.8 we generalize the results of Abazari and Bahmanpour.

Hartshorne also posed the following question:

Whether the category $M(R, I)_{\text{cof}}$ of I -cofinite modules forms an Abelian subcategory of the category of all R -modules? That is, if $f : M \rightarrow N$ is an R -module homomorphism of I -cofinite modules, are $\ker f$ and $\text{coker} f$ I -cofinite?

Hartshorne proved that if I is a prime ideal of dimension one in a complete regular local ring R , then the answer to his question is yes. On the other hand, in [10], Delfino and Marley extended this result to arbitrary complete local rings. Recently, Kawasaki [20] generalized the Delfino and Marley's result for an arbitrary ideal I of dimension one in a local ring R . Finally, more recently, Melkersson in [24] completely have removed local assumption on R . One of the

main results of this section is to prove that the class of *I-cofinite* $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules compose an Abelian category (see Theorem 3.7).

Let R denote a commutative Noetherian ring, and let I be an ideal of R . Throughout this paper, R will always be a commutative Noetherian ring with non-zero identity and I will be an ideal of R . We denote $\{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R : \mathfrak{p} \supseteq \mathfrak{a}\}$ by $V(\mathfrak{a})$. If we say a $\text{D}_{\leq n}$ ($\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ or FSF) module, we will understand that an R -module belongs to the class $\text{D}_{\leq n}$ ($\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ or FSF). For any unexplained notation and terminology we refer the reader to [7], [8] and [23].

2 Preliminaries

Yoshizawa in [29, Definition 2.1] defined classes of extension modules of Serre subcategory by another one as below.

Definition 2.1. *Let \mathcal{S}_1 and \mathcal{S}_2 be Serre subcategories of the category of all R -modules. We denote by $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ the class of all R -modules M with some R -modules $S_1 \in \mathcal{S}_1$ and $S_2 \in \mathcal{S}_2$ such that a sequence $0 \rightarrow S_1 \rightarrow M \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow 0$ is exact.*

We will denote the class of all modules M with $\dim M \leq n$ by $\text{D}_{\leq n}$ and the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by the class of $\text{D}_{\leq n}$ modules by $\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ where $n \geq -1$ is an integer. Note that the class of $\text{FD}_{\leq -1}$ is the same as finitely generated R -modules. Recall that a module M is a *minimax* module if there is a finitely generated submodule N of M such that the quotient module M/N is Artinian. Thus the class of minimax modules is the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by the class of Artinian modules. Minimax modules have been studied by Zink in [30] and Zöschinger in [31, 32]. See also [27]. Recall too that an R -module M is called *weakly Laskerian* if $\text{Ass}(M/N)$ is a finite set for each submodule N of M . The class of weakly Laskerian modules introduced in [14], by Divaani-Aazar and Mafi. Recently, Hung Quy [18], introduced the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by the class of all modules of finite support and named it FSF modules. By the following theorem over a Noetherian ring R an R -module M is weakly Laskerian if and only if is FSF.

Theorem 2.2. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and M a nonzero R -module. The following statements are equivalent:*

1. M is a weakly Laskerian module;
2. M is an FSF module.

Proof: See [3, Theorem 3.3]. □

Lemma 2.3. *Let R be a Noetherian ring. Then the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *Any finitely generated R -module and any $\text{D}_{\leq n}$ R -module are $\text{FD}_{\leq n}$.*
- (ii) *The class of $\text{FD}_{\leq n-1}$ modules is contained in the class of $\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ modules for all $n \geq 0$.*
- (iii) *The class of minimax modules is contained in the class of $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ that is the class of extension modules of finitely generated modules by semiartinian modules.*
- (iv) *The class of weakly Laskerian modules is contained in the class of $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$.*
- (v) *The class of $\text{FD}_{\leq n}$ R -modules forms a Serre subcategory of the category of all R -modules.*

Proof: (i), (ii), (iii) are trivial.

(iv) Use Theorem 2.2.

(v) See [29, Corollary 4.3 or 4.5]. □

Example 2.4. (i) Let R be a Noetherian ring with $\dim R \geq 2$ and let $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ such that $\dim R/\mathfrak{p} = 1$. Let $M = R \oplus E(R/\mathfrak{p})$. It is easy to see that M is an $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -module that is neither finitely generated nor $D_{\leq 1}$.

(ii) Suppose the set Ω of maximal ideals of R is infinite. Then the module $\bigoplus_{\mathfrak{m} \in \Omega} R/\mathfrak{m}$ is $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ module and thus $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ but it is not a weakly Laskerian module.

The following lemma represents an adaption of [24, Lemma 2.2].

Lemma 2.5. Let I be an ideal of the Noetherian ring R and let M be an R -module such that $\dim M = 1$ and $\text{Supp}_R(M) \subseteq V(I)$. If $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M)$ is a finite R -module, then there is a finite submodule N of M and an element $x \in I$ such that $\text{Supp}_R(M/(xM + N)) \subseteq \text{Max}(R)$.

Proof: Since $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M)$ is finite R -module we conclude that $\text{Ass}_R(M)$ is finite and therefore $\text{Assh}_R(M) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Supp } M \mid \dim R/\mathfrak{p} = 1\}$ is finite. Consider $S = R \setminus \bigcup_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Assh}_R(M)} \mathfrak{p}$. It is easy to see that $\text{Supp}_{S^{-1}R}(S^{-1}M) \subseteq V(S^{-1}I) \cap \text{Max}(S^{-1}R)$ and $\text{Hom}_{S^{-1}R}(S^{-1}R/S^{-1}I, S^{-1}M)$ is a finite $S^{-1}R$ -module. From [24, Lemma 2.1] we conclude that $S^{-1}M$ is an Artinian $S^{-1}R$ -module and $S^{-1}I$ -cofinite. By [26, Corollary 1.2] the $S^{-1}R$ -module $S^{-1}M/IS^{-1}M$ is finite. Hence there is a finite submodule N of M , such that $S^{-1}(M/(IM + N)) = 0$. Put $\overline{M} = M/N$. Then $S^{-1}\overline{M}$ (as a homomorphic image of $S^{-1}M$) is an Artinian $S^{-1}R$ -module. Furthermore $S^{-1}\overline{M} = IS^{-1}\overline{M}$. Then by [22, 2.8], there is $x \in I$, such that $S^{-1}\overline{M} = xS^{-1}\overline{M}$. Therefore $S^{-1}(\overline{M}/x\overline{M}) = 0$ and hence $\text{Supp}_R(\overline{M}/x\overline{M}) \subseteq \text{Supp}_R(M) \setminus \text{Assh}_R(M) \subseteq \text{Max}(R)$. Together with the isomorphism $\overline{M}/x\overline{M} \cong M/(xM + N)$, this proves our assertion. □

Proposition 2.6. Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R and M be a $D_{\leq 1}$ module such that $\text{Supp } M \subseteq V(I)$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i) M is I -cofinite,

(ii) The R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M)$ are finitely generated.

Proof: The conclusion (i) \Rightarrow (ii) is obvious. In order to prove (ii) \Rightarrow (i) using [24, Lemma 2.1], we may assume $\dim M = 1$. Now use Lemma 2.5 and the method of the proof of [24, Theorem 2.3]. □

3 Cofiniteness of local cohomology

In what follows the next theorem plays an important role.

Theorem 3.1. Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R and M be an $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -module such that $\text{Supp } M \subseteq V(I)$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i) M is I -cofinite,

(ii) The R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M)$ are finitely generated.

Proof: (i) \Rightarrow (ii) is clear. In order to prove (ii) \Rightarrow (i), by definition there is a finitely generated submodule N of M such that the R -module $\dim(M/N) \leq 1$ and $\text{Supp } M/N \subseteq V(I)$. Also, the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/N \rightarrow 0, \quad (*)$$

induces the following exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, N) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, M) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, M/N) \\ &\longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M/N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(R/I, N). \end{aligned}$$

Whence, it follows that the R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M/N)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M/N)$ are finitely generated. Therefore, in view of Proposition 2.6, the R -module M/N is I -cofinite. Now it follows from the exact sequence (*) that M is I -cofinite. \square

Lemma 3.2. *Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R , M a non-zero R -module and $t \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Suppose that the R -module $H_I^i(M)$ is I -cofinite for all $i = 0, \dots, t - 1$, and the R -modules $\text{Ext}_R^t(R/I, M)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^{t+1}(R/I, M)$ are finitely generated. Then the R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M))$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M))$ are finitely generated.*

Proof: See [13, Theorem 2.1] and [12, Theorem A]. \square

Lemma 3.3. *Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R and M be an $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ R -module such that $\text{Supp } M \subseteq V(I)$. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) M is I -cofinite,
- (ii) The R -module $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, M)$ is finitely generated.

Proof: The proof is similar to the proof of [25, Proposition 4.3]. \square

We are now ready to state and prove the following main results (Theorem 3.4 and the Corollaries 3.5 and 3.6) which are extension of Bahmanpour-Naghipour's results in [4] and [5], Brodmann-Lashgari's result in [6], Khashyarmanesh-Salarian's result in [21], Hong Quy's result in [18], and also the Delfino-Marley's result in [10] and Yoshida's result in [28] for an arbitrary Noetherian ring.

Theorem 3.4. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I an ideal of R . Let M be a finitely generated R -module and $t \geq 1$ be a positive integer such that the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -modules for all $i < t$. Then, the following conditions hold:*

- (i) The R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are I -cofinite for all $i < t$.
- (ii) For all $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or *minimax*) submodule N of $H_I^t(M)$, the R -modules

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \text{ and } \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$$

are finitely generated. In particular the set $\text{Ass}_R(H_I^t(M)/N)$ is finite.

Proof: (i) We proceed by induction on t . By Lemma 3.2 the case $t = 1$ is obvious since $H_I^0(M)$ is finitely generated. So, let $t > 1$ and the result has been proved for smaller values of t . By the inductive assumption, $H_I^i(M)$ is I -cofinite for $i = 0, 1, \dots, t - 2$. Hence by Lemma 3.2 and assumption, $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^{t-1}(M))$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^{t-1}(M))$ are finitely generated. Therefore by Theorem 3.1, $H_I^i(M)$ is I -cofinite for all $i < t$. This completes the inductive step.
(ii) In view of (i) and lemma 3.2, $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M))$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M))$ are finitely generated. On the other hand, according to Lemma 3.3 or Melkersson's result [25, Proposition 4.3], N is I -cofinite. Now, the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow H_I^t(M) \longrightarrow H_I^t(M)/N \longrightarrow 0$$

induces the following exact sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)) &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, N) \longrightarrow \\ \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)) &\longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(R/I, N). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \text{ and } \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$$

are finitely generated, as required. \square

Corollary 3.5. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I an ideal of R . Let M be a finitely generated R -module such that the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ (or weakly Laskerian) R -modules for all i . Then,*

- (i) *The R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are I -cofinite for all i .*
- (ii) *For any $i \geq 0$ and for any $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or minimax) submodule N of $H_I^i(M)$, the R -module $H_I^i(M)/N$ is I -cofinite.*

Proof: (i) Clear.

(ii) In view of (i) the R -module $H_I^i(M)$ is I -cofinite for all i . Hence the R -module $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, N)$ is finitely generated, and so it follows from Lemma 3.3 or [25, Proposition 4.3] that N is I -cofinite. Now, the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow H_I^i(M) \longrightarrow H_I^i(M)/N \longrightarrow 0,$$

implies that the R -module $H_I^i(M)/N$ is I -cofinite. \square

Corollary 3.6. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I an ideal of R . Let M be a finitely generated R -module and $t \geq 1$ be a positive integer such that the R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are weakly Laskerian for all $i < t$. Then, the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *The R -modules $H_I^i(M)$ are I -cofinite for all $i < t$.*
- (ii) *For all $\text{FD}_{\leq 0}$ (or minimax) submodule N of $H_I^t(M)$, the R -modules*

$$\text{Hom}_R(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N) \text{ and } \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, H_I^t(M)/N)$$

are finitely generated. In particular the set $\text{Ass}_R(H_I^t(M)/N)$ is finite.

Proof: Use Theorem 2.2 and note that the category of weakly Laskerian modules is contained in the category of $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules. \square

One of the main result of this section is to prove that for an arbitrary ideal I of a Noetherian ring R , the category of I -cofinite $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules is an Abelian category.

Theorem 3.7. *Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R . Let $\text{FD}^1(R, I)_{\text{cof}}$ denote the category of I -cofinite $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -modules. Then $\text{FD}^1(R, I)_{\text{cof}}$ is an Abelian category.*

Proof: Let $M, N \in \text{FD}^1(R, I)_{\text{cof}}$ and let $f : M \rightarrow N$ be an R -homomorphism. By Lemma 2.3 (v) $\ker f$ and $\text{coker} f$ are $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$, so it is enough to show that the R -modules $\ker f$ and $\text{coker} f$ are I -cofinite.

To this end, the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow M \rightarrow \text{im} f \rightarrow 0,$$

induces an exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \ker f) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(R/I, \text{im} f) \\ &\rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, \ker f) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, M), \end{aligned}$$

that implies the R -modules $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, \ker f)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^1(R/I, \ker f)$ are finitely generated. Therefore it follows from Theorem 3.1 that $\ker f$ is I -cofinite. Now, the assertion follows from the following exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow M \rightarrow \text{im} f \rightarrow 0,$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow \text{im} f \rightarrow N \rightarrow \text{coker} f \rightarrow 0.$$

\square

The following corollary is a generalization of [1, Theorem 2.7].

Corollary 3.8. *Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R . Let M be an $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ I -cofinite R -module. Then, the R -modules $\text{Ext}_R^i(N, M)$ and $\text{Tor}_i^R(N, M)$ are I -cofinite and $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules, for all finitely generated R -modules N and all integers $i \geq 0$.*

Proof: Since N is finitely generated it follows that N has a free resolution of finitely generated free modules. Now the assertion follows using Theorem 3.7 and computing the modules $\text{Tor}_i^R(N, M)$ and $\text{Ext}_R^i(N, M)$, by this free resolution. \square

A particular case of following corollary was handled in [9]. In that paper, R is a Gorenstein local ring of dimension d and the module M coincides with R .

Corollary 3.9. *Let I be an ideal of a Noetherian ring R , M a non-zero finite R -module such that $\dim M/IM \leq 1$ (e.g., $\dim R/I \leq 1$). Then for each finite R -module N , the R -modules $\text{Ext}_R^j(N, H_I^i(M))$ and $\text{Tor}_j^R(N, H_I^i(M))$ are I -cofinite and $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ modules for all $i \geq 0$ and $j \geq 0$.*

Proof: Note that $\dim \text{Supp } H_I^i(M) \leq \dim M/IM \leq 1$ thus $H_I^i(M)$ is an $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ R -module and by Corollary 3.5 it is I -cofinite. \square

Lemma 3.10. *Let R be a Noetherian ring, I a proper ideal of R and M be a non-zero $\text{D}_{\leq 1}$ and I -cofinite R -module. Then for each non-zero finitely generated R -module N with support in $V(I)$, the R -modules $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$ are finitely generated, for all integers $i \geq 0$.*

Proof: See [19, Theorem 2.8]. \square

Corollary 3.11. *Let R be a Noetherian ring and I be an ideal of R . Let M be an $\text{FD}_{\leq 1}$ and I -cofinite R -module. Then, the R -modules $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N)$ are finitely generated, for all finitely generated R -modules N with $\text{Supp}(N) \subseteq V(I)$ and all integers $i \geq 0$.*

Proof: The assertion follows from the definition using Lemma 3.10 and [25, Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 2.5]. \square

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