



Dualizing complex of the face ring of a simplicial poset

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 23 April 2010

Received in revised form 20 December 2010

Available online 1 March 2011

Communicated by S. Iyengar

MSC:

Primary: 13F55

Secondary: 13D09

ABSTRACT

A finite poset P is called *simplicial* if it has the smallest element $\hat{0}$, and every interval $[\hat{0}, x]$ is a Boolean algebra. The face poset of a simplicial complex is a typical example. Generalizing the Stanley–Reisner ring of a simplicial complex, Stanley assigned the graded ring A_P to P . This ring has been studied from both combinatorial and topological perspectives. In this paper, we will give a concise description of a dualizing complex of A_P , which has many applications.

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1. Introduction

All posets (partially ordered sets) in this paper will be assumed to be finite. By the order given by inclusions, the power set of a finite set becomes a poset called a *Boolean algebra*. We say that a poset P is *simplicial* if it admits the smallest element $\hat{0}$, and the interval $[\hat{0}, x] := \{y \in P \mid y \leq x\}$ is isomorphic to a Boolean algebra for all $x \in P$. For simplicity, we denote $\text{rank}(x)$ of $x \in P$ just by $\rho(x)$. If P is simplicial and $\rho(x) = m$, then $[\hat{0}, x]$ is isomorphic to the Boolean algebra $2^{\{1, \dots, m\}}$.

Let Δ be a finite simplicial complex (with $\emptyset \in \Delta$). Its face poset (i.e., the set of the faces of Δ with the order given by the inclusion) is a simplicial poset. Any simplicial poset P is the face (cell) poset of a regular cell complex, which we denote by $\Gamma(P)$. For $\hat{0} \neq x \in P$, $c(x) \in \Gamma(P)$ denotes that the open cell corresponds to x . Clearly, $\dim c(x) = \rho(x) - 1$. While the closure $\bar{c}(x)$ of $c(x)$ is always a simplex, the intersection $\bar{c}(x) \cap \bar{c}(y)$ for $x, y \in P$ is not necessarily a simplex. For example, if two d -simplices are glued along their boundaries, then it is not a simplicial complex, but it gives a simplicial poset.

Let P be a simplicial poset. For $x, y \in P$, set

$$[x \vee y] := \text{the set of minimal elements of } \{z \in P \mid z \geq x, y\}.$$

More generally, for $x_1, \dots, x_m \in P$, $[x_1 \vee \dots \vee x_m]$ denotes the set of minimal elements of the common upper bounds of x_1, \dots, x_m .

Set $\{y \in P \mid \rho(y) = 1\} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$. For $U \subset [n] := \{1, \dots, n\}$, we simply denote $[\bigvee_{i \in U} y_i]$ by $[U]$. Here, $[\emptyset] = \{\hat{0}\}$. If $x \in [U]$, then $\rho(x) = \#U$. For each $x \in P$, there exists a unique U such that $x \in [U]$. Let $x, x' \in P$ with $x \geq x'$ and $\rho(x) = \rho(x') + 1$, and take $U, U' \subset [n]$ such that $x \in [U]$ and $x' \in [U']$. Since $U = U' \sqcup \{i\}$ for some i in this case, we can set

$$\alpha(i, U) := \#\{j \in U \mid j < i\} \quad \text{and} \quad \epsilon(x, x') := (-1)^{\alpha(i, U)}.$$

Then ϵ gives an incidence function of the cell complex $\Gamma(P)$; that is, for all $x, y \in P$ with $x > y$ and $\rho(x) = \rho(y) + 2$, we have

$$\epsilon(x, z) \cdot \epsilon(z, y) + \epsilon(x, z') \cdot \epsilon(z', y) = 0,$$

where $\{z, z'\} = \{w \in P \mid x > w > y\}$.

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Stanley [9] assigned the commutative ring A_P to a simplicial poset P . We remark that, if $[x \vee y] \neq \emptyset$, then $\{z \in P \mid z \leq x, y\}$ has the largest element $x \wedge y$. Let \mathbb{k} be a field, and let $S := \mathbb{k}[t_x \mid x \in P]$ be the polynomial ring in the variables t_x . Consider the ideal

$$I_P := \left(t_x t_y - t_{x \wedge y} \sum_{z \in [x \vee y]} t_z \mid x, y \in P \right) + (t_0 - 1)$$

of S (if $[x \vee y] = \emptyset$, we interpret that $t_x t_y - t_{x \wedge y} \sum_{z \in [x \vee y]} t_z = t_x t_y$), and set

$$A_P := S/I_P.$$

We denote A_P just by A , if there is no danger of confusion. Clearly, $\dim A_P = \text{rank } P = \dim \Gamma(P) + 1$. For a rank 1 element $y_i \in P$, set $t_i := t_{y_i}$. If $\{x\} = [U]$ for some $U \subset [n]$ with $\#U \geq 2$, then $t_x = \prod_{i \in U} t_i$ in A , and t_x is a “dummy variable”. Since I_P is a homogeneous ideal under the grading given by $\deg(t_x) = \rho(x)$, A is a graded ring. If $\Gamma(P)$ is a simplicial complex, then A_P is generated by degree 1 elements, and coincides with the Stanley–Reisner ring of $\Gamma(P)$.

Note that A also has a \mathbb{Z}^n -grading such that $\deg t_i \in \mathbb{N}^n$ is the i th unit vector. For each $x \in P$, the ideal

$$\mathfrak{p}_x := (t_z \mid z \not\leq x)$$

of A is a (\mathbb{Z}^n -graded) prime ideal with $\dim A/\mathfrak{p}_x = \rho(x)$, since $A/\mathfrak{p}_x \cong \mathbb{k}[t_i \mid y_i \leq x]$.

In [1], Duval adapted classical arguments on Stanley–Reisner rings for A_P , and got basic results. Recently, Masuda and his co-workers studied A_P from the viewpoint of toric topology, since the equivariant cohomology ring of a torus manifold is of the form A_P (see [4,5]). In this paper, we will introduce another approach.

Let R be a Noetherian commutative ring, $\text{Mod } R$ the category of R -modules, and $\text{mod } R$ its full subcategory consisting of finitely generated modules. The dualizing complex D_R^\bullet of R gives the important duality $R \text{Hom}_R(-, D_R^\bullet)$ on the bounded derived category $D^b(\text{mod } R)$ (see [2]). If R is a (graded) local ring with the maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} , then the (graded) Matlis dual of $H^{-i}(D_R^\bullet)$ is the local cohomology $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(R)$.

We have a concise description of a dualizing complex A_P as follows. This result refines Duval’s computation of $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(A)$ ([1, Theorem 5.9]).

Theorem 1.1. *Let P be a simplicial poset with $d = \text{rank } P$, and set $A := A_P$. The complex*

$$I_A^\bullet : 0 \rightarrow I_A^{-d} \rightarrow I_A^{-d+1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow I_A^0 \rightarrow 0,$$

given by

$$I_A^{-i} := \bigoplus_{\substack{x \in P, \\ \rho(x)=i}} A/\mathfrak{p}_x,$$

and

$$\partial_{I_A}^{-i} : I_A^{-i} \supset A/\mathfrak{p}_x \ni 1_{A/\mathfrak{p}_x} \mapsto \sum_{\substack{\rho(y)=i-1, \\ y \leq x}} \epsilon(x, y) \cdot 1_{A/\mathfrak{p}_y} \in \bigoplus_{\substack{\rho(y)=i-1, \\ y \leq x}} A/\mathfrak{p}_y \subset I_A^{-i+1}$$

is isomorphic to a dualizing complex D_A^\bullet of A in $D^b(\text{Mod } A)$.

In [11], the author defined a squarefree module over a polynomial ring, and many applications have been found. This idea is also useful for our study. In fact, regarding A as a squarefree module over the polynomial ring $\text{Sym } A_1$, Duval’s formula of $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(A)$ can be proved quickly (Remark 2.6). Moreover, we can show that a theorem of Murai and Terai [7] on the h -vectors of simplicial complexes also holds for simplicial posets (Theorem 5.6). In the present paper, we will define a squarefree module over A to study the interaction between the topological properties of $\Gamma(P)$ and the homological properties of A .

The category $\text{Sq } A$ of squarefree A -modules is an Abelian category with enough injectives, and A/\mathfrak{p}_x is an injective object. Hence, $I_A^\bullet \in D^b(\text{Sq } A)$, and $\mathbb{D}(-) := \text{Hom}_A^\bullet(-, I_A^\bullet)$ gives a duality on $\mathbb{k}^b(\text{Inj-Sq}) (\cong D^b(\text{Sq } A))$, where Inj-Sq denotes the full subcategory of $\text{Sq } A$ consisting of all injective objects (i.e., finite direct sums of copies of A/\mathfrak{p}_x for various $x \in P$). Via the forgetful functor $\text{Sq } A \rightarrow \text{mod } A$, \mathbb{D} coincides with the usual duality $R \text{Hom}_A(-, D_A^\bullet)$ on $D^b(\text{mod } A)$.

By [13], to a squarefree A -module M we can assign the constructible sheaf M^+ on (the underlying space X of) $\Gamma(P)$. In this context, the duality \mathbb{D} corresponds to the Poincaré–Verdier duality on the derived category of the constructible sheaves on X up to translation, as in [8,13]. In particular, the sheafification of the complex $I_A^\bullet[-1]$ coincides with the Verdier dualizing complex of X with coefficients in \mathbb{k} , where $[-1]$ represents translation by -1 . Using this argument, we can show the following. At least for the Cohen–Macaulay property, the next result has been shown in Duval [1]. However, our proof gives a new perspective.

Corollary 1.2 (See Theorem 4.4). *The Cohen–Macaulay, Gorenstein* and Buchsbaum properties, and Serre’s condition (S_i) of A_P , depend only on the topology of the underlying space of $\Gamma(P)$ and $\text{char}(\mathbb{k})$. Here, we say that A_P is Gorenstein* if A_P is Gorenstein and the graded canonical module ω_{A_P} is generated by its degree 0 part.*

While **Theorem 1.1** and the results in Section 4 are similar to the corresponding ones for toric face rings [8], the construction of a toric face ring and that of A_P are not so similar. Both of them are generalizations of the notion of Stanley–Reisner rings, but the directions of the generalizations are almost opposite (for example, **Proposition 5.1** does not hold for toric face rings). The prototype of the results in [8] and the present paper is found in [13]. However, the subject there is “sheaves on a poset”, and the connection to our rings is not so straightforward.

2. The proof of Theorem 1.1

In the rest of the paper, P is a simplicial poset with rank $P = d$. We use the same conventions as in the preceding section; in particular, $A = A_P, \{y \in P \mid \rho(y) = 1\} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$, and $t_i := t_{y_i} \in A$.

For a subset $U \subset [n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$, A_U denotes the localization of A by the multiplicatively closed set $\{\prod_{i \in U} t_i^{a_i} \mid a_i \geq 0\}$.

Lemma 2.1. For $x \in [U]$,

$$u_x := \frac{t_x}{\prod_{i \in U} t_i} \in A_U$$

is an idempotent. Moreover, $u_x \cdot u_{x'} = 0$ for $x, x' \in [U]$ with $x \neq x'$, and

$$1_{A_U} = \sum_{x \in [U]} u_x. \tag{2.1}$$

Hence, we have a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded direct sum decomposition

$$A_U = \bigoplus_{x \in [U]} A_U \cdot u_x$$

(if $[U] = \emptyset$, then $A_U = 0$).

Proof. Since $\prod_{i \in U} t_i = \sum_{x \in [U]} t_x$ in A , the Eq. (2.1) is clear. For $x, x' \in [U]$ with $x \neq x'$, we have $[x \vee x'] = \emptyset$ and $t_x \cdot t_{x'} = 0$. Hence, $u_x \cdot u_{x'} = 0$ and

$$u_x = u_x \cdot 1_{A_U} = u_x \cdot \sum_{x'' \in [U]} u_{x''} = u_x \cdot u_x.$$

Now, the last assertion is clear. \square

Let $\text{Gr } A$ be the category of \mathbb{Z}^n -graded A -modules, and $\text{gr } A$ its full subcategory consisting of finitely generated modules. Here, a morphism $f : M \rightarrow N$ in $\text{Gr } A$ is an A -homomorphism with $f(M_{\mathbf{a}}) \subset N_{\mathbf{a}}$ for all $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. As usual, for M and $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, $M(\mathbf{a})$ denotes the shifted module of M with $M(\mathbf{a})_{\mathbf{b}} = M_{\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}}$. For $M, N \in \text{Gr } A$,

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_A(M, N) := \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \text{Hom}_{\text{Gr } A}(M, N(\mathbf{a}))$$

has a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded A -module structure. Similarly, $\underline{\text{Ext}}_A^i(M, N) \in \text{Gr } A$ can be defined. If $M \in \text{gr } A$, the underlying module of $\underline{\text{Hom}}_A(M, N)$ is isomorphic to $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$, and the same is true for $\underline{\text{Ext}}_A^i(M, N)$.

If $M \in \text{Gr } A$, then $M^\vee := \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}}(M_{-\mathbf{a}}, \mathbb{k})$ can be regarded as a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded A -module, and $(-)^\vee$ gives an exact contravariant functor from $\text{Gr } A$ to itself, which is called the *graded Matlis duality functor*. For $M \in \text{Gr } A$, it is *Matlis reflexive* (i.e., $M^{\vee\vee} \cong M$) if and only if $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} M_{\mathbf{a}} < \infty$ for all $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$.

Lemma 2.2. $A_U \cdot u_x$ is Matlis reflexive, and $E_A(x) := (A_U \cdot u_x)^\vee$ is injective in $\text{Gr } A$. Moreover, any indecomposable injective in $\text{Gr } A$ is isomorphic to $E_A(x)(\mathbf{a})$ for some $x \in P$ and $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$.

Proof. Clearly, $A_U \cdot u_x$ is a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded free $\mathbb{k}[t_i^{\pm 1} \mid i \in U]$ -module. For $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, let $\mathbf{a}' \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ be the vector whose i th coordinate is

$$a'_i = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{if } i \notin U, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then, we have $\dim_{\mathbb{k}}(A_U \cdot u_x)_{\mathbf{a}} = \dim_{\mathbb{k}}(A \cdot t_x)_{\mathbf{a}'} \leq \dim_{\mathbb{k}} A_{\mathbf{a}'} < \infty$, and $A_U \cdot u_x$ is Matlis reflexive.

The injectivity of $E_A(x)$ follows from the same argument as [6, Lemma 11.23]. In fact, we have a natural isomorphism

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_A(M, E_A(x)) \cong (M \otimes_A E_A(x)^\vee)^\vee$$

for $M \in \text{Gr } A$ by [6, Lemma 11.16]. Since $E_A(x)^\vee (\cong A_U \cdot u_x)$ is a flat A -module, $\underline{\text{Hom}}_A(-, E_A(x))$ gives an exact functor.

Since $E_A(x)$ is the injective envelope of A/\mathfrak{p}_x in $\text{Gr } A$, and an associated prime of $M \in \text{Gr } A$ is \mathfrak{p}_x for some $x \in P$, the last assertion follows. \square

If $(A_U \cdot u_x)_{-\mathbf{a}} \neq 0$ for $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^n$, then it is obvious that $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^U$ (i.e., $a_i = 0$ for $i \notin U$). As shown in the proof above, we have $\dim_{\mathbb{k}}(A_U \cdot u_x)_{-\mathbf{a}} = 1$ with $t^{-\mathbf{a}} \cdot u_x := u_x / \prod_{i \in U} t_i^{a_i} \in (A_U \cdot u_x)_{-\mathbf{a}}$ in this case.

For $M \in \text{Gr} A$, its “ \mathbb{N}^n -graded part” $M_{\geq \mathbf{0}} := \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^n} M_{\mathbf{a}}$ is a submodule of M . Then we have a canonical injection

$$\phi_x : A/\mathfrak{p}_x \longrightarrow E_A(x)$$

defined as follows. The set of the monomials $t^{\mathbf{a}} := \prod_{i \in U} t_i^{a_i} \in A/\mathfrak{p}_x \cong \mathbb{k}[t_i \mid i \in U]$ with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^U$ forms a \mathbb{k} -basis of A/\mathfrak{p}_x ($\prod_{i \in U} t_i = t_x$ here), and $\phi_x(t^{\mathbf{a}}) \in (E_A(x))_{\mathbf{a}} = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}}((A_U \cdot u_x)_{-\mathbf{a}}, \mathbb{k})$ for $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^U$ is simply given by $t^{-\mathbf{a}} \cdot u_x \mapsto 1$. Note that ϕ_x induces the isomorphism

$$A/\mathfrak{p}_x \cong E_A(x)_{\geq \mathbf{0}}. \tag{2.2}$$

The Čech complex C^\bullet of A with respect to t_1, \dots, t_n is of the form

$$0 \rightarrow C^0 \rightarrow C^1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C^d \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{with } C^i = \bigoplus_{\substack{U \subset [n] \\ \#U=i}} A_U$$

(note that if $\#U > d = \dim A$ then $A_U = 0$). The differential map is given by

$$C^i \supset A_U \ni a \mapsto \sum_{\substack{U' \supset U \\ \#U'=i+1}} (-1)^{\alpha(U' \setminus U, U)} f_{U', U}(a) \in \bigoplus_{\substack{U' \supset U \\ \#U'=i+1}} A_{U'} \subset C^{i+1},$$

where $f_{U', U} : A_U \rightarrow A_{U'}$ is the natural map.

Since the radical of the ideal (t_1, \dots, t_n) is the graded maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} := (t_x \mid \hat{0} \neq x \in P)$, the cohomology $H^i(C^\bullet)$ of C^\bullet is isomorphic to the local cohomology $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(A)$. Moreover, C^\bullet is isomorphic to $R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(A)$ in the bounded derived category $D^b(\text{Mod} A)$. Here, $R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} : D^b(\text{Mod} A) \rightarrow D^b(\text{Mod} A)$ is the right derived functor of $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} : \text{Mod} A \rightarrow \text{Mod} A$ given by $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(M) = \{s \in M \mid \mathfrak{m}^i s = 0 \text{ for } i \gg 0\}$.

The same is true in the \mathbb{Z}^n -graded context. We may regard $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}$ as a functor from $\text{Gr} A$ to itself, and let ${}^*R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} : D^b(\text{Gr} A) \rightarrow D^b(\text{Gr} A)$ be its right derived functor. Then $C^\bullet \cong {}^*R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(A)$ in $D^b(\text{Gr} A)$.

Let ${}^*D_A^\bullet$ be the \mathbb{Z}^n -graded normalized dualizing complex of A . By the \mathbb{Z}^n -graded version of the local duality theorem [2, Theorem V.6.2], $({}^*D_A^\bullet)^\vee \cong {}^*R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(A)$ in $D^b(\text{Gr} A)$. Since ${}^*D_A^\bullet \in D_{\text{gr} A}^b(\text{Gr} A)$, it is Matlis reflexive, and we have

$${}^*D_A^\bullet \cong ({}^*D_A^\bullet)^{\vee\vee} \cong {}^*R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}}(A)^\vee \cong (C^\bullet)^\vee.$$

Since each $(C^i)^\vee$ is isomorphic to the injective object

$$\bigoplus_{\substack{x \in P \\ \rho(x)=i}} E_A(x)$$

in $\text{Gr} A$, $(C^\bullet)^\vee$ actually coincides with ${}^*D_A^\bullet$. Hence, ${}^*D_A^\bullet$ is of the form

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{x \in P \\ \rho(x)=d}} E_A(x) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{x \in P \\ \rho(x)=d-1}} E_A(x) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow E_A(\hat{0}) \rightarrow 0,$$

where the cohomological degree is given by the same way as I_A^\bullet .

For each $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have an injection $\phi^i : I_A^i \rightarrow {}^*D_A^i$ given by

$$I_A^i = \bigoplus_{\rho(x)=-i} A/\mathfrak{p}_x \supset A/\mathfrak{p}_x \xrightarrow{\phi_x} E_A(x) \subset \bigoplus_{\rho(x)=-i} E_A(x) = {}^*D_A^i.$$

By the definition of $\phi_x : A/\mathfrak{p}_x \rightarrow E_A(x) = (A_U \cdot u_x)^\vee$, we have a cochain map

$$\phi^\bullet : I_A^\bullet \rightarrow {}^*D_A^\bullet.$$

Lemma 2.3. For all i , the cohomology $H^i({}^*D_A^\bullet)$ of ${}^*D_A^\bullet$ is \mathbb{N}^n -graded.

This lemma immediately follows from Duval’s description of $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(A)$ [1, Theorem 5.9], but we give another proof using the notion of *squarefree modules*. This approach makes our proof more self-contained, and we will extend this idea in the following sections.

Let $S = \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be a polynomial ring, and regard it as a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded ring. For $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$, let $x^{\mathbf{a}}$ denote the monomial $\prod x_i^{a_i} \in S$.

Definition 2.4 ([11]). With the above notation, a \mathbb{Z}^n -graded S -module M is called *squarefree* if it is finitely generated, \mathbb{N}^n -graded (i.e., $M = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^n} M_{\mathbf{a}}$), and the multiplication map $M_{\mathbf{a}} \ni s \mapsto x_i s \in M_{\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{e}_i}$ is bijective for all $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ and all i with $a_i > 0$. Here, $\mathbf{e}_i \in \mathbb{N}^n$ is the i th unit vector.

The following lemma is easy, and we omit the proof.

Lemma 2.5. Consider the polynomial ring $T := \text{Sym } A_1 \cong \mathbb{k}[t_1, \dots, t_n]$ (note that T is not a subring of A). Then A is a squarefree T -module.

Remark 2.6. Since A is a squarefree T -module, Duval’s formula on $H_m^i(A)$ immediately follows from [11, Lemma 2.9]. However, since $H_m^i(A)$ has a finer “grading” (see [1] or Corollary 3.6 below), the formula will be mentioned in Corollary 4.3.

The proof of Lemma 2.3. Let T be as in Lemma 2.5. For $\mathbf{1} := (1, 1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{N}^n$, $T(-\mathbf{1})$ is the (\mathbb{Z}^n -graded) canonical module of T . By the local duality theorem, we have

$$H^i(*D_A^*) \cong \text{Ext}_A^i(A, *D_A^*) \cong \text{Ext}_T^{n+i}(A, T(-\mathbf{1})).$$

By [11, Theorem 2.6], $\text{Ext}_T^{n+i}(A, T(-\mathbf{1}))$ is a squarefree module; in particular, \mathbb{N}^n -graded. \square

The proof of Theorem 1.1. Recall the cochain map $\phi^* : I_A^* \rightarrow *D_A^*$ constructed before Lemma 2.3. By (2.2), $\phi^*(I_A^*)$ coincides with $(*D_A^*)_{\geq 0}$. Hence, ϕ^* is a quasi-isomorphism by Lemma 2.3. Since $*D_A^* \cong D_A^*$ in $D^b(\text{Mod } A)$, we are done. \square

3. Squarefree modules over A_P

In this section, we will define a squarefree module over the face ring $A = A_P$ of a simplicial poset P . For this purpose, we equip A with a finer “grading”, where the index set is no longer a monoid (a similar idea has appeared in [1,8]).

Recall the convention that $\{y \in P \mid \rho(y) = 1\} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ and $t_i = t_{y_i} \in A$. For each $x \in P$, set

$$\mathbb{M}(x) := \bigoplus_{y_i \leq x} \mathbb{N} \mathbf{e}_i^x,$$

where \mathbf{e}_i^x is a basis element. So $\mathbb{M}(x) \cong \mathbb{N}^{\rho(x)}$ as additive monoids. For x, z with $x \leq z$, we have an injection $\iota_{z,x} : \mathbb{M}(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}(z) \ni \mathbf{e}_i^x \mapsto \mathbf{e}_i^z \in \mathbb{M}(z)$ of monoids. Set

$$\mathbb{M} := \varinjlim_{x \in P} \mathbb{M}(x),$$

where the direct limit is taken in the category of sets with respect to $\iota_{z,x} : \mathbb{M}(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}(z)$ for $x, z \in P$ with $x \leq z$. Note that \mathbb{M} is no longer a monoid. Since all $\iota_{z,x}$ is injective, we can regard $\mathbb{M}(x)$ as a subset of \mathbb{M} . For each $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$, $\{x \in P \mid \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}(x)\}$ has the smallest element, which is denoted by $\sigma(\mathbf{a})$.

We say that a monomial

$$m = \prod_{x \in P} t_x^{n_x} \in A \quad (n_x \in \mathbb{N})$$

is *standard* if $\{x \in P \mid n_x \neq 0\}$ is a chain. In this case, set $\sigma(m) := \max\{x \in P \mid n_x \neq 0\}$. If $n_x = 0$ for all $x \neq \hat{0}$, then $m = 1$. Hence, 1 is a standard monomial with $\sigma(1) = \hat{0}$. As shown in [9], the set of standard monomials forms a \mathbb{k} -basis of A .

There is a one-to-one correspondence between the elements of \mathbb{M} and the standard monomials of A . For a standard monomial m , set $U := \{i \in [n] \mid y_i \leq \sigma(m)\}$. Then we have $\sigma(m) \in [U]$. There is $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{N}^U$ such that the image of m in $A/\mathfrak{p}_{\sigma(m)} \cong \mathbb{k}[t_i \mid i \in U]$ is a monomial of the form $\prod_{i \in U} t_i^{a_i}$. So m corresponds to $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}(\sigma(m)) (= \bigoplus_{i \in U} \mathbb{N} \mathbf{e}_i^{\sigma(m)}) \subset \mathbb{M}$ whose $\mathbf{e}_i^{\sigma(m)}$ -coordinate is a_i . We denote this m by $t^{\mathbf{a}}$.

Let $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{M}$. If $[\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \vee \sigma(\mathbf{b})] \neq \emptyset$, then we can take the sum $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{M}(x)$ for each $x \in [\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \vee \sigma(\mathbf{b})]$. Unless $[\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \vee \sigma(\mathbf{b})]$ consists of a single element, we cannot define $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{M}$. Hence, we denote each $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{M}(x)$ by $(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})|_x$.

Definition 3.1. $M \in \text{Mod } A$ is said to be \mathbb{M} -graded if the following are satisfied.

- (1) $M = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}} M_{\mathbf{a}}$ as \mathbb{k} -vector spaces.
- (2) For $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{M}$, we have

$$t^{\mathbf{a}} M_{\mathbf{b}} \subset \bigoplus_{x \in [\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \vee \sigma(\mathbf{b})]} M_{(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})|_x}.$$

Hence, if $[\sigma(\mathbf{a}) \vee \sigma(\mathbf{b})] = \emptyset$, then $t^{\mathbf{a}} M_{\mathbf{b}} = 0$.

Clearly, A itself is an \mathbb{M} -graded module with $A_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbb{k} t^{\mathbf{a}}$. Since there is a natural map $\mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^n$, an \mathbb{M} -graded module can be seen as an \mathbb{N}^n -graded module.

If M is an \mathbb{M} -graded A -module, then

$$M_{\neq x} := \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \notin \mathbb{M}(x)} M_{\mathbf{a}}$$

is an \mathbb{M} -graded submodule for all $x \in P$, and

$$M_{\leq x} := M/M_{\not\leq x}$$

is a $\mathbb{Z}^{\rho(x)}$ -graded module over $A/\mathfrak{p}_x \cong \mathbb{k}[t_i \mid y_i \leq x]$.

Definition 3.2. We say that an \mathbb{M} -graded A -module M is *squarefree* if $M_{\leq x}$ is a squarefree module over the polynomial ring $A/\mathfrak{p}_x \cong \mathbb{k}[t_i \mid y_i \leq x]$ for all $x \in P$.

Note that squarefree A -modules are automatically finitely generated, and can be seen as squarefree modules over $T = \text{Sym } A_1$.

Clearly, A itself, and \mathfrak{p}_x and A/\mathfrak{p}_x for $x \in P$, are squarefree. Let $\text{Sq } A$ be the category of squarefree A -modules and their A -homomorphisms $f : M \rightarrow M'$ with $f(M_{\underline{a}}) \subset M'_{\underline{a}}$ for all $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{M}$. For example, I_A^* is a complex in $\text{Sq } A$. To see the basic properties of $\text{Sq } A$, we introduce the *incidence algebra* of the poset P as in [13] (see [13] for further information).

The incidence algebra Λ of P over \mathbb{k} is the finite-dimensional associative \mathbb{k} -algebra with basis $\{e_{x,y} \mid x, y \in P, x \geq y\}$ whose multiplication is defined by

$$e_{x,y} \cdot e_{z,w} = \delta_{y,z} e_{x,w},$$

where $\delta_{y,z}$ denotes Kronecker's delta.

Set $e_x := e_{x,x}$ for $x \in P$. Each e_x is an idempotent, and Λe_x is indecomposable as a left Λ -module. Clearly, $e_x \cdot e_y = 0$ for $x \neq y$, and $1_A = \sum_{x \in P} e_x$. Let $\text{mod } \Lambda$ be the category of finitely generated left Λ -modules. As a \mathbb{k} -vector space, $N \in \text{mod } \Lambda$ has the decomposition $N = \bigoplus_{x \in P} e_x N$. Henceforth, we set $N_x := e_x N$. Clearly, $e_{x,y} N_y \subset N_x$, and $e_{x,y} N_z = 0$ if $y \neq z$.

For each $x \in P$, we can construct a left Λ -module as follows. Set

$$E_{\Lambda}(x) := \bigoplus_{y \in P, y \leq x} \mathbb{k} \bar{e}_y,$$

where the \bar{e}_y are basis elements. The module structure of $E_{\Lambda}(x)$ is defined by

$$e_{z,w} \cdot \bar{e}_y = \begin{cases} \bar{e}_z & \text{if } w = y \text{ and } z \leq x; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then $E_{\Lambda}(x)$ is indecomposable and injective in $\text{mod } \Lambda$. Conversely, any indecomposable injective is of this form. Moreover, $\text{mod } \Lambda$ is an Abelian category with enough injectives, and the injective dimension of each object is at most d .

Proposition 3.3. *There is an equivalence between $\text{Sq } A$ and $\text{mod } \Lambda$. Hence, $\text{Sq } A$ is an Abelian category with enough injectives, and the injective dimension of each object is at most d . An object $M \in \text{Sq } A$ is an indecomposable injective if and only if $M \cong A/\mathfrak{p}_x$ for some $x \in P$.*

Proof. Let $N \in \text{mod } \Lambda$. To each $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{M}$, we assign a \mathbb{k} -vector space $M_{\underline{a}}$ with a bijection $\mu_{\underline{a}} : N_{\sigma(\underline{a})} \rightarrow M_{\underline{a}}$. We put an \mathbb{M} -graded A -module structure on $M := \bigoplus_{\underline{a} \in \mathbb{M}} M_{\underline{a}}$ by

$$t^{\underline{a}} s = \sum_{x \in [\sigma(\underline{a}) \vee \sigma(\underline{b})]} \mu_{(\underline{a}+\underline{b})x}(e_{x,\sigma(\underline{b})} \cdot \mu_{\underline{b}}^{-1}(s)) \quad \text{for } s \in M_{\underline{b}}.$$

To see that M is actually an A -module, note that both $(t^{\underline{a}} t^{\underline{b}}) s$ and $t^{\underline{a}} (t^{\underline{b}} s)$ equal

$$\sum_{x \in [\sigma(\underline{a}) \vee \sigma(\underline{b}) \vee \sigma(\underline{c})]} \mu_{(\underline{a}+\underline{b}+\underline{c})x}(e_{x,\sigma(\underline{c})} \cdot \mu_{\underline{c}}^{-1}(s)) \quad \text{for } s \in M_{\underline{c}}.$$

We can also show that M is squarefree.

To construct the inverse correspondence, for $x \in P$ with $r = \rho(x)$, set $\underline{a}(x) := (r, r, \dots, r) \in \mathbb{N}^r \cong \mathbb{M}(x) \subset \mathbb{M}$. If $x \geq y$, then there is $\underline{a}(x) - \underline{a}(y) \in \mathbb{M}(x) \subset \mathbb{M}$ such that $t^{\underline{a}(x)-\underline{a}(y)} \cdot t^{\underline{a}(y)} = t^{\underline{a}(x)}$. (One might think a simpler definition $\underline{a}(x) := (1, 1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{N}^r$ works. However, this is not true. In this case, the candidate of $\underline{a}(x) - \underline{a}(y)$ belongs to $\mathbb{M}(z)$ for some $z \in P$ with $z < x$. So $(\underline{a}(x) - \underline{a}(y)) + \underline{a}(y)$ does not exist, unless $\#[y \vee z] = 1$.) Now we can construct $N \in \text{mod } \Lambda$ from $M \in \text{Sq } A$ as follows. Set $N_x := M_{\underline{a}(x)}$, and define the multiplication map $N_y \ni s \mapsto e_{x,y} \cdot s \in N_x$ by $M_{\underline{a}(y)} \ni s \mapsto t^{\underline{a}(x)-\underline{a}(y)} s \in M_{\underline{a}(x)}$ for $x, y \in P$ with $x \geq y$.

By this correspondence, we have $\text{Sq } A \cong \text{mod } \Lambda$. For the last statement, note that $E_{\Lambda}(x) \in \text{mod } \Lambda$ corresponds to $A/\mathfrak{p}_x \in \text{Sq } A$. \square

Let Inj-Sq be the full subcategory of $\text{Sq } A$ consisting of all injective objects, that is, finite direct sums of copies of A/\mathfrak{p}_x for various $x \in P$. As is well known, the bounded homotopy category $\text{K}^b(\text{Inj-Sq})$ is equivalent to $\text{D}^b(\text{Sq } A)$. Since

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_A(A/\mathfrak{p}_x, A/\mathfrak{p}_y) = \begin{cases} A/\mathfrak{p}_y & \text{if } x \geq y, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

we have $\underline{\text{Hom}}_A^{\bullet}(J^{\bullet}, I_A^{\bullet}) \in \text{K}^b(\text{Inj-Sq})$ for all $J^{\bullet} \in \text{K}^b(\text{Inj-Sq})$. Moreover, $\underline{\text{Hom}}_A^{\bullet}(-, I_A^{\bullet})$ gives a functor

$$\mathbb{D} : \text{K}^b(\text{Inj-Sq}) \rightarrow \text{K}^b(\text{Inj-Sq})^{\text{op}}.$$

Proposition 3.4. Via the forgetful functor $\mathbb{U} : \text{Inj-Sq} \rightarrow \text{grA}, \mathbb{D}$ coincides with $\text{RHom}_A(-, {}^*D_A^\bullet)$. More precisely, we have a natural isomorphism

$$\Phi : \mathbb{U} \circ \mathbb{D} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{RHom}_A(-, {}^*D_A^\bullet) \circ \mathbb{U}.$$

Here, both $\mathbb{U} \circ \mathbb{D}$ and $\text{RHom}_A(-, {}^*D_A^\bullet) \circ \mathbb{U}$ are functors from $K^b(\text{Inj-Sq})$ to $D^b(\text{grA})$.

Proof. The cochain map $\phi^\bullet : I_A^\bullet \rightarrow {}^*D_A^\bullet$ induces the natural transformation Φ . It remains to prove that $\Phi(J^\bullet) : \mathbb{D}(J^\bullet) \rightarrow \text{RHom}_A(J^\bullet, {}^*D_A^\bullet)$ is a quasi-isomorphism for all $J^\bullet \in K^b(\text{Inj-Sq})$. For this fact, we use a similar argument to the final steps of the previous section (while the same argument as the proof of [8, Proposition 5.4] also works here). Note that J^\bullet is a complex of squarefree modules over the polynomial ring $T := \text{Sym } A_1$. Since $\text{RHom}_A(J^\bullet, {}^*D_A^\bullet) \cong \text{RHom}_T(J^\bullet, {}^*D_T^\bullet)$ by the local duality theorem, the cohomologies of $\text{RHom}_A(J^\bullet, {}^*D_A^\bullet)$ are squarefree T -modules, in particular, \mathbb{N}^n -graded. On the other hand, through Φ , $\mathbb{D}(J^\bullet)$ is isomorphic to the \mathbb{N}^n -graded part of $\text{RHom}_A(J^\bullet, {}^*D_A^\bullet)$. \square

Remark 3.5. By the equivalence $K^b(\text{Inj-Sq}) \cong D^b(\text{Sq } A)$, \mathbb{D} can be regarded as a contravariant functor from $D^b(\text{Sq } A)$ to itself. Then, through the equivalence $\text{Sq } R \cong \text{mod } \Lambda$, \mathbb{D} coincides with the functor $\mathbf{D} : D^b(\text{mod } \Lambda) \rightarrow D^b(\text{mod } \Lambda)^{\text{op}}$ defined in [13] up to translation. Hence, for $M^\bullet \in D^b(\text{Sq } A)$, the complex $\mathbb{D}(M^\bullet)$ has the following description. The term of cohomological degree p is

$$\mathbb{D}(M^\bullet)^p := \bigoplus_{i+\rho(x)=-p} (M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)}^i)^* \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} A/\mathfrak{p}_x,$$

where $(-)^*$ denotes the \mathbb{k} -dual, and $\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x) \in \mathbb{M}(x) \subset \mathbb{M}$ is the one defined in the proof of Proposition 3.3. The differential is given by

$$(M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)}^i)^* \otimes_{\mathbb{k}} A/\mathfrak{p}_x \ni f \otimes 1_{A/\mathfrak{p}_x} \mapsto \sum_{\substack{y \leq x \\ \rho(y)=\rho(x)-1}} \epsilon(x, y) \cdot f_y \otimes 1_{A/\mathfrak{p}_y} + (-1)^p \cdot f \otimes \partial_M^{i-1} \otimes 1_{A/\mathfrak{p}_x},$$

where $f_y \in (M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(y)}^i)^*$ denotes $M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(y)} \ni s \mapsto f(t^{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)-\underline{\mathbf{a}}(y)} \cdot s) \in \mathbb{k}$, and $\epsilon(x, y)$ is the incidence function. We also have $\mathbb{D} \circ \mathbb{D} \cong \text{id}_{D^b(\text{Sq } A)}$.

Since $H^{-i}(\mathbb{D}(M)) \cong \text{Ext}_A^{-i}(M, {}^*D_A^\bullet) \cong H_m^i(M)^\vee$ in $\text{Gr } A$, we have the following.

Corollary 3.6. If $M \in \text{Sq } A$, then the local cohomology $H_m^i(M)^\vee$ can be seen as a squarefree A -module.

4. Sheaves and Poincaré–Verdier duality

The results in this section are parallel to those in [8, Section 6] (or the earlier work [12]). Although the relation between the rings treated there and our A_p is not so direct, the argument is very similar. So we omit the detail of some proofs here.

Recall that a simplicial poset P gives a regular cell complex $\Gamma(P)$. Let X be the underlying space of $\Gamma(P)$, and $c(x)$ the open cell corresponding to $\hat{0} \neq x \in P$. Hence, for each $x \in P$ with $\rho(x) \geq 2$, $c(x)$ is a subset of X homeomorphic to $\mathbb{R}^{\rho(x)-1}$ (if $\rho(x) = 1$, then $c(x)$ is a single point), and X is the disjoint union of the cells $c(x)$. Moreover, $x \geq y$ if and only if $\overline{c(x)} \supset c(y)$.

As in the preceding section, let Λ be the incidence algebra of P , and $\text{mod } \Lambda$ the category of finitely generated left Λ -modules. In [13], we assigned the constructible sheaf N^+ on X to $N \in \text{mod } \Lambda$. By the equivalence $\text{Sq } A \cong \text{mod } \Lambda$, we have the constructible sheaf M^+ on X corresponding to $M \in \text{Sq } A$. Here, we give a precise construction for the reader’s convenience. For the sheaf theory, consult [3].

For $M \in \text{Sq } A$, set

$$\text{Spé}(M) := \bigcup_{\hat{0} \neq x \in P} c(x) \times M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)},$$

where $\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x) \in \mathbb{M}(x) \subset \mathbb{M}$ is the one defined in the proof of Proposition 3.3. Let $\pi : \text{Spé}(M) \rightarrow X$ be the projection map which sends $(p, m) \in c(x) \times M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)} \subset \text{Spé}(M)$ to $p \in c(x) \subset X$. For an open subset $U \subset X$ and a map $s : U \rightarrow \text{Spé}(M)$, we will consider the following conditions.

- (*) $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_U$ and $s_p = t^{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)-\underline{\mathbf{a}}(y)} \cdot s_q$ for all $p \in c(x) \cap U, q \in c(y) \cap U$ with $x \geq y$. Here, $s_p \in M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(x)}$ (resp. $s_q \in M_{\underline{\mathbf{a}}(y)}$) is the element with $s(p) = (p, s_p)$ (resp. $s(q) = (q, s_q)$).
- (**) There is an open covering $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ such that the restriction of s to U_i satisfies (*) for all $i \in I$.

Now we define a sheaf M^+ on X as follows. For an open set $U \subset X$, set

$$M^+(U) := \{s \mid s : U \rightarrow \text{Spé}(M) \text{ is a map satisfying (**)}\},$$

and let the restriction map $M^+(U) \rightarrow M^+(V)$ for $U \supset V$ be the natural one. It is easy to see that M^+ is a constructible sheaf with respect to the cell decomposition $\Gamma(P)$. For example, A^+ is the \mathbb{k} -constant sheaf $\underline{\mathbb{k}}_X$ on X , and $(A/\mathfrak{p}_x)^+$ is (the extension to X of) the \mathbb{k} -constant sheaf on the closed cell $\overline{c(x)}$.

Let $\text{Sh}(X)$ be the category of sheaves of finite-dimensional \mathbb{k} -vector spaces on X . The functor $(-)^+ : \text{Sq } A \rightarrow \text{Sh}(X)$ is exact.

As mentioned in the previous section, $\mathbb{D} : D^b(\text{Sq } A) \rightarrow D^b(\text{Sq } A)^{\text{op}}$ corresponds to $\mathbf{T} \circ \mathbf{D} : D^b(\text{mod } \Lambda) \rightarrow D^b(\text{mod } \Lambda)^{\text{op}}$, where \mathbf{D} is the one defined in [13], and \mathbf{T} is the translation functor (i.e., $\mathbf{T}(M^\bullet)^i = M^{i+1}$). Through $(-)^+ : \text{mod } \Lambda \rightarrow \text{Sh}(X)$, \mathbf{D} gives the Poincaré–Verdier duality on $D^b(\text{Sh}(X))$, so we have the following.

Theorem 4.1. For $M^\bullet \in D^b(\text{Sq } A)$, we have

$$\mathbf{T}^{-1} \circ \mathbb{D}(M^\bullet)^+ \cong R\mathcal{H}om((M^\bullet)^+, \mathcal{D}_X^\bullet)$$

in $D^b(\text{Sh}(X))$. In particular, $\mathbf{T}^{-1}((I_A^\bullet)^+) \cong \mathcal{D}_X^\bullet$, where I_A^\bullet is the complex constructed in Theorem 1.1, and \mathcal{D}_X^\bullet is the Verdier dualizing complex of X with coefficients in \mathbb{k} .

The next result follows from results in [13] (see also [8, Theorem 6.2]).

Theorem 4.2. For $M \in \text{Sq } A$, we have the decomposition $H_m^i(M) = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}} H_m^i(M)_{-\mathbf{a}}$ by Corollary 3.6. Note that \mathbb{M} has the element $\mathbf{0}$. Then the following hold.

(a) There is an isomorphism

$$H^i(X, M^+) \cong H_m^{i+1}(M)_\mathbf{0} \quad \text{for all } i \geq 1,$$

and an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_m^0(M)_\mathbf{0} \rightarrow M_\mathbf{0} \rightarrow H^0(X, M^+) \rightarrow H_m^1(M)_\mathbf{0} \rightarrow 0.$$

(b) If $\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$ with $x = \sigma(\mathbf{a})$, then

$$H_m^i(M)_{-\mathbf{a}} \cong H_c^{i-1}(U_x, M^+|_{U_x})$$

for all $i \geq 0$. Here, $U_x = \bigcup_{z \geq x} c(z)$ is an open set of X , and $H_c^i(-)$ stands for the cohomology with compact support.

Let $\tilde{H}^i(X; \mathbb{k})$ denote the i th reduced cohomology of X with coefficients in \mathbb{k} . That is, $\tilde{H}^i(X; \mathbb{k}) \cong H^i(X; \mathbb{k})$ for all $i \geq 1$, and $\tilde{H}^0(X; \mathbb{k}) \oplus \mathbb{k} \cong H^0(X; \mathbb{k})$, where $H^i(X; \mathbb{k})$ is the usual cohomology of X .

Corollary 4.3 (Duval [1, Theorem 5.9]). We have

$$[H_m^i(A)]_\mathbf{0} \cong \tilde{H}^{i-1}(X; \mathbb{k}) \quad \text{and} \quad [H_m^i(A)]_{-\mathbf{a}} \cong H_c^{i-1}(U_x; \mathbb{k})$$

for all $i \geq 0$ and all $\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$ with $x = \sigma(\mathbf{a})$.

For this $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$ (but \mathbf{a} can be $\mathbf{0}$ here), $[H_m^i(A)]_{-\mathbf{a}}$ is also isomorphic to the i th cohomology of the cochain complex

$$K_x^\bullet : 0 \rightarrow K_x^{\rho(x)} \rightarrow K_x^{\rho(x)+1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow K_x^d \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{with } K_x^i = \bigoplus_{\substack{z \geq x \\ \rho(z)=i}} \mathbb{k} b_z$$

(b_z is a basis element) whose differential map is given by

$$b_z \mapsto \sum_{\substack{w \geq z \\ \rho(w)=\rho(z)+1}} \epsilon(w, z) b_w.$$

Duval uses the latter description, and he denotes $H^i(K_x^\bullet)$ by $H^{i-\rho(x)-1}(\mathbb{k}x)$.

Proof. The former half follows from Theorem 4.2 by the same argument as [8, Corollary 6.3]. The latter part follows because $H_m^i(A) \cong H^{-i}(\mathbb{D}(A))^\vee$ and $(\mathbb{D}(A)^\vee)_{-\mathbf{a}} = K_x^\bullet$ as complexes of \mathbb{k} -vector spaces. \square

Theorem 4.4 (c.f. Duval [1]). Set $d := \text{rank } P = \dim X + 1$. Then we have the following.

- (a) A is Cohen–Macaulay if and only if $\mathcal{H}^i(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) = 0$ for all $i \neq -d + 1$, and $\tilde{H}^i(X; \mathbb{k}) = 0$ for all $i \neq d - 1$.
- (b) Assume that A is Cohen–Macaulay and $d \geq 2$. Then A is Gorenstein* if and only if $\mathcal{H}^{-d+1}(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) \cong \mathbb{k}_X$. (When $d = 1$, A is Gorenstein* if and only if X consists of exactly two points.)
- (c) A is Buchsbaum if and only if $\mathcal{H}^i(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) = 0$ for all $i \neq -d + 1$.
- (d) Set

$$d_i := \begin{cases} \dim(\text{supp } \mathcal{H}^{-i}(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet)) & \text{if } \mathcal{H}^{-i}(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) \neq 0, \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathcal{H}^{-i}(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) = 0 \text{ and } \tilde{H}^i(X; \mathbb{k}) \neq 0, \\ -\infty & \text{if } \mathcal{H}^{-i}(\mathcal{D}_X^\bullet) = 0 \text{ and } \tilde{H}^i(X; \mathbb{k}) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, $\text{supp } \mathcal{F} = \{p \in X \mid \mathcal{F}_p \neq 0\}$ for a sheaf \mathcal{F} on X . Then, for $r \geq 2$, A satisfies Serre’s condition (S_r) if and only if $d_i \leq i - r$ for all $i < d - 1$.

Hence, the Cohen–Macaulay (resp. Gorenstein*, Buchsbaum) property and Serre’s condition (S_r) of A are topological properties of X , while they may depend on $\text{char}(\mathbb{k})$.

As far as the author knows, even in the Stanley–Reisner ring case, (d) has not been mentioned in literature yet.

Recall that we say that A satisfies Serre’s condition (S_r) if $\text{depth } A_{\mathfrak{p}} \geq \min\{r, \text{ht } \mathfrak{p}\}$ for all prime ideal \mathfrak{p} of A . The next fact is well known to the specialist, but we will sketch the proof here for the reader’s convenience.

Lemma 4.5. For $r \geq 2$, A satisfies the condition (S_r) if and only if $\dim H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) \leq i - r$ for all $i < d$. Here, the dimension of the 0 module is $-\infty$.

Proof. For a prime ideal \mathfrak{p} , the normalized dualizing complex of $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is quasi-isomorphic to $\mathbf{T}^{-\dim A/\mathfrak{p}}(I_A^\bullet \otimes_A A_{\mathfrak{p}})$. Hence, we have

$$\text{depth } A_{\mathfrak{p}} = \min\{i \mid (H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) \otimes_A A_{\mathfrak{p}}) \neq 0\} - \dim A/\mathfrak{p}. \tag{4.1}$$

Recall that, if A satisfies Serre’s condition (S_2) , then P is pure (equivalently, $\dim A/\mathfrak{p} = d$ for all minimal prime ideal \mathfrak{p}). Similarly, if $\dim H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) < i$ for all $i < d$, then P is pure. (In fact, if \mathfrak{p} is a minimal prime ideal of A with $i := \dim A/\mathfrak{p} < d$, then $\text{depth } A_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ implies that \mathfrak{p} is a minimal prime of $H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet)$. It follows that $\dim H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) = i$. This is a contradiction.) So we may assume that P is pure, and hence $\dim A/\mathfrak{p} + \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} = d$ for all \mathfrak{p} . Now, the assertion follows from (4.1). \square

The proof of Theorem 4.4. We can prove (a)–(c) in the same way as [8, Theorems 6.4 and 6.7]. For (d), note that $d_j = \dim H^{-j-1}(I_A^\bullet) - 1$. So the assertion follows from Lemma 4.5. \square

5. Further discussion

This section is a collection of miscellaneous results related to the arguments in the previous sections.

For an integer $i \leq d - 1$, the poset

$$P^{(i)} := \{x \in P \mid \rho(x) \leq i + 1\}$$

is called the i -skeleton of P . Clearly, $P^{(i)}$ is simplicial again, and set $A^{(i)} := A_{P^{(i)}}$. Then it is easy to see that the (Theorem 1.1 type) dualizing complex $I_{A^{(i)}}^\bullet$ of $A^{(i)}$ coincides with the brutal truncation

$$0 \rightarrow I_A^{-i-1} \rightarrow I_A^{-i} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow I_A^0 \rightarrow 0$$

of I_A^\bullet . Since $\text{depth } A = \min\{i \mid H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) \neq 0\}$ and $\dim A = \max\{i \mid H^{-i}(I_A^\bullet) \neq 0\}$, we have the equation

$$\text{depth } A_{\mathfrak{p}} = 1 + \max\{i \mid A^{(i)} \text{ is Cohen–Macaulay}\}, \tag{5.1}$$

which is [1, Corollary 6.5].

Contrary to the Gorenstein* property, the Gorenstein property of $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is not topological. This phenomenon occurs even for Stanley–Reisner rings. But there is a characterization of P such that $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is Gorenstein. For posets P_1, P_2 , we regard $P_1 \times P_2 = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1 \in P_1, x_2 \in P_2\}$ as a poset by $(x_1, x_2) \geq (y_1, y_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} x_i \geq y_i$ in P_i for each $i = 1, 2$.

Proposition 5.1. $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is Gorenstein if and only if $P \cong 2^V \times Q$ as posets for a Boolean algebra 2^V and a simplicial poset Q such that A_Q is Gorenstein*.

Proof. The sufficiency is clear. In fact, if $P \cong 2^V \times Q$, then $A := A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a polynomial ring over A_Q . So it remains to prove the necessity.

Recall that A is a squarefree module over the polynomial ring $T := \text{Sym } A_1$ (Lemma 2.5). We say that $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ is squarefree if $a_i = 0, 1$ for all i . If this is the case, we identify \mathbf{a} with the subset $\{i \mid a_i = 1\} \subset [n]$. Hence, a subset $F \subset [n]$ sometimes means the corresponding squarefree vector in \mathbb{N}^n .

Since A is Gorenstein (in particular, Cohen–Macaulay) now, a minimal \mathbb{Z}^n -graded T -free resolution of A is of the form

$$L_\bullet : 0 \rightarrow L_{n-d} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow L_1 \rightarrow L_0 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{with } L_i = \bigoplus_{F \subset [n]} T(-F)^{\beta_{i,F}}$$

by [11, Corollary 2.4].

Let $\mathbf{1} := (1, 1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{N}^n$. Note that $\text{Hom}_T^\bullet(L_\bullet, T(-\mathbf{1}))$ is a minimal \mathbb{Z}^n -graded T -free resolution of the canonical module $\omega_A = \text{Ext}_T^{n-d}(A, T(-\mathbf{1}))$ of A up to translation, and $\omega_A \cong A(-V)$ for some $V \subset [n]$. Set $W := [n] \setminus V$. Since $\text{Hom}_T(T(-F), T(-\mathbf{1})) \cong T(-([n] \setminus F))$, we have the following.

(*) If $\beta_{i,F} \neq 0$ for some i , then $F \subset W$.

If $[V] = [\bigvee_{i \in V} y_i] = \emptyset$, then, by the construction of A , there is some $F \subset V$ with $\beta_{i,F} \neq 0$, and this contradicts the statement (*). If $\#[V] \geq 2$, then $\beta_{0,V} \neq 0$, and this is a contradiction again. Hence, $[V] = \{x\}$ for some $x \in P$. We denote the closed interval $[\hat{0}, x]$ by 2^V .

Set

$$Q := \{z \in P \mid z \not\geq y_i \text{ for all } i \in V\} = \bigsqcup_{U \subset W} [U].$$

If $\#[x' \vee z] \neq 1$ for some $x' \in 2^V$ and $z \in Q$, then $\beta_{i,F} \neq 0$ for $i = 1$ or 0 and for some F with $F \cap V \neq \emptyset$, and it contradicts (*). Hence, for all $x' \in 2^V$ and $z \in Q$, we have $\#[x' \vee z] = 1$. Denoting the element of $[x' \vee z]$ by $x' \vee z$, we have an order-preserving map

$$\psi : 2^V \times Q \ni (x', z) \mapsto x' \vee z \in P.$$

Moreover, since $P = \coprod_{U \subset [n]} [U]$, ψ is an isomorphism of posets, and we have

$$P \cong 2^V \times Q.$$

Clearly, Q is a simplicial poset. Set $B := A_Q$. Since $A \cong B[t_i \mid i \in V]$ and

$$A(-V) \cong \omega_A \cong (\omega_B[t_i \mid i \in V])(-V),$$

B is Gorenstein*. \square

Let Σ be a finite regular cell complex with the underlying topological space $X(\Sigma)$, and $Y, Z \subset X(\Sigma)$ closed subsets with $Y \supset Z \neq \emptyset$. Set $U := Y \setminus Z$, and let $h : U \hookrightarrow Y$ be the embedding map. We can define the Cohen–Macaulay property of the pair (Y, Z) , which generalizes the Cohen–Macaulay property of a relative simplicial complex introduced in [10, III, Section 7]. See Lemma 5.3 below.

Definition 5.2. We say that the pair (Y, Z) is *Cohen–Macaulay* (over \mathbb{k}) if $H_c^i(U; \mathbb{k}) = 0$ for all $i \neq \dim U$ and $R^i h_* \mathcal{D}_U^\bullet = 0$ for all $i \neq -\dim U$. Here, \mathcal{D}_U^\bullet is the Verdier dualizing complex of U with coefficients in \mathbb{k} .

We say that an ideal $I \subset A$ is *squarefree* if it is squarefree as an A -module. For a squarefree ideal I , $\sigma(I) := \{x \in P \mid t_x \in I\}$ is an order filter (i.e., $x \in \sigma(I)$ and $y \geq x$ imply that $y \in \sigma(I)$), and $U_I := \bigcup_{x \in \sigma(I)} c(x)$ is an open set of X . The sheaf I^+ is (the extension to X of) the \mathbb{k} -constant sheaf on U_I .

Proposition 5.3. (1) A squarefree ideal I with $I \subsetneq \mathfrak{m}$ is a Cohen–Macaulay module if and only if $(\overline{U}_I, \overline{U}_I \setminus U_I)$ is Cohen–Macaulay in the sense of Definition 5.2.
 (2) The sequentially Cohen–Macaulay (see [10, III, Definition 2.9]) property of A depends only on X (and $\text{char}(\mathbb{k})$).

Proof. (1) Set $U := U_I$, and let $h : U \rightarrow \overline{U}$ be the embedding map. The assertion follows from the fact that $\mathbf{T}^{-1}(\mathbb{D}(I)^+|_{\overline{U}}) \cong \text{R}h_* \mathcal{D}_U^\bullet$ and $[H^{-i}(\mathbb{D}(I))]_0 \cong H_c^{i-1}(U; \mathbb{k})$ by [13] (see also [12, Proposition 4.10] and its proof).

(2) Follows from (1) by the same argument as [14, Theorem 4.7]. \square

Remark 5.4. While it is not stated in [8], the statements corresponding to Lemma 4.4, Eq. (5.1), and Proposition 5.3 hold for a cone-wise normal toric face ring.

As in [13], we regard the finite regular cell complex Σ as a poset by $\sigma \geq \tau \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \overline{\sigma} \supset \tau$. Here, we use the convention that $\emptyset \in \Sigma$. We say that Σ is a *meet-semilattice* (or, satisfies the *intersection property*) if the largest common lower bound $\sigma \wedge \tau \in \Sigma$ exists for all $\sigma, \tau \in \Sigma$. It is easy to see that Σ is a meet-semilattice if and only if $\#[\sigma \vee \tau] \leq 1$ for all $\sigma, \tau \in \Sigma$. The underlying cell complex of a toric face ring (especially, a simplicial complex) is a meet-semilattice.

For $\sigma \in \Sigma$, let U_σ be the open subset $\bigcup_{\tau \geq \sigma} \tau$ of $X(\Sigma)$. As shown in [13], if $X(\Sigma)$ is Cohen–Macaulay and Σ is a meet-semilattice, then $(\overline{U}_\sigma, \overline{U}_\sigma \setminus U_\sigma)$ is Cohen–Macaulay for all σ . (If Σ is not a meet-semilattice, we have an easy counterexample.) While a simplicial poset P is not a meet-semilattice in general, the above fact remains true. We also remark that an indecomposable projective in $\text{Sq } A$ is isomorphic to the ideal $J_x := (t_y \mid y \geq x) \subset A$ for some $x \in P$.

Proposition 5.5. If A is Cohen–Macaulay (resp. Buchsbaum), then the ideal $J_x := (t_y \mid y \geq x)$ is a Cohen–Macaulay module for all $x \in P$ (resp. for all $\hat{0} \neq x \in P$).

Proof. Let $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$ with $\sigma(\mathbf{a}) = y$. With the notation of Proposition 4.3, recall that

$$\text{R}\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} A \cong (\mathbb{D}(A)^\vee)_{-\mathbf{a}} \cong K_y^\bullet.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\text{R}\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} J_x \cong (\mathbb{D}(J_x)^\vee)_{-\mathbf{a}} \cong \bigoplus_{z \in [x \vee y]} K_z^\bullet.$$

To see the second isomorphism, note that, if $w \geq x, y$, then there exists a unique $z \in [x \vee y]$ such that $w \geq z$.

If A is Cohen–Macaulay (resp. Buchsbaum), then $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^i(A)_{-\mathbf{a}} \cong H^i(\text{R}\Gamma_{\mathfrak{m}} A)_{-\mathbf{a}} = 0$ for all $i < d$ and all $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$ (resp. $\mathbf{0} \neq \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{M}$). Hence, we are done. \square

Regarding $A = A_P$ as a \mathbb{Z} -graded ring, we have

$$\sum_{i \geq 0} (\dim_{\mathbb{k}} A_i) \cdot \lambda^i = \frac{h_0 + h_1 \lambda + \dots + h_d \lambda^d}{(1 - \lambda)^d},$$

for some integers h_0, h_1, \dots, h_d by [9, Proposition 3.8]. We call (h_0, \dots, h_d) the *h-vector* of P . The behavior of the *h-vectors* of simplicial complexes is an important subject of combinatorial commutative algebra. The *h-vector* of a simplicial poset has also been studied, and striking results are given in [10,4].

Recently, Murai and Terai gave nice results on the h -vector of a simplicial complex Δ such that the Stanley–Reisner ring $\mathbb{k}[\Delta]$ satisfies Serre’s condition (S_r) . We show that one of them also holds for simplicial posets.

Theorem 5.6 (see Murai–Terai [7, Theorem 1.1]). *Let P be a simplicial poset with the h -vector (h_0, h_1, \dots, h_d) . If A satisfies Serre’s condition (S_r) , then $h_i \geq 0$ for all $i \leq r$.*

Proof. By virtue of Lemma 2.5, we can imitate the proof of [7, Theorem 1.1].

Let Δ be a simplicial complex with the vertex set $[n]$, $S = \mathbb{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ the polynomial ring, and $\mathbb{k}[\Delta] = S/I_\Delta$ the Stanley–Reisner ring of Δ . To prove our theorem, we replace $\mathbb{k}[\Delta]$ and S in their argument by $A = A_P$ and $T = \text{Sym } A_1$, respectively. In the former half of the proof, they treat $\mathbb{k}[\Delta]$ as just a finitely generated graded S -module, and the argument is clearly applicable to our A and T . The latter half of their proof is based on the fact that $\text{Ext}_S^i(\mathbb{k}[\Delta], S(-\mathbf{1}))$ is a squarefree S -module of dimension at most $n - i - r$. Hence, if the following holds, the argument in [7] works in our case.

Claim. $\text{Ext}_T^i(A, T(-\mathbf{1}))$ is a squarefree T -module of dimension at most $n - i - r$.

The proof is easy. In fact, the squarefreeness follows from Lemma 2.5 and [11, Theorem 2.6]. Moreover, since $\text{Ext}_T^i(A, T(-\mathbf{1})) \cong \text{Ext}_A^{n+i}(A, {}^*D_A^*) \cong H^{-n+i}(I_A^*)$ by the local duality, we have $\text{Ext}_T^i(A, T(-\mathbf{1})) \leq n - i - r$ by Lemma 4.5. \square

Acknowledgements

Partially supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (c) (no. 19540028).

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