

# Irreducible components of families of level algebras

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Talk at Fields Institute, Toronto:

Workshop on Computational and Combinatorial  
Commutative Algebra, August 2006.

(IIIB: Joint with Mats Boij, KTH, Stockholm)

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III. LevAlg( $H$ ), reducible

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B. For  $r = 3$ , types  $t=2,3, 4, \dots$

Several infinite series of examples.

IV. Overview, open problems.

A. What do we want to learn?

B. Deformations (see IC.)

C. Problem list.

V. Annotated References (9p)

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A goal of the talk is to give a personal view of open problems about Artinian level algebras.

## I. Level Algebras: An Introduction

$R = k[x_1, \dots, x_r]$ , polynom,  $M = (x_1, \dots, x_r)$ .

$A = R/I$  Artinian:  $\dim_k A = n$ .

$Soc(A) = 0 : M = \{a \in A \mid Ma = 0\}$ .

Type  $t(A) = \dim_k Soc(A)$ .

Graded Artinian (GA)  $A = A_0 \oplus A_1 \oplus \dots \oplus A_j$

Level Algebra: Also  $Soc(A) = A_j$ .

Gorenstein GA: Also  $t(A)=1$ .

Sequence  $H = (1, h_1, \dots, h_i, \dots, h_j)$ .

Hilbert function  $H = H(A) : h_i = H(A)_i = \dim_k A_i$

**Def.**  $LevAlg_R(t, j) = \{\text{level graded Artinian quotients } A \text{ of } R, \text{ socle degree } j, \text{ type } t.\}$

$LevAlg_R(H) = \{\text{level algs } A = R/I \mid H(A) = H.\}$

**Def.** Macaulay duality:  $R$  acts on  $S = k[X_1, \dots, X_r]$  by PDO.

$$g \in R_i, F \in S_j, 0 \leq i \leq j, g \circ F \in S_{j-i}.$$

$$g \circ F = g(\partial/\partial X_1, \dots, \partial/\partial X_r) \circ F.$$

Let  $V \subset S_j$ ; then define ideal

$$\text{Ann } V = \{f \in R \mid f \circ V = 0\}.$$

Let  $I$  ideal of  $R$ ; then define

$$I^\perp = \{F \in S \mid I \circ F = 0\}, R\text{-submodule of } S.$$

$$I_i^\perp = [I^\perp]_i = \{F \in S_i \mid I \circ F = 0\}, \text{ subspace of } S_i.$$

## IA. Macaulay duality and level algebras

**Thm.** (Macaulay):  $\exists$  1-1 correspondence,

$A \in \text{LevAlg}_R(t, j) \leftrightarrow$  vector sp.  $W \subset S_j$ ,  $\dim W=t$

$$A = R/I \rightarrow W_A = I_j^\perp \subset S_j.$$

$$W \subset S_j \rightarrow A_W = R/\text{Ann}W \in \text{LevAlg}(t, j).$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LevAlg}_R(t, j) \subset \text{Grass}(t, S_j).$$

**Lemma 1.** Assume  $A = R/I \in \text{LevAlg}_R(t, j)$ . Then  $I$  is determined by  $I_j$ . For  $i \leq j$

$$I_i = I_j : R_{j-i} \text{ and}$$

$$I_i^\perp = R_{j-i} \circ V_A \cong \hat{A}_i = \text{Hom}_k(A, k)_i.$$

**Corollary.**  $H(A)_i = \dim_k(R_{j-i} \circ V_A)$ .

Notation:  $W \subset S_j$ , then  $I_W = \text{Ann}W$ .

**Ex 1.** A Gorenstein.

**i.**  $F = X^3 + Y^3 + Z^3$ ,  $R = k[x, y, z]$ ,  $S = k[X, Y, Z]$ .

$$I_F = (xy, xz, yz, x^3 - y^3, x^3 - z^3).$$

$$A_F = R/I_F, \quad H(A_F) = (1, 3, 3, 1). \quad \text{“compressed”}.$$

$$\hat{A}_F = \langle 1; X, Y, Z; X^2, Y^2, Z^2; F \rangle.$$

**ii.**  $F = X^4 + Y^4 + Z^4 + (X + Y + Z)^4 \in S_4$

$$I_F = (xy - xz, xy - yz, x^4 - y^4, x^4 - z^4, z^5)$$

$$H(A_F) = (1, 3, 4, 3, 1). \quad (\text{F sum of four powers}).$$

**iii.**  $F = X^4 + Y^4 + Z^4 + L_1^4 + L_2^4 + L_3^4$ ,

$$L_1, L_2, L_3 \in R_1 \text{ general enough.}$$

$$H_F = (1, 3, 6, 3, 1), \quad A_F \text{ “compressed, extremal”}.$$

**Def.**  $A$  “compressed”: length  $n(A)$  maximum given  $t, j, r$ .

**Ex 2**  $A$  type  $t \geq 2$ .

i.  $W = X^4 + Y^4 + Z^4, L_1^4 + L_2^4 + L_3^4,$

$L_i \in R_1$  general enough.

$H_F = (1, 3, 6, 6, 2)$  “compressed”.

ii.  $S = k[X, Y, Z], W = \langle ZX^2 + ZY^2, Z^2X, Z^2Y \rangle,$

$I_W = (xy, x^2 - y^2, z^3, M^4)$

$\hat{A} = \langle 1; X, Y, Z; X^2 + Y^2, ZX, ZY, Z^2; W \rangle.$

$H(A) = (1, 3, 4, 3).$

### Summary of Macaulay duality and level algebras:

- The higher partial derivatives of homog. forms in a vector space  $W$ , have additional structure as the dual  $\hat{A}_W$  where  $A_W = R/I, I = \text{Ann } W$ .

- Plan: use algebra techniques such as minimal resolution to study  $A_W$ , determine  $H(A_W)$ , also dimension, closure, and irreducible components of  $\text{LevAlg}_R(H)$

**IB.** Striking success given a structure theorem!

- CM height two (Hilbert-Burch):

$I =$  maximal minors of  $(n - 1) \times n$  matrix.

- Gorenstein height three (Buchsbaum-Eisenbud):

$I =$  Pfaffians of alternating matrix  $M$ .

• Gorenstein case  $t = 1, r = 3$ .

Hilbert functions (Buchsbaum-Eisenbud, Stanley)

- All Gorenstein  $H$  are *unimodal* for  $r=3, t=1$ .

-  $\Delta H_{\leq j/2}$  is an  $O$ -sequence of height two.

Here  $\Delta H_i = h_i - h_{i-1}$ .

**Ex:**  $H = (1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 11, 10, 8, 6, 3, 1)$ ,  $j = 11$

$\Delta H_{\leq j/2} = (1, 2, 3, 2, 2, 1) = H(k[x, y]/(x^3, x^2y, y^5)).$

Parametrization ( $t=1, r=3$ ):

- (Diesel)  $\text{Gor}(H)$  is irreducible!

- (Kleppe, Conca-Valla & Boij):  $\text{Gor}(H)$  is smooth

- (Boij) Betti strata and their closures in  $\text{Gor}(H)$

- (Kanev-I) Closures of strata partially known

• CM Height two level algebras ( $r=2$ ):

Hilbert functions: (Iar)

$H = (1, 2, \dots, d, h_d, h_{d+1}, \dots, h_i, \dots, h_j = t)$ ,

$0 \leq d - h_d \leq h_d - h_{d+1} \leq \dots \leq h_{j-1} - h_j \leq t$ .

(i.e.  $0 \leq -\Delta H_d \leq -\Delta H_{d+1} \leq \dots \leq -\Delta H_{j+1} = t$ ).

**Ex.**  $H = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 6, 4, 2)$ ,  $d = 7$

$-\Delta H_{\geq d} = (1, 2, 2, 2)$  is nondecreasing.

Parametrization ( $r=2$ ):

- (Iar)  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  irreducible, smooth, dim known.
- Frontier property for closures of strata:

$$\overline{\text{LevAlg}(H)} = \bigcup_{H' \leq H} \text{LevAlg}(H').$$

- (Chipalkatti, Geramita): structure of special unions of strata.

### IC. Why do we care?

- Ubiquity of Gorenstein algebras (Bass, Huneke)
  - a. Cohomology rings (often nonstandard grading).

(V. Puppe et al): Use “generic”  $A, H = 1, 6, 6, 1$  to create manifold having no  $S^1$  quotient.

- b. Stanley-Reisner rings of complexes that are triangulations of sphere

- c. Commutative algebra: Gor. is strong condition

- d. We care about the higher derivatives of a form  $F$ , or polynomial  $f = F_j + F_{j-1} + \cdots + F_d$ .

- e. Dimension  $d$  Gorensteins  $B$  are related to their Artinian quotients  $A = B/(L_1, \dots, L_d)$  by a system of parameters  $L$ :

- Minimal resolutions the same
- $H(B)$  determined by h-seq  $H(A)$ .

- Level type  $t, t \geq 2$ , are the next step in taxonomy, “geography” of singularities.

- a. Levels are basic components of graded Artinian algebras:

$$A = R/\cap I(i) \text{ with } R/I(i) \text{ level.}$$

b. Dually, write  $\hat{A} = \bigoplus A(i)$ ,  $A(i) = R \circ W(i)$   
 $W(i) \subset S_{t_i}$ .

$W(i) \cong$  dual of degree  $t_i$  part of socle.

Build general graded Artin algebras from levels.

c. (T. Hibi):  $i$ -skeleton of CM simplicial complex has a level Stanley-Reisner ring.

- Artin algebras occur elsewhere.
  - a. Singularity theory (finite type)
  - b. Punctual Hilbert scheme
  - c. commuting nilpotent sets of matrices (R. Basili, V. Baranovsky, A. Premet, case  $r=2$ )
  - d. Algebra: Let  $(B, m)$  be any local algebra
    - i. Truncations  $A = B/M^n$ .
    - ii.  $A = B/(L)$  quotient by s.o.p.: minimal reduction of  $B$
  - e. Quivers
    - i. Algebra associated to a quiver
    - ii. quivers with Artin algebras at vertices:  
**Ex.** Zwara:  $k[t]/(t^n)$  “curvilinear”
  - f. Approximation theory/ interpolation (A. Hirschowitz, A. Alexander, K. Chandler, G.G. Lorentz, B. Shekhtman, C. de Boor, G. Ellingsrud, E. Ballico, C. Ciliberto).

**Note:** “A” often non-graded in applications!

Given  $H = (1, \dots, h_j, 0)$ . let  $\text{NGLevAlg}(H) = \{ \text{nongraded } A \mid \text{Soc}(A) \rightarrow A_j \text{ is an isom. and } H(A) = H \}$

- Except  $r=2$  or  $t=1$ , or  $H$  “compressed”  
 (maximal), little is known about  $\text{NGLevAlg}(H)$ :  
**Q1 NG**: What  $H$  occur?  
**Q2 NG** What is dimension of  $\text{NGLevAlg}(H)$ ?
- When  $t = 1$ , we write  $\text{NGGor}(H)$ . Then  $A^* = \text{Gr}_m(A)$  has added structure, a sequence of subquotients,  $Q(a)$  each with HF symmetric about  $(j - a)/2$ .

Let  $F \in S, F = F_d + F_{d+1} + \dots + F_j$ ;  
 $A_F = R/\text{Ann}(F)$ :  $Q(a)$  depends on  $F_{j-a} + \dots + F_j$ .  
 $Q(0) = R/\text{Ann } F_j = \text{unique soc. deg. } j \text{ Gor qt of } A^*$ .

**Ex.**  $F = Z^3 + X^4 + Y^4 \in S = k[X, Y, Z]$ . Then  $Q(0) = R/\text{Ann}(X^4 + Y^4) \cong k[x, y]/(xy, x^4 - y^4)$ .

$$H(0) = (1, 2, 2, 2, 1);$$

$$Q(\hat{1}) \cong \langle Z, Z^2 \rangle,$$

$$H(1) = (0, 1, 1).$$

$$H(A) = H(0) + H(1) = (1, 3, 3, 2, 1)$$

**Q3 NG.** Which  $H(Q(a))$  occur when  $t = 1$ ?

- When  $r \geq 3$ , despite this symmetry, and the Buchsbaum-Eisenbud Structure Thm for  $r=3$ , the answers to Q1NG and Q3 NG. are unknown even for  $A$  height three Gorenstein. *This is scandalous!*

## ID. “Generic” Level Algebras.

Consider  $\text{ComAlg}(n)$ : commutative algebras  $A$ ,  $\dim_k A = n$ , parametrized by structure constants.

**Q4 NG.** Describe irreducible components.

**Ex.** (Emsalem-I):  $H(A) = (1, 4, 3)$  local algebra determines a component of  $\text{ComAlg}(8)$ .  $R = k[x, y, z, w]$

Choose  $A = R/I$ ,  $I = (7 \text{ gen. enough quad forms in } R)$ . Then  $A$  has deformations only to same kind of algebra  $A'$ , same H.F.  $H(A') = (1, 4, 3)$ .

$A$  is not “rigid”, but is “generic”: 6 dim. family.

**Ex.** (Shafarevich):  $H(A) = (1, d, e)$ ,  $A$  general.

If  $2 < e \leq (d-1)(d-2)/6 + 2 \Rightarrow A$  generic.

If  $(d^2 - 1)/3 \leq e \leq \dim R_2 \Rightarrow A$  is “smoothable”.

**Def.** A smoothable  $\Leftrightarrow A$  has deformation to  $k \oplus \cdots \oplus k$ .

• If  $d^2/6 \leq e \leq d^2/3$ , deformation status open.

**Ex.** Gorensteins  $H(A) = (1, r, r, 1)$ ,  $r \geq 6, r \neq 7$  (up to  $r=13$ )  $\Rightarrow A$  generic. (Open  $r > 13$ ).

**Probable Ex.** Many  $A$  level compressed (so  $H(A)$  max, given  $(r, t, j)$ ). should be generic.

As  $r \geq 5, j \geq 3, t$  well chosen.

$\exists$  Small tangent space (STS) argument, but a generalization of the Shafarevich result is needed.

(The “oracle” computer algebra programs have so far refused to answer for an infinite number of cases)

**Ex.**  $r=5, H(A) = (1, 5, 15, 15, 5, 1)$ ;

**Ex.**  $r=4, A$  compressed  $t=1, j=15$ .

- Deformation and genericity status of level algebras is open in general, except  $r=2$ , or  $r=3$ ,  $t=1$  (for both these cases all Artin  $A$  are smoothable).

\* Some nonsmoothable  $A$  below may be generic points of  $\text{ComAlg}(n)$ . Each deforms to generic  $B$ .

*Argument below uses Hilbert scheme parameters.*

**Ex.** Let  $H = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 18, 6)$

Let  $A =$  general element of  $\text{NGLevAlg}(H)$ .

Then  $A$  is nonsmoothable, by dimension calc:

$A$  compressed level,  $j = 7.$ , length  $n = 80$ .

Note  $R = k[x, y, z]$ ,  $H(R) = (1, 3, \dots, 28, 36, \dots)$ .

$\dim \text{NGLev}(H) = 6(28 - 18 + 36 - 6) = 240$ , as

$F(1) = F(1)_6 + F(1)_7, \dots, F(6) = F(6)_6 + F(6)_7$ .

Let  $U(3, n) =$  smooth subschemes of  $\mathbf{A}^3$ .

$\dim U(3, 80) = 3(80) = 240$ .

$\Rightarrow A$  has a "generic" non-smooth deformation  $B$ .

**Ex.** Let  $H = (1, 5, 15, e), 4 \leq e \leq 26$ .

$\exists A \in \text{LevAlg}(H)$  that are non-smoothable.

If  $6 \leq e \leq 18$ :  $\exists A \in \text{LevAlg}(H)$ , candidates to be "generic" points of components of  $\text{ComAlg}(n)$  via small tangent space (STS) argument.

**Ex.**  $H = (1, 6, 21, e) 4 \leq e \leq 46, \exists A$  nonsmooth.

If  $6 \leq e \leq 32$ :  $\exists A$  candidates to be "generic" points of  $\text{ComAlg}(n)$  via STS argument.

## II. Which Hilbert functions occur?.

IIA. Recent progress for level algebras,  $t > 1$ .

- A. Geramita, J. Migliore et al: classified  $H, r = 3, t = 2, j \leq 6$ . Many techniques (AMS Memoir)
- A. Geramita & A. Bigatti, Cho & I.:  
determined extremal  $H$ .

**Q1.** Can  $H(A)$  be non-unimodal,  $r=3, t > 1$ ?

**Q1 Ans.** (F. Zanello  $t = 28$ , then A. Weiss  $t = 5$ ) Yes!

- F. Zanello:
  - (a)  $\exists$  non-unimodal  $H, r = 3, t = 28$  (see below).
  - (b) Also,  $\exists H$  with arbitrarily many dips.
- A. Weiss:  $\exists$  non-unimodal  $H, (r, t, j) = (3, 5, 63)$ ;  
also  $(r, t, j) = (4, 4, 17)$ .

**Q1'** Are there smooth pts  $Z$  in  $\mathbf{P}^3$  with non-unimodal  $h$ -vector?

**Q1' Ans** (J. Migliore) Yes! (*Open for many dips*)

IIB. Zanello's non-unimodal  $H, r = 3$ .

**Def.** Let  $H(1), H(2)$  be Hilbert functions of level algebras. Let  $r_i = \dim_k R_i$ . Then

$$(H(1) +_h H(2))_i = \min\{H(1)_i + H(2)_i, r_i\}, r_i = \dim_k R_i.$$

**Lemma 2.** (Iar.) Let  $W \subset S_j$ , and choose  $F$  generic in  $S_j$ , set  $W' = \langle W, F \rangle$ . Then

$$(H_F)_i = \min\{r_i, r_{j-i}\},$$
$$H_{W'} = H_W +_h H_F.$$

Here  $R/\text{Ann}(F)$  is compressed Gorenstein,

$R/\text{Ann}(W')$  relatively compressed with respect to  $R/\text{Ann}W$   
(max possible  $H_{W'}$ ).

**Thm.** (Zanello, 2005)  $\exists$  Non-unimodal level Gor. seq.  
 $H_{NU} = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 27, 27, 28)$ .

**Proof:** First, a truncated Gorenstein sequence is a level sequence (by Lemma 1).

a. Consider Gor. sequence  $H_G, G \in S_{18}$ ,

$$H_G = (1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 24, \dots, 1),$$

Truncate at 27 (j=9), to get  $H(1)$ .

Let  $W = R_9 \circ G$ . Then  $H_W = H(1)$ .

b. Take  $F \in S_9$  generic,

$$\text{Then } H_F = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 15, 10, 6, 3, 1).$$

c. Set  $W' = \langle W, F \rangle$ . Apply Lemma 2.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } H_{W'} &= (1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27) +_h \\ &\quad (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 15, 10, 6, 3, 1) = \\ &\quad (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 27, 27, 28) = H_{NU}. \end{aligned}$$

**Ex.** (Weiss-I.)  $r=3, t=5, j=63$ . Take four general forms  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4$  in  $[(x^{21})^\perp]_{63}$ , and one generic form  $F$ , and, similarly, use Lemma 2.

Weiss shows:  $R \circ \langle G_1, \dots, G_4 \rangle$  and  $R \circ W'$  have the expected HF's. This generalizes the compressed algebra construction.

Weiss gives a general method of constructing similar non-unimodal examples, but cannot with this method obtain smaller  $t$ , given  $r$ .

Best via Weiss-I.:  $r = 3, t = 5; r = 4, t = 4$ . Recall  $r = 3, t = 1$  unimodal;  $r = 4, t = 1$  unimodality is open.

**Note.** When  $r \geq 5$ ,  $\exists$  non-unimodal Gor seq.  $H$ .

**Ex** (Stanley),  $r = 13$ ,  $H = (1, 13, 12, 13, 1)$ .

Let  $R = k[u_1, \dots, u_{10}, x, y, z]$ ,

$$S = k[U_1, \dots, U_{10}, X, Y, Z]$$

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^{10} U_i \mu_i = U_1 X^3 + \dots + U_{10} Z^3$$

$$\mu = (X^3, X^2 Y, X^2 Z, XY^2, \dots, Z^3).$$

$$R_2 \circ F \subset (x^2, xy, \dots, z^2) \circ F + \langle X^2, XY \dots Z^2 \rangle.$$

(multiple of  $u_i$  acting).

So  $H_2 \leq 12$ .

(Reiten construction:  $A = B \times \hat{B}$ ,  $B = k[x, y, z]/M^4$ .)

**Ex** (Bernstein-I)  $r = 5$ ,  $j = 16$

$$H = (1, 5, 12, 22, 35, 51, 70, 91, 90, 91, \dots, 1).$$

Let  $S = k[U, V, X, Y, Z]$ ,

$$F = UF_1 + VF_2,$$

$F_i \in k[X, Y, Z]_{15}$ , general.

Reiten construction:  $A = B \times B$ ,

$B =$  compressed algebra in  $\text{LevAlg}_{k[x,y,z]}(2, 15)$ .

$$H(B) = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55, 42, 30, 20, 12, 6, 2).$$

$$H(\hat{B}) = (-, 2, 6, 12, 20, 30, 42, 55, 45, 36, \dots, 10, 6, 3, 1).$$

$$H(A) = (1, 5, 12, \dots, 91, 90, 91, \dots, 12, 5, 1).$$

$\exists$  Similar examples  $(r, j) = (6, 10), (7, 8)$ ;

$(r, 6)$ ,  $8 \leq r \leq 21$ . Further study by M. Boij-D. Laksov.

**Ex.** (M. Boij):  $\exists$  Gor. sequences with arbitrarily many dips/maxima. Cost: large  $r$ .

**Q2.** What is lowest  $t$  for  $r = 3, r = 4$ , for which  $\exists$  level algebra  $A$ ,  $\text{type}(A) = t$ ,  $H(A)$  non-unimodal?

Regard as first step to understand HF's.

**Q2'.** For  $r = 3, 2 \leq t \leq 4$  are there non-unimodal level HF's?

For  $r = 4, 2 \leq t \leq 3$ , are there non-unimodal level HF's?

**Q3:** For  $r = 4$  characterize Gorenstein sequences. Are they unimodal?

Thm. (Srinivasan-I.): Yes:  $H = (1, 4, s, \dots), s \leq 7$ .

Proof uses minimal resol, Gotzmann-Grothendieck Hilbert scheme thm.

- Work in progress: (J. Migliore, U. Nagel, F. Zanello.)

They believe answer is "yes".

Of course, there are many finer questions about HF:

**Q4.** How does the existence of non-unimodal level HF depend on  $(r, t, j)$ ?

**Q5.** Characterize level HF,  $r = 3, t = 2$ , or small.

Tools from A. Geramita, T. Harima, J. Migliore, Y. S. Shin.

F. Zanello, (I.- case  $t = 2$ ) connects Hilbert function of generic level quotients of type  $s$  of  $A$  with  $H(A)$  of type  $t$ .

### III. Parametrization: $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ .

IIIA. When  $r = 4, t = 1$ ,  $\text{Gor}(H)$  has several irreducible components in general. Here  $R = k[x, y, z, w]$ .

**Ex.** (Boij) Let  $H = (1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 13, 13, 13, 10, 7, 4, 1)$ . Then  $\text{Gor}(H)$  has several irreducible components.

$C_1$ :  $A = R/I_Z$ ,  $Z$  punctual schemes, 13 points on a rational normal curve, where  $H_Z = (1, 4, 7, 10, \underline{13})$ .

$C_2$ : Ideals  $I = \text{Ann}(F), F \in S_{11} \mid I \supset I_W^2$ , where  $I_W$  defines a line  $W$  in  $\mathbf{P}^3$ .

**Ex.** (J.O. Kleppe) Let  $H = (1, 4, 9, 14, 19, 19, 14, 9, 4, 1)$ . Then  $\text{Gor}(H)$  has at least three irred. comp., algebras with same Betti nos. (minimum in  $\beta(H)$ ). This example lifts to points  $Z$  in  $\mathbf{P}^4$ ,  $h(Z) = H$ .

**Ex.** (I.-Srinivasan) Let  $H = (1, 4, 7, h, b, \dots)$ ,  $8 \leq h \leq 10$ ,  $3h - b - 17 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \text{Gor}(H)$  has several components. Proof uses new structure theorem when  $I_2 = (wx, wy, wz)$ .

As  $H = (1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 9, 7, 4, 1)$ .

-  $r \geq 4$  Study of weak Lefschetz level sets of points (J. Migliore, R. Miro-Roig).

#### IIIB. OUR PROBLEM (work with M. Boij)

- When  $r = 3$ : Do  $\exists \text{LevAlg}(H)$ ,  $t$  small, reducible?
- If so, are they liftable to families of points?

(Recall  $r = 3, t = 1$ ,  $\text{Gor}(H)$  irreducible by S. Diesel, so reducibility of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  for  $r = 3, t \geq 2$  was open.)

**i. Example.**  $H = (1, 3, 4, 4)$ . Then  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  has two irreducible components, each of dimension 8.

$$R = k[x, y, z], H(R) = (1, 3, 6, 10, \dots).$$

$C_1$ : CI-related:

$$I = (f, g, M^4), f, g \in R_2 \text{ and } R/(f, g) \text{ CI.}$$

$$\text{Dimension: } 2(4) = 8.$$

$$\text{Example: } I = (x^2, y^2, M^4).$$

$C_2$ :  $I_2$  has common factor.

$$I = (xy, xz, f, M^4), f \in R_3.$$

$$H(R/(xy, xz)) = (1, 3, 4, 5, \dots).$$

$$\text{Dimension } C_2(H) = 2 + 2 + 4 = 8, \text{ for choice}$$

of  $x \in R_1, \langle y, z \rangle \subset R_1$ , and  $f \in R_3/R_1 I_2$ .

$$\text{Example: } I = (x^2, xy, z^3, M^4).$$

**Lemma:**  $C_1, C_2$  are irreducible components of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ ,  $H=(1,3,4,4)$ .

$$\text{Also } C_1 \cap C_2 = \{(xV, hv, M^4)$$

$$\text{s.t. } v \in V, V \subset R_1, \dim V = 2, h \in R_2\}.$$

**Example;** Since  $h \in R_2/(xR_1)$ ,  $\dim C_1 \cap C_2 = 7$ .  $I = (x^2, xy, y^3, z^4, z^3y, z^3x) \in C_1 \cap C_2$ .

*Proof A.*  $C_1, C_2$  have equal dimension, and cannot be in the closure of another component by (B.)

*Proof B.*  $\exists$  two distinct minimal elements  $\beta(C_1), \beta(C_2)$  in  $\text{POS } \beta_{\text{level}}(H)$ , partially ordered set of minimal graded level Betti sequences compatible with  $H$ . (See [Ragusa-Zapallá],[Peeva] and [Migliore] for this argument).

Betti sequence for  $C_1$ :

total	1	6	9	4
0:	1	-	-	-
1:	-	2	-	-
2:	-	-	1	-
3:	-	4	8	4

Betti sequence for  $C_2$ :

total	1	6	9	4
0:	1	-	-	-
1:	-	2	1	-
2:	-	1	-	-
3:	-	3	8	4

Note:

0:	1	-	-	-
1:	-	2	-	-
2:	-	-	-	-
3:	...			

is not possible.

$\exists$  no sequence smaller than both in POS  $\beta_{level}(H)$ :  
as  $\langle f, g \rangle$  has no linear relation  $\Rightarrow \exists$  quadratic relation.

**Q6.** Can one lift Artinian examples of  $H$  such that  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  has several irreducible components to similar examples for the postulation Hilbert scheme of (smooth) points having  $h$ -vector  $H$ ?

*Answer.* Yes, here and in several other cases.

**Q7.** (Stanley, Hibi) Is there a graded Gorenstein domain with non-unimodal  $h$ -vector? (*Open*)

**Q7'.** Is there a smooth punctual arithmetically Gorenstein scheme  $Z$  with non-unimodal  $h$ -vector? (*Open*).

Notation:  $Z$  a zero-dimensional scheme in  $P^3$ ,  
 $T = H_Z$  postulation,  $H_Z = \Delta T = h$ -vector of  $Z$ .  
 $Z$  is *level* if min. reduction  $R/(\ell, I_Z)$  is level Artin.  
 $\text{LevPoints}(H)$ : level  $Z$  with  $H_Z = H$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $T = (1, 4, 8, 12, 12, \dots)$ ,  $H = (1, 3, 4, 4)$ .  
 $\text{LevPoints}(H) \subset \text{Hilb}^{12} P^3$  has two irreducible components  
 $C_1, C_2$ , each of dimension 28. Here  $R = k[x, y, z, w]$ .

$C_1$ : 12 points on the CI intersection of two quadrics:  
 $\dim C_1 = (2 \cdot 8) + 12 = 28$ .

$C_2$ : 12 points: a cubic surface  $S$  intersection a line  $L$ ,  
union nine points lying on a hyperplane section  $S \cap P$  of  
 $S$ . Here we take  $S \cap L = (y, z, f)$ ,  $S \cap P = (x, f)$ :

$$I = (xy, xz, f, g_1, g_2, g_3), f \in R_3, g_u \in R_4.$$

$$H(R/(xy, xz)) = (1, 4, 8, 13, \dots).$$

$$\dim C_2 = \text{choose } x, \text{ then } (y, z), \text{ then } f, \text{ then } 9 \text{ pts.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dim C_2 &= \dim P^3 + \dim \text{Grass}(2, 4) + 12 + 9 \\ &= 28. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof:*  $C_1, C_2$  nonempty (a level smooth  $Z$  is possible)  
by lifting of monomial ideals in the corresponding com-  
ponents of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ .

Since the Betti numbers of  $C_1, C_2$  are each minimal  
in  $\beta_{\text{level}}(H_Z)$ , there is no bigger component specializing  
to  $C_1, C_2$ .

ii. Type three family of Hilbert functions  $H(c)$ :

$$H(3) = (1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 3),$$

$$H(4) = (1, 3, 6, 10, 13, 15, 9, 3), \dots$$

$H(c)$  = maximum Hilb function for type 3, socle degree  $j = 2c - 1$  quotient of CI( $c, c$ ),  $R = k[x, y, z]$ :

$$H(c)_i = r_i \text{ for } i < c, H(c)_c = r_c - 2.$$

$$H(c)_i = \max\{r_i - 2r_{i-c}, 3r_{2c-1-i}\} \text{ for } i > c.$$

The component  $C_1(c)$  of  $H(c)$  parametrizes type 3, socle degree  $j=2c-1$ , quotients  $A=B/J$ , of CI algebras  $B = R/I$ ,  
 $I = (f, g)$ ,  $\deg f = \deg g = c$ ,

The component  $C_2(c)$  parametrizes type 3, socle degree  $j$  quotients of algebras  $B=R/I$

$$I \cong (hx, hy, f), h \in R_{c-1}, f \in R_{c+1}.$$

**Theorem.** (with M. Boij)

$H(c)$  has two irreducible components  $C_1(c), C_2(c)$ , each of dimension  $4c^2 + 3c - 11$ .

*Proof.* A. Show HF  $H(c)$  is attained by type three level quotients for  $C_1(c), C_2(c)$ . For  $C_1$  use a lemma about type  $t$  quotients of sets  $Z$  of points, having UPP (uniform position property), when  $j \geq \sigma(Z)$  regularity. For  $C_2$  study quotients of almost UPP points.

B. Easy dimension calculation. (See below, case  $c = 3$ ).

C. We show  $\exists$  no common refinement (smaller) Betti numbers possible in  $\beta_{level}(H(c))$ : for  $A$  general,  $A \in C_1(c)$ , we have  $\beta(A) = \beta_{min}(H(c))$ .

**Note.** These appear to lift to points (*in progress*).

**Ex.**  $H = (1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 3)$ . First  $c = 3$  in  $H(c)$  series above.  
 Dimension calculation of components.

a. Open  $U_1 \subset C_1$  component. Choose  $(f, g) \in \text{CI}(c, c)$ .

$$H(R/(f, g)) = (1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 9, \dots).$$

Then choose 6-diml subspace  $V \subset B_5, B = R/(f, g)$

(or choose 3-diml subspace  $W \subset (f, g)_5^\perp \subset S_5$ ).

Then  $A = R/\text{Ann } W = B/V \in U_1$ .

So  $V$  is an element of  $\text{Grass}(6, 9)$ , and

$$\dim U_1 = 2 \cdot 8 + 6 \cdot 3 = 34.$$

b. Open  $U_2 \subset C_2$  component.

Choose  $h \in R_2, f \in (R/(xh, yh))_3$ .

$$B = R/(xh, yh, f), H(B) = (1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 9, \dots).$$

Then choose 6-diml subspace  $V \subset B_5$ ,

(or choose 3-diml space  $W \subset (xh, yh, f)_5^\perp$ ).

Then  $A = R/\text{Ann } W = B/V \in U_2$ .

choose  $h, (x, y), f, V$

$$\dim U_2 = 5 + 2 + 9 + 6 \cdot 3 = 34.$$

Betti for  $A \in U_2$ :

total	1	9	11	3
0:	1	-	-	-
1:	-	-	-	-
2:	-	2	1	-
3:	-	1	-	-
4:	-	6	10	-
5:	-	-	-	3

For  $A \in U_1$  omit the diag  $(1, 1)$ .

iii. **Ex.** (Boij-I, 5/2006)  $H = (1, 3, 6, 10, 12, 12, 6, 2)$ :  
 $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  has two irred comp.

- $C_1$ : type two quotients of coord ring of  $B$  of 12 general pts. on  $P^2$ .  $\text{Dim } C_1 = 24 + 20 = 44$ .

- $C_2$  type two quotients of coord ring  $B'$  of 13 pts cutting out only 12 conditions on quartics.

$$\text{Dim } C_2 = 23 + 2(11) = 45.$$

*Proof.* The Betti sequences for general pts of  $C_1, C_2$  are minimal elements of  $\beta_{\text{level}}(H)$ .

*Uses min resolution, Gotzmann-Grothendieck Thm.*

Betti sequence for  $C_1$ :

total	1	9	10	2
3:	-	3	-	-
4:	-	-	2	-
5:	-	6	8	-
6:	-	-	-	-
7:	-	-	-	2

Betti sequence for  $C_2$ :

total	1	8	9	2
3:	-	3	1	-
4:	-	1	-	-
5:	-	4	8	-
6:	-	-	-	-
7:	-	-	-	2

Appears to be part of an infinite irreg. family.

Lifting to points undone.

**iv. Type two family** of Hilbert functions  $H(s, k)$ .

$$H(1, 0) = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 27, 30, 30, 20, 12, 6, 2).$$

$$H(0, 1) = (1, 3, 6, 10, 14, 18, 20, 20, 12, 6, 2).$$

Assume  $(s, k) > (0, 0)$ .

Let  $\nu = 2s + 4, j = 5s + 3k + 7, r_i = \dim R_i$ .

$H(s, k)$ : the Hilbert function of type two, socle degree  $j$  quotients of the coordinate ring of  $2r_{\nu-2+k}$  points lying on a degree  $\nu$  curve in  $P^2$ .

$C_1(s, k)$  : as in definition of  $H(s, k)$ .

$C_2(s, k)$  : Consider schemes  $X$  comprised of a general degree  $\nu/2 = s+2$  curve  $Y$  in  $P^2$  union a punctual scheme  $Z$  comprised of  $n = 3r_s + \nu \cdot k$  points of  $P^2$  having  $h$ -vector

$$S = (1, 2, \dots, s + 1, s + 2, \dots, s + 2, 0),$$

with exactly  $s + 2k + 1$  occurrences of  $s+2$ . Then  $C_2(s, k)$  is family of type two socle degree  $j$  quotients of  $R/I_X$ 's.

**Conjecture.** (with M. Boij)  $C_1(s, k), C_2(s, k)$  are two irreducible components of  $\text{LevAlg}(H(s, k))$ .

$$\dim C_1(s, k) = 28r_s + 7 + 11(s + 1) + 6\nu \cdot k.$$

$$\dim C_2(s, k) = \dim C_1(s, k) + r_s - 1.$$

( $A, B$  in plan of proof are clear, but  $C^*$  needs work!).

*Proof outline:*

A. Show that the expected Hilbert functions are achieved in each construction.

B. Show the dimension formulas, using Gotzmann result: dimension of postulation strata of  $\text{Hilb}^n P^2$ .

C\*. Show that there is no common refinement in  $\text{Betti}(H(s,k))$  of the Betti sequences giving these two constructions.

*Or*

Show that the tangent space  $\text{Hom}(I,A)$  to  $A \in C_1(s,k)$  is the same as the dimension of  $C_1(s,k)$ . Use construction by J.O Kleppe, M. Boij-I. of tangent space to level algebras, especially simple in type 2.

**Note.** We are working on liftability to points, likely using a very recent result of Migliore.

**v. Expected Example.** Type two, outside of the above series:

$$H = (1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 27, 33, 39, 45, 50, 54, 54, \\ 42, 30, 20, 12, 6, 2)$$

$C_1(H)$  = level quotients of 54 points lying on a degree six curve in  $P^2$ , with h-vector

$$S = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 5, 4).$$

$C_2(H)$  = level quotients of scheme  $X$  = degree four curve union 12 points on  $P^2$  having h-vector  $S = (1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 1)$ .

Here  $\dim C_1(H) = 180$ ,  $\dim C_2(H) = 199$  but cannot specialize from  $C_2(H)$  to  $C_1(H)$ .

**Conclude:** There are many examples of type two level Hilbert functions  $H = (1, 3, \dots, 2)$  for which there are at least two irreducible components of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ . These can be systematically constructed using the Gotzmann dimension result by showing that a "more special" component  $C_2(H)$  has dimension greater or equal that of  $C_1(H)$ .

The proof of each example also requires a smoothness-of- $C_1(H)$ , or Betti argument to verify.

*This situation for level type 2,  $r = 3$  is in stark contrast to level type 1 where  $\text{Gor}(H)$  is irreducible.*

#### IV. Overview, open problems.

##### IVA. Overview, what do we want to learn?

i. Gorenstein Artinians: widely studied, relatively understood for  $r = 3$ . Much unknown for  $r > 3$ , including possible Hilbert functions

(see Q1 NG, Q3 NG for  $r=3$ , Q3, Q7 above),

Betti strata  $r = 3$ : Boij. Closures of  $\text{Gor}(H)$ ,  $r = 3$  partially determined by Kanev-I.

*Open in general.*

ii. When  $r=2$ ,  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  well understood for  $r = 2$ ; HF: I-, Froberg, Chipalkatti-Geramita).

Frontier property for closures (I-). Connection to secant varieties of RNC (see [IK], SLN # 1721).

*We don't expect such good results for  $r > 2$ , but what can be said?*

iii. When  $r=3$ ,  $t=2$ . First case beyond  $r = 2$ . That  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$  may have several irred components was resolved above (Boij-I.) and below (J.O.Kleppe).

**Q8** (Migliore): Let  $(r, t, j) = (\# \text{ vars, type, socle degree})$ , set

$$n(r, t, j) = \max_H \{ \# \text{ components of } \text{LevAlg}(H), \\ H \in \text{LevAlg}(r, t, j) \}.$$

Find dependence of  $n(3, 2, j)$  on  $j$ . In particular, does  $n(3, 2, j) \rightarrow \infty$  with  $j$ ?

**Q9.** Can we use Gorenstein quotients of  $A$  to show there exist several components in  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ ?

By Macaulay duality:

$\text{LevAlg}(H) \subset \text{Grass}(t, S_j), S = k[X_1, \dots, X_r]$ .

When  $t = 2$ , A type 2  $\Leftrightarrow V \subset S_j$   $\dim V=2$ . Consider the pencil of forms  $f \in V$ . Then

$$\{A_f = R/\text{Ann } f, f \in V\}$$

is a pencil of GA quotients of  $A$ . Look at unusual pairs  $(f, g), \langle f, g \rangle = V$ , where  $H(A_f), H(A_g)$  takes extremal values, as an invariant of  $A$ .

We expected that different constructions of  $A \in \text{LevAlg}(H)$ , using different Gorensteins could lead to several components, and we conjectured:

**Ex.** (J.O. Kleppe)  $H = (1, 3, 6, 10, 14, 10, 6, 2)$ .

$\text{LevAlg}(H)$  has several irreducible components. Proof uses behavior of deformation spaces under linkage, (technique pioneered by Buchweitz).

Is there a proof using the decompositions of  $H$ ? As,

$$\begin{array}{ll} (1, 3, 5, 7, 7, 5, 3, 1) & (1, 3, 4, 5, 5, 4, 3, 1) \\ +(1, 3, 5, 7, 7, 5, 3, 1) & + (1, 3, 6, 9, 9, 6, 3, 1) \\ (1, 3, 6, 10, 14, 10, 6, 2) & (1, 3, 6, 10, 14, 10, 6, 2) \end{array}$$

**Note:**  $\exists$  Natural inequalities among  $H(A), H(A_f), H(A_g)$  for  $A = \text{Ann}(f, g)$ .

(I. generalized by F. Zanello to level type  $s$  quotients of level type  $t$  algebras).

Can these be used to restrict the sequences  $H$  possible as  $H(A)$  for level algebras?

**Q10.** What makes a good study of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ ?

Irreducible components, dimension, tangent space, liftability of components to  $\text{LevPoints}(T)$ ,  $\Delta T = H$ . Closures and intersections of components.

**IVB.** Deformations. (See also §1C).

Establishing the tie to schemes in  $\mathbf{P}^{r-1}$  seems the most salient feature of recent work by M. Boij, I.-V. Kanev, J.-O. Kleppe, J. Migliore & R. Miró-Roig, I.-Srinivasan.

Let  $\sigma(B)$  = regularity degree of  $B$ .

**Thm** (J.O.Kleppe) Let  $U$  = family of cod  $c$ , dim one CM quotients  $B$  of  $R$  having Hilbert function  $H_B$ , that satisfy certain conditions. Let  $j \geq 2\sigma(B)$ , and let  $H_A = \text{Sym}(H_A, j/2)$ . Consider the family  $W$  of weak-Lefschetz Gorenstein algebras of Hilbert function  $H_A$ . Then there is an inclusion of the set of components of  $U$  to those of  $W$ , such that generically smooth components of  $U$  map to generically smooth components of  $W$ .

Summary:  $\exists$  good map from postulation Hilbert scheme (fix  $h$ -vector  $H_B$ ), to  $\text{Gor}(H_A)$ .

**Q11.** Are there rigid non-smooth Artinian algebras  $A$  (so  $A$  is not  $k \oplus \cdots \oplus k$ , and has deformation only to  $A$ )?

**IVC.** Mostly accessible problems:

(See also list in I-Kanev SLN 1721 Ch. 9).

A. What are Gor. Seq.  $H, r = 4, t = 1$ ?

B. Cohomology ring of proj. manifolds  $G_H = \text{GrAlg}(H)$ ,  $r = 2$ . Same for  $\text{LevAlg}(H), r = 2$ . The additive cohomology groups of  $G_H$  are known, and are related to a coding of partitions of diagonal lengths  $H$  (I.-Yameogo).

C. Closure of postulation strata  $Z(H) \subset \text{Hilb}^H(P^2)$

D. Closure of  $PGor(H), r = 3$ : (see SLN 1721).

E. Classification:  $r = 3, t \geq 2$ : What  $H$  occur for level algebras? What are components of  $\text{LevAlg}(H)$ ?

F. Tighten connection with singularities. The classification of singularities of finite type by specialists has apparently not reached (co)lengths  $n$  where interesting behavior involving components of  $\text{CommAlg}(n)$  is common, nor has the structure of  $\text{NGGor}(H)$  been used.

G. Nongraded level algebras, Gorenstein algebras: what are  $H, r=3$ ? (see Q1 NG, Q3 NG).

H. Quantum topologies and Gorenstein algebras

I. Hilbert scheme of points:

A. on  $\mathbf{P}^2$  or surfaces (large recent development, connections to Heisenberg algebras, combinatorics). Deep results of Haiman et al.

B. on  $\mathbf{P}^r$ : component structure? Connections to component structure for commuting nilpotent matrices. (see Huibregtse, Guralnick).

J. Hilbert schemes and ideals of extremal growth.

(see I.- S. Kleiman Appendix C to SLN 1721).

K. Closure of strata  $Z(H)$  (all ideals), in  $\text{Hilb}^n k\{x, y\}$ .

L. Study of  $\text{Hilb}^n(k[x, y]/J)$ : ideals  $I$  of colength  $n$  in  $R = k[x, y]$  or  $k\{x, y\}$  containing a given ideal  $J$ .

**Thm** (Shoshistvili): The local punctual Hilbert scheme  $\text{Hilb}^n(k\{x, y\}/J)$  is  $\mathbf{P}^1$ -connected.

**Acknowledgements:** We thank J. Migliore for helpful comments. We thank Juan, M. Boij, J.O. Kleppe, F. Zanello, and others for preprints and helpful discussions.