

# Cohen-Macaulay normal Rees algebras of integrally closed ideals

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# Introduction

Throughout this talk, unless otherwise specified, let

## Setup 1

- $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  a *RLR* with  $d = \dim R$
- $I$  an *integrally closed  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary ideal* of  $R$ .

## Question 2

When does the Rees algebra  $\mathcal{R}(I) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n$  become a CM normal domain?

- Question 2 is always true when  $d \leq 1$ .
- As  $R$  is a normal domain, we have  $\overline{\mathcal{R}(I)}^{\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{R}(I))} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \overline{I^n}$ .
- $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is normal  $\iff I$  is normal, i.e.,  $\overline{I^n} = I^n$  for  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

## Preceding results

- If  $d = 2$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is normal ([Zariski, 1938], [Zariski-Samuel, 1960]).
- If  $d = 2$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is CM ([Lipman-Teissier, 1981]).

- If  $R$  is a **two-dimensional rational singularity**, then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain, provided  $|R/\mathfrak{m}| = \infty$  ([Lipman, 1969]).

Recall that a normal local ring  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is a **rational singularity** if  $\exists$  resolution of singularity  $f : X \rightarrow \operatorname{Spec} R$  s.t.  $H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = (0)$  for  $\forall i > 0$ .

### Preceding results ([Cutkosky, 1990])

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be an excellent normal local domain with  $\dim R = 2$ . Suppose that  $R/\mathfrak{m}$  is **algebraically closed**. Then TFAE.

- (1)  $R$  is a rational singularity.
- (2) If  $I$  and  $J$  are integrally closed  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary ideals of  $R$ , then  $IJ$  is integrally closed.
- (3) If  $I$  is an integrally closed  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary ideal of  $R$ , then  $I^2$  is integrally closed.

By [Cutkosky, 1990], the ring

$$R = \mathbb{Q}[[X, Y, Z]]/(X^3 + 3Y^3 + 9Z^3)$$

is a **non-rational** normal local domain with  $\dim R = 2$ , and is a simple elliptic singularity. Besides, for all integrally closed  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary ideals  $I$  and  $J$  of  $R$ ,  $IJ$  is **integrally closed**.

When  $d \geq 3$ , we have the following examples.

### Example 3

Let  $R = k[[X, Y, Z]]$  be the formal power series ring over a field  $k$ . Consider

$$Q = (X^7, Y^3, Z^2) \quad \text{and} \quad I = \overline{Q} = (X^7, Y^3, Z^2, X^5Y, X^4Z, X^3Y^2, X^2YZ, Y^2Z).$$

Then  $\bar{I} = I$ ,  $\bar{I}^2 \neq I^2$ , and  $I^2 = QI$ . Hence  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is CM, but not normal.

The ideal  $I$  as in Example 3 is the contraction of  $k \cdot t^{42} + t^{44}\bar{A}$  where  $A = k[[t^6, t^{14}, t^{21}]]$ .

### Example 4 ([Huckaba-Huneke, 1999])

Let  $R = k[[X, Y, Z]]$  be the formal power series ring over a field  $k$ . Suppose  $\text{ch } k \neq 3$ . Consider

$$I = (X^4, X(Y^3 + Z^3), Y(Y^3 + Z^3), Z(Y^3 + Z^3)) + \mathfrak{m}^5$$

where  $\mathfrak{m} = (X, Y, Z)$ . Then  $I$  is normal and  $\text{gr}_I(R) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n / I^{n+1}$  is not CM. Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is normal, but not CM.

Let  $v(-)$  denote the embedding dimension of a ring.

### Preceding results

• By [Goto, 1987], we have

$$(1) \mu_R(I) = d \implies \mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is a CM normal domain}$$

$$(2) \mu_R(I) = d \iff v(R/I) \leq 1.$$

• By [Ciupercă, 2006, 2011], we have

$$(1) \mu_R(I) = d + 1 \implies \mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is a CM normal domain}$$

$$(2) \mu_R(I) = d + 1 \implies v(R/I) \leq 2.$$

With this observation, one of the main results of this talk is stated as follows.

### Theorem A

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$  s.t.  $\bar{I} = I$ . Then

$$(1) v(R/I) \leq 2 \implies \mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is a CM normal domain}$$

$$(2) \mu_R(I) \leq d + 2 \implies v(R/I) \leq 2.$$

In particular, if  $\mu_R(I) \leq d + 2$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.

## Preliminaries

In this section, let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring and  $I$  an ideal of  $R$ .

- An element  $x \in R$  is called **integral over  $I$** , if

$$x^n + c_1 x^{n-1} + \cdots + c_n = 0 \quad \text{for } \exists n \geq 1, \exists c_i \in I^i \ (1 \leq i \leq n).$$

- We set

$$I \subseteq \bar{I} = \{x \in R \mid x \text{ is integral over } I\} \subseteq R$$

which forms an ideal of  $R$ , and call it the **integral closure** of  $I$ .

- We say that

- ▶  $I$  is **integrally closed**, if  $\bar{I} = I$
- ▶  $I$  is **normal**, if  $\bar{I}^n = I^n$  for  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

We define

$$\mathcal{R}(I) = R[I t] = \sum_{n \geq 0} I^n t^n \subseteq R[t], \quad \mathcal{R}(I) \cong \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n$$

and call it the **Rees algebra** of  $I$ .

- The canonical morphism  $f : \text{Proj } \mathcal{R}(I) \rightarrow \text{Spec } R$  is the blow-up of  $\text{Spec } R$  along the subscheme  $V(I)$  defined by  $I$ .
- Rees algebras also arise as the bihomogeneous coordinate rings of graphs of rational maps between projective spaces.

Note that

$$\overline{\mathcal{R}(I)}^{R[t]} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \overline{I^n} t^n \cong \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \overline{I^n} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mathcal{R}(I)}^{Q(\mathcal{R}(I))} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \overline{I^n} \overline{R} t^n \cong \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \overline{I^n} \overline{R}.$$

Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is normal  $\iff I$  is normal, provided  $R$  is a normal domain.

The associated graded ring of  $I$

$$\text{gr}_I(R) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n / I^{n+1} \cong R/I \otimes_R \mathcal{R}(I)$$

plays a key role in the study of  $\mathcal{R}(I)$ .

### Theorem 5 ([Goto-Shimoda, 1979])

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a CM local ring with  $\dim R \geq 1$  and  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is CM} \iff \text{gr}_I(R) \text{ is CM and } a(\text{gr}_I(R)) < 0.$$

- Theorem 5 holds for ideals  $I$  with  $\text{ht}_R I > 0$  ([Trung-Ikeda, 1989]).
- Theorem 5 holds for filtrations of ideals/modules ([Goto-Nishida, 1994], [Viet, 1993], [T-Phuong-Dung-An, 2017]).
- When  $R$  is a RLR (or more generally pseudo-rational local ring) and  $I \neq R$ , we have

$$\mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is CM} \iff \text{gr}_I(R) \text{ is CM} \quad ([\text{Lipman, 1994}]).$$

We prove Theorem A by induction on  $\dim R$ .

### Example 6

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $\dim R = 2$  and  $\mathfrak{m} = (x, y)$ . We consider  $I = \mathfrak{m}^2 = (x^2, xy, y^2)$ . Then  $\bar{I} = I$ , but  $\overline{I/(x^2)} \neq I/(x^2)$ , because  $\bar{x} \notin I/(x^2)$ .

### Theorem 7 ([Hong-Ulrich, 2014] The preprint was posted on arXiv in 2006.)

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Noetherian, equi-dimensional, universally catenary local ring s.t.  $R/\sqrt{(0)}$  is analytically unramified. Let  $I = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  be an ideal of  $R$  with  $\text{ht}_R I \geq 2$ . Set

$$R'' = R[Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n]_{\mathfrak{m}R[Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n]}, \quad I'' = IR'', \quad \text{and} \quad x = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i a_i.$$

Then

$$\overline{I''/(x)} = \overline{I''}/(x).$$

### Theorem 8 ([Ciupercă, 2011])

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR and  $I$  an ideal of  $R$  s.t.  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2$ . For each  $\forall x \in I \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$ , we have

$$\overline{I/(x)} = \bar{I}/(x).$$



## Proof of Theorem A

### Theorem A

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$  s.t.  $\bar{I} = I$ . Then

(1)  $v(R/I) \leq 2 \implies \mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain

(2)  $\mu_R(I) \leq d + 2 \implies v(R/I) \leq 2$ .

In particular, if  $\mu_R(I) \leq d + 2$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.

(Proof) (1) We may assume  $d \geq 3$  and the assertion holds for  $d - 1$ . Choose a regular subsystem  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{d-2}$  of parameters of  $R$  s.t.  $I = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{d-2}, a_{d-1}, \dots, a_n)$ .

Let

$$R'' = R[Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n]_{mR[Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n]}, \quad I'' = IR'', \quad \mathfrak{m}'' = \mathfrak{m}R'', \quad \text{and} \quad x = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i a_i.$$

Since  $x \notin (\mathfrak{m}'')^2$ , we see that  $R''/(x)$  is a RLR with  $\dim R''/(x) = d - 1$ . Besides

$$\sqrt{I''/(x)} = \mathfrak{m}''/(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{I''/(x)} = \overline{I''}/(x) = I''/(x).$$

Moreover, because  $v(R/I) \leq 2$  and  $R''/(x)$  is regular, we obtain

$$v(R''/(x)/I''/(x)) \leq 2.$$

The induction argument shows  $\mathcal{R}(I''/(x))$  is CM normal. In particular,  $\text{gr}_{I''/(x)}(R''/(x))$  is CM. Let  $\mathcal{F} = \left\{ \overline{(I'')^n} \right\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and consider

$$G(\mathcal{F}) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \overline{(I'')^n} / \overline{(I'')^{n+1}} = \mathcal{R}'(\mathcal{F}) / t^{-1} \mathcal{R}'(\mathcal{F}), \text{ where } \mathcal{R}'(\mathcal{F}) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \overline{(I'')^n} t^n \subseteq R''[t, t^{-1}].$$

Then  $xt \in \mathcal{R}'(\mathcal{F})$  is a NZD on  $G(\mathcal{F})$  ([Hong-Ulrich, 2014]). As  $I''/(x)$  is normal, we get

$$\overline{(I'')^n} \subseteq (I'')^n + (x)$$

for  $\forall n \geq 1$ . Thus

$$\overline{(I'')^n} = [(I'')^n + (x)] \cap \overline{(I'')^n} = (I'')^n + \left[ (x) \cap \overline{(I'')^n} \right] = (I'')^n + x \cdot \overline{(I'')^{n-1}}$$

because  $(x) \cap \overline{(I'')^n} \subseteq x \cdot \overline{(I'')^{n-1}}$ . The induction on  $n \geq 1$  shows

$$\overline{(I'')^n} = (I'')^n \quad (\forall n \geq 1)$$

so that  $\mathcal{R}(I'')$  is normal. Therefore,  $G(\mathcal{F}) = \text{gr}_{I''}(R'')$  and is CM, because

$$\text{gr}_{I''}(R'')/(xt) \text{gr}_{I''}(R'') \cong \text{gr}_{I''/(x)}(R''/(x)).$$

Thus  $\mathcal{R}(I'')$  is CM. Since  $\mathcal{R}(I) \rightarrow R'' \otimes_R \mathcal{R}(I) \cong \mathcal{R}(I'')$  is faithfully flat, we conclude that  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.

(2) May assume  $d \geq 3$ ,  $|R/\mathfrak{m}| = \infty$ . As  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$  and  $\bar{I} = I$ , the ideal  $I$  is  $\mathfrak{m}$ -full. Then

$$I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2.$$

Indeed, if  $I \subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2$ , then

$$d + 2 \geq \mu_R(I) \geq \mu_R(\mathfrak{m}^2) = \binom{d+1}{2} = \frac{d(d+1)}{2}.$$

This makes a contradiction because  $d \geq 3$ . Hence  $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2$ . So, we may assume  $d \geq 4$  and the assertion holds for  $d - 1$ . Choose  $x \in I$  s.t.  $x \notin \mathfrak{m}^2$ . Then

$$\overline{I/(x)} = \bar{I}/(x) = I/(x).$$

Moreover,  $R/(x)$  is a RLR with  $\dim R/(x) = d - 1$ ,  $\sqrt{I/(x)} = \mathfrak{m}/(x)$ , and

$$\mu_{R/(x)}(I/(x)) = \mu_R(I) - 1 \leq (d + 2) - 1 = (d - 1) + 2.$$

By induction hypothesis, we have  $v(R/(x)/I/(x)) \leq 2$ . Since  $R/(x)$  is regular, we get

$$v(R/I) \leq 2$$

as desired. □

### Example 9

Let  $R = k[[X, Y, Z]]$  be the formal power series ring over a field  $k$ .

- Let  $I = \overline{(X^3, Y^3, Z)} = (X^3, X^2Y, XY^2, Y^3, Z)$ . Then  $\bar{I} = I$ ,  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$ , and  $\mu_R(I) = 5 = d + 2$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.
- Let  $I = \overline{(X^4, Y^4, Z)} = (X^4, X^3Y, X^2Y^2, XY^3, Y^4, Z)$ . Then  $\bar{I} = I$ ,  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$ , and  $\mu_R(I) = 6 > d + 2$ , but  $v(R/I) = 2$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.
- Let  $I = (f) + \mathfrak{m}^n$  for  $\forall f \in \mathfrak{m} \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$  and  $\forall n \geq 1$ . Then  $\bar{I} = I$ ,  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$ , and  $v(R/I) \leq 2$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.
- Let  $I = \overline{(X^2, Y^2, Z^4)} = (X^2, XY, Y^2, Z^4, XZ^2, YZ^2) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2$ . Then  $\bar{I} = I$ ,  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$ , and  $v(R/I) = 3$ . Since  $\bar{I}^2 = I^2$ , the ideal  $I$  is normal. By setting  $Q = (X^2, Y^2, Z^4)$ , we have  $I^2 = QI$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.

### Theorem 10 ([Reid-Roberts-Vitulli, 2003])

Let  $R = k[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_d]$  be the polynomial ring over a field  $k$  and  $I$  a monomial ideal s.t.  $\bar{I}^i = I^i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq d - 1$ . Then  $I$  is normal.

## Rees algebras of integrally closed modules

### Theorem A

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}$  s.t.  $\bar{I} = I$ . Then

$$(1) \ v(R/I) \leq 2 \implies \mathcal{R}(I) \text{ is a CM normal domain}$$

$$(2) \ \mu_R(I) \leq d + 2 \implies v(R/I) \leq 2.$$

In particular, if  $\mu_R(I) \leq d + 2$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain.

Theorem A can be extended to the Rees algebras of integrally closed modules.

### Theorem B

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $F = R^{\oplus e}$  ( $e > 0$ ). Let  $E$  be an  $R$ -submodule of  $F$  s.t.  $\ell_R(F/E) < \infty$  and  $\bar{E} = E$ . Then

$$(1) \ \mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2 \implies \mathcal{R}(E) \text{ is a CM normal domain}$$

$$(2) \ \mu_R(E) \leq d + e + 1 \implies \mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2.$$

In particular, if  $\mu_R(E) \leq d + e + 1$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain.

Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring and  $E \subseteq F = R^{\oplus e}$  ( $e > 0$ ) an  $R$ -submodule of  $F$ . Let

$$\text{Sym}(i) : \text{Sym}_R(E) \rightarrow \text{Sym}_R(F) = R[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_e] =: S$$

be the induced homomorphism of  $E \subseteq F$ . Then the **Rees algebra** of  $E$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(E) &= \text{Im Sym}(i) \subseteq S = R[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_e] \\ &= \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} E^n. \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a standard graded algebra over  $R$  with  $E^1 = E$ .
- If  $E = I$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(E) = \mathcal{R}(I)$ .
- If  $E = I_1 \oplus I_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I_r$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(E) = \mathcal{R}(I_1, I_2, \dots, I_r) = R[I_1 t_1, I_2 t_2, \dots, I_r t_r]$ .
- When  $E = I_1 \oplus I_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I_r$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  arises in successive blow-up of  $\text{Spec } R$  at the subschemes defined by  $I_1, I_2, \dots, I_r$ .
- Gaffney required  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  for applications to equisingularity theory.

For  $\forall n \geq 0$ , we define

$$\overline{E}^n = \left[ \overline{\mathcal{R}(E)}^S \right]_n = \left[ (\overline{ES})^n \right]_n \subseteq S_n = F^n.$$

In particular

$$\overline{E} = \left[ \overline{ES} \right]_1 = \{x \in F \mid x^n + c_1 x^{n-1} + \cdots + c_n = 0 \text{ for } \exists n \geq 1, \exists c_i \in E^i (1 \leq i \leq n)\}.$$

We say that

- $E$  is **integrally closed**, if  $\overline{E} = E$
- $E$  is **normal**, if  $\overline{E}^n = E^n$  for  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

When  $R$  is a normal domain, we have

$$\overline{\mathcal{R}(E)}^S = \overline{\mathcal{R}(E)}^{Q(\mathcal{R}(E))}.$$

Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is normal  $\iff E$  is normal.

For an arbitrary module, one lacks the remarkable interaction that exists for an ideal  $I \subseteq R$  between  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  and  $\text{gr}_I(R)$ .

### Generic Bourbaki ideals ([Simis-Ulrich-Vasconcelos, 2003])

Suppose that  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is a local ring and  $\exists \text{ rank } E = e > 0$ . Assume that  $E_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is free for  $\forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R$  with  $\text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \leq 1$ . Set

- $E = Ra_1 + Ra_2 + \cdots + Ra_n$  ( $a_i \in E$ )
- $Z = \{Z_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq e-1\}$
- $R'' = R[Z]_{\mathfrak{m}_R[Z]}$ ,  $E'' = E \otimes_R R''$ ,  $x_j = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_{ij}a_i$  ( $1 \leq j < e$ ),  $G'' = \sum_{j=1}^{e-1} R''x_j$ .

Then

$$G'' \cong (R'')^{\oplus(e-1)}, \quad E''/G'' \cong \exists I \subseteq R'' \text{ ideal of } R'' \text{ s.t. } \text{grade}_{R''} I > 0$$

The ideal  $I$  is called the **generic Bourbaki ideal** of  $E$ .

With this notation, we have

- $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is CM  $\iff \mathcal{R}(I)$  is CM
- $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is normal  $\iff \mathcal{R}(I)$  is normal, and the converse holds if

$$\text{depth } R_{\mathfrak{p}} \otimes_R \mathcal{R}(E) \geq e + 1 \text{ for } (0) \neq \forall \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } R.$$

If any of the conditions of above hold, then

$$\mathcal{R}(E'')/(G'') \cong \mathcal{R}(I) \quad \text{and} \quad x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{e-1} \text{ forms a regular sequence on } \mathcal{R}(E'').$$

## Theorem B

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $F = R^{\oplus e}$  ( $e > 0$ ). Let  $E$  be an  $R$ -submodule of  $F$  s.t.  $\ell_R(F/E) < \infty$  and  $\overline{E} = E$ . Then

- (1)  $\mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2 \implies \mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain
- (2)  $\mu_R(E) \leq d + e + 1 \implies \mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2.$

In particular, if  $\mu_R(E) \leq d + e + 1$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain.



(Proof) We may assume  $E \neq F$  and  $d \geq 2$ . Let

- $E = Ra_1 + Ra_2 + \cdots + Ra_n$  ( $a_i \in E$ )
- $Z = \{Z_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq e-1\}$
- $R'' = R[Z]_{\mathfrak{m}_R[Z]}$ ,  $E'' = E \otimes_R R''$ ,  $x_j = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_{ij}a_i$  ( $1 \leq j < e$ ),  $G'' = \sum_{j=1}^{e-1} R''x_j$ .

Then

$$G'' \cong (R'')^{\oplus(e-1)}, \quad E''/G'' \cong \exists I \subseteq R'' \text{ ideal of } R'' \text{ s.t. } \text{grade}_{R''} I > 0.$$

By setting  $F'' = F \otimes_R R''$ , we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & G'' & \longrightarrow & E'' & \longrightarrow & E''/G'' \cong I \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow i & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & G'' & \longrightarrow & F'' & \longrightarrow & F''/G'' \cong R'' \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

so that  $(0) \neq F''/E'' \cong R''/I$ . This shows  $\sqrt{I} = \mathfrak{m}''$ . As  $\text{grade}_{R''} I = d \geq 2$ , the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow G'' \rightarrow E'' \rightarrow I \rightarrow 0$$

splits. Hence  $E'' = G'' \oplus I$ . Therefore

$$[E'' + \mathfrak{m}F'']/E'' = \frac{G'' \oplus \mathfrak{m}''}{G'' \oplus I} \cong \mathfrak{m}''/I.$$

This implies  $\nu(R''/I) = \mu_{R''}(\mathfrak{m}''/I) = \mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2$ . Besides, we can check  $\bar{I} = I$  by using  $\bar{E} = E$ . Therefore, by Theorem A,  $\mathcal{R}(I)$  is a CM normal domain. Hence, by [Simis-Ulrich-Vasconcelos, 2003],  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain.  $\square$

Recall that  $E$  is a **parameter module** in  $F$  if  $\ell_R(F/E) < \infty$  and  $\mu_R(E) = d + e - 1$ .

**Corollary 11** ([Simis-Ulrich-Vasconcelos, 2003], [Brennan-Vasconcelos, 2004])

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a RLR with  $d = \dim R$  and  $F = R^{\oplus e}$  ( $e > 0$ ). Let  $E$  be a **parameter module** in  $F$ . If  $\bar{E} = E$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain.

### Example 12

Let  $R = k[[X, Y, Z]]$  be the formal power series ring over a field  $k$ . Let  $I = (f) + \mathfrak{m}^n$  for  $\forall f \in \mathfrak{m} \setminus \mathfrak{m}^2$  and  $\forall n \geq 1$ . Set

$$E = \bigoplus_I \mathfrak{m}^{\oplus(e-1)} \subseteq \mathfrak{m}F = \bigoplus_{\mathfrak{m}} \mathfrak{m}^{\oplus(e-1)} \subseteq F = R^{\oplus e}.$$

Then  $\bar{E} = E$ ,  $\ell_R(F/E) < \infty$ , and  $\mu_R([E + \mathfrak{m}F]/E) \leq 2$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{R}(E)$  is a CM normal domain.

Thank you for your attention.