

FAMILIES OF ARTINIAN AND LOW DIMENSIONAL DETERMINANTAL RINGS.

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ABSTRACT. Let $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ be the scheme parameterizing graded quotients of $R = k[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ with Hilbert function H (it is a subscheme of the Hilbert scheme of \mathbb{P}^n if we restrict to quotients of positive dimension, see definition below). A graded quotient $A = R/I$ of codimension c is called *standard determinantal* if the ideal I can be generated by the $t \times t$ minors of a homogeneous $t \times (t + c - 1)$ matrix (f_{ij}) . Given integers $a_0 \leq a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_{t+c-2}$ and $b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_t$, we denote by $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \subset \text{GradAlg}(H)$ the stratum of determinantal rings where $f_{ij} \in R$ are homogeneous of degrees $a_j - b_i$.

In this paper we extend previous results on the dimension and codimension of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ to *artinian determinantal rings*, and we show that $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is generically smooth along $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ under some assumptions. For zero and one dimensional determinantal schemes we generalize earlier results on these questions. As a consequence we get that the *general* element of a component W of the Hilbert scheme of \mathbb{P}^n is *gl Ricci* provided W contains a standard determinantal scheme satisfying some conditions. We also show how certain *ghost terms* disappear under deformation while other ghost terms remain and are present in the minimal resolution of a general element of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$.

Keywords. Determinantal rings, Deformations, Hilbert schemes, Artinian rings.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The main goal of this paper is to generalize previous results on maximal families of determinantal schemes, notable to cover maximal families of *artinian* determinantal k -algebras. Recall that a k -algebra $A \simeq R/I$, $R = k[x_0, \dots, x_n]$, of codimension c is called *determinantal* if the ideal I can be generated by the $r \times r$ minors of a homogeneous $p \times q$ matrix (f_{ij}) with $c = (p-r+1)(q-r+1)$. A is called *standard* (resp. *good*) *determinantal* if $r = \min(p, q)$ (resp. $r = \min(p, q)$ and A is a generic complete intersection of R).

Let $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ be the ‘‘Hilbert scheme of constant Hilbert function’’, i.e. the scheme parameterizing graded quotients A of R of depth $\dim A \geq \min(1, \dim A)$ and with Hilbert function H . Given integers $a_0 \leq a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_{t+c-2}$ and $b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_t$, we denote by $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ (resp. $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$) the stratum in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ consisting of good (resp. standard) determinantal k -algebras where f_{ij} are homogeneous polynomials of degree $a_j - b_i$. Then $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is irreducible, $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset$ if $a_{i-1} > b_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq t$, and the closures $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ and $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ are equal if $n \geq c$ (Proposition 2.1).

In this paper we focus on the following problems.

- (1) Determine when $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$.
- (2) Find the codimension of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ if its closure is not a component.

(3) Determine when $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is generically smooth along $W_s(b; \underline{a})$.

These questions have been considered in several papers, and in [31] we solve all these problems completely provided $n - c > 1$ and $a_0 > b_t$. In this case the closure of $W_s(b; \underline{a})$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of the usual Hilbert scheme $\text{Hilb}(\mathbb{P}^n)$, as well as of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ (see Theorem 4.6), i.e. [34, Conjecture 4.2] holds, and $\dim W_s(b; \underline{a})$ is determined (equal to λ in Theorem 4.1, whence [34, Conjecture 4.1] holds for $n - c > 0$), see also [13] for a somewhat different approach to these problems. So we only need to consider the case $n + 1 - c \in \{0, 1, 2\}$, and in [29] we solve problems (1)-(3) for determinantal schemes with $n + 1 - c \in \{1, 2\}$ under certain assumptions. In this paper we concentrate on *artinian* determinantal k -algebras ($n + 1 - c = 0$), and we prove the main Theorems 4.1 and 4.6 under conditions that allow c to be $n + 1$. In addition we prove a new result (Theorem 4.8, extending Theorem 4.6) which applies when $\dim W_s(b; \underline{a}) \neq \lambda$. This theorem implies that the general element of an irreducible component W of the Hilbert scheme of \mathbb{P}^n is *glicci* (in the Gorenstein liaison class of a complete intersection) provided W contains a standard determinantal scheme satisfying some conditions (Corollary 4.14). For an introduction to glicciness, see [32], and see [11] and its references for further developments. Finally, in Sec. 6, we generalize and complete several results of [29] for families of determinantal schemes of dimension 0 or 1, some of which occurred in [32, 33], and we slightly extend a result of [34].

We have used two different strategies to attack the problems (1) to (3). Indeed in [32, 33, 29, 34] we successively deleted columns of the $t \times (t + c - 1)$ matrix \mathcal{A} associated to a determinantal scheme $X := \text{Proj}(A)$ to get a nest (“flag”) of closed subschemes $X = X_c \subset X_{c-1} \subset \dots \subset X_2 \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ and we proved our results inductively by considering the smoothness of the Hilbert flag scheme of pairs and its natural projections to Hilbert schemes. On the other hand, in [31] we compared deformations of A with deformation of the cokernel M of the map $\bigoplus_{j=0}^{t+c-2} R(-a_j) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^t R(-b_i)$ induced by \mathcal{A} . This latter approach turned out to be quite successful, and it indeed solved problem (1)-(3) for $n - c > 1$. It is this approach that we generalize to the artinian case, only introducing an extra assumption (${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$) in the theorems. In fact we show that the main results of [31] hold, whence partially solving problems (1) to (3) also for $n = c - 1$.

For $c = 2$ all assumptions of the theorems are fulfilled. We even replace R by any Cohen-Macaulay quotient \overline{R} of R and solve the problems above for determinantal quotients of codimension $c = 2$ of \overline{R} (Theorem 4.15). For $c > 2$ we need to verify that certain Ext^i -groups vanish to apply our results when $n + 1 - c \in \{0, 1, 2\}$. In this paper we accomplish this by using Macaulay 2 ([15]). We give many examples, supported by Macaulay 2 computations, to illustrate the theorems in the artinian case.

In Sec. 5 we consider ghost terms, i.e. common free summands in consecutive terms of the minimal R -free resolution of A , and we show that some of them disappear, others remain unchanged under suitable generizations (deformations to a more general algebra) in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$. If A is general in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ and the assumptions of Theorem 4.8 are fulfilled (e.g. $\dim A \geq 3$ and $a_0 \geq b_t$), one may easily describe all ghost terms in its minimal free resolution while it seems hard to get improved results when $\dim A \leq 2$ (Proposition 5.1, Remark 5.3), although examples indicate a possible connection (Remark 4.12).

In the proofs we use the exactness of the Buchsbaum-Rim complex ([6, 10]) and the 5-term exact sequence associated to the spectral sequence $E_2^{p,q} := \text{Ext}_A^p(\text{Tor}_q^R(A, M), M) \Rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^{p+q}(M, M)$ which, in view of Fitting's lemma, plays a surprisingly important role in comparing the deformation functors of M and A .

Notation: Throughout $\mathbb{P} := \mathbb{P}^n$ is the projective n -space over an algebraically closed field k (except in Theorem 4.15 where we allow $k \neq \bar{k}$), $R = k[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is a polynomial ring and $\mathfrak{m} = (x_0, \dots, x_n)$. If $X \subset Y$ are closed subschemes of \mathbb{P}^n , we denote by $\mathcal{I}_{X/Y}$ (resp. $\mathcal{N}_{X/Y}$) the ideal (resp. normal) sheaf of X in Y , and we omit $/Y$ if $Y = \mathbb{P}^n$. Let $I_X = H_*^0(\mathcal{I}_X) \subset R$ be the saturated homogeneous ideal of $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$. When we write $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ we always let $A := R/I_X$ and $K_A = \text{Ext}_R^c(A, R)(-n-1)$ be the canonical module of A or X where $c = \text{codim}_{\mathbb{P}} X := n - \dim X$. Note that by the codimension, $\text{codim}_Y X$, of an irreducible X in a not necessarily equidimensional scheme Y we mean $\dim \mathcal{O}_{Y,x} - \dim X$, where x is a general k -point of X . We let ${}_v\text{Ext}(F, G)$ be the degree- v part of the graded module $\text{Ext}(F, G)$. Moreover we denote by $\text{hom}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) = \dim_k \text{Hom}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G})$ the dimension of the group of morphisms between coherent \mathcal{O}_X -modules and we use small letters for the k -vector space dimension of similar groups.

2. PRELIMINARIES

2.1. Hilbert schemes and Hilbert function strata. We denote the Hilbert scheme with the Hilbert polynomial $p \in \mathbb{Q}[s]$ by $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$, cf. [16] for existence and [39] for the local theory. Similarly $\text{GradAlg}^H(R)$, or $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)$ when $\dim A > 0$, is the representing object of the functor that parameterizes flat families of graded quotients A of R of $\text{depth}_{\mathfrak{m}} A \geq \min(1, \dim A)$ and with Hilbert function H , $H(i) = \dim A_i$ ([26, 27, 17]). We allow calling it “the postulation Hilbert scheme” ([28, §1.1]) even though it may be different from the parameter space studied by Gotzmann and Iarrobino ([14, 21]) who study the “same” scheme with the reduced scheme structure. We let (A) , or (X) where $X = \text{Proj}(A)$, denote the point of $\text{GradAlg}(H) := \text{GradAlg}^H(R)$ that corresponds to A . Note that if $\text{depth}_{\mathfrak{m}} A \geq 1$ and ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_X, H_{\mathfrak{m}}^1(A)) = 0$, then

$$(2.1) \quad \text{GradAlg}(H) \simeq \text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n) \quad \text{at} \quad (X),$$

and hence we have an isomorphism ${}_0\text{Hom}(I_X, A) \simeq H^0(\mathcal{N}_X)$ of their tangent spaces (cf. [12] for the case $\text{depth}_{\mathfrak{m}} A \geq 2$, and (9) of [27] for the general case). If X is generically a complete intersection, then ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I_X/I_X^2, A)$ is an obstruction space of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ at (A) , and hence of $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ at (X) if (2.1) holds. Indeed for any quotient $A = R/I$, we may define $\text{H}_2(R, A, A) := \ker(S_2(I) \rightarrow I^2)$ where $S_2(I)$ is the 2nd symmetric power of I , cf. [1], p.106. Then $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is smooth at (A) if

$$(2.2) \quad {}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I/I^2, A) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad {}_0\text{Hom}_A(\text{H}_2(R, A, A), A) = 0,$$

and observe that the latter group vanishes if A is generically a complete intersection of R [27, §1.1]. By definition X (resp. A) is called *unobstructed* if $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ (resp. $\text{GradAlg}(H)$) is smooth at (X) (resp. (A)).

We say that X is *general* in some irreducible subset $W \subset \text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ if (X) belongs to a sufficiently small open subset U of W such that any (X) in U has all the openness properties that we want to require. We define “ A general in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ ” similarly.

2.2. Determinantal rings and schemes. We mainly maintain the notions and notations from [29, 31], but we need to extend some results to artinian determinantal k -algebras. For a more general background of determinantal rings and schemes, see [4, 10, 3, 44].

Indeed let

$$(2.3) \quad \varphi : F = \bigoplus_{i=1}^t R(b_i) \longrightarrow G := \bigoplus_{j=0}^{t+c-2} R(a_j)$$

be a graded morphism of free R -modules, let $\mathcal{A} = (f_{ij})_{i=1, \dots, t}^{j=0, \dots, t+c-2}$, $\deg f_{ij} = a_j - b_i$, be a matrix which represents the dual $\varphi^* := \text{Hom}_R(\varphi, R)$ and let $I(\mathcal{A}) := I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be the ideal of R generated by the maximal minors of \mathcal{A} . We *always suppose* $t \geq 2$ (unless explicitly allowing $t = 1$) and

$$(2.4) \quad c \geq 2, \quad b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_t \quad \text{and} \quad a_0 \leq a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_{t+c-2}.$$

A codimension c quotient $A = R/I$ (resp. subscheme $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ if $n \geq c$) is called *standard determinantal* if $I := I(\mathcal{A})$ (resp. $I_X := I(\mathcal{A})$) for some homogeneous $t \times (t+c-1)$ matrix \mathcal{A} as above. They are *good determinantal* if additionally, the ideal $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$ of submaximal minors has at least codimension $c+1$ in R , i.e. $R/I(\mathcal{A})$ is a generic complete intersection of R . If $t = 1$, standard, as well as good determinantal are complete intersections of R .

Given integers b_i and a_j satisfying (2.4) we let $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}; R)$ (resp. $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}; R)$) be the stratum in $\text{GradAlg}(H) := \text{GradAlg}^H(R)$ consisting of standard (resp. good) determinantal quotients, cf. (2.1), and we usually omit R in this notation. Note that we do not require \mathcal{A} to be minimal (i.e. $f_{ij} = 0$ when $b_i = a_j$) for $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ to belong to $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) := W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}; R)$. In examples, however, we mainly consider determinantal rings with positive degree matrix (i.e. for every i, j , $b_i < a_j$, and recall that $a_j - b_i = 1$ is called the linear case).

Proposition 2.1. *The closure of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is irreducible, and*

$$W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset \iff a_{i-1} \geq b_i \text{ for all } i \text{ and } a_{i-1} > b_i \text{ for some } i.$$

Moreover if $n - c \geq 0$, then $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$. And if $n - c = -1$, then every $A = R/I$ of $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ satisfies $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = R$, i.e. is a complete intersection (c.i.) of R .

Proof. For $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ to be non-empty we refer to (2.2) of [34] whose arguments carry over to the artinian case. The text after [34, (2.2)] shows also that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ and that this locus is irreducible in the non-artinian case ($n \geq c$). To see that $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is irreducible also when $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ parametrizes artinian k -algebras we consider the affine scheme $\mathbb{V} = \text{Hom}_R(G^*, F^*)$ whose rational points correspond to $t \times (t+c-1)$ matrices. Since the vanishing of $\text{Ext}_R^i(R/I_t(\mathcal{A}), R)$ is an open property, the subset U of \mathbb{V} of matrices such that $I_t(\mathcal{A})$ has maximal codimension in R is open and irreducible. Then, since there is an obvious morphism from U onto $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is irreducible.

Finally, for A artinian and good determinantal, $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$ is not contained in \mathfrak{m} because this would imply $\dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = \dim R/I_t(\mathcal{A}) = 0$. Thus $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = R$, and it follows that A is a c.i. of R by Corollary 5.2. \square

Remark 2.2. In earlier papers on determinantal rings we often assumed that A was good determinantal. By [33, Lem. 3.2] good determinantal rings satisfy $A \simeq \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$

where $M := \text{coker } \varphi^*$. This and the fact that they are generic complete intersections of R , was often used in the proofs of the deformation results in [32, 33, 29, 31]. To generalize earlier results to the artinian case, we see from Proposition 2.1 that we can not assume A good determinantal any more. Also $A \simeq \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$ has to be dropped because this seems to never hold for A artinian. It turns, however, out that only assuming ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and A standard determinantal often allows us to generalize the proofs.

In the following let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be standard determinantal, i.e. $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and let $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ if $\dim A > 0$. Then R -free resolutions of A and $M := M_{\mathcal{A}} := \text{coker } \varphi^*$ are given by the *Eagon-Northcott* and *Buchsbaum-Rim complexes* respectively, see [6, 9, 10]. These resolutions are minimal if \mathcal{A} is minimal. By e.g. [31, (2.3), (2.4)] the resolutions are

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \longrightarrow \wedge^{t+c-1} G^* \otimes S_{c-1}(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \wedge^{t+i} G^* \otimes S_i(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \\ \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \wedge^t G^* \otimes S_0(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \longrightarrow R \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow 0, \quad \text{and} \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \longrightarrow \wedge^{t+c-1} G^* \otimes S_{c-2}(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \wedge^{t+i+1} G^* \otimes S_i(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \\ \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \wedge^{t+1} G^* \otimes S_0(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \longrightarrow G^* \xrightarrow{\varphi^*} F^* \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

The matrix \mathcal{A}_i obtained by deleting the last $c - i$ columns defines a morphism

$$(2.7) \quad \varphi_i : F = \bigoplus_{i=1}^t R(b_i) \longrightarrow G_i := \bigoplus_{j=0}^{t+i-2} R(a_j).$$

and we suppose that *all entries of the deleted columns belong to \mathfrak{m}* . Then the k -algebra $D_i \cong R/I_{D_i}$ given by the maximal minors of \mathcal{A}_i is standard determinantal by [2] and φ_i is injective. Letting $B_i = \text{coker } \varphi_i$ and $M_i = \text{coker } \varphi_i^*$, we have an exact sequence

$$(2.8) \quad 0 \rightarrow B_i^* \rightarrow G_i^* \xrightarrow{\varphi_i^*} F^* \longrightarrow M_i \cong \text{Ext}_R^1(B_i, R) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Then M_i is a D_i -module, $R \rightarrow D_i \rightarrow D_{i+1} \cdots \rightarrow D_c = A$, and there is an exact sequence

$$(2.9) \quad 0 \longrightarrow D_i \longrightarrow M_i(a_{t+i-1}) \longrightarrow M_{i+1}(a_{t+i-1}) \longrightarrow 0$$

in which $D_i \rightarrow M_i(a_{t+i-1})$ is a regular section that defines D_{i+1} (also when $i + 1 = c$ and D_c is artinian [36, Lem. 3.6]). Hence the sequence

$$(2.10) \quad 0 \longrightarrow I_{D_{i+1}/D_i} \simeq \text{Hom}_{D_i}(M_i(a_{t+i-1}), D_i) \longrightarrow D_i \longrightarrow D_{i+1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

is exact. By (2.6) M_i is a maximal Cohen-Macaulay D_i -module and so is I_{D_{i+1}/D_i} by (2.10). Moreover by e.g. (2.6), $K_{D_i}(n+1) \cong S_{i-1} M_i(\ell_i)$ where $\ell_i := \sum_{j=0}^{t+i-2} a_j - \sum_{q=1}^t b_q$.

Lemma 2.3. *With the above notation (and $M = M_c$), there are exact sequences*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M_i, M) \rightarrow F \otimes_R M \rightarrow G_i \otimes_R M \rightarrow B_i \otimes_R M \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{and} \\ 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_i, F) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_i, G_i) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_i, B_i) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M_i, M_i) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. (cf. [33, Lem. 3.1 and 3.10]). We apply $\text{Hom}_R(B_i, -)$ to

$$(2.11) \quad 0 \longrightarrow F \longrightarrow G_i \longrightarrow B_i \longrightarrow 0$$

and using $M_i \simeq \text{Ext}_R^1(B_i, R)$ we deduce the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_i, F) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_i, G_i) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_i, B_i) \rightarrow F \otimes_R M_i \rightarrow G_i \otimes_R M_i.$$

Hence we get the lemma by applying $\text{Hom}(-, M_i)$ to (2.8) and $(-) \otimes_R M$ to (2.11). \square

Proposition 2.4. *Set $K_i := {}_0\text{hom}(B_{i-1}, R(a_{t+i-2}))$ and $\ell_i := \sum_{j=0}^{t+i-2} a_j - \sum_{q=1}^t b_q$. Letting $h_{i-3} := 2a_{t+i-2} - \ell_i + n$ for $3 \leq i \leq c$ and $\binom{a}{n} = 0$ if $a < n$ we have*

$$K_{i+3} = \sum_{\substack{r+s=i \\ r,s \geq 0}} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq t+i \\ 1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_s \leq t}} (-1)^{i-r} \binom{h_i + a_{i_1} + \dots + a_{i_r} + b_{j_1} + \dots + b_{j_s}}{n} \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq c-3,$$

e.g. $K_3 = \binom{h_0}{n}$ and $K_4 = \sum_{j=0}^{t+1} \binom{h_1+a_j}{n} - \sum_{i=1}^t \binom{h_1+b_i}{n}$. Moreover if ${}_0\text{hom}(M, M) = 1$ and the entries of the last $c-2$ columns belong to \mathfrak{m} (e.g. \mathcal{A} is minimal), then

$$\text{aut}(B_c) := {}_0\text{hom}(B_c, B_c) = 1 + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c.$$

Proof. Using (2.6) we get a resolution of M_{i-1} which due to (2.8) leads to the following resolution:

$$0 \rightarrow E_{i-3} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow E_j \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow E_0 \rightarrow B_{i-1}^* \rightarrow 0$$

where $E_j := \wedge^{t+j+1} G^* \otimes S_j(F) \otimes \wedge^t F$. Taking dimensions of the degree a_{t+i-2} part of the free modules in this resolution and using $K_i = \dim B_{i-1}^*(a_{t+i-2})_0$, we get that K_i coincides with the sum of binomials appearing in the proposition (see [33, p.2882] for details).

Now dualizing the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow R(a_{t+c-2}) \rightarrow B_c \rightarrow B_{c-1} \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{c-1}, R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_c, R) \rightarrow R(-a_{t+c-2}) \rightarrow M_{c-1} \rightarrow M_c \rightarrow 0$$

by (2.8). Combining with (2.9) we get the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{c-1}, R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(B_c, R) \rightarrow I_{D_{c-1}}(-a_{t+c-2}) \rightarrow 0$$

which implies the vanishing of the *lower down-arrows* in the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}_0\text{Hom}(B_{c-1}, F) & \longrightarrow & {}_0\text{Hom}(B_{c-1}, G_c) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ {}_0\text{Hom}(B_c, F) & \longrightarrow & {}_0\text{Hom}(B_c, G_c) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ {}_0\text{Hom}(R(a_{t+c-2}), F) & \longrightarrow & {}_0\text{Hom}(R(a_{t+c-2}), G_c). \end{array}$$

It follows that the upper down-arrows are bijections. Since $\text{Hom}(B_{c-1}, -)$ is exact on $0 \rightarrow R(a_{t+c-2}) \rightarrow G_c \rightarrow G_{c-1} \rightarrow 0$ (because $\text{Ext}^1(B_{c-1}, -) \cong M_{c-1} \otimes (-)$) we get

$$(2.12) \quad {}_0\text{hom}(B_c, G_c) - {}_0\text{hom}(B_c, F) = {}_0\text{hom}(B_{c-1}, G_{c-1}) - {}_0\text{hom}(B_{c-1}, F) + K_c.$$

By Lemma 2.3 and the assumption ${}_0\text{hom}(M_c, M_c) = 1$, we have

$$\text{aut}(B_c) = 1 + {}_0\text{hom}(B_c, G_c) - {}_0\text{hom}(B_c, F),$$

and since there is a corresponding expression for $\text{aut}(B_{c-1})$ we get

$$(2.13) \quad \text{aut}(B_c) = 1 + K_c + \text{aut}(B_{c-1}) - {}_0\text{hom}(M_{c-1}, M_{c-1})$$

by (2.12). D_{c-1} is, however, good determinantal because $I_t(\mathcal{A}_{c-1}) \subset I_t(\mathcal{A}_c) \subset I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}_{c-1})$ and $\text{codim}_{D_{c-1}} D_c = 1$. Indeed all D_j , $2 \leq j \leq c-1$ are good determinantal for the same reason and we get ${}_0\text{hom}(M_j, M_j) = 1$ for $2 \leq j \leq c-1$ by Remark 2.2. This simplifies (2.13) which holds also if we replace c by $j+1$ in (2.13). Then we conclude the proof by induction using that $\text{aut}(B_2) = {}_0\text{hom}(I_{D_2}, I_{D_2}) = 1$. \square

Finally recall that if $J = I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$ and $\dim A > 0$ then $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ is a local complete intersection (l.c.i.) in $X - V(J)$. In the following we *always take* $Z \supset V(J)$ and $U = X - Z$, i.e. so that $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ is an l.c.i. in U . Since the 1st Fitting ideal of M is equal to J , we get that \tilde{M} and $\widetilde{I/I^2}$ are locally free on $X - V(J)$, cf. [50, Lem. 1.8] and [3, Lem. 1.4.8]. Note that $\text{depth}_J A \geq \text{codim}_X \text{Sing}(X)$ which we use in the following.

Remark 2.5. Let $X = X_c$, $Y = X_{c-1}$ and let α be a positive integer. If X is general in $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset$ and $a_{i-\min(\alpha, t)} - b_i \geq 0$ for $\min(\alpha, t) \leq i \leq t$, then

$$(2.14) \quad \text{codim}_{X_j} \text{Sing}(X_j) \geq \min\{2\alpha - 1, j + 2\} \quad \text{for } 2 \leq j \leq c,$$

cf. the arguments in [33, Rem. 2.7] which use [7, 51]. In particular letting $\alpha = 3$ we get that $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ (resp. $Y \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ and $X \hookrightarrow Y$) are l.c.i.s outside a subset $Z \subset X$ of codimension at least $\min(5, c + 2)$ (resp. $\min(4, c)$) in X . Indeed we may take $Z = V(I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}_{c-1}))$ for the statement involving X and Y because (2.10) implies that $\mathcal{I}_{X/Y}$ is locally free on $Y - Z$, noting that $Z \subset V(I_t(\mathcal{A})) = X$. Moreover if $a_{i-2} - b_i \geq 0$ for $2 \leq i \leq t$, then $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ (resp. $Y \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ and $X \hookrightarrow Y$) are l.c.i.s outside a subset $Z \subset X$ of codimension at least $\min(3, c + 2)$ (resp. $\min(2, c)$). Notice that we interpret $I(Z)$ as \mathfrak{m} if $Z = \emptyset$.

2.3. The dimension of the determinantal locus. In [31] we proved that the dimension of a non-empty $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in the case $a_{i-2} - b_i \geq 0$ for $i \geq 2$ and $n - c \geq 1$ is given by

$$(2.15) \quad \dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c,$$

where K_i is defined in Proposition 2.4 and λ_c is defined by

$$(2.16) \quad \lambda_c := \sum_{i,j} \binom{a_j - b_i + n}{n} + \sum_{i,j} \binom{b_i - a_j + n}{n} - \sum_{i,j} \binom{a_i - a_j + n}{n} - \sum_{i,j} \binom{b_i - b_j + n}{n} + 1$$

where the indices belonging to a_j (resp. b_i) range over $0 \leq j \leq t + c - 2$ (resp. $1 \leq i \leq t$).

Remark 2.6. Note that we assume (2.4) and delete columns from the right-hand side for (2.15) to hold. From the proof of Proposition 2.4 we see that we also need all algebras D_i in $R \twoheadrightarrow D_2 \twoheadrightarrow D_3 \dots \twoheadrightarrow D_c = A$ to be standard determinantal. If D_i is standard determinantal and we delete a column whose entries belong to \mathfrak{m} , then D_{i-1} is standard determinantal by [2], see Proposition 5.1 for deleting columns containing units. In particular (2.15) holds if the entries of the last $c - 2$ columns of \mathcal{A} belong to \mathfrak{m} (e.g. if \mathcal{A} is minimal).

Using, however, the Hilbert function, $H_M(-)$, of M and assuming ${}_0\text{hom}(M, M) = 1$, we have by [31, Rem. 3.9], for \mathcal{A} possibly non-minimal, that

$$(2.17) \quad \dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \sum_{j=0}^{t+c-2} H_M(a_j) - \sum_{i=1}^t H_M(b_i) + 1.$$

For zero-dimensional determinantal schemes ($n - c = 0$) we have the following.

Remark 2.7. (i) Assume $a_0 > b_t$. Then (2.15) holds provided $3 \leq c \leq 5$ (resp. $c > 5$) and $a_{t+c-2} > a_{t-2}$ (resp. $a_{t+3} > a_{t-2}$) by [34, Thm. 3.2], see Sec. 6 for a generalization.

(ii) If \mathcal{A} is a linear $2 \times (c + 1)$ matrix, we showed in [29, Ex. 3.3] that $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is strictly smaller than the right-hand side of (2.15) for every $c > 2$. To our knowledge this is the only known case where the equality of (2.15) fails to hold when $n = c$.

2.4. The determinantal locus as components of Hilbert schemes. It was shown in [31] that $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$, for $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset$, is an irreducible component of $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ provided $n - c \geq 2$ and $a_{i - \min(3, t)} - b_i \geq 0$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$. If $n - c \leq 1$ then $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ may fail to be an irreducible component. Indeed $\overline{W(0, 0; 1, 1, \dots, 1, 2)}$ is not an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ for all $c \geq 3$ both when $n = c$ and $n = c + 1$, see [29, Ex. 4.1]. In both cases the h -vector of a general A is $(1, c, c)$, e.g. the Hilbert function is given by $(\dim A_i)_{i=0}^\infty = (1, c + 1, 2c + 1, 2c + 1, \dots)$ if $n = c$.

The reason why $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is not a component is that there exist determinantal rings allowing “deformations that do not come from deforming the matrix \mathcal{A} ”. Let us recall this notion. We briefly say “ T a local ring” (resp. “ T artinian”) for a local k -algebra (T, \mathfrak{m}_T) essentially of finite type over $k = T/\mathfrak{m}_T$ (resp. of finite type over $k = T/\mathfrak{m}_T$ such that $\mathfrak{m}_T^r = 0$ for some $r \in \mathbb{Z}$). The local deformation functor $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ is defined for each artinian T as the set of graded (T -flat) deformations A_T of A to T (i.e. $A_T \otimes_T k = A$). Moreover “ $T \rightarrow S$ is called a small artinian surjection” if there is a morphism $(T, \mathfrak{m}_T) \rightarrow (S, \mathfrak{m}_S)$ of local artinian k -algebras whose kernel \mathfrak{a} satisfies $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{m}_T = 0$.

If T is a local ring, we let $\mathcal{A}_T = (f_{ij, T})$ be a matrix of homogeneous polynomials of the graded algebra $R_T := R \otimes_k T$, satisfying $f_{ij, T} \otimes_T k = f_{ij}$ and $\deg f_{ij, T} = a_j - b_i$ for all i, j . Here all elements of T are considered to be of degree zero. Once having \mathcal{A}_T , it induces a morphism

$$(2.18) \quad \varphi_T : F_T := \bigoplus_{i=1}^t R_T(b_i) \rightarrow G_T := \bigoplus_{j=0}^{t+c-2} R_T(a_j) .$$

Lemma 2.8. *If $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ is standard determinantal, then $A_T := R_T/I_t(\mathcal{A}_T)$ and $M_T := \text{coker } \varphi_T^*$ are graded deformations of A and M respectively for every choice of \mathcal{A}_T , T a local ring. Moreover every graded deformation of M is of the form M_T for some \mathcal{A}_T .*

Proof. See [29, Lem. 4.2] for a proof. Indeed $A_T = R_T/I_t(\mathcal{A}_T)$ and M_T are T -flat because all maps in their Eagon-Northcott and Buchsbaum-Rim complexes are defined in terms of \mathcal{A}_T , and these complexes become exact after tensoring by k over T . Note also that the final statement in the lemma follows immediately from $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$. \square

The final statement may be formulated as “every graded deformation of M to a local ring T comes from deforming \mathcal{A} ”. This may not hold for A .

Definition 2.9. Let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$. We say “every deformation of A (or X if $\dim A > 1$, see (2.1)) comes from deforming \mathcal{A} ” if for every local ring T and every graded deformation $R_T \rightarrow A_T$ of $R \rightarrow A$ to T , then A_T is of the form $A_T = R_T/I_t(\mathcal{A}_T)$ for some \mathcal{A}_T as above.

Lemma 2.10. *Let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal ring, $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$. If every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} , then A is unobstructed (i.e. $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ is smooth). Moreover $\overline{W}_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$.*

Proof. See [29, Lem. 4.4], only replacing $\text{Hilb}(\mathbb{P}^n)$ by $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ in its proof. \square

Remark 2.11. By these lemmas we get T -flat determinantal schemes by just parameterizing the polynomials of \mathcal{A} over a local ring T , see Rem. 4.5 of [29] and Laksov’s papers [38, 37] for somewhat similar results for more general determinantal schemes.

3. DEFORMATIONS OF MODULES AND DETERMINANTAL RINGS

The main goal of this section is to generalize to A artinian the close relationship between the local deformation functor, $\text{Def}_{M/R}$, of the graded R -module $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$ and the corresponding local functor, $\text{Def}_{A/R}$, of graded deformations of the standard determinantal ring $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$. Note that $I := I_t(\mathcal{A}) = \text{ann}(M)$ by [5]. In [31] these functors were shown to be isomorphic (resp. the first a natural subfunctor of the latter) provided $\dim X \geq 2$ (resp. $\dim X = 1$) and $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ general and good determinantal. The comparison between these deformation functors relied on understanding the spectral sequence $E_2^{p,q} := \text{Ext}_A^p(\text{Tor}_q^R(A, M), M) \Rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^{p+q}(M, M)$ and its induced 5-term exact sequence

$$(3.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \xrightarrow{\delta} E_2^{0,1} \rightarrow \text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(M, M) \rightarrow \dots$$

Indeed $\text{Tor}_1^R(A, M) \simeq I \otimes_R M$ implies $E_2^{0,1} \simeq \text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}_R(M, M))$ in general, and since $\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq A$ provided A is *good* determinantal (i.e. $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})A} A \geq 1$) by [33, Lem. 3.2], it follows in this case that the morphism δ of (3.1) induces a natural map

$$(3.2) \quad {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \longrightarrow (E_2^{0,1})_0 \simeq {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$$

between the tangent spaces of $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ and $\text{Def}_{A/R}$. For A standard determinantal, there is still a natural map $e_M(T) : \text{Def}_{M/R}(T) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}(T)$, T artinian, obtained by taking a matrix \mathcal{A}_T whose corresponding morphism has M_T as cokernel and letting $A_T := R_T/I_t(\mathcal{A}_T)$ (see Lemma 2.8). Since matrices inducing the same M_T define the same ideal of maximal minors (Fitting's lemma, [10, Cor. 20.4]), this morphism is well-defined.

Remark 3.1. The main difficulty in generalizing the comparison above to an artinian A is that $A \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$ is no longer an isomorphism (for A not a c.i.) which implies that the tangent map of $\text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$ may not be the map in (3.2), i.e. $(E_2^{0,1})_0 \simeq {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ may fail. The morphism $\text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$ is, however, well-defined also in the artinian case, and since $I_t(\mathcal{A}) = \text{ann}(M)$ implies that $A \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$ is injective and the functors are pro-representable provided ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$, we shall see that we are able to generalize the comparison.

Definition 3.2. Let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal ring and let $\underline{\ell}$ be the category of artinian k -algebras (cf. the text before (2.18)). Then the local deformation functor $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$, defined on $\underline{\ell}$, is the subfunctor of $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ given by:

$$\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}(T) = \{A_T \in \text{Def}_{A/R}(T) \mid A_T = R_T/I_t(\mathcal{A}_T) \text{ for some matrix } \mathcal{A}_T \text{ lifting } \mathcal{A} \text{ to } T\}.$$

With this definition it is obvious that the natural map $e_M : \text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$ defined above for any $T \in \text{ob}(\underline{\ell})$ factors via $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \hookrightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$. Moreover we have

Lemma 3.3. *If $D := k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$ then the degree zero part, $\delta_0(M)$, of the connecting homomorphism δ of (3.1) factors through $e_M(D) : \text{Def}_{M/R}(D) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}(D)$, i.e. $\delta_0(M)$ is the composition*

$${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \xrightarrow{e_M(D)} {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A) \xrightarrow{i_{A, M}} {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}_A(M, M)) \simeq (E_2^{0,1})_0$$

where the map in the middle is induced by $A \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$, $1 \in A \mapsto id_M$.

Proof. We know that $e_M(D) : {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ is well-defined. To describe it, take any $\bar{\eta} \in {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$ and let $\eta' \in {}_0\text{Hom}(G^*, M)$ represent $\bar{\eta}$ and $\eta \in {}_0\text{Hom}(G^*, F^*)$ map to η' , cf. (3.3). A maximal minor f_1 corresponds to choosing t columns of \mathcal{A} which we for simplicity suppose is obtained by deleting the last $c-1$ columns of \mathcal{A} . With notations as in Sec. 2, f_1 is the determinant of $\varphi_1^* : G_1^* = \bigoplus_{j=0}^{t-1} R(-a_j) \rightarrow F^* = \bigoplus_{i=1}^t R(-b_i)$. By definition $e_M(D)(\bar{\eta})$ is given by the ideal generated by maximal minors of $\varphi^* + \epsilon\eta$. Let I_1 be the principal ideal generated by f_1 . Since it is easy to compute $\det(\varphi_1^* + \epsilon\eta_1)$ where η_1 is the composition, $G_1^* \hookrightarrow G^* \xrightarrow{\eta} F^*$, of the natural inclusion $G_1^* \hookrightarrow G^*$ by η , we get that the image of $e_M(D)(\bar{\eta})$ in ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_1, A) \simeq A_{(\deg f_1)}$ via the natural map $I_1 \hookrightarrow I$ is $\text{tr}(\varphi_1^a \cdot \eta_1) \otimes_R 1$ where $1 \in A$ is the unity, φ_1^a is the adjoint of φ_1^* and tr the trace map.

Let $M_1 = \text{coker } \varphi_1^*$ and let $\pi : M_1 \rightarrow M$ be the canonical surjection. To see that $\delta_0(M) = i_{A,M} \cdot e_M(D)$ it suffices to check that the image of $\delta_0(M)(\bar{\eta})$ via the composition

$${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}(M, M)) \twoheadrightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_1, \text{Hom}(M, M)) \hookrightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_1, \text{Hom}(M_1, M))$$

is $\text{tr}(\varphi_1^a \cdot \eta_1) \otimes_R \pi$ because the maximal minors provide a surjection $\bigoplus R(-n_i) \twoheadrightarrow I$ and hence an injection ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}(M, M)) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(\bigoplus R(-n_i), \text{Hom}(M, M))$ (and think of f_1 as an arbitrary minor). Then we can conclude the proof by the functoriality of connecting homomorphisms and Ile's result for $\delta_0(M_1)$ in [24]. Indeed we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) & \xrightarrow{\delta_0(M)} & {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}_R(M, M)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M_1, M) & \longrightarrow & {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_1, \text{Hom}_R(M_1, M)) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M_1, M_1) & \xrightarrow{\delta_0(M_1)} & {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_1, \text{Hom}_R(M_1, M_1)) \end{array}$$

of three connecting homomorphisms. If $A_1 = R/I_1$ then $\delta_0(M_1)(\bar{\eta}_1) = \text{tr}(\varphi_1^a \cdot \eta_1) \otimes_R \text{id}_{M_1}$ by [24, Prop. 2], whence maps to $\text{tr}(\varphi_1^a \cdot \eta_1) \otimes_R \pi$ via the right up-arrow. Here $\bar{\eta}_1 \in {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M_1, M_1)$ is represented by the composition $G_1^* \xrightarrow{\eta_1} F^* \rightarrow M_1$. Since the elements $\bar{\eta} \in {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$ and $\bar{\eta}_1 \in {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M_1, M_1)$ map to the same element in ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M_1, M)$ (the one represented by the composition $G_1^* \xrightarrow{\eta_1} F^* \rightarrow M$) the proof is complete. \square

First we will find the dimension of the pro-representing object of $\text{Def}_{M/R}$, i.e. we need to generalize [31, Thm. 3.2] by weakening its conditions so that it applies to an artinian A . Indeed we have (and see Proposition 2.4 and Remark 2.6 for computing the dimension).

Theorem 3.4. *Let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be standard determinantal and let $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$. Then M is unobstructed, i.e. $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ is formally smooth. Moreover if ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$, then $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ is pro-representable, and the pro-representing object $H(M/R)$ of $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ satisfies*

$$\dim H(M/R) = \dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c.$$

Moreover we have $\dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) = \sum_{j=0}^{t+c-2} H_M(a_j) - \sum_{i=1}^t H_M(b_i) + 1$.

Proof. For the unobstructedness of M , see [31, Thm. 3.1] or Ile's PhD thesis [22, ch. 6].

To see the dimension formula we *claim* that there is an exact sequence

$$(3.3) \quad 0 \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(F^*, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(G^*, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow 0.$$

Indeed the map $d_1 : \wedge^{t+1}G^* \otimes S_0(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \rightarrow G^*$ appearing in the Buchsbaum-Rim complex (2.6), takes an element of $\wedge^{t+1}G^* \otimes S_0(F) \otimes \wedge^t F$ to a linear combination of maximal minors with coefficients in G^* because $I_t(\mathcal{A}) = \text{im}(\wedge^t G^* \otimes S_0(F) \otimes \wedge^t F \rightarrow R)$ is generated by maximal minors, whence ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(d_1, M) = 0$ because $I = \text{ann}(M)$. So if we apply ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ to (2.6), we get (3.3) by the definition of ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^i(M, M)$.

Taking dimensions of the groups in (3.3) and using (2.7) and ${}_0\text{hom}(M, M) = 1$ we get the latter dimension formula for $\dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$. Moreover if we apply the exact functors ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(F^*, -)$ and ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(G^*, -)$ onto (2.8) with $i = c$ we get

$${}_0\text{hom}_R(G^*, M) - {}_0\text{hom}_R(F^*, M) = \lambda_c - 1 + {}_0\text{hom}_R(G^*, B^*) - {}_0\text{hom}_R(F^*, B^*)$$

by using the definition (2.16) of λ_c . Hence we get the dimension formula (i.e. the rightmost equality) of Theorem 3.4 provided we can prove

$${}_0\text{hom}_R(B, G) - {}_0\text{hom}_R(B, F) = K_3 + \dots + K_c.$$

This follows from Proposition 2.4 and the second exact sequence of Lemma 2.3.

Finally the condition ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ allows us to lift automorphisms, i.e. $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ is pro-representable, cf. [18, Thm. 19.2], whence $\dim H(M/R) = \dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$ by the smoothness of $\text{Def}_{M/R}$. \square

Let $D := k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$ be the dual numbers and denote the dimension in Theorem 3.4 by

$$(3.4) \quad \lambda := \dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c.$$

Recalling that $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is a certain quotient of an open irreducible set in the affine scheme $\mathbb{V} = \text{Hom}_R(G^*, F^*)$ parameterizing determinantal k -algebras (Proposition 2.1), we get

Theorem 3.5. *Let $A = R/I$, $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$, be a standard determinantal k -algebra and let $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$.*

(i) *If ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = 0$ then*

$$\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \simeq \text{Def}_{M/R}.$$

Hence $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a formally smooth pro-representable functor and the pro-representing object has dimension

$$\dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c,$$

cf. Remark 2.6. Moreover the tangent space of $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is the subvector space of ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ that corresponds to graded deformation $R_D \rightarrow A_D$ of $R \rightarrow A$ to D of the form $A_D = R_D/I_t(\mathcal{A}_D)$ for some matrix \mathcal{A}_D which lifts \mathcal{A} to D .

(ii) *If in addition ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$, then $\text{Def}_{M/R} \simeq \text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \simeq \text{Def}_{A/R}$ and $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ is formally smooth. Moreover every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} (cf. Definition 2.9).*

Proof. We already know that $\text{Def}_{M/R}(T) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}(T)$ is well-defined (Fitting's lemma) and obviously surjective for any (T, \mathfrak{m}_T) in $\underline{\ell}$. To see the injectivity, let M_i for $i = 1, 2$ represent two elements of $\text{Def}_{M/R}(T)$ mapping to the same element $A_T \in \text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}(T)$. Since M_i , $i = 1, 2$ are cokernels of two morphisms given by matrices $(\mathcal{A}_T)_1$ and $(\mathcal{A}_T)_2$ lifting \mathcal{A} to T , we have $A_T = R_T/I_t((\mathcal{A}_T)_1) = R_T/I_t((\mathcal{A}_T)_2)$, cf. Definition 3.2. To show the injectivity, we may by induction on $r \geq 1$ suppose

$\mathfrak{m}_T^{r+1} = 0$ and $\text{Def}_{M/R}(T/\mathfrak{m}_T^r) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A \in W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}(T/\mathfrak{m}_T^r)$ injective. Noticing that the condition ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ allows us to lift automorphisms of $M_i \otimes_T T/\mathfrak{m}_T^r$ to automorphisms of M_i , it follows from ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = 0$ that the graded deformations M_1 and M_2 represent the *same* element of $\text{Def}_{M/R}(T)$, and the injectivity is proved.

Moreover using $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \simeq \text{Def}_{M/R}$ and Theorem 3.4 we get that $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is pro-representable and formally smooth, whence its pro-representing object H satisfies $H \simeq H(M/R)$ and since H and its “universal family” A_H are algebraizable by the proof of [31, Thm. 5.2] (or use the 2nd paragraph of the proof of Theorem 4.8 of this paper to see that we get a morphism $\mathcal{O}_{\text{GradAlg}(H), (A)} \rightarrow S$, $H \simeq \hat{S}$ with “universal family” $A_S := R_S/I_t(\mathcal{A}_S)$, which extends to open subsets $V \subset U$, of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ respectively with $(A) \in V$ and $\mathcal{O}_{V, (A)} = S$), we get $\dim H = \dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ by Theorem 3.4. The description of its tangent space follows from (3.1) and Definition 3.2 since ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ is the tangent space of $\text{Def}_{A/R}$.

If ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$ then ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \simeq (E_2^{0,1})_0 \simeq {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}_A(M, M))$ by (3.1). Hence the first part of the proof and $A \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}_A(M, M)$ imply that all the injections in

$$(3.5) \quad \text{Def}_{M/R}(D) \hookrightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}(D) \simeq {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A) \hookrightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, \text{Hom}_A(M, M))$$

are isomorphisms of finite dimensional vector spaces. It follows that $\text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$ is an isomorphism since it is bijective on tangent spaces and $\text{Def}_{M/R}$ is formally smooth. Then we conclude the proof by arguing as in the proof of [31, Thm. 5.2]. \square

Remark 3.6. The theorems of this section admit *substantial generalizations* with respect to R being a polynomial ring. Indeed we may let R be any graded quotient of a polynomial ring. The main reason for this is that the spectral sequence of this section, cf. (3.1), Fitting’s lemma and the exactness of the Buchsbaum-Rim complex are valid with almost no assumption on R (but we need to replace the binomials defining λ_c and K_i with their Hilbert functions; the final formula of Theorems 3.4 is, however, valid as stated).

4. THE LOCUS OF DETERMINANTAL K-ALGEBRAS

In this section we generalize [31, Theorems 5.5 and 5.8] concerning dimension and smoothness of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ along $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, to cover the artinian case. Indeed using that Theorem 3.5 extends [31, Thm. 5.2] by only assuming ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and A standard determinantal instead of good determinantal, the generalizations in Theorems 4.1 and 4.6 from good to standard determinantal are rather immediate. In this section we also prove a new result (Theorem 4.8) to cover cases where $\dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \lambda$.

In the first theorem we let, as in [31],

$$\text{ext}^2(M, M) := \dim \ker({}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_R^2(M, M)), \quad \text{cf. (3.1)}.$$

Clearly $\text{ext}^2(M, M) \leq {}_0\text{ext}_A^2(M, M)$, and *note* that we below may replace $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ with $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ if $n-c \geq 1$, cf. the text accompanying (2.1) for explanations and notations.

Theorem 4.1. *Let $A = R/I$, $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal k -algebra, i.e. $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, let $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$ and suppose ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = 0$. Then*

$$\dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda := \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c,$$

cf. Remark 2.6. Moreover, for the codimension of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ in a neighborhood of (A) we have

$$\dim_{(A)} \text{GradAlg}(H) - \dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \leq \dim {}_0\text{Hom}(I, A) - \lambda \leq \text{ext}^2(M, M),$$

where the first inequality is an equality if and only if $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is smooth at (A) . In particular these conclusions hold if $\dim A \geq 3 + \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$, or if $\dim A \geq 2$ and $\dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B}) = 0$ where \mathcal{B} is obtained from \mathcal{A} by deleting some column of \mathcal{A} (e.g. if $\dim A \geq 2$, $a_{i-2} \geq b_i$ for $2 \leq i \leq t$ and A is general).

Proof. The 1st conclusion follows from Theorem 3.5(i). For the statements on the codimension one knows that $\dim_{(A)} \text{GradAlg}(H) \leq \dim {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ with equality if and only if A is unobstructed ([25, Thm. 1.5]). Using (3.1), (3.4) and the injection $A \hookrightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M)$, it follows that ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A) - \lambda \leq \dim (E_2^{0,1})_0 - \lambda = \text{ext}^2(M, M)$, and we get the next conclusion of Theorem 4.1. Now since $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})A} A = \dim A - \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$ and A good determinantal is equivalent to $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})A} A \geq 1$, the final sentence follows directly from [31, Theorem 5.5], and the parenthesis from Remark 2.5. \square

There are many artinian determinantal rings satisfying the conditions ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = 0$ of Theorem 4.1. After having computed many examples using Macaulay 2 the general picture when $a_0 > b_t$ seems to be that the *only* artinian determinantal rings $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ that do not satisfy these conditions are those with matrix \mathcal{A} that is linear except in one column $v \in R_m^{\oplus t}$ where the degree is $m \geq 2$, so \mathcal{A} is of the form $[\mathcal{B}, v]$ where \mathcal{B} is linear. The following example avoids this case, but \mathcal{B} is otherwise quite close to being linear (the case where \mathcal{B} is linear will be considered in Example 4.11). Since the codimension-2 case is straightforward in this context, the first non-trivial case is $c = 3$. We include a codimension-4 example to see that it can be treated similarly.

Example 4.2. (determinantal artinian quotients of R , using Theorem 4.1)

(i) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$ and let $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ be a general 2×4 matrix with linear (resp. quadratic) entries in the first and second (resp. third) column and where the entries of v are polynomials of the same degree m , i.e. the degree matrix of \mathcal{A} is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & m \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & m \end{pmatrix}$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 5, 5, \dots, 5, 5, 3)$, where the number of $5s$ is $m - 1$. For $m \geq 2$ one verifies that the first conditions of Theorem 4.1, i.e. that all conditions of Theorem 3.5(i) hold, and it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible subset of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3$ which is 14 for $m \geq 3$ (or one may use (2.17) to find the dimension). For $m \geq 5$ one shows that ${}_0\text{hom}_A(I/I^2, A) = 16$, and we get that the codimension of $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is at most 2 by Theorem 4.1. The dimensions of the ${}_0\text{Ext}^i$ -groups above are computed by using Macaulay 2 (over the finite fields \mathbb{Z}_{101} , \mathbb{Z}_{701} and \mathbb{Z}_{3001}), and strictly speaking only for $m \leq 10$, from which we clearly see the general pattern also for $m > 10$. Note that the dimensions we found of the ${}_0\text{Ext}^i$ -groups are independent of the characteristic of the fields and since field extensions are flat, they remain unchanged over any field containing one of these three fields. So the conclusions above hold at least when k is the algebraic closure of \mathbb{Z}_p , $p \in \{101, 701, 3001\}$.

(ii) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]$ and let $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ be a general 2×5 matrix with degree matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & m \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & m \end{pmatrix}$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 4, 7, 7, \dots, 7, 4)$, where the number of $7s$ is $m - 1$. For $m \geq 2$ one verifies that

all conditions of Theorem 3.5(i) hold, and we get that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible subset of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_4 + K_3 + K_4$, which is equal to 25 if $m \geq 3$ (or one may use (2.17) to find the dimension). For $m \geq 5$, ${}_0\text{hom}_A(I/I^2, A) = 33$, whence the codimension of $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is at most 8 by Theorem 4.1. The computations of the ${}_0\text{Ext}^i$ -groups are verified by Macaulay 2 for $m \leq 10$ over the fields \mathbb{Z}_{101} , \mathbb{Z}_{701} and \mathbb{Z}_{3001} , but their dimensions are the same for any field containing one of these fields and for $m > 10$.

Remark 4.3. In all examples of this section we have verified the dimensions of those ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^i(M, M)$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^i(I/I^2, A)$, $i \geq 0$ we need to apply Theorems 4.1, 4.6 and 4.8 by using Macaulay 2 over each of the ground fields \mathbb{Z}_p corresponding to $p = 101, 701$ and $p = 3001$. But we have also computed these dimensions for many other values of $p > 10$, and it seems that they are independent of the characteristic of the field.

Sometimes Theorem 4.1 allows us to find the exact codimension of $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$.

Example 4.4. (determinantal artinian quotients of $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$, using Theorem 4.1)

(i) Let \mathcal{A} be a general 2×4 matrix with quadratic (resp. linear) entries in the first (resp. second) row, i.e. with degree matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 6, 4, 1)$. Macaulay 2 computations (cf. Remark 4.3) show that all conditions of Theorem 3.5(i) hold, and it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible subset of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3 = 16$. Moreover we get that A is unobstructed by (2.2). Indeed both ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I/I^2, A) = 0$ (verified by Macaulay 2) and ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(\text{H}_2(R, A, A), A) = 0$; the latter because ${}_v\text{H}_2(R, A, A) \hookrightarrow S_2(I)_v = 0$ for $v < 6$ and the socle degree of A is 4. Since ${}_0\text{hom}_A(I/I^2, A) = 20$ by Macaulay 2, we get by Theorem 4.1 that $\text{codim}_{\text{GradAlg}(H)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = 4$.

(ii) Again $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$, but now \mathcal{A} is a general 3×5 matrix with quadratic (resp. linear) entries in the first (resp. second and third) row. The vanishing of all 3×3 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 6, 10, 5, 1)$. Using Macaulay 2 one verifies that all conditions of Theorem 3.5(i) hold, and we get that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible subset of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3 = 25$. Since ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I/I^2, A) = 0$ by Macaulay 2 and ${}_v\text{H}_2(R, A, A) \hookrightarrow S_2(I)_v = 0$ for $v < 8$, we get ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(\text{H}_2(R, A, A), A) = 0$, whence A is unobstructed by (2.2). Then Theorem 4.1 and ${}_0\text{hom}_A(I/I^2, A) = 40$ (by Macaulay 2) imply that $\text{codim}_{\text{GradAlg}(H)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = 15$.

Remark 4.5. Another possible way of finding the dimension of $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ and its codimension in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$, as well as determining whether $\text{GradAlg}(H_A)$ is smooth at $(A) \in \overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \subset \text{GradAlg}(H_A)$, is to consider some closely related and well-understood family of $\text{GradAlg}(H_B)$ containing a point (B) for which there is a surjection $B \rightarrow A$ of k -algebras whose Hilbert functions satisfy $H_B(v) = H_A(v)$ for every $v \leq s$ and s sufficiently large. Such a comparison is done in [29] when $\dim A \geq 1$, using $B = R/I_t(\mathcal{B})$, $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ and $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$, v a column, cf. Example 4.2. In [28] we explore this approach more generally, e.g. see [28, Thm. 29] for a result where A is artinian in $B \rightarrow A$.

In the case $B = R/I_t(\mathcal{B})$ where $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ and v a column, we generalize in Sec. 6 of this paper several results from [29], see in particular Theorem 6.6 where $\dim A = 1$. It is possible to extend this theorem to A artinian by increasing the set of assumptions in Theorem 6.6, but since this theorem is already quite complicated as stated, we think

Theorem 4.1 is much simpler. It is also an option to replace $B = R/I_t(\mathcal{B})$ by an artinian Gorenstein quotient A_g of B such that $B \rightarrow A$ factors via $A_g \rightarrow A$ and, for $c = 3$, use either [26, Thm. 2.3] or [8, Sec. 5] to compute e.g. $\dim_{(A_g)} \text{GradAlg}(H_{A_g})$. Applying, however, [27, Thm. 1] to $B \rightarrow A_g$ which states that $\text{GradAlg}(H_{A_g})$ and $\text{GradAlg}(H_B)$ are much related, especially when $c = 3$ by [27, Example 28], this latter approach is quite similar (concerning assumptions to be fulfilled) to the approach using $R/I_t(\mathcal{B}) \rightarrow A$.

We have the following generalization of [31, Theorem 5.8] in which the good determinantal assumption ($\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})A} A \geq 1$) is weakened, allowing A to be artinian. *Note* that we below may replace $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ with $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ if $\dim A \geq 2$, cf. (2.1).

Theorem 4.6. *Let $A = R/I$, $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal k -algebra, i.e. $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, let $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$ and suppose ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^i(M, M) = 0$ for $i = 1$ and 2 . Then $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is smooth at (A) and*

$$\dim_{(A)} \text{GradAlg}(H) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c ,$$

(cf. Remark 2.6). *Moreover $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \subset \text{GradAlg}(H)$ is an irreducible component, and every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} . In particular these conclusions hold if $\dim A \geq 4 + \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$, or if $\dim A \geq 3$ and $\dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B}) = 0$ where \mathcal{B} is obtained from \mathcal{A} by deleting some column of \mathcal{A} (e.g. if $\dim A \geq 3$, $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3,t) \leq i \leq t$ and A is general).*

Proof. The first two sentences of conclusions follow from Theorem 3.5 and Lemma 2.10. Moreover since $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})A} A = \dim A - \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$, the final sentence follows directly from [31, Theorem 5.8], and the parenthesis from Remark 2.5. \square

The condition ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$ of Theorem 4.6 seems harder to satisfy for artinian rings, but it holds quite often if \mathcal{A} is not too close to the linear case. Here is an example:

Example 4.7. (determinantal artinian quotients of $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$, using Theorem 4.6)

(i) Let $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ be a general 2×4 matrix with linear (resp. cubic) entries in the first and second (resp. third) column and where the entries of v are polynomials of the same degree m , $m \geq 3$. The degree matrix of \mathcal{A} is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & m \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & m \end{pmatrix}$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 5, 7, 7, \dots, 7, 5, 3)$, where the number of 7 s is $m - 2$. For $m = 3$ and $m \geq 5$ one verifies that all conditions of Theorem 3.5(ii), i.e. the first conditions of Theorem 4.6 hold, and it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3 = 18$ (resp. 17) for $m \geq 5$ (resp. $m = 3$). The computations for the ${}_0\text{Ext}^i$ -groups above are verified by Macaulay 2 for $m \leq 10$ (cf. Remark 4.3), but their dimensions hold also for $m > 10$. One also verifies that ${}_0\text{ext}_A^1(I/I^2, A) = 2$ for $6 \leq m \leq 10$, so both the generic smoothness (cf. (2.2)) along $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ and the conclusion that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ would be hard to see without using Theorem 4.6.

(ii) Let \mathcal{A} be a general 2×4 matrix with degree matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 6, 10, 9, 7, 3, 1)$. Using Macaulay 2 one verifies that all conditions of Theorem 3.5(ii) hold, (i.e. also ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$), and we get that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3 = 29$. In this example ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I/I^2, A) \neq 0$ and ${}_0\text{hom}_A(I/I^2, A) = 29$,

so it is not straightforward to see that A is unobstructed, but it is, due to Theorem 4.6 which also contains additional information.

As indicated it seems that the *only* artinian determinantal rings $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ in the case $a_0 > b_t$ that do not satisfy the conditions of Theorem 3.5(i) are those with a matrix \mathcal{A} that is linear except in one column $v \in R_m^{\oplus t}$ where the degree is $m \geq 2$. Moreover if $m \geq 3$ we may even have

$${}_0\mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k, \quad {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_A^1(M, M) \neq 0 \text{ and } {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0,$$

and the deformation functors of these rings are fully determined by our next Theorem 4.8. For *artinian linear* determinantal rings (i.e. $m = 1$ above) all conditions of Theorem 3.5(ii) seem to hold and even more, they are rigid in several senses: ${}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, A) = 0$, as well as ${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) = 0$, whence the linear case may be not so interesting. Recalling (3.4), i.e. $\lambda := \dim {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c$ and Remark 2.6, we get

Theorem 4.8. *Let $A = R/I$, $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal k -algebra, let $M = \mathrm{coker} \varphi^*$ and suppose ${}_0\mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$. If the map ${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^2(M, M)$ of (3.1) is injective, or weaker, if the tangent map ${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, A)$ of the natural morphism of functors $e_M : \mathrm{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}$ is surjective, then e_M is smooth. Moreover $\mathrm{Def}_{M/A}$ is smooth and its pro-representing object $H(M/A)$ satisfies*

$$\dim H(M/A) = \dim {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = \lambda - \dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}).$$

Furthermore $\mathrm{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}$, $\mathrm{Def}_{A/R}$ is smooth, $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \subset \mathrm{GradAlg}(H)$ is an irreducible component of dimension $\lambda - \dim {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_A^1(M, M)$ and every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} . In particular these conclusions hold if $\dim A \geq 3 + \min\{\dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) + 1, \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})\}$ where \mathcal{B} is obtained from \mathcal{A} by deleting some column of \mathcal{A} (e.g. if $\dim A \geq 3$, $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$ and A is general).

Remark 4.9. We may consider $\mathrm{Def}_{M/A}$ as a fiber functor of $e_M : \mathrm{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}$, using trivial deformations of A . For a description of the obstruction maps of $\mathrm{Def}_{M/A}$ for arbitrary M , see [40, 23]. Note that the assumption ${}_0\mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$ implies the pro-representability of both $\mathrm{Def}_{M/A}$ and $\mathrm{Def}_{M/R}$, cf. end of proof of Theorem 3.4.

Proof. Firstly we observe that the composition of the natural maps:

$${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \xrightarrow{e_M(D)} {}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, A) \hookrightarrow {}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, \mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M)) \simeq (E_2^{0,1})_0$$

described in Lemma 3.3 is just the degree zero part of the map $\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow E_2^{0,1}$ appearing in (3.1). This composition is surjective if and only if the ${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^2$ -map of Theorem 4.8 is injective by (3.1). Since $A \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M)$ is injective, it follows that the injectivity of this ${}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^2$ -map is equivalent to the surjectivity of $e_M(D) : {}_0\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, A)$ and ${}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, A) \simeq {}_0\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, \mathrm{Hom}_A(M, M))$ being bijective.

Let $T \rightarrow S$ be a small artinian surjection with kernel \mathfrak{a} . To prove the (formal) smoothness of $e_M : \mathrm{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}$, we must by definition show that the induced map

$$\mathrm{Def}_{M/R}(T) \rightarrow \mathrm{Def}_{M/R}(S) \times_{\mathrm{Def}_{A/R}(S)} \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}(T)$$

is surjective. Let M_S be an arbitrary fixed deformation of M to S inducing $R_S/I_S \in \mathrm{Def}_{A/R}(S)$, let R_T/I_T be a deformation of R_S/I_S to T and let e_{M_S} be the functor that

takes a deformation $M_T = \text{coker}(\varphi^*)$ of M_S onto the deformation of R_S/I_S defined by the maximal minors of a matrix representing φ . Note that since M is unobstructed, there exists a deformation M'_T of M_S to T inducing a deformation R_T/I'_T of R_S/I_S . The difference “ $R_T/I_T - R_T/I'_T$ ” sits in ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A) \otimes_k \mathfrak{a}$ and since $e_{M_S}(T) \otimes_T id_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is up to isomorphism equal to the surjective map $e_M(D) \otimes_k \mathfrak{a}$ as one may see by the arguments described in the first paragraph of the proof of Lemma 3.3, $e_{M_S}(T) \otimes_T id_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is surjective. Hence there exists an element in ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \otimes_k \mathfrak{a}$ that we can “add” to M'_T to get a deformation M_T of M_S that induces R_T/I_T , i.e. e_M is smooth. It follows that $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ is smooth. We also get that $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}(T) \hookrightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}(T)$ is surjective for any $T \in \text{ob}(\underline{\ell})$, and injective by Definition 3.2, whence an equality, and since $\text{Def}_{M/A}$ is a fiber functor of $\text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$, it follows that $\text{Def}_{M/A}$ is smooth. Hence $\dim H(M/A) = \dim {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$, and we get the displayed dimension formulas of Theorem 4.8 from (3.1) and the surjectivity of ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ provided $\dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = {}_0\text{hom}_R(I, A)$.

If we compare $\text{Def}_{A \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \text{Def}_{A/R}$ with Definition 3.2 we get that every deformation A_T of A to an artinian T comes from deforming \mathcal{A} . To see that we may replace “an artinian T ” by “ T a local ring” in this statement (cf. Definition 2.9) we pick $d := {}_0\text{hom}_R(I, A)$ elements of ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$ that map to linearly independent elements of ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ via the tangent map ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A)$ of e_M , and we let $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_d \in {}_0\text{Hom}(G^*, F^*)$ with presentation matrices $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_d$ correspond to the d elements we picked in ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M)$, cf. the beginning of the proof of Lemma 3.3 for a similar set-up. Let $\mathcal{A}_S := \mathcal{A} + s_1\mathcal{A}_1 + \dots + s_d\mathcal{A}_d$ and $S := k[s_1, \dots, s_d]_{(s_1, \dots, s_d)}$ where $k[s_1, \dots, s_d]$ is a polynomial ring, and let $O := \mathcal{O}_{\text{GradAlg}(H), (A)}$ be the local ring of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ at the k -point $(A) \in \text{GradAlg}(H)$, $k = \bar{k}$. Then the algebraic family $A_S := R_S/I_t(\mathcal{A}_S)$ is S -flat by Lemma 2.8 and e.g. using the explicit description of the pro-representing object $H(A/R)$ of $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ appearing in the proof of Thm. 4.2.4 of [39] to see that *any* deformation of $A_S \otimes_S S/(s_1, \dots, s_d)^2$ to $H(A/R)$ may serve as a versal lifting, we get that $H(A/R)$ equals S with “universal object” A_S (up to completion, but notice that the versal lifting is defined by polynomials, not power series, in s_1, \dots, s_d). Hence, by the universal property of the representable functor that corresponds to $\text{GradAlg}(H)$, there is a morphism $O \rightarrow S$ whose completions are isomorphic because both pro-represents $\text{Def}_{A/R}$ on ℓ ([48, (2,1) and (2.8)]). Thus $O \rightarrow S$ is injective, and since $O/\mathfrak{m}_O^n \simeq S/\mathfrak{m}_S^n$ for every n , it follows that $O \rightarrow S$ is an isomorphism, having $A_O := A_S \otimes_S O$ as the pullback (considered as scheme) of the universal object of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ to $\text{Spec}(O)$. This shows that “every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} ” because the universal property implies that all deformations are given by pullback to $\text{Spec}(T)$ (i.e. by taking tensor product of $O \rightarrow A_O$ via $O \rightarrow T$). Then Lemma 2.10 implies that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \subset \text{GradAlg}(H)$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of dimension d , and in particular we have $\dim W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = {}_0\text{hom}_R(I, A)$.

The argument for the statement in the final sentence is as in the proof of Theorem 4.6 provided $\dim A \geq 4 + \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$. If, however, $\dim A \geq 3 + \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})$ then $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} R/I_t(\mathcal{B}) \geq 4$ and we get ${}_0\text{Ext}_R^2(M, M) = 0$ by [31, Thm. 4.5] and we are done. \square

As a corollary to the 3rd paragraph of the proof, we get that if every graded deformation of A to any local artinian k -algebra comes from deforming \mathcal{A} , then every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} (see Definition 2.9). But the proof implies more:

Corollary 4.10. *Let $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be a standard determinantal k -algebra. If every graded deformation A_D of A to the dual numbers $D := k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$ comes from deforming \mathcal{A} , or equivalently, if the tangent map of the natural morphism $e_M : \text{Def}_{M/R} \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}$,*

$$e_M(D) : \text{Def}_{M/R}(D) = {}_0\text{Ext}_R^1(M, M) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{A/R}(D) = {}_0\text{Hom}_R(I, A) ,$$

is surjective, then every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} .

Proof. Since every graded deformation of M comes from deforming \mathcal{A} by Lemma 2.8, it is clear that “every graded deformation of A to D comes from deforming \mathcal{A} ” is equivalent to the surjectivity of the tangent map $e_M(D)$. Then we get what we want from the proof appearing in the 3rd paragraph of Theorem 4.8 since that part of the proof only requires the surjectivity of $e_M(D)$ and not the condition ${}_0\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq k$. \square

Let us consider two particular cases of artinian rings:

Example 4.11. (determinantal artinian quotients of R , using Theorem 4.8)

(i) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$ and let $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ be a general 2×4 matrix where \mathcal{B} is linear and the entries of v are polynomials of the same degree $m \geq 2$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 3, \dots, 3)$ where the number of 3s is m . Using Macaulay 2 for $3 \leq m \leq 10$ one verifies (cf. Remark 4.3) that all conditions of Theorem 4.8 hold and that ${}_0\text{ext}_A^1(M, M) = 2$, and it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_3 + K_3 - {}_0\text{ext}_A^1(M, M) = 6$ (true also for $m > 10$). If $m = 2$, Theorem 4.8 does not apply because ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \neq 0$. In fact one may verify (Macaulay 2) that all inclusions of (3.5) are strict, i.e. non-isomorphisms.

(ii) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]$ and let $\mathcal{A} = [\mathcal{B}, v]$ be a general 2×5 matrix where \mathcal{B} is linear and the entries of v are polynomials of the same degree $m \geq 2$. The vanishing of all 2×2 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 4, 4, \dots, 4)$, where the number of 4s is m . Using Macaulay 2 for $3 \leq m \leq 10$ one verifies that all conditions of Theorem 4.8 hold and that ${}_0\text{ext}_A^1(M, M) = 4$. By Proposition 2.4 and (2.16), $K_3 = 0, K_4 = 4$ and $\lambda_4 = 12$, and it follows that $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $\lambda_4 + K_3 + K_4 - {}_0\text{ext}_A^1(M, M) = 12$ (true also for $m > 10$).

Remark 4.12. Comparing Theorem 4.8 with Theorem 4.6 we see that the main condition for $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ to be an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H_A)$ is that ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M)$ (or $\text{ext}^2(M, M)$, cf. Theorem 4.1) vanishes; the condition ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(M, M) = 0$ of Theorem 4.6 is in this regard less important. An interesting observation to make to all examples of this section is that ghost terms in the minimal resolution of A appear precisely when ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \neq 0$. Indeed for all A in Examples 4.2 and 4.4 we have ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \neq 0$ (Macaulay 2) as well as ghost terms in the minimal resolution of A while we in Examples 4.7 and 4.11 where $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a component due to ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$, have no ghost terms in the minimal resolution of A . So one may wonder if there is a connection between ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \neq 0$ and the existence of ghost terms for small c in the artinian case (and maybe also when $\dim A \leq 1$, cf. Example 4.13, but not when $\dim A \geq 2$, cf. Example 5.5). Indeed we devote the next section to a study of ghost terms in the Eagon-Northcott resolution (2.5).

For determinantal zero-schemes we showed in [29] that the dimension formula (2.15) fails when (and only when?) \mathcal{A} is a linear matrix consisting of two rows, cf. Remark 2.7(ii). In our next example we use Theorem 4.8 to treat this case.

Example 4.13. (determinantal quotients of $R = k[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_c]$ of dimension one)

Let \mathcal{A} be a general $2 \times (c+1)$ matrix of linear entries. The vanishing all 2×2 minors defines a reduced scheme $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ of $c+1$ general points in \mathbb{P}^c . Since we may suppose A is good determinantal, $\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq A$ by [33, Lem. 3.2], and we have ${}_0\text{ext}_R^1(M, M) = c(c+1) + c - 2$ by Theorem 3.4. In the range $3 \leq c \leq 10$ we use Macaulay 2 to see ${}_0\text{ext}_A^1(M, M) = c - 2$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) = 0$. For $c \leq 10$ we get from Theorem 4.8 that $\overline{W(0, 0; 1, 1, \dots, 1)}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $c(c+1)$ and that every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} .

It is possible to describe $\overline{W(0, 0; 1, 1, \dots, 1)}$ for all $c \geq 2$ without using Macaulay 2. Indeed it is well known that there exists a generically smooth component of the usual Hilbert scheme $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^c)$, of dimension $c(c+1)$, containing an open subset parametrizing $c+1$ reduced points in \mathbb{P}^c . Since the Hilbert function of X is $(\dim A_i) = (1, c+1, c+1, \dots)$, we get $H^1(\mathcal{I}_X(v)) \simeq {}_vH_m^1(A) = 0$ for $v \geq 1$ and hence ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_X, H_m^1(A)) = 0$. $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ is therefore isomorphic to $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^c)$ at (X) by (2.1), and it follows that $\overline{W(0, 0; 1, 1, \dots, 1)}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ of dimension $c(c+1)$.

Theorem 4.8 admits a nice consequence concerning glicciness. Indeed since glicciness is not necessarily an open property, the following result may be useful.

Corollary 4.14. *Let $X = \text{Proj}(A)$, $I_X = I_t(\mathcal{A})$, be a standard determinantal scheme and suppose that ${}_0\text{Hom}_R(I_X, H_m^1(A)) = 0$ and that the map ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^2(M, M) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_R^2(M, M)$ of (3.1) is injective. Then the Hilbert scheme $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ is smooth at (X) and (X) belongs to a unique irreducible component of $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$ whose general element $\tilde{X} \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ is glicci. In particular this conclusion holds if $\dim X \geq 2 + \min\{\dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) + 1, \dim R/I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})\}$ where \mathcal{B} is obtained from \mathcal{A} by deleting some column of \mathcal{A} .*

Proof. Indeed \tilde{X} is standard determinantal by Theorem 4.8 and (2.1) and since standard determinantal schemes are glicci by [32, Thm. 3.6], we are done. \square

Finally we generalize [31, Thm. 5.16] which is about codimension-2 determinantal quotients of an ACM scheme, to cover the artinian case. Below \overline{R} is a Cohen-Macaulay quotient of a polynomial ring (i.e. $\text{Proj}(\overline{R}) \subset \mathbb{P}_k^N$ is ACM) and A is a standard determinantal quotient of \overline{R} , but notice that it is not necessarily a determinantal quotient of $k[x_0, \dots, x_N]$. Moreover letting $\underline{b}, \underline{a}$ be as in (2.4) and $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ observe that, for $\dim A \geq 2$, we may replace $\text{GradAlg}^H(\overline{R})$ by $\text{Hilb}^p(\text{Proj}(\overline{R}))$ since (2.1) extends to hold in this generality by [25, Thm. 3.6, Rem. 3.7]. For the irreducibility and dimension of $\overline{W}_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ in the case $\overline{R} = k[x_0, x_1]$, see also [19, Thms. 2.9, 2.12, 3.13].

Theorem 4.15. *Let $P = \text{Proj}(\overline{R}) \subset \mathbb{P}_k^N$ be an ACM scheme where k is any field and let $X = \text{Proj}(A) \subset P$, $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$, be any standard determinantal scheme of codimension 2 in P . Then $\text{GradAlg}^H(\overline{R})$ is smooth at (A) and $\dim_{(A)} \text{GradAlg}^H(\overline{R}) = \lambda(\overline{R})_2$ where*

$$\lambda(\overline{R})_2 := \sum_{i,j} \dim \overline{R}_{(a_j - b_i)} + \sum_{i,j} \dim \overline{R}_{(b_i - a_j)} - \sum_{i,j} \dim \overline{R}_{(a_i - a_j)} - \sum_{i,j} \dim \overline{R}_{(b_i - b_j)} + 1.$$

Moreover every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} . In particular if $k = \bar{k}$, then $\text{GradAlg}^H(\bar{R})$ is smooth along $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and the closure $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ in $\text{GradAlg}^H(\bar{R})$ is an irreducible component of dimension $\lambda(\bar{R})_2$.

Proof. Since M is a twist of the canonical module of A when $c = 2$, it is well known that ${}^0\text{Ext}_A^i(M, M) = 0$ for $i > 0$ and $\text{Hom}_A(M, M) \simeq A$. We get $\text{Def}_{M/\bar{R}} \simeq \text{Def}_{A/\bar{R}}$ and every statement of the theorem from Theorem 3.5, Lemma 2.10 and Remark 3.6, except the displayed formula. Using, however, the last conclusion of Theorem 3.4, we easily prove the displayed formula, cf. (2.6). Finally note that we have included the assumption $k = \bar{k}$ in the statements of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ for the only reason that $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is by definition a certain locus (of k -points) of $\text{GradAlg}^H(\bar{R})$. \square

So there are no singular points of $\text{GradAlg}^H(\bar{R})$ at $(A) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ when $c = 2$ while singular points of $\text{GradAlg}^H(\bar{R})$ for $c > 2$ are quite common (see [34, Rem. 3.6] and [49]).

5. GHOST TERMS

Let N be a graded R -module with a *minimal* R -free resolution $0 \rightarrow P_\bullet \rightarrow N$. By a ghost term of P_\bullet we mean a direct free summand that appears in consecutive terms of P_\bullet . As in the minimal resolution conjecture ([41, 46], and see [43, 42, 45] and its references for other contributions), one expects that a general element R/I of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ contains “as few ghost terms as possible”, while ghost terms for special elements of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ are more common. Indeed the semicontinuity of graded Betti numbers imply that these numbers decrease under generization (deformation to a more general element), but there may still be ghost terms left in the minimal free resolution of the general element of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$. In this section we shall see that some ghost terms of a determinantal ring R/I easily disappear under generizations while other ghost terms do not. Letting $\underline{a}_i = a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{t+c-2}$ and $\underline{b}_i = b_1, \dots, b_{i-1}, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_t$ we have the following result (allowing $t = 2$, in which case $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_i)$ consists of complete intersections of R).

Proposition 5.1. *Suppose $a_j = b_i$ for some $j \in \{0, t + c - 2\}$ and $i \in \{1, t\}$. Then we have an inclusion $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j) \subset W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ of open irreducible subsets of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$. Moreover if $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \setminus W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j) \neq \emptyset$, then every R/I of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \setminus W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$ admits a generization $(R/I_g) \in W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$ removing exactly all ghost terms in the Eagon-Northcott resolution (2.5) coming from $a_j = b_i$; in particular a resolution of R/I_g of $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$ is given by its Eagon-Northcott resolution.*

Proof. As observed in the proof of Lemma 2.1, the vanishing of $\text{Ext}_R^i(R/I_t(\mathcal{A}), R)$ is an open property. This holds also for the elements $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$, i.e. the subset of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ such that $I_t(\mathcal{A})$ has maximal codimension in R (this subset is $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$) is open. Since it is irreducible by Lemma 2.1, we have proved the open irreducible property stated in Proposition 5.1, and it remains to see the inclusion $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j) \subset W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and the existence of generizations.

We *claim* that the elements $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ whose matrix \mathcal{A} contains a unit of the field k at the (i, j) -entry, belong to $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$. Indeed \mathcal{A} is a presentation matrix of $M = \text{coker } \varphi^*$ and by rearranging the direct summands of the source and target of the morphism φ^* , we may assume $(i, j) = (1, 0)$. By elementary row operations we transform

\mathcal{A} to a matrix with only zeros (and one 1) in the first column, i.e. there is an invertible $t \times t$ matrix \mathcal{C} such that the cokernel of the map induced by $\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A}$ is isomorphic to M . By Fitting's lemma, $I_t(\mathcal{A}) = I_t(\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A})$. Moreover the $(t-1) \times (t+c-2)$ matrix \mathcal{A}' obtained by deleting the first row and column of $\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A}$ satisfies $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}') = I_t(\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A})$ and defines a determinantal ring of $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$, and we have proved the inclusion and the whole *claim* (but taking any $R/I_t(\mathcal{A}')$ of $W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$ and putting $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathcal{A}' \end{pmatrix}$ we get $(R/I_t(\mathcal{A})) \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ which is an easier argument for the inclusion).

Finally to see the existence of the generization of R/I of $W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \setminus W_s(\underline{b}_i; \underline{a}_j)$, $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$, we may assume that \mathcal{A} has a 0 at the (i, j) -entry by the proven claim. Then we apply Lemma 2.8 to $T = k[u]_{\wp}$, $\wp = (u)$, letting $u = 0$ correspond to \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{A}_T to a matrix obtained by replacing the 0 of the (i, j) -entry by u and all other (i', j') -entries by polynomials of $R \otimes k[u]$ of degree $a_{j'} - b_{i'}$ with coefficients in $k[u]$ such that the choice $u = 1$ makes the corresponding matrix general enough. More precisely, with notations as above, i.e. with $(i, j) = (1, 0)$ etc., we may choose the coefficients of the polynomials of the 1. column such that the choice $u = 1$ make the entries equal to 0 for all $(i, 0)$ with $i > 1$ and the entries of \mathcal{A}' general. In some open subset $U \ni \{0, 1\}$ of $\text{Spec}(k[u])$ the ideal $I_t(\mathcal{A}_u)$ of the matrices given by \mathcal{A}_u for $u \in U \setminus \{0\}$ has maximal codimension in R and we are done. \square

Corollary 5.2. *Let $I = I_t(\mathcal{A})$, $R/I \in W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, and suppose that the ideal of submaximal minors $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = R$. Then R/I is a complete intersection of R .*

Proof. Suppose $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = R$. Since the submaximal minors are homogeneous and generate $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A})$, one of the submaximal minors must be a unit, whence at least one of the entries of \mathcal{A} is a unit. Using the notations and the proven claim in the proof above, we have $I_t(\mathcal{A}) = I_t(\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A}) = I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}')$, and we get $I_{t-1}(\mathcal{A}) = I_{t-1}(\mathcal{C} \cdot \mathcal{A}) = I_{t-2}(\mathcal{A}')$ for $t \geq 3$ by the same arguments. Since $I_1(\mathcal{A}')$ is a c.i. of R , we conclude by induction on t . \square

Remark 5.3. The ghost terms treated in Proposition 5.1 are removable under generization, while all other ghost terms appearing in the Eagon-Northcott resolution of $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ may sometimes probably be removed, but not always. Indeed the latter can **not** be removed under generization provided *every graded deformation of $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ comes from deforming \mathcal{A}* because, in this case, $\overline{W_s(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$, whence the minimal resolution of its general element is given by some Eagon-Northcott resolution of $R/I_t(\mathcal{A}')$ with \mathcal{A}' minimal, cf. Example 5.5 below. Note that Theorem 4.6 and Theorem 4.8 give conditions under which every graded deformation of $R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ comes from deforming \mathcal{A} . In particular if $\dim R/I_t(\mathcal{A}) \geq 3$ and $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$, *only* ghost terms as in Proposition 5.1 are removable under generization!

Example 5.4. (removing all ghost terms using Proposition 5.1)

(i) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1]$, let \mathcal{B} be a general 2×3 matrix with linear (resp. quadratic) entries in the first (resp. second) row and let $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ w & \mathcal{B} \end{pmatrix}$ where $u \in k$, v a row of general linear forms and w a column whose transpose is $(0, x_0)$. The vanishing of all 3×3 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 2, 3, 1)$ for every $u \in k$. If I (resp. I_g) is the ideal given by all 3×3 minors of \mathcal{A} with $u = 0$ (resp. $u = 1$), then $(R/I) \in W_s(-2, -1, -1; -1, 0, 0, 0)$ and $(R/I_g) \in W_s(-2, -1; 0, 0, 0)$ and using Macaulay 2 we find minimal resolutions

$$0 \rightarrow R(-5) \oplus R(-4)^2 \rightarrow R(-4) \oplus R(-3)^3 \rightarrow I \rightarrow 0,$$

$$0 \longrightarrow R(-5) \oplus R(-4) \longrightarrow R(-3)^3 \longrightarrow I_g \longrightarrow 0.$$

Here R/I_g is a generalization of R/I in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$.

(ii) Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$, let \mathcal{B} be a general 2×4 matrix with linear (resp. cubic) entries in the first (resp. second) row and let $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ w & \mathcal{B} \end{pmatrix}$ where $u \in k$, v a row of general linear forms and w the column whose transpose is $(0, x_0^2)$. Using Macaulay 2 we get that the vanishing of all 3×3 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 6, 10, 9, 7, 3)$. If I (resp. I_g) is the ideal given by the 3×3 minors of \mathcal{A} with $u = 0$ (resp. $u = 1$), then $(R/I) \in W_s(-3, -1, -1; -1, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ and $(R/I_g) \in W_s(-3, -1; 0, 0, 0, 0)$ and we have minimal resolutions

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\rightarrow R(-10) \oplus R(-8) \oplus R(-6) \rightarrow R(-7)^4 \oplus R(-5)^4 \rightarrow R(-4)^6 \rightarrow I_g \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 &\rightarrow R(-10) \oplus R(-8)^2 \oplus R(-6)^3 \rightarrow R(-8) \oplus R(-7)^4 \oplus R(-6)^2 \oplus R(-5)^8 \rightarrow R(-5)^4 \oplus R(-4)^6 \rightarrow I. \end{aligned}$$

Example 5.5. (removing *some* ghost terms using Proposition 5.1)

Let $R = k[x_0, x_1, x_2]$ and let $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ w & \mathcal{B} \end{pmatrix}$ be as in Example 5.4 (ii) only replacing cubic by quadratic and w^T by $(0, x_0)$. Using Macaulay 2 we get that the vanishing of all 3×3 minors defines an artinian ring with h -vector $(1, 3, 6, 4, 1)$. If I (resp. I_g) is the ideal generated by the 3×3 minors of \mathcal{A} for $u = 0$ (resp. $u = 1$), then $(R/I) \in W_s(-2, -1, -1; -1, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ and $(R/I_g) \in W_s(-2, -1; 0, 0, 0, 0)$ and we have minimal resolutions

$$(5.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow R(-7) \oplus R(-6) \oplus R(-5) \rightarrow R(-5)^4 \oplus R(-4)^4 \rightarrow R(-3)^6 \rightarrow I_g \rightarrow 0,$$

(5.2)

$$0 \rightarrow R(-7) \oplus R(-6)^2 \oplus R(-5)^3 \rightarrow R(-6) \oplus R(-5)^6 \oplus R(-4)^8 \rightarrow R(-4)^4 \oplus R(-3)^6 \rightarrow I \rightarrow 0.$$

Observe that there is still a ghost term in the resolution of I_g . In the artinian case, however, we have seen in Example 4.4 that $\overline{W_s(-2, -1; 0, 0, 0, 0)}$ is not an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$. So there is a possibility for removing this ghost under a generalization to a non-determinantal artinian ring! Indeed M. Boij pointed out in a note he sent me that a general artinian algebra with Hilbert function $(1, 3, 6, 4, 1)$ can be seen as a type two algebra A given by the inverse system (f, g) where $\deg f = 4$ and $\deg g = 3$. Following Boij's note, this algebra has a minimal resolution as in (5.1) with the ghost term $R(-5)$ removed and A is probably a generalization of R/I_g .

On the other hand, we may very well consider the determinantal algebras R/I and R/I_g described above in the polynomial ring $R = k[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$ for $n \geq 5$. This leads to determinantal rings of dimension greater or equal to 3 with minimal resolutions exactly as in (5.1) and (5.2). Thanks to Theorem 4.6, see Remark 5.3, $\overline{W_s(-2, -1; 0, 0, 0, 0)}$ is in this case an irreducible component of $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ (as well as of $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$, up to closure), whence R/I_g has no generalization to non-determinantal rings and the ghost term $R(-5)$ of (5.1) remains a ghost term for the general element of the component.

Finally suppose $c = 2$. Then repeated use of Proposition 5.1 will remove *all* ghost terms in the minimal resolution of I since the transpose of \mathcal{A} is the Hilbert-Burch matrix. This is rather well known (cf. [12, Thm. 2(iii)]); indeed even more precise results are true, see [20] which finds the codimension of all "ghost terms strata" when $\dim A$ is small and A is Cohen-Macaulay. Note that any codimension-2 Cohen-Macaulay quotient R/I is determinantal, so Proposition 5.1 applies to such R/I . If $A = R/I$ is the homogeneous coordinate ring of a codimension-2 scheme X in \mathbb{P}^n , then A is Cohen-Macaulay for $\dim A =$

1 and there are no ghost terms in the minimal resolution of $I := I_X$ for A general. If X is a locally Cohen-Macaulay (ICM) curve in \mathbb{P}^3 and A is not necessarily Cohen-Macaulay, then we can generalize the removal of ghost terms above for codimension-2 quotients to the following.

Proposition 5.6. [30, Thm. 2.8] *Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}^3$ be any ICM curve and let $0 \rightarrow L_4 \xrightarrow{\sigma} L_3 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ be a minimal R -free resolution of the Rao module $M := H_*^1(\mathcal{I}_X)$. By [47] there is a minimal R -free resolution of the following form*

$$0 \rightarrow L_4 \xrightarrow{\sigma \oplus 0} L_3 \oplus P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow I_X \rightarrow 0$$

(i.e. the composition $L_4 \xrightarrow{\sigma \oplus 0} L_3 \oplus P_2 \rightarrow P_2$ is zero). If P_1 and P_2 have a common free summand; $P_2 = P'_2 \oplus R(-i)$, $P_1 = P'_1 \oplus R(-i)$, then there is a generization X' of X in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ with minimal resolution

$$0 \rightarrow L_4 \xrightarrow{\sigma \oplus 0} L_3 \oplus P'_2 \rightarrow P'_1 \rightarrow I_{X'} \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that the statement “a generization X' of X in $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^3)$ with constant postulation” in [30, Thm. 2.8] really means “a generization X' of X in $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ ”. This result applies to a codimension-2 Cohen-Macaulay quotient R/I_X by letting $M = 0$, which implies $L_3 = L_4 = 0$, coinciding with Proposition 5.1 in this case.

6. UPGRADING OF PREVIOUS RESULTS

In this section we generalize main theorems from [29, 34] by using Theorems 4.1 and 4.6 for $\dim A \geq 1$, or more precisely we use that the two conjectures in [34] mentioned in the Introduction now are theorems (for $n - c > 0$). Indeed the previous proofs relied on the part of the conjectures which was proved (in [33]) at the time these papers were written, but we can, using mainly the “same” proofs as in [29, 34], get stronger results (the same conclusions under weaker assumptions). To better understand the proofs presented here, it may be a good idea to consider the corresponding proofs in [29] simultaneously.

We start, however, with [34]. The following theorem was proved in [34, Thm. 3.2] under some assumptions (mainly “ $a_0 > b_t$, $a_{t+3} > a_{t-2}$ and $n - c \geq 0$ ”) and it was in [31, Cor. 5.7] shown to be true in general for $n - c \geq 1$ (under elsewhere weaker assumptions: $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset$ and $a_{i-2} \geq b_i$ for $i \geq 2$). For $n = c$, [34, Thm. 3.2] is still the best result we have with assumptions only on a_j and b_i , and we can immediately generalize it to

Theorem 6.1. *Let $X \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ be a general determinantal scheme of codimension c and suppose $a_0 > b_t$ and $a_{t+c-2} > a_{t-2}$. Then (cf. Remark 2.6)*

$$\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \cdots + K_c.$$

Proof. This follows from [34, Prop. 3.1], see Proposition 6.3(i) below, and [31, Cor. 5.7]. \square

Now, to generalize the main results of [29], we first restate [29, Prop. 3.4]. With notations as in Sec. 2 (i.e. we delete the last column of \mathcal{A} to get \mathcal{A}_{c-1} and the map φ_{c-1} induced by the transpose of \mathcal{A}_{c-1}), let $\mathcal{B} := \mathcal{A}_{c-1}$, $B := R/I_t(\mathcal{B})$ and $N := \text{coker } \varphi_{c-1}^*$. In this section we let $A := R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$ be good determinantal, i.e. $(A) \in W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ where $\underline{a} = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{t+c-2}$, and as previously we assume that *all entries of the deleted column(s)*

belong to \mathfrak{m} . It follows that $(B) \in W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}')$ with $\underline{a}' = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{t+c-3}$ by [2] and the inclusions $I_t(\mathcal{B}) \subset I_t(\mathcal{A}) \subset I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})$. We set $X = \text{Proj}(A)$ and $Y = \text{Proj}(B)$.

Proposition 6.2. *Let $c \geq 3$, let $(X) \in W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ be general and suppose $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}') \geq \lambda_{c-1} + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_{c-1}$ (and $\geq \lambda_2$ if $c = 3$). If*

$$(6.1) \quad {}_0\text{hom}_R(I_Y, I_{X/Y}) \leq \sum_{j=0}^{t+c-3} \binom{a_j - a_{t+c-2} + n}{n},$$

then $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c$. We also get equality in (6.1), as well as

$$\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}') + \dim_k N(a_{t+c-2})_0 - 1 - {}_0\text{hom}_R(I_Y, I_{X/Y}).$$

See [29, Prop. 3.4] for a proof, and notice that since $\dim A \geq 1$ and X is general in $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$, the assumption $\text{depth}_{I(Z)} B \geq 2$ of [29, Prop. 3.4] holds letting $Z := V(I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B}))$.

Then [34, Prop. 3.1] is mainly (i) in the following.

Proposition 6.3. (i) *If $a_0 > b_t$ and $a_{t+c-2} > a_{t-2}$, then (6.1) holds for X general.*

(ii) *If ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^i(N, B(-a_{t+c-2})) = 0$ for $i = 1$ and 2, then (6.1) holds. In particular (6.1) holds provided $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 3$ (and $\text{Ext}_B^1(N, B) = 0$ provided $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 2$).*

Proof. (ii) The arguments we apply in the proof are very similar to those needed in (3.1), (3.2) and (3.3) to get related statements, except that we now use the spectral sequence $E_2^{p,q} := \text{Ext}_B^p(\text{Tor}_q^R(B, N), B) \Rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^{p+q}(N, B)$ and its corresponding 5-term exact sequence. Indeed due to assumptions and (2.10) we get isomorphisms

$${}_v\text{Ext}_R^1(N, B) \simeq (E_2^{0,1})_v \simeq {}_v\text{Hom}_R(I_Y, \text{Hom}_B(N, B)) \simeq {}_v\text{Hom}_R(I_Y, I_{X/Y}(a_{t+c-2}))$$

for $v = -a_{t+c-2}$. Moreover as in (3.3), cf. (2.7), we get for this v the exact sequence

$$(6.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow {}_v\text{Hom}_R(N, B) \rightarrow {}_v\text{Hom}_R(F^*, B) \rightarrow {}_v\text{Hom}_R(G_{c-1}^*, B) \rightarrow {}_v\text{Ext}_R^1(N, B) \rightarrow 0$$

where ${}_v\text{Hom}_R(F^*, B) \simeq \bigoplus_{i=1}^t B_{(b_i+v)} = 0$ and ${}_v\text{hom}_R(G_{c-1}^*, B) \simeq \dim(\bigoplus_{j=0}^{t+c-3} B_{(a_j+v)}) = \sum_{j=0}^{t+c-3} \binom{a_j - a_{t+c-2} + n}{n}$. This implies (6.1).

The above arguments are used in [35, Rem. 3.4] and the proof of [35, Prop. 3.5] from which we get (6.1) under the assumption $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 4$. To see that we can weaken the depth assumption to $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 3$, we really need to refine the argument. Following, however, the proof of [31, Thm. 4.5] exactly as in the paragraph after (4.3) in [31], we get $\text{Ext}_B^i(N, B) = 0$ for $i = 1$ and 2 (resp. for $i = 1$) under the assumption $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 3$ (resp. $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(\mathcal{B})} B \geq 2$), and we are done. \square

Remark 6.4. Using Propositions 6.2 and 6.3(ii) one may reprove the dimension formula $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + K_4 + \dots + K_c$ of Theorem 4.1 in the case $n - c \geq 1$, $a_{i-2} \geq b_i$ for $i \geq 2$ and $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) \neq \emptyset$ by using the recursive strategy of successively deleting columns of \mathcal{A} from the right-hand side, see Introduction and Remark 2.6. In [35] we pointed out that [35, Cor. 3.19] shows that the recursive strategy also applies to reprove the generic smoothness of $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ of Theorem 4.6 in the case $n - c \geq 2$ and $a_0 \geq b_t$ (due to Remark 2.5, the latter assumption may here be weakened to $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$). This means that we have two rather different proofs for the two conjectures of [34].

With the above propositions we start by considering determinantal curves. In this and later results we denote by $\tau_{X/Y}$ the following morphism induced by $I_{X/Y} \hookrightarrow B$:

$$\tau_{X/Y} : {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, I_{X/Y}) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, B).$$

A key result of [29] (Prop. 4.6) shows that if $\ker \tau_{X/Y} = 0$, $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(B)} B \geq 3$ and X good determinantal, then the property “every deformation of a determinantal scheme comes from deforming the matrix” is transferred from Y to X . Recalling that $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c$ is now a theorem when $n - c = 1$, the following result generalizes [29, Prop. 4.15] to arbitrary $c \geq 3$. (For $c = 2$ we have a more complete result with stronger conclusions in Theorem 4.15).

Proposition 6.5. *Let $X = \text{Proj}(A) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$, $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$, be general in $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and suppose $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3,t) \leq i \leq t$, $c \geq 3$ and $\dim X = n - c = 1$. If $Y = \text{Proj}(B)$ is defined by the vanishing of the maximal minors of the matrix obtained by deleting the last column of \mathcal{A} , then the following statements hold:*

(i) *If $\tau_{X/Y} : {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, I_{X/Y}) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, B)$ is injective, then X is unobstructed and $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)$. Moreover every deformation of X comes from deforming \mathcal{A} .*

(ii) *If ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I_X/I_X^2, A) = 0$, then X is unobstructed, and*

$$\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y} - {}_0\text{ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A).$$

(iii) *We always have*

$$(6.3) \quad \text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^p(\mathbb{P}^n)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \leq \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y}.$$

Moreover if ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A) = 0$, then we have equality in (6.3) if and only if X is unobstructed.

Proof. Thanks to Proposition 6.3(ii) the proof is the “same” as for [29, Prop. 4.15]. Indeed for (i) we apply Theorem 4.6 onto $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}') \ni (Y)$ instead of the corresponding result of [29] which required $c - 1 \leq 4$ and we get (i) from [29, Thm. 4.6] and Lemma 2.10. For (ii) and (iii) we need the final dimension formula of Proposition 6.2 to use the proof of [29]. Using Proposition 6.3(ii) we get the mentioned dimension formula and we are done. \square

We consider now zero dimensional determinantal schemes ($n - c = 0$). In this case we also need to consider the morphism

$$(6.4) \quad \rho^1 := \rho_{X/Y}^1 : {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, I_{X/Y}) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, B)$$

induced by $I_{X/Y} \hookrightarrow B$. In addition to [29, Prop. 4.6] which states that $\ker \tau_{X/Y} = 0$, $\ker \rho^1 = 0$ and $\text{depth}_{I_{t-1}(B)} B = 2$ transfer the property “every deformation of a determinantal ring comes from deforming the matrix” from B (or Y) to A , we need a variation of [29, Prop. 4.6] which don’t require $\ker \rho^1 = 0$ (see [29, Prop. 4.13] for the details). Below we generalize [29, Thm. 4.19] by replacing the assumption $4 \leq c \leq 6$ in [29, Thm. 4.19] by $c \geq 4$. Note that we denote $\text{GradAlg}(H)$ by $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)$ since $\dim A = 1$, cf. the text before (2.1) and see Remark 2.6 for computing $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$. We refer to [29] for examples.

Theorem 6.6. *Let $X = \text{Proj}(A) \subset \mathbb{P}^n$, $A = R/I_t(\mathcal{A})$, be general in $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ and let $Y = \text{Proj}(B)$ and $V = \text{Proj}(C)$ be defined by the vanishing of the maximal minors of \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{C} respectively where \mathcal{B} (resp. \mathcal{C}) is obtained by deleting the last column of \mathcal{A} (resp. \mathcal{B}). Suppose $\dim X = n - c = 0$, $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$ and suppose that (6.1) (cf. Proposition 6.3) holds. Moreover suppose*

$$\text{either } c = 3 \text{ or } [c \geq 4 \text{ and } \ker \tau_{Y/V} = 0].$$

Then $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c$ and the following statements are true:

(i) *If both $\rho^1 : {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, I_{X/Y}) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, B)$ and $\overline{\tau_{X/Y}} : {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, I_{X/Y}) \rightarrow {}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, B)$ are injective, then A is unobstructed and $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ is a generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)$. Moreover every deformation of A comes from deforming \mathcal{A} .*

(ii) *If ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A) = 0$ and $\ker \tau_{X/Y} = 0$, then $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ belongs to a unique generically smooth irreducible component Q of $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)$ and the codimension of $\overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})}$ in $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)$ is $\dim \ker \rho^1$. Indeed A is unobstructed and*

$$\dim Q = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c + \dim \ker \rho^1.$$

(iii) *If ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I_X/I_X^2, A) = 0$, then A is unobstructed and*

$$\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \dim \ker \rho^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y} - {}_0\text{ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A).$$

(iv) *We always have $\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \leq \dim \ker \rho^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y}$.*

Suppose ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A) = 0$. Then we have

$$\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^n)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \dim \ker \rho^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y}$$

if and only if A is unobstructed.

Proof. Using Proposition 6.2 we get $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c$ because Theorem 4.1 applies to $(B) \in W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}')$ to find $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}')$ where $\underline{a}' = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{t+c-3}$. Then, due to [29, Prop. 4.6 and Prop. 4.13] the proof of the theorem is “the same” as the proof of [29, Thm. 4.19] since we already have generalized [29, Prop. 4.15] to Proposition 6.5 of this paper to cover determinantal curves Y of arbitrary codimension $c \geq 3$. Note also that we have to delete a column of \mathcal{B} (thus defining V) when we apply Proposition 6.5 to Y . \square

Remark 6.7. Looking at the proofs we see that we don’t need to suppose (6.1) to get (the part of the) conclusions of (i) and (ii) that don’t involve dimension and codimension formulas. Moreover note the overlap in (ii) and (iv) of the theorem.

Using again the variation [29, Prop. 4.13] we generalize [29, Prop. 4.24] to the following.

Proposition 6.8. *With notations as in the first sentence of Theorem 6.6, suppose $c \geq 4$, $\dim X = n - c = 0$ and X general, $a_{i-\min(3,t)} \geq b_i$ for $\min(3, t) \leq i \leq t$ and suppose that (6.1) holds. Then $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c$ (cf. Remark 2.6), and the following statements are true:*

(i) *If ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A) = 0$, ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, I_{X/Y}) = 0$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_Y/I_Y^2, B) = 0$ then A is unobstructed. Moreover $W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})$ is contained in a unique generically smooth irreducible component of $\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^c)$ of codimension $\dim \ker \rho_{X/Y}^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{Y/V} - {}_0\text{ext}_C^1(I_{Y/V}, B)$.*

(ii) We always have $\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^c)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} \leq \dim \ker \rho_{X/Y}^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y} + \dim \ker \tau_{Y/V}$. Suppose ${}_0\text{Ext}_B^1(I_{X/Y}, A) = 0$ and ${}_0\text{Ext}_C^1(I_{Y/V}, B) = 0$. Then we have

$$\text{codim}_{\text{Hilb}^H(\mathbb{P}^c)} \overline{W(\underline{b}; \underline{a})} = \dim \ker \rho_{X/Y}^1 + \dim \ker \tau_{X/Y} + \dim \ker \tau_{Y/V}$$

if and only if A is unobstructed (e.g. ${}_0\text{Ext}_A^1(I_X/I_X^2, A) = 0$).

Proof. Again we have $\dim W(\underline{b}; \underline{a}) = \lambda_c + K_3 + \dots + K_c$ by Proposition 6.2. Since Proposition 6.5 applies for every $c \geq 3$ we can use the proof of [29, Prop. 4.24] to get Proposition 6.8. Indeed we use Proposition 6.5(ii) and [29, Prop. 4.13] to get (i) above while we use the proof of Proposition 6.5(iii) to get (ii) (see [29] for details). \square

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