

# ORDINARY VARIETIES AND THE COMPARISON BETWEEN MULTIPLIER IDEALS AND TEST IDEALS II

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**ABSTRACT.** We consider the following conjecture: if  $X$  is a smooth  $n$ -dimensional projective variety over a field  $k$  of characteristic zero, then there is a dense set of reductions  $X_s$  to positive characteristic such that the action of the Frobenius morphism on  $H^n(X_s, \mathcal{O}_{X_s})$  is bijective. We also consider the conjecture relating the multiplier ideals of an ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  on a nonsingular variety in characteristic zero, and the test ideals of the reductions of  $\mathfrak{a}$  to positive characteristic. We prove that the latter conjecture implies the former one.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This note is motivated by the joint paper with V. Srinivas [MS], aimed at understanding the following conjecture relating invariants of singularities in characteristic zero with corresponding invariants in positive characteristic. For a discussion of the notions involved, see below.

**Conjecture 1.1.** *Let  $Y$  be a nonsingular variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero, and  $\mathfrak{a}$  a nonzero ideal on  $Y$ . Given any model  $Y_A$  and  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  for  $Y$  and  $\mathfrak{a}$  over a subring  $A$  of  $k$ , finitely generated over  $\mathbf{Z}$ , there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subset \text{Spec } A$  such that*

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{J}(Y, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)_s = \tau(Y_s, \mathfrak{a}_s^\lambda)$$

for every  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$  and every  $s \in S$ .

In the conjecture, we denote by  $Y_s$  the fiber of  $Y_A$  over  $s \in S$ , and  $\mathfrak{a}_s$  is the ideal on  $Y_s$  induced by  $\mathfrak{a}_A$ . The ideals  $\mathcal{J}(Y, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$  are the multiplier ideals of  $\mathfrak{a}$ . These are fundamental invariants of the singularities of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , that have seen a lot of recent applications due to their appearance in vanishing theorems (see [Laz, Chapter 9]). The ideals  $\tau(Y_s, \mathfrak{a}_s^\lambda)$  are the (generalized) test ideals of Hara and Yoshida [HY], defined in positive characteristic using the Frobenius morphism. The above conjecture asserts therefore that for a dense set of closed points, we have the equality between the test ideals of  $\mathfrak{a}$  and the reductions of the multiplier ideals of  $\mathfrak{a}$  for *all* exponents. We note that it is shown in [HY] that if  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$  is fixed, then the equality in (1) holds for every  $s$  is an open subset of the closed points in  $\text{Spec } A$ .

The following conjecture was proposed in [MS].

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**Conjecture 1.2.** *Let  $X$  be a smooth, irreducible  $n$ -dimensional projective variety defined over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero. If  $X_A$  is a model of  $X$  defined over a subring  $A$  of  $k$ , finitely generated over  $\mathbf{Z}$ , then there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subseteq \text{Spec } A$  such that the Frobenius action on  $H^n(X_s, \mathcal{O}_{X_s})$  is bijective for every  $s \in S$ .*

It is expected, in fact, that there is a set  $S$  as in Conjecture 1.2 such that  $X_s$  is ordinary in the sense of Bloch and Kato [BK] for every  $s \in S$ . In particular, this would imply that the action of the Frobenius on each cohomology group  $H^i(X_s, \mathcal{O}_{X_s})$  is bijective (see [MS, Remark 5.1]). The main result of [MS] was that Conjecture 1.2 implies Conjecture 1.1. In this note we show that the converse is true:

**Theorem 1.3.** *If Conjecture 1.1 holds, then so does Conjecture 1.2.*

The following is an outline of the proof. Given a variety  $X$  as in Conjecture 1.2, we embed it in a projective space  $\mathbf{P}_k^N$  such that  $r := N - n \geq n + 1$ , and the ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq k[x_0, \dots, x_N]$  defining  $X$  is generated by quadrics. In this case it is easy to compute the multiplier ideals  $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$  for  $\lambda < r$ , and in particular we see that  $(x_0, \dots, x_N)^{2r-N-1} \subseteq \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$  for every  $\lambda < r$ . It follows from a general property of multiplier ideals that if  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  are general linear combinations of a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , and if  $h = g_1 \cdots g_r$ , then  $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, h^{\lambda/r})$  for every  $\lambda < r$ . In this case, Conjecture 1.1 implies that for a dense set of closed points  $s \in \text{Spec } A$ , the ideal  $(x_0, \dots, x_N)^{2r-N-1}$  is contained in  $\tau(\mathbf{A}_{k(s)}^{N+1}, h_s^\mu)$  for every  $\mu < 1$ . Using some basic properties of test ideals, we deduce that the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-1}(D_s, \mathcal{O}_{D_s})$  is bijective, where  $D_s \subset \mathbf{P}_{k(s)}^N$  is the hypersurface defined by  $h_s$ . We show that this in turn implies the bijectivity of the Frobenius action on  $H^n(X_s, \mathcal{O}_{X_s})$ , hence proves the theorem.

## 2. PROOF OF THE MAIN RESULT

We start by recalling the definition of multiplier ideals and test ideals. Suppose first that  $Y$  is a nonsingular variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero, and  $\mathfrak{a}$  is a nonzero ideal on  $Y$ . A *log resolution* of  $\mathfrak{a}$  is a projective, birational morphism  $\pi: W \rightarrow Y$ , with  $W$  nonsingular, such that  $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_W$  is the ideal of a divisor  $D$  on  $W$ , with  $D + K_{W/Y}$  having simple normal crossings (recall that  $K_{W/Y}$  denotes the relative canonical divisor of  $W$  over  $Y$ ). With this notation, for every  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$  we have

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{J}(Y, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \pi_* \mathcal{O}_W(K_{W/Y} - \lfloor \lambda D \rfloor).$$

Recall that if  $E = \sum_i a_i E_i$  is a divisor with  $\mathbf{R}$ -coefficients, then  $\lfloor E \rfloor = \sum_i \lfloor a_i \rfloor E_i$ , where  $\lfloor t \rfloor$  is the largest integer  $\leq t$ . It is a well-known fact that the above definition is independent of the choice of log resolution. For this and other basic facts about multiplier ideals, see [Laz, Chapter 9].

Suppose now that  $Y = \text{Spec } R$  is an affine nonsingular scheme of finite type over a perfect field  $L$  of positive characteristic  $p$  (in the case of interest for us,  $L$  will be a finite field). Under these assumptions, the test ideals admit the following simpler description, that we will use, see [BMS2]. Recall that for an ideal  $J$  and for  $e \geq 1$ , one denotes by

$J^{[p^e]}$  the ideal  $(h^{p^e} \mid h \in J)$ . One can show that given an ideal  $\mathfrak{b}$  in  $R$ , there is a unique smallest ideal  $J$  such that  $\mathfrak{b} \subseteq J^{[p^e]}$ ; this ideal is denoted by  $\mathfrak{b}^{[1/p^e]}$ .

Suppose now that  $\mathfrak{a}$  is an ideal in  $R$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$ . One can show that for every  $e \geq 1$  we have the inclusion

$$(\mathfrak{a}^{[\lambda p^e]})^{[1/p^e]} \subseteq (\mathfrak{a}^{[\lambda p^{e+1}]})^{[1/p^{e+1}]},$$

where  $[t]$  denotes the smallest integer  $\geq t$ . Since  $R$  is Noetherian, it follows that  $(\mathfrak{a}^{[\lambda p^e]})^{[1/p^e]}$  is constant for  $e \gg 0$ . This is the test ideal  $\tau(Y, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)$ . For details and a discussion of basic properties of test ideals in this setting, we refer to [BMS2]. For a comparison of general properties of multiplier ideals and test ideals, see [HY] and [MY].

If  $\mathfrak{a}$  is an ideal in the polynomial ring  $k[x_0, \dots, x_N]$ , where  $k$  is a field of characteristic zero, a *model* of  $\mathfrak{a}$  over a subring  $A$  of  $k$ , finitely generated over  $\mathbf{Z}$ , is an ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  in  $A[x_0, \dots, x_N]$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}_A \cdot k[x_0, \dots, x_N] = \mathfrak{a}$ . We can obtain such a model by simply taking  $A$  to contain all the coefficients of a finite system of generators of  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Of course, we may always replace  $A$  by a larger ring with the same properties; in particular, we may replace  $A$  by a localization  $A_a$  at a nonzero element  $a \in A$ . If  $s \in \text{Spec } A$  and if  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  is a model of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , then we obtain a corresponding ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_s$  in  $k(s)[x_0, \dots, x_N]$ . Note that if  $s$  is a closed point, then the residue field  $k(s)$  is a finite field.

Suppose now that  $X \subseteq \mathbf{P}_k^N$  is a projective subscheme defined by the homogeneous ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq k[x_0, \dots, x_N]$ . If  $\mathfrak{a}_A \subseteq A[x_0, \dots, x_N]$  is a model of  $\mathfrak{a}$  over  $A$ , which we may assume homogeneous, then the subscheme  $X_A$  of  $\mathbf{P}_A^N$  defined by  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  is a model of  $X$  over  $A$ . If  $s \in \text{Spec } A$ , then the subscheme  $X_s \subseteq \mathbf{P}_{k(s)}^N$  is defined by the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_s$ . We refer to [MS, §2.2] for some of the standard facts about reduction to positive characteristic. We note that given  $\mathfrak{a}$  as above, we may consider simultaneously all the reductions  $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda)_s$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$ . This is due to the fact that for bounded  $\lambda$  we only have to deal with finitely many ideals, while for  $\lambda \gg 0$ , the multiplier ideals are determined by the lower ones via a Skoda-type theorem (see [MS, §3.2] for details).

We can now give the proof of our main result stated in Introduction.

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* Let  $X$  be a smooth, irreducible  $n$ -dimensional projective variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero, with  $n \geq 1$ . It is clear that the assertion we need is independent on the model  $X_A$  that we choose. Consider a closed embedding  $X \hookrightarrow \mathbf{P}_k^N$ . After replacing this by a composition with a  $d$ -uple Veronese embedding, for  $d \gg 0$ , we may assume that the saturated ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R = k[x_0, \dots, x_N]$  defining  $X$  is generated by homogeneous polynomials of degree two (see [ERT, Proposition 5]). Furthermore, we may clearly assume that  $r := N - n \geq n + 1$ . Under these assumptions, it is easy to determine the multiplier ideals of  $\mathfrak{a}$  of exponent  $< r$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *With the above notation, if  $\mathfrak{m} = (x_0, \dots, x_N)$ , then*

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \begin{cases} R, & \text{if } 0 \leq \lambda < \frac{N+1}{2}; \\ \mathfrak{m}^{[2\lambda]-N}, & \text{if } \frac{N+1}{2} \leq \lambda < r. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let us fix  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{\geq 0}$ , with  $\lambda < r$ . We denote by  $Z$  the subscheme of  $\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}$  defined by  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Let  $\varphi: W \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}$  be the blow-up of the origin, with  $E$  the exceptional divisor. Since  $\mathfrak{a}$  is generated by homogeneous polynomials of degree two, it follows that  $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_W = \mathcal{O}_W(-2E) \cdot \tilde{\mathfrak{a}}$ , where  $\tilde{\mathfrak{a}}$  is the ideal defining the strict transform  $\tilde{Z}$  of  $Z$  on  $W$ . We have  $K_{W/\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}} = NE$ , hence the change of variable formula for multiplier ideals (see [Laz, Theorem 9.2.33]) implies

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \varphi_* (\mathcal{J}(W, (\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_W)^\lambda) \otimes \mathcal{O}_W(NE)).$$

It is clear that  $\tilde{Z}$  is nonsingular over  $\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1} \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $\tilde{Z} \cap E \subseteq E \simeq \mathbf{P}^N$  is isomorphic to the scheme  $X$ , hence it is nonsingular, it follows that  $\tilde{Z}$  is nonsingular, and  $\tilde{Z}$  and  $E$  have simple normal crossings. Let  $\psi: \tilde{W} \rightarrow W$  be the blow-up of  $W$  along  $\tilde{Z}$ , with exceptional divisor  $F$ , and let  $\tilde{E}$  be the strict transform of  $E$ . Note that  $\tilde{W}$  is nonsingular, and  $\tilde{E} + F$  has simple normal crossings. We have  $K_{\tilde{W}/W} = (r-1)F$  and  $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{W}} = \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{W}}(-2\tilde{E} - F)$ . Therefore  $\psi$  is a log resolution of  $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_W$ , and by definition we have

$$(4) \quad \mathcal{J}(W, (\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathcal{O}_W)^\lambda) = \psi_*(\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{W}}(-([\lambda] - r + 1)F - [2\lambda]\tilde{E})) = \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_W(-[2\lambda]E)$$

(recall that  $\lambda < r$ ). The formula in the lemma follows from (3), (4), and the fact that  $\varphi_*(\mathcal{O}_W(-iE)) = \mathfrak{m}^i$  for every  $i \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .  $\square$

Let  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  be a system of generators of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , with each  $f_i$  homogeneous of degree two. If  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  are linear combinations of the  $f_i$  with coefficients in  $k$ , and if  $h = g_1 \cdots g_r$ , then

$$(5) \quad \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, \mathfrak{a}^\lambda) = \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, h^{\lambda/r})$$

for every  $\lambda < r$  (see [Laz, Proposition 9.2.28]).

Suppose now that  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  and  $h_A$  are homogeneous models of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , and respectively  $h$ , over  $A$ . Let  $X_A, D_A \subset \mathbf{P}_A^N$  be the projective schemes defined by  $\mathfrak{a}_A$  and  $h_A$ , respectively. Note that  $g_1, \dots, g_r$  being general linear combinations of the  $f_i$ , the subscheme  $V(g_1, \dots, g_r) \subset \mathbf{P}_k^N$  has pure codimension  $r$ . Therefore we may assume that for every  $s \in \text{Spec } A$ , the scheme  $V((g_1)_s, \dots, (g_r)_s)$  has pure codimension  $r$  in  $\mathbf{P}_{k(s)}^N$ . We need to show that given models as above, there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subset \text{Spec } A$  such that the Frobenius action on  $H^n(X_s, \mathcal{O}_{X_s})$  is bijective for every  $s \in S$ . The next lemma shows that in fact, it is enough to find  $S$  as above such that the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-1}(D_s, \mathcal{O}_{D_s})$  is bijective for all  $s \in S$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $L$  be a finite field, and  $D_1, \dots, D_r$  hypersurfaces in  $\mathbf{P}^N = \mathbf{P}_L^N$  such that the intersection scheme  $Y = D_1 \cap \dots \cap D_r$  has pure codimension  $r$  in  $\mathbf{P}^N$ . If the Frobenius acts bijectively on  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D)$ , where  $D = \sum_{i=1}^r D_i$ , then for every closed subscheme  $X$  of  $Y$ , the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-r}(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is bijective.*

*Proof.* For every subset  $J \subseteq \{1, \dots, r\}$ , let  $D_J = \bigcap_{j \in J} D_j$ . By assumption,  $Y$  is a complete intersection, hence there is an exact complex

$$\mathcal{C}^\bullet : 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^0 \xrightarrow{d^0} \mathcal{C}^1 \xrightarrow{d^1} \dots \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} \mathcal{C}^r \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\mathcal{C}^0 = \mathcal{O}_D$ , and  $\mathcal{C}^m = \bigoplus_{|J|=m} \mathcal{O}_{D_J}$  for  $m \geq 1$ . Note that we have a morphism of complexes  $\mathcal{C}^\bullet \rightarrow F_*(\mathcal{C}^\bullet)$ , where  $F$  is the absolute Frobenius morphism on  $X$ . It follows that if we break-up  $\mathcal{C}^\bullet$  into short exact sequences, the maps in the corresponding long exact sequences for cohomology are compatible with the Frobenius action.

Let  $\mathcal{M}^i = \text{Im}(d^i)$ , hence  $\mathcal{M}^0 \simeq \mathcal{C}^0 = \mathcal{O}_D$  and  $\mathcal{M}^{r-1} = \mathcal{C}^r = \mathcal{O}_Y$ . Since each  $D_J$  is a complete intersection in  $\mathbf{P}^N$ , it follows that  $H^i(D_J, \mathcal{O}_{D_J}) = 0$  for every  $i$  with  $1 \leq i < \dim(D_J) = N - |J|$ . We deduce that for every  $i$  with  $0 \leq i \leq r - 2$ , the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^i \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{i+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{i+1} \rightarrow 0$$

gives an exact sequence

$$0 = H^{N-i-2}(\mathbf{P}^N, \mathcal{C}^{i+1}) \rightarrow H^{N-i-2}(\mathbf{P}^N, \mathcal{M}^{i+1}) \rightarrow H^{N-i-1}(\mathbf{P}^N, \mathcal{M}^i).$$

Therefore we have a sequence of injective maps

$$H^{N-r}(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \hookrightarrow H^{N-r+1}(\mathbf{P}^N, \mathcal{M}^{r-2}) \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow H^{N-2}(\mathbf{P}^N, \mathcal{M}^1) \hookrightarrow H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D),$$

compatible with the Frobenius action. Since this action is bijective on  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D)$  by hypothesis, it follows that it is bijective also on  $H^{N-r}(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  (see, for example, [MS, Lemma 2.4]).

On the other hand, since  $\dim(Y) = N - r$ , the surjection  $\mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$  induces a surjection  $H^{N-r}(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \rightarrow H^{N-r}(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ , compatible with the Frobenius action. As we have seen, the Frobenius action is bijective on  $H^{N-r}(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ , hence on every quotient (see [MS, Lemma 2.4]). This completes the proof of the lemmas.  $\square$

Returning to the proof of Theorem 1.3, we see that it is enough to show that there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subset \text{Spec } A$  such that Frobenius acts bijectively on  $H^{N-1}(D_s, \mathcal{O}_{D_s})$  for  $s \in S$ . We assume that Conjecture 1.1 holds, hence there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subset \text{Spec } A$  such that  $\tau(\mathbf{A}_{k(s)}^{N+1}, h_s^\lambda) = \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}, h^\lambda)_s$  for every  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}_{>0}$  and every  $s \in S$ . In particular, it follows from Lemma 2.1 and (5) that  $(x_0, \dots, x_N)^{2r-N-1} \subseteq \tau(\mathbf{A}_{k(s)}^{N+1}, h_s^\lambda)$  for every  $\lambda < 1$ . Since  $\deg(h_s) = 2r \geq (N+1)$ , Proposition 2.3 below implies that the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-1}(D_s, \mathcal{O}_{D_s})$  is bijective for all  $s \in S$ . As we have seen, this completes the proof of Theorem 1.3.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $L$  be a perfect field of characteristic  $p > 0$ , and  $h \in R = L[x_0, \dots, x_N]$  a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $d \geq N + 1$ , with  $N \geq 2$ . If  $(x_0, \dots, x_N)^{d-N-1} \subseteq \tau(\mathbf{A}_L^{N+1}, h^{1-\frac{1}{p}})$ , then the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D)$  is bijective, where  $D \subset \mathbf{P}_L^N$  is the hypersurface defined by  $h$ .*

*Proof.* In the case  $d = N + 1$ , this is a reformulation of a well-known fact due to Fedder [Fe]. We follow the argument from [MTW, Proposition 2.16], that extends to our more general setting. It is enough to show that the Frobenius action on  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D)$  is injective (see [MS, §2.1]).

Note first that  $\tau(\mathbf{A}_L^{N+1}, h^{1-\frac{1}{p}}) = (h^{p-1})^{[1/p]}$  (see [BMS1, Lemma 2.1]), hence by assumption  $\mathfrak{m}^{d-N-1} \subseteq (h^{p-1})^{[1/p]}$ , where  $\mathfrak{m} = (x_0, \dots, x_N)$ . It is convenient to use the interpretation of the ideal  $(g^{p-1})^{[1/p]}$  in terms of local cohomology. Let  $E = H_{\mathfrak{m}}^{N+1}(R)$ .

Recall that this is a graded  $R$ -module, carrying a natural action of the Frobenius, that we denote by  $F_E$ . There is an isomorphism

$$E \simeq R_{x_0 \cdots x_N} / \sum_{i=0}^N R_{x_0 \cdots \widehat{x}_i \cdots x_N}.$$

Via this isomorphism,  $F_E$  is induced by the Frobenius morphism on  $R_{x_0 \cdots x_N}$ .

The annihilator of  $(h^{p-1})^{[1/p]}$  in  $E$  is equal to  $\text{Ker}(h^{p-1}F_E)$  (see, for example, [BMS2, §2.3]). Therefore we have

$$(6) \quad \text{Ker}(h^{p-1}F_E) \subseteq \text{Ann}_E(\mathfrak{m}^{d-N-1}) = \bigoplus_{i \geq -d+1} E_i.$$

On the other hand, the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow R(-d) \xrightarrow{h} R \rightarrow R/(h) \rightarrow 0$$

induces an isomorphism

$$H_{\mathfrak{m}}^N(R/(h)) \simeq \{u \in E \mid hu = 0\}(-d),$$

such that the Frobenius action on  $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^N(R/(h))$  is given by  $h^{p-1}F_E$ . Since  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D) \simeq H_{\mathfrak{m}}^N(R/(h))_0 \hookrightarrow E_{-d}$ , (6) implies that the Frobenius action is injective on  $H^{N-1}(D, \mathcal{O}_D)$ . This completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

**Remark 2.4.** In the proof of Theorem 1.3 we only used the inclusion “ $\subseteq$ ” in Conjecture 1.1. However, this is the interesting inclusion: the reverse one is known, see [HY] or [MS, Proposition 4.2]. It is more interesting that we only used Conjecture 1.1 when  $Y = \mathbf{A}_k^{N+1}$ ,  $\mathfrak{a}$  is principal and homogeneous, and  $\lambda = 1 - \frac{1}{p}$ . By combining Theorem 1.3 with the main result in [MS], we see that in order to prove Conjecture 1.1 in general, it is enough to consider the case when  $Y = \mathbf{A}_k^n$ ,  $\mathfrak{a} = (f)$  is principal and homogeneous, and show the following: if  $\mathfrak{b} = \mathcal{J}(Y, \mathfrak{a}^{1-\varepsilon})$  for  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ , and if  $f_A \in A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a model for  $f$ , then there is a dense set of closed points  $S \subset \text{Spec } A$  such that

$$\mathfrak{b}_s \subseteq (f_s^{p-1})^{[1/p]}$$

for every  $s \in S$ , where  $p = \text{char}(k(s))$ .

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