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**Hailong Dao\*** (hdao@ku.edu), Lawrence, KS 66045. *On the relationship between depth and cohomological dimension.*

(joint work with Shunsuke Takagi) Let  $(S, m)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional regular local ring essentially of finite type over a field and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $S$ . We prove that if  $\text{depth}S/I \geq 3$ , then the cohomological dimension  $\text{cd}(S, I)$  of  $I$  is less than or equal to  $n - 3$ . We also show, under the assumption that  $S$  has an algebraically closed residue field of characteristic zero, that if  $\text{depth}S/I \geq 4$ , then  $\text{cd}(S, I) \leq n - 4$  if and only if the local Picard group of the completion  $\widehat{S/I}$  is torsion. We give a number of applications, including sharp bounds on cohomological dimension of ideals whose quotients satisfy good depth conditions such as Serre's conditions  $(S_i)$ . (Received September 22, 2015)