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Commutative Algebra in the Graded Category with an Application to Equivariant Cohomology Rings.

The *Degree* of a graded R -module M is defined as $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1} (1-t)^{\dim(M)} PS_M(t)$, where $PS_M(t)$ is the Hilbert-Poincare series of the module, and \dim is Krull dimension. It turns out that this number has a decomposition from commutative algebra as follows: $\deg(M) = \sum_{P \in \mathcal{D}(M)} \ell_R(M) \deg(R/P)$, where $\mathcal{D}(M)$ is the set of minimal primes of M which have maximal dimension.

The main result of this talk gives a re-interpretation of the sum formula above for equivariant cohomology rings. In this setting, G is a compact Lie group acting on a nice enough topological space X , and cohomology coefficients are taken in \mathbb{Z}/p . The main result is:

$$\deg(H_G^*(X)) = \sum_{[A,c] \in \mathcal{B}_{max}(G,X)} \frac{1}{|W_G(A,c)|} \deg(H_{C_G(A,c)}^*(c)),$$

where A is an elementary abelian p -group of maximal rank, c is a component of X^A (the fixed point set,) and $C_G(A,c)$, $W_G(A,c)$ refer to the centralizer and Weyl group respectively of A in G .

This work is in the spirit of Daniel Quillen's series of Annals papers from 1972, *The Spectrum of an Equivariant Cohomology Ring I and II*. An example from the cohomology of groups for an extra special 5-group will be presented. (Received September 26, 2017)