

# ON THE CANONICAL MODULES

愛媛大理 青山陽一 (Yôichi Aoyama)

A ring will always mean a commutative noetherian ring with unit. Let  $R$  be a ring,  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $N$  a submodule of  $M$ . We denote by  $\text{Min}_R(M)$  the set of minimal elements in  $\text{Supp}_R(M)$  and put  $U_M(N) = \bigcap Q$  where  $Q$  runs through all the primary components of  $N$  in  $M$  such that  $\dim M/Q = \dim M/N$ . Let  $T$  be an  $R$ -module and  $\underline{a}$  an ideal of  $R$ .  $E_R(T)$  denotes an injective envelope of  $T$  and  $H_{\underline{a}}^i(T)$  is the  $i$ -th local cohomology module of  $T$  with respect to  $\underline{a}$ . We denote by  $\hat{\phantom{x}}$  the Jacobson radical adic completion over a semi-local ring. For a ring  $R$ ,  $Q(R)$  denotes the total quotient ring of  $R$ . Throughout this note  $A$  denotes a local ring of dimension  $d$  and with maximal ideal  $\underline{m}$ .

Definition ([7, Definition 5.6]). An  $A$ -module  $K$  is called a canonical module of  $A$  if  $K \otimes_A \hat{A} \cong \text{Hom}_A(H_{\underline{m}}^d(A), E_A(A/\underline{m}))$ .

For elementary properties of canonical modules, we refer the reader to [6, §6], [7, 5 Vortrag und 6 Vortrag] and [2, §1]. It is not obvious that the localization of a canonical module is a canonical module of the localization ring, which was known only

for local rings with dualizing complexes, and Ogoma [9] showed that there is a non-acceptable (hence without dualizing complex) local ring with canonical module. Our purposes are to prove that  $K_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $A_{\underline{p}}$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Supp}_A(K)$  ( $A$  is a local ring with canonical module  $K$ ) and to consider endomorphism rings of canonical modules.

Lemma 1(Corollary to [5, Theorem 1]). Let  $B$  be a faithfully flat local  $A$ -algebra with maximal ideal  $\underline{n}$ . Then:

- (1) If  $B/\underline{m}B$  is an artinian Gorenstein ring, then  $E_A(A/\underline{m}) \otimes_A B \cong E_B(B/\underline{n})$ .
- (2) If  $T$  is an  $A$ -module such that  $T \otimes_A B \cong E_B(B/\underline{n})$ , then  $T \cong E_A(A/\underline{m})$  and  $B/\underline{m}B$  is an artinian Gorenstein ring.

Theorem 2([4]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$  and let  $B$  be a faithfully flat local  $A$ -algebra. Then the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $B/\underline{m}B$  is a Gorenstein ring.
- (b)  $K \otimes_A B$  is a canonical module of  $B$  and  $B/\underline{m}B$  is a Cohen-Macaulay ring.

(Proof) Suppose that  $B/\underline{m}B$  is a Cohen-Macaulay ring and let  $y_1, \dots, y_r$  be a system of elements in  $\underline{n}$ , the maximal ideal of  $B$ , which is a maximal  $B/\underline{m}B$ -regular sequence ( $r = \dim B/\underline{m}B$ ). Let  $R = A[X_1, \dots, X_r]_{(\underline{m}, X_1, \dots, X_r)}$  with indeterminates  $X_1, \dots, X_r$  over  $A$  and let  $f$  be the natural  $A$ -algebra homomorphism from  $R$  to  $B$  such that  $f(X_i) = y_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ . Then  $f$  is a flat local homomorphism. By [7, Korollar 5.12],  $C = K \otimes_A R$  is a canonical module of  $R$ . Hence we may assume that  $B/\underline{m}B$

is artinian. Furthermore we may assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are both complete. In this case it is shown that  $K \otimes_A B$  is a canonical module of  $B$  if and only if  $E_A(A/\underline{m}) \otimes_A B \cong E_B(B/\underline{n})$  ([2, Proof of Proposition 4.1]). Hence the assertion follows from Lemma 1. (Q.E.D.)

Suppose that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$ . Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $A$ -module and  $h_M$  the natural map from  $M$  to  $\text{Hom}_A(\text{Hom}_A(M, K), K)$ .

Proposition 3 ([2, (1.11)]). The following are equivalent:

- (a) The map  $h_M$  is an isomorphism.
- (b)  $\hat{M}$  is  $(S_2)$  and  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}_A(M)$ .

Corollary 4 ([1, Proposition 2]).  $A \cong \text{Hom}_A(K, K)$  if and only if  $\hat{A}$  is  $(S_2)$ .

Next we show some elementary properties of the endomorphism ring of a canonical module. Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$  and put  $H = \text{End}_A(K)$ .

Theorem 5 ([2, Theorem 3.2]). The following statements hold for  $H$ :

- (1)  $H$  is a semi-local ring which is a finitely generated  $A$ -module and  $A/U \subseteq H \subseteq Q(A/U)$  where  $U = U_A(0) = \text{ann}_A(K)$ .
- (2) Every maximal chain of prime ideals in  $H$  is of length  $d$ .
- (3)  $\hat{H}$  is  $(S_2)$ .
- (4) For every maximal ideal  $\underline{n}$  of  $H$ ,  $K_{\underline{n}}$  is a canonical module of  $H_{\underline{n}}$ . ( $K$  is an  $H$ -module by the usual way.)
- (5)  $\dim_A \text{Coker}(A \rightarrow H) \leq d - 2$ .

(Proof) We may assume that  $\text{ann}_A(K) = U_A(0) = 0$ .

(1) Let  $\underline{p}$  be a prime ideal of  $A$  with  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  and  $\underline{q}$  a minimal prime ideal of  $\hat{A}$ . Then  $\dim \hat{A}/\underline{q} = d$  and  $\hat{K}_{\underline{q}}$  is a canonical module of  $\hat{A}_{\underline{q}}$ . Since  $\dim \hat{A}_{\underline{q}} = 0$ ,  $\hat{K}_{\underline{q}} \cong E_{\hat{A}}(\hat{A}/\underline{q})$ . Since  $K_{\underline{p}} \otimes_{A_{\underline{p}}} \hat{A}_{\underline{q}} \cong \hat{K}_{\underline{q}}$ ,  $K_{\underline{p}} \cong E_A(A/\underline{p})$  by Lemma 1(2). Let  $\text{Ass}(A) = \{\underline{p}_1, \dots, \underline{p}_t\}$  and  $S = A \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^t \underline{p}_i$ , the set of non-zero-divisors of  $A$ . Since  $K$  is torsion free, so is  $H$  and the natural map  $H \rightarrow S^{-1}H$  is injective. Since  $S^{-1}K \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^t K_{\underline{p}_i} \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^t E_A(A/\underline{p}_i)$ ,  $S^{-1}H \cong \text{Hom}_A(S^{-1}K, S^{-1}K) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^t A_{\underline{p}_i} \cong Q(A)$ .

(2) Because  $A$  is unmixed.

(3) Because  $\hat{K}$  is  $(S_2)$ .

(4) The map  $h_K : K \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(H, K)$  is an isomorphism by Proposition 3. Hence the assertion follows from [7, Satz 5.12] and (3).

(5) We may assume that  $A$  is complete. Let  $\underline{p}$  be a prime ideal such that  $\text{height } \underline{p} \leq 1$ . Then  $A_{\underline{p}}$  is Cohen-Macaulay and  $K_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $A_{\underline{p}}$  because  $A$  is complete and  $U_A(0) = 0$ . Hence  $A_{\underline{p}} = H_{\underline{p}}$ , that is,  $\text{Coker}(A \rightarrow H)_{\underline{p}} = 0$ , which means  $\dim_A \text{Coker}(A \rightarrow H) \leq d - 2$ . (Q.E.D.)

Theorem 6 ([2, Theorem 4.2]). Let  $(A, \underline{m}) \rightarrow (B, \underline{n})$  be a flat local homomorphism and  $M$  an  $A$ -module. If  $M \otimes_A B$  is a canonical module of  $B$ , then  $M$  is a canonical module of  $A$ .

Corollary 7 ([2, Corollary 4.3]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$  and let  $\underline{p}$  be an element of  $\text{Supp}_A(K)$ . Then  $K_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $A_{\underline{p}}$  and  $\hat{A}_{\underline{q}}/\underline{p}\hat{A}_{\underline{q}}$  is a Gorenstein ring for every minimal prime ideal  $\underline{q}$  of  $\hat{A}$ .

Before proving Theorem 6, we show two lemmas.

Lemma 8. Assume that  $A$  is complete. Let  $T$  be a finitely generated  $(S_2)$   $A$ -module such that  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}_A(T)$  and  $H_{\underline{m}}^d(T) \cong E_A(A/\underline{m})$ . Then  $T$  is a canonical module of  $A$ . In this case  $A$  is  $(S_2)$ .

(Proof) By Proposition 3, the map  $h_T$  is an isomorphism. Since  $\text{Hom}_A(T, K) \cong \text{Hom}_A(H_{\underline{m}}^d(T), E_A(A/\underline{m})) \cong \text{Hom}_A(E_A(A/\underline{m}), E_A(A/\underline{m})) \cong A$ ,  $T \cong \text{Hom}_A(A, K) \cong K$ , a canonical module of  $A$ . (Q.E.D.)

Lemma 9. Let  $R$  be a finite over-ring of  $A$  such that  $\dim_A R/A \leq d-2$  and  $\dim R_{\underline{p}} = d$  for every maximal ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $R$ . If  $T$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module such that  $T_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $R_{\underline{p}}$  for every maximal ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $R$ , then  $T$ , as an  $A$ -module, is a canonical module of  $A$ .

(Proof) We may assume that  $A$  is complete. For every maximal ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $R$ ,  $\text{Hom}_A(R, K)_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $R_{\underline{p}}$  by [7, Satz 5.12] ( $K$  is a canonical module of  $A$ ). Hence  $T_{\underline{p}} \cong \text{Hom}_A(R, K)_{\underline{p}}$  for every maximal ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $R$  and therefore  $T \cong \text{Hom}_A(R, K)$ . Since  $\dim_A R/A \leq d-2$ , we have  $\text{Hom}_A(R/A, K) = 0$  and  $\text{Ext}_A^1(R/A, K) = 0$  (cf. [2, (1.10)]). Hence, from the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow R \rightarrow R/A \rightarrow 0$ , we have  $\text{Hom}_A(R, K) \cong \text{Hom}_A(A, K) \cong K$ , a canonical module of  $A$ . (Q.E.D.)

(Proof of Theorem 6) We may assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are both complete and  $\underline{m}B$  is  $\underline{n}$ -primary. Let  $K$  (resp.  $L$ ) be a canonical module of  $A$  (resp.  $B$ ).

(I) The case that  $B$  is  $(S_2)$ : Since  $B$  is  $(S_2)$ ,  $B \cong \text{Hom}_B(L, L)$ , i.e.,  $H_{\underline{n}}^d(L) \cong E_B(B/\underline{n})$ . Since  $H_{\underline{m}}^d(M) \otimes_A B \cong H_{\underline{n}}^d(M \otimes_A B) \cong H_{\underline{n}}^d(L) \cong E_B(B/\underline{n})$ ,  $H_{\underline{m}}^d(M) \cong E_A(A/\underline{m})$  by Lemma 1(2). Since  $L$  is  $(S_2)$ ,

so is  $M$ . Since  $\text{Ass}_B(L) = \{ \underline{q} \in \text{Spec}(B) \mid \dim B/\underline{q} = d \}$ ,  $\text{Ass}_A(M) = \{ \underline{p} \in \text{Spec}(A) \mid \dim A/\underline{p} = d \}$ . Hence we have  $M \cong K$  by Lemma 8.

(II) The general case: Since  $\text{Ass}_A(M) = \{ \underline{p} \in \text{Spec}(A) \mid \dim A/\underline{p} = d \}$  and  $M_{\underline{p}} \cong E_A(A/\underline{p})$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Ass}_A(M)$  (cf. Proof of Theorem 5(1)), we have  $\text{ann}_A(M) = U_A(0)$ . Hence we may assume that  $U_A(0) = 0$  and  $U_B(0) = 0$ . Put  $R = \text{End}_A(M)$  and  $S = \text{End}_B(L)$ . Since  $R \otimes_A B \cong S$  is a finite over-ring of  $B$ ,  $R$  is a finite over-ring of  $A$ . For every maximal ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $R$ ,  $\dim R_{\underline{p}} = d$  because  $A$  is unmixed. We have  $\dim_A R/A \leq d-2$  because  $\dim_B S/B \leq d-2$ . Let  $\underline{p}$  be a maximal ideal of  $R$  and  $\underline{q}$  a maximal ideal of  $S$  lying over  $\underline{p}$ . Since  $M_{\underline{p}} \otimes_{R_{\underline{p}}} S_{\underline{q}} \cong L_{\underline{q}}$  is a canonical module of  $S_{\underline{q}}$  by Theorem 5(4) and  $S_{\underline{q}}$  is  $(S_2)$  by Theorem 5(3),  $M_{\underline{p}}$  is a canonical module of  $R_{\underline{p}}$  by the case (I). Hence we have that  $M$  is a canonical module of  $A$  by Lemma 9. (Q.E.D.)

Remark. Goto (Nihon University) proved the following lemma and gave another proof of Theorem 6. ([3, Appendix])

Lemma. Let  $(A, \underline{m}) \rightarrow (B, \underline{n})$  be a flat local homomorphism such that  $\underline{m}B$  is  $\underline{n}$ -primary. If there is a finitely generated  $A$ -module  $T$  such that  $T \otimes_A B$  is a canonical module of  $B$ , then  $B/\underline{m}B$  is a Gorenstein ring.

By virtue of Corollary 7, we can prove the following proposition by induction on  $\dim A$  (cf. [1, Proof of Proposition 2]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$ . For a finitely generated  $A$ -module  $M$ ,  $h_M$  denotes the natural map from  $M$  to

$\text{Hom}_A(\text{Hom}_A(M, K), K)$  .

Proposition 10([2, Proposition 4.4]). The following are equivalent:

- (a) The map  $h_M$  is an isomorphism.
- (b)  $\hat{M}$  is  $(S_2)$  and  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}_A(M)$  .
- (c)  $M$  is  $(S_2)$  and  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}_A(M)$  .

Corollary 11([9, Proposition 4.2] and [4]). The following are equivalent:

- (a)  $A \cong \text{Hom}_A(K, K)$  .
- (b)  $\hat{A}$  is  $(S_2)$ .
- (c)  $A$  is  $(S_2)$ .

Remark. The implication (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) was first proved by Ogoma (Kochi University), not by induction. (See [9, §4]. cf. [3, (二)])

Corollary 12([4]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module and  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}(A)$  . Then the  $(S_2)$ -locus of  $A$  is open in  $\text{Spec}(A)$  .

Corollary 13([4]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module. Let  $(A, \underline{m}) \rightarrow (B, \underline{n})$  be a flat local homomorphism such that  $B/\underline{n}B$  is a Gorenstein ring.

- (1) Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $(S_2)$   $A$ -module such that  $\dim A/\underline{p} = d$  for every  $\underline{p}$  in  $\text{Min}_A(M)$  . Then  $M \otimes_A B$  is  $(S_2)$  and  $\dim B/\underline{q} = \dim B$  for every  $\underline{q}$  in  $\text{Min}_B(M \otimes_A B)$  .
- (2) If  $A$  is  $(S_2)$ , then  $B$  is also  $(S_2)$ .

Next we show that the endomorphism ring of a canonical module is characterized by the properties described in Theorem 5.

Theorem 14([4]). Assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $R$  is a finite  $(S_2)$  over-ring of  $A/U_A(0)$ ,
- (ii) For every maximal ideal  $\underline{n}$  of  $R$ ,  $\dim R_{\underline{n}} = d$ , and
- (iii)  $\dim_A \text{Coker}(A \rightarrow R) \leq d - 2$ .

Then  $R \cong \text{End}_A(K)$  as  $A$ -algebras.

(Proof) We may assume that  $U_A(0) = 0$ . Put  $L = \text{Hom}_A(R, K)$ . Then  $L_{\underline{n}}$  is a canonical module of  $R_{\underline{n}}$  for every maximal ideal  $\underline{n}$  of  $R$ . By Lemma 9, we have  $L \cong K$ . From this isomorphism, we have an  $A$ -algebra isomorphism  $\text{End}_A(K) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{End}_A(L)$ . Since  $\text{End}_A(K)$  is commutative, so is  $\text{End}_A(L)$  and  $\text{End}_A(L) = \text{End}_R(L)$ . Since  $R$  is  $(S_2)$ ,  $R \cong \text{End}_R(L)$ . Hence we have  $R \cong \text{End}_A(K)$  as  $A$ -algebras. (Q.E.D.)

In the following we assume that  $A$  has a canonical module  $K$ ,  $d \geq 2$  and  $U_A(0) = 0$ . Put  $H = \text{End}_A(K)$  and  $\underline{c} = A :_A H$ , the conductor. Let  $T$  be the  $\underline{c}$ -transform of  $A$ , i.e.,  $T = \{ x \in Q(A) \mid \underline{c}^t x \subseteq A \text{ for some } t \}$ . Let  $\underline{q}$  be a prime ideal of  $\hat{A}$  containing  $\underline{c}\hat{A}$  and  $\underline{p}$  an associated prime ideal of  $\hat{A}_{\underline{q}}$ . Since  $U_{\hat{A}}(0) = U_A(0)\hat{A} = 0$  and  $\text{height } \underline{c} \geq 2$ , we have  $\dim \hat{A}_{\underline{q}}/\underline{p} \geq 2$ . Hence by [8, Proposition(2.7)] we have:

(15.1)  $T$  is a finitely generated  $A$ -module.

The following two assertions are obvious:

(15.2)  $\dim_A T/A \leq d - 2$ .

(15.3)  $T$  is  $(S_2)$ .

Hence, from Theorem 14, we obtain the following



Proposition 16([4]).  $T \cong H$  as  $A$ -algebras.

We denote by  $A^g$  the global transform of  $A$ , i.e.,  $A^g = \{ x \in Q(A) \mid \underline{m}^t x \subseteq A \text{ for some } t \}$ . Since  $U_A(0) = 0$  and  $d \geq 2$ ,  $A^g$  is a finitely generated  $A$ -module by [8, Proposition (2.3)].

Corollary 17([4]).  $A^g \cong H$  as  $A$ -algebras if and only if  $\text{depth } A_{\underline{p}} \geq \min \{ 2, \dim A_{\underline{p}} \}$  for every non-maximal prime ideal  $\underline{p}$  of  $A$ . In particular, if  $H_{\underline{m}}^i(A)$  is of finite length for  $i \neq d$ ,  $A^g \cong H$  as  $A$ -algebras.

Ehime University

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