## 19. Complete Local $(S_{n-1})$ Rings of Type $n \ge 3$ are Cohen-Macaulay<sup>\*)</sup>

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**§1.** Introduction. Let A be a local ring of dimension d with maximal ideal m. The type of A, denoted by r(A), is defined to be the dimension of  $\operatorname{Ext}_{A}^{a}(A/m, A)$  as a vector space over A/m. Then Gorenstein local rings are characterized as Cohen-Macaulay local rings of type one (Bass [1]). Vasconcelos [12, p.53] conjectured that the condition r(A) = 1 is sufficient to imply that A is Gorenstein (cf. [4, p. 30]). Foxby [4] proved this conjecture for local rings containing a field, for unmixed local rings and for local rings satisfying some other conditions (along with a conjecture for modules). The conjecture was proven in general by Roberts [9], using a minimal free resolution of a dualizing complex. By modifying Roberts' argument, Costa, Huneke and Miller [3] proved that complete local domains of type two are Cohen-Macaulay. They also showed that there exists a non-Cohen-Macaulay equidimensional complete local ring of type two and that there is a non-Cohen-Macaulay reduced complete local ring of type two. Improving their method, Marley [6] proved that unmixed local rings of type two are Cohen-Macaulay and asked if complete local  $(S_{n-1})$  rings of type  $n \geq 3$  are Cohen-Macaulay. Kawasaki [5] answered Marley's question in the affirmative for local rings containing a field, making use of Theorem 3 in Bruns [2]. In this note we show that the question has the affirmative answer in general, using Kawasaki's idea. We also give a generalization for modules corresponding to that in [5].

§2. Results. Let R be a commutative noetherian ring. For an R-module M and a prime ideal p, the *i*-th Bass number of M at p, denoted by  $\mu^i(p, M)$ , is defined to be  $\lambda(\operatorname{Ext}_R^i(R/p, M)_p)$ , where  $\lambda$  denotes length. Let I be a minimal injective resolution of M. Then  $\mu^i(p, M)$  is equal to the number of copies of E(R/p) which appear in  $I^i$  as a direct summand, where E(R/p) denotes the injective envelope of R/p. For basic properties of Bass numbers, see Bass [1]. Let t be an integer. A finitely generated R-module M is said to be  $(S_t)$  if depth  $M_p \ge \min\{t, \dim M_p\}$  for every p in Supp(M). In the following A always denotes a local ring of dimension d with maximal ideal m. For an A-module M,  $\mu^i(m, M)$  is called the *i*-th Bass number of M and denoted by  $\mu^i(M)$ . Let M be a finitely generated A-module of dimension s. The type of M, denoted by r(M), is defined to be  $\mu^s(M)$ . Let p be in Supp(M). If dim  $M_p + \dim A/p = \dim M$ , then  $r(M_p) \le r(M)$  by [4, Theorem (5.1)] or [8, Proposition II. 4.1]. We here note that if A is  $(S_2)$  and

<sup>\*)</sup> Dedicated to Professor Tomoharu Akiba on his sixtieth birthday.

catenary, then dim A/p = d for every associated prime ideal p of A (cf. [7, p. 38]). For definitions and basic facts on homological invariants, minimal free resolutions and dualizing complexes, we refer the reader to Roberts [8]. We first recall a version of [2, Theorem 3] for local rings which do not necessarily contain a field.

**Theorem 1** ([2, Theorem 3 and Remark (b)]). Consider a complex

$$0 \to F_s \xrightarrow{f_s} F_{s-1} \to \cdots \xrightarrow{f_2} F_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} F_0$$

of free A-modules of finite rank with  $F_s \neq 0$  and  $f_i(F_i) \subseteq mF_{i-1}$  for i = 1, ...,s. Put  $r_j = \sum_{i=j}^{s} (-1)^{i-j} \operatorname{rank} F_i$  and let  $I_j$  be the ideal generated by the  $r_j$ -minors of (a matrix representing of)  $f_j$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, s$ . Suppose that for some positive integer t, dim  $A/I_j \leq d - t - j$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, s$ . Then  $r_j \geq t - 1 + j$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, s - 1$ .

For a finitely generated A-module M,  $\hat{M}$  denotes the *m*-adic completion of M. The main result is as follows.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $n \ge 3$  be an integer. If  $r(A) \le n$  and  $\hat{A}$  is  $(S_{n-1})$ , then A is Cohen-Macaulay.

*Proof.* We proceed by induction on  $d = \dim A$ . We may assume that A is complete, and hence that A has a dualizing complex. Suppose that A is not Cohen-Macaulay and let  $t = \operatorname{depth} A$ . Then  $d > t \ge n - 1$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $A_p$  is Cohen-Macaulay for every prime ideal  $p \ne m$ . Let D. be a dualizing complex of A, where  $D_i = \bigoplus \{E(A/p) \mid p \in \operatorname{Spec}(A), \dim A/p = i\}$ , and let F be a minimal free resolution of D.

We have rank  $F_i = \mu^i(A)$  for every *i* by [8, Theorem II. 3.6]. For every prime ideal  $p \neq m$ ,  $H_i(F_{\cdot})_p = 0$  for  $i \neq d$  because  $A_p$  is Cohen-Macaulay. Hence the complex  $(F_d \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow F_t \rightarrow 0) \otimes A_p$  is exact and split for every prime ideal  $p \neq m$ . Set  $G_i = \operatorname{Hom}_A(F_{d-i}, A)$  and  $g_i = {}^t f_{d-i}$ , and consider the complex

$$G_{\cdot}: 0 \longrightarrow G_{d-t} \xrightarrow{g_{d-t}} G_{d-t-1} \longrightarrow \cdots \xrightarrow{g_2} G_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} G_0.$$

Let  $r_j = \sum_{i=j}^{d-t} (-1)^{i-j} \operatorname{rank} G_i = \sum_{i=t}^{d-j} (-1)^{d-j-i} \operatorname{rank} F_i$  and let  $I_j$  be the ideal generated by the  $r_j$ -minors of  $g_j$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, d-t$ . We have  $(I_j)_p = A_p$  for every prime ideal  $p \neq m$  because  $G. \otimes A_p$  is exact and split. Therefore  $I_j$  is *m*-primary and dim  $A/I_j = 0 \leq d-t-j$  for  $j = 1, \ldots, d-t$ . We first consider the case where t < d-1. By Theorem 1, we have  $r_1 \geq t$ . Let  $Z = \operatorname{Ker} f_{d-1}$  and  $B = \operatorname{Im} f_d$ . Take any associated prime ideal p of A. Then dim A/p = d. Since the complex  $(0 \to Z \to F_d \to \cdots \to F_t \to 0) \otimes A_p$  is exact and split,  $Z_p$  is free and  $\operatorname{rank} Z_p = \operatorname{rank} F_d - r_1$ . As  $Z_p/B_p \cong H_d(F.)_p \cong E(A_p/pA_p)$ , we have  $Z_p \neq 0$  and  $\operatorname{rank} F_d \geq r_1 + 1$ . Suppose  $\operatorname{rank} F_d = r_1 + 1$ . Then  $Z_p \cong A_p$ . Since  $\lambda(Z_p) - \lambda(B_p) = \lambda(E(A_p/pA_p)) = \lambda(A_p)$ , we have  $B_p = 0$ . Therefore we have B = 0 as B is a submodule of a

free module. Then the complex  $\cdots \to F_{d+2} \to F_{d+1} \to 0$  is exact, split and minimal, hence  $F_i = 0$  for i > d. Therefore  $\mu^i(A) = \operatorname{rank} F_i = 0$  for i > d, which means that A is Gorenstein. This is a contradiction. Hence we have  $r(A) = \operatorname{rank} F_d > r_1 + 1 \ge t + 1 \ge n$ , a contradiction. We now consider the case where t = d - 1. The ideal  $I_1$  is an *m*-primary ideal generated by the maximal minors of  $f_{d-1}$ . Therefore  $n \leq d = \operatorname{ht} I_1 \leq \operatorname{rank} F_d - \operatorname{rank} F_{d-1}$  $+1 \leq n$ . Hence we have d = n, rank  $F_d = n$  and rank  $F_{d-1} = 1$ . So there exist elements  $x_1, \ldots, x_d$  in *m* such that  $H_{d-1}(F_{\cdot}) \cong A / (x_1, \ldots, x_d)$ . Since  $H_{d-1}(F.)$  is of finite length,  $x_1, \ldots, x_d$  is a system of parameters of A. As  $H_m^{d-1}(A) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_A(H_{d-1}(D.), E(A/m)) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_A(H_{d-1}(F.), E(A/m)),$  we have  $(x_1,\ldots,x_d)H_m^{d-1}(A)=0$ . It is easy to see that  $(x_1,\ldots,x_d)H_m^i(A/(x_1,\ldots,x_d))$  $x_{i}$ ) = 0 for i + j < d because A is  $(S_{d-1})$ . By [11, (2.5), (2.1) and (1.5)],  $\lambda(A/(x_1,\ldots,x_d)) - e(x_1,\ldots,x_d;A) = \lambda(H_m^{d-1}(A)) = \lambda(A/(x_1,\ldots,x_d)),$ where  $e(x_1, \ldots, x_d; A)$  denotes the multiplicity of A with respect to  $x_1, \ldots, x_d$  $x_d$ . Hence we have  $e(x_1, \ldots, x_d; A) = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Now the proof is completed.

By a similar argument we have the following theorem for modules.

**Theorem 3.** Let M be a finitely generated A-module and let n be a positive integer. If  $r(M) \leq n$  and  $\hat{M}$  is  $(S_n)$  and equidimensional, then M is Cohen-Macaulay.

**Remark.** The case where n = 1 in Theorem 3 is a special case of a conjecture of Foxby (cf. [4. Proposition (3.1)]).

Conjecture B in [4]. If r(M) = 1, then both M and  $B = A / \operatorname{ann}(M)$  are Cohen-Macaulay and M is a dualizing module of B.

It is known that this conjecture is true in general as well as in the ring case ([10] and [4]. cf. [9] and [8, p. 66]).

In the proof of Theorem 2, we have  $r_1 \ge t + 1$  in the case where t < d - 1 by [2, Theorem 3] if A contains a field. Therefore we have the following result.

**Theorem 4.** Let *n* be a positive integer and assume that *A* contains a field.

(1) Suppose that A satisfies the following conditions: (i)  $r(A) \leq n$ , (ii)  $\hat{A}$  is  $(S_{n-2})$ , (iii)  $\hat{A}$  is strictly equidimensional (if  $n \leq 3$ ), and (iv)  $\hat{A}_p$  is Cohen-Macaulay for any p in spec( $\hat{A}$ ) such that dim  $\hat{A}_p < n$ . Then A is Cohen-Macaulay.

(2)([5, Theorem (3.1) ii)]) Let M be a finitely generated A-module. Suppose that M satisfies the following conditions: (i)  $r(M) \leq n$ , (ii)  $\hat{M}$  is  $(S_{n-1})$ , (iii)  $\hat{M}$  is equidimensional, and (iv)  $\hat{M}_p$  is Cohen-Macaulay for any p in Supp $(\hat{M})$  such that dim  $\hat{M}_p \leq n$ . Then M is Cohen-Macaulay.

**Acknowledgement.** The author wishes to express his thanks to Mr. Takeshi Kawasaki for sending him a preprint and to Prof. Shiro Goto for kind advice.

This work is supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research C-05640040 and Co-operative Research A-04302003 from the Ministry of Education of Japan.

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