DETECTING COMPLETENESS FROM EXT-VANISHING

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Abstract. Motivated by work of C. U. Jensen, R.-O. Buchweitz, and H. Flenner, we prove the following result. Let $R$ be a commutative noetherian ring and $\mathfrak{a}$ an ideal in the Jacobson radical of $R$. Let $\hat{R}_\mathfrak{a}$ be the $\mathfrak{a}$-adic completion of $R$. If $M$ is a finitely generated $R$-module such that $\text{Ext}^i_R(M) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$, then $M$ is $\mathfrak{a}$-adically complete.

Introduction

A result of Jensen [13, (8.1)] characterizes the completeness property of a semilocal ring in terms of Ext-vanishing: If $R$ is a commutative noetherian ring, then it is a finite product of complete local rings if and only if $\text{Ext}^i_R(B,M) = 0$ for $i \neq 0$ whenever $B$ is flat and $M$ is finitely generated over $R$. In their investigation of Hochschild homology, Buchweitz and Flenner [3, (2.3)] recover one implication of the local case of this result: Let $R$ be a ring and $\mathfrak{m} \subset R$ a maximal ideal; if $M$ is an $\mathfrak{m}$-adically complete $R$-module, then $\text{Ext}^i_R(B,M) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$ and each flat $R$-module $B$; see also [8, (3.7)] for the local case.

In this paper, we investigate converses to the Buchweitz-Flenner result: If $M$ is an $R$-module such that $\text{Ext}^i_R(B,M) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$ and each flat $R$-module $B$, must $M$ be $\mathfrak{m}$-adically complete? One readily sees that this need not be the case when $M$ is not finitely generated. If $R$ is a local domain with $\text{dim}(R) > 0$ and $M$ is the quotient field of $R$, then $M$ is not $\mathfrak{m}$-adically complete. However, $M$ is injective so $\text{Ext}^i_R(B,M) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$ and each $R$-module $B$.

The following result is proved in 3.1. When $M$ finitely generated, it shows that the completeness of $M$ can be ascertained from the vanishing of the Ext-modules against a single flat module, namely $\hat{R}$.

**Theorem A.** Let $R$ be a commutative noetherian ring and $\mathfrak{a}$ an ideal in the Jacobson radical of $R$. Let $\hat{R}_\mathfrak{a}$ be the $\mathfrak{a}$-adic completion of $R$ and let $M$ be a finitely generated $R$-module. The following conditions are equivalent:

(i) $M$ is $\mathfrak{a}$-adically complete.

(ii) $\text{Ext}^i_R(\hat{R}_\mathfrak{a}, M) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$. 

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(iii) $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(\hat{R}^a, M) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, \dim_R(M)$.

As a consequence of this theorem we obtain the following two results. The first is proved in [3,3] and the second is contained in Corollary [3,9]

**Theorem B.** The ring $R$ is $a$-adically complete if and only if the completion $\hat{R}^a$ is module-finite over $R$.

**Theorem C.** Let $M, N$ be finitely generated $R$-modules and $t$ an integer such that $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(N, M) = 0$ for each $i < t$. If $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(\hat{N}^a, M) = 0$ for each $i \neq t$, then $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(N, M) = 0$ for each $i \neq t$ and $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(N, M)$ is $a$-adically complete.

To prove these results, we employ a combination of classical module-theory and derived category techniques. Preliminary module-theoretic results are presented in Section 1. Requisite derived category notions are discussed in Section 2.

1. **Analytic conductor submodules**

*Throughout this work, $R$ is a commutative noetherian ring and $a$ is an ideal contained in the Jacobson radical of $R$.*

**Lemma 1.1.** If $M$ is a finitely generated $R$-module, then $M$ admits a unique maximal $a$-adically complete submodule $C^a_M$.

**Proof.** Let $C^a(M)$ denote the collection of $a$-adically complete submodules of $M$ which is nonempty because it contains the zero submodule. Since $M$ is noetherian, this collection contains maximal elements, each of which is finitely generated. Let $N, N' \in C^a(M)$ be maximal elements and suppose that $N \neq N'$. By maximality, one has $N \nsubseteq N'$ and so $N \nsubseteq N + N'$. In particular, $N + N'$ is not $a$-adically complete. However, the module $N \oplus N'$ is finitely generated and $a$-adically complete. Hence, the homomorphic image $N + N'$ of $N \oplus N'$ is $a$-adically complete, a contradiction. Thus, $N = N'$, and the maximal element of $C^a(M)$ is unique. □

The submodule $C^a_M$ is the *analytic conductor* of $M$ with respect to $a$. It is the largest $R$-submodule of $M$ that is also an $\hat{R}^a$-module. Before presenting an important property of $C^a_M$ for this work, we introduce some frequently used maps.

1.2. Let $M$ be an $R$-module. The map $g^a_M: \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M) \rightarrow M$ is given by $g^a_M(\varphi) = \varphi(1)$, and $\varepsilon^a_M: M \rightarrow \hat{M}^a$ is the natural inclusion. Assume now that $M$ is finitely generated, so that $C^a_M$ is defined. Let $i^a_M: C^a_M \rightarrow M$ denote the natural inclusion. The map $f^a_M: C^a_M \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M)$ is given by $f^a_M(m)(r) = rm$.

The next result yields a well-defined map $k^a_M: \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M) \rightarrow C^a_M$, given by $k^a_M(\varphi) = \varphi(1)$, such that $g^a_M = i^a_M k^a_M$.

**Lemma 1.3.** If $M$ is a finitely generated $R$-module, then the natural inclusion $\operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, i^a_M): \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, C^a_M) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M)$ is bijective.

**Proof.** By left-exactness of $\operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, -)$ the given map is injective. To see that this map is surjective, fix $\varphi \in \operatorname{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M)$; it suffices to show $\operatorname{Im}(\varphi) \subseteq C^a_M$. The image $\operatorname{Im}(\varphi)$ is finitely generated over $R$ and a homomorphic image of the $a$-adically complete $R$-module $\hat{R}^a$. Hence, $\operatorname{Im}(\varphi)$ is $a$-adically complete, and the desired conclusion follows from Lemma [1,1]. □
2. Derived local homology and cohomology

We work in the derived category $D(R)$ of complexes of $R$-modules, indexed homologically. References on the subject include [9, 11]. A complex $X$ is homologically bounded to the right if $H_i(X) = 0$ for all $i < 0$; it is homologically degreewise finite if $H_i(X)$ is finitely generated for each $i$; it is homologically finite if $\bigoplus_i H_i(X)$ is finitely generated; and it is homologically concentrated in degree $s$ if $H_i(X) = 0$ for all $i \neq s$. Isomorphisms in $D(R)$ are identified by the symbol $\simeq$, as are quasiisomorphisms in the category of complexes. For $X, Y \in D(R)$ set $\inf(X)$ and $\sup(X)$ to be the infimum and supremum, respectively, of the set $\{n \in \mathbb{Z} | H_n(X) \neq 0\}$. Let $X \otimes_R Y$ and $R\text{Hom}_R(X, Y)$ denote the left-derived tensor product and right-derived homomorphism complexes, respectively.

The left-derived local homology and right-derived local cohomology functors with support in an ideal $a$ are denote $L\Lambda^a(-)$ and $R\Gamma_a(-)$, respectively; see [11]. These are computed as follows. If $P \xrightarrow{\sim} X \xrightarrow{\sim} J$ are K-projective and K-injective resolutions, respectively, as in [2, 16], then

$$L\Lambda^a(X) = \Lambda^a(P), \quad R\Gamma_a(X) = \Gamma_a(J).$$

Note that the functor $\Gamma_a(-)$ is left-exact while $\Lambda^a(-)$ is neither left- nor right-exact.

2.1. Here is a catalog of properties of $L\Lambda^a(-)$ and $R\Gamma_a(-)$ that we will utilize.

(a) There are natural transformations of functors on $D(R)$ [11] (0.3)\*):

$$R\Gamma_a(-) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \text{id}_{D(R)}(-) \xleftarrow{\nu} L\Lambda^a(-).$$

(b) The following are equivalences of functors on $D(R)$ [11] Cor. to (0.3)\*):

$$L\Lambda^a(R\Gamma_a(-)) \xrightarrow{L\Lambda^a(\gamma)} L\Lambda^a(-) \quad \text{and} \quad R\Gamma_a(-) \xrightarrow{R\Gamma_a(\nu)} R\Gamma_a(L\Lambda^a(-)).$$

(c) One has natural equivalences of functors on $D(R)$ [11] (0.3) and [14] (3.1.2)):

$$L\Lambda^a(-) \simeq R\text{Hom}_R(R\Gamma_a(R), -) \quad \text{and} \quad R\Gamma_a(-) \simeq R\Gamma_a(R) \otimes_R L.$$

(d) (Adjointness) There is a natural equivalence of bifunctors on $D(R)$,

$$R\text{Hom}_R(R\Gamma_a(-), -) \xrightarrow{\theta} R\text{Hom}_R(-, L\Lambda^a(-)),$$

such that, for all complexes $X$ and $Y$ the next diagram commutes [11] (0.3).

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
R\text{Hom}_R(X, Y) & \xrightarrow{\text{\theta}_{XY}} & R\text{Hom}_R(-, L\Lambda^a(-)) \\
\downarrow_{R\text{Hom}_R(\gamma_X, Y)} & & \\
R\text{Hom}_R(R\Gamma_a(X), Y) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{XY}} & R\text{Hom}_R(X, L\Lambda^a(Y))
\end{array}$$

In particular, the morphism $R\text{Hom}_R(\gamma_X, Y)$ is an isomorphism in $D(R)$ if and only if $R\text{Hom}_R(-, \nu_Y)$ is so.

(e) One has a natural equivalence of functors on the full subcategory of $D(R)$ of complexes that are homologically finite and bounded to the right [8] (2.8),

$$L\Lambda^a(-) \simeq - \bigotimes_R \hat{R}^a.$$
For the first isomorphism, it suffices to check that the morphism is an isomorphism by 2.1(f), the same is true of maps in the following commutative diagram are isomorphisms:

We now verify facts about \( \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(\mathcal{R}) \) and \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathcal{R}) \) for the sequel. Fix \( M \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{R}) \) with K-injective resolution \( M \xrightarrow{\sim} J \). The map \( g^M_2: \text{Hom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, J) \to J \) given by \( \varphi \mapsto \varphi(1) \) describes a well-defined morphism \( h^a_M: \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M) \to M \) in \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{R}) \).

**Lemma 2.2.** If \( M \) is an \( \mathbf{R} \)-complex, then the induced morphisms

\[
\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(h^a_M): \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) \to \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(M), \\
\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(h^a_M): \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) \to \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(M)
\]

are isomorphisms in \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{R}) \). In particular, if \( \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(M) \neq 0 \) or \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(M) \neq 0 \), then \( \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M) \neq 0 \).

**Proof.** For the first isomorphism, it suffices to check that the morphism

\[
\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) \xrightarrow{\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), h^a_M)} \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathcal{R}^a, M))
\]

is an isomorphism in \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{R}) \); see [2.1.6]. In the commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{cc}
\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) & \xrightarrow{(1)} & \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R) \otimes^L \mathcal{R}^a, M) \\
\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), h^a_M) & & \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) \otimes^L \mathcal{R}^a, M) \\
\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), M) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R) \otimes^L \mathcal{R}^a, M)
\end{array}
\]

(1) is adjunction and \( \varepsilon^M_\mathcal{R}: R \to \mathcal{R}^a \) is the natural inclusion. Since \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R) \otimes \varepsilon^M_\mathcal{R} \) is an isomorphism by [2.1.6], the same is true of \( \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R) \otimes \varepsilon^M_\mathcal{R}, M) \). The diagram implies that \( \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(R), h^a_M) \) is an isomorphism.

For the second isomorphism, use the equivalence of [2.1.6] to see that the vertical maps in the following commutative diagram are isomorphisms:

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(h^a_M)} & \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(M) \\
\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\nu_{\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M)}) & & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\nu_{\mathcal{A}^a(M)}) \\
\mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(\text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{R}^a, M))) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(M))
\end{array}
\]

The morphism \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(h^a_M)) \) is an isomorphism in \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{R}) \) because we have shown that \( \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(h^a_M) \) is so. The diagram shows that \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(h^a_M) \) is an isomorphism as well.

The final statement follows from the additivity of \( \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(-) \) and \( \mathbf{R} \Gamma_a(-) \).

**Lemma 2.3.** If \( M, N \) are homologically finite \( \mathbf{R} \)-complexes, then the complex \( X = \text{RHom}_\mathcal{R}(N, M) \) is homologically degreewise finite and \( \mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(X) \simeq X \otimes^L \mathcal{R}^a \). In particular, one has \( \inf(\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(X)) = \inf(X) \) and \( \sup(\mathbf{L} \mathcal{A}^a(X)) = \sup(X) \).
Proof. The finiteness of each \( H_i(X) \) is standard. A verification of the isomorphism is essentially in \([6]\) Proof of (5.9)]. The flatness of \( R \to \hat{R}^a \) implies \( H_i(\mathcal{L}A^a(X)) \cong H_i(X) \otimes_R \hat{R}^a \), and the equalities follow from the faithful flatness of \( R \to \hat{R}^a \). \( \square \)

We next prove a vanishing result akin to \([3, (2.3)]\). Note that \( M \) is not assumed to be finitely generated.

**Proposition 2.4.** Let \( M \) be an \( R \)-module such that the morphism \( \nu_M : M \to \mathcal{L}A^a(M) \) is an isomorphism in \( D(R) \). Then \( \text{Ext}^i_R(\hat{R}^a, M) = 0 \) for each \( i \neq 0 \), and the evaluation map \( g_M^R : \text{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M) \to M \) is an isomorphism.

Proof. Because the morphism \( \nu_M : M \to \mathcal{L}A^a(M) \) is an isomorphism in \( D(R) \), the same is true of \( \text{RHom}_R(X, \nu_M) : \text{RHom}_R(X, M) \to \text{RHom}_R(X, \mathcal{L}A^a(M)) \) for each \( R \)-complex \( X \). From \([2, 1(3)]\) it follows that the morphism

\[
\text{RHom}_R(\gamma_X, M) : \text{RHom}_R(X, M) \to \text{RHom}_R(\text{R} \Gamma_a(X), M)
\]

is an isomorphism in \( D(R) \).

The naturality of \( \gamma \) provides the following commutative diagram in \( D(R) \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\Gamma_a(R) & \to & \text{R} \Gamma_a(\mathcal{L}A^a(R)) \\
\downarrow_{\nu_R} & & \downarrow\gamma_{\mathcal{L}A^a(R)} \\
R & \to & \mathcal{L}A^a(R)
\end{array}
\]

An application of \( \text{RHom}_R(\cdot, M) \) yields the following commutative diagram in \( D(R) \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{RHom}_R(\mathcal{L}A^a(R), M) & \to & \text{RHom}_R(\text{R} \Gamma_a(\mathcal{L}A^a(R)), M) \\
\text{RHom}_R(\gamma_{\mathcal{L}A^a(R)}, M) & \cong & \text{RHom}_R(\text{R} \Gamma_a(\gamma_{\mathcal{L}A^a(R)}), M) \\
\text{RHom}_R(\gamma_X, M) & \cong & \text{RHom}_R(\text{R} \Gamma_a(R), M)
\end{array}
\]

where the vertical morphisms are isomorphisms because of the argument of the previous paragraph. Hence, the morphism \( \text{RHom}_R(\nu_R, M) \) is also an isomorphism.

Next consider the commutative triangle

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
R & \to & \mathcal{L}A^a(R) \\
\downarrow_{\nu_R} & & \downarrow\kappa \\
\hat{R}^a & \to & \hat{R}^a
\end{array}
\]

where \( \kappa \) is obtained by taking degree 0 homology; see, e.g., \([2, 1(3)]\). Apply \( \text{RHom}_R(\cdot, M) \) to produce the following commutative diagram in \( D(R) \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{RHom}_R(\hat{R}^a, M) & \to & \text{RHom}_R(\text{R} \Gamma_a(\hat{R}^a), M) \\
\text{RHom}_R(\kappa, M) & \cong & \text{RHom}_R(\kappa, M) \\
\text{RHom}_R(\mathcal{L}A^a(R), M) & \to & \text{RHom}_R(\nu_R, M) \Rightarrow \text{RHom}_R(R, M)
\end{array}
\]

which implies that \( \text{RHom}_R(\epsilon_R^a, M) \) is an isomorphism in \( D(R) \).
In the final commutative diagram,

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{RHom}_R(R, M) \\
\text{RHom}_R(\varepsilon_R^a, M) \cong \\
\text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \\
\downarrow h_M \\
M,
\end{array}
\]

the morphism \(\xi\) is the natural evaluation isomorphism. The diagram shows that \(h_M^a\) is an isomorphism in \(D(R)\). Since \(M\) is a module, this implies \(\text{Ext}_R^i(\widehat{R}^a, M) = 0\) for each \(i \neq 0\) and further that the induced map \(H_0(h_M^a) : \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \to M\) is bijective. The definitions yield an equality \(H_0(h_M^a) = g_M^a\), completing the proof. □

Remark 2.5. If \(M\) is an \(R\)-module such that \(M \cong \widehat{M}^a\), then \(M \simeq \Lambda^a(M)\). Indeed, the isomorphism \(M \cong \widehat{M}^a\) shows that \(M\) is an \(\widehat{R}^a\)-module. Let \(P\) be an \(\widehat{R}^a\)-free resolution of \(M\). Then \(P\) is an \(R\)-flat resolution of \(M\) consisting of \(a\)-adically complete modules. Thus, one has \(\Lambda^a(M) \simeq \Lambda^a(P) \cong P \simeq M\).

We are now in a position to give a useful alternate description of the analytic conductor submodule \(C_M^a\); see 1.2 for the definitions of the maps.

**Proposition 2.6.** Let \(M\) be a finitely generated \(R\)-module. The homomorphisms \(f_M^a : C_M^a \to \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M)\) and \(g_M^a : \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \to C_M^a\) are inverse isomorphisms. In particular, \(\text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M)\) is finitely generated over \(R\).

**Proof.** One checks from the definitions that the composition \(k_M^a f_M^a\) is the identity on \(C_M^a\). Hence, the first conclusion will be verified once we show that \(k_M^a\) is bijective; the second conclusion will then follow, as \(C_M^a\) is finitely generated over \(R\).

The module \(C_M^a\) is \(a\)-adically complete, so Proposition 2.4 implies that the evaluation map \(g_M^a : \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, C_M^a) \to C_M^a\) is bijective. By Lemma 1.3 the map \(\text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, C_M^a) \to \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M)\) is an isomorphism. In particular, the composition \(k_M^a = g_M^{a^{-1}} \circ \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, C_M^a)\) is bijective, as desired. □

3. Detecting completeness

3.1. **Proof of Theorem A.** The implication (i) \(\Rightarrow\) (ii) follows from Proposition 2.3 and Remark 2.5 and (iii) \(\Rightarrow\) (i) is trivial.

For the implication (iii) \(\Rightarrow\) (i), set \(S = R/\text{Ann}_R(M)\). A result of Gruson and Raynaud [15, Seconde Partie, Thm. (3.2.6)], and Jensen [12, Prop. 6] provides the following bound on the projective dimension of \(\widehat{S}^a\) as an \(S\)-module:

\[\text{pd}_S(\widehat{S}^a) \leq \dim(S) = \dim_R(M)\]

(\star)

Consider the following sequence of isomorphisms in \(D(R)\):

\[
\text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \simeq \text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, \text{RHom}_R(S, M)) \\
\simeq \text{RHom}_S(\widehat{R}^a \otimes_R S, M) \\
\simeq \text{RHom}_S(\widehat{S}^a, M).
\]

The first isomorphism follows from the fact that \(M\) is naturally an \(S\)-module. The second is adjunction, and the third is standard as \(S\) is finitely generated over \(R\). Combining (\star) with the displayed isomorphisms, the assumption \(\text{Ext}_R^i(\widehat{R}^a, M) = 0\) for all \(i = 1, \ldots, \dim_R(M)\) implies \(\text{Ext}_R^i(\widehat{R}^a, M) = 0\) for all \(i \neq 0\).
It follows that the natural map \( \lambda: \text{Hom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \rightarrow \text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \) is an isomorphism in \( D(R) \). Proposition 2.6 implies that the composition \( \lambda \circ f_M^a: C_M^a \rightarrow \text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M) \) is also an isomorphism in \( D(R) \). Because \( M \) is finitely generated, the natural morphism \( \mu: \Lambda^a(M) \rightarrow \widehat{M}^a \) is also an isomorphism in \( D(R) \). These data yield the following commutative diagram.

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
C_M^a \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_M^a} \Lambda^a(C_M^a) & \xrightarrow{\Lambda^a(\lambda \circ f_M^a)} & \Lambda^a(\text{RHom}_R(\widehat{R}^a, M)) \\
\downarrow i_M^a & & \downarrow \approx \\
M \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_M^a} \widehat{M}^a & \xrightarrow{\mu} & \Lambda^a(M)
\end{array}
\]

One sees that the composition of natural maps \( C_M^a \xrightarrow{i_M^a} M \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_M^a} \widehat{M}^a \) is bijective. Since \( \varepsilon_M^a \) is also injective, the result now follows. \( \square \)

**Remark 3.2.** As the referee indicated, one can interpret Theorem A as a statement about the \( \alpha \)-adic completeness of \( R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \) because \( M \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete if and only if \( R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete. For the sake of completeness, we include a sketch of the proof.

For one implication, assume that \( M \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete. For each prime \( \mathfrak{p} \in \text{Ass}_R(M) \), the injection \( R/\mathfrak{p} \hookrightarrow M \) and the completeness of \( M \) imply that \( R/\mathfrak{p} \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete. In particular, this is true for each minimal prime \( \mathfrak{p} \) containing \( \text{Ann}_R(M) \), and it follows that the same is true for each nonminimal prime \( \mathfrak{p} \) containing \( \text{Ann}_R(M) \). A prime filtration argument applied to \( R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \) shows that \( R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete.

Conversely, if \( R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete, then there exists an integer \( r \) and a surjection \( (R/\text{Ann}_R(M))^r \rightarrow M \), and it follows that \( M \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete.

This fact, one easily deduces the following: When \( N \) is a second finitely generated \( R \)-module, if \( M \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete and \( \text{Supp}_R(N) \subseteq \text{Supp}_R(M) \), then \( N \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete.

3.3. **Proof of Theorem A**. One implication is trivial. For the other, assume that \( \widehat{R}^a \) is module-finite over \( R \). As \( \widehat{R}^a \) is flat and module-finite over \( R \), it is projective, and so \( \text{Ext}_R^i(\widehat{R}^a, R) = 0 \) for each \( i \neq 0 \). The completeness of \( R \) follows from Theorem A. \( \square \)

The next example shows that the nontrivial implication in Corollary A fails if \( \alpha \) is not assumed to be in the Jacobson radical of \( R \).

**Example 3.4.** Let \( k \) be a field and set \( R = k \times k \) and \( \mathfrak{b} = k \times 0 \). The Jacobson radical of \( R \) is 0. One readily checks that \( \widehat{R}^\mathfrak{b} \cong 0 \times k \), showing that \( R \) is not \( \mathfrak{b} \)-adically complete even though \( \widehat{R}^\mathfrak{b} \) is module-finite over \( R \).

Theorem A provides the converse to \( \mathfrak{b} \) (2.3) when \( R \) is local and \( M \) is finitely generated. This is the implication \( \mathfrak{b} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{i} \) in the next result. The implication \( \mathfrak{i} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{ii} \) is in \( \mathfrak{i} \) (3.7) or \( \mathfrak{b} \) (2.3), while the implication \( \mathfrak{i} \Rightarrow \mathfrak{iii} \) is trivial.

**Corollary 3.5.** Let \((R, \mathfrak{m})\) be a local ring. For a finitely generated \( R \)-module \( M \) the following conditions are equivalent:

(i) \( M \) is \( \mathfrak{m} \)-adically complete.

(ii) For each flat \( R \)-module \( B \) and each \( i \neq 0 \), one has \( \text{Ext}_R^i(B, M) = 0 \).
(iii) For each $i \neq 0$, one has $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(\tilde{R}^a, M) = 0$. \hfill \Box

With Theorem 3.5 and Corollary 3.6 in mind, one may ask what the finitely generated complete $R$-modules look like, say, when $R$ is not complete. Examples include the modules of finite length. We observe next that one can have complete $R$-modules of infinite length.

**Example 3.6.** Let $(S, n)$ be a non-Artinian complete local ring. Set $R = S[X]_{(n, X)}$ with maximal ideal $m = (n, X)R$. The ring $R$ is not $m$-adically complete, while the module $R/(X)R \cong S$ is $m$-adically complete and has infinite length.

A finitely generated $R$-module $C$ is semidualizing if $R \cong \text{RHom}_R(C, C)$.

**Corollary 3.7.** If $C$ is a semidualizing $R$-module such that $\operatorname{Ext}^i_R(\tilde{R}^a, C) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$, then $R$ is $a$-adically complete.

**Proof.** Theorem A implies that $C$ is $a$-adically complete and hence $C \simeq C \otimes_R \tilde{R}^a \simeq C \otimes_R \tilde{R}^a$. By [5, (5.8)] the complex $C \otimes_R \tilde{R}^a$ is $\tilde{R}^a$-semidualizing. This provides (1) in the following sequence while (4) and (5) are by hypothesis:

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{R}^a & \equiv \text{RHom}_{\tilde{R}^a}(C \otimes_R \tilde{R}^a, C) \\
& \equiv \text{RHom}_R(C, \text{RHom}_{\tilde{R}^a}(\tilde{R}^a, C)) \\
& \equiv \text{RHom}_R(C, C) \\
& \equiv R.
\end{align*}
\]

(2) is adjunction [5, (1.5.2)] and (3) is standard [5, (1.5.5)]. \hfill \Box

Here is a version of Theorem A for complexes.

**Proposition 3.8.** Let $M$ be a homologically degreewise finite $R$-complex such that $\inf(\Lambda^a(M)) = \inf(M)$ and $\sup(\Lambda^a(M)) = \sup(M)$, e.g., if $M$ is homologically finite. Fix an integer $s \geq \sup(M)$. If $\text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)$ is homologically concentrated in degree $s$, then so is $M$, and the module $H_s(M)$ is $a$-adically complete.

**Proof.** Assume $M \neq 0$. Then $\sup(\Lambda^a(M)) = \sup(M) > -\infty$, and Lemma 2.2 implies $\text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M) \neq 0$. Our hypotheses provide (1) and (3) in the sequence

\[
s \left(1\right) \sup(M) \left(2\right) \sup(\text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)) \left(3\right) s
\]

and (2) is from [7, (2.1)]; this implies $s = \sup(M)$. Since $\text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)$ is homologically concentrated in degree $s$, one has $\Sigma^s \text{Ext}^{-s}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M) \simeq \text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)$, providing the first of the following isomorphisms:

\[
\Lambda^a(\Sigma^s \text{Ext}^{-s}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)) \simeq \Lambda^a(\text{RHom}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M)) \simeq \Lambda^a(M),
\]

while the second one is from Lemma 2.2. This provides (5) in the following sequence:

\[
\inf(M) \left(4\right) \inf(\Lambda^a(M)) \left(5\right) \inf(\Lambda^a(\Sigma^s \text{Ext}^{-s}_R(\tilde{R}^a, M))) \left(6\right) s = \sup(M) \left(7\right) \inf(M)
\]
while (4) is by assumption, (6) is by Corollary 3.9. (7) is proved above, and (8) is trivial. It follows that \( \inf(M) = \sup(M) = s \) and so \( M \) is homologically concentrated in degree \( s \). Finally, one has \( M \cong \Sigma^s H_s(M) \) and so

\[
\mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^s, M) \cong \mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^s, \Sigma^s H_s(M)) \cong \Sigma^s \mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_R(\hat{R}^s, H_s(M)).
\]

Since this is homologically concentrated in degree \( s \), one has \( \text{Ext}_R^i(\hat{R}^s, H_s(M)) = 0 \) for each \( i \neq 0 \). Theorem \( \text{(A)} \) implies that \( H_s(M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete.

The next result contains Theorem \( \text{C} \) from the Introduction.

**Corollary 3.9.** Let \( M, N \) be homologically finite \( R \)-complexes and \( s \in \mathbb{Z} \) such that \( s \geq \sup(\text{RHom}_R(N, M)) \). If \( \text{RHom}_R(\hat{N}^s, M) \) is homologically concentrated in degree \( s \), then so is \( \text{RHom}_R(N, M) \), and \( \text{Ext}_R^{-s}(N, M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete.

**Proof.** Using \( s = 0 \) in Corollary 3.9 one concludes that \( \text{Ext}_R^i(N, M) = 0 \) for each \( i \neq 0 \) and that \( \text{Hom}_R(N, M) \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete. Since \( \text{pd}_R(N) \) is finite, one has

\[
\text{RHom}_R(N, M) \cong \text{RHom}_R(N, R) \otimes_R M
\]

by tensor-evaluation \([2] (4.4)\). The next equalities are from \([7] (2.1)\) and \([5] (2.13)\):

\[
0 = \inf(\text{RHom}_R(N, M)) = \inf(\text{RHom}_R(N, R)) + \inf(M) = -\text{pd}_R(N).
\]

Since \( R \) is local, the module \( N \neq 0 \) is free and \( \text{Hom}_R(N, M) \cong M^n \) for some \( n > 0 \). Because \( M^n \) is \( \alpha \)-adically complete, the same is true of \( M \).

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