

TILTING THEORY AND THE FINITISTIC DIMENSION CONJECTURES

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Dedicated to Idun Reiten on the occasion of her sixtieth birthday

ABSTRACT. Let R be a right noetherian ring and let $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ be the class of all finitely presented modules of finite projective dimension. We prove that $\text{findim}R = n < \infty$ iff there is an (infinitely generated) tilting module T such that $\text{pd}T = n$ and $T^\perp = (\mathcal{P}^{<\infty})^\perp$. If R is an artin algebra, then T can be taken to be finitely generated iff $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite. We also obtain a sufficient condition for validity of the First Finitistic Dimension Conjecture that extends the well-known result of Huisgen-Zimmermann and Smalø.

For a ring R , the little finitistic dimension, $\text{findim}R$, is defined as the supremum of the projective dimensions attained on the category of all finitely generated right R -modules of finite projective dimension. The big finitistic dimension, $\text{Findim}R$, is defined correspondingly on the category of arbitrary right R -modules of finite projective dimension.

It is well known that these dimensions may be infinite. Moreover, they do not coincide in general. For example, if R is a commutative local noetherian ring, we know by classical results of Bass, Gruson and Raynaud, and Auslander and Buchweitz that $\text{Findim}R$ is just the Krull dimension and $\text{findim}R$ coincides with the depth of R . So in this case, $\text{Findim}R = \text{findim}R$ if and only if R is a Cohen-Macaulay ring.

In the case when R is a finite-dimensional algebra over a field, the little and the big finitistic dimensions may also differ; that is, the First Finitistic Dimension Conjecture fails. The first example of this phenomenon was given by Huisgen-Zimmermann in 1992. Later, Smalø showed that the difference between the two dimensions can be arbitrarily big [18]. However, it is still an open question, known as the Second Finitistic Dimension Conjecture, whether the little finitistic dimension of a finite-dimensional algebra R is always finite.

Positive answers are known in some particular cases. For instance, it was shown by Auslander and Reiten [5] that $\text{findim}R$ is finite provided that the category $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ of all finitely presented modules of finite projective dimension is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod}R$. It is then enough to consider the projective dimensions of the right $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -approximations of the (finitely many) simple modules; the projective dimension of any other finitely generated module is either infinite or bounded by the maximum of these numbers. Huisgen-Zimmermann and Smalø [13] later extended

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this result to arbitrary modules by showing that every module of finite projective dimension is then a direct limit of modules in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. In this way, they proved that contravariant finiteness of $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ implies $\text{Findim } R = \text{findim } R$.

The idea of Auslander and Reiten can be extended beyond the particular case when $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite. The point is that the larger class $\mathcal{A} = {}^\perp((\mathcal{P}^{<\infty})^\perp)$ always provides for right approximations. If R is right artinian, then the little finitistic dimension can be computed as the maximum of the projective dimensions of the right \mathcal{A} -approximations of the (finitely many) simple R -modules, [20].

In the present paper, we extend and refine the results mentioned above by providing sufficient conditions for validity of the First and the Second Finitistic Dimension Conjectures. The novel idea here is to study the complete cotorsion pair cogenerated by $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ by means of the theory of (infinitely generated) tilting modules.

We show for any right noetherian ring R that $\text{findim } R < \infty$ if and only if the Ext-orthogonal class $(\mathcal{P}^{<\infty})^\perp$ equals T^\perp where T is an (infinitely generated) tilting module in the sense of [1]. Moreover, $\text{findim } R = \text{pd } T$, and the artin algebras R for which T can be chosen finitely presented are precisely those with $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ contravariantly finite.

We also prove that modules of finite projective dimension coincide with direct summands of $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered modules if and only if the category $\text{Add } T$ is closed under cokernels of monomorphisms. We thus obtain a sufficient condition for $\text{Findim } R = \text{findim } R$ that extends the result of Huisgen-Zimmermann and Smalø mentioned above.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 1, we review basic properties of Ext-orthogonal classes, complete cotorsion pairs and tilting modules following [1] and [9]. Our main results for the right coherent case are proved in Sections 2 and 3. Section 4 treats, in more detail, the particular case of artin algebras.

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1. COTORSION PAIRS, TILTING MODULES, AND APPROXIMATIONS

For an arbitrary ring R we denote by $\text{Mod } R$ the category of all (right) R -modules, and by $\text{mod } R$ the subcategory of $\text{Mod } R$ consisting of all finitely presented modules.

Let $M \in \text{Mod } R$ and let

$$\Theta : \dots \xrightarrow{f_{i+2}} P_{i+1} \xrightarrow{f_{i+1}} P_i \xrightarrow{f_i} \dots \xrightarrow{f_1} P_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} M \longrightarrow 0$$

be a projective resolution of M . Let $i < \omega$. Then the module $\text{Im}(f_i)$ is called the i -th **syzygy** of M in Θ . Dually, the i -th **cosyzygy** of M is defined in an injective coresolution of M . Denote by $\Omega^i(M)$ the class of the i -th syzygies occurring in

¹Added in proof: In this paper, we have not considered the obvious dual questions concerning relations between cotilting modules and the finitistic injective dimensions. In fact, if the cotilting modules are assumed to be pure-injective, then the approximation theory works fine and some of our results can be dualized. For more on this topic, we refer to the recent manuscript of Buan, Krause and Solberg, "On the lattice of cotilting modules".

all projective resolutions of M . Similarly, $\Omega^{-i}(\mathcal{M})$ denotes the class of the i -th cosyzygies occurring in all injective coresolutions of M .

The ring R is called **right coherent** provided that all finitely generated right ideals of R are finitely presented (equivalently, all finitely generated submodules of finitely presented right modules are finitely presented). If R is right coherent and M is finitely presented, then we will consider only projective resolutions consisting of finitely presented modules; so all the syzygies of M will be finitely presented in this case.

Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$. For an integer i , define $\Omega^i(\mathcal{M}) = \bigcup_{M \in \mathcal{M}} \Omega^i(M)$. We say that \mathcal{M} is **syzygy-closed**, provided that $\Omega^1(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. Similarly, \mathcal{M} is **cosyzygy-closed** provided that $\Omega^{-1}(\mathcal{M}) \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. Of course, if \mathcal{M} is syzygy-closed, then all the classes $\Omega^i(\mathcal{M})$, $i < \omega$, are syzygy-closed.

For each $0 < i < \omega$, we set

$$\mathcal{M}^{\perp i} = \{X \in \text{Mod}R \mid \text{Ext}_R^i(M, X) = 0 \text{ for all } M \in \mathcal{M}\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{M}^{\perp} = \bigcap_{0 < i < \omega} \mathcal{M}^{\perp i}.$$

Dually, we define ${}^{\perp i}\mathcal{M} = \{X \in \text{Mod}R \mid \text{Ext}_R^i(X, M) = 0 \text{ for all } M \in \mathcal{M}\}$, and ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{M} = \bigcap_{0 < i < \omega} {}^{\perp i}\mathcal{M}$.

Finally, recall that \mathcal{M} is **resolving (coresolving)** if it is closed under extensions, kernels of epimorphisms (cokernels of monomorphisms), and it contains all projective (injective) modules. For example, for any $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$, the class \mathcal{M}^{\perp} is coresolving, and ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{M}$ is resolving.

Obviously, any resolving class is syzygy-closed, and any coresolving class is cosyzygy-closed. If \mathcal{M} is a syzygy-closed class of modules, then $\mathcal{M}^{\perp 1} = \mathcal{M}^{\perp}$ is coresolving, and ${}^{\perp}(\mathcal{M}^{\perp}) = {}^{\perp 1}(\mathcal{M}^{\perp})$ is resolving. Similarly, if \mathcal{M} is cosyzygy-closed, then ${}^{\perp 1}\mathcal{M} = {}^{\perp}\mathcal{M}$ is resolving, and $({}^{\perp}\mathcal{M})^{\perp} = ({}^{\perp}\mathcal{M})^{\perp 1}$ is coresolving.

Next, we recall the notion of a cotorsion pair. This is the analog of the classical (nonhereditary) torsion pair where Hom is replaced by Ext^1 :

Definition. Let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$ be classes of modules. Then $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ is a **cotorsion pair** if $\mathcal{A} = {}^{\perp 1}\mathcal{B}$ and $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}^{\perp 1}$.

For any class $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$, we have the cotorsion pair $({}^{\perp 1}(\mathcal{C}^{\perp 1}), \mathcal{C}^{\perp 1})$, called the cotorsion pair **cogenerated** by \mathcal{C} .

Now, if \mathcal{C} is syzygy-closed, then the cotorsion pair cogenerated by \mathcal{C} coincides with $({}^{\perp}(\mathcal{C}^{\perp}), \mathcal{C}^{\perp})$. In particular, if C is a module and $\mathcal{X} = C^{\perp}$, then $({}^{\perp}\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X})$ is the cotorsion pair cogenerated by the set $\mathcal{S} = \{S_i \mid i < \omega\}$ where S_i denotes the i -th syzygy in a fixed projective resolution of C .

We will also need several concepts concerning approximations of modules.

Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$ and $A \in \text{Mod}R$. A morphism $f \in \text{Hom}_R(A, X)$ with $X \in \mathcal{M}$ is an **\mathcal{M} -preenvelope** of A provided that the abelian group homomorphism $\text{Hom}_R(f, M) : \text{Hom}_R(X, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(A, M)$ is surjective for each $M \in \mathcal{M}$. An \mathcal{M} -preenvelope $f \in \text{Hom}_R(A, X)$ of A is **special** if f is a monomorphism and $\text{Coker} f \in {}^{\perp 1}\mathcal{M}$. Note that by the observation above, the cokernel of any special \mathcal{M} -preenvelope is actually contained in ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{M}$ provided that \mathcal{M} is coresolving.

The notion of a **(special) \mathcal{M} -precover** is defined dually.²

²In the representation theory of artin algebras, the usual terminology for a preenvelope and a precover (in $\text{mod}R$) is a left, respectively a right, approximation.

The basic relation between cotorsion pairs and approximations goes back to Salce [17]. It may be viewed as a substitute for the nonexistence of a duality for arbitrary modules:

Lemma 1.1 ([17, Corollary 2.4.]). *Let R be a ring and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ a cotorsion pair. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) *every module has a special \mathcal{A} -precover;*
- (2) *every module has a special \mathcal{B} -preenvelope.*

*In this case, the cotorsion pair $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ is called **complete**.*

Remark 1.2 ([5, p. 125]). If we restrict all these notions to the category of all finitely presented modules, Lemma 1.1 remains true provided that R is right coherent and injective envelopes of finitely presented modules are finitely presented (this occurs in case R is an artin algebra, for example).

The key fact about cotorsion pairs — first proved in [9], and motivated by [10] — says that any cotorsion pair $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ cogenerated by a set of modules \mathcal{S} is complete. Moreover, there is a description of the class \mathcal{A} in terms of the modules from \mathcal{S} . In order to formulate it, we need one more notion:

Let σ be an ordinal. A chain of modules, $(M_\alpha \mid \alpha \leq \sigma)$, is **continuous** provided that $M_\alpha \subseteq M_{\alpha+1}$ for all $\alpha < \sigma$ and $M_\alpha = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} M_\beta$ for all limit ordinals $\alpha \leq \sigma$.

Let M be a module and \mathcal{C} a class of modules. Then M is **\mathcal{C} -filtered** provided that there is a continuous chain $(M_\alpha \mid \alpha \leq \sigma)$ consisting of submodules of M such that $M = M_\sigma$, and each of the modules $M_0, M_{\alpha+1}/M_\alpha$ ($\alpha < \sigma$), is isomorphic to an element of \mathcal{C} .

Theorem 1.3. *Let R be a ring and $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \text{Mod } R$ a set of modules. Let $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ be the cotorsion pair cogenerated by \mathcal{S} .*

- (1) [9, Theorem 10] *$(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ is complete.*
- (2) [19, Theorem 2.2] *If $R \in \mathcal{S}$, then \mathcal{A} consists of all direct summands of \mathcal{S} -filtered modules. Moreover, for each $A \in \mathcal{A}$ there exist $C \in \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$ and an \mathcal{S} -filtered module D such that $D = A \oplus C$.*

We will also use the following well-known homological facts:

Lemma 1.4 ([8, Theorem 7.3.4]). *Let R be a ring. Let M and N be modules and $0 < n < \omega$. Assume that M is ${}^{\perp n}N$ -filtered. Then $M \in {}^{\perp n}N$.*

Lemma 1.5 ([8, Lemma 10.2.4]). *Let R be a right coherent ring, $0 < n < \omega$, let M be a finitely presented module, and let $(N_\alpha, f_{\alpha\beta} \mid \alpha < \beta \in I)$ be a direct system of modules. Then*

$$\text{Ext}_R^n(M, \varinjlim N_\alpha) \cong \varinjlim \text{Ext}_R^n(M, N_\alpha).$$

In particular, $\mathcal{M}^{\perp n}$ and \mathcal{M}^\perp are closed under arbitrary direct limits for any class of finitely presented modules \mathcal{M} .

Lemma 1.6 ([4, Chap 1, Proposition 10.1]). *Let R be a ring, $0 < n < \omega$, let M be a pure-injective module, and let $(N_\alpha, f_{\alpha\beta} \mid \alpha < \beta \in I)$ be a direct system of modules. Then*

$$\text{Ext}_R^n(\varinjlim N_\alpha, M) \cong \varprojlim \text{Ext}_R^n(N_\alpha, M).$$

In particular, ${}^{\perp n}\mathcal{M}$ and ${}^\perp\mathcal{M}$ are closed under arbitrary direct limits for any class of pure-injective modules \mathcal{M} .

Finally, we recall several notions and results from tilting theory.

Let R be a ring. For a class of modules $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$, denote by **Add** \mathcal{M} (respectively, **add** \mathcal{M}) the class consisting of all modules isomorphic to direct summands of (finite) direct sums of elements of \mathcal{M} .

Definition. Let R be a ring. A module M is a **tilting module** provided that

(T1) $\text{pd}M < \infty$;

(T2) $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, M^{(I)}) = 0$ for each $i > 0$ and all sets I ;

(T3) there is a long exact sequence $0 \rightarrow R_R \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_r \rightarrow 0$ where $r \geq 0$ and $M_i \in \text{Add}M$ for each $0 \leq i \leq r$.

Observe that if M is a tilting module and $\mathcal{X} = M^\perp$, then $(^\perp\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X})$ is a complete cotorsion pair. Moreover, the long exact sequence of (T3) can be obtained from short exact sequences given by special \mathcal{X} -preenvelopes. By Theorem 1.3(2) or [1, 2.2], the cokernels of these preenvelopes have projective dimension bounded by $n = \text{pd}M$, and by dimension shifting, the $(n + 1)$ -th sequence splits. So we can assume that $r \leq \text{pd}M$ in condition (T3).

Tilting modules generalize the finite-dimensional tilting modules studied in the representation theory of finite-dimensional algebras (cf. [11], [16] et al.) as well as the infinitely generated tilting modules of projective dimension ≤ 1 studied in [6].

We point out some important properties.

Lemma 1.7. *Let R be a ring, $M \in \text{Mod}R$ a tilting module and $\mathcal{X} = M^\perp$.*

(a) *For each $X \in \mathcal{X}$, there exists a short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M' \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ with $M' \in \text{Add}M$ and $K \in \mathcal{X}$.*

(b) $\text{Add}M = \mathcal{X} \cap ^\perp\mathcal{X}$.

(c) *For each $X \in \mathcal{X}$ of projective dimension n there is a long exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow M_{n+1} \rightarrow M_n \rightarrow M_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

with $M_i \in \text{Add}M$ for all $i = 0, \dots, n + 1$.

Proof. (a) and (b) are shown in [1, 2.3 and 2.4]. Part (c) is only implicit in [1, 4.1], and so we present a full proof here.

Let $X \in \mathcal{X}$ be a module of projective dimension n . Iterating (a), we obtain a long exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K_n \rightarrow M_n \xrightarrow{f_n} M_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{f_1} M_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} X \rightarrow 0$ with $M_i \in \text{Add}M$ and $K_i = \text{Ker}f_i \in M^\perp$ for $i = 0, \dots, n$. Since $\text{pd}X \leq n$, by dimension shifting we have $\text{Ext}_R^1(K_{n-1}, K_n) \cong \text{Ext}_R^{n+1}(X, K_n) = 0$ and so $K_n \in \text{Add}M$. □

The relationship between tilting modules and existence of preenvelopes is established by the following fundamental result. Again, it is a common generalization of the classical finite-dimensional case [5] and the case of infinitely generated modules of projective dimension at most one [3].

Theorem 1.8 ([1, 4.1]). *Let R be a ring and $n < \omega$. Let $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \text{Mod}R$ be a class of modules closed under direct summands, cokernels of monomorphisms, and such that $\mathcal{X} \cap ^\perp\mathcal{X}$ is closed under coproducts. The following are equivalent:*

(1) *There exists a tilting module M of projective dimension at most n such that $\mathcal{X} = M^\perp$.*

(2) *Every module has a special \mathcal{X} -preenvelope, and all modules in $^\perp\mathcal{X}$ have projective dimension at most n .*

The proof of Theorem 1.8 is constructive: assuming (2), one obtains the tilting module M in the form $M = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} M_i$ where

$$0 \longrightarrow R \xrightarrow{f_0} M_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} M_1 \longrightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{f_n} M_n \longrightarrow 0$$

is a long exact sequence obtained by an iteration of special \mathcal{X} -preenvelopes of the module R , of $\text{Coker} f_0$, etc.

Finally, observe that if M is a tilting module, then every module T with $\text{Add}T = \text{Add}M$ is again a tilting module with $T^\perp = M^\perp$.

2. A TILTING MODULE MEASURING THE LITTLE FINITISTIC DIMENSION

For a ring R , we denote by \mathcal{P} the class of all modules of finite projective dimension and let $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty} = \mathcal{P} \cap \text{mod-}R$ be the class of all finitely presented modules of finite projective dimension.

Moreover, for $n < \omega$, we let \mathcal{P}_n be the class of all modules of projective dimension at most n , and set $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty} = \mathcal{P}_n \cap \text{mod}R$. Clearly, $\mathcal{P} = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{P}_n$ and $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty} = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$. Note that the classes \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{P}_n ($n < \omega$) are syzygy-closed, and the same is true of the classes $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ and $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$ ($n < \omega$) provided that R is right coherent.

Denote by $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ the cotorsion pair cogenerated by the class $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. For each $n < \omega$, let $(\mathcal{A}_n, \mathcal{B}_n)$ be the cotorsion pair cogenerated by the class $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$.

By Theorem 1.3 and Lemma 1.4, all these cotorsion pairs are complete, and $\mathcal{A}_n \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$.

If R is right coherent, it follows from Lemma 1.5 that \mathcal{B} and all the classes \mathcal{B}_n are definable in the sense of [7, §2.3]. In particular, they are determined by their (indecomposable) pure-injective modules. Furthermore, the modules in \mathcal{A}_n are direct limits of finitely presented modules in \mathcal{P}_n , and the modules in \mathcal{A} are direct limits of finitely presented modules in \mathcal{P} , as shown below.

Lemma 2.1. *Let R be right coherent. Then every module in \mathcal{A} is a direct limit of modules in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$.*

Proof. Denote by \mathcal{D} the class of all direct limits of modules in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Since $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ consists of finitely presented modules, the modules D in \mathcal{D} are characterized by the property that every homomorphism $h : F \rightarrow D$ where F is finitely presented factors through a module in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$; see [15, 2.1]. This implies first of all that \mathcal{D} is closed under direct limits, and thus under direct summands as well.

Moreover, it implies that \mathcal{D} is closed under extensions. In fact, let $0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$ be an exact sequence with A and C in \mathcal{D} , and $h : F \rightarrow B$ be a homomorphism where F is finitely presented. Then gh factors through a module P'' in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$; so there are maps $\sigma'' : F \rightarrow P''$ and $\tau'' : P'' \rightarrow C$ such that $gh = \tau'' \sigma''$. Let $p : R^n \rightarrow P''$ be an epimorphism with an integer $n \geq 0$, and let $p' : R^n \rightarrow B$ satisfy $gp' = \tau'' p$. Denote by $g'' : F \oplus R^n \rightarrow P''$ the coproduct map induced by σ'' and p , and by $h'' : F \oplus R^n \rightarrow B$ the coproduct map induced by h and p' . We then obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & F' & \xrightarrow{f''} & F \oplus R^n & \xrightarrow{g''} & P'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow h' & & \downarrow h'' & & \downarrow \tau'' & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Since P'' and $F \oplus R^n$ are finitely presented and the ring R is right coherent, we deduce that F' is finitely presented. Thus, h' factors through a module P' in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$; so there are maps $\sigma' : F' \rightarrow P'$ and $\tau' : P' \rightarrow A$ such that $h' = \tau' \sigma'$. In the push-out diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & F' & \xrightarrow{f''} & F \oplus R^n & \xrightarrow{g''} & P'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow \sigma' & & \downarrow \sigma & & \downarrow \simeq & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & P' & \xrightarrow{\rho} & P & \longrightarrow & P'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

we have that P belongs to $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$, and by the push-out property, we obtain a map $\tau : P \rightarrow B$ such that $\tau \sigma = h''$, hence $\tau \sigma|_F = h$. This shows that h factors through a module P in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Therefore, B belongs to \mathcal{D} .

So, we can conclude by transfinite induction that every $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered module belongs to \mathcal{D} . Thus, if A is in \mathcal{A} , it follows from Theorem 1.3(2) that A is a direct summand of a module D in \mathcal{D} , and therefore A belongs to \mathcal{D} . □

The close relation of these classes to tilting theory comes from the following observation:

Lemma 2.2. *Let $n < \omega$. Let R be a right coherent ring and \mathcal{S} a syzygy-closed class of finitely presented modules. Denote by $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$ the cotorsion pair cogenerated by \mathcal{S} . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$;
- (2) there exists a tilting module T of projective dimension at most n such that $\mathcal{V} = T^\perp$.

Proof. Since \mathcal{S} is syzygy-closed, \mathcal{V} is coresolving and $\mathcal{U} = {}^\perp\mathcal{V}$. Moreover, \mathcal{V} is closed under arbitrary direct limits by Lemma 1.5; so $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{V}$ is closed under coproducts. Finally, Theorem 1.3(1) implies that \mathcal{V} provides for special preenvelopes. The claim now follows from Theorem 1.8. □

We now apply our observation to the cotorsion pairs considered above.

Proposition 2.3. *Let R be a right coherent ring. For any $n < \omega$, there is a tilting module T_n of projective dimension at most n such that $\mathcal{B}_n = T_n^\perp$. If R is right noetherian and $\text{findim } R \geq n$, then T_n has projective dimension n .*

Proof. The first part is just Lemma 2.2 for $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$. Assume that R is right noetherian with $\text{findim } R \geq n$. So, there is a finitely presented module M of projective dimension n . Assume that there is a tilting module $T \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$ with $\mathcal{B}_n = T^\perp$. By Lemma 2.2, we then have $\mathcal{A}_n \subseteq \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$. On the other hand, $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty} \subseteq {}^\perp_1((\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty})^\perp) = \mathcal{A}_n$. This implies that $M \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$, a contradiction. □

In general, the tilting modules T_n are infinitely generated. For artin algebras, we will characterize the case when T_n can be taken finitely generated in Proposition 4.1 below.

The following example shows that the tilting modules T_n need not be Ext-orthogonal.

Example 2.4. Let us consider the serial algebra R of global dimension 2 given by the quiver $\bullet \xrightarrow{\alpha} \bullet \xrightarrow{\beta} \bullet \xrightarrow{\gamma} \bullet$ with the relation $\gamma\beta\alpha = 0$. We number

the vertices from left to right and denote by P_i , S_i and I_i the indecomposable projective, the simple, and the indecomposable injective corresponding to the i -th vertex, respectively. Then we see that we can choose $T_1 = P_1 \oplus P_2 \oplus S_2 \oplus P_2/P_4$, while T_2 will be the minimal injective cogenerator of $\text{Mod}R$. In particular, $\text{Ext}_R^1(T_2, T_1) \neq 0$, because we have an almost split sequence $0 \rightarrow P_2/P_4 \rightarrow P_1 \oplus S_2 \rightarrow I_2 \rightarrow 0$.

Observe that we get a large supply of tilting modules by varying the class \mathcal{S} :

Remark 2.5. For all $0 < i \leq n < \omega$, denote by $(\mathcal{A}_{ni}, \mathcal{B}_{ni})$ the cotorsion pair generated by the class $\Omega^{i-1}(\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty})$. By dimension shifting, we have $\mathcal{B}_{ni} = (\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty})^{\perp i}$. Note that $\mathcal{B}_{ni} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{nj}$ for $i \leq j$, $\mathcal{B}_{ni} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{mi}$ for $m \leq n$, and $\mathcal{B}_{ni} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{n+k, i+k}$ for all $k < \omega$.

Now, if R is right coherent, then Lemma 2.2 for $\mathcal{S} = \Omega^{i-1}(\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty})$ yields a tilting module T_{ni} of projective dimension at most $n - i + 1$ such that $\mathcal{B}_{ni} = T_{ni}^\perp$. If R is right noetherian and $\text{findim} R \geq n$, then we can show as in Proposition 2.3 that the projective dimension of T_{ni} equals $n - i + 1$.

In particular, it follows that the classes \mathcal{B}_{nn} ($n < \omega$) form an increasing chain of tilting torsion classes in the sense of [6].

Our main result in this section characterizes the case of $\text{findim} R < \infty$ for right noetherian rings:

Theorem 2.6. *Assume that R is right noetherian. Then $\text{findim} R < \infty$ if and only if there is a tilting module T such that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$. In this case $\text{findim} R = \text{pd} T$, and T can be taken $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered.*

Proof. The only-if-part is true for any right coherent ring by Proposition 2.3 for $n = \text{findim} R$; that also gives $\text{findim} R = \text{pd} T$. The if-part holds by Lemma 2.2 for $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Finally, Theorem 1.3(2) and Lemma 1.7(b) provide for a $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered module D and a module $C \in \text{Add} T$ such that $D = C \oplus T$. Then D is also a tilting module with $\mathcal{B} = D^\perp$. □

In particular cases, it is possible to compute the tilting module T explicitly:

Example 2.7. (a) Let R be a right noetherian ring of finite global dimension. Let $0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow I_0 \rightarrow I_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow I_n \rightarrow 0$ be the minimal injective resolution of R . Then $\bigoplus_{i \leq n} I_i$ is a tilting module as in Theorem 2.6.

Indeed, in this case, $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty} = \text{mod } -R$; so \mathcal{B} is the class of all injective modules. As mentioned in Section 1, the tilting module T can be obtained by an iteration of special \mathcal{B} -preenvelopes of R , etc. In particular, the minimal injective resolution of R yields a copy of T as above.

(b) Let R be a right coherent ring such that $\text{findim} R < \infty$ and $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$ consists of pure-injective modules. (Since $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B} = \text{Add} T$, the latter condition is equivalent to assuming that T is \sum -pure-injective.) Let M be the direct sum of a representative set of all indecomposable modules from $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$. Then M is a tilting module with $\mathcal{B} = M^\perp$.

This follows from Azumaya’s Decomposition Theorem and from the fact that the \sum -pure-injective module T is a direct sum of indecomposable summands with local endomorphism rings.

(c) Finally, we consider Cohen-Macaulay algebras and show that the dual of the dualizing module is a tilting module as in Theorem 2.6.

Let R be an artin algebra with the usual duality $D : \text{mod}R \rightarrow R \text{ mod}$. Following [5], we call R a Cohen-Macaulay algebra if there is a dualizing module ω , that is, a faithfully balanced bimodule ${}_R\omega_R$ which is a finitely generated strong cotilting module on both sides. Here a left module $M \in R \text{ mod}$ is said to be a cotilting module if there is a tilting module $T \in \text{mod}R$ such that $M = D(T)$. Furthermore, M is called a strong cotilting module if, in addition, the category $\mathcal{I}^{<\infty}$ of all finitely presented left R -modules of finite injective dimension coincides with the subcategory of $R \text{ mod}$ consisting of all modules X that have a finite $\text{add}M$ -resolution $0 \rightarrow M_n \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ with $M_0, \dots, M_n \in \text{add}M$.

Assume now that R is a Cohen-Macaulay algebra with dualizing module ω . We show that the finitely presented tilting module $T_R = D({}_R\omega)$ satisfies $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$. First of all, ${}^\perp(\mathcal{I}^{<\infty}) = {}^\perp\omega$. In fact, the inclusion “ \subset ” follows immediately from $\omega \in \mathcal{I}^{<\infty}$. Further, if ${}_R Y \in {}^\perp\omega$ and ${}_R X \in \mathcal{I}^{<\infty}$, then we see by induction on the length of the $\text{add}\omega$ -resolution of X that $\text{Ext}_R^i(Y, X) = 0$ for any $i > 0$.

Next, we show that the dual $D(X)$ of a module $X_R \in T^\perp$ is contained in ${}^\perp\omega$. This follows from the well-known formula $\text{Ext}_R^i(D(X), \omega) \cong D \text{Tor}_i^R(D(X), D(\omega)) \cong \text{Ext}_R^i(D(\omega), X)$, where the second isomorphism holds because $D(\omega)$ is a finitely generated module and R is noetherian.

Now we verify that every module $X_R \in T^\perp$ is contained in \mathcal{B} . Take a module $A_R \in \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Of course, $D(A) \in \mathcal{I}^{<\infty}$; hence $\text{Ext}_R^i(D(X), D(A)) = 0$ for any $i > 0$ by the above computations, and the formula $\text{Ext}_R^i(A, X) \cong D \text{Tor}_i^R(D(X), A) \cong \text{Ext}_R^i(D(X), D(A))$ again gives the claim. Finally, since $T \in \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$, we conclude that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$.

3. A CRITERION FOR EQUALITY OF THE FINITISTIC DIMENSIONS

In this section, we give a criterion for validity of the First Finitistic Dimension Conjecture in terms of the tilting module T considered in Theorem 2.6. The following general result will be crucial:

Proposition 3.1. *Let R be a ring and M be a tilting module. Then the following two conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *the category $\text{Add}M$ is closed under cokernels of monomorphisms;*
- (2) $\mathcal{P} = {}^\perp(M^\perp)$.

These conditions imply $\text{Findim}R < \infty$.

If M is finitely presented, then these conditions also imply

- (3) $\mathcal{A} = {}^\perp(M^\perp)$.

If M is finitely presented and Σ -pure-injective, then (3) implies (1); so all three conditions are equivalent.

Proof. Put $\mathcal{X} = M^\perp$.

Assume (1). By Theorem 1.8, we have ${}^\perp\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$, where n is the projective dimension of T , and for any module $A \in \mathcal{P}$ there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$ with $X \in \mathcal{X}$ and $Y \in {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$. Clearly, $X \in \mathcal{P}$. Let m be the projective dimension of X . By Lemma 1.7(c), there is a long exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_{m+1} \rightarrow M_m \rightarrow M_{m-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

with $M_i \in \text{Add}M$ for all $i = 0, \dots, m+1$. Using the assumption, and induction, we obtain $X \in \text{Add}M \subseteq {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$. Since ${}^\perp\mathcal{X}$ is resolving, we infer $A \in {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$. This proves that $\mathcal{P} \subseteq {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$, and hence $\mathcal{P} = {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$.

Assume (2). Then $\text{Add}M = \mathcal{P} \cap \mathcal{X}$ by Lemma 1.7(b). So $\text{Add}M$ is closed under cokernels of monomorphisms since \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{X} share this property. Moreover, \mathcal{P} is closed under arbitrary direct sums; hence there is $n < \omega$ such that $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_n$, and $\text{Findim}R < \infty$.

Now, assume M is finitely presented. Then $M \in \mathcal{A}$, and hence ${}^\perp\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$. If (2) holds, we also have $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n = \mathcal{P} = {}^\perp\mathcal{X}$, which proves (3).

Finally, let M be finitely presented and Σ -pure-injective. Assume (3).

We first show that every monomorphism in $\text{add}M$ splits. Indeed, let $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ be a short exact sequence with A and B in $\text{add}M$. By assumption, $\text{add}M \subseteq \mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Since $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is closed under cokernels of monomorphisms, we have $C \in \mathcal{P}^{<\infty} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ and $A \in \mathcal{B}$; so $\text{Ext}_R^1(C, A) = 0$ and f splits.

Since M is Σ -pure-injective, we infer that any monomorphism in $\text{Add}M$ is pure, and hence splits; cf. [13, Observation 3.3]. So (1) holds true. \square

Now, we easily obtain a characterization for $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ in the right coherent case:

Theorem 3.2. *Let R be a right coherent ring. The following are equivalent:*

- (1) $\text{findim}R < \infty$, and every module of finite projective dimension is a direct summand of a $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered module.
- (2) There is a tilting module T such that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$ and $\text{Add}T$ is closed under cokernels of monomorphisms.
- (3) $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$.

Under any of these conditions we have $\text{Findim}R = \text{findim}R < \infty$.

Proof. (1) is equivalent to (3): The second condition of (1) is equivalent to $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ by Theorem 1.3(2). Further, $\text{findim}R < \infty$ implies $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$ by Lemma 1.4, and conversely, $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ implies that \mathcal{P} is closed under direct sums and therefore $\text{Findim}R < \infty$.

The equivalence of (1) and (2) now follows from Propositions 2.3 and 3.1. Finally, condition (1) obviously implies that $\text{Findim}R = \text{findim}R$. \square

Corollary 3.3. *Let R be a right coherent and right perfect ring. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$;
- (2) \mathcal{A} is closed under direct limits, and a module has finite projective dimension if and only if it is a direct limit of finitely presented modules having finite projective dimension.

Proof. Recall that every module in \mathcal{A} is a direct limit of modules from $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ by Lemma 2.1. If $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$, then $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_n$ for some $n \geq 0$, and since \mathcal{P}_n is closed under direct limits over any right perfect ring, we conclude that \mathcal{A} coincides with the class of all direct limits of modules from $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. The converse implication follows immediately from the fact that $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contained in \mathcal{A} . \square

Next, we discuss when \mathcal{A} is closed under direct limits. Recall that a module M with $\text{Add}M$ being closed under products is said to be **product-complete**; see [14].

Theorem 3.4. *Let R be a two-sided coherent and right perfect ring, and assume that the modules of finite projective dimension coincide with the direct limits of finitely presented modules having finite projective dimension. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) \mathcal{A} is closed under direct limits;

- (2) Findim $R < \infty$, and $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$ for a product-complete tilting module T ;
- (3) Findim $R < \infty$, and $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$ for a Σ -pure-injective tilting module T .

Proof. (1) implies (2): We know from Corollary 3.3 and Theorem 3.2 that $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ and Findim $R < \infty$. By assumption, the class $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_n$ is closed under products; so $\text{Add}T = \mathcal{P} \cap \mathcal{B}$ has the same property, and T is product-complete.

(2) implies (3) since any product-complete module is Σ -pure-injective.

(3) implies (1): Since Findim $R < \infty$, we know from [8, Theorem 7.4.6] that $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}^\perp)$ is a cotorsion pair. We now show that it coincides with our cotorsion pair $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$. Then Corollary 3.3 will yield (1).

As mentioned in Section 1, the tilting module T with $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$ can take the form $T = \bigoplus_{i \leq m} B_i$, where $0 \rightarrow R \xrightarrow{f_0} B_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 \rightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{f_m} B_m \rightarrow 0$ is a long exact sequence obtained by an iteration of special \mathcal{B} -preenvelopes.

By Lemma 1.7 (b), also this special choice of T must then be Σ -pure-injective. Thus $\text{Add}T$ consists of pure-injective modules and is contained in $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{P}^{<\infty})^\perp$. From the assumption and Lemma 1.6, we then infer that $\text{Add}T$ is even contained in \mathcal{P}^\perp .

In particular, we deduce that $B_i \in \mathcal{P}^\perp$ for all $i \leq m$. Moreover, the cokernels $\text{Coker}f_i$ are in $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$. So, the above long exact sequence can also be viewed as an iteration of special \mathcal{P}^\perp -preenvelopes. Now, taking $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{P}^\perp$ in the proof of Theorem 1.8 (cf. [1, Theorem 4.1]), we get $T^\perp = \mathcal{P}^\perp$, and $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$. □

The results above lead to the question of when are all modules from \mathcal{P}_n direct limits of modules from $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$. A sufficient condition in the semi-perfect case is as follows:

Lemma 3.5. *Let R be a ring such that each projective module is a direct sum of finitely generated modules (e.g., let R be semi-perfect). Let $0 < n < \omega$. Assume that each module from \mathcal{P}_{n-1} is a directed union of modules from $\mathcal{P}_{n-1}^{<\infty}$. Then each module from \mathcal{P}_n is a direct limit of modules from $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$.*

Proof. Let $M \in \mathcal{P}_n$. So there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{\beta < \lambda} P_\beta \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ where $N \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$ and all P_β ($\beta < \lambda$) are finitely generated and projective. By assumption, $N = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} N_\alpha$ for a directed set (I, \leq) and for $N_\alpha \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}^{<\infty}$ ($\alpha \in I$). Without loss of generality, we assume that $\omega \leq \text{card}(I)$.

For each $\alpha \in I$, let L_α be the smallest finite subset of λ such that $N_\alpha \subseteq \bigoplus_{\beta \in L_\alpha} P_\beta$. Then the short exact sequences $0 \rightarrow N_\alpha \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{\beta \in L_\alpha} P_\beta \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ($\alpha \in I$) form a direct system: for $\alpha \leq \alpha' \in I$, the direct system map $f_{\alpha\alpha'}$ is defined as the triple (μ, ν, π) where $\mu : N_\alpha \hookrightarrow N_{\alpha'}$ and $\nu : \bigoplus_{\beta \in L_\alpha} P_\beta \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{\beta \in L_{\alpha'}} P_\beta$ are the inclusions, and $\pi : M_\alpha \rightarrow M_{\alpha'}$ is the induced map. Observe that $M_\alpha \in \mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$ for all $\alpha \in I$.

Put $L = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} L_\alpha$. Then the direct limit of the direct system defined above is the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{\beta \in L} P_\beta \rightarrow \lim_\alpha M_\alpha \rightarrow 0$. So $M \cong \lim_\alpha M_\alpha \oplus \bigoplus_{\beta < \lambda, \beta \notin L} P_\beta$ is a direct limit of elements from $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$. □

As a first corollary, we obtain a result proved by Huisgen-Zimmermann in the finite-dimensional algebra case (cf. [12, Observation 5])

Corollary 3.6. *Let R be a semi-perfect ring and $M \in \mathcal{P}_1$. Then M is a direct limit of a direct system of modules from $\mathcal{P}_1^{<\infty}$.*

Proof. Since R is semi-perfect, each module from \mathcal{P}_0 is a direct sum of cyclic modules, hence a directed union of a direct system of modules from $\mathcal{P}_0^{<\infty}$, and Lemma 3.5 applies. \square

Corollary 3.7. *Let R be a two-sided coherent and right perfect ring such that $\text{Findim } R = 1$. Then $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ iff all modules in $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$ are pure-injective.*

Proof. This follows immediately from Theorem 3.4 and Corollaries 3.3 and 3.6. \square

Unfortunately, even for finite-dimensional algebras, $M \in \mathcal{P}_1$ need not be a directed union of elements of $\mathcal{P}_1^{<\infty}$, and the conclusion of Lemma 3.5 may fail for $n \geq 2$. The relevant example is due to Smalø [18]:

Example 3.8. For each $m \geq 2$, there exists a finite-dimensional algebra R over an algebraically closed field k and a module $M \in \mathcal{P}_m$ such that M is not a direct limit of a direct system of modules from $\mathcal{P}_m^{<\infty}$. Indeed, consider the finite-dimensional algebra R constructed in [18, §1] for $n = 2$. So $\text{findim } R = 1$ and $\text{Findim } R = 2$ by [18, Theorem 1.1]. Then a module M of projective dimension 2 cannot be a direct limit of a direct system of modules from $\mathcal{P}_m^{<\infty} (= \mathcal{P}_1^{<\infty})$ since \mathcal{P}_1 is closed under direct limits. Let N be the first syzygy module of M ; so $N \in \mathcal{P}_1$. By Lemma 3.5, N is not a directed union of elements of $\mathcal{P}_1^{<\infty}$.

4. FINITISTIC DIMENSIONS OF ARTIN ALGEBRAS

In this section, R will denote an artin algebra. We will prove that the tilting module T in Theorem 2.6 can be chosen finitely presented if and only if the category $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite.

Recall that a subcategory \mathcal{M} of $\text{mod } R$ is **contravariantly** (respectively, **covariantly**) **finite** in $\text{mod } R$ if every finitely presented module has an \mathcal{M} -precover (respectively, an \mathcal{M} -preenvelope). In this case, it is well known that the \mathcal{M} -precovers (\mathcal{M} -preenvelopes) have minimal versions which are special.

Proposition 4.1. *Let R be an artin algebra. Let \mathcal{S} be a syzygy-closed subclass of $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. Denote by $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$ the cotorsion pair cogenerated by \mathcal{S} . The following are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$;
- (2) there exists a finitely presented tilting module T such that $\mathcal{V} = T^\perp$.

Proof. That (2) implies (1) is due to Auslander and Reiten. In fact, we know from [5, §5] that $\mathcal{V} \cap \text{mod } R$ is coresolving and covariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$. Then $\mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R$ is contravariantly finite by Remark 1.2

Assume (1). From $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ we deduce $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$; so $\mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R \subseteq \mathcal{A} \cap \text{mod } R = \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ by [20, Corollary 2.6]. Following [5, 3.9], there even exists $n < \omega$ such that $\mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$. Since $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R$, we see that $\mathcal{V} = M^\perp$ for a module M of projective dimension at most n . Remark 1.2 gives that every finitely presented module X has a special \mathcal{V} -preenvelope $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow V \rightarrow U \rightarrow 0$ where $V \in \mathcal{V} \cap \text{mod } R$ and $U \in \mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R$. We can then construct a long exact sequence $0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow V_0 \rightarrow V_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_{n-1} \rightarrow V_n \rightarrow 0$ with $V_0, \dots, V_{n-1} \in \mathcal{V} \cap \text{mod } R$ and all cokernels in $\mathcal{U} \cap \text{mod } R$. By dimension shifting, we see that V_n is contained in M^\perp , hence in $\mathcal{V} \cap \text{mod } R$. The same argument as in the proof of [1, 4.1] now shows that $T = \bigoplus_{i=0}^n V_i$ is a finitely presented tilting module such that $\mathcal{V} = T^\perp$. \square

Theorem 4.2. *Let R be an artin algebra. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$;
- (2) there is a finitely presented tilting module T such that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$.

Proof. By [20, Corollary 2.6], $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty} = \mathcal{A} \cap \text{mod } R$ over any right noetherian ring. So the equivalence follows from Proposition 4.1 for $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. □

If R is an artin algebra such that $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$, then it was shown by Huisgen-Zimmermann and Smalø in [13] that the First and the Second Finitistic Dimension Conjectures hold true. The hard core of their proof consisted of showing directly that \mathcal{P} coincides with the class of all direct limits of modules in $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$. The following is a refinement of that result:

Corollary 4.3. *If R is an artin algebra such that $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$, then every module of finite projective dimension is a direct summand of a $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ -filtered module. In particular, $\text{Findim } R = \text{findim } R < \infty$.*

Proof. By Theorem 4.2, there is a finitely presented tilting module T such that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$. Since T is \sum -pure-injective, Proposition 3.1 and Theorem 3.2 yield $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ and $\text{Findim } R = \text{findim } R < \infty$. □

Corollary 4.4. *Let R be an artin algebra. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$;
- (2) there is a finitely presented tilting module T such that $\mathcal{P}^\perp = T^\perp$;
- (3) there is a finitely presented tilting module T such that $T^\perp \subset M^\perp$ for all tilting modules M .

Proof. (1) implies (2) is just Theorem 4.2 together with the condition $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{P}$ shown in Corollary 4.3.

(2) implies (3) is clear since every tilting module M belongs to \mathcal{P} , and hence $\mathcal{P}^\perp \subseteq M^\perp$.

(3) implies (1): In particular, it follows that T^\perp is contained in all $T_n^\perp = \mathcal{B}_n$ considered in Proposition 2.3. Hence T^\perp is contained in their intersection \mathcal{B} . Since $T \in \mathcal{P}^{<\infty}$, we conclude that $\mathcal{B} = T^\perp$, and (1) is verified by Theorem 4.2. □

Remark 4.5. Applying Proposition 4.1 to $\mathcal{S} = \Omega^{i-1}(\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty})$ with $0 < i \leq n < \omega$, we get the corresponding statements for the cotorsion pairs $(\mathcal{A}_{ni}, \mathcal{B}_{ni})$ considered in Remark 2.5. More precisely, the category $\mathcal{A}_{ni} \cap \text{mod } R$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$ if and only if there is a finitely presented tilting module T_{ni} such that $\mathcal{B}_{ni} = T_{ni}^\perp$. (By [20, Corollary 2.4], this is also equivalent to the following assertion: “For each simple module S there is a special \mathcal{A}_{ni} -precover of S , $f : A \rightarrow S$, such that $A \in \text{mod } R$.”) For $i = 1$, we infer that the class $\mathcal{P}_n^{<\infty}$ is contravariantly finite in $\text{mod } R$ iff there is a finitely presented tilting module T_n such that $\mathcal{B}_n = T_n^\perp$ ($n < \omega$).

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