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## On the abelianization of derived categories and a negative solution to Rosický's problem

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# On the abelianization of derived categories and a negative solution to Rosický’s problem

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## ABSTRACT

We prove for a large family of rings  $R$  that their  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension is greater than one for each infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ . This answers in the negative a problem posed by Rosický. The derived categories of such rings then do not satisfy, for any  $\lambda$ , the Adams  $\lambda$ -representability for morphisms. Equivalently, they are examples of well-generated triangulated categories whose  $\lambda$ -abelianization in the sense of Neeman is not a full functor for any  $\lambda$ . In particular, we show that given a compactly generated triangulated category, one may not be able to find a Rosický functor among the  $\lambda$ -abelianization functors.

## Introduction

Our main goal is to give simple examples of triangulated categories where an attempt to apply Neeman’s representability theorems from [Nee09], which are based on the existence of Rosický functors, hits serious obstacles. We achieve this by answering in the negative a question posed by Rosický [Ros09].

*Problem.* Given a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ , is there an infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$  such that the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\mathcal{G}$  is at most one?

We recall that [Nee09] is a part of a program, founded in [Nee01], which seeks to build up the theory of triangulated categories without using models. This has proved to be a very useful approach which has found several applications in algebraic topology, representation theory,  $K$ -theory and algebraic geometry. An important ingredient of the theory consists of homological functors  $H: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  from a triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  to an abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  which enjoy suitable universal properties. The category  $\mathcal{A}$  can be viewed as an ‘abelian approximation’ of  $\mathcal{T}$ , and we call such a functor  $H$  an abelianization of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Let us be a little more specific. Partial negative results regarding Rosický’s problem above have already been available: Trlifaj [Trl12] proved that there is no such  $\lambda$  for locally Grothendieck categories, and Braun and Göbel [BG12] showed that the only possible cardinality for the category of abelian groups is  $\lambda = \aleph_0$ . Here we give a complete negative solution by showing

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that the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\mathcal{G} = \text{Mod-}R$  is strictly greater than one for all  $\lambda$  for a wide range of rings, including

$$R = \mathbb{C}[x, y] \quad \text{and} \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{C} & \mathbb{C}^2 \\ 0 & \mathbb{C} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Knowing this has significance for the theory of triangulated categories. In particular, given a ring  $R$  as above, the derived category  $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{D}(R)$  is a compactly generated triangulated category. It has proved very useful to study such categories using the category  $\mathcal{A}_{\aleph_0}(\mathcal{T})$  of all contravariant additive functors  $\mathcal{T}^c \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ . Here  $\mathcal{T}^c \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  is the full subcategory of all compact objects, and the abelianization functor is  $H_{\aleph_0}: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{\aleph_0}(\mathcal{T})$  sending  $X$  to  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{T}^c}$ . The functor  $H_{\aleph_0}$  is usually not faithful; but, as Neeman proved in [Nee97, § 5], inspired by classical results in algebraic topology [Ada71, Bro62], it is full in some important cases. It would be favorable if  $H_{\aleph_0}$  were full for all such categories, because of the representability theorems from [Nee09], among other reasons; however, this is not the case for  $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{D}(\mathbb{C}[x, y])$ , as Neeman also showed in [Nee97].

Later, in [Nee01], along with founding the theory of well-generated triangulated categories, Neeman discovered a good notion for the  $\lambda$ -abelianization  $H_\lambda: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  for any infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ . Roughly speaking, the larger  $\lambda$  is, the more information  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  retains about  $\mathcal{T}$ . Therefore, when a result appeared in the literature [Ros05, Ros08] claiming that there would always be a large enough  $\lambda$  such that  $H_\lambda$  would be full, it seemed very natural. In fact, such a result would be very welcome, since  $H_\lambda$  would then be what Neeman calls a Rosický functor, and the existence of a Rosický functor for a given triangulated category has striking consequences. We again refer to [Nee09] for details; unfortunately, there was a gap in the argument concerning the fullness of  $H_\lambda$ .

What we show here implies that  $H_\lambda$  may not be full for any regular  $\lambda$  and that the derived categories of the rings above are examples. Surprisingly, the situation is even more intricate in that for  $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{Ab})$ , the only  $\lambda$ -abelianization functor which is actually full is  $H_{\aleph_0}$ .

To summarize, we rule out the natural candidates for Rosický functors for many innocent-looking triangulated categories. Thus, if Rosický functors do exist in broader generality, one presumably needs to develop new techniques to construct them.

Let us now say a few words about how the paper is organized. In § 1 we extend some classical results and constructions from the theory of abelian  $p$ -groups, where  $p$  is a prime number, to all discrete valuation domains. In § 2, we use the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology to get a lower bound on the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension. In § 3 we show how to transfer this lower bound to other module categories and give first examples of module categories which do not have the property predicted by Rosický. The paper concludes with two independent sections: § 4 gives a recipe for constructing many more examples which have  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension at least two for all regular cardinals  $\lambda$ , while in § 5 we discuss the consequences of our results for the theory of triangulated categories.

## 1. Balanced exact sequences and Walker's modules $P_\beta$

This section gives an account of and extends some results of Salce [Sal80] and Walker [Wal74]; we also refer to [Fuc73] for more background. We assume throughout this section that  $R$  is a discrete valuation domain and  $p \in R$  is a prime in  $R$ , which is then unique up to multiplication by a unit. Everything that we do in this section can in fact be extended to (in general non-commutative!)

hereditary noetherian uniserial rings; see §4. The most important examples for us here are:

- $k[[x]]$ , the ring of formal power series over a field  $k$  (with  $p = x$ );
- $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p$ , the  $p$ -adic completion of the ring of integers for a prime  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

We will study infinitely generated torsion  $R$ -modules. For  $R = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p$ , we reconstruct precisely the setting of [Sal80, Wal74], where abelian  $p$ -groups are the focus.

Using the notation from [Fuc73, §XI.65], for every  $R$ -module  $G$  and every ordinal  $\sigma$  we inductively define

$$p^\sigma G = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } \sigma = 0, \\ p(p^{\sigma-1}G) & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is non-limit,} \\ \bigcap_{\rho < \sigma} p^\rho G & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is limit.} \end{cases}$$

Note that, under our assumption,  $pG$  is just the Jacobson radical of  $G$ . Using the customary notation, we further put

$$G[r] = \{x \in G \mid rx = 0\}$$

for any  $r \in R$ . Note that  $G[p]$  is none other than the socle of  $G$ . Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we will also write  $p^\sigma G[p^n]$  to mean  $(p^\sigma G)[p^n]$ .

The *length*  $l(G)$  of a module  $G$  is the minimum ordinal  $\lambda$  such that  $p^{\lambda+1}G = p^\lambda G$ . If  $l(G) = \lambda$ , then  $p^\lambda G$  is divisible as an  $R$ -module and coincides with the unique maximal divisible submodule  $d(G)$  of  $G$ . Thus,  $G$  is *reduced* (i.e. has no divisible submodules) if and only if  $p^\lambda G = 0$ .

If  $G$  is an  $R$ -module and  $x \in G$ , the *height*  $h_G(x)$  of  $x$  in  $G$  is defined by

$$h_G(x) = \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } x \in p^\sigma G \setminus p^{\sigma+1}G, \\ \infty & \text{if } x \in \bigcap_{\sigma} p^\sigma G. \end{cases}$$

Now we recall some important concepts introduced by Kulikov [Kul52].

DEFINITION 1.1. Let  $G$  be a torsion  $R$ -module. An element  $x \in G$  is *proper* with respect to a submodule  $N$  if  $h_G(x) \geq h_G(x + u)$  for every  $u \in N$ . A submodule  $N$  of  $G$  is *nice* if every coset  $x + N$  contains an element that is proper with respect to  $N$ .

We recall that proper elements with respect to a submodule are characterized by the following easy lemma.

LEMMA 1.2. Let  $N$  be a submodule of a torsion module  $G$  over a discrete valuation domain. Let  $x \in G$  with  $h_G(x) = \sigma$ . Then  $x$  is proper with respect to  $N$  if and only if  $x \notin p^{\sigma+1}G + N$ .

*Proof.* This is obvious; see also [Fuc73, §XII.77]. □

Although it may not be clear directly from the definition, nice submodules are related to exactness of the functors  $p^\sigma(-) : \text{Mod-}R \rightarrow \text{Mod-}R$ . Specifically, by the same argument as in [Fuc73], one can obtain the following result.

LEMMA 1.3. A submodule  $N$  of a torsion module  $G$  over a discrete valuation domain is nice if and only if  $p^\sigma(G/N) = (p^\sigma G + N)/N$  for all ordinals  $\sigma$ .

*Proof.* Exactly the same argument as in [Fuc73, Lemma 79.2] applies. □

For further considerations, we will need a weaker version of nice submodules, where only ordinals smaller than some fixed  $\lambda$  are taken into account. In view of the previous lemma, we adopt the following terminology.

DEFINITION 1.4. For an ordinal  $\lambda$ , a submodule  $N$  of a torsion module  $G$  is  $\lambda$ -nice if for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ ,

$$p^\sigma(G/N) = (p^\sigma G + N)/N;$$

thus  $N$  is nice if and only if it is  $\lambda$ -nice for every ordinal  $\lambda$ .

So far, we have described the class of epimorphisms  $f : G \rightarrow H$  such that  $p^\sigma f$  is also an epimorphism for all  $\sigma$  or all  $\sigma < \lambda$ : this happens precisely when  $\text{Ker } f$  is nice or  $\lambda$ -nice, respectively. Now we recall similar definitions describing when  $p^\sigma(-)$  commutes with kernels; see [Fuc73, §XII.80] for the case of  $p$ -groups. Only the ‘ $\lambda$ -bounded’ versions are given here, as they are exactly what we need.

DEFINITION 1.5. Let  $\lambda$  be an ordinal number and  $G$  a torsion module over a discrete valuation domain. A submodule  $N$  of  $G$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -isotypic if  $p^\sigma G \cap N = p^\sigma N$  for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ .

A submodule  $N$  of  $G$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -balanced if it is  $\lambda$ -isotypic and  $\lambda$ -nice, that is,

$$p^\sigma G \cap N = p^\sigma N \quad \text{and} \quad p^\sigma(G/N) = (p^\sigma G + N)/N \quad \text{for all } \sigma < \lambda.$$

A short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -balanced if the image of  $A$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced in  $B$ .

Note that  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced if and only if  $0 \rightarrow p^\sigma A \rightarrow p^\sigma B \rightarrow p^\sigma C \rightarrow 0$  is exact for all  $\sigma < \lambda$ . The next lemma gives a very useful criterion for testing whether a submodule is balanced. The proof is almost identical to the one for [Fuc73, Proposition 80.2], but we present the argument here for the reader’s convenience.

LEMMA 1.6. Let  $\lambda$  be a limit ordinal and  $G$  a torsion module over a discrete valuation domain. A submodule  $N$  of  $G$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced if and only if

$$\frac{p^\sigma G[p] + N}{N} = p^\sigma \left( \frac{G}{N} \right) [p]$$

for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $N$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced in  $G$  and let  $\sigma < \lambda$ . Since it is always true that  $(p^\sigma G[p] + N)/N \subseteq p^\sigma(G/N)[p]$ , it is enough to prove the opposite inclusion. Let  $x + N \in p^\sigma(G/N)[p]$ . Since by assumption  $p^\sigma(G/N) = (p^\sigma G + N)/N$ , we may assume that  $x \in p^\sigma G$ . Then  $px \in N \cap p^{\sigma+1}G = p^{\sigma+1}N$ , and hence  $px = py$  with  $y \in p^\sigma N$ . Here we have used that  $\sigma + 1 < \lambda$  because  $\lambda$  is a limit ordinal. It follows that  $x - y \in p^\sigma G[p]$  and  $x + N = x - y + N \in (p^\sigma G[p] + N)/N$ .

Conversely, let  $(p^\sigma G[p] + N)/N = p^\sigma(G/N)[p]$  for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ . We prove by induction on  $n$  that  $p^\sigma(G/N)[p^n] \subseteq (p^\sigma G + N)/N$ . For  $n = 1$  this is true by assumption. Let  $n > 1$  and let  $x + N \in p^\sigma(G/N)[p^n]$ ; then  $px + N \in p^{\sigma+1}(G/N)[p^{n-1}] \subseteq (p^{\sigma+1}G + N)/N$ , by the inductive hypothesis and the fact that  $\sigma + 1 < \lambda$ . Thus  $px + N = y + N$  with  $y \in p^{\sigma+1}G$ , and hence  $y = pz$  with  $z \in p^\sigma G$ . We have  $x - z + N \in p^\sigma(G/N)[p]$ , hence  $x - z + N = x' + N$  with  $x' \in p^\sigma G[p]$ . Then  $x + N = x' + z + N$  with  $x' + z \in p^\sigma G$ , and the conclusion follows. Upon taking the union over all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we get  $p^\sigma(G/N) \subseteq (p^\sigma G + N)/N$  or, in other words, that  $N$  is  $\lambda$ -nice in  $G$ .

It remains to show that  $N$  is  $\lambda$ -isotypic in  $G$ . It is enough to prove that if  $p^\sigma G \cap N = p^\sigma N$ , then  $p^{\sigma+1}G \cap N = p^{\sigma+1}N$  for  $\sigma < \lambda$ . Let  $g \in p^{\sigma+1}G \cap N$ ; then  $g = px$  with  $x \in p^\sigma G$ .

Thus  $x + N \in ((p^\sigma G + N)/N)[p] \subseteq p^\sigma(G/N)[p]$  and so, by assumption,  $x + N \in (p^\sigma G[p] + N)/N$ . Hence  $x + N = x' + N$  with  $x' \in p^\sigma G[p]$  and  $x - x' \in p^\sigma G \cap N = p^\sigma N$ . So  $g = p(x - x') \in p^{\sigma+1}N$ .  $\square$

The crucial fact about  $\lambda$ -balanced sequences of torsion modules is that they can be detected by a certain set of covariant Hom-functors. We will make this precise in Proposition 1.10, but first we must give a construction of modules representing these functors. We will do so by extending the construction of the so-called groups  $P_\beta$  defined and studied by Walker [Wal74]. An alternative (and different) family of modules detecting  $\lambda$ -balanced sequences are the so-called generalized Prüfer modules described in [Fuc73, § XII.81].

*Construction 1.7* (Modules  $P_\beta$ ). Assume that we are given a discrete valuation domain  $R$ , a prime element  $p \in R$ , and an ordinal  $\beta$ . Then  $P_\beta$  is the module with generators labeled by the finite sequences

$$\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n$$

of ordinals  $\beta_i$  where  $\beta > \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \dots > \beta_n$ , subject to the relations

$$p \cdot \beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n\beta_{n+1} = \beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n \quad \text{and} \quad p \cdot \beta = 0.$$

Let us now establish some basic properties of the modules  $P_\beta$ . In order to do so, we define for every  $\alpha \leq \beta$  a submodule  $X_\alpha$  of  $P_\beta$  by

$$X_\alpha = \langle \beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n\alpha \mid \beta > \beta_1 > \dots > \beta_n > \alpha \rangle.$$

For every  $\gamma < \alpha \leq \beta$ , define

$$S_{\gamma\alpha} = \{ \beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n\gamma \mid \beta_n \geq \alpha \} \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_{\gamma\alpha} = |S_{\gamma\alpha}|.$$

The following properties are then not difficult to prove.

LEMMA 1.8 [Wal74]. For every  $\alpha \leq \beta$  we have that:

- (i)  $P_\beta/X_\alpha \cong \bigoplus_{\gamma < \alpha} P_\gamma^{(\kappa_{\gamma\alpha})}$  and, in particular,  $P_\beta/\langle \beta \rangle = \bigoplus_{\gamma < \beta} P_\gamma$ ;
- (ii)  $p^\alpha P_\beta = X_\alpha$  and, in particular,  $p^\beta P_\beta = \langle \beta \rangle \cong R/(p)$  and  $p^{\beta+1} P_\beta = 0$ , so that  $P_\beta$  is reduced and its length equals  $\beta + 1$ ;
- (iii) if  $\beta = \alpha + \gamma$  (the ordinal sum), then  $p^\alpha P_\beta = P_\gamma$ .

Let us state a crucial observation, whose counterpart for generalized Prüfer groups has been given by Nunke [Fuc73, Lemma 81.7].

LEMMA 1.9 [Wal74]. Let  $G$  be a torsion module over a discrete valuation domain and let  $g \in p^\beta G[p]$ . Then there is a morphism  $f: P_\beta \rightarrow G$  such that  $f(\beta) = g$ .

*Proof.* It is enough to define  $f$  on the generators  $\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n$  of  $P_\beta$  so that  $f$  satisfies the relations. Let  $f(\beta) = g$  and define  $f(\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n)$  by induction on  $n$ . Suppose that we have already defined  $f(\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n) \in p^{\beta_n} G$ , and consider  $\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n\beta_{n+1}$ . Since  $\beta_{n+1} + 1 \leq \beta_n$ , there is  $x \in p^{\beta_{n+1}} G$  such that  $f(\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n) = px$ . Put  $f(\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n\beta_{n+1}) = x$ . Then  $f$  satisfies the relations, including the relation  $p\beta = 0$ .  $\square$

Now we are able to state and prove the main result of the section. The argument here is taken from [Wal74]. A version for generalized Prüfer groups also exists; see [Fuc73, Exercise 81.12].

PROPOSITION 1.10 [Wal74]. Let  $\lambda$  be a limit ordinal. An exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\pi} C \rightarrow 0$  of torsion modules over a discrete valuation domain is  $\lambda$ -balanced if and only if for every  $\beta < \lambda$ , every morphism  $f: P_\beta \rightarrow C$  can be lifted to  $B$ . Equivalently, the sequence is  $\lambda$ -balanced if and only if

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(P_\beta, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(P_\beta, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(P_\beta, C) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact for each  $\beta < \lambda$ .

*Proof.* Assume that the lifting property holds, and let  $b + A \in p^\sigma(B/A)[p]$  for  $\sigma < \lambda$ . Let  $f: P_\sigma \rightarrow B/A$  be a morphism defined as in Lemma 1.9, so that  $f(\sigma) = b + A$ . By assumption,  $f$  lifts to  $f': P_\sigma \rightarrow B$ . Then  $f'(\sigma) \in p^\sigma B[p]$  and  $f'(\sigma) + A = b + A$ . Thus,  $(p^\sigma B[p] + A)/A = p^\sigma(B/A)[p]$  and, by Lemma 1.6, the sequence is  $\lambda$ -balanced.

Conversely, assume that the sequence is  $\lambda$ -balanced and let  $f: P_\beta \rightarrow B/A$  be a morphism for  $\beta < \lambda$ . We define a lifting  $f': P_\beta \rightarrow B$  by induction on  $\beta$ . If  $\beta = 0$ , then  $P_\beta \cong R/(p)$  and  $f(\beta) = b + A \in (B/A)[p] = (B[p] + A)/A$ , by Lemma 1.6. Thus, there is  $b' \in B[p]$  such that  $b + A = b' + A$  and  $f'(\beta) = b'$  gives a lifting of  $f$ . Assume next that we can lift any morphism  $\mu: P_\alpha \rightarrow B/A$  with  $\alpha < \beta$ , and let  $f(\beta) = b + A$ . Then  $b + A \in p^\beta(B/A)[p] = (p^\beta B[p] + A)/A$ , again by Lemma 1.6, so we may assume that  $b \in p^\beta B[p]$ . By Lemma 1.9, there is a morphism  $g: P_\beta \rightarrow B$  such that  $g(\beta) = b$ . Then  $\beta \in \text{Ker}(f - \pi g)$ . Denoting by  $\xi$  the projection  $P_\beta \rightarrow P_\beta/\langle \beta \rangle$ , we have  $f - \pi g = \mu\xi$  for a morphism  $\mu: P_\beta/\langle \beta \rangle \rightarrow B/A$ . Since  $P_\beta/\langle \beta \rangle \cong \bigoplus_{\gamma < \beta} P_\gamma$  by Lemma 1.8(i),  $\mu$  can be lifted to  $\mu': P_\beta/\langle \beta \rangle \rightarrow B$  using the inductive hypothesis. Now let

$$f' = g + \mu'\xi.$$

Then  $\pi f' = \pi g + \pi \mu'\xi = \pi g + \mu\xi = \pi g + (f - \pi g) = f$ .  $\square$

*Remark 1.11.* Let us make a few historical comments and mention the context of the results in this section. While originating in attempts to classify infinite abelian  $p$ -groups, i.e. for  $R = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p$ , these results work for any discrete valuation domain  $R$ . Countable  $p$ -groups are classified by Ulm's theorem [Fuc73, § XII.77], whereas for general  $p$ -groups the task seems to be rather hopeless.

There is, however, a large class of  $p$ -groups which can be classified. To be specific, a  $p$ -group is said to be *balanced projective* if it is projective with respect to every balanced (i.e.  $\lambda$ -balanced for all  $\lambda$ ) short exact sequence. Then the following hold.

(1) By Proposition 1.10, every group in  $\text{Add}\{P_\beta \mid \beta \text{ ordinal}\}$  is balanced projective. (For a class  $\mathcal{C}$  of modules,  $\text{Add } \mathcal{C}$  denotes the class consisting of all the direct summands of direct sums of modules in  $\mathcal{C}$ .)

(2) It can be shown that divisible  $p$ -groups are balanced projective.

Balanced projective groups of type (1) are said to be *totally projective* (see [Fuc73, § XII.82]). The reason for this terminology comes from the original definition given by Nunke [Nun63, Nun67] in terms of homological properties. Totally projective groups admit an equivalent definition due to Paul Hill [Hil67, Hil69]; they are exactly the  $p$ -groups possessing a system  $\mathcal{N}$  of nice subgroups that satisfy the following properties:

- $0 \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $\sum N_i \in \mathcal{N}$  for every family  $\{N_i\}$  of groups in  $\mathcal{N}$ ;
- if  $N \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $N \leq H \leq G$  with  $H/N$  countable, then there is  $N' \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $H \leq N'$  and  $N'/N$  is countable.

As a consequence noted by Hill, totally projective groups are classified by their Ulm–Kaplansky invariants. Note that every countable reduced  $p$ -group is totally projective. The following results



also hold; see [Wal74].

(3) A reduced  $p$ -group  $G$  is totally projective if and only if it belongs to  $\text{Add}\{P_\beta \mid \beta < l(G)\}$ .

(4) On combining (1)–(3) we have that a  $p$ -group  $G$  is balanced projective if and only if  $G = D \oplus T$  with  $D$  divisible and  $T$  totally projective.

We recall another characterization of totally projective groups, which is due to Crawley and Hales [CH68, CH69].

(5) A reduced  $p$ -group  $G$  is totally projective if and only if it is *simply presented*, that is,  $G$  can be generated by a set of elements  $\{x_i\}_{i \in I}$  subject only to relations of the form

$$p^m x_i = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad p^n x_i = x_j \quad \text{for } i \neq j, n, m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

## 2. An application of the $p^\lambda$ -adic topology

In this section also, we assume that  $R$  is a discrete valuation domain and  $p \in R$  is a prime. Moreover, we fix a limit ordinal  $\lambda$ . The aim is to extend to our setting the concept of  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology on an abelian group, which was investigated by Mines [Min68]. As a consequence, we will show that for any uncountable regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  is at least two.

The  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology on an  $R$ -module  $G$  is a linear topology with the basis of neighborhoods of zero taken to be the family of submodules  $\{p^\sigma G \mid \sigma < \lambda\}$ . If  $G$  is a torsion  $R$ -module, the canonical morphism

$$\delta_\lambda : G \longrightarrow \prod_{\sigma < \lambda} G/p^\sigma G$$

has kernel  $p^\lambda G$ , and its image is contained in the torsion submodule  $T_\lambda(G)$  of the completion  $L_\lambda(G)$ , where  $L_\lambda(G) = \varprojlim_{\sigma < \lambda} G/p^\sigma G$ , viewed canonically as a submodule of  $\prod_{\sigma < \lambda} G/p^\sigma G$ .

Let us now assume that  $G$  is also reduced, that is, it contains no non-zero divisible submodule. We then have that:

- $G$  is discrete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology if and only if  $l(G) < \lambda$ ;
- $G$  is a Hausdorff topological space if and only if  $l(G) \leq \lambda$ .

Since our main aim is to study torsion  $R$ -modules, which are analogues of  $p$ -groups in our generalized setting, we would like to know the relation between  $T_\lambda(G)$  and  $L_\lambda(G)$ . The following result says that often the situation is as favorable as it can be, since the completion of a torsion module is torsion again.

**PROPOSITION 2.1** [Min68]. *If  $\lambda$  is an ordinal of uncountable cofinality, then for every torsion module  $G$  we have  $T_\lambda(G) = L_\lambda(G)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\xi = (x_\sigma + p^\sigma G)_{\sigma < \lambda} \in L_\lambda(G)$ . If  $\xi$  is not a torsion element, then for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there is an ordinal  $\sigma_k$  such that  $p^k(x_\sigma + p^\sigma G) \neq 0$  for every  $\sigma \geq \sigma_k$ . Let  $\alpha = \sup\{\sigma_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ ; by assumption,  $\alpha < \lambda$ . For every  $\sigma \geq \alpha$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $p^k(x_\sigma + p^\sigma G) \neq 0$ , which is a contradiction, since the elements  $x_\sigma$  are torsion.  $\square$

The following proposition is crucial. Provided  $\lambda$  has uncountable cofinality, it gives us a method of constructing a plethora of non-trivial examples of  $p^\lambda$ -adic complete modules. Its proof uses classical arguments. We follow here the presentation in [Sal80].



PROPOSITION 2.2 [Sal80]. *Let  $\lambda$  be an ordinal of uncountable cofinality, and for every  $\alpha < \lambda$  let  $G_\alpha$  be a reduced torsion  $R$ -module of length less than or equal to  $\alpha$ . Then  $\bigoplus_{\alpha < \lambda} G_\alpha$  is complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology.*

*Proof.* Let  $G = \bigoplus_{\alpha < \lambda} G_\alpha$  and  $L = \prod_{\alpha < \lambda} G_\alpha$ . Let  $\tau$  be the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology on  $L$ . Then  $\tau$  is finer than the product topology of the discrete topologies on the  $G_\alpha$ . Indeed, if  $U$  is a neighborhood of zero in the product topology, then  $U$  contains the direct product of  $G_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \notin F$ , where  $F$  is a finite subset of  $\lambda$ . Taking  $\beta$  to be the maximum of  $F$ , we have that  $p^\beta G_\alpha = 0$  for every  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , by the assumption that  $l(G_\alpha) \leq \alpha$ ; hence  $p^\beta L \subseteq U$ . Moreover, the submodules  $p^\sigma L$ , for  $\sigma < \lambda$ , are closed in the product topology, since they are products of closed submodules  $p^\sigma G_\alpha \subseteq G_\alpha$ . By [Bou71, § III. 26, paragraph 3, Corollaire 2],  $L$  is complete in the topology  $\tau$ .

Now, for every  $\sigma < \lambda$  we have  $p^\sigma L \cap G = p^\sigma G$ , so  $\tau$  induces the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology on  $G$ . To conclude that  $G$  is complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology, it is enough to prove that  $G$  is  $\tau$ -closed in  $L$ . Assume, by way of contradiction, that  $G$  is not closed in  $L$ . Then there exists an element  $\xi = (x_\alpha)_{\alpha < \lambda} \in L$  such that  $\xi$  is in the closure of  $G$  but not in  $G$ . This means that for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ , there is an element  $y^\sigma \in G$  such that  $\xi - y^\sigma \in p^\sigma L$ . Since  $\xi \notin G$ , there is an increasing sequence  $\beta_1 < \beta_2 < \dots$  of ordinals such that, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , all the  $\beta_n$ -components  $x_{\beta_n}$  of  $\xi$  are non-zero. Choose  $\beta < \lambda$  such that  $\beta > \beta_n$  for every  $n$ ; then  $\xi - y^\beta \in p^\beta L$ . Checking the  $\beta_n$ -components, we have  $x_{\beta_n} - y_{\beta_n}^\beta \in p^\beta G_{\beta_n} = 0$  since  $l(G_{\beta_n}) \leq \beta_n < \beta$ . Thus  $y_{\beta_n}^\beta \neq 0$  for all  $n$ , which is a contradiction since  $y^\beta \in G$  can have only finitely many non-zero components.  $\square$

To state further results, we need to recall a few facts about  $\lambda$ -pure submodules and exact sequences. For a regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , a submodule  $A$  of an  $R$ -module  $B$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -pure in  $B$  if for every  $< \lambda$ -presented  $R$ -module  $Y$ , every morphism  $f: Y \rightarrow B/A$  can be lifted to  $B$ . A short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow 0$$

is said to be  $\lambda$ -pure if the image of  $A$  is  $\lambda$ -pure in  $B$ . Thus the usual notion of purity is the  $\aleph_0$ -purity in our terminology.

A well-known and important fact is that  $\text{Mod-}R$  together with the class of all  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences forms an exact category in the sense of Quillen; we refer to [Kel90, Appendix A] and [Büh10] for more details on the concept. A practical consequence is that we can define a relative version of Yoneda Ext-functors and do homological algebra. In fact, another well-known fact is that we have enough projectives: a module is  $\lambda$ -pure projective if and only if it is a summand in a direct sum of a family of  $< \lambda$ -presented modules. Then, as an immediate consequence of the previous proposition, we have the following result.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *Let  $\lambda$  be an uncountable regular cardinal. Then any reduced torsion  $\lambda$ -pure projective  $R$ -module is complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology.*

*Proof.* By definition, a  $\lambda$ -pure projective module  $G$  is a direct summand in a sum of  $< \lambda$ -presented or, equivalently here since any discrete valuation domain is noetherian,  $< \lambda$ -generated modules. Using the Kaplansky–Walker theorem [AF92, Theorem 26.1], we infer that  $G \cong \bigoplus_{i \in I} G_i$  with each  $G_i$  being  $< \lambda$ -generated.

Then every  $G_i$  has length less than  $\lambda$ . Indeed,  $G_i$  is a directed union of a family  $(G_i^j \mid j \in J)$  of its finitely generated submodules such that  $|J| < \lambda$ . Since  $G_i$  is a torsion module, so is each  $G_i^j$ . Thus, each  $G_i^j$  is of finite length. Now one easily sees that given any ordinal  $\sigma$ , we have  $p^\sigma G_i \supsetneq p^{\sigma+1} G_i$  if and only if  $(G_i^j \cap p^\sigma G_i) \supsetneq (G_i^j \cap p^{\sigma+1} G_i)$  for some  $j \in J$ . However, each  $G_i^j$  can occur for only finitely many ordinals  $\sigma$ , so  $l(G_i) < \lambda$  as claimed.

Finally, for every  $\alpha < \lambda$  let  $I_\alpha = \{i \in I \mid l(G_i) = \alpha\}$  and define  $G_\alpha = \bigoplus_{i \in I_\alpha} G_i$ . Then  $G \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha < \lambda} G_\alpha$  and we conclude the proof by applying Proposition 2.2.  $\square$

Using the  $\lambda$ -pure exact structure on  $\text{Mod-}R$ , we can define the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of a module and the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  in the obvious way. With this terminology, our goal in the present section is to prove that if  $\lambda$  is uncountable, then the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of  $P_\lambda$  is at least two. We start by giving a suitable presentation of  $P_\lambda$ .

PROPOSITION 2.4. *Let  $\lambda$  be an uncountable regular cardinal and  $P_\lambda$  the module as in Construction 1.7. Then there is a  $\lambda$ -balanced exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow P_\lambda \longrightarrow 0$$

such that  $T = \bigoplus_{\beta < \lambda} P_\beta^{\text{Hom}(P_\beta, P_\lambda)}$  and  $K$  is not complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology.

*Proof.* Put  $T = \bigoplus_{\beta < \lambda} P_\beta^{\text{Hom}(P_\beta, P_\lambda)}$  and consider the obvious morphism  $\phi: T \rightarrow P_\lambda$ . Note that  $\phi$  is surjective since for each  $\beta < \lambda$  the map  $\nu_\beta$  defined by  $\nu_\beta(\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n) = \lambda\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n$  induces an embedding  $P_\beta \rightarrow P_\lambda$ . Hence every generator of  $P_\lambda$  is in the image of  $\nu_\beta$  for some  $\beta$ . Then  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow T \rightarrow P_\lambda \rightarrow 0$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced by Proposition 1.10.

By Proposition 2.3,  $T$  is complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology. Since  $K$  is  $\lambda$ -balanced in  $T$ , the subspace topology induced on  $K$  is precisely the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology on  $K$ . Thus  $K$  is complete if and only if it is closed in  $T$ . Denoting by  $\overline{K}$  the closure of  $K$  in  $T$ , we get

$$\overline{K} = \bigcap_{\sigma < \lambda} (p^\sigma T + K) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{p^\sigma T + K}{K} = p^\sigma \left( \frac{T}{K} \right)$$

for every  $\sigma < \lambda$ , since  $K$  is  $\lambda$ -nice in  $T$ . Therefore

$$\frac{\overline{K}}{K} = \bigcap_{\sigma < \lambda} \frac{p^\sigma T + K}{K} = \bigcap_{\sigma < \lambda} p^\sigma \left( \frac{T}{K} \right) = p^\lambda \frac{T}{K} = p^\lambda P_\lambda \cong R/(p),$$

and so  $K$  is neither closed in  $T$  nor complete in the  $p^\lambda$ -adic topology.  $\square$

Now we can state the main result of the section. First, we recall that for a regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , a partially ordered set is said to be  $\lambda$ -directed if each subset of cardinality smaller than  $\lambda$  has an upper bound. The colimit of a  $\lambda$ -directed system is called a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit.

THEOREM 2.5. *Let  $R$  be a discrete valuation domain and  $\lambda$  an uncountable regular cardinal. Then there is a  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow P_\lambda \longrightarrow 0$$

such that  $T$  is  $\lambda$ -pure projective but  $K$  is not. In particular, both the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of  $P_\lambda$  and the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  are at least two.

*Proof.* We again use the fact that for each  $\beta < \lambda$ , the mapping on generators

$$\beta\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n \rightarrow \lambda\beta_1\beta_2 \dots \beta_n$$

induces an embedding  $P_\beta \rightarrow P_\lambda$  and  $P_\lambda$  is a  $\lambda$ -directed union of the images of all such embeddings. Therefore, any morphism  $M \rightarrow P_\lambda$  where  $M$  is  $< \lambda$ -presented factors through some embedding  $P_\beta \rightarrow P_\lambda$ , with  $\beta < \lambda$ , and the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow T \rightarrow P_\lambda \rightarrow 0$  constructed in Proposition 2.4 is  $\lambda$ -pure. Now,  $T$  is  $\lambda$ -pure projective by the construction, but  $K$  cannot be  $\lambda$ -pure projective by Proposition 2.3, since it is not complete.  $\square$

*Remark 2.6.* The assumption that  $\lambda$  is uncountable is essential. The usual pure global dimension of any discrete valuation domain is one.

*Remark 2.7.* One might wonder what the exact value is of the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  for  $\lambda$  uncountable. Is it two? Is it finite? We do not know. We will explain in § 5 why an answer may be interesting.

### 3. The $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension in accessible categories

The main motivation for this paper was to find a ring whose  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension is greater than one for *all* infinite regular cardinals  $\lambda$ . More details on the consequences of having such a ring will be given in § 5. With Theorem 2.5, we have succeeded for all cardinals except  $\aleph_0$ . To remove this glitch, we need to look for rings other than discrete valuation domains. Here we will use results of Kaplansky [Kap66], Lenzing [Len84] and Osofsky [Oso73]. First, however, we need to establish some preliminary results in the spirit of [AR94].

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $\lambda$  be an infinite regular cardinal and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category with  $\lambda$ -directed colimits. An object  $X \in \mathcal{A}$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -presentable if for any  $\lambda$ -directed system  $(Y_i \mid i \in I)$ , the canonical map

$$\varinjlim \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(X, Y_i) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(X, \varinjlim Y_i)$$

is an isomorphism.

The category  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be  $\lambda$ -accessible if it admits a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\lambda$ -presentable objects such that each  $Y \in \mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of objects from  $\mathcal{S}$ .

A full subcategory  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory if there is a set  $\mathcal{S}' \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  of objects which are  $\lambda$ -presentable in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{B}$  consists precisely of  $\lambda$ -directed colimits of objects from  $\mathcal{S}'$ .

For  $\lambda = \aleph_0$ , we will replace the prefix  $\lambda$ - by the word *finitely*, and speak of finitely presentable objects and finitely accessible (sub)categories.

One would expect, based on the terminology, that a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory is itself a  $\lambda$ -accessible category. This is indeed the case, which we show using an argument inspired by [Len83, Proposition 2.1].

LEMMA 3.2. Let  $\lambda$  be an infinite regular cardinal,  $\mathcal{A}$  a  $\lambda$ -accessible category and  $\mathcal{B}$  a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory given by a set  $\mathcal{S}'$  of  $\lambda$ -presentable objects as in Definition 3.1. Then the following statements are equivalent for  $Y \in \mathcal{A}$ :

- (i)  $Y \in \mathcal{B}$ ;
- (ii) for any  $\lambda$ -presentable object  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ , any morphism  $X \rightarrow Y$  factors through an object from  $\mathcal{S}'$ .

In particular,  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under taking  $\lambda$ -directed colimits in  $\mathcal{A}$  and is itself a  $\lambda$ -accessible category.

*Proof.* We denote by  $\mathcal{S}$  a representative set of all  $\lambda$ -presentable objects in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Note that by [AR94, Theorem 1.5], we can freely use  $\lambda$ -filtered colimits instead of  $\lambda$ -directed ones. Moreover, [AR94, Proposition 2.8] tells us that  $Y$  is the  $\lambda$ -filtered colimit of its canonical diagram with respect to  $\mathcal{S}$ , indexed by the comma category  $\mathcal{S} \downarrow Y$ .

Suppose that (ii) holds. This is the same as saying that the comma category  $\mathcal{S}' \downarrow Y$  is cofinal in  $\mathcal{S} \downarrow Y$ . Hence  $Y \in \mathcal{B}$ , since it is a  $\lambda$ -filtered colimit of objects from  $\mathcal{S}'$ . Conversely, assuming (i),

one directly infers (ii), again because  $Y$  is a  $\lambda$ -filtered colimit of objects from  $\mathcal{S}'$ . The final assertion follows easily because condition (ii) is preserved by  $\lambda$ -directed colimits in  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\square$

Note that  $\text{Mod-}R$  is a finitely accessible category for any ring  $R$ . Finitely accessible subcategories of module categories were studied, for instance, in [Len83]. An important fact is that each additive  $\lambda$ -accessible category is a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory of a module category if we use a suitable notion of modules. Given a small additive category  $\mathcal{S}$ , we shall use  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$ , the category of all *right*  $\mathcal{S}$ -modules, i.e. the category of additive contravariant functors  $\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ . What we get is an additive version of the representation theorem [AR94, Theorem 2.26].

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *For each infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , the following statements are equivalent for an additive category  $\mathcal{A}$ :*

- (i)  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\lambda$ -accessible;
- (ii) *there is a small additive category  $\mathcal{S}$  such that  $\mathcal{A}$  is equivalent to the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$  formed by all colimits of  $\lambda$ -directed systems of functors of the form  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{S}}(-, S)$ ,  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ .*

*Proof.* The proof is the same as for [AR94, Theorem 2.26], upon replacing the category of sets by the category of abelian groups and replacing functors by additive functors. Note that given (i), we can take for  $\mathcal{S}$  a representative set of all  $\lambda$ -presentable objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The equivalence in (ii) is then given by the Yoneda embedding, which sends an object  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  to the contravariant functor  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(-, A)|_{\mathcal{S}}$ .  $\square$

A natural question is whether a  $\lambda$ -accessible category is also  $\lambda'$ -accessible for another cardinal  $\lambda'$ . For the sake of simplicity, we only mention a special case of what is called ‘raising the index of accessibility’ in [AR94].

**LEMMA 3.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finitely accessible category and  $\mathcal{B}$  a finitely accessible subcategory. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -accessible category and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory for each infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ .*

*Proof.* This is proved in [AR94, 2.11–2.13]. Let us give a sketch of the argument. Every finitely accessible category has  $\lambda$ -directed colimits for each infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the collection of all objects of  $\mathcal{A}$  which are directed colimits of fewer than  $\lambda$  finitely presentable objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is skeletally small and every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\lambda$ -presentable. It is now enough to show that every object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Write  $A$  as a directed colimit of a directed system  $(S_i \mid i \in I)$  where the  $S_i$  are finitely presentable, and let  $I'$  be the poset of all directed subsets  $J \subseteq I$  with cardinality less than  $\lambda$ , ordered by inclusion. Clearly,  $I'$  is  $\lambda$ -directed. For each  $J \in I'$ , let  $C_J \in \mathcal{C}$  be the directed colimit of  $(S_i \mid i \in J)$ . For  $J \subseteq J'$ , there are canonical morphisms  $C_J \rightarrow C_{J'}$  and also  $C_J \rightarrow A$ . It is easy to see that  $A$  is the  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of the system  $(C_J \mid J \in I')$ .  $\square$

The crucial point for us is that we can define the  $\lambda$ -pure exact structure not only on a module category as in § 2 but also on any additive  $\lambda$ -accessible category; see also [AR94, § 2.D]. We say that a sequence of morphisms

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{i} B \xrightarrow{d} C \longrightarrow 0$$

in  $\mathcal{A}$  is  *$\lambda$ -pure exact* if application of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(X, -)$  gives a short exact sequence of abelian groups for all  $\lambda$ -presentable objects  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ . Given such a sequence, the morphism  $i: A \rightarrow B$  is said to be a  *$\lambda$ -pure monomorphism*, while the morphism  $d: B \rightarrow C$  is a  *$\lambda$ -pure epimorphism*. As a

consequence of Proposition 3.3,  $\mathcal{A}$  with this class of sequences becomes again an exact category. In particular, in any  $\lambda$ -pure sequence we have  $i = \text{Ker } d$  and  $d = \text{Coker } i$ . For details on exact categories we refer to [Kel90, Appendix A] or [Büh10].

PROPOSITION 3.5. *Let  $\lambda$  be an infinite regular cardinal and  $\mathcal{A}$  an additive  $\lambda$ -accessible category. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  together with the class  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  of all  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences satisfies the axioms of an exact category. Moreover, each morphism  $d : B \rightarrow C$  such that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(X, d)$  is surjective for all  $\lambda$ -presentable objects  $X \in \mathcal{A}$  has a kernel and is therefore a  $\lambda$ -pure epimorphism in  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

*If  $\mathcal{A}$  has coproducts, it also has enough projectives with respect to this exact structure. Specifically, for each  $Y \in \mathcal{A}$  there is a  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow P \xrightarrow{d} Y \longrightarrow 0$$

*such that  $P \cong \bigoplus X^{(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(X, Y))}$ , where  $X$  runs over all isoclasses of  $\lambda$ -presentable objects of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $d$  is the obvious morphism.*

*Proof.* If we view  $\mathcal{A}$  as a full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$  as in Proposition 3.3(ii), then any object of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of Hom-functors, and Hom-functors are projective in  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$ . Thus, a short exact sequence in  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$  with the third term in  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of split exact pull-back sequences ending in Hom-functors, and so it is a  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequence in  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$  as in [JL89, Proposition 7.16]. A generalization to higher cardinals of the arguments in the proof of [Len83, Proposition 2.2] (taking into account Lemma 3.2 applied to the categories  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$ ) shows that a morphism  $d$  as in the statement has kernel in  $\mathcal{A}$  and that  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under extensions. Using [Büh10, Lemma 10.20], we conclude that the class  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  of all  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences gives rise to an exact category. This establishes the first part of the proposition. The second part is easy, but beware that coproducts in  $\mathcal{A}$  may not coincide with coproducts in  $\text{Mod-}\mathcal{S}$ .  $\square$

Knowing that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an exact category with enough projectives, we can again define the projective dimension of an object and the global dimension of  $\mathcal{A}$  as an exact category. In the case considered in Proposition 3.5, we speak of the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of  $Y \in \mathcal{A}$ , denoted by  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}} Y$ , and of the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\mathcal{A}$ , denoted by  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{A}$ .

Now, if  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  is a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$  that is closed under taking coproducts, and if  $Y \in \mathcal{B}$ , we can compute the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of  $Y$  in both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . It is useful to know that the ambient category does not matter.

LEMMA 3.6. *Let  $\lambda$  be an infinite regular cardinal,  $\mathcal{A}$  an additive  $\lambda$ -accessible category with coproducts and  $\mathcal{B}$  a  $\lambda$ -accessible subcategory closed under taking coproducts. Then for any  $Y \in \mathcal{B}$  we have*

$$\lambda\text{-pure proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}} Y = \lambda\text{-pure proj.dim}_{\mathcal{B}} Y.$$

*In particular,  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{B} \leq \lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{A}$ .*

*Proof.* First, note that the  $\lambda$ -presentable objects of  $\mathcal{B}$  are precisely the  $\lambda$ -presentable objects in  $\mathcal{A}$  which belong to  $\mathcal{B}$ . To see this, let  $\mathcal{S}' \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  be a set of objects as in Definition 3.1, and consider  $X \in \mathcal{B}$  expressed as a colimit of a  $\lambda$ -directed diagram  $(S_i \mid i \in I)$  over  $\mathcal{S}'$ . If  $X$  is  $\lambda$ -presentable in  $\mathcal{B}$ , then  $1_X$  factors through some  $S_i$ , so  $X$  is a summand of an object of  $\mathcal{S}'$ . Hence  $X$  is  $\lambda$ -presentable in  $\mathcal{A}$ . The other implication is clear by Lemma 3.2, since  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under  $\lambda$ -directed colimits in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Next, consider the morphism  $d : \bigoplus X^{(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{B}}(X, Y))} \rightarrow Y$  where  $X$  runs, up to isomorphism, over all  $\lambda$ -presentable objects in  $\mathcal{B}$ . We have shown in Proposition 3.5 that  $d$  is a  $\lambda$ -pure epimorphism

in  $\mathcal{B}$ . By Lemma 3.2,  $d$  is also a  $\lambda$ -pure epimorphism in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Hence, there is a sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow \bigoplus X^{\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{B}}(X,Y)} \xrightarrow{d} Y \longrightarrow 0$$

which is  $\lambda$ -pure in both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  and where the middle term is  $\lambda$ -pure projective also in both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . Iterating the procedure, we see that there is a  $\lambda$ -pure projective resolution of  $Y$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  which is a  $\lambda$ -pure projective resolution in  $\mathcal{A}$  as well, so the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimensions must coincide. The rest of the lemma is clear.  $\square$

Now we are ready to apply the results of Kaplansky [Kap66], Lenzing [Len84] and Osofsky [Oso73] to get one of the main results of this paper.

**THEOREM 3.7.** *Let  $k$  be a field. Then the following hold.*

(i)  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim}(\text{Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot)) \geq 2$  for any infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , provided that  $k$  is uncountable.

(ii)  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim}(\text{Mod-}k[x, y]) \geq 2$  for any infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ , provided that  $k$  is uncountable.

(iii)  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim}(\text{Mod-}k[[x, y]]) \geq 2$  for any infinite regular cardinal  $\lambda$ .

*Proof.* (i) Lenzing proved in [Len84, Proposition 3.1] that the  $\aleph_0$ -pure projective dimension of the generic Kronecker module

$$G: k(x) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{x \cdot -} \\ \xrightarrow{1 \cdot -} \end{matrix} k(x)$$

is equal to two for an uncountable field  $k$ ; that is, the pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot)$  is at least two (in fact, it is exactly two; see [Len83, Proposition 3.9]).

Now fix an uncountable regular cardinal  $\lambda$  and denote by  $\mathcal{B}$  the class of all torsion  $k[[x]]$ -modules; that is, we take precisely the  $k[[x]]$ -modules for which the action of  $x$  is locally nilpotent. Clearly,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a finitely accessible subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}k[[x]]$ . Moreover, combining Theorem 2.5 with Lemma 3.6, we get

$$\lambda\text{-pure proj.dim}_{\mathcal{B}} P_{\lambda} \geq 2,$$

where  $P_{\lambda}$  is as in Construction 1.7. In particular,  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim} \mathcal{B} \geq 2$ . It is now straightforward to check that the assignment

$$B \mapsto \left( B \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{x \cdot -} \\ \xrightarrow{1 \cdot -} \end{matrix} B \right)$$

induces an equivalence between  $\mathcal{B}$  and a finitely accessible subcategory  $\mathcal{B}'$  of  $\text{Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot)$ . Specifically, denoting by  $\mathbf{t}$  the tube corresponding to the regular module

$$k \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{0} \\ \xrightarrow{1} \end{matrix} k$$

(see [ARO95] for missing terminology), one easily checks that  $\mathcal{B}' = \varinjlim(\text{add } \mathbf{t})$ . Invoking Lemma 3.6 again, we get

$$\lambda\text{-pure gl.dim Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot) \geq \lambda\text{-pure gl.dim } \mathcal{B}' \geq 2.$$

To prove (ii) and (iii), let  $R = k[x, y]$  or  $k[[x, y]]$  and let  $Q$  stand for the fraction field of  $R$ . Regarding the  $\aleph_0$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$ , Kaplansky and Osofsky computed in [Kap66] and [Oso73, Corollary 2.59] that the projective dimension of  $Q$  is equal to two. Since  $Q$  is flat,



the projective and pure projective dimensions of  $Q$  coincide and the pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  is at least two.

For  $\lambda$  regular uncountable, we would again like to construct an equivalence functor from the category  $\mathcal{B}$  of torsion  $k[[x]]$ -modules onto a finitely accessible subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$ . But this is easy: given a torsion  $k[[x]]$ -module  $B$ , we can view it as an  $R$ -module with the trivial action of  $y$ . Thus, again,  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim Mod-}R \geq \lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{B} \geq 2$ .  $\square$

#### 4. An abundance of examples

In Theorem 3.7, we presented a few examples of rings whose  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension is at least two for all infinite regular cardinals  $\lambda$ . In this section we show that these examples are not isolated: there is a vast range of others. Since  $\aleph_0$ -pure global dimension is well covered in the literature (see, for instance, [BBL82a, BBL82b, Kap66, Len84, Oso73]), we will focus on the case where  $\lambda$  is uncountable. Our main result here is the following theorem.

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a locally finitely presentable Grothendieck category and  $\lambda$  an uncountable regular cardinal. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  either contains a tube or is strictly wild. Then  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{A} \geq 2$ .*

Let us explain the terminology first. By a *locally finitely presentable* Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{A}$  we mean just a finitely accessible Grothendieck category; this terminology is used to maintain consistency with [GU71] and the work of several other researchers. We denote by  $\text{fp } \mathcal{A}$  the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$  consisting of finitely presentable objects and by  $\text{finlen } \mathcal{A}$  the full subcategory of all objects of finite length.

Following [Gab62], we say that a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{A}$  is *locally finite* if it admits a set of generators of finite length. This is a stronger condition than being locally finitely presentable, and in that case  $\text{fp } \mathcal{A} = \text{finlen } \mathcal{A}$ .

Given a locally finitely presentable Grothendieck category, one aims to measure the complexity of the category  $\text{fp } \mathcal{A}$ . To this end, we introduce two definitions. The first is inspired by [Rin84, ch. 3] and the definition of 1-spherical objects in [vR12].

**DEFINITION 4.2.** A locally finitely presentable Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to *contain a tube* if there is an object  $S \in \text{fp } \mathcal{A}$  such that:

- (i)  $k = \text{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(S)$  is a skew-field;
- (ii)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^1(S, S) \cong k$  both as left and as right  $k$ -modules;
- (iii)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^2(S, S) = 0$ .

*Example 4.3.* If  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{Ab}$ , we can take  $S = \mathbb{Z}/(p)$  for any prime number  $p$ . Given any Dedekind domain  $R$  and  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mod-}R$ ,  $S$  can be any simple module. Analogously, if  $\mathcal{A} = \mathfrak{Qco}(X)$  for a projective or affine curve  $X$  and  $p \in X$  is a non-singular closed point, the corresponding simple coherent sheaf  $S$  fits the definition. Finally, if  $R$  is a tame hereditary artin algebra and  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mod-}R$ , any quasi-simple regular module  $S$  in a homogeneous tube serves as an example.

The other notion is that of wildness, which is often taken as a synonym to intractability of the problem of classifying the objects in  $\text{fp } \mathcal{A}$ . Here we take a variant of the concept from [KL06], which works for module categories of both finite-dimensional algebras and commutative noetherian rings.



DEFINITION 4.4. A locally finitely presentable Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be *strictly wild* if there is a field  $k$  such that given any finite-dimensional  $k$ -algebra  $R$  (non-commutative in general), there is a fully faithful functor  $\Phi: \text{mod-}R \rightarrow \text{fp } \mathcal{A}$ .

Example 4.5. If  $Q$  is a finite quiver without oriented cycles which is wild (cf. [Ker96, § 1.3]), then the category  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mod-}kQ$  is strictly wild by [Ker96, Theorem 1.6]. Examples of strictly wild module categories over a commutative noetherian ring are provided in [KL06, § 3].

To give a proof of Theorem 4.1, let us introduce a slight non-commutative generalization of discrete valuation domains, as promised at the beginning of § 1. An easy non-commutative example of such a ring is  $\mathbb{H}[[x]]$ , where  $\mathbb{H}$  is the skew-field of quaternions.

DEFINITION 4.6. A ring  $R$ , non-commutative in general, is said to be *noetherian uniserial* (cf. [CF04, Appendix B]) if  $R$  is left and right noetherian and both left and right ideals are linearly ordered.

A noetherian uniserial ring  $R$  is called an *Asano ring* (cf. [AR68] and also [Gab62, § IV.4]) if it is complete; that is, if  $J$  is the Jacobson radical of  $R$ , we require that

$$R = \varprojlim R/J^n.$$

Let us collect a few basic properties of these rings. Recall that a module is *semiartinian* if it is a direct limit of finite-length modules. For modules over a discrete valuation domain, semiartinian is the same as torsion.

LEMMA 4.7. *The following hold for any noetherian uniserial ring  $R$  and its Jacobson radical  $J$ .*

- (i) *There is  $p \in R$ , taking the role of a prime element, such that each non-zero left and each non-zero right ideal is of the form  $J^n = p^n R = Rp^n$ .*
- (ii)  *$R$  is right hereditary if and only if  $R$  is left hereditary if and only if  $J$  is not nilpotent.*
- (iii) *The injective envelope  $I$  of  $R/J$ , as a right module, is in fact a faithfully balanced  $R$ - $R$ -bimodule, and the adjoint pair*

$$\text{Hom}_R(-, I) : \text{Mod-}R \rightleftharpoons R\text{-Mod} : \text{Hom}_R(-, I)$$

*restricts to a duality between the categories of left and right finite-length modules.*

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows directly from [CF04, Corollary B.1.4], while (ii) is a consequence of [CF04, Corollary B.1.5]. For (iii), first note that [CF04, Proposition B.2.1 and Corollary B.2.2] imply that  $I$  is semiartinian. Moreover, if  $\hat{R}$  is the completion of  $R$ , then the restriction of constants  $\text{Mod-}\hat{R} \rightarrow \text{Mod-}R$  clearly induces an equivalence between the categories of semiartinian  $\hat{R}$ -modules and semiartinian  $R$ -modules. Therefore, we can assume that  $R$  is an Asano ring and then the statement follows from [CF04, Proposition B.2.3]. □

With this, note that given any  $G \in \text{Mod-}R$  we can define  $p^\sigma G$  and  $G[r]$ ,  $r \in R$ , almost as in § 1, only by right multiplication, and we get submodules of  $G$ . In fact, everything in §§ 1 and 2 goes through and we get a generalization of Theorem 2.5.

PROPOSITION 4.8. *Let  $R$  be an hereditary noetherian uniserial ring and  $\lambda$  an uncountable regular cardinal. Then there is a semiartinian right  $R$ -module  $P_\lambda$  whose  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension is at least two.*

Now we can give a proof of Theorem 4.1.

*Proof of Theorem 4.1.* The main idea is easy. Given a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{A}$  with the assumed properties, we wish to construct a finitely accessible subcategory  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  and a hereditary Asano ring  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{B}$  is equivalent to the category of all semiartinian right  $R$ -modules. If we succeed, we learn that  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{gl.dim } \mathcal{B} \geq 2$  and, by Lemma 3.6, also

$$\lambda\text{-pure gl.dim } \mathcal{A} \geq 2.$$

Assume first that  $\mathcal{A}$  contains a tube and take  $S \in \text{fp } \mathcal{A}$  as in Definition 4.2. Let  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  be the full subcategory of objects admitting an ascending chain of subobjects

$$0 = X_0 \subseteq X_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq X_\ell = X$$

with  $X_{i+1}/X_i \cong S$  for each  $0 \leq i < \ell$ . Using an obvious generalization of Ringel's simplification lemma [Rin84, pp. 114–115, Lemma 3.1.1], one shows that  $\mathcal{S}$  is an abelian subcategory and that  $S$  is (up to isomorphism) the unique simple object of  $\mathcal{S}$ . The term 'simplification' comes from the latter fact:  $S$  is made simple. By a result of Gabriel [Gab73, § 8.3], presented in detail in [CK10, Theorem 1.7.1],  $\mathcal{S}$  is a uniserial category. In other words,  $\mathcal{S}$  is an abelian length category of which each indecomposable object is uniserial. Now we can put  $\mathcal{B} = \varinjlim \mathcal{S}$ ; this is a locally finite Grothendieck category and is by definition a finitely accessible subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Next, we construct  $R$ . Let  $E$  be an injective envelope of  $S$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  and let  $R = \text{End}_{\mathcal{B}}(E)$ . As stated in [AR68],  $R$  is an hereditary Asano ring. In fact, this follows from the proof of [Gab62, p. 398, Théorème 4] as well as the fact that

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{B}}(-, E): \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow R\text{-Mod}$$

gives a duality between  $\mathcal{S}$  and the category of finite-length left  $R$ -modules. Composing this with the duality from Lemma 4.7(iii), we get an equivalence between  $\mathcal{S}$  and the category of finite-length right  $R$ -modules. It is a well-known fact that one can extend this to an equivalence between  $\mathcal{B} = \varinjlim \mathcal{S}$  and the category of semiartinian right  $R$ -modules; see, for instance, the representation theorem [AR94, Theorem 2.26] again. Thus, the first case is proved.

Let us now turn to the case where  $\mathcal{G}$  is strictly wild. Then there is a field  $k$  and a fully faithful functor

$$\text{mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot) \longrightarrow \text{fp } \mathcal{A},$$

which again extends to a fully faithful and direct limit-preserving functor

$$\text{Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot) \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}.$$

Moreover, the essential image of the latter functor is a finitely accessible subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The proof of Theorem 3.7 then tells us that the category of all torsion  $k[[x]]$ -modules embeds as a finitely accessible subcategory in  $\text{Mod-}k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot)$  and hence also in  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\square$

## 5. Consequences for triangulated categories

In the final section, we focus on the original motivation for our results in the theory of triangulated categories and discuss consequences for representable functors. A nice overview of the questions we are dealing with is presented in [Mur10], and the general background is explained in the introduction of [CKN01]. In this context, our results provide information about the derived categories of the rings and locally finitely presentable Grothendieck categories mentioned in the previous sections.

To start with, recall that the derived category  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  of a ring  $R$  is always a so-called compactly generated triangulated category.

DEFINITION 5.1. An object  $X$  in a triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  with arbitrary coproducts is said to be *compact* if the representable functor

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(X, -): \mathcal{T} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$$

sends coproducts in  $\mathcal{T}$  to direct sums of abelian groups. The category  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to be *compactly generated* if:

- (i) the full subcategory  $\mathcal{T}^c$  of all compact objects is skeletally small;
- (ii) given  $0 \neq X \in \mathcal{T}$ , there is a non-zero homomorphism  $C \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  with  $C \in \mathcal{T}^c$ .

Recall that  $X \in \mathbf{D}(R)$  is compact if and only if  $X$  is a *perfect* complex, that is,  $X$  is isomorphic in  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  to a bounded complex of finitely generated projective modules. One implication is very easy, while the other follows from the proof of [Ric89, Proposition 6.3].

Compactly generated triangulated categories may be viewed as a triangulated analogue of abelian categories which are locally finitely presentable in the sense of [GU71]. There is also a reasonable analogue of general locally presentable abelian categories, namely the so-called *well-generated* triangulated categories introduced by Neeman [Nee01]. We will not define them here, but refer to [Nee01, ch. 8] instead. We just mention that one replaces compact objects by so-called  $\lambda$ -compact objects, where  $\lambda$  is a regular cardinal; see [Nee01, § 4.2]. The full subcategory of  $\mathcal{T}$  formed by all  $\lambda$ -compact objects is denoted by  $\mathcal{T}^\lambda$ , and by definition one has  $\mathcal{T}^{\aleph_0} = \mathcal{T}^c$ .

A special instance of [Nee01, Lemma 4.4.5], together with the (proof of) [Nee01, 8.4.2], gives us a description of  $\lambda$ -compact objects in  $\mathbf{D}(R)$ .

LEMMA 5.2. *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\lambda$  an uncountable regular cardinal. Then the category  $\mathbf{D}(R)^\lambda$  of all  $\lambda$ -compact objects is the smallest full triangulated subcategory of  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  that contains  $R$  and is closed under coproducts with fewer than  $\lambda$  summands.*

Now an important question, for a compactly or well-generated triangulated category, is when we can represent functors. In other words, given a triangulated subcategory  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  and a covariant or contravariant functor

$$F: \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Ab},$$

we seek an object  $X \in \mathcal{T}$  such that  $F = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(X, -)|_{\mathcal{S}}$  or  $F = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{S}}$ , respectively. Here and later on, we will always assume that all functors are additive. Of course, some extra assumptions are necessary since Hom-functors are also (co)homological and they transfer products or coproducts in  $\mathcal{T}$  to products of abelian groups.

Simplest to state is the case where  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{T}$ . This was first studied by Brown [Bro62] in algebraic topology. We adopt the following notation.

[BR]  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to satisfy *Brown representability*, or [BR] for short, if every contravariant cohomological functor  $F: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$  which sends coproducts to products is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(-, X)$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{T}$ .

[BR\*]  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies *Brown representability for the dual* if every covariant homological functor  $F': \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$  which preserves products is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(X', -)$  for some  $X' \in \mathcal{T}$ .

A less-understood problem is the case where  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{T}^\lambda$ , the category of  $\lambda$ -compact objects, for some regular cardinal  $\lambda$ . In topology, positive results for  $\lambda = \aleph_0$  were obtained by Adams [Ada71]

and Brown [Bro62]. Note that the terminology below is not completely unified; we refer to [CKN01, Remark 0.3] for an explanation.

[ARO $^\lambda$ ]  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to satisfy *Adams  $\lambda$ -representability for objects* if every contravariant cohomological functor  $F: \mathcal{T}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$  which sends coproducts with fewer than  $\lambda$  summands to products is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{T}^\lambda}$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{T}$ .

[ARM $^\lambda$ ]  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies *Adams  $\lambda$ -representability for morphisms* if every natural transformation

$$\eta: \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{T}^\lambda} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, Y)|_{\mathcal{T}^\lambda}$$

is induced by a (not necessarily unique) morphism  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

The questions about representability are intimately related to abelianizations of the triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  in the sense of [Nee01, Definition 6.1.3] (see also [Kra10, § 6.7] and [Bel00, § 10]). The general motivation for approximating a triangulated category by an abelian category is that abelian categories are often better understood; see [Nee01, Introduction]. Let us give a precise definition here.

DEFINITION 5.3. Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a triangulated category with arbitrary coproducts and  $\lambda$  a regular cardinal. Denote by  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  the category whose objects are contravariant functors

$$F: \mathcal{T}^\lambda \longrightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$$

which send coproducts with fewer than  $\lambda$  summands to products, and whose morphisms are natural transformations between these functors. The  *$\lambda$ -abelianization* of  $\mathcal{T}$  is defined as the Yoneda functor

$$H_\lambda: \mathcal{T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T}),$$

sending  $X \in \mathcal{T}$  to  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{T}^\lambda}$ .

Clearly, [ARM $^\lambda$ ] is equivalent to saying that  $H_\lambda$  is full, and [ARO $^\lambda$ ] means that every cohomological functor  $\mathcal{T}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$  in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  belongs to the essential image of  $H_\lambda$ . Even better,  $H_\lambda$  is a natural object determined by a universal property.

PROPOSITION 5.4 [Kra10, Nee01]. *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a well-generated triangulated category and  $\lambda$  a regular cardinal such that  $\mathcal{T}$  is generated by  $\mathcal{T}^\lambda$ . Then the following hold.*

(i)  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  is a locally  $\lambda$ -presentable abelian category with enough projectives, exact products and coproducts, and exact  $\lambda$ -filtered colimits. The functor  $H_\lambda$  is homological, preserves products and coproducts, and reflects isomorphisms.

(ii) Given any homological functor  $H': \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  to an abelian category with coproducts and exact  $\lambda$ -filtered colimits such that  $H'$  preserves coproducts, there exists an essentially unique coproduct-preserving exact functor  $E: \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that  $H' = E \circ H_\lambda$ .

*Proof.* The category  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  is locally  $\lambda$ -presentable by [Kra10, §§ 6.9 and 6.10] and has enough projectives by [Nee01, Lemma 6.4.4]. The fact that it has products and coproducts and that these are exact has been proved in [Nee01, § 6.3]. The same properties for  $\lambda$ -filtered colimits follow easily from the observation that  $\lambda$ -filtered colimits in  $\mathbf{Ab}$  commute with products having fewer than  $\lambda$  summands. The functor  $H_\lambda$  is clearly homological and preserves products. It preserves coproducts by [Nee01, Proposition 6.2.6] (see also [Kra10, Proposition 6.7.1]). It reflects isomorphisms by the assumption on  $\mathcal{T}^\lambda$ ; see [Nee01, Lemma 6.2.9]. Finally, for the universal property (ii), we refer to [Nee01, Theorem B.2.5] or [Kra10, § 6.10].  $\square$

Let us now relate properties of the  $\lambda$ -abelianization of  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  and representability properties of  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  to the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$  and our Theorems 3.7 and 4.1. We start with a result originally established by Beligiannis [Bel00, § 11.2] and Neeman [Nee97] for  $\lambda = \aleph_0$  and extended by Muro and Raventós [RM11] to higher cardinalities.

PROPOSITION 5.5 [Bel00, Nee97, RM11]. *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a well-generated triangulated category and  $\lambda$  a regular cardinal such that  $\mathcal{T}$  is generated by  $\mathcal{T}^\lambda$ . Then the following hold.*

(i) *If  $F: \mathcal{T}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$  is a cohomological functor in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  such that  $\text{proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})} F \leq 2$ , then  $F \cong H_\lambda X$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{T}$ .*

(ii)  *$H_\lambda: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  is full or, equivalently,  $[\text{ARM}^\lambda]$  is satisfied for  $\mathcal{T}$  if and only if  $\text{proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})} H_\lambda X \leq 1$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{T}$ .*

*Proof.* Assertion (ii) is a direct generalization of [Nee97, Lemma 4.1 and Proposition 4.11], while for (i) one can use the argument in [Bel00, Remark 11.12]. In both cases, one also uses the fact that for each  $X \in \text{Add } \mathcal{T}^\lambda$  and  $Y \in \mathcal{T}$  we have  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(X, Y) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})}(H_\lambda X, H_\lambda Y)$ . This easily follows from Definition 5.3 for  $X \in \mathcal{T}^\lambda$ , and for a general  $X \in \text{Add } \mathcal{T}^\lambda$  it is true because  $H_\lambda$  preserves coproducts.  $\square$

Next, we need a connection between the projective dimension of objects in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathbf{D}(R))$  and the  $\lambda$ -pure global dimension of  $\text{Mod-}R$ . Here we use a result of Muro and Raventós [RM11], which extends [CKN01, Proposition 1.4] from  $\aleph_0$  to arbitrary cardinals.

PROPOSITION 5.6 [CKN01, RM11]. *Let  $R$  be a right coherent ring such that each finitely presented right  $R$ -module is of finite projective dimension. Further, let  $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{D}(R)$  and let  $\lambda$  be a regular cardinal.*

(i) *Given any  $R$ -module  $M$ , the projective dimension of  $H_\lambda M$  in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  equals the  $\lambda$ -pure projective dimension of  $M$  in  $\text{Mod-}R$ . In particular,*

$$\lambda\text{-pure gl.dim Mod-}R \leq \sup\{\text{proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})} H_\lambda X \mid X \in \mathbf{D}(R)\}.$$

(ii) *If  $R$  is right hereditary, then*

$$\lambda\text{-pure gl.dim Mod-}R = \sup\{\text{proj.dim}_{\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})} H_\lambda X \mid X \in \mathbf{D}(R)\}.$$

*Proof.* Since [RM11] was not generally available at the time of writing this article, we sketch an argument very similar to the one in [CKN01]. We consider the restriction

$$H'_\lambda: \text{Mod-}R \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$$

of  $H_\lambda$  to  $\text{Mod-}R$ , so that  $H'_\lambda(M) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(-, M)|_{\mathcal{T}^\lambda}$ ; for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we consider the ‘extended homology’ functors

$$H^i: \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T}) \longrightarrow \text{Mod-}R$$

defined by  $H^i(F) = F(R[-i])$ . Note that  $H^i \circ H_\lambda: \mathbf{D}(R) \rightarrow \text{Mod-}R$  is the usual  $i$ th homology functor and that  $H^0 \circ H'_\lambda = 1_{\text{Mod-}R}$ .

With this notation, we claim that  $H'_\lambda$  as well as all the  $H^i$  commute with  $\lambda$ -directed (and hence also  $\lambda$ -filtered) colimits. In fact, a straightforward modification of the proof of [CKN01, Lemma 1.3] applies. For  $H'_\lambda$ , we must prove that given any  $\lambda$ -directed system  $(M_i \mid i \in I)$  of  $R$ -modules and any  $\lambda$ -compact object  $P \in \mathcal{T}$ , the natural morphism

$$\varinjlim \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(P, M_i) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{T}}(P, \varinjlim M_i)$$

is an isomorphism. This is clear for  $P = R[i]$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and for an arbitrary  $\lambda$ -compact object  $P$  we need only use Lemma 5.2 and the fact that  $\lambda$ -directed colimits of abelian groups commute with products of fewer than  $\lambda$  summands. The functors  $H^i$  commute with  $\lambda$ -directed colimits since they are evaluation functors and  $\lambda$ -directed colimits are computed componentwise in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$ . This proves the claim.

Further,  $H'_\lambda$  as well as all the  $H^i$  preserve coproducts and transform  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences into  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences. Indeed, for coproducts of  $\lambda$ -presentable objects with fewer than  $\lambda$  summands, this follows from their construction (in  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  they are *not* computed componentwise; see [Nee01, § 6.3!]), and extends to arbitrary coproducts via  $\lambda$ -directed colimits. For  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequences, we use the well-known fact that each  $\lambda$ -pure exact sequence is a  $\lambda$ -directed colimit of split exact sequences.

Finally, we check that  $H'_\lambda$  sends  $\lambda$ -pure projective modules to projective objects and all the  $H^i$  send projective objects to  $\lambda$ -pure projective modules. This is an easy consequence of the fact that each  $M \in \text{Mod-}R$  is represented by its projective resolution in  $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{D}(R)$ . Hence, if  $M$  is a  $<\lambda$ -presented module, it is  $\lambda$ -compact in  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  by the assumptions on  $R$  and Lemma 5.2. On the other hand, if  $X \in \mathcal{T}$  is  $\lambda$ -compact, then all its homologies are  $<\lambda$ -presented, again by the coherency of  $R$  and Lemma 5.2.

Having established all these properties, (i) and (ii) are easy: they follow by exactly the same proof as for [CKN01, Proposition 1.4].  $\square$

Now we can give an application of our Theorem 3.7. Partial results in this direction have been obtained by Muro and Raventós, who studied wild hereditary algebras (for which our results also work; cf. Theorem 4.1).

**COROLLARY 5.7.** *Let  $R$  be one of the rings from Theorem 3.7, that is,  $R = k(\cdot \rightrightarrows \cdot)$ , or  $R = k[x, y]$  for  $k$  uncountable, or  $R = k[[x, y]]$  for any field  $k$ . Then there is no regular cardinal  $\lambda$  for which  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  satisfies  $[\text{ARM}^\lambda]$ , the Adams  $\lambda$ -representability for morphisms. In other words, none of the  $\lambda$ -abelianization functors  $H_\lambda: \mathbf{D}(R) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathbf{D}(R))$  is full.*

*Remark 5.8.* Based on [Ros05] (see also [Nee09, Conjecture 1.27]), it was believed that for nice enough (and perhaps even all) well-generated triangulated categories  $\mathcal{T}$  there is a regular cardinal  $\lambda$  such that  $H_\lambda: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  is full. ‘Nice enough’ means that  $\mathcal{T}$  is the homotopy category of a combinatorial stable model category in the sense of [HPS97]; in this case,  $\mathcal{T}$  is automatically well-generated by [Ros05]. Here we present a counterexample to that belief, as  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  for any ring  $R$  is certainly ‘nice enough’.

*Remark 5.9.* Having ruled out  $[\text{ARM}^\lambda]$  for all regular cardinals for some  $\mathbf{D}(R)$ , we say nothing about  $[\text{ARO}^\lambda]$ , the Adams  $\lambda$ -representability for objects. Giving a counterexample to that for  $\lambda = \aleph_0$  in [CKN01] was a rather delicate matter. Propositions 5.5 and 5.6 suggest that one should look for  $\lambda$  and an  $R$ -module  $M$  such that  $\lambda$ -pure  $\text{proj.dim } M \geq 3$ , but we are at present not aware of any techniques for achieving this goal.

Finally, we mention a result of Neeman which attracted considerable interest in studying fullness of  $H_\lambda$ . Having established [BR] for any well-generated triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  in [Nee01], Neeman obtained in [Nee09, Theorems 1.11 and 1.17] a result about  $[\text{BR}^*]$ , the Brown representability for the dual. Here we do not state the most general version of his result, only a simplified version relevant to us.



PROPOSITION 5.10. *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a well-generated triangulated category and suppose that there is a regular cardinal  $\lambda$  such that  $H_\lambda$  is full. Then  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfies both [BR] and [BR\*].*

As we now know, there need not exist such  $\lambda$ . However, this does not mean that [BR\*] is not satisfied for  $\mathcal{T}$ ; existence of such  $\lambda$  is only sufficient. Another sufficient condition is that  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  have enough injectives for some  $\lambda$ ; see [Nee01, Theorem 8.6.1]. The latter is satisfied for any compactly generated triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$ , since then  $\mathcal{A}_{\aleph_0}(\mathcal{T})$  is a Grothendieck category. In particular, [BR\*] is satisfied for  $\mathbf{D}(R)$  for any ring  $R$ . On the other hand, examples of  $\mathcal{A}_\lambda(\mathcal{T})$  without enough injectives were given in [Nee01, Appendix C.4], and the construction, interestingly enough, also uses Walker's modules  $P_\beta$ . To conclude, the question of whether or not [BR\*] holds for any well-generated triangulated category is, to our best knowledge, open.

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