
On n -Weak Cotorsion Modules

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Received April 29, 2016

Abstract—Let R be a ring and n a fixed non-negative integer. In this paper, n -weak cotorsion modules are introduced and studied. A right R -module N is called n -weak cotorsion module if $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, N) = 0$ for any right R -module F with weak flat dimension at most n . Also some characterizations of rings with finite super finitely presented dimensions are given.

2010 Mathematical Subject Classification: 16D10, 16E30, 16D50

Keywords and phrases: *weak injective module; weak flat module; n -weak cotorsion module; super finitely presented dimension*

1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper, R denotes an associative ring with identity and all modules are unitary. Denote by $R\text{-Mod}$ the category of left R -modules and by $\text{Mod-}R$ the category of right R -modules. As usual, $\text{pd}_R(M)$, $\text{id}_R(M)$, and $\text{fd}_R(M)$ will denote the projective, injective and flat dimensions of an R -module M , respectively. We use \mathcal{F}_n to stand for the class of all right R -modules with flat dimension at most n and $\text{w.gl.dim}(R)$ to stand for the weak global dimension of a ring R . For unexplained concepts and notations, we refer the reader to [1, 5, 13, 16].

We first recall some known notions and facts needed in the sequel. Given a class \mathcal{C} of right R -modules, we write

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C}^\perp &= \{M \in \text{Mod-}R \mid \text{Ext}_R^1(C, M) = 0, \forall C \in \mathcal{C}\}; \\ {}^\perp\mathcal{C} &= \{M \in \text{Mod-}R \mid \text{Ext}_R^1(M, C) = 0, \forall C \in \mathcal{C}\}.\end{aligned}$$

Let \mathcal{C} be a class of right R -modules and M a right R -module. Following [5], we say that a map $f \in \text{Hom}_R(C, M)$ with $C \in \mathcal{C}$ is a \mathcal{C} -precover of M , if the group homomorphism $\text{Hom}_R(C', f) : \text{Hom}_R(C', C) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(C', M)$ is surjective for each $C' \in \mathcal{C}$. A \mathcal{C} -precover $f \in \text{Hom}_R(C, M)$ of M is called a \mathcal{C} -cover of M if f is right minimal, that is, if $fg = f$ implies that g is an automorphism for each $g \in \text{End}_R(C)$. Dually, we have the definition of \mathcal{C} -preenvelope (\mathcal{C} -envelope).

A \mathcal{C} -envelope $\phi : M \rightarrow C$ is said to have the *unique mapping property* [3] if for every any homomorphism $f : M \rightarrow C'$ with $C' \in \mathcal{C}$, there is a unique homomorphism $g : C \rightarrow C'$ such that $g\phi = f$. Dually, we have the definition of \mathcal{C} -cover with unique mapping property.

Following [5], a monomorphism $\alpha : M \rightarrow C$ with $C \in \mathcal{C}$ is said to be a *special \mathcal{C} -preenvelope* of M if $\text{coker}(\alpha) \in {}^\perp\mathcal{C}$. Dually, we have the definition of a special \mathcal{C} -precover. Special \mathcal{C} -preenvelopes (resp., special \mathcal{C} -precovers) are obviously \mathcal{C} -preenvelopes (resp., \mathcal{C} -precovers). In general, \mathcal{C} -covers (\mathcal{C} -envelopes) may not exist, if exists, they are unique up to isomorphism.

A pair $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ of classes of right R -modules is called a *cotorsion theory* [5] if $\mathcal{F}^\perp = \mathcal{C}$ and ${}^\perp\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{F}$. A cotorsion theory $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ is called *complete* [15] if every right R -module has a special \mathcal{C} -preenvelope

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and a special \mathcal{F} -precover. A cotorsion theory $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ is called *perfect* [6] if every right R -module has a \mathcal{C} -envelope and an \mathcal{F} -cover. A cotorsion theory $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ is called *hereditary* [6] if whenever $0 \rightarrow L' \rightarrow L \rightarrow L'' \rightarrow 0$ is exact with $L, L'' \in \mathcal{F}$, then L' is also in \mathcal{F} . By [6, Proposition 1.2] $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ is hereditary if and only if whenever $0 \rightarrow C' \rightarrow C \rightarrow C'' \rightarrow 0$ is exact with $C, C' \in \mathcal{C}$, then C'' is also in \mathcal{C} .

A right R -module M is called *FP-injective* [14] if $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, M) = 0$ for all finitely presented right R -modules F . Accordingly, the *FP-injective dimension* of M , denoted by $\text{FP-id}(M)$, is defined to be the smallest $n \geq 0$ such that $\text{Ext}_R^{n+1}(F, M) = 0$ for all finitely presented right R -modules F (if no such n exists, set $\text{FP-id}(M) = \infty$). We use \mathcal{FP}_n to stand for the class of all right R -modules with *FP-injective dimension* at most n .

A left R -module M is called *super finitely presented* [8] if there exists an exact sequence $\cdots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$, where each F_i is finitely generated and projective. Following this, Gao and Wang in [9] gave the definitions of weak injective and weak flat modules in terms of super finitely presented modules. A left R -module M is called *weak injective* if $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, M) = 0$ for any super finitely presented left R -module F . A right R -module N is called *weak flat* if $\text{Tor}_1^R(N, F) = 0$ for any super finitely presented left R -module F .

Accordingly, the *weak injective dimension* of a left R -module M , denoted by $\text{wid}_R(M)$, is defined to be the smallest $n \geq 0$ such that $\text{Ext}_R^{n+1}(F, M) = 0$ for all super finitely presented left R -modules F . If no such n exists, set $\text{wid}_R(M) = \infty$. The *weak flat dimension* of a right R -module N , denoted by $\text{wfd}_R(N)$, is defined to be the smallest $n \geq 0$ such that $\text{Tor}_{n+1}^R(N, F) = 0$ for all super finitely presented left R -modules F . If no such n exists, set $\text{wfd}_R(N) = \infty$. The *left super finitely presented dimension*, denoted by $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R)$, of a ring R is defined as

$$\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) = \sup \{ \text{pd}_R(M) \mid M \text{ is a super finitely presented left } R\text{-module} \}.$$

Let n be a fixed non-negative integer. In what follows, the symbol $\mathcal{WI}_n(\mathcal{WF}_n)$ denotes the class of all left (right) R -modules with weak injective (weak flat) dimension less than or equal to n .

In [12], Mao and Ding proved that $(\mathcal{F}_n, \mathcal{F}_n^\perp)$ is a perfect hereditary cotorsion theory and introduced the notion of n -cotorsion modules. Recently, Zhao proved $(\mathcal{WF}_n, \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp)$ is a perfect hereditary cotorsion theory in [17, Proposition 4.18]. Inspired by [12, 17], in this paper, we will introduce and study the notion of n -weak cotorsion modules.

In Section 2, n -weak cotorsion modules are defined and studied. A right R -module N is called an n -weak cotorsion module if $N \in \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp$. For a ring with $\text{wid}(R) \leq n$, we prove that a right R -module M is n -weak cotorsion if and only if M is a kernel of a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover $f : A \rightarrow B$ with A injective if and only if M is a direct sum of an injective right R -module and a reduced n -weak cotorsion right R -module.

In Section 3, we characterize rings with finite super finitely presented dimension in terms of, among others, n -weak cotorsion modules. It is proven that $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) \leq n$ if and only if every n -weak cotorsion right R -module is injective if and only if every n -weak cotorsion right R -module belongs to \mathcal{WF}_n . It is also shown that if every n -weak cotorsion right R -module has a \mathcal{WF}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property, then $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) \leq n + 2$.

2. n -WEAK COTORSION MODULES

For any ring R and a fixed non-negative integer n , it is known that $(\mathcal{WF}_n, \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp)$ is a perfect hereditary cotorsion theory by [17, Proposition 4.18]. In this section, n -weak cotorsion modules are defined to be the modules in the class \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp . We start with the following

Definition 1. *Let R be a ring and n a fixed non-negative integer. A right R -module N is called n -weak cotorsion module if $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, N) = 0$ for any right R -module $F \in \mathcal{WF}_n$.*

In what follows, \mathcal{WC}_n stands for the class of all n -weak cotorsion right R -modules.

By Definition 1, we have the following proposition.

Proposition 1. *The following assertions hold:*

1. *Let C_i be a family of right R -modules. Then $\prod_i C_i$ is n -weak cotorsion if and only if each C_i is n -weak cotorsion.*
2. *\mathcal{WC}_n is closed under extensions and direct summands.*
3. *If $m \geq n$, then every m -weak cotorsion modules is n -weak cotorsion.*

Recall that, a right R -module C is called *cotorsion* [4] provided that $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, C) = 0$ for any flat right R module F . For a fixed non-negative integer n , a right R -module M is called *n -cotorsion* [12] if $\text{Ext}_R^1(N, M) = 0$ for any $N \in \mathcal{F}_n$. 0-cotorsion modules are precisely cotorsion modules.

Remark 1.

1. *For any non-negative integer n , we have the following implications: injective modules \Rightarrow n -weak cotorsion modules \Rightarrow n -cotorsion modules \Rightarrow cotorsion modules;*
2. *If R is a coherent ring, then n -weak cotorsion modules coincide with n -cotorsion modules since $\text{l.sp.gl.dim}(R) = \text{w.gl.dim}(R)$.*

The following theorem is due to Zhao [17, Proposition 4.17 and Proposition 4.18].

Theorem 1. *Let n be a fixed non-negative integer. Then following hold:*

1. *For a ring R with $\text{wid}_R({}_R R) \leq n$, $(\mathcal{WI}_n, \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp)$ is a perfect cotorsion theory.*
2. *For any ring R , $(\mathcal{WF}_n, \mathcal{WC}_n)$ is a perfect hereditary cotorsion theory.*

Proposition 2. *Let R be a ring, m and n two non-negative integers.*

1. *If C is an n -weak cotorsion right R -module, then $\text{Ext}_R^{i+1}(C, M) = 0$ for any integer $i \geq m$ and any $M \in \mathcal{WF}_{m+n}$.*
2. *The m th cosyzygy of any n -weak cotorsion right R -module is $(m+n)$ -weak cotorsion.*

Proof. (1) For any $M \in \mathcal{WF}_{m+n}$, we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_m \rightarrow P_{m-1} \rightarrow P_{m-2} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

with each P_i is projective. It is clear that $K_m \in \mathcal{WF}_n$. Therefore, $\text{Ext}_R^{m+1}(M, C) \cong \text{Ext}_R^1(K_m, C) = 0$ since C is n -weak cotorsion, and the result follows by induction.

(2) Let C be any n -weak cotorsion right R -module and L^m the m th cosyzygy of C . Note that $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, L^m) \cong \text{Ext}_R^{m+1}(F, C) = 0$ for any $F \in \mathcal{WF}_{m+n}$ by (1). Thus L^m is $(m+n)$ -weak cotorsion. \square

Proposition 3. *Let R be a ring and N a right R -module. Then, the following are equivalent:*

1. *N is n -weak cotorsion;*
2. *N is injective with respect to every exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$, where $L \in \mathcal{WF}_n$;*

Moreover if $\text{wid}_R({}_R R) \leq n$ then, the above conditions are also equivalent to:

3. *For every exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$, where E is injective, $E \rightarrow L$ is a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover of L ;*
4. *N is a kernel of a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover, $E \rightarrow L$ with E injective.*

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) is obvious.

(2) \Rightarrow (1). For every right R -module $L \in \mathcal{WF}_n$, there is a short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ with P projective, which induces an exact sequence

$$\text{Hom}(P, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(K, N) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(L, N) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since $\text{Hom}(F, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(K, N) \rightarrow 0$ is exact by (2), $\text{Ext}_R^1(L, N) = 0$. So (1) follows.

(1) \Rightarrow (3). Let $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ be an exact sequence with E injective. Then $E \in \mathcal{WF}_n$ is by [17, Proposition 4.11]. For any right R -module $F \in \mathcal{WF}_n$, the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ induces the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(F, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(F, E) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(F, L) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(F, N) = 0.$$

So $E \rightarrow L$ is a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover of L .

(3) \Rightarrow (4). It follows from the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E(N) \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ and (3).

(4) \Rightarrow (1). Let N be a kernel of a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover $E \rightarrow L$ with E injective. Then we have an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$. So, we have the exact sequence $\text{Hom}(M, E) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, L) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(M, N) \rightarrow 0$ for each right R -module $M \in \mathcal{WF}_n$. Note that $\text{Hom}(M, E) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, L) \rightarrow 0$ is exact by (4). Hence, $\text{Ext}_R^1(M, N) = 0$, as desired. \square

The following example shows that \mathcal{WF}_0^\perp (the class of all 0-weak cotorsion modules) is a proper subclass of \mathcal{F}_0^\perp (class of all cotorsion modules) and \mathcal{WF}_1^\perp (the class of all 1-weak cotorsion modules) is a proper subclass of \mathcal{F}_1^\perp (class of all 1-cotorsion modules).

Example 1. As Gao mentioned in [9, Remark 3.11(2)], we have a ring R with $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) = 0$ but $\text{w.gl.dim}(R) \neq 0$ by [11, Theorem 3.4] and from [2] we have a ring R with $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) = 1$ but $\text{w.gl.dim}(R) \neq 1$. Then \mathcal{F}_0 (resp., \mathcal{F}_1) is a proper subclass of \mathcal{WF}_0 (resp., \mathcal{WF}_1). Note that for any non-negative integer n , $(\mathcal{F}_n, \mathcal{F}_n^\perp)$ and $(\mathcal{WF}_n, \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp)$ are cotorsion theories by [12, Theorem 3.4(2)] and [17, Proposition 4.18] respectively, so \mathcal{WF}_0^\perp (resp., \mathcal{WF}_1^\perp) is a proper subclass of \mathcal{F}_0^\perp (resp., \mathcal{F}_1^\perp).

Recall that an R -module M is said to be *reduced* [5] if M has no non zero injective submodules.

Proposition 4. Let R be a ring with $\text{wid}_R({}_R R) \leq n$. Then the following are equivalent for a right R -module M :

1. M is a reduced n -weak cotorsion right R -module;
2. M is a kernel of a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover $f: A \rightarrow B$ with A injective.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Consider an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E(M) \rightarrow E(M)/M \rightarrow 0$. By Proposition 3, the natural map $\alpha: E(M) \rightarrow E(M)/M$ is a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover. Thus $E(M)$ has no non zero direct summand K contained in M since M is reduced. Note that $E(M)/M$ has a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover by Theorem 1(2). It follows that $\alpha: E(M) \rightarrow E(M)/M$ is a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover by [16, Corollary 1.2.8] and hence (2) follows.

(2) \Rightarrow (1). Let M be a kernel of a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover $f: A \rightarrow B$ with A injective. By Proposition 3, M is n -weak cotorsion. Now let K be an injective submodule of M . Suppose $A = K \oplus L$, $p: A \rightarrow L$ is the projection and $i: L \rightarrow A$ is the inclusion. It is easy to see that $f(K) = 0$, and $f(ip) = f$. This implies that ip is an isomorphism. Thus i is an epimorphism, and hence $A = L$, $K = 0$. So M is reduced. \square

Theorem 2. Let R be a ring with $\text{wid}({}_R R) \leq n$. Then a right R -module M is n -weak cotorsion if and only if M is a direct sum of an injective right R -module and a reduced n -weak cotorsion right R -module.

Proof. \Leftarrow is clear.

\Rightarrow . let M be an n -weak cotorsion right R -module. Consider an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E(M) \rightarrow E(M)/M \rightarrow 0$. By Proposition 3, $E(M) \rightarrow E(M)/M$ is a \mathcal{WF}_n -precover of $E(M)/M$. But $E(M)/M$ has a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover $L \rightarrow E(M)/M$ by Theorem 1(2), so we have the commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \xrightarrow{f} & L & \longrightarrow & E(M)/M \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \gamma & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & E(M) & \longrightarrow & E(M)/M \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \sigma & & \downarrow \beta & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \xrightarrow{f} & L & \longrightarrow & E(M)/M \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

Note that $\beta\gamma$ is an isomorphism, and so $E(M) = \ker \beta \oplus \text{im} \gamma$. Since $\text{im} \gamma \cong L$, thus L and $\ker \beta$ are injective. Therefore K is a reduced n -weak cotorsion module by Proposition 4. By the Five lemma, $\sigma\phi$ is an isomorphism. Hence we have $M = \text{im} \phi \oplus \ker \sigma$, where $\text{im} \phi \cong K$. In addition, we get the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & \ker \sigma & \longrightarrow & \ker \beta & \longrightarrow & 0 \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & E(M) & \longrightarrow & E(M)/M \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \sigma & & \downarrow \beta & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \xrightarrow{f} & L & \longrightarrow & E(M)/M \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

Hence $\ker \sigma \cong \ker \beta$. This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 3. *Let R be a ring. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. *Every right R -module is n -weak cotorsion;*
2. *Every right R -module in \mathcal{WF}_n is projective;*
3. *Every right R -module in \mathcal{WF}_n is n -weak cotorsion;*
4. *$\text{Ext}_R^1(M, N) = 0$ for all right R -modules $M, N \in \mathcal{WF}_n$;*
5. *$\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ and all right R -modules $M, N \in \mathcal{WF}_n$;*
6. *Every right R -module M has a \mathcal{WC}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property.*

Proof. (1) \Leftrightarrow (2). It follows from Theorem 1(2).

(1) \Rightarrow (4) \Rightarrow (3), (4) \Leftrightarrow (5) and (1) \Rightarrow (6) are trivial.

(6) \Rightarrow (3). Let $M \in \mathcal{MF}_n$. Then we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & & & 0 & & \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\alpha_M} & \mathcal{WC}_n(M) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & L \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \searrow & & \searrow \alpha_L \gamma & & \downarrow \alpha_L \\
& & & & 0 & & \mathcal{WC}_n(L).
\end{array}$$

where $L \in \mathcal{MF}_n$ by Wakamatsu's Lemma [16, Lemma 2.1.2]. Note that $\sigma_L \gamma \sigma_M = 0 = 0 \sigma_M$, so $\sigma_L \gamma = 0$ by (6). Therefore, $L = \text{im}(\gamma) \subseteq \ker(\sigma_L) = 0$, and hence M is n -weak cotorsion. Thus (3) follows.

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Let M be a right R -module. By Theorem 1(2), M has a special \mathcal{WF}_n -precover, and hence there exists a short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow N \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$, where $K \in \mathcal{WF}_n$ and $N \in \mathcal{WC}_n$. Since N is n -weak cotorsion by (3), M is n -weak cotorsion by Theorem 1(2). So (1) follows. \square

In general $l.sp.gldim(R) \neq w.gl.dim(R)$ (see [9, Remark 3.7(3)]). Here we have the following

Theorem 4. *The following are equivalent for a ring R :*

1. $l.sp.gldim(R) = w.gl.dim(R)$;
2. $\mathcal{WF}_n = \mathcal{F}_n$ for any $n \geq 0$;
3. Every n -cotorsion module is n -weak cotorsion for any $n \geq 0$.

Proof. (1) \Leftrightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) is trivial.

(3) \Rightarrow (2). Since $(\mathcal{WF}_n, \mathcal{WF}_n^\perp)$ and $(\mathcal{F}_n, \mathcal{F}_n^\perp)$ are cotorsion theories for any integer $n \geq 0$ so the assertion hold. \square

3. APPLICATIONS

In this section, we characterize rings with finite super finitely presented dimension in terms, among others, of n -weak cotorsion modules. We start with the following

Lemma 1. *Let R be a ring with $\text{wid}(R) \leq n$ and $n \geq 1$. If $M \in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp$, then there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow E \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ such that E is injective and $K \in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp$.*

Proof. Let $M \in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp$ and $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow P \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ an exact sequence of left R -modules, where P is projective. Consider the following pushout diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & & 0 & & 0 & \\
& & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & M \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & E(P) & \longrightarrow & D \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & & & L & = & L \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & & & 0 & & 0
\end{array}$$

where P is projective and $P \rightarrow E(P)$ is an injective envelope. Note that $\text{wid}_R(P) \leq n$ by [17, Proposition 4.11], it follows that $\text{wid}_R(L) \leq n - 1$ by [9, Proposition 3.3]. Then $\text{Ext}_R^1(L, M) = 0$ since $M \in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp$. Thus the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow D \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ is split, and so M is a quotient of $E(P)$.

Now let $f : E \rightarrow M$ be a weak injective cover of M with E injective, then f is epic. So we have the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow E \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$. Note that $K \in \mathcal{WI}_0^\perp$. We claim that $K \in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp$. Let $F \in \mathcal{WI}_n$ and consider the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow E(F) \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0$. Then $G \in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}$ by [9, Proposition 3.3]. So we have the exact sequence

$$0 = \text{Ext}_R^1(G, M) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(G, K) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(G, E) = 0.$$

Thus $\text{Ext}_R^2(G, K) = 0$. On the other hand, the exactness of the sequence $0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow E(F) \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0$ induces the exact sequence

$$0 = \text{Ext}_R^1(E(F), K) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(F, K) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^2(G, K) = 0.$$

Therefore, $\text{Ext}_R^1(F, K) = 0$ and so $K \in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp$. □

The following theorem extends the result of Zhao [17, Proposition 4.12].

Theorem 5. *The following are equivalent for a ring R and a fixed non-negative integer n :*

1. $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) \leq n$;
2. Every n -weak cotorsion right R module is injective;
3. Every n -weak cotorsion right R -module is in \mathcal{WF}_n ;
4. $\text{Ext}_R^1(M, N) = 0$ for all n -weak cotorsion right R -modules M, N ;
5. $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, N) = 0$ for all $i \geq 1$ and all n -weak cotorsion right R -modules M, N ;
6. Every right R -module M has a \mathcal{WF}_n -cover with the unique mapping property.

If $n \geq 1$, then the above conditions are also equivalent to:

7. Every left R -module has weak injective dimension at most n ;
8. Every right R -module has weak flat dimension at most n ;
9. Every left R -module has a monic \mathcal{WI}_{n-1} -cover;
10. Every right R -module has an epic \mathcal{WF}_{n-1} -envelope;
11. Every quotient of any weak injective left R -module is in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1} ;
12. Every submodule of any weak flat right R -module is in \mathcal{WF}_{n-1} ;
13. The kernel of any \mathcal{WI}_{n-1} -precover of any left R -module is in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1} ;
14. The cokernel of any \mathcal{WF}_{n-1} -preenvelope of any right R -module is in \mathcal{WF}_{n-1} .

Proof. The equivalence of (7)–(14) with (1) follows from [17, Proposition 4.12].

(1) \Leftrightarrow (2). It follows from Theorem 1(2).

(1) \Rightarrow (3) \Leftrightarrow (4) \Leftrightarrow (5), and (1) \Rightarrow (6) are trivial.

(6) \Rightarrow (3). Let M be any n -weak cotorsion right R -module. Then we have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & \mathcal{WF}_n(K) & & & & \\
& & \downarrow \epsilon_K & \searrow \alpha \epsilon_K & \xrightarrow{0} & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & K & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{WF}_n(M) & \xrightarrow{\epsilon_M} & M \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & & & \\
& & 0 & & & &
\end{array}$$

Note that $\epsilon_M \alpha \epsilon_K = 0 = \epsilon_M 0$, so $\alpha \epsilon_K = 0$ by (8). Therefore $K = \text{im}(\epsilon_K) \subseteq \ker(\alpha) = 0$, and so $M \in \mathcal{WF}_n$, as required.

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Let M be any right R -module. By Theorem 1(2), there exists a short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow C \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ with $C \in \mathcal{WC}_n$ and $L \in \mathcal{WF}_n$. Then $C \in \mathcal{WF}_n$ by (3), and hence $M \in \mathcal{WF}_n$. Thus $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) \leq n$. \square

Remark 2. Note that if R is a coherent ring, then Theorem 5 gives some of the equivalent conditions proved in [12, Theorem 6.4].

Theorem 6. Let R be a ring with $\text{wid}_R({}_R R) \leq n$ for a fixed $n \geq 1$, then the following are equivalent:

1. $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) < \infty$;
2. $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) \leq n$;
3. Every left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp is injective;
4. Every left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp is weak injective;
5. Every left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp is weak injective;
6. Every left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp is injective;
7. Every left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp belongs to \mathcal{WI}_n .

Proof. (2) \Rightarrow (1), (3) \Rightarrow (4) \Rightarrow (5), and (6) \Rightarrow (5) are trivial.

(1) \Rightarrow (2). By [10, Proposition 4.2], $\text{l.sp.gldim}(R) = \text{wid}({}_R R) \leq n$.

(1) \Rightarrow (7) follows from Theorem 1(1).

(7) \Leftarrow (1). Let M be a left R -module. Then by Theorem 1(1), there is a short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow F \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ with $K \in \mathcal{WI}_n^\perp$ and $F \in \mathcal{WI}_n$. Then $K \in \mathcal{WI}_n$ by (8), and hence $M \in \mathcal{WI}_n$ as desired.

(4) \Rightarrow (3). Let M be any left R -module in \mathcal{WI}_{n-1}^\perp . There exists an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ with E injective. Note that L is weak injective by (4) and [9, Proposition 3.3], and so the sequence is split since $\text{Ext}_R^1(L, M) = 0$. Therefore, M is injective.

(5) \Rightarrow (4) follows from Lemma 1.

(5) \Rightarrow (6). Similar to the proof (4) \Rightarrow (3). \square

Recall that a ring R is called n -FC ring if it is a left and right coherent ring with left and right self FP -injective dimension is n . From Theorem 6 we get the following equivalent conditions proved by Gao in [7, Theorem 3.6].

Corollary 1. Let R be a n -FC ring with $n \geq 1$. Then the following are equivalent:

1. $\text{w.gl.dim}(R) < \infty$;

2. $w.gl.dim(R) \leq n$;
3. Every left R -module in \mathcal{FP}_{n-1}^\perp is injective;
4. Every left R -module in \mathcal{FP}_{n-1}^\perp is FP -injective;
5. Every left R -module in \mathcal{FP}_n^\perp is FP -injective;
6. Every left R -module in \mathcal{FP}_n^\perp is injective;
7. Every left R -module in \mathcal{FP}_n^\perp belongs to \mathcal{FP}_n .

Proposition 5. *The following are equivalent for a ring R and a fixed integer $n \geq 0$.*

1. R is a semisimple Artinian ring;
2. Every n -weak cotorsion right R -module is projective.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) is trivial.

(2) \Rightarrow (1). Since every injective right R -module is projective so R is a QF ring. Then every n -cotorsion right R -module is n -weak cotorsion, by Remark 1(2) and hence R is semisimple Artinian by [12, Corollary 6.5]. \square

Theorem 7. *Assume a ring R satisfies one of the following conditions:*

1. Every n -weak cotorsion right R -module has a \mathcal{WF}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property.
2. Every finitely presented right R -module has a \mathcal{WF}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property.

Then $l.sp.gldim(R) \leq n + 2$.

Proof. Assume (1). Let M be any right R -module. Then we have the exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow C \xrightarrow{i} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} M \longrightarrow 0 \text{ and } 0 \longrightarrow F_2 \xrightarrow{\psi} F_1 \xrightarrow{\beta} C \longrightarrow 0$$

by Theorem 1(2), where $\alpha : F_0 \rightarrow M$ and $\beta : F_1 \rightarrow C$ are \mathcal{WF}_n -covers, C and F_2 are n -weak cotorsion. Thus we get an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow F_2 \xrightarrow{\psi} F_1 \xrightarrow{\phi=i\beta} F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} M \longrightarrow 0.$$

Let $\theta : F_2 \rightarrow H$ be an \mathcal{WF}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property. Then there exists $\delta : H \rightarrow F_1$ such that $\psi = \delta\theta$. Thus $\phi\delta\theta = \phi\psi = 0$, and hence $\phi\delta = 0$, which implies that $im(\delta) \subseteq ker(\phi) = im(\psi)$. So there exists $\gamma : H \rightarrow F_2$ such that $\psi\gamma = \delta$, and hence we get the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & H & & & & \\ & \gamma \downarrow & \uparrow \theta & \searrow \delta & & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & F_2 & \xrightarrow{\psi} & F_1 & \xrightarrow{\phi} & F_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} M \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Note that $\psi\gamma\theta = \psi$, and so $\gamma\theta = 1_{F_2}$ since ψ is monic. Thus F_2 is isomorphic to a direct summand of H , and hence $F_2 \in \mathcal{WF}_n$. Therefore, $wfdM \leq n + 2$, and so $l.sp.gldim(R) \leq n + 2$.

Assume (2). By [3, Lemma 3.2], every right R -module has a \mathcal{WF}_n -envelope with the unique mapping property since \mathcal{WF}_n is closed under direct limits. So the result follows since the condition (1) is satisfied. \square

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