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### **Abstract**

FDC yo! This is abstract!

### **Abstract**

Dette er en abtrakt på norsk!

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## Preface

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Trondheim, 2021

## Contents

<b>Preface</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Notation</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 The homological conjectures</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Implications . . . . .	5
<b>2 Recollement</b>	<b>13</b>
2.1 Triangular matrix rings . . . . .	18
2.2 Recollements for triangular matrix rings . . . . .	25
<b>3 Contravariant finiteness</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>4 The Igusa–Todorov functions</b>	<b>34</b>
4.1 Representation dimension . . . . .	37
4.2 Stably hereditary algebras . . . . .	41
4.3 Special biserial algebras . . . . .	44
<b>5 Vanishing radical powers</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>6 Monomial algebras</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>7 Unbounded derived category</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>8 Summary</b>	<b>56</b>

8.1	Classes of algebras . . . . .	56
8.2	The opposite algebra . . . . .	58
	<b>Appendices</b>	<b>59</b>
A	<b>Appendix: Homological algebra</b>	<b>59</b>
9	<b>Personal appendix</b>	<b>64</b>

## Notation

Throughout this thesis  $k$  will be a field, and  $\Lambda$  will be a finite dimensional algebra over  $k$ . We will use  $J$  to refer to the Jacobson radical of  $\Lambda$ .

We will use  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  to refer to the category of finite dimensional left  $\Lambda$ -modules, and  $\text{Mod } \Lambda$  to the category of all left  $\Lambda$ -modules. Any modules considered will be left modules if not specified otherwise. When there is ambiguity we may write  ${}_{\Lambda}M$  to specify that we are considering  $M$  as a left  $\Lambda$ -module, and  $M_{\Lambda}$  to specify that we are considering  $M$  as a right  $\Lambda$ -module. Similarly  ${}_{\Gamma}M_{\Lambda}$  means we are considering  $M$  as a  $\Gamma$ - $\Lambda$ -bimodule.

Since right  $\Lambda$ -modules are the same as left  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ -modules we use these interchangeably. We use the symbol  $D$  to denote the duality functor  $D: \text{mod } \Lambda \leftrightarrow \text{mod } \Lambda^{\text{op}}$  where  $DM = \text{Hom}_k(M, k)$ . Typically  $D\Lambda$  will refer to the left module  $D\Lambda_{\Lambda}$ .

A quiver is a directed graph with a finite number of vertices. We write composition of paths right to left. That is, for paths  $\alpha: i \rightarrow j$  and  $\beta: k \rightarrow l$  the composition  $\alpha\beta$  is defined if and only if  $l = i$ . For a quiver  $Q$ , the path algebra  $kQ$  is the free vector space of all paths, including a trivial path for each vertex. Multiplication of paths is defined to be composition when it is defined and 0 otherwise. The multiplication extends linearly to make  $kQ$  and algebra.

When working over a category  $\mathcal{C}$  we will denote the set of morphisms either as  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(M, N)$  or as  $\mathcal{C}(M, N)$ . When the ambient category is clear we may also simply write  $\text{Hom}(M, N)$  or  $(M, N)$ .

The categories we are considering are all  $k$ -linear and all functors are assumed to be  $k$ -linear as well.

For an exact category  $\mathcal{A}$  we write:

- $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A})$  to refer to the derived category,
- $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A})$  to refer to the bounded derived category,
- $K^b(\mathcal{A})$  to refer to the bounded homotopy category,
- $K^{+,b}(\mathcal{A})$  (respectively  $K^{-,b}(\mathcal{A})$ ) to refer to the homotopy category of complexes bounded below (respectively above) that are bounded in homology.

We also write  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}^b(\text{mod } \Lambda)$  and  $\mathcal{D}(\Lambda)$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}(\text{Mod } \Lambda)$ .

In all of these triangulated categories  $X[i]$  will denote the complex  $X$  shifted  $i$  degrees down. That is,  $(X[i])^n = X^{n+i}$ . The hard truncation is the complex defined by  $(X^{\geq n})^m$  equals  $X^m$  when  $m \geq n$  and 0 otherwise. We denote the hard truncation of  $X$  by  $X^{\geq n}$ . The other hard truncation,  $X^{\leq n}$ , is defined similarly.

For a module  $M$  we will write  $I(M)$  for its injective envelope, and  $P(M)$  for its projective cover. We may also write

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & P_M^2 & \xrightarrow{d_M^2} & P_M^1 & \xrightarrow{d_M^1} & P_M^0 \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & & & & & \downarrow d_M^0 \\ & & & & & & M \end{array}$$

for its minimal projective resolution. We let the  $n$ th syzygies of  $M$  be the kernel of  $d_M^{n-1}$ , denoted by  $\Omega^n M$ . We also define  $\Omega^0 M$  to be  $M$ .

The projective dimension of  $M$  is  $i$  if  $P_M^i$  is the last non-zero module in the minimal projective resolution, and  $\infty$  if there is no such module. We denote the projective dimension by  $\text{pd } M$ .

## Introduction

In representation theory of finite dimensional algebras, there are several related conjectures known as the “homological conjectures”. The strongest of these conjectures is the Finitistic Dimension Conjecture, which states that the finitistic dimension of a finite dimensional algebra is always finite.

The finitistic dimension was introduced by Auslander–Buchsbaum in the late 1950s to study commutative noetherian rings. They proved that for a local noetherian commutative ring the finitistic dimension equals the depth [AB57]. Later it was shown by Bass and Gruson–Raynaud that for any commutative noetherian ring the (big) finitistic dimension equals the Krull dimension [Bas62, RG71].

The non-commutative case turned out to be more difficult. In 1960 Bass published two important questions about the finitistic dimension [Bas60], which he credits to Rosenberg and Zelinsky. Their first question asks whether the small finitistic dimension equals the big finitistic dimension.

text

- Zimmermann-Huisgen proved false [ZH92]

## 1 The homological conjectures

The finitistic dimension conjecture is part of a larger family of homological conjectures about finite dimensional algebras. In this section we outline some of these conjectures, and show how they are related.

All of the conjectures are formulated as a specific property conjectured to hold for all finite dimensional algebras. In Proposition 1.14 we summarize how these implications work on the level of individual algebras.

### Finitistic Dimension Conjecture (FDC)

**Definition 1.1** (Finitistic dimension). For a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$  the *finitistic dimension* of  $\Lambda$ , denoted  $\text{findim}(\Lambda)$  is defined by

$$\text{findim}(\Lambda) = \{\text{pd } M \mid M \in \text{mod } \Lambda, \text{pd } M < \infty\}.$$

There is also the analogous definition for  $\text{Mod } \Lambda$ , which is sometimes called the *big finitistic dimension*, and is denoted  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda)$ . A natural question

to ask, which is sometimes also called the finitistic dimension conjecture is whether  $\text{findim}(\Lambda)$  always equals  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda)$ . This was shown to be false by Zimmermann-Huisgen in 1992 [ZH92]. The conjecture we consider is due to Rosenberg and Zelinsky [Bas60], and asks about when the finitistic dimension is finite.

**Conjecture 1** (Finitistic dimension conjecture). *For a finite dimensional algebra the finitistic dimension is always finite.*

$$\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$$

### Wakamatsu Tilting Conjecture (WTC)

In 1988 Wakamatsu introduced a generalization of tilting modules, now known as Wakamatsu tilting modules [Wak88].

**Definition 1.2** (Wakamatsu tilting). Let  $T$  be a module in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  for a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$ . Then  $T$  is *Wakamatsu tilting* if

- i) We have that  $\text{Ext}^n(T, T) = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ .
- ii) There is an exact sequence

$$\eta: 0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{d_{-1}} T_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} T_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} \cdots$$

where  $T_i$  is in  $\text{add } T$ .

- iii) The sequence  $\text{Hom}(\eta, T)$  is exact. Which is equivalent to the condition that  $\text{Ext}^1(\ker d_i, T) = 0$  for every differential  $d_i$  in  $\eta$ .

The definition is distinct from the definition of a tilting module in two key ways: the projective dimension of  $T$  is not assumed to be finite, and  $\eta$  is not assumed to be bounded. The Wakamatsu tilting conjecture states that this last condition is unnecessary.

**Conjecture 2** (Wakamatsu tilting conjecture). *If  $T$  is Wakamatsu tilting and has finite projective dimension, then  $T$  is a tilting module. In other words we can choose  $\eta$  to be bounded.*

### Gorenstein Symmetry Conjecture (GSC)

**Definition 1.3** (Gorenstein algebra). A finite dimensional algebra is said to be *Gorenstein* if all projective modules have finite injective dimension and all injective modules have finite projective dimension.



The Gorenstein symmetry conjecture says that we only need one of the two conditions for our algebra to be Gorenstein.

**Conjecture 3** (Gorenstein symmetry conjecture). *If  $\Lambda$  is a finite dimensional algebra the injective dimension of  $\Lambda$  as a left module is finite if and only if the projective dimension of  $D\Lambda_\Lambda$  is finite.*

The conjecture describes a sort of symmetry between  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ . An equivalent formulation would be that  $\Lambda$  has finite injective dimension as a left module if and only if it has finite injective dimension as a right module.

### Vanishing Conjecture (VC)

We remind the reader that when  $\Lambda$  is a finite dimensional algebra, we have an equivalence of categories between  $K^{+,b}(\text{inj } \Lambda)$  and the bounded derived category  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$  given by injective resolutions. This allows us to consider  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)$  as a subcategory of  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$ . Using this we define the perpendicular subcategory

$$K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp = \{X \in \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda) \mid \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)}(I, X) = 0 \text{ for all } I \in K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)\}.$$

The vanishing conjecture then states that this subcategory is 0.

**Conjecture 4** (Vanishing conjecture). *If  $\Lambda$  is a finite dimensional algebra, then  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp = 0$ .*

In Section 7 we investigate an analog of this conjecture for the unbounded derived category.

### Nunke Condition (NuC)

The Nunke condition is similar to the vanishing conjecture in that it considers modules which are “perpendicular” to the injective modules. Such a module is called a *Nunke module*, and an algebra is said to satisfy the Nunke condition if the only Nunke module is the zero module.

**Conjecture 5** (Nunke condition). *If  $X \neq 0$  is a non-zero module over a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$ , then there is an  $n \geq 0$  such that  $\text{Ext}^n(D\Lambda, X) \neq 0$ .*

### Strong Nakayama Conjecture (SNC)

The strong Nakayama conjecture is simply the dual of the Nunke condition. For the sake of completeness we include both in this summary.

**Conjecture 6** (strong Nakayama Conjecture). *If  $X \neq 0$  is a non-zero module over a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$ , then there is an  $n \geq 0$  such that  $\text{Ext}^n(X, \Lambda) \neq 0$ .*

### Generalized Nakayama Conjecture (GNC)

The generalized Nakayama conjecture is a slight weakening of the Strong Nakayama conjecture.

**Conjecture 7** (generalized Nakayama conjecture). *If  $S$  is a simple module over a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$ , then there is an  $n \geq 0$  such that  $\text{Ext}^n(S, \Lambda) \neq 0$ .*

We can also formulate the conjecture as all indecomposable injectives appearing in the minimal injective resolution of  $\Lambda$ . We give a short proof that this is an equivalent formulation here.

**Proposition 1.4.** *A finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$  satisfies GNC if and only if every indecomposable injective appears in the minimal injective resolution of  $\Lambda$ .*

*Proof.* Let the minimal injective resolution of  $\Lambda$  be given by

$$0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \longrightarrow I_0 \longrightarrow I_1 \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Since the resolution is minimal, we have that  $\text{Ext}^n(S, \Lambda) = \text{Hom}(S, I_n)$  for any simple module  $S$ . This is non-zero if and only if  $S$  is in the socle of  $I_n$ . Thus  $\text{Ext}^n(S, \Lambda)$  is non-zero if and only if the injective envelope of  $S$  is a direct summand of  $I_n$ . Since every indecomposable injective module is the injective envelope of a simple module, we have that  $\Lambda$  satisfies GNC if and only if every indecomposable injective appears in the resolution.  $\square$

### Auslander–Reiten Conjecture (ARC)

**Conjecture 8** (Auslander–Reiten conjecture). *Let  $\Lambda$  be finite dimensional algebra. If  $M$  is a generator in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  such that  $\text{Ext}^n(M, M) = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ , then  $M$  is projective.*

## Nakayama Conjecture (NC)

**Definition 1.5** (Dominant dimension). Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional algebra, and let

$$0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \longrightarrow I^0 \longrightarrow I^1 \longrightarrow \dots$$

be the minimal injective resolution of  $\Lambda$ . Then the *dominated dimension* of  $\Lambda$  is

$$\text{domdim}(\Lambda) = \inf\{n \mid I^n \text{ is not projective}\}.$$

**Conjecture 9** (Nakayama conjecture). *If  $\Lambda$  has infinite dominant dimension, then  $\Lambda$  is selfinjective.*

## 1.1 Implications

The homological conjectures are related in the way presented in the diagram below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{FDC} & \implies & \text{WTC} & \implies & \text{GSC} & & \\ \Downarrow & & & & & & \\ \text{VC} & \implies & \text{NuC} & \iff & \text{SNC} & \implies & \text{GNC} \iff \text{ARC} \implies \text{NC} \end{array}$$

The remainder of this section is used to prove these implications.

**Theorem 1.6.** *[MR04, Proposition 4.4] The finitistic dimension conjecture implies the Wakamatsu tilting conjecture.*

*Proof.* Assume  $\Lambda$  satisfies FDC, and let  $T$  be a Wakamatsu tilting module with  $\text{pd } T < \infty$ . By definition we have an exact sequence

$$\eta: 0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{d_{-1}} T_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} T_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} \dots$$

We want to show that  $\eta$  can be replaced by a bounded sequence of the same form.

Let  $K_i$  denote the kernel of  $d_i$ . First we prove by induction on  $i$  that  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_i, T) = 0$ . For  $i = 0$  we have  $K_0 = \Lambda$ , so we have  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_0, T) = 0$ . Now assume that  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_i, T) = 0$  for some  $i \geq 0$ . We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_i \longrightarrow T_i \longrightarrow K_{i+1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Applying the long exact sequence in  $\text{Ext}(-, T)$  we get

$$\text{Ext}^n(T_i, T) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^n(K_i, T) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^{n+1}(K_{i+1}, T) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^{n+1}(T_i, T)$$

Since  $T_i$  is in  $\text{add } T$  we have that  $\text{Ext}^n(T_i, T) = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ . Then by exactness we have that  $\text{Ext}^{n+1}(K_{i+1}, T) \cong \text{Ext}^n(K_i, T) = 0$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Since  $T$  is Wakamatsu tilting we have that  $\text{Ext}^1(K_{i+1}, T) = 0$ , so by induction  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_i, T) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 0$ .

By a similar argument we now wish to show that

$$\text{Ext}^1(K_m, K_{m-1}) \cong \text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i})$$

for all  $i \leq m$ . We proceed by induction on  $i$ . When  $i = 1$  the statement is evident. Now assume that

$$\text{Ext}^1(K_m, K_{m-1}) \cong \text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i})$$

for some  $i \geq 1$ . Then it is sufficient to show that

$$\text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i}) \cong \text{Ext}^{i+1}(K_m, K_{m-i-1}).$$

We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{m-i-1} \longrightarrow T_{m-i-1} \longrightarrow K_{m-i} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Taking the long exact sequence in  $\text{Ext}(K_m, -)$  we get the exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Ext}^i(K_m, T_{m-i-1}) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i}) \\ \searrow & & \nearrow \\ \text{Ext}^{i+1}(K_m, K_{m-i-1}) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}^{i+1}(K_m, T_{m-i-1}). \end{array}$$

Since we showed above that  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_m, T) = 0$  and  $T_{m-i-1}$  is in  $\text{add } T$  we get that  $\text{Ext}^{>0}(K_m, T_{m-i-1}) = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i}) \cong \text{Ext}^{i+1}(K_m, K_{m-i-1})$ , and by induction we have that

$$\text{Ext}^1(K_m, K_{m-1}) \cong \text{Ext}^i(K_m, K_{m-i})$$

for all  $i \leq m$ .

Next we show that  $\text{pd } K_i < \infty$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . We proceed by induction on  $i$ . The projective dimension of  $K_0 = \Lambda$  is 0, which is finite. For  $i > 0$  we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{i-1} \longrightarrow T_{i-1} \longrightarrow K_i \longrightarrow 0.$$

Therefore  $\text{pd } K_i \leq \sup\{\text{pd } T_{i-1}, \text{pd } K_{i-1} + 1\} < \infty$ .

Lastly, let  $n = \text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ . Then we have that

$$\text{Ext}^1(K_{n+1}, K_n) \cong \text{Ext}^{n+1}(K_{n+1}, K_0) = 0$$

where the last equality comes from  $\text{pd } K_{n+1} \leq n$ . Now if we apply  $\text{Hom}(K_{n+1}, -)$  to the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_n \longrightarrow T_n \longrightarrow K_{n+1} \longrightarrow 0,$$

we get an exact sequence

$$\text{Hom}(K_{n+1}, T_n) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^1(K_{n+1}, K_n) = 0.$$

This means that  $K_{n+1}$  is a direct summand of  $T_n$ , and thus is in  $\text{add } T$ . Then we get a bounded version of  $\eta$  by

$$\eta': 0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{d_{-1}} T_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} T_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} \cdots \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}} T_n \xrightarrow{d_n} K_{n+1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Hence  $T$  is a tilting module, and thus  $\Lambda$  satisfies WTC.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.7.** *The Wakamatsu tilting conjecture implies the Gorenstein symmetry conjecture.*

*Proof.* The left module  $D(\Lambda_\Lambda)$  is Wakamatsu tilting. WTC then gives us that if  $D(\Lambda_\Lambda)$  has finite projective dimension, then  ${}_\Lambda \Lambda$  has a finite coresolution by modules in  $\text{add } D(\Lambda_\Lambda)$ . In other words  ${}_\Lambda \Lambda$  has finite injective dimension.

For the other direction assume  ${}_\Lambda \Lambda$  has finite injective dimension. Then the right module  $D({}_\Lambda \Lambda)$  has finite projective dimension, so WTC gives us that  $\Lambda_\Lambda$  has finite injective dimension. Which means  $D(\Lambda_\Lambda)$  has finite projective dimension.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.8.** [Hap93, 1.2] *The finitistic dimension conjecture implies the vanishing conjecture.*

*Proof.* Assume  $\Lambda$  doesn't satisfy VC, and let  $I^\bullet \in K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp$  be non-zero complex. Since  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda) \cong K^{+,b}(\text{inj } \Lambda)$  we may assume  $I^\bullet$  is a complex of injectives, and without loss of generality we may assume it is concentrated in degrees  $i \geq 0$ , and that  $d^0: I^0 \rightarrow I^1$  is not split mono. Since if it's concentrated in degrees  $i \geq k$  we can just shift it, and if  $d^0$  is split mono, then replacing  $I^0$  by 0 and  $I^1$  by  $I^1/I^0$  gives a homotopic complex.

The module  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, I^i)$  is in  $\text{add Hom}(D\Lambda, D\Lambda) = \text{add } \Lambda$  so  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, I^\bullet)$  is a complex of projectives. We show that this complex is acyclic by considering the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & D\Lambda & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\ I^{i-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{i-1}} & I^i & \xrightarrow{d^i} & I^{i+1} \end{array}$$

Since  $I^\bullet$  is in  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp$  and  $D\Lambda$  is in  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)$ , we have that whenever  $d^i f = 0$ , the morphism  $f^\bullet$  is homotopic to 0. Meaning  $f$  factors through  $d^{i-1}$ . This means that  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, I^\bullet)$  is an acyclic complex. Further since  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, -)$  is an equivalence between  $\text{inj } \Lambda$  and  $\text{proj } \Lambda$  and  $d^0$  is not split mono, we have that  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, d^0)$  is not split mono.

The cokernel of  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, d^i)$  has a projective resolution of length  $i$ . This resolution is the direct sum of its minimal resolution and an acyclic bounded complex of projectives. Since bounded acyclic complexes of projectives are split and  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, d^0)$  is not, we must have that the minimal resolution has length  $i$ , and so  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) = \infty$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.9.** [Hap93, 1.2] *The vanishing conjecture implies the Nunke condition.*

*Proof.* Assume  $\Lambda$  doesn't satisfy NuC. That is, there is an  $X \neq 0$  with  $\text{Ext}^i(D\Lambda, X) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . Then we claim that  $X$  considered as a stalk complex is in  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp$ . To show this we proceed by induction on the width of  $I^\bullet \in K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)$ . If the width is 1, then  $I^\bullet = I[-i] \in K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)$  is a stalk complex. Then  $\mathcal{D}^b(I[-i], X) = \text{Ext}^i(I, X)$ , which is 0 because  $I$  is in  $\text{add } D\Lambda$  and  $\text{Ext}^i(D\Lambda, X) = 0$ .

Let  $I^\bullet \in K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)$  be a complex of width  $n$ . without loss of generality we may assume  $I^\bullet$  is concentrated in degrees  $0 \leq i < n$ . Then

$$I^{>0} \rightarrow I \rightarrow I^0 \rightarrow I^{>0}[1]$$

is a triangle with  $I^{>0}$  of width  $n - 1$  and  $I^0$  of width 1. Taking the long exact sequence in  $\mathcal{D}^b(-, X)$  it follows that  $\mathcal{D}^b(I, X) = 0$ . So  $X$  is a non-zero complex in  $K^b(\text{inj } \Lambda)^\perp$ , and hence  $\Lambda$  does not satisfy VC.  $\square$

Before we can prove the equivalence between the generalized Nakayama conjecture and the Auslander–Reiten Conjecture we will need the following proposition.

**Proposition 1.10.** *Let  $M$  be a module and  $I$  an injective module. If the projective cover of the socle of  $I$  is in  $\text{add } M$ , then  $(M, I)$  is an injective  $\Gamma := \text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$ -module. In particular if  $M$  is a generator then  $(M, -)$  preserves injectives.*

*Proof.* Let  $J \leq \Gamma$  be a left ideal and let  $\psi: J \rightarrow (M, I)$  be any  $\Gamma$ -linear map. By Lemma A.1 in the appendix it is enough to show that  $\psi$  factors through  $\Gamma$  to conclude that  $(M, I)$  is injective. Assume  $J$  is generated by  $\{f_i\}$ . If we can find  $\gamma: M \rightarrow I$  such that  $\gamma \circ f_i = \psi(f_i)$  then we would get our factorization of  $\psi$  by  $J \hookrightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\gamma \circ -} (M, I)$ . To construct such a  $\gamma$  we consider the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bigoplus M & & \\ \sum f_i \downarrow & \searrow \sum \psi(f_i) & \\ M & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & I \end{array}$$

We want to show that the kernel of  $\sum \psi(f_i)$  contains the kernel of  $\sum f_i$ , so that we can use the injective property of  $I$ . To see this let  $K$  be the kernel of  $\sum f_i$  and let  $K'$  be the kernel of  $\sum \psi(f_i)$ . If  $K'$  does not contain  $K$ , then  $Q := K/K' \cap K$  is a nonzero module that is mapped injectively into  $I$ . So the socle of  $Q$  is a summand of the socle of  $I$ . Then by assumption the projective cover of the socle of  $Q$  is in  $\text{add } M$ , so there is a non-zero map  $M \rightarrow Q$  that factors through a projective. By the lifting property of projectives we get a map  $M \rightarrow K$  such that the composition with  $\sum \psi(f_i)$  is non-zero.

Let  $a_i$  be the composition  $M \rightarrow K \hookrightarrow \bigoplus M \xrightarrow{\pi_i} M$ . Then we get that  $\sum f_i \circ a_i = 0$ . Applying  $\psi$  we get  $\sum \psi(f_i) \circ a_i = 0$ , which gives a contradiction

since  $a_i$  was explicitly constructed such that  $\sum \psi(f_i) \circ a_i$  is non-zero. Thus  $K'$  contains  $K$ .

Using this we get the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bigoplus M & & \\
 \downarrow & \searrow \Sigma \psi(f_i) & \\
 (\bigoplus M) / K & \xrightarrow{\quad} & I \\
 \downarrow \Sigma f_i & \nearrow \exists \gamma & \\
 M & & 
 \end{array}$$

Since  $I$  is injective it lifts monomorphisms so we know that  $\gamma$  exists. Thus  $(M, I)$  is an injective  $\Gamma$ -module.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.11.** *The generalized Nakayama conjecture implies the Auslander–Reiten conjecture.*

*Proof.* The proof goes by contraposition. Assume  $\Lambda$  does not satisfy ARC. Then we have a nonprojective generator  $M$  such that  $\text{Ext}^n(M, M) = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ . We wish to show that  $\Gamma := \text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  does not satisfy GNC. Let

$$0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow I_0 \longrightarrow I_1 \longrightarrow \cdots$$

be an injective resolution of  $M$ . Since  $\text{Ext}^n(M, M) = 0$ , when we apply  $(M, -) := \text{Hom}(M, -)$  we get an exact sequence.

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma \longrightarrow (M, I_0) \longrightarrow (M, I_1) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

By Proposition 1.10 this is an injective resolution of  $\Gamma$ .

Since  $M$  is a non-projective generator it has every indecomposable projective as a summand and a nonprojective summand. So  $M$  has more indecomposable summands than  $\Lambda$  which means that  $\Gamma$  has more indecomposable projectives than  $\Lambda$ . It follows that  $\Gamma$  also has more injectives and thus has an injective not on the form  $(M, I)$ . Since all modules that appear in the injective resolution of  $\Gamma$  are on the form  $(M, I)$ , not all indecomposable injectives appear in the resolution. Therefore by Proposition 1.4 we have that  $\Gamma$  does not satisfy GNC.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.12.** *[Yam96, Theorem 3.4.3] The Auslander–Reiten conjecture implies the generalized Nakayama conjecture.*



*Proof.* Assume that ARC holds, and let  $\Gamma$  be a finite dimensional algebra. We wish to show that  $\Gamma$  satisfies GNC. Let the minimal injective resolution of  $\Gamma$  be given by

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma \longrightarrow I_0 \longrightarrow I_1 \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Let  $I$  be the minimal injective module such that each  $I_i$  is in  $\text{add } I$ . If we can show that  $I$  is a cogenerator, then it will follow that  $\Gamma$  satisfies GNC. Let  $P = DI$  be the projective right  $\Gamma$ -module dual to  $I$ , and let  $\Lambda = \text{End}_\Gamma(P)$  be its endomorphism ring.

Using the Hom-Tensor adjunction we see that

$$\begin{aligned} D(P \otimes_\Gamma X) &= \text{Hom}_k(P \otimes_\Gamma X, k) \\ &= \text{Hom}_\Gamma(P, \text{Hom}_k(X, k)) \\ &= \text{Hom}_\Gamma(P, DX) \end{aligned}$$

In particular we have that  $D(P \otimes_\Gamma I) = \text{End}_\Gamma(P) = \Lambda$  as right  $\Lambda$ -modules, and so  $P \otimes_\Gamma I = D\Lambda$ .

Now let  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \text{mod } \Gamma$  be the full subcategory of  $\Gamma$ -modules that have a copresentation in  $\text{add } I$ . Then we claim there is an equivalence of categories

$$\mathcal{S} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{P \otimes_\Gamma -} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, -)} \end{array} \text{mod } \Lambda$$

To see this we first note the following identities

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, P \otimes_\Gamma I) &= \text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, D\Lambda) \\ &= \text{Hom}_k(\Lambda \otimes_\Lambda P, k) \\ &= DP = I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P \otimes_\Gamma \text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, D\Lambda) &= P \otimes_\Gamma DP \\ &= D\Lambda \end{aligned}$$

Since  $P_\Gamma$  is projective  $P \otimes_\Gamma -$  is exact, so both functors are left exact. This means they induce equivalences between the subcategories with copresentations in  $\text{add } I$  and  $\text{add } D\Lambda$  respectively. Thus we get our wanted equivalence.

Now if we apply  $P \otimes_\Gamma -$  to the injective resolution  $I_\bullet$ , we get an injective resolution of  $P \otimes_\Gamma \Gamma = P$  as a  $\Lambda$ -module. Applying  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, -)$  gives us back the complex  $I_\bullet$  and thus we have that  $\text{Ext}_\Lambda^n(P, P) = 0$  for all  $n > 0$ .

Since  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, -)$  is an equivalence, it is faithful. This says exactly that  $P$  is a generator in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ . Since by assumption ARC holds, we get that  $P$  is projective as a  $\Lambda$ -module. Thus  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, -)$  is right exact. Since  $\Gamma$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ , the equivalence give us  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, P) = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, P \otimes \Gamma) = \Gamma$ . Combining these two facts we get that  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(P, -)$  induces an equivalence between modules with a presentation in  $\text{add } P$  and modules with a presentation in  $\text{add } \Gamma$ . We conclude that  $\mathcal{S} = \text{mod } \Gamma$ , and thus that  $I$  is a cogenerator.

Since  $I$  is a cogenerator all indecomposable injective modules appear in the resolution of  $\Gamma$ , and thus  $\Gamma$  satisfies GNC.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.13.** *[AR75] The generalized Nakayama conjecture implies the Nakayama conjecture*

*Proof.* Assume  $\Lambda$  satisfies GNC and that the dominant dimension of  $\Lambda$  is  $\infty$ . As shown in Proposition 1.4 if  $\text{Ext}^\bullet(S, \Lambda)$  is nonzero that means the injective envelope  $I(S)$  appears in the minimal injective resolution of  $\Lambda$ . If all injectives appear in the resolution and the dominant dimension is infinity then all injectives are projective. Thus  $\Lambda$  is self injective, and hence  $\Lambda$  satisfies NC.  $\square$

The proofs above do not necessarily work on the level of individual algebras. For example for the proof that WTC implies GSC we need to assume that WTC holds for both  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  to prove that  $\Lambda$  satisfies GSC. We list the relationships between the conjectures for individual algebras.

**Proposition 1.14.** *The implications between the conjectures on the level of individual algebras can be described as follows:*

- i) *If  $\Lambda$  satisfies FDC, then  $\Lambda$  also satisfies WTC.*
- ii) *If both  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  satisfy WTC, then both  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  also satisfy GSC.*
- iii) *The implications  $\text{FDC} \Rightarrow \text{VC} \Rightarrow \text{Nuc}$ , both hold on the level of individual algebras.*
- iv) *An algebra  $\Lambda$  satisfies Nuc if and only if  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  satisfies SNC.*
- v) *The implications  $\text{SNC} \Rightarrow \text{GNC} \Rightarrow \text{NC}$ , both hold on the level of individual algebras.*
- vi) *If  $\Gamma$  satisfies GNC whenever  $\Gamma = \text{End}_\Lambda(M)^{\text{op}}$  for a generator  $M$  in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ , then  $\Lambda$  satisfies ARC.*

- vii) If  $\text{End}(I)^{\text{op}}$  satisfies ARC, where  $I$  is an injective module such that  $\text{add } I$  contains every injective in the minimal resolution of  $\Lambda$ , then  $\Lambda$  satisfies GNC.
- viii) If  $\text{End}(P)^{\text{op}}$  satisfies ARC, where  $P$  is the projective cover of  $\text{soc } I$  where  $I$  is the sum of all indecomposable projective-injective  $\Lambda$ -modules, then  $\Lambda$  satisfies NC.
- ix) An algebra  $\Lambda$  satisfies NC if and only if  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  does [Mül68, Theorem 4].

## 2 Recollement

In this section we will discuss a reduction technique known as recollement. The idea of reduction techniques is to reduce the work of proving an algebra has finite finitistic dimension to proving the same for “simpler” algebras. In Section 2.1 we will consider a reduction technique of triangular matrix algebras. The triangular matrix rings are closely related to recollements, and we discuss their relationship more closely in

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**Definition 2.1** (Recollement). A *recollement* between triangulated categories  $\mathcal{T}'$ ,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}''$  is a collection of six functors satisfying:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & i^* & & j_! & \\
 & \perp & & \perp & \\
 \mathcal{T}' & \xleftarrow{i_* = i_!} & \mathcal{T} & \xleftarrow{j^! = j^*} & \mathcal{T}'' \\
 & \perp & & \perp & \\
 & i^! & & j_* & 
 \end{array}$$

- (i) All functors are exact, and we have adjoint pairs  $(i^*, i_*)$ ,  $(i^!, i^!)$ ,  $(j_!, j^!)$ ,  $(j^*, j_*)$ .
- (ii) The composition  $j^* i_* = 0$  vanishes.
- (iii) We have natural isomorphisms  $i^* i_* \cong i^! i^! \cong \text{id}_{\mathcal{T}'}$  induced by the units and counits of the adjunctions.
- (iv) We have natural isomorphisms  $j^! j_! \cong j^* j_* \cong \text{id}_{\mathcal{T}''}$ , also induced by the units and counits.
- (v) For every  $X \in \mathcal{T}$  we have the following distinguished triangles:

I removed the proof for this, since it factors through ARC implies GNC, but it gives a different condition on individual algebras

read proof more carefully

ref

$$j_! j^! X \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} X \xrightarrow{\eta} i_* i^* X \longrightarrow j_! j^! X[1]$$

$$i_! i^! X \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} X \xrightarrow{\eta} j_* j^* X \longrightarrow i_! i^! X[1].$$

Note that (iii) and (iv) are equivalent to  $i_*$ ,  $j_!$ , and  $j_*$  being fully faithful.

We are specifically interested in recollements where the triangulated categories in question are (bounded) derived categories of finite dimensional algebras.

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**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')$   $\begin{smallmatrix} \xleftarrow{i^*} \\ \xrightarrow{i_*} \end{smallmatrix}$   $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$  be exact functors with an adjoint pair  $(i^*, i_*)$ . Then  $i^*$  preserves bounded projective complexes and  $i_*$  preserves bounded injective complexes.*

*Proof.* The bounded projective complexes can be characterized up to isomorphism as the complexes  $P$  such that for any complex  $Y$  there is an integer  $t_Y$  with  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(P, Y[t]) = 0$  for  $t \geq t_Y$ . One can see this by using the equivalence  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda) \cong K^{-,b}(\text{proj } \Lambda)$ .

Let  $P$  be a bounded complex of projectives in  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$ . Then we want to show that  $i^*P$  is as well. Let  $Y$  be any complex in  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')$ . Then  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')(i^*P, Y[t]) = \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(P, i_*Y[t])$ , so since  $P$  is a bounded complex of projectives there is  $t_Y$  such that this vanishes for  $t \geq t_Y$ .

The statement for injectives is exactly dual, and so we do not write it out here, but leave it to the reader.  $\square$

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**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda') \begin{smallmatrix} \xleftarrow{i^*} \\ \xrightarrow{i_*} \\ \xleftarrow{i^!} \end{smallmatrix} \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$  be exact functors with adjoint pairs*

*$(i^*, i_*)$  and  $(i_*, i^!)$ . Then the homology of  $i_*X$  is uniformly bounded for  $X \in \text{mod } \Lambda'$  considered as a complex concentrated in degree 0. I.e. there is an  $r$ , independent of  $X$ , such that  $H^j(i_*X) = 0$  for  $j \notin (-r, r)$ .*

*Proof.* We first prove that there is an  $r'$ , independent of  $X$ , such that  $H^j(i_*X) = 0$  for  $j \geq r'$ . Let  $P$  be  $i^*\Lambda \in \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')$ . Then by Lemma 2.2  $P$  is a bounded complex of projectives.

Thus there is an  $r'$  such that  $P^{-j} = 0$  for  $j \geq r'$ . Then

$$\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')(P, X[j]) = \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(\Lambda, i_* X[j]) = H^j(i_* X) = 0$$

for  $j \geq r'$  and any  $\Lambda'$ -module  $X$ , when considered as a complex concentrated in degree 0.

Next we prove that there is an  $r''$  such that  $H^{-j}(i_* X) = 0$  for  $j \geq r''$ . The argument is completely dual. Let  $I$  be  $i^! D\Lambda \in \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda') \cong K^{+,b}(\text{inj } \Lambda')$ . Then again by Lemma 2.2  $I$  is a bounded complex of injectives.

Thus there is an  $r''$  such that  $I^j = 0$  for  $j \geq r''$ . Then

$$\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')(X, I[j]) = \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(i_* X, D\Lambda[j]) = H^{-j}(i_* X) = 0$$

for  $j \geq r''$  and any  $\Lambda'$ -module  $X$ , when considered as a complex concentrated in degree 0.

Letting  $r$  be the maximum of  $r'$  and  $r''$  we get that  $H^j(X)$  is zero outside of  $(-r, r)$ .  $\square$

Now that we have a good understanding of how the functors in a recollement interact with homology, we can use this to say something about the projective dimension of modules, and thus about the finitistic dimension.

**Theorem 2.4.** *[Hap93, 3.3] Given a recollement between bounded derived categories*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & i^* & & j_! & \\ & \perp & & \perp & \\ \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda') & \xrightarrow{i_* = i_!} & \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda) & \xrightarrow{j^! = j^*} & \mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda'') \\ & \perp & & \perp & \\ & i^! & & j_* & \end{array}$$

*then we have that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  if and only if we have that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda') < \infty$  and  $\text{findim}(\Lambda'') < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ . We begin by showing that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda') < \infty$ .

Let  $T = \Lambda' / \text{rad } \Lambda'$  be the sum of all simple  $\Lambda'$ -modules. Then the projective dimension of  $X$  is the largest  $t$  for which  $\text{Ext}^t(X, T) \neq 0$ . Let  $X$  be a module in  $\text{mod } \Lambda'$  with finite projective dimension. We consider  $X$  as a complex

concentrated in degree 0. Then since  $X$  is isomorphic to its projective resolution, by Lemma 2.2  $i_*X$  is a bounded complex of projectives. Say:

$$i_*X = 0 \rightarrow P^{-s} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P^{s'} \rightarrow 0$$

By Lemma 2.3 we know there is an  $r$  independent of  $X$  such that  $H^{-j}(i_*X) = 0$  for  $j \geq r$ . Truncating  $i_*X$  at  $-r$  gives a projective resolution of  $\ker d_{i_*X}^{-r}$ . So  $\ker d_{i_*X}^{-r}$  has projective dimension  $-r - (-s) = s - r$ . Since  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  this means that  $s \leq r + \text{findim}(\Lambda)$ .

Since  $i_*T$  is in  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$  it is a bounded complex, in particular there is a  $t_0$  such that  $i_*T^t = 0$  for  $t \geq t_0$ . Then by the bounds above  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(i_*X, i_*T[t]) = 0$  for  $t \geq t_0 + s \geq t_0 + r + \text{findim}(\Lambda)$ . Since  $i_*$  is fully faithful this equals  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda')(X, T[t])$ , and so  $\text{findim}(\Lambda') \leq t_0 + r + \text{findim}(\Lambda)$ . In particular it is finite.

The proof for  $\text{findim}(\Lambda'')$  is the same, just replacing  $i_*$  with  $j_!$ . We leave writing out the details to the reader.

For the converse assume  $\Lambda'$  and  $\Lambda''$  both have finite finitistic dimension. Let  $T = \Lambda/\text{rad } \Lambda$ , and  $X$  be a  $\Lambda$ -module with finite projective dimension, and consider both modules as a complex concentrated in degree 0. By Definition 2.1(v) we have distinguished triangles:

$$j_!j^!X \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow i_*i^*X \longrightarrow j_!j^!X[1]$$

$$i_!i^!T \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow j_*j^*T \longrightarrow i_!i^!T[1].$$

We write  $(-, -)_m$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)(-, -[m])$ , and make the following abbreviation:

$$\begin{aligned} X_j &:= j_!j^!X & X_i &:= i_*i^*X \\ T_i &:= i_!i^!T & T_j &:= j_*j^*T. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the long exact sequence in homfunctors we get the long exact sequences:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow (X, T_i)_m \longrightarrow (X, T)_m \longrightarrow (X, T_j)_m \longrightarrow (X, T_i)_{m+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow (X_i, T_i)_m \longrightarrow (X, T_i)_m \longrightarrow (X_j, T_i)_m \longrightarrow (X_i, T_i)_{m+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow (X_i, T_j)_m \longrightarrow (X, T_j)_m \longrightarrow (X_j, T_j)_m \longrightarrow (X_i, T_j)_{m+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Using the fact that  $j^*i_* = j^!i_! = 0$  from Definition 2.1(ii) we deduce that

$$(X_i, T_j)_m = (i_*i^*X, j_*j^*T)_m = (j^*i_*i^*X, j^*T)_m = 0$$

and

$$(X_j, T_i)_m = (j_!j^!X, i_!i^!T)_m = (j^!X, j^!i_!i^!T)_m = 0.$$

Combining this with the long exact sequences gives us that

$$(X_i, T_i)_m = (X, T_i)_m \text{ and } (X_j, T_j)_m = (X, T_j)_m.$$

If we can show that  $(X_i, T_i)_m$  and  $(X_j, T_j)_m$  are bounded, then  $(X, T_i)_m$  and  $(X, T_j)_m$  would be bounded as well. Consequently we would have that  $(X, T)_m$  is bounded. This would give us a bound on the projective dimension of  $X$ .

We start by bounding  $(X, T_i)_m = (X_i, T_i)_m$ . First note that since  $i^*i_* \cong \text{id}$  we have that

$$(X_i, T_i)_m = (i_*i^*X, i_!i^!T)_m = (i^*i_*i^*X, i^!T)_m = (i^*X, i^!T)_m$$

Since  $X$  has finite projective dimension we can think of it as a bounded complex of projectives. Then by Lemma 2.2  $i^*X$  is as well. By the second half of Lemma 2.3 (using  $(i^*, i_*)$  instead of  $(i_*, i^!)$ ) we have that there is an  $r$  such that  $H^{-j}(i^*X) = 0$  for all  $j \geq r$ . This means that thinking of  $i^*X$  as a complex of projectives, it is 0 in degree  $-t$  for all  $t \geq r + \text{pd ker } d_{i^*X}^{-r}$ , in particular it is 0 for all  $t \geq r + \text{findim}(\Lambda')$ . Since  $i^!T$  is a bounded complex, it has an upper bound, say  $t_0$ . Thus  $(i^*X, i^!T)_m = 0$  for all  $m \geq t_0 + r + \text{findim}(\Lambda')$ .

The bound on  $(X, T_j)_m$  is similar, using the finitistic dimension of  $\Lambda''$ . Taking the maximum of these two bounds we get a bound on  $(X, T)_m$ , which gives a bound on the projective dimension independent of  $X$ , hence a bound on  $\text{findim}(\Lambda)$ .  $\square$

## 2.1 Triangular matrix rings

In this section we will relate the finitistic dimension of the triangular matrix ring  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} R & 0 \\ M & S \end{pmatrix}$  to the finitistic dimension of  $R$  and  $S$ . Specifically the finitistic dimension of  $\Lambda$  will be finite if the finitistic dimensions of both  $R$  and  $S$  are finite.

In [we give some further conditions on  \$M\$  for which we get a recollement](#) ref between the bounded derived categories of  $S$ ,  $R$  and  $\Lambda$ .

We will first define the concept of a comma category and describe some of its homological properties. In Theorem 2.12 we give a bound on the finitistic dimension of the comma category. Then in Proposition 2.15 we show that for  $\Lambda$  a triangular matrix ring as above, we have that  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  is isomorphic to the comma category of  $M \otimes_R - : \text{mod } R \rightarrow \text{mod } S$ , which means we get a bound on  $\text{findim}(\Lambda)$ .

**Definition 2.5** (Comma category). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be categories and let  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a functor. Then the *comma category*  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  has as objects triplets  $(A, B, f)$  with  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and  $f: FA \rightarrow B$  a morphism in  $\mathcal{B}$ . The morphisms are pairs  $(\alpha, \beta): (A, B, f) \rightarrow (A', B', f')$  with  $\alpha: A \rightarrow A'$  and  $\beta: B \rightarrow B'$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ F\alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \beta \\ FA' & \xrightarrow{f'} & B'. \end{array}$$

The composition is what one would expect. Namely,  $(\alpha, \beta) \circ (\alpha', \beta') = (\alpha \circ \alpha', \beta \circ \beta')$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** *If  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are abelian categories and  $F$  is right exact, then the comma category  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  is abelian. Further a sequence*

$$(A'', B'', f'') \xrightarrow{(\alpha', \beta')} (A, B, f) \xrightarrow{(\alpha, \beta)} (A', B', f')$$

*is exact if and only if the two related sequences in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are exact.*

$$A'' \xrightarrow{\alpha'} A \xrightarrow{\alpha} A'$$

$$B'' \xrightarrow{\beta'} B \xrightarrow{\beta} B'$$



*Proof.* We need to show that  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  has kernels and cokernels, and that for any map the image equals the coimage. First we show that it contains kernels. Let  $(\alpha, \beta): (A, B, f) \rightarrow (C, D, g)$  be a morphism in the comma category. Then we have a diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} F \ker \alpha & \xrightarrow{F\iota_\alpha} & FA & \xrightarrow{F\alpha} & FC \\ \downarrow \theta & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow g \\ 0 \longrightarrow & \ker \beta & \xrightarrow{\iota_\beta} & B & \xrightarrow{\beta} & D \end{array}$$

Since  $\beta f F \iota_\alpha = f' F \alpha F \iota_\alpha = 0$  there is a unique  $\theta$  making the diagram commute. I claim the kernel of  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is  $(\ker \alpha, \ker \beta, \theta)$ . Indeed if  $(\alpha', \beta'): (A', B', f') \rightarrow (A, B, f)$  is any map such that  $(\alpha, \beta) \circ (\alpha', \beta') = 0$ , then  $\alpha \alpha' = 0$  and  $\beta \beta' = 0$ . This means both  $\alpha'$  and  $\beta'$  factor uniquely through  $\iota_\alpha$  and  $\iota_\beta$ . Let  $\alpha''$  and  $\beta''$  be the morphisms such that  $\alpha' = \iota_\alpha \circ \alpha''$  and  $\beta' = \iota_\beta \circ \beta''$ . Then we claim  $(\alpha', \beta')$  factors through  $(\iota_\alpha, \iota_\beta)$  as indicated in the diagram below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} FA' & \xrightarrow{F\alpha''} & F \ker \alpha & \xrightarrow{F\iota_\alpha} & FA \\ \downarrow f' & & \downarrow \theta & & \downarrow f \\ B' & \xrightarrow{\beta''} & \ker \beta & \xrightarrow{\iota_\beta} & B \end{array}$$

The only thing left to verify is that the left square commutes. This follows from the outer rectangle commuting, and that  $\iota_\beta$  is a monomorphism.

Showing that cokernels exists is similar, but relies on  $F$  being right exact. The construction is completely dual, but to verify commutativity at the end instead of using that  $\iota_\beta$  is mono we must use that  $F\pi_\alpha: FA' \rightarrow F \operatorname{cok} \alpha$  is an epimorphism. This follows from  $F$  being right exact. We leave the details to the reader.

Since kernels and cokernels are directly induced by the kernels and cokernels in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  it is clear that a sequence in  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  is exact if and only if the two related sequences are exact. Similarly that the image equals the coimage follows from this being true in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\square$

For the rest of this section we assume  $F$  is a right exact functor between abelian categories so that the comma category is abelian. We also assume  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  has enough projectives. In particular we are interested in the case when  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are module categories over finite dimensional algebras.

**Definition 2.7.** For  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  abelian categories and  $F$  right exact we define the following functors:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} &\longrightarrow (F, \mathcal{B}) \\
 (A, B) &\longmapsto (A, B \oplus FA, FA \hookrightarrow FA \oplus B) \\
 (\alpha, \beta) &\longmapsto (\alpha, F\alpha \oplus \beta)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 U: (F, \mathcal{B}) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} & C: (F, \mathcal{B}) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \\
 (A, B, f) &\longmapsto (A, B) & (A, B, f) &\longmapsto (A, \text{cok } f) \\
 (\alpha, \beta) &\longmapsto (\alpha, \beta) & (\alpha, \beta) &\longmapsto (\alpha, \hat{\beta})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} &\longrightarrow (F, B) \\
 (A, B) &\longmapsto (A, B, 0) \\
 (\alpha, \beta) &\longmapsto (\alpha, \beta)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 2.8.** *With the definitions above  $U$  and  $Z$  become exact functors.*

*Proof.* Using the characterization of exact sequences shown in Proposition 2.6 a short exact sequence in  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 FA'' & \xrightarrow{F\alpha'} & FA & \xrightarrow{F\alpha} & FA' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 \downarrow f'' & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f' & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & B'' & \xrightarrow{\beta'} & B & \xrightarrow{\beta} & B' \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

such that the sequences

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\longrightarrow A'' \xrightarrow{\alpha'} A \xrightarrow{\alpha} A' \longrightarrow 0 \\
 0 &\longrightarrow B'' \xrightarrow{\beta'} B \xrightarrow{\beta} B' \longrightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

are short exact. Since when we apply  $U$  we simply get the product of these two sequences,  $U$  is exact.

Similarly for  $Z$  since the two sequences we start with are assumed to be exact the resulting sequence will be exact by the characterization in Proposition 2.6.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.9.** *[FGR75, Proposition 1.3] The pairs of functors  $(T, U)$  and  $(C, Z)$  form adjoint pairs.*

*Proof.* We want to establish an isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Hom}(T(A, B), (A', B', f)) \cong \mathrm{Hom}((A, B), (A', B')).$$

A morphism  $(\alpha, [\beta \ \gamma]) : T(A, B) \rightarrow (A', B', f)$  is given by a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T(A, B): & FA & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} B \oplus FA \\ (\alpha, [\beta \ \gamma]) \downarrow & F\alpha \downarrow & \downarrow [\beta \ \gamma] \\ (A', B', f): & FA' & \xrightarrow{f} B'. \end{array}$$

The isomorphism is then given by sending this to  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . This is clearly surjective.

For injectivity assume  $(\alpha, \beta) = 0$ , then  $\gamma = [\beta \ \gamma] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = fF\alpha = 0$ . So the map is injective, and  $(T, U)$  is an adjoint pair.

Next we consider  $(C, Z)$ . We want an isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}(C(A, B, f), (A', B')) &= \mathrm{Hom}((A, \mathrm{cok} f), (A', B')) \\ &\cong \mathrm{Hom}((A, B, f), (A', B', 0)). \end{aligned}$$

A morphism in  $\mathrm{Hom}((A, B, f), (A', B', 0))$  is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ F\alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \beta \\ FA' & \xrightarrow{0} & B' \end{array}$$

Since  $\beta f = 0$ , we have that  $\beta$  factors through the cokernel of  $f$  uniquely. Let the factorization be given by the map  $\beta' : \mathrm{cok} f \rightarrow B'$ . Then we send this diagram to  $(\alpha, \beta')$ . Since the choice of  $\beta'$  was unique this is an isomorphism, so  $(C, Z)$  is an adjoint pair.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.1.** *The functors  $T$  and  $C$  preserve projective objects.*

*Proof.* What we need to check is that for projective objects  $P$  and  $Q$  in  $(\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B})$  and  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  respectively we have that  $\text{Hom}(TP, -)$  and  $\text{Hom}(CQ, -)$  are exact. By adjointness these are equal to  $\text{Hom}(P, U-)$  and  $\text{Hom}(Q, Z-)$  respectively. Since  $U$  and  $Z$  are exact this holds, and so  $T$  and  $C$  preserve projective objects.  $\square$

We will now use these four functors to understand the structure of projective objects in the comma category, and consequently projective resolutions.

**Proposition 2.10.** *[FGR75, Corollary 1.6c] For a projective object  $P$  in  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  we have that  $T(C(P)) \cong P$ , in particular all projectives are of the form  $T(P')$  for a projective  $P' \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be given by  $f: FA \rightarrow B$ . Applying  $C$  we get  $(A, \text{cok } f)$ . We have morphisms  $P \rightarrow ZC(P)$  and  $TC(P) \rightarrow ZC(P)$  given by the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ \parallel & & \downarrow \\ FA & \xrightarrow{0} & \text{cok } f \\ \parallel & & \uparrow \\ FA & \hookrightarrow & \text{cok } f \oplus FA. \end{array}$$

By the projective property of  $P$  there is some morphism  $\beta$  factorizing the map  $P \rightarrow ZC(P)$ , which gives us the diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ \parallel & & \downarrow \beta \\ FA & \hookrightarrow & \text{cok } f \oplus FA \\ \parallel & & \downarrow \\ FA & \xrightarrow{0} & \text{cok } f. \end{array}$$

Since  $FA \hookrightarrow \text{cok } f \oplus FA$  is split mono,  $f$  is split mono. This means that  $B$  splits as a direct sum of the image and cokernel of  $f$ , i.e.  $B$  is isomorphic to  $\text{cok } f \oplus \text{Im } f \cong \text{cok } f \oplus FA$ . From the diagram we see that  $\beta$  induces an isomorphism on each component, and thus  $\beta$  is an isomorphism. So we have  $P \cong TC(P)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.11.** *[FGR75, Lemma 4.16] Let  $X = (A, B, f)$  be an object in the comma category. Then  $\text{pd } X \geq \text{pd } A$ , and if  $A = 0$  then  $\text{pd } X = \text{pd } B$ .*

*Proof.* We first show that  $\text{pd } X \geq \text{pd } A$ . Note that there is an equality  $\text{pd } C(X) = \max\{\text{pd } A, \text{pd } \text{cok } f\}$  so we always have  $\text{pd } C(X) \geq \text{pd } A$ . If  $\text{pd } X = \infty$  then the statement holds so let us assume  $\text{pd } X = n < \infty$ . We proceed by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 0$  then  $C(X)$  is projective so  $\text{pd } X = \text{pd } C(X) = \text{pd } A = 0$ . Next assume the statement holds whenever the projective dimension is less than  $n$ . Let  $P \rightarrow A$  and  $P' \rightarrow \text{cok } f$  be epimorphisms from projectives. Then we have an epimorphism  $T(P, P') \rightarrow X$ . If we let  $\Omega A$  be the kernel of  $P \rightarrow A$  and  $X' = (\Omega A, K, \theta)$  be the kernel of  $T(P, P') \rightarrow X$  as shown in the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} F\Omega A & \longrightarrow & FP & \longrightarrow & FA & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \theta \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & P' \oplus FP & \longrightarrow & B \longrightarrow 0, \end{array}$$

then we have  $\text{pd } A \leq \text{pd } \Omega A + 1$  and  $\text{pd } X = \text{pd } X' + 1$ . By induction we have that  $\text{pd } X' \geq \text{pd } \Omega A$  and so  $\text{pd } X \geq \text{pd } \Omega A + 1 \geq \text{pd } A$ .

If  $A = 0$  then we can associate  $C(X) = (0, B)$  with  $B$ . Any projective resolution  $P_B^\bullet$  of  $B$  gives a resolution of  $X$  by  $T(0, P_B^\bullet)$ , and any resolution  $P_X^\bullet$  of  $X$  gives a resolution of  $(0, B)$  by  $C(P_X^\bullet)$ . Thus  $\text{pd } X = \text{pd } B$ .  $\square$

Now we are ready for the main theorem of this section, where we give an upper bound on the finitistic dimension of the comma category.

**Theorem 2.12.** *[FGR75, Theorem 4.20] The finitistic dimension of the comma category  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  is bounded above by  $\text{findim}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{findim}(\mathcal{B}) + 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $X = (A, B, f)$  be an element of the comma category with finite projective dimension. Let  $P_A^\bullet$  be a projective resolution of  $A$  shorter than  $\text{findim}(\mathcal{A})$ . Similar to what we did in Proposition 2.11 define  $P_X^0$  to be  $T(P_A^0, P(\text{cok } f))$  where  $P(\text{cok } f)$  is a projective module with an epimorphism

onto  $\text{cok } f$ . Then we have that the kernel of  $P_X^0 \rightarrow X$  is  $F\Omega A \xrightarrow{\theta^0} K^0$ .

We continue inductively defining  $P_X^n$  to be  $T(P_A^n, \text{cok } \theta^{n-1})$ . Then  $\Omega^{\text{findim}(\mathcal{A})+1} X = (0, K^{\text{findim}(\mathcal{A})}, 0)$ . Then by Proposition 2.11 we know that  $\text{pd } \Omega^{\text{findim}(\mathcal{A})+1} X = \text{pd } K^{\text{findim}(\mathcal{A})} \leq \text{findim}(\mathcal{B})$ . So

$$\text{pd } X \leq \text{findim}(\mathcal{A}) + \text{findim}(\mathcal{B}) + 1.$$

$\square$

Before applying this to triangular matrix rings, let us have a look at a simple example.

**Example 2.13.** If  $k$  is a field,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} = \text{mod } k$ , and  $F$  is the identity, then the comma category  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  is equivalent to the category of finite dimensional representations of  $A_2$  over  $k$ .

In this example  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  both have finitistic dimension 0 while  $(F, \mathcal{B})$  has finitistic dimension 1. So the bound shown above is tight.

**Definition 2.14** (Triangular matrix ring). Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings, and let  $M$  be an  $S$ - $R$ -bimodule. Then the *triangular matrix ring*  $\begin{pmatrix} R & 0 \\ M & S \end{pmatrix}$  is the ring of all matrices  $\begin{bmatrix} r & 0 \\ m & s \end{bmatrix}$  with  $r \in R$ ,  $s \in S$ , and  $m \in M$ . The multiplication is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} r & 0 \\ m & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r' & 0 \\ m' & s' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} rr' & 0 \\ mr' + sm' & ss' \end{bmatrix}.$$

We have already hinted at an example of this in Example 2.13. The algebra  $kA_2$  is isomorphic to the matrix ring  $\begin{pmatrix} k & 0 \\ k & k \end{pmatrix}$ , and we saw how  $\text{mod } kA_2$  becomes the comma category for a functor between  $\text{mod } k$  and  $\text{mod } k$ . In fact whenever  $\Lambda$  is a triangular matrix ring, the module category  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  will be the comma category for some functor.

**Proposition 2.15.** If  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} R & 0 \\ M & S \end{pmatrix}$  is a triangular matrix ring, then  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  is isomorphic to the comma category  $(M \otimes_R -, \text{mod } S)$ .

*Proof.* Notice, if  $N$  is a  $\Lambda$ -module, then as an abelian group  $N$  splits as a direct sum into

$$N = N_R \oplus N_S := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} N \oplus \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} N.$$

By restriction of scalars we can think of  $N_R$  as an  $R$ -module and  $N_S$  as an  $S$ -module. Further multiplication by  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ m & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is 0 on  $N_S$  and maps  $N_R$  into  $N_S$ . So  $N$  consists of an  $R$ -module  $N_R$ , an  $S$ -module  $N_S$  and a  $S$ - $R$ -linear map  $M \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(N_R, N_S)$ , or equivalently a  $S$ -linear map  $M \otimes_R N_R \rightarrow N_S$ .

This gives us the equivalence between  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  and  $(M \otimes_R -, \text{mod } S)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.15.1.** When  $\Lambda$  is the triangular matrix algebra above, then

$$\text{findim}(\Lambda) \leq \text{findim}(R) + \text{findim}(S) + 1.$$

## 2.2 Recollements for triangular matrix rings

[K91, Corollary 15]

Connection  
to  
recolle-  
ment?

Does the same idea of recollement works if we consider  $\mathcal{D}^-$  instead of  $\mathcal{D}^b$ ? Clearly not since Happell restricts to  $\mathcal{D}^b$ , where is does it break? ANSWER: In  $\mathcal{D}^-$  we cannot characterize bounded complexes of injectives in the same way, so we cannot bound  $H^i(X)$  from below.

Note  $R = e_R \Lambda e_R$  and  $S = \Lambda / \Lambda e_R \Lambda$ .

This gives a recollement of abelian categories. Under what conditions does this extend to one for derived categories?? When  $M$  is projective as  $S$  and  $R$  module then the top functors are exact. The other functors are always exact. If  $M$  has finite projective dimension then the derived functors should be well defined on the bounded derived category. Can we say something meaningful in the unbounded case

?

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & \Lambda / \Lambda e_R \Lambda \otimes_{\Lambda} - & & \Lambda e_R \otimes - & \\
 & \perp & & \perp & \\
 \text{mod } S & \xrightarrow{\text{inc}} & \text{mod } \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}(\Lambda e_R, -) = e_R \Lambda \otimes -} & \text{mod } R \\
 & \perp & & \perp & \\
 & \text{Hom}(\Lambda e_S, -) & & \text{Hom}(e_R \Lambda, -) & 
 \end{array}$$

## 3 Contravariant finiteness

Results are generalized in [Trl01]

In this section we will study the subcategory of modules with finite projective dimension, which we denote by  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$ . In Corollary 3.5.1 we show that an algebra has finite finitistic dimension when  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is contravariantly finite, and in Example 3.6 we give an example due to Igusa–Smalø–Todorov of a relatively simple algebra for which  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  fails to be contravariantly finite.

It is known that  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is contravariantly finite when the algebra is stably equivalent to a hereditary algebra. This was shown by Auslander–Reiten in their original paper [AR91]. We will consider a generalization of this class in Section 4.2 through the perspective of the Igusa–Todorov-function.

Throughout this section we, as usual, assume  $\Lambda$  is a finite dimensional algebra, though it should be noted that all the results still hold if we assume  $\Lambda$  to be an artin algebra.

**Definition 3.1** (Resolving). A full subcategory of an abelian category is called *resolving* if

- i) It is closed under extensions.
- ii) It contains the projectives.
- iii) It contains the kernel of any epimorphism between two of its objects.

Note that  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is a resolving subcategory.

The main theorem of this section will hold for resolving subcategories in general. In the next few propositions we will consider a resolving subcategory  $\mathcal{X}$ , and its Ext-orthogonal complement

$$\mathcal{Y} := \ker \operatorname{Ext}^{\geq 1}(\mathcal{X}, -) = \{Y \in \mathcal{C} \mid \operatorname{Ext}^i(X, Y) = 0, \forall X \in \mathcal{X}, \forall i \geq 1\},$$

which we now show is equal to

$$\ker \operatorname{Ext}^1(\mathcal{X}, -) = \{Y \in \mathcal{C} \mid \operatorname{Ext}^1(X, Y) = 0, \forall X \in \mathcal{X}\}.$$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a resolving subcategory. Then  $\operatorname{Ext}^1(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$  implies that  $\operatorname{Ext}^i(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{X}$  contains the projectives,  $\Omega X$  is the kernel of an epimorphism between objects in  $\mathcal{X}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{X}$  contains all syzygies.  $\operatorname{Ext}^i(X, Y) = \operatorname{Ext}^1(\Omega^{i-1}X, Y) = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3.** *If  $\mathcal{X}$  is resolving, then  $\mathcal{Y} := \ker \operatorname{Ext}^{\geq 1}(\mathcal{X}, -) = \ker \operatorname{Ext}^1(\mathcal{X}, -)$  is closed under extensions.*

*Proof.* Let  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow E \rightarrow Y' \rightarrow 0$  be an extension of objects in  $\mathcal{Y}$ , and let  $X$  be an object of  $\mathcal{X}$ . Then we get an exact sequence

$$0 = \operatorname{Ext}^i(X, Y) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Ext}^i(X, E) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Ext}^i(X, Y') = 0$$

Thus  $\operatorname{Ext}^i(X, E) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$  and  $E$  is in  $\mathcal{Y}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a contravariantly finite, resolving subcategory of  $\operatorname{mod} \Lambda$ . Then for every object  $C \in \operatorname{mod} \Lambda$  there is a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$$

*with  $X \rightarrow C$  minimal  $\mathcal{X}$ -approximation and  $\operatorname{Ext}^i(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .*



*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{X}$  is contravariantly finite,  $C$  has a minimal  $\mathcal{X}$ -approximation  $X \rightarrow C$ . Since  $\mathcal{X}$  contains the projective cover of  $C$  this approximation must be an epimorphism. So it is part of a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0.$$

Let  $X'$  be an arbitrary object in  $\mathcal{X}$ . Taking the long exact sequence in  $\text{Ext}(X', -)$  gives us

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Hom}(X', Y) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}(X', X) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}(X', C) & & \\ & & & & & \searrow & \\ & & & & & & \text{Ext}^1(X', Y) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(X', X)^1 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X', C) \end{array}$$

Since  $X \rightarrow C$  is an approximation, we know that  $\text{Hom}(X', X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(X', C)$  is epi. Thus if we can prove that  $\text{Ext}^1(X', X) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X', C)$  is mono we would have that  $\text{Ext}^1(X', Y) = 0$ .

Assume we have an element of  $\text{Ext}^1(X', X)$  that is mapped to 0, i.e. we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & C \oplus X' & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Since  $\mathcal{X}$  is closed under extensions  $E$  is in  $\mathcal{X}$ . By composing with projection  $C \oplus X' \rightarrow C$  we get a commutative triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow & \swarrow & \\ C & & \end{array}$$

since  $X \rightarrow C$  is an approximation we get that  $E \rightarrow C$  factors through  $X$ . The endomorphism  $X \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$  leaves the approximation unchanged, so by minimality it must be an isomorphism. Hence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow E \rightarrow X' \rightarrow 0$$

is split and  $\text{Ext}^1(X', X) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X', C)$  is injective. Thus  $\text{Ext}^1(X', Y) = 0$ , and by Lemma 3.2 we have  $\text{Ext}^i(X', Y) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$ .  $\square$

We now prove the main theorem of this section, about the structure of approximations for a resolving subcategory.

**Theorem 3.5.** *[AR91, 3.8] Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a contravariantly finite, resolving subcategory of  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ . Let  $X_i$  be the minimal approximation of  $S_i$ . Then any  $X \in \mathcal{X}$  is a direct summand of an  $X_i$ -filtered module.*

*Proof.* The first part of the proof is to show by induction on length that any module  $C$  is in an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  with  $X$   $X_i$ -filtered and  $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$ .

For the base case if  $C = S_i$  is simple then by Lemma 3.4 we have an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X_i \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  with the desired properties stated above.

For the induction step, assume it holds for all modules of length less than  $n$ , and let  $C$  be a module of length  $n$ . Then by Jordan-Hölder  $C$  is the extension of two modules of length less than  $n$ . Say

$$0 \longrightarrow C' \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow C'' \longrightarrow 0$$

Applying the induction hypothesis we get a diagram on the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & Y' & & Y'' & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & X' & & X'' & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & C'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & & & 0 \end{array}$$

Taking the pullback of  $X'' \rightarrow C''$  we get a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & X'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & C'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

Since  $Y'$  satisfies  $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{X}, Y') = 0$  by Lemma 3.2 it also satisfies  $\text{Ext}^2(\mathcal{X}, Y') = 0$ . In particular from the long exact sequence

$$0 = \text{Ext}^1(X'', Y) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X'', X') \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X'', C) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^2(X'', Y) = 0$$

we get that  $X' \rightarrow C'$  induces an isomorphism  $\text{Ext}^1(X'', X') \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(X'', C)$ . Thus the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow C' \rightarrow E \rightarrow X'' \rightarrow 0$  must come from a sequence  $0 \rightarrow X' \rightarrow X \rightarrow X'' \rightarrow 0$ . This gives us a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & Y' & & Y'' & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & X'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & C'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

Applying the Snake Lemma we can fill out the diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y' & \longrightarrow & Y & \longrightarrow & Y'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & X'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & C'' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

Since  $X$  is an extension of  $X_i$ -filtered modules, it is also  $X_i$ -filtered. Since  $Y$  is the extension of  $Y''$  and  $Y'$  it follows from Proposition 3.3 that  $\text{Ext}(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$ .

Hence any  $C$  fits into a sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  with  $X$  being  $X_i$ -filtered and  $\text{Ext}^{\geq 1}(\mathcal{X}, Y) = 0$ .

Now suppose that  $C$  is in  $\mathcal{X}$ , and let  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  be as before. Then we get that

$$\mathrm{Hom}(C, X) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Hom}(C, C) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ext}^1(C, Y) = 0$$

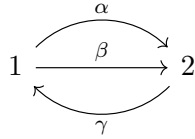
is exact, and thus  $C$  is a direct summand of  $X$ . So every object in  $\mathcal{X}$  is a direct summand of an  $X_i$ -filtered module.  $\square$

Applying this to  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  we get our wanted result about the finitistic dimension.

**Corollary 3.5.1.** *If  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is contravariantly finite, then the finitistic dimension is the supremum of the projective dimension of  $X_i$ . In particular it is finite.*

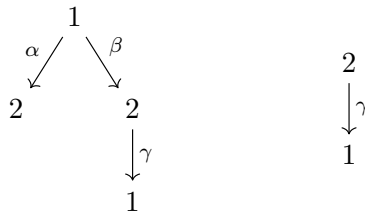
To finish this section of we give two examples. The first example is due to Igusa–Smalø–Todorov, which shows that  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  need not be contravariantly finite even for monomial algebras with  $J^3 = 0$ .

**Example 3.6.** [IST90, Proposition 2.3] Let  $\Lambda$  be the path algebra of



with relations  $\alpha\gamma$ ,  $\beta\gamma$ , and  $\gamma\alpha$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$ . Then  $\mathrm{findim}(\Lambda) = 1$ , but  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is not contravariantly finite.

*Proof.* The indecomposable projective  $\Lambda$ -modules are given by the following quivers



Note that both the indecomposable projectives have even dimension, so any projective module has even dimension. Then if  $X$  is a module with finite projective dimension, since  $\dim X = \sum (-1)^i \dim P_X^i$  the dimension of  $X$

is also even. In particular the two simple modules have infinite projective dimension.

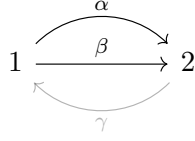
The radical of  $P_1$  is  $P_2$  and the radical of  $P_2$  is  $S_1$ , so the radical of an arbitrary projective looks like  $P_2^n \oplus S_1^m$ . Let  $P \rightarrow X$  be the projective cover of a module with finite projective dimension. Then  $\Omega X$  is a submodule of  $JP = P_2^n \oplus S_1^m$ . Let  $M$  be an indecomposable summand of  $\Omega X$ , and consider the composition  $M \rightarrow JP \rightarrow P_2$  for any possible projection to  $P_2$ . If this is epi then we must have  $M = P_2$ . If none of these are epi then  $M$  is contained in  $JP_2^n \oplus S_1^m = S_1^{m+n}$ . This would mean  $M = S_1$ , but  $S_1$  has infinite projective dimension. Thus we must have  $\Omega X$  projective, and so  $\text{pd } X \leq 1$ .

Nextly we want to show that  $S_1$  has no minimal approximation by modules with finite projective dimension. Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $X \rightarrow S_1$  is such a minimal approximation. Then we claim that  $P_2$  is not a submodule of  $X$ . Since  $\text{Hom}(P_2, S_1) = 0$  if this were the case then  $X' = X/P_2$  would give an approximation of shorter length, because  $X'$  would also have finite projective dimension. Which can be seen in the diagram below.

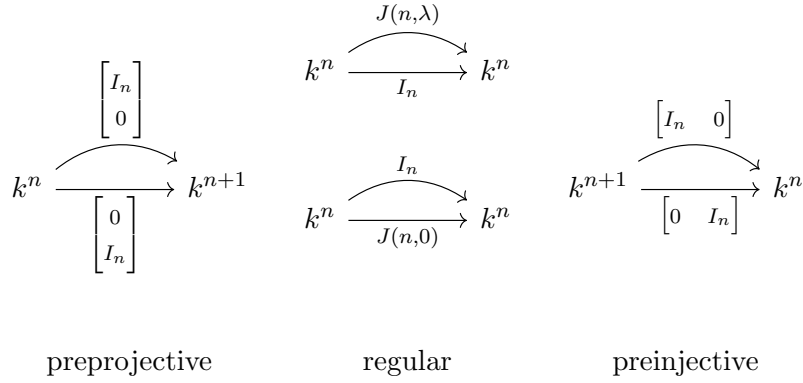
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & P_X^1 & \longrightarrow & P_X^1 \oplus P_1 & \longrightarrow & P_1 \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & P_X^1 & \longrightarrow & P_X^0 & \longrightarrow & X \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & X' & \xlongequal{\quad} & X' \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

This means that  $\gamma X = 0$ , because if there was an element  $x \in X$  with  $\gamma x \neq 0$ , then  $(e_2 x)$  would be a submodule of  $X$  isomorphic to  $P_2$ . So  $X$  is a  $\Lambda/(\gamma)$  module.

The algebra  $\Lambda/(\gamma)$  is the path algebra of the 2-Kronecker quiver, whose representation theory is well understood. Specifically  $\Lambda/(\gamma)$  can be associated with the subquiver highlighted below.



The indecomposable modules are as given in the table below.

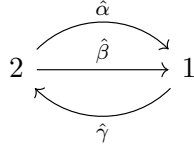


We see that the preprojective and preinjective modules both have odd dimension, so they will have infinite projective dimension as  $\Lambda$ -modules. We can easily verify that the  $\Lambda/(\gamma)$ -modules  $k \begin{smallmatrix} \xrightarrow{\lambda} \\ \xrightarrow{1} \end{smallmatrix} k$  all have finite projective dimension as  $\Lambda$ -modules and that they have a nonzero map onto  $S_1$ .

So each of these modules would need to have a nonzero map to  $X$ . But it is easy to verify that there is a nonzero homomorphism between the regular modules only if they have the same value of  $\lambda$ . So for it to be possible for  $X$  to factorize all these maps we would need  $X$  to have an infinite amount of direct summands. Since we are working with finitely generated modules this is impossible, hence  $S_1$  has no approximation, and the subcategory is not contravariantly finite.  $\square$

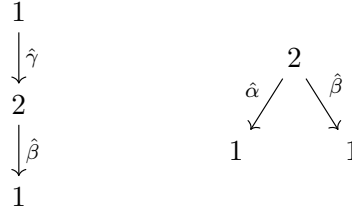
In the next example we look at the opposite algebra of  $\Lambda$ , for which  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is contravariantly finite. This shows that there is no immediate relationship between  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  being contravariantly finite for  $\Lambda$  and for  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ .

**Example 3.7.** Let  $\Gamma$  be the opposite algebra of the one in Example 3.6. That is,  $\Gamma$  is the path algebra of



with relations  $\hat{\gamma}\hat{\alpha}$ ,  $\hat{\gamma}\hat{\beta}$ , and  $\hat{\alpha}\hat{\gamma}$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}^\infty$  is contravariantly finite. In other words the subcategory of  $\Lambda$ -modules with finite injective dimension is covariantly finite.

*Proof.* The indecomposable projective  $\Gamma$ -modules are given by the following quivers



Similar to before, notice that the indecomposable projective modules are 3-dimensional and thus every module with finite projective dimension will have a  $k$ -dimension that is a multiple of 3. So in particular the simple modules have infinite projective dimension.

Let  $X$  be a module with finite projective dimension, and let  $P$  be its projective cover. We have that  $\Omega X$  is a submodule of  $JP$ . Notice that  $\hat{\alpha}J = \hat{\gamma}J = 0$ , so  $\Omega X$  is a  $\Gamma/(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\gamma})$ -module. But  $\Gamma/(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\gamma})$  is simply isomorphic to the path algebra of  $2 \longrightarrow 1$ , over which there are just 3 indecomposable modules. We already know that the simple modules cannot be summands of  $\Omega X$ , because they have infinite projective dimension. The non-simple module  $k \xrightarrow{1} k$  is 2-dimensional and thus also has infinite projective dimension over  $\Gamma$ . So we conclude that  $\Omega X = 0$ , so  $X$  is projective.

So the only modules with finite projective dimension are the projectives themselves. In particular there are only a finite number of indecomposable modules with finite projective dimension. So the subcategory is contravariantly finite.  $\square$

## 4 The Igusa–Todorov functions

In this section we introduce the Igusa–Todorov functions, which are important tools for bounding the projective dimensions of modules in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ . The main theorem is Theorem 4.3 in which we give a bound for the projective dimension of modules in a short exact sequence. In Section 4.1 we use this to show that algebras with representation dimension at most 3, has finite finitistic dimension, and in Section 4.2 we give an example of a class of algebras which are known to have representation dimension 3.

From this point forward we let  $K_0$  be the abelian group generated by isomorphism classes of modules in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ , with the relations that  $[A \oplus B] - [A] - [B] = 0$  for any modules  $A$  and  $B$ , and  $[P] = 0$  when  $P$  is projective. We define the linear map  $L: K_0 \rightarrow K_0$  by  $L[A] = [\Omega A]$ . For any module  $X$ , we let  $[\text{add } X]$  be the finitely generated subgroup of  $K_0$  generated by modules in  $\text{add } X$ .

Fitting’s lemma [Theorem A.6] tells us that there is an integer  $\eta_X$  such that  $L: L^m[\text{add } X] \rightarrow L^{m+1}[\text{add } X]$  is an isomorphism for every  $m \geq \eta_X$ . We use this to define two important functions from  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ .

**Definition 4.1** (The Igusa–Todorov functions). We define two functions  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  from  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  to  $\mathbb{N}$ . For a module  $M \in \text{mod } \Lambda$  we define  $\phi(M)$  to be the integer  $\eta_M$  coming from Fitting’s lemma, as explained above. In other words,  $\phi(M)$  is the smallest integer such that

$$L: L^m[\text{add } M] \rightarrow L^{m+1}[\text{add } M]$$

is an isomorphism for every  $m \geq \phi(M)$ . We define  $\psi(M)$  in a similar way, but adding on an extra term to account for the structure of  $\Omega^{\phi(M)} M$ .

$$\psi(M) = \phi(M) + \sup \left\{ \text{pd } Z \mid \text{pd } Z < \infty, Z \in \text{add } \Omega^{\phi(M)} M \right\}$$

We now list the properties needed to prove our main theorem.

**Lemma 4.2.** [IT05, Lemma 3]

- i)  $\psi(M) = \text{pd } M$ , when  $\text{pd } M < \infty$ .
- ii)  $\psi(M^k) = \psi(M)$ .
- iii)  $\psi(M) \leq \psi(M \oplus N)$ .
- iv) If  $Z$  is a direct summand of  $\Omega^n(M)$  where  $n \leq \phi(M)$  and  $\text{pd } Z < \infty$ , then  $\text{pd } Z + n \leq \psi(M)$ .



*Proof.*

- i) If  $\text{pd } M < \infty$ , then  $L^m \neq 0$  for  $m < \text{pd } M$ , and  $L^m = 0$  for  $m \geq \text{pd } M$ . So  $\psi(M) = \phi(M) = \text{pd } M$ .
- ii) The subcategory  $\text{add } M^k = \text{add } M$ , and  $\psi$  is defined only in terms of the additive subcategory  $\text{add } M$ .
- iii) The subcategory  $\text{add } M$  is contained in  $\text{add } M \oplus N$ , so if  $L$  is injective when restricted to  $L^m(\text{add } M \oplus N)$  then  $L$  is injective when restricted to  $L^m(\text{add } M)$ . Thus we have  $\phi(M) \leq \phi(M \oplus N)$ . Further

$$\Omega^{\phi(M \oplus N) - \phi(M)} \left( \text{add } \Omega^{\phi(M)} M \right) \subseteq \text{add } \Omega^{\phi(M \oplus N)} M \oplus N,$$

so  $\psi(M) \leq \psi(M \oplus N)$ .

- iv) Let  $p = \text{pd } Z$  and  $k = \phi(M) - n$ . Then  $\Omega^k Z$  is in  $\text{add } \Omega^{\phi(M)} M$ , so  $\text{pd } \Omega^k Z + \phi(M) \leq \psi(M)$ . Thus

$$\text{pd } Z + n = p + n = (p - k) + \phi(M) \leq \text{pd } \Omega^k Z + \phi(M) \leq \psi(M).$$

□

We will now apply these properties to get a bound on the projective dimension of modules in a short exact sequence in terms of the  $\psi$ -function.

**Theorem 4.3.** *[IT05, Theorem 4] Let  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence of modules with  $\text{pd } C < \infty$ . Then  $\text{pd } C \leq \psi(A \oplus B) + 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P_A^\bullet$  and  $P_C^\bullet$  be the minimal projective resolutions of  $A$  and  $C$ . Then we get a map of short exact sequences

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & P_A^0 & \longrightarrow & P_A^0 \oplus P_C^0 & \longrightarrow & P_C^0 \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Applying the Snake Lemma we get  $0 \rightarrow \Omega A \rightarrow \Omega B \oplus P \rightarrow \Omega C \rightarrow 0$  for some projective module  $P$ . Thus for some  $n \leq \text{pd } C$  we have  $L^n[A] = L^n[B]$ , and let  $n$  be the minimal such number. Clearly  $n \leq \phi(A \oplus B)$ . Let  $X = \Omega^n A = \Omega^n B$ , then our sequence of  $n$ -syzygies looks like

$$0 \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow X \oplus P \longrightarrow \Omega^n C \longrightarrow 0.$$

Let  $f$  be the composition  $X \longrightarrow X \oplus P \xrightarrow{\pi_X} X$ . Then by Fitting's lemma  $X$  breaks as a direct sum into two components  $X = Z \oplus Y$  such that  $f = f_Z \oplus f_Y$  with  $f_Y$  an isomorphism and  $f_Z$  nilpotent. In other words the sequence above can be written as

$$0 \longrightarrow Z \oplus Y \longrightarrow Z \oplus Y \oplus P \longrightarrow \Omega^n C \longrightarrow 0.$$

with the left map being

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_Z & 0 \\ 0 & f_Y \\ * & * \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} f_Z & 0 \\ 0 & 1_Y \\ * & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So by changing basis this restricts to another short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow Z \oplus P \longrightarrow \Omega^n C \longrightarrow 0.$$

Let  $T = \Lambda/J$  and apply the long exact sequence in  $\text{Ext}(-, T)$ . Then we get an exact sequence

$$\text{Ext}^k(Z, T) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^k(Z \oplus P, T) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}^{k+1}(\Omega^n C, T)$$

where the left map is induced by  $f_Z$  since  $\text{Ext}^k(Z \oplus P, T) \cong \text{Ext}^k(Z, T)$ . Since  $f_Z$  is nilpotent this map is surjective if and only if  $\text{Ext}^k(Z, T) = 0$ . We know that, since  $\Omega^n C$  has finite projective dimension,  $\text{Ext}^{k+1}(\Omega^n C, T)$  is 0 for  $k$  large enough. Then we must have that  $\text{Ext}^k(Z, T) = 0$ , and thus  $Z$  has finite projective dimension. Specifically we have  $\text{pd } \Omega^n C - 1 \leq \text{pd } Z \leq \text{pd } \Omega^n C$ .

Since  $Z$  is a direct summand of  $\Omega^n(A \oplus B)$ , by Lemma 4.2 we have that  $\text{pd } Z + n \leq \psi(A \oplus B)$ , and thus  $\text{pd } \Omega^n C - 1 + n = \text{pd } C - 1 \leq \psi(A \oplus B)$ .  $\square$

With a bit of diagram chasing we can extend this theorem to get a bound for  $\text{pd } A$  and  $\text{pd } B$  as well.

**Corollary 4.3.1.** *Let  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence of modules.*

- i) *If  $\text{pd } A < \infty$ , then  $\text{pd } A \leq \psi(\Omega B \oplus \Omega C) + 1$ .*
- ii) *If  $\text{pd } B < \infty$  then  $\text{pd } B \leq \psi(\Omega A \oplus \Omega^2 C) + 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P_B \rightarrow B$  be a projective cover of  $B$ . Then we have a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & P_B & \longrightarrow & P_B & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Applying the Snake Lemma we get a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega B \rightarrow \Omega C \oplus P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$$

for some projective module  $P$ . Then using the theorem we have that if  $\text{pd } A \leq \infty$ , then  $\text{pd } A \leq \psi(\Omega B \oplus \Omega C \oplus P) + 1 = \psi(\Omega B \oplus \Omega C) + 1$ .

Applying the same reasoning to  $0 \rightarrow \Omega B \rightarrow \Omega C \oplus P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$  gives us that if  $\text{pd } B \leq \infty$ , then  $\text{pd } \Omega B \leq \psi(\Omega A \oplus \Omega^2 C) + 1$ . Hence  $\text{pd } B \leq \psi(\Omega A \oplus \Omega^2 C) + 2$ .  $\square$

These are all the results we need about the Igusa–Todorov functions. We will now use them to find families of algebras with  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .

## 4.1 Representation dimension

In this section we look at the representation dimension of an algebra. This is another useful homological invariant of the representation theory for a finite dimensional algebra. The representation dimension is less than or equal to 2 if and only if  $\Lambda$  is representation finite, so it is natural to think that the representation dimension in some sense measures the *complexity* of  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ . In Corollary 4.9.1 we show that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  when  $\text{repdim}(\Lambda) \leq 3$ , and in Section 4.2 we give an example of a family of algebras that satisfy this.

**Definition 4.4** (Representation dimension). Let  $\Lambda$  be a finite dimensional algebra. The *representation dimension* of  $\Lambda$ , denoted  $\text{repdim}(\Lambda)$ , is the minimal global dimension of  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  for  $M$  a generator-cogenerator in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ . We call a generator-cogenerator that achieves this minimum an *Auslander-generator*.

The representation dimension can also be defined using  $\mathcal{M}$ -resolutions, which we define here.

**Definition 4.5** ( $\mathcal{M}$ -resolutions). Let  $X$  be an object in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  a contravariantly finite subcategory. We consider a diagram as the one below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & M_2 & \longrightarrow & M_1 & \longrightarrow & M_0 \\
 & & \searrow & & \searrow & & \searrow \\
 & & \Omega_M^3 X & & \Omega_M^2 X & & \Omega_M X \\
 & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 & & \Omega_M^3 X & & \Omega_M^2 X & & \Omega_M X \\
 & & \searrow & & \searrow & & \searrow \\
 & & & & & & X
 \end{array}$$

If the maps  $M_n \twoheadrightarrow \Omega_M^n X$  are minimal right  $\mathcal{M}$ -approximations for  $n \geq 0$  (they need not be surjective), and  $\Omega_M^{n+1} \hookrightarrow M_n$  are their kernels, then this is a minimal  $\mathcal{M}$ -resolution of  $X$ . The  $\mathcal{M}$ -res-dimension of  $X$  is the length of this sequence of (nonzero)  $M_i$ 's, and the  $\mathcal{M}$ -res-dimension of  $\Lambda$  is the supremum of the dimension on its objects.

An  $\mathcal{M}$ -resolution of  $X$  should be thought of as a projective resolution of  $\text{Hom}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  in the category of coherent functors on  $\mathcal{M}$ . When  $\mathcal{M} = \text{add } M$  the category of coherent functors is isomorphic to  $\text{mod } \text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$ , where  $\text{Hom}(-, X)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  corresponds to  $\text{Hom}(M, X)$ . In the proof of the next proposition we use this correspondence, and we write  $M$ -res-dim instead of  $(\text{add } M)$ -res-dim.

**Proposition 4.6.** *If the representation dimension of  $\Lambda$  is at least 2, then  $\text{repdim}(\Lambda) - 2$  equals the minimum of  $M$ -res-dim( $\text{mod } \Lambda$ ) for  $M$  both generator and cogenerator. In fact, for any generator-cogenerator,  $M$ -res-dim( $\text{mod } \Lambda$ ) is two less than the global dimension of  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a generator-cogenerator. We first show that the global dimension of  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  is less than or equal to  $M$ -res-dim( $\text{mod } \Lambda$ ) + 2.

The functor  $\text{Hom}(M, -)$  is an equivalence from  $\text{add } M$  to  $\text{proj } \text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$ , which maps minimal  $M$ -approximations to projective covers. Let  $X$  be any module in  $\text{mod } \text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  with projective dimension at least 2. Then it has a projective presentation

$$\Omega^2 X \rightarrow (M, M_1) \rightarrow (M, M_0) \rightarrow X.$$

Because of the equivalence this is induced by a map  $f: M_1 \rightarrow M_0$ . Since  $\text{Hom}(M, -)$  is left exact we have that  $\Omega^2 X \cong \text{Hom}(M, \ker f)$ , and so the projective dimension of  $X$  is 2 plus the  $M$ -res-dimension of  $\ker f$ . Hence the global dimension  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  is less than or equal to  $M$ -res-dim( $\text{mod } \Lambda$ ) + 2.

Next we prove the other inequality.

Since  $M$  is a cogenerator any module  $Y$  in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  has a copresentation

$$0 \longrightarrow Y \longrightarrow M_0 \xrightarrow{f} M_1.$$

Applying  $(M, -) := \text{Hom}(M, -)$  we get

$$0 \longrightarrow (M, Y) \longrightarrow (M, M_0) \xrightarrow{(M, f)} (M, M_1) \longrightarrow \text{cok}(M, f) \longrightarrow 0.$$

If the projective dimension of  $\text{cok}(M, f)$  is less than 2, then  $(M, Y)$  is a direct summand of  $(M, M_0)$ . This means that  $(M, Y) \cong (M, M')$ , so the minimal  $M$ -approximation of  $Y$  is  $M'$ , and  $(M, \Omega_M Y) = 0$ . Since  $M$  is a generator this means  $\Omega_M Y = 0$  and thus the  $M$ -res-dimension of  $Y$  is 0.

So provided the projective dimension of  $\text{cok}(M, f)$  is larger than or equal to 2, it equals the  $M$ -res-dimension of  $Y$  plus 2. In particular the global dimension of  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  is larger than or equal to  $M\text{-res-dim}(\text{mod } \Lambda) + 2$ . Hence they are equal.  $\square$

The next two results paint an important picture of the representation dimension as an invariant, but are not relevant for the other results in this thesis.

**Theorem 4.7.** *The representation dimension of an artin algebra is always finite.*

*Proof.* The proof is omitted here, but can be found in [Iya02].  $\square$

**Proposition 4.8.** *The representation dimension of  $\Lambda$  is less than or equal to 2 if and only if  $\Lambda$  is representation finite.*

I should go over the proof

*Proof.* Assume  $\Lambda$  is representation finite and let  $M$  be the direct sum of all indecomposable modules up to isomorphism. Then  $M$  is a generator-cogenerator. Let  $X$  be an  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$ -module with projective presentation

$$(M, M_1) \rightarrow (M, M_0) \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0.$$

Let  $M_2$  be the kernel of  $M_1 \rightarrow M_0$ . Since  $M$  is the sum of all indecomposables  $M_2$  is in  $\text{add } M$ , so

$$0 \rightarrow (M, M_2) \rightarrow (M, M_1) \rightarrow (M, M_0) \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

is a projective resolution of  $X$ . So  $\Lambda$  has representation dimension at most 2.

Assume  $\Lambda$  has representation dimension at most 2, and let  $M$  be an Auslander-generator. We want to show that  $\text{add } M = \text{mod } \Lambda$ . Let  $X$  be any  $\Lambda$ -module, and let

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow I_0 \rightarrow I_1$$

be a minimal injective presentation. If  $I_0 \rightarrow I_1$  is split then  $X$  is injective and thus in  $\text{add } M$ . Let  $M_X$  be a minimal  $M$ -approximation of  $X$ , let  $\Omega_M X$  be the kernel of the approximation, and let  $Y$  be the cokernel of  $(M, I_0) \rightarrow (M, I_1)$ . Then

$$(M, \Omega_M X) \rightarrow (M, M_X) \rightarrow (M, I_0) \rightarrow (M, I_1) \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

is a minimal exact sequence. Since the global dimension of  $\text{End}(M)^{\text{op}}$  is at most 2 this means that  $(M, \Omega_M X) = 0$ . Consequently we have that  $\Omega_M X = 0$  and that  $X = M_X$ , so  $X$  is in  $\text{add } M$ . Thus  $\Lambda$  is representation finite.  $\square$

We conclude this subsection by proving that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda)$  is finite when  $\Lambda$  has representation dimension at most 3. To do this we first prove a slight generalization of this.

**Theorem 4.9.** *[IT05, Corollary 8] If  $\Lambda = \text{End}_\Gamma(P)^{\text{op}}$  for an algebra  $\Gamma$  with global dimension at most 3, and  $P$  projective, then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be any  $\Lambda$ -module with finite projective dimension. Then it has a projective presentation  $(P, P_1) \rightarrow (P, P_0) \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$  where  $(P, P_i) = \text{Hom}_\Gamma(P, P_i)$  with  $P_i \in \text{add } P$ . Since  $(P, -)$  is an equivalence from  $\text{add } P$  to  $\text{proj } \Lambda$  this corresponds to a map  $P_1 \rightarrow P_0$  which we can extend to a projective resolution in  $\Gamma$ :

$$0 \longrightarrow P_3 \longrightarrow P_2 \longrightarrow P_1 \longrightarrow P_0.$$

Applying the exact functor  $(P, -)$ , we get an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow (P, P_3) \longrightarrow (P, P_2) \longrightarrow (P, P_1) \longrightarrow (P, P_0) \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow 0.$$

Truncating this we get a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow (P, P_3) \longrightarrow (P, P_2) \longrightarrow \Omega^2 X \longrightarrow 0.$$

Then by Theorem 4.3 the projective dimension of  $\Omega^2 X$  is bounded by  $\psi((P, P_3) \oplus (P, P_2)) + 1$ . Which means

$$\text{pd } X \leq \psi((P, P_3) \oplus (P, P_2)) + 3 \leq \psi((P, \Gamma)) + 3$$

Since this bound doesn't depend on  $X$ ,  $\Lambda$  has finite finitistic dimension.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.9.1.** *If  $\text{repdim}(\Lambda) \leq 3$  then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\Lambda$  has rep-dimension less than or equal to 3, then there is a generator-cogenerator  $M$  in  $\text{mod } \Lambda$  such that  $\Gamma := \text{End}_\Lambda(M)^{\text{op}}$  has global dimension 3 or less. Then since  $M$  is a generator  $\Lambda$  is in  $\text{add } M$  and so  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(M, \Lambda)$  is a projective  $\Gamma$ -module with

$$\text{End}_\Gamma(\text{Hom}_\Lambda(M, \Lambda))^{\text{op}} = \text{End}_\Lambda(\Lambda)^{\text{op}} = \Lambda.$$

□

## 4.2 Stably hereditary algebras

In this section we introduce the class of stably hereditary algebras, and show that they have representation dimension at most 3. Then from what we showed earlier in this section it follows that they have finite finitistic dimension.

Hereditary algebras are those where all torsionfree modules are projective. This corresponds exactly to the algebra having global dimension 1 or less. Stably hereditary algebras are a generalization of these where we also allow simple modules to be torsionfree without being projective. This turns out to include the class of algebras that are stably equivalent to a hereditary algebra, hence the name. We now remind the reader of the definition of torsionfree.

**Definition 4.10** ((co)torsionfree). A module is called *torsionfree* if it is a submodule of a projective module. Dually, a module is called *cotorsionfree* if it is a factormodule of an injective.

Defining hereditary algebras to be those where cotorsionfree modules are injective would give an equivalent definition. When we generalize to stably hereditary algebras, the dual condition is no longer equivalent, so we include both.

**Definition 4.11** (Stably hereditary algebra). An algebra is called *stably hereditary* if any indecomposable torsionfree module is projective or simple, and any indecomposable cotorsionfree module is injective or simple.

Like we said above, the archetypal example of a stably hereditary algebra is one whose stably equivalent to a hereditary algebra. Two algebras being stably equivalent means they have the same stable category. We now remind the reader of the definition.

**Definition 4.12** (The stable category). For an algebra  $\Lambda$ , the stable category  $\underline{\text{mod}}\Lambda$  has the same objects as  $\text{mod}\Lambda$ , but the sets of homomorphisms are given by

$$\text{Hom}_{\underline{\text{mod}}\Lambda}(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, N) / \mathcal{P}(M, N)$$

where  $\mathcal{P}(M, N)$  is the ideal of all morphisms factoring through a projective.

**Proposition 4.13.** *If for an algebra  $\Lambda$  there is a hereditary algebra  $H$  such that  $\underline{\text{mod}}\Lambda \cong \underline{\text{mod}}H$  then  $\Lambda$  is stably hereditary.*

*Proof.* [AR73, Chapter IV, Theorem 1.5]

□

write

There exists stably hereditary algebras that are not stably equivalent to a hereditary algebra, but the simple defining property of stably hereditary algebras together with the Igusa–Todorov function is all we need to prove our main theorem.

**Theorem 4.14.** [Xi02, Theorem 3.5] *If  $\Lambda$  is stably hereditary, then it has representation dimension at most 3.*

*Proof.* Let  $V$  be the direct sum of all the indecomposable projectives, all the indecomposable injectives, and all the simple modules. Then  $V$  is a generator-cogenerator. So if we show that the global dimension of  $\Gamma := \text{End}(V)^{\text{op}}$  is 3 or less, then we are done.

We will show that for any  $\Lambda$ -module  $M$  there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow V_3 \longrightarrow V_2 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

with  $V_i$  in  $\text{add } V$ , and such that

$$0 \longrightarrow (V, V_3) \longrightarrow (V, V_2) \longrightarrow (V, M) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. We will use this to construct sufficiently short projective resolutions in  $\text{mod } \Gamma$ .

To construct  $V_3$  and  $V_2$  let  $M'$  be the sum of the maximal injective summand of  $M$  and all simple submodules of  $M$ . Then let  $P$  be the projective cover of  $M/M'$ . Taking the pullback of  $M \rightarrow M/M' \leftarrow P$  gives us the diagram:



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & K & \xlongequal{\quad} & K & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & M' & \longrightarrow & M' \oplus P & \longrightarrow & P \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & M' & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & M/M' \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

We claim that  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M' \oplus P \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  is the desired sequence. Firstly  $M' \oplus P$  is in  $\text{add } V$  since it is the sum of an injective, a semisimple, and a projective module. Further  $K$  is a submodule of  $P$ , hence torsionfree. So since  $\Lambda$  is stably hereditary  $K$  is the sum of a projective and a semisimple module, so  $K$  is also in  $\text{add } V$ .

Next we need to show that

$$0 \longrightarrow (V, K) \longrightarrow (V, M' \oplus P) \longrightarrow (V, M) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. The only thing needed to show here is that the map  $(V, M' \oplus P) \rightarrow (V, M)$  is surjective. We do this by showing that  $(W, M' \oplus P) \rightarrow (W, M)$  is surjective for any indecomposable summand of  $V$ . If  $W$  is projective this holds by definition. If  $W$  is simple then any map from  $W$  to  $M$  factors through the socle and hence through  $M'$ , so it's surjective. Lastly if  $W$  is injective then the image of  $W$  in  $M$  is a cotorsionfree module, so it is the sum of simple modules and an injective module. Hence the map from  $W$  to  $M$  factors through  $M'$ .

Now we use this to show that the global dimension of  $\Gamma$  is at most 3. Let  $N$  be any  $\Gamma$ -module. Then it has a projective presentation

$$(V, V_1) \xrightarrow{f \circ -} (V, V_0) \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

If we let  $M$  denote the kernel of  $f$  and we choose  $V_3$  and  $V_2$  as above, then we get a projective resolution of  $N$  by

$$0 \longrightarrow (V, V_3) \longrightarrow (V, V_2) \longrightarrow (V, V_1) \longrightarrow (V, V_0) \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0.$$

This shows that the projective dimension of  $N$  is at most 3, and since  $N$  was arbitrary the global dimension of  $\Gamma$  is at most 3. So the representation dimension of  $\Lambda$  is at most 3.  $\square$

Now because of Corollary 4.9.1 this means that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  whenever  $\Lambda$  is stably hereditary.

### 4.3 Special biserial algebras

[EHIS04]

In this section we shall consider two finite dimensional algebras, where one is the subalgebra of another. We will denote these by  $\Lambda$  and  $\Gamma$ , and we will denote their radicals by  $J_\Lambda$  and  $J_\Gamma$  respectively.

**Definition 4.15** (Radical embedding). A subalgebra  $\Lambda \subseteq \Gamma$  is called a *radical embedding* if the two radicals coincide,  $J_\Lambda = J_\Gamma$ .

**Lemma 4.16.** [EHIS04, Lemma 2.3] *A homomorphism of algebras  $\Lambda \rightarrow \Gamma$  induces a homomorphism of  $\Lambda$ -modules  $\varepsilon_M: \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\Gamma, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\Lambda, M) = M$ , by considering  $\Gamma$  as a  $\Lambda$  module. If  $\Lambda \subseteq \Gamma$  is a radical embedding, then  $\ker \varepsilon_M$  and  $\text{Im } \varepsilon_M$  are both semisimple for any  $\Lambda$ -module  $M$ .*

*Proof.* content...  $\square$

**Theorem 4.17.** *If  $\Gamma$  is representation finite and  $\Lambda \subseteq \Gamma$  is a radical embedding, then the representation dimension of  $\Lambda$  is at most 3.*

*Proof.* Since  $\Gamma$  is representation finite there is a finite set of indecomposable  $\Gamma$ -modules up to isomorphism. Let  $X$  be the direct sum of all of these. Since  $\Lambda$  is a subalgebra of  $\Gamma$  we can consider  $X$  as a  $\Lambda$ -module. Now define  $V$  to be  $\Lambda \oplus D\Lambda \oplus X$ , i.e.  $V$  is the sum of all projective  $\Lambda$ , all injective  $\Lambda$  modules, and all  $\Gamma$ -modules. We claim  $\text{End}_\Lambda(V)^{\text{op}}$  has global dimension at most 3.

As in Theorem 4.14 we do this by showing that for any  $\Lambda$ -module  $M$  there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow V_3 \longrightarrow V_2 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

with  $V_i$  in  $\text{add } V$ , such that

$$0 \longrightarrow (V, V_3) \longrightarrow (V, V_2) \longrightarrow (V, M) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

Now let  $M$  be any  $\Lambda$ -module. If  $M$  is injective, then  $M$  is in  $\text{add } V$ , and so we may simply choose  $V_2 = M$  and  $V_3 = 0$ . From here on out assume that  $M$  has no injective summands.

By considering  $\Gamma$  as a  $\Lambda$ -module, we define the  $\Gamma$ -module  $M' := \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\Gamma, M)$ . Evaluation at 1 gives us a  $\Lambda$ -linear map  $\varepsilon_M: M' \rightarrow M$ , introduced in Lemma 4.16. Now if we let  $P$  be the projective cover of  $\text{cok } \varepsilon_M$  then we get a surjective map  $M' \oplus P \rightarrow M$ . Since  $M'$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module and  $P$  is projective  $M' \oplus P$  is in  $\text{add } V$ . We let this be our  $V_2$ .

Next, we let  $V_3$  be the kernel of the map  $V_2 \rightarrow M$ , and we wish to show that this is in  $\text{add } V$ . Since  $M \rightarrow \text{cok } \varepsilon_M$  is an epimorphism and  $P \rightarrow \text{cok } \varepsilon_M$  is a projective cover, we can lift this to a morphism  $P \rightarrow M$ . Taking the pullback along  $\text{Im } \varepsilon_M \rightarrow M$  we get a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & & K & & P & & \text{cok } \varepsilon_M & & 0 \\ & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & & \text{Im } \varepsilon_M & & M & & \text{cok } \varepsilon_M & & 0 \end{array}$$

By Lemma 4.16 we have that  $\text{cok } \varepsilon_M$  is semisimple, and thus  $K = J_\Lambda P$ . Since  $J_\Lambda = J_\Gamma$  this means that  $J_\Lambda P$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module, and thus is in  $\text{add } V$ . Next we take the pullback again, this time along  $M^- \rightarrow \text{Im } \varepsilon_M$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & & \ker \varepsilon_M & & M^- \coprod_M P & & J_\Lambda P & & 0 \\ & & \parallel & & & & & & \\ 0 & & \ker \varepsilon_M & & M^- & & \text{Im } \varepsilon_M & & 0 \end{array}$$

Notice that  $M^- \coprod_M P$  is exactly what we defined to be  $V_3$ .

Since  $J_\Lambda P$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module we get a map of abelian groups by postcomposing with  $\varepsilon_M$ :

$$\mathrm{Hom}_\Gamma(J_\Lambda P, M^-) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{M^-}} \mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(J_\Lambda P, M)$$

$$f \longmapsto (p \mapsto f(p)(1))$$

Remember that  $M^-$  is defined as  $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(B, M)$ . This map is exactly the same as the isomorphism coming from the Hom-Tensor adjunction, thus it is an isomorphism.

$$\mathrm{Hom}_\Gamma(J_\Lambda P, M^-) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(\Gamma \otimes_\Gamma J_\Lambda P, M)$$

$$f \longmapsto (b \otimes p \mapsto f(p)(b))$$

In other words the map  $P \rightarrow \mathrm{Im} \varepsilon_M$  factorizes through  $M^-$ . Then using the pullback property, we get that the map  $V_3 \rightarrow J_\Lambda P$  splits, and so  $V_3 = \ker \varepsilon_M \oplus J_\Lambda P$ . We have already established that  $J_\Lambda P$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module, the same is true of  $\ker \varepsilon_M$ . To see this simply note that  $\ker \varepsilon_M = \mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(\Gamma/\Lambda, M)$  and that  $\Gamma/\Lambda$  is a  $\Lambda$ - $\Gamma$ -bimodule. Thus  $V_3$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module, and so it is in  $\mathrm{add} V$ .

Lastly we show that we get an exact sequence

$$0 \quad (V, V_3) \quad (V, V_2) \quad (V, M) \quad 0.$$

The only thing we need to show is that the last map is an epimorphism. We do this by verifying the three cases for an indecomposable summand of  $V$ . Firstly let  $W$  be a  $\Gamma$ -module. Then  $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(W, V_2)$  breaks up as a direct sum into  $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(W, M^-) \oplus \mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(W, P)$  blabla

If  $W$  is surjective, then  $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(W, -)$  is exact, and there is nothing we need to show.

If  $W$  is an indecomposable injective, since we assumed  $M$  had no injective summands, a map  $W \rightarrow M$  cannot be injective. This means that it factors through  $W/\mathrm{soc}(W)$ . Since  $D(W/\mathrm{soc}(W)) = (DW)J_\Lambda = (DW)J_\Gamma$  this means that  $W/\mathrm{soc}(W)$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module. Then from the argument above it follows that the map is surjective.

Now just as in Theorem 4.14 if we let  $N$  be any module over  $\mathrm{End}(V)^{\mathrm{op}}$  then it has a projective presentation

$$(V, V_1) \xrightarrow{f \circ -} (V, V_0) \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

If we let  $M$  denote the kernel of  $f$  and we choose  $V_3$  and  $V_2$  as above, then we get a projective resolution of  $N$  by

$$0 \longrightarrow (V, V_3) \longrightarrow (V, V_2) \longrightarrow (V, V_1) \longrightarrow (V, V_0) \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0.$$

This shows that the global dimension of  $\text{End}(V)^{\text{op}}$  is at most 3, and likewise the representation dimension of  $\Lambda$  is at most 3.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.18.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be finite dimensional algebra and let  $P$  be a projective  $\Lambda$ -module such that  $\text{soc } P$  is a two-sided ideal. If we define  $\Gamma$  to be  $\Lambda / \text{soc } P$ , then we have  $\text{repdim}(\Lambda) \leq \max\{2, \text{repdim}(\Gamma)\}$ .*

In particular if  $P$  is injective. Why?

*Proof.* By Proposition 4.6 it suffices to find a generator-cogenerator  $V$  such that  $V\text{-res-dim}(\text{mod } \Lambda) \leq \max\{0, \text{repdim}(\Gamma) - 2\}$ . Let  $N$  be the generator-cogenerator in  $\text{mod } \Gamma$  that achieves the minimal resolution dimension. Then we claim  $V = N \oplus P$  is our desired generator-cogenerator. This is a generator because  $\Gamma$  is a summand of  $N$ , and  $\Lambda$  is a summand of  $\Gamma \oplus P$ .

To show that  $V$  is a cogenerator we show that  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(-, V)$  is faithful. First note that  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(-, N) = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(-, \text{Hom}_\Gamma(\Gamma, N)) = \text{Hom}_\Gamma(\Gamma \otimes_\Lambda -, N)$ . Since  $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(-, N)$  is faithful, we focus on  $\Gamma \otimes_\Lambda -$ . We have that  $\Gamma \otimes_\Lambda X = X / \text{soc}(P)X$ . For any morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  we have that  $\Gamma \otimes f$  is zero if and only if the image of  $f$  is contained in  $\text{soc}(P)Y$ . Since the tensor product is right exact, this means we need only consider

$\text{soc } PY \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\text{soc } PY \in \text{add soc } P$ . If  $P$  is injective then  $\text{Hom}(-, P)$  faithful on maps from  $\text{add soc } P$ . So  $\text{Hom}(-, V)$  is faithful.

All  $\Lambda$ -modules are  $\Gamma$ -modules except  $P$  when  $P$  is injective  $\square$

!

Moding out by the socle of proj-inj modules in special biserial alg gives monomial (string) algebras

why???

## 5 Vanishing radical powers

We remind the reader that throughout this section  $\Lambda$  is a finite dimensional algebra, and  $J$  is its radical. The Loewy length of an algebra is the smallest integer  $n$  such that  $J^n = 0$ . In this section show that algebras with short Loewy length have finite finitistic dimension.

The main theorem of this section is Theorem 5.3 in which we prove that “half representation finite” algebras satisfy the finitistic dimension conjecture. The reader should note that Theorem 5.1 and Theorem 5.2 are special cases of Theorem 5.3, but we include alternate proofs here.

**Theorem 5.1.** *If  $J^2 = 0$  then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $d = \max\{\text{pd } S_i \mid \text{pd } S_i < \infty\}$  where  $S_i$  ranges over the simple  $\Lambda$ -modules. Let  $M$  be a module with  $\text{pd } M < \infty$ . Let  $P \rightarrow M$  be a projective cover. Then  $\Omega M$  is contained in  $JP$  and since  $J^2P = 0$ ,  $\Omega M$  is annihilated by  $J$  and is thus semisimple. This means  $\text{pd } \Omega M \leq d$ , and thus  $\text{pd } M \leq d+1$ . So  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \leq d+1 < \infty$ .  $\square$

The proof for the case of  $J^3 = 0$  uses the Igusa–Todorov function from Section 4.

**Theorem 5.2.** *[IT05, Corollary 6] If  $J^3 = 0$  then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a module with  $\text{pd } M < \infty$ , and let  $P^0 \rightarrow M$  be its projective cover. Since  $\Omega M \subseteq JP^0$  we have  $J^2\Omega M = 0$ . Let  $P \rightarrow \Omega M$  be a projective cover. Since  $J^2\Omega M = 0$  we can factorize this as  $P \rightarrow P/J^2P \rightarrow \Omega M$ , and we get a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow (\Omega^2 M + J^2 P)/J^2 P \longrightarrow P/J^2 P \longrightarrow \Omega M \longrightarrow 0$$

Let  $\psi$  be the Igusa–Todorov function as introduced in Section 4. Since  $\Omega^2 M \subseteq JP$  we have that  $(\Omega^2 M + J^2 P)/J^2 P$  is semisimple. Then by Lemma 4.2  $\psi((\Omega^2 M + J^2 P)/J^2 P) \leq \psi(\Lambda/J)$ , and  $\psi(P/J^2 P) \leq \psi(\Lambda/J^2)$ .

Applying Theorem 4.3 to the short exact sequence above we thus get  $\text{pd } \Omega M \leq \psi(\Lambda/J \oplus \Lambda/J^2) + 1$ , and so  $\text{pd } M \leq \psi(\Lambda/J \oplus \Lambda/J^2) + 2$ , and  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .  $\square$

The main theorem of this section is just a very slight generalization of the proof of the  $J^3 = 0$  case.

**Theorem 5.3.** *[Wan94] If  $J^{2l+1} = 0$  and  $\Lambda/J^l$  is representation-finite, then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a module with  $\text{pd } M < \infty$ . We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow J^l \Omega M \longrightarrow \Omega M \longrightarrow \Omega M/J^l \Omega M \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since  $\Omega M \subseteq JP_M^0$  we have  $J^{2l}\Omega M = 0$ . This means that  $J^l\Omega M$  and  $\Omega M/J^l\Omega M$  are  $\Lambda/J^l$ -modules. We use this, the fact that  $\Lambda/J^l$  is representation finite, and the Igusa–Todorov function to create a bound for  $\text{pd } M$ .

Applying Corollary 4.3.1 (ii) we have that:

$$\text{pd } \Omega M \leq \psi(\Omega(J^l\Omega M) \oplus \Omega^2(\Omega M/J^l\Omega M)) + 2.$$

Since  $\Lambda/J^l$  is representation finite, there are only finitely many indecomposable  $\Lambda/J^l$ -modules, up to isomorphism. Let  $V$  be the sum of all of them. Then since  $J^l\Omega M$  and  $\Omega M/J^l\Omega M$  are in  $\text{add } V$ , using Lemma 4.2 we have that

$$\psi(\Omega(J^l\Omega M) \oplus \Omega^2(\Omega M/J^l\Omega M)) \leq \psi(\Omega V \oplus \Omega^2 V).$$

So  $\text{pd } M \leq \psi(\Omega V \oplus \Omega^2 V) + 3$ , and thus  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .  $\square$

## 6 Monomial algebras

In this section we show a particularly nice way to construct a minimal projective resolution of the right module  $\Lambda/J$  for a monomial algebra  $\Lambda$ . We use this to compute  $\text{Tor}_i(\Lambda/J, M)$  and/or  $\text{Ext}^i(M, D(\Lambda/J))$  to get a bound on the projective dimension of all modules  $M$ .

In Proposition 6.4 we define the projective resolution. Then in Theorem 6.8 we use this to get a bound on the finitistic dimension, giving us that monomial algebras satisfies the finitistic dimension conjecture.

**Definition 6.1** (Monomial algebra). A *monomial algebra* is a path algebra with admissible relations that are generated by monomials. That is, we do not allow the generators for the relations to consist of nontrivial linear combinations of paths.

From now on we will assume that the relations of our algebra are contained in  $J^2$ . If our relations includes an arrow or a vertex, we may simply replace our quiver by one where said vertex or arrow is removed. Thus we do not lose any generality by assuming this.

We will now define the set of  $m$ -chains, which will serve as a basis for our projective resolution.

**Definition 6.2** ( $m$ -chains). [GKK91] Let  $\Lambda = k\Gamma/(\rho)$  be a monomial algebra, with  $\rho$  a minimal generating set of paths. As usual we define  $\Gamma_0$  to be the vertices of  $\Gamma$ , and  $\Gamma_1$  to be the arrows. Recursively define the set of  $(m-1)$ -chains,  $\Gamma_m$ , as the paths  $\gamma$  with the following criteria:

- i)  $\gamma = \beta\delta\tau$  with  $\beta \in \Gamma_{m-2}$ ,  $\beta\delta \in \Gamma_{m-1}$ , and  $\tau$  a non-zero path of length at least 1.
- ii)  $\delta\tau$  is 0 in  $\Lambda$ , i.e. it is in the ideal of relations.
- iii)  $\gamma$  is left-minimal in the sense that if  $\gamma = \gamma'\sigma$  such that  $\gamma'$  satisfies the above conditions, then  $\gamma = \gamma'$ .

Before we can construct our projective resolution we will need a key property of  $m$ -chains.

**Lemma 6.3.** *Any  $\gamma \in \Gamma_m$  for  $m \geq 1$  can be factored uniquely as  $\gamma_1\gamma_0$  with  $\gamma_1 \in \Gamma_{m-1}$ , and  $\gamma_0$  a non-zero path of length at least 1.*

*Proof.* When  $m = 1$  this should be clear, since  $\Gamma_1$  is the set of arrows, and  $\Gamma_0$  is the set of vertices, so if  $\gamma \in \Gamma_1$  is an arrow  $i \rightarrow j$  then  $\gamma = e_j\gamma$ .

When  $m > 1$  we know from the definition of  $\Gamma_m$  that  $\gamma$  can be written as  $\gamma_1\gamma_0$ . Assume there is another decomposition  $\gamma = \gamma'_1\gamma'_0$ . Then without loss of generality we may assume that  $\gamma'_1$  is shorter than  $\gamma_1$ . Then there is a  $\sigma$  such that  $\gamma'_1\sigma = \gamma_1$ . By minimality this means that  $\gamma'_1 = \gamma_1$ , and so the decomposition is unique.  $\square$

From now on we write  $R$  for the ring  $\Lambda/J$ , which we identify with the subring of  $\Lambda$  generated by the paths of length 0. Let  $k\Gamma_m$  be the free vector space generated by  $\Gamma_m$ . Notice that  $k\Gamma_m$  has a canonical structure as an  $R$ - $R$ -bimodule. This means we can construct projective right  $\Lambda$ -modules by  $P^m := k\Gamma_m \otimes_R \Lambda$ .

**Proposition 6.4.** *Define the map  $\delta_m: P^m \rightarrow P^{m-1}$  by  $\delta_m(\gamma \otimes \alpha) = \gamma_1 \otimes \gamma_0 \alpha$  where  $\gamma_1\gamma_0$  is the unique decomposition of  $\gamma$ , and define  $\delta_0: P^0 \rightarrow \Lambda/J$  by  $\delta_0(e_i \otimes \alpha) = e_i\alpha + J$ . Then we have a minimal projective resolution of the right  $\Lambda$ -module  $\Lambda/J$  by*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \longrightarrow & P^3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_3} & P^2 & \xrightarrow{\delta_2} & P^1 & \xrightarrow{\delta_1} & P^0 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & & & & & & & \downarrow \delta_0 & & \\ & & & & & & & & \Lambda/J & & \end{array}$$

Before proving this proposition we require the following lemma.



**Lemma 6.5.** [GKK91, Lemma 2.1] Let  $M$  be a  $\Lambda$ -module, and  $x$  an element in the kernel of  $\delta_m \otimes M: k\Gamma_m \otimes_R M \rightarrow k\Gamma_{m-1} \otimes_R M$ . Write  $x$  on the form

$$x = \sum_j \sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma_j \gamma_j^k \otimes m_j^k$$

with  $\gamma_i \in \Gamma_{m-1}$  and  $\gamma_i \neq \gamma_j$  when  $i \neq j$  and  $\gamma_j^k \neq \gamma_j^l$  when  $k \neq l$ . Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma_j \gamma_j^k \otimes m_j^k$$

is also in the kernel for each  $j$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x$  be as given above. Applying  $\delta_m \otimes M$  we get that

$$\sum_j \gamma_j \otimes \sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma_j^k m_j^k = 0.$$

Since the  $\gamma_j$ s are distinct we can deduce that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma_j^k m_j^k = 0.$$

From this it follows that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma_j \gamma_j^k \otimes m_j^k$$

is also in the kernel of  $\delta_m \otimes M$ . □

Using this lemma we can now prove the proposition.

*Proof of Proposition 6.4.* For all  $i$  the module  $P^i$  is projective as a right  $\Lambda$ -module and the image of  $\delta_m$  is clearly contained in  $P^{m-1}J$ , so the only thing left to show is exactness. First we show that  $\delta_m \delta_{m-1} = 0$ . Let  $\gamma \otimes \alpha$  be in  $P^m$  for  $m \geq 2$ . Then we can decompose  $\gamma$  uniquely as  $\gamma_2 \gamma_1 \gamma_0$  and  $\delta_m \delta_{m-1}(\gamma \otimes \alpha) = \gamma_2 \otimes \gamma_1 \gamma_0 \alpha$ . By the way we defined  $\Gamma_m$ ,  $\gamma_1 \gamma_0$  is 0 in  $\Lambda$ , and so  $\gamma_2 \otimes \gamma_1 \gamma_0 \alpha = 0$ .

Next we want to show that  $\ker \delta_{m-1} \subseteq \text{Im } \delta_m$ . Let  $x$  be in the kernel of  $\delta_{m-1}$ . By Lemma 6.5 it is sufficient to assume  $x$  is of the form

$$\sum_k \gamma \gamma_k \otimes \alpha_k$$

with  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{m-2}$  and the  $\gamma_k$ s all distinct. Then  $\sum_k \gamma_k \alpha_k = 0$ . By the minimality conditions in the way we define  $m$ -chains we have that none of the  $\gamma_k$ s divide each other. Since  $\Lambda$  only has monomial relations, this gives us that  $\gamma_k \alpha_k = 0$ .

Because of this we have that  $\gamma \gamma_k \alpha_k = \zeta_k \sigma_k$  for some  $m$ -chain  $\zeta_k$  and some path  $\sigma_k$  (possibly of length 0). This gives us that  $x$  is the image of

$$\sum_k \zeta_k \otimes \sigma_k$$

by  $\delta_m$ . Hence  $\ker \delta_{m-1} \subseteq \text{Im } \delta_m$ , and the sequence is exact. So this gives a minimal projective resolution of  $\Lambda/J$  as a right  $\Lambda$ -module.  $\square$

The next thing we will do is find a repeating pattern in this resolution to aid us in bounding projective dimensions. To do this we introduce the concept of a special segment.

**Definition 6.6** (Special segments). We call a path  $\tau$  in  $\Gamma$  a *special segment* for  $\Lambda = k\Gamma/(\rho)$  if there is a path  $\gamma$  such that  $\gamma\tau$  is a minimal relation.

Note that when we decompose an  $m$ -chain  $\gamma$  in Lemma 6.3 into  $\gamma_1\gamma_0$  then  $\gamma_0$  is a special segment, and that the set of special segments is finite.

**Lemma 6.7.** [GKK91, Theorem 2.2] *Let  $d$  be the number of special segments for  $\Lambda$ . If  $s \geq d + 3$  and  $\gamma$  is in  $\Gamma_s$ , then for any integer  $N$  there is an  $n \geq N$  and a  $\hat{\gamma} \in \Gamma_n$  such that for any path  $\tau$  and any integer  $r \geq 1$  we have  $\gamma\tau \in \Gamma_{s+r}$  if and only if  $\hat{\gamma}\tau \in \Gamma_{n+r}$ .*

*Proof.* Applying Lemma 6.3 recursively we get that  $\gamma$  can be written as  $\gamma = \tau_0\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{s-1}$  where  $\tau_0\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{i-1} \in \Gamma_i$ . In particular each  $\tau_i$  is a special segment.

Since  $s \geq d + 3$  we must have that there exists  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $1 \leq i < j \leq s - 1$  such that  $\tau_i = \tau_j$ . Let  $\beta = \tau_{i+1}\tau_{i+2} \cdots \tau_j$ . Then

$$\gamma_k := \tau_0\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{j-1}\tau_j\beta^k\tau_{j+1} \cdots \tau_{s-1} \in \Gamma_{s+k(j-i)}$$

where  $\beta^k$  means  $\beta$  repeated  $k$  times. If we now choose  $k$  large enough such that  $s + k(j - i) \geq N$  we can choose  $n = s + k(j - i)$  and  $\hat{\gamma} = \gamma_k$ . Then we see that for any path  $\tau$ , the composition  $\gamma\tau$  is in  $\Gamma_{s+r}$  if and only if  $\hat{\gamma}\tau$  is in  $\Gamma_{n+r}$ .  $\square$

This gives us a pattern in the projective resolution that we now use to bound the finitistic dimension of our algebra.

**Theorem 6.8.** *[GKK91, Corollary 2.4] Let  $\Lambda = k\Gamma/(\rho)$  be a monomial relation algebra. Then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \leq d + 3$  where  $d$  is the number of special segments for  $\Lambda$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a module of finite projective dimension and let  $N$  be  $\text{pd } M$ . The projective dimension of  $M$  can be characterized as the largest integer  $c$  such that  $\text{Tor}_c(\Lambda/J, M) \neq 0$ . We show that this is at most  $d+3$ . Let  $s \geq d+3$  be an integer. Then we want to show that  $\text{Tor}_{s+1}(\Lambda/J, M) = 0$ . We compute this by taking the projective resolution of  $\Lambda/J$  found in Proposition 6.4 and tensoring with  $M$ .

$$\cdots \longrightarrow k\Gamma_{s+2} \otimes M \xrightarrow{\delta_{s+2} \otimes M} k\Gamma_{s+1} \otimes M \xrightarrow{\delta_{s+1} \otimes M} k\Gamma_s \otimes M \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Let  $x$  be in the kernel of  $\delta_{s+1} \otimes M$ . Then by Lemma 6.5 we may assume  $x$  is on the form

$$x = \sum_j \gamma \gamma_j \otimes m_j$$

with  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma_s$  and all the  $\gamma_j$ s distinct. Then Lemma 6.7 gives us that there is an  $n \geq N$  and a  $\hat{\gamma} \in \Gamma_n$  such that  $\gamma\tau$  is in  $\Gamma_{s+r}$  if and only if  $\hat{\gamma}\tau$  is in  $\Gamma_{n+r}$ .

Then  $\hat{x} := \sum \hat{\gamma} \gamma_j \otimes m_j$  is in the kernel of  $\delta_{n+1} \otimes M$ . Since  $n+1 > N = \text{pd } M$  the complex is exact at  $n+1$ . This means that there are elements  $\gamma_j^k$  and  $m_j^k$  such that

$$\hat{x} = \delta_{n+2} \left( \sum_j \sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \hat{\gamma} \gamma_j \gamma_j^k \otimes m_j^k \right) = \sum_j \sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \hat{\gamma} \gamma_j \otimes \gamma_j^k m_j^k$$

Since  $\hat{\gamma} \gamma_j \gamma_j^k$  is in  $\Gamma_{n+2}$  if and only if  $\gamma \gamma_j \gamma_j^k$  is in  $\Gamma_{s+2}$  we have that

$$x = \delta_{s+2} \left( \sum_j \sum_{k=0}^{n_j} \gamma \gamma_j \gamma_j^k \otimes m_j^k \right)$$

and thus  $\text{Tor}_{s+1}(\Lambda/J, M) = 0$  so  $\text{pd } M \leq d + 3$ . Since  $M$  was arbitrary this means that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \leq d + 3$ .  $\square$

## 7 Unbounded derived category

So far we have been focused on the finite dimensional version of the finitistic dimension, known as the little finitistic dimension. Namely

$$\text{findim}(\Lambda) = \sup\{\text{pd } M \mid M \in \text{mod } \Lambda, \text{pd } M < \infty\}.$$

In this section we will consider infinite dimensional modules, and thus it is natural for us to look at the infinite dimensional version of the finitistic dimension, known as the big finitistic dimension. It is defined, as you would expect, by considering not just finite dimensional modules, but all  $\Lambda$ -modules:

$$\text{Findim}(\Lambda) = \sup\{\text{pd } M \mid M \in \text{Mod } \Lambda, \text{pd } M < \infty\}.$$

Note that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \leq \text{Findim}(\Lambda)$  and so if we can show that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  we have also shown that  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .

In Theorem 1.8 we showed that if  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ , then  $D\Lambda$  becomes a generator in  $\mathcal{D}^b(\Lambda)$ . In this section we show that if we instead consider the unbounded derived category of all  $\Lambda$ -modules, then we get an analogous converse result.

**Definition 7.1** (Localizing subcategory). A full subcategory of a triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  is called *localizing* if

- i) It is triangulated. I.e. it is closed under shifts and cones.
- ii) It is closed under arbitrary coproducts.

For a class of objects  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{T}$  we call the smallest localizing subcategory that contains  $\mathcal{S}$  the localizing category generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ , and we write  $\langle \mathcal{S} \rangle$ .

It's a well known fact that  $\Lambda$  generates the derived category as a localizing subcategory. We also have a dual notion, a colocalizing subcategory. Similarly it is true that  $D\Lambda$  generates the derived category as a colocalizing subcategory. In the below theorem we do something a bit unexpected, we ask whether the derived category also is generated by  $D\Lambda$  as a localizing subcategory.

**Theorem 7.2.** [Ric19, Theorem 4.3] *If the localizing subcategory generated by  $D\Lambda$  is the entire unbounded derived category, then  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) = \infty$ . Then there are modules  $M_i$  with projective dimension  $i$  for every  $i \geq 0$ . Let  $P_i$  be the minimal projective resolution of  $M_i$ , and consider  $\bigoplus P_i[-i]$  and  $\prod P_i[-i]$ . Both of these have homology  $M_i$  in degree  $i$ , and are concentrated in non-negative degrees.

The inclusion from the sum to the product is clearly a quasi-isomorphism. We want to show that it is not a homotopy equivalence. Assume for the

sake of contradiction that it was. Then tensoring with  $\Lambda/J$  would give us another homotopy equivalence. Since  $\Lambda/J$  is finitely presented tensoring preserves both products and coproducts. Because all the resolutions were minimal, tensoring with  $\Lambda/J$  gives us a complex with differentials equal to 0. In degree 0 we get

$$\bigoplus \operatorname{Tor}_i(\Lambda/J, M_i) \rightarrow \prod \operatorname{Tor}_i(\Lambda/J, M_i).$$

Since  $\operatorname{Tor}_i(\Lambda/J, M_i)$  is nonzero for every  $M_i$  this map is not an isomorphism, and so we don't have a homotopy equivalence.

Let  $C$  be the cone of  $\bigoplus P_i[-i] \rightarrow \prod P_i[-i]$ . Then  $C$  is 0 in the derived category, but non-zero in the homotopy category. Since  $\Lambda$  is artinian the product of projectives is projective [Cha60, Theorem 3.3], so  $\prod P_i[-i]$  is a complex of projectives, which means that  $C$  is a complex of projectives.

In other words  $C$  is an acyclic lower bounded complex of projectives that is not contractible. Tensoring with  $D\Lambda$  is an equivalence from projectives to injectives with inverse  $\operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, -)$  (c.f. Theorem A.5 in the appendix), so  $D\Lambda \otimes C$  is a lower bounded complex of injectives that is not contractible. Such a complex cannot be acyclic so  $D\Lambda \otimes C$  has homology, and is thus non-zero in  $\mathcal{D}(\Lambda)$ .

The homology of  $C$  is 0, so  $K(\Lambda)(\Lambda, C[i]) = 0$ . Applying the equivalence  $D\Lambda \otimes -$  we get

$$0 = K(\Lambda)(D\Lambda, D\Lambda \otimes C[i]) = \mathcal{D}(\Lambda)(D\Lambda, D\Lambda \otimes C[i]).$$

The full subcategory of objects  $X$  with  $\mathcal{D}(\Lambda)(X, D\Lambda \otimes C[i]) = 0$  is localizing and contains  $D\Lambda$ , so it contains  $\langle D\Lambda \rangle$ .

This means that  $D\Lambda \otimes C$  is not in  $\langle D\Lambda \rangle$ , and so that can not be the entire derived category.  $\square$

**Theorem 7.3.** [Ric19, Theorem 4.4] *For a finite dimensional algebra  $\Lambda$  we have  $\operatorname{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  if and only if  $D\Lambda^\perp \cap \mathcal{D}^+(\Lambda) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* In the theorem above we proved that when the finitistic dimension is infinite then there is a non-zero complex in  $\mathcal{D}^+(\Lambda)$  perpendicular to  $D\Lambda$ .

The proof of the converse is the same as for Theorem 1.8. If we have a non-zero object  $X \in D\Lambda^\perp \cap \mathcal{D}^+(\Lambda)$ , then by replacing  $X$  by its minimal injective resolution we see that  $\mathcal{D}(\Lambda)(D\Lambda, X)$  is an acyclic minimal complex of projectives that continue arbitrarily to the right. So the cokernels have arbitrarily large projective dimension.  $\square$

## 8 Summary

### 8.1 Classes of algebras


We conclude the thesis by summarizing for which families of algebras the finitistic dimension conjecture has been shown to hold.

**Theorem 8.1.** *The following classes of algebras satisfies the finitistic dimension conjecture:*

- a) *Representation-finite algebras*
- b) *Monomial algebras*
- c) *Gorenstein algebras*
- d) *Algebras with finite global dimension*
- e) *Self-injective algebras*
- f) *Algebras where the radical squares to 0*
- g) *Local artin algebras*
- h) *Stably hereditary algebras*
- i) *Special biserial algebras*
- j) *“Half representation-finite” algebras, i.e. algebras such that  $\Lambda/J^l$  is representation-finite and  $J^{2l+1} = 0$ .*

*Proof.* a) The supremum over a finite set is finite so  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  for a representation finite algebra.

b) This is the content of Section 6.

c) Is there a direct argument predating Rickards 

d) If an algebra  $\Lambda$  has finite global dimension, then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) = \text{gl. dim}(\Lambda)$ , which is finite.

e) If  $\Lambda$  is self-injective, then all projective modules are injective. Thus any monomorphism from a projective module is split. It follows that the only modules with finite projective dimension are the projectives themselves, and so  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) = 0$ .

f) This was shown in Theorem 5.1.

- g) Local artin algebras have finitistic dimension 0. A proof of this is included in the appendix, Theorem A.4.
- h) Stably hereditary algebras are considered in Section 4.2.
- i) Special biserial algebras are considered in Section 4.3.
- j) Half representation-finite algebras are considered Section 5.

□

In this thesis our main focus has been on the small finitistic dimension. We now summarize for which algebras it is known that the big finitistic dimension is finite.

**Theorem 8.2.** *For the following classes of algebras we have that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ , for every algebra  $\Lambda$  in the class.*

- a) *Representation-finite algebras*
- b) *Monomial algebras*
- c) *Gorenstein algebras*
- d) *Algebras with finite global dimension*
- e) *Self-injective algebras*
- f) *Algebras where the radical squares to 0*
- g) *Any algebra derived equivalent to any of the above*
- h) *Local artin algebras*

*Proof.* (a) It was shown by Auslander and Ringel–Tachikawa that if an artin ring is representation finite, then any module is the direct sum of finitely generated modules [Aus74, RT74]. This implies that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) = \text{findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  for a representation finite algebra.

- (b) Although Section 6 is formulated in terms of finitely generated modules, all the same arguments hold if we consider infinitely generated modules.
- (c) Rickard showed that injectives generates the derived category for a Gorenstein algebra [Ric19], so by Theorem 7.2 we have that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .
- (d) Algebras with finite global dimension are Gorenstein, so this is a special case of (c).

- (e) Similarly self-injective algebras are also Gorenstein, so this is also a special case of (c).
- (f) Theorem 5.1 does not depend on the module being finitely generated, so the same proof works equally well to prove that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  when  $J^2 = 0$ .
- (g) Rickard showed that injectives generates the derived category for all the classes of algebras above [Ric19, Corrolary 7.(4-6)]. Combining this with the fact that whether injectives generate is preserved under derived equivalence [Ric19, Theorem3.4], we get that any algebra derived equivalent to any of the above mentioned satisfies  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$ .
- (h) Like before, Theorem A.4 gives us that  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) = 0$  for a local artin algebra.

□

As far as the author is aware it is not known whether stably hereditary algebras, special biserial algebras or half representation-finite algebras are known to satisfy  $\text{Findim}(\Lambda) < \infty$  in general.

## 8.2 The opposite algebra

Many of the cases are equivalent to their dual statements. Some are not.

- Given a recollement of the bounded derived category you get one for  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ .
- Just because the subcategory of modules with finite projective dimension is contravariantly finite does not mean the subcategory of modules with finite injective dimension has to be covariantly finite. See Example 3.6.
- $\text{repdim}$  of  $\Lambda$  equals the  $\text{repdim}$  of  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ .

*Proof.* If  $M$  is an auslander generator for  $\Lambda$  then  $DM$  is an auslander generator for  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ . □

- If  $J^{2l+1} = 0$  and  $\Lambda/J^l$  is repfinite then the same is true for  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ .
- If  $\Lambda$  is monomial then so is  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ .

Look at examples of recollement to see how it translates.



- Injective generates implies the weaker property that projective cogenerate for the opposite algebra. This is also sufficient to prove the algebra satisfies FDC. [Ric19, Section 5]

Similarly for the weaker conjectures

- GSC says the injective dimension of  $\Lambda$  is finite if and only if the injective dimension of  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  is finite. This statement is symmetric with respect to  $\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$ . So the dual is equivalent.
- NC: Certainly  $\Lambda$  is self injective if and only  $\Lambda^{\text{op}}$  is.
- For all the others it seems just as difficult as solving the conjecture to connect it to it's dual.

Can the dominant dimension of the opposite algebra be different? Arbitrary different?

## Appendices

### A Appendix: Homological algebra

In this section we collect relevant theorems from homological algebra that would be distracting within the text itself.

**Lemma A.1.** [CE99, Chapter I, theorem 3.2] *Let  $R$  be a noetherian ring. Then an  $R$ -module  $Q$  is injective if and only if it has the injective lifting property for inclusions of ideals into  $R$ .*

*Proof.* If  $Q$  is injective then  $Q$  has the lifting property for all monomorphisms, so one direction is clear. Assume we have a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Q & \\ f \uparrow & \nearrow & \\ M & \hookrightarrow & N \end{array}$$

We want to show that the dashed arrow exists. Let  $S$  be the partially ordered set  $\{(M', f') : M \leq M', f'|_M = f\}$ . By Zorn's lemma this has a maximal element  $(M', f')$ . Assume  $M' \neq N$ , then there is an element  $x \in N - M'$ . The set of  $r$  such that  $rx \in M'$  forms an ideal  $I$ . Define the map  $g : I \rightarrow Q$  by  $I(r) = f'(rx)$ . By hypothesis  $g$  lifts to a map  $\tilde{g} : R \rightarrow Q$ . Let  $q$  be

$\tilde{g}(1)$ . Then  $\tilde{f} : M' + Rx \rightarrow Q$  defined by  $\tilde{f}(m + rx) = f'(m) + rq$  gives us a bigger element of  $S$ , contradicting maximality. Thus  $M' = N$  and  $Q$  is injective.  $\square$

**Theorem A.2.** *Let  $R$  be a noetherian ring. Then an arbitrary coproduct of injectives is injective.*

*Proof.* By the lemma above it is enough to show the lifting property on ideals of  $R$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal and  $f : I \rightarrow \bigoplus_i Q_i$  be a map to a coproduct of injectives. Since  $R$  is noetherian  $I$  is finitely generated so  $f$  factors through a finite sum  $I \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=0}^n Q_i \rightarrow \bigoplus Q_i$ . Since finite coproducts of injectives are injective we are done.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \bigoplus Q_i & \\
 & \uparrow & \\
 & \bigoplus_{i=0}^n Q_i & \\
 & \uparrow & \nwarrow \\
 I & \hookrightarrow & R
 \end{array}$$

$\square$

**Theorem A.3.** *[CE99, Chapter I, Exercise 8] Let  $R$  be a noetherian ring. Then direct limits of injectives is injective.*

*Proof.* By the lemma above it is enough to show the lifting property on ideals of  $R$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal and let  $Q = \varinjlim Q_i$  be a direct limit of injectives.

Since  $R$  is noetherian  $I$  is finitely presented, say  $R^n \rightarrow R^m \rightarrow I \rightarrow 0$ . Applying  $\text{Hom}(-, Q)$  we get an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(I, Q) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(R^m, Q) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(R^n, Q)$$

Since direct limits are exact we also have an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \varinjlim \text{Hom}(I, Q_i) \longrightarrow \varinjlim \text{Hom}(R^m, Q_i) \longrightarrow \varinjlim \text{Hom}(R^n, Q_i)$$

We also have a natural map  $\varinjlim \text{Hom}(-, Q_i) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(-, Q)$ .  $\text{Hom}(R^n, Q_i)$  just equals  $Q_i^n$ , so this map is an isomorphism at  $R^n$ . Then by the five lemma

applied to the two sequences above we get that  $\text{Hom}(I, Q) \cong \varinjlim \text{Hom}(I, Q_i)$  for all ideals  $I$ . So since

$$\varinjlim \text{Hom}(R, Q_i) \longrightarrow \varinjlim \text{Hom}(I, Q_i) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact, we get that

$$\text{Hom}(R, Q) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(I, Q) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. Hence  $Q$  is injective.  $\square$

**Theorem A.4.** *If  $R$  is a local artinian ring, then all modules with finite projective dimensions are projective. In other words we have that  $\text{Findim}(R) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Assume there is a non-projective module with finite projective dimension. Then in particular we have one with projective dimension equal to 1. Since all projective modules are free this means we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow R^{(I')} \longrightarrow R^{(I)} \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

where  $R^{(I')}$  maps into  $JR^{(I)}$ . Let  $k$  be the minimal integer such that  $J^k = 0$ . Let  $a$  be a generator in  $R^{(I')}$  and let  $r$  be a non-zero element of  $J^{k-1}$ . Then  $ra$  is non-zero, but is mapped to something in  $J^{k-1}JR^m = 0$ , thus the map is not injective which gives a contradiction.  $\square$

**Theorem A.5.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an artin algebra. Then we have an equivalence of categories*

$$\text{Proj } \Lambda \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{D\Lambda \otimes -} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, -)} \end{array} \text{Inj } \Lambda$$

where the tensor product is over  $\Lambda$ , and  $\text{Hom}(D\Lambda, X)$  is considered as a  $\Lambda$ -module by considering  $D\Lambda$  as a bimodule.

*Proof.* First we note the following isomorphisms of  $\Lambda$ -modules when evaluating the functors at  $\Lambda$  and  $D\Lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, D\Lambda \otimes \Lambda) &\cong \operatorname{End}(D\Lambda) \\ &\cong \operatorname{End}(\Lambda_\Lambda) \\ &\cong \Lambda \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} D\Lambda \otimes \operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, D\Lambda) &\cong D\Lambda \otimes \Lambda \\ &\cong D\Lambda. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $D\Lambda$  is finitely presented  $D\Lambda \otimes -$  and  $\operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, -)$  preserve both products and coproducts. Then since  $\operatorname{Proj} \Lambda = \operatorname{Add} \Lambda$  and  $\operatorname{Inj} \Lambda = \operatorname{Prod} D\Lambda$  it follows from the equations above that  $\operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, D\Lambda \otimes -)$  and  $D\Lambda \otimes \operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, -)$  are isomorphic to the identity on  $\operatorname{Proj} \Lambda$  and  $\operatorname{Inj} \Lambda$  respectively.

Lastly we verify that the maps are well defined. Since  $\Lambda$  is an artin algebra each injective module is the injective envelope of its socle. Since the socle is semisimple it is the direct sum of simple modules. Thus each injective is the sum of indecomposable injective modules, and hence we have that  $\operatorname{Add} D\Lambda = \operatorname{Inj} \Lambda$ . It is true for any ring that  $\operatorname{Add} \Lambda = \operatorname{Proj} \Lambda$ , and so we have the following:

$$D\Lambda \otimes (\operatorname{Proj} \Lambda) = D\Lambda \otimes (\operatorname{Add} \Lambda) = \operatorname{Add} D\Lambda = \operatorname{Inj} \Lambda,$$

and

$$\operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, \operatorname{Inj} \Lambda) = \operatorname{Hom}(D\Lambda, \operatorname{Add} D\Lambda) = \operatorname{Add} \Lambda = \operatorname{Proj} \Lambda.$$

So the maps induce an equivalence of categories.  $\square$

**Theorem A.6** (Fitting's Lemma). *Let  $R$  be a ring,  $M$  an  $R$ -module, and  $L: M \rightarrow M$  an endomorphism. If  $X$  is a noetherian submodule of  $M$ , then there exists a positive integer  $\eta_X$  such that  $L|_{L^n(X)}: L^n(X) \rightarrow M$  is injective for all  $n \geq \eta_X$ .*

*Proof.* We have an increasing sequence of submodules of  $X$  given by:

$$\ker L \cap X \subseteq \ker L^2 \cap X \subseteq \ker L^3 \cap X \subseteq \dots$$

Since  $X$  is noetherian this sequence stabilizes, i.e. there is an integer  $\eta_X$  such that  $\ker L^n \cap X = \ker L^{n+1} \cap X$  for all  $n \geq \eta_X$ . We know that  $L^n(X) \cong$

$X/\ker L^n \cap X$ , and that through this isomorphism the map  $L: L^n(X) \rightarrow M$  is induced by  $L^{n+1}: X/\ker L^n \cap X \rightarrow L^{n+1}(X) \subseteq M$ . Since for  $n \geq \eta_X$  we have that  $\ker L^n \cap X = \ker L^{n+1} \cap X$  this map is injective, and so the theorem holds.  $\square$

Interesting examples of Fitting's Lemma comes from  $R$  being a noetherian ring and  $X$  being a finitely generated modules. In particular the case when  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  appears in Section 4. An important special case of Fitting's Lemma that comes up when working with artinian rings is when  $X = M$  and  $X$  has finite length. Remember that over an artin ring all finitely generated modules have finite length.

**Corollary A.6.1.** *Let  $X$  be a module of finite length, and let  $L: X \rightarrow X$  be an endomorphism. Then  $L$  splits as a direct sum  $L_1 \oplus L_2: X_1 \oplus X_2 \rightarrow X_1 \oplus X_2$  such that  $L_1$  is nilpotent and  $L_2$  is an isomorphism.*

*Proof.* Since  $X$  has finite length it is noetherian, thus we can apply Fitting's Lemma. Let  $n$  be the positive integer we get from Fitting's Lemma, and let  $K$  be  $\ker L^n$ . We wish to show that  $X$  is the direct sum of  $K$  and  $L^n(X)$ . Note that since  $L$  is injective when restricted to  $L^n(X)$  we have that  $K \cap L^n(X) = 0$ , so all we have to show is that  $X = K + L^n(X)$ .

We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow L^n(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

From this we conclude that the length of  $L^n(X)$  is equal to the length of  $X$  minus the length of  $K$ . Since  $\ker L^n = \ker L^{2n}$  we also have that the length of  $L^n(X)$  and  $L^{2n}(X)$  are equal. Since  $L^{2n}(X)$  is a submodule of  $L^n(X)$  this means that  $L^n(X) = L^{2n}(X)$ . Thus  $L$  restricts to an automorphism on  $L^n(X)$ . Let  $\psi$  be its inverse. Then for any  $x \in X$  we have  $x = \psi L^n(x) + x - \psi L^n(x)$ . Clearly  $\psi L^n(x)$  is in  $L^n(X)$ . Applying  $L^n$  to  $x - \psi L^n(x)$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} L^n(x - \psi L^n(x)) &= L^n(x) - L^n \psi L^n(x) \\ &= L^n(x) - L^n(x) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $x - \psi L^n(x)$  is in the kernel and so  $X = K \oplus L^n(X)$ . Then we see that  $L$  breaks down as a direct sum  $L = L_1 \oplus L_2$  with  $L_1: K \rightarrow K$  nilpotent and  $L_2: L^n(X) \rightarrow L^n(X)$  an isomorphism.  $\square$

## 9 Personal appendix

**Theorem 9.1.** *The global dimension of an artin algebra is the supremum of  $k$  with  $\text{Ext}^k(T, T) \neq 0$  ( $T$  sum of simples). This is also the supremum of projective dimension and supremum of injective dimension.*

*Proof.* For a minimal projective resolution  $\text{Hom}(-, T)$  makes the differentials 0, and similarly with  $\text{Hom}(T, -)$  and injective resolutions. So  $\text{Ext}^k(M, T)$  is only 0 exactly when  $k > \text{pd } M$ , similarly  $\text{Ext}^k(T, M)$  is only 0 when  $k$  is bigger than the injective dimension. Since any module is built by extensions of simples you can prove by induction, and the long exact sequence in  $\text{Ext}(-, T)$  you get that any module has projective dimension less than or equal to that of  $T$ . Similarly for injective dimension.  $\square$

$\text{findim}(\Lambda)$  need not equal  $\text{findim}(\Lambda^{\text{op}}) = \sup\{\text{injective dimension of } M \mid M \text{ has finite injective dimension}\}$ .

**Example 9.2.** [hf] Let  $\Lambda = k \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} a & \textcircled{b} \\ \textcircled{c} & 2 \end{smallmatrix} \right] / (a^2, ac, ba, cbc)$ . Then  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \geq 1$ , but  $\text{findim}(\Lambda^{\text{op}}) = 0$ .

*Proof.* The module  $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix} = P_1/P_2$  ( $k^2$  where  $a$  acts by  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $b$  and  $c$  act trivially) has projective dimension 1, so  $\text{findim}(\Lambda) \geq 1$ . The projective/injective modules of  $\Lambda$  are:

$$P_1 = \begin{smallmatrix} & 1 \\ 1 & \\ & 2 \end{smallmatrix}, \quad P_2 = \begin{smallmatrix} & 2 \\ 1 & \\ & 2 \end{smallmatrix}, \quad I_1 = \begin{smallmatrix} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ 1 & \end{smallmatrix}, \quad I_2 = \begin{smallmatrix} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ 1 & \\ & 2 \end{smallmatrix}$$

If  $\text{findim}(\Lambda^{\text{op}}) > 0$  there would be a module with finite non-zero injective resolution. In particular it would end with a non-split epimorphism between injectives. I claim this would mean there is a non-split epimorphism  $I \rightarrow I_i$  from an injective to an indecomposable injective. Obviously we get epimorphisms by composing with the projections onto summands, so we want to show that they are not split. Assume that they are, that is the map looks like

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 I_i \oplus I & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ f & g \end{bmatrix}} & I_i \oplus I' \\
 & \searrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} & \downarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
 & & I_i
 \end{array}$$

We see that by changing basis in the domain we get the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & g \end{bmatrix}$ . Thus  $I_i$  is mapped isomorphically to itself, which doesn't happen in a minimal resolution.

The only thing left to show is that there are no non-split epimorphisms from injective modules to  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ .  $\square$

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