# LADDER FUNCTORS WITH AN <br> APPLICATION TO REPRESENTATION-FINITE ARTINIAN RINGS 

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## Introduction

Ladders were introduced by Igusa and Todorov for the investigation of representation-finite artinian algebras and algebras over an algebraically closed field [7]. They prove a radical layers theorem [7] which exhibits the graded structure of Auslander-Reiten sequences. In a second article [8] they obtain a characterization of the Auslander-Reiten quivers of representation-finite artinian algebras. Their construction of ladders starts with an irreducible morphism $f_{0}: A_{0} \rightarrow B_{0}$ in a module category $\mathcal{A}$. So $f_{0}$ factors through a right almost split map $u: \vartheta B_{0} \rightarrow B_{0}$. Assume that $f_{0}=u g$ with a split monomorphism $g$. Then $g$ can be written as $g=\binom{1}{0}$ with respect to a decomposition $\vartheta B_{0}=A_{0} \oplus B_{1}$. This gives a pullback

which completes the first step of a ladder. Under favorite circumstances, the ladder can be extended. In the given situation, Igusa and Todorov [7] solved

[^0]the extension problem by a careful examination of the bimodules of irreducible maps between objects.

Recently, Iyama [9] improved the construction as follows. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a category with left and right almost split sequences (see §1). He calls a morphism $f_{0}$ in $\mathcal{A}$ special if for each morphism $r: A_{0} \rightarrow B_{0}$ in $\operatorname{Rad}^{2} \mathcal{A}, f_{0}+r$ is isomorphic to $f_{0}$ as a two-termed complex. Then it follows in a quite elementary way that each step $f_{n}$ of the ladder, after splitting off trivial complexes $X \rightarrow 0$, admits a continuation $f_{n+1}$ which is again special. Such ladders have been farreaching enough to get a solution of Igusa and Todorov's problem in dimension one. Namely, they yield a characterization of the Auslander-Reiten quivers of representation-finite orders over a complete discrete valuation domain [10].

In [19] we modify the theory of ladders in such a way that a functorial approach becomes possible. Apart from being functorial, this method has a two-fold advantage. Firstly, it applies to arbitrary morphisms $f_{0} \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$, and secondly, it provides a kind of ladders with the property that the commutative squares between two steps are pullbacks and pushouts. Therefore, our ladders establish a bridge between almost split sequences and arbitrary short exact sequences.

In the present article, the method will be applied to the artinian situation. This gives a quick proof of Igusa and Todorov's characterization of the Auslander-Reiten quivers belonging to representation-finite artinian algebras. More generally, every cotilting module ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ over a left artinian ring $\Lambda$ defines a full subcategory lat $(U)$ of $\Lambda$-mod, consisting of the $\Lambda$-modules $M \in \Lambda$ - $\bmod$ finitely cogenerated by $U$. For example, the category of representations of a poset in the sense of Nazarova, Roĭter [11], and Gabriel [6], and (generalized) vector space categories [20], are of that type. For a ring $R$, let $R$-proj denote the category of finitely generated projective left $R$-modules. We prove that the categories lat $(U)$ with finitely many indecomposable objects can be characterized by two properties: They are equivalent to $R$-proj for an artinian ring $R$; and they have left and right almost split sequences for all of their objects.

## $1 \quad \tau$-Rings and strict $\tau$-categories

An additive category $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be a Krull-Schmidt category, if every object is a finite direct sum of objects with local endomorphism rings. Then the ideal $\operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$ generated by the non-invertible morphisms between indecomposable
objects in $\mathcal{A}$ is called the radical of $\mathcal{A}$. A morphism $f: A \rightarrow B$ in $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be right (left) almost split [4] if $f \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$, and every morphism $C \rightarrow B$ in (resp. $A \rightarrow C$ ) in $\operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$ factors through $f$. The class of indecomposable objects will be denoted by $\operatorname{Ind} \mathcal{A}$, and ind $\mathcal{A}$ will be a fixed representative system of the isomorphism classes in $\operatorname{Ind} \mathcal{A}$. If ind $\mathcal{A}$ is finite for a KrullSchmidt category $\mathcal{A}$, then $R:=\operatorname{End}(\bigoplus \operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A})^{\text {op }}$ is a semiperfect ring with $\mathcal{A} \approx R$-proj, the category of finitely generated projective left $R$-modules. Note that the functor $P \mapsto P^{*}:=\operatorname{Hom}_{R}(P, R)$ provides a natural duality

$$
\begin{equation*}
(R \text {-proj })^{\mathrm{op}} \approx R^{\mathrm{op}} \text {-proj } . \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

We define a $\tau$-ring as a semiperfect ring $R$ such that, as a left or right $R$-module, $\operatorname{Rad} R$ satisfies the following conditions:

$$
\left.\begin{array}{l}
\operatorname{Rad} R \text { is finitely presented }  \tag{2}\\
\operatorname{pd}(\operatorname{Rad} R) \leqslant 1 \\
\operatorname{Ext}_{R}(\operatorname{Rad} R, R) \text { is semisimple. }
\end{array}\right\}
$$

This means that every simple $R$-module $S$ has a minimal projective resolution

$$
\begin{equation*}
0 \rightarrow P_{2} \xrightarrow{v} P_{1} \xrightarrow{u} P_{0} \rightarrow S \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

in $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj (resp. $\left.\mathcal{A}:=R^{\text {op }}{ }^{\mathbf{-}} \mathbf{p r o j}\right)$ such that $u, v \in \mathcal{A}$ have the following properties:

$$
\left.\begin{array}{l}
v=\operatorname{ker} u  \tag{4}\\
u \text { is right almost split } \\
v \text { is left almost split. }
\end{array}\right\}
$$

A complex $P_{2} \xrightarrow{v} P_{1} \xrightarrow{u} P_{0}$ in a Krull-Schmidt category $\mathcal{A}$ that satisfies (4) is said to be a right almost split sequence for $P_{0}$. In a dual way, left almost split sequences are defined. So the definition of a $\tau$-ring just states that $R$-proj has left and right almost split sequences for each of its objects. Krull-Schmidt categories with this property are known as strict $\tau$-categories [9]. Since a right almost split sequence for an object $A$ is unique up to isomorphism, it will be denoted by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tau A \xrightarrow{v_{A}} \vartheta A \xrightarrow{u_{A}} A . \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Similarly, a left almost split sequence for $A$ is denoted by

$$
\begin{equation*}
A \xrightarrow{u^{A}} \vartheta^{-} A \xrightarrow{v^{A}} \tau^{-} A . \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

More generally, for a morphism $f: A \rightarrow B$ in a Krull-Schmidt category $\mathcal{A}$, we call $k: K \rightarrow A$ a weak kernel if $f k=0$ and every morphism $k^{\prime}: K^{\prime} \rightarrow A$
with $f k^{\prime}=0$ factors through $k$. If, in addition, each $g: C \rightarrow K$ with $k g=0$ lies in $\operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$, then $k$ is unique up to isomorphism (see [16], Proposition 7), and we write wker $f:=k$. If a sequence (5) satisfies (4) except that ker $u$ is replaced by wker $u$, we speak of a right $\tau$-sequence for $A$. In a dual way, weak cokernels, wcok $f$, and left $\tau$-sequences (6) are defined. A Krull-Schmidt category with left and right $\tau$-sequences for each of its objects is said to be a $\tau$-category [9].

Proposition 1 ([9], 2.3). Let $R$ be a $\tau$-ring, and let $S$ be a simple $R$-module with $\operatorname{pd} S=2$. Then $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{i}(S, R)=0$ for $i<2$, and $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{2}(S, R)$ is simple.

Proof. For a minimal projective resolution (3) of $S$, consider the projective resolution

$$
0 \rightarrow P^{*} \xrightarrow{i^{*}} P_{1}^{*} \xrightarrow{v^{*}} P_{2}^{*} \rightarrow \operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{2}(S, R)
$$

of the semisimple $R$-module $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{2}(S, R)$. Then $u^{*}=i^{*} p^{*}$ for some $p$ : $P \rightarrow P_{0}$, and $u=p i$. This gives a commutative diagram

with $C:=\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{2}\left(\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{2}(S, R), R\right)$, where the horizontal sequences are projective resolutions. Our assumption $v \neq 0$ implies that $c p \neq 0$. Hence $e$ is epic, and so $S$ is a direct summand of the semisimple $R$-module $C$. Since $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}(C, R)=0$, we infer that $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}(S, R)=0$. Moreover, $c p \neq 0$ implies that $p$ is a split epimorphism. Hence $u^{*}$ is monic, and $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}(S, R)=0$ shows that $u^{*}=\operatorname{ker} v^{*}$. Thus $e$ is an isomorphism. Since the complex (3) is indecomposable, this completes the proof.

Proposition 1 shows that any right almost split sequence $P_{2} \rightarrow P_{1} \rightarrow P_{0}$ with $P_{0}$ indecomposable and $P_{2} \neq 0$ is left almost split with $P_{2}$ indecomposable.

## 2 Ladder functors

An additive category $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be preabelian if every morphism in $\mathcal{A}$ has a kernel and a cokernel. Kernels (cokernels) in $\mathcal{A}$ will be depicted by $\mapsto$
(resp. $\rightarrow$ ). Monic and epic morphisms will be called regular. A sequence of morphisms

$$
A \stackrel{a}{\mapsto} B \stackrel{b}{\rightarrow} C
$$

in $\mathcal{A}$ with $a=\operatorname{ker} b$ and $b=\operatorname{cok} a$ is said to be short exact. Since every commutative square

in $\mathcal{A}$ corresponds to a complex

$$
\begin{equation*}
A \xrightarrow{\binom{a}{-b}} B \oplus C \xrightarrow{(c d)} D \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

we call (7) a left (right) almost split square resp. a left (right) $\tau$-square if the corresponding property holds for (8). We call (7) exact if (8) is a short exact sequence. An object $Q \in \mathcal{A}$ is said to be projective (injective) if the functor $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(Q,-)\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(-, Q)\right)$ preserves short exact sequences. The full subcategories of projective (injective) objects will be denoted by $\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A})$ (resp. $\operatorname{Inj}(\mathcal{A}))$. We say that $\mathcal{A}$ has strictly enough projectives (injectives) [14] if for each object $A \in \mathcal{A}$ there is a cokernel $P \rightarrow A$ with $P \in \operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A})$ (resp. a kernel $A \mapsto I$ with $I \in \operatorname{Inj}(\mathcal{A}))$.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a Krull-Schmidt category. The morphisms in $\mathcal{A}$ form an additive category $\operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A})$ with morphisms $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ given by commutative squares (7). Let $[\mathcal{A}]$ be the ideal of morphisms $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ in $\mathcal{A}$ which are homotopic to zero, i. e. for which there exists a morphism $h: C \rightarrow B$ in $\mathcal{A}$ with $a=$ $h b$ and $d=c h$. It is easy to see that $[\mathcal{A}]$ consists of the morphisms which factor through an object $1_{E}: E \rightarrow E$ in $\operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A})$. Every object of $\operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A})$ is isomorphic to $e \oplus 1_{E}$ for some $e \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. Therefore, the homotopy category $\operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A}) /[\mathcal{A}]$ is equivalent to a full subcategory $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$, consisting of the objects $e \in \operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A}) /[\mathcal{A}]$ with $e \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. There are two natural full embeddings ()$^{+}:$ $\mathcal{A} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ and ()$^{-}: \mathcal{A} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ which map an object $A \in \mathcal{A}$ to $A^{+}: 0 \rightarrow A$ and $A^{-}: A \rightarrow 0$, respectively. So we have two full subcategories $\mathcal{A}^{+}$and $\mathcal{A}^{-}$ of $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ which are equivalent to $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{A}^{+} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \hookleftarrow \mathcal{A}^{-} . \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

By $\operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.\operatorname{Rad}^{-} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})\right)$ we denote the ideal of morphisms $b \rightarrow c$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ given by a commutative square (7) with $d \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}(\operatorname{resp} . a \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A})$.

Lemma 1. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a Krull-Schmidt category. A morphism $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ given by (7) is invertible if and only if (8) is a split short exact sequence.

Proof. Assume first that (8) is a split short exact sequence. Then there are morphisms $\binom{e}{g}: D \rightarrow B \oplus C$ and $(f-h): B \oplus C \rightarrow A$ with

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
c & d
\end{array}\right)\binom{e}{g}=1, \quad(f-h)\binom{a}{-b}=1, \quad\binom{a}{-b}(f-h)+\binom{e}{g}(c c d)=\left(\begin{array}{l}
1  \tag{10}\\
1 \\
0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

This gives six equations in $\mathcal{A}$. Five of these equations, except $a h=e d$, imply that

is an inverse of $\varphi$. Conversely, let (11) be an inverse of $\varphi$. Then there are morphisms $e: D \rightarrow B$ and $h^{\prime}: C \rightarrow A$ with

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
1-a f=e c & 1-d g=c e  \tag{12}\\
1-f a=h^{\prime} b & 1-g d=b h^{\prime}
\end{array}
$$

Since $b, c \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$, this implies that $a$ and $d$ are isomorphisms. Hence (8) is a split short exact sequence.

Remark. Without use of the Krull-Schmidt property, the proof can be completed as follows. Equations (12) remain valid if we replace $h^{\prime}$ by $h:=$ $h^{\prime}-f\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right)$. In fact,
$f\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right) b=f a h^{\prime} b-f e d b=f a(1-f a)-f e c a=f(1-a f-e c) a=0$ and $b f\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right)=b f a h^{\prime}-b f e d=b\left(1-h^{\prime} b\right) h^{\prime}-g c e d=b h^{\prime} g d-g(1-d g) d=0$.

Now (10) follows, since $a h-e d=a h^{\prime}-e d-a f\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right)=(1-a f)\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right)=$ $e c\left(a h^{\prime}-e d\right)=e c a h^{\prime}-e c e d=e d b h^{\prime}-e(1-d g) d=e d(1-g d)-e(1-d g) d=0$.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a strict $\tau$-category, and let $a: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{0}$ be an object in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$. Any decomposition $A_{0}=C \oplus P$ defines a morphism $\pi_{C}: a \rightarrow \bar{a}$, given by a commutative square


In [19] we define a morphism

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda_{C, a}: L_{C} a \rightarrow a \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ with the following universal property:
$(U)\left\{\begin{array}{l}\pi_{C} \lambda_{C, a} \in \operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}), \text { and for every } \varphi: x \rightarrow a \text { with } \pi_{C} \varphi \in \operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \\ \text { there is a unique factorization } \varphi=\lambda_{C, a} \varphi^{\prime} .\end{array}\right.$
Let us repeat the construction of (13). For any decomposition $A_{1}=B \oplus U$, we can write $a$ as a matrix $a=\left(\begin{array}{c}b r \\ s \\ q\end{array}\right): B \oplus U \rightarrow C \oplus P$. We choose $U$ as a maximal direct summand of $A_{1}$ such that $r \in \operatorname{Rad}^{2} \mathcal{A}$. Then we have a right almost split square


Thus $r=\left(\begin{array}{ll}f & b\end{array}\right)\binom{t}{t^{\prime}}$ with $t, t^{\prime} \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. We modify $B \oplus U$ by $\left(\begin{array}{cc}1 & -t^{\prime} \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right) \in$ Aut $(B \oplus U)$, replacing the matrix of $a$ by $\left(\begin{array}{cc}b & r \\ s & q\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}1 & -t^{\prime} \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{cc}b & f t \\ s & p\end{array}\right)$ with $p:=q-s t^{\prime}$. Then (13) is given by the commutative square

$$
\begin{gather*}
C^{\prime} \oplus U  \tag{15}\\
\left(\begin{array}{cc}
b^{\prime} & t \\
s f^{\prime} & p
\end{array}\right) \left\lvert\, \begin{array}{ll}
\left(\begin{array}{ll}
f^{\prime} & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right) \\
\downarrow & \\
B^{\prime} \oplus P & \\
& \\
& \\
& \left(\begin{array}{ll}
f & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right) \\
\left.\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{ll}
b & f t \\
s & p
\end{array}\right.\right) \\
\downarrow & \oplus P .
\end{array}\right.
\end{gather*}
$$

Notice the symmetric structure of (15). We apply (13) in two particular cases. First, we choose $P$ as the largest direct summand of $A_{0}$ with $\tau P=0$. Then we simply write $\lambda_{a}: L a \rightarrow a$ instead of (13). Together with its dual, we obtain a pair of additive functors $L, L^{-}: \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ with natural transformations

$$
\begin{equation*}
L \xrightarrow{\lambda} 1 \xrightarrow{\lambda^{-}} L^{-} . \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

In fact, let $\underline{\operatorname{Rad}} \mathcal{A}($ resp. $\overline{\operatorname{Rad}} \mathcal{A})$ be the ideal of morphisms $r+s \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $r \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$, and $s$ factors through an object $Q \in \mathcal{A}$ with $\tau Q=0\left(\right.$ resp. $\tau^{-} Q=$ 0 ). By $\underline{\operatorname{Rad}}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ (resp. $\overline{\operatorname{Rad}}^{-} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ ) we denote the ideal of morphisms $\varphi$ : $b \rightarrow c$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ given by $(7)$ such that $d \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}($ resp. $a \in \overline{\operatorname{Rad}} \mathcal{A})$. Then the universal property ( U ) specializes to
$\left(\mathrm{U}_{\lambda}\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}\lambda_{a} \in \underline{\operatorname{Rad}}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \text { for each object } a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}), \text { and every morphism } x \rightarrow a \\ \text { in } \underline{\operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}}(\mathcal{A}) \text { factors through } \lambda_{a} \text { in a unique manner. }\end{array}\right.$
Therefore, a morphism $\varphi: a \rightarrow b$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ determines a commutative square
with a unique morphism $L \varphi$. This shows that $L$ is a functor with a natural transformation $\lambda: L \rightarrow 1$.

By the symmetry of (15), the universal property of $\lambda$ admits a certain converse. Namely, every morphism $\varphi: L a \rightarrow d$ in $\overline{\operatorname{Rad}}^{-} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ factors uniquely through $\lambda_{a}$ ([19], Proposition 4). In particular, every morphism $\psi: L a \rightarrow b$ satisfies $\lambda_{b}^{-} \psi \in \overline{\operatorname{Rad}}^{-} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$. Therefore, $\psi$ induces a commutative square

with a unique $\psi^{\prime}$, and by symmetry, the correspondence $\psi \mapsto \psi^{\prime}$ is bijective. Consequently, (18) together with (17) and its dual shows that $L$ is left adjoint to $L^{-}$. We call $L, L^{\prime}$ the ladder functors of $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$.

Another special case of (13) arises when we set $P=0$. Then we obtain a pair of functors $\widehat{L}, \widehat{L}^{-}: \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ with natural transformations

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{L} \xrightarrow{\widehat{\lambda}} 1 \xrightarrow{\widehat{\lambda}^{-}} \widehat{L}^{-} \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

such that $\widehat{\lambda}_{a}:=\lambda_{A_{0}, a}$ for any object $a: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{0}$. Here the universal property (U) specializes to
$\left(\mathrm{U}_{\widehat{\lambda}}\right)\left\{\begin{array}{l}\hat{\lambda}_{a} \in \operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}), \text { and every morphism } x \rightarrow a \text { in } \operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \text { factors } \\ \text { uniquely through } \widehat{\lambda}_{a} .\end{array}\right.$
The usefulness of $L, L^{-}$has been shown in [19]. An application of $\widehat{L}, \widehat{L}^{-}$ will be given in the next section.

Let $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ be a morphism (7) in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$. We call $\varphi$ a pullback (pushout) morphism if (7) is a pullback (pushout). If (7) is an exact square, we call $\varphi$
an exact morphism. Note that these concepts are invariant under homotopy. In fact, a homotopy $h: C \rightarrow B$ in (7) amounts to an isomorphic change of the complex (8):

By [19], Propositions 3 and 4, and Corollary 3 of Proposition 5, we have
Proposition 2. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a strict $\tau$-category. Then $\lambda_{a}$ is exact, and $\widehat{\lambda}_{a}$ is a pullback morphism for any object $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$. Moreover, L preserves exact morphisms.

For a full subcategory $\mathcal{C}$ of an additive category $\mathcal{A}$, a morphism $f: A \rightarrow B$ in $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be $\mathcal{C}$-epic ( $\mathcal{C}$-monic) if every morphism $C \rightarrow B$ (resp. $A \rightarrow C$ ) with $C \in \mathcal{C}$ factors through $f$. In [19], Proposition 2, we characterize pullback morphisms in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ as $\mathcal{A}^{-}$-epic monomorphisms. By [ C$]$ we denote the ideal of $\mathcal{A}$ generated by the morphisms $1_{C}$ with $C \in \mathcal{C}$.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a strict $\tau$-category. We define $\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.\mathbf{I n j}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})\right)$ as the full subcategory of objects $Q \in \mathcal{A}$ with $\tau Q=0$ (resp. $\tau^{-} Q=0$ ). By Proposition 1 we have the inclusions

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A}) \subset \operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A}) ; \quad \operatorname{Inj}(\mathcal{A}) \subset \operatorname{Inj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A}) . \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the universal properties $\left(\mathrm{U}_{\lambda}\right)$ and $\left(\mathrm{U}_{\widehat{\lambda}}\right)$ there are unique natural transformations $\kappa, \kappa^{-}$which make the following triangles commutative:


More generally, there are natural transformations $\lambda^{n}: L^{n} \rightarrow 1$ and $\widehat{\lambda}^{n}: \widehat{L}^{n} \rightarrow 1$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with components

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda_{a}^{n}:=\lambda_{a} \lambda_{L a} \cdots \lambda_{L^{n-1} a} ; \quad \hat{\lambda}_{a}^{n}:=\widehat{\lambda}_{a} \widehat{\lambda}_{\widehat{L} a} \cdots \hat{\lambda}_{\hat{L}^{n-1} a} . \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

As in (22) we find a unique natural transformation $\kappa^{n}: \widehat{L}^{n} \rightarrow L^{n}$ with $\lambda^{n} \kappa^{n}=$ $\widehat{\lambda}^{n}$ for any given $n$.

Proposition 3. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a strict $\tau$-category. For each object $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$, and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the morphism $\kappa_{a}^{n}: \widehat{L}^{n} a \rightarrow L^{n} a$ is $\mathcal{A}^{+}$-epic modulo $\left[\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}\right]$.

Proof. Let $A$ be an object in $\mathcal{A}$. Then every morphism $\varphi: A^{+} \rightarrow L^{n} a$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ satisfies $\lambda_{a}^{n} \varphi=\rho+\sigma$ with $\rho \in\left(\operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})\right)^{n}$ and $\sigma \in\left[\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}\right]$. Hence $\left(\mathrm{U}_{\widehat{\lambda}}\right)$ gives $\rho=\widehat{\lambda}_{a}^{n} \rho^{\prime}$ for some $\rho^{\prime}: A^{+} \rightarrow \widehat{L}^{n} a$. Since $\lambda_{a}^{n}$ is $\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}-$ epic by $\left(\mathrm{U}_{\lambda}\right)$, we get $\sigma=\lambda_{a}^{n} \sigma^{\prime}$ for some $\sigma^{\prime} \in\left[\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}\right]$. Therefore, $\lambda_{a}^{n}(\varphi-$ $\left.\kappa_{a}^{n} \rho^{\prime}-\sigma^{\prime}\right)=0$, and thus $\varphi=\kappa_{a}^{n} \rho^{\prime}+\sigma^{\prime}$.

## 3 Artinian $\tau$-rings

Let $R$ be a $\tau$-ring with $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj. We define Fix $L$ (resp. Fix $L^{-}, \operatorname{Fix} \widehat{L}$, Fix $\widehat{L}^{-}$) as the full subcategory of objects $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ for which $\lambda_{a}$ (resp. $\lambda_{a}^{-}$, $\left.\widehat{\lambda}_{a}, \widehat{\lambda}_{a}^{-}\right)$is an isomorphism. (Note that a morphism $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ in $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ given by (7) is invertible if and only if $a$ and $d$ are invertible in $\mathcal{A}$.) By the definitions, $a$ : $A_{1} \rightarrow A_{0}$ belongs to Fix $L$ (resp. Fix $\widehat{L}$ ) if and only if $\tau A_{0}=0\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.A_{0}=0\right)$.

The category $\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ is closely related to the categories $R-\bmod$ and $\bmod -R$ of finitely presented left resp. right $R$-modules. There are two additive functors

$$
\begin{equation*}
R-\bmod \stackrel{\mathrm{Cok}}{\rightleftarrows} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Cok}^{-}}(\bmod -R)^{\mathrm{op}} \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

given by the cokernel of $a: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{0}$ in $R-\bmod$ and $\operatorname{Cok}^{-} a:=\operatorname{Cok}\left(a^{*}\right)$.
Proposition 4. For a $\tau$-ring $R$ with $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj, the functors (24) induce equivalences

$$
\begin{equation*}
R-\bmod \approx \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) /\left[\mathcal{A}^{-}\right] ; \quad(\bmod -R)^{\mathrm{op}} \approx \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A}) /\left[\mathcal{A}^{+}\right] \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

In particular, an object $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ satisfies $\operatorname{Cok} a=0$ if and only if $a \in \mathcal{A}^{-}$.
Proof. Since the functors (24) are full and dense, we only have to show that a morphism $\varphi: b \rightarrow c$ given by (7) belongs to $\left[\mathcal{A}^{-}\right]$if and only if there exists a morphism $h$ : $C \rightarrow B$ in $\mathcal{A}$ with $d=c h$. If such an $h$ exists, $\varphi$ admits a factorization


The converse is trivial.
Since $\widehat{\lambda}_{a}: \widehat{L} a \rightarrow a$ is a pullback morphism for every object $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$, and the embedding $R$-proj $\hookrightarrow R$-mod preserves pullbacks, there is a natural embedding $\operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a) \hookrightarrow \operatorname{Cok} a$. More precisely, we have (cf. [9], Theorem 4.1)

Proposition 5. Let $R$ be a $\tau$-ring. For any object $a \in \mathrm{M}(R$-proj),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a)=\operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Cok} a) \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. Put $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj, and assume that $\widehat{\lambda}_{a}$ is given by a commutative square


Then $f_{0} \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$ implies that $\operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a) \subset \operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Cok} a)$. Conversely, let $p: P \rightarrow$ $\operatorname{Rad} A_{0}$ be a projective cover in $R$-mod. Consider the natural epimorphisms $c: A_{0} \rightarrow \operatorname{Cok} a$ and $d: B_{0} \rightarrow \operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a)$, and the inclusion $i: \operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a) \hookrightarrow \operatorname{Cok} a$. Then $p$ induces a morphism $\varphi: P^{+} \rightarrow a$ in $\operatorname{Rad}^{+} \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$. By ( $\left.\mathrm{U}_{\hat{\lambda}}\right)$ there is a morphism $\varphi^{\prime}: P^{+} \rightarrow \widehat{L} a$ with $\varphi=\widehat{\lambda}_{a} \varphi^{\prime}$. This gives morphisms $g: P \rightarrow B_{0}$ and $h: P \rightarrow A_{1}$ with $p-f_{0} g=a h$. Hence $\operatorname{Rad}(\operatorname{Cok} a)=c p(P)=c f_{0} g(P)=$ $i d g(P) \subset \operatorname{Cok}(\widehat{L} a)$.

Corollary. $A \tau$-ring $R$ with $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj is artinian if and only if there is an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $\widehat{L}^{n} \mathcal{A}^{+} \subset \mathcal{A}^{-}$. For such an $n$, every object $a \in \mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})$ satisfies $\widehat{L}^{n} a \in \mathcal{A}^{-}$and $L^{n} a \in \operatorname{Fix} L$.

Proof. Note that $R$ is artinian if and only if $\operatorname{Rad}^{n} R=0$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. So the first statement follows by Propositions 4 and 5. Furthermore, $\widehat{L}^{n} a \in$ $\mathcal{A}^{-}$holds for each object $a \in \mathcal{A}$. By Proposition $3, \kappa_{a}^{n}$ is $\mathcal{A}^{+}$-epic modulo $\left[\operatorname{Proj}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}\right]$. Therefore, $\widehat{L}^{n} a \in \mathcal{A}^{-}$implies that

$$
\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathrm{M}(\mathcal{A})}\left(\mathcal{A}^{+}, L^{n} a\right) \subset\left[\operatorname{Pro}_{\tau}(\mathcal{A})^{+}\right],
$$

whence $L^{n} a \in \operatorname{Fix} L$.

Proposition 6. For an artinian $\tau$-ring $R$, the category $R$-proj is preabelian and has strictly enough projectives and injectives.

Proof. A morphism $f \in \mathcal{A}:=R$-proj can be regarded as an object $f \in$ $\operatorname{Mor}(\mathcal{A})$. So $f$ is isomorphic to some $1_{C} \oplus a$ with $a \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. Therefore, a
(co-)kernel of $a$ gives a (co-)kernel of $f$. By the above Corollary, there is an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $\widehat{L}^{n} \mathcal{A}^{+} \subset \mathcal{A}^{-}$. In particular, $\widehat{L}^{n} a=K^{-}$for some object $K \in \mathcal{A}$. Since $\widehat{\lambda}_{a}^{n}: \widehat{L}^{n} a \rightarrow a$ is a pullback morphism by Proposition 2 , this gives a kernel of $a \in \mathcal{A}$. Now let $A$ be an object in $\mathcal{A}$. By the above Corollary, $L^{n} A^{+} \in \operatorname{Fix} L$. Since $\lambda_{A^{+}}^{n}: L^{n} A^{+} \rightarrow A^{+}$is exact by Proposition 2 , we get a short exact sequence $B \stackrel{i}{\mapsto} P \rightarrow A$ with $i=L^{n} A^{+}$. To show that $P$ is projective, consider a short exact sequence $X \xrightarrow{x} Y \xrightarrow{y} Z$ in $\mathcal{A}$ and a morphism $f: P \rightarrow Z$. We may assume without loss of generality that $x \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. Then $y$ determines an exact morphism $\varphi: x \rightarrow Z^{+}$, and we have to show that $f^{+}: P^{+} \rightarrow Z^{+}$ factors through $\varphi$. By $\left(\mathrm{U}_{\lambda}\right)$ we have $f^{+}=\lambda_{Z^{+}}^{n} \psi$ for some $\psi: P^{+} \rightarrow L^{n} Z^{+}$. So it remains to be shown that $\psi$ factors through $L^{n} \varphi$. Proposition 2 implies that $L^{n} \varphi$ is exact. By [16], Corollary of Proposition 8, every cokernel $D \rightarrow Q$ with $\tau Q=0$ splits. Since $L^{n} Z^{+} \in \operatorname{Fix} L$, Lemma 1 shows that $L^{n} \varphi$ is an isomorphism. Hence $P$ is projective. The rest follows by duality.

Remark. A preabelian category with strictly enough projectives and injectives is also called a strict PI-category [14]. Such categories form an important class of almost abelian categories (see [14], §5).

As a consequence, we get the following extension of Igusa and Todorov's theorem ([8], Theorem 3.4).

Corollary. For a ring $R$ with $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj, the following are equivalent:
(a) $R$ is an artinian $\tau$-ring such that $u_{P}$ is not epic for each $P \in \operatorname{Ind} \mathcal{A}$ with $\tau P=0$.
(b) There exists an artinian ring $\Lambda$ with $\Lambda-\bmod \approx \mathcal{A}$.

Proof. (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b): Define $Q:=\bigoplus(\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A}) \cap \operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A})$ and $\Lambda:=\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(Q)^{\mathrm{op}}$. Then $\Lambda$ is artinian, and $\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A}) \approx \Lambda$-proj. So it suffices to prove that $\mathcal{A}$ is abelian, i. e. that every regular morphism $r: A \rightarrow B$ in $\mathcal{A}$ is invertible (see [14], Proposition 12). In Mor $\mathcal{A}$ we have a decomposition $r \cong 1_{C} \oplus a$ with $a \in \operatorname{Rad} \mathcal{A}$. By the Corollary of Proposition 5, there is an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $L^{n} a \in \operatorname{Fix} L$. Now (a) implies that $L^{n} a$ is not epic, unless $L^{n} a \in \mathcal{A}^{-}$. Since $a$ is epic, we get $L^{n} a \in \mathcal{A}^{-}$. As $a$ is monic, the exactness of $\lambda_{a}^{n}$ gives $L^{n} a=0$, whence $a=0$.
(b) $\Rightarrow$ (a): By Auslander's general existence theorem ([3], Theorem 3.9), there is an almost split sequence $\mathbb{E}: A \hookrightarrow B \rightarrow C$ in the category $\Lambda$-Mod of all $\Lambda$-modules for each non-projective $C \in \operatorname{Ind}(\Lambda$-mod). Since $A$ is finitely generated by [13], Corollary (4.4), $\mathbb{E}$ is an almost split sequence in $\Lambda$-mod.

By [21], Theorem 4, $\Lambda$ - mod has a finitely generated injective cogenerator. Therefore, the dual argument implies that $R$ is a $\tau$-ring. By Harada and Sai's lemma ([12], 2.2), $\operatorname{Rad} R$ is nilpotent. Hence $R$ is artinian. Since $\mathcal{A} \approx \Lambda$-mod, this proves (a).

More generally, we get a characterization of arbitrary artinian $\tau$-rings. Let $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma$ be left and right coherent rings, respectively (see [1], §19). By [17], Proposition 10, this means that $\Lambda-\bmod$ and $\bmod -\Gamma$ are abelian categories. A bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ is said to be cotilting (cf. [5]) if ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ and $U_{\Gamma}$ are finitely presented with $\Lambda=\operatorname{End}\left(U_{\Gamma}\right)$ and $\Gamma=\operatorname{End}\left({ }_{\Lambda} U\right)^{\mathrm{op}}$ such that for each $M \in \Lambda-\bmod$ and $N \in \bmod -\Gamma$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}(U, U)=\operatorname{Ext}_{\Gamma}(U, U)=\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{2}(M, U)=\operatorname{Ext}_{\Gamma}^{2}(N, U)=0 \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $\Gamma$ is determined by ${ }_{\Lambda} U$, the module ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ is said to be a cotilting module. By lat $(U)$ we denote the full subcategory of $\Lambda$-mod consisting of the modules $M \in \Lambda$ - mod which are finitely cogenerated by ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ (i. e. which admit an embedding $M \hookrightarrow U^{n}$ for some $\left.n \in \mathbb{N}\right)$. Then $\operatorname{lat}(U)$ is equivalent to the category of right $\Gamma$-modules $N \in \bmod -\Gamma$ which are finitely cogenerated by $U_{\Gamma}$ (see Appendix).

Theorem 1. For every artinian $\tau$-ring $R$ there exists a cotilting bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ over artinian rings $\Lambda, \Gamma$ such that $R-\mathbf{p r o j} \approx \operatorname{lat}(U)$. Conversely, if ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ is a cotilting module over a left artinian ring $\Lambda$ with $\operatorname{ind}(\operatorname{lat}(U))$ finite, then $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma:=\operatorname{End}_{\Lambda}(U)^{\mathrm{op}}$ are artinian, and up to Morita equivalence, there is a unique artinian $\tau$-ring $R$ with $R$-proj $\approx \operatorname{lat}(U)$.

Proof. Let $R$ be an artinian $\tau$-ring with $\mathcal{A}:=R$-proj. We set $P:=$ $\bigoplus(\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A}) \cap \operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A})$ and $I:=\bigoplus(\operatorname{Inj}(\mathcal{A}) \cap \operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A})$. Then $\Lambda:=\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(P)^{\mathrm{op}}$ and $\Gamma:=\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(I)^{\mathrm{op}}$ are artinian. By Proposition 6 and the cotilting theorem ([14], Theorem 6; see Appendix), ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}:=\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(P, I)$ is a cotilting bimodule with $\mathcal{A} \approx \operatorname{lat}(U)$.

Conversely, let ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ be a cotilting bimodule with $\Lambda$ left artinian such that $\operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A}$ is finite for $\mathcal{A}:=\operatorname{lat}(U)$. We set $R:=\operatorname{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(\bigoplus \operatorname{ind} \mathcal{A})^{\text {op }}$. Then $R$ - $\operatorname{proj} \approx \mathcal{A}$. Consider $\mathcal{A}$ as a full subcategory of $\Lambda$ - mod. Then $\operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A})=$ $\Lambda$-proj by [15], Lemma 4. Let $C \in \operatorname{Ind} \mathcal{A}$ be non-projective. Then there is a cokernel $c: C^{\prime \prime} \rightarrow C^{\prime}$ and a morphism $f: C \rightarrow C^{\prime}$ in $\mathcal{A}$ such that $f$ does not factor through $c$. By [14], Proposition $12, \mathcal{A}$ is an almost abelian category (see Appendix). Therefore, the pullback of $c$ and $f$ yields a non-split short exact sequence $A \stackrel{a}{\longrightarrow} B \xrightarrow{b} C$ in $\mathcal{A}$. Consequently, there is an indecomposable direct summand $D$ of $A$ such that the projection $a^{\prime}: A \rightarrow D$ does not factor
through $a$. So the pushout of $a$ and $a^{\prime}$ yields a non-split short exact sequence $D \stackrel{d}{\hookrightarrow} E \stackrel{e}{\rightarrow} C$ in $\mathcal{A}$. By the lemma of Harada and Sai (see [12], 2.2), Rad $R$ is nilpotent. Hence there exists a morphism $g: D \rightarrow D^{\prime}$ in Ind $\mathcal{A}$ that does not factor through $d$ such that for each non-invertible $h: D^{\prime} \rightarrow D^{\prime \prime}$ in $\operatorname{Ind} \mathcal{A}$, the composition $h g$ factors through $d$. So the pushout of $d$ and $g$ yields a left almost split sequence $D^{\prime} \hookrightarrow E^{\prime} \rightarrow C$. For $P \in \operatorname{Proj}(\mathcal{A})$, the right almost split sequence in $\mathcal{A}$ is given by $0 \rightarrow(\operatorname{Rad} \Lambda) P \rightarrow P$. If we regard $\mathcal{A}$ as a full subcategory of $(\bmod -\Gamma)^{\text {op }}$, the preceding arguments can be dualized. Therefore, [18], Lemma 8 , implies that $\mathcal{A}$ is a strict $\tau$-category. Hence $R$ is an artinian $\tau$-ring. Since the rings $\Lambda, \Gamma$ are of the form $e R e$ for some idempotent $e \in R$, they are artinian as well. Finally, $R$-proj $\approx \mathcal{A}$ implies that $R$ is unique up to Morita equivalence.

## Appendix: The general cotilting theorem

In this appendix we give a brief explanation and a short proof of the cotilting theorem ([14], Theorem 6). Let $\Lambda$ (resp. $\Gamma$ ) be a left (resp. right) coherent ring. Then $\Lambda$ - mod and mod- $\Gamma$ are abelian categories (see [17], Proposition 10). Every bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ with ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ and $U_{\Gamma}$ finitely presented gives rise to an adjoint pair of additive functors

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Lambda-\bmod \underset{F}{\stackrel{E}{\rightleftarrows}}(\bmod -\Gamma)^{\mathrm{op}} \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $E:=\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-, U)$ and $F:=\operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(-, U)$. Conversely, we have the following version of Watt's theorem.

Lemma 2. Every adjoint pair (28) is of the form $E \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-, U)$ and $F \cong$ $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(-, U)$ with a bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ such that ${ }_{\Lambda} U$ and $U_{\Gamma}$ are finitely presented.

Proof. Define $U_{\Gamma}:=E\left({ }_{\Lambda} \Lambda\right)$. Then the right operation of $\Lambda$ on ${ }_{\Lambda} \Lambda$ makes $U$ into a $(\Lambda, \Gamma)$-bimodule. For $M \in \Lambda$-mod, consider a presentation $\Lambda^{m} \xrightarrow{a}$ $\Lambda^{n} \rightarrow M$. Since $E$ is a left adjoint, $E M=\operatorname{Cok}(E a)$ in $(\bmod -\Gamma)^{\mathrm{op}}$. Thus $E M=\operatorname{Ker}_{\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}}(a, U)$ in $\bmod -\Gamma$, i. e. $E \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-, U)$. Hence $F N=$ $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\Lambda, F N) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(N, E \Lambda) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(N, U)$ for all $N \in \bmod -\Gamma$. In particular, ${ }_{\Lambda} U=\operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(\Gamma, U) \cong F \Gamma$ is finitely presented.

For a given bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ we simply write ( )* for both functors $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-, U)$ and $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(-, U)$. Then the unit $\eta$ and the counit $\varepsilon$ of the adjunction are given
by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\eta_{M}: M \rightarrow M^{* *} ; \quad \varepsilon_{N}: N \rightarrow N^{* *} \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

for $M \in \Lambda-\bmod$ and $N \in \bmod -\Gamma$.
A pair

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{C} \underset{F}{\stackrel{E}{\rightleftarrows}} \mathcal{B} \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

of additive functors with $E \dashv F$ is said to be a pre-equivalence [15] if the unit is epic, and the counit is monic. Then (30) induces an equivalence $\operatorname{Im} F \approx \operatorname{Im} E$, and the category $\mathcal{A}:=\operatorname{Im} F$ is almost abelian. This means that $\mathcal{A}$ is preabelian, and cokernels (resp. kernels) are stable under pullback (pushout) [14]. Furthermore, the full subcategory $\overline{\operatorname{Im} E}$ (resp. $\overline{\operatorname{Im} F}$ ) of subobjects (quotient objects) of objects in $\operatorname{Im} E$ (resp. $\operatorname{Im} F$ ) is abelian. If $\overline{\operatorname{Im} E}=\mathcal{B}$ and $\overline{\operatorname{Im} F}=\mathcal{C}$, we call (30) a tilting. In this case, up to isomorphism, the adjunction (30) is intrinsicly determined by the almost abelian category $\mathcal{A}$. In other words, tiltings and almost abelian categories are essentially the same thing (see [15], Theorem 1). In the particular case (28) we have the following characterization.

Theorem 2. An adjoint pair (28) is a tilting if and only if the corresponding bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ is cotilting. When these equivalent conditions hold, lat $(U)$ is the corresponding almost abelian category.

Proof. Let $\operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U$ denote the class of finitely generated submodules of some $\left({ }_{\Lambda} U\right)^{n}$. We show first that the conditions (27) can be replaced by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}(M, U)=\operatorname{Ext}_{\Gamma}(N, U)=0 \text { for } M \in \operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U \text { and } N \in \operatorname{Cog}_{\Gamma} U \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

Assume (31). For any $M \in \Lambda$ - mod, there is a short exact sequence $M^{\prime} \hookrightarrow$ $\Lambda^{n} \rightarrow M$ with $M^{\prime} \in \Lambda$-mod. Since an epimorphism $\Gamma^{m} \rightarrow U$ gives an embedding $\Lambda=\operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}(U, U) \hookrightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{\Gamma}\left(\Gamma^{m}, U\right)=U^{m}$, we have $\Lambda^{n} \in \operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U$. Hence $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{2}(M, U)=\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}\left(M^{\prime}, U\right)=0$. By duality, this proves (27). Conversely, let $M \hookrightarrow U^{n} \rightarrow C$ be a short exact sequence in $\Lambda$-mod. Then

$$
\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}\left(U^{n}, U\right) \rightarrow \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(M, U) \rightarrow \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{2}(C, U)
$$

is exact. Hence (27) implies (31).
Now let (28) be a tilting with corresponding bimodule ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$. Then ${ }_{\Lambda} \Lambda \in$ $\overline{\operatorname{Im} F}$ implies that there is an epimorphism $N^{*} \rightarrow{ }_{\Lambda} \Lambda$. Since $N^{*}$ is reflexive, i. e. $\eta_{N^{*}}$ is invertible, we infer that $\Lambda$ is reflexive. Hence $\operatorname{End}\left(U_{\Gamma}\right)=\Lambda$, and
similarly, $\operatorname{End}\left({ }_{\Lambda} U\right)=\Gamma$. Any embedding $M \hookrightarrow U^{n}$ in $\Lambda-\bmod$ gives rise to a commutative diagram


Since $\eta_{U}$ is an isomorphism, $\eta_{M}$ is monic. On the other hand, an epimorphism $\Gamma^{m} \rightarrow N$ yields $N^{*} \hookrightarrow U^{m}$, i. e. $N^{*} \in \operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U$. Therefore, $\operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U$ consists of the reflexive modules in $\Lambda$-mod. So for a given $M \in \operatorname{Cog}_{\Lambda} U$, the modules in a short exact sequence $K \stackrel{i}{\longrightarrow} \Lambda^{k} \xrightarrow{p} M$ are reflexive. Applying ( )* gives $M^{*} \stackrel{p^{*}}{\longrightarrow}$ $U^{k} \xrightarrow{i^{*}} K^{*}$ with $p^{*}=\operatorname{ker} i^{*}$. As a submodule of $K^{*}, \operatorname{Cok} p^{*}$ is reflexive. Hence $\left(\operatorname{cok} p^{*}\right)^{*} \cong \operatorname{ker} p=i$, and thus $i^{*}=\operatorname{cok} p^{*}$. This proves that $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}(M, U)=0$.

Conversely, let ${ }_{\Lambda} U_{\Gamma}$ be cotilting, and $M \in \Lambda$-mod. Then a presentation $\Lambda^{m} \rightarrow \Lambda^{n} \xrightarrow{p} M$ leads to a short exact sequence $M^{*} \stackrel{p^{*}}{\mapsto} U^{n} \rightarrow C$ and an embedding $C \hookrightarrow U^{m}$. By (31) it follows that $p^{* *}: \Lambda^{n} \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\eta_{M}} M^{* *}$ is epic. Hence $\eta_{M}$ is epic. Since $\Lambda$ and $\Gamma$ are reflexive, and every object in $\Lambda$-mod (resp. $\bmod -\Gamma$ ) is a factor module of a free module, (28) is a tilting.

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