

# Quasi-cotilting modules and torsion-free classes\*

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## Abstract

We prove that all quasi-cotilting modules are pure-injective and cofinendo. It follows that the class  $\text{Cogen}M$  is always a covering class whenever  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module. Some characterizations of quasi-cotilting modules are given. As a main result, we prove that there is a bijective correspondence between the equivalent classes of quasi-cotilting modules and torsion-free covering classes.

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## 1 Introduction and Preliminaries

Quasi-tilting modules were introduced by Colpi, Deste, and Tonolo in [9] in the study of contexts of  $*$ -modules and tilting modules, where it was shown that these modules are closely relative to torsion theory counter equivalences. Recently, quasi-tilting modules turn out to be new interesting after the study of support  $\tau$ -tilting modules by Adachi, Iyama and Reiten [1]. The second author proved that a finitely generated module over an artin algebra is support  $\tau$ -tilting if and only if it is quasi-tilting [19]. Moreover, Angeleri-Hügel, Marks and Vitória [2] proved that finendo quasi-tilting modules are also closely related to silting modules (which is a generalizations of support  $\tau$ -tilting modules in general rings).

It is natural to consider the dual of quasi-tilting modules, i.e., quasi-cotilting modules. As cotilting modules possess their own interesting properties not dual to tilting modules, we show in this paper that quasi-cotilting modules are not only to be the dual of quasi-tilting modules and they have their own interesting properties too. We prove that all quasi-cotilting modules are pure-injective and cofinendo. These are clearly new important properties of quasi-cotilting modules. Note that not all quasi-tilting modules are finendo. As a corollary, we obtain that the class  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a covering class whenever  $M$  is quasi-cotilting. We give variant characterizations of quasi-cotilting modules and cotilting modules. As the main result, we prove that there is a bijection between the equivalent classes of quasi-cotilting modules and torsion-free covering classes.

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Throughout this paper,  $R$  is always an associative ring with identity and subcategories are always full and closed under isomorphisms. We denote by  $R\text{-Mod}$  the category of all left  $R$ -modules. By  $\text{Proj}R$  we denote the class of all projective  $R$ -module.

Let  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ , we use following notations throughout this paper.

$$\text{Adp}M := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{there is a module } L \text{ such that } N \oplus L = M^X \text{ for some } X\};$$

$$\text{Cogen}M := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{there is an exact sequence } 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M_0 \text{ with } M_0 \in \text{Adp}M\};$$

$$\text{Copres}M := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{there is an exact sequence } 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow M_1 \text{ with } M_0, M_1 \in \text{Adp}M\};$$

$${}^{\perp_1}M := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{Ext}_R^1(N, M) = 0\};$$

$$M^{\perp_1} := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{Ext}_R^1(M, N) = 0\};$$

$${}^{\circ}M := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{Hom}_R(N, M) = 0\};$$

$$M^{\circ} := \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{Hom}_R(M, N) = 0\}.$$

Note that  $\text{Cogen}M$  is clearly closed under submodules, direct products and direct sums.

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a class of  $R$ -modules, we denoted by  $\text{Fac}(\mathcal{T})$  the classes formes by the factor modules of all modules in  $\mathcal{T}$ . An  $R$ -module  $M \in \mathcal{T}$  is called Ext-injective in  $\mathcal{T}$  if  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq {}^{\perp_1}M$ .

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be two subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . The pair  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  is said to be a torsion pair if it satisfies the following three condition (1)  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) = 0$ ; (2) if  $\text{Hom}(M, \mathcal{Y}) = 0$ , then  $M \in \mathcal{X}$ ; (3) if  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{X}, N) = 0$ , then  $N \in \mathcal{Y}$ . In the case,  $\mathcal{X}$  is called a torsion class and  $\mathcal{Y}$  is called a torsion-free class. Note that a subcategory  $\mathcal{X}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is torsion-free if and only if  $\mathcal{X}$  is closed under direct products, submodules and extensions, see [11].

**Lemma 1.1** *If an  $R$ -module  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ , then  $({}^{\circ}M, \text{Cogen}M)$  is a torsion pair.*

**Proof.** It is easy to verify that  ${}^{\circ}M = {}^{\circ}(\text{Cogen}M)$ . We only need to prove that  $({}^{\circ}M)^{\circ} = \text{Cogen}M$ . If  $T \in \text{Cogen}M$ , then there is an injective homomorphism  $i: T \rightarrow M^X$  for some set  $X$ . For any  $N \in {}^{\circ}M$  and  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(N, T)$ , then  $\text{Hom}_R(N, M^X) = (\text{Hom}_R(N, M))^X = 0$ , hence  $if = 0$ . Then  $f = 0$  since  $i$  is injective. So  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq ({}^{\circ}M)^{\circ}$ .

For any  $T \in ({}^{\circ}M)^{\circ}$ , consider the evaluation map  $\alpha: T \rightarrow M^{\text{Hom}_R(T, M)}$  with  $K = \ker \alpha$ . Take canonical resolution of  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $\alpha = i\pi$  with  $\pi: T \rightarrow \text{Im}\alpha$  and  $i: \text{Im}\alpha \rightarrow M^{\text{Hom}_R(T, M)}$ . Clearly,  $\text{Hom}_R(\pi, M)$  is surjective from the definition of  $\alpha$ . Applying the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  to the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow T \rightarrow \text{Im}\alpha \rightarrow 0$ , we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(\text{Im}\alpha, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(T, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(K, M) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(\text{Im}\alpha, M).$$

Since  $\text{Im}\alpha \in \text{Cogen}M \subseteq {}^{\perp_1}M$ ,  $\text{Ext}_R^1(\text{Im}\alpha, M) = 0$ . As  $\text{Hom}_R(\pi, M)$  is surjective by above discussion,  $\text{Hom}_R(K, M) = 0$ , and hence,  $K \in {}^{\circ}M$ . Since  $T \in ({}^{\circ}M)^{\circ}$ , we have that  $\text{Hom}_R(K, T) = 0$  and  $\alpha$  is injective. Thus  $K = 0$ , i.e.  $T \in \text{Cogen}(M)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.2** [3, Definition1.4] (1) *Let  $Q$  be an injective cogenerator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . A module  $M$  is called  $Q$ -cofinitendo if there exist a cardinal  $\gamma$  and a map  $f: M^\gamma \rightarrow Q$  such that for any cardinal  $\alpha$ , all maps  $M^\alpha \rightarrow Q$  factor through  $f$ .*

(2) *A module  $M$  is cofinitendo if there is an injective cogenerator  $Q$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  such that  $M$  is  $Q$ -cofinitendo.*

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a class of  $R$ -modules and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then  $f: X \rightarrow M$  with  $X \in \mathcal{T}$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover of  $M$  provided that  $\text{Hom}(Y, f)$  is surjective for any  $Y \in \mathcal{T}$ . A  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover of  $M$  is called  $\mathcal{T}$ -cover of  $M$  if any  $g: X \rightarrow X$  such that  $f = fg$  must be an isomorphism. A class  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $R$ -modules is said to be a precover class (cover class) provided that each module has a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover ( $\mathcal{T}$ -cover).

**Lemma 1.3** [3, Proposition 1.6] *The following are equivalent for a module  $M$ :*

- (1)  $M$  is cofinendo;
- (2) there is an  $\text{Adp}M$ -precover of an injective cogenerator  $Q$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ ;
- (3)  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a precover class.

## 2 Quasi-cotilting modules

In this section, we introduce notion of quasi-cotilting modules and give some characterization of quasi-cotilting modules. In particular, we prove that all quasi-cotilting modules are pure injective and cofinendo.

**Definition 2.1** (1) *An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be a costar module if  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  preserves exactness of any short exact sequence in  $\text{Cogen}M$ .*

(2) *An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a quasi-cotilting module, if it is a costar module and  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ .*

**Remark** (1) Costar modules defined above had been studied in [16]. Moreover, their general version, i.e.,  $n$ -costar modules, were studied by He [14] and Yao and Chen [22] respectively.

(2) Colby and Fuller [7] had defined another notion of costar modules which can be viewed as a special case of the above-defined costar modules.

For convenience, we say that a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact ( $(M \otimes_R -, \text{resp.})$ -exact) if the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  ( $M \otimes_R -, \text{resp.}$ ) preserves exactness of this exact sequence.

The following result is well-known.

**Lemma 2.2** *Suppose that two short exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  and  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B' \rightarrow C' \rightarrow 0$  are  $\text{Hom}(-, M)$ -exact with  $B, B' \in \text{Adp}M$ . Then  $B \oplus C' \cong B' \oplus C$*

**Proof.** It is dual to Lemma 2.2 in [20]. □

The following result presents a useful property of costar modules.

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $M$  be a co-star module. Suppose that the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact and  $A \in \text{Cogen}M$ , then  $B \in \text{Cogen}M$  if and only if  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$ .*

**Proof.**  $\Leftarrow$  Since  $A$  and  $C$  are in  $\text{Cogen}M$ , we have two monomorphisms  $f: A \rightarrow M_A$  and  $g: C \rightarrow M_C$  with  $M_A$  and  $M_C$  in  $\text{Adp}M$ . We consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{a} & B & \xrightarrow{b} & C \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow f & & \searrow \theta & \downarrow (\theta, gb) & \downarrow g \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & M_A & \xrightarrow{i} & M_A \oplus M_C & \xrightarrow{\pi} & M_C \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

where  $i$  and  $\pi$  is canonical injective and canonical projective respectively. Since the first row in above diagram is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact, there exists a morphism  $\theta$  such that  $f = \theta a$ . It further induces a commutative diagram as above. It follows from Snake Lemma that  $(\theta, gb)$  is injective, i.e.  $B \in \text{Cogen}M$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Since  $B \in \text{Cogen}M$  and  $M$  is a costar module, we have that  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow L' \rightarrow 0$  with  $M_0 \in \text{Adp}M$  and  $L' \in \text{Cogen}M$ . There is a module  $M'_0$  such that  $M_0 \oplus M'_0 = M^X$ . So we obtain a new short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow M^X \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$  with  $L = L' \oplus M'_0 \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Consider the pushout of  $B \rightarrow C$  and  $B \rightarrow M^X$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
& & & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
& & \downarrow 1 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & M^X & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
& & & & L & \xrightarrow{1} & L & & \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
& & & & 0 & & 0 & & 
\end{array}$$

Since the first row and second column are  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact in above diagram, it is easy to see that the second row is also  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact. Since  $A \in \text{Cogen}M$ , similar to  $B$ , there is a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow M^Y \rightarrow K \rightarrow 0$  with  $K \in \text{Cogen}M$ . By Lemma 2.2, we have that  $M^Y \oplus N \cong M^X \oplus K$ , then it is easy to see that  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Consequently,  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$ .  $\square$

Now we give some characterizations of quasi-cotilting modules.

**Proposition 2.4** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -Module, the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module;
- (2)  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$  and  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ ;
- (3)  $M$  is a costar module and  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a torsion-free class;
- (4)  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \cap {}^{\perp}M$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) By the involved definitions.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1),(3) If  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ , then it is easy to see that the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  preserves the exactness of any short exact sequences in  $\text{Cogen}M$ . So  $M$  is a costar module by the assumption. By Lemma 1.1, we also have that  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a torsion-free class.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4) Clearly,  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M)$ . To see that  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq {}^{\perp}M$ , we take any extension  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow N \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$  with  $L \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Since  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a torsion-free class, it is closed under extensions. It follows that  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ . But  $M$  is a costar module, the exact sequence is then  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact. Thus, we can obtain that the exact sequence is actually split. Consequently we have that  $L \in {}^{\perp}M$  for any  $L \in \text{Cogen}M$ , i.e.,  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq {}^{\perp}M$ .

On the other hand, take any  $N \in \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \cap {}^{\perp}M$ . Then there is a module  $L$  in  $\text{Cogen}M$  and an epimorphism  $f: L \rightarrow N$ . Set  $K = \ker f$ , then  $K \in \text{Cogen}M$  since  $L \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Then there is a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$  with  $A \in \text{Cogen}M$  and  $M_0 \in \text{Adp}M$ , as  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$ . Since  $N \in {}^{\perp}M$ , we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & L & \xrightarrow{f} & N \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow 1 & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta \\
0 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & M_0 & \longrightarrow & A \longrightarrow 0
\end{array}$$

By Snake Lemma, we obtain that  $\ker \beta = \ker \alpha \in \text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$  since  $L \in \text{Cogen}M$ . From the third column in above diagram, we obtain a new short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \ker \beta \rightarrow N \rightarrow \text{Im} \beta \rightarrow 0$  with  $\text{Im} \beta \in \text{Cogen}M$  (since  $A \in \text{Cogen}M$ ). By the assumption,  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a torsion-free class, so we have  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Hence,  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \cap {}^{\perp_1}M$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (2) We need only to prove that  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq \text{Copres}M$ . Take any  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$  and consider the evaluation map  $u: N \rightarrow M^X$  with  $X = \text{Hom}_R(N, M)$ . It is easy to verify that  $u$  is injective. Thus we have a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M^X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ , so it is enough to prove that  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Applying the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  to the sequence, we have an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(C, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M^X, M) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \text{Hom}_R(N, M) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(C, M) \rightarrow 0$ . It follows from  $u$  is the evaluation map that  $\gamma$  is surjective. So that  $\text{Ext}_R^1(C, M) = 0$ , i.e.  $C \in {}^{\perp_1}M$ . It follows that  $C \in \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \cap {}^{\perp_1}M = \text{Cogen}M$  by (4).  $\square$

The above result suggests the following definition.

**Definition 2.5** *The torsion-free class  $\mathcal{T}$  is called a quasi-cotilting class if  $\mathcal{T} = \text{Cogen}M$  for some quasi-cotilting module.*

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. We denoted by  $\text{Ann}M$  the ideal of  $R$  consisting of all elements  $r \in R$  such that  $rM = 0$ . If  $\text{Ann}M = 0$ , then  $M$  is called faithful.

**Lemma 2.6** *The following statements are equivalent for an  $R$ -module  $M$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is faithful;
- (2)  $R \in \text{Cogen}M$ ;
- (3)  $\text{Proj}R \subseteq \text{Cogen}M$ ;
- (4)  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ .
- (5)  $Q \in \text{Fac}(\text{Adp}M)$ .
- (6)  $Q \in \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M)$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2) Note that  $\text{Ann}M$  is just the kernel of the evaluation map  $R \rightarrow M^{\text{Hom}_R(R, M)}$ , so the result follows from the universal property of the evaluation map.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3) This is followed from the fact that  $\text{Cogen}M$  is closed under direct sums and direct summands.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4) Using the fact that every module is a quotient of a projective module.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (3) If  $P$  is any projective module and  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ , then there is an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow C \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$  with  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$ . But  $P$  is projective implies that the exact sequence is split, it follows that  $P$  is a direct summand of  $C$  and consequently,  $P \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Thus, (3) follows.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (5) $\Rightarrow$ (6) Obviously.

(6) $\Rightarrow$ (4) Clearly,  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \subseteq R\text{-Mod}$ . On the other hand, since  $Q \in \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M)$ , there exists an  $H \in \text{Cogen}M$  such that  $f: H \rightarrow Q$  is surjective. For any  $L \in R\text{-Mod}$ , we have a monomorphism  $L \rightarrow Q^X$  for some  $X$ , since  $Q$  an injective cogenerator. Then  $f^X$  is surjective and  $Q^X \cong H^X/K$  with  $K = \ker f^X$ . Consequently, there exists a submodule  $H_1$  of  $H^X$  such that  $L \cong H_1/K$ . It is easy to see that  $H_1 \in \text{Cogen}M$ , so  $L \in \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M)$  and (4) holds.  $\square$

Recall that an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called (1-)cotilting if it satisfies the following three conditions: (1) the injective dimension of  $M$  is not more than 1, i.e.,  $\text{id}M \leq 1$ ; (2)  $\text{Ext}_R^1(M^\lambda, M) = 0$  for any set  $\lambda$ ; (3) There is an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow Q \rightarrow 0$  where  $M_0, M_1 \in \text{Adp}M$  and  $Q$  is an injective cogenerator. Note that  $M$  is cotilting is equivalent to that  $\text{Cogen}M = {}^{\perp_1}M$ , see for instance [3]. We will freely use these two equivalent definition of cotilting modules.

A torsion-free class  $\mathcal{T}$  is called a cotilting class if  $\mathcal{T} = \text{Cogen}M$  for some cotilting module  $M$ .

We have the following characterizations of cotilting modules. Some of them were obtained in [16] (in Chinese). For reader's convenience, we include here a complete proof.

**Proposition 2.7** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  be an injective cogenerator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a cotilting module;
- (2)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module and  $Q \in \text{Fac}(\text{Adp}M)$ ;
- (3)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module and  $\text{Proj}R \subseteq \text{Cogen}M$ ;
- (4)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module and  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ ;
- (5)  $M$  is a faithful quasi-cotilting module.
- (6)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module and  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cotilting torsion-free class.
- (7)  $M$  is a costar module and  $Q \in \text{Fac}(\text{Adp}M)$ ;
- (8)  $M$  is a costar module and  $\text{Proj}R \subseteq \text{Cogen}M$ ;
- (9)  $M$  is a costar module and  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ ;
- (10)  $M$  is a faithful costar module.
- (11)  $M$  is a costar module and  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cotilting torsion-free class.

**Proof.** (2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3) $\Leftrightarrow$ (4) $\Leftrightarrow$ (5) $\Rightarrow$ (10) $\Leftrightarrow$ (9) $\Leftrightarrow$ (8) $\Leftrightarrow$ (7) By Lemma 2.6 and the definitions.

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) Since  $M$  is cotilting, we have that  $\text{Cogen}M = {}^{\perp_1}M$  and  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$  by the above arguments. It follows  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) \cap {}^{\perp_1}M$ . Hence,  $M$  is quasi-cotilting by Proposition 2.4.

(8) $\Rightarrow$ (1) Since  $\text{Proj}R \subseteq \text{Cogen}M$ , we have that  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ . For any  $T \in \text{Cogen}M$ , there is a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$  with  $P_0 \in \text{Proj}R$ . Note that the sequence is indeed in  $\text{Cogen}M$ , so  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  preserves exactness of this short exact sequence, as  $M$  is a costar module. It follows that  $\text{Ext}_R^1(T, M) = 0$  since  $\text{Ext}_R^1(P_0, M) = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq {}^{\perp_1}M$  and  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a torsion-free class by Lemma 1.1. Furthermore, we have that  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module by Proposition 2.4. Consequently,  $\text{Cogen}M = {}^{\perp_1}M$  by Proposition 2.4 again, since  $\text{Fac}(\text{Cogen}M) = R\text{-Mod}$ . So  $M$  is a cotilting module.

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (6) $\Rightarrow$ (11) It is obvious now.

(11) $\Rightarrow$ (8). If  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cotilting torsion-free class, i.e.,  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Cogen}T$  is for some cotilting module  $T$ , Then  $\text{Proj}R \subseteq \text{Cogen}T$  by the above argument. Thus (8) follows.  $\square$

The above result yields the following characterization of costar modules.

**Proposition 2.8** *The following statements are equivalent for an  $R$ -module  $M$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is a costar  $R$ -module;
- (2)  $M$  is a costar  $\bar{R}$ -module, where  $\bar{R} = R/\text{Ann}M$ ;
- (3)  $M$  is a costar  $R/I$ -module for any ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that  $IM = 0$ ;
- (4)  $M$  is a cotilting  $\bar{R}$ -module.

**Proof.** Note that the category of  $R/I$ -modules can be identified to the full subcategory  $\{M \in R\text{-Mod} \mid IM = 0\}$ . Under this identification, it is not difficult to verify that  $\text{Cogen}_{R/I}M = \text{Cogen}_R M = \text{Cogen}_{\bar{R}}M$ . Therefore, (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3) is obvious from the definitions.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (4) Note that  $M$  is always faithful as an  $\bar{R}$ -module, so the conclusion follows from Proposition 2.7.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (2) By Proposition 2.7. □

A short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is called pure exact if it is  $(M \otimes_R -)$ -exact for any right  $R$ -module  $M$ . In this case,  $C$  is called a pure quotient module of  $B$ . A module  $M$  is called pure injective if any pure exact sequence is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact.

**Lemma 2.9** *The following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a pure injective  $R$ -module;
- (2) For any  $X$ , the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M^{(X)} \rightarrow M^X \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  exact;
- (3)  $M$  is a pure injective  $\bar{R}$ -module, where  $\bar{R} = R/\text{Ann}M$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2) by [5, Lemma 2.1]. Similar to (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2), it is easy to see that (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) since  $M^{(X)}$ ,  $M^X$  and  $C$  are in  $\bar{R}\text{-Mod}$ . □

From the above discussion, we can get the following important properties of quasi-cotilting modules.

**Proposition 2.10** *All costar modules are pure injective and cofinendo. Specially, all quasi-cotilting modules are pure injective and cofinendo.*

**Proof.** Let  $M$  be a costar  $R$ -module. We obtain that  $M$  is a cotilting  $\bar{R}$ -module by Proposition 2.8. It follows that  $M$  is a pure injective  $\bar{R}$ -module since all cotilting modules are pure injective [5]. Thus  $M$  is a pure injective  $R$ -module by Lemma 2.9.

To prove that  $M$  is cofinendo, we only need to prove that  $\text{Cogen}M$  is closed under direct sums and pure quotient modules by Lemma 2.11 and Lemma 1.3. Obviously,  $\text{Cogen}M$  is closed under direct sums. Suppose the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is pure exact and  $B \in \text{Cogen}M$ . It follows that  $A \in \text{Cogen}M$  and that  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  exact from  $M$  is pure injective. So  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$  by Proposition 2.3, i.e.  $\text{Cogen}M$  is closed under pure quotient modules. □

**Lemma 2.11** [15, Theorem 2.5] *If a class  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under pure quotient modules, then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under arbitrary direct sums;
- (2)  $\mathcal{A}$  is a precover class;
- (3)  $\mathcal{A}$  is a cover class.

**Corollary 2.12** *If  $M$  is a costar module, then  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cover class. In particular,  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cover class for any quasi-cotilting module  $M$ .*

**Proof.** By the proof of Proposition 2.10, we obtain that  $\text{Cogen}M$  is closed under pure quotient and direct sums. Thus  $\text{Cogen}M$  is a cover class by Lemma 2.11. □

### 3 Quasi-cotilting torsion-free class

**Lemma 3.1** *If  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module, then  $\text{Adp}M = \ker \text{Ext}_R^1(\text{Cogen}M, -) \cap \text{Cogen}M$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $N \in \text{Adp}M$ . Clearly we get  $N \in \ker \text{Ext}_R^1(\text{Cogen}M, -) \cap \text{Cogen}M$ , from (3) in Proposition 2.4,. For the inverse inclusion, take any  $L \in \ker \text{Ext}_R^1(\text{Cogen}M, -) \cap \text{Cogen}M$ . Then there is a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  with  $M_0 \in \text{Adp}M$  and  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$  since  $L \in \text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$ . Since  $\text{Ext}^1(C, L) = 0$ , we can obtain that this exact sequence is split and hence  $L \in \text{Adp}M$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $Q$  be an injective cogenerator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . The following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a quasi-cotilting module;
- (2)  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$  and there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q$$

with  $M_0$  and  $M_1$  in  $\text{Adp}M$  and  $\alpha$  a  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover.

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) By Proposition 2.10,  $M$  is a cofinendo module. Then there is a morphism  $\alpha: M_0 \rightarrow Q$  with  $\alpha$  an  $\text{Adp}M$ -precover by Lemma 1.3. It can be shown that  $\alpha$  is also a  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover. Indeed, suppose that  $M' \in \text{Cogen}M$ , we proof that  $f$  can factor through  $\alpha$  for any  $f: M' \rightarrow Q$ . There exists a monomorphism  $i: M' \rightarrow M^X$  since  $M' \in \text{Cogen}M$ . We have a morphism  $g: M^X \rightarrow Q$  such that  $f = gi$  since  $Q$  is injective. It follows from  $\alpha$  is  $\text{Adp}M$ -precover that there is a morphism  $h: M^X \rightarrow M_0$  such that  $g = \alpha h$ . Thus  $f = gi = \alpha hi$ . So  $\alpha$  is a  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover. Now set  $M_1 = \ker \alpha$ , we only need to prove that  $M_1 \in \text{Adp}M$ . Consider the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_0 \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{Im}\alpha \rightarrow 0$ , it is easy to prove that  $\pi$  is also  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover by the definition. For any  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ , applying the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(N, -)$  to this exact sequence, we have that

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(N, M_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(N, M_0) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(N, \text{Im}\alpha) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(N, M_1) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^1(N, M_0) = 0.$$

It follows from  $\pi$  is  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover that  $\text{Ext}_R^1(N, M_1) = 0$ . Obviously,  $M_1 \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Thus  $M_1 \in \text{Adp}M$  by Lemma 3.1.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1) We only need to prove that  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$  by Proposition 2.4. Suppose that  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Consider the evaluation map  $a: N \rightarrow M^X$  with  $X = \text{Hom}_R(N, M)$ , which is injective since  $N \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Set  $C = \text{coker } a$ , next we prove that  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$ . There is a monomorphism  $f: C \rightarrow Q^Y$  for some  $Y$  since  $Q$  is an injective cogenerator. Now consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & N & \xrightarrow{a} & M^X & \xrightarrow{b} & C \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow h & \swarrow s_1 & \downarrow g & \swarrow s_0 & \downarrow f \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M_1^Y & \xrightarrow{\beta} & M_0^Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & Q^Y \end{array}$$

Since  $\alpha$  is  $\text{Cogen}M$ -precover, there is a morphism  $g$  such that  $\alpha g = fb$ , and then we have that  $\beta h = ga$ . Since  $a$  is evaluation map and  $M_1^Y \in \text{Adp}M$ , we have  $s_1$  such that  $h = s_1 a$ . It is easy to see that  $(g - \beta s_1)a = 0$ , and then we have  $s_0$  such that  $g - \beta s_1 = s_0 b$ . So  $\alpha s_0 b = \alpha(g - \beta s_1) = \alpha g = fb$ , thus  $f = \alpha s_0$  since  $b$  is surjective. Since  $f$  is injective,  $s_0$  is injective. Consequently,  $C \in \text{Cogen}M$  and  $\text{Cogen}M = \text{Copres}M$ . Then the proof is completed.



□

Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a class of  $R$ -modules. A module  $M \in \mathcal{D}$  is called an injective object of  $\mathcal{D}$  if for any short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$ -exact. A module  $M \in \mathcal{D}$  is called a cogenerator of  $\mathcal{D}$  if for any  $N$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ , there is a monomorphism  $i: N \rightarrow M^X$  for some set  $X$ .

**Lemma 3.3** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a class of  $R$ -modules and  $Q$  be an injective cogenerator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Suppose that an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q \xrightarrow{\pi} K \rightarrow 0$  satisfies that  $\alpha$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover and that  $A$  is Ext-injective in  $\mathcal{T}$ . Denote  $\mathcal{D} = \{N \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \text{Hom}_R(N, \pi) = 0\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  and  $M := \text{Im} \alpha$  is an injective cogenerator in  $\mathcal{D}$ .*

**Proof.** For any  $C \in \mathcal{T}$  and any morphism  $f: C \rightarrow Q$ , there is a morphism  $g: C \rightarrow B$  such that  $f = \alpha g$  since  $\alpha$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover. Thus  $\text{Hom}_R(C, \pi) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ .

Take any short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  and any morphism  $h: X \rightarrow M$ . Consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{a} & Y & \longrightarrow & Z & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow h & \nearrow \beta & \downarrow c & & & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{b} & Q & \xrightarrow{\pi} & K & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

It follows that from  $Q$  is injective that there is a morphisms  $c$  such that  $bh = ca$ . Since  $Y \in \mathcal{D}$ , we have a morphism  $\beta$  such that  $c = b\beta$ . Thus  $bh = b\beta a$  and  $h = \beta a$  since  $b$  is injective. So the exact sequence is  $\text{Hom}(-, M)$ -exact, i.e.  $M$  is injective in  $\mathcal{D}$ . For any  $N \in \mathcal{D}$ , we have a monomorphism  $i: N \rightarrow Q^I$  since  $Q$  is an injective cogenerator. Consider the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M^I \rightarrow Q^I \rightarrow K^I \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $N \in \mathcal{D}$ , we have that  $\text{Hom}_R(N, \pi^I) \cong (\text{Hom}_R(N, \pi))^I = 0$ , i.e.,  $\pi^I i = 0$ . So there is a morphism  $\gamma: N \rightarrow M^I$  such that  $i = b^I \gamma$  and  $\gamma$  is injective since  $i$  is injective. Consequently,  $M$  is a cogenerator in  $\mathcal{D}$ . □

The following result is usually called Wakamatsu's lemma, see for instance [12].

**Lemma 3.4** (Wakamatsu's lemma) *If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a class of modules closed under extensions and if  $\varphi: T \rightarrow M$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -cover, then  $\ker \varphi \in T^{\perp 1}$ .*

**Theorem 3.5** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a torsion-free classes in  $R\text{-Mod}$ . The following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{T}$  is quasi-cotilting torsion-free. i.e. there exists a quasi-cotilting module  $M$  such that  $\mathcal{T} = \text{Cogen} M$ ;
- (2)  $\mathcal{T}$  is a cover class;
- (3) For any  $R$ -module  $N$ , there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\alpha} N$$

with  $\alpha$  a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover and  $A$  Ext-injective in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) By Corollary 2.12.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) For any  $R$ -module  $N$ , there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\alpha} N$$

with  $\alpha$   $\mathcal{T}$ -cover by (2). By Wakamatsu's lemma, we have that  $A \in \mathcal{T}^{\perp 1}$ . Since  $B \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  is a torsion-free class,  $A$  is in  $\mathcal{T}$ . Thus  $A$  is Ext-injective in  $\mathcal{T}$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (1) Take  $N = Q$  with  $Q$  an injective cogenerator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then we have an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\alpha} Q$  with  $\alpha$  a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover and  $A$  Ext-injective in  $\mathcal{T}$  by assumption. Set  $M = A \oplus B$ . Then  $\text{Cogen}M \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  since  $\mathcal{T}$  is a torsion-free class. On the other hand, for any  $L \in \mathcal{T}$ , we have a monomorphism  $f: L \rightarrow Q^X$ . There is a morphism  $g: L \rightarrow B^X$  such that  $f = \alpha^X g$  since  $\alpha^X$  is clearly a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover. It follows from  $f$  is injective that  $g$  is injective. Thus  $L \in \text{Cogen}M$  and  $\text{Cogen}M = \mathcal{T}$ . It remains to show that  $M$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$  by Theorem 3.2. In fact, by assumption, we have to verify this only to  $B$ . Take any exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow N \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$  with  $T \in \text{Cogen}M$ . Then  $N$  is in  $\text{Cogen}M$  since  $\text{Cogen}M = \mathcal{T}$  is a torsion-free class. Set  $C = \text{Im}\alpha$ , consider the pushout of  $B \rightarrow N$  and  $B \rightarrow C$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & 0 & & 0 & & \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
& & A & \xrightarrow{1} & A & & \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & B & \xrightarrow{a} & N & \xrightleftharpoons{b} & T \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow \pi & \swarrow s_1 & \downarrow d & \swarrow \delta & \downarrow 1 \\
0 & \longrightarrow & C & \xrightarrow{c} & W & \xrightarrow{e} & T \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
& & 0 & & 0 & & 
\end{array}$$

By Lemma 3.3, the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow N \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$  is  $\text{Hom}(-, C)$ -exact. So there is a morphism  $s_1$  such that  $\pi = s_1 a$ . It is easy to see that  $(d - cs_1)a = 0$ . So we have  $d = cs_1 + s_0 b$  in the above diagram for some  $s_0$ . Since  $A$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ , there is a morphism  $\delta: T \rightarrow N$  such that  $s_0 = d\delta$ . So  $b = ed = e(s_0 b + cs_1) = es_0 b$  and  $es_0 = 1$  since  $b$  is surjective. But  $b\delta = ed\delta = es_0 = 1$ , thus,  $b$  is split. Consequently,  $B$  is Ext-injective in  $\text{Cogen}M$ .  $\square$

We say that two quasi-cotilting modules  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are equivalent if  $\text{Adp}M_1 = \text{Adp}M_2$ .

**Corollary 3.6** *There are bijections between*

- (1) *equivalence classes of quasi-cotilting modules;*
- (2) *torsion-free cover classes;*
- (3) *torsion-free classes  $\mathcal{T}$  in  $R\text{-Mod}$  such that every module has a  $\mathcal{T}$ -precover with Ext-injective kernel.*

**Proof.** Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two quasi-cotilting modules, it is easy to prove that  $\text{Adp}M_1 = \text{Adp}M_2$  if and only if  $\text{Cogen}M_1 = \text{Cogen}M_2$  by Lemma 3.1. Now this correspondences can be defined as follows:

- (1) $\rightarrow$ (2):  $M \mapsto \text{Cogen}M$
- (2) $\rightarrow$ (3):  $\mathcal{T} \mapsto \mathcal{T}$
- (3) $\rightarrow$ (1):  $\mathcal{T} \mapsto M$  with  $\text{Cogen}M = \mathcal{T}$ .  $\square$

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