

## THE FLAT MODEL STRUCTURE ON $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$

JAMES GILLESPIE

ABSTRACT. Given a cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  with enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects, we define two cotorsion pairs in the category  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  of unbounded chain complexes. We see that these two cotorsion pairs are related in a nice way when  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is hereditary. We then show that both of these induced cotorsion pairs are complete when  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is the “flat” cotorsion pair of  $R$ -modules. This proves the flat cover conjecture for (possibly unbounded) chain complexes and also gives us a new “flat” model category structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ . In the last section we use the theory of model categories to show that we can define  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^n(M, N)$  using a flat resolution of  $M$  and a cotorsion coresolution of  $N$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The derived category of an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  is the category  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})$  obtained by formally inverting the homology isomorphisms ( $H_*$ -isomorphisms) in the category  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  of unbounded chain complexes. From the definition alone one immediately finds difficulty proving anything about  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})$ . For example, for objects  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ , is the class of morphisms  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})(X, Y)$  even a set? One application of Quillen’s notion of a model category is that in some cases we can get a handle on the derived category. After all, a model category  $\mathcal{M}$  comes equipped with three classes of maps: cofibrations, fibrations, and weak equivalences, as well as an associated homotopy category  $\mathbf{Ho}(\mathcal{M})$  in which the weak equivalences have been made isomorphisms. So if we can put a model structure  $\mathcal{M}$  on  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  such that the weak equivalences are  $H_*$ -isomorphisms, then we can identify  $\mathbf{Ho}(\mathcal{M})$  with  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{C})$ . The rich model structure now lets us describe the class of maps between objects  $X$  and  $Y$  as the set of homotopy classes of maps between a cofibrant replacement of  $X$  and a fibrant replacement of  $Y$ .

For a commutative ring  $R$  with 1, the category  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  of unbounded chain complexes has two well-known model category structures with weak equivalences being the  $H_*$ -isomorphisms. The “projective” model structure is characterized by having the fibrations being all epimorphisms and the cofibrations being the monomorphisms with dg-projective cokernels. The dual “injective” model structure has the cofibrations being the monomorphisms and the fibrations the epimorphisms with dg-injective kernels. Here we will see that there is also a “flat” model structure with cofibrations being the monomorphisms with dg-flat cokernels and the fibrations being the epimorphisms with dg-cotorsion kernels. We also show that this “flat”

---

Received by the editors October 1, 2002 and, in revised form, May 13, 2003.  
2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 55U35, 18G35, 18G15.  
The author thanks Mark Hovey of Wesleyan University.

model structure is monoidal; that is, it interacts properly with the tensor product on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ .

It is a folk theorem of Joyal [Joy84] that there always is an injective model structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  whenever  $\mathcal{C}$  is a Grothendieck category. However, in many important cases, such as when  $\mathcal{C}$  is the category of sheaves on a ringed space or quasi-coherent sheaves on a ringed space, we also have a tensor product. Unfortunately the injective model structure is not monoidal and a desired projective model structure does not exist since these categories do not have enough projectives. The methods used here could perhaps be used to construct a “flat” model structure which *is* monoidal. The author hopes to follow this up in future work.

To obtain the flat model structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  we use a theorem of Mark Hovey (see [Hov00]) which relates complete cotorsion pairs on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  to model structures on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ . (A cotorsion pair is a pair of classes  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  in an abelian category which are orthogonal with respect to  $\text{Ext}$ . A precise definition is given in the next section.) Section 3 shows in a general way that any hereditary cotorsion pair in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  induces cotorsion pairs in  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  for which Hovey’s theorem can apply *if* we know the induced cotorsion pairs are complete.

Next, section 4 looks at the two cotorsion pairs of complexes induced by the flat cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  and we show these *are* complete. The method follows Enochs’ approach of cogenerating the cotorsion pairs by a set. It follows immediately from this work that every (possibly unbounded) chain complex has a flat cover, injective envelope, dg-flat cover, and dg-cotorsion envelope.

Lastly, in section 5 we will see that we can compute  $\text{Ext}^n(M, N)$  for  $R$ -modules  $M$  and  $N$  in terms of a flat resolution of  $M$  and a cotorsion coresolution of  $N$ . Again we hope this method can be used to give a convenient way to compute  $\text{Ext}^n$  in more general categories which may not have enough projectives.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian category. A *cotorsion pair* (also called a cotorsion theory) is a pair of classes of objects  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $\mathcal{A}^\perp = \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{A} = {}^\perp\mathcal{B}$ . Here  $\mathcal{A}^\perp$  is the class of objects  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\text{Ext}^1(A, C) = 0$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , and similarly  ${}^\perp\mathcal{B}$  is the class of objects  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\text{Ext}^1(C, B) = 0$  for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . We will mainly be considering cotorsion pairs in the category  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  of  $R$ -modules and the category  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  of chain complexes of  $R$ -modules. Two simple examples of cotorsion theories in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  are  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{A})$  and  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{I})$ , where  $\mathcal{P}$  is the class of projectives,  $\mathcal{I}$  is the class of injectives and  $\mathcal{A}$  is the class of all  $R$ -modules.

The cotorsion pair is said to have *enough projectives* if for any  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  there is a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ , where  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . We say it has *enough injectives* if it satisfies the dual statement. These two statements are in fact equivalent for a cotorsion pair as long as the *category*  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives and injectives. (In the language we just described this means that the cotorsion theory  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{A})$  has enough projectives and  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{I})$  has enough injectives, where  $\mathcal{P}$  is the class of projective objects,  $\mathcal{I}$  is the class of injective objects, and  $\mathcal{A}$  is the class of all objects in  $\mathcal{C}$ .) We say that the cotorsion pair is *complete* if it has enough projectives and injectives. For a good reference on cotorsion pairs see [EJ01]. The equivalence of the statements above, although not difficult, is proved as Proposition 7.1.7 in [EJ01] for  $R$ -modules, but clearly holds for any abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  with enough projectives and injectives.

Another example of a cotorsion theory in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  is  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ , where  $\mathcal{F}$  is the class of flat modules and  $\mathcal{C}$  is the so-called cotorsion module. Proving that this cotorsion pair is complete is nontrivial and two different proofs were recently given by the three authors of [BBE00]. For a reference on cotorsion modules see [Xu96] and [EJ01]. Another cotorsion pair that the author has in mind is the pair  $(\mathcal{F}', \mathcal{C}')$ , the “flat” cotorsion pair on  $\mathbf{Sh}(\mathcal{O})$ , the category of sheaves of  $\mathcal{O}$ -modules, where  $\mathcal{O}$  is a ringed space on  $X$ . This cotorsion pair is also complete as follows from [EO01].

We always assume our ring  $R$  is commutative with 1. A chain complex  $\cdots \rightarrow X_{n+1} \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} X_n \xrightarrow{d_n} X_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots$  will be denoted by  $(X, d)$  or simply  $X$ . We say  $X$  is *bounded below* (*above*) if  $X_n = 0$  for  $n < k$  ( $n > k$ ) for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We say it is *bounded* if it is bounded above and below. The *n*th *cycle module* is defined as  $\ker d_n$  and is denoted  $Z_n X$ . The *n*th *boundary module* is  $\text{Im} d_{n+1}$  and is denoted  $B_n X$ . The *n*th *homology module* is defined to be  $Z_n X / B_n X$  and is denoted  $H_n X$ . Given an  $R$ -module  $M$ , we let  $S^n(M)$  denote the chain complex with all entries 0 except  $M$  in degree  $n$ . We let  $D^n(M)$  denote the chain complex  $X$  with  $X_n = X_{n-1} = M$  and all other entries 0. All maps are 0 except  $d_n = 1_M$ . Given  $X$ , the *suspension of  $X$* , denoted  $\Sigma X$ , is the complex given by  $(\Sigma X)_n = X_{n-1}$  and  $(d_{\Sigma X})_n = -d_n$ . The complex  $\Sigma(\Sigma X)$  is denoted  $\Sigma^2 X$  and inductively we define  $\Sigma^n X$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Finally, a complex  $C$  is *finitely generated* if it is bounded and each  $C_n$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Similarly a complex  $D$  is *finitely presented* if it is bounded and each  $D_n$  is a finitely presented module. It can be shown that a complex  $D$  is finitely presented iff there exists a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow 0$  with  $C, K$  finitely generated and  $C_n$  free for each  $n$ . For example, see Lemma 4.1.1 in [GR99].

Given two chain complexes  $X$  and  $Y$  we define  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  to be the complex

$$\cdots \rightarrow \prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}(X_k, Y_{k+n}) \xrightarrow{\delta_n} \prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}(X_k, Y_{k+n-1}) \rightarrow \cdots,$$

where  $(\delta_n f)_k = d_{k+n} f_k - (-1)^n f_{k-1} d_k$ . Note that the entries are indeed  $R$ -modules since  $R$  is commutative. We leave it to the reader to verify that  $\delta_n$  is  $R$ -linear and that  $\delta_n \delta_{n+1} = 0$ . Also the functor  $\text{Hom}(X, -) : \mathbf{Ch}(R) \rightarrow \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is left exact, and exact if  $X_n$  is projective for all  $n$ . Similarly the contravariant functor  $\text{Hom}(-, Y)$  sends right exact sequences to left exact sequences and is exact if  $Y_n$  is injective for all  $n$ . We also note that if  $0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$  is exact and the  $I_n$  are injective, then  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, I) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, Y) \rightarrow 0$  is exact. Indeed in degree  $n$  we have the exact sequence

$$\prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}(Z_k, X_{k+n}) \rightarrow \prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}(Z_k, Y_{k+n}) \rightarrow \prod_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Ext}^1(Z_k, I_{k+n}) = 0.$$

Of course the dual statement holds for a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$  with each  $P_n$  projective.

Recall that  $\text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(R)}^1(Y, X)$  is the group of (equivalence classes) of short exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$ . We let  $\text{Ext}_{dw}^1(Y, X)$  be the subgroup of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(R)}^1(Y, X)$  consisting of those short exact sequences which are split in each dimension. The next lemma is standard and we will not prove it.

**Lemma 2.1.** *For chain complexes  $X$  and  $Y$ , we have*

$$\text{Ext}_{dw}^1(X, \Sigma^{(-n-1)} Y) \cong H_n \text{Hom}(X, Y) = \text{Ch}(R)(X, \Sigma^{-n} Y) / \sim,$$

where  $\sim$  is chain homotopy.

In particular, for chain complexes  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  is exact iff for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , any  $f: \Sigma^n X \rightarrow Y$  is homotopic to 0 (or iff any  $f: X \rightarrow \Sigma^n Y$  is homotopic to 0). Also note that there is nothing special about  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  and  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  in the lemma. The definitions of  $\text{Hom}$  and  $\text{Ext}_{dw}^1$  easily carry over to any chain complex category  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ , where  $\mathcal{C}$  is an abelian category, and so does the proof of Lemma 2.1.

Given two chain complexes,  $X$  and  $Y$ , their tensor product  $X \otimes Y$  is defined by  $(X \otimes Y)_n = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} X_i \otimes Y_j$  in degree  $n$ . The boundary map  $\delta_n$  is defined on the generators by  $\delta_n(x \otimes y) = dx \otimes y + (-1)^{|x|} x \otimes dy$ , where  $|x|$  is the degree of the element  $x$ . One can easily check that  $\delta^2 = 0$  (and this would not be true if we did not introduce the sign  $(-1)^{|x|}$ ). The tensor product and the above  $\text{Hom}$  functor make  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  a closed symmetric monoidal category. In fact, we have the “enriched” adjointness  $\text{Hom}(X \otimes Y, Z) \cong \text{Hom}(X, \text{Hom}(Y, Z))$ .

### 3. INDUCED COTORSION PAIRS IN CHAIN COMPLEX CATEGORIES

In this section we let  $\mathcal{C}$  be any abelian category and  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  denote a cotorsion pair on  $\mathcal{C}$ . If every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  is a quotient of an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ , then we will say that  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects. If every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  is a subobject of an object in  $\mathcal{B}$ , we will say that  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects. We will see that whenever  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects, then the cotorsion pair induces two cotorsion pairs on  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ , the category of chain complexes on  $\mathcal{C}$ . In particular, this holds for a Grothendieck category with enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and for any abelian category with enough projectives and injectives. As an example, note that the category  $\mathbf{Sh}(\mathcal{O})$  does not have enough projectives, but it is a Grothendieck category in which every object is a quotient of a flat sheaf. So our results will apply in this category along with the flat cotorsion pair. The main example to keep in mind though is the flat cotorsion pair of  $R$ -modules. It will play a central role in the rest of the paper.

In general, there are a few common and useful adjointness relationships between an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  and its chain complex category  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ . We start by listing a few easy ones in the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian category and let  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  be the category of chain complexes on  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then for an object  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $X, Y \in \mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ , we have the following natural isomorphisms:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{C}(C, Y_n) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}(D^n(C), Y)$ ,
- (2)  $\mathcal{C}(X_{n-1}, C) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}(X, D^n(C))$ ,
- (3)  $\mathcal{C}(C, Z_n Y) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}(S^n(C), Y)$ ,
- (4)  $\mathcal{C}(X_n/B_n X, C) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}(X, S^n(C))$ ,
- (5)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(C, Y_n) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(D^n C, Y)$ ,
- (6)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_n, C) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(X, D^{n+1} C)$ ,
- (7)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(C, Z_n Y) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(S^n C, Y)$ ,
- (8)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(Z_n X, C) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(X, S^n C)$ .

*Proof.* The first batch is very straightforward to prove. For (5), define a map

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(D^n C, Y) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(C, Y_n)$$

by sending a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow D^n C \rightarrow 0$$

to the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y_n \rightarrow Z_n \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0.$$

This is clearly well defined and the inverse map works by taking a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y_n \xrightarrow{f} Z_n \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0$$

and forming the pushout,  $P$ , of the arrows  $f$  and  $Y_n \rightarrow Y_{n-1}$ . The crucial part is to observe that any extension

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow D^n C \rightarrow 0$$

must necessarily be a pushout square in degrees  $n$  and  $n - 1$ . This follows from the universal property of a pushout. The proof of (6) is dual. For (7), define a map

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(C)}^1(S^n C, Y) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_C^1(C, Z_n Y)$$

by sending short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow S^n C \rightarrow 0$$

to the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Z_n Y \rightarrow Z_n Z \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0.$$

In the other direction, consider a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Z_n Y \xrightarrow{f} Z \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0.$$

Form the commutative diagram below, where the rows are exact and the left square is a pushout:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & Z_n Y & \xrightarrow{f} & Z & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & i \downarrow & & i' \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y_n & \xrightarrow{f'} & P & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Using the definition of pushout, the maps  $d_n: Y_n \rightarrow Y_{n-1}$  along with the zero map  $Z \rightarrow Y_{n-1}$  induce a map  $\delta: P \rightarrow Y_{n-1}$  such that  $\delta f' = d_n$  and  $\delta i' = 0$ . Thus we can form the exact sequence of complexes  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow \overline{Z} \rightarrow S^n(C) \rightarrow 0$ , a portion of which is shown below:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y_{n+1} & \xlongequal{\quad} & Y_{n+1} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ d \downarrow & & f'd \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y_n & \xrightarrow{f'} & P & \longrightarrow & C \\ d_n \downarrow & & \delta \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y_{n-1} & \xlongequal{\quad} & Y_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

The proof for (8) is dual to (7). □

Notice that (1) implies that  $D^n(P)$  is projective whenever  $P$  is a projective  $R$ -module. Dually, (2) implies that  $D^n(I)$  is injective whenever  $I$  is injective in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$ .

**Proposition 3.2.**  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  has enough projectives and enough injectives whenever  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives and injectives. I.e., given  $X \in \mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ , there exists a projective chain complex  $P$  and an epimorphism  $P \rightarrow X$ . Dually, there exists an injective complex  $I$  and a monomorphism  $X \rightarrow I$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X \in \mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  be given. We can find a surjection  $f_n: P_n \rightarrow X_n$ , where  $P_n$  is projective. By the first adjoint relationship above we have a chain map  $D^n(f_n): D^n(P_n) \rightarrow X$ , which is surjective in degree  $n$ . Thus

$$\bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} D^n(f_n): \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} D^n(P_n) \rightarrow X$$

is surjective with  $\bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} D^n(P_n)$  projective. Similarly we can show that  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  has enough injectives.  $\square$

In particular,  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  has enough projectives and injectives.

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair on an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Let  $X$  be a chain complex.

- (1)  $X$  is called an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex if it is exact and  $Z_n X \in \mathcal{A}$  for all  $n$ .
- (2)  $X$  is called a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex if it is exact and  $Z_n X \in \mathcal{B}$  for all  $n$ .
- (3)  $X$  is called a  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{A}$  complex if  $X_n \in \mathcal{A}$  for each  $n$ , and  $\text{Hom}(X, B)$  is exact whenever  $B$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex.
- (4)  $X$  is called a  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{B}$  complex if  $X_n \in \mathcal{B}$  for each  $n$ , and  $\text{Hom}(A, X)$  is exact whenever  $A$  is a  $\mathcal{A}$  complex.

We denote the class of  $\mathcal{A}$  complexes by  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  and the class of  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{A}$  complexes by  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Similarly, the  $\mathcal{B}$  complexes are denoted by  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and the class of  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{B}$  complexes are denoted by  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ .

Note that if  $X$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex (resp.  $\mathcal{B}$  complex), then  $X_n \in \mathcal{A}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{B}$ ) since  $\mathcal{A}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{B}$ ) is closed under extensions.

One should be aware that in the case of the flat cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  in  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ , our definitions for “ $dg\text{-cotorsion}$ ” and “cotorsion” are reversed from what appears in the literature, much of which is gathered in [GR99]. Obviously, the author feels that these complexes were named incorrectly: An adjective with the prefix “ $dg$ ” should stand for a sort of weaker “degreewise” notion rather than the adjective without the “ $dg$ ”, which should be a stronger categorical notion. The projective complexes we define here from  $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{A})$  are indeed the categorical projectives and the flat complexes obtained from  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  can be described as a colimit of projectives. See [GR99].

**Lemma 3.4.**

- (1) Bounded below complexes with entries in  $\mathcal{A}$  are  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{A}$  complexes.
- (2) Bounded above complexes with entries in  $\mathcal{B}$  are  $dg\text{-}\mathcal{B}$  complexes.

*Proof.* First we prove (1). Let  $(X, d)$  be a bounded below complex with entries in  $\mathcal{A}$ . We need to show that  $\text{Hom}(X, B)$  is exact whenever  $B$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex. This will follow from showing that any  $f: X \rightarrow B$  is homotopic to zero, where  $B$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex. So let such a map  $f: X \rightarrow B$  be given and without loss of generality assume  $X_n = 0$  for  $n < 0$ . Now

$$(\dagger) \quad 0 \rightarrow \ker d_1 \rightarrow B_1 \rightarrow \text{Im} d_1 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact and each object in the sequence belongs to  $\mathcal{B}$ . Furthermore,  $f_0: X_0 \rightarrow B_0$  lands in  $\text{Im}d_1$  and so may be thought of as an element of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_0, \text{Im}d_1)$ . Now mapping  $X_0$  into (†) yields a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_0, \ker d_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_0, B_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_0, \text{Im}d_1) \rightarrow 0.$$

Thus  $f_0$  lifts to a map  $D_1: X_0 \rightarrow B_1$ . I.e., there exists  $D_1$  such that  $d_1D_1 = f_0$ . Now set  $g_1 = f_1 - D_1d_1$  and note  $d_1g_1 = d_1f_1 - d_1D_1d_1 = d_1f_1 - f_0d_1 = 0$  so that  $g_1: X_1 \rightarrow B_1$  lands in  $\text{Im}d_2$ . As above, we can lift  $g_1$  to a map  $D_2: X_1 \rightarrow B_2$  such that  $d_2D_2 = g_1 = f_1 - D_1d_1$ . Therefore,  $d_2D_2 + D_1d_1 = f_1$ . Continuing in this way we can construct a homotopy  $\{D_k\}$  such that  $d_kD_k + D_{k-1}d_{k-1} = f_{k-1}$ .

Statement (2) is dual to (1). Indeed suppose we are given a complex  $(X, d)$  which is bounded above and such that each  $X_n$  is in  $\mathcal{B}$ . We assume that  $X_n = 0$  for  $n > 0$ . Let  $(A, d)$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex and  $f: A \rightarrow X$  be a chain map. We want to show  $f$  is homotopic to 0. First let  $D_n: A_{n-1} \rightarrow X_n$  be zero for  $n > 0$ . We first construct  $D_0: A_{-1} \rightarrow X_0$  such that  $D_0d_0 = f_0$ . To do this note that  $\text{Im}d_1 = \ker d_0$  is in  $\mathcal{A}$  and is contained in  $\ker f_0$ . Thus we have a map  $\hat{f}_0: \ker d_{-1} \rightarrow X_0$  such that  $\hat{f}_0d_0 = f_0$ . Since the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \ker d_{-1} \rightarrow A_{-1} \rightarrow \text{Im}d_{-1} \rightarrow 0$  has entries in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $X_0 \in \mathcal{B}$ , there exists  $D_0: A_{-1} \rightarrow X_0$  which equals  $\hat{f}_0$  when restricted to  $\ker d_{-1}$ . Thus  $D_0d_0 = \hat{f}_0d_0 = f_0$ . Now define  $g_{-1} = f_{-1} - d_0D_0$ . Then we have  $g_{-1}d_0 = f_{-1}d_0 - d_0D_0d_0 = f_{-1}d_0 - d_0f_0 = 0$ . So  $\text{Im}d_0 = \ker d_{-1} \subseteq \ker g_{-1}$ . This means we have a map  $\hat{g}_{-1}: \ker d_{-2} \rightarrow X_{-1}$  such that  $\hat{g}_{-1}d_{-1} = g_{-1}$ . As above,  $\hat{g}_{-1}$  extends to a map  $D_{-1}: A_{-2} \rightarrow X_{-1}$ . Thus  $d_0D_0 + D_{-1}d_{-1} = (f_{-1} - g_{-1}) + (\hat{g}_{-1}d_{-1}) = (f_{-1} - g_{-1}) + g_{-1} = f_{-1}$ . We can continue this way to build a homotopy  $\{D_k\}$  from  $f$  to 0. □

Now suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects as defined in the beginning of this section. Then the argument used in Proposition 3.2 will also show that for any chain complex  $X$  there exists a surjective map  $\bar{A} \rightarrow X$  with  $\bar{A}$  an  $\mathcal{A}$ -complex. The dual argument works, too. So we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.5.** *If  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is a cotorsion pair in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  with enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects, then  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  has enough  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  objects and enough  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  objects.*

Of course if  $\mathcal{C}$  does have enough projectives (respectively, injectives), then  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$  has enough  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  objects (respectively,  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  objects).

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  with enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and enough  $\mathcal{B}$  objects. Then  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  and  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  are cotorsion pairs in  $\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ .*

*Proof.* First we consider the cotorsion pair  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$ . Let  $X \in (dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}})^\perp$ . We will argue that  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . First we want to show that  $Z_nX \in \mathcal{B}$ . But for  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , adjointness property (5) from Lemma 3.1 tells us  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(A, Z_nX) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbf{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(S^nA, X) = 0$ . So indeed  $Z_nX \in \mathcal{B}$ . Next we show  $X$  is exact. Let  $f_n: A' \rightarrow Z_nX$  be a surjection with  $A' \in \mathcal{A}$ . It induces a map  $f: S^n(A') \rightarrow X$  which by hypothesis is homotopic to zero since  $S^n(A') \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . If  $\{D_n\}$  is the homotopy, then  $d_{n+1}D_n = f_n$  and thus  $B_nX = Z_nX$ . Thus  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . Therefore  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}})^\perp \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ .

It is easy to see that  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}})^\perp \supseteq \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ : Let  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and say  $A \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . It is enough to show that  $\text{Ext}_{dw}^1(A, X) = 0$  and by Lemma 2.1 this follows from the fact that  $\text{Hom}(A, X)$  is exact.

Now we show that  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = {}^\perp\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . Let  $X \in {}^\perp\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . Then  $\text{Ext}^1(X, B) = 0$  whenever  $B$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex. In particular,  $\text{Ext}_{dw}^1(X, B) = 0$  and so by Lemma 2.1 we have  $\text{Hom}(X, B)$  is exact whenever  $B$  is a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex. It remains to show  $X_n \in \mathcal{A}$ . So let  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then using adjointness property (6) from Lemma 3.1 we see

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_n, B) = \text{Ext}_{\text{Ch}(\mathcal{C})}^1(X, D^{n+1}B) = 0$$

since  $D^{n+1}B \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . So  $X_n \in \mathcal{A}$ . This shows  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \supseteq {}^\perp\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \subseteq {}^\perp\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is easy to show (just use Lemma 2.1 again).

The method used to show  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  is a cotorsion pair is dual.  $\square$

**Definition 3.7.** Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Whenever  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  and  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  are indeed cotorsion pairs, we will call them the *induced cotorsion pairs (of chain complexes)*. We say that the induced cotorsion pairs are *compatible* if  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} = dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E}$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$  is the class of exact complexes.

**Corollary 3.8.** *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is any abelian category with enough projectives and injectives or if  $\mathcal{C}$  is Grothendieck with enough  $\mathcal{A}$  objects, then for any cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  we have the induced cotorsion pairs  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  and  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  of chain complexes.*

Next we want to investigate when the induced cotorsion pairs are compatible. This is important when one wishes to apply Hovey's Theorem 1.2 from [Hov00] to get a model structure on  $\text{Ch}(\mathcal{C})$ .

**Lemma 3.9.** *Every chain map from an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex to a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex is homotopic to 0.*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$ -complex and  $Y$  a  $\mathcal{B}$ -complex, and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a chain map. The proof is in two stages. First we show that we can replace  $f$  with a homotopic map  $g$  which satisfies  $d_n g_n = 0$  and  $g_n d_{n+1} = 0$ . Then we show that any map  $g: X \rightarrow Y$  with this property is homotopic to 0.

The map  $f_n: X_n \rightarrow Y_n$  restricts to  $\hat{f}_n: Z_n X \rightarrow Z_n Y$ , and

$$0 \rightarrow Z_{n+1} Y \rightarrow Y_{n+1} \rightarrow Z_n Y \rightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of objects in  $\mathcal{B}$ . So

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n X, Z_{n+1} Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n X, Y_{n+1}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n X, Z_n Y) \rightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence. Therefore we have  $\alpha_n: Z_n X \rightarrow Y_{n+1}$  such that  $d_{n+1} \alpha_n = \hat{f}_n$ .

Now also  $0 \rightarrow Z_n X \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow Z_{n-1} X \rightarrow 0$  is an exact sequence of objects in  $\mathcal{A}$ . So  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_{n-1} X, Y_{n+1}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(X_n, Y_{n+1}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n X, Y_{n+1}) \rightarrow 0$  is exact and there exists  $\beta_n: X_n \rightarrow Y_{n+1}$  which equals  $\alpha_n$  when restricted to  $Z_n X$ .

Now set  $g_n = f_n - (d_{n+1} \beta_n + \beta_{n-1} d_n)$ . It is easy to see that  $g = \{g_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a chain map. It is homotopic to  $f$  since  $f_n - g_n = d_{n+1} \beta_n + \beta_{n-1} d_n$ . Furthermore, a straightforward computation shows it satisfies  $d_n g_n = 0$  and  $g_n d_{n+1} = 0$ .

The remainder of the proof shows that whenever we have a chain map  $g$  such that  $dg = 0 = gd$ , then  $g$  is homotopic to 0. Indeed we know that  $\text{Im} g_n \subset \ker d_n$  and  $\text{Im} d_{n+1} = \ker d_n \subset \ker g_n$ . This allows us to define a map  $\bar{g}_n: X_n/Z_n X \rightarrow Z_n Y$



which makes the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X_n & \xlongequal{\quad} & X_n & \xlongequal{\quad} & X_n \\
 d_n \downarrow & & \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow g_n \\
 Z_{n-1}X & \xleftarrow[\bar{d}_n]{\cong} & X_n/Z_nX & \xrightarrow{\bar{g}_n} & Z_nY
 \end{array}$$

If we set  $\hat{g}_n := \bar{g}_n \bar{d}_n^{-1}$ , then  $\hat{g}_n: Z_{n-1}X \rightarrow Z_nY$  and  $\hat{g}_n d_n = g_n$ . Now (using the argument as above to obtain the maps  $\alpha_n$ ) there exists a map  $\delta_n: Z_{n-1}X \rightarrow Y_{n+1}$  such that  $d_{n+1} \delta_n = \hat{g}_n$ . One can easily check that the maps  $\delta_n d_n: X_n \rightarrow Y_{n+1}$  are a homotopy from  $g$  to 0.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.10.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair in an abelian category. Then  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \subset dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \subset dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E}$ .*

*Proof.* This follows immediately from the last lemma and the definitions.  $\square$

Lemma 3.10 tells us that the critical question in the notion of being compatible is whether or not the containments  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \supset dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \supset dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E}$  hold. We now see that this is directly linked to whether or not  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is a hereditary cotorsion pair.

**Definition 3.11.** A cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  in an abelian category is called *hereditary* if one of the following hold:

- (1)  $\mathcal{A}$  is resolving. That is,  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under taking kernels of epis.
- (2)  $\mathcal{B}$  is coresolving. That is,  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under taking cokernels of monics.
- (3)  $\text{Ext}^i(A, B) = 0$  for any  $R$ -modules  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $i \geq 1$ .

See [GR99] for a proof that these are equivalent.

**Theorem 3.12.** *Suppose  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is a hereditary cotorsion pair in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives, then  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and if  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough injectives, then  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . In particular, if  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives and injectives, then the induced cotorsion pairs on  $\mathcal{C}$  are compatible.*

*Proof.* We show  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  when  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives. The second statement is dual.

Let  $X$  be an exact dg- $\mathcal{B}$  complex. We need to show  $\text{Ext}^1(A, Z_n X) = 0$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $P_\bullet$  be an augmented projective resolution of  $A: P_\bullet = \cdots \rightarrow P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is hereditary,  $P_\bullet \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Now  $0 \rightarrow Z_n X \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow Z_{n-1} X \rightarrow 0$  is exact and  $\text{Ext}^1(A, X_n) = 0$ , so we will be done if we can show that any  $f: A \rightarrow Z_{n-1} X$  factors through  $X_n$ . But any  $f: A \rightarrow Z_{n-1} X$  induces a chain map  $\Sigma^{n-1} P_\bullet \rightarrow X$ . (This is easy to check: use the fact that  $X$  is exact and build lifts inductively.) Since  $X$  is a dg- $\mathcal{B}$  complex and  $\Sigma^{n-1} P_\bullet$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex, this map is homotopic to 0. A chain homotopy  $\{D_n\}$  will give the desired lift  $f = d_n D_{n-1}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.13.** *Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair in an abelian category with enough projectives and injectives and let  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}}), (dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  be the induced cotorsion pairs of chain complexes. TFAE:*

- (1)  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is hereditary.
- (2)  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  is hereditary.
- (3)  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  is hereditary.

$$(4) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{A}} = dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}.$$

$$(5) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{B}} = dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E}.$$

(6) *The induced pairs  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$ ,  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  are compatible and hereditary.*

*Proof.* Clearly (6) implies (2), (3), (4), and (5). The plan is to show (2), (3), (4), and (5) each imply (1) and finally that (1) implies (6).

For (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) let  $0 \rightarrow B' \rightarrow B \rightarrow B'' \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence with  $B', B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then  $0 \rightarrow S^\circ B' \rightarrow S^\circ B \rightarrow S^\circ B'' \rightarrow 0$  is exact and  $S^\circ B', S^\circ B \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . Thus  $S^\circ B'' \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ , so  $B'' \in \mathcal{B}$ . For (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) we do the analogous thing. Show  $\mathcal{A}$  is resolving.

For (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) we show  $\mathcal{A}$  is resolving. Let  $0 \rightarrow A' \rightarrow A \rightarrow A'' \rightarrow 0$  be exact with  $A, A'' \in \mathcal{A}$ . Extend this sequence to a resolution  $P_\circ = \cdots \rightarrow P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow A'' \rightarrow 0$ , where the  $P_i$ 's are projective. Then  $P_\circ$  is a dg- $\mathcal{A}$  complex since it is bounded below. It is also exact (by construction). The hypothesis implies  $P_\circ$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$  complex, so  $\ker(A \rightarrow A'') = A' \in \mathcal{A}$ . In a similar way (5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Show  $\mathcal{B}$  is coresolving by dualizing the argument above.

It is left to show (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (6). Theorem 3.12 shows that the cotorsion pairs induced from  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  are compatible. So it suffices to show that  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  and  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  are hereditary. The statements are in fact dual and so we are done after we show that  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  is resolving. So let  $0 \rightarrow A' \rightarrow A \rightarrow A'' \rightarrow 0$  be exact with  $A, A'' \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Clearly,  $A'_n \in \mathcal{A}$  since  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is hereditary. Now let  $X$  be a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex. Then  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A'', X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A', X) \rightarrow 0$  must be exact. (Just check in each degree). It follows by the fundamental lemma of homological algebra that  $\text{Hom}(A', X)$  is exact. Thus  $A'$  is a dg- $\mathcal{A}$  complex and so  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  is resolving.  $\square$

The examples of cotorsion pairs given in section 2 are all hereditary. For each example, the induced cotorsion pairs exist. Note however that for the flat cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{F}', \mathcal{C}')$  on the category  $\mathbf{Sh}(\mathcal{O})$ , Theorem 3.12 only allows us to conclude that  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}' = dg\tilde{\mathcal{F}}' \cap \mathcal{E}$ , since  $\mathbf{Sh}(\mathcal{O})$  does not have enough projectives. Nevertheless, the author has been able to show that in this case the induced cotorsion pairs are still compatible. He has not however found a general proof of Theorem 3.12 assuming only the existence of  $\mathcal{A}$  objects and  $\mathcal{B}$  objects. The next lemma shows how one can deal with “almost compatible” cotorsion pairs such as the sheaf situation just mentioned.

**Lemma 3.14.** *Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is an abelian category and  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is a cotorsion pair.*

- (1) *If  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  is a cotorsion pair with enough injectives and  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ , then  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ .*
- (2) *If  $(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  is a cotorsion pair with enough projectives and  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ , then  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E} = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ .*

*Proof.* The two statements are dual. We will prove the first one. By Lemma 3.10 we just need to show  $dg\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ . So let  $X$  be an exact dg- $\mathcal{B}$  complex. Since  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \tilde{\mathcal{B}})$  has enough injectives we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$$

with  $B \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $A \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ . Since  $X$  and  $B$  are each exact, so is  $A$ . But then  $A \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  by hypothesis. So the sequence must split, forcing  $X$  to be a direct summand of  $B$ . Since  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  is closed under direct summands we have  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ .  $\square$

The question of whether or not the induced cotorsion pairs are complete when the original cotorsion pair is complete is open.

4. THE FLAT CASE

Again let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the class of flat modules and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the class of cotorsion modules. The goal of this section is to show that the cotorsion theories on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  induced by  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  are both complete. Two different proofs were given in [BBE00] that  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  is complete. One was given by L. Bican and R. El Bashir and the second by E. Enochs. Our method of proof is analogous to Enochs’.

Complexes belonging to the class  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$  are called flat. That is, flat complexes are exact with all cycle modules flat. Unfortunately the usual tensor product on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  does not characterize flatness as it does in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$ . In particular we may have a chain complex  $X$  for which  $X \otimes -$  is exact and yet  $X$  is not flat. Indeed  $X \otimes -$  is exact even if we just have  $X_n$  flat for all  $n$ . However, there is a different closed symmetric monoidal structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  introduced by Enochs and Rozas which behaves properly with the flat complexes. This was studied in [EGR97]. Here we will briefly discuss the “new” tensor product and hom functor and their important properties. The advantage is that many analogues and proof methods from  $\mathbf{Rmod}$  will carry over to  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ .

Given chain complexes  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $X \overline{\otimes} Y$  is the chain complex with  $n$ th entry  $(X \overline{\otimes} Y)_n = (X \otimes Y)_n / B_n(X \otimes Y)$  and boundary map

$$\frac{(X \otimes Y)_n}{B_n(X \otimes Y)} \rightarrow \frac{(X \otimes Y)_{n-1}}{B_{n-1}(X \otimes Y)}$$

given by  $(\overline{x \otimes y}) = \overline{dx \otimes y}$ . This gives us a bifunctor

$$-\overline{\otimes} -: \mathbf{Ch}(R) \times \mathbf{Ch}(R) \rightarrow \mathbf{Ch}(R).$$

For a complex  $X$ , the functor  $X \overline{\otimes} -$  is right exact. The following is due to Enochs and García-Rozas. Consult [GR99] for a proof.

**Theorem 4.1.** *A chain complex  $F \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is flat iff  $F \overline{\otimes} -$  is exact.*

$\overline{Hom}(X, Y)$  is the chain complex defined by

$$\overline{Hom}(X, Y)_n = Z_n Hom(X, Y)$$

with

$$\lambda_n : \overline{Hom}(X, Y)_n \rightarrow \overline{Hom}(X, Y)_{n-1}$$

the map  $(\lambda f)_k = (-1)^n d_{k+n} f_k$ . This makes  $\overline{Hom}(X, Y)$  a chain complex with  $n$ th degree just equal to  $Hom_{\mathbf{Ch}(R)}(X, \Sigma^{-n} Y)$ . In this way we have a functor  $\overline{Hom}(X, -) : \mathbf{Ch}(R) \rightarrow \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  and a contravariant functor  $\overline{Hom}(-, Y) : \mathbf{Ch}(R) \rightarrow \mathbf{Ch}(R)$ . Both of these are left exact since the functors  $Hom_{Ch(R)}(X, -)$  and  $Hom_{Ch(R)}(-, Y)$  are left exact. (For a contravariant functor, take left exact to mean that it takes right exact sequences to left exact sequences.) Furthermore, if  $I \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is injective, then  $\overline{Hom}(-, I)$  is exact because each  $I_n$  is injective, and similarly if  $P$  is projective, then  $\overline{Hom}(P, -)$  is exact.

The next theorem appears to be due to Enochs and García-Rozas. Rather than repeat the (long) proofs here we refer the reader to [GR99], pp. 89–96.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $X, Y, Z$  be chain complexes. We have the following natural isomorphisms:*

- (1)  $\overline{\text{Hom}}(X \otimes Y, Z) \cong \overline{\text{Hom}}(X, \overline{\text{Hom}}(Y, Z))$  (Therefore,  $(\text{colim}_{i \in I} X_i) \otimes Y \cong \text{colim}_{i \in I} (X_i \otimes Y)$  for a directed family  $\{X_i\}$  of chain complexes.)
- (2)  $X \otimes Y \cong Y \otimes X$ .
- (3)  $X \otimes (Y \otimes Z) \cong (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z$ .
- (4) For an  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $D^n(M) \otimes X \cong M \otimes_R \Sigma^n X$ .

The following definition will not be a surprise.

**Definition 4.3.** Let  $0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow X \rightarrow X/P \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence of chain complexes. We say the sequence is *pure* if for any  $Y$ , the sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \otimes P \rightarrow Y \otimes X \rightarrow Y \otimes X/P \rightarrow 0$  is exact.

Using Theorem 4.1 and Proposition 4.2 one can prove the following characterizations of purity. As noted in [GR99], the proofs are analogous to the corresponding results for  $R$ -modules. See for example [Wis91], pp. 286–288.

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow X \rightarrow X/P \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence of chain complexes. TFAE:*

- (1) For any  $Y \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$ , the sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \otimes P \rightarrow Y \otimes X \rightarrow Y \otimes X/P \rightarrow 0$  is exact.
- (2) The sequence  $0 \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathbb{Z}}(X/P, D(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathbb{Z}}(X, D(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathbb{Z}}(P, D(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow 0$  is still exact after applying  $Y \otimes -$  for any  $Y \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$ .
- (3)  $0 \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}(W, P) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}(W, X) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Hom}}(W, X/P) \rightarrow 0$  is exact for any finitely presented complex  $W$ .
- (4) For every commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 F & \xrightarrow{g} & G & & \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & X
 \end{array}$$

with  $F, G$  finitely generated, projective and with each  $F_n, G_n$  free, there exists  $\beta: G \rightarrow P$  with  $\beta g = f$ .

- (5)  $0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow X \rightarrow X/P \rightarrow 0$  is a direct limit of split exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow A_i \rightarrow B_i \rightarrow C_i \rightarrow 0 (i \in I)$  with  $C_i$  finitely presented for all  $i \in I$ .

Next we generalize a lemma of Eklof and Trlifaj regarding transfinite extensions and cotorsion pairs. The author learned this from [Hov00]. First some definitions:

A *transfinite composition* in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a map of the form  $X_0 \xrightarrow{f} \text{colim } X_\alpha$ , where  $X: \lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a colimit-preserving functor and  $\lambda$  is an ordinal. We refer to  $f$  as the transfinite composition of the maps  $X_\alpha \rightarrow X_{\alpha+1}$ . If in addition, the maps  $X_\alpha \rightarrow X_{\alpha+1}$  are all monomorphisms with cokernel in some class  $\mathcal{D}$ , then we refer to  $f: X_0 \rightarrow \text{colim } X_\alpha$  as a *transfinite extension of  $X_0$  by  $\mathcal{D}$* . If  $X_0 \in \mathcal{D}$  as well, we just refer to  $\text{colim } X_\alpha$  as a *transfinite extension of  $\mathcal{D}$* . Notice that this generalizes the usual notion of extension ( $\lambda = 2$ ) and finite extensions ( $\lambda = n$ ).

By way of example, let  $\lambda$  be a limit ordinal and let  $(M_\alpha)_{\alpha < \lambda}$  be a family of submodules of a module  $M$ . We call the family a *continuous chain* of submodules if  $M_\alpha \subseteq M_{\alpha+1}$  for all  $\alpha < \lambda$  and if  $M_\beta = \bigcup_{\alpha < \beta} M_\alpha$  whenever  $\beta < \lambda$  is a limit

ordinal. Clearly,  $M$  is the union of a continuous chain of submodules  $(M_\alpha)_{\alpha < \lambda}$  iff  $M_0 \subseteq M$  is a transfinite composition of the maps  $M_\alpha \subseteq M_{\alpha+1}$ . If  $M_0 \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $M_{\alpha+1}/M_\alpha \in \mathcal{D}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}$  is some class of modules, then  $M$  is a transfinite extension of  $\mathcal{D}$ . The same ideas apply to chain complexes as well.

**Lemma 4.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a bicomplete abelian category. Given  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$  the class of all objects  $X$  for which  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X, Y) = 0$  is closed under transfinite extensions.*

Notice that for a cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ , Lemma 4.5 shows that  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under transfinite extensions.

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda$  be a limit ordinal and let  $X: \lambda \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be a colimit-preserving functor such that  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_0, Y) = 0$ ,  $X_\alpha \rightarrow X_{\alpha+1}$  is a monomorphism for all  $\alpha < \lambda$ , and  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_{\alpha+1}/X_\alpha, Y) = 0$  for all  $\alpha < \lambda$ . We will show that  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_\beta, Y) = 0$  for all  $\beta \leq \lambda$  by transfinite induction, where we take  $X_\lambda = \text{colim}_{\alpha < \lambda} X_\alpha$ . The initial step and the successor ordinal step of the induction are easy.

For the limit ordinal step, suppose  $\beta \leq \lambda$  is a limit ordinal and  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_\alpha, Y) = 0$  for all  $\alpha < \beta$ . An element of  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_\beta, Y)$  is represented by a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \xrightarrow{f} N \xrightarrow{p} X_\beta \rightarrow 0.$$

By pulling this short exact sequence back through the map  $X_\alpha \xrightarrow{i_\alpha} X_{\alpha+1}$  for each  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we get an enormous commutative diagram as implied by

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xrightarrow{f} & N & \xrightarrow{p} & X_\beta & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xrightarrow{f_\alpha} & N_\alpha & \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} & X_\alpha & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xrightarrow{f_\alpha} & N_\alpha & \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} & X_\alpha & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \parallel & & j_\alpha \downarrow & & i_\alpha \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xrightarrow{f_{\alpha+1}} & N_{\alpha+1} & \xrightarrow{p_{\alpha+1}} & X_{\alpha+1} & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

We will construct splittings  $s_\alpha: X_\alpha \rightarrow N_\alpha$  of  $p_\alpha$  such that  $j_\alpha s_\alpha = s_{\alpha+1} i_\alpha$  by transfinite induction on  $\alpha$ . Then since  $X_\beta$  is the colimit of the  $X_\alpha$ , the  $s_\alpha$  give rise to a unique map  $s: X_\beta \rightarrow N$ . The uniqueness of the map will show that indeed  $ps = 1_{X_\beta}$ . Therefore we will get that  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_\beta, Y) = 0$  as required to complete the transfinite induction.

By the inductive hypothesis we obviously can choose a splitting  $t_\alpha: X_\alpha \rightarrow N_\alpha$  of  $p_\alpha$ . The transfinite induction will consist of modifying the  $t_\alpha$  to construct a compatible collection  $s_\alpha$ . Begin by setting  $s_0 = t_0$ . This time the limit ordinal case is easy: for a limit ordinal  $\gamma$  we take  $s_\gamma: X_\gamma = \text{colim}_{\alpha < \gamma} X_\alpha \rightarrow N_\gamma$  to be the map induced by the ‘‘colimit impostor’’  $\{k_\alpha s_\alpha\}$ , where  $k_\alpha$  is the obvious map  $N_\alpha \rightarrow N_\gamma$ . Now we consider the successor ordinal step. So suppose  $\alpha$  is an ordinal and we have constructed compatible  $s_\alpha$ ’s. We now construct  $s_{\alpha+1}$  such that  $j_\alpha s_\alpha = s_{\alpha+1} i_\alpha$ . Note that  $p_{\alpha+1}(j_\alpha s_\alpha - t_{\alpha+1} i_\alpha) = 0$ . Since  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}^1(X_\alpha, Y) = 0$ , one can find a map  $h: X_\alpha \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f_{\alpha+1} h = j_\alpha s_\alpha - t_{\alpha+1} i_\alpha$ . Similarly, since

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_{\alpha+1}, Y) \xrightarrow{i_\alpha^*} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_\alpha, Y) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(X_{\alpha+1}/X_\alpha, Y) = 0$$

is exact we have a map  $g: X_{\alpha+1} \rightarrow Y$  such that  $gi_\alpha = h$ . Now set  $s_{\alpha+1} = t_{\alpha+1} + f_{\alpha+1}g$ . Then  $p_{\alpha+1}s_{\alpha+1} = p_{\alpha+1}t_{\alpha+1} + p_{\alpha+1}f_{\alpha+1}g = p_{\alpha+1}t_{\alpha+1} + 0 = 1_{X_{\alpha+1}}$ . So  $s_{\alpha+1}$  is a splitting of  $p_{\alpha+1}$ . Also  $s_{\alpha+1}$  is compatible with the other  $s_\alpha$ 's for  $s_{\alpha+1}i_\alpha = (t_{\alpha+1} + f_{\alpha+1}g)i_\alpha = t_{\alpha+1}i_\alpha + f_{\alpha+1}h = t_{\alpha+1}i_\alpha + (j_\alpha s_\alpha - t_{\alpha+1}i_\alpha) = j_\alpha s_\alpha$ .  $\square$

For a chain complex  $X$ , we define its cardinality to be  $|\coprod_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} X_n|$ . The author learned the next lemma from [GR99].

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $|R| \leq \kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is some infinite cardinal. Say  $X \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  and we are given  $x \in X$  (by this we mean  $x \in X_n$  for some  $n$ ). Then there exists a pure  $P \subseteq X$  with  $x \in P$  and  $|P| \leq \kappa$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x \in X_n$ , let  $S_n = Rx$  and  $S_{n-1} = d_n(Rx)$ . Then  $S_0 = \cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow S_n \rightarrow S_{n-1} \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots$  is a subcomplex of  $X$  and  $|S_0| \leq \kappa$ . Denote  $S = S_0$  and consider the class of quadruples  $(Y, Z, \phi, \psi)$ , where  $Y$  and  $Z$  are finitely generated projective complexes with each entry free and  $\phi: Y \rightarrow Z$  and  $\psi: Y \rightarrow S_0$  are maps of complexes with the property that *there exists* a map  $Z \rightarrow X$  making the diagram below commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\phi} & Z \\ \psi \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S_0 & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

Let  $T_0 = \{(Y_i, Z_i, \phi_i, \psi_i)\}_{i \in I_0}$  be a set of representatives of this class (indexed by a set  $I_0$ ). Thus for any  $(Y, Z, \phi, \psi)$  with the above property there exists a  $k \in I_0$  and isomorphisms  $Y_k \xrightarrow{\cong} Y, Z_k \xrightarrow{\cong} Z$  such that the diagrams below commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y_k & \xrightarrow{\phi_k} & Z_k \\ \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\phi} & Z \\ Y_k & \xrightarrow{\cong} & Y \\ \psi_k \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi \\ S_0 & \xlongequal{\quad} & S_0 \end{array}$$

Then we have  $|T_0| \leq \kappa$ . (To see this just note that  $T_0$  is a subset of the set of ALL quadruples  $(Y, Z, \phi, \psi)$  (up to isomorphic representatives), and this set also has cardinality less than or equal to  $\kappa$ , by a simple counting argument). For each  $(Y_i, Z_i, \phi_i, \psi_i) \in T_0$  pick an extension  $\bar{\psi}_i: Z_i \rightarrow X$  of  $\psi$ . Then set  $S_1 = S_0 + \sum_{i \in I_0} \bar{\psi}_i(Z_i)$ . Then we have  $|S_1| \leq |S_0| + |\sum_{i \in I_0} \bar{\psi}_i(Z_i)| \leq |S_0| + |T_0| \cdot |R| \leq \kappa$ .

Now continue inductively. After constructing  $x \in S_0 \subseteq S_1 \subseteq S_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq S_{n-1}$  with  $|S_i| \leq \kappa$ , consider the class of quadruples  $(Y, Z, \phi, \psi)$  for which  $Y$  and  $Z$  are finitely generated projective complexes with each degree free and there exists a map making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\phi} & Z \\ \psi \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

commute. Let  $T_n = \{(Y_i, Z_i, \phi_i, \psi_i)\}_{i \in I_n}$  be a set of representatives as above. Again  $|T_n| \leq \kappa$  since  $|S_{n-1}| \leq \kappa$ . Now for each  $i \in I_n$  pick one such extension,  $\bar{\psi}_i$ , and set  $S_n = S_{n-1} + \sum_{i \in I_n} \bar{\psi}_i(Z_i)$ . Then  $S_{n-1} \subseteq S_n$  and  $|S_n| \leq |S_{n-1}| + |T_n| \cdot |R| \leq \kappa$ .

Now set  $P = \bigcup S_n$ . Then  $|P| \leq \kappa$ . We show that  $P \subseteq X$  is pure. Suppose we are given a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} F & \xrightarrow{g} & G & & \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow h & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

where  $F$  and  $G$  are finitely generated projective complexes which are free in each degree. To show that  $P \subseteq X$  is pure we want a map  $G \rightarrow P$  making the upper left triangle commute. But since  $F$  is finitely generated,  $f(F) \subseteq S_n$  for some  $n$ . As a result  $(F, G, g, f)$  is isomorphic to an element  $(Y_k, Z_k, \phi_k, \psi_k) \in S_n$ . By construction,  $\psi_k(Y_k) \subseteq S_{n+1}$ , and therefore we may complete the diagram as desired.  $\square$

Since we have a tensor product which characterizes flatness and purity, the next two lemmas have proofs exactly like the analogous lemmas in  $\mathbf{Rmod}$ .

**Lemma 4.7.** *Let  $F$  be a chain complex. If  $F$  is flat and  $P \subseteq F$  is pure, then*

- (1)  $F/P$  is flat.
- (2)  $P$  is flat.

*Proof.* Let  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence. Since  $0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow F \rightarrow F/P \rightarrow 0$  is a pure sequence we get the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & 0 & & \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & X \otimes P & \longrightarrow & X \otimes F & \longrightarrow & X \otimes F/P \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Y \otimes P & \longrightarrow & Y \otimes F & \longrightarrow & Y \otimes F/P \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Z \otimes P & \longrightarrow & Z \otimes F & \longrightarrow & Z \otimes F/P \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

The rows are exact because  $P$  is pure and the center column is exact because  $F$  is flat. Applying the snake lemma tells us that

$$0 \rightarrow X \otimes P \rightarrow Y \otimes P \rightarrow Z \otimes P$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow X \otimes F/P \rightarrow Y \otimes F/P \rightarrow X \otimes F/P$$

are both exact.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.8.** *If  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$  is a short exact sequence of chain complexes and  $F$  is flat, then the sequence is pure.*





In general, given any ordinal  $\alpha$ , and having constructed pure subcomplexes  $P_1 \subseteq P_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq P_\alpha$  where  $x_\gamma \in P_\alpha$  for all  $\gamma < \alpha$ , we find a pure subcomplex  $P_{\alpha+1} \subseteq F$  as follows:  $\bar{x}_\alpha \in F/P_\alpha$ , so by Lemma 4.6 we can find a pure subcomplex  $P_{\alpha+1}/P_\alpha \subseteq F/P_\alpha$  containing  $\bar{x}_\alpha$  such that  $|P_{\alpha+1}/P_\alpha| \leq \kappa$ . Thus  $(F/P_\alpha)/(P_{\alpha+1}/P_\alpha) \cong F/P_{\alpha+1}$  is flat, whence  $P_{\alpha+1}$  is pure. We now have  $P_1 \subseteq P_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq P_\alpha \subseteq P_{\alpha+1}$  and  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_\alpha \in P_{\alpha+1}$ .

For the case when  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal we just define  $P_\alpha = \bigcup_{\gamma < \alpha} P_\gamma$ . Then as we noted above,  $P_\alpha$  is pure, and  $x_\gamma \in P_\alpha$  for all  $\gamma < \alpha$ . This construction gives us the desired continuous chain  $(P_\alpha)_{\alpha < \lambda}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.10.** *Let  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  be the flat cotorsion pair on  $\mathbf{Rmod}$ . Then the induced cotorsion pair  $(\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is complete.*

*Proof.* As in the hypothesis of Proposition 4.9, let  $|R| \leq \kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is some infinite cardinal, and let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the set of all flat complexes  $F \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  for which  $|F| \leq \kappa$ . Then  $\mathcal{G}^\perp = dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ :

( $\supseteq$ ). This is clear since  $(\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  is a cotorsion theory and  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ .

( $\subseteq$ ). Suppose we are given any chain complex  $C$  such that  $\text{Ext}^1(G, C) = 0$  for all  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ . Since any flat complex is a transfinite extension of complexes in  $\mathcal{G}$ , Lemma 4.5 tells us  $\text{Ext}^1(F, C) = 0$  for any flat complex  $F$ . Therefore  $C \in dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ . So  $\mathcal{G}^\perp \subseteq dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$ . Since  $(\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, dg\tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  is cogenerated by a set, it is complete.  $\square$

Next we prove that  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  is complete. The method of proof is entirely analogous to the method we used above. We just need to derive the proper analogs to Lemmas 4.6 - 4.8. We will use the following well-known characterization of dg-flat complexes. The reader can find a proof of this in [GR99].

**Proposition 4.11.** *A chain complex  $F$  is dg-flat iff each  $F_n$  is flat and  $F \otimes E$  is exact whenever  $E$  is an exact complex.*

With this in hand we start with the proper analog to the notion of pure.

**Definition 4.12.** A short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$  is called *dg-pure* if  $0 \rightarrow E \otimes X \rightarrow E \otimes Y \rightarrow E \otimes Z \rightarrow 0$  is exact whenever  $E$  is an exact complex.

**Lemma 4.13.** *Let  $|R| \leq \kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is some infinite cardinal. Say  $X \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  and we are given  $x \in X$ . Then there exists a dg-pure  $P \subseteq X$  with  $x \in P$  and  $|P| \leq \kappa$ .*

*Proof.* This is easy since any pure subcomplex is dg-pure. We just use Lemma 4.6.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.14.** *Let  $F$  be a dg-flat complex. If  $P \subseteq F$  is pure, then  $P$  and  $F/P$  are dg-flat.*

*Proof.* Let  $M \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$ . Then

$$0 \rightarrow P \otimes D^n(M) \rightarrow F \otimes D^n(M) \rightarrow F/P \otimes D^n(M) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. By Proposition 4.2, we see that

$$0 \rightarrow \Sigma^n(P \otimes_R M) \rightarrow \Sigma^n(F \otimes_R M) \rightarrow \Sigma^n(F/P \otimes_R M) \rightarrow 0$$

is also exact. Therefore  $P \subseteq F$  is pure in each degree.

By Proposition 4.11 it remains to show that for any exact complex  $E$ ,  $P \otimes E$  and  $F/P \otimes E$  are exact. Notice however that  $0 \rightarrow P \otimes E \rightarrow F \otimes E \rightarrow F/P \otimes E \rightarrow 0$  is exact (because it is exact in each degree). So by the fundamental lemma of

homological algebra, showing  $P \otimes E$  exact is equivalent to showing  $F/P \otimes E$  exact. But it is not hard to see why  $P \otimes E$  is exact: We know that  $P \otimes E \rightarrow F \otimes E$  is injective, so if we let  $z \in (P \otimes E)_n$  be a cycle, then we may view it as a cycle in  $(F \otimes E)_n$ . Since  $F \otimes E$  is exact,  $z \in B_n(F \otimes E)$ . But by the very definition of  $\overline{\otimes}$  and the fact that  $P \overline{\otimes} E \rightarrow F \overline{\otimes} E$  is injective,  $z$  must be a boundary in  $(P \otimes E)_n$ . Hence  $P \otimes E$  is exact.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.15.** *If  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$  is a short exact sequence of chain complexes and  $F$  is dg-flat, then the sequence is dg-pure.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{S}: 0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$  be such a sequence and  $E$  an exact complex. We must show that  $X \overline{\otimes} E \xrightarrow{f \overline{\otimes} 1} Y \overline{\otimes} E$  is injective. We know that  $\mathcal{S}$  is pure in each degree since each  $F_n$  is flat. Therefore, for all pairs  $(m, n)$ ,  $0 \rightarrow X_n \otimes E_m \rightarrow Y_n \otimes E_m \rightarrow F_n \otimes E_m \rightarrow 0$  is exact which implies that  $0 \rightarrow X \otimes E \rightarrow Y \otimes E \rightarrow F \otimes E \rightarrow 0$  is exact.

Now suppose  $\bar{x} \in (X \overline{\otimes} E)_n$  and  $(f \overline{\otimes} 1)(\bar{x}) = 0$ . This means

$$(f \otimes 1)(x) \in B_n(Y \otimes E).$$

But  $f \otimes 1$  is a chain map and  $X \otimes E \rightarrow Y \otimes E$  is injective, so we must have  $x \in Z_n(X \otimes E)$ . Now  $F \otimes E$  is exact since  $F$  is dg-flat and it follows from the fundamental lemma of homological algebra that  $f \otimes 1$  is an  $H_*$ -isomorphism. Since the isomorphism induced by  $f \otimes 1$  is exactly the definition of the map  $f \overline{\otimes} 1$ , we see that  $x \in B_n(X \otimes E)$ . I.e.  $\bar{x} = 0$ . So  $X \overline{\otimes} E \xrightarrow{f \overline{\otimes} 1} Y \overline{\otimes} E$  is injective.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.16.** *A direct limit of dg-pure sequences is dg-pure. In particular, a direct union of dg-pure subcomplexes is dg-pure.*

*Proof.* Let  $0 \rightarrow P_i \rightarrow X_i$  be dg-pure ( $i \in I$ ). Then for any exact complex  $E$ ,  $0 \rightarrow P_i \otimes E \rightarrow X_i \otimes E$  is exact. So  $0 \rightarrow \operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} (P_i \overline{\otimes} E) \rightarrow \operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} (X_i \overline{\otimes} E)$  is exact. By Rozas' adjointness Proposition 4.2, we have  $0 \rightarrow (\operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} P_i) \overline{\otimes} E \rightarrow (\operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} X_i) \overline{\otimes} E$  is exact, so that  $\operatorname{colim}_{i \in I} P_i$  is dg-pure.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.17.** *Let  $|R| \leq \kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is some infinite cardinal. Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the set of all dg-flat complexes  $F \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  for which  $|F| \leq \kappa$  (take one representative for each isomorphism class). Then any dg-flat complex  $F \in \mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is (isomorphic to) a transfinite extension of  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* This follows exactly as the proof of Proposition 4.9. Just replace the word "flat" by "dg-flat" and the word "pure" by "dg-pure" and quote the analogous Lemmas 4.13 - 4.16.  $\square$

The following corollary follows as well by referring to Lemma 4.5.

**Corollary 4.18.** *Let  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  be the flat cotorsion pair on  $\mathbf{Rmod}$ . Then the induced cotorsion pair  $(dg\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  is complete.*

We finish this section by observing that each chain complex  $X$  has a (dg-)flat cover and a (dg-)injective envelope. This problem was recently solved by the group of authors in [Ald01] for the case of flat covers and dg-cotorsion envelopes.

Recall that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a class in an abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ , then an  $\mathcal{A}$ -precover of  $C$  is a morphism  $\phi: A \rightarrow C$  with  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  such that given any other morphism  $\phi': A' \rightarrow C$  with  $A' \in \mathcal{A}$ , there exists a map  $\psi: A' \rightarrow A$  such that  $\phi' = \phi\psi$ . An  $\mathcal{A}$ -precover  $\phi$  is called an  $\mathcal{A}$ -cover if whenever  $\psi$  satisfies  $\phi = \phi\psi$  we must have  $\psi$  as

an automorphism.  $\mathcal{A}$ -pre-envelopes and  $\mathcal{A}$ -envelopes are defined dually. Note that if  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is a cotorsion theory with enough projectives and injectives, then we have that every object has an  $\mathcal{A}$ -precover and a  $\mathcal{B}$ -pre-envelope.

**Corollary 4.19.** *Every chain complex  $X$  has a flat cover, a dg-flat cover, a cotorsion envelope, and a dg-cotorsion envelope.*

*Proof.* We refer to [Xu96], pp. 30–37. Since the class of flat and dg-flat complexes are closed under direct limits, Xu’s Theorem 2.2.6 and 2.2.12 give us the result. Although the proofs given are for  $R$ -modules, they clearly hold for complexes, too.  $\square$

## 5. AN ALTERNATE DEFINITION OF EXT

In this section we assume that the reader has some familiarity with Quillen’s notion of a model category introduced in [Qui67]. This is a category  $\mathcal{M}$  in which we can do homotopy theory. We refer the reader to [DS95] for a readable introduction to model categories and to [Hov99] for a more in-depth presentation. We will show that we have a “flat” model structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  and that this gives us an alternate description of  $\text{Ext}$ . We also show that this model structure is monoidal. For  $R$ -modules  $M$  and  $N$ ,  $\text{Ext}_R^n(M, N)$  is normally defined by taking a projective resolution  $P_\bullet$  of  $M$  and taking the homology of  $\text{Hom}_R(P_\bullet, N)$ . Alternatively, it is often defined by taking an injective coresolution  $I_\bullet$  of  $N$  and taking the homology of  $\text{Hom}_R(M, I_\bullet)$ . We will show that we can also compute  $\text{Ext}_R^n(M, N)$  by taking a “flat” resolution  $F_\bullet$  of  $M$  and a “cotorsion” coresolution  $C_\bullet$  of  $N$  and taking the homology of the “enriched” complex  $\text{Hom}(F_\bullet, C_\bullet)$ . Essentially this works because in each situation there is a cotorsion pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  of  $R$ -modules which induces two complete cotorsion pairs on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  that are compatible in the sense of Definition 3.7.

The next corollary follows from Mark Hovey’s Theorem 1.2 of [Hov00] which relates cotorsion pairs to model structures on abelian categories.

**Corollary 5.1.** *There is a monoidal model category structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$ , where the weak equivalences are the  $H_*$ -isomorphisms, the (trivial) cofibrations are the injections with (exact) dg-flat cokernels, and the (trivial) fibrations are the surjections with (exact) dg-cotorsion kernels. In particular  $\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$  is the class of cofibrant objects and  $\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  is the class of fibrant objects.*

*Proof.* As we have seen in section 4, both of the induced cotorsion pairs  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{C}} \cap \mathcal{E})$  and  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{F}} \cap \mathcal{E}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{C}})$  are complete. To get the model structure use the converse of Hovey’s Theorem 1.2 (taking  $\mathcal{P}$  to be the class of all short exact sequences in the theorem) along with his Definition 4.1. To see that the model structure is monoidal (with respect to the usual tensor product  $\otimes$ ) we will now prove the hypotheses of Hovey’s Theorem 6.2.

First we observe that Hovey’s notion of a  $\mathcal{P}$ -pure short exact sequence in this case just means a short exact sequence of complexes that is pure in each degree. According to the theorem we now must check:

- (1) Every cofibration is a pure injection in each degree.
- (2) If  $X$  and  $Y$  are dg-flat, then  $X \otimes Y$  is dg-flat.
- (3) If  $X$  is dg-flat and  $Y$  is flat, then  $X \otimes Y$  is flat.
- (4)  $S(R)$  is dg-flat

(1) is obvious since a cofibration is an injection with dg-flat cokernel. Also (4) is obvious since the complex is bounded and  $R$  is flat. Now for (2), since for any pair of integers  $i, j$  we know that  $X_i \otimes Y_j$  is flat, it follows that  $\bigoplus(X_i \otimes Y_j) = (X \otimes Y)_n$  is flat. Also, for any exact complex  $E$ ,  $Y \otimes E$  is exact. So  $X \otimes (Y \otimes E) = (X \otimes Y) \otimes E$  is exact. For (3), say  $X$  is dg-flat and  $Y$  is flat. Then  $Y$  is also dg-flat, so by (2)  $X \otimes Y$  is dg-flat. But  $Y$  is also exact, so  $X \otimes Y$  must be exact, too. Therefore,  $X \otimes Y$  is flat.  $\square$

Let  $M$  and  $N$  be  $R$ -modules. Recall the usual definition of  $\text{Ext}_R^n(M, N)$ . We let  $(P_\bullet, \epsilon)$  be a projective resolution of  $M$ , so that  $\cdots P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} M \rightarrow 0$  is exact with each  $P_n$  a projective module. Then

$$(1) \quad \text{Ext}^n(M, N) = H_{-n}(\text{Hom}(P_\bullet, N)).$$

It is easy to see that this is the same as  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)(P_\bullet, S^n(N))/\sim$ . So we get the equation

$$(2) \quad \text{Ext}^n(M, N) = \mathbf{Ch}(R)(P_\bullet, S^n(N))/\sim,$$

where  $\sim$  is chain homotopy.

**Definition 5.2.** Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a cotorsion pair of modules and let  $M$  be a module. Then  $(A_\bullet, \epsilon) = \cdots \rightarrow A_1 \rightarrow A_0 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} M \rightarrow 0$  is called an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ -resolution of  $M$  if the sequence is exact with each  $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  and each cycle module in  $\mathcal{B}$ . Dually,  $(B_\bullet, \eta) = 0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\eta} B_0 \rightarrow B_1 \rightarrow \cdots$  is called an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ -coresolution of  $M$  if the sequence is exact with each  $B_n \in \mathcal{B}$  and each cycle module in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Clearly if  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  is complete, then  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ -resolutions and coresolutions exist for all modules. In particular,  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$  resolutions and coresolutions exist. We will simply call them *flat resolutions* and *cotorsion coresolutions*, respectively. The next lemma just relates this language to Hovey's model structure induced by  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $M$  be a module and  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$  be a hereditary cotorsion pair for which both induced cotorsion pairs on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  are complete.*

(a) *If  $(A_\bullet, \epsilon)$  is an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ -resolution of  $M$ , then  $A_\bullet$  is a cofibrant replacement of  $S(M)$  in the model structure induced by  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E})$  and  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$ .*

(b) *If  $(B_\bullet, \eta)$  is an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ -coresolution of  $M$ , then  $B_\bullet$  is a fibrant replacement of  $S(M)$  in the model structure induced by  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{A}}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{B}} \cap \mathcal{E})$  and  $(\text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \cap \mathcal{E}, \text{dg}\tilde{\mathcal{B}})$ .*

*Proof.* We will just prove (a); part (b) is dual. Since  $A_\bullet$  is bounded below and each entry belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ , it is a dg- $\mathcal{A}$  complex. I.e.  $A_\bullet$  is cofibrant. Furthermore, the map  $\bar{\epsilon}: A_\bullet \rightarrow S(M)$  defined by  $\epsilon$  in degree 0 is clearly a surjective  $H_*$ -isomorphism with  $\ker \bar{\epsilon}$  a  $\mathcal{B}$  complex (trivially fibrant).  $\square$

Now we apply the power of model categories. With any model structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  in which the weak equivalences are the  $H_*$ -isomorphisms we have

$$\mathbf{HoCh}(R)(S(M), S^n(N)) = \mathbf{Ch}(R)(Q, R)/\sim,$$

where  $Q$  is a cofibrant replacement of  $S(M)$  and  $R$  is a fibrant replacement of  $S^n(N)$ . First consider the usual "projective" model structure on  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  (induced by the usual projective cotorsion pair of  $R$ -modules using Theorem 3.12 and Theorem 1.2 of [Hov00]). By letting  $P_\bullet$  be a projective resolution of  $M$  and using

Lemma 5.3 we get

$$(3) \quad \mathbf{HoCh}(\mathbf{R})(S(M), S^n(N)) = \mathbf{Ch}(R)(P_\bullet, S^n(N)) / \sim$$

because  $P_\bullet$  is a cofibrant replacement of  $S(M)$  and  $S^n(N)$  is already fibrant. Our new “flat” model structure gives us a new description of  $\mathbf{HoCh}(\mathbf{R})(S(M), S^n(N))$  since we have changed the fibrations and cofibrations. Now letting  $F_\bullet$  be a flat resolution of  $M$  and  $C_\bullet$  be a cotorsion resolution of  $N$ , we see that

$$(4) \quad \mathbf{HoCh}(\mathbf{R})(S(M), S^n(N)) = \mathbf{Ch}(R)(F_\bullet, \Sigma^n C_\bullet) / \sim.$$

Putting equations (2), (3), and (4) together we get

$$\mathrm{Ext}^n(M, N) = \mathbf{Ch}(R)(F_\bullet, \Sigma^n C_\bullet) / \sim.$$

Using Lemma 2.1 we see that this just expresses  $\mathrm{Ext}^n(M, N)$  as the homology of the enriched hom-complex:

$$\mathrm{Ext}^n(M, N) = H_{-n} \mathrm{Hom}(F_\bullet, C_\bullet).$$

Compare this to the original definition (1) above.

#### REFERENCES

- [Ald01] S. Tempest Aldrich, Edgar E. Enochs, Luis Oyonarte, and J.R. García-Rozas, *Covers and envelopes in Grothendieck categories: flat covers of complexes with applications*, Journal of Algebra 243, 2001, pp. 615-630. MR **2002i**:18010
- [DS95] W.G. Dwyer and J. Spalinski, *Homotopy theories and model categories*, Handbook of algebraic topology (Amsterdam), North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1995, pp. 73-126. MR **96h**:55014
- [BBE00] L. Bican, R. El Bashir, and E. Enochs, *All modules have flat covers*, Bull. London Math. Soc. 33, 2001, pp. 385-390. MR **2002e**:16002
- [ET99] Paul C. Eklof and Jan Trlifaj, *How to make Ext vanish*, Bull. London Math. Soc. 33, 2001, pp. 41-51. MR **2001i**:16015
- [EEGO] E. Enochs, S. Estrada, J.R. García-Rozas, and L. Oyonarte, *Flat covers of quasi-coherent sheaves*, preprint, 2000.
- [EJ01] E. Enochs and O. Jenda, *Relative homological algebra*, De Gruyter Expositions in Mathematics no. 30, Walter De Gruyter, New York, 2001. MR **2001h**:16013
- [EO01] E. Enochs and L. Oyonarte, *Flat covers and cotorsion envelopes of sheaves*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society vol. 130, no. 5, 2001, pp. 1285-1292. MR **2003d**:18023
- [EGR97] E. Enochs and J.R. García-Rozas, *Tensor products of chain complexes*, Math J. Okayama Univ. 39, 1997, pp. 19-42. MR **2001b**:16006
- [GR99] J. R. García-Rozas, *Covers and envelopes in the category of complexes of modules*, Research Notes in Mathematics no. 407, Chapman & Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, FL, 1999. MR **2001i**:16009
- [Gri99] Pierre Antoine Grillet, *Algebra*, Pure and Applied Mathematics, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1999. MR **2000g**:20001
- [Hov00] Mark Hovey, *Cotorsion theories, model category structures, and representation theory*, preprint, 2000.
- [Hov99] Mark Hovey, *Model categories*, Mathematical Surveys and Monographs vol. 63, American Mathematical Society, 1999. MR **99h**:55031
- [Joy84] A. Joyal, Letter to A. Grothendieck, 1984.
- [Mac71] Saunders MacLane, *Categories for the working mathematician*, Graduate Texts in Mathematics vol. 5, Springer-Verlag, New York, second edition, 1998. MR **2001j**:18001
- [Qui67] Daniel G. Quillen, *Homotopical algebra*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics no. 43, Springer-Verlag, 1967. MR **36**:6480

- [Sal79] L. Salce, *Cotorsion theories for abelian groups*, Symposia Math. 23, 1979. MR **81j**:20078
- [Spa66] Edwin H. Spanier, *Algebraic Topology*, McGraw-Hill series in higher mathematics, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1966. MR **35**:1007
- [Wis91] Robert Wisbauer, *Foundations of module and ring theory*, Algebra, Logic and Applications series vol. 3, Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 1991. MR **92i**:16001
- [Xu96] Jinzhong Xu, *Flat covers of modules*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics no. 1634, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1996. MR **98b**:16003

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, 4000 UNIVERSITY DRIVE, PENN STATE-MCKEESPORT,  
MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA 15132-7698

*E-mail address:* `jrg21@psu.edu`