

A NOTE ON TORSION PAIRS

XIAO-WU CHEN

ABSTRACT. For any given torsion pair in the module category over an artin algebra, we obtain an equation involving the cardinalities of indecomposable Ext-projectives and Ext-injectives. The equation implies the following well-known result: the torsion class is functorially finite if and only if so is the torsionfree class.

Let A be an artin algebra over a commutative artinian ring k . We denote by $A\text{-mod}$ the category of finitely generated left A -modules. By subcategories of $A\text{-mod}$, we always mean full additive subcategories which are closed under direct summands.

We identify modules if they are isomorphic. We denote by $n(A)$ the number of simple A -modules. For a module M , we denote by $\mu(M)$ the number of indecomposable modules, which are isomorphic to a direct summand of M .

Recall that a *torsion pair* in $A\text{-mod}$ consists of a pair $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ of subcategories such that $\mathcal{T} = \{X \mid \text{Hom}_A(X, F) = 0 \text{ for all } F \in \mathcal{F}\}$ and $\mathcal{F} = \{Y \mid \text{Hom}_A(T, Y) = 0 \text{ for all } T \in \mathcal{T}\}$, where we call \mathcal{T} a *torsion class* and \mathcal{F} a *torsionfree class*. In this case, for each module M there is a *canonical* exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow t(M) \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M/t(M) \longrightarrow 0$$

with $t(M) \in \mathcal{T}$ and $M/t(M) \in \mathcal{F}$. We observe that a subcategory is a torsion class if and only if it is closed under extensions and factor modules.

Let \mathcal{C} be a subcategory and M an A -module. By a *right \mathcal{C} -approximation* of M , we mean a morphism $f: C \rightarrow M$ with $C \in \mathcal{C}$ such that any morphism $t: C' \rightarrow M$ with $C' \in \mathcal{C}$ admits a factorization $t = f \circ t'$ for some $t': C' \rightarrow C$. The subcategory \mathcal{C} is *contravariantly finite* provided that each A -module has a right \mathcal{C} -approximation.

Dually, one has the notions of a *left \mathcal{C} -approximation* and a *covariantly finite* subcategory. A subcategory is *functorially finite* if it is both contravariantly finite and covariantly finite.

We observe that a torsion class \mathcal{T} is contravariantly finite, since the monomorphism $t(M) \rightarrow M$ in the canonical sequence is a right \mathcal{T} -approximation of M . Similarly, a torsionfree class is covariantly finite.

For a subcategory \mathcal{C} which is closed under extensions, an object $X \in \mathcal{C}$ is *Ext-projective* if $\text{Ext}_A^1(X, -)$ vanishes on \mathcal{C} . We denote by $\text{exp}(\mathcal{C})$ the cardinality of indecomposable Ext-projective objects in \mathcal{C} . Dually, one has the notion of *Ext-injective* objects and the cardinality $\text{exi}(\mathcal{C})$.

The following result is implicitly contained in the proof of [8, Theorem], where the “if” part of the second statement is essentially due to [4, Theorem A.6].

Proposition 1. *Let \mathcal{T} be a torsion class in $A\text{-mod}$. Then we have*

$$\text{exp}(\mathcal{T}) \leq \text{exi}(\mathcal{T}) \leq n(A).$$

Date: January 6, 2017.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. 13D30, 18G25, 16G70.

Key words and phrases. torsion pair, Ext-projective objects, connecting sequence.

This paper belongs to a series of informal notes, without claim of originality.

Moreover, $\exp(\mathcal{T}) = \text{exi}(\mathcal{T})$ if and only if \mathcal{T} is covariantly finite.

For the proof, we make some preparation. We emphasize that the classical tilting theory is essentially used in the following argument.

For a module M , we denote by $\text{fac}(M)$ the subcategory formed by modules generated by M , that is, factor modules of finite direct sums of copies of M . A module M is τ -rigid if $\text{Hom}_A(M, \tau(M)) = 0$, where τ denotes the Auslander-Reiten translation.

Lemma 2. *Let \mathcal{T} be a torsion class. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *The subcategory \mathcal{T} is covariantly finite.*
- (2) *$\mathcal{T} = \text{fac}(M)$ for some τ -rigid module M .*
- (3) *$\mathcal{T} = \text{fac}(M)$ for some module M .*

Proof. The equivalence between (1) and (3) is contained in [2, Proposition 4.6(c)]. To see “(3) \Rightarrow (2)”, we may assume that M is minimal in the sense of [1, 1.2] and then apply [3, Propositions 5.5 and 5.8]. \square

The second statement of the following result is due to [7, Lemma 4]; compare [4, Corollary A.4].

Lemma 3. *Let \mathcal{T} be a torsion class, which contains all injective A -modules. Then the following facts hold.*

- (1) *An object X in \mathcal{T} is Ext-injective if and only if it is an injective A -module.*
- (2) *Any Ext-projective object in \mathcal{T} has projective dimension at most one.*

Proof. For (1), we only prove the “only if” part. Take an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow I \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ with I injective. Then C lies in \mathcal{T} . Since X is Ext-injective, the sequence splits. It follows that X is injective.

Let Y be an Ext-projective object. For any module M , we take an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow I' \rightarrow C' \rightarrow 0$ with I' injective. Then we have $C' \in \mathcal{T}$. By a dimension-shift, we have $\text{Ext}_A^2(Y, M) \simeq \text{Ext}_A^1(Y, C')$, which equals zero by the Ext-projectivity of Y . Then we are done. \square

An A -module T is *partial tilting* if $\text{Ext}_A^1(T, T) = 0$ and its projective dimension is at most one. A partial tilting module T is *tilting* if $\mu(T) = n(A)$. This is equivalent to the original definition in [6] by [5, 2.1]. For a module X , we denote by $\text{add } X$ the subcategory consisting of direct summands of finite direct sums of X .

Lemma 4. *The following statements hold.*

- (1) *For any partial tilting A -module T , we have $\mu(T) \leq n(A)$.*
- (2) *For a faithful partial tilting module T , there is a tilting module $X = T \oplus T'$ with $\text{fac}(X) = \text{fac}(T)$.*
- (3) *For a tilting A -module T , we have $\mathcal{T} = \text{fac}(T) = \{M \mid \text{Ext}_A^1(T, M) = 0\}$ and $\exp(\mathcal{T}) = \text{exi}(\mathcal{T}) = n(A)$.*

Proof. (1) is contained in [5, 2.1], and (3) is contained in [1, Lemma 1.6 and Corollary 1.8]. For (2), we take a monomorphism $f: A \rightarrow T^n$ which is a left (add T)-approximation of A . Set T' to be the cokernel. Then $X = T \oplus T'$ is a tilting module; compare the last paragraph in the proof of [1, Lemma 3.1]. \square

Proof of Proposition 1. We denote by $\text{Ann}(\mathcal{T})$ the ideal of A , which is the intersection of the annihilators of all modules in \mathcal{T} . Let $A' = A/\text{Ann}(\mathcal{T})$. We view \mathcal{T} as a subcategory in A' -mod.

We observe that \mathcal{T} contains a faithful A' -module. Indeed, there is some module $M \in \mathcal{T}$, whose annihilator coincides with $\text{Ann}(\mathcal{T})$. Then M is a faithful A' -module.

It follows that M generates all injective A' -modules. In particular, \mathcal{T} contains all injective A' -modules. By Lemma 3(1), we have $\text{exi}(\mathcal{T}) = n(A') \leq n(A)$. Moreover, any Ext-projective object Y in \mathcal{T} is a partial tilting A' -module, and thus $\mu(Y) \leq n(A')$ by Lemma 4(1). It implies that $\text{exp}(\mathcal{T}) \leq n(A')$.

It remains to prove the second statement. For the “only if” part, we assume that $\text{exp}(\mathcal{T}) = \text{exi}(\mathcal{T})$, which equals $n(A')$. Take the direct sum $Y = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n(A')} T_i$ of all the indecomposable Ext-projectives. Then Y is a tilting A' -module. We observe that $\text{fac}(Y) \subseteq \mathcal{T} \subseteq \{M \in A'\text{-mod} \mid \text{Ext}_{A'}^1(Y, M) = 0\}$. Then we have equalities by Lemma 4(3). Then \mathcal{T} is covariantly finite by Lemma 2.

For the “if” part, we may assume that $\mathcal{T} = \text{fac}(M)$ for a faithful A' -module M which is τ -rigid; see Lemma 2. In particular, M is a partial tilting A' -module; compare [1, Lemma 1.5]. By Lemma 4(2), we have $\mathcal{T} = \text{fac}(T)$ for some tilting A' -module T . Then we are done by Lemma 4(3). \square

We have the following dual of Proposition 1.

Proposition 5. *Let \mathcal{F} be a torsionfree class in $A\text{-mod}$. Then we have*

$$\text{exi}(\mathcal{F}) \leq \text{exp}(\mathcal{F}) \leq n(A).$$

Moreover, $\text{exi}(\mathcal{F}) = \text{exp}(\mathcal{F})$ if and only if \mathcal{F} is contravariantly finite. \square

Let $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ be a torsion pair. An almost split sequence $0 \rightarrow \tau(X) \rightarrow E \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ of A -modules is *connecting* provided that $X \in \mathcal{T}$ and $\tau(X) \in \mathcal{F}$.

We denote by c the cardinality of connecting sequences. We denote by p the number of indecomposable projective A -modules contained in \mathcal{T} , and by i the number of indecomposable injective A -modules contained in \mathcal{F} .

We have the following main result, whose last statement is due to [8].

Theorem 6. *Let $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ be a torsion pair in $A\text{-mod}$. Then we have*

$$\text{exi}(\mathcal{T}) - \text{exp}(\mathcal{T}) = \text{exp}(\mathcal{F}) - \text{exi}(\mathcal{F}) = n(A) - p - i - c \geq 0.$$

In particular, \mathcal{T} is covariantly finite if and only if \mathcal{F} is contravariantly finite.

The essential argument is contained in the following result.

Lemma 7. *Let $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ be a torsion pair. Then the following facts hold.*

- (1) *An indecomposable object X in \mathcal{T} is Ext-injective if and only if $X \simeq t(I)$ for an indecomposable injective A -module I , which is not contained in \mathcal{F} .*
- (2) *An indecomposable object Y in \mathcal{F} is Ext-projective if and only if $X \simeq P/t(P)$ for an indecomposable projective A -module P , which is not contained in \mathcal{T} .*
- (3) *There is a bijection between*

$\{\text{indec. non-proj. Ext-projectives in } \mathcal{T}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{indec. non-inj. Ext-injectives in } \mathcal{F}\}$
sending X to $\tau(X)$, which are in a bijection to the set of connecting sequences.

Proof. (1) and (2) are contained in [3, Propositions 3.1 and 3.2], and (3) follows from [3, Corollaries 3.4 and 3.7]; compare [1, Lemma 1.4]. \square

The following counting argument resembles the ones in [7, Lemma 6] and [8, Theorem].

Proof of Theorem 6. By Lemma 7(1) and(2), we have $\text{exi}(\mathcal{T}) = n(A) - i$ and $\text{exp}(\mathcal{F}) = n(A) - p$. By the bijections in Lemma 7(3), we have $\text{exp}(\mathcal{T}) - p = \text{exi}(\mathcal{F}) - i = c$. Combining these equations, we deduce the required equation.

In view of Propositions 1 and 5, the last statement follows immediately. \square

Acknowledgements. The result is obtained when the author was giving a series of lectures on the classical tilting theory in USTC, which is based on [1]. The author thanks Jie Li for pointing out the “only if” part of Proposition 1. The work is supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 11522113).

REFERENCES

- [1] I. ASSEM, *Tilting theory - an introduction*, Topics in Algebra, Banach Center Publications **26**, Part 1, PWN Polish Scientific Publishers, Warsaw, 1990.
- [2] M. AUSLANDER, AND S.O. SMALO, *Preprojective modules over artin algebras*, J. Algebra **66** (1980), 61–122.
- [3] M. AUSLANDER, AND S.O. SMALO, *Almost split sequences in subcategories*, J. Algebra **69** (1981), 426–454.
- [4] M. AUSLANDER, AND S.O. SMALO, *Addendum to “Almost split sequences in subcategories”*, J. Algebra **71** (1981), 592–594.
- [5] K. BONGARTZ, *Tilted algebras*, Lect. Notes Math. **903**, 26–38, Springer, Berlin, 1981.
- [6] D. HAPPEL, AND C.M. RINGEL, *Tilted algebras*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **274** (1982), 399–443.
- [7] M. HOSHINO, *Tilting modules and torsion theories*, Bull. London Math. Soc. **14** (1982), 334–336.
- [8] S.O. SMALO, *Torsion theories and tilting modules*, Bull. London Math. Soc. **16** (1982), 518–522.

Xiao-Wu Chen

School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei 230026, Anhui, PR China

Wu Wen-Tsun Key Laboratory of Mathematics, USTC, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hefei 230026, Anhui, PR China.

E-mail: xwchen@mail.ustc.edu.cn.