


Tilting and Cotilting in Functor Categories

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Abstract: In this paper, we introduce the notion of n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) objects in functor categories and give some characterizations of n -tilting objects and n -tilting classes (resp. n -cotilting objects and n -cotilting classes).

Keywords: functor categories; tilting; cotilting; cotorsion pairs

MSC: 18A25; 18G10

1. Introduction

Tilting theory traces its history back to the fundamental work in [1], and later, was generalized by Brenner and Butler in [2]. The notion of tilting modules over finite dimensional algebras and the beginning of the extensive study of tilting theory and tilted algebras are principally due to Happel and Ringel [3], Bongartz [4], and others. After that, some results of tilting theory in module categories were obtained by many authors, see [5–18].

As a higher dimensional generalization of tilting modules of a projective dimension over arbitrary rings, Bazzoni gave in [8] a characterization of n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) modules in module categories over arbitrary rings, which provided an equivalent condition for a module to be tilting. Then, Wei in [17] characterized n -tilting modules in arbitrary module categories. Angeleri Hügel and Coelho characterized the classes \mathcal{X} induced by generalized tilting modules in terms of the existence of \mathcal{X} -preenvelopes in [5].

Let \mathcal{C} be a skeletally small preadditive category. By $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ (resp. (\mathcal{C}, Ab)) we denote the functor category whose objects are additive contravariant (resp. covariant) functors from \mathcal{C} to the category Ab of abelian groups and morphisms as the natural transformations between two such functors. If $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, we write $\text{Nat}[T, U]$ (or $[T, U]$ for short) for the class of natural transformations from T to U . The induced cohomological group will be denoted by $\text{Ext}^i[T, U]$. Functor categories are of interest in category theory, especially in representation theory of algebra and homological algebra (e.g., [19–26]). The reasons are as follows: on the one hand, many common categories are in fact functor categories, most results coming from functor categories are widely applicable; on the other hand, by applying the well-known Yoneda Lemma, every category can be embedded in a functor category, so that we often obtain our desired properties in the original category by studying the associated functor categories.

Based on the references above, some natural questions arise:

Question A. How can we define the tilting and cotilting objects in the functor categories felicitously?

Question B. Are the characterizations in the functor categories as good as those of the tilting objects in classical tilting theory?

The aim of this paper is to solve these questions for which we introduce the notions of n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) objects and n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) classes in the functor category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ and then provide some of their characterizations.



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The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we give provide some preliminaries and terminology. Based on the result of Mitchell [27], we introduce the notions of n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) objects and n -tilting (resp. n -cotilting) classes in the functor category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ and then study some of their basic properties. In Section 3, we give our main results, namely some characterizations of tilting objects and tilting classes in the functor category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. The following are Theorems 1 and 2, respectively.

Theorem 1. Let $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then,

- (1) T is n -tilting if and only if $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T$;
- (2) U is n -cotilting if and only if ${}^\perp U = \text{Cogen}_n T$.

Theorem 2. Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ be a class of objects. Then, the following assertions are equivalent.

- (1) \mathcal{M} is n -tilting.
- (2) \mathcal{M} is coresolving, special preenveloping, and closed under direct sums and direct summands and ${}^\perp \mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$.

2. Preliminaries

In this section, \mathcal{A} is an abelian category. For a subcategory of \mathcal{A} , we always mean a full and additive subcategory closed under isomorphisms and direct summands.

Definition 1 ([11], Definition 2.2.8, see also [28], Definition 16). Let \mathcal{A} be an abelian category with enough projective and injective objects. A subcategory \mathcal{T} of \mathcal{A} is resolving if it is closed under extensions, kernels of epimorphisms and contains the projective objects in \mathcal{A} . Dually, \mathcal{T} is coresolving if it is closed under extensions and cokernels of monomorphisms and contains the injective objects in \mathcal{A} .

Assume that \mathcal{A} has enough projective and injective objects. For every subcategory \mathcal{T} of \mathcal{A} , we set

$$\mathcal{T}^\perp := \{X \in \mathcal{A} \mid \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^i(C, X) = 0 \text{ for all } C \in \mathcal{T}, i \geq 1\},$$

$${}^\perp \mathcal{T} := \{X \in \mathcal{A} \mid \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^i(X, C) = 0 \text{ for all } C \in \mathcal{T}, i \geq 1\},$$

and

$$\mathcal{T}^{\perp_1} := \{X \in \mathcal{A} \mid \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^1(C, X) = 0 \text{ for all } C \in \mathcal{T}\},$$

$${}^{\perp_1} \mathcal{T} := \{X \in \mathcal{A} \mid \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^1(X, C) = 0 \text{ for all } C \in \mathcal{T}\}.$$

A pair (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}) of subcategories in \mathcal{A} is called a *cotorsion pair* if $\mathbb{A} = {}^{\perp_1} \mathbb{B}$ and $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{A}^{\perp_1}$ ([11], Definition 2.2.1). For every subcategory \mathcal{T} , ${}^\perp \mathcal{T}$ is resolving and \mathcal{T}^\perp is coresolving.

Note that if \mathcal{T} is resolving, then $\mathcal{T}^\perp = \mathcal{T}^{\perp_1}$; if \mathcal{T} is coresolving, then ${}^\perp \mathcal{T} = {}^{\perp_1} \mathcal{T}$. A pair (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}) is called a *hereditary cotorsion pair* if $\mathbb{A} = {}^\perp \mathbb{B}$ and $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{A}^\perp$. A cotorsion pair (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}) is hereditary if and only if \mathbb{A} is resolving if and only if \mathbb{B} is coresolving ([11], Lemma 2.2.10).

A concept very useful when dealing with cotorsion pairs is the notion of approximations via precovers and preenvelopes defined by Enochs in [29] as a generalization of the notion of right and left approximations introduced by Auslander and Smalø [30] in representation theory of finite dimensional algebras. We recall now these definitions.

Let \mathcal{T} be a class of objects in \mathcal{A} . Following [29,30], we say that a morphism $\phi : C \rightarrow A$ in \mathcal{A} is a \mathcal{T} -precover of A if $C \in \mathcal{T}$, and, for any morphism $f : C' \rightarrow A$ with $C' \in \mathcal{T}$, there is a morphism $g : C' \rightarrow C$ such that $\phi g = f$. A \mathcal{T} -precover $\phi : C \rightarrow A$ is said to be a \mathcal{T} -cover of A if every endomorphism $g : C \rightarrow C$ such that $\phi g = \phi$ is an isomorphism. A \mathcal{T} -precover $\phi : C \rightarrow A$ is said to be *special* if it is an epimorphism and $\text{Ker } \phi \in \mathcal{T}^{\perp_1}$. Dually, we have the definitions of a \mathcal{T} -preenvelope, a \mathcal{T} -envelope, and a *special \mathcal{T} -preenvelope*. \mathcal{T} -covers (\mathcal{T} -envelopes) may not exist in general, but if they exist, they are unique up to isomorphisms.

A class \mathcal{T} is said to be *precovering*, *covering*, *special precovering* (preenveloping, enveloping, special preenveloping), respectively, if every object in \mathcal{A} admits a \mathcal{T} -precover, a \mathcal{T} -cover,

a special \mathcal{T} -precover (a \mathcal{T} -preenvelope, a \mathcal{T} -envelope, a special \mathcal{T} -preenvelope) respectively.

A cotorsion pair (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}) is said to be *complete* if every object in \mathcal{A} admits a special \mathbb{A} -precover and a special \mathbb{B} -preenvelope. In fact, by ([11], Proposition 1.1), a cotorsion pair (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}) in \mathcal{A} is complete if and only if \mathbb{A} is special precovering and if and only if \mathbb{B} is special preenveloping.

In this sequel, we mainly work on the functor category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, where \mathcal{C} is a skeletally small preadditive category. Note that the category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ admits arbitrary coproducts; products and the direct products are exact, and it satisfies Grothendieck's AB5 condition, that is, it has exact filtered limits.

Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ be a class of additive contravariant functors from \mathcal{C}^{op} to Ab . We denote by $\text{Add } \mathcal{M}$ (resp. $\text{Prod } \mathcal{M}$) the subcategory consisting of all additive contravariant functors isomorphic to direct summands of direct sums (resp. direct products) of elements of \mathcal{M} . If $\mathcal{M} = \{M\}$ with $M \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, then we shall denote these subcategories by $\text{Add } M$ and $\text{Prod } M$, respectively.

Given an object $M \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, we write $\text{Gen } M$ for the subcategory of all M -generated objects in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, that is, those objects X admitting an epimorphism $M_1 \rightarrow X$ with $M_1 \in \text{Add } M$. The subcategory of M -cogenerated objects, that is, those objects X admitting a monomorphism $X \rightarrow M_1$ with $M_1 \in \text{Prod } M$, is denoted by $\text{Cogen } M$.

The following lemma is useful in this paper, it is cited from ([5], Proposition 1.1), see also [31]. Here, we talk about a similar version in functor categories, and give the proof for the reader's convenience.

Lemma 1. *Let $M \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then, $\text{Add } M$ is precovering, and $\text{Prod } M$ is preenveloping.*

Proof. For any $T \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, let $I = [M, T]$; then, the codiagonal map $M^{(I)} \rightarrow T$ induced by all homomorphisms is an $\text{Add } M$ -precover. Dually, for $J = [T, M]$ the diagonal map $T \rightarrow M^J$ is a $\text{Prod } M$ -preenvelope. \square

Following Mitchell [27], one has that $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ is an abelian category with a projective generator and an injective cogenerator. Using it, we give the following definitions.

Definition 2. *An object $T \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ is said to be n -tilting provided that:*

- (T1) $\text{pd } T \leq n$;
- (T2) $\text{Ext}^i[T, T^{(\lambda)}] = 0$ for each $i > 0$ and for every cardinal λ ;
- (T3) *there exists a long exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow T_0 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T_r \rightarrow 0,$$

where P is a projective generator in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, and $T_i \in \text{Add } T$ for every $0 \leq i \leq r$.

In this case, the associated class $T^\perp := \{M \mid \text{Ext}^i[T, M] = 0 \text{ for any } i > 0\}$ is called the n -tilting class induced by T . Clearly, $({}^{\perp 1}(T^\perp), T^\perp)$ is a hereditary cotorsion pair in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, called the n -tilting cotorsion pair induced by T .

Dually, we have the following definition.

Definition 3. *An object $U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ is said to be n -cotilting provided that:*

- (C1) $\text{id } U \leq n$;
- (C2) $\text{Ext}^i[U^\lambda, U] = 0$ for each $i > 0$ and for every cardinal λ ;
- (C3) *there exists a long exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow U_r \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow U_1 \rightarrow U_0 \rightarrow Q \rightarrow 0,$$

where Q is an injective cogenerator in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, and $U_i \in \text{Prod } U$ for every $0 \leq i \leq r$.

In this case, the class ${}^\perp U$ is called the n -cotilting class induced by U . Clearly, $({}^\perp U, ({}^\perp U)^\perp)$ is a hereditary cotorsion pair in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, called the n -cotilting cotorsion pair induced by U .

Definition 4. (1) Let $T \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gen}_{\infty} T &= \{H \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab}) \mid \text{there exists an exact sequence} \\ &\quad \dots \rightarrow T^{(\lambda_n)} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T^{(\lambda_2)} \rightarrow T^{(\lambda_1)} \rightarrow H \rightarrow 0 \text{ for some cardinals } \lambda_i\}; \\ \text{Gen}_n T &= \{H \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab}) \mid \text{there exists an exact sequence} \\ &\quad T^{(\lambda_n)} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T^{(\lambda_2)} \rightarrow T^{(\lambda_1)} \rightarrow H \rightarrow 0 \text{ for some cardinals } \lambda_i\}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $\text{Gen}_1 T = \text{Gen } T$.

(2) Let $U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cogen}_{\infty} U &= \{G \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab}) \mid \text{there exists an exact sequence} \\ &\quad 0 \rightarrow G \rightarrow U^{\alpha_1} \rightarrow U^{\alpha_2} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow U^{\alpha_n} \rightarrow \dots \text{ for some cardinals } \alpha_i\}; \\ \text{Cogen}_n U &= \{G \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab}) \mid \text{there exists an exact sequence} \\ &\quad 0 \rightarrow G \rightarrow U^{\alpha_1} \rightarrow U^{\alpha_2} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow U^{\alpha_n} \text{ for some cardinals } \alpha_i\}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $\text{Cogen}_1 U = \text{Cogen } U$.

Lemma 2. Let $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$.

(1) If T satisfies the conditions (T2) and (T3), then $T^{\perp} \subseteq \text{Gen } T$.

(2) If U satisfies the conditions (C2) and (C3), then ${}^{\perp}U \subseteq \text{Cogen } U$.

Proof. (1) Consider the following sequence given by the condition (T3):

$$0 \rightarrow P \xrightarrow{f_0} T_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} T_1 \rightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{f_n} T_n \rightarrow 0,$$

with P a projective generator and $T_i \in \text{Add } T$ for every $0 \leq i \leq n$. Clearly, we have that $T_i \in T^{\perp} \cap {}^{\perp}1(T^{\perp})$ by (T2). Notice that ${}^{\perp}1(T^{\perp})$ is resolving, we infer that $K_i = \text{Ker } f_i \in {}^{\perp}1(T^{\perp})$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$. Let $G \in T^{\perp}$. There exists some cardinal λ , such that $g : P^{(\lambda)} \rightarrow G$ is epic. Consider the pushout diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & P^{(\lambda)} & \xrightarrow{f_0^{(\lambda)}} & T_0^{(\lambda)} & \longrightarrow & K_2^{(\lambda)} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow g & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & F & \longrightarrow & K_2^{(\lambda)} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & \end{array}$$

Since $K_2^{(\lambda)} \in {}^{\perp}1(T^{\perp})$, the second row splits, so G is a direct summand of F . Since $F \in \text{Gen } T_0 \subseteq \text{Gen } T$, and $G \in \text{Gen } T$. This implies that $T^{\perp} \subseteq \text{Gen } T$.

The proof of (2) is the dual. \square

Lemma 3. Let $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$.

(1) If T satisfies the condition (T2) and $T^{\perp} \subseteq \text{Gen } T$, then

(i) for each $W \in T^{\perp}$, there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0,$$

with $T_1 \in \text{Add } T$ and $F \in T^{\perp}$;

(ii) every map $V \rightarrow W$ with $V \in {}^{\perp}(T^{\perp})$ and $W \in T^{\perp}$ factors through $\text{Add } T$. In particular, we have $\text{Add } T = T^{\perp} \cap {}^{\perp}(T^{\perp})$.

(2) If U satisfies the condition (C2), and ${}^{\perp}U \subseteq \text{Cogen } U$, then

(i) for each $W \in {}^\perp U$, there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow U_1 \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0,$$

with $U_1 \in \text{Prod } U$ and $G \in {}^\perp U$;

(ii) every map $W \rightarrow J$ with $J \in ({}^\perp U)^\perp$ and $W \in {}^\perp U$ factors through $\text{Prod } U$. In particular, we have $\text{Prod } U = {}^\perp U \cap ({}^\perp U)^\perp$.

Proof. We only prove (1), and (2) is dual.

(i) Let $W \in T^\perp$. By Lemma 1, there exists an Add T -precover $g : T_1 \rightarrow W$ with $T_1 \in \text{Add } T$. Clearly, g is an epimorphism, since $W \in T^\perp \subseteq \text{Gen } T$. We claim that $F = \text{Ker } g$ belongs to T^\perp . Indeed, we observe that $\text{Ext}^1[T, F] = 0$ because $[T, g]$ is an epimorphism, and $\text{Ext}^1[T, T_1] = 0$ (by (T2)). For $i \geq 1$, consider the sequence

$$\text{Ext}^i[T, W] \rightarrow \text{Ext}^{i+1}[T, F] \rightarrow \text{Ext}^{i+1}[T, T_1] = 0.$$

Since $W \in T^\perp$, we obtain $\text{Ext}^{i+1}[T, F] = 0$ for $i \geq 1$. So $F \in T^\perp$.

(ii) Let $f : V \rightarrow W$ be a map with $V \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$ and $W \in T^\perp$. By (i), there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow T_1 \xrightarrow{g} W \rightarrow 0$$

with $T_1 \in \text{Add } T$, we obtain f factors through g as required, since $\text{Ext}^1[V, F] = 0$. For $\text{Add } T = T^\perp \cap {}^\perp(T^\perp)$, we observe that for $H \in T^\perp \cap {}^\perp(T^\perp)$, its identity map id_H factors through $\text{Add } T$, and so $H \in \text{Add } T$. The other inclusion follows directly from the condition (T2). \square

Proposition 1. (1) Let $T \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. If T is n -tilting, then $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T$. In particular, T^\perp is closed under direct sums. Moreover, $\text{Gen}_n T = \text{Gen}_{n+k} T = \text{Gen}_\infty T$, for every $k \geq 0$.

(2) Let $U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. If U is n -cotilting, then ${}^\perp U = \text{Cogen}_n T$. In particular, ${}^\perp U$ is closed under direct products. Moreover, $\text{Cogen}_n T = \text{Cogen}_{n+k} T = \text{Cogen}_\infty T$, for every $k \geq 0$.

Proof. We only prove (1), and (2) is dual.

Let T be an n -tilting object in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. We first claim that $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_\infty T$. In fact, for any $W \in T^\perp$, by Lemma 3(1), there exists an exact infinite sequence of the form

$$\cdots \rightarrow T_n \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$$

with $T_i \in \text{Add } T$. So, by adding suitable direct sums of copies of T to T_i , we obtain the following sequence of the form

$$\cdots \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_n)} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_2)} \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_1)} \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$$

for some cardinals α_i , that is, $W \in \text{Gen}_\infty T$. The other inclusion follows directly from dimension shifting. Clearly, T^\perp is closed under direct sums by the claim. Next we prove the "MOROEVER", and then we complete the proof. Note that $\text{Gen}_\infty T \subseteq \text{Gen}_{n+k} T \subseteq \text{Gen}_n T$ for every $k \geq 0$. Conversely, suppose $H \in \text{Gen}_n T$; that is, there exists an exact sequence

$$T^{(\alpha_n)} \xrightarrow{f_n} \cdots \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_2)} \xrightarrow{f_2} T^{(\alpha_1)} \xrightarrow{f_1} H \rightarrow 0$$

for some cardinals α_i . Let $K_i = \text{Ker } f_i$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$. By dimension shifting, $\text{Ext}^i[T, H] \cong \text{Ext}^{i+n}[T, K_n]$, for each $i \geq 1$, and we obtain $H \in T^\perp$, since $\text{pd } T \leq n$. Hence, $H \in \text{Gen}_\infty T$ by the claim. \square

The following lemma is important for the main results in Section 3, it is cited from ([11], Theorem 3.2.1). Here, we give a similar version in functor categories. We leave the details of the proof for the reader.

Lemma 4. Let \mathcal{S} be a set of objects in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then, $\mathcal{S}^{\perp 1}$ is special preenveloping.

Recall from [7] that for a subcategory $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$, we denote by $\widehat{\mathcal{X}}$ the subcategory of \mathcal{A} whose objects are the C for which there is some nonnegative integer n and an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow X_0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$$

with X_i in \mathcal{X} . Dually, we denote by $\widetilde{\mathcal{X}}$ the subcategory of \mathcal{A} whose objects are the C for which there are some nonnegative integer n and an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow X_0 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow 0$$

with X_i in \mathcal{X} .

For a fixed nonnegative integer n , we use \mathcal{P}_n (resp. \mathcal{I}_n) to denote the subcategory consisting of all objects in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ with projective (resp. injective) dimensions at most n .

Proposition 2. Let $M \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ and n be a nonnegative integer.

- (1) If $\text{pd } M \leq n$, then $\widehat{M^{\perp}} = \text{Mod } \mathcal{C}$, and ${}^{\perp}(M^{\perp}) \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$.
- (2) If $\text{id } M \leq n$, then $\widehat{{}^{\perp}M} = \text{Mod } \mathcal{C}$, and $({}^{\perp}M)^{\perp} \subseteq \mathcal{I}_n$.

Proof. We only prove (2), and (1) is the dual.

Let $X \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Consider the long exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_n \rightarrow P_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

with P_i projective. Since $\text{id } M \leq n$, we have that $\text{Ext}^i[K_n, M] \cong \text{Ext}^{i+n}[X, M] = 0$ for all $i > 0$; that is, $K_n \in {}^{\perp}M$, and so $X \in \widehat{{}^{\perp}M}$. Let $Y \in ({}^{\perp}M)^{\perp}$. We obtain $\text{Ext}^{i+n}[X, Y] \cong \text{Ext}^i[K_n, Y] = 0$ for each $i > 0$, since $K_n \in {}^{\perp}M \subseteq {}^{\perp}Y$. By the former argument, X is arbitrary, and we infer that $\text{id } Y \leq n$. \square

Lemma 5 ([32], Theorem 1.1). Let $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ be closed under extensions, and $\omega \subseteq \mathcal{B}$. Suppose there exists, for each $B \in \mathcal{B}$, a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow W \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$$

with $W \in \omega$ and $L \in \mathcal{B}$. Then, for each $C \in \widehat{\mathcal{B}}$, there exists short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow W_c \rightarrow B_c \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0, \text{ and}$$

$$0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow W^c \rightarrow B^c \rightarrow 0$$

with $B_c, B^c \in \mathcal{B}$ and $W_c, W^c \in \widehat{\omega}$.

Lemma 6. Let $U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ be an n -cotilting object. Then, ${}^{\perp}U$ is special precovering.

Proof. Put $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, $\mathcal{B} = {}^{\perp}U$, and $\omega = \text{Prod } U = {}^{\perp}U \cap ({}^{\perp}U)^{\perp}$ (by Lemma 3(2)). It follows from Lemma 3(2) that, for each $B \in \mathcal{B}$, there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow W \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$$

with $W \in \omega$ and $L \in \mathcal{B}$. By Lemma 5, for each $H \in \widehat{\mathcal{B}} = (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ (by Proposition 2(2)), we obtain a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow G \xrightarrow{f} H \rightarrow 0$$

with $G \in {}^{\perp}U$ and $F \in \widehat{\omega}$. Notice that $\omega \subseteq \mathcal{B}^{\perp}$; we infer that $F \in \widehat{\omega} \subseteq \mathcal{B}^{\perp} = ({}^{\perp}U)^{\perp}$. So, f is a special ${}^{\perp}U$ -precover, as required. \square

3. Main Results

In this section, we will give some characterizations of tilting objects and tilting classes in the functor category $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. The dual versions for cotilting are also true. We first show that the converse of Proposition 1 holds. Here, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 7. Let $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$.

- (1) Assume that $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T$. Then, T satisfies (T1) and (T2).
- (2) Assume that ${}^\perp U = \text{Cogen}_n T$. Then, U satisfies (C1) and (C2).

Proof. We only prove (1), and (2) is dual.

Let $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T (\subseteq \text{Gen}_n T)$. Clearly, (T2) holds, since $T^{(\lambda)} \in \text{Gen}_n T = T^\perp$ for every cardinal λ . We prove that $\text{pd } T \leq n$. For any $H \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$, we consider an injective resolution of H :

$$0 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{f_0} I_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} I_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow I_{j-1} \xrightarrow{f_j} I_j.$$

Let $K_m = \text{Coker } f_{m-1}$ for $1 \leq m \leq j$. By Lemma 3(1), there exists a cardinal α_i and an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow W_i \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_i)} \rightarrow I_i \rightarrow 0$$

with $W_i \in T^\perp$ for every I_i . We claim that $K_m \in \text{Gen}_m T$ for every $m \leq n$.

We proceed with the proof by induction on m . If $m = 1$, notice that $I_0 \in \text{Gen } T$, and we have $K_1 \in \text{Gen } T$. We assume that the claim is true for K_m ($m < n$). Then, we have two exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow K_m \rightarrow I_m \rightarrow K_{m+1} \rightarrow 0, \text{ and}$$

$$0 \rightarrow W_m \rightarrow T^{(\alpha_m)} \rightarrow I_m \rightarrow 0.$$

Consider the following pullback diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & W_m & \xlongequal{\quad} & W_m & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & X & \dashrightarrow & T^{(\alpha_m)} & \longrightarrow & K_{m+1} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \vdots & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K_m & \longrightarrow & I_m & \longrightarrow & K_{m+1} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & \end{array}$$

To prove $K_{m+1} \in \text{Gen}_{m+1} T$, it suffices to check $X \in \text{Gen}_m T$. Consider the second column

$$0 \rightarrow W_m \rightarrow X \rightarrow K_m \rightarrow 0$$

with $W_m \in T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T \subseteq \text{Gen}_m T$ and $K_m \in \text{Gen}_m T$. By Lemma 3(1) and the Horseshoe Lemma, it is not hard to prove that $X \in \text{Gen}_m T$.

So, in particular, $K_n \in \text{Gen}_n T = T^\perp$. By dimension shifting, we obtain $\text{Ext}^{n+1}[T, H] \cong \text{Ext}^1[T, K_n] = 0$; that is, $\text{pd } T \leq n$, since H is arbitrary. \square

Now we give the main results in this paper.

Theorem 1. Let $T, U \in (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then,

- (1) T is n -tilting if and only if $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T$;
- (2) U is n -cotilting if and only if ${}^\perp U = \text{Cogen}_n T$.

Proof. We only prove (1), and (2) is dual.

The necessity is trivial by Proposition 1(1). For the sufficiency, let $T^\perp = \text{Gen}_n T$ ($\subseteq \text{Gen } T$). Then, (T1) and (T2) follow from Lemma 7(1).

Next, we show that T satisfies (T3). Since $\text{pd } T \leq n$ (by (T1)), there exists a projective resolution of T

$$0 \rightarrow P_n \rightarrow P_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$$

with the syzygies $S_0 = T, \dots, S_n = P_n$. Take $S = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} S_i$; then, $T^\perp = S^{\perp_1}$. So, by Lemma 4, there exists a T^\perp -preenvelope $f : V \rightarrow W$ for every $V \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$. By Lemma 3(1), f factors through a map $g : V \rightarrow W'$ with $W' \in \text{Add } T$; hence, g is an $\text{Add } T$ -preenvelope for every $V \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$ since $\text{Add } T \subseteq T^\perp$ (by (T2)). From (ii) of Lemma 3(1), we infer that all homomorphisms $V \rightarrow H$ with $V \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$ and $H \in T^\perp$ factor through $\text{Add } T$ and therefore factor through g . In particular, this applies to any monomorphism $V \rightarrow I$ with I injective, showing that g is a monomorphism. We claim that $K = \text{Coker } g \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$. In fact, for any $X \in T^\perp$ we have that $[g, X]$ is an epimorphism, and $\text{Ext}^1[W', X] = 0$, which implies $\text{Ext}^1[K, X] = 0$; that is, $K \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$. Notice that T^\perp is coresolving, we obtain $K \in {}^\perp(T^\perp)$. Let us now take $V = P$, where P is a projective generator in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Iterating the above construction, we obtain an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow T_0 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T_{n-1} \rightarrow K_n \rightarrow 0$$

with $T_i \in \text{Add } T$, and all cokernels in ${}^\perp(T^\perp)$. So, we infer that $\text{Ext}^i[T, K_n] \cong \text{Ext}^{i+n}[T, P] = 0$ for all $i > 0$; hence, $K_n \in T^\perp \cap {}^\perp(T^\perp) = \text{Add } T$ by Lemma 3(1), and the above sequence gives the one required in condition (T3). \square

Proposition 3. Let T be an n -tilting \mathcal{C} -module and U an n -cotilting \mathcal{C} -module. Then,

- (1) the n -tilting cotorsion pair $({}^{\perp_1}(T^\perp), T^\perp)$ is complete, and ${}^{\perp_1}(T^\perp) \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$;
- (2) the n -cotilting cotorsion pair $({}^\perp U, ({}^\perp U)^{\perp_1})$ is complete, and $({}^\perp U)^{\perp_1} \subseteq \mathcal{I}_n$.

Proof. (1) Let

$$0 \rightarrow P_n \rightarrow P_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$$

be a projective resolution of T with the syzygies $K_0 = T, \dots, K_n = P_n$. Take $S = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} K_i$; then, $T^\perp = S^{\perp_1}$. Clearly, the cotorsion pair $({}^{\perp_1}(T^\perp), T^\perp)$ is complete by Lemma 4. Notice that ${}^{\perp_1}(T^\perp) = {}^\perp(T^\perp)$, and the second part follows from Proposition 2(1).

(2) The first part follows from Lemma 6 and the second part follows from Proposition 2(2). \square

The following result, due to Angeleri Hügel and Coelho [5], is proved for module categories over rings, see also Trlifaj [11]. Here, we give the counterpart in functor categories.

Theorem 2. Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ be a class of objects. Then, the following assertions are equivalent.

- (1) \mathcal{M} is n -tilting.
- (2) \mathcal{M} is coresolving, special preenveloping, closed under direct sums and direct summands, and ${}^\perp \mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) Let \mathcal{M} be an n -tilting class, that is, there exists an n -tilting object T such that $\mathcal{M} = T^\perp$. This follows from Proposition 3(1) and Proposition 1(1).

(2) \Rightarrow (1) First, ${}^\perp \mathcal{M} = {}^{\perp_1} \mathcal{M}$, since \mathcal{M} is coresolving.

Let P be a projective generator in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Because \mathcal{M} is special preenveloping, there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow K_1 \rightarrow 0,$$

with $M_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ and $K_1 \in {}^\perp\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$. We have $M_0 \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$, since $P \in {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$. By induction, we obtain short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow K_i \rightarrow M_i \rightarrow K_{i+1} \rightarrow 0,$$

with $M_i \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$ and $K_{i+1} \in {}^\perp\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$ for any i . Since $K_{n+1} \in \mathcal{P}_n$, we have $\text{Ext}^1[K_{n+1}, K_n] \cong \text{Ext}^{n+1}[K_{n+1}, P] = 0$; then, the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_n \rightarrow M_n \rightarrow K_{n+1} \rightarrow 0$$

splits. So, we can assume that $K_{n+1} = 0$ and form the long exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow M_{n-1} \rightarrow M_n \rightarrow 0$$

with $M_i \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$ for all $i \leq n$. Put $T = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} M_i$. We will prove that T is n -tilting. Clearly, (T1) holds since $T \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$, and the long exact sequence above gives (T3). Since \mathcal{M} is closed under direct sums, $T^{(\lambda)} \in \mathcal{M}$ for each cardinal λ , and (T2) holds.

Next, we show that $\mathcal{M} = T^\perp$. First, we observe that $\mathcal{M} \subseteq T^\perp$ since $T \in {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$. Conversely, suppose $H \in T^\perp$. Since \mathcal{M} is special preenveloping, repeatedly, it follows from the former argument that there exists an exact sequence of finite length

$$0 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{f_0} V_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} V_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow V_{n-1} \xrightarrow{f_n} V_n \rightarrow 0$$

with $V_i \in \mathcal{M} \subseteq T^\perp$ for all $i < n$, and $V_n \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$. Since $H \in T^\perp$, and T^\perp is coresolving, we infer that $L_i = \text{Coker } f_{i-1} \in T^\perp$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$. We claim that $\mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M} \subseteq {}^{\perp 1}(T^\perp)$. So f_n splits, and by induction, f_0 splits; that is, $H \in \mathcal{M}$ since \mathcal{M} is closed under direct summands.

Proof of the claim: suppose $W \in \mathcal{M} \cap {}^\perp\mathcal{M}$. We observe that $W \in T^\perp \cap \mathcal{P}_n$. Notice that T is n -tilting, by Lemma 3(1), it is easy to show that there exists a long exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow T_n \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow T_0 \xrightarrow{\varphi_0} W \rightarrow 0$$

with $T_i \in \text{Add } T$ for all $i \leq n$. Since \mathcal{M} is closed under direct sums and direct summands, $T_i \in \text{Add } T \subseteq \mathcal{M}$, and we infer that $\text{Ker } \varphi_0 \in \mathcal{M}$ since \mathcal{M} is coresolving; then, the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ker } \varphi_0 \rightarrow T_0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$$

splits. So $W \in \text{Add } T \subseteq {}^{\perp 1}(T^\perp)$. \square

Corollary 1. Let $\mathfrak{C} = (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B})$ be a cotorsion pair in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then, the following assertions are equivalent.

- (1) \mathfrak{C} is an n -tilting cotorsion pair.
- (2) \mathfrak{C} is complete and hereditary, $\mathbb{A} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_n$ and \mathbb{B} is closed under direct sums.

Proof. Easy. \square

Using Lemma 3(2), Propositions 1(2) and 3(2), we can obtain the dual versions of Theorem 2 and Corollary 1. We leave the details of the proof for the reader.

Theorem 3. Let $\mathcal{M} \subseteq (\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$ be a class of objects. Then, the following assertions are equivalent.

- (1) \mathcal{M} is n -cotilting.
- (2) \mathcal{M} is resolving, special precovering, closed under direct products and direct summands, and $\mathcal{M}^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{I}_n$.

Corollary 2. Let $\mathfrak{C} = (\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B})$ be a cotorsion pair in $(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab})$. Then, the following assertions are equivalent.

- (1) \mathfrak{C} is an n -cotilting cotorsion pair.
- (2) \mathfrak{C} is complete and hereditary, $\mathbb{B} \subseteq \mathcal{I}_n$ and \mathbb{A} is closed under direct products.

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