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1. Introduction

A ring R is called left coherent if every finitely generated left ideal is finitely presented. As generalizations of left coherent rings, the concepts of left \aleph -coherent rings and left (\aleph, U) -coherent rings were introduced and investigated for any infinite cardinal number \aleph and any flat right R -module U by Loustau in [12] and by Oyonarte and Torrecillas in [13], respectively. Let U be a flat right R -module. A ring R is said to be left \aleph -coherent (resp. left (\aleph, U) -coherent) if every finitely generated left ideal is \aleph -finitely presented (resp. (\aleph, U) -finitely presented). It was proved in [12] and [13] that a ring R is left \aleph -coherent (resp. left (\aleph, U) -coherent) if and only if the \aleph -product $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} R$ (resp. $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$) is flat as a right R -module for any index set I . In this paper we consider (\aleph, U) -coherence of left R -modules. A left R -module M is said to be (\aleph, U) -coherent if every finitely generated submodule of every finitely generated M -projective module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$. It is proved under some additional conditions that a left R -module M is (\aleph, U) -coherent if and only if $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is M -flat as a right R -module.

It is well known that R is left coherent if and only if every finitely presented left R -module M has a finite 2-presentation in the sense of Bourbaki [1], that is, there exists an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K_2 \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ such that F_0 and F_1 are

finitely generated free left R -modules and K_2 is finitely generated (see, for example, [6] or [8]). In section 3, using the concepts of finite n -presentations, as defined in [1], \aleph -finite n -presentations and (\aleph, U) -finite n -presentations, where U is a flat right R -module, we define a dimension, called (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension, for a left R -module M . We show under some additional conditions that a left R -module M is (\aleph, U) -coherent if and only if the (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension of M is equal to zero. Thus the (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension can be used to measure how far a left R -module is from being left (\aleph, U) -coherent. We also give some characterizations of left (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension of rings and show that the left \aleph -coherent dimension of ring R introduced in [11] is the supremum of (\aleph, U) -coherent dimensions of R for all flat right R -modules U .

Throughout, R denotes an associative ring with identity. For any left R -module M we denote by M^+ the character module $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ of M .

Let M be a left R -module. We say that a left R -module N is subgenerated by M , or that M is a subgenerator for N , if N is isomorphic to a submodule of an M -generated module. Following [18], we denote by $\sigma[M]$ the full subcategory of $R\text{-Mod}$ whose objects are left R -modules subgenerated by M .

2. (\aleph, U) -coherent Modules

Let \aleph be an infinite cardinal number and M a left R -module. Following Loustaunau [12], M is said to be \aleph -finitely generated, denoted \aleph -fg, if every subset X of M , with $|X| < \aleph$, is contained in a finitely generated submodule of M . For example, every left R -module is \aleph_0 -fg, and every finitely generated left R -module is \aleph -fg for all $\aleph > \aleph_0$. If $\aleph > |M|$ and M is \aleph -fg, then M is finitely generated.

Let U be a flat right R -module. According to [14], a left R -module M is called (\aleph, U) -finitely generated, denoted (\aleph, U) -fg, if for any subset $S \subseteq U \otimes_R M$ with $|S| < \aleph$ there exists a finitely generated submodule $N \leq M$ such that $S \subseteq U \otimes_R N$. Clearly every \aleph -finitely generated module is (\aleph, U) -finitely generated for any flat R -module U .

The following result appeared in [13].

LEMMA 2.1. *Let M_1, \dots, M_k be left R -modules. Then $\bigoplus_{i=1}^k M_i$ is (\aleph, U) -fg if and only if every M_i is (\aleph, U) -fg.*

Suppose that I is a set and $\{M_i | i \in I\}$ is a family of right R -modules. Let $x = (x_i)_{i \in I} \in \prod_{i \in I} M_i$. We define the support of x as $\text{supp}(x) = \{i \in I | x_i \neq 0\}$. For an infinite cardinal number \aleph , define the \aleph -product of the M_i 's as

$$\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} M_i = \left\{ x \in \prod_{i \in I} M_i \mid |\text{supp}(x)| < \aleph \right\}.$$

Clearly one may view the direct sum and the direct product of a family of modules as two special cases of the same object, namely, the \aleph -product of the family of modules. \aleph -products of some families of modules have been studied by Loustau [12], Dauns [3], [4], Teply [16], [17] and Oyonarte and Torrecillas [13–15]. It may be noted that the concept of \aleph -products of modules, as described by Dauns in [4], is a special case of the more general notion of *filter sums of modules* (see, for example, Franzen [5] and Laradji [9, 10]).

LEMMA 2.2. *Let N be a left R -module. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

(1) *N is (\aleph, U) -finitely generated.*

(2) *The canonical map $\phi_N : \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U \right) \otimes_R N \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} \left(U \otimes_R N \right)$ defined by $\phi_N \left((u_i)_{i \in I} \otimes x \right) = (u_i \otimes x)_{i \in I}$ is an epimorphism of abelian groups for all index sets I .*

Let M be a left R -module and $N \in \sigma[M]$ be finitely generated. Then N is said to be (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$, denoted by (\aleph, U) -fp, if in any exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ in $\sigma[M]$ with P finitely generated and M -projective, K is (\aleph, U) -fg. By [18, Chapter 5], it is easy to see that (\aleph, U) -fp left R -modules in $\sigma[M]$ need not be (\aleph, U) -fp in $R\text{-Mod}$.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *Let M be a finitely generated left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. Then a finitely generated module $N \in \sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$ if and only if there exists an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ in $\sigma[M]$ with P finitely generated and M -projective and K (\aleph, U) -fg.*

Proof. Since M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$ and N is finitely generated, there exists an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M^n \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ in $\sigma[M]$. Now the result follows from Lemma 2.1 and Schanuel's Lemma (see [18, 50.2]).

Let U be a right R -module. A left R -module N is called an (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler module if, for every index set I , the canonical map $\phi_N : \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes_R N \longrightarrow \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} \left(U \otimes_R N\right)$ defined by $\phi_N \left((u_i)_{i \in I} \otimes x \right) = (u_i \otimes x)_{i \in I}$ is monic.

LEMMA 2.4. *Let M be an (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler left R -module. If M is a generator of $\sigma[M]$, then every finitely generated M -projective module $N \in \sigma[M]$ is an (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler module.*

Proof. Since M is a generator of $\sigma[M]$ and N is finitely generated, there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow M^n \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

in $\sigma[M]$. By [18], N is projective in $\sigma[M]$. Thus the sequence splits. Hence $M^n \cong N \oplus K$.

Now the following commutative exact diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes N & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes M^n \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes N)\right) & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes M^n)\right) \end{array}$$

shows that the canonical map $\left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes_R N \longrightarrow \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} \left(\otimes_R N\right)$ is a monomorphism. This means that N is an (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler module.

PROPOSITION 2.5. *Let U be a flat right R -module and M a finitely generated (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. Suppose that $N \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(1) N is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.

(2) $\phi_N : \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes_R N \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} \left(U \otimes_R N\right)$ is an isomorphism of abelian groups for all index sets I .

Proof. Since M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$ and $N \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated, there exists an exact sequence of left R -modules in $\sigma[M]$

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow P \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

with P finitely generated and projective in $\sigma[M]$. Consider the following commutative exact diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes K & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes P & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes N & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \phi_K \downarrow & & \phi_P \downarrow & & \phi_N \downarrow & & \\ \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes K) & \xrightarrow{f} & \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes P) & \longrightarrow & \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes N) & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

where f is a monomorphism. By Lemmas 2.2 and 3.4, ϕ_P is an isomorphism and ϕ_N is an epimorphism. Thus ϕ_N is an isomorphism if and only if ϕ_N is a monomorphism if and only if ϕ_K is an epimorphism if and only if K is (\aleph, U) -finitely generated if and only if N is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let U be a flat right R -module and let M be a finitely generated (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. If $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow N \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence in $\sigma[M]$ with K and L (\aleph, U) -fp in $\sigma[M]$, then N is (\aleph, U) -fp in $\sigma[M]$.*

The following corollary is a generalization of [2, Lemma 5].

COROLLARY 2.7. *Let U and M be as in Corollary 2.6 and let $N \in \sigma[M]$ be finitely generated. If there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ in $\sigma[M]$ where K is (\aleph, U) -fg and P is (\aleph, U) -fp, then N is (\aleph, U) -fp.*

Proof. Since P is (\aleph, U) -fp, there exists, by Proposition 2.3, an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow Q \xrightarrow{f} P \rightarrow 0$$

in $\sigma[M]$ in which Q is finitely generated M -projective and A is (\aleph, U) -fg. Assume $K \leq P$ and let $g = f|_{f^{-1}(K)}$. We have a commutative exact diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & f^{-1}(K) & \longrightarrow & Q & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & g \downarrow & & f \downarrow & & 1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

where g is onto, and both K and $\text{Ker}(g) = A$ are (\aleph, U) -fg. Thus $f^{-1}(K)$ is (\aleph, U) -fg, and hence N is (\aleph, U) -fp.

A left R -module M is said to be (\aleph, U) -coherent if every finitely generated submodule of every finitely generated M -projective module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -fp. For example, every

left R -module is (\aleph_0, U) -coherent for any flat right R -module U . If R is left coherent, then ${}_R R$ is left (\aleph, U) -coherent for all infinite cardinal number \aleph and all flat right R -module U . If $\aleph > \aleph'$, then every (\aleph, U) -coherent module is (\aleph', U) -coherent.

THEOREM 2.8. *Let U be a flat right R -module and M a finitely generated (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is M -flat.
- (2) Every finitely generated submodule of an (\aleph, U) -finitely presented module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.
- (3) M is (\aleph, U) -coherent.
- (4) Every finitely generated submodule of an M -projective module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.
- (5) Every finitely generated submodule of M is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Let $N \in \sigma[M]$ be (\aleph, U) -finitely presented and L a finitely generated submodule of N . Since $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is M -flat, it follows from [18, 17.4] that $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is flat in $\sigma[M]$. Thus we have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U \right) \otimes L & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U \right) \otimes N \\
& & \downarrow \phi_L & & \downarrow \phi_N \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes L) & \longrightarrow & \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes N)
\end{array}$$

Since N is (\aleph, u) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$, by Proposition 2.5, ϕ_N is an isomorphism. Thus ϕ_L is a monomorphism. On the other hand, by Lemma 2.2, ϕ_L is an epimorphism since L is finitely generated. Hence ϕ_L is an isomorphism, which implies that L is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$ by Proposition 2.5.

(2) \Rightarrow (3). It follows from the fact that every finitely generated M -projective module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$.

(3) \Rightarrow (4). Let $P \in \sigma[M]$ be projective in $\sigma[M]$ and L a finitely generated submodule of P . Since M is a generator in $\sigma[M]$ and P is M -projective, it is easy to see that there exists a natural number k such that L is isomorphic to a submodule M^k . Now the result follows from (3).

(4) \Rightarrow (5). Clear.

(5) \Rightarrow (1). By [18, 12.15], it is enough to show that for any finitely generated submodule N of M , $(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U) \otimes N \rightarrow (\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U) \otimes M$ is a monomorphism.

Consider the following commutative diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes N & \xrightarrow{f} & \left(\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes M \\ \phi_N \downarrow & & \phi_M \downarrow \\ \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes N) & \xrightarrow{g} & \prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} (U \otimes M) \end{array}$$

where g is a monomorphism. Since M is an (\aleph, U) -mittag-Leffler module, ϕ_M is a monomorphism. Moreover N is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$. Thus ϕ_N is an isomorphism by Proposition 2.5. Hence f is a monomorphism. We conclude that $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is M -flat.

COROLLARY 2.9. *Let U be a flat right R -module. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\prod_{i \in I}^{\aleph} U$ is flat.
- (2) Every finitely generated submodule of an (\aleph, U) -finitely presented module is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented.
- (3) R is left (\aleph, U) -coherent.
- (4) Every finitely generated submodule of a projective module is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented.
- (5) Every finitely generated left ideal of R is (\aleph, U) -finitely presented.

Recall that a ring R is said to be \aleph -left coherent if every finitely generated left ideal is \aleph -fp.

COROLLARY 2.10. *A ring R is \aleph -left coherent if and only if ${}_R R$ is (\aleph, U) -coherent for any flat right R -module U .*

Proof. Follows from Theorem 2.8 and from [12, Theorem 1.6].

3. (\aleph, U) -coherent Dimension of Modules

Let M be a left R -module and $N \in \sigma[M]$. According to [1], we will say that N is n -finitely presented (n - \aleph -finitely presented, n - \aleph - U -finitely presented) in $\sigma[M]$, denoted n -FP (resp. (n, \aleph) -FP, (n, \aleph, U) -FP), if there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_n \longrightarrow P_{n-1} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

where P_0, \dots, P_{n-1} are finitely generated M -projective modules in $\sigma[M]$ and $K_n \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated (resp. \aleph -fg, (\aleph, U) -fg). In this case, we also say that M has a finite n -presentation (resp. an \aleph -finite n -presentation, an (\aleph, U) -finite n -presentation).

By [18, 25.2] and Schanuel's Lemma, it is easy to see that if M is a finitely generated left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$, then a finitely generated left R -module $N \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely presented in $\sigma[M]$ if and only if N is 1-FP, and that N is (\aleph, U) -fp if and only if N is $(1, \aleph, U)$ -FP. Clearly we have the following implications:

$$(n+1)\text{-FP} \Rightarrow (n+1, \aleph)\text{-FP} \Rightarrow (n+1, \aleph, U)\text{-FP} \Rightarrow n\text{-FP},$$

but not conversely.

From [8, Theorem 3.3] it is clear that a ring R is left coherent if and only if every 1-FP left R -module is 2-FP. Generalizing this result, we give the following definition.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let U be a flat right R -module and M a left R -module. We define the left (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension of M , denoted by $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } M$, as

$$\inf \{n \mid \text{every } (n+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-module in } \sigma[M] \text{ is } (n+2, \aleph, U)\text{-FP}\}.$$

If no such n exists, we say that $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } M = \infty$.

REMARK 3.2. Let $U = R_R$ and M be a finitely generated left R -module such that M is a generator in $\sigma[M]$. Take $\aleph > |M|^{\aleph_0}$. For every (\aleph, R) -fg left R -module K with $K \leq P$,

where $P \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated M -projective, we have $|K| \leq |P| \leq |M|^{\aleph_0} < \aleph$. This implies that K is finitely generated. Thus when $U = R_R$ and $\aleph > |M|^{\aleph_0}$, Definition 3.1 gives a concept of left coherent dimension, denoted by $\text{lc.dim } M$, for any finitely generated left R -module M where M is a generator in $\sigma[M]$, that is,

$$\text{lc.dim } M = \inf\{n \mid \text{every } (n+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-module in } \sigma[M] \text{ is } (n+2)\text{-FP}\}.$$

If no such n exists, we say that $\text{lc.dim } M = \infty$.

REMARK 3.3. If $U = R_R$ and $M = {}_R R$, then Definition 3.1 gives the concept of left \aleph -coherent dimension of R , denoted by $\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R$, that is,

$$\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R = \inf\{n \mid \text{every } (n+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-module is } (n+2, \aleph)\text{-FP}\}.$$

If no such n exists, we say that $\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R = \infty$. Left \aleph -coherent dimension of R has been investigated in [11].

PROPOSITION 3.4. *Let M be a finitely generated (\aleph, U) -Mittag-Leffler left R -module such that M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. Then M is (\aleph, U) -coherent if and only if $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } M = 0$.*

Proof. Suppose that M is (\aleph, U) -coherent. Then, every finitely generated submodule of every finitely generated M -projective left R -module in $\sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -fp. Let $N \in \sigma[M]$ be 1-FP. Then there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_1 \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

such that $P_0 \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated and M -projective and K_1 is finitely generated. Thus K_1 is (\aleph, U) -fp. This means that there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_2 \longrightarrow P_1 \longrightarrow K_1 \longrightarrow 0$$

such that $P_1 \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated M -projective and K_2 is (\aleph, U) -fg. Now it is clear that N is $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP.

Conversely suppose that $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } M = 0$. Then every 1-FP left R -module is $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP. Let L be a finitely generated submodule of a finitely generated M -projective

module $P \in \sigma[M]$. Then P/L is 1-FP. Thus it is $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP. So there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_2 \longrightarrow P_1 \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow P/L \longrightarrow 0$$

such that $P_0, P_1 \in \sigma[M]$ are finitely generated and M -projective and K_2 is (\aleph, U) -fg. Since M is a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$ and L is finitely generated, we can take an exact sequence $0 \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow M^n \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow 0$ in $\sigma[M]$. Then by Schanuel's Lemma (see [18, 50.2]), $H \oplus P_1 \oplus P \simeq K_2 \oplus M^n \oplus P_0$. Now by Lemma 2.1, it follows that H is (\aleph, U) -fg, which implies that L is (\aleph, U) -fp. Thus M is (\aleph, U) -coherent.

Because of this proposition, we may regard our (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension as a measure of how far a left R -module M is from being (\aleph, U) -coherent. When $U = R_R$ and $M = {}_R R$, then left \aleph -coherent dimension of R may be regarded as a measure of how far a ring R is from being left \aleph -coherent.

LEMMA 3.5. *If (\aleph, U) -lc.dim $M = m$, then for any $n \geq m$, every $(n + 1)$ -FP left R -module in $\sigma[M]$ is $(n + 2, \aleph, U)$ -FP.*

Proof. Suppose that $N \in \sigma[M]$ is $(m + 2)$ -FP. Then there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{m+2} \longrightarrow P_{m+1} \longrightarrow P_m \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

where $P_{m+1}, P_m, \dots, P_0 \in \sigma[M]$ are finitely generated and M -projective and $K_{m+2} \in \sigma[M]$ is finitely generated. Denote $K_1 = \text{Ker}(P_0 \longrightarrow N)$. Then K_1 is $(m + 1)$ -FP. Since (\aleph, U) -lc.dim $M = m$, it follows that K_1 is $(m + 2, \aleph, U)$ -FP in $\sigma[M]$. Thus there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H_{m+2} \longrightarrow G_{m+1} \longrightarrow G_m \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow G_0 \longrightarrow K_1 \longrightarrow 0$$

where $G_{m+1}, G_m, \dots, G_0 \in \sigma[M]$ are finitely generated and M -projective and $H_{m+2} \in \sigma[M]$ is (\aleph, U) -finitely generated. Therefore N is $(m + 3, \aleph, U)$ -FP.

Now the result follows by induction.

LEMMA 3.6. *Let X be a right R -module, and M a left R -module. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(1) $\text{Ext}_R^n(X, M^+) = 0$.

$$(2) \operatorname{Tor}_n^R(X, M) = 0.$$

$$(4) \operatorname{Ext}_R^n(M, X^+) = 0.$$

We are now ready to give our characterization of (\aleph, U) -coherent dimension of rings.

THEOREM 3.7. *Let \aleph be an infinite cardinal number and U a flat right R -module. For an integer $m \geq 0$, the following conditions are equivalent.*

$$(1) (\aleph, U)\text{-lc. dim } R \leq m.$$

$$(2) \operatorname{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0 \text{ for each } (m+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-module } M \text{ and for every set } I.$$

$$(3) \text{ For each set } I, \text{ if } \operatorname{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, N\right) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+2, \aleph, U)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } N, \\ \text{ then } \operatorname{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } M.$$

$$(4) \text{ If } X \text{ is a right } R\text{-module such that } \operatorname{Ext}_R^{m+1}(X, N^+) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+2, \aleph, U)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } N, \\ \text{ then } \operatorname{Ext}_R^{m+1}(X, M^+) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } M.$$

$$(5) \text{ If } X \text{ is a right } R\text{-module such that } \operatorname{Ext}_R^{m+1}(N, X^+) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+2, \aleph, U)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } N, \\ \text{ then } \operatorname{Ext}_R^{m+1}(M, X^+) = 0 \text{ for all } (m+1)\text{-FP left } R\text{-modules } M.$$

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Suppose that M is $(m+1)$ -FP. Then M is $(m+2, \aleph, U)$ -FP by Lemma 3.5. Thus there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{m+2} \longrightarrow P_{m+1} \longrightarrow P_m \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

where P_{m+1}, P_m, \dots, P_0 are finitely generated projective left R -modules and K_{m+2} is (\aleph, U) -finitely generated. Denote $K_{m+1} = \operatorname{Ker}(P_m \rightarrow P_{m-1})$ and $K_m = \operatorname{Ker}(P_{m-1} \rightarrow P_{m-2})$. If $m = 0$ then take $K_m = P_{m-1} = M$. Consider the following exact sequence:

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{m+1} \longrightarrow P_m \longrightarrow K_m \longrightarrow 0.$$

We obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{Tor}_1^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, K_m\right) & \xrightarrow{f} & \left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes K_{m+1} \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \beta \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_I^{\aleph} (U \otimes K_{m+1}) \end{array}$$

where f is a monomorphism. When K_{m+2} is (\aleph, U) -fg, K_{m+1} is (\aleph, U) -fp and hence β is an isomorphism by Proposition 2.5. Thus α is an isomorphism and hence $\text{Tor}_1^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, K_m\right) = 0$.

Now it is easy to see that $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0$.

(2) \Rightarrow (3). Clear.

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Let N be an $(m+2, \aleph, U)$ -FP left R -module. By analogy with the proof of (1) \Rightarrow (2), we can obtain $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, N\right) = 0$, for every set I . Thus, by (3), it follows that $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0$ for all $(m+1)$ -FP left R -modules M . To complete the proof it is enough to show that every $(m+1)$ -FP left R -module $(m+2, \aleph, U)$ -FP.

Let M be an $(m+1)$ -FP left R -module. If $m = 0$, then the result follows from Proposition 3.4, Theorem 2.8 and from the fact that R is left (\aleph, U) -coherent if and only if every \aleph -product of any family of copies of U is flat as a right R -module (by Corollary 2.9) since every left R -module is a direct limit of finitely generated left R -modules. Now suppose that $m \geq 1$. Then there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_{m+1} \longrightarrow P_m \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow P_0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

where P_m, \dots, P_0 are finitely generated projective left R -modules and K_{m+1} is finitely generated. Denote $K_m = \text{Ker}(P_{m-1} \rightarrow P_{m-2})$ (if $m = 1$ then set $K_m = \text{Ker}(P_0 \rightarrow M)$). Then $\text{Tor}_I^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, K_m\right) \cong \text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0$. Thus we obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes K_{m+1} & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes P_m & \longrightarrow & \left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U\right) \otimes K_m \\ & & \downarrow \gamma & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \alpha \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_I^{\aleph} (U \otimes K_{m+1}) & \longrightarrow & \prod_I^{\aleph} (U \otimes P_m) & \longrightarrow & \prod_I^{\aleph} (U \otimes K_m) \end{array}$$

with exact rows, where α and β are isomorphisms by Proposition 2.5 since P_m and K_m are finitely presented. Thus γ is an isomorphism and, hence K_{m+1} is (\aleph, U) -fp by Proposition 2.5. Now the result follows.

(1) \Rightarrow (4). Follows from Lemma 3.5.

(4) \Rightarrow (2). Let N be an $(m + 2, \aleph, U)$ -FP left R -module. By analogy with the proof of (1) \Rightarrow (2), we can obtain $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} R, N\right) = 0$, for every set I . Thus $\text{Ext}_R^{m+1}\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, N^+\right) = 0$ by Lemma 3.6. From (4), it follows that $\text{Ext}_R^{m+1}\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M^+\right) = 0$ for every $(m + 1)$ -FP left R -module M . Now we have $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U, M\right) = 0$ for every set I and every $(m + 1)$ -FP left R -module M by Lemma 3.6.

(4) \Rightarrow (5). Follows from Lemma 3.6.

We use $\text{w.gl.dim } R$ to denote the weak global dimension of ring R . As a direct consequence of Definition 3.1 and Theorem 3.7 we have

COROLLARY 3.8. $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } R \leq \aleph\text{-lc.dim } R \leq \text{lc.dim } R \leq \text{w.gl.dim } R$.

From [8], it follows that $\text{lc.dim } R$ can be much smaller than $\text{w.gl.dim } R$ and that $\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R$ can be much smaller than $\text{lc.dim } R$. The following example shows that $(\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } R$ can be much smaller than $\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R$.

EXAMPLE 3.9. Let ω_1 be the first uncountable ordinal number and let $B = \mathbb{Z}_2[x_\mu | \mu \leq \omega_1]$ be the commutative polynomial ring with relations $x_\alpha = x_\alpha x_\beta$ for $\alpha < \beta \leq \omega_1$ and $x_\alpha^2 = x_\alpha$ for $\alpha < \omega_1$. By [12], B is \aleph_1 -coherent but not coherent. Moreover it is immediate to prove that the ring $A = \mathbb{Z}_2[x_\mu | \mu \leq \omega_1]$ is not \aleph_1 -coherent. Take $M = B$ and

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} A & M \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then, by [13], the matrix ring R is (\aleph_1, U) -coherent but not \aleph_1 -coherent. Thus $(\aleph_1, U)\text{-lc.dim } R = 0$ but $\aleph_1\text{-lc.dim } R \neq 0$.

The following proposition is clear.

PROPOSITION 3.10. $\aleph\text{-lc.dim } R = \text{Sup}_U\left((\aleph, U)\text{-lc.dim } R\right)$.

According to [6], a left (right) R -module X is called 2-FP-injective (2-FP flat) if $\text{Ext}_R^1(M, X) = 0$ ($\text{Tor}_1^R(X, M) = 0$) for each 2-FP left R -module M . We will say that a left (right) R -module X is called $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP-injective ($(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP-flat) if $\text{Ext}_R^1(M, X) = 0$ ($\text{Tor}_1^R(X, M) = 0$) for each $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP left R -module M . A left R -module X is called FP-injective if $\text{Ext}_R^1(M, X) = 0$ for each finitely presented left R -module M . As an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.7 when $m = 0$, we have the following result, some

parts of which are well known.

COROLLARY 3.11. *Let U be a flat right R -module. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1) R is left (\aleph, U) -coherent.
- (2) For every set I , $\prod_I^{\aleph} U$ is a flat right R -module
- (3) For every set I , if the right R -module $\prod_I^{\aleph} U$ is $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP-flat, then it is flat.
- (4) For every set I , if $\left(\prod_I^{\aleph} U\right)^+$ is $(2, \aleph, U)$ -FP-injective, then it is FP-injective.

Proof. The result follows from [12, Theorem 1.6], and from Theorem 3.7, Proposition 3.4 and Lemma 3.6, bearing in mind that each left R -module is a direct limit of finitely presented modules, and that the functor $\text{Tor}_1^R(X, -)$ preserves direct limits.

For special \aleph and special U (for example, $\aleph > |R|^{\aleph_0}$ and $U = R_R$), we have

COROLLARY 3.12 (see [8]). *For an integer $m \geq 0$, the following conditions on a ring R are equivalent:*

- (1) $\text{lc. dim } R \leq m$.
- (2) $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I R, M\right) = 0$ for each $(m+1)$ -FP left R -module M and for every set I .
- (3) For each set I , if $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I R, N\right) = 0$ for all $(m+2)$ -FP left R -modules N , then $\text{Tor}_{m+1}^R\left(\prod_I R, M\right) = 0$ for all $(m+1)$ -FP left R -modules M .
- (4) If X is a right R -module such that $\text{Ext}_R^{m+1}(X, N^+) = 0$ for all $(m+2)$ -FP left R -modules N , then $\text{Ext}_R^{m+1}(X, M^+) = 0$ for all $(m+1)$ -FP left R -modules M .

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