

# $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein Projective Modules

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## **Abstract**

In this paper, we generalize the notion of Gorenstein projective modules. Namely, we introduce  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules, where  $\mathcal{X}$  is a class of modules that contains all projective modules. We show that the principal results on Gorenstein projective module remain true for the  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules.

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## **1 Introduction**

Throughout this paper,  $R$  denotes a non-trivial associative ring with identity, and all modules are left  $R$ -modules.

In 1967-69, Auslander and Bridger [1, 2] introduced the G-dimension for finitely generated  $R$ -modules when  $R$  is Noetherian, denoted by  $G - \dim(M)$  where  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module. As the classical case, the G-dimension of modules is defined in terms of resolutions by modules of G-dimension 0, which are defined as follows:

A finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  has G-dimension 0, if:

- $\text{Ext}_R^m(M, R) = 0 = \text{Ext}_R^m(\text{Hom}_R(M, R), R)$  for every  $m > 0$ ; and

- $M$  is reflexive, that is, the canonical map  $M \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(\text{Hom}_R(M, R), R)$  is an isomorphism.

In [1], Auslander proved that a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  has G-dimension 0 if and only if there exists an exact sequence of finitely generated free  $R$ -modules  $\mathbf{L} = \cdots \rightarrow L_1 \rightarrow L_0 \rightarrow L^0 \rightarrow L^1 \rightarrow \cdots$  such that  $M \cong \text{Im}(L_0 \rightarrow L^0)$  and the complex  $\text{Hom}_R(\mathbf{L}, R)$  is exact.

In [5, 6], Enochs and Jenda defined, over arbitrary rings, the Gorenstein projective modules as follows:

**Definition 1.1** An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be Gorenstein projective, if there exists an exact sequence of projective  $R$ -modules

$$\mathbf{P} = \cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P^0 \rightarrow P^1 \rightarrow \cdots$$

such that  $M \cong \text{Im}(P_0 \rightarrow P^0)$  and such that  $\text{Hom}_R(-, Q)$  leaves the sequence  $\mathbf{P}$  exact whenever  $Q$  is a projective  $R$ -module.

The exact sequence  $\mathbf{P}$  is called a *complete projective* resolution.

Over a Noetherian ring  $R$ , Avramov, Buchweitz, Martsinkovsky, and Reiten proved that a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  is Gorenstein projective if and only if  $\text{G-dim}(M) = 0$  (see [4, Theorem 4.2.6] and [4, notes p. 99]). So, the notion of Gorenstein projective modules is an extension of the notion of modules of G-dimension 0. Furthermore, the Gorenstein projective modules share many nice properties of the classical projective module (see, for instance, [4, 8, 7]). In this paper, we show that some of these results remain true whenever we consider, in Definition 1.1,  $Q$  to be in any class of modules containing all projective modules. Namely, we define  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules, where  $\mathcal{X}$  is a class of  $R$ -modules that contains all projective  $R$ -modules (see Definition 2.1). In Proposition 2.2 we characterize the  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules. Our main result is Theorem 2.3, in which, we study the behavior of the notion of  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules in short exact sequences. We end the paper with a characterization of rings over which every  $R$ -module is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. These rings are particular cases of the well-known quasi-Frobenius rings.

## 2 $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules

In this paper we investigate the following generalization of Gorenstein projective modules.

**Definition 2.1** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a class of  $R$ -modules that contains all projective  $R$ -modules. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective, if there exists

an exact sequence of projective  $R$ -modules  $\mathbf{P} = \cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P^0 \rightarrow P^1 \rightarrow \cdots$  such that  $M \cong \text{Im}(P_0 \rightarrow P^0)$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(\mathbf{P}, F)$  is exact whenever  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ .

The sequence  $\mathbf{P}$  is called an  $\mathcal{X}$ -complete projective resolution.

We start with the following characterization of an  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective module.

**Proposition 2.2** *For an  $R$ -module  $M$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

1.  $M$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective.
2. i)  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, F) = 0$  for every  $F \in \mathcal{X}$  and every  $i > 0$ ;  
 ii) There exists an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules  $\mathbf{Q} = 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow \cdots$ , where each  $P_i$  is projective, such that  $\text{Hom}_R(\mathbf{Q}, F)$  is exact for every  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ .
3. There exists a short exact sequence of  $R$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ , where  $P$  is projective and  $N$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective.
4. There exists a family of short exact sequences of  $R$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow M_i \rightarrow P_i \rightarrow M_{i+1} \rightarrow 0$  ( $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ), where each  $P_i$  is projective and  $M_0 = M$ , such that  $\text{Ext}_R^1(M_i, F) = 0$  for every  $F \in \mathcal{X}$  and every  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proof.** The proof of the equivalences  $(1) \Leftrightarrow (2) \Leftrightarrow (4)$  is analogous to the ones of the Gorenstein projective counterpart (see [4, 8]).

The implication  $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$  is obvious.

To end, we prove the implication  $(3) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Let  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ . Applying the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, F)$  to the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ , we get the long exact sequence:  $\cdots \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^i(N, F) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^i(P, F) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_R^i(M, F) \rightarrow \cdots$ . For every  $i > 0$ , we have:  $\text{Ext}_R^i(N, F) = 0$  (since  $N$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective and by the equivalent  $(1) \Leftrightarrow (2)$ ). Also, we have  $\text{Ext}_R^i(P, F) = 0$  (since  $P$  is projective). Then,  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, F) = 0$  for every  $i > 0$ .

It remains to prove (ii). Since  $N$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective and by the equivalent  $(1) \Leftrightarrow (2)$ , there exists an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules  $\mathbf{P} = 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow \cdots$ , where each  $P_i$  is projective, such that  $\text{Hom}_R(\mathbf{P}, F)$  is exact for all  $R$ -modules  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ . Assembling this sequence with the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$  we get the following exact sequence  $\mathbf{Q} = 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow \cdots$  such that the sequence  $\text{Hom}_R(\mathbf{Q}, F)$  is exact for every  $R$ -module  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ , as desired.  $\blacksquare$

The following result, which investigates the behavior of  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective modules in short exact sequences, generalizes [8, Theorem 2.5].

- Theorem 2.3** 1. Let  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequences of  $R$ -modules, where  $C$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. Then,  $A$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective if and only if  $B$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective.
2. Let  $(M_i)_{i \in I}$  be a family of  $R$ -modules. Then,  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective if and only if  $M_i$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective for every  $i \in I$ .

**Proof.** The equivalences of both (1) and (2) can be proved similarly to the one of [8, Theorem 2.5]. Here, we give a new and simple proof of the “only if” part of (1). Then, assume that  $B$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. By Proposition 2.2 (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3), there exists an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow P \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0$ , where  $P$  is projective and  $G$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. Consider the following pushout diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & 0 & & 0 & \\
 & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & C' \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & G & = & G \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

Applying the “if” part to the right vertical short exact sequence, we get that  $C'$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. Therefore, use the equivalence (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) of Proposition 2.2 and the middle horizontal short exact sequence to get that  $A$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. ■

We end the paper with a characterization of rings over which every  $R$ -module is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. These rings are particular cases of the well-known quasi-Frobenius rings.

**Proposition 2.4** *Every  $R$ -module is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective if and only if every  $R$ -module in  $\mathcal{X}$  is injective. In particular, if the above equivalence conditions are satisfied, then  $R$  is quasi-Frobenius.*

**Proof.** First, from [3, Theorem 2.2] and its proof, if one of the equivalence conditions are satisfied, then  $R$  is quasi-Frobenius.

Now, assume that every  $R$ -module is  $\mathcal{X}$ -Gorenstein projective. Then, from Proposition 2.2,  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, F) = 0$  for every  $R$ -module  $M$ , every  $F \in \mathcal{X}$ , and every  $i > 0$ . Then, every  $F$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  is injective.

Conversely, consider an  $R$ -module  $M$ . Let  $\cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  and  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow I_0 \rightarrow I_1 \rightarrow \cdots$  be projective and injective resolutions of  $M$ . Since, by the reason above,  $R$  is quasi-Frobenius, every injective  $R$ -module is projective. Then, the above injective resolution is a right projective resolution of  $M$ . Now, assembling the two above resolutions, we get the following exact sequence:  $\cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow I_0 \rightarrow I_1 \rightarrow \cdots$ . Since, by hypothesis, every  $R$ -module in  $\mathcal{X}$  is injective, the above exact sequence is clearly an  $\mathcal{X}$ -complete projective resolution, as desired. ■

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