

# $n$ -torsionfree objects and Frobenius Functors

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# 1. Introduction and Motivations

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A module is Gorenstein projective if and only if it is a module of G-dimension zero when it is a **finitely generated module over a two-sided Noetherian ring**. As the origin of Gorenstein homological algebra, the notion of modules of G-dimension zero was defined in terms of  $n$ -torsionfreeness in [AB].

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[AB] M. Auslander and M. Bridger, Stable module theory, *Memoirs of the Amer. Math. Soc.* 94(1969).

[R] W. Ren, Gorenstein projective and injective dimensions over Frobenius extensions, *Comm. Algebra* 46(2008), 1-7.

[Z1] Z.-B. Zhao, Gorenstein homological invariant properties under Frobenius extensions, *Sci. China Math.* 62(2019), 2487-2496.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

**Recall:** Let  $R$  be a two-sided Noetherian ring. For a module  $M \in R\text{-mod}$ , there is a projective resolution  $P_1 \xrightarrow{f} P_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  in  $R\text{-mod}$ .

Applying by the functor  $(-)^* = \text{Hom}_R(-, R)$ , we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M^* \rightarrow P_0^* \xrightarrow{f^*} P_1^* \rightarrow \text{Coker } f^* \rightarrow 0,$$

and call  $\text{Coker } f^*$  the transpose of  $M$ , denote it by  $\text{Tr}M$ .

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An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be  $n$ -**torsionfree** if  $\text{Ext}_{R^{\text{op}}}^i(\text{Tr}M, R) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

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If an  $R$ -module  $M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree for any positive integer  $n$ , then it is called an  $\infty$ -**torsionfree** module.



# 1. Introduction and Motivations

A module  $M$  in  $R\text{-mod}$  is said to be of **G-dimension zero**, denoted it by  $\text{G-dim}_R(M) = 0$ , if it satisfies: (1)  $M$  is reflexive; (2)  $\text{Ext}_R^i(M, R) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ ; (3)  $\text{Ext}_{R^{\text{op}}}^i(M^*, R) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ .

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By definition of  $n$ -torsionfreeness and the fact that  $\text{Tr}(\text{Tr}M) \cong M$ , we have, for an  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{G-dim}_R(M) = 0$  if and only if  $M \in {}^\perp R$  and  $M$  is  $\infty$ -torsionfree if and only if  $M$  and  $\text{Tr}M$  (as a right  $R$ -module) are both  $\infty$ -torsionfree.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

In [Z], Zhao obtain that  $n$ -torsionfreeness of modules is preserved under Frobenius extensions.

## Theorem

([Z] Theorem 3.5) *Let  $R$  and  $S$  be two-sided Noetherian rings and  $l : R \rightarrow S$  be a Frobenius extension. Let  $M$  be an  $S$ -module and  $n$  a positive integer. Then  $M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree as an  $S$ -module if and only if  $M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree as an  $R$ -module.*

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**Question:** What is happened in  $R\text{-Mod}$  over arbitrary ring?

[Z] Z.-B. Zhao,  $k$ -torsionfree modules and Frobenius extensions, J. Algebra 624 (2024), 49-65.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

**Recall:** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a full subcategory of an Abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . An  $\mathcal{A}$ -homomorphism  $A \rightarrow C$  is said to be a **left  $\mathcal{C}$ -approximation** of  $A$  if  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(C, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, X)$  is epic for any  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ . A subcategory  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be **covariantly finite** in  $\mathcal{A}$  if every object in  $\mathcal{A}$  has a left  $\mathcal{C}$ -approximation.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. The latter condition means that for each object  $M$ , there is an epimorphism  $P \rightarrow M$  with  $P$  projective.

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## Definition

Let  $n \geq 0$  be an integer. An object  $M$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be  **$n$ -torsionfree** provided that there exists an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{f_1} P_1 \xrightarrow{f_2} \dots \xrightarrow{f_n} P_n$  with  $P_i \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ , such that each  $\text{Im} f_i \rightarrow P_i$  is a left  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ -approximation of  $\text{Im} f_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We denote the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$  consisting of all  $n$ -torsionfree objects by  $\mathcal{T}^n(\mathcal{A})$ .

An object  $M$  is called an  **$\infty$ -torsionfree** if it is  $n$ -torsionfree for any positive integer  $n$ .

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

**Remark:** Let the abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  be the left finitely generated  $R$ -module category  $R\text{-mod}$  with  $R$  a two-sided Noetherian ring. Then an object  $M$  which is  $n$ -torsionfree in  $\mathcal{A}$  is just an  $n$ -torsionfree module; see [AB].

[AB] M. Auslander and M. Bridger, *Stable module theory*, *Memoirs of the Amer. Math. Soc.* 94(1969).



# 1. Introduction and Motivations

Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  and  $G : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be two additive functors. We say that  $(F, G)$  is a **Frobenius pair** between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ , provided that both  $(F, G)$  and  $(G, F)$  are adjoint pairs; see [M65] or [CGN]. We call the functor  $F$  a **Frobenius functor**, if it fits into a Frobenius pair  $(F, G)$ . In this case, the functor  $G$  is also a Frobenius functor. In other words, Frobenius functors always appear in pairs.

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[CGN] F. Castaño Iglesias, J. Gómez Torrecillas, and C. Năstăsescu, Frobenius functors: applications, *Comm. Algebra* 27 (10)(1999) 4879-4900.

[M65] K. Morita, Adjoint pairs of functors and Frobenius extensions, *Sci. Rep. Tokyo Kyoiku Daigaku, Sect. A* 9 (1965) 40-71.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

**Remark:** By Theorem 1.2 in [Kad], a ring extension (or a ring homomorphism)  $l : R \rightarrow S$  is Frobenius if and only if  $({}_S S \otimes_R - (\cong \text{Hom}_R({}_R S_S, -)), \text{Res})$  is a Frobenius pair between  $R\text{-Mod}$  and  $S\text{-Mod}$ . We refer to [Kad] for more details, and the examples can be found in Example 2.4 in [Z1].

[Kad] L. Kadison, New examples of Frobenius extensions, University Lecture Series, Vol 14, AMS. Providence, Rhode Island, 1999.

[Z1] Z.-B. Zhao, Gorenstein homological invariant properties under Frobenius extensions, Sci. China Math. 62(2019), 2487-2496.

# 1. Introduction and Motivations

**Setup and notation.** Throughout, we assume that both  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are abelian categories with enough projective objects. Denote by  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})$  the full subcategories of projective objects of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ , respectively.

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Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be an additive functor with a right adjoint  $G : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . we will denote the adjoint pair  $(F, G)$  by  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$ .

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## 2. $n$ -torsionfree objects

An object  $M$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be  $n$ -**torsionfree** provided that there exists an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{f_1} P_1 \xrightarrow{f_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{f_n} P_n$  with  $P_i \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ , such that each  $\text{Im} f_i \rightarrow P_i$  is a left  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ -approximation of  $\text{Im} f_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

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**Remark:** Every object in  $\mathcal{A}$  is 0-torsionfree and every projective object is  $\infty$ -torsionfree. An object  $M$  is  $m$ -torsionfree must be  $n$ -torsionfree when  $m > n$ . And we have a decreasing sequences of subcategories of  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\mathcal{T}^1(\mathcal{A}) \supseteq \mathcal{T}^2(\mathcal{A}) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq \mathcal{T}^n(\mathcal{A}) \supseteq \cdots .$$



## 2. $n$ -torsionfree objects

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects and  $n$  be a positive integer. The subcategory  $\mathcal{T}^n(\mathcal{A})$  is closed under direct sums and summands.

## 2. $n$ -torsionfree objects

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects and  $n$  be a positive integer. The subcategory  $\mathcal{T}^n(\mathcal{A})$  is closed under direct sums and summands.

The following observation gives a recurrence relation of  $n$ -torsionfreeness.

**Proposition 2.2.** Let  $0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{f} P \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence in  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $f$  a left  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ -approximation of  $M$  and let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. Then  $M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree if and only if  $N$  is  $(n - 1)$ -torsionfree.

## 2. $n$ -torsionfree objects

Analogy to the notion of classical the module with G-dimension zero.

### Definition

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. An object  $M$  is said to be of **G-dimension zero**, denoted it by  $\text{G-dim}(M) = 0$ , if it satisfies: (1)  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^i(M, \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ ; (2)  $M$  is  $\infty$ -torsionfree.

## 2. $n$ -torsionfree objects

Recall that an acyclic complex

$$P^\bullet = \cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P^0 \rightarrow P^1 \rightarrow \cdots$$

of projective objects is said to be **totally acyclic**, provided it remains acyclic after applying  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(-, P)$  for any projective object  $P \in \mathcal{A}$ . An object  $M \in \mathcal{A}$  is called **Gorenstein projective** if there is a totally acyclic complex  $P^\bullet$  such that  $M$  is isomorphic to its zeroth cocycle  $Z^0(P^\bullet)$ .

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We use  $\mathcal{GP}(\mathcal{A})$  to denote the subcategory consisting of all Gorenstein projective objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects and  $M$  be an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $M$  is Gorenstein projective if and only if  $M$  is of G-dimension zero.

### 3. Weakly Gorenstein categories

As a generalization of notion Gorenstein algebras, Ringel and Zhang in [RZ] introduced that of weakly Gorenstein algebra.

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#### Definition

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. We call that  $\mathcal{A}$  is **weakly Gorenstein** if  $\mathcal{GP}(\mathcal{A}) = {}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ , where  ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A}) = \{X \mid \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^i(X, \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})) = 0 \text{ for } i \geq 1\}$ .

An artin algebra  $A$  is said to be left (resp. right) weakly Gorenstein if the category of all left (resp. right) finitely generated  $A$ -modules is weakly Gorenstein.

[RZ] C.M.Ringel and P. Zhang, Gorenstein-projective modules and semi-Gorenstein-projective modules, Algebra Number Theory 14(2020) 1-36.

### 3. Weakly Gorenstein categories

The following is analogy to Theorem 1.2 in [RZ].

**Proposition 3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. The following statements are equivalent.

- (1) The category  $\mathcal{A}$  is weakly Gorenstein.
- (2) Every object in  ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  is  $\infty$ -torsionfree.
- (3) Every object in  ${}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  is  $n$ -torsionfree, where  $n$  is a positive integer.



### 3. Weakly Gorenstein categories

**Proposition 3.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. If  $\mathcal{T}^n(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{T}^{n+1}(\mathcal{A})$  for some positive integer  $n$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is weakly Gorenstein.

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**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an abelian category with enough projective objects. If  $\mathcal{A}$  has only finitely many isomorphism classes of  $n$ -torsionfree objects for some positive integer  $n$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is weakly Gorenstein.

### 3. Weakly Gorenstein categories

**Remark:** Recall that an artin algebra  $A$  is said to be **torsionless-finite** if there are only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable torsionless left  $A$ -modules.

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In [RZ], Ringel and Zhang show that any torsionless-finite artin algebra is left weakly Gorenstein; see ([RZ] 3.6). The corollary above implies that if an artin algebra  $A$  has only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable  $n$ -torsionfree modules for some  $n$ , then  $A$  is left weakly Gorenstein.

## 4. Frobenius Functors

In this section, we will investigate the transfer of  $n$ -torsionfreeness under Frobenius functors.

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**Proposition 4.1.** Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$  be a Frobenius pair between two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Assume that  $F$  is faithful and  $X$  be an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then we have  $X \in {}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  if and only if  $F(X) \in {}^{\perp}\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B})$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$  be a Frobenius pair between two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Assume that  $F$  is faithful and  $X$  be an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $X$  is  $n$ -torsionfree in  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if so is  $F(X)$  in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

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**Remark:** The faithful condition is necessary. Take another abelian category  $\mathcal{A}'$  with enough projective objects. An object  $(X, X')$  in the product category  $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}'$  is  $n$ -torsionfree if and only if so are  $X$  and  $X'$ .

Consider the canonical projection functor  $Pr : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  and inclusion functor  $Inc : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}'$ . Then  $(Pr, Inc)$  is a Frobenius pair. It is clear that  $X$  is  $n$ -torsionfree in  $\mathcal{A}$  can not induce that  $(X, X')$  is  $n$ -torsionfree in the product category  $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}'$ . Hence, the Frobenius functor  $Pr$  does not reflect  $n$ -torsionfree objects in general.



## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Example:** A Frobenius extension  $l : R \rightarrow S$  yields a classical Frobenius pair  $(S \otimes_R -, Res)$  between  $R\text{-Mod}$  and  $S\text{-Mod}$ . It is clear that the restriction functor  $Res$  is faithful. It follows from Theorem 4.2 that a left  $S$ -module  ${}_S M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree if and only if the underlying  $R$ -module  ${}_R M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree. This result is due to Theorem 3.5 in [Z].

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In a Frobenius extension  $l : R \rightarrow S$ , we assume further that  $S$  is progenerator as a right  $R$ -module. Then the Frobenius functor  $S \otimes_R - : R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow S\text{-Mod}$  is faithful. We apply Theorem 4.2 to obtain that a left  $R$ -module  ${}_R M$  is  $n$ -torsionfree if and only if so is the left  $S$ -module  ${}_S S \otimes_R M$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Corollary 4.3.** Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$  be a Frobenius pair between two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Assume that  $F$  is faithful and  $X$  be an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $X$  is  $\infty$ -torsionfree in  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if so is  $F(X)$  in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Corollary 4.3.** Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$  be a Frobenius pair between two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Assume that  $F$  is faithful and  $X$  be an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $X$  is  $\infty$ -torsionfree in  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if so is  $F(X)$  in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Combining Proposition 4.1 and Corollary 4.3, we have the following well-known result.

**Proposition 4.4.** ([CR] Theorem 3.2) Let  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{B} : G$  be a Frobenius pair between two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Assume that  $F$  is faithful and  $M$  is an object in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $M$  is Gorenstein projective (or  $M$  is of G-dimension zero) in  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if so is  $F(M)$  in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

[CR] X. -W. Chen and W. Ren, Frobenius functors and Gorenstein homological properties, J. Algebra 610 (2022), 18-37.

## 4. Frobenius Functors

A two-sided Noetherian ring  $R$  is called *left (right) quasi  $n$ -Gorenstein* if the left (right) flat dimension of the  $i$ -st term in a minimal injective resolution of  $R$  as a left (right)  $R$ -module is less than or equal to  $i$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ; see [H2].

## 4. Frobenius Functors

A two-sided Noetherian ring  $R$  is called *left (right) quasi  $n$ -Gorenstein* if the left (right) flat dimension of the  $i$ -st term in a minimal injective resolution of  $R$  as a left (right)  $R$ -module is less than or equal to  $i$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ; see [H2].

**Corollary 4.5.** Let  $l : R \rightarrow S$  be a Frobenius extension with  $S$  a generator as a right  $R$ -module and  $n$  a positive integer. Then  $R$  is a left (resp. right) quasi  $n$ -Gorenstein ring if and only if so is  $S$ .

[H2] Z. -Y. Huang,  $\omega^t$ -approximation representations over quasi  $k$ -Gorenstein algebras, Sci. China (Series A), 42 (1999), 945-956.

## 4. Frobenius Functors

A ring extension  $l : R \rightarrow S$  is called **excellent extensions** if it satisfies: (1)  $S$  is left  $R$ -projective, that is, if  ${}_S M$  is a module and  ${}_S N$  is a submodule then  ${}_R N | {}_R M$  implies that  ${}_S N | {}_S M$ , where  $N | M$  means that  $N$  is a summand of  $M$ . (2)  $S$  is a **free normal** extension of  $R$ , i.e.  $S = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i R$  and  $S$  is free with common basis  $\{s_1 = 1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  as both a left  $R$ -module and a right  $R$ -module, such that  $s_i R = R s_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ; see [P]. The examples of excellent extensions can be found in Example 2.2 in [HS].

## 4. Frobenius Functors

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**Corollary 4.6** Let  $\theta : R \rightarrow S$  be an excellent extension. Then  $R$  is a left (resp. right) quasi  $n$ -Gorenstein ring if and only if so is  $S$ .

[HS] Z. -Y. Huang and J. -X. Sun, Invariant properties of representations under excellent extensions, J. Algebra, 358 (2012), 87-101.



## 4. Frobenius Functors

A two-sided Noetherian ring is said to satisfy the **Auslander condition** if the flat dimension of the  $i$ -th term of minimal injective coresolution of  $R$  as a right  $R$ -module at most  $i - 1$  for any  $i \geq 1$ ; see [FGR].

## 4. Frobenius Functors

A two-sided Noetherian ring is said to satisfy the **Auslander condition** if the flat dimension of the  $i$ -th term of minimal injective coresolution of  $R$  as a right  $R$ -module at most  $i - 1$  for any  $i \geq 1$ ; see [FGR].

A known result in theory of commutative ring states that a commutative Noetherian ring is Gorenstein if and only if it satisfies the Auslander condition. Based on it, Auslander and Reiten [AR] conjectured that an Artin algebra satisfying the Auslander condition is Gorenstein. We call this conjecture **ARC** for short.

[FGR] R. M. Fossum, P. A. Griffith and I. Reiten, Trivial Extensions of Abelian Categories, in: Homological Algebra of Trivial Extensions of Abelian Categories with Applications to Ring Theory, in: Lecture Notes in Math., vol. 456, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, New York, 1975.

[AR] M. Auslander and I. Reiten,  $k$ -Gorenstein algebras and syzygy modules, J. Pure Appl. Algebra 92 (1994), 1-27.

## 4. Frobenius Functors

In [H], Huang proved the following.

**Theorem 4.7.**([H] Corollary 4.12) Let  $R$  be an Artin algebra. If  $R$  satisfies the Auslander condition, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (1)  $R$  is Gorenstein.
- (2)  $R$  is left or right weakly Gorenstein.
- (3)  $R$  is left and right weakly Gorenstein.

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[H] Z.-Y. Huang, Auslander-type conditions and weakly Gorenstein algebras, Preprint, 2024.

## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Proposition 4.8.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are two abelian categories with enough projective objects. Let  $F$  be a faithful Frobenius functor from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ . If  $\mathcal{B}$  is weakly Gorenstein, then so is  $\mathcal{A}$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

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**Corollary 4.9.** Let  $l : R \rightarrow S$  be a Frobenius extension. If the base ring  $R$  is weakly Gorenstein, then so is  $S$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

By Theorem 4.7 above and Corollary 4.9, we have

**Corollary 4.10.** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be two Artin algebras and  $l : R \rightarrow S$  be a Frobenius extension. If **ARC** holds true for the base ring  $R$ , then **ARC** also holds true for the extension ring  $S$ .

## 4. Frobenius Functors

**Corollary 4.11.** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be two Artin algebras and  $l : R \rightarrow S$  be an excellent extension. Then **ARC** holds true for the base ring  $R$  if and only if **ARC** holds true for the extension ring  $S$ .



Thank you  
for your attention!!