

Finitistic dimension conjecture and radical-power extensions

Dedicated to Claus Michael Ringel on the occasion of his 70th birthday

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Abstract

The finitistic dimension conjecture asserts that any finite-dimensional algebra over a field should have finite finitistic dimension. Recently, this conjecture is reduced to studying finitistic dimensions for extensions of algebras. In this paper, we investigate those extensions of Artin algebras in which some radical-power of smaller algebras is a one-sided ideal in bigger algebras. Our result, however, is formulated more generally for an arbitrary ideal: Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras and I an ideal of B such that the full subcategory of B/I -modules is B -syzygy-finite. Then: (1) If the extension is right-bounded (for example, $\text{pd}(A_B) < \infty$), $IA \text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and $\text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. (2) If $I \text{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal of A and A is torsionless-finite, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. Particularly, if I is specified to a power of the radical of B , then our result not only generalizes some ones in the literature (see Corollary 1.2), but also provides some completely new ways to detect algebras of finite finitistic dimensions.

1 Introduction

Let A be an Artin algebra. The finitistic dimension of A is defined to be the supremum of the projective dimensions of finitely generated left A -modules having finite projective dimension. The finitistic dimension conjecture says that any Artin algebra should have finite finitistic dimension. This conjecture was initially a question by Rosenberg and Zelinsky, published by Bass in a paper in 1960 (see [3]), and has attracted many mathematicians in the last 5.5 decades. Among them is Maurice Auslander who “is considered to be one of the founders of the modern aspects of the representation theory of artin algebras” (see [13, p.501]). “One of his main interests in the theory of artin algebras was the finitistic dimension conjecture and related homological conjectures” (see [13, p.815]). The conjecture becomes nowadays one of the main conjectures in the representation theory of algebras (see [2, Conjecture (11), p.410]) and has not only close relations with algebraic geometry and model structure (see [12, 10]), but also intimate connections with the solutions of several other not-yet-solved conjectures such as Nakayama conjecture, generalized Nakayama conjecture and Gorenstein symmetry conjecture (see [19] for a survey on these conjectures). All of these conjectures would be valid if so would be the finitistic dimension conjecture. Several special cases for the conjecture to be true are verified (see, for example, [6, 7, 8, 9, 20, 21, 4]), but it is not yet fully resolved in general. Actually, up to the present time, not many practical methods, so far as we know, are available to detect algebras of finite finitistic dimensions. It seems necessary to develop some methods for testing finiteness of finitistic dimensions for general algebras or even for some concrete examples.

In the recent papers [16, 17], the conjecture is reduced to comparing finitistic dimensions of a pair of algebras instead of focusing only on one single algebra. More precisely, the following two statements are proved to be equivalent for a field k :

- (1) The finitistic dimension of any finite-dimensional k -algebra is finite.
- (2) For any extension $B \subseteq A$ of finite-dimensional k -algebras such that $\text{rad}(B)$, the Jacobson radical of B , is a left ideal in A , if A has finite finitistic dimension, then B has finite finitistic dimension.

Along this line, the conjecture is further reduced, by a different method, to extensions of algebras with relative global dimension 1, where the ground field is assumed to be perfect (see [18]). Thus it seems quite worthy to consider such kinds of extensions of algebras and to bound the finitistic dimensions of smaller

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algebras in terms of the ones of bigger algebras which we would like to take as simple as possible. Moreover, this kind of considerations, philosophically, seems to make sense because algebras usually may have simpler homological or representation-theoretical properties than their subalgebras do. For instance, every finite-dimensional algebra over a field can be regarded as a subalgebra of some full matrix algebra, while the latter obviously has simple representation theory and homological properties. Also, a lot of other examples show that the philosophy of controlling finitistic dimensions by extension algebras could work powerfully (see also the example at the end of the last section).

Now, let us just mention a couple of known considerations in this direction. In the sequel, we denote by $\text{gl.dim}(A)$ and $\text{fin.dim}(A)$ the global and finitistic dimensions of an algebra A , respectively; and by $\text{pd}(A_B)$ the projective dimension of the right B -module A .

(i) Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal in A . Then:

- (a) If $\text{rad}(A) = \text{rad}(B)A$ and $\text{gl.dim}(A) \leq 4$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ (see [17, Theorem 3.7]).
- (b) If $\text{pd}(A_B) < \infty$ and $\text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ (see [18, Corollary 1.4]).

(ii) Let $C \subseteq B \subseteq A$ be a chain of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}(C)$ and $\text{rad}(B)$ are left ideals in B and A , respectively. If A is representation-finite, then $\text{fin.dim}(C) < \infty$ (see [16, Theorem 4.5]).

In this paper, we continue to explore and compare finitistic dimensions of extensions $B \subseteq A$ of Artin algebras. Since it happens quite often that $\text{rad}(B)$ itself may not be a left ideal in A but some power of it is actually a nonzero left or right ideal in A , our main goal in this paper is to extend results for the case that $\text{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal in A to a more general case that $\text{rad}^s(B)$ is a left (or right) ideal in A for some positive integer s . Such kinds of extensions may be called *radical-power* extensions. Our result in this paper will generalize some ones on left-idealized extensions (see [16, 17, 18]), recover a result of Green-Zimmermann-Huisgen (see Corollary 3.9) and provide somewhat handy methods to detect algebras of finite finitistic dimensions, especially those obtained as subalgebras from representation-finite algebras.

We shall carry out our discussion for extensions $B \subseteq A$ in a broader context by studying an arbitrary ideal of B rather than a power of the radical of B . The technical problem we encounter, even in the case of a higher power of the radical, is that the higher syzygies of B -modules admit no longer an A -module structure. So a crucial ingredient for bounding projective dimensions used in [16, 17, 18] is missing. To circumvent this problem here, we first use certain submodules of torsionless B -modules to get A -module structures, and then establish certain reasonable short exact sequences connecting B -syzygies with the lifted A -modules. Finally, we utilize the Igusa-Todorov function in [9] to estimate upper bounds of projective dimensions.

To state our main result more precisely, let us first recall some definitions.

Let A be an Artin algebra and M_A be a right A -module. Following [11], a non-negative integer n is called a *bound* on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^A(M_A, -)$ if, for any A -module Y , whenever $\text{Tor}_p^A(M_A, Y) = 0$ for p sufficiently large then $\text{Tor}_p^A(M_A, Y) = 0$ for all $p \geq n + 1$. Of course, if $n := \text{pd}(M_A) < \infty$, then n is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^A(M, -)$. As in [11], if the n -th syzygy of a projective resolution of M_A is periodic, then n is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^A(M, -)$. So a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^A(M, -)$ generalizes the period and finiteness of a projective resolution of M .

An extension $B \subseteq A$ of Artin algebras is said to be *right-finite* if $\text{pd}(A_B) < \infty$. Similarly, we can define left-finite extensions. Now, we introduce a generalization of right-finite extensions. The extension $B \subseteq A$ is called a *right-bounded* extension if there is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$. So, right-finite extensions are right-bounded, but the converse is not true in general by the examples in [11].

For $m \geq 0$ and a full subcategory C of $A\text{-mod}$, the category of all finitely generated left A -modules, we denote by $\Omega^m(C)$ the full subcategory of $A\text{-mod}$ consisting of those A -modules that are either projective or direct summands of m -th syzygies of A -modules in C . So $\Omega^0(A\text{-mod}) = A\text{-mod}$ and $\Omega^1(A\text{-mod})$ is just the category of torsionless A -modules. We say that C is *m -syzygy-finite* if there are only finitely many non-isomorphic indecomposable modules in $\Omega^m(C)$, and *syzygy-finite* (or more precisely, *A -syzygy-finite*) if there is some $m \geq 0$ such that C is m -syzygy-finite. Particular, the algebra A is *representation-finite* (respectively, *torsionless-finite*) if $A\text{-mod}$ is 0-syzygy-finite (respectively, 1-syzygy-finite). For further information on torsionless-finite algebras, we refer the reader to [14].

Now, our main result can be stated as follows.

Theorem 1.1. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras and I an ideal of B such that the full subcategory of B/I -modules is B -syzygy-finite. Then we have the following:*

- (1) *If the extension is right-bounded, $I \operatorname{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and $\operatorname{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\operatorname{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*
- (2) *If $I \operatorname{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal of A and A is torsionless-finite, then $\operatorname{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

If $I = B$ in Theorem 1.1(1), then we recover [16, Theorem 3.1]. Now, specializing I to some power of the radical of B , we then get the following corollary.

Corollary 1.2. (1) *Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-finite extension of Artin algebras. Suppose that there is an integer $s \geq 0$ such that $\operatorname{rad}^s(B)A \operatorname{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and that $B/\operatorname{rad}^s(B)$ is representation-finite. If $\operatorname{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\operatorname{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

(2) *Suppose that $B \subseteq A$ is an extension of Artin algebras such that $\operatorname{rad}^s(B)$ is a left ideal of A and that $B/\operatorname{rad}^{s-1}(B)$ is representation-finite for some integer $s \geq 1$. If A is torsionless-finite, then $\operatorname{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Here, we understand $\operatorname{rad}^0(B) = B$. In case $s = 0$ and $\operatorname{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal in A , Corollary 1.2(1) coincides with [18, Corollary 1.4] for finiteness of finitistic dimensions. But in the case $s = 1$, Corollary 1.2(1) seems to be new, comparing it with the results in [5, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18].

Note that Corollary 1.2(2) covers [16, Proposition 4.9] if we take $s = 1$. In case $s = 2$, the algebra $B/\operatorname{rad}^{s-1}(B)$ is automatically representation-finite, and therefore Corollary 1.2(2) takes a simple form. In this case, Corollary 1.2(2) seems to appear for the first time in the work. Since there is a plenty of extensions $B \subseteq A$ such that $\operatorname{rad}(B)$ itself is neither a left nor a right ideal in A but some of its powers is a nonzero left or right ideal in A , our corollary is a proper generalization of some results in [16, 17, 18]. Also, the argument in the proof of our result here is different from the earlier ones, though one common idea for all proofs is the use of the Igusa-Todorov function. Note also that, comparing with the results in [15], we do not impose any homological conditions (such as finiteness of projective dimension) on ideals or powers of the radical of B since such conditions seem to be strong for our homological questions.

The contents of this note are arranged as follows: In Section 2, we first fix some terminology and notation, and then recall some basic facts needed in later proofs. In Section 3, we give proofs of the above-mentioned theorem and corollary. As a byproduct of our results, we re-obtain a main result in [6] (see Corollary 3.9). This section ends with examples to explain how our results can be used. It seems that, for the last example, no previously known results could be applied to detect the finiteness of its finitistic dimension.

2 Preliminaries

In this section, we shall briefly recall some basic definitions, fix notation, and collect some known results that are needed in later proofs.

Let A be an Artin R -algebra, that is, R is a commutative Artin ring with identity and A is a finitely generated unitary R -module. We denote by $\operatorname{rad}(A)$ the Jacobson radical of A . By a module we always mean a finitely generated left module. Given an A -module M , we denote by $\operatorname{rad}_A(M)$ and $\Omega_A(M)$ the Jacobson radical and the first syzygy of M , respectively, and by $\operatorname{pd}({}_A M)$ the projective dimension of M . Recall that the global dimension of A , denoted by $\operatorname{gl.dim}(A)$, is defined to be the supremum of projective dimensions of modules in $A\text{-mod}$, and the finitistic dimension of A , denoted by $\operatorname{fin.dim}(A)$, is the supremum of projective dimensions of all those A -modules X in $A\text{-mod}$ with $\operatorname{pd}({}_A X) < \infty$. So $\operatorname{fin.dim}(A) \leq \operatorname{gl.dim}(A)$.

For a homomorphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$ in $A\text{-mod}$, we denote by $\operatorname{Ker}(f)$ and $\operatorname{Im}(f)$ the kernel and image of f , respectively. If $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ is another homomorphism in $A\text{-mod}$, we write $fg : X \rightarrow Z$ for the composite of f with g . In this way, $\operatorname{Hom}_A(X, Y)$ becomes naturally a left $\operatorname{End}_A(X)$ - and right $\operatorname{End}_A(Y)$ -bimodule.

Given an additive full subcategory \mathcal{X} of $A\text{-mod}$ and a module M in \mathcal{X} , we say that M is an *additive generator* for \mathcal{X} if $\mathcal{X} = \operatorname{add}(M)$, where $\operatorname{add}(M)$ is the additive full category of $A\text{-mod}$ generated by M .

By an extension $B \subseteq A$ of algebras we mean a pair of Artin algebras A and B such that B is a subalgebra of A with the same identity.

To estimate projective dimensions of modules, Igusa-Todorov introduced a useful function Ψ (see [9]) which is defined as follows: Let $K(A)$ be the quotient of the free abelian group generated by the isomorphism classes $[M]$ of modules M in $A\text{-mod}$ modulo the relations:

- (i) $[Y] = [X] + [Z]$ if $Y \simeq X \oplus Z$, and
- (ii) $[P] = 0$ if P is a projective A -module.

Thus $K(A)$ is a free abelian group with a basis consisting of isomorphism classes of non-projective indecomposable A -modules. By employing the noetherian property of the ring of integers, Igusa and Todorov define a function Ψ on this abelian group, which takes values of non-negative integers and has the following fundamental properties.

Lemma 2.1. [9] *Let X and Y be A -modules. Then:*

- (1) *If $\text{pd}({}_A X) < \infty$, then $\Psi(X) = \text{pd}({}_A X)$.*
- (2) *$\Psi(X) \leq \Psi(X \oplus Y)$ and $\Psi(\bigoplus_{j=1}^n X) = \Psi(X)$ for any natural number $n \geq 1$.*
- (3) *If $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence in $A\text{-mod}$ with $\text{pd}({}_A Z) < \infty$, then $\Psi(Z) \leq \Psi(X \oplus Y) + 1$.*

Now, we recall the following well-known homological facts.

Lemma 2.2. (1) *If there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow X_s \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ in $A\text{-mod}$, then $\text{pd}({}_A X) \leq s + \max\{\text{pd}({}_A X_i) \mid 0 \leq i \leq s\}$.*

(2) *Each exact sequence $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$ of A -modules induces another two exact sequences*

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_A(Z) \longrightarrow X \oplus P \longrightarrow Y \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \longrightarrow \Omega_A(Y) \longrightarrow \Omega_A(Z) \oplus P' \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow 0$$

with P and P' projective A -modules. They are the so-called syzygy shifting.

Next, we recall a result of Auslander (see [1, Chapt. III, Sec. 2]), which describes the global dimensions of the endomorphism algebras of modules.

Lemma 2.3. *Let $n \geq 2$ be an integer. Suppose that A is an algebra and M is an A -module. Then $\text{gl.dim}(\text{End}({}_A M)) \leq n$ if and only if, for each A -module X , there is an exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow M_{n-2} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow M_1 \longrightarrow M_0 \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow 0$$

in $A\text{-mod}$ such that all $M_j \in \text{add}(M)$ and $\text{Hom}_A(M, -)$ preserves the exactness of this sequence.

We also need the following result from [17].

Lemma 2.4. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of algebras such that $\text{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal of A . Then, for any B -module X and integer $i \geq 2$, the module $\Omega_B^i(X)$ has an A -module structure and there is a projective A -module P and an A -module Y such that $\Omega_B^i(X) \simeq \Omega_A(Y) \oplus P$ as A -modules.*

3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

To prove Theorem 1.1, we first have to make some preparations. Let M be a right A -module. For convenience, we say that a left A -module ${}_A X$ satisfies the $\text{Tor}^A(M, -)$ -vanishing condition if $\text{Tor}_p^A(M, X) = 0$ for p sufficiently large. For instance, modules of finite projective dimension always satisfy this condition. Moreover, if $\text{pd}(M_A) < \infty$, then all modules satisfy the $\text{Tor}^A(M, -)$ -vanishing condition. Note that the next two lemmas are true for a more general class of rings, though they are just stated for Artin algebras.

Lemma 3.1. *Let A and B be Artin algebras and ${}_A M_B$ be an A - B -bimodule. Suppose that ${}_A M$ is projective and n is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(M_B, -)$. Then, for any B -module X with the $\text{Tor}^B(M_B, -)$ -vanishing condition and for any integer $m \geq 1$, we have an isomorphism of A -modules*

$$\Omega_A(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m}(X)) \simeq \Omega_A^m(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X)).$$

Proof. Let $m \geq 1$ be an integer and X be a B -module satisfying the $\text{Tor}^B(M_B, -)$ -vanishing condition. Then we consider the projective cover $f : P \rightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X)$ of $\Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X)$ and the canonical exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m}(X) \longrightarrow P \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since n is a bound of the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(M_B, -)$ and $n+m > n$, we have $\text{Tor}_1^B(M, \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X)) \simeq \text{Tor}_{n+m}^B(M, X) = 0$. Thus the following sequence of A -modules is exact:

$$0 \longrightarrow M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m}(X) \longrightarrow M \otimes_B P \longrightarrow M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

By assumption, the module ${}_A M$ is projective. This yields that the A -module $M \otimes_B P$ is also projective. Thus $M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m}(X) \simeq \Omega_A(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X)) \oplus Q$ with Q a projective A -module. It follows that $\Omega_A(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m}(X)) \simeq \Omega_A^2(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m-1}(X))$ for all $m \geq 1$. Consequently, we have $\Omega_A(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m}(X)) \simeq \Omega_A^n(M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X))$ by repeating the foregoing isomorphism. \square

The following lemma is a consequence of the derived functors of tensor functors.

Lemma 3.2. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-bounded extension of Artin algebras with n a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$. If a B -module ${}_B X$ satisfies the $\text{Tor}(A_B, -)$ -vanishing condition, that is, $\text{Tor}_p^B(A_B, X) = 0$ for sufficiently large p , then, for any positive integer $i \geq n+1$, the following sequence of B -modules is exact:*

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow A \otimes_B \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow (A/B) \otimes_B \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Proof. Tensoring the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow A/B \rightarrow 0$ by $\Omega_B^i(X)$, we get the following exact sequence of B -modules:

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Tor}_1^B(A, \Omega_B^i(X)) \longrightarrow \text{Tor}_1^B(A/B, \Omega_B^i(X)) \longrightarrow \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow A \otimes_B \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow (A/B) \otimes_B \Omega_B^i(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Evidently, $\text{Tor}_1^B(A/B, \Omega_B^j(X)) \simeq \text{Tor}_{j+1}^B(A/B, X) \simeq \text{Tor}_{j+1}^B(A, X)$ for $j \geq 1$. By assumption, n is a bound of the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$ and X satisfies the $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$ -vanishing condition. Therefore we have $\text{Tor}_p^B(A, X) = 0$ for all $p \geq n+1$. Thus $\text{Tor}_1^B(A/B, \Omega_B^i(X)) \simeq \text{Tor}_{i+1}^B(A, X) = 0$ for $i \geq n+1$. Consequently, we get the desired exact sequence. \square

The following useful lemma supplies a non-trivial way to lift B -modules to A -modules. This observation extends [16, Lemma 0.1] and is probably not previously known in the literature. Also, note that the lemma holds true for arbitrary rings and torsionless modules.

Lemma 3.3. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras and I be an ideal of B such that I is also a left ideal of A . Then, for any torsionless B -module X , its submodule IX admits an A -module structure and is actually a torsionless A -module.*

Proof. Let $X \hookrightarrow P$ be an inclusion with P a projective B -module. Then we get an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow X \hookrightarrow P \longrightarrow Y \longrightarrow 0$$

with Y the cokernel of the inclusion, and can form the following exact commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \text{Tor}_1^B(I, Y) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & I \otimes_B X & \xrightarrow{\eta} & I \otimes_B P \longrightarrow I \otimes_B Y \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta \\ & & & & IP & \longrightarrow & IY \longrightarrow 0, \end{array}$$

where α and β are the multiplication maps. Clearly, α is an isomorphism since P is a projective B -module. It is easy to see that $\text{Im}(\eta) \simeq \text{Im}(\eta\alpha) = IX$. Thus we have an exact sequence of B -modules:

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Tor}_1^B(I, Y) \xrightarrow{\psi} I \otimes_B X \xrightarrow{\eta\alpha} IX \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since I is a left ideal of A , we know that $\text{Tor}_1^B(I, Y)$ and $I \otimes_B X$ are A -modules and the injective homomorphism ψ is, in fact, a homomorphism of A -modules. So the B -module IX , as the cokernel of ψ , is endowed with an A -module structure which is induced from the A -module $I \otimes_B X$. Evidently, the A -module IX can be regarded as an A -submodule of the projective A -module ${}_A A \otimes_B P$. \square

Remark that Lemma 3.3 may be false if X is not assumed to be torsionless. For a counterexample, we refer the reader to [16, Erratum].

Proof of Theorem 1.1:

(1) Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-bounded extension of Artin algebras and I be an ideal in B such that $IA \text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and the full subcategory $(B/I)\text{-mod}$ of $B\text{-mod}$ is s -syzygy-finite (with respect to taking B -syzygies) for some integer $s \geq 0$. Further, we assume that n is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}(A_B, -)$, and define $m := \text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$. Let X be a B -module with $\text{pd}({}_B X) < \infty$. Then X satisfies the $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$ -vanishing condition. Now, we consider the B -module $Y := \Omega_B^{m+n+1}(X)$, take a projective cover $\pi : P \rightarrow Y$ of Y , and form the following exact commutative diagram of B -modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B(Y) & \longrightarrow & P & \xrightarrow{\pi} & Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B \Omega_B(Y) & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B P & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\cdots & \longrightarrow & (A/B) \otimes_B \Omega_B(Y) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & (A/B) \otimes_B P & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (A/B) \otimes_B Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & & & 0 & & 0
\end{array}$$

where the third column in the diagram is given by Lemma 3.2. The exactness of the second row follows from $\text{Tor}_1^B(A, Y) = \text{Tor}_1^B(A, \Omega_B^{n+m+1}(X)) \simeq \text{Tor}_{n+m+2}^B(A, X) = 0$ since n is a bound on the vanishing of $\text{Tor}^B(A_B, -)$. Thus there is a projective A -module Q such that $A \otimes_B \Omega_B(Y) \simeq \Omega_A(A \otimes_B Y) \oplus Q$. So we may rewrite the above diagram as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B(Y) & \longrightarrow & P & \xrightarrow{\pi} & Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_A(A \otimes_B Y) \oplus Q & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B P & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow f & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \text{Im}(\varphi) & \longrightarrow & (A/B) \otimes_B P & \longrightarrow & (A/B) \otimes_B Y \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & 0 & & 0 & & 0
\end{array}$$

where f is surjective. Thus we have an exact sequence of B -modules

$$(*) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Y) \longrightarrow \Omega_A(A \otimes_B Y) \oplus Q \longrightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi) \longrightarrow 0.$$

By Lemma 3.1, we have the following isomorphism of A -modules for any $j \geq 1$:

$$\Omega_A(A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+j}(X)) \simeq \Omega_A^j(A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X)).$$

So, if $j > \text{pd}({}_B X)$, then $\Omega_B^{n+j}(X) = 0$, and therefore $\Omega_A^j(A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X)) = 0$ and $\text{pd}({}_A A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X)) \leq m := \text{fin.dim}(A)$. In particular, it follows again from Lemma 3.1 that

$$\Omega_A(A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+m+1}(X)) \simeq \Omega_A^{m+1}(A \otimes_B \Omega_B^{n+1}(X)) = 0.$$

Hence the sequence (*) becomes the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m+2}(X) \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi) \longrightarrow 0.$$

If we take $(s-1)$ -th syzygy of this sequence, then we get a new exact sequence of B -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m+2+s-1}(X) \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{s-1}(Q) \oplus P' \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{s-1}(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \longrightarrow 0$$

with P' a projective B -module. Now, applying the second shifting sequence in Lemma 2.2(2) to this sequence, we obtain the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^s(Q) \longrightarrow \Omega_B^s(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \oplus W \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m+s+1}(X) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where W is a projective B -module.

Next, we shall prove that $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ is a B/I -module, that is, $I(\text{Im}(\varphi)) = 0$. In fact, φ is induced by inclusion from $\Omega_B(Y)$ to P , and therefore $\Omega_B(Y) \subseteq \text{rad}({}_B P) = \text{rad}(B)P$. So an element in $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ is a finite sum of elements of the form $(a+B) \otimes_B r p$, where $a \in A$, $r \in \text{rad}(B)$ and $p \in P$. Hence it is enough to show $I((a+B) \otimes_B r p) = 0$ in $(A/B) \otimes_B P$. If $r' \in I$, then it follows from $IA \text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ that

$$r'((a+B) \otimes_B r p) = r'((ar+B) \otimes_B p) = (r'ar+B) \otimes_B p = 0 \otimes_B p = 0.$$

This shows that $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ is a module over B/I . By assumption, the full subcategory $(B/I)\text{-mod}$ of $B\text{-mod}$ is s -syzygy-finite. So there is an additive generator ${}_B N$ for $\Omega_B^s((B/I)\text{-mod})$ such that $\Omega_B^s(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \in \text{add}(N)$.

Finally, it follows from Lemma 2.1 that

$$\text{pd}({}_B \Omega_B^{n+m+s+1}(X)) = \Psi({}_B \Omega_B^{n+m+s+1}(X)) \leq 1 + \Psi(\Omega_B^s(Q) \oplus \Omega_B^s(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \oplus W) \leq 1 + \Psi(\Omega_B^s({}_B A) \oplus N).$$

Clearly, $\Psi(\Omega_B^s({}_B A) \oplus N)$ does not depend upon X . As a result, we have

$$\text{pd}({}_B X) \leq m + n + s + 1 + \text{pd}({}_B \Omega_B^{n+m+s+1}(X)) \leq m + n + s + 2 + \Psi(\Omega_B^s({}_B A) \oplus N) < \infty.$$

That is, $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1(1).

(2) Let X be a B -module with $\text{pd}({}_B X) < \infty$. Then we take a projective cover $P_1 \rightarrow \Omega_B(X)$ of $\Omega_B(X)$ and get two canonical exact sequences of torsionless B -modules:

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \longrightarrow P_1 \longrightarrow \Omega_B(X) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B(P_1) \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X)) \longrightarrow 0,$$

which can be used to construct the following exact commutative diagram of B -modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Z & \longrightarrow & I\text{rad}_B(P_1) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & I\text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X)) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \iota_1 & & \downarrow \iota_2 & & \downarrow \iota_3 \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B^2(X) & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B(P_1) & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X)) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & T & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B(P_1)/I\text{rad}_B(P_1) & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X))/I\text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X)) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

where Z is the kernel of φ and where T is the cokernel of ι_1 . Thus we have an exact sequence of B -modules

$$(**) \quad 0 \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow 0$$

with T a B/I -module. Note that Z has an A -module structure: In fact, φ is the composite of $I\text{rad}(B) \otimes_B P_1 \rightarrow I\text{rad}(B) \otimes_B \Omega_B(X)$ with the multiplication map $I\text{rad}(B) \otimes_B \Omega_B(X) \rightarrow I\text{rad}(B)\Omega_B(X) = I\text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X))$. Since $I\text{rad}(B)$ is a left ideal of A and $\Omega_B(X)$ is a torsionless B -module, we see that $I\text{rad}_B(\Omega_B(X))$ is an A -module by Lemma 3.3. It turns out that φ becomes a homomorphism of A -modules, and therefore its kernel Z is an A -module.

Since P_1 is a projective B -module, we have the following inclusions of A -modules:

$$Z \hookrightarrow I\text{rad}_B(P_1) \simeq I\text{rad}(B) \otimes_B P_1 \hookrightarrow A \otimes_B P_1.$$

Let W be the cokernel of the inclusion $Z \hookrightarrow A \otimes_B P_1$. Then there is a projective A -module Q such that $Z \simeq \Omega_A(W) \oplus Q$. Thus the exact sequence $(**)$ can be rewritten as

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_A(W) \oplus Q \rightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0.$$

Suppose that the full subcategory $(B/I)\text{-mod}$ of $B\text{-mod}$ is s -syzygy-finite for some $s \geq 1$. Then we take the $(s-1)$ -th syzygy of the above sequence and get the following exact sequence of B -modules:

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_B^{s-1}(\Omega_A(W) \oplus Q) \rightarrow \Omega_B^{s+1}(X) \oplus P' \rightarrow \Omega_B^{s-1}(T) \rightarrow 0.$$

with P' a projective B -module. By a syzygy shifting, we finally get an exact sequence of the following form:

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_B^s(T) \rightarrow \Omega_B^{s-1}(\Omega_A(W) \oplus Q) \oplus P \rightarrow \Omega_B^{s+1}(X) \rightarrow 0,$$

where P is a projective B -module. Since A is torsionless-finite and the full subcategory $(B/I)\text{-mod}$ of $B\text{-mod}$ is s -syzygy-finite, there is an A -module M and a B -module N such that $\Omega_A(W) \in \text{add}({}_A M)$ and $\Omega_B^s(T) \in \text{add}({}_B N)$. Here M and N do not depend upon X . Thus the Igusa-Todorov function yields the following estimation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pd}({}_B X) &\leq s+1 + \text{pd}({}_B \Omega_B^{s+1}(X)) \\ &\leq s+1 + 1 + \Psi(\Omega_B^s(T) \oplus \Omega_B^{s-1}(\Omega_A(W) \oplus Q) \oplus P) \\ &\leq s+2 + \Psi(N \oplus \Omega_B^{s-1}(M \oplus {}_B A)). \end{aligned}$$

Note that s and $\Psi(N \oplus \Omega_B^{s-1}(M \oplus {}_B A))$ are independent of the B -module X . Hence $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. This finishes the proof of Theorem 1.1(2). \square

Remarks. (1) The above proof shows that, in Theorem 1.1(2), we may replace “ A is torsionless-finite” by “the subcategory $\Omega_B^{s-1}(\Omega_A(A\text{-mod}))$ is of finite type”.

(2) Given an Artin R -algebra B and an ideal I in B , if B is a free R -module (for instance, R is a field), then there is a recipe for getting an extension $B \subseteq A$ of Artin R -algebras such that I is a left ideal in A . In fact, since B is a free R -module of finite rank, we can embed B into a full $n \times n$ matrix algebra $\Lambda := M_n(R)$ over R and define $A := \{a \in \Lambda \mid aI \subseteq I\}$. Evidently, the Artin R -algebra A contains B and makes I into a left ideal. \square

Proof of Corollary 1.2:

(1) Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-finite extension of Artin algebras. Suppose that there is an integer $s \geq 0$ such that $\text{rad}^s(B)A\text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and that $B/\text{rad}^s(B)$ is representation-finite. Then we define $I := \text{rad}^s(B)$. Evidently, I satisfies all conditions in Theorem 1.1(1). Hence Corollary 1.2(1) follows directly from Theorem 1.1(1).

(2) Suppose that $B \subseteq A$ is an extension of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}^s(B)$ is a left ideal of A and that $B/\text{rad}^{s-1}(B)$ is representation-finite for some integer $s \geq 1$. If $I := \text{rad}^{s-1}(B)$, then I fulfills the conditions in Theorem 1.1(2). So Corollary 1.2(2) follows immediately from Theorem 1.1(2). \square

As an immediate consequence of Corollary 1.2(1), we have the following result.

Corollary 3.4. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-finite extension of Artin algebras. Suppose that there is an integer $s \geq 1$ such that $\text{Arad}(B) \subseteq \text{rad}(B)A$, $\text{rad}^s(B)$ is a right ideal of A , and $B/\text{rad}^{s-1}(B)$ is representation-finite. If $\text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Recall that the representation dimension of an algebra A , introduced by Auslander in [1], is defined by

$$\text{rep.dim}(A) := \inf\{\text{gl.dim}(\text{End}_A(A \oplus D(A) \oplus M)) \mid M \in A\text{-mod}\}.$$

If we strengthen extensions $B \subseteq A$ as certain special left-finite extensions, we may relax the assumption on B/I in Theorem 1.1(1) and get the following result.

Corollary 3.5. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be a right-bounded extension of Artin algebras with $\text{pd}({}_B A) \leq 1$, and let I be an ideal of B such that $IA\text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and $\text{rep.dim}(B/I) \leq 3$. If $\text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Proof. As in the proof of Theorem 1.1(1), we get an exact sequence of B -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Q) \longrightarrow \Omega_B(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \oplus W \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m+2}(X) \oplus V \longrightarrow 0,$$

where Q is a projective A -module, W and V are projective B -modules. Since $\text{rep.dim}(B/I) \leq 3$ and $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ is a B/I -module, we can find a B/I -module U such that $\text{gl.dim}(\text{End}_{B/I}(U)) = \text{rep.dim}(B/I)$, and an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow U_1 \longrightarrow U_0 \longrightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi) \longrightarrow 0$$

such that $U_i \in \text{add}(U)$ by Lemma 2.3. Thus we can form the following exact commutative diagram of B -modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & \Omega_B(U_1) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \Omega_B(U_1) & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B(U_0) \oplus W' & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B^{n+m+1}(X) \oplus V \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B(Q) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B(\text{Im}(\varphi)) \oplus W & \longrightarrow & \Omega_B^{n+m+1}(X) \oplus V \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & \end{array}$$

where W' is a projective B -module. It follows from $\text{pd}({}_B A) \leq 1$ that $\text{Ext}_B^1(\Omega_B(Q), \Omega_B(U_1)) = \text{Ext}_B^2(Q, \Omega_B(U_1)) = 0$, and therefore the first column of the above diagram splits. Thus $K \simeq \Omega_B(Q \oplus U_1)$, and consequently, we have the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Q \oplus U_1) \longrightarrow \Omega_B(U_0) \oplus W' \longrightarrow \Omega_B^{n+m+2}(X) \oplus V \longrightarrow 0.$$

Now, the same argument of the proof of Theorem 1.1(1) will lead to Corollary 3.5. \square

The foregoing proof of Theorem 1.1(2) also implies the following conclusion.

Corollary 3.6. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be a left-finite extension of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}^2(B)$ is a left ideal of A .*

- (1) *If A is torsionless-finite, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*
- (2) *If $\text{gl.dim}(A) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Proof. (1) is clear from Corollary 1.2(2).

(2) We keep the notation in the above proof of Theorem 1.1(2). By Lemma 2.2(1), $\text{pd}({}_B Z) \leq \text{pd}({}_B A) + \text{gl.dim}(A)$. This shows $\text{pd}({}_B T) < \infty$ for the semisimple module T . Hence, the argument in the proof of Theorem 1.1(2) yields $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. \square

Now, we consider extensions $B \subseteq A$ with $\text{rad}^l(B) = \text{rad}^l(A)$. For $l = 1$, it is known from [18, Theorem 1.1(1)] that $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ if $\text{fin.dim}(A) < \infty$. For $l \geq 2$, we have the following variation of Corollary 1.2(2).

Corollary 3.7. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}^l(B) = \text{rad}^l(A)$ for an integer $l \geq 2$ and that both $A/\text{rad}^{l-1}(A)$ and $B/\text{rad}^{l-1}(B)$ are representation-finite. If $\text{gl.dim}(A) \leq 2$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Proof. Let X be a B -module with $\text{pd}({}_B X) < \infty$, and let $\cdots \rightarrow P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$ be a minimal projective resolution of ${}_B X$. Then, as in the proof of Theorem 1.1(2), we can construct an exact sequence

$$(**) \quad 0 \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow 0,$$

of B -modules, which induces another exact sequence of A -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B^l(P_1) \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(X)) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where these A -module structures are due to Lemma 3.3 and where T is a module over $B/\text{rad}^{l-1}(B)$. Furthermore, we also have the following exact sequence of A -modules:

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_A^2(A \otimes_B X) \oplus P \longrightarrow A \otimes_B P_1 \longrightarrow A \otimes_B P_0 \longrightarrow A \otimes_B X \longrightarrow 0$$

with P a projective A -module. Now, we construct the following exact commutative diagram of A -modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Z & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B^l(P_1) & \longrightarrow & \text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(X)) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega_A^2(A \otimes_B X) \oplus P & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B P_1 & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B P_0 & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B X \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & S_1 & \longrightarrow & (A/\text{rad}^l(B)) \otimes_B P_1 & \longrightarrow & S_3 & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_B X \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \end{array}$$

Since $\text{rad}^l(B) = \text{rad}^l(A)$, we see that S_1 is a module over $A/\text{rad}^l(A)$ and that $(A/\text{rad}^l(B)) \otimes_B P_1$, as an $A/\text{rad}^l(A)$ -module, is projective. Thus S_1 is a torsionless module over $A/\text{rad}^l(A)$. By assumption, $A/\text{rad}^{l-1}(A)$ is representation-finite, this implies that $A/\text{rad}^l(A)$ is torsionless-finite (see [1, 14]). So there is a module M over $A/\text{rad}^l(A)$ such that $S_1 \in \text{add}(M) = \Omega_{A/\text{rad}^l(A)}^1((A/\text{rad}^l(A))\text{-mod})$. Since $\text{gl.dim}(A) \leq 2$, we see that the A -module $\Omega_A^2(A \otimes_B X)$ is projective and $Z \simeq \Omega_A(S_1) \oplus Q$ with Q a projective A -module. Consequently, $Z \in \text{add}(\Omega_A(M) \oplus A)$.

Since $B/\text{rad}^{l-1}(B)$ is representation-finite, we may find an additive generator N for $(B/\text{rad}^{l-1}(B))\text{-mod}$ such that $\Omega_B(T) \in \text{add}(\Omega_B(N))$. Now, applying Lemma 2.2 to (**), we have an exact sequence:

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_B(T) \longrightarrow Z \oplus P' \longrightarrow \Omega_B^2(X) \longrightarrow 0$$

with P' a projective B -module. By Lemma 2.1, we have the following inequalities:

$$\text{pd}({}_B X) \leq 2 + \text{pd}({}_B \Omega_B^2(X)) \leq 2 + \Psi(Z \oplus P' \oplus \Omega_B(T)) \leq 2 + \Psi({}_B \Omega_A(M) \oplus {}_B A \oplus \Omega_B(N)).$$

So $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$. \square

In Corollary 3.7, we take $l = 2$ and get the following corollary.

Corollary 3.8. *Let $B \subseteq A$ be an extension of Artin algebras with $\text{rad}^2(B) = \text{rad}^2(A)$. If $\text{gl.dim}(A) \leq 2$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Corollary 3.8 can be used to re-obtain a main result in [6] on algebras with vanishing radical cube.

Corollary 3.9. [6] *Suppose that B is a finite-dimensional k -algebra of the form $B = kQ/I$ with vanishing radical cube, where Q is a quiver and I is an admissible ideal in the path algebra kQ of Q over the field k . Then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$.*

Proof. Since $\text{rad}^3(B) = 0$, we may write B as $B = kQ_0 \oplus kQ_1 \oplus kQ_2$, where Q_0 and Q_1 are the sets of vertices and arrows of Q , respectively, and Q_2 is a set of k -linearly independent paths of length two in B . Then B is embedded canonically into a triangular matrix algebra $A := \begin{pmatrix} kQ_0 & & \\ kQ_1 & kQ_0 & \\ kQ_2 & kQ_1 & kQ_0 \end{pmatrix}$ by sending $b = b_0 + b_1 + b_2$ to $\begin{pmatrix} b_0 & & \\ b_1 & b_0 & \\ b_2 & b_1 & b_0 \end{pmatrix}$, where $b_i \in kQ_i$ for $0 \leq i \leq 2$. We can check that $\text{gl.dim}(A) \leq 2$ and $\text{rad}^2(B) = \text{rad}^2(A)$. Thus Corollary 3.9 follows from Corollary 3.8. \square

For a chain of extensions, we have the following result which extends [16, Theorem 4.5] slightly.

Corollary 3.10. *Let $C \subseteq B \subseteq A$ be a chain of extensions of Artin algebras such that $\text{rad}(C)$ is a left ideal of B and $\text{rad}^l(B)$ is a left ideal of A for some integer $l \geq 1$. If A is torsionless-finite and $B/\text{rad}^l(B)$ is representation-finite, then $\text{fin.dim}(C) < \infty$.*

Proof. Let X be a C -module with $\text{pd}({}_C X) < \infty$. By Lemma 2.4, there is a B -module Y and a projective B -module P such that $\Omega_C^2(X) \simeq \Omega_B(Y) \oplus P$ as B -modules. Clearly, the C -modules P and $\Omega_B(Y)$ have finite projective dimensions. It follows from Lemma 2.2(2) and the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Y) \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Y)/\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \longrightarrow 0$$

that the following sequence of C -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega_C(\Omega_B(Y)/\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y))) \longrightarrow \text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \oplus Q \longrightarrow \Omega_B(Y) \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact, where Q is a projective C -module. By Lemma 3.3, $\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y))$ is a torsionless A -module. Clearly, $\Omega_B(Y)/\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y))$ is a module over $B/\text{rad}^l(B)$. Since A is torsionless-finite and $B/\text{rad}^l(B)$ is representation-finite, we may assume that M and N are additive generators for $\Omega(A\text{-mod})$ and $(B/\text{rad}^l(B))\text{-mod}$, respectively. Thus $\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \in \text{add}(M)$ and $\Omega_B(Y)/\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \in \text{add}({}_B N)$.

Now, we use Lemma 2.1 to give an upper bound for the projective dimension of ${}_C X$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pd}({}_C X) &\leq 2 + \text{pd}({}_C \Omega_C^2(X)) = 2 + \text{pd}({}_C \Omega_B(Y) \oplus {}_C P) \\ &\leq 2 + \Psi\left(\Omega_C(\Omega_B(Y)/\text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y))) \oplus \text{rad}_B^l(\Omega_B(Y)) \oplus Q \oplus P\right) \\ &\leq 2 + \Psi(\Omega_C(N) \oplus M \oplus {}_C B). \end{aligned}$$

So we have $\text{fin.dim}(C) < \infty$. \square

Next, we point out that there are lots of right-finite extensions $B \subset A$ satisfying the condition $\text{rad}(B)A \subset B$, and therefore $\text{rad}(B)A\text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$. This is the case of Corollary 1.2(1) for $s = 1$. Let us exhibit one such example.

Suppose that Λ is an Artin algebra. We define $A := M_2(\Lambda)$, the algebra of 2×2 matrices over Λ , and

$$B := \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \\ \Lambda & \Lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then A_B and ${}_B A$ are projective and the extension $B \subseteq A$ is both right- and left-finite. An easy calculation shows that

$$\text{rad}(B) = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rad}(\Lambda) & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \\ \Lambda & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{rad}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rad}(\Lambda) & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \\ \text{rad}(\Lambda) & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{rad}(B)A = \begin{pmatrix} \text{rad}(\Lambda) & \text{rad}(\Lambda) \\ \Lambda & \Lambda \end{pmatrix},$$

and that $\text{rad}(B)$ is neither a left nor a right ideal in A . But we have $\text{rad}(A) \subsetneq \text{rad}(B) \subseteq \text{rad}(B)A \subseteq B$, as desired. If $\text{fin.dim}(\Lambda) < \infty$, then $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ by Corollary 1.2(1) for $s = 1$. Moreover, in this case, we can get $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ alternatively by Corollary 3.5 since $\text{rad}^2(B)A\text{rad}(B) \subseteq B$ and since $B/\text{rad}^2(B)$ always has representation dimension at most 3 by a result of Auslander (see [1, Chapt. III, Sec. 5]).

Finally, we display an example to show how our results developed in this paper can be applied to decide whether certain algebras have finite finitistic dimension. The example shows also that the method of controlling finitistic dimensions by extension algebras seems to be useful.

Let A be an algebra (over a field) given by the following quiver

$$5 \bullet \xleftarrow{\lambda} 2 \bullet \xleftarrow{\varepsilon} 3 \bullet \xleftarrow{\xi} 1 \bullet \xleftarrow{\beta} 4 \bullet \xleftarrow{\alpha} 6 \bullet$$

with one relation: $\alpha\beta\xi\varepsilon\lambda = 0$. Clearly, this algebra is representation-finite. Now, let B be the subalgebra of A generated by $\{e_1, e_{2'} := e_2 + e_4 + e_5, e_{3'} := e_3 + e_6, \lambda, \beta, \alpha + \varepsilon, \gamma := \xi\varepsilon, \delta := \beta\xi\}$, where e_i is the primitive idempotent element of A corresponding to the vertex i . Then B is given by the following quiver

$$1 \bullet \xrightarrow{\gamma} \bullet 2' \xrightarrow{\delta} \bullet 3' \\ \xleftarrow{\beta} \quad \xleftarrow{\alpha + \varepsilon}$$

with relations: $\beta\gamma = \delta(\alpha + \varepsilon)$, $\gamma\beta = \gamma\delta = \lambda^2 = \lambda\beta = \lambda\delta = (\alpha + \varepsilon)\beta\gamma\lambda = 0$, and the Loewy structures of the indecomposable projective B -modules are as follows:

$$P(1) \quad \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ | \\ 2' \\ | \\ 2' \end{array} \quad P(2') \quad \begin{array}{c} 2' \\ / \quad \backslash \\ 1 \quad 3' \\ \backslash \quad / \\ 2' \\ | \\ 2' \end{array} \quad P(3') \quad \begin{array}{c} 3' \\ | \\ 2' \\ / \quad \backslash \\ 1 \quad 3' \\ \backslash \quad / \\ 2' \end{array}$$

It is not difficult to see that B is representation-infinite and all simple B -modules have infinite projective dimension. Thus the length $\ell^{\infty}(B)$, defined in [8], is just the Loewy length of B . Moreover, the algebra B is neither monomial nor radical-cube vanishing nor standardly stratified nor special biserial. Note that $B/\text{rad}^3(B)$ is representation-infinite and that all of $\text{pd}({}_B A)$, $\text{pd}(A_B)$, $\text{pd}({}_B \text{rad}^i(B))$ and $\text{pd}(\text{rad}^i(B)_B)$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$ are infinite. So it is not clear that $\text{rep.dim}(B) \leq 3$. Though B is embedded into A of representation dimension 2, the result [17, Theorem 4.2] cannot be applied because $\text{rad}(B)$ is neither a left nor a right ideal in A . But we can verify that $\text{rad}^2(B)$ is an ideal of A , and therefore $\text{fin.dim}(B) < \infty$ by Corollary 1.2(2).

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