

## COLOCALIZATION FUNCTORS IN DERIVED CATEGORIES AND TORSION THEORIES

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### Abstract

Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a hereditary torsion class of  $R$ -modules. The inclusion of the localizing subcategory generated by  $\mathcal{A}$  into the derived category of  $R$  has a right adjoint, denoted  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Recently, Benson has shown how to compute  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}R$  when  $R$  is a group ring of a finite group over a prime field and  $\mathcal{A}$  is the hereditary torsion class generated by a simple module. We generalize Benson's construction to the case where  $\mathcal{A}$  is any hereditary torsion class on  $R$ . It is shown that for every  $R$ -module  $M$  there exists an injective  $R$ -module  $E$  such that:

$$H^n(\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}M) \cong \text{Ext}_{\text{End}_R(E)}^{n-1}(\text{Hom}_R(M, E), E) \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

### 1. Introduction

Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\mathcal{D}_R$  be the (unbounded) derived category of chain complexes of left  $R$ -modules. Fix a class  $\mathcal{A}$  of objects of  $\mathcal{D}_R$ . We recall some definitions of Dwyer and Greenlees from [4]. An object  $N$  of  $\mathcal{D}_R$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -null if  $\text{Ext}_R^*(A, N) = 0$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . An object  $C$  of  $\mathcal{D}_R$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular if  $\text{Ext}_R^*(C, N) = 0$  for every  $\mathcal{A}$ -null  $N$ . An  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular object  $C$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation of  $X \in \mathcal{D}_R$  if there is a map  $\mu: C \rightarrow X$  such that  $\text{Ext}_R^*(A, \mu)$  is an isomorphism for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Finally, an  $\mathcal{A}$ -null object  $N$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification of  $X$  if there is a map  $\nu: X \rightarrow N$  which is universal among maps in  $\mathcal{D}_R$  from  $X$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ -null objects. Denote an  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation of  $X$  by  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}X$  and an  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification of  $X$  by  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{A}}X$ .

The following properties are easy to check: A map  $\mu: C \rightarrow X$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation of  $X$  if and only if it is universal among all maps from  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular objects to  $X$ . There is an exact triangle  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}X \rightarrow X \rightarrow \text{Null}_{\mathcal{A}}X$  whenever  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}X$  or  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{A}}X$  exists. An  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation of some object  $X$  is unique up to isomorphism, and the same goes for an  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification of  $X$ .

Now suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set; then it turns out that the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular objects is the localizing subcategory generated by  $\mathcal{A}$  (see [5] and [7, 5.1.5]). Moreover, when  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set, the inclusion functor of the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular objects into  $\mathcal{D}_R$  has a right adjoint, which is  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}X$  for every  $X \in \mathcal{D}_R$ ; see [6] or [7]. Hence

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$\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{A}}$  can be constructed as a *colocalization* functor (the right adjoint of an inclusion functor), and it follows that  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation and  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification exist for any object of  $\mathcal{D}_R$ .

Similarly, when  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set there exists a left adjoint to the inclusion of the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ -null objects; see, for example, Neeman's book [10, Section 9]. This functor is in fact  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification and it is a *localization* functor (the left adjoint to an inclusion functor).

One method for calculating  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximations is the formula given by Dwyer and Greenlees in [4], which holds whenever  $\mathcal{A} = \{A\}$  and  $A$  is a perfect complex. This was later generalized by Dwyer, Greenlees and Iyengar in [5]. A new method for calculating the  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation for  $R$ -modules has been constructed by Benson in [2], dubbed *k-squeezed resolutions*. This method can be applied whenever  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set of simple modules and  $R$  is an Artinian ring. One major benefit of Benson's construction is that it allows for explicit calculations.

As we will see, it is more natural to use Benson's method to construct the  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification of a module rather than its  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation. We generalize Benson's construction so that it applies whenever  $\mathcal{A}$  is a hereditary torsion class of modules. A *hereditary torsion class* of modules is a class of modules that is closed under submodules, quotient modules, coproducts and extensions. The main result of this paper is the following:

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion class on left  $R$ -modules. For every left  $R$ -module  $M$  there exists an injective left  $R$ -module  $E$  such that the complex*

$$\mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_{\text{End}_R(E)}(\text{Hom}_R(M, E), E)$$

*is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ . In particular, the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $R$  is the differential graded algebra  $\mathbf{R}\text{End}_{\text{End}_R(E)}(E)$ .*

The formula given in the abstract follows immediately from the distinguished triangle  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}M \rightarrow M \rightarrow \text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  mentioned above.

The layout of this paper is as follows: The necessary background on hereditary torsion classes and the background on cellular approximations and nullifications is given in Section 2. In Section 3 we describe the construction of nullification with respect to a hereditary torsion class and prove Theorem 1.1. We study the case where  $R$  is an Artinian ring in Section 4. This section offers a different proof to a result of Benson ([2, Theorem 5.1]). Finally, Section 5 provides several examples.

### 1.1. Notation and terminology

By a ring we always mean an associative ring with a unit, not necessarily commutative. Unless otherwise noted all modules considered are left modules. A triangle always means an exact (distinguished) triangle in the unbounded derived category of left  $R$ -modules, denoted  $\mathcal{D}_R$ . A complex is always a chain-complex of  $R$ -modules. For complexes we use the standard convention that the subscript grading is the negative of the superscript grading; i.e.,  $\square_{-i} = \square^i$ . It is taken for granted that every  $R$ -module is a complex concentrated in degree 0 and with zero differential. A complex  $X$  is *bounded-above* if, for some  $n$  and for all  $i > n$ ,  $H_i(X) = 0$ . For complexes  $X$  and  $Y$  the notation  $\text{Hom}_R(X, Y)$  stands for the usual chain complex of homomorphisms. The notation  $\mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_R(-, -)$  stands for the derived functor of the  $\text{Hom}_R(-, -)$  functor.

By  $\text{End}_R(M)$  we mean the endomorphisms ring of an  $R$ -module  $M$ . The symbol  $\simeq$  stands for quasi-isomorphism of complexes.

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## 2. Background on hereditary torsion theories and cellular-approximation, nullification and completion

### 2.1. Hereditary torsion theories

Below is a recollection of the definition and main properties of hereditary torsion theories. A thorough review of this material can be found in [11].

**Definition 2.1.** A *hereditary torsion class*  $\mathcal{T}$  is a class of  $R$ -modules that is closed under submodules, quotient modules, coproducts and extensions. Closure under extensions means that if  $0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow M_3 \rightarrow 0$  is a short exact sequence with  $M_1$  and  $M_3$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ , then so is  $M_2$ . The modules in  $\mathcal{T}$  will be called  *$\mathcal{T}$ -torsion modules* (or just torsion modules when the torsion theory is clear from the context). The class of *torsion-free* modules  $\mathcal{F}$  is the class of all modules  $F$  satisfying  $\text{Hom}_R(C, F) = 0$  for every  $C \in \mathcal{T}$ . The pair  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  is referred to as a *hereditary torsion theory*. To every hereditary torsion theory there is an associated radical  $t$ , where  $t(M)$  is the maximal torsion submodule of  $M$ . Note that  $M/t(M)$  is therefore torsion-free.

Every hereditary torsion class  $\mathcal{T}$  has an *injective cogenerator* (see [11, VI.3.7]). This means there exists an injective module  $E$  such that a module  $M$  is torsion if and only if  $\text{Hom}_R(M, E) = 0$ . It is also important to note that in any hereditary torsion theory, the class of torsion-free modules is closed under injective hulls (see [11, VI.3.2]). Thus, if  $F$  is a torsion-free module then the injective hull of  $F$  is also torsion-free.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  be a hereditary torsion theory and let  $t$  be the associated radical. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  *$\mathcal{F}$ -closed* if, for every left ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  such that  $R/\mathfrak{a} \in \mathcal{T}$ , the induced map  $M = \text{Hom}_R(R, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(\mathfrak{a}, M)$  is an isomorphism. The inclusion of the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{F}$ -closed modules has a left adjoint  $M \mapsto M_{\mathcal{F}}$ . The module  $M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is called the *module of quotients* of  $M$  (see [11, IX.1]). The unit of this adjunction has the following properties: the kernel of the map  $M \rightarrow M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is  $t(M)$ ,  $M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is torsion-free and the cokernel of this map is a torsion module.

### 2.2. Cellular-approximation, nullification and completion

The following recalls the basic properties of cellular approximation, as well as the definition of completion given by Dwyer and Greenlees in [4]:

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a class of  $R$ -complexes. We say that an  $R$ -complex  $X$  is  *$\mathcal{A}$ -complete* if  $\text{Ext}_R^*(N, X) = 0$  for any  $\mathcal{A}$ -null object  $N$ . An  $R$ -complex  $C$  is an  *$\mathcal{A}$ -completion* of  $X$  if  $C$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -complete and there is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -equivalence  $X \rightarrow C$ . It is easy to see that an  $\mathcal{A}$ -completion of a complex  $X$  is unique up to an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{D}_R$ . As in [4], we denote an  $\mathcal{A}$ -completion of  $X$  by  $X_{\mathcal{A}}^{\wedge}$ .

The following criterion for nullification is usually easier to check than the original definition. Its proof is easy and therefore omitted.

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a class of  $R$ -complexes. A complex  $N$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -nullification of  $X$  if there is a triangle  $C \rightarrow X \rightarrow N$  such that  $C$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular and  $N$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -null. In this case it also follows that  $C$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation of  $X$ .*

Recall that when  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set, the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular objects in  $\mathcal{D}_R$  is the localizing subcategory generated by  $\mathcal{A}$ . The *localizing category generated by  $\mathcal{A}$* , denoted  $\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle$ , is the smallest full triangulated subcategory of  $\mathcal{D}_R$  that is closed under triangles, direct sums and retracts. Closure under triangles means that for every distinguished triangle in  $\mathcal{D}_R$ , if two of the objects are in the localizing subcategory, then so is the third. The proof of the following lemma is clear.

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a class of  $R$ -complexes; then every object of  $\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular. If  $\mathcal{B}$  is another class of  $R$ -complexes such that  $\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{B} \rangle$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular approximation is the same as  $\mathcal{B}$ -cellular approximation.*

*Remark 2.6.* In [4]  $\mathcal{A}$ -cellular complexes were called  *$\mathcal{A}$ -torsion* while the term  *$\mathcal{A}$ -cellular* was reserved for complexes in  $\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle$ . When  $\mathcal{T}$  is a hereditary torsion theory, the two terms agree (by Lemma 2.8 below).

### 2.3. Cellular-approximation with respect to a hereditary torsion theory

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion class. It is not immediately apparent that  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation exists. Below, in Lemma 2.8, we show that  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle$  is the same as the localizing subcategory generated by a set  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ . This immediately implies that  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation and  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification exist for any  $R$ -complex; see Corollary 2.9.

**Definition 2.7.** Given a hereditary torsion class of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{T}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$  the set of all cyclic  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion modules.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion class; then every  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion module is  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular and hence  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}} \rangle$ .*

*Proof.* Clearly, every cyclic  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion module is  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular. Therefore every direct sum of cyclic  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion modules is  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular. Let  $M$  be a  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion module; then there is a surjection  $C(M) = \bigoplus_{m \in M} R/\text{ann}(m) \rightarrow M$ . Since every hereditary torsion theory is closed under submodules,  $R/\text{ann}(m)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for every  $m \in M$ . Clearly,  $C(M)$  is  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular and  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion. Next we build a resolution  $X$  of  $M$  using  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular modules. Let  $X_0 = C(M)$  and let  $d_0: X_0 \rightarrow M$  be the map defined above. The kernel of  $d_0$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion, so there is an epimorphism  $C(\ker(d_0)) \rightarrow \ker(d_0)$ . Let  $X_1 = C(\ker(d_0))$  and let  $d_1$  be the composition  $X_1 \rightarrow \ker(d_0) \hookrightarrow X_0$ . In this way  $X$  is built inductively, and it is clear that  $X$  is quasi-isomorphic to  $M$ . By construction,  $X$  is in the localizing subcategory generated by  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion class; then  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation,  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification and  $\mathcal{T}$ -completion exist for every complex. Moreover, a complex  $X$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular if and only if  $X \in \langle \mathcal{T} \rangle$ .*

*Proof.* Lemma 2.8 implies that  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation is the same as  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular approximation. As mentioned in Section 1,  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$ -cellular approximation exists for every complex. The proof of the other claims is similar.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.10.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion class.*

1. *If  $X$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular complex, then the homology groups of  $X$  are  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion  $R$ -modules.*
2. *If  $X$  is a bounded-above complex such that the homology groups of  $X$  are  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion, then  $X$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{D}_R$  containing all objects whose homology groups are  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion  $R$ -modules. The properties of a hereditary torsion theory show that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a localizing subcategory. Since  $\mathcal{C}$  contains  $\mathcal{T}$ , then  $\mathcal{C}$  also contains  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle$ . This proves the first statement.

Now suppose  $X$  is a bounded-above complex and that  $H_i X \in \mathcal{T}$  for all  $i$ . Because  $X$  is bounded-above,  $X$  belongs to the localizing subcategory generated by the homology groups of  $X$  (see for example [4, 5.2]). Since the homology groups of  $X$  all belong to  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle$ , so does  $X$ .  $\square$

*Remark 2.11.* If  $R$  is a commutative Noetherian ring, then a complex  $X$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular if and only if all the homology groups of  $X$  are  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion. This easily follows from a result of Neeman [9, Theorem 2.8]. However, Example 5.2 shows a noncommutative ring  $R$  and a complex  $X$  such that  $H_i(X)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for all  $i$ , but  $X$  is not  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular.

### 3. Nullification construction

In [2] Benson gives a construction called *k-squeezed resolution* which yields  $k$ -cellular approximations over the ring  $kG$ , where  $k$  is a prime field and  $G$  is a finite group. In Construction 3.1 we generalize Benson's work so as to produce  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximations over any ring  $R$ , where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a hereditary torsion class. A second isomorphic construction of  $k$ -cellular approximations is given in Construction 3.2.

**Nullification Construction 3.1.** Let  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  be a hereditary torsion theory with radical  $t$ . For an  $R$ -module  $M$  we construct the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$  as a cochain complex  $I^0 \xrightarrow{d} I^1 \xrightarrow{d} I^2 \xrightarrow{d} \dots$  inductively.

Let  $M^0 = M$ , let  $F^0 = M^0/t(M^0)$  and let  $I^0$  be the injective hull of  $F^0$ . Note that since  $F^0$  is torsion-free, so is  $I^0$ . We proceed by induction; set

$$M^{n+1} = I^n/F^n, \quad F^{n+1} = M^{n+1}/t(M^{n+1})$$

and let  $I^{n+1}$  be the injective hull of  $F^{n+1}$ . Again  $I^{n+1}$  is torsion-free because  $F^{n+1}$  is. The differential  $d: I^n \rightarrow I^{n+1}$  is the composition  $I^n \rightarrow M^{n+1} \rightarrow F^{n+1} \rightarrow I^{n+1}$ . The image of  $d: I^n \rightarrow I^{n+1}$  is  $F^{n+1}$ , and therefore  $d \circ d = 0$ . Denote the resulting complex by  $I$ . The natural map  $M \rightarrow I^0$  extends to a map of complexes  $M \rightarrow I$ .

**Nullification Construction 3.2.** For an  $R$ -module  $M$  we construct a cochain complex  $J^0 \xrightarrow{d^0} J^1 \xrightarrow{d^1} J^2 \xrightarrow{d^2} \dots$  inductively.

Let  $Q^0 = M$ , let  $N^0 = (Q^0)_{\mathcal{F}}$  and let  $J^0$  be the injective hull of  $N^0$ . Denote by  $d^{-1}$  the map  $M \rightarrow J^0$ . Now proceed by induction; let

$$Q^{n+1} = J^n / \text{im}(d^{n-1}), \quad N^{n+1} = (Q^{n+1})_{\mathcal{F}}$$

and let  $J^{n+1}$  be the injective hull of  $N^{n+1}$ . The differential  $d^n: J^n \rightarrow J^{n+1}$  is the composition  $J^n \rightarrow Q^{n+1} \rightarrow N^{n+1} \rightarrow J^{n+1}$ . Clearly,  $d^{n+1} \circ d^n = 0$ . Denote the resulting complex by  $J$ . The natural map  $M \rightarrow J^0$  extends to a map of complexes  $M \rightarrow J$ . Note that for every  $n$ ,  $J^n$  is torsion-free because  $N^n$  is.

*Remark 3.3.* For a fixed  $R$ -module  $M$ , the complex  $I$  of Construction 3.1 and the complex  $J$  of Construction 3.2 are isomorphic. To construct this isomorphism one needs the following property: for any  $R$ -module  $L$  the injective hull of  $L_{\mathcal{F}}$  and the injective-hull of  $L/t(L)$  are the same; this is because  $(L/t(L))_{\mathcal{F}} = L_{\mathcal{F}}$  and  $L/t(L)$  is an essential submodule of  $(L/t(L))_{\mathcal{F}}$  (see [11, IX.2.4]). Using the aforementioned property, it is a simple exercise to construct the isomorphism inductively.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $J$  be the complex constructed from  $M$  in 3.2; then  $H_0(J) \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$ .*

*Proof.* It easily follows from the definition of an  $\mathcal{F}$ -closed module that any injective torsion-free module is  $\mathcal{F}$ -closed; therefore  $J^0$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -closed. For any  $\mathcal{F}$ -closed module  $K$  there is an isomorphism  $K \cong K_{\mathcal{F}}$  (see [11, page 198]); therefore  $(J^0)_{\mathcal{F}} \cong J^0$  and  $(M_{\mathcal{F}})_{\mathcal{F}} \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

The module of quotients functor is left exact (see [11, page 199]). Hence applying the module of quotients functor to the sequence  $M_{\mathcal{F}} \rightarrow J^0 \rightarrow J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}}$  yields an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow M_{\mathcal{F}} \rightarrow J^0 \rightarrow (J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}})_{\mathcal{F}}.$$

We see that  $J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is torsion-free because it is isomorphic to a submodule of the torsion-free module  $(J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}})_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

Now consider the short exact sequence

$$M_{\mathcal{F}}/\text{im}(M) \rightarrow Q^1 \rightarrow J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}}.$$

The module  $M_{\mathcal{F}}/\text{im}(M)$  is a torsion module (see Definition 2.2), while the module  $J^0/M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is torsion free. From the definition of the radical  $t$  it follows that  $M_{\mathcal{F}}/\text{im}(M) \cong t(Q^1)$ . Therefore  $M_{\mathcal{F}}$  is the kernel of  $J^0 \rightarrow N^1$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module, let  $I$  be the complex constructed from  $M$  in 3.1 and let  $C$  be a complex such that  $C \rightarrow M \rightarrow I$  is a distinguished triangle. Then  $C$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation of  $M$ , and  $I$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ . In particular,  $H_0(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M) \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$  for any  $R$ -module  $M$ .*

*Proof.* We can choose  $C$  to be the complex  $M \rightarrow I^0 \rightarrow I^1 \rightarrow \dots$  with  $M$  in degree 0. The homology of  $C$  is easy to compute:  $H^n(C) = t(M^n)$ , with  $M^n$  as defined in Construction 3.1 above. By Lemma 2.10, the complex  $C$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular. The complex  $I$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -null, simply because  $I$  is composed of torsion-free injective modules. Thus, by Lemma 2.4,  $I$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$  and  $C$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation of  $M$ . Since  $I$  is isomorphic to the complex  $J$  of Construction 3.2, it follows that  $H_0(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M) = H_0(J) \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$ .  $\square$

Using the constructions above we can give a different description of  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification, the one shown in Theorem 1.1. Before proving Theorem 1.1 it is necessary to note some properties of the functor  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(-, E)$ .

Let  $E$  be an  $R$ -module and  $\mathcal{E}$  be the endomorphism ring  $\mathrm{End}_R(E) = \mathrm{Hom}_R(E, E)$ . The functor  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(-, E)$  is a contravariant functor from left  $R$ -complexes to left  $\mathcal{E}$ -complexes. This left  $\mathcal{E}$ -action is simply composition on the left with the morphisms in  $\mathcal{E}$ . In other words, the left  $\mathcal{E}$ -action on  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(-, E)$  is induced by the left  $\mathcal{E}$ -action on  $E$  itself. Moreover, the functor  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(-, E)$  is a contravariant functor, this time from left  $\mathcal{E}$ -complexes to left  $R$ -complexes. Here the left  $R$ -action on  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(-, E)$  comes from the left  $R$ -action on  $E$  (which commutes with the left  $\mathcal{E}$ -action on  $E$ ). In particular, there is a derived version of this functor:  $\mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(-, E): \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{E}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_R$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* Given an  $R$ -module  $M$ , construct a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$  in the way prescribed in 3.1. This construction results in a cochain complex  $I$ , with  $I^n$  being an injective torsion-free module. Let  $E$  be a torsion-free injective  $R$ -module such that for every  $n$ ,  $I^n$  is a direct summand of a finite direct sum of copies of  $E$ . For example, one can take  $E$  to be the product  $\prod_n I^n$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{E}$  the endomorphism ring  $\mathrm{End}_R(E)$ .

Now consider the triangle  $C \rightarrow M \rightarrow I$ . Since  $I$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ ,  $C$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation of  $M$ . Applying the functor  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(-, E)$  to this triangle yields a triangle in  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{E}}$ :

$$\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, E) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_R(C, E).$$

Since  $E$  is injective,  $H_i(\mathrm{Hom}_R(C, E)) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_R(H_i(C), E)$ . Since the homology groups of  $C$  are torsion,  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(H_i(C), E) = 0$ . Hence the map  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, E) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E)$  is a quasi-isomorphism of  $\mathcal{E}$ -complexes.

Because  $I^n$  is a direct summand of a finite direct sum of copies of  $E$ , the  $\mathcal{E}$ -module  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(I^n, E)$  is projective. Thus the map  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, E) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E)$  is a projective resolution of  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E)$  in the category of  $\mathcal{E}$ -modules. We conclude that the complex  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, E), E)$  is the derived functor  $\mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E), E)$ .

Because  $I^n$  is a direct summand of a finite direct sum of copies of  $E$ , one readily sees that the  $R$ -module

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(I^n, E), E)$$

is naturally isomorphic to  $I^n$ , and therefore  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(I, E), E) \cong I$ .  $\square$

*Remark 3.6.* As noted in Theorem 1.1,  $\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R \simeq \mathbf{R}\mathrm{End}_{\mathcal{E}}(E)$ , and therefore

$$R_{\mathcal{F}} \cong H^0(\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R) \cong H^0(\mathbf{R}\mathrm{End}_{\mathcal{E}}(E)) = \mathrm{End}_{\mathcal{E}}(E).$$

This isomorphism recovers [11, IX.3.3], where it is stated that there is an injective  $R$ -module  $E$  such that  $R_{\mathcal{F}} \cong \mathrm{End}_{\mathrm{End}_R(E)}(E)$ . Also note that  $\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R$  is quasi-isomorphic to a differential graded algebra. This also follows from a result of Dwyer [3, Proposition 2.5], where it is shown that for any set of complexes  $\mathcal{A}$  the complex  $\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{A}}R$  is quasi-isomorphic to a differential graded algebra.

*Remark 3.7.* Let  $X = \cdots \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots$  be a complex such that there exists some  $m$  for which  $X_n = 0$  for all  $n > m$ . Then it is possible to generalize the Nullification Construction 3.1 to give the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $X$ . Moreover, this generalized

construction of  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X$  can be done in such a way that for  $n > m$   $(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X)_n = 0$ , while for  $n \leq m$   $(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X)_n$  is a finite direct sum of torsion-free injective modules. Therefore  $(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X)_n$  is itself a torsion-free injective for  $n \leq m$ . Now it is easy to see that the proof of Theorem 1.1 works for  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X$  as well and yields the same result. Namely, there exists an injective  $R$ -module  $E$  such that

$$\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}X \simeq \mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_{\text{End}_R(E)}(\text{Hom}_R(X, E), E).$$

Clearly, this result carries over to any bounded-above complex  $X$ .

Say an injective module  $E$  is *sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$*  if

$$\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M \simeq \mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\text{Hom}_R(M, E), E),$$

where  $\mathcal{E} = \text{End}_R(M)$ . Given an  $R$ -module  $M$  one can use the proof of Theorem 1.1 to construct an injective module  $E$  which is sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ . However, there are other injective modules sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ , as shown by the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.8.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and let  $E$  be an injective cogenerator of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{E}$  the ring  $\text{End}_R(E)$ .*

1. *If the  $\mathcal{E}$ -module  $\text{Hom}_R(M, E)$  has a resolution composed of finitely generated projective modules in each degree, then  $E$  is sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ .*
2. *There exists an ordinal  $\alpha$  such that the module  $E' = \prod_{i < \alpha} E$  is sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a finitely generated projective  $\mathcal{E}$ -module; then it is easy to see that  $\text{Hom}_R(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(P, E), E)$  is naturally isomorphic to  $P$ . Now let  $F$  be a projective resolution of  $\text{Hom}_R(M, E)$  over  $\mathcal{E}$  and assume  $F$  is composed of finitely generated projective modules in each degree. Then  $\text{Hom}_R(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E), E)$  is naturally isomorphic to  $F$ .

The quasi-isomorphism  $\eta: F \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, E)$  induces a map

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\text{Hom}_R(M, E), E) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E).$$

Composing with the natural map  $M \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(\text{Hom}_R(M, E), E)$  yields a map  $\mu: M \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E)$ . It is easy to see that  $\text{Hom}_R(\mu, E)$  is the quasi-isomorphism  $\eta$ .

Consider the triangle  $C \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\mu} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E)$ . Clearly  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -null. Since  $\text{Hom}_R(\mu, E)$  is a quasi-isomorphism,  $\text{Hom}_R(C, E)$  is quasi-isomorphic to zero. This implies  $\text{Hom}_R(H_i(C), E) = 0$  for all  $i$ . Since  $E$  is an injective cogenerator for  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $H_i(C)$  is torsion for all  $i$ . Clearly,  $C$  is bounded-above and so, by Lemma 2.10,  $C$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular. We conclude that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(F, E)$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ , and  $E$  is sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ .

We now turn our attention to the second item in the proposition. By [11, VI.3.9], every torsion-free module has a monomorphism to some direct product of copies of  $E$ . In particular, every torsion-free injective is isomorphic to a direct summand of some direct product of copies of  $E$ .

Let  $I$  be the complex described in the Nullification Construction 3.1. Let  $E'$  be a direct product of copies of  $E$  such that for every  $n$ ,  $I^n$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $E'$ . Clearly, the  $\text{End}_R(E')$ -complex  $\text{Hom}_R(I, E')$  is a projective resolution of



$\text{Hom}_R(M, E')$ , which is composed of finitely generated projective modules in every degree. Hence  $E'$  is sufficient to compute the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$ .  $\square$

#### 4. Torsion theories and cellular approximation in Artinian rings

Throughout this section  $R$  is an Artinian ring and  $\mathbb{S}$  is a set of non-isomorphic simple modules of  $R$ . Define a class  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R$ -modules by

$$\mathcal{F} = \{F \mid \text{Hom}_R(S, F) = 0 \text{ for all } S \in \mathbb{S}\}$$

and define a class  $\mathcal{T}$  by setting

$$\mathcal{T} = \{M \mid \text{Hom}_R(M, F) = 0 \text{ for all } F \in \mathcal{F}\}.$$

By [11, VIII.3], the pair  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  forms a hereditary torsion theory (alternatively, one can easily deduce this from Lemma 4.3 below). Because  $R$  is Artinian, every hereditary torsion theory of  $R$ -modules is generated by a set of simple modules (see [11, VIII]), so this context covers all hereditary torsion theories over  $R$ . In this section we give several results regarding  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification. We also give a different proof for a result of Benson [2, Theorem 5.1] in Corollary 4.5.

Let  $\Omega$  be the set of isomorphism classes of simple modules of  $R$  and let  $\mathbb{S}'$  be the complement of  $\mathbb{S}$  in  $\Omega$ . We denote by  $E$  the product of the injective hulls of the simple modules in  $\mathbb{S}'$  and denote by  $P$  the direct sum of the projective covers of those simple modules. We show that  $E$  is an injective cogenerator of  $\mathcal{T}$  and that being  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular is the same as being  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $C$  be a cyclic  $R$ -module such that  $\text{Hom}_R(C, E) = 0$ ; then  $C$  is  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular.*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is Artinian,  $C$  admits a composition series

$$0 = C_0 \subset C_1 \subset \cdots \subset C_m = C,$$

where all the quotients  $C_i/C_{i-1}$  are simple modules. We next show that

$$C_i/C_{i-1} \in \mathbb{S} \quad \text{for all } i.$$

Suppose that for some  $i$ ,  $C_i/C_{i-1} \cong S'$  for some  $S' \in \mathbb{S}'$ . Let  $x \in C_i \setminus C_{i-1}$ ; then the cyclic module generated by  $x$  has  $S'$  as a quotient. This implies that the submodule  $Rx$  of  $C$  has a non-zero map to  $E(S')$  — the injective hull of  $S'$ . Clearly, such a map can be lifted to a non-zero map  $C \rightarrow E$ , in contradiction. Therefore  $C_i/C_{i-1} \cong S$  for some  $S \in \mathbb{S}$ . Now a simple inductive argument on  $i$  shows that  $C_i \in \langle \mathbb{S} \rangle$  for every  $i$ , and hence  $C$  is  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *A complex  $X$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular if and only if  $X$  is  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular.*

*Proof.* We need to show that  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle = \langle \mathbb{S} \rangle$ . Since  $\mathbb{S} \subset \mathcal{T}$ , we only need to show that  $\mathcal{T} \subset \langle \mathbb{S} \rangle$ . By Lemma 2.8 it is enough to show that every cyclic  $R$ -module is  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular, but that is immediate from Lemma 4.1.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3.** *The module  $E$  is an injective cogenerator for  $\mathcal{T}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the class of modules  $M$  such that  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(M, E) = 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{U}$  is a hereditary torsion theory. Because  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(S, S') = 0$  for every  $S \in \mathbb{S}$  and  $S' \in \mathbb{S}'$ , we see that  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(S, E(S')) = 0$ , where  $E(S')$  is the injective envelope of  $S'$ . Hence  $E \in \mathcal{F}$ , and therefore  $\mathcal{U}$  contains  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Next, let  $M$  be in  $\mathcal{U}$ . To show that  $M$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion module it is enough to show that every cyclic submodule of  $M$  is a torsion module, because  $M$  is a quotient of the direct sum of its cyclic submodules. So let  $C$  be a cyclic submodule of  $M$ . Since  $E$  is injective, it follows that  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(C, E) = 0$ . By Lemma 4.1  $C$  is  $\mathbb{S}$ -cellular. Therefore  $C$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular, and by Lemma 2.10  $C$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.4.** *For any complex  $X$ ,  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^*(P, X) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^*(X, E) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* This is known when  $X$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module; see Benson's book [1, 1.7.6 and 1.7.7]. Now suppose  $X$  is any  $R$ -module. Since  $P$  is a finitely generated projective module,  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(P, X) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(P, X') = 0$  for every finitely generated submodule  $X'$  of  $X$ . Similarly, because  $E$  is injective,  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(X, E) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathrm{Hom}_R(X', E) = 0$  for every finitely generated submodule  $X'$  of  $X$ . Hence the lemma holds for any  $R$ -module. Finally, let  $X$  be any complex; then  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^*(P, X) = \mathrm{Hom}_R(P, H_*(X))$ . Similarly,  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^*(X, E) = \mathrm{Hom}_R(H^*(X), E)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.5.** *For any  $R$ -module  $M$ , a  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$  is also a  $P$ -completion of  $M$  and is therefore given by*

$$\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M \simeq \mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{End}_R(P)}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(P, R), \mathrm{Hom}_R(P, M)).$$

*Proof.* Consider the triangle  $\mathrm{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}M \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\nu} \mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$ . Lemma 4.3 implies that  $E$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -null, and therefore  $\mathrm{Ext}_R^*(\mathrm{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}M, E) = 0$ . By Lemma 4.4,  $\mathrm{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  is  $P$ -null and  $\nu$  is a  $P$ -equivalence.

It remains to show that  $\mathrm{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  is  $P$ -complete. Let  $I$  be the  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification of  $M$  described in 3.1. The full subcategory of  $P$ -complete objects in  $\mathcal{D}_R$  is closed under isomorphisms, completion of triangles, products and retracts. Denote this subcategory by  $\mathcal{C}$ . From Lemma 4.4, we see that  $E \in \mathcal{C}$ , and therefore every product of  $E$  is also in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Lemma 4.3 and [11, VI.3.9] imply that every torsion-free module is a submodule of a product of copies of  $E$ . Since  $I^n$  is injective, it is a direct summand of some product of copies of  $E$ , hence  $I^n$  is also an object of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Let  $I(n)$  denote the cochain complex  $I^0 \rightarrow I^1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow I^n$ . An inductive argument shows that  $I(n) \in \mathcal{C}$ . There is a triangle  $I \rightarrow \prod_n I(n) \xrightarrow{\phi^{-1}} \prod_n I(n)$ , where the map  $\phi$  is induced by the maps  $I(n+1) \rightarrow I(n)$ . Hence  $I$  is  $P$ -complete.

By Dwyer and Greenlees [4, Theorem 2.1], the  $P$ -completion of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is given by

$$M_P^\wedge \simeq \mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{End}_R(P)}(\mathrm{Hom}_R(P, R), \mathrm{Hom}_R(P, M)). \quad \square$$

Corollary 4.5 above implies Benson's formula for  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation given in [2, Theorem 5.1]. This corollary also explains the connection between Benson's formula and Dwyer and Greenlees formula for  $P$ -completion from [4, Theorem 2.1].

## 5. Examples

*Example 5.1.* Let  $I$  be a two-sided ideal of  $R$  such that  $I$  is finitely generated as a left  $R$ -module. An  $R$ -module  $M$  will be called  *$I$ -torsion* if for every  $m \in M$  there

exists some  $n$  such that  $I^n m = 0$ . It is not difficult to show that the class of  $I$ -torsion modules forms a hereditary torsion class  $\mathcal{T}$  (see [11, VI.6.10]). Using Lemma 2.8 it is easy to conclude that  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle = \langle R/I \rangle$ . Hence  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation is the same as  $R/I$ -cellular approximation and the same goes for nullification. Note that in this case the radical  $t$  associated with  $\mathcal{T}$  has a simple description: for any  $R$ -module  $M$

$$t(M) = \operatorname{colim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{Hom}_R(R/I^n, M).$$

Now suppose  $R$  is a commutative Noetherian ring. Dwyer and Greenlees have shown in [4] that  $R/I$ -cellular approximation computes  $I$ -local cohomology, namely that there is a natural isomorphism  $H_I^*(M) \cong H^*(\operatorname{Cell}_{R/I} M)$ . Recall there is an isomorphism:

$$H_I^*(M) \cong \operatorname{colim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{Ext}_R^*(R/I^n, M).$$

These facts show that  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation is the derived functor of the radical  $t$ . Moreover, in this case an object  $X \in \mathcal{D}_R$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular if and only if  $H_n(X)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for all  $n$ ; see [4, 6.12].

*Example 5.2.* Here is an example of a case where  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular approximation is not the derived functor of the associated radical. Let  $G$  be the symmetric group on three elements, let  $k$  be the field  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  and let  $R$  be the group ring  $k[G]$ . There is an augmentation map  $R \rightarrow k$ , where  $k$  has the trivial  $G$ -action. Let  $I$  be the augmentation ideal. As before, denote the class of  $I$ -torsion modules by  $\mathcal{T}$  and the associated radical by  $t$ . Since  $R$  is an Artinian ring, the sequence  $I \supseteq I^2 \supseteq I^3 \supseteq \dots$  stabilizes. So there is a fixed index  $m$  such that  $t(M) = \operatorname{Hom}_R(R/I^m, M)$  for every  $R$ -module  $M$ . Therefore, the derived functors of the torsion radical  $t$  are the functors  $\operatorname{Ext}_R^*(R/I^m, -)$ . In particular,  $\operatorname{Ext}_R^i(R/I^m, R) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$ , because  $R$  is injective. On the other hand, a calculation using Benson's methods from [2] shows that  $H^n(\operatorname{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}} R)$  is non-zero for infinitely many values of  $n$ , thereby showing that  $\operatorname{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is not the derived functor of  $t$ . We describe this calculation next.

From the surjection  $G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2$  one sees that  $R$  has two simple modules, the trivial module  $k$  and a one dimensional simple module  $\omega$ . As a left module,  $R \cong E_k \oplus E_\omega$  where  $E_k$  and  $E_\omega$  are the injective hulls of  $k$  and  $\omega$  respectively. The module  $E_k$  has a composition series

$$k \subset B \subset E_k, \quad \text{where } B/k \cong \omega \quad \text{and} \quad E_k/B \cong k.$$

The composition series for  $E_\omega$  is

$$\omega \subset B' \subset E_\omega, \quad \text{where } B'/\omega \cong k \quad \text{and} \quad E_\omega/B' \cong \omega.$$

In addition,  $E_\omega/\omega \cong B$  and  $E_k/k \cong B'$ . Since  $E_\omega$  is  $k$ -null (see Lemma 4.3), then

$$\operatorname{Null}_{\mathcal{T}} R \simeq \operatorname{Null}_{\mathcal{T}} E_\omega \oplus \operatorname{Null}_{\mathcal{T}} E_k \cong E_\omega \oplus \operatorname{Null}_{\mathcal{T}} E_k.$$

So we need only compute  $\operatorname{Null}_{\mathcal{T}} E_k$ . Applying Construction 3.1 to the module  $E_k$ , we get the complex  $I$  which is  $E_\omega \xrightarrow{d} E_\omega \xrightarrow{d} E_\omega \xrightarrow{d} \dots$ , where  $d$  is the composition

$E_\omega \twoheadrightarrow \omega \hookrightarrow E_\omega$ . Hence  $H^n(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}E_k) = k$  for  $n > 1$ , and therefore  $H^n(\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R)$  is non-zero for infinitely many values of  $n$ . In fact,

$$H^n(\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R) = \begin{cases} k, & n = 0; \\ 0, & n = 1; \\ k, & n > 1. \end{cases}$$

It is important to note that, in this case, a complex  $X$  such that  $H_n(X)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for all  $n$  need not be  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular. Consider, for example, the complex  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$ . As we explain below, the homology groups  $H_n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge)$  are  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for all  $n$ . On the other hand, the  $\mathcal{T}$ -equivalences  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R \rightarrow R$  and  $R \rightarrow R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$  show that  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -equivalent to  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$ . If  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$  was  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular, then  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$  would have been quasi-isomorphic to  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R$ , because a  $\mathcal{T}$ -equivalence between  $\mathcal{T}$ -cellular complexes is a quasi-isomorphism. As we show next,  $H^n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge) = 0$  for  $n > 0$  and so  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$  cannot be quasi-isomorphic to  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R$ .

It remains to explain the properties of  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge$  used above. From Corollary 4.2 we learn that  $R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge \simeq R_k^\wedge$  and  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}}R \simeq \text{Cell}_kR$ . Without going into details, combining [5, 5.9] with [4, 4.3] shows that

$$R_k^\wedge \simeq \mathbf{R}\text{Hom}_R(\text{Cell}_kR, R).$$

This immediately implies that  $H^n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge) = 0$  for  $n > 0$ . We next show that  $H_n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion for all  $n$ . Since  $E_\omega$  is a  $\mathcal{T}$ -null module,  $\text{Ext}_R^*(E_\omega, R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge) = 0$ . Recall that  $R$  is a group-algebra, and therefore  $E_\omega$  is also the projective cover of  $\omega$ . Because  $E_\omega$  is projective we have

$$\text{Ext}_R^{-n}(E_\omega, R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge) \cong \text{Hom}_R(E_\omega, H_n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge)).$$

Hence, by Lemma 4.4,  $\text{Ext}_R^*(H_n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge), E_\omega) = 0$ . Lemma 4.3 shows  $E_\omega$  is an injective cogenerator for  $\mathcal{T}$ ; therefore  $H_n(R_{\mathcal{T}}^\wedge)$  is  $\mathcal{T}$ -torsion.

*Example 5.3.* This example relates  $\mathcal{T}$ -nullification with Cohn localization. We begin by recalling the definition of Cohn localization. Let  $S = \{f_\alpha : P_\alpha \rightarrow Q_\alpha\}$  be a set of maps between finitely generated projective  $R$ -modules. Say a ring map  $R \rightarrow R'$  is  $S$ -inverting if  $\text{Hom}_R(f, R')$  is an isomorphism for every  $f \in S$ . A *Cohn localization* of  $R$  with respect to  $S$  is a ring map  $R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$ , which is initial among all  $S$ -inverting ring maps. Note that the definition given here is not the standard definition (see e.g. [3]), but it is equivalent to the standard one.

Let  $\mathcal{C}_S$  be the set of cones of the maps  $f_\alpha$ . In [3], Dwyer considers  $\mathcal{C}_S$ -nullification and shows that  $H_0(\text{Null}_{\mathcal{C}_S}R) = S^{-1}R$  (see [3, 3.2]). Combining Dwyer's results with Theorem 1.1 yields the following proposition.

**Proposition 5.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a hereditary torsion-class of  $R$ -modules. If  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{C}_S \rangle$  for some set of maps  $S$  between finitely generated projective  $R$ -modules, then*

1.  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}(-) \simeq (-)_{\mathcal{F}}$ ,
2. the module of quotients functor  $(-)_{\mathcal{F}}$  is exact and
3. there is an isomorphism  $S^{-1}R \otimes_R M \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$  for every module  $M$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 1.1, for every  $R$ -module  $M$  the complex  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  has no homology in positive degrees. By [3, Proposition 3.1],  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R$  has no homology in negative degrees. Moreover, a result of Miller [8] (see also [3, Proposition 2.10]) shows that

for every  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M \simeq \text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R \otimes_R^{\mathbf{L}} M$ . This implies that  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  has no homology in negative degrees.

We conclude that for every  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  has homology only in degree 0, and therefore, by Lemma 3.5,  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M$  is quasi-isomorphic to  $M_{\mathcal{F}}$ . Since the functor  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is exact, so is  $(-)^{\mathcal{F}}$ . Since  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R \simeq \text{Null}_{\mathcal{C}_S}R$ , Dwyer's result [3, 3.2] shows that  $R_{\mathcal{F}} \cong S^{-1}R$ . Finally, the quasi-isomorphism  $\text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}M \simeq \text{Null}_{\mathcal{T}}R \otimes_R^{\mathbf{L}} M$  implies  $S^{-1}R \otimes_R M \cong M_{\mathcal{F}}$ .  $\square$

*Example 5.5.* This example is of a topological nature. Let  $M$  be a discrete monoid and let  $k = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  for some prime  $p$ . The ring  $R$  we consider is the monoid ring  $R = k[M]$ ; it has a natural augmentation  $R \rightarrow k$  with augmentation ideal  $I$ . We also make the following assumptions:

1. The classifying space  $BM$  of  $M$  has a finite fundamental group.
2. The augmentation ideal  $I$  is finitely generated as a left  $R$ -module.
3. There is a projective resolution  $P = \cdots P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0$  of  $k$  over  $R$  such that every  $P_n$  is finitely generated as an  $R$ -module.

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be the hereditary torsion class of  $I$ -torsion  $R$ -modules; then  $\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle = \langle k \rangle$  and hence  $\text{Cell}_{\mathcal{T}} \simeq \text{Cell}_k$ . Denote by  $R^{\vee}$  the left  $R$ -module  $\text{Hom}_k(R, k)$ . From the results of Dwyer, Greenlees and Iyengar [5, 6.15 and 7.5], it is easy to conclude that  $\text{Cell}_k R^{\vee}$  is quasi-isomorphic to the cochain complex (with coefficients in  $k$ ) of a certain space, which we describe next. Let  $(BM)_p^{\wedge}$  be the Bousfield-Kan  $p$ -completion of the classifying space of  $M$ . The space  $\Omega(BM)_p^{\wedge}$  is the loop-space of  $(BM)_p^{\wedge}$ . So,  $\text{Cell}_k R^{\vee}$  is quasi-isomorphic to  $C^*(\Omega(BM)_p^{\wedge}; k)$  — the singular cochain complex of  $\Omega(BM)_p^{\wedge}$  with coefficients in  $k$ . By Theorem 1.1, there exists an injective  $R$ -module  $E$  such that

$$H^n(\Omega(BM)_p^{\wedge}; k) \cong \text{Ext}_{\text{End}_R(E)}^{n-1}(\text{Hom}_R(R^{\vee}, E), E) \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

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