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Let k be an algebraically closed field and Λ be a finite-dimensional k-algebra. We denote by $\mathrm{mod}\,\Lambda$ the category of finitely generated left Λ-modules. By Γ_Λ we denote the Auslander-Reiten quiver of Λ. Recall that the vertices of Γ_Λ correspond to the isomorphism classes of indecomposable finitely generated Λ-modules. The number of arrows from an indecomposable Λ-module X to an indecomposable Λ-module Y is the dimension of the k-vector space $\mathrm{rad}(X,Y)/\mathrm{rad}^2(X,Y)$, where $\mathrm{rad}(-,-)$ denotes the Jacobson radical of $\mathrm{mod}\,\Lambda$. We denote by $\tau X = DTr\,X$ the Auslander-Reiten translate of the indecomposable Λ-module X. This is defined for each indecomposable module and in case X is non-projective the translate τX will be indecomposable and non-injective. Dually there is defined $\tau^- X = TrDX$. A connected component $\mathcal{P}$ of Γ_Λ is called a *preprojective component* if $\mathcal{P}$ does not contain an oriented cycle and each $X \in \mathcal{P}$ is of the form $\tau^{-r}P$ for some $r \in \mathbb{N}$ and an indecomposable projective Λ-module P. For details see [**ARS**]. The existence of preprojective components has been established for various classes of algebras such as tilted algebras [**St**] or algebras satisfying the separation condition [**B**]. One of the important features of an indecomposable module X lying in a preprojective component is that X is homologically trivial, i.e. $\mathrm{Ext}^i_\Lambda(X,X) = 0$ for $i > 0$ and $\mathrm{End}_\Lambda X = k$ and that its isomorphism class is uniquely determined by the composition factors.

Quasitilted algebras have been introduced and investigated in [**HRS2**]. Recall that a finite-dimensional k-algebra Λ is called a *quasitilted algebra* if there exists a hereditary abelian k-category $\mathcal{H}$ and a tilting object $T \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\Lambda = \mathrm{End}_{\mathcal{H}}T$. In this article we will not work with this definition but rather with the homological characterization established in [**HRS2**]. We will use the following notation. For $X \in \mathrm{mod}\,\Lambda$ we denote by $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda X$ (resp. $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X$) the *projective dimension* (resp. the *injective dimension*) of X and we denote by $\mathrm{gl.dim}\,\Lambda$ the *global dimension* of Λ. The algebra Λ is quasitilted if and only if $\mathrm{gl.dim}\,\Lambda = 2$ and for each indecomposable Λ-module X we have either $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda X \leq 1$ or $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X \leq 1$.

As a main result we will show that the Auslander-Reiten quiver of a quasitilted algebra always has a preprojective component. We should point out that in general there may be more than one such component. In section three we will give some easy examples. Also we should mention that our proof is different from the one given for tilted

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algebras. Also note that in **[CS]** other aspects of the structure of the Auslander-Reiten quiver of a quasitilted algebra are considered.

The key idea of the proof is to investigate in detail conditions on a module M over a quasitilted algebra Λ such that the one-point extension algebra $\Lambda[M]$ is again quasitilted. This will extend results obtained in **[HRS2]**. The results obtained here will then allow us to make use of a result in **[DP]**.

In the first section we start by recalling some preliminary facts. The second section contains the proof of the theorem, while in section 3 we will present some examples. We denote the composition of morphisms $f : X \to Y$ and $g : Y \to Z$ in a given category $\mathcal{K}$ by fg. The following notation will be useful. Let M, N, X be Λ-modules and $f : M \to X$ a map. Then we will denote by $\hat{f} : M \oplus N \to X$ the map whose restriction to M is f and whose restriction to N is zero. For unexplained terminology and for some representation–theoretic background we refer to **[ARS]** and **[R]**.

1. Preliminaries.

In this section we will recall some basic facts on quasitilted algebras from **[HRS2]**. Moreover we will study one-point extensions of quasitilted algebras.

Let Λ be a finite-dimensional k-algebra. A *path* in $\operatorname{mod}\Lambda$ is a sequence $(X_0, \ldots, X_t)$ of indecomposable Λ-modules X_i for $0 \le i \le t$, such that there is a map $0 \ne f_i \in \operatorname{rad}(X_i, X_{i+1})$ for $0 \le i < t$. In this case we write $X_0 \preccurlyeq X_t$ and say that X_0 is a predecessor of X_t and that X_t is a successor of X_0. If $t \ge 1$ and $X_0 \simeq X_t$ we say that the path is a *cycle*. If $t = 1$ and $X_0 \simeq X_1$ we say that the path is a *short cycle*. We say that the path $(X_0, \ldots, X_t)$ is *sectional* if $X_{i-1} \not\simeq \tau X_{i+1}$ for $0 < i < t$. If $(X_0, \ldots, X_t)$ is a path, we say that a path $(Y_0, \ldots, Y_s)$ is a *refinement* of $(X_0, \ldots, X_t)$ if there is an order-preserving function $\pi : \{0, \ldots, t\} \to \{0, \ldots, s\}$ such that $X_i = Y_{\pi(i)}, \pi(0) = 0, \pi(t) = s$. A refinement $(Y_0, \ldots, Y_s)$ of a path $(X_0, \ldots, X_t)$ is said to be a *refinement of irreducible maps* if there is an irreducible map from Y_i to Y_{i+1} for all $0 \le i < s$, or equivalently $\operatorname{rad}(Y_i, Y_{i+1})/\operatorname{rad}^2(Y_i, Y_{i+1}) \ne 0$ for all $0 \le i < s$.

Following **[HR]** we say that a module M is *directing* provided there do not exist indecomposable summands M_1 and M_2 of M, and an indecomposable non-projective module W such that $M_1 \preccurlyeq \tau W$ and $W \preccurlyeq M_2$. We refer to **[HR]** for a further study of directing modules.

The following subcategories of $\operatorname{mod}\Lambda$ are useful. We denote by $\operatorname{ind}\Lambda$ the full subcategory of $\operatorname{mod}\Lambda$ containing a chosen set of representatives of the isomorphism classes of indecomposable Λ-modules. We denote by $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\Lambda)$ the full subcategory of $\operatorname{ind}\Lambda$ containing those indecomposable modules X such that every predecessor Y of X satisfies $\operatorname{pd}_\Lambda Y \le 1$. Dually, we denote by $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ the full subcategory of $\operatorname{ind}\Lambda$ containing those indecomposable modules X such that every successor Y of X satisfies

$\mathrm{id}_\Lambda Y \leq 1$. Using this we have the following characterization of quasitilted algebras [HRS2], Theorem 1.14.

THEOREM 1.1. *The following are equivalent for a finite-dimensional k-algebra* Λ.

(i) Λ *is quasitilted*

(ii) $\mathcal{L}$ *contains all indecomposable projective modules*

(iii) $\mathcal{R}$ *contains all indecomposable injective modules*

(iv) Any path in $\mathrm{mod}\,\Lambda$ *starting in an indecomposable injective module and ending in an indecomposable projective module has a refinement of irreducible maps and any such refinement is sectional.*

We will also need the following lemma and its dual, whose proof is basically contained in [HRS1] or [HRS2].

LEMMA 1.2. *Let* Λ *be a quasitilted algebra and* $(X_0, \dots, X_t)$ *be a path contained in* $\mathrm{ind}\,\Lambda$. *If* X_0 *belongs to* $\mathcal{R}$ *or if* X_t *belongs to* $\mathcal{L}$, *then there exists an indecomposable module* Y *and nonzero maps* $X_0 \to Y$ *and* $Y \to X_t$. *In particular, an indecomposable* Λ*-module* X *belongs to a cycle if and only if it belongs to a short cycle.*

We need the notion of a one-point extension algebra. Let Λ be a finite-dimensional k–algebra and M in $\mathrm{mod}\Lambda$. The one-point extension algebra $\Lambda[M]$ of Λ by M is by definition the finite dimensional k–algebra

$$\Lambda[M] = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & M \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$$

If $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ is the one-point extension algebra of Λ by M then the category of Δ-modules is equivalent to the category of triples $(k^t, {}_\Lambda X, f)$ where $f : M \otimes k^t \to X$ is a map of Λ-modules.

It was shown in [HRS2] that a quasitilted algebra Δ is always of the form $\Lambda[M]$ for a quasitilted algebra Λ and a Λ-module M. We will also need from [HRS2] that in this case the indecomposable direct summands of M are contained in $\mathcal{L}$. Moreover the following results are established in [HRS2], Lemma 2.1 and 2.2.

LEMMA 1.3. *Let* Λ *be a k-algebra with* $\mathrm{gl.dim}\,\Lambda \leq 2$ *and let* $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ *for a* Λ*-module* M. *Let* ${}_\Delta Y = (k^t, {}_\Lambda X, f)$ *be in* $\mathrm{mod}\,\Delta$. *Then*

(i) If $\ker f$ *is not projective, then* $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Y \geq 2$.

(ii) Assume that $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda \mathrm{coker} f \leq 1$. *Then* $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Y \leq 1$ *if and only if* $\ker f$ *is projective.*

(iii) $\mathrm{id}_\Delta Y \leq 1$ *if and only if* $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X \leq 1$ *and* $\mathrm{Ext}^1_\Lambda(M, X) = 0$.

The following observations will be useful in the next section.

Lemma 1.4. *Let Λ be a k-algebra and let $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ for a Λ-module $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ with $M_1 \neq 0 \neq M_2$. Let X_1, X_2 be two indecomposable nonisomorhic Λ-modules and $f_i : M_i \to X_i$ be non-zero maps for $i = 1, 2$. Let ${}_\Delta Y = (k, {}_\Lambda(X_1 \oplus X_2), f = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 & 0 \\ 0 & f_2 \end{pmatrix})$ be in $\operatorname{mod}\Delta$. Then Y is indecomposable.*

Proof: Indeed, if Y is decomposable then there exists i such that $(0, X_i, 0)$ is a direct summand of Y. We may assume that $i = 1$. This gives rise to the following commutative diagram of Λ-modules.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & X_1 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \alpha} \\
M_1 \oplus M_2 & \xrightarrow{f} & X_1 \oplus X_2 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \beta} \\
0 & \longrightarrow & X_1
\end{array}$$

with $f\beta = 0$ and $\alpha\beta = 1_{X_1}$. Writing $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ and $\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \end{pmatrix}$ we obtain $f_1\beta_1 = 0 = f_2\beta_2$ and $\alpha_1\beta_1 + \alpha_2\beta_2 = 1_{X_1}$. Since X_1 is indecomposable and $X_1 \not\simeq X_2$ we infer that $\alpha_2\beta_2$ is nilpotent, thus $\alpha_1\beta_1 = 1_{X_1} - \alpha_2\beta_2$ is invertible. In particular β_1 is invertible, and therefore $f_1 = 0$, contrary to our assumption. Thus Y is an indecomposable Δ-module.

Lemma 1.5. *Let Λ be a k-algebra and let $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ for a Λ-module $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ with $M_1 \neq 0 \neq M_2$. Let X be an indecomposable Λ-module and $f_i : M_i \to X$ be maps for $i = 1, 2$ which are not both equal to zero. Let ${}_\Delta Y = (k, {}_\Lambda X, f = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \end{pmatrix})$ be in $\operatorname{mod}\Delta$. Then Y is indecomposable.*

Proof: Indeed, if Y is decomposable then we have that $(0, X, 0)$ is a direct summand of Y. This gives rise to following commutative diagram of Λ-modules.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & X \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \alpha} \\
M_1 \oplus M_2 & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \beta} \\
0 & \longrightarrow & X
\end{array}$$

where α and β are isomorphisms and $f_1\beta = f_2\beta = 0$. Thus $f_1 = f_2 = 0$ contrary to our assumption. Thus Y is an indecomposable Δ-module.

In the proof of the main result we will make use of the criterion in [**DP**]. For the convenience of the reader we will recall this result. Before doing so, we have to introduce some further notation. Recall that we may define for a finite-dimensional k-algebra Λ the *quiver* $Q(\Lambda)$. The vertices of $Q(\Lambda)$ are the isomorphism classes $[S]$ of simple Λ-modules S, and the number of arrows $[S']$ to $[S]$ is the dimension of $\mathrm{Ext}^1_\Lambda(S, S')$. We also consider a partial order on the vertices of $Q(\Lambda)$ by defining $a \preccurlyeq b$ if there is a path in $Q(\Lambda)$ from a to b. Note that this implies that there is a path in $\mathrm{ind}\,\Lambda$ from $P(a)$ to $P(b)$ where for a vertex $c \in Q(\Lambda)$ we have denoted by $P(c)$ the projective cover of the simple Λ-module $S(c)$ corresponding to the vertex c. Given any Λ-module N we define the *support algebra* of N as the factor algebra of Λ modulo the ideal generated by all idempotents which annihilate N. Given a vertex $a \in Q(\Lambda)$ we define Λ^a as the support algebra of $\bigoplus\limits_{a \not\preccurlyeq b} S(b)$. If $Q(\Lambda)$ has no oriented cycle we infer that the radical $\mathrm{rad}\,P(a)$ of $P(a)$ is an Λ^a-module. Given $a \in Q(\Lambda)$ we denote by $\mathrm{rad}\,P(a) = \oplus_{i=1}^{n_a} R_i(a)$ the decomposition of $\mathrm{rad}\,P(a)$ into indecomposable direct summands. Using this notation we have the following result from [**DP**].

THEOREM 1.6. *Let Λ be a finite-dimensional algebra whose quiver $Q(\Lambda)$ has no oriented cycle. Then the Auslander-Reiten quiver Γ_Λ has a preprojective component if and only if for every vertex $a \in Q(\Lambda)$ one of the following conditions is satisfied:*

(i) there is a preprojective component $\mathcal{P}$ of Γ_{Λ^a} such that $R_i(a) \notin \mathcal{P}$ for every $1 \leq i \leq n_a$.

(ii) for each $1 \leq i \leq n_a$ the set of predecossors $\{Y \in \Gamma_{\Lambda^a} \mid Y \preccurlyeq R_i(a)\}$ of $R_i(a)$ in $\mathrm{ind}\,\Lambda^a$ is finite and consists of directing modules. If a is sink, then $\mathrm{rad}\,P(a)$ is a directing module in $\mathrm{mod}\,\Lambda^a$.

2. The main result.

We keep the notation from the previous sections.

LEMMA 2.1. *Let Λ be a quasitilted algebra and $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ a Λ-module such that $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ is a quasitilted algebra. Then each indecomposable direct summand of M_1 is contained in $\mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ or M_2 is projective.*

PROOF: Suppose that there exists an indecomposable direct summand M_1' of M_1 with $M_1' \notin \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ and that M_2 is not projective. Consider the Δ-module $Y = (k, M_1', \pi_1')$ where π_1' is the projection onto M_1'. By Lemma 1.5 we have that Y is indecomposable and by 1.3 we have that $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Y = 2$. Thus there exists an indecomposable injective Δ-module ${}_\Delta I$ such that $\mathrm{Hom}_\Delta(I, \tau_\Delta Y) \neq 0$. Therefore there exists a path $(I, \tau Y, E, Y)$

in $\operatorname{ind}\Delta$, where E is an indecomposable durect summand of the middle term of the Auslander-Reiten sequence ending in Y. Since $M_1' \notin \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$, there is a path in $\operatorname{ind}\Lambda$ form M_1' to an indecomposable Λ-module X with $\operatorname{id}_\Lambda X = 2$. In particular $X \in \mathcal{L}(\Lambda)$. By Lemma 1.2 there is a path $M_1' \xrightarrow{f} F \xrightarrow{g} X$ in $\operatorname{ind}\Lambda$. If $fg \neq 0$, then, by Lemma 1.3, the indecomposable Δ-module $(k, X, \begin{pmatrix} fg \\ 0 \end{pmatrix})$ has both projective dimension and injective dimension equal to two, a contradiction. Thus $fg = 0$. Since $\operatorname{id}_\Lambda X = 2$, we infer that $\operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(\tau_\Lambda^- X, {}_\Lambda P) \neq 0$ for some indecomposable projective Λ-module P. The following commutative diagram of Λ-modules shows that there exists a path in $\operatorname{ind}\Delta$ from Y to $(0, X, 0)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
M_1 \oplus M_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi_1'} & M_1' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle f} \\
M_1 \oplus M_2 & \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} & F \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle g} \\
0 & \longrightarrow & X
\end{array}$$

where $\hat{f}$ is the extended map as defined in the introduction. We thus obtain by combining the constructed paths a non-sectional path in $\operatorname{ind}\Delta$ from I to ${}_\Lambda P$. Since P is also Δ-projective, we have a contradiction to 1.1.

We also point out the following easy consequence.

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let Λ be a quasitilted algebra and $M = \oplus_1^t M_i$ a Λ-module such that $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ is a quasitilted algebra. If $M_i \notin \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq t$, then M is projective.*

THEOREM 2.3. *Let Δ be a quasitilted algebra. Then the Auslander-Reiten quiver of Δ has a preprojective component.*

PROOF: We will prove the theorem by induction on the number n of simple Δ-modules. For $n = 1$ there is nothing to show. So assume that all quasitilted algebras with less than n simple modules have a preprojective component.

Let Δ be a quasitilted algebra with n simple modules. Let $Q(\Delta)$ be the quiver of Δ. Let $a \in Q(\Delta)$ be a vertex. If a is not a sink then there exists a sink ω and a path from a to ω. Let $M = \operatorname{rad} P(\omega)$. Then there exists a quasitilted algebra Λ such that $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ and also $\Delta^a = \Lambda^a$. By induction, Λ has a preprojective component, so the vertex a satisfies one of the conditions in 1.6. Thus we are left with the case that $a = \omega$ is a sink. As noted before we can write $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$ for a quasitilted algebra Λ and a Λ-module $M = \operatorname{rad} P(\omega)$. By induction we have that the Auslander-Reiten quiver of Λ

has a preprojective component. We will show that ${}_\Lambda M$ satisfies one of the conditions of 1.6.

For this let M_1 be the direct sum of those indecomposable direct summands of M which are contained in the preprojective components of Δ_Λ. Then $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$. If $\mathcal{P}$ is a preprojective component of Γ_Λ we may assume that $\mathcal{P}$ contains an indecomposable summand of M_1. Otherwise, $\mathcal{P}$ will also be a preprojective component for the Auslander-Reiten quiver of Δ, compare [DP]. In particular we will assume from now on that $M_1 \neq 0$ and that ω does not satisfy condition (ii) of 1.6.

We will show first that M_2 is projective.

If M_2 is not projective there exists an indecomposable non-projective direct summand M_2' of M_2. Let Λ_1 be the connected component of Λ supporting M_2'. We first consider the case that all indecomposable projective Λ_1-modules are contained in preprojective components of Γ_{Λ_1}. Let P be an indecomposable projective Λ_1-module with $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(P, \tau_{\Lambda_1} M_2') \neq 0$. By assumption we have that P is contained in a preprojective component $\mathcal{P}$ which also contains an indecomposable direct summand M_1' of M_1. Since $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(P, \tau_{\Lambda_1} M_2') \neq 0$ and $M_2' \notin \mathcal{P}$ there exists $X \in \mathcal{P}$ with $M_1' \preccurlyeq X$ and $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(X, \tau_{\Lambda_1} M_2') \neq 0$. In particular we obtain a path from M_1' to M_2'. By Lemma 1.2 there exists an indecomposable Λ_1-module Y and a path $M_1' \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} \tau M_2'$ in $\mathrm{ind}\,\Lambda_1$. We consider the Δ-module $Z = (k, Y, \alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{f} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix})$. Then Z is indecomposable and by Lemma 1.3 we infer that $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Z = 2 = \mathrm{id}_\Delta Z$. For this note that M_2' is a direct summand of $\ker \alpha$ and $\mathrm{Ext}^1_{\Lambda_1}(M, Y) \neq 0$, for $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(Y, \tau M) \neq 0$. This contradicts the fact that Δ is quasitilted. Therefore there exists an indecomposable projective Λ_1-module which is not contained in a preprojective component of Γ_{Λ_1}. Since Λ_1 is connected there exist indecomposable projective Λ_1-modules P, P' such that $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(P, P') \neq 0$ and P is contained in a preprojective component $\mathcal{P}$ of Γ_{Λ_1} and P' is not contained in a preprojective component of Γ_{Λ_1}. Again there is an indecomposable direct summand M_1' of M_1 contained in $\mathcal{P}$. Since M_2 is not projective we have by Lemma 2.1 that $M_1' \in \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$. Let $0 \neq f \in \mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(P, P')$. Then by the choice of P, P' we have that $f \in \mathrm{rad}^\infty(P, P')$. Thus for each $r \geq 1$, there exists a chain of irreducible maps

$$P = X_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} X_1 \xrightarrow{f_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{f_r} X_r$$

and a map $g_r : X_r \to P'$ such that $f_1 \ldots f_r g_r \neq 0$. Choose r in such a way that τX_r is a successor of M_1'. Note that $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda \tau X_r = 2$. Since $\mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ is closed under successors and $M_1' \in \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$ we infer that $\tau X_r \in \mathcal{R}(\Lambda)$, a contradiction. Thus M_2 is projective.

Assume that $M_2 \neq 0$. We will show next that in this case there exists an indecomposable Λ-module X with $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X = 2$ and $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M_1, X) \neq 0$.

By the previous part of the proof we know that M_2 is projective. Let M_2' be an indecomposable direct summand of M_2 and as before let Λ_1 be the connected component of Λ supporting M_2'. Let M_1' be an indecomposable direct summand of M_1. Then M_1' lies in a preprojective component $\mathcal{P}$ of Γ_{Λ_1}. We consider $\mathcal{S}(M_1' \rightarrow)$ the subset of $\mathcal{P}$ consisting of those indecomposable modules X for which there is a sectional path from M_1' to X.

We distinguish the following two cases.

First assume that there is no proper successor of $\mathcal{S}(M_1' \rightarrow)$ which is projective. Arguing as above we find $X \in \mathcal{S}(M_1' \rightarrow)$ with $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X = 2$. Indeed, since Λ_1 is connected there exist indecomposable projective Λ_1-modules P, P' such that $\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda_1}(P, P') \neq 0$ and P is contained in $\mathcal{P}$ and P' is not contained in a preprojective component of Γ_{Λ_1}. By the choice of P, P' we have that $f \in \mathrm{rad}^\infty(P, P')$. Thus for each $r \geq 1$, there exists a chain of irreducible maps

$$P = X_0 \xrightarrow{f_1} X_1 \xrightarrow{f_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{f_r} X_r$$

and a map $g_r : X_r \rightarrow P'$ such that $f_1 \dots f_r g_r \neq 0$. Choose r in such a way that τX_r is contained in $\mathcal{S}(M_1' \rightarrow)$. Note that $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda \tau X_r = 2$.

Next assume that there is a proper successor $\mathcal{S}(M_1' \rightarrow)$ which is projective. Consider $\Sigma = \mathcal{S}(\rightarrow P)$ the subset of $\mathcal{P}$ consisting of those indecomposable modules X for which there is a sectional path from X to P. Note that the indecomposable modules in $\tau\Sigma$ all have injective dimension two and that there is a path from M_1' to an indecomposable module in $\tau\Sigma$. Also note that $\tau\Sigma$ is a seperating subcategory in the sense that each map from a predecessor of $\tau\Sigma$ in $\mathcal{P}$ to a module which is not a predecessor of $\tau\Sigma$ factors through $\tau\Sigma$. We consider a nonzero map M_1' to an indecomposable injective module. Since any path from an indecomposable injective to an indecomposable projective is sectional for a quasitilted algebra we infer that I is not a predecessor of $\tau\Sigma$. Hence there is nonzero map from M_1' to an indecomposable module in $\tau\Sigma$. This proves our claim.

Next we will show that $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M_2, Y) = 0$ for all $Y \in \mathrm{ind}\,\Lambda$ with $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda Y = 2$.

Suppose to the contrary that there exists an indecomposable Λ-module Y with $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda Y = 2$ and $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M_2, Y) \neq 0$. By the previous claim there also exists an indecomposable Λ-module X with $\mathrm{id}_\Lambda X = 2$ and $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M_1, X) \neq 0$. Choose nonzero maps $f : M_1 \rightarrow X$ and $g : M_2 \rightarrow Y$. Consider the Δ-module $Z = (k, X \oplus Y, \begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & g \end{pmatrix})$. By Lemma 1.5 we have that Z is indecomposable and by Lemma 1.3 we have that $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Z = 2 = \mathrm{id}_\Delta Z$, a contradiction.

It follows from this that each submodule of M_2 is projective, since otherwise the corresponding factor module would have projective dimension two. Moreover it follows that M_2 is directing and each indecomposable summand of M_2 has only finitely many predecessors. In fact let X be a Λ-module with $0 \neq f \in \mathrm{Hom}(X, M_2')$ for an indecomposable direct summand M_2' of M_2. Then let $f = \pi\mu$ be the canonical factorisation through $B = \operatorname{im} f$. So B is projective, and hence X is projective and isomorphic to B. As a consequence of this we infer that there is no path from an indecomposable direct summand of M_1 to an indecomposable direct summand of M_2.

As a final step we will show that M is directing as a Λ-module. By the previous remark it is enough to show that M_1 is directing. Suppose that there exists indecomposable direct summands M_1' and M_1'' of M_1 and a non-sectional path from M_1' to M_1''.

If M_1'' is not projective there exists a path from M_1' to $\tau M_1''$. By Lemma 1.2 there exists a path $M_1' \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} \tau M_1''$. Consider the indecomposable Δ-module $Z = (k, Y, \begin{pmatrix} \hat{f} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix})$ which again by Lemma 1.3 has both projective and injective dimension two. So we have that M_1'' is projective. Again by Lemma 1.2 we obtain a path $M_1' \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} M_1''$. We will show that there exists an indecomposable non-projective Λ-module W such that $\operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(M_1', \tau W) \neq 0$ and $\operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(W, M_1'') \neq 0$. If $fg = 0$ this follows from [HR]. So suppose that $fg \neq 0$ and let $\Sigma = \mathcal{S}(\rightarrow M_1'')$. By assumption we have that M_1' is a predecessor of $\tau\Sigma$. Therefore the nonzero map fg factors through a module in $\tau\Sigma$. In particular there exists an indecomposable non-projective Λ-module W such that $\operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(M_1', \tau W) \neq 0$ and $\operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(W, M_1'') \neq 0$. Since M_1'' is projective we infer that $\operatorname{id}_\Lambda \tau W = 2$. Let $0 \neq \alpha \in \operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(M_1', \tau W)$ and $0 \neq \beta \in \operatorname{Hom}_\Lambda(W, M_1'')$. Since W is non-projective we have that β is not surjective. Also, $\operatorname{pd}_\Lambda \operatorname{coker} \beta = 2$. Thus there exists an indecomposable Λ-module Y with $\operatorname{pd}_\Lambda Y = 2$ and a nonzero map $\gamma : M_1'' \rightarrow Y$. Consider the indecomposable Δ-module $Z = (k, \tau W \oplus Y, \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\gamma} \end{pmatrix})$ which again by Lemma 1.3 has both projective and injective dimension two, a contradiction. Thus M_1 and therefore M is directing.

This shows that the extension vertex $\omega \in Q(\Delta)$ satisfies the condition (ii) of Theorem 1.6. In fact, we have just seen that $M = \operatorname{rad} P(\omega)$ is directing. Also any indecomposable summand M_2 has only finitely predecessors all of which are directing. The indecomposable direct summands of M_1 are all contained in preprojective components of Γ_Λ, and hence there are only finitely many predecessors and all are directing. Note that $\Lambda = \Delta^\omega$.

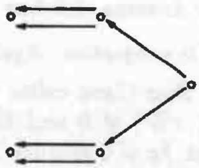
This finishes the proof of the theorem.

We point out that this proof may be used to obtain a different proof for the existence of preprojective components in case of tilted algebras [St], [K]. But we do not obtain the stronger result that there exists a unique preprojective component, which is a preprojective component for a concealed algebra, in case we start with a tilting module without nonzero preinjective summands.

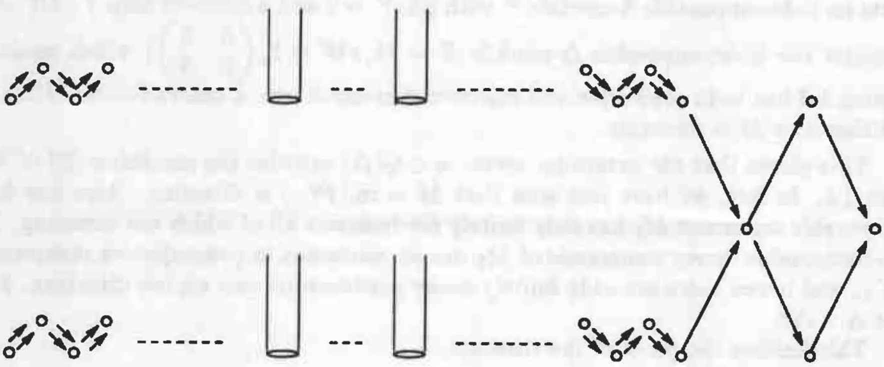
3. Examples.

In this section we will consider some examples. The first example shows that a tilted algebra in general will not have a unique preprojective component. This is well-known, but we include it for the convenience of the reader. The second example deals with the case of a one-point extension by the sum of two simple projective modules which ly in different components of the Auslander-Reiten quiver.

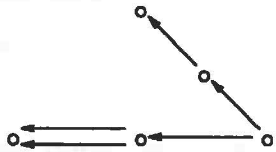
Let Λ be the path algebra over the field k of the opposite of the following quiver modulo the ideal generated by all paths of length 2.



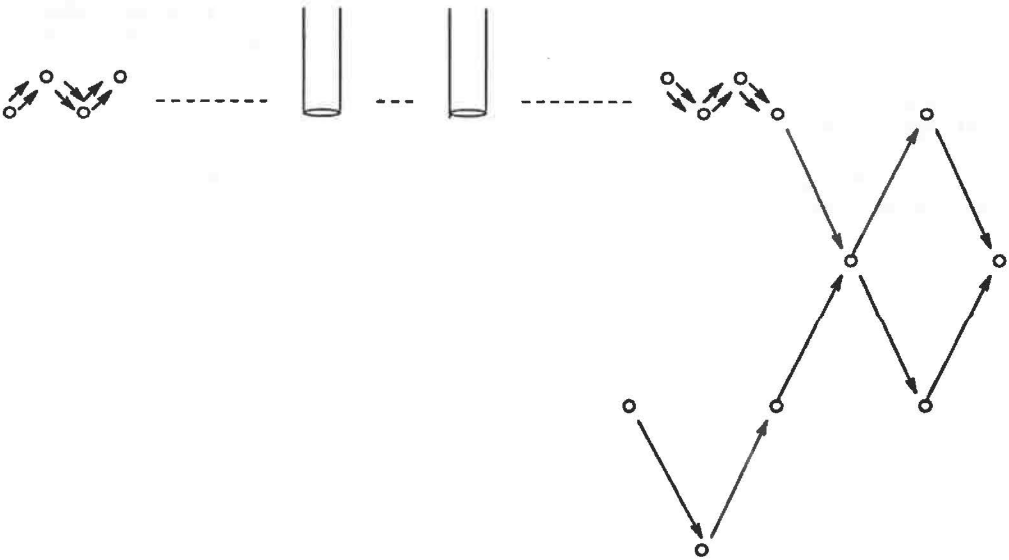
The Auslander-Reiten quiver of Λ is given as follows. From this we see that Λ is a tilted algebra. In fact there is a complete slice in the preinjective component. Also we see that there exist two preprojective components.



Next we consider the algebra Λ given by the path algebra of the opposite of the following quiver modulo the ideal generated by all paths of length 2.



The Auslander-Reiten quiver of Λ is given as follows. This may be used to verify the remarks below.



Let S be the simple projective in the unique preprojective component and let S' be the simple projective in the preinjective component. Let M be the sum of the two simple projective Λ-modules. We consider $\Delta = \Lambda[M]$. We claim that Δ is a quasitilted algebra. In fact, let $Z = (k^t, X, f)$ be an indecomposable Δ-module. We may assume that $t \geq 1$, compare [HRS2]. It is easily seen that $\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M, Y) = 0 = \mathrm{Ext}^1_\Lambda(Y, M)$ for all indecomposable Λ-modules Y with $\mathrm{pd}_\Lambda Y = 2$. Since Z is indecomposable it follows from Lemma 1.3 that $\mathrm{pd}_\Delta Z \leq 1$. Thus Δ is a quasitilted algebra, and hence has a preprojective component. This of course may be verified by a direct computation. Note that Δ is a tilted algebra, for the preinjective component contains a complete slice.

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