# The Very Flat Conjecture

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Joint work with Alexander Slávik (Prague and Manchester)

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An *R*-module *F* is said to be very flat if  $\operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{R}(F, C) = 0$  for all contraadjusted *R*-modules *C*. So an *R*-module is very flat if and only if it is a direct summand of a transfinitely iterated extension (in the sense of the inductive limit) of *R*-modules, each of which is isomorphic to  $R[r^{-1}]$  for some element  $r \in R$ .

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An *R*-module *F* is said to be finitely very flat if there exists a finite subset  $\mathbf{r} \subset R$  such that *F* is **r**-very flat.
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# Finitely Very Flat Main Theorem

Leonid Positselski & Alexander Slávik Very Flat Conjecture

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Notice that the *R*-module *F* in the Main Theorem is always countably presented. Hence it follows that one can choose an *R*-module *G* as above such that the filtration  $G_i$  on it is indexed by a countable ordinal  $\alpha$ .

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The applications of the Very Flat Conjecture

The applications of the Very Flat Conjecture (Main Theorem)



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Just as the proof of the Noetherian Main Theorem, the proof of the Finitely Very Flat Main Theorem uses Noetherian induction. In order to apply Noetherian induction to non-Noetherian rings one observes that any finitely presented algebra over a commutative ring is actually defined over its finitely generated subring.

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where U is a free R-module and V is a free  $R[r^{-1}]$ -module.

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# Definition

Leonid Positselski & Alexander Slávik Very Flat Conjecture



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# Let $\mathcal{E} \subset R\text{-}\mathrm{mod}$ be a class of modules. The pair of classes of left $R\text{-}\mathrm{modules}$



Let  $\mathcal{E} \subset R$ -mod be a class of modules. The pair of classes of left R-modules right 1-obtainable from  $\mathcal{E}$ 

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The proofs of the Main Lemmas



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Notice that an R/rR-module is contraadjusted if and only if it is contraadjusted as an R-module; and an  $R[r^{-1}]$ -module is contraadjusted if and only if it is contraadjusted as an R-module. So the formulation of the Main Proposition is unambiguous.

Let us also mention that it follows from the Main Proposition that all *R*-modules are right 2-obtainable from contraadjusted R/rR-modules and contraadjusted  $R[r^{-1}]$ -modules.



The Noetherianity assumption in the Main Proposition



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The Noetherianity assumption in the Main Proposition can be weakened to the assumption on the *r*-torsion in R: the *r*-torsion in *R* should be a sum of bounded *r*-torsion and *r*-divisible *r*-torsion.



The Noetherianity assumption in the Main Proposition can be weakened to the assumption on the *r*-torsion in R: the *r*-torsion in R should be a sum of bounded *r*-torsion and *r*-divisible *r*-torsion. This allows to deduce the Bounded Torsion Very Flat Main Lemma.





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 $\mathbf{r}^{\times}$ -Very Flat Theorem



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### $\mathbf{r}^{\times}$ -Very Flat Theorem

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Let R be a commutative ring and  $\mathbf{r} = \{r_1, \ldots, r_m\} \subset R$  be a finite subset of its elements. Let F be a flat R-module. Then the R-module F is  $\mathbf{r}^{\times}$ -very flat if and only if for every subset of indices  $J \subset \{1, \ldots, m\}$  the R<sub>J</sub>-module  $R_J \otimes_R F$  is projective.

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All *r*-contramodule *R*-modules (and more generally, all *r*-contraadjusted *R*-modules) are *r*-complete. All *r*-separated *r*-complete *R*-modules are *r*-contramodules. But the converse assertions do not hold.



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The notion of an *r*-contramodule *R*-module



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**Torsion Module Lemma** 



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Let R be a commutative ring and  $r \in R$  be an element.

Leonid Positselski & Alexander Slávik Very Flat Conjecture



Let R be a commutative ring and  $r \in R$  be an element. Let us first prove that all R-modules are simply left obtainable



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$$R \longrightarrow R[r^{-1}] \longrightarrow K^{\bullet} \longrightarrow R[1],$$

we obtain an exact sequence of R-modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \operatorname{Ext}^{0}_{R}(K^{\bullet}, A) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{R}(R[r^{-1}], A) \longrightarrow A$$
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In particular, for an *r*-contraadjusted *R*-module *C*,



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In particular, for an r-contraadjusted R-module C, we get an exact sequence

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Conversely, all *R*-modules simply right obtainable (or even right 1-obtainable) from R/rR-modules and  $R[r^{-1}]$ -modules are *r*-contraadjusted, because all the R/rR-modules and  $R[r^{-1}]$ -modules are *r*-contraadjusted.

Proof of Contramodule Lemma



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Leonid Positselski & Alexander Slávik Very Flat Conjecture



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The *R*-module  $\operatorname{Ext}_{R}^{0}(K^{\bullet}, C)$  is an *r*-contramodule. According to the Contramodule Lemma, it is simply right obtainable from R/rR-modules. Any R/rR-module can be embedded into a contraadjusted (e.g., injective) R/rR-module, and the quotient R/rR-module is also contraadjusted. Hence any R/rR-module is right 2-obtainable from contraadjusted R/rR-modules.

The *R*-module  $\operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{R}(K^{\bullet}, C)$  is a contraadjusted *r*-contramodule *R*-module. It remains to show that all contraadjusted *r*-contramodule *R*-modules are simply right obtainable from contraadjusted *R*/*rR*-modules.

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