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**Rebecca R.G.\*** ([rirg@umich.edu](mailto:rirg@umich.edu)). *Closure operations that induce big Cohen-Macaulay modules and algebras, module closures, and classification of singularities.* Preliminary report.

Geoffrey Dietz introduced a set of axioms for a closure operation on a complete local domain  $R$  such that the existence of a closure operation satisfying these axioms is equivalent to the existence of a big Cohen-Macaulay module. These are called Dietz closures. In characteristic  $p > 0$ , solid closure, tight closure, and plus closure all satisfy the axioms. I will give an additional axiom for a closure operation such that the existence of a Dietz closure satisfying this axiom is equivalent to the existence of a big Cohen-Macaulay algebra.

I will also discuss module closures, including those coming from modules of syzygies and from canonical modules. As an application, I will show that under mild conditions, a ring  $R$  is regular if and only if all Dietz closures on  $R$  are trivial. The proof of this statement leads to results relating Dietz closures to familiar closures such as integral closure and regular closure. (Received September 21, 2015)