

VALUATION RING

1. DEFINITIONS AND PRELIMINARIES

Definition 1.1. Let R be an integral domain, K its field of fractions. R is a valuation ring of K if, for each $0 \neq x \in K$, either $x \in R$ or $x^{-1} \in R$ (or both).

[M.F.Atiyah and I.G.Macdonald, *Introduction to Commutative Algebra*, page65]

Note

Suppose that K is a field and R a subring of K such that above condition is true, then K is fraction field of R . So always we consider K as fraction field of R

Example

- (1) Any field is a valuation rings.
- (2) The ring $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}$ is a valuation ring of \mathbb{Q} . $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)} = \{\frac{a}{b} | (b, 2) = 1\}$ is a subring of \mathbb{Q} . Let $\frac{m}{n} = x \in \mathbb{Q}$, $(m, n) = 1$. Then either m or n is odd, so $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ or $x^{-1} \in \mathbb{Q}$
- (3) Let $K = K(x)$ and R be the set of all rational functions $\frac{f}{g} \in K(x)$ such that $\deg f \leq \deg g$. Then R is a valuation ring of K .

[Pete L.Clark, *Commutative Algebra*, page261]

Definition 1.2. Let K be a field and (A, m_A) , (B, m_B) be local rings contained in K . We say that B dominate A , if $A \subseteq B$, $m_A = A \cap m_B$

[N.Bourbaki, *Commutative Algebra*, page375]

Theorem 1.3. Let R be a ring and K be fraction field of R . The following statements are equivalent:

- (1) R is a valuation ring.
- (2) for all $a, b \in R$, $a|b$ or $b|a$. (If I, J are any two ideal of R , Then either $I \subseteq J$ or $J \subseteq I$)
- (3) R is a local domain and R is maximal for the relation of domination among local subrings of K .
- (4) The set of principal ideals of A is totally ordered by the relation of inclusion.
- (5) the set of ideals of A is totally ordered by the relation of inclusion.

[N.Bourbaki, *Commutative algebra*, page375]

Lemma 1.4. Let R be a subring of a field K , and let $P \in \text{Spec}R$. Then there exists a valuation ring T of K such that $R \subseteq T$, $m_T \cap R = P$

[Pete L.Clark, *Commutative Algebra*, page267]

Corollary 1.5. Let K be a field and $A \subseteq K$ be a local subring. Then there exists a valuation ring with fraction field K dominating A .

[N.Bourbaki, *Commutative algebra*, page378]

Lemma 1.6. *Let R be a valuation ring. For any prime ideal P in R , the quotient ring $\frac{R}{P}$ and localization R_P are valuation rings.*

Lemma 1.6 is not necessarily true for any ideal of R . For example $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}$ is a valuation ring and its ideals are $I_2 \supset I_4 \supset I_8 \supset \dots$, where

$$I_k = \left\{ \frac{m}{n} \mid k \mid m, (2, n) = 1 \right\}.$$

I_4 is not prime and quotient ring $\frac{\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}}{I_4}$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_4 that is not a valuation ring.

Definition 1.7. *Let $A \subseteq B$ be two rings. An element $x \in B$ is integral over A if it is a root of a monic polynomial in $A[x]$*

The set C of elements of B which are integral over A is called the integral closure of A in B . If $C = A$, then A is said to be integrally closed in B .

Corollary 1.8. *Let R be a subring in a field K . Then the intersection of all valuation rings V of K which contains R is precisely the integral closure \bar{R} of R*

[M. F. Atiyah and I. G. Macdonald, Introduction to Commutative Algebra, page 66]

Corollary 1.9. *Let R be a local subring in a field K . Then the intersection of all valuation rings V of K which dominating R is precisely the integral closure \bar{R} of R*

[H. Matsumura, Commutative Ring Theory, page 77]

Definition 1.10. *A totally ordered abelian group is a pair (G, \leq) , consisting of an abelian group G endowed with a total ordering \leq such that $a + c \leq b + d$ when $a \leq b$, $c \leq d$ for all $a, b, c, d \in G$*

[Pete L. Clark, Commutative Algebra, page 263]

Definition 1.11. *Let (G, \leq) be a totally ordered abelian group. A subgroup H of G is called an isolated subgroup of G if whenever $o \leq \beta \leq \alpha$ and $\alpha \in H$ we have $\beta \in H$.*

Example Let A and B be two ordered groups; let $A \times B$ be given the lexicographic order¹. The second factor B (i.e., $0 \times B$) of $A \times B$ is then an isolated subgroup of $A \times B$.

Definition 1.12. *A valuation on a field K is a function $v : K^* \rightarrow G$ where G is a totally ordered abelian group such that,*

- (1) $v(ab) = v(a) + v(b)$
- (2) $v(a + b) \geq \min\{v(a), v(b)\}$

the subgroup $v(K^)$ of G is called the value group of v .*

[J. J. Rotman, Advanced modern Algebra, page, 920]

Proposition 1.13. *Let $v : K^* \rightarrow G$ be a valuation on a field K and $R = \{a \in K^* \mid v(a) \geq o\} \cup \{o\}$. R is a valuation ring and every valuation ring arises in this way from a suitable valuation on its fraction field. Maximal ideal of R is $m = \{x \in K \mid v(x) > o \text{ or } x = o\}$ and its group of units is $A^* = \{x \in K^* \mid v(x) = o\}$.*

¹Given two partially ordered sets A and B , the lexicographical order on the Cartesian product $A \times B$ is defined as $(a, b) \leq (c, d)$ if and only if $a < c$ or $(a = c \text{ and } b \leq d)$.

[H.Matsumura, *Commutative Ring Theory*, page75],

[J.J.Rotman, *Advanced modern Algebra*, page, 920]

Let A be a valuation ring of a field K . The group A^* of units of A is a subgroup of the multiplicative group K^* of K . Let $G = \frac{K^*}{A^*}$ and for $x, y \in K$ define $\bar{x} \succcurlyeq \bar{y}$ to mean $xy^{-1} \in A$. This is a total ordering on G which is compatible with the group structure. So G is a totally ordered abelian group and it is called the value group of A . This is assign to valuation ring A a valuation with canonical homomorphism $\nu : K^* \rightarrow G$. By the first isomorphism theorem, $\frac{K^*}{\text{Ker}(\nu)} \cong \nu(K^*) = G$. So $\text{Ker}(\nu) = A^*$

Thus the concept of valuation ring and valuation are essentially equivalent.

Example

- (1) Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$ and p be a prime number of \mathbb{Z} . Then any nonzero element $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ can be written uniquely in the form $p^a y$, where $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $y \in \mathbb{Q}$ and both numerator and denominator of y are prime to p . Define $\nu(x) = a$. Then the valuation ring of ν is $R = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} = \{\frac{c}{d} | c, d \in \mathbb{Z}, p \nmid d\}$
- (2) Let $K = F(x)$ and $f(x)$ be an irreducible polynomial of $F[x]$, where F is a field and x is an indeterminate over F . Then any nonzero polynomial $h(x) \in K$ can be written uniquely in the form $f(x)^a \frac{g(x)}{l(x)}$, where $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and both $g(x), l(x)$ are prime to $f(x)$. Define $\nu(h(x)) = a$. Then the valuation ring of ν is the local ring $F[x]_{(f)} = \{\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} | p(x), q(x) \in F[x], f(x) \nmid q(x)\}$.

[J.J.Rotman, *Advanced modern Algebra*, page, 920]

Question If R is a valuation ring, by 1.6 the localization R_P and quotient ring $\frac{R}{P}$ are valuation rings. What are the value groups of R_P and quotient ring $\frac{R}{P}$?

I think, Value group $\frac{R}{P}$ is an isolated subgroup of value group R and value group R_P is the same value group of R .

Theorem 1.14. (Malcev, Neumann)

For any ordered abelian group G there exists a valuation domain with value group isomorphic to G .

[Pete L.Clark, *Commutative Algebra*, page265]

Note If R is a valuation domain with value group G , there is a one to one order preserving correspondence between nonzero prime ideals of R and isolated proper subgroups of G . If $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$, $v(R - P)$ is the corresponding isolated subgroup of G .

Definition 1.15. A discrete valuation ring (DVR) is a local PID that is not a field.

Note The valuation ring is discrete when the totally ordered abelian group G is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z} .

Example

- (1) As a simple example $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ is a DVR.

- (2) Another important example of a DVR is the ring of formal power series $R = K[[x]]$ in one variable x over some field K . The "unique" irreducible² element is x , the maximal ideal of R is the principal ideal generated by x , and the valuation assigns to each power series, the index (i.e. degree) of the first non-zero coefficient.

But for example $\mathbb{R}[x]$ is not DVR, since for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $\langle x - a \rangle$ is a maximal ideal of $\mathbb{R}[x]$, that is not a local ring.

- (3) $\mathbb{R}[x]_{\langle x-2 \rangle}$ is a DVR with maximal ideal $\langle x - 2 \rangle$ and fraction field $\mathbb{R}(x)$.

Let R be a DVR, then any irreducible element of R is a generator for the unique maximal ideal of R and vice versa. Such an element is also called a uniformizing element of R , a uniformizer, or a prime element. If we fix a uniformizing parameter x , then $m = (x)$ is the unique maximal ideal of R , and every other non-zero ideal is a power of m , i.e. has the form (x^k) for some $k \geq 0$. All the powers of x are distinct, and so are the powers of m . Every non-zero element r of R can be written in the form ax^k with a a unit in R and $k \geq 0$, both uniquely determined by r . The valuation is given by $\nu(r) = k$.

Proposition 1.16. *Let R be a DVR and (P) its maximal ideal. Then*

$$\bigcap_n (P^n) = 0.$$

[H.A.Nielsen, *Elementary Commutative Algebra*, page 141]

Theorem 1.17. *Let R be a local domain, P its non-zero maximal ideal, and P is principal, such that $\bigcap_n (P^n) = 0$. Then R is a DVR.*

[A.Attman, S.Kleiman, *A Term of Commutative Algebra*, page 127]

2. PROPERTIES OF VALUATION RING

Proposition 2.1. *Let R be a valuation ring,*

- (1) R is a local ring.
- (2) If \acute{R} is a ring such that $R \subseteq \acute{R} \subseteq K$, then \acute{R} is a valuation ring of K .
- (3) R is integrally closed in K .

[M. F. Atiyah and I. G. Macdonald, *Introduction to Commutative Algebra*, page 65]

Question

Let R be a discrete valuation ring, and S any subring of it. Is the subring S essentially a DVR?

Counter example

Let K be a field. The subring $R = K[[x^2, x^3]] \subseteq K[[x]]$ is not a discrete valuation ring, because it is not integrally closed. $x \notin R$ and is integral over R with integral dependence equation $x^2t - x^3$.

²a non-zero non-unit element in an integral domain is said to be irreducible if it is not a product of two non-units.

Proposition 2.2. *If V is a valuation ring, then*

- (1) *Every finitely generated ideal in V is principal.*
- (2) *Every finitely generated ideal in V is projective.*

[J.J.Rotman, *Advanced modern Algebra*, page920]

Definition 2.3. *A domain in which every finitely generated ideal is principal called a Bezout domain.*

[K. R. Goodeari and R. B. Warfield,
An Introduction to Noncommutative Noethrian Rings, page 112]

Proposition 2.4. *A local Bezout domain is a valuation ring.*

[Pete L.Clark, *Commutative Algebra*, page262]

Proposition 2.5. *Every valuation ring is a Bezout domain. In particular, every noetherian valuation ring is a PID*

[J.J.Rotman, *An Introduction to Homological Algebra*, page170],
[Pete L.Clark, *Commutative Algebra*, page262]

Lemma 2.6. *Let $K \subseteq L$ be an extension of fields. If $B \subseteq L$ is a valuation ring, then $A = K \cap B$ is a valuation ring.*

[N.Bourbaki, *Commutative algebra*, page 379]

Definition 2.7. *A ring R is said to be semihereditary if every finitly generated ideal of R is projective as R -module.*

By proposition 2.2 a valuation domain R is a semihereditary domain. Indeed every finitly generated ideal of R is principal and R is a domain so every finitly generated ideal of R is free as an R -module, hence R is semihereditary.

[T.Y, Lam, *Lectures on Modules and Rings* page45]

There are several equivalent definitions for a Prüfer domain. We list some important ones.

Definition 2.8. *A domain R with field of quotient K is called a Prüfer domain, if every finitly generated ideal I of R is invertible; that is if $I^{-1} = \{x \in K | xI \subseteq R\}$ then $II^{-1} = R$.*

[S.Glaz, *Commutative Coherent Rings*, page 24]

Proposition 2.9. *Let $0 \neq I \triangleleft R$. Then I as R -module is projective if and only if I is invertible.*

[D.S.Passman, *A Course in Ring Theory*, page 65]

Definition 2.10. *A commutative semihereditary domain is called a Prüfer domain.*

[T.Y, Lam, *Lectures on Modules and Rings* page43]

Theorem 2.11. *The following statements for an integral domain R are equivalent.*

- (1) *R is a Prüfer domain.*

- (2) for every prime ideal P , R_P is a valuation ring.
- (3) for every maximal ideal m , R_m is a valuation ring.
- (4) Every ideal of R generated by two elements is invertible.

[I.Kaplansky, Commutative rings page39]

Example \mathbb{Z} is a prüfer domain.

Theorem 2.12. Let R be a Prüfer domain with quotient field K and Let V be a valuation ring such that $R \subseteq V \subseteq K$. Then $V = R_P$ for some prime ideal P in R

[I.Kaplansky, Commutative rings page39]

Note We know that every subring of \mathbb{Q} contains \mathbb{Z} . So we have;

Corollary 2.13. Every valuation ring of the field \mathbb{Q} is of the form $\mathbb{Z}_{(P)}$, where P is a prime number in \mathbb{Z}

[N.Bourbaki, Commutative algebra, page 380]

Note

- (1) If R is a prüfer domain, so is every localization of R and every quotient ring of R by a prime ideal.
- (2) A noetherian prüfer domain is a Dedekind domain. (i.e., R is a Dedekind domain if and only if R_m is a DVR for each maximal ideal m of R .)

[S.Glaz, Commutative Coherent Rings, page 24, 27]

Lemma 2.14. The nilradical of a valuation ring R is the minimal prime ideal of R .

[L.Fuches, L.Salce, Modules over Valuation Rings, Googlebook, page2]

Lemma 2.15. Let A be a valuation ring and b a proper ideal of A . Then $c = \text{rad}(b)$ is a prime ideal.

[N.Bourbaki, Commutative algebra, page 414]

Lemma 2.16. A valuation ring R is Artinian if and only if it has a finite number of ideals.

[L.Fuches, L.Salce, Modules over Valuation Rings, Googlebook, page3]

Lemma 2.17. A valuation ring is noetherian if and only if it is a discrete valuation ring or a field.

[H.Matsumura, Commutative Ring Theory, page78]

Example

In this example we obtain a non-noetherian valuation ring;

Take \mathbb{Z}^2 with the lexicographic order. Define the valuation $v : K(x, y)^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$ as follows: For any $a \in K^*$ and for any $a \in K^*$ and $0 \leq n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ set $v(ax^n y^m) = (n, m)$. For a polynomial $f = \sum f_i \in k[x, y]$ set $v(f) = \inf\{v(f_0), \dots, v(f_d)\}$

where the f_i are distinct monomials. Finally for a rational function $f \in k(x, y)$ there are $g, h \in k[x, y]$ such that $f = \frac{g}{h}$ set $v(f) = v(g) - v(h)$. The corresponding valuation ring $R_v = \{f | v(f) \geq 0\} \cup \{0\}$ contains $k[x, y]$, but it also contains xy^{-1} since $(0, 0) < (1, -1)$. In fact $xy^n \in R_v$ for any n . It follows that $R_v \supseteq k[x, y, x/y, x/y^2, x/y^3 \dots]$. So R_v is not Noetherian, hence is not a discrete valuation ring.

Question

Are valuation rings, coherent ?

For answer, we need some definitions;

Definition A module P is finitely related if there is an exact sequence of R -modules $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow F \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$ where F is free and K is finitely generated.

Definition An R -module P is finitely presented iff it is finitely generated and finitely related.

Definition A (left) coherent ring is a ring in which every finitely generated left ideal is finitely presented

In a valuation ring any finitely generated ideal is principal so is finitely presented: Indeed, Let I be any finitely generated ideal in valuation ring R . By 2.2 $I = Ra$ for some $a \in R$. We have $f : R \rightarrow Ra$ is an isomorphism and R is a free R -module, there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow \mathbf{Ker}(f) \rightarrow R \rightarrow Ra \rightarrow 0$ that is $\mathbf{Ker}(f) = 0$ is finitely generated. Thus I is finitely presented and therefore R is a coherent ring.

3. MODULES OVER VALUATION RING

Lemma 3.1. *If R is a valuation ring, then an R -module M is flat if and only if it is torsion free.*

[H.Matsumura, Commutative Ring Theory, page77]

Note Every finitely generated torsion free R -module over a valuation domain is free.

[S.Glaz, Commutative Coherent Ring, page24]

Corollary 3.2. *A commutative domain R is a Prüfer domain if and only if every finitely generated torsion-free R -module is projective.*

[T.Y, Lam, Lectures on Modules and Rings page44]

Note Every torsion-free module over a Prüfer domain is flat.

[S.Glaz, Commutative Coherent Ring, page25]

Theorem 3.3. *Over a valuation domain R , every finitely generated R -module M contains an essential pure submodule B which is a direct sum of cyclic modules. B is unique up to isomorphism.*

[L. Fuchs, L. Salce,

Modules Over non Noetherian Domains, Google book, page 170]

modules over DVRs

Lemma 3.4. Let R be a DVR with uniformizing element t , and let $a \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then the ring $R_a = \frac{R}{\langle t^a \rangle}$ is self-injective.

Theorem 3.5. Let R be a DVR with uniformizing element t , and let M be a finitely generated R -module. Then

a) There is $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and positive integers $n, a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n$ such that

$$M \cong R^N \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^n \frac{R}{\langle t^{a_i} \rangle} \right)$$

b) The numbers $N, n, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ are invariant of the isomorphism class of the module M : i.e., they are the same for any two decomposition as above.

[Pete L.Clark, Commutative Algebra, page271]

Definition 3.6. A uniserial module M is a module over a ring R , whose submodules are linearly ordered by inclusion. A ring R is called a right(left) uniserial ring if it is uniserial as a right(left) module over itself. Commutative uniserial ring is known as a valuation ring.

properties of uniserial modules

- 1) For an R -module N the following are equivalent:
 - a) N is uniserial;
 - b) The cyclic submodules of N are linearly ordered;
 - c) Any submodule of N has at most one maximal submodule.
 - d) For any finitely generated submodule $0 \neq K \subset N$, $\frac{K}{\text{Rad}(K)}$ is simple.
 - e) For every factor module L of N , $\text{Soc}(L)$ is simple.
- 2) Let N be a non-zero uniserial R -module. Then
 - a) Submodules and factor modules of N are again uniserial;
 - b) N is uniform, and finitely generated submodule of N are cyclic;
 - c) If N is noetherian, there exists a possibly finite descending chain of submodules $N = N_1 \supset N_2 \supset \dots$ with simple factors $\frac{N_i}{N_{i+1}}$;
 - d) If N is artinian, there exists a possibly finite ascending chain of submodules $0 = S_0 \subset S_1 \subset S_2 \subset \dots$ with simple factors $\frac{S_{i+1}}{S_i}$;
 - e) If N has finite length, there is a unique composition series.

[R.Wisbauer, Foundation of Module and Ring page539]

Example

- (1) The valuation domain R itself is a uniserial R -module.
- (2) Examples of uniserial \mathbb{Z} -modules are the modules $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{p^k \mathbb{Z}}$ for any $k, p \in \mathbb{N}$, p a prime number. They have the unique composition series

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{p^k \mathbb{Z}} \supset \frac{p\mathbb{Z}}{p^k \mathbb{Z}} \supset \dots \supset \frac{p^{k-1}\mathbb{Z}}{p^k \mathbb{Z}} \supset 0.$$

- (3) If R is a valuation ring, then its field of fraction is a uniserial R -module.