

## Discrete valuation rings

Def A discrete valuation ring (DVR) is a principal ideal domain  $R$  that has only one non-zero prime ideal  $m$ .

Note:  $R$  DVR  $\Rightarrow \text{Spec } R = \{0\}, m\}$ ,  $m$  is maximal. If  $x \in R \setminus m$  then  $x$  is invertible (otherwise  $x$  would be contained in the maximal ideal  $m$ )

$$\text{So } R^\times = R \setminus m.$$

Since  $R$  is PID,  $m = (u)$  for some  $u \in R$ ,  $u$  is called uniformizer

If  $u'$  is another uniformizer, then  $u' = u \cdot a$ ,  $a \in R^\times$ .

The field  $R/m$  is called residue field of the DVR  $R$ .

Lemma 13.5 If  $R$  is a DVR, then  $\bigcap_{n \geq 0} m^n = \{0\}$ .

Proof Let  $\mathcal{I} = \bigcap_{n \geq 0} m^n = (x)$  since  $R$  is PID. But  $m \cdot \mathcal{I} = \bigcap_{n \geq 1} m^n = \mathcal{I}$  because  $R \supset m \supset m^2 \supset \dots$

hence  $x \in m \cdot \mathcal{I} = (u \cdot x)$  where  $u$  is a uniformizer  $\Rightarrow x = u \cdot x \cdot a$  for some  $a \in R \Rightarrow x(1 - ua) = 0$

$\Rightarrow x = 0$  because  $ua \neq 1$  ( $u$  is not invertible)  $\square$

From this lemma  $\Rightarrow \forall x \in R \exists n \geq 0$  s.t.  $x \in m^n \setminus m^{n+1}$ , then

$$x = u^n \cdot a \text{ where } a \notin m, \text{ i.e. } a \in R^\times$$

Cor. In a DVR  $R$  any  $0 \neq x \in R$  can be written as  $x = u^n a$  for some  $n \geq 0$ ,  $a \in R^\times$ , where  $u$  is a uniformizer. The exponent  $n$  does not depend on the choice of a uniformizer.

Denote  $n = v(x)$

Let  $F$  be the fraction field of  $R$ . Then the elements of  $F$  are of the form

$$\frac{x}{y} = \frac{u^{v(x)} \cdot a}{u^{v(y)} \cdot b} = u^{v(x)-v(y)} a b^{-1}$$

So  $F^x = \{u^n a \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}, a \in R^\times\}$

$v$  extend to a group homomorphism

$$v: F^x \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t.}$$

1)  $v$  is surjective (because  $v(a)=1$ )

2)  $\forall x, y \in F^x$  s.t.  $x+y \neq 0$  we have

$$v(x+y) \geq \min\{v(x), v(y)\}$$

Proof of 2):  $x = u^{v(x)} \cdot a, y = u^{v(y)} \cdot b$

let for example  $v(x) \leq v(y)$ , then

$$x+y = u^{v(x)} \left( a + u^{v(y)-v(x)} b \right)$$

Then  $c = a + u^{v(y)-v(x)} b \in R, c \neq 0$ , so

we have  $c = u^{v(c)} \cdot d, d \in R^\times, v(c) \geq 0$

Then  $x+y = u^{v(x)+v(c)} d$

$$v(x+y) = v(x) + v(c) \geq v(x)$$

□

Def The function  $v$  is called  
the valuation of the DVR  $R$ .

Rem 1) it is convenient to extend  $v$  to  $F$  by defining formally  $v(0)=\infty$ .  
Then the condition 2) above is simply

$$\forall x, y \in F \quad v(x+y) \geq \min\{v(x), v(y)\}$$

2) If  $F$  is a field with a function  $v$  satisfying the properties  
1) and 2) above, then

$R = \{x \in F \mid v(x) \geq 0\}$  is a DVR  
(exercise)

Example  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} = R$  is a DVR  
 $m = (p)$

Any  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$  can be written as

$$x = p^n \frac{a}{b} \text{ with } a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ not divisible by } p.$$

$$\text{then } v(x) = n$$

This is called  $p$ -adic valuation.

Prop 13.6 1) If  $R$  is a DVR then  $R$  is a Dedekind domain.

2) If  $R$  is a Dedekind domain with exactly one maximal ideal, then  $R$  is a DVR.

Proof 1)  $R$  is a DVR  $\Rightarrow R$  is Noetherian (because it is a PFD), the only non-zero prime ideal in  $R$  is maximal. It remains to check that  $R$  is int. closed in its field of fractions.

Assume  $x = \frac{a}{u^n}$ ,  $a \in R^\times$ ,  $n > 0$

is integral /  $R$ . Then

$$x^k + b_1 x^{k-1} + \dots + b_k = 0, \quad b_i \in R$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^k}{u^{nk}} + \frac{b_1 a^{k-1}}{u^{n(k-1)}} + \dots + b_k = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^k = - (b_k u^{nk} + \dots + b_1 a^{k-1} u^n) \in \mathfrak{m}$$

but  $a^k \in R^\times$  — contradiction.

Hence  $x$  is not int /  $R$

$\Rightarrow$  all elements integral /  $R$  are of the form  $u^n a$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , so they are contained in  $R$ .

2) Assume  $R$  is Dedekind domain with unique non-zero prime ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

It remains to check that  $R$  is PFD

We have unique factorization of ideals in Dedekind domains; this implies

$$m \neq m^2, \text{ hence } \exists x \in m \setminus m^2$$

Then  $(x) = m^k$  for some  $k \geq 1$   
(again by unique factorization)

But  $x \notin m^2 \Rightarrow k=1$   
 $\Rightarrow m = (x)$

Any ideal  $I_0 \neq I \subset R$

$$I = m^k = (x^k) \Rightarrow \text{all ideals}$$

are principal.  $\square$

Cor.  $O_K$  = ring of integers in a numb.  
field  $K$ , and  $p \subset O_K$  prime ideal  
then  $O_{K,p} = \text{localization of } O_K \text{ at } p$   
is a DVR

Proof:  $O_{K,p}$  is a Dedekind dom. (exercise)

Cor. from Prop 13.4  $\Rightarrow O_{K,p}$  has  
unique max. ideal  $p \cdot O_{K,p}$   $\square$

Rem By Lemma 13.2, the residue field  
of  $O_{K,p}$   $O_{K,p}/p \cdot O_{K,p} \cong O_K/p$

Assume that  $K \subset L$  are two number fields. We have  $\mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathcal{O}_L$ . Let  $p \in \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}_K)$   $S = \mathcal{O}_K \setminus p$ .  $S$  is mult closed subset of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , but also of  $\mathcal{O}_L$ . We can localize u.r.t.  $S$  both  $\mathcal{O}_K$  and  $\mathcal{O}_L$ , and we get

$$\mathcal{O}_{K,p} = S^{-1}\mathcal{O}_K \hookrightarrow S^{-1}\mathcal{O}_L$$

denote:  $\overset{\text{''}}{A}$   $\overset{\text{''}}{B}$

Observe: 1) if  $p \cdot \mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i}$ , then  $p_i$  are exactly those primes of  $\mathcal{O}_L$ , for which  $p_i \cap \mathcal{O}_K = p$   
 $\Leftrightarrow p_i \cap S = \emptyset$

This means that the non-zero prime ideals of  $B$  are exactly  $S^{-1}p_i$  (this follows from Prop. 13.4.)  
 2)  $B$  is integral over  $A$ : since  $\mathcal{O}_L$  is integral over  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , if  $x \in \mathcal{O}_L$  then  $\exists a_i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ :  
 $x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0$

But then  $\forall t \in S$

$$\left(\frac{x}{t}\right)^n + \frac{a_1}{t} \left(\frac{x}{t}\right)^{n-1} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{t^n} = 0$$

$$a_i/t^i \in S^{-1}\mathcal{O}_K = A$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{t} \in B \text{ is int/ } A.$$

3)  $B$  is a finitely generated  $A$ -module:

since  $\mathcal{O}_L$  is a fin. generated abelian group,

we can find  $e_1, \dots, e_n \in \mathcal{O}_L$ ,  
s.t.  $\forall x \in \mathcal{O}_L \quad x = \sum d_i e_i \quad d_i \in \mathbb{Z}$

Then  $S^{-1}\mathcal{O}_L = B$  is generated /  $A$  by  
the images of  $e_i$ :

$$\frac{x}{t} \in B \Rightarrow \frac{x}{t} = \frac{\sum d_i e_i}{t} = \sum \frac{d_i}{t} \cdot e_i$$

$$\text{and } \frac{d_i}{t} \in \mathcal{O}_{K, p} = A.$$

Since  $B$  is an  $A$ -submodule of a field  $L$ ,  $B$  is torsion-free.

Since  $A$  is a PID, a torsion-free module is free  $\Rightarrow B \cong A^m$  for some  $m \geq 1$

Thm 13.2 (Fundamental identity).

Let  $K \subset L$  be number fields,

$p \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  a prime ideal,  $\mathcal{O}_K/p = \mathbb{F}_q$ ,

$$p \cdot \mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i}$$

with  $\mathcal{O}_L/p_i = \mathbb{F}_{q^{f_i}}$  for some  $f_i \geq 1$

Then:  $[L : K] = \sum_{i=1}^k e_i f_i$

Proof We use the same notation as before.

We have  $B \cong A^m$  as  $A$ -module.

Localize  $A$  and  $B$  w.r.t.  $S = A \setminus \{0\}$

$\Rightarrow S^{-1}B = L \cong (S^{-1}A)^m$  as  $S^{-1}A$ -module

$$S^{-1}A = K \Rightarrow m = [L : K]$$

$A$  has unique max ideal  $m = p \cdot \mathcal{O}_K$

$$A/m = \mathcal{O}_K/p = \mathbb{F}_q$$

Then  $B/mB \cong (A/mA)^m = \mathbb{F}_q^{[L : K]}$

On the other hand, by CRT:

$$B/mB \cong \prod_{i=1}^k B/\alpha_i^{e_i}, \text{ where}$$

$\alpha_i = p_i \cdot B$ . It remains to compute the dimensions of  $B/\alpha_i^{e_i}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$

$B/\alpha_i^{e_i}$  has a filtration

$$0 \subset \alpha_i^{e_i-1} / \alpha_i^{e_i} \subset \alpha_i^{e_i-2} / \alpha_i^{e_i} \subset \dots \subset B / \alpha_i^{e_i}$$

the quotients are

$$\alpha_i^j / \alpha_i^{j+1} \simeq B / \alpha_i^{e_i} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(see Corollary 9.5)} \\ \text{in Lecture 9} \end{matrix}$$

and  $B / \alpha_i^{e_i} \simeq O_L / \beta_i = F_{\mathbb{Q}^{f_i}}$

$$\Rightarrow \dim_{F_{\mathbb{Q}}} (B / \alpha_i^{e_i}) = e_i f_i$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{\mathbb{Q}}^{[L:K]} \simeq \prod_{i=1}^k F_{\mathbb{Q}}^{e_i f_i}$$

$$\Rightarrow [L:K] = \sum_{i=1}^k e_i f_i$$

□