

# Unramified Reductors of Filtered and Graded Algebras \*

Cornel Baetica

Freddy Van Oystaeyen

## Abstract

Most of the algebras appearing in the theory of rings of differential operators, quantized algebras of different kinds (including many quantum groups), regular algebras in projective non-commutative geometry, etc... come equipped with a natural gradation or filtration controlled by some finite dimensional vector space(s), e.g. the degree one part of filtration or gradation. In this note we relate the valuations of the algebras considered to unramified sub-lattices in some vector space(s).

## Introduction

Several classes of algebras recently studied extensively, including rings of differential operators, quantized algebras of different types including many quantum groups, regular algebras in noncommutative geometry, etc..., have a natural gradation or filtration often related to a presentation by generators and relations. On the ground field we consider  $\Gamma$ -valuations for a totally ordered abelian group  $\Gamma$  and we are interested in algebraic structure results relating the original algebra and its reduction to the residue field. When the filtration or gradation is described by suitable finite dimensional vector-spaces, then we look for “good filtration” type properties (see also [5]) obtained from properties of sub-lattices of the vector-spaces defining the filtration (gradation). Trying to induce these good filtrations from some filtered ring

---

\*Research supported by the bilateral project “New Techniques in Hopf Algebras and Graded Rings” of the Flemish and Romanian governments. The first author gratefully acknowledges the support of the University of Antwerp.

Received by the editors October 2006.

Communicated by M. Van den Bergh.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification* : Primary 16W60; Secondary 16W35.

*Key words and phrases* : Valuation filtration, unramified reduction.

which is a nice order in the original algebra leads to the introduction of (unramified) reducers. One of the key problems is to obtain a reducer such that the “canonical” filtration defined on it is a  $\Gamma$ -separated filtration, and guided by this we introduce the notion of the unramified filtered (graded) reducer. The situation at hand is that case may be thought of as a useful generalization of the notion of (unramified) extension of the valuation (to some ring of fractions of the original algebra). Our results apply to a large class of examples but we focus mainly on affine algebras and positively graded algebras. Results in this paper open the door to a  $\Gamma$ -prime divisor theory, paralleling the commutative theory, which we hope to comeback to in future work.

Throughout this paper we consider  $K$  as being a field,  $\Gamma$  a totally ordered group and  $v : K \longrightarrow \Gamma \cup \{\infty\}$  a valuation on  $K$ . We always assume that  $v$  is surjective, hence  $\Gamma$  is a commutative group. Set  $O_v$  the valuation ring of  $K$  associated to  $v$ ,  $m_v$  its unique maximal ideal and  $k_v = O_v/m_v$  the residue field. For a given ring  $R$  a family  $FR$  of additive subgroups  $F_\gamma R$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  satisfying

- (i)  $\gamma \leq \delta$  implies  $F_\gamma R \subseteq F_\delta R$ ,
- (ii)  $F_\gamma R F_\delta R \subseteq F_{\gamma+\delta} R$ , for all  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ ,
- (iii)  $1 \in F_0 R$ ,

is called a  $\Gamma$ -filtration on  $R$ . For a  $\Gamma$ -filtration  $FR$  we may define the associated graded ring  $G_F(R) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} F_\gamma R / F_{<\gamma} R$ , where  $F_{<\gamma} R = \sum_{\gamma' < \gamma} F_{\gamma'} R$ . We say that  $FR$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated if for every  $a \in R$ ,  $a \neq 0$  there is a  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  such that  $a \in F_\gamma R - F_{<\gamma} R$ . Note that for  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$  the  $\Gamma$ -separatedness is equivalent to the separatedness, that is  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} F_n R = 0$ , but for an arbitrary  $\Gamma$  the latter condition may be strictly weaker. If  $FR$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated, then we may define the *principal symbol map*  $\sigma : R \longrightarrow G_F(R)$  by  $\sigma(a) = a \bmod F_{<\gamma} R$  whenever  $a \in F_\gamma R - F_{<\gamma} R$ . The *degree*  $\deg \sigma(a) = \gamma$  of  $\sigma(a)$  is uniquely determined. To  $FR$  one associates a value-function  $v_F : R \longrightarrow \Gamma \cup \{\infty\}$  defined by  $v_F(0) = \infty$  and  $v_F(a) = -\deg(a)$  for  $a \neq 0$ . It is well known that  $v_F$  is a valuation function on  $R$  whenever  $G_F(R)$  is a domain; see [7, Corollary 4.2.7]. On the other side, for a valuation  $v$  on  $K$  as before we consider a  $\Gamma$ -filtration  $f^v K$  on  $K$  given by  $f_\gamma^v K = \{x \in K : v(x) \geq -\gamma\}$ . Obviously  $f_0^v K = O_v$  and  $f_{<0}^v K = m_v$ . All the filtrations considered in this paper are supposed to be *exhaustive*, that is  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} F_\gamma R = R$ . For other unexplained notation the reader is referred to [7].

## 1 Unramified reductions

**Definition 1.1.** *If  $\Delta$  is a skewfield and  $\Lambda \subset \Delta$  is a subring, then  $\Lambda$  is a valuation ring of  $\Delta$  if it is invariant under inner automorphisms of  $\Delta$  and for  $x \in \Delta$ ,  $x \neq 0$ , either  $x \in \Lambda$  or  $x^{-1} \in \Lambda$ .*

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional  $K$ -vector space and  $M$  an  $O_v$ -submodule of  $V$ . Recall that  $M$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V$  if it contains a  $K$ -basis of  $V$  and is a submodule of a finitely generated  $O_v$ -submodule of  $V$ . Usually, we will denote the  $k_v$ -vector space  $M/m_v M$  by  $\overline{V}$  and the residue field  $k_v$  by  $\overline{K}$ . For any  $O_v$ -lattice  $M$  in  $V$  we have  $\dim_{\overline{K}} \overline{V} \leq \dim_K V$ . When equality holds we say that  $M$  defines an *unramified reduction* of  $V$ .

**Proposition 1.2.** *Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional  $K$ -vector space and  $M$  an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V$ .*

- (i) *If  $M$  is a finitely generated  $O_v$ -module, then  $M$  is a free  $O_v$ -module of rank less or equal than  $\dim V$ . (This happens, for instance, when  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$ .)*
- (ii) *If  $M$  defines an unramified reduction of  $V$ , then  $M$  is a free  $O_v$ -module of rank equal to  $\dim V$ .*

*Proof.* (i) It is a well-known fact that finitely generated torsion-free modules over valuation rings are free. Since the  $O_v$ -module  $M$  is contained in a  $K$ -vector space, it is torsion-free.

(ii) Choose a  $\overline{K}$ -basis  $\{\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_n\}$  in  $\overline{V}$ ,  $n = \dim_K V$ . The elements  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  are linearly independent over  $K$ , in particular over  $O_v$ . Now we show that  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is a system of generators for  $M$  as an  $O_v$ -module. (Note that we can not apply Nakayama's Lemma because we do not know that  $M$  is a finitely generated  $O_v$ -module.) For an element  $x \in M$  there exist  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in K$  such that  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i$ . There also exists an element  $a_j \neq 0$  such that  $a_i^* = a_j^{-1} a_i \in O_v$  for all  $i$ . If  $a_j \in O_v$ , then all the elements  $a_i$  belong to  $O_v$ , henceforth  $x \in O_v x_1 + \dots + O_v x_n$ . Otherwise,  $a_j^{-1} \in m_v$  and by taking the residues modulo  $m_v M$  we get  $0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{a}_i^* \overline{x}_i$ , a contradiction since we have  $\hat{a}_j^* = 1$ . ■

The valuation filtration  $F^v V$  on  $V$  defined by  $F_\gamma^v V = (f_\gamma^v K)M$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , is an exhaustive filtration, but we do not know if it is  $\Gamma$ -separated or not. As we see below the valuation filtration is  $\Gamma$ -separated whenever  $M$  is a free  $O_v$ -module.

**Lemma 1.3.** *If  $M$  is a free  $O_v$ -module, then the valuation filtration  $F^v V$  on  $V$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  be an  $O_v$ -basis of  $M$ . Then it is easily seen that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  are linearly independent over  $K$ . Take an element  $x \in V$ . From  $KM = V$  it follows that there exists an  $a \in O_v - \{0\}$  such that  $ax \in M$ . Write  $ax = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i x_i$  with  $a_i \in O_v$  for all  $i$ . If we consider  $a_i^* = a^{-1} a_i \in K$ , then we can write  $x = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i^* x_i$ . For those  $a_i^* \neq 0$  we denote  $v(a_i^*)$  by  $-\gamma_i$ , where  $\gamma_i \in \Gamma$  for all  $i$ . Assume that  $\gamma_1 \leq \dots \leq \gamma_r = \gamma$  and show that  $x \in F_\gamma^v V - F_{<\gamma}^v V$ . Obviously  $x \in F_\gamma^v V$ , and if we suppose that  $x \in F_{<\gamma}^v V$ , then there exists an  $\delta < \gamma$  such that  $x \in (f_\delta^v K)M$ . Now we can write  $x = \sum_{i=1}^r b_i x_i$  with  $b_i \in f_\delta^v K$  for all  $i$ . This entails that  $b_i = a_i^*$  for all  $i$ , in particular  $b_r = a_r^*$ , and thus we get  $v(b_r) = -\gamma$ . As  $b_r \in f_\delta^v K$  we have  $-\gamma \geq -\delta$ , that is  $\delta \geq \gamma$ , a contradiction. ■

Now let us consider  $A$  a  $K$ -algebra and  $FA$  an exhaustive separated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -filtration on  $A$  such that  $K \subseteq F_0 A$ . Suppose in addition that  $FA$  is finite, i.e.  $\dim_K F_n A < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $FA$  is finite and separated, it must be left limited, i.e. there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $F_n A = 0$  for all  $n \leq n_0$ . Without loss of generality we may suppose that the filtration  $FA$  is positive, that is  $F_n A = 0$  for all  $n < 0$ . Consider  $\Lambda \subset A$  a subring. The induced filtration  $F\Lambda$  of  $FA$  on  $\Lambda$  is given by  $F_n \Lambda = \Lambda \cap F_n A$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is an  $F$ -reductor of  $A$  if  $\Lambda \cap K = O_v$  and  $F_n \Lambda$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $F_n A$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We call the ring  $\overline{A} = \Lambda/m_v \Lambda$  the (filtered) reduction of  $A$  with respect to  $\Lambda$ . The valuation filtration  $F^v A$  on  $A$  is defined by  $F_\gamma^v A = (f_\gamma^v K)\Lambda$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $A$  be a filtered  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$  and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an  $F$ -reductor. We say that  $\Lambda$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor if  $F_n\Lambda$  is an unramified reduction of  $F_nA$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The existence of (unramified)  $F$ -reductors in the general case seems to be unlikely, but in case the algebra is given by a finite number of generators and finitely many relations that reduce well, it is easy to find one. Note that finite dimensional algebras over fields have always unramified reductors; see [6, Proposition 1.2]. When such a reductor there exists the valuation filtration on  $A$  turns out to be  $\Gamma$ -separated.

**Proposition 1.5.** Let  $A$  be a filtered  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$  and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor. Then the valuation filtration  $F^vA$  on  $A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.

*Proof.*  $F_n\Lambda$  is a free  $O_v$ -module for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From Lemma 1.3 we get that the valuation filtration  $F^v(F_nA)$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and by using [1, Proposition 3.5(ii)] we have that  $F^vA$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated. ■

Note that for  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$  an  $F$ -reductor necessarily defines a separated filtration. In this case  $F_n\Lambda$  is a finitely generated  $O_v$ -module, hence it is free; see Proposition 1.2(i).

In the following we prove some properties of the unramified  $F$ -reductors. First we show that the unramified  $F$ -reductors are free  $O_v$ -modules.

**Lemma 1.6.** Let  $\Lambda$  be an  $F$ -reductor of  $A$ . Then we have  $m_vF_j\Lambda \cap F_i\Lambda = m_vF_i\Lambda$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* The non-trivial case is  $i < j$ . In the proof of Proposition 3.5 from [1] we showed that

$$(f_\gamma^v K)\Lambda \cap F_nA = (f_\gamma^v K)(\Lambda \cap F_nA) \quad (1)$$

for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From (1) we can easily deduce that  $m_v(\Lambda \cap F_nA) = m_v\Lambda \cap F_nA$ . So  $m_vF_j\Lambda \cap F_i\Lambda = m_v(\Lambda \cap F_jA) \cap F_i\Lambda = (m_v\Lambda \cap F_jA) \cap F_i\Lambda = m_v\Lambda \cap F_iA \cap \Lambda = m_v\Lambda \cap F_iA = m_v(\Lambda \cap F_iA) = m_vF_i\Lambda$ . ■

**Proposition 1.7.** Let  $A$  be a filtered  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$  and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor. Then  $\Lambda$  is a free  $O_v$ -module.

*Proof.* Let  $\{\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_{p_0}\} \subset \overline{F_0A} = F_0\Lambda/m_vF_0\Lambda$  be a  $\overline{K}$ -basis. Then  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{p_0}\}$  is an  $O_v$ -basis for  $F_0\Lambda$  and a  $K$ -basis for  $F_0A$ . Since  $m_vF_1\Lambda \cap F_0\Lambda = m_vF_0\Lambda$  we get that  $\overline{F_0A}$  is a  $\overline{K}$ -vector subspace of  $\overline{F_1A}$ . Now we extend the  $\overline{K}$ -basis  $\{\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_{p_0}\}$  of  $\overline{F_0A}$  to a  $\overline{K}$ -basis  $\{\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_{p_0}, \dots, \bar{x}_{p_1}\}$  of  $\overline{F_1A}$ . Again we have that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{p_0}, \dots, x_{p_1}\}$  is an  $O_v$ -basis for  $F_1\Lambda$  and a  $K$ -basis for  $F_1A$ . We can continue this way and we obtain a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$  of elements in  $\Lambda$  that forms an  $O_v$ -basis of  $\Lambda$ . ■

The next result shows that the unramifiedness is preserved by taking the intersection with a filtered subring.

**Proposition 1.8.** *Let  $A$  be a filtered  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$ ,  $A'$  a  $K$ -subalgebra of  $A$  and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor. Then  $\Lambda' = \Lambda \cap A'$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor of  $A'$ .*

*Proof.* We consider on  $A'$  the induced filtration  $FA' = FA \cap A'$ , and similarly for  $\Lambda'$  we have  $F\Lambda' = \Lambda' \cap FA' = \Lambda \cap A' \cap FA = F\Lambda \cap A'$ . We have to prove that  $F_n\Lambda'$  is an unramified reduction of  $F_nA'$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is enough to show that  $\dim_{\overline{K}} \overline{F_n\Lambda'} = \dim_K F_nA'$ . In order to do that, let us first note that  $m_v(\Lambda \cap F_nA \cap A') = m_v\Lambda \cap F_nA \cap A'$ , or equivalently  $m_vF_n\Lambda \cap F_n\Lambda' = m_vF_n\Lambda'$ . It follows that  $\overline{F_n\Lambda'}$  is a  $\overline{K}$ -vector subspace of  $\overline{F_nA}$ . Now we choose a  $\overline{K}$ -basis  $\{\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_r\}$  in  $\overline{F_n\Lambda'}$  and check that the representatives  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  are also a  $K$ -basis of  $F_nA'$ . Let us first extend  $\{\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_r\}$  to  $\{\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_s\}$ ,  $s \geq r$ , a  $\overline{K}$ -basis in  $\overline{F_nA}$ . Since  $F_n\Lambda$  is an unramified reduction of  $F_nA$ , we have that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_s\}$  is a  $K$ -basis of  $F_nA$ . Assume that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  is not a  $K$ -basis of  $F_nA'$ , and extend it to  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r, y_1, \dots, y_t\}$  a  $K$ -basis of  $F_nA'$ . Now we can write  $y_u = \sum_{j=1}^r a_{uj}x_j + \sum_{k=r+1}^s b_{uk}x_k$ , where  $1 \leq u \leq t$ ,  $a_{uj} \in K$ , and  $b_{uk} \in K$  not all zero. Set  $z_u = \sum_{k=r+1}^s b_{uk}x_k$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq t$ . Obviously,  $z_u \in F_nA'$  for all  $u = 1, \dots, t$ , and moreover  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r, z_1, \dots, z_t\}$  is a  $K$ -basis of  $F_nA'$ . Let  $b \in K$ ,  $b \neq 0$ , such that  $b_{uk}^* = bb_{uk} \in O_v$  for all  $u = 1, \dots, t$ ,  $k = r+1, \dots, s$ ,  $b_{uk_0}^* = 1$  for a  $k_0 \in \{r+1, \dots, s\}$ , and set  $z_u^* = bz_u$ . The elements  $z_u^*$  belong to  $F_nA' \cap F_n\Lambda = F_n\Lambda'$ , and  $\overline{z_u^*} = \sum_{k=r+1}^s \widehat{b_{uk}^*} \overline{x_k}$ . On the other hand,  $\overline{z_u^*} \in \overline{F_n\Lambda'}$  implies that  $\overline{z_u^*} = \sum_{i=1}^r \widehat{c_i} \overline{x_i}$  for some  $\widehat{c_i} \in \overline{K}$ , a contradiction. ■

The unramifiedness also behaves well with respect to the tensor products.

**Proposition 1.9.** *Let  $A, A'$  be filtered  $K$ -algebras with finite filtrations  $FA$ , respectively  $FA'$ , and  $\Lambda \subset A$ , respectively  $\Lambda' \subset A'$  unramified  $F$ -reductors. Then  $\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda'$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor of  $A \otimes_K A'$  with respect to the tensor filtration.*

*Proof.* Note that  $A = K \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda$ , and  $A' = K \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda'$ . This entails that  $A \otimes_K A' = (K \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda) \otimes_K (K \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda') = K \otimes_{O_v} (\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda')$ , and thus we can deduce that  $\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda'$  is a subring of  $A \otimes_K A'$ . Now we define on the tensor product  $A \otimes_K A'$  a finite filtration (called *tensor filtration*) given by  $F_n(A \otimes_K A') = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} F_iA \otimes_K F_jA'$ , and similarly  $F_n(\Lambda \otimes_K \Lambda') = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} F_i\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} F_j\Lambda'$ . Since  $K \otimes_{O_v} F_n\Lambda = F_nA$  and  $K \otimes_{O_v} F_n\Lambda' = F_nA'$  for all  $n$ , we get that  $F_i\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} F_j\Lambda'$  is an  $O_v$ -submodule of  $F_iA \otimes_K F_jA'$  for all  $i, j$ , and moreover the filtration defined on  $\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda'$  is induced by the filtration defined on  $A \otimes_K A'$ . The unramifiedness of  $\Lambda \otimes_{O_v} \Lambda'$  is easily seen. ■

We get now the following well-known result (see [6, Proposition 2.1])

**Corollary 1.10.** *If  $A$  is a finitely dimensional  $K$ -algebra,  $A'$  a  $K$ -central simple subalgebra of  $A$ , and  $\Lambda'$  an unramified reduction of  $A'$ , then there exists  $\Lambda$  an unramified reduction of  $A$  such that  $\Lambda' = \Lambda \cap A'$ .*

*Proof.* It is a classical result that  $A = A' \otimes_K A''$ , where  $A''$  is the centralizer of  $A'$  in  $A$ , and now we apply Proposition 1.9. ■

The property of an unramified  $F$ -reductor of being a valuation ring is completely described by its reduction over  $O_v$ .

**Proposition 1.11.** *Let  $\Delta$  be a skewfield that contains  $K$  in its center,  $F\Delta$  a finite filtration on  $\Delta$ , and  $\Lambda \subset \Delta$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor. Then  $\Lambda$  is a valuation ring (for  $\Delta$ ) if and only if  $\overline{\Lambda}$  is a skewfield.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\Lambda$  is a valuation ring for  $\Delta$  with maximal ideal  $m$ . Obviously  $m_v\Lambda \subset m$ , and we aim to show that the foregoing inclusion is an equality. Pick an element  $x \in m$ . Then  $x^{-1} \in \Delta - \Lambda$ , and thus we get an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x \in F_n\Lambda$  and  $x^{-1} \in F_nA - F_n\Lambda$ . Write  $x = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i x_i$ ,  $a_i \in O_v$ , and  $x^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^r b_i x_i$ ,  $b_i \in K$  (not all in  $O_v$ !), where  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  is an  $O_v$ -basis for  $F_n\Lambda$ , and a  $K$ -basis for  $F_nA$ . By standard arguments we get an  $j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$  such that  $b_i^* = b_j^{-1}b_i \in O_v$  for all  $i$  and  $b_j^{-1} \in m_v$ . Then  $b_j^{-1} = (\sum_{i=1}^r a_i x_i)(\sum_{i=1}^r b_i^* x_i)$ . By taking the residues modulo  $m_v F_n\Lambda$  we get that  $0 = (\sum_{i=1}^r \hat{a}_i \bar{x}_i)(\sum_{i=1}^r \hat{b}_i^* \bar{x}_i)$ . As  $b_j^* = 1$ , we must have that  $\sum_{i=1}^r \hat{a}_i \bar{x}_i = 0$ , and this implies that  $a_i \in m_v$  for all  $i$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\overline{\Lambda}$  is a skewfield. Since the valuation filtration  $F^v\Delta$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated,  $F_0^v\Delta = \Lambda$ , and  $G_v(\Delta)_0 = \overline{\Lambda}$  is a domain, we can apply Corollary 1.4 from [1] and get that  $\Lambda$  is a valuation ring of  $\Delta$ . ■

Let  $A$  be an affine  $K$ -algebra generated by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ ,  $K < \underline{X} >$  the free  $K$ -algebra on the set  $\underline{X} = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  and  $\pi : K < \underline{X} > \rightarrow A$  the canonical  $K$ -algebras morphism given by  $\pi(X_i) = a_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Restriction of  $\pi$  to  $O_v < \underline{X} >$  defines a subring  $\Lambda$  of  $A$ , i.e.  $\Lambda = \pi(O_v < \underline{X} >)$ . As before, the subring  $\Lambda$  yields a valuation filtration  $F^vA$  on  $A$  given by  $F_\gamma^vA = (f_\gamma^vK)\Lambda$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . It is easy to see that for a graded  $K$ -algebra  $A$  that has a finite PBW-basis, the subring  $\Lambda$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor with respect to the grading filtration  $FA$ .

Note now that via Proposition 1.5 we get a new proof of the following result (Theorem 3.4.7 from [7])

**Theorem 1.12.** *For a graded  $K$ -algebra  $A$  that has a finite PBW-basis, the valuation filtration  $F^vA$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated and strong.*

By  $G_v(A)$  we denote the associated graded ring determined by the valuation filtration  $F^vA$ . The next two results can be proved similarly to their correspondents (Theorem 2.2 and Proposition 2.4) from [1], but we record them here in order to emphasize that now we do not need extra-conditions on the filtered parts of  $A$ .

**Proposition 1.13.** *Let  $A$  be a  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor of  $A$ . If  $\overline{A} = \Lambda/m_v\Lambda$  is a domain and  $A$  is an Ore domain, then every valuation  $v$  on  $K$  extend to  $Q = Q_{cl}(A)$ , the classical ring of fractions of  $A$ .*

**Proposition 1.14.** *If  $A$  is a  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration and  $\Lambda \subset A$  an unramified  $F$ -reductor of  $A$ , then the associated graded ring  $G_v(A)$  is isomorphic to the twisted group ring  $\overline{A} * \Gamma$ , where  $\overline{A} = \Lambda/m_v\Lambda$ .*

It is a common strategy to deduce properties of  $A$  from properties of  $G_F(A)$  whenever possible. Let us focus on the graded situation now.

Let  $R$  be an  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded  $K$ -algebra with  $K \subseteq R_0$ . Suppose that the gradation is finite, i.e.  $\dim_K R_n < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $\Lambda \subset R$  be a graded subring. Then  $\Lambda$  is called a *graded reductor* if  $\Lambda \cap K = O_v$  and  $\Lambda \cap R_n$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $R_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The ring  $\overline{R} = \Lambda/m_v\Lambda$  is called the (graded) *reduction* of  $R$  with respect to  $\Lambda$ . The valuation filtration  $F^vR$  on  $R$  is similarly defined by  $F_\gamma^vR = (f_\gamma^vK)\Lambda$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 1.15.** Let  $R$  be an  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded  $K$ -algebra with  $K \subseteq R_0$ , and  $\dim_K R_n < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $\Lambda \subset R$  is a graded reductor, then we say that  $\Lambda$  is an unramified graded reductor if  $\Lambda \cap R_n$  is an unramified reduction of  $R_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

It is rather easy to see that we have similar properties for unramified graded reductors to the ones already proved for unramified  $F$ -reductors. We mention here only one of them, but the interested reader is invited to do it on his own.

**Proposition 1.16.** Let  $R$  be an  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded  $K$ -algebra with a finite gradation and  $\Lambda \subset R$  an unramified graded reductor. Then the valuation filtration  $F^v R$  on  $R$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.

*Proof.*  $\Lambda \cap R_n$  is a free  $O_v$ -module for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Lemma 1.3 entails that the valuation filtration  $F^v R_n$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and by using [1, Proposition 3.7(ii)] we have that  $F^v R$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated. ■

We also remark that for  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$  a graded reductor necessarily defines a separated filtration. We mention another interesting case when a graded reductor defines a  $\Gamma$ -separated filtration, the case of connected positively graded algebras. Recall that a  $K$ -algebra  $R$  is called a *connected* positively graded algebra if  $R = K \oplus R_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus R_n \oplus \cdots = K[R_1]$  and  $\dim_K R_1 < \infty$ . Let us assume that  $\dim R_1 = n$ ,  $\underline{X} = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  are indeterminate over  $K$ , and take  $\pi : K \langle \underline{X} \rangle \longrightarrow R$  a presentation of  $R$ . If we set  $\Lambda = \pi(O_v \langle \underline{X} \rangle)$ , then  $\dim_{\overline{K}} \overline{R}_1 = n$  since no elements of degree one in the gradation of  $K \langle \underline{X} \rangle$  are in  $\mathcal{R}$ , the ideal of relations of  $R$ . Nevertheless,  $\dim_K R_n$  and  $\dim_{\overline{K}} \overline{R}_n$  may be different for  $n > 1$ . However, we can prove the following.

**Proposition 1.17.** Let  $R$  be connected positively graded  $K$ -algebra and  $\Lambda \subset R$  defined as before. Then  $F^v R$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.

*Proof.* Note first that  $\Lambda$  is a graded ring, where the gradation is the one inherited from  $O_v \langle \underline{X} \rangle$  via  $\pi$ . All we have to do is to show that  $\Lambda$  is a graded subring of  $R$ , i.e.  $\Lambda_n = \Lambda \cap R_n$  for all  $n$ . For  $n = 0$  it means that  $O_v = \Lambda \cap K$  which is obviously true. For  $n > 0$ , pick an element  $x \in \Lambda \cap R_n$ . Since  $x \in R_n$  there exists an element  $a \in O_v$  such that  $ax \in \Lambda_n$ , and since  $x \in \Lambda$  there exists  $y \in O_v \langle \underline{X} \rangle$  such that  $x = \pi(y)$ . Writing  $y$  as a sum of homogeneous components,  $y = \sum_{i \geq 0} y_i$ , and multiplying the relation by  $a \in O_v$  we get that  $a\pi(y_i) = 0$  for all  $i \neq n$ , therefore  $\pi(y_i) = 0$  for all  $i \neq n$ , that is  $x = \pi(y_n) \in \Lambda_n$ . Thus we get that  $\Lambda$  is a graded reductor and  $\Lambda_n$  is  $O_v$ -free for all  $n$  (note that  $\Lambda_n$  is a finitely generated  $O_v$ -module), and consequently  $F^v R$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated. ■

Note that graded reductor  $\Lambda$  defined above is not necessarily unramified, although all its graded components are free  $O_v$ -modules.

For the sake of completeness we recall here the following result (Lemma 3.3 from [1])

**Lemma 1.18.** *Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional  $K$ -vector space,  $V' \subset V$  a  $K$ -vector subspace and  $M \subset V$  an  $O_v$ -submodule.*

- (i) *If  $M$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V$ , then the quotient module  $M/M \cap V'$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V/V'$ .*
- (ii) *If  $M/M \cap V'$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V/V'$  and  $M \cap V'$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V'$ , then  $M$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $V$ .*

**Proposition 1.19.** *Let  $A$  be a  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$ , and  $\Lambda \subset A$  a subring.*

- (i) *If  $\Lambda \subset A$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor, then  $G_F(\Lambda) \subset G_F(A)$  and  $\tilde{\Lambda} \subset \tilde{A}$  are unramified graded reducers.*
- (ii) *If  $G_F(\Lambda) \subset G_F(A)$  or  $\tilde{\Lambda} \subset \tilde{A}$  are unramified graded reducers, then  $\Lambda \subset A$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor.*

*Proof.* (i) In order to show that  $G_F(\Lambda) \subset G_F(A)$  is an unramified graded reductor we use Lemma 1.18(i). That  $\tilde{\Lambda} \subset \tilde{A}$  is an unramified graded reductor follows by the definition of Rees algebra.

(ii) By induction using Lemma 1.18(ii). ■

Consequently any unramified  $F$ -reductor give rise to an unramified graded reductor. On the other side, an unramified graded reductor is an unramified  $F$ -reductor, where  $FR$  is the grading filtration.

As applications of the above Proposition 1.19 we mention here two results: the first one is Theorem 2.6 from [5], and the second one is Proposition 3.2 from [3]. It is worthwhile to remark that in both cases our results hold for every  $\Gamma$ -valuation, while their results are given only for discrete valuations.

**Proposition 1.20.** *Let  $A$  be a  $K$ -algebra with a finite filtration  $FA$ , and  $\Lambda \subset A$  a subring such that  $\Lambda \cap K = O_v$  and  $K\Lambda = A$ .*

- (i) *If  $G_F(\Lambda)_n$  is a finitely generated  $O_v$ -module for all  $n$ , then the valuation filtration  $F^v A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.*
- (ii) *If  $F_n \Lambda$  are finitely generated  $O_v$ -modules for all  $n$ , then the filtrations  $F^v A$  and  $f^v G_F(A)$  are  $\Gamma$ -separated.*

*Proof.* (i) Since  $G_F(\Lambda)_n$  are all finitely generated  $O_v$ -modules, we easily get that  $F_n \Lambda$  are all finitely generated  $O_v$ -modules, and thus  $\Lambda$  is an  $F$ -reductor. Once again we apply Proposition 1.1(i) and deduce that  $F_n \Lambda$  are  $O_v$ -free, and this is enough in order to conclude that the valuation filtration  $F^v A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.

(ii) From (i) we know that  $F^v A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated. Moreover,  $G_F(\Lambda) \subset G_F(A)$  is a graded reductor with the graded components free  $O_v$ -modules, therefore the valuation filtration  $f^v G_F(A)$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated. ■

**Proposition 1.21.** *Let  $A = K[a_1, \dots, a_r]$  be an affine  $K$ -algebra, and  $\Lambda$  as before but with the generator filtration, i.e.  $F_{-1} \Lambda = 0$ ,  $F_0 \Lambda = O_v$ , and  $F_n \Lambda$  is the  $O_v$ -module generated by the elements  $a_{i_1} \cdots a_{i_t}$  with  $1 \leq t \leq n$ . If the associated graded ring  $G_F(\Lambda)$  is a flat  $O_v$ -module, then the valuation filtration  $F^v A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated.*



*Proof.* We consider on  $A$  the generator filtration  $FA$ . In principle, we do not know that  $G_F(\Lambda)$  is contained in  $G_F(A)$ , and that is why we are asking for flatness. To enter the details, take  $x \in F_n\Lambda \cap F_{n-1}A$ . We want to show that  $x \in F_{n-1}\Lambda$ . Suppose that this is not true. Then there exists an  $a \in O_v - \{0\}$  such that  $ax \in F_{n-1}\Lambda$  which means that  $ax = 0$  in the associated graded ring  $G_F(\Lambda)$ . As we know that  $G_F(\Lambda)$  is a flat  $O_v$ -module, i.e. torsion-free, we get a contradiction. Therefore  $F_n\Lambda \cap F_{n-1}A = F_{n-1}\Lambda$ , that is  $G_F(\Lambda) \subset G_F(A)$  is a graded reductor with finitely generated (hence free) graded components, and this is enough to see that  $\Lambda \subset A$  is an  $F$ -reductor with all filtered parts  $O_v$ -free. ■

Here there are some (old) examples of algebras that admit unramified reductors.

**Examples 1.22.** (i) Consider a field  $k$  with  $\text{Char } k \neq 2$ , and set  $K = k(X)$  the field of rational functions over  $k$ . Let  $L = K(\xi)$ , where  $\xi$  is a root of the irreducible polynomial  $T^2 + (X - 1)T + X \in K[T]$ . Now consider the valuation ring of  $K$  given by  $O_v = k[X]_{(X)}$ , and  $\Lambda = O_v[\xi]$ . It is easy to see that  $O_v \subset \Lambda$  is an integral extension,  $\overline{K} = k_v \simeq k$ ,  $\overline{\Lambda} = \Lambda/m_v\Lambda \simeq k[u]$ , where  $u$  is an idempotent, and therefore  $\Lambda$  is an unramified reductor of  $L$ .

(ii) Consider  $g$  a finite dimensional Lie algebra over a field  $K$  and  $A = U(g)$  the enveloping algebra of  $g$ . Let  $O_v$  be a valuation ring of  $K$ . We define a finite dimensional Lie algebra  $g_{O_v}$  over  $O_v$  with the same basis and the induced bracket. Let us fix a  $K$ -basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  for  $g$ . We have structure constants  $\lambda_{ij}^k \in K$  with  $[x_i, x_j] = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_{ij}^k x_k$ . Without loss of generality we may assume that  $\lambda_{ij}^k \in O_v$  (up to multiplying all  $x_i$  by a suitable constant in  $O_v$ ) but not all in  $m_v$ . Set  $g_{O_v} = O_v x_1 + \dots + O_v x_n$ . This is a Lie  $O_v$ -algebra with the induced bracket. Furthermore,  $g_{O_v}$  is an  $O_v$ -lattice in  $g$ . On  $\overline{g} = g_{O_v}/m_v g_{O_v}$  we define a Lie algebra structure over  $\overline{K}$  by setting  $[\overline{x}_i, \overline{x}_j] = \sum_{k=1}^n \widehat{\lambda}_{ij}^k \overline{x}_k$ , where the  $\overline{x}_i$  are the images of the  $x_i$  in  $\overline{g}$  and  $\widehat{\lambda}_{ij}^k$  are the images of  $\lambda_{ij}^k$  in  $\overline{K}$ . By our assumptions  $\overline{g}$  is not the trivial Lie algebra. Of course,  $\overline{g}$  depends on the choice of the  $K$ -basis in  $g$ .

Let  $\Lambda = U_{O_v}(g_{O_v})$  be the enveloping algebra of  $g_{O_v}$ . Consider on  $A$  the standard filtration  $FA$  and on  $\Lambda$  the induced filtration  $F\Lambda$ . We have that the filtration  $FA$  is finite,  $G_F(\Lambda) = O_v[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  is a subring of the polynomial ring  $G_F(A) = K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  and obviously it is an unramified graded reductor. From Proposition 1.19(ii) we get that  $\Lambda$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor. Furthermore, the filtration  $F^v A$  is  $\Gamma$ -separated,  $G_v(A)$  is a domain isomorphic to  $U_{k_v}(\overline{g})$  and thus we can extend  $v$  to  $D(g) = Q_{cl}(U(g))$ .

(iii) For the Weyl algebra  $R = A_n(K)$  we take  $\Lambda = A_n(O_v)$ . We claim that  $\Lambda$  is an unramified graded reductor of  $R$ . First note that  $\Lambda$  is a free  $O_v$ -module, therefore it defines a good reduction of  $R$ . On the other side, we have that  $\text{rank}_{O_v} \Lambda_n = \dim_K R_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , since  $\Lambda$  and  $R$  have the same PBW-basis, and so  $\Lambda$  is an unramified graded reductor of  $R$ . It is also an  $F$ -reductor since the associated graded ring of  $A_n(K)$  with respect to the Bernstein filtration is a polynomial ring.

(iv) Let  $K$  and  $O_v$  as before. Set  $R = K \langle X, Y \rangle / (XY - qYX)$  for the quantum plane, where  $q$  is a unit in  $O_v$ . Then the subring  $\Lambda = O_v \langle X, Y \rangle / (XY - qYX)$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor with respect to the generator (grading) filtration, and an unramified graded reductor with respect to the mixed gradation.

(v) Let  $K$ ,  $O_v$  and  $q$  as before, and set  $A = K \langle X, Y \rangle / (XY - qYX - 1)$  for the

*quantum Weyl algebra*. Then  $\Lambda = O_v < X, Y > / (XY - qYX - 1)$  is an unramified  $F$ -reductor with respect to the generator filtration.

## References

- [1] C. Baetica, F. Van Oystaeyen. *Valuation extensions of filtered and graded algebras*. Comm. Algebra 34(2006) 829–840.
- [2] M. Hussein, F. Van Oystaeyen. *Discrete valuations extend to certain algebras of quantum type*. Comm. Algebra 24(1996), 2551–2566.
- [3] H. Li. *A note on the extension of discrete valuations to affine domains*. Comm. Algebra 25(1997), 1805–1816.
- [4] H. Li, F. Van Oystaeyen. *Filtrations on simple artinian rings*. J. Algebra 132(1990), 361–376.
- [5] T. Petit, F. Van Oystaeyen. *Good reduction of good filtrations at places*. Algebr. Represent. Theory 9 (2006), no. 2, 201–216.
- [6] F. Van Oystaeyen. *On pseudo-places of algebras*. Bull. Soc. Math. Belg. 25 (1973), 139–159.
- [7] F. Van Oystaeyen. *Algebraic geometry for associative algebras*. Monographs and Textbooks in Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. 232, Marcel Dekker, 2000.

University of Bucharest, Faculty of Mathematics,  
Str. Academiei 14, RO-010014, Bucharest, Romania  
*E-mail address*: `baetica@al.math.unibuc.ro`

University of Antwerp,  
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science,  
Middelheimlaan 1, B-2020 Antwerp, Belgium  
*E-mail address*: `fred.vanoystaeyen@ua.ac.be`