

## Existence Theorems of Valuations Centered in a Local Domain with Preassigned Dimension and Rank

By

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(Received April 25, 1957)

**Introduction.** In his recent work, S. Abhyankar developed systematically certain aspects of valuations centered in a local domain [2]. Among his results, we are particularly interested in the following theorem [2, theorem 1 p. 330].

Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$  and let  $v$  be a valuation of  $\Sigma$  with center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ . Let  $\rho$ ,  $\bar{r}$  and  $r$  be respectively the  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension, the rational rank and the rank of  $v$ . Then: (1)  $\rho + \bar{r} \leq d$ , (2) if  $\rho + \bar{r} = d$ , then  $v$  is an integral direct sum and  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ , (3) if  $\rho + r = d$ , then  $v$  is discrete and  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ , (4) if  $\rho = d - 1$ , then  $v$  is real discrete and  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ .<sup>1)</sup>

However, it seems not to be known, for any integers  $r$  and  $\rho$  such that  $r + \rho \leq$  rank of  $\mathfrak{o}$  ( $1 \leq r$ ,  $\rho \geq 0$ ), conversely, whether there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  such that which has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$  and whose rank and  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension are equal to preassigned integers  $r$  and  $\rho$  respectively.

In section 1, we shall give an affirmative answer to this question dealing with the possible individual cases. In section 2, we shall prove a theorem concerning the existence of a sequence of valuations with preassigned centers.

Our existence theorems cover the following fundamental theorem, due to O. Zariski [7, Theorem 5, p. 501].

**Theorem.** Given an arbitrary descending chain  $W_0 \supseteq W_1 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq W_{\sigma-1}$  of irreducible subvarieties of  $V^r$  and given any set of integers  $\rho_0, \rho_1, \dots, \rho_{\sigma-1}$  such that  $r-1 \geq \rho_0 > \rho_1 > \cdots > \rho_{\sigma-1}$ ,  $\rho_i \geq$  dimension of  $W_i$ , there exists a sequence of valuations  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{\sigma-1}$  such that:

- (1)  $v_i$  is of dimension  $\rho_i$ , of rank  $i+1$  and its center is  $W_i$ ;
- (2)  $v_i$  is compounded with  $v_{i-1}$ .

The writer expresses here his hearty thanks to Mr. M. Yoshida and Mr. H. Sato for their valuable suggestions during the preparation of this paper.

1) For the definitions and notations, see §1 and also his paper [2].

### § 1. Existence of valuations with the preassigned dimension and rank.

We start with the following definition.

**DEFINITION.** Let  $\mathfrak{o}$  be a Noetherian domain with quotient field  $\Sigma$ , and let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal in  $\mathfrak{o}$  and  $v$  a valuation of  $\Sigma$ . Then  $v$  is said to have center  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$  provided that  $R_v \supseteq \mathfrak{o}$  and  $M_v \cap \mathfrak{o} = \mathfrak{p}$  where  $R_v$  and  $M_v$  denote the valuation ring and the valuation ideal of  $v$  respectively.

By the  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $v$ , we mean the transcendence degree of  $R_v/M_v$  over the quotient field of  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$ .

We need the following two lemmas. The first one is known as Krull-Akizuki's theorem [4, Theorem 3, p. 29]. The second one will play an essential rôle in our theory.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $1^2)$  and let  $\Sigma$  be its quotient field. Denote by  $\bar{\mathfrak{o}}$  the integral closure of  $\mathfrak{o}$  in  $\Sigma$ . Then  $\bar{\mathfrak{o}}$  is Noetherian and there exist in  $\bar{\mathfrak{o}}$  a finite number of proper prime ideals  $\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i (i=1, \dots, s)$ .  $\bar{\mathfrak{o}}_{\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i}$  is a discrete rank 1 valuation ring and its residue field is a finite algebraic extension of  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ . Furthermore  $\bar{\mathfrak{o}} = \bigcap_{i=1}^s \bar{\mathfrak{o}}_{\bar{\mathfrak{m}}_i}$ .*

The special case of the next lemma, where  $\mathfrak{o}$  is regular and  $\{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_d\}$  is a regular system of parameters, was given in [1].

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d > 1$  and let  $\{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_d\}$  be a system of parameters in  $\mathfrak{o}$ . Put  $\omega = \omega_1$ ,  $y_i = \frac{\omega_i}{\omega} (i=2, \dots, d)$  and form a ring  $\mathfrak{o}' = \mathfrak{o}[y_2, \dots, y_d]$ . Then  $\mathfrak{m}' = \mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{o}'$  is a proper prime ideal of rank 1 and is the radical of the principal ideal  $(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_d) \mathfrak{o}' = \omega\mathfrak{o}'$ .  $k = \mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$  can be canonically identified with a subfield of  $\mathfrak{o}'/\mathfrak{m}'$ . Furthermore, the residues  $\bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_d$  modulo  $\mathfrak{m}'$  of  $y_2, \dots, y_d$  are algebraically independent over  $k$  and  $\mathfrak{o}'/\mathfrak{m}'$  can be canonically identified with a polynomial ring  $k[\bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_d]$  in  $d-1$  independent variables.*

For the proof, see [7, Lemma 1, p. 70].

By these lemmas, we obtain the following:

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$ . Then, there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  which satisfies the following conditions.*

- i)  $v$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .
- ii) rank of  $v=1$ .
- iii)  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $v=d-1$ .

2) In this note, we shall denote by  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  a local ring with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and call the rank of  $\mathfrak{m}$  the rank of  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  (usually called the dimension).

- iv) discrete.
- v)  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ .

PROOF. The case  $d=1$  is settled in Lemma 1. So we proceed to the case when  $d>1$ . In this case, with the same notations as in Lemma 2,  $\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}'}$  is a local domain of rank 1 with quotient field  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}'}/\mathfrak{m}'\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}'}$  is a purely transcendental extension of degree  $d-1$  over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ . To complete our proof, it will suffice to apply Lemma 1 to  $\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}'}$ .

PROPOSITION 2. Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$ . Then, for any integers  $r$  and  $\rho$  such that  $r+\rho=d$  ( $r \geq 1$  and  $\rho \geq 0$ ), there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  satisfying the following conditions.

- i)  $v$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .
- ii) rank of  $v=r$ .
- iii)  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $v=\rho$ .
- iv) discrete.
- v)  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ .

PROOF. The case  $r=1$  has been settled in Prop. 1. So we proceed by induction on  $r$ .

Take a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$  such that rank  $\mathfrak{p}=1$  and rank  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}=d-1$ . Then, by Lemma 1, there exists a discrete rank 1 valuation  $v'$  of  $\Sigma$  such that  $v'$  has center  $\mathfrak{p}\mathfrak{o}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $R_{v'}/M_{v'}$  is a finite algebraic extension of the quotient field  $\Sigma_1$  of  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$ .

On the other hand, since  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$  is of rank  $d-1$ , by our inductive assumption, we can find a discrete rank  $r-1$  valuation  $v_1$  of  $\Sigma_1$  which has center  $\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$  and  $R_{v_1}/M_{v_1}$  is a finitely generated extension of transcendence degree  $\rho$  of  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ . Since  $R_{v'}/M_{v'}$  is a finite algebraic extension of  $\Sigma_1$ , this valuation  $v_1$  can be extended to a valuation  $v'_1$  of  $R_{v'}/M_{v'}$  in such a way that its discreteness and rank remain unchanged. Compounding  $v'$  and  $v'_1$ , we get a composite valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$ , which will be easily seen to satisfy all our conditions.

PROPOSITION 3. Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$ . Then, there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  which satisfies the following conditions.

- i)  $v$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .
- ii) rank of  $v=1$ .
- iii) rational rank of  $v=d$ .
- iv)  $R_v/M_v$  is a finite algebraic extension of  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ .

PROOF. (I) We first consider the case when  $\mathfrak{o}$  is an unramified complete regular local ring, i.e. (1)  $\mathfrak{o}=k[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ , or (2)  $\mathfrak{o}=R[x_2, \dots, x_d]$ , where  $k$  is a field and  $R$  is a complete discrete rank 1 valuation ring whose maximal ideal is generated by a prime integer  $p$ .

To define a valuation of  $\Sigma$ , it is enough to define the value of any

element  $f$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ . Take a system of rationally independent positive real numbers  $\tau_1=1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_d$  and define the value of  $f$  as follows:

Case (1)  $v(f(x_1, \dots, x_d))$  = the exponent of the first non zero term of  $f(t^{\tau_1}, \dots, t^{\tau_d})$  as a power series in a variable  $t$ .

Case (2)  $v(f(x_2, \dots, x_d))$  =  $\min\{\lambda + \text{value of } a_\lambda\}$ , where  $a_\lambda$  is the coefficient of  $f(t^{\tau_2}, \dots, t^{\tau_d})$  as a power series in  $t$ :

$$f(t^{\tau_2}, \dots, t^{\tau_d}) = \sum_{\lambda} a_{\lambda} t^{\lambda}.$$

Then, we see that thus defined valuation has  $k$  or  $R/pR$  as its residue field and satisfies all our requirements.

(II) Next, we consider the case when  $\mathfrak{o}$  is a complete local domain. It is well known, in virtue of the structure theorem of complete local rings, due to I.S. Cohen, that  $\mathfrak{o}$  is a finite module over an unramified complete regular local ring  $\mathfrak{o}_0$  with the same rank and the same residue field [3, Theorem 16, p. 90]. We denote by  $\Sigma_0$  a quotient field of  $\mathfrak{o}_0$ . Since  $\Sigma$  is finite algebraic over  $\Sigma_0$ , any valuation of  $\Sigma_0$ , constructed in (I), can be extended to a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$ , preserving its rank and rational rank. Then we see easily that this valuation  $v$  satisfies all our conditions.

(III) General case. Let  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}$  be a completion of  $\mathfrak{o}$  and fix a minimal prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}$  such that  $\text{rank } \hat{\mathfrak{o}} = \text{rank } \hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$ . Then,  $\mathfrak{o}$  may be considered as a subring of  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$ , because of the fact  $\mathfrak{p} \cap \mathfrak{o} = (0)$ . Since  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$  is a complete local domain, by (II), there exists a valuation  $v_1$  of a quotient field  $\Sigma_1$  of  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$  such that  $v_1$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p}$ , rank  $v_1=1$ , rational rank  $v_1=\bar{r}$  and  $R_{v_1}/M_{v_1}$  is finite algebraic over  $(\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p})/(\mathfrak{m}\hat{\mathfrak{o}}/\mathfrak{p})$ . Denote by  $v$  the contraction of  $v_1$  to  $\Sigma$ . Then,  $v$  satisfies all our conditions. In fact, since  $1 \leq \text{rank } v \leq \text{rank } v_1=1$  and  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m} \subseteq R_v/M_v \subseteq R_{v_1}/M_{v_1}$ , it is enough to show that the value group of  $v$  is the same as that of  $v_1$ . Let  $\hat{x}$  be any element of  $\hat{\mathfrak{o}}$ ,  $\hat{x} = \lim x_n$  ( $x_n \in \mathfrak{o}$ ) in an  $\mathfrak{m}\hat{\mathfrak{o}}$ -adic topology. We may assume  $\hat{x} - x_n \in \mathfrak{m}^n \hat{\mathfrak{o}}$ . Since  $v_1$  is of rank 1, for a sufficient large integer  $\sigma$ ,  $v_1(x^* - x_\sigma) > v_1(\mathfrak{m}^\sigma \hat{\mathfrak{o}} + \mathfrak{p}/\mathfrak{p}) = \min\{v_1(y^*) ; y^* \text{ runs over all elements of } \mathfrak{m}^\sigma \hat{\mathfrak{o}} + \mathfrak{p}/\mathfrak{p}\}$ , where  $x^*$  means the residue of  $\hat{x}$  modulo  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Hence  $v_1(x^*) = v(x_\sigma)$ , which complete the proof.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$ . For any integers  $r, \bar{r}$  and  $\rho$  such that  $\rho + \bar{r} = d$ ,  $\bar{r} \geq r \geq 1$  and  $\rho \geq 0$ , there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  which has following properties.*

- i)  $v$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .
- ii) rank of  $v=r$ .
- iii) rational rank of  $v=\bar{r}$ .
- iv)  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $v=\rho$ .
- v)  $R_v/M_v$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{m}$ .

**PROOF.** The case  $r=1, \rho=0$  has just been treated in Proposition 3. Next, we treat the case  $r=1, \rho>0$ . Let  $\mathfrak{q}$  be the  $\mathfrak{m}$ -primary ideal generated

by a system of parameters  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_d$  and form a ring  $\mathfrak{o}' = \mathfrak{o} \left[ \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}, \dots, \frac{\omega_d}{\omega_1} \right]$ . Then, by Lemma 2, the ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_1 = \left( \mathfrak{m}\mathfrak{o}', \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}, \dots, \frac{\omega_{d-\rho}}{\omega_1} \right)$  in  $\mathfrak{o}'$  is a prime ideal and  $\mathfrak{o}'/\mathfrak{m}_1$  can be canonically identified with a polynomial ring  $k[\bar{y}_{d-\rho+1}, \dots, \bar{y}_d]$  in  $\rho$  independent variables over  $k$  (with the same notations as in Lemma 2).  $\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}_1}$  is a local domain of rank  $d-\rho$ . Therefore, by Proposition 3, we can find a rank 1 rational rank  $\bar{r}$  valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  such that  $R_v/M_v$  is a finite algebraic extension of  $\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}_1}/\mathfrak{m}_1\mathfrak{o}'_{\mathfrak{m}_1} = k(\bar{y}_{d-\rho+1}, \dots, \bar{y}_d)$ . This valuation  $v$  satisfies our conditions.

We have proved the theorem in the case  $r=1$ . So we proceed by induction on  $r$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal in  $\mathfrak{o}$  such that  $\text{rank } \mathfrak{p}=1$  and  $\text{rank } \mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}=d-1$ . Since  $\mathfrak{o}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is rank 1, there exists a discrete rank 1 valuation  $v'$  of  $\Sigma$  such that  $v'$  has center  $\mathfrak{p}\mathfrak{o}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $R_{v'}/M_{v'}$  is finite algebraic over the quotient field  $\Sigma_1$  of  $\mathfrak{o}_1=\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$ . By our inductive assumption, there is a rank  $r-1$  rational rank  $\bar{r}-1$  valuation  $v_1$  of  $\Sigma_1$  such that  $v_1$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}_1=\mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}_1$ ,  $\mathfrak{o}_1$ -dim of  $v_1$  is  $\rho$  and  $R_{v_1}/M_{v_1}$  is finitely generated over  $\mathfrak{o}_1/\mathfrak{m}_1$ . This  $v_1$  may be extended to a valuation  $v'_1$  of  $R_{v'}/M_{v'}$  preserving its rank and rational rank. Compounding  $v'$  and  $v'_1$  we obtain a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$ , which has all our required properties.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  and let  $\Sigma$  be its quotient field. For any integers  $r$  and  $\rho$  such that  $r+\rho \leq d$  ( $1 \leq r, 0 \leq \rho$ ), there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  which has rank  $r$ ,  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension  $\rho$  and center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .*

## § 2. Sequence of valuations with preassigned centers.

**LEMMA 3.** *Let  $\Sigma$  be a field and  $v$  a valuation of  $\Sigma$  and let  $\Sigma(x)$  be a simple transcendental extension of  $\Sigma$ . Then  $v$  can be extended to a valuation of  $\Sigma(x)$  in such a way that whose residue field remains unchanged.*

**PROOF.** Consider an ordered abelian group  $\Gamma'$  which contains the value group  $\Gamma$  of  $v$  as a subgroup and contains rationally independent elements with respect to  $\Gamma$ . Take an element  $\tau > 0$  of  $\Gamma'$  which is rationally independent with respect to  $\Gamma$  and define

$$v'(a_0x^n + \dots + a_n) = \min_{i=0, \dots, n} \{v(a_i) + (n-i)\tau\},$$

where  $a_i \in \Sigma$  and

$$v'\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = v'(f) - v'(g), \quad \text{where } f, g \in \Sigma[x].$$

Then, we see easily that  $v'$  is a valuation of  $\Sigma(x)$ .

Set  $f(x) = a_0x^n + \dots + a_n$  and  $g(x) = b_0x^m + \dots + b_m$  with  $a_i, b_j \in \Sigma$ . If  $v'\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = 0$ , obviously we have  $v'(f) = v'(a_{i_0}x^{n-i_0}) = v'(b_{i_0}x^{n-i_0}) = v'(g)$  for some  $i_0$ ,

hence  $v(a_{i_0})=v(b_{i_0})$ . From this follows  $v'\left(\frac{f}{g}-\frac{a_{i_0}}{b_{i_0}}\right)>0$ , which shows  $v$  and  $v'$  have the same residue fields.

**LEMMA 4.** (*Under the same assumptions and notations as in Lemma 3.)*  $v$  can be extended to a valuation  $v'$  of  $\Sigma(x)$  unaltering the value group such that  $R_v/M_v$  is a simple transcendental extension of  $R_v/M_v$ .

**PROOF.** In this case, for  $f(x)=a_0x^n+\cdots+a_n$  and  $g(x)\in\Sigma[x]$ , we define  $v'(f(x))=\min_{i=0,\dots,n} v(a_i)$  and  $v'\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right)=v'(f(x))-v'(g(x))$ . To see that  $v'$  is a valuation of  $\Sigma(x)$ , it is enough to show that  $v'(f(x)\cdot g(x))=v'(f(x))+v'(g(x))$ , for any  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  in  $\Sigma[x]$ , because other axioms of valuations are trivially satisfied by  $v'$ .

Set  $g(x)=b_0x^m+\cdots+b_m$ ,  $f(x)\cdot g(x)=c_0x^{n+m}+\cdots+c_{n+m}$  with  $b_i, c_j \in \Sigma$  and set  $\alpha=\min v(a_i)$  and  $\beta=\min v(b_j)$ . Let  $i_0$  (resp.  $j_0$ ) be the smallest  $i$  (resp.  $j$ ) such that  $v(a_i)=\alpha$  (resp.  $v(b_j)=\beta$ ). Then we have

$$v'(f\cdot g)=\min v(c_i)=v(c_{i_0+j_0})=v(a_{i_0}b_{j_0})=\alpha+\beta=v'(f)+v'(g).$$

Now, we denote by  $\bar{x}$  the residue of  $x$  modulo  $M_{v'}$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is transcendental over  $R_v/M_v$ . In fact, if  $\bar{x}$  is algebraic, there exists an equation of the following form:

$$\bar{x}^s+\bar{a}_1\bar{x}^{s-1}+\cdots+\bar{a}_s=0,$$

where  $\bar{a}_i$  is the residue of  $a_i \in R_v$  modulo  $M_v$ . Hence,  $x^s+a_1x^{s-1}+\cdots+a_s \in M_{v'}$ , i.e.  $v'(x^s+a_1x^{s-1}+\cdots+a_s)>0$ , which contradicts our definition of  $v'$ .

The only thing that remains to be shown is that  $R_v/M_{v'}=R_v/M_v(\bar{x})$ . If  $v'\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)=0$ , we have  $v'(f)=v'(g)$ , i.e.  $\alpha=v(a_{i_0})=v(b_{j_0})=\beta$ . Let  $a'_i=\frac{a_i}{a_{i_0}}(i=0,\dots,n)$ ,  $b'_j=\frac{b_j}{b_{j_0}}(j=0,\dots,m)$ ,  $f'(x)=a'_0x^n+\cdots+a'_n$  and  $g'(x)=b'_0x^m+\cdots+b'_m$ . Then  $g'\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)=\bar{g}'\left(\frac{f'}{g'}\right)=\bar{f}'$ , hence  $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)=\frac{\bar{f}'}{\bar{g}'} \in R_v/M_v(\bar{x})$ , q.e.d.

The following theorem is a generalization of Zariski's theorem which we mentioned in the introduction.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local domain of rank  $d$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal in  $\mathfrak{o}$  of rank  $d_1$ . Let  $\rho$  and  $\rho_1$  be integers such that  $d>\rho$ ,  $d_1>\rho_1$  and  $\rho_1+\text{rank } \mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}>\rho$ . Then, for any valuation  $v_1$  of  $\Sigma$  which has center  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$  and  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension  $\rho_1$ , there exists a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$ , compounded with  $v_1$ , which has center  $\mathfrak{m}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$  and is of rank  $r_1+1$  ( $r_1=\text{rank of } v_1$ ) and of  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension  $\rho$ .*

**PROOF.** Set  $\mathfrak{o}_0=\mathfrak{o}/\mathfrak{p}$  and denote by  $\Sigma_0$  and  $L$  the quotient field of  $\mathfrak{o}_0$  and the residue field of  $v_1$  respectively. Then, by our assumption, we can find elements  $x_1, \dots, x_{\rho_1}$  in  $L$  which are algebraically independent over  $\Sigma_0$  such that  $L$  is algebraic over  $\Sigma_0(x_1, \dots, x_{\rho_1})$ .

In the case  $\rho \geq \rho_1$ , by Theorem 1, there exists a valuation  $v'$  of  $\Sigma_0$  which has center  $\mathfrak{m}_0 = \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{p}$  in  $\mathfrak{o}_0$ , rank 1 and  $\mathfrak{o}_0$ -dimension  $\rho - \rho_1$ . We apply Lemma 4 to the simple transcendental extension  $\Sigma_0(x_1, \dots, x_i)/\Sigma_0(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$  for  $i=1, \dots, \rho_1$  successively. Then  $v'$  can be extended to a valuation  $v''$  of  $\Sigma_0(x_1, \dots, x_{\rho_1})$  whose residue field has a transcendence degree  $\rho_1$  over  $R_v/M_{v'}$ . This  $v''$  can be extended to a valuation of  $L$ . We denote thus obtained valuation by  $\bar{v}$ . Then, our construction,  $\bar{v}$  has the following properties:

- (\*) i) rank  $\bar{v}=1$ , ii)  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $\bar{v}=\rho$  and iii)  $\bar{v}$  has center  $\mathfrak{m}_0$  in  $\mathfrak{o}_0$ .

If  $\rho < \rho_1$  we start from the valuation  $v'$  of  $\Sigma_0$  whose  $\mathfrak{o}_0$ -dimension is 0 in place of  $\rho - \rho_1$  in the preceding case. Then, similarly, by Lemma 3 and 4, we also obtain a valuation  $\bar{v}$  of  $L$  which satisfies the condition (\*).

In either case, we can find a valuation  $\bar{v}$  of  $L$  which satisfies the condition (\*). Compounding  $v_1$  with  $\bar{v}$ , we get a valuation  $v$  of  $\Sigma$  and this  $v$  satisfies all conditions of our theorem.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{p}_0 \supseteq \mathfrak{p}_1 \supseteq \dots \supseteq \mathfrak{p}_s$  be an arbitrary descending chain of prime ideals in a local domain  $(\mathfrak{o}, \mathfrak{m})$  of rank  $d (= d_0)$  with quotient field  $\Sigma$ , and let  $\rho_0, \rho_1, \dots, \rho_s$  be any set of integers such that  $d_i = \text{rank } \mathfrak{p}_i > \rho_i$  ( $i=0, \dots, s$ ) and  $\rho_i + \text{rank } \mathfrak{p}_{i-1}/\mathfrak{p}_i > \rho_{i-1}$  ( $i=1, \dots, s$ ). Then, there exists a sequence of valuations  $v_0, \dots, v_s$  of  $\Sigma$  such that*

- (1)  $v_i$  has center  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  in  $\mathfrak{o}$ .
- (2) rank  $v_i = s+1-i$ .
- (3)  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension of  $v_i = \rho_i$ .
- (4)  $v_{i-1}$  is compounded with  $v_i$ .

**PROOF.** Starting with a rank 1 valuation  $v_s$  of  $\Sigma$  whose  $\mathfrak{o}$ -dimension =  $\rho_s$ , by Theorem 2, we can construct a sequence of valuations  $v_{s-1}, v_{s-2}, \dots, v_0$  which satisfies our conditions.

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