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Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, Vol. 24 (1974), No. 3, 462–466

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/101261>

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FAMILIES OF ALMOST FINITE CHARACTER

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(Received June 20, 1973)

1. Introduction. In [5], Pirtle introduced the notion of almost Krull domain and proved that almost Krull domains in general have many of the properties of Krull domains. Every Krull domain is defined by a family of valuations of finite character. Hence it seems natural to look for the proper generalization of domains defined by a family of valuations of finite character to domains defined by a family of almost finite character.

2. Families of almost finite character. In what follows D denotes a commutative integral domain with identity and K denotes the quotient field of D . A family Ω of valuations of the field K is said to be of *finite character* if for every $x \in K$, $x \neq 0$ the set $\{w \in \Omega \mid w(x) \neq 0\}$ is finite. If $w \in \Omega$ has a ring R_w and a maximal ideal $M(w)$, then Ω is said to be a *defining family for D* if $D = \bigcap_{w \in \Omega} R_w$, and $M(w) \cap D$ is a prime ideal called the *centre of w on D* and is denoted by $P(w)$. If $R_w = D_{P(w)}$, then w is said to be *essential for D* .

We use the following notation from [2]. If w, w' are valuations of K with the rings $R_w, R_{w'}$ with $R_w \subseteq R_{w'}$, we say that w' is *coarser than w* and write $w' \leq w$. If Ω, Ω' are families of valuations of K and if every valuation $w' \in \Omega'$ is coarser than a valuation w of Ω , we say that the family Ω' is *coarser than Ω* and write $\Omega' \leq \Omega$.

Definition 2.1. A defining family Ω for a domain D is called a family of almost finite character for D if for every maximal ideal M of D there exists a subfamily $\Omega_M \subseteq \Omega$ with the following properties:

- (i) Ω_M is a defining family for D_M ,
- (ii) Ω_M is a family of finite character.

If Ω is a defining family of almost finite character for D , then we say that D is defined by a family of almost finite character Ω .

Proposition 2.2. *Let D be defined by a family of almost finite character Ω . Let S be a multiplicative system of D . Then D_S is defined by a family of almost finite character coarser than Ω .*

Proof. Let $\{M_i\}$ be the set of maximal ideals of D_S . Let $P_i = M_i \cap D$, then $(D_S)_{M_i} = (D_S)_{P_i D_S} = D_{P_i}$. Let M'_i be a maximal ideal of D such that $P_i \subseteq M'_i$, hence $D_{P_i} = (D_{M'_i})_{P_i D_{M'_i}}$. Ω is a family of almost finite character for D ; hence there exists $\Omega_{M'_i} \subseteq \Omega$ such that $\Omega_{M'_i}$ is a defining family of finite character for $D_{M'_i}$. By [3]; Lemma 11, there exists $\Omega_{P_i} \subseteq \Omega_{M'_i}$ which is a defining family of finite character for D_{P_i} . Hence the family $\bigcup_i \Omega_{P_i}$ is a defining family of almost finite character for D_S and $\bigcup_i \Omega_{P_i} \subseteq \bigcup_i \Omega_{M'_i} \subseteq \Omega$.

Proposition 2.3. *Let D be integrally closed in K and let L be an algebraic extension of K . Let D' denote the integral closure of D in L .*

(1) *If $[K : L] < \infty$ and D is defined by a family of almost finite character Ω , then D' is defined by a family of almost finite character coarser than the family of all extensions of valuations of Ω to the valuations of L .*

(2) *If D' is defined by a family of almost finite character, then D is defined by a family of almost finite character.*

Proof. (1) Let D be defined by a family of almost finite character Ω . Let M be a maximal ideal of D' . Let $P = M \cap D$. By [1]; Proposition 9.4, P is a maximal ideal of D . By [1]; Proposition 9.11,

$$(D_P)' = D'_{D-P} = \bigcap_{M_i \in J} D'_{M_i},$$

where J is the set of prime ideals of D' lying over P and X' denotes the integral closure of X in L . It follows that there exists $\Omega_P \subseteq \Omega$ which is a defining family of finite character for D_P . By [3]; Proposition 8, the family Ω'_P of extensions of valuations of Ω_P to the valuations of L is a defining family of finite character for $(D_P)'$. Now $M \in J$, hence $D' \subseteq (D_P)' \subseteq D'_M$. By [3]; Lemma 11, there exists a defining family of finite character $\Omega'_M \subseteq \Omega'_P$ for D'_M . Hence $\bigcup_M \Omega'_M$ is a defining family of almost finite character for D' and $\bigcup_M \Omega'_M \subseteq \bigcup_P \Omega'_P \subseteq \Omega'$.

(2) Let D' be defined by a family of almost finite character Ω' . Let M be a maximal ideal of D and let M' be a prime ideal of D' lying over M . Hence M' is a maximal ideal of D' . It follows that there exists $\Omega_{M'} \subseteq \Omega'$ which is a defining family of finite character for $D'_{M'}$. Let

$$\Omega_M = \{w \mid w \text{ is a valuation of } K \text{ and } R_w = R_{w'} \cap K \text{ for some } w' \in \Omega_{M'}\}.$$

Then

$$D_M = D'_{M'} \cap K = \left(\bigcap_{w' \in \Omega_{M'}} R_{w'} \right) \cap K = \bigcap_{w' \in \Omega_{M'}} (R_{w'} \cap K) = \bigcap_{w \in \Omega_M} R_w,$$

hence Ω_M is a defining family for D_M . Since $\Omega_{M'}$ is of finite character, Ω_M is of finite character. Hence the family $\bigcup \Omega_M$ is a defining family of almost finite character for D .

Proposition 2.4. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character and let Ω' denote the family of canonical extensions of elements of Ω to valuations of $K(\{X_i\}_{i \in J})$ while G denotes the family of valuations of $K(\{X_i\}_{i \in J})$ defined by irreducible polynomials from $K[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}]$. Then $D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}]$ is defined by a family of almost finite character coarser than $\Omega' \cup G$.*

Proof. Let M be a maximal ideal of $D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}]$. Let Q be a maximal ideal of D containing a prime ideal $M \cap D$. Hence there is a family $\Omega_Q \subseteq \Omega$ which is a defining family of finite character for D_Q . By [3]; Proposition 9, the ring $D_Q[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}]$ is defined by a family of finite character $\Omega'_Q \cup G_Q$ where Ω'_Q denotes the family of canonical extensions of elements of Ω_Q to the valuations of $K(\{X_i\}_{i \in J})$ and $G_Q = \{w \in G \mid D_Q[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}] \subseteq R_w\}$. Now

$$D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}] \subseteq D_Q[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}] \subseteq D_{M \cap D}[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}] \subseteq (D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}])_M.$$

By [3]; Lemma 11, there exists $\psi_M \subseteq \Omega_Q \cup G_Q$ and ψ_M is a defining family of finite character for $(D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}])_M$. Hence $\psi = \bigcup \psi_M$ is a defining family of almost finite character for $D[\{X_i\}_{i \in J}]$ and

$$\psi = \bigcup \psi_M \subseteq \bigcup (\Omega'_Q \cap G_Q) \subseteq \Omega' \cup G.$$

Now, we extend some results from [2].

Proposition 2.5. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character. Let S be a multiplicative system of D . Let E be the family of prime ideals of D having empty intersection with S and assume that each prime in E contains a minimal prime in E and that there is only a finite number of minimal primes in E . Then D_S is a Prüfer ring.*

Proof. By Proposition 2.2 there exists a family of almost finite character Ω_1 for a domain D_S . Let M be a maximal ideal of D_S ; thus there exists a defining family $\Omega_{1,M} \subseteq \Omega_1$ of finite character for $(D_S)_M$. Let $E_M = \{PD_S \mid P \in E \text{ and } PD_S \subseteq M\}$. It follows that the set E_M contains only a finite number of minimal primes in E_M and that each prime in E_M contains a minimal prime in E_M . Let $\{P_1 D_S, \dots, P_n D_S\}$ be the set of minimal primes in E_M . Hence $\{P_1(D_S)_M, \dots, P_n(D_S)_M\}$ is the set of minimal primes of $(D_S)_M$ and $\prod_{i=1}^n P_i(D_S)_M \neq (0)$. Let w be an element of $\Omega_{1,M}$. Since $P(w) D_S = (M(w) \cap D) D_S$ is an element of E_M , it follows that there exists a minimal prime

$P_i D_S$ in E_M contained in $P(w) D_S$. It follows then that $M(w) \supseteq P(w) (D_S)_M \supseteq \supseteq P_i (D_S)_M \supseteq \prod_{i=1}^n P_i (D_S)_M \supset (0)$. Let x be a non zero element of $\prod_{i=1}^n P_i (D_S)_M$; thus $x \in M(w)$ for every $w \in \Omega_{1,M}$. Since $\Omega_{1,M}$ is of finite character, it is finite. Hence $(D_S)_M$ is an intersection of finite number of valuation rings, and therefore it is a Prüfer ring. Since $(D_S)_M$ is quasi-local, it is a valuation ring. Therefore, D_S is a Prüfer ring.

For every prime ideal P of D let $E(P)$ denote the set of prime ideals of D contained in P .

Proposition 2.6. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character and suppose that every prime ideal of D contains a minimal prime ideal. If $E(P(w))$ is totally ordered for every valuation $w \in \Omega$, then Ω is a family of essential valuations for D .*

Proof. Let $E(P(w))$ be totally ordered for every $w \in \Omega$. Then $P(w)$ contains just one minimal prime ideal and applying Proposition 2.5 to multiplicative system $D - P(w)$, we obtain that the domain $D_{P(w)}$ is a Prüfer ring, and therefore also a valuation ring. Therefore, $R_w = D_{P(w)}$.

Proposition 2.7. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character. Let P be a prime ideal of D which is such that $E(P)$ is totally ordered. Then there exists a valuation v coarser than a valuation $w \in \Omega$ such that $P(v) = P$.*

Proof. Let M be a maximal ideal of D containing P . Then there exists a defining family $\Omega_M \subseteq \Omega$ of finite character for D_M . Since $E(P)$ is totally ordered, the set $E(PD_M)$ of prime ideals of D_M contained in PD_M is totally ordered. By [2]; Lemma 11, there exists a valuation v coarser than a $w \in \Omega_M$ such that $P'(v) = M(v) \cap D_M = PD_M$. Thus,

$$P(v) = P'(v) \cap D = PD_M \cap D = P.$$

Corollary 2.8. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character and let each $w \in \Omega$ be essential for D . Let P be a minimal prime ideal of D . Then there exists $w \in \Omega$ such that $P \subseteq P(w)$.*

Proposition 2.9. *Let D be an integral domain. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (1) D is a Prüfer ring.
- (2) Every ring D' , $D \subseteq D' \subseteq K$, is defined by a family of almost finite character.
- (3) D is defined by a family of almost finite character Ω of essential valuations for D and $E(P)$ is totally ordered for every maximal ideal P of D .

Proof. Let (1) hold. By [1]; Theorem 22.1, every ring D' , $D \subseteq D' \subseteq K$, is a Prüfer ring. It is clear that Prüfer ring is defined by a family of almost finite character. Thus

(1) \Rightarrow (2). Now assume that (2) holds. Since every ring D_M , where M is a maximal ideal of D , is defined by a family of almost finite character, it is integrally closed. Hence, D is integrally closed. If all rings D' , $D \subseteq D' \subseteq K$ are integrally closed, then D is a Prüfer ring ([1]; Theorem 22.2). Thus, (1) holds.

The implication (1) \Rightarrow (3) is trivial.

Now assume that (3) holds. Let P be a maximal ideal of D . The set $E(P)$ is totally ordered, hence by Proposition 2.7, there exists a valuation v coarser than a $w \in \Omega$ and $P(v) = P$. Thus, R_v is essential for D , $R_v = D_{P(w)} = D_P$. Therefore, D is a Prüfer ring and (1) holds.

Proposition 2.10. *Let D be a one-dimensional domain. Then D is a Prüfer ring if and only if D is defined by a family of almost finite character.*

Proof. The part “only if” is trivial. Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character and let M be a maximal ideal of D . Then there exists $\Omega_M \subseteq \Omega$ which is a defining family of finite character for D_M . Let w be an element of Ω_M and let $P'(w) = M(w) \cap D_M$. Since $P'(w)$ is a prime ideal of D_M and D_M is one-dimensional and quasi-local, it is $P'(w) = MD_M$. Let x be a non zero element of MD_M , so $w(x) > 0$ for all $w \in \Omega_M$. Hence Ω_M is finite. It follows that D_M is a Prüfer ring, hence D_M is a valuation ring. Thus, D is a Prüfer ring.

Proposition 2.11. *Let D be defined by a family Ω of almost finite character. If every non zero proper ideal of D is contained in only a finite number of maximal ideals of D , then Ω is a family of finite character.*

The proof of this proposition is substantially the same as that of [5]; Proposition 2.17, and will be omitted.

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