

See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/259444554>

# On Phi-pseudo-valuation rings II

Article in *Houston Journal of Mathematics* · October 2000

CITATIONS

34

READS

144

1 author:



[Ayman Badawi](#)

American University of Sharjah,

109 PUBLICATIONS 2,549 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE

Some of the authors of this publication are also working on these related projects:



research articles [View project](#)



Generalizations of primary ideals [View project](#)

## ON $\Phi$ -PSEUDO-VALUATION RINGS II

AYMAN BADAWI

Communicated by Klaus Kaiser

ABSTRACT. A commutative ring  $R$  with identity  $1 \neq 0$  is called a pseudo-valuation ring (PVR) if for every  $a, b \in R$ , either  $a \mid b$  in  $R$  or  $b \mid ac$  in  $R$  for every nonunit  $c$  of  $R$ . Also,  $R$  is called a  $\Phi$ -pseudo-valuation ring if  $Nil(R)$  (the set of nilpotent elements of  $R$ ) is a divided prime ideal of  $R$  and for every  $a, b \in R \setminus Nil(R)$ , either  $a$  divides  $b$  in  $R$  or  $b$  divides  $ac$  for every nonunit  $c$  of  $R$ . In this paper, we will show that for any  $n \geq 0$  (possibly infinite) there is a  $\Phi$ -PVR of Krull dimension  $n$  that is not a PVR.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

We assume throughout that all rings are commutative with  $1 \neq 0$ . We begin by recalling some background material. As in [9], an integral domain  $R$ , with quotient field  $K$ , is called a pseudo-valuation domain (PVD) in case each prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  is strongly prime, in the sense that  $xy \in P, x \in K, y \in K$  implies that either  $x \in P$  or  $y \in P$ . In [4], Anderson, Dobbs and the author generalized the study of pseudo-valuation domains to the context of arbitrary rings (possibly with nonzero zerodivisors). Recall from [4] that a prime ideal of  $R$  is said to be strongly prime (in  $R$ ) if  $aP$  and  $bR$  are comparable for all  $a, b \in R$ . A ring  $R$  is called a pseudo-valuation ring (PVR), see Proposition 1.1(5). A PVR is necessarily quasilocal [[4], Lemma 1(b)]; a chained ring is a PVR if and only if it is a PVD; a chained ring is a PVR [[4], Corollary 4]; an integral domain is a PVR if and only if it is a PVD (cf. [[1], Proposition 3.1], [[2], Proposition 4.2], and [[6], Proposition 3]). Recall from [8] and [7] that a prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  is called divided if it is comparable to every ideal of  $R$ . A ring  $R$  is called a divided ring if every prime ideal of  $R$  is divided. In [5], the author gave another generalization of PVDs to the context of arbitrary rings (possibly with nonzero zerodivisors).

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 13A15, 13A18; Secondary 13A05, 13A10, 13F30.

$b \nmid a^2$  (in  $D$ ) by Proposition 2.5(2). Thus,  $a \mid b$  (in  $D$ ). Hence,  $(0, 1) = (c, d)(x, 1)$  for some  $(c, d) \in D$ . Thus,  $xc = 0$  in  $R$  and  $xd + c = 1$  in  $B$ . Since  $dx$  is a nonunit of  $B$  and  $B$  is quasilocal,  $c = 1 - xd$  is a unit of  $B$ . Since  $c^2 = c - xcd = c - 0 = c$  in  $B$  and  $c$  is a unit of  $B$  and 1 is the only unit of  $B$  that is an idempotent of  $B$ ,  $c = 1$  in  $B$ . Hence, for some  $z \in R \setminus Nil(R)$  we have  $z(c - 1) = 0$  in  $R$ . Since  $Nil(R)$  is prime and  $z \in R \setminus Nil(R)$ ,  $c - 1 = w \in Nil(R)$ . Hence,  $c = 1 + w$  is a unit of  $R$ . A contradiction, since  $x \neq 0$  in  $R$  and  $xc = 0$ . Hence,  $a \nmid b$  in  $D$ . Thus, our denial is invalid. Thus,  $D$  is not a PVR. Now we show that  $D$  is a  $\Phi$ -PVR. First, recall that  $Nil(D) = Nil(R)(+)B$  by Proposition 2.5(3), and  $Nil(D)$  is prime by Proposition 1.2(1). Let  $a := (c, d) \in D \setminus Nil(D)$ , and  $b := (x, y) \in Nil(D)$ . Then,  $c \in R \setminus Nil(R)$  and  $x \in Nil(R)$ . Since  $R$  is divided by Proposition 1.1,  $c \mid x$  in  $R$ . Hence,  $a \mid b$  in  $D$  by Proposition 2.5(3). Thus,  $Nil(D)$  is a divided prime ideal of  $D$ . Now, let  $a := (c, d) \in D \setminus Nil(D)$ ,  $b := (x, y) \in D \setminus Nil(D)$ , and  $f := (m, g)$  be a nonunit of  $D$ . Then  $m$  is a nonunit of  $R$  by Proposition 1.2(3) and  $c, x \in R/Nil(R)$ . Suppose that  $a \nmid b$  in  $D$ . Then  $c \nmid x$  in  $R$  by Proposition 2.5(1). Hence,  $x \mid cm$  by Proposition 1.1(6). Thus,  $b \mid af$  in  $D$  by Proposition 2.5(2). Hence,  $R$  is a  $\Phi$ -PVR by Proposition 1.1(6). By Proposition 1.2(1),  $\dim(D) = \dim(R) = n$ .  $\square$

In light of the proof of the above Theorem, we have the following corollaries.

**Corollary 2.7.** *Let  $d \geq 2$ , and let  $R$  be a PVR of Krull dimension  $n \geq 0$  such that  $x^d \neq 0$  in  $R$  for some  $x \in Nil(R)$ , and let  $B := R_{Nil(R)}$  as an  $R$ -module. Then  $D := R(+)B$  is a  $\Phi$ -PVR of Krull dimension  $n$  that is not a PVR, and  $y^d \neq 0$  in  $D$  for some  $y \in Nil(D)$ .*

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $d \geq 2$ . Then there is a  $\Phi$ -PVR  $D$  with maximal ideal  $M$  and Krull dimension  $n$  that is not a PVR such that  $Z(D)$  is properly contained between  $Nil(D)$  and  $M$ , and  $x^d \neq 0$  in  $D$  for some  $x \in Nil(D)$ .*

PROOF. Let  $R$  be as in Corollary 2.3 and  $D$  as in Theorem 2.6.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.** *Let  $d \geq 2$ . Then there is a  $\Phi$ -PVR  $D$  with maximal ideal  $M$  and infinite Krull dimension that is not a PVR such that  $Z(D)$  is properly contained between  $Nil(D)$  and  $M$ , and  $x^d \neq 0$  in  $D$  for some  $x \in Nil(D)$ .*

PROOF. Let  $R$  be as in Proposition 2.4 and  $D$  as in Theorem 2.6.  $\square$

### 3. ZERO DIMENSIONAL $\Phi$ -PVRs AND PVRs

We start with the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a quasilocal ring with maximal ideal  $M$ , and  $B := R/M$  as an  $R$ -module. Set  $D := R(+ )B$ . Then*

1.  $Z(D) := M(+ )B$ .
2.  $D$  is a chained ring if and only if  $R$  is a field.
3.  $D$  is a PVR if and only if  $M^2 = 0$  in  $R$ .

PROOF. 1. This is clear by Proposition 1.2(2).

2. If  $R$  is a field, then it is easy to see that  $D$  is a chained ring. Hence, assume that  $R$  is not a field. Let  $x$  be a nonzero element in  $M$ . Then neither of  $(x, 1)$  and  $(0, 1)$  divides the other in  $D$ . Hence,  $D$  is not a chained ring.
3. Suppose that  $D$  is a PVR. Let  $a := (x, 1) \in D$  and  $b := (y, 1) \in D$  for some  $x \in R$ . Then  $a \nmid b$  in  $D$  by the same argument as in (1). Hence,  $b \mid ac$  for each nonunit  $c$  of  $D$  by Proposition 1.1 (5). Thus,  $0 \mid xy$  in  $R$  for each nonunit  $y$  of  $R$ . Hence,  $xy = 0$  in  $R$  for each nonunit  $y$  and  $x$  of  $R$ . Thus,  $M^2 = 0$  in  $R$ . Now, suppose that  $M^2 = 0$  in  $R$ . Let  $a, b$  be nonunit elements of  $D$  and assume that  $a \nmid b$  in  $D$ . Let  $c$  be a nonunit element of  $D$ . Then  $ac = (0, 0)$  since  $M^2 = 0$  in  $R$ . Thus,  $b \mid ac$ . Hence,  $D$  is a PVR by Proposition 1.1(5). □

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $H$  be a field. Then there is a PVR  $D$  with maximal ideal  $M$  that is not a chained ring such that  $D/M \approx H$ , and there is a  $\Phi$ -PVR  $F$  with maximal ideal  $N$  that is not a PVR such that  $F/N \approx H$ .*

PROOF. Consider  $R := H[x]/(x^2)$ ,  $W := H[x]/(x^3)$ , and  $B := H[x]/(x)$  as an  $R$ -module and  $W$ -module. Set  $D := R(+ )B$  and  $F := W(+ )B$ . Then  $D$  is a PVR with maximal ideal  $M := (x)/(x^2)(+ )B$  by Proposition 3.1(3), and it is not a chained ring by Proposition 3.1(2). It is easy to see that  $D/M \approx H$ . Now, since  $\text{Nil}(F) = (x)/(x^3)(+ )B$  is the maximal ideal of  $F$ ,  $F$  is a  $\Phi$ -PVR by proposition 1.1(6). Also,  $F$  is not a PVR by Proposition 3.1 (3). Once again, it is clear that  $F/N \approx H$ . □

It is easy to see that  $Z_n$  (the ring of integers module  $n$ ) is a chained ring iff it is a PVR iff it is a  $\Phi$ -PVR iff  $n = P^m$  for some prime  $P > 0$  of  $Z$  and  $m \geq 1$ . For finite rings we have the following result.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $H$  be a finite field. Then there is a finite PVR  $D$  with maximal ideal  $M$  that is not a chained ring such that  $D/M \approx H$ , and there is a finite  $\Phi$ -PVR  $F$  with maximal ideal  $N$  that is not a PVR such that  $F/N \approx H$ .*

PROOF. Let  $R, W, B, D, F$  as in the proof of Proposition 3.2. Then  $D$  and  $F$  are the desired rings.  $\square$

**Acknowledgments.** I would like to thank the University of Tennessee, U.S.A., for the invitation during the academic year 1998-1999. I especially like to thank Professors David F. Anderson and David E. Dobbs.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] D. F. Anderson, *Comparability of ideals and valuation overrings*, Houston J. Math. 5(1979), 451-463.
- [2] D.F. Anderson, *When the dual of an ideal is a ring*, Houston J. Math. 9(1983), 325-332.
- [3] D. F. Anderson, A. Badawi, and D. E. Dobbs, *Pseudo-valuation rings II*, to appear in Boll. Un. Mat. Ital. B(7).
- [4] A. Badawi, D. F. Anderson, D. E. Dobbs, *Pseudo-valuation rings*, Lecture Notes Pure Appl. Math., Vol. 185(1997), 57-67, Marcel Dekker, New York/Basel.
- [5] A. Badawi, *On  $\Phi$ -pseudo-valuation rings*, Lecture Notes Pure Appl. Math., Vol. 205(1999), 101-110, Marcel Dekker, New York/Basel.
- [6] A. Badawi, *On domains which have prime ideals that are linearly ordered*, Comm. Algebra 23(1995), 4365-4373.
- [7] A. Badawi, *On divided commutative rings*, Comm: Algebra 27(1999), 1465-1474.
- [8] D. E. Dobbs, *Divided rings and going-down*, Pacific J. Math., 67(1976), 353-363.
- [9] J. R. Hedstrom and E. G. Houston, *Pseudo-valuation domains*, Pacific J. Math., 4(1978), 551-567.
- [10] J. Huckaba, *Commutative Rings with Zero Divisors*, Marcel Dekker, New York/Basel, 1988.

Received February 4, 1999

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY, BOX 14, BIRZEIT, WEST BANK, VIA ISRAEL.

*E-mail address:* [abring@birzeit.edu](mailto:abring@birzeit.edu)