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## Commutative Domains Large in their $\mathfrak{M}$ -Adic Completions.

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### Introduction.

The topic of the present paper was inspired by a question proposed by A. Orsatti. Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain,  $\mathfrak{M}$  a maximal ideal of  $R$ ; let us denote by  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  the completion of  $R$  in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, and by  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$ ,  $K$ , the fields of fractions of  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$ ,  $R$ , respectively. Orsatti's question was the following: if  $R$  is a Dedekind domain containing infinitely many prime ideals, is it true that the transcendence degree of  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{P}}$  over  $K$  is infinite for (almost) all  $\mathfrak{P} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ ?

Subsequently, Orsatti himself found that a negative answer is given by the ring  $\mathbf{P}$  constructed by Corner in his celebrated paper [4]. Recall that  $\mathbf{P}$  is a domain contained in  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} = \prod_p \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ , such that  $|\mathbf{P}| = 2^{\aleph_0}$  and every ideal  $I$  of  $\mathbf{P}$  is principal, generated by an integer  $n$ ; through an examination of Corner's construction, it is easy to check (see § 1) that, for all prime numbers  $p$ , the  $p$ -adic completion of  $\mathbf{P}$  is isomorphic to  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ , and, moreover,  $\widehat{\mathbf{Q}}_p$  is always an algebraic extension of the field of fractions of  $\mathbf{P}$ .

In view of this property,  $\mathbf{P}$  is said to be large in its  $p$ -adic completion, for all  $p$ ; more precisely, given a commutative domain  $R$  and a

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maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$  of  $R$ , with  $\bigcap_n \mathfrak{M}^n = \{0\}$ , we shall say that  $R$  is *large* in its  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic completion  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  if every element of  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is algebraic over  $R$ ; here we note that  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is not necessarily a domain, hence we cannot speak of  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$ , in general.

These «large» domains are related, in some sense, with the problem of realizing torsion-free  $R$ -algebras as endomorphism algebras of  $R$ -modules. Actually, we remark that the method of realization due to Corner [4], or the localized version due to Orsatti [8], both use the key Lemma 2.1 of [4], which needs the existence of  $2^{\aleph_0}$  elements of  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  algebraically independent over  $K$ . Hence we conclude that these methods of realization cannot work in the case of «large» domains.

Let us also recall that G. Piva in [9] called a Dedekind domain  $R$  *admissible* if the transcendence degree of  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{P}}$  over  $K$  is uncountable for every prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of  $R$ ; he was able to extend the methods of realization of Corner and Orsatti to a class of algebras over admissible Dedekind domains ([9], Theorem C). The negative answer to Orsatti's question shows that not all the Dedekind domains are admissible, in the sense of Piva.

In the local case, valuation domains  $R$  which are large in their  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic completions were investigated by Ribenboim [10]; we note that if  $\mathfrak{M}$  is the maximal ideal of a valuation domain  $R$  and  $\bigcap_n \mathfrak{M}^n = \{0\}$ , then  $R$  is automatically a discrete valuation ring of rank one (DVR). In his recent paper [7], Okoh found other results on large DVRs; in particular, his Proposition 1.1(a) is extended by Corollary 3 of the present paper. Nagata [6] was the first one to exhibit DVRs  $R$  *non-complete* and such that  $[\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}} : K]$  is finite. Zanardo [11] and Arnold and Dugas [1] investigated torsion-free modules of finite rank over these kinds of rings, called Nagata valuation domains in [11], showing several peculiar results about direct decompositions and indecomposable modules.

In the present paper we investigate «large» commutative domains (not necessarily Dedekind) in the non-local case. Roughly speaking, we describe the two opposite situations.

If  $R$  is noetherian, non-local, and  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ , then  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  can be algebraic over  $R$  (e.g. when  $R = \mathbf{P}$  as above), but in any case  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  must contain elements algebraic over  $R$  of arbitrarily large degree (Theorem 2). In particular, when  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is a domain,  $[\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}} : K]$  cannot be finite, as can happen in the local case.

On the other hand, without the hypothesis of noetherianity, we can have a non-complete domain  $R$  which is as large as possible in its completion, in the sense that its  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic completion coincides with the localization  $R_{\mathfrak{M}}$  of  $R$  at  $\mathfrak{M}$ ; therefore  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}} = K$ , in this case. Actually, we can

say much more (Theorem 7): given any domain  $T$  which is complete with respect to the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology induced by a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$  of  $T$ , there exist non-complete subrings  $R$  of  $T$ , such that  $T = R_{\mathfrak{M}}$ , where  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$ , and  $T$  is the  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic completion of  $R$ .

Thus Theorem 7 shows that there are plenty of domains large in their completions, if we do not ask noetherianity.

We are grateful to A. Orsatti for helpful discussions.

1. – In the sequel the symbols  $R, \widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}, K, \widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  etc. will have the same meaning as in the introduction; of course, the symbol  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  will be used only when  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is a domain. General references about  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic completions may be found in [2], [6] and [3], Ch. 3. When we speak of  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology on  $R$  we shall always mean that  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a *maximal ideal* of  $R$ ; we recall that, if  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$  and  $R$  is *complete* in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, then  $R$  is automatically a *local ring* (see e.g. [3]). As usual, if  $R$  is a ring and  $\mathfrak{P}$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ , we denote by  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$  the localization of  $R$  at  $\mathfrak{P}$ ; thus we agree with the use of the symbol  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$ , since complete implies local, when  $\mathfrak{M}$  is maximal.

We start by showing the existence of a principal ideal domain  $R$ , with infinite spectrum, such that  $\widehat{K}_{(p)}$  is an algebraic extension of  $K$  for all prime elements  $p$  of  $R$ . We remark again that the idea that the following example due to Corner enjoys this property is due to Orsatti.

EXAMPLE 1. Let  $\mathbf{P}$  be the subring of  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} = \prod_p \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$  constructed in Lemma 1.5 of Corner's paper [4]. We recall the properties of  $\mathbf{P}$  which we need: it is an integral domain, and a pure subring of  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ ; every ideal of  $\mathbf{P}$  is principal, generated by an integer  $n$ ; moreover the only integers which are invertible in  $\mathbf{P}$  are  $\pm 1$ ; therefore, in particular,  $\text{Spec}(\mathbf{P})$  is infinite. For all prime numbers  $p$ , let  $\pi_p: \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$  be the canonical projection; note that  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P})$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}$  for all  $p$ : in fact any nonzero element  $x$  of  $\mathbf{P}$  is of the form  $x = n\varepsilon$ , with  $n \in \mathbf{Z}$  and  $\varepsilon$  a unit of  $\mathbf{P}$ , so that  $\pi_p(\varepsilon)$  is necessarily a unit of  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ , and therefore  $\pi_p(x) = n\pi_p(\varepsilon)$  cannot be zero. Let us now show that  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$  is the  $p$ -adic completion of  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P}) \cong \mathbf{P}$ . From  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \pi_p(\mathbf{P})$  it follows that  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P})$  is dense in  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ . It is then enough to show that the  $p$ -adic topology on  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P})$  coincides with the induced topology of  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ , i.e.  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P}) \cap p^m \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p = p^m \pi_p(\mathbf{P})$ , for all  $m \in \mathbf{N}$ . Recall that  $\mathbf{P}$  is pure in  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ , whence  $\mathbf{P} \cap p^m \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} = p^m \mathbf{P}$  for all  $m$ . Let  $\pi_p(x) = p^m z$ , with  $x \in \mathbf{P}$  and  $z \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_p$ ; then  $x = p^m z + \eta$ , with  $\eta \in \prod_{q \neq p} \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_q$ ; we have  $\eta = p^m \delta$ , since  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_q = p \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}_q$  for all  $q \neq p$ ; thus  $x \in p^m \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \cap \mathbf{P} = p^m \mathbf{P}$

and so  $\pi_p(x) \in p^m \pi_p(\mathbf{P})$ . This argument shows that  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P}) \cap p^m \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_p = p^m \pi_p(\mathbf{P})$ , as desired.

It remains to check that  $\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  (the field of fractions of  $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_p$ ) is an algebraic extension of  $K$ , the field of fractions of  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P})$ . But this follows directly from Corner's construction:  $\pi_p(\mathbf{P})$  contains a transcendence basis of  $\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , for all  $p$  (see [4], p. 696), and therefore  $\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  must be algebraic over  $K$ .

Let us remark that, *a priori*, in the above example it could be possible that  $\widehat{\mathbb{Q}}_p = K$  for some  $p$ . This possibility is excluded by our next result (see also Prop. 1.1 of [7]).

Recall that a ring  $R$  is said to be a *Krull ring* if it satisfies the three following conditions (see [6], § 33, p. 115):

- (i) for every minimal prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$ ,  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is a DVR;
- (ii)  $R = \bigcap R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ , the intersection being taken over all minimal prime ideals;
- (iii) any nonzero element of  $R$  lies in only a finite number of minimal prime ideals.

If  $R$  is a noetherian domain, then its integral closure  $\overline{R}$  (in the field of fractions  $K$  of  $R$ ) is not necessarily noetherian (see [6], Example 5, p. 207), but it is in any case a Krull ring ([6], T. 33.10, p. 118). This result will be needed in the following Theorem 2.

If  $R \subset T$  are rings, not necessarily domains, and  $u \in T$  is algebraic over  $R$ , then the *degree* of  $u$  will be the minimal degree of a nonzero polynomial  $f(X) \in R[X]$  such that  $f(u) = 0$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $R$  be a non local noetherian domain, and let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a maximal ideal of  $R$ . Then for all integers  $n > 0$  there exists an element  $u \in \widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  which is algebraic over  $R$ , of degree greater than  $n$ , and such that  $R[u]$  is a domain.*

**PROOF.** Since  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a maximal ideal and  $R$  is not local, there exists a non-unit  $\mu \in R$  such that  $\mu \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{M}}$ . Now, for all prime numbers  $q$  different from the characteristic of  $R$ , the polynomial  $X^q - 1$  in  $(R/\mathfrak{M})[X]$  has 1 as a simple root; therefore, by Hensel's Lemma, the polynomial  $X^q - \mu \in R[X]$  has a root  $\eta_q \in \widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$ . Let us now fix a positive integer  $n > 0$ ; we shall show that there exists a prime number  $p > n$ , different from the characteristic, such that  $X^p - \mu$  is irreducible over  $K$ ; then  $u = \eta_p \in \widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  will be the required element. By contradiction, let us assume that  $X^q - \mu$  is reducible over  $K$  for all large enough primes  $q$ ; it is then known from field theory that  $\mu$  is a  $q$ -th power in  $K$  (see e.g. [5]):  $\mu = \theta_q^q$ , for some  $\theta_q \in K$ . Since  $X^q - \mu \in R[X]$ , we then obtain

that the  $\theta_q$  lie in the integral closure  $\overline{R}$  of  $R$  in  $K$ . Since  $R$  is noetherian,  $\overline{R}$  is a Krull ring by the above recalled result. Now,  $\mu$  is not a unit of  $\overline{R}$ , since it is not a unit of  $R$ , and therefore  $\mu$  is contained in a minimal prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of  $\overline{R}$ , by (ii); moreover  $\overline{R}_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is a DVR by (i). We conclude that  $\mu$  is not a unit of  $\overline{R}_{\mathfrak{P}}$ , but  $\mu$  is a  $q$ -th power in  $\overline{R}_{\mathfrak{P}}$  for all  $q$  large enough, since the  $\theta_q$  lie in  $\overline{R} \subseteq \overline{R}_{\mathfrak{P}}$ ; this fact is clearly impossible in a DVR, and yields the required contradiction.

It remains to show that  $R[u]$  is a domain. Let us consider the ideal  $\mathfrak{J}$  generated by  $X^p - \mu$  in  $R[X]$ ; since  $X^p - \mu$  is monic, the division algorithm shows that

$$\mathfrak{J}K[X] \cap R[X] = \mathfrak{J},$$

whence  $\mathfrak{J}$  is a prime ideal, consisting of those  $f(X) \in R[X]$  such that  $f(u) = 0$ . We conclude that  $R[u] \cong R[X]/\mathfrak{J}$  is a domain, as desired. ■

**COROLLARY 3.** *Let  $R$  be a non local noetherian domain,  $\mathfrak{M}$  a maximal ideal of  $R$  such that  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is a domain; then  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is neither a finite nor a pure transcendental extension of  $K$ .*

It is clear that the hypothesis that  $R$  is not local is essential in the preceding theorem (otherwise  $R$  could be complete in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology). However we also remark that Nagata [6] proved the existence of a *non complete* DVR  $R$  such that the degree  $[K_{\mathfrak{M}} : K]$  is finite; moreover Ribenboim [10] showed that a DVR satisfying this property must be of prime characteristic, and  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  must be a purely inseparable extension of  $K$  (these conditions are of course satisfied by Nagata's example).

This situation is very far from the one examined in Theorem 2: from its proof we actually infer that, when  $\widehat{R}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is a domain,  $\widehat{K}_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is never a purely inseparable extension of  $K$ .

**2.** – The main purpose of this second section is to show the somewhat surprising fact of the existence of domains  $R$  non-complete in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, whose completion is  $R_{\mathfrak{M}}$ .

We shall denote by  $\chi_A$  the characteristic of a ring  $A$ ; given a domain  $T$  and a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$ , we denote by  $\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}$  the canonical projection of  $T$  onto the residue field  $T/\mathfrak{M}$ .

**LEMMA 4.** *Let  $T$  be a domain and  $\mathfrak{M}$  a maximal ideal of  $T$ ; let  $R$  be a subring of  $T$  and let  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$ . Then  $\mathfrak{N}$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$  if  $\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(R) = T/\mathfrak{M}$ .*

PROOF. Let  $a \in R \setminus \mathfrak{N}$ ; since  $\mathfrak{M}$  is maximal in  $T$ , there exists  $\beta \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M}$  such that  $a\beta \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{M}}$ . Since  $\pi_{\mathfrak{N}}(R) = T/\mathfrak{M}$ , we have  $\beta = b + m$ , with  $b \in R$  and  $m \in \mathfrak{M}$ ; this yields  $ab - 1 \in \mathfrak{M} \cap R = \mathfrak{N}$ . Since the choice of  $a$  was arbitrary, we get the desired conclusion. ■

LEMMA 5. *Let  $T$  be a local domain with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Let  $R$  be a subring of  $T$  such that  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$  is maximal in  $R$  and  $T = R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{N}^n = R \cap (\mathfrak{M}^n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , i.e. the  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic topology of  $R$  coincides with the topology induced on  $R$  by the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology of  $T$ .*

PROOF. It is enough to prove that  $\mathfrak{N}^n \supseteq R \cap (\mathfrak{M}^n)$  for all  $n$ . Since  $T = R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ , then  $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{N}R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ , hence the above inclusion holds if we show that  $r = m/s$ , with  $r \in R$ ,  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{N}$ ,  $m \in \mathfrak{M}^n$ , implies  $r \in \mathfrak{N}^n$ . Equivalently,  $rs \in \mathfrak{M}^n$  and  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{N}$  yields  $r \in \mathfrak{N}^n$ . By induction on  $n$ , we can assume that  $r \in \mathfrak{N}^{n-1}$ ; moreover, from  $\mathfrak{N}$  maximal in  $R$  and  $s \notin \mathfrak{N}$ , it follows that  $st = 1 + \xi$ , for suitable  $t \in R$  and  $\xi \in \mathfrak{N}$ . Therefore  $r + r\xi = rst \in \mathfrak{N}^n$ ; since  $r \in \mathfrak{N}^{n-1}$ , then  $r\xi \in \mathfrak{N}^n$ , whence  $r \in \mathfrak{N}^n$ , too, as desired. ■

LEMMA 6. *Let  $R$  be a domain,  $\mathfrak{N}$  a maximal ideal of  $R$ , and let us consider the localization  $R_{\mathfrak{N}}$  endowed with the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, where  $\mathfrak{M} = \mathfrak{N}R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ . Then  $R$  is dense in  $R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ .*

PROOF. We must show that

$$(t + \mathfrak{M}^n) \cap R \neq \emptyset \quad \text{for all } t \in R_{\mathfrak{N}}, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

The element  $t$  is of the form  $t = r/s$ , with  $r \in R$  and  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{N}$ . Multiplying both  $r$  and  $s$  by an inverse of  $s \pmod{\mathfrak{N}}$  we may assume that  $s = 1 - v$ , where  $v \in \mathfrak{N}$ . Then

$$t = r/(1 - v) \equiv r(1 + v + \dots + v^{n-1}) \pmod{\mathfrak{M}^n}$$

where  $r(1 + v + \dots + v^{n-1}) \in R$ , as desired. ■

We are now in the position to prove the main result of this section; it shows a general property enjoyed by domains; however, we are mainly interested in the case when  $T$  is complete in its  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology.

THEOREM 7. *Let  $T$  be a local domain, not a field, with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Then there exists a subring  $R$  of  $T$  satisfying the following:  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ ,  $R$  is not local and  $T = R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ ;  $R$  is not complete in the  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic topology. If  $T$  is complete in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, then it is the completion of  $R$  in its  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic topology.*

PROOF. We start choosing a suitable  $x \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M}$ . We must distinguish the cases of equal and unequal characteristics. If  $\chi(T) = 0$  and  $\chi(T/\mathfrak{M}) = p > 0$ , we set  $x$  to be a prime number distinct from  $p$ ; of course,  $x \notin \mathfrak{M}$ , since  $p \in \mathfrak{M}$ . If  $\chi(T) = \chi(T/\mathfrak{M})$ , then  $T$  contains a field  $L$  which is either  $\mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ . Now, if  $z$  is any nonzero element of  $\mathfrak{M}$ , then  $z$  is transcendental over  $L$ : in fact, if  $z$  is algebraic over  $L$ ; then  $z$  is a unit in  $L[z] \subseteq T$ , impossible. Note that  $\mathfrak{M} \neq 0$ , since  $T$  is not a field, by hypothesis. Let us set  $x = 1 + z$ ; then  $x$  is transcendental over  $L$  and  $x \notin \mathfrak{M}$ .

Let us now consider the family  $\mathcal{F}$  of the subrings  $B$  of  $T$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $x \in B$ ;
- (ii)  $1/x \notin B$ .

The family  $\mathcal{F}$  is nonempty; if  $\chi(T) \neq \chi(T/\mathfrak{M})$ , then  $\mathbb{Z} \in \mathcal{F}$ ; if  $\chi(T) = \chi(T/\mathfrak{M})$ , then  $L[x] \in \mathcal{F}$  (recall that  $x$  is transcendental over  $L$ ). Moreover  $\mathcal{F}$  is clearly inductive, with respect to the inclusion order, and so  $\mathcal{F}$  contains a maximal element  $R$ . Our purpose is to prove that  $R$  satisfies the requirements of our statement, from which we shall obtain the desired conclusion. Since  $x \in R$  is not a unit of  $R$ , let us fix a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of  $R$  which contains  $x$ ; the localization  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is not necessarily a subring of  $T$ , but it is contained in the field of fractions of  $T$ . It is useful to note that  $\mathfrak{P}$  does not contain the ideal  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$ : in the eterocharacteristic case  $p \in \mathfrak{N} \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ , since  $ax + bp = 1$ , for suitable  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \subset R$ ; in the equicharacteristic case we have, by construction,  $x - 1 \in \mathfrak{M} \cap R \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ .

Let us show various properties of  $R$ .

A)  $R$  is integrally closed in  $T$ .

By contradiction, let  $u \in T \setminus R$  be integral over  $R$ . Then, in view of the maximality of  $R$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $1/x \in R[u]$ . This implies that also  $1/x$  is integral over  $R$ ; but

$$a_0 + a_1(1/x) + \dots + (1/x)^k = 0 \quad \text{with } a_i \in R,$$

yields  $1/x \in R$ , impossible.

B) If  $z \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M}$ , then either  $z \in R$  or  $1/z \in R$ .

Suppose that  $z \notin R$ ; then  $1/x \in R[z]$ , by the maximality of  $R$ . From

$$(1) \quad 1/x = b_0 + b_1 z + \dots + b_h z^h, \quad b_i \in R$$



we get

$$(2) \quad (xb_0 - 1)(1/z)^h + xb_1(1/z)^{h-1} + \dots + xb_h = 0.$$

Since  $xb_0 - 1$  is a unit of  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ , (2) implies that  $1/z$  is integral over  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ ; let us also recall that  $1/z \in T$ , since  $T$  is local. If now  $1/z \notin R$ , we must have  $1/x \in R[1/z]$ , and so  $1/x$  is integral over  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ , impossible, since  $x \in \mathfrak{P}R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ . Thus  $1/z \in R$ , as desired.

C) If  $r \in R$  and  $r \notin \mathfrak{P} \cup \mathfrak{M}$ , then  $1/r \in R$ .

By contradiction, suppose that  $1/r \notin R$ . We have  $R[1/r] \subseteq T$ , since  $r \notin \mathfrak{M}$  implies  $1/r \in T$ , and therefore  $R$  maximal implies

$$(3) \quad 1/x = c_0 + c_1(1/r) + \dots + c_n(1/r)^n, \quad c_i \in R;$$

from (3) we readily get  $r^n \in xR \subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ , whence  $r \in \mathfrak{P}$ , against the hypothesis. (Note that C) implies that  $\mathfrak{P}$  and  $\mathfrak{M}$  are the unique maximal ideals of  $R$ ).

D)  $\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(R) = T/\mathfrak{M}$ , whence  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ , in view of Lemma 4.

Let us choose an arbitrary nonzero  $\eta \in T/\mathfrak{M}$ , and verify that  $\eta \in \pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(R)$ . Let  $y \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M}$  be such that  $\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(y) = \eta$ . If  $y \in R$  we are done. Otherwise,  $y \notin R$  implies  $1/y \in R$ , in view of property C). From property C) we derive that  $1/y \in \mathfrak{P}$ , since  $1/y \notin \mathfrak{M}$  and  $y = (1/y)^{-1} \notin R$ . Choose now  $m \in \mathfrak{N} \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ ; such  $m$  exists, as observed above. Then  $1/y + m \in R$  and  $1/y + m \notin \mathfrak{M} \cup \mathfrak{P}$ , and therefore C) implies  $(1/y + m)^{-1} = y/(1 + my) \in R$ , whence

$$\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(y/1 + my) = \pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(y)\pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(1 + my)^{-1} = \pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(y) = \eta \in \pi_{\mathfrak{M}}(R),$$

as desired.

E)  $T = R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ .

Let us observe that B) implies that  $T \setminus \mathfrak{M} \subseteq R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ : in fact if  $z \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M}$  and  $z \notin R$ , then  $1/z \in R$ , and  $1/z \notin \mathfrak{M} \cap R = \mathfrak{N}$ ; therefore  $(1/z)^{-1} = z \in R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ . Moreover, if  $z \in \mathfrak{M}$  and  $z \notin R$ , then  $1 + z \in T \setminus \mathfrak{M} \subseteq R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ , whence  $z \in R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ . We conclude that  $T \subseteq R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ , as we wanted.

It is now easy to reach the desired conclusions: we know that  $\mathfrak{N} = \mathfrak{M} \cap R$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$  and that  $T = R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ ;  $R$  is not complete in the  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic topology, because it is not a local ring ( $x \notin \mathfrak{N}$  and  $1/x \notin R$ ); the  $\mathfrak{N}$ -adic topology of  $R$  coincides with the topology induced by the

$\mathfrak{M}$ -adic one of  $T$ , since we are in the position to apply Lemma 5;  $R$  is a dense subset of  $T$  in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology, as a consequence of Lemma 6. Therefore, if  $T$  is complete, it must be the completion of  $R$  in the  $\mathfrak{M}$ -adic topology. ■

We remark that the domain  $R$  constructed in the above theorem is never noetherian, as an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.

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