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MODULAR SYSTEMS.

The Algebraic Theory of Modular Systems. By F. S. MACAULAY. [Cambridge Tracts in Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, No. 19.] Cambridge University Press, 1916. xiv + 112 pp.

A MODULAR system is an infinite aggregate of polynomials in n variables $x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n$, defined by the property that if F, F_1, F_2 belong to the system, $F_1 + F_2$ and AF also belong to the system, where A is any polynomial in $x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n$. Hence if $F_1, F_2, \cdots, F_k$ belong to a modular system so also does $A_1F_1 + A_2F_2 + \cdots + A_kF_k$, where $A_1, A_2, \cdots, A_k$ are arbitrary polynomials in $x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n$. In the algebraic theory (to which this tract is devoted) polynomials such as F and aF, where a is a quantity not involving the variables, are regarded as the same polynomial.