

ASSOCIATED ALGEBRAIC AND PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

BY J. A. GREENWOOD

1. *Introduction.* Between an algebraic equation and an ordinary linear homogeneous differential equation with constant coefficients, in a single unknown, there is a familiar and useful association, illustrated by the equations

$$x^2 + 3x - 4 = 0, \quad u'' + 3u' - 4u = 0.$$

Riquier* has shown that a similar association exists between finite systems consisting of m algebraic equations in n unknowns and m linear homogeneous partial differential equations in a single unknown and n independent variables as follows. Let

$$(1) \quad \sum_0^p a_{i_1 \dots i_n}^\alpha (i_1 \dots i_n) = 0, \quad (\alpha = 1, \dots, m),$$

be any system of algebraic equations, where the a 's are constants and $(i_1 \dots i_n)$ is to be interpreted as the monomial $x_1^{i_1} \dots x_n^{i_n}$. Let the associated system of partial differential equations be

$$(2) \quad \sum_0^p a_{i_1 \dots i_n}^\alpha (i_1 \dots i_n) u = 0, \quad (\alpha = 1, \dots, m),$$

where $(i_1 \dots i_n)$ is to be interpreted as the differential operator $\partial^{i_1 + \dots + i_n} / \partial x_1^{i_1} \dots \partial x_n^{i_n}$.

We shall prove in this paper the two following theorems.

THEOREM 1. *System (1) is inconsistent if and only if the general solution of (2) is $u = 0$.*

THEOREM 2. *The general solution of (2) is a non-zero polynomial if and only if $x_1 = \dots = x_n = 0$ is the solution of (1).*

2. *Corresponding Operations on the Two Systems.* We shall mul-

* Sur la résolution numérique du système d'équations algébriques entières à un nombre quelconque d'inconnues, Annales Scientifiques de l'École Normale Supérieure, vol. 63 (1928), pp. 145-188.