

La contribution pour la minoration de θ ne provenant pas des $A(T, N_t)$ entiers est au moins égale à ce qu'elle serait si ces entiers étaient isolés, puisque $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_{k-1} + \lambda \leq k\lambda$. Il en résulte que si t dépasse l'entier t_0 défini précédemment, alors:

$$M(K, N_t) \geq \frac{1}{2} \{M(L, N_t) + M(L', N_t)\} + \frac{a-2}{4(a-1)} - \varepsilon.$$

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An application of Hilbert's irreducibility theorem to diophantine equations

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This paper is a sequel to [3]. That was a study of polynomials F with the property that for every integer t^* (or for some integer t^* from every arithmetic progression) the equation $F(x, y, t^*) = 0$ is solvable for integers x, y . It has been proved that under suitable conditions on F this property implies the solvability of $F(x, y, t) = 0$ for x, y in $Q[t]$. It has been shown also by an example that the result fails if t is replaced by a two-dimensional vector \mathbf{t} . In the present paper I show how to modify the assertion so that it remains true for vector \mathbf{t} of any dimension. The principal tool is the classical Hilbert's irreducibility theorem in a slightly refined form given in [2].

I shall prove the following theorems.

THEOREM 1. Let $F \in Q[u, \tau, t]$, $M \in Q[\tau, t]$, $\tau = \langle \tau_1, \dots, \tau_r \rangle$. Suppose that for every r arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_r there exist integers $\tau_1^*, \dots, \tau_r^*$ and polynomials $x, y \in Q[t]$ such that $\tau_s^* \in P_s$ ($1 \leq s \leq r$) and

$$F(x(t), \tau^*, t) = M(\tau^*, t)y(t).$$

Then there exist polynomials $X \in Q(\tau)[t]$, $Y \in Q(\tau)[t]$ satisfying

$$F(X(t), \tau, t) = M(\tau, t)Y(t).$$

THEOREM 2. Let $F \in Q[u, \tau, t]$ be of degree at most four in u , $M \in Q[\tau, t]$. Suppose that for every $r+1$ arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_{r+1} there exist integers $\tau_1^*, \dots, \tau_r^*, t^*$, x, y such that $\tau_i^* \in P_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq r$), $t^* \in P_{r+1}$ and

$$F(x, \tau^*, t^*) = M(\tau^*, t^*)y.$$

Then there exist polynomials $X, Y \in Q(\tau)[t]$ satisfying

$$F(X(t), \tau, t) = M(\tau, t)Y(t).$$

The proof of Theorem 1 is based on the two following lemmata.

LEMMA 1. Let $M \in Q[\tau, t]$ be squarefree with respect to t , $F \in Q[x, \tau, t]$ have the leading coefficient with respect to x prime to M . There exist a non-zero

polynomial $\Phi \in Q[u, \tau, t]$ such that if $\tau^* \in C^r, x \in C[t]$, the degree of x with respect to t is less than the degree of M and

$$F(x(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{M(\tau^*, t)}$$

then

$$\Phi(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0.$$

Moreover the leading coefficient of Φ with respect to u is independent of t .

Proof. Let F be of degree f in x with the leading coefficient $a(\tau, t)$, M be of degree m in t with the leading coefficient $\mu(\tau)$. If $m = 0$ the condition on the degree of x implies $x = 0$, thus we can take $\Phi(u, \tau, t) = u$. If $m > 0$ let for indeterminates x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}

$$F\left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i t^i, \tau, t\right) = \sum_{j=0}^h A_j(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, \tau) t^j \quad (h \geq m-1)$$

and let $B_j(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, \tau)$ be the homogeneous part of A_j of degree f with respect to x_0, \dots, x_{m-1} , if A_j is of that degree, otherwise $B_j = 0$. Clearly

$$a(\tau, t) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i t^i\right)^f = \sum_{j=0}^h B_j(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, \tau) t^j.$$

We have for each $j \leq h$

$$\mu(\tau)^h t^j \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \alpha_{ij} t^i \pmod{M(\tau, t)}, \quad \alpha_{ij} \in Q[\tau].$$

Hence in the ring $Q[\tau, t]$

$$(1) \quad \mu(\tau)^h F\left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i t^i, \tau, t\right) \equiv \sum_{j=0}^h A_j \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \alpha_{ij} t^i \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} t^i \sum_{j=0}^h \alpha_{ij} A_j \pmod{M(\tau, t)}$$

and similarly

$$(2) \quad \mu(\tau)^h a(\tau, t) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i t^i\right)^f \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} t^i \sum_{j=0}^h \alpha_{ij} B_j \pmod{M(\tau, t)}.$$

Let us consider the system of polynomials

$$(3a) \quad F_i(x_0, \dots, x_m, \tau) = x_m^f \sum_{j=0}^h \alpha_{ij} A_j\left(\frac{x_0}{x_m}, \dots, \frac{x_{m-1}}{x_m}, \tau\right) \quad (i = 0, \dots, m-1),$$

$$F_m(x_0, \dots, x_m, \tau, t, u) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x_i t^i - x_m u$$

where u is a new indeterminate.

We assert that the resultant $R(u, \tau, t)$ of the above system with respect to x_0, \dots, x_m is non-zero. Indeed by a known property of resultants (see [1], p. 11.) the cofactor of u^m in R is the resultant R_0 of the system

$$(3b) \quad F_i(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, 0, \tau) = \sum_{j=0}^h \alpha_{ij} B_j(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, \tau) \quad (i = 0, \dots, m-1).$$

Now, if $R_0 = 0$ then by the fundamental property of resultants the system $F_i(x_0, \dots, x_{m-1}, 0, \tau) = 0$ has a non-zero solution $(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_{m-1})$ in the algebraic closure $\widehat{Q}(\tau)$ of $Q(\tau)$. From (2) and (3b) we get

$$\mu(\tau)^h a(\tau, t) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \xi_i t^i\right)^f \equiv 0 \pmod{M(\tau, t)},$$

where the congruence is in the ring $\widehat{Q}(\tau)[t]$. But by the assumption $(a(\tau, t), M(\tau, t)) = 1$ and $M(\tau, t)$ is square-free with respect to t , hence

$$\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \xi_i t^i \equiv 0 \pmod{M(\tau, t)}$$

and M being of degree m we get $\xi_i = 0$ ($0 \leq i < m$), a contradiction. Thus $R_0 \neq 0$, R_0 is independent of t . We set

$$(4) \quad \Phi(u, \tau, t) = \mu(\tau) R(u, \tau, t).$$

Clearly the leading coefficient of Φ with respect to u is μR_0 and is independent of t .

Suppose now that for a $\tau^* \in C^r$ and $x \in C[t]$ we have

$$x(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \xi_i t^i \quad \text{and} \quad F(x(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{M(\tau^*, t)}.$$

Then either $\mu(\tau^*) = 0$ and by (4) $\Phi(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$ or $\mu(\tau^*) \neq 0$ and then (1) implies

$$\sum_{j=0}^h \alpha_{ij}(\tau^*) A_j(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_{m-1}, \tau^*) = 0 \quad (0 \leq i \leq m-1).$$

This gives by (3a)

$$F_i(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_{m-1}, 1, \tau^*) = 0 \quad (0 \leq i \leq m-1)$$

and also $F_m(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_{m-1}, 1, \tau^*, t, x(t)) = 0$. Thus $R(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$ and by (4) $\Phi(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$.

LEMMA 2. Let $P(\tau, t)$ be a polynomial irreducible over Q of positive degree in t , v a positive integer and let $F_i \in Q[x, \tau, t]$ ($1 \leq i \leq k$). If for

every r arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_r , there exist integers $\tau_1^*, \dots, \tau_r^*$, an index $i \leq k$ and a polynomial $x \in Q[t]$ such that $\tau_s^* \in P_s$ ($s \leq r$),

$$(5) \quad F_i(x(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}$$

then there exist an index $i \leq k$ and a polynomial $X \in Q(\tau)[t]$ such that

$$(6) \quad F_i(X(\tau, t), \tau, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)^r}$$

Proof by induction on r . For $r = 1$ we can at once dispose of the trivial case where for some i we have $F_i(0, \tau, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)}$. This case being excluded we represent F_i in the form

$$(7) \quad F_i(x, \tau, t) = G_i(x, \tau, t) + P(\tau, t)H_i(x, \tau, t)x^{d_i}$$

where the degree of G_i with respect to x is less than d_i , and the leading coefficient of G_i with respect to x is not divisible by P . Then we take in Lemma 1

$$(8) \quad F = \prod_{i=1}^k G_i(x, \tau, t), \quad M = P(\tau, t).$$

Let $\Phi(u, \tau, t)$ be a polynomial, the existence of which is asserted in that lemma. Let further

$$(9) \quad \Phi(u, \tau, t) = \Phi_0(\tau, t) \prod_{\varrho=1}^{\varrho_1} \Phi_\varrho(u, \tau, t),$$

where $\Phi_0 \in Q[\tau, t]$, $\Phi_\varrho \in Q[u, \tau, t]$, Φ_ϱ is irreducible over Q ($1 \leq \varrho \leq \varrho_1$) and is of degree 1 in u for $\varrho \leq \varrho_0$, of degree at least 2 in u for $\varrho > \varrho_0$. By Lemma 1 the leading coefficient of Φ with respect to u is independent of t hence

$$(10) \quad \Phi_0(\tau, t) = \Psi_0(\tau)$$

and we may denote by $\Psi_\varrho(\tau)$ the leading coefficient of Φ_ϱ with respect to u . If for all positive $\varrho \leq \varrho_0$ we have

$$(11) \quad H_\varrho(\tau, t) = \Psi_\varrho(\tau)^f F \left(-\frac{\Phi_\varrho(0, \tau, t)}{\Psi_\varrho(\tau)}, \tau, t \right) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)}$$

then the resultant R_ϱ of H_ϱ and P with respect to t is different from 0. In virtue of Theorem 1 of [2] there exist r arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_r such that for all vectors $\tau^* \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ all polynomials $\Phi_\varrho(x, \tau^*, t)$ are irreducible ($1 \leq \varrho \leq \varrho_1$) and

$$(12) \quad \prod_{\varrho=0}^{\varrho_1} \Psi_\varrho(\tau^*) \prod_{\varrho=1}^{\varrho_0} R_\varrho(\tau^*) \pi(\tau^*) \neq 0$$

where $\pi(\tau)$ is the leading coefficient of P with respect to t . If we combine this with (5) we get a contradiction. Indeed for $\tau^* \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$, from (5) and (7) we get

$$G_i(x(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)},$$

hence by (8)

$$F(x(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}.$$

Let $x(t) = P(\tau^*, t)y(t) + x_1(t)$, where the degree of x_1 with respect to t is less than the degree of P , $y \in Q[t]$.

We have

$$(13) \quad F(x_1(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}$$

and by Lemma 1

$$\Phi(x_1(t), \tau^*, t) = 0.$$

Hence by (9)

$$\Phi_0(\tau^*, t) \prod_{\varrho=1}^{\varrho_1} \Phi_\varrho(x_1(t), \tau^*, t) = 0.$$

By (10) and (12) $\Phi_0(\tau^*, t) \neq 0$, moreover since $\Phi_\varrho(u, \tau^*, t)$ is irreducible of degree ≥ 2 for $\varrho > \varrho_0$ we have $\Phi_\varrho(x_1(t), \tau^*, t) \neq 0$ for $\varrho > \varrho_0$. Thus there exists a $\varrho \leq \varrho_0$ such that

$$\Phi_\varrho(x_1(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$$

and then

$$x_1(t) = -\frac{\Phi_\varrho(0, \tau^*, t)}{\Psi_\varrho(\tau^*)}.$$

From (11) and (13) we get

$$H_\varrho(\tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}$$

and $\pi(\tau^*)R_\varrho(\tau^*) = 0$ contrary to (12). The obtained contradiction proves that for a positive $\varrho \leq \varrho_0$ we have

$$\Psi_\varrho(\tau)^f F \left(-\frac{\Phi_\varrho(0, \tau, t)}{\Psi_\varrho(\tau)}, \tau, t \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)}.$$

From (8) and the irreducibility of P it follows that for a certain $i \leq k$

$$G_i \left(-\frac{\Phi_\varrho(0, \tau, t)}{\Psi_\varrho(\tau)}, \tau, t \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)},$$

where the congruence is taken in the ring $Q(\tau)[t]$. Then by (7)

$$F_i(X(t), \tau, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)}, \quad X = -\frac{\Phi_i(0, \tau, t)}{\Psi'_\sigma(\tau)} \in Q(\tau)[t]$$

which shows (6) for $\nu = 1$.

Now, let us suppose that the lemma is true for the modulus $P^{\nu-1}$ ($\nu > 1$).

Let

$$(14) \quad F_i(x, \tau, t) \equiv \prod_{j=1}^{J_i} (x - x_{ij}(\tau, t)) \cdot F_{i0}(x, \tau, t) \pmod{P(\tau, t)}$$

where $x_{ij}(\tau, t) \in Q(\tau)[t]$, $F_{i0} \in Q(\tau)[x, t]$. Choose $D_i \in Q[t]$ such that $D_i F_{i0} \in Q[x, \tau, t]$ and the congruence $F_{i0}(x, \tau, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)}$ is unsolvable for $x \in Q(\tau)[t]$. We have for each $j \leq J_i$ and a suitable $D_{ij} \in Q[\tau]$

$$(15) \quad D_{ij}(\tau) F_i(x_{ij}(\tau, t) + P(\tau, t)y, \tau, t) = P(\tau, t) F_{ij}(y, \tau, t), \\ F_{ij} \in Q[y, \tau, t].$$

In virtue of the already proved case $\nu = 1$ of the lemma there exist arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_r such that if $\tau_s^* \in P_s$ ($1 \leq s \leq r$) then none of the congruences $D_i F_{i0}(x, \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}$ ($1 \leq i \leq k$) is solvable. We may assume moreover choosing if necessary some subprogressions of P_1, \dots, P_r and using Theorem 1 of [2] that all progressions P_i have the same difference and that for $\tau^* \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ the polynomial $P(\tau^*, t)$ is irreducible. For $\tau^* \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ and for each $i \leq k$ the conditions (5) and (14) imply that $x(t) \equiv x_{ij}(\tau^*, t) \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)}$ for a certain $j \leq J_i$.

Hence $x(t) = x_{ij}(\tau^*, t) + P(\tau^*, t)y(t)$ and by (5) and (15) we get

$$F_{ij}(y(t), \tau^*, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau^*, t)^{\nu-1}}.$$

Let $P_s = \{n \in \mathbb{Z}: n \equiv b_s \pmod{a}\}$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle b_1, \dots, b_r \rangle$. By the inductive assumptions applied to the set of polynomials $F_{ij}(y, a\tau + \mathbf{b}, t)$ ($1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq J_i$) we infer the existence of a pair (i, j) and of a polynomial $Y \in Q(\tau)[t]$ such that $1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq J_i$,

$$F_{ij}(Y(\tau, t), \tau, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(\tau, t)^{\nu-1}}.$$

It follows now from (15) that (6) holds with

$$X(\tau, t) = x_{ij}(\tau, t) + P(\tau, t)Y(\tau, t).$$

Proof of Theorem 1. Assume first that $M \neq 0$ and let

$$M(\tau, t) = P_0(\tau) \prod_{i=1}^m P_i(\tau, t)^{\nu_i}$$

where for $l \geq 1$ the polynomials $P_l(\tau, t)$ are of positive degree in t , irreducible and prime to each other. For each $l \leq m$ the assumptions of Lemma 2 are satisfied with $k = 1, P = P_l, \nu = \nu_l; F_1 = F$. Hence by the said lemma there exist polynomials $X_l, Y_l \in Q(\tau)[t]$ such that

$$F(X_l(\tau, t), \tau, t) = P_l^{\nu_l} Y_l(\tau, t)$$

and it is enough to choose

$$X \equiv X_l \pmod{P_l}, \quad Y \equiv Y_l \pmod{P_l} \quad (1 \leq l \leq m).$$

Assume now that $M = 0$. Let

$$(16) \quad F(x, \tau, t) = F_0(\tau, t) \prod_{\sigma=1}^{\sigma_1} F_\sigma(x, \tau, t)$$

where for $\sigma \geq 1$ the polynomials $F_\sigma(x, \tau, t)$ are irreducible, moreover $F_\sigma(x, \tau, t)$ is of degree 1 in x for $\sigma \leq \sigma_0$ and of degree at least 2 in x for $\sigma > \sigma_0$. Let $\phi_\sigma(\tau, t)$ be the leading coefficient of F_σ with respect to x .

From the irreducibility of $F_\sigma(x, \tau, t)$ it follows for $\sigma \leq \sigma_0$ that $\langle \phi_\sigma(\tau, t), F_\sigma(0, \tau, t) \rangle = 1$ hence the resultant $R_\sigma(\tau)$ of $\phi_\sigma(\tau, t)$ and $F_\sigma(0, \tau, t)$ with respect to t is non-zero. If for a positive $\sigma \leq \sigma_0$ we have $\phi_\sigma \in Q[\tau]$

then we take $X = -\frac{F_\sigma(0, \tau, t)}{\phi_\sigma(\tau, 0)}, Y = 0$.

If for all positive $\sigma \leq \sigma_0$ we have $\phi_\sigma \notin Q[\tau]$ then let $\psi_\sigma(\tau)$ be the leading coefficient of ϕ_σ with respect to t ($0 \leq \sigma \leq \sigma_0$). In virtue of Theorem 1 of [2] there exist arithmetic progressions P_1, \dots, P_r such that for $\tau \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ all polynomials $F_\sigma(x, \tau^*, t)$ are irreducible and

$$(17) \quad \prod_{\sigma=0}^{\sigma_1} \psi_\sigma(\tau^*) \prod_{\sigma=1}^{\sigma_0} R_\sigma(\tau^*) \neq 0.$$

If we combine this with the condition

$$F(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$$

we get a contradiction. Indeed by (16) we have for a positive $\sigma \leq \sigma_1$

$$F_\sigma(x(t), \tau^*, t) = 0$$

and since for $\sigma > \sigma_0$ the polynomial $F_\sigma(x, \tau^*, t)$ is irreducible of degree at least 2 in x we get $\sigma \leq \sigma_0$. Hence

$$\phi_\sigma(\tau^*, t)x(t) + F_\sigma(0, \tau^*, t) = 0, \quad \phi_\sigma(\tau^*, t) | F_\sigma(0, \tau^*, t)$$

and since by (17) $R_\sigma(\tau^*) \neq 0$ it follows that $\phi_\sigma(\tau^*, t) \in Q$. This however is impossible because ϕ_σ is of degree at least 1 in t and $\psi_\sigma(\tau^*) \neq 0$.

For the proof of Theorem 2 we shall need one more lemma.

LEMMA 3. Let $L \in Z[x, t]$ be of degree at most four in x , $P_0 \in Z[t]$ be irreducible. If for all sufficiently large primes p and all integers t^* such that $p \nmid P_0(t^*)$ the congruence $L(x, t^*) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ is solvable in Z then the congruence $L(x, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P_0(t)^v}$ is solvable in $Q[t]$.

Proof. For the case, where P_0 is primitive the lemma is proved in [3] as Lemma 6. In general let $P_0 = cP_1$, where P_1 is primitive. Since for all primes $p \nmid c$ the relations $p \nmid P_0(t^*)$ and $p \nmid P_1(t^*)$ are equivalent the general case follows from the special case mentioned earlier.

Proof of Theorem 2. If $M = 0$ the assertion follows from [2], Theorem 2. If $M \neq 0$ it is enough in virtue of the Chinese Remainder Theorem for the ring $Q(\tau)[t]$ to prove the assertion for the case $M = P(\tau, t)^v$, where $P \in Z(\tau, t)$ is an irreducible polynomial of positive degree in t . By Theorem 1 of [2] there exist arithmetic progression P_1, \dots, P_r such that if $\tau^* \in P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ then $P(\tau^*, t)$ is irreducible in $Q[t]$. We may assume without loss of generality that $P_i = \{n \in Z: n \equiv b_i \pmod{a}\}$. Take an integral vector τ^* , an integer t^* and a prime p such that $p \nmid P(a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t^*)$. By the assumption applied to the arithmetic progressions $p^v u + a\tau_1^* + b_1, \dots, p^v u + a\tau_r^* + b_r, p^v u + t^*$ there exist integers $u_1, \dots, u_{r+1}, x, y$ such that

$$F(x, p^v u + a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, p^v u_{r+1} + t^*) = P(p^v u + a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, p^v u_{r+1} + t^*)y,$$

where we have put $\mathbf{u} = \langle u_1, \dots, u_r \rangle$. Hence

$$F(x, a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t^*) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^v}$$

and the assumptions of Lemma 3 are satisfied with $L = F(x, a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t)$, $P_0 = P(a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t)$. By that lemma the congruence

$$F(x, a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t) \equiv 0 \pmod{P(a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t)^v}$$

is solvable in $Q[t]$, i.e. there exist polynomials $x, y \in Q[t]$ such that

$$F(x(t), a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t) = P(a\tau^* + \mathbf{b}, t)^v y(t).$$

Since this holds for all integral vectors $\tau^* \in Z^r$ Theorem 1 implies the existence of polynomials $X, Y \in Q(\tau)[t]$ such that

$$F(X_0(\tau, t), a\tau + \mathbf{b}, t) = P(a\tau + \mathbf{b}, t)^v Y_0(\tau, t)$$

and Theorem 2 follows with $X = X_0\left(\frac{\tau - \mathbf{b}}{a}, t\right)$, $Y = Y_0\left(\frac{\tau - \mathbf{b}}{a}, t\right)$.

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