

Uniqueness of Entire and Meromorphic Functions with their Nonlinear Differential Polynomials

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Abstract

In this paper, we study the uniqueness of two entire and meromorphic functions with their nonlinear differential polynomials. We consider the case for some general differential polynomials $[f^n P(f) f']$ where $P(f)$ is a polynomial which generalize and improve previous results of Fang and Hong [1] and Lahiri and Mandal [7].

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Introduction

In this paper, we use the standard notations and terms in the value distribution theory [12]. For any nonconstant meromorphic function $f(z)$ on the complex plane C , we denote by $S(r, f)$ any quantity satisfying $S(r, f) = o\{T(r, f)\}$, as $r \rightarrow +\infty$, except possibly for a set of r of finite linear measures. A meromorphic function $a(z)$ is called a small function with respect to $f(z)$ if $T(r, a) = S(r, f)$. Let $S(f)$ be the set of meromorphic function in the complex plane C which are small functions with respect to f . Set $E(a(z), f) = \{z: f(z) - a(z) = 0\}$, $a(z) \in S(f)$, where a zero point with multiplicity m is counted m times in the set. If these zero points are only counted once, then we denote the set by $\bar{E}(a, f)$. Let k be a positive integer. Set $E_k(a(z), f) = \{z: f(z) - a(z) = 0, \exists i, 1 \leq i \leq k, s.t., f^{(i)}(z) - a^{(i)}(z) \neq 0\}$, where a zero point with multiplicity m is counted m times in the set.

Let $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ be two transcendental meromorphic functions, $a(z) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$.

If $E(a(z), f) = E(a(z), g)$, then we say that $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ share the value $a(z)$ CM, especially, we say that $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ have the same fixed points when $a(z) = z$.

If $\bar{E}(a, f) = \bar{E}(a, g)$, then we say that $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ share the $a(z)$ IM. If $E_k(a(z), f) = E_k(a(z), g)$, we say that $f(z) - a$ and $g(z) - a$ have same zeros with the same multiplicities $\leq k$.

Moreover, we also use the following notations.

We denote by $N_k(r, f)$ the counting function for poles of $f(z)$ with multiplicities $\leq k$, and by $\bar{N}_k(r, f)$ the corresponding one for which the multiplicity is not counted. Let $N_{(k)}(r, f)$ be the counting function for poles of $f(z)$ with multiplicities $\geq k$, and let $\bar{N}_{(k)}(r, f)$ be the corresponding one for which the multiplicity is not counted. Set $N_k(r, f) = \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, f) + \dots + \bar{N}_{(k)}(r, f)$.

Similarly, We have the notations

$$N_k\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right), \bar{N}_k\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right), N_{(k)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right), \bar{N}_{(k)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right), N_k\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right).$$

Let $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ be two nonconstant meromorphic functions and $\bar{E}(1, f) = \bar{E}(1, g)$.

We denote by $\bar{N}_L(r, \frac{1}{(f-1)})$ the counting function for 1-points of both $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ about which $f(z)$ has larger multiplicity than $g(z)$, with multiplicity is not being counted, and denote by $N_{11}(r, \frac{1}{(f-1)})$ the counting function for common simple 1-points of both $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ where multiplicity is not counted. Similarly, we have the notation $\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{(g-1)}\right)$.

During the last few years, a considerable amount of work is being done on the uniqueness problem concerning differential polynomials (cf. [1, 4, 5, 6]). Recently, Fang and Hong[1] proved the following result.

Theorem A: Let f and g be two transcendental entire function and $n(\geq 11)$ be an positive integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share 1CM, then $f \equiv g$.

In 2005, Lahiri and Mandal [7] proved the following two theorems.

Theorem B: Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions and $n(\geq 10)$ be an positive integer. If $E_2(1; f^n(f-1)f') = E_2(1; g^n(g-1)g')$, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem C: Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic functions such that $\Theta(\infty; f) + \Theta(\infty; g) > \frac{4}{n+1}$ and let $n(\geq 17)$ be an positive integer. If $E_2(1; f^n(f-1)f') = E_2(1; g^n(g-1)g')$, then $f \equiv g$.

Naturally we can ask whether there exists a corresponding unicity theorem to Theorem B and Theorem C for $[f^n P(f) f']$ where $P(f)$ is a polynomial. In this paper, we give a positive answer to above question and prove the following two theorems.

Uniqueness of Nonlinear Differential Polynomials

Theorem 1.1: Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic functions. Let $P(f) = a_m f^m + a_{m-1} f^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0$, ($a_m \neq 0$), and a_i ($i = 0, 1, \dots, m$) is the first nonzero coefficient from the right, and n, m, k be a positive integer with $n(> m + 10)$, $k \geq 3$. If $E_k(1; f^n P(f) f') = E_k(1; g^n P(g) g')$, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem 1.2: Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions. Let $P(f) = a_m f^m + a_{m-1} f^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0$, ($a_m \neq 0$), and a_i ($i = 0, 1, \dots, m$) is the first nonzero coefficient from the right, and n, m, k be a positive integer with $n(> m + 6)$, $k \geq 3$. If $E_k(1; f^n P(f) f') = E_k(1; g^n P(g) g')$, then $f \equiv g$.

Lemmas

In this section, we present some lemmas which are needed in the sequel.

Lemma 2.1: ([8, 10]) Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function and $P(f) = a_0 + a_1 f + \dots + a_n f^n$, where $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$ are constants and $a_n \neq 0$. Then

$$T(r, P(f)) = nT(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

Lemma 2.2: ([11]) Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function. Then

$$N(r, 0; f^{(k)}) \leq k\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 0; f) + S(r, f).$$

Lemma 2.3: Let f and g be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. Then $f^n P(f) f' g^n P(g) g' \neq 1$ where $n + m (\geq 6)$ is an positive integer.

Proof: Let

$$(2.1) \quad f^n P(f) f' g^n P(g) g' \equiv 1$$

Let z_0 be a 1-point of f with multiplicity $p (\geq 1)$. Then z_0 is a pole of g with multiplicity $q (\geq 1)$ such that $np + p - 1 = nq + q + mq + 1$, i.e.,

$$(2.2) \quad mq + 2 = (n + 1)(p - q)$$

From (2.2) we get $q \geq \frac{n-1}{m}$ and again from (2.2) we obtain

$$p \geq \frac{1}{n+1} \left[\frac{(n+m+1)(n-1)}{m} + 2 \right] = \frac{n+m-1}{m}.$$

Let z_1 be a zero of $P(f)$ with multiplicity $p_1 (\geq 1)$. Then z_1 is a pole of g with multiplicity $q_1 (\geq 1)$, say. So from (2.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2p_1 - 1 &= (n + m + 1)q + 1 \\ &\geq (n + m + 2) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$p_1 \geq \frac{(n+m+3)}{2}$$

Since a pole of f is either a zero of $g^n P(g)$ or a zero of g' . we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; g) + \bar{N}(r, 0; g^m) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \frac{m}{n+m-1} N(r, 0; g) + \frac{2}{n+m+3} N(r, 0; g^m) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; g') \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \left(\frac{m}{n+m-1} + \frac{2m}{n+m+3} \right) T(r, g) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Where $\bar{N}_0(r, 0; g')$ denotes the reduced counting function of those zeros of g' which are not the zeros of $gP(g)$.

As $P(f) = a_m f^m + a_{m-1} f^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0$ where $a_m, a_{m-1}, \dots, a_0$ are m distinct complex numbers. Then by second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we get

$$\begin{aligned} mT(r, f) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + \bar{N}(r, 0; f) + \sum_{j=1}^m \bar{N}(r, a_j; f) - \bar{N}_0(r, 0; f') + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; f) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + \bar{N}(r, a; f^m) - \bar{N}_0(r, 0; f') + S(r, f) \\ (2.3) \quad &\leq \left(\frac{m}{n+m-1} + \frac{2m}{n+m+3} \right) \{T(r, g) + T(r, f)\} + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; g') \\ &\quad - \bar{N}_0(r, 0; f') + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} mT(r, g) &\leq \left(\frac{m}{n+m-1} + \frac{2m}{n+m+3} \right) \{T(r, g) + T(r, f)\} + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; f') \\ (2.4) \quad &\quad - \bar{N}_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Adding (2.3) and (2.4) we obtain

$$\left(1 - \frac{2}{n+m-1} - \frac{4}{n+m+3} \right) \{T(r, g) + T(r, f)\} \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction. This proves the Lemma.

Lemma 2.4: ([2]) Let f and g be two nonconstant meromorphic functions, and let k be two positive integer. If $E_k(1, f) = E_k(1, g)$, then one of the following cases must occur:

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) + T(r, g) &\leq N_2(r, \infty; f) + N_2(r, 0; f) + N_2(r, \infty; g) + N_2(r, 0; g) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}(r, 1; f) + \bar{N}(r, 1; g) - N_{11}(r, 1; f) + \bar{N}(r, 1; f) \geq k + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$+\bar{N}(r, 1; g| \geq k+1) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

$$\text{ii) } f = \frac{(b+1)g+(a-b-1)}{bg+(a-b)}, \text{ where } a \neq 0, b \text{ are two constants.}$$

Lemma 2.5: ([3]) Let f and g be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. If f and g share 1IM, then one of the following cases must occur:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.} \quad & T(r, f) + T(r, g) \leq 2[N_2(r, \infty; f) + N_2(r, 0; f) + N_2(r, \infty; g) + \\ & N_2(r, 0; g)] \\ & + 3\bar{N}_L(r, 1; f) + 3\bar{N}_L(r, 1; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ii.} \quad f = \frac{(b+1)g+(a-b-1)}{bg+(a-b)}, \text{ where } a \neq 0, b \text{ are two constants.}$$

Lemma 2.6: Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic functions, $n(> m+6)$ be positive integer, and let $F = f^n P(f)f'$ and $G = g^n P(g)g'$. If

$$(2.5) \quad F = \frac{(b+1)G+(a-b-1)}{bG+(a-b)},$$

where $a \neq 0, b$ are two constants, then $f \equiv g$.

Proof: Using the same argument as in [9], we obtain Lemma 2.6 .

Lemma 2.7: Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic function and

$$\begin{aligned} F_1 &= f^{n+1} \left[\frac{a_m}{m+n+1} f^m + \frac{a_{m-1}}{m+n} f^{m-1} + \dots + \frac{a_0}{n+1} \right] \\ G_1 &= g^{n+1} \left[\frac{a_m}{m+n+1} g^m + \frac{a_{m-1}}{m+n} g^{m-1} + \dots + \frac{a_0}{n+1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

where $n(> m+2)$ is an integer. Then $F \equiv G$ implies that $F_1 \equiv G_1$.

Proof: Let $F \equiv G$, then $F_1 \equiv G_1 + c$ where c is a constant. Let $c \neq 0$. Then by second fundamental theorem we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F_1) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F_1) + \bar{N}(r, 0; F_1) + \bar{N}(r, c; F_1) + S(r, F_1) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + \bar{N}(r, 0; f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{a_m}{m+n+1}; f^m\right) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}(r, 0; g) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{a_m}{m+n+1}; g^m\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq 2T(r, f) + mT(r, f) + T(r, g) + mT(r, g) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get

$$(2.6) \quad (m+n+1)T(r, f) \leq (2+m)T(r, f) + (m+1)T(r, g) + S(r, f).$$

Similarly, we have

$$(2.7) \quad (m+n+1)T(r, g) \leq (2+m)T(r, g) + (m+1)T(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

Adding (2.6) and (2.7) we obtain

$$(m+n+1)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq (3+2m)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

i.e.,

$$(n-m-2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction. So $c = 0$ and the Lemma is proved.

Proofs of the Theorems

Proof of Theorem 1.1: Let $F = f^n P(f) f'$ and $G = g^n P(g) g$.

Since $k \geq 3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{N}(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) - N_{11}(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; F | \geq k+1) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G | \geq k+1) \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} N(r, 1; F) + \frac{1}{2} N(r, 1; G) \leq \frac{1}{2} T(r, F) + \frac{1}{2} T(r, G) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Then (i) in Lemma 2.4 becomes

$$T(r, F) + T(r, G) \leq 2\{N_2(r, \infty; F) + N_2(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, \infty; G) + N_2(r, 0; G)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

By the definition of F, G we have

$$(3.1) \quad N_2(r, \infty; F) + N_2(r, 0; F) \leq 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + 2\bar{N}(r, 0; f) + N(r, c_1; f) + \cdots + N(r, c_m; f) + N(r, 0; f').$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$(3.2) \quad N_2(r, \infty; G) + N_2(r, 0; G) \leq 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; g) + 2\bar{N}(r, 0; g) + N(r, c_1; g) + \cdots + N(r, c_m; g) + N(r, 0; g').$$

By Lemma 2.2 and (2.6), (2.7) and (3.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) + T(r, G) &\leq 4\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + 4\bar{N}(r, 0; f) + 2N(r, c_1; f) + \cdots + 2N(r, c_m; f) \\ &\quad + 2N(r, 0; f') + 4\bar{N}(r, \infty; g) + 4\bar{N}(r, 0; g) + 2N(r, c_1; g) + \cdots + \\ &\quad + 2N(r, c_m; g) + 2N(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (n+m+2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \\ \leq (12+2m)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

By $n > 10 + m$, we get a contradiction.

Hence F and G satisfy (ii) in Lemma 2.4.

By Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.7, we get $f \equiv g$. This completes the proof.

Proof of Theorem 1.2: Since f and g are entire functions we have $\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) = \bar{N}(r, \infty; g) = 0$. Proceeding as in the proof of Theorem 1.1 we can easily prove Theorem 1.2.

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