

## Exceptional Values of Meromorphic Functions and Differential Polynomials

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**ABSTRACT:** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order with four distinct evP for simple zeros and  $k$  be a positive integer. We wish to improve the result of Hong Xun Yi by introducing the notion of the order of multiplicity for the zeros of  $f(z)$ .

### I. INTRODUCTION

We call a an evP (exceptional value in the sense of Picard) for  $f$  if  $n(r, a, f) = O(1)$ . Thus,  $a$  is an evP for  $f$  if  $f-a$  has only a finite number of zeros. In [9], Singh has proved the following.

**Theorem A** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order with four (finite or infinite) distinct evP for simple zeros. Then,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(1)})}{T(r, f)} = \frac{3}{2}$$

Later, Hong Xun Yi observed the following in [6]

**Theorem B** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order with four distinct evP for simple zeros.

(i) If  $\infty$  is an evP for simple zeros of  $f(z)$ , then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f')}{T(r, f)} = \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{and}$$

(ii) if  $\infty$  is not an evP for simple zeros of  $f(z)$ , then.

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f')}{T(r, f)} = 2$$

Also, Yi has given the generalization to Theorem B as follows.

**Theorem C** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order with four distinct evP for simple zeros and  $k$  be a positive integer.

(i) If  $\infty$  is an evP for simple zeros of  $f(z)$ , then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = \frac{1}{2}k + 1$$

and (ii) if  $\infty$  is not an evP for simple zeros of  $f(z)$ , Then,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = k + 1$$

We wish to improve this result by introducing the notion of the order of multiplicity for the zeros of  $f(z)$ .

In order to establish our main result, first we introduce the following notation.

**Definition** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function and  $a \in \bar{C}$ .

We denote by  $n_p(r, a, f)$  the number of zeros of  $f(z)-a$  in  $|z| \leq r$ , where a zero of multiplicity  $\leq p$  is counted according to its multiplicity and a zero of multiplicity  $> p$  is counted exactly  $p$  times.

$N_p(r, a, f)$  is defined in terms of  $n_p(r, a, f)$  in the usual way.

We define  $\delta_p(a, f) = 1 - \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_p(r, a, f)}{T(r, f)}$

Our main result is the following.

**Theorem 1** Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order and  $k$  be a positive integer.

If  $\sum_{a \in \mathbb{C}} \delta_p(a, f) = 4$ , then (1)

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = k + 1 - \frac{pk}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f)$$

**Proof** Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q$  be distinct complex numbers.

By the Second Fundamental Theorem, we have

$$(q-1)T(r, f) < \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{N}(r, a_i, f) + \bar{N}(r, f) + O\{\log r\} \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Again, } \bar{N}(r, a_i, f) &\leq \frac{p}{p+1} N_p(r, a_i, f) + \frac{1}{p+1} N_p(r, a_i, f) \\ &\leq \frac{p}{p+1} N_p(r, a_i, f) + \frac{1}{p+1} T(r, f) + O(1). \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

From (2) and (3), we have

$$(q-1)T(r, f) < \frac{p}{p+1} \sum_{i=1}^q N_p(r, a_i, f) + \frac{1}{p+1} qT(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, f) + O\{\log r\} \tag{4}$$

$$\text{Thus, } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} \geq \frac{p}{p+1} \sum_{i=1}^q \delta_p(a_i, f) - 1, \tag{5}$$

after simplification.

Letting  $q \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} &\geq \frac{p}{p+1} \sum_{a \in \mathbb{C}} \delta_p(a, f) - 1 \\ &= 1 - \frac{p}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f) \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

On the other hand,

$$\bar{N}(r, f) \leq \frac{p}{p+1} N_p(r, f) + \frac{1}{p+1} N_p(r, f) \tag{7}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \bar{N}(r, f) \leq \frac{p}{p+1} N_p(r, f) + \frac{1}{p+1} T(r, f) \tag{8}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} &\leq \frac{p}{p+1} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_p(r, f)}{T(r, f)} + \frac{1}{p+1} \\ &= 1 - \frac{p}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f) \text{ after simplification.} \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

From (6) and (9), we have,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} = 1 - \frac{p}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f) \tag{10}$$

From (7) and (10), we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} = 1 \quad \text{using the fact that } N(r, f) \leq T(r, f) \quad (11)$$

Now,  $T(r, f^{(k)}) = m(r, f^{(k)}) + N(r, f^{(k)})$

$$= [m(r, f) + O(\log r)] + N(r, f) + k\overline{N}(r, f)$$

$$< T(r, f) + k\overline{N}(r, f) + O(\log r) \quad (12)$$

From (10), (11) and (12), we have

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = 1 + k \left[ 1 - \frac{p}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f) \right]$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = (k+1) - \frac{pk}{p+1} \delta_p(\infty, f)$  and hence the result.

**Remarks 1** For simple zeros of  $f(z)$ , we have  $\delta_p(\infty, f) = \delta_1(\infty, f)$

Hence the above Theorem becomes

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = (k+1) - \frac{1}{2} k \delta_1(\infty, f)$$

Which is the result of Hong-Xun-Yi

**Remark 2** In particular, for simple zeros of  $f(z)$

(a) If  $\infty$  is an evp, then  $\delta_1(\infty, f) = 1$

Therefore,  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = \frac{1}{2} k + 1$

and (b) if  $\infty$  is not an evp, then  $\delta_1(\infty, f) = 0$

Therefore,  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f^{(k)})}{T(r, f)} = k + 1$

which is Theorem C.

One can easily see that Theorem B follows by Theorem C by putting  $k = 1$ .

Now, we wish to extend Theorem 1 to differential polynomials.

**Theorem 2** Let  $P[f]$  be a homogeneous differential polynomial in  $f$  having degree  $\gamma_p$  and weight  $\Gamma_p$  with  $\sum_{a \neq \infty} \Theta(a, f) = 2$ .

Then,  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, P[f])}{T(r, f)} = \Gamma_p$

To prove the above Theorem, we require the following Lemmas.

**Lemma 1** If  $P[f]$  is a homogeneous differential polynomial in  $f$ , then

$$m(r, P[f]) \leq \gamma_p m(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

**Proof**  $m(r, P[f]) = m\left(r, \frac{P[f]}{f^{\gamma_p}} \cdot f^{\gamma_p}\right)$

$$\leq m\left(r, \frac{P[f]}{f^{\gamma_p}}\right) + m(r, f^{\gamma_p}) + S(r, f)$$

$$\leq \gamma_p m(r, f) + S(r, f), \text{ by Milloux's Theorem.}$$

**Lemma 2** [7] If  $P[f]$  is a homogeneous differential polynomial in  $f$ , then

$$N(r, P[f]) \leq \gamma_p N(r, f) + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p) \overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

**Lemma 3** [7] If  $f$  is a meromorphic function with finite order such that  $\sum_{a \neq \infty} \Theta(a, f) = 2$ , then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} = 1$$

**Lemma 4** [7] Suppose  $Q[f]$  is a differential polynomial in  $f$ . Let  $z_0$  be a pole of  $f$  of order  $m$  and not a zero or a pole of the co-efficient of  $Q[f]$ . Then  $z_0$  is a pole of  $Q[f]$  of order at most  $m\gamma_Q + (\Gamma_Q - \gamma_Q)$

**Proof of Theorem 2**

Now,  $T(r, P[f]) = m(r, P[f]) + N(r, P[f])$

Therefore, by Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, we have

$$T(r, P[f]) \leq \gamma_p T(r, f) + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p) \overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

Hence, using Lemma 3, we get

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, P[f])}{T(r, f)} \leq \gamma_p + \Gamma_p - \gamma_p$$

which implies  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, P[f])}{T(r, f)} \leq \Gamma_p$

On the other hand, by Lemma 4, we have

$$N(r, P[f]) = \text{Max} \{m\gamma_p + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p)\} N(r, f)$$

Therefore,  $N(r, P[f]) \geq \text{Min} \{m\gamma_p + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p)\} N(r, f)$

Therefore,  $N(r, P[f]) \geq \gamma_p N(r, f) + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p) \overline{N}(r, f)$

Thus,  $T(r, P[f]) = m(r, P[f]) + N(r, P[f])$

Therefore,  $T(r, P[f]) \geq \gamma_p m(r, f) + \gamma_p N(r, f) + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p) \overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)$

Therefore,  $T(r, P[f]) \geq \gamma_p T(r, f) + (\Gamma_p - \gamma_p) \overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

Hence  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, P[f])}{T(r, f)} \leq \Gamma_p$ , in view of Lemma 3. (14)

From (13) and (14), we c-+\*\*\*\*\*

onclude that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, P[f])}{T(r, f)} = \Gamma_p$

Hence the result.

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