

# Value Distribution and Uniqueness of Some Difference-Differential Polynomials of Meromorphic Functions

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## Abstract

*In this paper, we discuss the value distribution and uniqueness problems of some differencedifferential polynomials of meromorphic functions sharing a small function. The results of the paper improve and generalize the results due to S.S. Bhoosnurmath and S.R. Kabbur[1].*

**Keywords:** *entire function, uniqueness, small function, difference-differential polynomials, Sharing value.*

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## 1 Introduction

In this article, we assume that the reader is familiar with the fundamental results and the standard notation of Nevanlinna value distribution theory (see [2], [13]). Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be two non constant meromorphic functions in the complex plane. By  $S(r, f)$ , we mean any quantity satisfying  $S(r, f) = o\{T(r, f)\}$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , possibly outside a set of finite logarithmic measure.

A meromorphic function  $a(z)$  is called a small function with respect to  $f$ , provided that  $T(r, a) = s(r, f)$ . The order and hyper order of meromorphic

function  $f$  are defined respectively by

$$\sigma(f) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sup \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log r}$$

and

$$\sigma_2(f) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sup \frac{\log \log T(r, f)}{\log r}$$

Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. Let and  $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ . If the zeros of  $f - a$  and  $g - a$  coincide in locations and multiplicity, we say that  $f$  and  $g$  share the value  $a$  CM(counting multiplicities). On the other hand, if the zeros of  $f - a$  and  $g - a$  coincide only in their locations, then we say that  $f$  and  $g$  share the value  $a$  IM(ignoring multiplicities). For a positive integer  $p$  we denote by  $N_p(r, a; f)$  the counting function of  $a$ -points of  $f$ , where an  $a$ -point of multiplicity  $m$  is counted  $m$  times if  $m \leq p$  and  $p$  times if  $m > p$ .

We denote by  $E_m(a, f)$  the set of all  $a$ -points of  $f$  with multiplicities not exceeding  $m$ , where an  $a$ -point is counted according to its multiplicity. Also we denote by  $\bar{E}_m(a, f)$  the set of distinct  $a$ -points of  $f$  with multiplicities not greater than  $m$ . We denote by  $N_k(r, \frac{1}{f-a})$  the counting function for zeros of  $f - a$  with multiplicity  $\leq k$ , and by  $\bar{N}_k(r, \frac{1}{f-a})$  the corresponding one for which multiplicity is not counted. Let  $N_{(k}(r, \frac{1}{f-a})$  be the counting function for zeros of  $f - a$  with multiplicity atleast  $k$  and  $\bar{N}_{(k}(r, \frac{1}{f-a})$  the corresponding one for which multiplicity is not counted. Set

$$N_k(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) = \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) + \bar{N}_{(2}(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) + \dots + \bar{N}_{(k}(r, \frac{1}{f-a}).$$

The following two theorems proved by S.S. Bhoosnurmath and S.R. Kabbur [1].

**Theorem A.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two transcendental entire functions of finite order and  $\alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$  be a small function with respect to  $f$  and  $g$ . Suppose that  $c$  is a nonzero complex constant and  $n, m$  are positive integers such that  $n \geq m + 6$ . If  $f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1)f(z + c)$  and  $g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1)g(z + c)$  share  $\alpha(z)$  CM, then  $f(z) = tg(z)$  where  $t^m = 1$ .

**Theorem B.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two transcendental entire functions of finite order and  $\alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$  be a small function with respect to  $f$  and  $g$ . Suppose that  $c$  is a nonzero complex constant and  $n, m$  are positive integers satisfying  $n \geq 4m + 12$ . If  $f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1)f(z + c)$  and  $g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1)g(z + c)$  share  $\alpha(z)$  IM, then  $f(z) = tg(z)$  where  $t^m = 1$ .

I. Lahiri introduced weighted sharing instead of sharing IM or CM, which measure how close a shared value is to being shared CM or to be shared IM. The definition are as follows.

**Definition 1** [7]. Let  $k$  be a nonnegative integer or infinity. For  $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  we denote by  $E_k(a; f)$  the set of all  $a$ -points of  $f$  where an  $a$ -point of multiplicity  $m$  is counted  $m$  times if  $m \leq k$  and  $k+1$  times if  $m > k$ . If  $E_k(a; f) = E_k(a; g)$ , we say that  $f, g$  share the value  $a$  with weight  $k$ .

The definition implies that if  $f, g$  share a value  $a$  with weight  $k$ , then  $z_0$  is an  $a$ -point of  $f$  with multiplicity  $m(\leq k)$  if and only if it is an  $a$ -point of  $g$  with multiplicity  $m(\leq k)$  and  $z_0$  is an  $a$ -point of  $f$  with multiplicity  $m(> k)$  if and only if it is an  $a$ -point of  $g$  with multiplicity  $n(> k)$ , where  $m$  is not necessarily equal to  $n$ .

We write  $f, g$  share  $(a, k)$  to mean that  $f, g$  share the value  $a$  with weight  $k$ . Clearly if  $f, g$  share  $(a, k)$  then  $f, g$  share  $(a, p)$  for any integer  $p, 0 \leq p < k$ . Also we note that  $f, g$  share a value  $a$  IM or CM if and only if  $f, g$  share  $(a, 0)$  or  $(a, \infty)$  respectively.

If  $\alpha$  is a small function of  $f$  and  $g$ , share  $\alpha$  with weight  $k$  means that  $f - \alpha, g - \alpha$  share the value 0 with weight  $k$ .

## 2 Preliminary Lemmas

In this section, we present some lemmas which will be needed in the sequel. We will denote by  $H$  the following function:

$$H = \left( \frac{F''}{F'} - \frac{2F'}{F-1} \right) - \left( \frac{G''}{G'} - \frac{2G'}{G-1} \right)$$

**Lemma 1** (see[13]). Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function of finite order and  $c$  is a non-zero complex constant. Then

$$m \left( r, \frac{f(z+c)}{f(z)} \right) = m \left( r, \frac{f(z)}{f(z+c)} \right) = S(r, f).$$

Arguing in a similar manner as in [3], we obtain the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.** Let  $f$  be an meromorphic function of finite order. Then  $T(r, f^n(z)(f^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)) = (n+m+\sigma)T(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

**Lemma 3.** Let  $f$  be an meromorphic function of finite order. Then  $T(r, f^n(z)P(f) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}) = (n+m+\sigma)T(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

**Proof.** Since  $f$  is meromorphic function of finite order, we deduce from Lemma

1 and the standard valiron Mohen'ko theorem

$$\begin{aligned}
(n+m+\sigma)T(r, f) &= T(r, f^{n+m} f^\sigma) + S(r, f) \\
&= m(r, f^{n+m} f^\sigma) + N(r, f^{n+m} f^\sigma) + S(r, f) \\
&= m \left( r, f^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{c_j} \frac{f^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{c_j}} \right) \\
&\quad + N \left( r, f^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{c_j} \frac{f^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{c_j}} \right) + S(r, f) \\
&= m \left( r, f^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j} \right) + m \left( r, \frac{f^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}} \right) \\
&\quad + N \left( r, f^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j} \right) + N \left( r, \frac{f^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}} \right) + S(r, f) \\
&= T(r, f^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}) + S(r, f) \\
&= T(r, F) + S(r, f).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get the conclusion.

**Lemma 4** (see[13]). Let  $f$  be a non-constant meromorphic function and  $p, k$  be two positive integers. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
N_p(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}) &\leq T(r, f^{(k)}) - T(r, f) + N_{p+k}(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f) \\
N_p(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}) &\leq k\bar{N}(r, f) + N_{p+k}(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f).
\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 5** (see[7]). If  $F$  and  $G$  are two non-constant meromorphic functions and  $E_3(1, F) = E_3(1, G)$ , then one of the following cases holds.

(1)  $T(r, F) + T(r, G) \leq 2N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) + 2N_2(r, f) + 2N_2(e, \frac{1}{G}) + 2N_2(r, G) + S(r, F) + S(r, G)$ ,

(2)  $F \equiv G$ , (3)  $FG \equiv 1$ .

**Lemma 6** . Let  $h$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order. Then we have

$$T \left( r, h^{n+m} \prod_{j=1}^d h(z+c_j)^{v_j} \right) \geq (n+m-\sigma)T(r, h) + S(r, f),$$

where  $\sigma = v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_d$ .

**Proof.** From Lemma 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(n + m + \sigma)T(r, h) &= T(r, h^{n+m}(z)h^\sigma) + S(r, h) \\
&= m(r, h^{n+m}(z)h^\sigma) + N(r, h^{n+m}(z)h^\sigma) + S(r, h) \\
&= m \left( r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} \frac{h^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}} \right) \\
&\quad + N \left( r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} \frac{h^\sigma}{\prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}} \right) + S(r, h) \\
&\leq T \left( r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} \right) + 2\sigma T(r, h) + S(r, h).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get the conclusion.

### 3 Main results

Regarding Theorem A-B, a natural question to ask is what can be said if we study the uniqueness of difference polynomials of the form  $[f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z + c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)}$  and  $[g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z + c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)}$  where  $c_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, d)$  are complex constants,  $v_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, d)$  are non-negative integers and  $\sigma = v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_d$  without the notion of weighted sharing?. In this section, our main concern is to find the possible answer of the above question. We prove the following result.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two transcendental meromorphic functions of finite order, and  $\alpha(z) (\neq 0)$  be a small function with respect to both  $f$  and  $g$ . Suppose that  $c_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, d)$  are non-zero complex constants,  $v_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, d)$  are non-negative integers,  $n, m \geq 1$  and  $k (\geq 0)$  are integers satisfying  $n \geq 4k + m + \sigma + 5$ . If  $E_3(\alpha(z), [f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z + c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)}) = E_3(\alpha(z), [g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z + c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)})$ , then  $f = hg$ , where  $h$  is a constant and  $h^m = 1$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $F_1 = f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z + c_j)^{v_j}$ ,  $G_1 = g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z + c_j)^{v_j}$ ,

$F = \frac{F_1^{(k)}}{\alpha(z)}$   $G = \frac{G_1^{(k)}}{\alpha(z)}$ . Then  $F$  and  $G$  are transcendental meromorphic functions and  $E_3(1, F) = E_3(1, G)$  except the zeros and poles of  $\alpha(z)$ . By Lemma 2 and Lemma 4 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) &\leq N_2(r, \frac{1}{F_1^{(k)}}) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq T(r, F_1^{(k)}) - T(r, F_1) + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq T(r, F) - (n + m + \sigma)T(r, f) + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + S(r, f).
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

So we get

$$(n + m + \sigma)T(r, f) \leq T(r, F) + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) - N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) + S(r, f). \tag{2}$$

According to Lemma 4, we can deduce

$$\begin{aligned}
N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) &\leq N_2(r, \frac{1}{F_1^{(k)}}) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + k\bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f).
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Similarly we have

$$(n + m + \sigma)T(r, g) \leq T(r, G) + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{G_1}) - N_2(r, \frac{1}{G}) + S(r, g). \tag{4}$$

And

$$N_2(r, \frac{1}{G}) \leq N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{G_1}) + k\bar{N}(r, g) + S(r, g). \tag{5}$$

Suppose, if possible the (1) of Lemma 5 holds, that is

$$\begin{aligned}
T(r, F) + T(r, G) &\leq 2N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) + 2N_2(r, F) + 2N_2(r, \frac{1}{G}) \\
&\quad + 2N_2(r, G) + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

By (2),(3),(4),(5) and (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(n + m + \sigma)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) &\leq N_2(r, \frac{1}{F}) + N_2(r, \frac{1}{G}) + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) \\
&\quad + N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{G_1}) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
&\leq 2N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + 2N_{2+k}(r, \frac{1}{G_1}) + 2k(\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, g)) \\
&\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
&\leq (4k + 4 + 2m + 2\sigma)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

So

$$(n - 4k - m - \sigma - 4)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g), \quad (8)$$

which contradicts the fact that  $n \geq 4k + m + \sigma + 5$ . Therefore, by Lemma 5 we have either  $FG = 1$  or  $F = G$ .

If  $FG = 1$ , that is

$$[f^n(z)(f^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)} \cdot [g^n(z)(g^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)} = \alpha^2, \quad (9)$$

We can deduce from above that

$$N(r, \frac{1}{f}) = N(r, \frac{1}{f-1}) = S(r, f), \quad (10)$$

which is impossible. So we have  $F = G$ , that is

$$[f^n(z)(f^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)} = [g^n(z)(g^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)}. \quad (11)$$

Integrating above, we deduce

$$[f^n(z)(f^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k-1)} = [g^n(z)(g^m(z)-1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k-1)} + c, \quad (12)$$

where  $c$  is a constant. If  $c \neq 0$ , by the second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F_1^{(k-1)}) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f_1^{(k-1)}-c}) + S(r, F) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{F_1^{(k-1)}}) + \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{G_1^{(k-1)}}) + S(r, F). \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

By Lemma 4, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (n + m + \sigma)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, F_1^{(k-1)}) - \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{F_1^{(k-1)}}) + N_k(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{G_1^{(k-1)}}) = N_k(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq N_k(r, \frac{1}{F_1}) + N_k(r, \frac{1}{G_1}) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (k + m + \sigma)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Similarly

$$(n + m + \sigma)T(r, g) \leq (k + m + \sigma)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \quad (15)$$

Combining (14) and (15), we obtain

$$(n - 2k - m - \sigma)(T(r, f) + T(r, g)) \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g), \quad (16)$$

which contradicts with  $n \geq 2k + m + \sigma + 5$ . Hence  $c = 0$ . Integrating the (12)  $k - 1$  times, we can deduce

$$f^n(z)(f^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z + c_j)^{v_j} = g^n(z)(g^m(z) - 1) \prod_{j=1}^d g(z + c_j)^{v_j}. \quad (17)$$

Set  $h = f/g$ . If  $h$  is not a constant, from (17) we have

$$g^m(z) = \frac{h^{(n)} \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} - 1}{h^{(n+m)} \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} - 1} \quad (18)$$

If 1 is a picard value of  $h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}$ , applying the Nevanlinna second fundamental theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}) &\leq \bar{N}r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} + \bar{N} \left( r, \frac{1}{h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}} \right) \\ &\quad + S(r, h) \\ &\leq (2d + 2)T(r, h) + S(r, h). \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

On the other hand, combining the standard Valiron-Mohon'ko theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (n + m + \sigma)T(r, h) &= T(r, h^{n+m}h^\sigma) + S(r, h) \\ &\leq T(r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}) + T(r, \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}) \\ &\leq (2d + 3)T(r, h) + S(r, h) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, 1 is not a picard exceptional value of  $h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j}$ . Thus  $\exists z_0$  such that  $h^{n+m}(z_0) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z_0 + c_j)^{v_j} = 1$  by (18), we have  $h^{n+m}(z_0) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z_0 + c_j)^{v_j} = 1$ . Hence  $h_0^m = 1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z + c_j)^{v_j} - 1}\right) &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{h^m - 1}\right) \\ &\leq mT(r, h) + S(r, h). \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

From the above inequality and by the second fundamental theorem by Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z+c_j)^{v_j}) &\leq \overline{N}(r, h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z+c_j)^{v_j}) \\ &\quad + \overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{h^{n+m}(z) \prod_{j=1}^d h(z+c_j)^{v_j} - 1}\right) + S(r, h) \\ &\leq (m+2d+2)T(r, h) + S(r, h) \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

which is a contradiction with  $n \geq 2k + m + \sigma + 5$ . Therefore  $h$  is a constant. Substituting  $f = gh$  into (17), we can get

$$\prod_{j=1}^d g(z+c_j)^{v_j} (g^{n+m}(z)(h^{n+m+\sigma} - 1) + g^n(z)(h^{n+\sigma} - 1)) = 0. \quad (22)$$

Since  $g$  is an entire function, we have  $\prod_{j=1}^d g(z+c_j)^{v_j} \neq 0$ . Thus

$$g^{n+m}(z)(h^{n+m+\sigma} - 1) + g^n(z)(h^{n+\sigma} - 1) = 0. \quad (23)$$

If  $h^{n+\sigma} \neq 1$ , by (23) we can deduce  $T(r, g) = S(r, g)$ , which contradicts with a transcendental function  $g$ . So  $h^{n+\sigma} = 1$ . We can also deduce that  $h^{n+m+\sigma} = 1$ . Then  $h^m = 1$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

## 4 Open Problem

1. What can be said if we consider the difference-differential polynomials of the form  $[f^n P(f) \prod_{j=1}^d f(z+c_j)^{v_j}]^{(k)}$ , where  $P(z) = a_m z^m + a_{m-1} z^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0$ ,  $a_0 (\neq 0)$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}, a_m (\neq 0)$  and  $c_j (j = 1, 2, \dots, d)$
2. Whether it is possible to replace the sharing value small function by polynomial.
3. Is it possible to reduce the condition of the theorem.

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