



Weighted Set Sharing and Uniqueness of Meromorphic Functions

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Abstract

In this paper, we study the uniqueness problem of meromorphic functions sharing a set of small functions and proved that under certain essential conditions $P[f] = tp(f)$ for some t such that $t^m = 1$ (m is a positive number), where $P[f]$ is a differential polynomial in f and $p(z)$ is a polynomial in z of degree at least one such that $p(0) = 0$. Our results generalizes the results due to Zhang and Lü, Banerjee and Majumder, Bhoosnurmath and Kabur, and Charak and Lal.

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1. Introduction and main result

Let \mathbb{C} denote the complex plane and let $f(z)$ be a non-constant meromorphic function defined on \mathbb{C} . We assume that the reader is familiar with the standard definitions and notions used in the Nevanlinna value distribution theory, such as $T(r, f), m(r, f), N(r, f)$ (see [5, 7, 10, 11]). By $S(r, f)$ we denote any quantity satisfying the condition $S(r, f) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ possibly outside an exceptional set of finite linear measure. A meromorphic function $a(z)$ is called a small function with respect to $f(z)$ if either $a \equiv \infty$ or $T(r, a) = S(r, f)$. We denote by $S(f)$ the collection of all small functions with respect to f . Clearly $\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} \in S(f)$ and $S(f)$ is a field over the set of complex numbers. For $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ the quantities

$$\delta(a, f) = 1 - \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, \frac{1}{f-a})}{T(r, f)}$$

and

$$\Theta(a, f) = 1 - \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f-a})}{T(r, f)}$$

are respectively called the deficiency and ramification index of a for the function f .

In this paper, we also need the following definitions:

Definition 1.1. Let $f(z)$ and $g(z)$ be two nonconstant meromorphic functions and let $a(z) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$. We write $E(a, f) = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : f(z) - a(z) = 0\}$, where zeros of $f(z) - a(z)$ are counted according to their multiplicities. Also by $\bar{E}(a, f)$, we denote the zeros of $f(z) - a(z)$, where a zero is counted only once. We say that f and g share the function $a(z)$ CM (counting multiplicity) if $E(a, f) = E(a, g)$. Further, if $\bar{E}(a, f) = \bar{E}(a, g)$ we say that f and g share the function $a(z)$ IM (ignoring multiplicity).

Definition 1.2. Let k be a nonnegative integer or infinity and $a(z) \in S(f)$. We denote by $E_k(a, f)$ the set of all zeros of $f - a$, where a zero 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 function $a(z)$ with weight k . We write f and g share (a, k) to mean that f and g share the function $a(z)$ with weight k . Since $E_k(a, f) = E_k(a, g)$ implies that $E_l(a, f) = E_l(a, g)$ for any integer l ($0 \leq l < k$), if f, g share (a, k) , then f, g share (a, l) , ($0 \leq l < k$). Moreover, we note that f and g share the function $a(z)$ IM (ignoring multiplicity) or CM (counting multiplicity) if and only if f and g share $(a, 0)$ or (a, ∞) respectively.

Definition 1.3. Let f and g share 1 IM and let z_0 be a zero of $f - 1$ with multiplicity m and a zero of $g - 1$ with multiplicity n . We denote by $N_E^1(r, \frac{1}{f-1})$ the counting function of the zeros of $f - 1$ when $m = n = 1$. By $\bar{N}_E^2(r, \frac{1}{f-1})$ we denote the counting function of the zeros of $f - 1$ when $m = n \geq 2$ and by $\bar{N}_L(r, \frac{1}{f-1})$ we denote the counting function of the zeros of $f - 1$ when $m > n \geq 1$; each point in these counting functions is counted only once. Similarly, we can define the terms $N_E^1(r, \frac{1}{g-1})$, $\bar{N}_E^2(r, \frac{1}{g-1})$ and $\bar{N}_L(r, \frac{1}{g-1})$. In addition, we denote by $\bar{N}_{f>k}(r, \frac{1}{g-1})$ the reduced counting function of those zeros of $f - 1$ and $g - 1$ such that $m > n = k$ and $\bar{N}_{g>k}(r, \frac{1}{f-1})$ is defined analogously.

Definition 1.4. Let $n_{0j}, n_{1j}, n_{2j}, \dots, n_{kj}$ are nonnegative integers. The expression

$$M_j[f] = (f)^{n_{0j}} (f^{(1)})^{n_{1j}} (f^{(2)})^{n_{2j}} \dots (f^{(k)})^{n_{kj}}$$

is called a differential monomial generated by f of degree $d(M_j) = \sum_{i=0}^k n_{ij}$ and weight $\Gamma_{M_j} = \sum_{i=0}^k (i+1)n_{ij}$. Let $a_j \in S(f)$ and $a_j \neq 0 (j = 1, 2, \dots, t)$. The sum $P[f] = \sum_{j=1}^t a_j M_j[f]$ is called a differential polynomial generated by f of degree $\bar{d}(P) = \max\{d(M_j) : 1 \leq j \leq t\}$ and weight $\Gamma_P = \max\{\Gamma_{M_j} : 1 \leq j \leq t\}$. The numbers $\underline{d}_P = \min\{d(M_j) : 1 \leq j \leq t\}$ and k (the highest order of the derivative of f in $P[f]$) are called respectively the lower degree and the order of $P[f]$. $P[f]$ is said to be homogeneous differential polynomial of degree d if $\bar{d}_P = \underline{d}_P = d$. $P[f]$ is called a linear differential Polynomial generated by f if $\bar{d}_P = 1$. Otherwise, $P[f]$ is called non-linear differential polynomial. Also, we denote by Q the quantity $Q = \max_{1 \leq j \leq t} \sum_{i=0}^k i.n_{ij}$.

For the last few decades, the value sharing problems related to a meromorphic function f and its derivative $f^{(k)}$ have been a more widely studied subtopic among the researchers (see [6, 8, 9]) of the uniqueness theory of entire and meromorphic functions in the field of complex analysis.

In 2008, Zhang and Lü [13] proved the following result:

Theorem 1.5. Let k, n be positive integers, f be a nonconstant meromorphic function, and $a (\neq 0, \infty)$ be a meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$. If f^n and $f^{(k)}$ share a IM and

$$(2k + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4\Theta(0, f) + 2\delta_{2+k}(0, f) > 2k + 12 - n,$$

or f^n and $f^{(k)}$ share a CM and

$$(k + 3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2\Theta(0, f) + \delta_{2+k}(0, f) > k + 6 - n,$$

then $f^n \equiv f^{(k)}$.

Bhoosnurmath and Kabbur [3] considered the uniqueness of f and $P[f]$, which is the more natural extension of $f^{(k)}$ and proved the following result:

Theorem 1.6. Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function and $a (\neq 0, \infty)$ be a meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$. Let $P[f]$ be a nonconstant differential polynomial of f . If f and $P[f]$ share a IM and

$$(2Q + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + (2 + 3\underline{d}(P))\delta(0, f) > 2Q + 2\underline{d}(P) + \bar{d}(P) + 7,$$

or if f and $P[f]$ share a CM and

$$3\Theta(\infty, f) + (\underline{d}(P) + 1)\delta(0, f) > 4,$$

then $f \equiv P[f]$.

Banerjee and Majumder [2] considered the weighted sharing of values of f^n and $(f^m)^{(k)}$ and proved the following result:

Theorem 1.7. Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function, $k, n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ and l be a non-negative integer. Suppose $a (\neq 0, \infty)$ is a meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ such that f^n and $(f^m)^{(k)}$ share (a, l) . If $l \geq 2$ and

$$(k + 3)\Theta(\infty, f) + (k + 4)\Theta(0, f) > 2k + 7 - n,$$

or $l = 1$ and

$$(k + \frac{7}{2})\Theta(\infty, f) + (k + \frac{9}{2})\Theta(0, f) > 2k + 8 - n,$$

or $l = 0$ and

$$(2k + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + (2k + 7)\Theta(0, f) > 4k + 13 - n,$$

then $f^n \equiv (f^m)^{(k)}$.

Motivated by such uniqueness investigation, Charak and Lal [4] considered the uniqueness of $p(f)$ and $P[f]$ sharing (a, l) , where $p(z)$ is a polynomial of degree $n \geq 1$. They have shown by an example that in general this is not true, but under certain essential conditions they proved the following result:

Theorem 1.8. Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function, $a(\neq 0, \infty)$ be a meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$, and $p(z)$ be a polynomial of degree $n \geq 1$ with $p(0) = 0$. Let $P[f]$ be a nonconstant differential polynomial of f . Suppose $p(f)$ and $P[f]$ share (a, l) with one of the following conditions:

(i) $l \geq 2$ and

$$(Q + 3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2n\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > Q + 3 + 2\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P) + n,$$

(ii) $l = 1$ and

$$\left(Q + \frac{7}{2}\right)\Theta(\infty, f) + \frac{5n}{2}\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > Q + \frac{7}{2} + 2\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P) + \frac{3n}{2},$$

(iii) $l = 0$ and

$$(2Q + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > 2Q + 6 + 4\bar{d}(P) - 2\underline{d}(P) + 3n.$$

Then $p(f) \equiv P[f]$.

Regarding Theorems 1.1 – 1.4, it is natural to ask the following question:

Question 1.9. What will happen when the small function $a(z)$ is replaced by a set of small functions $S_m = \{a(z), a(z)\omega, \dots, a(z)\omega^{m-1}\}$ in Theorems 1.1 – 1.4, where $\omega = \cos \frac{2\pi}{m} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{m}$ and m is a positive integer?

Now, we recall the following definition:

Definition 1.10. [8] Let S be a subset of $S(f) \cap S(g)$. We denote by $E_f(S)$ the set $\cup_{a \in S} \{z : f(z) - a(z) = 0\}$, where each zero is counted according to its multiplicity. If we do not count the multiplicity the set $\cup_{a \in S} \{z : f(z) - a(z) = 0\}$ is denoted by $\bar{E}_f(S)$. Let k be a nonnegative integer or infinity. We denote by $E_f(S, k)$ the set $\cup_{a \in S} E_k(a, f)$. Clearly $E_f(S) = E_f(S, \infty)$ and $\bar{E}_f(S) = \bar{E}_f(S, 0)$. If $E_f(S, k) = E_g(S, k)$ we say that f, g share the set S with weight k and we write f, g share (S, k) to mean that f, g share the set S with weight k . Moreover, we note that f and g share the set S IM (ignoring multilicity) or CM (counting multiplicity) if and only if f and g share $(S, 0)$ or (S, ∞) respectively.

In this paper, we consider the weighted set sharing of $p(f)$ and $P[f]$ and prove the following result:

Theorem 1.11. Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function and $p(z)$ be a polynomial in z of degree $n (\geq 1)$ with $p(0) = 0$. Let $a(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ be an element of $S(f)$. Let $P[f]$ be a nonconstant differential polynomial of f as defined in Definition 1.4. Suppose that $p(f)$ and $P[f]$ share (S_m, l) with one of the following conditions:

(i) $l \geq 2$ and

$$(mQ + 3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2n\Theta(0, p(f)) + m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > (mQ + 3) + 2m\bar{d}(P) - m\underline{d}(P) - (m - 2)n, \tag{1.1}$$

(ii) $l = 1$ and

$$\left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\Theta(\infty, f) + \frac{5n}{2}\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > mQ + \frac{7}{2} + (m + 1)\bar{d}(P) - m\underline{d}(P) + \left(\frac{5}{2} - m\right)n, \tag{1.2}$$

(iii) $l = 0$ and

$$(2mQ + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) > 2mQ + 6 + 4m\bar{d}(P) - 2m\underline{d}(P) + (4 - m)n. \tag{1.3}$$

Then $P[f] = tp(f)$ for some t such that $t^m = 1$.

2. Lemmas

In this section we state some lemmas which will be needed in the sequel.

Lemma 2.1. [3] Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function and $P[f]$ be a differential polynomial of f . Then

$$m \left(r, \frac{P[f]}{f\bar{d}(P)} \right) \leq (\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)) m \left(r, \frac{1}{f} \right) + S(r, f), \tag{2.1}$$

$$N \left(r, \frac{P[f]}{f\bar{d}(P)} \right) \leq (\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)) N \left(r, \frac{1}{f} \right) + Q \left[\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{f} \right) \right] + S(r, f), \tag{2.2}$$

$$N \left(r, \frac{1}{P[f]} \right) \leq Q\bar{N}(r, f) + (\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)) m \left(r, \frac{1}{f} \right) + N \left(r, \frac{1}{f\bar{d}(P)} \right) + S(r, f). \tag{2.3}$$

Lemma 2.2. [12] Let f and g be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. If f and g share $(1, 0)$, then

$$\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{f-1}\right) \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r), \tag{2.4}$$

where $S(r) = o(T(r))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ with $T(r) = \max\{T(r, f), T(r, g)\}$.

Lemma 2.3. [1] Let f and g be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. If f and g share $(1, 1)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{f-1}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{g-1}\right) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f-1}\right) - \bar{N}_{f>2}\left(r, \frac{1}{g-1}\right) \\ \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{g-1}\right) - \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g-1}\right) \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

3. Proof of the Main Theorem 1.11

Proof. Let $p(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1z$, where a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} are constants. Let $F_1 = \frac{p(f)}{a}$ and $G_1 = \frac{p(g)}{a}$. Set $F = (F_1)^m, G = (G_1)^m$. Then F and G share $(1, l)$ with the possible exception of the zeros and poles of $a(z)$. Also we have

$$\bar{N}(r, F) = \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f) \text{ and } \bar{N}(r, G) = \bar{N}(r, g) + S(r, g)$$

We define

$$\psi = \left(\frac{F''}{F'} - \frac{2F'}{F-1}\right) - \left(\frac{G''}{G'} - \frac{2G'}{G-1}\right) \tag{3.1}$$

Suppose that $\psi \neq 0$. Then $m(r, \psi) = S(r, f)$.

By Second Fundamental Theorem of Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) + T(r, G) &\leq 2\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) - \bar{N}_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) - \bar{N}_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

Case 1: $l \geq 1$. If z_0 is a common simple 1-point of F and G , then substituting their Taylor series at z_0 in $\psi(z)$, we see that z_0 is a zero of $\psi(z)$. Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} N_E^{(1)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) &\leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq T(r, \psi) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq N(r, \psi) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ &= N_E^{(1)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Subcase 1.1: $l = 1$.

We have,

$$\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}N\left(r, \frac{1}{F'} \mid F \neq 0\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}(r, F) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) \tag{3.5}$$

where $N\left(r, \frac{1}{F'} \mid F \neq 0\right)$ denotes the zeros of F' , which are not the zeros of F .

Now, from (2.5) and (3.5), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + \bar{N}_E^2\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\
 & \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + S(r, f)
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

From (3.4) and (3.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\
 & \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) \\
 & + N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) \\
 & + T(r, G) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f)
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

From (2.3), (3.2) and (3.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(r, F) + T(r, G) & \leq 2\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + T(r, G) + S(r, f) \\
 \Rightarrow T(r, F) & \leq \frac{7}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{5}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq \frac{7}{2}\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{5}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + mN\left(r, \frac{1}{P[f]}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq \left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\bar{N}(r, f) + \frac{5}{2}\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + m\{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) \\
 & + \bar{d}(P)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq \left[\left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + \frac{5n}{2}\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}\right] \\
 & + \bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\}T(r, f) + m\{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) + S(r, f)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 mnT(r, f) & = T(r, F) + S(r, f) \\
 & \leq \left[\left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + \frac{5n}{2}\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}\right] \\
 & + \bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\} + m\{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
 \Rightarrow & \left[\left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\Theta(\infty, f) + \frac{5n}{2}\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f)\right. \\
 & \left. - mQ - \frac{7}{2} - \frac{5n}{2} + mn - (m+1)\bar{d}(P) + m\underline{d}(P)\right]T(r, f) \leq S(r, f)
 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left(mQ + \frac{7}{2}\right)\Theta(\infty, f) + \frac{5n}{2}\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) \\
 & \leq mQ + \frac{7}{2} + (m+1)\bar{d}(P) - m\underline{d}(P) + \left(\frac{5}{2} - m\right)n,
 \end{aligned}$$

which contradict (1.2).

Subcase 1.2: $l \geq 2$.

In this case, we have,

$$2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + S(r, f)$$

Therefore from (3.4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ & \quad + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + T(r, G) \\ & \quad + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

From (2.3), (3.2) and (3.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) & \leq 3\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq 3\bar{N}(r, f) + 2\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + mN\left(r, \frac{1}{P[f]}\right) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq (mQ+3)\bar{N}(r, f) + 2\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + m\{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) + \\ & \quad m\bar{d}(P)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq [(mQ+3)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + 2n\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}] \\ & \quad + m\bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\}]T(r, f) + m(\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P))T(r, f) + S(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} mnT(r, f) & = T(r, F) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq [(mQ+3)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + 2n\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}] \\ & \quad + m\bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\} + m(\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P))]T(r, f) + S(r, f) \\ & \Rightarrow [\{(mQ+3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2n\Theta(0, p(f)) + m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f)\} \\ & \quad - \{(mQ+3) + 2n - mn + 2m\bar{d}(P) - m\underline{d}(P)\}]T(r, f) \leq S(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$(mQ+3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2n\Theta(0, p(f)) + m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) \leq (mQ+3) + 2m\bar{d}(P) - m\underline{d}(P) - (m-2)n,$$

which contradict (1.1).

Case 2: $l = 0$.

In this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) \\ & \leq N_E^{(1)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) \\ & \quad + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + S(r, f) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) \\ & \quad + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{F'}\right) + N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{G'}\right) + S(r, f) \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

From (2.3), (2.4), (3.2) and (3.9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(r, F) &\leq 3\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}_{(2)}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) \\
 &\quad + 2\bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{F-1}\right) + \bar{N}_L\left(r, \frac{1}{G-1}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq 6\bar{N}(r, f) + 4\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + 2N\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq 6\bar{N}(r, f) + 4\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + 2mN\left(r, \frac{1}{p[f]}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq [(2mQ + 6)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + 4n\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}] + 2m\{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\} \\
 &\quad + 2m\bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\}]T(r, f) + S(r, f)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 mnT(r, F) &= T(r, F) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq [\{(2mQ + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f)\} \\
 &\quad + \{2mQ + 6 + 4n + 2m(\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)) + 2m\bar{d}(P)\}]T(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
 &\Rightarrow [\{(2mQ + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f)\} \\
 &\quad - \{2mQ + 6 + 4n - mn + 4m\bar{d}(P) - 2m\underline{d}(P)\}]T(r, f) \leq S(r, f)
 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$(2mQ + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2m\bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) \leq 2mQ + 6 + 4m\bar{d}(P) - 2m\underline{d}(P) + (4 - m)n$$

which contradict (1.3).

Therefore,

$$\psi \equiv 0, \text{ i.e., } \frac{F''}{F'} - \frac{2F'}{F-1} = \frac{G''}{G'} - \frac{2G'}{G-1}$$

Integrating, we get

$$\frac{1}{F-1} = \frac{C}{G-1} + D, \tag{3.10}$$

where $C \neq 0$ and D are constant.

We consider the following three cases.

Case I: $D \neq 0, -1$

Rewriting (3.10) as

$$\frac{G-1}{C} = \frac{F-1}{D+1-DF}$$

we have

$$\bar{N}(r, G) = \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F - (D+1)/D}\right)$$

By Second Fundamental Theorem of Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 mnT(r, f) &= T(r, F) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, F) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F - (D+1)/D}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + \bar{N}(r, G) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq 2\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq [2\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + n\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\}]T(r, f) + S(r, f)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } [2\Theta(\infty, f) + n\Theta(0, p(f)) + (m-1)n - 2]T(r, f) \leq S(r, f)$$

which contradicts (1.1), (1.2), and (1.3).

Case II: $D = 0$

From (3.10), we obtain

$$G = CF - (C - 1) \tag{3.11}$$

Therefore if $C \neq 1$, we have

$$\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) = \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F - (C-1)/C}\right)$$

By the Second Fundamental Theorem of Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned} mnT(r, f) &= T(r, F) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, F) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F - (C-1)/C}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{P[f]}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq (Q+1)\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{p(f)}\right) + \{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) \\ &\quad + \bar{d}(P)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq [(Q+1)\{1 - \Theta(\infty, f)\} + n\{1 - \Theta(0, p(f))\} + \bar{d}(P)\{1 - \delta(0, f)\}]T(r, f) \\ &\quad + \{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) + S(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} &[(Q+1)\Theta(\infty, f) + n\Theta(0, p(f)) + \bar{d}(P)\delta(0, f) \\ &\quad - \{Q+1 - n + mn + 2\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}]T(r, f) \leq S(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (1.1), (1.2), and (1.3).

Therefore $C = 1$ and from (3.11), we have

$$F \equiv G, \text{ i.e., } P[f] = tp(f),$$

for some t such that $t^m = 1$.

Case III: $D = -1$

From (3.10), we obtain

$$\frac{1}{F-1} = \frac{C}{G-1} - 1 \tag{3.12}$$

Therefore if $C \neq -1$, then

$$\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{G}\right) = \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{F - (C+1)/C}\right)$$

and proceeding as in **Case II**, we arrived at a contradiction.

Therefore for $C = -1$ and from (3.12), we obtain

$$FG = 1, \text{ i.e., } \left(\frac{p(f)}{a} \cdot \frac{P[f]}{a}\right)^m = 1$$

So

$$\frac{p(f)P[f]}{a^2} = t, \text{ i.e., } p(f)P[f] = ta^2$$

for some t such that $t^m = 1$.

Then

$$\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) = S(r, f)$$

By using (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (n + \bar{d}(P))T(r, f) &\leq T\left(r, \frac{ta^2}{f^{n+\bar{d}(p)}}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq T\left(r, \frac{p(f)}{f^n} \cdot \frac{P[f]}{f^{\bar{d}(p)}}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq (n-1)T(r, f) + T\left(r, \frac{P[f]}{f^{\bar{d}(p)}}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq (n-1)T(r, f) + \{\bar{d}(P) - \underline{d}(P)\}T(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
 \text{i.e., } (1 + \underline{d}(P))T(r, f) &\leq S(r, f),
 \end{aligned}$$

which contradict (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3). □

Remark 3.1. For $m = 1$ in Theorem 1.11, we get Theorem 1.8.

Corollary 3.2. Let f be a nonconstant meromorphic function and $p(z)$ be a polynomial in z of degree n (≥ 1) with $p(0) = 0$. Let $a(z)$ ($\neq 0, \infty$) be an element of $S(f)$. Let $P[f]$ be a nonconstant homogeneous differential polynomial in f of degree d as defined in Definition 1.4. Suppose that $p(f)$ and $P[f]$ share (S_m, l) with one of the following conditions:

(i) $l \geq 2$ and

$$(Q + 3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2n\Theta(0, p(f)) + d\delta(0, f) > Q + d + n + 3,$$

(ii) $l = 1$ and

$$(Q + \frac{7}{2})\Theta(\infty, f) + \frac{5n}{2}\Theta(0, p(f)) + d\delta(0, f) > Q + d + \frac{3n}{2} + \frac{7}{2},$$

(iii) $l = 0$ and

$$(2Q + 6)\Theta(\infty, f) + 4n\Theta(0, p(f)) + 2d\delta(0, f) > 2Q + 2d + 3n + 6.$$

Then $P[f] = tp(f)$ for some t such that $t^m = 1$.

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