



On Uniqueness of Two Meromorphic Functions Sharing A Small Function

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Abstract

In this paper, we have investigated the uniqueness problems of entire and meromorphic functions concerning differential polynomials sharing a small function. Our results radically extended and improved the results of *Bhoosnurmath-Pujari* [6] and *Harina - Anand* [13] not only by sharing small function instead of fixed point but also reducing the lower bound of n . There are some miscalculation in the proof of a result of *Harina-Anand* [13]. We have corrected all of them in a more convenient way. At last some open questions have been posed for further study in this direction.

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1. Introduction, Definitions and Results

The Nevanlinna theory mainly describes the asymptotic distribution of solutions of the equation $f(z) = w$, as w varies. At the outset, we assume that readers are familiar with the basic Nevanlinna Theory [9]. First we explain the general sharing notion. Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions in the complex plane \mathbb{C} . Two meromorphic functions f and g are said to share a value $w \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ *IM* (ignoring multiplicities) if f and g have the same w -points counted with ignoring multiplicities. If multiplicities of w -points are counted, then f and g are said to share w *CM* (counting multiplicities).

When $w = \infty$ the zeros of $f - w$ means the poles of f .

It is well known that if two meromorphic functions f and g share four distinct values *CM*, then one is *Möbius Transformation* of the other. In 1993, corresponding to one famous question of *Hayman* [10], *Yang-Hua* [16] showed that similar conclusions hold for certain types of differential polynomials when they share only one value.

Recently by using the same argument as in [16], *Fang-Hong* [7] the following result was obtained.

Theorem 1.1. *Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions, $n \geq 11$, an integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share 1 *CM*, then $f \equiv g$.*

The following example shows that in *Theorem A* one simply can not replace “entire” by “meromorphic” functions.

Example 1.2. *Let*

$$f(z) = \frac{(n+2)}{(n+1)} \frac{e^z + \dots + e^{(n+1)z}}{1 + e^z + \dots + e^{(n+1)z}}$$

and

$$g(z) = \frac{(n+2)}{(n+1)} \frac{1 + e^z + \dots + e^{nz}}{1 + e^z + \dots + e^{(n+1)z}}.$$

It is clear that $f(z) = e^z g(z)$. Also $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share 1 *CM* but note that $f \not\equiv g$.

In 2004, *Lin-Yi* [11] extended *Theorem A* and obtained the following results.

Theorem 1.3. [11] *Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions, $n \geq 7$ an integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share z *CM*, then $f \equiv g$.*

Theorem 1.4. [11] Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic functions, $n \geq 12$ an integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share z CM, then either $f \equiv g$ or

$$g = \frac{(n+2)(1-h^{n+1})}{(n+1)(1-h^{n+2})}, \quad f = \frac{(n+2)h(1-h^{n+1})}{(n+1)(1-h^{n+2})},$$

where h is a non-constant meromorphic function.

Theorem 1.5. [11] Let f and g be two transcendental meromorphic functions, $n \geq 13$ an integer. If $f^n(f-1)^2f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^2g'$ share z CM, then $f \equiv g$.

To improve all the above mentioned results, natural questions arise as follows.

Question 1.6. Keeping all other conditions intact, is it possible to reduce further the lower bounds of n in the above results ?

Question 1.7. Is it also possible to replace the transcendental meromorphic (entire) functions by a more general class of meromorphic (entire) functions in all the above mentioned results ?

In 2013, Bhoosnurmath-Pujari [6], answered the above questions affirmatively and obtained the following results.

Theorem 1.8. [6] Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions, $n \geq 11$ be an integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share z CM, f and g share ∞ IM, then either $f \equiv g$ or

$$g = \frac{(n+2)(1-h^{n+1})}{(n+1)(1-h^{n+2})}, \quad f = \frac{(n+2)h(1-h^{n+1})}{(n+1)(1-h^{n+2})},$$

where h is a non-constant meromorphic function.

Theorem 1.9. [6] Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions, $n \geq 12$ an integer. If $f^n(f-1)^2f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^2g'$ share z CM, f and g share ∞ IM, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem 1.10. [6] Let f and g be two non-constant entire functions, $n \geq 7$ be an integer. If $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ share z CM, then $f \equiv g$.

In this direction, for the purpose of extending Theorem E and F, one may ask the following question.

Question 1.11. Keeping all other conditions intact in Theorem E, F and G, is it possible to replace respectively $f^n(f-1)f'$ and $g^n(g-1)g'$ by $f^n(f-1)^m f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^m g'$?

Next the following question is inevitable.

Question 1.12. Is it possible to omit the second conclusions of Theorems C and E ?

In 2016, Waghmore-Anand [13] answer the Questions 1.11 and 1.12 affirmatively and obtained the following results.

Theorem 1.13. [13] Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions, $n \geq m+10$ be an integer. If $f^n(f-1)^m f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^m g'$ share z CM, f and g share ∞ IM, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem 1.14. [13] Let f and g be any two non-constant entire functions, $n \geq m+6$ an integer. If $f^n(f-1)^m f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^m g'$ share z CM, then $f \equiv g$.

Note 1.15. We see that in the results of Waghmore - Anand, for $m = 2$, Theorem H reduces to Theorem F and for $m = 1$, Theorem I reduces to Theorem G.

Remark 1.16. We notice that in the proof of Theorem H and hence in the case of Theorem I also, we have found some miscalculation made by the authors Waghmore-Anand [13]. We mention below few of them.

- (i) In [13, page-947], just before Case 2, the authors obtained that the coefficient of $T(r, g)$ is $(n-m-8)$, while actually it will be $(n+m-8)$.
- (ii) In [13, page-948], just before Case 3, the authors finally obtained that " $h^{n+m}-1=0, h^{n+1}-1=0$, which imply $h=1$ ". Note that this possible only when $\gcd(n+m, n+1)=1$ but which is not true if one consider some suitable value of n and m . For example if we choose $n=3$ and $m=5$, we note that $\gcd(n+m, n+1)=\gcd(8, 4)=4 \neq 1$.
- (iii) We observe that in [13, equation (49), page-950], the coefficient of $T(r, g)$ is $\frac{m}{n+m-1}$ while actually it should be $\frac{m}{n+m+1}$.

In this paper, our aim is to correct all the mistakes made by Waghmore-Anand [13] and at the same time to get an improved and extended version results of all the above mentioned Theorems A - I.

To this end, throughout the paper, we will use the following transformations (see [5]). Let

$$\mathcal{P}(w) = w^{n+m} + \dots + a_n w^n + \dots + a_0 = a_{n+m} \prod_{i=1}^s (w - w_{p_i})^{p_i}$$

where $a_j (j=0, 1, 2, \dots, n+m-1)$ and $w_{p_i} (i=1, 2, \dots, s)$ are distinct finite complex numbers and $2 \leq s \leq n+m$ and $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s, s \geq 2, n, m$ and k are all positive integers with $\sum_{i=1}^s p_i = n+m$. Also let $p > \max_{p \neq p_i, i=1, \dots, r} \{p_i\}$, $r = s-1$, where s and r are two positive integers.

Let $\mathcal{Q}(w_*) = \prod_{i=1}^{s-1} (w_* + w_p - w_{p_i})^{p_i} = b_q w_*^q + b_{q-1} w_*^{q-1} + \dots + b_0$, where $w_* = w - w_p, q = n+m-p$. So it is clear that $\mathcal{P}(w) = w_*^p \mathcal{Q}(w_*)$

In particular, if we choose $b_i = (-1)^i q C_i$, for $i=0, 1, \dots, q$. Then we get, easily $\mathcal{P}_*(w) = w_*^p (w_* - 1)^q$.

Note that if $w_p = 0$ and $p = n$, then we get $w = w_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(w) = w^n (w-1)^m$.

Observing all the above mentioned results, we note that $h^n(h-1)h'$ or $h^n(h-1)^2h'$ ($h=f$ or g) are a special form of $h^n(h-1)^m h'$, $m \geq 1$ be an integer.

Definition 1.17. [3] A Meromorphic function $a \equiv a(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ is said to be a small function of f provided that $T(r, a) = S(r, f)$ i.e., $T(r, a) = O(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$, outside of a possible exceptional set of finite linear measure.

Studying two differential polynomials when sharing a small function (see [1, 2, 3, 5]) or some non-zero polynomial (see [4]) becomes an interesting part of modern value distribution theory. Since the extension of derivatives of a meromorphic functions is nothing but differential polynomials. So for the improvements and extensions of the above mentioned results further to a large extent, the following questions are inevitable.

Question 1.18. Is it possible to replace $f^n(f-1)^m f'$ and $g^n(g-1)^m g'$ by a more general expressions of the form $\mathcal{P}_*(f) f'_* = f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_* = g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*$ respectively in all the above mentioned results ?

If the answer of the Question 1.18 is found to be affirmative, then one may ask the following questions.

Question 1.19. Is it possible to reduce further the lower bounds of n in Theorems E, F, G and H ?

Question 1.20. Is it also possible to replace sharing z CM by sharing $\alpha(z)$ CM in Theorem G and H ?

Answering all the above mentioned questions affirmatively is the main motivation of writing this paper.

Following two theorems are the main results of this paper.

Theorem 1.21. Let f and g hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$, $w_p \in \mathbb{C}$ be any two non-constant non-entire meromorphic functions, $n \geq q + 9$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$, be an integer. If $\mathcal{P}_*(f) f'_* = f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_* = g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*$ share $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ CM, f_* and g_* share IM, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem 1.22. Let f and g hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$, $w_p \in \mathbb{C}$ be any two non-constant entire functions, $n \geq q + 5$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$, be an integer. If $\mathcal{P}_*(f) f'_* = f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_* = g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*$ share $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ CM, then $f \equiv g$.

2. Some lemmas

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

Lemma 2.1. [14] Let f_1, f_2 and f_3 be non constant meromorphic functions such that $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 1$. If f_1, f_2 and f_3 are linearly independent, then

$$T(r, f_1) < \sum_{i=1}^3 N_2 \left(r, \frac{1}{f_i} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}(r, f) + o(T(r)),$$

where $T(r) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq 3} \left\{ T(r, f_i) \right\}$ and $r \notin E$.

Lemma 2.2. [17] Let f_1 and f_2 be two non-constant meromorphic functions. If $c_1 f_1 + c_2 f_2 = c_3$, where $c_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ are non-zero constants, then

$$T(r, f_1) \leq \bar{N}(r, f_1) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{f_1} \right) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{f_2} \right) + S(r, f_1).$$

Lemma 2.3. [17] Let f be a non-constant meromorphic function and k be a non-negative integer, then

$$N \left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}} \right) \leq N \left(r, \frac{1}{f} \right) + k \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

Lemma 2.4. [19] Suppose that f is a non-constant meromorphic function and $P(f) = a_n f^n + a_{n-1} f^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0$, where $a_n (\neq 0)$, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0 are small meromorphic functions of $f(z)$. Then

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

Lemma 2.5. [15] Let f_1, f_2 and f_3 be three meromorphic functions satisfying $\sum_{i=1}^3 f_i = 1$, then the functions $g_1 = -\frac{f_1}{f_2}$, $g_2 = \frac{1}{f_2}$ and $g_3 = -\frac{f_1}{f_2}$ are linearly independent when f_1, f_2 and f_3 are linearly independent.

Lemma 2.6. Let f and g and hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$ be two non-constant meromorphic functions and $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ be a small function of f and g . If $\mathcal{P}_*(f) f'_* = f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_* = g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*$ share α CM and $p \geq 7$, then

$$T(r, g_*) \leq \left(\frac{p+q+2}{p-6} \right) T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*)$$

Proof. Applying Second Fundamental Theorem on $\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_*$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, \mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_*) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, \mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_*) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_*} \right) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{P}_*(g) g'_* - \alpha} \right) + S(r, g_*) \\ & \leq \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*} \right) + \bar{N}(r, g_*) + \bar{N} \left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_* - \alpha} \right) + S(r, g_*) \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

Next by applying *First fundamental Theorem*,

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)T(r, g) \\ & \leq T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q) + S(r, g_*) \\ & \leq T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*') + T\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

After combining (2.1) and (2.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)T(r, g) \\ & \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right) + \bar{N}(r, 0; g_* - 1) + \bar{N}(r, g_*) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*' - \alpha}\right) \\ & \quad + S(r, g_*) + T(r, g_*'). \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Again since $S(r, g_*) = T(r, \alpha) = S(r, f_*)$, so we must have

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*' - \alpha}\right) \\ & \leq T(r, \alpha; f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*') + O(1) \\ & \leq T(r, f_*^p) + T(r, (f_* - 1)^q) + T(r, f_*') + T(r, \alpha) + O(1) \\ & \leq p T(r, f_*) + q T(r, f) + 2T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*) \\ & = (p+q+2)T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

By using (2.6) in (2.5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)T(r, g_*) \\ & \leq (q+6)T(r, g_*) + (p+q+2)T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$T(r, g) \leq \left(\frac{p+q+2}{p-6}\right) T(r, f) + S(r, g),$$

where $p \geq 7$. □

Lemma 2.7. Let f and g and hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$ be two non-constant entire functions and $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z) (\neq 0, \infty)$ be a small function of f and g . If $\mathcal{P}_*(f)f_*' = f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g)g_*' = g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share α CM and $p \geq 5$, then

$$T(r, g_*) \leq \left(\frac{p+q+2}{p-3}\right) T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*)$$

Proof. Since f and g both are entire functions, so we must have $\bar{N}(r, f) = 0 = \bar{N}(r, g)$. Proceeding exactly as in the line of the proof of Lemma 2.6, we can prove the lemma. □

Lemma 2.8. Let $\Psi(z) = c^2(z^{p-q} - 1)^2 - 4b(z^{p-2q} - 1)(z^p - 1)$, where $b, c \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$, $\frac{c^2}{4b} = \frac{p(p-2q)}{(p-q)^2} \neq 1$, then $\Psi(z)$ has exactly one multiple zero of multiplicity 4 which is 1.

Proof. We claim that $\Psi(1) = 0$ with multiplicity 4 and all other zeros of $\Psi(w)$ are simple. Let $F(t) = \frac{1}{2}\Psi(e^t)e^{(q-p)t}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & F(t) \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 4b(1 - e^{pt})(1 - e^{(p-2q)t}) - c^2(1 - e^{(p-q)t}) \right\} e^{(q-p)t} \\ & = (4b - c^2) \cosh(q-p)t - 4b \cosh qt + c^2. \end{aligned}$$

Next we see that for $t = 0$, $F(t) = 0$, $[F(t)]' = 0$, $[F(t)]'' = 0$ since $\frac{c^2}{4b} = \frac{p(p-2q)}{(p-q)^2}$ and $[F(t)]''' = 0$ but $[F(t)]^{(iv)} \neq 0$ where

$$\begin{aligned} & [F(t)]' = (4b - c^2)(q-p) \sinh(q-p)t - 4bq \sinh qt, \\ & [F(t)]'' = (4b - c^2)(q-p)^2 \cosh(q-p)t - 4bq^2 \cosh qt, \\ & [F(t)]''' = (4b - c^2)(q-p)^3 \sinh(q-p)t - 4bq^3 \sinh qt \end{aligned}$$

and

$$[F(t)]^{(iv)} = (4b - c^2)(q-p)^4 \cosh(q-p)t - 4bq^4 \cosh qt.$$

Therefore it is clear that $F(0) = 0$ with multiplicity 4 and hence $\Psi(1) = 0$ with multiplicity 4.

Next we suppose that $\Psi(w) = 0 = \Psi'(w)$, for some $w \in \mathbb{C}$. Then $F(t) = 0 = F'(t)$ for every t satisfying $e^{qt} = w$. Now from $F(t) = 0$ and $F'(t) = 0$, we obtained respectively

$$(4b - c^2) \cosh(q - p)t - 4b \cosh qt + c^2 = 0 \quad (2.5)$$

and

$$(4b - c^2)(q - p) \sinh(q - p)t - 4qb \sinh qt = 0. \quad (2.6)$$

Since $\cosh^2(q - p)t - \sinh^2(q - p)t = 1$, so from (2.5) and (2.6), we get

$$\frac{(4b \cosh qt - c^2)^2}{(4b - c^2)^2} - \frac{16q^2 b^2 \sinh^2 qt}{(4b - c^2)^2 (q - p)^2} = 1.$$

i.e.,

$$(q - p)^2 (4b \cosh^2 qt - c^2)^2 - 16q^2 b^2 (\cosh^2 qt - 1) = (4b - c^2)^2 (q - p)^2.$$

i.e.,

$$\left\{ \cosh qt - 1 \right\} \left\{ \cosh qt - \frac{a^2 (q - p)^2}{2bp(p - 2q)} + 1 \right\} = 0. \quad (2.7)$$

Since $\frac{c^2}{4b} = \frac{p(p - 2q)}{(p - q)^2}$, then $\frac{c^2 (q - p)^2}{2bq(q - 2p)} = 2$, so we see that the equation (2.7) reduces to $\left\{ \cosh qt - 1 \right\}^2 = 0$. i.e., we get $e^{qt} = 1 = w$. \square

3. Proofs of the theorems

Proof of Theorem 1.21. Since $\mathcal{P}_*(f)f'_*$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g)g'_*$ share $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z)$ CM, f and g share ∞ IM, so we suppose that

$$\mathcal{H} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{P}_*(f)f'_* - \alpha}{\mathcal{P}_*(g)g'_* - \alpha} \equiv \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_* - \alpha}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_* - \alpha}. \quad (3.1)$$

Then from (2.6) and (3.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, \mathcal{H}) \\ &= T\left(r, \frac{\mathcal{P}_*(f)f'_* - \alpha}{\mathcal{P}_*(g)g'_* - \alpha}\right) \\ &\leq T(\mathcal{P}_*(f)f'_* - \alpha) + T(r, \mathcal{P}_*(g)g'_* - \alpha) + O(1) \\ &\leq T(r, f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_* - \alpha) + T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_* - \alpha) + O(1) \\ &\leq (p + q + 2)(T(r, f_*) + T(r, g_*)) + S(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*) \\ &\leq 2(p + q + 2)T_*(r) + S_*(r), \end{aligned}$$

where $T_*(r) = \max\{T(r, f_*), T(r, g_*)\}$ and $S_*(r) = \max\{S(r, f_*), S(r, g_*)\}$.

i.e.,

$$T(r, \mathcal{H}) = O(T_*(r)). \quad (3.2)$$

Again from (3.1), we see that the zeros and poles of \mathcal{H} are multiple and hence

$$\bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H}) \leq \bar{N}_L(r, f), \quad \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \leq \bar{N}_L(r, g). \quad (3.3)$$

Let $f_1 = \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*}{\alpha}$, $f_2 = \mathcal{H}$ and $f_3 = -\mathcal{H} \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*}{\alpha}$.

Thus we get $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 1$. Next we denote $T(r) = \max\{T(r, f_1), T(r, f_2), T(r, f_3)\}$.

We have,

$$T(r, f_1) = O(T(r, f_*))$$

$$T(r, f_2) = O(T(r, f_*) + T(r, g_*)) = T(r, f_3).$$

So we have $T(r, f_i) = O(T_*(r))$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$ and hence $S(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*) = o(T_*(r))$.

Next we discuss the following cases.

Case 1. Suppose none of f_2 and f_3 is a constant. If f_1, f_2 and f_3 are linearly independent, then by Lemma 2.1 and 2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & T(r, f_1) \\
 & \leq \sum_{i=1}^3 N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{f_i}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}(r, f_i) + o(T(r)) \\
 & \leq N_2\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) + N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}\right) + N_2\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{\mathcal{H} g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) \\
 & \quad + \bar{N}(r, f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*') + \bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H}) + \bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H} g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*') + o(T(r)) \\
 & \leq N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) + 2N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}\right) + N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f_*) \\
 & \quad + 2\bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H}) + \bar{N}(r, g_*) + o(T(r)).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

We see that $N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \leq 2\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}\right) \leq 2\bar{N}_L(r, g_*)$, $\bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H}) \leq \bar{N}_L(r, f)$.

Again since $\bar{N}_L(r, f_*) = 0 = \bar{N}_L(r, g_*)$ and note that $\bar{N}(r, f_*) = \bar{N}(r, g_*)$, so using all this facts, we get from (3.4) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & T(r, f_1) \\
 & \leq N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) + N_2\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) + 2\bar{N}(r, f_*) + o(T(r)) \\
 & \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) - \left[N_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) - 2\bar{N}_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) \right] \\
 & + N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) - \left[N_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) - 2\bar{N}_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) \right] \\
 & \quad + 2\bar{N}(r, f_*) + o(T(r)).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Let z_0 be a zero of f_* of multiplicity r , then z_0 is a zero of $f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'$ of multiplicity $pr+r-1 \geq 3$. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & N_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) - 2\bar{N}_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) \\
 & \geq (p-2)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Similarly, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & N_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) - 2\bar{N}_{(3)}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) \\
 & \geq (p-2)N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

Let

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{f_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{qC_1}{p+q} f_*^{p+q} + \frac{qC_2}{p+q-1} f_*^{p+q-1} + \dots + (-1)^q \frac{1}{p+q} f_*^{p+1}$$

and

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{g_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{qC_1}{p+q} g_*^{p+q} + \frac{qC_2}{p+q-1} g_*^{p+q-1} + \dots + (-1)^q \frac{1}{p+q} g_*^{p+1}.$$

By Lemma 2.4, we have

$$T(r, \mathcal{F}) = (p+q+1)T(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*).$$

It is clear $\mathcal{F}' = \alpha f_1$. So we have

$$m\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right) \leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{\alpha f_1}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\mathcal{F}'}{\mathcal{F}}\right) \leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{f_1}\right) + S(r, f_*). \tag{3.8}$$

By using First fundamental Theorem and (3.8), we obtained

$$\begin{aligned}
 & T(r, \mathcal{F}) \\
 & = m\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right) \\
 & \leq T(r, f_1) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_1}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\
 & \leq T(r, f_1) + (p+1)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^q N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_* - a_i}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_1}\right) + S(r, f_*),
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

where a_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, q$) are the roots of the algebraic equation

$$\frac{1}{p+q+1}z^q - \frac{{}^qC_1}{p+q}z^{q-1} + \frac{{}^qC_2}{p+q-1}z^{q-2} + \dots + (-1)^q \frac{1}{p+1} = 0.$$

Using (3.5) - (3.8) in (3.9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, \mathcal{F}) \\ & \leq N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) + (2-p)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}\right) + (2-p)N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right) \\ & \quad + 2\bar{N}(r, f_*) + (p+1)N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^q N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*-a_i}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}\right) + o(T(r)). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q+1)T(r, f_*) \\ & \leq 3N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + 3N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right) + \bar{N}(r, g_*) + qN\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*-1}\right) + 2\bar{N}(r, f_*) \\ & \quad + \sum_{i=1}^q N\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*-a_i}\right) + o(T(r)) \\ & \leq (q+5)T(r, f_*) + (q+4)T(r, g_*) + o(T(r)). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$(p-4)T(r, f_*) \leq (q+4)T(r, g_*) + o(T(r)). \tag{3.10}$$

Let $g_1 = -\frac{f_3}{f_2} = \frac{g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}$, $g_2 = \frac{1}{f_2} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}}$ and $g_3 = -\frac{f_1}{f_2} = -\frac{f_*^p(f_*-1)^q f_*'}{\alpha \mathcal{H}}$.

Then we get $g_1 + g_2 + g_3 = 1$. By Lemma 2.5, g_1, g_2 and g_3 are linearly independent since f_1, f_2 and f_3 are linearly independent. Proceeding exactly same way as done in above, we get

$$(p-4)T(r, g_*) \leq (q+4)T(r, g_*) + o(T(r)). \tag{3.11}$$

Let $T_*(r) = \max\{T(r, f_*), T(r, g_*)\}$. After combining (3.10) and (3.11), we get

$$(p-q-8)T_*(r) \leq o(T(r)),$$

which contradicts $p \geq q+9$.

Thus f_1, f_2 and f_3 must be linearly dependent. Therefore there exists three constants c_1, c_2 and c_3 , at least one of them are non-zero such that

$$c_1 f_1 + c_2 f_2 + c_3 f_3 = 0. \tag{3.12}$$

Subcase 1.1. If $c_1 = 0, c_2 \neq 0$ and $c_3 \neq 0$, then from (3.12) we get $f_3 = -\frac{c_2}{c_3} f_2$ which implies $g_*^p(g_*-1)^q g_*' = \frac{c_2}{c_3} \alpha$.

On integrating, we get

$$\frac{g_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{{}^qC_1 g_*^{p+q}}{p+q} + \frac{{}^qC_2 g_*^{p+q-1}}{p+q-1} \dots + (-1)^q \frac{g_*^{p+1}}{p+1} = \frac{c_2}{c_3} \alpha + c, \tag{3.13}$$

where c is an arbitrary constant.

Thus we see that

$$T\left(r, \frac{g_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{{}^qC_1 g_*^{p+q}}{p+q} + \frac{{}^qC_2 g_*^{p+q-1}}{p+q-1} \dots + (-1)^q \frac{g_*^{p+1}}{p+1}\right) \leq T(r, \alpha) + O(1).$$

i.e.,

$$(p+q+1)T(r, g_*) \leq S(r, g_*).$$

Since $p \geq q+9$, so we get a contradiction.

Subcase 1.2. Let $c_1 \neq 0$. Then from (3.12), we get

$$f_1 = \left(-\frac{c_2}{c_1}\right) f_2 + \left(-\frac{c_3}{c_1}\right) f_3.$$

After substituting this in the relation $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 1$, we get

$$\left(1 - \frac{c_2}{c_1}\right) f_2 + \left(1 - \frac{c_3}{c_1}\right) f_3 = 1,$$

where $(c_1 - c_2)(c_1 - c_3) \neq 0$. So we get

$$\left(1 - \frac{c_3}{c_1}\right) \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\mathcal{H}} = \left(1 - \frac{c_2}{c_1}\right). \tag{3.14}$$

Again we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*') \\ & \leq T\left(r, \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}\right) + T(r, \alpha) \\ & \leq T\left(r, \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}\right) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned}$$

Next applying Lemma 2.2 to the equation (3.14), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T\left(r, \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}\right) \\ & \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) + \bar{N}(r, \mathcal{H}) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

So combining the above two we get,

$$T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*') \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) + 2\bar{N}(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*). \tag{3.15}$$

By applying Lemmas 2.3, 2.4 and (3.15), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (p + q)T(r, g_*) \\ & \leq T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q) + S(r, g_*) \\ & \leq T(r, g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*') + T\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) + S(r, g_*) \\ & \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) + 2\bar{N}(r, g_*) + T\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) + S(r, g_*) \\ & \leq 8T(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*), \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts $p \geq q + 9$.

Subcase 2. If $f_2 = k$, where k is a constant.

Subcase 2.1 If $k \neq 1$, then from the relation $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 1$, we get

$$\frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha} - k \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha} = 1 - k. \tag{3.16}$$

Next we apply Lemma 2.2 to the equation (3.16), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T\left(r, \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, g_*) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

By applying Lemma 2.3, 2.4 and using equation (3.17), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p + q)T(r, f_*) \\ & = T(r, f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q) + S(r, f_*) \\ & \leq T(r, f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*') + T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*'}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\ & \leq T\left(r, \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) + T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*'}\right) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$(p + q - 7)T(r, f_*) \leq 4T(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*).$$

Using Lemma 2.6, we get

$$(p + q - 4)T(r, f_*) \leq 4\left(\frac{p + q + 2}{p - 6}\right)T(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*),$$

which contradicts $p \geq q + 9$.

Subcase 2.2 Let $k = 1$ i.e., $\mathcal{H} = 1$ i.e.,

$$f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*' \equiv g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'.$$

On integrating, we get

$$\frac{f_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{{}^q C_1 f_*^{p+q}}{p+q} + \dots + (-1)^q \frac{f_*^{p+1}}{p+1} \equiv \frac{g_*^{p+q+1}}{p+q+1} - \frac{{}^q C_1 g_*^{p+q}}{p+q} + \dots + (-1)^q \frac{g_*^{p+1}}{p+1} + c,$$

where c is an arbitrary constant. i.e.,

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \mathcal{G} + c. \tag{3.18}$$

Subcase 2.2.1 Let if possible $c \neq 0$. Next we get

$$\Theta(0, \mathcal{F}) + \Theta(c, \mathcal{F}) + \Theta(\infty, \mathcal{F}) = \Theta(0, \mathcal{F}) + \Theta(0, \mathcal{G}) + \Theta(\infty, \mathcal{F}).$$

We have,

$$\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right) = \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_* - a_1}\right) + \dots + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_* - a_q}\right) \leq (q+1) T(r, f_*).$$

Similarly, we get $N\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{G}}\right) \leq (q+1) T(r, g_*)$.

Again note that $\bar{N}(r, \mathcal{F}) = \bar{N}(r, f_*) \leq T(r, f_*)$. Again

$$T(r, \mathcal{F}) = (p+q+1) T(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*).$$

$$T(r, \mathcal{G}) = (p+q+1) T(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*).$$

Thus

$$\Theta(0, \mathcal{F}) = 1 - \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}}\right)}{T(r, \mathcal{F})} \geq 1 - \frac{(q+1)T(r, f_*)}{(p+q+1)T(r, f_*)} = \frac{p}{p+q+1}.$$

Similarly

$$\Theta(0, \mathcal{H}) \geq \frac{p}{p+q+1} \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta(\infty, \mathcal{F}) \geq \frac{p+q}{p+q+1}.$$

Therefore

$$\Theta(0, \mathcal{F}) + \Theta(c, \mathcal{F}) + \Theta(\infty, \mathcal{F}) \geq \frac{3p+q}{p+q+1} > 2,$$

since $p \geq q+9$, which is a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2.2 Thus we get $c = 0$. Thus we get

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \mathcal{G}. \tag{3.19}$$

Let $h = \frac{f_*}{g_*}$. Then substituting in (3.19), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)(p+q-1)\dots(p+1)g_*^q(h^{p+q-1} - 1) \\ & - {}^q C_1(p+q+1)(p+q-1)\dots(p+1)g_*^{q-1}(h^{p+q} - 1) \\ & + \dots + (-1)^q(p+q+1)(p+q)\dots p(h^{p+1} - 1) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{3.20}$$

Subcase 2.2.2.1. If h is a non-constant, then using Lemma 2.8 and proceeding exactly same way as done in [12, p-1272], we arrive at a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2.2.2. Let h is constant, then from (3.20), we get $h^{p+q+1} - 1 = 0, h^{p+q} - 1 = 0, \dots, h^{p+1} - 1 = 0$. i.e., $h^d - 1 = 0$, where $d = gcd(p+q+1, p+q, \dots, p+1) = 1$. i.e., $h = 1$.

Hence $f_* \equiv g_*$. i.e., $f \equiv g$.

Subcase 3. Suppose $f_3 = c$, where c is a constant.

Subcase 3.1. If $c \neq 1$, then from the relation $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 1$, we get

$$\frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha} - \frac{c\alpha}{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'} = 1 - c. \tag{3.21}$$

Applying Lemma 2.2 to the above equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*') \\ & \leq T\left(r, \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\ & \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha}\right) \\ & \quad + S(r, f_*) \\ & \leq \bar{N}(r, f_*) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + \bar{N}(r, g_*) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned} \tag{3.22}$$

Using Lemma 2.3, 2.4 and (3.22), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)T(r, f_*) \\ \leq & T(r, f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*'}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & 7T(r, f_*) + T(r, g_*) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned}$$

Next by applying Lemma 2.6, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q-7)T(r, f_*) \\ \leq & T(r, g_*) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & \left(\frac{p+q+2}{p-6}\right)T(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*), \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts $p \geq q + 9$.

Subcase 3.2. Let $c = 1$. Then from (3.21), we get

$$f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*' g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*' = \alpha^2. \tag{3.23}$$

Let z_0 be a zero of f_* of order r_0 . Then from (3.23), we see that z_0 is a pole of g_* of order s_0 (say). Then from (3.23), we get $pr_0 + r_0 - 1 = ps_0 + qs_0 + s_0 + 1$. i.e., $(p+1)(r_0 - s_0) = qs_0 + 2 \geq p + 1$. i.e.,

$$r_0 \geq \frac{p+q+1}{q}.$$

Again let z_1 be a zero of $f_* - 1$ of order r_1 . Then from (3.23), we see that z_1 will be a pole of g_* of order s_1 (say). So we have $r_1 + r_1 - 1 = ps_1 + qs_1 + s_1 + 1$. i.e.,

$$r_1 \geq \frac{p+q+3}{2}.$$

Let z_2 be a zero of f_*' of order r_2 which are not the zero of $f_*(f_* - 1)$, so from (3.23) we see that z_2 will be a pole of g_* of order s_2 (say). Then from (3.23), we get $r_2 = ps_2 + qs_2 + s_2 + 1$. i.e.,

$$r_2 \geq p + q + 2.$$

The similar explanations hold for the zeros of $g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ also. Next we see from (3.23), we have

$$\bar{N}\left(r, f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'\right) = \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha^2}{g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right).$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{N}(r, f_*) \\ \leq & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_* - 1}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) \\ \leq & \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1}\right)N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*}\right) + \left(\frac{2}{p+q+3}\right)N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_* - 1}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{p+q+2}\right)N\left(r, \frac{1}{g_*'}\right) \\ \leq & \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1} + \frac{2}{p+q+3} + \frac{2}{p+q+2}\right)T(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned}$$

By applying Second Fundamental Theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, f_*) \tag{3.24} \\ \leq & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f_* - 1}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1} + \frac{2}{p+q+3}\right)T(r, f_*) + \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1} + \frac{2}{p+q+3} + \frac{2}{p+q+2}\right) \\ \times & T(r, g_*) + S(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, g_*) \tag{3.25} \\ \leq & \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1} + \frac{2}{p+q+3}\right)T(r, g_*) + \left(\frac{q}{p+q+1} + \frac{2}{p+q+3} + \frac{2}{p+q+2}\right) \\ \times & T(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*) + S(r, g_*). \end{aligned}$$

From (3.24) and (3.25), we get

$$T_*(r) \leq \left(\frac{2q}{p+q+1} + \frac{4}{p+q+3} + \frac{2}{p+q+2} \right) T_*(r) + S_*(r).$$

i.e.,

$$\left(1 - \frac{2q}{p+q+1} - \frac{4}{p+q+3} - \frac{2}{p+q+2} \right) T_*(r) \leq S_*(r),$$

which contradicts $p \geq q+9$. □

Proof of Theorem 1.22. Since f_* and g_* both are non-constant entire functions, then we may consider the followings two cases.

Case 1. Let f_* and g_* are two transcendental entire functions. Then it is clear that $\bar{N}(r, f_*) = S(r, f_*)$ and $\bar{N}(r, g_*) = S(r, g_*)$. With this the rest of the proof can be carried out in the line of the proof of Theorem 1.21.

Case 2. Let f_* and g_* both are polynomials. Since $f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share α CM, then we must have

$$(f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*' - \alpha) = \kappa (g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*' - \alpha), \tag{3.26}$$

where κ is a non-zero constant.

Subcase 2.1. Suppose $\kappa \neq 1$, then from (3.26), we get

$$\frac{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha} - \kappa \frac{g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'}{\alpha} = 1 - \kappa. \tag{3.27}$$

Applying Lemma 2.2, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & T(r, f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*') \\ \leq & T\left(r, \frac{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}{\alpha}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) \\ & + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & \bar{N}(r, f_*) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{\alpha}{g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'}\right) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned} \tag{3.28}$$

Using Lemmas 2.3, 2.4 and (3.27), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (p+q)T(r, f_*) \\ \leq & T(r, f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & T(r, f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*') + T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_*}\right) + S(r, f_*) \\ \leq & 4T(r, f_*) + 3T(r, g_*) + S(r, f_*). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$(p+q-4)T(r, f_*) \leq 3T(r, g_*) + S(r, g_*).$$

Using Lemma 2.7, we get

$$(p+q-4)T(r, f_*) \leq 3\left(\frac{p+q+1}{p-3}\right)T(r, f_*) + S(r, f_*),$$

which contradicts $p \geq q+5$.

Subcase 2.2. Let $\kappa = 1$. So from (3.27), we get

$$f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*' \equiv g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'.$$

Next proceeding exactly same way as done in Subcase 1.3.2 in the proof of Theorem 1.21, we get $f \equiv g$. □

4. Concluding remarks and some open questions

If we replace the condition “ $f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share $\alpha(z)$ CM” by the condition “ $f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share z CM”, then the conclusions of Theorems 1.21 and 1.22 still hold.

Thus we get the following results

Theorem 4.1. Let f and g hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$, $w_p \in \mathbb{C}$ be any two non-constant non-entire meromorphic functions, $n \geq q+9$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$, be an integer. If $\mathcal{P}_*(f)f_*' = f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g)g_*' = g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share z CM, then $f \equiv g$.

Theorem 4.2. Let f and g hence $f_* = f - w_p$ and $g_* = g - w_p$, $w_p \in \mathbb{C}$ be any two non-constant entire functions, $n \geq q+5$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$, be an integer. If $\mathcal{P}_*(f)f_*' = f_*^p(f_* - 1)^q f_*'$ and $\mathcal{P}_*(g)g_*' = g_*^p(g_* - 1)^q g_*'$ share z CM, then $f \equiv g$.

Note 4.3. If we choose $q = m$, $w_p = 0$, then since $p = n + m - q$ and $f_* = f - w_p$, so we get $p = n$ and $f_* = f$, respectively. With this we see that $n \geq m + 9$ in Theorem 4.1 and $n \geq m + 5$ in Theorem 4.2.

So from the above note, we observe that Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 4.2 are the direct improvement as well as extension of Theorem H and I respectively.

Remark 4.4. We see from Note 4.3 that for $m = 1$ and $m = 2$, we get $n \geq 10$ and $n \geq 11$ respectively in Theorem 4.1 which is a direct improvement of Theorem E and F.

Remark 4.5. For $m = 1$, we see from Note 4.3 that $n \geq 6$ in Theorem 4.2 which is a direct improvement of Theorem G.

Next for further research in this direction, one may glance over the following remarks.

Remark 4.6. What worth noticing fact is that in [13, equation (39)], there is no term which is absent in the expression. So, for the case of h is constant, [13, equation (40)] implies $h^d - 1 = 0$, where $d = \gcd(n + m + 1, n + m, \dots, n + 1) = 1$. i.e., $h = 1$ and hence $f \equiv g$. But if we replace $(f - 1)^m$ in the expression $f^n(f - 1)^m f'$ by a more general expression $f^n P_m(f) f'$, where $P_m(f) = a_m f^m + a_{m-1} f^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0$, $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$, for $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$. It is not always possible to handle the case of h is constant. If somehow one can do that, then from the case of h is constant, $h^d - 1 = 0$, where $d = \gcd(n + m + 1, n + m, \dots, n + 1) \neq 1$ in general. So we can't obtain $f \equiv g$ in general.

Based on the above observations, we next pose the following open questions.

Question 4.7. Is it possible to reduce further the lower bounds of p in Theorem 1.21 and Theorem 1.22 ?

Question 4.8. To get the uniqueness between f and g is it possible to replace $f_*^p (f_* - 1)^q f'_*$ and $g_*^p (g_* - 1)^q g'_*$ respectively by $f_*^p P_m(f_*) f'_*$ and $g_*^p P_m(g_*) g'_*$, where $P_m(f_*) = P_m(f) = a_m f_*^m + a_{m-1} f_*^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 f_* + a_0$ in Theorem 1.21 and Theorem 1.22 ?

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