

UNIQUENESS OF q -SHIFT DIFFERENCE-DIFFERENTIAL POLYNOMIAL OF MEROMORPHIC AND ENTIRE FUNCTION WITH ZERO-ORDER

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ABSTRACT. In this article, we investigate the uniqueness problem of q -shift difference polynomial of meromorphic (entire) function with zero-order. Consequently, we prove three results with significantly generalize the results of Goutam Haldar.

AMS Mathematics Subject Classification : 30D35.

Key words and phrases : Uniqueness, entire and meromorphic function, zero order and difference-differential polynomial etc..

1. Introduction

Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions defined in the open complex plane \mathbb{C} . For some $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$, if the zero of $f - a$ and $g - a$ have the same locations as well as same multiplicities, we say that f and g share the value a CM (counting multiplicities). If we do not consider the multiplicities, then f and g are said to share the value a IM (ignoring multiplicities). Throughout the paper the elemental and standard notations of Nevanlinna's Value Distribution Theory of meromorphic functions which are discussed in [16] have been adopted. A meromorphic function a is said to be a small with respect to f provided that $T(r, a) = S(r, f)$, that is $T(r, a) = o\{T(r, f)\}$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$, outside of a possible exceptional set of finite linear measure. Also, we use I to denote any set of infinite linear measure of $0 < r < \infty$. If $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z)$ is a small function, we define that f and g share α CM (IM) according as $f - \alpha$ and $g - \alpha$ share 0 CM (IM). The polynomial $Q(\omega)$ of degree $n + m$ defined by

$$Q(\omega) = a_{m+n}^* \omega^{m+n} + \dots + a_1^* z + a_0^* = a_{m+n}^* \prod_{j=1}^s (\omega - \omega_{p_j})^{p_j}, \quad (1)$$

Received December 18, 2021. Revised November 2, 2022. Accepted February 7, 2023.

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where $a_j^* \in \mathbb{C}$, ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n + m$) with $a_{m+n}^* \neq 0$, and ω_{p_j} are distinct complex numbers, and $2 \leq s \leq n + m$, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s , $s \geq 2$, n, m are any non-negative integers satisfying $p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_s = n + m$. We also suppose that $p > \max_{p \neq p_j, j=1, 2, \dots, s-1} \{p_j\}$.

Let $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = a_{n+m}^* \prod_{j=1}^{s-1} (\omega_1 + \omega_p - \omega_{p_j})^{p_j} = a_q \omega_1^q + a_{q-1} \omega_1^{q-1} + \dots + a_1 \omega_1 + a_0$,

where $a_{m+n}^* = a_q$, $\omega_1 = \omega - \omega_p$, $q = n + m - p$. Thus, we see that

$$\mathcal{Q}(\omega) = \omega_1^p \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)$$

where $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = a_q \omega_1^q + a_{q-1} \omega_1^{q-1} + \dots + a_0$ is a polynomial of degree q such that $p + q = n + m$ and hence for a meromorphic function f and f_1 satisfying $f = f_1 + \omega_p$, we have

$$\mathcal{Q}(f) = f_1^p \mathcal{P}(f_1) \tag{2}$$

Suppose c be a non-zero complex constant. We define the shift of $f(z)$ by $f(z+c)$ and define the difference operators by

$$\Delta_c f(z) = f(z+c) - f(z),$$

$$\Delta_c^n f(z) = \Delta_c^{n-1}(\Delta_c f(z)), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad n \geq 2.$$

We recall a linear difference polynomial $\mathcal{L}(z, f)$ of f which is introduced in [18] as

$$\mathcal{L}(z, f) = b_t f(z + c_t) + \dots + b_1 f(z + c_1) + b_0 f(z + c_0),$$

where $b_t (\neq 0), \dots, b_1, b_0; c_t, \dots, c_1, c_0$ are complex constants and t be a positive integer. It can be seen that $\Delta_c f$ is a particular form of $\mathcal{L}_c f = c_1 f(z+c) + c_0 f(z)$ (see [19]). In fact $\mathcal{L}_c f$ and $\Delta_c^n f(z)$ are particular form of $\mathcal{L}(z, f)$. We define a linear q -shift difference polynomial as follows,

$$\mathcal{L}(z, f) = b_t f(qz + c_t) + \dots + b_1 f(qz + c_1) + b_0 f(qz + c_0). \tag{3}$$

For $s \in \mathbb{N}$, let us define

$$\chi_{b_0} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } b_0 \neq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } b_0 = 0. \end{cases}$$

Let $P(z) = a_m z^m + a_{m-1} z^{m-1} + \dots + a_0$ be a non-zero polynomial of degree n , where $a_m (\neq 0), a_{m-1}, \dots, a_0$ are complex constants and m is a positive integer. Let m_1 be the number of distinct simple zeros and m_2 be the number of distinct multiple zeros of $P(z)$. Let $\Gamma_0 = m_1 + 2m_2$ and $\Gamma_1 = m_1 + m_2$.

In 2021, Goutam Haldar [20] proved the following results.

Theorem 1.1. (see [20]) *Let f be transcendental meromorphic (resp. entire) function of zero order, and $s (\neq 0), k$ be non-negative integers. If $m > \Gamma_1 + km_2 + 2s + (1 + s)\chi_{b_0} + 2$ (resp. $n > \Gamma_1 + km_2$), then $(\mathcal{P}(f)L(z, f)^s)^{(k)} - \alpha(z)$ has infinitely many zeros, where $\alpha(z) \in S(f) - \{0\}$.*

Theorem 1.2. [20] *Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions of zero order and n be a positive integer such that $n \geq m + 5$. Let $f^n P(f)L(z, f) - p(z)$ and $g^n P(g)L(z, g) - p(z)$ share $(0, 2)$, where $p(z)$ be a non-zero polynomial such that $\deg(p) < \frac{n-1}{2}$ and $g(z), g(qz + c)$ share 0 CM. Then one of the following conclusions can be realized. (i) $f \equiv tg$ where t is a constant satisfying $t^d = 1$, where $d = \text{GCD}\{n + m + 1, n + m, \dots, n + 1\}$ and $a_{q^{-j}} \neq 0$ for some $j = 0, 1, \dots, m$. (ii) f and g satisfy the algebraic equation $A(x, y) = 0$, where $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_1^n(a_m \omega_1^m + \dots + a_0)L(z, \omega_1) - \omega_2^n(a_m \omega_2^m + \dots + a_0)L(z, \omega_2)$.*

Theorem 1.3. [20] *Let f, g be two transcendental entire functions of zero order. If $E_l(1; (P(f)L(z, f))^{(k)}) = E_l(1; (P(g)g(qz + c))^{(k)})$ and l, m, n are integers satisfying one of the following conditions.*

- (i) $l \geq 2, m > 2\Gamma_0 + 2km_2 + 1$;
- (ii) $l = 1, m > \frac{1}{2}(\Gamma_1 + 4\Gamma_0 + 5km_2 + 3)$;
- (iii) $l = 0, m > 3\Gamma_1 + 2\Gamma_0 + 5km_2 + 4$, then one of the following results holds.
- (i) $f \equiv tg$ for a constant t such that $t^d = 1$, where $d = \text{GCD}\{\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m\}$.
- (ii) f and g satisfy the algebraic equation $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = 0$ where $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = P(\omega_1)L(z, \omega_1) - P(\omega_2)L(z, \omega_2)$.

2. Definitions

In 2009, Lahiri [14] introduced a gradation of sharing of values or sets which is known as weighted sharing. Below we are recalling the notion.

Definition 2.1. (see [14]) Let k be a non-negative 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 . 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, ∞) respectively.

Definition 2.2. (see [12]) Let f and g be non-constant meromorphic functions such that f and g share the value a IM. Let z_0 be an a -point of f with multiplicity p , an a -point of g with multiplicity q . We denote by $\overline{N}_L(r, a; f)$ the counting function of those a -points of f and g where $p > q$, by $N_E^1(r, a; f)$ the counting function of those a -points of f and g where $p = q = 1$ and by $\overline{N}_E^2(r, a; f)$ the counting function of those a -points of f and g where $p = q \geq 2$, each point in these counting functions is counted only once. Similarly, one can define $\overline{N}_L(r, a; g), N_E^1(r, a; g), \overline{N}_E^2(r, a; g)$.

Definition 2.3. (see [14], [7]) Let f, g share a value a IM. Denote by $\overline{N}_*(r, a; f, g)$ the reduced counting function of those a -points of f whose multiplicities differ from the multiplicities of the corresponding a -points of g . Clearly, we note that $\overline{N}_*(r, a; f, g) \equiv \overline{N}_*(r, a; g, f)$ and $\overline{N}_*(r, a; f, g) = \overline{N}_L(r, a; f) + \overline{N}_L(r, a; g)$.

Definition 2.4. (see [15]) Let p be a positive integer and $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$.

(i) $N(r, a; f | \geq p)$ denotes the counting function of those a -points of f whose multiplicities are not less than p .

(ii) $\overline{N}(r, a; f | \geq p)$ denotes the reduced counting function of those a -points of f whose multiplicities are not less than p .

(iii) $N(r, a; f | \leq p)$ denotes the counting function (reduced counting function) of those a -points of f whose multiplicities are not greater than p .

(iv) $\overline{N}(r, a; f | \leq p)$ denotes the reduced counting function of those a -points of f whose multiplicities are not greater than p .

3. Lemmas

In this section, we prove some Lemmas which will play an important role in proving the main results. We denote H by the following function

$$H = \left(\frac{F''}{F'} - \frac{2F'}{F-1} \right) - \left(\frac{G''}{G'} - \frac{2G'}{G-1} \right) \quad (4)$$

where F and G are two non-constant meromorphic functions.

Lemma 3.1. (see [2]) Let f be a zero order meromorphic function, and let $c, q (\neq 0) \in \mathbb{C}$. Then

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

Lemma 3.2. (see [4]) Let f be a zero order meromorphic function, and $c, q \in \mathbb{C}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f(qz+c)) &= T(r, f) + S(r, f). \\ N(r, \infty; f(qz+c)) &= N(r, \infty; f(z)) + S(r, f). \\ N(r, 0; f(qz+c)) &= N(r, 0; f(z)) + S(r, f). \\ \overline{N}(r, \infty; f(qz+c)) &= \overline{N}(r, \infty; f(z)) + S(r, f). \\ \overline{N}(r, 0; f(qz+c)) &= \overline{N}(r, 0; f(z)) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

on a set of logarithmic density 1.

Lemma 3.3. (see [5]) If $N(r, 0; f^{(k)} | f \neq 0)$ denotes the counting function of those zeros of $f^{(k)}$ which are not the zeros of f , where a zero of $f^{(k)}$ is counted according to multiplicity then

$$N(r, 0; f^{(k)} | f \neq 0) \leq k\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 0; f | < k) + k\overline{N}(r, 0; f | \geq k) + S(r, f).$$

Lemma 3.4. (see [6]) Let f be a non-constant meromorphic function and let

$$R(f) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i f^i}{\sum_{j=0}^m b_j f^j}$$

be an irreducible rational function in f with constant co-efficients $\{a_i\}$ and $\{b_j\}$ where $a_n \neq 0$ and $b_m \neq 0$. Then

$$T(r, R(f)) = dT(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

where $d = \max\{n, m\}$.

Lemma 3.5. (see [7]) Let F and G be two non-constant meromorphic functions satisfying $E_F(1, m) = E_G(1, m)$, $0 \leq m < \infty$ with $H \neq 0$, then

$$N_E^{(1)}(r, 1; F) \leq N(r, \infty; H) + S(r, F) + S(r, G).$$

Similar inequality holds for G also.

Lemma 3.6. (see [8]) Let $H \equiv 0$ and F, G share $(\infty, 0)$, then F, G share $(1, \infty), (\infty, \infty)$.

Lemma 3.7. (see [9]) Suppose F and G share $(1, 0), (\infty, 0)$. If $H \neq 0$, then

$$N(r, \infty; H) \leq N(r, 0; |F| \geq 2) + N(r, 0; |G| \geq 2) + \bar{N}_*(r, 1; F, G) + \bar{N}_*(r, \infty; F, G) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F') + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G') + S(r, F) + S(r, G).$$

where $\bar{N}_0(r, 0; F')$ is the reduced counting function of those zeros of F' which are not the zeros of $F(F - 1)$ and $\bar{N}_0(r, 0; G')$ is similarly defined.

Lemma 3.8. (see [7]) If two non-constant meromorphic functions F, G share $(1, 2)$ then

$$\bar{N}_0(r, 0; G') + \bar{N}(r, 1; |G| \geq 2) + \bar{N}_*(r, 1; F, G) \leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + S(r, G),$$

where $\bar{N}_0(r, 0; G')$ is the reduced counting function of those zeros of G' which are not the zeros of $G(G - 1)$.

Lemma 3.9. (see [10]) Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions. Then

$$N\left(r, \infty; \frac{f}{g}\right) - N\left(r, \infty; \frac{g}{f}\right) = N(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 0; g) - N(r, \infty; g) - N(r, 0; f).$$

Lemma 3.10. Let f be a transcendental entire function of zero-order, and let $q \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ and $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$. If $\phi(z) = f^n \mathcal{P}(f) \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s$, then

$$(n + p + q + s)T(r, f) \leq T(r, \phi) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f).$$

Proof. Using first fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna and Lemmas 3.1 and 3.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q + s)T(r, f) &= m(r, f^{n+p+s} P(f_1)) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{\phi(z) f(z)^s}{\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s}\right) \\ &\leq m(r, \phi(z)) + m\left(r, \frac{f(z)^s}{\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq m(r, \phi(z)) + N(r, 0; f(z)^s) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq m(r, \phi(z)) + sT(r, f) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$(n + p + q + s)T(r, f) \leq T(r, \phi(z)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f).$$

□

Lemma 3.11. *Let f be a transcendental entire function of zero-order, and let $q \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$ and $n, s \in \mathbb{N}$. If $\phi(z) = \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s$, then*

$$(p + q)T(r, f) \leq T(r, \phi) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f).$$

Proof. Using first fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna and Lemmas 3.1 and 3.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (p + q + s)T(r, f) &= m(r, f^{p+s}P(f_1)) \\ &\leq m(r, \phi(z)) + T\left(r, \frac{f(z)^s}{\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s}\right) - N\left(r, \infty; \frac{f(z)^s}{\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq m(r, \phi(z)) + sT(r, f) - N(r, 0; L(z, f)^s) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$(p + q)T(r, f) \leq T(r, \phi(z)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f).$$

□

Lemma 3.12. *(see [11]) Let f be a non-constant meromorphic function and $p, k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then*

$$N_p(r, 0; f^{(k)}) \leq T(r, f^{(k)}) - T(r, f) + N_{p+k}(r, 0; f) + S(r, f).$$

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

Lemma 3.13. *(see [12]) If F, G be two non-constant meromorphic functions such that they share $(1, 1)$. Then*

$$2\bar{N}_L(r, 1; F) + 2\bar{N}_L(r, 1; G) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}(r, 1; F) - \bar{N}_{F>2}(r, 1; G) \leq N(r, 1; G) - \bar{N}(r, 1; G).$$

Lemma 3.14. *(see [13]) If two non-constant meromorphic functions F, G share $(1, 1)$, then*

$$\bar{N}_{F>2}(r, 1; G) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\bar{N}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) - N_0(r, 0; F')) + S(r, F),$$

where $N_0(r, 0; F')$ is the counting function of those zeros of F' which are not the zeros of $F(F - 1)$.

Lemma 3.15. *(see [13]) Let F and G be two non-constant meromorphic functions sharing $(1, 0)$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{N}_L(r, 1; F) + 2\bar{N}_L(r, 1; G) + \bar{N}_E^{(2)}(r, 1; F) - \bar{N}_{F>1}(r, 1; G) \\ - \bar{N}_{G>1}(r, 1; F) \leq N(r, 1; G) - \bar{N}(r, 1; G). \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 3.16. (see [13]) *If F and G share $(1, 0)$, then*

$$\overline{N}_L(r, 1; F) \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + S(r, F).$$

$$\overline{N}_{F>1}(r, 1; G) \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) - N_0(r, 0; F') + S(r, F).$$

Similar inequality holds for G also.

4. Main results

In the present research article, we are replacing $P(f)$ by $\mathcal{P}(f) = f_1^p P(f_1)$ and $\mathcal{L}(z, f) = b_1 f(qz + c) + b_0 f(z)$ by equation (3) and obtained the following results.

Theorem 4.1. *Let f be a transcendental meromorphic function (resp. entire) function of zero order and $s (\neq 0)$, k be a positive integer. If $q > \Gamma_1 + km_2 + 2s + \chi_{b_0}(1 + s) + p + 1$ (resp. $n > \Gamma_1 + p + km_2$) then $(\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s)^{(k)} - \alpha(z)$ has infinitely many zeros where $\alpha(z) \in S(f) - \{0\}$.*

Proof. Suppose $F = F_1^{(k)}$ where $F_1 = \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s$. Let us first suppose that f is a transcendental entire function of zero order. On the contrary, we assume that $F - \alpha(z)$ has finitely many zeros. In view of Lemmas 3.1, 3.11, 3.12 and by second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna for small functions we get

$$\begin{aligned} (p + q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq T(r, F) + N_{k+1}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) - \overline{N}(r, 0; F) \\ &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq (p + \Gamma_1 + km_2)T(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

which is not possible since $n \geq p + \Gamma_1 + km_2$. Suppose f is a transcendental meromorphic function of zero order. Now

$$\begin{aligned} (p + q + s)T(r, f) &= T(r, f^s \mathcal{P}(f)) \\ &= T\left(r, \frac{F_1 f^s}{\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s}\right) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq T(r, F_1) + 2sT(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} (p + q - s)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, F_1) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq T(r, F) + N_{k+1}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) - \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + N_{k+1}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)^s) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq (1 + p + \chi_{b_0})\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + (\Gamma_1 + km_2 + p)\overline{N}(r, 0; f) \\ &\quad + (1 + \chi_{b_0})sT(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$q \leq (\Gamma_1 + km_2 + 2s + \chi_{b_0}(1 + s) + p + 1)T(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

which is not possible since $q > \Gamma_1 + km_2 + 2s + \chi_{b_0}(1 + s) + p + 1$. Hence the proof of the Theorem 4.1. \square

Theorem 4.2. Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions of zero order and n be a positive integer such that $n \geq p + q + 5$. Let $f^n \mathcal{P}(f) \mathcal{L}(z, f) - p(z)$ and $g^n \mathcal{P}(g) \mathcal{L}(z, g) - p(z)$ share $(0, 2)$ where $p(z)$ be a non-zero polynomial such that $\deg(p) < \frac{n-1}{2}$ and $g(z), g(qz + c)$ share 0 CM. Then one of the following conclusion holds. (i) $f \equiv tg$ where t is a constant satisfying $t^d = 1$, where $d = \text{GCD}(n+m+p+t, \dots, n+p+t)$ and $a_{q-i} \neq 0$ for some $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$. (ii) f and g satisfy algebraic difference equation $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = 0$, where $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_1^n \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \mathcal{L}(z, \omega_1) = \omega_2^n \mathcal{P}(\omega_2) \mathcal{L}(z, \omega_2)$.

Proof. Denote $F = \frac{f^n \mathcal{P}(f) \mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p(z)}$ and $G = \frac{g^n \mathcal{P}(g) \mathcal{L}(z, g)}{p(z)}$. From the given condition it follows that F, G share $(1, 2)$ except for the zeros of $p(z)$.

Case 1. Let $H \neq 0$. From (4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} N(r, \infty; H) &\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; |F| \geq 2) + \overline{N}(r, 0; |G| \geq 2) + \overline{N}_*(r, 1; F, G) \\ &\quad + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; F') + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; G'). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

If z_0 be a simple zero of $F - 1$ such that $p(z_0) \neq 0$, then z_0 is also a simple zero of $G - 1$ and hence a zero of H . So

$$N(r, 1; |F| = 1) \leq N(r, 0; H) \leq N(r, \infty; H) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \quad (6)$$

Using (5) and (6), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{N}(r, 1; F) &= N(r, 1; |F| = 1) + \overline{N}(r, 1; |F| \geq 2) \\ &\leq N(r, \infty; H) + \overline{N}(r, 1; |F| \geq 2) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; |F| \geq 2) + \overline{N}(r, 0; |G| \geq 2) + \overline{N}_*(r, 1; F, G) \\ &\quad + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; F') + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; G') + \overline{N}(r, 1; |F| \geq 2) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Now, by Lemma 3.3 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{N}_0(r, 0; G') + \overline{N}(r, 1; |F| \geq 2) + \overline{N}_*(r, 1; F, G) &\leq N(r, 0; G' | G \neq 0) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; G) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Since $g(z)$ and $g(qz + c)$ share 0 CM, we must have $N\left(r, \infty; \frac{\mathcal{L}(z, g)}{g}\right) = 0$. Hence using (7) and (8) and Lemmas 3.10, 3.12, we get from the second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, F) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq N_2(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, 0; G) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (p + q + 2)T(r, f) + (p + q + 2)T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$nT(r, f) \leq 2T(r, f) + (p + q + 2)T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \quad (9)$$

Since $N\left(r, \infty; \frac{\mathcal{L}(z, g)}{g}\right) = 0$, Keeping in view of Lemmas 3.1 and 3.4 we get

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q + 1)T(r, g) &= T(r, g^{n+1}\mathcal{P}(g)) \\ &\leq m\left(r, \frac{g^{n+1}\mathcal{P}(g)}{G}\right) + m(r, G) \\ &\leq T(r, G) + O(\log r). \end{aligned}$$

In a similar manner we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q + 1)T(r, g) &\leq T(r, G) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) - \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G') + S(r, g) \\ &\leq N_2(r, 0; G) + N_2(r, 1; G) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (p + q + 3)T(r, f) + (p + q + 2)T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$nT(r, g) \leq (p + q + 3)T(r, f) + T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \tag{10}$$

Combining (9) and (10) we obtain

$$(n - p - q - 5)T(r, f) + (n - p - q - 3)T(r, g) \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g),$$

which contradicts to the fact that $n \geq p + q + 5$.

Case 2. Suppose $H \equiv 0$. Then by integration we get

$$\frac{1}{F - 1} = \frac{A}{G - 1} + B. \tag{11}$$

where A, B are constant with $A \neq 0$. From (11) it can be easily seen that F, G share $(1, \infty)$. We now consider following three subcases.

Subcase 2.1. Let $B \neq 0$ and $A \neq B$. If $B = -1$, then from (11) we have $F = \frac{-A}{G - A - 1}$. Therefore $\bar{N}(r, A + 1; G) = \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) = N(r, 0; p) = S(r, g)$. So in view of Lemma 3.10 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q)T(r, g) &\leq T(r, g^n\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq T(r, G) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}(r, A + 1; G) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (p + q + 1)T(r, g) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction since $n \geq p + q + 5$. If $B \neq -1$, then from (11) we get $F - \left(1 + \frac{1}{B}\right) = \frac{-A}{B^2\left(G + \frac{A-B}{B}\right)}$. Therefore $\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{B-A}{B}; G\right) = N(r, 0; P(g)) =$

$O(\log r) = S(r, g)$. Using Lemmas 3.12, 3.10 and the same argument as used in the case $B = -1$ we get a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. Let $B \neq 0$ and $A = B$. If $B = -1$, then from (11) we have

$$f^n\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)g^n\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g) \equiv p^2(z). \tag{12}$$

Keeping in view of (12) and $\deg(p) < \frac{n-1}{2}$, we can say that f and g have zeros. Since f and g are of zero orders, f and g both must be constants which contradicts to our assumption. Therefore (12) is not possible. If $B \neq -1$ from (11) we have

$\frac{1}{F} = \frac{AG}{(1+A)G-1}$. Hence $\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{1+A}; G\right) = \bar{N}(r, 0; F) + S(r, f)$. So in the view of Lemmas 3.1 and 3.10 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we get

$$\begin{aligned} (n + p + q)T(r, g) &\leq T(r, g^n \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{A+1}; G\right) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(g)) + \bar{N}(r, 0; F) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (p + q + 1)T(r, g) + (p + q + 2 + \chi_{b_0})T(r, f) + S(r, g) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$nT(r, g) \leq (p + q + 3 + \chi_{b_0})T(r, g) + S(r, g)$$

which is a contradiction since $n \geq p + q + 5$.

Subcase 2.3. Let $B = 0$, then from (11) we get

$$F = \frac{G + A - 1}{A}. \tag{13}$$

If $A \neq 1$, we obtain $\bar{N}(r, 1 - A; G) = \bar{N}(r, 0; F)$. Therefore, we can similarly get a contradiction as in Subcase 2.2. Hence $A = 1$ and from (13) we get $F \equiv G$, that is

$$f^n \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f) = g^n \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g). \tag{14}$$

Let $h = \frac{f}{g}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} a_m g^{n+m+p} \sum_{i=1}^t b_i g_i(qz + c_i) \left[h^{n+m+p} \sum_{i=1}^t h_i(qz + c_i) - 1 \right] + \dots \\ + a_0 g^{n+p} \sum_{i=1}^t b_i g_i(qz + c_i) \left[h^{n+p} \sum_{i=1}^t h_i(qz + c_i) - 1 \right] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since g is a non-constant we must have $t^d = 1$, where $d = GCD(n + m + p + t + \dots + n + p + t)$ and $a_{m-i} \neq 0$ for some $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$. Hence $f = tg$ for a constant t such that $t^d = 1$, where d is mentioned above. If t is not constant then f, g satisfy algebraic difference equation $A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = 0$, where

$$A(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \omega_1^n \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)\mathcal{L}(z, \omega_1) - \omega_2^n \mathcal{P}(\omega_2)\mathcal{L}(z, \omega_2).$$

□

Theorem 4.3. Let f and g be any two transcendental entire functions of zero order. If $E_l(1; (\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)}) = E_l(1; (\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)})$ and l, m, n are three integers satisfies one of the following conditions.

- (i) $l \geq 2; p + q > 2\Gamma_0 + 2km_2 + 3$.
- (ii) $l = 1; p + q > \Gamma_0 + \frac{\Gamma_1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}km_2 + 3$.
- (iii) $l = 0; p + q > 2\Gamma_0 + 3\Gamma_1 + 5km_2 + 9$ then one of the result holds. (i) $f \equiv tg$ for a constant t such that $t^d = 1$, where $d = GCD(p+q+1, \dots, p+q+1-i, \dots, p+1)$.
- (ii) f and g satisfy the algebraic equation $R(\omega_1, \omega_2) = 0$, where $R(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)\mathcal{L}(z, \omega_1) - \mathcal{P}(\omega_2)\mathcal{L}(z, \omega_2)$.

Proof. Let $F(z) = (\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)}$ and $G(z) = (\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)}$. It follows that F and G share $(1, l)$.

Case 1. Suppose $H \not\equiv 0$.

(i) Let $l \geq 2$. Using Lemma 3.5, 3.7 and 3.8 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{N}(r, 1; F) &= N(r, 1; F| = 1) + \overline{N}(r, 1; F| \geq 2) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; F| \geq 2) + \overline{N}(r, 0; G| \geq 2) + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; F') + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; G') \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Hence, using (15), Lemmas 3.1, 3.11, 3.12 and from second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we get,

$$\begin{aligned} (p + q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq N_2(r, 0; G) + N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) + N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) \\ &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\ &\leq (1 + m_1 + 2m_2 + km_2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + T(r, g) \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Similarly,

$$(p+q)T(r, f) \leq (1+m_1+2m_2+km_2)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\}+T(r, f)+S(r, f)+S(r, g). \tag{17}$$

Combining (16) and (17) we get

$$(p+q)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\} \leq (2\Gamma_0+2km_2+3)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\}+S(r, f)+S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction as $p + q > 2\Gamma_0 + 2km_2 + 3$.

(ii) Let $l = 1$, using Lemmas 3.3, 3.5, 3.7, 3.13 and 3.14 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{N}(r, 1; F) &\leq N(r, 1; F| = 1) + \overline{N}_L(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L(r, 1; G) + \overline{N}_E^{(2)}(r, 1; F) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; F| \geq 2) + \frac{1}{2}\overline{N}(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, 0; G) + \overline{N}_0(r, 0; F') \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Hence using (18), Lemmas 3.1, 3.11, 3.12 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) + \frac{1}{2}\overline{N}(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq (1 + m_1 + 2m_2 + km_2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}(1 + m_1 + m_2 + km_2)T(r, f) + T(r, g) + \frac{1}{2}T(r, f) \\
 &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

In a similar manner, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, f) &\leq (1 + m_1 + 2m_2 + km_2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}(1 + m_1 + m_2 + km_2)T(r, g) \\
 &\quad + T(r, f) + \frac{1}{2}T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

Combining (19) and (20) we get

$$(p+q)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq \left(\Gamma_0 + \frac{\Gamma_1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}km_2 + 3\right) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction as $p+q > \Gamma_0 + \frac{\Gamma_1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}km_2 + 3$.

(iii) Let $l = 0$. Using Lemmas 3.3, 3.5, 3.7, 3.15, 3.16 we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \overline{N}(r, 1; F) &\leq N_E^1(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L(r, 1; G) + \overline{N}_E^{(2)}(r, 1; F) \\
 &\leq N_2(r, 0; F) + \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, 0; G) + \overline{N}(r, 0; G) + N_0(r, 0; F') \\
 &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

Hence using (21), Lemmas 3.1, 3.11, 3.12 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) + 2\overline{N}(r, 0; F) + N_2(r, 0; G) + \overline{N}(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq (1 + m_1 + 2m_2 + km_2 + 2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \\
 &\quad + 2(1 + m_1 + m_2 + km_2)T(r, f) \\
 &\quad + (1 + m_1 + m_2 + km_2)T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

Similarly, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, g) &\leq 2(1+m_1+2m_2+km_2+2)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\} \\
 &\quad + 2(1+m_1+m_2+km_2)T(r, g) \\
 &\quad + (1+m_1+m_2+km_2)T(r, f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{23}$$

Combining (22) and (23) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(p+q)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\} \\
 &\leq (2\Gamma_0+3\Gamma_1+5km_2+9)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction as $p+q > 2\Gamma_0+3\Gamma_1+5km_2+9$.

Case 2. Let $H \equiv 0$. By integration we get

$$\frac{1}{F-1} = \frac{A}{G-1} + B.
 \tag{24}$$

where A, B are constants with $A \neq 0$. From (24) it can be easily seen that F, G share $(1, \infty)$. We now consider the following subcases.

Subcase 2.1. Let $B \neq 0$ and $A \neq B$. If $B = -1$, then from (24), we have $F = \frac{-A}{G-A-1}$. Therefore $\bar{N}(r, A+1; G) = \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) = S(r, f)$. Therefore, using Lemma 3.11 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, g) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq T(r, G) + N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) - N_2(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}(r, A+1; G) + N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(g)) - N_2(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq (2\Gamma_0+2km_2+2-m_2)T(r, g) + S(r, g),
 \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction since $p+q > 2\Gamma_0+2km_2+2$. If $B \neq -1$, then from (24), we have $F = \frac{(B+1)G-(B-A+1)}{BG+(A-B)}$ and therefore, $\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{A-B}{B}; G\right) = \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) = S(r, f)$. Therefore, in a similar manner as done in the case $B = -1$, we arrive at a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. Let $B \neq 0$ and $A = B$. If $B \neq -1$ then from (3.20), we have $\frac{1}{F} = \frac{BG}{(B+1)G-1}$ and therefore $\bar{N}(r, 0; G) = \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) = S(r, f)$ and $\bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{B+1}; G\right) = \bar{N}(r, 0; F)$. Therefore using Lemma 3.11 and second fundamental theorem of Nevanlinna, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p+q)T(r, g) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq N_{k+1}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) + N_{k+2}(r, 0; \mathcal{P}(g)) + N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) \\
 &\quad - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, g)) + S(r, g) \\
 &\leq (m_1+2m_2+km_2+1)T(r, g) + (m_1+m_2+km_2+2)T(r, f) \\
 &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} &(p+q)T(r, f) \\ &\leq (m_1 + 2m_2 + km_2 + 1)T(r, f) + (m_1 + m_2 + km_2 + 2)T(r, g) \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Combining above two inequalities we get

$$(p+q)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\} \leq (2\Gamma_0+2km_2+2-m_2)\{T(r, f)+T(r, g)\}+S(r, f)+S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction since $p + q > 2\Gamma_0 + 2km_2 + 2$. If $B = -1$, then (24) reduces to $FG \equiv 1$. This implies

$$(\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)}(\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)} \equiv 1. \tag{25}$$

Suppose $P(z) = 0$ has t roots $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_t$ with multiplicities u_1, u_2, \dots, u_t . Then we must have $u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_t = m$. Therefore (4) can be rewritten as

$$(a_m f_1^p (f - \alpha_1)^{u_1} \dots (f - \alpha_t)^{u_t} \mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)} (a_m g_1^p (g - \alpha_1)^{u_1} \dots (g - \alpha_t)^{u_t} \mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)} \equiv 1. \tag{26}$$

Since f and g are entire functions, from (26), we can say that $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_t$ are Picard exceptional values of f and g . Since by Picard's theorem, an entire function can have atmost one finite exceptional value, all α'_j s are equal for $1 \leq j \leq t$. Let $P(z) = a_m(z - \alpha)^m$. Therefore (26) reduces to

$$(a_m f_1^p (f - \alpha)^m \mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)} (a_m g_1^p (g - \alpha)^m \mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)} \equiv 1. \tag{27}$$

Equation (27) shows that α is an exceptional value of f and g . Since f is an entire function of zero order having an exceptional value α , f must be constant, which is not possible since f is assumed to be transcendental and therefore non-constant.

Subcase 2.3. Let $B = 0$. Then (24) reduces to $F = \frac{G+A-1}{A}$. If $A \neq 1$, then $\overline{N}(r, 1 - A; G) = \overline{N}(r, 0; F)$. Proceeding in a similar manner as done in Subcase 2.2. we get a contradiction. Hence $A = 1$. Therefore $F \equiv G$. This implies that

$$(\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f))^{(k)} \equiv (\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g))^{(k)} \tag{28}$$

Integrating (28) k times, we get

$$\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f) = \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g) + p_1(z), \tag{29}$$

where $p_1(z)$ is a polynomial in z of degree $k - 1$. Suppose $p_1(z) \not\equiv 0$. Then (29) can be written as

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p_1(z)} = \frac{\mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g)}{p_1(z)} + 1. \tag{30}$$

Now in Lemmas 3.1, 3.11 and second fundamental theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (p + q)T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq T\left(r, \frac{\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p_1(z)}\right) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, 0; \frac{\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p_1(z)}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \infty; \frac{\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p_1(z)}\right) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}\left(r, 1; \frac{\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f)}{p_1(z)}\right) - N(r, 0; \mathcal{L}(z, f)) + S(r, f) \\
 &\leq (1 + m_1 + m_2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we obtain

$$(p + q)T(r, g) \leq (1 + m_1 + m_2)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + T(r, f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

Combining above two inequalities we get

$$(p + q)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq (2\Gamma_1 + 3)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

which is a contradiction since $p + q > 2\Gamma_0 + 2km_2 + 2$. Hence $p_1(z) \equiv 0$ and (29) we have

$$\mathcal{P}(f)\mathcal{L}(z, f) \equiv \mathcal{P}(g)\mathcal{L}(z, g). \tag{31}$$

Set $h = \frac{f}{g}$. If h is non-constant from (3.27), we can get that f and g satisfy the algebraic equation $R(f, g) = 0$, where $R(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)L(z, \omega_1) - \mathcal{P}(\omega_2)L(z, \omega_2)$. If h is a constant, substituting $f = gh$ into (30) we get

$$[a_q g_1^{p+q}(h^{p+q+1} - 1) + \dots + a_0 g_1^p(h^{p+1} - 1)]\mathcal{L}(z, g) = 0.$$

Then in a similar argument as done in Case 2 in the proof of Theorem 1.1 in [4], we obtain $f \equiv tg$ for a constant t such that $t^d = 1$ where $d = GCD(p + q + 1, \dots, p + q + 1 - i, \dots, p + 1)$ and $a_{q-i} \neq 0$ for some $i = 0, 1, \dots, q$. \square

Conflicts of interest : There is no conflict of interest.

Data availability : Not applicable

Acknowledgments : The authors wish to thank the reviewers for careful reading and valuable suggestions towards the improvement of the paper.

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