

## Some results on uniqueness of homogeneous differential polynomials of meromorphic functions

**Dilip Chandra Pramanik\***

*Department of Mathematics  
University of North Bengal  
Raja Rammohunpur, Darjeeling-734013  
West Bengal, India  
dcpramanik.nbu2012@gmail.com*

**Jayanta Roy**

*Department of Mathematics, DDE  
University of North Bengal  
Raja Rammohunpur, Darjeeling-734013  
West Bengal, India  
jayantaroy983269@yahoo.com*

**Abstract.** In this paper, we deal with the uniqueness problem of homogeneous differential polynomials of meromorphic functions sharing one small function  $a(z)$  with weight  $l$ , where  $l$  is a non negative integer, with certain essential conditions and prove some results which generalize some results due to Lahiri and Pal [9].

**Keywords:** meromorphic function, differential polynomial, weighted sharing, small function, uniqueness.

### 1. Introduction and main results

Let  $f$  be a non-constant meromorphic function defined on the open complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . We assume that the reader is familiar with the standard definitions and notations used in the Nevanlinna value distribution theory, such as  $T(r, f)$ ,  $m(r, f)$ ,  $N(r, f)$  (see, [2, 16, 21]). 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  $a$  is called a small function with respect to  $f$  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  $\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} \subset S(f)$  and  $S(f)$  is a field over the set of complex numbers. For  $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  the quantities

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

and

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

---

\*. Corresponding author

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

For any two nonconstant meromorphic functions  $f$  and  $g$ , and  $a \in S(f) \cap S(g)$  we say that  $f$  and  $g$  share  $a$  IM (CM) provided that  $f - a$  and  $g - a$  have the same zeros ignoring (counting) multiplicities. If  $\frac{1}{f}$  and  $\frac{1}{g}$  share 0 IM (CM), we say that  $f$  and  $g$  share  $\infty$  IM (CM). Let  $f$  and  $g$  share 1 IM and let  $z_0$  be a zero of  $f - 1$  of multiplicity  $p$  and a zero of  $g - 1$  of multiplicity  $q$ . By  $\overline{N}_L(r, 1; f)$  we denote the reduced counting function of those 1-points of  $f$  and  $g$  where  $p > q \geq 1$ ;  $\overline{N}_L(r, 1; g)$  is defined similarly.

In this paper, we use  $n$  to denote any nonnegative integer. Also  $\rho(f) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log r}$  is the order of  $f$ .

In 1976, M. Ozawa [12] proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two non-constant entire functions such that  $f, g$  share the value 1 CM. If  $\delta(0, f) > 0$  and 0 is a Picard exceptional value of  $g$ , then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $f.g \equiv 1$ .*

Now, a days the problem on sharing values between two nonconstant meromorphic functions  $f$  and  $g$  and their relationship is an interesting area of research of uniqueness theory of functions.

In 1976, C. C. Yang [15] posted the following question:

**Question 1.1.** *Suppose that  $f$  and  $g$  are two transcendental entire functions such that  $f$  and  $g$  share the value 0 CM and  $f^{(1)}, g^{(1)}$  share the value 1 CM. What can be said about the relationship between  $f$  and  $g$  ?*

Many authors, including Shibazaki [13], Yi [17, 18], Yang and Yi [19], Hua [3], Mues and Reinders [11], Lahiri [5, 6] studied the question.

In [18] H. X. Yi gave an answer to the above question of C. C. Yang [15] and proved the following result:

**Theorem 1.2** ([18]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. If  $f, g$  share the value 0 CM,  $f^{(n)}, g^{(n)}$  share the value 1 CM and  $2\delta(0, f) + (n + 2)\Theta(\infty, f) > n + 3$ , then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $f^{(n)}.g^{(n)} \equiv 1$ .*

Later Yi [20] proved the following improvement of Theorem 1.2:

**Theorem 1.3** ([20]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions such that  $f^{(n)}, g^{(n)}$  share the value 1 CM and  $f, g$  share the value  $\infty$  CM. If*

$$N(r, 0; f) + N(r, 0; g) + (n + 2)\overline{N}(r, f) < (\lambda + o(1))T(r),$$

for  $r \in I$ , a set of infinite linear measure and  $\lambda$  is a positive constant  $< 1$ , then  $f^{(n)}.g^{(n)} \equiv 1$  unless  $f \equiv g$ .

In 1997, Yi [22] proved some results which improved Theorems 1.2-1.3.

**Theorem 1.4** ([22]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions such that  $f^{(n)}, g^{(n)}$  share the value 1 CM. If*

$$2\delta(0, f) + (n + 4)\Theta(\infty, f) > n + 5 \text{ and}$$

$$2\delta(0, ; g) + (n + 4)\Theta(\infty, g) > n + 5,$$

*then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $f^{(n)}.g^{(n)} \equiv 1$ .*

**Theorem 1.5** ([22]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions such that  $f^{(n)}, g^{(n)}$  share the value 1 IM. If*

$$5\delta(0, f) + (4n + 7)\Theta(\infty, f) > 4n + 11 \text{ and}$$

$$5\delta(0, g) + (4n + 7)\Theta(\infty, g) > 4n + 11,$$

*then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $f^{(n)}.g^{(n)} \equiv 1$ .*

In [10] Li and Li considered the problem of replacing the derivatives by linear differential polynomials. Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function. An expression of the form

$$L(f) = f^{(n)} + a_{k-1}f^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0f,$$

where  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$  are complex constants, is called a linear differential polynomial generated by  $f$ .

Li and Li [10] proved that following theorems:

**Theorem 1.6** ([10]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant entire functions. Suppose that  $f, g$  share the value 0 CM and  $L(f), L(g)$  share the value 1 CM and  $\delta(0, f) > \frac{1}{2}$ . If  $\rho(f) \neq 1$ , then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $L(f).L(g) \equiv 1$ .*

**Theorem 1.7** ([10]). *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant entire functions. Suppose that  $f, g$  share the value 0 CM and  $L(f), L(g)$  share the value 1 IM and  $\delta(0, f) > \frac{4}{5}$ . If  $\rho(f) \neq 1$ , then either  $f \equiv g$  or  $L(f).L(g) \equiv 1$ .*

**Definition 1.1.** *Let  $m (\geq 1)$  be a positive integer,  $t (\geq 0)$  be an integer and let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function. An expression of the form*

$$(1) \quad P[f] = \sum_{k=1}^m a_k \prod_{j=0}^t \left( f^{(j)} \right)^{l_{kj}},$$

where  $a_k \in S(f)$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $l_{kj}$  ( $1 \leq k \leq m; 0 \leq j \leq t$ ) are nonnegative integers and  $d = \sum_{j=0}^t l_{kj}$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , is called a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree  $d$  generated by  $f$ . Also we denote by  $Q$  the quantity  $Q = \max_{1 \leq k \leq m} \sum_{j=0}^t j l_{kj}$ .

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. When we consider  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  are nonconstant homogeneous differential polynomials of  $f$  and  $g$  respectively, then we understand that the coefficients  $a_j \in S(f) \cap S(g)$ .

Recently in 2017 Lahiri and Pal [9] extended the results of Li and Li [10] to homogeneous differential polynomial and obtained the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.8.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions,  $a (\neq 0, \infty) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$ . Suppose  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$ , as defined by (1) are nonconstant. If  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share a IM and*

$$(2) \quad \min \left\{ 5\delta(0, f) + \frac{4Q + 7}{d} \Theta(\infty, f), 5\delta(0, g) + \frac{4Q + 7}{d} \Theta(\infty, g) \right\} > \frac{4Q + 4d + 7}{d},$$

then either  $P[f] \equiv P[g]$  or  $P[f].P[g] \equiv a^2$ .

**Remark 1.1.** If  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share a CM, then the condition (2) of Theorem 1.8 can be replaced by the following

$$\min \left\{ 2\delta(0, f) + \frac{Q + 4}{d} \Theta(\infty, f), 2\delta(0, g) + \frac{Q + 4}{d} \Theta(\infty, g) \right\} > \frac{Q + d + 4}{d}.$$

So, one may ask the following question which is the motivation of this paper.

**Question 1.2.** *Keeping the conclusion of the above theorem intact is it possible to relax the nature of sharing the function  $a$  between CM and IM ?*

To investigate this problem we use a new notion of scaling between CM and IM known as weighted sharing, which is introduced in [7, 8]. In the following definition we explain this notion.

**Definition 1.2** ([7, 8]). *Let  $l$  be a nonnegative integer or infinity and  $a \in S(f)$ . We denote by  $E_l(a, f)$  the set of all zeros of  $f - a$ , where a zero of multiplicity  $m$  is counted  $m$  times if  $m \leq l$  and  $l + 1$  times if  $m > l$ . If  $E_l(a, f) = E_l(a, g)$ , we say that  $f, g$  share the function  $a$  with weight  $l$ . We write  $f$  and  $g$  share  $(a, l)$  to mean that  $f$  and  $g$  share the function  $a$  with weight  $l$ . Since  $E_l(a, f) = E_l(a, g)$  implies that  $E_s(a, f) = E_s(a, g)$  for any integer  $s (0 \leq s < l)$ , if  $f, g$  share  $(a, l)$ , then  $f, g$  share  $(a, s)$ ,  $(0 \leq s < l)$ . Moreover, we note that  $f$  and  $g$  share the function  $a$  IM or CM if and only if  $f$  and  $g$  share  $(a, 0)$  or  $(a, \infty)$  respectively.*

In this paper, we try to give a positive answer to question 1.2 and obtain the following results.

**Theorem 1.9.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions,  $a (\neq 0, \infty) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$ . Suppose  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$ , as defined by (1) are nonconstant. If  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share  $(a, l)$  with one of the following conditions:*

(i)  $l = \infty$  and

$$(3) \quad \min \left\{ 2\delta(0, f) + \frac{Q+4}{d}\Theta(\infty, f), 2\delta(0, g) + \frac{Q+4}{d}\Theta(\infty, g) \right\} > \frac{Q+d+4}{d},$$

(ii)  $0 < l < \infty$  and

$$(4) \quad \min \left\{ \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}\delta(0, f) + \left( \frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q+2 \right) \Theta(\infty, f), \right. \\ \left. \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}\delta(0, g) + \left( \frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q+2 \right) \Theta(\infty, g) \right\} \\ > \frac{(l+1)d+Q+1}{l} + 4 + Q,$$

(iii)  $l = 0$  and

$$(5) \quad \min \left\{ 5\delta(0, f) + \frac{4Q+7}{d}\Theta(\infty, f), 5\delta(0, g) + \frac{4Q+7}{d}\Theta(\infty, g) \right\} > \frac{4Q+4d+7}{d},$$

then either  $P[f] \equiv P[g]$  or  $P[f].P[g] \equiv a^2$ .

**Theorem 1.10.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions,  $a (\neq 0, \infty) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$ . Suppose  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$ , as defined by (1) are nonconstant. If  $f$  and  $g$  share the value 0 CM and  $\infty$  IM and  $P[f], P[g]$  share  $(a, l)$  with one of the following conditions:*

(i)  $l = \infty$  and

$$2\delta(0, f) + \frac{Q+4}{d}\Theta(\infty, f) > \frac{Q+d+4}{d},$$

(ii)  $0 < l < \infty$  and

$$\frac{(2l+1)d}{l}\delta(0, f) + \left( \frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q+2 \right) \Theta(\infty, f) > \frac{(l+1)d+Q+1}{l} + 4 + Q,$$

(iii)  $l = 0$  and

$$5\delta(0, f) + \frac{4Q+7}{d}\Theta(\infty, f) > \frac{4Q+4d+7}{d},$$

then either  $P[f] \equiv P[g]$  or  $P[f].P[g] \equiv a^2$ .

**Theorem 1.11.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant entire functions,  $a (\neq 0, \infty) \in S(f) \cap S(g)$ . Suppose  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  are nonconstant homogeneous differential polynomials of degree  $d$  as defined by (1). If  $f$  and  $g$  share the value 0 CM,  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share  $(a, l)$  with one of the following conditions:*

(i)  $l = \infty$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{1}{2},$$

(ii)  $0 < l < \infty$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{l + 1}{2l + 1},$$

(iii)  $l = 0$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{4}{5},$$

then either  $P[f] \equiv P[g]$  or  $P[f].P[g] \equiv a^2$ .

**Corollary 1.1.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant entire functions such that  $L(f)$  and  $L(g)$  are nonconstant linear differential polynomials. If  $f$  and  $g$  share the value 0 CM,  $L(f)$  and  $L(g)$  share  $(1, l)$  with one of following conditions:*

(i)  $l = \infty$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{1}{2},$$

(ii)  $0 < l < \infty$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{l + 1}{2l + 1},$$

(iii)  $l = 0$  and

$$\delta(0, f) > \frac{4}{5},$$

then either  $f = g$  or  $L(f).L(g) \equiv 1$  under any one of the following conditions:

(i)  $\rho(f) \neq 1$ ,

(ii)  $\rho(f) = 1$  and (a)  $f$  has at most a finite number of zeros, or

(b)  $f$  has infinitely many zeros and  $f$  is of minimal type.

Suppose  $F$  and  $G$  share  $(1, l)$  and let  $z_0$  be a zero of  $F - 1$  of multiplicity  $p$  and a zero of  $G - 1$  of multiplicity  $q$ . We define by  $\overline{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F)$  the reduced counting function of those 1-points of  $F$  and  $G$  where  $p > q \geq l + 1$ ;  $\overline{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G)$  is defined similarly. Note that for  $l = 0$ , we have  $\overline{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) = \overline{N}_L(r, 1; F)$ . Also denote by  $N_E^{(1)}(r, 1; F)$  the counting function of those 1-points of  $F$  and  $G$  where  $p = q = 1$  and by  $\overline{N}_E^{(2)}(r, 1; F)$  the counting function of those 1-points of  $F$  and  $G$  where  $p = q \geq 2$ , where each such zero is counted only once.

## 2. Lemmas

Let  $F$  and  $G$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions. We shall define by  $H$  the following function

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

**Lemma 2.1** ([9]). *Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function and  $P[f]$  be defined as (1). Then*

$$\begin{aligned} (i) T(r, P) &\leq dT(r, f) + Q\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + S(r, f). \\ (ii) N(r, 0; P) &\leq T(r, P) - dT(r, f) + dN(r, 0; f) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq Q\bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + dN(r, 0; f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.2** ([1]). *Let  $F$  and  $G$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions sharing  $(1, l)$  and  $H \neq 0$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} N(r, \infty, H) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_L(r, 1; F) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_L(r, 1; G) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.3** ([4]). *Let  $f$  be a transcendental meromorphic function and  $P[f]$  be a homogeneous differential polynomial generated by  $f$  of degree  $d \geq 1$ . Then*

$$dT(r, f) \leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + \bar{N}(r, 1; F) + N(r, 0; f^d) - N_0(r, 0; (P(f))^{(1)}) + S(r, f),$$

where  $N_0(r, 0; (P[f])^{(1)})$  denotes the counting function corresponding to the zeros of  $(P[f])^{(1)}$  which are not the zeros of  $P[f]$  and  $P[f] - 1$ .

**Lemma 2.4** ([14]). *Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function and let*

$$p(f) = a_n f^n + a_{n-1} f^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 f + a_0,$$

where  $a_i \in S(f)$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ,  $a_n (\neq 0)$  be a polynomial of degree  $n$ . Then  $T(r, p(f)) = nT(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *If  $F$  and  $G$  be two nonconstant meromorphic functions sharing  $(1, l)$  where  $l$  is positive integer and  $H \neq 0$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) &\leq \left(1 + \frac{1}{l}\right)N(r, 0; F) + \left(2 + \frac{1}{l}\right)\bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + N(r, 0; G) + 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; G) \\ &\quad + S(r, F) + S(r, G). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $H \neq 0$ . Then by a simple calculation we see that

$$\begin{aligned} (6) \quad N_E^1(r, 1; F) &\leq N(r, 0; H) \leq T(r, H) + O(1) \\ &\leq N(r, \infty; H) + S(r, F) + S(r, G). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $F$  and  $G$  share  $(1, l)$ , we have from Lemma 2.2

$$\begin{aligned} (7) \quad N(r, \infty; H) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) \\ &\quad + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G). \end{aligned}$$

By Nevanlinna’s Second Fundamental Theorem we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(r, F) + T(r, G) &\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) - N_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) \\
 (8) \quad &\quad - N_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G),
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $N_0(r, 0; F^{(1)})$  denotes the counting function corresponding to the zeros of  $F^{(1)}$  which are not the zeros of  $F$  and  $F - 1$ . Similarly we define  $N_0(r, 0; G^{(1)})$ .

Since  $F$  and  $G$  share  $(1, l)$ , using (6) and (7) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\bar{N}(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) \\
 &= N_E^1(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) \\
 &\quad + N_E^2(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad + 2\bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) + 2\bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) + N_E^2(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) \\
 (9) \quad &\quad + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) + N(r, 1; G) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G) \\
 &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) + T(r, G) + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; F^{(1)}) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}_0(r, 0; G^{(1)}) + S(r, F) + S(r, G).
 \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; F) + \bar{N}_{(l+1)}^L(r, 1; G) &\leq \frac{1}{l}N(r, 0; F^{(1)}) + S(r, F) \\
 (10) \quad &\leq \frac{1}{l}N(r, 0; F) + \frac{1}{l}\bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + S(r, F).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, using (9), (10) in (8) we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(r, F) + T(r, G) &\leq 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; G) + \bar{N}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) \\
 &\quad + \bar{N}(r, 0; G) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; G) + \frac{1}{l}N(r, 0; F) + \frac{1}{l}\bar{N}(r, \infty; F) \\
 &\quad + T(r, G) + S(r, F) + S(r, G).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\bar{N}(r, 0; F) + \bar{N}_{(2)}(r, 0; F) \leq N(r, 0; F)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(r, F) &\leq (1 + \frac{1}{l})N(r, 0; F) + (2 + \frac{1}{l})\bar{N}(r, \infty; F) + N(r, 0; G) + 2\bar{N}(r, \infty; G) \\
 &\quad + S(r, F) + S(r, G).
 \end{aligned}$$

□



### 3. Proof of main theorems

Proof of Theorem 1.9:

**Proof.** Let

$$F = \frac{P[f]}{a}, \quad G = \frac{P[g]}{a}.$$

Since  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share  $(a, l)$ , it follows that  $F, G$  share  $(1, l)$  except at the zeros and poles of  $a$ .

Now, we consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $l = \infty$ . This case follows from Remark 1.1.

Case 2:  $0 < l < \infty$ .

Suppose  $H \neq 0$ . From Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.1, we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) &\leq \left(1 + \frac{1}{l}\right)N(r, 0; F) + \left(2 + \frac{1}{l}\right)\overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + N(r, 0; G) \\ &\quad + 2\overline{N}(r, \infty; G) + S(r, F) + S(r, G). \\ &\Rightarrow dT(r, f) \leq \frac{Q+1+2l}{l}\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + (2+Q)\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) \\ (11) \quad &+ \frac{(l+1)d}{l}N(r, 0; f) + dN(r, 0; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} dT(r, g) &\leq \frac{Q+1+2l}{l}\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + (2+Q)\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + \frac{(l+1)d}{l}N(r, 0; g) \\ (12) \quad &+ dN(r, 0; f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Combining (11) and (12), we get

$$\begin{aligned} dT(r, f) + dT(r, g) &\leq \left(\frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q + 2\right)\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}N(r, 0; f) \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q + 2\right)\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}N(r, 0; g) \\ &\quad + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\{ \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}\delta(0, f) + \left(\frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q + 2\right)\Theta(\infty, f) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{(l+1)d+Q+1}{l} - 4 - Q \right\} T(r, f) \\ &+ \left\{ \frac{(2l+1)d}{l}\delta(0, g) + \left(\frac{Q+1+2l}{l} + Q + 2\right)\Theta(\infty, g) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{(l+1)d+Q+1}{l} - 4 - Q \right\} T(r, g) \\ &\leq S(r, f) + S(r, g), \end{aligned}$$

which contradict (4). Therefore  $H \equiv 0$  and so integrating twice we get

$$\frac{1}{G-1} = \frac{A}{F-1} + B,$$

where  $A (\neq 0)$  and  $B$  are constants.

Thus,

$$(13) \quad G = \frac{(B+1)F + (A-B-1)}{BF + (A-B)}$$

and

$$(14) \quad F = \frac{(B-A)G + (A-B-1)}{BG - (B+1)}.$$

Next, we consider following three subcases:

Subcase 2.1:  $B \neq 0, -1$ . Then, from (14) we have

$$\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{B+1}{B}; G\right) = \overline{N}(r, \infty; F).$$

By Nevanlinna Second Fundamental Theorem and (ii) of Lemma 2.1 we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, G) &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; G) + \overline{N}(r, 0; G) + \overline{N}\left(r, \frac{B+1}{B}; G\right) + S(r, G) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; G) + \overline{N}(r, 0; G) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + S(r, G) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; G) + T(r, G) - dT(r, g) + dN(r, 0; g) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + S(r, G), \end{aligned}$$

$$(15) \quad \Rightarrow dT(r, g) \leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + dN(r, 0; g) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

If  $A - B - 1 \neq 0$ , then it follows from (13) that

$$\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{-A+B+1}{B+1}; F\right) = \overline{N}(r, 0; G).$$

Using Nevanlinna Second Fundamental Theorem and Lemma 2.1

$$T(r, F) \leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + \overline{N}\left(r, \frac{-A+B+1}{B+1}; F\right) + S(r, F),$$

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow dT(r, f) \leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + dN(r, 0; f) \\ &+ Q\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + dN(r, 0; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Adding (15) and (16), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) + T(r, g) &\leq N(r, 0; f) + \frac{2}{d}\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + 2N(r, 0; g) \\ &+ \frac{Q+1}{d}\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g), \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (4).

Therefore  $A - B - 1 = 0$ . Then from (13), it follows that

$$\overline{N}(r, -\frac{1}{B}; F) = \overline{N}(r, \infty; G).$$

Again by Nevanlinna Second Fundamental Theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, F) &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; F) + \overline{N}(r, 0; F) + \overline{N}(r, -\frac{1}{B}; F) + S(r, F) \\ &\leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + T(r, F) - dT(r, f) + dN(r, 0; f) \\ &\quad + \overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \end{aligned}$$

$$(17) \Rightarrow dT(r, f) \leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + dN(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

Combining (15) and (17), we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) + T(r, g) &\leq N(r, 0; f) + \frac{2}{d}\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 0; g) \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{d}\overline{N}(r, \infty; g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g), \end{aligned}$$

which violates (4).

Subcase 2.2:  $B = -1$ . Then from (13) and (14), we get

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

and

$$F = \frac{(1 + A)G - A}{G}.$$

If  $A + 1 \neq 0$ , then

$$\overline{N}(r, A + 1; F) = \overline{N}(r, \infty; G),$$

$$\overline{N}(r, \frac{A}{A + 1}; G) = \overline{N}(r, 0; F).$$

By similar argument as in Subcase 2.1 we arrive at a contradiction.

Therefore,  $A + 1 = 0$ , then

$$FG = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow P[f].P[g] \equiv a^2.$$

Subcase 2.3:  $B = 0$ . Then (13) and (14) gives  $G = \frac{F+A-1}{A}$  and  $F = AG + 1 - A$ . If  $A - 1 \neq 0$ ,  $\overline{N}(r, 1 - A; F) = \overline{N}(r, 0; G)$  and  $\overline{N}(r, \frac{A-1}{A}; G) = \overline{N}(r, 0; F)$ . Proceeding similarly as in Subcase 2.1 we get a contradiction.

Therefore  $A - 1 = 0$  then  $F \equiv G$  i.e.,

$$P[f] \equiv P[g].$$

Case 3:  $l = 0$ . The conclusion follows from Theorem 1.1 of [9].

This complete the proof.  $\square$

Proof of Theorem 1.10:

**Proof.** Let

$$F = \frac{P[f]}{a}, \quad G = \frac{P[g]}{a}.$$

Since  $P[f]$  and  $P[g]$  share  $(a, l)$ , it follows that  $F, G$  share  $(1, l)$  except at the zeros and poles of  $a$ . By Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} dT(r, f) &\leq \bar{N}(r, \infty; f) + \bar{N}(r, 1; F) + N(r, 0; f^d) + S(r, f) \\ &= \bar{N}(r, \infty; g) + \bar{N}(r, 1; G) + N(r, 0; g^d) + S(r, f) \\ (18) \quad &\leq (1 + Q + 2d)T(r, g) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$(19) \quad dT(r, g) \leq (1 + Q + 2d)T(r, f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

From (18) and (19) we get  $S(r, f) = S(r, g)$ . The rest of the proof is similar to that of Theorem 1.9.  $\square$

Proof of the Corollary 1.1:

**Proof.** By Theorem 1.11 we get either  $L(f) \equiv L(g)$  or  $L(f).L(g) \equiv 1$ . Let  $L(f) \equiv L(g)$  so that  $L(f - g) \equiv 0$ . Proceeding similarly as in the proof of Corollary 1.2 of [9], we obtain  $f = g$ .  $\square$

## References

- [1] A. Banerjee, B. Chakraborty, *Further investigations on a questions of Zhang and Lu*, Ann. Univ. Paedagog. Crac. Stud. Math, 14 (2015), 105-119.
- [2] W. K. Hayman, *Meromorphic functions*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1964.
- [3] X. H. Hua, *A unicity theorem for entire functions*, Bull. London Math. Soc., 22 (1990), 457-462.
- [4] J. D. Hinchliffe, *On a result of Chuang related to Hayman's alternative*, Comput. Methods Funct. Theory, 2 (2002), 293-297.
- [5] I. Lahiri, *Uniqueness of meromorphic functions as governed by their differential polynomials*, Yokohama Math. J., 44 (1997), 147-156.
- [6] I. Lahiri, *Differential polynomials and uniqueness of meromorphic functions*, Yokohama Math. J., 45 (1998), 31-38.
- [7] I. Lahiri, *Weighted value sharing and uniqueness of meromorphic functions*, Complex Var. Theory Appl., 46 (2001), 241-253.
- [8] I. Lahiri, *Weighted sharing and uniqueness of meromorphic functions*, Nagoya Math. J., 161 (2001), 193-206.

- [9] I. Lahiri, B. Pal, *Uniqueness of meromorphic functions with their homogeneous and linear differential polynomials sharing a small function*, Bull. Korean Math. Soc., 54 (2017), 825-838.
- [10] J. T. Li, P. Li, *Uniqueness of entire functions concerning differential polynomials*, Commun. Korean Math. Soc., 30 (2015), 93-101.
- [11] E. Mues, M. Reinders, *On a question of C. C. Yang*, Complex Var. Theory Appl., 34 (1997), 171-179.
- [12] M. Ozawa, *Unicity theorems for entire functions*, J. D'Anal. Math., 30 (1976), 411-420.
- [13] K. Shibazaki, *Unicity theorems for entire functions of finite order*, Mem. Nat. Defence Acad., (Japan) 21 (1981), 67-71.
- [14] C. C. Yang, *On deficiencies of differential polynomials II*, Math. Z., 125 (1972), 107-112.
- [15] C.C Yang, *On two entire functions which together with their first derivatives have the same zeros*, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 56 (1976), 1-6.
- [16] L. Yang, *Value distributions theory*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1993.
- [17] H. X. Yi, *Uniqueness of meromorphic functions and a question of C. C. Yang*, Complex Var. Theory Appl., 14 (1990), 169-176.
- [18] H. X. Yi, *A question of C. C. Yang on the uniqueness of entire functions*, Kodai Math. J., 13 (1990), 39-46.
- [19] H. X. Yi, C. C. Yang, *A uniqueness theorem for meromorphic functions whose  $n$ th derivatives share the same 1-points*, J. Anal. Math., 62 (1994), 261-270.
- [20] H. X. Yi, *Unicity theorems for entire or meromorphic functions*, Acta Math. Sin.(N.S), 10 (1994), 121-131.
- [21] H. X. Yi, C. C. Yang, *Uniqueness theory of meromorphic functions* (in Chinese), Science Press, Beijing, 1995.
- [22] H. X. Yi, *Uniqueness theorems for meromorphic functions whose  $n$ th derivatives share the same 1-points*, Complex Var. Theory Appl., 34 (1997), 421-436.

Accepted: 9.12.2019