PREFACE

The work of the present dissertation has been divided into three chapters. The first chapter is introductory. It incorporates a few relevant basic concepts and the usual notations of Nevanlinna theory.

The second chapter deals with relative defects of a meromorphic function and also with relative defects corresponding to the common and distinct zeros and poles of two meromorphic functions.

The third and the last chapter deals with exceptional values of entire and meromorphic functions and their derivatives. Here, assuming certain growth estimates on these functions and using the comparison function $r^{\rho} L(r)$ where ρ denotes the order of the meromorphic function f and L(r) denotes the slowly changing function, we have obtained bounds for $\overline{N}(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}-a})$ and expressions involving similar terms.

References to the literature are arranged alphabetically towards the end. In the text they have been referred to by putting within square brackets.

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