

CHAPTER - I I I

* G R O W T H O F D I F F E R E N T I A L *
* P O L Y N O M I A L S *
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CHAPTER - IIIGrowth of differential polynomials

Let $f(z)$ be a meromorphic function. As mentioned in Chapter II, $\pi_n(f)$ will denote a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n . That is a finite sum of the form

$$a(z)(f)^{l_0} (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}$$

where $l_0 + l_1 + \dots + l_k = n$ and $a(z)$ is meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ where by $S(r, f)$ we mean any quantity satisfying $S(r, f) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ if f is of finite order and $S(r, f) = o(T(r, f))$ outside an exceptional set of finite linear measure if f is of infinite order. Throughout we assume that the homogeneous differential polynomial is such that it does not become zero. The term $\delta(\alpha, f)$, $\Theta(\alpha, f)$ etc. being as defined at the beginning of the Chapter II.

We now prove our results.

Theorem 3.1 : For any transcendental meromorphic function of finite order

$$\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \geq n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i) \dots (3.1)$$

and $(\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0))(n_t (1+q - q \ominus (\infty))) \geq n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i)$.

$$\cdot (1 + \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) - \delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) \dots (3.2)$$

where $|a_i| < \infty$ and $\delta(a_i) > 0$

and $\pi_n(f)$ is a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n , not containing f for the proof of this theorem we shall need the following two lemmas :

Lemma 3.1 : Let $f(z)$ be a transcendental meromorphic function and $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q, q > 2$ be distinct finite complex numbers. Then

$$n \sum_{i=1}^q m(r, a_i, f) < T(r, \pi_n(f)) - N(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}) + S(r, f) \dots (3.3)$$

where $S(r, f) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ through all values if f is of finite order and $S(r, f) = o(T(r, f))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ outside a set of finite linear measure otherwise. And $\pi_n(f)$ is a non-zero homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n not containing f . That is $\pi_n(f) = \sum a(z) (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}$

where $l_1 + l_2 + \dots + l_k = n$

Proof : Let $F(z) = \sum_{i=1}^q \frac{1}{(f-a_i)^n}$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 n \sum_{i=1}^q m(r, a_i, f) &\leq m(r, F) + o(1) \\
 &= m\left(r, \frac{F\pi_n(f)}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + o(1) \\
 &\leq m(r, F\pi_n(f)) + m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + o(1) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^q m\left(r, \frac{\sum a(z)(f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}}{(f-a_i)^n} + \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + o(1)\right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^q m\left(r, \sum a(z) \left(\frac{f'}{f-a_i}\right)^{l_1} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f-a_i}\right)^{l_k} \right) \\
 &\quad + m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + o(1) \\
 &= m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &= T\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + S(r, f) \\
 &= T\left(r, \pi_n(f)\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$n \sum_{i=1}^q m(r, a_i, f) \leq T(r, \pi_n(f)) - N(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}) + S(r, f)$$

Lemma 3.2 : Let f be a transcendental meromorphic function of finite order, then

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \leq n(1 + q - q \otimes (\infty)) \dots (3.4)$$

where $\pi_n(f)$ is a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n , not containing f .

Proof : $T(r, \pi_n(f)) = m(r, \pi_n(f)) + N(r, \pi_n(f))$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq m\left(r, \frac{\pi_n(f)}{f^n}\right) + m(r, f^n) + N(r, \pi_n(f)) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{\sum a(z) (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}}{f^{l_1 + \dots + l_k}}\right) + m(r, f^n) \\ &\quad + N(r, \pi_n(f)) \\ &= m\left(r, \sum a(z) \left(\frac{f'}{f}\right)^{l_1} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{l_k}\right) \\ &\quad + m(r, f^n) + N(r, \pi_n(f)) \end{aligned}$$

But $m\left(r, \sum a(z) \left(\frac{f'}{f}\right)^{l_1} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{l_k}\right) = S(r, f)$.

and so

$$T(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq m(r, f^n) + N(r, \pi_n(f)) + S(r, f).$$

Now without any loss of generality let $\pi_n(f)$ consist of t terms say $\pi_n(f) = \vartheta_1(f) + \vartheta_2(f) + \dots + \vartheta_t(f)$ where each $\vartheta_i(f)$ ($1 \leq i \leq t$) is a monomial in the derivatives of f but not containing f and of degree n .

And so

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, \pi_n(f)) &\leq m(r, f^n) + N(r, \vartheta_1(f)) + \dots \\ &\quad \dots + N(r, \vartheta_t(f)) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq m(r, f^n) + (nN(r, f) + k_1 n \bar{N}(r, f)) \\ &\quad + (nN(r, f) + k_2 n \bar{N}(r, f)) + \dots \\ &\quad + (nN(r, f) + k_t n \bar{N}(r, f)) + S(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

where k_i is the highest derivatives in the corresponding monomials $\vartheta_i(f)$ ($1 \leq i \leq t$). Let q be the highest derivative occurring in the homogeneous differential polynomial (so that $k_1 k_2 \dots k_t \leq q$)

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, \pi_n(f)) &\leq m(r, f^n) + t n N(r, f) + tqn \bar{N}(r, f) \\ &\leq nm(r, f) + tnN(r, f) + tqn \bar{N}(r, f) \\ &\leq tn m(r, f) + tn N(r, f) + tqn \bar{N}(r, f) \\ &= tn T(r, f) + tqn \bar{N}(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

Now dividing by $T(r, f)$ and taking limit superior of the above inequality we get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \leq t_n + tq_n (1 - \Theta(\infty))$$

$$= tn + tqn - tqn \Theta(\infty)$$

Therefore

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \leq n t(1 + q - q \Theta(\infty))$$

Proof of theorem 3.1 :

From lemma (3.1)

$$n \sum_{i=1}^q m(r, a_i, f) \leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right) + S(r, f)$$

Dividing by $T(r, f)$ and taking limit inferior on both sides as $r \rightarrow \infty$ it easily follows that

$$n \sum_{i=1}^q \delta(a_i) \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right)}{T(r, \pi_n(f))} \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)}$$

$$= \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)}$$

Since above inequality is true for $q > 2$ letting $q \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i) \leq \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)}$$

This proves (3.1)

For the proof of (3.2) we add $n \sum_{i=1}^q N(r, a_i, f)$ to both

sides of result of Lemma 3.1 to get

$$nqT(r, f) < T(r, \pi_n(f)) - N(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}) + n \sum_{i=1}^q N(r, a_i, f) + S(r, f)$$

Dividing by $T(r, f)$ to both the sides and taking limit superior as $r \rightarrow \infty$ we obtain

$$nq < \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} - \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)})}{T(r, \pi_n(f))} - \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} + n \sum_{i=1}^q (1 - \delta/a_i).$$

Since $\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) > 0$ by (3.1) multiplying by $\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0)$ and using (3.1) and lemma 3.2 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) nq &< \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \\ &- \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)})}{T(r, \pi_n(f))} \\ &\cdot \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} + (n \sum_{i=1}^q (1 - \delta(a_i))) \\ &\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0). \end{aligned}$$

And so

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) nq &\leq \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) nt (1 + q - q \oplus (\infty)) \\ &\quad - (1 - \delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i) + \\ &\quad + (n \sum_{i=1}^q (1 - \delta(a_i))) \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) nq + (1 - \delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) n \sum_{i=1}^q \delta(a_i) \\ \leq nt (1 + q - q \oplus (\infty)) \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \\ + (n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - \delta(a_i))) \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \end{aligned}$$

from which it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) nq + (1 - \delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) n \sum_{i=1}^q \delta(a_i) \\ \leq nt (1+q - q \oplus (\infty)) \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) + \\ + nq \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) - (n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i)) \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging and letting $q \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \Delta(\pi_n(f), 0) - \delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_i) \\ \leq nt (1 + q - q \oplus (\infty)) (\Delta(\pi_n(f), 0)) \end{aligned}$$

which proves the theorem.

Theorem 3.2 : If $f(z)$ is a meromorphic function of finite order with $\oplus(0, f) = \oplus(\infty, f) = 1$ and $\pi_n(f)$ is a

homogeneous differential polynomial in f of degree n which does not reduce to a constant then

$$T(r, \pi_n(f)) \sim n T(r, f) \quad \text{as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

Proof : We have $\Theta(0, f) = 1 = \Theta(\infty, f)$

$$\text{therefore } \Theta(0, f) = 1 - \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f})}{T(r, f)}$$

$$= 1$$

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

$$\text{Therefore } \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f}) = S(r, f)$$

$$\text{and } \bar{N}(r, f) = S(r, f)$$

and we know that from theorem 1 of [3]

$$n(1 - m\alpha) \leq \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n)}{T(r, f)} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n)}{T(r, f)} \leq n(1 + m\alpha)$$

$$\text{where } \alpha = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{f})}{T(r, f)}$$

Therefore $\alpha = 0$

Therefore from above inequality we get

$$n \leq \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \leq n$$

$$\text{Thus } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} = n,$$

Consequently $T(r, \pi_n(f)) \sim n T(r, f)$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

This completes the proof.

Before giving an application of theorem 3.2 we shall need the following definition :

By a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n not containing f we shall mean a finite sum of the form

$$\pi_n(f) = \sum a(z) (f')^{l_1} (f'')^{l_2} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}$$

where $l_1 + \dots + l_k = n$ and $a(z)$ is meromorphic function satisfying $T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$.

We now give the application.

Theorem 3.3 : If $f(z)$ is an entire function of finite order

with $\sum_{\alpha \neq \infty} \delta(\alpha, f) = 1$ then

$$\delta(0, \pi_n(f)) = 1.$$

where $\pi_n(f)$ is a non-zero homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n not containing f .

Proof : set $F(z) = \sum_{j=1}^q \frac{1}{(f(z) - \alpha_j)^n}$

then as in the thesis of A.A. Mudalgi [8]

$$\begin{aligned}
n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m \left(r, \frac{1}{f - \alpha_{\nu}} \right) &\leq m(r, F) + o(1) \\
&= m \left(r, \frac{F \pi_n(f)}{\pi_n(f)} \right) + o(1) \\
&\leq m \left(r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{\pi_n(f)}{(f - \alpha_{\nu})^n} \right) + m \left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)} \right) \\
&\quad + o(1) \\
&= m \left(r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q a(z) \frac{(f')^{l_1} (f'')^{l_2} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}}{(f - \alpha_{\nu})^n} \right) \\
&\quad + m \left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)} \right) + o(1) \\
&\leq \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, a(z)) + m \left(r, \left(\frac{f'}{f - \alpha_{\nu}} \right)^{l_1} \right) + \dots \\
&\quad \dots + m \left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)} \right) + o(1)
\end{aligned}$$

Using Milloux's results and the fact that $m(r, a(z)) \leq T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$

We obtain

$$n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m \left(r, \frac{1}{f - \alpha_{\nu}} \right) \leq m \left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)} \right) + S(r, f)$$

Dividing by $T(r, f)$ and taking limit inferior we get

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m\left(r, \frac{1}{f-\alpha_\nu}\right)}{T(r, f)} \leq \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m\left(r, \frac{1}{\pi_n(f)}\right)}{T(r, \pi_n(f))} .$$

$$\cdot \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)}$$

Therefore $n \sum_{\nu=1}^q \delta(\alpha_\nu, f) \leq n \delta(0, \pi_n(f))$

Consequently $\sum_{\nu=1}^q \delta(\alpha_\nu, f) \leq \delta(0, \pi_n(f))$

Making $q \rightarrow \infty$ we obtain

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \delta(\alpha_\nu, f) \leq \delta(0, \pi_n(f))$$

Since the set $\{\delta(\alpha, f) / \delta(\alpha, f) > 0\}$ is countable it follows that

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \delta(\alpha_\nu, f) = \sum_{\alpha \neq \infty} \delta(\alpha, f)$$

And so

$$\sum_{\alpha \neq \infty} \delta(\alpha, f) \leq \delta(0, \pi_n(f))$$

But by hypothesis $\sum_{\alpha \neq \infty} \delta(\alpha, f) = 1$

And so

$$1 \leq \delta(0, \pi_n(f)) \leq 1$$

Thus $\delta(0, \pi_n(f)) = 1$.

Our next theorem finds relation between deficient values of entire functions with that of its derivative. Thus we prove :

Theorem 3.4 : If $f(z)$ is an entire function of finite order then

$$\sum_{a \neq \infty} \delta(a, f) \leq \delta(0, f^{(k)})$$

Proof : Set $F(z) = \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{1}{f(z)-a_\nu}$ then by [7, 33]

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\nu=1}^q m\left(r, \frac{1}{f(z)-a_\nu}\right) &\leq m(r, F(z)) + o(1) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{Ff'}{f'}\right) + o(1) \\ &\leq m\left(r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{f'}{f-a_\nu}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) + o(1) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f' f^{(k)}}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \\ &\leq m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f'}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \\ &= m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}\right) + S(r, f') + o(T(r, f)) \end{aligned}$$

by Milloux's theorem.

Also since $S(r, f') = S(r, f)$ it follows that

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, \frac{1}{f(z)-a_\nu}) \leq m(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}) + S(r, f) \quad \dots (3.5)$$

Now dividing by $T(r, f^{(k)})$ and taking limit inferior (3.5)

becomes

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, \frac{1}{f(z)-a_\nu})}{T(r, f)} \leq \liminf_{f \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}})}{T(r, f^{(k)})}$$

Consequently

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^q \delta(a_\nu, f) \leq \delta(0, f^{(k)}) .$$

Making $q \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \delta(a_\nu, f) \leq \delta(0, f^{(k)}) .$$

since the set of values of a for which $\delta(a, f) > 0$ is countable, it now follows that

$$\sum_{\nu \neq \infty} \delta(a_\nu, f) \leq \delta(0, f^{(k)}) . \text{ This prove the theorem.}$$

Remark : Putting $k = 1$ we obtain Theorem 4.6 of W.K.Hayman

[7, 104] . Another result dealing with the Nevanlinna characteristic of f and the Nevanlinna characteristic of $f^{(k)}$ is the following.

Theorem 3.5 : If $f(z)$ is a meromorphic function of finite order, then

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{T(r, f^{(k)})} \geq \frac{1}{k+1}$$

Proof : If $f(z)$ is a meromorphic function of finite order we have

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{T(r, f')} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clearly } N(r, f^{(k)}) &= N(r, f) + k \bar{N}(r, f) \\ &\leq N(r, f) + k N(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$N(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (k+1) N(r, f) \quad \dots (3.6)$$

Now consider $m(r, f^{(k)})$.

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, f^{(k)}) &= m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f} \cdot f\right) \\ &\leq m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) + m(r, f) \\ &= m(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

And so

$$m(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (k+1) m(r, f) + S(r, f) \quad \dots (3.7)$$

Therefore combining (3.6) and (3.7) we get

$$m(r, f^{(k)}) + N(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (k+1) T(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

Thus

$$T(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (k+1) T(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

which in turn yields

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{T(r, f^{(k)})} \geq \frac{1}{k+1} \quad \text{as required.}$$

In the other direction we have

Theorem 3.6 : Let $f(z)$ be a meromorphic function of order

ρ , ($0 < \rho < \infty$) Then

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{T(r, f^{(k)})} < \infty$$

Proof : It is known (See for e.g. [17]) that

$$T(r, g) < A_g T(kr, g')$$

where $k > 1$ and $r > 0$

Therefore $T(r, f^{(k-1)}) < A_{f^{(k-1)}} T(kr, f^{(k)})$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f^{(k-2)}) &< A_{k-2} T(kr, f^{(k-1)}) \\ &< A_{k-2} (A_{k-1} T(k^2 r, f^{(k)})) \\ &= B_{k-2} T(k^2 r, f^{(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

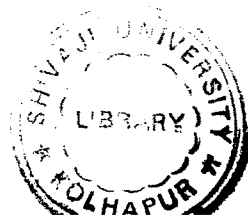
where B_{k-2} is a constant depending on $f^{(k-1)}(0)$ $f^{(k-2)}(0)$.

In general

$$T(r, f^{(k-p)}) < B_{k-p} T(k^p r, f^{(k)})$$

and

$$T(r, f') < B_1 T(k^{k-1} r, f^{(k)}),$$



$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) &< B_0 T(k^k r, f^{(k)}) \\ &= B_0 T(\alpha r, f^{(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha = (k)^k$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) &\leq B_0 (\alpha r)^{\rho(\alpha r)} \\ &\sim B_0 \alpha^{\rho} r^{\rho} \\ &= B_0 \alpha^{\rho} T(r, f^{(k)}) \end{aligned}$$

using proximate order for a sequence.

$$\text{Therefore } \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{T(r, f^{(k)})} < \infty.$$

This proves the theorem.

We next prove

Theorem 3.7 : Let $f(z)$ be a non constant meromorphic function, then

$$m(r, \infty) + n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, p_{\nu}) \leq (n+1)T(r, f) - N_1(r) + S(r, f)$$

where $P(z)$ is a polynomial of degree n ,

$$N_1(r) = (n+1) N(r, f) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{P(z)}\right) - N(r, P(z))$$

$$\begin{aligned} S(r) = & m\left(r, \frac{P(z)}{f^n}\right) + m\left(r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{P(z)}{(f - p_{\nu}(z))^n}\right) \\ & + n \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} + n \log 2 + \log \frac{1}{|f'(0)|} \end{aligned}$$

where δ_n is a monomial of degree n in derivative of f but not containing f .

Proof : The construction of $|P_i - P_j| \geq \delta$ given below is as in [11] which we give here for sake of completeness.

Let q be any positive integer > 2 and consider any q Polynomials P_i , $1 \leq i \leq q$ and let $P_i \in B(1)$ where $B(1)$ be the set of all polynomials in z of degrees at most $l \geq 0$. Let $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N)$ be the finite set of coefficients associated with these q polynomials, the a_i 's being distinct. Then for $i \neq j$ $P_i - P_j$ is a polynomial whose highest degree term is $(a_\lambda - a_\mu) z^k$ or $a_\lambda z^k$. Here $\lambda \neq \mu$ and $0 \leq k \leq l$, $a_\lambda, a_\mu \in A$. Therefore $|P_i - P_j| \sim |a_\lambda - a_\mu| r^k$ or $|P_i - P_j| \sim |a_\lambda| r^k$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$. Let $\delta = \text{Min} \{ |a_\lambda|, |a_\lambda - a_\mu| \}$ Then for $1 \leq i < j \leq q$, we have $|P_i - P_j| \geq \delta$ for $r \geq r_0$ uniformly in z

$$\text{Set } F(z) = \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{1}{(f(z) - P_\nu(z))^n}$$

$$\text{Suppose for some } \nu, |f(z) - P_\nu(z)| < \frac{\delta}{3q} \dots (3.8)$$

Then for $\mu \neq \nu$

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z) - P_\mu| &\geq |P_\mu - P_\nu| - |P_\nu - f(z)| \\ &\geq \delta - \frac{\delta}{3q} \\ &\geq \frac{2}{3} \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore for $\mu \neq \nu$

$$\frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\mu|} \leq \frac{3}{2\delta} \leq \frac{1}{2q |f(z) - P_\nu(z)|} \quad \dots (3.11)$$

Consider

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z)| &\geq \frac{1}{(f(z) - P_\nu)^n} - \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \frac{1}{(f(z) - P_\mu)^n} \\ &= \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\nu|^n} - \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \frac{1}{2^n q^n |f(z) - P_\nu|^n} \quad \text{using (3.9)} \\ &= \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\nu|^n} \left\{ 1 - \frac{q-1}{2^n q^n} \right\} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\nu|^n} \cdot \frac{1}{2^n} \end{aligned}$$

since $1 \geq \frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^n}$ for $n \geq 1$ and

$$1 - \frac{q-1}{2^n q^n} \geq 1 - \frac{q^n}{2^n q^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$$

which gives $1 - \frac{q-1}{2^n q^n} \geq \frac{1}{2^n}$.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \log^+ |F(z)| &\geq \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\nu|^n} - n \log 2 \\ &= \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\mu|^n} - \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\mu|^n} - n \log 2 \quad \dots (3.10) \end{aligned}$$

But since $\mu \neq \nu$,

$$\begin{aligned} |f - P_\mu| &\geq |P_\mu - P_\nu| - |f - P_\nu| \\ &> \delta - \delta/3q \\ &= \frac{(3q - 1)\delta}{3q} \\ &> \frac{\delta}{3q} \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\log^+ \frac{1}{|f - P_\mu|^n} \leq \log^+ \left(\frac{3q}{\delta} \right)^n.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \log^+ \frac{1}{|f - P_\mu|^n} &\leq (q - 1) \log^+ \left(\frac{3q}{\delta} \right)^n \\ &\leq nq \log^+ \left(\frac{3q}{\delta} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence from (3.10) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log^+ |F(z)| &\geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\mu|^n} - nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} - n \log 2 \\ &\dots (3.11) \end{aligned}$$

Next we consider the case when

$$|f(z) - P_\nu| \geq \frac{\delta}{3q} \quad \text{for all } \nu.$$

Then we have

$$\log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_\nu|^n} \leq \log^+ \left(\frac{3q}{\delta} \right)^n$$

and so

$$\sum_{\nu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z) - P_{\nu}|^n} \leq nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta}$$

This shows that R.H.S. of (3.11) is negative. But L.H.S. of (3.11) is non-negative and therefore (3.11) is trivially true in this case and it is true in all cases.

Multiplying (3.11) both the sides by $1/2\pi$ and integrating over $[0, 2\pi]$ we get

$$m(r, F) \geq \sum_{\nu=1}^q m\left(r, \frac{1}{(f - P_{\nu})^n}\right) - nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} - n \log 2.$$

And so

$$m(r, F) \geq n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_{\nu}) - nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} - n \log 2. \quad \dots (3.12)$$

Thus

$$m(r, F) = m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n} \frac{f^n}{\theta_n} \theta_n F\right), \text{ which yields}$$

$$m(r, F) \leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\theta_n}\right) + m(r, \theta_n F) \quad \dots (3.13)$$

But from Nevanlinna's first fundamental theorem we have

$$T(r, f) = T\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \log |f(0)|$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\theta_n}\right) &= m\left(r, \frac{\theta_n}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{\theta_n}{f^n}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\theta_n}\right) + \\ &\quad + \log \left| \frac{f^n(0)}{\theta_n(0)} \right| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) = T(r, f^n) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + \log \frac{1}{|f^n(0)|}$$

Therefore (3.13) will finally yield

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, F) &\leq nT(r, f) - nN\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + n \log \frac{1}{|f(0)|} \\ &\quad + m\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\vartheta_n}\right) \\ &\quad + m(r, \vartheta_n F) + \log \left| \frac{f^n(0)}{\vartheta_n(0)} \right| \end{aligned}$$

Combining this inequality with (3.12) gives

$$\begin{aligned} n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_\nu) - nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} - n \log 2 &\leq m(r, F) \\ &\leq nT(r, f) - nN\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + n \log \frac{1}{|f(0)|} + m\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) \\ &\quad + N\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\vartheta_n}\right) + m(r, \vartheta_n F) + \log \left| \frac{f^n(0)}{\vartheta_n(0)} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_\nu) + m(r, f) &\leq m(r, f) + m(r, F) + nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} + \\ &\quad + n \log 2 \\ &\leq nT(r, f) - nN\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) \\ &\quad - N\left(r, \frac{f^n}{\vartheta_n}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}\right) + m(r, \vartheta_n F) + \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \log \frac{1}{|\vartheta_n(0)|} + T(r, f) - N(r, f) + nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} + n \log 2$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_{\nu}) + m(r, f) &\leq nT(r, f) - nN(r, \frac{1}{f}) + N(r, \vartheta_n) \\ &+ N(r, \frac{1}{f^n}) - N(r, f^n) - N(r, \frac{1}{\vartheta_n}) + \log \left| \frac{1}{\vartheta_n(0)} \right| \\ &+ T(r, f) - N(r, f) + nq \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta} + n \log 2 \\ &+ m(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}) + m(r, \vartheta_n F) \\ &\leq 2(n+1) T(r, f) + N(r, \vartheta_n) - N(r, \frac{1}{\vartheta_n}) \\ &- n + 1 N(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

And so

$$\begin{aligned} n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_{\nu}) + m(r, f) &\leq (n+1)T(r, f) - \{ (n+1)N(r, f) - \\ &- N(r, \vartheta_n) + N(r, \frac{1}{\vartheta_n}) \} + S(r). \end{aligned}$$

which finally yields

$$m(r, f) + n \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, P_{\nu}) \leq (n+1)T(r, f) - N_1(r) + S(r)$$

$$\text{where } N_1(r) = (n+1) N(r, f) + N(r, \frac{1}{\vartheta_n}) - N(r, \vartheta_n)$$

$$\text{and } S(r) = m(r, \frac{\vartheta_n}{f^n}) + m(r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{\vartheta_n}{(f - P_{\nu}(z))^n}) +$$

$$+ n g \log^+ \frac{3g}{\delta} + n \log 2 + \log \frac{1}{|\theta_n(0)|}$$

Remark : If $P_{\nu}(z)$ is constant and $n=1$ then we get theorem 2.1 of Hayman [7, 31] .

We now give proofs of two theorems stated without proof by R. Parthasarathy [12]

Theorem 3.8 : Let $f(z)$ be an entire function of order ρ ($0 < \rho < \infty$) for which

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r, f)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} = \alpha . \quad \dots (3.14)$$

$$\text{and } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, 1/f)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} = \beta . \quad \dots (3.15)$$

Let $\psi(z)$ be a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree $p \geq 1$ with all the coefficients $a(z)$ entire. Then for every complex number w except possibly for $w = 0$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \geq p \left(\frac{\alpha}{h(\rho)} - \beta \right) \quad \dots (3.16)$$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \geq \rho p \left(\frac{\alpha}{h(\rho)} - \beta \right) \quad \dots (3.17)$$

$$\text{and } \delta(0, f) + \Theta(w, \psi) \leq 1 \quad \dots (3.18)$$

$$\text{where } h(\rho) = \left\{ \rho + (1 + \rho^2)^{1/2} \right\} \left\{ \frac{1 + (1 + \rho^2)^{1/2}}{\rho} \right\}, \quad \rho > 0$$

Proof : Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. Then by (3.15) we have

$N(r, \frac{1}{f}) < (\beta + \epsilon) r^\beta L(r)$ for all $r \geq r_0$. Also

by (3.14)

$\log M(r, f) > (r - \epsilon) r^\beta L(r)$ for a sequence of $r \rightarrow \infty$.

Using Lemma 3.1 and the fact that $f(z)$ is entire, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P \{1 + o(1)\} T(r, f) &< PN(r, \frac{1}{f}) + \bar{N}(r, w, \psi) \\ &< P(\beta + \epsilon) r^\beta L(r) + \bar{N}(r, w, \psi) \end{aligned}$$

for all $r \geq r_0$.

Also for $\lambda > 1$

$$T(r, f) \geq \frac{\lambda - 1}{\lambda + 1} \log M(r/\lambda, f).$$

Thus we have for a sequence of $r \rightarrow \infty$

$$T(r, f) > (\alpha - \epsilon) \frac{\lambda - 1}{\lambda + 1} \left(\frac{r}{\lambda}\right)^\alpha L\left(\frac{r}{\lambda}\right)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^\beta L(r)} &> \frac{P}{\lambda^\beta} \{1 + o(1)\} (\alpha - \epsilon) \left(\frac{\lambda - 1}{\lambda + 1}\right) \frac{L\left(\frac{r}{\lambda}\right)}{L(r)} - \\ &\quad - P(\beta + \epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{L(r/\lambda)}{L(r)} \rightarrow 1$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^\beta L(r)} \geq \frac{1}{\lambda^\beta} \left(\frac{\lambda - 1}{\lambda + 1}\right) P\alpha - P\beta.$$

The maximum value of $\frac{1}{\lambda^\beta} \left(\frac{\lambda - 1}{\lambda + 1}\right)$ is easily seen to be

$\frac{1}{h(\varrho)}$ and hence

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\varrho} L(r)} \geq P \left(\frac{\alpha}{h(\varrho)} - \beta \right).$$

from Lemma 1 of [12] we have

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\varrho} L(r)} \geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\varrho} L(r)}$$

Therefore

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\varrho} L(r)} \geq \varrho P \left(\frac{\alpha}{h(\varrho)} - \beta \right).$$

Again by (3.14) we have for $r \geq r_0$

$$P \{ 1 + o(1) \} < P \frac{N(r, 1/f)}{T(r, f)} + \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{T(r, f)}.$$

Since $\psi(z)$ is entire $N(r, \psi/w) = 0$ and by lemma 2 of [12]

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, \psi/w) &\leq m(r, \frac{\psi}{wf^p}) + m(r, f^p) \\ &= S(r, f) + pm(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

Hence by $T(r, \psi/w) < \{P + o(1)\} T(r, f)$

Thus we have for all $r \geq r_0$

$$P \{ 1 + o(1) \} < P \frac{N(r, 1/f)}{T(r, f)} + P \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{T(r, \psi)} (1+o(1))$$

Letting $r \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$P \leq P \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, 1/f)}{T(r, f)} + P \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{T(r, \psi)}.$$

And so

$P \leq P (1 - \delta(0, f)) + P (1 - \Theta(w, \psi))$, which on simplification yields

$$\delta(0, f) + \Theta(w, \psi) \leq 1.$$

This completes the proof.

Theorem 3.9 : Let $f(z)$ be a meromorphic function of order ρ ($0 < \rho < \infty$) for which

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{r^\rho L(r)} = a \quad \dots (3.19)$$

$$\text{and } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{p} \bar{N}(r, f) + N(r, 1/f)}{r^\rho L(r)} = b. \quad \dots (3.20)$$

Let $\psi(z)$ be a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree $P (\geq 1)$ in f . Then for every complex number w , except possibly for $w = 0$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^\rho L(r)} \geq P (a - b)$$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^\rho L(r)} \geq P \rho (a - b)$$

$$\text{and } \delta(0, f) + \frac{1}{p} \Theta(\infty, f) + (k+1) \Theta(w, \psi) \leq k+1 + \frac{1}{p}$$

where k is the order of the highest derivative occurring in $\psi(z)$.

Proof : We have from (3.20), given $\epsilon > 0$ with $0 < |w| < \infty$

$$\frac{1}{p} \bar{N}(r, f) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) < (b + \epsilon) r^{\rho} L(r)$$

for all $r \geq r_0$.

Theorem 3.10 : Let $f(z)$ be a meromorphic function and $\pi_n(f)$ be a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree n .

Let $\frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \rightarrow \alpha$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ where $\alpha \geq n$ then

$$\theta(\infty, f) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{m} - \frac{\alpha}{pmn}$$

where m is the highest derivative occurring in $\pi_n(f)$ and p is the number of terms in $\pi_n(f)$.

Proof :

Let $\frac{T(r, \pi_n(f))}{T(r, f)} \rightarrow \alpha$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ where $\alpha \geq n$.

$$\text{Now } m(r, \pi_n(f)) = m\left(r, \frac{\pi_n(f)}{f^n}\right) + m(r, f^n) \quad \dots (3.23)$$

And so

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{\pi_n(f)}{f^n}\right) &= m\left(r, \frac{\sum a(z) (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}}{f^{l_1 + l_2 + \dots + l_k}}\right) \\ &\leq \sum_1^p m(r, a(z)) + m\left(r, \left(\frac{f'}{f}\right)^{l_1}\right) + \dots \\ &\quad \dots m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{l_k}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \sum_1^p l_1 m(r, \frac{f'}{f}) + l_2 m(r, \frac{f''}{f}) + \dots + l_k m(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}) \\ + S(r, f)$$

Since $m(r, a(z)) \leq T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$.

And so using Milloux's theorem it follows that

$$m(r, \frac{\pi_n(f)}{f^n}) \leq \sum_1^p l_1 S(r, f) + l_2 S(r, f) + \dots + l_k S(r, f) \\ = np S(r, f) \\ = S(r, f).$$

Therefore

$$m(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq m(r, f^n) + S(r, f) \quad \text{by (3.23)} \\ = nm(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

Thus

$$m(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq Pnm(r, f) + S(r, f) \quad \dots (3.24)$$

Also

$$N(r, \pi_n(f)) = N(r, \sum a(z) (f')^{l_1} (f'')^{l_2} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}) \\ = \sum_1^p N(r, a(z)) + l_1 N(r, f') + \dots \\ \dots + l_k N(r, f^{(k)})$$

$$N(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq \sum_1^p l_1 (N(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, f)) + l_2 (N(r, f) + \\ + 2\bar{N}(r, f)) + l_k (N(r, f) + k\bar{N}(r, f)) + S(r, f)$$

Since $N(r, a(z)) \leq T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$

And so

$$\begin{aligned}
N(r, \pi_n(f)) &\leq \sum_1^p (l_1 + l_2 + \dots + l_k) N(r, f) + l_1 \bar{N}(r, f) + \\
&\quad + 2l_2 \bar{N}(r, f) + \dots + kl_k \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq \sum_1^p n N(r, f) + l_1 k \bar{N}(r, f) + l_2 k \bar{N}(r, f) + \dots \\
&\quad \dots + l_k k \bar{N}(r, f) \\
&= \sum_1^p n N(r, f) + n k \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
&= p n N(r, f) + p n m \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

where p denotes the number of terms in the homogeneous differential polynomial and m is the highest derivative of differential polynomial and $l_1 + l_2 + \dots + l_k = n$ and where n is the degree of differential polynomial.

Therefore

$$N(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq P n N(r, f) + p n m \bar{N}(r, f)$$

That is

$$N(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq P n (N(r, f) + m \bar{N}(r, f)). \quad \dots (3.25)$$

Combining (3.24) and (3.25) we get

$$T(r, \pi_n(f)) \leq P n T(r, f) + P n m \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

Since $T(r, \pi_n(f)) / T(r, f) \rightarrow \alpha$ it follows that

$$\alpha T(r, f) \leq P n T(r, f) + P n m \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

$$(\alpha - P n) T(r, f) \leq p n m \bar{N}(r, f) + S(r, f) \quad \dots (3.26)$$

Dividing (3.26) by $T(r, f)$ and taking limit superior we get

$$(\alpha - P_n) \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_{nm} \bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} + \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r, f)}{T(r, f)}$$

Thus

$$(\alpha - P_n) \leq P_{nm} (1 - \Theta(\infty, f))$$

Consequently

$$P_{nm} \Theta(\infty, f) \leq P_{nm} + P_n - \alpha.$$

And so

$$\Theta(\infty, f) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{m} - \frac{\alpha}{P_{nm}}.$$

Remark : If $m = 1$, $n = 1$ and $P = 1$ then $\pi_n(f) = f'$ and so $\Theta(\infty, f) \leq 2 - \alpha$ which is theorem 3 of S.K.Singh and V.N.Kulkarni [17]

We finally end the Chapter by giving some application of Nevanlinna theory to differential equations.

Theorem 3.11 : The differential equation

$$a_1(z) (f(z))^{n-p} + \pi_{n-k}(f) = 0 \quad \dots (3.27)$$

where $a_1(z) \not\equiv 0$ and $1 \leq k \leq n$ has no transcendental meromorphic solution $f(z)$ satisfying $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ where $\pi_{n-k}(f)$ is a non-zero homogeneous differential polynomial of degree $n - k$ and $P(f)$ is any non-zero differential polynomial and $a(z)$ are meromorphic functions satisfying $T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$.

Proof : Suppose there exists a transcendental meromorphic

function f satisfying (3.27) such that $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ then

$$(f)^n P(f) = \frac{-\pi_{n-k}(f)}{a_1}$$

Hence by lemma (3.5)

$$m(r, P(f)) = S(r, f).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } N(r, P(f)) &= N(r, \sum a(z)(f)^{l_0} (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}) \\ &= S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$T(r, P(f)) = S(r, f) \quad \dots (3.28)$$

Also from (3.27) we get

$$(f)^n = \frac{-\pi_{n-k}(f)}{a_1 P(f)}$$

And hence by Nevanlinna's first fundamental theorem

$$\begin{aligned} n T(r, f) &\leq T(r, \pi_{n-k}(f)) + T(r, P(f)) + T(r, a_1) + o(1) \\ &= T(r, \pi_{n-k}(f)) + S(r, f) \quad \text{by (3.28)} \end{aligned}$$

Also since $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ we have

$$T(r, \pi_{n-k}(f)) = m(r, \pi_{n-k}(f)) + S(r, f)$$

$$\leq m(r, \frac{\sum a(z)(f)^{l_0} (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(k)})^{l_k}}{f^{n-k}})$$

$$+ m(r, f^{n-k}) + S(r, f)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= m(r, \sum a(z) \left(\frac{f'}{f}\right)^{l_1} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{l_k}) \\
&\quad + m(r, f^{n-k}) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq m(r, a(z)) + l_1 m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + \dots \\
&\quad + l_k m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) + m(r, f^{n-k}) + S(r, f) \\
&= m(r, f^{n-k}) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T(r, \pi_{n-k}(f)) &\leq (n-k) m(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
&= (n-k) T(r, f) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

$$n T(r, f) \leq (n-k) T(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

This is a contradiction. Hence the theorem

Remark : Putting $P(f) = f'$ and $k = 1$ we obtain theorem 3 of G.P.Barker and A.P.Singh [1].

We have then on using lemma 4

$$\{P + o(1)\} T(r, f) < P(b + \epsilon) r^{\rho} L(r) + \bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))$$

for all $r \geq r_0$

on dividing by $r^{\rho} L(r)$ and letting $r \rightarrow \infty$ and using (3.21)

we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{P+o(1)\} T(r, f)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} P(b+\epsilon) + \\
&\quad + \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))}{r^{\rho} L(r)}
\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\{P+O(1)\} a \leq P(b + \varepsilon) + \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))}{r^{\rho} L(r)}$$

which yields

$$Pa \leq Pb + \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))}{r^{\rho} L(r)}$$

Thus

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \geq P(a - b) \quad \dots (3.21)$$

from Lemma 1 of [12] we have

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \quad \dots (3.22)$$

Combining (3.21) and (3.22) we get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\bar{n}(r, w, \psi)}{r^{\rho} L(r)} \geq p \varrho (a-b)$$

Using lemma 3 of [12] we obtain

$$T(r, \frac{\psi(z)}{w}) \leq P(k+1) T(r, f) + S(r, f)$$

Also by lemma 4 of [12] we have

$$P T(r, f) < P N(r, 1/f) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z)) + S(r, f)$$

And so

$$P < P \frac{(r, 1/f)}{T(r, f)} + \frac{\bar{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f)} + \{P(k+1)+O(1)\} \frac{\bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z))}{T(r, w, \psi)} \cdot \frac{T(r, w, \psi)}{T(r, f)} + O(1)$$

Letting $r \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$P < P [1 - \delta(0, f)] + [1 - \Theta(\infty, f)] +$$

$$+ (P(k+1)) (1 - \Theta(w, \psi(z)))$$

which on simplification yields

$$\delta(0, f) + \frac{1}{p} \Theta(\infty, f) + (k+1) \Theta(w, \psi(z)) \leq k+1 + \frac{1}{p}.$$

Lemma 3.3 Let $\psi(z)$ be a homogeneous differential polynomial of degree P in the meromorphic function $f(z)$ then

$$PT(r, f) < PN(r, \frac{1}{f}) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, 1, \frac{\psi}{w}) + S(r, f)$$

Proof : Working as in theorem 3.2 of Hayman [7, 57] we get

$$m(r, \frac{1}{\frac{\psi(z)}{w}}) < \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{\frac{\psi(z)}{w} - 1}) - N_0(r, \frac{1}{(\frac{\psi}{w})}) + S(r, f)$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} PT(r, f) &= T(r, f^P) = T(r, \frac{1}{f^P}) + o(1) \\ &= m(r, \frac{1}{f^P}) + N(r, \frac{1}{f^P}) + o(1) \\ &\leq m(r, \frac{\psi(z)/w}{f^P}) + m(r, \frac{1}{\frac{\psi(z)}{w}}) + \\ &\quad + PN(r, 1/f) + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

And so

$$PT(r, f) \leq m(r, \frac{1}{\frac{\psi(z)}{w}}) + PN(r, 1/f) + S(r, f)$$

since $m(r, \frac{\psi(z)/w}{f^p}) = S(r, f)$.

Thus

$$PT(r, f) \leq PN(r, \frac{1}{f}) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, \frac{1}{\frac{\psi(z)}{w} - 1}) - N_0(r, \frac{1}{(\frac{\psi}{w})'}) + S(r, f)$$

since $N_0(r, \frac{1}{(\frac{\psi}{w})'}) \geq 0$, it follows that

$$PT(r, f) < PN(r, 1/f) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \bar{N}(r, w, \psi(z)) + S(r, f)$$

which completes the Lemma.

Note :

(i) $p(f) \neq 0$ is essential, since, if $P(f) \equiv 0$ then there exists transcendental solutions of (3.27) satisfying $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$. For example consider $f(z) = e^z$ and $\pi_{n-1}(f) = \pi_1(f) = f - f' = e^z - e^z = 0$.

Thus e^z is a solution of (3.27) and $N(r, e^z) = 0 = S(r, f)$.

(ii) Also the condition $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ in the above theorem is essential.

Since consider the equation $2f^3 - (f'' + f) + 0$, that is $2f^2 f - (f'' + f) = 0$ then the above has $f(z) = \sec z$ as its solution and clearly $N(r, f) \neq S(r, f)$

(iii) $(f)^n - (f)' = 0$ for any function f trivially shows that k should be greater than or equal to 1 in our theorem.

G.P.Barker and A.P.Singh in [1] have proved the following theorem.

Theorem : No transcendental meromorphic function with $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ can satisfy an equation $a_1(z)(f(z))^n P(f) + a_2(z)p(f) + a_3 = 0$ where $a_1(z) \neq 0$, n is positive integer and $P(f)$ is a monomial of degree ≥ 1 .

It looks reasonable to expect that the above theorem should hold for homogeneous differential polynomials also instead of only monomials. But as the number of terms in a differential polynomial though finite, may be large, we have not been able to prove this result. However, if we put a restrictions on the number of terms in a homogeneous differential polynomial then we have the following theorem :

Theorem 3.12 : No transcendental meromorphic function f with $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ can satisfy an equation of the form

$$a_1(z)(f(z))^n \pi_k(f) + a_2(z)\pi_k(f) + a_3(z) = 0, \quad \dots (3.29)$$

$n \geq 1$, where $a_1(z) \neq 0$ and $\pi_k(f)$ is a non-zero homogeneous differential polynomial of degree k having p terms, where p & k satisfy the relation $(p - 1)k < n$.

For the proof of the above theorem we shall need the following lemmas of [1]

Lemma 3.4 : If f is meromorphic and not constant in the plane, if $g(z) = f(z)^n + P_{n-1}(f)$, where $P_{n-1}(f)$ is a

differential polynomial of degree almost $n-1$ in f and if

$$N(r, f) + N(r, 1/g) = S(r, f) \text{ then } g(z) = (h(z))^n,$$

$$h(z) = f(z) + \frac{1}{n} a(z) \text{ and } (h(z))^{n-1} a(z) \text{ is obtained by}$$

substituting $h(z)$ for $f(z)$, $h'(z)$ for $f'(z)$ etc. in terms of degree $n-1$ in $P_{n-1}(f)$.

Lemma 3.5 : If $f(z)$ is meromorphic and transcendental in the plane and that $(f(z))^n P(z) = Q(z)$ where $P(z)$, $Q(z)$ are differential polynomials in $f(z)$ and degree of $Q(z)$ is atmost n . Then $m(r, P(z)) = S(r, f)$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

Proof of theorem 3.12 :

Case (i) we first consider the case $n \geq 2$ suppose (3.31) holds clearly $a_3 \neq 0$, for otherwise either f is a relational or $T(r, f) = S(r, f)$ and both of which are not possible.

Now from (3.31) we get

$$(f)^n + \frac{a_2}{a_1} = - \frac{a_3}{a_1 \pi_k(f)} = G(z) \text{ say}$$

Then

$$N(r, \frac{1}{G}) = N(r, \frac{a_1 \pi_k(f)}{a_3}) = S(r, f).$$

Also $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$.

Therefore by Lemma (3.4)

$$G = (f)^n$$

which yields $a_2 = 0$. Thus equation (3.29) becomes

$$(f)^n \pi_k(f) = - \frac{a_3}{a_1}$$

and hence $T(r, (f)^n \pi_k(f)) = S(r, f)$ (3.30)

Now let $\vartheta(f) = f^n \pi_k(f)$

$$= f^n \left\{ \sum_1^p (f)^{l_0} (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(t)})^{l_t} \right\}$$

where $l_0 + l_1 + \dots + l_t = k$.

Therefore $\frac{1}{f^n} = \frac{1}{\vartheta(f)} \left\{ \sum_1^p (f)^{l_0} (f')^{l_1} \dots (f^{(t)})^{l_t} \right\}$.

Thus

$$\frac{1}{f^{n+k}} = \frac{1}{\vartheta(f)} \left\{ \sum_1^p \left(\frac{f'}{f} \right)^{l_1} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(t)}}{f} \right)^{l_t} \right\}$$

Applying Nevanlinna's first fundamental theorem and that

$T(r, \vartheta) = S(r, f)$ we obtain

$$(n+k) T(r, f) \leq \sum_1^p \left\{ l_1 T(r, \frac{f'}{f}) + \dots + l_t T(r, \frac{f^{(t)}}{f}) \right\} + S(r, f).$$

Using Milloux's theorem [7, 55] it now follows that

$$(n+k) T(r, f) \leq \sum_1^p l_1 N(r, \frac{f'}{f}) + \dots + l_t N(r, \frac{f^{(t)}}{f}) + S(r, f).$$

But $N(r, f) = S(r, f)$ and so

$$\begin{aligned}
N(r, \frac{f^{(t)}}{f}) &\leq N(r, f^{(t)}) + N(r, \frac{1}{f}) \\
&\leq (t+1) N(r, f) + N(r, \frac{1}{f}) \\
&= N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
(n+k) T(r, f) &\leq \sum_1^p \{ l_1 N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + \dots + l_t N(r, \frac{1}{f}) \} + S(r, f) \\
&= \sum_1^p (l_1 + l_2 + \dots + l_t) N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f) \\
&= \sum_1^p (k - l_0) N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f) \\
&= p(k - l_0) N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
(n+k)T(r, f) &\leq p(k-l_0) T(r, f) + S(r, f) \\
&\leq pk T(r, f) + S(r, f)
\end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction since $n + k > pk$.

Case (ii) : We now consider the case $n = 1$. when $n = 1$, the hypothesis implies $p = 1$ and so $\pi_k(f)$ becomes a monomial. This particular case has been considered by G.P.Barker and A.P.Singh. We give their proof for sake of completeness.

$$\text{Let } F = f + \frac{a_2}{a_1}$$

then $\pi_k(f) = Q(F)$ where $Q(F)$ is a differential polynomial

in F . Then (3.31) can be written as $FQ(f) = \frac{-a_3}{a_1}$

and hence by Lemma (3.5)

$$m(r, Q(F)) = S(r, f) = S(r, f)$$

$$N(r, Q(F)) = S(r, f)$$

Now $N(r, Q(F)) = N(r, \pi_k(f))$

$$= N(r, \sum a(z)(f)^{l_0} \dots (f^{(t)})^{l_t})$$

$$\leq N(r, a(z)) + N(r, (f)^{l_0}) + \dots \\ \dots + N(r, (f^{(t)})^{l_t})$$

$$= N(r, a(z)) + l_0 N(r, f) + \dots$$

$$\dots + l_t N(r, f)$$

$$= S(r, f) + S(r, f) + \dots + S(r, f)$$

and so

$N(r, Q(F)) = S(r, f)$. Also

$m(r, Q(F)) = S(r, f)$

Therefore

$$T(r, Q(F)) = S(r, f)$$

from which it follows that

$$T(r, f) = S(r, f)$$

This is a contradiction. This proves the theorem.