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## ON THE QUANTITY $\partial_s(g(z), f)$ OF GAPPY ENTIRE FUNCTIONS

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## 1. Introduction.

Let  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  be a transcendental entire function. We denote by  $\Lambda_f = \{\lambda_k\}, M_f = \{u_k\}, k=1, 2, \cdots$  the sequences of exponents *n* for which  $a_n \neq 0$  and  $a_n=0$  respectively, arranged in increasing order. Also let g(z) be an arbitrary meromorphic function in the plane growing slowly compared with the function f(z), i.e.,  $T(r, g) = o\{T(r, f)\}$  as  $r \to \infty$ .

If f(z) has finite order we define

$$\delta_s(g(z), f) = 1 - \lim_{r \to \infty} \frac{N\left(r, \frac{1}{f - g(z)}\right)}{T(r, f)}.$$

If f(z) has infinite order, let E be any set in  $(1, \infty)$  having finite length. We define

$$\delta_s(g(z), f) = 1 - \sup_E \lim_{r \to \infty, r \notin E} \frac{N\left(r, \frac{1}{f - g(z)}\right)}{T(r, f)} = \inf_E \lim_{r \to \infty, r \notin E} \frac{m\left(r, \frac{1}{f - g(z)}\right)}{T(r, f)} \,.$$

Obviously

$$\delta(g(z), f) = 1 - \overline{\lim_{r \to \infty}} \frac{N\left(r, \frac{1}{f - g(z)}\right)}{T(r, f)} \leq \delta_s(g(z), f) \,.$$

In [1], we obtained the following

THEOREM A. Let dn be the highest common factor of all the numbers  $\lambda_{m+1} - \lambda_m$  for  $m \ge n$  and suppose that

$$d_n \longrightarrow \infty \qquad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty . \tag{1.1}$$

Then

$$\delta_s(g(z), f) = 0 \tag{1.2}$$

for every entire function g(z) satisfying  $T(r, g)=o\{T(r, f)\}$  as  $r\to\infty$ .

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