

## ON THE GROWTH OF ALGEBROID FUNCTIONS WITH SEVERAL DEFICIENCIES

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In this paper we shall generalize some results on the growth of meromorphic functions with several deficient values to  $n$ -valued algebroid functions. Edrei-Fuchs [1] had given several striking results on the growth of meromorphic functions.

Let  $y(z)$  be an  $n$ -valued transcendental algebroid function defined by an irreducible equation

$$F(z, y) \equiv A_n y^n + A_{n-1} y^{n-1} + \cdots + A_1 y + A_0 = 0,$$

where  $A_n, \dots, A_0$  are entire functions. Here we assume that there is no common zero for all  $A_j, j=0, \dots, n$ . If  $A_n \equiv 1$ , then  $y(z)$  is called an  $n$ -valued entire algebroid function.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $y(z)$  be an  $n$ -valued transcendental entire algebroid function with  $n$  finite deficient values  $a_j, j=1, \dots, n$ . Then the lower order of  $y(z)$  is positive.*

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $y(z)$  be an  $n$ -valued transcendental algebroid function. Assume that there is a constant  $\alpha$  such that*

$$\alpha m(r, A) \leq n\mu(r, A), \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1.$$

*Assume that there are  $n+1$  deficient values  $a_j, j=1, \dots, n+1$  of  $y$ . Then the lower order of  $y$  is positive.*

*Here  $A = \max(|A_n|, |A_{n-1}|, \dots, |A_1|, |A_0|)$  and*

$$n\mu(r, A) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log A \, d\theta, \quad m(r, A) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ A \, d\theta.$$

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $y(z)$  be an  $n$ -valued transcendental entire algebroid function of finite order  $\lambda$ . Assume that  $y(z) = a_j, j=1, \dots, n$  have their roots only on the negative real axis. Then the lower order  $\mu$  of  $y(z)$  satisfies  $\mu \leq \lambda \leq \mu + 1$ .*

Theorems 1 and 2 are generalizations of Edrei-Fuchs' theorem 4, Corollary 4.1 in [1]. Theorem 3 is an extension of Shea's theorem 2 in [3].

The following fact gives several extensions of Edrei-Fuchs' theorems to entire algebroid functions: For an entire algebroid function  $y$

$$\delta(a, y) \geq \delta(0, F(z, a)).$$

This is almost trivial. By Valiron's theorem [5]

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$$|T(r, y) - \mu(r, A)| = O(1).$$

Further we have

$$n\mu(r, A) = m(r, A)$$

for  $y$  and hence

$$n\mu(r, A) = m(r, A) \geq m(r, F(z, a)).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \delta(a, y) &= \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r; a, y)}{T(r, y)} \\ &\leq \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r; 0, F(z, a))}{m(r, F(z, a))} \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, F(z, a))}{m(r, A)} \\ &\leq 1 - \delta(0, F(z, a)). \end{aligned}$$

**§ 1. Proof of Theorem 1.** Let  $F(z, a_j)$  denote by  $g_j$ . Edrei-Fuchs' argument does work in our case. They proved the following inequality: For  $z = re^{i\theta}$  and  $R = \sigma r$ ,  $\sigma > 1$

$$(A) \quad \log |g_j(z)| \leq N(R; 0, g_j) + \frac{2}{\sigma - 1} \left( m(R, g_j) + m\left(R, \frac{1}{g_j}\right) \right) + O(\log r).$$

Starting from (A) we have

$$\log |g_j(z)| \leq N(R; 0, g_j) + \frac{4}{\sigma - 1} m(R, g_j) + O(\log r).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (\log |g_j(z)|, 0) \\ &\leq \frac{4}{\sigma - 1} \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} m(R, g_j) + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} N(R; 0, g_j) + O(\log r). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $g$  be

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (|g_j(z)|, 1).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \log g &\leq c + \max_{0 \leq j \leq n-1} (\log |A_j|, 0) = c + \log A \\ &\leq d + \log g. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$m(r, g) \leq n\mu(r, A) + O(1) \leq m(r, g) + O(1).$$

Further by Valiron's theorem

$$T(r, y) - \mu(r, A) = O(1).$$

Hence

$$m(r, g) \leq \frac{4}{\sigma-1} \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} m(R, g_j) + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} N(R; 0, g_j) + O(\log r).$$

Since

$$m(R, g_j) \leq m(R, g),$$

$$m(r, g) \leq \frac{4}{\sigma-1} m(R, g) + \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} N(R; 0, g_j) + O(\log r).$$

Let  $\gamma$  be the maximum of  $1-\delta(a_j, y)$ ,  $j=1, \dots, n$ . Let  $c'$ ,  $c$  satisfy

$$\gamma < c' < c < 1.$$

Then for  $r \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} N(R; 0, g_j) &< c' T(R, y) \\ &\leq c' \frac{1}{n} m(R, g) + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus for  $r \geq r_1 \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, g) &\leq \left( \frac{4}{\sigma-1} + c' + \frac{A \log r}{m(R, g)} \right) m(R, g) \\ &< \left( \frac{4}{\sigma-1} + c \right) m(R, g). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{m(\sigma r, g)}{m(r, g)} > \frac{1}{\frac{4}{\sigma-1} + c}$$

Here we put

$$\sigma = 1 + \frac{4}{c(1-c)}.$$

Then

$$\frac{m(\sigma r, g)}{m(r, g)} > \frac{1}{c(2-c)}.$$

This implies

$$\frac{m(\sigma^n r^*, g)}{m(r^*, g)} = \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{m(\sigma^k r^*, g)}{m(\sigma^{k-1} r^*, g)} > \left[ \frac{1}{c(2-c)} \right]^n.$$

Let  $r$  satisfy  $\sigma^n r^* \leq r < \sigma^{n+1} r^*$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\log m(r, g)}{\log r} &> \frac{\log m(\sigma^n r^*, g)}{\log \sigma^{n+1} r^*} \\ &> \frac{n \log \frac{1}{c(2-c)} + \log m(r^*, g)}{(n+1) \log \sigma + \log r^*}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, y)}{\log r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log m(r, g)}{\log r} \\ &\geq \frac{\log \frac{1}{c(2-c)}}{\log \sigma}.\end{aligned}$$

Here by letting  $c \rightarrow \gamma$  Theorem 1 follows.

**§ 2. Proof of Theorem 2.** For a general  $n$ -valued algebroid function it appears a new difficulty. As in § 1 we have

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} \log |g_j(z)| \leq \max_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} N(R; 0, g_j) + \frac{4}{\sigma-1} \max_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} m(R, g_j) + O(\log r).$$

Hence for  $r \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned}n\mu(r, A) &\leq n\mu(r, g) + O(1) \\ &\leq c'n\mu(R, A) + \frac{4}{\sigma-1} m(R, g) + O(\log r),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$A = \max_{0 \leq j \leq n} |A_j|, \quad g = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} |g_j|.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}n\mu(r, A) &\leq m(r, A) \leq n\mu(r, A)/\alpha, \\ m(r, g) &\leq m(r, A) + O(1) \leq n\mu(r, A)/\alpha + O(1).\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$n\mu(r, A) \leq c'n\mu(R, A) + \frac{4}{\sigma-1} \frac{1}{\alpha} n\mu(R, A) + O(\log r).$$

Now the same process as in § 1 does work. Hence we have the desired result.

By Tsuzuki's example [4] there is an algebroid function satisfying

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n\mu(r, A)}{m(r, A)} = 0.$$

In this case we cannot carry out our discussion as in the above. However it is still conjectured that Theorem 2 without the assumption  $n\mu(r, A) \geq \alpha m(r, A)$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  does hold.

In our previous paper [2] we gave several sufficient conditions for  $\alpha m(r, A) \leq n\mu(r, A)$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ .

**§ 3. Proof of Theorem 3.** If  $\lambda \leq 1$ , then the result remains true trivially. Assume that  $\lambda > 1$ . Let

$$F(z, a_j) = e^{Q_j(z)} g_j(z),$$

where  $g_j(z)$  is the canonical product formed by the zeros of  $F(z, a_j)$ . Let  $q_j$  be the genus of  $F(z, a_j)$  and  $d_j$  the degree of  $Q_j(z)$ . Put  $q = \max q_j$ ,  $d = \max d_j$ . Let  $s_j$  be the genus of  $g_j(z)$ . Put  $s = \max s_j$ . Firstly we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log m(r, y)}{\log r} = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log m(r, \max |F(z, a_j)|)}{\log r} \\ &\leq \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \sum_{j=1}^n m(r, F(z, a_j))}{\log r} \\ &\leq \max \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log m(r, F(z, a_j))}{\log r} \equiv \max \lambda_j. \end{aligned}$$

Further evidently  $\lambda_j \leq \lambda$ . Hence  $\max \lambda_j = \lambda$ . By the well-known theorem  $q_j \leq \lambda_j \leq q_j + 1$ . Hence  $q \leq \lambda \leq q + 1$ . By the definition of genus

$$q_j = \max (d_j, s_j).$$

Thus

$$q = \max (d, s)$$

Assume that  $d \leq s$ . Hence  $q = s$ . Since  $\lambda > 1$  and  $q$  is an integer,  $s = 1$ . Then there is an index  $k$  such that  $s_k = s$ . Applying Edrei-Fuchs' argument in [1], Theorem 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, F(z, a_k))}{r^{s_k}} &= \infty, \\ \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, F(z, a_k))}{r^{s_k+1}} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that, putting  $\mu_k$  the lower order of  $m(r, F(z, a_k))$ ,

$$\lambda_k \leq s_k + 1, \quad \mu_k \geq s_k.$$

Evidently

$$\mu \geq \max \mu_j \geq \mu_k \geq s_k = s.$$

Hence

$$q = s \leq \mu \leq \lambda \leq q + 1.$$

Therefore

$$\mu \leq \lambda \leq \mu + 1.$$

Next assume that  $d > s$ . Then  $q = d > s \geq 0$ . Evidently  $\lambda = d$ . Since  $s$  and  $d$  are

integers,  $d=s+1$ . However by the well-known property of canonical product

$$m(r, g_j) = o(r^{s+1}), \quad j=1, \dots, n.$$

On the other hand

$$m(r, e^{Q_j}) = \frac{|A_j|}{\pi} r^{d_j} (1 + o(r)),$$

where  $A_j z^{d_j} + \dots = Q_j(z)$ . Thus for some  $k$

$$m(r, e^{Q_k}) = cr^d (1 + o(r)).$$

Thus

$$m(r, g_j) = o(m(r, e^{Q_k})).$$

Therefore

$$\mu = d = \lambda.$$

In this case Theorem 3 follows.

Shea's formulation is somewhat different. However his formulation is equivalent to ours. Further theorem 1 implies the positivity of  $\mu$ .

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