

## ON INDIRECT SINGULAR POINTS FOR MEROMORPHIC FUNCTIONS

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### Abstract

By using the potential theory and Pólya peaks, we will investigate the indirect singular points of meromorphic functions. This is a continuous work of M. Tsuji.

### 1. Introduction and results

We assume that the reader is familiar with the basic Nevanlinna notations. For example,

$$\bar{N}^l(r, \Omega, f = a) = \int_{r_0}^r \frac{\bar{n}^l(t, \Omega, f = a)}{t} dt,$$

where  $\Omega = \{z : \alpha \leq \arg z \leq \beta, |z| < 1\}$ .  $\bar{n}^l(t, \Omega, f = a)$  is the number of distinct zeros with multiplicity  $\leq l$  of  $f(z) = a$  in  $\Omega \cap \{r_0 < |z| < t\}$  counted only once. The lower order  $\mu$  and the order  $\rho$  of  $f(z)$ :

$$\mu(f) = \liminf_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}}, \quad \rho(f) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}}.$$

For a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$ , Tsuji [4] proved the analogue of Biernacki-Rauch's theorem.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function of finite order  $\rho > 0$  in  $|z| < 1$ . Then there exist a point  $z_0$  on  $|z| = 1$  and a line  $J$  through  $z_0$ , directed inward of  $|z| < 1$ , which may coincide with the tangent of  $|z| = 1$  at  $z_0$  and satisfied the following condition.*

*Let  $\omega$  be any small angular domain, which contains  $J$  and is bounded by two lines through  $z_0$  and  $g(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  and  $\{z, (f = g, \omega)\}$  be zero points of  $f(z) = g(z)$  in  $\omega$ , multiple zeros being counted only once.*

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(i) If  $g(z)$  is of order  $< \rho$ , then

$$\Sigma_v(1 - |z_v(f = g, \omega)|)^{\rho+1-\varepsilon} = \infty, \quad \varepsilon > 0,$$

with at most two exceptions for  $g$ .

(ii) If  $f(z)$  is of divergence type and  $\int_0^1 T(r, g)(1-r)^{\rho-1} dr < \infty$ , then

$$\Sigma_v(1 - |z_v(f = g, \omega)|)^{\rho+1} = \infty,$$

with at most two exceptions for  $g$ .

The point  $z_0$  in Theorem 1.1 is called the indirect singular point. In this paper, we will prove the existence of singular points dealing with multiple values for  $f(z)$  with  $0 \leq \rho(f) \leq \infty$ . For the positive order case, we will prove Theorem 1.2.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function with the order  $0 < \rho \leq \infty$  and the lower order  $0 \leq \mu < \infty$  defined in  $|z| < 1$ . Then there exist a point  $z_0$  on  $|z| = 1$  and a line  $J$  through  $z_0$ , directed inward of  $|z| < 1$ , which may coincide with the tangent of  $|z| = 1$  at  $z_0$  and satisfied the following condition.*

*Let  $\omega$  be any small angular domain, which contains  $J$  and is bounded by two lines through  $z_0$  and  $g(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  with  $T(r, g) = o(T(r, f))$  as  $r \rightarrow 1^-$ , and  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then*

$$(1.1) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\bar{N}^{(l)}(r, \omega, f = g)}{T(r, f)} > 0,$$

with two possible exceptions for  $g$ , and  $z_0$  is called an indirect  $T$  point of  $f(z)$  dealing with multiple value.

Next, we consider some subclass of order zero. Suppose that  $f(z)$  satisfies the following

$$(1.2) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}} = \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}} = 0.$$

Set  $X = \log \frac{1}{1-r}$ . By Valiron's results (see [3]), there exists a type function  $W(X)$ , which has a non-decreasing and positive continuous derivative  $W'(X)$ , and satisfies

(1)  $T(r, f) \leq W(X)$ , and there exists a sequence  $X_n = \log \frac{1}{1-r_n} \rightarrow \infty$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ), such that  $\frac{1}{2}W(X_n) < T(r_n, f)$ ,

$$\lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \frac{W(X)}{X} = \infty,$$

- (2)  $\frac{W'(X)}{W(X)}$  tending to 0 decreasingly,  
 (3)  $W(X + \log h) < K(h)W(X)$ ,  $W'(X + \log h) < K(h)W'(X)$ , where  $K(h)$  is a constant dependent on  $h$ ,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{W\left(\log \frac{h}{1-r}\right)}{W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)} = 1, \quad \text{for any } h > 1.$$

**THEOREM 1.3.** *Let  $w = f(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  and satisfy (1.2). Then there exist a point  $z_0 \in \{|z| = 1\}$ , and a line  $J$  through  $z_0$ , directed inward of the unit disk, which may coincide with the tangent of  $|z| = 1$  at  $z_0$  and satisfying the following condition.*

*Let  $\omega$  be any small angular domain, which contains  $J$  and is bounded by two lines through  $z_0$  and  $g(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  with  $T(r, g) = O(1)$ ,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then*

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\bar{N}^l(r, \omega, f(z) = g)}{T(r, f)} > 0,$$

*with at most two possible exceptions for  $g(z)$ .*

**THEOREM 1.4.** *Let  $w = f(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  and satisfy (1.2). Then there exists a point  $z_0 \in \{|z| = 1\}$ , and a line  $J$  through  $z_0$ , directed inward of the unit disk, which may coincide with the tangent of  $|z| = 1$  at  $z_0$  and satisfying the following:*

*Let  $\omega$  be any small angular domain, which contains  $J$  and is bounded by two lines through  $z_0$  and  $g(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < 1$  with  $T(r, g) = o\left(W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right)$ ,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then*

$$(1.3) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log \bar{n}^l(r, \omega, f = g)}{\log W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right) + \log \frac{1}{1-r}} = 1,$$

*with at most two possible exceptions for  $g(z)$ , where  $W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)$  is the type function of  $T(r, f)$ , and  $z_0$  is called an indirect maximum type Borel point of  $f(z)$  dealing with multiple value.*

## 2. Some lemmas

First, we recall the Ahlfors-Shimuzi characteristic function of  $f(z)$  defined in the sector  $\Omega$ .

$$\mathcal{S}(r, \Omega, f) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{r_0}^r \int_{\alpha}^{\beta} \frac{|f'(te^{i\theta})|^2}{(1 + |f(te^{i\theta})|)^2} t \, dt d\theta,$$

$$\mathcal{T}(r, \Omega, f) = \int_{r_0}^r \frac{\mathcal{S}(t, \Omega, f)}{t} \, dt.$$

We write  $\mathcal{S}(r, \Omega, f) = S(r, f)$  and  $\mathcal{T}(r, \Omega, f) = T(r, f)$  when  $\Omega = \{z : 0 \leq \arg z < 2\pi\}$ .

Now we give some lemmas which will be used in the proof of the theorems.

LEMMA 2.1 ([2]). *Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function in  $|z| < R$ ,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q$  ( $q \geq 3$ ) be  $q$  different points on  $\hat{\mathbf{C}}$  and the spherical distance between any two points in them  $|a_i, a_j| \geq \delta$ ,  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then for any  $r \in (0, R)$ , we have*

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) S(r, f) \leq \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{n}^{(l)}(R, a_j) + A \frac{R}{R-r},$$

where  $A$  is a constant number.

Combing Lemma 2.1 with [5], we can prove Lemmas 2.2–2.4. For the completeness, we give the proof of Lemma 2.2.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let  $f(z)$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$  and  $\Delta \subset \Delta_0$  be two angular domains (see figure 1), each of which is bounded by two lines, through  $z = 1$ , which do not touch  $|z| = 1$  and  $\Delta(r)$ ,  $\Delta_0(r)$  be the part of  $\Delta$ ,  $\Delta_0$ , which lies in  $r_0 \leq |z| \leq r < 1$  respectively, where  $r_0 \geq \frac{1}{2}$  is so chosen that the circle  $|z| = r_0$  meets the both sides of  $\Delta$  and  $\Delta_0$ ,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then we have*

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 3 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{n}^{(l)}\left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right),$$

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{T}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 21 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{N}^{(l)}\left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O(1).$$

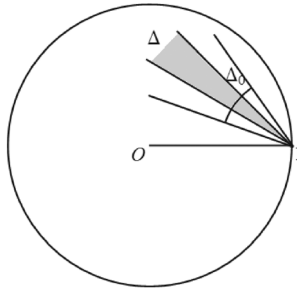


FIGURE 1

*Proof.* Let  $r_n = 1 - \frac{1-r_0}{2^n}$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) and for  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\Delta_n$  be the part of  $\Delta$ , which lies in  $r_{n-1} \leq |z| \leq r_n$  and  $\Delta_n^0$  be that of  $\Delta_0$ , which lies in  $r_{n-2} \leq |z| \leq r_{n+1}$  and

$$(2.1) \quad S_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \iint_{\Delta_n} \left( \frac{|f'(z)|}{1 + |f(z)|^2} \right)^2 r \, dr d\theta.$$

Let  $N_n^0$  be the number of zero points of  $\prod_{i=1}^q (f(z) - a_i)$  in  $\Delta_n^0$ , multiple zeros being counted  $\leq l$ .

We map  $\Delta_n^0$  conformally on  $|\zeta| < 1$ , such that the point  $z_n \left( |z_n| = \frac{r_n + r_{n-1}}{2} \right)$  on the bisector of  $\Delta$  becomes  $\zeta = 0$ , then the image of  $\Delta_n$  is contained in  $|\zeta| < \kappa < 1$ , where  $\kappa$  is a constant, independent of  $n$ .

If we apply Lemma 2.1, then  $(q - 2 - 2/l)S_n < N_n^0 + K$  ( $K = \text{const}$ ), so that

$$(2.2) \quad \left( q - 2 - \frac{2}{l} \right) \sum_{n=2}^m S_n \leq \sum_{n=2}^m N_n^0 + Km = \sum_{n=2}^m N_n^0 + O\left( \log \frac{1}{1-r_m} \right).$$

Since  $\sum_{n=2}^m S_n = S(r_m, \Delta) - S(r_1, \Delta)$  and  $\Delta_n^0$  overlap at most 3-times,  $\sum_{n=2}^m N_n^0 \leq 3 \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{n}^l(r_{m+1}, \Delta_0, a_i)$ , so that by (2.2),

$$\left( q - 2 - \frac{2}{l} \right) \mathcal{S}(r_n, \Delta, f) \leq 3 \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{n}^l(r_{n+1}, \Delta_0, a_i) + O\left( \log \frac{1}{1-r_n} \right).$$

If  $r_{m-1} \leq r \leq r_m$ , then  $\mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq \mathcal{S}(r_m, \Delta, f)$  and  $r_{m+1} = \frac{r_{m-1} + 3}{4} \leq \frac{r + 3}{4}$ , hence

$$(2.3) \quad \left( q - 2 - \frac{2}{l} \right) \mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 3 \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{n}^l \left( \frac{r+3}{4}, \Delta_0, a_i \right) + O\left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right),$$

so that

$$\left( q - 2 - \frac{2}{l} \right) \mathcal{F}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 12 \sum_{i=1}^q \int_{t_0}^{(r+3)/4} \frac{\bar{n}^l(t, \Delta_0, a_i)}{4t-3} dt + O(1), \quad t_0 = \frac{r_0 + 3}{4} \geq \frac{7}{8}.$$

Since  $4t - 3 \geq \frac{4t}{7}$ , if  $t \geq 7/8$ , we have

$$(2.4) \quad \left( q - 2 - \frac{2}{l} \right) \mathcal{F}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 21 \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{N}^l \left( \frac{r+3}{4}, \Delta_0, a_i \right) + O(1). \quad \square$$

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $f(z)$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$  and  $\Delta \subset \Delta_0$  be two sectors, as shown in the figure 2, where  $0 < \rho_0 < \rho < 1$   $\Delta(r)$ ,  $\Delta_0(r)$  be the part of  $\Delta$ ,  $\Delta_0$ , which lies in  $r_0 \leq |z| \leq r < 1$  respectively, where  $r_0 = \frac{1+\rho}{2}$ ,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then*

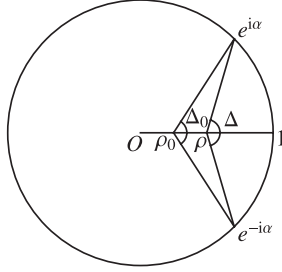


FIGURE 2

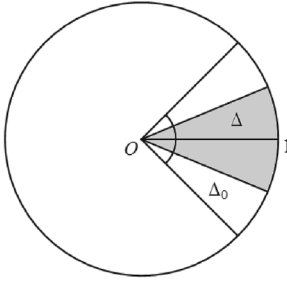


FIGURE 3

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 9 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{n}^l \left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right),$$

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{F}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 63 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{N}^l \left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right).$$

LEMMA 2.4. *Let  $f(z)$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$  and  $\Delta \subset \Delta_0$  be two domains, as shown in the figure 3*

$$\Delta : |\arg z| < \alpha, \quad \Delta_0 : |\arg z| < \alpha_0 \quad (\alpha < \alpha_0).$$

*Let  $\Delta(r)$ ,  $\Delta_0(r)$  be the part of  $\Delta$ ,  $\Delta_0$ , which lies in  $|z| \leq r < 1$  respectively,  $l(\geq 3)$  be a positive integer. Then*

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 9 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{n}^l \left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right),$$

$$\left(q - 2 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{F}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 63 \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{N}^l \left(\frac{r+3}{4}, a_j, \Delta_0\right) + O\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right).$$

The following lemma is applicable in the discussion of angular distribution of a meromorphic function dealing with small functions.

LEMMA 2.5. *Let  $w(z)$ ,  $g_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$ . Set*

$$f(z) = \frac{g_1(z)w(z) + g_2(z)}{g_3(z)w(z) + g_4(z)}.$$

Let  $\Delta \subset \Delta_0$  be two sectors defined in Lemma 2.2. Then

$$\mathcal{S}(r, \Delta, f) \leq 27\mathcal{S}\left(\frac{r+63}{64}, \Delta_0, w\right) + O\left(\int_0^{(r+127)/128} \frac{T(r, g)}{(1-r)^2} dr\right),$$

where  $T(r, g) = \sum_{i=1}^4 T(r, g_i)$ .

The same relation holds, if  $\Delta \subset \Delta_0$  are sectors of Lemma 2.3, where 27 should be replaced by 729.

### 3. Proof of the theorems

We introduce for the first time the Pólya peaks for a  $T(r)$  in  $(0, 1)$ .

DEFINITION 3.1. A sequence of positive numbers  $\{r_n\}$  is called a sequence of Pólya peaks for  $T(r)$  of order  $\beta$  (outside a set  $E$ ) provided that there exist four sequence  $\{r'_n\}$ ,  $\{r''_n\}$ ,  $\{\varepsilon_n\}$  and  $\{\varepsilon'_n\}$  such that

- (1)  $r_n \notin E$ ,  $0 < r'_n < r_n < r''_n < 1$ ,  $r'_n \rightarrow 1-$ ,  $\frac{1-r'_n}{1-r_n} \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{1-r_n}{1-r''_n} \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\varepsilon'_n \rightarrow 0$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ );
- (2)  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r_n)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r_n}} \geq \beta$ ;
- (3)  $T(t) < (1 + \varepsilon_n) \left(\frac{1-r_n}{1-t}\right)^\beta T(r_n)$ ,  $t \in [r'_n, r''_n]$ ;
- (4)  $T(t) \leq KT(r_n) \left(\frac{1-r_n}{1-t}\right)^{\beta-\varepsilon'_n}$ ,  $0 < t \leq r''_n$  and for a positive constant  $K$ .

LEMMA 3.1. *Let  $T(r)$  be a non-negative and non-decreasing continuous function in  $(0, 1)$  with  $0 \leq \mu(T) = \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}} < \infty$  and  $0 < \rho(T) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r)}{\log \frac{1}{1-r}} \leq \infty$ . Then for arbitrary finite and positive number  $\beta$*

satisfying  $\mu \leq \beta \leq \lambda$  and a set  $F$  with  $\int_F \frac{dt}{1-t} < \infty$ , there exists a sequence of the Pólya peaks of order  $\beta$  outside  $F$ .

*Proof.* Zheng [6] proved that for a non-negative and non-decreasing function  $T(r)$  in  $0 < r < \infty$  with  $0 \leq \mu(T) = \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r)}{\log r} < \infty$  and  $0 < \rho(T) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r)}{\log r} \leq \infty$ . Then for arbitrary finite and positive number  $\beta$  satisfying  $\mu \leq \beta \leq \lambda$  and a set  $F$  with finite logarithmic measure, that is  $\int_F \frac{dt}{t} < \infty$ , there exists a sequence of the Pólya peaks of order  $\beta$  outside  $F$ .

For our purpose, we set  $t = \frac{1}{1-r} \in (0, +\infty)$  for  $r \in (0, 1)$ . Then using Zheng's result to the function  $T(r) = T\left(1 - \frac{1}{t}\right)$  implies the lemma.  $\square$

The following lemma comes from Gao [1].

LEMMA 3.2 [1]. *Let  $f$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$  of zero order satisfying (1.2). Then we have*

$$(3.1) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)} = \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log S(r, f)}{\log W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right) + \log \frac{1}{1-r}} = 1,$$

and there exists a  $\arg z = \theta$ , such that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have

$$(3.2) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\log \mathcal{S}(r, Z_\varepsilon(\theta), f)}{\log W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right) + \log \frac{1}{1-r}} = 1.$$

LEMMA 3.3. *Let  $f$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$  and satisfy (1.2). Then there exists a half line  $\arg z = \theta$ , such that for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough, we have*

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r, Z_\varepsilon(\theta), f)}{W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)} > 0,$$

where  $Z_\varepsilon(\theta) = \{z : \theta - \varepsilon < \arg z < \theta + \varepsilon\}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose the lemma fails, that is, for any  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ , there exists  $\varepsilon_\theta > 0$

$$\mathcal{F}(r, Z_{\varepsilon_\theta}(\theta), f) = o\left(W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right).$$



There exist a finite number of the radials  $\arg z = \theta_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) and  $\varepsilon_{\theta_j} > 0$ , such that

$$[0, 2\pi) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^m (\theta_i - \varepsilon_{\theta_i}, \theta_i + \varepsilon_{\theta_i}).$$

$$T(r, f) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \mathcal{F}(r, Z_{\varepsilon}(\theta_i), f) = o\left(W\left(\log \frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right).$$

This leads a contradiction with (3.1). □

Using the same method we also have the following lemma.

LEMMA 3.4. *Let  $f$  be meromorphic in  $|z| < 1$ . Then for any sequence  $\{r_n\} \rightarrow 1-$ , there exists a  $\arg z = \theta$ , for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough,*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, Z_{\varepsilon}(\theta), f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

Now we are in position to prove Theorem 1.2.

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* In view of Lemma 3.4, there exists a direction  $L : \arg z = \theta_0$ , for each small enough  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have

$$(3.3) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, Z_{\varepsilon}(\theta_0), f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

We assume that  $\theta_0 = 0$  and denote the sector:  $|\arg z| < \delta$ ,  $|z| < 1$  by the letter  $\Delta$ .  $L_1, L_2$  denote the half lines  $\arg z = \delta$  and  $\arg z = -\delta$  respectively, and  $\xi_0 = e^{i\delta}$  ( $0 < \delta < \frac{\pi}{2}$ ) is the intersection point of  $L_1$  and the unit circle. We draw two lines  $L_3, L_4$  through  $z = 1$  directly inward of the unit disk and symmetric with respect to the real axis, making an angle  $< \frac{\pi}{2}$  with the negative real axis. Point  $a$  is the intersection point of  $L_1$  and  $L_3$ . Let  $\Omega$  be the angular domain, bounded by these two lines and we denote the common part of  $\Omega$  and  $\Delta$  by the same letter  $\Omega$ . Then  $\Delta$  consists of three parts:  $\Delta = \Omega + \Omega' + \Omega''$ , where  $\Omega'$  bounded by  $L_1, L_3$  and the unit circle,  $\Omega''$  bounded by  $L_2, L_4$  and the unit circle (see figure 4). Then one of the following holds

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Omega, f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0, \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Omega', f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0, \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Omega'', f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

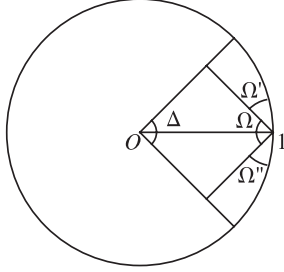


FIGURE 4

Case 1. First we suppose

$$(3.4) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Omega, f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

By dividing the angular domain  $\Omega$  into  $2^n$  equal parts by lines through  $z = 1$ , we see that there exists a line  $J \in \Omega$  through  $z = 1$ , such that for any small angular domain  $\omega$ , which contains  $J$  and is bounded by two lines through  $z = 1$ ,

$$(3.5) \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \omega, f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

Let  $\omega \subset \omega_1 \subset \omega_0$  be three angular domains, whose common vertex is at  $z = 1$ . Let  $g_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) be three meromorphic functions in  $|z| < 1$ , such that  $T(r, g_i) = o(T(r, f))$ .

Hence if we put  $T(r, g) = \sum_{i=1}^3 T(r, g_i)$ , then  $T(r, g) = o(T(r, f))$ . We put

$$w(z) = \frac{f(z) - g_1(z)}{f(z) - g_3(z)} \frac{g_2(z) - g_3(z)}{g_2(z) - g_1(z)}, \quad f(z) = \frac{h_1(z)w(z) + h_2(z)}{h_3(z)w(z) + h_4(z)},$$

then  $T(r, h_i) = O(T(r, g))$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ). In view of Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\mathcal{F}(r_n, \omega, f) \leq \text{const.} \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{r_n + 63}{64}, \omega_1, w\right) + O\left(\int_0^{r_n} \int_0^{(r+127)/128} \frac{T(t, g)}{(1-t)^2} dt dr\right),$$

By Lemma 3.1, there exists a sequence of Pólya peaks (of  $T(r, f)$ )  $\{r_n\}$  with finite positive order  $\sigma$  between  $\mu$  and  $\rho$  such that

$$T\left(\frac{t+127}{128}, f\right) \leq K \left(\frac{1-r_n}{1-t}\right)^\sigma T\left(\frac{r_n+127}{128}, f\right),$$

for  $0 \leq t \leq r_n$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^{r_n} \int_0^{(r_n+127)/128} \frac{T(t, f)}{(1-t)^2} dt dr &= \int_0^{(r_n+127)/128} \int_{128t-127}^{r_n} \frac{T(t, f)}{(1-t)^2} dr dt \\
&\leq \int_0^{(r_n+127)/128} \int_{128t-127}^1 \frac{T(t, f)}{(1-t)^2} dr dt \\
&= \int_0^{(r_n+127)/128} \frac{T(t, f)}{1-t} dt \\
&\leq \int_0^{r_n} \frac{T\left(\frac{t+127}{128}, f\right)}{1-t} dt \\
&\leq \sigma K T\left(\frac{r_n+127}{128}, f\right) \\
&\leq 2\sigma K 128^\sigma T(r_n, f).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\mathcal{F}(r_n, \omega, f) \leq \text{const.} \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{r_n+63}{64}, \omega_1, w\right) + o(T(r_n, f)).$$

In view of Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\left(1 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{F}(r_n, \omega, f) \leq \text{const.} \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}^l \left(\frac{r_n+255}{256}, \omega_0, f = g_i\right) + o(T(r_n, f)).$$

By noting that  $\{r_n\}$  is a sequence of Pólya peaks, we have  $T\left(\frac{r_n+255}{256}, f\right) \leq KT(r_n, f)$  and this implies that we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}^l \left(\frac{r_n+255}{256}, \omega_0, f = g_i\right)}{T\left(\frac{r_n+255}{256}, f\right)} > 0.$$

*Case 2.* We assume

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Omega', f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

Let  $\xi_0$  and  $a$  defined as before, and  $\xi_1$  be a point on  $|z| = 1$ , which lies symmetric to  $z = 1$  with respect to the line  $O\xi_0$ .

Let  $a_0$  be a point on the line  $O\xi_0$ , such that  $a = \frac{a_0 + \xi_0}{2}$ .

Let  $\Sigma_0, \Sigma$  be the sectors, defined as in the figure 5. <sup>2</sup>

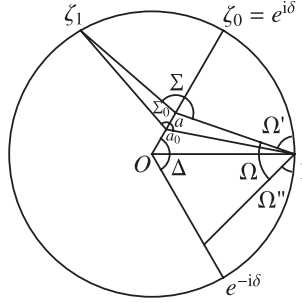


FIGURE 5

Then we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r_n, \Sigma, f)}{T(r_n, f)} > 0.$$

Using Lemma 2.3 and the method similar to Case 1, we can obtain

$$(3.6) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\bar{N}^{(1)}(r, \Sigma_0, f = g)}{T(r, f)} > 0,$$

with at most two possible exceptions for  $g$ .

*Case 3.* We denote the angular magnitude of  $\Omega$  by  $|\Omega|$ , then  $0 < |\Omega| < \pi$ .

Let  $\Omega_1 \subseteq \Omega_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq \dots$  be angular domains as  $\Omega$ , such that  $0 < |\Omega_n| \rightarrow \pi$  and suppose that for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r, \Omega_n, f)}{T(r, f)} > 0.$$

Without loss of generality, we assume that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r, \Omega'_n, f)}{T(r, f)} > 0 \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Let  $J$  be the positive tangent of  $|z| < 1$  at  $z = 1$ . Then from (3.6) we see that for each small angular domain  $\omega$ , which contains  $J$ ,

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\bar{N}^{(1)}(r, \omega, f = g)}{T(r, f)} > 0,$$

with two possible exceptions for  $g$ .

Theorem 1.2 follows.

*Proofs of Theorem 1.3 and Theorem 1.4.* We can prove Theorem 1.3 and Theorem 1.4 with the same method of Theorem 1.2, here we only give a sketch of the proofs of them.

*Sketch of proof of Theorem 1.3.* In view of Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(1 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{F}(r, \omega, f) &\leq K \sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}^{(l)} \left( \frac{r+255}{256}, \omega_0, f = g_i(z) \right) \\ &\quad + O \left( \int_0^r \int_0^{(r+127)/128} \frac{T(t, g)}{(1-t)^2} dt dr \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $T(r, g) = \sum_{j=1}^3 T(r, g_j)$ , and  $K$  is a constant.

The similar to the proof of Theorem 1.2 implies that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\mathcal{F}(r, \omega, f)}{W \left( \log \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right) \right)} > 0.$$

Since  $T(r, g) = O(1)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^r \int_0^{(s+127)/128} \frac{T(t, g)}{(1-t)^2} dt ds &= O \left( \int_0^r \int_0^{(s+127)/128} \frac{1}{(1-t)^2} dt ds \right) \\ &= O \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right) = o \left( W \left( \log \left( \frac{1}{1-r} \right) \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by the property of the type function, we have

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 \bar{N}^{(l)} \left( \frac{r+255}{256}, \omega_0, f(z) = g_i(z) \right)}{W \left( \log \left( \frac{256}{1-r} \right) \right)} > 0.$$

Thus

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{\bar{N}^{(l)}(r, \omega_0, f(z) = g(z))}{T(r, f)} > 0$$

with at most two possible exceptions for  $g$ .

*Sketch of proof of Theorem 1.4.* (3.2) implies that

$$(3.7) \quad \left(1 - \frac{2}{l}\right) \mathcal{L}(r, \omega, f) \leq K \sum_{j=1}^3 \bar{n}^{(j)} \left( \frac{r+255}{256}, \omega_0, f = a_j(z) \right) \\ + O \left( \int_{r_0}^{(r+127)/128} \frac{T(r, g)}{(1-r)^2} dr \right).$$

Now we treat with the last term of (3.7)

$$O \left( \int_{r_0}^{(r+127)/128} \frac{T(r, g)}{(1-r)^2} dr \right) = o \left( \int_{r_0}^{(r+127)/128} \frac{W \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right)}{(1-r)^2} dr \right) \\ = o \left( W \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right) \frac{1}{1-r} \right).$$

Hence,

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{\log \bar{n}^{(j)}(r, \omega, f(z) = a_j(z))}{\log W \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right) + \log \frac{1}{1-r}} \geq 1.$$

On the other hand,

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{j=1}^3 \frac{\log \bar{n}^{(j)}(r, \omega, f(z) = a_j(z))}{\log W \left( \log \frac{1}{1-r} \right) + \log \frac{1}{1-r}} \leq 1.$$

Thus Theorem 1.4 follows.

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