

## VALUE DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL FUNCTIONS IN THE UNIT DISK

Renukadevi S. Dyavanal\*

Department of Mathematics, Karnatak University, Dharwad - 580 003, India.

(Received on: 10-04-14; Revised & Accepted on: 25-04-14)

### ABSTRACT

*In this paper, we explore properties of value distribution of differential polynomials of certain class of functions in the disk.*

**Keywords:** Nevanlinna theory, Unit disk, Small functions, etc.

**Subject Classification:** 30D35.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

If  $f$  is a meromorphic function in the complex plane. R. Nevanlinna noted that its characteristic function  $T(r, f)$  could be used to categorize  $f$  according to its rate of growth as  $|z| = r \rightarrow \infty$ . Later H. Milloux showed for a transcendental meromorphic function in the plane that for each positive integer  $k$ ,

$$m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty \quad (1.1)$$

possibly outside a set of finite measure. If  $f$  is a meromorphic function in the unit disk  $D = \{z: |z| < 1\}$ , analogous results to (1.1) exit when

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{-\log(1-r)} = +\infty \quad (1.2)$$

**Definition: 1.1 (Class  $F$ )** Class  $F$  is defined as

$$F = \{f \in D : f \text{ is meromorphic and } \limsup_{r \rightarrow 1} \frac{T(r, f)}{-\log(1-r)} = \alpha < +\infty\}$$

**Definition: 1.2 (Index of  $f$ )** For functions  $f$  in class  $F$ , we say that the index of  $f$  denoted by  $\alpha(f)$  and given by  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow 1} \frac{T(r, f)}{-\log(1-r)} = \alpha < +\infty$

**Definition: 1.3 (Subclass  $P$  of  $F$ )** Subclass  $P$  of  $F$  is defined as

$$P = \left\{ f \in F : m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \text{ and } \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} T(r, f) = \infty \right\}$$

**Definition: 1.4 (Closure properties of  $F$ )** If  $f \in P$  and  $c \neq 0$ , then (i)  $cf \in P$  (ii)  $1/f \in P$  (iii)  $f^n \in P$  (iv)  $g$  be a meromorphic functions not identically 0 such that  $T(r, g) = o(T(r, f))$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$  and  $m\left(r, \frac{g'}{g}\right) = o(T(r, f))$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ , then  $f \cdot g \in P$ .

**Remark: 1.5** The following theorem will show that there is a difference between the disk case and the plane case. In the plane case for transcendental functions, we are guaranteed not only that

$$m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ but also that } m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f))$$

by the theory of Milloux. However, we are not guaranteed this for functions of slow growth in the disk as the following theorem shows.

**Corresponding author: Renukadevi S. Dyavanal\***

Department of Mathematics, Karnatak University, Dharwad - 580 003, India.

E-mail: [renukadyavanal@gmail.com](mailto:renukadyavanal@gmail.com)

**Theorem: 1.6** There exists an analytic function  $f \in P$  such that

$$m\left(r, \frac{f''}{f}\right) \neq o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

**Theorem: 1.7 (First Fundamental Theorem of Nevanlinna)** Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$ . Then, for any  $a \in \mathbb{C}$

$$T(r, f) = m\left(r, \frac{1}{f-a}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f-a}\right) + O(1) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

**Theorem: 1.8 (Reformulation of the Second Fundamental Theorem):** Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function in  $F$ . Then  $q \geq 3$  distinct values  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ , we have

$$(q-2)T(r, f) \leq \sum_{i=1}^q \bar{N}(r, a_i) + \log \frac{1}{1-r} + O\left(\log \log \frac{1}{1-r}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

In the year 1986, Shea and Sons [4] explores various results for admissible functions in class  $F$  be refined further by restricting the functions to class  $P$ . We now state a theorem from Shea and Sons that can be refined

**Theorem: 1.9** Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  which is in class  $F$  and for which

$$N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N(r, f) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

Let  $n$  be a positive integer and for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ , let  $a_k$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  for which

$$T(r, a_k) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \text{ If } \psi \text{ is defined in } D \text{ by}$$

$$\psi = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k f^{(k)}$$

and  $\psi$  is nonconstant, then  $\psi$  assumes every complex number except possibly zero infinitely often provided the index of  $f$  is  $\alpha > 1 + \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ .

**Theorem: 1.10** Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  which is in class  $P$  and for which

$$N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N(r, f) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

Let  $n$  be a positive integer and for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ , let  $a_k$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  for which

$$T(r, a_k) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \text{ Also, define } E \text{ to be the set defined by}$$

$$E = \left\{k : m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1\right\} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi = \sum_{k=0}^n f^{(k)} \text{ in } D.$$

And  $\psi$  is nonconstant, then  $\psi$  assumes every complex number except possibly zero infinitely often provided the index of  $f$  is  $\alpha > 1 + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - \sum E$ , where  $\sum E$  is the sum of the values of  $E$ .

In this paper, we extend Theorem 1.9 and Theorem 1.10 to general homogeneous differential polynomials and prove the following theorem.

**Theorem: 1.11** Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  which is in class  $P$  and for which

$$N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N(r, f) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \tag{1.3}$$

If non constant function  $\psi$  is defined in  $D$  as

$$\psi = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j f^{n_{0,j}} (f')^{n_{1,j}} (f'')^{n_{2,j}} \dots (f^{(s)})^{n_{s,j}} \tag{1.4}$$

Where  $n = \sum_{i=0}^s n_{i,j}$  ( $\forall j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) and let  $a_k$  be a meromorphic function in  $D$  for which

$$T(r, a_k) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \tag{1.5}$$

and  $E = \{k : m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1\}$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, s$ .

Then  $\psi$  assumes every complex number except possibly zero infinitely often provided the index of  $f$  is given by  $n\alpha > 1 + \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \neq E} k n_{k,j}$ .

## 2. PROOF OF THEOREM: 1.1

Since Class  $F$  is closed under differentiation, addition and multiplication and  $\psi$  is in class  $F$ . Therefore we can apply the reformulation of the second fundamental theorem for class  $F$  to  $\psi$

$$T(r, \psi) \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, \psi) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + O\left(\log \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \quad (2.1)$$

From (1.4) and (1.5), we have

$$\bar{N}(r, \psi) \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + \sum_{j=0}^m \bar{N}(r, a_j) \leq \bar{N}(r, f) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \quad (2.2)$$

Also, since the index of  $f$  is greater than 0, we have  $O\left(\log \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right) = o(T(r, f))$  as  $r \rightarrow 1$ . Therefore, using (2.1) and (2.2) and the first fundamental theorem, we get as  $r \rightarrow 1$

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, \psi) &= m\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + O(1) \\ &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, \psi) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + O\left(\log \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)\right) \\ &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \end{aligned}$$

Now, solving for  $m\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right)$  in the above calculation, we have the following inequality

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \\ &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

By the first fundamental theorem, properties of the proximity function and (2.3) give us the following

$$\begin{aligned} nT(r, f) &= m\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + O(1) \leq m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + O(1) \\ &\leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + O(1) \\ &\leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + \bar{N}(r, f) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Noticing the fact that  $\bar{N}(r, f) \leq N(r, f)$  and using (1.3)

$$N(r, f) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f^n}\right) = N(r, f) + nN\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) = o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \quad (2.5)$$

From (2.4) and (2.5), we have

$$nT(r, f) \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi-c}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) + \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \quad (2.6)$$

As  $r \rightarrow 1$ . We now estimate  $m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right)$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) &= m\left[r, \frac{\sum_{j=0}^m a_j f^{n_{0,j}} (f')^{n_{1,j}} (f'')^{n_{2,j}} \dots (f^{(n)})^{n_{n,j}}}{f^n}\right] \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m m\left(r, \frac{a_j f^{n_{0,j}} (f')^{n_{1,j}} (f'')^{n_{2,j}} \dots (f^{(n)})^{n_{n,j}}}{f^n}\right) + \log(m+1) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m m\left(r, a_j \left(\frac{f^{n_{0,j}}}{f}\right) \left(\frac{f'}{f}\right)^{n_{1,j}} \left(\frac{f''}{f}\right)^{n_{2,j}} \dots \left(\frac{f^{(n)}}{f}\right)^{n_{n,j}}\right) + \log(m+1) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m \left\{ m\left(r, a_j\right) + \sum_{k=1}^n m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{n_{k,j}}\right) \right\} + \log(m+1) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k=1}^n m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{n_{k,j}}\right) + o(T(r, f)) + \log(m+1) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m \left\{ \sum_{k \in E} m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{n_{k,j}}\right) + \sum_{k \notin E} m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{n_{k,j}}\right) \right\} + o(T(r, f)). \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \notin E} m\left(r, \left(\frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right)^{n_{k,j}}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \notin E} n_{k,j} m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

By using (4.5.1) in Chapter 4 of [1], we have

$$m\left(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}\right) \leq k \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + k(2 + o(1)) \log \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \quad (2.8)$$

Hence by (2.7) and (2.8), we get

$$m\left(r, \frac{\psi}{f^n}\right) = \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \notin E} k n_{k,j} \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 \quad (2.9)$$

Then, by (2.6) and (2.9), we can write

$$n T(r, f) \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi - c}\right) + \left[\sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \notin E} k n_{k,j} + 1\right] \log\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

Since the index  $\alpha$  of  $f$  is given by  $n\alpha > \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k \notin E} k n_{k,j} + 1$ , we have

$$v T(r, f) \leq \bar{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{\psi - c}\right) + o(T(r, f)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1$$

Where  $v > 0$ . Since  $T(r, f)$  is unbounded, we have proved the claim that  $\psi$  assumes every complex number except possibly zero infinitely often.

## REFERENCES

- [1] P. A. Gunsul, "A Class of Small Functions in the Unit Disk", PhD Thesis, Northern Illinois University, 2009.
- [2] W. K. Hayman, "Meromorphic Functions", Oxford University Press, London, 1964.
- [3] R. Korhonen and J. Ratty, "Finite order solutions of linear differential equations in the unit disk", J. Math. Anal. Appl. 349(2009), 43-54.
- [4] D. Shea and L. R. Sons, "Value distribution theory for meromorphic functions of slow growth in the unit disk", Houston. J. Math. 12(2) (1986), 249-226.
- [5] L. R. Sons, "Values for differential polynomials in the disk", Abstracts of the AMS. Vol. 28 (2007), P-640.
- [6] L. Yang, "Value Distribution Theory", Springer-Verlag, Beijing, 1993.

**Source of support: Nil, Conflict of interest: None Declared**