

## Meromorphic Function

Defn A  $f(z)$  whose only singularities in a region  $R$  are poles, is called a meromorphic function in  $R$ .

A  $f(z)$  whose only singularities in the open plane are all poles is said to be meromorphic in the plane; if in addition  $f$  is analytic or has a pole at infinity then  $f$  is said to be meromorphic in the closed plane or extended plane.

For example a rational function,  $\tan z$ ,  $\cot z$ ,  $\frac{1}{z^2}$  etc are meromorphic functions.

\* A meromorphic  $f(z)$  in the open plane may have infinite number of poles or zeros but there is only a finite number of them in any finite domain otherwise there would exist at least one limit point of poles or zeros in the finite plane and would be an essential singularity. Two cases may be distinguished.

(1) The pt. at infinity is a regular pt. or a pole. So the  $f(z)$  has a finite number of poles in this case.

(2) The pt. at infinity is an essential singularity. The  $f(z)$  has an infinity number of poles or zeros which accumulate at the pt. at infinity.



The class of rational functions is a subclass of meromorphic functions. This is shown in the following theorem.

**Theorem** A rational function has no singularities other than poles. Conversely a single valued analytic function which has no other singularities than poles at any point (including the pt. at infinity) is a rational function or a function which is meromorphic in the extended plane is a rational function.

**Proof** Let  $f$  be a rational function. Then  $f(z) = \frac{p(z)}{q(z)}$ , where  $p(z)$  and  $q(z)$  are polynomials in  $z$ .

Since a polynomial is an integral function having a finite number of zeros,  $f$  has only a finite number of poles in the finite  $z$ -plane. Also at the point at infinity  $f$  may have a regular point or a pole.

Conversely let  $f$  be a function which has no singularities other than poles at any point (including the point at infinity).

Since  $f$  is assumed to have at most a pole at  $z = \infty$ , it is regular everywhere outside a sufficiently large circle i.e., in a certain neighborhood of the point  $z = \infty$  except possibly at  $z = \infty$  itself. Hence all singularities which lie in the finite part of the plane lie within an assignable circle. There can

only be a finite number of such points because otherwise there would be a limit point of these singular points in this closed circle. This point is an essential singularity.

(If there is no singular point in the finite part of the plane then  $f$  is a polynomial.)

Suppose then that the poles of  $f$  at infinity are  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k$  and let principal part of its expansion at the point  $d_r$  be

$$\frac{a_{r,1}}{z-d_r} + \frac{a_{r,2}}{(z-d_r)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_{r,n_r}}{(z-d_r)^{n_r}}$$

let the principal part of its expansion at infinity be  $a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_n z^n$ . If there is no pole at the point at infinity then all  $a_r$  ( $r=1, 2, \dots, n$ ).

Now consider the function

$$g(z) = f(z) - \sum_{r=1}^k \left\{ \frac{a_{r,1}}{z-d_r} + \frac{a_{r,2}}{(z-d_r)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_{r,n_r}}{(z-d_r)^{n_r}} \right\} - (a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_n z^n)$$

The function  $g$  is evidently regular everywhere in the whole plane including the point at infinity and, therefore, is a constant  $c$ , say. Hence

$$f(z) = c + \sum_{r=1}^k \left\{ \frac{a_{r,1}}{z-d_r} + \frac{a_{r,2}}{(z-d_r)^2} + \dots + \frac{a_{r,n_r}}{(z-d_r)^{n_r}} \right\} + (a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_n z^n)$$

$$+ (a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_n z^n),$$

which is a rational f(z) of z.

Corollary A meromorphic f(z) other than a rational f(z) must have an essential singularity at the point at infinity. These are called transcendental meromorphic functions.

The functions  $\tan z$ ,  $\cot z$ ,  $\sec z$ ,  $\frac{1}{z^2-1}$  etc. are transcendental meromorphic functions.

Nonpolynomial entire functions are called transcendental entire functions.

The functions  $\sin z$ ,  $\cos z$ ,  $e^z$  etc. are transcendental entire functions.

Corollary Any rational function possesses a decomposition in partial fractions.

### Expansion of a meromorphic function

We know that a rational m.f. can be expressed as a sum of partial fractions. We shall now obtain a similar expression for a more general class of meromorphic functions.

To this end we prove the following theorem.

Theorem Let f be a f(z) whose only singularities in the finite plane are poles. We shall suppose

for simplicity that all these poles are simple. Let them be  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  where  $c < |a_1| < |a_2| < \dots$  and let the residue of f at the pole  $a_n$  be  $b_n$ . Suppose further that there is a sequence of closed contours  $C_n$  around the origin such that (i)  $C_n$  includes  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  but no other poles. We also suppose that (ii) if  $R_n$  is the minimum distance of  $C_n$  from the origin, then  $R_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and (iii) if  $L_n$  denotes the length of  $C_n$ , then  $L_n = O(R_n)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , i.e.  $L_n = \lambda R_n$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Regarding f we suppose that (i) on  $C_n$   $|f(z)| = o(R_n)$  i.e. on  $C_n$   $\frac{|f(z)|}{R_n} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

(This last condition will be satisfied if, for example, f is bounded on the system of contours  $C_n$  taken as a whole i.e.  $|f(z)| < M$  on  $C_n$ ).

Under these conditions  $f(z) = f(0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \left( \frac{1}{z-a_n} + \frac{1}{a_n} \right)$  for all z except for poles.

Proof Consider the integral

$$I_n = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{C_n} \frac{f(w)dw}{w(w-z)}, \text{ where } z \text{ is any pt.}$$

whether  $C_n$  not coinciding with any pole.  
 We also suppose that  $z \neq 0$  because for  $z=0$  the expansion obviously holds.

The integrand  $\frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)}$  is regular for all  $w$ , excepting the points  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, 0, z$  where it has simple poles.

The residue at  $a_m$  ( $m=1, 2, \dots, n$ )  

$$= \lim_{w \rightarrow a_m} (w-a_m) \frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)} = \frac{b_m}{a_m(a_m-z)}$$

since  $\lim_{w \rightarrow a_m} (w-a_m) f(w) = b_m$

The residue at  $w=z$  is  

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow z} (w-z) \frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)} = \frac{f(z)}{z}$$

and the residue at  $w=0$  is  

$$\lim_{w \rightarrow 0} w \frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)} = -\frac{f(0)}{z}$$

In particular, when  $f(z) = 0$  and  $f(0) = 0$  the last two residues vanish.

So by Cauchy's residue theorem we get,

$$I_n = \frac{2\pi i}{2\pi i} [\text{sum of the residues of } \frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)} \text{ at } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, 0, z].$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^n \frac{b_m}{a_m(a_m-z)} - \frac{f(0)}{z} + \frac{f(z)}{z} \quad (1)$$

On the other hand, on  $C_n$

$$\left| \frac{f(w)}{w(w-z)} \right| \leq \frac{\max |f(w)| \text{ on } C_n}{R_n(R_n-|z|)}$$

So by ML-formula we get.

$$|I_n| \leq \frac{L_n}{2\pi R_n(R_n-|z|)} \cdot \max_{w \in C_n} |f(w)|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{L_n}{R_n} \frac{\max_{w \in C_n} |f(w)|}{(1 - \frac{|z|}{R_n}) R_n} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

by the given conditions.

Hence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} I_n = 0$  and we get from (1) that

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_m}{a_m(a_m-z)} - \frac{f(0)}{z} + \frac{f(z)}{z} = 0$$

i.e.,  $f(z) = f(0) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_m z}{a_m(a_m-z)}$

$$= f(0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_m \left( \frac{1}{z-a_m} + \frac{1}{a_m} \right),$$

for all  $z$  except for poles. This proves the theorem.

Poisson Jensen's Formula (P-J Formula)

Theorem Let  $f$  have zeros at the points  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and poles at  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  inside the disc  $|z| \leq R$  and be analytic elsewhere inside and on the boundary of the disc.

If  $z = re^{i\theta}$  ( $0 < r < R$ ) and  $z$  does not coincide with any zero or pole then

$$\log |f(re^{i\theta})| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{R^2 - r^2}{R^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \varphi) + r^2} \log |f(Re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi - \sum_{\mu=1}^m p_{\mu} \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{a}_{\mu} re^{i\theta}}{R(re^{i\theta} - a_{\mu})} \right| + \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_{\nu} \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{b}_{\nu} re^{i\theta}}{R(re^{i\theta} - b_{\nu})} \right| \quad (1)$$

where  $p_{\mu}$  is the order of  $a_{\mu}$  and  $q_{\nu}$  is the order of  $b_{\nu}$ .

Proof Let  $f$  be analytic and have no zero and pole in  $|z| \leq R$ . Then each branch of  $\log f(z)$  is analytic in  $|z| \leq R$  and hence by Poisson's integral formula

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ \log f(re^{i\theta}) \} = \log |f(re^{i\theta})|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2 - r^2) \log |f(Re^{i\varphi})|}{R^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \varphi) + r^2} d\varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |f(Re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi$$

where  $P$  is the Poisson kernel and we use this symbol throughout the proof. This proves the theorem in the special case when  $f$  is analytic and has neither a zero nor a pole in  $|z| \leq R$ .

Case II Let  $f(z) = z - a$ ,  $|a| < R$ . Then we have to prove that  $\log |re^{i\theta} - a| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |Re^{i\varphi} - a| d\varphi - \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{a} re^{i\theta}}{R(re^{i\theta} - a)} \right|$

i.e.  $\log \left| R - \frac{\bar{a} re^{i\theta}}{R} \right| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |Re^{i\varphi} - a| d\varphi$ . This is equivalent to Poisson's formula for the real part of the logarithm of the function  $f(z) = \left( R - \frac{\bar{a} z}{R} \right)$  which is analytic for  $|z| \leq R$  (because the point  $\frac{R^2}{\bar{a}}$  is outside the circle  $|z| = R$ ). For, in this case

$$\log |F(re^{i\theta})| = \log \left| R - \frac{\bar{a} re^{i\theta}}{R} \right| \text{ and } \log |F(Re^{i\varphi})| = \log |R - \bar{a} e^{i\varphi}|$$

$$= \log \left\{ \frac{|R - \bar{a} e^{i\theta}|}{|R e^{i\theta} - a|} \cdot |R e^{i\theta} - a| \right\}$$

$$= \log |R e^{i\theta} - a| \left[ \because \left| \frac{R - \bar{a} e^{i\theta}}{R e^{i\theta} - a} \right| = 1 \right]$$

This proves case II.

Case III Let  $f(z) = \frac{1}{z-b}$  ( $|b| < R$ ).

In this case we are to prove that

$$\log \left| \frac{1}{R e^{i\theta} - b} \right| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log \left| \frac{1}{R e^{i\varphi} - b} \right| d\varphi$$

$$+ \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{b} R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - b)} \right|$$

$$\text{or } \log \left| R - \frac{\bar{b} R e^{i\theta}}{R} \right| = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log \left| \frac{1}{R e^{i\varphi} - b} \right| d\varphi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |R e^{i\varphi} - b| d\varphi.$$

This is equivalent to Poisson's integral formula for the real part of the function  $\log \left( R - \frac{\bar{b} z}{R} \right)$ , which is analytic for  $|z| \leq R$ .

Case IV In this general case, let

$$f(z) = \frac{(z-a_1)^{p_1} (z-a_2)^{p_2} \dots (z-a_m)^{p_m}}{(z-b_1)^{q_1} (z-b_2)^{q_2} \dots (z-b_n)^{q_n}} T(z); \quad \dots (2)$$

where  $T$  is regular and  $T(z) \neq 0$  within and on

circle. To obtain the result in the general case we shall have to apply the previous cases.

Now from (2) we get

$$\log |f(R e^{i\theta})| = \sum_{\mu=1}^m p_\mu \log |R e^{i\theta} - a_\mu| + \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_\nu \log \left| \frac{1}{R e^{i\theta} - b_\nu} \right|$$

$$+ \log |T(R e^{i\theta})|.$$

$$= \sum_{\mu=1}^m p_\mu \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |R e^{i\varphi} - a_\mu| d\varphi - \sum_{\nu=1}^n p_\nu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{a}_\nu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - a_\nu)} \right|$$

$$+ \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_\nu \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log \left| \frac{1}{R e^{i\varphi} - b_\nu} \right| d\varphi + \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_\nu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{b}_\nu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - b_\nu)} \right|$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log |T(R e^{i\varphi})| d\varphi \quad [\text{by cases I, II, III}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} P \log \left| \frac{(R e^{i\varphi} - a_1)^{p_1} \dots (R e^{i\varphi} - a_m)^{p_m}}{(R e^{i\varphi} - b_1)^{q_1} \dots (R e^{i\varphi} - b_n)^{q_n}} T(R e^{i\varphi}) \right| d\varphi$$

$$- \sum_{\mu=1}^m p_\mu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{a}_\mu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - a_\mu)} \right| + \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_\nu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{b}_\nu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - b_\nu)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{R^2 - r^2}{R^2 + r^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \varphi)} \log |f(R e^{i\varphi})| d\varphi$$

$$- \sum_{\mu=1}^m p_\mu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{a}_\mu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - a_\mu)} \right| + \sum_{\nu=1}^n q_\nu \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{b}_\nu R e^{i\theta}}{R(R e^{i\theta} - b_\nu)} \right|$$

This proves the theorem.

Note This formula is deduced under the assumption that neither the poles  $b_j$  nor the zeros  $a_j$  are to be found on  $|z|=R$ . The theorem continues to hold if we permit zeros and poles on  $|z|=R$ . From now on we shall make these interpretation.

Further if there are multiple zeros and poles in  $|z| \leq R$ , the result will not be affected provided we agree to count each multiple zero and multiple pole a number of times, equal to its order.

Jensen's Theorem

Theorem Let  $f$  be analytic in  $|z| < R_1$  and  $f(z) \neq 0$ . Let  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n, \dots$  be the moduli of the zeros of  $f$  in the disc  $|z| < R_1$ , arranged in the nondecreasing order. If  $r_n \leq R < r_{n+1}$ ,

$$\log \frac{R^m |f(0)|}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi, \text{ where } n \text{ zero of order } p \text{ is counted } p \text{ times.}$$

Proof Since  $f$  has no pole, putting  $r=0$  in P.J. formula we get

$$\log |f(0)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi - \sum_{k=1}^m \log \frac{R}{r_k}$$

$$\log \frac{|f(0)| R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi$$

Alternative statement

Let  $n(x)$  denote the number of zeros of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq x$ .

$$r_m \leq R < r_{m+1}$$

$$\int_0^R \frac{n(x)}{x} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi - \log |f(0)| ; f(0) \neq 0.$$

Proof Evidently  $n(x)$  is a nondecreasing f.z. of  $x$  which is constant in any interval that does not contain the moduli of zeros of  $f$ . So if  $r_m \leq R < r_{m+1}$

$$\int_0^R \frac{n(x)}{x} dx = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \int_0^{r_1-\epsilon} \frac{n(x)}{x} dx + \int_{r_1}^{r_2-\epsilon} \frac{n(x)}{x} dx + \dots + \int_{r_{m-1}}^{r_m-\epsilon} \frac{n(x)}{x} dx + \int_{r_m}^R dx \right]$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \int_0^{r_1-\epsilon} \frac{0}{x} dx + \int_{r_1}^{r_2-\epsilon} \frac{1}{x} dx + \dots + \int_{r_{m-1}}^{r_m-\epsilon} \frac{m-1}{x} dx + \int_{r_m}^R \frac{m}{x} dx \right]$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \log(r_2-\epsilon) - \log r_1 + 2 \log(r_3-\epsilon) - 2 \log r_2 + \dots + (m-1) \log(r_m-\epsilon) - (m-1) \log r_{m-1} + m \log(R-\epsilon) - m \log r_m \right]$$

$$= m \log R - \log r_1 - \log r_2 - \log r_3 - \dots - \log r_m = \log \frac{R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m}$$

So from Jensen's theorem we get,  
 $\log \frac{R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m} + \log |f(0)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi$

$$i.e., \int_0^R \frac{n(x)}{x} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \quad (y) \quad (10)$$

Alternative proof.

Evidently  $n(x)$  is a nondecreasing fct of  $x$  which is constant in any interval that does not contain the modulus of zeros of  $f$ .

Let  $n(x) = 0$  for  $x < r_1$ . If  $r_n < r_{n+1}$  then

$$n(x) = n \quad \text{in } r_n \leq x < r_{n+1} \quad \text{let } r_n \leq R < r_{n+1}$$

let  $r_1 = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N = r_m$  be the distinct members

of the set  $E = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$ . Suppose  $a_i$  is repeated

$k_i$  times in the set  $E$ . Then  $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_N = m$ . let

$$\rho_i = k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_i \quad ; \quad i=1, 2, \dots, N \quad (\rho_N = m)$$

let  $r_m < R$ . Then

$$\int_0^R \frac{n(t) dt}{t} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \int_{a_1}^{a_2 - \epsilon} \frac{n(t) dt}{t} + \int_{a_2}^{a_3 - \epsilon} \frac{n(t) dt}{t} + \dots + \int_{a_{N-1}}^{a_N - \epsilon} \frac{n(t) dt}{t} \right]$$

$$+ \int_{a_N}^{R - \epsilon} \frac{n(t) dt}{t}$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \int_{a_1}^{a_2 - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_1}{t} dt + \int_{a_2}^{a_3 - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_2}{t} dt + \dots + \int_{a_{N-1}}^{a_N - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_{N-1}}{t} dt + \int_{a_N}^{R - \epsilon} \frac{m}{t} dt \right]$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \rho_1 \log t \right\}_{a_1}^{a_2 - \epsilon} + \rho_2 \log t \Big|_{a_2}^{a_3 - \epsilon} + \dots + \rho_{N-1} \log t \Big|_{a_{N-1}}^{a_N - \epsilon} + m \log t \Big|_{a_N}^{R - \epsilon}$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \rho_1 (\log(a_2 - \epsilon) - \log a_1) + \rho_2 (\log(a_3 - \epsilon) - \log a_2) + \dots + \rho_{N-1} (\log(a_N - \epsilon) - \log a_{N-1}) + m (\log R - \log r_m) \right]$$

$$= \rho_1 \log a_2 - \rho_1 \log a_1 + \rho_2 \log a_3 - \rho_2 \log a_2 + \dots + \rho_{N-1} \log a_N - \rho_{N-1} \log a_{N-1} + m (\log R - \log r_m)$$

$$= \rho_1 \log a_2 - \rho_1 \log a_1 + (\rho_1 + \rho_2) \log a_3 - (\rho_1 + \rho_2) \log a_2 + \dots + (\rho_1 + \rho_2 + \dots + \rho_{N-1}) \log a_N - (\rho_1 + \dots + \rho_{N-1}) \log a_{N-1} + m \log R - m \log r_m \quad (m = k_1 + \dots + k_N)$$

$$= m \log R - (\rho_1 \log a_1 + \rho_2 \log a_2 + \dots + \rho_N \log a_N)$$

$$= \log \frac{R^m}{a_1^{\rho_1} a_2^{\rho_2} \dots a_N^{\rho_N}} = \log \frac{R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m}$$

If  $R = r_m$ , then  $\int_0^R \frac{n(t) dt}{t} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \int_{a_1}^{a_2 - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_1 dt}{t} + \int_{a_2}^{a_3 - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_2 dt}{t} + \dots + \int_{a_{N-1}}^{a_N - \epsilon} \frac{\rho_{N-1} dt}{t} \right]$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \rho_i (\log a_{i+1} - \log a_i) + \rho_N (\log R - \log r_m)$$

$$= \log \frac{R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m}$$

Thus in any case  $\int_0^R \frac{n(t)}{t} dt = \log \frac{R^m}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_m}$

So from Jensen's formula theorem we get

$$\log \int_0^R \frac{n(x)}{x} dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi - \log |f(0)|.$$

General Jensen Formula.

Theorem Let  $f$  have zeros at points  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  and poles at  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m$  inside the disc  $|z| \leq R$  and be analytic elsewhere inside and on the boundary of the disc. If  $f(0) \neq 0$ , then

$$\log |f(0)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi + \sum_{k=1}^m \log \frac{|a_k|}{R} - \sum_{j=1}^n \log \frac{|b_j|}{R}$$

The theory of  $n$ -f. depends largely on this formula. This formula is obtained from Poisson-Jensen's formula putting  $z=0$ .

If there is no pole then the formula reduces to ordinary Jensen's formula.

Ex Let  $f$  be regular and  $|f(z)| \leq M$  in  $|z| < R$  and suppose that  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Show that the number of zeros in the disc  $|z| \leq \delta R$  ( $0 < \delta < 1$ ) does not exceed  $\frac{1}{\log \frac{1}{\delta}} \log \frac{M}{|f(0)|}$ .

Soln Let the moduli of zeros of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq R$  be  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N$ . Then by Jensen's theorem

$$\log \frac{R^N}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_N} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi - \log |f(0)| \leq \log M - \log |f(0)| = \log \frac{M}{|f(0)|} \quad (1)$$

Let the moduli of zeros of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq \delta R$  ( $0 < \delta < 1$ ) be  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ . Then

$$\log \frac{R^n}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_n} \leq \log \frac{R^N}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_N} \quad \left[ \because \frac{R}{r_i} \geq 1 \text{ and } n \leq N \right]$$

$$\text{Now } \log \frac{R^n}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_n} \geq \log \left( \frac{1}{\delta} \right)^n \quad \left[ \because \frac{R}{r_i} \geq \frac{R}{\delta R} = \frac{1}{\delta} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, n; r_i \leq \delta R \right]$$

$$\text{Therefore } n \log \frac{1}{\delta} \leq \log \frac{R^N}{r_1 r_2 \dots r_N} \leq \log \frac{M}{|f(0)|}$$

$$\text{ies } n \leq \frac{\log \frac{M}{|f(0)|}}{\log \frac{1}{\delta}}$$

The Characteristic Function (Nevanlinna's Characteristic Function)

Let  $f$  be a meromorphic function and not constant in the complex plane with zeros and poles at the points  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  and  $b_1, b_2, \dots$  (other than 0) respectively, arranged in nondecreasing moduli.

Let  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  be the poles lying in  $|z| \leq R$ . We write  $n(t, f)$  for the number of poles of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq t$ , a pole of order  $p$  being counted  $p$ -times, and

$$N(R, f) = \sum_{j=1}^n \log \frac{R}{|b_j|} = \int_0^R \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt.$$

Since the poles of  $\frac{1}{f}$  are the zeros of  $f$ , if  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  are the zeros of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq R$  we get

$$N(R, \frac{1}{f}) = \sum_{k=1}^m \log \frac{R}{|a_k|} = \int_0^R \frac{n(t, \frac{1}{f})}{t} dt.$$

We ~~define~~ define  $\log^+ x = \log x$  if  $x \geq 1$   
 $= 0$  if  $0 < x < 1$ .

The following properties are obvious

1.  $\log^+ x \geq 0$  if  $x > 0$
2.  $\log^+ x \geq \log x$  if  $x > 0$
3.  $\log^+ x \geq \log^+ y$  if  $x \geq y$ .

1.  $\log x = \log^+ x - \log^+ \frac{1}{x}$  if  $x > 0$ .

Thus  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(Re^{i\theta})|} d\theta$ .

We write  $m(R, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta$ .

With these notations general Jensen's formula becomes

$$\log |f(0)| = (m(R, f) - m(R, \frac{1}{f})) + N(R, f) - N(R, \frac{1}{f}).$$

i.e.,  $m(R, f) + N(R, f) = m(R, \frac{1}{f}) + N(R, \frac{1}{f}) + \log |f(0)|$ , if  $f(0) \neq 0, \infty$ .

Now we put  $T(R, f) = m(R, f) + N(R, f)$ . Then general Jensen's formula becomes simply

$$T(R, f) = T(R, \frac{1}{f}) + \log |f(0)|, \dots \dots (1)$$

where  $f(0) \neq 0, \infty$ .

The function  $T(R, f)$  is called Nevanlinna's characteristic function of  $f$ .

Note-1 The formula (1) states that the characteristic functions of  $f$  and  $\frac{1}{f}$  differ by a constant.

Note-2 If  $f$  is an entire function  $N(R, f) = 0$  and

$$T(R, f) = m(R, f) \leq \log^+ M(R, f).$$

Note-3 Since  $m(R, f) \geq 0$   $T(R, f) \geq N(R, f) \geq 0$ , i.e.,  $T(R, f) \geq 0$ .

the function  $T(r, f)$  is a nonnegative real function.

Theorem If  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_p$  are meromorphic functions,

then

$$(1) m \left\{ r, \sum_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p m(r, f_\nu) + \log p.$$

$$m \left\{ r, \prod_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p m(r, f_\nu).$$

$$(2) N \left\{ r, \sum_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p N(r, f_\nu)$$

$$N \left\{ r, \prod_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p N(r, f_\nu).$$

$$(3) T \left\{ r, \sum_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p T(r, f_\nu) + \log p$$

$$T \left\{ r, \prod_{\nu=1}^p f_\nu \right\} \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p T(r, f_\nu).$$

To prove the above result we need the following lemma.

Lemma If  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p$  are any  $p (\geq 1)$  complex numbers.

then (i)  $\log^+ \left| \prod_{\nu=1}^p a_\nu \right| \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p \log^+ |a_\nu|$ ,

(ii)  $\log^+ \left| \sum_{\nu=1}^p a_\nu \right| \leq \log^+ \left( p \max_{1 \leq \nu \leq p} |a_\nu| \right)$   
 $\leq \sum_{\nu=1}^p \log^+ |a_\nu| + \log p.$

Proof If  $p=1$ , the result obviously holds. So we assume  $p > 1$ . In this case it is sufficient to prove the result for any two complex numbers.

Let  $a_1, a_2$  be any two complex numbers. We then have to consider the following cases.

Case I  $|a_1| \geq 1, |a_2| \geq 1.$

Then  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \}$   
 $= \log \{ |a_1| |a_2| \} = \log |a_1| + \log |a_2|$   
 $= \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|.$

Case II  $|a_1| \geq 1, |a_2| < 1.$

If  $|a_1| = 1$  and  $|a_2| < 1$  then  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \}$   
 $= 0 = \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|.$

Next if  $|a_1| > 1, |a_2| < 1$  then the following possibilities may occur: (i)  $|a_1| |a_2| > 1$ , (ii)  $|a_1| |a_2| < 1$ , (iii)  $|a_1| |a_2| = 1$

(i) If  $|a_1| |a_2| > 1$  then  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \}$   
 $= \log \{ |a_1| |a_2| \} = \log |a_1| + \log |a_2| < \log^+ |a_1|$   
 $= \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2| \quad [ \because \log^+ |a_2| = 0 ]$

(ii) If  $|a_1| |a_2| < 1$  then  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \} = 0$   
 $< \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2| \quad [ \because \log^+ |a_1| > 0 \text{ and } \log^+ |a_2| = 0 ]$ .

iii) If  $|a_1| |a_2| = 1$ ,  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \} = 0$   
 $< \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|$  [  $\because \log^+ |a_1| > 0$  and  $\log^+ |a_2| = 0$  ]  
 Thus in case II we get  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| \leq \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|$ .

Case III  $|a_1| < 1$ ,  $|a_2| \geq 1$ .

The same conclusion holds as in case II.

Case IV  $|a_1| < 1$  and  $|a_2| < 1$ .

Now,  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| = \log^+ \{ |a_1| |a_2| \} = 0 = \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|$

[  $\because \log^+ |a_1| = \log^+ |a_2| = 0$  ]

Considering all these cases together we conclude that  $\log^+ |a_1 a_2| \leq \log^+ |a_1| + \log^+ |a_2|$ , where  $a_1, a_2$  are any two complex numbers.

This proves the first part of the lemma.

Again  $\log^+ \left| \sum_{j=1}^p a_j \right| \leq \log^+ (|a_1| + |a_2| + \dots + |a_p|)$

$\leq \log^+ (p \max_{j=1,2,\dots,p} |a_j|)$

$\leq \log^+ p + \log^+ (\max_{j=1,2,\dots,p} |a_j|)$  (by the first part of the lemma)

$\leq \log^+ p + \sum_{j=1}^p \log^+ |a_j|$  [  $\because \log^+ \max_{j=1,2,\dots,p} |a_j|$  is one of the

terms of  $\sum_{j=1}^p \log^+ |a_j|$  ]

This proves the lemma.

Proof of (1) We get by definition

$$m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi.$$

$$\text{So, } m(r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \left| \prod_{j=1}^p f_j(re^{i\varphi}) \right| d\varphi$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^p \log^+ |f_j(re^{i\varphi})| + \log^+ p \right\} d\varphi$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f_j(re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ p d\varphi$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p m(r, f_j) + \log^+ p.$$

$$\text{Also } m(r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \left| \prod_{j=1}^p f_j(re^{i\varphi}) \right| d\varphi$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_{j=1}^p \log^+ |f_j(re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi \leq \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f_j(re^{i\varphi})| d\varphi$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p m(r, f_j).$$

Proof of (2) We get by definition

$$N(R, f) = \int_0^R \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt, \text{ where } n(t, f) \text{ is the number}$$

of poles of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq t$ .

Clearly if  $f$  is the sum or product of the  $f_j$  then the order of a pole of  $f$  at a point is at most equal to the sum of the orders

of the zeros of  $f_2$  at  $z_2$ . Thus it follows that

$$n(t, f) \leq \sum_{j=1}^p n(t, f_j).$$

So on integration we get

$$N\left\{r, \sum_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} \leq \sum_{j=1}^p N(r, f_j) \text{ and}$$

$$N\left\{r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} \leq \sum_{j=1}^p N(r, f_j).$$

Proof of (3)

We have by definition  $T(r, f) = m(r, f) + N(r, f)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } T\left\{r, \sum_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} &= m\left\{r, \sum_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} + N\left\{r, \sum_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^p m(r, f_j) + \sum_{j=1}^p N(r, f_j), \text{ by (1) and (2).} \\ &\quad + \log p. \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p T(r, f_j) + \log p.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also, } T\left\{r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} &= m\left\{r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} + N\left\{r, \prod_{j=1}^p f_j\right\} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^p m(r, f_j) + \sum_{j=1}^p N(r, f_j) = \sum_{j=1}^p T(r, f_j) \end{aligned}$$

Some deductions.

In particular taking  $p=2$  and  $f_1(z) = f(z)$ ,  $f_2(z) = a$ , a constant, in (3) we get

$$T(r, f(z)) \leq T(r, f) + T(r, a) + \log 2$$

$$= T(r, f) + \log^+ |a| + \log 2, \text{ because}$$

$$T(r, a) = m(r, a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |a| d\theta = \log^+ |a|$$

since we may replace  $f+a$ ,  $f$  by  $f$ ,  $f-a$  and  $a$  by  $-a$ , we get

$$T(r, f) \leq T(r, f-a) + \log^+ |a| + \log 2$$

$$\text{i.e., } T(r, f) - T(r, f-a) \leq \log^+ |a| + \log 2$$

$$\text{and } T(r, f-a) \leq T(r, f) + \log^+ |a| + \log 2$$

$$\text{i.e., } T(r, f-a) - T(r, f) \leq \log^+ |a| + \log 2.$$

So we obtain  $|T(r, f) - T(r, f-a)| \leq \log^+ |a| + \log 2$ .

Nevanlinna's first fundamental theorem.

Theorem Let  $f$  be a function meromorphic and not constant in the complex plane, and let  $a$  be any complex number. Then

$$m(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) + N(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) = T(R, f) - \log |f(0) - a| + \mathcal{E}(a, R),$$

where  $|\mathcal{E}(a, R)| \leq \log^+ |a| + \log 2$ .

Proof We get by definition and general Jensen's formula

$$m(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) + N(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) = T(R, \frac{1}{f-a})$$

$$= T(R, f-a) - \log |f(0) - a|$$

$$= T(R, f-a) - T(R, f) + T(R, f) - \log |f(z)-a| z +$$

Example Find  $T(r, f)$  of  $f(z) = \frac{1}{z-2}$ .

Soln He knows that  $m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \frac{1}{|re^{i\theta}-2|} d\theta$

Since  $\frac{1}{|re^{i\theta}-2|} \leq \frac{1}{r-2} \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , we get for all

large  $r$ ,  $\log^+ \frac{1}{|re^{i\theta}-2|} = 0$ . So  $m(r, f) = 0$  for all

large  $r$ . So in this case

$$N(r, f) = \int_0^r \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt = \int_0^2 \frac{0}{t} dt + \int_2^r \frac{1}{t} dt = \log \frac{r}{2} \quad (r > 2)$$

$$\text{Q. } T(r, f) = m(r, f) + N(r, f) = \log \frac{r}{2} \text{ for all large } r$$

$$= \log r + O(1) \text{ for all large } r$$

Ex If  $f$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ , prove that  $T(r, f) = O(n \log r)$ .

Soln Let  $f(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_n z^n$ ,  $a_n \neq 0$ .

Since  $f$  is an entire function  $N(r, f) = 0$ . Then

$$T(r, f) = m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |a_0 + a_1 r e^{i\theta} + a_2 r^2 e^{i2\theta} + \dots + a_n r^n e^{in\theta}| d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \left| r^n \left[ \frac{a_0}{r^n} e^{-in\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{n-1}} e^{-i(n-1)\theta} + \dots + a_n \right] \right| d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ r^n \left| \frac{a_0}{r^n} e^{-in\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{n-1}} e^{-i(n-1)\theta} + \dots + a_n \right| d\theta$$

Now  $\left| \frac{a_0}{r^n} e^{-in\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{n-1}} e^{-i(n-1)\theta} + \dots + a_n \right| < K$  for sufficiently large  $r$  and for all  $\theta$ , because

$$\left| \frac{a_0}{r^n} e^{-in\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{n-1}} e^{-i(n-1)\theta} + \dots + a_n \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{|a_0|}{r^n} + \frac{|a_1|}{r^{n-1}} + \dots + \frac{|a_{n-1}|}{r} + |a_n| \rightarrow |a_n| \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

From (1) we get for all sufficiently large values of

$$T(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ r^n \left| \frac{a_0}{r^n} e^{-in\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{n-1}} e^{-i(n-1)\theta} + \dots + a_n \right| d\theta$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ r^n \cdot K d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log r^n \cdot K d\theta$$

$$= n \log r + \log K = n \log r + O(1)$$

$$\text{i.e. } T(r, f) = O(n \log r)$$

Ex If  $f(z) = \frac{P(z)}{Q(z)}$ , where  $P(z)$  and  $Q(z)$  are polynomials of degree  $p$  and  $q$  respectively, prove that  $T(r, f) = O(d \log r)$ , where  $d = \max(p, q)$ .

Soln Let  $f(z) = \frac{a_0 + a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \dots + a_p z^p}{b_0 + b_1 z + b_2 z^2 + \dots + b_q z^q}$ ,  $a_p \neq 0, b_q \neq 0$

Now we consider the following cases.

Case I Let  $p > q$ .

Since  $a_0 + a_1 z + \dots + a_p z^p$  is a polynomial of degree  $p$ , by fundamental theorem of classical algebra, it has exactly  $p$  zeros. These zeros are poles of  $f$ . For sufficiently large  $r$  all these poles of  $f$  lie within  $|z| = r$ . So.

$$N(r, f) = \sum_{\nu=1}^q \log \frac{r}{|a_\nu|}, \text{ where } a_\nu \text{'s are poles of } f.$$

$$= \log \frac{r^q}{|a_1| |a_2| \dots |a_q|}$$

$$= q \log r - \log (|a_1| |a_2| \dots |a_q|)$$

$$= q \log r + O(1).$$

For  $z = re^{i\theta}$ ,

$$|f(z)| = \left| \frac{a_0 + a_1 r e^{i\theta} + a_2 r^2 e^{i2\theta} + \dots + a_p r^p e^{ip\theta}}{b_1 + b_2 r e^{i\theta} + b_3 r^2 e^{i2\theta} + \dots + b_q r^{q-1} e^{i(q-1)\theta}} \right|$$

$$= r^{p-q} \left| \frac{\frac{a_0}{r^p} e^{-ip\theta} + \frac{a_1}{r^{p-1}} e^{-i(p-1)\theta} + \dots + a_p}{\frac{b_1}{r^2} e^{-i2\theta} + \frac{b_2}{r} e^{-i(q-1)\theta} + \dots + b_q} \right|$$

$$\leq r^{p-q} \frac{\frac{|a_0|}{r^p} + \frac{|a_1|}{r^{p-1}} + \dots + |a_p|}{\left| |b_2| - \frac{|b_{q-1}|}{r} - \dots - \frac{|b_0|}{r^2} \right|}$$

$$\leq r^{p-2} \frac{|a_p| + 1}{|b_2| - 1}, \text{ for sufficiently large values}$$

of  $r$  because  $\frac{|a_0|}{r^p} + \frac{|a_1|}{r^{p-1}} + \dots + \frac{|a_{p-1}|}{r} \rightarrow 0$   
 and  $\frac{|b_0|}{r^2} + \frac{|b_1|}{r} + \dots + \frac{|b_{q-1}|}{r} \rightarrow 0$

$$= B r^{p-2}, \text{ where } B = \frac{|a_p| + 1}{|b_2| - 1}$$

For sufficiently large  $r$

$$T(r, f) = N(r, f) + m(r, f)$$

$$= q \log r + O(1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta$$

$$\leq q \log r + O(1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ B r^{p-2} d\theta$$

$$= q \log r + O(1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log B r^{p-2} d\theta$$

because  $B r^{p-2} \rightarrow \infty$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$

$$= p \log r + B - O(1) \cdot O(1) \checkmark$$

[i.e.  $T(r, f) - p \log r \leq B - O(1)$ .

So,  $\frac{T(r, f)}{p \log r} \leq 1 + \frac{B - O(1)}{p \log r}$ . Since

$1 + \frac{B - O(1)}{p \log r} \rightarrow 1$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows that for all large values of  $r$ ,  $1 + \frac{B - O(1)}{p \log r} \leq 2$

Therefore for all large values of  $r$ ,  $\frac{T(r, f)}{p \log r} \leq 2$

i.e.,  $T(r, f) = O(\log r) = O(p \log r)$

Case II Let  $p = 2$ .

From Case I we get for  $z = re^{i\theta}$   $|f(z)| \leq B$  for all sufficiently large values of  $r$ .  
So for all large values of  $r$

$$T(r, f) = N(r, f) + m(r, f) = 2 \log r + O(1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta$$

$$\leq 2 \log r + O(1) + \log B$$

[i.e.,  $\frac{T(r, f)}{2 \log r} \leq 1 + \frac{O(1) + \log B}{2 \log r}$ ]

Since  $\frac{O(1) + \log B}{2 \log r} \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows that for all large values of  $r$

$$\frac{T(r, f)}{2 \log r} \leq 2 \quad \text{i.e. } T(r, f) = O(2 \log r)$$

Case III Let  $p < 2$ ,  $\frac{1}{|f(z)|} \leq C r^{q-p}$ .

In this case calculating as in Case I we get for  $z = re^{i\theta}$

$$|f(z)| \leq B r^{p-2} < 1 \text{ for all sufficiently large values of } r, \text{ because } r^{p-2} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

Then for sufficiently large values of  $r$

$$T(r, f) = N(r, f) + m(r, f)$$

$$= 2 \log r + O(1) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta$$

$$= 2 \log r + O(1), \text{ since } |f(re^{i\theta})| < 1.$$

Remark Actually we can show that  $T(r, f) = d \log r + O(1)$ , where  $d = \max(p, 2)$ .

Case (III) Let  $q > p$ . Then calculating in the line of Case I, we see that  $\frac{1}{|f(z)|} \leq C r^{q-p}$  for all large values of  $r$   $\leftarrow$  because  $r^{p-2} \rightarrow 0$

Also if  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_p$  are the zeros of  $f$ , we get

$$N(r, \frac{1}{f}) = \sum_{\mu=1}^p \log \frac{r}{|b_\mu|} = p \log r + O(1).$$

So by the first fundamental theorem we get

$$T(r, f) = m(r, \frac{1}{f}) + N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + O(1)$$

$$= p \log r + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta + O(1)$$

$$\leq p \log r + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} C r^{q-p} d\theta + O(1)$$

$$= p \log r + O(1) \text{ for all large values of } r$$

because  $|f(re^{i\theta})|^{-1} < 1$ .

Case (2) If  $p=2$ , we see as in case (I) for  $z = re^{i\theta}$ ,  $|f(z)| \leq B$  for all large values of  $r$ .

$$\text{So, } m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \leq B \text{ for all large values of } r.$$

$$\text{i.e., } m(r, f) = O(1).$$

$$\text{So, } T(r, f) = m(r, f) + N(r, f) = 2 \log r + O(1).$$

Combining these cases with case (III) we get  $T(r, f) = d \log r + O(1)$ .

Ex: Find  $T(r, f)$  when  $f(z) = e^z$ .

Sol: Since  $f(z) = e^z$  is an integral function  $N(r, f) = 0$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) &= m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |e^{re^{i\theta}}| d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |e^{r \cos \theta} e^{i r \sin \theta}| d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ e^{r \cos \theta} d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \log^+ e^{r \cos \theta} d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} \log^+ e^{r \cos \theta} d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \log^+ e^{r \cos \theta} d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} \log^+ e^{r \cos \theta} d\theta, \text{ for} \end{aligned}$$

all sufficiently large  $r$ , because in  $0$  to  $\pi/2$  and in  $3\pi/2$  to  $2\pi$   $\cos \theta \geq 0$  and so  $e^{r \cos \theta} \geq 1$  but in  $\pi/2$  to  $3\pi/2$   $\cos \theta < 0$  and so  $e^{r \cos \theta} \leq 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} r \cos \theta d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{3\pi/2}^{2\pi} r \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{r}{2\pi} \left\{ [\sin \theta]_0^{\pi/2} + [\sin \theta]_{3\pi/2}^{2\pi} \right\} = \frac{r}{2\pi} [1+1] = \frac{r}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $T(r, f) = \frac{r}{\pi}$  for sufficiently large  $r$ .

Ex: Prove that (i)  $T(r, af+b) \leq T(r, f) + O(1)$

$$(ii) T\left(r, \frac{af+b}{cf+d}\right) = T(r, f) + O(1).$$

Where  $a, b, c, d$  are complex number with  $ad-bc \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sol: (i) } T(r, af+b) &\leq T(r, af) + T(r, b) + \log 2 \\ &\leq T(r, af) + \log^+ |b| + \log 2 \\ &\leq T(r, f) + \log^+ |a| + \log^+ |b| + \log 2 \\ &\leq T(r, f) + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (ii) T\left(r, \frac{af+b}{cf+d}\right) &= T\left(r, \frac{a}{c} + \frac{bc-ad}{c(cf+d)}\right) \quad (ad-bc \neq 0) \\ &= T\left(r, \frac{a}{c} + \frac{(bc-ad)/c}{f+d}\right) \\ &= T\left(r, \frac{a}{c} + \frac{k}{f+k'}\right) \quad \left[\frac{bc-ad}{c^2} = k \text{ and } \frac{d}{c} = k'\right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq T\left(n, \frac{f(z)}{z}\right) + O(1)$$

$$\leq T(n, f) + O(1) \quad ; \quad \text{by (1)}$$

Now let  $g = \frac{af+b}{cf+d}$ , then

$$T(n, g) \leq T(n, f) + O(1) \quad \dots (1)$$

Clearly  $f = \frac{dq-b}{-cq+d}$ ,  $ad \neq bc$ .

Thus as in above

$$T(n, f) \leq T(n, g) + O(1) \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{i.e. } T(n, g) \geq T(n, f) + O(1) \quad \dots (2)$$

From (1) & (2) we have

$$T\left(n, \frac{af+b}{cf+d}\right) = T(n, f) + O(1).$$

Theorem If  $f$  is regular for  $|z| \leq R$  and

$$M(r, f) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|, \text{ then}$$

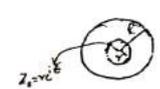
$$T(n, f) \leq \log^+ M(n, f) < \frac{R+r}{R-r} T(n, f) \quad 0 \leq r < R.$$

Proof Since  $f$  is regular for  $|z| \leq R$ ,  $N(r, f) = 0$  for  $0 \leq r < R$ . Thus  $T(n, f) = m(n, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta$

$$\leq \log^+ M(n, f).$$

Thus the first part of the inequality is proved.

To prove the second inequality we note that  $f$  is uniformly bounded for  $M(r, f) \leq 1$ . Suppose that  $M(r, f) > 1$  and choose  $z_0 = re^{i\theta}$  so that  $|f(z_0)| = M(r, f)$ . Since  $f$  has no poles in  $|z| \leq R$ , we have by P.J. formula

$$\begin{aligned} \log^+ M(r, f) &= \log |f(z_0)| \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{R^2 - r^2}{R^2 - 2rR\cos(\theta - \phi) + r^2} \log |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta \\ &\quad - \sum_{\mu=1}^m \log \left| \frac{R^2 - \bar{z}_\mu r}{R(z_0 - \bar{z}_\mu)} \right| \quad \dots (1) \end{aligned}$$


Now the function  $\phi(z) = \frac{R(z - z_\mu)}{R^2 - \bar{z}_\mu z}$  is regular in  $|z| \leq R$  and on  $|z| = R$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi(z)| &= \left| \frac{R e^{i\theta} - z_\mu}{R - \bar{z}_\mu e^{i\theta}} \right| \quad [ \because z = R e^{i\theta} ] \\ &= \left| \frac{R - \bar{z}_\mu e^{-i\theta}}{R - \bar{z}_\mu e^{i\theta}} \right| = \left| \frac{\alpha}{\bar{\alpha}} \right| = 1; \quad \alpha = R - \bar{z}_\mu e^{i\theta}. \end{aligned}$$

So by Max. modulus theorem  $|\phi(z)| < 1$ . Hence term of the form  $\log \left| \frac{R(z_0 - \bar{z}_\mu)}{R^2 - \bar{z}_\mu z_0} \right|$  is negative.

From (1) we get

$$\log^+ M(n, f) = \log |f(z_0)|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2 - r^2) \log |f(Re^{i\theta})|}{R^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \phi) + r^2} d\theta + \sum_{\mu=1}^m \log \left| \frac{R(z - a_\mu)}{R^2 - \bar{a}_\mu z} \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2 - r^2) \log |f(Re^{i\theta})|}{R^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \phi) + r^2} d\theta \dots (2)$$

Further  $R^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \phi) + r^2 \geq R^2 - 2rR + r^2 = (R-r)^2$

Then from (2) we get.

$$\log^+ M(r, f) \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{R^2 - r^2}{(R-r)^2} \log |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{R+r}{R-r} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta \quad [ \because \log x \leq \log^+ x ]$$

$$= \frac{R+r}{R-r} m(R, f) = \frac{R+r}{R-r} T(R, f), \quad 0 \leq r < R.$$

**Ex** Let  $f$  be a transcendental m.f. in the open complex plane. Show that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log r} = \infty$$

**Sol** We consider the following cases.

**Case I** Let  $f$  have no pole. Then by Cauchy's

inequality we get.

$$|f^{(n)}(0)| \leq \frac{M(r, f)}{r^n} \quad \text{for } n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\text{So, } \log M(r, f) \geq n \log r + \log \frac{|f^{(n)}(0)|}{L_n}$$

and hence  $\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{\log r} \geq n$  for  $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

Therefore  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{\log r} \geq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r, f)}{\log r} = \infty$

Since  $f$  is entire, we get

$$3T(2r, f) \geq \log^+ M(r, f)$$

$$\text{So, } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(2r, f)}{\log 2r} \geq \frac{1}{3} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{\log r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{\log 2r} = \infty.$$

**Case II** Let  $f$  have only a finite number of poles. Then we can write.

$$f(z) = \frac{g(z)}{p(z)},$$

where  $g$  is an entire function and  $p$  is a poly.

Since  $g(z) = f(z)p(z)$ , it follows that

$$T(r, g) \leq T(r, f) + T(r, p) = T(r, f) + O(\log r).$$

$$\text{Hence } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log r} + O(1) \geq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, g)}{\log r} = \infty.$$

$$\text{and so } \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log r} = \infty.$$

**Case III** Let  $f$  have infinitely many poles.

Then  $T(r, f) \geq N(r, f) = N(r, f) - N(r, f)$

$$= \int_0^r \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt - \int_0^{\sqrt{r}} \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt$$

$$= \int_{\sqrt{r}}^r \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt \geq \frac{1}{2} n(\sqrt{r}, f) \log r$$

[  $\because n(t, f)$  is nondecreasing and  $t \in [\sqrt{r}, r]$

$$n(t, f) \geq n(\sqrt{r}, f)$$

Therefore  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log r} = \infty$  because  $n(\sqrt{r}, f) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Cartan's Identity

If  $f$  is meromorphic in  $|z| < R$  then

$$T(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \log^+ |f(0)|, \quad 0 < r < R$$

This expression of  $T(r, f)$  by an integral is known as Cartan's identity.

Proof To prove the theorem we require the following lemma:

Lemma For any  $a$ :

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |a - e^{i\theta}| d\theta = \begin{cases} \log |a| & \text{if } |a| \geq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } |a| < 1 \end{cases}$$

$$= \log^+ |a|$$

### Proof of the lemma

Jensen's theorem applied to  $f(z) = a - z$  and  $r = 1$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |a - e^{i\theta}| d\theta = \log |a| \quad \text{if } |a| \geq 1$$

$$= \log |a| - \log |a| = 0 \quad \text{if } |a| < 1$$

### Proof of the Theorem

We apply general Jensen's formula to  $f(z) - e^{i\theta}$  ( $\theta$  is real) and obtain

$$\log |f(0) - e^{i\theta}| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\phi}) - e^{i\theta}| d\phi$$

$$-N(r, \frac{1}{f - e^{i\theta}}) + N(r, f - e^{i\theta})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\phi}) - e^{i\theta}| d\phi + N(r, \infty) - N(r, e^{i\theta}) \quad \rightarrow (1)$$

if  $f(0) \neq e^{i\theta}$ .

Now we divide by  $2\pi$  and integrate both sides (1) w.r.t.  $\theta$ . In the resulting repeated integral on the r.h.s. we can interchange the order of integrations. (This is permissible since the integrand is also integrand is a continuous function of  $\theta$  and  $\phi$ .) and obtain

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(z) - e^{i\theta}| d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\phi}) - e^{i\theta}| d\theta + N(r, \infty) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

So by the lemma we get

$$\log^+ |f(z)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\phi})| d\phi + N(r, \infty) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

So by the lemma we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log^+ |f(z)| &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\phi})| d\phi + N(r, \infty) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \\ &= m(r, f) + N(r, f - e^{i\theta}) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \\ &= m(r, f) + N(r, f) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \\ &= T(r, f) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta, \text{ because } N(r, f - e^{i\theta}) = N(r, f) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ie, } T(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \log^+ |f(z)|$$

This proves the theorem.

Corollary  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} m(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \leq \log 2$ .

Proof By Nevanlinna's first fundamental theorem

$$T(r, f) = m(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) + N(r, \frac{1}{f-a}) + \log |f(z) - a| - \varepsilon(r, \infty)$$

where  $|\varepsilon(r, \infty)| \leq \log^+ |a| + \log 2$ .

Putting  $a = e^{i\theta}$  and  $-\varepsilon(r, \infty) = Q(\theta)$  we get

$$T(r, f) = m(r, e^{i\theta}) + N(r, e^{i\theta}) + \log |f(z) - e^{i\theta}| + Q(\theta)$$

Integrating both sides w.r.t.  $\theta$  and using Cauchy's identity and the lemma we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} T(r, f) d\theta &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} m(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \\ &+ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(z) - e^{i\theta}| d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} Q(\theta) d\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ie, } T(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} m(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \log^+ |f(z)| + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} Q(\theta) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} m(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + T(r, f) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} Q(\theta) d\theta$$

$$\text{ie, } \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} m(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} Q(\theta) d\theta \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |Q(\theta)| d\theta \leq \log 2$$

\* If there is no doubt as which function  $f$  is referred to, it is convenient to write  $m(R, a)$ ,  $N(R, a)$ ,  $n(R, a)$ ,  $T(R)$  in stead of

$$m(R, \frac{1}{f-a}), N(R, \frac{1}{f-a}), n(R, \frac{1}{f-a}), T(R, d)$$

if  $a$  is finite and  $m(R, \infty)$ ,  $N(R, \infty)$ ,  $n(R, \infty)$  instead of  $m(R, f)$ ,  $N(R, f)$ ,  $n(R, f)$ . So.

$$m(R, a) = m(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(Re^{i\theta}) - a|} d\theta.$$

$$m(R, \infty) = m(R, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(Re^{i\theta})| d\theta.$$

$$N(R, a) = N(R, \frac{1}{f-a}) = \int_0^R \frac{n(t, \frac{1}{f-a})}{t} dt.$$

$$= \int_0^R \frac{n(t, a)}{t} dt.$$

$$N(R, \infty) = N(R, f) = \int_0^R \frac{n(t, f)}{t} dt, \text{ where } n(t, a)$$

denotes the number of roots of the eqn  $f(z) = a$  in  $|z| \leq t$  and  $n(t, \infty) = n(t, f)$  denotes the number of poles of  $f$  in  $|z| \leq t$ .

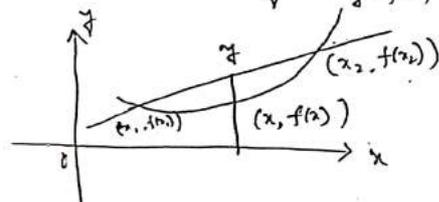
It is understood that in this defn a pole (or a-point) of multiplicity  $p$  is counted  $p$  times.

### Alternative form of Nevanlinna's first theorem

If we allow  $R$  to vary the first f.th can then be written simply as  $m(R, a) + N(R, a) = T(R) + O(1)$  for every finite or infinite.

Definition A function  $y = f(x)$  is called convex downward if for any two points  $(x_1, f(x_1))$  and  $(x_2, f(x_2))$  on the curve  $y = f(x)$  the chord joining these two points lies above the arc of the curve between the two points.

Sometimes a function which is convex downward is referred to as convex function. A sufficient condition for a real function  $\phi(x)$  to be a convex f<sub>2</sub> of  $x$  is that  $\phi''(x) > 0$  i.e.  $\phi'(x)$  is nondecreasing.



Theorem For any  $a$ ,  $N(r, a)$  is an increasing convex f<sup>n</sup> of  $\log r$ .

Proof Now for any  $a$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dN(r, a)}{d \log r} &= \frac{dN(r, a)}{dr} \cdot \frac{dr}{d \log r} \\ &= r \frac{dN(r, a)}{dr} \\ &= r \frac{d}{dr} \left[ \int_0^r \frac{n(t, a)}{t} dt \right] \\ &= r \frac{n(r, a)}{r} = n(r, a), \end{aligned}$$

which is a nondecreasing function.

So,  $N(r, a)$  is a convex function of  $\log r$ . Also

since  $\frac{dN(r, a)}{d \log r} = n(r, a) \geq 0$ , it follows that

$N(r, a)$  is an increasing function of  $\log r$ .

This proves the theorem.

Theorem  $T(r, f)$  is an increasing convex function of  $\log r$ .

Proof We see by Cartan's identity that

$$\frac{dT(r, f)}{d \log r} = r \frac{dT(r, f)}{dr} = r \frac{d}{dr} \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta + \log^+ |f_0| \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} r \frac{d}{dr} N(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} n(r, e^{i\theta}) d\theta = F(r) \text{ say,}$$

Now for  $r_1 > r_2$  we get  $n(r_1, e^{i\theta}) \geq n(r_2, e^{i\theta})$  for all  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ . So

$$F(r_1) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} n(r_1, e^{i\theta}) d\theta \geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} n(r_2, e^{i\theta}) d\theta = F(r_2).$$

Hence  $F(r)$  and so  $\frac{dT(r, f)}{d \log r}$  is a nonnegative and nondecreasing function. Therefore  $T(r, f)$  is an increasing convex function of  $\log r$ . This proves the theorem.

Note The f<sup>n</sup>  $n(r, f)$  is not necessarily increasing and convex.

### Order of Growth.

Let  $S(r)$  be a real valued and nonnegative increasing function for  $r_0 < r < \infty$ ,  $r_0 > 0$ . The order  $\rho$  and the lower order  $\lambda$  of the function  $S(r)$  are defined as

$$\rho = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S(r)}{\log r} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda = \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S(r)}{\log r}.$$

The order and the lower order of the function always satisfies the relation  $0 \leq \lambda \leq \rho \leq \infty$ .

When  $p = \infty$ ,  $S(r)$  is said to be of infinite order.

If  $0 < p < \infty$ , set  $c = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^p}$  and we distinguish the following possibilities:

- (a)  $S(r)$  has maximal type of order  $p$  if  $c = \infty$
- (b)  $S(r)$  has mean type of order  $p$  if  $0 < c < \infty$
- (c)  $S(r)$  has minimal type of order  $p$  if  $c = 0$
- (d)  $S(r)$  has convergence class of order  $p$  if  $\int_r^\infty \frac{S(t)}{t^{p+1}} dt$  converges.

It follows that if  $S(r)$  is of order  $p$  ( $0 < p < \infty$ )

then for each  $\epsilon > 0$

$$S(r) < r^{p+\epsilon} \text{ for all sufficiently large } r$$

$$\text{and } S(r) > r^{p-\epsilon} \text{ for a sequence of values of } r \text{ tending to } \infty.$$

It also follows that if  $S(r)$  is of lower order  $\lambda$  ( $0 < \lambda < \infty$ ) then for each  $\epsilon > 0$

$$S(r) > r^{\lambda-\epsilon} \text{ for all large values of } r$$

$$\text{and } S(r) < r^{\lambda+\epsilon} \text{ for a sequence of values of } r \text{ tending to } \infty.$$

Theorem If  $S(r)$  is of order  $p$  ( $0 < p < \infty$ ) and has convergence class then  $S(r)$  has minimal type of order  $p$ .

Proof Since  $S(r)$  is of convergence class, given  $\epsilon > 0$

there exists a number  $R = R(\epsilon)$  such that

$$\int_r^\infty \frac{S(t)}{t^{p+1}} dt < \epsilon \text{ whenever } r > R$$

$$\text{Then } \int_r^{2r} \frac{S(t)}{t^{p+1}} dt < \epsilon \text{ for } r > R$$

Since  $S(r)$  is an increasing function, we get

$$\frac{S(r)}{(2r)^{p+1}} (2r - r) \leq \int_r^{2r} \frac{S(t)}{t^{p+1}} dt$$

$$\text{and so } \frac{S(r)}{r^p} < 2^{p+1} \cdot \epsilon \text{ for } r > R$$

This implies that  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^p} = 0$  i.e.,

$S(r)$  has minimal type. This proves the theorem.

Remark The converse of this theorem is not true.

This means that a function of minimal type not always belong to the convergence class.

To clarify the situation let  $S(r) = r^{\lambda} (\log r)^{\lambda}$

Then order of  $S(r)$

$$p = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S(r)}{\log r}$$

$$= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lambda \log r + \lambda \log(\log r)}{\log r}$$

$$= \lambda.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Also } C &= \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^\lambda} \\
 &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r^\lambda (\log r)^\mu}{r^\lambda} \\
 &= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (\log r)^\mu = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } \mu > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \mu = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \mu < 0 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

So  $S(r)$  is of maximal type if  $\mu > 0$   
 $S(r)$  is of mean type if  $\mu = 0$   
and  $S(r)$  is of minimal type if  $\mu < 0$ .

Let  $-1 < \mu < 0$ . Then for  $r_0 > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(t)}{t^{\lambda+1}} dt &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_0}^R \frac{t^\lambda (\log t)^\mu}{t^{\lambda+1}} dt \\
 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{r_0}^R \frac{(\log t)^\mu}{t} dt \\
 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\log r_0}^{\log R} x^\mu, \text{ putting } x = \log t \\
 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{x^{\mu+1}}{\mu+1} \right]_{\log r_0}^{\log R}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\log R)^{\mu+1} - (\log r_0)^{\mu+1}}{\mu+1} = \infty \text{ because } \mu < -1$$

So for  $-1 < \mu < 0$  though  $S(r)$  is of minimal type is not of convergence class.

Theorem Let  $S(r)$  be of order  $\lambda$  ( $0 < \lambda < \infty$ ). If  $k' > k$  then  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  converges and if  $k' < k$  then  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  diverges.

Proof If  $S(r)$  is of order  $\lambda$  ( $0 < \lambda < \infty$ ) then given

$\epsilon > 0$  (i)  $S(r) < r^{k+\epsilon}$  for all large  $r$

(ii)  $S(r) > r^{k-\epsilon}$  for a sequence of values of  $r$

Suppose that  $0 < k < k'$ . We put  $k' = k + 2\epsilon$ . Then from

(i) we get

$$\frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} < \frac{1}{r^{1+\epsilon}} \text{ for all large values of } r.$$

Since  $\epsilon > 0$ , it follows that  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  converges

if  $k' > k$  because  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{dr}{r^{1+\epsilon}} < \infty$ .

For the second part first we suppose that  $0 < k' < k < \infty$ . Now from (ii) we get  $S(r) > r^{k-\epsilon}$  for

a sequence of values of  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

Putting  $k' = k - \epsilon$  we obtain  $S(r) > r^{k'}$  i.e.,

$$\frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} > \frac{1}{r} \text{ for a sequence of values of } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

Under this condition the integral  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  diverges. For, if it were convergent then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'}} = 0 \quad (0 < k' < \infty) \text{ and so for all}$$

$$\text{large } r, S(r) < r^{k'} \text{ i.e., } \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} < \frac{1}{r} \text{ which}$$

contradicts the fact that  $\frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} > \frac{1}{r}$  for

a sequence of values of  $r$  tending to infinity

So it follows that  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  diverges when

$$k' < k, 0 < k' < \infty.$$

Next let  $k' \leq 0$  ( $k' \neq -\infty$ ). Since  $S(r) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , we have for all large  $r$ ,  $S(r) \geq 1$  and

$$\text{so } \frac{S(r)}{r} \geq \frac{1}{r} \text{ for all large } r.$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} \geq \frac{S(r)}{r} \geq \frac{1}{r} \quad (\because k' \leq 0) \text{ for all large } r.$$

Hence,  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  diverges when  $k' \leq 0$

because  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{dr}{r} = \infty$ .

Finally let  $k' = -\infty$ . Then  $\frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} > \frac{1}{r}$  for all  $r$

and hence  $\int_{r_0}^{\infty} \frac{S(r)}{r^{k'+1}} dr$  diverges in this case

also. This proves the theorem.

Theorem If  $f$  is an entire function, then the functions

$$S_1(r) = \log^+ M(r, f) \text{ and } S_2(r) = T(r, f) \text{ have the same}$$

order. Further if the value of the common order

be  $k$  ( $0 < k < \infty$ ),  $S_1(r)$  and  $S_2(r)$  are together minimal

type, mean type, maximal type or convergence class.

Proof Let the orders of  $S_1(r)$  and  $S_2(r)$  be  $k_1$

and  $k_2$  respectively. We shall show that  $k_1 = k_2$ .

$$\text{Setting } R = 2r \text{ in } T(r, f) \leq \log^+ M(R, f) \leq \frac{R+r}{R-r} T(R, f)$$

$$\text{we get } T(r, f) \leq \log^+ M(R, f) \leq 3T(R, f)$$

$$\text{i.e., } S_2(r) \leq S_1(r) \leq 3S_2(2r) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

First we suppose that both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are finite. From

the first inequality of (1) we get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_2(r)}{\log r} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_1(r)}{\log r}$$

$$\text{i.e., } k_2 \leq k_1 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Again from the second inequality of (1) we get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_1(r)}{\log r} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log 3 + \log S_2(2r)}{\log r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. } k_1 &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_2(2r)}{\log 2r - \log 2} \\ &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_2(2r)}{\log 2r} \cdot \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\log 2}{\log 2r}} \\ &= k_2 \dots \dots (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (2) and (3) we therefore have  $k_1 = k_2$  when  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are both finite.

We next show that if the order of one of the functions is infinite so is the other.

We get from (1)  $S_2(r) \leq S_1(r)$  so that if  $k_2 = +\infty$  then  $k_1 = +\infty$ .

Again from (1) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\log S_1(r)}{\log r} &\leq \frac{\log 3 + \log S_2(2r)}{\log r} \\ &= O(1) + \frac{\log S_2(2r)}{\log 2r} \left(1 + \frac{\log 2}{\log 2r}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_1(r)}{\log r} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log S_2(2r)}{\log 2r}$$

and this shows that if  $k_1 = +\infty$  then  $k_2 = +\infty$ . This proves the first part of the theorem.

Suppose for instance that  $S_2(r)$  has convergence class of order  $k$ . We now show that  $S_1(r)$  has also convergence class of order  $k$ . We get from (1)

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^{k+1}} dr &\leq 3 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{S_2(2r)}{r^{k+1}} dr \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^k \int_{2\infty}^{\infty} \frac{S_2(t)}{t^{k+1}} dt \quad [\text{putting } t=2r] \\ &\leq 3 \cdot 2^k \int_0^{\infty} \frac{S_2(t)}{t^{k+1}} dt < \infty \quad (0 < k < \infty). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $S_1(r)$  has convergence class of order  $k$ .

Conversely if  $S_1(r)$  has a convergence class of order  $k$  so has  $S_2(r)$  because  $S_2(r) \leq S_1(r)$ .

Let  $S_1(r)$  be of minimal type. Then

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = 0 \quad (0 < k < \infty). \text{ Hence}$$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = 0 \quad [ \because S_2(r) \leq S_1(r) ]$$

So  $S_2(r)$  is of minimal type.

Conversely let  $S_2(r)$  be of minimal type.  
Then  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} = 0$ . Now from (1) we get

$$\frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \leq \frac{3S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} \cdot 2^k \text{ so that}$$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \leq 3 \cdot 2^k \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} = 0.$$

So  $S_1(r)$  is of minimal type.

Let  $S_1(r)$  be of maximal type of order  $k$ .

Then  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = \infty$ . Now from (1) we get

$$\frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \leq 3 \cdot 2^k \frac{S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} \geq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^k} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} \geq \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2^k} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = \infty$$

So  $S_2(r)$  is of maximal type.

Let  $S_2(r)$  be of maximal type. Then

$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} = \infty$ . Since  $S_2(r) \leq S_1(r)$ , it follows

$$\text{that } \infty = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k}$$

So  $S_1(r)$  is of maximal type.

Finally we suppose that  $S_1(r)$  is of mean type.

Then  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = l$ , say,  $0 < l < \infty$ .

Then  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} = l < \infty$

$$\text{Again } 0 < l = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3S_2(2r)}{r^k} \\ = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} \cdot 2^k$$

$$\text{i.e., } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} \geq \frac{l}{3 \cdot 2^k} > 0$$

Hence  $0 < \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} < \infty$  and so  $S_2(r)$  is

mean type.

Next suppose that  $S_2(r)$  is of mean type. Then

$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} = m$ ,  $0 < m < \infty$ . So

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_2(r)}{r^k} = m > 0$$

$$\text{and } \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} \leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3S_2(2r)}{(2r)^k} \cdot 2^k = 3 \cdot 2^k m < \infty$$

Hence  $0 < \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S_1(r)}{r^k} < \infty$  and hence  $S_1(r)$  is of mean type.

Order of a meromorphic function

Let  $f$  be a nonconstant meromorphic function in the open complex plane. The function  $f$  is said to have order  $\rho$ , maximal, mean or minimal type or convergence class if the characteristic function  $T(r, f)$  has this property.

It may be noted that for integral function this coincide by the preceding theorem with the corresponding definitions in terms of  $\log^+ M(r, f)$ .

Accordingly a meromorphic function  $f$  is said to be of order  $\rho$  if  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log r} = \rho$ .

Accordingly a meromorphic function  $f$  is said to be of order  $\rho$  if  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log r} = \rho$ .

This implies for  $\epsilon(>0)$  that  $T(r, f) < r^{\rho+\epsilon}$  for all large  $r$  and  $T(r, f) > r^{\rho-\epsilon}$  for a sequence of values of  $r$  tending to infinity.

Theorem If  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  be the orders of the meromorphic functions  $f_1(z)$  and  $f_2(z)$  respectively, then

(i) order of  $f_1 \pm f_2 \leq \max(\rho_1, \rho_2)$ .

(ii) order of  $f_1 f_2 \leq \max(\rho_1, \rho_2)$ .

The same also holds for the quotient  $f_1/f_2$  Proof since  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are of orders  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  we get for  $\epsilon(>0)$  and for all large values of  $r$

$$T(r, f_1) < r^{\rho_1+\epsilon} \text{ and } T(r, f_2) < r^{\rho_2+\epsilon}$$

let  $\rho = \max(\rho_1, \rho_2)$ . Then for all large values of  $r$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f_1 \pm f_2) &\leq T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) + O(1) \\ &< r^{\rho_1+\epsilon} + r^{\rho_2+\epsilon} + O(1) \\ &\leq r^{\rho+\epsilon} + r^{\rho+\epsilon} + r^{\rho+\epsilon} = 3r^{\rho+\epsilon} \end{aligned}$$

So  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f_1 \pm f_2)}{\log r} \leq \rho + \epsilon$ . since

$\epsilon(>0)$  is arbitrary, it follows that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f_1 \pm f_2)}{\log r} \leq \rho.$$

Hence the order of  $f_1 \pm f_2 \leq \rho = \max(\rho_1, \rho_2)$ .

Again  $T(r, f_1 f_2) \leq T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2)$   
 $< r^{\rho_1+\epsilon} + r^{\rho_2+\epsilon} \leq 2r^{\rho+\epsilon}$ .

So  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f_1 f_2)}{\log r} \leq \rho + \epsilon$ . since  $\epsilon(>0)$

is arbitrary, it follows that

$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f, t_1)}{\log r} \leq p$ . Hence the order of  $f, t_2 \leq p = \max(p_1, p_2)$ .

$$\text{Also } T(r, f_1/f_2) \leq T(r, f_1) + T(r, 1/f_2) = T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) + O(1)$$

By the first fundamental theorem. So in a similar way we can prove that the order of  $f_1/f_2 \leq p = \max(p_1, p_2)$ . This proves the theorem.

Note Let  $p$  be the order of  $f = f_1/f_2$  and  $p_1 > p_2$ . Then  $p \leq p_1$ , while on the other hand  $f_1 = f f_2$  so that  $p_1 \leq \max\{p, p_2\}$ . Hence  $p = p_1$ . Thus the order of the product of two meromorphic functions  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  of orders  $p_1, p_2$  respectively is less than or equal to  $\max(p_1, p_2)$  and equality holds provided  $p_1 \neq p_2$ .

Similar is the situation for other cases.

Example Determine the order of  $\frac{1}{z-1}$ .

Sol In this case  $T(r, f) = 2 \log r + O(1)$  for all large values of  $r$ . Let  $p$  be the order of  $f$ . Then  $p = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, f)}{\log r}$

$$= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log (2 \log r + O(1))}{\log r} = 0.$$

Note In general if  $f$  is a rational function then  $T(r, f) = O(\log r)$ . So the order  $p$  is

$$p = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log (O(\log r))}{\log r} = 0.$$

Thus the order of a rational function is zero. In particular, the order of a polynomial is zero.

Theorem Let  $f$  be of order  $p$  and  $\varepsilon (> 0)$ . Then for every  $a$  (i)  $m(r, a) = O(r^{p+\varepsilon})$ , (ii)  $N(r, a) = O(r^{p+\varepsilon})$ , (iii)  $n(r, a) = O(r^{p+\varepsilon})$  and (iv) The series  $\sum_n \left(\frac{1}{r_n(a)}\right)^{p+\varepsilon}$  is convergent, where  $r_1(a), r_2(a), \dots, r_n(a), \dots$  are the moduli of the zeros of  $f(z) - a$ , ordered by increasing magnitude.

Proof Since  $f$  is of order  $p$  we have by def  $T(r, f) = O(r^{p+\varepsilon})$  for every  $\varepsilon (> 0)$  but not for  $\varepsilon (< 0)$ , and for all sufficiently large  $r$ .

From the first fundamental theorem we get  $m(r, a) + N(r, a) = T(r, f) + O(1)$ . Since

$m(r, a) \leq T(r, f) + O(1)$  and  $N(r, a) \leq T(r, f) + O(1)$   
 for every  $a$ , the results (i) and (ii) follow immediately.

From (ii) we get  $N(r, a) < Ar^{1-\epsilon}$  ( $\epsilon > 0$ ) for all sufficiently large  $r$  and  $A$  is a constant.

Since  $n(r, a)$  is a nondecreasing function, we get

$$\int_0^{2r} \frac{n(t, a)}{t} dt \leq \int_0^{2r} \frac{n(t, a)}{t} dt = N(2r, a) \text{ and}$$

$$\int_0^{2r} \frac{n(t, a)}{t} dt \geq n(r, a) \int_0^{2r} \frac{dt}{t} = n(r, a) \cdot \log 2.$$

Hence  $n(r, a) \log 2 \leq N(2r, a) < A(2r)^{1-\epsilon}$  so that  $n(r, a) = O(r^{1-\epsilon})$ . This proves (iii).

Now we shall show that  $\sum_n \{r_n(a)\}^{-\alpha}$  is convergent if  $\alpha > p$ .

Let  $\beta$  be a number such that  $p < \beta < \alpha$ .

Then by (iii) we get  $n(r, a) < Kr^\beta$  for all sufficiently large  $r$ .

Putting  $r = r_n(a)$  we get  $n \leq K \{r_n(a)\}^\beta$  because  $n(r_n(a), a) = n$ .

So  $\{r_n(a)\}^{-\alpha} < K' n^{-\alpha/\beta}$ , where  $K' = K^{1/\beta}$ .

Since  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} > 1$ , it follows by comparison test that  $\sum_n \{r_n(a)\}^{-\alpha}$  converges if  $\alpha > p$ . This proves the result.

Note-1 The result shows that for every  $a$  the order of each of  $m(r, a)$ ,  $N(r, a)$ ,  $n(r, a)$  is at most equal to the order of the given meromorphic function.

Ex Show that every polynomial is of order zero.

Soln Let  $f(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ ,  $a_n \neq 0$ . Let

$$|z| = r > 1. \text{ Then } |f(z)| \leq |a_n| r^n + |a_{n-1}| r^{n-1} + |a_{n-2}| r^{n-2} + \dots + |a_0| r + |a_0|.$$

$$\leq r^n [ |a_n| + |a_{n-1}| + \dots + |a_0| + |a_0| ]$$

$$= Kr^n \text{ where } K = |a_n| + |a_{n-1}| + \dots + |a_0|.$$

So  $M(r) \leq Kr^n$ . i.e.,  $\log M(r) \leq \log K + n \log r$

$$\text{So } \rho = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r)}{\log r} \leq \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log [ \log K + n \log r ]}{\log r}$$

$$= \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log [ n \log r \left( \frac{\log K}{n \log r} + 1 \right) ]}{\log r}$$

$$= \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log n + \log \log r + \log \left( \frac{\log K}{n \log r} + 1 \right)}{\log r} = 0.$$

Ex Find the order of  $e^{z^n}$ , where  $n$  is a +ve integer.

Sol We have  $M(r) = \max_{|z|=r} |e^{z^n}| = \max_{\theta} |e^{r^n(\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)}|$   
 $= \max_{\theta} |e^{r^n \cos n\theta} \times e^{i r^n \sin n\theta}| = \max_{\theta} |e^{r^n \cos n\theta}| = e^{r^n}$

So,  $\log M(r) = r^n$ . Hence  $\rho = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r)}{\log r}$   
 $= \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n \log r}{\log r} = n$ .

Hence the order of  $e^{z^n}$  is  $n$ .

Ex Find the order of  $e^{e^z}$ .

Sol We have  $M(r) = \max_{|z|=r} |e^{e^z}| = \max_{\theta} |e^{e^{r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)}}|$   
 $= \max_{\theta} |e^{e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta) + i e^{r \cos \theta} \sin(r \sin \theta)}|$

$= \max_{\theta} |e^{e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta)} + i e^{e^{r \cos \theta} \sin(r \sin \theta)}|$

$= \max_{\theta} |e^{e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta)} \times e^{i e^{r \cos \theta} \sin(r \sin \theta)}|$

$= \max_{\theta} |e^{e^{r \cos \theta} \cos(r \sin \theta)}| = e^{e^r}$ . So  $\log M(r) = e^r$

Hence,  $\rho = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r)}{\log r} = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r}{\log r} = \infty$ .

Comparative growth of  $T(r)$  and  $\log M(r)$ .

Let  $f$  be an integral function of order  $k$  ( $0 < k < \infty$ ).

Let  $c_1 = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{r^k}$ ,  $c_2 = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{r^k}$ .

It is to be noted that although for an integral function  $f$ ,  $c_1, c_2$  are together zero, finite or infinite, they need not have the same value. For example if  $f(z) = e^z$ , we see that  $T(r, f) = \frac{r}{\pi}$  and  $\log M(r, f) = r$  and  $k=1$  so that  $c_1 = \frac{1}{\pi}$  and  $c_2 = 1$ .

Since  $T(r, f) \leq \log^+ M(r, f)$ , we get  $c_1 \leq c_2$ .

It is known that

$T(r, f) \leq \log^+ M(r, f) \leq \frac{R+r}{R-r} T(R, f)$  ( $0 \leq r < R$ ), when

$f$  is regular in  $|z| \leq R$ .

Setting  $R = r(1 + \frac{1}{k})$  in the above result we get

$T(r, f) \leq \log^+ M(r, f) \leq \frac{r(2 + \frac{1}{k})}{r/k} T(r(1 + \frac{1}{k}), f)$ .

Since  $c_1 = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{r^k}$ ; if  $c_1$  is finite for given

$\epsilon > 0$

$T(r, f) < (c_1 + \epsilon)r^k$  for all sufficiently large  $r$

Then from above we get

$$\log^+ M(r, f) < \frac{(2+\frac{1}{k})}{k} (c_1 + \epsilon) \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k r^k$$

$$\frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{r^k} < (2k+1) (c_1 + \epsilon) \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k, \text{ for all large } r.$$

$$c_2 = \overline{\lim}_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^+ M(r, f)}{r^k} \leq (2k+1) (c_1 + \epsilon) \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k$$

$$\leq c_1 (2k+1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k \quad [\because \epsilon(\epsilon) \text{ is arbitrary}]$$

$$< e (2k+1) c_1 \quad [ \because \left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^k < e ]$$

For  $f(z) = e^z$  show that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log M(r, f)} = 0$

For  $z = re^{i\theta}$  we get

$$|f(re^{i\theta})| = \left| e^{r(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)} \right|$$

$$= \left| e^{r\cos\theta} \cdot e^{ir\sin\theta} \right|$$

$$\leq e^{r\cos\theta}$$

$$= e^{r\cos\theta}$$

and so  $\log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| \leq r\cos\theta$

Now  $f(z)$  having an integral for all  $r$  we have

$$T(r, f) = m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \text{ and}$$

$$\text{so } T(r, f) = m(r, f) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta \text{ and}$$

$$\text{so } T(r, f) \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} e^{r\cos\theta} d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{r\cos\theta} d\theta + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\pi}^{2\pi} e^{r\cos\theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{r\cos\theta} d\theta \quad [\text{Putting } \psi = \theta - 2\pi \text{ in the second integral}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{r\cos\theta} d\theta \quad [ \because \text{the integrand is an even f.} ]$$

$$= \frac{e^r}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-r(1-\cos\theta)} d\theta$$

By Jordan inequality we see that

$$1 - \cos\theta = 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \geq \frac{2\theta^2}{\pi^2} \quad (\because 0 \leq \frac{\theta}{2} \leq \frac{\pi}{2})$$

[J. inequality For  $0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$   $\frac{2\theta}{\pi} \leq \sin\theta \leq \theta$ ]

$$\text{Thus } T(r, f) \leq \frac{e^r}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-\frac{2r\theta^2}{\pi^2}} d\theta$$

$$\leq \frac{e^r}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} e^{-\frac{2r\theta^2}{\pi^2}} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{e^r}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\pi^3}{8r}} \quad [ \because \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} ]$$

$$= e^{\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{8\gamma}} \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Also } M(r, f) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)| = e^{\gamma r}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log M(r, f) = \gamma r \dots (2)$$

So from (1) & (2) we get

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log M(r, f)} \leq \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{8r}} = 0$$

### The Second Fundamental Theorem of Nevanlinna.

The Suppose that  $f$  is a non-constant m.f. in  $|z| \leq R$ . Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q$  ( $q \geq 2$ ) be distinct finite complex numbers,  $|a_\mu - a_\nu| \geq \delta$  ( $1 \leq \mu < \nu \leq q$ ) for some  $\delta > 0$ . Then for  $0 < r < R$ :

$$m(r, \infty) + \sum_{\nu=1}^q m(r, a_\nu) \leq 2T(r, f) - N_1(r) + S(r, f) \dots (1)$$

$$\text{where } N_1(r) = N(r, \frac{1}{f}) + 2N(r, f) - N(r, f')$$

$$\text{and } S(r, f) = m(r, \frac{f'}{f}) + m\left\{r, \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{f'}{f-a_\nu}\right\}$$

$$+ q \log \frac{3q}{8} + \log 2 + \log \frac{1}{|f'(0)|}$$

it being assumed that  $f(0) \neq 0$ , so and  $f'(0) \neq 0$ .

$$\text{Proof} \text{ Suppose that } F(z) = \sum_{\nu=1}^q \frac{1}{f(z) - a_\nu}$$

Let for some  $\nu$  ( $\nu=1, 2, \dots, q$ ), if there is any

$$|f(z) - a_\nu| < \frac{\delta}{3q} \quad (z \text{ is temporarily fixed on } |z|=r)$$

Then for  $\mu \neq \nu$

$$|f(z) - a_\mu| = |(a_\nu - a_\mu) - (a_\nu - f(z))|$$

$$\geq |a_\mu - a_\nu| - |f(z) - a_\nu|$$

$$> \delta - \frac{\delta}{3q} \quad [ \because |f(z) - a_\nu| < \frac{\delta}{3q} ]$$

$$> \delta - \frac{\delta}{3} \quad [ \because q \geq 2 ]$$

$$= \frac{2\delta}{3} \dots (2)$$

Therefore, for  $\mu \neq \nu$

$$\frac{1}{|f(z) - a_\mu|} < \frac{3}{2\delta} < \frac{1}{2q} \left\{ \frac{1}{|f(z) - a_\nu|} \right\} \dots (3)$$

$$[ \because q |f(z) - a_\nu| < \frac{\delta}{3} ]$$

$$\text{Again } |F(z)| = \left| \frac{1}{f(z) - a_\nu} + \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \frac{1}{f(z) - a_\mu} \right|$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{|f(z) - a_\nu|} - \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \frac{1}{|f(z) - a_\mu|}$$

$$> \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|} - \frac{q-1}{2q} \cdot \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|} \quad [\text{by (3)}]$$

$$= \left\{ 1 - \frac{q-1}{2q} \right\} \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|}$$

$$> \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|} \quad \left[ \because \frac{q+1}{2q} > \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$\text{i.e., } 2|F(z)| \geq \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log^+ (2|F(z)|) \geq \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log^+ 2 + \log^+ |F(z)| \geq \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log^+ 2 + \log^+ |F(z)| \geq \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log^+ |F(z)| \geq \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\nu|} - \log^+ 2$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log^+ |F(z)| \geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - \sum_{\mu \neq \nu} \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - \log^+ 2$$

$$\text{Since } |f(z)-a_\mu| \geq \frac{2\delta}{3} > \frac{\delta}{2} \text{ for } \mu \neq \nu,$$

$$\log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} \leq \log^+ \frac{2}{\delta} \text{ for } \mu \neq \nu.$$

$$\text{So, } \log^+ |F(z)| \geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - \log^+ 2 - (q-1) \log^+ \frac{2}{\delta}$$

$$\geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - q \log^+ \frac{2}{\delta} - \log^+ 2$$

$$\geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - q \log^+ \frac{3\delta}{\delta} - \log^+ 2$$

..... (4)

This is true if  $|f(z)-a_\nu| < \frac{\delta}{2}$  for some  $\nu \leq q$ .

This inequality is true evidently for at most one  $\nu$ . If it is not true for any value of  $\nu$

then  $|f(z)-a_\mu| \geq \frac{\delta}{3q}$  i.e.  $\frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} \leq \frac{3q}{\delta}$  for

$\mu=1, 2, \dots, q$ .

Therefore,  $\sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} \leq q \log^+ \frac{3q}{\delta}$  so that

$$\sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - q \log^+ \frac{3\delta}{\delta} - \log^+ 2 \leq 0$$

Therefore,

$$\log^+ |F(z)| \geq \sum_{\mu=1}^q \log^+ \frac{1}{|f(z)-a_\mu|} - q \log^+ \frac{3\delta}{\delta} - \log^+ 2$$

$$[\log^+ |F(z)| \geq 0]$$

So inequality (6) holds in all cases. Integrating we deduce

$$m(r, F) \geq \sum_{k=1}^q m(r, a_k) - q \log^+ \frac{3r}{5} - \log 2 \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Again } \lambda(r, F) = m\left(r, \frac{1}{f} \cdot \frac{f}{f'} \cdot f' F\right)$$

$$\leq m\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{f}{f'}\right) + m(r, f'F)$$

Also we get by general Jensen's formula

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

$$\text{So } T\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) = T\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

$$\text{i.e. } m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) = m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f}{f'}\right)$$

$$+ \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

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

Hence we get

$$m(r, F) \leq T(r, f) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \log \frac{1}{|f(0)|} + m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right)$$

$$+ N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right| + m(r, f'F) \quad (6)$$

Combining (5) and (6) we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^q m(r, a_k) + m(r, \infty) \leq m(r, F) + m(r, f) + 2 \log^+ \frac{3r}{5} + \log 2$$

$$\leq T(r, f) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \log \frac{1}{|f(0)|} + m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right)$$

$$+ N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

$$+ m(r, f'F) + m(r, f) + 2 \log^+ \frac{3r}{5} + \log 2$$

$$= T(r, f) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \log \frac{1}{|f(0)|} + m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right)$$

$$- N\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) + \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right| + m(r, f'F) + T(r, f) - N(r, f)$$

$$+ 2 \log^+ \frac{3r}{5} + \log 2 \quad (7)$$

Again by Jensen's formula

$$N\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{f}{f'}\right) = m\left(r, \frac{f'}{f}\right) - m\left(r, \frac{f}{f'}\right) - \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left\{ \log^+ \left| \frac{f(re^{i\theta})}{f'(re^{i\theta})} \right| - \log^+ \left| \frac{f'(re^{i\theta})}{f(re^{i\theta})} \right| \right\} d\theta - \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log \left| \frac{f(re^{i\theta})}{f'(re^{i\theta})} \right| d\theta - \log \left| \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(re^{i\theta})| d\theta - \log |f(0)| - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f'(re^{i\theta})| d\theta + \log |f'(0)|$$

$$\left\{ m(r, f) - m\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) - \log |f'(z_0)| \right\} - \left\{ m(r, f') - m\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) - \log |f'(z_0)| \right\}$$

$$\left\{ N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) - N(r, f) \right\} + \left\{ N(r, f') - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) \right\} \dots \dots (8)$$

From (7) and (8) we get.

$$\sum_{\mu=1}^q m(r, a_\mu) + m(r, \infty) \leq T(r, f) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + \log \left| \frac{1}{f'(z_0)} \right|$$

$$+ m\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) - N(r, f) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right)$$

$$+ \log \left| \frac{f'(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right| + m(r, f') + T(r, f) - N(r, f) + q \log \frac{3q}{8}$$

$$+ \log 2$$

$$= 2T(r, f) - \left\{ 2N(r, f) - N\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{f'}\right) \right\}$$

$$+ m\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + m(r, f') + q \log \frac{3q}{8} + \log 2$$

$$+ \log \left| \frac{1}{f'(z_0)} \right| = 2T(r, f) - N_1(r) + S(r, f)$$

$$\therefore \sum_{\mu=1}^q m(r, a_\mu) + m(r, \infty) \leq 2T(r, f) - N_1(r) + S(r, f)$$

This proves the theorem.

Estimation of  $S(r, f)$

Theorem Suppose that  $f$  is meromorphic and

not constant in  $|z| \leq R_0 < +\infty$  and  $S(r, f)$  is defined as in the previous theorem.

Then (1) if  $R_0 = +\infty$

$S(r, f) = O\left\{ \log T(r, f) \right\} + O(\log r)$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  through all values of  $r$  if  $f$  is of finite order as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  outside a set  $E$  of values of  $r$  of finite linear measure, otherwise

(2) if  $0 < R_0 < \infty$

$S(r, f) = O\left\{ \log T(r, f) + \log \frac{1}{R_0 - r} \right\}$  as  $r \rightarrow R_0$  outside a set  $E$  such that  $\int_E \frac{dr}{R_0 - r} < \infty$

Further there is a point  $r$  outside  $E$  for which  $\rho < r < \rho'$  provided that  $0 < R_0 - \rho' < e^{-2} (R_0 - \rho)$ .

Neuman's Theorem of deficient values.

By the first fundamental theorem we get for a meromorphic function  $f$

$$m(r, a) + N(r, a) = T(r, f) + O(1)$$

for any complex number  $a$  and as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$\text{The set } \delta(a) = \delta(a, f) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, a)}{T(r, f)}$$

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

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

$$\theta(a) = \theta(a; f) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, a) - \bar{N}(r, a)}{T(r, f)}, \text{ where}$$

$N(r, a)$  is the counting function of distinct  $a$ -point of  $f$ .

Evidently, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we get for all large values of  $r$

$$N(r, a) - \bar{N}(r, a) > \{\theta(a) - \varepsilon\} T(r, f)$$

$$N(r, a) < \{1 - S(a) + \varepsilon\} T(r, f)$$

$$\text{and hence } \bar{N}(r, a) < \{1 - S(a) - \theta(a) + 2\varepsilon\} T(r, f)$$

$$\text{so that } \theta(a) \geq S(a) + \theta(a)$$

The quantity  $S(a, f)$  is called the deficiency of the value  $a$  and  $\theta(a, f)$  is called the index of multiplicity. Clearly  $S(a, f)$  is positive only if there are relatively few roots of the equation  $f(z) = a$ , while  $\theta(a)$  is positive if there are relatively many

multiple roots.

Lemma A Suppose that  $f$  is meromorphic and not constant in  $|z| < R_0$ . If  $S(r, f)$  is defined as in the second fundamental theorem then

$$\frac{S(r, f)}{T(r, f)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } r \rightarrow R_0 \dots (1)$$

with the following provisions:

(a) (1) holds without restrictions if  $R_0 = +\infty$  and if  $f$  is meromorphic of finite order in the plane;

(b) If  $f$  has infinite order in the plane (1) still holds as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  outside a certain exceptional set  $E_0$  of finite length. Here  $E_0$  depends on  $f$  but not on  $a$ , or  $q$ .

(c) If  $R_0 < +\infty$  and  $\limsup_{r \rightarrow R_0} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log \{1/R_0\}} = +\infty$

then (1) holds as  $r \rightarrow R_0$  through a sequence  $\{r_n\}$  which depends on  $f$  but not on the  $a$ , or on  $q$ .

definition A meromorphic function  $f$  is said to be admissible in  $|z| < R_0$  if either  $R_0 < \infty$  and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow R_0} \frac{T(r, f)}{\log \{1/R_0\}} = +\infty$$

$R_0 = +\infty$  and  $f$  is nonconstant.  
 By the above lemma we see that for an admissible function  $f$ ,  $\frac{S(r, f)}{T(r, f)} \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow R_0$  through a sequence of values.

Nevanlinna's Theorem on deficient values.

Theorem Suppose that  $f$  is admissible in  $|\mathbb{Z}| < R_0$ . Then the set of values  $a$  for which  $\Theta(a) > 0$  is countable, and we have, on summing over all such values  $a$

$$\sum_a \{S(a) + \Theta(a)\} \leq \sum_a \Theta(a) \leq 2.$$

Proof We choose a sequence  $r_n \rightarrow R_0$  such that  $S(r_n, f) = o\{T(r_n, f)\}$ .

From the second fundamental theorem we get  $m(r_n, \infty) + \sum_{j=1}^q m(r_n, a_j) \leq 2T(r_n, f) - N_1(r_n) + S(r_n, f) \dots (1)$

Adding  $N(r_n, \infty) + \sum_{j=1}^q N(r_n, a_j)$  to both sides of (1) we get by the first fundamental theorem

$$(q+1)T(r_n, f) \leq \sum_{j=1}^q N(r_n, a_j) + N(r_n, \infty) - N_1(r_n) + \{2T(r_n, f)\}$$

$$T(r_n, f),$$

where  $N_1(r_n) = N(r_n, \frac{1}{f}) + 2N(r_n, f) - N(r_n, f')$   
 i.e.,  $\{2 - 1 + o(1)\} T(r_n, f) < \sum_{j=1}^q N(r_n, a_j) + \bar{N}(r_n, \infty) - N(r_n, \frac{1}{f})$ .

because  $N(r_n, f') - N(r_n, f) = \bar{N}(r_n, f)$ .  
 Now a root of the equation  $f(z) = a_j$  of multiplicity  $\beta$  is also a zero of multiplicity  $\beta-1$  of  $f'(z)$  and so contributes only 1 to  $n(t, a_j) - n(t, \frac{1}{f})$ .

Thus we may write our inequality as

$$\{2 - 1 + o(1)\} T(r_n, f) \leq \sum_{j=1}^q \bar{N}(r_n, a_j) + \bar{N}(r_n, \infty) - N_0(r_n, \frac{1}{f}), \dots (2)$$

where  $N_0(r, \frac{1}{f})$  refers to those zeros of  $f'$  which occur at points other than roots of the eqn  $f(z) = a_j$  ( $j=1, 2, \dots, q$ ). Ignoring this latter term and dividing by  $T(r_n, f)$  we deduce that

$$\sum_{j=1}^q \limsup_{r \rightarrow R_0} \frac{\bar{N}(r, a_j)}{T(r, f)} + \liminf_{r \rightarrow R_0} \frac{\bar{N}(r, \infty)}{T(r, f)} \geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow R_0} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^q \bar{N}(r, a_j) + \bar{N}(r, \infty)}{T(r, f)} \geq 2 - 1$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^q \{1 - \Theta(a_j; f)\} + 1 - \Theta(\infty; f) \geq q - 1$$

$$\text{i.e., } \sum_{j=1}^q \Theta(a_j; f) + \Theta(\infty; f) \leq 2$$

The result shows that  $\Theta(a; f) > \frac{1}{N}$  for at most  $2N-1$  distinct finite values  $a$ . Thus the values  $a$  for which  $\Theta(a; f) > 0$  may be arranged in a sequence, in order of decreasing  $\Theta(a; f)$ , by taking first those for which  $\Theta(a; f) = 1$ , then those, if any, for which  $\Theta(a; f) > \frac{1}{2}$ , then those of the remainder for which  $\Theta(a; f) > \frac{1}{3}$  and so on.

If  $\{a_j\}$  is the resulting sequence together with  $a_0 = \infty$ , we deduce that

$$\sum_{j=0}^q \Theta(a_j; f) \leq 2$$

for any finite  $q$  and hence if the sequence  $\{a_j\}$  is infinite, we deduce that

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \Theta(a_j; f) \leq 2$$

This proves the theorem

### distinct functions

Theorem If  $f$  is meromorphic and admissible in  $|z| < R_0$  and  $a_1(z), a_2(z), a_3(z)$  are distinct meromorphic functions satisfying for  $v=1, 2$  and  $3$

$$T(r; a_j(z)) = o\{T(r; f)\} \text{ as } r \rightarrow R_0$$

$$\text{Then } \{1 + o(1)\} T(r; f) \leq \sum_{j=1}^3 N(r; \frac{1}{f - a_j}) + S(r; f)$$

as  $r \rightarrow R_0$  where  $S(r; f) = o\{T(r; f)\}$  as  $r \rightarrow R_0$  at least along a sequence of values of  $r$ .

Proof Let  $\phi(z) = \frac{f(z) - a_1(z)}{f(z) - a_3(z)} \cdot \frac{a_2(z) - a_3(z)}{a_1(z) - a_3(z)}$

By the second  $f$ -Theorem we get

$$m(r; \infty; \phi) + m(r; 0; \phi) + m(r; 1; \phi) \leq 2T(r; \phi) - N(r; \phi) + S(r; \phi)$$

Adding  $N(r; \infty; \phi) + N(r; 0; \phi) + N(r; 1; \phi)$  to both sides we get by the first fundamental theorem

$$T(r; \phi) \leq N(r; \infty; \phi) + N(r; 0; \phi) + N(r; 1; \phi) - N(r; \phi)$$

where  $N(r; \phi) = N(r; 0; \phi) + 2N(r; \phi) - N(r; \phi)$

So  $T(r; \phi) \leq N(r; 0; \phi) + N(r; 1; \phi) + N(r; \infty; \phi) - N(r; \phi)$

+ S(r, φ),

because  $N(r, φ') - N(r, φ) = \bar{N}(r, 0; φ)$

Now a root of the eqn  $φ(z) = 0$  of multiplicity  $p$  is also a zero of  $φ'(z)$  with multiplicity  $p-1$  and so  $N(r, 0; φ) + N(r, 1; φ) - N(r, 0; φ')$   
 $\leq \bar{N}(r, 0; φ) + \bar{N}(r, 1; φ)$ .

Therefore we get

$$T(r, φ) \leq \bar{N}(r, 0; φ) + \bar{N}(r, 1; φ) + \bar{N}(r, \infty; φ) + S(r, φ) \quad \dots \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Now, } T(r, f) \leq T(r, f - a_3) + T(r, a_3) + O(1)$$

$$= T(r, \frac{1}{f - a_3}) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$\leq T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_1}{f - a_3}) + T(r, \frac{1}{a_3 - a_1}) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$= T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_1}{f - a_3}) + T(r, a_3 - a_1) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$\leq T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_1}{f - a_3}) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$= T(r, 1 + \frac{a_2 - a_1}{f - a_3} - 1) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$\leq T(r, 1 + \frac{a_2 - a_1}{f - a_3}) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$= T(r, \frac{f - a_1}{f - a_3}) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

Again  $T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_1}{a_2 - a_3})$

$$\leq T(r, a_2 - a_1) + T(r, a_2 - a_3) + O(1)$$

$$\leq T(r, a_1) + 2T(r, a_2) + T(r, a_3) + O(1)$$

$$= O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$\text{Now, } \{1 + O(1)\} T(r, f) \leq T(r, \frac{f - a_1}{f - a_3})$$

$$= T(r, φ \cdot \frac{a_2 - a_1}{a_2 - a_3})$$

$$\leq T(r, φ) + T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_1}{a_2 - a_3})$$

$$= T(r, φ) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \{1 + O(1)\} T(r, f) \leq T(r, φ) \dots \dots (2) \text{ as } r \rightarrow R$$

Also we see that

$$T(r, φ) \leq T(r, \frac{f - a_1}{f - a_3}) + T(r, \frac{a_2 - a_3}{a_2 - a_1})$$

$$\leq 2T(r, f) + O\{T(r, f)\}$$

$$= \{2 + O(1)\} T(r, f)$$

Therefore  $S(r, φ) = S(r, f)$ .

Finally the equations  $φ(z) = 0, 1, \infty$  have roots only if either  $f(z) - a_j(z) = 0$  for  $j=1, 2$  or  $3$  or if two of the functions  $a_j(z)$  become equal. Thus

The other hand, each common root of equation  $f_j(z) = a$  ( $j=1, 2$ ) is a pole of  $\psi$  and so

$$\psi(r) \leq N(r, \infty; \frac{1}{f_1 - f_2}) \leq T(r, \frac{1}{f_1 - f_2}) \dots (2)$$

we get from (1) and (2)

$$\frac{1}{f_1 - f_2} \leq \left\{ \frac{2}{3} + o(1) \right\} T(r, \frac{1}{f_1 - f_2})$$

$\rightarrow \infty$  through a sequence of values. is a contradiction and so the theorem is proved.

### Theory

Let  $f$  be a meromorphic and not constant in the complex plane. We call an error term and denote by  $S(r, f)$  any quantity satisfying

$$S(r, f) = o\{T(r, f)\}$$

as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , possibly outside a set of  $r$  of finite linear measure.

Let  $a = a(z)$  be a meromorphic function in the

complex plane. We call the function  $a = a(z)$  a small function of  $f$  if  $T(r, a) = S(r, f)$ .

Theorem Let  $l$  be positive integer and

$$\psi(z) = \sum_{j=0}^l a_j(z) f^{(j)}(z),$$

where  $a_0(z), a_1(z), \dots, a_l(z)$  are small functions of  $f$ .

Then (i)  $m(r, \frac{\psi}{f}) = S(r, f)$

and (ii)  $T(r, \psi) \leq (l+1)T(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

Proof From the second fundamental theorem we get

$$S(r, f) = m(r, \frac{f'}{f}) + m\left\{r, \sum_{j=1}^q \frac{f'}{f - a_j}\right\} + 2 \log^+ \frac{3r}{8} + \log 2 + \log \frac{1}{1410}$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q$  are distinct complex numbers and we assume that  $f(0) \neq 0, \infty, f'(0) \neq 0$ .

Again by lemma A we see that

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(r, f)}{T(r, f)} = 0$$

except possibly a set of finite linear measure.

Therefore we get  $m(r, \frac{f'}{f}) = S(r, f)$

Suppose we have already proved that

$$m(r, \frac{f^{(l)}}{f}) = S(r, f)$$

for some  $l$ . We deduce that

$$m(r, f^{(k)}) \leq m(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}) + m(r, f) = m(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

Also if  $f(z)$  has a pole of multiplicity  $k$  at  $z_0$ ,  $f^{(k)}(z)$  has a pole of multiplicity

$$k+l \leq (l+1)k$$

there, so that

$$N(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (l+1)N(r, f).$$

Thus by addition we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f^{(k)}) &= m(r, f^{(k)}) + N(r, f^{(k)}) \\ &\leq m(r, f) + (l+1)N(r, f) + S(r, f) \\ &\leq (l+1)T(r, f) + S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

We deduce that

$$m(r, \frac{f^{(k+1)}}{f^{(k)}}) = S(r, f^{(k)}) - o\{T(r, f^{(k)})\} = o\{T(r, f)\}$$

as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  outside a set of finite linear measure.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } m(r, \frac{f^{(k+1)}}{f}) &\leq m(r, \frac{f^{(k+1)}}{f^{(k)}}) + m(r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}) \\ &= S(r, f) + S(r, f) = 2S(r, f). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the inductive proof in case

$$\psi(z) = f^{(k)}(z).$$

To deal with the general case note that

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, \frac{\psi}{f}) &\leq \sum_{j=0}^l m(r, \frac{a_j f^{(j)}}{f}) + \log(l+1) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=0}^l [m(r, a_j) + m(r, \frac{f^{(j)}}{f})] + \log(l+1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=0}^l S(r, f) + O(1) = S(r, f).$$

This proves (i).

Further we have

$$\begin{aligned} m(r, \psi) &\leq m(r, \frac{\psi}{f}) + m(r, f) \\ &= m(r, f) + S(r, f) \dots \dots (1) \end{aligned}$$

Also if  $f$  has a pole of multiplicity  $p$  at  $z_0$  and  $a_j$ 's have poles of multiplicity at most  $q$  there, then  $\psi$  has a pole of multiplicity at most

$$p+l+q \leq (l+1)p+q = (l+1)p+q$$

at  $z_0$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} N(r, \psi) &\leq (l+1)N(r, f) + \sum_{j=0}^l N(r, a_j) \\ &= (l+1)N(r, f) + S(r, f) \dots \dots (2). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore from (1) and (2) we get (ii). This proves the theorem.

### Milloux's Basic Result.

Theorem Suppose that  $f$  is nonconstant and meromorphic

in the plane and  $\psi(z) = \sum_{j=0}^l a_j(z) f^{(j)}(z)$ ,

where  $T(r, a_j) = S(r, f)$  for  $j=0, 1, 2, \dots, l$ .

Then  $T(r, \psi) \leq N(r, f) + N(r, 0; f) + N(r, 1; \psi) - N(r, 0; \psi) + S(r, f)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & N(r, \infty; \varphi) + N(r, 0; \varphi) + N(r, 1; \varphi) \\ & \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^3 N\left(r, \frac{1}{f-a_\nu}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{a_1-a_2}\right) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{a_2-a_3}\right) \\ & \quad + N\left(r, \frac{1}{a_3-a_1}\right) \\ & \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^3 N\left(r, \frac{1}{f-a_\nu}\right) + o\{T(r, f)\} \quad \dots (3) \end{aligned}$$

as  $r \rightarrow R_0$

Now from (1), (2) and (3) we get.

$$\{1+o(1)\} T(r, f) \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^3 N\left(r, \frac{1}{f-a_\nu}\right) + S(r, f)$$

This proves the theorem.

Nevanlinna's five-point uniqueness theorem

Theorem Suppose that  $f_1(z), f_2(z)$  are meromorphic in the complex plane and let  $E_j(a)$  be the set of points  $z$  such that  $f_j(z) = a$  ( $j=1,2$ ).

If  $E_1(a) = E_2(a)$  for five distinct values of  $a$  then  $f_1 \equiv f_2$  or  $f_1, f_2$  are both constant.

Proof We suppose that  $f_1, f_2$  are neither both constant nor identical.

Let  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5$  be distinct and such that the sets  $E_1(a_\nu) = E_2(a_\nu)$  for  $\nu=1,2,\dots,5$ .

We write

$$N_\nu(r) = N(r, a_\nu; f_1) = N(r, a_\nu; f_2)$$

for  $\nu=1,2,\dots,5$ .

If  $f_1$  is constant,  $f_2$  omits at least four values and so  $f_2$  is also constant, which is excluded by our hypothesis.

Now by the second fundamental theorem we get as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  through a suitable sequence of values

$$\{4+o(1)\} T(r, f_j) \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^5 N_\nu(r) + N(r, f_j), \quad \text{for } j=1,2$$

$$\text{So, } \{3+o(1)\} T(r, f_j) \leq \sum_{\nu=1}^5 N_\nu(r),$$

as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  through a suitable sequence of values.

Since  $f_1, f_2$  are not identical, we get  $r \rightarrow \infty$  through this sequence

$$\begin{aligned} T\left(r, \frac{1}{f_1-f_2}\right) &= T(r, f_1-f_2) + O(1) \\ &\leq T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) + O(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \left\{ \frac{2}{3} + o(1) \right\} \sum_{\nu=1}^5 N_\nu(r) \dots (1)$$

where in  $N_0(x, 0; \psi')$  only zeros of  $\psi'$  not corresponding to the repeated roots of  $\psi(z) = 1$  are to be considered.

Applying the second fundamental theorem to  $\psi(z)$  we obtain

$$m(x, \psi) + m(x, 0; \psi) + m(x, 1; \psi) \leq 2T(x, \psi) - N_1(x, \psi) + S(x, \psi) \quad (1)$$

Now  $2T(x, \psi) - N_1(x, \psi) = m(x, \psi) + m(x, 1; \psi) + N(x, \psi) + N(x, 1; \psi) - N(x, 0; \psi') - 2N(x, \psi) + N(x, \psi')$   
 $+ O(1) \dots (2)$

Again at a pole of  $\psi$  of multiplicity  $\beta$ ,  $\psi'$  has a pole of multiplicity  $\beta + 1$ . These poles occur only at poles of  $f$  or of  $a_j(z)$ . Thus

$$N(x, \psi') - N(x, \psi) \leq N(x, \psi) \leq N(x, f) + \sum_{j=0}^l N(x, a_j) = N(x, f) + S(x, f).$$

Further, at a zero of  $\psi - 1$  of multiplicity  $\beta$ ,  $\psi'$  has a zero of multiplicity  $\beta - 1$ , so that

$$N(x, 1; \psi) - N(x, 0; \psi') = N(x, 1; \psi) - N_0(x, 0; \psi')$$

Since  $T(x, \psi) \leq (l+1)T(x, f) + S(x, f)$ , it follows that  $S(x, \psi) = O\{T(x, \psi)\} = O\{T(x, f)\}$  outside a set of finite linear measure, so that

$$S(x, \psi) = S(x, f).$$

Thus (1) and (2) yield

$$m(x, 0; \psi) \leq N(x, f) + N(x, 1; \psi) - N_0(x, 0; \psi') + S(x, f) \dots (3)$$

Again we see that

$$T(x, f) = m(x, 0; f) + N(x, 0; f) + O(1) \leq m(x, 0; \psi) + m(x, \frac{\psi}{f}) + N(x, 0; f) + O(1) \leq m(x, 0; \psi) + N(x, 0; f) + S(x, f) \dots (4)$$

Now from (3) and (4) we get

$$T(x, f) \leq N(x, f) + N(x, 0; f) + N(x, 1; \psi) - N_0(x, 0; \psi') + S(x, f)$$

This proves the Theorem.

Theorem If  $f$  is meromorphic and transcendental in the plane and has only a finite number of zeros and poles, then

$$\psi(z) = \sum_{j=0}^l a_j(z) f^{(j)}(z)$$

assumes every finite complex value except possibly zero infinitely often or else  $\psi$  is identically constant.

Proof Let  $\psi_1(z) = \frac{1}{a} \psi(z)$ , where  $a (\neq 0)$  is a complex member.

Further suppose that  $\psi$  is nonconstant. Then  $\psi_1$  is also nonconstant. Since  $f$  has only

finite number of zeros and poles, we get

$$N(r, f) = O(\log r) \text{ and } N(r, 0, f) = O(\log r).$$

So by the preceding theorem we get

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f) &\leq N(r, 1; \varphi) + O(\log r) + S(r, f) \\ &= N(r, a; \varphi) + S(r, f), \end{aligned}$$

because  $f$  is transcendental and so  $\frac{\log r}{T(r, f)} \rightarrow 0$

as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

Therefore  $\varphi$  assumes the value 'a' infinitely many times.

Subtracting (4) from (3) we get

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \left[ \frac{f(w)}{w-z} - \frac{f(w)}{w-z^*} \right] dw \dots (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} f(w) \left[ \frac{1}{w-z} - \frac{1}{w-z^*} \right] dw \dots (6)$$

Let  $w-z = (w-z_0) - (z-z_0) = \rho e^{i\phi} - r e^{i\theta}$  and  
 $w-z^* = (w-z_0) - (z^*-z_0) = \rho e^{i\phi} - \frac{r}{r} e^{i\theta}$

Then (5) becomes

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\rho + i\rho e^{i\phi}) \left[ \frac{1}{\rho e^{i\phi} - r e^{i\theta}} - \frac{1}{\rho e^{i\phi} - \frac{r}{r} e^{i\theta}} \right] i\rho e^{i\phi} d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\rho + i\rho e^{i\phi}) \left[ \frac{\rho}{\rho - r e^{i(\theta-\phi)}} + \frac{r e^{i(\phi-\theta)}}{\rho - r e^{i(\phi-\theta)}} \right] d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\rho + i\rho e^{i\phi}) \left[ \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta-\phi)} \right] d\phi \dots (6)$$

Since  $f(z) = u(r,\theta) + iv(r,\theta)$  and  $f(\rho + i\rho e^{i\phi}) = u(\rho,\phi) + iv(\rho,\phi)$ , equating the real and imaginary parts of (6) we get (1) and (2).

The function  $\frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta-\phi)}$  is called Poisson's

kernel.

Ex Show that Poisson's kernel is a harmonic function in  $|z-z_0| < \rho$ .

Soln Let  $f(z) = \frac{\rho e^{i\phi} + (z-z_0)}{\rho e^{i\phi} - (z-z_0)}$ , which is analytic in the disc  $|z-z_0| < \rho$ .

We put  $z-z_0 = r e^{i\theta}$  and denote the real and imaginary parts of  $f(z)$  in polar coordinates by  $u(r,\theta)$  and  $v(r,\theta)$ . Then

$$u(r,\theta) + iv(r,\theta) = \frac{\rho e^{i\phi} + r e^{i\theta}}{\rho e^{i\phi} - r e^{i\theta}}$$

$$= \frac{(\rho e^{i\phi} + r e^{i\theta})(\rho e^{-i\phi} - r e^{-i\theta})}{(\rho e^{i\phi} - r e^{i\theta})(\rho e^{-i\phi} - r e^{-i\theta})}$$

$$= \frac{(\rho^2 - r^2) + \rho r e^{i(\theta-\phi)} - \rho r e^{-i(\theta-\phi)}}{\rho^2 + r^2 - \rho r e^{i(\theta-\phi)} - \rho r e^{-i(\theta-\phi)}}$$

$$= \frac{(\rho^2 - r^2) + 2i\rho r \sin(\theta-\phi)}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta-\phi)}$$

So,  $u(r,\theta) = \frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta-\phi)}$  and  $v(r,\theta) = \frac{2\rho r \sin(\theta-\phi)}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta-\phi)}$

are conjugate harmonic fns in  $|z-z_0| < \rho$ , being the real and imaginary parts of an analytic f<sup>n</sup>. Hence

$w(z, \theta)$ , the Poisson kernel, is harmonic in  $|z-z_0| < \rho$ .

Ex Show that  $\frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta - \phi)} = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n \cos n(\theta - \phi)$

$$\frac{2\rho r \sin(\theta - \phi)}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta - \phi)} = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n \sin n(\theta - \phi) \text{ in } |z-z_0| < \rho$$

Sol. We see that

$$\frac{\rho e^{i\phi} + (z-z_0)}{\rho e^{i\phi} - (z-z_0)} = \frac{(z-z_0) - \rho e^{i\phi} + 2\rho e^{i\phi}}{\rho e^{i\phi} - (z-z_0)} = -1 + \frac{2\rho e^{i\phi}}{\rho e^{i\phi} - (z-z_0)}$$

$$= -1 + \frac{2}{i \frac{z-z_0}{\rho e^{i\phi}}} = -1 + 2 \left(1 - \frac{z-z_0}{\rho e^{i\phi}}\right)^{-1}$$

$$= -1 + 2 \left[1 + \frac{z-z_0}{\rho e^{i\phi}} + \left(\frac{z-z_0}{\rho e^{i\phi}}\right)^2 + \dots\right]$$

$$= 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(z-z_0)^n}{\rho^n} e^{-in\phi}$$

Now we put  $z-z_0 = re^{i\theta}$  so that

$$\frac{\rho e^{i\phi} + (z-z_0)}{\rho e^{i\phi} - (z-z_0)} = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n e^{in(\theta - \phi)}$$

Equating the real and imaginary parts we get,

$$\frac{\rho^2 - r^2}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta - \phi)} = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n \cos n(\theta - \phi)$$

$$\frac{2\rho r \sin(\theta - \phi)}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2\rho r \cos(\theta - \phi)} = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n \sin n(\theta - \phi) \text{ in } |z-z_0| < \rho$$

Mean value property

Let  $f$  be an analytic  $f(z)$  in a domain  $D$ . Let  $z_0 \in D$  and let  $\Gamma$  be a circle with centre  $z_0$  and contained in  $D$ .

We take the circle  $|z-z_0|=r$  as  $\Gamma$  and write  $z=z_0+re^{i\theta}$   $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ . By Cauchy's integral formula we get

$$f(z_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \frac{f(z) dz}{z-z_0}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{f(z_0+re^{i\theta})}{re^{i\theta}} i r e^{i\theta} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(z_0+re^{i\theta}) d\theta, \text{ for all values of } r \text{ for which}$$

$\Gamma$  lies within  $D$ .

This result is known as mean value property.

Theorem of Gauss.

It thus follows that for any closed disc contained in  $D$  in which  $f$  is analytic, the value of  $f$  at the centre of the disc equals the mean of the values of  $f$  on the boundary of the disc.

NOTE We shall say a real or complex valued cont

mean value property (in short M.V.P.) if for any compact disc contained in  $D$ , the value of  $f$  at the centre of the disc is equal to the mean of its values on the boundary of the disc.  
 We can say that any analytic  $fz$  has the m.v.p.

The Any harmonic  $fz$  defined in a domain  $D$  has the m.v.p.

Proof Let  $u(x,y)$  be a harmonic  $fz$  given in a domain  $D$  and let  $S$  be a closed disc contained in  $D$ . Then there exists an analytic  $fz$ , say  $f$ , in  $D$  whose real part is  $u$ .

Now the value of  $f$  at the centre of  $S$  is equal to the mean of  $f$  on the boundary of the disc and by taking the real parts we see that the value of  $u(x,y)$  at the centre of  $S$  is equal to the mean value on the boundary of the disc. This proves the theorem.

Note In fact we get  
 $u(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(x_0 + r \cos \theta, y_0 + r \sin \theta) d\theta$ , where  $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$  is the centre of  $S$  and  $r$  is the radius of  $S$ .

Ex When  $|z| \leq R$ , the  $fz$   $f$  is regular and satisfies the inequality  $|f(z)| \geq 1$ . Show by applying Poisson's formula to  $\log f(z)$  that if  $|z| \leq kR$  where  $k < 1$  then  $|f(z)| \leq |f(0)|^{\frac{1+k}{1-k}}$

Sol Poisson's formula states that if  $f$  is regular in  $|z| \leq R$  and  $u(r, \theta)$  its real part, then for  $0 \leq r < R$   
 $u(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2 - r^2) u(R, \phi)}{R^2 + r^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \phi)} d\phi$

Now by condition of the problem  $|f(z)| \neq 0$  in  $|z| \leq R$  and hence  $\log f(z)$  is regular within and on  $|z| = R$  and the real part of  $\log f(z)$  is  $\log |f(z)|$ .

Let  $z = re^{i\theta}$ , where  $r < R$  and  $k = \frac{r}{R} < 1$ . Hence applying Poisson's formula to  $\log f(z)$  we have

$$\log |f(re^{i\theta})| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2 - r^2) \log |f(Re^{i\phi})|}{R^2 + r^2 - 2rR \cos(\theta - \phi)} d\phi \quad (1)$$

From (1) we get for  $r=0$

$$\log |f(0)| = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi \quad (2)$$

Again from (1) we get

$$\log |f(re^{i\theta})| \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{R^2 - r^2}{R^2 + r^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \log |f(Re^{i\phi})| d\phi$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{R+r}{R-r} \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\phi})| d\phi$$

$$= \frac{R+r}{R-r} \log |f(0)|$$

$$\therefore |f(re^{i\theta})| \leq |f(0)|^{\frac{R+r}{R-r}} = |f(0)|^{\frac{1+r/R}{1-r/R}}$$

$$\therefore |f(re^{i\theta})| \leq |f(0)|^{\frac{1+r/R}{1-r/R}}$$

$$\therefore |f(z)| \leq |f(0)|^{\frac{1+|z|/R}{1-|z|/R}} \text{ where } z=re^{i\theta}$$

Since the maximum of  $|f(z)|$  on  $|z|=r$  does not exceed

$|f(0)|^{\frac{1+r/R}{1-r/R}}$ , by the maximum modulus principle same inequality holds at any point  $z$  such that  $|z| < r$ .

Hence  $|f(z)| \leq |f(0)|^{\frac{1+|z|/R}{1-|z|/R}}$  where  $|z| \leq r = KR$ ,  $K < 1$ .

Ex Let  $f$  be a  $fz$  regular in the closed disc  $|z| \leq R$  and let  $u(x,y)$  be its real part. If  $u(x,y) \geq 0$  prove that the inequality

$$\frac{R-r}{R+r} u(0,0) \leq u(x,y) \leq \frac{R+r}{R-r} u(0,0) \quad (0 \leq r < R)$$

Sol Using Poisson's formula we get

$$u(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2-r^2) u(R, \phi)}{R^2-2rR\cos(\theta-\phi)+r^2} d\phi \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{R+r}{R-r} = \frac{R^2-r^2}{(R-r)^2} \geq \frac{R^2-r^2}{R^2-2rR\cos(\theta-\phi)+r^2} \geq \frac{R^2-r^2}{(R+r)^2}$$

$$= \frac{R-r}{R+r} \quad (r < R)$$

Since  $u(x,y) \geq 0$  throughout the disc  $|z| < R$ , we obtain

$$\frac{R-r}{R+r} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(R, \phi) d\phi \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{(R^2-r^2) u(R, \phi)}{R^2-2rR\cos(\theta-\phi)+r^2} d\phi$$

$$\leq \frac{R+r}{R-r} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(R, \phi) d\phi$$

$$\text{But } u(0,0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(R, \phi) d\phi \quad [\text{by putting } r=0, \theta=0 \text{ in (1)}]$$

$$\text{So } \frac{R-r}{R+r} u(0,0) \leq u(x,y) \leq \frac{R+r}{R-r} u(0,0) \quad (r < R)$$

Pr The above inequality is known as Harnack's inequality. This is valid for all positive harmonic functions. Putting

$$r = R/2 \text{ we obtain } \frac{1}{3} u(0,0) \leq u(x,y) \leq 3u(0,0)$$

Ex Find the analytic  $fz$   $f(z) = u(x,y) + iv(x,y)$  given that

$$u(x,y) = x^2 - y^2 + 2$$

Sol If we can find out the harmonic conjugate  $v(x,y)$

of  $u(x,y) = x^2 - y^2 + 2$  then  $f = u+iv$  will be an analytic  $fz$ .

Now  $v_y = u_x = 2x$  and  $-v_x = u_y = -2y$ . So  $v = \int v_x dx$

$$= \int 2xy dx + \phi(y) = 2xy + \phi(y) \quad \text{Hence } v_y = 2x + \phi'(y)$$

and  $2x + \phi'(y) = 2x$  i.e.  $\phi'(y) = 0$  i.e.  $\phi(y) = C$ , where  $C$  is a real constant. Therefore  $v(x,y) = 2xy + C$ , and so the

required analytic function is

$$f(z) = u + iv = x^2 - y^2 + 2 + i(2xy + 1) = z^2 + 2 + i$$

**Theorem** Let  $u(x, y)$  be a harmonic  $\phi$  in a domain  $G$ , with harmonic conjugate  $v(x, y)$ , let  $z_0$  be an arbitrary (finite) pt of  $G$  and let  $\Delta = \Delta(z_0)$  be the distance between  $z_0$  and the boundary of  $G$ . Then  $u(x, y)$  and  $v(x, y)$  have

expansions of the form:

$$u(x, y) = u(r, \theta) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\theta - b_n \sin n\theta) r^n \quad \dots (1)$$

$$v(x, y) = v(r, \theta) = b_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n \cos n\theta + a_n \sin n\theta) r^n \quad \dots (2)$$

in the disc  $|z - z_0| < \Delta$ , where  $z - z_0 = re^{i\theta}$ .

**Proof** Since  $u(x, y), v(x, y)$  are conjugate h.f.s.  $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$  is analytic in  $G$ . Then we can expand  $f(z)$  in Taylor series about  $z_0$  to get

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (z - z_0)^n \quad \dots (3) \quad \text{where } |z - z_0| < \Delta$$

Now we put  $a_n = \alpha_n + i\beta_n$  and  $z - z_0 = re^{i\theta}$  so that (3) becomes

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\alpha_n + i\beta_n) r^n e^{in\theta}$$

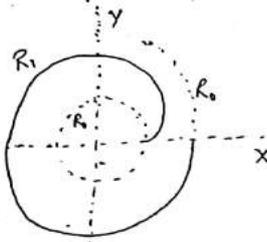
$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\alpha_n + i\beta_n) r^n (\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)$$

$+ i(\alpha_n \sin n\theta - \beta_n \cos n\theta) r^n$   
Equating the real and imaginary parts of both sides we get (1) and (2). This proves the theorem.

## Riemann Surface

A Riemann surface is a generalization of the  $z$ -plane into a surface of more than one sheet such that a multiple valued function has only one value corresponding to each point on that surface.

Once such a function is derived for a given function that  $f^z$  is a single valued function of points on the surface and the theory of single valued function can be used in dealing with the  $f^z$ . The complexities arising because the  $f^z$  is multiple valued are thus removed by means of a geometrical device.



Riemann surface for the  $f^z$   $w = f(z) = z^{1/2}$

The  $f^z$   $w = z^{1/2} = r^{1/2}(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + i \sin \frac{\theta}{2})$  has two values corresponding to each pt. except the origin. Let the plane be replaced by two sheets  $R_0$  and  $R_1$ , each of which is cut along the positive  $x$  axis, with  $R_1$  placed in front of  $R_0$ . Join the lower edge of the slit in  $R_0$  to the upper edge of the slit in  $R_1$ , and the lower edge of the slit in  $R_1$  to the upper edge of the slit in  $R_0$ . The two sheets therefore cross each other

at the origin.

As the point  $z$  describes a continuous circuit around the origin on that surface, the angle  $\theta$  grows from 0 to  $2\pi$  and then the pt. passes from the sheet  $R_0$  to the sheet  $R_1$ , where  $\theta$  grows from  $2\pi$  to  $4\pi$ . As the pt. moves still further, it passes back to the sheet  $R_0$  where the values of  $\theta$ , vary either from  $4\pi$  to  $6\pi$  or from 0 to  $2\pi$ , a choice that does not affect the value of the  $f^z$   $z^{1/2}$  and so on. The  $f^z$  is a single valued  $f^z$  of points on this surface except that some more artificial device is needed to distinguish between points of the two sheets along the curve.

The image of the sheet  $R_0$  of this Riemann surface for the  $f^z$   $z^{1/2}$  is the upper half of the  $w$ -plane since  $w = \rho e^{i\phi} = r^{1/2} e^{i\theta/2}$ , and  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  on  $R_0$ . The image of the sheet is the lower half of the  $w$ -plane.

The simplest many valued function are those which satisfied an algebraic equation, say

$$F(w, z) = w^n + a_1(z)w^{n-1} + a_2(z)w^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1}(z)w + a_n(z) = 0$$

Solving for  $w$  we get  $w = f_1(z), f_2(z), \dots, f_n(z)$

which are called branches of the many valued function  $F(w, z)$ . There will be certain points in general, at which two or more branches coincide. These points are called branch points. Thus, in analogy to the theory of eqs, a simplest many valued  $f(z)$  has a branch point if the two equations  $F(w, z) = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial w} = 0$  are consistent. Now eliminating  $w$  between these two equations we get an eq in  $z$ , say  $\phi(z) = 0$ , determining the branch point of the many valued function. Putting  $n=2$  we have

$w^2 + a_1(z)w + a_2(z) = 0$  and taking  $a_1(z) = 0$ , we have  $w^2 + a_2(z) = 0$ . We shall mainly consider the special type of the simplest many valued function. Thus for the multiple valued function  $w^2 = f(z)$ , the branches are  $w_1 = \sqrt{f(z)}$ ,  $w_2 = -\sqrt{f(z)}$  and when the two branches are equal,  $f(z) = 0$  which determines the branch points.

Multiple value functions, branch point and branch cut

Def

If only one value of  $w$  corresponds to each value of  $z$ , then we say that  $w$  is a single-valued f<sup>n</sup> of  $z$ .

If more than one value of  $w$  corresponds to each value of  $z$ , we say that  $w$  is a multiple-valued or many-valued f<sup>n</sup> of  $z$ .

A multiple-valued f<sup>n</sup> can be considered as a collection of single-valued f<sup>n</sup>s, each member of which is called a branch of the f<sup>n</sup>. It is customary to consider one particular member as a principal branch of the multiple-valued f<sup>n</sup> and the value of the f<sup>n</sup> corresponding to this branch as the principal value.

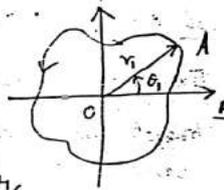
If  $w = z^2$ , then to each value of  $z$  there corresponds only one value of  $w$ . Hence  $w = z^2$  is a single-valued f<sup>n</sup> of  $z$ .

If  $w = \sqrt{z}$ , then to each value of  $z$  there correspond two values of  $w$ . Hence  $w = (\sqrt{z})^2$  is a multiple-valued (two-valued) f<sup>n</sup> of  $z$ .

Branch points and branch cuts (lines)

to have  $\theta$  let us consider the f<sup>n</sup>  $w = \sqrt{z}$ . Suppose we allow  $z$  to make a complete circuit (counter clockwise) around the origin starting from the point A.

We have  $z = r e^{i\theta}$ ,  $w = \sqrt{r} e^{i\frac{\theta}{2}}$   
 so that at A,  $\theta = \theta_1$ ,  $r = r_1$  and  
 $w = \sqrt{r_1} e^{i\frac{\theta_1}{2}}$ . After a complete circuit back to A,  $\theta = \theta_1 + 2\pi$ ,  
 $r = r_1$  and  $w = \sqrt{r_1} e^{i\frac{\theta_1 + 2\pi}{2}} = -\sqrt{r_1} e^{i\frac{\theta_1}{2}}$



Thus we do not achieve the same value of  $w$  with which we started. However by making a second complete circuit back to A i.e.,  $\theta = \theta_1 + 4\pi$ ,  $r = r_1$ ,  $w = \sqrt{r_1} e^{i\frac{\theta_1 + 4\pi}{2}} = \sqrt{r_1} e^{i\frac{\theta_1}{2}}$  and we obtain the same value of  $w$  with which we started.

We can describe this fact by stating that if  $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$  we are on one branch of the multiple-valued f<sup>n</sup>  $w = \sqrt{z}$ , while if  $2\pi \leq \theta < 4\pi$  we are on the other branch of the f<sup>n</sup>.

It is clear that each branch of the f<sup>n</sup> is single-valued. In order to keep the f<sup>n</sup> single-valued, we set up an artificial barrier such

though any other line from 0 can be used) which we agree not to cross. This barrier is called branch cut or branch and the point 0 is called a branch point.

Let  $w = f(z) = \sqrt{z+1}$ . (a) show that  $z = \pm i$  are the points of  $f$ . (b) show that a complete circuit around both branch points produces no change in the branches of  $f$ . (c) determine branch cuts.

We have  $w = \sqrt{z+1} = \sqrt{z-i} \sqrt{z+i}$ . Let  $z = re^{i\theta}$  and  $z+i = te^{i\phi}$ . Then  $w = \sqrt{rt} e^{i\frac{\theta+\phi}{2}}$ . If we start with a particular value of  $\theta = \alpha_1$ ,  $r = r_1$ , and  $\phi = \beta_1$ ,  $t = t_1$ . Then  $w = \sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}{2}}$ .

If  $z$  moves once counterclockwise around  $i$ ,  $\theta$  increases to  $\alpha_1 + 2\pi$ . While  $\phi$  remains the same. Hence  $w = \sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + 2\pi + \beta_1}{2}} = -\sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}{2}}$ .

Showing that we do not obtain the original value of  $w$ , that is, a change of branch occurs. Hence  $z = i$  is a branch point.

Similarly, if  $z$  moves once counterclockwise around  $-i$ ,  $w = \sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}{2}}$ .

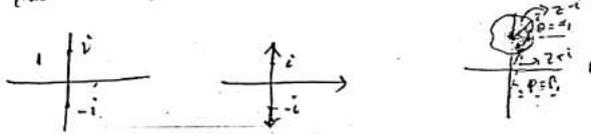
$w = -\sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}{2}}$ , that is, a change of branch occurs. Hence  $z = -i$  is a branch point. Therefore  $z = i$  and  $z = -i$  are two branch points.

(c) Let  $z$  move along a curve once round  $i$  and  $-i$  counterclockwise. Then  $\theta$  increases from  $\alpha_1$  to  $\alpha_1 + 2\pi$  and  $\phi$  increases from  $\beta_1$  to  $\beta_1 + 2\pi$ . Thus

$$w = \sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + 2\pi + \beta_1 + 2\pi}{2}} = \sqrt{r_1 t_1} e^{i\frac{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}{2}}$$

and no change in branch is observed.

(c) In order to prevent movement around the branch points we may introduce branch cuts as shown in the following figures (dotted lines).



Ex determine the branches and branch point of  $w = f(z) = \sqrt{z(z-3)}$ .  
 Soln Clearly  $z = 0$  and  $z = 3$  are branch points.

which has two branch points namely  $z=0$  and  $z=3$ .

Let  $P = ke^{i\alpha}$ . Then at  $P$ ,  $w_1 = k^{1/2} e^{i\alpha/2} (ke^{i\alpha} - 3)^{1/2}$ .  
 When  $P$  makes one complete revolution about the origin, we shall have  $P = ke^{i(\alpha+2\pi)}$ . At  $P$ ,  $w_1' = k^{1/2} e^{i(\alpha+2\pi)/2} (ke^{i(\alpha+2\pi)} - 3)^{1/2}$   
 $= -k^{1/2} e^{i\alpha/2} (ke^{i\alpha} - 3)^{1/2} = -w_1 = w_2$ . Similarly we can see

the other branch point is  $z=3$ . Here  $P$  is given by

$$z-3 = ke^{i\alpha} \quad \text{At } P \quad w_1' = \sqrt{(3+ke^{i\alpha}) \cdot ke^{i\alpha}} = k^{1/2} e^{i\alpha/2} \sqrt{(ke^{i\alpha} + 3)}$$

When  $P$  makes one complete circuit about the point 3 we have  $P = 3 + ke^{i(\alpha+2\pi)}$ . At  $P$ ,

$$w_1' = \sqrt{(3+ke^{i(\alpha+2\pi)}) \cdot ke^{i(\alpha+2\pi)}} = k^{1/2} e^{i\alpha/2} e^{i\pi} \sqrt{3+ke^{i\alpha}}$$

$$= -k^{1/2} e^{i\alpha/2} \sqrt{3+ke^{i\alpha}} = -w_1 = w_2$$

$$|H(z)| = |f(z)| < |g(z)|$$