

# On Meromorphic Solutions of a Certain Type of System of Complex Differential – Difference equations

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**Abstract.** In this article, we study meromorphic solutions of the type of system of complex differential and difference equation of the following form

$$\sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{1j}(z) f_1^m(z)] = R_2(z, f_2(z)),$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{2j}(z) f_2^m(z)] = R_1(z, f_1(z)).$$

Where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j=1,2,\dots,n; i=1,2$ ) are finite non-negative integers and  $c_j$  ( $j=1,2,\dots,n$ ) are distinct, nonzero complex numbers.  $\alpha_{ij}(z), \beta_{ij}(z)$  ( $j=1,2,\dots,n$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i=1,2$ ) respectively,  $R_i(z, f(z))$  ( $i=1,2$ ) are rational in  $f_i(z)$  ( $i=1,2$ ) with coefficients which are small functions of  $f_i(z)$  ( $i=1,2$ ) respectively.

**Key words and phrases.** Nevanlinna theory; differential-difference equations; meromorphic functions.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this article, we assume that the reader is familiar with standard symbols and fundamental results of Nevanlinna theory. A differential polynomial of  $f(z)$  means that it is a polynomial in  $f(z)$  and its derivatives with small functions of  $f(z)$  as coefficients. A differential-difference polynomial of  $f(z)$  means that it is a polynomial in  $f(z)$ , its derivatives and its shifts  $f(z + c)$  with small functions of  $f(z)$  as coefficients. A meromorphic function  $a(z)$  is called a small function of  $f(z)$  if and only if  $T(r, a(z)) = S(r, f)$ . Let  $c$  be a fixed, non-zero complex number  $\Delta_c f(z) = f(z + c) - f(z)$  and  $\Delta_c^n f(z) = \Delta_c(\Delta_c^{n-1} f(z)) = \Delta_c^{n-1} f(z + c) - \Delta_c^{n-1} f(z)$  for each integer  $n \geq 2$ . In order to simplify our notation, we shall use the same notation  $\Delta$  for both a general  $c$  and when  $c = 1$ . Equations written with the above difference operations  $\Delta_c^n f(z)$  are difference equations.

In 2000, Ablowitz[1] proved some results on the classical Malmquist type theorem of the complex difference equations by applying Nevanlinna theory. They obtained a typical results as follows.

**Theorem A.** If a complex difference equation

$$f(z + 1) + f(z - 1) = R(z, f(z))$$

$$= \frac{a_0(z) + a_1(z)f(z) + \dots + a_p(z)f(z)^p}{b_0(z) + b_1(z)f(z) + \dots + b_q(z)f(z)^q}$$

with polynomial coefficients  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ ) and  $a_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ ), admits a transcendental meromorphic solution of finite order, then  $d = \max\{p, q\} \leq 2$ .

One year later, Heittokangas[5] extended and improved the above result to the case of higher-order difference equations of more general type. They got the following result.

**Theorem B.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ . If the difference equation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n f(z + c_i) = R(z, f(z))$$

$$= \frac{a_0(z) + a_1(z)f(z) + \dots + a_p(z)f(z)^p}{b_0(z) + b_1(z)f(z) + \dots + b_q(z)f(z)^q}$$

with polynomial coefficients  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ ) and  $b_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ ), admits a transcendental meromorphic solution of finite order, then  $d = \max\{p, q\} \leq n$ .

In [8], Laine et al. obtained Tumura-Clunie theorem about the complex difference equation of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i(z)f(z + c_i) = R(z, f(z)) = \frac{P(z, f(z))}{Q(z, f(z))},$$

where the coefficients  $\alpha_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are non-vanishing small functions relative to  $f(z)$  and  $P(z, f(z))$ ,  $Q(z, f(z))$  are relating prime polynomials in  $f(z)$  over the field of small functions relative to  $f(z)$ .

**Theorem C.** Suppose that  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are distinct, nonzero complex numbers and that  $f(z)$  is a transcendental meromorphic solution of the last difference equation. Moreover, we assume that  $q = \deg_f Q > 0$ ,

$$n = \max\{p, q\} = \max\{\deg_f P, \deg_f Q\},$$

and that, without restricting generality,  $Q$  is a monic polynomial. If there exist  $a \in [0, n)$  such that for all  $r$  sufficiently large,

$$\bar{N}\left(r, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i(z)f(z + c_i)\right) \leq \alpha \bar{N}(r + C, f(z)) + S(r, f),$$

where  $C = \max\{|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|\}$ , then either the order  $\rho(f) = +\infty$ , or

$$Q(z, f(z)) = (f(z) + h(z))^q,$$

where  $h(z)$  is a small meromorphic function relative to  $f(z)$ .

In 2015, Haichou LI and Lingyun Gao [6], proved the following results, which generalize the above related results to systems of complex differential and difference equations.

**Theorem D.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  be distinct, nonzero complex numbers and suppose that  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  is a transcendental meromorphic solution of the following system

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{1j}(z)f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) &= R_2(z, f_2(z)) \\ &= \frac{a_{10}(z) + a_{11}(z)f_2(z) + \dots + a_{1p_2}(z)f_2(z)^{p_2}}{b_{10}(z) + b_{11}(z)f_2(z) + \dots + b_{1q_2}(z)f_2(z)^{q_2}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{2j}(z)f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) &= R_1(z, f_1(z)) \\ &= \frac{a_{20}(z) + a_{21}(z)f_1(z) + \dots + a_{2p_1}(z)f_1(z)^{p_1}}{b_{20}(z) + b_{21}(z)f_1(z) + \dots + b_{2q_1}(z)f_1(z)^{q_1}} \end{aligned}$$

with coefficients

$\alpha_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ),  $a_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, p_i; i = 1, 2$ ) and  $b_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, q_i; i = 1, 2$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), respectively, where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and denote

$$d_i = \deg_{f_i} R_i(z, f_i(z)) = \max\{p_i, q_i\};$$

$$\lambda_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\lambda_{ij} + 1), i = 1, 2.$$

If the order  $\rho(f_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are finite, then  $d_1 d_2 \leq \lambda_1 \lambda_2$ .

**Theorem E.** Let  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  be a transcendental meromorphic solution of the following system

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{1j}(z)f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) &= R_2(z, f_2(z)) = \frac{P_2(z, f_2(z))}{Q_2(z, f_2(z))}, \\ \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{2j}(z)f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) &= R_1(z, f_1(z)) = \frac{P_1(z, f_1(z))}{Q_1(z, f_1(z))} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and  $c_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are distinct, nonzero complex numbers,  $\alpha_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively.  $P_i(z, f_i(z))$ ,  $Q_i(z, f_i(z))$  are relating prime polynomials in  $f_i(z)$  over the field of small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), denote  $n_i = \max\{p_i, q_i\} = \max\{\deg_{f_i} P_i, \deg_{f_i} Q_i\}$ ,  $\lambda_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\lambda_{ij} + 1)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Moreover, we assume that  $q_i = \deg_{f_i} Q_i > 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), and that, without restricting generality,  $Q_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are both monic polynomials. If there exist  $\beta_i \in [0, n_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) such that for all  $r$  sufficiently large,

$$\bar{N}\left(r, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{ij} f_i^{(\lambda_{ij})}(z + c_j)\right) \leq \beta_i \bar{N}(r + C, f_i(z)) + S(r, f_i)$$

( $i = 1, 2$ ), where  $C = \max\{|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|\}$ .

Then either at least one of the orders  $\rho(f_i) = \infty$ , ( $i = 1, 2$ ) is true; or

$$Q_i(z, f_i(z)) = (f_i(z) + h_i(z))^{q_i} (i = 1, 2),$$

where  $h_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are small meromorphic functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), respectively.

**Theorem F.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  be distinct, nonzero complex numbers, and suppose  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  is a transcendental meromorphic solution of the system of differential and difference equations

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) = f_2(P(z)),$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) = f_1(P(z))$$

where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and  $\alpha_{ij}$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively,  $\lambda_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\lambda_{ij} + 1)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ),  $p(z)$  is a polynomial of degree  $k \geq 2$  and that  $\lambda_i \geq k$ . Then, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have  $T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) = O((\log r)^{\alpha + \varepsilon})$ , where  $\alpha = \frac{\log \lambda}{\log k}$ ,  $\lambda = \max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ .

In this paper, we consider the type of system of complex differential-difference equations of the following form

$$\sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{1j}(z) f_1^m(z)] = R_2(z, f_2(z))$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{2j}(z) f_2^m(z)] = R_1(z, f_1(z))$$

where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and  $c_j$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are distinct, nonzero complex numbers,  $\alpha_{ij}(z), \beta_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively,  $R_i(z, f_i(z))$ , ( $i=1,2$ ) are rational in  $f_i(z)$  ( $i=1,2$ ) respectively.

Here we obtain the following result, which generalize the above related results to systems of complex differential and difference equations.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  be distinct, nonzero complex numbers and suppose that  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  is a transcendental meromorphic solution of the following system

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{1j}(z) f_1^m(z)] = R_2(z, f_2(z))$$

$$= \frac{a_{10}(z) + a_{11}(z) f_2(z) + \dots + a_{1p_2}(z) f_2(z)^{p_2}}{b_{10}(z) + b_{11}(z) f_2(z) + \dots + b_{1q_2}(z) f_2(z)^{q_2}},$$

$$(1.2) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{2j}(z) f_2^m(z)] = R_1(z, f_1(z))$$

$$= \frac{a_{20}(z) + a_{21}(z) f_1(z) + \dots + a_{2p_1}(z) f_1(z)^{p_1}}{b_{20}(z) + b_{21}(z) f_1(z) + \dots + b_{2q_1}(z) f_1(z)^{q_1}}$$

with coefficients  $\alpha_{ij}(z), \beta_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ),  $a_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, p_i; i = 1, 2$ ) and  $b_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, q_i; i = 1, 2$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), respectively, where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and denote

$$d_i = \deg_{f_i} R_i(z, f_i(z)) = \max\{p_i, q_i\};$$

$$\lambda_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\lambda_{ij} + 1), i = 1, 2.$$

If the order  $\rho(f_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are finite, then

$$d_1 d_2 \leq (\lambda_1 + m)(\lambda_2 + m).$$

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  be distinct, nonzero complex numbers, and suppose  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  is a transcendental meromorphic solution of the system of differential and difference equations

$$(1.3) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{1j}(z) f_1^m(z)] = f_2(P(z)),$$

$$(1.4) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{(\lambda_{2j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{2j}(z) f_2^m(z)] = f_1(P(z)),$$

where  $\lambda_{ij}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n; i = 1, 2$ ) are finite non-negative integers, and  $\alpha_{ij}(z), \beta_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) respectively, denote  $\lambda_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\lambda_{ij} + 1)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ),  $p(z)$  is a polynomial of degree  $k \geq 2$  and that  $\lambda_i \geq k$ . Then, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have

$$T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) = O((\log r)^{\alpha + \varepsilon}),$$

where  $\frac{\log \lambda}{\log k}$ ,  $\lambda = \max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ .

## 2. SOME LEMMAS

**Lemma 2.1.** ([7]) Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function.

Then for all irreducible rational functions in  $f$ ,

$$R(z, f(z)) = \frac{P(z, f(z))}{Q(z, f(z))} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^p a_i(z) f^i}{\sum_{j=0}^q b_j(z) f^j},$$

such that the meromorphic coefficients  $a_i(z), b_j(z)$  satisfy

$$T(r, a_i(z)) = S(r, f), \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, p,$$

$$T(r, b_j(z)) = S(r, f), \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, q,$$

one has  $T(r, R(z, f)) = \max\{p, q\}T(r, f) + S(r, f)$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** ([9]) If  $f(z)$  is a transcendental meromorphic function, then

$$T(r, f^{(k)}) \leq (k + 1)T(r, f) + S(r, f).$$

**Lemma 2.3.** ([2]) Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function with order  $\rho = \rho(f), \rho < +\infty$ , and let  $c$  be a fix nonzero complex number, then for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , one has

$$T(r, f(z + c)) = T(r, f(z)) + O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r).$$

**Lemma 2.4.** ([4]) Let  $f$  be a transcendental meromorphic function, and  $p(z) = a_k z^k + a_{k-1} z^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0, a_k \neq 0$  be a nonconstant polynomial of degree  $k$ . Given  $0 < \delta < |a_k|$ , denote  $\alpha = |a_k| + \delta$  and  $\beta = |a_k| - \delta$ . Then given  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ , one has

$$kn(\beta r^k, a, f) \leq n(r, a, f(p(z))) \leq kn(\alpha r^k, a, f)$$

$$N(\beta r^k, a, f) + O(\log r) \leq N(r, a, f(p(z))) \leq N(\alpha r^k, a, f) + O(\log r),$$

$(1 - \varepsilon)T(\beta r^k, f) \leq T(r, f(p(z))) \leq (1 + \varepsilon)T(\alpha r^k, f)$  for all  $r$  large enough.

**Lemma 2.5.** ([3]) Let  $f : (r_0, +\infty) \rightarrow (0, +\infty)$  be positive

and bounded in every finite interval, and suppose that  $f(\alpha r^k) \leq Af(r) + B$  holds for all  $r$  large enough, where  $\alpha > 0, k > 1, A > 1$  and  $B$  are real constants. Then

$$f(r) = O((\log r)^\beta),$$

where  $\beta = \frac{\log A}{\log k}$ .

## 3. PROOFS OF THE THEOREMS.

In this section we present the proofs of the main results.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Since the coefficients

$\alpha_{ij}(z), \beta_{ij}(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ),  $a_{ij}(j = 1, 2, \dots, p_i; i = 1, 2)$  and  $b_{ij}(j = 1, 2, \dots, q_i; i = 1, 2)$  in system (1.1) and (1.2) are small functions relative to  $f_i(z)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), respectively, that is,

$$T(r, \alpha_{ij}) = S(r, f_i), \quad i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$T(r, \beta_{ij}) = S(r, f_i), \quad i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$T(r, a_{ij}) = S(r, f_i), \quad i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, p_i;$$

$$T(r, b_{ij}) = S(r, f_i), \quad i = 1, 2; j = 1, 2, \dots, q_i$$

hold for all  $r$  outside of a possible exceptional set  $E_1$

with finite logarithmic measure  $\int_{E_1} \frac{dr}{r} < +\infty$ . Let

$(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  be a finite order meromorphic solution of (1.1) and (1.2). Now equating the Nevanlinna

characteristic function on both sides of each equation of (1.1) and (1.2), and applying Lemmas 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, we have

$$d_1 T(r, f_2) = T(r, R_2(z, f_2)) + S(r, f_2)$$

$$= T(r, \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{1j}(z) f_1^{(\lambda_{1j})}(z + c_j) + \beta_{1j}(z) f_1^m(z)])$$

$$+ S(r, f_2)$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^n [(\lambda_{1j} + 1)T(r, f_1(z + c_j)) + mT(r, f_1(z))] + S(r, f_2)$$

$$+ S(r, f_2)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n [(\lambda_{1j} + m + 1)T(r, f_1(z))] + O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon})$$

$$+ O(\log r) + S(r, f_2)$$

$$= (\lambda_1 + m)T(r, f_1(z)) + O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r) + S(r, f_2).$$

So there is

$$(3.1) \quad (d_1 + o(1)) T(r, f_2) \leq (\lambda_1 + m) T(r, f_1(z)) + O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r)$$

Similarly, we have

$$(3.2) \quad (d_2 + o(1)) T(r, f_1) \leq (\lambda_2 + m) T(r, f_2(z)) + O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r)$$

Thus, (3.1) times  $(d_2 + o(1))$  and (3.2) times  $(\lambda_1 + m)$  obtain respectively that

$$(3.3) \quad (d_2 + o(1))(d_1 + o(1)) T(r, f_2) \leq (\lambda_1 + m) T(r, f_1)(d_2 + o(1)) + (d_2 + o(1)) [O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r)],$$

and

$$(3.4) \quad (\lambda_1 + m)(d_2 + o(1)) T(r, f_1) \leq (\lambda_1 + m)(\lambda_2 + m) T(r, f_2) + (\lambda_1 + m) [O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r)]$$

Therefore, from (3.3) and (3.4), we can have the following inequality

$$(d_2 + o(1))(d_1 + o(1)) T(r, f_2) \leq (\lambda_1 + m)(\lambda_2 + m) T(r, f_2) + (\lambda_1 + m + (d_2 + o(1))) [O(r^{\rho-1+\varepsilon}) + O(\log r)] + S(r, f_2).$$

Dividing this by  $T(r, f_2)$  on both sides of the last inequality and letting  $r \rightarrow \infty$  outside of a possible exceptional set  $E_1$  with finite logarithmic measure respectively, we have  $d_1 d_2 \leq (\lambda_1 + m)(\lambda_2 + m)$ . Therefore, the proof of Theorem 1.1 is completed.

**Proof of Theorem 1.2.** Let  $(f_1(z), f_2(z))$  be a transcendental meromorphic solution of system (1.3) and (1.4), and  $p(z) = a_k z^k + a_{k-1} z^{k-1} + \dots + a_1 z + a_0, a_k \neq 0$  be a nonconstant polynomial of degree  $k$ . Given  $0 < \delta < |a_k|$ ,

denote  $\alpha = |a_k| + \delta$  and  $\beta = |a_k| - \delta$ . Denoting again  $C = \max \{|c_i|, i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . According to system (1.3) and (1.4) and the last result of Lemma 2.4, for given  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ , we have

$$(1 - \varepsilon_1) T(\beta r^k, f_1) \leq T(r, f_1(p(z))) = T(r, \sum_{j=1}^n [\alpha_{2j}(z) f_2^{\lambda_{2j}}(z + c_j) + \beta_{2j}(z) f_2^m(z)]) + S(r, f_2) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n [T(r, f_2^{\lambda_{2j}}(z + c_j)) + T(r, f_2^m(z))] + S(r, f_2) \leq \sum_{j=1}^n [(\lambda_{2j} + 1) T(r, f_2(z + c_j)) + m T(r, f_2(z))] + S(r, f_2) \leq (\lambda_2 + m) T(r + C, f_2(z)) + S(r, f_2)$$

Since  $T(r + C, f) \leq T(\beta r, f)$  holds for  $r$  large enough for  $\beta > 1$ , we may assume  $r$  to be large enough to satisfy

$$(1 - \varepsilon_1) T(\beta r^k, f_1) \leq (\lambda_2 + m)(1 + \varepsilon) T(\beta r, f_2),$$

outside a possible exceptional set of finite linear measure. By the standard reasoning to remove the exceptional set, we know that whenever  $\mu > 1$ ,

$$(3.5) \quad (1 - \varepsilon_1) T(\beta r^k, f_1) \leq (\lambda_2 + m)(1 + \varepsilon_1) T(\mu \beta r, f_2),$$

holds for all  $r$  large enough. Similarly, we also obtain

$$(3.6) \quad (1 - \varepsilon_2) T(\beta r^k, f_2) \leq (\lambda_1 + m)(1 + \varepsilon_2) T(\mu \beta r, f_1)$$

holds for all  $r$  large enough. Taking  $\varepsilon = \max\{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2\}$ ;  $\lambda = \max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ , and (3.5)+(3.6) assumes that

$$(1 - \varepsilon) [T(\beta r^k, f_1) + T(\beta r^k, f_2)] \leq (\lambda + m)(1 + \varepsilon) [T(\mu \beta r, f_1) + T(\mu \beta r, f_2)].$$

Denote  $t = \mu \beta r$ , thus the last inequality may be written in the form

$$\left[ T\left(\frac{\beta}{(\mu \beta)^k} t^k, f_1\right) + T\left(\frac{\beta}{(\mu \beta)^k} t^k, f_2\right) \right] \leq \frac{(\lambda + m)(1 + \varepsilon)}{(1 - \varepsilon)} [T(t, f_1) + T(t, f_2)].$$

Therefore, by Lemma 2.5 and (3.7) we can get

$$T(r, f_1) + T(r, f_2) = O((\log r)^Y)$$

where  $\gamma = \frac{\log(\lambda(1+\varepsilon)/(1-\varepsilon))}{\log k} = \frac{\log \lambda}{\log k} + o(1)$ . Now denoting

$\alpha = \frac{\log \lambda}{\log k}$ , we can obtain the required form of Theorem

1.2 . Therefore, Theorem 1.2 is proved.

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