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ON THE UNIQUENESS OF MEROMORPHIC FUNCTIONS
THAT SHARE THREE SETS

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Abstract. With the aid of the notion of weighted sharing and pseudo sharing of sets we
prove three uniqueness results on meromorphic functions sharing three sets, all of which

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1. Introduction and main results

In this paper by meromorphic functions we will always mean meromorphic func-
tions in the complex plane. We adopt the standard notation in the Nevanlinna theory
of meromorphic functions as explained in [8]. It will be convenient to let E denote
any set of positive real numbers of finite linear measure, not necessarily the same at
each occurrence. For a nonconstant meromorphic function h we denote by T(r, h)
the Nevanlinna characteristic of h and by S(r, h) any quantity satisfying

\[ S(r, h) = o(T(r, h)) \quad (r \to \infty, \ r \not\in E). \]

Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions and let a be a finite
complex number. We say that f and g share a CM, provided that f − a and g − a
have the same zeros with the same multiplicities. Similarly, we say that f and g
share a IM, provided that f − a and g − a have the same zeros ignoring multiplicities.
In addition we say that f and g share \( \infty \) CM if \( \frac{1}{f} \) and \( \frac{1}{g} \) share 0 CM, and we
say that f and g share \( \infty \) IM if \( \frac{1}{f} \) and \( \frac{1}{g} \) share 0 IM.

Let S be a set of distinct elements of \( \mathbb{C} \cup \{ \infty \} \) and \( E_f(S) = \bigcup_{a \in S} \{ z : f(z) - a = 0 \} \),
where each zero is counted according to its multiplicity. If we do not count the
multiplicity the set $\bigcup_{a \in S} \{z: f(z) - a = 0\}$ is denoted by $\overline{E}_f(S)$. If $E_f(S) = E_g(S)$ we say that $f$ and $g$ share the set $S$ CM. On the other hand, if $\overline{E}_f(S) = \overline{E}_g(S)$, we say that $f$ and $g$ share the set $S$ IM.

Let $m$ be a positive integer or infinity and $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$. We denote by $E_m(a; f)$ the set of all $a$-points of $f$ with multiplicities not exceeding $m$, where an $a$-point is counted according to its multiplicity. If $E_\infty(a; f) = E_\infty(a; g)$ for some $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$, we say that $f, g$ share the value $a$ CM. For a set $S$ of distinct elements of $\mathbb{C}$ we define $E_m(S, f) = \bigcup_{a \in S} E_m(a; f)$.

The uniqueness problem for entire or meromorphic functions sharing sets was initiated by a famous question of F. Gross in [7]. In 1976 he posed the following question:

Question A. Can one find two finite sets $S_j$ ($j = 1, 2$) such that any two non-constant entire functions $f$ and $g$ satisfying $E_f(S_j) = E_g(S_j)$ for $j = 1, 2$ must be identical?

In [7], Gross said that if the answer of Question A is affirmative it would be interesting to know how large both sets would have to be?

In 1994, H. X. Yi posed the following question for meromorphic functions.

Question B [19]. Can one find three finite sets $S_j$ ($j = 1, 2, 3$) such that any two non-constant meromorphic functions $f$ and $g$ satisfying $E_f(S_j) = E_g(S_j)$ for $j = 1, 2, 3$ must be identical?

In 1994 Yi [19] gave an affirmative answer to Question B and proved that there exist three finite sets $S_1$ (with 7 elements), $S_2$ (with 2 elements) and $S_3$ (with 1 element) such that any two non-constant meromorphic functions $f$ and $g$ satisfying $E_f(S_j) = E_g(S_j)$ for $j = 1, 2, 3$ must be identical.

Gradually the research on Question A corresponding to meromorphic functions as well as Question B gained pace and today it has become one of the most prominent branches of the uniqueness theory. Among a number of situations depending on the nature and the number of shared sets, the uniqueness of two meromorphic functions was studied by many authors. Especially during the last few years a considerable amount of work has been done to investigate the possible answer to Question B. (cf. [1], [2]–[5], [6], [9], [13], [16], [17], [18], [19], [20], [21], [23]). In 2001 the idea of gradation of sharing known as weighted sharing was introduced in [11], [12] which measures how close a shared value is to being shared CM or to being shared IM. In the following definition we explain the notion.

Definition 1.1 [11], [12]. Let $k$ be a nonnegative integer or infinity. For $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ we denote by $E_k(a; f)$ the set of all $a$-points of $f$, where an $a$-point of multiplicity $m$ is counted $m$ times if $m \leq k$ and $k + 1$ times if $m > k$. If $E_k(a; f) = E_k(a; g)$, we say that $f, g$ share the value $a$ with weight $k$. 320
We write \( f, g \) share \((a, k)\) meaning that \( f, g \) share the value \( a \) with weight \( k \). Clearly, if \( f, g \) share \((a, k)\) then \( f, g \) share \((a, p)\) for any integer \( p, 0 \leq p < k \). Also we note that \( f, g \) share a value \( a \) IM or CM if and only if \( f, g \) share \((a, 0)\) or \((a, \infty)\), respectively.

**Definition 1.2** [11]. Let \( S \) be a set of distinct elements of \( \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} \) and \( k \) a nonnegative integer or \( \infty \). We denote by \( E_f(S, k) \) the set \( \bigcup_{a \in S} E_k(a; f) \).

Clearly \( E_f(S) = E_f(S, \infty) \) and \( \overline{E_f}(S) = E_f(S, 0) \).

Recently the present author [1] has provided the affirmative answer to Question B by applying the notion of weighted sharing. He has proved that if two non constant meromorphic functions share one set \( S_1 \) (containing 1 element) CM, and two other sets \( S_2 \) (containing 1 element) and \( S_3 \) (containing 4 elements) with finite weight, then \( f \equiv g \) with some restriction on the ramification index of \( f \) and \( g \) at \( \infty \). In this paper, by using the idea of weighted sharing, we will investigate the possible answer to Question B where solely the set sharing of the meromorphic functions will be given as in the follows.

\[
(1.1) \quad P(w) = aw^n - n(n-1)w^2 + 2n(n-2)bw - (n-1)(n-2)b^2
\]

where \( n \geq 3 \) is an integer and \( a \) and \( b \) are two nonzero complex numbers satisfying \( ab^{n-2} \neq 2 \). We claim that the polynomial \( P(w) \) has only simple zeros.

In fact we consider the rational function

\[
(1.2) \quad R(w) = \frac{aw^n}{n(n-1)(w - \alpha_1)(w - \alpha_2)},
\]

where \( \alpha_1 \) and \( \alpha_2 \) are two distinct roots of

\[
n(n-1)w^2 - 2n(n-2)bw + (n-1)(n-2)b^2 = 0.
\]

From (1.2) we have

\[
(1.3) \quad R'(w) = \frac{(n-2)aw^{n-1}(w - b)^2}{n(n-1)(w - \alpha_1)^2(w - \alpha_2)^2}.
\]

From (1.3) we know that \( w = 0 \) is a root with multiplicity \( n \) of the equation \( R(w) = 0 \) and \( w = b \) is a root with multiplicity 3 of the equation \( R(w) - c = 0 \), where \( c = \frac{1}{2}ab^{n-2} \).

Then

\[
(1.4) \quad R(w) - c = \frac{a(w - b)^3Q_{n-3}(w)}{n(n-1)(w - \alpha_1)(w - \alpha_2)},
\]

where \( Q_{n-3}(w) \) is a polynomial of degree \( n - 3 \).
Moreover, from (1.1) and (1.2) we have

\begin{equation}
R(w) - 1 = \frac{P(w)}{n(n-1)(w-\alpha_1)(w-\alpha_2)}.
\end{equation}

Noting that \( c = \frac{1}{2}ab^{n-2} \neq 1 \), from (1.3) and (1.5) we obtain that

\[ P(w) = aw^n - n(n-1)w^2 - 2n(n-2)bw + (n-1)(n-2)b^2 \]

has only simple zeros.

In 2003, Lin and Yi proved the following result which answered Question B and improved the corresponding theorem in [19].

**Theorem A** [16]. Let \( S_1 = \{0\}, S_2 = \{\infty\} \) and \( S_3 = \{w \mid P(w) = 0\} \), where \( P(w) \) is given by (1.1) and \( n \geq 5 \). Suppose that \( f \) and \( g \) are two non-constant meromorphic functions satisfying \( E_f(S_j, \infty) = E_g(S_j, \infty) \) (\( j = 1, 2, 3 \)). Then \( f \equiv g \).

In [16], Yi and Lin made the following remark.

**Remark 1.1.** If the condition \( E_f(S_2, \infty) = E_g(S_2, \infty) \) is replaced by a weaker condition \( E_f(S_2, 0) = E_g(S_2, 0) \) the conclusion of Theorem A remains true.

In this paper, we will prove the following three theorems which improve Theorem A.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let \( S_1, S_2 \) and \( S_3 \) be defined as in Theorem A and \( n \geq 5 \). Suppose that \( f \) and \( g \) are two non-constant meromorphic functions satisfying \( E_f(S_1, 4) = E_g(S_1, 4) \), \( E_f(S_2, 0) = E_g(S_2, 0) \) and \( E_{(3)}(S_3, f) = E_{(3)}(S_3, g) \). Then \( f \equiv g \).

**Theorem 1.2.** Let \( S_1, S_2 \) and \( S_3 \) be defined as in Theorem A and \( n \geq 5 \). Suppose that \( f \) and \( g \) are two non-constant meromorphic functions satisfying \( E_f(S_1, \infty) = E_g(S_1, \infty) \), \( E_f(S_2, 0) = E_g(S_2, 0) \) and \( E_{(3)}(S_3, f) = E_{(3)}(S_3, g) \). Then \( f \equiv g \).

**Theorem 1.3.** Let \( S_1, S_2 \) and \( S_3 \) be defined as in Theorem A and \( n \geq 5 \). Suppose that \( f \) and \( g \) are two non-constant meromorphic functions satisfying \( E_f(S_1, 2) = E_g(S_1, 2) \), \( E_f(S_2, 0) = E_g(S_2, 0) \) and \( E_{(3)}(S_3, f) = E_{(3)}(S_3, g) \). Then \( f \equiv g \).

We also need the following definitions.

**Definition 1.3** [10]. For \( a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} \) we denote by \( N(r, a; f | = 1) \) the counting function of simple \( a \)-points of \( f \). For a positive integer \( m \) we denote by \( N(r, a; f | \leq m) \) (\( N(r, a; f | \geq m) \)) the counting function of those \( a \) points of \( f \) whose multiplicities are not greater(less) than \( m \) where each \( a \) point is counted according to its
multiplicity; denote by $N(r, a; f |< m)$ ($N(r, a; f |> m)$) the counting function of those $a$-points of $f$ whose multiplicities are less (greater) than $m$; denote by $\overline{N}(r, a; f |\leq m)$, $\overline{N}(r, a; f |\geq m)$, $\overline{N}(r, a; f |< m)$ and $\overline{N}(r, a; f |> m)$ the reduced forms of $N(r, a; f |< m)$, $N(r, a; f |\geq m)$, $N(r, a; f |< m)$ and $N(r, a; f |> m)$, respectively.

**Definition 1.4** [1]. We denote by $\overline{N}(r, a; f |= k)$ the reduced counting function of those $a$-points of $f$ whose multiplicity is exactly $k$, where $k \geq 2$ is an integer.

**Definition 1.5.** Let $f$ and $g$ be two non-constant meromorphic functions such that $f$ and $g$ share a value $a$ IM where $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$. Let $z_0$ be an $a$-point of $f$ with multiplicity $p$, an $a$-point of $g$ with multiplicity $q$. We denote by $\overline{N}_L(r, a; f)$ ($\overline{N}_L(r, a; g)$) the counting function of those $a$-points of $f$ and $g$ where $p > q$ ($q > p$), each $a$-point being counted only once.

**Definition 1.6.** Let $f$ and $g$ be two non-constant meromorphic functions and $m$ be a positive integer such that $E_{a} L(a; f)$ $= E_{a} L(a; g)$ where $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$. Let $z_0$ be an $a$-point of $f$ with multiplicity $p > 0$, an $a$-point of $g$ with multiplicity $q > 0$. We denote by $\overline{N}_L^{m}(r, a; f)$ ($\overline{N}_L^{m}(r, a; g)$) the counting function of those $a$-points of $f$ and $g$ where $p > q$ ($q > p$), each $a$-point is counted only once.

**Definition 1.7.** For a positive integer $p$ we denote $N_p(r, a; f) = \overline{N}(r, a; f) + \overline{N}(r, a; f |\geq 2) + \ldots + \overline{N}(r, a; f |\geq p)$. Clearly $\overline{N}(r, a; f) = N_1(r, a; f)$.

**Definition 1.8.** Let $m$ be a positive integer. Also let $z_0$ be a zero of $f(z) - a$ of multiplicity $p$ and a zero of $g(z) - a$ of multiplicity $q$. We denote by $\overline{N}_{f \geq m+1}(r, a; f | g \neq a)$ ($\overline{N}_{g \geq m+1}(r, a; g | f \neq a)$) the reduced counting functions of those $a$-points of $f$ and $g$ for which $p \geq m + 1$ and $q = 0$ ($q \geq m + 1$ and $p = 0$).

**Definition 1.9** [11], [12]. Let $f$, $g$ share $(a, 0)$. We denote by $\overline{N}_{*}(r, a; f, g)$ the reduced counting function of those $a$-points of $f$ whose multiplicities differ from the multiplicities of the corresponding $a$-points of $g$.

**Remark 1.2.** Clearly $\overline{N}_{*}(r, a; f, g) = \overline{N}_{*}(r, a; g, f) = \overline{N}_L(r, a; f) + \overline{N}_L(r, a; g)$. If $E_{m}(a; f) = E_{m}(a; g)$, then $\overline{N}_{*}(r, a; f, g) = \overline{N}_L^{m}(r, a; f) + \overline{N}_L^{m}(r, a; g) + \overline{N}_{f \geq m+1}(r, a; f | g \neq a) + \overline{N}_{g \geq m+1}(r, a; g | f \neq a)$.

**Definition 1.10** [14]. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$. We denote by $N(r, a; f | g = b)$ the counting function of those $a$-points of $f$, counted according to their multiplicity, which are $b$-points of $g$.

**Definition 1.11** [14]. Let $a, b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_q \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$. We denote by $N(r, a; f | g \neq b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_q)$ the counting function of those $a$-points of $f$, counted according to their multiplicity, which are not the $b_i$-points of $g$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, q$. 

323
2. Lemmas

In this section we present some lemmas which will be needed in the sequel. Let \( F \) and \( G \) be two non-constant meromorphic functions defined in \( \mathbb{C} \). Henceforth we will denote by \( H \), \( \Phi \) and \( V \) the following three functions:

\[
H = \left( \frac{F''}{F'} - \frac{2F'}{F - 1} \right) - \left( \frac{G''}{G'} - \frac{2G'}{G - 1} \right),
\]
\[
\Phi = \frac{F'}{F - 1} - \frac{G'}{G - 1},
\]
and
\[
V = \left( \frac{F'}{F - 1} - \frac{F'}{F} \right) - \left( \frac{G'}{G - 1} - \frac{G'}{G} \right) = \frac{F'}{F(F - 1)} - \frac{G'}{G(G - 1)}.
\]

Lemma 2.1 [15]. For \( E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G) \) and \( H \neq 0 \) we have

\[
N(r, 1; F | = 1) = N(r, 1; G | = 1) \leq N(r, H) + S(r, F) + S(r, G).
\]

Lemma 2.2. If \( N(r, 0; f^{(k)} | f \neq 0) \) denotes the counting function of those zeros of \( f^{(k)} \) which are not the zeros of \( f \), where a zero of \( f^{(k)} \) is counted according to its multiplicity, then

\[
N(r, 0; f^{(k)} | f \neq 0) \leq kN(r, \infty; f) + N_k(r, 0; f) + S(r, f).
\]

Proof. By the first fundamental theorem and Milloux theorem ([see [8], Theorem 3.1]) we get

\[
N(r, 0; f^{(k)} | f \neq 0) \leq N(r, 0; \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}) \leq N(r, \infty; \frac{f^{(k)}}{f}) + m\left( r, \frac{f^{(k)}}{f} \right) + O(1)
\]
\[
\leq N(r, 0; f | < k) + kN(r, 0; f | \geq k) + kN(r, \infty; f) + S(r, f)
\]
\[= N_k(r, 0; f) + kN(r, \infty; f) + S(r, f).\]

\[\square\]

Lemma 2.3. Let \( F \) and \( G \) be two meromorphic functions such that \( E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G) \), where \( 1 \leq m < \infty \). Then

\[
\overline{N}(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}(r, 1; G) - N(r, 1; F | = 1) + \left( \frac{m}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \{ \overline{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F | G \neq 1) \}
\]
\[
+\mathcal{N}_{G \geq m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) + \left(m - \frac{1}{2}\right)\{\mathcal{N}^m_L(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}^m_L(r, 1; G)\}
\leq \frac{1}{2} [N(r, 1; F) + N(r, 1; G)].
\]

**Proof.** Since \(E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)\), we note that common zeros of \(F - 1 \text{ and } G - 1\) up to multiplicity \(m\) are the same. Let \(z_0\) be a 1-point of \(F\) with multiplicity \(p\) and a 1-point of \(G\) with multiplicity \(q\). If \(p = m + 1\) the possible values of \(q\) are (i) \(q = m + 1\), (ii) \(q \geq m + 2\), (iii) \(q = 0\). Similarly, when \(p = m + 2\) the possible values of \(q\) are (i) \(q = m + 1\), (ii) \(q = m + 2\), (iii) \(q \geq m + 3\), (iv) \(q = 0\). If \(p \geq m + 3\) we can similarly find the possible values of \(q\). Now the lemma follows from the above explanation. \(\square\)

Let \(f\) and \(g\) be two non-constant meromorphic functions and

\[(2.1) \quad F = R(f), \quad G = R(g),\]

where \(R(w)\) is given by (1.2). From (1.2) and (2.1) it is clear that

\[(2.2) \quad T(r, f) = \frac{1}{n}T(r, F) + S(r, f), \quad T(r, g) = \frac{1}{n}T(r, G) + S(r, g).\]

\(\square\)

**Lemma 2.4.** Let \(F, G\) be given by (2.1) and let \(\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_n\) be the roots of \(P(w) = 0\).

If \(E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)\), where \(1 \leq m < \infty\), then

(i) \(\mathcal{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) \leq m^{-1}[\mathcal{N}(r, 0; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) - N_\otimes(r, 0; f')] + S(r, f)\)

(ii) \(\mathcal{N}_{G \geq m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \leq m^{-1}[\mathcal{N}(r, 0; g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; g) - N_\otimes(r, 0; g')] + S(r, g)\)

where \(N_\otimes(r, 0; f') = N(r, 0; f' \mid f \neq 0, \omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_n)\). \(N_\otimes(r, 0; g')\) is defined similarly.

**Proof.** We prove (i) since (ii) can be proved in a similar way. Using Lemma 2.2 we get from (1.5) and (2.1) that

\[
\mathcal{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) \leq \mathcal{N}(r, 1; F \mid \geq m + 1)
\leq \frac{1}{m} \left( N(r, 1; F) - \mathcal{N}(r, 1; F) \right)
\leq \frac{1}{m} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (N(r, \omega_j; f) - \mathcal{N}(r, \omega_j; f)) \right]
\leq \frac{1}{m} (N(r, 0; f' \mid f \neq 0) - N_\otimes(r, 0; f'))
\leq \frac{1}{m} [\mathcal{N}(r, 0; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) - N_\otimes(r, 0; f')] + S(r, f).
\]
Lemma 2.5. Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $\omega_1, \omega_2, \ldots, \omega_n$ be the roots of $P(w) = 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$, where $1 \leq m < \infty$, then

(i) $\mathcal{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F | G \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_L(r, 1; F) \leq m^{-1}[\mathcal{N}(r, 0; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) - N_\infty(r, 0; f')] + S(r, f)$,

(ii) $\mathcal{N}_{G \geq m+1}(r, 1; G | F \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_L(r, 1; G) \leq m^{-1}[\mathcal{N}(r, 0; g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; g) - N_\infty(r, 0; g')] + S(r, g)$.

Proof. We prove (i) since (ii) can be proved in a similar way.

Since $\mathcal{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F | G \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_L(r, 1; F) \leq \mathcal{N}(r, 1; F | \geq m+1)$ the lemma can be proved following the line of proof of Lemma 2.4.

Lemma 2.6. Let $F$ and $G$ be given by (2.1) and assume $f$, $g$ share $(0, 0)$ and $0$ is not a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Then $\Phi \equiv 0$ implies $F \equiv G$.

Proof. Suppose $\Phi \equiv 0$. Then by integration we obtain

$$F - 1 = C(G - 1).$$

It is clear that if $z_0$ is a zero of $f$ then it is a zero of $g$. So from (1.2) and (2.1) it follows that $F(z_0) = 0$ and $G(z_0) = 0$. So $C = 1$ and hence $F \equiv G$.

Lemma 2.7. Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \neq 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$ and $f$, $g$ share $(\infty, k)$ and $(0, p)$, where $1 \leq m < \infty$ and $0 \leq p < \infty$, then

$$[np + n - 1] \mathcal{N}(r, 0; f | \geq p + 1) = [np + n - 1] \mathcal{N}(r, 0; g | \geq p + 1)$$

$$\leq \mathcal{N}_L^{(m)}(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}_L^{(m)}(r, 1; G) + \mathcal{N}_{F \geq m+1}(r, 1; F | G \neq 1)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m+1}(r, 1; G | F \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_e(r, \infty; f, g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_1; f)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_2; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_1; g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_2; g)$$

$$+ S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

Proof. Suppose $0$ is a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Then the lemma follows immediately.

Next suppose $0$ is not a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Since $H \neq 0$ by Lemma 2.6 we can deduce $\Phi \equiv 0$. Let $z_0$ be a zero of $f$ with multiplicity $q$ and a zero of $g$ with multiplicity $r$. From (1.2) and (2.1) we know that $z_0$ is a zero of $F$ with multiplicity $nq$ and a zero of $G$ with multiplicity $nr$. Since $f$, $g$ share $(0; p)$, it follows that $F$, $G$ share $(0; np)$ and so a zero of $F$ with multiplicity $q (\geq np + 1)$ is a zero of $G$ of multiplicity $r (\geq np + 1)$ and vice versa. We note that $F$ and $G$ have
no zero of multiplicity $t$ where $np < t < n(p + 1)$. So it is clear from the definition of $\Phi$ that $z_0$ is a zero of $\Phi$ with multiplicity at least $n(p + 1) - 1$. So we have

$$[np + n - 1] N(r, 0; f \mid \geq p + 1) = [np + n - 1] N(r, 0; g \mid \geq p + 1)$$

$$\leq N(r, 0; \Phi)$$

$$\leq N(r, \infty; \Phi) + S(r, f) + S(r, g)$$

$$\leq \mathcal{N}_s(r, \infty; f, g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_1; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_2; f)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_1; g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \alpha_2; g) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; G)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}_{F \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)$$

$$+ S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

\[\square\]

**Lemma 2.8.** Let $F$ and $G$ be given by (2.1) and assume $f, g$ share $(\infty, 0)$ and $\infty$ is not a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Then $V \equiv 0$ implies $F \equiv G$.

**Proof.** Suppose $V \equiv 0$.

Then by integration we obtain

$$1 - \frac{1}{F} = A \left( 1 - \frac{1}{G} \right).$$

It is clear that if $z_0$ is a pole of $f$ then it is a pole of $g$. Hence from the definition of $F$ and $G$ we have $1/F(z_0) = 0$ and $1/G(z_0) = 0$. So $A = 1$ and hence $F \equiv G$. \[\square\]

**Lemma 2.9.** Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \neq 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$, $f, g$ share $(\infty, k)$ and $(0, p)$, where $1 \leq m < \infty$, $0 \leq k < \infty$, then

$$[(n - 2)k + n - 3] \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f \mid \geq k + 1)$$

$$= [(n - 2)k + n - 3] \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; g \mid \geq k + 1)$$

$$\leq \mathcal{N}_s(r, 0; f, g) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; G)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}_{F \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1)$$

$$+ \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).$$

**Proof.** Suppose $\infty$ is a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Then the lemma follows immediately.
Next suppose $\infty$ is not a Picard exceptional value of $f$ and $g$. Since $H \not= 0$, from Lemma 2.8 we have $V \not= 0$. We suppose that $z_0$ is a pole of $f$ with multiplicity $q$ and a pole of $g$ with multiplicity $r$. From (1.2) and (2.1) we know that $z_0$ is a pole of $f$ with multiplicity $(n - 2)q$ and a pole of $g$ with multiplicity $(n - 2)r$. Noting that $f, g$ share $(\infty; k)$ from the definition of $V$ it is clear that $z_0$ is a zero of $V$ with multiplicity at least $(n - 2)(k + 1) - 1$. So from the definition of $V$ we have

\[ [(n - 2)k + n - 3]N(r, \infty; f | \geq k + 1) \]
\[ = [(n - 2)k + n - 3]N(r, \infty; g | \geq k + 1) \]
\[ \leq N(r, 0; V) \leq N(r, \infty; V) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \]
\[ \leq \overline{N}_s(r, 0; f, g) + \overline{N}_L^m(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^m(r, 1; G) + \overline{N}_{F \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F | G \not= 1) \]
\[ + \overline{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G | F \not= 1) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \]

□

**Lemma 2.10.** Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \not= 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$ and $f, g$ share $(\infty, 0)$ and $(0, p)$, where $1 \leq m < \infty$, $0 \leq p < \infty$ then

\[ [m(n - 3) - 2]N(r, \infty; f) \leq (m + 2)N(r, 0; f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \]

**Proof.** First we note that since $f, g$ share $(0, p)$ they share $(0, 0)$. So using Lemma 2.5, we obtain from Lemma 2.9 with $k = 0$ that

\[ (n - 3)N(r, \infty; f) \]
\[ \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}_L^m(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^m(r, 1; G) + \overline{N}_{F \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F | G \not= 1) \]
\[ + \overline{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G | F \not= 1) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \]
\[ \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \frac{1}{m} [\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + \overline{N}(r, 0; g) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; g)] \]
\[ + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \]
\[ \leq \frac{m + 2}{m} \overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \frac{2}{m} \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \]

Now the lemma follows. □

**Lemma 2.11.** Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \not= 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$ and $f, g$ share $(\infty, 0)$ and $(0, \infty)$, where $1 \leq m < \infty$, then

\[ [m(n - 3) - 2]N(r, \infty; f) \leq 2N(r, 0; f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g). \]

328
Proof. Since \( f, g \) share \((0, \infty)\), we observe that \( \mathcal{N}_s(r, 0; f, g) = 0 \). So using Lemma 2.5, we obtain from Lemma 2.9 with \( k = 0 \) that

\[
(n - 3)\mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) \leq \mathcal{N}_e(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; G) + \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) \\
+ \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
\leq \frac{1}{m} \left[ \mathcal{N}(r, 0; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, 0; g) + \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; g) \right] \\
+ S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
\leq \frac{2}{m} \mathcal{N}(r, 0; f) + \frac{2}{m} \mathcal{N}(r, \infty; f) + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\]

Now the lemma follows. \( \square \)

Lemma 2.12. Let \( F, G \) be given by (2.1) and let \( H \neq 0 \). If \( E_m)(1; F) = E_m(1; G) \) and \( f, g \) share \((\infty, k), (0, p)\) where \( 1 \leq m < \infty \), then

\[
\mathcal{N}(r, 1; F \mid = 1) \leq \mathcal{N}_s(r, 0; f, g) + \mathcal{N}_s(r, \infty; f, g) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; F) + \mathcal{N}_L^m(r, 1; G) \\
+ \mathcal{N}_{F \geq m + 1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \mathcal{N}_{G \geq m + 1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \\
+ \mathcal{N}(r, b; f) + \mathcal{N}(r, b; g) + \mathcal{N}_0(r, 0; f') + \mathcal{N}_0(r, 0; g'),
\]

where \( \mathcal{N}_0(r, 0; f') \) denotes the reduced counting function corresponding to the zeros of \( f' \) which are not the zeros of \( f(f - b) \) and \( F - 1 \), and \( \mathcal{N}_0(r, 0; g') \) is defined similarly.

Proof. From (1.2) and (2.1) we have

\[
F' = \frac{(n - 2)a f^{n-1}(f - b)^2 f'}{n(n - 1)(f - \alpha_1)^2(f - \alpha_2)^2}, \\
G' = \frac{(n - 2)a g^{n-1}(g - b)^2 g'}{n(n - 1)(g - \alpha_1)^2(g - \alpha_2)^2}.
\]

It is obvious that the simple zeros of \( f - \alpha_1 \) and \( f - \alpha_2 \) are the simple poles of \( F \), the simple zeros of \( g - \alpha_1 \) and \( g - \alpha_2 \) are the simple poles of \( G \). It can be easily verified that the simple zeros of \( f - \alpha_1, f - \alpha_2, g - \alpha_1 \) and \( g - \alpha_2 \) are not the poles of \( H \).

We note that the multiple zeros of \( f - \alpha_1, f - \alpha_2 \) and \( g - \alpha_1, g - \alpha_2 \) are the zeros of \( f' \) and \( g' \) respectively. Also the poles of \( H \) come from those poles (zeros) of \( f \) and \( g \) whose multiplicities are different and those 1 points of \( F \) whose multiplicities are different from those of the corresponding 1 points of \( G \). Since all the poles of \( H \) are simple, using Lemma 2.1 we get the conclusion of the lemma from (1.2), (2.3) and (2.4). \( \square \)
Lemma 2.13. Let $F$, $G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \neq 0$. If $E_m(1; F) = E_m(1; G)$ and $f$, $g$ share $(\infty, k), (0, p)$, where $3 \leq m < \infty$, then

\begin{align*}
\left( \frac{n}{2} + 1 \right) \{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \} & \leq N(r, 0; f) + 2N(r, b; f) + N(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 0; g) \\
& + 2N(r, b; g) + N(r, \infty; g) + N_*(r, 0; f, g) + N_*(r, \infty; f, g) \\
& - \left( \frac{m}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \right) \{ N_{F>m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G>m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \} \\
& - \left( m - \frac{3}{2} \right) \{ N^m_L(r, 1; F) + N^m_L(r, 1; G) \} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\end{align*}

Proof. By the second fundamental theorem we get

\begin{align*}
(n + 1)T(r, f) + (n + 1)T(r, g) & \leq N(r, 1; F) + N(r, 0; f) + N(r, b; f) + N(r, \infty; f) + N(r, 1; G) + N(r, 0; g) \\
& + N(r, b; g) + N(r, \infty; g) - N_0(r, 0; f') - N_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\end{align*}

Using Lemmas 2.3 and 2.12, we see that

\begin{align*}
N(r, 1; F) + N(r, 1; G) & \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ N(r, 1; F) + N(r, 1; G) \right] + N(r, 1; F \mid = 1) \\
& - \left( \frac{m}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \{ N_{F>m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G>m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \} \\
& - \left( m - \frac{1}{2} \right) \{ N^m_L(r, 1; F) + N^m_L(r, 1; G) \} \\
& \leq \frac{n}{2} \{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \} + N_*(r, 0; f, g) + N_*(r, \infty; f, g) \\
& + N(r, b; f) + N(r, b; g) + N^m_L(r, 1; F) + N^m_L(r, 1; G) \\
& + N_{F>m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G>m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \\
& - \left( \frac{m}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \{ N_{F>m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G>m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \} \\
& - \left( m - \frac{1}{2} \right) \{ N^m_L(r, 1; F) + N^m_L(r, 1; G) \} \\
& + N_0(r, 0; f') + N_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g) \\
& \leq \frac{n}{2} \{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \} + N_*(r, 0; f, g) + N_*(r, \infty; f, g) \\
& + N(r, b; f) + N(r, b; g) \\
& - \left( \frac{m}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \right) \{ N_{F>m+1}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G>m+1}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \} \\
& - \left( m - \frac{3}{2} \right) \{ N^m_L(r, 1; F) + N^m_L(r, 1; G) \} + N_0(r, 0; f') \\
& + N_0(r, 0; g') + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\end{align*}

Using (2.6) in (2.5) the lemma follows. \hfill \Box
Lemma 2.14 [22]. If $H \equiv 0$, then $F$, $G$ share $(1, \infty)$.

Lemma 2.15. Let $F, G$ be given by (2.1) and let $H \equiv 0$. If $f$, $g$ share $(0, 0)$ then $f$ and $g$ share $(0, \infty)$.

Proof. If $f$ and $g$ have no zero then clearly $f$ and $g$ share $(0, \infty)$.

Next suppose that $f$ and $g$ have common zeros. Since $H \equiv 0$ we have

(2.7) \[ F = \frac{AG + B}{CG + D}, \]

where $AD - BC \neq 0$. Let $z_0$ be a common zero of $f$ and $g$. From (2.1) it is clear that $z_0$ is a common zero of $F$ and $G$. Consequently, from (2.7) we get $B = 0$. Hence from (2.7) we get

\[ F = \frac{AG}{CG + D}. \]

So $F$ and $G$ share $(0, \infty)$, that is, $f$ and $g$ share $(0, \infty)$. \qed

3. Proofs of the theorems

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let $F$ and $G$ be given by (2.1). Since $E_5(S_3, f) = E_5(S_3, f)$ it follows from (1.5) and (2.1) that $E_5(1; F) = E_5(1; G)$. Suppose $H \neq 0$.

Then by Lemma 2.13 for $m = 5$, $k = 0$, $p = 4$ we get

\[
\left(\frac{n}{2} - 2\right)\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \\
\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 5) + 3\overline{N}(r, \infty; f) - \{N_{F \geq 6}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) \\
+ N_{G \geq 6}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\} - \frac{7}{2} \left\{\overline{N}_5(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_5(r, 1; G)\right\} \\
+ S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\]

Using Lemma 2.4, Lemma 2.5, Lemma 2.7 for $m = 5$, $k = 0$ and $p = 4$, Lemma 2.9 for $k = 0$ and noting that $n \geq 5$, \[
\overline{N}_*(r, \infty; f, g) \leq \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)
\]

and \[
\overline{N}(r, 0; f) \leq \frac{1}{2}[\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, 0; g)]
\]

331
we get

\[(3.2) \quad \left(\frac{n}{2} - 2\right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 5) + \frac{3}{n - 3} [\overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; G) \]
\[
+ \overline{N}_{F \geq 6}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq 6}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) + \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 5)]
\[
- \{\overline{N}_{F \geq 6}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq 6}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\}
\[
- \frac{7}{2} \{\overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; G)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]
\[
\leq \frac{n}{n - 3} \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 5) + \frac{3}{n - 3} [\overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; F) \]
\[
+ \overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; G) + \overline{N}_{F \geq 6}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq 6}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)]
\[
- \{\overline{N}_{F \geq 6}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq 6}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\}
\[
- \frac{7}{2} \{\overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^2(r, 1; G)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]
\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(5n - 1)} \left[2T(r, f) + 2T(r, g) + \overline{N}_*(r, \infty; f, g)\right]
\[
+ \frac{2}{5} \{\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\} \]
\[
+ \frac{2(6 - n)}{5(n - 3)} \{\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]
\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(5n - 1)} \left[2T(r, f) + \frac{1}{5} \overline{N}(r, 0; f) + 2T(r, g)\right]
\[
+ \frac{1}{5} \overline{N}(r, 0; g) + \frac{7}{5} \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) \]
\[
+ \frac{6 - n}{n - 3} \left\{\frac{1}{5} \{\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, 0; g)\} + \frac{2}{5} \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\right\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]
\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(5n - 1)} \left[\frac{11}{5} \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + \frac{7}{5} \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\right]
\[
+ \frac{6 - n}{n - 3} \left\{\frac{1}{5} \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + \frac{2}{5} \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\right\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]

Now using Lemma 2.10 for \(m = 5\) in (3.2) we obtain

\[(3.3) \quad \left(\frac{n}{2} - 2\right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \]
\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(5n - 1)} \left[\left\{\frac{11}{5} + \frac{49}{10(5n - 17)}\right\}\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\}\right]
\[
+ \frac{6 - n}{n - 3} \left\{\frac{1}{5} + \frac{14}{10(5n - 17)}\right\}\{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g),\]
which is a contradiction. So $H \equiv 0$. Hence Lemma 2.14 and Lemma 2.15 imply respectively that $F$ and $G$ share $(1, \infty)$ and $f$, $g$ share $(0, \infty)$. So $E_f(S_3, \infty) = E_g(S_3, \infty)$ and the theorem follows from Theorem A and Remark 1.1.

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Let $F$ and $G$ be given by (2.1). Since $E_4(S_3, f) = E_4(S_3, f)$ it follows from (1.5) and (2.1) that $E_4(1; F) = E_4(1; G)$. Suppose $H \neq 0$. Then by Lemma 2.13 for $m = 4$, $k = 0$, $p = \infty$ we get

\[
\frac{n}{2} - 2 \left\{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \right\} \leq 3N(r, \infty; f)
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \left\{ N_{F \geq 5}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G \geq 5}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \right\}
\]

\[
- \frac{5}{2} \left\{ N_{L}^4(r, 1; F) + N_{L}^4(r, 1; G) \right\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\]

Using Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.9 for $k = 0$, $p = \infty$ we obtain

\[
\frac{n}{2} - 2 \left\{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \right\} \leq \frac{3}{n - 3} \left[ N_{L}^4(r, 1; F) + N_{L}^4(r, 1; G) \right]
\]

\[
+ N_{F \geq 5}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G \geq 5}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \right\}
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \left\{ N_{F \geq 5}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + N_{G \geq 5}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1) \right\}
\]

\[
- \frac{5}{2} \left\{ N_{L}^4(r, 1; F) + N_{L}^4(r, 1; G) \right\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{(9 - n)}{2(n - 3)} \left[ N(r, 0; f) + N(r, \infty; f) \right] + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\]

Now using Lemma 2.11 for $m = 4$ in (3.5) we obtain

\[
\frac{n}{2} - 2 \left\{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \right\} \leq \frac{(9 - n)}{2(n - 3)} \left[ \left\{ \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2(4n - 14)} \right\} \left\{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \right\} \right] + S(r, f) + S(r, g),
\]

i.e.,

\[
\frac{n}{2} - 2 - \frac{9 - n}{8(n - 3)} - \frac{9 - n}{4(4n - 14)(n - 3)} \left\{ T(r, f) + T(r, g) \right\} \leq S(r, f) + S(r, g),
\]

which is a contradiction for $n \geq 5$. So $H \equiv 0$. Hence by Lemma 2.14 we get that $F$ and $G$ share $(1, \infty)$. Now the theorem follows from Theorem A and Remark 1.1. \qed
**Proof of Theorem 1.3.** Let \( F \) and \( G \) be given by (2.1). Since \( E_{60}(S_3, f) = E_{60}(S_3, f) \) it follows from (1.5) and (2.1) that \( E_{60}(1; F) = E_{60}(1; G) \). Suppose \( H \neq 0 \). Then by Lemma 2.13 for \( m = 6, k = 0, p = 2 \) we get

\[
(3.7) \quad \left( \frac{n}{2} - 2 \right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 3) + 3\overline{N}(r, \infty; f)
\]

\[
- \frac{3}{2} \{N_{F \geq \gamma}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq \gamma}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\}
\]

\[
- \frac{9}{2} \{\overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; G)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g).
\]

Using Lemma 2.5, Lemma 2.7 for \( p = 2 \), Lemma 2.9 for \( k = 0 \) we obtain

\[
(3.8) \quad \left( \frac{n}{2} - 2 \right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\}
\]

\[
\leq \overline{N}(r, 0; f \mid \geq 3) + \frac{3}{n - 3} \overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; G)
\]

\[
+ \overline{N}_{F \geq \gamma}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq \gamma}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\}
\]

\[
- \frac{3}{2} \{N_{F \geq \gamma}(r, 1; F \mid G \neq 1) + \overline{N}_{G \geq \gamma}(r, 1; G \mid F \neq 1)\}
\]

\[
- \frac{9}{2} \{\overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; F) + \overline{N}_L^0(r, 1; G)\} + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(3n - 1)} \left[ 2T(r, f) + 2T(r, g) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; f) + \frac{1}{3} \{N(r, 0; f) + \overline{N}(r, \infty; f)\} \right] + S(r, f) + S(r, g)
\]

Now using Lemma 2.10 for \( m = 6 \) in (3.8) we obtain

\[
(3.9) \quad \left( \frac{n}{2} - 2 \right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\}
\]

\[
\leq \frac{n}{(n - 3)(3n - 1)} \left[ \left\{ \frac{13}{6} + \frac{16}{3(6n - 20)} \right\} \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\} \right]
\]

\[
+ S(r, f) + S(r, g),
\]

i.e.,

\[
\left( \frac{n}{2} - 2 - \frac{13n}{6(n - 3)(3n - 1)} - \frac{16n}{3(n - 3)(3n - 1)(6n - 20)} \right) \{T(r, f) + T(r, g)\}
\]

\[
\leq S(r, f) + S(r, g),
\]

which is a contradiction for \( n \geq 5 \). So \( H \equiv 0 \). Hence Lemma 2.14 and Lemma 2.15 imply respectively that \( F \) and \( G \) share \( (1, \infty) \) and \( f, g \) share \( (0, \infty) \). So \( E_f(S_3, \infty) = E_g(S_3, \infty) \) and the theorem follows from Theorem A and Remark 1.1. \( \square \)

334
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References


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