

## MAXIMUM MODULUS AND MAXIMUM TERM OF GENERALIZED ITERATION OF $n$ ENTIRE FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we consider the generalized iteration of  $n$  entire functions and compare maximum modulus and maximum term of generalized iterated entire functions with that of the  $n$  entire functions.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

For an entire function  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n$ , let  $M(r, f) = \max_{|z|=r} |f(z)|$  and  $\mu(r, f) = \max_n |a_n| r^n$  are respectively called maximum modulus and maximum term of  $f(z)$  on  $|z| = r$ . In 1997, Lahiri and Banerjee [7] considered two entire functions  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  and formed the relative iterations of  $f(z)$  with respect to  $g(z)$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(z) &= f(z) \\ f_2(z) &= f(g(z)) = f(g_1(z)) \\ f_3(z) &= f(g(f(z))) = f(g_2(z)) = f(g(f_1(z))) \end{aligned}$$

... ..

$$f_n(z) = f(g(f \dots (f(z) \text{ or } g(z)) \dots))$$

according as  $n$  is odd or even

and so are  $g_n(z)$ .

With this definition of iteration, several researchers (see for example [2], [3], [4]) made close investigation on growth properties of maximum modulus and maximum term of iterated entire functions and achieved various results.

After this in 2012, Banerjee and Mondal [1] introduced a more general type of iteration, called generalized iteration as follows.

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two nonconstant entire functions and  $\alpha$  be any real number satisfying  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . Then the generalized iteration of  $f$  with respect to  $g$  is defined as follows.

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$$\begin{aligned}
f_{1,g}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha f(z) \\
f_{2,g}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)g_{1,f}(z) + \alpha f(g_{1,f}(z)) \\
f_{3,g}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)g_{2,f}(z) + \alpha f(g_{2,f}(z)) \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
f_{n,g}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)g_{n-1,f}(z) + \alpha f(g_{n-1,f}(z))
\end{aligned}$$

and so are

$$\begin{aligned}
g_{1,f}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha g(z) \\
g_{2,f}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)f_{1,g}(z) + \alpha g(f_{1,g}(z)) \\
g_{3,f}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)f_{2,g}(z) + \alpha g(f_{2,g}(z)) \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
g_{n,f}(z) &= (1 - \alpha)f_{n-1,g}(z) + \alpha g(f_{n-1,g}(z)).
\end{aligned}$$

Recently Banerjee and Sarkar [5] considered  $n$  entire functions  $f_1(z), f_2(z), \dots, f_n(z)$  and defined the relative iteration of  $n$  entire functions as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(z) &= f_1(z) \\
F_2(z) &= f_2(f_1(z)) = f_2(F_1(z)) \\
&\dots \quad \dots \quad \dots \\
F_n(z) &= f_n(f_{n-1}(\dots(f_2(f_1(z)))))) = f_n(F_{n-1}(z)), \quad n \geq 2.
\end{aligned}$$

Now we introduce a more general type of iteration, called generalized iteration of  $n$  entire functions as follows.

Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  entire functions and  $\alpha$  be any real number satisfying  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . Then we define

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(z) &= (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha f_1(z) \\
F_2(z) &= (1 - \alpha)F_1(z) + \alpha f_2(F_1(z)) \\
F_3(z) &= (1 - \alpha)F_2(z) + \alpha f_3(F_2(z)) \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
&\cdot \\
F_n(z) &= (1 - \alpha)F_{n-1}(z) + \alpha f_n(F_{n-1}(z)).
\end{aligned}$$

**Note 1.1.** For  $\alpha = 1$ , generalized iteration reduces to relative iteration of  $n$  entire functions.

Following Sato [8], we write  $\log^{[0]}x = x$ ,  $\exp^{[0]}x = x$  and for positive integer  $m$ ,  $\log^{[m]}x = \log(\log^{[m-1]}x)$ ,  $\exp^{[m]}x = \exp(\exp^{[m-1]}x)$ .

First we need the following definitions.

**Definition 1.1.** The order  $\rho_f$  and the lower order  $\lambda_f$  of an entire function  $f$  are defined as

$$\rho_f = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]} M(r, f)}{\log r}$$

and

$$\lambda_f = \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]} M(r, f)}{\log r}.$$

Singh [9] proved the following relation between  $M(r, f)$  and  $\mu(r, f)$  as follows.  
For  $0 \leq r < R$

$$\mu(r, f) \leq M(r, f) \leq \frac{R}{R-r} \mu(R, f).$$

Then one can easily obtain

$$\rho_f = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]} \mu(r, f)}{\log r}$$

and

$$\lambda_f = \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]} \mu(r, f)}{\log r}.$$

The main purpose of this paper is to compare the maximum modulus and maximum term of generalized iterated entire functions with that of the generating functions.

## 2. KNOWN RESULTS

During the proof of our main results we shall need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1.** [6] Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be entire functions with  $g(0) = 0$ .  
Let  $\alpha$  satisfy  $0 < \alpha < 1$  and let  $C(\alpha) = \frac{(1-\alpha)^2}{4\alpha}$ . Then for  $r > 0$

$$M(r, f \circ g) \geq M(C(\alpha)M(\alpha r, g), f).$$

Further if  $g(z)$  is any entire function, then with  $\alpha = 1/2$ , for sufficiently large values of  $r$

$$M(r, f \circ g) \geq M\left(\frac{1}{8}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right) - |g(0)|, f\right).$$

Clearly

$$(2.1) \quad M(r, f \circ g) \geq M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right), f\right).$$

On the other hand from the definition we have

$$(2.2) \quad M(r, f \circ g) \leq M(M(r, g), f).$$

**Lemma 2.2.** [9] Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be entire functions with  $g(0) = 0$ . Let  $\alpha$  satisfy  $0 < \alpha < 1$  and let  $C(\alpha) = \frac{(1-\alpha)^2}{4\alpha}$ . Also let  $0 < \delta < 1$ . Then

$$\mu(r, f \circ g) \geq (1 - \delta)\mu(C(\alpha)\mu(\alpha\delta r, g), f).$$

And if  $g(z)$  is any entire function, then with  $\alpha = \delta = 1/2$ , for sufficiently large values of  $r$

$$\mu(r, f \circ g) \geq \frac{1}{2}\mu\left(\frac{1}{8}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, g\right) - |g(0)|, f\right).$$

Clearly

$$(2.3) \quad \mu(r, f \circ g) \geq \frac{1}{2}\mu\left(\frac{1}{16}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, g\right), f\right).$$

**Lemma 2.3.** [9] Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be any two entire functions. Then for every  $\alpha > 1$  and  $0 < r < R$ ,

$$\mu(r, f \circ g) \leq \frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1}\mu\left(\frac{\alpha R}{R - r}\mu(R, g), f\right).$$

Clearly for  $\alpha = 2$  and  $R = 2r$

$$(2.4) \quad \mu(r, f \circ g) \leq 2\mu(4\mu(2r, g), f).$$

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

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

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  entire functions having positive lower orders and of finite orders and suppose  $e^{\gamma(M(\frac{r}{2}, F_n))^\delta} \geq M(r, F_n)$  holds for every  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$ . Then

$$(3.1) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]} M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]} M(r^A, f_k)} = \infty$$

for every positive constant  $A$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

**Proof.** Let us suppose that  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Choose  $0 < \epsilon < \min\{\lambda(f_i), i = 1 \text{ to } n\}$ . Now for all sufficiently large values of  $r$ , using (2.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, F_n) &= M(r, (1 - \alpha)F_{n-1} + \alpha f_n(F_{n-1})) \\ &\geq M(r, \alpha f_n(F_{n-1})) - M(r, (1 - \alpha)F_{n-1}) \\ &\geq \alpha M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right), f_n\right) - (1 - \alpha)M(r, F_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

So for all sufficiently large values of  $r$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n) &\geq \log^{[2]}M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right), f_n\right) - \log^{[2]}M(r, F_{n-1}) + O(1) \\
&> (\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right)\right) - \log^{[2]}M(r, F_{n-1}) + O(1) \\
&> (\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&> \frac{1}{2^2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}M\left(\frac{r}{2^2}, F_{n-2}\right) + O(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Repeating the process, after  $(n - 2)$  steps we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n) &> \frac{1}{2^{n-2}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_3) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-2}}, F_2\right) + O(1) \\
&> \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_3) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, F_1\right) + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha f_1\right) + O(1) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)[\log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, \alpha f_1\right) - \log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, (1 - \alpha)z\right)] + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)[\log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, f_1\right) - \log M\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}, z\right)] + O(1) \\
(3.2) \quad &\geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1) - \epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right] + O(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Now it is possible to choose  $r$  sufficiently large so that for every  $A > 0$

$$(3.3) \quad \log^{[2]}M(r^A, f_k) < (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r^A.$$

Now from (3.4) and (3.5) we get for sufficiently large values of  $r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(r^A, f_k)} &> \frac{\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1) - \epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right] + O(1)}{A(\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r} \\
&\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(r^A, f_k)} = \infty.$$

So the result (3.1) is proved.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  non-constant entire functions of finite orders with  $\rho(f_1) < \rho(f_n)$ . Then*

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[n]} M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]} M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} = 0.$$

**Proof.** We choose  $\epsilon$ , so that  $0 < \epsilon < \rho(f_n) - \rho(f_1)$ .

Since  $\rho(f_n) > \rho(f_1) \geq 0$ , so that  $f_n$  must not be a polynomial. Hence

$$(3.4) \quad M(r, f_n) \geq r$$

for all large values of  $r$ .

Now for all large values of  $r$ , using (2.2) and (3.4) we obtained that

$$\begin{aligned} M(r, F_n) &\leq (1 - \alpha)M(r, F_{n-1}) + \alpha M(r, f_n(F_{n-1})) \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha)M(M(r, F_{n-1}), f_n) + \alpha M(M(r, F_{n-1}), f_n) \\ &= M(M(r, F_{n-1}), f_n). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\log^{[2]} M(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_n) + \epsilon) \log M(r, F_{n-1}).$$

So,

$$\log^{[3]} M(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_{n-1}) + \epsilon) \log M(r, F_{n-2}) + O(1).$$

Therefore,

$$\log^{[4]} M(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_{n-2}) + \epsilon) \log M(r, F_{n-3}) + O(1).$$

After  $(n - 2)$  steps we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log^{[n]} M(r, F_n) &< (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log M(r, F_1) + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log M(r, (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha f_1) + O(1) \\ &\leq (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log M(r, \alpha f_1) + \log M(r, (1 - \alpha)z)] + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log M(r, f_1) + \log M(r, z)] + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log M(r, f_1) + \log r] + O(1) \\ &\leq (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log M(r, f_1) + \log M(r, f_1)] + O(1) \\ &= 2(\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log M(r, f_1) + O(1) \\ &< (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) r^{(\rho(f_1) + \epsilon)} + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for a sequence  $r = r_n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\log^{[2]} M(r, f_n) > (\rho(f_n) - \epsilon) \log r.$$

Expressing  $R_n = (\log r_n)^{\frac{1}{\rho(f_n)}}$  it follows that

$$\log^{[2]} M(\exp(R_n^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n) > (\rho(f_n) - \epsilon) R_n^{\rho(f_n)}.$$

Thus for  $r = R_n(\geq r_0)$

$$\frac{\log^{[n]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} < \frac{(\rho(f_2) + \epsilon)r^{(\rho(f_1) + \epsilon)} + O(1)}{(\rho(f_n) - \epsilon)r^{\rho(f_n)}}.$$

Hence,

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[n]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} = 0.$$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  nonconstant entire functions of finite orders with  $\lambda(f_1) > \rho(f_k)$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) and  $\lambda(f_n) > 0$  and suppose  $e^{\gamma(M(\frac{r}{2}, F_n))^\delta} \geq M(r, F_n)$  holds for every  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$ . Then*

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} = \infty.$$

**Proof.** We choose  $\epsilon$ , so that  $0 < \epsilon < \lambda(f_1) - \rho(f_k)$ . From (3.2) we get for all  $r \geq r_0$

$$\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n) > \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1) - \epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right] + O(1).$$

On the other hand for all  $r \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \log^{[2]}M(r, f_k) &< (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r \\ \text{i.e., } \log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k) &< (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) r^{\rho(f_k)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for all sufficiently large  $r$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} &> \frac{\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1) - \epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{2^{n-1}}\right] + O(1)}{(\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) r^{\rho(f_k)}} \\ &\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}M(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}M(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} = \infty.$$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  nonconstant entire functions of positive lower orders and of finite orders and suppose  $e^{\gamma(\mu(\frac{r}{4}, F_n))^\delta} \geq \mu(r, F_n)$  holds for every  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and also for every positive integer  $n$ . Then*

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(r^A, f_k)} = \infty$$

for every positive constant  $A$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

**Proof.** We choose  $\epsilon$  such that  $0 < \epsilon < \min\{\lambda(f_i), i = 1 \text{ to } n\}$ . Now for all sufficiently large values of  $r$ , using (2.3) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(r, F_n) &= \mu(r, (1 - \alpha)F_{n-1} + \alpha f_n(F_{n-1})) \\ &\geq \mu(r, \alpha f_n(F_{n-1})) - \mu(r, (1 - \alpha)F_{n-1}) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2}\alpha\mu\left(\frac{r}{16}, \mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right), f_n\right) - (1 - \alpha)\mu(r, F_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

So for all sufficiently large values of  $r$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n) &\geq \log^{[2]}\mu\left(\frac{1}{16}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right), f_n\right) - \log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_{n-1}) + O(1) \\
&> (\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log\left(\frac{1}{16}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right)\right) - \log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_{n-1}) + O(1) \\
&> (\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4}, F_{n-1}\right) + O(1) \\
&> \frac{1}{2^2}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^2}, F_{n-2}\right) + O(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Repeating the process, after  $(n-2)$  steps we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n) &> \frac{1}{2^{n-2}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_3) - \epsilon)\log^{[2]}\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-2}}, F_2\right) + O(1) \\
&> \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_3) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, F_1\right) + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, (1-\alpha)z + \alpha f_1\right) + O(1) \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)[\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, \alpha f_1\right) - \log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, (1-\alpha)z\right)] + O(1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)[\log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, f_1\right) - \log\mu\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}, z\right)] + O(1) \\
(3.5) \quad &\geq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1)-\epsilon} - \log\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right] + O(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Now it is possible to choose  $r$  sufficiently large so that for every  $A > 0$

$$(3.6) \quad \log^{[2]}\mu(r^A, f_k) < (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r^A.$$

Now from (3.5) and (3.6) we get for sufficiently large values of  $r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(r^A, f_k)} &> \frac{\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1)-\epsilon} - \log\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right] + O(1)}{A(\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r} \\
&\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(r^A, f_k)} = \infty.$$

This proves the theorem.



**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are  $n$  non-constant entire functions of finite orders with  $\rho(f_1) < \rho(f_n)$ . Then*

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[n]} \mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]} \mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} = 0.$$

**Proof.** We choose  $\epsilon$ , so that  $0 < \epsilon < \rho(f_n) - \rho(f_1)$ .

Since  $\rho(f_n) > \rho(f_1) \geq 0$ , so that  $f_n$  must not be a polynomial. Hence

$$(3.7) \quad r \leq \mu(r, f_n) \leq 2\mu(r, f_n)$$

for all large values of  $r$ .

Now for all large values of  $r$ , using (2.4) and (3.7) we obtained that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(r, F_n) &\leq (1 - \alpha)\mu(r, F_{n-1}) + \alpha\mu(r, f_n(F_{n-1})) \\ &< (1 - \alpha)4\mu(2r, F_{n-1}) + \alpha\mu(r, f_n(F_{n-1})) \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha)2\mu(4\mu(2r, F_{n-1}), f_n) + \alpha 2\mu(4\mu(2r, F_{n-1}), f_n) \\ &= 2\mu(4\mu(2r, F_{n-1}), f_n). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\log^{[2]} \mu(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_n) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2r, F_{n-1}) + O(1).$$

So,

$$\log^{[3]} \mu(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_{n-1}) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2^2 r, F_{n-2}) + O(1).$$

Therefore,

$$\log^{[4]} \mu(r, F_n) < (\rho(f_{n-2}) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2^3 r, F_{n-3}) + O(1).$$

After  $(n - 2)$  steps we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log^{[n]} \mu(r, F_n) &< (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, F_1) + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, (1 - \alpha)z + \alpha f_1) + O(1) \\ &\leq (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log \mu(2^{n-1} r, \alpha f_1) + \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, (1 - \alpha)z)] + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log \mu(2^{n-1} r, f_1) + \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, z)] + O(1) \\ &= (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log \mu(2^{n-1} r, f_1) + \log 2^{n-1} r] + O(1) \\ &\leq (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) [\log \mu(2^{n-1} r, f_1) + \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, f_1)] + O(1) \\ &= 2(\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) \log \mu(2^{n-1} r, f_1) + O(1) \\ &< (\rho(f_2) + \epsilon) (2^{n-1} r)^{(\rho(f_1) + \epsilon)} + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for a sequence  $r = r_n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\log^{[2]} \mu(r, f_n) < (\rho(f_n) - \epsilon) \log r.$$

Expressing  $R_n = (\log r_n)^{\frac{1}{\rho(f_n)}}$  it follows that

$$\log^{[2]} \mu(\exp(R_n^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n) > (\rho(f_n) - \epsilon) R_n^{\rho(f_n)}.$$

Thus for  $r = R_n(\geq r_0)$

$$\frac{\log^{[n]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} < \frac{(\rho(f_2) + \epsilon)(2^{n-1}r)^{(\rho(f_1)+\epsilon)} + O(1)}{(\rho(f_n) - \epsilon)r^{\rho(f_n)}}.$$

Hence,

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[n]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_n)}), f_n)} = 0.$$

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  are entire functions of finite orders with  $\lambda(f_1) > \rho(f_k)$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) and  $\lambda(f_n) > 0$  and suppose  $e^{\gamma(\mu(\frac{r}{4}, F_n))^\delta} \geq \mu(r, F_n)$  holds for every  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and also for every positive integer  $n$ . Then*

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[n]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} = \infty.$$

**Proof.** We choose  $\epsilon$ , so that  $0 < \epsilon < \lambda(f_1) - \rho(f_k)$ . From (3.5) we get for all  $r \geq r_0$

$$\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n) > \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1)-\epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right] + O(1).$$

On the other hand for all  $r \geq r_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \log^{[2]}\mu(r, f_k) &< (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) \log r \\ \text{i.e., } \log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k) &< (\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) r^{\rho(f_k)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for all sufficiently large  $r$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} &> \frac{\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(\lambda(f_n) - \epsilon)(\lambda(f_{n-1}) - \epsilon)\dots(\lambda(f_2) - \epsilon)\left[\left(\frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right)^{\lambda(f_1)-\epsilon} - \log \frac{r}{4^{n-1}}\right] + O(1)}{(\rho(f_k) + \epsilon) r^{\rho(f_k)}} \\ &\rightarrow \infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log^{[2]}\mu(r, F_n)}{\log^{[2]}\mu(\exp(r^{\rho(f_k)}), f_k)} = \infty.$$

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