

On the Number of Poles of the First Painlevé Transcendents and Higher Order Analogues II

Shun Shimomura

Department of Mathematics

下村 俊 (慶應大・理工)

1. Introduction

Let $w(z)$ be an arbitrary solution of the first Painlevé equation

$$(PI) \quad w'' = 6w^2 + z$$

($' = d/dz$). Then, $w(z)$ is a transcendental meromorphic function, and every pole is double. The counting function for poles is defined by

$$N(r, w) = \int_0^r (n(\rho, w) - n(0, w)) \frac{d\rho}{\rho} + n(0, w) \log r,$$

where $n(r, w)$ denotes the number of poles inside the disk $|z| \leq r$, each counted according to its multiplicity. By a well-known argument in the Nevanlinna theory ([4, §2.4]), we have

$$(1.1) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m(r, w)}{T(r, w)} = 0, \quad \text{namely,} \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N(r, w)}{T(r, w)} = 1,$$

which implies $N(r, w) \rightarrow \infty$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$. Here, $m(r, w)$ and $T(r, w)$ are, respectively, the proximity and the characteristic functions defined by

$$m(r, w) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \log^+ |w(re^{i\phi})| d\phi, \quad \log^+ x = \max\{0, \log x\},$$

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

(for the standard notation and basic facts in the Nevanlinna theory, see [2], [4]). For the magnitude of $N(r, w)$, the following is known ([1], [5], [6], [9]):

$$(1.2) \quad r^{5/2} \log r \ll N(r, w) \ll r^{5/2},$$

which implies that the growth order of $w(z)$

$$\sigma(w) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, w)}{\log r}$$

is equal to $5/2$. (We write $f(r) \ll g(r)$ (or $g(r) \gg f(r)$) if $f(r) = O(g(r))$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$.)

A sequence of higher order analogues of (PI) is given by the following:

$$(PI_{2\nu}) \quad d_{\nu+1}[w] + 4z = 0, \quad \nu \in \mathbf{N}$$

(cf. [1, §16]; [3]). Here, $d_\nu[w]$ ($\nu = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) are differential polynomials in w determined by

$$(1.3) \quad d_0[w] = 1,$$

$$(1.4) \quad Dd_{\nu+1}[w] = (D^3 - 8wD - 4w')d_\nu[w], \quad D = d/dz, \quad \nu \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Since

$$d_2[w]/4 = -w'' + 6w^2 + C_1w + C_0,$$

where $C_j \in \mathbf{C}$ ($j = 0, 1$) are arbitrary, equation (PI_2) essentially coincides with (PI). In general, $(PI_{2\nu})$ is a 2ν -th order nonlinear equation; e.g. for $\nu = 2, 3$,

$$(PI_4)_0 \quad w^{(4)} = 20ww'' + 10(w')^2 - 40w^3 + z,$$

$$(PI_6)_0 \quad w^{(6)} = 28ww^{(4)} + 56w'w^{(3)} + 42(w'')^2 - 280(w^2w'' + w(w')^2 - w^4) + z,$$

where the arbitrary constants corresponding to C_j of (PI_2) are taken to be 0. Let $w_\nu(z)$ be an arbitrary meromorphic solution of $(PI_{2\nu})$. It is interesting to evaluate the growth order of $w_\nu(z)$. The following result gives a lower estimate of it:

Theorem 1.1. *For every $\nu \in \mathbf{N}$,*

$$(1.5) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N(r, w_\nu)}{\log r} \geq \frac{2\nu + 3}{\nu + 1},$$

namely the growth order of $w_\nu(z)$ is not less than $(2\nu + 3)/(\nu + 1)$.

As an immediate consequence, we have

Corollary 1.2. *Equation $(PI_{2\nu})$ admits no rational solutions.*

Viewing Theorem 1.1 combined with (1.2), we pose the following:

Conjecture. *The growth order of $w_\nu(z)$ is equal to $(2\nu + 3)/(\nu + 1)$.*

We sketch the proof of Theorem 1.1, illustrating the particular case $\nu = 2$. The full proof is found in [8].

2. Sketch of the proof of Theorem 1.1 for (PI_4)

The basic idea is the same as in the proof for (PI) (cf. [7]). Suppose the contrary:

$$(2.1) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N(r, w_2)}{\log r} < \frac{7}{3},$$

namely, for some $\varepsilon > 0$, $N(r, w_2) \ll r^{7/3-\varepsilon}$, from which it follows that

$$(2.2) \quad n(r) = n(r, w_2) \ll r^{7/3-\varepsilon},$$

because

$$N(2r, w_2) \geq \int_r^{2r} (n(\rho, w_2) - n(0, w_2)) \frac{d\rho}{\rho} \geq (n(r, w_2) + O(1)) \log 2.$$

Starting from (2.1), we will derive a contradiction. Let $\{a_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ (or $\{a_j\}_{j=1}^q$, $q \in \mathbf{N}$) be the sequence of all distinct poles of $w_2(z)$ arranged as $|a_1| \leq \dots \leq |a_j| \leq \dots$. It is easy to check that, around each pole a_j ,

$$w_2(z) = c(j)(z - a_j)^{-2} + O(1),$$

where $c(j) = 1$ or 3 . By this fact combined with (2.2), we write $w_2(z)$ in the form

$$(2.3) \quad w_2(z) = \Phi(z) + \varphi(z),$$

$$(2.4) \quad \Phi(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} c(j)((z - a_j)^{-2} - a_j^{-2}),$$

where $\varphi(z)$ is an entire function; and in (2.4), if $a_1 = 0$ the term $(z - a_1)^{-2} - a_1^{-2}$ should be replaced by z^{-2} . Under (2.2), we have the following lemmas whose proofs are similar to those of [7, Lemmas 1.1 and 1.2].

Lemma 2.1. *For every $r > 1$, there exists z_r satisfying*

$$0.7r \leq |z_r| \leq r, \quad \sum_{|a_j| < 2r} |z_r - a_j|^{-2} \ll r^{1/3-\varepsilon/2}, \quad \sum_{|a_j| < 2r} |z_r - a_j|^{-3} \ll r^{1/2-\varepsilon}.$$

Lemma 2.2. *Let r be an arbitrary number satisfying $r > 1$. Then,*

$$\sum_{|a_j| \geq 2r} |(z - a_j)^{-2} - a_j^{-2}| \ll r^{1/3-\varepsilon}, \quad \sum_{|a_j| \geq 2r} |z - a_j|^{-3} \ll 1$$

for $|z| \leq r$, and

$$\sum_{0 < |a_j| < 2r} |a_j^{-2}| \ll r^{1/3-\varepsilon}.$$

By a well-known argument of the Nevanlinna theory, it is shown that $\varphi(z)$ is a polynomial. Note that $|\Phi(z)| \leq \left| \sum_{|a_j| < 2r} \right| + \left| \sum_{|a_j| \geq 2r} \right|$. By Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, for every $r > 1$, there exists z_r , $0.7r \leq |z_r| \leq r$ satisfying

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} |\Phi(z_r)| &\ll r^{1/3-\varepsilon/2}, & |\Phi'(z_r)| &\ll r^{1/2-\varepsilon}, \\ |\Phi''(z_r)| &\ll r^{2/3-\varepsilon}, & |\Phi^{(4)}(z_r)| &\ll r^{1-3\varepsilon/2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.6) \quad w_2(z_r) \ll (|w_2^{(4)}(z_r)| + |w_2(z_r)||w_2''(z_r)| + |w_2'(z_r)|^2 + |z_r|)^{1/3} \\ \ll |w_2^{(4)}(z_r)|^{1/3} + |w_2(z_r)|^{1/3}|w_2''(z_r)|^{1/3} + |w_2'(z_r)|^{2/3} + |z_r|^{1/3}.$$

Substituting $w_2^{(k)}(z_r) = \varphi^{(k)}(z_r) + \Phi^{(k)}(z_r)$ ($k = 0, 1, 2, 4$) into (2.6) and using $|\Phi^{(k)}(z_r)| \ll r^{1/3+k/6}$ (cf. (2.5)), we have

$$(1) \quad |\varphi(z_r)| \ll r^{1/3} + |\varphi^{(4)}(z_r)|^{1/3} \\ + (r^{1/9} + |\varphi(z_r)|^{1/3})(r^{2/9} + |\varphi''(z_r)|^{1/3}) + r^{1/3} + |\varphi'(z_r)|^{2/3},$$

which implies that $\varphi(z) \equiv C \in \mathbf{C}$. Then, by (PI₄),

$$0.7r \leq |z_r| \ll |w_2^{(4)}(z_r)| + |w_2(z_r)||w_2''(z_r)| + |w_2'(z_r)|^2 + |w_2(z_r)|^3 \ll r^{1-\varepsilon},$$

which is a contradiction. Thus Theorem 1.1 with $\nu = 2$ follows.

3. General case

To treat the general case, we need to know some facts related to the terms of the differential polynomial $d_{\nu+1}[w]$. Let $[w, w', \dots, w^{(p)}]^\iota$ denote the monomial $w^{\iota_0}(w')^{\iota_1} \dots (w^{(p)})^{\iota_p}$, where $\iota = (\iota_0, \iota_1, \dots, \iota_p) \in (\mathbf{N} \cup \{0\})^{p+1}$. For this monomial with $\iota = (\iota_0, \iota_1, \dots, \iota_p)$, we define the weight of it by

$$\|\iota\| := \sum_{\kappa=0}^p (2 + \kappa)\iota_\kappa.$$

Then, $d_{\nu+1}[w]$ is written in the form:

Lemma 3.1. *For every $\nu \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{0\}$,*

$$d_{\nu+1}[w] = \gamma_{\nu+1}w^{\nu+1} + \sum_{\|\iota\| \leq 2(\nu+1), \iota_0 \leq \nu} c_\iota [w, w', \dots, w^{(2\nu)}]^\iota, \quad \iota = (\iota_0, \iota_1, \dots, \iota_{2\nu}),$$

where $c_\iota \in \mathbf{C}$, $\gamma_{\nu+1} \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \{0\}$.

To show Theorem 1.1 for the general case, we start from the supposition that

$$N(r, w_\nu) \ll r^{(2\nu+3)/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon},$$

which implies that

$$(3.1) \quad n(r, w_\nu) \ll r^{(2\nu+3)/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon}$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $\{a_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ (or $\{a_j\}_{j=1}^q$) be a sequence of distinct poles of $w_\nu(z)$. Around a_j , we have

$$w_\nu(z) = c(a_j)(z - a_j)^{-2} + O(1),$$

where $c(a_j) = k(a_j)(k(a_j) + 1)/2$ for some $k(a_j) \in \{1, \dots, \nu\}$. By (3.1), $w_\nu(z)$ is written in the form

$$w_\nu(z) = \sum_{a_j} c(a_j)((z - a_j)^{-2} - a_j^{-2}) + \varphi(z),$$

where $\varphi(z)$ is an entire function. Instead of Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, we have the following under supposition (3.1):

Lemma 3.2. *For every $r > 1$, there exists z_r satisfying*

$$0.7r \leq |z_r| \leq r, \quad \sum_{|a_j| < 2r} |z_r - a_j|^{-2} \ll r^{1/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon/2}, \quad \sum_{|a_j| < 2r} |z_r - a_j|^{-3} \ll r^{(3/2)/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon}.$$

Lemma 3.3. *Let r be an arbitrary number such that $r > 1$. Then*

$$\sum_{|a_j| \geq 2r} |(z - a_j)^{-2} - a_j^{-2}| \ll r^{1/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon}, \quad \sum_{|a_j| \geq 2r} |z - a_j|^{-3} \ll 1$$

for $|z| \leq r$, and

$$\sum_{0 < |a_j| < 2r} |a_j^{-2}| \ll r^{1/(\nu+1)-\varepsilon}.$$

Using Lemmas 3.2 and 3.3 combined with Lemma 3.1, we prove Theorem 1.1 for the general case.

References

- [1] Gromak, V. I., Laine, I. and Shimomura, S., *Painlevé Differential Equations in the Complex Plane* Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, New York 2002.
- [2] Hayman, W. K., *Meromorphic Functions* Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1964.
- [3] Kudryashov, N. A., The first and second Painlevé equations of higher order and some relations between them, *Phys. Lett. A* **224**, 353–360 (1997).
- [4] Laine, I., *Nevanlinna Theory and Complex Differential Equations* Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, New York, 1993.
- [5] Shimomura, S., Growth of the first, the second and the fourth Painlevé transcendents, to appear in *Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc.*
- [6] Shimomura, S., Lower estimates for the growth of Painlevé transcendents, to appear in *Funkcial. Ekvac.*

- [7] Shimomura, S., On the number of poles of the first Painlevé transcendents and higher order analogues, *SūrikaisekikenkyūshoKōkyūroku* No. 1296, 124–127 (2002).
- [8] Shimomura, S., Poles and α -points of meromorphic solutions of the first Painlevé hierarchy, Preprint (2003).
- [9] Steinmetz, N., Value distribution of Painlevé transcendents, *Israel J. Math.* **128**, 29–52 (2002).