Integer-valued and almost integer-valued functions

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Abstract

In this article, we discuss conditions so that complex entire functions are integer-valued, by means of methods based on Diophantine problems. We also describe how are deduced conditions to be "almost" integer-valued.

Keywords: Integer-valued functions, Almost integer-valued functions, Lattice, Geometry of numbers, Transcendence method.

1 Introduction

We first consider a naive question as follows. Denote by \( \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) the algebraic closure of \( \mathbb{Q} \) in \( \mathbb{C} \). Let \( F(z) \) be a complex function in one variable which satisfies \( F(u) \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) for any \( u \in \mathbb{Q} \). Could we specify any properties for the function \( F'(z) \)?

We know that such \( F(z) \) is NOT necessarily algebraic function ; we had examples in 1894 due to P. Stäckel of a transcendental function taking algebraic values at all algebraic points. In fact, Stäckel's showed a more general statement : for any countable set \( S \), and for any set \( T \) being dense in the complex plane, there exists an entire function \( F'(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n \) with rational \( f_n \), satisfying \( F'(u) \in T \) for any \( u \in S \). Thus we have \( F(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) for \( S = T = \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \).

Moreover he constructed in 1902 a transcendental function \( F(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n \) with rational \( f_n \), analytic in a neighbourhood of the origin, with the property that the both \( F(z) \) and its inverse function take algebraic values at all algebraic points in \( \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) in the neighbourhood.
We also recall that the Hermite-Lindemann theorem shows exp(α) ∉ \overline{\mathbb{Q}} for any α ∈ \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, α ≠ 0, which says, such transcendental function always takes transcendental values at any non-trivial algebraic point. Stäckel’s result notices that this is not true for all transcendental functions. F. Beukers and J. Wolfart gave in 1988 a condition for the algebraicity of the values of Gauss’ hypergeometric function \( F(z) \) and Wolfart made a criterion to distinguish whether a Gauss’ hypergeometric function takes algebraic values at algebraic points or not [Be-Wo]: if Gauss’ hypergeometric function \( F(z) \) is algebraic over \( \mathbb{C}(z) \), then \( F(\xi) \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \) otherwise there are hypergeometric functions, either \( F(z) \) with \( F(\xi) \notin \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) for only finitely many \( \xi \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \), or, \( F(z) \) such that there is a subset \( E \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) which is dense in \( \mathbb{C} \) satisfying \( F(\xi) \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \) whenever \( \xi \in E \).

On the other hand, there are many examples of transcendental functions such that \( F(N) \subset \mathbb{Z} \), or \( F(\xi) \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \). e. g. \( F(z) = 2^z \).

Now we ask, what it is, the function \( F(z) \) with \( F(N) \subset \mathbb{Z} \) or \( F(\xi) \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \). We have the following fundamental result due to G. Pólya [Po] in 1915 (see also [Ha]).

**Definition 1** Let \( F(z) \) be an entire function in \( \mathbb{C} \). Write \( |F|_{\rho} = \sup_{|z| \leq \rho} |F(z)| \) and define \( \tau(F) \) the order of exponential type of \( F(z) \); \( \tau(F) = \limsup_{\rho \to +\infty} \frac{\log |F|_{\rho}}{\rho} \).

**Theorem A** (Pólya) Let \( F(z) \) be an entire function in \( \mathbb{C} \) with \( F(N) \subset \mathbb{Z} \). Suppose \( \tau(F) < \log 2 \). Then \( F(z) \) is a polynomial.

Pólya considered also the case \( F(\xi) \subset \mathbb{Z} \) (see also [Ca]).

**Theorem B** (Pólya) Let \( F(z) \) be an entire function in \( \mathbb{C} \) with \( F'(\xi) \subset \mathbb{Z} \). Suppose \( \tau(F) < \log(\frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) \). Then \( F(z) \) is a polynomial.

In Theorem A and B, we see that \( F(z) \) is necessarily a polynomial in \( \mathbb{Q}[z] \), but not in \( \mathbb{Z}[z] \) (consider for example, \( \frac{1}{2}(z + 1) \)).

The bounds \( \log 2 \) and \( \log(\frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) \) are optimal because of \( 2^z \) and \( \left( \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^z + \left( \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^z \).

2 Results

We see, \( F(z) \) is a polynomial with coefficients in \( \mathbb{Q} \), which is equivalent to say the functions \( z^k F(z)^k (h, k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}) \) are linearly dependent over \( \mathbb{Q} \). Then a natural generalization of works of Pólya is to seek a sufficient condition such that several functions \( f_1, \ldots, f_L \) are linearly dependent over \( \mathbb{Q} \).

For \( \zeta_1, \zeta_2, \ldots \in \mathbb{C} \) denote by \( r(N) := \max_{1 \leq n \leq N} |\zeta_n| \).

We then show
**Theorem 1** Let $L$ and $N_0$ be rational integers with $1 < N_0 < L$. There are constants $C_1 > 0$ and $C_2 > 0$ depending only on $L, N_0$ satisfying the following. Let $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \cdots \in \mathbb{C}$ be infinite complex points pairwise distinct. Let $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ be entire functions in $\mathbb{C}$. Suppose $f_j(\zeta_n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ for any $j, n$ with $1 \leq j \leq L$ and $n \geq 1$. If we have $\max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \log |f_j|_{C_{1}, \tau(N)} \leq C_2 N$ for any $N \geq N_0$, then the functions $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ are linearly dependent over $\mathbb{Q}$.

We are able to calculate $C_1 > 0$ and $C_2 > 0$ in an explicit manner. Several consequences of Theorem 1 are, for instance, as follows:

**Corollary 2** Let $F(z)$ be an entire function in $\mathbb{C}$ with $F(\mathbb{N}) \subset \mathbb{Z}$. Suppose $\tau(F) \leq \frac{1}{40}$. Then $F(z)$ is a polynomial over $\mathbb{Q}$.

**Proof** We consider $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ as
\[ z(z - 1) \cdots (z - h + 1) \frac{F(z)}{h!} (h, k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}). \]

**Corollary 3** Let $F$ be an entire function with $F(\mathbb{N}) \subset \mathbb{Z}$ with $\tau(F) \leq \frac{11}{14}$. Then there exist $N_1, N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $F$ satisfies the functional equation
\[ \sum_{h=0}^{N_1} \sum_{k=0}^{N_2} a_{hk} z^h F(z + k) = 0 \]
with $a_{hk} \in \mathbb{Q}$ not all zero.

## 3 Almost integer-valued functions

Let us try to relax our condition in Theorem 1. We still want as consequence the functions to be polynomials over $\mathbb{Q}$ or linearly dependent over $\mathbb{Q}$, however we DOUBT if we really need the functions are integer-valued in the sufficient condition. Indeed we succeeded in proving the following.

Put $\delta(N) := \min_{1 \leq h < k \leq N} |\zeta_h - \zeta_k|$ for $N \geq 2$ and $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \cdots, \zeta_N \in \mathbb{C}$ distinct.

Set also $\|z\| := \min_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} |z - m|.$

**Theorem 4** Let $L$ and $N_0$ be rational integers with $1 < N_0 < L$. There are constants $C_1 > 19$, $C_2 > 0$ and $C_3 > 0$ depending only on $L, N_0$ satisfying the following. Let $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \cdots \in \mathbb{C}$ be infinite complex points pairwise distinct. Let $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ be entire functions in $\mathbb{C}$. Assume
\[ \max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \log |f_j|_{C_{1}, \tau(N)} \leq C_2 N \]
for any $N \geq N_0, 1 \leq j \leq L$. For $1 \leq \forall j \leq L, \forall n \geq 1$ assume also
\[ \|f_j(\zeta_n)\| \leq C_3 e^{-3n} \frac{\delta(2n + 1)}{r(2n + 1)} \cdot \frac{(\delta(2n + 1))^{n+1}}{r(2n + 1)} \]
Then the functions $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ are linearly dependent over $\mathbb{Q}$. 

We may explicitly calculate $C_1$, $C_2$ and $C_3$. We present consequences of Theorem 4:

**Corollary 5** Let $F(z)$ be an entire function in $\mathbb{C}$. Suppose $\tau(F) \leq \frac{1}{481}$ and $\| F(n) \| \leq e^{-5n}$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $F(z)$ is a polynomial over $\mathbb{Q}$.

## 4 Outline of the proof of theorems

We prove the theorems by Schneider’s method which is one of main transcendence methods to deal with Diophantine problems.

**Proof of Theorem 1**

[First step]: construction of an auxiliary function

We may suppose that each $f_j(z), \ (1 \leq j \leq L)$ is not identically zero. Then we know that the zeroes of the functions are isolated. We start to construct the function $F(z) := \sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j f_j(z)$ such that the coefficients $p_j \in \mathbb{Z} \ (1 \leq j \leq L)$ are not all zero and that, for any $n, 1 \leq n \leq N_0$, $F(\zeta_n) = 0$. This requires to solve a system in unknowns $p_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ by Siegel's Lemma (the algebraic one, see [Da-Hi] and [Hi]). We use the Lemma to conclude that there exist $p_j \in \mathbb{Z} \ (1 \leq j \leq L)$ such that:

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \log |p_j| \leq \frac{1}{L - N_0} \log L + \frac{N_0(N_0 - 1)}{L} \log \frac{C_1}{2}.$$

[Second step]: extrapolation

We consider for each $N \geq N_0$ the following properties:

$A(N) : F(\zeta_n) = 0 \text{ for } 1 \leq \forall n \leq N$

$B(N) : |F|_{r(N+1)} < 1.$

We shall show $A(N) \implies B(N)$ and $B(N) \implies A(N + 1)$.

[Proof of $A(N) \implies B(N)$]:

By the hypothesis $A(N)$, we see that the function $F$ has at least $N$ zeroes in the set $\{ z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq r(N+1) \}$. The Lemma of Schwarz (in fact the residue formula; see [Gr] and [Gr-Mi-Wa]) shows

$$\log |F|_{r(N+1)} \leq \log |F|_{r(N+1)} - N \log \frac{C_1}{2},$$

then we have

$$\log |F|_{r(N+1)} \leq \frac{1}{L - N_0} \log L - \frac{N_0}{L} \log \frac{C_1}{2}.$$

The suitable choice of $C_1$ allows us conclude.

[Proof of $B(N) \implies A(N + 1)$]:

The property $B(N)$ implies $|F(\zeta_n)| < 1$ for any $1 \leq n \leq N + 1$. Since $f_j(\zeta_n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ then we obtain $F(\zeta_n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ namely $F(\zeta_n) = 0$. 

[Third step]: conclusion
The property $A(N_0)$ holds by the construction of $F$ in the First step. Therefore by the Second and the Third steps we see that $A(N)$ and $B(N)$ are true for any $N \geq N_0$. If $F$ is not identically zero, the zeroes are isolated, which implies $r(N) \to \infty$, thus by Liouville's theorem $|F|_{r(N)} \to \infty$ for $N \to \infty$, that contradicts with $B(N)$. Then $F$ is identically zero. □

Proof of Theorem 4

[First step]: construction of an auxiliary function
We choose the constants $C_1, C_2$ so as to satisfy the both:

$$\frac{1}{4} \log \frac{C_1 - 1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log 3 - \frac{L}{L - N_0} \log L - \frac{N_0}{2(L - N_0)} - \log \frac{C_1}{C_1 - 1} > 0,$$

$$C_2 N \leq \frac{(L - N_0)(N - 1)}{L} \left( \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{C_1 - 1}{2} - \log 3 \right) + \frac{N_0}{2L} + \frac{L - N_0}{L} \log \frac{C_1}{C_1 - 1}.$$

By hypothesis, there are integers $a_{jn}$ such that for each $1 \leq j \leq L, 1 \leq n \leq N_0$:

$$||f_j(\zeta_n)|| = |f_j(\zeta_n) - a_{jn}|.$$

The obvious inequality

$$\log |a_{jn}| \leq \log \left( \frac{1}{2} + |f_j(\zeta_n)| \right) \leq \max \left( \frac{1}{2} + \log |f_j(\zeta_n)|, \log \frac{3}{2} \right)$$

and the assumption of Theorem 4 give us for any $1 \leq j \leq L, 1 \leq n \leq N_0$:

$$\log |a_{jn}| \leq \frac{1}{2} + C_2 N_0.$$

We construct the function $F(z) := \sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j f_j(z)$ such that the coefficients $p_j \in \mathbb{Z} (1 \leq j \leq L)$ are not all zero and for any $n, \frac{N_0}{L} \leq n \leq N_0$ that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j a_{jn} = 0.$$

Since $L > \lceil N_0/2 \rceil$ we may solve the system again by Siegel's Lemma to get $p_j \in \mathbb{Z} (1 \leq j \leq L)$ not all zero with

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \log |p_j| \leq \frac{N_0}{L - N_0} \left( \log L + \frac{1}{2} + C_2 N_0 \right).$$

We then have

$$\log |F|_{C_1 r(N)} \leq \frac{L}{L - N_0} \left( \log L + C_2 N + \frac{N_0}{2L} \right).$$
[Second step]: extrapolation
We consider for each $N \geq N_0$ the following properties:

- $A(N) : \sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j a_{jn} = 0$ for $N/2 \leq n \leq N$
- $B(N) : |F|_{r(N+1)} < 3^{-N} + 3^{-1}$.

We shall show that $A(N) \implies B(N)$ and $B(N) \implies A(N+1)$.

[Proof of $A(N) \implies B(N)$]: Put

$$C_3 = e^{-3} \left( L^{\frac{L}{L-N_0}} \cdot \exp \left( \frac{N_0}{L-N_0} \left( \frac{1}{2} + C_2 N_0 \right) \right) \right)^{-1}.$$  

By the hypothesis $A(N)$, we see

$$|F(\zeta_n)| = \left| \sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j (f_j(\zeta_n) - a_{jn}) \right| \leq C_3^{-1} e^{-3} \max \| f_j(\zeta_n) \|$$

which shows under the assumption of $\| f_j(\zeta_n) \|$

$$|F(\zeta_n)| \leq n^{\frac{n}{20}} \left( \frac{\delta(n+1)}{e^3 r(n+1)} \right)^{n+1}.$$  

Because of

$$\frac{\delta(n+1)}{e^3 r(n+1)} < 1, \quad \frac{\delta(n)}{r(n)} \geq \frac{\delta(n+1)}{r(n+1)}$$

we have

$$\max_{\frac{N}{2} \leq n \leq N} \| k'(\zeta_n) \| \leq e^{-3 - \frac{N}{20}} N^{\frac{N}{20}} \delta(N+1)^{\frac{N}{20}} r(N+1)^{\frac{N}{2}+1}.$$  

On the other hand, use the inequality from the residue formula:

Let $f$ be a function analytic in $|z| \leq R$ in $\mathbb{C}$ and be $\zeta_0, \zeta_1, \cdots \zeta_l \in \mathbb{C}$ in $|z| \leq R$. Then we have

$$|f(\zeta_0)| \leq E_1 + E_2$$

where

$$E_1 = |f|_R \cdot \frac{R}{|\zeta_0|} \prod_{n=1}^{l} \frac{|\zeta_0 - \zeta_n|}{R - |\zeta_n|},$$

$$E_2 = \prod_{k=1}^{l} |\zeta_0 - \zeta_k| \sum_{n=1}^{l} \left( \frac{|f(\zeta_n)|}{|\zeta_0 - \zeta_n|} \cdot \prod_{i=1,i \neq n}^{l} \frac{1}{|\zeta_i - \zeta_n|} \right).$$

Take $\zeta_0 \in \mathbb{C}$ with $|\zeta_0| = r = r(N+1)$ and $\zeta_0 \neq \zeta_i (\frac{N}{2} \leq i \leq N)$. We now get thanks to the above inequality:
\[ |F|_r \leq |F|_R \cdot \frac{R}{R-r} \prod_{\frac{N}{2} \leq n \leq N} \frac{|\zeta_0 - \zeta_n|}{|\zeta_n|} + \prod_{\frac{N}{2} \leq k \leq N} \frac{|\zeta_0 - \zeta_k|}{|\zeta_k|} \sum_{\frac{N}{2} \leq n \leq N} \left( \frac{|F(\zeta_n)|}{|\zeta_0 - \zeta_n|} \prod_{i \neq n} \frac{1}{|\zeta_i - \zeta_n|} \right). \]

For \( R = C_1 r \), this implies \( |F'|_r \leq T_1 + T_2 \) where

\[
T_1 = |F|_R \cdot \frac{C_1}{C_1 - 1} \cdot \left( \frac{C_1 - 1}{2} \right)^{-M},
\]

\[
T_2 = M \max_{\frac{N}{2} \leq n \leq N} |F(\zeta_n)|6^{M-1} \left( \frac{3}{M} \right)^{\frac{M}{2}} \left( \frac{r(N+1)}{\delta(N)} \right)^{M-1}
\]

with \( M = \lceil N/2 + 1 \rceil \).

The choice of \( C_2 \) and the construction of the auxiliary function let us obtain

\[
\log |T_1| \leq -N \log 3.
\]

Next, we see that the disc of radius \( r(N) + \delta(N)/2 \) contains \( N \) disjoint discs of radius \( \delta(N)/2 \) thus we have \( N \left( \frac{\delta(N)}{2} \right)^2 \leq \left( r(N) + \frac{\delta(N)}{2} \right)^2 \), therefore putting \( \sigma(N) := \frac{\delta(N)}{r(N)} \) we obtain \( \sigma(N) \sqrt{N} \leq 2 + \sigma(N) \) then

\[
\sigma(N+1) \leq \frac{1}{2(\sqrt{2} - 1)\sqrt{N}}
\]

for \( N \geq 1 \) and

\[
\sigma(N+1) \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{(\sqrt{3} - 1)\sqrt{N}}
\]

for \( N \geq 2 \). The upper bound for \( \max_{\frac{N}{2} \leq n \leq N} |F(\zeta_n)| \) gives us

\[
T_2 \leq Me^{-3-\frac{3M}{2}} N^\frac{M}{2} 6^{M-1} \left( \frac{3}{M} \right)^{\frac{M}{2}} \sigma(N+1) \frac{6^{M-1-\lfloor N/2 \rfloor}}{\sqrt{N}}.
\]

Consequently we have \( T_2 < \frac{1}{3} \) for \( N \geq 2 \) and then

\[
|F|_{r(N+1)} \leq T_1 + T_2 \leq 3^{-N} + 3^{-1}.
\]

[Proof of \( B(N) \implies A(N+1) \) :]

By the assumption on \( \| f_j(\zeta_n) \| \) of the theorem and the property on \( \sigma(N) \), we see

\[
\| f_j(\zeta_{N+1}) \| \leq 3\sigma e^{-7}
\]

for any \( N \geq 2 \).
Using the bound for $\log |p_j|$ : the coefficient of the auxiliary function, and the choice of $C_3$, we get

$$\left| \sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j a_{j,N+1} \right| \leq L \max_{1 \leq j \leq L} (|p_j| \| f_j(\zeta_{N+1}) \| ) + |F(\zeta_{N+1})| \leq C_3^{-1} e^{-3} C_3 e^{-7} + 3^{-2} + 3^{-1} < 1$$

which implies that the integer vanishes, namely $\sum_{j=1}^{L} p_j a_{j,N+1} = 0$.

[Third step] : conclusion
Since $B(N)$ is true for any $N \geq N_0$, we have

$$|F|_{r(N+1)} < 3^{-N} + 3^{-1}$$

then Liouville’s theorem assures us that $F$ is identically zero. □

5 Higher dimensional case

Now we ask to ourselves what happens on $\mathbb{C}^m$ in several variables case, or algebraic integer-valued case. Let $K$ be an algebraic number field of degree $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = d$ and $\mathcal{O}_K$ be the integer ring of $K$. In such cases, we have also a sequence of proven results. The works due to Seigo Fukasama (= Seigo Morimoto) around 1920’s together with the related results of A. O. Gel’fond concerning the entire function in $\mathbb{C}$ with $F(\mathbb{Z}[i]) \subset \mathbb{Z}[i]$ consist of some fundamental concept in this area. Daihachiro Sato also investigated integer-valued functions in 1960’s. F. Gramain obtained the best possible bound for the order of the entire function in $\mathbb{C}$ with $F(\mathcal{O}_K) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ to be a polynomial when $K$ is imaginary quadratic [Gr]. For the historical survey we refer his article. C. Pisot dealt with not only integer-valued functions but also almost integer-valued functions by interpolation method. A version in characteristic $p > 0$ is studied by M. Car and D. Adam.

**Definition 2** Let $\delta = d$ if $K \subset \mathbb{R}$ and $\delta = \frac{d}{2}$ otherwise.

We claim that the highly important fact

$$a \in \mathbb{Z}, |a| < 1 \implies a = 0$$

is not true in the case of algebraic integers, so we use instead, the following Size Inequality:

$$a \in \mathcal{O}_K, a \neq 0 \implies \log |\bar{a}| \geq -(\delta - 1) \log |\bar{a}|$$

where $|\bar{a}|$ denotes the maximum of absolute values of all the conjugates of $a$ over $\mathbb{Q}$.

**Definition 3** Let $F(z)$ be an entire function in $\mathbb{C}^m$ and $|z|$ denotes Euclidean norm in $\mathbb{C}^m$. Write $|F|_r = \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}^m, \ |z| \leq r} |F(z)|$ and define $\tau(F)$ the order of exponential type

of $F(z)$ by $\tau(F) = \limsup_{r \to +\infty} \frac{\log |F|_r}{r}$. 

We then quote a theorem due to Gramain:

**Theorem C (Gramain)** Let $K$ be an algebraic number field of degree $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = d$ and $\mathcal{O}_K$ be the integer ring of $K$. Let $F(z)$ be an entire function in $\mathbb{C}^m$ of $\tau(F) \leq \alpha$. Suppose $F(N^m) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$. Assume further there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that for $n \in \mathbb{N}^m$ we have

$$\limsup_{|n| \to \infty} \frac{\log |F(n)|}{|n|} \leq c.$$

Then under the condition $\log(e^\alpha - 1) < -(\delta - 1) \log(1 + e^\epsilon)$ the function $F$ is a polynomial with coefficients in $K$.

We collect the results as follows by Pólya, G. H. Hardy, Pisot, Gramain, V. Avanissian & R. Gay, A. Baker and A. Martineau. Below assume the function $F(z)$ is entire.

1. $F(N) \subset \mathbb{Z}$, $\tau(F') < \log 2 \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
2. $F(Z) \subset \mathbb{Z}$, $\tau(F) < \log \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
3. $F(N) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$, $\log(e^\alpha - 1) < -(\delta - 1) \log(1 + e^\epsilon) \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
4. $F(Z) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$, $\log(2 \sinh(\frac{\alpha}{2})) < -\frac{\delta - 1}{2} \log(2 + e^\epsilon) \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
5. $F(N^m) \subset \mathbb{Z}$, $\tau(F) < \log 2 \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
6. $F(Z^m) \subset \mathbb{Z}$, $\tau(F) < \log \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
7. $F(N^m) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$, $\log(e^\alpha - 1) < -(\delta - 1) \log(1 + e^\epsilon) \implies F(z)$ is a polynomial.
8. $F'(Z^m) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$, $\log(2 \sinh(\frac{\alpha}{2})) < -\frac{\delta - 1}{2} \log(2 + e^\epsilon) \implies F'(z)$ is a polynomial.

The upper bounds $\log 2$ and $\log \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$ are only optimal.

We get the following in the case where we consider several variables and algebraic integers:

**Theorem 6** Let $K$ be an algebraic number field of degree $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = d$ and $\mathcal{O}_K$ be the integer ring of $K$. Let $L$ and $N_0$ be rational integers with $1 < N_0 < L$. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Then there are constants $C_1 > 0$ and $C_2 > 0$ depending on $L, N_0, m$ satisfying the following. Let $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \cdots$ be infinite points in $\mathbb{C}^m$ pairwise distinct. Let $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ be entire functions in $\mathbb{C}^m$ with $f_j(\zeta_n) \in \mathcal{O}_K$ ($1 \leq j \leq L, \forall n \geq 1$). Suppose

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \frac{\log |f_j|_{C_1 r(N)}}{N} \leq C_2 \ \forall N \geq N_0.$$

Assume further that there exist $C_3 > 0$ and $C_4 > 0$ such that

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq L} \frac{\log |f_j(\zeta_N)|}{N} \leq C_3, \ |\zeta_N| < C_4 N \ \forall N \geq N_0.$$

Then under the condition $\log(e^{C_2} - 1 + m) < -(\delta - 1) \log(1 + e^{C_4})$ we have that the functions $f_1, \cdots, f_L$ are linearly dependent over $K$. 

References


