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# p-adic meromorphic functions f'P'(f), g'P'(g) sharing a small function

Kamal Boussaf, Alain Escassut and Jacqueline Ojeda

May 30, 2011

#### Abstract

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a complete algebraically closed p-adic field of characteristic zero. Let f, g be two transcendental meromorphic functions in the whole field  $\mathbb{K}$  or meromorphic functions in an open disk that are not quotients of bounded analytic functions. Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for meromorphic functions in  $\mathbb{K}$  or in an open disk and let  $\alpha$  be a small meromorphic function with regards to f and g. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  counting multiplicity, then we show that f = g provided that the multiplicity order of zeroes of P' satisfy certain inequalities. If  $\alpha$  is a Moebius function or a non-zero constant, we can obtain more general results on P.

#### Introduction and Main Results

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero, complete for an ultrametric absolute value denoted by | . |. We denote by  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{K})$  the  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra of entire functions in  $\mathbb{K}$ , by  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  the field of meromorphic functions in  $\mathbb{K}$ , i.e. the field of fractions of  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{K})$  and by  $\mathbb{K}(x)$  the field of rational functions.

Let  $a \in \mathbb{K}$  and  $R \in ]0, +\infty[$ . We denote by d(a, R) the closed disk  $\{x \in \mathbb{K} : |x - a| \leq R\}$  and by  $d(a, R^-)$  the open" disk  $\{x \in \mathbb{K} : |x - a| < R\}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{A}(d(a, R^-))$  the set of analytic functions in  $d(a, R^-)$ , i.e. the  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra of power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x - a)^n$  converging in  $d(a, R^-)$  and by  $\mathcal{M}(d(a, R^-))$  the field of meromorphic functions inside  $d(a, R^-)$ , i.e. the field of fractions of

 $\mathcal{A}(d(a, R^{-}))$ . Moreover, we denote by  $\mathcal{A}_{b}(d(a, R^{-}))$  the K - subalgebra of  $\mathcal{A}(d(a, R^{-}))$  consisting of the bounded analytic functions in  $d(a, R^{-})$ , i.e. which satisfy  $\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |a_{n}| R^{n} < +\infty$ . And we denote

by  $\mathcal{M}_b(d(a, R^-))$  the field of fractions of  $\mathcal{A}_b(d(a, R^-))$ . Finally, we denote by  $\mathcal{A}_u(d(a, R^-))$  the set of unbounded analytic functions in  $d(a, R^-)$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{A}(d(a, R^-)) \setminus \mathcal{A}_b(d(a, R^-))$ . Similarly, we set  $\mathcal{M}_u(d(a, R^-)) = \mathcal{M}(d(a, R^-)) \setminus \mathcal{M}_b(d(a, R^-))$ .

The problem of value sharing a small function by functions of the form f'P'(f) was examined first when P was just of the form  $x^n$  [7], [18], [24]. More recently it was examined when P was a polynomial such that P' had exactly two distinct zeroes [15], [17], [20], both in complex analysis and in p-adic analysis. In [15], [17] the functions where meromorphic on  $\mathbb{C}$ , with a small function that was a constant or the identity. In [20], the problem was considered for analytic functions

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in the field  $\mathbb{K}$ : on one hand for entire functions and on the other hand for unbounded analytic functions in an open disk.

Here we consider functions  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  or  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(d(a, R^-))$  and ordinary polynomials P: we must only assume certain hypotheses on the multiplicity order of the zeroes of P'. The method for the various theorems we will show is the following: assuming that f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share a small function, we first prove that f'P'(f) = g'P'(g). Next, we derive P(f) = P(g). And then, when P is a polynomial of uniqueness for the functions we consider, we can conclude f = g.

Now, in order to define small functions, we have to briefly recall the definitions of the classical Nevanlinna theory in the field  $\mathbb{K}$  and a few specific properties of ultrametric analytic or meromorphic functions.

Let log be a real logarithm function of base > 1 and let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  (resp.  $f \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, R^-))$ ) having no zero and no pole at 0. Let  $r \in ]0, +\infty[$  (resp.  $r \in ]0, R[$ ) and let  $\gamma \in d(0, r)$ . If f has a zero of order n at  $\gamma$ , we put  $\omega_{\gamma}(h) = n$ . If f has a pole of order n at  $\gamma$ , we put  $\omega_{\gamma}(f) = -n$  and finally, if  $f(\gamma) \neq 0, \infty$ , we put  $\omega_{\gamma}(f) = 0$ 

We denote by Z(r, f) the counting function of zeroes of f in d(0, r), counting multiplicity, i.e. we set

$$Z(r, f) = \sum_{\omega_{\gamma}(f) > 0, |\gamma| \le r} \omega_{\gamma}(f) (\log r - \log |\gamma|).$$

In the same way, we set  $N(r, f) = Z\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right)$  to denote the *counting function of poles of* f in d(0, r), counting multiplicity.

For  $f \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, R^{-}))$  having no zero and no pole at 0, the Nevanlinna function is defined by  $T(r, f) = \max \{Z(r, f) + \log | f(0) |, N(r, f) \}.$ 

Now, we must recall the definition of a *small function* with respect to a meromorphic function and some pertinent properties.

**Definition.** Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  (resp. let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, R^{-}))$ ) such that  $f(0) \neq 0, \infty$ . A function  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  (resp.  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, R^{-}))$ ) having no zero and no pole at 0 is called a small function with respect to f, if it satisfies  $\lim_{r \to +\infty} \frac{T(r, \alpha)}{T(r, f)} = 0$  (resp.  $\lim_{r \to R^{-}} \frac{T(r, \alpha)}{T(r, f)} = 0$ ).

If 0 is a zero or a pole of f or  $\alpha$ , we can make a change of variable such that the new origin is not a zero or a pole for both f and  $\alpha$ . Thus it is easily seen that the last relation does not really depend on the origin.

We denote by  $\mathcal{M}_f(\mathbb{K})$  (resp.  $\mathcal{M}_f(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-))$ ) the set of small meromorphic functions with respect to f in  $\mathbb{K}$  (resp. in  $d(0, \mathbb{R}^-)$ ).

Let us remember the following definition.

**Definition.** Let  $f, g, \alpha \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  (resp. let  $f, g, \alpha \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, \mathbb{R}^{-}))$ ). We say that f and g share the function  $\alpha$  C.M., if  $f - \alpha$  and  $g - \alpha$  have the same zeroes with the same multiplicity in  $\mathbb{K}$  (resp. in  $d(0, \mathbb{R}^{-})$ ).

Recall that a polynomial  $P \in \mathbb{K}[x]$  is called *a polynomial of uniqueness* for a class of functions  $\mathcal{F}$  if for any two functions  $f, g \in \mathcal{F}$  the property P(f) = P(g) implies f = g.

Actually, in a p-adic field, we can obtain various results, not only for functions defined in the whole field  $\mathbb{K}$  but also for functions defined inside an open disk because the p-adic Nevanlinna Theory works inside a disk, for functions of  $\mathcal{M}_u(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-))$ .

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We can now state our main theorems on the problem f'P'(f), g'P'(g) share a small function.

**Theorem 1.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$ , let  $P' = b(x-a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^l (x-a_i)^{k_i}$ with  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$ ,  $l \ge 2$ ,  $k_i \ge k_{i+1}$ ,  $2 \le i \le l-1$  and let  $k = \sum_{i=2}^l k_i$ . Suppose P satisfies the following conditions:  $n \ge 10 + \sum_{i=3}^l \max(0, 4 - k_i) + \max(0, 5 - k_2),$  $n \ge k+2,$ if l = 2, then  $n \ne 2k$ , 2k + 1, 3k + 1, if l = 3, then  $n \ne 2k + 1$ ,  $3k_i - k \forall i = 2, 3$ . Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathcal{M}_g(\mathbb{K})$  be non-identically zero. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 2.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$ , let  $P' = b(x-a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x-a_i)^{k_i}$ with  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$ ,  $l \ge 2$ ,  $k_i \ge k_{i+1}$ ,  $2 \le i \le l-1$  and let  $k = \sum_{i=2}^{l} k_i$ . Suppose P satisfies the following conditions:

 $n \ge 9 + \sum_{i=3}^{l} \max(0, 4 - k_i) + \max(0, 5 - k_2),$   $n \ge k + 2,$ if l = 2, then  $n \ne 2k$ , 2k + 1, 3k + 1, if l = 3, then  $n \ne 2k + 1$ ,  $3k_i - k \ \forall i = 2, 3$ . Let  $f, a \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha$  be a Model of k = 1.

Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha$  be a Moebius function. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 3.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$ , let  $P' = b(x-a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x-a_i)^{k_i}$ with  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$ ,  $l \ge 2$ ,  $k_i \ge k_{i+1}$ ,  $2 \le i \le l-1$  and let  $k = \sum_{i=2}^{l} k_i$ . Suppose P satisfies the following conditions:

$$n \ge k+2,$$
  
 $n \ge 9 + \sum_{i=3}^{l} \max(0, 4-k_i) + \max(0, 5-k_2).$ 

Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha$  be a non-zero constant. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $a \in K$  and R > 0. Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}_u(d(a, R^-))$  and let  $P' = b(x - a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x - a_i)^{k_i}$  with  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$ ,  $l \ge 2$ ,  $k_i \ge k_{i+1}$ ,  $2 \le i \le l-1$  and let  $k = \sum_{i=2}^{l} k_i$ . Suppose P satisfies the following conditions:

$$n \ge 10 + \sum_{i=3}^{n} \max(0, 4 - k_i) + \max(0, 5 - k_2),$$
  

$$n \ge k + 3,$$
  
if  $l = 2$ , then  $n \ne 2k$ ,  $2k + 1$ ,  $3k + 1$ ,  
if  $l = 3$ , then  $n \ne 2k + 1$ ,  $3k_i - k \ \forall i = 2, 3.$ 

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Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}_u(d(a, R^-))$  and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(d(a, R^-)) \cap \mathcal{M}_g(d(a, R^-))$  be non-identically zero. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 5.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  such that P' is of the form

$$b(x-a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{n} (x-a_i) \text{ with } l \ge 3 \text{ , } b \in \mathbb{K}^*, \text{ satisfying:}$$
$$n \ge l+10,$$
$$if \ l=3, \text{ then } n \ne 2l-1.$$

Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathcal{M}_q(\mathbb{K})$  be non-identically zero. If f'P'(f)and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 6.** Let  $a \in K$  and R > 0. Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}_u(d(a, R^-))$  such that P' is of the form  $P' = b(x - a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x - a_i)$  with  $l \ge 3$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$  satisfying:

 $n \ge l + 10,$ 

if l = 3, then  $n \neq 2l - 1$ .

Let  $f,g \in \mathcal{M}_u(d(a, \mathbb{R}^-))$  and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(d(a, \mathbb{R}^-)) \cap \mathcal{M}_g(d(a, \mathbb{R}^-))$  be non-identically zero. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g) share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 7.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  such that P' is of the form  $P' = b(x - a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x - a_i) \text{ with } l \ge 3, b \in \mathbb{K}^* \text{ satisfying}$ n > l + 9 $n \ge l + 9$ ,

if l = 3, then  $n \neq 2l - 1$ .

Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha$  be a Moebius function. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g)share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = q.

**Theorem 8.** Let P be a polynomial of uniqueness for  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  such that P' is of the form  $P' = b(x - a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^{l} (x - a_i)$  with  $l \ge 3$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{K}^*$  satisfying  $n \ge l + 9$ . Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha$  be a non-zero constant. If f'P'(f) and g'P'(g)

share  $\alpha$  C.M., then f = g.

**Theorem 9.** Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathcal{M}_q(\mathbb{K})$  be non-identically zero. Let  $a \in \mathbb{K} \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $f'f^n(f-a)$  and  $g'g^n(g-a)$  share the function  $\alpha$  C.M. and if  $n \geq 12$ , then either f = g or there exists  $h \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  such that  $f = \frac{a(n+2)}{n+1} \left(\frac{h^{n+1}-1}{h^{n+2}-1}\right) h$  and  $g = \frac{a(n+2)}{n+1} \left(\frac{h^{n+1}-1}{h^{n+2}-1}\right) h$  $\frac{a(n+2)}{n+1} \left(\frac{h^{n+1}-1}{h^{n+2}-1}\right).$  Moreover, if  $\alpha$  is a constant or a Moebius function, then the conclusion holds whenever  $n \ge 11$ .

Inside an open disk, we have a version similar to the general case in the whole field.

**Theorem 10.** Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}_u(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-))$ , and let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{M}_f(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-)) \cap \mathcal{M}_q(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-))$  be nonidentically zero. Let  $a \in \mathbb{K} \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $f'f^n(f-a)$  and  $g'g^n(g-a)$  share the function  $\alpha$  C.M. and  $n \ge 12$ , then either f = g or there exists  $h \in \mathcal{M}(d(0, R^-))$  such that  $f = \frac{a(n+2)}{n+1} \left(\frac{h^{n+1}-1}{h^{n+2}-1}\right)h^{n+1}$ and  $g = \frac{a(n+2)}{n+1} \left(\frac{h^{n+1}-1}{h^{n+2}-1}\right).$ 

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#### Specific Lemmas

**Lemma 1.** Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental (resp.  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}_u(d(0, \mathbb{R}^-)))$ ). Let  $P(x) = x^{n+1}Q(x)$  be a polynomial such that  $n \ge \deg(Q) + 2$  (resp.  $n \ge \deg(Q) + 3$ ). If P'(f)f' = P'(g)g' then P(f) = P(g).

**Lemma 2.** Let  $Q(x) = (x - a_1)^n \prod_{i=2}^l (x - a_i)^{k_i} \in \mathbb{K}[x]$   $(a_i \neq a_j, \forall i \neq j)$  with  $l \geq 2$  and  $n \geq \max\{k_2, ..., k_l\}$  and let  $k = \sum_{i=2}^l k_i$ . Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  be transcendental (resp.  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}_u(d(0, R^-)))$  such that  $\theta = Q(f)f'Q(g)g'$  is a small function with respect to f and g. We have the following :

If l = 2 then *n* belongs to  $\{k, k+1, 2k, 2k+1, 3k+1\}$ . If l = 3 then *n* belongs to  $\{\frac{k}{2}, k+1, 2k+1, 3k_2 - k, ..., 3k_l - k\}$ . If  $l \ge 4$  then n = k + 1. If  $\theta$  is a constant and  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{K})$  then n = k + 1.

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