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# WEIGHTED VALUE SHARING AND UNIQUENESS OF ENTIRE AND MEROMORPHIC FUNCTIONS OF A LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL POLYNOMIAL

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ABSTRACT. In this research article, we deal with the uniqueness of entire and meromorphic functions when two linear differential polynomial share a non-zero value and obtain some results .

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### 1. Introduction

Let f and g be two non-constant meromorphic functions defined in the open complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . For some  $a \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ , if the zero of f - a and g - a have the same locations as well as same multiplicities, we say that f and g share the value a CM (counting multiplicities). If we do not consider the multiplicities, then fand g are said to share the value a IM (ignoring multiplicities). Throughout the paper the elemental and standard notations of Nevanlinna's Value Distribution Theory of meromorphic functions which are discussed in ([2],[9]) have been adopted. A meromorphic function a is said to be a small with respect to fprovided that T(r, a) = S(r, f), that is  $T(r, a) = o\{T(r, f)\}$  as  $r \to \infty$ , outside a possible exceptional set of finite linear measure. Also, we use I to denote any set of infinite linear measure of  $0 < r < \infty$ . If  $\alpha \equiv \alpha(z)$  is a small function, we define that f and g share  $\alpha$  CM (IM) according as  $f - \alpha$  and  $g - \alpha$  share 0 CM (IM).

By using the definition of L(z) to denote an arbitrary polynomial of degree n, i.e.,

$$L(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \ldots + a_0 = a_n (z - c_1)^{l_1} + a_{n-1} (z - c_2)^{l_2} + \ldots + (z - c_s)^{l_s}$$
(1)

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where  $a_i$ , i = 0, 1, ..., n,  $a_n \neq 0$ , and  $c_j$ , j = 1, 2, ..., s, are finite complex number constants;  $c_1, c_2, ..., c_s$  are all distinct zeros of L(z),  $l_1, l_2, ..., l_s$ . s, nare all positive integers satisfying the equality

$$l_1 + l_2 + \ldots + l_s = n \text{ and } l = max \{l_1, l_2 \ldots l_s\}$$
(2)

In 2016, Harina P. Waghamore and Rajeshwari S.[8] studied the existence of solutions for  $[L(f)]^{(k)}$  and the corresponding uniqueness theorem and obtained the following results.

**Theorem 1.1.** [8] Let f and g be two non - constant meromorphic functions and let n, k, l be three positive integers. If  $[L(f)]^{(k)}$  and  $[L(g)]^{(k)}$  share (1, l), and one of the following conditions holds:

(i)  $l \ge 2$  and (k+8)l > (k+7)n + 3k + 8;

(ii) l = 1 and (2k + 10)l > (2k + 9)n + 5k + 11;

(*iii*) l = 0 and (4k + 14)l > (4k + 13)n + 9k + 14.

then either  $f = b_1 e^{bz} + c$ ,  $g = b_2 e^{-bz} + c$  or f and g satisfy the algebraic equation  $R(f,g) \equiv 0$  where  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and b are three constants such that  $(-1)^k (b_1 b_2)^n (nb)^{2k} = 1$  and  $R(\omega_1, \omega_2) = L(\omega_1) - L(\omega_2)$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** [8] Let f and g be two non - constant entire functions, and let n, k, l be three positive integers. If  $[L(f)]^{(k)}$  and  $[L(g)]^{(k)}$  share (1, l) and one of the following conditions holds:

(i) l > 2 and 4l > 3n + 3k + 4;

(*ii*) l = 1 and 11l > 9n + 8k + 9;

(iii) l = 0 and 6l > 5n + 5k + 7.

then either  $f = b_1 e^{bz} + c$ ,  $g = b_2 e^{-bz} + c$  or f and g satisfy the algebraic equation  $R(f,g) \equiv 0$ , where  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and b are three constants such that  $(-1)^k (b_1 b_2)^n (nb)^{2k} = 1$  and  $R(\omega_1, \omega_2) = L(\omega_1) - L(\omega_2)$ .

### 2. Definitions

In 2001, Lahiri [4] introduced a gradation of sharing of values or sets which is known as weighted sharing. Below we are recalling the notion.

**Definition 2.1.** ([3], [4]) Let k be a non-negative 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. We write f, g share (a, k) to mean that f, g share the value a with weight 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 2.2.** (see [4]) For  $S \subset \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$  we define  $E_f(S;k)$  as  $E_f(S;k) = \bigcup_{a \in S} E_k(a, f)$ , where k is a non-negative integer or infinity.

If  $E_f(S,k) = E_g(S,k)$  then we say that f and g share the set S with weight k and write f and g share (S,k).

In order to address our problem we require a linear differential polynomial of a special form.

**Definition 2.3.** ([6], [7]) Let f be a non - constant meromorphic function. Then we denote L(f) a Linear Differential Polynomial of the form:  $L(f) = f^{(q)}$  for q = 1, 2, 3 and  $L(f) = \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j f^{(j)} + f^{(q)}$  for  $q \ge 4$ , where  $a_1, a_2, \dots a_{q-3}$  are constants.

## 3. Lemmas

In this segment, we present a few lemmas which will be helpful to prove our main results.

**Lemma 3.1.** [12] Let f be a non - constant meromorphic function, let k be a positive integer, and let c be a non - zero finite complex number. Then

$$T(r,f) \leq \overline{N}(r,f) + N(r,\frac{1}{f}) + N\left(r,\frac{1}{f^{(k)}-c}\right) - N\left(r,\frac{1}{f^{(k+1)}}\right) + S(r,f)$$
  
$$\leq \overline{N}(r,f) + N_{k+1}(r,\frac{1}{f}) + \overline{N}\left(r,\frac{1}{f^{(k)}-c}\right) - N_0\left(r,\frac{1}{f^{(k+1)}}\right) + S(r,f).$$

where  $N_0\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k+1)}}\right)$  is the counting function which only counts those points such that  $f^{(k+1)} = 0$  but  $f(f^{(k)} - c) \neq 0$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** ([8],[11]) Let f be a non - constant meromorphic function, let k be a positive integer, then

$$N_p\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}\right) \le N_{p+k}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + k\overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)$$
$$\le (p+k)\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f}\right) + k\overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f).$$
$$\binom{n-1}{p} = N\left(r, \frac{1}{p}\right)$$

and clearly  $\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}\right) = N_1\left(r, \frac{1}{f^{(k)}}\right).$ 

**Lemma 3.3.** [5] Let f and g be two non - constant entire functions, and let k be positive integer. If  $f^{(k)}$  and  $g^{(k)}$  share (1, l) (l = 0, 1, 2). Then (i) If l = 0,

$$\begin{split} \Theta(0,f) + \delta_k(0,f) + \delta_{k+1}(0,f) + \delta_{k+1}(0,g) + \delta_{k+2}(0,f) + \delta_{k+2}(0,g) > 5. \\ then \ either \ f^{(k)}g^{(k)} &= 1 \quad or \quad f \equiv g; \\ (ii) \ If \ l &= 1, \\ \frac{1}{2}[\Theta(0,f) + \delta_k(0,f) + \delta_{k+2}(0,f)] + \delta_{k+1}(0,f) + \delta_{k+1}(0,g) + \Theta(0,g) + \delta_k(0,g) > \frac{9}{2} \end{split}$$

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then either  $f^{(k)}g^{(k)} = 1$  or  $f \equiv g$ ; (iii) If  $l \ge 2$ ,

$$\Theta(0, f) + \delta_k(0, f) + \delta_{k+1}(0, f) + \delta_{k+2}(0, g) > 3.$$

then either  $f^{(k)}g^{(k)} = 1$  or  $f \equiv g$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** [7] Let f and g be two non - constant meromorphic functions,  $k(\geq 1)$  and  $(l \geq 0)$  be integers. If  $f^{(k)}$  and  $g^{(k)}$  share (1,l) (l=0,1,2). Then (i) If  $l \geq 2$ ,

$$\begin{split} &(k+2)\Theta(\infty,f)+2\Theta(\infty,g)+\Theta(0,f)+\Theta(0,g)+\delta_{k+1}(0,f)+\delta_{k+1}(0,g)>k+7.\\ &then \ either \ f^{(k)}g^{(k)}=1 \ or \ f\equiv g;\\ &(ii) \ If \ l=1,\\ &(2k+3)\Theta(\infty,f)+2\Theta(\infty,g)+\Theta(0,f)+\Theta(0,g)+\delta_{k+1}(0,f)+\delta_{k+1}(0,g)+\delta_{k+2}(0,f)>2k+9.\\ &then \ either \ f^{(k)}g^{(k)}=1 \ or \ f\equiv g;\\ &(iii) \ If \ l=0,\\ &(2k+3)\Theta(\infty,f)+(2k+4)\Theta(\infty,g)+\Theta(0,f)+\Theta(0,g)+2\delta_{k+1}(0,f)+3\delta_{k+1}(0,g)>4k+13.\\ &then \ either \ f^{(k)}g^{(k)}=1 \ or \ f\equiv g. \end{split}$$

**Lemma 3.5.** [1] Let f(z) be a non - constant entire function and let  $k \geq 2$  be a positive integer. If  $f(f^{(k)} \neq 0)$ , then  $f = e^{az+b}$ , where a and b are constants.

**Lemma 3.6.** [5] Let f be a non - constant meromorphic function and n, l be a positive integers with  $n \ge l+2$ , if  $a \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  then

$$\overline{N}(r,0;L(f^n)) \le (l+1)\overline{N}(r,0;f) + l\overline{N}(r,f) + S(r,f).$$
$$\overline{N}(r,L(f^n)) = \overline{N}(r,f).$$

**Lemma 3.7.** [5] Let f and g be two non - constant meromorphic functions sharing  $(\infty, 0)$  such that  $L(f^n)L(g^n) = \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is a non - zero constant and  $n \ge 1 + l$ . Then  $f(z) = c_1 \exp(cz)$  and  $g(z) = c_2 \exp(-cz)$ , where

$$(c_1c_2)^n \left\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j(nc)^j + (nc)^q \right\} \left\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j(-nc)^j + (-nc)^q \right\} = \alpha$$

and A = 0 if q = 1, 2, 3 and A = 1 if  $q \ge 4$ .

## 4. Main results

In this paper, we study the existence of solutions for  $[L(f^n)]^{(k)}$  and the corresponding uniqueness theorems. Thus, we obtain the following results as a generalization of the theorems presented above.

We now state the main results of the paper.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let f and g be two non - constant meromorphic functions, and let n, k and l be three positive integers. If  $[L(f^n)]^{(k)}$  and  $[L(g^n)]^{(k)}$  share (1,l), and one of the following conditions holds: (i)  $l \ge 2$  and n > 4l(k+2) + 3k + 8; (ii) l = 1 and n > 6l(k+2) + 5k + 11; (iii) l = 0 and n > 2l(5k+7) + 9k + 14. Then (I)  $L(f^n) = \omega L(g^n)$ , where  $\omega^d = 1$ . (II)  $f(z) = c_1 e^{cz}$  and  $g(z) = c_2 e^{-cz}$  where

$$(c_1c_2)^n \left\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j (nc)^j + (nc)^q \right\} \left\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j (-nc)^j + (-nc)^q \right\} = \omega$$

 $and \; \omega^d = 1 \; and \; A = 0 \; \textit{if} \; q = 1, \; 2, \; 3 \; and \; A = 1 \; \textit{if} \; q \geq 4.$ 

*Proof.* Let  $L(f^n)$  is given by,

$$L(f^n) = f^{n-l}P$$

where P is a differential polynomial in f of degree at most l and  $n \ge l+1$ Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $a_n = 1$ ,  $l = l_1$  and  $c = c_1$ . This yields

$$\Theta(0, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{L(f^n)}\right)}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(l+1)\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + l\overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f)}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(l+1)T(r, f) + lT(r, f)}{(n-l+l)T(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(2l+1)T(r, f)}{nT(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \frac{2l+1}{n}.$$
(3)

Similarly, we get

$$\Theta(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{2l+1}{n}.$$
 (4)

Moreover, we have

$$\Theta(\infty, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{N(r, L(f^n))}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{(n-l+l)T(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{nT(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}.$$
(5)

Similarly, we get

$$\Theta(\infty, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n}.$$
(6)

Also, we have,

$$\delta_k(0, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{N_k(r, L(f^n))}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{k\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{L(f^n)}\right)}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(7)

Similarly, we get

$$\delta_k(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n}.$$
 (8)

$$\delta_{k+1}(0, L(f^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(9)

$$\delta_{k+1}(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(10)

$$\delta_{k+2}(0, L(f^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(11)

$$\delta_{k+2}(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(12)

**Case I.** If  $l \ge 2$  and from (3) - (12) and also from Lemma 3.4, we get  $(k+2)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2\Theta(\infty, f) + \Theta(0, f) + \Theta(0, g) + \delta_{k+1}(0, f) + \delta_{k+1}(0, g)$ > k+7.

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n > 4l(k+2) + 3k + 8.

**Case II.** If l = 1 and from (3) - (12) and also from Lemma 3.4, we get  $(2k+3)\Theta(\infty, f) + 2\Theta(\infty, g) + \Theta(0, f) + \Theta(0, g) + \delta_{k+1}(0, f) + \delta_{k+1}(0, g) + \delta_{k+2}(0, f) > 2k+9.$ 

$$(2k+3)\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right) + 2\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right) + \left(1-\frac{2l+1}{n}\right) + \left(1-\frac{2l+1}{n}\right) \\ + 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n} + 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n} \\ + 1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n} > 2k+9. \\ n > 6l(k+2) + 5k + 11.$$

**Case III.** If l = 0 and from (3) - (12) and also from Lemma 3.4, we get  $(2k+3)\Theta(\infty, f) + (2k+4)\Theta(\infty, g) + \Theta(0, f) + \Theta(0, g) + 2\delta_{k+1}(0, f) + 3\delta_{k+1}(0, g) > 4k+13.$ 

$$(2k+3)\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right) + (2k+4)\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right) + \left(1-\frac{2l+1}{n}\right) + \left(1-\frac{2l+1}{n}\right) \\ + 2\left(1-\frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}\right) + 3\left(1-\frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}\right) \\ > 4k+13 \\ n > 2l(5k+7) + 9k + 14.$$

**Case IV.** Let  $F \equiv G$ . Then  $L(f^n) = \omega L(g^n)$ , where  $\omega^d = 1$ . This is possibility I of the theorem.

**Case V.** Let  $FG \equiv 1$ . Then  $L(f^n)L(g^n) = \omega$  where  $\omega^d = 1$ . Then by Lemma 3.7 we get the possibility II of the theorem. This proves the theorem.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let f and g be two non - constant entire functions, and let n, k, l, m are positive integers. If  $[L(f^n)]^{(k)}$  and  $[L(g^n)]^{(k)}$  share (1,l), and one of the following conditions holds: (i)  $l \ge 2$  and n > (6k + 8) + 3k + 4; (ii) l = 1 and 2n > (16k + 18)l + 8k + 9; (iii) l = 0 and n > (10k + 14)l + 5k + 7. Then

 $\begin{array}{l} (I) \ L(f^n) = \omega L(g^n) \ where \ \omega^d = 1. \\ (II) \ f(z) = c_1 e^{cz} \ and \ g(z) = c_2 e^{-cz} \ where \\ \\ (c_1 c_2)^n \Biggl\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j (nc)^j + (nc)^q \Biggr\} \Biggl\{ A \sum_{j=1}^{q-3} a_j (-nc)^j + (-nc)^q \Biggr\} = \omega \end{array}$ 

 $and \; \omega^d = 1 \; and \; A = 0 \; \textit{ if } q = 1, \; 2, \; 3 \; and \; A = 1 \; \textit{ if } q \geq 4.$ 

*Proof.* Let  $L(f^n)$  is given by

$$L(f^n) = f^{n-l}P$$

where P is a differential polynomial in f of degree at most l and  $n \ge l+1$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $a_n = 1$ ,  $l = l_1$  and  $c = c_1$ . This yields

$$\Theta(0, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{L(f^n)}\right)}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(l+1)\overline{N}(r, 0; f) + l\overline{N}(r, f) + S(r, f))}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(l+1)T(r, f) + lT(r, f)}{(n-l+l)T(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{(2l+1)T(r, f)}{nT(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \frac{2l+1}{n}.$$
(13)

Similarly, we get

$$\Theta(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{2l+1}{n}.$$
 (14)

Moreover, we have

$$\Theta(\infty, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{N(r, L(f^n))}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{\overline{N}(r, f)}{(n-l+l)T(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{T(r, f)}{nT(r, f)}$$

$$\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}.$$
(15)

Similarly, we get

$$\Theta(\infty, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{1}{n}.$$
(16)

Also, we have

$$\delta_k(0, L(f^n)) = 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{N_k(r, L(f^n))}{T(r, L(f^n))}$$
  

$$\geq 1 - \limsup_{r \to \infty} \frac{k\overline{N}\left(r, \frac{1}{L(f^n)}\right)}{T(r, f^{n-l}) + T(r, P)}$$
  

$$\geq 1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(17)

Similarly, we get

$$\delta_k(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(18)

$$\delta_{k+1}(0, L(f^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(19)

$$\delta_{k+1}(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(20)

$$\delta_{k+2}(0, L(f^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(21)

$$\delta_{k+2}(0, L(g^n)) \ge 1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n}.$$
(22)

**Case I.** If  $l \ge 2$  and from (13) - (22) and also from Lemma 3.3, we get

$$\Theta(0, f) + \delta_k(0, f) + \delta_{k+1}(0, f) + \delta_{k+2}(0, g) > 3.$$

$$\left(1 - \frac{2l+1}{n}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n}\right)$$

$$+ \left(1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n}\right)$$

$$> 3.$$

n > 2l(3k+4) + 3k + 4.

Case II. If 
$$l = 1$$
 and from (13) - (22) and also from Lemma 3.3, we get  

$$\frac{1}{2}[\Theta(0, f) + \delta_k(0, f) + \delta_{k+2}(0, f)] + \delta_{k+1}(0, f) + \delta_{k+1}(0, g) + \Theta(0, g) + \delta_k(0, g) > \frac{9}{2},$$

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**Case III.** If l = 0 and from (13) - ((22)) and also from Lemma 3.3, we get

$$\Theta(0,f) + \delta_k(0,f) + \delta_{k+1}(0,f) + \delta_{k+1}(0,g) + \delta_{k+2}(0,f) + \delta_{k+2}(0,g) > 5.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{2l+1}{n} \end{pmatrix} + \left(1 - \frac{k(2l+1)}{n} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{(k+1)(2l+1)}{n} \right) \\ + \left(1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n} \right) + \left(1 - \frac{(k+2)(2l+1)}{n} \right) > 5.$$

$$n > 2l(5k+7) + 5k + 7.$$

**Case I.** Let  $F \equiv G$ . Then  $L(f^n) = \omega L(g^n)$ , where  $\omega^d = 1$ . This is possibility I of the theorem.

**Case II.** Let  $FG \equiv 1$ . Then  $L(f^n)L(g^n) = \omega$  where  $\omega^d = 1$ . Then by Lemma 3.7 we get the possibility II of the theorem.

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