

962-30-732

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Growth Coefficients*. Preliminary report.

Consider the linear differential equation of the form

$$f^{(n)} + A_{n-1}(z)f^{n-1} + \cdots + A_1(z)f' + A_0(z)f = 0,$$

where n is a positive integer and the coefficients are analytic functions in the unit disk. We show that if the coefficients satisfy $\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^r |A_j(se^{i\theta})| ds d\theta = O(\log \frac{1}{1-r})$ then the solution f must satisfy $T(r, f) = O(\log \frac{1}{1-r})$, ($r \rightarrow 1^-$). On the other hand, if $\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^r |A_j(se^{i\theta})| ds d\theta = O\left[\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{p_j}\right]$, $p_j > 0$, then f satisfies $T(r, f) = O(\frac{1}{1-r})$. A consequence for these results is that if for a fixed positive constant λ and for each j we have $I_\lambda(r, A_j) = \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} |A_j(re^{i\theta})|^\lambda d\theta\right)^{1/\lambda} = O\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)$, (respectively, $O\left[\left(\frac{1}{1-r}\right)^{p_j+1}\right]$), then the respective conclusions hold. (Received October 1, 2000)