

## Research Article

# Some Properties of Meromorphic Solutions of Systems of Complex $q$ -Shift Difference Equations

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In view of Nevanlinna theory, we study the properties of meromorphic solutions of systems of a class of complex difference equations. Some results obtained improve and extend the previous theorems given by Gao.

## 1. Introduction and Main Results

The purpose of this paper is to study some properties of meromorphic solutions of complex  $q$ -shift difference equations. The fundamental results and the standard notations of the Nevanlinna value distribution theory of meromorphic functions will be used (see [1–3]). Besides, for meromorphic function  $f$ , a meromorphic function  $a(z)$  is called small function with respect to  $f$  if  $T(r, a(z)) = o(T(r, f)) = S(r, f)$  for all  $r$  outside a possible exceptional set  $E$  of finite logarithmic measure  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \int_{[1, r) \cap E} (dt/t) < \infty$ .

In recent years, it has been a heated topic to study difference equations, difference product, and  $q$ -difference in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . There were articles focusing on the growth of solutions of difference equations, value distribution and uniqueness of differences analogues of Nevanlinna's theory (see [4–9]). Chiang and Feng [10] and Halburd and Korhonen [11] established a difference analogue of the logarithmic derivative lemma independently, and Barnett et al. [5] also established an analogue of the logarithmic derivative lemma on  $q$ -difference operators. By applying these theorems, a number of results on meromorphic solutions of complex difference and  $q$ -difference equations were obtained (see [12–19]).

In 2011, Korhonen [20] investigated the properties of finite-order meromorphic solution of the equation

$$H(z, \omega) P(z, \omega) = Q(z, \omega), \quad (1)$$

where  $P(z, \omega) = P(z, \omega(z), \omega(z + c_1), \dots, \omega(z + c_n))$ ,  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$  and obtained the following result.

**Theorem 1** (see [20]). *Let  $\omega(z)$  be a finite-order meromorphic solution of (1), where  $P(z, \omega)$  is a homogeneous difference polynomial with meromorphic coefficients and  $H(z, \omega)$  and  $Q(z, \omega)$  are polynomials in  $\omega(z)$  with meromorphic coefficients having no common factors. If  $\max\{\deg_\omega(H), \deg_\omega(Q) - \deg_\omega(P)\} > \min\{\deg_\omega(P), \text{ord}_0(Q)\} - \text{ord}_0(P)$ , then  $N(r, \omega) \neq S(r, \omega)$ , where  $\text{ord}_0(P)$  denotes the order of zero of  $P(z, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$  at  $x_0 = 0$  with respect to the variable  $x_0$ .*

Let  $c_j \in \mathbb{C}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , and let  $I$  be a finite set of multi-indexes  $\lambda = (\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_n)$ . Then a difference polynomial of a meromorphic function  $\omega(z)$  is defined as

$$P(z, \omega) = P(z, \omega(z), \omega(z + c_1), \dots, \omega(z + c_n)) \\ = \sum_{\lambda \in I} c_\lambda(z) \omega(z)^{\lambda_0} \omega(z + c_1)^{\lambda_1} \cdots \omega(z + c_n)^{\lambda_n}, \quad (2)$$

where the coefficients  $c_\lambda(z)$  are small with respect to  $\omega(z)$  in the sense that  $T(r, c_\lambda) = o(T(r, \omega))$  as  $r$  tends to infinity outside of an exceptional set  $E$  of finite logarithmic measure.

At the same year, Zheng and Chen [21] consider the value distribution of meromorphic solutions of zero order of a kind of  $q$ -difference equations and obtained the following result which is an extension of Theorem 1.

**Theorem 2** (see [21, Theorem 1]). Suppose that  $f$  is a nonconstant meromorphic solution of zero order of a  $q$ -difference equation of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda \in I} c_{\lambda}(z) f(qz)^{i_{\lambda,1}} f(q^2 z)^{i_{\lambda,2}} \cdots f(q^n z)^{i_{\lambda,n}} &= \frac{P(z, f(z))}{Q(z, f(z))} \\ &= \left( a_k(z) (f(z))^k + a_{k+1}(z) (f(z))^{k+1} + \cdots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + a_s(z) (f(z))^s \right) \\ &\quad \times \left( b_0(z) + b_1(z) f(z) + \cdots + b_t(z) (f(z))^t \right)^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where  $I = \{(i_{\lambda_1}, i_{\lambda_2}, \dots, i_{\lambda_n})\}$  is a finite index set and  $i_{\lambda_1} + i_{\lambda_2} + \cdots + i_{\lambda_n} = \sigma > 0$  for all  $\lambda \in I$  and  $q(\neq 0, 1) \in \mathbb{C}$ . Moreover, suppose that  $0 \leq k \leq s$ ,  $a_k(z)a_s(z)b_t(z) \neq 0$ , the  $P(z, f)$  and  $Q(z, f)$  have no common factors, and that all meromorphic coefficients in (3) are of growth of  $o(T(r, f))$  on a set of logarithmic density 1. If

$$\max\{t, s - \sigma\} > \min\{\sigma, k\}, \quad (4)$$

then

$$N(r, f) \neq o(T(r, f)) \quad (5)$$

on any set of logarithmic density 1.

**Remark 3.** The logarithmic density of a set  $F$  is defined by

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\log r} \int_{[1, r] \cap F} \frac{1}{t} dt. \quad (6)$$

Recently, Gao [22–24] and others [25, 26] also investigated the growth and existence of meromorphic solutions of some systems of complex difference equations; one system of complex difference equation is based on (1) and obtained some interesting results.

Inspired by the idea of [21–24, 27], we will investigate the properties of meromorphic solutions of systems of a class of complex  $q$ -shift difference equations of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2) &= R_1(z, w_1), \\ \Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2) &= R_2(z, w_2), \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where  $q(\neq 0, 1)$ ,  $c_j (j = 1, \dots, n) \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $I, J$  are two finite sets of multi-indexes  $(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ ,  $(j_1, \dots, j_n)$ , and

$\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)$ ,  $\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)$  are two homogeneous difference polynomials to be defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2) &= \Omega_1(z, w_1(qz + c_1), w_2(qz + c_1), \\ &\quad \dots, w_1(q^n z + c_n), w_2(q^n z + c_n)) \\ &= \sum_{(i)} a_{(i)}(z) \prod_{k=1}^2 (w_k(qz + c_1))^{i_{k1}} \\ &\quad \cdots (w_k(q^n z + c_n))^{i_{kn}}, \\ \Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2) &= \Omega_2(z, w_1(qz + c_1), w_2(qz + c_1), \\ &\quad \dots, w_1(q^n z + c_n), w_2(q^n z + c_n)) \\ &= \sum_{(j)} b_{(j)}(z) \prod_{k=1}^2 (w_k(qz + c_1))^{j_{k1}} \\ &\quad \cdots (w_k(q^n z + c_n))^{j_{kn}}. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The coefficients  $\{a(i)\}$ ,  $\{b(j)\}$  are small with respect to  $w_1$ ,  $w_2$  in the sense that  $T(r, a_{(i)}) = o(T(r, w_1))$ ,  $T(r, b_{(j)}) = o(T(r, w_1))$ ,  $l = 1, 2$ , as  $r$  tends to infinity outside of an exceptional set  $E$  of finite logarithmic measure. The weights of  $\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)$ ,  $\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{11} &= \max_{(i)} \left\{ \sum_{l=1}^n i_{1l} \right\}, & \sigma_{12} &= \max_{(i)} \left\{ \sum_{l=1}^n i_{2l} \right\}, \\ \sigma_{21} &= \max_{(j)} \left\{ \sum_{l=1}^n j_{1l} \right\}, & \sigma_{22} &= \max_{(j)} \left\{ \sum_{l=1}^n j_{2l} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(z, w_1) &= \frac{P_1(z, w_1)}{Q_1(z, w_1)} \\ &= \left( c_{k_1}^1(z) (w_1(z))^{k_1} + c_{k_1+1}^1(z) (w_1(z))^{k_1+1} + \cdots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + c_{s_1}^1(z) (w_1(z))^{s_1} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left( d_0^1(z) + d_1^1(z) w_1(z) + \cdots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d_{t_1}^1(z) (w_1(z))^{t_1} \right)^{-1}, \\ R_2(z, w_2) &= \frac{P_2(z, w_2)}{Q_2(z, w_2)} \\ &= \left( c_{k_2}^2(z) (w_2(z))^{k_2} + c_{k_2+1}^2(z) (w_2(z))^{k_2+1} + \cdots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + c_{s_2}^2(z) (w_2(z))^{s_2} \right) \\ &\quad \times \left( d_0^2(z) + d_1^2(z) w_2(z) + \cdots \right. \\ &\quad \left. + d_{t_2}^2(z) (w_2(z))^{t_2} \right)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The coefficients  $\{c_{k_i}^i(z)\}$ ,  $\{d_{t_i}^i(z)\}$  are meromorphic functions and small functions,

$$S(r) = \sum T(r, a_{(i)}) + \sum T(r, b_{(j)}) + \sum T(r, c_{k_i}^i) + \sum T(r, d_{t_i}^i). \quad (10)$$

Now, we will show our main results as follows.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $(w_1, w_2)$  be meromorphic solution of systems (7) satisfying  $\rho = \rho(w_1, w_2) = 0$ . Moreover, suppose that  $0 \leq k_i \leq s_i$ ,  $c_{k_i}^i(z)c_{s_i}^i(z)d_{t_i}^i(z) \neq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , the  $P_i(z, w_i)$  and  $Q_i(z, w_i)$  are polynomials in  $w_i(z)$  with meromorphic coefficients having no common factors, and that all meromorphic coefficients in (7) are of growth of  $o(T(r, f))$  for all  $r$  on a set of logarithmic density 1 or outside of an exceptional set of logarithmic density 0. If

$$\begin{aligned} \max\{t_1, s_1 - \sigma_{11}\} &> \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\} + \sigma_{11} + \sigma_{12}, \\ \max\{t_2, s_2 - \sigma_{22}\} &> \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\} + \sigma_{22} + \sigma_{21}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

then  $N(r, w_1) = o(T(r, w_1))$  and  $N(r, w_2) = o(T(r, w_2))$  cannot hold both at the same time, for all  $r$  possibly outside of an exceptional set of logarithmic density 0, where the order of meromorphic solution  $(w_1, w_2)$  of systems (7) is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= \rho(w_1, w_2) = \max\{\rho(w_1), \rho(w_2)\}, \\ \rho(w_i) &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log T(r, w_i)}{\log r}, \quad i = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

**Theorem 5.** Let  $(w_1, w_2)$  be meromorphic solution of systems (7) satisfying  $\rho = \rho(w_1, w_2) = 0$ . Moreover, suppose that  $0 \leq k_i \leq s_i$ ,  $c_{k_i}^i(z)c_{s_i}^i(z)d_{t_i}^i(z) \neq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , the  $P_i(z, w_i)$  and  $Q_i(z, w_i)$  are polynomials in  $w_i(z)$  with meromorphic coefficients having no common factors, and that all meromorphic coefficients in (7) are of growth of  $o(T(r, f))$  for all  $r$  on a set of logarithmic density 1 or outside of an exceptional set of logarithmic density 0, and

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 2\sigma_{11} - \max\{s_1, t_1 + \sigma_{11}\} + \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}, \\ B &= 2\sigma_{22} - \max\{s_2, t_2 + \sigma_{22}\} + \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

If

$$A < 0, \quad B < 0, \quad AB > 9\sigma_{21}\sigma_{12}, \quad (14)$$

then  $m(r, w_k) = o(T(r, w_k))$ ,  $k = 1, 2$  hold for  $r$  that runs to infinity possibly outside of an exceptional set of logarithmic density 0.

## 2. Some Lemmas

**Lemma 6** (Valiron-Mohon'ko) ([28]). Let  $f(z)$  be a meromorphic function. Then for all irreducible rational functions in  $f$ ,

$$R(z, f(z)) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^m a_i(z) f(z)^i}{\sum_{j=0}^n b_j(z) f(z)^j}, \quad (15)$$

with meromorphic coefficients  $a_i(z)$ ,  $b_j(z)$ , the characteristic function of  $R(z, f(z))$  satisfies that

$$T(r, R(z, f(z))) = dT(r, f) + O(\Psi(r)), \quad (16)$$

where  $d = \max\{m, n\}$  and  $\Psi(r) = \max_{i,j}\{T(r, a_i), T(r, b_j)\}$ .

**Lemma 7** (see [27]). Let  $f(z)$  be a nonconstant zero-order meromorphic function and  $q \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ . Then

$$m\left(r, \frac{f(qz + \eta)}{f(z)}\right) = o(T(r, f)) = S(r, f), \quad (17)$$

on a set of logarithmic density 1 or outside of an exceptional set of logarithmic density 0.

**Lemma 8** (see [29]). Let  $f(z)$  be a transcendental meromorphic function of zero order, and let  $q, \eta$  be two nonzero complex constants. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, f(qz + \eta)) &= T(r, f(z)) + S(r, f), \\ N(r, f(qz + \eta)) &\leq N(r, f) + S(r, f), \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

on a set of logarithmic density 1 or outside of a possibly exceptional set of logarithmic density 0.

## 3. The Proof of Theorem 4

From the definitions of  $\Omega_i(z, w_1, w_2)$ , by Lemma 7, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &\leq \sigma_{12}m(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_1)), \\ r &\notin E'_1, \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

$$\begin{aligned} m\left(r, \frac{\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_2^{\sigma_{22}}}\right) &\leq \sigma_{21}m(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_2)), \\ r &\notin E'_2, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where  $E'_1, E'_2$  are two sets of logarithmic density 0. By Lemma 6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &= T\left(r, \frac{P_1(z, w_1)}{Q_1(z, w_1) w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) \\ &= (\max\{t_1 + \sigma_{11}, s_1\} - \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}) \\ &\quad \times T(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_1)), \\ r &\notin E'_3, \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T\left(r, \frac{\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_2^{\sigma_{22}}}\right) &= T\left(r, \frac{P_2(z, w_2)}{Q_2(z, w_2) w_2^{\sigma_{22}}}\right) \\
&= (\max\{t_2 + \sigma_{22}, s_2\} - \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}) \\
&\quad \times T(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_2)), \\
&\quad r \notin E'_4,
\end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

where  $E'_3, E'_4$  are two sets of logarithmic density 0. Thus, from the assumptions of Theorem 4, combining (19) and (21), (20) and (22), respectively, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &\geq (1 + \sigma_{12} + \sigma_{11}) T(r, w_1) \\
&\quad - \sigma_{12} m(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_1)), \\
&\quad r \notin E_1 = E'_1 \cup E'_3, \\
N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_2^{\sigma_{22}}}\right) &\geq (1 + \sigma_{21} + \sigma_{22}) T(r, w_1) \\
&\quad - \sigma_{21} m(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_2)), \\
&\quad r \notin E_2 = E'_2 \cup E'_4.
\end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Since  $\rho = \rho(w_1, w_2) = 0$ , from Lemma 8, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &\leq N(r, \Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)) + \sigma_{11} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_1}\right) \\
&\leq \sigma_{11} N(r, w_1) + \sigma_{12} N(r, w_2) + \sigma_{11} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_1}\right) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)), \quad r \notin E'_5, \\
N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_2^{\sigma_{22}}}\right) &\leq N(r, \Omega_2(z, w_1, w_2)) + \sigma_{22} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_2}\right) \\
&\leq \sigma_{22} N(r, w_2) + \sigma_{21} N(r, w_1) + \sigma_{22} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_2}\right) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)), \quad r \notin E'_6,
\end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

where  $E'_5, E'_6$  are the sets of logarithmic density 0.

From (23) and (24), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 + \sigma_{12} + \sigma_{11}) T(r, w_1) &\leq \sigma_{11} N(r, w_1) + \sigma_{12} N(r, w_2) + \sigma_{11} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_1}\right) \\
&\quad + \sigma_{12} m(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)) \\
&\leq \sigma_{11} N(r, w_1) + \sigma_{12} T(r, w_2) + \sigma_{11} T(r, w_1) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)), \quad r \notin E_3 = E_1 \cup E'_5, \\
(1 + \sigma_{21} + \sigma_{22}) T(r, w_1) &\leq \sigma_{22} N(r, w_2) + \sigma_{21} N(r, w_1) + \sigma_{22} N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_2}\right) \\
&\quad + \sigma_{21} m(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)) \\
&\leq \sigma_{22} N(r, w_2) + \sigma_{21} T(r, w_1) + \sigma_{22} T(r, w_2) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)), \quad r \notin E_4 = E_2 \cup E'_6.
\end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

Suppose now on the contrary to the assertion of Theorem 4 that  $N(r, w_1) = o(T(r, w_1))$  and  $N(r, w_2) = o(T(r, w_2))$ , from (25); it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 + \sigma_{12}) T(r, w_1) &\leq \sigma_{12} T(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_1)) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_2)), \\
(1 + \sigma_{21}) T(r, w_2) &\leq \sigma_{21} T(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_1)) \\
&\quad + o(T(r, w_2)),
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

that is,

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 + \sigma_{12} + o(1)) T(r, w_1) &\leq (\sigma_{12} + o(1)) T(r, w_2), \\
(1 + \sigma_{21} + o(1)) T(r, w_2) &\leq (\sigma_{21} + o(1)) T(r, w_1).
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

From (27), we can get that

$$(1 + \sigma_{12})(1 + \sigma_{21}) \leq \sigma_{12}\sigma_{21}. \tag{28}$$

From the previous inequality, we can get a contradiction. Therefore, this completes the proof of Theorem 4.

#### 4. The Proof of Theorem 5

Since  $\rho = \rho(w_1, w_2) = 0$ , from the assumptions concerning the coefficients of systems (7), by Lemma 7, and from the

definitions of logarithmic measure and logarithmic density, we have

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &\leq \sigma_{11} \left[ N(r, w_1) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_1}\right) \right] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{12} \left[ N(r, w_2) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_2}\right) \right] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{12} N(r, w_2) + o(T(r, w_1)) \\ &\quad + o(T(r, w_2)), \quad r \notin E_5, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where  $E_5$  is a set of logarithmic density 0.

From (29), we have

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &\leq \sigma_{11} \left[ N(r, w_1) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_1}\right) \right] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{12} \left[ 2N(r, w_2) + N\left(r, \frac{1}{w_2}\right) \right] \\ &\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)) \\ &\leq \sigma_{11} [2T(r, w_1) - m(r, w_1)] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{12} [3T(r, w_2) - 2m(r, w_2)] \\ &\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)), \\ &\quad r \notin E_5. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

From (19) and (29), we have

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) &+ \sigma_{12} m(r, w_2) \\ &\geq N\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) + m\left(r, \frac{\Omega_1(z, w_1, w_2)}{w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) \\ &= T\left(r, \frac{P_1(z, w_1)}{Q_1(z, w_1) w_1^{\sigma_{11}}}\right) \\ &= (\max\{t_1 + \sigma_{11}, s_1\} - \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}) \\ &\quad \times T(r, w_1) + o(T(r, w_1)), \\ &\quad r \notin F_1 = E_1' \cup E_5. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

From the previous inequality and (30), we have for  $r \notin F_1$

$$\begin{aligned} &(\max\{t_1 + \sigma_{11}, s_1\} - \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}) T(r, w_1) - \sigma_{12} m(r, w_2) \\ &\leq \sigma_{11} [2T(r, w_1) - m(r, w_1)] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{12} [3T(r, w_2) - 2m(r, w_2)] \\ &\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)). \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

By using the same argument as in the previously mentioned, there exists a set  $F_2$  of logarithmic density 0, for  $r \notin F_2$ , and we have

$$\begin{aligned} &(\max\{t_2 + \sigma_{22}, s_2\} - \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}) T(r, w_2) - \sigma_{21} m(r, w_1) \\ &\leq \sigma_{22} [2T(r, w_2) - m(r, w_2)] \\ &\quad + \sigma_{21} [3T(r, w_1) - 2m(r, w_1)] \\ &\quad + o(T(r, w_1)) + o(T(r, w_2)). \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

From (32) and (33), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{11} m(r, w_1) &\leq [2\sigma_{11} - (\max\{t_1 + \sigma_{11}, s_1\} \\ &\quad - \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}) + o(1)] T(r, w_1) \\ &\quad + (3\sigma_{12} + o(1)) T(r, w_2), \quad r \notin F_1, \\ &[(\max\{t_2 + \sigma_{22}, s_2\} - \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}) - 2\sigma_{22} + o(1)] T(r, w_2) \\ &\leq (3\sigma_{21} + o(1)) T(r, w_1) - \sigma_{21} m(r, w_1), \quad r \notin F_2. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

From (34), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{11} m(r, w_1) &\leq [2\sigma_{11} - (\max\{t_1 + \sigma_{11}, s_1\} - \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}) \\ &\quad + o(1)] T(r, w_1) \\ &\quad + ((3\sigma_{12} + o(1)) \\ &\quad \times [(\max\{t_2 + \sigma_{22}, s_2\} - \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}) - 2\sigma_{22}]) \\ &\quad \times ((\max\{t_2 + \sigma_{22}, s_2\} - \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}) - 2\sigma_{22})^{-1}, \\ &\quad r \notin F = F_1 \cup F_2, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

that is,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\sigma_{11} - \frac{3\sigma_{12}\sigma_{21}}{B}\right) m(r, w_1) \\ &\leq \left[A - \frac{9\sigma_{12}\sigma_{21} + o(1)}{B}\right] T(r, w_1), \\ &\quad r \notin F = F_1 \cup F_2, \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

where  $A = 2\sigma_{11} - \max\{s_1, t_1 + \sigma_{11}\} + \min\{\sigma_{11}, k_1\}$  and  $B = 2\sigma_{22} - \max\{s_2, t_2 + \sigma_{22}\} + \min\{\sigma_{22}, k_2\}$ . From (14) and (36), we have

$$m(r, w_1) = o(T(r, w_1)) \quad (37)$$

for all  $r$  outside of  $F$ , a set of logarithmic density 0.

Similarly, we can obtain

$$m(r, w_2) = o(T(r, w_2)) \quad (38)$$

for all  $r$  possibly outside of  $F'$ , a set of logarithmic density 0.

Thus, this completes the proof of Theorem 5.

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