

ON THE GROWTH OF COMPOSITE ENTIRE FUNCTIONS

By

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Abstract. In this paper, we study the order and growth of composite entire functions f and g , and discuss the behaviour as $r \rightarrow \infty$ of the ratios: $\frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(R, f)}$ and $\frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(R, g)}$, where $R = R(r)$ is an increasing real function.

1. Introduction

Let f be an entire function. We denote the order and lower order of f by $\rho(f)$ and $\lambda(f)$, respectively. A well known theorem of Polya [1] asserts: If f and g are entire functions, then the composite function $f \circ g$ is of infinite order unless (a) f is of finite order and g is a polynomial or (b) f is of order zero and g is of finite order. Since then, many results related to this and some further results (e.g. Clunie [2], [3], Edrei and Fuchs [4], Mori [5], Yang and Urabe [6], Yang [7]) have been obtained. Especially, Song and Yang [8] proved that if $f \circ g$ is of finite lower order, then either f is of finite lower order and g is a polynomial, or f is of zero lower order and g is of finite lower order. An interesting problem is that if $\rho(f) = 0$ ($\lambda(f) = 0$), what kind of conditions will ensure $f \circ g$ to be of either finite or infinite (lower) order.

It is well known that for any two transcendental entire functions f, g

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M(r, f \circ g)}{M(r, f)} = \infty, \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M(r, f \circ g)}{M(r, g)} = \infty$$

Clunie discussed the behaviour as $r \rightarrow \infty$ of the ratio $\frac{\log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log M(r, f)}$ and $\frac{\log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log M(r, g)}$. Song and Yang [8] studied $\frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r, f)}$ and $\frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r, g)}$, and proved

Theorem A. Suppose that $0 < \lambda(f) < \rho(f) < \infty$. Then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r, f)} = \infty$$

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Theorem B. Suppose that f and g are transcendental entire functions such that $\lambda(f) > 0$ and $\rho(g) < \infty$. Then

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r, g)} = \infty$$

Singh and Baloria [9] raised the question whether for sufficiently large $R = R(r)$

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(R, f)} < \infty, \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(R, g)} < \infty,$$

and proved [9] that if f and g are two transcendental entire functions of positive lower orders and finite order, then for each positive constant A

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, f)} = \infty = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)}$$

Lahiri and Sharma [11] proved

Theorem C. Let f, g be two entire functions of finite orders and $\lambda(f) > 0$. Then for $p > 0$ and each $\alpha \in (-\infty, \infty)$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1+\alpha}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^p), f)} = 0 \quad \text{if } p > (1+\alpha)\rho(g)$$

We study this question further and obtain that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1+\alpha}}{\log \log M(R, f)} \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1+\alpha}}{\log \log M(R, g)}$$

are finite or infinite depending on what kind of sets of $R = R(r)$. Finally we study the comparative growths of the composition of the forms $h \circ k$ and $f \circ g$. Some of results improve and extend earlier results, e.g. Singh and Baloria [9], [10], Lahiri and Sharma [11]. We may assume that the reader is familiar with the standard notation employed in Nevanlinna's value-distribution theory. Now we recall that the order $\rho(F)$ and lower order $\lambda(F)$ of an entire function F are defined as

$$\rho(F) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, F)}{\log r}, \quad \lambda(F) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, F)}{\log r}$$

Furthermore, if $\rho(F) = 0$, we define $\rho^*(F)$ and $\lambda^*(F)$ as follows

$$\rho^*(F) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, F)}{\log \log r}, \quad \lambda^*(F) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, F)}{\log \log r}$$

2. Lemmas

In order to prove our results we need several Lemmas as follow

Lemma 1. (Clunie [3]) *If f and g are entire functions, then for all sufficiently large values of r*

$$M\left(\frac{1}{8}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right) - |g(0)|, f\right) \leq M(r, f \circ g) \leq M(M(r, g), f)$$

Lemma 2. (Song and Yang [8]) *Let g be a transcendental entire function of finite lower order. Then for any $\delta > 0$, we have*

$$M(r^{1+\delta}, f \circ g) \geq M(M(r, g), f) (r \geq r_0)$$

Lemma 3. *Let $0 < \lambda(g) \leq \rho(g) < \infty$, Then for every positive number A , we have*

$$(1) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} \leq \frac{\rho(f \circ g)}{A\lambda(g)}$$

$$(2) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} \leq \frac{\rho(f \circ g)}{A\rho(g)}$$

$$(3) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} \leq \frac{\lambda(f \circ g)}{A\lambda(g)}$$

Proof. When $\rho(f \circ g) = \infty$, the inequality (1) is obvious. So we assume $\rho(f \circ g) < \infty$. From the definition of order and lower order, we have for $\epsilon > 0$ and sufficiently large r

$$(4) \quad \log \log M(r, f \circ g) \leq (\rho(f \circ g) + \epsilon) \log r$$

$$(5) \quad \log \log M(r, g) \geq (\lambda(g) - \epsilon) \log r$$

combining (4) and (5), and choosing $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ inequality (1) follow from that.

By an analogical argument, we can get (2) and (3)

Similarly, we have following Lemma.

Lemma 4. *Let $0 < \lambda(f) \leq \rho(f) < \infty$, Then for every positive number A , we have*

$$(6) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, f)} \leq \frac{\lambda(f \circ g)}{A\lambda(f)}$$

Lemma 5. *Let f and g be two entire functions such that $\rho(g) < \infty$. If $\rho(f \circ g) = \infty$, then for every positive number A*

$$(7) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} = \infty$$

If $\lambda(f \circ g) = \infty$, then for every positive number A

$$(8) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} = \infty$$

Proof. Assume (7) does not hold. Then there exists a constant $B > 0$ such that for all sufficiently large values of r

$$(9) \quad \log \log M(r, f \circ g) \leq B \log \log M(r^A, g)$$

Again from the definition of $\rho(g)$, it follows that

$$(10) \quad \log \log M(r^A, g) \leq (\rho(g) + \epsilon) A \log r$$

From (9) and (10), we have

$$(11) \quad \log \log M(r, f \circ g) \leq (\rho(g) + \epsilon) AB \log r$$

which implies $\rho(f \circ g) < \infty$. This is a contradiction. We prove (7).

By an analogical argument, we can prove (8)

Remark 1. If we take $\rho(f) < \infty$, the lemma remains valid with g replaced by f in the denominator.

Lemma 6. (Bergweiler [12]) *If f is meromorphic and g is entire, then for all sufficiently large values of r*

$$T(r, f \circ g) \leq \{1 + o(1)\} \frac{T(r, g)}{\log M(r, g)} T(M(r, g), f)$$

Lemma 7. (Bergweiler [13]) *Let f be meromorphic and g entire, and suppose that $0 < \mu < \rho(g) \leq \infty$. Then for a sequence of values of r tending to infinity*

$$T(r, f \circ g) \geq T(\exp(r^\mu), f)$$

3. Main Results

Theorem 1. *Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions such that $\rho(f) = 0, \rho(g) < \infty$. (1) If f and g satisfy either (a) $\rho^*(f) = \infty, \lambda(g) > 0$ or (b) $\lambda^*(f) = \infty, \rho(g) > 0$ then $\rho(f \circ g) = \infty$. (2) If $\rho^*(f) < \infty$, then $\rho(f \circ g) < \infty$.*

Proof. The proof of part 1, we discuss case (a) and (b) respectively.
case (a): By Lemma 2, we have for $A > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r^{1+\delta}, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^{A(1+\delta)}, g)} \\ &\geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log \log M(r, g)} \frac{\log \log M(r, g)}{\log \log r} \frac{\log \log r^{A(1+\delta)}}{\log \log M(r^{A(1+\delta)}, g)} \\ (12) \quad &\geq \frac{\rho^*(f)\lambda(g)}{\rho(g)} = \infty \end{aligned}$$

combining (1) and (12), it follow that $\rho(f \circ g) = \infty$.

case (b): It follows from $\lambda^*(f) = \infty$ and Lemma 2 that

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^{1+\delta}, g)} &= \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(R^{1+\delta}, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(R, g)} \\ (13) \quad &\geq \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(R, g), f)}{\log \log M(R, g)} = \lambda^*(f) = \infty \end{aligned}$$

which and (2) give $\rho(f \circ g) = \infty$. We complete the proof of part 1.

Proof of Part 2: Since $\rho^*(f) < \infty$, applying Lemma 1, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r, g)} &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log \log M(r, g)} \\ (14) \quad &= \rho^*(f) < \infty \end{aligned}$$

From (14) and Lemma 5, we get $\rho(f \circ g) < \infty$. Theorem is proved.

Remark 2. From (3) and (13), we can obtain that if $\lambda^*(f) = \infty$ and $\lambda(g) > 0$, then $\lambda(f \circ g) = \infty$. This conclusion was proved by Yang and Urabe [6].

Theorem 2. *Let f and g be two entire functions of order zero. If either $\rho^*(f) = \infty$ or $\rho^*(g) = \infty$, then $\rho^*(f \circ g) = \infty$. If $\rho^*(f) < \infty$ and $\rho^*(g) < \infty$, then $\rho^*(f \circ g) < \infty$.*

Proof. If $\rho^*(f) = \infty$, from Lemma 2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^*(f \circ g) &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r^{1+\delta}, f \circ g)}{\log \log r^{1+\delta}} \\ &\geq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log \log M(r, g)} \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, g)}{\log \log r} \\ (15) \quad &= \rho^*(f) \lambda^*(g) = \infty \quad (\delta > 0) \end{aligned}$$

If $\rho^*(g) = \infty$, we exchange "limsup" and "liminf" in inequality (15), we obtain $\rho^*(f \circ g) = \infty$.

Because we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^*(f \circ g) &= \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log r} \\ (16) \quad &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log \log M(r, g)} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, g)}{\log \log r} = \rho^*(f) \rho^*(g) \end{aligned}$$

we get if $\rho^*(f) < \infty$ and $\rho^*(g) < \infty$, then $\rho^*(f \circ g) < \infty$. The proof of Theorem 2 is completed.

Theorem 3. Let f and g be two transcendental entire functions. If $0 < \lambda(f) \leq \rho(f) < \infty$, then for every positive number A

$$(17) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, f)} = \infty$$

Further, if $\lambda(f) > 0$, $\rho(g) < \infty$, then for every positive number A

$$(18) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(r^A, g)} = \infty$$

Proof. Suppose that the equality (17) does not hold. Then there exist a constant $B > 0$ and a sequence of r_n tending to infinity which satisfy that

$$(19) \quad \log \log M(r_n, f \circ g) \leq B \log \log M(r_n^A, f)$$

So

$$(20) \quad \log M(r_n, f \circ g) \leq r_n^{AB(\rho(f)+\epsilon)}$$

On the other hand, we have for all sufficiently large values of r

$$(21) \quad M(r, f \circ g) \geq M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right), f\right)$$

Because $g(z)$ is a transcendental entire function, we have

$$(22) \quad \frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right) \geq r^K$$

for $K = AB\left(\frac{2\rho(f)}{\lambda(f)} + 1\right)$ and for all sufficiently large values of r . From Maximum Modulus Principle, combining (21) and (22), it follows that

$$(23) \quad \log M(r_n, f \circ g) \geq \log M(r_n^K, f) > r_n^{(\lambda(f)-\epsilon)K}$$

Choosing $\epsilon = \frac{\lambda(f)}{2} > 0$ and combining (20) and (23) we get $AB(\rho(f) + \frac{\lambda(f)}{2}) \geq \frac{\lambda(f)}{2}K$, which contradicts with the choice of K . This complete the proof of (17)

By an analogous argument, we can prove (18).

Remark 3. From Lemma 4 and (17), we get the conclusion that if f, g are transcendental entire functions such that $\lambda(f) > 0$, then $\lambda(f \circ g) = \infty$. This conclusion was proved by Song and Yang [8].

Remark 4. If we take $\rho(f) > 0$ instead of $\lambda(f)$, (17) and (18) remain true with 'lim' replaced by 'lim sup'.

Remark 5. If we take $\lambda(g) > 0$ instead of $\lambda(f) > 0$, (17) remain true. But Lemma 4 and Theorem 1 show that (18) may not hold.

Theorem 4. Let f and g be two entire functions such that $0 < \lambda(f) \leq \rho(f) < \infty$ and $\lambda(g) \leq \rho(g) < \infty$. Then for each $\alpha \in [0, \infty)$ and $0 < p < (1 + \alpha)\rho(g)$

$$(24) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1+\alpha}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^p), f)} = \infty$$

$$(25) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1+\alpha}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^p), g)} = \infty$$

Proof. By Lemma 1, we have for all sufficiently large values of r

$$M(r, f \circ g) \geq M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r}{2}, g\right), f\right)$$

For any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a sequence of $r_n (r_n \rightarrow \infty)$ such that

$$M\left(\frac{r_n}{2}, g\right) \geq \exp\left\{\left(\frac{r_n}{2}\right)^{\rho(g)-\epsilon}\right\}$$

So we have for sufficiently large r_n

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log \log M(r_n, f \circ g) &\geq \log \log M\left(\frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r_n}{2}, g\right), f\right) \\
 &\geq (\lambda(f) - \epsilon) \log \left\{ \frac{1}{16}M\left(\frac{r_n}{2}, g\right) \right\} \\
 (26) \qquad \qquad \qquad &\geq (\lambda(f) - \epsilon) \log \frac{1}{16} + (\lambda(f) - \epsilon) \left(\frac{r_n}{2}\right)^{\rho(g) - \epsilon}
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we get for all sufficiently large values of r

$$(27) \qquad \qquad \log \log M(\exp(r^p), f) \leq (\rho(f) + \epsilon)r^p$$

Now we choose $0 < \epsilon < \lambda(f)$ such that $p < (1 + \alpha)\{\rho(g) - \epsilon\}$, then we have

$$(28) \qquad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{[(\lambda(f) - \epsilon) \log \frac{1}{16} + (\lambda(f) - \epsilon) \left(\frac{r_n}{2}\right)^{\rho(g) - \epsilon}]^{1 + \alpha}}{(\rho(f) + \epsilon)r_n^p} = \infty$$

By combining (25), (26) and (27), it follows that

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)\}^{1 + \alpha}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^p), f)} = \infty$$

Replacing f with g in inequality (27), we can obtain (25).

Remark 6. If the condition $0 < p < (1 + \alpha)\rho(g)$ is replaced with the condition $0 < p < (1 + \alpha)\lambda(g)$, then 'limsup' in (24) and (25) can be changed to 'lim'.

Theorem 5. Let f and g be two entire functions of finite order and $\lambda(f) > 0$, $\lambda(g) > 0$. If $\sigma(g) < \infty$ then

$$(29) \qquad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} < \infty;$$

$$(30) \qquad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), g)} < \infty.$$

If $\sigma(g) = \infty$ then

$$(31) \qquad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} = \infty;$$

$$(32) \qquad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), g)} = \infty.$$

where $\sigma(g)$ is the type of g .

Proof. If $\sigma(g) < \infty$ then by Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} \\ &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(M(r, g), f)}{\log M(r, g)} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(r, g)}{r^{\rho(g)}} \\ &\quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \{\exp(r^{\rho(g)})\}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} \\ &= \rho(f)\sigma(f) \frac{1}{\lambda(f)} < \infty \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can get

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), g)} \leq \rho(f)\sigma(g) \frac{1}{\lambda(g)} < \infty$$

Thus, we prove (29) and (30).

If $\sigma(g) = \infty$ then by Lemma 1 we can get

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(r, f \circ g)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} &\leq \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(\frac{1}{16}M(\frac{r}{2}, g), f)}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} \\ &\geq \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log M(\frac{1}{16}M(\frac{r}{2}, g), f)}{\log \{\frac{1}{16}M(\frac{r}{2}, g)\}} \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log M(\frac{r}{2}, g)}{(\frac{r}{2})^{\rho(g)}} \\ &\quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\frac{1}{2})^{\rho(g)} \log \{\exp(r^{\rho(g)})\}}{\log \log M(\exp(r^{\rho(g)}), f)} \\ &= \lambda(f)\sigma(g) \frac{1}{\rho(f)} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\rho(g)} = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Replacing f with g in the denominator, we can get (32) at once.

Singh and Baloria [10] proved that if g, h, k are transcendental entire functions of finite order such that $\lambda(h) > 0$ and $0 < \rho(g) < \rho(k)$, then for every transcendental entire function f of finite order

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, h \circ k)}{T(r, f \circ g)} = \infty$$

Lahiri and Sharma [11] consider the case when h is meromorphic. We improve their results and prove the following theorem.

Theorem 6. Let k, g be entire functions, and h meromorphic such that $0 < \lambda(h), \rho(g) < \rho(k)$, then for every $\nu (1 \leq \nu < \frac{\rho(k)}{\rho(g)})$ and every meromorphic function f of finite order, we have

$$(33) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, h \circ k)}{T(r^\nu, f \circ g) \log M(r^\nu, g)} = \infty$$

If $\lambda(f) > 0, \nu > \frac{\rho(k)}{\rho(g)} (0 < \rho(g) < \rho(k) < \infty)$, then

$$(34) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{T(r, h \circ k)}{T(r^\nu, f \circ g)} = 0$$

Proof. By Lemma 7, we have for a sequence of values of r_n tending to infinity

$$T(r_n, h \circ k) \geq T(\exp(r_n^\nu), h)$$

where $0 < \nu \rho(g) < \mu < \rho(k)$. Noticing $\lambda(h) > 0$, we get

$$(35) \quad T(r_n, h \circ k) \geq \exp\{(\lambda(h) - \delta)r_n^\mu\}$$

where we choose $\delta > 0$ such that $\lambda(h) - \delta > 0$. From Lemma 6, we have that

$$(36) \quad \begin{aligned} T(r^\nu, f \circ g) \log M(r^\nu, g) &\leq \{1 + o(1)\} T(r^\nu, g) T(M(r^\nu, g), f) \\ &< (1 + o(1)) r^{\nu(\rho(g) + \epsilon)} \exp\{(\rho(f) + \epsilon)r^{\nu(\rho(g) + \epsilon)}\} \end{aligned}$$

choose $\epsilon > 0$ so that $\nu(\rho(g) + \epsilon) < \mu$. Then (33) follows (35) and (36).

Similarly, from Lemma 6 we have for all sufficiently large r

$$(37) \quad \begin{aligned} T(r, h \circ k) &\leq (1 + o(1)) \frac{T(r, k)}{\log M(r, k)} T(M(r, k), h) \\ &\leq (1 + o(1)) \frac{r^{(\rho(k) + \epsilon)}}{r^{\lambda(k) - \epsilon}} \exp\{(\rho(h) + \epsilon)r^{(\rho(k) + \epsilon)}\} \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, from Lemma 7 for a sequence of $r_n (r_n \rightarrow \infty)$

$$(38) \quad T(r_n^\nu, f \circ g) \geq T(\exp r_n^{\nu(\rho(g) - \epsilon)}, f) \geq \exp\{(\lambda(f) - \epsilon)r_n^{\nu(\rho(g) - \epsilon)}\}$$

(34) follows from (37) and (38) because we can choose $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\nu > \frac{\rho(k) + \epsilon}{\rho(g) - \epsilon}$. Thus, we have proved this theorem.

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