



# Universal Entire Curves in Projective Spaces with Slow Growth

Zhangchi Chen<sup>1</sup> · Dinh Tuan Huynh<sup>2</sup> · Song-Yan Xie<sup>3,4</sup>

Received: 7 March 2023 / Accepted: 24 June 2023 / Published online: 14 July 2023  
© Mathematica Josephina, Inc. 2023

## Abstract

We construct explicit universal entire curves  $h : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^n$  whose Nevanlinna characteristic functions grow slower than any preassigned transcendental growth rate. Moreover, we can make  $h$  to be hypercyclic for translation operations along any given countable directions.

**Keywords** Universality · Entire curves · Hypercyclicity · Nevanlinna characteristic functions · Nevanlinna theory · Rational approximations

**Mathematics Subject Classification** 32A22 · 30D35 · 47A16 · 41A20 · 32H30

## 1 Introduction

About one century ago, in the space of entire functions, Birkhoff [2] constructed some *universal* ones  $h : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , which can approximate *any* entire function  $g$  by

---

✉ Zhangchi Chen  
zhangchi.chen@amss.ac.cn

Dinh Tuan Huynh  
huynhdinh tuan@dhsphue.edu.vn

Song-Yan Xie  
xiesongyan@amss.ac.cn

<sup>1</sup> Morningside Center of Mathematics, Academy of Mathematics and System Science, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing 100190, China

<sup>2</sup> Department of Mathematics, University of Education, Hue University, 34 Le Loi St., Hue, Vietnam

<sup>3</sup> Academy of Mathematics and System Science & Hua Loo-Keng Key Laboratory of Mathematics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100190, China

<sup>4</sup> School of Mathematical Sciences, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China

translations of  $h$ . Precisely, given any compact set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , there is a sequence  $(a_i)_{i \geq 1}$  of complex numbers such that  $h(\cdot + a_i)$  converges to  $g(\cdot)$  uniformly on  $K$ .

Such universality also appears in the space  $\mathcal{M}_n$  of entire curves  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^n$  in projective  $n$ -spaces, endowed with the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets. Let  $\mathcal{U}_n$  denote the subset of  $\mathcal{M}_n$  consisting of *universal entire curves* defined likewise.

In this paper, we answer a question of Dinh–Sibony [3, Problem 9.1] in an extended version.

**Question 1.1** *Find minimal growth rate of the Nevanlinna characteristic function  $T_h(r)$  for  $h \in \mathcal{U}_n$ , where*

$$T_h(r) := \int_1^r \frac{dt}{t} \int_{|z| < t} h^* \omega_{\text{FS}}. \quad (1)$$

In the formula,  $\omega_{\text{FS}}$  is the Fubini–Study form on  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ . The Nevanlinna characteristic function  $T_f(r)$  measures the complexity of  $f$ . For instance,  $f$  is a rational function if and only if  $T_f(r) \approx O(1) \cdot \log r$  as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$  (cf. e.g. [8, Theorem 2.5.28]).

One partial result in this direction was obtained in [7], in which some meromorphic function  $f$  was constructed for approximating any entire functions by its translations, having Nevanlinna characteristic function  $T_f(r) \approx q(r) \cdot (\log r)^2$  for some preassigned positive continuous function  $q(r)$  tending to infinity as  $r \rightarrow +\infty$ .

Any universal entire curve  $f$  must be transcendental, which guarantees that [8, 9]

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} T_f(r) / \log r = +\infty.$$

In this paper we provide the following optimal answer to Dinh–Sibony’s Question 1.1.

**Theorem 1.2** *For any  $n \geq 1$ , given any positive continuous function  $\phi: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  tending to infinity  $\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(r) = +\infty$ , there exists some universal entire curve  $h$  with slow growth*

$$T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r, \quad \forall r \geq 1. \quad (2)$$

In history, Birkhoff’s discovery of universal entire functions foreshadowed a new branch of functional analysis called hypercyclic operators theory [1, 6]. Now, we briefly introduce the key notions.

A continuous linear operator  $T: X \rightarrow X$  acting on a topological vector space  $X$  (over  $\mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ ) is called *hypercyclic* if there is some element  $x \in X$  whose orbit  $\{T^n(x)\}_{n \geq 1}$  is dense in  $X$ . Such a vector  $x$  is called *hypercyclic* for  $T$ .

From today’s hindsight, Birkhoff’s result can be rephrased as follows: for any nonzero complex number  $a$ , the translation operator  $T_a(f)(z) := f(z + a)$  is hypercyclic on the space  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  of entire functions, endowed with the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets.

In this paper, we show the existence of universal entire curves  $f$  with slow growth, which are moreover hypercyclic simultaneously for all nontrivial translations along given countable directions. One key ingredient is a reminiscent of [4, Theorem 8].

**Theorem 1.3** *For any  $n \geq 1$ , given any positive continuous function  $\phi : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  tending to infinity, and given any countable set  $E \subset [0, 2\pi)$ , there exists some universal entire curve  $h$  satisfying*

- *small growth rate  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for all  $r \geq 1$ ;*
- *$h$  is hypercyclic for  $T_a$  for any nonzero complex number  $a$  with argument in  $E$ .*

Our proof is based on insight of Oka manifolds theory (cf. [5]) and Nevanlinna theory. Precisely, in our setting  $\mathbb{CP}^n$  is a special Oka manifold with a “large” open subset  $\mathbb{C}^n$  having complex vector space structure. The idea is, first, to construct some countable meromorphic discs  $\{g^{[k]} : \mathbb{D}_{R_k} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n\}_{k \geq 1}$ , each being a rational map having designed approximation property and decaying to zero near infinity  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} g^{[k]}(z) = \bar{0} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . This step can be accomplished by using Runge’s approximation theorem, or by Lemma 2.1. Secondly, we “patch” the discs  $\{g^{[k]}\}_{k \geq 1}$  together by sophisticated translations, repetitions, and infinite summation.

**Convention** We denote by  $\mathbb{D}_r$  the disc centered at the origin with radius  $r > 0$ , and by  $\mathbb{D}(a, r)$  the disc centered at  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  with radius  $r$ .

## 2 Preparations

### 2.1 Nevanlinna Theory

Let  $[Z_0 : \dots : Z_n]$  be homogeneous coordinates of  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ . Denote by  $H_0 := \{Z_0 = 0\}$  the first coordinate hyperplane. Let  $h : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^n$  be an entire curve not contained in  $H_0$ , with reduced representation  $h = [h_0 : h_1 : \dots : h_n]$ . Denote by  $n_h(r, H_0)$  the number of zeros of  $h_0$  in  $\{|z| \leq r\}$ , counting multiplicities. The *counting function*  $N_h(r, H_0)$  of  $h$  with respect to  $H_0$  is

$$N_h(r, H_0) := \int_{t=1}^r \frac{n_h(t, H_0)}{t} dt,$$

and the *proximity function*  $m_h(r, H_0)$  is

$$m_h(r, H_0) := \int_{\theta=0}^{2\pi} \log \sqrt{1 + |h_1/h_0|^2(r e^{i\theta}) + \dots + |h_n/h_0|^2(r e^{i\theta})} \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}.$$

By Nevanlinna theory (cf. [9]), Shimizu–Ahlfors’ version (1) of Nevanlinna’s characteristic function can be rewritten as [8, Theorem 2.3.31]

$$T_h(r) = m_h(r, H_0) + N_h(r, H_0) - m_h(1, H_0). \quad (3)$$

### 2.2 Runge-Type Approximations

Runge’s approximation theorem (1885) states that any holomorphic function defined on a neighborhood of a compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  can be uniformly approximated by rational functions with poles outside  $K$ . For our purpose, we need the following analogue.

**Lemma 2.1** For any  $f \in \mathcal{M}_n$ , for any error bound  $\epsilon > 0$ , for any  $N > 0$ , there exists some rational map

$$\gamma = [p_0 : p_1 : \cdots : p_n] \in \mathcal{M}_n,$$

where all  $p_i \in \mathbb{C}[z]$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , such that

- (i) the Fubini-Study distance  $d_{FS}(\gamma(z), f(z)) < \epsilon$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ ;
- (ii) for each  $j \neq 0$ ,  $\deg(p_0) > \deg(p_j)$ , whence

$$|p_j(z)/p_0(z)| = O(1/|z|), \quad z \rightarrow \infty.$$

**Proof** Take a reduced representation  $f = [f_0 : \cdots : f_n]$ , where each  $f_j$  is holomorphic on  $\mathbb{C}$ . By rescaling, we can assume that  $|f_0|^2 + \cdots + |f_n|^2 \geq 1$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ .

Geometrically, the Fubini-Study distance between two points  $[a_0 : \cdots : a_n]$  and  $[b_0 : \cdots : b_n]$  is, up to multiplying by some positive constant, the angle between two complex vectors  $\vec{a} = (a_0, \dots, a_n)$  and  $\vec{b} = (b_0, \dots, b_n) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ . For  $\vec{a}$  away from the origin, say  $\|\vec{a}\| \geq 1$ , and for  $\vec{b}$  sufficiently near to  $\vec{a}$ , say  $\|\vec{b} - \vec{a}\| < \mu \ll 1$ , we have

$$d_{FS}([a_0 : \cdots : a_n], [b_0 : \cdots : b_n]) < \epsilon.$$

Therefore, we approximate each  $f_j$  by some polynomial  $p_j$  such that  $|p_j(z) - f_j(z)| < \frac{\mu}{2\sqrt{n+1}}$  uniformly on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ . Whence the requirement (i) is satisfied.

For the requirement (ii), we can start with a nonzero polynomial  $p_0(z)$ , and then replace it by  $p_0(z) \frac{(z+M)^Q}{M^Q}$  for some large  $M$ ,  $Q \gg 1$ , so that  $\left| p_0(z) \frac{(z+M)^Q}{M^Q} - p_0(z) \right| < \frac{\mu}{2\sqrt{n+1}}$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ .  $\square$

### 3 Construction

We now prove Theorem 1.3 by an explicit construction.

Let  $E = \{\theta_v\}_{v \geq 1} \subset [0, 2\pi)$  be a countable set of angles. Let  $\phi : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a positive continuous function tending to infinity  $\lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(r) = +\infty$ . After replacing  $\phi(r)$  by  $\hat{\phi}(r) := \min_{t \geq r} \phi(t)$ , we can assume that  $\phi$  is nondecreasing.

#### 3.1 Preparing Model Curves Over Discs

We select a countable and dense subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$ , say  $\mathbb{Q}_c := \{z = x + \sqrt{-1}y : x, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . We will make use of the following countable subset of rational curves

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R} := \{[p_0(z) : p_1(z) : \cdots : p_n(z)] : p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n \in \mathbb{Q}_c[z]; \\ \deg(p_0) > \deg(p_j), \forall j \neq 0\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

which can be enumerated as

$$\left( \gamma^{[k]} = [p_0^{[k]}(z) : p_1^{[k]}(z) : \cdots : p_n^{[k]}(z)] \right)_{k \geq 1}.$$

By Lemma 2.1, noting that  $\mathbb{Q}_c \subset \mathbb{C}$  is dense, we can find a sequence of elements in  $\mathcal{R}$  to approximate any given entire curve uniformly on compact sets  $\overline{\mathbb{D}}_N$ .

Since  $p_0^{[k]} \not\equiv 0$ , we can rewrite

$$\gamma^{[k]}(z) = [1 : \gamma_1^{[k]}(z) : \cdots : \gamma_n^{[k]}(z)], \quad \gamma_j^{[k]}(z) := p_j^{[k]}(z)/p_0^{[k]}(z).$$

Note that  $|\gamma_j^{[k]}(z)| = O(1/|z|)$  as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , since  $\deg(p_0^{[k]}) > \deg(p_j^{[k]})$ . Choose a large radius  $\eta_k > 0$  such that  $|\gamma_j^{[k]}(z)| \leq 2^{-k}$  for all  $|z| > \eta_k$  and for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

A natural idea is constructing  $h = [1 : h_1 : \cdots : h_n]$  where  $h_j = \sum_{k \geq 1} \gamma_j^{[k]}(z - a_k)$  for some sequence  $(a_k)_{k \geq 1}$  of complex numbers growing sufficiently fast

$$1 \ll |a_1| \ll |a_2| \ll |a_3| \ll \cdots,$$

so that

- on each disc  $\overline{\mathbb{D}}(a_k, \eta_k)$ , the error term  $\sum_{\ell \neq k} \gamma_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_\ell)$  is negligible

$$\left| \sum_{\ell \neq k} \gamma_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_\ell) \right| \leq 2^{-k+1}, \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n, \quad \forall k \geq 1;$$

- outside all these discs, the sum  $h_j$  has norm bounded by 1.

However, this  $h$  is not obviously universal due to the presence of error terms. To prove universality, we make the following manipulations.

The Cartesian product

$$\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{R} \times \mathbb{Z}_+ \times E = \left\{ ((\gamma^{[k]}, u, \theta_v); k, u, v \in \mathbb{Z}_+) \right\}$$

is countable. We enumerate  $\mathcal{A}$ , for instance by lexicographic order of the index  $(k, u, v) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^3$ , as

$$\mathcal{A} = (A_k)_{k \geq 1}, \quad A_k := (g^{[k]}, w_k, \rho_k).$$

For any  $\gamma \in \mathcal{R}$ , for any  $\theta \in E$ , there is an infinite subsequence  $A_{k_m} = (g^{[k_m]}, w_{k_m}, \rho_{k_m})$  for  $m \geq 1$  such that  $g^{[k_m]} = \gamma$ ,  $\rho_{k_m} = \theta$ , and  $w_{k_m}$  tends to infinity as  $m \rightarrow +\infty$ .

Let

$$h(z) := [1 : h_1(z) : \cdots : h_n(z)], \quad h_j(z) := \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} g_j^{[k]}(z - a_k).$$

for some  $a_k \in \mathbb{C}$  to be chosen subsequently by a sophisticated algorithm (13). The following lemmas show that if the sequence  $(|a_k|)_{k \geq 1}$  grows fast enough, we have the following properties:

- (1) (convergence)  $h_j$  is well-defined meromorphic function for each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ;
- (2) (universality)  $h$  is a universal;
- (3) (growth rate)  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for all  $r \geq 1$ .

### 3.2 Proof of Convergence and Universality

Since  $|g_j^{[k]}(z)| = O(1/|z|)$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , there are some  $\delta_k > 0$  and  $C_k > 0$  such that  $|g_j^{[k]}(z)| < \frac{C_k}{|z|}$  for any  $|z| > \delta_k$ . Set  $R_k := \delta_k + 2^k C_k$ . Hence

$$|g_j^{[k]}(z)| < \frac{C_k}{|z|} < 2^{-k} \cdot \frac{R_k}{|z|} < 2^{-k}, \quad \forall |z| > R_k, \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq n. \quad (5)$$

We demand that all the discs  $\mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)$  for  $k \geq 1$  are sufficiently far way from each other, in order to have the following good estimates.

**Lemma 3.1** *If*

$$|a_k| - |a_{k-1}| - R_k - R_{k-1} > (R_1 + \dots + R_{k-1})(k-1)2^k, \quad \forall k \geq 2, \quad (6)$$

*then for any  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ :*

1. *outside  $\bigcup_{\ell} \mathbb{D}(a_{\ell}, R_{\ell})$ , the function  $h_j(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} g_j^{[k]}(z - a_k)$  has bound  $|h_j(z)| < 1$ ;*
2. *in each disc  $\overline{\mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)}$ , the error term  $\epsilon_j^{[k]}(z) := \sum_{\ell \neq k} g_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_{\ell})$  has bound  $|\epsilon_j^{[k]}| < 2^{-k+1}$ .*

**Proof** The first estimate follows by summing up (5) for  $k \geq 1$ . Now, we prove the second estimate.

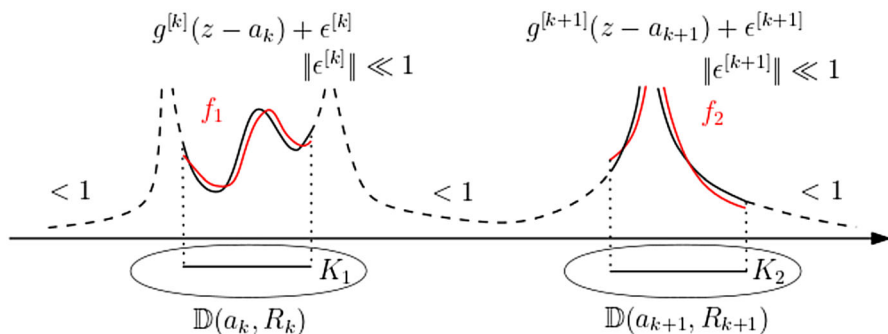
For each  $\ell < k$ , the distance between  $\mathbb{D}(a_{\ell}, R_{\ell})$  and  $\overline{\mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)}$  is at least  $R_{\ell}(k-1)2^k$  by (6). Hence by (5) we have

$$|g_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_{\ell})| < 2^{-\ell} \frac{R_{\ell}}{R_{\ell}(k-1)2^k} < \frac{2^{-k}}{k-1}, \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k), \quad \forall \ell < k.$$

Lastly, using the above estimate for  $\ell < k$  and using (5) for  $\ell > k$ , we receive

$$|\epsilon_j^{[k]}(z)| \leq \sum_{\ell < k} |g_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_{\ell})| + \sum_{\ell > k} |g_j^{[\ell]}(z - a_{\ell})| < \sum_{\ell < k} \frac{2^{-k}}{k-1} + \sum_{\ell > k} 2^{-\ell} = 2^{-k} + 2^{-k}.$$

□



**Fig. 1** The dotted universal curve  $h$ , locally expressed by  $g + \epsilon$ , approximates a curve  $f_1$  on  $K_1$  and a curve  $f_2$  (intersecting  $H_0$ ) on  $K_2$

Consequently, for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , the infinite sum  $h_j(z)$  is a well-defined meromorphic function, and all its poles lie in  $\bigcup_k \mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)$ .

**Lemma 3.2** *If the condition (6) holds, then  $h$  is universal.*

**Proof** It suffices to prove that for any entire curve  $f \in \mathcal{M}_n$ , for any error bound  $\epsilon > 0$ , and for any compact set  $K$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , there is some translation  $T_c$  given by large  $c \in \mathbb{C}$ , such that

$$d_{FS}(f(z), T_c(h)(z)) = d_{FS}(f(z), h(z+c)) < \epsilon, \quad \forall z \in K.$$

Take a large disc  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$  containing  $K$ . By Lemma 2.1, recalling (4), we can find some rational curve  $\gamma = [p_0 : p_1 : \dots : p_n] \in \mathcal{R}$  such that

$$d_{FS}(f(z), \gamma(z)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \quad \forall z \in \overline{\mathbb{D}_N}.$$

By rescaling, we can moreover assume that  $\sum_{j=0}^n |p_j(z)|^2 \geq 1$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ .

By our construction,  $\gamma$  repeats infinitely many times in  $(g^{[k]})_{k \geq 1}$ . Take  $k \gg 1$  such that

- the model curve  $g^{[k]} = \gamma = [1 : p_1/p_0 : \dots : p_n/p_0] =: [1 : g_1^{[k]} : \dots : g_n^{[k]}]$ ;
- the error term  $|\epsilon_j^{[k]}(z)| \leq \frac{\delta}{M}$  on  $\mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)$  for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , where  $M := \max_{z \in \overline{\mathbb{D}_N}} \{|p_0(z)|\}$ , and where  $\delta > 0$  is a sufficiently small number such that

$$d_{FS}([\vec{a}], [\vec{b}]) < \epsilon/2, \quad \forall \vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1}, \|\vec{a}\| \geq 1, \|\vec{b} - \vec{a}\| < \delta;$$

- the radius  $R_k > N$ .

Hence  $\left| \epsilon_j^{[k]}(z + a_k) \right| \leq \frac{\delta}{M}$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_{R_k}}$ . Rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} h(z + a_k) &= [1 : h_1(z + a_k) : \cdots : h_n(z + a_k)] \\ &= [1 : g_1^{[k]}(z) + \epsilon_1^{[k]}(z + a_k) : \cdots : g_n^{[k]}(z) + \epsilon_n^{[k]}(z + a_k)] \\ &= [p_0(z) : p_1(z) + \epsilon_1^{[k]}(z + a_k) p_0(z) : \cdots : p_n(z) + \epsilon_n^{[k]}(z + a_k) p_0(z)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $\left| \epsilon_j^{[k]}(z + a_k) \cdot p_0(z) \right| \leq \frac{\delta}{M} \cdot M = \delta$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ . Since  $\sum_{j=0}^n |p_j(z)|^2 \geq 1$ , using the argument in the proof of Lemma 2.1, this sufficiently small  $\delta$  ensures that

$$d_{FS}(h(z + a_k), \gamma(z)) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}, \quad \forall z \in \overline{\mathbb{D}_N}.$$

Hence  $d_{FS}(h(z + a_k), f(z)) < \epsilon$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_N}$ .  $\square$

### 3.3 Estimate of the Growth Rate

Now, we prove that if the sequence  $(|a_k|)_{k \geq 1}$  grows fast enough, (2) holds.

Denote by  $n_{k,j}$  the number of poles of the rational function  $g_j^{[k]}$ , counting with multiplicities. Let  $n_k := \sum_{j=1}^n n_{k,j}$ .

We demand that  $|a_k| > R_k + 1$  for all  $k \geq 1$ .

**Lemma 3.3** *If*

$$\begin{cases} |a_k| - |a_{k-1}| - R_k - R_{k-1} > (R_1 + \cdots + R_{k-1})(k-1)2^k, & \forall k \geq 2, \\ \phi(|a_k| - R_k) > (n_1 + \cdots + n_k + \sqrt{n+1}) \frac{\log(|a_k| + R_k)}{\log(|a_k| - R_k)}, & \forall k \geq 1, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

then  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for all  $r \geq \max\{|a_1| - R_1, e\}$ .

**Proof** By (3), for  $r \geq 1$ , we have

$$T_h(r) = N_h(r, H_0) + m_h(r, H_0) - m_h(1, H_0) \leq N_h(r, H_0) + m_h(r, H_0). \quad (8)$$

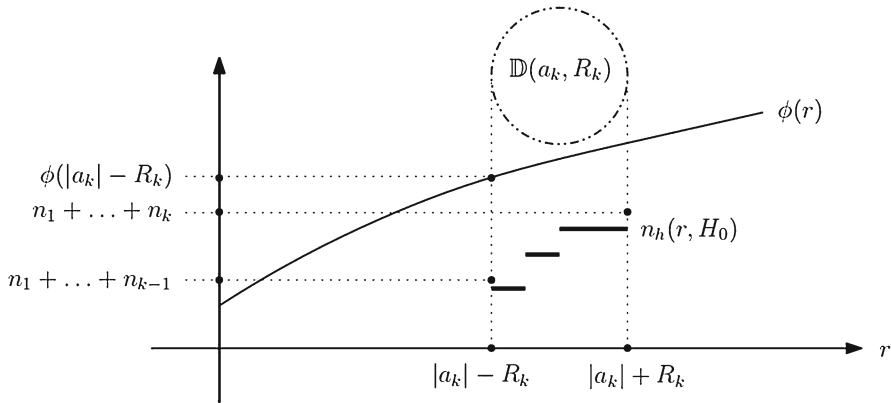
**Case 1:** There is some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that  $|a_k| + R_k < r < |a_{k+1}| - R_{k+1}$ . In this case the circle  $\{|z| = r\}$  does not intersect with any disc  $\overline{\mathbb{D}(a_\ell, R_\ell)}$ ,  $\ell \geq 1$ .

By Lemma 3.1, on this circle  $|h_j(z)| \leq 1$  for all  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Hence the proximity function

$$m_h(r, H_0) \leq \sqrt{n+1}. \quad (9)$$

Although the expression  $h(z) = [1 : h_1(z) : \cdots : h_n(z)]$  is not a reduced representation, nevertheless, we have the clear estimate  $n_h(r, H_0) \leq n_1 + \cdots + n_k$ . Therefore

$$N_h(r, H_0) \leq (n_1 + \cdots + n_k) \cdot \log r. \quad (10)$$



**Fig. 2** When  $(|a_k|)_{k \geq 1}$  grows sufficiently fast,  $n_h(r, H_0)$  is smaller than  $\phi(r)$

Summing up (9) and (10), and using (8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} T_h(r) &\leq (n_1 + \cdots + n_k) \cdot \log r + \sqrt{n+1} \\ [\text{use (7) and } r \geq e] &< \phi(r) \cdot \log r. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

**Case 2:** There is some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  such that  $|r - |a_k|| \leq R_k$ . In this case, the circle  $\{|z| = r\}$  intersects only one disc  $\overline{\mathbb{D}(a_k, R_k)}$ .

By definition,  $T_h(r)$  is nondecreasing. So

$$\begin{aligned} T_h(r) &\leq T_h(|a_k| + R_k) \\ [\text{use (11)}] &\leq (n_1 + \cdots + n_k + \sqrt{n+1}) \cdot \log(|a_k| + R_k) \\ [\text{use (7)}] &< \phi(|a_k| - R_k) \cdot \log(|a_k| - R_k) \\ [\text{use } |a_k| - R_k \leq r] &\leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r. \end{aligned}$$

□

Now, we estimate the growth rate for  $r \in [1, |a_1| - R_1]$ . The following Lemma tells that the Nevanlinna characteristic function  $T_h(r)$  of an “almost constant” curve  $h$  has very slow growth for small  $r$ .

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $\phi : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a positive continuous nondecreasing function. For any  $r_0 > 1$ , there is  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that if  $h = [1 : h_1(z) : \cdots : h_n(z)]$  for some meromorphic functions  $h_j$  with  $|h_j(z)| \leq \epsilon_0$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_{r_0+1}}$ , then  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for all  $r \in [1, r_0]$ .*

**Proof** By Cauchy’s integral formula

$$h'_j(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|\zeta|=r_0+1} \frac{h_j(\zeta)}{(\zeta - z)^2} d\zeta, \quad \forall z \in \overline{\mathbb{D}_{r_0}},$$

we receive the derivative estimate  $|h'_j(z)| \leq (r_0 + 1) \epsilon_0$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_{r_0}}$ . The Fubini-Study form on the affine chart  $\mathbb{C}^n \subset \mathbb{CP}^n$  with coordinates  $(z_1, \dots, z_n) \mapsto [1 : z_1 : \dots : z_n]$ , is

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_{\text{FS}} &= \frac{i}{2\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} \log \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |z_j|^2 \right) \\ &= \frac{i}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n dz_j \wedge d\bar{z}_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |z_j|^2} - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \bar{z}_j dz_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |z_j|^2} \wedge \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n z_j d\bar{z}_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |z_j|^2} \right).\end{aligned}$$

The pull-back of the Fubini-Study form is

$$h^* \omega_{\text{FS}} = \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n |h'_j|^2}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \bar{h}_j h'_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n h_j \bar{h}'_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} \right) \frac{i}{2\pi} dz \wedge d\bar{z}.$$

Here, the coefficient

$$\begin{aligned}&\left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n |h'_j|^2}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \bar{h}_j h'_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n h_j \bar{h}'_j}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n |h'_j|^2}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^n |h_j|^2} \leq n(r_0 + 1)^2 \epsilon_0^2\end{aligned}$$

on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_{r_0}}$ . Hence for any  $r \in [1, r_0]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}T_h(r) &\leq \int_{t=1}^r \frac{dt}{t} \int_{|z| \leq r_0} h^* \omega_{\text{FS}} \\ &\leq \int_{t=1}^r \frac{dt}{t} \int_{|z| \leq r_0} n(r_0 + 1)^2 \epsilon_0^2 \frac{i}{2\pi} dz \wedge d\bar{z} = n r_0^2 (r_0 + 1)^2 \epsilon_0^2 \log r.\end{aligned}$$

We complete the proof by taking  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  sufficiently small such that  $n r_0^2 (r_0 + 1)^2 \epsilon_0^2 \leq \phi(1)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5** Take large  $r_0 > e$  such that  $\phi(r) \cdot \log r > \sqrt{n+1}$ , for all  $r > r_0$ . Set

$$\epsilon_0 = \min \left\{ 1, \sqrt{\frac{\phi(1)}{n r_0^2 (r_0 + 1)^2}} \right\}.$$

Under the condition (7) and, if moreover

$$|a_k| > R_k / \epsilon_0 + r_0 + 1, \quad \forall k \geq 1, \quad (12)$$

then  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for all  $r \in [1, R_1 - |a_1|]$ .

**Proof.** Recalling (5)

$$\left| g_j^{[k]}(z) \right| < 2^{-k} \cdot \frac{R_k}{|z|}, \quad \forall |z| > R_k,$$

noting that

$$|z - a_k| \geq R_k/\epsilon_0 \geq R_k, \quad \forall |z| \leq r_0 + 1,$$

we receive

$$\left| g_j^{[k]}(z - a_k) \right| \leq 2^{-k} \frac{R_k}{|z - a_k|} \leq 2^{-k} \frac{R_k}{R_k/\epsilon_0} = 2^{-k} \epsilon_0, \quad \forall |z| \leq r_0 + 1.$$

Summing up the above inequality for  $k \geq 1$ , we get  $|h_j(z)| \leq \epsilon_0$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{D}_{r_0+1}}$ . By Lemma 3.4,  $T_h(r) \leq \phi(r) \cdot \log r$ , for  $r \in [1, r_0]$ .

For the remaining  $r \in (r_0, \max\{|a_1| - R_1, e\})$ , the proximity function  $m_h(r, H_0) \leq \sqrt{n+1}$  since  $|h_j(z)| \leq 1$  by Lemma 3.1, and the counting function  $N_h(r, H_0) = 0$  by our construction. Thus we conclude the proof by (3)

$$T_h(r) \leq N_h(r, H_0) + m_h(r, H_0) \leq \sqrt{n+1} < \phi(r) \cdot \log r. \quad \square$$

### 3.4 End of the Proof

Now we summarize the first restrictions on the sequence  $(a_k)_{k \geq 1}$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} |a_k| > R_k/\epsilon_0 + r_0 + 1, & \forall k \geq 1, \\ |a_k| - |a_{k-1}| - R_k - R_{k-1} > (R_1 + \cdots + R_{k-1})(k-1)2^k, & \forall k \geq 2, \\ \phi(|a_k| - R_k) > (n_1 + \cdots + n_k + \sqrt{n+1}) \frac{\log(|a_k| + R_k)}{\log(|a_k| - R_k)}, & \forall k \geq 1. \end{array} \right. \quad (13)$$

In the first inequality,  $\epsilon_0$  and  $r_0$  are defined in Lemma 3.5. Moreover, we demand that each complex number

$$a_k \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \cdot e^{\sqrt{-1}\rho_k}, \quad \forall k \geq 1,$$

has the argument  $\rho_k$ .

Clearly, such  $a_k$  can be chosen subsequently for  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , since

$$\lim_{|a_k| \rightarrow +\infty} (n_1 + \cdots + n_k + \sqrt{n+1}) \frac{\log(|a_k| + R_k)}{\log(|a_k| - R_k)} < +\infty = \lim_{r \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(r).$$

Thus, the entire curve  $h$  is universal with slow growth (2) in Theorem 1.2 by the previous arguments.

Lastly,  $h$  is hypercyclic for any translation operator  $T_{e^{\sqrt{-1}\theta}}$  with  $\theta \in E$ , since  $\theta$  repeats infinitely many time in  $\{\rho_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ . Using the argument of a result [4, Theorem 8], we conclude that  $h$  is simultaneously hypercyclic for any  $T_a$  where  $a \in \mathbb{R}_+ \cdot e^{\sqrt{-1}\theta}$  has argument  $\theta$ .

**Acknowledgements** Xie is partially supported by National Key R&D Program of China Grant No. 2021YFA1003100 and NSFC Grant No. 12288201. Chen is supported in part by the Labex CEMPI (ANR-11-LABX-0007-01), the project QuaSiDy (ANR-21-CE40-0016) and China Postdoctoral Science Foundation (2023M733690). Huynh is funded by University of Education, Hue University under Grant Number NCM. T.22- 02. We thank Bin Guo (UCAS) for pointing out the reference [4]. We are grateful to the referee for nice suggestions.

**Data availability** No datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

## References

1. Bayart, F., Matheron, É.: Dynamics of linear operators. Cambridge tracts in mathematics, vol. 179, pp. xiv+337. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (2009)
2. Birkhoff, G.D.: Démonstration d'un théorème élémentaire sur les fonctions entières. C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris **189**, 473–475 (1929)
3. Dinh, T.-C., Sibony, N.: Some open problems on holomorphic foliation theory. Acta Math. Vietnam. **45**(1), 103–112 (2020)
4. Costakis, G., Sambarino, M.: Genericity of wild holomorphic functions and common hypercyclic vectors. Adv. Math. **182**(2), 278–306 (2004)
5. Forstnerič, Franc: Stein manifolds and holomorphic mappings. Ergebnisse der Mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete, vol. 56, 2nd edn, pp. xiv+562. Springer, Cham (2017)
6. Grosse-Erdmann, K.-G., Manguillot, A.P.: Linear chaos. Springer, London (2011)
7. Luh, W., Martirosian, V.: On the growth of universal meromorphic functions. Analysis (Munich) **20**(2), 137–147 (2000)
8. Noguchi J., Winkelmann J.: Nevanlinna theory in several complex variables and Diophantine approximation. Grundlehren der mathematischen Wissenschaften [Fundamental Principles of Mathematical Sciences], vol. 350, pp. xiv+416. Springer, Tokyo (2014)
9. Ru, M.: Nevanlinna theory and its relation to Diophantine approximation. Second edition [of MR1850002], pp. xvi+426. World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd., Hackensack (2021)

**Publisher's Note** Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Springer Nature or its licensor (e.g. a society or other partner) holds exclusive rights to this article under a publishing agreement with the author(s) or other rightsholder(s); author self-archiving of the accepted manuscript version of this article is solely governed by the terms of such publishing agreement and applicable law.