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# On a sufficient condition for starlikeness

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## Abstract

We give a sufficient condition for a normalized analytic function to be starlike.

*Keywords:*  $\alpha$ -convex functions, starlike functions, convex functions, univalent functions

*2000 Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 30C45.

## 1. Introduction and Result

P. T. Mocanu [1] defined  $\alpha$ -convex functions as follows: Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  be analytic in the unit disc  $\Delta = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ , with  $f(z)f'(z)/z \neq 0$  there, and let  $\alpha$  be a real number. Then  $f(z)$  is said to be  $\alpha$ -convex in  $\Delta$  if and only if the inequality

$$\operatorname{Re} \left[ (1 - \alpha) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right] > 0$$

holds in  $\Delta$ . For the functions above, S. S. Miller, P. T. Mocanu and M. O. Read [2] proved the following theorem.

**Theorem A.** *If  $f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  is  $\alpha$ -convex in the unit disc  $\Delta$ , then  $f(z)$  is starlike and univalent in  $\Delta$ . Moreover, if  $\alpha \geq 1$ , then  $f(z)$  is convex for  $|z| < 1$ , and if  $\alpha \leq -1$ , then  $1/f(1/z)$  is convex for  $|z| > 1$ .*

In this paper, we partly improve Theorem A and to do so, we need the following lemma [3], [4].

**Lemma A.** *Let  $p(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n z^n$  be analytic in the unit disc  $\Delta$  and supposed that there exists a point  $z_0 \in \Delta$  such that*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > 0 \text{ for } |z| < |z_0|,$$

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0)\} = 0 \text{ and } p(z_0) \neq 0.$$

Then we have

$$\frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = ik$$

where

$$k \geq \frac{1}{2} \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \text{ when } \arg\{p(z_0)\} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

and

$$k \leq -\frac{1}{2} \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \text{ when } \arg\{p(z_0)\} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

where  $p(z_0) = \pm ia$  and  $a > 0$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$  be analytic in the unit disc  $\Delta$  and let us put

$$F(z) = \left[ (1 - \alpha) \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} + \alpha \left( 1 + \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right].$$

Then, for the case  $\alpha \geq 0$  or  $\alpha < -2$ , if  $F(z)$  does not take pure imaginary value  $l$  where  $|l| \geq \sqrt{(2 + \alpha)\alpha}$ , then  $f(z)$  is starlike in  $\Delta$  and for the case  $-2 \leq \alpha < 0$ , if

$$\operatorname{Re}\{F(z)\} > 0 \text{ in } \Delta,$$

then  $f(z)$  is starlike in  $\Delta$ .

*Proof.* For the case  $\alpha > 0$ , from the hypothesis of the theorem we obtain  $f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $\Delta$ , because if there exists a point  $z_0 \in \Delta$  such that

$$f'(z_0) = 0,$$

this contradicts the hypothesis of the theorem.

Let us put

$$p(z) = \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \text{ and } p(z) \neq 0 \text{ in } \Delta.$$

Then it follows that

$$F(z) = p(z) + \alpha \frac{z p'(z)}{p(z)}.$$

If there exists a point  $z_0 \in \Delta$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > 0 \text{ for } |z| < |z_0|,$$

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0)\} = 0 \text{ and } p(z_0) \neq 0,$$

then from Lemma A, for the case  $\arg\{p(z_0)\} = \pi/2$ ,  $p(z_0) = ia$  and  $a > 0$ , we have

$$F(z_0) = p(z_0) + \alpha \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = ia + i\alpha k$$

and so,  $F(z_0)$  is a pure imaginary value.

Then it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{Im}\{F(z_0)\} &= a + \alpha k \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ (2 + \alpha)a + \frac{\alpha}{a} \right\} \\ &\geq \sqrt{(2 + \alpha)\alpha}.\end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the hypothesis of the theorem.

For the case  $\arg\{p(z_0)\} = -\pi/2$ ,  $p(z_0) = -ia$  and  $a > 0$ , we have also

$$F(z_0) = -ia + i\alpha k$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{Im}\{F(z_0)\} &= -a + \alpha k \\ &\leq -a - \frac{1}{2}\alpha \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \\ &= - \left\{ (2 + \alpha)a + \frac{\alpha}{a} \right\} \\ &\leq -\sqrt{(2 + \alpha)\alpha}.\end{aligned}$$

This is also contradicts the hypothesis of the theorem and it completes the proof of the case  $\alpha > 0$ .

For the case  $\alpha < -2$ , applying the same method and Lemma A, we can obtain the proof of the theorem.

Finally, for the case  $-2 \leq \alpha < 0$ , it depends on [2].

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