SOME REMARKS ON CLOSE-TO-CONVEX AND STRONGLY CONVEX FUNCTIONS

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Abstract

We consider questions of the following kind: When does boundedness of $|\arg\{1 + zp'(z)/p(z)\}|$, for a given analytic function p, imply boundedness of $|\arg\{p(z)\}|$? The paper determines the order of strong close-to-convexity in the class of strongly convex functions. Also, we consider conditions that are sufficient for a function to be a Bazilevič function.

1. Introduction

Let \mathscr{H} be the class of analytic functions in the disc $U = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ in the complex plane C. Let \mathscr{A} be the subclass of \mathscr{H} consisting of functions f of the form $f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$. Moreover, by \mathscr{S} , \mathscr{S}^* , \mathscr{K} and \mathscr{C} we denote the subclasses of \mathscr{A} which consist of univalent, starlike, convex and close-to-convex functions, respectively.

Robertson introduced in [12] the classes \mathscr{G}^*_{α} , \mathscr{K}_{α} of starlike and convex functions of order α which are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}^{*} &= \left\{ f \in \mathscr{A} : \mathfrak{Re} \, \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \alpha, z \in \mathsf{U} \right\}, \qquad \alpha < 1, \\ \mathscr{K}_{\alpha} &= \left\{ f \in \mathscr{A} : \mathfrak{Re} \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) > \alpha, z \in \mathsf{U} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ f \in \mathscr{A} : zf'(z) \in \mathscr{S}_{\alpha}^{*} \right\}, \qquad \alpha < 1. \end{aligned}$$

If $\alpha \in [0, 1)$, then a function in either of these sets is univalent, if $\alpha < 0$ it may fail to be univalent. In particular, we have $\mathscr{S}_0^* = \mathscr{S}^*$ and $\mathscr{K}_0 = \mathscr{K}$.

Let $\mathscr{SS}^*(\beta)$ denote the class of strongly starlike functions of order β

$$\mathscr{G}\mathscr{G}^*(\beta) = \left\{ f \in \mathscr{G} : \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \frac{\beta \pi}{2}, z \in \mathsf{U} \right\}, \qquad \beta \in (0, 1],$$

which was introduced in [13] and [3]. Furthermore,

$$\mathscr{GK}(\beta) = \left\{ f \in \mathscr{G} : zf'(z) \in \mathscr{GG}^*(\beta) \right\}, \qquad \beta \in (0, 1]$$

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denotes the class of strongly convex functions of order β . Recall also that an analytic function f is said to be a close-to-convex function of order β , $\beta \in [0, 1)$, if and only if there exists a number $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$ and a function $g \in \mathcal{K}$, such that

(1)
$$\Re e \left\{ e^{i\varphi} \frac{f'(z)}{g'(z)} \right\} > \beta \quad \text{for } z \in \mathsf{U}.$$

Reade [11] introduced the class of strongly close-to-convex functions of order β , $\beta < 1$, which is defined by

(2)
$$\left| \arg \left\{ e^{i\varphi} \frac{f'(z)}{g'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \quad \text{for} \quad z \in \mathsf{U},$$

instead of (1). Kaplan [5] investigated the class of functions satisfying the condition (1) in which $g \in \mathscr{H}_{\alpha}$. He denoted this class by $\mathscr{C}_{\alpha}(\beta)$. Let $\mathscr{SC}_{\alpha}(\beta)$ denote the class of strongly close-to-convex functions of order β with respect to a convex function of order α , i.e. the class of functions $f \in \mathscr{A}$ satisfying (2) for some $g \in \mathscr{H}_{\alpha}$ and $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$. Functions defined by (1) with $\varphi = 0$ were discussed by Ozaki [10] (see also Umezawa [15], [16]). Moreover, Biernacki [2] defined the class of functions $f \in \mathscr{A}$ for which the complement of f(U) with respect to the complex plane is a linearly accessible domain in a broad sense. Lewandowski [6], [7] observed that the class $\mathscr{C}_0(0)$ of close-to-convex functions is the same as the class of linearly accessible functions.

Many classes can be defined using the notion of subordination. Recall that for $f, g \in \mathcal{H}$, we write $f \prec g$ and say that f is subordinate to g in U, if and only if there exists an analytic function $w \in \mathcal{H}$ satisfying w(0) = 0 and |w(z)| < 1 such that f(z) = g(w(z)) for $z \in U$. Therefore, $f \prec g$ implies $f(U) \subset g(U)$. In particular, if g is univalent in U, then

$$f \prec g \iff [f(0) = g(0) \text{ and } f(\mathsf{U}) \subset g(\mathsf{U})].$$

The class $\mathscr{G}^*[A, B]$

$$\mathscr{S}^*[A,B] = \left\{ f \in \mathscr{A} : \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \prec \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}, z \in \mathsf{U} \right\}, \quad -1 \le B < A \le 1,$$

was investigated in [4]. For $-1 \le B < A \le 1$ the function w(z) = (1 + Az)/(1 + Bz) maps the unit disc onto a disc in the right half plane, therefore the class $\mathscr{S}^*[A, B]$ is a subclass of \mathscr{S}^* so if $f \in \mathscr{S}^*[A, B]$, then f is univalent in the unit disc.

2. Preliminaries

To prove the main results, we need the following generalization of the Nunokawa Lemmas from [8].

LEMMA 2.1 ([8]). Let $p(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=m}^{\infty} c_n z^n$, $c_m \neq 0$ be an analytic function in U with $p(z) \neq 0$. If there exists a point z_0 , $|z_0| < 1$, such that

$$|\arg\{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2}$$
 for $|z| < |z_0|$

and

$$|\arg\{p(z_0)\}| = \frac{\pi\beta}{2}$$

for some $\beta > 0$, then we have

$$\frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = \frac{2ik \arg\{p(z_0)\}}{\pi},$$

for some $k \ge m(a + a^{-1})/2 > m$, where

$${p(z_0)}^{1/\beta} = \pm ia, \quad and \quad a > 0.$$

LEMMA 2.2. [9]Let $p(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n z^n$ be an analytic function in U. If there exists a point z_0 , $z_0 \in U$, such that

$$\Re\{p(z)\} > c, \quad for \quad |z| < |z_0|$$

and

 $\Re e\{p(z_0)\} = c, \qquad p(z_0) \neq c$

for some $c \in (0, 1)$, then we have

$$\Re e \, \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} \le \gamma(c),$$

where

(3)
$$\gamma(c) = \begin{cases} c/(2c-2) & \text{when } c \in (0, 1/2], \\ (c-1)/(2c) & \text{when } c \in (1/2, 1). \end{cases}$$

3. Main result

THEOREM 3.1. Suppose that a function $f \in \mathcal{A}$ of the form

$$f(z) = z + a_m z^m + a_{m+1} z^{m+1} + \cdots, \qquad a_m \neq 0$$

satisfies the conditions $f'(z) \neq 0$ in U and

(4)
$$\left| \arg \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \tan^{-1} \lambda \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U},$$

where $\lambda > 0$. Then we have

(5)
$$|\arg\{f'(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}$$
 for $z \in U$.

PROOF. First, we note that from (4) it follows that $\Re \{1+zf''(z)/f'(z)\} > 0$ and f is convex univalent in the unit disc, since $f'(z) \neq 0$ and $\arg\{f'(z)\}$ is well defined. If f'(z) = p(z), then

(6)
$$p(z) = 1 + ma_m z^{m-1} + \cdots, \quad p(z) \neq 0, \quad \text{for } z \in U.$$

For this function p, we suppose that there exists a point $z_0 \in U$ such that

$$|\arg\{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}$$
 for $|z| < |z_0|$

and

$$|\arg\{p(z_0)\}| = \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}.$$

By Nunokawa's Lemma 2.1 and by (6), for all $\beta \in (0, 1)$ there exists a real $k \ge (m - 1)(a + a^{-1})/2 > (m - 1)$ such that

$$\frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = \frac{2ik \arg\{p(z_0)\}}{\pi},$$

where

$$\{p(z_0)\}^{(m-1)/\lambda} = \pm ia, \quad \text{and} \quad a > 0.$$

From (6) we get

$$\frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} = \frac{p'(z)}{p(z)}.$$

If $\arg\{p(z_0)\} = \pi \lambda / (2m - 2) > 0$, then we have

$$\arg\left\{1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)}\right\} = \arg\left\{1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)}\right\} = \arg\left\{1 + \frac{2ik \arg\{p(z_0)\}}{\pi}\right\}$$
$$= \arg\left\{1 + \frac{i\lambda k}{m-1}\right\} \ge \arg\{1 + i\lambda\} \ge \tan^{-1}\lambda.$$

This contradicts assumption (4). If $\arg\{p(z_0)\} = -\pi\lambda/(2m-2)$, then applying the same method we get

$$\arg\left\{1+\frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)}\right\} \le -\tan^{-1}\lambda,$$

which also contradicts assumption (4). Thus, there is no $z_0 \in U$ such that

$$|\arg\{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}$$
 for $|z| < |z_0|$

and

$$|\arg\{p(z_0)\}| = \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}.$$

Because $\arg\{p(0)\} = \arg\{1\} = 0$ this implies that

$$|\arg\{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\lambda}{2(m-1)}$$
 for all $z \in U$.

COROLLARY 3.2. Suppose that a function $p \in \mathcal{H}$ of the form

$$p(z) = 1 + c_n z^n + c_{n+1} z^{n+1} + \cdots, \qquad c_n \neq 0$$

satisfies the conditions $p(z) \neq 0$ and

(7)
$$\left| \arg \left\{ 1 + \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} \right\} \right| < \tan^{-1} \lambda \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U},$$

where $\lambda > 0$. Then we have

(8)
$$|\arg\{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\lambda}{2n}$$
 for $z \in U$.

PROOF. Consider a function f, $f(z) = z + \cdots$ such that p(z) = f'(z). Then we have

$$f(z) = z + \frac{c_n}{n+1} z^{n+1} + \cdots, \qquad c_n \neq 0.$$

Moreover, (7) becomes (4). By Theorem 3.1, we then have (8).

THEOREM 3.3. Suppose that a function f of the form

(9)
$$f(z) = z + a_m z^m + a_{m+1} z^{m+1} + \cdots, \quad a_m \neq 0$$

is in the class $\mathscr{SK}(\gamma)$, where $\gamma = \gamma(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{2}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\beta(m-1)}{1-\alpha}$, $\alpha, \beta \in (0, 1)$. Then there exists a function $g \in \mathscr{K}_{1-\alpha} \cap \mathscr{SK}(\gamma)$ such that

(10)
$$\left|\arg\frac{f'(z)}{g'(z)}\right| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U},$$

or $f \in \mathscr{SC}_{1-\alpha}(\beta)$.

PROOF. If $f \in \mathscr{GK}(\gamma)$, then f is univalent and $f'(z) \neq 0$ in the unit disc. Let a function $g \in \mathscr{A}$ be defined by

(11)
$$g'(z) = (f'(z))^{\alpha}$$

This implies that

$$\frac{zg''(z)}{g'(z)} = \alpha \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}.$$

Furthermore, $f \in \mathscr{GK}(\gamma)$ follows that $\Re\{1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)\} > 0$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Re e \left\{ 1 + \frac{zg''(z)}{g'(z)} \right\} &= \Re e \left\{ 1 + \alpha \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \\ &= \Re e \left\{ 1 - \alpha + \alpha \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right\} > 1 - \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

which means that $g \in \mathscr{K}_{1-\alpha}$. Moreover,

$$\left| \arg\left\{ 1 + \frac{zg''(z)}{g'(z)} \right\} \right| = \left| \arg\left\{ 1 + \alpha \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right|$$
$$= \left| \arg\left\{ \frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha} + \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right\} \right|$$
$$< \left| \arg\left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\gamma \pi}{2}.$$

This means that $g \in \mathscr{SK}(\gamma)$, thus $g \in \mathscr{K}_{1-\alpha} \cap \mathscr{SK}(\gamma)$. From assumption $f \in \mathscr{SK}(\alpha)$ we have

From assumption $f \in \mathscr{GK}(\gamma)$ we have

(12)
$$\left| \arg\left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \tan^{-1} \frac{\beta(m-1)}{1-\alpha} \quad \text{for} \quad z \in \mathsf{U},$$

thus by Theorem 3.1 we obtain

(13)
$$|\arg\{f'(z)\}| < \frac{\pi}{2(m-1)} \frac{\beta(m-1)}{1-\alpha} = \frac{\pi\beta}{2(1-\alpha)}$$
 for $z \in U$.

By (13) we have

$$\left| \arg\left\{ \frac{f'(z)}{g'(z)} \right\} \right| = \left| \arg\left\{ \frac{f'(z)}{(f'(z))^{\alpha}} \right\} \right| = (1 - \alpha) |\arg\{f'(z)\}|$$
$$< (1 - \alpha) \frac{\pi\beta}{2(1 - \alpha)} = \frac{\pi\beta}{2},$$

which proves (10).

Condition (10) means that *f* is a strongly close-to-convex function of order β with respect to a function *g* which is convex of order $1 - \alpha$. Moreover, $g \in \mathcal{X}_{1-\alpha} \cap \mathcal{SK}(\gamma)$. We can rewrite Theorem 3.3 in the following form.

COROLLARY 3.4. Assume that $\alpha, \beta \in (0, 1)$ and a function $f(z) = z + a_m z^m + a_{m+1} z^{m+1} + \cdots, a_m \neq 0$ satisfies the condition $f'(z) \neq 0$ in U. Then

$$\left[\left| \arg\left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \tan^{-1}\frac{\beta(m-1)}{1-\alpha} \right] \Longrightarrow \left[\left| \arg\frac{f'(z)}{g'(z)} \right| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \right]$$

for $z \in U$ and for some $g \in \mathscr{H}_{1-\alpha} \cap \mathscr{SH}(\gamma)$, where $\gamma = \gamma(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{2}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\beta(m-1)}{1-\alpha}$.

THEOREM 3.5. Assume that $\alpha \in [1/2, 1)$, $\beta \geq 1$ and $c \in (0, 1)$. Furthermore, let $f \in \mathcal{X}_{\alpha}$ and let a function $g \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfy the conditions

(14)
$$\Re e \, \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \le \frac{\alpha - \gamma(c) + (\beta - 1)\delta(\alpha)}{\beta}, \qquad g(z) \ne 0,$$

for $z \in U \setminus \{0\}$ *, where* $\gamma(c)$ *is given by* (3) *and*

(15)
$$\delta(\alpha) = \begin{cases} (1-2\alpha)/(2^{2-2\alpha}-2) & \text{for } \alpha \neq 1/2, \\ 1/(2\log 2) & \text{for } \alpha = 1/2. \end{cases}$$

Then we have

$$\Re e \frac{zf'(z)}{f^{1-\beta}(z)g^{\beta}(z)} > c \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U}.$$

PROOF. From [17] it follows that if $f \in \mathscr{K}_{\alpha}$, then $f \in \mathscr{S}^*_{\delta(\alpha)}$. Because $\beta \geq 1$, so

(16)
$$\Re e \left\{ (1-\beta) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \le (1-\beta)\delta(\alpha).$$

If f, g satisfy (16) and (14), respectively, then f is univalent in U, $f(z) \neq 0$ and $g(z) \neq 0$ for $z \in U \setminus \{0\}$. If we put

(17)
$$p(z) = f'(z) \left\{ \frac{z}{f(z)} \right\}^{1-\beta} \left\{ \frac{z}{g(z)} \right\}^{\beta} = \frac{zf'(z)}{f^{1-\beta}(z)g^{\beta}(z)},$$

then p is an analytic function in U and p(0) = 1. From (17) we get

(18)
$$1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} = \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} + (1 - \beta)\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \beta\frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)}$$

For this function p, we suppose that there exists a point $z_0 \in U$ such that

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

and

$$\Re e\{p(z_0)\} = c, \qquad p(z_0) \neq c.$$

Hence, Lemma 2.2 gives us

(19)
$$\Re e \, \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} \le \gamma(c),$$

where $\gamma(c)$ is given by (3).

Taking into account (14), (16), (18) and (19), we get

$$\Re e \left\{ 1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right\} = \Re e \left\{ \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} + (1 - \beta) \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} + \beta \frac{z_0 g'(z_0)}{g(z_0)} \right\}$$
$$\leq \gamma(c) + (1 - \beta)\delta(\alpha) + \beta \frac{\alpha - \gamma(c) + (\beta - 1)\delta(\alpha)}{\beta}$$
$$= \alpha,$$

This contradicts the hypothesis that $f \in \mathscr{K}_{\alpha}$. Thus, there is no $z_0 \in U$ such that

 $\Re\{p(z)\} > c$ for $|z| < |z_0|$

and

$$\Re e\{p(z_0)\} = c, \qquad p(z_0) \neq c.$$

Because p(0) = 1 > c, this implies that $\Re e\{p(z)\} > c$ in the unit disc, which completes the proof.

For $\beta = 1$, Theorem 3.5 gives us the following corollary.

COROLLARY 3.6. Assume that $\alpha \in [1/2, 1)$. Moreover, let $f \in \mathcal{K}_{\alpha}$ and let a function $g \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfy the conditions

$$\Re e \, \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \leq \alpha - \gamma(c), \quad g(z) \neq 0, \qquad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U} \setminus \{0\},$$

where $\gamma(c)$ is given by (3) and $c \in (0, 1)$ is such that $\alpha - \gamma(c) > 1$. Then we have zf'(z)

$$\Re e \, \frac{z f(z)}{g(z)} > c \qquad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U}.$$

REMARK 3.7. If $\beta > 1$, α and f satisfy the conditions of Theorem 3.5, then f is a Bazilevič function of order $c, c \in (0, 1)$, see [14, p. 353].

If $g \in \mathscr{G}^*[A, B]$, then

$$\frac{1+A}{1+B} \le \mathfrak{Re} \ \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \le \frac{1-A}{1-B}$$

Therefore, applying the same method as in the proof of Theorem 3.5, we obtain the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.8. Suppose that $\alpha \in [1/2, 1)$, $\beta > 1$ and $c \in (0, 1)$. Assume also that $f \in \mathcal{X}_{\alpha}$ and that $g \in \mathcal{S}^*[A, B]$ with

$$\frac{1-A}{1-B} \le \frac{\alpha - \gamma(c) + (\beta - 1)\delta(\alpha)}{\beta},$$

where $\gamma(c)$ and $\delta(\alpha)$ are given by (3) and (15), respectively. Then we have

$$\Re e \frac{zf'(z)}{f^{1-\beta}(z)g^{\beta}(z)} > c \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U}.$$

REMARK 3.9. If f satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.8, then f is a Bazilevič function.

If we take that $\alpha = 3/4$, $\beta = 5/4$ and c = 1/2, then $\gamma(1/2) = -1/2$, $\delta(3/4) = (2+\sqrt{2})/4$, therefore Theorem 3.5 becomes the following corollary.

COROLLARY 3.10. Suppose that $f \in \mathscr{K}_{3/4}$ and that for $g \in \mathscr{A}$ we have

$$\Re e \, \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \le \frac{22 + \sqrt{2}}{20} = 1.17 \dots, \quad g(z) \ne 0, \qquad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U} \setminus \{0\}.$$

Then we get

$$\Re e \frac{zf'(z)\sqrt[4]{f(z)}}{g(z)\sqrt[4]{g(z)}} > \frac{1}{2} \quad for \quad z \in \mathsf{U}.$$

If $g \in \mathscr{G}^*(q_c), c \in (0, 1]$, where the class

$$\mathscr{S}^*(q_c) = \left\{ g \in \mathscr{A} : \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \prec q_c(z), g(z) \neq 0, z \in \mathsf{U} \setminus \{0\} \right\},\$$

 $q_c(z) = \sqrt{1+cz}$, was introduced in [1], then $\Re \left\{ \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \right\} < \sqrt{1+c}$. Therefore, if

$$c < \frac{43 + 22\sqrt{2}}{200} = 0.37\dots,$$

then Corollary 3.10 becomes

$$\left[f \in \mathscr{K}_{3/4} \text{ and } g \in \mathscr{S}^*(q_c)\right] \implies \left[\mathfrak{Re} \ \frac{zf'(z)\sqrt[4]{f(z)}}{g(z)\sqrt[4]{g(z)}} > \frac{1}{2}\right].$$

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