ON THE STRONGLY STARLIKENESS OF MULTIVALENTLY
CONVEX FUNCTIONS OF ORDER \( \alpha \)

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ABSTRACT. The object of the present paper is to derive some sufficient conditions for
strongly starlikeness of multivalently convex functions of order \( \alpha \) in the open unit disc.
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1. Introduction. Let \( \mathcal{A}(p) \) denote the class of the functions \( f(z) = z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} a_n z^n \)
which are analytic in the open unit disc \( \mathcal{E} = \{ z : |z| < 1 \} \). A function \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p) \) is
called \( p \)-valently starlike if and only if the inequality
\[
\text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > 0
\]
holds for \( z \in \mathcal{E} \). A function \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p) \) is called \( p \)-valently convex of order \( \alpha \) \( (0 \leq \alpha < p) \) if and only if the inequality
\[
1 + \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > \alpha
\]
holds for \( z \in \mathcal{E} \). We denote by \( \mathcal{S}(p, \alpha) \) the family of such functions. A function \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p) \) is said to be strongly starlike of order \( \alpha \) \( (0 < \alpha \leq 1) \) if and only if the inequality
\[
\left| \arg \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \alpha
\]
holds for \( z \in \mathcal{E} \). We also denote by \( \text{STS}(p, \alpha) \) the family of functions which satisfy
the above inequality for the argument. From the definition, it follows that if \( f(z) \in \text{STS}(p, \alpha) \), then we have
\[
\text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad \text{in} \quad \mathcal{E}
\]
or \( f(z) \) is \( p \)-valently starlike in \( \mathcal{E} \) and therefore \( f(z) \) is \( p \)-valent in \( \mathcal{E} \) (see [1, Lemma 7]).
Nunokawa [2, 3] proved the following theorems.

Theorem 1.1 (see [2]). If \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p) \) satisfies
\[
1 + \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} < p + \frac{\alpha}{2},
\]
where \( 0 < \alpha \leq 1 \), then \( f(z) \in \text{STS}(p, \alpha) \).
**Theorem 1.2** (see [3]). If \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1) \) satisfies

\[
\left| \arg \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \alpha(\beta) \quad \text{in} \ \mathcal{E},
\]

then

\[
\left| \arg \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \quad \text{in} \ \mathcal{E},
\]

where

\[
\alpha(\beta) = \beta + \frac{2}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\beta q(\beta) \sin(\pi/2)(1-\beta)}{p(\beta) + \beta q(\beta) \cos(\pi/2)(1-\beta)} \right\},
\]

\[
p(\beta) = (1+\beta)^{(1+\beta)/2}, \quad q(\beta) = (1-\beta)^{(\beta-1)/2}.
\]

It is the purpose of the present paper to prove that if \( f(z) \in \mathcal{E}(1, 1-(\alpha/2)) \), then \( f(z) \in \text{STS}(1, \alpha) \).

In this paper, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.3.** Let \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1) \) be starlike with respect to the origin in \( \mathcal{E} \). Let \( C(r, \theta) = \{f(te^{i\theta}) : 0 \leq t \leq r < 1\} \) and \( T(r, \theta) \) be the total variation of \( \arg f(te^{i\theta}) \) on \( C(r, \theta) \), so that

\[
T(r, \theta) = \int_0^r \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \arg \{f(te^{i\theta})\} \right| dt.
\]

Then

\[
T(r, \theta) < \pi.
\]

We owe this lemma to Sheil-Small [6, Theorem 1].

**2. Main theorem.** Our main theorem for the starlikeness of multivalently convex functions of order \( \alpha \) is the following.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let \( f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1) \) and

\[
1 + \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad \text{in} \ \mathcal{E},
\]

where \( 0 < \alpha \leq 1 \). Then

\[
\left| \arg \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \alpha \quad \text{in} \ \mathcal{E},
\]

or \( f(z) \) is strongly starlike of order \( \alpha \) in \( \mathcal{E} \).

**Proof.** We put

\[
\frac{2}{\alpha} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} - 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \right\} = \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)},
\]
where \( g(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} b_n z^n \). From assumption (2.1), we have
\[
\text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zg'(z)}{g(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{E}.
\] (2.4)
This shows that \( g(z) \) is starlike and univalent in \( \mathcal{E} \). With an easy calculation (cf. [4]), (2.3) gives us that
\[
f'(z) = \left\{ \frac{g(z)}{z} \right\}^{\alpha/2}.
\] (2.5)
Since
\[
f'(z) \neq 0, \quad 0 < |z| < 1,
\] (2.6)
we easily have
\[
\frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} = \int_0^1 \frac{f'(tz)}{f'(z)} \, dt = \int_0^1 t^{-\alpha/2} \left\{ \frac{g(trei\theta)}{g(rei\theta)} \right\}^{\alpha/2} \, dt,
\] (2.7)
where \( z = re^{i\theta} \) and \( 0 < r < 1 \). Since \( g(z) \) is starlike in \( \mathcal{E} \), from Lemma 1.3, we have
\[
-\pi < \arg \left\{ \frac{g(trei\theta)}{g(rei\theta)} \right\} - \arg \left\{ g(rei\theta) \right\} < \pi
\] for \( 0 < t \leq 1 \). Putting
\[
\xi = \left\{ \frac{g(trei\theta)}{g(rei\theta)} \right\}^{\alpha/2},
\] (2.9)
we have
\[
\arg s = \frac{\alpha}{2} \arg \left\{ \frac{g(trei\theta)}{g(rei\theta)} \right\}.
\] (2.10)
From (2.8) and (2.10), \( s \) lies in the convex sector
\[
\left\{ s : |\arg s| \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\alpha}{2} \right\}
\] (2.11)
and the same is true of its integral mean of (2.7), (cf. [5, Lemma 1]). Therefore, we have
\[
\left| \arg \left\{ \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{E}
\] (2.12)
or
\[
\left| \arg \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{E}.
\] (2.13)
This shows that
\[
\text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{E},
\] (2.14)
which completes the proof of our main theorem. \( \Box \)
**Remark 2.2.** This result is sharp for the case $\alpha \to 0$ and $\alpha = 1$.

(a) For the case $\alpha \to 0$, put $f(z) = z$, then $f(z)$ is a convex function of order $1 - (\alpha/2) - 1$ and $f'(z)$ then $f(z)$ is a strongly starlike function of order $\alpha \to 0$.

(b) For the case $\alpha = 1$, put

$$1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} = \frac{1}{1-z}. \quad (2.15)$$

Then we have

$$1 + \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{in } \mathbb{C}, \quad (2.16)$$

and therefore $f(z)$ is a convex function of order $1/2$. From (2.10), we easily have

$$f''(z) = \frac{1}{1-z}, \quad f(z) = \log \left\{ \frac{1}{1-z} \right\}. \quad (2.17)$$

Putting $|z| = 1$, $z = e^{i\theta}$, $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$, then it follows that

$$\lim_{\theta \to 0} \arg \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} = \lim_{\theta \to 0} \arg \left\{ \frac{z/(1-z)}{\log(1/(1-z))} \right\}$$

$$= \lim_{\theta \to 0} \arg \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i\cos(\theta/2)}{2\sin(\theta/2)} \right\} + \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

The above shows that the main theorem is sharp for the case $\alpha \to 0$ and $\alpha = 1$.

Applying the same method as above and [2], we can obtain the following result.

**Theorem 2.3.** If $f(z) \in A(p)$ and satisfies

$$p - \frac{\alpha}{2} < 1 + \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \quad \text{in } \mathbb{C}, \quad (2.19)$$

where $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, then $f(z) \in \text{STS}(p, \alpha)$.

**References**


ON THE STRONGLY STARLIKENESS …


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