

## Research Article

# Subordination and Superordination Results for a Class of Analytic Multivalent Functions

S. P. Goyal,<sup>1</sup> Pranay Goswami,<sup>1</sup> and H. Silverman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur 302004, India

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424, USA

Correspondence should be addressed to H. Silverman, silvermanh@cofc.edu

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We derive subordination and superordination results for a family of normalized analytic functions in the open unit disk defined by integral operators. We apply this to obtain sandwich results and generalizations of some known results.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote the class of analytic functions in the unit disk  $\Delta := \{z : |z| < 1\}$ , and let  $\mathcal{A}[a, p]$  be the subclass of  $\mathcal{A}$  of the form

$$f(z) = a + a_p z^p + a_{p+1} z^{p+1} + \dots, \quad p \in N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}. \quad (1.1)$$

Let  $\mathcal{A}(p)$  be the subclass of  $\mathcal{A}$  of the form

$$f(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad p \in N. \quad (1.2)$$

If  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic and there exists a Schwarz function  $w(z)$ , analytic in  $\Delta$  with

$$w(0) = 0, \quad |w(z)| < 1, \quad z \in \Delta, \quad (1.3)$$

such that  $f(z) = g(w(z))$ , then the function  $f$  is called *subordinate* to  $g$  and is denoted by

$$f < g \quad \text{or} \quad f(z) < g(z), \quad z \in \Delta. \quad (1.4)$$

In particular, if the function  $g$  is univalent in  $\Delta$ , the above subordination is equivalent to

$$f(0) = g(0), \quad f(\Delta) \subset g(\Delta). \quad (1.5)$$

Suppose  $h$  and  $k$  are analytic functions in  $\Delta$  and  $\phi(r, s, t; z) : C^3 \times \Delta \rightarrow C$ . If  $h$  and  $\phi(h(z), zh'(z), z^2h''(z); z)$  are univalent and if  $h$  satisfies the second-order superordination

$$k(z) \prec \phi(h(z), zh'(z), z^2h''(z); z), \quad (1.6)$$

then  $h$  is a solution of the differential superordination (1.6). Note that if  $f$  is subordinate to  $g$ , then  $g$  is superordinate to  $f$ . An analytic function  $q$  is called *subordinant* if  $q \prec h$  for all  $h$  satisfying (1.6). A univalent subordinant  $\tilde{q}$  that satisfies  $q \prec \tilde{q}$  for all subordinants  $q$  of (1.6) is said to be the *best subordinant*. Miller and Mocanu [1] have obtained conditions on  $k$ ,  $q$ , and  $\phi$  for which the following implication holds:

$$k(z) \prec \phi(h(z), zh'(z), z^2h''(z); z) \implies q(z) \prec h(z). \quad (1.7)$$

Ali et al. [2] have obtained sufficient conditions for certain normalized analytic functions  $f(z)$  to satisfy

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \prec q_2(z), \quad (1.8)$$

where  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are given univalent functions in  $\Delta$  with  $q_1(0) = 1$  and  $q_2(0) = 1$ .

Recently, Shanmugam et al. [3, 4] have also obtained sandwich results for certain classes of analytic functions. Further subordination results can be found in [5–8].

## 2. Definitions and Preliminaries

*Definition 2.1.* For  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ , Shams et al. [9] defined the following integral operator:

$$\mathcal{J}^\sigma f(z) = \frac{(p+1)^\sigma}{z\Gamma(\sigma)} \int_0^z \left(\log \frac{z}{t}\right)^{\sigma-1} f(t) dt \quad (2.1)$$

$$= z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p+1}{n+1}\right)^\sigma a_n z^n, \quad \sigma > 0. \quad (2.2)$$

For the operator, one easily gets

$$z[\mathcal{J}^\sigma f(z)]' = (p+1)\mathcal{J}^{\sigma-1} f(z) - \mathcal{J}^\sigma f(z). \quad (2.3)$$

Also for  $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ , Shams et al. [9] defined a class  $\Omega_p^\sigma(A, B; \lambda)$  of functions  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ , so that

$$\frac{\lambda}{p} \left(\frac{\mathcal{J}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p}\right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p} \left(\frac{\mathcal{J}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right) \prec \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}. \quad (2.4)$$

The family  $\Omega_p^\sigma(A; B; \lambda)$  is a general family containing various new and known classes of analytic functions (see, e.g., [10, 11]).

*Definition 2.2* (see [1]). Denote by  $Q$  the set of all functions  $f(z)$  that are analytic and injective on  $\overline{\Delta} - E(f)$ , where

$$E(f) = \left\{ \zeta \in \partial\Delta : \lim_{z \rightarrow \zeta} f(z) = \infty \right\}, \quad (2.5)$$

and are such that  $f'(\zeta) \neq 0$  for  $\zeta \in \partial\Delta - E(f)$ .

We will require certain results due to Miller and Mocanu [1, 12], Bulboacă [13], and Shanmugam et al. [4] contained in the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.3** (see [12]). Let  $q(z)$  be univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and let  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  be analytic in the domain  $D$  containing  $q(\Delta)$  with  $\phi(w) \neq 0$  when  $w \in q(\Delta)$ . Set  $Q(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z))$ ,  $h(z) = \theta(q(z)) + Q(z)$ . Suppose that

- (i)  $Q(z)$  is starlike univalent in  $\Delta$ ;
- (ii)  $\operatorname{Re}(zh'(z)/Q(z)) > 0$  for  $z \in \Delta$ .

If  $p(z)$  is analytic in  $\Delta$ , with  $p(0) = q(0)$ ,  $p(\Delta) \in D$ , and

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < \theta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\phi(q(z)), \quad (2.6)$$

then  $p(z) < q(z)$  and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

**Lemma 2.4** (see [4]). Let  $q(z)$  be a convex univalent function in  $\Delta$  and  $\psi, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(1 + (zq''(z)/q'(z))) > \max\{0, -\operatorname{Re}(\psi/\gamma)\}$ . If  $p(z)$  is analytic in  $\Delta$  and

$$\psi p(z) + \gamma zp'(z) < \psi q(z) + \gamma zq'(z), \quad (2.7)$$

then  $p(z) < q(z)$  and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

**Lemma 2.5** (see [12]). Let  $q(z)$  be univalent in  $\Delta$ , and let  $\phi(z)$  be analytic in a domain containing  $q(\Delta)$ . If  $zq'(z)/\phi(q(z))$  is starlike and

$$zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < zq'(z)\phi(q(z)), \quad (2.8)$$

then  $p(z) < q(z)$  and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

**Lemma 2.6** (see [13]). Let  $q(z)$  be convex univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and let  $\vartheta$  and  $\varphi$  be analytic in a domain  $D$  containing  $q(\Delta)$ . Suppose that

- (i)  $\operatorname{Re}[\vartheta'(q(z))/\varphi(q(z))] > 0$  for  $z \in \Delta$ ;
- (ii)  $zq'(z)\varphi(q(z))$  is starlike univalent in  $z \in \Delta$ .

If  $p(z) \in \mathcal{A}[q(0), 1] \cap Q$ , with  $p(\Delta) \subseteq D$ , and if  $\vartheta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z))$  is univalent in  $\Delta$  and

$$\vartheta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\varphi(q(z)) < \vartheta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\varphi(p(z)), \quad (2.9)$$

then  $q(z) < p(z)$  and  $q(z)$  is the best subdominant.

**Lemma 2.7** (see [1]). Let  $q(z)$  be convex univalent in  $\Delta$  and  $\gamma \in \mathbb{C}$ . Further assume that  $\operatorname{Re}(\gamma) > 0$ . If  $p(z) \in \mathcal{A}[q(0), 1] \cap Q$  and  $p(z) + \gamma zp'(z)$  is univalent in  $\Delta$ , then

$$q(z) + \gamma zq'(z) < p(z) + \gamma zp'(z), \quad (2.10)$$

which implies that  $q(z) < p(z)$  and  $q(z)$  is the best subdominant.

The main object of this paper is to apply a method based on the differential subordination in order to derive several subordination results.

### 3. Subordination for analytic functions

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $q(z)$  be univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , and

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)}\right) > \max\left\{0, -\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{p(p+1)}{\lambda}\right)\right\}, \quad \lambda \neq 0 \ (p \in \mathbb{N}). \quad (3.1)$$

If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$  satisfies the subordination

$$\frac{\lambda}{p}\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1}f(z)}{z^p}\right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p}\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right) < q(z) + \frac{\lambda zq'(z)}{p(p+1)}, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)$  is defined by (2.1), then

$$\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right) < q(z) \quad (3.3)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

*Proof.* Consider

$$h(z) := \left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right). \quad (3.4)$$

Differentiating (3.4) with respect to  $z$  logarithmically, we get

$$\frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)} = \frac{z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p. \quad (3.5)$$

Now, in view of (2.3), we obtain from (3.5) the following subordination:

$$h(z) + \frac{\lambda zh'(z)}{p(p+1)} < q(z) + \frac{\lambda zq'(z)}{p(p+1)}. \quad (3.6)$$

An application of Lemma 2.4, with  $\gamma = \lambda/p(p+1)$  and  $\psi = 1$ , leads to (3.3).  $\square$

Taking  $q(z) = (1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$  in Theorem 3.1, we arrive at the following.

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$  and  $\operatorname{Re}((1 - Bz)/(1 + Bz)) > \max\{0, -\operatorname{Re}(p(p+1)/\lambda)\}$  ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ),  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$  and

$$\frac{\lambda}{p}\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1}f(z)}{z^p}\right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p}\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right) < \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} + \frac{\lambda}{p(p+1)} \frac{(A-B)z}{(1 + Bz)^2}, \quad (3.7)$$

then

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} < \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} \quad (3.8)$$

and  $(1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$  is the best dominant.

Putting  $p = 1$  and  $q(z) = (1+z)/(1-z)$  in Theorem 3.1, we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $\operatorname{Re}((1+z)/(1-z)) > \max\{0, -\operatorname{Re}(2/\lambda)\}$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{A}(1)$  and*

$$\frac{\lambda \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z} + \frac{(1-\lambda) \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{z} < \frac{1+z}{1-z} + \frac{\lambda z}{(1-z)^2}, \quad (3.9)$$

then

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{z} < \frac{1+z}{1-z} \quad (3.10)$$

and  $(1+z)/(1-z)$  is the best dominant.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $q(z)$  be univalent in  $\Delta$  and  $0 \neq \gamma, \mu \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$  and suppose that  $q$  satisfies*

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{z q''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)} \right\} > 0. \quad (3.11)$$

If

$$1 + \gamma \mu \left[ \frac{\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)} - p \right] < 1 + \gamma \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)}, \quad (3.12)$$

then

$$\left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^{\mu} < q(z), \quad (3.13)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

*Proof.* Let us consider a function  $h(z)$  defined by

$$h(z) := \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^{\mu}, \quad \mu \neq 0, \alpha + \beta \neq 0. \quad (3.14)$$

Now, differentiating (3.14) logarithmically, we get

$$\frac{z h'(z)}{h(z)} = \mu \left[ \frac{\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)} - p \right]. \quad (3.15)$$

By setting

$$\theta(w) = 1, \quad \phi(w) = \frac{\gamma}{w}, \quad (3.16)$$

it can be easily observed that  $\theta(w)$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{C}$  and that  $\phi(w) \neq 0$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{C}/\{0\}$ . Also, we let

$$Q(z) = z q'(z) \phi(q(z)) = \gamma \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)}, \quad (3.17)$$

$$p(z) = \theta(q(z)) + Q(z) = 1 + \gamma \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)}. \quad (3.18)$$

From (3.11) we see that  $Q(z)$  is starlike univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and from (3.18) we get

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{zp'(z)}{Q(z)}\right) = \operatorname{Re}\left\{1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}\right\} > 0. \quad (3.19)$$

An application of Lemma 2.3 to (3.12) yields the result.  $\square$

Putting  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ , and  $q(z) = (1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$  in Theorem 3.4, we obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.5.** *If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$  and for  $-1 \leq A < B \leq 1$ ,  $\mu \neq 0$ ,*

$$1 + \mu \left[ \frac{z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right] < 1 + \frac{(A - B)z}{(1 + Az)(1 + Bz)}, \quad (3.20)$$

then

$$\left[ \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\mu < \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} \quad (3.21)$$

and  $(1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$  is the best dominant.

By setting  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\sigma = 0$ ,  $p = 1$ , and  $q(z) = (1 + Bz)^{\mu(A-B)/B}$  in Theorem 3.4, we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.6.** *Suppose  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1)$  and let  $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$  and  $B \neq 0$ . If*

$$1 + \mu \left[ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right] < \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz}, \quad (3.22)$$

then

$$\left[ \frac{f(z)}{z} \right]^\mu < (1 + Bz)^{\mu(A-B)/B} \quad (3.23)$$

and  $(1 + Bz)^{\mu(A-B)/B}$  is the best dominant.

**Remark 3.7.**  $q(z) = (1 + Bz)^{\mu(A-B)/B}$  is univalent if and only if  $|(\mu(A - B)/B) - 1| \leq 1$  or  $|(\mu(A - B)/B) + 1| \leq 1$  (see [5]).

Again by setting  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\mu = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\gamma = 1/b$ ,  $p = 1$ , and  $\sigma = 0$ , and by  $q(z) = 1/(1 - z)^{2b}$  ( $b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ ) in Theorem 3.4, we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.8.** *Suppose  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1)$  and  $b$  is a nonzero complex number for which*

$$1 + \frac{1}{b} \left[ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right] < \frac{1 + z}{1 - z}. \quad (3.24)$$

Then,

$$\frac{f(z)}{z} < \frac{1}{(1 - z)^{2b}} \quad (3.25)$$

and  $1/(1 - z)^{2b}$  is the best dominant.

The result contained in Corollary 3.8 was earlier given by Srivastava and Lashin [7].

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $q$  be univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and let  $\mu, \gamma \neq 0, \eta, \delta, \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{C}$ , and  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ . Suppose that  $q$  satisfies*

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} \right\} > \max \left\{ 0, -\operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\eta}{\gamma} \right) \right\}. \quad (3.26)$$

Let

$$\psi(z) = \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^{\mu} \left\{ \eta + \gamma \mu \left( \frac{\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)} - p \right) \right\} + \delta. \quad (3.27)$$

If

$$\psi(z) < \eta q(z) + \delta + \gamma z q'(z), \quad (3.28)$$

then

$$\left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^{\mu} < q(z), \quad \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \quad (3.29)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best dominant.

*Proof.* Define a function  $h(z)$  by

$$h(z) := \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^{\mu}. \quad (3.30)$$

Then, a computation shows that

$$\frac{zh'(z)}{h(z)} = \mu \left\{ \frac{\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)} - p \right\} \quad (3.31)$$

and hence

$$zh'(z) = \mu h(z) \left( \frac{z [\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + z \beta [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^{\sigma} f(z)} - p \right). \quad (3.32)$$

Set

$$\theta(w) = \eta w + \delta, \quad \phi(w) = \gamma, \quad (3.33)$$

and let

$$Q(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z)) = \gamma zq'(z), \quad (3.34)$$

$$p(z) = \theta(q(z)) + Q(z) = \eta q(z) + \delta + \gamma zq'(z).$$

From (3.26), we see that  $Q(z)$  is starlike in  $\Delta$  and that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zp'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{\eta}{\gamma} + 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} \right\} > 0, \quad (3.35)$$

by the hypothesis (3.26) of Theorem 3.9. Thus, applying Lemma 2.3, the proof of Theorem 3.9 is completed.  $\square$

By setting  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ , and  $q(z) = (1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$ , we obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.10.** Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\eta) > 0$ . Suppose that

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{1 - Bz}{1 + Bz}\right\} > \max\{0, -\operatorname{Re}(\eta)\}. \quad (3.36)$$

If

$$\left[\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right]^\mu \left\{ \eta + \mu \left( \frac{z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right) \right\} + \delta < \eta \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} + \delta + z \frac{(A - B)}{(1 + Bz)^2}, \quad (3.37)$$

then

$$\left[\frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}\right]^\mu < \frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} \quad (3.38)$$

and  $(1 + Az)/(1 + Bz)$  is the best dominant.

Again by setting  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $p = 1$ , and  $\sigma = 0$ , and by  $q(z) = (1 + z)/(1 - z)$ , we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.11.** Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(1)$  and

$$\left[\frac{f(z)}{z}\right]^\mu \left\{ \eta + \mu \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right) \right\} + \delta < \eta \frac{1 + z}{1 - z} + \delta + \frac{2z}{(1 - z)^2}, \quad (3.39)$$

then

$$\left[\frac{f(z)}{z}\right]^\mu < \frac{1 + z}{1 - z} \quad (3.40)$$

and  $(1 + z)/(1 - z)$  is the best dominant.

#### 4. Superordination for analytic functions

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $q$  be convex univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose  $\lambda$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}\{\lambda\} > 0$  and  $\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)/z^p \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap \mathcal{Q}$ . Suppose that

$$\frac{\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} \right) + \frac{p - \lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right) \quad (4.1)$$

is univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ . If

$$q(z) + \frac{\lambda z q'(z)}{p(p+1)} < \frac{\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} \right) + \frac{p - \lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right), \quad (4.2)$$

then

$$q(z) < \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \quad (4.3)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best subordinant.



*Proof.* Let

$$p(z) = \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p}, \quad z \neq 0. \quad (4.4)$$

Differentiating logarithmically, we get

$$\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} = \frac{z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p. \quad (4.5)$$

After some computation, we get

$$p(z) + \frac{\lambda zp'(z)}{p(p+1)} = \frac{\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} \right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right). \quad (4.6)$$

Now, using Lemma 2.7, we get the desired result (4.3).  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** Let  $q$  be convex univalent in  $\Delta$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose  $\lambda$  satisfies  $R\{\lambda\} > 0$  and  $\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)/z^p \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap Q$ . Let

$$\frac{\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} \right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right) \quad (4.7)$$

be univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ . If

$$\frac{\lambda(A-B)z}{p(p+1)(1+Bz)^2} + \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz} < \frac{\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} \right) + \frac{p-\lambda}{p} \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right), \quad (4.8)$$

then

$$\frac{1+Az}{1+Bz} < \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \quad (4.9)$$

and  $(1+Az)/(1+Bz)$  is the best subordinator.

Since the proofs of Theorems 4.3 and 4.4 are similar to the proofs of the previous theorems, we only give statements of these theorems without proofs.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $q(z)$  be convex univalent in  $\Delta$ , and  $0 \neq \gamma, \mu \in \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$ . Let  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ . Suppose that  $[(\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z))/(\alpha + \beta)z^p]^\mu \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap Q$ , and

$$1 + \gamma\mu \left[ \frac{\alpha z[\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right] \quad (4.10)$$

is univalent in  $\Delta$ . If

$$1 + \gamma \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} < 1 + \gamma\mu \left[ \frac{\alpha z[\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z[\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right], \quad (4.11)$$

then

$$q(z) < \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^\mu \quad (4.12)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best subordinator.

**Theorem 4.4.** Let  $q$  be convex univalent in the unit disk  $\Delta$ , and let  $\gamma \neq 0 \in \mathbb{C}, \eta, \delta, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$ , and  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)/z^p \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap \mathcal{Q}$ , and

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{\eta q'(z)}{\gamma} \right\} > 0. \quad (4.13)$$

If

$$\eta q(z) + \delta + \gamma z q'(z) < \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^\mu \left\{ \eta + \gamma \mu \left( \frac{z \alpha [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + z \beta [\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right) \right\} + \delta, \quad (4.14)$$

then

$$q(z) < \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^\mu \quad (4.15)$$

and  $q(z)$  is the best subdominant.

### 5. Sandwich results

Combining results of differential subordinations and superordinations, we arrive at the following "sandwich results."

**Theorem 5.1.** Let  $q_1(z)$  be convex univalent, and let  $q_2(z)$  be univalent in  $\Delta$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose  $q_1$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}\{\lambda\} > 0$  and  $q_2$  satisfies (3.1). If  $\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)/z^p \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap \mathcal{Q}$  and

$$\left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^\mu, \quad \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \quad (5.1)$$

is univalent in  $\Delta$ , and if

$$q_1(z) + \frac{\lambda z q_1'(z)}{p(p+1)} < \frac{\lambda \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)}{z^p} + \frac{(p-\lambda) \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} < q_2(z) + \frac{\lambda z q_2'(z)}{p(p+1)}, \quad (5.2)$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \left( \frac{\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{z^p} \right) < q_2(z) \quad (5.3)$$

and  $q_1(z)$  and  $q_2(z)$  are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant.

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $q_1(z)$  be convex univalent, and let  $q_2(z)$  be univalent in  $\Delta$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that  $q_2$  satisfies (3.11). Further suppose that  $[(\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z))/(\alpha + \beta) z^p]^\mu \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap \mathcal{Q}$  and  $1 + \gamma \mu [(\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]') / (\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)) - p]$  is univalent in  $\Delta$ .

If

$$1 + \gamma \frac{z q_1'(z)}{q_1(z)} < 1 + \gamma \mu \left[ \frac{\alpha z [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + \beta z [\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right] < 1 + \gamma \frac{z q_2'(z)}{q_2(z)}, \quad (5.4)$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta) z^p} \right]^\mu < q_2(z), \quad \alpha + \beta \neq 0, \quad (5.5)$$

and  $q_1(z)$  and  $q_2(z)$  are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant.

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $q_1(z)$  be convex univalent, and let  $q_2(z)$  be univalent in  $\Delta$ , and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that  $q_1(z)$  satisfies (4.13) and  $q_2(z)$  satisfies (3.28). Further suppose that  $[(\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z))/(\alpha + \beta)z^p]^\mu \in \mathcal{H}(q(0), 1) \cap \mathcal{Q}$  with  $\alpha + \beta \neq 0$ , and that

$$\left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^\mu \left\{ \eta + \gamma \mu \left( \frac{z\alpha [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + z\beta [\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right) \right\} + \delta \quad (5.6)$$

is univalent in  $\Delta$ . If

$$\begin{aligned} \eta q_1(z) + \delta + \gamma z q_1'(z) &< \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^\mu \left\{ \eta + \gamma \mu \left( \frac{z\alpha [\mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z)]' + z\beta [\mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)]'}{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)} - p \right) \right\} + \delta \\ &< \eta q_2(z) + \delta + \gamma z q_2'(z), \end{aligned} \quad (5.7)$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \left[ \frac{\alpha \mathcal{D}^{\sigma-1} f(z) + \beta \mathcal{D}^\sigma f(z)}{(\alpha + \beta)z^p} \right]^\mu < q_2(z) \quad (5.8)$$

and  $q_1(z)$  and  $q_2(z)$  are, respectively, the best subordinant and the best dominant.

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