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## Strongly gamma-starlike functions of order alpha

ABSTRACT. In this work we consider the class of analytic functions  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma)$ , which is a subset of gamma-starlike functions introduced by Lewandowski, Miller and Złotkiewicz in *Gamma starlike functions*, Ann. Univ. Mariae Curie-Skłodowska, Sect. A **28** (1974), 53–58. We discuss the order of strongly starlikeness and the order of strongly convexity in this subclass.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the class of analytic functions in the unit disc  $\mathbb{D} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$  on the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote by

$$\mathcal{H}[a, n] = \{f \in \mathcal{H} : f(z) = a + a_n z^n + \dots\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{A}_n = \{f \in \mathcal{H} : f(z) = z + a_{n+1} z^{n+1} + \dots\},$$

so  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_1$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the subclass of  $\mathcal{A}$  whose members are univalent in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

The class  $\mathcal{S}_\alpha^*$  of starlike functions of order  $\alpha < 1$  may be defined as

$$\mathcal{S}_\alpha^* = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \Re \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} > \alpha, z \in \mathbb{D} \right\}.$$

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The class  $\mathcal{S}_\alpha^*$  and the class  $\mathcal{K}_\alpha$  of convex functions of order  $\alpha < 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{K}_\alpha &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \Re \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) > \alpha, z \in \mathbb{D} \right\} \\ &= \{ f \in \mathcal{A} : zf' \in \mathcal{S}_\alpha^* \}\end{aligned}$$

were introduced by Robertson in [6], see also [2]. 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 denote  $\mathcal{S}_0^* = \mathcal{S}^*$ ,  $\mathcal{K}_0 = \mathcal{K}$ , the classes of starlike and convex functions, respectively. Furthermore, note that if  $f \in \mathcal{K}_\alpha$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{S}_{\delta(\alpha)}^*$ , see [9], where

$$(1.1) \quad \delta(\alpha) = \begin{cases} \frac{1-2\alpha}{2^{2-2\alpha}-2} & \text{for } \alpha \neq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \frac{1}{2\log 2} & \text{for } \alpha = \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mathcal{SS}^*(\beta)$  denote the class of strongly starlike functions of order  $\beta$ ,  $0 < \beta < 2$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad \mathcal{SS}^*(\beta) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \left| \text{Arg} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \frac{\beta\pi}{2}, z \in \mathbb{D} \right\},$$

which was introduced in [8] and [1]. Furthermore,

$$\mathcal{SK}(\beta) = \{ f \in \mathcal{A} : zf' \in \mathcal{SS}^*(\beta) \}$$

denotes the class of strongly convex functions of order  $\beta$ . Analogously to (1.1), in the work [5] it was proved that if  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  and  $f \in \mathcal{SK}(\alpha(\beta))$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{SS}(\beta)$ , where

$$(1.3) \quad \alpha(\beta) = \beta + \frac{2}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\beta n(\beta) \sin(\pi(1-\beta)/2)}{m(\beta) + \beta n(\beta) \cos(\pi(1-\beta)/2)} \right),$$

and where

$$m(\beta) = (1+\beta)^{(1+\beta)/2}, \quad n(\beta) = (1-\beta)^{(\beta-1)/2}.$$

The class  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma)$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  of  $\gamma$ -strongly starlike functions of order  $\alpha$  consists of functions  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfying

$$(1.4) \quad \left| \text{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D},$$

and such that

$$(1.5) \quad f(z)f'(z) \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \neq 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{D} \setminus \{0\}.$$

Note that Lewandowski, Miller and Złotkiewicz, 1974 [3] have introduced the class of  $\gamma$ -starlike functions, denoted here by  $\mathcal{G}(1, \gamma)$ , which satisfy (1.5) and such that

$$(1.6) \quad \Re \left\{ \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} > 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{D}.$$

**2. Preliminaries.** To prove the main results, we need the following Nunokawa's Lemma.

**Lemma 2.1** ([4], [5]). *Let  $p$  be an analytic function in  $|z| < 1$  with  $p(0) = 1$ ,  $p(z) \neq 0$ . If there exists a point  $z_0$ ,  $|z_0| < 1$ , such that*

$$|\operatorname{Arg} \{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\alpha}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0|$$

and

$$|\operatorname{Arg} \{p(z_0)\}| = \frac{\pi\alpha}{2}$$

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

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

where

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

and

$$k \leq -\frac{1}{2} \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \quad \text{when } \operatorname{Arg} \{p(z_0)\} = -\frac{\pi\alpha}{2},$$

where

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

Moreover,

$$(2.1) \quad \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p^2(z_0)} \right\} \geq \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\alpha n(\alpha) \sin(\pi(1-\alpha)/2)}{m(\alpha) + \alpha n(\alpha) \cos(\pi(1-\alpha)/2)} \right),$$

where

$$m(\alpha) = (1+\alpha)^{(1+\alpha)/2} \quad n(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)^{(\alpha-1)/2}.$$

### 3. Main result.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots$  be an analytic function in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Suppose also that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and  $\gamma$  is a positive real number such that  $f$  satisfies*

$$(3.1) \quad \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1.$$

If the equation, with respect to  $x$ ,

$$(3.2) \quad x + \frac{2\gamma}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x n(x) \sin(\pi(1-x)/2)}{m(x) + x n(x) \cos(\pi(1-x)/2)} \right) = \alpha,$$

where

$$m(x) = (1+x)^{(1+x)/2}, \quad n(x) = (1-x)^{(x-1)/2},$$

has a solution  $\beta \in (0, 1]$ , then  $f$  is strongly starlike of order  $\beta$ .

**Proof.** Let us put

$$(3.3) \quad p(z) = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}, \quad p(0) = 1, \quad (z \in \mathbb{D}).$$

Then we have

$$f(z)f'(z) \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}\right) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < |z| < 1$$

because of the assumption (3.1). Moreover,

$$(3.4) \quad \left(\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}\right)^{1-\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}\right)^\gamma = p(z) \left(1 + \frac{zp'(z)}{p^2(z)}\right)^\gamma.$$

If there exists a point  $z_0$ ,  $|z_0| < 1$ , such that

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

and

$$|\text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\}| = \frac{\pi\beta}{2},$$

then by Nunokawa's Lemma 2.1, we have

$$\frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = i\beta k,$$

where

$$k \geq 1 \quad \text{when } \text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\} = \frac{\pi\beta}{2}$$

and

$$k \leq -1 \quad \text{when } \text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\} = -\frac{\pi\beta}{2}.$$

For the case  $\text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\} = \pi\beta/2$ , we have from (3.4) and (2.1)

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Arg} \left\{ \left(\frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)}\right)^{1-\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)}\right)^\gamma \right\} \\ &= \text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\} + \gamma \text{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p^2(z_0)} \right\} \\ &\geq \frac{\pi\beta}{2} + \gamma \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\beta n(\beta) \sin(\pi(1-\beta)/2)}{m(\beta) + \beta n(\beta) \cos(\pi(1-\beta)/2)} \right) \\ &= \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \end{aligned}$$

because  $\beta$  is the solution of (3.2). For the case  $\text{Arg}\{p(z_0)\} = -\pi\beta/2$ , applying the same method as the above, we have

$$\text{Arg} \left\{ \left(\frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)}\right)^{1-\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)}\right)^\gamma \right\} < -\frac{\alpha\pi}{2}.$$

In both of the above cases we have

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z)}{f'(z_0)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| \geq \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}$$

for  $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$ , which contradicts hypothesis (3.1) of the theorem and therefore,

$$|\operatorname{Arg} \{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1,$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

Theorem 3.1 says that a function in the class  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma)$ , see (1.4), of  $\gamma$ -strongly starlike functions of order  $\alpha$  is strongly starlike function, see (1.2), of order at least  $\beta$ , where  $\beta$  is the solution of (3.2). Note that if  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\alpha, 0)$ , then  $f$  is strongly starlike of order  $\alpha$ . For a related result we refer to [7]. If  $\alpha = 1$ , then Theorem 3.1 becomes the following result on the class  $\mathcal{G}(\gamma, 1)$  introduced by Lewandowski, Miller and Złotkiewicz [3].

**Corollary 3.1.** *Assume that  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\gamma, 1)$  or that  $f$  satisfies (1.5) and (1.6). If the equation*

$$x + \frac{2\gamma}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{xn(x) \sin(\pi(1-x)/2)}{m(x) + xn(x) \cos(\pi(1-x)/2)} \right) = 1,$$

*has a solution  $\beta \in (0, 1]$ , then  $f$  is strongly starlike of order  $\beta$ .*

In the corollary below there are examples of the choice  $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  which satisfies Corollary 3.1 or Theorem 3.1.

**Corollary 3.2.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\gamma_{(1;1/2)}, 1)$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{SS}^*(1/2)$ , where*

$$\gamma_{(1;1/2)} = \frac{\pi}{4 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{3\sqrt[4]{4/3+1}} \right)} \approx 3.378.$$

*If  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\gamma_{(3/4;1/2)}, 3/4)$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{SS}^*(1/2)$ , where*

$$\gamma_{(3/4;1/2)} = \frac{\pi}{8 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{3\sqrt[4]{4/3+1}} \right)} \approx 1.689.$$

*If  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\gamma_{(3/5;1/2)}, 3/5)$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{SS}^*(1/2)$ , where*

$$\gamma_{(3/5;1/2)} = \frac{\pi}{20 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{3\sqrt[4]{4/3+1}} \right)} \approx 0.675.$$

*If  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\gamma_{(3/4;2/3)}, 3/4)$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{SS}^*(2/3)$ , where*

$$\gamma_{(3/4;2/3)} = \frac{\pi}{8 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt[6]{3}}{3(5/3)^{5/3} + \sqrt[6]{81}} \right)} \approx 1.481.$$

If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then from (3.2) we get  $\gamma = 0$ , and  $\mathcal{G}(0, \alpha) \subset \mathcal{SS}^*(\alpha)$ , but this case is trivial. In the next theorem we consider the order of strongly starlikeness for functions, in some sense, in the class  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma)$  of negative order  $\gamma$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $f(z) = z + a_2z^2 + a_3z^3 + \dots$  be an analytic function in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Suppose also that  $\gamma$  is a negative real number such that  $f$  satisfies*

$$(3.5) \quad \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1,$$

where  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and suppose that  $\beta$  is the root of the equation

$$(3.6) \quad \beta + \gamma(1 - \beta) = \alpha$$

in the interval  $(0, 1]$ . Then we have

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\beta\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1.$$

**Proof.** In the first part of the proof we apply the same method as in the proof of Theorem 3.1. Let us put

$$p(z) = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}, \quad p(0) = 1, \quad (z \in \mathbb{D}).$$

If there exists a point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{D}$  such that

$$(3.7) \quad \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0|$$

and

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right\} \right| = \frac{\pi\beta}{2},$$

then by Nunokawa's Lemma 2.1, we have

$$(3.8) \quad \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0)} = i\beta k,$$

where

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

and

$$k \leq -\frac{1}{2} \left( a + \frac{1}{a} \right) \quad \text{when } \operatorname{Arg} \{p(z_0)\} = -\frac{\pi\alpha}{2},$$

where

$$(3.9) \quad \{p(z_0)\}^{1/\beta} = \pm ia, \quad \text{and } a > 0.$$

For the case  $\{p(z_0)\}^{1/\beta} = ia$ ,  $a > 0$ , we have from (3.8) and (3.9)

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ p(z_0) \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p^2(z_0)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Arg} \{p(z_0)\} + \gamma \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p^2(z_0)} \right\} \\ &= \frac{\pi\beta}{2} + \gamma \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{i\beta k}{(ia)^\beta} \right\} \\ &= \frac{\pi\beta}{2} + \gamma \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{\beta k}{a^\beta} e^{i\frac{\pi(1-\beta)}{2}} \right\} \\ &\geq \frac{\pi\beta}{2} + \gamma \frac{\pi(1-\beta)}{2} \\ &= \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

because  $\beta$  is the solution of (3.6). For the case  $\operatorname{Arg} \{p(z_0)\} = -\pi\beta/2$ , applying the same method as the above, we have

$$\operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \leq -\frac{\alpha\pi}{2}.$$

The above cases show that

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z_0 f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| \geq \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}, \quad z_0 \in \mathbb{D},$$

which contradicts hypothesis (3.5) of the theorem and therefore,

$$|\operatorname{Arg} \{p(z)\}| < \frac{\pi\beta}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots$  be an analytic function in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Suppose also that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and  $0 < \gamma \leq 1$  are such that  $f$  satisfies (3.1). If the equation (3.2) has a solution  $\alpha_0 \in (0, 1]$ , then  $f$  is strongly convex of order  $\{(1-\gamma)\alpha_0 + \alpha\}/\gamma$ .*

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( 1 + \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| - \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \right\} \right| \\ & \leq \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then by Theorem 3.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right\} \right| \\ & \leq \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \right\} \right| + \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \\ & < \frac{\pi(1-\gamma)\alpha_0}{2} + \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} \right| < \frac{\pi \{ (1-\gamma)\alpha_0 + \alpha \}}{2\gamma} \quad \text{for } |z| < 1. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Assume that the equation (3.2) has a solution  $\alpha_0$ ,  $0 < \alpha_0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . If  $0 < \delta < \gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma) \subset \mathcal{G}(\alpha, \delta)$ .*

**Proof.** Let us suppose that  $f$  is a member of  $\mathcal{G}(\alpha, \gamma)$  and let us put

$$A = \left\{ B^{1-\delta} C^\delta \right\}^{\gamma/\delta},$$

where

$$B = zf'(z)/f(z) \quad \text{and} \quad C = 1 + zf''(z)/f'(z).$$

Then we have

$$A = B^{1-\gamma} C^\gamma B^{\gamma/\delta-1}$$

and by Theorem 3.1 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\operatorname{Arg} \{A\}| &= \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ B^{1-\delta} C^\delta \right\} \right| \\ &= \left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ B^{1-\gamma} C^\gamma \right\} + \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ B^{\gamma/\delta-1} \right\} \right| \\ &< \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{\gamma}{\delta} - 1 \right) \frac{\alpha_0\pi}{2} \\ &< \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{\gamma}{\delta} - 1 \right) \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \\ &\leq \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \frac{\alpha\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that

$$\left| \operatorname{Arg} \left\{ B^{1-\delta} C^\delta \right\} \right| < \frac{\alpha\pi}{2} \quad z_0 \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Therefore,  $f \in \mathcal{G}(\alpha, \delta)$ . □

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