

SUFFICIENT CONDITIONS FOR STARLIKENESS  
AND CONVEXITY  
OF ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS WITH NEGATIVE COEFFICIENTS

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**Abstract.** Several interesting implications concerning analytic functions with negative coefficients are determined. In particular cases sufficient conditions for starlikeness, strongly starlikeness and convexity are obtained.

**MSC 2000.** 30C45.

**Key words.** Starlike, convex, strongly starlike, Libera operator.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the class of functions  $f$ , which are analytic in the unit disc  $U = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$  with normalization of the form  $f(0) = f'(0) - 1 = 0$ . R. Singh and S. Singh in [4] showed that for  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  the following implication holds in  $U$ :

$$(1) \quad \operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > 0.$$

P. T. Mocanu ([2], [3]) improved this result by

$$(2) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left[ f'(z) + \frac{1}{2}zf''(z) \right] > 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > 0,$$

$$(3) \quad \operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \frac{\pi}{3}$$

and

$$(4) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left[ f'(z) + \frac{1}{2}zf''(z) \right] > 0 \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \frac{4\pi}{9}.$$

Other related results can be found in [1]. Let  $\mathcal{N}$  denote the class of analytic functions with negative coefficients, that is

$$\mathcal{N} = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{H}(U) \mid f(z) = z - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} a_j z^j \ a_j \geq 0, \ j \geq 2 \right\}.$$

In this paper we improve the above implications but in the particular case of analytic functions with negative coefficients.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

We define the operator  $D^n : \mathcal{N} \Rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  by

- a)  $D^0 f(z) = f(z)$ ;
- b)  $D^1 f(z) = Df(z) = zf'(z)$ ;
- c)  $D^n f(z) = D(D^{n-1}f(z))$ ,  $z \in U$  (see [7]).

Let  $S_n(\alpha)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ , be the class

$$S_n(\alpha) = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} > \alpha, z \in U \right\}$$

and let  $S_n[\beta]$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\beta \in (0, 1]$ , be the class

$$S_n[\beta] = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{A} : \left| \arg \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} \right| < \beta \frac{\pi}{2}, z \in U \right\}.$$

We note that  $S_0(0)$  is the class of starlike functions,  $S_1(0)$  is the class of convex functions and  $S_0[\beta]$  is the class of strongly starlike functions of order  $\beta$ ; obviously  $S_0[1] = S_0(0)$ . We denote by  $T_n(\alpha)$  the class  $S_n(\alpha) \cap \mathcal{N}$ .

For the functions in the classes  $T_n(\alpha)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) we have the next characterization theorem.

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ , let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $f$  be in  $\mathcal{N}$ ,  $f(z) = z - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} a_j z^j$ , ( $a_j \geq 0$ ). Then the next assertions are equivalent*

$$(5) \quad f \in T_n(\alpha);$$

$$(6) \quad \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j^n (j - \alpha) a_j \leq 1 - \alpha;$$

$$(7) \quad \left| \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} - 1 \right| < 1 - \alpha, z \in U.$$

The result is sharp and the extremal functions are

$$f_j(z) = z - \frac{1 - \alpha}{j^n(j - \alpha)} z^j, j \in \{2, 3, \dots\}.$$

A more general form of this theorem is proved in [8] and [9].

We note that  $S_0(\alpha)$  and  $S_1(\alpha)$  are the class of starlike functions of order  $\alpha$  and the class of convex functions of order  $\alpha$ , respectively. The classes  $T_0(\alpha)$  and  $T_1(\alpha)$  were introduced and studied by H. Silverman [5] (see also [6]).

**REMARK A.** Because (5) and (7) are equivalent we have that if  $f \in T_n(\alpha)$ , then  $D^{n+1}f(z)/D^n f(z)$  belongs to the disc centered at 1 and having the radius  $1 - \alpha$  and from this we deduce that, for  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ,

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} > \alpha \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} \right| < \arcsin(1 - \alpha).$$

REMARK B. It is well known that  $S_1(0) \subset S_0(1/2)$  (every convex function is starlike of order  $1/2$ ); for the functions with negative coefficients and when  $\alpha < 1$  it is proved that

$$(8) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left[ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} + 1 \right] > \alpha \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \frac{2}{3-\alpha}$$

and when  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  we have (see [9])

$$(9) \quad T_1(\alpha) \subset T_0(2/(3-\alpha)).$$

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

THEOREM 1. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\beta \in [-1, 1)$ , and let  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ .

a) If  $\beta \in [0, 1)$ , then

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{D^{n+1}f(z)} > \beta \Leftrightarrow f \in T_{n+1}(\beta) \Rightarrow f \in T_n \left( \frac{2}{3-\beta} \right).$$

b) If  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$ , then

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} > \frac{2(1+\beta)}{3+\beta} \Leftrightarrow f \in T_n \left( \frac{2(1+\beta)}{3+\beta} \right).$$

c) Furthermore, if  $\beta \in (-1, 0)$ , then

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{D^{n+1}f(z)} > \frac{2\beta}{\beta+1}.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} = 1 - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j^{n+2} a_j z^{j-1}$$

and, from  $\operatorname{Re} [D^{n+2}f(z)/z] > \beta$ , by letting  $z \rightarrow 1^-$ ,  $z$  real, we obtain

$$\sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j^{n+2} a_j \leq 1 - \beta.$$

From Theorem A we know that  $f \in T_{n+1}(\alpha)$  if and only if

$$(10) \quad \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j^{n+1} (j - \alpha) a_j \leq 1 - \alpha.$$

But (10) holds if  $j^{n+1}(j - \alpha)/(1 - \alpha) \leq j^{n+2}/(1 - \beta)$ ,  $j \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ , or

$$(11) \quad j(\alpha - \beta) \leq \alpha(1 - \beta), \quad j \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$$

and this last inequality is true for  $\alpha = \beta$ ; together Remark B this proves a).

Now we consider  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$  and we use that

$$(12) \quad \frac{j^n(j - \alpha)}{1 - \alpha} \leq \frac{j^{n+2}}{1 - \beta}, \quad j \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$$

implies  $f \in T_n(\alpha)$ . But (12) is equivalent to

$$(1 - \alpha)j^2 - (1 - \beta)j + \alpha(1 - \beta) \geq 0, \quad j \in \{2, 3, \dots\}.$$

These last inequalities hold if

$$(13) \quad \frac{1 - \beta + \sqrt{(1 - \beta)^2 - 4\alpha(1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)}}{2(1 - \alpha)} \leq 2$$

and (13) is true for  $\alpha \leq 2(1 + \beta)/(3 + \beta)$  and this gives that  $f \in T_n(2(1 + \beta)/(3 + \beta))$ .

In the case  $\beta \in [-1, 0]$  the inequalities (11) are satisfied only if  $\alpha - \beta \leq 0$ ; but it is sufficient that  $2(\alpha - \beta) \leq \alpha(1 - \beta)$  and this is equivalent to  $\alpha \leq 2\beta/(1 - \beta)$ . This completes the proof of c).

**COROLLARY 1.1.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ , then*

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \left[ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} + 1 \right] > 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \frac{2}{3}, \quad z \in U.$$

*Proof.* We put  $n = 0$  in Theorem 1, a) and then we use (9).

Corollary 1.1 improves (1) for  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ .

**COROLLARY 1.2.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$ , then*

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > \beta \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \frac{2(1 + \beta)}{3 + \beta}, \quad z \in U.$$

*Proof.* We put  $n = 0$  in Theorem 1, b) and then we use (9).

We note that  $\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > -1 \Rightarrow f \in T_0(0)$  (that is  $f$  is starlike). Corollary 1.2 is also an improvement of (1) for  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ .

**COROLLARY 1.3.** *Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ;*

a) *If  $\beta \in [0, 1)$ , then, for  $z \in U$ ,*

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{D^{n+1}f(z)} \right| < \arcsin(1 - \beta)$$

and

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} \right| < \arcsin \frac{1 - \beta}{3 - \beta};$$

b) *If  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$ , then, for  $z \in U$ ,*

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{D^{n+2}f(z)}{z} > \beta \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{D^{n+1}f(z)}{D^n f(z)} \right| < \arcsin \frac{1 - \beta}{3 + \beta}.$$

*Proof.* Corollary 1.3 is a consequence of Theorem 1 and Remark A.

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{N}$  satisfies*

$$(14) \quad \operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma zf''(z)] > \beta, \quad z \in U,$$

then

$$(15) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left[ \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} + 1 \right] > \alpha, \quad z \in U,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \alpha &= \alpha_1 = \frac{2\beta + \gamma - 1}{\gamma + \beta} \quad \text{when } \beta \in [-1, 0] \text{ and } \gamma \geq 1; \\ \text{b) } \alpha &= \alpha_2 = \frac{\beta + \gamma - 1}{\gamma} \quad \text{when } \beta \in [0, 1) \text{ and } \gamma > 0. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We have

$$(16) \quad f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z) = 1 - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j[1 + \gamma(j-1)]a_j z^{j-1};$$

from (14), letting  $z \rightarrow 1^-$  by real numbers, we obtain

$$(17) \quad \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j[1 + \gamma(j-1)]a_j \leq 1 - \beta.$$

We note that (15) is implied by  $\left| \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right| < 1 - \alpha$ .

But we have

$$\begin{aligned} |zf''(z)| - (1 - \alpha)|f'(z)| &= \left| \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j(j-1)a_j z^{j-1} \right| - (1 - \alpha) \left| 1 - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} ja_j z^{j-1} \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j(j-1)a_j - (1 - \alpha) \left( 1 - \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} ja_j \right) = \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j(j - \alpha)a_j - (1 - \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

and we deduce that

$$(18) \quad \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j[(j - \alpha)]a_j \leq 1 - \alpha$$

implies (15).

The relation (18) holds if

$$\frac{j(j - \alpha)}{1 - \alpha} \leq \frac{j[1 + \gamma(j - 1)]}{1 - \beta}, \quad j \geq 2.$$

These last inequalities are equivalent to

$$(19) \quad j(1 - \beta - \gamma + \alpha\gamma) \leq 1 - \gamma + \alpha\gamma - \alpha\beta, \quad j \geq 2$$

and they can be satisfied only if  $1 - \beta - \gamma + \alpha\gamma \leq 0$ .

If  $\beta = 0$  and  $\alpha = \alpha_1$  (in this case  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$ , too) (19) holds. If  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$ ,  $\gamma \geq 1$  and  $\alpha = \alpha_1$ , then  $1 - \beta - \gamma + \alpha\gamma = \frac{\beta(1-\beta)}{\beta+\gamma} \leq 0$ , and  $1 - \gamma + \alpha\gamma - \alpha\beta =$

$\frac{2\beta(1-\beta)}{\beta+\gamma} \leq 0$ . The inequalities (19) can be written

$$(20) \quad j \geq \frac{\alpha\beta - \alpha\gamma + \gamma - 1}{\beta + \gamma - \alpha\gamma - 1}, \quad j \geq 2$$

and (20) holds because  $\frac{\alpha_1\beta - \alpha_1\gamma + \gamma - 1}{\beta + \gamma - \alpha_1\gamma - 1} = \frac{2\beta(1-\beta)}{\beta(1-\beta)} = 2$ .

If  $\beta \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\gamma > 0$  and  $\alpha = \alpha_2$ , then  $1 - \beta - \gamma + \alpha\gamma = 0$ ,  $1 - \gamma + \alpha\gamma - \alpha\beta = \beta(1 - \beta)/\gamma \geq 0$  and (19) also holds.

From Theorem 2 we obtain the following sufficient conditions for convexity.

**COROLLARY 2.1.** *Let  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ; then  $\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta$ ,  $z \in U \Rightarrow f \in T_1(\alpha)$ , where*

- a) if  $\beta \in [-1, 0]$  and  $\gamma \geq 1 - 2\beta$ , then  $\alpha = \alpha_1 = (2\beta + \gamma - 1)/(\gamma + \beta)$ ;
- b) if  $\beta \in [0, 1)$  and  $\gamma \geq 1 - \beta$ , then  $\alpha = \alpha_2 = (\beta + \gamma - 1)/\gamma$ .

From Theorem 2 we also obtain the following sufficient conditions for starlikeness.

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ; then  $\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta$ ,  $z \in U \Rightarrow f \in T_0(\delta)$ , where*

- a) if  $\beta \in [-1, 0]$  and  $\gamma > 1$ , then  $\delta = \delta_1 = \frac{2(\beta + \gamma)}{2\gamma + \beta + 1} = 1 - \frac{1 - \beta}{2\gamma + \beta + 1}$
- b) if  $\beta \in [0, 1)$  and  $\gamma > 0$ , then  $\delta = \delta_2 = \frac{2\gamma}{2\gamma - \beta + 1} = 1 - \frac{1 - \beta}{2\gamma - \beta + 1}$ .

From Corollary 2.1 and 2.2, together with Remark A, we obtain

**COROLLARY 2.3.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ; then*

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta, \quad z \in U \Rightarrow \left| \arg \left( \frac{z f''(z)}{f'(z)} + 1 \right) \right| < \delta, \quad z \in U,$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta, \quad z \in U \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \lambda, \quad z \in U,$$

where

- a)  $\delta = \frac{1 - \beta}{\gamma + \beta}$  when  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$  and  $\gamma > 1 - 2\beta$ ;
- b)  $\delta = \frac{1 - \beta}{\gamma}$  when  $\beta \in [0, 1)$  and  $\gamma > 1 - \beta$ ;
- c)  $\lambda = \frac{1 - \beta}{2\gamma + \beta + 1}$  when  $\beta \in [-1, 0)$  and  $\gamma > 1$ ;
- d)  $\lambda = \frac{1 - \beta}{2\gamma - \beta + 1}$  when  $\beta \in [0, 1)$  and  $\gamma > 0$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $f \in \mathcal{N}$ ,  $\beta \in [-1, 1)$ ,  $\gamma = -\beta$ ; then*

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta, \quad z \in U \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} > 0, \quad z \in U.$$

*Proof.* As in the proof of the Theorem 2, from  $\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \gamma z f''(z)] > \beta$  we obtain (17) and by using Theorem A we have that  $\operatorname{Re}[z f'(z)/f(z)] > 0$  holds if

$$(21) \quad \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} j a_j \leq 1.$$

Comparing (17) and (21) we find that (21) holds if

$$j \leq \frac{j[1 + \gamma(j-1)]}{1 - \beta}.$$

But this is equivalent to  $\beta + \gamma \geq 0$  and this completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 4. INTEGRAL VERSIONS

Let  $L_c : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be the integral operator defined by  $f = L_c(g)$ , where  $c \in (-1, \infty)$ ,  $g \in \mathcal{A}$  and

$$f(z) = \frac{c+1}{z^c} \int_0^z t^{c-1} g(t) dt.$$

In the particular case  $c = 1$  we obtain the Libera integral operator  $L_1$ . A simple computation shows that

$$f'(z) + \frac{1}{c+1} z f''(z) = g'(z), \quad z \in U$$

and because of this relationship Theorem 2 and Theorem 3 can be written in the following integral version.

**THEOREM 2'.** *If  $f = L_c(g)$ , where  $g \in \mathcal{N}$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}g'(z) > \beta$ ,  $z \in U$ , then  $\operatorname{Re}[z f''(z)/f'(z) + 1] > \alpha$ ,  $z \in U$ , where*

- a)  $\alpha = \alpha_1 = \frac{2\beta + 2\beta c - c}{1 + \beta + \beta c}$  when  $\beta \in [-1, 0]$  and  $c \in (-1, 0]$ ;
- b)  $\alpha = \alpha_2 = \beta + \beta c - c$ , when  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  and  $c \in (0, \infty)$ .

**THEOREM 3'.** *Let  $g \in \mathcal{N}$ , let  $f = L_c(g)$ , where  $c = -(1 + \beta)/\beta$  and  $\beta \in [-1, 1)$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$ ; then  $\operatorname{Re}[g'(z)] > \beta$ ,  $z \in U \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} > 0$ ,  $z \in U$ .*

#### 5. PARTICULAR CASES

The next implications are consequences of Corollary 1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 2.3 or Theorem 3 and they improve (in the case of functions in  $\mathcal{N}$ ) the implications (1), (2), (3) and (4), for  $z \in U$ .

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + z f''(z)] > -1 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} > 0$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + z f''(z)] > \frac{-1}{3} \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) \simeq 19.47^\circ$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \frac{1}{2}zf''(z)] > \frac{-1}{2} \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > 0$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) - \frac{1}{2}zf''(z)] > \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} > 0$$

$$\operatorname{Re}[f'(z) + \frac{1}{2}zf''(z)] > 0 \Rightarrow \left| \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right| < \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

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Received December 15, 2004

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