



SOME COEFFICIENT PROPERTIES RELATING TO A CERTAIN CLASS OF STARLIKE FUNCTIONS

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Abstract. This paper considers the problem of determining coefficients in a class Δ^* of normalized starlike functions f analytic in the open unit disk $|z| < 1$ satisfying the inequality that

$$\left| \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\}^2 - 1 \right| < 2 \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|.$$

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let \mathcal{H} denote the class of analytic functions in the open unit disc $\mathbb{U} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ on the complex plane \mathbb{C} . Also, let \mathcal{A} denote the subclass of \mathcal{H} comprising of functions f normalized by $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) = 1$, and let $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{A}$ denote the class of functions which are univalent in \mathbb{U} . Let a function f be analytic univalent in the unit disc $\mathbb{U} = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ on the complex plane \mathbb{C} with the normalization $f(0) = 0$, then f maps \mathbb{U} onto a starlike domain with respect to $w_0 = 0$ if and only if

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \tag{1.1}$$

It is well known that if an analytic function f satisfies (1.1) and $f(0) = 0$, $f'(0) \neq 0$, then f is univalent and starlike in \mathbb{U} . The set of all functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ that are starlike univalent in \mathbb{U} will be denoted by \mathcal{S}^* .

For the purpose of this paper, we represent by Δ^* a class which is defined by

$$\Delta^* = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{S}^* : \left| \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\}^2 - 1 \right| < 2 \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right|, z \in \mathbb{U} \right\} \tag{1.2}$$

and a related class studied by Rønning [8] was defined by

$$\mathcal{S}_p = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{S} : \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right| < \Re \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}, z \in \mathbb{U} \right\}. \tag{1.3}$$

Interpreting geometrically the condition in (1.3), we note that $zf'(z)/f(z)$ lies inside the parabola

$$(\Im w)^2 < 2\Re w - 1,$$

and in this way the class \mathcal{S}_p was observed to be connected with certain conic domains. In recent papers [1–4, 6, 10], certain function classes were considered and were defined under the condition that $zf'(z)/f(z)$ lies in a domain which possesses some geometric properties. If we interpret the condition in (1.2) geometrically, then we observe that the product of the distances of $zf'(z)/f(z)$ from the foci -1 and 1 is less than twice the distance of $zf'(z)/f(z)$ from the origin. The shape of the domain for $Q(z) = zf'(z)/f(z)$ is described in Theorem 1 below and the shape of $Q(\mathbb{U})$ is depicted in Figure 1.

Theorem 1 ([9]). *If $f(z) \in \Delta^*$, then*

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} > 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{U} \quad (1.4)$$

and

$$\left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right| < \sqrt{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + 1 \right| > \sqrt{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{U}. \quad (1.5)$$

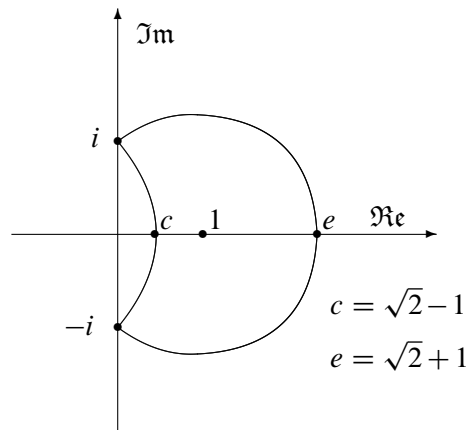


FIGURE 1. The domain for $zf'(z)/f(z)$, $f \in \Delta^*$.

2. COEFFICIENT ESTIMATES

Theorem 2. If $f(z) \in \Delta^*$ and

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad z \in \mathbb{U}, \quad (2.1)$$

then

$$|a_2| \leq 1, \quad |a_3| \leq 3/4, \quad |a_4| \leq 1/2. \quad (2.2)$$

Proof. In view of (1.2), we have

$$\left\{ \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right\}^2 - 1 = 2w(z) \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)},$$

where

$$|w(z)| < 1 \quad z \in \mathbb{U}, \quad w(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k. \quad (2.3)$$

Thus, we obtain

$$(z f'(z) - f(z))(z f'(z) + f(z)) = 2w(z) z f'(z) f(z). \quad (2.4)$$

If we assume that $a_1 = 1$, then from (2.1) and (2.3), we at once have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) a_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k+1) a_k z^k \right) \\ &= 2 \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k a_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k z^k \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k+1) a_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) a_k z^k \right) \\ &= (2z + 3a_2 z^2 + 4a_3 z^3 + \dots)(a_2 z^2 + 2a_3 z^3 + 3a_4 z^4 + \dots) \\ &= 2a_2 z^3 + (4a_3 + 3a_2^2) z^4 + (6a_4 + 10a_2 a_3) z^5 + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k a_k z^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k z^k \right) \\ &= 2(c_1 z + c_2 z^2 + c_3 z^3 + \dots)(z + 2a_2 z^2 + 3a_3 z^3 + \dots)(z + a_2 z^2 + a_3 z^3 + \dots) \\ &= 2c_1 z^3 + 2(3a_2 c_1 + c_2) z^4 + 2(4a_3 c_1 + 2a_2^2 c_1 + 3a_2 c_2 + c_3) z^5 + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Equating now the coefficients of like powers of z in (2.6) and (2.7), we have

$$(i) \quad a_2 = c_1,$$

$$(ii) \quad 4a_3 + 3a_2^2 = 6a_2c_1 + 2c_2,$$

$$(iii) \quad 6a_4 + 10a_2a_3 = 8a_3c_1 + 4a_2^2c_1 + 6a_2c_2 + 2c_3.$$

It is well known that the coefficients of the bounded function $w(z)$ satisfies the inequality that $|c_k| \leq 1$, ($k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$), and hence from (i), we have the first inequality of (2.2) that $|a_2| \leq 1$. Now, from (i) and (ii), we have

$$|4a_3| = 2 \left| c_2 + \frac{3}{2}c_1^2 \right|. \quad (2.8)$$

Using the estimate (see [7]) that if $w(z)$ has the form (2.3), then

$$|c_2 - \mu c_1^2| \leq \max\{1, |\mu|\}, \quad \text{for all } \mu \in \mathbb{C}, \quad (2.9)$$

and we obtain from (2.8) and (2.9) that

$$|a_3| \leq \frac{3}{4},$$

which gives the second inequality of of (2.2). From (iii), we find that

$$|6a_4| = |-10a_2a_3 + 8a_3c_1 + 4a_2^2c_1 + 6a_2c_2 + 2c_3|. \quad (2.10)$$

Because $a_2 = c_1$, (2.10) becomes

$$|6a_4| = |-2a_3c_1 + 4c_1^3 + 6c_1c_2 + 2c_3|. \quad (2.11)$$

Moreover, from (i) – (ii), we have

$$a_3 = \frac{1}{2}c_2 + \frac{3}{4}c_1^2, \quad (2.12)$$

and from (2.11) and (2.12), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} |6a_4| &= \left| -2 \left(\frac{1}{2}c_2 + \frac{3}{4}c_1^2 \right) c_1 + 4c_1^3 + 6c_1c_2 + 2c_3 \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{5}{2}c_1^3 + 5c_1c_2 + 2c_3 \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{5}{2}(c_1^3 + 2c_1c_2 + c_3) - \frac{1}{2}c_3 \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

To find the bound for the coefficient a_4 , we next derive some properties of the coefficients c_k involved in (2.13). It is known that the function $p(z)$ given by

$$\frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)} = 1 + p_1z + p_2z^2 + \dots =: p(z) \quad (2.14)$$

defines a Caratheodory function with the property that $\Re\{p(z)\} > 0$ in \mathbb{U} and that $|p_k| \leq 2$ ($k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$).

Using (2.3) and equating the coefficients of like powers of z in (2.14), we get

$$p_2 = 2(c_1^2 + c_2) \quad \text{and} \quad p_3 = 2(c_1^3 + 2c_1c_2 + c_3).$$

Hence $|c_1^2 + c_2| \leq 1$ and

$$|c_1^3 + 2c_1c_2 + c_3| \leq 1, \tag{2.15}$$

and upon using (2.13) and (2.15), we finally find that

$$\begin{aligned} |6a_4| &\leq \left| \frac{5}{2}(c_1^3 + 2c_1c_2 + c_3) \right| + \left| \frac{1}{2}c_3 \right| \\ &\leq \frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 3, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the third inequality of (2.2) that $|a_4| \leq 1/2$. □

Remark. We deem it worthwhile to point out here the sharpness of the estimates of the coefficients given by (2.2) of Theorem 2. Therefore, let us consider the function $f_1(z)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(z) &= z \exp \int_0^z \frac{\sqrt{1+t^2} + t - 1}{t} dt \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{1+z^2} - 2}{z} \exp \left\{ z - 1 + \sqrt{1+z^2} \right\} \\ &= z + z^2 + \frac{3}{4}z^3 + \frac{5}{12}z^4 + \frac{1}{6}z^5 + \frac{1}{20}z^6 + \frac{49}{2880}z^7 \dots \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

To show that $f_1(z) \in \Delta^*$, we need to show that

$$f_1(z) \in \mathcal{S}^* \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \left\{ \frac{zf_1'(z)}{f_1(z)} \right\}^2 - 1 \right| < 2 \left| \frac{zf_1'(z)}{f_1(z)} \right|. \tag{2.17}$$

We note that

$$0 \leq \Re \left\{ e^{it} + \sqrt{e^{2it} + 1} \right\} = \begin{cases} \cos t + \sqrt{|2 \cos t|} \cos t / 2 & \text{for } t \in [0, \pi/2], \\ \cos t + \sqrt{|2 \cos t|} \sin t / 2 & \text{for } t \in (\pi/2, 3\pi/2], \\ \cos t - \sqrt{|2 \cos t|} \cos t / 2 & \text{for } t \in (3\pi/2, 2\pi), \end{cases}$$

and therefore, for the above function f_1 , we have

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{zf_1'(z)}{f_1(z)} \right\} = \Re \left\{ z + \sqrt{1+z^2} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Hence, by (1.1), $f_1(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ and the left-hand side of the second condition in (2.17) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \left\{ \frac{zf_1'(z)}{f_1(z)} \right\}^2 - 1 \right| &= \left| \left\{ z + \sqrt{1+z^2} \right\}^2 - 1 \right| \\ &= 2|z| \left| z + \sqrt{1+z^2} \right| \\ &< 2 \left| z + \sqrt{1+z^2} \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \left| \frac{z f_1'(z)}{f_1(z)} \right|,$$

which implies that $f_1(z) \in \Delta^*$. Thus, from (2.16), we see that the first and the second estimations in (2.2) are sharp. The question is whether the third estimation $|a_4| \leq 1/2$ is sharp in the class. The function (2.16) suggest the following conjecture.

Conjecture 1. *If $f(z)$ defined by (2.18) belongs to Δ^* , then*

$$|a_4| \leq \frac{5}{12} = 0.416\dots$$

In the sequel, we find somewhat weaker estimation for $|a_n|$, for the next coefficients too by applying another method.

Theorem 3. *If $f(z) \in \Delta^*$ and*

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad z \in \mathbb{U}, \quad (2.18)$$

then for $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$, we have

$$(n-1)^2 |a_n|^2 \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} |a_k|^2 (1+2k-k^2). \quad (2.19)$$

Proof. In view of (1.5), we have

$$\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 = \sqrt{2} w(z),$$

where

$$|w(z)| < 1 \quad z \in \mathbb{U}, \quad w(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k. \quad (2.20)$$

Thus, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (z f'(z) - f(z)) = w(z) f(z), \quad (2.21)$$

and from (2.18) and (2.20), we at once have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1) a_k z^k = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad a_1 = 1.$$

Thus, we get

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{k=1}^n (k-1) a_k z^k + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} (k-1) a_k z^k = w(z) \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k z^k + \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} a_k z^k \right\},$$

which gives

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k z^k + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k z^k \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} a_k z^k = w(z) \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k z^k \right\}.$$

Therefore, we can write

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k z^k + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} b_k z^k = w(z) \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k z^k,$$

for some b_k , $n + 1 \leq k < \infty$, where b_k can be expressed in terms of the following relation involving the coefficients a_k and c_k :

$$b_k = \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-n} c_j a_{k-j}.$$

This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k z^k + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} b_k z^k \right|^2 &= \left| w(z) \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k z^k \right|^2 \\ &\leq \left| \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} a_k z^k \right|^2, \end{aligned} \tag{2.22}$$

where

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k-1}{\sqrt{2}} a_k z^k + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} b_k z^k := \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d_k z^k$$

is an analytic function in the unit disc. Making use of the known formula (see, for instance [5])

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \left| \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d_k (r e^{i\theta})^k \right|^2 d\theta = 2\pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |d_n|^2 r^{2n},$$

and integrating on $z = r e^{i\theta}$, $0 < r < 1$, $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$, both the sides of (2.22), we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(k-1)^2}{2} |a_k|^2 r^{2k} + \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} |b_k|^2 r^{2k} \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} |a_k|^2 r^{2k}.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (k-1)^2 |a_k|^2 r^k \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} |a_k|^2 r^{2k},$$

which upon letting $r \rightarrow 1$ gives

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (k-1)^2 |a_k|^2 \leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} |a_k|^2,$$

and this leads to the desired result (2.19). \square

Theorem 4. Let $f(z)$ defined by (2.18) belong to Δ^* . Then for $n \geq 3$, we have

$$|a_n| \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{n-1}. \quad (2.23)$$

Proof. From (2.19), we have (for $n \geq 3$)

$$\begin{aligned} (n-1)^2 |a_n|^2 &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} |a_k|^2 (1+2k-k^2) \\ &= 2|a_1|^2 + |a_2|^2 - 2|a_3|^2 - 7|a_4|^2 - \dots \\ &\leq 2|a_1|^2 + |a_2|^2 \\ &= 2 + |a_2|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, $|a_2|^2 \leq 1$ by Theorem 2, and we have then

$$(n-1)^2 |a_n|^2 \leq 3$$

and finally we obtain (2.23). \square

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