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Stability of Geometric Properties of Convolutions of Univalent Harmonic Functions

ABSTRACT. Let \mathcal{H}^0 be the class of complex-valued harmonic functions f given by the formula (1).

If \mathcal{M} is a subclass of \mathcal{H}^0 then a neighbourhood of $f \in \mathcal{M}$ may be defined by following an idea of Ruschewyh. For given subclasses $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}$ of \mathcal{H}^0 the stability of the convolution $\mathcal{M} * \mathcal{N}$ with respect to \mathcal{P} means that $f * g \in \mathcal{P}$ whenever $f \in \mathcal{M}, g \in \mathcal{N}$, range over sufficiently small neighbourhoods. Stability conditions in some special cases ($\mathcal{N} = \{\text{id}\}$, \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{P} starlike, or convex) are established.

It is a well-known fact that any function $f(z)$, harmonic in the unit disk $D = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ can be written as $f(z) = f_1(z) + \overline{f_2(z)}$, both $f_1(z)$ and $f_2(z)$ being regular functions in D . Consider the class \mathcal{H}^0 of normalized harmonic functions

$$(1) \quad f(z) = z + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} a_k(f) \phi_k(z), \quad z \in D,$$

where $\phi_k(z) = z^k$ for $k \geq 2$ and $\phi_k(z) = \overline{z^{|k|}}$ for $k \leq -2$. We retain the notation introduced by Clunie and Sheil-Small [2], according to which the superscript "0" means that there is no term $a_1(f)\overline{z}$ in the expansion (1).

Denote by S_H^0, St_H^0 and K_H^0 subclasses of \mathcal{H}^0 , consisting of univalent, starlike and convex univalent functions, respectively.

Given any $f, g \in \mathcal{H}^0$, define, as in [1], their Hadamard convolution

$$(2) \quad (f * g)(z) = z + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} a_k(f)a_k(g)\phi_k(z),$$

as well as their integral convolution

$$(3) \quad (f \otimes g)(z) = z + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} a_k(f)a_k(g)k^{-1}\phi_k(z).$$

We also introduce T - δ -neighborhoods of $f \in \mathcal{H}^0$,

$$(4) \quad TN_{\delta}(f) = \left\{ g \in \mathcal{H}^0 : \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} T_k |a_k(g) - a_k(f)| \leq \delta \right\},$$

generalizing those studied both in [2] and [3]. Here $\{T_{\pm k}\}_{k=2}^{\infty}$ are sequences of positive real numbers.

By a $T - \delta$ -neighborhoods $TN_{\delta}(\mathcal{M})$ of a class $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{H}^0$ we mean the union of all $TN_{\delta}(f)$, where f ranges over the whole class \mathcal{M} .

In accordance with [3] let us give the basic

Definition. Assume that \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} and \mathcal{P} are subclasses of \mathcal{H}^0 with

$$\mathcal{M} * \mathcal{N} = \{f * g : f \in \mathcal{M}, g \in \mathcal{N}\} \subset \mathcal{P}.$$

Then (2) is said to be $T - \mathcal{P}$ - stable on the pair $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ if there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $TN_{\delta}(\mathcal{M}) * TN_{\delta}(\mathcal{N}) \subset \mathcal{P}$.

Avci and Złotkiewicz [1] used a quite elementary approach to prove some relations of the form $\mathcal{M} * TN_b(e) \subset \mathcal{P}$, where $e(z) = z$. Here we extend to the harmonic case the duality technique developed by Ruscheweyh [4] for analytic functions and apply it to deduce necessary and sufficient conditions for (2) and (3) to be stable on the pairs $(\mathcal{M}, \{e\})$, \mathcal{M} being any of the classes St_H^0 , K_H^0 or $\{e\}$. Furthermore, we shall present explicit expressions or equations for the stability constants

$$\delta_T(\mathcal{M} * \mathcal{N}, \mathcal{P}) = \sup\{\delta \geq 0 : TN_{\delta}(\mathcal{M}) * TN_{\delta}(\mathcal{N}) \subset \mathcal{P}\}.$$

In the sequel \mathcal{P} will denote either of two classes S_H^0 and St_H^0 .

Theorem 1. *The convolution (2) is:*

a) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(\{e\}, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-1}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$; moreover,

$$\delta_T(\{e\} * \{e\}, K_H^0) = \inf \{T_k |k|^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\};$$

b) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(\{e\}, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(|k|^{-1/2}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$; besides,

$$\delta_T(\{e\} * \{e\}, \mathcal{P}) = \inf \{T_k |k|^{-1/2} : |k| \geq 2\};$$

c) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(K_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-3}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, where $\delta = \delta_T(K_H^0 * \{e\}, K_H^0)$ is the unique positive root of the equation

$$\delta = \inf \{2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k + 1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\};$$

d) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(K_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-2}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, in addition $\delta = \delta_T(K_H^0 * \{e\}, \mathcal{P})$ can be found from

$$\delta = \inf \{2T_k^2 |k|^{-1} (|k + 1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\};$$

e) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(St_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-4}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, furthermore, $\delta = \delta_T(St_H^0 * \{e\}, K_H^0)$ satisfies the equation

$$\delta = \inf \{6T_k^2 k^{-2} [(k + 1)(2k + 1)T_k + 6\delta]^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\};$$

f) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(St_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-3}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, where the constant $\delta = \delta_T(St_H^0 * \{e\}, \mathcal{P})$ is the unique positive solution of the equation

$$\delta = \inf \left\{ 6T_k^2 |k|^{-1} [((k + 1)(2k + 1)T_k + 6\delta)]^{-1} : |k| \geq 2 \right\}.$$

First, let us state and prove sufficient conditions for $f \in \mathcal{H}^0$ to be univalent, starlike or convex in terms of the convolution (2). Set

$$X = \{h \in \mathcal{H}^0 : a_k(h) = k(k + i\alpha)/(1 + i\alpha) \text{ with } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \text{ for all } |k| \geq 2\},$$

$$Y' = \{h \in \mathcal{H}^0 : a_k(h) = (k + i\alpha)/(1 + i\alpha) \text{ with } \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \text{ for all } |k| \geq 2\},$$

$$Z = \{h \in \mathcal{H}^0 : a_k(h) = (\phi_k(x) - \phi_k(y))/(x - y) \text{ with } |x|, |y| \leq 1, x \neq y, \\ \text{for all } |k| \geq 2\},$$

and $Y = Y' \cup Z$.

Observe that for any $|k| \geq 2$ we have $|a_k(h)| \leq k^2$ if $h \in X$ and $|a_k(h)| \leq |k|$ if $h \in Y$ (or Z).

Lemma 1. *If $f \in \mathcal{H}^0$ and for all $h \in X$ (Y or Z) there holds*

$$(6) \quad (f * h)(z) \neq 0, \quad z \in D' = D \setminus \{0\},$$

then $f \in K_H^0$ (St_H^0 or S_H^0), respectively.

Proof. Given $h \in Z$, we have

$$(f * h)(z) = z + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \frac{\phi_k(x) - \phi_k(y)}{x - y} a_k(f) \phi_k(z) = \frac{f(xz) - f(yz)}{x - y}.$$

Show that the condition (6) (holding for all $h \in Z$) implies the univalence of f . Assume the contrary, i. e., there are $z_1, z_2 \in D$ such that $z_1 \neq z_2$, whereas $f(z_1) = f(z_2)$. Without loss of generality, let $|z_1| \leq |z_2|$. Put $z' = z_2$ and $z_1 = xz'$, where $|x| \leq 1, y = 1, x \neq y$. Hence for certain $h \in Z$ we obtain $(f * h)(z') = (f(z_1) - f(z_2))/(x - y)$, and, by the contradiction, f is univalent in D .

Now, if (6) holds for any $h \in Y$, the above reasoning yields at once $f \in S_H^0$. For $h \in Y'$ we have

$$(f * h)(z) = z + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \frac{k + i\alpha}{1 + i\alpha} a_k(f) \phi_k(z) \neq 0,$$

or, equivalently, $zf'_z - \bar{z}f'_{\bar{z}} + i\alpha f \neq 0$, for $z \in D', a \in \mathbb{R}$. Therefore, by the normalization, $d \arg f(re^{i\theta})/d\theta = \text{Re}[(zf'_z - \bar{z}f'_{\bar{z}})/f] > 0$, where $z = re^{i\theta}, 0 < r < 1$. Hence for $D_r = \{z : |z| < r\}, 0 < r < 1$, its image $f(D_r)$ is a domain starlike with respect to the origin, and so is $f(D)$. Thus, $f \in St_H^0$. The case when $h \in X$ is considered in a similar way, however, by the Choquet Theorem [1], we may discard an additional condition for univalence.

The following assertion appears to be useful in constructing examples which prove the sharpness of constants.

Lemma 2 (see [2]). *Let m be an integer, $|m| \geq 2$. Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} z + c\phi_m(z) \in K_H^0 &\iff |c| \leq m^{-2}, \\ z + c\phi_m(z) \in \mathcal{P} &\iff |c| \leq |m|^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 1.

Case (a). Let (2) be $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(\{e\}, \{e\})$, that is, for some $\delta > 0$ the inclusion $TN_\delta(e) * TN_\delta(e) \subset K_H^0$ holds. Put

$$f(z) = g(z) = z + \delta T_k^{-1} \phi_k(z) \in TN_\delta(e).$$

Then

$$(f * g)(z) = z + \delta^2 T_k^{-2} \phi_k(z) \in K_H^0,$$

and, by Lemma 2, $\delta^2 T_k^{-2}$ for any $k, |k| \geq 2$. Thus, $T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-1})$ as $k \rightarrow \pm\infty$.

Conversely, from the latter relation it follows that a $M > 0$ exists such that $T_k^{-1} \leq M|k|^{-1}$ (or $T_k|k|_{-1} \geq M_{-1}$) for all $|k| \geq 2$. Therefore,

$$\delta' = \inf \{T_k|k|^{-1} : |k| > 2\} > 0.$$

Choose any $f, g \in TN_\delta(e), 0 < \delta < \delta',$ and $h \in X$. Then we have

$$|k| \leq \delta^{-1} T_k, |a_k(h)| \leq k^2 \quad \text{and} \quad |z^{-1} \phi_k(z)| \leq |z| \quad \text{for any } ||k| \geq 2, z \in D'.$$

Since $g \in TN_\delta(e)$, there also holds $|a_k(g)| \leq \delta T_k^{-1}, |k| \geq 2$. By using all the inequalities, we can estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{f * g * h}{z} \right| &= \left| 1 + \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \frac{a_k(f)a_k(g)a_k(h)}{z} \phi_k(z) \right| \\ &\geq 1 - |z| \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \delta k^2 T_k^{-1} |a_k(f)| \geq 1 - |z| \delta^{-1} \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} T_k |a_k(f)| \geq 1 - |z| > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the condition (6) is valid for all $h \in X$, so $f * g \in K_H^0$. On the other hand, if $\delta > \delta'$, then an integer $m, |m| \geq 2$, can be found such that $T_m|m|^{-1} < \delta$. The above example shows that for $f(z) = g(z) = z + \delta T_m^{-1} \phi_m(z)$ their convolution $f * g \notin K_H^0$, whence $\delta_T(\{e\} * \{e\}, K_H^0) \delta'$.

Case (c). Let (2) be $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(K_H^0, \{e\})$. Then there exists a positive δ such that $TN_\delta(K_H^0) * TN_\delta(e) \subset K_H^0$. Choose the functions

$$f(z) = L_0(z) + \delta \eta_k T_k^{-1} \phi_k(z) \in TN_\delta(K_H^0),$$

where

$$L_0(z) = z + \sum_{|j|=2}^{\infty} (j + 1) \phi_j(z) / 2 \in K_H^0, \quad \eta_k = \text{sgn } k,$$

$$\text{and } g(z) = z + \delta \eta_k T_k^{-1} \phi_k(z) \in TN_\delta(e).$$

By the above assumption we have

$$(f * g)(z) = z + \left(\frac{|k + 1|}{2} + \delta T_k^{-1} \right) \delta T_k^{-1} = \phi_k(z) \in K_H^0$$

and from Lemma 2 it follows that

$$\delta \frac{|k+1|}{2} T_k^{-1} \leq \left(\frac{|k+1|}{2} + \delta T_k^{-1} \right) \delta T_k^{-1} \leq k^{-2},$$

hence $T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-3})$ as $k \rightarrow \pm\infty$. Now assume that $\delta > \delta', \delta'$ being the unique positive root of $\delta = \inf\{2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\}$. Since both parts of the equation are monotonous relative to δ , we have

$$\delta > \inf\{2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\}$$

and, by the above, functions $f \in TN_\delta(K_H^0), g \in TN_\delta(e)$ can be chosen such that $f * g \notin K_H^0$.

On the other hand, let $T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-3})$ as $k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, i.e., there is a $M > 0$ such that $T_k^{-1} \leq M|k|^{-3}$, or, equivalently, $T_k \geq M^{-1}|k|^3$ for all $|k| \geq 2$. Obviously, $T_k \geq (2M)^{-1}k^2|k+1|$ and hence

$$2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} \geq M^{-1}|k+1|T_k (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1}.$$

Since

$$|k+1|T_k \geq (2M)^{-1}k^2|k+1|^2 \geq 2M^{-1} \quad \text{for all } |k| \geq 2,$$

we have

$$2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} \geq M^{-1}(1 + \delta M)^{-1}.$$

Therefore, the equation (5) yields

$$\delta = \inf\{2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2\} \geq M^{-1}(1 + \delta M)^{-1},$$

so that its root $\delta' \geq (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2M$ and is positive.

Suppose now that $0 < \delta \leq \delta'$. Both parts of (5) being monotonous, with respect to δ , it follows that

$$(7) \quad \delta \leq 2T_k^2 k^{-2} (|k+1|T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} \quad \text{for all } k, |k| \leq 2.$$

Assuming that $f \in TN_\delta(f_0)$ with $f_0 \in K_H^0, g \in TN_\delta(e)$ and $h \in X$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{(f * g * h)(z)}{z} \right| &\geq \left| \frac{(f_0 * e * h)(z)}{z} \right| - \left| \frac{(f_0 * (g - e) * h)(z)}{z} \right| \\ &\quad - \left| \frac{((f - f_0) * (g - e) * f)(z)}{z} \right| \\ &\geq 1 - \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \left[|a_k(f_0)| + |a_k(f) - a_k(f_0)| \right] |a_k(g)a_k(h)z^{-1}\phi_k(z)|. \end{aligned}$$

By the sharp estimate $|a_k(f_0)| \leq |k + 1|/2$ (found in [2] for $f_0 \in K_H^0$), we use the inequalities $|a_k(f) - a_k(f_0)| \leq \delta T_k^{-1}$ and $a_k(h) \leq k^2, |k| \geq 2$, to obtain

$$(8) \quad \left| \frac{(f * g * h)(z)}{z} \right| \geq 1 - |z| \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{|k + 1|}{2} + \delta T_k^{-1} \right) k^2 |a_k(g)|,$$

where $z \in D'$. Hence (7) and (8) yield

$$\left| \frac{(f * g * h)(z)}{z} \right| \geq 1 - \delta^{-1} |z| \sum_{|k|=2}^{\infty} T_k |a_k(g)| \geq 1 - |z| > 0,$$

and, by Lemma 1, $f * g \in K_H^0$.

Case (e) is studied in a similar way by applying the sharp estimate $|a_k(f_0)| \leq (k + 1)(2k + 1)/6$, valid for all $f_0 \in St_H^0$ (see [6]). To prove the remaining cases it suffices to replace the class X by Y (or by Z) and to repeat the previous reasoning.

The conclude with, let us state a counterpart of Theorem 1 for the integral convolution (3).

Theorem 2. *The convolution (3) is:*

- a) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(\{e\}, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(|k|^{-1/2}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$; moreover,

$$\delta_T(\{e\} \otimes \{e\}, K_H^0) = \inf \{ T_k |k|^{-1/2} : |k| \geq 2 \};$$

- b) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(\{e\}, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(1), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$; besides,

$$\delta_T(\{e\} \otimes \{e\}, \mathcal{P}) = \inf \{ T_k : |k| \geq 2 \};$$

- c) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(K_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-2}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, where

$$\delta_T(K_H^0 \otimes \{e\}, K_H^0) \iff \delta_T(K_H^0 * \{e\}, \mathcal{P});$$

- d) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(K_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-1}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, in addition $\delta = \delta_T(K_H^0 \otimes \{e\}, \mathcal{P})$ can be found from

$$\delta = \inf \{ 2T_k^2 (|k + 1| T_k + 2\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2 \};$$

- e) $T - K_H^0$ -stable on $(St_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-3}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, furthermore,

$$\delta_T(St_H^0 \otimes \{e\}, K_H^0) = \delta_T(St_H^0 * \{e\}, \mathcal{P});$$

- f) $T - \mathcal{P}$ -stable on $(St_H^0, \{e\}) \iff T_k^{-1} = O(k^{-2}), k \rightarrow \pm\infty$, where $\delta = \delta_T(St_H^0 \otimes \{e\}, \mathcal{P})$ is the unique positive solution of the equation

$$\delta = \inf \{ 6T_k^2 [((k + 1)(2k + 1)T_k + 6\delta)^{-1} : |k| \geq 2 \}.$$

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