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On a Subclass of Strongly Gamma-Starlike Functions  
and Quasiconformal Extensions

O pewnej podklasie funkcji mocno gamma gwiazdzistych  
i ich rozszerzeniu quasikonforemnym

**Abstract.** We consider a special subclass of strongly gamma-starlike functions of order  $\alpha$  and show that the functions in this class are strongly-starlike of order  $\beta(\alpha)$ . It follows from a result of Fait, Krzyż and Zygmunt that the functions in this subclass have quasiconformal extensions.

1. Let  $U$  be the class of analytic functions  $f(z) = z + \sum_2^\infty a_n z^n$  defined in the unit disk  $\Delta = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ . The quantities  $zf'(z)/f(z)$  and  $1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)$  play an important role in the geometric function theory. For example,  $f(\Delta)$  is a domain starlike with respect to the origin, or a convex domain according to  $\operatorname{Re}(zf'(z)/f(z)) > 0$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)) > 0$  for all  $z \in \Delta$ , respectively and corresponding subclasses of  $U$  will be denoted by  $S^*$  and  $K$ , resp.

The class of functions  $f$  satisfying  $\operatorname{Re}((1 - \alpha)zf'/f + \alpha(1 + f''/f')) > 0$  for all  $z \in \Delta$  introduced by P. T. Mocanu [8] is a generalization of both classes of starlike and convex functions. Its elements were named *alpha-convex functions* and were later shown by S. S. Miller, P. T. Mocanu and M. O. Reade [7] to be starlike for all real  $\alpha$ .

Before we proceed any further, it is necessary to recall some elementary facts. We define the principal argument of  $z = re^{i\theta}$  to satisfy  $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$ , and we denote  $\theta = \operatorname{Arg} z$ . The principal branch of the logarithm is defined as  $\operatorname{Log} z = \log r + i\operatorname{Arg} z$ . We also recall that  $z^\lambda = \exp(\lambda \operatorname{Log} z)$  where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . We have the following facts:

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \operatorname{Arg} z^\lambda &= \lambda \operatorname{Arg} z \text{ if } 0 < \lambda \leq 1, \\ \operatorname{Arg}(z_1 z_2) &= \operatorname{Arg}(z_1) + \operatorname{Arg}(z_2) \Leftrightarrow -\pi < \operatorname{Arg}(z_1) + \operatorname{Arg}(z_2) \leq \pi. \end{aligned}$$

Z. Lewandowski, S. S. Miller and E. Złotkiewicz [5] defined another subclass of  $U$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}[(zf'/f)^\gamma (1 + zf''/f')^{1-\gamma}] > 0, \text{ for all } z \in \Delta.$$

Here  $\gamma$  is real and  $f, f'$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(1 + zf''(z)/f'(z))$  are  $\neq 0$  in  $\Delta \setminus \{0\}$ . The functions  $f$  in this class are called *gamma-starlike functions*  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma$  and they too have been proved to be starlike for all real  $\gamma$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{L}_0 = S^*$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1 = K$ . In [5], the following subclass of  $U$  was also suggested.

**Definition 1.** Suppose  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are real such that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1, 0 \leq \gamma \leq 1$  and  $f \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma$  satisfies

$$|(1 - \gamma) \operatorname{Arg}(zf'/f) + \gamma \operatorname{Arg}(1 + zf''/f')| \leq \alpha \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{for every } z \in \Delta .$$

Then we say that  $f$  belongs to the class of *strongly gamma-starlike functions of order  $\alpha$* , and we denote such class by  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(\alpha)$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(\alpha) \subset \mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(1) = \mathcal{L}_\gamma$ , and so strongly gamma-starlike functions must be starlike. We shall show that any  $f \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(\alpha)$  is not only starlike but strongly-starlike of order  $\beta$  (depending on  $\alpha$ )  $S^*(\beta)$ . This subclass of  $U$  is defined by

$$(2) \quad S^*(\beta) = \{f \in U : |\operatorname{Arg}(zf'/f)| \leq \frac{\pi}{2}, \text{ for all } z \in \Delta, 0 < \beta \leq 1\} .$$

It has been studied by D. A. Brannan and W. E. Kirwan [1], M. Fait , J. G. Krzyż and J. Zygmunt [2], and J. Stankiewicz [9].

2. Let us now define the following subclass of  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(\alpha)$ .

**Definition 2.** We define  $\mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  as  $\{f \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(\alpha) : \alpha = \beta(1 + \gamma) - \gamma, \gamma/(1 + \gamma) < \beta \leq 1\}$ . i.e. if  $f \in \mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  then

$$(3) \quad |(1 - \gamma) \operatorname{Arg}(zf'/f) + \gamma \operatorname{Arg}(1 + zf''/f')| \leq (\beta(1 + \gamma) - \gamma) \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{for every } z \in \Delta ,$$

where  $\frac{\gamma}{1 + \gamma} < \beta \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 1.** We have  $\mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta) \subset S^*(\beta)$ . In other words, (3) implies (2).

The proof of the Theorem makes use of a well-known principle due to J.G. Clunie and I. S. Jack and similar to that in [5]. The proof of the Clunie–Jack principle can also be found in W. K. Hayman [3] and S. S. Miller and P. T. Mocanu [8].

**Lemma 1.** (I. S. Jack [4]) Let  $w(z) = b_m z^m + b_{m+1} z^{m+1} + \dots, m \geq 1$  be an analytic function defined in  $\Delta$ . Suppose  $|w(z)|$  attains its maximal value on the disk  $|z| \leq r_0 < 1$  at  $z_0$ , i.e.  $|w(z_0)| = \max_{|z| \leq r_0} |w(z)|, z = re^{i\theta}$ . Then  $z_0 w'(z_0)/w(z_0) = t \geq m \geq 1$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1.** We let  $f \in \mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  and define  $w(z)$  such that

$$(4) \quad zf'(z)/f(z) = \left(\frac{1 + w(z)}{1 - w(z)}\right)^\beta, \quad 0 < \beta \leq 1, \text{ for every } z \in \Delta .$$

Here  $w(0) = 0$  and  $w(z) \neq \pm 1$  is analytic in  $\Delta$ . If  $|w(z)| < 1$  for all  $z \in \Delta$  then Theorem 1 follows from subordination. Suppose this is not the case. Then there exists a  $z_0 = r_0 e^{i\theta_0} \in \Delta$  such that  $|w(z)| < 1$  for  $|z| < r_0$  and  $|w(z)|$  attains its maximal value at  $z_0$  which is equal 1. Then, by Lemma 1, we have, at  $z_0$  that

$$(5) \quad z_0 w'(z_0)/w(z_0) = T \geq 1, \text{ and } [1 + w(z_0)]/[1 - w(z_0)] = i \frac{\sin \theta_0}{1 - \cos \theta_0} = iS,$$

where  $S$  is a non-zero real number.

Let us rewrite the left hand side of (3) in the equivalent form:

$$(6) \quad J(\gamma, f(z)) := (zf'(z)/f(z))^{1-\gamma}(1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)), \quad 0 \leq \gamma \leq 1.$$

Differentiate (6) and substitute (4) to obtain

$$J(\gamma, f(z)) = \left(\frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)}\right)^{(1-\gamma)\beta} \left\{ \left(\frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)}\right)^\beta + \beta z \left(\frac{w'(z)}{1+w(z)} + \frac{w'(z)}{1-w(z)}\right) \right\}^\gamma.$$

Applying Lemma 1 at  $z_0$  we obtain

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} J(\gamma, f(z_0)) &= (iS)^{(1-\gamma)\beta} \left\{ (iS)^\beta + T\beta \left(\frac{w'(z_0)}{1+w(z_0)} + \frac{w'(z_0)}{1-w(z_0)}\right) \right\}^\gamma \\ &= (iS)^{(1-\gamma)\beta} \left\{ (iS)^\beta + i\frac{T\beta}{2} \left(S + \frac{1}{S}\right) \right\}^\gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $S$  could be either a positive or negative number, it is necessary to consider both cases. We first consider  $S$  to be positive. Since  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , we clearly have

$$\text{Arg} \left[ z_0 \frac{f'(z_0)}{f(z_0)} \right]^{(1-\gamma)} = \text{Arg}(iS)^{\beta(1-\gamma)}$$

and

$$\text{Arg} \left( 1 + z_0 \frac{f''(z_0)}{f'(z_0)} \right)^\gamma = \text{Arg} \left[ (iS)^\beta + iT\beta \left(S + \frac{1}{S}\right) \right]^\gamma$$

less than  $\pi/2$ . We can apply (1). Thus taking the arguments of both sides in (7) we obtain

$$\text{Arg } J(\gamma, f(z)) = (1-\gamma)\beta(\text{Arg}(i + \text{Arg } S)) + \gamma \text{Arg } i^\beta \left\{ S^\beta + i^{1-\beta} \frac{T\beta}{2} \left(S + \frac{1}{S}\right) \right\}.$$

Now  $\text{Arg } i^\beta = \beta \frac{\pi}{2}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Arg} \left\{ S^\beta + i^{1-\beta} \frac{T\beta}{2} \left(S + \frac{1}{S}\right) \right\} &= \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \sin[(1-\beta)\pi/2]}{S^\beta + T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \cos[(1-\beta)\pi/2]} \right) \\ &< \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \sin[(1-\beta)\pi/2]}{T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \cos[(1-\beta)\pi/2]} \right) \\ &= \tan^{-1} \left( \tan \left[ (1-\beta) \frac{\pi}{2} \right] \right) = (1-\beta) \frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the sum of arguments of  $i^\beta$  and  $S^\beta + i^{1-\beta} \frac{T\beta}{2} (S + \frac{1}{S})$  is less than or equal to  $\pi/2$  and each argument is positive. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Arg}(J(\gamma, f(z_0)))| &= \left| (1-\gamma)\beta \frac{\pi}{2} + \gamma\beta \frac{\pi}{2} + \gamma \text{Arg}(S^\beta + i^{1-\beta} \frac{T\beta}{2} (S + \frac{1}{S})) \right| = \\ &= \left| \beta \frac{\pi}{2} + \gamma \text{Arg}(S^\beta + \frac{T\beta}{2} (S + \frac{1}{S}) \cos((1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2}) + i \frac{T\beta}{2} (S + \frac{1}{S}) \sin((1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2})) \right| \\ &= \left| \beta \frac{\pi}{2} + \gamma \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \sin[(1-\beta)\pi/2]}{S^\beta + T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \cos[(1-\beta)\pi/2]} \right) \right| \\ &\geq \left| \beta \frac{\pi}{2} \right| - \gamma \left| \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \sin[(1-\beta)\pi/2]}{S^\beta + T\beta/2(S + 1/S) \cos[(1-\beta)\pi/2]} \right) \right| \\ &> \beta \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma \tan^{-1}(\tan(1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2}) = \beta \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma(1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2} = (\beta(1+\gamma) - \gamma)\frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

We shall now consider  $S$  to be negative. Note that we may write  $S = -|S| = e^{i\pi}|S|$  and hence  $iS = e^{i\pi/2}|S|$ . We have similarly

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Arg}(J(\gamma, f(z_0)))| &= \left| \text{Arg} \left\{ (e^{-i\pi/2}|S|)^{(1-\gamma)\beta} \left( (e^{-i\pi/2}|S|)^\beta + e^{-i\pi/2} \frac{T\beta}{2} (|S| + \frac{1}{|S|})^\gamma \right) \right\} \right| \\ &= \left| -\frac{\pi}{2}(1-\gamma)\beta - \frac{\pi}{2}\gamma\beta + \gamma \text{Arg} \left\{ |S|^\beta + \frac{T\beta}{2} (|S| + \frac{1}{|S|}) e^{i(-\pi/2 + \beta\pi/2)} \right\} \right| \\ &= \left| -\frac{\pi}{2}\beta + \gamma \text{Arg} \left\{ |S|^\beta + \left( \frac{T\beta}{2} (|S| + \frac{1}{|S|}) (\cos \frac{\pi}{2}(\beta-1) + i \sin \frac{\pi}{2}(\beta-1)) \right) \right\} \right| \\ &\geq \left| -\frac{\pi}{2}\beta \right| - \gamma \left| \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(|S| + 1/|S|) \sin[(\beta-1)\pi/2]}{S^\beta + T\beta/2(|S| + 1/|S|) \cos[(\beta-1)\pi/2]} \right) \right| \\ &> \frac{\pi}{2}\beta - \gamma \left| \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{T\beta/2(|S| + 1/|S|) \sin[(1-\beta)\pi/2]}{T\beta/2(|S| + 1/|S|) \cos[(1-\beta)\pi/2]} \right) \right| \\ &> \beta \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma \tan^{-1}(\tan(1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2}) = \beta \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma(1-\beta)\frac{\pi}{2} = (\beta(1+\gamma) - \gamma)\frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, in both cases the above argument leads to contradictions at the same time. This completes the proof of the Theorem.

### 3. Let us quote the following

**Lemma 2.** (Fait, Krzyż and Zygmunt [2]) *If  $f \in S^*(\alpha)$  for  $0 < \alpha < 1$  then the mapping  $F$  defined by the formula*

$$F := \begin{cases} f(z) & |z| \leq 1 \\ (|f(\zeta)|^2 / \overline{f(1/\bar{z})}) & |z| \geq 1 \end{cases},$$

where  $\zeta$  satisfies the condition  $|\zeta| = 1$ ,  $\text{Arg}(\zeta) = \text{Arg}(f(1/\bar{z}))$ , is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping of  $\bar{C}$  with  $\frac{K-1}{K+1} = k \leq \sin(\alpha\frac{\pi}{2})$  almost everywhere.

Hence we obtain as an immediate deduction from the Theorem 1

**Corollary .** *The functions in the class  $\mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  admit a  $K$ -quasiconformal extension to  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$  with  $\frac{K-1}{K+1} = k \leq \sin(\beta\frac{\pi}{2})$  almost everywhere.*

Note that  $\mathcal{G}_0^*(\beta) = S^*(\beta)$  whereas  $\mathcal{G}_1^*(\beta)$  is the class of functions satisfying

$$|\text{Arg}(1 + zf''/f')| \leq (2\beta - 1)\frac{\pi}{2} \text{ for all } z \in \Delta, \frac{1}{2} < \beta \leq 1.$$

It is called the class of functions *strongly-convex of order  $2\beta-1$* . This condition implies that  $f \in S^*(\beta)$ . As we have seen that above implication valid only if  $\frac{1}{2} < \beta \leq 1$ . This leaves out the range of  $0 \leq \beta \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . Hence it seems that the Corollary is not the best possible in the sense that it can include the missing range of  $\beta$  when  $\gamma = 1$ .

4. Theorem 1 showed that  $f \in \mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta) \Rightarrow f \in \mathcal{G}_0^*(\beta) = S^*(\beta)$ . We now show that this is a special case of the following general inclusion statement.

**Theorem 2.** *If  $0 \leq \eta \leq \gamma$  then  $\mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta) \subseteq \mathcal{G}_\eta^*(\beta)$ .*

**Proof.** The case  $\eta = 0$  has been dealt with in Theorem 1, so we only consider the case  $0 < \eta \leq \gamma \leq 1$ . By using subordination principle, we find that we do not need to use the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 1 again.

Let  $f \in \mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  and let  $\mathcal{P}$  denote the familiar class of functions  $p$  analytic in  $\Delta$  satisfying the conditions  $p(0) = 1, \text{Re } p(z) > 0$  for  $z \in \Delta$ . Then  $f \in \mathcal{G}_\gamma^*(\beta)$  if and only if there exists a  $p_1(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  such that

$$(8) \quad (zf'(z)/f(z))^{1-\gamma} (1 + zf''(z)/f'(z))^\gamma = p_1(z)^{\beta(1+\gamma)-\gamma}, \text{ for every } z \in \Delta.$$

By Theorem 1,  $f \in S^*(\beta)$ . Hence there also exists another  $p_2(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  such that

$$(9) \quad zf'(z)/f(z) = p_2(z)^\beta, \text{ for every } z \in \Delta.$$

Raise both sides of (8) and (9) to the power  $\eta/\gamma \leq 1$  ( $\eta \neq 0$ ) and  $(1 - \eta/\gamma) \leq 1$ , respectively to obtain

$$(10) \quad (zf'(z)/f(z))^{\eta/\gamma-\eta} (1 + zf''(z)/f'(z))^\eta = p_1(z)^{\beta(\eta/\gamma+\eta)-\eta}, \text{ for every } z \in \Delta$$

and

$$(11) \quad (zf'(z)/f(z))^{(1-\eta/\gamma)} = p_2(z)^{\beta(1-\eta/\gamma)}, \text{ for every } z \in \Delta.$$

We now multiply (10) and (11) which results in

$$(zf'(z)/f(z))^{1-\eta} (1 + zf''(z)/f'(z))^\eta = p_1(z)^{\beta(\eta/\gamma+\eta)-\eta} p_2(z)^{\beta(1-\eta/\gamma)} := p_3(z),$$

for every  $z \in \Delta$ . Note that both the powers are less than 1 and  $p_3(0) = 1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |\operatorname{Arg} p_3(z)| &= \left| \operatorname{Arg}(p_1(z)^{\beta(\eta/\gamma + \eta) - \eta} p_2(z)^{\beta(1 - \eta/\gamma)}) \right| \\ &\leq \left( \beta \left( \frac{\eta}{\gamma} + \eta \right) - \eta \right) |\operatorname{Arg}(p_1(z))| + \beta \left( 1 - \frac{\eta}{\gamma} \right) |\operatorname{Arg}(p_2(z))| \\ &< \left\{ \left( \beta \left( \frac{\eta}{\gamma} + \eta \right) - \eta \right) + \beta \left( 1 - \frac{\eta}{\gamma} \right) \right\} \frac{\pi}{2} \\ &= (\beta(\eta + 1) - \eta) \frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f \in S^*(\beta)$ , we have  $\frac{\eta}{1 + \eta} \leq \frac{\gamma}{1 + \gamma} < \beta \leq 1$  as  $\eta \leq \gamma$ . This is because  $g(x) = \frac{x}{1+x}$  is an increasing function for all  $x > 0$ .

Thus

$$|\operatorname{Arg} p_3(x)| < (\beta(\eta + 1) - \eta) \frac{\pi}{2} \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$$

and so  $p_3(x) \in \mathcal{P}$ , i.e.  $f \in G_{\eta}^*(\beta)$ .

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## STRESZCZENIE

Autor rozważa pewną podklasę funkcji mocno gamma gwiazdzistych rzędu  $\alpha$  i wykazuje, że funkcje tej klasy są kątowno gwiazdziste rzędu  $\beta(\alpha)$ . Wynika stąd na mocy pewnego rezultatu Fait, Krzyża i Zygmuntovej, że funkcje tej klasy mają przedłużenie quasikonforemne.

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