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### Gamma-Starlike Functions

Funkcje gama-gwiazdziste

Гамма-звездообразные функции

1. In recent papers [3,4,5] several authors have investigated regular function  $f(z)$ , defined in the unit disc  $D$ , with the property that the real part of an arithmetic mean of the quantities  $(zf'(z)/f(z))$  and  $(1 + zf''(z)/f'(z))$  is positive, i.e.

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

for  $z \in D$  and for some fixed real  $\alpha$ . Functions satisfying this condition are said to belong to the class of alpha-convex (or alpha-starlike) functions  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$ , and they have been shown to be starlike. In this paper we consider regular functions  $f(z)$ , defined in  $D$ , with the property that the real part of a geometric mean of the quantities  $zf'(z)/f(z)$  and  $1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)$  is positive. We will show that these functions are starlike and will call such functions gamma-starlike to suggest the use of the geometric mean in their definition.

**Definition 1.** Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_a^\infty a_n z^n$  be regular in the unit disc  $D$ , with  $f(z)$ ,  $f'(z)$  and  $[1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)] \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$ . Suppose  $\gamma$  is real and

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

for  $z \in D$ , where the powers appearing in (1) are meant as principal values.

<sup>1</sup> This work was carried out while the second author was an IREX Scholar in Poland.

Then we say that  $f(z)$  is a gamma-starlike function and we denote the class of such functions by  $\mathcal{L}^\gamma$ .

**Remarks.** (i) Condition (1) is equivalent to the following condition:

$$(2) \quad \left| (1-\gamma) \arg \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + \gamma \arg \left( 1 + \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right| < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

(ii) If  $\gamma = 0$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_0 \equiv S^*$ , the class of starlike functions, while if  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_1 \equiv C$ , the class of convex functions.

2. We now show that if  $f(z)$  is a gamma-starlike function then  $f(z)$  is starlike and univalent.

**Theorem 1.**  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma \subset S^*$ , for all real  $\gamma$ .

**Proof.** If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma$  and we set

$$(3) \quad \frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)} = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}$$

for  $z \in D$ , then  $w(0) = 0$ ,  $w(z) \neq \pm 1$  and  $w(z)$  is a meromorphic function. We will show that  $|w(z)| < 1$ , and this will imply that

$$\operatorname{Re}[zf'(z)/f(z)] > 0.$$

Let  $w(z) = R(z)e^{i\varphi(z)}$ ,  $R \geq 0$  for  $z \in D$ , and suppose that  $z_0$  is a point of  $D$  such that

$$(4) \quad \max_{|z| < |z_0|} |w(z)| = |w(z_0)| = 1.$$

Then  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} R(z_0) = 0$ , and since

$$\frac{zw'(z)}{w(z)} = \frac{\partial \Phi(z)}{\partial \theta} - i \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial R(z)}{\partial \theta},$$

we must have  $z_0 w'(z_0)/w(z_0) = \partial \Phi(z_0)/\partial \theta$ , and hence  $z_0 w'(z_0)/w(z_0)$  must be a real number. A simple geometric argument can show even more. If we assume  $\partial \Phi(z_0)/\partial \theta < 0$  then  $w(z)$  would be locally univalent at  $z_0$  and this would lead to a contradiction of (4). Thus we see that  $\partial \Phi(z_0)/\partial \theta$  must be non-negative and so we can set

$$(5) \quad \frac{z_0 w'(z_0)}{w(z_0)} = B,$$

where  $B \geq 0$ .

Since  $|w(z_0)| = 1$  and  $w(z_0) \neq \pm 1$ , we must have

$$(6) \quad \frac{1+w(z_0)}{1-w(z_0)} = Ai,$$

where  $A$  is real and  $A \neq 0$ .

From (1) and (3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re} I(\gamma, f(z)) &= \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left[ \left( \frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( \frac{1+w(z)}{1-w(z)} + \frac{zw'(z)}{w(z)} \left( \frac{w(z)}{1+w(z)} + \frac{w(z)}{1-w(z)} \right) \right)^\gamma \right] \end{aligned}$$

where

$$I(\gamma, f(z)) \equiv \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + z \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma,$$

and thus at  $z = z_0$ , by using (5) and (6) we obtain

$$\operatorname{Re} I(\gamma, f(z_0)) = \operatorname{Re} \left[ (Ai)^{1-\gamma} \left( Ai + \frac{B}{a} \left( A + \frac{1}{A} \right) i \right)^\gamma \right].$$

If we let  $C = A + B(A + 1/A)/2$ , then since  $B \geq 0$  and  $A \neq 0$  we have  $AC > 0$  and obtain

$$\operatorname{Re} I(\gamma, f(z_0)) = \operatorname{Re} [(Ai)^{1-\gamma} (Ci)^\gamma] = \operatorname{Re} (|A|^{1-\gamma} |C|^\gamma i) = 0.$$

This is a contradiction of (1) and so we must have  $|w(z)| < 1$  for  $z \in D$  and thus  $f(z) \in S^*$ .

Note that Theorem 1 shows that if  $f \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{L}_0 \equiv S^*$ . We can show more than this.

**Theorem 2.** If  $0 \leq \delta \leq \gamma$  (or  $\gamma \leq \delta \leq 0$ ) then  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma \subset \mathcal{L}_\delta$ .

**Proof.** The case  $\delta = 0$  has been handled in Theorem 1, so we only need to consider the case  $0 < \delta/\gamma < 1$ .

If  $f \in \mathcal{L}_\gamma$ , then there is a function  $P_1(z) \in \mathcal{P} \equiv \{P(z) | P(0) = 1, P(z) \text{ is regular in } D \text{ and } \operatorname{Re} P(z) > 0\}$  satisfying

$$\left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \equiv P_1(z).$$

By Theorem 1 we have  $f(z) \in S^*$  and hence there exists  $P_2(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  such that

$$(8) \quad \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \equiv P_2(z).$$

If we raise sides of (7) to the  $\delta/\gamma$  power we obtain

$$(9) \quad \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{\delta/\gamma - \delta} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^{\delta} \equiv P_1(z)^{\delta/\gamma},$$

and if we raise both sides of (8) to the  $(1 - \delta/\gamma)$  power we obtain

$$(10) \quad \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1 - \delta/\gamma} \equiv P_2(z)^{1 - \delta/\gamma}.$$

Multiplying equation (9) by equation (10) we obtain

$$(11) \quad \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1 - \delta} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^{\delta} \equiv P_1(z)^{\delta/\gamma} P_2(z)^{1 - \delta/\gamma} \equiv P_3(z).$$

Since  $P_1(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $P_2(z) \in \mathcal{P}$ , we have  $P_3(0) = 1$  and  $|\arg P_3(z)| \leq \frac{\delta}{\gamma}$ .  
 $|\arg P_1(z)| + \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{\gamma}\right) |\arg P_2(z)| < \pi/2$ , i.e.  $\operatorname{Re} P_3(z) > 0$  and  $P_3(z) \in \mathcal{P}$ .  
 Consequently from (10) we have  $f(z) \in \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ .

Note that the last theorem shows that if  $f(z) \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $\gamma \geq 1$ , then  $f(z)$  is a convex function.

**3.** It is possible to obtain bounds on the coefficients of gamma-starlike functions by using certain "standard" methods.

**Theorem 3.** *If  $f \in \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ ,  $f(z) = z + a_2 z^2 + n$ , and if  $\mu$  is a complex constant, then*

$$(12) \quad |a_2(1 + \gamma)| \leq 2,$$

$$(13) \quad |a_3(4 + 8\gamma) + a_2^2(\gamma^2 - \gamma - 2)| \leq 4,$$

$$(14) \quad (1 + \gamma)^2 |1 + 2\gamma| |a_3 - \mu a_2| \leq \operatorname{Max} [(1 + \gamma)^2, |4\mu(1 + 2\gamma) - 3(3\gamma + 1)|]$$

all hold.

**Remarks.** (i)  $\gamma = 0$  (14) reduces to

$$|a_3 - \mu a_2^2| \leq \operatorname{Max} [1, |4\mu - 3|],$$

which is a result of Keogh and Merkes [2].

(ii) For  $\gamma = 1$  (14) reduces to

$$|a_3 - \mu a_2^2| \leq \operatorname{Max} \left[ \frac{1}{3}, |\mu - 1| \right].$$

(iii) If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{L}_{\gamma}$ ,  $\gamma \geq 0$ , then

$$(15) \quad |a_2| \leq 2/(1 + \gamma)$$

and

$$(16) \quad |a_3| \leq \begin{cases} \frac{3(3\gamma+1)}{(1+2\gamma)(1+\gamma)^2}, & 0 \leq \gamma \leq \frac{7+\sqrt{57}}{2}, \\ \frac{1}{1+2\gamma}, & \frac{7+\sqrt{57}}{2} < \gamma. \end{cases}$$

hold.

Inequalities (12) – (16) may **not** be sharp. They would be sharp if it were possible to prove that the differential equation

$$(17) \quad \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + z \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma = \frac{1+z}{1-z},$$

with initial condition  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f'(0) = 1$ , has a solution that is a regular function in the unit disc. The authors have not been able to prove this for arbitrary  $\gamma$ , but suspect that a solution exists for  $\gamma \geq 0$ .

The class  $\mathcal{M}_a$  satisfies Theorems 1, 2 and inequality (13) and it is also true that  $\mathcal{M}_0 \equiv \mathcal{L}_0 \equiv S^*$  and  $\mathcal{M}_1 \equiv \mathcal{L}_1 \equiv C$ . However, in general  $\mathcal{M}_\beta \not\equiv \mathcal{L}_\beta$ ; This can be seen by considering  $\beta = 1/2$ . By using infinite series, it is possible to show that (17) does have a regular solution for  $\gamma = \beta = 1/2$ , and for this solution  $a_3 = 5/3$ . For functions in  $\mathcal{M}_{1/2}$  we must have  $|a_3| \leq 29/18$  [3], and thus  $\mathcal{M}_{1/2} \not\equiv \mathcal{L}_{1/2}$ .

We conclude by indicating a refinement in the class of gamma-starlike functions.

**Definition 2.** Let  $f(z) = z + \sum_2^\infty a_n z^n$  be regular in the unit disc  $D$  with  $f(z)$ ,  $f'(z)$ ,  $1 + zf''(z)/f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$ , and suppose  $\gamma$  is a real constant,  $0 \leq \gamma < 1$ . If

$$(18) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left[ \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^{1-\gamma} \left( 1 + z \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right)^\gamma \right] > a,$$

for  $z \in D$ , then we say that  $f(z)$  is a gamma-starlike function of order  $a$ , and we denote the class of such functions by  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma(a)$ . If (18) is replaced by

$$\left| (1-\gamma) \arg \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) + \gamma \arg \left( 1 + z \frac{f''(z)}{f'(z)} \right) \right| < \frac{\pi}{2} a$$

for  $z \in D$ , then we say that  $f(z)$  is a strongly gamma-starlike function of order  $a$ , and we denote the class of such functions by  $\mathcal{L}_\gamma^*(a)$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{L}^*(a)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1^*(a)$  are respectively the classes of strongly-starlike and strongly  $\gamma$ -convex functions of order  $a$  introduced by Brannan and Kirwan [1].

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## STRESZCZENIE

Niech  $f(z) = z + \sum_2^{\infty} a_n z^n$  będzie funkcją holomorficzną w kole jednostkowym  $D = \{z: |z| < 1\}$  i taką, że  $f(z) \neq 0$ ,  $f'(z) \neq 0$  oraz

$$1 + zf''(z)/f'(z) \neq 0 \quad \text{dla} \quad 0 < |z| < 1.$$

Jeśli zachodzi nierówność

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ [zf'(z)/f(z)]^{1-\gamma} [zf''(z)/f'(z) + 1] \} > 0 \quad \text{dla} \quad z \in D$$

dla dowolnego, ustalonego rzeczywistego  $\gamma$  to mówimy, że  $f(z)$  jest funkcją gamma-gwiazdzistą.

W pracy tej autorzy dowodzą, że funkcje gamma-gwiazdziste są jednoliste i gwiazdziste. Podane są też pewne oszacowania współczynników dla rozważanych funkcji.

## РЕЗЮМЕ

Пусть  $f(z) = z + \sum_2^{\infty} a_n z^n$  будет голоморфной функцией в единичном круге  $D = \{z: |z| < 1\}$  подчиненной условиям  $f(z) \neq 0$ ,  $f'(z) \neq 0$  и  $1 + zf''(z)/f'(z) \neq 0$  для  $0 < |z| < 1$ .

Если исполнится неравенство для вещественного фиксированного  $\gamma$

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ [zf'(z)/f(z)]^{1-\gamma} [zf''(z)/f'(z) + 1] \} < 0 \quad \text{для} \quad z \in D$$

то тогда мы говорим, что  $f(z)$  — это гамма-звездообразная функция.

Авторы доказывают, что гамма-звездообразные являются однолиственными и звездообразными функциями. Даются также некоторые оценки коэффициентов рассматриваемых функций.