

# On a Subclass of Multivalent Harmonic Functions Defined by a Linear Operator

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we define a subclass of  $p$ -valent harmonic functions defined by a linear operator and study some results as coefficient inequality, convolution property and convex set.

**Keywords:** Multivalent harmonic function, convolution, linear operator.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 30C45.

## 1. Introduction

A continuous function  $f = u + iv$  is a complex valued harmonic function in a complex  $\mathbb{C}$  if both  $u$  and  $v$  are real harmonic in  $\mathbb{C}$ . In any simple connected domain  $D \subset \mathbb{C}$  we can write  $f = h + \bar{g}$ , where  $h$  and  $g$  are analytic in  $D$ , we call  $h$  the analytic part and  $g$  the co-analytic part of  $f$ .

A necessary and sufficient condition for  $f$  to be locally univalent and sense-preserving in  $D$  is that  $|h'(z)| > |g'(z)|$  in  $D$ , see Clunie and Sheil-Small [3].

Denote by  $M(p)$  the class of functions  $f = h + \bar{g}$  that are harmonic multivalent and sense-preserving in the unit disk  $U = \{z: |z| < 1\}$ . For  $f = h + \bar{g} \in M(p)$ , we may express the analytic function  $h$  and  $g$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \\ g(z) &= \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \\ &|b_k| < 1. \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

Let  $N(p)$  denote the subclass of  $M(p)$  consisting of functions  $f = h + \bar{g}$ , where  $h$  and  $g$  are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |a_k| z^k, \\ g(z) &= \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |b_k| z^k, \\ &|b_k| < 1. \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

We introduce here a class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  of harmonic functions of the form (1.1) that satisfy the inequality

$$Re \left\{ \frac{z^{p-1}}{[\mathcal{L}_p(h * \phi_1)(z)]' - [\mathcal{L}_p(g * \phi_1)(z)]'} \right\} > \alpha,$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < \frac{1}{p}$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\mathcal{L}_p f(z) = \mathcal{L}_p h(z) + \overline{\mathcal{L}_p g(z)}. \tag{1.3}$$

The operator  $\mathcal{L}_p$  denotes the linear operator introduced in [6]. For  $h$  and  $g$  given by (1.1), we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}_p h(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} a_k z^k,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_p g(z) = - \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} b_k z^k,$$

where  $a_1, a_2, c_1, c_2$  are positive real numbers,  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Now, the convolution of  $h, g$  is given by (1.2) and

$$\phi_1(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |A_k| z^k, \quad \phi_2(z) = \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |B_k| z^k$$

is defined by

$$(h * \phi_1)(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |A_k| |a_k| z^k$$

$$(g * \phi_2)(z) = \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |B_k| |b_k| z^k, \quad |b_k| < 1,$$

we further denote by  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  the subclass of  $M_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  that satisfies the relation

$$N_\lambda(p, \alpha) = N_\lambda \cap M_\lambda(p, \alpha).$$

**Lemma (1.1)[1]:** If  $\alpha \geq 0$ , then  $Re w > \alpha$  if and only if  $|w - (1 + \alpha)| < |w + (1 - \alpha)|$ , where  $w$  be any complex number.

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1:** Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  ( $h$  and  $g$  are given by (1.1)). If

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k \alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| \\ + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k \alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| \leq p, \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

where  $(0 \leq \alpha < \frac{1}{p}, \lambda \geq 0, p \in \mathbb{N}, z \in U)$ , then  $f$  is harmonic  $p$ -valent sense-preserving in  $U$  and  $f \in M_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

**Proof.** Let

$$w(z) = \left\{ \frac{z^{p-1}}{[\mathcal{L}_p(h * \phi_1)(z)]' - [\mathcal{L}_p(g * \phi_1)(z)]'} \right\} = \frac{A(z)}{B(z)}.$$

By using the fact that in Lemma (1.1)  $Re(w) \geq \alpha$  if and only if  $|w - (1 + \alpha)| < |w + (1 - \alpha)|$ , it is sufficient to show that

$$|A(z) - (1 + \alpha)B(z)| - |A(z) + (1 - \alpha)B(z)| \leq 0. \tag{2.2}$$

Substituting for  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  the appropriate expressions (2.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & |A(z) - (1 + \alpha)B(z)| - |A(z) + (1 - \alpha)B(z)| \\ &= \left| z^{p-1} - (1 + \alpha) \left[ pz^{p-1} + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| z^{k-1} - \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| z^{k-1} \right] \right| \\ & - \left| z^{p-1} + (1 - \alpha) \left[ pz^{p-1} + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| z^{k-1} - \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| z^{k-1} \right] \right| \\ & \leq \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| - p \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

by inequality (2.1), which implies that  $f \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . The harmonic functions

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} \frac{x_k}{k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}}} z^k \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} \frac{\bar{y}_k}{k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}}} (\bar{z})^k, \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

where

$$\sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |\bar{y}_k| = p,$$

show that the coefficients bounds given by (2.1) is sharp. The function of the form (2.3) are in  $M_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  because in view of (2.3) we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| \\ &= \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |\bar{y}_k| = p. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we need to prove that the condition (2.1) is also necessary for function of (1.2) to be in the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  ( $h$  and  $g$  are given by (1.2)). Then  $f \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| \leq p, \end{aligned}$$

where  $(0 \leq \alpha < \frac{1}{p}, \lambda \geq 0, p \in \mathbb{N}, z \in U)$ .

**Proof.** By notation  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha) \subset M_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ , the sufficient part of Theorem (2.2) follows at once from Theorem (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & Re \left\{ \frac{z^{p-1}}{[L_p(h * \phi_1)(z)]' - [L_p(g * \phi_1)(z)]'} \right\} \\ &= Re \left\{ \frac{z^{p-1}}{pz^{p-1} + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| z^{k-1} + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| z^{k-1}} \right\} \\ &> \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

if we choose  $z$  to be real and let  $z \rightarrow 1^-$ , we obtain the condition (2.1).

**Theorem 2.3.** The class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  is a convex set.

**Proof.** Let the function  $f_j(z) (j = 1, 2)$  be in the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . It is sufficient to show that the function  $H$  defined by :

$$H(z) = (1 - \gamma)f_1(z) + \gamma f_2(z), \quad (0 \leq \gamma < 1)$$

is in the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ , where  $f_j = h_j + \bar{g}_j$  and

$$h_j(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |a_{k,j}| z^k,$$

$$g_j(z) = \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |b_{k,j}| (\bar{z})^k.$$

Since for  $0 \leq \gamma < 1$

$$H(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} \left( (1-\gamma)|a_{k,1}| - \gamma|a_{k,2}| \right) z^k - \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} \left( (1-\gamma)|b_{k,1}| - \gamma|b_{k,2}| \right) (\bar{z})^k .$$

In view of Theorem (2.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| \left( (1-\gamma)|a_{k,1}| \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \gamma|a_{k,2}| \right) \\ & + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| \left( (1-\gamma)|b_{k,1}| \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \gamma|b_{k,2}| \right) \\ = & (1-\gamma) \left( \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_{k,1}| \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_{k,1}| \right) \\ & + \gamma \left( \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_{k,2}| \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_{k,2}| \right) \end{aligned}$$

$\leq (1-\gamma)p + \gamma p = p$ , hence  $H(z) \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . For harmonic functions

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |a_k| z^k \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |b_k| (\bar{z})^k \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |r_k| z^k \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |s_k| (\bar{z})^k , \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

we define the convolution of  $f$  and  $F$  as

$$\begin{aligned} (f * F)(z) &= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |a_k r_k| z^k \\ &+ \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |b_k s_k| (\bar{z})^k . \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

In the following theorem, we examine the convolution property of the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** If  $f$  and  $F$  are in  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ , then  $(f * F) \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f$  and  $F$  of the forms (2.4) and (2.5) belongs to  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . Then the convolution of  $f$  and  $F$  is given by (2.6). Note that  $|r_k| \leq 1$  and  $|s_k| \leq 1$ , since  $F \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . Then we can write

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k r_k| \\ & + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k s_k| \\ \leq & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| \\ & + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| . \end{aligned}$$

The right hand side of the above inequality is bounded by  $p$  because  $f \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . Therefore  $(f * F) \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

Now, we will examine the closure property of the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$  under the generalized Bernardi-Libera-Livingston integral operator (see [2],[4] and [5])  $D_{c,p}(f)$  which is defined by

$$D_{c,p}(f)(z) = \frac{c+p}{z^c} \int_0^z t^{c-1} f(t) dt, \quad (c > -p). \tag{2.7}$$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $f \in N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ . Then  $D_{c,p}(f)$  belong to the class  $N_\lambda(p, \alpha)$ .

**Proof.** From the representation of  $D_{c,p}(f)$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} D_{c,p}(f) &= \frac{c+p}{z^c} \int_0^z t^{c-1} \{h(t) + \overline{g(t)}\} dt \\ &= \frac{c+p}{z^c} \left\{ \int_0^z t^{c-1} \left( t^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} |a_k| t^k \right) dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^z t^{c-1} \left( \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} |b_k| t^k \right) dt \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$= z^p + \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} v_k z^k + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} w_k (\bar{z})^k ,$$

where  $v_k = \frac{c+p}{c+k} |a_k|$  and  $w_k = \frac{c+p}{c+k} |b_k|$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| \left( \frac{c+p}{c+k} \right) |a_k| \\ & \quad + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| \left( \frac{c+p}{c+k} \right) |a_k| \\ & \leq \sum_{k=n+p}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} - 1 \right) + 1 \right] \frac{(a_1)_{k-p}}{(c_1)_{k-p}} |A_k| |a_k| \\ & \quad + \sum_{k=n+p-1}^{\infty} k\alpha \left[ \lambda \left( \frac{k}{p} + 1 \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 1 \right] \frac{(a_2)_{k-p}}{(c_2)_{k-p}} |B_k| |b_k| \leq p. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\in N_{\lambda}(p, \alpha)$ , by Theorem (2.2), we have  $D_{c,p}(f) \in N_{\lambda}(p, \alpha)$ .

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