

# On sufficient conditions for Carathéodory functions

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## Abstract

By using the method of differential subordinations, we derive certain sufficient conditions for Carathéodory functions. Our results extend and improve some results due to Nunokawa et al. [*Indian J. Pure Appl. Math.*, 33(2002), 1385 - 1390], Owa and Obradović [*Bull. Austral. Math. Soc.*, 41(1990), 487 - 494], Li and Owa [*Indian J. Pure Appl. Math.*, 33(2002), 313 - 318], and Tuneski [*Internat. J. Math. Math. Sci.*, 23(2000), 521 - 527].

## 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the class of functions  $p(z)$  of the form

$$p(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n z^n$$

which are analytic in the unit disk  $\mathbb{E} = \{z \mid |z| < 1\}$ . If  $p(z)$  in  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}(p(z)) > 0$  for  $z \in \mathbb{E}$ , then we say that  $p(z)$  is the Carathéodory function.

Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{E}$ . Then we say that  $f(z)$  is subordinate to  $g(z)$  in  $\mathbb{E}$ , written  $f(z) \prec g(z)$ , if there exists an analytic function  $w(z)$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  such that  $|w(z)| \leq |z|$  and  $f(z) = g(w(z))$  ( $z \in \mathbb{E}$ ). If  $g(z)$  is univalent in  $\mathbb{E}$ , then the subordination  $f(z) \prec g(z)$  is equivalent to  $f(0) = g(0)$  and  $f(\mathbb{E}) \subset g(\mathbb{E})$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the class of functions  $f(z)$  of the form

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n$$

which are analytic in  $\mathbb{E}$ . A function  $f(z)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be starlike of order  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  if it satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) > \alpha \quad (z \in \mathbb{E})$$

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for some  $\alpha$  ( $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ ). We denote by  $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$  ( $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ ) the subclass of  $\mathcal{A}$  consisting of all starlike functions of order  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{E}$ . Also we denote by  $\mathcal{S}^*(0) = \mathcal{S}^*$ . For  $-1 \leq a \leq 1$ ,  $-1 \leq b \leq 1$  and  $a \neq b$ , a function  $f(z)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be in the class  $\mathcal{S}^*(a, b)$  if satisfies

$$\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \prec \frac{1+az}{1+bz} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}).$$

The class  $\mathcal{S}^*(a, b)$  can be reduced to several well known classes of starlike functions by selecting special values for  $a$  and  $b$ . In particular,

$$\mathcal{S}^*(1-2\alpha, -1) = \mathcal{S}^*(2\alpha-1, 1) = \mathcal{S}^*(\alpha) \quad (0 \leq \alpha < 1).$$

For Carathéodory functions, Nunokawa et al. [3] have given the following two theorems.

**Theorem A.** If  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  satisfies

$$\alpha(p(z))^2 + \beta zp'(z) \prec \frac{2\alpha + \beta}{2} \left( \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right)^2 - \frac{\beta}{2},$$

where  $\beta > 0$  and  $\alpha > -\frac{\beta}{2}$ , then  $\operatorname{Re}(p(z)) > 0$  ( $z \in \mathbb{E}$ )

**Theorem B.** Let  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and  $w(z)$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{E}$  with  $w(0) = \alpha$  and  $w(z) \neq ik$  ( $k \in \mathbb{R}, z \in \mathbb{E}$ ). If

$$\alpha(p(z)) + \beta \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} \prec w(z),$$

where  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\beta > 0$  and  $k^2 \geq \beta(2\alpha + \beta)$ , then  $\operatorname{Re}(p(z)) > 0$  ( $z \in \mathbb{E}$ ).

For the starlikeness of functions in  $\mathcal{A}$ , the following results have been proved.

**Theorem C** ([4]). If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} - \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) \right\} > -\frac{1}{2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ .

**Theorem D** ([1]). If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \left( \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} + 1 \right) \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ .

**Theorem E** ([5]). If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$\frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \prec 2 - \frac{2}{(1-z)^2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ .

**Theorem F** ([5]). If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$\left| \frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \right| < 2 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*$ .

In this paper we shall generalize or refine the above results.

To derive our results, we need the following lemma due to Miller and Mocanu [2].

**Lemma.** Let  $g(z)$  be analytic and univalent in  $\mathbb{E}$ , and let  $\theta(w)$  and  $\phi(w)$  be analytic in a domain  $\mathbb{D}$  containing  $g(\mathbb{E})$ , with  $\phi(w) \neq 0$  when  $w \in g(\mathbb{E})$ . Set

$$Q(z) = zg'(z)\phi(g(z)), h(z) = \theta(g(z)) + Q(z)$$

and suppose that

(i)  $Q(z)$  is univalent and starlike in  $E$ , and

(ii)  $\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{\theta'(g(z))}{\phi(g(z))} + \frac{zQ'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E})$ .

If  $p(z)$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{E}$ , with  $p(0) = g(0)$ ,  $p(\mathbb{E}) \subset \mathbb{D}$  and

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) \prec \theta(g(z)) + zg'(z)\phi(g(z)) = h(z),$$

then  $p(z) \prec g(z)$  is the best dominant of the subordination.

## 2 Main results

Our main result is contained in

**Theorem 1.** Let  $a, b, \lambda$  and  $\mu$  satisfy either

(i)  $0 < a = -b \leq 1$ ,  $\lambda > -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq 0$ , or

(ii)  $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq -2\lambda \frac{(1-a)}{(1-b)}$ .

If  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and

$$(1) \quad \lambda(p(z))^2 + \mu p(z) + zp'(z) \prec h(z),$$

where

$$(2) \quad h(z) = \frac{a(\lambda a + \mu b)z^2 + (2\lambda a + \mu(a+b) + a-b)z + \lambda + \mu}{(1+bz)^2}$$

then  $p(z) \prec \frac{1+az}{1+bz}$  and  $\frac{1+az}{1+bz}$  is the best dominant of (1).

*Proof.* Set

$$(3) \quad g(z) = \frac{1+az}{1+bz}, \theta(w) = \lambda w^2 + \mu w, \phi(w) = 1.$$

Then  $g(z)$  is analytic and univalent in  $\mathbb{E}$ ,  $g(0) = p(0) = 1$ ,  $\theta(w)$  and  $\phi(w)$  are analytic with  $\phi(w) \neq 0$  in the  $w$ -plane. The function

$$(4) \quad Q(z) = zg'(z)\phi(g(z)) = \frac{(a-b)z}{(1+bz)^2}$$

is univalent and starlike in  $\mathbb{E}$  because

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zQ'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} = \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1-bz}{1+bz} \right) > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}).$$

Further, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (5) \quad \theta(g(z)) + Q(z) &= \lambda \left( \frac{1+az}{1+bz} \right)^2 + \mu \frac{1+az}{1+bz} + \frac{(a-b)z}{(1+bz)^2} \\ &= \frac{a(\lambda a + \mu b)z^2 + (2\lambda a + \mu(a+b) + a-b)z + \lambda + \mu}{(1+bz)^2} = h(z) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(6) \quad \frac{zh'(z)}{Q(z)} = 2\lambda \frac{1+az}{1+bz} + \mu + \frac{1-bz}{1+bz}.$$

Therefore

(i) For  $0 < a = -b \leq 1$ ,  $\lambda > -\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq 0$ , it follows from (6) that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} = (2\lambda + 1)\operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1-bz}{1+bz} \right) + \operatorname{Re}(\mu) > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}).$$

(ii) For  $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ , and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq -2\lambda \frac{(1-a)}{(1-b)}$ , from (6) we get

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} > 2\lambda \frac{1-a}{1-b} + \operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}).$$

Thus the function  $h(z)$  in (5) is close-to-convex and univalent in  $\mathbb{E}$ . From (1) to (5), we see that

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) \prec \theta(g(z)) + zg'(z)\phi(g(z)) = h(z).$$

Therefore, by applying the lemma, we conclude that  $p(z) \prec g(z)$  and  $g(z)$  is the best dominant of (1). The proof of the theorem is complete.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** For  $a = -b = 1$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ ,  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\alpha > -\frac{\beta}{2}$  and  $\mu = 0$ , Theorem 1 (i) coincides with Theorem A by Nunokawa et al [3].

**Corollary 1.** If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$(7) \quad \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f(z)} - \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) \prec \frac{(a-b)z}{(1+bz)^2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E})$$

for some  $a$  and  $b$  ( $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$ ), then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*(a, b)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p(z) = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}$ . Then  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and (7) can be written as

$$(8) \quad zp'(z) \prec \frac{(a-b)z}{(1+bz)^2}$$

Putting  $\lambda = \mu = 0$  in Theorem 1 (ii) and using (8), the desired result follows at once. □

**Remark 2.** Corollary 1 with  $a = 1 - 2\alpha$  ( $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ ) and  $b = -1$  implies that if  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \left( 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f(z)} - \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right) \prec 2(1-\alpha) \frac{z}{(1-z)^2},$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$  and the order  $\alpha$  is sharp for  $f(z) = \frac{z}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$ . When  $\alpha = 0$ , this result improves Theorem C by Owa and Obradović [4].

**Corollary 2.** If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$(9) \quad \frac{z^2 f''(z)}{f(z)} + \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + (\lambda - 1) \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^2 \prec \frac{\lambda + z}{(1-z)^2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E})$$

for some  $\lambda$  ( $\lambda \geq 0$ ), then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$  and the order  $\frac{1}{2}$  is sharp.

*Proof.* If we let  $p(z) = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}$ , then  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and it follows from (9) that

$$(10) \quad \lambda(p(z))^2 + zp'(z) = \frac{z^2 f''(z)}{f(z)} + \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + (\lambda - 1) \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^2 \prec \frac{\lambda + z}{(1-z)^2}.$$

Taking  $a = 0$ ,  $b = -1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  and  $\mu = 0$  in Theorem 1 (ii) and using (10), we know that  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ .

For  $f(z) = \frac{z}{(1-z)}$ , we have

$$\frac{z^2 f''(z)}{f(z)} + \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + (\lambda - 1) \left( \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right)^2 = \frac{\lambda + z}{(1-z)^2}$$

and

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow -1.$$

Hence the corollary is proved. □

**Remark 3.** If we put  $h(z) = \frac{\lambda + z}{(1 - z)^2}$  ( $\lambda > 0$ ), then

$$h(e^{i\theta}) = -\frac{1 + \lambda \cos \theta - i\lambda \sin \theta}{2(1 - \cos \theta)} \quad (0 < \theta < 2\pi)$$

and hence

$$h(\mathbb{E}) = \left\{ w = u + iv : v^2 > -\frac{\lambda^2}{1 + \lambda} \left( u - \frac{\lambda - 1}{4} \right) \right\},$$

which properly contains the half plane  $\operatorname{Re}(w) > \frac{\lambda - 1}{4}$ . Thus Corollary 2 with  $\lambda = 1$  improves Theorem D by Li and Owa [1].

**Corollary 3.** Let  $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq 0$ . If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$(11) \quad (1 - \mu) \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} + \frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \prec h(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

where

$$(12) \quad h(z) = \frac{b(b - \mu a)z^2 + (3b - a - \mu(a + b))z + 1 - \mu}{(1 + bz)^2},$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*(b, a)$ .

*Proof.* Let us define  $p(z)$  in  $\mathbb{E}$  by

$$(13) \quad p(z) = \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)}.$$

Then  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  and it follows from (11), (12) and (13) that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu p(z) + zp'(z) &= 1 + (\mu - 1) \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} - \frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \\ &\prec \frac{\mu abz^2 + (\mu(a + b) + a - b)z + \mu}{(1 + bz)^2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by applying Theorem 1 (ii) with  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\operatorname{Re}(\mu) \geq 0$ , we have

$$p(z) = \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} \prec \frac{1 + az}{1 + bz}.$$

This implies that  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*(b, a)$ . □

**Remark 4.** Letting  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -1$  and  $\mu = 1$  in Corollary 3, we get Theorem E by Tuneski [5].

For  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 0$  and  $\mu = 1$ , Corollary 3 lead to

**Corollary 4.** If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$\left| \frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \right| < 2 \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

then  $f(z) \in S^* \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)$  and the order  $\frac{1}{2}$  is sharp for the function  $f(z) = \frac{z}{1-z}$ .

**Remark 5.** Corollary 4 refines Theorem F by Tuneski [5].

Taking  $a = 0$ ,  $b = -c$  and  $\mu = 1$  in Corollary 3, we have

**Corollary 5.** If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$\frac{f(z)f''(z)}{(f'(z))^2} \prec 1 - \frac{1}{(1-cz)^2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{E})$$

for some  $c$  ( $0 < c \leq 1$ ), then

$$(14) \quad \left| \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right| < c \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}).$$

The bound  $c$  in (14) is sharp for the function  $f(z) = ze^{-cz}$ .

Next we derive

**Theorem 2.** Let  $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$  and  $\mu \geq -\frac{1-a}{1-b}$ . If  $p(z) \in \mathcal{P}$  with  $p(z) \neq -\mu$  ( $z \in \mathbb{E}$ ) and

$$(15) \quad \lambda p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z) + \mu} \prec h(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

where

$$h(z) = \frac{\lambda acz^2 + (\lambda(a+c) + c-b)z + \lambda}{(1+bz)(1+cz)}, c = \frac{a+\mu b}{1+\mu},$$

then  $p(z) \prec \frac{1+az}{1+bz}$  and  $\frac{1+az}{1+bz}$  is the best dominant of (15).

*Proof.* We choose

$$g(z) = \frac{1+az}{1+bz}, \quad \theta(w) = \lambda w, \quad \phi(w) = \frac{1}{w+\mu}$$

and  $\mathbb{D} = w : w \neq -\mu$  in the Lemma. Noting that

$$(16) \quad \operatorname{Re}(g(z)) > \frac{1-a}{1-b} \geq -\mu \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

the function  $\phi(w)$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$  containing  $g(\mathbb{E})$ . From (16) we see that

$$1+\mu > 0, \quad -1 \leq b < c = \frac{a+\mu b}{1+\mu} \leq 1.$$

The function

$$Q(z) = zg'(z)\phi(g(z)) = \frac{(c-b)z}{(1+bz)(1+cz)}$$

is univalent and starlike in  $\mathbb{E}$  because

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zQ'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} = -1 + \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1}{1+bz} \right) + \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1}{1+cz} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&> -1 + \frac{1}{1+|b|} + \frac{1}{1+|c|} \\
&= \frac{1-|bc|}{(1+|b|)(1+|c|)} \geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

for  $z \in \mathbb{E}$ . Further, we have

$$\theta(g(z)) + Q(z) = \lambda \frac{1+az}{1+bz} + \frac{(c-b)z}{(1+bz)(1+cz)} = h(z)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z)}{Q(z)} \right\} &= \lambda(1+\mu) \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{1+cz}{1+bz} \right) + \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{zQ'(z)}{Q(z)} \right) \\
&> \lambda(1+\mu) \frac{1-c}{1-b} \geq 0 \quad (z \in E)
\end{aligned}$$

for  $\lambda \geq 0$ . The other conditions of the lemma are seen to be satisfied. Hence  $p(z) \prec g(z)$  and  $g(z)$  is the best dominant of (15). The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Remark 6.** Note that the univalent function  $h(z)$  defined by

$$h(z) = \frac{\alpha z^2 + 2(\alpha + \beta)z + \alpha}{1 - z^2} = \alpha \frac{1+z}{1-z} + 2\beta \frac{z}{1-z^2} \quad (\alpha > 0, \beta > 0)$$

maps  $\mathbb{E}$  onto the complex plane minus the half-lines

$$l_1 = w = u + iv : u = 0, \quad v \geq \sqrt{\beta(2\alpha + \beta)}$$

and

$$l_2 = w = u + iv : u = 0, \quad v \leq -\sqrt{\beta(2\alpha + \beta)}.$$

For  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -1$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\beta > 0$  and  $\mu = 0$ , Theorem 2 reduces to Theorem B by Nunokawa et al [3].

Theorem 2 with  $\mu = 0$  and  $p(z) = \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}$  leads to the following corollary.

**Corollary 6.** Let  $-1 \leq b < a \leq 1$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ . If  $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfies  $f(z)f'(z) \neq 0$  in  $0 < |z| < 1$  and

$$(\lambda - 1) \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} + 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \prec h(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{E}),$$

where

$$h(z) = \frac{\lambda a^2 z^2 + (2\lambda a + a - b)z + \lambda}{(1 + az)(1 + bz)},$$

then  $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}^*(a, b)$ .

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