

Review Article

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Differential sandwich theorems for p -valent analytic functions associated with a generalization of the integral operator

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Abstract: In this study, subordination, superordination, and sandwich theorems are established for a class of p -valent analytic functions involving a generalized integral operator that has as a special case p -valent Sălăgean integral operator. Relevant connections of the new results with several well-known ones are given as a conclusion for this investigation.

Keywords: multivalent function, differintegral operator, differential subordination, differential superordination, sandwich theorem, p -valent Sălăgean integral operator

MSC 2020: 30C45

1 Introduction and definitions

Let \mathcal{H} be the class of functions analytic in the open unit disk

$$\mathbb{U} = \{z : z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and } |z| < 1\}$$

and $\mathcal{H}[a, p]$ ($a \in \mathbb{C}$, $p \in \mathbb{N} = 1, 2, 3, \dots$) be the subclass of \mathcal{H} consisting of functions of the following form:

$$f(z) = a + a_p z^p + a_{p+1} z^{p+1} + \dots \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Suppose that f and g are in \mathcal{H} . We say that f is subordinate to g (or g is superordinate to f), which can be written as

$$f < g \quad \text{in } \mathbb{U} \quad \text{or} \quad f(z) < g(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

if there exists a function $\omega \in \mathcal{H}$, satisfying the conditions of the Schwarz lemma (i.e., $\omega(0) = 0$ and $|\omega(z)| < 1$) such that

$$f(z) = g(\omega(z)) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

It follows that

$$f(z) < g(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \Rightarrow f(0) = g(0) \quad \text{and} \quad f(\mathbb{U}) \subset g(\mathbb{U}).$$

In particular, if g is univalent in \mathbb{U} , then the reverse implication also holds (cf. [1]).

We recall here some more definitions and terminologies from the theory of *differential subordination and differential superordination* developed by Miller and Mocanu (cf. [1,2]).

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Let $\phi(r, s; z) : \mathbb{C}^2 \times \mathbb{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathfrak{L}(z)$ be univalent in \mathbb{U} . If $p \in \mathcal{H}$ satisfies

$$\phi(p(z), zp'(z); z) < \mathfrak{L}(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \quad (1)$$

then $p(z)$ is called a solution of the first-order differential subordination (1). A univalent function q is called a dominant of the solutions of the differential subordination, or more precisely a dominant if $p < q$, for all p satisfying (1). A dominant \tilde{q} that satisfies $\tilde{q} < q$, for all dominant q of (1) is called the best dominant of (1). The best dominant is unique up to rotations of \mathbb{U} .

Similarly, let $\phi(r, s; z) : \mathbb{C}^2 \times \mathbb{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathfrak{L} \in \mathcal{H}$. Let $p \in \mathcal{H}$ be such that $p(z)$ and $\phi(p(z), zp'(z); z)$ are univalent in \mathbb{U} . If $p(z)$ satisfies

$$\mathfrak{L}(z) < \phi(p(z), zp'(z); z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \quad (2)$$

then $p(z)$ is called a solution of the first-order differential superordination (2).

An analytic function q is called a subordinant of the solutions of the differential superordination, or more precisely a subordinant, if $q < p$, for all p satisfying (2). A univalent subordinant \tilde{q} that satisfies $q < \tilde{q}$, for all subordinants q of (2) is said to be the best subordinant. The best subordinant is unique up to rotations of \mathbb{U} . The well-known monograph of Miller and Mocanu [1] and the more recent work of Bulboacă [3] provide detailed expositions on the theory of differential subordination and superordination.

Miller and Mocanu [1,2] obtained sufficient conditions on certain broad class of functions $\mathfrak{L}_1, q_1, \mathfrak{L}_2, q_2, \varphi_1$ and φ_2 for which the following implications hold true:

$$\varphi_1(p(z), zp'(z), z^2p''(z); z) < \mathfrak{L}_1(z) \Rightarrow p(z) < q_1(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\mathfrak{L}_2(z) < \varphi_2(p(z), zp'(z), z^2p''(z); z) \Rightarrow q_2(z) < p(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Bulboacă [4,5], Ali et al. [6], and Shanmugam et al. [7,8] found adequate conditions on the normalized analytic function f in a series of follow-up studies such that sandwich subordinations of the following kind are true:

$$q_1(z) < \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} < q_2(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

where q_1, q_2 are univalent in \mathbb{U} and I is a suitable operator. Refer [9–18] for sandwich results from more recent studies.

Studies with intriguing results were recently inspired by p -valent analytic classes of functions. Recent publications have provided information on the following topics: the properties of p -valent analytic functions related to cosine and exponential functions [19], results of subordination and superordination obtained by applying operators on p -valent analytic functions [20,21], and the introduction of new classes through the application of operators on p -valent analytic functions [22].

The following studies, also recently published, served as further inspiration and motivation for the study's findings. Two new classes of p -valent functions were introduced using generalized differential operators [23,24]. Geometric features of a newly developed operator involving p -valent functions were studied and a subclass of multivalent functions was introduced in [25]. A new generalized integral operator is presented and analyzed considering numerous subordination and coefficient properties in [26].

In view of the recent investigation listed above, the subclass \mathcal{H}_p of $\mathcal{H}[0, p]$ consists of functions of the following form:

$$f(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} a_k z^k \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \quad (3)$$

which will be investigated using a new generalized integral operator [27] defined for $p \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, $\lambda > 0$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$, defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} I_{p,\lambda}^0 f(z) &= f(z) \\ I_{p,\lambda}^1 f(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} z^{p-\frac{p}{\lambda}} \int_0^z t^{\frac{p}{\lambda}-p-1} f(t) dt = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{p}{p + \lambda(k-p)} \right] a_k z^k \\ I_{p,\lambda}^2 f(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} z^{p-\frac{p}{\lambda}} \int_0^z t^{\frac{p}{\lambda}-p-1} I_{p,\lambda}^1 f(t) dt = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{p}{p + \lambda(k-p)} \right]^2 a_k z^k \end{aligned}$$

and (in general)

$$\begin{aligned} I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} z^{p-\frac{p}{\lambda}} \int_0^z t^{\frac{p}{\lambda}-p-1} I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(t) dt = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{p}{p + \lambda(k-p)} \right]^n a_k z^k \\ &= \underbrace{I_{p,\lambda}^1 \left(\frac{z^p}{1-z} \right) * I_{p,\lambda}^1 \left(\frac{z^p}{1-z} \right) * \dots * I_{p,\lambda}^1 \left(\frac{z^p}{1-z} \right) * f(z)}_{n\text{-times}}, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

then from (4), we can easily deduce that

$$\frac{\lambda}{p} z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))' = I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) - (1-\lambda) I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z) \quad (p, n \in \mathbb{N}; \lambda > 0). \quad (5)$$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \quad I_{1,\lambda}^n f(z) &= I_{\lambda}^{-n} f(z) \quad (\text{see [28]}) \\ &= \left\{ f(z) \in \mathcal{H} : I_{\lambda}^{-n} f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + \lambda(k-1)]^{-n} a_k z^k \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}_0) \right\}, \\ (ii) \quad I_{1,1}^n f(z) &= I^n f(z) \quad (\text{see [28]}) \\ &= \left\{ f(z) \in \mathcal{H} : I^n f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k^{-n} a_k z^k \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}_0) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, we note that $I_{p,1}^n f(z) = I_p^n f(z)$, where I_p^n is p -valent Sălăgean integral operator

$$I_p^n f(z) = \left\{ f(z) \in \mathcal{H}_p : I_p^n f(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p}{k} \right)^n a_k z^k \quad (p \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0) \right\}. \quad (6)$$

In the sequel to earlier investigations, in the present study, we find interesting sufficient conditions on the functions $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ and $q_1, q_2 \in \mathcal{H}$ such that sandwich relation of the form [29]

$$q_1(z) < \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} < q_2(z)$$

or

$$q_1(z) < \left(\frac{(1-\rho) I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right)^{\eta} < q_2(z)$$

holds. For particular values of the parameters λ and p , our results obtained here include several classical as well as recent results. We will derive several subordination results, superordination results, and sandwich results involving the operator $I_{p,\lambda}^n$.

2 Preliminaries

To establish our results, we need the following:

Definition 1. ([2], Definition 2, p. 817; also see [1], Definition 2.2b, p. 21) Let Q be the set of functions f that are analytic and injective on $\mathbb{U} \setminus E(f)$, where

$$E(f) := \left\{ \zeta : \zeta \in \partial\mathbb{U} \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{z \rightarrow \zeta} f(z) = \infty \right\}$$

and such that $f'(\zeta) \neq 0$ for $\zeta \in \partial\mathbb{U} \setminus E(f)$.

Lemma 1. ([1], Theorem 3.4h, p. 132) Let q be univalent in the open unit disk \mathbb{U} and θ and ϕ be analytic in a domain \mathbb{D} containing $q(\mathbb{U})$ with $\phi(w) \neq 0$ when $w \in q(\mathbb{U})$. Set $\Phi(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z))$ and $\mathcal{L}(z) = \theta(q(z)) + \Phi(z)$. Suppose that

(1) Φ is starlike in \mathbb{U}

and

(2) $\Re\left\{\frac{z\mathcal{L}'(z)}{\Phi(z)}\right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$.

If $p \in \mathcal{H}[q(0), n]$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $p(\mathbb{U}) \subset \mathbb{D}$ and

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < \theta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\phi(q(z)), \quad (7)$$

then $p < q$ and q is the best dominant.

Lemma 2. [7] Let q be univalent convex in the open unit disk \mathbb{U} and $\psi, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$ with $\Re\left(1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)}\right) > \max\{0, -\Re(\psi|\gamma)\}$. If $p(z)$ is analytic and

$$\psi(p(z)) + \gamma zp'(z) < \psi(q(z)) + \gamma zq'(z),$$

then $p < q$ and q is the best dominant.

Lemma 3. [30] Let q be univalent in the open unit disk \mathbb{U} and θ and ϕ be analytic in a domain \mathbb{D} containing $q(\mathbb{U})$. Set $\Phi(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z))$. Suppose that

(1) Φ is univalent starlike in \mathbb{U}

and

(2) $\Re\left\{\frac{\theta'(q(z))}{\phi(q(z))}\right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$.

If $p \in \mathcal{H}[q(0), 1] \cap Q$ with $p(\mathbb{U}) \subseteq \mathbb{D}$; $\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z))$ is univalent in \mathbb{U} and

$$\theta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\phi(q(z)) < \theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

then $q < p$ and q is the best dominant.

Lemma 4. ([2], Theorem 8, p. 822) Let q be univalent convex in the open unit disk \mathbb{U} and $\gamma \in \mathbb{C}$, with $\Re(\gamma) > 0$. If $p \in \mathcal{H}[q(0), 1] \cap Q$, $p(z) + \gamma zp'(z)$ is univalent in \mathbb{U} and

$$q(z) + \gamma zq'(z) < p(z) + \gamma zp'(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

then $q < p$ and q is the best subdominant.

3 Subordination and superordination results

We state and prove the following subordination and superordination results.

Theorem 1. Let $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be a convex univalent function in \mathbb{U} with $q(0) = 1$. Let the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ satisfy the following subordination condition:

$$\tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} < q(z) + \frac{\tau \lambda}{p} z q'(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}; p, n \in \mathbb{N}, \tau, \lambda > 0), \quad (8)$$

where $I_{p,\lambda}^n$ is defined by (4). Then,

$$\frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} < q(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \quad (9)$$

and q is the best dominant.

Proof. Let the function p be defined by

$$p(z) = \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \quad (10)$$

$$p'(z) = \frac{z^p (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))' - p z^{p-1} (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))}{(z^p)^2}$$

$$z^{p+1} p'(z) = z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))' - p (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))$$

$$z^{p+1} p'(z) + p (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)) = z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))',$$

which, upon differentiation followed by multiplication by z , gives

$$z^{p+1} p'(z) + p z^p p(z) = z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'. \quad (11)$$

By using (5) we obtain the following, after a routine simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} z^{p+1} p'(z) + p z^p p(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) - (1 - \lambda) I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)) \\ z^{p+1} p'(z) + p z^p p(z) + \frac{p}{\lambda} (1 - \lambda) I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)) \\ z^{p+1} p'(z) + \left(p + \frac{p}{\lambda} (1 - \lambda) \right) z^p p(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)) \\ z^{p+1} p'(z) + \left(p + \frac{p}{\lambda} - p \right) z^p p(z) &= \frac{p}{\lambda} (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)), \\ \frac{\lambda}{p} z p'(z) + p(z) &= \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p}. \end{aligned}$$

This further gives that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\lambda}{p} z p'(z) &= \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} - p(z) \\ \frac{\lambda}{p} z p'(z) &= \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) - z^p p(z)}{z^p} \\ \tau \left(\frac{\lambda}{p} \right) z p'(z) &= \frac{\tau (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) - I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))}{z^p} \\ p(z) + \tau \frac{\lambda}{p} z p'(z) &= \frac{\tau (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) - I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))}{z^p} + \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \\ p(z) + \tau \frac{\lambda}{p} z p'(z) &= \frac{\tau I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, in the light of the hypothesis (9), we have

$$p(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z p'(z) < q(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z q'(z).$$

Now, an application of Lemma 2 with

$$\gamma = \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi = 1$$

gives the assertion in (10). This completes the proof of Theorem 1. \square

Theorem 2. Let $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be a univalent convex function in \mathbb{U} with $q(0) = 1$. Also, let the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$, be such that

$$\frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \in H[1, 1] \cap Q$$

and for $\tau > 0$, the function $\tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p}$ be univalent in \mathbb{U} , where $I_{p,\lambda}^n$ is defined by (4). If

$$q(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z q'(z) < \tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}; p, n \in \mathbb{N}, \tau, \lambda > 0), \quad (12)$$

then

$$q(z) < \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and q is the best subdominant.

Proof. As in the proof of our Theorem 1, let the function $p(z)$ be defined by (10). Then,

$$\tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} = p(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z p'(z).$$

Therefore, the hypothesis (12) is equivalent to

$$q(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z q'(z) < p(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z p'(z).$$

Now, an application of Lemma 4 yields

$$q(z) < p(z) = \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p},$$

and q is the best subdominant. The proof of Theorem 2 is completed. \square

Theorem 3. Let the function $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be nonzero univalent in \mathbb{U} with $q(0) = 1$ and

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{z q''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \quad (13)$$

Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$, $\lambda, p \in \mathbb{N}$, $p > 0$, and $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$. If $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ satisfies the following:

$$\left[\frac{(1 - \rho) I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right] \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\eta \left[\frac{(1 - \rho) z (I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z))' + \rho z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1 - \rho) I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right] < \frac{z q'(z)}{q(z)}, \quad (14)$$

then

$$\left[\frac{(1 - \rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta < q(z) \quad (15)$$

and q is the best dominant in (15).

Proof. Let the function $p(z)$ be defined on \mathbb{U} by

$$p(z) = \left[\frac{(1 - \rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta. \quad (16)$$

Then, p is analytic in \mathbb{U} . The logarithmic differentiation of (16) yields

$$\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} = \eta \left[\frac{(1 - \rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1 - \rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right]. \quad (17)$$

In order to apply Lemma 1, we set

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(z) &= 1, \phi(w) = \frac{1}{w} \quad (w \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}), \\ \Phi(z) &= zp'(z)\phi(q(z)) = \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}(z) = \theta(q(z)) + \Phi(z) = 1 + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}.$$

By making use of hypothesis (13), we see that $\Phi(z)$ is univalent starlike in \mathbb{U} . Since $\mathcal{L}(z) = 1 + \Phi(z)$, we further obtain that

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{z\mathcal{L}'(z)}{\Phi(z)} \right\} > 0.$$

By a routine calculation using (16) and (17), we have

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) = 1 + \eta \left[\frac{(1 - \rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1 - \rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right].$$

Therefore, hypothesis (14) is equivalently written as follows:

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < 1 + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} = \theta(q(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(q(z)).$$

We see that condition (7) is also satisfied. Now, by an application of Lemma 1, we have

$$p(z) < q(z).$$

We, thus, obtain the assertions in (15). This completes the proof of Theorem 3. \square

Theorem 4. Let $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be a univalent mapping of U into the right half plane with $q(0) = 1$ and

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \quad (18)$$

Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$, $\lambda, p \in \mathbb{N}$, $p > 0$, and $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$. Suppose that the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ satisfies the following:

$$\left[\frac{(1 - \rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right] \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Set

$$\Delta(z) = \left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta + \eta \left[\frac{(1-\rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right] \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \quad (19)$$

If

$$\Delta(z) < q(z) + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}, \quad (20)$$

then

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta < q(z) \quad (21)$$

and q is the best dominant in (21).

Proof. We follow the lines of proof of Theorem 3. Let the function $p(z)$ be defined as in (16). We set

$$\theta(w) = w, \quad \phi(w) = \frac{1}{w} \quad (w \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}),$$

$$\Phi(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z)) = \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

and

$$\mathfrak{L}(z) = \theta(q(z)) + \Phi(z) = q(z) + \Phi(z).$$

In this case,

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{z\mathfrak{L}'(z)}{\Phi(z)} \right\} = \Re \left\{ q(z) + 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

By making use of (17), hypothesis (20) can be equivalently written as

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < \theta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\phi(q(z)).$$

Therefore, by applying Lemma 1, we obtain

$$p(z) < q(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

We obtain the assertion in (21). The proof of Theorem 4 is completed. \square

Theorem 5. Let $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be a univalent mapping of \mathbb{U} into the right half plane with $q(0) = 1$ and satisfy

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} - \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \quad (22)$$

Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$ and $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$. Let the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ be such that

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta \in \mathcal{H}[1, 1] \cap \mathcal{Q}.$$

Suppose that the function $\Delta(z)$ is also univalent in \mathbb{U} , where $\Delta(z)$ is defined by (19). If

$$q(z) + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} < \Delta(z), \quad (23)$$

then

$$q(z) < \left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta \quad (24)$$

and q is the best subordinator in (24).

Proof. In order to apply Lemma 3, we set

$$\theta(w) = w, \phi(w) = \frac{1}{w} \quad (w \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\})$$

and

$$\Phi(z) = zq'(z)\phi(q(z)) = \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

We first observe that Φ is starlike in \mathbb{U} . Furthermore,

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{\theta'(q(z))}{\phi(z)} \right\} = \Re \{q(z)\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Now, let the function p be defined on \mathbb{U} as in (16). By a routine calculation using (17), we have

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) = \Delta(z).$$

Hence, condition (23) is equivalent to the following:

$$\theta(q(z)) + zq'(z)\phi(q(z)) < \theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)).$$

Therefore, by using Lemma 3, we have

$$q(z) < p(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

and q is the best subordinator. This is precisely the assertion of (24). The proof of Theorem 5 is completed. \square

Theorem 6. Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$ and $\alpha, \eta \in \mathbb{C}$. Let the function $q \in \mathcal{H}$ be univalent in \mathbb{U} and

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} \right\} > \max\{0, -\Re(\alpha)\}. \quad (25)$$

Suppose that $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ satisfies the following:

$$\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Set

$$\Omega(z) = \left\{ \frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right\}^\eta \left\{ \alpha + \eta \left[\frac{(1-\rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right] \right\} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \quad (26)$$

if

$$\Omega(z) < \alpha q(z) + zq'(z), \quad (27)$$

then

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta < q(z) \quad (28)$$

and q is the best dominant.

Proof. The proof of this theorem is similar to the proof of Theorem 4. Therefore, we sketch only the main steps. Let the function $p(z)$ be defined on \mathbb{U} by (16). By using (17), we write:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} &= \eta \left[\frac{(1-\rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right] \\ zp'(z) &= \eta p(z) \left[\frac{(1-\rho)z(I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z))' + \rho z(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right].\end{aligned}\quad (29)$$

In this case setting,

$$\theta(w) = \alpha w, \phi(w) = 1 \quad (w \in \mathbb{C}),$$

$$\Phi(z) = zp'(z)\phi(q(z)) = zp'(z),$$

and

$$\Omega(z) = \theta(q(z)) + \Phi(z) = \alpha q(z) + zp'(z),$$

we see that, by (25), Φ is starlike in \mathbb{U} and

$$\Re \left(\frac{z\Omega'(z)}{\Phi(z)} \right) = \Re \left[\alpha + 1 + \frac{zp''(z)}{q'(z)} \right] > 0.$$

Furthermore, by substituting the expression for $p(z)$ from (16) and the expression for $zp'(z)$ from (29), we have

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) = \alpha p(z) + zp'(z) = \Omega(z),$$

where $\Omega(z)$ is defined by (26). The hypothesis (27) is now equivalently written as

$$\theta(p(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(p(z)) < \theta(q(z)) + zp'(z)\phi(q(z)).$$

An application of Lemma 1 yields

$$p(z) < q(z).$$

This last statement gives the assertion in (28). The proof of Theorem 6 is completed. \square

Theorem 7. Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$, $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$, and $\Re(\alpha) > 0$. Let the function q be univalent convex in \mathbb{U} with $q(0) = 1$. Suppose that the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ is such that

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right] \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta \in \mathcal{H}[1, 1] \cap Q.$$

If $\Omega(z)$ defined by (26) is univalent and satisfies the following:

$$\alpha q(z) + zp'(z) < \Omega(z), \quad (30)$$

then

$$q(z) < \left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta. \quad (31)$$

The function q is the best subordinant in (31).

Proof. Let the function $p(z)$ be defined as in (17). Then, by making use of (18), we write

$$\Omega(z) = \alpha p(z) + z p'(z).$$

The hypothesis (31) is now equivalently written as

$$q(z) + \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) z q'(z) < p(z) + \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) z p'(z).$$

Therefore, an application of Lemma 4 with $\gamma = \frac{1}{\alpha}$ yields (32). The proof of Theorem 7 is completed. \square

4 Sandwich theorems

By combining Theorem 1 with Theorem 2, we obtain the following differential sandwich theorem:

Theorem 8. Let the functions q_1 and q_2 be univalent convex in \mathbb{U} with $q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$. Let $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ be such that

$$\frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \in \mathcal{H}[1, 1] \cap Q$$

and for $\tau > 0$, the function

$$\tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p}$$

is univalent in \mathbb{U} , where $I_{p,\lambda}^n$ is defined by (4). If

$$q_1(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z q_1'(z) < \tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z)}{z^p} + (1 - \tau) \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} < q_2(z) + \frac{\tau\lambda}{p} z q_2'(z),$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \tau \frac{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} < q_2(z). \quad (32)$$

The functions q_1 and q_2 are, respectively, the best subordinate and the best dominant in (32).

By combining Theorems 4 and 5, we obtain following.

Theorem 9. Let the functions $q_1, q_2 \in \mathcal{H}$ be univalent mappings of \mathbb{U} into the right half plane and further satisfy the following conditions:

$$q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$$

and

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{z q_j''(z)}{q_j'(z)} - \frac{z q_j'(z)}{q_j(z)} \right\} > 0 \quad (j = 1, 2; z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$ and $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$. Let $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ be such that the following conditions hold true:

$$\left[\frac{(1 - \rho) I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1} f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right] \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta \in \mathcal{H}[1, 1] \cap Q.$$

Let the function $\Delta(z)$ be defined on \mathbb{U} as in (19). If

$$q_1(z) + \frac{zq_1'(z)}{q_1(z)} < \Delta(z) < q_2 + \frac{zq_2'(z)}{q_2(z)},$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta < q_2(z), \quad (33)$$

where q_1 and q_2 are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant in (33).

By combining Theorems 6 and 7, we obtain following.

Theorem 10. Let $0 \leq \rho \leq 1$, $\eta \in \mathbb{C}$, and $\alpha \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ with $\Re(\alpha) > 0$. Let the functions q_1 and q_2 be univalent convex in \mathbb{U} with $q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$. Suppose that $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ is such that

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right] \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta \in \mathcal{H}[1, 1] \cap Q.$$

Let the function $\Omega(z)$ be defined by (27). If

$$\alpha q_1(z) + zq_1'(z) < \Omega(z) < \alpha q_2(z) + zq_2'(z),$$

then

$$q_1(z) < \left[\frac{(1-\rho)I_{p,\lambda}^{n-1}f(z) + \rho I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)}{z^p} \right]^\eta < q_2(z), \quad (34)$$

where q_1 and q_2 are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant in (34).

5 Concluding remarks

By taking particular values for the parameters λ, p, n , and choosing different dominant functions $q(z)$ in our results of Section 3, we obtain several interesting consequences. As the first example, let Ω_k ($0, \leq k < \infty$) be the convex conic region in the w -plane defined by the following:

$$\Omega_k := \{w = u + iv \in \mathbb{C} : u^2 > k^2(u-1)^2 + k^2v^2, u > 0\}.$$

Also, let R_k be the Riemann map of \mathbb{U} onto Ω_k satisfying $R_k(0) = 1$ and $R_k'(0) > 0$. Let the function q_k be defined by

$$q_k(z) = \exp \int_0^z \frac{R_k(s) - 1}{s} ds \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \quad (35)$$

The region Ω_k ; the functions $R_k(z)$ and $q_k(z)$ are widely discussed in the literature in the context of k -uniformly convex functions. (See e.g. [31], also see [32].) Moreover, we can readily verify that

$$\Re \left[1 + \frac{z q_k''(z)}{q_k'(z)} - \frac{z q_k'(z)}{q_k(z)} \right] = \Re \left[\frac{R_k'(z)}{R_k(z) - 1} \right] > \frac{1}{2} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

Therefore, condition (13) is satisfied. Now, by choosing $p = 1$, $\rho = 1$, $n = 1$, $\lambda = 1$, η real, and $q(z) = q_k(z)$ in Theorem 3, where $q_k(z)$ is defined by (35), we obtain

If the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_1$ satisfies the following:

$$\frac{f(z)}{z} \neq 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and

$$\eta \left(\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} - 1 \right) < (R_k(z) - 1) \quad (\eta \in \mathbb{C}, z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

then

$$\left(\frac{f(z)}{z} \right)^\eta < q_k(z) \quad (36)$$

and $q_k(z)$ is the best dominant in (36).

For $\eta = 1$, this result is due to Kanas and Wisniowska [33]. (Also see [32,34,35] for generalizations.)

In the second example, we choose $q(z) = \frac{1+A_3}{1+B_3} (-1 \leq B < A \leq 1)$, $\rho = 1$ in Theorem 3, obtain the following:

If the function $f \in \mathcal{H}_p$ satisfies

$$\eta \left[\frac{z (I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))'}{I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z)} - p \right] < \frac{(A-B)z}{(1+A_3)(1+B_3)},$$

then

$$\eta \left[\frac{(I_{p,\lambda}^n f(z))^\eta}{z^p} \right] < \frac{1+A_3}{(1+B_3)} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U})$$

and $\frac{1+A_3}{1+B_3}$ is the best dominant.

Similarly setting $p = 1$, $\rho = 1$, $n = 1$, η real, and $q(z) = (1+B_3)^{\eta(A-B)/B}$, which is univalent if and only if $|(\eta(A-B)/B) - 1| \leq 1$ or $|(\eta(A-B)/B) + 1| \leq 1$ [36], Theorem 3 reduces to the following.

Let the real numbers A, B be such that $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$ and suppose that the real number η satisfies $1 \leq \frac{\eta(A-B)}{B} \leq 2$. For $f \in \mathcal{H}_1$, if

$$\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} < \frac{1+A_3}{1+B_3} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

then

$$\left[\frac{f(z)}{z} \right]^\eta < (1+B_3)^{\eta(A-B)/B}$$

and $(1+B_3)^{\eta(A-B)/B}$ is the best dominant.

By further specializing $A = 1 - 2\alpha$, $(0 \leq \alpha < 1)$, $B = -1$, and $\eta = 1$, here, we obtain the following well-known result on univalent starlike functions (see [28], also see [38]):

If $f \in \mathcal{H}_1$ is univalent starlike of order α ($0 \leq \alpha < 1$) in \mathbb{U} , then

$$\frac{f(z)}{z} < \frac{1}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}} \quad (37)$$

and $\frac{1}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$ is the best dominant.

Again, setting $\rho = 0$, $p = 1$, $\eta = 1$, and $q(z) = \frac{1}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$ ($0 \leq \alpha < 1$) in Theorem 3, we obtain the following well-known result for univalent convex functions (see [28], also see [37,38]).

If $f \in \mathcal{H}_1$ is univalent convex of order α ($0 \leq \alpha < 1$) in \mathbb{U} , then

$$f'(z) < \frac{1}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$$

and $\frac{1}{(1-z)^{2(1-\alpha)}}$ is the best dominant.

Particular cases of our Theorems 1, 4, and 6 also yield interesting consequences. However, we omit the details for the sake of brevity. Finally, we address the following problem:

For $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, let the function q be defined on \mathbb{U} by

$$q(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2-\alpha} \left[\frac{1}{(1-z)^{(1-2\alpha)}} - 1 \right]; & \alpha \neq \frac{1}{2}, \\ -\log(1-z); & \alpha = \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases} \quad (38)$$

A result analogous to (37) for univalent convex functions of order α ($1/2 \leq \alpha < 1$) is well known, i.e.,

$$\frac{f(z)}{z} < q(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

where $q(z)$ is defined by (38). However, a similar result in the range $0 \leq \alpha < 1/2$ seems to be an open problem [39].

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