

# On Certain Class of Harmonic Univalent Functions Defined By Generalized Derivative Operator

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## Abstract

*A complex-valued functions that are univalent and sense preserving in the unit disk  $U$  can be written in the form  $f(z) = h(z) + g(z)$ , where  $h(z)$  and  $g(z)$  are analytic in  $U$ . In [7], authors introduced the operator  $D_{m,\lambda}^n$  which defined by convolution involving the polylogarithms functions. Using this operator, we introduce the class  $SHP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  by generalized derivative operator of harmonic univalent functions. We give sufficient coefficient conditions for normalized harmonic functions in the class  $SHP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . These conditions are also shown to be necessary when the coefficients are negative. This leads to distortion bounds and extreme points.*

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $U$  denote the open unit disk and  $S_H$  denote the class of all complex valued harmonic, sense preserving univalent functions  $f(z)$  in  $U$  normalized by  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f_z(0) = 1$ . Each  $f(z) \in S_H$  can be expressed as

$$f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$h(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad g(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \quad |b_1| < 1$$

are analytic in  $U$ . A necessary and sufficient condition for  $f(z)$  to be locally univalent and sense preserving in  $U$  is that  $|h'(z)| > |g'(z)|$  in  $U$ . Clunie and Sheil- Small studied  $S_H$  together with some geometric subclasses of  $S_H$ .

A function of the form (1.1) is harmonic starlike [8] for  $|z| = r < 1$ , if

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \arg \left( f(re^{i\theta}) \right) \right) = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z) - \overline{zg'(z)}}{h(z) + \overline{g(z)}} \right\} > 0,$$

Silverman [9], proved that the coefficient conditions

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k| + |b_k|) \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k^2 (|a_k| + |b_k|) \leq 1$$

are necessary and sufficient conditions for functions  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  to be harmonic starlike with negative coefficient and harmonic convex with negative coefficient respectively. Different authors in [1, 2, 4, 5, 6,7,12], studied  $S_H$  together with some geometric subclasses of  $S_H$ .

For  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  given by (1.1), we define the derivative operator introduced by Shaqsi and Darus [7] of  $f(z)$  as

$$D_{m,\lambda}^n f(z) = D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)} \quad (1.2)$$

where

$$D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n C(m,k) a_k z^k,$$

$$D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n C(m,k) b_k z^k, \quad |b_1| < 1, \quad C(m,k) = \binom{k+m-1}{m}.$$

Let  $SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  denote the family of harmonic functions  $f(z)$  of the form (1.1) such that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ (1-\alpha) \frac{D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)}}{z} + \alpha \left[ D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)} \right]' \right\} \geq \beta \quad (1.3)$$

where  $D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z)$ ,  $D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)$  is defined by (1.2).

If the co-analytic part of  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  is identically zero,  $n=0$  and  $m=0$  then the family  $SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  turns out to be the class  $F_{\lambda}(\alpha)$  introduced by Bhoosnurmath and Swamy [2] for the analytic case.

We further denote by  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  the subclass of  $SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  such that the functions  $h(z)$  and  $g(z)$  in  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  are of the form

$$h(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad g(z) = (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \quad |b_1| < 1 \quad (1.4)$$

It is clear that the class  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  includes a variety of well-known subclasses of  $S_H$ .

In this paper, we will give the sufficient condition for functions  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  where  $h(z)$  and  $g(z)$  given by (1.1) to be in the class  $SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  and it is shown that the coefficient condition is also necessary for the functions in the class  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Coefficient bounds, Distortion bounds, extreme points, convolution conditions, convex combination of this class are obtained.

## 2. Main Results

We begin by proving some sharp coefficient inequality contained in the following theorem

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  be given by (1.1) furthermore, let

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) (|a_k| + |b_k|) \leq 2 - \beta, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $a_1 = 1, \lambda, \alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1$ .

Then  $f(z)$  is harmonic univalent, sense preserving in  $U$  and  $f(z) \in SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ .

**Proof:** For  $|z_1| \leq |z_2| < 1$ , we have by equation (2.1)

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z_1) - f(z_2)| &\geq |h(z_1) - h(z_2)| - |g(z_1) - g(z_2)| \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k |a_k| |z_2|^{k-1} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k |b_k| |z_2|^{k-1} \right) \\ &= |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k| + |b_k|) |z_2|^{k-1} + |b_1| \right) \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k| + |b_k|) + |b_1| \right) \quad \text{by } |z_2| < 1 \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) (|a_k| + |b_k|) + |b_1| \right) \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| (1 - [1 - \beta - |b_1| + |b_1|]) = \beta (z_1 - z_2) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $f(z)$  is univalent in  $U$ .  $f(z)$  is sense preserving in  $U$ . This is because

$$\begin{aligned} |h'(z)| &\geq 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k |a_k| |z|^{k-1} \\ &> 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k |a_k| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &> 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |a_k| \\
 &\geq \beta + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |b_k| \\
 &\geq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |b_k| |z|^{k-1} \\
 &> \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k |b_k| |z|^{k-1} \geq |g'(z)|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we show that  $f(z) \in SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Using the fact that  $\operatorname{Re} w \geq \beta$  if and only if  $|1 - \beta + w| \geq |1 + \beta - w|$ , it suffices to show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left| 1 - \beta + (1 - \alpha) \frac{D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)}}{z} + \alpha \left[ D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)} \right]' \right| \\
 &- \left| 1 + \beta - (1 - \alpha) \frac{D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)}}{z} - \alpha \left[ D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)} \right]' \right| \geq 0 \quad (2.2) \\
 &= \left| 2 - \beta + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) a_k z^{k-1} + (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) b_k z^{k-1} \right| \\
 &- \left| \beta - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) a_k z^{k-1} - (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) b_k z^{k-1} \right| \\
 &\geq 2 \left[ (1 - \beta) - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |a_k| |z|^{k-1} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |b_k| |z|^{k-1} \right] \\
 &> 2 \left[ (1 - \beta) - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |a_k| \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k) |b_k| \right] > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

This last expression is non-negative by (2.1) and so the proof is complete. The harmonic mappings

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1 - \beta}{[1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k)} x_k z^k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - \beta}{[1 + (k-1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k)} y_k z^k \quad (2.3)$$

where  $\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |y_k| = 1$  show that the coefficient bound given by (2.1) is sharp.

The functions of the form (2.3) are in  $SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  because  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)(|a_k|+|b_k|) = 1+(1-\beta)\left(\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |y_k|\right) = 2-\beta$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  be given by (1.4), then

$f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . If and only if

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)(|a_k|+|b_k|) \leq 2-\beta, \tag{2.4}$$

where  $a_1 = 1, \lambda, \alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1$

**Proof:** The ‘if part’ follows from Theorem 1 upon noting that the functions  $h(z)$  and  $g(z)$  in  $f(z) \in SHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  are of the form (1.4), then  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ .

For the ‘only if’ part, we show that if  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  then the condition (2.4) holds. Note that a necessary and sufficient condition for  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  given by (1.4) be in  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  is that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ (1-\alpha) \frac{D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)}}{z} + \alpha \left[ D_{m,\lambda}^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{D_{m,\lambda}^n g(z)} \right]' \right\} > \beta$$

or, equivalently

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)|a_k|z^{k-1} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)|b_k|z^{k-1} \right\} > \beta.$$

If we choose  $z$  to be real and  $z \rightarrow 1^-$ , we get

$$1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)|a_k| - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m, k)|b_k| \geq \beta$$

this is precisely the assertion of (2.4).

**Theorem 3.** If  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ ,  $\lambda, \alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1, |z| = r < 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} (1 - |b_1| - \beta)r^2 \\ |f(z)| &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} (1 - |b_1| - \beta)r^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

**Proof:** Let  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Taking the absolute value of  $f(z)$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (|a_k| + |b_k|)r^k, \\ &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (|a_k| + |b_k|)r^2, \quad |z| = r < 1 \\ &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)(|a_k| + |b_k|) \right) r^2 \\ &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k - 1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k)(|a_k| + |b_k|) \right) r^2 \\ &\leq (1 + |b_1|)r + \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} (1 - |b_1| - \beta)r^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (|a_k| + |b_k|)r^k, \\ &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (|a_k| + |b_k|)r^2, \quad |z| = r < 1 \\ &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)(|a_k| + |b_k|) \right) r^2 \\ &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1 + (k - 1)\lambda]^n (1 - \alpha + k\alpha) C(m, k)(|a_k| + |b_k|) \right) r^2 \\ &\geq (1 - |b_1|)r - \frac{1}{(1 + \lambda)^n (1 + \alpha)(m + 1)} (1 - |b_1| - \beta)r^2. \end{aligned}$$

The bounds given in Theorem 3. For the functions  $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$  of the form (1.4) also hold for functions of the form (1.1) if the coefficient condition (2.1) satisfied the functions

$$f(z) = z + |b_1| \bar{z} - \frac{1}{(1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1)} (1-|b_1|-\beta) \bar{z}^2$$

and

$$f(z) = z - |b_1| z - \frac{1}{(1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1)} (1-|b_1|-\beta) z^2.$$

For  $|b_1| \leq 1-\beta$  shows that the bounds given in Theorem 3 are sharp.

The following result follows from the left hand inequality in Theorem 3.

**Corollary 1.** If  $f(z) \in THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Then

$$\left\{ w : |w| < \frac{(1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1) + \beta - 1}{(1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1)} + \frac{1 - (1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1)}{(1+\lambda)^n (1+\alpha)(m+1)} |b_1| \right\} \subset f(U).$$

Next, we determine the extreme points of the closed convex hulls of  $THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ , denoted by  $clcoTHP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ .

**Theorem 4.** A function  $f(z) \in clcoTHP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ , if and only if

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu_k h_k + \eta_k g_k) \tag{2.6}$$

$$h_1(z) = z$$

where

$$h_k(z) = z - \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m,k)} z^k, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots$$

$$g_k(z) = z - \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m,k)} \bar{z}^k, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu_k + \eta_k) = 1, \quad \mu_k \geq 0 \text{ and } \eta_k \geq 0.$$

In particular, the extreme points of  $THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  are  $\{h_k\}$  and  $\{g_k\}$ .

**Proof:** For the functions  $f(z)$  of the form (2.6), we have



$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu_k h_k + \eta_k g_k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu_k + \eta_k) z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)} \mu_k z^k \\ &\quad + (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)} \eta_k z^{-k} \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)}{1-\beta} \left( \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)} \mu_k \right) + \\ &\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)}{1-\beta} \left( \frac{1-\beta}{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)} \eta_k \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \mu_k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \eta_k = 1 - \mu_1 \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

and so  $f(z) \in clcoTHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $f(z) \in clcoTHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Set

$$\mu_k = \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)}{1-\beta} |a_k|, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots$$

and

$$\eta_k = \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k)}{1-\beta} |b_k|, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Then note that by Theorem 2,  $0 \leq \mu_k \leq 1$  ( $k = 2, 3, \dots$ ), and  $0 \leq \eta_k \leq 1$  ( $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ).

We define  $\mu_1 = 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \mu_k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \eta_k$  and note that, by Theorem 2,  $\mu_1 \geq 0$ .

Consequently, we obtain

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu_k h_k + \eta_k g_k)$$

as required. Using Theorem 2 it is easily seen that  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ , is convex and closed, so  $clcoTHP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k) = THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ . Then the statement of Theorem 4 is really for  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ .

**Theorem 5.** Each member of  $THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  ( $\alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1$ ) maps  $U$  on to a starlike domain.

**Proof:** We only need to show that if  $f(z) \in THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$ , then

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{zh'(z) - \overline{zg'(z)}}{h(z) + g(z)} \right\} > 0.$$

Using the fact that  $\operatorname{Re} w > 0$  if and only if  $|1+w| > |1-w|$ , it suffices to show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| h(z) + \overline{g(z)} + zh'(z) - \overline{zg'(z)} \right| - \left| h(z) + \overline{g(z)} + zh'(z) + \overline{zg'(z)} \right| \\ &= \left| 2z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k+1)|a_k|z^k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1)|b_k|\overline{z}^{-k} \right| - \left| \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k-1)|a_k|z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k+1)|b_k|\overline{z}^{-k} \right| \\ &\geq 2|z| - \left| \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k+1)|a_k|z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k-1)|b_k|\overline{z}^{-k} \right| - \left| \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k-1)|a_k|z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k+1)|b_k|\overline{z}^{-k} \right| \\ &\geq 2|z| \left\{ 1 - \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k|a_k||z|^{k-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k|b_k||z|^{k-1} \right) \right\} \\ &> 2|z| \left\{ 1 - \left( \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m,k)|a_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha)C(m,k)|b_k| \right) \right\} \\ &\geq 2|z|[1-(1-\beta)] \\ &= 2|z|\beta \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 6.** If  $f(z) \in THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  ( $\alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1$ ), then  $f(z)$  is convex in the disc

$$|z| < \min_k \left[ \frac{1-\beta-|b_1|}{k} \right]^{\frac{1}{k-1}}, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, \quad 1-\beta > |b_1|$$

**Proof:** Let  $f(z) \in THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  and let  $r$  be fixed such that  $0 < r < 1$ , then If  $r^{-1}f(rz) \in THP_\lambda(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  and have

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k^2 (|a_k| + |b_k|) r^{k-1} = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k| + |b_k|) (k r^{k-1})$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k) (|a_k|+|b_k|) (kr^{k-1})$$

$$\leq 1-\beta-|b_1|.$$

Provided  $kr^{k-1} \leq 1-\beta-|b_1|$ , which is true if

$$r \leq \min_k \left[ \frac{1-\beta-|b_1|}{k} \right]^{1/k-1}, \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, \quad 1-\beta > |b_1|.$$

Following Ruscheweyh [6 ], we call the set

$$N_{\delta}f(z) = \left\{ F : F(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |A_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |B_k| \bar{z}^{-k} \text{ and } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k (|a_k - A_k| + |b_k - B_k|) \leq \delta \right\} \quad (2.7)$$

as the  $\delta$ -neighbourhood of  $f(z)$ . From (2.7) we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k (|a_k - A_k| + |b_k - B_k|) = |b_1 - B_1| + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k - A_k| + |b_k - B_k|) \leq \delta. \quad (2.8)$$

**Theorem 7.** Let  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  ( $\alpha \geq 0, \lambda + \alpha \geq 1, 0 \leq \beta < 1$ ) and  $\delta \leq \beta$ . If  $F \in N_{\delta}(f)$ , then  $F$  is a harmonic starlike function.

**Proof:** Let  $F(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |A_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |B_k| \bar{z}^{-k} \in N_{\delta}f(z)$ , we have

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|A_k| + |B_k|) + |B_1| \leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k - A_k| + |b_k - B_k|) + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k (|a_k| + |b_k|) + |B_1 - b_1| + |b_1|$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k) (|a_k - A_k| + |b_k - B_k|) + |B_1 - b_1| + |b_1|$$

$$+ \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha+k\alpha) C(m,k) (|a_k| + |b_k|)$$

$$\leq \delta + |b_1| + (1-\beta-|b_1|) \leq 1.$$

Hence,  $F(z)$  is a harmonic starlike function.

For our next theorem, we need to define the convolution of two harmonic functions. For harmonic functions of the form

$$f(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |a_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |b_k| \bar{z}^k$$

and

$$F(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |A_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |B_k| \bar{z}^k$$

we define the convolution of two harmonic functions  $f(z)$  and  $F(z)$  as

$$(f * F)(z) = f(z) * F(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |a_k| |A_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |b_k| |B_k| \bar{z}^k. \quad (2.9)$$

Using this definition, we show that the class  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha, \beta, n, m, k)$  is closed under convolution.

**Theorem 8.** For  $0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2$ ,  $0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \beta_2 < 1$ ,  $\lambda + \alpha \geq 1$ , let

$$f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_2, \beta_2, n, m, k) \text{ and } F(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_1, \beta_1, n, m, k).$$

$$\text{Then } (f * F)(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_2, \beta_2, n, m, k) \subset THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_1, \beta_1, n, m, k).$$

**Proof:** Let  $f(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |a_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |b_k| \bar{z}^k$  be in  $THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_2, \beta_2, n, m, k)$  and

$$F(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |A_k| z^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |B_k| \bar{z}^k \text{ be in } THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_1, \beta_1, n, m, k).$$

Then the convolution  $(f * F)$  is given by (2.9). We wish to show that the coefficient of  $(f * F)$  satisfies the required condition given in Theorem 2.

For  $F(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_1, \beta_1, n, m, k)$  we note that  $|A_k| < 1$  and  $|B_k| < 1$ . Now, for the convolution function  $f * F$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_1+k\alpha_1) C(m, k)}{1-\beta_1} |a_k| |A_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_1+k\alpha_1) C(m, k)}{1-\beta_1} |b_k| |B_k| \\ & \leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_1+k\alpha_1) C(m, k)}{1-\beta_1} |a_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_1+k\alpha_1) C(m, k)}{1-\beta_1} |b_k| \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_2 + k\alpha_2) C(m,k)}{1-\beta_2} |a_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{[1+(k-1)\lambda]^n (1-\alpha_2 + k\alpha_2) C(m,k)}{1-\beta_2} |b_k| \leq 1.$$

Since  $0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2$ ,  $0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \beta_2 < 1$ ,  $\lambda + \alpha \geq 1$  and  $f(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_2, \beta_2, n, m, k)$ , thus  $(f * F)(z) \in THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_2, \beta_2, n, m, k) \subset THP_{\lambda}(\alpha_1, \beta_1, n, m, k)$ .

Note that some other related work using different types of operators can be found in ([14]-[16]).

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