

STARLIKENESS AND CONVEXITY OF ORDER α AND TYPE β FOR P-VALENT HYPERGEOMETRIC FUNCTIONS

R. M. EL-ASHWAH

ABSTRACT. Given the hypergeometric function $F(a, b; c; z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n (1)_n} z^n$, we place conditions on a, b and c to guarantee that $z^p F(a, b; c; z)$ will be in various subclasses of p -valent starlike and p -valent convex functions of order α and type β ($0 \leq \alpha < p, 0 < \beta \leq 1$). Operators related to the hypergeometric function are also examined.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let $S(p)$ be the class of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} a_n z^n \quad (p \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}) \quad (1.1)$$

which are analytic and p -valent in the unit disc $U = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$. A function $f(z) \in S(p)$ is called p -valent starlike of order α if $f(z)$ satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} \right\} > \alpha \quad (1.2)$$

for $0 \leq \alpha < p, p \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z \in U$. We denote by $S_p^*(\alpha)$ the class of all p -valent starlike functions of order α and $S_p^*(0) = S_p^*$. Denote by $S_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ the subclass consisting of functions $f(z) \in S(p)$ which satisfy

$$\left| \frac{\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} - p}{\frac{z f'(z)}{f(z)} + p - 2\alpha} \right| < \beta \quad (1.3)$$

for $0 \leq \alpha < p, 0 < \beta \leq 1, p \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z \in U$. Also a function $f(z) \in S(p)$ is called p -valent convex of order α if $f(z)$ satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ 1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} \right\} > \alpha \quad (1.4)$$

for $0 \leq \alpha < p$, $p \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z \in U$. We denote by $K_p(\alpha)$ the class of all p -valent convex functions of order α and $K_p(0) = K_p$. Also denote by $K_p(\alpha, \beta)$ the subclass consisting of functions $f(z) \in S(p)$ which satisfy

$$\left| \frac{1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} - p}{1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)} + p - 2\alpha} \right| < \beta \quad (1.5)$$

for $0 \leq \alpha < p$, $0 < \beta \leq 1$, $p \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z \in U$.

It follows from (1.3) and (1.5) that

$$f(z) \in K_p(\alpha, \beta) \Leftrightarrow \frac{zf'(z)}{p} \in S_p(\alpha, \beta). \quad (1.6)$$

Denoting by $T(p)$ the subclass of $S(p)$ consisting of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = z^p - \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} a_n z^n \quad (a_{p+n} \geq 0; p \in \mathbb{N}). \quad (1.7)$$

We denote by $T_p^*(\alpha)$, $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$, $C_p(\alpha)$ and $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ the classes obtained by taking intersections, respectively, of the classes $S_p^*(\alpha)$, $S_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$, $K_p(\alpha)$ and $K_p(\alpha, \beta)$ with the class $T(p)$

$$T_p^* = S_p^* \cap T(p)$$

$$T_p^*(\alpha) = S_p^*(\alpha) \cap T(p)$$

$$T_p^*(\alpha, \beta) = S_p^*(\alpha, \beta) \cap T(p)$$

$$C_p = K_p \cap T(p)$$

$$C_p(\alpha) = K_p(\alpha) \cap T(p)$$

and

$$C_p(\alpha, \beta) = K_p(\alpha, \beta) \cap T(p).$$

The class $S_p^*(\alpha)$ was studied by Patil and Thakare [8]. The classes $T_p^*(\alpha)$ and $C_p(\alpha)$ were studied by Owa [7], and the classes $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ and $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ were studied by Hossen [4] (see also [1]).

For $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ and $c \neq 0, -1, -2, \dots$, the Gaussian hypergeometric function is defined by:

$$F(a, b; c; z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n (1)_n} z^n \quad (z \in U), \quad (1.8)$$

where $(\lambda)_n$ is the Pochhammer symbol defined, in terms of the Gamma function Γ , by

$$(\lambda)_n = \frac{\Gamma(\lambda + n)}{\Gamma(\lambda)} = \begin{cases} 1 & (n = 0) \\ \lambda(\lambda + 1)\dots(\lambda + n - 1) & (n \in \mathbb{N}). \end{cases} \quad (1.9)$$

The series in (1.8) represents an analytic function in U and has an analytic continuation throughout the finite complex plane except at most for the cut $[1, \infty)$. We note that $F(a, b; c; 1)$ converges for $Re(c - a - b) > 0$ and is related to the Gamma function by

$$F(a, b; c; 1) = \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c - a - b)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)}. \quad (1.10)$$

Corresponding to the function $F(a, b; c; z)$ we define

$$h_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p F(a, b; c; z). \quad (1.11)$$

We observe that, for a function $f(z)$ of the form (1.1), we have

$$h_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} z^n. \quad (1.12)$$

In [3] El-Ashwah et al. gave necessary and sufficient conditions for $z^p F(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the classes $T_p^*(\alpha)$ and $C_p(\alpha)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < p$) and has also examined a linear operator acting on hypergeometric functions. Also in [10] Silverman gave necessary and sufficient conditions for $zF(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the classes $T_1^*(\alpha) = T^*(\alpha)$ and $C_1(\alpha) = C(\alpha)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < 1$) and has also examined a linear operator acting on hypergeometric functions. Also in [6] Mostafa obtained analogous results for the classes $S^*(\alpha, \beta)$ and $C(\alpha, \beta)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < 1, 0 < \beta \leq 1$). For the other interesting developments for $zF(a, b; c; z)$ in connection with various subclasses of univalent functions, the reader can refer to the works of Carlson and Shaffer [2], Merkes and Scott [5] and Ruscheweyh and Singh [9].

In the present paper, we determine necessary and sufficient conditions for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the classes $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ and $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$.

Furthermore, we consider an integral operator related to the hypergeometric function.

2. MAIN RESULTS

To establish our main results, we shall need the following lemmas.

Lemma 1 [4]. Let the function $f(z)$ defined by (1.1).

(i) A sufficient condition for $f(z) \in S(p)$ to be in the class $S_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ is that

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} |a_n| \leq 2\beta(p - \alpha).$$

(ii) A sufficient condition for $f(z) \in S(p)$ to be in the class $K_p(\alpha, \beta)$ is that

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{p} \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} |a_n| \leq 2\beta(p - \alpha).$$

Lemma 2 [4]. Let the function $f(z)$ defined by (1.7). Then

(i) $f(z) \in T(p)$ is in the class $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ if and only if

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} a_n \leq 2\beta(p - \alpha).$$

(ii) $f(z) \in T(p)$ is in the class $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ if and only if

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{p} \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} a_n \leq 2\beta(p - \alpha).$$

Theorem 1. If $a, b > 0$ and $c > a + b + 1$, then a sufficient condition for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $S_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < p, 0 < \beta \leq 1$) is that

$$\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c - a - b)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)} \left[1 + \frac{ab(1 + \beta)}{2\beta(p - \alpha)(c - a - b - 1)} \right] \leq 2. \quad (2.1)$$

Condition (2.1) is necessary and sufficient for F_p defined by $F_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p(2 - F(a, b; c; z))$ to be in the class $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$.

Proof. Since $h_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} z^n$, according to Lemma 1 (i), we need only show that

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} \leq 2\beta(p - \alpha).$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \{n(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} \\
 &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \{(n+p)(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n} \\
 &= (1+\beta) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_{n-1}} + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n}. \tag{2.2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Noting that $(\lambda)_n = \lambda(\lambda+1)_{n-1}$ and then applying (1.10), we may express (2.2) as

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{ab}{c}(1+\beta) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_{n-1}(b+1)_{n-1}}{(c+1)_{n-1}(1)_{n-1}} + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n} \\
 &= \frac{ab}{c}(1+\beta) \frac{\Gamma(c+1)\Gamma(c-a-b-1)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \left[\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} - 1 \right] \\
 &= \frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left[\frac{ab(1+\beta)}{c-a-b-1} + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \right] - 2\beta(p-\alpha).
 \end{aligned}$$

But this last expression is bounded above by $2\beta(p-\alpha)$ if and only if (2.1) holds.

Since $F_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p - \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} z^n$, the necessity of (2.1) for F_p to be in the class $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ follows from Lemma 2 (i).

In the next theorem, we find constraints on a, b and c that lead to necessary and sufficient conditions for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$.

Theorem 2. If $a, b > -1, c > 0$, and $ab < 0$, then a necessary and sufficient condition for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $T_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$ is that $c \geq a + b + 1 - \frac{ab(1+\beta)}{2\beta(p-\alpha)}$. The condition $c \geq a + b + 1 - \frac{ab}{p}$ is necessary and sufficient for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class T_p^* .

Proof. Since

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_p(a, b; c; z) &= z^p + \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} z^n \\
 &= z^p + \frac{ab}{c} \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_{n-p-1}(b+1)_{n-p-1}}{(c+1)_{n-p-1}(1)_{n-p}} z^n
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= z^p - \left| \frac{ab}{c} \right| \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_{n-p-1}(b+1)_{n-p-1}}{(c+1)_{n-p-1}(1)_{n-p}} z^n, \quad (2.3)$$

according to Lemma 2 (i) we must show that

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} \{n(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) - 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a+1)_{n-p-1}(b+1)_{n-p-1}}{(c+1)_{n-p-1}(1)_{n-p}} \leq \left| \frac{c}{ab} \right| 2\beta(p-\alpha). \quad (2.4)$$

Note that the left side of (2.4) diverges if $c \leq a+b+1$. Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \{(n+p+1)(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) - 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1+\beta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_n} + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \frac{c}{ab} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(c+1)\Gamma(c-a-b-1)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} (1+\beta) + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \frac{c}{ab} \left[\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} - 1 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (2.4) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\Gamma(c+1)\Gamma(c-a-b-1)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left[(1+\beta) + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \frac{(c-a-b-1)}{ab} \right] \\ & \leq 2\beta(p-\alpha) \left[\frac{c}{|ab|} + \frac{c}{ab} \right] = 0. \quad (2.5) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, (2.5) is valid if and only if

$$(1+\beta) + 2\beta(p-\alpha) \frac{(c-a-b-1)}{ab} \leq 0,$$

or, equivalently,

$$c \geq a+b+1 - \frac{ab(1+\beta)}{2\beta(p-\alpha)}.$$

Another application of Lemma 2 (i) when $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = 1$ completes the proof of Theorem 2.

Our next theorems will parallel Theorems 1 and 2 for the p -valent convex case.

Theorem 3. If $a, b > 0$ and $c > a+b+2$, then a sufficient condition for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $K_p(\alpha, \beta)$, $0 \leq \alpha < p, 0 < \beta \leq 1$, is that

$$\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left[1 + \frac{(2p+1)(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]}{2\beta p(p-\alpha)} \frac{ab}{(c-a-b-1)} \right] +$$

$$\left[\frac{(1 + \beta)(a)_2(b)_2}{2\beta p(p - \alpha)(c - a - b - 2)_2} \right] \leq 2. \quad (2.6)$$

Condition (2.6) is necessary and sufficient for $F_p(a, b; c; z) = z^p(2 - F(a, b; c; z))$ to be in the class $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$.

Proof. In view of Lemma 1 (ii), we need only show that

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} n \{n(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a)_{n-p}(b)_{n-p}}{(c)_{n-p}(1)_{n-p}} \leq 2\beta p(p - \alpha).$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + p + 1) \{(n + p + 1)(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1 + \beta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + 1)^2 \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} + \{2p(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + 1) \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} \\ & \quad + 2\beta p(p - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1 + \beta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + 1) \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_n} + \{2p(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_n} \\ & \quad + 2\beta p(p - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1 + \beta) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n-1}} + \{(2p + 1)(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_n} \\ & \quad + 2\beta p(p - \alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1 + \beta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+2}(b)_{n+2}}{(c)_{n+2}(1)_n} + \{(2p + 1)(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_{n+1}(b)_{n+1}}{(c)_{n+1}(1)_n} \\ & \quad + 2\beta p(p - \alpha) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Since $(a)_{n+k} = (a)_k(a + k)_n$, we may write (2.7) as

$$\frac{(a)_2(b)_2}{(c)_2} \frac{\Gamma(c + 2)\Gamma(c - a - b - 2)}{\Gamma(c - a)\Gamma(c - b)} (1 + \beta) + \{(2p + 1)(1 + \beta) - [p(1 - \beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{ab}{c}.$$

$$\cdot \frac{\Gamma(c+1)\Gamma(c-a-b-1)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} + 2\beta p(p-\alpha) \left[\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} - 1 \right].$$

Upon simplification, we see that this last expression is bounded above by $2\beta p(p-\alpha)$ if and only if (2.6) holds. That (2.6) is also necessary for F_p to be in the class $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ follows from Lemma 2 (ii).

Theorem 4. If $a, b > -1, ab < 0$ and $c > a + b + 2$, then a necessary and sufficient condition for $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ is that

$$(a)_2(b)_2(1+\beta) + \{(2p+1)(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} ab(c-a-b-2) + 2\beta p(p-\alpha)(c-a-b-2)_2 \geq 0. \quad (2.8)$$

Proof. Since $h_p(a, b; c; z)$ has the form (2.3), we see from Lemma 2 (ii) that our conclusion is equivalent to

$$\sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} n \{n(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a+1)_{n-p-1}(b+1)_{n-p-1}}{(c+1)_{n-p-1}(1)_{n-p}} \leq \left| \frac{c}{ab} \right| 2\beta p(p-\alpha). \quad (2.9)$$

Note that $c > a + b + 2$ if the left hand side of (2.9) converges. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=p+1}^{\infty} n \{n(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a+1)_{n-p-1}(b+1)_{n-p-1}}{(c+1)_{n-p-1}(1)_{n-p}} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+p+1) \{(n+p+1)(1+\beta) - [p(1-\beta) + 2\alpha\beta]\} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1+\beta) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_n} + [p(1+3\beta) - 2\alpha\beta] \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_n} \\ & \quad + 2\beta p(p-\alpha) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_{n+1}} \\ &= (1+\beta) \frac{(a+1)(b+1)}{(c+1)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+2)_n(b+2)_n}{(c+2)_n(1)_n} + \\ & \quad [p(1+3\beta) + (1+\beta) - 2\alpha\beta] \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a+1)_n(b+1)_n}{(c+1)_n(1)_n} + 2\beta p(p-\alpha) \frac{c}{ab} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_n(b)_n}{(c)_n(1)_n} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(c+1)\Gamma(c-a-b-2)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \{(a+1)(b+1)(1+\beta) + [p(1+3\beta) + (1+\beta) - 2\alpha\beta](c-a-b-2) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. + \frac{2\beta p(p-\alpha)}{ab}(c-a-b-2)_2 \right\} - \frac{2\beta p(p-\alpha)c}{ab}.$$

This last expression is bounded above by $\left|\frac{c}{ab}\right|2\beta p(p-\alpha)$ if and only if

$$(a+1)(b+1)(1+\beta) + [p(1+3\beta) + (1+\beta) - 2\alpha\beta](c-a-b-2) + \frac{2\beta p(p-\alpha)}{ab}(c-a-b-2)_2 \leq 0,$$

which is equivalent to (2.8).

Putting $p = \beta = 1$ in Theorem 4, we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 1. If $a, b > -1$, $ab < 0$, and $c > a + b + 2$, then $zF(a, b; c; z)$ is in the class $C(\alpha)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < 1$), if and only if

$$(a)_2(b)_2 + (3-\alpha)ab(c-a-b-2) + (1-\alpha)(c-a-b-2)_2 \geq 0.$$

Remark 1. Corollary 1 corrects the result given by Silverman [10, Theorem 4].

3. AN INTEGRAL OPERATOR

In this section, we obtain results in connection with a particular integral operator $G_p(a, b; c; z)$ acting on $F(a, b; c; z)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} G_p(a, b; c; z) &= p \int_0^z t^{p-1} F(a, b; c; t) dt \\ &= z^p + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{p}{n+p} \frac{(a)_n (b)_n}{(c)_n (1)_n} z^{n+p}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

We note that $\frac{zG'_p}{p} = h_p$.

To prove Theorem 5, we shall need the following lemma.

Lemma 3 [3]. (i) If $a, b > 0$ and $c > a + b$, then a sufficient condition for $G_p(a, b; c; z)$ defined by (3.1) to be in the class S_p^* is that

$$\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \leq 2.$$

(ii) If $a, b > -1$, $c > 0$, and $ab < 0$, then $G_p(a, b; c; z)$ defined by (3.1) is in the class $T(p)$ or in the class $S(p)$ if and only if $c > \max\{a, b\}$.

Now $G_p(a, b; c; z) \in K_p(\alpha, \beta)$ if and only if $\frac{z}{p}G'_p(a, b; c; z) = h_p(a, b; c; z) \in S_p^*(\alpha, \beta)$. This follows upon observing that $\frac{zG'_p}{p} = h_p, \frac{zG''_p}{p} = h'_p - \frac{1}{p}G'_p$, and so

$$1 + \frac{zG''_p}{G'_p} = \frac{zh'_p}{h_p}.$$

Thus any p -valent starlike about h_p leads to a p -valent convex *funcabout* G_p . Thus from Theorems 1, 2 and Lemma 3, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 5. (i) If $a, b > 0$ and $c > a + b + 1$, then a sufficient condition for $G_p(a, b; c; z)$ defined in (3.1) to be in the class $K_p(\alpha, \beta)$ ($0 \leq \alpha < p, 0 < \beta \leq 1$) is that

$$\frac{\Gamma(c)\Gamma(c-a-b)}{\Gamma(c-a)\Gamma(c-b)} \left[1 + \frac{ab(1+\beta)}{2\beta(p-\alpha)(c-a-p-1)} \right] \leq 2.$$

(ii) If $a, b > -1, ab < 0$, and $c > a + b + 2$, then a necessary and sufficient condition for $G_p(a, b; c; z)$ to be in the class $C_p(\alpha, \beta)$ is that $c \geq a + b + 1 - \frac{ab(1+\beta)}{2\beta(p-\alpha)}$.

Remark 2. (i) Putting $\beta = 1$ in all the above results we obtain the results, obtained by El-Ashwah et al.[3];

(ii) Putting $p = \beta = 1$ in all the above results we obtain the results, obtained by Silverman [10];

(iii) Putting $p = 1$ in all the above results we obtain the analogous results, obtained by Mostafa [6].

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Department of Mathematics,
Faculty of Science,
Damietta University
New Damietta 34517, Egypt,
e-mail: *r_elashwah@yahoo.com*