

Research Article

Coefficient Conditions for Harmonic Close-to-Convex Functions

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New sufficient conditions, concerned with the coefficients of harmonic functions $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$ in the open unit disk \mathbb{U} normalized by $f(0) = h(0) = h'(0) - 1 = 0$, for $f(z)$ to be harmonic close-to-convex functions are discussed. Furthermore, several illustrative examples and the image domains of harmonic close-to-convex functions satisfying the obtained conditions are enumerated.

1. Introduction

For a continuous complex-valued function $f(z) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$ ($z = x + iy$), we say that $f(z)$ is harmonic in the open unit disk $\mathbb{U} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ if both $u(x, y)$ and $v(x, y)$ are real harmonic in \mathbb{U} , that is, $u(x, y)$ and $v(x, y)$ satisfy the Laplace equations

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, \quad \Delta v = v_{xx} + v_{yy} = 0. \quad (1.1)$$

A complex-valued harmonic function $f(z)$ in \mathbb{U} is given by $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$ where $h(z)$ and $g(z)$ are analytic in \mathbb{U} . We call $h(z)$ and $g(z)$ the analytic part and the coanalytic part of $f(z)$, respectively. A necessary and sufficient condition for $f(z)$ to be locally univalent and sense preserving in \mathbb{U} is $|h'(z)| > |g'(z)|$ in \mathbb{U} (see [1] or [2]). Let \mathcal{H} denote the class of harmonic functions $f(z)$ in \mathbb{U} with $f(0) = h(0) = 0$ and $h'(0) = 1$. Thus, every normalized harmonic function $f(z)$ can be written by

$$f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n + \overline{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n} \in \mathcal{H}, \quad (1.2)$$

where $a_1 = 1$ and $b_0 = 0$, for convenience.

We next denote by $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$ the class of functions $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ that are univalent and sense preserving in \mathbb{U} . Due to the sense-preserving property of $f(z)$, we see that $|b_1| = |g'(0)| < |h'(0)| = 1$. If $g(z) \equiv 0$, then $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$ reduces to the class \mathcal{S} consisting of normalized analytic univalent functions. Furthermore, for every function $f(z) \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$, the function

$$F(z) = \frac{f(z) - \overline{b_1 f(z)}}{1 - |b_1|^2} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{a_n - \overline{b_1} b_n}{1 - |b_1|^2} z^n + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{b_n - b_1 a_n}{1 - |b_1|^2} \overline{z}^n \quad (1.3)$$

is also a member of $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$. Therefore, we consider the subclass $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$ of $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$ defined as

$$\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}^0 = \{f(z) \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}} : b_1 = g'(0) = 0\}. \quad (1.4)$$

Conversely, if $F(z) \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$, then $f(z) = F(z) + \overline{b_1 F(z)} \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$ for any b_1 ($|b_1| < 1$).

We say that a domain \mathbb{D} is a close-to-convex domain if the complement of \mathbb{D} can be written as a union of nonintersecting half-lines (except that the origin of one half-line may lie on one of the other half-lines). Let \mathcal{C} , $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$, and $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$ be the respective subclasses of \mathcal{S} , $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}$, and $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$ consisting of all functions $f(z)$, which map \mathbb{U} onto a certain close-to-convex domain.

Bshouty and Lyzzaik [3] have stated the following result.

Theorem 1.1. *If $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfies*

$$g'(z) = zh'(z), \quad \operatorname{Re} \left(1 + \frac{zh''(z)}{h'(z)} \right) > -\frac{1}{2} \quad (1.5)$$

for all $z \in \mathbb{U}$, then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}^0 \subset \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$.

A simple and interesting example is below.

Example 1.2. The function

$$f(z) = \frac{1 - (1-z)^2}{2(1-z)^2} + \frac{\overline{z^2}}{2(1-z)^2} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{2} z^n + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n-1}{2} \overline{z}^n \quad (1.6)$$

satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1.1, and therefore $f(z)$ belongs to the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}^0$. We now show that $f(\mathbb{U})$ is actually a close-to-convex domain. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \left(\frac{z}{2(1-z)^2} + \frac{z}{2(1-z)} \right) + \overline{\left(\frac{z}{2(1-z)^2} - \frac{z}{2(1-z)} \right)} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{z}{(1-z)^2} \right) + i \operatorname{Im} \left(\frac{z}{1-z} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (1.7)$$

Setting

$$f(re^{i\theta}) = \frac{-2r^2 + r(1+r^2)\cos\theta}{(1+r^2-2r\cos\theta)^2} + \frac{r\sin\theta}{1+r^2-2r\cos\theta}i = u + iv \quad (1.8)$$

for any $z = re^{i\theta} \in \mathbb{U}$ ($0 \leq r < 1$, $0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$), we see that

$$-4(u + v^2) = \frac{4r(r - \cos\theta)(1 - r\cos\theta)}{(1+r^2-2r\cos\theta)^2} = \frac{4r(r-t)(1-rt)}{(1+r^2-2rt)^2} \equiv \phi(t) \quad (-1 \leq t = \cos\theta \leq 1). \quad (1.9)$$

Since

$$\phi'(t) = \frac{-4r(1-r^2)^2}{(1+r^2-2rt)^3} \leq 0, \quad (1.10)$$

we obtain that

$$\phi(t) \leq \phi(-1) = \frac{4r}{(1+r)^2} \equiv \psi(r). \quad (1.11)$$

Also, noting that

$$\psi'(r) = \frac{4(1-r)}{(1+r)^3} > 0, \quad (1.12)$$

we know that

$$\psi(r) < \psi(1) = 1, \quad (1.13)$$

which implies that

$$u > -v^2 - \frac{1}{4}. \quad (1.14)$$

Thus, $f(z)$ maps \mathbb{U} onto the following close-to-convex domain as shown in Figure 1.

Remark 1.3. Let \mathcal{M} be the class of all functions satisfying the conditions of Theorem 1.1. Then, it was earlier conjectured by Mocanu [4, 5] that $\mathcal{M} \subset S_{\ell}^0$. Furthermore, we can immediately see that the function $f(z)$ in Example 1.2 is a member of the class \mathcal{M} and it shows that $f(z) \in \mathcal{M}$ is not necessarily starlike with respect to the origin in \mathbb{U} ($f(z)$ is starlike with respect to the origin in \mathbb{U} if and only if $tw \in f(\mathbb{U})$ for all $w \in f(\mathbb{U})$ and t ($0 \leq t \leq 1$)).

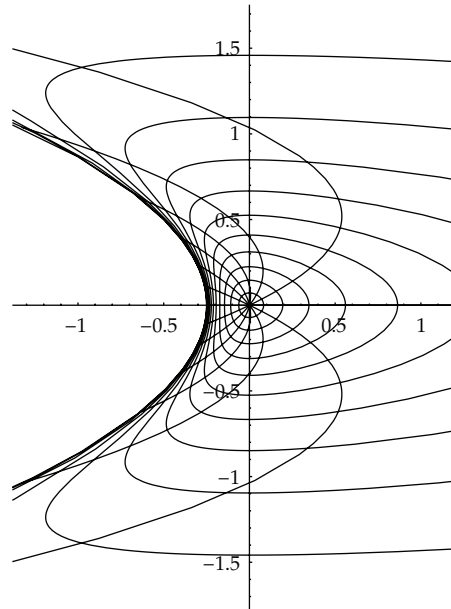


Figure 1: The image of $f(z) = (1 - (1 - z)^2)/2(1 - z)^2 + \overline{z^2/2(1 - z)^2}$.

Remark 1.4. For the function $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} \in \mathcal{A}$ given by

$$g'(z) = z^{n-1}h'(z) \quad (n = 2, 3, 4, \dots), \quad (1.15)$$

letting $w(t) = f(e^{it}) = h(e^{it}) + \overline{g(e^{it})}$ ($-\pi \leq t < \pi$), we know that

$$\operatorname{Im}\left(\frac{w''(t)}{w'(t)}\right) \leq 0 \quad (-\pi \leq t < \pi), \quad (1.16)$$

which means that $f(z)$ maps the unit circle $\partial\mathbb{U} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ onto a union of several concave curves (see [6, Theorem 2.1]).

Jahangiri and Silverman [7] have given the following coefficient inequality for $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ to be in the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Theorem 1.5. *If $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfies*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \leq 1, \quad (1.17)$$

then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Example 1.6. The function

$$f(z) = z + \frac{1}{5}z^5 \quad (1.18)$$

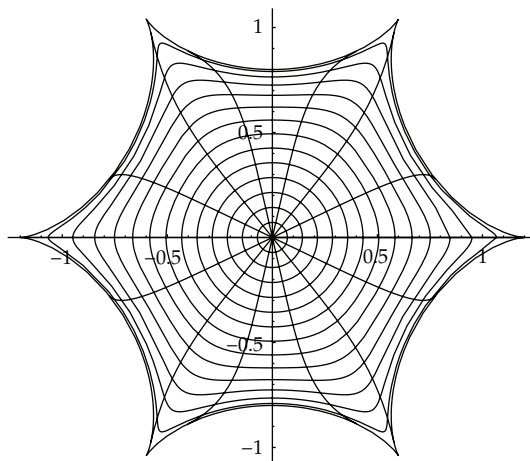


Figure 2: The image of $f(z) = z + (1/5)z^5$.

belongs to the class $C_{\mathcal{A}}^0 \subset C_{\mathcal{A}}$ and satisfies the condition of Theorem 1.5. Indeed, $f(z)$ maps \mathbb{U} onto the following hypocycloid of six cusps (cf. [8] or [6]) as shown in Figure 2.

The object of this paper is to find some sufficient conditions for functions $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ to be in the class $C_{\mathcal{A}}$. In order to establish our results, we have to recall here the following lemmas due to Clunie and Sheil-Small [1].

Lemma 1.7. *If $h(z)$ and $g(z)$ are analytic in \mathbb{U} with $|h'(0)| > |g'(0)|$ and $h(z) + \varepsilon g(z)$ is close-to-convex for each ε ($|\varepsilon| = 1$), then $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$ is harmonic close-to-convex.*

Lemma 1.8. *If $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)}$ is locally univalent in \mathbb{U} and $h(z) + \varepsilon g(z)$ is convex for some ε ($|\varepsilon| \leq 1$), then $f(z)$ is univalent close-to-convex.*

We also need the following result due to Hayami et al. [9].

Lemma 1.9. *If a function $F(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} A_n z^n$ is analytic in \mathbb{U} and satisfies*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left[\left| \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k (-1)^{k-j} j(j+1) \binom{\alpha}{k-j} A_j \right\} \binom{\beta}{n-k} \right| + \left| \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k (-1)^{k-j} j(j-1) \binom{\alpha}{k-j} A_j \right\} \binom{\beta}{n-k} \right| \right] \leq 2 \tag{1.19}$$

for some real numbers α and β , then $F(z)$ is convex in \mathbb{U} .

2. Main Results

Our first result is contained in the following theorem.

Theorem 2.1. *If $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfies the following condition*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left| n a_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) a_{n-1} \right| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| n b_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) b_{n-1} \right| \leq 1 \quad (2.1)$$

for some real number φ ($0 \leq \varphi < 2\pi$), then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Proof. Let $F(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} A_n z^n$ be analytic in \mathbb{U} . If $F(z)$ satisfies

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left| n A_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) A_{n-1} \right| \leq 1, \quad (2.2)$$

then it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| (1 - e^{i\varphi} z) F'(z) - 1 \right| &= \left| \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n A_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) A_{n-1}) z^{n-1} \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left| n A_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) A_{n-1} \right| \cdot |z|^{n-1} \\ &< \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left| n A_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) A_{n-1} \right| \leq 1 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

This gives us that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left((1 - e^{i\varphi} z) F'(z) \right) > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \quad (2.4)$$

that is, $F(z) \in \mathcal{C}$. Then, it is sufficient to prove that

$$F(z) = \frac{h(z) + \varepsilon g(z)}{1 + \varepsilon b_1} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{a_n + \varepsilon b_n}{1 + \varepsilon b_1} z^n \in \mathcal{C} \quad (2.5)$$

for each ε ($|\varepsilon| = 1$) by Lemma 1.7. From the assumption of the theorem, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left| n \frac{a_n + \varepsilon b_n}{1 + \varepsilon b_1} - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) \frac{a_{n-1} + \varepsilon b_{n-1}}{1 + \varepsilon b_1} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{1 - |b_1|} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left[\left| n a_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) a_{n-1} \right| + \left| n b_n - e^{i\varphi} (n-1) b_{n-1} \right| \right] \leq \frac{1 - |b_1|}{1 - |b_1|} = 1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

This completes the proof of the theorem. \square

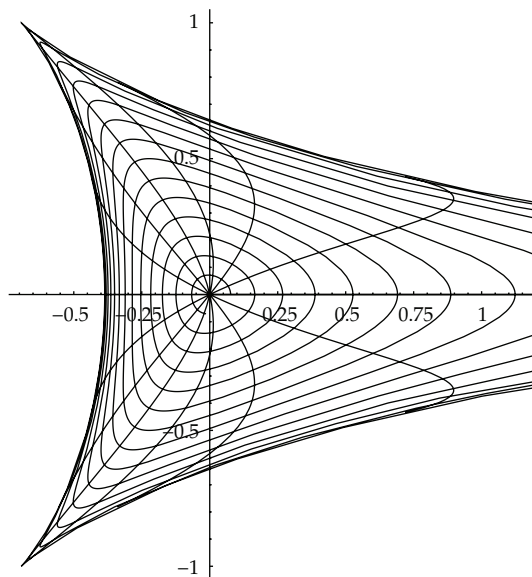


Figure 3: The image of $f(z) = -\bar{z} - 2 \log|1 - z|$.

Example 2.2. The function

$$f(z) = -\log(1 - z) + \overline{(-mz - \log(1 - z))} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} z^n + (1 - m)\bar{z} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \bar{z}^n \quad (0 < m \leq 1) \tag{2.7}$$

satisfies the condition of Theorem 2.1 with $\varphi = 0$ and belongs to the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$. In particular, putting $m = 1$, we obtain Figure 3.

By making use of Lemma 1.8 with $\varepsilon = 0$ and applying Lemma 1.9, we readily obtain the next theorem.

Theorem 2.3. *If $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ is locally univalent in \mathbb{U} and satisfies*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left[\left| \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k (-1)^{k-j} j(j+1) \binom{\alpha}{k-j} a_j \right\} \binom{\beta}{n-k} \right| + \left| \sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^k (-1)^{k-j} j(j-1) \binom{\alpha}{k-j} a_j \right\} \binom{\beta}{n-k} \right| \right] \leq 2 \tag{2.8}$$

for some real numbers α and β , then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Putting $\alpha = \beta = 0$ in the above theorem, we arrive at the following result due to Jahangiri and Silverman [7].

Theorem 2.4. *If $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ is locally univalent in \mathbb{U} with*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n^2 |a_n| \leq 1, \quad (2.9)$$

then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Furthermore, taking $\alpha = 1$ and $\beta = 0$ in the theorem, we have the following corollary.

Corollary 2.5. *If $f(z) \in \mathcal{A}$ is locally univalent in \mathbb{U} and satisfies*

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \{n|(n+1)a_n - (n-1)a_{n-1}| + (n-1)|na_n - (n-2)a_{n-1}|\} \leq 2, \quad (2.10)$$

then $f(z) \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Example 2.6. The function

$$f(z) = -\int_0^z \frac{\log(1-t)}{t} dt + \overline{(z + (1-z)\log(1-z))} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} z^n + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \bar{z}^n \quad (2.11)$$

satisfies the conditions of Corollary 2.5 and belongs to the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$ as shown in Figure 4.

3. Appendix

A sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ of nonnegative real numbers is called a convex null sequence if $c_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$c_n - c_{n+1} \geq c_{n+1} - c_{n+2} \geq 0 \quad (3.1)$$

for all n ($n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$).

The next lemma was obtained by Fejér [10].

Lemma 3.1. *Let $\{c_n\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ be a convex null sequence. Then, the function*

$$p(z) = \frac{c_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n z^n \quad (3.2)$$

is analytic and satisfies $\operatorname{Re}(p(z)) > 0$ in \mathbb{U} .

Applying the above lemma, we deduce the following theorem.

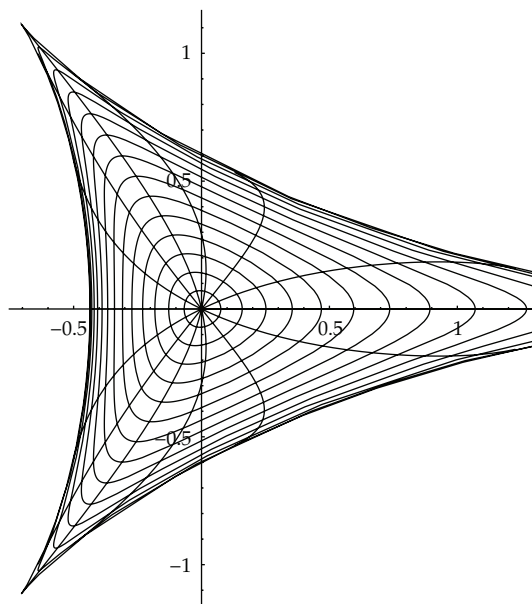


Figure 4: The image of $f(z) = -\int_0^z (\log(1-t)/t) dt + \overline{(z + (1-z)\log(1-z))}$.

Theorem 3.2. For some b ($|b| < 1$) and some convex null sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ with $c_0 = 2$, the function

$$f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} = z + \sum_{n=2}^\infty \frac{c_{n-1}}{n} z^n + b \overline{\left(z + \sum_{n=2}^\infty \frac{c_{n-1}}{n} z^n \right)} \tag{3.3}$$

belongs to the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$.

Proof. Let us define $F(z)$ by

$$F(z) = \frac{h(z) + \varepsilon g(z)}{1 + \varepsilon b} = z + \sum_{n=2}^\infty \frac{c_{n-1}}{n} z^n \tag{3.4}$$

for each ε ($|\varepsilon| = 1$). Then, we know that

$$F'(z) = \frac{c_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^\infty c_n z^n \quad (c_0 = 2). \tag{3.5}$$

By virtue of Lemmas 1.7 and 3.1, it follows that $\operatorname{Re}(F'(z)) > 0$ ($z \in \mathbb{U}$), that is, $F(z) \in \mathcal{C}$. Thus, we conclude that $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$. \square

In the same manner, we also have the following theorem.

Theorem 3.3. For some b ($|b| < 1$) and some convex null sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ with $c_0 = 2$, the function

$$f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} c_j \right) z^n + b \overline{\left(z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} c_j \right) z^n \right)} \quad (3.6)$$

belongs to the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$.

Proof. Let us define $F(z)$ by

$$F(z) = \frac{h(z) + \varepsilon g(z)}{1 + \varepsilon b} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} c_j \right) z^n \quad (3.7)$$

for each ε ($|\varepsilon| = 1$). Then, we know that

$$(1 - z)F'(z) = \frac{c_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n z^n \quad (c_0 = 2). \quad (3.8)$$

Therefore, by the help of Lemmas 1.7 and 3.1, we obtain that $\operatorname{Re}((1 - z)F'(z)) > 0$ ($z \in \mathbb{U}$), that is, $F(z) \in \mathcal{C}$, which implies that $f(z) = h(z) + \overline{g(z)} \in \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$. \square

Remark 3.4. The sequence

$$\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \left\{ 2, 1, \frac{2}{3}, \dots, \frac{2}{n+1}, \dots \right\} \quad (3.9)$$

is a convex null sequence because

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2}{n+1} \right) &= 0, & c_n - c_{n+1} &= \frac{2}{(n+1)(n+2)} \geq 0, \\ (c_n - c_{n+1}) - (c_{n+1} - c_{n+2}) &= \frac{4}{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)} \geq 0 \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots). \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Setting $b = 1/4$ in Theorem 3.2 with the above sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$, we derive the following example.

Example 3.5. The function

$$f(z) = -z - 2 \int_0^z \frac{\log(1-t)}{t} dt - \frac{1}{4} \overline{\left(z + 2 \int_0^z \frac{\log(1-t)}{t} dt \right)} = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2} z^n + \frac{1}{4} \overline{\left(z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n^2} z^n \right)} \quad (3.11)$$

is in the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$ as shown in Figure 5.

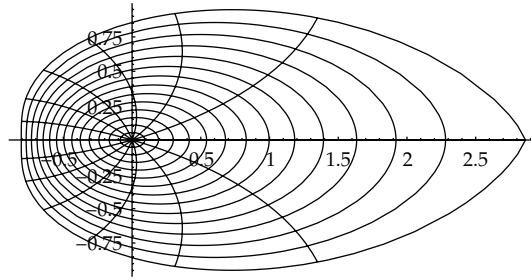


Figure 5: The image of $f(z)$ in Example 3.5.

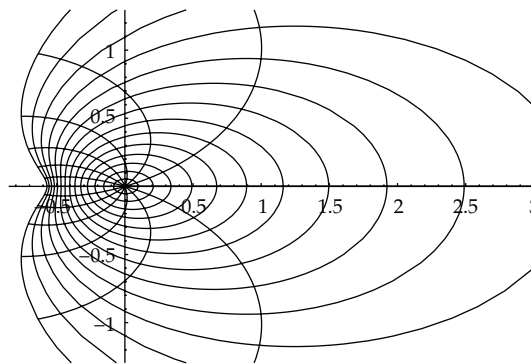


Figure 6: The image of $f(z)$ in Example 3.7.

Moreover, we know the following remark.

Remark 3.6. The sequence

$$\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \left\{ 2, 1, \frac{1}{2}, \dots, 2^{1-n}, \dots \right\} \tag{3.12}$$

is a convex null sequence because

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{1-n} = 0, & c_n - c_{n+1} &= 2^{-n} \geq 0, \\ (c_n - c_{n+1}) - (c_{n+1} - c_{n+2}) &= 2^{-(n+1)} \geq 0 \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots). \end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

Hence, letting $b = 1/4$ in Theorem 3.3 with the sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^\infty = \{2^{1-n}\}_{n=0}^\infty$, we have the following example.

Example 3.7. The function

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= -3 \log(1-z) + 4 \log\left(1 - \frac{z}{2}\right) + \overline{\left(-\frac{3}{4} \log(1-z) + \log\left(1 - \frac{z}{2}\right)\right)} \\ &= z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} 2^{1-j}\right) z^n + \frac{1}{4} \overline{\left(z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} 2^{1-j}\right) z^n\right)} \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

is in the class $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{L}}$ as shown in Figure 6.

Dedication

This paper is dedicated to Professor Owa on the occasion of his retirement from Kinki University.

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