

RESEARCH

Open Access



# New criteria for Carathéodory functions

In Hwa Kim<sup>1</sup>, Young Jae Sim<sup>2</sup> and Nak Eun Cho<sup>3\*</sup>

\*Correspondence:  
necho@pknu.ac.kr

<sup>3</sup>Department of Applied Mathematics, Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea  
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

## Abstract

The object of the present paper is to investigate various conditions for Carathéodory functions in the open unit disk. Also we give some applications to univalent functions as special cases.

**MSC:** 30C45

**Keywords:** Analytic functions; Univalent functions; Starlike functions; Differential subordination; Carathéodory function

## 1 Introduction

For given  $r$  ( $0 < r \leq 1$ ), let  $\mathbb{U}_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < r\}$ ,  $\mathbb{U} \equiv \mathbb{U}_1$  be the open unit disk, and let us denote by  $\mathbb{T} = \partial\mathbb{U} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$  the boundary of  $\mathbb{U}$ . An analytic function  $p$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  is said to be a Carathéodory function of order  $\alpha$  if it satisfies

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > \alpha \quad (0 \leq \alpha < 1, z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

We denote by  $\mathcal{P}(\alpha)$  the class of all Carathéodory functions of order  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  and  $\mathcal{P} \equiv \mathcal{P}(0)$  [4]. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  denote the class of analytic functions  $f$  defined in  $\mathbb{U}$  normalized by  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = 1$ . Further, we denote by  $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$  and  $\mathcal{K}(\alpha)$  the subclasses of  $\mathcal{A}$  consisting of starlike and convex functions of order  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{U}$ , respectively. That is, a function  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  belongs to the classes  $\mathcal{S}^*(\alpha)$  and  $\mathcal{K}(\alpha)$  if  $f$  satisfies  $\operatorname{Re}\{zf'(z)/f(z)\} > \alpha$  and  $\operatorname{Re}\{1 + zf''(z)/f'(z)\} > \alpha$ , respectively, in  $\mathbb{U}$ .

For analytic functions  $f$  and  $g$ , we say that  $f$  is subordinate to  $g$ , denoted by  $f \prec g$ , if there is an analytic function  $w : \mathbb{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{U}$  with  $|w(z)| \leq |z|$  such that  $f(z) = g(w(z))$ . Further, if  $g$  is univalent, then the definition of subordination  $f \prec g$  simplifies to the conditions  $f(0) = g(0)$  and  $f(\mathbb{U}) \subseteq g(\mathbb{U})$  (see [10, p. 36]).

Let us denote by  $\mathcal{Q}$  the set of functions  $q$  that are analytic and injective on  $\overline{\mathbb{U}} \setminus \mathbf{E}(q)$ , where

$$\mathbf{E}(q) = \left\{ \zeta \in \mathbb{T} : \lim_{z \rightarrow \zeta} q(z) = \infty \right\},$$

and are such that  $q'(\zeta) \neq 0$  for  $\zeta \in \mathbb{T} \setminus \mathbf{E}(q)$ .

Marx [3] and Strohäcker [12] showed that if  $f \in \mathcal{K} \equiv \mathcal{K}(0)$  then  $f \in \mathcal{S}^*(1/2)$ , that is,  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{S}^*(1/2)$ . Later, Miller [4] and Miller, Mocanu and Reade [7] proved the following

results, respectively. If  $p$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$ , then

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + \beta zp'(z)\} > 0 \quad (\beta \geq 0) \implies p \in \mathcal{P} \tag{1}$$

and

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{p(z) + \beta \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)}\right\} > 0 \quad (\beta \in \mathbb{R}, p(z) \neq 0) \implies p \in \mathcal{P}. \tag{2}$$

The result given in (2) clearly reduces the earlier works due to Marx and Stroh acker. Many kinds of functions with geometric properties, such as starlikeness, convexity, close-to-convexity, and so on, are closely related to the class of Carath odory functions and play a really important role in the study of univalent functions.

In the present paper, we show several new sufficient conditions, which are not connected to some recent results for Carath odory functions of order  $\alpha$ , which incorporate the implications given by (1) and (2). In addition to applying the well known Jack’s Lemma, we approach the results in a quite different way than methods used in other papers. Moreover, we obtain other criteria for Carath odory functions of order  $\alpha$ . Many of the earlier results given by Marx [3], Stroh acker [12] and others are shown here to follow as special cases of the results presented in this paper. Thus the various properties associated with the class  $\mathcal{P}(\alpha)$  obtained here can be viewed as extensions and generalizations of numerous previously-obtained results in Geometric Function Theory.

### 2 Main results

In proving our results, we need the following lemmas due to Jack [2], and Miller and Mocanu [5] (see also [6, p. 24, Lemma 2.2d]).

**Lemma 2.1** *Suppose that function  $w$  is analytic for  $|z| \leq r$ ,  $w(0) = 0$  and  $|w(z_0)| = \max_{|z|=r} |w(z)|$ . Then  $z_0 w'(z_0) = kw(z_0)$ , where  $k$  is a real number with  $k \geq 1$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $q \in \mathcal{Q}$ , with  $q(0) = a$ , and let  $p(z) = a + a_n z^n + \dots$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(z) \not\equiv a$  and  $n \geq 1$ . If  $p$  is not subordinate to  $q$ , then there exist points  $z_0 = r_0 e^{i\theta_0} \in \mathbb{U}$  and  $\zeta_0 \in \mathbb{T} \setminus \mathbf{E}(q)$ , and an  $m \geq n \geq 1$  for which  $p(\mathbb{U}_{r_0}) \subset q(\mathbb{U})$ ,*

- (i)  $p(z_0) = q(\zeta_0)$ ,
- (ii)  $z_0 p'(z_0) = m \zeta_0 q'(\zeta_0)$  and
- (iii)  $\operatorname{Re}\{1 + \frac{z_0 p''(z_0)}{p'(z_0)}\} \geq m \operatorname{Re}\{1 + \frac{\zeta_0 q''(\zeta_0)}{q'(\zeta_0)}\}$ .

By using Lemma 2.1, we now derive the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.3** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + \beta zp'(z)\} > \alpha - \frac{\beta}{2(1-\alpha)} (1 - 2\alpha + |p(z)|^2) \quad (0 \leq \alpha < 1, \beta \geq 0), \tag{3}$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* Define function  $w$  by

$$p(z) = \frac{1 + (1 - 2\alpha)w(z)}{1 - w(z)} \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}). \tag{4}$$

We know that  $w$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $w(0) = 0$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > \alpha \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0| \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0)\} = \alpha. \tag{5}$$

Then we have

$$|w(z)| < 1 \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0| \quad \text{and} \quad |w(z_0)| = 1. \tag{6}$$

By using Lemma 2.1, we get

$$z_0 w'(z_0) = k w(z_0), \tag{7}$$

where  $k$  is a real number with  $k \geq 1$ . We note that  $z_0 p'(z_0)$  is a nonpositive real number, since

$$\frac{1}{2k(1-\alpha)} z_0 p'(z_0) = \frac{w(z_0)}{(1-w(z_0))^2} = \frac{2(\operatorname{Re}\{w(z_0)\} - 1)}{|1-w(z_0)|^4} \tag{8}$$

and, by (6),  $\operatorname{Re}\{w(z_0)\} \leq 1$ . Moreover, by putting

$$p(z_0) = \alpha + iy \quad (y \in \mathbb{R}), \tag{9}$$

we obtain

$$w(z_0) = 1 - \frac{2(1-\alpha)^2}{(1-\alpha)^2 + y^2} + i \frac{2(1-\alpha)y}{(1-\alpha)^2 + y^2} \tag{10}$$

and

$$z_0 p'(z_0) = -k \frac{(1-\alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1-\alpha)}. \tag{11}$$

Therefore, from equations (9) and (11), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0) + \beta z_0 p'(z_0)\} &= \alpha - \beta k \frac{(1-\alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1-\alpha)} \\ &\leq \alpha - \frac{\beta}{2(1-\alpha)} (1 - 2\alpha + |p(z_0)|^2). \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

This contradicts assumption (3). Therefore we complete the proof of Theorem 2.3.  $\square$

Taking  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$  in Theorem 2.3, we have the following result by Nunokawa et al. [9].

**Corollary 2.4** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + zp'(z)\} > -\frac{1 + |p(z)|^2}{2},$$

*then  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ .*

*Remark 2.5* Corollary 2.4 is an improvement of the result by Miller [4].

The right-hand side of assumption (3) in Theorem 2.3 depends on  $|p(z)|$ . But applying the same method as in the proof of Theorem 2.3 and using the new formula (12) where  $y$  is ignored, we can derive a similar result (Theorem 2.6 below) without requiring  $|p(z)|$  in assumption (3) of Theorem 2.3.

**Theorem 2.6** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + \beta zp'(z)\} > \alpha - \frac{\beta(1 - \alpha)}{2} \quad (0 \leq \alpha < 1, \beta \geq 0),$$

*then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .*

Letting  $\beta = 1$  in Theorem 2.6, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.7** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + zp'(z)\} > \frac{3\alpha - 1}{2} \quad (0 \leq \alpha < 1),$$

*then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .*

*Remark 2.8* Corollary 2.7 is an improvement of the result by Nunokawa [8].

For given  $\gamma$  and  $c$  satisfying  $\gamma > 0$  and  $c > -\gamma$ , let us consider an integral operator  $I_{c,\gamma} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  defined by

$$F(z) := I_{c,\gamma}[f](z) = \left( \frac{c + \gamma}{z^c} \int_0^z \xi^{c-1} f^\gamma(\xi) \, d\xi \right)^{1/\gamma}. \tag{13}$$

By taking  $p(z) = F'(z)(F(z)/z)^{\gamma-1}$ , we have

$$\gamma p(z) + c \left( \frac{F(z)}{z} \right)^\gamma = (c + \gamma) \left( \frac{f(z)}{z} \right)^\gamma. \tag{14}$$

Moreover, taking derivatives of both sides of (14) leads to the equality

$$f'(z) \left( \frac{f(z)}{z} \right)^{\gamma-1} = p(z) + \frac{1}{c + \gamma} zp'(z).$$

*Example 2.9* Taking  $p(z) = f'(z)$  in Theorem 2.3 with  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $p(z) = f'(z)$  in Theorem 2.6 with  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$ ,  $p(z) = f(z)/z$  in Theorem 2.3 with  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$  and  $p(z) = F'(z)/(F(z)/z)^{\gamma-1}$ , where  $F$  is defined in (13), in Theorem 2.6 with  $\beta = 1/(c + \gamma)$ , respectively, we have the following results: If  $f \in \mathcal{A}$ , then

- (i)  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z) + \beta zf''(z)\} > -\frac{\beta}{2}(1 + |f'(z)|^2)$  ( $\beta > 0$ ) implies  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z)\} > 0$  (cf. [1]);
- (ii)  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z) + zf''(z)\} > -1/2$  implies  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z)\} > 0$ ;
- (iii)  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z)\} > -\frac{1}{2}(1 + |f(z)/z|^2)$  implies  $\operatorname{Re}\{f(z)/z\} > 0$ ;
- (iv)  $\operatorname{Re}\{f'(z)(f(z)/z)^{\gamma-1}\} > \alpha - \frac{1-\alpha}{2(c+\gamma)}$  ( $0 \leq \alpha < 1, \gamma > 0, c > -\gamma$ ) implies  $\operatorname{Re}\{F'(z)(F(z)/z)^{\gamma-1}\} > \alpha$ , where  $F$  is defined as in (13) (cf. [11]).

**Theorem 2.10** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{\beta p(z) + \gamma}\right\} > \delta(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, |p(z)|), \tag{15}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, |p(z)|) &= \alpha - \frac{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)(1 - 2\alpha + |p(z)|^2)}{2(1 - \alpha)(\gamma^2 + 2\alpha\beta\gamma + \beta^2|p(z)|^2)} \\ &(0 \leq \alpha < 1, \beta \neq 0, \alpha\beta + \gamma > 0), \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* At first, we note that  $p(z) \neq -\gamma/\beta$  for  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ . In fact, if  $\beta p(z) + \gamma$  has a zero of order  $m$  at  $z = z_1 \in \mathbb{U}$ , then we can write

$$\beta p(z) + \gamma = (z - z_1)^m p_1(z) \quad (m \in \mathbb{N}),$$

where  $p_1$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  and  $p_1(z_1) \neq 0$ . Then we have

$$p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{\beta p(z) + \gamma} = \frac{1}{\beta} \left\{ (z - z_1)^m p_1(z) - \gamma + \frac{mz}{z - z_1} + \frac{zp_1'(z)}{p_1(z)} \right\}. \tag{17}$$

Thus choosing  $z \rightarrow z_1$  suitably, the real part of the right-hand side of (17) can take any negative infinite values, which contradicts hypothesis (15). Defining  $w$  by (4), we see that function  $w$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $w(0) = 0$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{U}$  satisfying (5). Then we have (6). By Lemma 2.1, there exists a real number  $k$  with  $k \geq 1$  satisfying (7). Using the fact that  $z_0 p'(z_0)$  is a real number, from (4) and (8), we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{Re}\left\{p(z_0) + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma}\right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0)\} + z_0 p'(z_0) \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{1}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma}\right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0)\} + 2(1 - \alpha)k \left(\frac{w(z_0)}{(1 - w(z_0))^2}\right) \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{1 - w(z_0)}{\beta + \gamma + (\beta - 2\alpha\beta - \gamma)w(z_0)}\right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

We now set  $p(z_0)$  as in (9). Then we have the same function value of  $w(z_0)$  which satisfies formula (10), and it follows from (18) with (10) and  $k \geq 1$  that

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{Re}\left\{p(z_0) + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma}\right\} \\ &= \alpha - 2(1 - \alpha)k \left(\frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + \gamma^2}{4(1 - \alpha)^2}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha\beta + \gamma}{\gamma^2 + 2\alpha\beta\gamma + \beta^2(\alpha^2 + \gamma^2)}\right) \\ &\leq \alpha - \frac{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)(1 - 2\alpha + \alpha^2 + \gamma^2)}{2(1 - \alpha)(\gamma^2 + 2\alpha\beta\gamma + \beta^2(\alpha^2 + \gamma^2))} \\ &= \delta(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, |p(z_0)|), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\delta(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, |p(z_0)|)$  is given by (16), which contradicts assumption (15). Therefore we complete the proof of Theorem 2.10.  $\square$

*Remark 2.11* For  $\gamma = 0$ , Theorem 2.10 is an improvement of the result by Miller et al. [7].

Taking  $\beta = 1$  and  $\gamma = 0$  in Theorem 2.10, we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.12** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} \right\} > \frac{\alpha(1 - 2\alpha)(|p(z)|^2 - 1)}{2(1 - \alpha)|p(z)|^2},$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

Applying Theorem 2.10 leads us to get the following theorem which doesn't depend on  $|p(z)|$ .

**Theorem 2.13** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . If  $p$  satisfies one of the following conditions:*

- (i)  $\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{\beta p(z) + \gamma} \right\} > \alpha - \frac{\alpha\beta + \gamma}{2\beta^2(1 - \alpha)}$  ( $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < \beta(1 - 2\alpha)$  for  $\beta > 0$  or  $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < -\beta$  for  $\beta < 0$ ),
- (ii)  $\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{\beta p(z) + \gamma} \right\} > \alpha - \frac{1 - \alpha}{2(\alpha\beta + \gamma)}$  ( $\gamma \geq \beta(1 - 2\alpha)$  for  $\beta > 0$  or  $\gamma \geq -\beta$  for  $\beta < 0$ ),

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* First of all, we consider a function  $\psi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\psi(x) = \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + x}{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)^2 + \beta^2 x}. \tag{19}$$

By differentiating  $\psi$ , we obtain

$$[(\alpha\beta + \gamma)^2 + \beta^2 x]^2 \psi'(x) = (\beta + \gamma)(\gamma + \beta(2\alpha - 1)).$$

Therefore the derivative of  $\psi$  is negative when  $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < -\beta(2\alpha - 1)$  for  $\beta > 0$  and  $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < -\beta$  for  $\beta < 0$ , which means that function  $\psi$  is decreasing. Hence

$$\psi(x) \geq \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \psi(x) = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \quad (x \geq 0). \tag{20}$$

On the other hand, the derivative of  $\psi$  is positive when  $-\beta(2\alpha - 1) < \gamma$  for  $\beta > 0$  and  $-\beta < \gamma$  for  $\beta < 0$ , which means that function  $\psi$  is increasing. In this case, the following inequality holds:

$$\psi(x) \geq \psi(0) = \left( \frac{1 - \alpha}{\alpha\beta + \gamma} \right)^2 \quad (x \geq 0). \tag{21}$$

According to the same contradiction method as in Theorem 2.10, when  $p(z_0)$  is defined by (9), we now have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z_0) + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma} \right\} &\leq \alpha - \frac{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)(1 - 2\alpha + \alpha^2 + y^2)}{2(1 - \alpha)(\gamma^2 + 2\alpha\beta\gamma + \beta^2(\alpha^2 + y^2))} \\ &= \alpha - \frac{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)}{2(1 - \alpha)} \psi(y^2), \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

where  $\psi$  is the function defined by (19).

When  $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < -\beta(2\alpha - 1)$  for  $\beta > 0$  and  $-\alpha\beta < \gamma < -\beta$  for  $\beta < 0$ , by (22) and (20), we have

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z_0) + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma} \right\} \leq \alpha - \frac{(\alpha\beta + \gamma)}{2\beta^2(1 - \alpha)}.$$

This is a contradiction to the assumption. And, when  $-\beta(2\alpha - 1) < \gamma$  for  $\beta > 0$  and  $-\beta < \gamma$  for  $\beta < 0$ , by (22) and (21), we have

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z_0) + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{\beta p(z_0) + \gamma} \right\} \leq \alpha - \frac{(1 - \alpha)}{2(\alpha\beta + \gamma)}.$$

But this also contradicts our assumption. Hence the proof of Theorem 2.13 is completed.  $\square$

Letting  $\beta = 1$  and  $\gamma = 0$  in Theorem 2.13, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.14** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If function  $p$  satisfies the following condition, then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ :*

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ p(z) + \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z)} \right\} > \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha - 2\alpha^2}{2(1 - \alpha)}, & \text{when } 0 \leq \alpha < 1/2, \\ \frac{(1 + \alpha)(2\alpha - 1)}{2\alpha}, & \text{when } 1/2 \leq \alpha < 1. \end{cases}$$

*Remark 2.15* Taking  $p(z) = zf'(z)/f(z)$  and  $\alpha = 1/2$  in Corollary 2.14, we have the classical result by Marx [3] and Stroh acker [12], that is,  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{S}^*(1/2)$ .

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be real numbers such that  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $\beta \geq (3\alpha - 1)/2$ . Then it can be easily shown that

$$\alpha - \beta - \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} k \leq \alpha - \beta - \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} \leq 0, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}, k \geq 1.$$

Hence it follows that the following inequality holds for  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k \geq 1$ :

$$\left( \alpha - \beta - \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} k \right)^2 + y^2 \geq \left( \alpha - \beta - \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} \right)^2 + y^2. \tag{23}$$

Now let  $p(z_0)$  and  $z_0p'(z_0)$  be given as in (9) and (11), respectively. Then, from (23) and replacing  $y^2$  by  $|p(z_0)|^2 - \alpha^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |p(z_0) + z_0p'(z_0) - \beta|^2 &= \left( \alpha - \beta - \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)}k \right)^2 + y^2 \\ &\geq \left( 1 - \alpha + \beta + \frac{|p(z_0)|^2 - 1}{2(1 - \alpha)} \right)^2 + |p(z_0)|^2 - \alpha^2. \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

Now, applying the same method as in the proof of Theorems 2.3 and 2.10 and inequality (24), we obtain the following result.

**Theorem 2.16** *Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be real numbers such that  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $\beta \geq (3\alpha - 1)/2$ . Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$|p(z) + zp'(z) - \beta| < \delta(\alpha, \beta, |p(z)|),$$

where

$$\delta(\alpha, \beta, |p(z)|) = \left\{ \left( 1 - \alpha + \beta + \frac{|p(z)|^2 - 1}{2(1 - \alpha)} \right)^2 + |p(z)|^2 - \alpha^2 \right\}^{1/2},$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

**Corollary 2.17** *Let  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $\beta \geq (3\alpha - 1)/2$ . And let  $p$  be an analytic function in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If  $p$  satisfies*

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

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

Taking  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$  in Theorem 2.16 and Corollary 2.17, we have Corollary 2.18 below.

**Corollary 2.18** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If*

$$|p(z) + zp'(z) - 1| < \sqrt{\left( \frac{3 + |p(z)|^2}{2} \right)^2 + |p(z)|^2},$$

or

$$|p(z) + zp'(z) - 1| < \frac{3}{2},$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ .

With the aid of Lemma 2.2, we prove the following result.

**Theorem 2.19** *Let  $\alpha$  and  $A$  be real numbers with  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $A \geq 0$ . And let  $B$  and  $C$  be functions defined in  $\mathbb{U}$  such that  $\operatorname{Re}\{B(z)\} > A$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ . If  $p$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{Az^2p''(z) + B(z)zp'(z) + C(z)p(z)\} > \delta(\alpha, A, B(z), C(z)),$$

where

$$\delta(\alpha, A, B(z), C(z)) = \frac{(1 - \alpha)[(\operatorname{Im}\{C(z)\})^2 - (\operatorname{Re}\{B(z) - A\})^2]}{2(\operatorname{Re}\{B(z) - A\})} + \alpha \operatorname{Re}\{C(z)\},$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* Define function  $w$  as in (4). We see that  $w$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $w(0) = 0$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  satisfying (5). Then we have (6). By Lemma 2.1, there exist a real number  $k \geq 1$  satisfying (7). Moreover, by hypothesis (5), we have  $p \not\prec h$ , where  $h : \mathbb{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is the function defined by  $h(z) = (1 + (1 - 2\alpha)z)/(1 - z)$ . Note that

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{1 + \frac{\zeta h''(\zeta)}{h'(\zeta)}\right\} = 0$$

for  $\zeta \in \mathbb{T}$ . Lemma 2.2 with the equality above leads to the inequality

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{1 + \frac{z_0 p''(z_0)}{p'(z_0)}\right\} \geq 0. \tag{25}$$

Since  $z_0 p'(z_0)$  is a nonpositive real number, from (25), we have

$$\operatorname{Re}\{z_0^2 p''(z_0)\} \leq -z_0 p'(z_0). \tag{26}$$

Putting

$$p(z_0) = \alpha + iy \quad (y \in \mathbb{R}),$$

we obtain the same function value of  $w(z_0)$  which satisfies equation (5). Then, by (26) and (11), we have the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re}\{Az_0^2 p''(z_0) + B(z_0)z_0 p'(z_0) + C(z_0)p(z_0)\} \\ & \leq (\operatorname{Re}\{B(z_0)\} - A)z_0 p'(z_0) + \alpha \operatorname{Re}\{C(z_0)\} - y \operatorname{Im}\{C(z_0)\} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2}(A - \operatorname{Re}\{B(z_0)\})(1 - \alpha) + \frac{A - \operatorname{Re}\{B(z_0)\}}{2(1 - \alpha)}y^2 + \alpha \operatorname{Re}\{C(z_0)\} - y \operatorname{Im}\{C(z_0)\} \\ & \leq \frac{(1 - \alpha)[(\operatorname{Im}\{C(z_0)\})^2 - (\operatorname{Re}\{B(z_0) - A\})^2]}{2(\operatorname{Re}\{B(z_0) - A\})} + \alpha \operatorname{Re}\{C(z_0)\} \\ & = \delta(\alpha, A, B(z_0), C(z_0)). \end{aligned}$$

But this contradicts our assumption. Hence the proof is completed. □

Taking  $A = 0$ ,  $B(z) = C(z) \equiv 1$  and  $\alpha = 0$  in Theorem 2.19, then we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.20** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . Then*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + zp'(z)\} > -\frac{1}{2} \implies \operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > 0.$$

*Remark 2.21* Corollary 2.20 is the result obtained by Miller [4]. And this is also shown by Corollary 2.7.

Taking  $A = 0, B(z) = C(z) \equiv 1$  and  $\alpha = 1/2$  in Theorem 2.19, we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.22** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . Then*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{p(z) + zp'(z)\} > \frac{1}{4} \implies \operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > \frac{1}{2}.$$

Letting  $p(z) = (I_{\gamma, \beta}[f](z)/z)^\beta$  ( $f \in \mathcal{A}$ ), where  $I_{\gamma, \beta} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is the integral operator defined by (13), in Theorem 2.19 with  $A = 0, B(z) \equiv 1, C(z) \equiv \gamma + \beta$  and  $\alpha = 0$ , we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.23** *Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  and let  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  be complex numbers. If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{(\gamma + \beta)\left(\frac{f(z)}{z}\right)^\beta\right\} > \frac{1}{2}[(\operatorname{Im}\{\gamma + \beta\})^2 + 2\alpha \operatorname{Re}\{\gamma + \beta\} - 1],$$

*then*

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{\left(\frac{I_{\gamma, \beta}[f](z)}{z}\right)^\beta\right\} > 0.$$

By a similar method as in the proof of Theorem 2.19, we can obtain the following result, which shows that the condition  $\operatorname{Re}\{B(z)\} \geq A$  ( $z \in \mathbb{U}$ ) can be established in Theorem 2.19 when  $\operatorname{Im}\{C(z)\} = 0$  ( $z \in \mathbb{U}$ ).

**Theorem 2.24** *Let  $\alpha$  and  $A$  be real numbers with  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $A \geq 0$ . And let  $B$  and  $C$  be functions defined in  $\mathbb{U}$  such that  $\operatorname{Re}\{B(z)\} = A$  and  $\operatorname{Im}\{C(z)\} = 0$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ . If  $p$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{Az^2p''(z) + B(z)zp'(z) + C(z)p(z)\} > \alpha \operatorname{Re}\{C(z)\},$$

*then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .*

Taking  $A = 1, B(z) = C(z) \equiv 1$  in Theorem 2.19, then we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.25** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . Then*

$$\operatorname{Re}\{z^2p''(z) + zp'(z) + p(z)\} > \alpha \implies \operatorname{Re}\{p(z)\} > \alpha.$$

Next, we derive another conditions for Carathéodory functions of order  $\alpha$  in Theorems 2.26 and 2.27 below.

**Theorem 2.26** *Let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . If  $p$  satisfies*

$$\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z) - \alpha} \neq i\Lambda \tag{27}$$

for all  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|\Lambda| \geq 1$ , then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* Let

$$q(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha}(p(z) - \alpha).$$

Then  $q$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $q(0) = 1$ . Here, we note that  $p(z) \neq \alpha$  for  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ . In fact, if there exists a point  $z_1 \in \mathbb{U}$  such that  $p(z_1) = \alpha$  and hence  $q(z_1) = 0$  then  $q(z)$  can be written by

$$q(z) = (z - z_1)^m q_1(z) \quad (m \in \mathbb{N}),$$

where  $q_1$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  and  $q_1(z_1) \neq 0$ . Hence we have

$$\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z) - \alpha} = \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} = \frac{mz}{z - z_1} + \frac{zq_1'(z)}{q_1(z)}. \tag{28}$$

But the imaginary part of the right-hand side of (28) can take any value when  $z$  approaches  $z_1$ . This contradicts our assumption (27). Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{U}$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re}\{q(z)\} > 0 \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0| \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\{q(z_0)\} = 0 \quad (q(z_0) \neq 0).$$

Setting

$$\phi(z) = \frac{1 - q(z)}{1 + q(z)},$$

we have

$$|\phi(z)| < 1 \quad \text{for } |z| < |z_0| \quad \text{and} \quad |\phi(z_0)| = 1 \quad (\phi(0) = 0).$$

Let  $q(z_0) = iy$  ( $y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ ). Then, by Lemma 2.1, we obtain

$$\frac{z_0\phi'(z_0)}{\phi(z_0)} = \frac{-2z_0q'(z_0)}{1 - q^2(z_0)} = \frac{-2z_0q'(z_0)}{1 + y^2} = k,$$

where  $k$  is a real number with  $k \geq 1$ , and so

$$-z_0q'(z_0) \geq \frac{1 + y^2}{2}.$$

Therefore,  $z_0q'(z_0)$  is a negative real number. At first, suppose that  $y > 0$ . Then we have

$$\frac{z_0p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} = \frac{z_0q'(z_0)}{q(z_0)} = \frac{-iz_0q'(z_0)}{y} \equiv i\Lambda.$$

Hence we obtain

$$\Lambda = \frac{-z_0q'(z_0)}{y} \geq \frac{1+y^2}{2y} \geq 1,$$

which contradicts assumption (27). Next, for  $y < 0$ , we have

$$\frac{z_0p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} = \frac{z_0q'(z_0)}{q(z_0)} = \frac{iz_0q'(z_0)}{|q(z_0)|} = \frac{iz_0q'(z_0)}{|y|} \equiv i\Lambda$$

and  $\Lambda$  is a real number with  $\Lambda \leq -1$ . This also contradicts assumption (27). Hence we complete the proof of Theorem 2.26.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.27** *Let  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and let  $p$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$ . If  $p$  satisfies*

$$\frac{zp'(z)}{p(z) - \alpha} \frac{(p(z) - \alpha)^2 - (1 - \alpha)^2}{(p(z) - \alpha)^2 + (1 - \alpha)^2} \neq i\Delta \tag{29}$$

for all  $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|\Delta| \geq 2$ , then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* Firstly, using a proof similar to that of Theorem 2.26 and assumption (29), we can derive easily that

$$p(z) \neq \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad p^2(z) - 2\alpha p(z) + 2\alpha^2 - 2\alpha + 1 \neq 0 \tag{30}$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{U}$ . Let

$$q(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} (p(z) - \alpha) = \frac{1 + w(z)}{1 - w(z)}.$$

Then we see that  $w$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $w(0) = 0$ . We claim that  $|w(z)| < 1$  in  $\mathbb{U}$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0 \in \mathbb{U}$  such that  $\max_{|z| < |z_0|} |w(z)| = |w(z_0)| = 1$ . By Lemma 2.1, there exists a real number  $k \geq 1$  satisfying (7). Writing  $w(z_0) = e^{i\theta}$  with

$$-\pi < \theta < \pi \quad (\theta \neq 0, \pm\pi/2), \tag{31}$$

we obtain that

$$q(z_0) = \frac{1 + e^{i\theta}}{1 - e^{i\theta}} = i \cot(\theta/2)$$

and

$$\frac{z_0q'(z_0)}{q(z_0)} = \frac{2kw(z_0)}{1 - w^2(z_0)} = i \frac{k}{\sin \theta}.$$

Therefore we have the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z_0p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} \frac{(p(z_0) - \alpha)^2 - (1 - \alpha)^2}{(p(z_0) - \alpha)^2 + (1 - \alpha)^2} &= \frac{z_0q'(z_0)}{q(z_0)} \frac{q^2(z_0) - 1}{q^2(z_0) + 1} \\ &= -i \frac{k}{\sin \theta} \frac{1 + \cot^2(\theta/2)}{1 - \cot^2(\theta/2)} \\ &\equiv -i\Delta. \end{aligned}$$

It is now sufficient to show that

$$\Delta \geq 2 \quad \text{or} \quad \Delta \leq -2 \tag{32}$$

for all  $\theta$  satisfying (31), since (32) contradicts the assumption (29). For this, let us define a function  $\varphi : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\varphi(t) = \frac{(1 + t^2)^2}{2t(1 - t^2)}.$$

We can check  $\varphi'(t) = 0$  occurs only at  $t = \sqrt{2} - 1 =: t_0 \in (0, 1)$ . Moreover, we have  $\varphi''(t_0) = 12 + 8\sqrt{2} > 0$ . Therefore, on the interval  $(0, 1)$ , function  $\varphi$  has its minimum at  $t = t_0$ . That is,

$$\varphi(t) \geq \varphi(t_0) = 2 \quad (0 < t < 1). \tag{33}$$

And, by (33), the following inequality holds for  $t \in (1, \infty)$ :

$$\varphi(t) = -\varphi(1/t) \leq -2 \quad (t > 1). \tag{34}$$

Consider the case  $0 < \theta < \pi/2$ . Then, we have  $\cot(\theta/2) > 1$  and it follows from (34) that

$$\Delta = k\varphi(\cot(\theta/2)) \leq -2.$$

For the case  $\pi/2 < \theta < \pi$ , we have  $0 < \cot(\theta/2) < 1$  and (33) gives us that

$$\Delta = k\varphi(\cot(\theta/2)) \geq 2.$$

A similar method as above leads us to inequality (32) for the case  $-\pi < \theta < 0$  with  $\theta \neq -\pi/2$  and the proof of Theorem 2.27 is now completed. □

*Remark 2.28* Taking  $p$  to be appropriate analytic functions in Theorems 2.26 and 2.27, we can find conditions for univalence, starlikeness, convexity, and so on.

**Theorem 2.29** *Let  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  and  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ . If  $p$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $p(0) = 1$  and*

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ (p(z) - \alpha)^\beta \left( 1 + \frac{zp'(z)}{p(z) - \alpha} \right) \right\} > h(\delta(\alpha, \beta), \alpha, \beta),$$

where

$$h(x, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2(1 - \alpha)} \left( -x^{\beta+1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta\right) + 2(1 - \alpha)x^\beta \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta\right) - (1 - \alpha)^2 x^{\beta-1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta\right) \right)$$

and

$$\delta(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1 - \alpha}{(1 + \beta) \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta)} \left( \beta \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta\right) + \sqrt{(1 - 2\beta^2) \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\beta\right) + \beta^2} \right),$$

then  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$ .

*Proof* First, we note that  $p(z) \neq \alpha$  for  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . Defining function  $w$  by (4), we see that  $w$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  with  $w(0) = 0$ . Suppose that there exists a point  $z_0$  in  $\mathbb{U}$  satisfying (5). Then we have (6). By using Lemma 2.1, we obtain

$$z_0 w'(z_0) = k w(z_0),$$

where  $k$  is a real number with  $k \geq 1$ . Putting  $p(z_0) = \alpha + iy$  with  $y \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , we obtain (10). Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re} \left\{ (p(z_0) - \alpha)^\beta \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} \right) \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ (p(z_0) - \alpha + z_0 p'(z_0)) (p(z_0) - \alpha)^{\beta-1} \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( iy - \frac{k((1-\alpha)^2 + y^2)}{2(1-\alpha)} \right) (iy)^{\beta-1} \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( iy - \frac{k((1-\alpha)^2 + y^2)}{2(1-\alpha)} \right) |y|^{\beta-1} \left( \cos \left( \pm \frac{(\beta-1)\pi}{2} \right) + i \sin \left( \pm \frac{(\beta-1)\pi}{2} \right) \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

At first, we consider the case  $0 < \beta < 1$ .

(i) For the case  $y > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re} \left\{ (p(z_0) - \alpha)^\beta \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} \right) \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( -\frac{k}{2(1-\alpha)} ((1-\alpha)^2 y^{\beta-1} + y^{\beta+1}) + iy^\beta \right) \left( \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) - i \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) \right) \right\} \\ &= -\frac{k}{2(1-\alpha)} ((1-\alpha)^2 y^{\beta-1} + y^{\beta+1}) \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) + y^\beta \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2(1-\alpha)} \left( -y^{\beta+1} \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) + 2(1-\alpha) y^\beta \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) - (1-\alpha)^2 y^{\beta-1} \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) \right) \\ &= h(y, \alpha, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

Then, by a simple calculation, we obtain

$$h(y, \alpha, \beta) \leq h(\delta(\alpha, \beta), \alpha, \beta),$$

which is a contradiction to our assumption.

(ii) For the case  $y < 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re} \left\{ (p(z_0) - \alpha)^\beta \left( 1 + \frac{z_0 p'(z_0)}{p(z_0) - \alpha} \right) \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left( -\frac{k}{2(1-\alpha)} ((1-\alpha)^2 |y|^{\beta-1} + |y|^{\beta+1}) - i |y|^\beta \right) \left( \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) + i \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) \right) \right\} \\ &= -\frac{k}{2(1-\alpha)} ((1-\alpha)^2 |y|^{\beta-1} + |y|^{\beta+1}) \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) + |y|^\beta \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \beta \right) \\ &\leq h(|y|, \alpha, \beta) \leq h(\delta(\alpha, \beta), \alpha, \beta). \end{aligned}$$

We also come up to the same contradiction to our assumption under  $y < 0$  condition. Now, we consider the case  $\beta = 1$  and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}\{p(z_0) - \alpha + z_0 p'(z_0)\} &= -k \left( \frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} \right) \\ &\leq -\frac{(1 - \alpha)^2 + y^2}{2(1 - \alpha)} \\ &\leq -\frac{1 - \alpha}{2} = h(\delta(\alpha, 1), \alpha, 1). \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts our assumption. So, the proof is completed. □

*Remark 2.30* Taking  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$  in Theorem 2.29, we obtain the same result of Corollary 2.22.

Taking  $p(z) = f(z)/z$  and  $\alpha = 0$  in Theorem 2.29, we have the following result.

**Corollary 2.31** *Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ . If*

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{f'(z)\left(\frac{f(z)}{z}\right)^{\beta-1}\right\} > h(\delta(0, \beta), 0, \beta) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

where  $h$  and  $\delta(0, \beta)$  are given in Theorem 2.29, respectively, then

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{f(z)}{z}\right\} > 0 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

*Example 2.32* Taking  $\beta = 1/2$  in Corollary 2.31, we have  $h(\delta(0, \beta), 0, \beta) = 0$ . Then

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{f'(z)\left(\frac{z}{f(z)}\right)^{1/2}\right\} > 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{f(z)}{z}\right\} > 0.$$

**Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to express their gratitude to the referees for many valuable suggestions regarding a previous version of this paper.

**Funding**

The second author was supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) grant funded by the Korea government (MSIP; Ministry of Science, ICT & Future Planning) (No. NRF-2017R1C1B5076778). The third author was supported by the Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (No. 2016R1D1A1A09916450).

**Availability of data and materials**

Not applicable.

**Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

**Authors' contributions**

All authors jointly worked on the results and they read and approved the final manuscript.

**Author details**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Economics, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, USA. <sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Kyungsung University, Busan, Korea. <sup>3</sup>Department of Applied Mathematics, Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea.

## Publisher's Note

Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Received: 21 August 2018 Accepted: 15 January 2019 Published online: 18 January 2019

## References

1. Chichra, P.N.: New subclasses of the class of close-to-convex functions. *Proc. Am. Math. Soc.* **62**, 37–43 (1977)
2. Jack, I.S.: Functions starlike and convex of order  $\alpha$ . *J. Lond. Math. Soc. (2)* **3**, 469–474 (1971)
3. Marx, A.: Untersuchungen über schlichte Abbildungen. *Math. Ann.* **107**, 40–67 (1932/1933)
4. Miller, S.S.: Differential inequalities and Carathéodory functions. *Bull. Am. Math. Soc.* **81**, 79–81 (1975)
5. Miller, S.S., Mocanu, P.T.: Differential subordinations and univalent functions. *Mich. Math. J.* **28**, 157–171 (1981)
6. Miller, S.S., Mocanu, P.T.: *Differential Subordination: Theory and Applications*. Series on Monographs and Textbooks in Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. 225. Dekker, New York (2000)
7. Miller, S.S., Mocanu, P.T., Reade, M.O.: All alpha-convex functions are starlike. *Rev. Roum. Math. Pures Appl.* **17**, 1395–1397 (1972)
8. Nunokawa, M.: Differential inequalities and Carathéodory functions. *Proc. Jpn. Acad., Ser. A, Math. Sci.* **65**, 326–328 (1989)
9. Nunokawa, M., Ikeda, A., Koike, N., Ota, Y., Saitoh, H.: Differential inequalities and Carathéodory function. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **212**, 324–332 (1997)
10. Pommerenke, C.: *Univalent functions*. Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht (1975)
11. Ponnusamy, S., Karunakaran, V.: Differential subordination and conformal mappings. *Complex Var. Theory Appl.* **11**, 79–86 (1988)
12. Strohäcker, E.: Beiträge zur Theorie der schlichten Funktionen. *Math. Z.* **37**, 356–380 (1933)

Submit your manuscript to a SpringerOpen<sup>®</sup> journal and benefit from:

- Convenient online submission
- Rigorous peer review
- Open access: articles freely available online
- High visibility within the field
- Retaining the copyright to your article

---

Submit your next manuscript at ► [springeropen.com](https://www.springeropen.com)

---