

# A class of integral operators preserving subordination and superordination for meromorphic functions

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## Abstract

The purpose of the present paper is to investigate several subordination- and superordination-preserving properties of a certain class of integral operators, which are defined on the space of meromorphic functions in the punctured open unit disk. The sandwich-type theorem for these integral operators is also presented. Moreover, we consider an application of the subordination and superordination theorem to the Gauss hypergeometric function.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{U})$  denote the class of analytic functions in the open unit disk

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

For  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ , let

$$\mathcal{H}[a, n] := \{f : f \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and } f(z) = a + a_n z^n + a_{n+1} z^{n+1} + \dots\}.$$

Let  $f$  and  $F$  be members of the analytic function class  $\mathcal{H}$ . The function  $f$  is said to be subordinate to  $F$ , or  $F$  is said to be superordinate to  $f$ , if there exists a function  $w$  analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$ , with

$$w(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad |w(z)| < 1 \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}),$$

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such that

$$f(z) = F(w(z)) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

In this case, we write

$$f \prec F \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \quad \text{or} \quad f(z) \prec F(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}).$$

If the function  $F$  is univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$ , then we have (cf. [11])

$$f \prec F \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}) \iff f(0) = F(0) \quad \text{and} \quad f(\mathbb{U}) \subset F(\mathbb{U}).$$

**Definition 1** (Miller and Mocanu [11]). Let

$$\phi : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

and let  $h$  be univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$ . If  $p$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$  and satisfies the following differential subordination:

$$\phi(p(z), zp'(z)) \prec h(z) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \tag{1.1}$$

then  $p$  is called a solution of the differential subordination. A univalent function  $q$  is called a dominant of the solutions of the differential subordination or, more simply, a dominant if  $p \prec q$  for all  $p$  satisfying the differential subordination (1.1). A dominant  $\tilde{q}$  that satisfies  $\tilde{q} \prec q$  for all subordinants  $q$  of (1.1) is said to be the best dominant.

**Definition 2** (Miller and Mocanu [12]). Let

$$\varphi : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

and let  $h$  be analytic in  $\mathbb{U}$ . If  $p$  and  $\varphi(p(z), zp'(z))$  are univalent in  $\mathbb{U}$  and satisfy the following differential superordination:

$$h(z) \prec \varphi(p(z), zp'(z)) \quad (z \in \mathbb{U}), \tag{1.2}$$

then  $p$  is called a solution of the differential superordination. An analytic function  $q$  is called a subordinant of the solutions of the differential superordination or, more simply, a subordinant if  $q \prec p$  for all  $p$  satisfying the differential superordination (1.2). A univalent subordinant  $\tilde{q}$  that satisfies  $q \prec \tilde{q}$  for all subordinants  $q$  of (1.2) is said to be the best subordinant.

**Definition 3** (Miller and Mocanu [12]). We denote by  $\mathcal{Q}$  the class of functions  $f$  that are analytic and injective on  $\overline{\mathbb{U}} \setminus E(f)$ , where

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

and are such that

$$f'(\zeta) \neq 0 \quad (\zeta \in \partial\mathbb{U} \setminus E(f)).$$

Let  $\Sigma$  denote the class of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{z} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n,$$

which are analytic in the *punctured* open unit disk

$$\mathbb{D} := \mathbb{U} \setminus \{0\}.$$

Let  $\Sigma^*$  and  $\Sigma_k$  be the subclasses of  $\Sigma$  consisting of all functions which are, respectively, meromorphic starlike and meromorphic convex in  $\mathbb{D}$  (see, for details, [5,11]).

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