

**SOME SANDWICH RESULTS FOR HIGHER-ORDER
DERIVATIVES OF MULTIVALENT FUNCTIONS INVOLVING A
GENERALIZED DIFFERENTIAL OPERATOR**

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we obtain some applications of first order differential subordination, superordination and sandwich results for higher-order derivatives of p -valent functions involving a generalized differential operator. Some of our results improve and generalize previously known results.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $H(U)$ be the class of analytic functions in the open unit disk $U = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ and let $H[a, p]$ be the subclass of $H(U)$ consisting of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = a + a_p z^p + a_{p+1} z^{p+1} \dots \quad (a \in \mathbb{C}; p \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}).$$

For simplicity $H[a] = H[a, 1]$. Also, let $\mathcal{A}(p)$ be the subclass of $H(U)$ consisting of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} a_k z^k \quad (p \in \mathbb{N}), \quad (1)$$

which are p -valent in U . We write $\mathcal{A}(1) = \mathcal{A}$.

If $f, g \in H(U)$, we say that f is subordinate to g or g is superordinate to f , written $f(z) \prec g(z)$ if there exists a Schwarz function w , which (by definition) is analytic in U with $w(0) = 0$ and $|w(z)| < 1$ for all $z \in U$, such that $f(z) = g(w(z))$, $z \in U$. Furthermore, if the function g is univalent in U , then we have the following equivalence, (cf., e.g., [10], [17] and [18]):

$$f(z) \prec g(z) \Leftrightarrow f(0) = g(0) \text{ and } f(U) \subset g(U).$$

Let $\phi : \mathbb{C}^2 \times U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and h be univalent function in U . If β is analytic function in U and satisfies the first order differential subordination:

$$\phi(\beta(z), z\beta'(z); z) \prec h(z), \quad (2)$$

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then β is a solution of the differential subordination (2). The univalent function q is called a dominant of the solutions of the differential subordination (2) if $\beta(z) \prec q(z)$ for all β satisfying (2). A univalent dominant \tilde{q} that satisfies $\tilde{q} \prec q$ for all dominants of (2) is called the best dominant. If β and ϕ are univalent functions in U and if satisfies first order differential superordination:

$$h(z) \prec \phi\left(\beta(z), z\beta'(z); z\right), \quad (3)$$

then β is a solution of the differential superordination (3). An analytic function q is called a subordinant of the solutions of the differential superordination (3) if $q(z) \prec \beta(z)$ for all β satisfying (3). A univalent subordinant \tilde{q} that satisfies $q(z) \prec \tilde{q}(z)$ for all subordinants of (3) is called the best subordinant.

Using the results of Miller and Mocanu [18], Bulboaca [9] considered certain classes of first order differential subordinations as well as superordination-preserving integral operators [10]. Ali et al. [1], have used the results of Bulboaca [9] to obtain sufficient conditions for normalized analytic functions $f \in \mathcal{A}$ to satisfy:

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)} \prec q_2(z),$$

where q_1 and q_2 are given univalent functions in U with $q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$. Also, Tuneski [23] obtained a sufficient condition for starlikeness of $f \in \mathcal{A}$ in terms of the quantity $\frac{f''(z)f(z)}{(f'(z))^2}$. Recently, Shanmugam et al. [22] obtained sufficient conditions for the normalized analytic function $f \in \mathcal{A}$ to satisfy

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{f(z)}{zf'(z)} \prec q_2(z)$$

and

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{z^2 f'(z)}{\{f(z)\}^2} \prec q_2(z).$$

For functions $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ given by (1) and $g \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ given by

$$g(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} b_k z^k \quad (p \in \mathbb{N}), \quad (4)$$

the Hadamard product (or convolution) of f and g is given by

$$(f * g)(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} a_k b_k z^k = (g * f)(z). \quad (5)$$

Upon differentiating both sides of (5) j -times with respect to z , we have

$$(f * g)^{(j)}(z) = \delta(p; j) z^{p-j} + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \delta(k; j) a_k b_k z^{k-j}, \quad (6)$$

where

$$\delta(p; j) = \frac{p!}{(p-j)!} \quad (p > j; p \in \mathbb{N}; j \in \mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}). \quad (7)$$

For functions $f, g \in \mathcal{A}(p)$, we define the linear operator $D_{\lambda, p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} : \mathcal{A}(p) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(p)$ by:

$$D_{\lambda, p}^0 (f * g)^{(j)}(z) = (f * g)^{(j)}(z),$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{\lambda,p}^1 (f * g)^{(j)} (z) &= D_{\lambda,p} (f * g)^{(j)} (z) \\
 &= (1 - \lambda) (f * g)^{(j)} (z) + \frac{\lambda}{p-j} z \left((f * g)^{(j)} \right)' (z) \\
 &= \delta(p; j) z^{p-j} + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p-j + \lambda(k-p)}{p-j} \right) \delta(k; j) a_k b_k z^{k-j},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{\lambda,p}^2 (f * g)^{(j)} (z) &= D \left(D_p^1 (f * g)^{(j)} (z) \right) \\
 &= \delta(p; j) z^{p-j} + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p-j + \lambda(k-p)}{p-j} \right)^2 \delta(k; j) a_k b_k z^{k-j},
 \end{aligned}$$

and (in general)

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} (z) &= D(D_p^{n-1} (f * g)^{(j)} (z)) \\
 &= \delta(p; j) z^{p-j} + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p-j + \lambda(k-p)}{p-j} \right)^n \delta(k; j) a_k b_k z^{k-j} \\
 &\quad (\lambda \geq 0; p > j; p \in \mathbb{N}; j, n \in \mathbb{N}_0; z \in U). \tag{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

From (8), we can easily deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\lambda z}{p-j} \left(D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} (z) \right)' &= D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)} (z) - (1 - \lambda) D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} (z) \\
 &\quad (\lambda > 0; p > j; p \in \mathbb{N}; n, j \in \mathbb{N}_0; z \in U). \tag{9}
 \end{aligned}$$

We observe that the linear operator $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} (z)$ reduces to several interesting many other linear operators considered earlier for different choices of j, n, λ and the function g :

(i) For $j = 0, D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(0)} (z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g) (z)$, where the operator $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)$ ($\lambda \geq 0, p \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$) was introduced and studied by Selvaraj et al. [21] (see also [8]) and $D_{\lambda,1}^n (f * g) (z) = D_{\lambda}^n (f * g) (z)$, where the operator $D_{\lambda}^n (f * g)$ was introduced by Aouf and Mostafa [6];

(ii) For

$$g(z) = \frac{z^p}{1-z} \quad (p \in \mathbb{N}; z \in U) \tag{10}$$

we have $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)} (z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z), D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(0)}(z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n f(z)$, where the operator $D_{\lambda,p}^n$ is the p -valent Al-Oboudi operator which was introduced by El-Ashwah and Aouf [13], $D_{1,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) = D_p^n f^{(j)}(z)$, where the operator $D_p^n f^{(j)}$ ($p > j, p \in \mathbb{N}, n, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$) was introduced and studied by Aouf [[3], [4]] (see also [7]) and $D_{1,p}^n f^{(0)}(z) = D_p^n f(z)$, where the operator D_p^n is the p -valent Sălăgean operator which was introduced and studied by Kamali and Orhan [14] (see also [5]);

(iii) For

$$g(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{(\alpha_1)_{k-p} \dots (\alpha_q)_{k-p}}{(\beta_1)_{k-p} \dots (\beta_s)_{k-p}} \frac{z^k}{(1)_{k-p}} \quad (z \in U), \tag{11}$$

(for complex parameters $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q$ and β_1, \dots, β_s ($\beta_j \notin \mathbb{Z}_0^- = \{0, -1, -2, \dots\}$, $j = 1, \dots, s$); $q \leq s + 1$; $p \in \mathbb{N}$; $q, s \in \mathbb{N}_0$) where $(\nu)_k$ is the Pochhammer symbol defined in terms to the Gamma function Γ , by

$$(\nu)_k = \frac{\Gamma(\nu + k)}{\Gamma(\nu)} = \begin{cases} 1, & (k = 0), \\ \nu(\nu + 1)(\nu + 2)\dots(\nu + k - 1), & (k \in \mathbb{N}), \end{cases}$$

we have $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n (H_{p,q,s}(\alpha_1)f)^{(j)}(z)$ and $D_{\lambda,p}^0 (f * g)^{(0)}(z) = H_{p,q,s}(\alpha_1)f(z)$, where the operator $H_{p,q,s}(\alpha_1) = H_{p,q,s}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q; \beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)$ is the Dziok-Srivastava operator which was introduced and studied by Dziok and Srivastava [12] and which contains in turn many interesting operators;

(iv) For

$$g(z) = z^p + \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{p+l+\alpha(k-p)}{p+l} \right)^m z^k \quad (12)$$

($\alpha \geq 0$; $l \geq 0$; $p \in \mathbb{N}$; $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$; $z \in U$),

we have $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n (I_p(m, \alpha, l)f)^{(j)}(z)$ and $D_{\lambda,p}^0 (f * g)^{(0)}(z) = I_p(m, \alpha, l)f(z)$, where the operator $I_p(m, \alpha, l)$ was introduced and studied by Cătas [11] and which contains in turn many interesting operators such as, $I_p(m, 1, l) = I_p(m, l)$, where the operator $I_p(m, l)$ was investigated by Kumar et al. [15];

(v) For

$$g(z) = z^p + \frac{\Gamma(p+\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(p+\beta)} \sum_{k=p+1}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(k+\beta)}{\Gamma(k+\alpha+\beta)} z^k \quad (13)$$

($\alpha \geq 0$; $p \in \mathbb{N}$; $\beta > -1$; $z \in U$)

we have $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) = D_{\lambda,p}^n (Q_{\beta,p}^\alpha f)^{(j)}(z)$ and $D_{\lambda,p}^0 (f * g)^{(0)}(z) = Q_{\beta,p}^\alpha f(z)$, where the operator $Q_{\beta,p}^\alpha$ was introduced and studied by Liu and Owa [16];

(vi) For $j = 0$ and g of the form (11) with $p = 1$, we have $D_{\lambda,1}^n (f * g)(z) = D_{\lambda}^n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q; \beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)(z)$, where the operator $D_{\lambda}^n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q; \beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)$ was introduced and studied by Selvaraj and Karthikeyan [20];

(vii) For $j = 0$, $p = 1$ and

$$g(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(2-m)}{\Gamma(k+1-m)} \right]^n z^k \quad (14)$$

($n \in \mathbb{N}_0$; $0 \leq m < 1$; $z \in U$)

we have $D_{\lambda,1}^n (f * g)(z) = D_{\lambda}^{n,m} f(z)$, where the operator $D_{\lambda}^{n,m}$ was introduced and studied by Al-Oboudi and Al-Amoudi [2].

In this paper, we will derive several subordination, superordination and sandwich results involving the operator $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}$.

2. DEFINITIONS AND PRELIMINARIES

In order to prove our results, we need the following definition and lemmas.

Definition 2.1 [18]. Denote by Q , the set of all functions f that are analytic and injective on $\overline{U} \setminus E(f)$, where

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

and are such that $f'(\zeta) \neq 0$ for $\zeta \in \partial U \setminus E(f)$.

Lemma 2.1 [22]. Let q be univalent function in U with $q(0) = 1$. Let $\gamma_i \in \mathbb{C}(i = 1, 2)$, $\gamma_2 \neq 0$, further assume that

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} \right\} > \max \left\{ 0, -\Re \left(\frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2} \right) \right\}. \tag{15}$$

If β is analytic function in U , and

$$\gamma_1\beta(z) + \gamma_2z\beta'(z) \prec \gamma_1q(z) + \gamma_2zq'(z),$$

then $\beta \prec q$ and q is the best dominant.

Lemma 2.2 [22]. Let q be convex univalent function in U , $q(0) = 1$. Let $\gamma_i \in \mathbb{C}(i = 1, 2)$, $\gamma_2 \neq 0$ and $\Re \left(\frac{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2} \right) > 0$. If $\beta \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$, $\gamma_1\beta(z) + \gamma_2z\beta'(z)$ is univalent in U and

$$\gamma_1q(z) + \gamma_2zq'(z) \prec \gamma_1\beta(z) + \gamma_2z\beta'(z), \tag{16}$$

then $q \prec \beta$ and q is the best subdominant.

3. SUBORDINATION RESULTS

Unless otherwise mentioned, we assume throughout this paper that $\gamma \in \mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$, $\lambda \geq 0$, $p > j$, $p \in \mathbb{N}$, $n, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $\delta(p; j)$ is given by (7).

Theorem 3.1. Let q be univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and assume that

$$\Re \left\{ 1 + \frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} \right\} > \max \left\{ 0, -\Re \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \right\}. \tag{17}$$

If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ satisfy the following subordination condition:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec q(z) + \gamma zq'(z), \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

then

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \prec q(z)$$

and q is the best dominant.

Proof. Define a function β by

$$\beta(z) = \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \quad (z \in U). \tag{19}$$

Then the function β is analytic in U and $\beta(0) = 1$. Therefore, differentiating (19) logarithmically with respect to z and using the identity (9) in the resulting equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ &= \beta(z) + \gamma z \beta'(z), \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$\beta(z) + \gamma z \beta'(z) \prec q(z) + \gamma z q'(z).$$

Therefore, Theorem 3.1 now follows by applying Lemma 2.1. \square

Putting $q(z) = \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}$ in Theorem 3.1, it easy to check that the assumption (17) holds whenever $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$, hence we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 3.1. Let $-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$ and assume that

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{1-Bz}{1+Bz} \right\} > \max \left\{ 0, -\Re \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \right\}.$$

If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ satisfy the following subordination condition:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz} + \gamma \frac{(A-B)z}{(1+Bz)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \prec \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}$$

and the function $\frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}$ is the best dominant.

Taking $g = \frac{z^p}{1-z}$ in Theorem 3.1, we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 3.2. Let q be univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and assume that (17) holds. If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ satisfies the following subordination condition:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} f^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec q(z) + \gamma z q'(z), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} \prec q(z)$$

and q is the best dominant.

Remark 3.1. Taking $\lambda = 1$ in Corollary 3.2, we obtain the result obtained by Aouf and Seoudy [[7], Theorem 1].

Taking $p = \lambda = 1$, $j = 0$ and $g = \frac{z}{1-z}$ in Theorem 3.1, we obtain the following corollary which improves the result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Theorem 5.1] and also obtained by Nechita [[19], Corollary 7].

Corollary 3.3. Let q be univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and assume that (17) holds. If $f \in \mathcal{A}$ satisfies the following subordination condition:

$$\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} + \gamma \left\{ 1 - \frac{D^n f(z) D^{n+2} f(z)}{[D^{n+1} f(z)]^2} \right\} \prec q(z) + \gamma z q'(z),$$

then

$$\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} \prec q(z)$$

and q is the best dominant.

Remark 3.2. Taking $n = 0$ in Corollary 3.3, we obtain the result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Theorem 3.1].

4. SUPERORDINATION RESULTS

Now, by appealing to Lemma 2.2 it can be easily prove the following theorem.

Theorem 4.1. Let q be convex univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$.

If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and the following superordination condition

$$\begin{aligned} & q(z) + \gamma z q'(z) \\ \prec & \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

holds, then

$$q(z) \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}$$

and q is the best subordinant.

Taking $q(z) = \frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}$ ($-1 \leq B < A \leq 1$) in Theorem 4.1, we have the following corollary.

Corollary 4.1. Let $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$ and $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and the following superordination condition

$$\frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} + \gamma \frac{(A - B)z}{(1 + Bz)^2} \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

holds, then

$$\frac{1 + Az}{1 + Bz} \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}$$

and $\frac{1+Az}{1+Bz}$ is the best subordinant.

Taking $g = \frac{z^p}{1-z}$ in Theorem 4.1, we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 4.2. Let q be convex univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$. If

$f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} f^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and the following superordination condition

$$q(z) + \gamma z q'(z) \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} f^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

holds, then

$$q(z) \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)}$$

and q is the best subordinant.

Remark 4.1. Taking $\lambda = 1$ in Corollary 4.2, we obtain the result obtained by Aouf and Seoudy [[7], Theorem 2].

Taking $p = \lambda = 1$, $j = 0$ and $g = \frac{z}{1-z}$ in Theorem 4.1, we obtain the following result which improves the result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Theorem 5.2] and also obtained by Nechita [[19], Corollary 12].

Corollary 4.3. Let q be convex univalent in U with $q(0) = 1$ and $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$.

If $f \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} + \gamma \left\{ 1 - \frac{D^n f(z) \cdot D^{n+2} f(z)}{[D^{n+1} f(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and the following superordination condition

$$q(z) + \gamma z q'(z) \prec \frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} + \gamma \left\{ 1 - \frac{D^n f(z) \cdot D^{n+2} f(z)}{[D^{n+1} f(z)]^2} \right\}$$

holds, then

$$q(z) \prec \frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)}$$

and q is the best subordinant.

Remark 4.2. Taking $n = 0$ in Corollary 4.3, we obtain the result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Theorem 3.2].

5. SANDWICH RESULTS

Combining Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 4.1, we get the following sandwich theorem for the linear operator $D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}$.

Theorem 5.1. Let q_1 be convex univalent in U with $q_1(0) = 1$, $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$, q_2 be univalent in U with $q_2(0) = 1$ and satisfies (17). If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and

$$\begin{aligned} & q_1(z) + \gamma z q_1'(z) \\ & \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec q_2(z) + \gamma z q_2'(z) \end{aligned}$$

holds, then

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \prec q_2(z)$$

and q_1 and q_2 are, respectively, the best subordinant and the best dominant.

Taking $q_i(z) = \frac{1+A_i z}{1+B_i z}$ ($i = 1, 2; -1 \leq B_2 \leq B_1 < A_1 \leq A_2 \leq 1$) in Theorem 5.1, we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 5.1. Let $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$ and $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n (f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} (f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1+A_1z}{1+B_1z} + \gamma \frac{(A_1-B_1)z}{(1+B_1z)^2} \\ & \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n(f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1}(f * g)^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n(f * g)^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2}(f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1}(f * g)^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec \frac{1+A_2z}{1+B_2z} + \gamma \frac{(A_2-B_2)z}{(1+B_2z)^2} \end{aligned}$$

holds, then

$$\frac{1+A_1z}{1+B_1z} \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n(f * g)^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1}(f * g)^{(j)}(z)} \prec \frac{1+A_2z}{1+B_2z},$$

$\frac{1+A_1z}{1+B_1z}$ and $\frac{1+A_2z}{1+B_2z}$ are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant.

Taking $g = \frac{z^p}{1-z}$ in Theorem 5.1, we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 5.2. Let q_1 be convex univalent in U with $q_1(0) = 1$, $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$, q_2 be univalent in U with $q_2(0) = 1$ and satisfies (17). If $f \in \mathcal{A}(p)$ such that $\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} f^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and

$$\begin{aligned} & q_1(z) + \gamma z q_1'(z) \\ & \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} + \gamma \frac{(p-j)}{\lambda} \left\{ 1 - \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z) D_{\lambda,p}^{n+2} f^{(j)}(z)}{[D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)]^2} \right\} \\ & \prec q_2(z) + \gamma z q_2'(z) \end{aligned}$$

holds, then

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{D_{\lambda,p}^n f^{(j)}(z)}{D_{\lambda,p}^{n+1} f^{(j)}(z)} \prec q_2(z),$$

q_1 and q_2 are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant.

Remark 5.1. Taking $\lambda = 1$ in Corollary 5.2, we obtain the sandwich result obtained by Aouf and Seoudy [[7], Theorem 3].

Taking $p = \lambda = 1$, $j = 0$ and $g = \frac{z}{1-z}$ in Theorem 5.1, we obtain the following sandwich result which improves the result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Theorem 5.3].

Corollary 5.3. Let q_1 be convex univalent in U with $q_1(0) = 1$, $\Re\left(\frac{1}{\gamma}\right) > 0$, q_2 be univalent in U with $q_2(0) = 1$ and satisfies (17). If $f \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} \in H[q(0), 1] \cap Q$,

$$\frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} + \gamma \left\{ 1 - \frac{D^n f(z) \cdot D^{n+2} f(z)}{[D^{n+1} f(z)]^2} \right\}$$

is univalent in U and

$$q_1(z) + \gamma z q_1'(z) \prec \frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} + \gamma \left\{ 1 - \frac{D^n f(z) \cdot D^{n+2} f(z)}{[D^{n+1} f(z)]^2} \right\} \prec q_2(z) + \gamma z q_2'(z)$$

holds, then

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{D^n f(z)}{D^{n+1} f(z)} \prec q_2(z),$$

q_1 and $q_2(z)$ are, respectively, the best subdominant and the best dominant.

Remark 5.2. Taking $n = 0$ in Corollary 5.3, we obtain the sandwich result obtained by Shanmugam et al. [[22], Corollary 3.3].

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