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# SOME APPLICATIONS RELATED TO ADMISSIBLE FUNCTIONS FOR HIGHER-ORDER DERIVATIVES OF MEROMORPHIC MULTIVALENT FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. In the present manuscript, we obtain some differential subordination and superordination results for higher-order derivatives of meromorphic multivalent functions in the punctured unit disk by investigating appropriate families of admissible functions. These results are applied to obtain differential sandwich results.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

We denote by  $\Sigma_p$  the family of all functions f of the form:

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

which are analytic and multivalent in the punctured unit disk

$$U^* = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : 0 < |z| < 1 \}.$$

A function  $f \in \Sigma_p$  is meromorphic multivalent starlike if  $f(z) \neq 0$  and

$$-\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{zf'(z)}{f(z)}\right\} > 0 \quad (z \in U^*),$$

and  $f \in \Sigma_p$  is meromorphic multivalent convex if  $f'(z) \neq 0$  and

$$-\text{Re}\left\{1 + \frac{zf''(z)}{f'(z)}\right\} > 0 \quad (z \in U^*).$$

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Upon differentiating both sides of (1.1) *j*-times with respect to z, we obtain

$$f^{(j)}(z) = \frac{(-1)^j (p+j-1)!}{(p-1)!} z^{-p-j} + \sum_{n=p}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{(n-j)!} a_n z^{n-j} \quad (p,j \in \mathbb{N}; \, p>j).$$

Let  $\mathcal{H}(U)$  be the collection of analytic functions in the open unit disk  $U = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ . For a positive integer n and  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ , let  $\mathcal{H}[a, n]$  be the sub-collection of  $\mathcal{H}(U)$  consisting of functions of the form:

$$f(z) = a + a_n z^n + a_{n+1} z^{n+1} + \cdots,$$

with  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}[1,1]$ .

Let f and g be members of  $\mathcal{H}(U)$ . The function f is said to be subordinate to g, or (equivalently) g is said to be superordinate to f, if there exists a Schwarz function wwhich is analytic in U with w(0) = 0 and |w(z)| < 1,  $z \in U$ , such that f(z) = g(w(z)). In such a case, we write  $f \prec g$  or  $f(z) \prec g(z), z \in U$ . Further, if the function g is univalent in U, then we have the following equivalence (see [5])

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

**Definition 1.1** ([6]). Let  $F, h \in \mathcal{H}(U)$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$ . If F is analytic in U and satisfies the following (second-order) differential subordination:

(1.2) 
$$\phi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right) \prec h(z),$$

then F is called a solution of the differential subordination (1.2). The univalent function q is called a dominant of the solutions of the differential subordination or more simply a dominant if  $F(z) \prec q(z)$  for all F satisfying (1.2). A dominant  $\check{q}$  that satisfies  $\check{q}(z) \prec q(z)$  for all dominants q of (1.2) is said to be the best dominant.

**Definition 1.2** ([7]). Let  $F, h \in \mathcal{H}(U)$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$ . If F and  $\phi \left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right)$ 

are univalent in U for  $\zeta \in \overline{U}$  and satisfy the following (second-order) differential superordination:

(1.3) 
$$h(z) \prec \phi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right),$$

then F is called a solution of the differential superordination (1.3). An analytic function q is called a subordinant of the solutions of the differential superordination or more simply a subordinant if  $q(z) \prec F(z)$  for all F satisfying (1.3). A univalent subordinant  $\check{q}$  that satisfies  $q(z) \prec \check{q}(z)$  for all subordinants q of (1.3) is said to be the best subordinant.

**Definition 1.3** ([6]). Denote by Q the set consisting of all functions q that are analytic and injective on  $\overline{U} \setminus E(q)$ , where

$$E(q) = \left\{ \xi \in \partial U : \lim_{z \to \xi} q(z) = \infty \right\},\,$$

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

Further, let the subclass of Q for which q(0) = a be denoted by Q(a),  $Q(0) \equiv Q_0$ and  $Q(1) \equiv Q_1$ .

**Definition 1.4** ([6]). Let  $\Omega$  be a set in  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $q \in Q$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The family of admissible functions  $\Psi_n[\Omega, q]$  consists of those functions  $\psi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  that satisfy the following admissibility condition:  $\psi(r, s, t; z) \notin \Omega$ , whenever

$$r = q(\xi), \quad s = k\xi q'(\xi) \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{t}{s} + 1\right\} \ge k\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\xi q''(\xi)}{q'(\xi)} + 1\right\},$$

 $z \in U, \xi \in \partial U \setminus E(q) \text{ and } k \ge n.$ We simply write  $\Psi_1[\Omega, q] = \Psi[\Omega, q].$ 

**Definition 1.5** ([6]). Let  $\Omega$  be a set in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $q \in \mathcal{H}[a, n]$  with  $q'(z) \neq 0$ . The family of admissible functions  $\Psi'_n[\Omega, q]$  consists of those functions  $\psi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  that satisfy the following admissibility condition:  $\psi(r, s, t; \xi) \in \Omega$ , whenever

$$r = q(z), \quad s = \frac{zq'(z)}{m} \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{t}{s} + 1\right\} \le \frac{1}{m}\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} + 1\right\},$$

 $z \in U, \xi \in \partial U$  and  $m \ge n \ge 1$ .

In particular, we write  $\Psi'_1[\Omega,q] = \Psi'[\Omega,q].$ 

In our investigations we shall need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 1.1** ([6]). Let  $\psi \in \Psi_n[\Omega, q]$ , with q(0) = a. If  $F \in \mathcal{H}[a, n]$  satisfies

$$\psi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right) \in \Omega,$$

then  $F(z) \prec q(z)$ .

**Lemma 1.2** ([6]). Let  $\psi \in \Psi'_n[\Omega, q]$  with q(0) = a. If  $F \in Q(a)$  and

$$\psi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right)$$

is univalent in U, then

$$\Omega \subset \left\{ \psi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right) : z \in U, \zeta \in \bar{U} \right\}$$

implies  $q(z) \prec F(z)$ .

In recent years, several authors obtained many interesting results in differential subordination and superordination, such as Seoudy [12], Wanas and Srivastava [19], Lupas and Catas [4] and others (see, for example, [1–3,8–11,13–18,20]). In this investigation, we consider certain suitable families of admissible functions and derive some differential subordination and superordination properties for higher-order derivatives of meromorphic multivalent functions.

## 2. Subordination Results

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\Omega$  be a set in C and  $q \in Q_1 \cap \mathcal{H}$ . The class of admissible functions  $\Phi_j[\Omega, q]$  consists of those functions  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  that satisfy the admissibility condition:  $\phi(u, v, w; z) \notin \Omega$ , whenever

$$u = q(\xi), \quad v = \frac{k\xi q'(\xi)}{q(\xi)}, \ q(\xi) \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{w + v^2}{v}\right\} \ge k\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\xi q''(\xi)}{q'(\xi)} + 1\right\},$$

where  $z \in U, \xi \in \partial U \setminus E(q)$  and  $k \ge 1$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $\phi \in \Phi_j [\Omega, q]$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

(2.1) 
$$\begin{cases} \phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z \right) : z \in U \end{cases} \subset \Omega,$$

then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

*Proof.* Define the function F by

(2.2) 
$$F(z) = \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}$$

Then, the function F is analytic in U. After some calculation, we have

(2.3) 
$$\frac{zF'(z)}{F(z)} = \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p + j - 1.$$

Further computations show that

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{z^2 F''(z)}{F(z)} + \frac{z F'(z)}{F(z)} - \left(\frac{z F'(z)}{F(z)}\right)^2 = z \left[\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p + j - 1\right]' \\ = \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2.$$

Now, we define the transforms from  $\mathbb{C}^3$  to  $\mathbb{C}$  by

$$u = r$$
,  $v = \frac{s}{r}$ ,  $w = \frac{r(t+s) - s^2}{r^2}$ .

Let

(2.5) 
$$\psi(r,s,t;z) = \phi(u,v,w;z) = \phi\left(r,\frac{s}{r},\frac{r(t+s)-s^2}{r^2};z\right).$$

The proof will make use of Lemma 1.1. Using equations (2.2), (2.3) and (2.4), it follows from (2.5) that

$$\begin{split} \psi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right) &= \phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ &\frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right). \end{split}$$

Therefore, (2.1) becomes  $\psi(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z) \in \Omega$ .

To complete the proof, we next show that the admissibility condition for  $\phi \in \Phi_j[\Omega, q]$  is equivalent to the admissibility condition for  $\psi$  as given in Definition 1.4.

Note that

$$\frac{t}{s} + 1 = \frac{w + v^2}{v}$$

and hence  $\psi \in \Psi[\Omega, q]$ . By Lemma 1.1,  $F(z) \prec q(z)$  or equivalently

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

We consider the special situation when  $\Omega \neq \mathbb{C}$  is a simply connected domain. In this case  $\Omega = h(U)$ , for some conformal mapping h of U onto  $\Omega$  and the class  $\Phi_j[h(U), q]$  is written as  $\Phi_j[h, q]$ . The following result is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $\phi \in \Phi_j[h,q]$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

(2.7) 
$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right) \prec h(z),$$

then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

By taking  $\phi(u, v, w; z) = u + \frac{v}{\beta u + \gamma}$ ,  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$ , in Theorem 2.2, we state the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.1.** Let  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$  and let h be convex in U, with h(0) = 1, and

Re 
$$\{\beta h(z) + \gamma\} > 0.$$

If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} + \frac{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!\left[zf^{(j)}(z) + (p+j-1)f^{(j-1)}(z)\right]}{\beta(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}\left(f^{(j-1)}(z)\right)^2 + \gamma(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!f^{(j-1)}(z)} \prec h(z),$$

then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

The next result is an extension of Theorem 2.1 to the case where the behavior of q on  $\partial U$  is not known.

**Corollary 2.2.** Let  $\Omega \in \mathbb{C}$  and q be univalent in U with q(0) = 1. Let  $\phi \in \Phi_j[h, q_\rho]$ for some  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ , where  $q_\rho(z) = q(\rho z)$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right) \in \Omega,$$

then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

*Proof.* Theorem 2.1 yields

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q_{\rho}(z)$$

The result is now deduced from the fact that  $q_{\rho}(z) \prec q(z)$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** Let h and q be univalent in U with q(0) = 1 and set  $q_{\rho}(z) = q(\rho z)$ and  $h_{\rho}(z) = h(\rho z)$ . Let  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  satisfy one of the following conditions: (1)  $\phi \in \Phi_j[h, q_{\rho}]$  for some  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ ;

(2) there exists  $\rho_0 \in (0,1)$  such that  $\phi \in \Phi_j [h_\rho, q_\rho]$  for all  $\rho \in (\rho_0, 1)$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies (2.7), then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

*Proof.* Case (1). By applying Theorem 2.1, we obtain

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q_{\rho}(z).$$

Since  $q_{\rho}(z) \prec q(z)$ , we deduce

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z)$$

Case (2). Let

$$F(z) = \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!} \quad \text{and} \quad F_{\rho}(z) = F(\rho z).$$

Then,

$$\phi\left(F_{\rho}(z), zF_{\rho}'(z), z^{2}F_{\rho}''(z); \rho z\right) = \phi\left(F(\rho z), zF'(\rho z), z^{2}F''(\rho z); \rho z, \right) \in h_{\rho}(U).$$

By using Theorem 2.1 and the comment associated with

$$\phi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); w(z)\right) \in \Omega,$$

where w is any function mapping U into U, with  $w(z) = \rho z$ , we obtain  $F_{\rho}(z) \prec q_{\rho}(z)$ for  $\rho \in (\rho_0, 1)$ . By letting  $\rho \to 1^-$ , we get  $F(z) \prec q(z)$ . Therefore,

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z).$$

The next result gives the best dominant of the differential subordination (2.7).

**Theorem 2.4.** Let h be univalent in U and  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that the differential equation

(2.8) 
$$\phi\left(q(z), \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}, \frac{z^2q''(z)}{q(z)} + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} - \left(\frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}\right)^2; z\right) = h(z)$$

has a solution q, with q(0) = 1, and satisfies one of the following conditions:

(1)  $q \in Q_1$  and  $\phi \in \Phi_j[h,q]$ ;

(2) q is univalent in U and  $\phi \in \Phi_i[h, q_\rho]$  for some  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ ;

(3) q is univalent in U and there exists  $\rho_0 \in (0,1)$  such that  $\phi \in \Phi_j[h_\rho, q_\rho]$  for all  $\rho \in (\rho_0, 1)$ .

If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies (2.7), then

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \prec q(z)$$

and q is the best dominant.

*Proof.* It follows from Theorems 2.2 and 2.3, that q is a dominant of (2.7). Since q satisfies (2.8), it is also a solution of (2.7), then q will be dominated by all dominants. Thus, q is the best dominant of (2.7).

In the particular case q(z) = 1 + Mz, M > 0, and in view of Definition 2.1, the family of admissible functions  $\Phi_j[\Omega, q]$  denoted by  $\Phi_j[\Omega, M]$  can be expressed in the following form.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\Omega$  be a set in  $\mathbb{C}$  and M > 0. The family of admissible functions  $\Phi_i[\Omega, M]$  consists of those functions  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  such that

(2.9) 
$$\phi\left(1+Me^{i\theta},\frac{kM}{M+e^{-i\theta}},\frac{kM+Le^{-i\theta}}{M+e^{-i\theta}}-\left(\frac{kM}{M+e^{-i\theta}}\right)^2;z\right)\notin\Omega,$$

whenever  $z \in U$ ,  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} \{ Le^{-i\theta} \} \ge k(k-1)M$  for all  $\theta$  and  $k \ge 1$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** Let  $\phi \in \Phi_j[\Omega, M]$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right) \in \Omega,$$

then

$$\left|\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-2}(p+j-2)!} + 1\right| < M$$

When  $\Omega = q(U) = \{w : |w - 1| < M\}$ , the family  $\Phi_j[\Omega, M]$  is simply denoted by  $\Phi_j[M]$ , then Corollary 2.3 takes the following form.

Corollary 2.4. Let 
$$\phi \in \Phi_j[M]$$
. If  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies  

$$\left| \phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left( \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} \right)^2; z \right) - 1 \right| < M.$$

Then,

$$\left|\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-2}(p+j-2)!} + 1\right| < M.$$

Example 2.1. If M > 0 and  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

$$\left|\frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2 - p - j + 1\right| < M,$$

then

$$\left|\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-2}(p+j-2)!} + 1\right| < M.$$

This implication follows from Corollary 2.4 by taking  $\phi(u, v, w; z) = w - v + 1$ . Example 2.2. If M > 0 and  $f \in \Sigma_p$  satisfies

$$\left|\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p + j - 2\right| < \frac{M}{M+1},$$

then

$$\left| \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-2} (p+j-2)!} + 1 \right| < M.$$

This implication follows from Corollary 2.3 by taking  $\phi(u, v, w; z) = v$  and  $\Omega = h(U)$  where  $h(z) = \frac{M}{M+1}z$ , M > 0. To apply Corollary 2.3, we need to show that  $\phi \in \Phi_j[\Omega, M]$ , that is the admissibility condition (2.9) is satisfied follows from

$$\left| \phi \left( 1 + Me^{i\theta}, \frac{kM}{M + e^{-i\theta}}, \frac{kM + Le^{-i\theta}}{M + e^{-i\theta}} - \left( \frac{kM}{M + e^{-i\theta}} \right)^2; z \right) \right| = \frac{kM}{M + 1} \ge \frac{M}{M + 1},$$
 for  $z \in U, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k > 1$ .

### 3. Superordination Results

In this section, we derive differential superordination. For this purpose the family of admissible functions given in the following definition will be required.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\Omega$  be a set in  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $q \in \mathcal{H}$ . The class of admissible functions  $\Phi'_j[\Omega, q]$  consists of those functions  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$  that satisfy the admissibility condition:  $\phi(u, v, w; \xi) \in \Omega$ , whenever

$$u = q(z), \quad v = \frac{zq'(z)}{mq(z)}, \ q(z) \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{w+v^2}{v}\right\} \le \frac{1}{m}\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{zq''(z)}{q'(z)} + 1\right\},$$

where  $z \in U, \xi \in \partial U$  and  $m \ge 1$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $\phi \in \Phi'_{j}[\Omega, q]$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_{p}$ ,

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in Q_1$$

and

$$\phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z \right)$$

is univalent in U, then

(3.1) 
$$\Omega \subset \left\{ \phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left( \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} \right)^2; z \right\} : z \in U \right\}$$

implies

$$q(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}$$

*Proof.* Let F defined by (2.2) and  $\psi(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z)$  defined by (2.6). Since  $\phi \in \Phi'_i[\Omega, q]$ , from (2.6) and (3.1), we have

$$\Omega \subset \left\{ \psi\left(F(z), zF'(z), z^2F''(z); z\right) : z \in U \right\}.$$

From (2.5), we see that the admissibility condition for  $\phi \in \Phi'_j[\Omega, q]$  is equivalent to the admissibility condition for  $\psi$  as given in Definition 1.5. Hence,  $\psi \in \Psi'[\Omega, q]$  and by Lemma 1.2,  $q(z) \prec F(z)$  or equivalently

$$q(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}.$$

We consider the special situation when  $\Omega \neq \mathbb{C}$  is a simply connected domain. In this case  $\Omega = h(U)$ , for some conformal mapping h of U onto  $\Omega$  and the class  $\Phi'_j[h(U), q]$  is written as  $\Phi'_j[h, q]$ . The following result is an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.1.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\phi \in \Phi'_j[h,q]$ ,  $q \in \mathcal{H}$  and h be analytic in U. If  $f \in \Sigma_p$ ,  $\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in Q_1$  and

$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right)$$

is univalent in U, then

(3.2) 
$$h(z) \prec \phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z \right)$$

implies

$$q(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}.$$

By taking  $\phi(u, v, w; z) = u + \frac{v}{\beta u + \gamma}$ ,  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$ , in Theorem 3.2, we state the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.1.** Let  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$  and let h be convex in U with h(0) = 1. Suppose that the differential equation  $q(z) + \frac{zq'(z)}{\beta q(z)+\gamma} = h(z)$  has univalent solution q that satisfies q(0) = 1 and  $q(z) \prec h(z)$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$ ,

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in \mathcal{H} \cap Q_1$$

and

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} + \frac{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!\left[zf^{(j)}(z) + (p+j-1)f^{(j-1)}(z)\right]}{\beta(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}\left(f^{(j-1)}(z)\right)^2 + \gamma(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!f^{(j-1)}(z)}$$

is univalent in U, then

$$\begin{split} h(z) \prec & \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!} \\ &+ \frac{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)! \left[ z f^{(j)}(z) + (p+j-1) f^{(j-1)}(z) \right]}{\beta (p-1)! z^{p+j-1} \left( f^{(j-1)}(z) \right)^2 + \gamma (-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)! f^{(j-1)}(z)} \end{split}$$

implies

$$q(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}.$$

The next result gives the best subordinant of the differential superordination (3.2).

**Theorem 3.3.** Let h be analytic in U and  $\phi : \mathbb{C}^3 \times U \to \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that the differential equation

$$\phi\left(q(z), \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}, \frac{z^2q''(z)}{q(z)} + \frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)} - \left(\frac{zq'(z)}{q(z)}\right)^2; z\right) = h(z)$$

has a solution  $q \in Q_1$ . If  $\phi \in \Phi'_j[h,q], f \in \Sigma_p, \frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in Q_1$  and

$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right)$$

is univalent in U, then

$$\begin{split} h(z) \prec \phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z \right) \end{split}$$

implies

$$q(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}$$

and q is the best subordinant.

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.4 and is omitted.

#### 4. SANDWICH RESULTS

By combining Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 3.2, we obtain the following sandwich result.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $h_1$  and  $q_1$  be analytic functions in U,  $h_2$  be univalent in U,  $q_2 \in Q_1$ with  $q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$  and  $\phi \in \Phi_j [h_2, q_2] \cap \Phi'_j [h_1, q_1]$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$ ,

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in \mathcal{H} \cap Q_1$$

and

$$\phi\left(\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!}, \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{zf^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z\right)$$

is univalent in U, then

$$h_1(z) \prec \phi \left( \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!}, \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + p+j-1, \\ \frac{z^2 f^{(j+1)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} + \frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)} - \left(\frac{z f^{(j)}(z)}{f^{(j-1)}(z)}\right)^2; z \right) \\ \prec h_2(z)$$

implies

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!} \prec q_2(z)$$

By combining Corollary 2.1 and Corollary 3.1, we obtain the following sandwich result.

**Corollary 4.1.** Let  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$  and let  $h_1, h_2$  be convex in U with  $h_1(0) = h_2(0) = 1$ . Suppose that the differential equations  $q_1(z) + \frac{zq'_1(z)}{\beta q_1(z) + \gamma} = h_1(z), q_2(z) + \frac{zq'_2(z)}{\beta q_2(z) + \gamma} = h_2(z)$ have a univalent solutions  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ , respectively, that satisfies  $q_1(0) = q_2(0) = 1$  and  $q_1(z) \prec h_1(z), q_2(z) \prec h_2(z)$ . If  $f \in \Sigma_p$ ,

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} \in \mathcal{H} \cap Q_1$$

and

$$\frac{(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!} + \frac{(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!\left[zf^{(j)}(z) + (p+j-1)f^{(j-1)}(z)\right]}{\beta(p-1)!z^{p+j-1}\left(f^{(j-1)}(z)\right)^2 + \gamma(-1)^{j-1}(p+j-2)!f^{(j-1)}(z)}$$

is univalent in U, then

$$h_1(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!} + \frac{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)! \left[ z f^{(j)}(z) + (p+j-1) f^{(j-1)}(z) \right]}{\beta (p-1)! z^{p+j-1} \left( f^{(j-1)}(z) \right)^2 + \gamma (-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)! f^{(j-1)}(z)} \\ \prec h_2(z)$$

implies

$$q_1(z) \prec \frac{(p-1)! z^{p+j-1} f^{(j-1)}(z)}{(-1)^{j-1} (p+j-2)!} \prec q_2(z)$$

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