

**HARMONIC UNIVALENT FUNCTIONS DEFINED BY AN
INTEGRAL OPERATOR**

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ABSTRACT. We define and investigate a new class of harmonic univalent functions defined by an integral operator. We obtain coefficient inequalities, extreme points and distortion bounds for the functions in our classes.

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1. INTRODUCTION

A continuous complex-valued function $f = u + iv$ defined in a complex domain D is said to be harmonic in D if both u and v are real harmonic in D . In any simply connected domain we can write $f = h + \bar{g}$, where h and g are analytic in D . A necessary and sufficient condition for f to be locally univalent and sense preserving in D is that $|h'(z)| > |g'(z)|$, $z \in D$. (See Clunie and Sheil-Small [2].)

Denote by H the class of functions $f = h + \bar{g}$ that are harmonic univalent and sense preserving in the unit disc $U = \{z : |z| < 1\}$ so that $f = h + \bar{g}$ is normalized by $f(0) = h(0) = f'_z(0) - 1 = 0$.

Let $\mathcal{H}(U)$ be the space of holomorphic functions in U . We let:

$$A_n = \{f \in \mathcal{H}(U), f(z) = z + a_{n+1}z^{n+1} + \dots, z \in U\},$$

with $A_1 = A$.

We let $\mathcal{H}[a, n]$ denote the class of analytic functions in U of the form

$$f(z) = a + a_n z^n + a_{n+1} z^{n+1} + \dots, \quad z \in U.$$

The integral operator I^n is defined in [5] by:

- (i) $I^0 f(z) = f(z)$;
- (ii) $I^1 f(z) = If(z) = \int_0^z f(t)t^{-1}dt$;
- (iii) $I^n f(z) = I(I^{n-1}f(z))$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $f \in A$.

Ahuja and Jahongiri [3] defined the class $H(n)$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) consisting of all univalent harmonic functions $f = h + \bar{g}$ that are sense preserving in U and h and g are of the form

$$h(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad g(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \quad |b_1| < 1. \quad (1)$$

For $f = h + \bar{g}$ given by (1) the integral operator I^n of f is defined as

$$I^n f(z) = I^n h(z) + (-1)^n \overline{I^n g(z)}, \quad (2)$$

where

$$I^n h(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k)^{-n} a_k z^k \text{ and } I^n g(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k)^{-n} b_k z^k.$$

For $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $z \in U$, let $H(n, \alpha)$ the family of harmonic functions f of the form (1) such that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{I^n f(z)}{I^{n+1} f(z)} \right\} > \alpha. \quad (3)$$

The families $H(n+1, n, \alpha)$ and $H^-(n+1, n, \alpha)$ include a variety of well-known classes of harmonic functions as well as many new ones. For example $HS(\alpha) = \overline{H}(1, 0, \alpha)$ is the class of sense-preserving, harmonic univalent functions f which are starlike of order $\alpha \in U$, and $HK(\alpha) = \overline{H}(2, 1, \alpha)$ is the class of sense-preserving, harmonic univalent functions f which are convex of order α in U , and $\overline{H}(n+1, n, \alpha) = \overline{H}(n, \alpha)$ is the class of Sălăgean-type harmonic univalent functions.

Let we denote the subclass $H^-(n, \alpha)$ consist of harmonic functions $f_n = h + \bar{g}_n$ in $H^-(n, \alpha)$ so that h and g_n are of the form

$$h(z) = z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad g_n(z) = (-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \quad (4)$$

where $a_k, b_k \geq 0, |b_1| < 1$.

For the harmonic functions f of the form (1) with $b_1 = 0$ Avci and Zlotkiewich [1] show that if

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k(|a_k| + |b_k|) \leq 1,$$

then $f \in HS(0)$, where $HS(0) = \overline{H}(1, 0, 0)$, and if

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k^2(|a_k| + |b_k|) \leq 1,$$

then $f \in HK(0)$, where $HK(0) = \overline{H}(2, 1, 0)$.

For the harmonic functions f of the form (4) with $n = 0$, Jahangiri in [4] showed that $f \in HS(\alpha)$ if and only if

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (k - \alpha)|a_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k + \alpha)|b_k| \leq 1 - \alpha$$

and $f \in \overline{H}(2, 1, \alpha)$ if and only if

$$\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k(k - \alpha)|a_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k(k + \alpha)|b_k| \leq 1 - \alpha.$$

2. MAIN RESULTS

In our first theorem, we deduce a sufficient coefficient bound for harmonic functions in $H(n, \alpha)$.

Theorem 2.1. *Let $f = h + \bar{g}$ be given by (1). If*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{\psi(n, k, \alpha)|a_k| + \theta(n, k, \alpha)|b_k|\} \leq 2, \tag{5}$$

where

$$\psi(n, k, \alpha) = \frac{(k)^{-n} - \alpha(k)^{-(n+1)}}{1 - \alpha} \text{ and } \theta(n, k, \alpha) = \frac{(k)^{-n} + \alpha(k)^{-(n+1)}}{1 - \alpha},$$

$a_1 = 1$, $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then f is sense-preserving in U and $f \in H(n, \alpha)$.

Proof. According to (2) and (3) we only need to show that

$$\operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{I^n f(z) - \alpha I^{n+1} f(z)}{I^{n+1} f(z)} \right) \geq 0.$$

The case $r = 0$ is obvious. For $0 < r < 1$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{I^n f(z) - \alpha I^{n+1} f(z)}{I^{n+1} f(z)} \right) \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{z(1-\alpha) + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] a_k z^k}{z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^k + (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{(-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k}{z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^k + (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k} \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{1 - \alpha + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] a_k z^{k-1}}{1 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^{k-1} + (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k z^{-1}} \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{(-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k z^{-1}}{1 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^{k-1} + (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \bar{b}_k \bar{z}^k z^{-1}} \right\} \\ &= \operatorname{Re} \left[\frac{1 - \alpha + A(z)}{1 + B(z)} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

For $z = re^{i\theta}$ we have

$$A(re^{i\theta}) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] a_k r^{k-1} e^{(k-1)\theta i}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & +(-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} \right] \bar{b}_k r^{k-1} e^{-(k+1)\theta i} \\
 B(re^{i\theta}) & = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} a_k r^{k-1} e^{(k-1)\theta i} \\
 & +(-1)^{n+1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} \bar{b}_k r^{k-1} e^{-(k+1)\theta i}
 \end{aligned}$$

Setting

$$\frac{1 - \alpha + A(z)}{1 + B(z)} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{1 + w(z)}{1 - w(z)},$$

the proof will be complete if we can show that $|w(z)| \leq 1$. This is the case since, by the condition (5), we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 |w(z)| & = \left| \frac{A(z) - (1 - \alpha)B(z)}{A(z) + (1 - \alpha)B(z) + 2(1 - \alpha)} \right| \\
 & = \left| \frac{\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} \right] a_k r^{k-1} e^{(k-1)\theta i}}{2(1 - \alpha) + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} C(n, k, \alpha) a_k r^{k-1} e^{(k-1)\theta i} + (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} D(n, k, \alpha) \bar{b}_k r^{k-1} e^{-(k+1)\theta i}} \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \frac{(-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^n + \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} \right] \bar{b}_k r^{k-1} e^{-(k+1)\theta i}}{2(1 - \alpha) + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} C(n, k, \alpha) a_k r^{k-1} e^{(k-1)\theta i} + (-1)^n \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} D(n, k, \alpha) \bar{b}_k r^{k-1} e^{-(k+1)\theta i}} \right| \\
 & \leq \frac{\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)^{n+1} \right] |a_k| r^{k-1}}{2(1 - \alpha) - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| r^{k-1} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k| r^{k-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] |b_k| r^{k-1}}{2(1-\alpha) - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| r^{k-1} - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k| r^{k-1}} \\
 & = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] |a_k| r^{k-1}}{4(1-\alpha) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| + D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k|\} r^{k-1}} \\
 & + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] |b_k| r^{k-1}}{4(1-\alpha) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| + D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k|\} r^{k-1}} \\
 & < \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] |a_k|}{4(1-\alpha) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| + D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k|\}} \\
 & + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] |b_k|}{4(1-\alpha) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{C(n, k, \alpha) |a_k| + D(n, k, \alpha) |b_k|\}} \leq 1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$C(n, k, \alpha) = \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + (1 - 2\alpha) \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1}$$

and

$$D(n, k, \alpha) = \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - (1 - 2\alpha) \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1}.$$

The harmonic univalent functions

$$f(z) = z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\psi(n, k, \alpha)} x_k z^k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\theta(n, k, \alpha)} \overline{y_k z^k}, \quad (6)$$

where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |y_k| = 1$, show that the coefficient bound given by (5) is sharp. The functions of the form (6) are in $H(n, \alpha)$ because

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{\psi(n, k, \alpha)|a_k| + \theta(n, k, \alpha)|b_k|\} = 1 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} |x_k| + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |y_k| = 2.$$

In the following theorem it is shown that the condition (5) is also necessary for functions $f_n = h + \bar{g}_n$ where h and g_n are of the form (4).

Theorem 2.2. *Let $f_n = h + \bar{g}_n$ be given by (4). Then $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$ if and only if*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \{\psi(n, k, \alpha)a_k + \theta(n, k, \alpha)b_k\} \leq 2 \quad (7)$$

where $a_1 = 1$, $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. Since $H^-(n, \alpha) \subset H(n, \alpha)$ we only need to prove the "only if" part of the theorem. For functions f_n of the form (4), we note that the condition

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{I^n f_n(z)}{I^{n+1} f_n(z)} \right\} > \alpha$$

is equivalent to

$$\operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{(1-\alpha)z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] a_k z^k}{z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^k + (-1)^{2n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} b_k \bar{z}^k} \right. \quad (8)$$

$$\left. + \frac{(-1)^{2n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] b_k \bar{z}^k}{z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k z^k + (-1)^{2n} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n b_k \bar{z}^k} \right\} \geq 0.$$

The above required condition (8) must hold for all values of z in U . Upon choosing the values of z on the positive real axis where $0 \leq z = r < 1$, we

must have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1 - \alpha - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] a_k r^{k-1}}{1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k r^{k-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} b_k r^{k-1}} \\ & - \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^n + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} \right] b_k r^{k-1}}{1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} a_k r^{k-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^{n+1} b_k r^{k-1}} \geq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

If the condition (7) does not hold, then the expression in (9) is negative for r sufficiently close to 1. Hence there exist $z_0 = r_0$ in $(0, 1)$ for which the quotient in (9) is negative. This contradicts the required condition for $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$. So the proof is complete.

Next we determine the extreme points of the closed convex hull of $H^-(n, \alpha)$ denoted by $clcoH^-(n, \alpha)$.

Theorem 2.3. *Let f_n be given by (4). Then $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$ if and only if*

$$f_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [x_k h_k(z) + y_k g_{n_k}(z)],$$

where

$$h(z) = z, \quad h_k(z) = z - \frac{1}{\psi(n, k, \alpha)} z^k, \quad (k = 2, 3, \dots)$$

and

$$g_{n_k}(z) = z + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\theta(n, k, \alpha)} \bar{z}^k \quad (k = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

$$x_k \geq 0, \quad y_k \geq 0, \quad x_p = 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} x_k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k.$$

In particular, the extreme points of $H^-(n, \alpha)$ are $\{h_k\}$ and $\{g_{n_k}\}$.

Proof. For functions f_n of the form (5)

$$f_n(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [x_k h_k(z) + y_k g_{n_k}(z)] = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (x_k + y_k) z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\psi(n, k, \alpha)} x_k z^k$$

$$+(-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\theta(n, k, \alpha)} y_k \bar{z}^k.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \psi(n, k, \alpha) \left(\frac{1}{\psi(n, k, \alpha)} x_k \right) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \theta(n, k, \alpha) \left(\frac{1}{\theta(n, k, \alpha)} y_k \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} x_k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k = 1 - x_1 \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

and so $f_n(z) \in clcoH^-(n, \alpha)$.

Conversely, suppose $f_n(z) \in clcoH^-(n, \alpha, \beta)$. Letting

$$x_1 = 1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} x_k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k,$$

$$x_k = \psi(n, k, \alpha) a_k, \quad (k = 2, 3, \dots) \text{ and } y_k = \theta(n, k, \alpha) b_k, \quad (k = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

we obtain the required representation, since

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(z) &= z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k + (-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \bar{z}^k \\ &= z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\psi(n, k, \alpha)} x_k z^k + (-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\theta(n, k, \alpha)} y_k \bar{z}^k \\ &= z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [z - h_k(z)] x_k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [z - g_{n_k}(z)] y_k \\ &= \left[1 - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} x_k - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k \right] z + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} x_k h_k(z) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} y_k g_{n_k}(z) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [x_k h_k(z) + y_k g_{n_k}(z)]. \end{aligned}$$

The following theorem gives the distortion bounds for functions in $H^-(n, \alpha)$ which yields a covering results for this class.

Theorem 2.4. *Let $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$. Then for $|z| = r < 1$ we have*

$$|f_n(z)| \leq (1 + b_1)r + \{\phi(n, k, \alpha) - \Omega(n, k, \alpha)b_1\}r^{n+1}$$

and

$$|f_n(z)| \geq (1 - b_1)r - \{\phi(n, k, \alpha) - \Omega(n, k, \alpha)b_1\}r^{n+1},$$

where

$$\phi(n, k, \alpha) = \frac{1 - \alpha}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1}}$$

and

$$\Omega(n, k, \alpha) = \frac{1 + \alpha}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n - \alpha \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1}}.$$

Proof. We prove the right hand side inequality for $|f_n|$. The proof for the left hand inequality can be done using similar arguments. Let $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$. Taking the absolute value of f_n then by Theorem 2.2, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(z)| &= \left| z - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k z^k + (-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k \bar{z}^k \right| \\ &\leq r + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k r^k + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k r^k = r + b_1 r + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (a_k + b_k) r^k \\ &\leq r + b_1 r + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (a_k + b_k) r^2 = (1 + b_1)r + \phi(n, k, \alpha) \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\phi(n, k, \alpha)} (a_k + b_k) r^2 \\ &\leq (1 + b_1)r + \phi(n, k, \alpha) r^{n+2} \left[\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \psi(n, k, \alpha) a_k + \theta(n, k, \alpha) b_k \right] \\ &\leq (1 + b_1)r + \{\phi(n, k, \alpha) - \Omega(n, k, \alpha)b_1\}r^{n+2}. \end{aligned}$$

The following covering result follows from the left hand inequality in Theorem 2.4.

Corollary 2.1. *Let $f_n \in H^-(n, \alpha)$, then for $|z| = r < 1$ we have*

$$\{w : |w| < 1 - b_1 - [\phi(n, k, \alpha) - \Omega(n, k, \alpha)b_1] \subset f_n(U)\}.$$

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