

## QUASICONFORMAL EXTENSIONS OF STARLIKE HARMONIC MAPPINGS IN THE UNIT DISC

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ABSTRACT. Let  $f$  be a harmonic mapping on the unit disc  $\Delta$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . We give some condition for  $f$  to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension to the whole plane  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . We also obtain quasiconformal extension results for starlike harmonic mappings of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $f$  be a complex-valued function of class  $C^1$  on  $\Delta = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| < 1\}$ . The Jacobian of  $f$  is given by  $J_f(z) = \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{z}} \right|^2 = |f_z|^2 - |f_{\bar{z}}|^2$ . Lewy [15] proved that if a harmonic mapping  $f$  on  $\Delta$  is locally univalent, then  $J_f(z) \neq 0$  in  $\Delta$ . Thus a locally univalent harmonic mapping is either sense-preserving (if  $J_f(z) > 0$  in  $\Delta$ ) or sense-reversing (if  $J_f(z) < 0$  in  $\Delta$ ). A harmonic mapping of  $\Delta$  has the unique representation  $f = h + \bar{g}$ , where  $h$  and  $g$  are analytic in  $\Delta$  and  $g(0) = 0$ . Note that  $f$  is sense-preserving if and only if  $|g'(z)| < |h'(z)|$  for all  $z \in \Delta$  (For univalent harmonic mappings, see [5]).

Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  be a harmonic mapping of the form

$$(1.1) \quad h(z) = z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n z^n.$$

Recently, many mathematicians have studied about holomorphic or harmonic mappings of the above form by certain coefficient conditions. When  $f$  is holomorphic, Fait, Krzyż and Zygmunt [6] gave a sufficient coefficient condition for  $f$  to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension to the extended plane  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  (see also Brodskii [3], Curt, Kohr and Kohr [4], Graham, Hamada and Kohr [9], Hamada and Kohr [10], [11],

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[12]). When  $f$  is harmonic, Avci and Złotkiewicz [2], Silverman [17] gave a sufficient coefficient condition for  $f$  to be univalent, sense-preserving and starlike when  $b_1 = 0$ . Jahangiri [13] generalized the result to the case that  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0. He gave a sufficient coefficient condition for  $f$  to be univalent, sense-preserving and starlike of order  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  when  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0 (Theorem 2.1). He also showed that the condition is also necessary when  $h$  has negative and  $g$  has positive coefficients (Theorem 2.2). Ganczar [8] gave a sufficient coefficient condition for  $f$  to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension to  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  when  $b_1 = 0$ . Then the following natural questions arise:

**Question 1.1.** Can we give a sufficient coefficient condition for a harmonic mapping  $f$  to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension to  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  when  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0?

**Question 1.2.** Can we give a sufficient coefficient condition for a starlike harmonic mapping  $f$  of order  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension to  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  when  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0?

In the present paper, we will give affirmative answers to the above questions. Namely, we consider the condition for a harmonic mapping  $f = h + \overline{g}$  of the form (1.1) to be a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  and to have a quasiconformal extension  $F$  to  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  when  $|b_1| < 1$ . When  $b_1 = 0$ , our result also gives an improvement of the estimate of the complex dilatation  $\mu_F$  given by Ganczar [8]. We also obtain quasiconformal extension results for starlike harmonic mappings of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and give a counterexample when  $\alpha = 0$ .

First, we give an estimate of the complex dilatation by the coefficients of the harmonic mapping  $f$ . Next, we show that  $f$  has a homeomorphic extension  $\hat{f}$  on  $\overline{\Delta}$  such that the curve  $\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})$  is a quasicircle. Finally, we give an explicit mapping  $F$  which is a quasiconformal extension of  $f$  onto  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . As a corollary, we obtain quasiconformal extension results for starlike harmonic mappings of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . We also give a counterexample when  $\alpha = 0$ .

## 2. Notation and preliminaries

First, we give the analytic definition of quasiconformality (cf. [14]).

**Definition.** Let  $f : G \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{C}}$  be a sense-preserving homeomorphism of the domain  $G$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . We say that  $f$  is a  $K$ -quasiconformal mapping of  $G$  if  $f$  satisfies the following two conditions:

1.  $f$  is absolutely continuous on lines in  $G$ .
2. The dilatation condition

$$(2.1) \quad \max_{\alpha} |\partial_{\alpha} f(z)| \leq K \min_{\alpha} |\partial_{\alpha} f(z)|$$

holds almost everywhere in  $G$ , where  $K \geq 1$  and  $\partial_{\alpha} f(z) = f_z(z) + e^{-2i\alpha} f_{\overline{z}}(z)$ .

When the above conditions are satisfied for some  $K \geq 1$ , we say that  $f$  is *quasiconformal*.

Let  $f$  be a sense-preserving homeomorphism  $f$  on  $G$  which is absolutely continuous on lines. Then there exists a null set  $N$  in  $G$  such that  $f$  is differentiable at  $z \in G \setminus N$ . We set

$$\mu_f(z) = \frac{f_{\bar{z}}(z)}{f_z(z)}, \quad z \in G \setminus N.$$

It is called *the complex dilatation* of  $f$ . Since the condition (2.1) is equivalent to the condition

$$|\mu_f(z)| \leq \frac{K - 1}{K + 1},$$

a sense-preserving homeomorphism  $f$  which is absolutely continuous on lines is quasiconformal if and only if

$$\sup_{z \in G \setminus N} |\mu_f(z)| < 1.$$

Let  $f$  be a sense-preserving harmonic mapping  $f$  on  $\Delta$ . The function

$$\omega_f = \frac{g'}{h'} = \frac{\overline{f_{\bar{z}}}}{f_z}$$

is analytic and satisfies  $|\omega_f(z)| = |\mu_f(z)| < 1$  on  $\Delta$ . We call  $\omega_f$  *the second complex dilatation of  $f$*  and set

$$\|\omega_f\|_{\infty} = \sup_{z \in \Delta} |\omega_f(z)| = \sup_{z \in \Delta} \left| \frac{g'(z)}{h'(z)} \right|.$$

A sense-preserving harmonic homeomorphism  $f$  on  $\Delta$  is quasiconformal if and only if  $\|\omega_f\|_{\infty} < 1$ .

Recall that, a Jordan curve  $\Gamma$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  is called a *quasicircle* if it is the image line of a circle under a quasiconformal automorphism of  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . According to Ahlfors [1], the Jordan curve  $\gamma$  on  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  is a quasicircle if and only if

$$(2.2) \quad K(\gamma) = \sup \frac{|w_1 - w_2| \cdot |w_3 - w_4| + |w_1 - w_4| \cdot |w_2 - w_3|}{|w_1 - w_3| \cdot |w_2 - w_4|}$$

is finite, where supremum is taken over the set of all ordered quadruples  $\{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$  of points on  $\gamma$ . A sufficient condition for a quasiconformal mapping  $f$  on  $\Delta$  to have a quasiconformal extension to  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  is that the boundary curve of the image  $f(\Delta)$  is a quasicircle (see [14, Theorem 8.3]).

For  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ , a harmonic mapping  $f$  of the form (1.1) is said to be starlike of order  $\alpha$ , if

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}(\arg f(re^{i\theta})) \geq \alpha, \quad |z| = r < 1.$$

Jahangiri [13, Theorems 1 and 2] gave the following criterions for harmonic mappings to be starlike of order  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  be a harmonic mapping of the form (1.1). Assume that

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n-\alpha}{1-\alpha} |a_n| + \frac{n+\alpha}{1-\alpha} |b_n| \right) \leq 2,$$

where  $a_1 = 1$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . Then  $f$  is harmonic univalent in  $\Delta$  and starlike of order  $\alpha$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  be a harmonic mapping of the form

$$(2.4) \quad h(z) = z - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} |a_n| z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |b_n| z^n.$$

Then  $f$  is starlike of order  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  if and only if

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n-\alpha}{1-\alpha} |a_n| + \frac{n+\alpha}{1-\alpha} |b_n| \right) \leq 2,$$

where  $a_1 = 1$ .

### 3. Quasiconformal extension

In this section, we obtain generalizations of results on homeomorphic extension and quasiconformal extension of harmonic mappings to the case that  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0.

For a sequence  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  of positive real numbers  $\psi_n$ , we denote by  $H(\psi_n)$  the set of harmonic mappings  $f = h + \bar{g}$  of the form (1.1) that satisfy the conditions  $|b_1| < 1$  and

$$(3.1) \quad |b_1| + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \psi_n (|a_n| + |b_n|) \leq 1.$$

When  $\psi_2 < 2$ ,  $f \in H(\psi_n)$  need not be univalent on  $\Delta$  as the following example shows (cf. [7, Theorem 3]).

**Example 3.1.** Let

$$f(z) = z + b_1 \bar{z} + i \frac{1-b_1}{2^p} \bar{z}^2,$$

where  $0 < b_1 < 1$  and  $0 < p < 1$ . Then  $f \in H(\psi_n)$  with  $\psi_2 = 2^p < 2$ . Since

$$f(ix) = i(1-b_1)x - i \frac{1-b_1}{2^p} x^2,$$

we have

$$f(ix) - f(iy) = i(1-b_1)(x-y) \left( 1 - \frac{x+y}{2^p} \right).$$

This implies that  $f(ix) = f(iy)$  for  $x, y$  with  $x+y = 2^p < 2$ . Thus,  $f$  is not univalent on  $\Delta$ .

So, we will restrict our attention to the case  $\psi_2 \geq 2$ . In this case, if

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$ , we have  $H(\psi_n) \subset H(n)$ . Thus, we obtain the following result from Theorem 2.1.

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with the condition*

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  and let  $f = h + \bar{g} \in H(\psi_n)$ . If  $\psi_2 \geq 2$ , then  $f$  is a sense-preserving, univalent and harmonic mapping onto a starlike domain.

The following lemma is a generalization of [8, Lemma 3] to the case that  $b_1$  is not necessarily 0. We remark that the estimate of the second complex dilatation  $\omega_f$  given in the following lemma is an improvement of that given in [8, Lemma 3]. Also, our proof is more simple than that in [8, Lemma 3].

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with the condition*

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  and let  $f = h + \bar{g} \in H(\psi_n)$ . If  $\psi_2 > 2$ , then

$$(3.2) \quad \|\omega_f\|_\infty \leq |b_1| + \frac{2}{\psi_2}(1 - |b_1|) < 1.$$

*Proof.* From (1.1), we have

$$|\omega_f(z)| = \left| \frac{g'(z)}{h'(z)} \right| \leq \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n|}{1 - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n|}$$

for  $z \in \Delta$ . We set

$$t = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| \quad \text{and} \quad k = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n|.$$

Then, from the condition (3.1), we obtain

$$(3.3) \quad k = |b_1| + \frac{2}{\psi_2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\psi_2}{2} n (|a_n| + |b_n|) \leq |b_1| + \frac{2}{\psi_2}(1 - |b_1|) < 1,$$

where the last inequality follows from the assumption that  $\psi_2 > 2$ . Also, we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| = k - t \geq 0.$$

It follows from this equality and the fact that the function

$$1 - \frac{1 - k}{1 - t}$$

is monotone decreasing for  $t \in [0, 1)$  that

$$(3.4) \quad |\omega_f(z)| \leq \frac{k - t}{1 - t} = 1 - \frac{1 - k}{1 - t} \leq 1 - \frac{1 - k}{1 - 0} = k$$

for  $z \in \Delta$ . From (3.3) and (3.4), we obtain (3.2). □

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with the condition*

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  and let  $f = h + \bar{g} \in H(\psi_n)$ . If  $\psi_2 > 2$ , then  $f$  is a quasiconformal homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  such that the complex dilatation  $\mu_f$  satisfies

$$|\mu_f(z)| \leq k = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| < 1.$$

*Proof.* Since  $k < 1$ ,  $f$  is a sense-preserving homeomorphism on  $\Delta$  by Proposition 3.2. Thus  $f$  is quasiconformal and  $|\mu_f(z)| = |\omega_f(z)| \leq k$  from Lemma 3.3. □

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with the condition*

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  and let  $f = h + \bar{g} \in H(\psi_n)$ . Let  $\mathbb{T} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}; |z| = 1\}$ . If  $\psi_2 > 2$ , then  $f$  has a homeomorphic extension  $\hat{f}$  on  $\bar{\Delta}$  such that the curve  $\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})$  is a quasicircle.

*Proof.* By the proof of Lemma 3.3, we have

$$k = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| < 1.$$

Thus, for  $z_1, z_2 \in \Delta$  with  $z_1 \neq z_2$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z_1) - f(z_2)| &= \left| z_1 - z_2 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n(z_1^n - z_2^n) + \overline{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n(z_1^n - z_2^n)} \right| \\ &\leq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \right) \\ &\leq (1 + k) |z_1 - z_2| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|f(z_1) - f(z_2)| \geq (1 - k) |z_1 - z_2| > 0.$$

It follows from these inequalities that  $f$  has a homeomorphic extension  $\hat{f}$  to  $\bar{\Delta}$  such that

$$(3.5) \quad (1 - k) |z_1 - z_2| \leq \left| \hat{f}(z_1) - \hat{f}(z_2) \right| \leq (1 + k) |z_1 - z_2|$$

for  $z_1, z_2 \in \bar{\Delta}$ . Therefore the image  $\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})$  is a Jordan curve.

From (2.2) and (3.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} K(\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})) &= \sup \left\{ \frac{\left| \hat{f}(w_1) - \hat{f}(w_2) \right| \cdot \left| \hat{f}(w_3) - \hat{f}(w_4) \right|}{\left| \hat{f}(w_1) - \hat{f}(w_3) \right| \cdot \left| \hat{f}(w_2) - \hat{f}(w_4) \right|} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{\left| \hat{f}(w_1) - \hat{f}(w_4) \right| \cdot \left| \hat{f}(w_2) - \hat{f}(w_3) \right|}{\left| \hat{f}(w_1) - \hat{f}(w_3) \right| \cdot \left| \hat{f}(w_2) - \hat{f}(w_4) \right|} \right\} \\ &\leq \left( \frac{1+k}{1-k} \right)^2 K(\mathbb{T}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbb{T}$  is a quasicircle,  $K(\mathbb{T}) < \infty$ , that is,  $K(\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})) < \infty$ . Thus  $\hat{f}(\mathbb{T})$  is a quasicircle. □

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $\{\psi_n\}_{n=2,3,\dots}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with the condition*

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} \geq \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  and let  $f = h + \bar{g} \in H(\psi_n)$ . If  $\psi_2 > 2$ , then the mapping

$$(3.6) \quad F(z) = \begin{cases} f(z) & \text{for } |z| < 1, \\ z + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n \bar{z}^{-n} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \bar{b}_n z^{-n} & \text{for } |z| \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

is a quasiconformal extension of  $f$  onto  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$  such that the complex dilatation  $\mu_F$  satisfies

$$|\mu_F(z)| \leq k = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| < 1.$$

*Proof.* By Corollary 3.4,  $f$  is quasiconformal on  $\Delta$  and  $|\mu_F(z)| = |\mu_f(z)| \leq k < 1$  for  $z \in \Delta$ .

First, we will show the inequalities

$$(3.7) \quad (1 - k) |z_1 - z_2| \leq |F(z_1) - F(z_2)| \leq (1 + k) |z_1 - z_2| \text{ for } z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}.$$

If  $z_1, z_2 \in \bar{\Delta}$ , we obtain (3.7) from (3.5). For  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Delta$  with  $z_1 \neq z_2$ , we have

$$|F(z_1) - F(z_2)| \leq |z_1 - z_2| + |z_1^{-1} - z_2^{-1}| \left( \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \right) \\ &= (1 + k) |z_1 - z_2| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z_1) - F(z_2)| &\geq |z_1 - z_2| \left( 1 - \frac{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n|}{|z_1 z_2|} \right) \\ &\geq (1 - k) |z_1 - z_2| > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $G(z) = F(z) - z$ . By the above argument, we have

$$|G(w_1) - G(w_2)| \leq k |w_1 - w_2|,$$

if  $w_1, w_2 \in \overline{\Delta}$  or  $w_1, w_2 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Delta$ . We consider the case  $z_1 \in \Delta$  and  $z_2 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\Delta}$ . Let  $z_3 \in \mathbb{T} \cap [z_1, z_2]$ , where  $[z_1, z_2]$  is the line segment from  $z_1$  to  $z_2$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z_1) - F(z_2)| &\leq |z_1 - z_2| + |G(z_1) - G(z_2)| \\ &\leq |z_1 - z_2| + |G(z_1) - G(z_3)| + |G(z_3) - G(z_2)| \\ &\leq |z_1 - z_2| + k(|z_1 - z_3| + |z_3 - z_2|) \\ &= (1 + k) |z_1 - z_2| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |F(z_1) - F(z_2)| &\geq |z_1 - z_2| - |G(z_1) - G(z_2)| \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| - (|G(z_1) - G(z_3)| + |G(z_3) - G(z_2)|) \\ &\geq |z_1 - z_2| - k(|z_1 - z_3| + |z_3 - z_2|) \\ &= (1 - k) |z_1 - z_2|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain (3.7) for all  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ . This implies that  $F$  is Lipschitz continuous and univalent on  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} F(z) = \infty$ . By [16, Theorem 2.7.2] and (3.7),  $F$  is a sense-preserving homeomorphism of  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$  onto itself.

For  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\Delta}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |F_z| &= \left| 1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \overline{b_n} z^{-n-1} \right| \\ &\geq 1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \\ &\geq 1 - \left( \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n| + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n| \right) \\ &= 1 - k > 0 \end{aligned}$$



and

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\mu_F(z)| &= \left| \frac{F_{\bar{z}}}{F_z} \right| \leq \left| \frac{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n a_n \overline{z^{-n-1}}}{1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \overline{b_n} z^{-n-1}} \right| \\
 &\leq \frac{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n |a_n|}{1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n |b_n|} \leq k < 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $|\mu_F(z)| \leq k < 1$  on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{T}$ . Since  $\mathbb{T}$  is a null set,  $F$  is quasiconformal on  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ . □

#### 4. Harmonic starlike mappings of order $\alpha$

In this section, we show quasiconformal extension results for starlike harmonic mappings of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and give a counterexample when  $\alpha = 0$  (cf. Jahangiri [13, Theorems 1 and 2]).

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  be a harmonic starlike mapping of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  of the form (1.1) which satisfies the condition*

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{n - \alpha}{1 - \alpha} |a_n| + \frac{n + \alpha}{1 - \alpha} |b_n| \right) \leq 2,$$

where  $a_1 = 1$ . Then  $f$  is quasiconformal in  $\Delta$  and extends to a quasiconormal homeomorphism of  $\overline{\mathbb{C}}$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$\psi_n = \frac{n - \alpha}{1 - \alpha} \quad \text{for } n \geq 2,$$

where  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ . If  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , then the inequalities

$$\psi_2 = \frac{2 - \alpha}{1 - \alpha} = 2 + \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} > 2$$

and

$$\frac{\psi_n}{n} = \frac{1 - \frac{\alpha}{n}}{1 - \alpha} \geq \frac{1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}}{1 - \alpha} = \frac{\psi_2}{2}$$

for  $n \geq 3$  hold. By Theorem 3.6, we obtain this theorem. □

Next, we obtain the following quasiconformal extension result for harmonic starlike mappings of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  by Theorems 2.2 and 4.1.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $f = h + \bar{g}$  be a harmonic starlike mapping of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  of the form*

$$h(z) = z - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} |a_n| z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |b_n| z^n.$$

*Then  $f$  is quasiconformal in  $\Delta$  and extends to a quasiconormal homeomorphism of  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$ .*

We will give an example such that the above theorems do not hold when  $\alpha = 0$ .

**Example 4.3.** Let

$$f(z) = z - \frac{1 - b_1}{2} z^2 + b_1 \bar{z},$$

where  $0 < b_1 < 1$ . Then  $f$  is univalent and starlike in  $\Delta$  by Theorem 2.1. Since

$$\omega_f(z) = \frac{b_1}{1 - (1 - b_1)z} \rightarrow 1, \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow 1,$$

$f$  is not quasiconformal on  $\Delta$ . So, Theorems 4.1 and 4.2 do not hold when  $\alpha = 0$ .

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