

Uniwersytet Wrocławski
Wydział Matematyki i Informatyki
Instytut Matematyczny
Indywidualne Studia Informatyczno-Matematyczne

Maciej Kucharski

**Problem Waringa i metoda łuków
Hardy'ego-Littlewooda**

Praca licencjacka
napisana pod kierunkiem
dr. hab. Mariusza Mirka

Wrocław, 2018 r.

University of Wrocław
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
Mathematical Institute
Joint Studies in Computer Science and Mathematics

Maciej Kucharski

Waring's problem and
the Hardy-Littlewood circle method

Bachelor's thesis
written under the supervision of
dr. hab. Mariusz Mirek

Wrocław, 2018

Contents

1. Waring's problem	4
2. Useful lemmas	5
2.1. Weyl's inequality	19
2.2. Hua's lemma	21
2.3. Infinite products	23
3. The circle method	26
3.1. The minor arcs	27
3.2. The major arcs	28
3.3. The singular series	37
References	48

1. Waring's problem

Waring's problem asks whether for each natural number k there exists an integer s such that any natural number is the sum of at most s k th powers. Since every number can be represented as the sum of ones, this is equivalent to the question if there exists s such that the equation

$$x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k = N \tag{1}$$

has any solutions in integers for all sufficiently large integers N .

Let $r_{k,s}(N)$ be the number of solutions of equation (1). We will follow the method of Hardy, Littlewood and Ramanujan described in [1] to obtain the estimate of $r_{k,s}$. Let A be a set of non-negative integers and let $f(z) = \sum_{a \in A} z^a$. Then

$$f(z)^s = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r_{A,s}(n) z^n,$$

where $r_{A,s}(n)$ is the number of representations of n as the sum of s elements of A . Since elements of A are non-negative, if we want to recover $r_{A,s}(n)$, we can truncate this series to get the polynomial $p(z) = \sum_{\substack{a \in A \\ a \leq N}} z^a$. Then

$$p(z)^s = \sum_{m=0}^{sN} r_{A,s}^{(N)}(m) z^m,$$

where $r_{A,s}^{(N)}(m)$ is the number of representations of m as the sum of s elements of A not exceeding N . For $m \leq N$ we have $r_{A,s}^{(N)}(m) = r_{A,s}(m)$. If we let $z = e(\alpha) = e^{2\pi i \alpha}$, we get

$$F(\alpha) = p(e(\alpha)) = \sum_{\substack{a \in A \\ a \leq N}} e(a\alpha)$$

and

$$F(\alpha)^s = \sum_{m=0}^{sN} r_{A,s}^{(N)}(m) e(m\alpha).$$

Since

$$\int_0^1 e(m\alpha) e(-n\alpha) d\alpha = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m = n \\ 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \end{cases},$$

we have

$$r_{A,s}(N) = \int_0^1 F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha.$$

If we want to apply this to Waring's problem, we let A be the set of k th powers and $P = \lfloor N^{\frac{1}{k}} \rfloor$. Then

$$F(\alpha) = \sum_{\substack{a \in A \\ a \leq N}} e(\alpha a) = \sum_{n=1}^P e(\alpha n^k)$$

and

$$r_{k,s}(N) = r_{A,s}(N) = \int_0^1 F(\alpha)^s e(-\alpha N) d\alpha.$$

Our aim is to estimate this integral.

2. Useful lemmas

First we establish some tools needed in the circle method.

Lemma 1. *Let f be a continuously differentiable function and let $U(t) = \sum_{1 \leq n \leq t} u(n)$. Let a and b be non-negative integers with $a < b$. Then*

$$\sum_{n=a+1}^b u(n)f(n) = U(b)f(b) - U(a)f(a) - \int_a^b U(t)f'(t)dt.$$

Proof. First observe that

$$f(n+1) - f(n) = \int_n^{n+1} f'(t)dt$$

and

$$U(n)(f(n+1) - f(n)) = \int_n^{n+1} U(t)f'(t)dt.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=a+1}^b u(n)f(n) &= \sum_{n=a+1}^b (U(n) - U(n-1))f(n) \\
&= \sum_{n=a+1}^b U(n)f(n) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} U(n)f(n+1) \\
&= U(b)f(b) - U(a)f(a) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} U(n)(f(n+1) - f(n)) \\
&= U(b)f(b) - U(a)f(a) - \sum_{n=a}^{b-1} \int_n^{n+1} U(t)f'(t)dt \\
&= U(b)f(b) - U(a)f(a) - \int_a^b U(t)f'(t)dt.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 2. *Let*

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt$$

be the gamma function.

1. *If $x > 0$, then $\Gamma(x) \geq \frac{1}{e}$.*
2. *If $x \in [1, 2]$, then $\Gamma(x) \leq 1$.*

Proof.

1.

If $x \in (0, 1)$, then we have

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt \geq \int_0^1 t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt \geq \frac{1}{e}.$$

If $x \geq 1$, then

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt \geq \int_1^\infty t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt \geq \int_1^\infty e^{-t}dt = \frac{1}{e}.$$

2. Assume that $x > 0$ and compute the second derivative of Γ :

$$\Gamma''(x) = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \int_0^\infty t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} t^{x-1}e^{-t}dt = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} \log^2(t)e^{-t}dt > 0.$$

Thus, Γ is convex for $x > 0$. Noting that $\Gamma(1) = \Gamma(2) = 1$, we get the desired result. □

Theorem 3 (Dirichlet's theorem). *Let α and $Q \geq 1$ be real numbers. Then there exist integers a and q such that $1 \leq q \leq Q$, $(a, q) = 1$ and*

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{qQ} \leq \frac{1}{q^2}.$$

Proof. Let $N = [Q]$. Suppose that $\{q\alpha\} \in [0, \frac{1}{N+1})$ for some positive integer $q \leq N$. Taking $a = [q\alpha]$, we get

$$0 \leq \{q\alpha\} = q\alpha - [q\alpha] = q\alpha - a < \frac{1}{N+1}$$

and

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q(N+1)} < \frac{1}{qQ} \leq \frac{1}{q^2}.$$

Similarly, if $\{q\alpha\} \in [\frac{N}{N+1}, 1)$ for some positive integer $q \leq N$ and if $a = [q\alpha] + 1$, then

$$\frac{N}{N+1} \leq \{q\alpha\} = q\alpha - a + 1 < 1.$$

This implies that

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q(N+1)} < \frac{1}{qQ} \leq \frac{1}{q^2}.$$

Now suppose that $\{q\alpha\} \in [\frac{1}{N+1}, \frac{N}{N+1})$ for all $q = 1, \dots, N$. This means that there are N numbers lying in $N - 1$ intervals $[\frac{i}{N+1}, \frac{i+1}{N+1})$ ($i = 1, \dots, N - 1$). By the pigeonhole principle, there exist integers $i \in [1, N - 1]$ and $1 \leq q_1 < q_2 \leq N$ such that

$$\{q_1\alpha\}, \{q_2\alpha\} \in \left[\frac{i}{N+1}, \frac{i+1}{N+1} \right).$$

Let $q = q_2 - q_1 \in [1, N - 1]$ and $a = [q_2\alpha] - [q_1\alpha]$. Then

$$|q\alpha - a| = |(q_2\alpha - [q_2\alpha]) - (q_1\alpha - [q_1\alpha])| = |\{q_2\alpha\} - \{q_1\alpha\}| < \frac{1}{N+1} < \frac{1}{Q}.$$

□

Definition 1. $\|\alpha\| = \min(|n - \alpha| : n \in \mathbb{Z}) = \min(\{\alpha\}, \{1 - \alpha\})$

Observation.

1. $\|\alpha + \beta\| \leq \|\alpha\| + \|\beta\|$ for all real numbers α and β .
2. $|\sin \pi\alpha| = \sin \pi \|\alpha\|$ for all real numbers α .

Fact 4. *If $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, then $2\alpha < \sin \pi\alpha < \pi\alpha$.*

Definition 2. $e(t) = e^{2\pi it}$

Lemma 5. For every real number α and all integers $N_1 < N_2$

$$\left| \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(\alpha n) \right| \leq \min \left(N_2 - N_1, \frac{1}{2\|\alpha\|} \right) \leq \min \left(N_2 - N_1, \frac{1}{\|\alpha\|} \right).$$

Proof. Since $|e(\alpha n)| \leq 1$, we have

$$\left| \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(\alpha n) \right| \leq N_2 - N_1.$$

If $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Z}$, then $\|\alpha\| > 0$ and $e(\alpha) \neq 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(\alpha n) \right| &= \left| e(\alpha(N_1+1)) \sum_{n=0}^{N_2-N_1-1} e(\alpha)^n \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{e(\alpha(N_2-N_1)) - 1}{e(\alpha) - 1} \right| \leq \frac{2}{|e(\alpha) - 1|} \\ &= \frac{2}{|e(\frac{\alpha}{2}) - e(\frac{-\alpha}{2})|} = \frac{2}{|2i \sin \pi \alpha|} \\ &= \frac{1}{|\sin \pi \alpha|} = \frac{1}{\sin \pi \|\alpha\|} \leq \frac{1}{2\|\alpha\|} \leq \frac{1}{\|\alpha\|} \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 6. Let α be a real number and let q and a be integers such that $q \geq 1$ and $(a, q) = 1$. If $\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{q^2}$, then

$$\sum_{1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{\|\alpha r\|} \leq 6q \log q$$

Proof. The lemma holds for $q = 1$, so we can assume that $q \geq 2$. For each integer r there exist integers $s(r) \in [0, \frac{q}{2}]$ and $m(r)$ such that

$$\frac{s(r)}{q} = \left\| \frac{ar}{q} \right\| = \pm \left(\frac{ar}{q} - m(r) \right).$$

Since $(a, q) = 1$, it follows that $s(r) = 0$ if and only if $r \equiv 0 \pmod{q}$ and therefore $s(r) \in [1, \frac{q}{2}]$ if $r \in [1, \frac{q}{2}]$. Let $\alpha - \frac{a}{q} = \frac{\theta}{q^2}$, where $-1 \leq \theta \leq 1$. Then

$$\alpha r = \frac{ar}{q} + \frac{\theta r}{q^2} = \frac{ar}{q} + \frac{\theta'}{2q},$$

where

$$|\theta'| = \left| \frac{2\theta r}{q} \right| \leq |\theta| \leq 1.$$

From the triangle inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\alpha r\| &= \left\| \frac{ar}{q} + \frac{\theta'}{2q} \right\| \\ &= \left\| m(r) \pm \frac{s(r)}{q} + \frac{\theta'}{2q} \right\| \\ &= \left\| \frac{s(r)}{q} \pm \frac{\theta'}{2q} \right\| \\ &\geq \left\| \frac{s(r)}{q} \right\| - \left\| \frac{\theta'}{2q} \right\| \\ &\geq \frac{s(r)}{q} - \frac{1}{2q}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $1 \leq r_1 \leq r_2 \leq \frac{q}{2}$. We will show that $s(r_1) = s(r_2)$ if and only if $r_1 = r_2$. If

$$\frac{s(r_1)}{q} = \frac{s(r_2)}{q},$$

then

$$\pm \left(\frac{ar_1}{q} - m(r_1) \right) = \pm \left(\frac{ar_2}{q} - m(r_2) \right)$$

and

$$ar_1 \equiv \pm ar_2 \pmod{q}.$$

Since $(a, q) = 1$, we have $r_1 \equiv \pm r_2 \pmod{q}$ and $r_1 = r_2$ as $1 \leq r_1 \leq r_2 \leq \frac{q}{2}$. Thus

$$\left\{ \left\| \frac{ar}{q} \right\| : 1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{s(r)}{q} : 1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{s}{q} : 1 \leq s \leq \frac{q}{2} \right\}.$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{\|\alpha r\|} &\leq \sum_{1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{\frac{s(r)}{q} - \frac{1}{2q}} \\ &= 2q \sum_{1 \leq s \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{2s-1} \\ &\leq 2q \sum_{1 \leq s \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{s} \leq 2q(1 + \log \frac{q}{2}) \\ &\leq 2q(1 + \log q) \leq 6q \log q. \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 7. Let α be a real number. If $\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right|$, where $q \geq 1$ and $(a, q) = 1$, then for any $V \geq 0$ and natural number h

$$\sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(V, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \leq 8V + 24q \log q.$$

Proof. Let $\alpha = \frac{a}{q} + \frac{\theta}{q^2}$ for some $-1 \leq \theta \leq 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(hq+r) &= ah + \frac{ar}{q} + \frac{\theta h}{q} + \frac{\theta r}{q^2} \\ &= ah + \frac{ar}{q} + \frac{[\theta h] + \{\theta h\}}{q} + \frac{\theta r}{q^2} \\ &= ah + \frac{ar + [\theta h] + \delta(r)}{q}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$-1 \leq \delta(r) = \{\theta h\} + \frac{\theta r}{q} < 2.$$

For $r = 1, \dots, q$ let r' be an integer such that $\{\alpha(hq+r)\} = \frac{ar + [\theta h] + \delta(r)}{q} - r'$. Let $0 \leq t \leq 1 - \frac{1}{q}$. If

$$t \leq \{\alpha(hq+r)\} \leq t + \frac{1}{q},$$

then

$$qt \leq ar - qr' + [\theta h] + \delta(r) \leq qt + 1.$$

It follows that

$$ar - qr' \leq qt - [\theta h] + 1 - \delta(r) \leq qt - [\theta h] + 2$$

and

$$ar - qr' \geq qt - [\theta h] - \delta(r) > qt - [\theta h] - 2$$

Thus, $ar - qr'$ is in an interval containing exactly four distinct integers. If $1 \leq r_1 \leq r_2 \leq q$ and $ar_1 - qr'_1 = ar_2 - qr'_2$, then $ar_1 \equiv ar_2 \pmod{q}$. Since $(a, q) = 1$, $r_1 \equiv r_2 \pmod{q}$ and $r_1 = r_2$. It follows that for any $t \in [0, 1 - \frac{1}{q}]$ there are at most four integers $r \in [1, q]$ such that

$$\{\alpha(hq+r)\} \in [t, t + \frac{1}{q}]$$

Observe that

$$\|\alpha(hq+r)\| \in [t, t + \frac{1}{q}]$$

if and only if

$$\{\alpha(hq+r)\} \in [t, t + \frac{1}{q}] \quad \text{or} \quad 1 - \{\alpha(hq+r)\} \in [t, t + \frac{1}{q}].$$

The second relation is equivalent to

$$\{\alpha(hq+r)\} \in [t', t' + \frac{1}{q}]$$

for $0 \leq t' = 1 - \frac{1}{q} - t \leq 1 - \frac{1}{q}$. It follows that for any $t \in [0, 1 - \frac{1}{q}]$ there are at most eight integers $r \in [1, q]$ such that $\|\alpha(hq+r)\| \in [t, t + \frac{1}{q}]$.

For $s = 0, 1, \dots$ let $I(s) = [\frac{s}{q}, \frac{s+1}{q}]$. Let us estimate the sum

$$\sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(V, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right).$$

If $\|\alpha(hq+r)\| \in I(0)$, then we can use the fact that $\min \left(V, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \leq V$.

If $\|\alpha(hq+r)\| \in I(s)$ for some $s \geq 1$, we have $\min \left(V, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \leq \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \leq \frac{q}{s}$.

Since $\|\alpha(hq+r)\| \in I(s)$ for some $s < \frac{q}{2}$, we have

$$\sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(V, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \leq 8V + 8 \sum_{1 \leq s < \frac{q}{2}} \frac{q}{s} \leq 8V + 24q \log q.$$

□

Lemma 8. *Let α be a real number. If $\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{q^2}$, where $q \geq 1$ and $(a, q) = 1$, then for any $U \geq 1$ and natural number n*

$$\sum_{1 \leq k \leq U} \min \left(\frac{n}{k}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha k\|} \right) \leq \left(\frac{32n}{q} + 24U + 30q \right) \log 4qU.$$

Proof. Let $k = hq + r$, where $1 \leq r \leq q$ and $0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}$. Then

$$S = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq U} \min \left(\frac{n}{k}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha k\|} \right) \leq \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(\frac{n}{hq+r}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right).$$

If $h = 0$ and $1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}$, then by Lemma 6 we have

$$\sum_{1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}} \min \left(\frac{n}{r}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha r\|} \right) \leq \sum_{1 \leq r \leq \frac{q}{2}} \frac{1}{\|\alpha r\|} \leq 6q \log q.$$

Otherwise $\frac{1}{hq+r} < \frac{2}{(h+1)q}$ and thus

$$S \leq 6q \log q + \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(\frac{2n}{(h+1)q}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right)$$

Observe that

$$\sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \frac{1}{h+1} \leq 1 + \log \left(\frac{U}{q} + 1 \right) \leq 2 \log \left(\frac{U}{q} + 2 \right) \leq 2 \log (U + 2q) \leq 2 \log 4Uq.$$

Let $V = \frac{2n}{(h+1)q}$. Then by Lemma 7

$$\begin{aligned} S &\leq 6q \log q + \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(\frac{2n}{(h+1)q}, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \\ &\leq 6q \log q + \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \left(\frac{16n}{(h+1)q} + 24q \log q \right) \\ &\leq 6q \log q + \frac{16n}{q} \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \frac{1}{h+1} + 24 \left(\frac{U}{q} + 1 \right) q \log q \\ &\leq 6q \log q + \frac{32n}{q} \log 4qU + 24U \log q + 24q \log q \\ &\leq \left(\frac{32n}{q} + 24U + 30q \right) \log 4qU. \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 9. *Let α be a real number. If $\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{q^2}$, where $q \geq 1$ and $(a, q) = 1$, then for any real numbers U and n we have*

$$\sum_{1 \leq k \leq U} \min \left(n, \frac{1}{\|\alpha k\|} \right) \leq \left(30q + 24U + 8n + \frac{8Un}{q} \right) \max(1, \log q)$$

Proof. We proceed as in the previous proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{1 \leq k \leq U} \min \left(n, \frac{1}{\|\alpha k\|} \right) \\
& \leq \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} \sum_{r=1}^q \min \left(n, \frac{1}{\|\alpha(hq+r)\|} \right) \\
& \leq 6q \log q + \sum_{0 \leq h < \frac{U}{q}} (8n + 24q \log q) \\
& \leq 6q \log q + \left(\frac{U}{q} + 1 \right) (8n + 24q \log q) \\
& = 30q \log q + 24U \log q + \frac{8Un}{q} + 8n \\
& \leq \left(30q + 24U + 8n + \frac{8Un}{q} \right) \max(1, \log q).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Definition 3.

$$\Delta_d(f)(x) = f(x+d) - f(x)$$

$$\Delta_{d_1, \dots, d_1} = \Delta_{d_1} \circ \Delta_{d_{l-1}} \circ \dots \circ \Delta_{d_1}$$

Lemma 10. *Let N_1, N_2, N be integers such that $N_1 < N_2$ and $0 \leq N_2 - N_1 \leq N$. Let f be a real-valued function and*

$$S(f) = \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(f(n)).$$

Then

$$|S(f)|^2 = \sum_{|d| < N} S_d(f),$$

where

$$S_d(f) = \sum_{n \in I(d)} e(\Delta_d(f)(n)) \quad \text{and} \quad I(d) = [N_1 + 1 - d, N_2 - d] \cap [N_1 + 1, N_2].$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
|S(f)|^2 &= S(f)\overline{S(f)} \\
&= \sum_{m=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(f(m)) \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} \overline{e(f(n))} \\
&= \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} \sum_{m=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(f(m) - f(n)) \\
&= \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} \sum_{d=N_1+1-n}^{N_2-n} e(f(n+d) - f(n)) \\
&= \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} \sum_{d=N_1+1-n}^{N_2-n} e(\Delta_d(f)(n))
\end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{cases} N_1 + 1 \leq n \leq N_2 \\ N_1 + 1 - n \leq d \leq N_2 - n \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} N_1 + 1 \leq n \leq N_2 \\ N_1 + 1 - d \leq n \leq N_2 - d \\ -(N_2 - N_1 - 1) \leq d \leq N_2 - N_1 - 1 \end{cases}$$

and $N_2 - N_1 - 1 < N$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
|S(f)|^2 &= \sum_{d=-(N_2-N_1-1)}^{N_2-N_1-1} \sum_{n \in I(d)} e(\Delta_d(f)(n)) \\
&= \sum_{|d| < N} \sum_{n \in I(d)} e(\Delta_d(f)(n)) \\
&= \sum_{|d| < N} S_d(f).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 11. *Let N_1, N_2, N, l be integers such that $l \geq 1$, $N_1 < N_2$ and $0 \leq N_2 - N_1 \leq N$. Let f be a real-valued function and*

$$S(f) = \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(f(n)).$$

Then

$$|S(f)|^{2^l} \leq (2N)^{2^l - l - 1} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_l| < N} S_{d_1, \dots, d_l}(f),$$

where

$$S_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f) = \sum_{n \in I(d_l, \dots, d_1)} e(\Delta_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f)(n))$$

and $I(d_l, \dots, d_1)$ is some interval of consecutive integers contained in $[N_1 + 1, N_2]$.

Proof. By induction on l . The case $l = 1$ has been proven in the previous lemma. Assume that it is true for some $l \geq 1$. Using the inductive hypothesis and the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we get

$$\begin{aligned} |S(f)|^{2^{l+1}} &= \left(|S(f)|^{2^l} \right)^2 \\ &\leq \left((2N)^{2^{l-1}} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_l| < N} |S_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f)| \right)^2 \\ &= (2N)^{2^{l+1} - 2^{l-2}} \left(\sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_l| < N} |S_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f)| \right)^2 \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^{l+1} - 2^{l-2}} (2N)^l \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_l| < N} |S_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

By the previous lemma there is an interval

$$I(d_{l+1}, d_l, \dots, d_1) \subseteq I(d_l, \dots, d_1) \subseteq [N_1 + 1, N_2]$$

such that

$$|S_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(f)|^2 = \sum_{|d_{l+1}| < N} S_{d_{l+1}, d_l, \dots, d_1}(f),$$

and thus

$$|S(f)|^{2^{l+1}} \leq (2N)^{2^{l+1} - (l+1) - 1} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_l| < N} \sum_{|d_{l+1}| < N} S_{d_{l+1}, d_l, \dots, d_1}(f).$$

□

Lemma 12. Let $k \geq 1$ and $1 \leq l \leq k$. Then

$$\Delta_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(x^k) = \sum_{\substack{j_1 + \dots + j_l + j = k \\ j \geq 0, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j! j_1! \cdots j_l!} d_1^{j_1} \cdots d_l^{j_l} x^j = d_1 \cdots d_l p_{k-l}(x),$$

where p_{k-l} is a polynomial degree $k-l$ with leading coefficient $\frac{k!}{(k-l)!}$. If d_1, \dots, d_l are integers, then p_{k-l} has integer coefficients.

Proof. By induction on l . For $l = 1$ we have

$$\Delta_{d_1}(x^k) = (x + d_1)^k - x^k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \binom{k}{j} d_1^{k-j} x^j = \sum_{\substack{j_1+j=k \\ j \geq 0, j_1 \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1!} d_1^{j_1} x^j.$$

Let $1 \leq l \leq k - 1$ and assume that the formula holds for l . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{d_{l+1}, d_l, \dots, d_1}(x^k) &= \Delta_{d_{l+1}}(\Delta_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(x^k)) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+m=k \\ m \geq 0, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{m!j_1! \dots j_l!} d_1^{j_1} \dots d_l^{j_l} \Delta_{d_{l+1}}(x^m) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+m=k \\ m, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{m!j_1! \dots j_l!} d_1^{j_1} \dots d_l^{j_l} \sum_{\substack{j_{l+1}+j=m \\ j \geq 0, j_{l+1} \geq 1}} \frac{m!}{j!j_{l+1}!} d_{l+1}^{j_{l+1}} x^j \\ &= \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+m=k \\ m, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \sum_{\substack{j_{l+1}+j=m \\ j \geq 0, j_{l+1} \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!j_{l+1}!} d_1^{j_1} \dots d_l^{j_l} d_{l+1}^{j_{l+1}} x^j \\ &= \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+j_{l+1}+j=k \\ j \geq 0, j_1, \dots, j_l, j_{l+1} \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!j_{l+1}!} d_1^{j_1} \dots d_l^{j_l} d_{l+1}^{j_{l+1}} x^j. \end{aligned}$$

Since the multinomial coefficients $\frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!}$ are integers, it follows that p_{k-l} has integer coefficients, provided that d_1, \dots, d_l are integers. \square

Corollary. Let $f(x) = \alpha x^k + \dots + \alpha_0$. Then

$$\Delta_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)(x) = d_1 \dots d_{k-1} k! \alpha x + \beta.$$

Lemma 13. Let $1 \leq l \leq k$. If $|d_1|, \dots, |d_l|, x \leq P$, then $\Delta_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(x^k) \leq (l+1)^k P^k$.

Proof. By Lemma 12 we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta_{d_l, \dots, d_1}(x^k)| &= \left| \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+j=k \\ j \geq 0, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!} d_1^{j_1} \dots d_l^{j_l} x^j \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+j=k \\ j \geq 0, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 1}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!} P^{j_1+\dots+j_l+j} \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{j_1+\dots+j_l+j=k \\ j, j_1, \dots, j_l \geq 0}} \frac{k!}{j!j_1! \dots j_l!} P^k \\ &= (l+1)^k P^k. \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 14. *Let $d(n)$ be the number of divisors of n . Then for any $\varepsilon > 0$ $d(n) \leq d_\varepsilon n^\varepsilon$, where $d_\varepsilon = \frac{e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} 2^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varepsilon}$.*

Proof. Let $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$, where p_1, \dots, p_k are primes. Then

$$d(n) = (\alpha_1 + 1) \cdots (\alpha_k + 1)$$

and

$$\frac{d(n)}{n^\varepsilon} = \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{\alpha_j + 1}{p_j^{\varepsilon \alpha_j}}$$

Now we can divide factors of the above product into two classes:

1. $p_j \geq e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$. Then $p_j^{\varepsilon \alpha_j} \geq e^{\alpha_j} \geq 1 + \alpha_j$, so $\frac{\alpha_j + 1}{p_j^{\varepsilon \alpha_j}} \leq 1$. Thus, the overall contribution of such factors is less than 1.
2. $p_j < e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$. Let $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{2^{\varepsilon x}}$ for $x \geq 0$. Then

$$f'(x) = \frac{1 - \varepsilon(x+1) \log(2)}{2^{\varepsilon x}}$$

Solving $f'(x) = 0$ we get $x = \frac{1}{\varepsilon \log(2)} - 1$. It follows that

$$f\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon \log(2)} - 1\right) = \frac{2^\varepsilon}{e \varepsilon \log(2)}$$

is the maximum of f and for every $1 \leq j \leq k$

$$\frac{\alpha_j + 1}{p_j^{\varepsilon \alpha_j}} \leq \frac{\alpha_j + 1}{2^{\varepsilon \alpha_j}} \leq \frac{2^\varepsilon}{e \varepsilon \log(2)}.$$

If we want to bound that product from above we can neglect factors of class 1 and estimate the number of factors of class 2 by $e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$. Thus

$$d(n) \leq e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} \frac{2^\varepsilon}{e \varepsilon \log(2)} n^\varepsilon \leq \frac{e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} 2^\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} n^\varepsilon = \frac{d_\varepsilon}{2} n^\varepsilon.$$

However, we double the constant so that this estimate is still valid if we count both positive and negative divisors. □

Lemma 15. *Let $k \geq 1$, $K = 2^{k-1}$ and $\varepsilon \geq 0$. Let $f(x) = \alpha x^k + \cdots + \alpha_0$ be a polynomial with real coefficients and*

$$S(f) = \sum_{n=1}^N e(f(n)).$$

Then

$$|S(f)|^K \leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1}N^{K-k}d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k (k!N)^\varepsilon \sum_{m=1}^{k!N^{k-1}} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|m\alpha\|}\right).$$

Proof. Applying Lemma 11 with $N_1 = 0$, $N_2 = N$, $l = k - 1$ we get

$$|S(f)|^K \leq (2N)^{K-k} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_{k-1}| < N} |S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)|,$$

where

$$S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f) = \sum_{n \in I(d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1)} e(\Delta_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)(n))$$

and $I(d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1) = [N_1+1, N_2] \subseteq [1, N]$. Since $|e(t)| = 1$, we have $|S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)| \leq N$. By Lemma 12

$$\Delta_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)(x) = d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha x + \beta = \lambda x + \beta.$$

and by Lemma 5

$$\begin{aligned} |S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)| &= \left| \sum_{n \in I(d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1)} e(\Delta_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)(n)) \right| \\ &= \left| \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(\lambda n + \beta) \right| \\ &= \left| \sum_{n=N_1+1}^{N_2} e(\lambda n) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\|\lambda\|} = \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}, \end{aligned}$$

so we have

$$|S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)| \leq \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |S(f)|^K &\leq (2N)^{K-k} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_{k-1}| < N} |S_{d_{k-1}, \dots, d_1}(f)| \\ &\leq (2N)^{K-k} \sum_{|d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{|d_{k-1}| < N} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right). \end{aligned}$$

If $d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} = 0$, then $\min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right) = N$. There are fewer than $(k-1)(2N)^{k-2}$ choices of d_1, \dots, d_{k-1} such that $d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} = 0$, so

$$\begin{aligned} |S(f)|^K &\leq (2N)^{K-k} (k-1)(2N)^{k-2} N \\ &\quad + (2N)^{K-k} \sum_{1 \leq |d_1| < N} \cdots \sum_{1 \leq |d_{k-1}| < N} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right) \\ &\leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} \sum_{1 \leq d_1 < N} \cdots \sum_{1 \leq d_{k-1} < N} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Since by Lemma 14 $d(m) \leq d_\varepsilon m^\varepsilon$, it follows that the number of choices of d_1, \dots, d_{k-1} such that $m = d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k!$ is at most $d(m)^{k-1} \leq (d_\varepsilon m^\varepsilon)^{k-1}$. In our case $1 \leq d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \leq k! N^{k-1}$, so

$$d(m)^{k-1} \leq (d_\varepsilon m^\varepsilon)^{k-1} \leq d_\varepsilon^k m^{\varepsilon k} = d_\varepsilon^k m^\varepsilon \leq d_\varepsilon^k (k! N^k)^\varepsilon = d_\varepsilon^k k!^{\frac{\varepsilon}{k}} N^\varepsilon \leq d_\varepsilon^k (k! N)^\varepsilon.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |S(f)|^K &\leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} \sum_{1 \leq d_1 \leq N} \cdots \sum_{1 \leq d_{k-1} \leq N} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|d_1 \cdots d_{k-1} k! \alpha\|}\right) \\ &\leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} d_\varepsilon^k (k! N)^\varepsilon \sum_{m=1}^{k! N^{k-1}} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|m \alpha\|}\right). \end{aligned}$$

□

2.1. Weyl's inequality

Theorem 16 (Weyl's inequality). *For $k \geq 2$ let $f(x) = \alpha x^k + \cdots + \alpha_0$ be a polynomial with real coefficients and suppose that there exist integers a and q such that $q \geq 1$, $(a, q) = 1$ and $\left|\alpha - \frac{a}{q}\right| \leq \frac{1}{q^2}$. Let $K = 2^{k-1}$, $\varepsilon > 0$ and*

$$S(f) = \sum_{n=1}^N e(f(n)).$$

Then

$$|S(f)| \leq 2N^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_\varepsilon^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}}.$$

Proof. Since $|S(f)| \leq N$, the result follows if $q \geq N^k$. Thus, we will assume that $1 \leq q < N^k$. Then $\log q \leq k \log N \leq \frac{k}{\varepsilon} N^\varepsilon$. By Lemma 15 we have

$$|S(f)|^K \leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} d_\varepsilon^k (k! N)^\varepsilon \sum_{m=1}^{k! N^{k-1}} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|m \alpha\|}\right).$$

By Lemma 9 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{m=1}^{k!N^{k-1}} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|m\alpha\|}\right) &\leq \left(30q + 24k!N^{k-1} + 8N + \frac{8k!N^k}{q}\right) \max(1, \log q) \\
&\leq \left(30q + 32k!N^{k-1} + \frac{8k!N^k}{q}\right) \frac{k}{\varepsilon} N^\varepsilon \\
&= \frac{k}{\varepsilon} N^{k+\varepsilon} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
|S(f)|^K &\leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k (k!N)^\varepsilon \sum_{m=1}^{k!N^{k-1}} \min\left(N, \frac{1}{\|m\alpha\|}\right) \\
&\leq k(2N)^{K-1} + 2^{K-1} N^{K-k} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k (k!N)^\varepsilon \frac{k}{\varepsilon} N^{k+\varepsilon} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right) \\
&\leq 2^K N^{K+2\varepsilon} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{k}{\varepsilon} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right) \\
&= 2^K N^{K+\varepsilon} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2}}^k k!^{\frac{\varepsilon}{2}} \frac{2k}{\varepsilon} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking K th root and replacing ε with $\frac{\varepsilon}{K}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
|S(f)| &\leq 2N^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k k!^{\frac{\varepsilon}{2K}} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\
&\leq 2N^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

The next two theorems are applications of Weyl's inequality:

Theorem 17. *Let $k \geq 2$ and let $\frac{a}{q}$ be a rational number with $q \geq 1$ and $(a, q) = 1$. Then*

$$|S(q, a)| = \left| \sum_{x=1}^q e\left(\frac{ax^k}{q}\right) \right| \leq 2 \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} q^{1-\frac{1}{K}+\varepsilon}.$$

Proof. Let $f(x) = \frac{ax^k}{q}$, $N = q$ and apply Weyl's inequality:

$$\begin{aligned}
|S(q, a)| &\leq 2q^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30}{q^{k-1}} + \frac{32k!}{q} + \frac{8k!}{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\
&\leq 2 \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{1}{K}} q^{1-\frac{1}{K}+\varepsilon}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 18. Let $k \geq 2$, $N \geq 2$ and let $\frac{a}{q}$ be a rational number with $q \geq 1$, $(a, q) = 1$ and $N^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq q \leq N^{k-\frac{1}{2}}$. Then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\left| \sum_{n=1}^N e\left(\frac{an^k}{q}\right) \right| \leq 2 \left(d_{\frac{1-2\delta K}{4k^2 K^2}}^k 60k!^{1+\frac{1}{2K}-\delta} \frac{4kK^2}{1-2\delta K} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} N^{1-\delta}.$$

Proof. Apply Weyl's inequality with $f(x) = \frac{ax^k}{q}$:

$$\begin{aligned} |S(f)| &\leq 2N^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2 K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30q}{N^k} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{q} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\ &\leq 2N^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2 K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30}{N^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{32k!}{N} + \frac{8k!}{N^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\ &\leq 2 \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2 K}}^k 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} N^{1-\frac{1}{2K}+\varepsilon} \\ &= 2 \left(d_{\frac{1-2\delta K}{4k^2 K^2}}^k 60k!^{1+\frac{1}{2K}-\delta} \frac{4kK^2}{1-2\delta K} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} N^{1-\delta} \end{aligned}$$

for any $\delta < \frac{1}{2K}$, if we take $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2K} - \delta$. □

2.2. Hua's lemma

Theorem 19 (Hua's lemma). For $k \geq 2$ let $T(\alpha) = \sum_{n=1}^N e(\alpha n^k)$. Then

$$\int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^{2k} d\alpha \leq h_k N^{2k-k+\varepsilon}, \quad \text{where } h_k = 2^{2^{k+1}} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^k.$$

Proof. We will prove by induction on j that

$$\int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} d\alpha \leq h_j N^{2^j-j+\varepsilon}, \quad \text{where } h_j = 2^{2^{j+1}} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^j.$$

for $j = 1, \dots, k$. If $j = 1$, we have

$$\int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha = \int_0^1 T(\alpha)T(-\alpha)d\alpha = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{m=1}^N \int_0^1 e(\alpha(n^k - m^k))d\alpha = N.$$

Let $1 \leq j \leq k-1$ and assume that it is true for j . Let $f(x) = \alpha x^k$. By Lemma 12 $\Delta_{d_j, \dots, d_1}(f)(x) = \alpha d_j \cdots d_1 p_{k-j}(x)$, where p_{k-j} is a polynomial of degree $k-j$ with

integer coefficients. Applying Lemma 11 with $N_1 = 0$, $N_2 = N$ and $S(f) = T(\alpha)$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} &\leq (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \sum_{|d_1|<N} \cdots \sum_{|d_j|<N} \sum_{n \in I(d_j, \dots, d_1)} e(\Delta_{d_j, \dots, d_1}(f)(n)) \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \sum_{|d_1|<N} \cdots \sum_{|d_j|<N} \sum_{n \in I(d_j, \dots, d_1)} e(\alpha d_j \cdots d_1 p_{k-j}(n)), \end{aligned}$$

where $I(d_j, \dots, d_1)$ is an interval of consecutive integers contained in $[1, N]$. Thus

$$|T(\alpha)|^{2^j} \leq (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \sum_d r(d) e(\alpha d), \quad (2)$$

where $r(d)$ is the number of choices of $|d_1|, \dots, |d_j| \leq N$ and $n \in I(d_j, \dots, d_1)$ such that $d = d_1 \cdots d_j p_{k-j}(n)$. Since the degree of p_{k-j} is $k-j$, it follows that if $d \neq 0$, then by Lemma 13 $|d| \leq (j+1)^k N^k \leq k^k N^k$ and by Lemma 14 $d(n) \leq d_\varepsilon n^\varepsilon$, so

$$r(d) \leq d(d)^{j+1} (k-j) \leq (d_\varepsilon |d|^\varepsilon)^k k = d_\varepsilon^k |d|^{\varepsilon k} k \leq d_\varepsilon^k (kN)^{\varepsilon k^2} k = d_\varepsilon^{\frac{k}{\varepsilon^2}} (kN)^\varepsilon k.$$

If $d = 0$, we get

$$r(0) \leq j(2N)^{j-1} N + (k-j)(2N)^j \leq k(2N)^j.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} &= T(\alpha)^{2^{j-1}} T(-\alpha)^{2^{j-1}} \\ &= \left(\sum_{x=1}^N e(\alpha x^k) \right)^{2^{j-1}} \left(\sum_{y=1}^N e(\alpha y^k) \right)^{2^{j-1}} \\ &= \sum_{x_1=1}^N \cdots \sum_{x_{2^{j-1}}=1}^N \sum_{y_1=1}^N \cdots \sum_{y_{2^{j-1}}=1}^N e \left(\alpha \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2^{j-1}} x_i^k - \sum_{i=1}^{2^{j-1}} y_i^k \right) \right) \\ &= \sum_d s(d) e(-\alpha d), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where $s(d)$ is the number of representations of d in the form $d = \sum_{i=1}^{2^{j-1}} y_i^k - \sum_{i=1}^{2^{j-1}} x_i^k$ with $1 \leq x_i, y_i \leq N$. Then

$$\sum_d s(d) = |T(0)|^{2^j} = N^{2^j}.$$

By the inductive hypothesis

$$s(0) = \int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} d\alpha \leq h_j N^{2^j-j+\varepsilon}.$$

From (2) and (3) follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^{2^{j+1}} d\alpha &= \int_0^1 |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} |T(\alpha)|^{2^j} d\alpha \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \int_0^1 \sum_{d'} r(d') e(\alpha d') \sum_d s(d) e(-\alpha d) d\alpha \\ &= (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \sum_d r(d) s(d) \\ &= (2N)^{2^j-j-1} r(0) s(0) + (2N)^{2^j-j-1} \sum_{d \neq 0} r(d) s(d) \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^j-j-1} k (2N)^j h_j N^{2^j-j+\varepsilon} + (2N)^{2^j-j-1} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k (kN)^\varepsilon k \sum_{d \neq 0} s(d) \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon} k h_j + (2N)^{2^j-j-1} N^\varepsilon N^{2^j} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^{1+\varepsilon} \\ &\leq (2N)^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon} \left(k h_j + d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^{1+\varepsilon} \right) \\ &= 2^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon} \left(k 2^{2^{j+1}} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^j + d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^{1+\varepsilon} \right) N^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon} \\ &\leq 2^{2^{j+2}} d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}}^k k^{j+1} N^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon} = h_{j+1} N^{2^{j+1}-(j+1)+\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

□

2.3. Infinite products

Definition 4. Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots$ be a sequence of complex numbers and let $p_n = \prod_{k=1}^n \alpha_k$ be the n th partial product. We say that the infinite product $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n$ converges to $\alpha \neq 0$ if

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = \alpha.$$

Fact 20. If $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n$ converges, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 1$.

Proof. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p_n}{p_{n-1}} = 1$. □

Lemma 21. Let $a_n \geq 0$ for all $n \geq 1$. Then $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges if and only if $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges.

Proof. Let $s_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$ and $p_n = \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + a_k)$. Observe that

$$0 \leq \sum_{k=1}^n a_k < \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + a_k) \leq \prod_{k=1}^n e^{a_k} = e^{\sum_{k=1}^n a_k},$$

that is

$$0 \leq s_n < p_n \leq e^{s_n}.$$

Since both sequences are increasing, it follows that $\{s_n\}$ converges if and only if $\{p_n\}$ converges. \square

Definition 5. We say that $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges absolutely if $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + |a_n|)$ converges.

Lemma 22. If $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges absolutely, then it converges.

Proof. Let

$$p_n = \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + a_k), \quad P_n = \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + |a_k|).$$

The sequence $\{P_n\}$ converges, so the series $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (P_n - P_{n-1})$ converges. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} |p_n - p_{n-1}| &= |a_n p_{n-1}| = \left| a_n \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 + a_k) \right| \\ &\leq |a_n| \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 + |a_k|) = |a_n| P_{n-1} = P_n - P_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} |p_n - p_{n-1}|$ converges, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (p_n - p_{n-1})$ converges and so $\{p_n\}$ converges.

Now we prove that this limit is not zero. Since $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + a_n)$ converges absolutely, it follows from Lemma 21 that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |a_n|$ converges and the sequence $\{a_n\}$ converges to zero. Therefore, for all sufficiently large integers n we have $|1 + a_n| \geq \frac{1}{2}$ and $\left| -\frac{a_n}{1+a_n} \right| \leq 2|a_n|$. It follows that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| -\frac{a_n}{1+a_n} \right|$ converges and $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{a_n}{1+a_n} \right)$ converges. Thus, the sequence

$$\prod_{k=1}^n \left(1 - \frac{a_k}{1+a_k} \right) = \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{1+a_k} = \frac{1}{\prod_{k=1}^n (1+a_k)} = \frac{1}{p_n}$$

converges to a finite limit and so the limit of the sequence $\{p_n\}$ is nonzero. \square

Definition 6. A function f is *multiplicative* if $f(mn) = f(m)f(n)$ for any relatively prime positive integers m and n .

Lemma 23. *Let f be a multiplicative function that is not identically zero. If the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$ converges absolutely, then*

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n) \right).$$

Proof. Since $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n)$ converges absolutely, the series $a_p = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n)$ converges absolutely for every prime p . Also, the series

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} |a_p| &= \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |f(p^n)| \\ &\leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |f(n)| \end{aligned}$$

converges, so

$$\prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} (1 + a_p) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n) \right)$$

converges absolutely and by Lemma 22 it converges.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and let N_0 be an integer such that $\sum_{n=N_0}^{\infty} |f(n)| < \varepsilon$. Let $P(n)$ denote the greatest prime factor of n . Let $N \geq N_0$. It follows that

$$\prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \leq N}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n) \right) = \sum_{P(n) \leq N} f(n)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) - \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \leq N}} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(p^n) \right) \right| = \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) - \sum_{P(n) \leq N} f(n) \right| \\ &= \left| \sum_{P(n) > N} f(n) \right| \leq \sum_{P(n) > N} |f(n)| \leq \sum_{n > N} |f(n)| \leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

□

3. The circle method

In this section, let $k \geq 2$, $s \geq 2^k + 1$, $N \geq 2^k$, $P = \lfloor N^{\frac{1}{k}} \rfloor$ and

$$F(\alpha) = \sum_{m=1}^P e(\alpha m^k).$$

Then

$$r_{k,s}(N) = \int_0^1 F(\alpha)^s e(-\alpha N) d\alpha.$$

We want to estimate this integral. In order to do this, we will use Hardy's and Littlewood's decomposition of unit interval $[0, 1]$ into major and minor arcs.

Definition 7. Let $0 < \nu < \frac{1}{5}$ and let a and q be integers such that $1 \leq q \leq P^\nu$, $0 \leq a \leq q$ and $(a, q) = 1$. Then

$$\mathfrak{M}(q, a) = \left\{ \alpha \in [0, 1] : \left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}} \right\}$$

is a *major arc* and

$$\mathfrak{M} = \bigcup_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \bigcup_{\substack{a=0 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \mathfrak{M}(q, a)$$

is the set of major arcs.

$$\mathfrak{m} = [0, 1] \setminus \mathfrak{M}$$

is the set of *minor arcs*.

Lemma 24. *The major arcs are pairwise disjoint.*

Proof. Let $\frac{a}{q} \neq \frac{a'}{q'}$ and suppose that there exists $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(q, a) \cap \mathfrak{M}(q', a')$. Then $|aq' - a'q| \geq 1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{P^{2\nu}} &\leq \frac{1}{qq'} \\ &\leq \left| \frac{a}{q} - \frac{a'}{q'} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| + \left| \alpha - \frac{a'}{q'} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction for $P \geq 2$ and $k \geq 2$. □

Lemma 25. $\lambda(\mathfrak{M}) \leq \frac{2}{P^{k-3\nu}}$, where λ is the Lebesgue measure.

Proof. $\lambda(\mathfrak{M}(1, 0)) = \lambda(\mathfrak{M}(1, 1)) = \frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}}$ and for $q \geq 2$, $(a, q) = 1$ we have $\lambda(\mathfrak{M}(q, a)) = \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}}$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(\mathfrak{M}) &= \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} + \sum_{2 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \sum_{\substack{a=0 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \leq \sum_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \sum_{\substack{a=0 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \\ &= \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \sum_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \varphi(q) \leq \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \sum_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} q \\ &\leq \frac{2}{P^{k-\nu}} \frac{P^\nu(P^\nu + 1)}{2} \leq \frac{2}{P^{k-3\nu}}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

3.1. The minor arcs

Theorem 26. Let $k \geq 2$ and $s \geq 2^k + 1$. Then there exists $\delta_1 > 0$ such that

$$\left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \right| \leq \left(2^K d_{\frac{\nu}{4k^2K^2}}^k 60k!^{1+\frac{\nu}{2K}} \frac{4kK^2}{\nu} \right)^{\frac{s-2^k}{K}} h'_k P^{s-k-\delta_1},$$

where

$$h'_k = 2^{2^{k+1}} d_{\frac{\nu}{2Kk^2}}^k k^k$$

Proof. By Dirichlet's theorem with $Q = P^{k-\nu}$, for each number α there exists a rational number $\frac{a}{q}$ with $1 \leq q \leq P^{k-\nu}$ and $(a, q) = 1$ such that

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{qP^{k-\nu}} \leq \min \left(\frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}}, \frac{1}{q^2} \right).$$

If $\alpha \in \mathfrak{m}$, then $\alpha \notin \mathfrak{M}(1, 0) \cup \mathfrak{M}(1, 1)$, so

$$\frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}} < \alpha < 1 - \frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}}$$

and $1 \leq a \leq q - 1$. Suppose that $q \leq P^\nu$. Then, since $\left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{P^{k-\nu}}$, it follows that $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(q, a) \subseteq \mathfrak{M}$, which is a contradiction. Therefore $P^\nu < q \leq P^{k-\nu}$.

Let $K = 2^{k-1}$. By Weyl's inequality with $f(x) = \alpha x^k$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F(\alpha)| &\leq 2P^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30q}{P^k} + \frac{32k!}{P} + \frac{8k!}{q} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\ &\leq 2P^{1+\varepsilon} \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k k!^\varepsilon \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \left(\frac{30P^{k-\nu}}{P^k} + \frac{32k!}{P} + \frac{8k!}{P^\nu} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} \\ &\leq 2 \left(d_{\frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K}}^k 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} P^{1+\varepsilon-\frac{\nu}{K}}. \end{aligned}$$

From Hua's lemma we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} F(\alpha)^s e(-n\alpha) d\alpha \right| &= \left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} F(\alpha)^{s-2^k} F(\alpha)^{2^k} e(-n\alpha) d\alpha \right| \\
&\leq \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |F(\alpha)|^{s-2^k} |F(\alpha)|^{2^k} d\alpha \\
&\leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{m}} |F(\alpha)|^{s-2^k} \int_0^1 |F(\alpha)|^{2^k} d\alpha \\
&\leq \left(2 \left(d^k \frac{\varepsilon}{2k^2K} 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{K}} P^{1+\varepsilon-\frac{\nu}{K}} \right)^{s-2^k} h_k P^{2^k-k+\varepsilon}
\end{aligned}$$

Taking $\varepsilon = \frac{\nu}{2K}$ and $\delta_1 = \frac{\nu(s-2^k)}{K} - (s-2^k+1)\varepsilon > 0$, we get

$$\left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} F(\alpha)^s e(-n\alpha) d\alpha \right| \leq \left(2^K d^k \frac{\nu}{4k^2K^2} 60k!^{1+\frac{\nu}{2K}} \frac{4kK^2}{\nu} \right)^{\frac{s-2^k}{K}} h'_k P^{s-k-\delta_1}.$$

□

3.2. The major arcs

Lemma 27. *Let $v(\beta) = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e(\beta m)$. If $|\beta| \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then*

$$|v(\beta)| \leq 4 \min \left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}} \right).$$

Proof. Let $f(x) = \frac{1}{k} x^{\frac{1}{k}-1}$ for $x > 0$. f is positive, decreasing and continuously differentiable. We have

$$|v(\beta)| \leq \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \leq \int_1^N \frac{1}{k} x^{\frac{1}{k}-1} dx + f(1) < N^{\frac{1}{k}} \leq 2P.$$

If $|\beta| \leq \frac{1}{N}$, then $P \leq N^{\frac{1}{k}} \leq |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}}$ and $|v(\beta)| \leq 2 \min \left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}} \right)$.

If $\frac{1}{N} < |\beta| \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then $|\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}} < N^{\frac{1}{k}} \leq 2P$. Let $M = \left\lceil \frac{1}{|\beta|} \right\rceil$. Then

$$M \leq \frac{1}{|\beta|} < M+1 \leq N.$$

Let $U(t) = \sum_{1 \leq n \leq t}$. By Lemma 5 we have $|U(t)| \leq \frac{1}{2\|\beta\|} = \frac{1}{2|\beta|}$ and by Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{m=M+1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \right| &= \left| f(N)U(N) - f(M)U(M) - \int_M^N U(t)f'(t)dt \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2|\beta|} \left(f(N) + f(M) - \int_M^N f'(t)dt \right) \\ &= \frac{f(M)}{|\beta|} \leq \frac{1}{k|\beta|} \left(\frac{1}{2|\beta|} \right)^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \leq \frac{1}{|\beta|^{\frac{1}{k}}}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |v(\beta)| &\leq \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} + \sum_{m=M+1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \\ &\leq M^{\frac{1}{k}} + \frac{1}{|\beta|^{\frac{1}{k}}} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{|\beta|^{\frac{1}{k}}} \leq 4 \min \left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}} \right). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 28. Let a and q be integers such that $1 \leq q \leq P^\nu$, $0 \leq a \leq q$ and $(a, q) = 1$. Let

$$S(q, a) = \sum_{r=1}^q e \left(\frac{ar^k}{q} \right).$$

If $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(q, a)$, then

$$F(\alpha) = \frac{S(q, a)}{q} v \left(\alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right) \pm 30P^{2\nu},$$

where $\pm x$ denotes any number in the interval $[-x, x]$.

Proof. Let $\beta = \alpha - \frac{a}{q}$. Then $|\beta| \leq P^{\nu-k}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} F(\alpha) - \frac{S(q, a)}{q} v(\beta) &= \sum_{m=1}^P e(\alpha m^k) - \frac{S(q, a)}{q} \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e(\beta m) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^P e \left(\frac{am^k}{q} \right) e(\beta m^k) - \frac{S(q, a)}{q} \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e(\beta m) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^N u(m) e(\beta m), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$u(m) = \begin{cases} e\left(\frac{am}{q}\right) - \frac{S(q,a)}{q} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} & \text{if } m \text{ is a } k\text{th power} \\ -\frac{S(q,a)}{q} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let $y \geq 1$. Since $|S(q,a)| \leq q$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq m \leq y} e\left(\frac{am^k}{q}\right) &= \sum_{r=1}^q e\left(\frac{ar^k}{q}\right) \sum_{\substack{1 \leq m \leq y \\ m \equiv r \pmod{q}}} 1 \\ &= S(q,a) \left(\frac{y}{q} \pm 1\right) \\ &= y \frac{S(q,a)}{q} \pm q. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, for $t \geq 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} U(t) &= \sum_{1 \leq m \leq t} u(m) \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq m \leq t^{\frac{1}{k}}} e\left(\frac{am^k}{q}\right) - \frac{S(q,a)}{q} \sum_{1 \leq m \leq t} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \\ &= t^{\frac{1}{k}} \frac{S(q,a)}{q} \pm q - \frac{S(q,a)}{q} (t^{\frac{1}{k}} \pm 1) = \pm 2q. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{m=1}^N u(m) e(\beta m) \right| &= \left| e(\beta N) U(N) - 2\pi i \beta \int_1^N e(\beta t) U(t) dt \right| \\ &\leq 2q + 4\pi |\beta| q \int_1^N 1 dt \\ &\leq q(2 + 4\pi |\beta| N) \\ &\leq P^\nu (2 + 8\pi P^{\nu-k} P^k) \leq 30P^{2\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 29. *Let*

$$\mathfrak{S}(N, Q) = \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \left(\frac{S(q,a)}{q}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right)$$

and

$$J^*(N) = \int_{-P^{\nu-k}}^{P^{\nu-k}} v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta.$$

Then

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N, P^\nu) J^*(N) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2},$$

where $\delta_2 = 1 - 5\nu > 0$.

Proof. Let $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(q, a)$, $\beta = \alpha - \frac{a}{q}$ and

$$V = V(\alpha, q, a) = \frac{S(q, a)}{q} v\left(\alpha - \frac{a}{q}\right) = \frac{S(q, a)}{q} v(\beta).$$

Since $|S(q, a)| \leq q$, by Lemma 27 we have $|V| \leq |v(\beta)| \leq 4P$. Let $F = F(\alpha)$. Then $|F| \leq P$ and $|F - V| \leq 30P^{2\nu}$ by Lemma 28. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |F^s - V^s| &= |F - V| |F^{s-1} + F^{s-2}V + \dots + FV^{s-2} + V^{s-1}| \\ &\leq 30P^{2\nu} (4P)^{s-1} s \leq 2 \cdot 4^{s+1} s P^{s-1+2\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lambda(\mathfrak{M}) \leq 2P^{3\nu-k}$ by Lemma 25, it follows that

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} |F^s - V^s| d\alpha \leq 4P^{3\nu-k} 4^{s+1} s P^{s-1+2\nu} = 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2},$$

where $\delta_2 = 1 - 5\nu > 0$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathfrak{M}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha &= \int_{\mathfrak{M}} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \sum_{\substack{a=0 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \int_{\mathfrak{M}(q,a)} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2}. \end{aligned}$$

If $q \geq 2$

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathfrak{M}(q,a)} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \int_{\frac{a}{q} - P^{\nu-k}}^{\frac{a}{q} + P^{\nu-k}} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \int_{-P^{\nu-k}}^{P^{\nu-k}} V\left(\beta + \frac{a}{q}, q, a\right)^s e\left(-N\left(\beta + \frac{a}{q}\right)\right) d\beta \\ &= \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right) \int_{-P^{\nu-k}}^{P^{\nu-k}} v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta \\ &= \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right) J^*(N). \end{aligned}$$

If $q = 1$, we have $V(\alpha, 1, 0) = v(\alpha)$ and $V(\alpha, 1, 1) = v(\alpha - 1)$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(1,0)} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + \int_{\mathfrak{M}(1,1)} V(\alpha, q, a)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \int_0^{P^{\nu-k}} v(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + \int_{1-P^{\nu-k}}^1 v(\alpha - 1)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= J^*(N). \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathfrak{M}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \sum_{2 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q} \right) e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right) J^*(N) + J^*(N) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq q \leq P^\nu} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q} \right) e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right) J^*(N) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \\ &= \mathfrak{S}(N, P^\nu) J^*(N) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 30. *Let*

$$J(N) = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v(\beta)^s e(-\beta N) d\beta.$$

There exists $\delta_3 > 0$ such that $|J(N)| \leq 16P^{s-k}$ and $J^(N) = J(N) \pm 8P^{s-k-\delta_3}$.*

Proof. By Lemma 27

$$\begin{aligned} |J(N)| &\leq 8 \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \min\left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}}\right)^s d\beta \\ &= 8 \int_0^{\frac{1}{N}} \min\left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}}\right)^s d\beta + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{N}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \min\left(P, |\beta|^{-\frac{1}{k}}\right)^s d\beta \\ &\leq 8 \int_0^{\frac{1}{N}} P^s d\beta + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{N}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \beta^{-\frac{s}{k}} d\beta \\ &\leq 8P^{s-k} + 8 \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{1-\frac{s}{k}} - \left(\frac{1}{N}\right)^{1-\frac{s}{k}}}{1 - \frac{s}{k}} \\ &= 8P^{s-k} + 8k \frac{N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} - 2^{\frac{s}{k}-1}}{s-k} \\ &\leq 16P^{s-k} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
|J(N) - J^*(N)| &= \int_{P^{\nu-k} \leq |\beta| \leq \frac{1}{2}} v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta \\
&\leq 2 \int_{P^{\nu-k}}^{\frac{1}{2}} |v(\beta)|^s d\beta \\
&\leq 8 \int_{P^{\nu-k}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \beta^{-\frac{s}{k}} d\beta \\
&= 8k \frac{(P^{k-\nu})^{\frac{s}{k}-1} - 2^{\frac{s}{k}-1}}{s-k} \\
&\leq 8P^{s-k-\delta_3},
\end{aligned}$$

where $\delta_3 = v\left(\frac{s}{k} - 1\right) > 0$. □

Lemma 31. *Let α and β be real numbers such that $0 < \beta < 1$ and $\alpha \geq \beta$. Then*

$$\sum_{m=1}^{N-1} m^{\beta-1} (N-m)^{\alpha-1} = N^{\alpha+\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)} \pm \frac{2N^{\alpha-1}}{\beta}.$$

Proof. Let $g(x) = x^{\beta-1}(N-x)^{\alpha-1}$. g is positive and differentiable on $(0, N)$ and integrable on $[0, N]$. Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^N g(x) dx &= \int_0^N x^{\beta-1} (N-x)^{\alpha-1} dx \\
&= N^{\alpha+\beta-1} \int_0^1 t^{\beta-1} (1-t)^{\alpha-1} dt \\
&= N^{\alpha+\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}.
\end{aligned}$$

If $\alpha \geq 1$, then

$$g'(x) = g(x) \left(\frac{\beta-1}{x} - \frac{\alpha-1}{N-x} \right) < 0,$$

so g is decreasing on $(0, N)$ and

$$\int_1^N g(x) dx < \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} g(m) < \int_0^{N-1} g(x) dx.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &< \int_0^N g(x)dx - \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} g(m) \\
&< \int_0^1 g(x)dx \\
&= \int_0^1 x^{\beta-1}(N-x)^{\alpha-1}dx \\
&\leq N^{\alpha-1} \int_0^1 x^{\beta-1}dx = \frac{N^{\alpha-1}}{\beta}.
\end{aligned}$$

If $0 < \beta \leq \alpha < 1$, then g has a local minimum at

$$c = \frac{(\beta-1)N}{\alpha+\beta-2} \in \left[\frac{N}{2}, N\right].$$

This means that g is decreasing for $x \in (0, c)$, therefore

$$\sum_{m=1}^{[c]} g(m) < \int_0^c g(x)dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{m=1}^{[c]} g(m) &\geq \int_1^{[c]} g(x)dx + g([c]) \\
&\geq \int_1^c g(x)dx \\
&\geq \int_0^c g(x)dx - \frac{N^{\alpha-1}}{\beta}.
\end{aligned}$$

If $x \in (c, N)$, then g is increasing, so

$$\sum_{m=[c]+1}^{N-1} g(m) < \int_c^N g(x)dx$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{m=[c]+1}^{N-1} g(m) &\geq \int_{[c]+1}^{N-1} g(x)dx + g([c]+1) \\
&\geq \int_c^{N-1} g(x)dx \\
&\geq \int_c^N g(x)dx - \frac{N^{\beta-1}}{\alpha}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$0 < \int_0^N g(x)dx - \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} g(m) \leq \frac{N^{\alpha-1}}{\beta} + \frac{N^{\beta-1}}{\alpha} \leq \frac{2N^{\alpha-1}}{\beta}.$$

□

Theorem 32. *If $s \geq 2$, then*

$$J(N) = \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \pm c_s N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1}, \quad \text{where } c_s = (5e)^{s-2} \prod_{j=1}^{s-2} \Gamma\left(\frac{j}{k}\right).$$

Proof. Let

$$J_s(N) = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta$$

for $s \geq 2$. We will compute this integral by induction on s . Since

$$v(\beta) = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e(\beta m),$$

it follows that

$$v(\beta)^s = \frac{1}{k^s} \sum_{m_1=1}^N \cdots \sum_{m_s=1}^N (m_1 \cdots m_s)^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e((m_1 + \cdots + m_s)\beta)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} J_s(N) &= \frac{1}{k^s} \sum_{m_1=1}^N \cdots \sum_{m_s=1}^N (m_1 \cdots m_s)^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} e((m_1 + \cdots + m_s - N)\beta) d\beta \\ &= \frac{1}{k^s} \sum_{\substack{m_1 + \cdots + m_s = N \\ 1 \leq m_i \leq N}} (m_1 \cdots m_s)^{\frac{1}{k}-1}. \end{aligned}$$

For $s = 2$, if we apply Lemma 31 with $\alpha = \beta = \frac{1}{k}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} J_2(N) &= \frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} (N-m)^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{k^2} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)^2}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{2}{k}-1} \pm \frac{2}{k} N^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^2}{\Gamma\left(\frac{2}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{2}{k}-1} \pm N^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

Let $s \geq 2$ and suppose that the theorem holds for s . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
J_{s+1}(N) &= \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v(\beta)^{s+1} e(-N\beta) d\beta \\
&= \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v(\beta) v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta \\
&= \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} e(\beta m) v(\beta)^s e(-N\beta) d\beta \\
&= \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v(\beta)^s e(-(N-m)\beta) d\beta \\
&= \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} J_s(N-m) \\
&= \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} (N-m)^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \pm \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} c_s (N-m)^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Applying Lemma 31 with $\alpha = \frac{s}{k}$, $\beta = \frac{1}{k}$ to the first term and with $\alpha = \frac{s-1}{k}$, $\beta = \frac{1}{k}$ to the second term, we get

$$\sum_{m=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} (N-m)^{\frac{s}{k}-1} = \frac{1}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s+1}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s+1}{k}-1} \pm 2N^{\frac{s}{k}-1}$$

and

$$\sum_{m=1}^{N-1} \frac{1}{k} m^{\frac{1}{k}-1} (N-m)^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1} = \frac{1}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \pm 2N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1}$$

Putting it together, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
J_{s+1}(N) &= \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} \left(\frac{1}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s+1}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s+1}{k}-1} \pm 2N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \right) \\
&\quad \pm c_s \left(\frac{1}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \pm 2N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1} \right) \\
&= \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^{s+1}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s+1}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s+1}{k}-1} \\
&\quad \pm \left(2N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} + \frac{c_s}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} + 2c_s N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 2, we estimate the error term:

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} + \frac{c_s}{k} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} + 2c_s N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1} \\
& \leq \left(2 \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} + c_s \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} + 2c_s \right) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \\
& \leq (2e + ec_s \Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) + 2c_s) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \\
& \leq (2ec_s \Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) + ec_s \Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) + 2ec_s \Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right)) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \\
& = 5ec_s \Gamma\left(\frac{s-1}{k}\right) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} = c_{s+1} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

3.3. The singular series

Definition 8. We define the *singular series* as

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} A_N(q),$$

where

$$A_N(q) = \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q} \right)^s e\left(\frac{-Na}{q} \right).$$

Lemma 33. *The singular series converges absolutely and uniformly with respect to N .*

Proof. Let $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{sK}$. Since $s \geq 2^k + 1 = 2K + 1$, we have

$$\frac{s}{K} - 1 - s\varepsilon \geq 1 + \frac{1}{K} - s\varepsilon = 1 + \delta_4,$$

where $\delta_4 = \frac{1}{K} - s\varepsilon > 0$. By Theorem 17

$$|A_N(q)| \leq 2^s \left(d^{\frac{k}{2k^2K}} 60k!^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{2kK}{\varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}} \frac{q}{q^{\frac{s}{K}-s\varepsilon}} \leq 2^s \left(d^{\frac{k}{2k^2K^2s}} 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2s}{1-\delta_4K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}} \frac{1}{q^{1+\delta_4}}.$$

□

Lemma 34. *Let q and r be integers such that $(q, r) = 1$. Then*

$$S(qr, ar + bq) = S(q, a)S(r, b).$$

Proof. Since $(q, r) = 1$, $\{xr : 1 \leq x \leq q\} = \{1, \dots, q\}$ and $\{yq : 1 \leq y \leq r\} = \{1, \dots, r\}$. Every residue modulo qr can be written uniquely as $xr + yq$, where $1 \leq x \leq q$ and $1 \leq y \leq r$, so

$$\begin{aligned}
S(qr, ar + bq) &= \sum_{m=1}^{qr} e\left(\frac{(ar + bq)m^k}{qr}\right) \\
&= \sum_{x=1}^q \sum_{y=1}^r e\left(\frac{(ar + bq)(xr + yq)^k}{qr}\right) \\
&= \sum_{x=1}^q \sum_{y=1}^r e\left(\frac{(ar + bq)}{qr} \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{k}{l} (xr)^l (yq)^{k-l}\right) \\
&= \sum_{x=1}^q \sum_{y=1}^r e\left(\frac{(ar + bq)}{qr} ((xr)^k + (yq)^k)\right) \\
&= \sum_{x=1}^q \sum_{y=1}^r e\left(\frac{a(xr)^k}{q}\right) e\left(\frac{b(yq)^k}{r}\right) \\
&= \sum_{x=1}^q e\left(\frac{ax^k}{q}\right) \sum_{y=1}^r e\left(\frac{by^k}{r}\right) \\
&= S(q, a)S(r, b).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 35. *If $(q, r) = 1$, then $A_N(qr) = A_N(q)A_N(r)$.*

Proof. If $(c, qr) = 1$, then $c \equiv ar + bq \pmod{q}$, where $(a, q) = (b, r) = 1$. From Lemma 34 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
A_N(qr) &= \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ (c, qr)=1}}^{qr} \left(\frac{S(qr, c)}{qr}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{cN}{qr}\right) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a, q)=1}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ (b, r)=1}}^r \left(\frac{S(qr, ar + bq)}{qr}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{(ar + bq)N}{qr}\right) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a, q)=1}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ (b, r)=1}}^r \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q}\right)^s \left(\frac{S(r, b)}{r}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{aN}{q}\right) e\left(-\frac{bN}{r}\right) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a, q)=1}}^q \left(\frac{S(q, a)}{q}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{aN}{q}\right) \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ (b, r)=1}}^r \left(\frac{S(r, b)}{r}\right)^s e\left(-\frac{bN}{r}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$= A_N(q)A_N(r).$$

□

Definition 9. For any positive integer q , let $M_N(q)$ be the number of solutions of the congruence

$$x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k \equiv N \pmod{q},$$

where x_i are integers from the interval $[1, q]$.

Lemma 36. Let $s \geq 2^k + 1$. For every prime p , the series

$$\chi_N(p) = 1 + \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} A_N(p^h)$$

converges and

$$\chi_N(p) = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_N(p^h)}{p^{h(s-1)}}.$$

Proof. The convergence of the series follows from Lemma 33. If $(a, q) = d$, then

$$S(q, a) = \sum_{x=1}^q e\left(\frac{ax^k}{q}\right) = \sum_{x=1}^q e\left(\frac{\frac{a}{d}x^k}{\frac{q}{d}}\right) = d \sum_{x=1}^{\frac{q}{d}} e\left(\frac{\frac{a}{d}x^k}{\frac{q}{d}}\right) = dS\left(\frac{q}{d}, \frac{a}{d}\right).$$

Since

$$\frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{am}{q}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m \equiv 0 \pmod{q} \\ 0 & \text{if } m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{q}, \end{cases}$$

it follows that for any integers x_1, \dots, x_s

$$\frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{a(x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k - N)}{q}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k \equiv N \pmod{q} \\ 0 & \text{if } x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k \not\equiv N \pmod{q}, \end{cases}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}
M_N(q) &= \sum_{x_1=1}^q \cdots \sum_{x_s=1}^q \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{a(x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k - N)}{q}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{x_1=1}^q \cdots \sum_{x_s=1}^q e\left(\frac{a(x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k - N)}{q}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{x_1=1}^q e\left(\frac{ax_1^k}{q}\right) \cdots \sum_{x_s=1}^q e\left(\frac{ax_s^k}{q}\right) e\left(\frac{-aN}{q}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a=1}^q S(q, a)^s e\left(\frac{-aN}{q}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{d|q} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=d}}^q S(q, a)^s e\left(\frac{-aN}{q}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{d|q} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=d}}^q d^s S\left(\frac{q}{d}, \frac{a}{d}\right)^s e\left(\frac{-\frac{a}{d}N}{\frac{q}{d}}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{d|q} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=d}}^q q^s \left(\frac{S\left(\frac{q}{d}, \frac{a}{d}\right)}{\frac{q}{d}}\right)^s e\left(\frac{-\frac{a}{d}N}{\frac{q}{d}}\right) \\
&= q^{s-1} \sum_{d|q} A_N\left(\frac{q}{d}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\sum_{d|q} A_N\left(\frac{q}{d}\right) = q^{1-s} M_N(q)$$

for $q \geq 1$. If we take $q = p^h$, we have

$$1 + \sum_{j=1}^h A_N(p^j) = \sum_{d|p^h} A_N\left(\frac{p^h}{d}\right) = p^{h(1-s)} M_N(p^h)$$

and

$$\chi_N(p) = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^h A_N(p^j)\right) = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} p^{h(1-s)} M_N(p^h). \quad \square$$

Lemma 37. *If $s \geq 2^k + 1$, then*

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \chi_N(p).$$

Moreover,

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) \leq 2^s \left(d^{\frac{k}{2k^2K^2s}} 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2s}{1-\delta_4K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta_4} \right).$$

for all N .

Proof. From Lemma 33 we know that the series $\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} A_N(q)$ converges absolutely and from Lemma 35 we know that A_N is multiplicative. Thus, Lemma 23 implies that $\mathfrak{S}(N) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \chi_N(p)$. Using estimates from the proof of Lemma 33 we get

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) \leq c \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{q^{1+\delta_4}} \leq c \left(1 + \int_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{1+\delta_4}} dx \right) = c \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta_4} \right),$$

where

$$c = 2^s \left(d^{\frac{k}{2k^2K^2s}} 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2s}{1-\delta_4K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}}.$$

□

Lemma 38. *There exists a prime $\left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} \leq p_0 \leq 2 \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}}$ such that*

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p > p_0}} \chi_N(p)$$

for all N .

Proof. From Lemma 33 we know that

$$|A_N(q)| \leq \frac{c}{q^{1+\delta_4}},$$

where

$$c = 2^s \left(d^{\frac{k}{2k^2K^2s}} 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2s}{1-\delta_4K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}}.$$

Therefore

$$|\chi_N(p) - 1| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |A_N(p^j)| \leq c \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^{j(1+\delta_4)}} = \frac{c}{p^{1+\delta_4}} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{1+\delta_4}}} \leq \frac{2c}{p^{1+\delta_4}}$$

and

$$1 - \frac{2c}{p^{1+\delta_4}} \leq \chi_N(p)$$

for all N and p . Now it suffices to find a prime p_0 such that $\frac{1}{2} \leq \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p > p_0}} \left(1 - \frac{2c}{p^{1+\delta_4}}\right)$ which, by continuity of logarithm, is equivalent to $\log \frac{1}{2} \leq \sum_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p > p_0}} \log \left(1 - \frac{2c}{p^{1+\delta_4}}\right)$. Let us estimate the right-hand side of the last inequality. We will use the fact that $\frac{x}{x+1} < \log(1+x)$ for all $x > -1$. Replacing x with $-\frac{1}{x}$, we get $\frac{1}{1-x} < \log\left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &\geq \sum_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p > p_0}} \log \left(1 - \frac{2c}{p^{1+\delta_4}}\right) \\
&\geq \sum_{n=p_0+1}^{\infty} \log \left(1 - \frac{2c}{n^{1+\delta_4}}\right) \\
&\geq \int_{p_0}^{\infty} \log \left(1 - \frac{2c}{x^{1+\delta_4}}\right) dx \\
&\geq \int_{p_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x^{1+\delta_4}}{2c}} dx \\
&\geq -4c \int_{p_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{1+\delta_4}} dx \\
&= -\frac{4c}{\delta_4 p_0^{\delta_4}} \geq \log \frac{1}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Solving the last inequality, we get

$$p_0 \geq \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2}\right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}}.$$

□

Definition 10. Let p be a prime and let $k = p^\tau k_0$, where $\tau \geq 0$ and $(p, k_0) = 1$. We define

$$\gamma = \begin{cases} \tau + 1 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ \tau + 2 & \text{if } p = 2. \end{cases}$$

Fact 39. Let a, b, r be integers. Then $r \equiv 0 \pmod{(a, b)}$ if and only if there exists an integer v such that $av \equiv r \pmod{b}$.

Proof. Assume that $av \equiv r \pmod{b}$. This means that $b|av - r$, so $(a, b)|av - r$. But $(a, b)|a$, so $r \equiv 0 \pmod{(a, b)}$.

Let $d = (a, b)$ and assume that $r \equiv 0 \pmod{d}$. Let r_0, a_0 and b_0 be integers such that $r = r_0 d$, $a = a_0 d$ and $b = b_0 d$. Then $(a_0, b_0) = 1$. We want to find v such that $b|av - r$. This is equivalent to $b_0|a_0 v - r_0$, which in turn means that there

exist integers v and w such that $a_0v - b_0w = r_0$. This is true, since a_0 and b_0 are relatively prime. \square

Lemma 40. *Let $h \geq 3$. Then the subgroup of $\mathbb{Z}_{2^h}^*$ consisting of numbers congruent to 1 modulo 4 is a cyclic group of order 2^{h-2} and 5 is its generator.*

Proof. We want to show that $5^{2^{h-2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{2^h}$ and $5^{2^{h-3}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{2^h}$, which is equivalent to $2^h \mid 5^{2^{h-2}} - 1$ and $2^h \nmid 5^{2^{h-3}} - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} 5^{2^{h-2}} - 1 &= \left(5^{2^{h-3}}\right)^2 - 1 \\ &= \left(5^{2^{h-3}} - 1\right) \left(5^{2^{h-3}} + 1\right) \\ &= \left(5^{2^{h-4}} - 1\right) \left(5^{2^{h-4}} + 1\right) \left(5^{2^{h-3}} + 1\right) \\ &= 4 \left(5^{2^0} + 1\right) \cdots \left(5^{2^{h-3}} + 1\right) \end{aligned}$$

Each factor except the first one is congruent to 2 modulo 4 and so the conclusion follows. \square

Lemma 41. *Let m be an integer not divisible by p . If the congruence $x^k \equiv m \pmod{p^\gamma}$ is solvable, then the congruence $y^k \equiv m \pmod{p^h}$ is solvable for every $h \geq \gamma$.*

Proof. First assume that p is an odd prime. For $h \geq \gamma = \tau + 1$, we have

$$(k, \varphi(p^h)) = (k_0 p^\tau, (p-1)p^{h-1}) = (k_0, p-1)p^\tau = (k, \varphi(p^\gamma)).$$

$\mathbb{Z}_{p^h}^*$ is a cyclic group of order $\varphi(p^h) = (p-1)p^h$. Let g be a generator of this group. Let $x^k \equiv m \pmod{p^\gamma}$. Then $(x, p) = 1$ and there exist integers r and u such that $x \equiv g^u \pmod{p^h}$ and $m \equiv g^r \pmod{p^h}$. Since $h \geq \gamma$, we have $x \equiv g^u \pmod{p^\gamma}$ and $m \equiv g^r \pmod{p^\gamma}$. and so $ku \equiv r \pmod{\varphi(p^\gamma)}$. By Fact 39 $r \equiv 0 \pmod{(k, \varphi(p^\gamma))}$ and $r \equiv 0 \pmod{(k, \varphi(p^h))}$. Again by Fact 39 there exists an integer v such that $kv \equiv r \pmod{\varphi(p^h)}$. If we let $y = g^v$, then $y^k \equiv m \pmod{p^h}$.

Now assume that $p = 2$. Then m and x are odd. If k is odd, then $\tau = 0$ and $\gamma = 2$. Note that $\{y^k \pmod{2^h} : y = 1, 3, \dots, 2^h - 1\} = \{1, 3, \dots, 2^h - 1\}$, since if $y_1^k \equiv y_2^k \pmod{2^h}$, then $2^h \mid y_1^k - y_2^k = (y_1 - y_2)(y_1^{k-1} + \dots + y_2^{k-1})$. Therefore the congruence $y^k \equiv m \pmod{2^h}$ is solvable for all $h \geq 1$. If k is even, then $\tau \geq 1$, $\gamma \geq 3$ and $m \equiv x^k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Also, $x^k = (-x)^k$, so we may assume that $x \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. By Lemma 40, we can choose integers r and u such that $m \equiv 5^r \pmod{2^h}$ and $x \equiv 5^u \pmod{2^h}$. Then $x^k \equiv m \pmod{2^\gamma}$ is equivalent to $ku \equiv r \pmod{2^{\gamma-2}}$ and by Fact 39 r is divisible by $(k, 2^{\gamma-2}) = 2^{\gamma-2} = (k, 2^{h-2})$. Again by Fact 39 there exists an integer v such that $kv \equiv r \pmod{2^{h-2}}$. If we let $y = 5^v$, then $y^k \equiv m \pmod{2^h}$. \square

Lemma 42. *Let p be prime. If there exist integers a_1, \dots, a_s , not all divisible by p , such that*

$$a_1^k + \dots + a_s^k \equiv N \pmod{p^\gamma},$$

then

$$\chi_N(p) \geq \frac{1}{p^{\gamma(s-1)}} > 0.$$

Proof. Suppose that $p \nmid a_1$. Let $h > \gamma$. For each $i = 2, \dots, s$ there exist $p^{h-\gamma}$ distinct integers $1 \leq x_i \leq p^h$ such that $x_i \equiv a_i \pmod{p^\gamma}$. Since the congruence

$$x_1^k \equiv N - x_2^k - \dots - x_s^k \pmod{p^\gamma}$$

is solvable with $x_1 = a_1$, it follows from Lemma 41 that the congruence

$$x_1^k \equiv N - x_2^k - \dots - x_s^k \pmod{p^h}$$

is also solvable. Thus

$$M_N(p^h) \geq p^{(h-\gamma)(s-1)}$$

and by Lemma 36

$$\chi_N(p) = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_N(p^h)}{p^{h(s-1)}} \geq \frac{1}{p^{\gamma(s-1)}} > 0.$$

□

Lemma 43. *If $s \geq 2k$ for odd p or $s \geq 4k$ for even p , then*

$$\chi_N(p) \geq p^{\gamma(1-s)} > 0.$$

Proof. By Lemma 42 it suffices to show that the congruence

$$a_1^k + \dots + a_s^k \equiv N \pmod{p^\gamma} \tag{4}$$

is solvable in integers a_i not all divisible by p . If N is not divisible by p and the congruence is solvable, then at least one of the integers a_i is not divisible by p . If N is divisible by p , then it suffices to show that the congruence

$$a_1^k + \dots + a_{s-1}^k + 1^k \equiv N \pmod{p^\gamma}$$

has a solution in integers. This is equivalent to solving

$$a_1^k + \dots + a_{s-1}^k \equiv N - 1 \pmod{p^\gamma}.$$

In this case $(N - 1, p) = 1$. Therefore, it suffices to prove that, for N relatively prime to p , the congruence

$$a_1^k + \dots + a_s^k \equiv N \pmod{p^\gamma}$$

is solvable in integers with $s \geq 2k - 1$ if p is odd and with $s \geq 4k - 1$ if p is even.

Let p be an odd prime and g be a generator of the group $\mathbb{Z}_{p^\gamma}^*$. The order of g is $\varphi(p^\gamma) = (p - 1)p^{\gamma-1} = (p - 1)p^\tau$. Let $(m, p) = 1$. The integer m is a k th power residue modulo p^γ if and only if there exists an integer x such that $x^k \equiv m \pmod{p^\gamma}$. Let $m \equiv g^r \pmod{p^\gamma}$. Then m is a k th power modulo p^γ if and only if there exists an integer v such that $x \equiv g^v \pmod{p^\gamma}$ and $kv \equiv r \pmod{(p - 1)p^\tau}$. Since $k = k_0 p^\tau$ with $(k_0, p) = 1$, it follows from Fact 39 that this congruence is solvable if and only if $r \equiv 0 \pmod{(k_0, p - 1)p^\tau}$, so there are

$$\frac{\varphi(p^\gamma)}{(k_0, p - 1)p^\tau} = \frac{p - 1}{(k_0, p - 1)}$$

distinct k th powers modulo p^γ . Let $s(N)$ be the smallest integer s for which the congruence (4) is solvable and let $C(j)$ denote the set of all residues N modulo p^γ relatively prime to p such that $s(N) = j$. If $(m, p) = 1$, then the congruence

$$x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k \equiv N \pmod{p^\gamma}$$

is solvable if and only if the congruence

$$x_1^k + \cdots + x_s^k \equiv m^k N \pmod{p^\gamma}$$

is solvable, since we can multiply or divide both sides by m^k . This means that the sets $C(j)$ are closed under multiplication by k th powers, so, if $C(j)$ is non-empty, then $|C(j)| \geq \frac{p-1}{(k_0, p-1)}$. Let n be the largest integer such that the set $C(n)$ is non-empty. Let $j < n$ and let N be the smallest integer relatively prime to p such that $s(N) > j$. Since p is an odd prime, it follows that $N - i$ is relatively prime to p for $i = 1$ or 2 and $s(N - i) \leq j$. Since $N = (N - 1) + 1^k$ and $N = (N - 2) + 1^k + 1^k$, it follows that

$$j + 1 \leq s(N) \leq s(N - i) + 2 \leq j + 2$$

and so $s(N - i) = j$ or $j - 1$. This implies that no two consecutive sets $C(j)$ are empty for $j = 1, \dots, n$ and so the number of non-empty sets $C(j)$ is at least $\frac{n+1}{2}$. Since the sets $C(j)$ are pairwise disjoint, it follows that

$$(p - 1)p^\tau = \varphi(p^\gamma) = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ C(j) \neq \emptyset}}^n |C(j)| \geq \frac{n + 1}{2} \frac{p - 1}{(k_0, p - 1)}$$

and so

$$n \leq 2(k_0, p - 1)p^\tau - 1 \leq 2k - 1.$$

Therefore, $s(N) \leq 2k - 1$ if p is an odd prime and N is relatively prime to p .

Now let $p = 2$. If k is odd, then every odd integer is a k th power modulo 2^γ (proved in the proof of Lemma 41), so $s(N) = 1$ for all odd integers N . If k is even, then $k = 2^\tau k_0$ with $\tau \geq 1$ and $\gamma = \tau + 2$. We can assume that $1 \leq N \leq 2^\gamma - 1$. If

$$s = 2^\gamma - 1 = 4 \cdot 2^\tau - 1 \leq 4k - 1,$$

then the congruence (4) can be solved by setting $a_i = 1$ for $i = 1, \dots, N$ and $a_i = 0$ for $i = N + 1, \dots, s$. Therefore, $s(N) \leq 4k - 1$ if $p = 2$ and N is odd. \square

Theorem 44.

$$c_1 \leq \mathfrak{S}(N) \leq c_2,$$

where

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{2} \left(4k \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} \right)^{2 \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} (1-s)}$$

and

$$c_2 = 2^s \left(d_{\frac{1-\delta_4 K}{2k^2 K^2 s}}^k 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4 K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2 s}{1-\delta_4 K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta_4} \right).$$

Moreover,

$$\mathfrak{S}(N, P^\nu) = \mathfrak{S}(N) \pm \frac{c}{\delta_4} P^{-\nu \delta_4}.$$

Proof. From Lemma 37 we have the upper bound. By Lemma 38, there exists a prime $\left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} \leq p_0 \leq 2 \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}}$ such that $\frac{1}{2} \leq \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p > p_0}} \chi_N(p)$ for all N . Since by Lemma 43

$$\chi_N(p) \geq p^{\gamma(1-s)} > 0$$

for all primes p and all N , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{S}(N) &= \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \chi_N(p) \geq \frac{1}{2} \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \leq p_0}} \chi_N(p) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \leq p_0}} p^{\gamma(1-s)} \geq \frac{1}{2} \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \leq p_0}} (2kp)^{(1-s)} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} (2kp_0)^{p_0(1-s)} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \left(4k \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} \right)^{2 \left(\frac{4c}{\delta_4 \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta_4}} (1-s)} = c_1 > 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$c = 2^s \left(d^k \frac{1-\delta_4 K}{2k^2 K^2 s} 60k!^{1+\frac{1-\delta_4 K}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2 s}{1-\delta_4 K} \right)^{\frac{s}{K}}.$$

To prove the last part, note that by Lemma 33, we have

$$|\mathfrak{S}(N) - \mathfrak{S}(N, P^\nu)| \leq \sum_{q>P^\nu} |A_N(q)| \leq c \sum_{q>P^\nu} \frac{1}{q^{1+\delta_4}} \leq c \int_{P^\nu}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{1+\delta_4}} dx = \frac{c}{\delta_4 P^{\nu\delta_4}}$$

□

Theorem 45 (Hardy–Littlewood). *Let $k \geq 2$ and $s \geq 2^k + 1$. Let $r_{k,s}(N)$ denote the number of representations of N as the sum of s k th powers of positive integers. There exists $\delta > 0$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} r_{k,s}(N) &= \mathfrak{S}(N) \Gamma \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)^s \Gamma \left(\frac{s}{k} \right)^{-1} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \\ &\quad \pm 2 \left(c_s + 8c_2 + \frac{24c}{\delta k} + 4^{s+2} s + mh'_k \right) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1-\delta}, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$c_1 \leq \mathfrak{S}(N) \leq c_2,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \left(2^K d^k \frac{\delta}{4kK^2} 60k!^{1+\frac{1}{10K}} \frac{4K^2}{\delta} \right)^{\frac{s-2^k}{K}} \\ h'_k &= 2^{2^{k+1}} d^k \frac{\delta}{2Kk} k^k \\ c &= 2^s \left(d^k \frac{1-\delta K}{2k^2 K^2 s} 60k!^{1+\frac{1}{Ks}} \frac{2kK^2}{1-\delta K} s \right)^{\frac{s}{K}} \\ c_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(4k \left(\frac{4c}{\delta \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta}} \right)^{2 \left(\frac{4c}{\delta \log 2} \right)^{\frac{1}{\delta}} (1-s)} \\ c_2 &= c \left(1 + \frac{1}{\delta} \right) \\ d_\varepsilon &= \frac{e^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} 2^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varepsilon} \\ c_s &= (5e)^{s-2} \prod_{j=1}^{s-2} \Gamma \left(\frac{j}{k} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let $\delta_0 = \min(1, \delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3, \nu\delta_4)$ and $\delta = \frac{\delta_0}{k}$. Note that $\delta_0 \leq \nu\delta_4 \leq \nu$. By Theorem 26, Theorem 29, Theorem 30, Theorem 32, Theorem 44 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
r_{k,s}(N) &= \int_0^1 F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\
&= \int_{\mathfrak{M}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + \int_{\mathfrak{m}} F(\alpha)^s e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \\
&= \mathfrak{S}(N, P^\nu) J^*(N) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \pm mh'_k P^{s-k-\delta_1} \\
&= \left(\mathfrak{S}(N) \pm \frac{c}{\delta_4} P^{-\nu\delta_4} \right) (J(N) \pm 8P^{s-k-\delta_3}) \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \pm mh'_k P^{s-k-\delta_1} \\
&= \mathfrak{S}(N) J(N) \\
&\quad \pm 8c_2 P^{s-k-\delta_3} \pm \frac{16c}{\delta_4} P^{s-k-\nu\delta_4} \pm \frac{8c}{\delta_4} P^{s-k-\delta_3-\nu\delta_4} \\
&\quad \pm 4^{s+2} s P^{s-k-\delta_2} \pm mh'_k P^{s-k-\delta_1} \\
&= \mathfrak{S}(N) J(N) \pm \left(8c_2 + \frac{24c}{\delta_0} + 4^{s+2} s + mh'_k \right) P^{s-k-\delta_0} \\
&= \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \\
&\quad \pm c_s N^{\frac{s-1}{k}-1} \pm 2 \left(8c_2 + \frac{24c}{\delta_0} + 4^{s+2} s + mh'_k \right) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1-\frac{\delta_0}{k}} \\
&= \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{k}\right)^s}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)} N^{\frac{s}{k}-1} \pm 2 \left(c_s + 8c_2 + \frac{24c}{\delta k} + 4^{s+2} s + mh'_k \right) N^{\frac{s}{k}-1-\delta}
\end{aligned}$$

□

References

- [1] M. B. Nathanson, *Additive Number Theory: The Classical Bases*, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1996.