

## MERIT FACTORS OF POLYNOMIALS FORMED BY JACOBI SYMBOLS

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ABSTRACT. We give explicit formulas for the  $L_4$  norm (or equivalently for the merit factors) of various sequences of polynomials related to the polynomials

$$f(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \frac{n}{N} \right) z^n,$$

and

$$f_t(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \frac{n+t}{N} \right) z^n.$$

where  $\left( \frac{\cdot}{N} \right)$  is the Jacobi symbol.

Two cases of particular interest are when  $N = pq$  is a product of two primes and  $p = q + 2$  or  $p = q + 4$ . This extends work of Høholdt, Jensen and Jensen and of the authors.

This study arises from a number of conjectures of Erdős, Littlewood and others that concern the norms of polynomials with  $-1, 1$  coefficients on the disc. The current best examples are of the above form when  $N$  is prime and it is natural to see what happens for composite  $N$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

There are a number of old conjectures of Erdős, Littlewood, Turyn and others that concern the norms of polynomials with  $-1, 1$  coefficients. See [BC-98, BC-99, E-57, E-62, L-68, NB-90, S-90, M-94].

Littlewood's conjecture is that it is possible to find  $p$  a polynomial of degree  $n$  with coefficients  $-1, 1$  so that

$$C_1 \sqrt{n} \leq |p(z)| \leq C_2 \sqrt{n}$$

for all  $z$  of modulus 1 and for two constants  $C_1, C_2$  independent of  $n$ . This is complemented by a conjecture of Erdős that says that the constant  $C_2$  above cannot be arbitrarily close to 1. The most significant related results may be found in [K-80] and [B-95].

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This latter conjecture of Erdős would be proved by showing that the  $L_4$  norm of such polynomials is bounded below by  $C_3\sqrt{n}$  for some  $C_3 > 1$ . The  $L_4$  norm is attractive to work with because it computationally far more tractable than the sup norm. These problems arose separately in the mathematics community and the engineering community. In the engineering community the problems arose as signal processing questions and here again the  $L_4$  norm is natural to consider [G-83].

The example, due to Turyn and proved by Høholdt and Jensen [HJ-88], that gives the smallest asymptotic  $L_4$  norm is of the form

$$f_p(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n + [p/4]}{p} \right) z^n.$$

where  $\left(\frac{\cdot}{p}\right)$  is the Legendre symbol and  $p$  is prime. This is discussed in [BC-98] where explicit formulae for these  $L_4$  norms are given. In the above case the  $L_4$  norm is asymptotic to  $(7/6)^{1/4}p^{1/2}$ .

In this paper we extend the analyze to the non-prime case.

Suppose  $N$  is odd. Let  $\chi(n)$  be a real primitive character modulo  $N$ . Then  $N$  is a product of distinct primes  $p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r$  with  $p_1 < p_2 < \cdots < p_r$  and

$$(1.1) \quad \chi(n) = \left( \frac{n}{p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r} \right)$$

where  $\left(\frac{n}{N}\right)$  is the Jacobi symbol. We consider the polynomial formed by  $\chi(n)$  as

$$(1.2) \quad f(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) z^n = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \frac{n}{N} \right) z^n.$$

Then  $f(z)$  is a polynomial having coefficients either 0 or  $\pm 1$ . We also consider the shifted polynomial  $f_t(z)$  by shifting the coefficients of  $f(z)$  to the left by  $t$ . Thus, if  $1 \leq t \leq N$ , then

$$(1.3) \quad f_t(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \frac{n+t}{N} \right) z^n.$$

In particular,  $f_N(z) = f(z)$ .

We are particularly interested in the behavior of the growth of the  $L_4$  norm of these polynomials. For the case that  $N$  is a product of twin primes, we are able to derive an exact formula for the  $L_4$  norm of the unshifted polynomial  $f(z)$ . A similar formula for the case when  $N = pq$  with odd primes  $p, q$ ,  $p = q + 4$  and  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  can also be derived. We have the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $N = pq$  and  $f(z)$  be the polynomial defined in (1.2). If  $p = q + 2$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_4^4 &= \frac{1}{3}(5N^2 + 9N + 4 - (8N + 1)(p + q)) \\ &\quad + 24 \frac{q^3}{N^2} \left( 2 - \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \right) h_p^2 - 24 \frac{p^3}{N^2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{2}{q} \right) \right) h_q^2 + \frac{12}{N^2} h_N^2 \end{aligned}$$

and if  $p = q + 4$  and  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_4^4 &= \frac{1}{3}(5N^2 + 9N + 4 - (8N + 1)(p + q)) \\ &\quad + 12 \frac{q^3}{N^2} \left(5 - 3 \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)\right) h_p^2 - 36 \frac{p^3}{N^2} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2}{q}\right)\right) h_q^2 + \frac{12}{N^2} h_N^2 \end{aligned}$$

where  $h_l := \sum_{n=1}^{l-1} n \binom{n}{l}$  for odd integer  $l$ .

For the general case, we obtain an asymptotic estimation for the  $L_4$  norm and prove

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $N = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r$  with  $p_1 < p_2 < \cdots < p_r$  and  $f_t(z)$  is defined in (1.3) with  $1 \leq t \leq N$ . Then*

$$(1.4) \quad \|f_t\|_4^4 = \frac{5}{3}N^2 - 4Nt + 8t^2 + O\left(\frac{N^{2+c}}{p_1}\right).$$

Theorem 1.2 immediately implies that if we define the merit factor of a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{N-1}$  by

$$MF = \frac{\|F\|_2^4}{\|F\|_4^4 - \|F\|_2^4}$$

where  $F(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n z^n$ , then from (1.4), we have the merit factor  $MF$  of the Jacobi sequence satisfying

$$\frac{1}{MF} = \frac{2}{3} - 4\frac{t}{N} + 8\left(\frac{t}{N}\right)^2 + O(N^\epsilon p_1^{-1}).$$

It follows that if  $N^\epsilon p_1^{-1} \rightarrow 0$  when  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , then

$$\frac{1}{MF} \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} - 4\frac{t}{N} + 8\left(\frac{t}{N}\right)^2$$

In particular for  $T$  approximately  $N/4$  the merit factors approach 6 which is conjectured by some to be best possible [G-83].

This should be compared with the result of T. Høholdt, H. Jensen and J. Jensen in [HJJ-91]. They showed that the same asymptotic formula but a weaker error term  $O\left(\frac{(p+q)^5 \log^4 N}{N^3}\right)$  for the special case  $N = pq$ . So we generalize their result to  $N = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r$  and also improve the error term.

Additional history of this problem is outlined in [BC-98] and [BC-99].

## 2. $L_4$ NORM FOR CHARACTER POLYNOMIAL

Let  $\chi$  be a non-principal primitive character mod  $N$ . Let

$$f(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) z^n$$

be the character polynomial associated to  $\chi$ . Let  $\omega := e^{2\pi i/N}$  and  $\tau(\chi)$  be the Gaussian sum defined by

$$\tau(\chi) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n)\omega^n.$$

Since  $\chi$  is primitive,

$$(2.1) \quad f(\omega^k) = \tau(\chi)\overline{\chi}(k).$$

for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$ . Also we have,  $|\tau(\chi)|^2 = N$  and  $\overline{\tau(\chi)} = \chi(-1)\tau(\overline{\chi})$  (see Chapter 8 in [A-80]). The shifted polynomial  $f_t(z)$  by shifting the coefficients of  $f(z)$  to the left by  $t$  is defined as

$$f_t(z) := \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n+t)z^n$$

for  $1 \leq t \leq N$  and  $f_N(z) = f(z)$ . It is easy to see that

$$(2.2) \quad f_t(\omega^k) = \omega^{-tk} f(\omega^k)$$

for any  $0 \leq k \leq N-1$ . We are interested in estimating the  $L_4$  norm of  $f_t(z)$ . It can be shown (see [HJ-88, BC-98]) that

$$(2.3) \quad \|f_t\|_4^4 = \frac{1}{2N} \left\{ \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f_t(\omega^k)|^4 + \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f_t(-\omega^k)|^4 \right\}.$$

Using (2.1) and (2.2), the first summation above is  $N^2\phi(N)$ . It remains to evaluate the second summation

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f_t(-\omega^k)|^4.$$

For  $1 \leq t \leq N$  and  $0 \leq k \leq N-1$ , we have

$$f_{N-t+1}(-\omega^k) = \omega^{-k}\chi(-1)f_t(-\omega^{-k}).$$

In particular, we have  $|f_t(-\omega^k)| = |f_{N-t+1}(-\omega^{-k})|$  for  $0 \leq k \leq N-1$  and hence from now on we may assume  $1 \leq t \leq (N+1)/2$ .

We employ an interpolation formula as in [HJ-88, BC-98] and by (2.8), (2.9) and (2.10) in [BC-99] which is

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f_t(-\omega^k)|^4 = \frac{16}{N^4}(A + B + C)$$

where

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} A &= \frac{1}{48}N^2(N^2 + 2) \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |f_t(\omega^a)|^4 \\ B &= -\frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |f_t(\omega^a)|^2 f_t(\omega^a) \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\overline{f_t(\omega^{a-k})}(\omega^k + 1)}{|\omega^k - 1|^2} \right\} \\ C &= N^2 \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |f_t(\omega^a)|^2 \left| \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{f_t(\omega^{a-k})}{\omega^k - 1} \right|^2 - \frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \overline{f_t(\omega^a)^2} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{f_t(\omega^{a-k})}{\omega^k - 1} \right)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

In this section, we will simplify the terms  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  by using (2.1) and evaluate them in the next section. Using (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$(2.6) \quad A = \frac{N^4(N^2 + 2)\phi(N)}{48}.$$

Using (2.1) and (2.2) again, we have

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{aligned} B &= -\frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\omega^{-tk}(\omega^k + 1)}{|\omega^k - 1|^2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \overline{\chi(n)} \chi(n-k) \right\} \\ &= \frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\omega^{tk}(\omega^k + 1)}{(\omega^k - 1)^2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) \overline{\chi(n-k)} \right\} \\ &= \frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a,b=1}^{N-1} ab \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \omega^{k(l+a+b)} (\omega^k + 1) \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) \overline{\chi(n-k)} \right\} \\ &= \frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a,b=1}^{N-1} ab \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} (\omega^{k(1+l+a+b)} + \omega^{k(l+a+b)}) \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) \overline{\chi(n-k)} \right\} \\ &\quad - \frac{N^4(N-1)^2\phi(N)}{4}, \end{aligned}$$

because

$$(2.8) \quad \frac{1}{\omega^j - 1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n \omega^{jn}$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N-1$ .

For the term  $C$ , the second term in (2.5) equals to

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \overline{f_t(\omega^a)}^2 \left( \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{f_t(\omega^{a-k})}{\omega^k - 1} \right)^2 \right\} \\ &= -\frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a) \left( \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\omega^{kt} \overline{\chi(a-k)}}{\omega^k - 1} \right)^2 \right\} \\ &= -\frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a) \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \overline{\chi(a-k)} \omega^{k(t+n)} \right)^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

from (2.1) and (2.8). Using (2.1) again, this is equals to

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a) \left( \frac{\overline{\tau(\chi)}}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n\chi(n+t)\omega^{a(l+n)} - \frac{N-1}{2} \overline{\chi(a)} \right)^2 \right\} \\
&= -\frac{N^4}{2} \Re \left\{ \frac{\overline{\tau(\chi)}^2}{N^2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\chi(m+t) \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a)\omega^{a(n+m+2t)} \right\} \\
&\quad - \frac{N^4}{2} \left( \frac{N-1}{2} \right)^2 \phi(N) + \frac{N^4(N-1)}{2} \Re \left\{ \frac{\overline{\tau(\chi)}}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n\chi(n+t)f(\omega^{l+n}) \right\} \\
&= -\frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \frac{\overline{\tau(\chi)}^2}{N^2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\chi(m+t) \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a)\omega^{a(n+m+2t)} \right\} \\
(2.9) \quad &\quad - \frac{N^4(N-1)^2\phi(N)}{8} + \frac{N^4(N-1)}{2} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n+l,N)=1}}^{N-1} n.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the first term in (2.5) equals to

$$\begin{aligned}
&= N^2 \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |f_t(\omega^a)|^2 \left| \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{f_t(\omega^{a-k})}{\omega^k - 1} \right|^2 \\
&= N^4 \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |\chi^2(a)| \left| \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \frac{\omega^{kt} \overline{\chi(a-k)}}{\omega^k - 1} \right|^2 \\
&= N^3 \sum_{nm=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\overline{\chi(m+t)} \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} |\chi^2(a)|\omega^{a(n-m)} \\
(2.10) \quad &\quad + \frac{N^4(N-1)^2\phi(N)}{4} - N^4(N-1) \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n+l,N)=1}}^{N-1} n
\end{aligned}$$

and hence from (2.5), (2.9) and (2.10)

$$\begin{aligned}
C &= -\frac{N^2}{2} \Re \left\{ \frac{\overline{\tau(\chi)}^2}{N^2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\chi(m+t) \sum_{a=0}^{N-1} \chi^2(a)\omega^{a(n+m+2t)} \right\} + \frac{N^4(N-1)^2\phi(N)}{8} \\
(2.11) \quad &\quad + N^3 \sum_{nm=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\overline{\chi(m+t)} C_N(n-m) - \frac{N^4(N-1)}{2} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n+l,N)=1}}^{N-1} n
\end{aligned}$$

where  $C_k(l)$  is the usual Ramanujan sum defined as

$$C_k(l) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ (n,k)=1}}^{k-1} e^{\frac{2\pi i n l}{k}}.$$

We remark that formulas (2.3), (2.4), (2.6), (2.7) and (2.11) hold for any non-principal primitive character. In the next section, we will confine our consideration to Jacobi symbol.

3. REAL PRIMITIVE CHARACTER MODULO  $pq$ 

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $1 \leq k \leq N$ , then*

$$\sum_{\substack{n,m=1 \\ k+n+m \equiv 0 \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} nm = \frac{N}{6}(N^2 - 6N - 1 + 6k + 3Nk - 3k^2).$$

*Proof.* This is Lemma 2 in [BC-98].  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$  be distinct primes and  $\chi = \chi_1 \chi_2 \cdots \chi_r$  where  $\chi_j$  are non-principal characters modulo  $p_j$ . Let  $N = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r$ . Then*

$$(3.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \omega^{kl} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \chi(n) \overline{\chi(n-k)} = \begin{cases} N & \text{if } (l, N) = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let  $\omega_q = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{q}}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k_1=0}^{p_1-1} \cdots \sum_{k_r=0}^{p_r-1} \omega_{p_1}^{k_1 l} \cdots \omega_{p_r}^{k_r l} \sum_{n_1=0}^{p_1-1} \cdots \sum_{n_r=0}^{p_r-1} \chi_1(n_1) \overline{\chi_1(n_1 - k_1)} \cdots \chi_r(n_r) \overline{\chi_r(n_r - k_r)} \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^r \sum_{k_j=0}^{p_j-1} \omega_{p_j}^{k_j l} \sum_{n_j=0}^{p_j-1} \chi_j(n_j) \overline{\chi_j(n_j - k_j)} \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^r \left\{ p_j - \sum_{k_j=0}^{p_j-1} \omega_{p_j}^{k_j l} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

because

$$\sum_{n_j=0}^{p_j-1} \chi_j(n_j) \overline{\chi_j(n_j - k_j)} = \begin{cases} p_j - 1 & \text{if } p_j | k_j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence the summation in (3.1) equals to  $N$  if  $(l, N) = 1$  and 0 otherwise.  $\square$

From (2.7), we have if  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$  are distinct primes and  $\chi = \chi_1 \chi_2 \cdots \chi_r$  with non-principal characters  $\chi_j$  modulo  $p_j$ , then

$$(3.2) \quad B = \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b+l+1, N)=1}}^{N-1} ab + \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b+l, N)=1}}^{N-1} ab - \frac{N^4(N-1)^2 \phi(N)}{4}$$

by Lemma 3.2.

**Lemma 3.3.** *If  $N = pq$  then we have*

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b,N)=1}}^{N-1} ab = \frac{1}{12}N(3N^2 - 7N - 2)\phi(N)$$

and

$$(3.4) \quad \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b+1,N)=1}}^{N-1} ab = \frac{1}{12}N(N-1)(3N-4)\phi(N)$$

*Proof.* Write

$$(3.5) \quad \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b,N)=1}}^{N-1} ab = \sum_{a,b=1}^{N-1} ab - \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ a+b \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{N-1} ab - \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ a+b \equiv 0 \pmod{q}}}^{N-1} ab + \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ a+b \equiv 0 \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} ab.$$

We then apply Lemma 3.1 to the last three summations. Formula (3.4) can be proved in the same way.  $\square$

Now from (3.2)-(3.4), if  $t = N$  and  $N = pq$ , then we have

$$(3.6) \quad B = -\frac{1}{12}N^4(N+2)\phi(N).$$

**Lemma 3.4.** *If  $N = pq$ , then we have*

$$(3.7) \quad \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,N)=1}}^{N-1} a = \frac{1}{2}N\phi(N)$$

and

$$(3.8) \quad \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,N)=1}}^{N-1} a^2 = \frac{1}{6}N(2N+1)\phi(N).$$

*Proof.* The proof is similar to Lemma 3.3.  $\square$

It remains to compute the term  $C$  using (2.11). Suppose  $\chi$  is real and  $t = N$ . Then the first term



in (2.11) equals to

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\left(\frac{-1}{N}\right) \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n+m) \\
&= -\left(\frac{-1}{N}\right) \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} n(N-m) \left(\frac{n(-m)}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) \\
&= -\frac{N^4}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n \left(\frac{n}{N}\right) \sum_{m=1}^{N-1} \left(\frac{m}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) + \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) \\
&= -\frac{N^5}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} n \left(\frac{n}{N}\right) \left(\frac{n}{N}\right) + \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) \\
&= -\frac{N^5}{2} \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n,N)=1}}^{N-1} n + \frac{N^3}{2} \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence from this together with (2.11) and (3.7), we have

$$(3.9) \quad C = \frac{3}{2} N^3 \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) + \frac{N^4}{16} (N(N-1)^2 \phi^2(N) - 4N^2 \phi(N) - 8(N-1)).$$

The last step is to evaluate the summation

$$\sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m).$$

Since  $C_N(l)$  is a multiplicative function of  $N$  (see §8.3 of [A-80]) and also if  $p$  is a prime, then

$$C_p(k) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } (p, k) = 1 \\ p-1 & \text{if } (p, k) \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

so if  $N = pq$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_N(n-m) \\
&= \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) C_p(n-m) C_q(n-m) \\
(3.10) \quad &= N \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n,N)=1}}^{N-1} n^2 - p \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) - q \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{q}}}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{nm}{N}\right) + h_N^2.
\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $p$  and  $q$  be primes greater than 3 and  $N = pq$ . If  $p = q + 2$  then*

$$(3.11) \quad \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n \equiv m \pmod{p}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{nm}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{12} N^2 (q^2 - 1) + 2p^2 \left( 1 - \left( \frac{2}{q} \right) \right) h_q^2$$

and

$$(3.12) \quad \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n \equiv m \pmod{q}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{nm}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{12} N^2 (p^2 - 1) - 2q^2 \left( 2 - \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \right) h_p^2.$$

If  $p = q + 4$  and  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then

$$(3.13) \quad \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n \equiv m \pmod{p}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{nm}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{12} N^2 (q^2 - 1) + 3p^2 \left( 1 - \left( \frac{2}{q} \right) \right) h_q^2$$

and

$$(3.14) \quad \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n \equiv m \pmod{q}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{nm}{N} \right) = \frac{1}{12} N^2 (p^2 - 1) - q^2 \left( 5 - 3 \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \right) h_p^2.$$

*Proof.* We only give a proof for (3.11). The proof for (3.12)-(3.14) is similar.

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{nm}{N} \right) &= \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{p-1} (n+pa)(m+pb) \left( \frac{n+pa}{pq} \right) \left( \frac{m+pb}{pq} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{p-1} \left( \frac{nm}{p} \right) \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} (n+pa)(m+pb) \left( \frac{n+pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{m+pb}{q} \right) \\ &= p^2 \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n-m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}}}^{p-1} \left( \frac{nm}{p} \right) \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \left( \frac{n+pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{m+pb}{q} \right) \\ &= p^2 \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n+pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{n+pb}{q} \right) \\ &= p^2 \left\{ \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n+pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{n+pb}{q} \right) - \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \left( \frac{pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{pb}{q} \right) \right\} \\ &= p^2 \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n+pa}{q} \right) \left( \frac{n+pb}{q} \right) - p^2 h_q^2. \end{aligned}$$

If  $p = q + 2$  then

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{n+pa}{q} \binom{n+pb}{q} &= \sum_{n=0}^{q+1} \binom{n+2a}{q} \binom{n+2b}{q} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{q-1} \binom{(n+2a)(n+2b)}{q} + \binom{ab}{q} + \binom{(2a+1)(2b+1)}{q} \end{aligned}$$

The first summation on the right hand side of (3.16) (see P.58 of [BEW-98]) is

$$= \begin{cases} q-1 & \text{if } a \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ -1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, the first term in (3.15) is

$$\begin{aligned} &= p^2 \left\{ - \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab + q \sum_{\substack{a,b=0 \\ a \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^{q-1} ab + \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \binom{ab}{q} + \sum_{a,b=0}^{q-1} ab \binom{(2a+1)(2b+1)}{q} \right\} \\ &= p^2 \left\{ - \left( \frac{q(q-1)}{2} \right)^2 + q \sum_{a=0}^{q-1} a^2 + h_q^2 + \left( \sum_{a=0}^{q-1} a \binom{2a+1}{q} \right)^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{N^2}{12} (q^2 - 1) + p^2 \left( 3 - 2 \binom{2}{q} \right) h_q^2. \end{aligned}$$

This proves (3.11).  $\square$

So, if  $p = q + 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm \binom{nm}{N} C_N(n-m) \\ &= \frac{N^2}{12} (4N^2 - 5N(p+q) + 6N - (p+q) + 2) - 2p^3 \left( 1 - \binom{2}{q} \right) h_q^2 + 2q^3 \left( 2 - \binom{2}{p} \right) h_p^2 + h_N^2. \end{aligned}$$

From (3.9), we obtain

$$C = \frac{N^4}{8} (N^3 + 3N^2 + 3N + 1 - (2N^2 + N + 1)(p+q)) - 3N^3 p^3 \left( 1 - \binom{2}{q} \right) h_q^2 + 3N^3 q^3 \left( 2 - \frac{2}{p} \right) h_p^2 + \frac{3}{2} N^3 h_N^2.$$

Therefore, using this, (2.4), (2.6) and (3.6), we have if  $p = q + 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f(-\omega^k)|^4 &= \frac{N}{3} (7N^2 + 15N + 8 - (13N + 2)(p+q)) \\ &\quad + 48 \frac{q^3}{N} \left( 2 - \binom{2}{p} \right) h_p^2 - 48 \frac{p^3}{N} \left( 1 - \binom{2}{q} \right) h_q^2 + \frac{24}{N} h_N^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_4^4 &= \frac{1}{3}(5N^2 + 9N + 4 - (8N + 1)(p + q)) \\ &\quad + 24\frac{q^3}{N^2} \left(2 - \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)\right) h_p^2 - 24\frac{p^3}{N^2} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2}{q}\right)\right) h_q^2 + \frac{12}{N^2} h_N^2. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if  $p = q + 4$  and  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and instead of using (3.11) and (3.12) in Lemma 3.5, we employ (3.13) and (3.14), then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f(-\omega^k)|^4 &= \frac{N}{3}(7N^2 + 15N + 8 - (13N + 2)(p + q)) \\ &\quad + 24\frac{q^3}{N} \left(5 - 3\left(\frac{2}{p}\right)\right) h_p^2 - 72\frac{p^3}{N} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2}{q}\right)\right) h_q^2 + \frac{24}{N} h_N^2 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_4^4 &= \frac{1}{3}(5N^2 + 9N + 4 - (8N + 1)(p + q)) \\ &\quad + 12\frac{q^3}{N^2} \left(5 - 3\left(\frac{2}{p}\right)\right) h_p^2 - 36\frac{p^3}{N^2} \left(1 - \left(\frac{2}{q}\right)\right) h_q^2 + \frac{12}{N^2} h_N^2. \end{aligned}$$

This proves Theorem 1.1.

#### 4. ASYMPTOTIC ESTIMATE FOR REAL PRIMITIVE CHARACTER

Let  $\chi$  be a real primitive character modulo  $N$  with odd  $N$ . Then  $N = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_r$  with  $p_1 < p_2 < \cdots < p_r$  and

$$\chi(n) = \left(\frac{n}{p_1}\right) \left(\frac{n}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(\frac{n}{p_r}\right).$$

In view of (2.4), we need to estimate the term  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ . The term  $A$  has been evaluated in (2.6). We now consider the term  $B$  using formula (3.2). We first prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.1.** *For any  $1 \leq t \leq N$ , we have*

$$(4.1) \quad \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b+t,N)=1}}^{N-1} ab = \frac{1}{4} N^3 \phi(N) + O(N^{3+\epsilon}).$$

For any  $1 \leq t \leq N$ , then

$$(4.2) \quad \sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ (n+t,N)=1}} n = \frac{1}{2} N \phi(N) + O(N^{1+\epsilon})$$

and

$$(4.3) \quad \sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ (n+t, N)=1}} n^2 = \frac{1}{3} N^2 \phi(N) + O(N^{2+\epsilon}).$$

Here all the implicit constants are independent of  $t$  and  $N$ .

*Proof.* The summation in (4.1) is

$$(4.4) \quad \begin{aligned} &= \sum_{a,b=1}^{N-1} ab \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d|a+b+t}} \mu(d) \\ &= \sum_{d|N} \mu(d) \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{N-1} ab. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{N-1} ab \\ &= \sum_{n,m=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} \sum_{\substack{a,b=0 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} (a+dn)(b+dm) \\ &= d^2 \sum_{n,m=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} nm \sum_{\substack{a,b=0 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} 1 + \frac{N^2}{d^2} \sum_{\substack{a,b=0 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} ab + 2d \sum_{n,m=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} n \sum_{\substack{a,b=0 \\ a+b+t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} b \\ &= \frac{N^4}{4d} - \frac{N^3}{2d} + O(N^2 d). \end{aligned}$$

It follows now from (4.4) that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{a,b=1 \\ (a+b+t, N)=1}}^{N-1} ab &= \frac{N^4}{4} \sum_{d|N} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} - \frac{1}{2} N^3 \sum_{d|N} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} + O\left(N^2 \sum_{d|N} \mu^2(d) d\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} N^3 \phi(N) + O(N^{3+\epsilon}). \end{aligned}$$

The proof of (4.2) and (4.3) are similar.  $\square$

Therefore, using (3.2) and Lemma 4.1,

$$(4.5) \quad B \ll N^{6+\epsilon}.$$

We next estimate the term  $C$  using formula (2.11). The summation in the first term of (2.11) is

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\chi(m+t)C_N(n+m+2t) \\
&= \sum_{n,m=1}^{N-1} nm\chi(n+t)\chi(m+t) \sum_{\substack{d|n+m+2t \\ d|N}} d\mu\left(\frac{N}{d}\right) \\
&= N \sum_{\substack{n,m=1 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{n+t}{N}\right) \left(\frac{m+t}{N}\right) \\
(4.6) \quad &+ O\left(\sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d \left| \sum_{\substack{n,m=1 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{N-1} nm \left(\frac{n+t}{N}\right) \left(\frac{m+t}{N}\right) \right|\right)
\end{aligned}$$

because  $c_k(l) = \sum_{d|k, d|l} d\mu(k/d)$  (see §8.3 in [A-80]).

The error term in (4.6) is

$$\begin{aligned}
&\ll \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d \left| \sum_{a,b=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} (n+ad)(m+bd) \left(\frac{n+ad+t}{N}\right) \left(\frac{m+bd+t}{N}\right) \right| \\
&\ll \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d^3 \left| \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} \left(\frac{n+t}{d}\right) \left(\frac{m+t}{d}\right) \sum_{a,b=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} ab \left(\frac{n+ad+t}{N/d}\right) \left(\frac{m+bd+t}{N/d}\right) \right| \\
&\ll \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d^3 \sum_{\substack{n,m=0 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} \left| \sum_{a=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} a \left(\frac{n+ad+t}{N/d}\right) \right| \times \left| \sum_{b=0}^{\frac{N}{d}-1} b \left(\frac{m+bd+t}{N/d}\right) \right|.
\end{aligned}$$

We next employ Polya's inequality for character sums (see Theorem 13.15 in [A-80]), namely, if  $\psi$  is any nonprincipal character modulo  $k$ , then for all  $x \geq 2$  we have

$$\sum_{m \leq x} \psi(m) \ll k^{\frac{1}{2}} \log k.$$

Using this inequality and the partial summation formula, we have for any square-free odd integer  $k$  and any integer  $l$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{a=0}^{k-1} a \left(\frac{a+l}{k}\right) \right| \ll k^{\frac{3}{2}} \log k$$

and hence the error term in (4.6) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
&\ll \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d^3 \sum_{\substack{n, m=0 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}}^{d-1} \frac{N^3}{d^3} \log^2(N/d) \\
&\ll N^3 \sum_{\substack{d|N \\ d < N}} d \log^2(N/d) \\
&\ll \frac{N^{4+\epsilon}}{p_1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{n, m=1}^{N-1} nm \chi(n+t) \chi(m+t) C_N(n+m+2t) \\
(4.7) \quad &= N \sum_{\substack{n, m=1 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{n+t}{N} \right) \left( \frac{m+t}{N} \right) + O\left( \frac{N^{4+\epsilon}}{p_1} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

In the same manner, we can prove that the summation in the third term of (2.11) is

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{n, m=1}^{N-1} nm \chi(n+t) \chi(m+t) C_N(n-m) \\
&= N \sum_{\substack{n, m=1 \\ n \equiv m \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{n+t}{N} \right) \left( \frac{m+t}{N} \right) + O\left( \frac{N^{4+\epsilon}}{p_1} \right) \\
&= N \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n+t, N)=1}}^{N-1} n^2 + O\left( \frac{N^{4+c}}{p_1} \right) \\
(4.8) \quad &= \frac{1}{3} N^3 \phi(N) + O\left( \frac{N^{4+\epsilon}}{p_1} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

using (4.3) in Lemma 4.1. Now it remains to consider the main terms in (4.7). If  $1 \leq t \leq \frac{N-1}{2}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{\substack{n, m=1 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{N}}}^{N-1} nm \left( \frac{n+t}{N} \right) \left( \frac{m+t}{N} \right) \\
&= \left( \frac{-1}{N} \right) \sum_{\substack{n, m=1 \\ n+m+2t \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \\ (n+t, N)=1}}^{N-1} nm \\
&= \left( \frac{-1}{N} \right) \left\{ \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n+t, N)=1}}^{N-2t} n(N-n-2t) + \sum_{\substack{n=N-2t+1 \\ (n+t, N)=1}}^{N-1} n(2N-n-2t) \right\} \\
(4.9) \quad &= \left( \frac{-1}{N} \right) \frac{1}{6} \phi(N) (N^2 + 6Nt - 12t^2) + O(N^{2+c})
\end{aligned}$$

by (4.2) and (4.3). It can be easily verified that (4.9) is also true for  $t = \frac{N+1}{2}$ . Thus, from (2.11), (4.2), (4.7), (4.8) and (4.9), the term  $C$  is

$$C = \frac{1}{8}N^7 - \frac{1}{2}N^6t + N^5t^2 + O(N^{7+\epsilon}/p_1)$$

and hence

$$\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} |f(-\omega^k)|^4 = \frac{7}{3}N^3 - 8N^2t + 16Nt^2 + O(N^{3+\epsilon}/p_1)$$

from (2.4), (2.6) and (4.5). Finally, Theorem 1.2 follows from this and (2.1) and (2.3).

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