

**TRICKS AND TIPS AROUND WEIL SUMS
PART TWO : FOLKLORE
DRAFT**

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ABSTRACT. In this note¹, I report all the basic algebra that can be used in the context of Weil sums.

Let L be a finite field of characteristic p and order q . One defines the Fourier coefficient of a polynomial mapping $f \in L[X]$ at a point $a \in L$ by means of the canonical additive character of L by :

$$\widehat{f}(a) = \sum_{x \in L} \mu(f(x) - ax)$$

Remark 1. *After several hesitation, I finally adopted the the minus sign in the definition of the Fourier coefficient.*

Strictely speaking, $\widehat{f}(a)$ is the Fourier coefficient of the complex map $\mu \circ f$ at the additive character $\mu_a : x \mapsto \mu(ax)$.

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1. WEIL SUM

We are mainly interested by the values of these sums in the case of f is a monomial. The Fourier coefficients falls in Weil sums with binomial argument. Given a positive integer d , the Fourier coefficient of the power mapping x^d is denoted

$$W_{L,(a,d)} = \sum_{x \in L} \mu(x^d - ax)$$

Remark 2. *In the paper, I use d for any exponent, and s for invertible exponent. In this case, t denotes the inverse of s modulo $q - 1$:*

$$st = 1 \pmod{q - 1}.$$

In that case, I also use the notation $f: x \mapsto x^s$ and $g: x \mapsto x^t$.

The Fourier coefficient at 0 is said in phase, the other are out phase.

Remark 3. *Like for any permutation π , the phase Fourier coefficient of any power permutation is null,*

$$\widehat{\pi}(0) = \sum_{x \in L} \mu(\pi(x)) = \sum_{x \in L} \mu(x) = 0.$$

An exponent s is said r -valued if the number of distinct out-phase Fourier coefficients is r .

2. CHARACTERIZATION

Several conjecture are proposed in the litterature concerning Weil sums with binomial argument. A possible argument resides in the following elementary fact

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{f}_b(a) &= \sum_{x \in L} \mu(bx^s + ax) \\ &= \sum_{x \in L} \mu(x^s + ab^{1-t}x) \\ &= \widehat{f}(ab^{1-t}) \end{aligned}$$

It appears that the spectrum of bf is a permutation of those of f .

Problem 1. *Characterize the map f such that the spectrum of f is equal to the spectrum of bf for all $b \in L^\times$.*

3. KERNEL TRICK

Assuming a r -valued spectrum,

$$\prod_{i=1}^r (\widehat{f}(a) - A_i) \times \widehat{f}(a) = 0$$

whence $(f - A_1\delta_0) * \dots * (f - A_r\delta_0)$ is in the kernel of the convolution by f i.e. the space generated by the μ_z with $z \in Z = \{a \mid \widehat{f}(z) = 0\}$.

$$(1) \quad \sum_{i=0}^r \sigma_i(A_1, \dots, A_r) f^{[r-i]} = \sum_{z \in Z} x_z \mu_z$$

Using Fourier transformation

$$(2) \quad \sum_{i=0}^r \sigma_i(A_1, \dots, A_r) \widehat{f}(a)^{r-i} = q \sum_{z \in Z} x_z \delta_z(a)$$

one sees that all the coefficient x_a are equal to $\sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r)/q$.

$$(3) \quad \sum_{i=0}^r \sigma_i(A_1, \dots, A_r) f^{[r-i]} = \frac{\sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r)}{q} \sum_{z \in Z} \mu_z$$

It is possible to show that when $r = 2$ then x_a is an integer.

Remark 4. *I do not know if the $x_a = \frac{1}{q} \prod_{i=1}^r A_i$ is an integer.*

4. SYMMETRY

Now, we simply check our formulas.

$$\widehat{\widehat{F}}(a) = \sum_{x \in K} \sum_{y \in K} F(y) \bar{\mu}(xy) \bar{\mu}(ax) = q \sum_{a+y=0} F(y) = qF(-a)$$

In odd characteristic disymmetry appears ! Let us denote by Z the indicating function of Z .

First we write (3) as :

$$\sum_{i=0}^r \sigma_i(A_1, \dots, A_r) f^{[r-i]}(a) = \frac{\sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r)}{q} \widehat{Z}(-a)$$

Remark 5. *No trouble minus signing here !*

And, we re-apply the Fourier transform again :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=0}^r \sigma_i(A_1, \dots, A_r) \widehat{f}(a)^{r-i} &= \frac{\sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r)}{q} \widehat{\widehat{Z}}(a) \\ &= \sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r) Z(a) \end{aligned}$$

Now, if $\widehat{f}(a) = 0$ then the left-hand side is equal to the product $\sigma_r(A_1, \dots, A_r)$ and thus :

$$\forall a \in K, \quad Z(a) = Z(a).$$

5. WARING FORMULA

$$A^n + B^n = \sum_{j=0}^{n/2} (-1)^j \frac{n}{n-j} \binom{n-j}{j} (AB)^j (A+B)^{n-2j}$$

In general, denoting by

$$S_k = x_1^k + x_2^k + \dots + x_n^k$$

then

$$S_k = \sum_{i_1+2i_2+\dots+ni_n=k} (-1)^{i_2+i_4+\dots} \times \frac{(i_1+i_2+\dots+i_n-1)!k}{i_1!i_2!\dots i_n!} \sigma_1^{i_1} \sigma_2^{i_2} \dots \sigma_n^{i_n}$$

This fact can be used to proof that if $f \in K[X]$ has degree d then there exists $d-1$ algebraic numbers ω_i such that for any extension L of degree r of K , one has

$$S(f, L) = \sum_{x \in L} \mu_L(f(x)) = -[\omega_1^r + \omega_2^r + \dots + \omega_{d-1}^r]$$

In fact these numbers are Weil numbers and they have absolute value \sqrt{q} .

6. KLOOSTERMAN SUM

$$\text{kloos}_L(a) = \sum_{x \in L^\times} \mu\left(\frac{1}{x} - ax\right)$$

and one has the Weil bound

$$|\text{kloos}_L(a)| \leq 2\sqrt{q}.$$

It is now known that Kloosterman sum does not vanish in characteristic $p > 3$. At the opposite, according to my knowledge, there is no simple proof of the fact that Kloosterman sums vanish when $p = 2$ or $p = 3$.

Let $f(x) = x^s$ be a pwer mapping and let $h(x) = x^{-d}$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f}(ab) \widehat{h}(a)^* &= \sum_a \sum_x \sum_y \mu(x^d - y^{-d}) \mu(ax - aby) \\ &= q \sum_y \mu(b^d y^d - y^{-d}) \\ &= q \text{kloos}_L(b^d) \end{aligned}$$

7. GAUSS SUMS

We denote by $\tau_K(\chi)$ the Gauss sum

$$\tau_K(\chi) = \sum_{x \in K^\times} \mu(x)\chi(x)$$

by Fourier inversion, for $x \in K^\times$:

$$\mu(x) = \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi} \tau_K(\chi)\bar{\chi}(x)$$

By a direct calculation

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{f}(a) &= 1 + \frac{1}{(q-1)^2} \sum_x \sum_{\chi} \tau_K(\chi)\bar{\chi}(x^d) \sum_{\chi'} \bar{\tau}_K(\chi')\chi'(ax) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{(q-1)} \sum_{\chi'=\chi^d} \tau_K(\chi)\bar{\tau}_K(\chi')\chi'(a) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{(q-1)} \sum_{\chi} \tau_K(\chi)\bar{\tau}_K(\chi^d)\chi^d(a) \end{aligned}$$

In the case of an invertible exponent s , we continue :

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{f}(a) &= 1 + \frac{1}{(q-1)} \sum_{\chi} \tau_K(\chi)\bar{\tau}_K(\chi^s)\chi^s(a) \\ &= \frac{q}{q-1} + \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi \neq 1} \tau_K(\chi^t)\bar{\tau}_K(\chi)\chi(a) \\ &= \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi} F(\chi)\chi(a) \end{aligned}$$

where we use the notation

$$F(\chi) = \begin{cases} q, & \chi = 1; \\ \tau(\chi^t)\bar{\tau}(\chi), & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

It is well known that flat spectrum implies orthogonality :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{f}(ab)\widehat{f}(a)^* &= \sum_{x,y \in L^\times} \mu(x^d - y^d + a(bx - y)) \\ &= q \sum_{bx=y} \mu(x^d - y^d) \\ &= q^2 \delta_1(b) \end{aligned}$$

8. DIVISIBILITY

By Stickelgerber's congruence theorem, for any prime \wp above p in the appropriate field, we know the existence of a generator ω of $\widehat{K^\times}$ such that :

$$\tau_K(\bar{\omega}^j) \equiv \frac{(1 - \zeta)^{S(j)}}{R(j)} \pmod{\wp^{(p-1)S(j)+1}}$$

where $j = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} j_k p^k$, $S(j) = \sum_k j_k$ and $R(j) = \prod_k j_k!$.

Let us denote by ν the minimal value :

$$\nu = \frac{1}{p-1} \min_{0 < j} S(-jt) + S(j)$$

and define the J -set of s :

$$(4) \quad J(s) = \{0 < j \mid S(-jt) + S(j) = \nu(p-1)\}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{f}(a) &= \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi} F(\chi) \chi(a) \\ &\equiv \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi \neq 1} \tau(\chi^t) \tau(\chi) \chi(a) \\ &\equiv \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{j > 0} \tau(\omega^{jt}) \tau(\bar{\omega}^j) \omega^j(a) \\ &\equiv (1 - \zeta)^\nu \sum_{j \in J} \frac{\omega^j(a)}{R(-jt)R(j)} \pmod{(1 - \zeta)^{1+\nu}} \end{aligned}$$

It follows

$$V_K(s) = \frac{1}{p-1} \min_{0 < j < q-1} S(-jt) + S(j)$$

Remark 6. Using the relation

$$w_p(s) + w_p(-s) = [K : \mathbb{F}_p](p-1)$$

one gets that the weight of s is smaller or equal to $(m-v)(p-1) + 1$. That is also the degree of the map $x \mapsto T_{K/\mathbb{F}_p}(x^s)$.

Remark 7. If we write

$$\widehat{f}(a) = \sum_{i=\nu}^{\infty} f_i(a) p^i$$

the degree of f_ν is less or equal to ν .

Lemma 1. Let K be a subfield of L .

$$V_L(s) \leq [L : K] \times V_K(s)$$

Proof. It is a direct consequence of Hasse-Davenport relation. \square

9. J-SET CONNECTION

Let J be the J-set of s .

$$w_p(-jt) + w_p(j) = w_p(-jt) + w_p(-(-jt)s)$$

It follows that

$$J(s) \ni j \mapsto -jt \in J(t)$$

This is a manifestation of the Rule

$$\widehat{f}(a) = \sum_{x \in K} \mu(x^s + ax) = \sum_{x \in K} \mu(x + ax^t) = \widehat{g}(a^{-s})$$

Since

$$\sum_{j \in J(s)} \frac{\omega^j(a)}{R(-jt)R(j)} \equiv \sum_{k \in J(t)} \frac{\omega^k(a^{-s})}{R(-ks)R(k)} \equiv \sum_{k \in J(t)} \frac{\omega^{-ks}(a)}{R(-ks)R(k)}$$

The independance of characters concludes.

$$-sJ(t) = J(s), \quad -tJ(s) = J(t).$$

10. RAYLEIGH QUOTIENT

The eigenvalues of the Fourier operator $f \mapsto \widehat{f}$ are $\pm\sqrt{q}$. The Rayleigh quotient of a vector x satisfy

$$-\sqrt{q} \leq R(F, x) = \frac{Ax \cdot \bar{x}}{x \cdot \bar{x}} \leq \sqrt{q}$$

In particular, the Rayleigh quotient of a mapping f is :

$$-q\sqrt{q} \leq \widehat{f} \times f(a) = \sum_{a \in K} \widehat{f}(a) \overline{f(a)} \leq q\sqrt{q}$$

We are interested by the

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{f} * f(t) &= \sum_{a+b=t} \widehat{f}(a) f(a) \\ &= \sum_a f(-a) \widehat{f}(a) \mu(at) \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2. *What is the Rayleigh quotient of a power mapping ?*

For $b \neq 0$, by a direct calculation

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f}(ab) \bar{\mu}(a^s) &= \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{a \neq 0} \sum_{\chi} F(\chi) \chi(ab) \bar{\mu}(a^s) \\
&= \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi} F(\chi) \chi(b) \sum_{a \neq 0} \chi(a) \bar{\mu}(a^s) \\
&= \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi} F(\chi) \chi(b) \tau(\chi^t) \chi^t(-1) \\
&= \frac{-q}{q-1} + \frac{1}{q-1} \sum_{\chi \neq 1} \tau(\bar{\chi}) \tau(\chi^t)^2 \chi(-b)
\end{aligned}$$

The above relation can be interpreted like next. First of all the f_b are orthogonal :

$$f_b \cdot f_c = q \delta_b(c).$$

The decomposition of \widehat{f} in the basis g_b is more simple

$$\widehat{f}(a) = \sum_b \mu(b^t) g_b(a)$$

as we can check very easily

$$\sum_b \mu(b^t + ba^{-s}) = \sum_b \mu(a \cdot b/a + (b/a)^s) = \widehat{f}(a)$$

11. MORE ORTHOGONALITY RELATION

Let f be a power permutation.

$$\sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f}(a+t) \widehat{f}(a)^* = q \delta_0(t).$$

All these orthogonality relation could be make hard the existence of not symmetric small spectrum.

12. DEDEKIND'S DETERMINANT

The convolutional endomorphism diagonalizes in the basis of additive characters of L , the eigenvalues are precisely Fourier coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu_a * F(z) &= \sum_{x+y=z} F(x) \mu(ay) \\
&= \sum_x F(x) \mu(a(z-x)) \\
&= \widehat{F}(a) \mu_a(z)
\end{aligned}$$

The convolution by F on the Dirac basis

$$\begin{aligned} F * \delta_a(b) &= \sum_{x+y=a} F(x)\delta_a(y) \\ &= F(b-a) \end{aligned}$$

We recover Dedekind's determinant

$$(5) \quad \prod_{a \in L} \widehat{F}(a) = \det[F(b-a)]_{a,b \in L}$$

Remark 8. Let κ be an arbitrary complex number. Using the map $F + \kappa$, we get

$$(6) \quad (\widehat{F}(0) + q\kappa) \prod_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{F}(a) = \det[\mu(F(b-a)) + \kappa]_{a,b \in L}$$

For example, with $\kappa = -1$ A direct calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\widehat{f}(0) - q) \prod_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{f}(a) &= \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{a \in L} (\mu(f(\sigma(a)) - a) - 1) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in \Phi} \text{sgn}(\sigma) P(\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Phi = \{\sigma \mid \forall x \in L, \text{trace}_L(f(\sigma(x)) - x) \neq 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad P(\sigma) = \prod_{a \in L} (\mu(f(\sigma(a)) - a) - 1).$$

Remark 9. If $f(0) = 0$ then a permutation of Φ as no fixed point.

Remark 10. In the case $p = 2$, with $\kappa = -1$ and $f(x) \in L[X]$. A direct calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\widehat{f}(0) - q) \prod_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{f}(a) &= \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{a \in L} (\mu(f(\sigma(a)) - a) - 1) \\ &= 2^q \sum_{\sigma \in \Phi} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

Remark 11. One can recover a classical divisibility result using this determinantal approach. Again, with

$$\Phi = \{\sigma \mid \forall x \in L, \text{trace}_L(f(\sigma(x)) + x) \neq 0\},$$

we get

$$(\widehat{f}(0) - q) \prod_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{f}(a) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Phi} \text{sgn}(\sigma) P(\sigma)$$

where the p -adic valuation of the $P(\sigma)$ is greater than $q/(p-1)$.

Considering (6) as a polynomial in κ , by identification :

$$qD(f) = - \sum_y \sum_{\pi} \operatorname{sgn}(\pi) \mu \left(\sum_{x \neq y} f(\pi(x) - x) \right)$$

As in [13], one can isolate the phase using the space orthogonal to the trivial character. It is generated by $\Delta_a = \delta_a - \delta_0$. $a \in L^\times$.

$$\begin{aligned} F * \Delta_a &= F * \delta_a - F * \delta_0 \\ &= \sum_b F(b-a) \delta_b - \sum_b F(b-0) \delta_b \\ &= \sum_{b \neq 0} (F(b-a) - F(b)) \Delta_b \end{aligned}$$

In this space

$$(7) \quad \prod_{a \in L^\times} \widehat{F}(a) = \det[F(b-a) - F(a)]_{a,b \in L^\times}$$

13. MOMENT OF WEIL SUMS

We introduce the moment of Weil sums

$$S_r = \sum_{a \in K} \widehat{f}(a)^r$$

The first values are well known

$$S_1 = q, \quad S_2 = q^2$$

Assuming a three valued spectrum, we get a recursion formula :

$$\begin{aligned} S_k &= (A + B) S_{k-1} - AB S_{k-2} \\ S_3 &= (A + B)q^2 - ABq \\ S_4 &= (A + B)S_3 - ABq^2 \end{aligned}$$

The sums S_k are connected by convolution to the character sums :

$$\begin{aligned}
S_k &= q \sum_{x_1+x_2+\dots+x_{k-1}+z=0} \mu(x_1^s + x_2^s + \dots + x_{k-1}^s + z^s) \\
&= S_{k-1} + q \sum_{z \neq 0} \sum_{x_1+x_2+\dots+x_{k-1}+z=0} \mu(x_1^s + x_2^s + \dots + x_{k-1}^s + z^s) \\
&= S_{k-1} + q^2 N_{k-1} - q^{k-1}
\end{aligned}$$

where N_k is the number of solutions of

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_k + 1 = 0 \\ x_1^s + x_2^s + \dots + x_k^s + 1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

In particular, using Daniel's notation $V := N_2$:

$$\begin{aligned}
S_3 &= (A + B)q^2 - ABq \\
S_3 &= S_2 + q^2 N_2 - q^2 \\
&= q^2 V
\end{aligned}$$

$$N_2 = A + B - \frac{AB}{q} = V \implies [K : \mathbb{F}_p] + \epsilon(p) \leq a + b$$

where $\epsilon(p) = 1$ if $p = 2$ (immediate) or 3 (more tricky).

14. ASYMPTOTIC

Let A be the maximal absolute value in the spectrum, and let N'_A be the number of occurrences. Recall the relation (??)

$$P_k = P_{k-1} + q^2 N_{k-1} - q^{k-1} (q^2 N_{k-1} - q^{k-1}) \sim A^k N'_A$$

one should compare to Deligne bound.

15. HYPERPLANE SECTION

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ be n elements of L^\times . By convolution, or a direct calculation

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{a \in L} \prod_{i=1}^n \widehat{f_{\lambda_i}}(a) &= \sum_{x_1, x_2, \dots} \mu\left(\sum_i x_i^s - a \sum_i \lambda_i x_i\right) \\
&= q \sum_{\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = 0} \mu(x_1^s + \dots + x_n^s)
\end{aligned}$$

Since s is invertible, the last character sum does not depend on μ , its values S is a non trivial contribution in the character counting of the number of solutions N the hyperplane section of the Fermat hypersurface

$$\begin{cases} 0 &= x_1^s + x_2^s + \dots + x_n^s \\ 0 &= \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_1 x_n. \end{cases}$$

whence $qN = (q-1)S + q^{n-1}$ and

$$(8) \quad q^2 N = (q-1) \sum_{a \in L} \prod_{i=1}^n \widehat{f_{\lambda_i}}(a) + q^n$$

Remark 12. Using (8) with $n = q-1$ and all the λ_i are distincts, the existence of zero outphase Fourier coefficient is equivalent to say that $N = q^{n-2}$.

16. REPRESENTATION

To any f , we introduce the notation

$$\widehat{f_b}(a) = \sum_{x \in K} \mu(bf(x) - ax)$$

and the matrix

$$R(f) := \frac{1}{q} (\widehat{f_b}(a))_{b,a}$$

It is easy to check that

$$R(f \circ g) = R(f) \times R(g)$$

In particular, we have a representation of groups, and

$$\chi(f) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f_a}(a) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f}(a^{1-t}) = \text{fix}(f)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{a \in L} |\widehat{f_a}(a)|^2 &= \sum_{a,x,y} \mu_a(f(x) - f(y) + x - y) \\ &= q \#\{(x, y) \mid f(x) - f(y) = x - y\} \\ &= q(q + N(q-1)) \end{aligned}$$

In particular,

$$\sup_{a \in L^\times} |\widehat{f_a}|^2 \geq Nq$$

Let $\aleph(t)$ the number of preimages of t by $x \mapsto x^s - x$.

$$\begin{aligned} \aleph(t) &= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f_a}(a) \bar{\mu}(at) \\ q \sum_{t \in L} \aleph(t)^2 &= \sum_{a \in L} \widehat{f_a}(a)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 13. The set of bijections having an integral spectrum is a group.

Let G the cyclic group generated by f .

Note the pseudo-cyclic structure of $M(f) = qR(f)$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 q & & 0 & & 0 & & \dots & & 0 \\
 0 & \widehat{f_{\gamma^0}} & (\gamma^0) & & \widehat{f_{\gamma^0}} & (\gamma^1) & & \dots & \widehat{f_{\gamma^0}} & (\gamma^{q-1}) \\
 0 & \widehat{f_{\gamma^1}} & (\gamma^0) & & \widehat{f_{\gamma^1}} & (\gamma^1) & & \dots & \widehat{f_{\gamma^1}} & (\gamma^{q-1}) \\
 \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\
 0 & \widehat{f_{\gamma^{q-1}}} & (\gamma^0) & & \widehat{f_{\gamma^{q-1}}} & (\gamma^1) & & \dots & \widehat{f_{\gamma^{q-1}}} & (\gamma^{q-1})
 \end{array}$$

One has the relation

$$M(f) \sum_{g \in G} M(g) = \sum_{g \in G} M(g) =: \Sigma(f)$$

Remark 14. *What is the ring generated by the $M(g)$?*

17. SUM OVER SUBFIELDS

Let F be a subfield of L ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{a \perp F} \widehat{f}_b(a) &= |F| \sum_{x \in F} \mu_b(x^d) \\
 &= q \delta_{F^\perp}(b)
 \end{aligned}$$

Let G be a subgroup of L^\times ,

$$\sum_{x \in G} \widehat{f}(ax) = \frac{|G|}{q-1} \sum_{\chi \perp G} F(\chi) \bar{\chi}(a)$$

In particular, if $G = K^\times$ then the Gauss sums are equal to \sqrt{q} and we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{x \in K} \widehat{f}(ax) &= \frac{q}{\sqrt{q}+1} \sum_{\chi \in K^\times} \chi(a) \\
 &= q \delta_{K^\times}(a)
 \end{aligned}$$

18. PARTIAL SUMS

Since $s \equiv 1(p-1)$, the distribution of $x \mapsto \mathbb{T}_{K/\mathbb{F}_p}(x^s)$ is well balanced over any subspace. Writing

$$n_r(S) = \#\{x \in S \mid \mathbb{T}_{K/\mathbb{F}_p}(x^s) = r\}, n_0(S) + (p-1)n_1(S) = p^k$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{x \in S} \mu(x^s) &= \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} n_i(S) \zeta^i = n_0(S) - n_1(S) \\
&= pn_1(S) \\
&= \frac{1}{p^{m-k}} \sum_{s \perp S} \widehat{f}(s)
\end{aligned}$$

19. OPEN PROBLEM

From now and on, s is a three valued invertible exponent : it takes three values 0, A , and B over a finite field L of order $q = p^m$, p prime. Recall that s is congruent to 1 modulo $(p - 1)$.

$$A = p^a \alpha, \quad B = p^b \beta, \quad A - B = p^c \gamma$$

with α , β and γ coprime with p .

$$\widehat{f}_b(a) = \sum_{x \in K} \mu(bf(x) - ax)$$

Let N_A the multiplicity of A , N_B those of B in the spectrum of f . We solve the system

$$(9) \quad \begin{cases} N_A A + N_B B = q \\ N_A A^2 + N_B B^2 = q^2 \end{cases}$$

$$(10) \quad N_A = q(B - q)/A(B - A) \quad N_B = q(q - A)/B(B - A)$$

and

$$N_A + N_B = \frac{q(B^2 - A^2) + q^2(A - B)}{AB(B - A)} = q \frac{A + B - q}{AB}$$

20. MULTIPLICITIES

Let us denote by $M_r(s)$ the number of v having r pre-images by f . Actually, we don't know if it is possible to find some exponents s such that $M_2 = 0$!

I run a program to find all the exponent s satisfying the condition

$$s \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}, \quad \#\{r \mid M_r(s) > 0\} \leq 3, \quad q \leq 2^{32}.$$

all of them have the same shape $M_2(s) > 0$. Of course, for such s the spectrum cannot be three-valued.

Actually, one can detail $N(u, v)$ when $v \neq u^s$. Let us denote by $n(v)$ the number of x, y in K^\times such that $x^s + y^s = v$ and $x + y = u$.

We use

$$\begin{aligned}
n(u, v) &= \frac{1}{(q-1)^2} \sum_{x+y=u} \sum_{X+Y=v} \sum_{\chi, \psi} \chi(x^s/X) \psi(y^s/Y) \\
&= \frac{1}{(q-1)^2} \sum_{\chi, \psi} \sum_{x+y=u} \sum_{X+Y=v} \chi(x^s) \psi(y^s) \bar{\chi}(X) \bar{\psi}(Y) \\
&= \frac{1}{(q-1)^2} \sum_{\chi, \psi} J(\chi^s, \psi^s) J(\bar{\chi}, \bar{\psi}) \chi \psi(u^{-s}) \chi \psi(v)
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3. Let $n_s(v)$ be the number of preimages of v by $x \mapsto x^s + (1-x)^s$. We are interested by the exponents s such that $n_s(v)$ takes only two values over $K \setminus \{0, 1\}$.

21. TURYN'S RESULT

I recall here character sums divisibility results that can be useful in this context.

Proposition 1. Let S be a cyclic group of order N . Let f be an integral mapping over S . Let χ be a character of order b . If $\widehat{f}(\chi) \neq 0$ is divisible by a positive integer m then

$$m \leq \frac{2^{\text{rad}(b)} N \|f\|_{\infty}}{b}.$$

Moreover, if f is positive

$$m \leq \frac{2^{\text{rad}(b)} N \|f\|_{\infty}}{2b}.$$

where $\text{rad}(b)$ denotes the number of prime divisors of b .

22. VANISHING CONJECTURE

A few words, on the vanishing conjecture :

Conjecture 1 (Helleseth). Let L be a field of cardinal $q > 2$. If f is a power permutation of L of exponent $s \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$ then it exists $a \neq 0$ such that $\widehat{f}(a) = 0$.

The congruence modulo $p-1$ is essential. It ensures that the Weil sums are rational integers. Moreover, one knows by [11] that the Kloostermann sums do not vanish when $p > 3$. Aubry and Langevin got a very small step in this direction

Theorem 1. Let L be a field of cardinal $q > 2$. If f is a power permutation of L of exponent $s \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$ then it exists $a \neq 0$ such that $\widehat{f}(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$.

Observing this statement I recently propose the following optimist version :

Conjecture 2. *Let L be a field of cardinal $q > 2$. Let s be coprime with $q - 1$, t the inverse of s modulo $q - 1$. There exists $a \neq 0$ such that*

$$\sum_{x \in L} \mu_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\text{trace}_L(x^s)^t + \text{trace}_L(ax)) = 0.$$

This strange idea come naturally by introducing the new additive law

$$x \oplus y = (x^s + y^s)^t$$

Hence, the exponential sums of argument $\text{trace}_L(x^s)^t - \text{trace}_L(ax)$ is nothing but the scalar product of two additive characters of a “bifield”. Finally, it false, the smaller counter exemple has parameters : $p = 5$, $s = 3$, $q = 5^3$, and the distribution of the sums are:

-30	-20	-15	-10	-5	5	10	15	20
1	3	10	21	21	28	21	10	9

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