

MEAN VALUES OF CHARACTER SUMS

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1. Introduction. For a non-principal Dirichlet character χ modulo q , let

$$M(\chi) = \max_N \left| \sum_1^N \chi(n) \right|.$$

The Pólya-Vinogradov inequality asserts that $M(\chi) < q^{1/2} \log q$; see [7]. In the opposite direction it is a trivial consequence of Lemma 1 below and Parseval's identity that if χ is primitive modulo q , then

$$M(\chi) > q^{1/2} / \pi \sqrt{2}.$$

We show that on average the latter of these estimates is the more precise.

THEOREM 1. *For any real $k > 0$,*

$$\sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0} M(\chi)^{2k} \ll_k \phi(q) q^k$$

where the summation is over all non-principal characters modulo q .

THEOREM 2. *For any $k > 0$,*

$$\sum_{2 < p \leq P} \max_N \left| \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{n}{p} \right) \right|^{2k} \ll_k \pi(P) P^k.$$

As an immediate consequence of the above for any fixed k we have the following:

COROLLARY. *Suppose that $0 < \theta < 1$. Then there is a constant $C(\theta)$ such that*

(i) *for at least $\theta\phi(q)$ of the non-principal characters modulo q we have*

$$M(\chi) \leq C(\theta) q^{1/2}$$

and

(ii) *for at least $\theta\pi(P)$ of the prime numbers not exceeding P we have*

$$\max_N \left| \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{n}{p} \right) \right| \leq C(\theta) p^{1/2}.$$

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2. Lemmata. Our argument uses the Fourier expansion for character sums which was first given by Pólya [8] and which we state in the following form.

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LEMMA 1. *If χ is a primitive character modulo q , $q > 1$, then for real u and v with $u < v$ we have*

$$\sum_{u < n \leq vq} \chi(n) = \tau(\chi) \sum_{0 < |h| \leq H} \bar{\chi}(h) \frac{e(-hu) - e(-hv)}{2\pi ih} + O(1 + qH^{-1} \log q).$$

Here $\tau(\chi)$ is the Gaussian sum, and $|\tau(\chi)| = \sqrt{q}$.

We also require an estimate of Burgess [2] for character sums over short intervals.

LEMMA 2. *Let p be an odd prime number. Then for any real $u, v \geq 1$,*

$$\sum_{u < n \leq u+v} \left(\frac{n}{p}\right) \ll v^{1/2} p^{3/16} \log p.$$

In the proof of Theorem 1 we make use of the following well known identity which is immediate from the orthogonality of characters modulo q .

LEMMA 3. *Let the a_n be arbitrary complex numbers and \sum_x denote a sum extended over all characters modulo q . Then, for any $M, N > 0$ we have*

$$\sum_x \left| \sum_{n=M+1}^{M+N} a_n \chi(n) \right|^2 = \phi(q) \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ (h,q)=1}}^q \left| \sum_{n \equiv h \pmod{q}} a_n \right|^2.$$

In Lemmas 6 and 9 we establish corresponding estimates for use in the proof of Theorem 2. In place of Lemmas 4–9 we could simply quote the weaker Lemmas 10 and 11 of Elliott [3]. However, we prove the stronger results because of the desirability of having basic tools in as sharp a form as possible. We begin by extending an estimate of L. K. Hua (see (7) of Bateman and Chowla [1]).

LEMMA 4. *If χ is a non-principal character modulo q and $\chi(-1) = 1$, then*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (x - n) \chi(n) \ll q^{1/2} \min(q, x).$$

Proof. Suppose first that χ is primitive modulo q . In Lemma 1 we take $u = 0$, integrate with respect to $t = vq$ from 0 to x , and let H tend to infinity. Then

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (x - n) \chi(n) = (q\tau(\chi)/2\pi^2) \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} (\bar{\chi}(h)/h^2) (1 - \cos 2\pi hx/q) + O(x).$$

Since $1 - \cos \theta \ll \min(1, \theta^2)$ the first expression on the right is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll q^{3/2} \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} h^{-2} \min(1, h^2 x^2 q^{-2}) \\ &\ll \min(q^{3/2}, xq^{1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

This deals with the case when χ is primitive. When χ is imprimitive, suppose

that χ is induced by the primitive character χ^* modulo r , so that $q = rs$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} (x - n)\chi(n) &= \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ (n,s)=1}} (n - x)\chi^*(n) \\ &= \sum_{t|s} \mu(t)t\chi^*(t) \sum_{m \leq x/t} ((x/t) - m)\chi^*(m) \\ &\ll \sum_{t|s} t \min\left(r^{3/2}, \frac{x}{t}r^{1/2}\right) \ll \min(q^{3/2}, xq^{1/2}). \end{aligned}$$

For the exposition of the following lemmas we introduce the summation convention $\sum_{d'}$ to denote a sum restricted to quadratic discriminants d , namely those integers, both positive and negative, that either lie in the residue class 1 modulo 4 and are square free or are of the form $4D$ where $D \equiv 2$ or $3 \pmod{4}$ and D is square free. Associated with each such d is a primitive quadratic character, $\chi_d(n) = (d/n)$, the Kronecker symbol. Note that we include $d = 1$ as a quadratic discriminant.

LEMMA 5. *For arbitrary complex numbers c_d we have*

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n \leq x} (x - n) \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \chi_d(n) \right|^2 \\ &= (x^2/2) \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} |c_d|^2 \phi(d)/d + O(x(\sum_{0 < d \leq D} |c_d|d^{1/2})^2). \end{aligned}$$

A similar conclusion also holds when we replace the d with $0 < d \leq D$ by those with $-D \leq d < 0$.

Proof. The left hand side is

$$S = \sum'_{d_1, d_2} c_{d_1} \bar{c}_{d_2} \sum_{n \leq x} (x - n) \chi_{d_1} \chi_{d_2}(n).$$

When $d_1 \neq d_2$, $\chi_{d_1} \chi_{d_2}$ is non-principal. Moreover $\chi_{d_1} \chi_{d_2}(-1) = 1$ since d_1 and d_2 have the same sign. Hence, by Lemma 4,

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} |c_d|^2 \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ (n,d)=1}} (x - n) + O\left(x \sum'_{d_1 \neq d_2} |c_{d_1} c_{d_2}| d_1^{1/2} d_2^{1/2}\right) \\ &= \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} |c_d|^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} x^2 \frac{\phi(d)}{d} + O(x2^{\omega(d)}) \right) + O\left(x \left(\sum'_{0 < d \leq D} |c_d| d^{1/2} \right)^2\right). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly the first error term is majorized by the second.

LEMMA 6. *Let the a_n be arbitrary complex numbers and write*

$$S = \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \left| \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \left(\frac{n}{p} \right) \right|^2.$$

Then

$$(1) \quad S \ll P \sum_{s \leq N} \mu(s)^2 (\sum_m |a_{sm^2}|)^2 + (\sum_n |a_n| n^{1/2})^2$$

and consequentially

$$(2) \quad S \ll (P + N^2) \sum_{s \leq N} \mu(s)^2 (\sum_m |a_{sm^2}|)^2.$$

Proof. For each integer $n (\neq 0)$ we can write $4n$ uniquely in the form dr^2 where d is a quadratic discriminant. Let

$$c_d = \sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ 4n=dr^2}}^N a_n.$$

We have $(n/p) = (d/p)$ unless $p|r$. Hence

$$(3) \quad \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \left(\frac{n}{p}\right) = \sum'_{0 < d \leq 4N} c_d \left(\frac{d}{p}\right) + 0 \left(\sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ p^2|n}}^N |a_n|\right).$$

The error term here is easily estimated in mean square by observing that

$$\sum_{p \leq P} \left(\sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ p^2|n}}^N |a_n|\right)^2 \ll \sum_{m,n} |a_m a_n| \sum_{p^2|(m,n)} 1 \ll \left(\sum_{n=1}^N |a_n| \log n\right)^2.$$

For the main term we use Lemma 5. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p \leq P} \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq 4N} c_d \left(\frac{d}{p}\right) \right|^2 &\ll P \sum_{0 < d \leq 4N} |c_d|^2 + \left(\sum'_{0 < d \leq 4N} |c_d| d^{1/2}\right)^2 \\ &\ll P \sum_{k \leq N} \mu(k)^2 \left(\sum_m |a_{km^2}|\right)^2 + \left(\sum_n |a_n| n^{1/2}\right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

These estimates with (3) give (1). The second bound (2) follows from (1) by observing that Cauchy's inequality gives

$$\left(\sum_n |a_n| n^{1/2}\right)^2 \leq \left(\sum_n n\right) \left(\sum_n |a_n|^2\right) \leq N^2 \sum_k \mu(k)^2 \left(\sum_m |a_{km^2}|\right)^2.$$

LEMMA 7. *Let f be a real-valued arithmetic function and put $g(n) = \sum_{k|n} f(k)$. Suppose that $f(n) = 0$ for all $n > y$ and $g(n) \geq 0$ for all n . Then for any q we have*

$$(4) \quad 0 \leq \sum_{\substack{n \\ (n,q)=1}} \frac{f(n)}{n} \leq \frac{q}{\phi(q)} \sum_n \frac{f(n)}{n}.$$

A special case of this occurs in Hooley [5]. If $g(n) \leq 0$ for all n , then the chain of inequalities (4) are reversed, as is easily seen by replacing f by $-f$.

Proof. Let \mathcal{D} be the set of those integers none of whose prime factors exceed y , and let $\mathcal{D}(q) = \{k: k \in \mathcal{D}, (k, q) = 1\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n \\ (n,q)=1}} \frac{f(n)}{n} &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{D}(q)} \frac{f(n)}{n} = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{D}(q)} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{r|n} \mu(n/r) g(r) \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{D}(q)} \frac{\mu(m)}{m} \sum_{r \in \mathcal{D}(q)} \frac{g(r)}{r} \\ (5) \quad &= \left(\prod_{\substack{p \leq y \\ p \nmid q}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\right) \sum_{r \in \mathcal{D}(q)} \frac{g(r)}{r}. \end{aligned}$$

The left hand inequality in (4) is immediate on taking $q = 1$. The right hand one follows on observing that

$$\left(\prod_{\substack{p \leq y \\ p \nmid q}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \right) \sum_{r \in \mathcal{Q}(q)} \frac{g(r)}{r} \leq \frac{q}{\phi(q)} \left(\prod_{p \leq y} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \right) \sum_{r \in \mathcal{Q}} \frac{g(r)}{r}$$

and then applying (5) with $q = 1$.

LEMMA 8. *Let the real numbers λ_m be such that $\lambda_m = 0$ whenever $m > z$. Then for any q we have*

$$(6) \quad \sum_{\substack{m, n \\ (mn, q) = 1}} \frac{\lambda_m \lambda_n}{[m, n]} \leq \frac{q}{\phi(q)} \sum_{m, n} \frac{\lambda_m \lambda_n}{[m, n]}.$$

Proof. Let

$$f(r) = \sum_{\substack{m, n \\ [m, n] = r}} \lambda_m \lambda_n.$$

Then $\sum_{r|s} f(r) = (\sum_{m|s} \lambda_m)^2 \geq 0$. The desired conclusion is then obtained by appealing to Lemma 7 with $y = z^2$.

LEMMA 9. *Suppose that a_n ($n = 1, \dots, N$) are arbitrary complex numbers and $P \geq N^2$. Then*

$$(7) \quad \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \left| \sum_{n=1}^N a_n \left(\frac{n}{p} \right) \right|^2 \ll P \left(\log \frac{2P}{N^2} \right)^{-1} \sum_s \mu(s)^2 \left(\sum_m |a_{sm^2}| \right)^2.$$

Proof. We show that when $P \geq 4D^2$ we have

$$(8) \quad \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \left(\frac{d}{p} \right) \right|^2 \ll \frac{P}{\log \frac{P}{D^2}} \sum'_d |c_d|^2,$$

for then (7) follows in the same way that Lemma 6 was obtained from Lemma 5. Let

$$z = (4P/D^2)^{1/3}$$

and for m with $1 \leq m \leq z$ let λ_m be real with $\lambda_1 = 1$, while $\lambda_m = 0$ for $m > z$. Then $(\sum_{m|n} \lambda_m)^2 = 1$ whenever n is a prime number greater than z . Hence the left hand side of (8) is at most

$$\sum_{2 < p \leq z} \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \left(\frac{d}{p} \right) \right|^2 + P^{-1} \sum_{0 < k \leq 2P} (2P - k) \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \chi_d(k) \right|^2 \left(\sum_{m|k} \lambda_m \right)^2.$$

By Lemma 6, the first term makes an acceptable contribution to (8). The

second term is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P^{-1} \sum_{m,n} \lambda_m \lambda_n \sum_{\substack{0 < k \leq 2P \\ [m,n] \mid k}} (2P - k) \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \chi_d(k) \right|^2 \\
 &= P^{-1} \sum_{m,n} \lambda_m \lambda_n [m, n] \sum_{0 < j \leq 2P/[m,n]} \left(\frac{2P}{[m, n]} - j \right) \\
 & \quad \times \left| \sum'_{0 < d \leq D} c_d \chi_d([m, n]) \chi_d(j) \right|^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 5 this is

$$2P \sum_{m,n} \frac{\lambda_m \lambda_n}{[m, n]} \sum'_{\substack{d \\ (mn, d)=1}} |c_d|^2 \frac{\phi(d)}{d} + o\left(\left(\sum_m |\lambda_m| \right)^2 \left(\sum'_d |c_d| d^{1/2} \right)^2 \right).$$

In the first term we take the sum over d outside, and apply Lemma 8. Thus the above is

$$\ll (P \sum_{m,n} (\lambda_m \lambda_n / [m, n]) + D^2 (\sum_m |\lambda_m|)^2) \sum'_d |c_d|^2.$$

In Selberg’s method it is well-known ([4, pp. 97-103]) that real numbers λ_m can be chosen such that $\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_m = 0 (m > z), |\lambda_m| \leq 1 (m \leq z)$ and

$$\sum_{m,n} \lambda_m \lambda_n / [m, n] \leq 1 / \log z.$$

This gives the desired result.

LEMMA 10. *Let k be a positive integer and y be a real number with $y \geq 1$. Then*

$$(9) \quad \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} d_k(m^2 s) \min(y^{-1}, m^{-2} s^{-1}) \right)^2 \ll_k y^{-1} (\log 2y)^{2k^2+k-2}.$$

Here d_k is the k -th division function determined by the relation

$$\sum d_k(n) n^{-s} = \zeta(s)^k.$$

Proof. Note that $d_k(ab) \leq d_k(a)d_k(b)$, that

$$\sum_{m \leq x} d_k(m^2) \ll_k x (\log 2x)^{\frac{1}{2}(k^2+k-2)}$$

and that

$$(10) \quad \sum_{s \leq x} d_k(s)^2 \ll_k x (\log 2x)^{k^2-1}.$$

Then the left hand side of (9) is

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \ll_k \sum_s d_k(s)^2 \left(\sum_m d_k(m^2) \min(y^{-1}, m^{-2} s^{-1}) \right)^2 \\
 & \ll_k (\log 2y)^{k^2+k-2} \sum_s d_k(s)^2 s^{-1} \min(y^{-1}, s^{-1}) \\
 & \ll_k (\log 2y)^{2k^2+k-2} y^{-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Proof of theorem 1. By Hölder’s inequality we see that the assertion becomes stronger as k increases through real values. Hence it suffices to prove

the assertion for a sequence of k tending to infinity. We consider integral $k \geq 2$. In the proof we allow implicit constants to depend on k . We shall show that for $q > 1$ we have

$$(11) \quad \sum_{\chi^*} M(\chi)^{2k} \ll \phi(q)q^k$$

where \sum^* denotes a sum over the primitive characters modulo q . The deduction of the theorem from this is straightforward. For let χ be a character modulo q , let χ^* , modulo r , be the primitive character which induces χ and let $s = q/r$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0} M(\chi)^{2k} &\ll \sum_{r|q, r>1} d(q/r)^{2k} \sum_{\chi \bmod r}^* M(\chi)^{2k} \\ &\ll \sum_{r|q} d(q/r)^{2k} r^k \phi(r) \\ &\ll q^k \phi(q) \sum_{s|q} d(s)^{2k} / s^k \\ &\ll q^k \phi(q). \end{aligned}$$

In order to deal with character sums of varying lengths we use a technique which is already found in the work of Menchov and Rademacher. Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \{a2^{-R}: a \in \mathbf{Z}, 0 \leq a < 2^R\}$$

where R is an integer to be chosen later. For $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ we write $\alpha = \sum_1^R \epsilon_r 2^{-r}$ with $\epsilon_r = \epsilon_r(\alpha) = 0$ or 1 . Let $\nu_1 = 0$, and for $r > 1$ let

$$\nu_r = \nu_r(\alpha) = 2^r \sum_1^{r-1} \epsilon_m 2^{-m}.$$

Then $\nu_r < 2^r$ and the interval $(0, \alpha]$ is a disjoint union of intervals $(\nu_r 2^{-r}, (\nu_r + \epsilon_r) 2^{-r}]$, $1 \leq r \leq R$. Choose $N = N(\chi)$ so that $N \leq q$ and $|\sum_1^N \chi(n)| = M(\chi)$. Then there is an $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$ with $\alpha = \alpha(\chi)$ and such that $N \leq \alpha q < N + q2^{-R}$. Hence

$$(12) \quad M(\chi) \leq |\sum_{n \leq \alpha q} \chi(n)| + q2^{-R}.$$

We take $R = [\frac{1}{2}(\log q)/\log 2]$. Thus to prove (11) it suffices to show that

$$(13) \quad \sum_{\chi^*} |\sum_{n \leq \alpha q} \chi(n)|^{2k} \ll \phi(q)q^k$$

(where, of course, $\alpha = \alpha(\chi)$ is as above).

By Hölder's inequality

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} |\sum_{n \leq \alpha q} \chi(n)|^{2k} &= |\sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{\nu_r 2^{-r} q < n \leq (\nu_r + \epsilon_r) 2^{-r} q} \chi(n)|^{2k} \\ &\leq (\sum_r r^{-2k/(2k-1)}) (\sum_r r^{2k} |\sum_{\nu_r 2^{-r} q < n \leq (\nu_r + \epsilon_r) 2^{-r} q} \chi(n)|^{2k}). \end{aligned}$$

Now χ is primitive, so by Lemma 1

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\nu_r 2^{-r} q < n \leq (\nu_r + \epsilon_r) 2^{-r} q} \chi(n) &\ll q^{1/2} (|\sum_{0 < h \leq H} \chi(h) e(h\nu_r/2^r) a(h)| \\ &\quad + |\sum_{0 < h \leq H} \bar{\chi}(h) e(h\nu_r/2^r) a(h)|) + 1 + qH^{-1} \log q, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(15) \quad a(h) = a(h, r) = (1/h)(e(h/2^r) - 1) \ll \min(2^{-r}, h^{-1}).$$

Thus, by (14),

$$\sum_{\chi^*} \left| \sum_{n \leq \alpha q} \chi(n) \right|^{2k} \ll \sum_{\chi^*} \sum_r r^{2k} (q^k)^{\left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H} \chi(h) e(h\nu r/2^r) a(h) \right|^{2k}} + 1 + (qH^{-1} \log q)^{2k}.$$

The last two terms contribute

$$\ll \phi(q) R^{2k+1} (1 + (qH^{-1} \log q)^{2k}).$$

This is acceptable provided that $H = q^{\frac{1}{3}} (\log q)^3$.

In order to obviate the dependence of ν_r on χ we sum over all possible ν . We make no further use of the χ being primitive so we also permit χ to run over all characters modulo q . Therefore, to establish (13) it suffices to show that

$$(16) \quad \sum_{\chi} \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} r^{2k} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H} \chi(h) e(h\nu 2^{-r}) a(h) \right|^{2k} \ll \phi(q).$$

We now write

$$(17) \quad \left(\sum_{0 < h \leq H} \chi(h) e(h\nu 2^{-r}) a(h) \right)^k = \sum_{h \leq H^k} \chi(h) b(h),$$

where, by (15),

$$(18) \quad b(h) = b_k(h; r, \nu) \ll d_k(h) \min(2^{-kr}, h^{-1}).$$

Thus, by Lemma 3,

$$\sum_{\chi} \left| \sum_{h \leq H^k} \chi(h) b(h) \right|^2 \ll \phi(q) \sum_{h=1}^q \left[\sum_{m=0}^{q^k} d_k(h + mq) \times \min(2^{-kr}, (h + mq)^{-1}) \right]^2.$$

For $m \leq q^k$ we have $d_k(h + mq) \ll q^\epsilon$. On considering separately the cases $m = 0$ and $m > 0$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\chi} \left| \sum_{h \leq H^k} \chi(h) b(h) \right|^2 &\ll \phi(q) \sum_{h=1}^q d_k(h)^2 \min(2^{-2kr}, h^{-2}) \\ &\quad + \phi(q) \sum_{h=1}^q (q^{-1+\epsilon} \sum_{m=1}^{q^k} 1/m)^2 \\ &\ll \phi(q) 2^{-kr} r^{k^2-1} + q^{3\epsilon} \end{aligned}$$

in view of (10). We have assumed that $k \geq 2$ and we have chosen R so that $2^R \geq q^{1/2}$. Thus the left hand side of (16) is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \sum_{r=1}^R r^{2k} 2^r (\phi(q) 2^{-kr} r^{k^2-1} + q^{3\epsilon}) \\ &\ll \phi(q) + q^{4\epsilon} 2^R \\ &\ll \phi(q) \end{aligned}$$

as required.

4. Proof of theorem 2. We proceed as in the proof of Theorem 1, but we require several new ideas to compensate for the weakness of Lemma 6. We define \mathcal{A} as before. Then, for a given $N = N(p)$ there is an $\alpha = \alpha(p)$ such

that $N \leq \alpha p < N + p2^{-R}$. Thus

$$\max_N \left| \sum_{n=1}^N \binom{n}{p} \right| \leq \left| \sum_{n \leq \alpha p} \binom{n}{p} \right| + \left| \sum_{N(p) < n \leq \alpha p} \binom{n}{p} \right|.$$

By Lemma 2 the last term is $\ll p^{11/16} 2^{-\frac{1}{2}R} \log p$. If R is chosen so that

$$P^{3/8}(\log P)^2 \leq 2^R < 2P^{3/8}(\log P)^2,$$

then this is $\ll p^{1/2}$ whenever $p \leq P$. Thus it suffices to show that for $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$, $\alpha = \alpha(p)$ we have

$$\sum_{p \leq P} \left| \sum_{n \leq \alpha p} \binom{n}{p} \right|^{2k} \ll \pi(P)P^k.$$

As in the proof of Theorem 1 we define $\nu_r = \nu_r(p)$, $\epsilon_r = \epsilon_r(p)$, and appeal to Lemma 1 with $H = P^{1/2} (\log P)^3$. Corresponding to (16) we now have to show that

$$(19) \quad \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \sum_{r=1}^R r^{2k} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H} \binom{h}{p} e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^{2k} \ll \pi(P).$$

Here $a(h) = a(h, r)$ is given by (15), and we note the trivial bound

$$(20) \quad \sum_{0 < h \leq H} \binom{h}{p} e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \ll \sum_{0 < h \leq H} h^{-1} \ll \log P.$$

In (19) we first consider the contribution from those h which are relatively large, say $H(r) < h \leq H$, where $H(r)$ is to be defined. We apply (20) to $2k - 2$ of the $2k$ factors. Hence this range of h contributes to (19) an amount

$$(21) \quad \ll (\log P)^{4k-2} \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \left| \sum_{H(r) < h \leq H} \binom{h}{p} e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^2.$$

By (2) of Lemma 6 we see that the sum over p is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll (P + H^2) \sum_{s \leq H} \left(\sum_{m, sm^2 > H(r)} |a(sm^2)| \right)^2 \\ &\ll H^2 \sum_s \left(\sum_{m, sm^2 > H(r)} s^{-1} m^{-2} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 10 with $y = H(r)$, $k = 1$, this is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll H^2 H(r)^{-1} \log H \\ &\ll H(r)^{-1} P (\log P)^7. \end{aligned}$$

We take

$$(22) \quad H(r) = 2^r (\log P)^{4k+7}.$$

Then the expression in (21) is $\ll \pi(P)$.

When $h \leq H(r)$ we distinguish two cases, $r \leq R_1$ and $R_1 < r \leq R$ where R_1 is chosen below. We first of all consider the contribution to (19) when $r \leq R_1$ and $h \leq H(r)$. Clearly (17) holds with H replaced by $H(r)$, $\chi(h)$ by (h/p) , and

then (18) holds. If, say,

$$(23) \quad H(r)^k \leq P^{1/3}.$$

Then by (18) and Lemma 9 we have

$$\sum_{2 < p \leq P} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^{2k} \ll \pi(P) \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} d_k(sm^2) \min(2^{-kr}, s^{-1}m^{-2}) \right)^2.$$

By Lemma 10 this is

$$\ll \pi(P) 2^{-kr} r^{2k^2+k-2}.$$

Summing over ν and r we obtain a total contribution in this case of an amount $\ll \pi(P)$ to (19) (since $k \geq 2$). We determine R_1 so that $H(r)$, defined by (22), satisfies (23) whenever $r \leq R_1$. The choice

$$(24) \quad R_1 = [(1/4k)(\log P)/\log 2]$$

suffices.

We finally consider the terms in (19) with $h \leq H(r)$, $R_1 < r \leq R$. We apply (20) to $2k - 4$ of the $2k$ factors. Thus we have to show that

$$(25) \quad (\log P)^{4k-4} \sum_{R_1 < r \leq R} \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^4 \ll \pi(P).$$

We now make use of the cancellation produced by the factor $e(h\nu 2^{-r})$ as ν varies. Multiplying out the fourth power and taking the sum over ν inside, we find that

$$\sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^4 = 2^r \sum_{t=1}^{2^r} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)^2} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) c(h; r, t) \right|^2,$$

where

$$c(h; r, t) = \sum_{h_1, h_2} a(h_1) a(h_2),$$

where the sum is constrained by the conditions

$$h_1, h_2 \leq H(r); h_1 h_2 = h; h_1 + h_2 \equiv t \pmod{2^r}.$$

Then, by (1),

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{2 < p \leq P} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2^r-1} \left| \sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) e\left(\frac{h\nu}{2^r}\right) a(h) \right|^4 \\ & \ll 2^r P \sum_{t=1}^{2^r} \sum_{\substack{h, h' \\ hh' = \square}} |c(h; r, t) c(h'; r, t)| \\ & \quad + 2^r \sum_{t=1}^{2^r} \left(\sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)^2} |c(h; r, t)| h^{1/2} \right)^2 = T_1 + T_2, \end{aligned}$$

say. In T_1 we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^{2r} \sum_{hh'=\square} |c(h; r, t)c(h'; r, t)| &\leq \sum_{h_1h_2h_3h_4=\square} |a(h_1) \dots a(h_4)| \\ &\ll \sum_s (\sum_m d(m^2s) \min(2^{-2r}, m^{-2s^{-1}}))^2. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 10 this is $\ll 2^{-2r}r^8$. Thus

$$(26) \quad T_1 \ll P2^{-r}r^8.$$

As for T_2 , we have

$$\sum_{0 < h \leq H(r)^2} |c(h; r, t)|h^{\frac{1}{2}} \ll \sum_{0 < h_1 \leq H(r)} h_1^{-1/2} \sum h_2^{-1/2},$$

where in the sum over h_2 we have

$$0 < h_2 \leq H(r) \text{ and } h_2 \equiv t - h_1 \pmod{2^r}.$$

Since $H(r) \geq 2^r$, the inner sum is $\ll H(r)^{1/2}2^{-r}$. Thus the above is $\ll H(r)2^{-r}$, whence

$$(27) \quad T_2 \ll H(r)^2.$$

To establish (25) we note that by (22), (24), (26) and (27),

$$\begin{aligned} (\log P)^{4k-4} \sum_{R_1 < r \leq R} (T_1 + T_2) &\ll P(\log P)^{4k-4} \sum_{r > R_1} 2^{-r}r^8 \\ &\quad + (\log P)^{12k+10} 2^{2R} \ll \pi(P). \end{aligned}$$

The principal difficulty in this proof is to give a satisfactory estimate for T_2 . In fact there are two other ways in which one might proceed. A. I. Vinogradov [9] has sharpened Lemma 2 in such a way that we could take 2^R to be about $P^{1/4+\epsilon}$ in size. Then we could dispense with the cancellation produced by $e(hv2^{-r})$, and replace (27) by the more immediate estimate $T_2 \ll 2^rH(r)^2 \times (\log P)^2$. Alternatively, instead of appealing to Lemma 6 we could use the more complicated bound of Jutila [6, Lemma 3]. This would give $T_2 \ll P^{1/2+\epsilon}2^r$, which is acceptable.

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