# AN EXPONENTIAL SUM INVOLVING THE DIVISOR FUNCTION FOR $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$

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ABSTRACT. In this note, we evaluate the weighted exponential sum

$$\sum_{\substack{F \in \mathbb{F}_q[T] \\ F \text{ monic} \\ \deg(F) = n}} d(F) e(F\theta),$$

where  $e(\cdot)$  is the function field version of the exponential function, and  $\theta$  a Laurent series in 1/T. Using this formula, we find an expression for the  $L^s$ -norm of the above sum for  $\Re(s) > 0$ ; for s = 1 and s = 2, we derive exact formulas for the  $L^s$  norm. We additionally obtain an exact formula for the following shifted divisor sum for  $\deg(A) \leq n$ :

$$\sum_{\substack{F \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]\\F \text{ monic}\\ \deg(F)=n}} d(F)d(F+A).$$

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\mathcal{M}_n$  be the set of monic polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$  of degree n and let  $\theta$  be a Laurent series in 1/T. Specifically,  $\theta$  is a series of the form

(1) 
$$\theta = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n T^n,$$

where  $a_n$  is nonzero for only finitely many positive n. In this note, we will find an exact evaluation of the sum

(2) 
$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta),$$

where e is the exponential function defined in Definition 1.3. We will also look at some consequences of the expression. This sum is an analog of the following expression over the integers:

$$\sum_{n \le X} d(n) e(n\alpha),$$

for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $e(x) = \exp(2\pi i x)$ . In [10], Wilton finds a similar expression for the above sum using Voronoi summation; however, our expression is simpler to due exact cancellation in our exponential sums from a lemma by Hayes [3]. First, we will set up the notation necessary from the function field setting.

1.1. The function field setting. We will first introduce some common notation, definitions, and functions in the function field setting; for more details, see [8] and [3]. We use  $\mathcal{M}$  to denote the set of monic polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_q[T]$ , and  $\mathcal{M}_n$  the monic polynomials of degree n. For  $F \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ , we write  $|F| := q^{\deg(F)}$  to be the norm of the polynomial (let |0| := 0). We will also work with the field of rational functions over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , which we denote as

$$\mathbb{F}_q(T) = \left\{ \frac{A}{B} : A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[T], B \neq 0 \right\}.$$

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We remark that elements of  $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$  can be expressed as Laurent series in 1/T, i.e. in the form of (1). We define the analogue of the unit interval [0, 1] in the function field setting as the following:

(3) 
$$\mathscr{U} := \left\{ \sum_{i < 0} a_i T^i : a_i \in \mathbb{F}_q \right\}$$

We note that this is the natural analogue, as any Laurent series, including the elements in  $\mathbb{F}_q(T)$ , can be written as the sum of a polynomial and an element of the unit interval. We recall that there is a valuation on the Laurent series in 1/T given by:

$$v\left(\sum_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}a_iT^i\right) := -\left(\text{largest } i \text{ such that } a_i \neq 0\right).$$

Let us take  $v(0) = \infty$ . We note that v satisfies the following properties: for  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$  and  $\alpha, \beta$ Laurent series in 1/T, we have that

- $v(A/B) = \deg(B) \deg(A)$ ,
- $v(\alpha\beta) = v(\alpha) + v(\beta)$ ,
- $v(\alpha + \beta) \ge \min\{v(\alpha), v(\beta)\}.$

Finally, let  $r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  and a be any Laurent series in 1/T. Then, we define a ball of radius r around a to be  $B_r(a) := \{\theta \text{ Laurent series in } 1/T : v(\theta - a) > r\}$ . We take the Haar measure  $\rho$  satisfying that for any a and  $r \geq 0$ , we have that  $\rho(B_r(a)) = q^{-r}$ .

Next, we want the following analogue of Dirichlet's theorem on rational approximation.

**Definition 1.1.** For polynomials  $G, H \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ , the fraction G/H is primordial for n if

- (1)  $G/H \in \mathscr{U}$ .
- (2) (G, H) = 1.
- (3) H is monic.
- (4)  $\deg(H) \le n/2$ .

We will denote the set of primordials for n as  $\mathscr{V}_n$ .

These primordial fractions give us a way of decomposing the unit interval into subintervals close to a rational fraction with small denominators.

**Lemma 1.2** (Hayes, Theorem 4.3). For any  $n \ge 0$ , as G/H ranges in  $\mathcal{V}_n$ ,  $\{\mathcal{U}_{n,G/H}\}$  is a disjoint open cover of  $\mathcal{U}$ , where

$$\mathscr{U}_{n,G/H} := \{ \theta \in \mathscr{U} : v(\theta - G/H) > \deg(H) + \lfloor n/2 \rfloor \}$$

Finally, we need to define the exponential function. Let us fix some nonprincipal additive character  $\psi$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . We can then define the exponential function for function fields.

**Definition 1.3** (The exponential function). For  $\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} a_i T^i$  a Laurent series in 1/T, our exponential function is defined as

$$e\left(\sum_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}a_{i}T^{i}\right):=\psi\left(a_{-1}\right).$$

1.2. Statement of results. We first calculate a nice expression for the exponential divisor sum above (2) using the hyperbola trick.

**Theorem 1.4.** For  $\theta \in \mathscr{U}_{n,G/H}$ , where G/H is primordial for n,

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(F\theta) = \begin{cases} q^{n-\deg(H)}e(T^{n-\deg(H)}H\theta)(n+1-2\deg(H)), & \text{if } \theta \in B_n(G/H) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Remark 1.5.** The expression above may be regarded as an analog of the Voronoi summation step applied in [7].

Next, we look at the  $L^s$ -norm of the divisor sum. Recently, Pandey [7] studied the  $L^s$ -norm of the integral version of the sum, showing that for any 0 < s < 2, there exists an explicit  $\epsilon_s > 0$  and  $C_s$  a positive constant such that

$$\int_0^1 \left| \sum_{n \le x} d(n) e(n\alpha) \right|^s d\alpha = C_s x^{s/2} + O(x^{s/2 - \epsilon_s}).$$

In this note, we also compute the  $L^s$ -norm for  $\Re(s) > 0$  in the function field setting. We note that this problem over integers is related to computing the  $L^s$ -moments for exponential sums weighted with coefficients of cusp forms; these were studied by Pandey in [7] using Jutila's circle method, by Jurkat and Van Horne in [5] using theta functions, and by Marklof in [6] using ergodic theory. We use the exact formula of Theorem 1.4 to derive a result for the  $L^s$ -norm in the function field setting.

**Corollary 1.6.** For s > 0, we have that

$$\int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right|^s d\varrho(\theta) = (n+1)^s q^{n(s-1)} + q^{n(s-1)} (1-q^{-1}) \sum_{d=1}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(n+1-2d)^s}{q^{(s-2)d}}.$$

Consequently, for s = 1, we have that

$$\int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right| d\varrho(\theta) = \left( n - 2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + \frac{q+1}{q-1} \right) q^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} - \frac{2}{q-1},$$

and for s = 2, we have that

$$\int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right|^2 d\varrho(\theta) = q^n \cdot \left( (n+1)^2 + (1-q^{-1}) \left( -2n\lfloor n/2 \rfloor^2 + \frac{4}{3}\lfloor n/2 \rfloor^3 + n^2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor - \frac{1}{3}\lfloor n/2 \rfloor \right) \right).$$

**Remark 1.7.** We note that as a consequence of the formula above, we know that for s < 2, the  $L^s$ -norm grows as  $q^{sn/2}$  as  $n \to \infty$ . On the other hand, for s > 2, we get that the  $L^s$ -norm will grow as  $n^s q^{n(s-1)}$  as  $n \to \infty$ .

Finally, we consider correlations of the divisor function sum. A computation of Ingham in [4] gives the asymptotic formula as  $X \to \infty$ :

$$\sum_{n \le X} d(n)d(n+h) \sim \frac{6}{\pi^2} \sigma_{-1}(h) X \log(X)^2,$$

where  $\sigma_{-1}(h) = \sum_{e|h} e^{-1}$ . We consider the analogous sum over function fields. We note that both Conrey and Florea [1], and separately Gorodetsky [2], have derived exact formulas for this sum. In [2], Gorodetsky shows that for  $A \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$  with  $\deg(A) < n$ ,

$$\frac{1}{q^n} \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) d(F+A) = (n+1)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(n-2i+1)^2}{q^i} \left( d_i(A) - d_{i-1}(A) \right),$$

where  $d_i(A)$  denotes the number of monic divisors of A of degree *i*. Separately from Gorodetsky, Conrey and Florea also derive an exact formula for the above sum when  $\deg(A) < n/2$  and an asymptotic with error term  $O(q^{n/2+\epsilon})$  for  $\deg(A) < n$ . **Corollary 1.8.** Let  $A \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$  satisfy that either  $\deg(A) < n$  or  $\deg(A) = n$  and the leading coefficient of A is not -1. Then we have that

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)d(F+A) = n^2 q^n \sigma(A, n/2),$$

where  $\sigma(A, n/2)$  is defined as

$$\sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \\ B \mid A}} \frac{(1+1/n-2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor/n)^2}{|B|} + \sum_{d=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor-1} \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_d \\ B \mid A}} \frac{1}{|B|} \cdot ((1+1/n-2d)/n)^2 - q^{-1}(1-1/n-2d/n)^2).$$

**Remark 1.9.** We can think of the factor  $\sigma(A, n/2)$  as an analogue of the factor  $\frac{\sigma_{-1}(h)}{\zeta(2)}$  from the integer setting. Recall that the zeta function over function fields is defined as:

$$\zeta_q(s) = \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}} |F|^{-s}$$

For a fixed A, we have that as  $n \to \infty$ ,

$$\sigma(A, n/2) \to (1 - q^{-1}) \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M} \\ B \mid A}} |B|^{-1} = \frac{\sigma_{-1}(A)}{\zeta_q(2)},$$

which parallels the asymptotic in the integer setting. Additionally, the above result matches the one of Gorodetsky in [2].

**Remark 1.10.** When considering A with  $\deg(A) > n$ , an issue arises from having to take different choices of primordial decompositions of  $\mathscr{U}$  (one of degree n, and the other of  $\deg(A)$ ). A similar problem appears when looking at replacing the divisor function in (2) with

$$d_k(F) = \#\{(G_1, ..., G_k) \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]^k : G_1...G_k = F, G_i \text{ monic}\}.$$

# 2. Proof of Theorem 1.4

We will invoke the following result of Hayes [3] during the calculation of the sum.

**Lemma 2.1** (Hayes, Theorem 3.7). Let  $\theta$  be a Laurent series in 1/T and  $\theta' \in \mathscr{U}$  such that  $\theta = \theta' + A$ , for  $A \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ . Then for any positive integer s, we have that

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_s} e(F\theta) = \begin{cases} q^s e(T^s\theta), & v(\theta') > s\\ 0, & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

Proof of Theorem 1.4. We first rewrite our desired sum:

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(F\theta) = \sum_{AB \in \mathcal{M}_n} e(AB\theta) = 2 \sum_{\substack{\deg(A) < n/2 \ B \in \mathcal{M}_{n-\deg(A)} \\ A \text{ monic}}} \sum_{\substack{e(AB\theta) + \sum_{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_{n/2}} e(AB\theta)}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_{n/2} \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}} e(AB\theta) + \sum_{\substack{A,B \in \mathcal{M}_n \\ A \text{ monic}}$$

In the expression above, the second sum on the right hand side only exists if n is even. Let us denote the first sum as  $S_1(\theta)$  and the second sum as  $S_2(\theta)$ .

First, we want to analyze  $S_1(\theta)$ . Since  $\theta \in \mathscr{U}_{n,G/H}$ , we have that  $\theta = G/H + \beta$ , where (G, H) = 1and  $v(\beta) > \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + \deg(H)$ . Now, we can write for a fixed A,

$$A\theta = AG/H + A\beta.$$

Let us define  $A' \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$  with  $\deg(A') < \deg(H)$  such that  $AG \equiv A' \mod H$ . Then we know that  $e(AB\theta) = e(B(A'/H + A\beta)).$ 

Furthermore, we can see that  $A'/H + A\beta \in \mathscr{U}$ , since  $v(A\beta) = v(A) + v(\beta) > \deg(H)$ .

We can now apply Lemma 2.1 to the inner sum of  $S_1(\theta)$  to get the expression

$$S_1(\theta) = \sum_{\substack{\deg(A) < n/2 \\ A \text{ monic}}} \begin{cases} q^{n-\deg(A)} e(T^{n-\deg(A)}A\theta), & v(A'/H + A\beta) > n - \deg(A) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now, we want to determine the A such that  $v(A'/H + A\beta) > n - \deg(A)$ . First, since  $\deg(A) < n/2$ ,  $v(A\beta) = v(A) + v(\beta) > \deg(H)$ . If  $A' \neq 0$ , we will have that  $v(A'/H) \leq \deg(H)$ . In this case, we can see that  $v(A\theta) \leq \deg(H) \leq n/2$ . However, since  $\deg(A) < n/2$ ,  $n - \deg(A) > n/2$ . So, these terms have no contribution to the sum since  $v(A\theta) < n - \deg(A)$ .

On the other hand, if A' = 0, we can see that  $v(A'/H + A\beta) = v(A\beta) = v(\beta) - \deg(A)$ . The condition that this is greater than  $n - \deg(A)$  is exactly that  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$ . So, we can see that the sum is 0 if  $\theta \notin B_n(G/H)$ . So, from now on, we will assume that  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$ . Since (G, H) = 1, if A' = 0, then H divides A. So, we restrict the sum over A to a sum over multiples of H:

$$S_1(\theta) = \sum_{0 \le d < n/2 - \deg(H)} q^{n-d-\deg(H)} \sum_{A'' \in \mathcal{M}_d} e(T^{n-d-\deg(H)} A'' H\theta)$$

We note that  $v(X^{n-d-\deg(H)}H\theta) > d$  since  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$ . So, applying Lemma 2.1 again, we get that the sum above becomes (4)

$$\sum_{0 \le d < n/2 - \deg(H)} q^{n - \deg(H)} e(T^{n - \deg(H)}H\theta) = q^{n - \deg(H)}e(T^{n - \deg(H)}H\theta) \cdot \begin{cases} n/2 - \deg(H), & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{n+1}{2} - \deg(H), & n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

Next, we want to find a nice expression for  $S_2(\theta)$  using similar reasoning. Let us again write  $\theta = G/H + \beta$ , for  $\theta \in \mathscr{U}_{n,G/H}$ , and that  $A' \equiv AG \mod H$  for  $\deg(A') < \deg(H)$ . We again apply Lemma 2.1 to achieve

$$\sum_{A \in \mathcal{M}_{n/2}} \begin{cases} q^{n/2} e(T^{n/2} A \theta), & v(A'/H + A\beta) > n/2\\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

From the same analysis, we see that  $v(A\beta) > \deg(H)$ . We note similarly that  $v(A'/H + A\beta) \le \deg(H) \le n/2$  if H does not divide A. Next, we can again note that when H divides A, the condition that  $v(A\beta) > n/2$  is equivalent to  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$ . So, we again have that the sum is 0 if  $\theta \notin B_n(G/H)$ . So from now on, we assume that  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$ .

Now, we can simplify the sum to the following:

(5) 
$$\sum_{A'' \in \mathcal{M}_{n/2-\deg(H)}} q^{n/2} e(T^{n/2} A'' H\theta) = q^{n-\deg(H)} e(T^{n-\deg(H)} H\theta).$$

Here, we have used Lemma 2.1 and that  $\theta \in B_n(G/H)$  implies that  $v(T^{n/2}H\theta) > n/2 - \deg(H)$ . Combining (4) and (5), we achieve that

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(F\theta) = \begin{cases} q^{n-\deg(H)}e(T^{n-\deg(H)}H\theta)(n+1-2\deg(H)), & \theta \in B_n(G/H) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

#### 

### 3. Proof of Corollary 1.6

To calculate the integral, we invoke the following lemma of Hayes [3] about integrating the exponential function.

**Lemma 3.1** (Hayes, Theorem 3.6). Let  $a \in \mathscr{U}$  and  $r \geq 0$ . For any Laurent series b over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , we have that

$$\int_{B_r(a)} e(b\theta) d\varrho(\theta) = \begin{cases} q^{-r} e(ab), & v(b) > -r \\ 0, & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

Proof of Corollary 1.6. Let us write

$$\Phi(H) = \left| \left( \mathbb{F}_q[T] / (H(T)) \right)^{\times} \right|.$$

We note that for P a prime polynomial of degree d,

$$\Phi(P) = |\mathbb{F}_q[T]/(P(T))| - 1 = q^d - 1.$$

So, we have that  $\Phi \star 1(P) = |P|$ . Similarly, we can see this holds for prime powers; thus, from multiplicativity, we get the relation that  $\Phi \star 1(A) = |A|$  for any  $A \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]$ . So,  $\Phi = \mu \star |.|$ .

Recalling Lemma 1.2, we re-express the integral over  $\mathscr{U}$  as a sum over primordials  $G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n$ (which do not necessarily have monic numerators) for n:

$$\begin{split} \int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right|^s d\varrho(\theta) &= \sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} \int_{\mathscr{U}_{n,G/H}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right|^s d\varrho \\ &= \sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} \frac{(n+1-2\deg(H))^s}{q^{s\deg(H)-n(s-1)}} \\ &= q^{n(s-1)} \sum_{d=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(n+1-2d)^s}{q^{sd}} \sum_{H \in \mathcal{M}_d} \Phi(H). \end{split}$$

Here we have used Theorem 1.4 to go from the first line to the second and the definition of  $\rho$  and  $\mathscr{U}_{n,G/H}$  to go from the second line to the third.

We calculate the inside sum using that  $\Phi = \mu \star |.|$ :

$$\sum_{H \in \mathcal{M}_d} \Phi(H) = q^d \sum_{\substack{A \in \mathcal{M} \\ \deg(A) \le d}} \frac{\mu(A)}{|A|} \sum_{B \in \mathcal{M}_{d-\deg(A)}} 1 = q^{2d} \sum_{\substack{A \in \mathcal{M} \\ \deg(A) \le d}} \frac{\mu(A)}{|A|^2}$$

Since, we know that  $\zeta_q(2) = \frac{q}{q-1}$ , we have that

$$\sum_{A \in \mathcal{M}} \frac{\mu(A)}{|A|^2} = \zeta_q(2)^{-1} = 1 - q^{-1}.$$

By comparing coefficients of  $q^{-d}$  and noting that  $\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_d} \mu(F) \ll q^{d/2}$  from Weil's theorem [9], we must have that

(6) 
$$\sum_{A \in \mathcal{M}_d} \mu(A) = \begin{cases} 1, & d = 0\\ -q, & d = 1\\ 0, & d \ge 2. \end{cases}$$

So, we get that

$$\sum_{H \in \mathcal{M}_d} \Phi(H) = \begin{cases} 1, & d = 0\\ q^{2d}(1 - q^{-1}), & d \ge 1. \end{cases}$$

We remark that this is also shown in Lemma 4.2 of Hayes [3]. So, our expression above becomes

$$\int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F) e(F\theta) \right|^s d\varrho(\theta) = (n+1)^s q^{n(s-1)} + q^{n(s-1)} (1-q^{-1}) \sum_{d=1}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(n+1-2d)^s}{q^{(s-2)d}}.$$

We first evaluate when s = 1 and s = 2. When s = 1, the above equation becomes

$$(n+1) + (1-q^{-1}) \sum_{d=1}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (n+1-2d)q^d = \left(n-2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + \frac{q+1}{q-1}\right)q^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} - \frac{2}{q-1}.$$

When s = 2, we get

$$(n+1)^2 q^n + q^n (1-q^{-1}) \sum_{d=1}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (n+1-2d)^2 = c_{q,n} q^n,$$

where

$$c_{q,n} = (n+1)^2 + (1-q^{-1})\left(-2n\lfloor n/2\rfloor^2 + \frac{4}{3}\lfloor n/2\rfloor^3 + n^2\lfloor n/2\rfloor - \frac{1}{3}\lfloor n/2\rfloor\right)$$

# 4. Proof of Corollary 1.8

Proof of Corollary 1.8. Let us write  $\deg(A) = m$ . First we consider when m < n. Then we can write

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)d(F+A) = \int_{\mathscr{U}} \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(F\theta) \right|^2 e(-A\theta)d\varrho(\theta)$$

Here we have applied Lemma 3.1 to obtain the orthogonality, as done by Hayes when applying the circle method in [3]. Applying Theorem 1.4, Lemma 1.2, and Lemma 3.1, we have that this sum is

$$\sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} q^{2(n - \deg(H))} (n + 1 - 2 \deg(H))^2 \int_{B_n(G/H)} e(-A\theta) d\varrho(\theta)$$
  
=  $\sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} q^{n-2 \deg(H)} (n + 1 - 2 \deg(H))^2 e(AG/H)$   
=  $q^n \sum_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{M} \\ \deg(H) \le n/2}} \frac{(n + 1 - 2 \deg(H))^2}{|H|^2} \sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} e(AG/H).$ 

Let us temporarily fix a monic polynomial H. We recognize this internal sum as the function field version of Ramanujan's sum:

$$C_H(A) := \sum_{\substack{(G,H)=1\\ \deg(G) < \deg(H)}} e(AG/H).$$

We note that

$$\sum_{\substack{F \in \mathcal{M} \\ F \mid H}} C_F(A) = \sum_{G \in \mathbb{F}_q[T]/(H)} e(AG/H) = \begin{cases} |H|, & H \mid A \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

From Mobius inversion, we have that

$$C_H(A) = \sum_{B|H} \mu(H/B) \begin{cases} |B|, & B \mid A\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \sum_{\substack{B|H\\ B|A}} \mu(H/B)|B|.$$

Now, we return to summing over H. We have the following sum over  $H \in \mathcal{M}_d$ :

$$\sum_{H \in \mathcal{M}_d} C_H(A) = \sum_{B|A} |B| \sum_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{M}_d \\ B|H}} \mu(H/B) = \sum_{B|A} |B| \begin{cases} 1, & \deg(B) = d \\ -q, & d - \deg(B) = 1 = q^d \cdot \left(\sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_d \\ B|A}} 1 - \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_{d-1} \\ B|A}} 1\right) \end{cases}$$

Here we have used (6) to evaluate the Mobius sum. So, our original sum becomes

$$q^{n} \sum_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{M} \\ \deg(H) \le n/2}} \frac{(n+1-2\deg(H))^{2}}{|H|^{2}} \cdot C_{H}(A) = q^{n} \sum_{\substack{0 \le d \le n/2}} \frac{(n+1-2d)^{2}}{q^{d}} \Big(\sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_{d} \\ B|A}} 1 - \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_{d-1} \\ B|A}} 1\Big).$$

We remark that the above expression is exactly the one from Gorodetsky [2]. We can also rewrite it as the following:

$$q^{n} \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M}_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \\ B \mid A}} \frac{(n+1-2\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)^{2}}{|B|} + q^{n} \sum_{\substack{B \in \mathcal{M} \\ \deg(B) \le n/2 - 1 \\ B \mid A}} \frac{1}{|B|} \cdot ((n+1-2\deg(B))^{2} - q^{-1}(n-1-2\deg(B))^{2}).$$

This is the formula claimed in Corollary 1.8.

Finally, we assume that  $\deg(A) = n$  and  $a_0 \neq -1$  is the leading coefficient of A. Then, we consider

$$\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)d(F+A) = \int_U \left(\sum_{F \in \mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(F\theta)\right) \left(\sum_{F \in (a_0+1)\mathcal{M}_n} d(F)e(-F\theta)\right) e(A\theta)d\varrho(\theta).$$

We again apply Theorem 1.4 to get the sum

$$\sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} q^{2(n - \deg(H))} (n + 1 - 2\deg(H))^2 \int_{B_n(G/H)} e((X^{n - \deg(H)}H - a_0X^{n - \deg(H)}H + A)\theta) d\varrho(\theta).$$

We can use Lemma 3.1 to see that this is

$$\sum_{G/H \in \mathscr{V}_n} q^{n-2\deg(H)} (n+1-2\deg(H))^2 e(FG/H),$$

where  $F = X^{n-\deg(H)}H - a_0X^{n-\deg(H)}H + A$ . However, we have that e(FG/H) = e(AG/H), since the other terms of F are divisible by H. So, this becomes

$$q^n \sum_{d=0}^{n/2} \frac{(n+1-2d)^2}{q^{2d}} \sum_{H \in \mathcal{M}_d} C_H(A).$$

Thus, we are reduced to the same computation as before and derive the same formula.

### 

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