

On Gaussian sums attached to the general linear groups over finite fields

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Introduction. Let $F(q)$ ($=F_q$) be the finite field with q elements, q being a power of a prime number p . We denote by $M_n(F_q)$ the total matrix ring of degree n over F_q , and by $GL(n, q)$ the group of regular elements of $M_n(F_q)$. To any irreducible representation ξ of $GL(n, q)$ by complex matrices, we can attach *Gaussian sums* $W(\xi, A)$ as follows. For every positive integer d , and for every $\alpha \in F(q^d)$, put

$$e_d[\alpha] = \exp \left[\frac{2\pi\sqrt{-1}}{p} \operatorname{Tr}_{F(q^d)|F(p)}(\alpha) \right].$$

Then, for every $A \in M_n(F_q)$, we define $W(\xi, A)$ by

$$W(\xi, A) = \sum_{X \in G(n, q)} \xi(X) e_1[\operatorname{tr}(AX)].$$

The matrices of this kind were investigated in E. Lamprecht [1] for the multiplicative groups of more general finite rings, but the explicit values of these matrices were not obtained.

The purpose of the present paper is to determine explicitly $W(\xi, A)$ for non-singular A and any irreducible representation ξ of $GL(n, q)$. To explain our result, first we note that, if $A \in GL(n, q)$,

$$W(\xi, A) = \xi(A)^{-1} W(\xi, 1_n),$$

where 1_n denotes the identity element of $M_n(F_q)$. Moreover, we see easily that $W(\xi, 1_n)$ is a scalar matrix. Then define a complex number $w(\xi)$ by

$$W(\xi, 1_n) = w(\xi) \xi(1_n).$$

Fix once and for all an isomorphism θ of the multiplicative group of $F(q^{n!})$ into the multiplicative group of complex numbers. Further fix a generator ε of the multiplicative group of $F(q^{n!})$, and put, for every integer d such that $1 \leq d \leq n$,

$$\varepsilon_d = \varepsilon^\kappa, \quad \kappa = \frac{q^{n!} - 1}{q^d - 1}.$$

Then ε_d is a generator of the multiplicative group of $F(q^d)$. For every irreducible polynomial g of degree d with coefficients in $F(q)$, we define the usual

Gaussian sum $\tau(g)$ in the following way: taking a root ε_d^k of g , put

$$\tau(g) = \sum_{\alpha \in F(q^d)} \theta(\alpha)^k e_d[\alpha].$$

It is easily verified that $\tau(g)$ does not depend on the choice of k . Now, by J. A. Green [1], we can obtain all the irreducible characters of $GL(n, q)$. In view of his result, we can speak of the type $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ of every irreducible character ξ , where the g are irreducible polynomials with coefficients in $F(q)$ and $\nu(g)$ is a certain partition of a non-negative integer (cf. Notation and § 1.1). Then our principal result is stated as follows.

THEOREM. *If ξ is an irreducible representation of $GL(n, q)$ of type $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$, then*

$$w(\xi) = (-1)^{n - \sum |\nu(g)|} q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \prod_{g \in P} \tau(g)^{|\nu(g)|},$$

where P is the set of polynomials defined in § 1.1 and the $|\nu(g)|$ are non-negative integers defined in Notation.

In particular, the absolute value of $w(\xi)$ is $q^{\frac{n^2-k}{2}}$, if ξ is of type $(\dots (X-1)^\kappa \dots)$ and $k = |\kappa|$.

In § 1, we recall the structure of the characters of $GL(n, q)$ given by J. A. Green, and in § 2.1, we consider the character sums attached to certain characters $B^\rho(h)$ and prove a property of polynomials $Q_\beta^\lambda(q)$ which appear in the calculation of the characters of $GL(n, q)$. Using this property of $Q_\beta^\lambda(q)$, the character sums attached to $B^\rho(h)$ can be expressed by the product of the usual Gaussian sums attached to finite fields. Then, in § 2.2, the above theorem is proved by virtue of this fact. In § 2.3, we make some remarks in the case where A is a singular matrix and explain the relation between the results of E. Lamprecht [2] and the ones of this paper.

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NOTATION. The notation used in the introduction, $F(q)$, $M_n(F_q)$, $GL(n, q)$, $e_d[\alpha]$, $\tau(g)$, θ , ε , ε_d , $W(\xi, A)$, $w(\xi)$ will be preserved throughout the paper. By a *partition* of a positive integer n , we mean, as usual, the expression of n as a sum of positive integers. If ρ is the partition of n defined by $n = \sum_{d=1}^n d s_d$ ($1 \leq d \leq n$, $0 \leq s_d$), we write

$$\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots).$$

For $\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots)$, we put

$$z_\rho = 1^{s_1} s_1! 2^{s_2} s_2! \dots = \prod_{d=1}^n d^{s_d} s_d!.$$

If ρ is a partition of a positive integer m , we put

$$|\rho| = m.$$

In addition to this, we consider the partition of 0, which will be denoted by 0 , and put

$$|0| = 0,$$

$$z_0 = 1.$$

For a polynomial $F = X^t + aX^{t-1} + \dots$, we denote by $d(F)$ the degree of F , and put $\text{tr}(F) = -a$.

1. The character of $GL(n, q)$

In this section, we recall the structure of the characters of $GL(n, q)$ which are given in J. A. Green [1]¹⁾.

1.1. Symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$. Let P be the set of all irreducible polynomials f with coefficients in $F(q)$ such that

- 1) $1 \leq d(f) \leq n$,
- 2) the leading coefficient of f is 1,
- 3) f has not zero as its root.

Let $\nu(f)$ be a function on P which assigns a partition $\nu(f)$ to every $f \in P$, such that

$$\sum_{f \in P} |\nu(f)| d(f) = n.$$

For such a function $\nu(f)$, we define a symbol

$$(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots),$$

where f ranges over all elements of P . We call the polynomial $F = \prod f^{\nu(f)}$ the characteristic polynomial of the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$.

DEFINITION²⁾. Let $\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots)$ be a partition of n and F be a polynomial of degree n with coefficients in $F(q)$ whose leading coefficient is 1 and which has not zero as its root. By a ρ -decomposition r of F , we mean a decomposition into several polynomials which is given in the following two steps;

- 1) $F = \prod_{d=1}^n F_d, d(F_d) = ds_d,$
- 2) $F_d = \prod f^{k_f(d)}$ and $\frac{d}{d(f)} \mid k_f(d),$

where the second product runs over all the elements f of P such that $d(f)$

1) For details we refer the reader to J. A. Green [1].

2) Instead of the notion "mode from ρ -variables X^ρ into the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ ", which is used in [1, Definition 4.10, p. 423], we use "the ρ -decomposition of the characteristic polynomial of the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ " for convenience of the calculation of Gaussian sums. It is easy to see that every mode from ρ -variables X^ρ to the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ is canonically in one-to-one correspondence with every ρ -decomposition of the characteristic polynomial of the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$.

divides d .

For given F and ρ , it may happen that there is no ρ -decomposition of F . Further, a ρ -decomposition of F is not necessarily unique. For a ρ -decomposition r of F , and for an element f of P which appears in the decomposition r as above, we denote by $\rho(r, f)$ the partition of the integer $\sum_{d=1}^n k_f(d)$,

$$(1^{t_1}, 2^{t_2}, \dots), \quad t_i = \frac{k(id(f))}{i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n).$$

Let H be a polynomial of degree ds_d which is decomposed into the product $H = \prod f^{k_f(d)}$ of the elements f of P such that $d(f)$ divides d . Assume that $\frac{d}{d(f)} \mid k_f(d)$. Then we define a positive integer $z_d(H)$ by

$$z_d(H) = \prod_{d(f) \mid d} \left(\frac{d}{d(f)} \right)^{\frac{d(f)k_f(d)}{d}} \left(\frac{d(f)k_f(d)}{d} \right)!,$$

the product being over all elements f of P such that $d(f) \mid d$. It is easy to see that, if F is the characteristic polynomial of a symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ and r is a ρ -decomposition of F , then

$$(1) \quad |\nu(f)| = |\rho(r, f)| \text{ for every element } f \in P,$$

$$(2) \quad \prod_{f \in P} z_{\rho(r, f)} = \prod_{d=1}^n z_d(F_d) \text{ if } F = \prod F_d.$$

We note that every symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ is canonically in one-to-one correspondence with every conjugate class of $GL(n, q)^{3)}$. Later, in § 1.3, we shall construct an irreducible representation of $GL(n, q)$ for every symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$.

1.2. The character $B^\rho(h)$. If d is a positive integer and h is an arbitrary integer, we denote by $s_d(h; x)$ the function on $F(q^d)$ defined by

$$s_d(h; x) = \theta(x)^h + \theta(x)^{hq} + \dots + \theta(x)^{hq^{d-1}}.$$

If f is an element of P such that $d(f)$ divides d and if α is a root of f , $s_d(h; \alpha)$ is independent of the choice of α . We can therefore write $s_d(h; \alpha) = s_d(h; f)$.

Let $\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots)$ be a partition of n and $h_{11}, h_{12}, \dots, h_{1s_1}; h_{21}, \dots, h_{2s_2}; \dots$ be $\sum_{d=1}^n s_d$ integers. Then we define, for each d , a function $S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d})$ on the product $F(q^d) \times \dots \times F(q^d)$ of s_d copies of $F(q^d)$ by

$$(\#) \quad S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d}) = \sum_{1', 2', \dots, s'_d} s_d(h_{d1'}; x_{d1}) s_d(h_{d2'}; x_{d2}) \dots s_d(h_{ds'_d}; x_{ds_d})$$

the summation being over all permutations $1', 2', \dots, s'_d$ of $1, 2, \dots, s_d$.

Let H_d be a polynomial of degree ds_d such that

3) Cf. [1, p. 406].

$$H_d = \prod f^{k_f(d)}, \quad \frac{d}{d(f)} \mid k_f(d).$$

For each f appearing in the product $\prod f^{k_f(d)}$, choose $\frac{d(f)k_f(d)}{d}$ variables among the x_{di} ($1 \leq i \leq s_d$) in such a way that their join for all f becomes the whole $\{x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d}\}$. Substitute f for x_{di} in the expression (#) if the variables x_{di} corresponds to f by our choice. Then we get from (#) a complex number

$$(h) \quad \sum_{1', 2', \dots, s'_d} (\dots S_d(h_{d*}; f) \dots S_d(h_{d*}; f) \dots)$$

Since $S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d})$ is symmetric in x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d} , this number is determined only by h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d} and H_d ; it is independent of the choice of variables among the x_{di} corresponding to f . We denote by $S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; H_d)$ the complex number (h).

Let r_1, r_2, \dots, r_i be all distinct ρ -decompositions of the characteristic polynomial $F = \prod f^{|\nu(f)|}$ of a conjugate class $c = (\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$, and write

$$r_i: \quad F = \prod_{d=1}^n F_d^{(i)}, \quad F_d^{(i)} = \prod_{d(f) \mid d} f^{k_f^{(i)}(d)}.$$

Put

$$(3) \quad B_\rho(h; r_i) = \prod_d S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d^{(i)}).$$

Now, in [1], the polynomials $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$ in q are defined⁴⁾, where λ, ρ are any two partitions of a non-negative integer. Using these polynomials $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$, put

$$(4) \quad Q(r_i; c) = \prod_{f \in P} \frac{Q_{\rho(r_i, f)}^{\nu(r_i, f)}(q^{d(f)})}{z_{\rho(r_i, f)}}.$$

(Remark that, by (1), $|\nu(f)| = |\rho(r, f)|$ for every $f \in P$.) Then there exists a character $B^\rho(h)$ ⁵⁾ whose value at the conjugate class $c = (\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)$ is

$$(5) \quad B^\rho(h)(c) = \sum_{i=1}^t Q(r_i; c) B_\rho(h; r_i).$$

This character is fundamental for the calculation of irreducible characters of $GL(n, q)$ and Gaussian sums.

1.3. The irreducible character of type $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$. If a symbol $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ is given, we can construct an irreducible character of $GL(n, q)$ in the following way.

4) For the definition of $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$, we refer the reader to [1, Definition 4.1, p. 420]. The polynomials $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$ have some interesting properties, but, later, we shall use only one property of $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$ except for some properties which are easily seen from the definition. (Cf. footnote 10)).

5) Cf. [1, Definition 6.2, p. 433]. $B^\rho(h)$ is not necessarily the character of a matrix representation, but $(-1)^{n-\sum s_i} B^\rho(h)$ is so.

Let $\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots)$ be a partition of n and r be a ρ -decomposition of the characteristic polynomial G of the symbol $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$; and write

$$r: G = \prod G_d, \quad G_d = \prod g^{k_g(d)}.$$

For the ρ -decomposition r of G , we determine in the following way the integers h_{di} , which appear in the definition of $B^\rho(h)$.

For a moment we regard the h_{di} as variables. Consider a fixed $d (1 \leq d \leq n)$. Let $\varepsilon_{d(g)}^{c_g}$ be a fixed root of every element g of P such that $d(g)$ divides d . Put

$$n_g = c_g \frac{q^d - 1}{q^{d(g)} - 1}.$$

For each g appearing in the product $G_d = \prod g^{k_g(d)}$, choose $\frac{d(g)k_g(d)}{d}$ variables among the h_{di} in such a way that their join for all g becomes $\{h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}\}$. Then, if h_{di} corresponds to g , we put

$$h_{di} = n_g.$$

Since $\sum_{g \in P} \frac{d(g)k_g(d)}{d} = s_d$, s_d integers h_{di} have been determined. The function $S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; x_{d1}, \dots, x_{ds_d})$ with these values as the $h_{di} (1 \leq i \leq s_d)$ is, as easily seen, determined only by G_d ; it is independent of the choice of a root $\varepsilon_{d(g)}^{c_g}$ of g and variables h_{di} corresponding to g . Thus the symbol $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ and the ρ -decomposition r of its characteristic polynomial being given, the character $B^\rho(h)$ with these values as the h_{di} can be uniquely determined by the above process. We denote by $B^\rho(rh)$ the character $B^\rho(h)$ with these values as the h_{di} .

Then the irreducible character of type $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ is

$$(6) \quad (-1)^{n - \sum \nu(g)} \sum_{\rho} \sum_r \chi(r, e) B^\rho(rh),$$

where the first summation is over all partitions of n , the second one over all ρ -decompositions of the characteristic polynomial of the symbol $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$, and $\chi(r, e)$ is the constant determined by the symbol $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ and the ρ -decomposition r of its characteristic polynomial⁶⁾. All irreducible characters of $GL(n, q)$ are obtained in this way [1, Th. 14].

2. Gaussian sum $W(\xi, 1_n)$

2.1. Before calculating $W(\xi, 1_n)$, we consider the character sum attached to the character $B^\rho(h)$,

$$W(B^\rho) = \sum_{X \in GL(n, q)} B^\rho(X) e_i[\text{tr}(X)],$$

6) We need not the explicit formula of $\chi(r, e)$. For this formula we refer the reader to [1, Lemma 8.2, p. 441].

where the h_{di} are dropped for simplicity. Put

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_n(q) &= \prod_{i=1}^n (q^i - 1), \\ c_\rho(q) &= \prod_{i=1}^n (q^i - 1)^{s_i} \quad \text{if } \rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots), \\ \tau_d(h_{di}) &= \sum_{\alpha \in F(q^d)} \theta(\alpha)^{h_{di}} e_d[\alpha]. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have the following

LEMMA 1.

$$W(B^\rho) = q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \frac{\psi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)} \prod_{d,i} \tau_d(h_{di}).$$

PROOF. If c is the conjugate class which corresponds to the symbol $(\dots f^{\nu(f)} \dots)^{7)}$, then the centralizer in $GL(n, q)$ of an element of c is of order

$$a_c(q) = \prod_{f \in P} a_{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})^8).$$

Therefore the number of elements of c is

$$\frac{q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q)}{\prod_{f \in P} a_{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})},$$

since $q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q)$ is the order of $GL(n, q)$. Then we have

$$W(B^\rho) = q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q) \sum_c \frac{B^\rho(c)}{a_c(q)} e_1[\text{tr}(F_c)],$$

the summation being over all conjugate classes of $GL(n, q)$, $B^\rho(c)$ the value at the conjugate class c of the character $B^\rho(h)$, and F_c the characteristic polynomial of the conjugate class c . By (3), (4) and (5),

$$\begin{aligned} (7) \quad B^\rho(c) &= \sum_i Q(r_i, c) B^\rho(h; r_i) \\ &= \sum_i \prod_{f \in P} \frac{Q_{\rho(r_i, f)}^{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})}{z_{\rho(r_i, f)}} \prod_{d=1}^n S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d^{(i)}). \end{aligned}$$

If F is a polynomial of degree n , we consider the sum $\sum_{F=F_c} \frac{B^\rho(c)}{a_c(q)}$, extended over all conjugate classes whose characteristic polynomials are F . Then we have by (2) and (7)

$$\sum_{F_c=F} \frac{B^\rho(c)}{a_c(q)} = \sum_{|\nu(f)|} \sum_{r_i} \prod_f \frac{Q_{\rho(r_i, f)}^{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})}{a_{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})} \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d^{(i)})}{z_d(F_d^{(i)})},$$

7) Cf. footnote 3).

8) Cf. [1, p. 409 and Lemma 2.4, p. 410]. $a_\lambda(q)$ is a polynomial in q which is defined for every partition λ of a non-negative integer.

the summation $\sum_{|\nu(f)|}$ being over all combinations of partitions of $|\nu(f)|$ for every $f \in P$.

Now we need a property of polynomials $Q_\rho^\lambda(q)$ which is not given in Green's paper.

LEMMA 2.

$$(8) \quad \sum_{\lambda} \frac{Q_\rho^\lambda(q)}{a_\lambda(q)} = \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)},$$

the summation being over all partitions λ of n .

The proof will be given later.

We return to the proof of Lemma 1.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{|\nu(f)|} \prod_f \frac{Q_{\rho(r,f)}^{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})}{a_{\nu(f)}(q^{d(f)})} \\ &= \prod_f \sum_{\lambda=|\nu(f)|} \frac{Q_\rho^\lambda(r,f)(q^{d(f)})}{a_\lambda(q^{d(f)})} \\ &= \prod_f \frac{1}{c_{\rho(r,f)}} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2}) \\ &= \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)} \quad (\text{by the definition of } \rho(r,f)) \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$(9) \quad \sum_{F_c=F} \frac{B^\rho(c)}{a_c(q)} = \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)} \sum_{\tau_i} \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d_1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d^{(\tau_i)})}{z_d(F_d^{(\tau_i)})}.$$

Therefore we have

$$(10) \quad W(B^\rho) = \frac{q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)} \sum_F \sum_{\tau} \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d_1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)} e_1[\text{tr}(F)],$$

the first summation being over all polynomials F with coefficients in $F(q)$ of degree n such that the leading coefficient of F is 1 and F has not zero as its root, the second one over all ρ -decompositions r of F ($r: F = \prod_d F_d$). On the other hand, it is obvious that

$$\tau_d(h_{di}) = \sum_{d(f)|d} \frac{d(f)}{d} s_d(h_{di}; f) e_1\left[\frac{d}{d(f)} \text{tr}(f)\right],$$

the summation being over all elements f of P such that $d(f)$ divides d . A direct computation shows

$$\prod_{i=1}^{s_d} \tau_d(h_{di}) = \sum_{F_d} \frac{e_1[\text{tr}(F_d)]}{z_d(F_d)} S_d(h_{d_1}, \dots, h_{ds_d}; F_d),$$

the summation being over all polynomials F_d of degree ds_d such that

$F_d = \prod_{d(f)|d} f^{k_f(d)}$ and $\frac{d}{d(f)}$ divides $k_f(d)$. By the definition of ρ -decomposition, we have

$$(11) \quad \prod_{d,i} \tau_d(h_{di}) = \sum_F e_1[\text{tr}(F)] \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)},$$

where the ρ -decomposition r of F is $F = \prod_{d=1}^n F_d$. By (10) and (11), we obtain

$$W(B^\rho) = \frac{q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)} \prod_{d,i} \tau_d(h_{di}).$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.

Proof⁹⁾ of Lemma 2. This proceeds by induction on n . In the proof of the above Lemma 1, if $|\nu(f)| < n$, we may assume that (8) holds and, therefore, so does (9). We note that $|\nu(f)| = n$ can occur if and only if $F = l^n$ where l is a linear polynomial. If we put

$$Y_\rho(q) = \sum_\lambda \frac{Q_\rho^\lambda(q)}{a_\lambda(q)},$$

we have by (9)

$$(12) \quad \sum_{X \in GL(n,q)} B^\rho(X) = q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q) \left(Y_\rho(q) \sum_{F=l^n} \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)} + \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)} \sum_{F \neq l^n} \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(\dots; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)} \right).$$

On the other hand, if we put $s_d(h_{di}) = \sum_{\alpha \in F(q^d)} \theta(\alpha)^{h_{di}}$, we have a formula analogous to (11),

$$(13) \quad \prod_{d,i} s_d(h_{di}) = \sum_F \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)}.$$

If we choose integers h_{di} so that $h_{di} \equiv 0 \pmod{q^d - 1}$ for some d and i , we have obviously

$$(14) \quad \prod_{d,i} s_d(h_{di}) = 0.$$

Then we have by (13) and (14)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{F \neq l^n} \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)} &= - \sum_{F=l^n} \sum_r \prod_d \frac{S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)}{z_d(F_d)} \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in F(q)} \theta(\alpha)^{\sum_{d,i} h_{di}} \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the definition of $S_d(h_{d1}, \dots, h_{d_{sd}}; F_d)$ and $z_d(F_d)$. Therefore by (12),

$$(15) \quad \sum_{X \in GL(n,q)} B^\rho(X) = q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \psi_n(q) \left(Y_\rho(q) - \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)} \right) \left(\sum_{\alpha \in F(q)} \theta(\alpha)^{\sum_{d,i} h_{di}} \right).$$

9) The proof is similar to that of [1, Theorem 10, p. 431].

We have imposed on the integers h_{di} the condition $h_{di} \equiv 0 \pmod{q^d - 1}$ for some d and i . We can take the h_{di} so that they satisfy one more condition $\sum_{d,i} h_{di} \equiv 0 \pmod{q-1}$. Then it follows from (15) that $(Y_\rho(q) - \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)})(q-1)$ is always an integer for each prime power q since $\sum_{X \in GL(n,q)} B^\rho(X)$ is an integer divisible by the order $(= q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \phi_n(q))$ of $GL(n, q)$ on account of an elementary property of group character. On the other hand, $(Y_\rho(q) - \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)})(q-1)$ is a rational function in q whose numerator is of smaller degree than the denominator¹⁰⁾, provided that $n > 1$. This means that it must be identically zero, i. e.

$$Y_\rho(q) = \frac{1}{c_\rho(q)}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.

2.2. Proof of the Theorem. Let ξ be an irreducible character of type $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ whose structure is described in § 1.3. Then we shall prove that the character sum attached to $B^\rho(rh)$ is

$$(-1)^g q^{\sum |\nu(g)| - \sum s_i} q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \phi_n(q) \prod_g \tau(g)^{|\nu(g)|},$$

if $\rho = (1^{s_1}, 2^{s_2}, \dots)$. In fact, each h_{di} in $B^\rho(rh)$ is of the form $n_g = c_g \frac{q^d - 1}{q^{d(g)} - 1} \epsilon_{d(g)}^g$, where $\epsilon_{d(g)}^g$ is a root of an element g of P such that $d(g)$ divides d . Then by a well known property of usual Gaussian sums attached to finite fields¹¹⁾, and the definition of $\tau(g)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \tau_d \left(c_g \frac{q^d - 1}{q^{d(g)} - 1} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in F(q^d)} \theta(\alpha)^{n_g} e_d[\alpha] \\ &= \sum_{\alpha \in F(q^d)} \theta(N(\alpha))^{c_g} e_{d(g)}[\text{Tr}(\alpha)] \\ &= (-1)^{\frac{d}{d(g)} - 1} \tau(g)^{\frac{d}{d(g)}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $N(\alpha)$, $\text{Tr}(\alpha)$ are norm and trace from $F(q^d)$ to $F(q^{d(g)})$ respectively. Therefore, we have, by the above Lemma 1 and the definition of $B^\rho(rh)$

$$(16) \quad W(B^\rho(rh)) = (-1)^g q^{\sum |\nu(g)| - \sum s_i} q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \phi_n(q) \prod_g \tau(g)^{|\nu(g)|}.$$

Then, by (6) and (16), we have the matrix character of $W(\xi, 1_n)$

10) Cf. [1, Lemma 2.4 and Lemma 4.3].

11) Cf. E. Lamprecht [2] S. 41, or, for example, A. Weil. Number of solutions of equations in finite fields. Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., 55 (1949).

$$= (-1)^{n-\sum|\nu(g)|} q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \left(\sum_{\rho,r} \chi(r, e) \frac{\phi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)} \right) (-1)^{\sum|\nu(g)| - \sum s_i} \prod_{g \in P} \tau(g)^{|\nu(g)|}.$$

Since $\sum_{\rho,r} (-1)^{\sum|\nu(g)| - \sum s_i} \frac{\phi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)} \chi(r, e)$ is the degree of the irreducible character of type $e = (\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)^{12)}$, we have, by the definition of $w(\xi)$,

$$w(\xi) = (-1)^{n-\sum|\nu(g)|} q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} \prod_{g \in P} \tau(g)^{|\nu(g)|}.$$

If $g = X-1$, by the definition of $\tau(g)$, we have $\tau(g) = -1$. Further, it is well known that, if $g \neq X-1$, the absolute value of $\tau(g)$ is $q^{\frac{d(g)}{2}}$. Therefore, if ξ is of type $(\dots (X-1)^k \dots)$ and $|\kappa| = k$, the absolute value of $w(\xi)$ is $q^{\frac{n^2-k}{2}}$. This completes the proof of the theorem.

2.3. In [2], E. Lamprecht introduced some notions “vollkommen”, “echt”, “eigentlich”, “quasi-echt”, in order to explain the properties of Gaussian sums attached to finite rings. In the case of $M_n(F_q)$, it is easy to see that

- (i) the additive character $e_i[\text{tr}(AX)]$ is “echt”, if and only if A is non singular;
- (ii) if $A (\neq 0)$ is a singular matrix, $e_i[\text{tr}(AX)]$ is “quasi-echt”;
- (iii) if ξ is not a trivial representation, ξ is “eigentlich”.

Moreover, if ξ is of type $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$, ξ is “vollkommen” if and only if the characteristic polynomial of the symbol $(\dots g^{\nu(g)} \dots)$ is not divisible by the polynomial $X-1$ ¹³⁾.

Let A be nonsingular. Then our theorem solves completely the case where multiplicative representation is arbitrary (“vollkommen” or “non-vollkommen”) and additive character is “echt”¹⁴⁾. However, if A is singular, Kor. 2 to Satz 3 of [2] says that $W(\xi, A)$ is a zero matrix if ξ is “vollkommen”, while, if ξ is not “vollkommen”, Kor. 1 to Satz 3 of [2] says only that the determinant of $W(\xi, A)$ is zero. In this case where A is singular and ξ is not “vollkommen”, examples¹⁵⁾ show that $W(\xi, A)$ is not necessarily a zero matrix, but the author has been unable to obtain the numerical value of this matrix.

2.4. Finally, we note that *the $W(\xi, 1_n)$ has a property analogous to that of the usual Gaussian sums attached to finite fields;*

12) This follows from (6) and the fact that the degree of $B^\rho(h)$ is $(-1)^{n-\sum s_i} \frac{\phi_n(q)}{c_\rho(q)}$. Cf. [1, p. 437].

13) Cf. [1, Theorem 13], and [2].

14) Cf. [2, Satz 4 and Satz 4 Kor. 2]. In the case where the finite ring is $M_n(F_q)$, our theorem implies Satz 4 of [2], and, if ξ is not “vollkommen”, it is more precise than Kor. 2 to Satz 4 of [2].

15) Cf. [2, S. 43-44].

$$(17) \quad W(\xi, 1_n)W(\bar{\xi}, 1_n) = \xi(-1_n)q^{n^2-k},$$

where $\bar{\xi}$ is the irreducible representation of $GL(n, q)$ which is complex conjugate to ξ .

This follows easily from the fact that the absolute value of $w(\xi)$ is $q^{(n^2-k)/2}$.

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