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## On the representation of the integer by positive quadratic forms with square-free variables

by

E. V. PODSYPANIN (Leningrad)

### 1. Introduction. Let

$$f = f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \sum_{i,j=1}^k a_{ij} x_i x_j \quad (a_{ij} = a_{ji}, 1 \leq i, j \leq k)$$

be a positive quadratic form with integral coefficients  $a_{11}, \dots, a_{kk}, 2a_{12}, \dots, 2a_{k-1,k}$  and determinant  $D = \det(a_{ij}) \neq 0$ .  $R(f, n)$  denotes the number of representations of the positive integer  $n$  by the quadratic form  $f$  with square-free variables, i.e. the number of solutions of the equation

$$(1) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = n$$

in square-free integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ . Estermann [1] has obtained the asymptotic value of  $R(f, n)$  for  $k \geq 5$  and  $f = x_1^2 + \dots + x_k^2$ ; he has also considered the singular series (see also [3]). In [11] improvement has been obtained for the error term in the Estermann formula<sup>(1)</sup>.

In the present paper we consider the asymptotic value of  $R(f, n)$  in the case when  $f$  is an arbitrary positive quadratic form in  $k \geq 4$  variables. We deduce the following

THEOREM 1. Let  $k \geq 4$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{k-3}{4(k+1)}$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  — an arbitrary positive

number. Then

$$(2) \quad R(f, n) = \frac{n^{k/2}}{D^{1/2} \Gamma(k/2)} G(f, n) n^{k/2-1} + O(n^{k/2-1-\alpha+\varepsilon})$$

where  $G(f, n)$  is the singular series:

$$G(f, n) = \sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(t_1) \dots \mu(t_k)}{t_1^2 \dots t_k^2} H(f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, n);$$

<sup>(1)</sup> Unfortunately, issues [5], [8] have been found to be mistaken (see [11]).

here  $\mu(t)$  is Möbius' function,

$$f_{t_1, \dots, t_k} = f(t_1^2 x_1, \dots, t_k^2 x_k),$$

$$H(f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, n) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \sum_{h(\bmod q)}' S(hf_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, q) e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right),$$

$$e(z) = e^{2\pi iz},$$

$$S(hf_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, q) = \sum_{x_1, \dots, x_k=1}^q e(hf(t_1^2 x_1, \dots, t_k^2 x_k)/q);$$

the constant implied in  $O$  depends only on  $f$  and  $\varepsilon$ .

In § 7 we obtain estimates for the singular series  $G(f, n)$ . We find that there is a finite set  $P_f$  of prime numbers  $p$  and integers  $N_p$  such that if the congruences

$$(3) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_k) \equiv n \pmod{p^{N_p}}$$

are soluble in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  not divisible by  $p^2$  for each  $p \in P_f$ , then

$$G(f, n) > G_\varepsilon^{(k)} n^{-\varepsilon}$$

for some  $G_\varepsilon^{(k)} > 0$ . Otherwise  $G(f, n) = 0$ .

From Theorems 1 and 2 it follows that for sufficiently large  $n$  the equation (1) is soluble in square-free integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  provided that congruences (3) are soluble.

The singular series  $G(f, n)$  has been considered in [9] for  $k \geq 5$ . But one can apply arguments of that paper, strictly speaking only for diagonal forms  $f = a_1 x_1^2 + \dots + a_k x_k^2$ .

A combination of methods of this paper and [11] gives (for  $k \geq 6$ ) the asymptotic formula for  $R(f, n)$  with the error term  $O(n^{\frac{k}{2} - \frac{5}{4} + \varepsilon})$ .

A remark on notation.  $\varepsilon$  denotes a positive number as small as we please. The constant implied in  $O$ -notation will depend only on  $f$  and  $\varepsilon$ . For two vectors  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k), \mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_k)$  we define  $\mathbf{ab} = (a_1 b_1, \dots, a_k b_k)$ . Throughout this paper the vector  $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_k)$  will have square-free coordinates.

$$\mu(\mathbf{t}) := \mu(t_1) \dots \mu(t_k),$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{t} \leq \mathbf{a}} := \sum_{1 \leq t_1 \leq a} \dots \sum_{1 \leq t_k \leq a}$$

In the sum  $\sum_{h(\bmod q)}'$  the index  $h$  runs the reduced system of residues mod  $q$ .

2. Preliminary results. For any positive integers  $t_1, \dots, t_k$  we write

$$(4) \quad f_{\mathbf{t}} = f_{\mathbf{t}}(x) = f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = f(t_1^2 x_1, \dots, t_k^2 x_k),$$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_k).$$

Let  $N(f_{\mathbf{t}}, n)$  and  $N^*(f_{\mathbf{t}}, n)$  denote the number of solutions of the equation

$$(5) \quad f_{\mathbf{t}}(x) = n$$

in integers and non-zero integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  respectively.

LEMMA 1. There is a constant  $c = c(f)$  such that for any solution  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  of the equation (1) we have

$$(6) \quad |x_i| \leq cn^{1/2} \quad (i = 1, \dots, k).$$

Proof. In the rational field  $f$  is equivalent to a diagonal form, say,  $a_1 y_1^2 + \dots + a_k y_k^2; a_1 > 0, \dots, a_k > 0$ , and

$$(x_1, \dots, x_k) = (y_1, \dots, y_k) S$$

for some matrix  $S = (S_{ij})_{i,j=1}^k$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  is a solution of the equation (1), then

$$|y_i| \leq a_i^{-1} n^{1/2} \quad (i = 1, \dots, k),$$

hence

$$|x_i| \leq k \cdot \max_{1 \leq i, j \leq k} |S_{ij}| \cdot \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} |y_i| \leq c(f) n^{1/2} = cn^{1/2} \quad (i = 1, \dots, k).$$

COROLLARY. The equation (5) does not have any non-zero integer solutions provided

$$(7) \quad \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} |t_i| > c^{1/2} n^{1/4}.$$

Indeed, let  $x$  be a solution of the equation (5), then by (4) and Lemma 1

$$|t_i^2 x_i| \leq cn^{1/2} \quad (i = 1, \dots, k).$$

This contradicts the above inequality.

LEMMA 2. Let  $x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0$  be any fixed integers. Then there is a constant  $\gamma = \gamma(f, \varepsilon)$  independent of  $x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0$  such that the number of solutions of the equation

$$(8) \quad f(x_1, x_2, x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0) = n$$

in integers  $x_1, x_2$  does not exceed  $\gamma n^\varepsilon$ .

Proof. We have

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = d_1^{-1} y_1^2 + (d_1 d_2)^{-1} y_2^2 + (d_1 d_2)^{-1} \varphi(x_3, \dots, x_k),$$

where

$$(9) \quad y_1 = \sum_{i=1}^k a_{1i} x_i, \quad y_2 = \sum_{i=2}^k (a_{11} a_{2i} - a_{12} a_{1i}) x_i;$$

$$(10) \quad \varphi(x_3, \dots, x_k) = \sum_{3 \leq i, j \leq k} [(a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12}^2)(a_{1i} a_{ij} - a_{1i} a_{1j}) - (a_{11} a_{2i} - a_{12} a_{1i})(a_{11} a_{2j} - a_{12} a_{1j})] x_i x_j$$

— the positive quadratic form with integer coefficients;

$$d_1 = a_{11} > 0, \quad d_2 = a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12}^2 > 0.$$

Now, let  $x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0$  be fixed. One can obtain different solutions of the equation (8) from (9) by using different solutions of the equation

$$(11) \quad d_2 y_1^2 + y_2^2 = d_1 d_2 n - \varphi(x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0)$$

in integers  $y_1, y_2$ . It is known that the number of solutions of the equation (11) does not exceed

$$\gamma_{1,2}(d_1 d_2 n - \varphi(x_3^0, \dots, x_k^0))^e \leq \gamma_{1,2}(d_1 d_2)^e n^e \leq \gamma(f, e) n^e = \gamma n^e$$

since  $\varphi$  is the positive quadratic form.

LEMMA 3. We have

$$(12) \quad R(f, n) = \sum_{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4}} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n).$$

Proof. Since for  $x \neq 0$

$$\mu^2(x) = \sum_{t^2|x} \mu(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \text{ is a square-free integer,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

then

$$R(f, n) = \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathbb{Z}^k \\ f(x) = n}} \mu^2(x) = \sum_{\substack{x \in (\mathbb{Z}^*)^k \\ f(x) = n}} \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{t_j^2|x_j} \mu(t_j) = \sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ x \in (\mathbb{Z}^*)^k \\ f_t(x) = n}} \mu(t) = \sum_{t < \infty} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n).$$

If we have  $t_j > c^{1/2} n^{1/4}$  for some  $j$  then  $N^*(f_t, n) = 0$  by corollary to Lemma 1. This completes the proof.

LEMMA 4. Let  $a$  be any positive number. Then

$$\sum_{\substack{t < c^{1/2} n^{1/4} \\ \max t_j > n^a}} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n) \ll n^{k/2-1-a+\varepsilon}.$$

Proof. We have

$$\sum_{\substack{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4} \\ \max t_j > n^a}} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n) \ll \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\substack{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4} \\ t_j > n^a}} N^*(f_t, n).$$

It is sufficient to estimate

$$\sum_{\substack{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4} \\ t_k > n^a}} N^*(f_t, n) = \sum_{t_k > n^a} \sum_{t_1, \dots, t_{k-1} \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4}} N^*(f_t, n).$$

Now we fix some  $t_k > n^a$ . Let

$$(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{ik}) \quad (i = 1, \dots, l)$$

be all the solutions of the equation

$$(13) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, t_k^2 x_k) = n$$

in non-zero integers  $x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, x_k$ . We write  $x_{ij} = y_{ij}^2 z_{ij}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, l$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, k$ ), where  $z_{ij}$  are square-free. For given  $t_k$  one can obtain all non-zero solutions of all equations of the type (5) with the fixed value of  $t_k$  from non-zero solutions of the equation (13), and from the solution  $(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ik})$  we can obtain  $\tau(y_{i1}) \dots \tau(y_{i,k-1})$  solutions of equations of type (5) with the fixed value of  $t_k$  (here  $\tau(m)$  is the number of divisors of  $m$ ). Thus for the fixed value of  $t_k$

$$(14) \quad \sum_{t_1, \dots, t_{k-1} \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4}} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, n) = \sum_{i=1}^l \tau(y_{i1}) \dots \tau(y_{i,k-1}) \ll -n^\varepsilon l = n^\varepsilon N^*(f_{1, \dots, 1, t_k}, n).$$

For fixed values of  $x_3, \dots, x_k, t_k$  the number of solutions of the equation (13) does not exceed  $\gamma n^\varepsilon$  (Lemma 2) and we may fix each of  $x_3, \dots, x_{k-1}$  by  $2cn^{1/2}$  manners (Lemma 1) and  $x_k$  by  $2cn^{1/2} t_k^{-2}$  manners, hence

$$N^*(f_{1, \dots, 1, t_k}, n) \leq (2c)^{k-2} \gamma n^{k/2-1+\varepsilon} t_k^{-2} \ll t_k^{-2} n^{k/2-1+\varepsilon}.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{t_k > n^a} \sum_{t_1, \dots, t_{k-1} \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4}} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}, n) \ll n^\varepsilon \sum_{t_k > n^a} N^*(f_{1, \dots, 1, t_k}, n) \ll n^{k/2-1+2\varepsilon} \sum_{t_k > n^a} t_k^{-2} \ll n^{k/2-1-a+2\varepsilon}.$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

LEMMA 5. Let  $N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n)$  be the number of solutions of the equation

$$f(t_1^2 x_1, \dots, t_r^2 x_r, 0, \dots, 0) = n$$

in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ . Then

$$\sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \ll n^{(k-1)a+\varepsilon}$$

and for  $r = 2, \dots, k-1$

$$\sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \ll n^{(r-2)/2+(k-r)a+\varepsilon}$$

Proof. We have for  $1 \leq r \leq k-1$

$$\sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \leq n^{(k-r)a} \sum_{t_1, \dots, t_r \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n).$$

Let

$$(x_{i1}, \dots, x_{ir}) \quad (i = 1, \dots, l_r)$$

be all solutions of the equation

$$(15) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_r, 0, \dots, 0) = n$$

in non-zero integers  $x_1, \dots, x_r$ . Putting

$$x_{ij} = y_{ij}^2 z_{ij} \quad (i = 1, \dots, l_r; j = 1, \dots, r)$$

we have, as in the proof of Lemma 4, for  $1 \leq r \leq k-1$

$$\sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{l_r} \tau(y_{i1}) \dots \tau(y_{ir}) \ll n^{\varepsilon} l_r = n^{\varepsilon} N^*(f_{1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \ll \begin{cases} n^{2\varepsilon} & \text{for } r = 1, \\ n^{(r-2)/2+2\varepsilon} & \text{for } 2 \leq r \leq k-1 \end{cases}$$

and the lemma is proved.

In particular, for  $a = \frac{k-3}{4(k+1)}$  and  $1 \leq r \leq k-1$

$$\sum_{t_1, \dots, t_k \leq n^a} N^*(f_{t_1, \dots, t_r, 0, \dots, 0}, n) \ll n^{k/2-1-a+\varepsilon}.$$

**3. Estimations of exponential sums.** Let  $A$  be the matrix of the quadratic form  $f$ . Minors of the matrix  $A$  which have the same diagonal, we shall call principal minors. Let  $\mathcal{M}_f$  be the set of principal minors of the matrix  $A$  and

$$P_f = \{p \text{ -prime: } p | m, m \in 2^{k+1} \mathcal{M}_f\}.$$

The matrix  $A$  has only non-vanishing principal minors ( $f$  is a positive quadratic form) and  $\text{card } \mathcal{M}_f = 2^k - 1$ , therefore the set  $P_f$  is finite. In a particular case when  $f$  is a diagonal form the set  $P_f$  consists of all prime divisors of  $2 \det A$ .

**LEMMA 6.** Let  $p$  be a prime,  $p \notin P_f$ , an integer  $r \geq 1$ ,  $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k$  be equal to 0 or 1. Then there exists a form  $\varphi$ , which is equivalent mod  $p^r$  to the form  $f$  and satisfies the following two conditions:

(1)  $\varphi$  is a diagonal form;

(2) two forms  $f_p^{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k}$  and  $\varphi_p^{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k}$  of the type (4) are equivalent mod  $p^r$ .

Proof. Without loss of generality we may suppose that  $\varepsilon_1 = \dots = \varepsilon_r = 0, \varepsilon_{r+1} = \dots = \varepsilon_k = 1$  for some  $0 \leq r \leq k$ . Write

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $A_{11}$  is an  $r \times r$  matrix. Then the quadratic form  $f_{1, \dots, 1, p, \dots, p}$  has the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & p^2 A_{12} \\ p^2 A_{21} & p^4 A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E_r & 0 \\ 0 & p^2 E_{k-r} \end{pmatrix} A \begin{pmatrix} E_r & 0 \\ 0 & p^2 E_{k-r} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $E_t$  is the unit  $t \times t$  matrix.

If  $p \notin P_f$ , then in  $\mathbb{Z}(p^r)$  there is a triangular unimodular substitution  $S = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ 0 & S_{22} \end{pmatrix}$  which transforms the form  $f$  to a diagonal form  $\varphi = a_1 y_1^2 + \dots + a_k y_k^2$ . We may take the substitution  $S$  obtained by the Jacobi method of a reduction of the quadratic form to a diagonal form, since denominators of coefficients in the Jacobi formula, being some principal minors of  $A$ , are invertible mod  $p^r$ . We have  $p \nmid a_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, k$ ) and

$$S^T A S \equiv \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & a_k \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p^r}.$$

Then the unimodular substitution

$$S_{1, \dots, 1, p, \dots, p} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & p^2 S_{12} \\ 0 & S_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \det S_{1, \dots, 1, p, \dots, p} = \det S$$

transforms the form  $f_{1, \dots, 1, p, \dots, p}$  into the diagonal form

$$(16) \quad \varphi_{1, \dots, 1, p, \dots, p}(y_1, \dots, y_k) = a_1 y_1^2 + \dots + a_r y_r^2 + a_{r+1} p^4 y_{r+1}^2 + \dots + a_k p^4 y_k^2.$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

For two vectors  $\mathbf{l} = (l_1, \dots, l_k)$  and  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  we put  $(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{x}) = l_1 x_1 + \dots + l_k x_k$ . Then

$$S(hf, q) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^k(q)} e(hf(\mathbf{x})/q),$$

$$S(hf, \mathbf{l}, q) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^k(q)} e((hf(\mathbf{x}) + (\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{x}))/q)$$



are homogeneous and non-homogeneous Gauss' sums respectively. We write

$$(a, q)_f = \prod_{P \in P_f} (a, p^{v_p(a)}) = \left( a, \prod_{P \in P_f} p^{v_p(a)} \right),$$

where  $p^{v_p(a)} \parallel a$  (the greatest power of  $p$ , which divides  $a$ ) and  $(a, b) = \text{g.c.d.}(a, b)$ .

LEMMA 7. Let  $t_1, \dots, t_k$  be square-free integers;  $l_1, \dots, l_k, u$  be integers;  $n, q$  be positive integers. Then

$$(17) \quad \sum_{h \pmod{q}} S(hf_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, q) e((-nh + uh^{-1(a)})/q) \ll q^{(k+1)/2 + \varepsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)^{1/2}$$

where  $h^{-1(a)}$  denotes  $h'$  such that  $h'h \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ , and the constant implied in  $\ll$  depends only on  $f$  and  $\varepsilon$ , and does not depend on  $q, t_1, \dots, t_k, l_1, \dots, l_k, n, u$ .

If  $(t_j^2, q)_f \nmid l_j$  for some  $j, 1 \leq j \leq k$ , then

$$S(hf_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, q) = 0.$$

Proof. We have (see [10], p. 17) for  $Q_p = q/p^{v_p(q)}$

$$(18) \quad S(hf_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, q) = \prod_{p|q} S(hQ_p f_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, p^{v_p(q)}).$$

Consider each factor separately. We put  $v_p(q) = v$  for brevity.

(1)  $p \notin P_f$ . Since  $t_1, \dots, t_k$  are square-free integers then there are numbers  $\varepsilon_j = 0$  or 1 such that  $p^{\varepsilon_j} \parallel t_j, t_j = p^{\varepsilon_j} t'_j (j = 1, \dots, k)$ . We have

$$(19) \quad f_{t_1, \dots, t_k}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}(t_1^2 x_1, \dots, t_k^2 x_k), \\ l'_j = l_j (t_j^2)^{-1(p^v)}, \quad v_p(l'_j) = v_p(l_j) \quad (j = 1, \dots, k).$$

If  $x$  runs over a complete residue system mod  $p^v$  and  $p \nmid t'$  then  $t'^2 x$  also runs over a complete residue system mod  $p^v$ . Therefore

$$(20) \quad S(hQ_p f_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, p^v) = S(hQ_p f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}, \mathbf{l}', p^v).$$

By Lemma 6  $f$  is equivalent mod  $p^v$  to a diagonal form  $\varphi$  such that  $f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$  is mod  $p^v$  equivalent to the diagonal form  $\varphi_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$ . Without loss of generality we suppose that  $\varepsilon_1 = \dots = \varepsilon_r = 0, \varepsilon_{r+1} = \dots = \varepsilon_k = 1$  for some  $r, 0 \leq r \leq k$ . Then the substitution  $S_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$ , which transforms  $f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$  to the form  $\varphi_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$ , is triangular and mod  $p^v$  invertible. Let  $S_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$  transform  $\mathbf{l}'$  to  $\mathbf{l}''$ . We write

$$S_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & p^2 S_{12} \\ 0 & S_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{l}' = (l'_r, l'_{k-r}), \quad \mathbf{l}'' = (l''_r, l''_{k-r})$$

then

$$(21) \quad (l'_r, l'_{k-r}) = (l''_r, l''_{k-r}) \begin{pmatrix} S_{11}^{-1(p^v)} & p^2 S_{11}^{-1(p^v)} S_{12} S_{22}^{-1(p^v)} \\ 0 & S_{22}^{-1(p^v)} \end{pmatrix} \\ = (l''_r S_{11}^{-1(p^v)}, l''_{k-r} S_{22}^{-1(p^v)} - p^2 l''_r S_{11}^{-1(p^v)} S_{12} S_{22}^{-1(p^v)}).$$

We have by [10], p. 17, (16), (18) and (20)

$$(22) \quad S(hQ_p f_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, p^v) = \prod_{j=1}^k S(hQ_p a_j p^{4\varepsilon_j}, l'_j, p^v).$$

It is known that if  $(p^{4\varepsilon_j}, p^v) \nmid l'_j$  then  $S(hQ_p a_j p^{4\varepsilon_j}, l'_j, p^v) = 0$ . Therefore, and by (21), if for some  $j$  we have  $(p^{2\varepsilon_j}, p^v) \nmid l_j$  then  $S(hQ_p f_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, p^v) = 0$ . Thus the second statement of the lemma is proved.

Putting  $p^{v_j} = (p^{4\varepsilon_j}, p^v), v'_j = v - v_j, p^{v'_j} l''_j = l'_j (j = 1, \dots, k)$ , we have

$$S(hQ_p a_j p^{4\varepsilon_j}, l'_j, p^v) = p^{v_j} S(hQ_p a_j, l''_j, p^{v'_j})$$

by [10], p. 17. Hence by [10], p. 20

$$S(hQ_p a_j, l''_j, p^{v'_j}) = \left( \frac{hQ_p a_j}{p^{v'_j}} \right) i^{\binom{v'_j-1}{2}} p^{4\varepsilon_j} e(-hQ_p a_j^{-1(p^{v'_j})} c_j^2 / p^{v'_j}) \\ = \left( \frac{h}{p^{v'_j}} \right) p^{4\varepsilon_j} \xi_{j,p} e(-h^{-1(a)} \zeta_{j,p} / p)$$

where

$$c_j = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} l''_j, & \text{if } 2 \mid l''_j, \\ \frac{1}{2} (l''_j + p^{v'_j}), & \text{if } 2 \nmid l''_j, \end{cases}$$

$$\xi_{j,p} = \left( \frac{Q_p a_j}{p^{v'_j}} \right) i^{\binom{v'_j-1}{2}}$$

does not depend on  $h$  and  $|\xi_{j,p}| = 1$ ,

$$\zeta_{j,p} = (Q_p a_j)^{-1(p^{v'_j})} c_j^2 q / p^{v'_j}$$

is integer. Hence by (22)

$$(23) \quad S(hQ_p f_{\mathbf{t}}, \mathbf{l}, p^v) = \gamma_p \left( \frac{h}{p^{2v}} \right) p^{i(vr + \frac{1}{2} \sum v_j)} \xi_p e(-h^{-1(a)} \zeta_p / q),$$



where

$$\xi_p = \prod_{j=1}^k \xi_{j,p}, \quad |\xi_p| = 1, \quad s_p = \sum_{j=1}^k v'_j,$$

$$\zeta_p = \sum_{j=1}^k \zeta_{j,p}, \quad \gamma_p = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

are numbers which are independent of  $h$ .

(2)  $p \in P_f \setminus \{2\}$ . There is a diagonal form  $\varphi$ , which is mod  $p^v$  equivalent to  $f_p^{s_1, \dots, p^{s_k}}$  and

$$\varphi = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j p^{s_j} x_j^2$$

where

$$\sum_{j=1}^k e_j \leq v_p (\det f_p^{s_1, \dots, p^{s_k}}) \leq v_p (\det A) + 4k.$$

We have

$$(24) \quad S(hQ_p f_t, \mathbf{l}, p^v) = \gamma_p \left( \frac{h}{p^{s_p}} \right) p^{ikv + \frac{1}{2} \sum_j e_j} \xi_p e(-h^{-1(a)} \zeta_p / q)$$

in the same way as we have used in the case (1).

(3)  $p = 2$ . In this case the form  $f_2^{s_1, \dots, 2^{s_k}}$  is mod  $2^v$  equivalent to a form  $\varphi = \sum_{m=1}^r 2^{e_m} \varphi_m$ , where variables of forms  $\varphi_m$  are not overlapping and  $\varphi_m$  have one of two forms,

$$(25) \quad \varphi_m = \sum_{m_1=1}^{k_m} a_{mm_1} x_{mm_1}^2$$

or

$$(26) \quad \varphi_m = \sum_{m_1=1}^{k_m/2} (2a'_{mm_1} x_{mm_1}^2 + 2a''_{mm_1} x_{mm_1} y_{mm_1} + 2a'''_{mm_1} y_{mm_1}^2)$$

and

$$-1 \leq e_1 < e_2 < \dots < e_r < v, \quad d_m = \det \varphi_m, \quad 2 \nmid d_m.$$

We have

$$S(hQ_2 f_t, \mathbf{l}, 2^v) = S(hQ_2 f_2^{s_1, \dots, 2^{s_k}}, \mathbf{l}', 2^v) = \prod_{m=1}^r S(hQ_2 \varphi_m 2^{e_m}, \mathbf{l}'_m, 2^v) 2^{v(k - \sum_m k_m)}$$

where  $\mathbf{l}'_m$  is the part of  $\mathbf{l}'$  which have the same variables as  $\varphi_m$ . If  $2^{e_m}$  does not divide some coordinate of  $\mathbf{l}'_m$ , then

$$S(hQ_2 \varphi_m 2^{e_m}, \mathbf{l}'_m, 2^v) = S(hQ_2 f_t, \mathbf{l}, 2^v) = 0.$$

Otherwise, for  $e_m \neq -1$

$$S(hQ_2 \varphi_m 2^{e_m}, \mathbf{l}'_m, 2^v) = 2^{k_m e_m} S(hQ_2 \varphi_m, \mathbf{l}''_m, 2^{v-e_m}).$$

If 2 divides each coordinate of  $\mathbf{l}''_m$ , then see [10], p. 29

$$(27) \quad S(hQ_2 \varphi_m, \mathbf{l}''_m, 2^{v-e_m}) = S(hQ_2 \varphi_m, 2^{v-e_m}) e(-h^{-1(a)} \xi_2^{(m)} / q),$$

$$= \gamma(v - e_m) (-1)^{\frac{h-1}{2} (-1)^{\frac{1}{2} k_m (k_m+1) + \frac{1}{2} (d_m-1)}} (-1)^{\frac{h^2-1}{8} k_m (v-e_m)} \left( \frac{h-1}{2} \right)^{2k_m} \xi_2^{(m)} 2^{k_m(v+1)}$$

where  $\gamma(v - e_m) = 0$ , if  $v = e_m + 1$  and  $\varphi_m$  is of the type (25), otherwise  $\gamma(v - e_m) = 1$ ; \* denotes omission of the multiplier for  $\varphi_m$  which is of the type (26);  $\xi_2^{(m)}$  is independent of  $h$  and  $|\xi_2^{(m)}| = 1$ . If  $2 \nmid \mathbf{l}''_m$  and  $\varphi_m$  is of the type (26) then  $S(hQ_2 \varphi_m, \mathbf{l}''_m, 2^{v-e_m}) = 0$ . If  $2 \nmid \mathbf{l}''_m$  and  $\varphi_m$  is of the type (25) then

$$S(hQ_2 \varphi_m, \mathbf{l}''_m, 2^{v-e_m}) = \prod_{m_1=1}^{k_m} S(hQ_2 a_{mm_1}, \mathbf{l}'''_{mm_1}, 2^{v-e_m}).$$

We have

$$S(a, l, 2^v) = \begin{cases} S(a, 2^v) e\left(-\left(\frac{l}{2}\right)^2 a^{-1(2^v)} / 2^v\right) & \text{if } 2 \mid l, \\ 0 & \text{if } 2 \nmid l, v \geq 2, \\ S(a, 2^v) & \text{if } 2 \nmid l, v = 1, \end{cases}$$

$$S(a, 2^v) = \gamma(v) (-1)^{v \left( \frac{a^2-1}{8} \right)} (1 + i^a) 2^{v/2},$$

where  $\gamma(1) = 0$  and  $\gamma(v) = 1$  for  $v \geq 2$ . Hence formulae (27) hold in this case, as in the case when  $e_m = -1$ . Thus formulae (27) are true in all cases.

(4) Let  $L \mid q$ ,  $(j, L) = 1$  and every prime  $p$  which divides  $Q$  divides  $q$ . Putting

$$K_Q(n, u, j, L, q) = \sum'_{\substack{h \pmod{q} \\ h \equiv j \pmod{L}}} \left( \frac{h}{Q} \right) e\left( \frac{-nh + uh^{-1(a)}}{q} \right)$$

we have by [10], p. 51

$$|K_Q(n, u, j, L, q)| \leq \kappa_\varepsilon q^{1+\varepsilon} (n, q)^{1/2}$$

where  $\kappa_\varepsilon > 0$  depends only on  $\varepsilon$ .

(5) Putting  $2^v \parallel q$  and

$$\sigma = \sum'_{h \pmod{q}} S(hf_t, \mathbf{l}, q) e\left( \frac{-nh + uh^{-1(a)}}{q} \right)$$



we have four cases:

(a)  $\nu = 0$ . Then by (18), (23) and (24)

$$\sigma = \prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p|q}} \left\{ \xi_p p^{\frac{k}{2} \nu_p(q) + i \sum e_j \nu_j} \right\} \prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p|q}} \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^k (p^{2\nu_j} t_j, q)^{1/2} \xi_p p^{\frac{k}{2} \nu_p(q)} \right\} \times \\ \times \sum'_{h(\bmod q)} \left( \frac{h}{\prod p^{2\nu}} \right) e \left( \frac{-nh + u_1 h^{-1(q)}}{q} \right).$$

Here we put

$$u_1 = u - \sum_{p|q} \xi_p, \quad Q = \prod_{p|q} p^{2\nu}.$$

Hence,

$$|\sigma| \leq |\det A|^{1/2} \prod_{p \in P_f} \{p^{2k}\} q^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2} |K_Q(n, u, 1, 1, q)| \\ \leq q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2}.$$

Henceforth we shall write  $\varphi(e_m)$  instead of  $\varphi_m$  and  $k(e_m)$  instead of  $k_m$ . Everywhere we have:  $\varphi(-1)$  is of the type (26),  $k(-1)$  is even,  $\varphi(\nu-1)$  is a diagonal form. If  $\varphi(\nu-1) \neq 0$  then  $\sigma = 0$ , therefore we may suppose that  $\varphi(\nu-1) = 0$ .

(b)  $\nu = 1, e_m = -1$  or  $0$ . In the first case

$$S(hQ_2 f_2^{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k}, \mathbf{l}, 2) = \xi_2' 2^{k+i\epsilon_1} e \left( -\frac{h^{-1(q)} \xi_2}{q} \right)$$

where  $\xi_2'$  does not depend on  $h$ . We omit the second case because  $\nu-1 = 0$ .

$$|\sigma| \leq 2^{k/2} c_f q^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2} |K_s(n, u_1, 1, 1, q)| \leq q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2}$$

where

$$c_f = |\det A|^{1/2} \prod_{p \in P_f} p^{2k}.$$

(c)  $\nu = 2, e_m = -1, 0$ , or  $1$ . We have

$$\sigma = \sum'_{h(\bmod q)} = \sum'_{\substack{h(\bmod q) \\ h=1(\bmod 4)}} + \sum'_{\substack{h(\bmod q) \\ h=3(\bmod 4)}}.$$

If  $h \equiv h_1(\bmod 4)$  then

$$\frac{h-1}{2} \equiv \frac{h_1-1}{2} \pmod{2}, \quad \left( \frac{h-1}{2} \right)^2 \equiv \left( \frac{h_1-1}{2} \right)^2 \pmod{4}.$$

In formula (27)  $\sum_n k_m(2 - e_m)$  is the even number, therefore

$$|\sigma| \leq 2^{k/2} c_f q^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2} \sum_{h_1=1,3} |K_Q(n, u_1, h_1, 4, q)| \\ \leq q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2}.$$

(d)  $\nu \geq 3$ . If  $h \equiv h_1(\bmod 8)$  then

$$\frac{h-1}{2} \equiv \frac{h_1-1}{2} \pmod{2}, \quad \frac{h^2-1}{8} \equiv \frac{h_1^2-1}{8} \pmod{2}, \\ \left( \frac{h-1}{2} \right)^2 \equiv \left( \frac{h_1-1}{2} \right)^2 \pmod{4}$$

and

$$\sigma = \sum'_{h(\bmod q)} = \sum_{h_1=1,3,5,7} \sum'_{\substack{h(\bmod q) \\ h=h_1(\bmod 8)}}$$

hence

$$|\sigma| \leq 2^{k/2} c_f q^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2} \sum_{h_1=1,3,5,7} |K_Q(n, u_1, h_1, 8, q)| \\ \leq q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2}.$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

**4. The main term of the asymptotic formula for  $R(f, n)$ .** We need to find an asymptotic value of  $\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N(f_t, n)$ . For  $t \leq n^a$  and for a complex number  $w, |w| < 1$ , we put

$$F_t(w) = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^k} w^{f(x)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} N(f_t, n) w^n.$$

Then

$$N(f_t, n) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} F_t(w) w^{-n-1} dw,$$

where

$$\Gamma = \{w: |w| = e^{-1/n}\}.$$

Putting

$$n_0 = [n^{1/2}], \quad I_{n_0} = \left[ -\frac{1}{1+n_0}, 1 - \frac{1}{1+n_0} \right]$$



we have

$$N(f_t, n) = \int_{I_{n_0}} F_t(e^{-1/n+2\pi i u}) e^{1-2\pi i n u} du.$$

We make a Farey dissection of the order  $n_0$  of the interval  $I_{n_0}$  and we put

$$\gamma_{h,q} = \left( -\frac{1}{qq_2}, \frac{1}{qq_1} \right)$$

where  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are denominators of adjacent Farey fractions to  $h/q$ . Then

$$N(f_t, n) = \sum_{q \leq n_0} \sum'_{h(\text{mod } q)} e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right) \int_{\gamma_{h,q}} F_t(e^{-\frac{1}{n}+2\pi i(\frac{h}{q}+\theta)}) e^{1-2\pi i n \theta} d\theta.$$

Putting

$$v = \frac{1}{n} - 2\pi i \theta, \quad w = e^{-v+2\pi i \frac{h}{q}}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_t(w) &= \sum_{x \in Z^k} e^{-(v-2\pi i \frac{h}{q})f_t(x)} = \sum_{r \in Z^k(q)} \sum_{y \in Z^k} e^{-(v-2\pi i \frac{h}{q})f_t(y+r)} \\ &= \sum_{r \in Z^k(q)} e\left(\frac{h}{q}f_t(r)\right) \sum_{y \in Z^k} e^{-v^2 f_t(y+\frac{r}{q})}. \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 8. Let  $f^{-1}(x)$  be the quadratic form with a matrix which is inverse to the matrix of the quadratic form  $f$ ;  $\delta, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_k$  are complex numbers and  $\text{Re } \delta > 0$ . Then

$$\sum_{y \in Z^k} e^{-\delta f(y+\xi)} = \frac{1}{\delta^{k/2} D^{1/2}} \sum_{t \in Z^k} e^{-\frac{\pi}{\delta} f^{-1}(t)+2\pi i(t, \xi)}$$

Proof, see, for example [10], p. 76.

Consequently, by Lemma 8

$$\sum_{y \in Z^k} e^{-v^2 f_t(y+\frac{r}{q})} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2} q^{-k}}{v^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{t \in Z^k} e^{-\frac{\pi}{v^2} f^{-1}(t-2t)} e\left(\left(\frac{r}{q}, t\right)\right),$$

hence, and by the definition of Gauss' sum,

$$F_t(w) = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2} q^{-k}}{v^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{t \in Z^k} e^{-\frac{\pi}{v^2} f^{-1}(t-2t)} S(hf_t, t, q).$$

Further, by Lemma 7, if for some  $j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq k$ ) we have  $b_j = (t_j^2, q) \nmid t_j$  then  $S(hf_t, t, q) = 0$ . Therefore

$$F_t(w) = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2} q^{-k}}{v^{k/2} \prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{t \in Z^k} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{v^2} f^{-1}(t-2t)} S(hf_t, t, q).$$

If we put

$$\gamma_a^+ = \left( -\frac{1}{qn^{1/2}}, \frac{1}{qn^{1/2}} \right), \quad \gamma_a^- = \left( -\frac{1}{2qn^{1/2}}, \frac{1}{2qn^{1/2}} \right)$$

then it is known that

$$\gamma_a^- = \gamma_{h,q} \subset \gamma_a^+$$

then for

$$g(h, q, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } h/q + \theta \in \gamma_{h,q}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$A_t(\theta, t, q) = \sum'_{h(\text{mod } q)} S(hf_t, t, q) e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right) g(h, q, \theta)$$

we have

$$(28) \quad N(f_t, n) = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} \int \sum_{\gamma_a^+} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{v^2} f^{-1}(t-2t)} A_t(\theta, t, q) v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta.$$

LEMMA 9. For any  $q \leq n_0$  and any  $\theta$  there are numbers  $c_1, \dots, c_q$  such that

$$(29) \quad \sum_{r=1}^q |c_r| \ll q^e,$$

and for any  $h, (h, q) = 1$

$$g(h, q, \theta) = \sum_{r=1}^q c_r e\left(\frac{r\bar{h}^{-1}(a)}{q}\right).$$

Proof, see [2], p. 435.

COROLLARY. It is uniformly in  $t$  and  $\theta$

$$(30) \quad A_t(\theta, t, q) \ll q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \prod_{j=1}^k (t_j^2, q)^{1/2}.$$





Indeed, by Lemma 9

$$A_t(\theta, \mathbf{lb}, q) = \sum_{r=1}^q c_r \sum_{h \pmod{q}} S(hf_t, \mathbf{lb}, q) e\left(\frac{-nh + rh^{-1}(q)}{q}\right),$$

hence by (17) and (29) we obtain (30).

We put

$$N(f_t, n) = N_t^{(0)} + N_t^{(1)},$$

where

$$(31) \quad N_t^{(0)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} \int_{\gamma_q^+} A_t(\theta, \mathbf{0}, q) v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta,$$

$$(32) \quad N_t^{(1)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} \int_{\gamma_q^+} \sum_{\mathbf{l} \in Z^k \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2}{va^2} f^{-1}(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{2}t\mathbf{b})} A_t(\theta, \mathbf{lb}, q) v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta.$$

LEMMA 10. Let  $k \geq 4$ . Then

$$(33) \quad \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(0)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2}}{D^{1/2} \Gamma(k/2)} G(f, n) n^{k/2-1} + O(n^{k/2-1-a+\epsilon}).$$

Proof. For  $\theta \in \gamma_q^-$

$$A_t(\theta, \mathbf{0}, q) = \sum_{h \pmod{q}} S(hf_t, q) e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right) = A_t(q).$$

Therefore, we may put

$$N_t^{(0)} = M_t^{(0)} + M_t^{(1)} - M_t^{(2)},$$

where

$$M_t^{(0)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} A_t(q) \int_{\mathbb{R}} v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta,$$

$$M_t^{(1)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} \int_{\gamma_q^+ \setminus \gamma_q^-} A_t(\theta, \mathbf{0}, q) v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta,$$

$$M_t^{(2)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} A_t(q) \int_{\mathbb{R} \setminus \gamma_q^-} v^{-k/2} e^{nv} d\theta.$$

By (30)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(1)} &\ll \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} \sum_{t \leq n^a} \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{(t_j^4, q)_f^{1/2}}{t_j^2} q^{\frac{k+1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \int_{1/(2qn^{1/2})}^{1/(qn^{1/2})} \theta^{-k/2} d\theta \\ &\ll n^{\frac{k}{4} - \frac{1}{2}} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \left( \sum_{t \leq n^a} \frac{(t^4, q)_f^{1/2}}{t^2} \right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$(34) \quad \sum_{t \leq n^a} \frac{(t^4, q)_f^{1/2}}{t^2} \ll \sum_{t \leq n^a} \frac{(t, q)^2}{t^2} \ll \sum_{\delta|q} \sum_{t_1 \leq n^a/\delta} \frac{\delta^2}{\delta^2 t_1^2} \ll \sum_{\delta|q} 1 \ll q^\epsilon.$$

On the other hand

$$(35) \quad \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \ll \sum_{\delta|n} \delta^\epsilon \sum_{q_1 \leq n_0/\delta} q_1^{-1/2 + \epsilon} \ll n^\epsilon n_0^{1/2} \ll n^{1/4 + \epsilon}.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(1)} \ll n^{k/4 - 1/4 + \epsilon} \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - a + \epsilon}.$$

Similarly

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(2)} \ll n^{k/4 - 1/4 + \epsilon} \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - a + \epsilon}.$$

By Hankel's formula for the  $\Gamma$ -function

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{nv} v^{-k/2} d\theta = n^{k/2-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{1-i\infty}^{1+i\infty} u^{-k/2} e^u du \right\} = \frac{n^{k/2-1}}{\Gamma(k/2)}.$$

Hence

$$M_t^{(0)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\Gamma(k/2)} \frac{n^{k/2-1}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-k} A_t(q) = M_t^{(3)} - M_t^{(4)},$$

where

$$M_t^{(3)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\Gamma(k/2)} \frac{n^{k/2-1}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} A_t(q),$$

$$M_t^{(4)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\Gamma(k/2)} \frac{n^{k/2-1}}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q > n_0} q^{-k} A_t(q).$$

By (30) and (34)

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(4)} \ll \sum_{q > n_0} q^{-k} \sum_{t \leq n^a} \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{(t_j^4, q)^{1/2}}{t_j^2} q^{k/2+1/2+s} (n, q)^{1/2} n^{k/2-1} \ll n^{k/2-1} \sum_{q > n_0} q^{-k/2+1/2+(k+1)s} (n, q)^{1/2}$$

where

$$\sum_{q > n_0} q^{k/2+1/2+s} (n, q)^{1/2} \ll \sum_{\delta | n} \delta^{-k/2+1+s} \sum_{q_1 > n_0^{\delta^{-1}}} q_1^{-k/2+1/2+s} \ll n_0^{-k/2+3/2+s} n^s \ll n^{-k/4+3/4+2s}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(4)} \ll n^{k/4-1/4+s} \ll n^{k/2-1-a+s}$$

Furthermore,

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) M_t^{(3)} = \sum_{t < \infty} \mu(t) M_t^{(3)} - \sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ \max_j t_j > n^a}} \mu(t) M_t^{(3)}$$

We have

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ \max_j t_j > n^a}} \mu(t) M_t^{(3)} \right| \ll \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ t_j > n^a}} |M_t^{(3)}|$$

For a fixed value of  $j$  we have by (30) and (34)

$$\sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ t_j > n^a}} |M_t^{(3)}| \ll n^{k/2-1} \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k/2+1/2+s} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t > n^a} \frac{(t^4, q)^{1/2}}{t^2}$$

Let  $\delta = (t^4, q)$  and  $\delta^*$  be the least positive integer among integers  $\delta_1$  such that  $(\delta \delta_1)^{1/4}$  is an integer. Then for some integer  $t_1$  we have  $t_1^4 \delta \delta^* = t^4$ . Therefore

$$\sum_{t > n^a} \frac{(t^4, q)^{1/2}}{t^2} \ll \sum_{\delta | q} \sum_{\substack{t_1 > \frac{n^a}{(\delta \delta^*)^{1/4}}} \\ t_1 > \frac{n^a}{(\delta \delta^*)^{1/4}}} \frac{\delta^{1/2}}{\delta^{1/2} \delta^{*1/2} t_1^2} = \sum_{\delta | q} \frac{1}{\delta^{*1/2}} \sum_{\substack{t_1 > \frac{n^a}{(\delta \delta^*)^{1/4}}} \\ t_1 > \frac{n^a}{(\delta \delta^*)^{1/4}}} \frac{1}{t_1^2} \ll \sum_{\delta | q} \left( \frac{\delta}{\delta^*} \right)^{1/4} n^{-a} \ll q^{1/4+s} n^{-a}$$

Since for  $k \geq 4$  it is  $k/2 - 3/4 - s > 1$  then

$$\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{(n, q)^{1/2}}{q^{k/2-3/4-s}} \ll \sum_{\delta | n} \delta^{-\left(\frac{k}{2} - \frac{3}{4} - s\right)} \sum_{q_1=1}^{\infty} q_1^{-\frac{k}{2} + \frac{3}{4} + s} \ll n^s$$

Hence

$$\sum_{\substack{t < \infty \\ \max_j t_j < n^a}} \mu(t) M_t^{(3)} \ll n^{\frac{k}{2}-1-a+s}$$

The truth of the lemma now follows from the identity

$$\sum_{t < \infty} \mu(t) \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} A_t(q) = G(f, n)$$

5. An evaluation of  $\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)}$ . The following result is known.

LEMMA 11. There is a positive constant  $\kappa = \kappa(f)$  such that for any real numbers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$

$$f^{-1}(x_1, \dots, x_k) \geq \kappa(x_1^2 + \dots + x_k^2)$$

LEMMA 12. We have

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)} \ll n^{\frac{k}{2}-1-a+s}$$

Proof. Putting

$$\eta = 1 + 4\pi^2 n^2 \theta^2, \quad d_j = (t_j^4, q)^{1/2} \quad (j = 1, \dots, k), \quad A = \frac{\kappa \pi^2 n}{\eta q^2}$$

we have

$$(36) \quad \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)} \ll n^{k/2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-\frac{k}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + s} (n, q)^{1/2} \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} \sum_{t \leq n^a} \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{d_j}{t_j^2} \sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}^k \setminus \{0\}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 n}{\eta q^2} f^{-1}(t^{-2} l b)} \eta^{-k/4} d\theta$$

and by Lemma 11

$$\sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}^k \setminus \{0\}} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 n}{\eta q^2} f^{-1}(t^{-2} l b)} \ll \sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}^k \setminus \{0\}} e^{-A \sum_{j=1}^k t_j^{-4} b_j^2 l_j^2}$$

Let

$$\sigma(l) = \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}}$$

where

$$d = (t^4, q)^{1/2}, \quad b = (t^2, q)_f, \quad d \leq b$$

then

$$(37) \quad \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \prod_{f=1}^k \frac{d_f}{t_f^2} \sum_{l \in Z^{k-1}(0)} e^{-\frac{\pi^2 n}{n^2} f^{-1}(t-2lb)} \ll \left\{ \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sigma(l) \right\} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sigma(l) \right\}^{k-1}.$$

By (34) and by the inequality  $d \leq b$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sigma(l) &= \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} = \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} + \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \\ &\ll q^\epsilon + \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} dl \ll q^\epsilon + \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \frac{t^3}{b} A^{-1/2} \ll q^\epsilon + A^{-1/2} n^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sigma(l) \right\}^{k-1} \ll q^\epsilon + A^{-\frac{k-1}{2}} n^{(k-1)\alpha}.$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sigma(l) &= \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} = \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}(l^2-1)} \\ &\ll \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \ll \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \left( 1 + A^{-1/2} \frac{t^2}{b} \right) \\ &= \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} + A^{-1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, by (36) and (37),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)} &\ll n^{k/4} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-\frac{k}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \left\{ \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} \left( \frac{d}{t^2} q^\epsilon + A^{-1/2} q^\epsilon + \right. \right. \\ &\left. \left. + A^{-k/2} n^{(k-1)\alpha} + \frac{d}{t^2} A^{-\frac{k-1}{2}} n^{(k-1)\alpha} \right) e^{-Ab^2 t^{-4}} \eta^{-k/4} d\theta \right\} = J_1 + J_2 + J_3 + J_4. \end{aligned}$$

It is known that for any positive numbers  $S$  and  $A$

$$A^S e^{-A} \leq S^S e^{-S}.$$

Then, by (35),

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &\ll n^{k/4} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \frac{t^k}{b^{k/2}} \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} \left( \frac{Ab^2}{t^4} \right)^{k/4} e^{-Ab^2 t^4} d\theta \\ &\ll n^{k/4 - 1/2} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{-1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} t^{k-2} \ll n^{k/4 - 1/4 + \epsilon(k-1) + \epsilon} \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}, \\ J_2 &\ll n^{k/4} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} t^{k-2} b^{-k/2 + 1} \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} \left( \frac{Ab^2}{t^4} \right) e^{-Ab^2 t^4} d\theta \\ &\ll n^{k/4 - 1/4 + \epsilon(k-1) + \epsilon} \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

We have for  $0 < \theta < \frac{1}{qn^{1/2}}$  and  $q \leq n^{1/2}$

$$A = \frac{\kappa \pi^2 n}{(1 + 4\pi^2 n^2 \theta^2) q^2} \geq \frac{\kappa \pi^2 n}{q^2 + 4\pi^2 n} \geq \frac{\kappa \pi^2}{1 + 4\pi^2}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} J_3 &\ll n^{k/4} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} n^{(k-1)\alpha} \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} A^{-k/4} e^{-Ab^2 t^4} d\theta \\ &\ll n^{k/4 - 1/4 + \epsilon k + \epsilon} \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

$$J_4 \ll n^{k/4 + (k-1)\alpha} \sum_{q \leq n_0} q^{1/2 + \epsilon} (n, q)^{1/2} \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \frac{d}{t^2} \int_0^{1/(qn^{1/2})} A^{-(k/4 - 1/2)} e^{-Ab^2 t^4} d\theta \ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}.$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

### 6. A proof of Theorem 1. By Lemmas 1 and 2

$$R(f, n) = \sum_{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4}} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n) + \sum_{\substack{t \leq c^{1/2} n^{1/4} \\ \max_j t_j > n^\alpha}} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n)$$

and by Lemma 3 the second term is  $\ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}$ . The first term we shall represent in the form

$$\sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \mu(t) N^*(f_t, n) = \sum_{t \leq n^\alpha} \mu(t) N(f_t, n) - \sum_{j_1, \dots, j_l, t \leq n^\alpha} \mu(t) \sum_{\substack{x, l(\omega) = n \\ x_{j_1}, \dots, x_{j_l} = 0 \\ \text{others} \neq 0}} 1$$

where the sum  $\sum$  is the sum on all sets  $(j_1, \dots, j_l) = (1, \dots, k) \setminus (l = 1, \dots, \dots, k-1)$ . By Lemma 4 each term of the sum (there are  $2^k - 2$  such sums) is

$$\ll n^{k/2 - 1 - \alpha + \epsilon}.$$



Thus

$$R(f, n) = \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N(f_t, n) + O(n^{k/2-1-a+\epsilon})$$

$$= \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(0)} + \sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)} + O(n^{k/2-1-a+\epsilon})$$

and by Lemma 12

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(1)} \ll n^{k/2-1-a+\epsilon}.$$

By Lemma 10 we have

$$\sum_{t \leq n^a} \mu(t) N_t^{(0)} = \frac{\pi^{k/2} D^{-1/2}}{\Gamma(k/2)} G(f, n) + O(n^{k/2-1-a+\epsilon})$$

which implies the result stated.

**7. The singular series.** We have

$$G(f, n) = \sum_{t < \infty} \frac{\mu(t)}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} A_t(q)$$

where

$$A_t(q) = \sum_{h(\text{mod } q)} S(hf_t, q) e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right).$$

This series is absolutely convergent on  $t_1, \dots, t_k, q$  for  $k \geq 4$  by (30) and (34).

LEMMA 13. Let  $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, \dots, d_k)$ . Then

$$(38) \quad G(f, n) = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2}\right)^k \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \prod_{p|q} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{a_1|q, \dots, a_k|q} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k a_j^2} A_{\mathbf{d}}(q).$$

Proof, see [9], p. 46. Taking  $d_j|q, (t_j, q) = 1, (j = 1, \dots, k)$  we have

$$f_{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{d}}(x) = f_{\mathbf{d}}(t^2x), \quad (t_j^2, q) = 1 \quad (j = 1, \dots, k)$$

and  $t_j^2x_j$  runs over a complete residue system mod  $q$  when  $x_j$  does. Therefore

$$S(hf_{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{d}}, q) = S(hf_{\mathbf{d}}, q), \quad A_{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{d}}(q) = A_{\mathbf{d}}(q).$$

Hence

$$G(f, n) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \sum_{a_1|q, \dots, a_k|q} \sum_{\substack{t \\ (t_j, q) = 1 \\ j=1, \dots, k}} \frac{\mu(t)}{\prod_{j=1}^k t_j^2} A_t(q)$$

$$= \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \sum_{a_1|q, \dots, a_k|q} \sum_{\substack{t \\ (t_j, q) = a_j \\ j=1, \dots, k}} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{t}\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k (t_j a_j)^2} A_{\mathbf{t}\mathbf{d}}(q)$$

$$= \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \sum_{a_1|q, \dots, a_k|q} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k a_j^2} A_{\mathbf{d}}(q) \left\{ \sum_{(t, q)=1} \frac{\mu(t)}{t^2} \right\}^k$$

and the formula (38) follows from the identity

$$\sum_{(t, q)=1} \frac{\mu(t)}{t^2} = \frac{6}{\pi^2} \prod_{p|q} (1-p^{-2})^{-1}.$$

We put

$$T(hf, q) = \sum_{a_1|q, \dots, a_k|q} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k a_j^2} S(hf_{\mathbf{d}}, q)$$

and

$$B(q) = \sum_{h(\text{mod } q)} T(hf, q) e\left(-\frac{nh}{q}\right).$$

LEMMA 14. For  $k \geq 4$

$$G(f, n) = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2}\right)^k \prod_p G_p(f, n)$$

where

$$(39) \quad G_p(f, n) = 1 + (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{-kr} B(p^r)$$

and the product is taken over all primes  $p$ .

Proof, see [9], p. 47. Let  $(q_1, q_2) = 1, d_j|q_1, \delta_j|q_2 (j = 1, \dots, k)$ . Then by the identity

$$S(hf_{\mathbf{d}\mathbf{s}}, q_1 q_2) = S(hq_1 f_{\mathbf{d}}, q_2) S(hq_2 f_{\mathbf{d}}, q_1)$$

we have

$$T(hf, q_1 q_2) = \sum_{a_1|q_1, \dots, a_k|q_1} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k a_j^2} \sum_{\delta_1|q_2, \dots, \delta_k|q_2} \frac{\mu(\mathbf{d})}{\prod_{j=1}^k \delta_j^2} S(hf_{\mathbf{d}\mathbf{s}}, q_1 q_2)$$

$$= T(hq_1 f, q_2) T(hq_2 f, q_1).$$

Furthermore, since  $h_1q_2 + h_2q_1$ , runs over a reduced residue system mod  $q_1q_2$  when  $h_1$  runs over a reduced residue system mod  $q_1$ , and  $h_2$  runs over a reduced residue system mod  $q_2$ , we have

$$B(q_1q_2) = \sum_{h=h_1q_2+h_2q_1 \pmod{q_1q_2}} T((h_1q_2 + h_2q_1)f, q_1q_2) e\left(-\frac{(h_1q_2 + h_2q_1)n}{q_1q_2}\right) \\ = \sum_{h_1 \pmod{q_1}} \sum_{h_2 \pmod{q_2}} T((h_1q_1q_2 + h_2q_1^2)f, q_2) T((h_1q_2^2 + h_2q_1q_2)f, q_1) \times \\ \times e\left(-\frac{nh_1}{q}\right) e\left(-\frac{nh_2}{q}\right) = B(q_1)B(q_2)$$

and

$$\prod_{p|q_1q_2} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} = \prod_{p|q_1} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \prod_{p|q_2} (1-p^{-2})^{-k}.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q^{-k} \prod_{p|q} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} B(q) = \prod_p G_p(f, n).$$

LEMMA 15. Let  $p$  be a prime,  $p^w || n$ . Then

$$(40) \quad B(p^v) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \begin{cases} v > w+1, & p > 2, \\ v > w+3, & p = 2. \end{cases}$$

Proof. We have

$$B(p^v) = \sum_{a_1|p, \dots, a_k|p} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^k} A_d(p^v) \prod_{j=1}^k d_j^2$$

and the result follows from that (see [10], p. 61, 68) for

$$A_d(p^v) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \begin{cases} v > w+1, & p > 2, \\ v > w+3, & p = 2. \end{cases}$$

For another proof, see [9], p. 51.

LEMMA 16. Let  $p$  be a prime,  $p^{w_p(f)}$  be the greatest degree of  $p$ , which divides the determinant  $2D$  of the form  $f$ . Then

$$(41) \quad B(p^v) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \begin{cases} v > w_p(f)+3, & p > 2, \\ v > w_p(f)+5, & p = 2. \end{cases}$$

Proof. It is sufficient to prove the same result for  $T(hf, p^v)$ . Indeed, we have

$$T(hf, p^v) = \sum_{p^2 \nmid x_1, \dots, p^2 \nmid x_k} e\left(\frac{hf(x_1, \dots, x_k)}{p^v}\right) = \sum_{\substack{b_1, \dots, b_k \pmod{p^2} \\ b_j \neq 0 \pmod{p^2} (j=1, \dots, k)}} S_{p^2; b_1, \dots, b_k}(hf, p^v),$$

where

$$S_{p^2; b_1, \dots, b_k}(hf, p^v) = \sum_{\substack{x, x_j = b_j \pmod{p^2} \\ (j=1, \dots, k)}} e\left(\frac{hf(x_1, \dots, x_k)}{p^v}\right).$$

It is known, see [10], p. 35, that

$$S_{p^2; b_1, \dots, b_k}(hf, p^v) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad t \geq \tau$$

where for an odd prime  $p$  the number  $\tau$  is defined in the following manner. Let  $f$  be equivalent to  $\varphi = p^{e_1}a_1x_1^2 + \dots + p^{e_k}a_kx_k^2$  and  $(b_1, \dots, b_k)$  transforms to  $(b'_1, \dots, b'_k)$  by the same substitution. If  $p^{v_j} || b'_j$ , then

$$\tau = \min_j (2 + v_j + e_j) \leq 2 + w_p(f) + \min_j v_j \leq 3 + w_p(f).$$

Similarly, for  $p = 2$  we have numbers  $v_j$ ,  $\min_j v_j \leq 1$  and  $e_j$ ,  $e_j \leq w_2(f)$  and three subsets of indices  $J_1, J_2, J_3$  such that

$$\tau = \min \{ \min_{j \in J_1} (3 + v_j + e_j), \min_{j \in J_2} (4 + v_j + e_j), \min_{j \in J_3} (3 + v_j + e_j) \} \\ \leq 4 + w_2(f) + \min_j v_j \leq 5 + w_2(f).$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

LEMMA 17. Let

$$(42) \quad N = N_p = \begin{cases} \min\{5 + w_2(f), w_2 + 3\}, & p = 2, \\ \max\{\min\{w_p + 1, w_p(f) + 3\}, 2\}, & p > 2 \end{cases}$$

and  $\varrho(f, p^N, n)$  be the number of solutions of the congruence

$$(43) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_k) \equiv n \pmod{p^N}$$

in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  not divisible by  $p^2$ . Then

$$(44) \quad G_p(f, n) = p^{-(k-1)N} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \varrho(f, p^N, n).$$

Proof. For every prime  $p$  by (39), (40) and (41) we have

$$G_p(f, n) = 1 + (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{v=1}^{\infty} p^{-kv} B(p^v) = 1 + (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{v=1}^N p^{-kv} B(p^v) \\ = (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{v=0}^N p^{-kv} \sum_{a_1|p, \dots, a_k|p} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^k} A_d(p^v) \prod_{j=1}^k d_j^2 \\ = (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{a_1, \dots, a_k=0,1} \left(-\frac{1}{p^2}\right)^{\sum e_j} \sum_{v=0}^N p^{-kv} A_d(p^v).$$



It is known (see [10], p. 70) that

$$(45) \quad \sum_{r=0}^N p^{-kr} A_d(p^r) = \frac{\sigma(f_d, p^N, n)}{p^{(k-1)N}}$$

where  $\sigma(f_d, p^N, n)$  is the number of solutions of the congruence

$$(46) \quad f_d(x_1, \dots, x_k) \equiv n \pmod{p^N}$$

in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  and  $d = (p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k})$ .

Hence

$$G_p(f, n) = p^{-(k-1)N} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} \sum_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k=0,1} \left(-\frac{1}{p^2}\right)^{\sum_j \varepsilon_j} \sigma(f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}, p^N, n).$$

It is easy to see that each solution of the congruence (46) corresponds to one solution of the congruence (45) and each solution of the congruence (43) corresponds to  $\prod_{j=1}^k p^{2\varepsilon_j}$  solutions of the congruence (46). Therefore denoting that  $\varrho_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k}(f, p^N, n)$  is the number of solutions of the congruence (43) in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k, p^{2\varepsilon_1}|x_1, \dots, p^{2\varepsilon_k}|x_k$  we have

$$\sum_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k=0,1} \left(-\frac{1}{p^2}\right)^{\sum_j \varepsilon_j} \sigma(f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}, p^N, n) = \sum_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k=0,1} (-1)^{\sum_j \varepsilon_j} \varrho_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k}(f, p^N, n) = \varrho(f, p^N, n)$$

where the latter equality results according to the including-excluding principle.

For another proof, see [9], p. 55.

COROLLARY.  $G(f, n)$  is a real positive number or zero, since by Lemma 17  $G_p(f, n) \geq 0$  for every prime  $p$ .

LEMMA 18. There is a constant  $c_\varepsilon^{(k)}$  such that

$$\prod_{p \in P_f} G_p(f, n) \geq \begin{cases} c_\varepsilon^{(4)} n^{-\varepsilon} & \text{if } k = 4, \\ c_\varepsilon^{(k)} & \text{if } k \geq 5. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let  $p \notin P_f$  and  $p^w || n$ . For  $v \geq 1$  we put

$$B(p^v, w) = \sum_{h \pmod{p^v}} T(hf, p^v) e\left(-\frac{nh}{p^v}\right).$$

To evaluate  $G_p(f, n)$  we consider four cases.

(a)  $w = 0$ . Then, by (39) and (40)

$$G_p(f, n) = 1 + (1-p^{-2})^{-k} p^{-k} B(p, 0).$$

By Lemma 6 for every set  $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)$  the form  $f$  is equivalent mod  $p$  to a diagonal form

$$\varphi^{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)} = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j^{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)} y_j^2$$

such that  $f_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}$  is equivalent mod  $p$  to the form  $\varphi_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}^{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} S(hf_{p^{\varepsilon_1}, \dots, p^{\varepsilon_k}}, p) &= \prod_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{h}{p}\right)^{1-\varepsilon_j} \left(\frac{a_j^{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)}}{p}\right)^{1-\varepsilon_j} i^{\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2 (1-\varepsilon_j)} p^{\frac{1+\varepsilon_j}{2}} \\ &= \left(\frac{h}{p}\right)^{k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j} \left(\frac{\prod_{j=1}^k a_j^{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k)(1-\varepsilon_j)}}{p}\right) i^{\left(k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j\right)\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2} p^{\frac{k}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \varepsilon_j}. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$T(hf, p) = \sum_{k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j \equiv 0 \pmod{2}} + \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) \sum_{k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}} = \Sigma_1 + \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) \Sigma_2,$$

$$B(p, 0) = \left\{ \sum'_{h \pmod{p}} e\left(-\frac{nh}{p}\right) \right\} \Sigma_1 + \left\{ \sum'_{h \pmod{p}} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right) e\left(-\frac{nh}{p}\right) \right\} \Sigma_2.$$

For  $(p, n_1) = 1$  it is known (see [10], p. 60) that

$$(47) \quad \sum'_{h \pmod{p^v}} \left(\frac{h}{p}\right)^\varepsilon e\left(-\frac{p^w n_1 h}{p^v}\right) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v > w+1, \\ -p^{v-1} & \text{if } v = w+1, \varepsilon = 0, \\ (p-1)p^{v-1} & \text{if } v < w+1, \varepsilon = 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } v < w+1, \varepsilon = 1, \\ \left(\frac{-n_1}{p}\right) i^{\left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2} p^{w+\frac{1}{2}} & \text{if } v = w+1, \varepsilon = 1. \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$|B(p, 0)| \leq \sum_{\substack{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k=0,1 \\ k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j \equiv 0 \pmod{2}}} p^{\frac{k}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \sum_j \varepsilon_j} + p^{1/2} \sum_{\substack{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_k=0,1 \\ k-\sum_j \varepsilon_j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}}} p^{\frac{k}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \sum_j \varepsilon_j}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |G_p(f, n) - 1| &\leq \frac{1}{2} (1-p^{-2})^{-k} p^{-k/2} \{ [(p^{-3/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-3/2} - 1)^k] + \\ &\quad + p^{1/2} [(p^{-3/2} + 1)^k - (p^{-3/2} - 1)^k] \} = \xi_0(k, p). \end{aligned}$$



A numerical calculation shows that  $\xi_0(k, p)$  decreases with  $k$  and  $p$ ,  $\xi_0(4, 3) < 1$  and for  $k \geq 4$  there is a constant  $c_1$  such that

$$\xi_0(k, p) < c_1 p^{-2}.$$

Hence

$$\prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p \nmid n}} G_p(f, n) > c_2 \prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p \nmid n, p > \sqrt{c_1}}} \left(1 - \frac{c_1}{p^2}\right) > c_3 > 0.$$

(b)  $w = 1$ . In this case

$$G_p(f, n) = 1 + (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} [p^{-k} B(p, 1) + p^{-2k} B(p^2, 1)],$$

$$S(hf_{p^1, \dots, p^k}, p^2) = \prod_{j=1}^k p^{1+\varepsilon_j}.$$

In the same way as in (a) we have

$$|G_p(f, n) - 1| \leq \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{-k/2} (p-1) [(p^{-3/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-3/2} - 1)^k] + (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} (p-1)^k p^{1-2k} = \xi_1(k, p).$$

(c)  $w = 2$ . We have

$$|G_p(f, n) - 1| \leq \xi_2(k, p),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_2(k, p) &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{-k/2} (p-1) [(p^{-3/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-3/2} - 1)^k] + \\ &+ (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} (p-1)^{k+1} p^{1-2k} + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{2-\frac{3}{2}k} [(p^{-1/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-1/2} - 1)^k] + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{\frac{5}{2}-\frac{3}{2}k} [(p^{-1/2} + 1)^k - (p^{-1/2} - 1)^k]. \end{aligned}$$

(d)  $w \geq 3$ . We have

$$|G_p(f, n) - 1| \leq \xi_3(k, p),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_3(k, p) &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{-k/2} (p-1) [(p^{-3/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-3/2} - 1)^k] + \\ &+ (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} (p-1)^{k+1} p^{1-2k} + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} p^{2-\frac{3}{2}k} (p-1) [(p^{-1/2} + 1)^k + (p^{-1/2} - 1)^k]. \end{aligned}$$

This is just routine to prove that  $\xi_j(k, p)$  decreases with  $k$  and  $p$ ,  $\xi_j(4, 3) < 1$  ( $j = 1, 2, 3$ ) and there is a constant  $c_4 = c_4(k)$  such that

for  $k \geq 5$

$$\xi_j(k, p) < \frac{c_4}{p^2}, \quad \xi_j(4, p) < \frac{c_4}{p} \quad (j = 1, 2, 3).$$

Hence, for  $k \geq 5$

$$\prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p \nmid n}} G_p(f, n) > c_5$$

and for  $k = 4$

$$\prod_{\substack{p \in P_f \\ p \nmid n}} G_p(f, n) > c_6 \prod_{\substack{p \nmid n \\ p > c_4}} \left(1 - \frac{c_4}{p}\right) > c_7 n^{-\varepsilon}.$$

The lemma is therefore proved.

**THEOREM 2.** Let  $N_p$  be as in (42). If for every prime  $p \in P$ , it is soluble congruences

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k) \equiv n \pmod{p^{N_p}}$$

in integers  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  not divisible by  $p^2$  then there is a constant  $G_\varepsilon^{(k)}$  which depends only on  $f$  and  $\varepsilon$  such that

$$G(f, n) > \begin{cases} G_\varepsilon^{(4)} n^{-\varepsilon} & \text{if } k = 4, \\ G_\varepsilon^{(k)} & \text{if } k \geq 5. \end{cases}$$

Otherwise  $G(f, n) = 0$ .

**Proof.** By Lemma 14

$$G(f, n) = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2}\right)^k \prod_p G_p(f, n) = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2}\right)^k \prod_{p \in P_f} G_p(f, n) \prod_{p \nmid P_f} G_p(f, n)$$

and by Lemma 18

$$\prod_{p \in P_f} G_p(f, n) > \begin{cases} c_\varepsilon^{(4)} n^{-\varepsilon} & \text{if } k = 4, \\ c_\varepsilon^{(k)} & \text{if } k \geq 5. \end{cases}$$

Let now  $p \in P_f$ , then by Lemma 17

$$G_p(f, n) = p^{-(k-1)N_p} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k} \varrho(f, p^{N_p}, n),$$

hence  $G_p(f, n) = G(f, n) = 0$ , if the congruence (43) is insoluble in integers not divisible by  $p^2$ . Otherwise

$$G_p(f, n) \geq p^{-(k-1)(w_p(f)+5)} (1 - p^{-2})^{-k}$$

and the result follows if we put

$$G_s^{(k)} = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2}\right)^k c_s^{(k)} \prod_{p \in P_f} p^{-(k-1)(w_p(f)+s)} (1-p^{-2})^{-k}.$$

COROLLARY. For all sufficiently large integers  $n$  are representable by the quadratic form  $f$  provided  $f, n$  satisfy conditions of Theorem 2.

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#### О некоторых арифметических задачах с числами, имеющими малые простые делители

А. А. Карацуба (Москва)

В статье рассматривается ряд проблем аналитической теории чисел (см. [1]) в числах, имеющих малые простые делители. Это позволяет использовать для их решения  $p$ -адический метод, первые применения которого в тригонометрических суммах были даны Ю. В. Линником [6]. Об одной из этих проблем, именно, о возможности получения асимптотической формулы для числа представлений достаточно большого натурального числа суммой  $n$ -х степеней чисел с малыми простыми делителями и числом слагаемых порядка  $n \ln n$  (аналог асимптотической формулы в проблеме Варинга), говорил Ю. В. Линник в 1971 году на Международной конференции по теории чисел в Москве. Введем определение и ряд обозначений, необходимых для дальнейшего.

ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИЕ. Пусть  $g(x)$  — монотонно возрастающая функция, причем  $g(x) \geq \ln \ln x$  при  $x \geq x_0 > 0$  и

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{g(x)}{\ln x} = 0.$$

Натуральное число  $m$  называется числом с малыми простыми делителями класса  $E_g$ , если для каждого простого делителя  $p$  числа  $m$  выполняется неравенство  $\ln p \leq g(m)$ .

Число чисел  $m$  с малыми простыми делителями класса  $E_g$ , не превосходящих  $P$ , будем обозначать  $P$ ; таким образом,

$$P = P(P, g) = \sum_{\substack{m \in E_g \\ m \leq P}} 1.$$

Подобно тому, как это делается в [2], можно показать, что при  $P \rightarrow +\infty$

$$P \sim P e^{-\omega \ln \omega}, \quad \omega = \frac{\ln P}{g(P)}.$$