

# An Explicit Formula of the Newman-Coquet Exponential Sum

Zenji KOBAYASHI<sup>1</sup>, Katsushi MURAMOTO<sup>2</sup>, Tatsuya OKADA<sup>3\*</sup>,  
Takeshi SEKIGUCHI<sup>4</sup> and Yasunobu SHIOTA<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Information Science, Tohoku Gakuin University, Sendai 981-3105, Japan

<sup>2</sup>Kawaijuku Educational Institution, 4-32-4 Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0051, Japan

<sup>3</sup>Department of Mathematics, School of Medicine, Fukushima Medical University,  
Fukushima 960-1295, Japan

<sup>4</sup>Information Science, Tohoku Gakuin University, Sendai 981-3105, Japan

<sup>5</sup>Information Science, Tohoku Gakuin University, Sendai 981-3105, Japan

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In this paper, we first give an explicit formula of the exponential sum of sum of digits with complex coefficients. As an application of this formula, we obtain a simple expression of Newman-Coquet summation formula related to the number of binary digits in a multiple of three.

KEYWORDS: digital sum problem, singular function, multinomial measure, difference equation

## 1. Introduction

Let  $p$  be a positive integer greater than 1 and denote the  $p$ -adic expansion of  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  by  $n = \sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n)p^i$ , where  $\alpha_i(n) \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ . We set

$$s(p, n, l) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \mathbf{1}_{\{j|\alpha_j(n)=l\}}(i)$$

for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$  and

$$s(n)_{(p)} = (s(p, n, 1), s(p, n, 2), \dots, s(p, n, p-1)).$$

We define the exponential sum:

$$F(\xi, N)_{(p)} = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{\langle \xi, s(n)_{(p)} \rangle} = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{\sum_{l=1}^{p-1} \xi_l s(p, n, l)}$$

for  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{p-1}) \in \mathbf{C}^{p-1}$  and  $N \in \mathbf{N}$ . In previous paper [7], we gave an explicit formula of  $F(\xi, N)_{(p)}$  for  $\xi \in \mathbf{R}^{p-1}$  by using the distribution function of the multinomial measure.

For the case  $p = 2$ , set  $s(n) = s(2, n, 1)$  and let

$$D(N) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} (-1)^{s(3n)}.$$

In [5], Newman noticed that an examination of the multiples of three, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27,  $\dots$  written to the two base

$$11, 110, 1001, 1100, 1111, 10010, 10101, 11000, 11011, \dots$$

shows a definite preponderance of those containing an even number of one digits over those containing an odd number. Newman obtained following inequalities:

$$\frac{3^\alpha}{20} < D(N)N^{-\alpha} < 5.3^\alpha,$$

where  $\alpha = \frac{\log 3}{\log 4}$ . This estimate shows that this strange behaviour persists forever. More precisely, Coquet [1] obtained the following theorem.

**Theorem** (Coquet [1]).

$$1. D(N) = \frac{\eta(N)}{3} + N^\alpha F\left(\frac{\log N}{\log 4}\right)$$

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\* Corresponding author.

where  $\eta(N) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } N \text{ is even} \\ (-1)^{s(3N-1)} & \text{if } N \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$  and  $F$  is a continuous nowhere differentiable function of period 1.

$$2. \limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} D(N)N^{-\alpha} = \sup F = \frac{55}{3} \left( \frac{3}{65} \right)^\alpha = 1.601958421 \dots$$

$$\liminf_{N \rightarrow \infty} D(N)N^{-\alpha} = \inf F = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} = 1.154700538 \dots$$

In this paper, we shall generalize the distribution function  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$  of the multinomial measure with complex parameters, and give a simple explicit formula of  $F(\xi, N)_{(p)}$  via a generalized  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$ . Next, as an application of this one, we shall give an explicit expression of  $D(N)$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

Assume that we are given a positive integer  $p$  greater than 1. Let  $I = I_{0,0} = [0, 1]$  and

$$I_{n,j} = [j/p^n, (j+1)/p^n], \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, p^n - 2,$$

$$I_{n,p^n-1} = [(p^n - 1)/p^n, 1]$$

for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Let  $\mathbf{r} = (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{p-2})$  be a vector such that  $0 < r_l < 1$  for  $l = 0, 1, \dots, p-2$  and  $\sum_{l=0}^{p-2} r_l < 1$  and set  $r_{p-1} = 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{p-2} r_l$ . The probability measure  $\mu_{\mathbf{r}}$  on  $I$  defined by

$$(1) \quad \mu_{\mathbf{r}}(I_{n+1,pj+l}) = r_l \mu_{\mathbf{r}}(I_{n,j})$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, j = 0, 1, \dots, p^n - 1, l = 0, 1, \dots, p-1$ , is said to be a multinomial measure. If  $r_l = 1/p$  for all  $l$ ,  $\mu_{\mathbf{r}}$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $[0, 1]$  and otherwise it is singular with respect to the Lebesgue measure. We denote the distribution function of  $\mu_{\mathbf{r}}$  by  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$ :

$$L(\mathbf{r}, x) = \mu_{\mathbf{r}}([0, x]), \quad x \in I.$$

Following our previous paper [9], we summarize some fundamental properties of  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$ .

**Lemma 2.1** ([9, Lemma 2.1.]) *For a given  $\mathbf{r} = (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{p-2})$  and  $r_{p-1}$  as above,  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$  satisfies the following system of infinitely many difference equations:*

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} f\left(\frac{pj+k+1}{p^{n+1}}\right) - f\left(\frac{pj+k}{p^{n+1}}\right) - r_k \left\{ f\left(\frac{j+1}{p^n}\right) - f\left(\frac{j}{p^n}\right) \right\} = 0, \\ f(0) = 0, \quad f(1) = 1, \\ n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, p^n - 1, \\ k = 0, 1, \dots, p-1. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.2** ([9, Lemma 2.2.]) *Provided that  $f$  is continuous, the system (2) is equivalent to the following functional equations:*

$$(3) \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} r_0 f(px), & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{p}, \\ r_1 f(px-1) + r_0, & \frac{1}{p} \leq x \leq \frac{2}{p}, \\ \dots & \dots \\ r_k f(px-k) + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} r_i, & \frac{k}{p} \leq x \leq \frac{k+1}{p}, \\ \dots & \dots \\ r_{p-1} f(px-(p-1)) + \sum_{i=0}^{p-2} r_i, & \frac{p-1}{p} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, by Hata [2, Corollary 6.6], we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3** ([9, Proposition 2.1.])  *$L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$  is a unique continuous solution of (3), and hence of (2).*

## 3. Results

Let an integer  $p \geq 2$  be given. We now consider the case  $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{C}^{p-1}$  and treat the system of infinitely many difference equations (2) with  $\mathbf{r} = (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{p-2})$  such that

$$(4) \quad r_l \in \mathbf{C}, \quad 0 < |r_l| < 1 \text{ for } l = 0, 1, \dots, p-2, \quad 0 < \left| 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{p-2} r_l \right| < 1.$$

Let  $r_{p-1} = 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{p-2} r_l$ . Then we can immediately prove that Lemma 2.2 holds and the functional equation (3) has a unique continuous solution. Therefore, under the condition (4), we set  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$  the continuous solution of (3) anew. We can also get an exact form of the  $k$ -th derivative of  $L(\mathbf{r}, \cdot)$  with respect to the parameters  $r_l$  ( $l = 0, 1, \dots, p-2$ ) in a similar manner to [9, Section 5.].

**Theorem 1** Suppose that  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{p-1}) \in \mathbf{C}^{p-1}$  satisfies the condition  $|1 + e^{\xi_1} + \dots + e^{\xi_{p-1}}| > 1$  and  $N \in \mathbf{N}$ , then we have

$$(5) \quad F(\xi, N)_{(p)} = \frac{1}{r_0^{\{t\}+1}} L\left(\mathbf{r}, \frac{1}{p^{1-\{t\}}}\right),$$

where

$$r_0 = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + \dots + e^{\xi_{p-1}}} \quad \text{and} \quad r_l = \frac{e^{\xi_l}}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + \dots + e^{\xi_{p-1}}}$$

for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$ , and  $\{t\}$  denotes the fractional part of  $t = \log_p N$ .

**Theorem 2** For the quantum  $D(N)$  in Introduction, we have

$$(6) \quad D(N) = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{n < 3N} (-1)^{s(n)} + \frac{2}{3} 3^{\{\tilde{t}\}+1} \text{Re}L\left(\mathbf{r}, \frac{1}{4^{1-\{\tilde{t}\}}}\right),$$

where  $\mathbf{r} = (r_0, r_1, r_2) = \left(\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{w}{3}, -\frac{w^2}{3}\right)$ ,  $w = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sqrt{-1}$  (i.e. a cubic root of unity) and  $\tilde{t} = \frac{\log 3N}{\log 4}$ .  $\{\tilde{t}\}$  is the integral part of  $\tilde{t}$ .

**Remark 3.1** Since the set  $\{3N/4^{\{\tilde{t}\}+1} : N = 0, 1, \dots\}$  is dense in  $[1/4, 1]$ , we obtain the next estimates:

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} D(N)N^{-\alpha} &= \max_{1/4 \leq x \leq 1} 2 \cdot 3^{\alpha-1} x^{-\alpha} \text{Re}L(\mathbf{r}, x) \\ \liminf_{N \rightarrow \infty} D(N)N^{-\alpha} &= \min_{1/4 \leq x \leq 1} 2 \cdot 3^{\alpha-1} x^{-\alpha} \text{Re}L(\mathbf{r}, x) \end{aligned}$$

We illustrate the graph of  $g(x) = 2 \cdot 3^{\alpha-1} x^{-\alpha} \text{Re}L(\mathbf{r}, x)$  in Fig. 1.

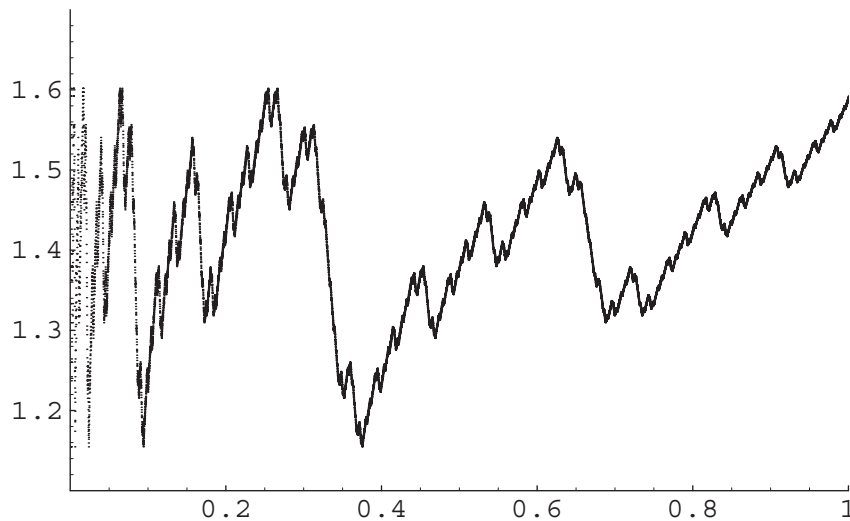


Fig. 1.  $g(x)$

#### 4. Proofs.

*Proof of the Theorem 1.* As  $L(\mathbf{r}, 0) = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
L\left(r, \frac{1}{p^{1-[l]}}\right) &= L\left(r, \frac{N}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\{ L\left(r, \frac{n+1}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{n}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) \right\} \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\{ L\left(r, \frac{\sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) p^i + 1}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{\sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) p^i}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

By using (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
&L\left(r, \frac{\sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) p^i + 1}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{\sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) p^i}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) \\
&= L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 1} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-1}\right) p + \alpha_0(n) + 1}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 1} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-1}\right) p + \alpha_0(n)}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) \\
&= r_{\alpha_0(n)} \left\{ L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 2} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-2}\right) p + \alpha_1(n) + 1}{p^{[l]}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 2} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-2}\right) p + \alpha_1(n)}{p^{[l]}}\right) \right\} \\
&= r_{\alpha_0(n)} r_{\alpha_1(n)} \left\{ L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 3} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-3}\right) p + \alpha_2(n) + 1}{p^{[l]-1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{\left(\sum_{i \geq 3} \alpha_i(n) p^{i-3}\right) p + \alpha_2(n)}{p^{[l]-1}}\right) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

To iterate this procedure, we find

$$\begin{aligned}
L\left(r, \frac{n+1}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) - L\left(r, \frac{n}{p^{[l]+1}}\right) &= r_{\alpha_0(n)} r_{\alpha_1(n)} \cdots r_{\alpha_{[l]}(n)} \\
&= r_0^{[l]+1 - \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} s(p,n,i)} r_1^{s(p,n,1)} r_2^{s(p,n,2)} \cdots r_{p-1}^{s(p,n,p-1)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
L\left(r, \frac{1}{p^{1-[l]}}\right) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\{ r_0^{[l]+1 - \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} s(p,n,i)} r_1^{s(p,n,1)} r_2^{s(p,n,2)} \cdots r_{p-1}^{s(p,n,p-1)} \right\} \\
&= r_0^{[l]+1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\{ \left(\frac{r_1}{r_0}\right)^{s(p,n,1)} \left(\frac{r_2}{r_0}\right)^{s(p,n,2)} \cdots \left(\frac{r_{p-1}}{r_0}\right)^{s(p,n,p-1)} \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Setting  $r_0 = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + \cdots + e^{\xi_{p-1}}}$  and  $r_l = \frac{e^{\xi_l}}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + \cdots + e^{\xi_{p-1}}}$  for  $l = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$ , we obtain the Theorem 1.  $\square$

*Proof of the Theorem 2.* As

$$\sum_{n < 3N} (-1)^{s(n)} w^n = \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n)} + \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n+1)} w + \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n+2)} w^2,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Re} \sum_{n < 3N} (-1)^{s(n)} w^n &= \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n+1)} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n < N} (-1)^{s(3n+2)} \\
&= \frac{3}{2} D(N) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n < N} \{(-1)^{s(3n)} + (-1)^{s(3n+1)} + (-1)^{s(3n+2)}\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$D(N) = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{n < 3N} (-1)^{s(n)} + \frac{2}{3} \operatorname{Re} \sum_{n < 3N} (-1)^{s(n)} w^n.$$

Set the 4-adic expansion of  $n \in N$  by  $n = \sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) 4^i$ , where  $\alpha_i(n) \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . Then we have

$$w^n = w^{\sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha_i(n) (3+1)^i} = w^{\sum_i \alpha_i(n)} = w^{s(4,n,1) + 2s(4,n,2) + 3s(4,n,3)}.$$

On the other hand, as

$$s(n) = s(4, n, 1) + s(4, n, 2) + 2s(4, n, 3),$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{s(n)} w^n &= (-1)^{s(4,n,1)+s(4,n,2)+2s(4,n,3)} w^{s(4,n,1)+2s(4,n,2)+3s(4,n,3)} \\ &= (-w)^{s(4,n,1)} (-w^2)^{s(4,n,2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{3N-1} (-1)^{s(n)} w^n = \sum_{n=0}^{3N-1} e^{\sum_{l=1}^3 \xi_l s(4,n,l)} = F(\xi, 3N)_{(4)}$$

where  $\xi_1 = \log(-w)$ ,  $\xi_2 = \log(-w^2)$  and  $\xi_3 = 0$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + e^{\xi_2} + e^{\xi_3}} = \frac{1}{3}, \quad r_1 = \frac{e^{\xi_1}}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + e^{\xi_2} + e^{\xi_3}} = -\frac{w}{3}, \\ r_2 &= \frac{e^{\xi_2}}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + e^{\xi_2} + e^{\xi_3}} = -\frac{w^2}{3}, \quad r_3 = \frac{e^{\xi_3}}{1 + e^{\xi_1} + e^{\xi_2} + e^{\xi_3}} = \frac{1}{3}, \end{aligned}$$

we obtain our formula by Theorem 1.  $\square$

**Remark 4.1** For  $z \in \mathbf{C}$ , let  $\bar{z}$  be the conjugate complex. Then by Lemma 2.2, we know the following functional equations hold:

$$(7) \quad L(\mathbf{r}, x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}L(\mathbf{r}, 4x) & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{4}, \\ -\frac{w}{3}L(\mathbf{r}, 4x-1) + \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } \frac{1}{4} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ -\frac{w^2}{3}L(\mathbf{r}, 4x-2) + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{w}{3} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{3}{4}, \\ \frac{1}{3}L(\mathbf{r}, 4x-3) + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{w}{3} - \frac{w^2}{3} & \text{if } \frac{3}{4} \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

for  $\mathbf{r} = (\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{w}{3}, -\frac{w^2}{3})$ , and

$$(8) \quad L(\mathbf{r}', x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}L(\mathbf{r}', 4x) & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{4}, \\ -\frac{\bar{w}}{3}L(\mathbf{r}', 4x-1) + \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } \frac{1}{4} \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ -\frac{\bar{w}^2}{3}L(\mathbf{r}', 4x-2) + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{\bar{w}}{3} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{3}{4}, \\ \frac{1}{3}L(\mathbf{r}', 4x-3) + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{\bar{w}}{3} - \frac{\bar{w}^2}{3} & \text{if } \frac{3}{4} \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

for  $\mathbf{r}' = (\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{\bar{w}}{3}, -\frac{\bar{w}^2}{3})$ . It is well-known that above each system has a unique continuous solution and the range  $G_1([0, 1])$  (resp.  $G_2([0, 1])$ ) is the Koch curve on the lower half-plane (resp. the upper half-one) of  $\mathbf{C}$ . Set  $\beta = \frac{1-w}{3} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{-1}$ . Then, noticing equalities

$$\beta\bar{\beta} = \frac{1}{3}, \quad \beta(1-\bar{\beta}) = -\frac{w}{3}, \quad (1-\beta)\bar{\beta} = -\frac{w^2}{3}, \quad (1-\beta)(1-\bar{\beta}) = \frac{1}{3},$$

we can easily show that  $L(\mathbf{r}, x)$  and  $L(\mathbf{r}', x)$  satisfy the following systems of functional equations:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{r}, x) &= \begin{cases} \beta\overline{L(\mathbf{r}, 2x)} & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ (1-\beta)\overline{L(\mathbf{r}, 2x-1)} + \beta & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 1, \end{cases} \\ L(\mathbf{r}', x) &= \begin{cases} \bar{\beta}\overline{L(\mathbf{r}', 2x)} & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ (1-\bar{\beta})\overline{L(\mathbf{r}', 2x-1)} + \bar{\beta} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Kawamura [4] studied general type of above functional equations and investigated those fractal properties. We finally remark that Coquet [1] also pointed out that the function  $F$  of Theorem 1 concerned with the classical fractal scheme.

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