2. Lemmas

THEOREM 2. *Let q be an even positive integer. Then:*

$$|S(a_1, \ldots, a_k; q)| \leqslant 2^{\frac{k+1}{2}} k^{\nu(q)} q^{\frac{k-1}{2}} (a_1, a_k, q)^{1/2} \ldots (a_{k-1}, a_k, q)^{1/2}.$$

Estermann, [2], has dealt with the case of the Kloosterman sum.

2. LEMMAS

Lemma 1. Consider the congruence:

$$x^k \equiv a \pmod{p^m}$$

where k, m are positive integers, a is an integer, p a prime and $(a, p) = 1$. Then:

1. If $p > 2$, this congruence has at most k incongruent solutions mod p^m.
2. If $p = 2$ and k is odd, then this congruence has exactly 1 solution mod p^m.
3. If $p = 2$, and $k = 2^r l$, $r > 1$, l odd, then this congruence has at most $\min\{2^{r+1}, p^m\}$ solutions mod p^m.

Proof: This is essentially found on pp. 115, 119 of [3].

Lemma 2. Let p be a prime, and m, n positive integers, $\frac{1}{2}m \leqslant n < m$. Let $y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}, z_1, \ldots, z_{k-1}$ be integers; $p \nmid y_1, \ldots, p \nmid y_{k-1}$. Define $[y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}; p^m]$ as that integer y, $0 < y < p^m$ such that $y(y_1 \ldots y_{k-1}) \equiv 1 \pmod{p^m}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}[y_1 + p^n z_1, \ldots, y_{k-1} + p^n z_{k-1}; p^m] \equiv\ & [y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}; p^m] \\ & - [y_1; p^m]^2 [y_2; p^m] \ldots [y_{k-1}; p^m] p^n z_1 \\ & \cdot \\ & \cdot \\ & \cdot \\ & - [y_1; p^m] \ldots [y_{k-2}; p^m] [y_{k-1}; p^m]^2 p^n z_{k-1} \pmod{p^m}\end{aligned}$$

Proof: This follows from the relation

$$[y_1; p^m] \ldots [y_{k-1}; p^m] \equiv [y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}; p^m] \pmod{p^m}$$

and Lemma 1 of [2].

Lemma 3. Let p be a prime, m, n positive integers, $m = 2n + 1$. Let $y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}, z_1, \ldots, z_{k-1}$ be integers; $p \nmid y_1, \ldots, p \nmid y_{k-1}$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
&[y_1 + p^n z_1, \ldots, y_{k-1} + p^n z_{k-1}; p^m] \equiv [y_1, \ldots, y_{k-1}; p^m] \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m]^3 [y_2; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-1}; p^m] p^{2n} z_1^2 \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-2}; p^m] [y_{k-1}; p^m]^3 p^{2n} z_{k-1}^2 \\
&\quad - [y_1; p^m]^2 [y_2; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-1}; p^m] p^n z_1 \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&\quad - [y_1; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-2}; p^m] [y_{k-1}; p^m]^2 p^n z_{k-1} \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m]^2 [y_2; p^m]^2 [y_3; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-1}; p^m] p^{2n} z_1 z_2 \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m]^2 [y_2; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-2}; p^m] [y_{k-1}; p^m]^2 p^{2n} z_1 z_{k-1} \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m] [y_2; p^m]^2 [y_3; p^m]^2 [y_4; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-1}; p^m] p^{2n} z_2 z_3 \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m] [y_2; p^m]^2 [y_3; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-2}; p^m] [y_{k-1}; p^m]^2 p^{2n} z_2 z_{k-1} \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&\quad + [y_1; p^m] \cdots [y_{k-3}; p^m] [y_{k-2}; p^m]^2 [y_{k-1}; p^m]^2 p^{2n} z_{k-2} z_{k-1} \\
&\quad (\mathrm{mod}\ p^m)
\end{aligned}
$$

Proof: This follows from Lemma 5 of [2].

Lemma 4. Let $p > 2$ be a prime, and n a positive integer. Let a, h be integers. Then:

$$\left| \sum_{0 \leqq z < p^{n+1}} e(az^2 p^{-1} + hzp^{-n-1}) \right| = \begin{cases} 0 & p^n \nmid h \\ p^{n+1/2} & p^n \mid h, \quad p \nmid a \\ p^{n+1} & p^{n+1} \mid h, \quad p \mid a \\ 0 & p^{n+1} \nmid h, \quad p \mid a . \end{cases}$$

Proof: The first two parts of this lemma are Lemma 5 of [2]. The last two parts are trivial.

3. Proof of Theorems 1 and 2

Proposition 1. *Let p be a prime, m a positive integer and $a_1, .. a_k$, integers such that*

$$(a_1, a_k, p^m) = \ldots = (a_{k-1}, a_k, p^m) = p^h \qquad 0 \leqslant h < m .$$

Then

$$S(a_1, \ldots, a_k; p^m) = (p^h)^{k-1} S(a_1 p^{-h}, \ldots, a_k p^{-h}; p^{m-h})$$

Proof: The proof is similar to that of [2], page 85 bottom.

Proposition 2. *Let m, n be positive integers $\frac{1}{2}m \leqslant n < m$, p a prime, and $a_1, \ldots, a_k$ integers such that $(a_1, a_k; p^m) = 1$. Then:*

$$| S(a_1, \ldots, a_k; p^m) | \leqslant A (p^n)^{k-1}$$

where

$$A = \begin{cases} k & \text{if } p > 2 . \\ 1 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } k \text{ is odd} . \\ \min \{ 2^{r+1}, p^m \} & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } k = 2^r l , \\ & \quad r > 1 \text{ and } l \text{ odd} . \end{cases}$$

Proof: Let us assume throughout this proposition that $S(a_1, \ldots, a_k; p^m) \neq 0$, or else we are done.

Now we have the identity