

# SYMPLECTIC KLOOSTERMAN SUMS FOR $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$ WITH POWERFUL MODULI

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ABSTRACT. We prove a non-trivial bound for  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$  Kloosterman sums of moduli not equal to a prime multiple of the identity. These sums are attached to Siegel modular forms on the group  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$  and appear in the corresponding Petersson formula. We give an application to equidistribution of coprime symmetric pairs.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Kloosterman sums are a type of exponential sums that play a significant role in number theory. They allow for multiple generalizations over various groups such as  $\mathrm{GL}(n)$  and  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$ . The generalizations appear in particular in relative trace formulas of Petersson/Kuznetsov type and in Fourier coefficients of Poincaré series, but also in relation to equidistribution problems. Recently, non-trivial bounds have been proved for Kloosterman sums over groups of higher ranks. Blomer-Man and Linn [BM, Lin] considered the Kloosterman sums appearing in the Kuznetsov formula for  $\mathrm{GL}(n)$ . Erdélyi, Tóth and Zábrady [ET, ETZ] considered another type of  $\mathrm{GL}(n)$  Kloosterman sums appearing in equidistribution problems [ELS]. For the Petersson formula of the symplectic group, only the case  $\mathrm{Sp}(4)$  was considered until now with non-trivial bounds proven by Kitaka and Tóth [Kit, Tót]. In the Kuznetsov formula for  $\mathrm{Sp}(4)$ , the sums were bounded by Man [Man].

In this paper, we consider a generalization of Kloosterman sums to  $\mathrm{Sp}(2n)$  appearing in the theory of Siegel modular forms and in the corresponding Petersson formula. Let  $n$  be an integer,  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  a matrix with  $\det(C) \neq 0$  and  $Q$  and  $T$  be two symmetric half-integral matrices. The symplectic Kloosterman sum is

$$(1.1) \quad K_n(Q, T; C) = \sum_{\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C)} e^{2\pi i \mathrm{tr}(AC^{-1}Q + C^{-1}DT)}.$$

The sum is over symplectic matrices in the double quotient

$$X(C) := \Gamma_\infty \backslash \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}) \right\} / \Gamma_\infty$$

with  $\Gamma_\infty = \{ \begin{pmatrix} I_n & X \\ 0 & I_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}) \}$ . To simplify, we write  $e(M) := e^{2\pi i \mathrm{tr}(M)}$  for a square matrix  $M$ . For  $n = 1$ , this is consistent with the usual notation in number theory. Since  $\mathrm{Sp}_2(\mathbb{R}) = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ , we obtain the classical Kloosterman sum in that case. We have the celebrated Weil bound [Wei]

$$|K_1(q, t; c)| = \left| \sum_{x \pmod{c}, (x, c) = 1} e(c^{-1}qx + c^{-1}t\bar{x}) \right| \leq \tau(c)(c, q, t)^{1/2}c^{1/2}.$$

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In this introduction, we consider  $n \geq 2$ . Since  $e(M) = 1$  for a matrix  $M \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ , summing over  $X(C)$  is well defined. Unless necessary, we drop the size of the matrices  $n$  from the notation.

For any  $C \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $\det(C) \neq 0$ , we have  $U, V \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  such that  $UCV = \text{diag}(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  with  $c_1 \mid \dots \mid c_n$ . The integers  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are called the elementary divisors of  $C$  and they are unique. The diagonal matrix is called the Smith normal form of  $C$ . We show in Section 2 that the dependency of  $K(Q, T; C)$  in  $C$  is only in its elementary divisors. In particular, we have the trivial bound

$$(1.2) \quad K_n(Q, T; C) \leq \prod_{i=1}^n c_i^{n-i+1}.$$

In the scalar case, when  $C = mI_n$ , the trivial bound is  $m^{n(n+1)/2}$ . Moreover, we can factorize the sum with respect to the prime numbers dividing  $c_n$ .

Let  $p$  be a prime and consider  $C$  of the form  $\text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Our first result is a non-trivial bound for Kloosterman sums when at least  $\sigma_n \geq 2$ . In the following theorem, the notation  $(a, M, N)$  for integral matrices  $M$  and  $N$  means the greatest common divisor of  $a$  and all the coordinates in  $M$  and  $N$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $Q, T$  be two symmetric half-integral matrices.*

(1) *Let  $C = p^\sigma I_n$  be a scalar matrix with  $\sigma \geq 2$ . Let  $\sigma = 2\mu + \nu$  with  $\nu = 0$  if  $\sigma$  is even and 1 otherwise. Then*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) \ll_n p^{\sigma n^2/2} (p^\mu, 2Q, 2T)^n (p^\nu, 2Q, 2T)^{n/2}.$$

(2) *Let  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$  and  $\sigma_n \geq 2$ . Let  $\sigma_i = 2\mu_i + \nu_i$  with  $\nu_i = 0$  if  $\sigma_i$  is even and 1 otherwise.*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) \ll_n \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1/2)\sigma_i} (p^{\mu_i}, 2Q'_i) (p^{\nu_i}, 2Q'_i)^{1/2}.$$

Here  $Q'_i$  is defined as follow:

- (a) *If  $\sigma_i = 1$ , then  $Q'_i$  is the right block of  $Q$  of size  $n$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s > 1$ . In that case,  $\mu_i = 0$ .*
- (b) *If  $\sigma_i \geq 2$ , then  $Q'_i$  is the bottom-right block of  $Q$  of size  $s$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s = \sigma_i$ .*

In both cases, the implicit constant only depends on the dimension  $n$ .

In Lemma 2.9, we show that the roles of  $Q$  and  $T$  can be interchanged in the second bound. A bound similar to Theorem 1.1 was proven by Márton, Tóth and Zábrádi in the case  $C = pI_n$ .

**Theorem 1.2** ([MT, TZ], to appear). *Let  $p$  be an odd prime number and  $C = pI_n$ . We have*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) \ll p^{n(n+1)/2-r/2}$$

with  $r = \max\{\text{rk}_p Q, \text{rk}_p T\}$  where the ranks are taken modulo  $p$ .

In their articles, they also show that their result is essentially optimal. A non-trivial bound for  $K_n(Q, T; C)$  was first proven by Kitaoka [Kit] for  $n = 2$ . Later, Tóth proved square-root cancellation for these sums [Tót], which is the best possible bound. Of course, for  $n = 1$ , the Weil bound already gives square-root cancellation. With the result from Márton, Tóth and Zábrádi, this is the first non-trivial bound for symplectic Kloosterman where  $n \geq 3$ . The symplectic Kloosterman sums appear in many applications. In particular, Kitaoka introduced them, in the paper cited above, to

bound Fourier coefficients of Siegel modular forms. We hope to return to the generalization of these questions to  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$  in the near future.

An important proof strategy for us is to decompose the modulus  $C$  into blocks of constant prime powers. It leads to induction on the number of blocks and reduction of problems on coprime symmetric pairs with various congruences to problems on symmetric matrices and a unique congruence. This is used in particular in Sections 4 and 5. By a coprime symmetric pair, we mean the two bottom blocks  $(C, D)$  of a symplectic matrix. See Proposition 2.4 for equivalent definitions.

The proof of Theorem 1.1 is essentially in three parts. For  $C$  diagonal consisting of powers of  $p$ , we can suppose that  $A = \bar{D}^t$  is the inverse transpose matrix of  $D$  (mod  $p^{\sigma_n}$ ) for  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C)$ . The proof starts by a  $p$ -adic stationary phase argument in Section 3 for  $C$  consisting of prime powers larger than  $p$ . The challenge here is to combine the multiplicative structure of  $\bar{D}^t$  with its additive structure, given by the fact  $CD^t$  is symmetric for a symplectic matrix. Then in Section 4, we split  $C$  into two blocks:  $C = \mathrm{diag}(pI_s, C_1)$  with prime powers in  $C_1$  larger than  $p$ . We split in the same way all the other matrices appearing in the sum. After computing the block inverse, we restructure the sum and can insert the results of the last section. The final result is given in Proposition 4.2. The symplectic Kloosterman sum is now given by a Kloosterman sum with  $C = pI_s$ , a quadratic matrix equation and two quadratic Gauss sums over matrices modulo respectively  $p \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $C' \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$  with the elements in  $C'$  equal to 1 or  $p$ , whether the corresponding prime power is even or odd. In the second sum, there is an additional symmetry condition on the summed matrices. Finally, in Section 5, we prove non-trivial bounds over the two Gauss sums and the number of solutions to the quadratic equation. This relies in particular on a block decomposition of  $C_1$  into different prime powers and a list of simpler matrix equations, for which we show non-trivial bounds. We prove our theorem without appealing to Theorem 1.2 thanks to the first Gauss sum modulo  $p$ , that correspond to the top-right block of  $D$ . The bound for this sum gives us a large enough win over the trivial bound for the " $p$ -part" of  $C$  corresponding to its first block. The case  $p = 2$  is treated at the end of the section.

In this article, we develop a robust framework that allows for a square-root cancellation bound with additional efforts. One would need to give better bounds to the matrix equations in Lemma 5.3 and in Case 1 of the proof of Proposition 5.5, compute the Gauss sum of Proposition 5.4 exactly (this was done by Walling, see the remark after the statement) and compute the resulting sum in  $W$  of Proposition 4.2, which is a slightly modified symplectic Kloosterman sum modulo  $p$ . The improved bounds will depend on the rank of various blocks of the parameters  $Q$  and  $T$ . Thus the non-generic bound will be quite technical to state and use. In any case, this would be limited in applications without a corresponding bound for a sum over  $C = pI_n$  as in Theorem 1.2.

In Section 6, we give an application of Theorem 1.1 in the spirit of an article of El-Baz, Lee and Strömbergsson [ELS]. Sums over a general  $C$  can be factorized with respect to the divisors of its elementary divisors. This is detailed in Section 2. We combine Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 to get a general bound. Then we apply it to the following equidistribution problem. Let  $\mathbb{T}_n = \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$  be the set of  $n$  by  $n$  symmetric matrices modulo 1. Let  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . Consider

$$S_C := \left\{ (C^{-t}A^t, C^{-1}D) \in \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n \mid \begin{pmatrix} A & * \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C) \right\}.$$

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $C_0 \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $\det(C_0) \neq 0$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . The set  $S_{mC_0}$  equidistributes effectively in  $\mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n = \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^2$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .*

A more precise statement with an explicit rate of convergence is given in Section 6. The case  $n = 1$  was presented in [EMSS].

**1.1. Notations.** We denote the set of  $n$  by  $n$  symmetric matrices by  $\mathcal{X}_n$ . If needed, we precise the ring in parenthesis. Half-integral symmetric matrices are elements of  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{R})$  with half-integral coefficients and integral diagonal. They correspond to quadratic forms.

Let  $M$  be a square matrix. We write  $e(M) := e^{2\pi i \text{tr}(M)}$ . Note that for a 1 by 1 matrix, this is consistent with the notation frequently used in number theory. If  $M$  is invertible, we write  $M^{-t}$  for the transpose of the inverse of  $M$ . For two square matrices  $M, N$ , we write  $M[N] := N^t MN$ . Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $M \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be an integral matrix (or a half-integral matrix if  $p \neq 2$ ). We write  $\text{rk}_p(M)$  for the rank of the reduction modulo  $p$  of the matrix  $M$ . We write  $0_n$  for the  $n$  by  $n$  matrix with only zeros.

We will consider (half-)integral matrices modulo various sets. Since matrix multiplication is non-commutative, we will always precise the full set for the reduction. For example, for a matrix  $C$ , we write  $[C] := C \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) + \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})C$ . We will consider matrices modulo  $[C]$  in Section 5.

We write  $(a, \dots, a_r)$  to denote the greatest common divisor between  $a_1, \dots, a_r$ . If some  $a_i$  is replaced by an integral matrix, we mean by this notation the greatest common divisor of all the coordinates in the matrix and the rest of the  $a_j$ . We write  $a \mid b$  to denote that  $a$  divides  $b$  and  $(p^\infty, a)$  to denote the largest power of  $p$  that divides  $a$ . We use the Vinogradov symbols  $\ll$  and  $\gg$ , with index to precise the dependency of the implicit constant if needed.

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## 2. ELEMENTARY PROPERTIES

**2.1. Symplectic matrices.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. The *symplectic group* is

$$\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R}) := \{M \in \text{Mat}_{2n}(\mathbb{R}) \mid M^t JM = J\}$$

with  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ -I_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Unless stated otherwise, we always split elements of the symplectic group in  $n$  by  $n$  blocks. We write  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$  for the set of elements of  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$  that have integral entries. We write

$$\Gamma_\infty := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} I_n & X \\ 0 & I_n \end{pmatrix} \mid X \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \text{ symmetric} \right\} \subseteq \text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $M = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$  be a matrix. The following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is symplectic.
- (2)  $A^t C$  and  $B^t D$  are symmetric and  $A^t D - C^t B = I_n$ .
- (3)  $AB^t$  and  $CD^t$  are symmetric and  $DA^t - CB^t = I_n$ .

Moreover, suppose that  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . Then  $M$  is symplectic if and only if  $A^t C$  and  $CD^t$  are symmetric and  $DA^t - CB^t = I_n$ .

*Proof.* The first equivalences are direct consequences of the definition. For the last statement, we only need to check that  $AB^t$  is symmetric. Using the hypothesis above, we see that  $B^t = C^{-1}(DA^t - I_n)$  and that  $AC^{-1}$  and  $C^{-1}D$  are symmetric. Then

$$AB^t = AC^{-1}(DA^t - I_n) = AD^t C^{-t} A^t - C^{-t} A^t = (AD^t - I_n) C^{-t} A^t = BA^t.$$

□

*Remark.* Suppose we are given matrices  $A, C, D$  with  $C$  invertible and  $A^t C$  and  $CD^t$  symmetric. There is a unique way to complete the blocks to a symplectic matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$  by setting  $B = (AD^t -$

$I_n)C^{-t}$ . Moreover, if all the matrices are integral and  $AD^t = I_n \pmod{\mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})C^t}$ , we get an integral symplectic matrix  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix})$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $r = \mathrm{rk}(C)$ . There exists matrices  $U \in \mathrm{GL}_m(\mathbb{Z}), V \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  such that

$$UCV = \begin{pmatrix} C' & \\ & 0_{n-r} \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $C' = \mathrm{diag}(c_1, \dots, c_r)$  and  $c_1 \mid c_2 \mid \dots \mid c_r$ . The matrix  $UCV$  is called the *Smith normal form* of  $C$  and the positive integers  $c_1, \dots, c_r$  are called the *elementary divisors* of  $C$ . They are unique. We have the formula

$$d_i(C) = c_1 \cdots c_i$$

where  $d_i(C)$  is the greatest common divisor of all minors of size  $i$  in  $C$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A *symmetric pair*  $(C, D)$  consists of two integral matrices such that  $CD^t$  is symmetric. A *coprime symmetric pair*  $(C, D)$  consists of two integral matrices that are the bottom line of an integral symplectic matrix  $(\begin{smallmatrix} * & * \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix}) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $C, D$  be two square integral matrices of size  $n$ . The following are equivalent:

- (1)  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair.
- (2)  $(D, C)$  is a coprime symmetric pair.
- (3)  $CD^t$  is symmetric and for all  $G \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ ,  $G(C \ D)$  is integral if and only if  $G \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ .
- (4)  $CD^t$  is symmetric and the greatest common divisor of all the minors of size  $n$  in  $(C \ D)$  is 1.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2):  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix})$  is symplectic if and only if  $(\begin{smallmatrix} -B & -A \\ D & C \end{smallmatrix})$  is symplectic.

(3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4): let  $(F \ 0)$  be the Smith normal form of  $(C \ D)$ . That is, there exists  $U \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ ,  $V \in \mathrm{GL}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$  such that  $U(C \ D)V = (F \ 0)$ . Let  $G \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ . Then

$$G(C \ D) \text{ is integral} \Leftrightarrow GU^{-1}F \text{ is integral.}$$

Note that (4) is equivalent to  $F = I_n$ . If (4) holds, then  $G$  must be integral, so (3) holds. Conversely, if (4) does not hold, then  $f_{nn} \neq 1$ . Then the matrix  $G = UF^{-1}$  is not integral and contradicts (3).

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): if  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix})$  is an integral symplectic matrix, then

$$G = G \cdot I_n = GDA^t - GCB^t.$$

Clearly, if  $GC$  and  $GD$  are integral, then  $G$  is integral.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): See [Sie], Lemma 42. Alternatively (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is proven in [New2].  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.**

- (1) Let  $p$  be a prime. If  $C$  is a diagonal matrix of the form  $\mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n \geq 1$ , then  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair if and only if  $C^tD$  is symmetric and  $p \nmid \det(D)$ .
- (2) If  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix})$  is a symplectic matrix, then  $(A, B)$ ,  $(A^t, C^t)$ ,  $(B^t, D^t)$  and  $(C, D)$  are coprime symmetric pairs.

*Proof.*

- (1) Let  $(C, D)$  be a symmetric pair. By Proposition 2.4 (4),  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair if and only if one of its  $n$  by  $n$  minors is coprime to  $p$ . Since any minor with a column of  $C$  is divisible by  $p$ , it is necessary (and sufficient) that  $(\det(D), p) = 1$ .

(2) This is clear since if  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix})$  is a symplectic matrix, then so are

$$\left(\begin{matrix} -C & -D \\ A & B \end{matrix}\right), \quad \left(\begin{matrix} -B^t & -D^t \\ A^t & C^t \end{matrix}\right), \quad \left(\begin{matrix} A^t & C^t \\ B^t & D^t \end{matrix}\right).$$

□

We can characterize elements of the double quotient

$$X(C) := \Gamma_\infty \backslash \{(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix}) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})\} / \Gamma_\infty.$$

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $C$  be an invertible matrix. The set  $X(C)$  is in bijection with*

$$\tilde{X}(C) := \{D \pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \mid (C, D) \text{ coprime symmetric pair}\},$$

by sending a matrix to its bottom-right block  $D$ .

*Remark.* This proves Equation (1.2).

*Proof.* Clearly  $(C, D)$  must always form a coprime symmetric pair. We check which pairs are in the same class in  $X(C)$ . Suppose first that  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . We show that if we have two matrices with equal bottom blocks,

$$\left(\begin{matrix} A_1 & B_1 \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right), \left(\begin{matrix} A_2 & B_2 \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right),$$

then they are equivalent in  $\Gamma_\infty \backslash \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{R})$ . We have

$$A_1 D^t - B_1 C^t = I_n, \quad A_2 D^t - B_2 C^t = I_n \quad \Rightarrow \quad (A_1 - A_2) D^t = (B_1 - B_2) C^t.$$

So  $B_1 - B_2 = (A_1 - A_2) D^t C^{-t} = (A_1 - A_2) C^{-1} D$ . Then

$$(A_1 - A_2) C^{-1} (C \quad D) = (A_1 - A_2 \quad B_1 - B_2) \in \mathrm{Mat}_{n,2n}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

By Proposition 2.4,  $X = (A_1 - A_2) C^{-1} \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and we also have  $XD = B_1 - B_2$ . Note also that  $X$  is symmetric. Then

$$\left(\begin{matrix} I_n & X \\ I_n & I_n \end{matrix}\right) \left(\begin{matrix} A_1 & B_1 \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right) = \left(\begin{matrix} A_1 + XC & B_1 + XD \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right) = \left(\begin{matrix} A_2 & B_2 \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right).$$

Now, let  $(\begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix}) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $X_1, X_2 \in \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ . We have

$$\left(\begin{matrix} I_n & X_1 \\ I_n & I_n \end{matrix}\right) \left(\begin{matrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{matrix}\right) \left(\begin{matrix} I_n & X_2 \\ I_n & I_n \end{matrix}\right) = \left(\begin{matrix} * & * \\ C & CX_2 + D \end{matrix}\right).$$

So two matrices are in the same class in  $X(C)$  if and only if their bottom-right block is equal  $(\pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})})$ . □

**2.2. Factorization of Kloosterman sums.** In this section, we reduce the study of the Kloosterman sum to the case where  $C$  is a diagonal matrix consisting only of prime powers. The two following lemmas are generalizations to  $n \geq 2$  of Lemmas 1, 2 and 3 in [Kit]. The proof is similar, except for the bijection  $f$  in Lemma 2.8, where we give more details.

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be an invertible matrix and  $Q, T$  be two symmetric half-integral matrices. Let  $U, V \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ . Then*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = K_n(Q[U], T[V]; U^t C V).$$

*Proof.* Let  $X(C)$  be the double quotient as above. Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} U^{-1} & \\ & U^t \end{pmatrix} X(C) \begin{pmatrix} V & \\ & V^{-t} \end{pmatrix} = X(U^t CV).$$

More precisely, the above equation defines a bijection between the two sets. This is because the matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} U^{-1} & \\ & U^t \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} V & \\ & V^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$  normalize  $\Gamma_\infty$  since  $U, V \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and because

$$\begin{pmatrix} U^{-1} & \\ & U^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V & \\ & V^{-t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U^{-1}AV & U^{-1}BV^{-t} \\ U^tCV & U^tDV^{-t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since this identity can be reversed, we have a bijection between  $X(C)$  and  $X(U^t CV)$ . The lemma is then established by invariance of the trace under conjugation:

$$\begin{aligned} K(Q[U], T[V]; U^t CV) &= \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(U^t CV) \\ (C \ D) \in X(C)}} e(A(U^t CV)^{-1} Q[U] + (U^t CV)^{-1} DT[V]) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(U^t CV) \\ (C \ D) \in X(C)}} e((U^{-1}AV)(U^t CV)^{-1} Q[U] + (U^t CV)^{-1}(U^t DV^{-t})T[V]) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(U^t CV) \\ (C \ D) \in X(C)}} e(AC^{-1}Q + C^{-1}DT). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $C = FG \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be invertible diagonal matrices in Smith normal form with  $(f_{nn}, g_{nn}) = 1$ . Let  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  be such that  $rf_{nn} + sg_{nn} = 1$ . Let  $Q, T$  be two symmetric half-integral matrices. Then*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = K_n(Q[\bar{G}], T; F) \cdot K_n(Q[\bar{F}], T; G),$$

where  $\bar{F} = rf_{nn}F^{-1}$  and  $\bar{G} = sg_{nn}G^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $\bar{F}F + \bar{G}G = I_n$ . First, we show that we have a bijection  $f : X(C) \rightarrow X(F) \times X(G)$  given by

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \left[ \begin{pmatrix} GA & GB - \bar{F}A^t D \\ F & \bar{G}D \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} FA & FB - \bar{G}A^t D \\ G & \bar{F}D \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

Suppose that  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ . Then  $A^t GF = A^t C$  and  $(B^t G - D^t \bar{F}A^t D)\bar{G}D = sg_{nn}B^t D - rsc_{nn}D^t AC^{-1}D$  are symmetric matrices. We used that  $C, F$  and  $G$  are diagonal. Moreover

$$A^t G \bar{G} D - F(GB - \bar{F}A^t D) = sg_{nn}A^t D - CB + rf_{nn}A^t D = A^t D - C^t B = I_n.$$

So the first component on the right-hand side of Equation (2.1) is in  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ . The second is as well, since we can exchange the roles of  $F$  and  $G$ . Conversely suppose that the right-hand side of Equation (2.1) is in  $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ . To construct the inverse, consider a pair

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} A_F & B_F \\ F & D_F \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} A_G & B_G \\ G & C_G \end{pmatrix} \right) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}) \times \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$$

Its inverse image  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \bar{G}A_F + \bar{F}A_G, & C &= FG, & D &= GD_F + FD_G, \\ B &= 2\bar{F}\bar{G}A^t D + \bar{G}B_F + \bar{F}B_G. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that this is an inverse for  $f$ . We need to check that  $f$  and its inverse are well defined, i.e. they factor through the double quotient. By Proposition 2.6, we only have to check the bottom lines of the maps. We have

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_n & X \\ & I_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ C & D + CX \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \left[ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ F & \bar{G}D + \bar{G}CX \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ G & \bar{F}D + \bar{F}CX \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

Since  $\bar{G}CX = sg_{nn}FX$  and  $\bar{F}CX = rf_{nn}GX$  are multiples of  $FX$  respectively  $GX$ , these are matrices equivalent to the images of  $\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$ . Conversely, we have

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ F & D_F + FX \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ G & D_G + GY \end{pmatrix} \right] \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ FG & GD_F + FD_G + FG(X + Y) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The image is clearly in  $(\begin{smallmatrix} * & * \\ FG & GD_F + FD_G \end{smallmatrix})\Gamma_\infty$ .

Therefore  $f$  has an inverse and is injective. Since  $X(C)$  and  $X(F) \times X(G)$  are finite, it suffices to show that they have the same cardinality to show that  $f$  is bijective. Let  $\tilde{X}(C)$  be as in Proposition 2.6. We have a function  $g : \tilde{X}(C) \mapsto \tilde{X}(F) \times \tilde{X}(G)$  given by  $D \mapsto (\bar{G}D, \bar{F}D)$ . This is a restriction of  $f$  to the bottom-right block. Its inverse is

$$(D_F, D_G) \mapsto GD_F + FD_G.$$

If  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair, so is  $(\bar{G}C, \bar{G}D)$ . Conversely, let  $D = GD_F + FD_G$ . Clearly  $CD^t$  is symmetric. We need to show that  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair. We show that the rank modulo  $p$  of  $(C \ D)$  is  $n$  for all primes  $p$ . Meaning that the greatest common divisor of all minors of size  $n$  in  $(C \ D)$  is coprime to  $p$ . By Proposition 2.4, this is equivalent. If we multiply  $(C \ D)$  on the left or on the right by a matrix  $M$  with  $p \nmid \det(M)$ , then the rank modulo  $p$  does not change. Suppose that  $p \nmid g_{nn}$ . Then

$$\text{rk}_p(C \ D) = \text{rk}_p\left(\bar{G}(FG \ GD_F + FD_G) \begin{pmatrix} I_n & -\bar{G}D_G \\ & I_n \end{pmatrix}\right) = \text{rk}_p(F \ D_F) = n.$$

If  $p \mid g_{nn}$ , we do the same with  $F$  instead of  $G$ . This show that  $g$  is a bijection and that  $X(C)$  and  $X(F) \times X(G)$  have the same cardinality. Therefore  $f$  is also a bijection.

Finally, we compute

$$\begin{aligned} K(Q, T; C) &= \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(C) \\ (C \ D) \in X(C)}} e(AC^{-1}Q + C^{-1}DT) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(A_F \ B_F) \in X(F) \\ (F \ D_F) \in X(F)}} \sum_{\substack{(A_G \ B_G) \in X(G) \\ (G \ D_G) \in X(G)}} e((\bar{G}A_F + \bar{F}A_G)(FG)^{-1}Q + (FG)^{-1}(GD_F + FD_G)T) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(A_F \ B_F) \in X(F) \\ (F \ D_F) \in X(F)}} e(\bar{G}A_F F^{-1}G^{-1}Q + F^{-1}D_F T) \\ &\quad \cdot \sum_{\substack{(A_G \ B_G) \in X(G) \\ (G \ D_G) \in X(G)}} e(\bar{F}A_G F^{-1}G^{-1}Q + G^{-1}D_G T) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{(A_F \ B_F) \in X(F) \\ (F \ D_F) \in X(F)}} e(\bar{G}A_F F^{-1}G^{-1}(\bar{F}F + \bar{G}G)Q + F^{-1}D_F T) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \cdot \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A_G & B_G \\ G & D_G \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(G)} e(\bar{F}A_GF^{-1}G^{-1}(\bar{F}F + \bar{G}G)Q + G^{-1}D_GT) \\
&= \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A_F & B_F \\ F & D_F \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(F)} e(A_F F^{-1}Q[\bar{G}] + F^{-1}D_FT) \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A_G & B_G \\ G & D_G \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(G)} e(A_G G^{-1}Q[\bar{F}] + G^{-1}D_GT) \\
&\quad \cdot e(\bar{G}A_F G^{-1}\bar{F}Q + \bar{F}A_GF^{-1}\bar{G}Q)
\end{aligned}$$

In the final line, since  $A_F = GA$  and  $A_G = FA$ , we have

$$e(\bar{G}A_F G^{-1}\bar{F}Q + \bar{F}A_GF^{-1}\bar{G}Q) = e(sg_{nn}AG^{-1}\bar{F}Q + rf_{nn}AF^{-1}\bar{G}Q) = e(2A\bar{F}\bar{G}Q) = 1.$$

We conclude that

$$K(Q, T; C) = K(Q[\bar{G}], T; F) \cdot K(Q[\bar{F}], T; G).$$

□

**Lemma 2.9.** *Let  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be an invertible matrix and  $Q, T$  be two symmetric half-integral matrices. Then*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = K_n(T, Q; C^t).$$

*Proof.* Note that  $\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$  if and only if  $\left( \begin{smallmatrix} D^t & B^t \\ C^t & A^t \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z})$ . This defines a bijection  $X(C) \rightarrow X(C^t)$  because for a symmetric matrix  $X \in \mathcal{X}(\mathbb{Z})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\left( \begin{smallmatrix} I_n & X \\ I_n & I_n \end{smallmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) &= \left( \begin{smallmatrix} A + XC & B + XD \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \quad \mapsto \quad \left( \begin{smallmatrix} D^t & B^t \\ C^t & A^t \end{smallmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{smallmatrix} I_n & X \\ I_n & I_n \end{smallmatrix} \right), \\
\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{smallmatrix} I_n & X \\ I_n & I_n \end{smallmatrix} \right) &= \left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & AX + B \\ C & CX + D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \quad \mapsto \quad \left( \begin{smallmatrix} I_n & X \\ I_n & I_n \end{smallmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{smallmatrix} D^t & B^t \\ C^t & A^t \end{smallmatrix} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Then we get

$$\begin{aligned}
K(Q, T; C^t) &= \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C^t & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(C^t)} e(AC^{-t}Q + C^{-t}DT) \\
&= \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(C)} e(D^tC^{-t}Q + C^{-t}A^tT) \\
&= \sum_{\left( \begin{smallmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{smallmatrix} \right) \in X(C)} e(C^{-1}DQ + AC^{-1}T) \\
&= K(Q, T; C).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Applying Lemmas 2.7 and 2.8, we can reduce to a matrix  $C$  of the shape

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} p^{\sigma_1} & & & \\ & p^{\sigma_2} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & p^{\sigma_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . We make this more precise in the proof of Proposition 6.1. With such a  $C$ , the set  $X(C)$  is in bijection with

$$(2.2) \quad \tilde{X}(C) := \left\{ D = \begin{pmatrix} d_{11} & d_{12} & \dots & d_{1n} \\ p^{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} d_{12} & d_{22} & \dots & d_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p^{\sigma_n - \sigma_1} d_{1n} & p^{\sigma_n - \sigma_2} d_{2n} & \dots & d_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \forall i \leq j \\ d_{ij} \pmod{p^{\sigma_i}}, \\ (\det(D), p) = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

If  $\sigma_i = 0$ , we fix  $d_{ii} = 1$  and  $d_{ij} = 0$  for  $i < j$ . This is direct from Proposition 2.6 and Lemma 2.5. Therefore

$$|X(C)| \leq \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_i}.$$

This prove the trivial bound (1.2) in the case of a matrix  $C$  of the shape  $\text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$ .

**Definition 2.10.** Given a matrix  $D \in \tilde{X}(C)$ , we define  $\bar{D} = d \text{adj}(D)$  where  $d \det(D) = 1 \pmod{p^{\sigma_n}}$  and  $\text{adj}(D)$  is the adjugate matrix of  $D$ . Then  $\bar{D}D = D\bar{D} = I_n \pmod{p^{\sigma_n} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . In particular, the matrix  $B = C^{-1}(\bar{D}D - I_n)$  is integral and we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{D}^t & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C).$$

Note also that  $(C, \bar{D})$  is also a coprime symmetric pair. Finally, we conclude that

$$(2.3) \quad K(Q, T; C) = \sum_{\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C)} e(AC^{-1}Q + C^{-1}DT) = \sum_{D \in \tilde{X}(C)} e(C^{-1}\bar{D}Q + C^{-1}DT).$$

To close this section, we consider a degenerated case.

**Proposition 2.11.** Let  $C = \text{diag}(I_s, p^{\sigma_{s+1}}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $\sigma_{s+1} \geq 1$ . Let  $Q$  and  $T$  be half-integral symmetric matrices. Let  $Q_3, T_3, C_3$  be the  $n-s$  by  $n-s$  bottom-right block of respectively  $Q, T, C$ . Then

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = K_{n-s}(Q_3, T_3; C_3).$$

If  $s = n$ , we interpret  $K_0$  as 1.

*Proof.* Recall that if  $D \in \tilde{X}(C)$  with  $C$  as in the proposition, then  $d_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$  for  $i \leq s$  or  $j \leq s$ . We have a bijection  $\tilde{X}(C_3) \mapsto \tilde{X}(C)$  given by

$$D_3 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} I_s & \\ & D_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Moreover, if  $D_3 A_3^t = I_{n-s} \pmod{C_3 \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ , then

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_s & \\ & D_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_s & \\ & A_3 \end{pmatrix}^t = I_n \pmod{C \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

Then

$$\text{tr} \left( \begin{pmatrix} I_s & \\ & A_3 \end{pmatrix} C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & Q_2 \\ Q_2^t & Q_3 \end{pmatrix} + C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} I_s & \\ & D_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_2^t & T_3 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \text{tr} (A_3 C_3^{-1} Q_3 + C_3^{-1} D_3 T_3)$$

and  $K_n(Q, T; C) = K_{n-s}(Q_3, T_3; C_3)$ .  $\square$

## 3. TAYLOR EXPANSION ARGUMENT

In this section, we consider the case  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $2 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Our goal is to prove Proposition 3.4. The proof's strategy is to do a finite Taylor expansion of the coefficients with respect to smaller prime powers (also known as  $p$ -adic stationary phase). Recall Equation (2.2) and Definition 2.10. Let  $\mu_i = \lfloor \frac{\sigma_i}{2} \rfloor$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\tilde{C} = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\mu_1}, \dots, p^{\mu_n})$ . Given a fixed  $D_1 \in \tilde{X}(C)$ , we consider all the  $D \in \tilde{X}(C)$  such that  $D = D_1 \pmod{\tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . We write  $D = D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2$ . Clearly, we have

$$\tilde{C}D_2C = (D - D_1)C = C(D^t - D_1^t) = CD_2^t\tilde{C}.$$

So  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  is a symmetric pair. Let  $\bar{D}_1^t$  as in Definition 2.10. Our first goal is to construct, given  $C, D_1, \bar{D}_1$ , a symplectic matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$  from any  $D = D_1 \pmod{\tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$  such that  $(C, D)$  is a symmetric pair and with an explicit formula for  $A = \bar{D}_1^t$ . First, we prove a small but very useful lemma.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $F = \mathrm{diag}(p^{a_1}, \dots, p^{a_n})$  and  $G = \mathrm{diag}(p^{b_1}, \dots, p^{b_n})$  be two diagonal matrices with increasing prime powers on the diagonal and  $H$  be an integral matrix such that  $(F, H)$  is a symmetric pair. If for all  $i \geq j$*

$$b_i - b_j \leq a_i - a_j,$$

*then  $G^{-1}HG$  is an integral matrix.*

*Proof.* Since  $FH^t = HF$ , the matrix  $F^{-1}HF = H^t$  is integral. That is, for  $i \geq j$

$$p^{a_i - a_j} \mid h_{ij}.$$

Since  $b_i - b_j \leq a_i - a_j$ , we have that  $G^{-1}HG$  is integral as well.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $D_1, D_2 \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $(C, D_1)$  is a coprime symmetric pair and  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  is a symmetric pair. We have the following congruences:*

$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2 &= 0 \pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}, \\ (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^3 &= 0 \pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Recall that  $(C, \bar{D}_1)$  is also a coprime symmetric pair. For all  $i \geq j$ , we have

$$\mu_i - \mu_j \leq \sigma_i - \sigma_j \Leftrightarrow \left\lceil \frac{\sigma_j}{2} \right\rceil \leq \left\lceil \frac{\sigma_i}{2} \right\rceil.$$

By Lemma 3.1, the matrix  $\tilde{C}^{-1}\bar{D}_1\tilde{C}$  is integral. Moreover  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  is a symmetric pair, so

$$D_2\bar{D}_1\tilde{C} = D_2\tilde{C}(\tilde{C}^{-1}\bar{D}_1\tilde{C}) = C\tilde{C}^{-1}D_2^t(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2)(\tilde{C}^{-1}\bar{D}_1\tilde{C}).$$

We get

$$(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2 = CD_2^t(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2)(\tilde{C}^{-1}\bar{D}_1\tilde{C})D_2\bar{D}_1.$$

Note that everything in the above equation is integral except the product  $C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2$ . The  $k$ -th coefficient of the diagonal matrix  $pC^{-1}\tilde{C}^2$  is  $2\mu_k - \sigma_k + 1 \geq 0$ , so the matrix is integral. In conclusion, for some matrix  $M \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ , we have

$$p(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2 = CM$$

and the congruence holds. For the second equation in the proposition, since every power of  $p$  in  $\tilde{C}$  is at least one, we can write

$$(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^3 = p(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2(p^{-1}\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1).$$

By the first equation, this is in  $C \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $D_1, D_2 \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $(C, D_1)$  is a coprime symmetric pair and  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  is a symmetric pair. Write  $D = D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2$  and*

$$A^t = \bar{D}_1(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2).$$

*Then  $B^t = C^{-1}(DA^t - I_n)$  is an integral matrix and the matrix*

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

*Proof.* By the discussion at the start of this section, we know that  $(C, D)$  is a symmetric pair. By Lemma 2.1, we need to prove two things: (1)  $A^tC = C^tA$ . (2)  $B^t$  is integral. First, since  $(C, \bar{D}_1)$  and  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  are symmetric pairs, we have

$$\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1C = \tilde{C}D_2C\bar{D}_1^t = CD_2^t\tilde{C}\bar{D}_1^t.$$

Therefore

$$A^tC = \bar{D}_1(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2)C = C\bar{D}_1^t(I_n - D_2^t\tilde{C}\bar{D}_1^t + (D_2^t\tilde{C}\bar{D}_1^t)^2) = C^tA.$$

Next, recall that  $D_1\bar{D}_1 = I_n + CB_1^t$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned} DA^t &= (D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2)\bar{D}_1(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2) \\ &= (I_n + \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2) + CB_1^t(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2) \\ &= (I_n + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^3) + CB_1^t(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2) \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.2,  $(\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^3 = 0 \pmod{C \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . In conclusion,  $B^t$  is integral since

$$DA^t = I_n \pmod{C \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

$\square$

Let  $D_1 \in \tilde{X}(C)$ . We consider the set

$$\{D \in \tilde{X}(C) \mid D = D_1 \pmod{\tilde{C} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}\}.$$

By the discussion at the start of the section, the matrices in this set are exactly the matrices of the form  $D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2$  for a matrix  $D_2 \pmod{C\tilde{C}^{-1} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$  such that  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2)$  is a symmetric pair. By Lemma 3.3, we have a bijective map

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{X}_1(C) \times \tilde{X}_2(C) &\rightarrow \tilde{X}(C), \\ (D_1, D_2) &\mapsto D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2 \end{aligned}$$

with  $\tilde{X}_1(C)$  a set of representatives of the matrices in  $\tilde{X}(C)$  modulo  $\tilde{C} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and

$$\tilde{X}_2(C) = \{D_2 \pmod{C\tilde{C}^{-1} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \mid (C\tilde{C}^{-1}, D_2) \text{ symmetric pair}\}.$$

Moreover, given a pair  $(D_1, D_2)$ , a corresponding symplectic matrix in  $X(C)$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} A & * \\ C & D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2 \end{pmatrix}$  with

$$A^t = \bar{D}_1(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2\bar{D}_1)^2).$$

We can now split  $K(Q, T; C)$  into two sums over  $\tilde{X}_1(C)$  and  $\tilde{X}_2(C)$ . We have

$$K(Q, T; C) = \sum_{D \in \tilde{X}(C)} e(C^{-1}A^tQ + C^{-1}DT)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{D_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C)} \sum_{D_2 \in \tilde{X}_2(C)} e(C^{-1} \bar{D}_1(I_n - \tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2)Q + C^{-1}(D_1 + \tilde{C}D_2)T) \\
&= \sum_{D_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C)} e(C^{-1} \bar{D}_1 Q + C^{-1} D_1 T) \\
&\quad \cdot \sum_{D_2 \in \tilde{X}_2(C)} e(C^{-1} \bar{D}_1(-\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1 + (\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2)Q + C^{-1} \tilde{C}D_2 T) \\
&= \sum_{D_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C)} e(C^{-1} \bar{D}_1 Q + C^{-1} D_1 T) \\
(3.1) \quad &\quad \cdot \sum_{D_2 \in \tilde{X}_2(C)} e(C^{-1} \tilde{C}D_2(T - \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t) + \bar{D}_1^t C^{-1}(\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2 Q).
\end{aligned}$$

On the last line, we used again that is a symmetric pair. Note that

$$p \bar{D}_1^t C^{-1}(\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2 Q \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$$

by Lemma 3.2. We can be more precise. By Lemma 3.1, the matrices  $\tilde{C}^{-1} \bar{D}_1 \tilde{C}$  and  $C^{-1} \tilde{C} \bar{D}_1 C \tilde{C}^{-1}$  are integral. We compute

$$\begin{aligned}
C^{-1}(\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2 &= D_2^t C^{-1} \tilde{C} \bar{D}_1 \tilde{C} D_2 \bar{D}_1 \\
&= D_2^t (C^{-1} \tilde{C}^2) (\tilde{C}^{-1} \bar{D}_1 \tilde{C}) D_2 \bar{D}_1 \\
(3.2) \quad &= D_2^t (C^{-1} \tilde{C} \bar{D}_1 C \tilde{C}^{-1}) (C^{-1} \tilde{C}^2) D_2 \bar{D}_1.
\end{aligned}$$

We write  $D_2 = D_{2,1} + C \tilde{C}^{-2} D_{2,2}$ . By Equation (3.2), we have

$$e(\bar{D}_1^t C^{-1}(\tilde{C}D_2 \bar{D}_1)^2 Q) = e(\bar{D}_1^t C^{-1}(\tilde{C}D_{2,1} \bar{D}_1)^2 Q),$$

because any factor with  $D_{2,2}$  is integral.

We have a bijection  $D_2 \mapsto D_{2,1} + C \tilde{C}^{-2} D_{2,2}$  between the summand sets  $\tilde{X}_2(C) \rightarrow \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C) \times \tilde{X}_{2,2}(C)$  with

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{X}_{2,1}(C) &= \{D_{2,1} \pmod{C \tilde{C}^{-2} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \mid (C \tilde{C}^{-1}, D_{2,1}) \text{ symmetric pair}\}, \\
\tilde{X}_{2,2}(C) &= \{D_{2,2} \pmod{\tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \mid (\tilde{C}, D_{2,2}) \text{ symmetric pair}\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we showed that in Equation (3.1), the sum over  $\tilde{X}_2(C)$  can be rewritten as

$$\sum_{D_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C)} e(C^{-1} \tilde{C} D_{2,1} (T - \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t) + \bar{D}_1^t C^{-1}(\tilde{C} D_{2,1} \bar{D}_1)^2 Q) \sum_{D_{2,2} \in \tilde{X}_{2,2}(C)} e(\tilde{C}^{-1} D_{2,2} (T - \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t)).$$

Suppose here that  $p \neq 2$ . Applying Lemma 5.2 that we will prove in Section 5, the sum over  $\tilde{X}_{2,2}(C)$  vanishes unless

$$T = \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t \pmod{[\tilde{C}]}$$

where  $[\tilde{C}] = \tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) + \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \tilde{C}$ . If the congruence holds, then all the terms are 1 and the sum is

$$|\tilde{X}_{2,2}(C)| = \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i}$$

In conclusion, we showed the following in this section.

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  be a matrix with  $2 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Following the notation introduced in this section, we have*

$$K(Q, T; C) = \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \sum_{\substack{D_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C) \\ T = \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t ([\tilde{C}])}} e(C^{-1} \bar{D}_1 Q + C^{-1} D_1 T) \\ \cdot \sum_{D_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C)} e(C^{-1} \tilde{C} D_{2,1} (T - \bar{D}_1 Q \bar{D}_1^t) + \bar{D}_1^t C^{-1} (\tilde{C} D_{2,1} \bar{D}_1)^2 Q).$$

In this section, we consider the case  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $2 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Our goal is to prove Proposition 3.4. The proof's strategy is to do a finite Taylor expansion of the coefficients with respect to smaller prime powers (also known as  $p$ -adic stationary phase). Recall Equation (2.2) and Definition 2.10. Let  $\mu_i = \lfloor \frac{\sigma_i}{2} \rfloor$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\tilde{C} = \text{diag}(p^{\mu_1}, \dots, p^{\mu_n})$ . Given a fixed  $D_1 \in \tilde{X}(C)$ , we consider all the  $D \in \tilde{X}(C)$  such that  $D = D_1 \pmod{\tilde{C} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . We write  $D = D_1 + \tilde{C} D_2$ . Clearly, we have

#### 4. BLOCK DECOMPOSITION

In this section, we consider  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $\sigma_1 \geq 1$  and  $\sigma_n \geq 2$ . Our goal is generalizing the results of Section 3 to the case  $\sigma_1 = 1$ . The idea is to write

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} pI_s & \\ & C_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with all the prime powers in  $C_1$  being at least  $p^2$ . For this section, we fix  $s$  as the larger index such that  $\sigma_s = 1$ . We decompose all the matrices appearing in our sum with respect to the blocks of  $C$ , that is

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & Q_2 \\ Q_2^t & Q_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_2^t & T_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $Q_1$  and  $T_1$  blocks of size  $s$  by  $s$ . For a matrix  $D \in \tilde{X}(C)$ , we write

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & Z \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $W$  a block of size  $s$  by  $s$ . Since  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair, we have

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} pW & XC_1 \\ pY & ZC_1 \end{pmatrix} = DC = CD^t = \begin{pmatrix} pW^t & pY^t \\ C_1 X^t & C_1 Z^t \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular,  $W$  is symmetric and  $Y = p^{-1} C_1 X^t$  is equal to 0  $\pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Thus  $\det(D) = \det(W) \det(Z) \pmod{p}$  and  $p \nmid \det(W), \det(Z)$ . We also see that  $(pI_s, W)$  and  $(C_1, Z)$  are coprime symmetric pairs.

We want to compute the inverse of  $D$  modulo a high-enough prime power.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $(C, D)$  be a coprime symmetric pair with  $D = \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & Z \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $W$  a block of size  $s$  by  $s$ . Let  $U = Z - Y \bar{W} X$  be the Schur complement of  $W$ . Then  $(C_1, U)$  is a coprime symmetric pair and*

$$A^t = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{W} + \bar{W} X \bar{U} Y \bar{W} & -\bar{W} X \bar{U} \\ -\bar{U} Y \bar{W} & \bar{U} \end{pmatrix}$$

is such that  $DA^t = I_n \pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Moreover  $(A^t, C)$  is a symmetric pair and, with  $B^t = (DA^t - I_n)C^{-1}$ , we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

Here,  $\bar{W}$  and  $\bar{U}$  are as in Definition 2.10.

*Remark.* The shape of  $A^t$  comes from the inversion formula for block matrices.

*Proof.* Since  $Y = p^{-1}C_1X^t = 0 \pmod{p \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})}$  by Equation (4.1), we have

$$\det(U) = \det(Z) \neq 0 \pmod{p \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

Note that if  $W$  is symmetric, so is  $\bar{W}$ . By Equation (4.1), we get

$$UC_1 = (Z - Y\bar{W}X)C_1 = C_1(Z^t - C_1X^t\bar{W}^tY^t) = C_1U^t.$$

So  $(C_1, U)$  is a coprime symmetric pair. Let  $\bar{U}$  be as in Definition 2.10. We have two symplectic matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{W}^t & B_W \\ pI_s & W \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2s}(\mathbb{Z}), \quad \begin{pmatrix} \bar{U}^t & B_U \\ C_1 & U \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Sp}_{2(n-s)}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

In particular  $W\bar{W} = I_s + pB_W^t$  and  $U\bar{U} = I_{n-s} + C_1B_U^t$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned} DA^t &= \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & U + Y\bar{W}X \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{W} + \bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & -\bar{W}X\bar{U} \\ -\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & \bar{U} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} I_s + pB_W^t + (I_s + pB_W^t)X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} - X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & -(I_s + pB_W^t)X\bar{U} + X\bar{U} \\ Y\bar{W} + Y\bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} - (I_{n-s} + C_1B_U^t)Y\bar{W} - Y\bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & -Y\bar{W}X\bar{U} + I_{n-s} + C_1B_U^t + Y\bar{W}X\bar{U} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} I_s + pB_W^t(I_s + X\bar{U}Y\bar{W}) & -pB_W^tX\bar{U} \\ -C_1B_U^tY\bar{W} & I_{n-s} + C_1B_U^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= I_n \pmod{C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.1, we only need to show that  $(A^t, C)$  is a symmetric pair to conclude the proof of the theorem. Applying Equation (4.1), we get

$$A^tC = \begin{pmatrix} p(\bar{W} + \bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W}) & -\bar{W}X\bar{U}C_1 \\ -p\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & UC_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p(\bar{W}^t + \bar{W}^tY^t\bar{U}^tX^t\bar{W}^t) & -p\bar{W}^tY^t\bar{U}^t \\ -C_1\bar{U}^tX^t\bar{W}^t & C_1\bar{U}^t \end{pmatrix} = CA.$$

□

Let  $D = \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & Z \end{pmatrix} \in \tilde{X}(C)$  be a matrix modulo  $C \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  such that  $(C, D)$  is a coprime symmetric pair. Then  $W$ ,  $X$  and  $Z$  are matrices modulo respectively  $p \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ ,  $p \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $C_1 \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $Y$  is determined by  $Y = p^{-1}C_1X^t$ . It is easy to see that  $U = Z - Y\bar{W}X$  is also a matrix modulo  $C_1 \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$ . We saw at the beginning of this section that  $(pI_r, W)$  and  $(C_1, U)$  are coprime symmetric pair. Thus we get matrices  $W \in \tilde{X}(pI_s)$  and  $U \in \tilde{X}(C_1)$ . We get a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{X}(C) &\rightarrow \tilde{X}(pI_s) \times \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \times \tilde{X}(C_1), \\ \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & Z \end{pmatrix} &\mapsto (W, X, Z - Y\bar{W}X), \end{aligned}$$

with the inverse map given by Lemma 4.1:

$$(W, X, U) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ p^{-1}C_1X^t & U + Y\bar{W}X \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can now compute the Kloosterman sum with respect to these sets. Using  $Y = p^{-1}C_1X^t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
K(Q, T; C) &= \sum_{D \in \tilde{X}(C)} e(C^{-1}\bar{D}Q + C^{-1}DT) \\
&= \sum_{W \in \tilde{X}(pI_s)} \sum_{X \in (p \text{Mat}_{s, n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} \sum_{U \in \tilde{X}(C_1)} e\left(\begin{pmatrix} p^{-1}I_s & \\ & C_1^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{W} + \bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & -\bar{W}X\bar{U} \\ -\bar{U}Y\bar{W} & \bar{U} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & Q_2 \\ Q_2^t & Q_3 \end{pmatrix}\right. \\
&\quad \left. + \begin{pmatrix} p^{-1}I_s & \\ & C_1^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & U + Y\bar{W}X \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_2^t & T_3 \end{pmatrix}\right) \\
&= \sum_{W, X, U} e(p^{-1}[\bar{W}Q_1 + \bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W}Q_1 - \bar{W}X\bar{U}Q_2^t + WT_1 + XT_2^t]) \\
&\quad \cdot e(C_1^{-1}[-\bar{U}Y\bar{W}Q_2 + \bar{U}Q_3 + YT_2 + UT_3 + Y\bar{W}XT_3]). 
\end{aligned}$$

Note that the size of the matrices is not the same on the last two lines. Since all the prime power in  $C_1$  are at least  $p^2$ , we have

$$e(p^{-1}\bar{W}X\bar{U}Y\bar{W}Q_1) = e(\bar{W}X\bar{U}(p^{-2}C_1)X^t\bar{W}Q_1) = 1.$$

Note also that, since  $\bar{W}$  is symmetric, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
e(-p^{-1}\bar{W}X\bar{U}Q_2^t) &= e(-\bar{W}Y^tC_1^{-1}\bar{U}Q_2^t) = e(-C_1^{-1}\bar{U}Q_2^t\bar{W}Y^t), \\
e(C_1^{-1}YT_2) &= e(p^{-1}X^tT_2) = e(p^{-1}XT_2^t).
\end{aligned}$$

In conclusion, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.2) \quad K(Q, T; C) &= \sum_{W, X, U} e(p^{-1}[\bar{W}Q_1 + WT_1 + 2XT_2^t]) \\
&\quad \cdot e(C_1^{-1}[-\bar{U}(Y\bar{W}Q_2 + Q_2^t\bar{W}Y^t) + \bar{U}Q_3 + UT_3 + Y\bar{W}XT_3]). 
\end{aligned}$$

The sum in  $U$  is a Kloosterman sum, similar to the one in the last section. The matrix  $C_1$  has all its prime powers larger or equal to  $p^2$  and

$$S_U := \sum_{U \in \tilde{X}(C_1)} e(C_1^{-1}\bar{U}(Q_3 - Y\bar{W}Q_2 - Q_2^t\bar{W}Y^t) + C_1^{-1}UT_3) = K_{n-s}(\tilde{Q}, T_3; C_1)$$

with  $\tilde{Q} = Q_3 - (Y\bar{W}Q_2 + Q_2^t\bar{W}Y^t)$  (note that this is symmetric). Applying Proposition 3.4 and adapting the notation there, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
S_U &= \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \sum_{\substack{U_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C_1) \\ T_3 = \bar{U}_1\tilde{Q}\bar{U}_1^t ([\tilde{C}_1])}} e(C_1^{-1}\bar{U}_1\tilde{Q} + C_1^{-1}U_1T_3) \\
&\quad \cdot \sum_{U_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C_1)} e(C_1^{-1}\tilde{C}_1U_{2,1}(T_3 - \bar{U}_1\tilde{Q}\bar{U}_1^t) + \bar{U}_1^tC_1^{-1}(\tilde{C}U_{2,1}\bar{U}_1)^2\tilde{Q}).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $Y = p^{-1}C_1X^t$  and  $(C_1\bar{U}_1)$  is a coprime symmetric pair, we have

$$\bar{U}_1\tilde{Q}\bar{U}_1^t = \bar{U}_1Q_3\bar{U}_1 - p^{-1}C_1\bar{U}_1^tX^t\bar{W}Q_2\bar{U}_1^t - p^{-1}\bar{U}_1Q_2^t\bar{W}X\bar{U}_1C_1.$$

Note that

$$p^{-1}C_1\bar{U}_1^tX^t\bar{W}Q_2\bar{U}_1^t + p^{-1}\bar{U}_1Q_2^t\bar{W}X\bar{U}_1^tC_1 \in [\tilde{C}_1]$$

since the prime powers in  $C_1$  are all at least  $p^2$ . Using that  $(C_1\tilde{C}_1^{-1}, U_{2,1})$  is a symmetric pair and Lemma 3.2, we can also replace  $\tilde{Q}$  by  $Q_3$  in the second line of the equation for  $S_U$ . We get

$$S_U = \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \sum_{\substack{U_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C_1) \\ T_3 = \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t ([\tilde{C}_1])}} e(C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Q_3 + C_1^{-1} U_1 T_3) e(-C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 (Y \bar{W} Q_2 + Q_2^t \bar{W} Y^t)) \\ \cdot \sum_{U_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C_1)} e(C_1^{-1} \tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} (T_3 - \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t) + \bar{U}_1^t C_1^{-1} (\tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} \bar{U}_1)^2 Q_3).$$

Finally, we insert  $S_U$  in Equation (4.2). We get

$$K(Q, T; C) = \sum_{W \in \tilde{X}(pI_s)} e(p^{-1} \bar{W} Q_1 + p^{-1} W T_1) \sum_{X \in (p \mathrm{Mat}_{s, n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(2p^{-1} X T_2^t) e(C_1^{-1} Y \bar{W} X T_3) \cdot S_U \\ = \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \sum_{W \in \tilde{X}(pI_s)} e(p^{-1} \bar{W} Q_1 + p^{-1} W T_1) \\ \cdot \sum_{\substack{U_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C_1) \\ T_3 = \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t ([\tilde{C}_1])}} e(C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Q_3 + C_1^{-1} U_1 T_3) \\ \cdot \sum_{X \in (p \mathrm{Mat}_{s, n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(2p^{-1} X T_2^t + X T_3 Y \bar{W}) e(-2C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Q_2^t \bar{W} Y^t) \\ \cdot \sum_{U_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C_1)} e(C_1^{-1} \tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} (T_3 - \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t) + \bar{U}_1^t C_1^{-1} (\tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} \bar{U}_1)^2 Q_3).$$

We used that  $e(-C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Y \bar{W} Q_2) = e(-C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Q_2^t \bar{W} Y^t)$ . Replacing  $Y$  by  $p^{-1} C_1 X^t$  in every occurrence, we proved the following.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $\sigma_1 = \dots = \sigma_s = 1$  and  $2 \leq \sigma_{s+1} \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Following the notation introduced in this section and the one before, we have:*

$$K(Q, T; C) = \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \sum_{W \in X(pI_s)} e(p^{-1} \bar{W} Q_1 + p^{-1} W T_1) \\ \cdot \sum_{\substack{U_1 \in \tilde{X}_1(C_1) \\ T_3 = \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t ([\tilde{C}_1])}} e(C_1^{-1} \bar{U}_1 Q_3 + C_1^{-1} U_1 T_3) \\ \cdot \sum_{X \in (p \mathrm{Mat}_{s, n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(2p^{-1} X (T_2^t - \bar{U}_1 Q_2^t \bar{W}) + p^{-1} X T_3 X^t \bar{W}) \\ \cdot \sum_{U_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C_1)} e(C_1^{-1} \tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} (T_3 - \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t) + \bar{U}_1^t C_1^{-1} (\tilde{C}_1 U_{2,1} \bar{U}_1)^2 Q_3).$$

*Remark.* If  $s = 0$ , we make the convention that the sums over  $W$  and  $U_1$  are equal to 1. Then the above result generalizes Proposition 3.4.

We close this section by considering the degenerate case where all coefficients are divisible by  $p$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let  $Q$  and  $T$  be half-integral symmetric matrices such that  $(Q, T, p) \neq 1$ . Let  $C = \text{diag}(pI_s, C_3)$  with prime powers in  $C_3$  larger than  $p$  (potentially  $s = 0$ ). Then*

$$\begin{aligned} K_n(Q, T; C) &= |X(pI_s)| \cdot p^{(n-s)(n+s+1)/2} \cdot K_{n-s}(p^{-1}Q_3, p^{-1}T_3; p^{-1}C_3) \\ &= |X(pI_s)| \cdot p^{(n-s)(n+s+1)/2} \cdot K_n(p^{-1}Q, p^{-1}T; p^{-1}C) \end{aligned}$$

(with  $|X(pI_0)| = 1$ .)

More generally, let  $\sigma_{i,k} = \min\{\sigma_i, k\}$  and  $C_{(k)} = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_{1,k}}, \dots, p^{\sigma_{n,k}})$ . Consider the largest  $k$  such that  $C_{(k)}^{-1}Q$  and  $C_{(k)}^{-1}T$  are integral. Let  $s$  be the largest index such that  $\sigma_s \leq k$ . Then

$$|K_n(Q, T; C)| \ll \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_{i,k}} \cdot |K_{n-s}(p^{-k}Q_3, p^{-k}T_3; p^{-k}C_3)|$$

where  $Q_3, T_3, C_3$  are the bottom-right blocks of size  $n-s$  by  $n-s$  of resp.  $Q, T, C$ . If  $s = n$ , we interpret  $K_0$  as 1.

*Proof.* By Equation (4.2), following the notation there and using that  $Y = p^{-1}C_1X^t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} K_n(Q, T; C) &= \sum_{W, X, U} e(p^{-1}[\bar{W}Q_1 + WT_1 + 2XT_2^t]) \\ &\quad \cdot e(C_1^{-1}[-2\bar{U}Y\bar{W}Q_2 + \bar{U}Q_3 + UT_3 + Y\bar{W}XT_3]) \\ &= \sum_{W, X, U} e((pC_1^{-1})\bar{U}(p^{-1}Q_3) + (pC_1^{-1})U(p^{-1}T_3)) \\ &= |X(pI_s)| \cdot p^{s(n-s)} \cdot \sum_{U \in \tilde{X}(C_1)} e((pC_1^{-1})\bar{U}(p^{-1}Q_3) + (pC_1^{-1})U(p^{-1}T_3)). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\tilde{X}(p^{-1}C_1)$  is a set of representatives for the matrices in  $\tilde{X}(C_1)$  modulo  $(p^{-1}C_1) \text{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})$ . We write  $U = U_1 + p^{-1}C_1U_2$  with  $U_1 \in \tilde{X}(p^{-1}C_1)$  and

$$U_2 \in \tilde{X}_2(C_1) = \{U \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s}(\mathbb{Z})} \mid (C_1, U) \text{ symmetric pair}\}.$$

Similarly to Lemma 3.3, we have  $\bar{U} = \bar{U}_1(I_{n-s} - p^{-1}C_1U_2\bar{U}_1) \pmod{C_1 \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Then the remaining sum over  $U$  is

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{U_1 \in \tilde{X}(p^{-1}C_1)} \sum_{U_2 \in \tilde{X}_2(C)} e((pC_1^{-1})\bar{U}_1(p^{-1}Q_3) + (pC_1^{-1})U_1(p^{-1}T_3)) \\ &= p^{(n-s)(n-s+1)/2} \cdot K_{n-s}(p^{-1}Q_3, p^{-1}T_3; p^{-1}C). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the first part of the first equation. The second part follows by Proposition 2.11. Note that the above computation is also valid if  $s = 0$ . In that case, the sums over  $W$  and  $X$  are empty and we get

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = p^{n(n+1)/2} K_n(p^{-1}Q, p^{-1}T; p^{-1}C).$$

Let  $k$  be the largest integer such that  $C_k^{-1}Q$  and  $C_k^{-1}T$  are integral and let  $s$  be the largest index such that  $\sigma_s \leq k$  ( $s = 0$  if  $\sigma_1 > k$ ). If  $s = 0$ , by induction on the above, we have

$$K_n(Q, T; C) = p^{n(n+1)k/2} K_n(p^{-k}Q, p^{-k}T; p^{-k}C).$$

Therefore the second result of the proposition is true in that case, since  $\sigma_{i,k} = k$  for all  $i$ . Suppose that  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $s_1$  be the largest index such that  $\sigma_{s_1} = \sigma_1$ . Applying the above equation with

$k = \sigma_1 - 1$  and the first result, we get

$$\begin{aligned} K_n(Q, T; C) &= p^{n(n+1)(\sigma_1-1)/2} |X(pI_{s_1})| p^{(n-s_1)(n+s_1+1)/2} K_{n-s}(p^{-\sigma_1}Q'_3, p^{-\sigma_1}T'_3; p^{-\sigma_1}C'_3) \\ &\ll p^{n(n+1)\sigma_1/2} K_{n-s_1}(p^{-\sigma_1}Q'_3, p^{-\sigma_1}T'_3, p^{-\sigma_1}C'_3), \end{aligned}$$

with  $Q'_3, T'_3, C'_3$  the  $n - s_1$  by  $n - s_1$  bottom-right block of resp.  $Q, T, C$ . By induction on  $n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} K_n(Q, T; C) &\ll p^{n(n+1)\sigma_1/2} \prod_{i=s_1+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)(\sigma_{i,k}-\sigma_1)} \cdot |K_{n-s}(p^{-k}Q_3, p^{-k}T_3, p^{-k}C_3)|, \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_{i,k}} \cdot |K_{n-s}(p^{-k}Q_3, p^{-k}T_3, p^{-k}C_3)|, \end{aligned}$$

since  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_{i,k}$  for  $i \leq s_1$ .  $\square$

## 5. MATRIX GAUSS SUMS AND A COUNTING PROBLEM

In this section, we finalize the proof of Theorem 1.1 by giving non-trivial bounds for exponential sums and a counting problem appearing in the last two sections. More precisely, we will consider the following elements of Proposition 4.2:

- (1) The sum over  $W$  is bounded trivially, except in some cases. More details are given in Remark (2) after Proposition 5.4.
- (2) The sum over  $U_1$  contains a quadratic equation. We bound the number of solutions in Proposition 5.7.
- (3) The sum over  $X$  is a Gauss sum over matrices. We bound it in Proposition 5.4.
- (4) The sum over  $U_{2,1}$  is a Gauss sum over coprime symmetric pairs. We bound it in Proposition 5.5.

Before that, we state two lemmas about cancellations of full matrix sums. We also consider multiple simple matrix equations in Lemma 5.3.

From now, we suppose that  $p \neq 2$  is odd. In particular, half-integral matrices can be seen as integral matrices since 2 is invertible modulo  $p$ . We state Propositions 5.4, 5.5 and 5.7 in a way that is true for all  $p$ , but only prove them for  $p \neq 2$ . We consider the case  $p = 2$  at the end of the section.

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $m, n$  be two positive integers. Let  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_m})$  and let  $A$  be a  $n$  by  $m$  integral matrix. We have*

$$\sum_{X \in (C \mathrm{Mat}_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(C^{-1}XA) = \delta_{A=0} \cdot (\mathrm{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})C) \det(C)^n.$$

*Proof.* Let  $X = (x_{ij})$  and  $A = (a_{ij})$ . We have

$$\mathrm{tr}(C^{-1}XA) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n p^{-\sigma_i} x_{ij} a_{ji}.$$

For fixed  $i$  and  $j$ , the sum over  $x_{ij}$  is a complete character sum. It is 0 unless

$$0 = p^{-\sigma_i} a_{ji} = (AC^{-1})_{ji} \pmod{1}$$

In conclusion, the full sum is 0 unless  $AC^{-1}$  is integral. In the latter case, all the summands are 1 and the sum is equal to the size of the sum set.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$  and let  $A \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ . We have*

$$\sum_{\substack{D \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \\ (C, D) \text{ sym. pair}}} e(C^{-1}DA) = \delta_{A+A^t=0} \cdot [C] \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_i}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $X = (x_{ij})$  and  $A = (a_{ij})$ . We have

$$\text{tr}(C^{-1}XA) = \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^n p^{-\sigma_i} x_{ij}(a_{ji} + a_{ij}) + \sum_{i=1}^n p^{-\sigma_i} x_{ii}a_{ii}.$$

For fixed  $i \leq j$ , the sum over  $x_{ij}$  is a complet character sum. For  $i < j$ , it is zero unless  $0 = p^{-\sigma_i}(a_{ij} + a_{ji}) \pmod{1}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ . For  $i = j$ , it is zero unless  $0 = p^{-\sigma_i}a_{ii} \pmod{1}$ . Since  $p \neq 2$  and  $C$  has increasing prime powers on the diagonal, this is equivalent to  $0 = a_{ij} + a_{ji} \pmod{p^{\min\{\sigma_i, \sigma_j\}}}$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . That equation is the same as

$$0 = A + A^t \pmod{[C]}.$$

In conclusion, the full sum is 0 unless the equation above is true. In the latter case, all the summands are 1 and the sum is equal to the size of the sum set.  $\square$

The following lemma is about various matrix equations. We prove non-trivial bounds for the number of solutions, but do not try to get the best possible result. Since  $p$  is odd, it is equivalent to consider half-integral or integral matrices. We state the lemma for the former, since these matrices will appear in the applications.

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $m, n, k$  be positive integers and let  $p$  be a prime number.*

(1) *Let  $T \in \text{Mat}_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $Q \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral matrices with  $(p, Q) = 1$ . The number of matrices  $U \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z})}$  satisfying the equation*

$$T = UQ \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_{m,n}(\mathbb{Z})}$$

*is  $O(p^{km(n-1)})$ .*

(2) *Let  $T \in \text{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $Q \in \text{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})$  be a matrix with  $(Q, p) = 1$ . The number of symmetric matrices  $U \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$  satisfying the equation*

$$T = UQ \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$$

*is  $O(p^{kn(n-1)/2})$ .*

(3) *Let  $T \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral symmetric matrix and  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_m)$  be a diagonal matrix with  $p \nmid d_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . Suppose that  $m \geq 3$  or that  $m = 1, 2$  and  $(p, T) = 1$ . Then the number of matrices  $U \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})}$  satisfying the equation*

$$T = UDU^t \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$$

*is  $O(p^{k(m-1)n})$ . Remark: a more precise result was proven by Carlitz [Car] for finite fields.*

(4) *Let  $T \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral symmetric matrix and  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_n)$  be a diagonal matrix with  $p \nmid d_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Suppose that  $n \geq 4$  or that  $(p, T) = 1$ . The number of symmetric matrices  $U \pmod{p^k \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$  satisfying the equation*

$$T = UDU \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$$

*is  $O(p^{kn(n-1)/2})$ .*

(5) Suppose that  $p$  is odd. Let  $T \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral symmetric matrix and  $Q \in \mathrm{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $(p, Q) = 1$ . The number of matrices  $U \pmod{p^k \mathrm{Mat}_{n,m}(\mathbb{Z})}$  satisfying the equation

$$T = QU^t + UQ^t \pmod{p^k \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$$

is  $O(p^{km(n-1)})$ . Remark: a variant of this equation with symmetric  $U$  is considered in Case 1 of the proof of Proposition 5.5.

*Proof.* We start with a preliminary claim. Let  $v_p(x)$  be the minimum between the  $p$ -adic valuation of  $x$  and  $k$ . Note that the number of  $x \pmod{p^k}$  with valuation at least  $v \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  is  $O(p^{k-v})$ .

*Claim:* the number of solutions of the equation  $x^2 = a \pmod{p^k}$  is bounded by  $O(p^{v_p(a)/2})$ .

*Proof of Claim:* note that if  $a = 0 \pmod{p^k}$ , then the solutions of the equation are the  $x$  with  $v_p(x) \geq k/2$ . Suppose that  $a \neq 0 \pmod{p^k}$ . Write  $a = p^r b$  and  $x = p^s y$  with  $r = v_p(a)$  and  $s = v_p(x)$ . Clearly, we must have  $r = 2s$ . Then  $b = y^2 \pmod{p^{k-2s}}$ . The number of solution of this equation with  $p \nmid b$  is bounded (it is at most 4 for  $p = 2$  and at most 2 otherwise). Let  $y_0$  be such a solution (if it exists). Then  $x = p^s(y_0 + p^{k-2s}y_1)$  for some  $y_1$ . The different values possible for  $y_1$  are  $0, \dots, p^s - 1$ .

Now, we prove the statements (1)–(5).

(1) Since  $(p, Q) = 1$ , there is  $1 \leq k_0, j_0 \leq n$  with  $p \nmid q_{k_0 j_0}$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . We have

$$t_{ij_0} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{ik} q_{kj_0} \pmod{p^k}.$$

Fix  $u_{ik} \pmod{p^k}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $k \neq k_0$ . Then  $u_{ik_0}$  is given by the equation above since  $q_{k_0 j_0}$  is invertible. In total, we have at most  $O(p^{km(n-1)})$  solutions.

(2) Since  $(p, Q) = 1$ , there is  $1 \leq k_0 \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j_0 \leq m$  with  $p \nmid q_{k_0 j_0}$ . By multiplying on the right by a permutation matrix, we can suppose without loss of generality that  $j_0 = m$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We have

$$t_{im} = \sum_{k=1}^n u_{ik} q_{km} \pmod{p^k}.$$

Recall that  $U$  is symmetric so  $u_{ik} = u_{ki}$ . Fix  $u_{ik} \pmod{p^k}$  for  $i, k \neq k_0$ . Then  $u_{ik_0} \pmod{p^k}$  is fixed by the above equation for  $i \neq k_0$ . Once all the values except  $u_{k_0 k_0}$  are fixed, the last coordinate is fixed by considering the above equation with  $i = k_0$ . In total, we have at most  $O(p^{kn(n-1)/2})$  solutions.

(3) Case  $m = 1$ : suppose that  $(p, T) = 1$ . Let  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Then

$$t_{ij} = d_1 u_{i1} u_{j1} \pmod{p^k}.$$

There is  $i_0, j_0$  such that  $p \nmid t_{i_0 j_0}$ . Then  $p \nmid u_{i_0 1}, u_{j_0 1}$ . We deduce that  $p \nmid t_{i_0 i_0} = d_1 u_{i_0 1}^2$ . By the claim, there are  $O(1)$  for  $u_{i_0 1}$ . Then for all  $j \neq i_0$ , we can fix  $u_{j1} = \bar{d}_1 \bar{u}_{i_0 1} t_{i_0 j} \pmod{p^k}$ . So there are finitely many solutions in that case.

Case  $m = 2$ : first, we give a bound for a general  $T$ . Let  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We have

$$(5.1) \quad t_{ii} = d_1 u_{i1}^2 + d_2 u_{i2}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

For a fixed  $u_{i1}$ , we have  $O(p^{v/2})$  solutions for  $u_{i2}$  with  $v = v_p(t_{ii} - d_1 u_{i1}^2)$  by the claim. We get the additional equation

$$(5.2) \quad t_{ii} = d_1 u_{i1}^2 \pmod{p^v}$$

The number of solutions for  $u_{i1} \pmod{p^v}$  is bounded by  $O(p^{v/2})$  and the number of ways to lift a solution modulo  $p^k$  is  $O(p^{k-v})$ . Therefore, the number of solutions for the pair  $(u_{i1}, u_{i2})$  is

$$O\left(\sum_{v=0}^k p^{k-v+v/2+v/2}\right) = O(kp^k).$$

Now suppose that  $(p, T) = 1$ . There is  $i_0, j_0$  such that  $p \nmid t_{i_0 j_0}$ . Suppose that  $i_0 = j_0$ . Consider Equation (5.1) for  $i = i_0$  and the computation below it. In Equation (5.2), the number of  $u_{i_0 1} \pmod{p^v}$  is  $O(1)$ . Thus we get

$$O\left(\sum_{v=0}^k p^{k-v+v/2}\right) = O(p^k)$$

solutions for the pair  $(u_{i_0 1}, u_{i_0 2})$  in that case. Suppose that  $p \nmid u_{i_0 1}$ . Then consider  $j \neq i_0$  and

$$(5.3) \quad t_{i_0 j} = d_1 u_{i_0 1} u_{j1} + d_2 u_{i_0 2} u_{j2} \pmod{p^k}.$$

Once  $u_{j2}$  is fixed, so is  $u_{j1}$  since  $u_{i_0 1}$  is invertible. If  $p \mid u_{i_0 1}$ , then  $p \nmid u_{i_0 2}$  and the proof goes the same way with  $u_{i_0 2}$  instead of  $u_{i_0 1}$ . We get  $O(p^{nk})$  solutions for  $U$  in that case.

Suppose that  $p \mid t_{ii}$  for all  $i$ . Let  $i_0 \neq j_0$  with  $p \nmid t_{i_0 j_0}$ . Consider the equation

$$t_{i_0 j_0} = d_1 u_{i_0 1} u_{j_0 1} + d_2 u_{i_0 2} u_{j_0 2} \pmod{p^k}.$$

Suppose that  $p \nmid u_{i_0 1}, u_{j_0 1}$ . Otherwise the same proof works with  $p \nmid u_{i_0 2}, u_{j_0 2}$ . Fix these two coordinates arbitrarily. There are  $O(p^{2k})$  possible choices. Consider

$$t_{i_0 i_0} = d_1 u_{i_0 1}^2 + d_2 u_{i_0 2}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

Then there are  $O(1)$  choices for  $u_{i_0 2}$  by the claim since  $p \mid t_{i_0 i_0}$ . Fix  $u_{j_0 2}$  in the same way. Then consider  $j \neq i_0, j_0$  and solve Equation (5.3) as in the case  $i_0 = j_0$ . In total, we get  $O(p^{kn})$  solutions for  $U$  in both cases.

*Case m = 3:* let  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Consider

$$t_{ii} = d_1 u_{i1}^2 + d_2 u_{i2}^2 + d_3 u_{i3}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

For fixed  $u_{i1}, u_{i2}$ , we have  $O(p^{v/2})$  solutions for  $u_{i3}$  with  $v = v_p(t_{ii} - d_1 u_{i1}^2 - d_2 u_{i2}^2)$  by the claim. We get the additional equation

$$t_{ii} = d_1 u_{i1}^2 + d_2 u_{i2}^2 \pmod{p^v}$$

This has  $O((v+1)p^v)$  solutions by the case  $m = 2$ . The number of ways to lift them modulo  $p^k$  is  $O(p^{2(k-v)})$ . In total, the number of solutions for  $(u_{i1}, u_{i2}, u_{i3})$  is bounded by

$$\ll \sum_{v=0}^k (v+1)p^{2(k-v)+v+v/2} \ll \sum_{v=0}^k (v+1)p^{2k-v/2} \ll p^{2k}.$$

We conclude by summing over  $i$ . The number of solutions for  $U$  is  $O(p^{2kn})$ .

*Case m ≥ 4:* for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have

$$t_{ii} = \sum_{j=1}^m d_j u_{ij}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

By induction on  $m$ , suppose that the above equation has  $O(p^{k'(m'-1)})$  solutions for  $m' = m - 1$  and all  $k' \in \mathbb{N}$ . We proved this above for  $m' = 3$ . Let  $r = t_{ii} - \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} d_j u_{ij}^2$ . The number of solutions for  $u_{in}$  is bounded by  $p^{v/2}$  with  $v = v_p(r)$ . Moreover the equation  $r = 0 \pmod{p^v}$  has  $O(p^{v(m-2)})$  solutions for  $(u_{i1}, \dots, u_{i,m-1})$  by induction. These can be lift modulo  $p^k$  in at most  $p^{(k-v)(m-1)}$  ways. In total, the number of solutions for  $(u_{i1}, \dots, u_{im})$  is bounded by

$$\ll \sum_{v=0}^k p^{k(m-1)-v+v/2} \ll p^{k(m-1)}.$$

We conclude by summing over  $i$ .

*Remark.* In particular, we showed that the equation

$$t = \sum_{j=1}^m d_j x_j^2 \pmod{p^k}$$

has  $O(p^{k(m-1)})$  solutions for  $m \geq 3$  and the same is true for  $m = 1, 2$  if  $p \nmid t$ .

(4) *Case  $n = 1$ :* the equation is the same as in (1).

*Case  $n = 2$ :* suppose that  $(p, T) = 1$ . we have the equations

$$\begin{aligned} t_{11} &= d_1 u_{11}^2 + d_2 u_{12}^2 & \pmod{p^k}, \\ t_{12} &= u_{12}(d_1 u_{11} + d_2 u_{22}) & \pmod{p^k}, \\ t_{22} &= d_1 u_{12}^2 + d_2 u_{22}^2 & \pmod{p^k}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $p \nmid t_{11}, t_{22}$ . Then there are  $O(p^k)$  way to solve the first equation by (1). If  $p \nmid u_{12}$ , then  $u_{22}$  is fixed by the second equation. If  $p \mid u_{12}$ , then there are  $O(1)$  solutions for  $u_{22}$  in the last equation by the claim.

Suppose that  $p \mid t_{11}, t_{22}$  and  $p \nmid t_{12}$ . Then  $p \nmid u_{12}$  by the second equation. Once  $u_{12}$  is fixed, there are  $O(1)$  choices for  $u_{11}$  and  $u_{22}$  by the claim using the first resp. the last equation.

Suppose that  $p \nmid t_{11}$  and that  $p \mid t_{22}$ . Combining the first and the last equation, we get

$$d_1 t_{11} - d_2 t_{22} = d_1 d_2 (u_{11}^2 - u_{22}^2) \pmod{p^k}.$$

By (1), Case  $m = 2$ , we have  $O(p^k)$  solutions for the pair  $(u_{11}, u_{22})$ . Then if  $p \mid u_{22}$ , we have  $p \nmid u_{11}$  and  $u_{12}$  is fixed by the second equation. If  $p \nmid u_{22}$ , then  $u_{12}$  is fixed by the last equation using the claim. If  $p \mid t_{11}$  and  $p \nmid t_{22}$ , the same proof works if we exchange the roles of  $u_{11}$  and  $u_{22}$ . In any case, we got  $O(p^k)$  solutions for  $U$ .

*Case  $n = 3$ :* let  $P$  be a permutation matrix. Consider the equivalent equation

$$PTP^t = VP^{-t}DP^{-1}V \pmod{p^k}$$

with  $V = PUP^t$ . We can make the change of variable  $U \mapsto V$  and choose  $P$  such that  $p \nmid (PTP^t)_{i_0 j_0}$  for fixed  $i_0, j_0$  with  $i_0, j_0 \geq 2$ . Without loss of generality, we suppose that this holds for  $T$ . Consider the equation

$$t_{11} = d_1 u_{11}^2 + d_2 u_{12}^2 + d_3 u_{13}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

We have  $O(p^{2k})$  solutions for  $t_{11}$  as seen in (1). Consider the bottom-right block of size 2 by 2 of the equation. We have 3 equations for  $u_{22}, u_{23}$  and  $u_{33}$ . This corresponds to the case  $n = 2$  with  $T$  replaced by some combination of  $T$  and  $u_{12}, u_{13}$ . If  $p \mid u_{12}, u_{13}$ , then we get

back the case  $n = 2$  and have  $O(p^k)$  solutions for  $(u_{22}, u_{23}, u_{33})$ . Otherwise, consider the equations

$$\begin{aligned} t_{12} &= d_1 u_{11} u_{12} + d_2 u_{12} u_{22} + d_3 u_{13} u_{23} \pmod{p^k}, \\ t_{13} &= d_1 u_{11} u_{13} + d_2 u_{12} u_{23} + d_3 u_{13} u_{33} \pmod{p^k}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $p \nmid u_{12}$ , fix  $u_{33}$ . Then  $u_{23}$  is fixed by the second equation. Once  $u_{23}$  is fixed,  $u_{22}$  is fixed by the first equation. If  $p \nmid u_{13}$ , fix  $u_{22}$ . Then  $u_{23}$  is fixed by the first equation. Once  $u_{23}$  is fixed,  $u_{33}$  is fixed by the second equation. In any case, we get  $O(p^{4k})$  solutions for  $U$ .

*Case  $n = 4$ :* let  $v_1 = v_p((u_{13}, u_{14}))$  and  $i_0$  such that  $v(u_{1i_0}) = v_1$ . Consider the equation

$$t_{11} - \sum_{i \neq i_0} d_i u_{1i}^2 = d_{i_0} u_{1i_0}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

The right-hand side has valuation  $2v_1$  and so has the left-hand side. Therefore, the number of solutions for  $u_{1i_0}^2$  once the rest is fixed is  $O(p^{v_1})$  by the claim. For  $i_0 \neq i = 3, 4$ , we fix  $u_{1i}$ . Since  $v_p(u_{1i}) \geq v_1$ , we have  $O(p^{k-v_1})$  possibilities. We do something similar for the second row. Let  $v_2 = v_p((u_{23}, u_{33}))$  and  $i_0$  the coordinate such that  $v_p(u_{2i_0}) = v_2$ . Then the number of solutions for  $u_{2i_0}$  once the rest is fixed is  $O(p^{v_2})$ . For  $i_0 \neq i = 3, 4$ , we have  $O(p^{k-v_2})$  possibilities to fix  $u_{2i}$ . In total, we have  $O(p^{2k})$  solutions for  $(u_{13}, u_{14}, u_{23}, u_{24})$  once  $u_{11}, u_{12}, u_{22}$  are fixed.

We are left with the equations

$$\begin{aligned} t_{11} &= d_1 u_{11}^2 + d_2 u_{12}^2 \pmod{p^{2v_1}}, \\ t_{22} &= d_1 u_{12}^2 + d_2 u_{22}^2 \pmod{p^{2v_2}}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $v_1 < v_2$ , we consider the first equation. By (1), Case  $m = 2$ , we have  $O((v_1 + 1)p^{2v_1})$  solutions for the pair  $(u_{11}, u_{12})$ . We have  $O(p^{2(k-2v_1)})$  ways to lift them modulo  $p^k$ . Then in the second equation, we have  $O(p^{v_2})$  solutions for  $u_{22}$  by the claim and we can lift them in  $O(p^{k-2v_2})$  ways modulo  $p^k$ . In total, we get  $O((v_1 + 1)p^{3k-2v_1-v_2})$  solutions in that case.

If  $v_1 \geq v_2$ , we exchange the roles of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . That is we consider the second equation. By (1), Case  $m = 2$ , we have  $O((v_2 + 1)p^{2k-2v_2})$  solutions for the pair  $(u_{12}, u_{22}) \pmod{p^k}$ . Then in the first equation, we have  $O(p^{k-v_1})$  solutions for  $u_{11} \pmod{p^k}$  by the claim. In total, we get  $O((v_2 + 1)p^{3k-2v_2-v_1})$  solutions in that case.

Finally, let  $v = \min\{v_1, v_2\}$ . We write  $T = (T_{ij})$ ,  $U = (U_{ij})$ ,  $D = \text{diag}(D_1, D_2)$  in blocks of size 2 by 2. We have

$$T_{22} - U_{11} D_1 U_{12} = U_{12} D_2 U_{22} \pmod{p^k \text{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

We fixed  $U_{11}$  and  $U_{12}$ . Both sides are divisible by  $p^v$  and  $(p, p^{-v} U_{12}) = 1$ . By Lemma 5.3 (2), we get  $O(p^{k-v})$  solutions for  $U_{22} \pmod{p^{k-v} \text{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})}$ . We have  $O(p^{3v})$  ways to lift the solutions modulo  $p^k \text{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . In total, the number of solutions for  $U$  is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \sum_{v_1=0}^k \left( \sum_{v_2=0}^{v_1} (v_2 + 1) p^{2k} p^{3k-2v_2-v_1} p^{k+2v_2} + \sum_{v_2=v_1+1}^k (v_1 + 1) p^{2k} p^{3k-2v_1-v_2} p^{k+2v_1} \right) \\ &\ll \sum_{v_1=0}^k p^{6k} ((v_1 + 1)^2 p^{-v_1} + (v_1 + 1) p^{-v_1}) \\ &\ll p^{6k}. \end{aligned}$$

Case  $n \geq 5$ : for  $1 \leq i \leq n-4$ , we have

$$t_{ii} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} d_i u_{ji}^2 = \sum_{j=i}^n d_i u_{ij}^2 \pmod{p^k}.$$

Consider  $i$  in increasing order. By (1), we have  $O(p^{k(n-i)})$  solutions for  $(u_{ii}, \dots, u_{in})$  if  $i \leq n-4$ . Finally, once  $u_{ij}$  is fixed for  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n-4$ , we get a 4 by 4 symmetric matrix equation that corresponds to the case  $n=4$ . In total, we get

$$O\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-4} p^{k(n-i)} \cdot p^{6k}\right) = O(p^{kn(n-1)/2})$$

solutions for  $U$ .

(5) Since  $(p, Q) = 1$ , there is  $1 \leq j_0 \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq k_0 \leq m$  with  $p \nmid q_{j_0 k_0}$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have

$$t_{ij_0} = \sum_{k=1}^n (q_{ik} u_{j_0 k} + q_{j_0 k} u_{ik}) \pmod{p^k}.$$

Fix  $u_{ik}$  for all  $i$  and  $k \neq k_0$ . Consider the above equation for  $i = j_0$ . We get

$$2q_{j_0 k_0} u_{j_0 k_0} = t_{j_0 j_0} - 2 \sum_{k \neq k_0} q_{j_0 k} u_{j_0 k} \pmod{p^k}.$$

Since  $p \neq 2$ , this fixes  $u_{j_0 k_0}$ . Now consider the above equation for  $i \neq j_0$ . We get

$$q_{j_0 k_0} u_{ik_0} = t_{ij_0} - q_{ik_0} u_{j_0 k_0} - \sum_{k \neq k_0} (q_{ik} u_{j_0 k} + q_{j_0 k} u_{ik}) \pmod{p^k}.$$

Everything on the right is fixed so this fixes  $u_{ik_0}$  for  $i \neq j_0$ . In total, we have at most  $O(p^{k(m-1)n})$  solutions. □

**Proposition 5.4.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $A \in \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{R})$  with half-integral coefficients,  $B_1 \in \mathcal{X}_{n-s}(\mathbb{R})$  a half-integral symmetric matrix and  $B_2 \in \mathcal{X}_s(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $p \nmid \det(B_2)$ . Consider the sum*

$$G(A, B_1, B_2; p) := \sum_{X \in (p \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(2p^{-1}XA + p^{-1}XB_1X^tB_2).$$

If  $(p, 2B_1) = 1$ , then

$$|G(A, B_1, B_2; p)| \ll p^{s(n-s-1/2)}.$$

Also if  $(p, 2B_1) \neq 1$ , then

$$|G(A, B_1, B_2; p)| \ll \delta_{2A=0} (p \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})) p^{s(n-s)}.$$

Finally if  $p \nmid \det(B_1)$ , then

$$|G(A, B_1, B_2; p)| \leq p^{s(n-s)/2}.$$

*Remark.*

(1) A precise computation of a similar Gauss sum was done by Walling in [Wal].

(2) In Proposition 4.2, the sum over  $X \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}$  is  $G(T_2^t - \bar{U}_1 Q_2^t \bar{W}, T_3, \bar{W})$ . In particular, when we are in the case where  $2A = 0 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s,s}}$ , we have

$$2T_2 U_1 = 2\bar{W} Q_2 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

By Lemma 5.3 (2), we get  $O(p^{s(s-1)/2})$  possibilities for  $\bar{W}$  if  $(p, 2Q_2) = 1$ . Since summing over  $W$  is equivalent to summing over  $\bar{W}$ , this means that the combined sum over  $W$  and  $X$  is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \min\{p^{s(s+1)/2} \cdot p^{s(n-s-1/2)}(p, 2T_3)^{s/2}, p^{s(s-1)/2}(p, 2Q_2)^s \cdot p^{s(n-s)}\} \\ &\ll p^{s(n-s/2)}(p, 2Q_2, 2T_3)^{s/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by the remark after Proposition 5.7, we can replace  $T_3$  by  $Q_3$ . We will use this bound at the end of this section when proving Theorem 1.1.

*Proof.* We compute the square of the absolute value of the sum:

$$\begin{aligned} |G(A, B_1, B_2; p)|^2 &= \sum_{X_1, X_2 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}} e(2p^{-1}(X_1 - X_2)A + p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X_1^t B_2 - p^{-1}X_2 B_1 X_2^t B_2) \\ &= \sum_{X_1, X_2 \pmod{p}} e(2p^{-1}(X_1 - X_2)A + p^{-1}(X_1 + X_2)B_1(X_1^t - X_2^t)B_2 \\ &\quad + p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X_2^t B_2 - p^{-1}X_2 B_1 X_1^t B_2). \end{aligned}$$

We replace  $X_2$  by  $X = X_1 - X_2$ .

$$= \sum_{X_1, X \pmod{p}} e(2p^{-1}XA + p^{-1}(2X_1 - X)B_1 X^t B_2 - p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X^t B_2 + p^{-1}X B_1 X_1^t B_2).$$

The sum over  $X_1$  is now linear.

$$= \sum_{X \pmod{p}} e(2p^{-1}XA - p^{-1}XB_1 X^t B_2) \sum_{X_1 \pmod{p}} e(p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X^t B_2 + p^{-1}XB_1 X_1^t B_2).$$

Recall that  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are symmetric. We rearrange the sum over  $X_1$  and apply Lemma 5.1:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{X_1 \pmod{p}} e(p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X^t B_2 + p^{-1}XB_1 X_1^t B_2) &= \sum_{X_1 \pmod{p}} e(2p^{-1}X_1 B_1 X^t B_2) \\ &= \delta_{2B_1 X^t B_2 = 0} \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})} p^{s(n-s)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p \nmid \det(B_2)$ , we have

$$2B_1 X^t B_2 = 0 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})} \Leftrightarrow 2B_1 X^t = 0 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{n-s,s}(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

If  $p \nmid \det(B_1)$ , clearly the only solution is  $X = 0 \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}$ . If  $(p, B_1) = 1$ , by Lemma 5.3 (1), there are  $O(p^{s(n-s-1)})$  possible values of  $X \pmod{p}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |G(A, B_1, B_2; p)|^2 &= p^{(n-s)s} \sum_{X \pmod{p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}} e(2p^{-1}XA - p^{-1}XB_1 X^t B_2) \delta_{X \in p \text{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})} \\ &\ll p^{s(n-s)} \cdot p^{s(n-s-1)} \\ &= p^{2s(n-s-1/2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally if  $(p, B_1) \neq 1$ , then the original sum is

$$G(A, 0, B_2; p) = \sum_{X \in (p \mathrm{Mat}_{s, n-s}(\mathbb{Z}))} e(2p^{-1}XA) = p^{s(n-s)} \delta_{A=0} \quad (p \mathrm{Mat}_{n-s, s}).$$

□

**Proposition 5.5.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $A, B \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be half-integral symmetric matrix and  $W \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $(C, W)$  a coprime symmetric pair. We consider the sum*

$$H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2}) := \sum_{\substack{U \in (C\tilde{C}^{-2} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})) \\ (C\tilde{C}^{-1}, U) \text{ sym. pair}}} e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2UA + C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}UWBW^t)$$

(1) *If  $C = p^k I_n$  is scalar,  $k \geq 2$ , and  $k$  is odd, then*

$$|H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2})| \ll p^{n^2/2} (p, 2B)^{n/2}.$$

*If  $k$  is even, the sum is 1 (there is only one matrix  $U$  in the sum).*

(2) *In general, we have*

$$|H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2})| \ll \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1/2)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)} (p, 2B'_i)^{(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)/2}.$$

*Here  $B'_i$  is the bottom-right block of  $B$  of size  $s$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s = \sigma_i$ .*

*Remark.* In Proposition 4.2, the sum over  $U_{2,1} \in \tilde{X}_{2,1}(C_1)$  is  $H(T_3 - \bar{U}_1 Q_3 \bar{U}_1^t, Q_3, \bar{U}_1; C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-2})$ .

*Proof.* We compute the square of the absolute value of the sum:

$$\begin{aligned} & |H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2})|^2 \\ &= \sum_{U_1, U_2} e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2(U_1 - U_2)A + C^{-1}\tilde{C}U_1W\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t - C^{-1}\tilde{C}U_2W\tilde{C}U_2WBW^t) \\ &= \sum_{U_1, U_2} e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2(U_1 - U_2)A + C^{-1}\tilde{C}(U_1 + U_2)W\tilde{C}(U_1 - U_2)WBW^t \\ &\quad + C^{-1}\tilde{C}U_1W\tilde{C}U_2WBW^t - C^{-1}\tilde{C}U_2W\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t). \end{aligned}$$

We replace  $U_2$  by  $U = U_1 - U_2$ .

$$= \sum_{U_1, U} e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2UA + C^{-1}\tilde{C}(U_1 - U)W\tilde{C}UWBW^t + C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t).$$

The sum over  $U_1$  is now linear.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_U e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2UA - C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}UWBW^t) \\ &\quad \cdot \sum_{U_1} e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}U_1W\tilde{C}UWBW^t + C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $B$  is symmetric and  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, U)$ ,  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, U_1)$  and  $(C, W)$  are symmetric pairs, the inner sum is equal to

$$\sum_{U_1} e(WBW^tU^t\tilde{C}W^tU_1^t\tilde{C}C^{-1} + C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t) = \sum_{U_1} e(2U^tC^{-1}\tilde{C}W\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t).$$

Let  $V = \tilde{C}^{-1}W\tilde{C}U_1W$ . Then  $(C\tilde{C}^{-1}, V)$  is a symmetric pair since

$$C^{-1}\tilde{C}V = CW\tilde{C}U_1W = W^tU_1^t\tilde{C}W^tC^{-1} = VC^{-1}\tilde{C}.$$

Moreover let  $U_1 - U'_1 \in C\tilde{C}^{-2} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $V - V' := \tilde{C}^{-1}W\tilde{C}(U_1 - U'_1)W$ . By Lemma 3.1, we have

$$V - V' \in (\tilde{C}^{-1}W\tilde{C})C\tilde{C}^{-2} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) = C\tilde{C}^{-2}(C^{-1}\tilde{C}WCC\tilde{C}^{-1}) \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) = C\tilde{C}^{-2} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}).$$

So  $U_1 \mapsto V$  is a valid change of variable. We get

$$\sum_{U_1} e(2U^tC^{-1}\tilde{C}W\tilde{C}U_1WBW^t) = \sum_V e(2C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2VWBW^tU^t).$$

Let  $R = BW^t$  and  $M = (m_{ij}) = BW^tU^t$ . We showed that

$$(5.4) \quad \left| H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2}) \right|^2 = \sum_U e(C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2UA - C^{-1}\tilde{C}UW\tilde{C}UWBW^t) \sum_V e(2C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2VM).$$

Our goal now is to bound the number of  $U$ . The innermost summand gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(2C^{-1}\tilde{C}^2VM) &= 2 \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^n (p^{2\mu_i - \sigma_i} m_{ji} + p^{2\mu_j - \sigma_j} p^{(\sigma_j - \mu_j) - (\sigma_i - \mu_i)} m_{ij}) v_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^n p^{2\mu_i - \sigma_i} m_{ii} v_{ii} \\ &= 2 \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^n p^{2\mu_i - \sigma_i} (m_{ji} + p^{\mu_j - \mu_i} m_{ij}) v_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^n p^{2\mu_i - \sigma_i} m_{ii} v_{ii}. \end{aligned}$$

For fixed  $i$  and  $j$ , we sum over  $v_{ij} \pmod{p^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}}$ . This is a complete character sums and it cancels unless the coefficient in front is  $0 \pmod{p^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}}$ . In the latter case, it is equal to the number of  $V \pmod{C\tilde{C}^{-2} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ , which is  $O(\prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)(\sigma_i - 2\mu_i)})$ . Assuming that  $p$  is odd, we get in the former case

$$p^{\mu_j - \mu_i} m_{ij} + m_{ji} = 0 \pmod{p^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ . This is equivalent to

$$(5.5) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{C}^{-1}RU^t\tilde{C} + UR^t \pmod{C\tilde{C}^{-2} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$$

where we do not consider the equations given by coefficients under the diagonal.

*Claim:* the number of  $U$  satisfying the above equation is

$$O\left(\prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i - 2\mu_i)} (p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}\right).$$

Moreover  $(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i} = (p, B'_i)^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}$ . Here  $R'_i$  is the bottom-right block of  $R$  of size  $s$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s = \sigma_i$  and  $B'_i$  is defined similarly.

We split the proof of the claim into three cases, depending on the shape of  $C$ .

*Case 1:  $C = p^k I_n$ .* In that case,  $U$  is symmetric. If  $k$  is even, there is nothing to prove. Suppose  $k$  odd. In that case, Equation (5.5) becomes

$$(5.6) \quad (RU^t + UR^t)_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n (r_{ik}u_{jk} + r_{jk}u_{ik}) = 0 \pmod{p}, \quad i \leq j$$

with  $u_{jk} = u_{kj}$  since  $U$  is symmetric. Since the equation is symmetric in  $i$  and  $j$ , it is actually valid for any coordinate. If  $(p, R) \neq 1$ , the equation is trivial. Otherwise the equation is similar to Lemma 5.3 (5), but we have to be careful with the additional symmetry.

*Case 1.1:  $p \nmid r_{j_0 k_0}$  for some  $j_0 \neq k_0$ .* Fix  $u_{jk} \pmod{p}$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq k$  except for  $k = k_0$  or  $j = k_0$ . Equation (5.6) for  $i = j = j_0$  is

$$2r_{j_0 k_0}u_{j_0 k_0} = -2 \sum_{k \neq k_0} r_{j_0 k}u_{j_0 k} \pmod{p}.$$

This fixes  $u_{j_0 k_0}$ . Equation (5.6) for  $i \neq j = j_0$  is

$$r_{j_0 k_0}u_{i k_0} = r_{i k_0}u_{j_0 k_0} + \sum_{k \neq k_0} (r_{ik}u_{j_0 k} + r_{j_0 k}u_{ik}) \pmod{p}.$$

If  $i \neq k_0$ , everything on the right-hand side of the equation is fixed and we get  $u_{ik_0}$ . Finally, consider the above equation for  $i = k_0$ . Now the right-hand side is fixed and we get  $u_{k_0 k_0}$ . We fixed  $n$  coordinates of  $V$  from the others, meaning that we have at most

$$O(p^{n(n-1)/2})$$

solutions for  $U$ .

*Case 1.2:  $p \mid r_{jk}$  for all  $j \neq k$ .* Then Equation (5.6) is

$$(r_{ii} + r_{jj})u_{ij} = 0 \pmod{p}.$$

This fixes  $u_{ij}$  for all  $i \leq j$  with  $p \nmid r_{ii} + r_{jj}$ . Let  $j_0$  be such that  $p \nmid r_{j_0 j_0}$ . For all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we do the following: if  $p \nmid r_{ii} + r_{j_0 j_0}$ , we fix  $u_{ij_0}$  with the above equation. If  $p \mid r_{ii} + r_{j_0 j_0}$ , then clearly  $p \nmid r_{ii}$ . We fix  $u_{ii}$  with the above equation. We fixed  $n$  coordinates of  $V$ , meaning that we have at most

$$O(p^{n(n-1)/2})$$

possible solutions for  $U$ .

We got the same bound for Case 1.1 and Case 1.2. Adding the case  $(p, R) \neq 1$ , we get

$$O(p^{n(n-1)/2}(p, R)^n) = O\left(\prod_{i=1}^n p^{n-i}(p, R)\right).$$

solution for  $U$ . Note that  $R = BW^t$  and  $p \nmid \det(W)$ . So  $(p, R) = (p, B)$ .

*Case 2:  $C$  not scalar.* We prove the claim by induction on  $n$ .

*Case 2.1:  $\sigma_1$  is even.* Let  $\sigma = \sigma_1$  and  $\mu = \mu_1$ . We write  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^\sigma I_r, C_1)$  with all the prime powers in  $C_1$  larger than  $p^\sigma$ . Then  $\tilde{C} = \mathrm{diag}(p^\mu I_r, \tilde{C}_1)$  and  $C\tilde{C}^{-1} = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma-\mu} I_r, C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1})$ . Note that  $p^\mu$  can be a prime power of  $\tilde{C}_1$ . We write

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ p^{\mu-\sigma} C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1} U_2^t & U_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $R_1$  and  $U_1$  blocks of size  $r$  by  $r$ . Note that  $p^{\mu-\sigma}C_1\tilde{C}_1^{-1}U_2^t = 0 \pmod{p\text{Mat}_{n-r,r}(\mathbb{Z})}$  and  $U_1$  is symmetric. Equation (5.5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \tilde{C}^{-1}RU^t\tilde{C} + UR^t \pmod{C\tilde{C}^{-2}\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} p^{-\mu} & \\ & \tilde{C}_1^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ U_2^t & U_4^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p^\mu & \\ & \tilde{C}_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ & U_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1^t & R_3^t \\ R_2^t & R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} * & p^{-\mu}R_2U_4^t\tilde{C}_1 + U_1R_3^t + U_2R_4^t \\ * & \tilde{C}_1^{-1}R_4U_4^t\tilde{C}_1 + U_4R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} I_r & \\ & C_1\tilde{C}_1^{-2} \end{pmatrix}}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the bottom-right block. If  $C_1$  is a scalar matrix, we apply Case 1. Otherwise, we suppose by induction on  $n$  that there are

$$O\left(\prod_{i=r+1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)}(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}\right)$$

solutions for  $U_4$ . Since  $\sigma_1 = 2\mu_1$ , we conclude the proof of the claim in that case.

*Case 2.2:*  $\sigma_1$  is odd and  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}I_r, p^{\sigma_1+1}I_s)$ . Let  $\sigma = \sigma_1$  and  $\mu = \mu_1$ . Then we have  $\tilde{C} = \text{diag}(p^\mu I_r, p^{\mu+1}I_s)$  and  $C\tilde{C}^{-1} = p^\mu I_{r+s}$ . In particular,  $U$  is symmetric. Equation (5.5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \tilde{C}^{-1}RU^t\tilde{C} + UR^t \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & 0_s \end{pmatrix} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} p^{-\mu}I_r & \\ & p^{-\mu-1}I_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ U_2^t & U_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p^\mu I_r & \\ & p^{\mu+1}I_s \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ U_2^t & U_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1^t & R_3^t \\ R_2^t & R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} R_1U_1 + U_1R_1^t + R_2U_2^t + U_2R_2^t & U_1R_3^t + U_2R_4^t \\ * & * \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $(p, R) = 1$ . Then we do one of the following:

- (1) If  $(p, R_1) = 1$ , we fix  $U_2$  and apply Case 1 to get  $U_1$ .
- (2) If  $(p, R_2) = 1$ , we fix  $U_1$  and apply Lemma 5.3 (5) to get  $U_2$ .
- (3) If  $(p, R_3) = 1$ , we fix  $U_2$  and apply Lemma 5.3 (2) to get  $U_1$ .
- (4) If  $(p, R_4) = 1$ , we fix  $U_1$  and apply Lemma 5.3 (1) to get  $U_2$ .

In all cases, there are no condition on  $U_3$  and we won  $p^r$  over the trivial bound. Therefore we get

$$O\left(p^{r(r+2s-1)/2}(p, R)^r\right) = O\left(\prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)}(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}\right)$$

solutions for  $U$ . Note that  $R = BW^t$  and  $p \nmid \det(W)$ . So  $(p, R) = (p, B)$ .

*Case 2.3:*  $\sigma_1$  is odd and  $\sigma_n \geq \sigma_1 + 2$ . Let  $\sigma = \sigma_1$  and  $\mu = \mu_1$ . We write  $C = \text{diag}(p^\sigma I_r, p^{\sigma+1}I_s, C_1)$ , with all the prime powers in  $C_1$  larger than  $p^{\sigma+1}$  and the convention that  $s = 0$  if there is no prime power in  $C$  equal to  $p^{\sigma+1}$ . By hypothesis,  $C_1$  is non-empty. Then  $\tilde{C} = \text{diag}(\tilde{C}_0, \tilde{C}_1) =$

$\mathrm{diag}(p^\mu I_r, p^{\mu+1} I_s, \tilde{C}_1)$  and  $C\tilde{C}^{-1} = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma-\mu} I_{r+s}, C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1})$ . Note that the prime powers in  $\tilde{C}_0$  and  $\tilde{C}_1$  can be the same. We write

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ p^{\mu-\sigma} C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1} U_2^t & U_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $R_1$  and  $U_1$  blocks of size  $r+s$  by  $r+s$ . Note that  $p^{\mu-\sigma} C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1} U_2^t = 0 \pmod{p \mathrm{Mat}_{n-r-s, r+s}(\mathbb{Z})}$  and  $U_1$  is symmetric. Equation (5.5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \tilde{C}^{-1} R U^t \tilde{C} + U R^t \pmod{C \tilde{C}^{-2} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{C}_0^{-1} & \\ & \tilde{C}_1^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ U_2^t & U_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{C}_0 & \\ & \tilde{C}_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ & U_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1^t & R_3^t \\ R_2^t & R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \\ (5.7) \quad &= \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{C}_0^{-1} (R_1 U_1 + R_2 U_2^t) \tilde{C}_0 + U_1 R_1^t + U_2 R_2^t & \tilde{C}_0^{-1} R_2 U_4^t \tilde{C}_1 + U_1 R_3^t + U_2 R_4^t \\ * & \tilde{C}_1^{-1} R_4 U_4^t \tilde{C}_1 + U_4 R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} p^{\sigma-\mu} \tilde{C}_0^{-1} & \\ & C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-2} \end{pmatrix}}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the bottom-right block. If  $C_1 \tilde{C}_1^{-1}$  is a scalar matrix, we apply Case 1. Otherwise, we suppose, by induction on  $n$ , that there are

$$O\left(\prod_{i=r+s+1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)} (p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}\right)$$

solutions for  $U_4$ .

Consider the top blocks. We get the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \tilde{C}_0^{-1} (R_1 U_1 + R_2 U_2^t) \tilde{C}_0 + U_1 R_1^t + U_2 R_2^t \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & 0_s \end{pmatrix} \mathrm{Mat}_{r+s}(\mathbb{Z})}, \\ 0 &= \tilde{C}_0^{-1} R_2 U_4^t \tilde{C}_1 + U_1 R_3^t + U_2 R_4^t \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & 0_s \end{pmatrix} \mathrm{Mat}_{r+s, n-r-s}(\mathbb{Z})}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $(p, R) = 1$ . Then we do one of the following:

- (1) If  $(p, R_1) = 1$ , consider the first equation. We fix  $U_2$  and apply Case 1 or Case 2.1 to get  $U_1$  depending if  $s = 0$  or not. The proof is valid even if the left-hand side of the equation is non-zero.
- (2) If  $(p, R_2) = 1$ , consider the first equation. We fix  $U_1$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} -\tilde{C}_0^{-1} R_1 U_1 \tilde{C}_0 - U_1 R_1^t &= \tilde{C}_0^{-1} R_2 U_2^t \tilde{C}_0 + U_2 R_2^t \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} p^{-\mu} I_r & p^{-\mu-1} I_s \\ & p^{-\mu-1} I_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{21} \\ R_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{21}^t & U_{22}^t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p^\mu I_r & p^{\mu+1} I_s \\ & p^{\mu+1} I_s \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} U_{21} \\ U_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{21}^t & R_{22}^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} R_{21} U_{21}^t + U_{21} R_{21}^t & U_{21} R_{22}^t \\ * & * \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & I_s \end{pmatrix} \mathrm{Mat}_{r+s}(\mathbb{Z})} \end{aligned}$$

with  $R_{21}$  and  $U_{21}$  blocks of size  $r$  by  $n-r-s$ . Recall that we do not consider equations below the diagonal. Fix  $U_{22}$ . If  $(p, R_{22}) = 1$ , we apply Lemma 5.3 (1) to the top-right block

to get  $U_{21}$ . Otherwise  $(p, R_{21}) = 1$ . We apply Lemma 5.3 (5) to the top-left block to get  $U_{21}$ . Note that this equation is symmetric, so we can drop the restriction of the equation to the upper-diagonal.

(3) If  $(p, R_3) = 1$ , consider the second equation. We fix  $U_2$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} -\tilde{C}_0^{-1}R_2U_4^t\tilde{C}_1 - U_2R_4^t &= U_1R_3^t = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} & U_{12} \\ U_{12}^t & U_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{31}^t \\ R_{32}^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} U_{11}R_{31}^t + U_{12}R_{32}^t \\ * \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & I_s \end{pmatrix} \text{Mat}_{r+s, n-r-s}(\mathbb{Z})} \end{aligned}$$

with  $U_{11}$  a block of size  $r$  by  $r$  and  $R_{31}$  a block of size  $n - r - s$  by  $r$ . If  $(p, R_{31}) = 1$ , then we fix  $U_{12}$  and apply Lemma 5.3 (2) to the top block to get  $U_{11}$ . Otherwise,  $(p, R_{32}) = 1$ . Then we fix  $U_{11}$  and apply Lemma 5.3 (1) to the top block to get  $U_{12}$ . There is no condition on  $U_{13}$ .

(4) If  $(p, R_4) = 1$ , consider the second equation. We fix  $U_1$ . We have

$$-\tilde{C}_0^{-1}R_2U_4^t\tilde{C}_1 - U_1R_3^t = U_2R_4^t = \begin{pmatrix} U_{21}R_4^t \\ U_{22}R_4^t \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\begin{pmatrix} pI_r & \\ & 0_s \end{pmatrix} \text{Mat}_{r+s, n-r-s}(\mathbb{Z})}$$

with  $U_{21}$  a block of size  $r$  by  $n - r - s$ . We apply Lemma 5.3 (1) to fix  $U_{21}$ . There is no condition on  $U_{22}$ .

In any case, we won  $p^r$  over the trivial bound for the pair  $(U_1, U_2)$ . In total, we get

$$O\left(p^{r(2n-r-1)/2}(p, R)^r \cdot \prod_{i=r+s+1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)}(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}\right) = O\left(\prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)}(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}\right)$$

solutions for  $U$ . As before,  $R = BW^t$  and  $p \nmid \det(W)$ . So  $(p, R'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i} = (p, B'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r+s$ . Recall that  $(C, W)$  is a coprime symmetric pair and note that

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_3 & R_4 \end{pmatrix} = R = BW^t = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_2^t & B_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W_1 & \\ W_2^t & W_3^t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ * & B_3W_3^t \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

Since  $R_3 = B_3W_3^t$  and  $p \nmid \det(W_3)$ , we have by induction on  $n$  that  $(p, R'_i) = (p, B'_i)$ . This concludes the proof of the claim.

Recall Equation (5.4). Taking the bound of the claim for the number of  $U$  and a trivial bound for the number of  $V$ , we get

$$\left|H(A, B, W; C\tilde{C}^{-2})\right|^2 \ll \prod_{i=1}^n p^{2(n-i+1/2)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)}(p, B'_i)^{\sigma_i-2\mu_i}.$$

This concludes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

Now, we estimate the number of solutions to the equation  $T_3 = \bar{U}_1T_3\bar{U}_1^t$  appearing the sum over  $U_1$  in Proposition 4.2. We need one additional lemma before that.

**Lemma 5.6.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $k \geq 1$  an integer. Let  $Q$  be an integral symmetric matrix of size  $n$ . Then there are  $p \nmid x$ ,  $M \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $p \nmid \det(M)$  and  $E \in \mathcal{X}_{n-r}(\mathbb{Z})$  such that*

$$MQM^t = \begin{pmatrix} I_{r-1} & & \\ & x & \\ & & pE \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p^k}$$

with  $r$  being the rank of  $Q \pmod{p}$ .

*Remark.* We can inductively diagonalize  $E$ . In the end,  $Q$  is congruent to a diagonal matrix with prime powers multiplied by invertible elements

*Proof.* If  $k = 1$ , this is true with  $E = 0$ . See Theorem VI.10 in [New1]. More precisely, there is  $M$  with  $p \nmid \det(M)$  such that

$$MQM^t = \begin{pmatrix} I_{r-1} & & \\ & x & \\ & & 0_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

For larger prime powers, we use induction. Let  $D = \mathrm{diag}(1, \dots, 1, x)$  be a matrix of size  $r$ . Let  $k \geq 1$  and suppose that we have  $M_0$  such that  $M_0QM_0^t = \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p^k \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Let

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & P_3 \end{pmatrix} = p^{-k} \left( \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} - M_0QM_0^t \right)$$

with  $P_1$  a  $r$  by  $r$  block. Write  $M = (I_n + p^k N)M_0$  and  $N = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 & 0 \\ N_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Note that  $\det(M) = \det(M_0) \pmod{p}$ . We consider the equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & 0 \end{pmatrix} = N \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} N^t = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 D + D N_1^t & D N_3^t \\ N_3 D & \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p^k \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

A solution for  $N$  is the following. We set  $N_3 = P_2^t \bar{D}$  with  $\bar{D}$  such that  $D\bar{D} = I_n \pmod{p^k \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Let  $N_1 = (n_{ij})$  and  $P_1 = (p_{ij})$ . We set  $n_{ii} = p_{ii}/2$  for  $i \leq r-1$ ,  $n_{rr} = p_{nn}/(2x)$  and for  $1 \leq j < i \leq r$  set  $n_{ij} = p_{ij}$ . If  $1 \leq i < j \leq r$ , set  $n_{ij} = 0$ . In conclusion, we have

$$\begin{aligned} MQM^t &= M_0QM_0^t + p^k(NM_0QM_0^t + M_0QM_0^tN^t) \pmod{p^{2k} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} - p^k \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & P_3 \end{pmatrix} + p^k \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE - p^k P_3 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

By induction on  $k$ , we have a solution modulo  $p^{2k}$  for all  $k \geq 1$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 5.7.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $T$  and  $Q$  be half-integral symmetric matrices and  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $2 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . Let  $N$  be the number of solutions  $U$  to the equation*

$$(5.8) \quad 2T = 2UQU^t \pmod{[\tilde{C}]}$$

with

$$U \in \tilde{X}_1(C) = \{U \pmod{[\tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})]} \mid (C, U) \text{ coprime symmetric pair}\}.$$

(1) *If  $C = p^k I_n$  is scalar,  $k \geq 1$ , and  $m = \lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor$ , then*

$$N \ll p^{mn(n-1)/2} (p^m, 2Q, 2T)^n.$$

(2) *For all  $C$ , we have*

$$(5.9) \quad N \ll \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, 2Q'_i).$$

Here  $Q'_i$  is the bottom-right block of  $Q$  of size  $s$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s = \sigma_i$ .

*Remark.* Since  $U$  is invertible, it is equivalent to consider the equation  $Q = \bar{U}T\bar{U}^t$ . In other words, we can replace  $Q$  by  $T$  in Equation (5.9). Moreover if  $(p^\mu, 2Q) \neq (p^\mu, 2T)$ , then there are no solution. In that case,  $K(Q, T; C) = 0$  by Proposition 4.2.

*Proof.* We split the proof in two cases, depending on the shape of  $C$ .

*Case 1:*  $C = p^k I_n$ . Let  $m = \lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor$ . In that case,  $U$  is symmetric and  $\tilde{X}_1(C)$  consists of invertible symmetric matrices  $(\bmod p^m \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{Z}))$ . We consider first the case where  $\text{rk}_p(Q) \geq 1$ .

*Case 1.1:*  $(p, Q) = 1$ . By Lemma 5.6, there is  $M \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $p \nmid \det(M)$  such that  $Q = M \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} M^t$  with  $D = \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, x) \in \text{Mat}_r(\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $r \neq 0$  is the rank of  $Q$   $(\bmod p \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}))$ . Let  $V = M^t U M$  and  $P = M^t T M$ . Then

$$T = UQU^t \pmod{p^m \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})} \Leftrightarrow P = V \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & pE \end{pmatrix} V^t \pmod{p^m \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

Write  $P = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & P_3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $V = \begin{pmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \\ V_2^t & V_3 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $P_1, V_1$  blocks of size  $r$  by  $r$ . Then the above equation is

$$\begin{pmatrix} P_1 & P_2 \\ P_2^t & P_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_1 D V_1 + p V_2 E V_2^t & V_1 D V_2 + p V_2 E V_3 \\ V_2^t D V_1 + p V_3 E V_2^t & V_2^t D V_2 + p V_3 E V_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $E$  could be 0, we have to fix  $V_3$  arbitrarily among the  $O(p^{m(n-r)(n-r+1)/2})$  possibilities. Note that  $(p, P) = 1$  since  $V$  is invertible. Suppose that  $(p, P_2) = 1$ . Then clearly  $(p, V_1) = (p, V_2) = 1$ . We conclude that  $(p, P_1) = (p, P_3) = 1$  and these cases are treated below.

Suppose that  $(p, P_1) = 1$ . By Lemma 5.3 (4), we have  $O(p^{mr(r-1)/2})$  solutions for  $V_1$ . Moreover  $(p, V_1) = 1$ . Then we can fix  $V_2$  in the top-right equation using Hensel's method. More precisely, we have

$$P_2 = V_1 D V_2 + p V_2 E V_3 \pmod{p^m}.$$

Let  $W_0$  be a solution for  $V_2$  modulo  $p$ . Since  $(p, V_1) = 1$ , we have  $O(p^{(r-1)(n-r)})$  solutions for  $W_0$  by Lemma 5.3 (1). Suppose that we have a solution  $W_1$  modulo  $p^l$  for  $l \geq 1$ . Let  $W = W_1 + p^k W_2$  be a solution modulo  $p^{l+1}$ . Then

$$p^{-k}(P_2 - V_1 D W_1 - p W_1 E V_3) = V_1 D W_2 \pmod{p}.$$

There are  $O(p^{(r-1)(n-r)})$  solutions for  $W_2$  by Lemma 5.3 (1). By induction, we get  $O(p^{m(r-1)(n-r)})$  possibilities for  $V_2$ .

Suppose that  $(p, P_3) = 1$ . By Lemma 5.3 (3), we have  $O(p^{m(r-1)(n-r)})$  possibilities for  $V_2$  in the bottom-right equation. Moreover,  $(p, V_2) = 1$ . Then by Lemma 5.3 (2), we have  $O(p^{mr(r-1)/2})$  possibilities for  $V_1$  in the top-right equation.

In total, we have

$$O\left(p^{mr(r-1)/2} \cdot p^{m(r-1)(n-r)} \cdot p^{m(n-r)(n-r+1)/2}\right) = O\left(p^{mn(n-1)/2}\right)$$

solutions for  $V$  in that case.

*Case 1.2:*  $(p, Q) \neq 1$ . Since  $U$  is invertible, we also have  $(p, T) \neq 1$ . More precisely, there is an integer  $l$  such that  $Q = p^l Q'$  and  $T = p^l T'$  and  $(p, Q') = (p, T') = 1$ . If  $l \geq m$ , then we can not say anything about  $U$  and take it arbitrarily. Otherwise, we get the equation

$$T' = U Q' U \pmod{p^{m-l} \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

Applying Case 1.1, we get

$$O\left(p^{(m-l)n(n-1)/2}\right)$$

solutions for  $U \pmod{p^{m-l} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}$ . We lift these solutions arbitrarily to a solution of the form  $U + p^{m-l}V$ . There are  $O(p^{ln(n+1)/2})$  possibilities for  $V$ . In total, we get

$$O\left(p^{(m-l)n(n-1)/2} \cdot p^{ln(n+1)/2}\right) = O(p^{mn(n-1)/2}(p^m, Q, T)^n)$$

solutions for  $U$ .

*Case 2:*  $C$  not scalar. Let  $\sigma = \sigma_1$ ,  $\mu = \mu_1$  and  $C = \mathrm{diag}(p^\sigma I_s, C_1)$  with  $C_1$  a block of size  $n-s$  by  $n-s$  with all its prime powers strictly larger than  $p^\sigma$ . We write

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & Q_2 \\ Q_2^t & Q_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_2^t & T_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ p^{-\sigma} C_1 U_2^t & U_3 \end{pmatrix} \in \tilde{X}_1(C)$$

with  $Q_1, T_1, U_1$  blocks of size  $s$  by  $s$ . Note that  $U_1$  is symmetric and  $p \nmid \det(U_1)$ . Let

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} I_s & p^{-\sigma} Y_2 C_1 \\ & I_{n-s} \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $Y_2 = -\bar{U}_1 U_2 \pmod{p^\sigma \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z})}$ . Then  $CY C^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I_s & Y_2 \\ & I_{n-s} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $Y^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I_s & -p^{-\sigma} Y_2 C_1 \\ & I_{n-s} \end{pmatrix}$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned} Y^t U C Y C^{-1} &= \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_1 Y_2 + U_2 \\ p^{-\sigma} C_1 (Y_2^t U_1 + U_2^t) & U_3 + p^{-\sigma} C_1 (Y_2^t U_2 + U_2^t Y_2) + p^{-\sigma} C_1 Y_2^t U_1 Y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &=: \begin{pmatrix} V_1 & \\ & V_3 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\tilde{C} \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the congruence on the last line holds since  $Y^t \tilde{C} = \tilde{C}(\tilde{C}^{-1} Y^t \tilde{C})$ . The last parenthesis is an integral matrix. Note also that  $(C, V)$  is a coprime symmetric pair:

$$VC = Y^t U C Y = Y^t C U^t Y = CV^t.$$

This is equivalent to  $(p^\sigma I_s, V_1)$  and  $(C_1, V_3)$  being coprime symmetric pairs.

We define a map

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{X}_1(C) &\rightarrow \tilde{X}_1(p^\sigma I_s) \times \mathrm{Mat}_{s,n-s}(\mathbb{Z}/p^\mu \mathbb{Z}) \times \tilde{X}_1(C_1), \\ U &\mapsto (V_1, Y_2, V_3). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly the map is injective. Since  $U_1 = V_1$  and  $Y$  is invertible, the map is bijective. Let  $R = Y^t T Y$  and  $S = C Y^{-1} C^{-1} Q C^{-1} Y^{-t} C$ . Then

$$T = U Q U^t \pmod{[\tilde{C}]} \Leftrightarrow R = V S V^t \pmod{[\tilde{C}]}.$$

This gives a bijection between the solutions  $U$  of the left-hand side and the solutions  $(V_1, Y_2, V_3)$  of the right-hand side. Written in blocks, we get

$$(5.10) \quad \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_2^t & R_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_1 S_1 V_1^t & V_1 S_2 V_3^t \\ V_3 S_2 V_1^t & V_3 S_3 V_3^t \end{pmatrix} \pmod{[\tilde{C}]},$$

where the blocks are given by

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 \\ R_2^t & R_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & p^{-\sigma} T_1 Y_2 C_1 + T_2 \\ p^{-\sigma} C_1 Y_2^t T_1 + T_2^t & T_3 + p^{-\sigma} (C_1 Y_2^t T_2 + T_2^t Y_2 C_1) + p^{-2\sigma} C_1 Y_2^t T_1 Y_2 C_1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ S &= \begin{pmatrix} S_1 & S_2 \\ S_2^t & S_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 - Y_2 Q_2^t - Q_2 Y_2^t + Y_2 Q_3 Y_2^t & Q_2 - Y_2 Q_3 \\ Q_2^t - Q_3 Y_2^t & Q_3 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $S_3 = Q_3$ .

Consider the bottom-right block of Equation (5.10):

$$R_3 = V_3 Q_3 V_3^t \pmod{[\tilde{C}_1]}.$$

If  $\tilde{C}_1$  is a scalar matrix, we apply Case 1. Otherwise we suppose, by induction on  $n$ , that the equation has

$$O\left(\prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i}(p^{\mu_i}, Q'_i)\right)$$

solutions for  $V_3$ . Here  $Q'_i$  is the bottom-right block of  $Q$  of size  $s$  by  $s$ , where  $s$  is the smallest integer with  $\sigma_s = \sigma_i$ .

Fix one such solution  $V_3$ . Suppose that  $(p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3) = (p^\mu, Q_2, Q_3)$ . We consider the top-right block of Equation (5.10). Let  $p^k = (p^\mu, S_2)$ . Then we have the two equations

$$\begin{aligned} Q_2 &= Y_2 Q_3 \pmod{p^k}, \\ p^{-k} R_2 &= V_1 (p^{-k} S_2) V_3 \pmod{p^{\mu-k}}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $(p^\mu, R_2) = p^k$  since  $V_1$  and  $V_3$  are invertible. By Lemma 5.3 (2), the second equation has  $O(p^{s(s-1)(\mu-k)/2})$  solutions for  $V_1$  and there are  $O(p^{s(s+1)k/2})$  ways to lift them modulo  $p^\mu$ .

Let  $p^l = (p^k, Q_3)$ . Note that  $p^l = (p^\mu, Q_2 - Y_2 Q_3, Q_3) = (p^\mu, Q_2, Q_3)$ . Then by Lemma 5.3 (1), the first equation has  $O(p^{s(n-s-1)(k-l)})$  solutions for  $Y_2$  and there are  $O(p^{s(n-s)(\mu-(k-l))})$  ways to lift them modulo  $p^\mu$ . In total, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll p^{s(s-1)(\mu-k)/2} \cdot p^{s(s+1)k/2} \cdot p^{s(n-s-1)(k-l)} \cdot p^{s(n-s)(\mu-(k-l))} \\ &\ll p^{s(s-1)\mu/2} \cdot p^{sk} \cdot p^{s(n-s)\mu} \cdot p^{-s(k-l)} \\ &\ll p^{s(2n-s-1)\mu/2} \cdot p^{sl} \\ &= p^{s(2n-s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, Q_2, Q_3)^s \end{aligned}$$

solutions for the pair  $(V_1, Y_2)$ .

Finally, suppose that  $(p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3) = (p^\mu, Q_1) = p^k$  and  $(p^\mu, Q_2, Q_3) > p^k$ . Then  $(p^\mu, S_1) = (p^\mu, R_1) = p^k$  and the top-left block of Equation (5.10) is

$$R_1 = V_1 S_1 V_1^t \pmod{p^\mu}.$$

By Case 1, we have

$$O(p^{s(s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, S_1, R_1)^s) = O(p^{s(s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)^s)$$

solutions for  $V_1$ . We fix  $Y_2$  arbitrarily among the  $O(p^{s(n-s)})$  possibilities. In total, we get

$$O(p^{s(s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)^s \cdot p^{s(n-s)}) = O(p^{s(2n-s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)^s)$$

solutions for the pair  $(V_1, Y_2)$ .

Note that  $Q'_i = Q$  for  $i \leq s$ . We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} N &\ll p^{s(2n-s-1)\mu/2} (p^\mu, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)^s \cdot \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, Q'_i) \\ &\ll \prod_{i=1}^s p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, Q'_i) \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, Q'_i) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, Q'_i). \end{aligned}$$

□

Now, we prove Theorem 1.1 using all the estimates above. First note that if there is a  $s \leq n$  such that  $\sigma_1 = \dots = \sigma_s = 0$  and  $\sigma_{s+1} \neq 0$ , by Proposition 2.11 we have  $K_n(Q, T; C) = K_{n-s}(Q_3, T_3; C_3)$ . Moreover

$$\prod_{i=1}^s p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_i} (p^{\mu_i}, 2Q'_i) (p, 2Q'_i)^{(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)/2} = 1$$

So if Theorem 1.1 is valid for  $\sigma_1 \neq 0$ , then it is valid for  $\sigma_1 = 0$ .

Consider Proposition 4.2. Applying Remark (2) after Proposition 5.4, Proposition 5.5 and Proposition 5.7, we get

$$\begin{aligned} |K(Q, T; C)| &\ll p^{s(n-s/2)} (p, 2Q_2, 2Q_3)^{s/2} \cdot \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1)\mu_i} \cdot \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i)\mu_i} (p^{\mu_i}, 2Q'_i) \\ &\quad \cdot \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1/2)(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)} (p, 2Q'_i)^{(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)/2} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^s p^{n-i+1/2} (p, 2Q_2, 2Q_3)^{1/2} \prod_{i=s+1}^n p^{(n-i+1/2)\sigma_i} (p^{\mu_i}, 2Q'_i) (p, 2Q'_i)^{(\sigma_i-2\mu_i)/2}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $p \neq 2$ , this prove the second part of Theorem 1.1. Finally, if  $C = p^k I_n$  is scalar with  $k \geq 2$ , the sums over  $W$  and  $X$  are equal to 1 in Proposition 4.2 and  $Q = Q_3$ ,  $T = T_3$ . We apply the estimates for scalar  $C$  in Proposition 5.5 and Proposition 5.7. Recall that  $(p, 2Q) = (p, 2Q, 2T)$  or Proposition 5.7 has no solutions. Let  $m = \lfloor \frac{k}{2} \rfloor$ . We get

$$\begin{aligned} |K(Q, T; C)| &\ll \prod_{i=1}^n p^{(n-i+1)m} \cdot p^{mn(n-1)/2} (p^m, 2Q, 2T)^{n/2} \cdot p^{n^2(k-2m)/2} (p, 2Q)^{n(k-2m)/2} \\ &= p^{kn^2} (p^m, 2Q, 2T)^{n/2} (p, 2Q)^{n(k-2m)/2}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $p \neq 2$ , this prove the first part of Theorem 1.1.

**5.1. The case  $p = 2$ .** In this section, we adapt the proof of Theorem 1.1 to the case of the even prime 2. We did not use that  $p$  is odd until Proposition 4.2, except where we used Lemma 5.2. We start the section by giving adapted versions of Lemma 5.2 and Lemma 5.6. Then we consider the consequences of these adaptations in Lemma 5.3. Finally, we adapt the proof of Theorem 1.1 to this case.

**Lemma 5.8** (Lemma 5.2 for  $p = 2$ ). *Let  $p = 2$ . Let  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$  with  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$  and let  $A \in \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral matrix. We have*

$$\sum_{\substack{D \in C \text{ Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \\ (C,D) \text{ sym. pair}}} e(C^{-1}DA) = \delta_{2A=0}([C]) \prod_{i=1}^n \delta_{a_{ii}=0} (2^{\mu_i}) p^{(n-i+1)\sigma_i}.$$

*Remark.* If we remove the additional equations for the diagonal, we only grow the number of solutions. We will mostly consider only the equation  $2A = 0 \pmod{[C]}$ .

*Proof.* In the proof of Lemma 5.2, we get the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ij} + a_{ji} &= 0 \pmod{2^{\mu_i}} & (i < j), \\ a_{ii} &= 0 \pmod{2^{\mu_i}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A$  is half-integral, the equation  $2A = 0 \pmod{[C]}$  recovers the first equation, but only gives

$$2a_{ii} = 0 \pmod{2^{\mu_i}}.$$

We artificially add the second equation to the result to conclude.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.9** (Lemma 5.6 for  $p = 2$ ). *Let  $p = 2$  and  $k \geq 1$  an integer. Let  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $Q \in \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a half-integral matrix. Then there are  $M \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and  $E \in \mathcal{X}_{n-r}(\mathbb{Z})$  and either  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_r)$  with  $D = I_r \pmod{2}$  or  $D' = \text{diag}(H_1, \dots, H_{r/2})$  with  $D' = \text{diag}(H, \dots, H) \pmod{2}$  such that*

$$2MQM^t = \begin{pmatrix} D & \\ & 2E \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2^k} \quad \text{or} \quad 2MQM^t = \begin{pmatrix} D' & \\ & 2E \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2^k},$$

with  $r$  being the rank of  $2Q \pmod{2}$ . Also,  $r$  is even in the second case.

*Proof.* Consider  $\tilde{Q} = 2Q$ . It is a symmetric integral matrix with even coefficients on the diagonal. Theorem IV.11 in [New1] says that there exists  $M$  with  $2 \nmid \det(M)$  such that

$$M\tilde{Q}M^t = \begin{pmatrix} I_r & \\ & 0_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad M\tilde{Q}M^t = \begin{pmatrix} H & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & H & \\ & & & 0_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2 \text{ Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})},$$

where the last matrix contains  $r/2$  copies of  $H$  ( $r$  is even). In the first case, the proof goes essentially the same way except that we have different diagonal elements. Here we set  $n_{ii} = 0$ . Then the final matrix  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_r)$  is such that  $d_i = 1 \pmod{2}$ .

In the second case, let  $D$  be the diagonal matrix given by  $r/2$  copies of  $H$ . We want to find  $N_1, N_3$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= N_1 D + D N_1^t \pmod{2^k \text{ Mat}_r(\mathbb{Z})}, \\ P_2 &= D N_3^t \pmod{2^k \text{ Mat}_{r,n-r}(\mathbb{Z})}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2 \nmid \det(D)$ , we have  $N_3 = P_2^t \bar{D}$  with  $D\bar{D} = I_n \pmod{2^k}$ . Writing  $P_1 = (P_{ij})$  and  $N_1 = (N_{ij})$  where each  $P_{ij}, N_{ij}$  is a 2 by 2 blocks. We get

$$P_{ij} = (N_1 D + D N_1^t)_{ij} = N_{ij} H + H N_{ji}.$$

Let  $i < j$ . We set  $N_{ij} = P_{ij}H$  and  $N_{ji} = 0$ . For  $i = j$ , write  $P_{ii} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \\ p_2 & p_4 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $N_{ii} = \begin{pmatrix} n_1 & n_2 \\ n_3 & N_3 \end{pmatrix}$ . We get

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \\ p_2 & p_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} n_2 & n_1 \\ n_4 & n_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} n_2 & n_4 \\ n_1 & n_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2n_2 & n_1 + n_4 \\ n_1 + n_4 & 2n_3 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2^k \mathrm{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

We set  $n_2 = n_3 = n_4 = 0$  and  $n_1 = p_2$ . As in the first case, we get a matrix  $D = \mathrm{diag}(H_1, \dots, H_{r/2})$  with  $D = \mathrm{diag}(H, \dots, H) \pmod{2}$ .  $\square$

Now, we adapt Lemma 5.3. The proof for (1)–(4) are still valid. For (3) and (4), we have to show the same statement with  $D = \mathrm{diag}(H_1, \dots, H_{r/2})$  as in Lemma 5.9. For (5), we have to adapt the proof. From now, we write  $v(a)$  for the 2-adic valuation of  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . First, we need the following result.

**Lemma 5.10** ([DMM]). *Let  $a, b, c$  be integers with  $v((a, 2b, c)) < k$ . The quadratic equation*

$$ax^2 + 2bx + c = 0 \pmod{2^k}$$

*has at most  $2^{v(b^2 - ac)/2+2}$  solutions. Moreover, if  $v(a) \neq v((a, 2b, c))$ , then the equation has at most  $2^{v((a, b, c))}$  solutions.*

*Remark.* Note that the first case is always worse than the second since  $v(b^2 - ac) \geq 2v((a, b, c))$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t = v(a, b, c)$ . The article states that the number of solutions is at most  $2^{v((a, b, c)) + D/2+2}$  solutions, where

$$D = v((b/2^t)^2 - ac/2^{2t}) = v(b^2 - ac) - 2v((a, b, c))$$

is the discriminant of the reduced equation. By inserting the second equation in the first, we conclude. Moreover, if  $v(a) \neq v((a, 2b, c))$ , then we are only in the cases of Table 1 where we have  $2^{v((a, b, c))}$  solutions.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 5.3 for  $p = 2$ .* First, we consider the equation  $R = UH_iU^t$  for 2 by 2 matrices, with  $R$  and  $H_i$  symmetric and  $H_i = H \pmod{2}$ . In coordinates, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & r_2 \\ r_2 & r_4 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \\ u_3 & u_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_1 & h_2 \\ h_2 & h_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_3 \\ u_2 & u_4 \end{pmatrix} \\ (5.11) \quad &= \begin{pmatrix} h_1u_1^2 + 2h_2u_1u_2 + h_4u_2^2 & h_1u_1u_3 + h_2(u_1u_4 + u_2u_3) + h_4u_2u_4 \\ * & h_1u_3^2 + 2h_2u_3u_4 + h_4u_4^2 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2^k}. \end{aligned}$$

We fix  $u_2 \pmod{2^k}$  and consider the top-left block in Equation (5.11). If  $2u_2 = 0 \pmod{2^k}$ , we have  $O(2^k)$  possibilities for  $u_1$ . Suppose that  $2u_2 \neq 0 \pmod{2^k}$ . Recall that  $2 \nmid h_2$ . The equation with respect to  $u_1$  has discriminant

$$D = (h_2u_2)^2 - h_1(h_4u_2^2 - r_1) = u_2^2(h_2^2 - h_1h_4) + h_1r_1.$$

Let  $v = v(D)$ . Then we have  $O(2^{v/2})$  solutions for  $u_1$ . We get the additional equation

$$u_2^2(h_2^2 - h_1h_4) = -h_1r_1 \pmod{2^v}$$

Since  $2 \nmid \det(H)$ , we have  $O(2^{v/2})$  solutions for  $u_2$  by the claim in Lemma 5.3. There are  $O(2^{k-v})$  ways to lift the solution modulo  $2^k$ . Then the number of solutions for the pair  $(u_1, u_2)$  is bounded by

$$(5.12) \quad \ll \sum_{v=0}^k 2^{k-v+v/2+v/2} \ll k2^k.$$

Note that  $UHU^t = \det(U)H \pmod{2}$ . In particular,  $(2, R) = 1$  if and only if  $2 \nmid r_2$ . In that case, we have the following equation

$$r_2 = h_1 u_1 u_3 + h_2(u_1 u_4 + u_2 u_3) + h_4 u_2 u_4 \pmod{2^k}.$$

We see that  $2 \nmid u_1, u_4$  or  $2 \nmid u_2, u_3$ . Suppose without loss of generality that the first holds. If  $2 \mid u_1, u_4$ , exchange their roles in the following. We fix  $u_1$  and  $u_4$ . Then in the top-left block of Equation (5.11), the discriminant for  $u_2$  has valuation

$$v(u_1^2(h_2^2 - h_1 h_4) + h_4 r_1) = 0.$$

So we have  $O(1)$  solutions for  $u_2$ . The same is true for the bottom-right block of Equation (5.11). We get  $O(1)$  solutions for  $u_3$ . In total, we have  $O(p^{2k})$  solutions for  $U$ . We conclude that if  $(2, R) = 1$ , the equation  $R = UHU^t \pmod{2^k}$  has  $O(2^{2k})$  solutions for  $U$ .

Finally, we consider the case where  $U$  is symmetric. The equation is the same, except that  $u_2 = u_3$ . Again if  $(2, R) = 1$ , then  $2 \nmid r_2$ . We get the equation

$$r_2 = h_1 u_1 u_2 + h_2(u_1 u_4 + u_2^2) + h_4 u_2 u_4 \pmod{2^k}.$$

As in the asymmetric case, either  $2 \nmid u_1, u_4$  or  $2 \nmid u_2$ . In the second case, we can fix  $u_2$  and do the same as before. If  $2 \nmid u_1, u_4$ , fix  $u_1 \pmod{2^k}$ . Then we saw in the asymmetric case that  $u_2$  has  $O(1)$  solutions. We get the equation

$$r_2 - h_1 u_1 u_2 - h_2 u_2^2 = u_4(h_2 u_1 + h_4 u_2) \pmod{2^k}.$$

Since  $2 \nmid h_2$  and  $2 \mid h_4$ , this fixes  $u_4$ . We conclude that if  $U$  is symmetric and  $(2, R) = 1$ , the equation  $R = UHU^t \pmod{2^k}$  has  $O(2^k)$  solutions for  $U$ .

Now, we prove what is missing for (3), (4) and (5). For (3) and (4), we suppose that  $m$  and  $n$  are even and we consider  $D = \text{diag}(H_1, \dots, H_{m/2})$ . We write  $R = (R_{ij})$ ,  $U = (U_{ij})$  in 2 by 2 blocks.

(3) *Case  $m = 2$ :* for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n/2$ , we have

$$R_{ij} = U_{i1} H_1 U_{j1}^t \pmod{2^k}.$$

If  $i_0, j_0$  is such that  $(2, R_{i_0 j_0}) = 1$ , then  $(2, U_{i_0 1}) = 1$  and so  $(2, R_{i_0 i_0}) = 1$ . We saw above that we have  $O(2^{2k})$  solutions for  $U_{i_0 1}$  in that case. Then consider the equation

$$R_{i_0 j} = U_{i_0 1} H_1 U_{j1} \pmod{2^k}.$$

for  $j \neq i_0$ . By Lemma 5.3 (1), we have  $O(2^{2k})$  choices for  $U_{j1}$  since  $2 \nmid \det(H_1)$ . In total, we get  $O(2^{2k \cdot n/2})$  choices for  $U$ .

*Case  $m = 4$ :* for  $1 \leq i \leq n/2$ , we have

$$R_{ii} = U_i G U_i^t + V_i H V_i^t$$

Let  $U_i = (u_j)$ ,  $V_i = (v_j)$  and  $G, H$  with coordinates numbered as in Equation (5.11). In the top-left block, we have the equation

$$r_1 = g_1 u_1^2 + 2g_2 u_1 u_2 + g_4 u_2^2 + h_1 v_1^2 + 2h_2 v_1 v_2 + h_4 v_2^2 \pmod{2^k}.$$

Let  $r = r_1 - g_1 u_1^2 - 2g_2 u_1 u_2 - g_4 u_2^2$  and  $v = v(r)$ . The number of solutions of

$$r_1 = g_1 u_1^2 + 2g_2 u_1 u_2 + g_4 u_2^2 \pmod{2^v}$$

is  $O((v+1)2^v)$  as seen above. They lift in  $O(2^{2k-2v})$  ways, so we have  $O((v+1)2^{2k-v})$  solutions for  $u_1, u_2$  for a fixed  $v$ . Now we consider the equation

$$r = h_1 v_1^2 + 2h_2 v_1 v_2 + h_4 v_2^2 \pmod{2^k}.$$

Let  $t = v(v_2)$ . We have  $O(2^{k-t})$  choices for  $v_2$  for a fixed  $t$ . Suppose that  $t < v(h_1) - 1$  or  $v(h_4 v_2^2 - r) < v(h_1)$ . Then we are in the second case of Lemma 5.10 for the equation with respect to  $v_1$ . Therefore, we have

$$O(2^{\min\{t, v(h_4 v_2^2 - r)\}})$$

solutions for  $v_1$  in the last equation. Note that if  $t \leq v$ , the minimum is  $t$  and otherwise it is  $v$ . We see that the number of solutions for the pair  $(v_1, v_2)$  is in that case

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \sum_{v=0}^k (v+1) 2^{2k-v} \left( \sum_{t=0}^v 2^{k-t} \cdot 2^t + \sum_{t=v+1}^{v(h_1)-2} 2^{k-t} \cdot 2^v \right) \\ &\ll \sum_{v=0}^k (v+1) 2^{2k-v} ((v+1) 2^k + 2^k) \\ &\ll 2^{3k}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $t \geq v(h_1) - 1$  and  $v(h_4 v_2^2 - r) \geq v(h_1)$ . This implies that

$$v = v(r - h_4 v_2^2 + h_4 v_2^2) \geq \min\{v(h_1), 2t+1\} \geq v(h_1) - 1.$$

Let  $D = v_2^2(h_2^2 - h_1 h_4) + h_1 r$  and  $d = v(D)$ . The number of solutions for  $v_1$  is  $O(2^{d/2})$ . Since  $d > 2(v(h_1) - 1)$ , we have the additional equation

$$v_2^2(h_2^2 - h_1 h_3) = -h_1 r \pmod{2^d}.$$

This has at most  $O(2^{(v(h_1)+v)/2})$  solutions by the claim in the original proof of Lemma 5.3. There are  $O(2^{k-d})$  ways to lift them modulo  $2^k$ . In conclusion the number of solutions for  $(u_1, u_2, v_1, v_2)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{v=v(h_1)-1}^k (v+1) 2^{2k-v} \sum_{d=2(v(h_1)-1)}^k 2^{d/2} \cdot 2^{(v(h_1)+v)/2} \cdot 2^{k-d} \\ &\ll 2^{3k} \sum_{v=v(h_1)+1}^k (v+1) 2^{-v/2} \sum_{d=2(v(h_1)-1)}^k 2^{v(h_1)/2-d/2} \\ &\ll 2^{3k}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the number of solutions for the pair  $(U_i, V_i)$  is  $O(2^{6k})$  and we conclude by summing over  $i = 1, \dots, n/2$ .

*Case  $m \geq 6$ :* Fix  $U_{ij} \pmod{2^k}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n/2$  and  $1 \leq j \leq (m-4)/2$ . Then

$$U_{i,m-1} H_{m-1} U_{i,m-1}^t + U_{im} H_m U_{im}^t = R_{ii} - \sum_{j=1}^{(m-4)/2} U_{ij} H_j U_{ij}^t.$$

By Case  $m = 4$ , there are at most  $O(2^{6k})$  solutions for the pair  $(U_{i,m-1}, U_{im})$ . In total, we have at most  $O(2^{k(m-1)n})$  solutions.

(4) *Case  $n = 2$ :* the equation is  $R = U H_1 U^t$  with  $U$  symmetric. This was solved at the beginning.  
*Case  $n = 4$ :* Let  $i = 1, 2$ . We have

$$R_{ii} = U_{i1} G U_{i1}^t + U_{i2} H U_{i2}^t \pmod{2^k}.$$

Let  $v_1 = v((u_{13}, u_{14}))$ ,  $v_2 = v((u_{23}, u_{24}))$  and  $v = \min\{v_1, v_2\}$  be fixed. Then  $U_{12} = 0 \pmod{2^v}$ . From the equation  $R_{11} = U_{11}GU_{11}^t + U_{12}HU_{12}^t$ , we get in coordinates the equations

$$\begin{aligned} r_{11} &= g_1 u_{11}^2 + 2g_2 u_{11} u_{12} + g_4 u_{12}^2 & (\text{mod } 2^{2v_1}), \\ r_{12} &= g_1 u_{11} u_{12} + g_2 (u_{11} u_{22} + u_{12}^2) + g_4 u_{12} u_{22} & (\text{mod } 2^{2v}), \\ r_{22} &= g_1 u_{12}^2 + 2g_2 u_{12} u_{22} + g_4 u_{22}^2 & (\text{mod } 2^{2v_2}). \end{aligned}$$

Our goal is to show that the number of solutions for  $(u_{11}, u_{12}, u_{22})$  is

$$O((v_1 + v_2 + 1)^2 2^{3k-v-v_1-v_2}).$$

Suppose that  $2u_{12} \neq 0 \pmod{2^{2v}}$ . Consider the first and the last equation. Then the discriminant for the other variable than  $u_{12}$  in them is respectively

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 &= u_{12}^2(g_2^2 - g_1 g_4) + g_1 r_{11}, \\ D_2 &= u_{12}^2(g_2^2 - g_1 g_4) + g_4 r_{22}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $d_i = v(D_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Then we get the additional equation  $D_i = 0 \pmod{2^{d_i}}$  for  $u_{12}$ . Let  $d = \max\{d_1, d_2\}$ . We have  $O(2^{d/2})$  solutions for  $u_{12} \pmod{2^d}$  by the claim in the original proof of Lemma 5.3. We can lift the solutions modulo  $2^k$  in  $O(2^{k-d})$  ways. Then the number of solutions for  $u_{ii} \pmod{2^{2v_i}}$  is  $O(2^{d_i/2})$ . There are  $O(2^{k-2v_i})$  ways to lift these solutions modulo  $2^k$ . Therefore the number of solutions for  $U_{11} \pmod{2^k}$  in that case is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \sum_{d_1=0}^{2v_1} 2^{k-2v_1+d_1/2} \left( \sum_{d_2=0}^{d_1} 2^{k-2v_2+d_2/2} 2^{k-d_1/2} + \sum_{d_2=d_1+1}^{2v_2} 2^{k-2v_2+d_2/2} 2^{k-d_2/2} \right) \\ &\ll \sum_{d_1=0}^{2v_1} 2^{k-2v_1+d_1/2} 2^{2k-2v_2} (1 + 2v_2) \\ &\ll (v_2 + 1) 2^{3k-v_1-2v_2}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose now that  $2u_{12} = 0 \pmod{2^{2w}}$  with  $w = \max\{v_1, v_2\}$ . Then we have  $O(1)$  solutions for  $u_{12} \pmod{2^{2w}}$ . Consider the equation

$$r_{12} = g_2(u_{11} u_{22} + u_{12}^2) \pmod{2^{2v}}.$$

The product  $u_{11} u_{22} \pmod{2^{2v}}$  is fixed by the equation since  $2 \nmid g_2$ . Let  $t$  be the maximum between its valuation and  $2v$ . Then  $v(u_{11}) + v(u_{22}) \geq t$ . The inequality takes into account the case  $t = 2v$ . Let  $r = v(u_{11})$ . Dividing the above equation by  $2^r$ , we can invert  $2^{-r} u_{11}$  and fix  $u_{22} \pmod{2^{2v-r}}$ . There are  $O(2^r)$  ways to lift  $u_{22}$  modulo  $2^{2v}$ . Then the number of solutions for the pair  $(u_{11}, u_{22})$  modulo  $2^{2v}$  is

$$\ll \sum_{t=0}^{2v} \sum_{r=0}^t 2^{2v-r} 2^r \ll \sum_{t=0}^{2v} (t+1) 2^{2v} \ll (v+1)^2 2^{2v}.$$

There are  $O(2^{3k-2w-4v})$  ways to lift the solutions modulo  $p^k$ . We get  $O((v+1)^2 2^{3k-2w-2v})$  solutions for  $U_{11}$  in that case.

Suppose that  $v_1 < v_2$  and that  $2u_{12} = 0 \pmod{2^{2v_1}}$  but  $2u_{12} \neq 0 \pmod{2^{2v_2}}$ . Let  $t = v(u_{22})$ . We have the two equations

$$\begin{aligned} r_{12} &= g_2(u_{11}u_{22} + u_{12}^2) \pmod{2^{2v_1}} \\ r_{22} &= g_1u_{12}^2 + 2g_2u_{12}u_{22} + g_4u_{22}^2 \pmod{2^{2v_2}}. \end{aligned}$$

For any value of  $t$ , we  $O(2^k)$  solutions for  $u_{11}$ ,  $O(2^{k-2v_1})$  solutions for  $u_{12}$  and  $O(2^{k-t})$  solutions for  $u_{22}$ . We apply these bounds for  $t \geq v_2$ . Suppose that  $t \leq v_2 - 1$ . Since  $2u_{12} = 0 \pmod{2^{2v_1}}$ , the second equation implies that  $r_{22} = g_4u_{22}^2 \pmod{2^{2v_1}}$ . The discriminant of the second equation with respect to  $u_{12}$  is

$$D = g_2^2u_{22}^2 - g_1(g_4u_{22}^2 - r_{22}) = g_2^2u_{22}^2 \pmod{2^{2v_1}}.$$

Suppose that  $t \leq v_1 - 1$ . Then  $v(D) = 2t$ . If  $t \geq v_1$ , then  $v(D) \leq 2v_2$ . We have  $O(2^{v(D)/2})$  solutions for  $u_{12} \pmod{2^{2v_2}}$ . There are  $O(2^{k-2v_2})$  ways to lift  $u_{12}$  modulo  $2^k$ . We have  $O(2^{k-t})$  solutions for  $u_{22}$  in any case. Finally, if  $t \leq 2v_1$ , the first equation implies that

$$g_22^{-t}u_{22}u_{11} = 2^{-t}(r_{12} - g_2u_{12}^2) \pmod{2^{2v_1-t}}.$$

Since  $2^{-t}u_{22}$  is invertible,  $u_{11}$  is fixed. There are  $O(2^{k-2v_1+t})$  ways to lift it. Note that this estimate is trivial for  $t > 2v_1$ . In total, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll \sum_{t=0}^{v_1-1} 2^{k-t}2^{k-2v_2+t}2^{k-2v_1+t} + \sum_{t=v_1}^{v_2-1} 2^{k-t}2^{k-v_2}2^{k-2v_1+t} + \sum_{t=v_2}^k 2^{k-t}2^{k-2v_1}2^k \\ &\ll 2^{3k-v_1-2v_2} + (v_2+1)2^{3k-2v_1-v_2} + 2^{3k-2v_1-v_2} \\ &\ll (v_2+1)2^{3k-2v_1-v_2}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $v_1 > v_2$  and  $2u_{12} = 0 \pmod{2^{2v_2}}$  but  $2u_{12} \neq 0 \pmod{2^{2v_1}}$ , we can exchange the role of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  in the above proof and get a similar bound.

Once  $U_{11}$  is fixed, consider  $U_{12}$ . We have the equations

$$\begin{aligned} s_1 &= h_1u_{13}^2 + 2h_2u_{13}u_{14} + h_4u_{14}^2 \pmod{2^k}, \\ s_2 &= h_1u_{23}^2 + 2h_2u_{23}u_{24} + h_4u_{24}^2 \pmod{2^k}, \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} s_1 &:= r_{11} - (g_1u_{11}^2 + 2g_2u_{11}u_{12} + g_4u_{12}^2), \\ s_2 &:= r_{22} - (g_1u_{12}^2 + 2g_2u_{12}u_{22} + g_4u_{22}^2). \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $v_1 = v((u_{13}, u_{14}))$ . Note that  $v(s_1) \geq 2v_1 + 1$ . If  $v_1 \geq k - 1$ , then we have  $O(1)$  choices for  $u_{13}$  and  $u_{14}$ . Suppose that  $v_1 \leq k - 2$ . Suppose also  $v(u_{14}) = v_1$ . Otherwise inverse the roles of  $u_{13}$  and  $u_{14}$  in what follows. The discriminant of the first equation with respect to  $u_{13}$  is  $D = u_{14}^2(h_2^2 - h_1h_4) + h_1s_1$ . Then  $v(D) = 2v_1$ . We saw before Equation (5.12) that the number of solutions for the pair  $(u_{13}, u_{14})$  once the valuation of the determinant is fixed is  $O(2^k)$ . Doing the same with the pair  $(u_{23}, u_{24})$ , we get  $O(2^{2k})$  solutions for  $U_{12} \pmod{2^k}$ .

Finally, we have the equation

$$R_{12} - U_{11}GU_{12} = U_{12}HU_{22} \pmod{2^k \mathrm{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})}.$$

We fixed  $U_{11}$  and  $U_{12}$ . Both sides are divisible by  $v$  and  $(2, 2^{-v}U_{12}) = 1$ . By Lemma 5.3 (2), we get  $O(2^{k-v})$  solution for  $U_{22} \pmod{2^{k-v} \mathrm{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})}$ . We have  $O(2^{3v})$  ways to lift the

solutions modulo  $2^k$ . In total, we have  $O(2^{k+2v})$  solutions for  $U_{22}$ . Summing over  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , the number of solutions for  $U$  is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll 2^{2k} \sum_{v_1=0}^k \left( \sum_{v_2=0}^{v_1} (v_1+1)^2 2^{3k-v_1-2v_2} 2^{k+2v_2} + \sum_{v_2=v_1+1}^k (v_2+1)^2 2^{3k-2v_1-v_2} 2^{k+2v_1} \right) \\ &\ll 2^{2k} \sum_{v_1=0}^k 2^{4k} ((v_1+1)^3 2^{-v_1} + (v_1+1)^2 2^{-v_1}) \\ &\ll 2^{6k}. \end{aligned}$$

Case  $n \geq 6$ : let  $1 \leq i \leq n/2$ . We have

$$R_{ii} = \sum_{j=1}^{n/2} U_{ij} H_j U_{ij}^t \pmod{2^k}$$

Fix  $U_{ij} \pmod{2^k}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq (n-4)/2$ . Then

$$U_{i,n-1} H_{n-1} U_{i,n-1}^t + U_{in} H_n U_{in}^t = R_{ii} - \sum_{j=1}^{(n-4)/2} U_{ij} H_j U_{ij}^t \pmod{2^k}.$$

Consider  $i$  in increasing order. We saw in (1) that we have  $O(2^{4k})$  solutions for the pair  $(U_{i,n-1}, U_{in})$  once the rest is fixed. Finally for  $(n-4)/2 \leq i \leq n/2$ , we get a 2 by 2 block matrix equation that corresponds to the case  $n = 4$ . In total, we get

$$O(2^{k(n-4)(n-3)/2} \cdot 2^{6k(n-4)/2} \cdot 2^{6k}) = O(2^{kn(n-1)/2})$$

solutions for  $U$ .

(5) The proof is coherent. We only lose a power of 2 in the second display when we evaluate

$$T_{j_0 j_0} = (QU^t + UQ^t)_{j_0 j_0} \pmod{2^k}.$$

But in the only application in Proposition 5.5, we have an additional equation (see below)

$$T_{j_0 j_0} = (QU^t + UQ^t)_{j_0 j_0} \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

So we get the same bound from this equation. The rest of the proof does not change.  $\square$

Now, we can consider the proofs of Propositions 5.4, 5.5 and 5.7 for  $p = 2$ .

*Proposition 5.4:* we consider  $A$  to be half-integral and  $B_1$  to be symmetric half-integral, which is the case in our application. Then  $2A$  and  $2B_1$  are integral and  $\text{tr}(MB_1)$  is integral for any symmetric matrix  $M \in \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ . With this in mind, the proof goes the same way. We get the same results (with the condition on  $2A$  in the second case).

*Proposition 5.5:* we consider  $A$  and  $B$  to be half-integral symmetric matrices. The proof goes the same way. We get the equations

$$\begin{aligned} 2(2^{\mu_j - \mu_i} m_{ij} + m_{ji}) &= 0 \pmod{2^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}}, & (i < j), \\ m_{ii} &= 0 \pmod{2^{\sigma_i - 2\mu_i}}. \end{aligned}$$

If we drop the second equation, we get Equation (5.5) with  $R$  replaced by  $2R$ . The proof in Case 1 is coherent. The second equation makes the above proof of Lemma 5.3 (5) valid. The rest of the proof goes the same way. We use that  $2R = 2BW^t$  and get the same result with  $2B$  instead of  $B$ .

*Proposition 5.7:* after applying Lemma 5.8, we get an additional congruence for the diagonal elements. If we drop it, the proof goes the same way, with two different possibilities for  $D$  in Case 1. Since the bound from Lemma 5.3 (3), (4) are the same for the two different  $D$ , we obtain the same result in Case 1. The rest of the proof is the same with  $2Q, 2T$  instead of  $Q, T$  and  $2Q'_i$  in the bound instead of  $Q'_i$ . We conclude that the same results hold.

Now that we showed that all estimates hold for  $p = 2$ , the rest of the proof of Theorem 1.1 for  $p = 2$  goes the same way.

## 6. APPLICATION

In this section, we prove Theorem 1.3. First, we prove a non-trivial bound for a Kloosterman sum with a general  $C$  and give a bound on Fourier coefficients of smooth functions.

**Proposition 6.1.** *Let  $C \in \mathrm{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . Let  $Q, T$  be half-integral symmetric matrices. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . We have*

$$K_n(Q, T; C) \ll_{n,\epsilon} c_n^\epsilon c_1^{n-1/2} (c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1}$$

where the implicit constant only depends on  $n$  and  $\epsilon$ . Here  $c_1 \mid \dots \mid c_n$  are the elementary divisors of  $C$ .

*Proof.* Note that the result is true for  $n = 1$  by the Weil bound. Suppose that  $C$  is not in its Smith normal form  $C'$ . There are  $U, V \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  such that  $C' = U^t CV$  and by Lemma 2.7 we have

$$K(Q, T; C) = K(Q[U], T[V]; C').$$

Note that  $(c, 2Q[U], 2T[V]) = (c, 2Q, 2T)$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  since  $U, V$  are invertible. So without loss of generality, we suppose that  $C$  is in its Smith normal form.

Let  $C = \mathrm{diag}(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  with  $c_1 \mid \dots \mid c_n$ . Suppose first that  $c_i = p^{\sigma_i}$  for a fixed prime  $p$  and  $0 \leq \sigma_1 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_n$ . If  $\sigma_i \leq 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , Theorem 1.2 combined with Proposition 2.11 gives the bound

$$(6.1) \quad K(Q, T; C) \ll_n c_1^{n-1/2} (c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{1/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1}.$$

If  $\sigma_n \geq 2$ , Theorem 1.1 gives the bound

$$K(Q, T; C) \ll_n c_1^{n-1+1/2} (c_1, 2Q'_1)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1},$$

with  $Q'_1 = Q$  except if  $c_1 = p$ . This is because  $(c''_1, 2Q'_1) \leq (c'_1, 2Q'_1) \leq (c_1, 2Q'_1)$ . The same bound is valid when replacing  $Q$  by  $T$  thanks to Lemma 2.9. So we can replace  $(c_1, 2Q'_1)$  by  $(c_1, 2Q'_1, 2T'_1)$ . In the case where  $c_1 = p$ , let  $C = \mathrm{diag}(pI_s, C_1)$  with all the prime powers in  $C_1$  at least  $p^2$ . We have  $(p, 2Q'_1, 2T'_1) = (p, 2Q_2, 2Q_3, 2T_2, 2T_3)$  where  $Q, T$  are split into blocks of the same size as  $C$ . Suppose that

$$(p, 2Q_2, 2Q_3, 2T_2, 2T_3) = p.$$

Then in Proposition 4.2, the sum over  $X$  is trivial. Thus the sum over  $W$  is  $K_s(Q_1, T_1; pI_s)$ . Applying the bound of Equation (6.1) (or the Weil bound if  $n = 1$ ), we get

$$K(Q, T; C) \ll c_1^{n-1/2} (c_1, 2Q_1, 2T_1)^{1/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1}.$$

In conclusion, the following bound holds for any  $C = \text{diag}(p^{\sigma_1}, \dots, p^{\sigma_n})$ :

$$(6.2) \quad K(Q, T; C) \leq E_n c_1^{n-1/2} (c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1}$$

with  $E_n$  a fixed constant that only depends on  $n$ .

Let  $\omega(c)$  be the number of prime divisors of  $c$  (without multiplicity). We proved Equation (6.2) in the case  $\omega(c_n) = 1$ . Now, we prove it for  $\omega(c_n) > 1$  working by induction. Let  $p \mid c_n$  and write  $C = FG = \text{diag}(f_1, \dots, f_n) \text{diag}(g_1, \dots, g_n)$  with  $f_i = (p^\infty, c_i)$ . By Lemma 2.8, we have

$$K(Q, T; C) = K(Q_F, T; F) \cdot K(Q_G, T; G)$$

with  $(p, Q_F) = (p, Q)$  and  $(q, Q_G) = (q, Q)$  for all prime  $q \mid g_n$ . Applying Equation (6.2) and induction on  $\omega(g_n)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} K(Q, T; C) &\leq E_n f_1^{n-1/2} (f_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n f_i^{n-i+1} \\ &\quad \cdot E_n^{\omega(c_n)-1} g_1^{n-1/2} (g_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n g_i^{n-i+1} \\ &= E_n^{\omega(c_n)} c_1^{n-1/2} (c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2} \prod_{i=2}^n c_i^{n-i+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally  $E_n^{\omega(c_n)} \ll_{n,\epsilon} c_n^\epsilon$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$  by the divisor bound. This concludes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.2** ([Gra], Corollary 3.2.10). *Let  $f : (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a  $C^k$  function and  $0 \neq m \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ . Then the  $m$ -th Fourier coefficient of  $f$  satisfies the bound*

$$|\hat{f}(m)| \ll \frac{S_k^f}{\|m\|_\infty^k},$$

where  $S_k^f$  is the Sobolev norm of  $f$  of order  $k$  with respect to the sup-norm.

We recall the setting of Theorem 1.3. Let  $\mathbb{T}_n = \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $C \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . Consider

$$S_C := \left\{ (C^{-t} A^t, C^{-1} D) \in \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n \mid \begin{pmatrix} A & * \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \in X(C) \right\}.$$

*Remark.* Note that if  $C = mI_n$ , then we have

$$S_{mI_n} = \left\{ (X/m, \bar{X}/m) \in \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n : X \in \mathcal{X}_n(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}), m \nmid \det(X) \right\}.$$

**Theorem 6.3.** *Let  $C \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  be such that  $\det(C) \neq 0$ . Let  $f : \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a  $C^k$ -function with  $k \geq n(n+1) + 1$ . We have*

$$\frac{1}{|S_C|} \sum_{(M,N) \in S_C} f(M, N) = \int_{\mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n} f(X_1, X_2) dX_1 dX_2 + O_{n,\epsilon} \left( S_k^f c_1^{-1/2} c_n^\epsilon \right)$$

where  $S_k^f$  is the Sobolev norm of  $f$  of order  $k$  with respect to the sup-norm and  $c_1 \mid \dots \mid c_n$  are the elementary divisors of  $C$ .

*Remark.* We see that if  $c_1 \rightarrow \infty$  and the ratio between  $c_1$  and  $c_n$  stays constant, then the set  $S_C$  equidistributes. This is the case if  $C = mC_0$  with  $C_0$  a matrix with  $\det(C_0) \neq 0$  and  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* Le  $f : \mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a  $C^k$  function. We want to compute

$$(6.3) \quad \frac{1}{|X(C)|} \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(C) \\ (C \ D)}} f(C^{-t}A^t, C^{-1}D)$$

For  $Q, T$  half-integral symmetric matrices, we have the Fourier coefficient

$$\hat{f}(Q, T) = \int_{\mathbb{T}_n \times \mathbb{T}_n} f(Y_1, Y_2) e(-QY_1 - TY_2) dY_1 dY_2$$

and the Fourier series

$$f(X_1, X_2) = \sum_{Q, T} \hat{f}(Q, T) e(QX_1 + TX_2).$$

By Theorem 3.2.16 in [Gra], the series converges absolutely. Inserting this in Equation (6.3), we get

$$\hat{f}(0, 0) + \frac{1}{|X(C)|} \sum_{(Q, T) \neq (0, 0)} \hat{f}(Q, T) \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(C) \\ (C \ D)}} e(QC^{-t}A^t + TC^{-1}D).$$

The last sum is  $K(Q, T; C)$ . Using the bounds from Proposition 6.1 and Lemma 6.2, we get

$$\frac{1}{|X(C)|} \sum_{(Q, T) \neq (0, 0)} \hat{f}(Q, T) K(Q, T; C) \ll_{n, \epsilon} c_1^{-1/2} c_n^\epsilon \sum_{(Q, T) \neq (0, 0)} \frac{(c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2}}{\max\{\|Q\|_\infty^k, \|T\|_\infty^k\}}$$

We write  $\ell = (c_1, 2Q, 2T)$ . The sum over  $Q, T$  is then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{(Q, T) \neq (0, 0)} \frac{(c_1, 2Q, 2T)^{3/2}}{\max\{\|Q\|_\infty^k, \|T\|_\infty^k\}} &\ll_n \sum_{\ell \mid c_1} \sum_{(Q, T) \neq (0, 0)} \frac{\ell^{3/2}}{\ell^k \max\{\|Q\|_\infty^k, \|T\|_\infty^k\}} \\ &\ll_n \sum_{\ell \mid c_1} \ell^{3/2-k} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m^{n(n+1)-1-k} \end{aligned}$$

where we wrote  $m = \max\{\|Q\|_\infty, \|T\|_\infty\}$ . Note that the number of pair  $(Q, T)$  with a fixed value  $m$  is  $O_n(m^{n(n+1)-1})$  since at least one coordinate must have value  $m$ . The two sums are uniformly bounded if  $k \geq n(n+1) + 1$ . We deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|X(C)|} \sum_{\substack{(A \ B) \in X(C) \\ (C \ D)}} f(C^{-t}A^t, C^{-1}D) &= \hat{f}(0, 0) + O(c_1^{-1/2} c_n^\epsilon) \\ &= \int_{T \times T} f(Y_1, Y_2) dY_1 dY_2 + O(c_1^{-1/2} c_n^\epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

□

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