

## THE NUMBER OF EDGES ON GENERALIZATIONS OF PALEY GRAPHS

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**ABSTRACT.** Evans, Pulham, and Sheenan computed the number of complete 4-subgraphs of Paley graphs by counting the number of edges of the subgraph containing only those nodes  $x$  for which  $x$  and  $x - 1$  are quadratic residues. Here we obtain formulae for the number of edges of generalizations of these subgraphs using Gaussian hypergeometric series and elliptic curves. Such formulae are simple in several infinite families, including those studied by Evans, Pulham, and Sheenan.

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**1. Preliminaries.** Let  $G(p)$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices, and let  $G(p)^c$  denote its complement, the graph where  $xy$  is an edge if and only if  $xy$  is not an edge of  $G(p)$ . If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  is prime, then let  $P(p)$  denote the Paley graph whose vertices are in  $GF(p)$ , the finite field with  $p$  elements. This is the graph where  $xy$  is an edge if and only if  $x - y$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$ . Motivated by a conjecture of Erdős, which turned out to be false, Evans, Pulham, and Sheenan [2] computed  $k_4(P(p)) + k_4(P(p)^c)$ , where  $k_m(G)$  denotes the number of complete  $m$ -subgraphs of  $G$ . Counting the number of edges of  $G^*(p)$ , the subgraph of  $P(p)$  containing only those nodes  $x$  for which  $x$  and  $x - 1$  are both quadratic residues, was the main obstacle in obtaining their result. They showed [2, Proposition 4] that if  $p = 4y^2 + x^2$ , then the number of edges in  $G^*(p)$  is

$$\frac{p^2 - 22p + 4x^2 + 81}{64}. \quad (1.1)$$

We compute the number of edges of  $G(i, t, p)$ , natural generalizations of  $G^*(p)$ .

Throughout  $p$  is an odd prime, and  $GF(p)$  is the finite field with  $p$  elements. Furthermore let  $GF(p)^\times$  denote the nonzero elements of  $GF(p)$ , and let  $GF(p)^{\times 2}$  denote the nonzero squares. For convenience we let  $\phi(\cdot)$  denote the Legendre symbol  $(\cdot/p)$  extended to  $GF(p)$  under the convention that  $\phi(0) := 0$ . If  $n$  is an integer, then  $\text{ord}_p(n)$  is the power of  $p$  dividing  $n$  and  $\text{ord}_p(a/b) := \text{ord}_p(a) - \text{ord}_p(b)$ .

**DEFINITION 1.1.** Let  $1 \leq i \leq 8$  be an integer. If  $p$  is an odd prime and  $t$  a nonzero integer, then the generalized Paley graph  $G(i, t, p)$  is the directed graph whose edge set  $E(i, t, p)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} E(i, t, p) := \{x \rightarrow y \mid (x, y) \in GF(p)^{\times 2} \times GF(p)^{\times 2}, \phi(1-x) = (-1)^{\lfloor (i-1)/4 \rfloor}, \\ \phi(1-y) = (-1)^{\lfloor (i-1)/2 \rfloor}, \phi(x - ty) = (-1)^{i-1}\}, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  denotes the greatest integer function.

The reader should note that edges can be loops, and also that the index  $i$  simply keeps track of the eight nontrivial combinations of signs for  $\phi(1-x)$ ,  $\phi(1-y)$ , and  $\phi(x-ty)$ . If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then since  $\phi(x-y) = \phi(y-x)$  the graph  $G(1,1,p)$  is a double cover of  $G^*(p)$ .

We recall the definition of a Gaussian hypergeometric series as defined in [3]. Extend all characters  $\chi$  of  $GF(p)^\times$  to  $GF(p)$  by setting  $\chi(0) := 0$ . If  $A$  and  $B$  are two characters of  $GF(p)$ , then  $\binom{A}{B}$  is defined by the normalized Jacobi sum

$$\binom{A}{B} := \frac{B(-1)}{p} J(A, \bar{B}) = \frac{B(-1)}{p} \sum_{x \in GF(p)} A(x) \bar{B}(1-x). \quad (1.3)$$

**DEFINITION 1.2.** Given characters  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n$ , and  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  of  $GF(p)$ , let

$${}_{n+1}F_n \left( \begin{matrix} A_0, & A_1, & \dots & A_n \\ B_1, & B_2, & \dots & B_n \end{matrix} \mid t \right) \quad (1.4)$$

be the Gaussian hypergeometric series defined by

$${}_{n+1}F_n \left( \begin{matrix} A_0, & A_1, & \dots & A_n \\ B_1, & B_2, & \dots & B_n \end{matrix} \mid t \right) := \frac{p}{p-1} \sum_{\chi} \binom{A_0 \chi}{\chi} \binom{A_1 \chi}{B_1 \chi} \cdots \binom{A_n \chi}{B_n \chi} \chi(t), \quad (1.5)$$

where the summation is over all the characters  $\chi$  of  $GF(p)$ .

Although the Gaussian hypergeometric series depend on the prime  $p$ , we suppress its dependence in the notation under the assumption that the prime will be clear from context.

For our purposes it will be important to evaluate

$${}_2F_1(t) := {}_2F_1 \left( \begin{matrix} \phi & \phi \\ \varepsilon & \end{matrix} \mid t \right), \quad {}_3F_2(t) := {}_3F_2 \left( \begin{matrix} \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \varepsilon & \varepsilon & \end{matrix} \mid t \right), \quad (1.6)$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is the identity (i.e.,  $\varepsilon(x) = 1$  for  $x \neq 0$ ). In [3] it was shown that

$${}_2F_1(t) = \frac{\phi(-1)}{p} \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(x) \phi(1-x) \phi(1-tx), \quad (1.7)$$

$${}_3F_2(t) = \frac{\phi(-1)}{p^2} \sum_{x,y \in GF(p)} \phi(x) \phi(y) \phi(1-x) \phi(1-y) \phi(x-ty). \quad (1.8)$$

A useful alternative for computing these two Gaussian hypergeometric series was given in [4], where it was shown that they may also be expressed in terms of the number of points on special elliptic curves over  $GF(p)$ . Define elliptic curves  ${}_2E_1(t)$  and  ${}_3E_2(t)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2E_1(t) : y^2 &= x(x-1)(x-t), \\ {}_3E_2(t) : y^2 &= x^3 - t^2 x^2 + (4t^3 - t^4)x + t^6 - 4t^5. \end{aligned} \quad (1.9)$$

Denote the number of points on  ${}_2E_1(t)$  and  ${}_3E_2(t)$  over  $GF(p)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2N_1(t, p) &:= |\{(x, y) \in GF(p) \times GF(p) \mid y^2 = x(x-1)(x-t)\}|, \\ {}_3N_2(t, p) &:= |\{(x, y) \in GF(p) \times GF(p) \mid y^2 = x^3 - t^2 x^2 + (4t^3 - t^4)x + t^6 - 4t^5\}|. \end{aligned} \quad (1.10)$$

Now define the *Frobenius traces*,  ${}_2a_1(t, p)$  and  ${}_3a_2(t, p)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2a_1(t, p) &:= p - {}_2N_1(t, p), \\ {}_3a_2(t, p) &:= p - {}_3N_2(t, p). \end{aligned} \quad (1.11)$$

In this notation, the following two theorems were proved in [4].

**THEOREM 1.3.** *If  $t \in \mathbb{Q} - \{0, 1\}$  and  $p$  is an odd prime for which  $\text{ord}_p(t(t-1)) = 0$ , then*

$${}_2F_1(t) = -\frac{\phi(-1) {}_2a_1(t, p)}{p}. \quad (1.12)$$

**THEOREM 1.4.** *If  $\delta \in \mathbb{Q} - \{0, 4\}$  and  $p$  is an odd prime for which  $\text{ord}_p(\delta(\delta-4)) = 0$ , then*

$${}_3F_2\left(\frac{4}{4-\delta}\right) = \frac{\phi(\delta^2 - 4\delta)({}_3a_2(\delta, p)^2 - p)}{p^2}. \quad (1.13)$$

**2. Main theorems.** Here we compute the number of edges of the graphs  $G(i, t, p)$  when  $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that  $1 \leq t \leq p-1$ , although for aesthetic reasons we write  $t = -1$  rather than  $t = p-1$ .

**LEMMA 2.1.** *If  $p$  is an odd prime and  $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then*

- (i)  $\sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(x^2 - t) = -1$ ,
- (ii)  $|\{x \in GF(p) \mid \phi(x^2 - t) = 1\}| = (p-2 - \phi(t))/2$ ,
- (iii)  $|\{x \in GF(p) \mid \phi(t - x^2) = 1\}| = (p-1 - \phi(t) - \phi(-1))/2$ ,
- (iv)  $|\{x \in GF(p) \mid \phi(1 - x^2/t) = 1\}| = (p-1 - \phi(t) - \phi(-t))/2$ .

**PROOF.** (i) By Euler's criterion that  $\phi(x) \equiv x^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$  for all  $x \in GF(p)$ , and the Binomial theorem we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(x^2 - t) &\equiv \sum_{x \in GF(p)} (x^2 - t)^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p} \\ &\equiv \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \sum_{r=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{r} x^2 r (-1)^{(p-1)/2-r} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

Since  $\sum_{x \in GF(p)} x^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  for  $0 < k < p-1$ , the above sum is

$$\equiv \sum_{x \in GF(p)} (-t)^{(p-1)/2} + x^{p-1} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}. \quad (2.2)$$

Furthermore, this sum is odd because  $\sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(x^2 - t) = \phi(-t) + 2 \sum_{x=1}^{(p-1)/2} \phi(x^2 - t)$ . Therefore since  $|\sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(x^2 - t)| < p$ , one easily concludes that the sum is  $-1$ .

- (ii) Define  $S_+$  and  $S_-$  by

$$S_{\pm} := |\{x \in GF(p) \mid \phi(x^2 - t) = \pm 1\}|. \quad (2.3)$$

By (i),  $S_+ - S_- = -1$ . This and the equation  $S_+ + S_- = p - (1 + \phi(t))$  determine  $S_+$ .

- (iii) and (iv) are also easy exercises.  $\square$

**LEMMA 2.2.** Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $t \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{p}$ . If  $\gamma_{\pm, \pm}(t, p)$  is defined by

$$\gamma_{\pm, \pm}(t, p) := \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = \pm 1, \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) = \pm 1 \right\} \right|, \quad (2.4)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{++}(t, p) &= \frac{1}{4}(p + \phi(-t)p {}_2F_1(t) - \phi(-1) - 2\phi(t) \\ &\quad - \phi(-t) - 2\phi(t^2 - t) - \phi(1-t) - \phi(t - t^2) - 7), \\ \gamma_{+-}(t, p) &= \frac{1}{4}(p - \phi(-t)p {}_2F_1(t) - \phi(-1) - \phi(1-t) \\ &\quad - \phi(t - t^2) + \phi(-t) + 2\phi(t^2 - t) - 3), \\ \gamma_{-+}(t, p) &= \frac{1}{4}(p - \phi(-t)p {}_2F_1(t) + \phi(-1) + \phi(1-t) \\ &\quad + \phi(t - t^2) - \phi(-t) - 2\phi(t^2 - t) - 3), \\ \gamma_{--}(t, p) &= \frac{1}{4}(p + \phi(-t)p {}_2F_1(t) + \phi(-1) + \phi(1-t) \\ &\quad + \phi(t - t^2) + \phi(-t) + 2\phi(t^2 - t) - 2\phi(t) - 3). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

**PROOF.** These formulae follow from four key relations. Since  $t \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{p}$ , it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{++}(t, p) + \gamma_{--}(t, p) + \gamma_{+-}(t, p) + \gamma_{-+}(t, p) \\ &= \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) \neq 0, \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) \neq 0 \right\} \right| \\ &= p - 4 - \phi(t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

Similarly it is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{++}(t, p) + \gamma_{--}(t, p) - \gamma_{+-}(t, p) - \gamma_{-+}(t, p) \\ &= \sum_{x \in GF(p)^\times} \phi(1-x^2) \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) \\ &= -1 + \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(1-x^2) \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Since  $x^2$  represents each nonzero quadratic residue twice, replacing  $x^2$  by  $x$  in the above expression and then multiplying the summand by the weight  $(1 + \phi(x))$  leads to

$$\begin{aligned} -1 + \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(1-x) \phi\left(1 - \frac{x}{t}\right) (1 + \phi(x)) \\ = -1 + \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(1-x) \phi\left(1 - \frac{x}{t}\right) + \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi(1-x) \phi\left(1 - \frac{x}{t}\right) \phi(x). \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

This now reduces by [Lemma 2.1](#) and [\(1.7\)](#) to be

$$= \phi(-t) p \cdot {}_2F_1(t) - 1 - \phi(t). \quad (2.9)$$

Now consider

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{++}(t, p) + \gamma_{+-}(t, p) &= \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1, \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) \neq 0 \right\} \right| \\ &= \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1 \right\} \right| \\ &\quad - \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1, \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) = 0 \right\} \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

The first term is known by [Lemma 2.1](#), and the second is  $2(1 + \phi(t)/2)(1 + \phi(1-t)/2)$  since it is 2 if  $t$  and  $1-t$  are both quadratic residues and 0 otherwise. This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{++}(t, p) + \gamma_{+-}(t, p) &= \left( \frac{p-2-\phi(-1)}{2} - 1 \right) - 2 \left( \frac{1+\phi(t)}{2} \right) \left( \frac{1+\phi(1-t)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(p - \phi(-1) - \phi(t) - \phi(1-t) - \phi(t-t^2) - 5). \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

Similarly we obtain

$$\gamma_{++}(t, p) + \gamma_{-+}(t, p) = \frac{1}{2}(p - \phi(t) - \phi(-t) - 2\phi(t^2-t) - 5). \quad (2.12)$$

Solving [\(2.6\)](#), [\(2.9\)](#), [\(2.11\)](#), and [\(2.12\)](#) for  $\gamma_{++}(t, p)$ ,  $\gamma_{+-}(t, p)$ ,  $\gamma_{-+}(t, p)$ , and  $\gamma_{++}(t, p)$  produces the result.  $\square$

[Theorem 2.3](#) depends on auxiliary constants determined by the values of  $\phi(-1)$ ,  $\phi(t)$ , and  $\phi(1-t)$ . These constants are defined in Tables [A.1](#), [A.2](#), [A.3](#), [A.4](#), [A.5](#), [A.6](#), [A.7](#), and [A.8](#) in the appendix.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *If  $p$  is an odd prime, and  $2 \leq t \leq p-1$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} |E(i, t, p)| \\ = \frac{p^2 + p^2 \cdot \mathcal{F}(i, t, p) \cdot {}_3F_2(t) + p \cdot {}_2F_1(t) \cdot \mathcal{G}(i, t, p) + p \cdot \mathcal{H}(i, t, p) + \mathcal{J}(i, t, p)}{32}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

**PROOF.** Define  $\alpha(i, t, p)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(i, t, p) &:= \left| \left\{ (x, y) \in GF(p)^\times \times GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = (-1)^{\lfloor (i-1)/4 \rfloor}, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \phi(1-y^2) = (-1)^{\lfloor (i-1)/2 \rfloor}, \phi(x^2 - ty^2) = (-1)^{i-1} \right\} \right|. \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Thus  $\alpha(i, t, p) = 4|E(i, t, p)|$ . The  $\alpha(i, t, p)$  will be determined by solving eight

equations. First,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \alpha(1, t, p) - \alpha(2, t, p) - \alpha(3, t, p) + \alpha(4, t, p) \\
& - \alpha(5, t, p) + \alpha(6, t, p) + \alpha(7, t, p) - \alpha(8, t, p) \\
& = \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)^\times} \phi(1-x^2) \phi(1-y^2) \phi(x^2-ty^2) \\
& = \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x^2)(1-y^2)(x^2-ty^2)) \\
& - \sum_{x, y \in GF(p), xy=0} \phi((1-x^2)(1-y^2)(x^2-ty^2)) \\
& = \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(1-y)(x-ty)) (1+\phi(x)) (1+\phi(y)) \\
& + 1 + \phi(-1) + \phi(t) + \phi(-t).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.15}$$

The above sum involves the four simpler sums

$$\begin{aligned}
A &:= \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(1-y)(x-ty)), \\
B &:= \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(1-y)(x-ty)x), \\
C &:= \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(1-y)(x-ty)y), \\
D &:= \sum_{x, y \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(1-y)(x-ty)xy).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

By Lemma 2.1,  $A$  and  $B$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
A &= \sum_{1/t \neq y \in GF(p)} \phi(1-y) \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(x-ty)) \\
&+ \phi\left(1 - \frac{1}{t}\right) \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(x-1)) \\
&= \phi\left(\frac{1}{t} - 1\right) + (p-1)\phi\left(\frac{1}{t} - 1\right) \\
&= \phi\left(\frac{1}{t} - 1\right)p, \\
B &= \sum_{1/t \neq y \in GF(p)} \phi(y-y^2) \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(x-ty)) \\
&+ \phi\left(\frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{t^2}\right) \sum_{x \in GF(p)} \phi((1-x)(x-1)) \\
&= \sum_{1/t \neq y \in GF(p)} \phi(y-y^2)(-\phi(-1)) + (p-1)\phi(1-t) \\
&= 1 + \phi(1-t) + (p-1)\phi(1-t) \\
&= \phi(1-t)p + 1.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.17}$$

Similarly  $C$  can easily be shown to be  $C = \phi(-t) + \phi(1-t)p$ . By (1.8),  $D$  is a simple multiple of  ${}_3F_2(t)$ , which combined with the formulae for  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  leads to

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(1, t, p) - \alpha(2, t, p) - \alpha(3, t, p) + \alpha(4, t, p) - \alpha(5, t, p) \\ & + \alpha(6, t, p) + \alpha(7, t, p) - \alpha(8, t, p) \\ & = \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(t)p^2 + \phi(1-t)2p \\ & + \phi(t-t^2)p + 2 + 2\phi(-t) + \phi(-1) + \phi(t). \end{aligned} \tag{2.18}$$

Each  $\alpha(i, t, p)$  can be expressed in terms of  $\phi(-1)$ ,  $\phi(t)$ ,  $\phi(1-t)$ ,  ${}_2F_1(t)$ , and  ${}_3F_2(t)$ . Determining these expressions is no more than solving simple systems of equations. For brevity, we only consider the case where  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (1, -1, -1)$ . The solution in this case determines the entries in Table A.5. In the remaining cases, the tables are determined in exactly the same way.

We first derive an equation for  $\alpha(1, t, p) + \alpha(3, t, p)$  in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(1, t, p) + \alpha(3, t, p) \\ & = |\{(x, y) \in GF(p)^\times \times GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1, \phi(1-y^2) \neq 0, \phi(x^2 - ty^2) = 1\}| \\ & = |\{(x, y) \in GF(p)^\times \times GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1, \phi(x^2 - ty^2) = 1\}| \\ & \quad - 2 \left| \left\{ x \in GF(p) \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1, \phi\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{t}\right) = \phi(-t) = -1 \right\} \right| \\ & = |\{x \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-x^2) = 1\}| \cdot |\{y \in GF(p)^\times \mid \phi(1-ty^2) = 1\}| - 2y_{+-}(t, p) \\ & = \left( \frac{p-5}{2} \right) \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right) - \frac{p-7+p {}_2F_1(t)}{2}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.19}$$

The following equations are determined in a similar way,

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(1, t, p) + \alpha(2, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-5}{2} \right)^2, \\ & \alpha(3, t, p) + \alpha(4, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-5}{2} \right) \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right), \\ & \alpha(5, t, p) + \alpha(6, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right) \left( \frac{p-5}{2} \right), \\ & \alpha(7, t, p) + \alpha(8, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right)^2 - \frac{p+1-p {}_2F_1(t)}{2}, \\ & \alpha(1, t, p) + \alpha(5, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-5}{2} \right) \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right) - \frac{p-3+p {}_2F_1(t)}{2}, \\ & \alpha(3, t, p) + \alpha(7, t, p) = \left( \frac{p-1}{2} \right)^2 - \frac{p-1-p {}_2F_1(t)}{2}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.20}$$

The solution to the system (2.18), (2.19), and (2.20) for  $\alpha(i, t, p)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 8$  yields the entries in Table A.5.  $\square$

As an immediate consequence of (1.11), Theorems 1.3 and 1.4 we obtain the following result.

**COROLLARY 2.4.** *If  $p$  is an odd prime,  $2 \leq t \leq p-1$ , and  $\delta := (4t-4)/t \pmod{p}$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} |E(i, t, p)| &= \frac{p^2}{32} (\phi(1-t)\mathcal{F}(i, t, p) + 1) \\ &+ \frac{p}{32} (-\phi(-1)\mathcal{G}(i, t, p) + \mathcal{H}(i, t, p) \\ &\quad - 2\phi(1-t)\mathcal{F}(i, t, p) {}_3N_2(\delta, p) - \phi(1-t)\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{32} (\phi(1-t)\mathcal{F}(i, t, p) {}_3N_2(\delta, p)^2 \\ &\quad + \phi(-1)\mathcal{G}(i, t, p) {}_2N_1(t, p) + \mathcal{J}(i, t, p)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.21)$$

**EXAMPLE 2.5.** Consider the graph  $G(7, 4, 13)$ . By [Corollary 2.4](#) we find that  $\delta \equiv 3 \pmod{13}$ , and by [\(1.9\)](#) we are lead to consider the GF(13) points of the curves

$${}_2E_1(4) : y^2 = x^3 - 5x^2 + 4x, \quad {}_3E_2(3) : y^2 = x^3 - 9x^2 + 27x - 243. \quad (2.22)$$

Both curves have  ${}_2N_1(4, 13) = {}_3N_2(3, 13) = 15$  points over GF(13), and so by [Corollary 2.4](#) (using [Table A.1](#) since  $\phi(-1) = \phi(4) = \phi(-3) = 1$ ) we find that  $|E(7, 4, 13)| = 4$ . It is easy to verify that this is indeed true, since the edge set is

$$E(7, 4, 13) = \{3 \rightarrow 3, 9 \rightarrow 3, 9 \rightarrow 9, 12 \rightarrow 12\}. \quad (2.23)$$

If  $t \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , then formulae like [\(1.1\)](#) follow from evaluations proved in [\[4\]](#)

$$\begin{aligned} {}_2F_1(-1) &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}; \\ \frac{2x(-1)(x+y+1)/2}{p}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, x^2+y^2=p, x \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \\ {}_3F_2(-1) &= \begin{cases} -\frac{\phi(2)}{p}, & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}; \\ \frac{\phi(2)(4x^2-p)}{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, x^2+2y^2=p. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

**COROLLARY 2.6.** *Let  $p$  be prime, and define integers  $u, v, x$ , and  $y$  by*

$$\begin{aligned} p &= x^2 + y^2, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ with } x \text{ odd,} \\ p &= u^2 + 2v^2, & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

*If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , then*

$$|E(i, -1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 12p - 12x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} + 4u^2 + 91, & \text{if } i = 1; \\ p^2 - 12p + 4x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} - 4u^2 + 19, & \text{if } i = 1, 3 \text{ or } 5; \\ p^2 - 4p + 4x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} + 4u^2 + 3, & \text{if } i = 4, 6 \text{ or } 7; \\ p^2 - 4p - 12x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} - 4u^2 - 5, & \text{if } i = 8. \end{cases} \quad (2.26)$$

If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$|E(i, -1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 10p + 4u^2 + 17, & \text{if } i = 1 \text{ or } 7; \\ p^2 - 2p - 4u^2 + 1, & \text{if } i = 2 \text{ or } 8; \\ p^2 - 6p - 4u^2 + 13, & \text{if } i = 3 \text{ or } 5; \\ p^2 - 6p + 4u^2 + 5, & \text{if } i = 4 \text{ or } 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.27)$$

If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$|E(i, -1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 16p - 12x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} + 67, & \text{if } i = 1; \\ p^2 - 8p + 4x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} + 11, & \text{if } 2 \leq i \leq 7; \\ p^2 - 12x(-1)^{(x+y+1)/2} + 19, & \text{if } i = 8. \end{cases} \quad (2.28)$$

If  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$|E(i, -1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 6p + 25, & \text{if } i = 1 \text{ or } 7; \\ p^2 - 6p - 7, & \text{if } i = 2 \text{ or } 8; \\ p^2 - 10p + 21, & \text{if } i = 3 \text{ or } 5; \\ p^2 - 2p - 3, & \text{if } i = 4 \text{ or } 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.29)$$

Even though the only  $t$  for which  ${}_2F_1(t)$  and  ${}_3F_2(t)$  are known to simultaneously have explicit evaluations are  $t = 0$  and  $\pm 1$ , we can still obtain simple formulae using the fact that  $\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$  is often zero in Tables A.3, A.5, A.7, and A.8. If  $p > 3$  is prime, then the following formulae were obtained in [4]:

$$\begin{aligned} {}_3F_2(-8) &= \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{p}, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}; \\ \frac{4x^2 - p}{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, x^2 + y^2 = p, x \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \\ {}_3F_2\left(\frac{-1}{8}\right) &= \begin{cases} -\frac{\phi(2)}{p}, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}; \\ \frac{\phi(2)(4x^2 - p)}{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, x^2 + y^2 = p, x \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

Now as an immediate consequence we obtain the following result.

**COROLLARY 2.7.** Suppose that  $p \equiv 5$  or  $7 \pmod{8}$  is prime, and that  $t \equiv -8$  or  $-1/8 \pmod{p}$ . If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$  and  $t \equiv -8 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$|E(i, t, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 6p - 4x^2 + 9, & \text{if } i = 3 \text{ or } 5; \\ p^2 - 6p + 4x^2 + 1, & \text{if } i = 4 \text{ or } 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.31)$$

If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$  and  $t \equiv -1/8 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$|E(i, t, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 6p + 4x^2 + 9, & \text{if } i = 3 \text{ or } 5; \\ p^2 - 6p - 4x^2 + 1, & \text{if } i = 4 \text{ or } 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.32)$$

If  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and  $t \equiv -8$  or  $-1/8$ , then

$$|E(i, t, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 6p + 25, & \text{if } i = 1 \text{ or } 7; \\ p^2 - 6p - 7, & \text{if } i = 2 \text{ or } 8. \end{cases} \quad (2.33)$$

**EXAMPLE 2.8.** Consider the graph  $G(8, -1, 17)$ . Since  $17 = 1^2 + 4^2 = 3^2 + 2 \cdot 2^2$ , [Corollary 2.6](#) with  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 4$ ,  $u = 3$ , and  $v = 2$  also shows  $|E(8, -1, 17)| = 6$ . It is easy to check that the 6 edges are

$$E(8, -1, 17) = \{4 \rightarrow 8, 8 \rightarrow 4, 15 \rightarrow 13, 15 \rightarrow 8, 13 \rightarrow 15, 8 \rightarrow 15\}. \quad (2.34)$$

**EXAMPLE 2.9.** Consider the graph  $G(2, 15, 23)$ . Since  $23 \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and  $15 \equiv -8 \pmod{23}$ , [Corollary 2.7](#) implies that  $|E(2, -8, 23)| = 12$ . It is easy to check that these 12 edges are

$$E(2, 15, 23) = \{16 \rightarrow 8, 16 \rightarrow 12, 18 \rightarrow 6, 18 \rightarrow 12, 16 \rightarrow 18, 12 \rightarrow 6, 12 \rightarrow 8, 8 \rightarrow 6, 8 \rightarrow 18, 8 \rightarrow 16, 6 \rightarrow 12, 6 \rightarrow 16\}. \quad (2.35)$$

Now we state the result when  $t = 1$ . Since the proof in this case follows the same type of argument leading to [Theorem 2.3](#), we omit it for brevity.

**THEOREM 2.10.** If  $p$  is an odd prime, then the number of edges of  $G(i, 1, p)$  is

$$|E(i, 1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 + p^2 \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(1) - 15p - \phi(-1)5p + \phi(-1)30 + 51, & \text{if } i = 1; \\ p^2 - p^2 \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(1) - 9p + \phi(-1)p - \phi(-1)6 + 15, & \text{if } i = 2, 5 \text{ or } 8; \\ p^2 - p^2 \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(1) - 5p - \phi(-1)3p + \phi(-1)6 + 3, & \text{if } i = 3; \\ p^2 + p^2 \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(1) - 7p + \phi(-1)3p - \phi(-1)10 + 11, & \text{if } i = 4 \text{ or } 7; \\ p^2 + p^2 \phi(-1) {}_3F_2(1) - 3p - \phi(-1)p + \phi(-1)2 - 1, & \text{if } i = 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.36)$$

Since Evans (see [1]) proved that  ${}_3F_2(1) = (4x^2 - 2p)p^2$  if  $p = x^2 + y^2$  where  $x$  is odd, and is zero otherwise, we obtain the following corollary.

**COROLLARY 2.11.** If  $p = x^2 + y^2$  is prime where  $x$  is odd, then

$$|E(i, 1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 22p + 4x^2 + 81, & \text{if } i = 1; \\ p^2 - 6p - 4x^2 + 9, & \text{if } i = 2, 3, 5, \text{ or } 8; \\ p^2 - 6p + 4x^2 + 1, & \text{if } i = 4, 6, \text{ or } 7. \end{cases} \quad (2.37)$$

If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  is prime, then

$$|E(i, 1, p)| = \frac{1}{32} \cdot \begin{cases} p^2 - 10p + 21, & \text{if } i = 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, \text{ or } 8; \\ p^2 - 2p - 3, & \text{if } i = 3 \text{ or } 6. \end{cases} \quad (2.38)$$

Since  $E(1, 1, p)$  is a double cover of  $G^*(p)$  when  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , the formula for  $|E(1, 1, p)|$  in the above corollary is equivalent to (1.1).

## Appendix

TABLE A.1.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (1, 1, 1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	1	-6	-11	91
2	-1	2	-13	19
3	-1	2	-13	19
4	1	2	-3	3
5	-1	2	-13	19
6	1	2	-3	3
7	1	2	-3	3
8	-1	-6	-5	-5

TABLE A.2.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (-1, 1, 1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	-1	2	-5	27
2	1	2	-11	19
3	1	-6	-11	19
4	-1	2	-5	27
5	1	2	-11	19
6	-1	-6	-5	-5
7	-1	2	-5	27
8	1	2	-11	19

TABLE A.3.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (1, -1, 1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	1	-4	-9	29
2	-1	4	-11	21
3	-1	0	-7	9
4	1	0	-5	1
5	-1	0	-7	9
6	1	0	-5	1
7	1	4	-1	5
8	-1	-4	-3	-3

TABLE A.4.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (1, 1, -1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	1	-6	-17	67
2	-1	2	-7	11
3	-1	2	-7	11
4	1	2	-9	11
5	-1	2	-7	11
6	1	2	-9	11
7	1	2	-9	11
8	-1	-6	1	19

TABLE A.5.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (1, -1, -1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	1	-4	-11	21
2	-1	4	-9	29
3	-1	0	-5	1
4	1	0	-7	9
5	-1	0	-5	1
6	1	0	-7	9
7	1	4	-3	-3
8	-1	-4	-1	5

TABLE A.6.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (-1, 1, -1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	-1	2	-11	19
2	1	2	-5	27
3	1	-6	-5	-5
4	-1	2	-11	19
5	1	2	-5	27
6	-1	-6	-11	19
7	-1	2	-11	19
8	1	2	-5	27

TABLE A.7.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (-1, -1, 1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	-1	0	-7	25
2	1	0	-5	-7
3	1	-4	-9	21
4	-1	4	-3	-3
5	1	4	-9	21
6	-1	-4	-3	-3
7	-1	0	-7	25
8	1	0	-5	-7

TABLE A.8.  $(\phi(-1), \phi(t), \phi(1-t)) = (-1, -1, -1)$ .

$i$	$\mathcal{F}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{G}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{H}(i, t, p)$	$\mathcal{J}(i, t, p)$
1	-1	0	-9	17
2	1	0	-3	1
3	1	-4	-7	13
4	-1	4	-5	5
5	1	4	-7	13
6	-1	-4	-5	5
7	-1	0	-9	17
8	1	0	-3	1

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