

## The distribution of powers modulo $q$

by

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### Abstract

Let  $\delta, \delta_1, \delta_2$  be any real numbers with  $0 < \delta, \delta_1, \delta_2 \leq 1$ , and  $q \geq 2$  be an integer,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers. In the present paper we use some estimates of exponential sums to study the distribution of integer powers modulo  $q$ . Define

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q) = \#\left\{a : 0 < a \leq q, (a, q) = 1, a \in \mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta_1}(q) \cap \mathcal{A}_{k,l,\delta_2}(q)\right\},$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta}(q) = \left\{a : 0 < a \leq q, (a, q) = 1, \left|\left\{\frac{a^h}{q}\right\} - \left\{\frac{a^k}{q}\right\}\right| < \delta\right\}.$$

We derive asymptotic formulas for  $N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q)$ .

**Key Words:** Integer and its inverse, integer powers, exponential sums.

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $q > 1$  be an integer. If  $a$  is an integer coprime to  $q$ , we denote by  $\bar{a}$  the natural number less than  $q$  such that  $a\bar{a} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ , and  $\bar{a}$  is called the inverse of  $a$ . Several number theorists studied the distribution of an integer and its inverse. Related works can be found in [2, 3, 6, 8, 11].

Let  $p$  be an odd prime. For any fixed real number  $0 < \delta < 1$ , we define

$$S(p, \delta) = \#\left\{a : 0 \leq a \leq p, |a - \bar{a}| < \delta p\right\}.$$

Zhang [10] studied the limit distribution properties of

$$\frac{1}{p-1}S(p, \delta),$$

and derived that

$$S(p, \delta) = \delta(2 - \delta)p + O(p^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln^2(p)).$$

Moreover, for any fixed integer  $k$ , Zhang [11] studied the asymptotic properties of  $S_k(p, \delta)$  with

$$S_k(p, \delta) = \#\left\{a : 0 \leq a \leq p, \left|\left\{\frac{a^k}{p}\right\} - \left\{\frac{\bar{a}^k}{p}\right\}\right| < \delta\right\},$$

and obtained that

$$S_k(p, \delta) = \delta(2 - \delta)p + O_k(p^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln^2(p)).$$

In [7], Xu studied the distribution of the difference of an integer and its  $m$ -th power modulo  $q$  over incomplete intervals. Let  $\lambda, \delta$  be any real numbers with  $0 < \lambda, \delta \leq 1, q > \max\{\lceil \frac{1}{\lambda} \rceil, \lceil \frac{1}{\delta} \rceil\}$  and  $m \geq 2$  be integers. Let  $P$  be the parallelogram with vertices  $(0, -\delta), (\lambda, \lambda - \delta), (\lambda, \lambda + \delta)$  and  $(0, \delta)$ . Xu defined

$$S_{m,q,\lambda,\delta} = \#\{a : 1 \leq a \leq \lambda q, (a, q) = 1, |a - (a^m)_q| \leq \delta q\},$$

where  $(a)_q$  denotes the integer  $b$  with  $1 \leq b \leq q$  such that  $b \equiv a \pmod{q}$  for any integer  $q$  and proved the formula

$$S_{m,q,\lambda,\delta} = \phi(q)A_{P \cap [0,1]^2} + O(m^{\omega(q)+\frac{1}{2}} q^{\frac{1}{2}} d(q) \ln^3 q),$$

where  $A_{P \cap [0,1]^2}$  denotes the area of  $P \cap [0, 1]^2$ . Zhang [10] proved an asymptotic formula for the cardinality of  $S_{m,q,\lambda,\delta}$  in a special case:

$$S_{\phi(q)-1,q,1,\delta} = \delta(2 - \delta)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{1}{2}} d^2(q) \ln^3 q).$$

We study the distribution of integer powers modulo  $q$ . Let integer  $q \geq 2, h, k, l \geq 2$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers,  $0 < \delta, \delta_1, \delta_2 \leq 1$  be real numbers. We define

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q) = \#\left\{a : 0 < a \leq q, (a, q) = 1, a \in \mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta_1}(q) \cap \mathcal{A}_{k,l,\delta_2}(q)\right\},$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta}(q) = \left\{a : 0 < a \leq q, (a, q) = 1, \left| \left\{ \frac{a^h}{q} \right\} - \left\{ \frac{a^k}{q} \right\} \right| < \delta \right\},$$

and  $\{x\} = x - [x]$  denotes the fractional part of  $x$ ,  $[x]$  denotes the integral part of  $x$ ; thus  $q\{a^k/q\}$  is the least positive residue mod  $q$  of  $a^k$ . Li [4] proved an asymptotic formula of  $\mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta}(q)$ :

$$\#\mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta}(q) = \delta(2 - \delta)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}) \tag{1.1}$$

where  $q = p^\alpha$  in his master thesis. In this paper, we prove the following asymptotic formula for  $N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q)$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let integer  $q \geq 2, h, k, l \geq 2$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers,  $\delta_1, \delta_2$  be real numbers with  $0 < \delta_1 \leq \delta_2 \leq 1$ , we have asymptotic estimations:*

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q) = \begin{cases} \left(4\delta_1\delta_2 - 2\delta_2^2\delta_1 - \delta_1^2\delta_2 - \frac{\delta_1^3}{3}\right)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\epsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 \leq 1; \\ \left(\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \delta_1^2 - \delta_2^2 + 2\delta_1\delta_2 + \frac{\delta_2^3}{3} - \delta_2^2\delta_1 - \frac{1}{3}\right)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\epsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 > 1. \end{cases}$$

In particular, taking  $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = \delta$ , from Theorem 1 we get an asymptotical formula in the following corollary:

**Corollary 1.** *Let integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers, let  $\delta$  be a real number with  $0 < \delta \leq 1$ , we obtain*

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta,\delta}(q) = \begin{cases} \left(4\delta^2 - \frac{10\delta^3}{3}\right)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta \leq \frac{1}{2}; \\ \left(2\delta - \frac{2\delta^3}{3} - \frac{1}{3}\right)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta > \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases}$$

Taking that  $\delta_1 = \delta, \delta_2 = 1$ , we get the following corollary:

**Corollary 2.** *Let integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers, let  $\delta$  be a real number with  $0 < \delta \leq 1$ , we have*

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta,1}(q) = \delta(2 - \delta)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}).$$

**Remark.** In fact, when  $l = k$ , we see that  $N_{h,k,l,\delta,\delta}(q)$  is the cardinality of  $\mathcal{A}_{h,k,\delta}(q)$ . Furthermore, when  $l = h$ , by using a similar method in the proof of Theorem 1 and the following upper bound of two-term exponential sum

$$\max_{\gcd(u_1, u_2, q)=g} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{u_1 a^{m_1} + u_2 a^{m_2}}{q}\right) \right| < g^{\frac{1}{2}} q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}$$

from the case  $t = 2$  of Lemma 3, we get a corresponding result

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q) = \delta'(2 - \delta')\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}),$$

where  $\delta' = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ . We also derive a sharper asymptotic formula as follows

$$N_{h,k,l,\delta,1}(q) = \delta(2 - \delta)\phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}).$$

## 2 Technical Lemmas

We need the following technical lemmas to prove our theorem.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $p$  be a prime and  $u$  be an integer with  $(u, p) = 1$ , then for any integers  $k \geq 2$  and  $\alpha \geq 2$ , there holds*

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ p \nmid a}}^{p^\alpha} e\left(\frac{ua^k}{p^\alpha}\right) \right| \leq kp^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}.$$

*Proof.* This can be easily obtained from [1, formula 0.5]. □

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $q > 1$  be an integer,  $k \geq 2$  be a fixed positive integer. For any integer  $u$  such that  $(u, q) = 1$ , we have the following estimation*

$$\left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ua^k}{q}\right) \right| \leq k^{\omega(q)} q^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

where  $\omega(q)$  denotes distinct prime divisors of  $q$ .

*Proof.* Let  $q = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_r^{\alpha_r}$  be the prime factor decomposition of  $q$ , we first note that

$$\sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ua^k}{q}\right) = \prod_{i=1}^r \left( \sum_{a=1}^{p_i^{\alpha_i}} e\left(\frac{u\left(\frac{q}{p_i}\right)^{k-1} a^k}{p_i^{\alpha_i}}\right) \right). \tag{2.1}$$

In fact, if  $m$  and  $n$  pass through a reduced residue system modulo  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  respectively,  $mq_2 + nq_1$  passes through a reduced system modulo  $q_1q_2$ , so one can write

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ua^k}{q}\right) &= \sum_{m=1}^{q_1'} \sum_{n=1}^{q_2'} e\left(\frac{u(mq_2 + nq_1)^k}{q_1q_2}\right) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^{q_1'} e\left(\frac{u(mq_2)^k}{q_1q_2}\right) \sum_{n=1}^{q_2'} e\left(\frac{u(nq_1)^k}{q_1q_2}\right) \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^{q_1'} e\left(\frac{uq_2^{k-1}m^k}{q_1}\right) \sum_{n=1}^{q_2'} e\left(\frac{uq_1^{k-1}n^k}{q_2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

This yields the identity (2.1). By Lemma 1 we can get Lemma 2. □

**Lemma 3.** For a positive integer  $q$ , let  $m_1, \dots, m_t$  be  $t \geq 2$  non-zero fixed pairwise distinct integers. Then the bound

$$\max_{gcd(u_1, \dots, u_t, q) = g} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{u_1 a^{m_1} + \dots + u_t a^{m_t}}{q}\right) \right| \leq g^{\frac{1}{t}} q^{1 - \frac{1}{t} + \varepsilon}$$

holds.

*Proof.* See [5, Lemma 1]. □

**Lemma 4.** Let  $\lambda$  be a real constant with  $0 < \lambda \leq 1$ ,  $q > [\frac{1}{\lambda}]$  be any integer and  $r$  be an integer with  $1 \leq r \leq q$ . For any nonnegative integer  $l$ , we have the estimate

$$\sum_{a=1}^{[\lambda q]} a^l e\left(\frac{ra}{q}\right) \begin{cases} = \frac{(\lambda q)^{l+1}}{l+1} + O((\lambda q)^l), & \text{if } q \mid r; \\ \ll \frac{(\lambda q)^l}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|}, & \text{if } q \nmid r. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* See [7, Lemma 3]. □

**Lemma 5.** Let  $q \geq 2$  be an integer,  $k > 1$  be a fixed positive integer. Then we have

$$\sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{3}{2} + \varepsilon}), \tag{2.2}$$

$$\sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{sa^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{3}{2} + \varepsilon}), \tag{2.3}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(m-s)}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{7}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.4}$$

and

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}|^2 |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{7}{2}+\varepsilon}). \tag{2.5}$$

*Proof.* We prove (2.2), and the others can be obtained by the same methods. We begin with the estimates of formula (2.2), by Lemma 2 and the Jordan inequality

$$\frac{2}{\pi} \leq \frac{\sin x}{x} \quad (|x| \leq \frac{\pi}{2}), \tag{2.6}$$

one can write

$$\sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \leq q \sum_{r=1}^{\lfloor \frac{q-1}{2} \rfloor} \frac{1}{r} + q \sum_{r=\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor}^{q-1} \frac{1}{q-r} \ll q \ln q.$$

Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} &= \sum_{(r,q)=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ (r,q)>1}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

For the first term of (2.7), from Lemma 2 and the Jordan inequality (2.6), we have

$$\sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ (r,q)=1}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \ll q^{\frac{3}{2}} h^{\omega(q)} \ln^2 q. \tag{2.8}$$

where we used the bound  $\omega(q) \ll \frac{\ln q}{\ln \ln q}$ . For the second term of (2.7), from Lemma 2 and the Jordan inequality (2.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ (r,q)>1}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} &= \sum_{\substack{d|q \\ d>1}} d \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ d|r, (\frac{r}{d}, \frac{q}{d})=1}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{r/da^h}{q/d}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ &\ll q^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{\substack{d|q \\ d>1}} d^{\frac{1}{2}} h^{\omega(q/d)} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ d|r}}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ &\ll q^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{\substack{d|q \\ d>1}} d^{\frac{1}{2}} h^{\omega(q/d)} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ d|r}}^{\lfloor \frac{2q-2}{d} \rfloor} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q/d}|} \end{aligned}$$

$$\ll q^{\frac{3}{2}} h^{\omega(q)} \ln^2 q. \tag{2.9}$$

This completes the proof. □

**Lemma 6.** *Let integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers. Then we have*

$$\sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{5}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.10}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-s}}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{5}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.11}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ma^h - ma^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.12}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)a^h - ma^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{5}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.13}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ma^h + (s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{5}{2}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.14}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)a^h + (s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \\ & \times \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{7}{2}+\varepsilon}), \end{aligned} \tag{2.15}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)a^h + (s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \\ & \times \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{7}{2}+\varepsilon}), \end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

*Proof.* We give the detailed proof of (2.15), and the others can be proved by same ways. For the case when  $t = 2$  of Lemma 3 and formula (2.6), one has

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)a^h + (s-m)a^k}{q}\right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \\ & \leq q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \frac{(m+r, s-m, q)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon} \sum_{d|q} d^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{\substack{m=1 \\ r \neq q-m, s \neq m}}^{q-1} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \\
 &\leq q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon} \sum_{d|q} d^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ r \neq q-s}}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \\
 &\leq q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon} \left( \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi m}{q}|} \right)^2 \sum_{d|q} d^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{h=1}^{\lfloor \frac{2q-2}{d} \rfloor} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi h}{q/d}|} \ll q^{\frac{7}{2}+\varepsilon}.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 7.** Let integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers. Then we have

$$\sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{1}{3}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.17}$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{f=1 \\ s \neq q-f}}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} = O(q^{\frac{1}{3}+\varepsilon}), \tag{2.18}$$

*Proof.* Applying the case when  $t = 3$  of Lemma 3 and (2.6) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ s \neq q-f}}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} \\
 &\leq q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq q-f}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \frac{(r, s, f, q)^{\frac{1}{3}}}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} \\
 &\leq q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon} \sum_{d|q} d^{\frac{1}{3}} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{f=1 \\ d|r, d|f, d|s \\ s \neq q-f}}^{q-1} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} \\
 &\leq q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon} \sum_{d|q} d^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( \sum_{h=1}^{\lfloor \frac{q-1}{d} \rfloor} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi h}{q/d}|} \right)^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\lfloor \frac{2q-2}{d} \rfloor} \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi l}{q/d}|} \ll q^{\frac{11}{3}+\varepsilon}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can get the formula (2.17). □

**Lemma 8.** Let  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in (0, 1]$  be real constants, integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers, we have

$$\sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d}}^q 1 = \frac{\phi(q)}{6} + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\epsilon}).$$

*Proof.* By the trigonometric identity

$$\sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ma}{q}\right) = \begin{cases} n, & \text{if } q \mid m; \\ 0, & \text{if } q \nmid m, \end{cases}$$

we write

$$\begin{aligned} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d}}^q 1 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^q \sum_{s=1}^q \sum_{f=1}^q \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} \\ &\quad \times \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q e\left(\frac{r(b-\alpha) + s(c-\beta) + f(d-\gamma)}{q}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^q \sum_{s=1}^q \sum_{f=1}^q \sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum'_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q e\left(\frac{rb + sc + fd}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^q \sum_{s=1}^q \sum_{f=1}^q \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\ &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{sa^k + fa^l}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + fa^l}{q}\right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k}{q}\right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta - 1) \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{fa^l}{q}\right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{sa^k}{q}\right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta - 1) \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h}{q}\right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta - 1) \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q}\right) \\
 & \quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

from Lemma 4 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \ll \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}|} \left( \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} + \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} \right), \\
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \ll \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|}, \\
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta - 1) \ll \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|}, \\
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \ll \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}|}, \\
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta - 1) \ll \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|}, \\
 & \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta - 1) \ll \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|},
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right)$$

$$\ll \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} \left( \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} + \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} \left( \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} + \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi(r+s+f)}{q}|} \right).$$

This follows that

$$\sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q 1 = \frac{\phi(q)}{6} + O(\Sigma_1) + O(\Sigma_2) + O(\Sigma_3) + O(\Sigma_4) + O(\Sigma_5) \\ \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{array} \\ + O(\Sigma_6) + O(\Sigma_7) + O(\Sigma_8) + O(\Sigma_9) + O(\Sigma_{10}) + O(\Sigma_{11}),$$

where

$$\Sigma_1 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_2 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_3 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_4 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_5 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_6 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{sa^k}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_7 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h}{q} \right) \right| \frac{q^2}{|\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_8 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_9 = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi s}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(r+s)}{q}|} \\ \Sigma_{10} = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e \left( \frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q} \right) \right| \frac{1}{|\sin \frac{\pi f}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q}| |\sin \frac{\pi r}{q}|} \\ \begin{array}{l} s \neq q-f \end{array}$$

$$\Sigma_{11} = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq q-f}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left| \sum_{a=1}^q e\left(\frac{ra^h + sa^k + fa^l}{q}\right) \right| \\ \times \frac{1}{\left| \sin \frac{\pi f}{q} \right| \left| \sin \frac{\pi(s+f)}{q} \right| \left| \sin \frac{\pi(r+s+f)}{q} \right|}.$$

By Lemma 5, 6 and 7, Lemma 8 is easily deduced. □

**Lemma 9.** *Let  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in (0, 1]$  be real constants, integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers, we have*

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1)}{q}\right) \tag{2.19} \\ = \left(\frac{\delta_1}{3} - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6}\right) \phi(q)q + O(q^{\frac{5}{3}+\epsilon}).$$

*Proof.* The summation (2.19) can be rewritten by

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1)}{q}\right) \\ = \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} e\left(\frac{-mt_1}{q}\right) \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c)}{q}\right). \tag{2.20}$$

For the inner summation in (2.20), using the trigonometric identity we can write

$$\sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c)}{q}\right) = \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^{b-1} \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^{c-1} e\left(\frac{m(b-c)}{q}\right) \\ = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^q \sum_{s=1}^q \sum_{f=1}^q \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b + (s-m)c + fd}{q}\right) \right)$$

$$\times \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \right).$$

Now we separate the summation over  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $f$  into the following fifteen cases:

- i)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $s = m$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- ii)*  $r = q$ ,  $s = q$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- iii)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $s = q$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- iv)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $s = q$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- v)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $s = m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- vi)*  $r = q$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $s \neq m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- vii)*  $r = q$ ,  $s = q$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- viii)*  $r = q$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- ix)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $r \neq q - m$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $s \neq m$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- x)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $r \neq q - m$ ,  $s = m$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- xi)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $r \neq q - m$ ,  $s = m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- xii)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $r \neq q - m$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $s \neq m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- xiii)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $s = m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ ;
- xiv)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $s \neq m$ ,  $f = q$ ;
- xv)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq q - 1$ ,  $s \neq m$ ,  $1 \leq f \leq q - 1$ .

It yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{c=1}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b + (s-m)c + fd}{q}\right) \\ &= T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4 + T_5 + T_6 + T_7 + T_8 + T_9 + T_{10} \\ & \quad + T_{11} + T_{12} + T_{13} + T_{14} + T_{15} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{m\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-m\beta}{q}\right) (\beta - 1) \\ T_2 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \left( \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q e\left(\frac{mb - mc}{q}\right) \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta - 1) \right) \\ T_3 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b - mc}{q}\right) \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta - 1) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_4 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{s=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{c=1}^q e\left(\frac{mb + (s-m)c}{q}\right) \right) \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta-1) \right) \\
 T_5 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{c=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b + (s-m)c}{q}\right) \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta-1) \right) \\
 T_6 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b}{q}\right) \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-m\beta}{q}\right) (\beta-1) \right) \\
 T_7 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q e\left(\frac{(s-m)c}{q}\right) \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-m\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-s\beta}{q}\right) (\beta-1) \right) \\
 T_8 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a' \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{fd}{q}\right) \right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{m\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-m\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\
 T_9 &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{f=1}^q \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{c=1 \\ a' \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{mb - mc + fd}{q}\right) \right) \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\beta-1} \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right) \\
 T_{10} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a' \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b + fd}{q}\right) \right) \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-m\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-f\gamma}{q}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
T_{11} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q \sum_{c=1}^q \sum_{d=1}^q e \left( \frac{(m+r)b - mc + fd}{q} \right) \right) \\
&\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e \left( \frac{-r\alpha}{q} \right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e \left( \frac{-f\gamma}{q} \right) \\
T_{12} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q \sum_{c=1}^q e \left( \frac{mb + (s-m)c + fd}{q} \right) \right) \\
&\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e \left( \frac{-s\beta}{q} \right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e \left( \frac{-f\gamma}{q} \right) \\
T_{13} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q e \left( \frac{(m+r)b + fd}{q} \right) \right) \\
&\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e \left( \frac{-r\alpha}{q} \right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e \left( \frac{-m\beta}{q} \right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e \left( \frac{-f\gamma}{q} \right) \\
T_{14} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^{q-1} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m \\ r \neq q-m}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q \sum_{c=1}^q e \left( \frac{(m+r)b + (s-m)c + fd}{q} \right) \right) \\
&\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e \left( \frac{-r\alpha}{q} \right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e \left( \frac{-s\beta}{q} \right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e \left( \frac{-f\gamma}{q} \right) \\
T_{15} &= \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^{q-1} \sum_{f=1}^{q-1} \left( \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{b=1}^q e \left( \frac{(s-m)c + fd}{q} \right) \right) \\
&\quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e \left( \frac{m\alpha}{q} \right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e \left( \frac{-s\beta}{q} \right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e \left( \frac{-f\gamma}{q} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the first case of (2.20) is

$$\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} e \left( \frac{-mt_1}{q} \right) T_1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} e\left(\frac{-mt_1}{q}\right) \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{m\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-m\beta}{q}\right) (\beta-1) \right) \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{\substack{\alpha=1 \\ \alpha-\beta-t_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta-1) - \frac{\delta_1 \phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} (\beta-1) \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\substack{\beta=1 \\ \alpha-\beta=t_1}}^{\alpha-1} (\beta-1) - \frac{\delta_1 q \phi(q)}{6} + O(q) \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \frac{(q-t_1)(q-t_1-1)}{2} - \frac{\delta_1 q \phi(q)}{6} + O(q) \\
 &= \left(\frac{\delta_1}{3} - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6}\right) \phi(q) q + O(q).
 \end{aligned}$$

By the estimation formulas in Lemma 5, 6 and 7, we can get the other cases corresponding to the error term of (2.19) are  $O(q^{\frac{5}{3}+\epsilon})$ . This completes the proofs of Lemma 9.  $\square$

**Lemma 10.** *Let  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in (0, 1]$  be real constants, integer  $q \geq 2$ ,  $h, k, l > 1$  be any fixed non-zero pairwise distinct integers, we have*

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{c=1}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1) + n(c-d-t_2)}{q}\right) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\delta_1 \delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_1^3 \delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_2^3 \delta_1}{6}\right) \phi(q) q^2 + O(q^{\frac{8}{3}+\epsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 \leq 1; \\ \left(\frac{\delta_1}{2} + \frac{\delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{5\delta_1 \delta_2}{6} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6} + \frac{\delta_2^3}{6} \right. \\ \quad \left. + \frac{\delta_1^2 \delta_2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^3 \delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_2^3 \delta_1}{6} - \frac{1}{6}\right) \phi(q) q^2 + O(q^{\frac{8}{3}+\epsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 > 1. \end{cases} \tag{2.21}
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We denote the left-hand side of (2.21) by  $R$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 R &= \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} e\left(-\frac{mt_1 + nt_2}{q}\right) \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{a=1}^q \sum_{\substack{b=1 \\ a^h \equiv b \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{c=1}^q \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d}}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c) + n(c-d)}{q}\right). \tag{2.22}
 \end{aligned}$$

For the inner summation in the right-hand side of (2.22), recalling the trigonometric identity we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c) + n(c-d)}{q}\right) \\ & \quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{array} \\ & = \frac{1}{q^3} \sum_{r=1}^q \sum_{u=1}^q \sum_{v=1}^q \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{(m+r)b + (n-m+u)c + (v-n)d}{q}\right) \\ & \quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \end{array} \\ & \quad \times \left( \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{-r\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{-u\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{-v\gamma}{q}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

We separate the summation over  $r$ ,  $u$  and  $v$  into the following fifteen cases:

- i)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $u = m - n$  and  $v = n$ ;
- ii)*  $r = q$ ,  $u = q$  and  $v = q$ ;
- iii)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $u = q$  and  $v = q$ ;
- iv)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $u = q$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1$ ;
- v)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1$ ,  $v = q$  and  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1$ ;
- vi)*  $r = q$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1$ ;
- vii)*  $r = q$ ,  $u = q$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1$ ;
- viii)*  $r = q$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1$  and  $v = q$ ;
- ix)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1, r \neq q - m$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1, u \neq m - n$  and  $v = n$ ;
- x)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1, r \neq q - m$ ,  $u = m - n$  and  $v = n$ ;
- xi)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1, r \neq q - m$ ,  $u = m - n$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1, v \neq n$ ;
- xii)*  $1 \leq r \leq q - 1, r \neq q - m, 1 \leq u \leq q - 1, u \neq m - n, 1 \leq v \leq q - 1, v \neq n$ ;
- xiii)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $u = m - n$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1, v \neq n$ ;
- xiv)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1, u \neq m - n$  and  $v = n$ ;
- xv)*  $r = q - m$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq q - 1, u \neq m - n$  and  $1 \leq v \leq q - 1, v \neq n$ ;

On the one hand, we are going to use  $V$  for the first case of  $R$  as above, which is

$$\begin{aligned} V & = \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} e\left(-\frac{mt_1 + nt_2}{q}\right) \\ & \quad \times \sum_{\alpha=1}^q e\left(\frac{m\alpha}{q}\right) \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} e\left(\frac{(n-m)\beta}{q}\right) \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{n\gamma}{q}\right) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{m(\alpha - \beta - t_1) + n(\beta + \gamma - t_2)}{q}\right) \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\substack{\alpha=1 \\ \alpha-\beta-t_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{q} \\ \beta+\gamma-t_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{q}}}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 \\
 &\quad - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{m(\alpha - \beta - t_1)}{q}\right) \\
 &\quad - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} e\left(\frac{n(\beta + \gamma - t_2)}{q}\right) \\
 &\quad - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\substack{\alpha=1 \\ \alpha-\beta=t_1 \\ \beta-\gamma=t_2}}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 \\
 &\quad - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 + \frac{\phi(q)}{q^3} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \sum_{\beta=1}^{\alpha-1} \sum_{\gamma=1}^{\beta-1} 1 \\
 &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} (q - t_1 - t_2) - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \frac{(q - t_1)(q - t_1 - 1)}{2} \\
 &\quad - \frac{\phi(q)}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{\alpha=1}^q \frac{(q - t_2)(q - t_2 - 1)}{2} + \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2 \phi(q) q^2}{6} + O(q^2).
 \end{aligned}$$

After simple calculations one can write:

- If  $\delta_1 + \delta_2 \leq 1$ ,

$$V = \left( \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_1^3 \delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_2^3 \delta_1}{6} \right) \phi(q) q^2 + O(q^2).$$

- If  $\delta_1 + \delta_2 > 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 V &= \frac{\phi(q)}{q} \sum_{t_1=1}^{q-[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} (q - t_1 - t_2) + \frac{\phi(q)}{q} \sum_{t_1=[\delta_2 q]}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_1=1}^{q-t_1} (q - t_1 - t_2) \\
 &\quad - \left( \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^2 \delta_2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1^3 \delta_2}{6} \right) \phi(q) q^2 - \left( \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2 \delta_1}{2} + \frac{\delta_2^3 \delta_1}{6} \right) \phi(q) q^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{\delta_1 \delta_2}{6} \phi(q) q^2 + O(q^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left( \frac{\delta_1}{2} + \frac{\delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{5\delta_1\delta_2}{6} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6} + \frac{\delta_2^3}{6} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{\delta_1^2\delta_2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^3\delta_2}{6} - \frac{\delta_2^3\delta_1}{6} - \frac{1}{6} \right) \phi(q)q^2 + O(q^2).
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by the same methods of Lemma 8, 9, we obtain that the error term of  $R$  is  $O(q^{\frac{8}{3}+\varepsilon})$ . This complete the proof of Lemma 10.  $\square$

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1

By the definition,  $N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q)$  can be expressed as the following form

$$\begin{aligned}
N_{h,k,l,\delta_1,\delta_2}(q) &= \sum_{a=1}^{q'} 1 = \sum_{a=1}^{q'} 1 = \sum_{t_1=0}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=0}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{a=1}^{q'} \sum_{b=1}^{q'} \sum_{c=1}^{q'} \sum_{d=1}^{q'} 1 \\
&\quad \begin{array}{l} |\{\frac{a^h}{q}\} - \{\frac{a^k}{q}\}| < \delta_1 \\ |\{\frac{a^k}{q}\} - \{\frac{a^l}{q}\}| < \delta_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} |q\{\frac{a^h}{q}\} - q\{\frac{a^k}{q}\}| < \delta_1 q \\ |q\{\frac{a^k}{q}\} - q\{\frac{a^l}{q}\}| < \delta_2 q \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ |b-c|=t_1, |c-d|=t_2 \end{array} \\
&= \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{a=1}^{q'} \sum_{b=1}^{q'} \sum_{c=1}^{q'} \sum_{d=1}^{q'} 1 + \sum_{a=1}^{q'} \sum_{b=1}^{q'} \sum_{c=1}^{q'} \sum_{d=1}^{q'} 1 \\
&\quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ |b-c|=t_1, |c-d|=t_2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b=c, c=d \end{array} \\
&\quad + \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{a=1}^{q'} \sum_{b=1}^{q'} \sum_{c=1}^{q'} \sum_{d=1}^{q'} 1 + \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum_{a=1}^{q'} \sum_{b=1}^{q'} \sum_{c=1}^{q'} \sum_{d=1}^{q'} 1 \\
&\quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ |b-c|=t_1, c=d \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b=c, |c-d|=t_2 \end{array} \\
&= S^{(1)} + S^{(2)} + S^{(3)} + S^{(4)}. \tag{3.1}
\end{aligned}$$

We begin with the estimation of  $S^{(1)}$ . It is necessarily noticeable that the constraint conditions  $|b-c|=t_1, |c-d|=t_2$  can be discussed in eight cases as follows:

- i)  $b > c, c > d$ ;
- ii)  $b < c, c < d$ ;
- iii)  $b > c, c < d, b > d$ ;
- iv)  $b < c, c > d, b > d$ ;
- v)  $b > c, c < d, b < d$ ;
- vi)  $b < c, c > d, b < d$ ;
- vii)  $b = d, b > c$ ;
- viii)  $b = d, b < c$ .

Let

$$S^{(1)} = S_1 + S_2 + S_3 + S_4 + S_5 + S_6 + S_7 + S_8, \tag{3.2}$$

where  $S_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, 8)$  represent the summation mentioned above over the constraint conditions of the first, second, . . . , eighth case, respectively.

We consider  $S_1$  firstly. From the trigonometric identity one can get

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q 1 \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b-c=t_1, c-d=t_2 \end{matrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{n=1}^q \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1) + n(c-d-t_2)}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{matrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q 1 \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{matrix} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1)}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{matrix} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{n(c-d-t_2)}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{matrix} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum_{t_1=1}^{[\delta_1 q]} \sum_{t_2=1}^{[\delta_2 q]} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-c-t_1) + n(c-d-t_2)}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \begin{matrix} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c, c > d \end{matrix} \end{aligned}$$

Note that Lemma 8, 9 and 10 imply the following results.

- If  $\delta_1 + \delta_2 \leq 1$ ,

$$S_1 = \left( \delta_1 \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_1^2 \delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2 \delta_1}{2} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}).$$

- If  $\delta_1 + \delta_2 > 1$ ,

$$S_1 = \left( \frac{\delta_1}{2} + \frac{\delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6} + \frac{\delta_2^3}{6} - \frac{1}{6} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}).$$

We only need to consider  $S_1$ , and  $S_2, \dots, S_6$  can be deduced by the same ways. Hence

$$S_2 = \begin{cases} \left( \delta_1 \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_1^2 \delta_2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2 \delta_1}{2} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 \leq 1; \\ \left( 4\delta_1 \delta_2 - 2\delta_2^2 \delta_1 - \delta_1^2 \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_1^3}{3} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 + \delta_2 > 1. \end{cases}$$

$$S_3 = S_4 = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^3}{3} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 > \delta_2; \\ \left( \delta_1 \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_1^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^2 \delta_1}{2} + \frac{\delta_1^3}{6} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 \leq \delta_2. \end{cases}$$

$$S_5 = S_6 = \begin{cases} \left( \delta_1 \delta_2 - \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_1^2 \delta_2}{2} + \frac{\delta_2^3}{6} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 > \delta_2; \\ \left( \frac{\delta_2^2}{2} - \frac{\delta_2^3}{3} \right) \phi(q) + O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}), & \text{if } \delta_1 \leq \delta_2. \end{cases}$$

We estimate  $S_7$  now. Let  $\delta = \min\{\delta_1, \delta_2\}$ . One can write

$$\begin{aligned} S_7 &= \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q 1 \\ &\quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b=d, b-c=t \end{array} \\ &= \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{m=1}^q \sum_{n=1}^q \sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-d) + n(b-c-t)}{q}\right) \\ &\quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c \end{array} \\ &= \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q 1 \\ &\quad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-d)}{q}\right) \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c \end{array} \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{n(b-c-t)}{q}\right) \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c \end{array} \\
 & + \frac{1}{q^2} \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} \sum_{m=1}^{q-1} \sum_{n=1}^{q-1} \sum'_{a=1}^q \sum'_{b=1}^q \sum'_{c=1}^q \sum'_{d=1}^q e\left(\frac{m(b-d) + n(b-c-t)}{q}\right) \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{l} a^h \equiv b \pmod{q} \\ a^k \equiv c \pmod{q} \\ a^l \equiv d \pmod{q} \\ b > c \end{array} \\
 & = \frac{1}{q^2} \left( \sum_{t=1}^{[\delta q]} S_7^{(1)} + S_7^{(2)} + S_7^{(3)} + S_7^{(4)} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to observe that the order of the main terms and error terms of  $S_7^{(1)}$ ,  $S_7^{(3)}$  and  $S_7^{(4)}$  are the same as the main terms and the error terms in Lemma 8, 9 and 10 respectively, and the order of  $S_7^{(2)}$  is equivalent to that of  $S_7^{(3)}$ . Therefore, we have  $S_7 \ll q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}$ . Similarly, we also have  $S_8 \ll q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon}$ . By the same methods of  $S_1$ , we can prove that  $S^{(2)}$ ,  $S^{(3)}$  and  $S^{(4)}$  are  $O(q^{\frac{2}{3}+\varepsilon})$ . Without loss of generality, assuming  $\delta_1 \leq \delta_2$ , from (3.1) and (3.2), we derive the desired result. This completes the proof of the Theorem 1.

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