

## Problem Set 2

Lecturer: Daniele Micciancio

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## 1 Extremal Lattices

Let  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a full-dimensional lattice achieving Hermite constant

$$\gamma_n = \left( \frac{\lambda(\Lambda)}{\det(\Lambda)^{1/n}} \right)^2.$$

Prove that  $\Lambda$  has  $n$  linearly independent vectors of length  $\lambda(\Lambda)$ , i.e.,

$$\lambda_1(\Lambda) = \lambda_2(\Lambda) = \dots = \lambda_n(\Lambda).$$

[Hint: Use Minkowski's second theorem.]

## 2 L1 Norm

Derive an upper bound on the  $\ell_1$  minimum distance of a full-dimensional lattice (as a function of the determinant) from Minkowski's convex body theorem, similarly to what we did in class for the  $\ell_\infty$  and  $\ell_2$  norms. Give special cases of your bound in dimension 1, 2 and 3, as well as a general formula for dimension  $n$ .

## 3 Covering Radius

The covering radius of a lattice  $\Lambda$  is the *smallest* radius  $\rho$  such that spheres of radius  $\rho$  centered around all lattice points cover the entire linear span of the lattice, i.e.,  $\text{span}(\Lambda) \subset \bigcup \{\mathcal{B}(\vec{x}, r) \mid \vec{x} \in \Lambda\}$ . Alternatively, the covering radius can be defined as the *maximum* distance of any point  $\vec{t} \in \text{span}(\Lambda)$  to the lattice  $\Lambda$ , i.e.,  $\rho = \sup \{\text{dist}(\vec{x}, \Lambda) \mid \vec{x} \in \text{span}(\Lambda)\}$

1. Determine the minimum distance  $\lambda$  and the covering radius  $\rho$  of the integer lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ , for arbitrary  $n$
2. Prove that if  $\Lambda = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ , then  $\rho(\Lambda) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\sum_i \|\vec{b}_i^*\|^2}$ , where  $\vec{b}_i^*$  are the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized basis vectors.
3. Find a lattice basis  $\mathbf{B}$  (for a full rank lattice in arbitrary dimension  $n$ ) such that  $\rho(\Lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\sum_i \|\vec{b}_i^*\|^2}$  holds with equality.