

Lecture 11: Finding Short Vectors in a Lattice

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February 22, 2021

Overview

- Short Vectors in a Lattice
- Algorithm Idea: Find Good Basis
- Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization
- Lenstra-Lenstra-Lovasz (LLL) Basis Reduction Algorithm
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements

Short Vectors in a Lattice

- **Input:** linearly independent vectors $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, bound $M \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \{\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_n b_n \mid \alpha_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

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- So we will settle for the approximation version:

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- Today we will see a polynomial time algorithm when $M = 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}}$

(still low-bit complexity) quite ok for our purposes

Observations on our Lattice Problem

- In previous lecture, we wrote the problem with input vectors

$$b_1, \dots, b_m \in \mathbb{Z}^n$$

where m, n could be distinct. Why **isn't** the problem from the previous slide *less general*?

¹See homework and practice exercises for this.

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- If $m < n$, can simply make $m = n$ by reducing the dimension of ambient space orthogonal projections¹
- If $m > n$, we can simply take a linearly independent subset of the vectors b_i which span the lattice.
- Given previous bullets, we can indeed assume that $m = n$.

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- Let $B = (b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_m)$ be matrix with b_k 's as columns. Let $b_k = (b_{k1}, b_{k2}, \dots, b_{kn})^T$.

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ b_1 & b_2 & \dots & b_m \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b_k = \begin{pmatrix} b_{k1} \\ b_{k2} \\ \vdots \\ b_{kn} \end{pmatrix}$$

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- ① compute $g = \gcd(b_{11}, b_{21}, \dots, b_{m1})$ and integers a_1, \dots, a_m such that $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i b_{1i} = g$

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{21} & \dots & b_{m1} \\ b_{12} & b_{22} & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ b_{1n} & \dots & & b_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

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- ② Construct a new basis $C = (c_1, \dots, c_m)$ as follows:

$$\mathcal{L} \ni c_1 = a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_m b_m$$

$$\mathcal{L} \ni \underline{c_k} = \underline{b_k} - \frac{b_{k1}}{g} \cdot c_1 \quad \boxed{c_{k1} = 0}$$

Note that new basis also spans the *same lattice* \mathcal{L} and $c_{k1} = 0$ for all $k > 1$.

$$c_i = \sum_{k=1}^m a_k b_k$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} a_1 b_{11} + a_2 b_{21} + \dots + a_m b_{m1} \\ \hline * \\ * \\ \vdots \\ * \end{array} \right) = g$$

$$C = \left(\begin{array}{c|cccc} g & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ * & & & & & * \end{array} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(b_1, \dots, b_m) = \mathcal{L}(c_1, \dots, c_m) \quad \rightarrow \dots$$

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- ③ Repeat step (1) for (c_2, \dots, c_m) recursion

A handwritten diagram showing a matrix in row echelon form. The first row is $(g \mid 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0)$ and the second row is $(x \mid c_2 \ c_3 \ \dots \ c_m)$. A pink arrow points from the right towards the matrix.

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- ③ Repeat step (1) for (c_2, \dots, c_m) recursion
- Note that by the end of this process, we will have a matrix

$$\rightarrow M = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times n}$ is integral, full rank, and the column vectors of A span the same lattice \mathcal{L} .

Example

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 & 4 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$
 $b_1 \quad b_2 \quad b_3$

$$1 = \gcd(2, 5, 4)$$
$$2 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1)$$

$$c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot 0 + \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot 1 + (-1) \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_2 = b_2 - \frac{5}{1} \cdot c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - 5 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 24 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_3 = b_3 - \frac{4}{1} \cdot c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - 4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 24 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -5 & 24 & 24 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{A} \boxed{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -5 & 24 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}$$

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Determinant of a Lattice

- Now that we clarified the assumption that $m = n$ and that b_1, \dots, b_n form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n , we can define an *invariant* of our lattice: the *determinant*

$$\det(\mathcal{L}) = |\det(b_1 \ b_2 \ \cdots \ b_n)|$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ b_1 & b_2 & \cdots & b_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \quad \det(\mathcal{L}) = |\det(\mathcal{B})|$$

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- The definition above is *basis independent*: if (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) is another basis for \mathcal{L} , we have that

$$|\det(b_1 \ b_2 \ \cdots \ b_n)| = |\det(c_1 \ c_2 \ \cdots \ c_n)|$$

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$$|\det(b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_n)| = |\det(c_1 \ c_2 \ \dots \ c_n)|$$

- Proof: invertible linear transformation taking one basis to another.

$$c_k = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{jk} b_j \quad A_{kj} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & \dots & c_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & \dots & b_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \dots & A_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & A_{n2} & \dots & A_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = C \tilde{A}$$

$$\underset{C}{\begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & \dots & c_n \end{pmatrix}} = \underset{B}{\begin{pmatrix} b_1 & \dots & b_n \end{pmatrix}} \underset{A}{\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \dots & A_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & \dots & \dots & A_{nn} \end{pmatrix}}$$

$$c_1 = A_{11}b_1 + A_{21}b_2 + \dots + A_{n1}b_n$$

$$A_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\underline{\det(C)} = \underline{\det(B)} \cdot \boxed{\det(A)}$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(B) \mid \det(C)$$

and $\det(C) \mid \det(B)$
 $\Rightarrow \det(B) = \pm \det(C)$

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- Proof: invertible linear transformation taking one basis to another.
- To go from one basis to another, we can do elementary column operations, that is, if we have basis b_1, \dots, b_n then we can do

$$c_k = b_k - \alpha b_i, \ \alpha \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad c_\ell = b_\ell \quad \text{for } \ell \neq k$$

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Algorithm idea: a good basis will contain a short vector!

- Let's work this out for $n = 2$. Suppose we have $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ which form a basis for the lattice $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{Z}a + \mathbb{Z}b$. Also, assume $\|a\| \leq \|b\|$.

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- If we have that $\|a\| \leq \|b\| \leq \|b + \alpha a\|$ for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$, then we have that a is the *shortest vector* in our lattice!
- Proof: let $z = \beta a + \gamma b$, where $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}$. Can assume $\beta, \gamma \neq 0$

$$\gamma = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad z = \beta a \Rightarrow \|z\| = |\beta| \cdot \|a\| \geq \|a\|$$

$$\beta = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad z = \gamma b \Rightarrow \|z\| \geq \|b\| \geq \|a\|$$

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- Case 1: $\beta > \gamma$ $\beta > 0$

$$(a+b)^2 = \|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2 + 2\langle a, b \rangle \geq \|b\|^2 = \langle b, b \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\langle a, b \rangle \geq -\langle a, a \rangle$$

$$\|z\|^2 = \langle \beta a + \gamma b, \beta a + \gamma b \rangle = \beta^2 \|a\|^2 + \gamma^2 \|b\|^2 + 2\beta\gamma \langle a, b \rangle$$

$$\geq \beta^2 \|a\|^2 + \gamma^2 \|b\|^2 - \beta\gamma \|a\|^2 = \beta(\beta - \gamma) \|a\|^2 + \gamma^2 \|b\|^2$$

$$\geq \beta \frac{(\beta - \gamma)}{\gamma} \|a\|^2 \geq \|a\|^2$$

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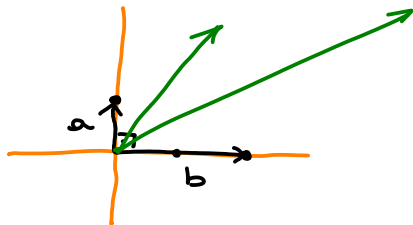
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- Case 2: $\beta \leq \gamma$

$$\|a+b\|^2 \geq \|a\|^2$$

similar to
previous slide

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- How do we find such a basis (a, b) with the property from the second bullet? An orthogonal basis does it.



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$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- "Close enough" to orthogonal does it!

Looking at Counterexample

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ orthogonal}$$

$$|\det(B)| = |\det(U)| \text{ invariant}$$

$$|0 \cdot (-1) - 1 \cdot 3| = 3 = \underbrace{|\det(U)|}_{= \|u_1\| \cdot \|u_2\|}$$

$$U \cdot U^T = \det(U)^2 \cdot I \quad (U \text{ orthogonal})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \|u_1\|^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \|u_2\|^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\|u_1\| \cdot \|u_2\| = 3 \quad \cup \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{L}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{L}^2$$

$$\|u_1\|^2 \cdot \|u_2\|^2 = 9 \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \|u_1\| = 3 \\ \|u_2\| = 1 \\ \underline{e_1, e_2} \end{array}$$

$$\|u_1\| = \|u_2\| = \sqrt{3}$$

Gauss' Reduction Algorithm

- The LLL algorithm is generalization of 2D basis reduction due to Gauss
- Idea: given two vectors u, v , s.t. $\|u\| \leq \|v\|$ subtract off as much of u 's projection from v , while staying in the lattice

making u, v "as orthogonal as possible"

$\|v - \alpha u\|$ smallest $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$

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- Proof: if $\beta = \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\|u\|^2}$, take $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ closest to β . Thus $|\alpha - \beta| \leq 1/2$

$$|\langle \underbrace{v - \alpha u}_v, u \rangle| = |\langle \underbrace{v - \beta u}_v + \langle \underbrace{(\beta - \alpha)u}_u, u \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2$$

$v - \beta u + (\beta - \alpha)u$

$v - \beta u \perp u$

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$$|\langle v - \alpha u, u \rangle| = |\langle v - \beta u, u \rangle + \langle (\beta - \alpha)u, u \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2$$

- If $\|v - \alpha u\| \geq \|u\|$ stop. Otherwise swap the vectors and continue.

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- Idea: given two vectors u, v , s.t. $\|u\| \leq \|v\|$ subtract off as much of u 's projection from v , while staying in the lattice
- There is $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$|\langle v - \alpha u, u \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2$$

- Proof: if $\beta = \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\|u\|^2}$, take $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ closest to β . Thus $|\alpha - \beta| \leq 1/2$

$$|\langle v - \alpha u, u \rangle| = |\langle v - \beta u, u \rangle + \langle (\beta - \alpha)u, u \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u\|^2$$

- If $\|v - \alpha u\| \geq \|u\|$ stop. Otherwise swap the vectors and continue.
- Note that at each iteration we are decreasing the norm of the smallest basis vector. When we cannot decrease further, previous slide gives us that u is the shortest vector!

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- **Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization**
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Orthogonal Bases and Short Vectors

- Note that if $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ were an *orthogonal basis* for the lattice, then one of these vectors must be the *shortest*!

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$$u_k = b_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \frac{\langle b_k, u_i \rangle}{\|u_i\|^2} \cdot u_i$$

$$\langle u_k, u_i \rangle = 0 \quad i < k$$

projection of b_k
onto u_i

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rational #s (non integers)

- Orthogonal basis *not necessarily* a basis for our lattice!

Properties of Gram-Schmidt Basis

- Gram-Schmidt algorithm:
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- If don't change the order but make some $b_k = b_k + \alpha b_j$ with $j < k$ the GSO basis stays the same
- If input basis is *integral* (or rational) then the output basis is *rational*

Shortest vector & Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization (GSO)

- From now on, given any basis (b_1, \dots, b_n) we can refer to its GSO (u_1, \dots, u_n)

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- Thus, if $\alpha_t \neq 0$ and $\alpha_\ell = 0$ for all $\ell > t$:

$$v = \beta_1 u_1 + \dots + \beta_t u_t$$

With $\beta_t = \alpha_t$, as no other u_i depends on u_t .

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_t b_t \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^t \beta_i u_i \end{aligned}$$

b_1, \dots, b_{t-1}
don't depend
on u_t

$$b_t = u_t + (\dots)$$

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- And the norm is given by:

$$\|v\| = \underbrace{|\beta_1| \cdot \|u_1\|}_{\geq 0} + \dots + \underbrace{|\beta_t| \cdot \|u_t\|}_{\geq 1} \geq \underbrace{\|u_t\|}_{\in \text{GSO}}$$

Reduced Basis

- Now we are ready to define what a “good basis” is:
- Let (u_1, \dots, u_n) be the GSO basis from (b_1, \dots, b_n)

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- A basis (b_1, \dots, b_n) is a *reduced basis* if

- 1 each $|\mu_{ki}| \leq 1/2$ when $i \neq k$
- 2 For each k ,

$$\|u_k\|^2 \leq \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1} + \mu_{(k+1)k} u_k\|^2$$

GSO basis does not have “spikes”

$$b_k = u_k + \sum_{i < k} \underbrace{\mu_{ki}} u_i$$

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- The LLL basis reduction algorithm will simply construct a reduced basis iteratively, much like Gauss' reduction algorithm.

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GSO (u_1, \dots, u_n)

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$|\mu_{ni}| > \frac{1}{2}$ (b_i, b_n) Gauss' reduction
 $(i < n)$

$b_n \leftarrow b_n - \alpha b_i$ 

$|\mu_{ni}| \leq \frac{1}{2}$

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- We will now take a deeper look into the first routine

Step 1 – Gauss Reduction

- Given basis (b_1, \dots, b_n) with GSO basis (u_1, \dots, u_n) , we can get a new basis (c_1, \dots, c_n) where

$$c_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_{ki} u_i \quad \text{with} \quad |\gamma_{ki}| \leq 1/2 \quad i < k$$

(c_1, \dots, c_n) has some GSO basis
as (b_1, \dots, b_n)

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$$\underline{b'_k} := b_k - \alpha b_i \quad \text{from Gauss reduction}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\mu_{ki}| \leq 1/2$$

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only changes $\mu_{k,i}$ smaller pairs

- Why maximum? Because we don't mess up the higher μ 's (but we may mess up the lower ones)

$$\mu_{k',i'} \quad (k',i') > (k,i)$$

not affected

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- After we go through all pairs (k, i) in decreasing order, the new coefficients γ_{ki} will satisfy 1

do this $O(n^2)$ times

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(u_1, \dots, u_n)

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 - Step 1 does not change the GSO basis, so D is unchanged

$$D(b_1, \dots, b_n) = D(c_1, \dots, c_n)$$



Gauss reductions
didn't change the GSO
basis

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- Upper bound on $D(b_1, \dots, b_n)$:

$$D(b_1, \dots, b_n) \leq (\max_i \|u_i\|)^{n^2} < \underbrace{p(\|b\|)}^{n^2} \\ \exp(n^2, b)$$

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$$D(b_1, \dots, b_n) \leq (\max_i \|u_i\|)^{n^2} \leq \exp(n)$$

- Lower bound: let $B = (b_1 b_2 \cdots b_n)$

$$1 \leq \underline{\det(B^T B)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \|u_i\|^2$$

integer > 0

$$b_k = u_k + \sum_{i < k} \mu_{ki} u_i$$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & \dots & u_n \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mu_{21} & \mu_{31} & & \\ 0 & 1 & \mu_{32} & & \mu_{ni} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_A$$

$B = U \cdot A$ → upper triangular
in diagonal

$$B^T B = A^T U^T U A \Rightarrow \det(B^T B) = \det(A^T A) \cdot \det(U^T U)$$

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$$\underbrace{\det(B)}^2 = \underbrace{\det(A)}^2 \cdot \underbrace{\prod_{i=1}^n \|u_i\|^2}$$

> 0

integer

$$\Rightarrow \geq 1$$

Finding Short Vector

- If (b_1, \dots, b_n) is a reduced basis of \mathcal{L} , then

$$\|b_1\| \leq 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \lambda(\mathcal{L})$$

where $\lambda(\mathcal{L})$ is the length of the shortest vector in \mathcal{L}

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- By reduced property of our basis, if (u_1, \dots, u_n) is the GSO basis we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_k\|^2 &\leq \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1} + \mu_{(k+1)k} u_k\|^2 \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{4}{3} \cdot \mu_{(k+1)k}^2 \cdot \|u_k\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \|u_k\|^2 \quad \left(|\mu_{(k+1)k}| \leq \frac{1}{2} \right) \\ &\Rightarrow \|u_k\|^2 \leq 2 \|u_{k+1}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \|u_k\|^2 \leq \frac{4}{3} \|u_{k+1}\|^2$$

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- By reduced property of our basis, if (u_1, \dots, u_n) is the GSO basis we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \|b_1\|^2 & \leq \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1} + \mu_{(k+1)k} u_k\|^2 \\ \|u_1\|^2 & \leq 2^{k-1} \|u_k\|^2 = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{4}{3} \cdot \mu_{(k+1)k}^2 \cdot \|u_k\|^2 \\ & \leq \frac{4}{3} \cdot \|u_{k+1}\|^2 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \|u_k\|^2 \\ & \Rightarrow \|u_k\|^2 \leq 2 \|u_{k+1}\|^2 \quad \leftarrow \text{induction} \end{aligned}$$

- Then our lemma on GSO basis and shortest vector gives us $\|b_1\|^2 \leq \min_k \{2^{k-1} \|u_k\|^2\} \leq 2^{n-1} \cdot \min_k \|u_k\|^2 \leq 2^{n-1} \cdot \lambda(\mathcal{L})^2$

Proof Details

- Short Vectors in a Lattice
- Algorithm Idea: Find Good Basis
- Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization
- Lenstra-Lenstra-Lovasz (LLL) Basis Reduction Algorithm
- **Conclusion**
- Acknowledgements

Conclusion

In today's lecture, we learned

- Finding short vector in a lattice
- Finished proof of factoring algorithm over $\mathbb{Z}[x]$
- LLL algorithm is useful way beyond factoring!
 - ① breaking cryptosystems
 - ② finding simultaneous Diophantine approximations
 - ③ refutation of Mertens' conjecture
- Great final projects to explore here!

Acknowledgement

Based entirely on

- Lectures 10 and 11 from Madhu's notes
<http://people.csail.mit.edu/madhu/FT98/>