Exercises Lattices and sphere packings 1

- 1. Let  $L \subset \mathbf{Z}^2$  be the lattice generated by  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
  - (a) Determine the covolume of L. Determine a basis for the dual lattice  $L^*$ .
  - (b) Determine  $covol(L^*)$ .

2. Let 
$$L \subset \mathbf{R}^3$$
 be the set  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{Z}^3 : 2x + 3y + 5z \equiv 0 \pmod{7} \right\}.$ 

- (a) Show that L is a lattice.
- (b) Determine its covolume.

3. Let V be the vector space  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^3 : x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$  equipped with the scalar

product coming from  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

- (a) Show that  $L = \mathbf{Z}^3 \cap V$  is a lattice in V.
- (b) Compute the Gram matrix of L. Is L integral? Even?
- (c) Compute the covolume of L. Is L unimodular?

4. Let 
$$n \ge 2$$
 and put  $L = \{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{Z}^n : x_1 + \ldots + x_n \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \}.$ 

- (a) Show that L is a lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (b) Compute its covolume.
- (c) Show that for all  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in L$  we have  $\|\mathbf{v} \mathbf{w}\|^2 \ge 2$ .
- (d) Show that the balls of radius  $\sqrt{2}/2$  and with center in L are a sphere packing in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Compute the density.
- 5. Let n be a natural number. Show that  $n! > n^n e^{-n}$ .
- 6. Let  $\mathbf{Z}[\sqrt{3}] := \{x = a + b\sqrt{3} \mid a, b \in \mathbf{Z}\}$ . Put  $x' = a b\sqrt{3}$ . Let

$$L = \{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x' \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^2 : x \in \mathbf{Z}[\sqrt{3}] \}.$$

- (a) Prove that  $\mathbf{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$  is a ring.
- (b) Show that L is a lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Draw a picture.
- (c) Compute its covolume.