

LLL Algorithm

Pranav Setpal

Purdue University

December 4, 2025

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite
- 3 Measuring Reduction
- 4 LLL
- 5 Cryptographic Applications

Given: A lattice $\Lambda(B) = \{ \sum_{i=0}^n c_i b_i \mid c_i \in \mathbb{Z}, b_i \in B \}$ and a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$

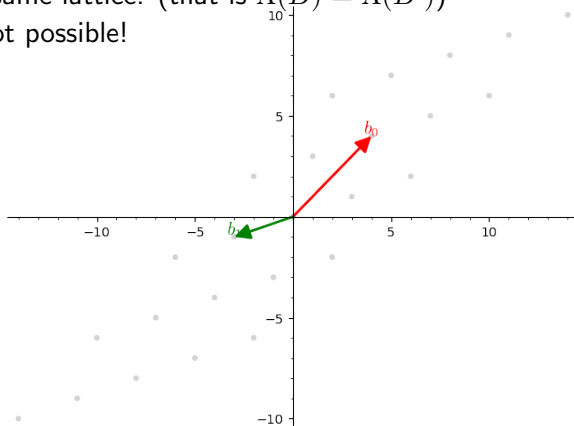
Goal: Find a basis B' with short orthogonal vectors that generate the same lattice. (that is $\Lambda(B) = \Lambda(B')$)

Setup

Given: A lattice $\Lambda(B) = \{\sum_{i=0}^n c_i b_i \mid c_i \in \mathbb{Z}, b_i \in B\}$ and a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$

Goal: Find a basis B' with short orthogonal vectors that generate the same lattice. (that is $\Lambda(B) = \Lambda(B')$)

This is not possible!



Given: A lattice $\Lambda(B) = \{ \sum_{i=0}^n c_i b_i \mid c_i \in \mathbb{Z}, b_i \in B \}$ and a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$

Goal: Find a basis B' with short “nearly” orthogonal vectors that generate the same lattice. (that is $\Lambda(B) = \Lambda(B')$)

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite
- 3 Measuring Reduction
- 4 LLL
- 5 Cryptographic Applications

Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Given a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$, we find

$$b_0^* = b_0$$

$$b_1^* = b_1 - \mu_{1,0}b_0^*$$

$$b_2^* = b_2 - \mu_{2,0}b_0^* - \mu_{2,1}b_1^*$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b_i^* = b_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \mu_{i,j}b_j^*$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b_n^* = b_n - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \mu_{n,j}b_j^*$$

$$\text{with } \mu_{i,j} = \frac{\langle b_i, b_j^* \rangle}{\langle b_j^*, b_j^* \rangle}$$

$B^* = \{b_0^*, b_1^*, \dots, b_n^*\}$ is an orthogonalized basis of B

Rounded Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Given a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$, we find

$$b'_0 = b_0$$

$$b'_1 = b_1 - \lfloor \mu_{1,0} \rfloor b'_0$$

$$b'_2 = b_2 - \lfloor \mu_{2,0} \rfloor b'_0 - \lfloor \mu_{2,1} \rfloor b'_1$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b'_i = b_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \lfloor \mu_{i,j} \rfloor b'_j$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b'_n = b_n - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \lfloor \mu_{n,j} \rfloor b'_j$$

$$\text{with } \mu_{i,j} = \frac{\langle b_i, b_j^* \rangle}{\langle b_j^*, b_j^* \rangle}$$

$B' = \{b'_0, b'_1, \dots, b'_n\}$ is a “nearly” orthogonalized basis of B

Rounded Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Given a basis $B = \{b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n\}$, we find

$$b'_0 = b_0$$

$$b'_1 = b_1 - \lfloor \mu_{1,0} \rfloor b'_0$$

$$b'_2 = b_2 - \lfloor \mu_{2,0} \rfloor b'_0 - \lfloor \mu_{2,1} \rfloor b'_1$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b'_i = b_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \lfloor \mu_{i,j} \rfloor b'_j$$

$$\vdots$$

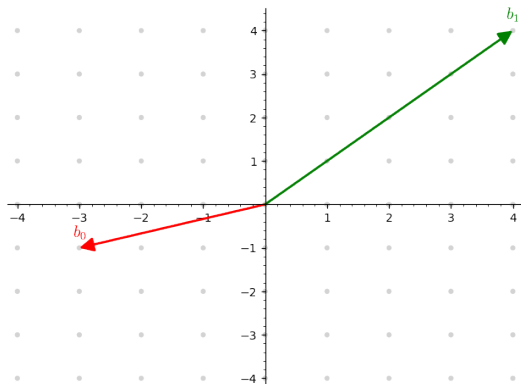
$$b'_n = b_n - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \lfloor \mu_{n,j} \rfloor b'_j$$

with $\mu_{i,j} = \frac{\langle b_i, b_j^* \rangle}{\langle b_j^*, b_j^* \rangle} \leftarrow$ projection onto ideal orthogonalization!

$B' = \{b'_0, b'_1, \dots, b'_n\}$ is a “nearly” orthogonalized basis of B

The Problem

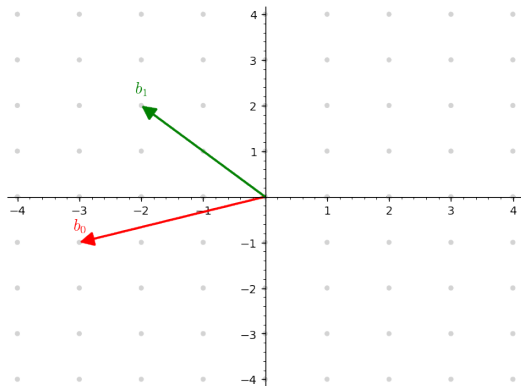
Consider



$$b_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Problem

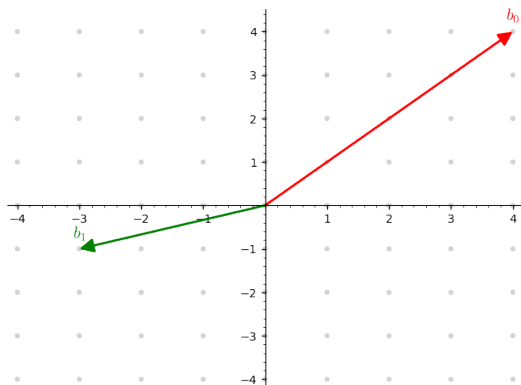
Consider



$$b'_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Problem

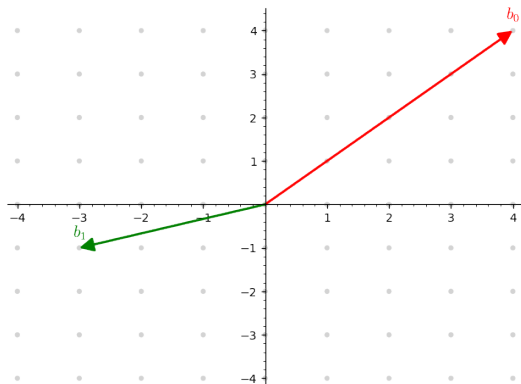
Consider



$$b_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Problem

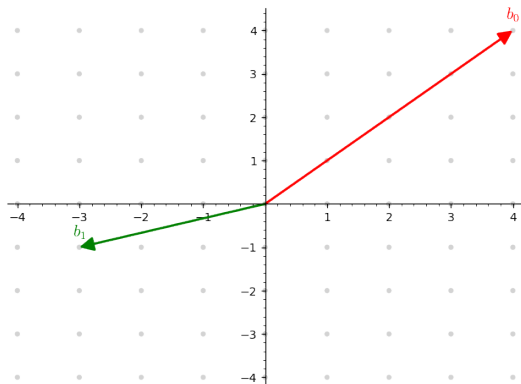
Consider



$$b'_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Problem

Consider

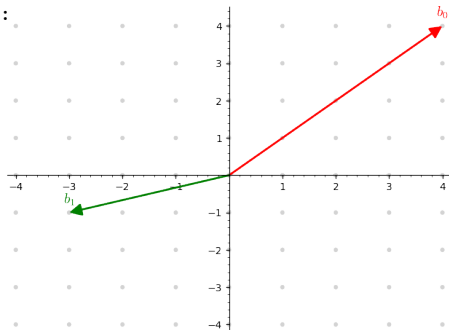


$$b'_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b'_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Insight: Order Matters

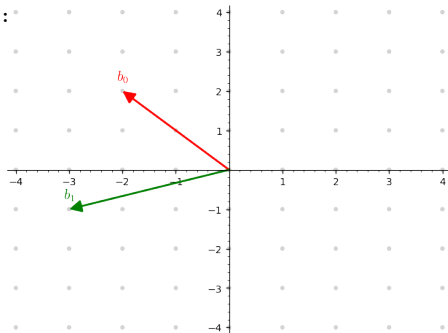
Langrange Gauss Reduction

```
1 def lagrange_gauss(L: Matrix) -> Matrix:
2     assert L.nrows() == 2
3     R = copy(L)
4
5     while True:
6         if R[1].norm() < R[0].norm():
7             R[0], R[1] = R[1], R[0]
8
9         mu = round((R[1] * R[0]) /
10                  ↪ R[0].norm()^2)
11         if (mu == 0):
12             return R
13         R[1] -= mu*R[0]
```



Langrange Gauss Reduction

```
1 def lagrange_gauss(L: Matrix) -> Matrix:
2     assert L.nrows() == 2
3     R = copy(L)
4
5     while True:
6         if R[1].norm() < R[0].norm():
7             R[0], R[1] = R[1], R[0]
8
9         mu = round((R[1] * R[0]) /
10                  ↪ R[0].norm()^2)
11         if (mu == 0):
12             return R
13         R[1] -= mu*R[0]
```



We know two things about our final vectors b'_0, b'_1 :

- $\|b'_0\| \leq \|b'_1\|$
- $\lfloor \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \rfloor = 0 \implies \left| \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$

Using this, we can see that b'_0 and b'_1 are “nearly” orthogonal!

Key Idea

We know two things about our final vectors b'_0, b'_1 :

- $\|b'_0\| \leq \|b'_1\|$
- $\lfloor \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \rfloor = 0 \implies \left| \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$

Using this, we can see that b'_0 and b'_1 are “nearly” orthogonal!

Let θ denote the angle between b'_0 and b'_1 . Then, since

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\|b'_0\| \|b'_1\|} = \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \cdot \frac{\|b'_0\|}{\|b'_1\|}$$

we get that

$$|\cos(\theta)| \leq \left| \frac{\langle b'_0, b'_1 \rangle}{\langle b'_0, b'_0 \rangle} \right| \cdot \frac{\|b'_0\|}{\|b'_1\|} \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

Hence,

$$60^\circ \leq \theta \leq 120^\circ$$

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite**
- 3 Measuring Reduction
- 4 LLL
- 5 Cryptographic Applications

- 1 We iteratively reduce the first k vectors, $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$

Key Ideas

- ① We iteratively reduce the first k vectors, $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$
- ② During reduction, we project each vector to the nearest point of its ideal orthogonalization. (along the line of travel)

- ① We iteratively reduce the first k vectors, $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$
- ② During reduction, we project each vector to the nearest point of its ideal orthogonalization. (along the line of travel)
- ③ During swap, we use a different equivalent criteria to stop.

Notice that in the subbasis $\{b'_i, b'_{i+1}, \dots, b'_n\}$

$$b'_i = b_i^* \text{ and } b_{i+1} = b_{i+1}^* + \mu_{i+1,i} b_i^*$$

Giving us

$$\begin{aligned} \|b'_i\|^2 \leq \|b'_{i+1}\|^2 &\iff \|b_i^*\|^2 \leq \|b_{i+1}^* + \mu_{i+1,i} b_i^*\|^2 \\ &= \|b_{i+1}^*\|^2 + \mu_{i+1,i}^2 \|b_i^*\|^2 \\ \therefore \|b'_i\| \leq \|b'_{i+1}\| &\iff (1 - \mu_{i+1,i}^2) \|b_i^*\|^2 \leq \|b_{i+1}^*\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Hermite's Algorithm

```
1 def hermite(L: Matrix) -> Matrix:
2     n = L.nrows()
3     Q,_ = L.gram_schmidt()
4     def proj(i, j):
5         return (L[i] * Q[j]) / Q[j].norm()^2
6
7     k = 1
8     while k < n:
9         # Reduction Step
10        for j in range(0, k):
11            mu = proj(k, j)
12            if abs(mu) > 0.5:
13                L[k] -= mu.round()*L[j]
14                # Q,_ = L.gram_schmidt() <-- Q is unaffected
15
16        # Conditional Swap Step
17        if Q[k].norm()^2 >= (1 - proj(k, k-1)^2) * Q[k-1].norm()^2:
18            k += 1
19        else:
20            L[k-1], L[k] = L[k], L[k-1]
21            Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt()
22            k = max(k-1, 1)
23
24    return L
```

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite
- 3 Measuring Reduction**
- 4 LLL
- 5 Cryptographic Applications

Volume of a Parellepiped

Question: How can we find the volume of a k -parallelepiped whose vectors live in n -dimensional space?

Notation: $V(\cdot)$ is the function that does this, which takes as input matrix $B = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & b_1 & \cdots & b_k \end{bmatrix}$

If we orthogonalize our vectors, Gram-Schmidt gaurantees volume would not change. After orthogonalization, our k -parallelepiped is simply a k -rectangle, whose volume wn can compute!

$$V(B) = \prod_{i=1}^k \|b_i^*\|$$

Alternatively, if $k = n$, we also know the formula $V(B) = |\det(B)|$
A similar formula exists for $k \leq n$ as well.

$$V(B) = \sqrt{\det(B^T B)}$$

Our Loss Function

Recall that each subbbasis $B_k = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & b_1 & \cdots & b_k \end{bmatrix}$ is lattice reduced.

We define our loss function as

$$S(B) := \prod_{k=1}^n V(B_k) = \prod_{k=1}^n \prod_{i=1}^k \|b_i^*\|$$

Note: $S(\cdot)$ is always a positive integer

Termination of Hermite's Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

① Reduction Step:

```
for j in range(0, k):  
    mu = proj(k, j)  
    if abs(mu) > 0.5:  
        L[k] -= mu.round()*L[j]  
        # Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt() <-- Q is unaffected
```

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

Termination of Hermite's Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

① Reduction Step:

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

② Swap Step:

```
if Q[k].norm()^2 >= (1 - proj(k, k-1)^2) * Q[k-1].norm()^2:
    k += 1
else:
    L[k-1], L[k] = L[k], L[k-1]
    Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt()
    k = max(k-1, 1)
```

$$V(B_j) \text{ is the same for all } B_j \text{ except } B_{k-1}$$
$$\frac{S(B^{\text{new}})}{S(B^{\text{old}})} = \frac{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{new}})}{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{old}})} = \frac{\|b_k^* + \mu_{k,k-1} b_{k-1}^*\|}{\|b_{k-1}^*\|} < \sqrt{1} = 1$$

Thus, $S(B^{\text{new}}) < S(B^{\text{old}})$

Termination of Hermite's Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

① Reduction Step:

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

② Swap Step:

$V(B_j)$ is the same for all B_j except B_{k-1}

$$\frac{S(B^{\text{new}})}{S(B^{\text{old}})} = \frac{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{new}})}{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{old}})} = \frac{\|b_k^* + \mu_{k,k-1}b_{k-1}^*\|}{\|b_{k-1}^*\|} < \sqrt{1} = 1$$

Thus, $S(B^{\text{new}}) < S(B^{\text{old}})$

Termination of Hermite's Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

① Reduction Step:

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

② Swap Step:

$V(B_j)$ is the same for all B_j except B_{k-1}

$$\frac{S(B^{\text{new}})}{S(B^{\text{old}})} = \frac{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{new}})}{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{old}})} = \frac{\|b_k^* + \mu_{k,k-1}b_{k-1}^*\|}{\|b_{k-1}^*\|} < \sqrt{1} = 1$$

Thus, $S(B^{\text{new}}) < S(B^{\text{old}})$

Since, $S(\cdot) \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, by Well Ordering, S must terminate!

Termination of Hermite's Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

① Reduction Step:

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

② Swap Step:

$V(B_j)$ is the same for all B_j except B_{k-1}

$$\frac{S(B^{\text{new}})}{S(B^{\text{old}})} = \frac{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{new}})}{V(B_{k-1}^{\text{old}})} = \frac{\|b_k^* + \mu_{k,k-1}b_{k-1}^*\|}{\|b_{k-1}^*\|} < \sqrt{1} = 1$$

Thus, $S(B^{\text{new}}) < S(B^{\text{old}})$

Since, $S(\cdot) \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, by Well Ordering, S must terminate!

Open Problem: Proving Hermite's algorithm is polynomially bound

If we fix the dimension, then we do know it is polynomially bound!

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite
- 3 Measuring Reduction
- 4 LLL**
- 5 Cryptographic Applications

LLL Algorithm

```
1 def lll(L: Matrix, delta: float) -> Matrix:
2     assert 0.25 <= delta < 1
3     n = L.nrows()
4     Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt()
5     def proj(i, j):
6         return (L[i] * Q[j]) / (Q[j] * Q[j])
7
8     k = 1
9     while k < n:
10         # Reduction Step
11         for j in range(0, k):
12             mu = proj(k, j)
13             if abs(mu) >= 0.5:
14                 L[k] -= mu.round()*L[j]
15                 # Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt() <-- Q is unaffected
16
17         # Conditional Swap Step
18         if Q[k].norm()^2 >= (delta - proj(k, k-1)^2) * Q[k-1].norm()^2:
19             k += 1
20         else:
21             L[k-1], L[k] = L[k], L[k-1]
22             Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt()
23             k = max(k-1, 1)
24
25     return L
```

Termination of LLL Algorithm

Lets see how our Reduction and Swap Step affects $S(B)$

1 Reduction Step:

Since $S(\cdot)$ can be written only in terms on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalized vectors, $S(B)$ is unaffected!

2 Swap Step:

```
if Q[k].norm()^2 >= (delta - proj(k, k-1)^2) * Q[k-1].norm()^2:
    k += 1
else:
    L[k-1], L[k] = L[k], L[k-1]
    Q, _ = L.gram_schmidt()
    k = max(k-1, 1)
```

$V(B_j)$ is the same for all B_j except B_k

$$\frac{S(B^{\text{new}})}{S(B^{\text{old}})} = \frac{V(B_k^{\text{new}})}{V(B_k^{\text{old}})} = \frac{\|b_{k+1}^* + \mu_{k+1,k} b_k^*\|}{\|b_k^*\|} < \sqrt{\delta}$$

Thus, $S(B^{\text{new}}) < \sqrt{\delta} S(B^{\text{old}})$

When $\delta < 1$, we are gauranteed *LLL* is polynomially bound!

- 1 Orthogonalization
- 2 Hermite
- 3 Measuring Reduction
- 4 LLL
- 5 Cryptographic Applications**

Shortest Vector Problem

Let $\lambda(B)$ denote the shortest vector in $\Lambda(B)$

Lemma

There exists $b_i^ \in B^*$ such that $\|b_i^*\| \leq \|\lambda(B)\|$*

Proof.

Since $\lambda(B)$ is generated by B , $\lambda(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i b_i$ where $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}$

Let $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ be the largest integer such that $c_m \neq 0$. Thus,

$$\lambda(B) = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i b_i = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \sum_{j=1}^i \mu_{i,j} b_j^* = c_m b_m^* + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \alpha_j b_j^*$$

Thus,

$$\|\lambda(B)\|^2 = c_m^2 \|b_m^*\|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \|\alpha_j b_j^*\|^2 \geq c_m^2 \|b_m^*\|^2$$

Since $c_m \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have $\|\lambda(B)\|^2 \geq c_m^2 \|b_m^*\|^2 \geq \|b_m^*\|^2$

Hence, $\|b_m^*\| \leq \|\lambda(B)\|$



Shortest Vector Problem

Theorem

$$\|b'_0\| \leq \left(\frac{4}{4\delta - 1}\right)^{n/2} \|\lambda(B)\|$$

Proof.

Due to the ordering condition, we know

$$\|b'_0\|^2 = \|b_0^*\|^2 \leq \frac{\|b_1^*\|^2}{\delta - \mu_{1,0}^2} \leq \dots \leq \frac{\|b_i^*\|^2}{\prod_{k=1}^i (\delta - \mu_{k,k-1}^2)}$$

$$\text{Since } 1 \leq \frac{1}{\delta - \mu_{k,k-1}^2} \leq \frac{1}{\delta - (\frac{1}{2})^2} = \frac{4}{4\delta - 1},$$

$$\|b'_0\|^2 \leq \frac{\|b_i^*\|^2}{\prod_{k=1}^n (\delta - \mu_{k,k-1}^2)} \leq \left(\frac{4}{4\delta - 1}\right)^n \|b_i^*\|^2 \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\text{Hence, by the previous lemma, } \|b'_0\| \leq \left(\frac{4}{4\delta - 1}\right)^{n/2} \|\lambda(B)\|$$



Thank you

Generously used facts, examples, and code from:

- *Factoring Polynomials with Rational Coefficients* by Arjen Lenstra, Hendrik Lenstra and László Lovász
- *LLL Algorithm for Lattice Basis Reduction* by Alex Kalbach, Ted Chinburg
- *The optimal LLL algorithm is still polynomial in fixed dimension* by Ali Akhavi
- Understanding the LLL Lattice Basis Reduction Algorithm by Julian D'Costa
- Building Lattice Reduction (LLL) Intuition by Kelby Ludwig

Thank you for listening to me ramble.