

A DECOMPOSITION OF INTEGER VECTORS. IV

A. SCHINZEL

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Abstract

Given m linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and an integer $l \in [m, k]$ one proves the existence of l linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ or $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ of small size (suitably measured) such that the \mathbf{n}_i 's are linear combinations of \mathbf{p}_j 's with rational coefficients or of \mathbf{q}_j 's with integer coefficients.

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In order to generalize the results of [10] (Part III of this series) let us introduce the following notation. Given m linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ let $H(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)$ denote the maximum of the absolute values of all minors of order m of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}_m \end{pmatrix}$$

and $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)$ the greatest common divisor of these minors. Furthermore, let

$$h(\mathbf{n}) = H(\mathbf{n}) \quad \text{for } \mathbf{n} \neq \mathbf{0}, \quad h(\mathbf{0}) = 0.$$

DEFINITION 1. For $k \geq l \geq m, k > m$, let

$$c_0(k, l, m) = \sup \inf \left(\frac{D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}{H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)} \right)^{\frac{k-l}{k-m}} \prod_{i=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_i),$$

$$c_1(k, l, m) = \sup \inf \left(\frac{D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}{H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)} \right)^{\frac{k-l}{k-m}} \prod_{i=1}^l h(\mathbf{q}_i),$$

where the supremum is taken over all sets of linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and the infimum is taken over all sets of linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ or $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that for all $i \leq m$,

$$\mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{j=1}^l u_{ij} \mathbf{p}_j, \quad u_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q}, \quad \mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{j=1}^l u_{ij} \mathbf{q}_j, \quad u_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The Bombieri-Vaaler refinement [1] of the Siegel lemma easily leads (on the lines of the proof of (8) in [10]) to the conclusion that $c_0(k, l, m)$ is finite, first obtained by Yu. Teterin. The aim of this paper is to give bounds for $c_0(k, l, m)$ and $c_1(k, l, m)$ which are independent of k . First however we shall introduce three further series of constants, this time of geometric character.

DEFINITION 2. For a given positive integer m , let κ_m be the volume of the unit ball in \mathbb{R}^m ,

$$g_0(m) = \sup \inf \frac{\text{vol } \mathbb{P}}{\text{vol } \mathbb{K}}, \quad g_1(m) = \sup \inf \frac{\text{vol } \mathbb{P}}{\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{K})} \cdot \frac{\kappa_m}{2^m},$$

where the suprema are taken over all m -dimensional convex bodies \mathbb{K} situated in \mathbb{R}^m , symmetric with respect to the origin, the infima are taken over all parallelepipeds containing \mathbb{K} symmetric with respect to the origin and $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{K})$ denotes the ellipsoid of the maximum volume contained in \mathbb{K} . (It is unique; see [7].) Clearly

$$\frac{2^m}{\kappa_m} \leq g_0(m) \leq \frac{2^m}{\kappa_m} g_1(m).$$

The best published result pertaining to $g_0(m), g_1(m)$ seems to be the following inequality due to Dvoretzky and Rogers [4, Theorem 5A]:

$$g_1(m) \leq \left(\frac{m^m}{m!} \right)^{1/2}.$$

Professor A. Pelczyński who indicated to me the paper [4] has improved the above inequality by showing together with S. J. Szarek that (see [9, Proposition 2.1])

$$g_1(m)^2 \leq \binom{\frac{m(m+1)}{2}}{m} \left(\frac{2}{m+1} \right)^m$$

and, on the other hand, they have proved that (*ibid.*, Section 6)

$$g_1(m)^2 \geq \frac{2m}{m+1}.$$

For $m \leq 2$ the two bounds coincide and give

$$g_1(1) = 1, g_1(2) = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}}.$$

According to [9, Theorem 5.1], for every $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\log g_1(m) = \frac{m}{2} + o(m^{\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon}).$$

I am indebted to Professor Pełczyński also for the paradigm (for $l = 2$) of the proof of Lemma 1 below, which he has since proved in another way (see [9], Corollary 3.1).

We shall prove

THEOREM 1. For all integers k, l, m satisfying $k \geq l \geq m, k > m > 0$,

$$(1) \quad c_0(k, l, m) \leq \min \left\{ (l - m + 1)^{l/2} g_1(m) \gamma_l^{l/2}, \frac{l!}{m!} g_0(m), \right. \\ \left. \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{(l-m)/2} g_1(l) \gamma_l^{l/2} \right\},$$

where γ_l is the Hermite constant. For $l = m \leq 2$ we have here equality.

THEOREM 2. For all integers k, l, m satisfying $k \geq l \geq m, k > m > 0$ we have

$$\frac{c_1(k, l, m)}{c_0(k, l, m)} \leq f(l) = \sup_A \inf_U \left(\sum_{j=1}^l |\delta_{ij}| \right),$$

where $[\delta_{ij}] = UA^{-1}$, A and U run through all lower triangular non-singular integral matrices and all lower triangular unimodular integral matrices of order l , respectively. Moreover

$$f(l) \leq \frac{(l + \lambda + 1)!}{4^{l-\lambda}(2\lambda + 1)!} \quad \text{where } \lambda = \left\lceil \frac{1 + \sqrt{16l + 17}}{4} \right\rceil.$$

S. Chaładus and Yu. Teterin prove in the forthcoming paper [2] that the exponent $(k - l)/(k - m)$ in the definition of $c_0(k, l, m)$ is the correct one, that is, for any smaller exponent the corresponding supremum is infinite. Moreover they give an estimate for $c_0(k, l, m)$ that depends on k and is better than (1) for $k = o(l^2)$.

Let us note that for large l the minimum on the right-hand side of (1) is equal to the first term for $m < c_1 l / \log l$, to the last term for $m > c_2 l$, where c_1, c_2 are suitable constants, $c_1 > 0, c_2 < 1$, provided in the latter case that $\gamma_l, \log(g_0(l)\kappa_l/2^l)$ are regularly growing functions and

$$\liminf_{l \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log g_0(l) - \frac{1}{2} \log \gamma_l}{l} > \frac{1}{2}.$$

For $m = 1$, (1) constitutes an improvement over [8, Theorem 1] already for $l > 50$. The problem of existence of a bound for $c_0(k, l, m)$ depending only on m remains open also for $m = 1$.

LEMMA 1. *If A is a parallelohedron given by the inequalities*

$$|\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{x}| \leq 1, \quad \mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^l \quad (1 \leq i \leq k)$$

then for every paralleliped \mathbb{P} containing A , symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$ and for a suitable subset S of $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ of cardinality l we have

$$\text{vol } \mathbb{P} \geq \text{vol } \mathbb{P}_0(S),$$

where $\mathbb{P}_0(S)$ is the paralleliped

$$|\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{x}| \leq 1 \quad (i \in S).$$

PROOF. We shall proceed by induction on the number n of pairs of parallel $(l - 1)$ dimensional faces of \mathbb{P} that do not contain $(l - 1)$ dimensional faces of A (in the sequel, briefly, faces). If $n = 0$ the assertion is true. Suppose it is true for the case of $n - 1$ pairs of parallel faces and consider a paralleliped \mathbb{P} symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$ with exactly n pairs of parallel faces not containing faces of A . Let \mathbb{P} be given by the inequalities

$$|\mathbf{b}_i \mathbf{x}| \leq 1, \quad \mathbf{b}_i \in \mathbb{R}^l \quad (1 \leq i \leq l)$$

and let $\mathbf{b}_i \mathbf{x} = \pm 1$ be the pair of hyperplanes corresponding to one of the n pairs in question. Replacing \mathbb{P} if necessary by a smaller paralleliped we may assume that there is $\mathbf{x}_0 \in A$ such that

$$(2) \quad \mathbf{b}_l \mathbf{x}_0 = 1.$$

Let $I = \{i \leq k : |\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{x}_0| = 1\}$ and let

$$(3) \quad \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{x}_0 = \varepsilon_i \quad (i \in I).$$

From the fact that the hyperplane $\mathbf{b}_l \mathbf{x} = 1$ is supporting A at \mathbf{x}_0 it follows that

$$(4) \quad \varepsilon_i \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{t} \leq 0 \quad (i \in I) \text{ implies } \mathbf{b}_l \mathbf{t} \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^l.$$

Indeed, suppose for some $\mathbf{t}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^l$ that $\varepsilon_i \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{t}_0 \leq 0$ and $\mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{t}_0 > 0$. Then for

$$\mathbf{t}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{t}_0}{lh(\mathbf{t}_0)} \min \left\{ \min_{i \notin I} \frac{1 - |\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{x}_0|}{h(\mathbf{a}_i)}, \min_{i \in I} \frac{2}{h(\mathbf{a}_i)} \right\}$$

we have $\pm(\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{t}_1) \in \mathbf{A}$, $\mathbf{b}_1(\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{t}_1) > 1$, $\mathbf{b}_1(-\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t}_1) < -1 < 1$, and thus the hyperplane $\mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{x} = 1$ divides \mathbf{A} . This contradiction proves (4). Hence by a theorem of Farkas [5, page 5] (I owe this reference to Professor S. Rolewicz. There is a related earlier statement in [8, page 45]) we have

$$\mathbf{b}_1 = \sum_{i \in I} \varepsilon_i \mathbf{a}_i \lambda_i,$$

where

$$(5) \quad \lambda_i \geq 0 \quad (i \in I)$$

and by (2) and (3)

$$(6) \quad \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i = 1.$$

Therefore,

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} (\text{vol } \mathbb{P})^{-1} &= 2^{-l} \left| \det \left(\sum_{i \in I} \varepsilon_i \mathbf{a}_i \lambda_i, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_l \right) \right| \\ &= 2^{-l} \left| \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \det(\varepsilon_i \mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_l) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Regarding λ_i as variables restricted by the conditions (5) and (6), we easily see that the right-hand side of (7) takes the maximum for $\lambda_i = 1$ if $i = i_0$, $\lambda_i = 0$ otherwise. Hence

$$(8) \quad \text{vol } \mathbb{P} \geq \text{vol } \mathbb{P}_1,$$

where \mathbb{P}_1 is the parallelepiped

$$|\mathbf{a}_{i_0} \mathbf{x}| \leq 1, \quad |\mathbf{b}_i \mathbf{x}| \leq 1 \quad (2 \leq i \leq l).$$

However \mathbb{P}_1 contains \mathbf{A} and it has only $n - 1$ pairs of parallel faces that do not contain faces of \mathbf{A} . Thus by the inductive assumption there exists a set $S \subset \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ of cardinality l and with the property

$$\text{vol } \mathbb{P}_1 \geq \text{vol } \mathbb{P}_0(S).$$

In view of (8) this gives

$$\text{vol } \mathbb{P} \geq \text{vol } \mathbb{P}_0(S)$$

and concludes the inductive argument.

LEMMA 2. For all linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_l \in \mathbb{R}^k$ the domain

$$C : h(\mathbf{c}_1x_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_lx_l) \leq 1$$

satisfies

$$\text{vol } C \geq \frac{2^l}{g_0(l)H(\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_l)}, \quad \text{vol } \mathcal{E}(C) \geq \frac{\kappa_l}{g_1(l)H(\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_l)}.$$

PROOF. Put

$$(9) \quad \mathbf{a}_i = [c_{1i}, c_{2i}, \dots, c_{li}] \quad (1 \leq i \leq k).$$

Then

$$C = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^l : |\mathbf{a}_i x| \leq 1 \text{ for all } i \leq k\}$$

and clearly C is a convex body symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$. By Definition 2

$$\text{vol } C \geq g_0(l)^{-1} \inf \text{vol } \mathbb{P}, \quad \text{vol } \mathcal{E}(C) \geq g_1(l)^{-1} 2^{-l} \kappa_l \inf \text{vol } \mathbb{P},$$

where the infimum is taken over all parallelepipeds \mathbb{P} symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$ and containing C . However by Lemma 1 the infimum can be replaced by the minimum taken over the finite set of all parallelepipeds

$$\mathbb{P}_0(S), \quad |\mathbf{a}_i x| \leq 1 \quad (i \in S),$$

where S runs through all subsets of $\{1, \dots, k\}$ of cardinality l . Since

$$\text{vol } \mathbb{P}_0(S) = 2^l |\det\{\mathbf{a}_i : i \in S\}|^{-1}$$

we have by (9) that

$$\min \text{vol } \mathbb{P}_0(S) = 2^l H(\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_l)^{-1}$$

and the lemma follows.

LEMMA 3. If for all linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = 1$ there exist linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that

$$\mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{j=1}^l u_{ij} \mathbf{p}_j, \quad u_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q}$$

and

$$\prod_{j=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_j) \leq c H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}$$

then $c_0(k, l, m) \leq c$.

PROOF. Consider m linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and let \mathcal{N} be the linear space spanned by them over \mathbb{R} . Further, let $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m$

be a basis of the lattice $\mathcal{N} \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$ and $\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_{k-m} \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ linearly independent vectors perpendicular to \mathcal{N} . Since $\mathcal{N} \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$ is the lattice of all solutions $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ of the system $\mathbf{c}_i \mathbf{x} = 0$ ($1 \leq i \leq k - m$), we have by the known theorem [3, page 53] that

$$(10) \quad D(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m) = 1.$$

On the other hand clearly

$$(11) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}_m \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{b}_m \end{pmatrix},$$

where \mathbf{A} is an integral square matrix of order m . It follows from (11) that

$$\begin{aligned} D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) &= |\det \mathbf{A}| D(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m), \\ H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) &= |\det \mathbf{A}| H(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m) \end{aligned}$$

and by (10)

$$(12) \quad H(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m) = \frac{H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}{D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}.$$

By the assumption of the lemma there exist linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_l \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and a matrix $\mathbf{U} \in \mathcal{M}_{m,l}(\mathbb{Q})$ such that

$$(13) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{b}_m \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}_l \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$(14) \quad \prod_{j=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_j) \leq c H(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

It follows from (11) and (13) that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}_m \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}_l \end{pmatrix},$$

while from (12) and (14) that

$$\prod_{j=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_j) \leq \left(\frac{H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}{D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)} \right)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

Thus by Definition 1, $c_0(k, l, m) \leq c$.

LEMMA 4. Let \mathbb{K} be a convex domain symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$ in the linear subspace $\mathcal{L} : x_1 = \dots = x_m = 0$ of \mathbb{R}^k , not containing in its interior any point of the lattice $\mathcal{L} \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$ except $\mathbf{0}$ and let $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbb{K}}$ be the corresponding distance function. Let $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and \mathcal{N} be the linear space spanned by $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m$ over \mathbb{R} . If $\Delta = \det(n_{ij})_{i,j \leq m} \neq 0$ and $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = 1$ there exist vectors $\mathbf{n}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k$ are linearly independent and

$$\prod_{i=m+1}^k \|(\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L}\|_{\mathbb{K}} \leq 2^{k-m} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1} |\Delta|^{-1}.$$

REMARK. Since $\Delta \neq 0$ we have $\mathcal{N} \cap \mathcal{L} = \{\mathbf{0}\}$, and hence $(\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L}$ consists of one point and $\|(\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L}\|_{\mathbb{K}}$ means the distance from this point to $\mathbf{0}$ measured through \mathbb{K} .

PROOF. If $|\Delta| = 1$ the desired conclusion follows directly from Minkowski's second theorem. Indeed by that theorem applied to the domain \mathbb{K} there exist linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{n}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k \in \mathcal{L} \cap \mathbb{K}$ such that

$$\prod_{i=m+1}^k \|\mathbf{n}_i\|_{\mathbb{K}} \leq 2^{k-m} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1}.$$

Since $\mathcal{N} \cap \mathcal{L} = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ we have $(\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L} = \{\mathbf{n}_i\}$ ($m < i \leq k$) and $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k$ are linearly independent. Therefore assume that $|\Delta| > 1$. Let $\Delta_i(\mathbf{x})$ be the determinant of the matrix obtained from $(n_{ij})_{i,j \leq m}$ by replacing the i th row by the first m coordinates of the vector \mathbf{x} .

Let us take a real number $r > 1$ and consider in \mathbb{R}^k the domain

$$\mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) : \max_{1 \leq \mu \leq m} |\Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})| + |\Delta|^r \|\mathbf{x}\Delta - \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})\|_{\mathbb{K}}^{(k-m)r} \leq |\Delta|^{(k-m)r}.$$

Then $\mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K})$ is convex and symmetric with respect to $\mathbf{0}$. In order to compute its volume we make the affine transformation

$$\frac{\Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})}{\Delta^{(k-m)r}} = y_\mu \quad (\mu = 1, \dots, m), \quad x_\mu = y_\mu \quad (\mu = m + 1, \dots, k).$$

This transformation has Jacobian equal to $\Delta^{(k-m)rm-m+1}$ and it transforms $\mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K})$ into

$$\mathbb{D}'_r(\mathbb{K}) : \max_{1 \leq \mu \leq m} |y_\mu| + |\Delta|^r \|[\mathbf{0}, y_{m+1}, \dots, y_k]\|_{\mathbb{K}}^{(k-m)r-1} \leq 1,$$

where \mathbf{n}'_μ is the projection of \mathbf{n}_μ on \mathcal{L} . Clearly

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol } \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) &= |\Delta|^{(k-m)rm-m+1} \text{vol } \mathbb{D}'_r(\mathbb{K}) \\ &= |\Delta|^{(k-m)rm-m+1} \text{vol } \mathbb{K} \int_{\max_{1 \leq \mu \leq m} |y_\mu| \leq 1} dy_1 dy_2 \cdots dy_m \left(\frac{1 - \max |y_\mu|}{|\Delta|^r} \right)^{1/r} \\ &= 2^m |\Delta|^{((k-m)r-1)m} \text{vol } \mathbb{K} \int_0^1 mt^{m-1} (1-t)^{1/r} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Put $\int_0^1 mt^{m-1} (1-t)^{1/r} dt = I_{r,m}$.

Let $\lambda_i = \inf\{\lambda : \dim \lambda \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^k \geq i\}$ ($1 \leq i \leq k$). By Minkowski's second theorem there exist linearly independent points $\mathbf{m}_1, \dots, \mathbf{m}_k$ such that

$$(15) \quad \mathbf{m}_i \in \lambda_i \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$$

and

$$(16) \quad \prod_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \leq 2^k \text{vol } \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K})^{-1} = 2^{k-m} I_{r,m}^{-1} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1} |\Delta|^{(1-(k-m)r)m}.$$

We shall show that

$$(17) \quad \lambda_i = |\Delta|^{1-(k-m)r} \quad (1 \leq i \leq m)$$

and

$$(18) \quad \mathbf{m}_i \in \mathcal{N} \quad (1 \leq i \leq m).$$

Indeed, for $i \leq m$, $\mu \leq m$ we have

$$\Delta_\mu(\mathbf{n}_i) = \Delta \quad \text{if } \mu = i, \quad 0 \text{ otherwise};$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{n}_i),$$

and hence

$$(19) \quad \mathbf{n}_i \in |\Delta|^{1-(k-m)r} \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) \quad (1 \leq i \leq m).$$

On the other hand, if $\mathbf{x} \in \lambda \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$ and $\mathbf{x} \notin \mathcal{N}$ we have $\Delta \mathbf{x} \neq \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})$, and thus by the assumption about \mathbb{K} , $\|\Delta \mathbf{x} - \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})\|_{\mathbb{K}} \geq 1$ and by the definition of $\mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K})$,

$$(20) \quad \lambda^{(k-m)r} |\Delta|^{(k-m)r} \geq |\Delta|^r; \quad \lambda \geq |\Delta|^{-1+\frac{1}{k-m}} > |\Delta|^{1-(k-m)r}.$$

If $\mathbf{x} \in \lambda \mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^k$ and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}$ we have $\Delta \mathbf{x} = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})$ and thus by the assumption that $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = 1$ we have $\Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x}) \equiv 0 \pmod{\Delta}$, and

hence either $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ or $\max_{1 \leq \mu \leq m} |\Delta_\mu(\mathbf{x})| \geq |\Delta|$, which by the definition of $\mathbb{D}_r(\mathbb{K})$ implies

$$(21) \quad \lambda \geq |\Delta|^{1-(k-m)r}.$$

The claims (17) and (18) follow from (19), (20) and (21).

From (16) and (17) we infer that

$$\prod_{i=m+1}^k \lambda_i \leq 2^{k-m} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1} I_{r,m}^{-1}$$

and since by (15)

$$|\Delta|^r \left\| \Delta \mathbf{m}_i - \sum_{\mu=1}^x \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{m}_i) \right\|_{\mathbb{K}}^{(k-m)r} \leq |\Delta|^{(k-m)r} \lambda_i^{(k-m)r}$$

we obtain

$$(22) \quad \prod_{i=m+1}^k \left\| \mathbf{m}_i - \Delta^{-1} \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{m}_i) \right\|_{\mathbb{K}} \leq 2^{k-m} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1} |\Delta|^{-1} I_{r,m}^{-1}.$$

Moreover, by (18), $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m, \mathbf{m}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{m}_k$ are linearly independent.

For every $r > 1$ there corresponds a certain choice of vectors $\mathbf{m}_i \in \mathbb{Z}^k$, however the set of values which we can obtain on the left-hand side of (22) is discrete. Therefore there exist vectors \mathbf{n}_i ($m < i \leq k$) such that \mathbf{n}_i ($1 \leq i \leq k$) are linearly independent and

$$\prod_{i=m+1}^k \left\| \mathbf{n}_i - \Delta^{-1} \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{n}_i) \right\|_{\mathbb{K}} \leq 2^{k-m} (\text{vol } \mathbb{K})^{-1} |\Delta|^{-1} \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} I_{r,m}^{-1}.$$

However

$$\left\{ \mathbf{n}_i - \Delta^{-1} \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \Delta_\mu(\mathbf{n}_i) \right\} = (\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L}$$

and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} I_{r,m} = \int_0^1 m t^{m-1} dt = 1,$$

which proves the lemma.

LEMMA 5. *If $m < k$, $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$, $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = 1$ there exist vectors $\mathbf{n}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k$ are linearly independent and for each $l \in [m, k]$ the domain $\mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^l : h(\sum_{i=1}^l x_i \mathbf{n}_i) \leq 1$ satisfies*

$$(23) \quad \text{vol } \mathbb{D} \geq \frac{2^l m!}{g_0(m) l!} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{-(k-l)/(k-m)}$$

and

$$(24) \quad \text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}) \geq \max \left\{ \frac{\kappa_l}{g_1(m)(l-m+1)^{l/2}}, \frac{\kappa_l}{g_1(l)} \binom{l}{m}^{-1/2} l^{(m-l)/2} \right\} \times H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

PROOF. Without loss of generality we may assume that $H(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = |\Delta|$, where $\Delta = \det(n_{ij})_{i,j \leq m}$. By Lemma 4 applied with $\mathbb{K} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{L} : h(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\}$ there exists vectors $\mathbf{n}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ such that $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_l$ are linearly independent and

$$(25) \quad \prod_{i=m+1}^k h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \leq |\Delta|^{-1}, \quad \text{where } \{\mathbf{n}'_i\} = (\mathbf{n}_i + \mathcal{N}) \cap \mathcal{L} \quad (m < i \leq k).$$

Permuting the vectors \mathbf{n}_i if necessary we may assume that the sequence $h(\mathbf{n}'_i)$ is nondecreasing. Then (25) implies

$$(26) \quad \prod_{i=m+1}^l h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \leq H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{-(l-m)/(k-m)}.$$

In order to prove (23) let us write explicitly

$$\mathbf{n}'_i = \mathbf{n}_i - \sum_{\mu=1}^m a_{i\mu} \mathbf{n}_\mu \quad (m < i \leq l).$$

Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^l x_i \mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \left(x_\mu + \sum_{i=m+1}^l a_{i\mu} x_i \right) + \sum_{i=m+1}^l x_i \mathbf{n}'_i$$

and

$$h \left(\sum_{i=1}^l x_i \mathbf{n}_i \right) \leq h \left(\sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \left(x_\mu + \sum_{i=m+1}^l a_{i\mu} x_i \right) \right) + \sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i).$$

It follows by a change of variables that

$$\text{vol } \mathbb{D} \geq \int_{\mathbb{D}_0} dx_{m+1} \cdots dx_l \text{vol} \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m : h \left(\sum_{\mu=1}^m x_\mu \mathbf{n}_\mu \right) \leq 1 - \sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \right\},$$

where \mathbb{D}_0 is the domain $\sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \leq 1$. However by Lemma 2,

$$\text{vol} \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m : h \left(\sum_{\mu=1}^m x_\mu \mathbf{n}_\mu \right) \leq c \right\} \geq \frac{2^m c^m}{g_0(m) H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)},$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol } \mathbb{D} &= \frac{2^m}{g_0(m)H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)} \int_{\mathbb{D}_0} \left(1 - \sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i)\right)^m dx_{m+1} \cdots dx_l \\ &= \frac{2^l m!}{g_0(m) l! H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)} \prod_{i=m+1}^l h(\mathbf{n}'_i)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

and (23) follows from (26).

In order to prove the part of (24) corresponding to the first term of the maximum on the right-hand side, let \mathbb{D}_1 be the domain $h(\sum_{i=1}^m x_i \mathbf{n}_i) \leq 1$. The ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_1)$ is given by the inequality $F_1(x_1, \dots, x_m) \leq 1$, where F_1 is a positive definite quadratic form.

Since $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_1) \subset \mathbb{D}_1$ we have for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$,

$$(28) \quad \sqrt{F_1(x_1, \dots, x_m)} = \|\mathbf{x}\|_{\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_1)} \geq \|\mathbf{x}\|_{\mathbb{D}_1} = h\left(\sum_{i=1}^m x_i \mathbf{n}_i\right).$$

By virtue of Lemma 2, we have

$$\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_1) \geq \kappa_m g_1(m)^{-1} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{-1}.$$

However

$$\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}_1) = \frac{\kappa_m}{\sqrt{d(F_1)}},$$

and thus

$$(29) \quad \sqrt{d(F_1)} \leq g_1(m) H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m).$$

Consider now the quadratic form

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, \dots, x_l) &= (l - m + 1) F_1\left(\dots, x_\mu + \sum_{i=m+1}^l a_{i\mu} x_i, \dots\right) \\ &\quad + (l - m + 1) \sum_{i=m+1}^l x_i^2 h^2(\mathbf{n}'_i). \end{aligned}$$

For all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^l$ we have by the Cauchy inequality, by (28) and (27), that

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{F(x_1, \dots, x_l)} &\geq \sqrt{F_1\left(\dots, x_\mu + \sum_{i=m+1}^l a_{i\mu} x_i, \dots\right)} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \geq h\left(\sum_{\mu=1}^m \mathbf{n}_\mu \left(x_\mu + \sum_{i=m+1}^l a_{i\mu} x_i\right)\right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=m+1}^l |x_i| h(\mathbf{n}'_i) \geq h\left(\sum_{i=1}^l x_i \mathbf{n}_i\right), \end{aligned}$$

and thus the ellipsoid

$$E : F(x_1, \dots, x_l) \leq 1$$

is contained in \mathbb{D} and by the definition of $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D})$,

$$(30) \quad \text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}) \geq \text{vol } E = \frac{\kappa_l}{\sqrt{d(F)}}.$$

Since F is obtained from the quadratic form

$$(l - m + 1) \left(F_1 + \sum_{i=m+1}^l x_i^2 h^2(\mathbf{n}'_i) \right)$$

by a unimodular substitution, we have

$$\sqrt{d(F)} = (l - m + 1)^{l/2} \sqrt{d(F_1)} \prod_{i=m+1}^l h(\mathbf{n}'_i)$$

and by (26), (29) and (30),

$$\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}) \geq \kappa_l (l - m + 1)^{-l/2} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{-(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

In order to prove the remaining part of (24) note that

$$H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_l) = H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m, \mathbf{n}'_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}'_l).$$

Let M be a minor of order of l of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}_m \\ \mathbf{n}'_{m+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}'_l \end{pmatrix}$$

and S the set of indices of the columns of M . Developing M according to the first m rows we obtain from the Laplace theorem

$$(31) \quad |M| \leq H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) \sum |M_{j_1, \dots, j_{l-m}}|,$$

where $M_{j_1, \dots, j_{l-m}}$ is the minor of

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}'_{m+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{n}'_l \end{pmatrix}$$

consisting of the columns j_1, \dots, j_{l-m} , while $\{j_1, \dots, j_{l-m}\}$ runs through all subsets of S of cardinality $l - m$.

By the generalized Hadamard inequality [1, formula (2.6)]

$$\sum M_{j_1, \dots, j_{l-m}}^2 \leq \prod_{i=m+1}^l \sum_{j \in S} n_{ij}^2 \leq l^{l-m} \prod_{i=m+1}^l h(\mathbf{n}'_i)^2,$$

and hence, by the Cauchy inequality,

$$(32) \quad \sum |M_{j_1, \dots, j_{l-m}}| \leq \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{(l-m)/2} \prod_{i=m+1}^l h(\mathbf{n}'_i).$$

The inequalities (26), (31) and (32) give

$$|M| \leq \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{(l-m)/2} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)},$$

and hence by the arbitrary choice of M

$$H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_l) \leq \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{(l-m)/2} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

Now Lemma 2 applied with $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{D}$ implies

$$\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}) \geq \frac{\kappa_l}{g_1(l)} \binom{l}{m}^{-1/2} l^{(m-l)/2} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{-(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. Let $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ be linearly independent and $D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m) = 1$. Let $\mathbf{n}_{m+1}, \dots, \mathbf{n}_l$ be vectors the existence of which is asserted in Lemma 5 and consider the domain $\mathbb{D} : h(\sum_{j=1}^l x_j \mathbf{n}_j) \leq 1$. Let

$$\mu_i = \min\{\mu : \dim \mu \mathbb{D} \cap \mathbb{Z}^l \geq i\} \quad (1 \leq i \leq l).$$

By Minkowski's second theorem there exist linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{y}_i = [y_{i1}, \dots, y_{il}]$ ($1 \leq i \leq l$) such that

$$(33) \quad \mathbf{y}_i \in \mu_i \mathbb{D} \cap \mathbb{Z}^l$$

and

$$(34) \quad \prod_{i=1}^l \mu_i \leq 2^l (\text{vol } \mathbb{D})^{-1}.$$

By another theorem of Minkowski (see [8, §51] or [6, §18, Theorem 3]),

$$(35) \quad \prod_{i=1}^l \mu_i \leq \Delta(\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}))^{-1},$$

where $\Delta(\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}))$ is the critical determinant of $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D})$ and by the definition of the Hermite constant

$$(35) \quad \Delta(\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}))^{-1} = \gamma_l^{l/2} \frac{\kappa_l}{\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D})}$$

(see [6, formula (37.6)]). Let us put

$$(37) \quad \mathbf{p}_i = \sum_{j=1}^l y_{ij} \mathbf{n}_j \quad (1 \leq i \leq l).$$

It follows from the definition of \mathbb{D} and from (34)–(37) that $h(\mathbf{p}_i) = \mu_i$, hence by (34)–(37)

$$\prod_{i=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_i) \leq \min\{2^l (\text{vol } \mathbb{D})^{-1}, \gamma_l^{l/2} \kappa_l (\text{vol } \mathcal{E}(\mathbb{D}))^{-1}\}$$

and by Lemma 5

$$\prod_{i=1}^l h(\mathbf{p}_i) \leq \min \left\{ \frac{l!}{m!} g_0(m), (l - m + 1)^{l/2} g_1(m) \gamma_l^{l/2}, \right. \\ \left. \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{(l-m)/2} g_1(l) \gamma_l^{l/2} \right\} H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)^{(k-l)/(k-m)}.$$

Moreover since y_1, \dots, y_l are linearly independent the system (37) can be solved with respect to $\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_l$ and we obtain

$$\mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{j=1}^l u_{ij} \mathbf{p}_j, \quad u_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q} \quad (1 \leq i \leq l).$$

Since \mathbf{n}_i ($1 \leq i \leq l$) are linearly independent so are \mathbf{p}_j ($1 \leq j \leq l$) and we obtain from (37) and Lemma 3 that

$$(38) \quad c_0(k, l, m) \leq \min \left\{ (l - m + 1)^{l/2} g_1(m) \gamma_l^{l/2}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{l!}{m!} g_0(m), \binom{l}{m}^{1/2} l^{\frac{l-m}{2}} g_1(l) \gamma_l^{l/2} \right\},$$

which proves the first part of the theorem.

In order to prove the second part let us observe that if $l = m = 1$ the right-hand side of (38) equals 1, while it immediately follows from the definition of $c_0(k, l, m)$ that $c_0(k, 1, 1) \geq 1$. If $l = m = 2$ the right hand side of (38) equals $\frac{4}{3}$, since

$$g_1(2) = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}}, \quad \gamma_2 = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}}, \quad g_0(2) \geq \frac{4}{3}.$$

On the other hand, consider the following vectors in \mathbb{Z}^k ($k \geq 3$)

$$\mathbf{n}_1 = [2t, 4t + 1, 2t, 0, \dots, 0], \quad \mathbf{n}_2 = [4t - 1, 2t, -2t, 0, \dots, 0] \quad (t \in \mathbb{N}).$$

We have here

$$H(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2) = 12t^2 + 2t, \quad D(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2) = 1.$$

Hence, if

$$\mathbf{n}_i = \sum_{j=1}^2 u_{ij} \mathbf{p}_j, \quad u_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q}, \mathbf{p}_j \in \mathbb{Z}^k \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq 2)$$

we have

$$\mathbf{p}_j = \mathbf{n}_1 x_j + \mathbf{n}_2 y_j, \quad [x_j, y_j] \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \setminus \{0\} \quad (1 \leq j \leq 2).$$

If $x_j = y_j$ we have $|p_{j2}| > 6t$, otherwise $|p_{j3}| \geq 2t$, and thus $h(\mathbf{p}_j) \geq 2t$ ($1 \leq j \leq 2$). If for an $\varepsilon > 0$ we have

$$h(\mathbf{p}_1)h(\mathbf{p}_2) \leq (\frac{4}{3} - \varepsilon)H(\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2) = (\frac{4}{3} - \varepsilon)(12t^2 + 2t)$$

then for $t > t_0(\varepsilon)$

$$(39) \quad h(\mathbf{p}_1)h(\mathbf{p}_2) < (16 - 10\varepsilon)t^2$$

and since $h(\mathbf{p}_j) \geq 2t$ we obtain $h(\mathbf{p}_j) < (8 - 5\varepsilon)t^2$ ($1 \leq j \leq 2$). Hence for $t > t_1(\varepsilon)$, by consideration of the first three coordinates of \mathbf{p}_j

$$|2x_j + 4y_j| \leq 7, \quad |4x_j + 2y_j| \leq 7, \quad |2x_j - 2y_j| \leq 7;$$

$|x_j| \leq 1, |y_j| \leq 1$ and since $[x_j, y_j] \neq [0, 0]$, $h(\mathbf{p}_j) \geq 4t - 1$ ($1 \leq j \leq 2$). It follows that

$$h(\mathbf{p}_1)h(\mathbf{p}_2) \geq 16t^2 - 8t + 1,$$

which for $t > \max\{t_0(\varepsilon), t_1(\varepsilon), \varepsilon^{-1}\}$ contradicts (39). This shows that $c_0(k, 2, 2) = \frac{4}{3}$ and completes the proof of the theorem.

PROOF OF THEOREM 2. The proof does not differ essentially from the proof of [10, Theorem 2]. In formula (14) and in the fourth displayed formula on page 701 there, one has to replace $c_0(k, l)$ by $c_0(k, l, m)$ and $h(\mathbf{n})^{(k-l)/(k-m)}$ by $(\frac{H(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)}{D(\mathbf{n}_1, \dots, \mathbf{n}_m)})^{(k-l)/(k-m)}$.

Note added in proof

Yu. Teterin has remarked that Lemma 4 holds under a weaker assumption, namely that $\text{vol} \mathbb{K} < \infty$. To see this, it suffices to apply the original formulation to the body of $\lambda \mathbb{K}$ for suitable λ .

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Instytut Matematyczny Polskiej Akademii Nauk
ul. Sniadeckich 8
Skrytka pocztowa Nr 137
00-950 Warszawa
Poland