

Discrete and Computational Geometry, SS 14  
Exercise Sheet “7”: Minkowski's Theorem and  
Applications  
University of Bonn, Department of Computer Science I

- *Written solutions have to be prepared until **Tuesday June 3rd, 14:00 pm**. There will be a letterbox in the LBH building, close to Room E01.*
- *You may work in groups of at most two participants.*
- *Please contact Hilko Delonge, [hilko.delonge@uni-bonn.de](mailto:hilko.delonge@uni-bonn.de), if you want to participate and have not yet signed up for one of the exercise groups.*
- *If you are not yet subscribed to the mailing list, please do so at <https://lists.iai.uni-bonn.de/mailman/listinfo.cgi/lc-dcgeom>*

**Exercise 19: Proof details Two-Squares-Theorem (4 Points)**

1. For  $p = 17$ , present the corresponding values of  $q$ ,  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $i$  and  $j$  in the proof of the Two-Squares-Theorem (Theorem 11). Finally  $p = a^2 + b^2$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  has to be fulfilled.
2. Prove the following statement: For the factor ring  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  for a prime  $p$  only  $a = \bar{1}$  and  $a = -\bar{1}$  gives a solution for  $a^2 = \bar{1}$ .  
(You can make use of the following statement:  $p|ab \Rightarrow p|a$  or  $p|b$ .)

**Exercise 20: Minkowski's Theorem (4 Points)**

- Present an argument that the Minkowski Theorem (Theorem 7) actually says that 2 lattice points different from the origin will be inside the set  $C$ .
- Argue that the boundedness of the set  $C$  is not a necessary condition of Theorem 7. Give an example for an unbounded set  $C$  that fulfills the conditions of Theorem 7 for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**Exercise 21: Application of Minkowski's Theorem (4 Points)**

Consider the regular  $(5 \times 5)$  lattice around the origin. Calculate the required expansion (radius  $r$ ) of the *trees* at the lattice points so that any line  $Y = aX$  hits at least one of the *trees*. Do the calculation in the following ways:

1. Calculate the radius  $r$  directly and precisely by considering the corresponding circles and lines.  
(W.l.o.g. only two cases have to be considered!)
2. Make use of the Minkowski Theorem and compute a non-trivial radius  $r$  that fulfills the requirement.

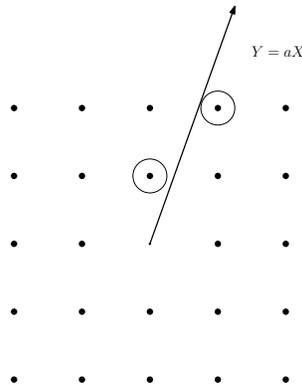


Figure 1: The regular  $(5 \times 5)$  grid. The line passes the circles.