# Automorphisms of extremal even unimodular lattices 

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The hexagonal lattice


## Even unimodular lattices

## Definition

- A lattice $L$ in Euclidean $n$-space $\left(\mathbb{R}^{n},(),\right)$ is the $\mathbb{Z}$-span of an $\mathbb{R}$-basis $B=\left(b_{1}, \ldots, b_{n}\right)$ of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$

$$
L=\left\langle b_{1}, \ldots, b_{n}\right\rangle_{\mathbb{Z}}=\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{i} b_{i} \mid a_{i} \in \mathbb{Z}\right\} .
$$

- The dual lattice is

$$
L^{\#}:=\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \mid(x, \ell) \in \mathbb{Z} \text { for all } \ell \in L\right\}
$$

- $L$ is called unimodular if $L=L^{\#}$.
- $L$ is called even if $(\ell, \ell) \in 2 \mathbb{Z}$ for all $\ell \in L$.
- Then $Q: L \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \ell \mapsto \frac{1}{2}(\ell, \ell)$ is an integral quadratic form.
- $\min (L):=\min \{Q(\ell) \mid 0 \neq \ell \in L\}$ the minimum of $L$.
- $\operatorname{Min}(L):=\{\ell \in L \mid Q(\ell)=\min (L)\}$.
- $\operatorname{Aut}(L):=\left\{g \in O\left(\mathbb{R}^{n},(),\right) \mid g(L)=L\right\}$ automorphism group of $L$.


## Extremal even unimodular lattices

The sphere packing density of a unimodular lattice is proportional to its minimum.
From the theory of modular forms one gets an upper bound for the minimum:

## Extremal lattices

Let $L$ be an $n$-dimensional even unimodular lattice. Then

$$
n \in 8 \mathbb{N} \text { and } \min (L) \leq 1+\left\lfloor\frac{n}{24}\right\rfloor
$$

Lattices achieving equality are called extremal.

## Extremal even unimodular lattices.

| $n$ | 8 | 24 | 32 | 48 | 72 | 80 | $\geq 163,264$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\min (\mathrm{~L})$ | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |  |
| number of <br> extremal <br> lattices | 1 | 1 | $\geq 10^{7}$ | $\geq 4$ | $\geq 1$ | $\geq 4$ | 0 |

## Extremal even unimodular lattices in jump dimensions

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f^{(3)}=1+196,560 q^{2}+\ldots=\theta_{\Lambda_{24}} . \\
& f^{(6)}=1+52,416,000 q^{3}+\ldots=\theta_{P_{48 p}}=\theta_{P_{48 q}}=\theta_{P_{48 n}}=\theta_{P_{48 m}} \\
& f^{(9)}=1+6,218,175,600 q^{4}+\ldots=\theta_{\Gamma_{72}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Let $L$ be an extremal even unimodular lattice of dimension $24 m$ so $\min (L)=m+1$

- All non-empty layers $\emptyset \neq\{\ell \in L \mid Q(\ell)=a\}$ form spherical 11-designs.
- The density of the associated sphere packing realises a local maximum of the density function on the space of all $24 m$-dimensional lattices.
- If $m=1$, then $L=\Lambda_{24}$ is unique, $\Lambda_{24}$ is the Leech lattice.
- The 196560 minimal vectors of the Leech lattice form the unique tight spherical 11-design and realise the maximal kissing number in dimension 24.
- $\Lambda_{24}$ is the densest 24-dimensional lattice (Cohn, Kumar).
- For $m=2,3$ these lattices are the densest known lattices and realise the maximal known kissing number.


## Extremal even unimodular lattices in jump dimensions

The extremal theta series

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f^{(3)}=1+196,560 q^{2}+\ldots=\theta_{\Lambda_{24}} . \\
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& f^{(9)}=1+6,218,175,600 q^{4}+\ldots=\theta_{\Gamma_{72}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## The automorphism groups

$$
\begin{array}{lcc}
\operatorname{Aut}\left(\Lambda_{24}\right) \cong 2 . \mathrm{Co}_{1} & \begin{array}{c}
\text { order } \\
=
\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}
8315553613086720000 \\
2^{22} 3^{9} 5^{4} 7^{2} \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23
\end{array} \\
\operatorname{Aut}\left(P_{48 p}\right) \cong\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(23) \times S_{3}\right): 2 & \text { order } & 72864=2^{5} 3^{2} 11 \cdot 23 \\
\operatorname{Aut}\left(P_{48 q}\right) \cong \mathrm{SL}_{2}(47) & \text { order } & 103776=2^{5} 3 \cdot 23 \cdot 47 \\
\operatorname{Aut}\left(P_{48 n}\right) \cong\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(13) \mathrm{YSL}(5)\right) \cdot 2^{2} & \text { order } & 524160=2^{7} 3^{2} 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \\
\operatorname{Aut}\left(P_{48 m}\right) \cong\left(C_{5} \times C_{5} \times C_{3}\right):\left(D_{8} \mathrm{Y} C_{4}\right) & \text { order } & 1200=2^{4} 35^{2} \\
& & \\
\operatorname{Aut}\left(\Gamma_{72}\right) \cong\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(25) \times \mathrm{PSL}_{2}(7)\right): 2 & \text { order } & 5241600=2^{8} 3^{2} 5^{2} 7 \cdot 13
\end{array}
$$

Turyn's construction


The extremal lattice in dimension 72
Towards the discovery of the extremal 72-dimensional lattice, whose existence was a longstanding open question.

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- Let $(L, Q)$ be an even unimodular lattice of dimension $n$.
- Choose sublattices $M, N \leq L$ such that $M+N=L, M \cap N=2 L$, and $\left(M, \frac{1}{2} Q\right),\left(N, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)$ even unimodular.
- Such a pair $(M, N)$ is called a polarisation of $L$.


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- Such a pair $(M, N)$ is called a polarisation of $L$.
- $\mathcal{L}(M, N):=$

$$
\left\{\left(m+x_{1}, m+x_{2}, m+x_{3}\right) \in L \perp L \perp L \mid m \in M, x_{i} \in N, x_{1}+x_{2}+x_{3} \in 2 L\right\} .
$$

- Define $\tilde{Q}: \mathcal{L}(M, N) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$,

$$
\tilde{Q}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right):=\frac{1}{2}\left(Q\left(y_{1}\right)+Q\left(y_{2}\right)+Q\left(y_{3}\right)\right) \text {. }
$$

- $(\mathcal{L}(M, N), \tilde{Q})$ is an even unimodular lattice of dimension $3 n$.

$m$ in $M$
$a, b, c$ in $N$
$a+b+c$ in $2 L$


## Theorem (Lepowsky, Meurman; Tits)

Let $(L, Q) \cong E_{8}$ be the unique even unimodular lattice of dimension 8. Then for any polarisation $(M, N)$ of $E_{8}$ the lattice $\mathcal{L}(M, N)$ has minimum $\geq 2$.

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Proof: Let $y:=\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right) \in \mathcal{L}(M, N)$.
All $y_{i} \neq 0$ :

$$
\tilde{Q}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}\right)=\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3} Q\left(y_{i}\right) \geq\left\lceil\frac{3}{2}\right\rceil=2 .
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$$

$y_{1} \neq 0 \neq y_{2}$ : Then $y_{i} \in N$ and

$$
\tilde{Q}(y) \geq 1+1+0=2 .
$$

Only one $y_{i} \neq 0$ then $y_{i} \in 2 L$ and $\tilde{Q}(y) \geq 2$.

## Turyn's construction


$d:=\min (L, Q)=\min \left(M, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)=\min \left(N, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)$
Then $\left\lceil\frac{3 d}{2}\right\rceil \leq \min (\mathcal{L}(M, N)) \leq 2 d$.

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& (a, b, c) \text { then } \frac{1}{2}(Q(a)+Q(b)+Q(c)) \geq \frac{3}{2} d .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Turyn's construction

$(m+a, m+b, m+c)$ in $\quad \begin{cases}L \perp L \perp L & m \text { in } M \\ -L(M, N) & a, b, c \text { in } N \\ \cdot 2 L \perp 2 L \perp 2 L & a+b+c \text { in } 2 L\end{cases}$
$d:=\min (L, Q)=\min \left(M, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)=\min \left(N, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)$
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\end{aligned}
$$

72-dimensional lattices from Leech (Griess)
If $(L, Q) \cong\left(M, \frac{1}{2} Q\right) \cong\left(N, \frac{1}{2} Q\right) \cong \Lambda_{24}$ then $3 \leq \min (\mathcal{L}(M, N)) \leq 4$.

## Hermitian polarisations



Let $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}(L)$ such that

- $\alpha^{2}-\alpha+2=0(\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]=$ integers in $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{-7}])$.
- $(\alpha x, y)=(x, \beta y)$ where $\beta=1-\alpha=\bar{\alpha}$.

Then $M:=\alpha L, N:=\beta L$ defines a polarisation of $L$ such that $(L, Q) \cong\left(M, \frac{1}{2} Q\right) \cong\left(N, \frac{1}{2} Q\right)$.

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## Remark

$\mathcal{L}(\alpha L, \beta L)=L \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]} P_{b}$ where

$$
P_{b}=\langle(\beta, \beta, 0),(0, \beta, \beta),(\alpha, \alpha, \alpha)\rangle \leq \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]^{3}
$$

$P_{b}$ is Hermitian unimodular and $\operatorname{Aut}_{\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]}\left(P_{b}\right) \cong \pm \operatorname{PSL}_{2}(7)$. So $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{L}(\alpha L, \beta L)) \geq \operatorname{Aut}_{\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]}(L) \times \operatorname{PSL}_{2}(7)$.

Hermitian structures of the Leech lattice

## Theorem (M. Hentschel, 2009)

There are exactly nine $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$-structures of the Leech lattice.

|  | group | order |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 1 | $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(25)$ | $2^{4} 3 \cdot 5^{2} 13$ |  |
| 2 | $2 . A_{6} \times D_{8}$ | $2^{7} 3^{2} 5$ |  |
| 3 | $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(13) .2$ | $2^{4} 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ |  |
| 4 | $\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(5) \times A_{5}\right) .2$ | $2^{6} 3^{2} 5^{2}$ |  |
| 5 | $\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(5) \times A_{5}\right) .2$ | $2^{6} 3^{2} 5^{2}$ |  |
| 6 | soluble | $2^{9} 3^{3}$ |  |
| 7 | $\pm \mathrm{PSL}_{2}(7) \times\left(C_{7}: C_{3}\right)$ | $2^{4} 3^{2} 7^{2}$ |  |
| 8 | $\mathrm{PSL}_{2}(7) \times 2 . A_{7}$ | $2^{7} 3^{3} 5 \cdot 7^{2}$ |  |
| 9 | $2 . J_{2} .2$ | $2^{9} 3^{3} 5^{2} 7$ |  |

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|  | group | order | \# Q(v) = 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(25)$ | $2^{4} 3 \cdot 5^{2} 13$ | 0 |
| 2 | $2 . A_{6} \times D_{8}$ | $2^{7} 3^{2} 5$ | $2 \cdot 20,160$ |
| 3 | $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(13) .2$ | $2^{4} 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$ | $2 \cdot 52,416$ |
| 4 | $\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(5) \times A_{5}\right) .2$ | $2^{6} 3^{2} 5^{2}$ | $2 \cdot 100,800$ |
| 5 | $\left(\mathrm{SL}_{2}(5) \times A_{5}\right) .2$ | $2^{6} 3^{2} 5^{2}$ | $2 \cdot 100,800$ |
| 6 | soluble | $2^{9} 3^{3}$ | $2 \cdot 177,408$ |
| 7 | $\pm \mathrm{PSL}_{2}(7) \times\left(C_{7}: C_{3}\right)$ | $2^{4} 3^{2} 7^{2}$ | $2 \cdot 306,432$ |
| 8 | $\mathrm{PSL}_{2}(7) \times 2 . A_{7}$ | $2^{7} 3^{3} 5 \cdot 7^{2}$ | $2 \cdot 504,000$ |
| 9 | $2 . J_{2} .2$ | $2^{9} 3^{3} 5^{2} 7$ | $2 \cdot 1,209,600$ |

## The extremal 72-dimensional lattice $\Gamma_{72}$

## Main result

- $\Gamma_{72}=\Lambda_{24} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]]} P_{b}$ is an extremal even unimodular lattice of dimension 72.
- $\operatorname{Aut}\left(\Gamma_{72}\right) \cong\left(\operatorname{PSL}_{2}(7) \times \operatorname{SL}_{2}(25)\right): 2$ (uses the classification of finite simple groups).
- $\Gamma_{72}$ realises the densest known sphere packing
- and maximal known kissing number in dimension 72.
- $\Gamma_{72}$ is the unique extremal even unimodular lattice that admits an automorphism $g$ for which $\mu_{g}$ has an irreducible factor of degree $>36$ (see below).


## Theorem (R. Parker, N)

If $(M, N)$ is a polarisation of the Leech lattice such that $\mathcal{L}(M, N)$ is extremal, then $\mathcal{L}(M, N) \cong \Gamma_{72}$.

## The Type of an automorphism.

## Lattices with large automorphisms

We now use automorphisms to classify extremal even unimodular lattices of dimension 48 and 72. The motivation comes from coding theory, where one tries to construct an extremal code of length 72 using automorphisms. In the meantime we know that if an extremal $[72,36,16]$ code exists, then its automorphism group has order $\leq 5$.

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Let $L \leq \mathbb{R}^{n}$ be some even unimodular lattice and $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(L)$ of prime order $p$. The fixed lattice

$$
F:=\operatorname{Fix}_{L}(\sigma):=\{v \in L \mid \sigma v=v\} \leq L
$$

has dimension $d$, and $\sigma$ acts on $M:=\operatorname{Cyc}_{L}(\sigma):=F^{\perp}$ as a $p$ th root of unity, so $n=d+z(p-1)$.

$$
F^{\#} \perp M^{\#} \geq L=L^{\#} \geq F \perp M \geq p L
$$

with $\operatorname{det}(F)=\left|F^{\#} / F\right|=\left|M^{\#} / M\right|=\operatorname{det}(M)=p^{s}$
Definition: $\mathrm{p}-(\mathrm{z}, \mathrm{d})-\mathrm{s}$ is called the Type of $\sigma$.

Proposition: $s \leq \min (d, z)$ and $z-s$ is even.

## 48-dimensional extremal lattices

## Theorem

Let $L$ be an extremal even unimodular lattice of dimension 48 and $p$ be a prime dividing $|\operatorname{Aut}(L)|$. Then $p=47,23$ or $p \leq 13$.

| The possible types of automorphisms of prime order $p>3$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Type | Fix $(\sigma)$ | Cyc $(\sigma)$ | example | class. |
| $47-(1,2)-1$ | unique | unique | $P_{48 q}$ | yes |
| $23-(2,4)-2$ | unique | at least 2 | $P_{48 q}, P_{48 p}$ |  |
| $13-(4,0)-0$ | $\{0\}$ | at least 1 | $P_{48 n}$ |  |
| $11-(4,8)-4$ | unique | at least 1 | $P_{48 p}$ |  |
| $7-(8,0)-0$ | $\{0\}$ | at least 1 | $P_{48 n}$ |  |
| $7-(7,6)-5$ | $\sqrt{7} A_{6}^{\#}$ | not known | not known |  |
| $5-(12,0)-0$ | $\{0\}$ | at least 2 | $P_{48 n}, P_{48 m}$ |  |
| $5-(10,8)-8$ | $\sqrt{5} E_{8}$ | at least 1 | $P_{48 m}$ |  |
| $5-(8,16)-8$ | $\left[2 . \text { Alt }_{10}\right]_{16}$ | $\Lambda_{32}$ | $P_{48 m}$ | yes |

## Prime order automorphisms

Possible types of prime order automorphisms of extremal lattices

| Dimension 24 | Dimension 48 | Dimension 72 | Dimension 96 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $47-(1,2)-1$ | $37-(2,0)-0$ |  |
| $23-(1,2)-1$ | $23-(2,4)-2$ | $19-(4,0)-0$ | $17-(6,0)-0$ |
| $13-(2,0)-0$ | $13-(4,0)-0$ | $13-(6,0)-0$ | $13-(8,0)-0$ |
| $11-(2,4)-2$ | $11-(4,8)-4$ | $7-(12,0)-0$ | $13-(7,12)-7$ |
| $7,5,3,2$ | $7,5,3,2$ | $5,3,2$ | $7,5,3,2$ |

## Prime divisors

Let $L$ be an extremal even unimodular lattice of dimension 24 m and $p$ be a prime dividing $|\operatorname{Aut}(L)|$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{m}=1 & : p=23 \text { or } p \leq 13 \\
\mathrm{~m}=2: & p=47,23 \text { or } p \leq 13 \\
\mathrm{~m}=3: & p=37,19,13 \text { or } 7, \text { and } \mu_{\sigma} \text { is irreducible, } \\
& \text { or } p \leq 5
\end{aligned}
$$

## Large automorphisms of extremal lattices

## Definition

$\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(L)$ is called large, if $\mu_{\sigma}$ has an irreducible factor $\Phi_{a}$ of degree $d=\varphi(a)>\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{dim}(L)$.

## Remark

Let $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}\left(\Lambda_{24}\right)$ be large. Then

| $a$ | 23 | 33 | 35 | 39 | 40 | 52 | 56 | 60 | 84 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $d$ | 22 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 16 | 24 | 24 | 16 | 24 |

## Theorem

Let $L$ be an extremal unimodular lattice of dimension 48, $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(L)$ large. Then

| a | 120 | 132 | 69 | 47 | 65 | 104 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| d | 32 | 40 | 44 | 46 | 48 | 48 |
| L | $P_{48 n}$ | $P_{48 p}$ | $P_{48 p}$ | $P_{48 q}$ | $P_{48 n}$ | $P_{48 n}$ |

## Theorem

Let $\Gamma$ be an extremal unimodular lattice of dimension $72, \sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(\Gamma)$ large. Then $\Gamma=\Gamma_{72}$ and either $a=91(d=72)$ or $a=168(d=48)$.

