

# Covering maxima

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1999

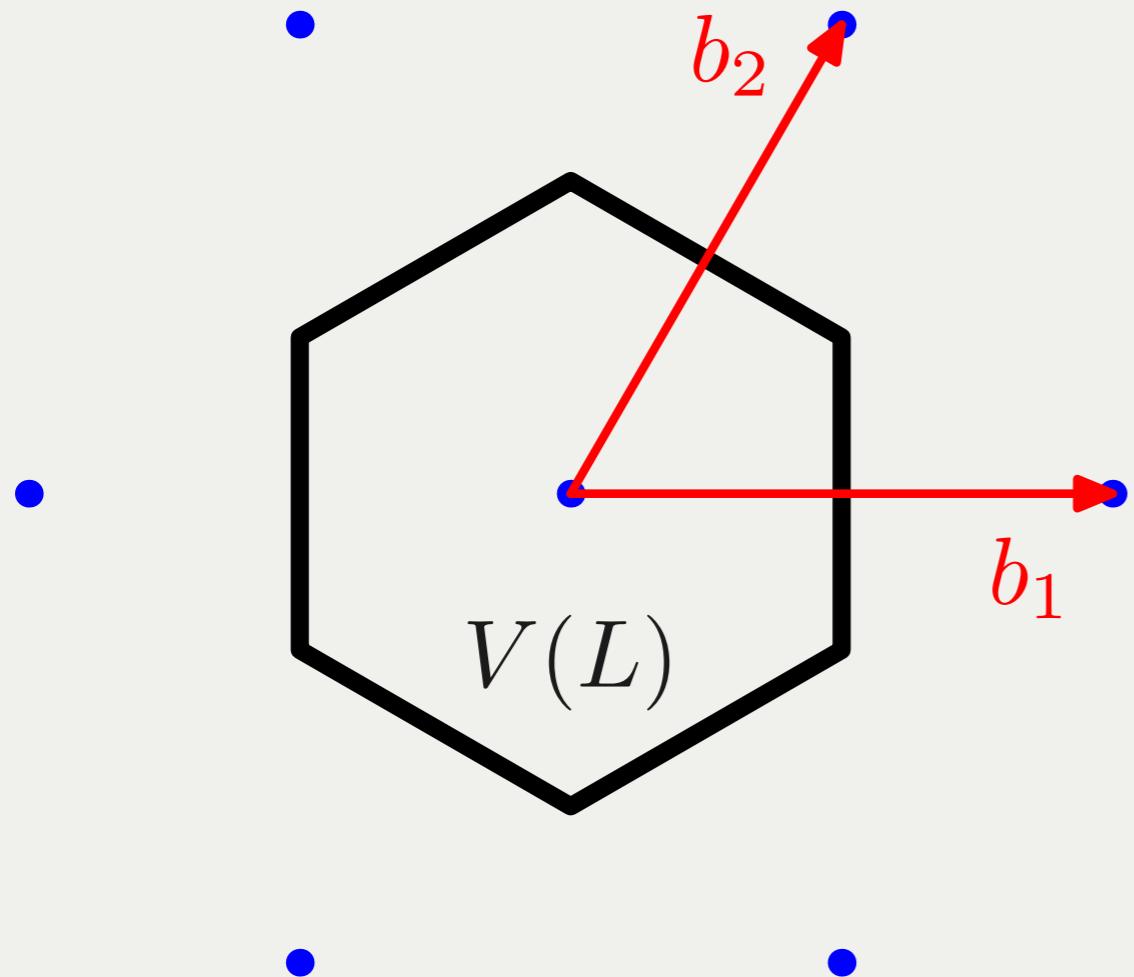


Develop a (nice) theory  
for lattice coverings!

Rudolf Scharlau

$b_1, \dots, b_n$  basis of Euclidean space  $E$

$L = \mathbb{Z}b_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}b_n$  lattice

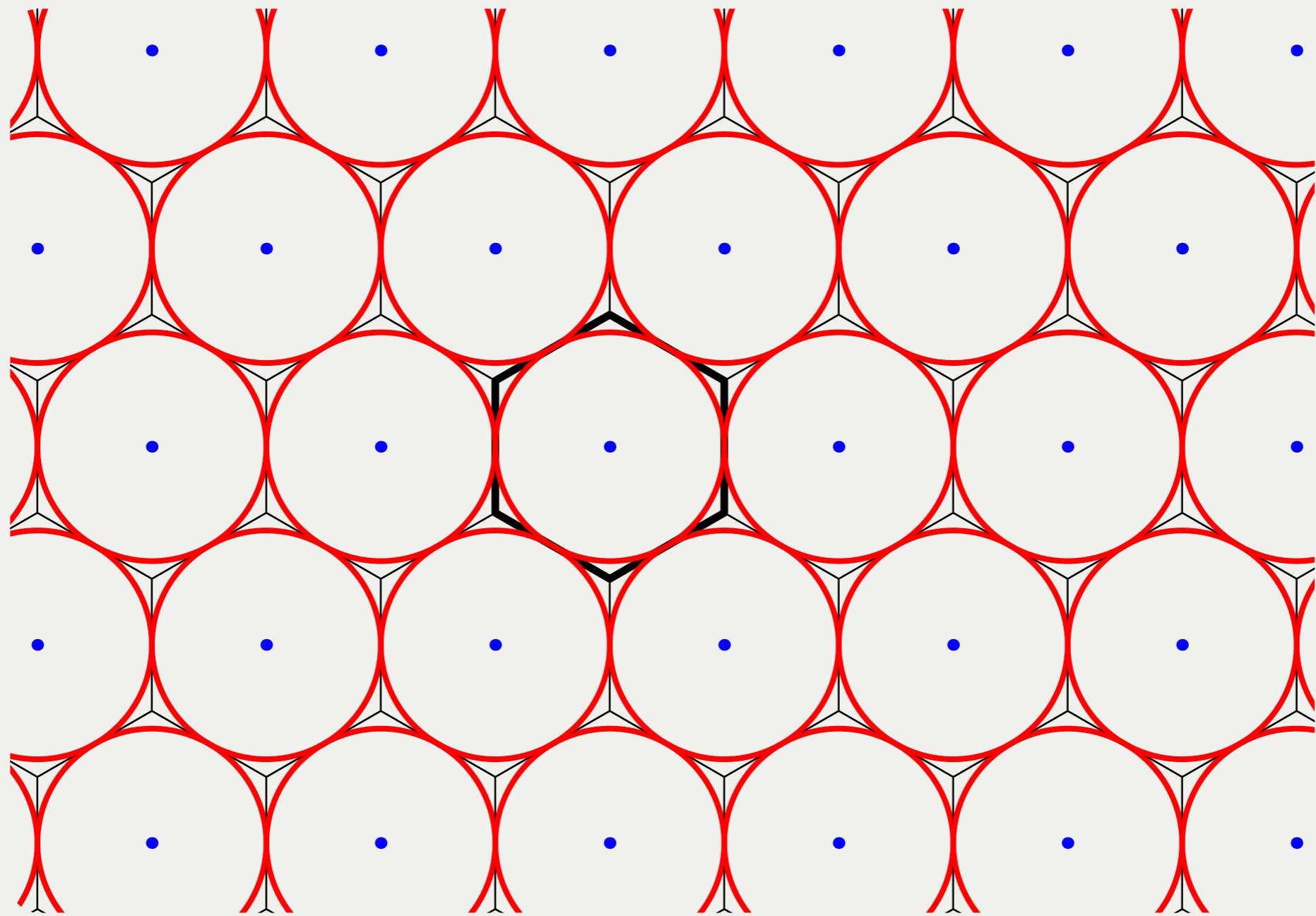


$V(L)$  = Voronoi cell

$\text{vol } L$  = volume of  $V(L)$

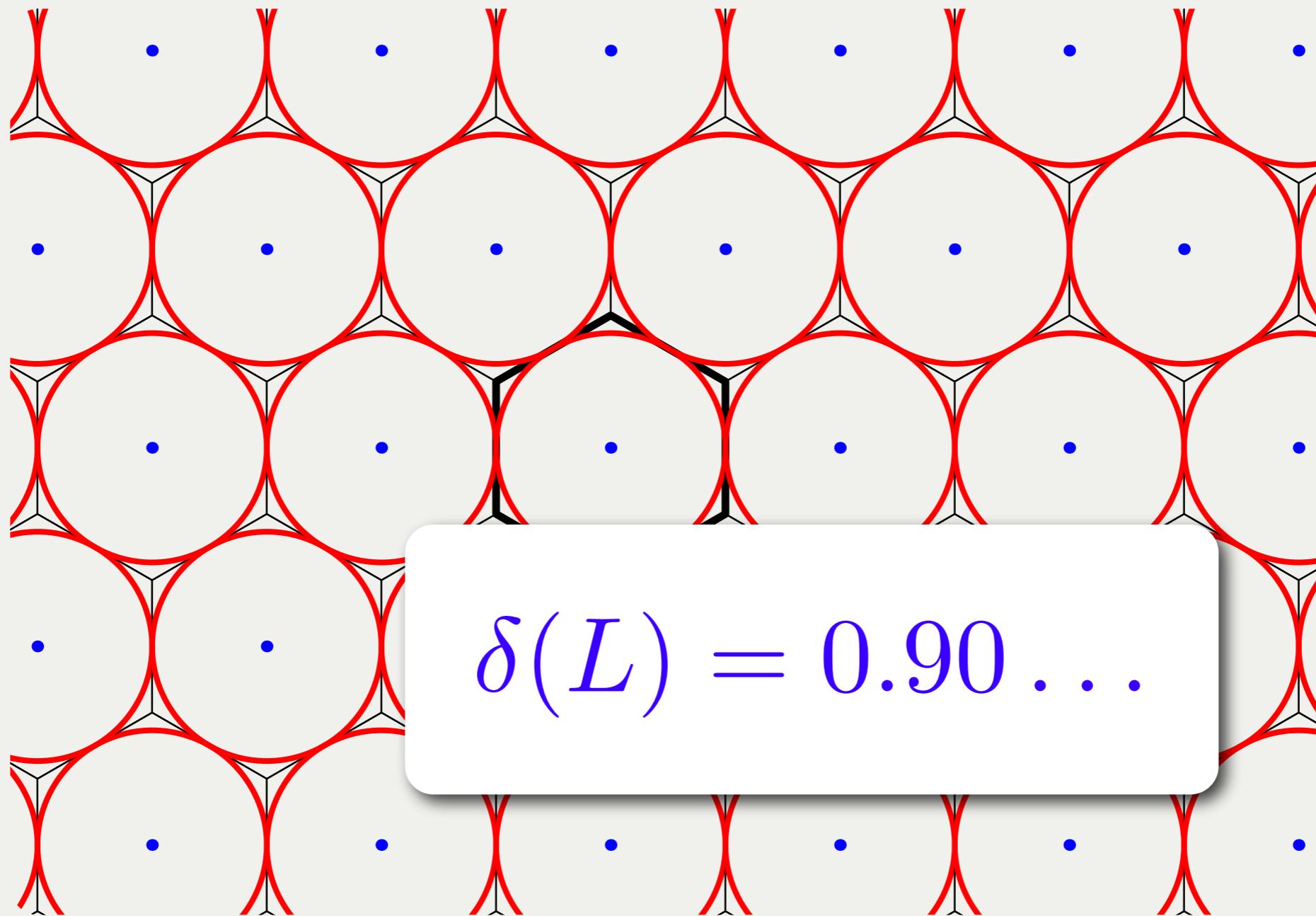
$\lambda(L)$  = inradius of  $V(L)$

$\mu(L)$  = circumradius of  $V(L)$



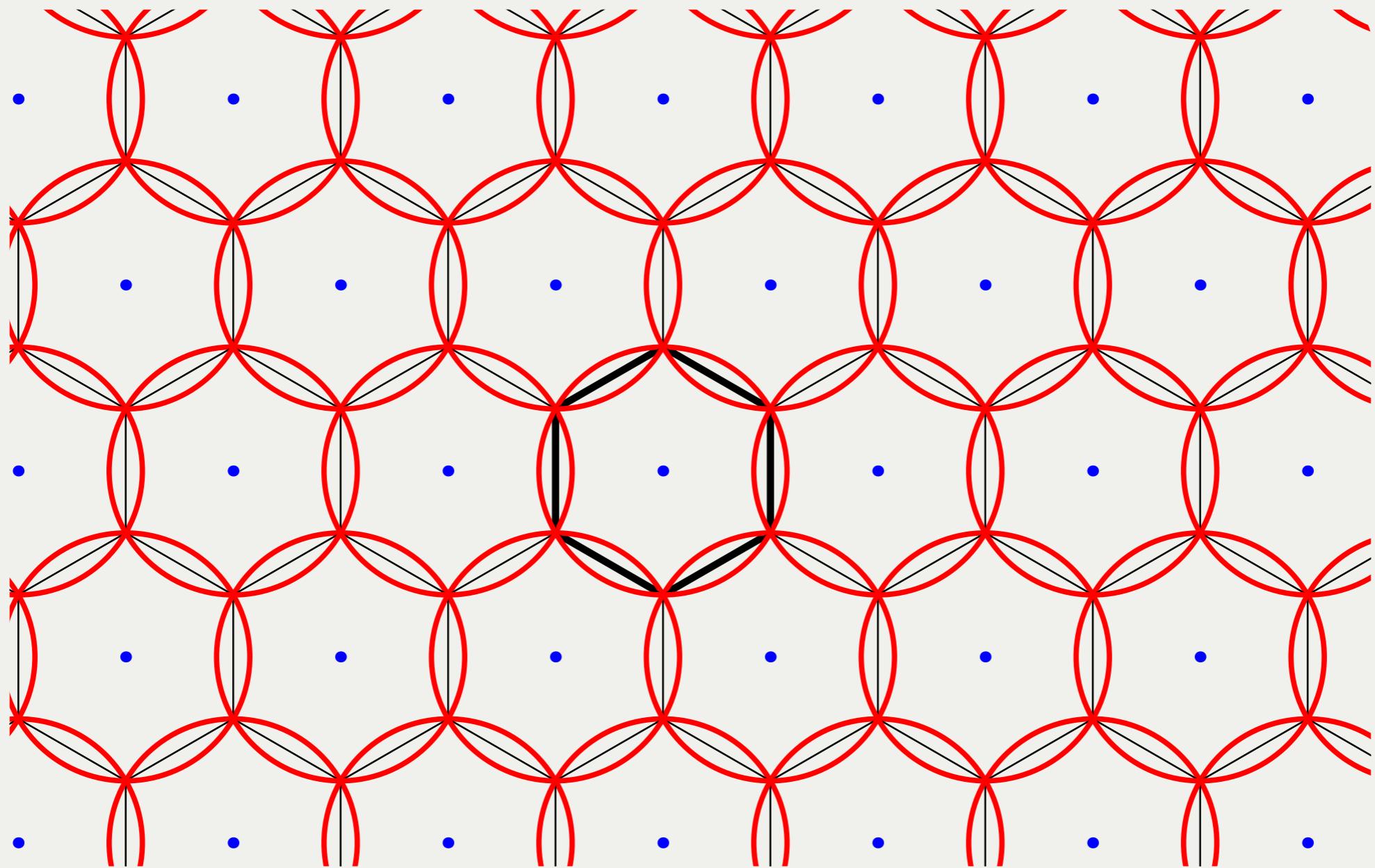
lattice packing problem =  $\max_L \delta(L)$

$$\delta(L) = \frac{\text{volume of ball w/ radius } \lambda(L)}{\text{vol } L} = \text{packing density}$$



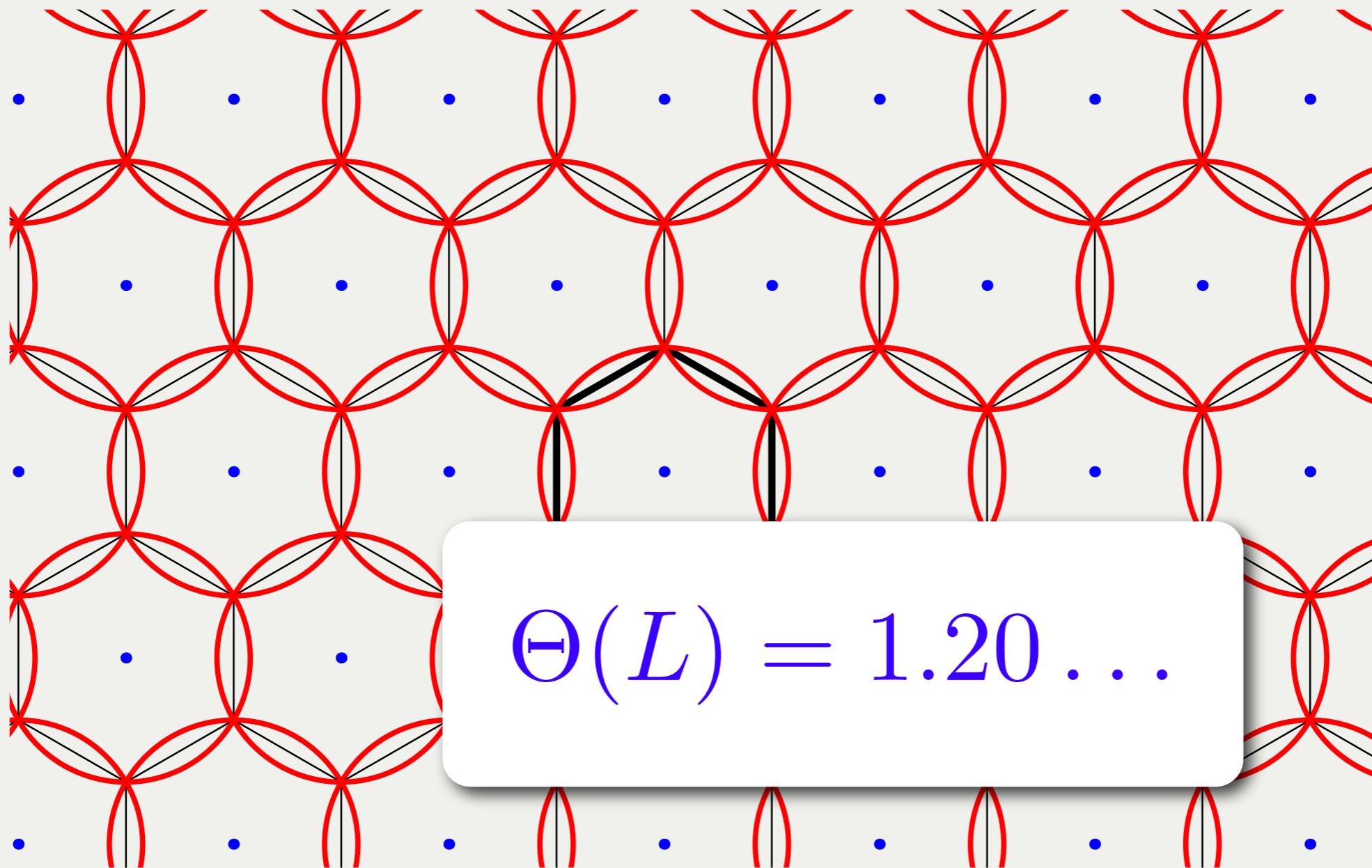
lattice packing problem =  $\max_L \delta(L)$

$$\delta(L) = \frac{\text{volume of ball w/ radius } \lambda(L)}{\text{vol } L} = \text{packing density}$$



lattice covering problem =  $\min_L \Theta(L)$

$$\Theta(L) = \frac{\text{volume of ball w/ radius } \mu(L)}{\text{vol } L} = \text{covering density}$$



lattice covering problem =  $\min_L \Theta(L)$

$$\Theta(L) = \frac{\text{volume of ball w/ radius } \mu(L)}{\text{vol } L} = \text{covering density}$$

*Far easier than general sphere packing / covering*

*... but already difficult “enough”*

- \* every dimension gives a new surprise
- \* many local optima
- \* computing packing density is NP-hard (Ajtai 1998)
- \* computing covering density conjectured to be NP-hard,  
probably not in NP

(DSV 2009: *Counting vertices of a Voronoi cell is #P-hard.*)

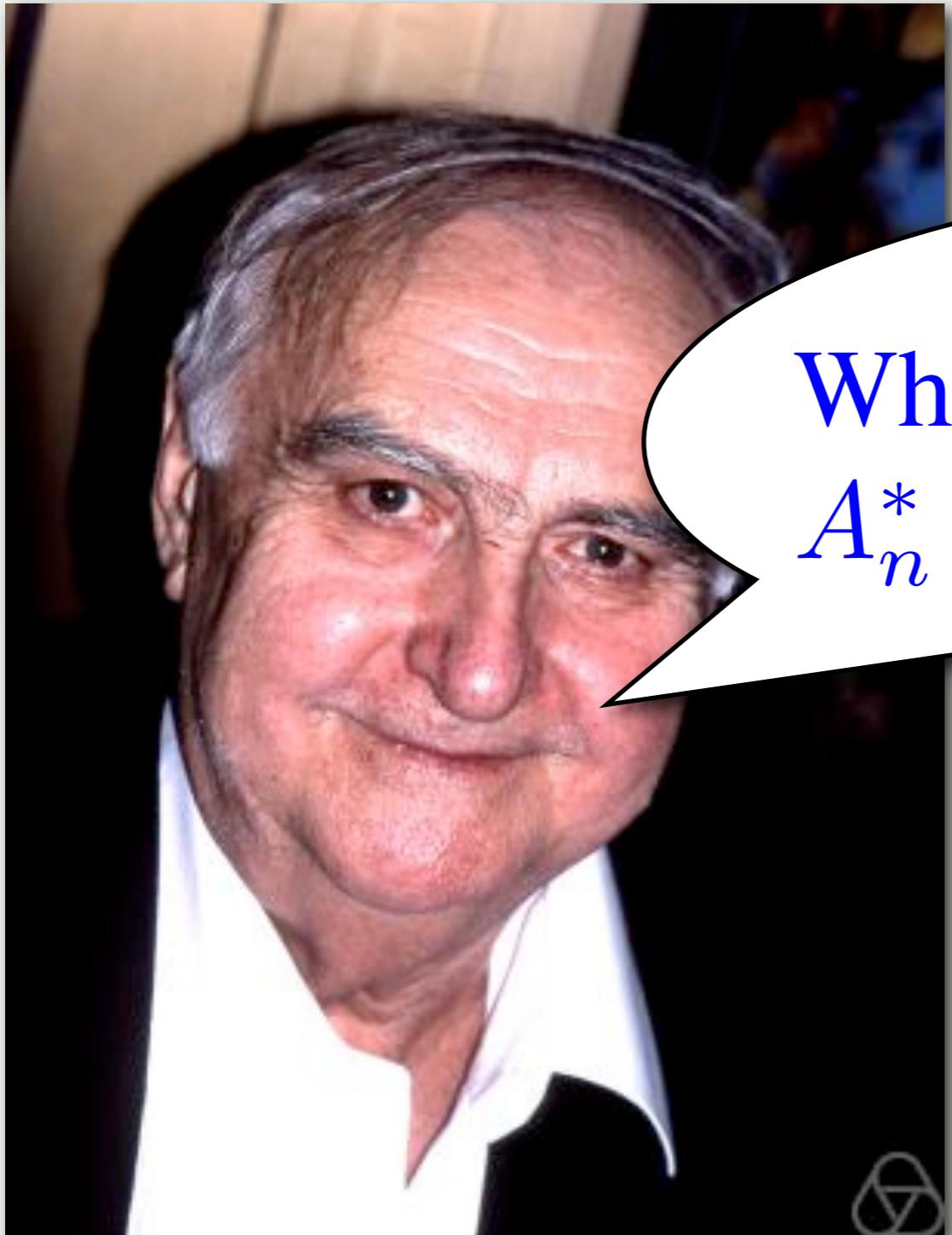
# Known results

$n$	lattice	$\Theta$
1	$\mathbb{Z}$	1
2	$A_2^*$	1.209199
3	$A_3^*$	1.463505
4	$A_4^*$	1.765529
5	$A_5^*$	2.124286

Solution in dimension 5 by Ryshkov, Baranovski (1975) in a 140-pages paper

$$A_n = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1} : \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i = 0 \right\} \quad L^* = \{y \in E : x \cdot y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ for all } x \in L\}$$

1967



What is the first  $n$  for which  
 $A_n^*$  is not optimal?

Sergey Ryshkov

$n \leq 114$  Ryshkov 1967

$n \leq 24$  Conway, Parker, Sloane 1982

$n \leq 9$  Baranovski 1994

$n = 6$  Ph.D. thesis 2003

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2.0550 & -0.9424 & 1.1126 & 0.2747 & -0.9424 & -0.6153 \\ -0.9424 & 1.9227 & -0.5773 & -0.7681 & 0.3651 & -0.3651 \\ 1.1126 & -0.5773 & 2.0930 & -0.4934 & -0.5773 & -0.9804 \\ 0.2747 & -0.7681 & -0.4934 & 1.7550 & -0.7681 & 0.7681 \\ -0.9424 & 0.3651 & -0.5773 & -0.7681 & 1.9227 & -0.3651 \\ -0.6153 & -0.3651 & -0.9804 & 0.7681 & -0.3651 & 1.9227 \end{pmatrix}$$

*the candidate for optimal lattice covering*

# Algorithm which finds all local minima

- \* *classify all combinatorial types of Voronoi cells*
  - subdivide space of all lattices in polyhedral cones
- \* *for every type solve a convex optimization problem*
  - local lattice covering problem is “SDP representable”
- \* *issues*
  - far too many types in dimension 6,  
only 222 in dimension 5
  - solution generally not nice (rational)

# The space of lattices

lattices

$$\overbrace{\mathbf{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \mathbf{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) / \mathrm{O}(\mathbb{R}^n)}$$

semidefinite matrices

$$S_{\geq 0}^n$$

$$\text{lattice basis } b_1, \dots, b_n \longleftrightarrow \text{semidefinite matrix } (b_i \cdot b_j)$$

lattices

$$\mathbf{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \mathbf{GL}_n(\mathbb{R}) / \mathbf{O}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

semidefinite matrices  $S_{\geq 0}^n$

fundamental domain in  $S_{\geq 0}^n$  for  $\mathbf{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ -action

Decompose  $S_{\geq 0}^n$  into polyhedral cones.

Voronoi I vs. Voronoi II



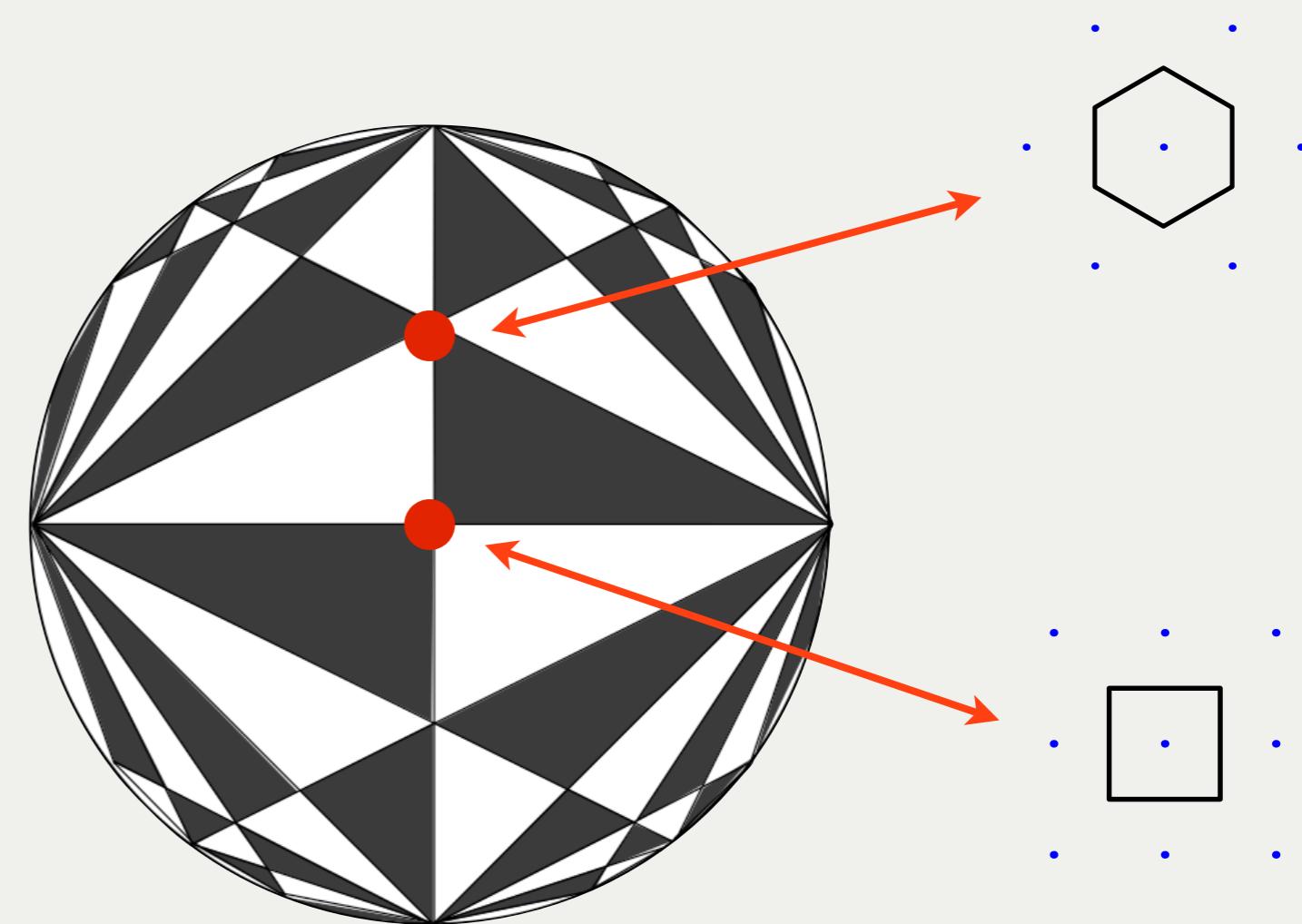
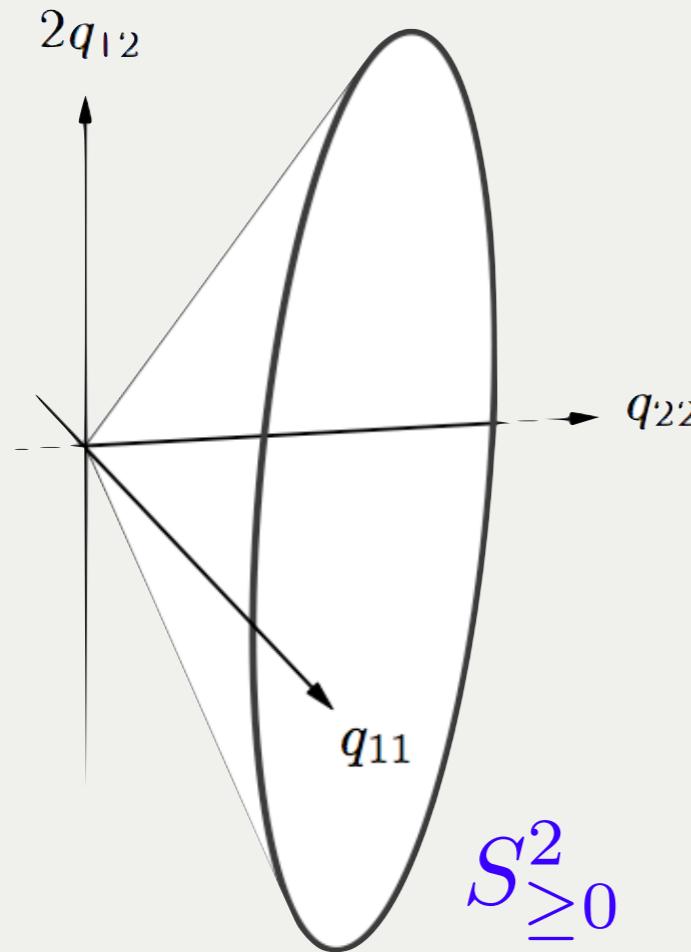
good for packing



good for covering

# Voronoi II

polyhedral cone = domain where type of Voronoi cell is fixed



Running SDP gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2.0550 & -0.9424 & 1.1126 & 0.2747 & -0.9424 & -0.6153 \\ -0.9424 & 1.9227 & -0.5773 & -0.7681 & 0.3651 & -0.3651 \\ 1.1126 & -0.5773 & 2.0930 & -0.4934 & -0.5773 & -0.9804 \\ 0.2747 & -0.7681 & -0.4934 & 1.7550 & -0.7681 & 0.7681 \\ -0.9424 & 0.3651 & -0.5773 & -0.7681 & 1.9227 & -0.3651 \\ -0.6153 & -0.3651 & -0.9804 & 0.7681 & -0.3651 & 1.9227 \end{pmatrix}$$

with covering density 2.46...

covering density of  $A_6^*$  is 2.55...

1999



Develop a (nice) theory  
for lattice coverings!

Rudolf Scharlau

# What happens to the nice lattices?

<b>lattice</b>	<b>packing</b>	<b>covering</b>
$\mathbb{Z}$	global opt.	global opt.
$A_2$	global opt.	global opt.
$D_4$	global opt.	not loc. opt.
$E_6$	global opt.	?
$E_7$	global opt.	?
$E_8$	global opt.	?
$K_{12}$	conj. global opt.	?
$BW_{16}$	conj. global opt.	?
$\Lambda_{24}$	global opt.	?

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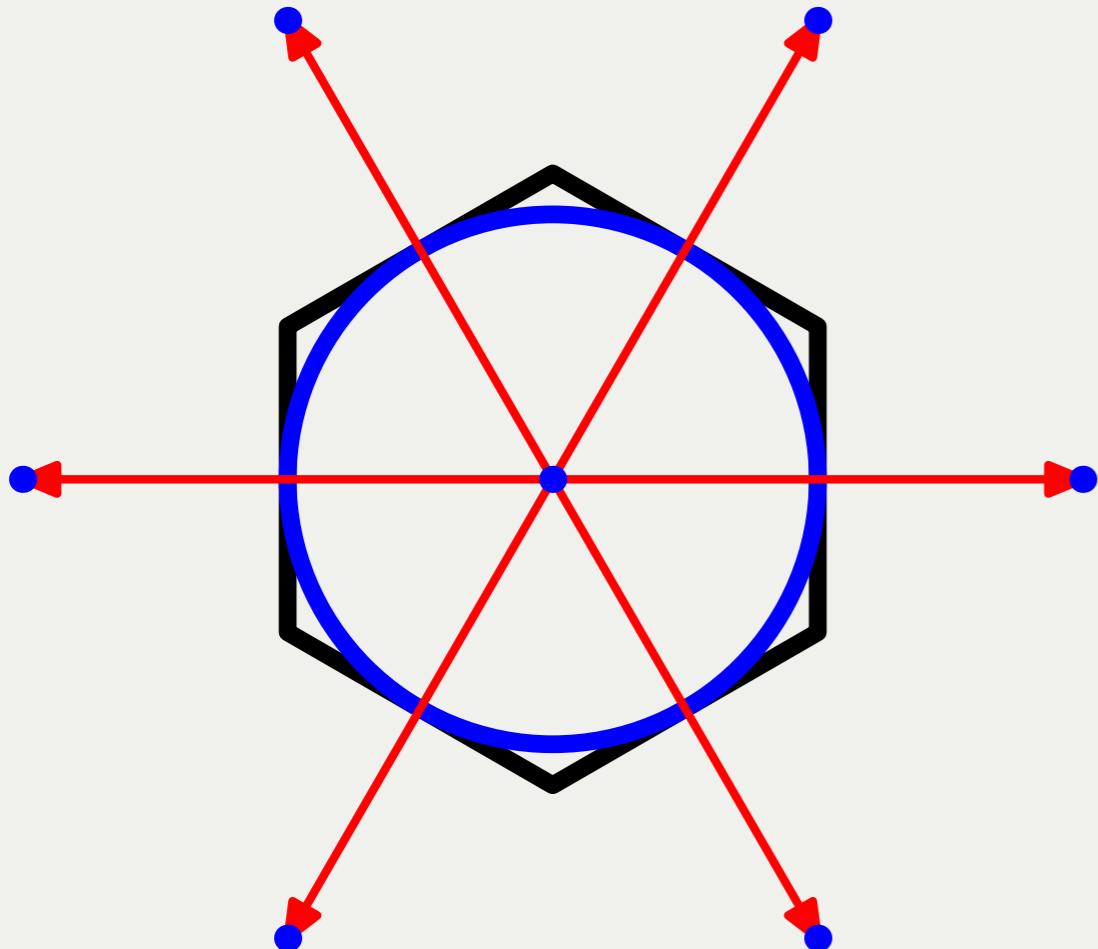
# SECOND TRY

- \* Characterize local maxima for  $\Theta$
- \* Local minima for  $\delta$  don't exist if  $n > 1$
- \* New theory links Voronoi I and Voronoi II

# Voronoi I

$$Q \in S_{\geq 0}^n$$

$$Q[v] = v^\top Q v$$



homogeneous minimum

$$\lambda(Q) = \min_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus 0} Q[v]$$

minimal vectors

$$\text{Min } Q = \{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n : Q[v] = \lambda(Q)\}$$

Hermite invariant

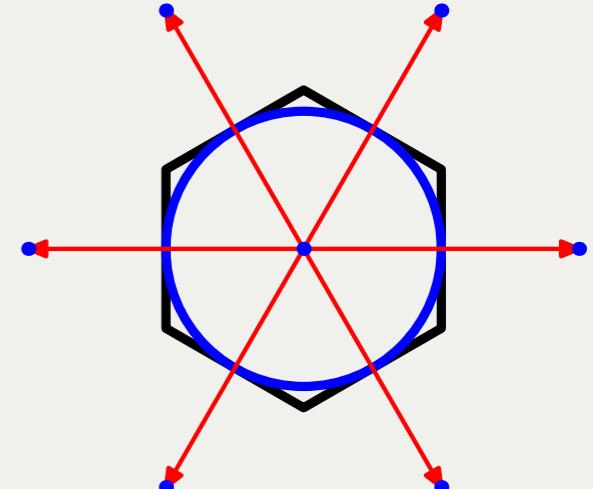
$$\gamma(Q) = \frac{\lambda(Q)}{(\det Q)^{1/n}}$$

maximizing Hermite = maximizing packing

# Voronoi I

**Theorem.** Voronoi 1907

$Q$  local maximum for  $\gamma \iff Q$  perfect and eutactic.



perfectness:

$\text{lin}\{vv^\top : v \in \text{Min } Q\}$  has maximal dimension  $\binom{n+1}{2}$

eutaxy:

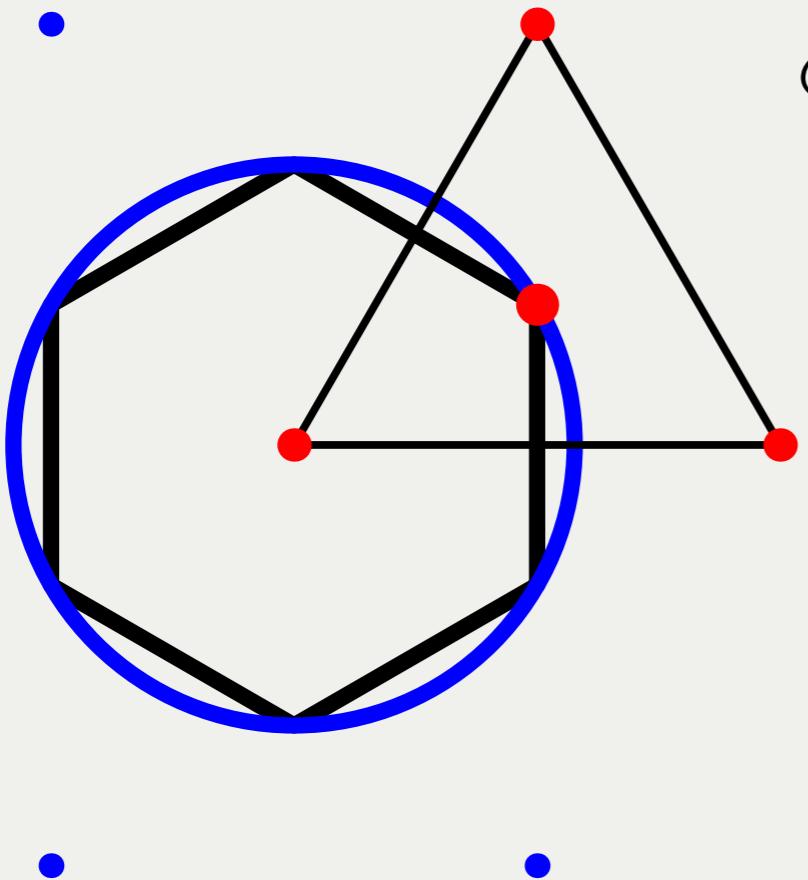
$$Q^{-1} = \sum_{v \in \text{Min } Q} \alpha_v vv^\top \quad \text{with } \alpha_v > 0$$

**Consequence:** Local maxima are rational

# Voronoi II

*inhomogeneous minimum*

$$\mu(Q) = \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \min_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n} Q[x - v]$$



*deep hole vectors*

$$c \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ s.t. } \mu(Q) = \min_{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n} Q[c - v]$$

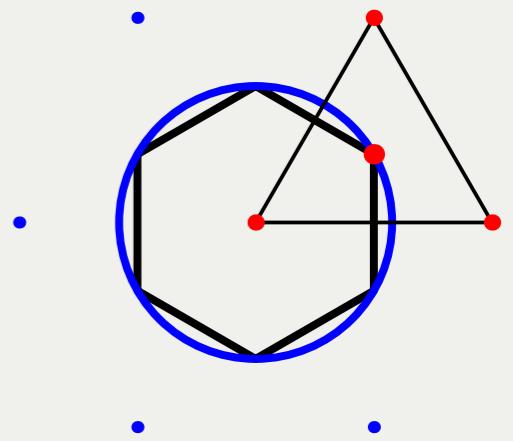
$$\text{Min}_c Q = \{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n : Q[c - v] = \mu(Q)\}$$

*inhomogeneous Hermite invariant*

$$H(Q) = \frac{\mu(Q)}{(\det Q)^{1/n}}$$

*maximizing i-Hermite = maximizing covering*

# Voronoi II



**Theorem.** DSV 2009

$Q$  local maximum for  $H \iff Q$  i-perfect and i-eutactic.

inhomogeneous perfectness:

$\text{lin} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ v \end{pmatrix}^\top : v \in \text{Min}_c Q \right\}$  has max. dim.  $\binom{n+2}{2} - 1$  for all deep holes  $c$

inhomogeneous eutaxy:

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & c^\top \\ c & cc^\top + \frac{\mu(Q)}{n} Q^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{v \in \text{Min}_c Q} \alpha_v \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ v \end{pmatrix}^\top$  with  $\alpha_v > 0$  for all deep holes  $c$

**Consequence:** Local maxima are rational

# Venkov theory

*Nice lattices are strongly perfect.*

$Q$  strongly perfect: Min  $Q$  is spherical 4-design

**Theorem.** Venkov 2001

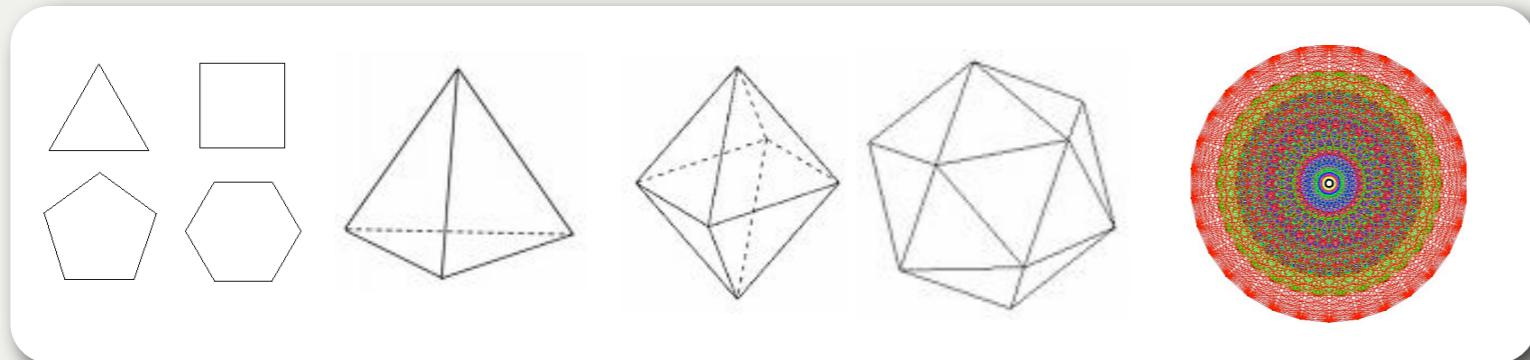
$Q$  strongly perfect  $\implies$   $Q$  perfect and eutactic.

# Spherical designs

$X \subseteq S^{n-1}$  spherical  $t$ -design

$$\int_{S^{n-1}} f(x) d\omega(x) = \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_{x \in X} f(x)$$

for all polynomials of degree  $\leq t$ .



point conf.	strength
n-gon	$n - 1$
simplex	2
cross polytope	3
icosahedron	5
240	7
196560	11

# Venkov i-theory

$Q$  strongly i-perfect:  $\text{Min}_c Q$  is spherical 4-design for all deep holes  $c$

**Theorem.** DSV 2009

$Q$  strongly i-perfect  $\implies Q$  i-perfect and i-eutactic.

*This* happens to the nice lattices:

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