

Solving the Shortest Lattice Vector Problem in Time $2^{2.465n}$

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Abstract. The Shortest lattice Vector Problem is central in lattice-based cryptography, as well as in many areas of computational mathematics and computer science. We present an algorithm for solving it in time $2^{2.465n+o(n)}$ and space $2^{1.233n+o(n)}$, where n is the lattice dimension. This improves the best previously known algorithm, by Micciancio and Voulgaris [SODA 2010], which runs in time $2^{3.199n+o(n)}$ and space $2^{1.325n+o(n)}$.

Keywords. Lattices, Shortest Vector Problem, sieve algorithms.

1 Introduction

A lattice L is a discrete subgroup of \mathbb{R}^n . The dimension of L is $d = \dim(\text{span } L)$. Any lattice can be represented as the set of integer linear combinations of d linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_d$. These vectors form a basis of L and we write $L = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_d)$. Since a lattice is discrete, it has shortest non-zero vectors. The norm $\lambda(L)$ of these vectors is called the minimum of L . The *Shortest Vector Problem* (SVP) consists in finding such a vector. For the sake of simplicity, we consider only full rank integer lattices in this article, i.e., $d = n$ and $L \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$. SVP is known to be NP-hard under randomized reductions [1], and to remain so even if relaxed by arbitrary constant factors [12, 9] (i.e., finding a non-zero vector no longer than $\gamma\lambda(L)$). Oppositely, the polynomial-time LLL algorithm [13] achieves an approximation factor $(\sqrt{4/3} + \varepsilon)^n$, for any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$.

SVP is of prime interest in cryptography for two reasons: first, the security of several lattice-based cryptosystems (see, e.g., [2, 18, 7], and the survey [14]) relies on the hardness of polynomially relaxed versions of the decisional variant of SVP; second, the main cryptanalytic tool against lattice-based cryptosystems, namely the BKZ algorithm [19], relies on an algorithm that solves SVP in moderate dimensions. Note that SVP also occurs naturally in algorithmic number theory [4] and in combinatorial optimization [5].

The currently known algorithms for SVP can be separated in two categories. On one side, deterministic algorithms enumerate all lattice vectors shorter than a fixed bound $A \geq \lambda(L)$, by working on the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization of the given lattice basis. They were introduced by Kannan [11] and Fincke and Pohst [6]. If given as input an LLL-reduced basis, the algorithm of Fincke and Pohst runs in time $2^{O(n^2)}$, while the complexity of Kannan's algorithm in the worst case is $2^{\frac{n}{2\varepsilon}+o(n)}$ (this complexity upper bound is proved in [8]). Note that for all complexity statements, we omit a multiplicative factor that is polynomial in the bitsize of the lattice basis. Enumeration algorithms require a polynomially bounded amount of space.

On the other side, the algorithms with the best theoretical complexity are probabilistic (Monte Carlo) sieve algorithms, the first of which was introduced by Ajtai, Kumar and Sivakumar in [3]. The initial complexity bound of $2^{O(n)}$ was later improved by Regev [17], then decreased to $2^{5.9n+o(n)}$ by Nguyen and Vidick [16] and recently decreased further to $2^{3.4n+o(n)}$ by Micciancio and Voulgaris [15]. The authors of [15] also introduced `ListSieve`, another sieve algorithm which solves SVP in time $2^{3.199n+o(n)}$. Contrary to enumeration algorithms, sieve algorithms require an exponential amount of space.

Our result. We present an improved version of `ListSieve` which solves SVP in time $2^{2.465n+o(n)}$ and space $2^{1.233n+o(n)}$ (the constants are chosen to minimize the time complexity: a better space complexity can

be achieved at the expense of increasing the time complexity). The main new ingredient is the use of the birthday paradox to decrease the number of vectors that must be generated to ensure that the sieve succeeds.

The improvement is most easily described with the Ajtai et al. algorithm (see the simplified description of [16]). The latter samples *probabilistically independent* lattice vectors in the finite set $L \cap \mathcal{B}_n(0, c\lambda_1(L))$ with a small constant c , which contains only a finite number $< N$ of lattice points. The proof of correctness requires that the same vector is sampled twice with high probability, and another technical constraint implies that only a small fraction $1/x$ of all the vectors is taken into consideration. In the previous analyses, the number of required vectors was Nx . However, the birthday paradox ensures that $O(\sqrt{Nx})$ vectors suffice. In the case of the Ajtai et al. algorithm, this leads to a time complexity bound of $2^{2.648n+o(n)}$. We omit the proof, as the improved variant of **ListSieve** provides a better complexity bound, although it requires more care to ensure that the sampled vectors are independent.

Notations. We write $\|\cdot\|$ for the euclidean norm and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ for the dot product. If \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are non-zero vectors, we define $\phi_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}$ as the angle between \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} . We use the notation \log for the natural logarithm. All balls $\mathcal{B}_n(x, r)$ are closed, and if x is omitted, it means that the ball is centred on 0. The bitsize $|B|$ of a basis B is sum of the bitsizes of its vectors. We let $\mathcal{P}(B)$ denote the fundamental parallelepiped spanned by the basis B . Finally, for any $\mathbf{u} = \sum_i u_i \mathbf{b}_i$, we write $\mathbf{u} \bmod \mathcal{P}(B)$ for $\sum_i (u_i - \lfloor u_i \rfloor) \mathbf{b}_i$.

2 The SVP Algorithm

The first step of our algorithm is identical to **ListSieve**: we build a list T of lattice vectors, reducing each randomly generated vector with vectors previously added to the list. In the second step, we reduce randomly generated vectors with respect to the list T , but without updating it: the vectors are added to another list U . Hence the vectors of the second list U are both short (with high probability) and independent.

The sampling method and the reduction function are essentially the same as in [15]. The reduction is done on perturbed vectors $\mathbf{u}' = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{x}$ instead of lattice vectors $\mathbf{u} \in L$, with randomly chosen \mathbf{x} 's. If the perturbations are large enough, a given perturbed vector can sometimes be obtained from several lattice vectors. The fact that the reduction function is oblivious to the lattice vector is crucial for the proof of correctness.

<p>Input: A basis B, $\mu \simeq \lambda(\mathcal{L}(B))$, $\xi > \frac{1}{2}$, $r_0 > 2\xi$, N_1, N_2. Output: A shortest vector of $\mathcal{L}(B)$.</p> <p>Choose $(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{N_1}, \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{N_2})$ randomly in $\mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu)$. $T \leftarrow \emptyset$, $U \leftarrow \emptyset$. For $i = 1$ to N_1, do $(\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}'_i) \leftarrow \text{Reduction}(\text{NewPair}(B, \mathbf{x}_i), T)$, If $\ \mathbf{t}_i\ \geq r_0\mu$ then $T \leftarrow T \cup \{\mathbf{t}_i\}$. For $i = 1$ to N_2, do $(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}'_i) \leftarrow \text{Reduction}(\text{NewPair}(B, \mathbf{y}_i), T)$, $U \leftarrow U \cup \{\mathbf{u}_i\}$. Find closest distinct points $(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)$ in U (fail if they do not exist). Return $\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2$.</p>

Fig. 1. The SVP algorithm: **ListSieve-Birthday**

In Section 3, we will prove the following result.

Theorem 1 *Let L be an n -dimensional integer lattice of \mathbb{Z}^n and $B = (\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n)$ be a basis of L . With suitable choices for the parameters μ , ξ , r_0 , N_1 and N_2 , the algorithm **ListSieve-Birthday** can be used to solve SVP on B with probability $1 - 2^{-\Omega(n)}$ in time $2^{2.465n+o(n)} \cdot \text{Poly}(|B|)$ and space $2^{1.233n+o(n)} \cdot \text{Poly}(|B|)$.*

<p>Input: A basis B and a perturbation \mathbf{x}. Output: A lattice vector \mathbf{u} and a perturbed vector \mathbf{u}'.</p> <p>$\mathbf{u}' \leftarrow (-\mathbf{x}) \bmod \mathcal{P}(B)$. $\mathbf{u} \leftarrow \mathbf{u}' + \mathbf{x}$. Return $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}')$.</p>
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Fig. 2. The `NewPair` algorithm

<p>Input: A pair $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}')$ generated by <code>NewPair</code> and a list $T \subseteq L$. Output: A reduced pair $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}')$.</p> <p>While $\exists \mathbf{w} \in T : \ \mathbf{u}' - \mathbf{w}\ \leq (1 - \frac{1}{n}) \ \mathbf{u}'\$, $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}') \leftarrow (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{u}' - \mathbf{w})$. Return $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}')$.</p>
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Fig. 3. The `Reduction` algorithm

3 Analysis of ListSieve-Birthday

In this section we set $\lambda = \lambda(L)$ and fix the parameters $\xi > 1/2$ and $r_0 > 2\xi$. Wlog, we assume that:

- The integer basis B is LLL-reduced. This can be done in time $\text{Poly}(|B|)$.
- We have $\max_i \|\mathbf{b}_i\| = 2^{O(n)}\lambda$ (see, e.g., [16, Lemma 3.3]).
- We know μ such that $\lambda \leq \mu < (1 + \frac{1}{n})\lambda$. This condition can be satisfied by trying a polynomial number of values for μ .

3.1 Known results

These lemmas are variants of those given in [15]. Theorem 2, which is the main tool for Lemmas 3 and 4, is proven in [10]. For the sake of completeness, we give proofs of Lemmas 3, 4 and 5 in the appendix.

Theorem 2 (Kabatiansky and Levenshtein) *Let $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ be a set of points. If there exists $\phi_0 > 0$ such that for any $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in E$, we have $\phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \geq \phi_0$ then $|E| \leq 2^{c_n + o(n)}$ with $c = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2 [1 - \cos(\min(\phi_0, 62.99^\circ))]$ – 0.099.*

Lemma 3 *Let $c_b = \log_2 r_0 + 0.401$. For any lattice L , there are at most $N_B(n) = 2^{c_b n + o(n)}$ vectors in $\mathcal{B}_n(0, r_0\mu) \cap L$.*

Lemma 4 *Let $c_t = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left(1 - \frac{2\xi}{r_0}\right) + 0.401$. At any moment during the execution of `ListSieve-Birthday`, the list T contains at most $N_T(n) = 2^{c_t n + o(n)}$ vectors.*

Lemma 5 *Let $c_g = -\frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{4\xi^2}\right)$ and \mathbf{s} be a shortest non-zero vector of L . Let $I_{\mathbf{s}} = \mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu) \cap \mathcal{B}_n(-\mathbf{s}, \xi\mu)$. If \mathbf{x} is chosen uniformly in $\mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu)$, then $\mathbf{x} \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$ with probability $\geq \frac{1}{N_G(n)}$ with $N_G(n) = 2^{c_g n + o(n)}$.*

3.2 Proof of the main theorem

Let $N_1^{\max} = \lceil 4N_G N_T \rceil$ and $N_2 = \lceil 8N_G \rceil \lceil \sqrt{N_B} \rceil$. We sample N_1 uniformly in $\llbracket 0, N_1^{\max} - 1 \rrbracket$.

The purpose of Lemmas 6 and 7 is to prove that with high probability, there are sufficiently many vectors \mathbf{u}_i in U such that \mathbf{u}_i is short (i.e., $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| < r_0\mu$) and $\mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$ (in that case, the perturbed vector \mathbf{u}'_i could be associated to another lattice vector, namely $\mathbf{u}'_i + \mathbf{s}$ with the perturbation $\mathbf{y}_i + \mathbf{s}$).

Lemma 6 For $i \geq 1$, we define the event $E_i : \|\mathbf{t}_i\| < r_0\mu$ related to `ListSieve-Birthday` called with any $N_1 \geq i$. We let $p_i = \Pr(E_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}})$ (at the beginning of the execution) and $J = \{i \leq N_1^{\max} : p_i \leq \frac{1}{2}\}$. Then $|J| \leq N_1^{\max}/2$.

Proof. Assume (for contradiction) that $J > N_1^{\max}/2$. Then by Lemma 5 we must have

$$\sum_{i \in J} (1 - p_i) \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}) \geq \frac{|J|}{2N_G} > N_T.$$

This contradicts the following sequence of inequalities. The last one derives from Lemma 4 and the fact that the event $\neg E_i$ is equivalent to \mathbf{t}_i being added to T .

$$\sum_{i \in J} (1 - p_i) \Pr(\mathbf{x}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}) = \sum_{i \in J} \Pr((\neg E_i) \cap (\mathbf{x}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}})) \leq \sum_{i \geq 1} \Pr(\neg E_i) = \mathbb{E}(|T|) \leq N_T.$$

□

In the second loop of `ListSieve-Birthday`, we do not add any point to T . Therefore, the points that are added to U are independent and follow the same distribution. The procedure to reduce points being the same in both loops, we have that for any $i \leq N_2$ such that $\mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$, the probability that $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| < r_0\mu$ is p_{N_1+1} . Since N_1 is sampled uniformly in $\llbracket 0, N_1^{\max} - 1 \rrbracket$, we have $p_{N_1+1} \geq \frac{1}{2}$ with probability $\geq \frac{1}{2}$, by Lemma 6.

Lemma 7 With probability $\geq 1/4$, there exist two distinct indices $i, j \leq N_2$ such that $\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_j$ and $\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$.

Proof. Let $N = 2\lceil\sqrt{N_B}\rceil$. Until the end of the current proof, we assume that $p_{N_1+1} \geq \frac{1}{2}$, which occurs with probability $\geq \frac{1}{2}$ and implies that $\Pr(\|\mathbf{u}_i\| \leq r_0\mu \mid \mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}) \geq \frac{1}{2}$ for all $i \leq N_2$. Let $X = |\{i \leq N_2 : (\|\mathbf{u}_i\| \leq r_0\mu) \cap (\mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}})\}|$. By Lemma 5, we obtain

$$\Pr((\|\mathbf{u}_i\| \leq r_0\mu) \cap (\mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}})) = \Pr(\|\mathbf{u}_i\| \leq r_0\mu \mid \mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}) \Pr(\mathbf{y}_i \in I_{\mathbf{s}}) \geq \frac{1}{2N_G}.$$

The variable X has a binomial distribution of parameter $p \geq \frac{1}{2N_G}$. We have $\mathbb{E}(X) = pN_2 \geq 2N$ and $\text{Var}(X) = p(1-p)N_2 \leq \mathbb{E}(X)$. Therefore, by using Chebyshev's inequality, we have (since $N_B \geq 25$ holds for n large enough, we have $N \geq 10$):

$$\Pr(X \leq N) \leq \Pr(|X - \mathbb{E}(X)| \geq \mathbb{E}(X) - N) \leq \frac{\text{Var}(X)}{(\mathbb{E}(X) - N)^2} \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(X)}{(\mathbb{E}(X) - N)^2} \leq \frac{2}{N} \leq \frac{1}{5}.$$

So with high probability `ListSieve-Birthday` samples at least N independent lattice points in $S_0 = \mathcal{B}_n(r_0\mu) \cap L$. The probability that a collision occurs is minimized when the distribution is uniform, i.e., the probability of each point is $1/|S_0|$. Since we have chosen $N \geq \sqrt{|S_0|}$ (by Lemma 3), the birthday paradox implies that the probability will be large. More precisely it is greater than

$$\frac{4}{5} \left(1 - \prod_{i < N} \left(1 - \frac{i}{|S_0|} \right) \right) \geq \frac{4}{5} \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{N(N-1)}{2N_B}\right) \right) \geq \frac{4}{5} \left(1 - \frac{1}{e} \right),$$

where we used the fact that $|S_0| \leq N_B$ (by Lemma 3). □

In order to prove that that `ListSieve-Birthday` returns a shortest non-zero vector with high probability, we introduce a modified version `ListSieve-Birthday2`. Recall that in Lemma 5, we have fixed a shortest vector \mathbf{s} and defined $I_{\mathbf{s}} = \mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu) \cap \mathcal{B}_n(-\mathbf{s}, \xi\mu)$. For \mathbf{x} in $\mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu)$, let $\tau(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}$ if $\mathbf{x} \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$ and $\tau(\mathbf{x}) = -\mathbf{x}$ if $\mathbf{x} \notin I_{\mathbf{s}}$. The difference between `ListSieve-Birthday` and `ListSieve-Birthday2` is that in the latter the function τ is applied to each \mathbf{y}_i with probability $\frac{1}{2}$ immediately after it is chosen. If \mathbf{x} is sampled uniformly in $\mathcal{B}_n(0, \xi\mu)$, then so is $\tau(\mathbf{x})$. As a consequence, the output of `ListSieve-Birthday` and `ListSieve-Birthday2` follow the same distribution. For $\mathbf{x} \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$, let $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}') = \text{Reduction}(\text{NewPair}(\mathbf{x}), T)$ and $(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}') = \text{Reduction}(\text{NewPair}(\tau(\mathbf{x})), T)$. The fact that $\mathbf{x} \in I_{\mathbf{s}}$ implies that $\mathbf{x} = \tau(\mathbf{x}) \pmod{\mathcal{P}(B)}$. The actions of `Reduction` depend only on the perturbed vector, so we have $\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{u}'$ and $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{s}$.

Lemma 8 Let $c_{time} = \max(c_g + 2c_t, 2c_g + c_b)$ and $c_{space} = \max(c_t, c_g + c_b/2)$. Then with probability $\geq \frac{1}{16}$, `ListSieve-Birthday` returns a shortest non-zero vector of L in time $2^{c_{time}n+o(n)}$ and space $2^{c_{space}n+o(n)}$.

Proof. We start by the correctness property. Assume that we run `ListSieve-Birthday` and `ListSieve-Birthday2` on the same input and that they make the same random choices for N_1 and the perturbations. By Lemma 7, there exist two distinct indices i and j such that $\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_j$ and $\mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_j \in I_s$ in `ListSieve-Birthday`, with probability $\geq \frac{1}{4}$. With probability $\geq \frac{1}{4}$, `ListSieve-Birthday2` applies τ to \mathbf{y}_i but not to \mathbf{y}_j . Since it chooses the same perturbations as `ListSieve-Birthday`, it outputs $\mathbf{u}_i + \mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{u}_j = \mathbf{u}_i$. Thus, with probability $\geq \frac{1}{16}$, there exist two vectors \mathbf{s}_1 and \mathbf{s}_2 in the second vector list of `ListSieve-Birthday2` such that $\|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\| = \lambda(L)$. This also holds for `ListSieve-Birthday`, since it has the same output distribution.

The space complexity is the sum of $|T|$ and $|U|$. By Lemma 4, we have $|T| \leq 2^{c_t n + o(n)}$, and, by definition of N_2 , we have $|U| \leq 2^{(c_g + c_b/2)n + o(n)}$. Since $\|\mathbf{b}_i\| = 2^{O(n)}\mu$ for all i , the complexity of `Reduction` is $|T| \text{Poly}(n, |B|)$. Omitting the polynomial factor, the time complexity of the first loop is $|T|N_1 \leq |T|N_1^{\max} \leq 2^{(c_g + 2c_t)n + o(n)}$. The time required to find a closest pair of points in U with the naive algorithm is $|U|^2$. Finally, the time complexity of the second loop is $|T| \cdot |U| \leq \max(|T|^2, |U|^2) \leq \max(|T|N_1^{\max}, |U|^2)$. \square

Proof of Theorem 1. The time complexity is minimized when $2c_t = c_g + c_b$. By Lemmas 3, 4 and 5, this is equivalent to $r_0 = 2\xi + 2^{0.401} \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{4\xi^2}}$. Optimizing with respect to ξ leads to $\xi \simeq 0.9476$, $r_0 \simeq 3.0169$, $c_{time} \leq 2.465$ and $c_{space} \leq 1.233$. Calling the algorithm n times ensures that it succeeds with probability exponentially close to 1. \square

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Known proofs

Proof of Lemma 3. Let $\alpha = 1 + \frac{1}{n}$. The ball $\mathcal{B}_n(\frac{\lambda}{2})$ contains exactly one lattice point. We cover $\mathcal{B}_n(r_0\mu) \setminus \mathcal{B}_n(\frac{\lambda}{2})$ with coronas $T_r = \mathcal{B}_n(\alpha r) \setminus \mathcal{B}_n(r)$ for $r = \frac{\lambda}{2}, \frac{\lambda}{2}\alpha, \dots, \frac{\lambda}{2}\alpha^k$, with $k = \lceil n \log_2(2r_0) \rceil = O(n)$. It suffices to prove that any corona T_r contains at most $2^{cn+o(n)}$ lattice points.

Let \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} be two distinct lattice vectors in $T_r \cap \mathcal{B}_n(r_0\mu)$. We have $\langle \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} \rangle \geq \lambda^2$, so $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} (\|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 - \lambda^2)$. This implies that:

$$\cos \phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{v}\|} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\|\mathbf{u}\|}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} + \frac{\|\mathbf{v}\|}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} - \frac{\lambda^2}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{v}\|} \right) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{\lambda^2}{2r_0^2\mu^2} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{2(1 + \frac{1}{n})^2 r_0^2} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{1}{2r_0^2}.$$

For any $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2r_0^2})$ and large enough n we can apply Theorem 2 with $\phi_0 = \cos^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2r_0^2} + \varepsilon \right) \leq 60^\circ$. \square

Proof of Lemma 4. First, we bound the norm of any vectors of T . `NewPair` returns $(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{t}')$ such that $\mathbf{t}' \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ and $\|\mathbf{t}' - \mathbf{t}\| \leq \xi\mu$. We have assumed that $\max_i \|\mathbf{b}_i\| = 2^{O(n)}$. Hence $\|\mathbf{t}'\| \leq n \max_i \|\mathbf{b}_i\| \leq 2^{O(n)}\mu$. After applying `Reduction`, the norm of \mathbf{t}' does not increase and $\mathbf{t}' - \mathbf{t}$ is unchanged, so, for any $\mathbf{t}_i \in T$, we have $r_0\mu \leq \|\mathbf{t}_i\| \leq (2^{O(n)} + \xi)\mu$. It now suffices to prove that any $T_r = \{\mathbf{t}_i \in T \mid r\mu \leq \|\mathbf{t}_i\| \leq (1 + \frac{1}{n})r\mu\}$ for $r \geq r_0$ contains at most $2^{c_i n + o(n)}$ points. Indeed, the list T is contained in a union of $O(n^2)$ sets T_r .

Let $i < j$ such that $\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}_j \in T_r$. The idea of the proof is that for large n , the angle between \mathbf{t}'_j and \mathbf{t}_i is nearly $\frac{\pi}{3}$ because \mathbf{t}_i was already in T when \mathbf{t}_j was reduced. We use the inequality $\|\mathbf{t}_j - \mathbf{t}'_j\| \leq \xi\mu$ to obtain a lower bound for $\phi_{\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}'_j}$ and then apply Theorem 2.

Note that $\|\mathbf{t}'_j\| \leq \|\mathbf{t}_j\| + \xi\mu \leq 3r\mu$. Since \mathbf{t}_j was added after \mathbf{t}_i , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{t}'_j - \mathbf{t}_i\| &> \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \|\mathbf{t}'_j\| \\ \langle \mathbf{t}'_j - \mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}'_j - \mathbf{t}_i \rangle &> \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \langle \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}'_j \rangle \geq \left(1 - \frac{2}{n}\right) \langle \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}'_j \rangle \\ \langle \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle &< \frac{1}{2} \left[\|\mathbf{t}_i\|^2 + \frac{2}{n} \|\mathbf{t}'_j\|^2 \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{t}_i\|^2 + \frac{1}{n} (3r\mu)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we have $\langle \mathbf{t}_j - \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle \leq \|\mathbf{t}'_j - \mathbf{t}_j\| \cdot \|\mathbf{t}_i\| \leq \xi\mu \|\mathbf{t}_i\|$. We can now bound $\cos(\phi_{\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}'_j})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{t}_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle + \langle \mathbf{t}_j - \mathbf{t}'_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{t}_i\|^2 + \frac{1}{n} (3r\mu)^2 + \xi\mu \|\mathbf{t}_i\| \\ \cos(\phi_{\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}'_j}) &= \frac{\langle \mathbf{t}_j, \mathbf{t}_i \rangle}{\|\mathbf{t}_i\| \cdot \|\mathbf{t}'_j\|} \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\|\mathbf{t}_i\|}{\|\mathbf{t}'_j\|} + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{(3r\mu)^2}{\|\mathbf{t}_i\| \cdot \|\mathbf{t}'_j\|} + \frac{\xi\mu}{\|\mathbf{t}'_j\|} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) + \frac{9}{n} + \frac{\xi}{r} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\xi}{r_0} + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right). \end{aligned}$$

The bound on $|T_r|$ follows directly from Theorem 2. \square

Proof of Lemma 5. The intersection $\mathcal{B}_n(0, \mu\xi) \cap \mathcal{B}_n(-\mathbf{s}, \mu\xi)$ is the union of two identical n -sphere caps of height $\mu\xi - \frac{\lambda}{2} \geq \mu(\xi - \frac{1}{2})$. Let C be one of these caps. It contains a cone of height $h = \mu(\xi - \frac{1}{2})$ whose basis is an $(n-1)$ -sphere of radius $r = \mu\sqrt{\xi^2 - \frac{1}{4}}$. Moreover $\mathcal{B}_n(r)$ is included in a cylinder of basis $\mathcal{B}_{n-1}(r)$ and height $2r$ so we have $\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_n(r) \leq 2r \text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_{n-1}(r)$. Then

$$\frac{\text{Vol } C}{\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_n(\xi\mu)} \geq \frac{h}{n} \cdot \frac{\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_{n-1}(r)}{\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_n(\xi\mu)} \geq \frac{h}{2rn} \cdot \frac{\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_n(r)}{\text{Vol } \mathcal{B}_n(\xi\mu)} \geq \frac{\xi - \frac{1}{2}}{2n\sqrt{\xi^2 - \frac{1}{4}}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{4\xi^2}\right)^{n/2}.$$

□