

# The representation of quadratic forms by almost universal forms of higher rank

Byeong-Kweon Oh

School of Mathematics, Korea Institute for Advanced Study,  
Seoul 130-012, Korea e-mail: bkoh@newton.kias.re.kr

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**Abstract** In this article, we prove that there are only finitely many positive definite integral quadratic forms of rank  $n + 3$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) that represent all positive definite integral quadratic forms of rank  $n$  but finitely many exceptions. Furthermore we determine all diagonal quadratic forms having such property and its exceptions remaining four as candidates.

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**Key words** almost universal forms, diagonal quadratic forms

## 1 Introduction

After the famous Lagrange's four square theorem [15], all positive definite classic integral quaternary quadratic forms that represent all positive integers, which we call *universal quaternary forms*, have been completely determined (see [1],[3],[5],[23] and [24]). In 1926, Kloosterman [14] determined all positive definite diagonal quaternary quadratic forms that represent all sufficiently large integers, which we call *almost universal forms*, although he did not succeed in proving the almost universality of four candidate forms. Pall [21] proved the almost universality for the remaining quadratic forms and in fact, there are exactly 199 almost universal quaternary diagonal quadratic forms that are anisotropic over some ring of  $p$ -adic integers. Furthermore Pall and Ross [22] proved that there exist only finitely many almost universal quaternary quadratic forms that are anisotropic over some ring of  $p$ -adic integers by providing a upper bound of the discriminant of such forms. On the other hand, they proved that every positive definite quaternary quadratic form  $L$  such that  $L_p := L \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p$  represents all  $p$ -adic integers and is isotropic over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  for all primes  $p$  is almost universal (see also

Theorem 2.1 of [8]). Therefore there are infinitely many almost universal quaternary quadratic forms.

As a natural generalization to higher rank case, we [10] proved that there are exactly eleven quinary positive integral quadratic forms that represent all positive integral binary quadratic forms. (See also [11], [12] and [18].) As a natural generalization of a result of Halmos [7], Hwang [9] proved that there are exactly 3 quinary diagonal positive definite integral quadratic forms that represent all binary positive definite integral quadratic forms except only one.

In this paper, we prove that if  $n \geq 2$ , there are only finitely many positive definite integral quadratic forms of rank  $n + 3$  that represent all but at most finitely many equivalence classes of positive definite integral quadratic forms of rank  $n$ . We call such quadratic forms *almost  $n$ -universal* quadratic forms. Furthermore we determine all candidates for almost  $n$ -universal diagonal quadratic forms of rank  $n + 3$  and prove the almost  $n$ -universality, and determine the  $n$ -ary lattices that are not represented, for all but four of the candidate forms.

We shall adopt lattice theoretic language. A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L$  is a finitely generated free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  equipped with a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form  $B$ , such that  $B(L, L) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ . The corresponding quadratic map is denoted by  $Q$ .

For a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L = \mathbb{Z}\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbb{Z}\mathbf{e}_2 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}\mathbf{e}_n$  with basis  $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ , we write

$$L = (B(\mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)).$$

By  $L = L_1 \perp L_2$  we mean  $L = L_1 \oplus L_2$  and  $B(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2) = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{e}_1 \in L_1, \mathbf{e}_2 \in L_2$ . We call  $L$  *diagonal* if it admits an orthogonal basis and in this case, we simply write

$$L = \langle Q(\mathbf{e}_1), Q(\mathbf{e}_2), \dots, Q(\mathbf{e}_n) \rangle,$$

where  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $L$ . We call  $L$  *non-diagonal* otherwise.  $L$  is called *positive definite* or simply *positive* if  $Q(\mathbf{e}) > 0$  for any  $\mathbf{e} \in L, \mathbf{e} \neq \mathbf{0}$ . As usual,  $dL := \det(B(\mathbf{e}_i, \mathbf{e}_j))$  is called the *discriminant* of  $L$ . For a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L$  and a prime  $p$ , we define  $L_p := \mathbb{Z}_p L$  and call it the localization of  $L$  at  $p$ .

Let  $\ell, L$  be  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices. We say  $L$  *represents*  $\ell$  if there is an injective linear map from  $\ell$  into  $L$  that preserves the bilinear form, and write  $\ell \rightarrow L$ . Such a map will be called a *representation*. A representation is called an *isometry* if it is surjective. Furthermore we say  $\ell$  is *primitively* represented by  $L$  if there exists an isometry  $\sigma$  from  $\ell$  to  $L$  such that  $\sigma(\ell)$  is a primitive sublattice of  $L$ . We say two  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices  $L, K$  are isometric if there is an isometry between them, and write  $L \cong K$ . The set of all  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices that are isometric to  $L$  is called the *class* of  $L$ , denoted by  $\text{cls}(L)$ . We define  $\ell_p \rightarrow L_p$  and  $L_p \cong K_p$  in a similar manner over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . The set of all  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices  $K$  such that  $L_p \cong K_p$  for all prime spots  $p$  (including  $\infty$ ) is called the *genus* of  $L$ , denoted by  $\text{gen}(L)$ . The number of classes in a genus is called the *class number* of the genus

(or of any  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice in the genus), which is known to be finite. For the class number of each  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice, see [4], [16] and [17].

A positive  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L$  is called *almost  $n$ -universal* if  $L$  represents all  $n$ -ary positive  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices except those in only finitely many equivalence classes. The notion of (*locally*)  *$n$ -universal* is defined in a similar manner. If a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L$  is almost  $n$ -universal, then the rank of  $L$  is greater than or equal to  $n + 3$ .

We set

$$[a, b, c] := \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix}$$

for convenience. For unexplained terminologies, notations, and basic facts about  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices, we refer the readers to O'Meara's book [19].

## 2 Finiteness of almost $n$ -universal $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank $n + 2$ ( $n \geq 2$ )

The following definition of *successive minimum* is adapted from [[2], Chapter 12].

**Definition 2.1** *Let  $L$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of rank  $n$ . We define the  $j$ -th successive minimum  $m_j(L)$  of  $L$  to be the positive integer such that*

- (1) *the set of vectors  $v \in L$  with  $Q(v) \leq m_j(L)$  spans a subspace of dimension greater than or equal to  $j$  ;*
- (2) *the set of vectors  $v \in L$  with  $Q(v) < m_j(L)$  spans a subspace of dimension less than  $j$ .*

It is clear that  $m_1(L) \leq m_2(L) \leq \dots \leq m_n(L)$  and there is a set of linearly independent vectors  $x_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , such that  $Q(x_j) = m_j(L)$ . If  $dL$  is the discriminant of  $L$ , then

$$dL \leq \prod_{i=1}^n m_i(L) \leq C \cdot dL, \quad (1)$$

for a constant  $C$  depending only on  $n$  (see [6]).

**Proposition 2.2** *If there exist only finitely many almost 2-universal quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices, then there exist only finitely many almost  $n$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank  $n + 3$  for  $n \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $L$  is an almost  $n$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of rank  $n + 3$ . If  $L$  cannot represent a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $\ell$  of rank  $n - 1$ , then for any positive integer  $a$ ,  $\ell \perp \langle a \rangle \not\rightarrow L$ . Therefore  $L$  must be  $(n - 1)$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. This implies that  $n \leq 6$  by [18]. Furthermore since  $L$  represents 1,  $L \simeq L' \perp \langle 1 \rangle$  for an almost  $(n - 1)$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L'$ . Therefore the desired result follows.

Now we prove that there exist only finitely many almost 2-universal quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices. Note that every almost 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice is, in fact, locally 2-universal.

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $L$  be a quinary  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -lattice and  $L = \perp L_i$  be it's Jordan decomposition. We define  $d_i := d(L_i)$  the discriminant of  $L_i$  and  $r_i$  the rank of  $L_i$ . Then  $L$  is 2-universal over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  if and only if*

(1)  $p \neq 2$

$$\begin{aligned} & r_0 = 5 \quad \text{or} \quad r_0 = 4, d_0 = 1 \quad \text{or} \\ & r_0 = 4, d_0 = \Delta_p \text{ and } r_1 = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad r_0 = 3, r_1 = 2. \end{aligned}$$

(2)  $p = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} & r_0 = 5 \quad \text{or} \quad r_0 = 4, r_1 = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad r_0 = 4, d_0 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \text{ and } r_2 = 1 \quad \text{or} \\ & r_0 = 3, 1 \leq r_1 \text{ and } r_1 + r_2 + r_3 = 2. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\Delta_p$  is any nonsquare unit in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

*Proof.* This follows directly from [20].

**Lemma 2.4** *Let  $L$  be any locally 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of rank 5 and for all prime  $p$ , let  $d(L_p) = p^{u_p} \alpha_p$ , where  $\alpha_p$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $u_p$  is a non-negative integer. Then there exists a prime  $p$  dividing  $2dL$  such that  $L$  cannot primitively represent binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices  $\ell$  for which*

$$\ell_p \simeq \langle p^{\epsilon_p} \alpha_p, p^k \beta_p \rangle,$$

where  $\epsilon_p$  is 0 or 1, respectively the parity of  $u_p$ ,  $\beta_p$  is any unit in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $k \geq 2$  if  $p$  is odd and  $k \geq 7$  otherwise.

*Proof.* As a quadratic space,  $\mathbb{Q}L := \mathbb{Q} \otimes L$  can be decomposed by  $\mathbb{Q}L \simeq \langle dL \rangle \perp V$  for a quadratic space  $V$  with  $dV = 1$ . By the reciprocity law for the Hasse symbol,

$$1 = \prod_p S_p(\mathbb{Q}L) = \prod_p (dL, dL)_p \cdot S_p(V) = \prod_p S_p(V).$$

Therefore for at least one  $p$ , which we will call a *core prime* of  $L$ ,  $V_p$  is anisotropic by [[19], 63.17]. Assume that  $p$  is odd. If  $\epsilon_p = 0$ , then  $L_p \simeq \langle 1, -\Delta_p, \alpha_p, p, -\Delta_p p \rangle$  by Lemma 2.3. Therefore the desired result follows. If  $\epsilon_p = 1$ , then  $L_p \simeq \langle 1, 1, 1, \Delta_p, \alpha_p \Delta_p p \rangle$ . Therefore the desired result follows from Lemma 2.1 of [13]. Now assume that  $p = 2$ . Note that the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -lattice  $K := \langle 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle$  cannot primitively represent all  $p$ -adic integers divisible by 8. Hence any sublattice of  $K$  with index  $2^d$  cannot primitively represent all integers divisible by  $2^{2d+3}$ . Let  $L'$  be the orthogonal complement of  $\langle 2^{\epsilon_2} \alpha_2 \rangle$  in  $L_2$ . Then clearly,  $L'$  is a sublattice of  $K$  with index  $2^n$ , where  $n = 0, 1, 2$ . Therefore the desired result follows.

**Remark 2.5** *If  $p = 2$ , the minimum possible value of  $k$  can be smaller than 7, depending on  $L$ .*

**Definition 2.6** *Let  $L$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $\ell$  is called a *core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice* of  $L$  if the failure of  $L$  to represent  $\ell$  implies that  $L$  fails to represent infinitely many  $\mathbb{Z}$ -sublattices of  $\ell$ .*

If  $L$  is almost  $n$ -universal, then  $L$  must represent all  $n$ -ary core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of  $L$ .

**Lemma 2.7** *Let  $L$  be a locally 2-universal quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Then  $L$  always has a binary core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.*

*Proof.* Under the same notations of Lemma 2.4, let  $\ell = \mathbb{Z}x + \mathbb{Z}y$  be a binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice satisfying all conditions given there. Furthermore we may assume that the matrix generated by the vectors  $x$  and  $y$  is sufficiently close to the form appearing in Lemma 2.4 over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . For a positive integer  $n$ , assume that  $\ell(n) := \mathbb{Z}x + \mathbb{Z}(p^n y)$  is represented by  $L$ . Let  $\sigma$  be its representation. Since  $\ell(n)$  is not primitively represented by  $L$ , there exist integers  $a, b$  satisfying  $\gcd(a, b, p) = 1$  such that  $a\sigma(x) + b\sigma(p^n y) = pz$  for a vector  $z \in L$ . Hence  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $\sigma(p^n y)$  is not a primitive vector in  $L$ . Therefore  $\ell(n-1)$  is represented by  $L$ . From this follows the lemma.

**Theorem 2.8** *There exist only finitely many almost 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank 5.*

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be a locally 2-universal quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. We prove that if the 5-th successive minimum of  $L$  is sufficiently large, then  $L$  cannot represent infinitely many binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices. This implies the desired result by (2.1). Assume that  $m_5(L)$  is sufficiently large. Let  $p$  be a core prime of  $L$  defined on Lemma 2.4.

Since  $L$  is 1-universal and  $m_5(L)$  is sufficiently large, the primitive quaternary sublattice, say  $L'$ , containing  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$  such that  $Q(x_i) = m_i(L)$  must be 1-universal (see [3]). Note that  $L'$  is isometric to one of the quaternary 1-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices, which exist only finitely many. Therefore by (2.1), there exist real numbers  $M, N$  independent of  $L$  such that  $MdL \leq m_5(L) \leq NdL$ .

First assume that  $p$  is an odd prime. Since  $(L')_2$  is not 2-universal (see [10]), there exists a primitive binary  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -lattice  $K$  (i.e., there does not exist a binary  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -lattice properly containing  $K$ ), such that  $K \not\rightarrow L_2$ . Note that either  $K$  represents a unit, say  $\eta$ , or is isometric to  $[2, 1, 2]$ . Let  $q$  be an integer in  $\{3, 11, 5, 13, 7, 23, 17, 41, 6, 22, 10, 26, 14, 46, 34, 82\}$  such that  $pq \in d(K)(\mathbb{Z}_2^*)^2$  and  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ .

Assume that  $\epsilon_p = 0$ . Since  $L_p \simeq \langle 1, -\Delta, \alpha_p, p, -\Delta_p p \rangle$ ,  $L'_p$  is not unimodular. Therefore  $p$  is bounded by some constant  $C$  because of the finiteness of  $L'$ . Let  $a$  be a positive integer such that  $a < 8p$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a &\equiv \alpha_p \pmod{p} \text{ and } a \equiv \eta \pmod{8} && \text{if } \langle \eta \rangle \rightarrow K, \\ a &\equiv 2\alpha_p \pmod{p} \text{ and } a \equiv 1 \pmod{2} && \text{if } K \simeq [2, 1, 2]. \end{aligned}$$

If  $8C^2q \leq m_5(L)$ , then  $[a, 0, apq]$  or  $[2, 1, 2a]$ , respectively to the condition of  $K$ , is the core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L$  that is not represented by  $L$ .

Now assume that  $\epsilon_p = 1$ . Let  $a$  be a positive integer such that  $a < 8p$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a &\equiv \alpha_p \pmod{p} \text{ and } a \equiv \eta p \pmod{8} && \text{if } \langle \eta \rangle \rightarrow K, \\ a &\equiv 2\alpha_p \pmod{p} \text{ and } a \equiv 1 \pmod{2} && \text{if } K \simeq [2, 1, 2]. \end{aligned}$$

If  $16p \max(p, q) < MdL$ , then  $[ap, 0, aq]$  or  $[2p, p, 2ap]$  is the core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L$  that is not represented by  $L$ . If  $MdL \leq 16p \max(p, q)$ , then  $m_5(L) \leq \frac{16Np \max(p, q)}{M}$ . Hence we may assume that  $p$  is sufficiently large. Since both cases can be done in a similar manner, we only provide a proof of the case when  $\langle \eta \rangle \longrightarrow K$ .

Let  $\Omega$  be the product of all primes not greater than  $\frac{(q+1)}{M}$ . Take an integer  $a$  satisfying

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{\alpha_p q}{p}\right), \quad a \equiv \eta \pmod{8}, \quad \left(\frac{pq}{a}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{a}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \gcd(a, \Omega) = 1.$$

Here  $(-)$  is the Jacobi symbol. Furthermore we can choose  $a$  such that  $a < Cp^{\frac{3}{8}+\epsilon}$  for a constant  $C$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  by Corollary 3.3 of [6]. We assume that  $p$  is sufficiently large so that  $a \leq p^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq Mp$ . We let  $\ell = [a, b, c]$ , where  $b, c$  is positive integers such that  $0 < b < a$  and  $pq = -b^2 + ac$ . Note that such integers always exist by the above conditions. Since  $a, c < Mp \leq m_5(L)$  and  $\ell_2 \simeq K$ ,  $\ell$  is the core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L$  that is not represented by  $L$ .

Lastly, assume that  $p = 2$ . If  $d(L')$  is a square integer, then there exists a bounded prime  $r$  such that  $L'_r$  is anisotropic by a similar reasoning to Lemma 2.4. If  $r$  is odd and  $r^2 < m_5(L)$ , then for all positive integers  $s$ ,  $[r^2, 1, s]$  is not represented by  $L$ , because  $r^2$  cannot be primitively represented by  $L$ . If  $r = 2$  and  $64 < m_5(L)$ , then  $[64, 1, s]$  cannot be represented by  $L$  by a similar reasoning to above and by Lemma 3 of [21]. Assume that  $d(L')$  is not a square integer and let  $r$  be a bounded odd prime such that  $(L')_r$  is not universal. The existence of such a bounded prime  $r$  follows from the finiteness of  $L'$  up to isometry. Let  $M$  be a fixed binary  $\mathbb{Z}_r$ -lattice such that  $M \not\rightarrow (L')_r$ . Then there exists a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $\ell$  such that  $\ell_r \simeq M$  and  $\ell$  is isometric to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -lattice given by Lemma 2.4 for fixed  $k$ . For all possible  $\ell$ 's, if  $m_2(\ell) < m_5(L)$ , then  $\ell$  is a core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice that is not represented by  $L$ . Therefore the theorem follows.

### 3 Almost $n$ -universal diagonal $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank $n + 3$ ( $n \geq 2$ )

In this section, we determine all candidates of almost  $n$ -universal diagonal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank  $n + 3$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $L = \langle a, b, c, d, e \rangle$  be a locally 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. We assume that  $0 < a \leq b \leq c \leq d \leq e$ . To represent binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of the form  $[1, 0, s_1], [2, 1, s_2]$  and  $[3, 1, s_3]$ ,  $a = b = 1$  and  $c = 1$  or  $2$ . If  $c = 1$  and  $d \geq 4$ , then  $[4, 1, s_4] \not\rightarrow L$ . If  $c = 2$  and  $d \geq 6$  then  $[6, 1, s_5] \not\rightarrow L$ . Therefore  $L$  contains one of the following quaternary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices:

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 2 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 3 \rangle, \\ &\langle 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 2, 3 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 2, 4 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

For each quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L$ , if  $L$  is not almost 2-universal, we will give a binary core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice that is not represented by  $L$  for most cases. We

call such a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice an *exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L$* . When 2 is a core prime of  $L$  and  $\ell$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L$ , then we always write  $\ell = [a, b, c]$  if  $[a, b \cdot 2^m, c \cdot 2^{2m}]$  is not represented by  $L$ . For a given odd core prime  $p$  and an integer  $t$ , we write  $t \sim 1$  if  $t$  is a square in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  and we write  $t \sim \Delta$ , if  $t$  is a nonsquare unit in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ . If we write  $[a, b, c] \simeq [a', b', c'] \rightarrow L_p$ , then it means  $[a, b, c]$  is isometric to  $[a', b', c']$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and is represented by  $L$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , i.e., whether  $[a, b, c]$  is defined on  $\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , it depends on the notation of the right lattice.

**Case 1**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, e \rangle$

If  $e = 1, 2, 3$ , then  $L(e)$  has class number 1 and is locally 2-universal. Therefore  $L(e)$  is 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice by [[19], 102.5]. If  $e$  is even greater than 3 then  $[4, 1, 2s]$  is not represented by  $L(e)$  for all  $s \geq 2$ . If  $e \geq 8$  then  $[8, 1, s]$  is not represented by  $L(e)$  for all  $s \geq 8$ . Clearly  $[3, 0, 5] \simeq [23, 10, 5]$  is not represented by  $L(7)$ . We show that this binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(7)$ . Assume that  $\ell(m) := [23, 10 \cdot 2^m, 5 \cdot 2^{2m}] \rightarrow L(7)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(s, t, m) &:= [23 - 7s^2, 10 \cdot 2^m - 7st, 5 \cdot 2^{2m} - 7t^2] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 23 - 7s^2 & 10 \cdot 2^m - 7st \\ 10 \cdot 2^m - 7st & 5 \cdot 2^{2m} - 7t^2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow L', \end{aligned}$$

for some integers  $s, t$ . Note that  $s = 0$  or 1 and if  $s = 1$  then  $t \neq 0$  by the positive definiteness of  $\ell(s, t, m)$ . For all possible  $s, t$ , if we calculate the discriminant of  $\ell(s, t, m)$ , we can easily check that  $\mathbb{Q}_2 \ell(s, t, m)$  is always a hyperbolic space. This is a contradiction. Therefore  $L(7)$  is not almost 2-universal. In Theorem 3.1, we will prove that  $L(5)$  is, in fact, almost 2-universal.

**Case 2**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 2, 2, e \rangle$

If  $L(e)$  is almost 2-universal, then  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, e \rangle$  is also almost 2-universal. Therefore, by Case (1), it suffices to check only the cases when  $e = 3, 5$ . Note that  $[2, 1, 2]$  is the only one exception of  $L(3)$  (see [9]). In Theorem 3.1, we will prove that  $L(5)$  is almost 2-universal.

**Case 3**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, e \rangle$

Note that  $[2, 0, 7] \simeq [1, 0, 14] \not\rightarrow (L')_2$ . We first consider the case when 2 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ , i.e.,  $e = 2^k(8n \pm 1)$ , where  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Note that if  $k \geq 4$ , then  $L(e)$  is not locally 2-universal by Lemma 2.3. If  $e \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $e \geq 28$ , then  $[2, 0, 28]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $e = 9$  or 25, then  $L(e)$  is not locally 2-universal. If  $e = 17$ , then  $[18, 4, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(17)$ . If  $e \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and  $e \geq 15$ , then  $[14, 0, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . In Theorem 3.2, we will prove that  $L(7)$  is an almost 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $e = 2(8n + 1)$ , and  $e \geq 57$ , then  $[4, 0, 56]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . Note that  $L(2)$  is a 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice with class number 1 and  $[9, 1, 25]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(34)$ . If  $e = 2(8n - 1)$ , then  $[7, 0, 8]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . If  $e = 4(8n + 1)$  and  $e \geq 113$ , then  $[2, 0, 112]$  is an exceptional core

$\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.  $[18, 2, 50]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(68)$  and  $[3, 0, 3]$  is the only one exception of  $L(4)$  (see [9]). If  $e = 4(8n - 1)$ , then  $[14, 0, 16]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $e$  is divisible by 8, then  $L(e)$  cannot represent all binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of the form  $[2, 0, 8a + 7]$ .

Now we assume that 2 is not a core prime of  $L(e)$ . Since there exists at least one core prime of  $L(e)$ , we can find an odd core prime  $p$  of  $L(e)$ . Note that  $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  and  $e$  is divisible by  $p$ . Let  $e = pt$ .

(3.1)  $p \equiv 11 \pmod{24}$ . In this case,  $[2p, p, 2p]$  is always an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ .

(3.2)  $p \equiv 19 \pmod{24}$ . If  $t \sim 1$ , then  $[12, 3, \frac{3(p+1)}{4}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[p, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.

(3.3)  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{24}$ . Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . If  $t \geq 4$ ,  $[6, 0, 3p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. For the remaining case, since  $2 \sim 3 \sim \Delta$ , we may assume that  $t = 1$ . If  $e \geq 132$ , then  $[132, 33, \frac{3(p+11)}{4}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . In the following, the right binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of the left  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.

$$(*) \quad L(101) : [15, 3, 41], \quad L(53) : [14, 2, 23], \quad L(29) : [15, 6, 14].$$

Note that  $[3, 0, 3]$  is the only one exception of  $L(5)$  (see [9]). Assume that  $t \sim \Delta$ . If  $t \geq 3$ , then  $[p, 0, 2p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. So we may assume that  $t = 2$ . If  $e \neq 10$ , then  $[30, 15, \frac{3(p+5)}{2}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Note that  $[10, 5, 10]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(10)$ .

(3.4)  $p \equiv 13 \pmod{24}$ . Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . If  $e \geq 456$ , then  $[456, 57, \frac{3(p+19)}{8}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $t \geq 2$ ,  $[6, 3, \frac{3(p+1)}{2}]$  is also an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Therefore it remains only the cases when  $e = 13, 37, 61, 109, 157, 181, 229, 277, 349, 373, 397, 421$ . If  $p \equiv 9 \pmod{10}$ ,  $[30, 3, \frac{3(p+1)}{10}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$ ,  $[30, 9, \frac{3(p+9)}{10}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. For the other cases, similarly to  $(*)$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} L[397] &: [21, 9, 174], \quad L[373] : [33, 3, 102], \quad L[277] : [33, 9, 78], \\ L[157] &: [21, 6, 69], \quad L[37] : [7, 3, 33], \quad L[13] : [52, 13, 52]. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that  $t \sim \Delta$ . Then, similarly to the subcase (3.3), we may assume that  $t = 2$ . If  $p \geq 42$ ,  $[84, 21, \frac{3(p+7)}{4}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Note that  $[14, 4, 17]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(74)$  and  $[13, 0, 91]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(26)$ .

(3.5)  $p = 3$ . If  $t \geq 2$ ,  $[3, 0, 3]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.  $L(3)$  is a 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice with class number 1.

**Case 4**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 2, 4, e \rangle$

Since  $L(e)$  is a sublattice of  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 2, e \rangle$ , it suffices to check the cases when  $e = 4, 5, 7$ . Note that  $L(4)$  is not locally 2-universal.  $[4, 1, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(5)$  and  $[14, 7, 14]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(7)$ .



**Case 5**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 1, 3, e \rangle$

Note that  $[3, 0, 7] \not\rightarrow (L')_2$  and  $[1, 0, 6] \not\rightarrow (L')_3$ . First, we consider the case when 3 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ , i.e.,  $e \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{3}$ . If  $e \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $e \geq 8$ ,  $[1, 0, 6]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and  $[4, 1, 4] \simeq [6, 3, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(5)$ . Note that  $[6, 3^{m+1}, 4 \cdot 3^{2m}] \not\rightarrow L(5)$ . If  $e \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $e \geq 6$ , then  $[6, 3, 3a+1] \not\rightarrow L(e)$ . Note that  $[2, 1, 3] \simeq [7, 4, 3]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(3)$ , i.e.,  $[7, 4 \cdot 3^m, 3^{2m+1}] \not\rightarrow L(3)$ . Now we always assume that  $e \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

Assume that 2 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ , i.e.,  $e$  is one of the following forms  $4n+1$ ,  $4(4n+1)$  or  $2(4n+3)$  for a non-negative integer  $n$ . If  $e \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , then  $[3, 0, 28]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $e \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,  $[7, 0, 12]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $e = 2(8n+3)$  and  $n \geq 2$ ,  $[2, 0, 40]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and  $[18, 2, 18]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(22)$ . If  $e = 2(8n+7)$ , then  $[10, 0, 8]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $e = 4(4n+1)$ , then  $[2, 1, 4a+3] \not\rightarrow L(e)$  for any non-negative integer  $a$ .

If 2 is not a core prime of  $L(e)$ , then there exists a core prime  $p$  dividing  $e$  such that  $p \equiv \pm 5 \pmod{12}$ . We let  $e = pt$ . We assume that  $t \sim 1$  in (5.1)  $\sim$  (5.3).

(5.1)  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$ . If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,  $[3, 1, \frac{p+1}{3}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $e \geq 39$ ,  $[39, 13, \frac{p+13}{3}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Lastly,  $[34, 17, 34]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(34)$ .

(5.2)  $p \equiv 19 \pmod{24}$ . If  $t \geq 2$ ,  $[p, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. So we may assume that  $t = 1$ . Assume that  $5 \sim 1$ . If  $e \geq 520$ , then  $[520, 65, \frac{5(p+13)}{8}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. For the remaining cases, we can easily check the following table similar to (T).

$$\begin{aligned} L[499] &: [13, 3, 231], & L[379] &: [13, 1, 175], & L[331] &: [10, 2, 199] \\ L[211] &: [15, 3, 85], & L[139] &: [10, 4, 85], & L[19] &: [13, 4, 10]. \end{aligned}$$

Note that any binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $\ell$  such that  $\ell_2 \simeq [5, 0, 10]$  and  $\ell_3 \simeq [1, 0, 6]$  with  $d\ell = 6p$  can be a core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . This makes it easy to check the above table. If  $5 \sim \Delta$  and  $e \geq 330$ , then  $[330, 55, \frac{5(p+11)}{6}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. For the remaining cases, we have the followings:

$$\begin{aligned} L[307] &: [13, 2, 142], & L[283] &: [37, 2, 46], & L[187] &: [13, 3, 87] \\ L[163] &: [7, 3, 141], & L[67] &: [13, 1, 31], & L[43] &: [7, 1, 37]. \end{aligned}$$

(5.3)  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{24}$ . Similarly to (5.2), we may assume that  $t = 1$ . If  $e \geq 66$ ,  $[66, 11, \frac{p+11}{6}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and  $[10, 2, 19]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(31)$ .  $L(7)$  is a candidate.

(5.4)  $t \sim \Delta$ . Note that  $t \geq 2$ . If  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}$ , then  $[p, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$ ,  $[2p, p, 2p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ .

**Case 6**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 2, 3, e \rangle$

Note that  $[1, 0, 10] \simeq [3, 0, 14] \not\rightarrow (L')_2$  and  $[2, 0, 6] \not\rightarrow (L')_3$ . If  $e \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , then  $[2, 1, 2]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$  with a core

prime 3. If  $e \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $e \geq 6$ , then  $[6, 3, 3a + 2] \not\rightarrow L(e)$  for any non-negative integer  $a$ . Note that  $[2, 1, 2]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(3)$ . Now we always assume that  $e \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

Assume that 2 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ , i.e.,  $e = 2^{2k}(8n+5)$ ,  $2^{2k}(8n+7)$ ,  $2^{2k+1}(8n+1)$  or  $2^{2k+1}(8n+3)$ , where  $k = 0, 1$ . We give the following table of an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of each right  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice:

$$\begin{array}{ll} e \equiv 5 \pmod{8}, e \geq 13 : [14, 0, 12], & e \equiv 7 \pmod{8} : [10, 0, 4], \\ \frac{e}{2} \equiv 1 \pmod{8} : [43, 2, 4], & \frac{e}{2} \equiv 3 \pmod{8} : [9, 2, 12], \\ \frac{e}{4} \equiv 5 \pmod{8} : [14, 6, 14], & \frac{e}{4} \equiv 7 \pmod{8} : [10, 0, 16], \\ \frac{e}{8} \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, e \geq 9 : [43, 4, 16], & \frac{e}{8} \equiv 3 \pmod{8} : [41, 2, 4]. \end{array}$$

$L(5)$  and  $L(8)$  are not yet determined whether they are almost 2-universal or not.

If 2 is not a core prime of  $L(e)$ , then there exists a core prime  $p \neq 2, 3$  dividing  $e$ . Clearly  $p \equiv \pm 7, \pm 11 \pmod{24}$ . We let  $e = pt$ .

(6.1)  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{24}$ . Since  $e \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $t \neq 1$ . Therefore  $[p, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ .

(6.2)  $p \equiv 11 \pmod{24}$ . In this case,  $[2p, p, 2p]$  is always an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.

(6.3)  $p \equiv 17 \pmod{24}$ . Note that  $2 \sim 1$  and  $3 \sim \Delta$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[10, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . If  $t \geq 4$ ,  $[14, 0, 3p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Hence we may assume that  $t = 1$ . If  $e \neq 17$ ,  $[30, 10, \frac{p+10}{3}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Since 3, 5, 7 are all nonsquare units in  $\mathbb{Z}_{17}^*$ ,  $[34, 17, 68]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(17)$ .

(6.4)  $p \equiv 13 \pmod{24}$ . Note that  $2 \sim \Delta$  and  $3 \sim 1$ . Assume that  $t \sim \Delta$ . If  $t \geq 3$ , then  $[p, 0, 2p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Hence we may assume that  $t = 2$ . If  $7 \sim 1$  and  $e \geq 308$ ,  $[308, 77, \frac{7(p+11)}{4}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . Note that  $[11, 2, 71]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(74)$  and  $[109, 0, 1090]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(218)$ . If  $7 \sim \Delta$  and  $e \geq 210$ , then  $[210, 35, \frac{7(p+5)}{6}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Furthermore  $[13, 0, 91]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(26)$  and  $[61, 0, 610]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(122)$ .

If  $t \sim 1$ , then  $[6, 3, \frac{p+3}{2}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ .

**Case 7**  $L(e) := L' \perp \langle e \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 2, 5, e \rangle$

Note that  $[2, 0, 3] \simeq [5, 0, 14] \not\rightarrow (L')_2$  and  $[1, 0, 10] \not\rightarrow (L')_5$ . If  $e \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ , which implies that 5 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ ,  $[4, 1, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . Note that  $[4, 1, 4]$  is represented by  $\langle 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle$  over all  $p$ -adic integers but it is not represented by  $\langle 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle$ . This is possible for the fact that the class number of  $\langle 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle$  is 2 (see [17]). If  $e \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  and  $e \geq 15$ , then  $[10, 0, 5a + 1] \not\rightarrow L(e)$ .  $[2, 1, 4]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(10)$  and  $[15, 0, 5a + 1] \not\rightarrow L(5)$ . Now we always assume that  $e \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$ .

Assume that 2 is a core prime of  $L(e)$ , i.e.,  $e = 2^{2k}(8n \pm 3)$  or  $2^{2k+1}(8n \pm 1)$ , where  $k = 0, 1$ . Similarly to Case (6), we have the following table:

$$\begin{array}{ll} e \equiv 3 \pmod{8} : [14, 0, 20], & e \equiv 5 \pmod{8} : [2, 0, 12], \\ \frac{e}{2} \equiv 1 \pmod{8} : [5, 1, 5], & \frac{e}{2} \equiv 7 \pmod{8} : [3, 0, 8], \\ \frac{e}{4} \equiv 3 \pmod{8} : [14, 4, 4], & \frac{e}{4} \equiv 5 \pmod{8} : [2, 0, 48], \\ e \equiv 0 \pmod{8} : [2, 0, 8a + 3] \not\rightarrow L(e). \end{array}$$

We consider the remaining case. Let  $p \neq 2, 5$  be a core prime of  $L(e)$ . Note that  $p \equiv \pm 7, \pm 11, \pm 17, \pm 19 \pmod{40}$ . Since  $p$  divides  $e$ , we let  $e = pt$ .

(7.1)  $p \equiv 11, 19 \pmod{40}$ . Since  $t \neq 1$ ,  $[p, 0, p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ .

(7.2)  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{40}$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[2p, 0, 5]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . Then we may assume that  $t = 1$  by a similar reasoning to (7.1). If  $7 \sim 1$  and  $e \geq 210$ , then  $[210, 21, \frac{7(p+3)}{10}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Furthermore  $[27, 4, 18]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(47)$  and  $[44, 1, 19]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(167)$ . If  $7 \sim \Delta$ , then  $[56, 7, \frac{7(p+1)}{8}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(e)$ . Since  $[14, 7, 14]$  is not represented by  $L$ , it is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(7)$ .

(7.3)  $p \equiv 17 \pmod{40}$ . Note that  $2 \sim 1$  and  $5 \sim \Delta$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ , then  $[2p, 0, 3]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . If  $e \geq 190$ , then  $[190, 38, \frac{p+38}{5}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. If  $t \geq 6$ ,  $[5p, 0, 14]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Therefore we may assume that  $t = 1$  or 4. For the remaining cases, we have:

$$L(17), L(68) : [34, 17, 68], \quad L(97) : [9, 1, 54], \quad L(137) : [14, 1, 49].$$

(7.4)  $p \equiv 21 \pmod{40}$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[p, 0, 14]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $t \sim 1$ , then  $t \geq 3$  and hence  $[p, 0, 2p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.

(7.5)  $p \equiv 23 \pmod{40}$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[2p, 0, 5]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . If  $t \geq 6$ ,  $[5p, 0, 1]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. So we may assume that  $t = 1$  or 4. If  $e \geq 210$ ,  $[210, 42, \frac{p+42}{5}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. For the remaining cases, we have:

$$L(23), L(92) : [13, 2, 18], \quad L(143) : [18, 8, 83], \quad L(103) : [13, 6, 82].$$

(7.6)  $p \equiv 29 \pmod{40}$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[p, 0, 10]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and if  $t \sim 1$ ,  $[p, 0, 2p]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice.

(7.7)  $p \equiv 33 \pmod{40}$ . If  $t \sim \Delta$ ,  $[2p, 0, 3]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Assume that  $t \sim 1$ . Then we may assume that  $t = 1$  or 4 by a similar reasoning to the subcase (7.5). If  $e \geq 110$ ,  $[110, 22, \frac{p+22}{5}]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Lastly,  $[13, 2, 34]$  is an exceptional core  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of  $L(73)$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *The following left quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices represent all binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices except the following right ones:*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Quinary } \mathbb{Z}\text{-lattices} & : \quad \text{Exceptional binary } \mathbb{Z}\text{-lattices} \\ L := \langle 1, 1, 2, 2, 5 \rangle & : \quad [2, 1, 2], [2, 1, 4], [4, 1, 4], [8, 1, 8], \\ \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 5 \rangle & : \quad [2, 1, 4], [4, 1, 4], [8, 1, 8]. \end{array}$$

*Proof.* Since the first quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice is the sublattice of the second one, it suffices only to prove the first case. Note that  $K := \langle 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle$  has class number one. Let  $\ell := [a, b, c]$  be a Minkowski reduced binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. We assume that  $\ell$  is 2-primitive  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice, i.e., every  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -lattice on  $\mathbb{Q}_2\ell$  containing  $\ell_2$  is isometric to  $\ell_2$ . If  $\ell_2 \not\simeq [2, 1, 2]$  and if  $\mathbb{Q}_2\ell$  is not a hyperbolic space, then  $\ell \longrightarrow K$ . First assume that  $\ell_2 \simeq [2, 1, 2]$ . If  $c \geq 7$ ,  $[a, b, c-5] \longrightarrow K$ . Therefore  $[2, 1, 2]$  is the only one exception of this case. Now assume that  $\mathbb{Q}_2\ell$  is a hyperbolic space. By a direct calculation, we can easily check that at least one of the following  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices

$$[a-5, b, c], \quad [a, b, c-5], \quad [a-5, b-5, c-5]$$

is neither isometric to  $[2, 1, 2]$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  nor hyperbolic space over  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ . If  $a \geq 14$ , all of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices given above are positive definite and hence  $\ell \longrightarrow \langle 1, 1, 2, 2, 5 \rangle$ . Now we assume that  $a \leq 13$ . Since the other cases can be done in a similar manner, we consider only  $a = 2, 4, 8$ . Assume that  $a = 2$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}_2\ell$  is hyperbolic and  $\ell_2$  is primitive,  $b = 1$  and  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Therefore if  $c \geq 8$ ,  $[2, 1, c-5] \longrightarrow K$  and hence  $\ell \longrightarrow L$ . Clearly  $[2, 1, 4]$  is not represented by  $L$ . If  $a = 4$ , then  $b = 1$  and  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  by a similar reasoning to above. If  $c \geq 6$ ,  $[a, b, c-5] \longrightarrow K$  and hence  $\ell \longrightarrow L$ .  $[4, 1, 4]$  is an exception. If  $a = 8$ , then  $b$  must be 1 or 3. Hence if  $c \geq 11$ , at least one of the  $[3, b, c]$ ,  $[3, b-5, c-5]$  is represented by  $K$ , which implies  $\ell \longrightarrow L$ . For the remaining cases, we can easily check that  $L$  represents all except  $[8, 1, 8]$  by a direct calculation. Assume that  $\ell$  is not 2-primitive. It suffices to check the case when  $\ell$  is a sublattice of one of the exceptional  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices with even index, which is given above. The all sublattices with index 2 of the  $[2, 1, 2]$ ,  $[2, 1, 4]$ ,  $[4, 1, 4]$ ,  $[8, 1, 8]$  are

$$[2, 0, 6], \quad [4, 2, 8], \quad [2, 0, 14], \quad [4, 2, 16], \quad [6, 0, 10], \quad [8, 2, 32], \quad [14, 0, 18].$$

One can easily check that these are all represented by  $L$  by a direct calculation. Therefore the desired result follows.

**Theorem 3.2** *The quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice  $L := \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 7 \rangle$  represents all binary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices except  $[3, 0, 3]$ ,  $[6, 0, 6]$ .*

*Proof.* Note that the quaternary sublattice  $K := \langle 1, 1, 1, 2 \rangle$  of  $L$  has class number 1. Let  $\ell := [a, b, c]$  be a Minkowski reduced binary 2-primitive  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. The idea of the proof is similar to that of [11]. So we provide only a sketch of the proof. Note that

$$\ell_p \longrightarrow K_p \quad \text{if} \quad \begin{cases} p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8} \text{ or} \\ p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8} \text{ and } \gcd(p, a, b, c) = 1 \text{ or} \\ p = 2 \text{ and } \ell_2 \not\simeq [2, 0, 7] \simeq [1, 0, 14]. \end{cases}$$

In particular, if  $\ell_2$  is unimodular, then  $\ell_2 \longrightarrow K_2$ . We let

$$\ell_s(t) := [a - 7t^2, sa + b, s^2a + 2sb + c] = \begin{pmatrix} a - 7t^2 & sa + b \\ sa + b & s^2a + 2sb + c \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $\ell_s(t) \rightarrow K$ , then  $\ell \rightarrow L$ . Note that  $\det(\ell_s(t)) = ac - b^2 - 7t^2(s^2a + 2sb + c)$ . If  $3a - 28t^2(s^2 + \frac{|s|+s}{2} + 1) > 0$  and  $a > 7t^2$ , then we can easily check that  $\ell_s(t)$  is positive definite from the fact that  $[a, b, c]$  is Minkowski reduced. Let  $\mathfrak{P} = \{3, 5, 11, 13, 19, 29, 37, \dots\}$  be the set of primes  $p$  such that  $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ .

Case (1)  $a \equiv 2, 4 \pmod{8}$ . For any integer  $s$ ,  $(\ell_s(1))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k$  be the primes in  $\mathfrak{P}$  dividing  $a-7$ . Note that  $a-7 \geq p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k$ . If  $k = 0$  and  $a \geq 10$ , then  $\ell_0(1) \rightarrow K$ . Assume that  $a = 2$ . If  $b = 0$ , the desired representation follows from the fact that  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 7 \rangle$  is 1-universal. If  $b = 1$ ,  $[2, 1, c] \rightarrow K$ . Since  $\ell$  is 2-primitive, if  $a = 4$ , then  $b = 1$ . Clearly  $[4, 1, c] \rightarrow K$ . If  $k = 1$  and  $a \geq 19$ , then  $\ell_0(1)$  or  $\ell_{-1}(1)$  is represented by  $K$ . For  $a = 10, 12, 18$ , we can easily show that  $\ell \rightarrow L$  by a direct calculation. If  $2 \leq k \leq 5$ , for at least one integer  $s$  in  $\{-k+1, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ ,  $\ell_s(1) \rightarrow K$ . If  $k = 6$ , for at least one integer  $s$  in  $\{-7, -6, \dots, 6, 7\}$ ,  $\ell_s(1) \rightarrow K$ . If  $k \geq 7$ , for at least one integer  $s$  in  $\{-k2^{k-1}, -k2^{k-1} + 1, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, k2^{k-1}\}$ ,  $\ell_s(1) \rightarrow K$  by Lemma 3 of [10].

Case (2)  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ . For any integer  $s$ ,  $(\ell_s(2))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . All other things are similar to above case. In this case, it suffices to check only the cases when  $a = 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 72, 88$  by a direct calculation.

Case (3)  $a \equiv 6 \pmod{8}$ . If  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , then  $c \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  by a 2-primitiveness assumption of  $\ell$ . Therefore  $(\ell_s(1))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . If  $b \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , then  $(\ell_s(2))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . All other things are similar to Case (1).

Case (4)  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . If  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ,  $(\ell_s(1))_2 \rightarrow K_2$  for all odd integers  $s$  and if  $b \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $(\ell_s(1))_2 \rightarrow K_2$  for all even integers  $s$ . Since all other things are similar to Case (1), we consider only  $a = 3$ . Since  $[3, b, c] \rightarrow K_2$ , it suffices to check only the case when  $b = 0$  and  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . If  $c \geq 8$ , then  $[3, 0, c-7] \rightarrow K$  and  $[3, 0, 6] \rightarrow K$ . Therefore  $[3, 0, 3]$  is the only one exception.

Lastly, we must check the representation of the sublattices  $[3, 0, 3]$  with even index by  $L$ . Let  $\ell'$  be such a lattice. Since only  $[3, 0, 12], [6, 0, 6]$  are all sublattices of  $[3, 0, 3]$  with index 2 and  $[3, 0, 12] \rightarrow L$ , we may assume that  $\ell' \rightarrow [6, 0, 6]$ . If  $\ell'$  has an even index in  $[6, 0, 6]$ , then  $\ell' \rightarrow [6, 0, 24]$  or  $\ell' \rightarrow [12, 0, 12]$ . Therefore  $\ell' \rightarrow L$ . Assume that  $\ell' := [6a, 6b, 6c]$  be a sublattice of  $[6, 0, 6]$  with an odd index. Then  $ac - b^2$  must be an odd square integer. We define

$$\ell'_s(t) = [6a - 7t^2, 6as + 6b, 6as^2 + 12sb + 6c] = \begin{pmatrix} 6a - 7t^2 & 6as + 6b \\ 6as + 6b & 6as^2 + 12sb + 6c \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , then  $a \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . Therefore  $(\ell'_s(1))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . If  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $\text{ord}_2(\det(\ell'_s(2))) = 2$ . Therefore  $(\ell'_s(2))_2 \rightarrow K_2$ . By a similar calculation to Case (1), we can easily check the desired representation for all cases.

To sum up all, we get the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.3** *The all quinary diagonal almost 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices and its exceptions are the followings:*

(1) 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, a \rangle \quad a = 1, 2, 3, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, b \rangle \quad b = 2, 3.$$

(2) Almost 2-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices and its exceptions

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 4 \rangle &: [3, 0, 3], & \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 5 \rangle &: [2, 1, 4], [4, 1, 4], [8, 1, 8], \\ \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle &: [3, 0, 3], & \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 7 \rangle &: [3, 0, 3], [6, 0, 6], \\ \langle 1, 1, 2, 2, 3 \rangle &: [2, 1, 2], & \langle 1, 1, 2, 2, 5 \rangle &: [2, 1, 2], [2, 1, 4], [4, 1, 4], [8, 1, 8]. \end{aligned}$$

(3) Candidates

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 3, 7 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 2, 3, 5 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 2, 3, 8 \rangle.$$

**Corollary 3.4** *For  $n \geq 3$ , The all diagonal almost  $n$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank  $n + 3$  are, in fact,  $n$ -universal except only  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle$ . They are:*

(1)  $n = 3$

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, a \rangle, \quad a = 1, 2, 3, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, b \rangle \quad b = 2, 3.$$

(2)  $n = 4$

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle : \text{Candidate}.$$

(3)  $n = 5$

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2 \rangle.$$

*Proof.* The universality of the above  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices are given by [10]. Let  $L$  be a diagonal almost 3-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of rank 6. Then  $L \simeq \langle 1 \rangle \perp L'$ , where  $L'$  is the almost 2-universal quinary  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice. Among them,  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 4 \rangle$  and  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 8 \rangle$  are not locally 3-universal. Since  $\langle 2 \rangle^\perp$  in  $L$  is also almost 2-universal,  $L$  cannot be

$$\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 7 \rangle, \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 3, 7 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5 \rangle.$$

Furthermore one can easily check that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & 2^m \\ 2 & 5 & -2^m \\ 2^m & -2^m & 2^{2m} \end{pmatrix} \not\rightarrow \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 5 \rangle,$$

for all non-negative integers  $m$  and hence  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 5 \rangle$  is not almost 3-universal. Finally, we can easily check that

$$\langle 4, 1, 4 \rangle \perp \langle 2 \cdot 5^{2m} \rangle \not\rightarrow \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 5 \rangle, \quad \langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle \perp \langle 3^{2m} \rangle \not\rightarrow \langle 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3 \rangle.$$

Since there are 5 diagonal almost 3-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank 6, we have 5 candidates of diagonal almost 4-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of rank 7. Since  $\langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle^\perp$  in  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 3 \rangle$  or in  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3 \rangle$  is not almost 2-universal, both  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices are not almost 4-universal.  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle$  is a candidate. Note that  $\langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle \perp \langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle$  is not represented by  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle$  and

$$\langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle \perp \langle 2, 1, 2 \rangle \perp \langle 3^{2m} \rangle \not\rightarrow \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2 \rangle.$$

**Remark 3.5** Let  $L$  be an almost 6-universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and let  $I_k$  be the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice generated by the vectors of quadratic norm 1 of rank  $k$ . Since  $I_5 \rightarrow L$ ,  $L \simeq I_n \perp L'$ , where  $\langle 1 \rangle \not\rightarrow L'$  and  $n \geq 5$ . For  $n \geq 2$ , since  $D_5(16n - 20)[1\frac{1}{4}]$  (for the notation, see [4]) is not represented by  $I_k$  for all  $k$ , at least one of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattices of the form  $D_5(16n - 20)[1\frac{1}{4}]$  must be represented by  $L'$ . Under this restriction, if the rank of  $L$  is 11, then for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $A_5(36n - 30)[1\frac{1}{6}]$  is not represented by  $L$ . Therefore the rank of  $L$  is greater than 11.

If we define  $au_{\mathbb{Z}}(n)$  to be the minimal rank of an almost  $n$ -universal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice, then  $au_{\mathbb{Z}}(n) \geq u_{\mathbb{Z}}(n - 1)$  (for the definition, see [10]). Therefore  $au_{\mathbb{Z}}(n)$  grows very quickly.

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