On the Grayson-Stuhler Filtration of Euclidean Lattices

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In this instructional talk I will introduce the notion of semistability for Euclidean lattices, and define the canonical filtration of a Euclidean lattice by semi-stable ones. This filtration has many remarkable properties, and has probably not received all the attention it deserves. This theory dates back to Stuhler ([Stu76]) and Grayson ([Gra84]), who used it to build an alternative to Borel Serre's compactification of locally symmetric spaces.

In short, given a Euclidean lattice L, one can plot in the plane the points $(\dim M, \log \det M)$ as M varies among all sublattices of L. Their convex hull is bounded below by a certain convex polygon which has two important properties :

- each of its vertices corresponds to a unique sublattice M of L.
- these sublattices form a chain, which we call the Grayson-Stuhler filtration of L.

Among other noteworthy properties, this filtration is invariant under automorphisms and scalar extension. As time allows, I will also speak about a conjecture regarding the behaviour of this filtration with respect to tensor product.

References

- [Cas04] Bill Casselman, Stability of lattices and the partition of arithmetic quotients, Asian J. Math. 8 (2004), no. 4, 607–637.
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- [Stu76] Ulrich Stuhler, Eine Bemerkung zur Reduktionstheorie quadratischer Formen, Arch. Math. (Basel) 27 (1976), no. 6, 604–610.