

**Correction to: “The Ternary Golay Code, the Integers Mod 9
and the Coxeter-Todd Lattice,” [IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory,
42 (1996), 636–637]**

A. R. Calderbank and N. J. A. Sloane
Internet and Network Systems Research
AT&T Shannon Labs
Florham Park, New Jersey 07932-0971

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The lattice described in this paper is not the Coxeter-Todd lattice.

Since lifting the binary Golay code to \mathbb{Z}_4 and applying Construction A produced the Leech lattice [1], it seemed so obvious to us that lifting the ternary Golay code to \mathbb{Z}_9 [2] would produce the Coxeter-Todd lattice that we were careless and made an elementary blunder in computing the determinant, which should have been 3^{12} rather than 3^6 . The minimal norm is indeed 4, as claimed, but the center density is only $1/729$ not $1/27$, and this is not the Coxeter-Todd lattice.

The error was posted at once on NJAS’s home page, and the lattice itself (with the correct determinant) was added to the lattice database [3]). We delayed publishing this correction in the hope of finding an alternative way to get the Coxeter-Todd lattice from the ternary Golay code, but so far have not found one.

In fact no integer generator matrix of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9I & 0 \\ B & I \end{bmatrix}$$

(where the four blocks have size 6×6) can produce the Coxeter-Todd lattice, since this would require the minimal squared length in the lattice to be $12\sqrt{3}$, which is not an integer.

References

- [1] A. Bonnetcaze, A. R. Calderbank and P. Solé, Quaternary quadratic residue codes and unimodular lattices, *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory*, **41** (1995), 366–377 and 1536.
- [2] A. R. Calderbank and N. J. A. Sloane, The ternary Golay code, the integers mod 9 and the Coxeter-Todd lattice, *IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory*, **42** (1996), 636–637.

- [3] G. Nebe and N. J. A. Sloane, *A Catalogue of lattices*, published electronically at <http://www.research.att.com/~njas/sequences>.