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*Almost-minimal nonuniform lattices of higher rank*

We find minimal elements in three different (but essentially equivalent) partially ordered categories:

- (A) finite-volume, noncompact, complete, locally symmetric spaces of higher rank,
- (B) nonuniform, irreducible lattices in semisimple Lie groups of higher real rank,
- (C) isotropic, simple algebraic  $Q$ -groups of higher real rank.

The main interest is in categories (A) and (B), but the proof is carried out using the machinery of category (C).