ERRATUM
TO THE "COVERING SPECTRUM OF A COMPACT LENGTH SPACE"

CHRISTINA SORMANI & GUOFANG WEI

Ruth Gornet and Craig Suttun have found an error in Example 10.3 concerning isospectral Heisenberg manifolds. The only result in our paper effected by this error is the conclusion that there is an isospectral pair of Heisenberg manifolds with distinct covering spectra. This leaves open the question of whether isospectral manifolds with distinct covering spectra exist. We expect that Ruth Gornet and Craig Sutton will soon produce a preprint resolving this question.

The precise error is in (10.8) which should not include the distinct term $m(0,0,c)/2$. We had thought that only a subgroup of the center was generated by the shorter elements forming G_1. In fact Gornet and Sutton note that any element of the form $(0 \ldots 0, 0 \ldots 0, z)$ is the product of the following elements:

$$a = (-r_1, 0, \ldots, 0; 0, \ldots, 0; 0),$$
$$b = (-r_1, 0, \ldots, 0; 0, \ldots, 0; ck).$$

Furthermore, (10.3) implies $m(a) = m(b) = \sqrt{a_1} r_1/2$ and so

$$m(0, 0, c)/2 \leq \min\{m(a), m(b)\} = \sqrt{a_1} r_1$$

rather than the opposite inequality used to justify (10.8).

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
CUNY GRADUATE CENTER AND LEHMAN COLLEGE
E-mail address: sormani@comet.lehman.cuny.edu