

A CLASS OF REPRESENTATIONS OF C^* -ALGEBRA GENERATED BY q_{ij} -COMMUTING ISOMETRIES

OLHA OSTROVSKA, VASYL OSTROVSKYI, DANYLO PROSKURIN, AND YURII SAMOILENKO

Abstract. For a C^* -algebra generated by a finite family of isometries $s_j, j=1,\ldots,d,$ satisfying the q_{ij} -commutation relations

$$s_i^* s_j = I$$
, $s_i^* s_k = q_{ij} s_k s_i^*$, $q_{ij} = \bar{q}_{ji}, |q_{ij}| < 1, 1 \le i \ne j \le d$,

we construct an infinite family of unitarily non-equivalent irreducible representations. These representations are deformations of a corresponding class of representations of the Cuntz algebra \mathcal{O}_d .

Для C^* -алгебри, породженої скінченною сім'єю ізометрій $s_j,\,j=1,\ldots,d$, що задовольняє q_{ij} -комутаційним співвідношенням

$$s_i^* s_j = I$$
, $s_i^* s_k = q_{ij} s_k s_i^*$, $q_{ij} = \bar{q}_{ji}, |q_{ij}| < 1, 1 \le i \ne j \le d$,

ми будуємо нескінченну сім'ю унітарно нееквівалентних незвідних представлень. Ці представлення є деформаціями відповідного класу представлень алгебри Кунца \mathcal{O}_d .

1. Introduction

Algebras with Wick ordering [1, 5, 4] and their representations have been studied by various authors. A Wick algebra $W_d(T)$ is an associative unital *-algebra over \mathbb{C} generated by a finite number of elements $a_j, a_j^*, j = 1, \ldots, d$, for which the following relations hold:

$$a_j^* a_k = \delta_{jk} I + \sum_{l=1}^d T_{jk}^{lm} a_m a_l^*, \quad \bar{T}_{jk}^{lm} = T_{kj}^{ml}, \qquad j, k, l, m = 1, \dots, d.$$

In particular, if all $T_{jk}^{lm} = 0$, then the relations in $W_d(T)$ generate the Cuntz-Toeplitz C^* -algebra \mathcal{O}_d^0 ,

$$a_j^* a_k = \delta_{jk} I, \qquad j, k = 1, \dots, d.$$

It was cojectured (and proved in some cases) in [4] that for sufficiently small coefficients T_{jk}^{lm} , $j, k, l, m = 1, \ldots, d$, for $W_d(T)$ there exists a universal enveloping C^* -algebra which is isomorphic to \mathcal{O}_d^0 . In [3], it has been shown that the C^* -algebra generated by a pair of q-commuting isometries,

$$s_1^* s_1 = s_2^* s_2 = I, \qquad s_1^* s_2 = q s_2 s_1^*,$$

is isomorphic to \mathcal{O}_2^0 for all |q| < 1; however, in the case where d > 2, such a result is still a conjecture.

In this paper, we study representations of a Wick ordered C^* -algebra W generated by elements s_j , j = 1, ..., d, satisfying the relations

$$s_i^* s_i = I, \quad s_i^* s_j = q_{ij} s_j s_i^*, \quad |q_{ij}| < 1, \quad q_{ij} = \bar{q}_{ji}, \qquad 1 \le i \ne j \le d.$$
 (1.1)

In a general situation of Wick algebras, the most known is the Fock representation [2, 7] and coherent [6] representations. We construct a new family of irreducible non-Fock representations which are deformations of a certain family of irreducible representations of the Cuntz algebra \mathcal{O}_d .

Keywords. Cuntz-Toeplitz algebra, q-deformation, isometries.

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2. Preliminaries

2.1. Some notations. We start with some notations. Let $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m) \in \{1, \ldots, d\}^m$ be a finite multiindex of length m, $|\alpha| = m$, let $\Lambda_m = \{1, \ldots, d\}^m$ be the set of all finite multiindices of length m, $\Lambda_0 = \emptyset$, and let $\Lambda^0 = \bigcup_{m=0}^{\infty} \Lambda_m$ be the set of all finite multiindices of arbitrary length. Also, we will use the set $\Lambda = \{1, \ldots, d\}^{\infty}$ of all infinite multiindices. For each finite multiindex $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m) \in \Lambda^0$ we use notation $s_{\alpha} = s_{\alpha_1} \ldots s_{\alpha_m}$. For a finite multiindex we use standard mappings:

$$\Lambda_m \ni \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) \mapsto \sigma(\alpha) = (\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m) \in \Lambda_{m-1},$$

$$\Lambda_m \ni \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) \mapsto \sigma_j(\alpha) = (j, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m) \in \Lambda_{m+1}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d.$$

If α does not contain j, then (1.1) implies

$$s_j^* s_\alpha = q(j, \alpha) s_\alpha s_j^*, \quad q(j, \alpha) = q_{j\alpha_1} \dots q_{j\alpha_m}.$$

If α contains j, then α can be represented as $\alpha = (\alpha' j \alpha'')$, where α' does not contain j, and we have

$$s_i^* s_\alpha = q(j, \alpha') s_{\alpha'} s_{\alpha''} = q(j, \alpha) s_{\alpha \setminus j}$$

(here and below, we denote by $\alpha \setminus j = (\alpha' \alpha'')$ the multiindex obtained from α by removing the first occurrence of j, and set $q(j, \alpha) = q(j, \alpha')$ for convenience).

Similarly, for any finite multiindices $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) \in \{1, \dots, d\}^m$, $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) \in \{1, \dots, d\}^n$, $n, m \ge 1$, one can define $\alpha \setminus \beta$ inductively as follows:

$$\alpha \setminus \beta = \begin{cases} (\alpha \setminus \beta_1) \setminus \sigma(\beta), & \beta_1 \subset \alpha, \\ \alpha \setminus \sigma(\beta), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Setting $s_{\emptyset} = I$, we obtain

$$s_{\alpha}^* s_{\beta} = q(\alpha, \beta) s_{\beta \setminus \alpha} s_{\alpha \setminus \beta}^*$$

where $q(\alpha, \beta)$ is calculated in an obvious way inductively.

If β is a permutation of α , then $\alpha \setminus \beta = \beta \setminus \alpha = \emptyset$, and we have $s_{\alpha}^* s_{\beta} = q(\alpha, \beta)I$. Also, in this case, for any multiindex δ we have

$$s_{(\alpha\delta)}^* s_{(\beta\delta)} = q(\alpha, \beta)I = q((\alpha\delta), (\beta\delta))I.$$

For infinite multiindices, we define

$$q(\alpha, \beta) = \lim_{m \to \infty} q((\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m), (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)).$$
 (2.2)

The limit exists, since |q| < 1 and is nonzero only if the sequence becomes stationary, i.e., if there exists m such that $\sigma^m(\alpha) = \sigma^m(\beta)$, and $(\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_m)$ is a permutation of $(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m)$.

2.2. Fock representation. Fock representation π_F is a *-representation of W which is determined by the condition that there exists a (unique up to a constant) unit vector Ω for which $\pi_F(s_j^*)\Omega = 0$, $1 \le j \le d$. The representation space \mathcal{F} (the Fock space) is spanned by the vectors $e_\alpha = \pi_F(s_\alpha)\Omega$, $\alpha \in \Lambda^0$, and equipped with the Fock scalar product

$$(e_{\alpha}, e_{\beta})_F = (\pi_F(s_{\beta}^* s_a \alpha)\Omega, \Omega)_F = \begin{cases} q(\beta, \alpha), & |\alpha| = |\beta|, \ \beta \text{ is a permutation of } \alpha, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This scalar product is known to be positive [1]. In particular, the finite-dimensional subspaces \mathcal{F}_n spanned by e_{α} , $\alpha \in \Lambda_n$, $n \geq 0$, are orthogonal to each other, therefore,

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_n.$$

Operators of the Fock representation are defined as follows

$$\pi_F(s_j)e_\alpha = e_{\sigma_j(\alpha)},$$

$$\pi_F(s_j^*)e_\alpha = q(j,\alpha)\pi_F(s_{\alpha\backslash j})\pi_F(s_{j\backslash \alpha}^*)\Omega = \begin{cases} q(j,\alpha)e_{\alpha\backslash j}, & \alpha \text{ contains } j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

3. A CONSTRUCTION OF NON-FOCK REPRESENTATIONS

We start with introducing an appropriate Hilbert space. Consider an (uncountable) set of vectors e_{γ} , $\gamma \in \Lambda$. For these vectors, define

$$(e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma}) = q(\gamma, \beta), \tag{3.3}$$

where $q(\beta, \gamma)$ was defined above in (2.2). In particular, for any $\beta \in \Lambda$ we have $(e_{\beta}, e_{\beta}) = 1$. We say that infinite multiindices $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda$ are equivalent, denoted by $\beta \sim \alpha$, if they "have the same tails up to a shift", i.e., there exist numbers m, n, such that $\sigma^m(\beta) = \sigma^n(\gamma)$. Fix an infinite multiindex α and consider a countable family of vectors $(e_{\beta} \mid \beta \sim \alpha)$. Define \tilde{H}_{α} as a linear span of this family.

Proposition 3.1. Form (3.3) is well-defined and positive on \tilde{H}_{α} .

Proof. Fix a sequence $\Lambda \ni \alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots)$, and define operators $J_k \colon \mathcal{F}_k \to \mathcal{F}_{k+1}$, $k = 0, 1, \dots$, as follows:

$$\mathcal{F}_k \ni e_{(\gamma_1,\dots,\gamma_k)} \mapsto J_k e_{(\gamma_1,\dots,\gamma_k)} = e_{(\gamma_1,\dots,\gamma_k,\alpha_{k+1})} \in \mathcal{F}_{k+1}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots,$$

and extend this action to the whole \mathcal{F}_k by linearity. These operators are well-defined since $(e_{\gamma})_{\gamma \in \Lambda_k}$ form a linear basis in \mathcal{F}_k .

Lemma 3.2. The operator J_k , $k \ge 0$, is an isometric embedding of \mathcal{F}_k into \mathcal{F}_{k+1} .

Proof. Take $\beta, \gamma \in \Lambda_k$, then

$$(J_{k}e_{\beta}, J_{k}e_{\gamma})_{\mathcal{F}_{k+1}} = (e_{(\beta_{1}, \dots, \beta_{k}, \alpha_{k+1})}, e_{(\gamma_{1}, \dots, \gamma_{k}, \alpha_{k+1})})$$

$$= (\pi_{F}(s_{\gamma}^{*}s_{\beta})e_{\alpha_{k+1}}, e_{\alpha_{k+1}}) = q(\gamma, \beta)(\pi_{F}(s_{\beta \setminus \gamma}s_{\gamma \setminus \beta}^{*})e_{\alpha_{k+1}}, e_{\alpha_{k+1}})$$

$$= q(\gamma, \beta)(\pi_{F}(s_{\gamma \setminus \beta})^{*}e_{\alpha_{k+1}}, \pi_{F}(s_{\beta \setminus \gamma})^{*}e_{\alpha_{k+1}}) = (e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma})_{\mathcal{F}_{k}}.$$

Indeed, if γ is a permutation of β , then $\beta \setminus \gamma = \gamma \setminus \beta = \emptyset$, and since $s_{\emptyset} = I$,

$$q(\gamma,\beta)(\pi_F(s_{\gamma\backslash\beta})^*e_{\alpha_{k+1}},\pi_F(s_{\beta\backslash\gamma})^*e_{\alpha_{k+1}}) = q(\gamma,\beta)(e_{\alpha_{k+1}},e_{\alpha_{k+1}})$$
$$= q(\gamma,\beta) = (e_{\beta},e_{\gamma})_{\mathcal{F}_k}.$$

If γ is not a permutation of β , then $\beta \setminus \gamma$ and $\gamma \setminus \beta$ are non-empty and disjoint. Since $\pi_F(s_j)^*e_{\alpha_{k+1}} \neq 0$ only if $j = \alpha_{k+1}$, this implies that

$$q(\gamma,\beta)(\pi_F(s_{\gamma\backslash\beta})^*e_{\alpha_{k+1}},\pi_F(s_{\beta\backslash\gamma})^*e_{\alpha_{k+1}})=0=(e_\beta,e_\gamma)_{\mathcal{F}_k}.$$

Consider an inductive limit $\tilde{H}_{\alpha}^0 = \varinjlim_{J_k} \mathcal{F}_k$. This space can be naturally identified with a span of the vectors e_{β} , $\beta \in \Lambda$, over all β for which there exists m such that $\beta_k = \alpha_k$ for k > m. Lemma 3.2 and the positivity of the Fock scalar product yields that

$$(e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma}) = (e_{(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k)}, e_{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)}), \text{ if } \beta_j = \gamma_j = \alpha_j \text{ for all } j > k,$$

is a well-defined positive form on \tilde{H}^0_{α} , and that

$$\mathcal{F}_k \ni e_{(\gamma_1,\dots,\gamma_k)} \mapsto e_{(\gamma_1,\dots,\gamma_k,\alpha_{k+1},\alpha_{k+2},\dots)} \in \tilde{H}^0_{\alpha}$$

is an isometric embedding.

Obviously, $\tilde{H}_{\alpha}^{0} \subset \tilde{H}_{\alpha}$, but in general (unless α is equivalent to a stationary sequence) it is a proper subset. Let $\beta \sim \alpha$. The same way, consider space \tilde{H}_{β}^{0} with the corresponding scalar product. If there exists m such that $\beta_{k} = \alpha_{k}$ for all k > m (or equivalently,

 $\sigma^m(\alpha) = \sigma^m(\beta)$), then $\tilde{H}^0_{\alpha} = \tilde{H}^0_{\beta}$. Otherwise α and β differ in an infinite set of indices (so that $q(\alpha, \beta) = 0$) and we set \tilde{H}^0_{α} and \tilde{H}^0_{β} to be orthogonal. Similarly, for any $\beta \sim \gamma \sim \alpha$ we define

$$(e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma}) = \begin{cases} (e_{(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)}, e_{(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_m)})_{\mathcal{F}_m}, & \text{there exists } m, \text{ for which } \sigma^m(\beta) = \sigma^m(\gamma), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The arguments above show that this form is well-defined and positive on the whole \tilde{H}_{α} . One can easily see that the latter expression is equal to $q(\gamma, \beta)$.

Define H_{α} as a completion of \tilde{H}_{α} with respect to the introduced above scalar product.

Theorem 3.3. 1. Operators in H_{α} ,

$$\pi_{\alpha}(s_{j})e_{\beta} = e_{\sigma_{j}(\beta)}, \quad \pi_{\alpha}(s_{j}^{*})e_{\beta} = \begin{cases} 0, & \beta \text{ does not contain } j, \\ q(j,\beta)e_{\beta\setminus j}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

form well-defined *-representation of the C^* -algebra W.

- 2. This representation is irreducible.
- 3. Representations corresponding to multiindices α, α' are unitary equivalent iff the corresponding Hilbert spaces coincide, i.e., $\alpha \sim \alpha'$.
 - 4. The representation π_{α} is not unitary equivalent to the Fock representation.

Proof. 1. We need to verify that $\pi_{\alpha}(s_j^*) = \pi_{\alpha}(s_j)^*$, j = 1, ..., d, and that relations (1.1) hold. Obviously, it is sufficient to verify this on the vectors e_{γ} , $\gamma \sim \alpha$.

Conditions $\pi_{\alpha}(s_j^*)e_{\beta} = \pi_{\alpha}(s_j)^*e_{\beta}$, j = 1, ..., d, hold due to the way the scalar product is constructed. Indeed,

$$(\pi_{\alpha}(s_{j})^{*}e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma}) = (e_{\beta}, \pi_{\alpha}(s_{j})e_{\gamma}) = (e_{\beta}, e_{\sigma_{j}(\gamma)}),$$

$$(\pi_{\alpha}(s_{j}^{*})e_{\beta}, e_{\gamma}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \beta \text{ does not contain } j, \\ q(j, \beta)(e_{\beta \setminus j}, e_{\gamma}), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If β does not contain j, then the both expressions are zero. Assume β contains j. According to the definition of the scalar product, $(e_{\beta \setminus j}, e_{\gamma}) \neq 0$ only if there exists m_1 , for which $\sigma^{m_1}(\beta \setminus j) = \sigma^{m_1}(\gamma)$. Then there exists m_2 , for which $\sigma^{m_2}(\beta) = \sigma^{m_2}(\sigma_j(\gamma))$. Take $m = \max(m_1, m_2)$, this will in particular ensure that $(\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_{m+1})$ contains j. Then, since the Fock representation is a *-representation,

$$\begin{split} (e_{\beta}, e_{\sigma_{j}(\gamma)}) &= (e_{(\beta_{1}, \dots, \beta_{m+1})}, e_{(j,\gamma_{1}, \dots, \gamma_{m})})_{\mathcal{F}_{m+1}} \\ &= (e_{(\beta_{1}, \dots, \beta_{m+1})}, \pi_{F}(s_{j})e_{(\gamma_{1}, \dots, \gamma_{m})})_{\mathcal{F}_{m+1}} \\ &= (\pi_{F}(s_{j}^{*})e_{(\beta_{1}, \dots, \beta_{m+1})}, e_{(\gamma_{1}, \dots, \gamma_{m})})_{\mathcal{F}_{m}} \\ &= q(j, \beta)(e_{(\beta_{1}, \dots, \beta_{m+1})\setminus j}, e_{(\gamma_{1}, \dots, \gamma_{m})})_{\mathcal{F}_{m}} = q(j, \beta)(e_{\beta\setminus j}, e_{\gamma}). \end{split}$$

To prove (1.1), we apply the same arguments as above to reduce the situation to the case of the Fock representation.

2. We start with the following auxiliary fact.

Lemma 3.4. In the C^* -algebra W there exist elements \tilde{s}_j , such that $\tilde{s}_i^* s_k = \delta_{jk} I$.

Proof. For each $j=1,\ldots,d$, let $p_j=s_js_j^*$ be a projection on the range of $\pi_{\alpha}(s_j)$. Since the C^* -algebra generated by $p_j,\ j=1,\ldots,d$, is finite-dimensional [8], the latter C^* -algebra, and therefore, W as well, contains $\check{p}_j=\bigvee_{k\neq j}p_k$ which is a projection on the sum of ranges of $\pi_{\alpha}(s_k),\ k\neq j$.

Write $c_j = (I - \check{p}_j)s_j$. Then $c_j^*s_k = 0, k \neq j$, and if we show that $c_j^*s_j$ is invertible, then

$$\tilde{s}_j = (I - \check{p}_j) s_i^* (s_i^* (I - \check{p}_j) s_j)^{-1}$$

is the needed element.

So it is sufficient to prove that $c_j^* s_j = s_j^* (I - \check{p}_j) s_j$ is invertible. First notice that for any element $x = s_\mu s_\nu^*$, where μ and ν do not contain j, we have

$$s_i^*xs_j = s_i^*s_\mu s_\nu^*s_j = q(j,\mu)q(\nu,j)s_\mu s_i^*s_j s_\nu^* = q(j,\mu)q(\nu,j)x,$$

therefore, $s_j^*(I - \check{p}_j)s_j$ belongs to the finite-dimensional algebra generated by p_k , $k \neq j$, and thus its spectrum is finite. Then to prove the invertibility of $s_j^*(I - \check{p}_j)s_j$, it is enough to show that it has zero kernel, which is equivalent to $\ker(I - \check{p}_j)s_j = 0$.

Since the Fock representation of W is exact [2], any element $x \in W$ can be uniquely represented as

$$x = p_1 x_1 + \dots + p_d x_d.$$

This means that the range of p_j is linearly independent of the span of the ranges of p_k , $k \neq j$, in particular, the ranges of p_j and \check{p}_j do not intersect. This implies $\ker(I - \check{p}_j)s_j = 0$. \square

Now we prove the irreducibility of π_{α} . For $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n) \in \Lambda_n$, denote $\tilde{s}_{\mu} = \tilde{s}_{\mu_1} \dots \tilde{s}_{\mu_n}$. Fix an infinite sequence $\mu = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots) \in \Lambda$ and consider the operators

$$P_n(\mu) = \pi_{\alpha}(s_{(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)} \tilde{s}^*_{(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)}, \quad n \ge 1.$$

For any vector of the form e_{β} , one directly sees that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} P_n(\mu)e_{\beta} = \delta_{\beta\mu}e_{\mu},$$

i.e., the sequence $P_n(\mu)$ strongly converges to $P(\mu)$ which is a projection onto the one-dimensional space generated by e_{μ} .

Let C be a bounded operator commuting with all $\pi_{\alpha}(x)$, $x \in W$. Then C commutes with $P(\mu)$, and therefore, for any $\beta \sim \alpha$ we have $Ce_{\beta} = c(\beta)e_{\beta}$, where $c(\beta)$ is a constant. On the other hand, by the construction of \tilde{s}_j given by Lemma 3.4, for each $\beta, \gamma \sim \alpha$ there exist finite multiindices μ, ν , such that $s_{\gamma} = s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^*s_{\beta}$, so that $\pi_{\alpha}(s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^*)e_{\beta} = e_{\gamma}$. Since C commutes with $\pi_{\alpha}(s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^*)$, we have

$$c(\beta)e_{\gamma} = c(\beta)\pi_{\alpha}(s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^{*})e_{\beta} = \pi_{\alpha}(s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^{*})Ce_{\beta} = C\pi_{\alpha}(s_{\mu}\tilde{s}_{\nu}^{*})e_{\beta} = Ce_{\gamma} = c(\gamma)e_{\gamma},$$

i.e., $c(\beta) = c(\gamma)$ for all $\beta, \gamma \sim \alpha$. Therefore, C is a scalar operator, and by the Schur lemma, π_{α} is irreducible.

3. Using the arguments above, if α' is not equivalent to α , then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P_n(\alpha')e_{\beta} = 0, \quad \beta \sim \alpha,$$

therefore, $P_n(\alpha')$ strongly converges to zero in H_{α} , but, in $H_{\alpha'}$, it strongly converges to a nonzero projection $P(\alpha')$.

4. Assume that there exists $\Omega \in H_{\alpha}$, for which $\pi_{\alpha}(s_j)^*\Omega = 0$, $j = 1, \ldots, d$. For each $\beta \sim \alpha$ we have

$$(\Omega, e_{\beta}) = (\Omega, \pi_{\alpha}(s_{\beta_1})e_{\sigma(\beta)}) = (\pi_{\alpha}(s_{\beta_1})^*\Omega, e_{\sigma(\beta)}) = 0.$$

Since vectors e_{β} , $\beta \sim \alpha$, form a total set in H_{α} , we get $\Omega = 0$.

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 - O. Ostrovska: olyushka.ostrovska@gmail.com National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute")
 - V. Ostrovskyi: vo@imath.kiev.ua
 Institute of Mathematics, NAS of Ukraine
 - D. Proskurin: prohor75@gmail.comKyiv National Taras Shevchenko University

Yu. Samoilenko: yurii_sam@imath.kiev.ua Institute of Mathematics, NAS of Ukraine

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