GELFAND-KIRILLOV DIMENSION IN JORDAN ALGEBRAS

C. MARTINEZ

ABSTRACT. In this paper we study Gelfand-Kirillov dimension in Jordan algebras. In particular we will relate Gelfand-Kirillov (GK for short) dimensions of a special Jordan algebra and its associative enveloping algebra and also the GK dimension of a Jordan algebra and the GK dimension of its universal multiplicative enveloping algebra.

Introduction

Definition. Let A be a finitely generated (not necessarily associative) algebra. Let V be a finite dimensional K-vector space generating A and let V^n denote the linear span of all products of length $\leq n$ in elements of V. The Gelfand-Kirillov dimension of A (GKdim(A) for short) is defined by:

$$GKdim(A) = \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^n]}{\ln n}.$$

It is known that the above definition does not depend on the choice of a particular finite dimensional vector space generating A (see [1] and [3]).

Clearly GKdim(A) = 0 if and only if $dim_K A < \infty$ and, in fact, there are no algebras with 0 < GKdim(A) < 1 (see [3]). In the associative case Bergman proved that there are no associative algebras with 1 < GKdim(A) < 2 (this is not known in the non-associative case, not even for Jordan algebras). However there are algebras having dimension s for every $2 \le s$.

We will start relating GK dimensions of a special Jordan algebra J and GKdim of its associative enveloping algebra A.

If A is an associative algebra, $A^{(+)}$ denotes the Jordan algebra associated with A, that is, the algebra with the same underlying vector space of A and with the new product : $a.b = \frac{1}{2}(ab + ba)$ (here the associative product in A is denoted by juxtaposition). A Jordan algebra J is said to be special if it is a subalgebra of $A^{(+)}$ for some associative algebra A. The associative subalgebra of A generated by J is the associative enveloping of the special Jordan algebra J.

So in section 1 we prove the following theorem.

Theorem 1.2. Let J be a finitely generated special Jordan algebra and let A be its associative enveloping algebra. Then GKdim(J) = GKdim(A).

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For an arbitrary Jordan algebra J let M(J) be its universal multiplicative enveloping algebra (see [2] or section 2 of this paper).

The following theorem is proved in section 2.

Theorem 2.2. $GK \ dim(M(J) \leq 2 \ GK \ dim(J)$.

The Example 2.1 given in the same section shows that the inequality above can be strict. However, for special Jordan algebras we get more precise information.

Theorem 2.4. Let J be a finitely generated special Jordan algebra. Then

$$GK \ dim(M(J)) = 2 \ GK \ dim(J).$$

Finally, in section 3 we discuss GK-dimensions of Jordan algebras, Jordan pairs and the Tits-Kantor-Koecher Lie algebras.

1. Special Jordan algebras

We will consider J a finitely generated Jordan algebra and A its associative enveloping algebra, so A is also finitely generated. We will need the following result which is due to Skosirskii:

Theorem 1.1 (Skosirskii, see [7]). Let J be a finitely generated special Jordan algebra and let A be its associative enveloping algebra. If a_1, \ldots, a_m is a set of generators of J, then every element in A can be written as a linear combination of elements in the form: $ba_{i_1} \ldots a_{i_t}$, where $i_1 < \ldots < i_t$ and b is a Jordan product of elements a_1, \ldots, a_m or b = 1.

With the above result we can now prove the first mentioned theorem.

Theorem 1.2. Let J be a finitely generated special Jordan algebra and let A be its associative enveloping algebra. Then GK dim(J) = GK dim(A).

Proof. Let V be a finite dimensional vector space over K that generates A. Let a_1, \ldots, a_m be a basis of V. By $V^{\bullet n}$ we denote the vector space spanned by all Jordan products of length $\leq n$ of generators a_1, \ldots, a_m . Let V^n be the vector space spanned by all associative products of length $\leq n$ in A of generators a_1, \ldots, a_m . So $V^{\bullet n} \subseteq V^n$ and clearly

$$GKdim(J) = \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^{\bullet n}]}{\ln n} \leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^n]}{\ln n} = GKdim(A).$$

As usual the associative product in A is denoted by juxtaposition.

By the Theorem of Skosirskii, an arbitrary product π of length n can be expressed as a linear combination of elements in the form: $ba_{i_1} \dots a_{i_t}$ where $i_1 < \dots < i_t$ and b is a Jordan product of a_1, \dots, a_m or b = 1. Moreover, from the the proof of Skosirskii's theorem it follows that each summand $ba_{i_1} \dots a_{i_t}$ has the same composition as π (see [7]).

There are 2^m words $a_{i_1} \dots a_{i_t}$, $i_1 < \dots < i_t$ (including the empty word). Hence $dimV^n \leq 2^m (dimV^{\bullet n} + 1)$ and

$$\begin{split} GKdim(A) &= \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^n]}{\ln n} \leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[2^m(dimV^{\bullet n} + 1)]}{\ln n} \\ &\leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln 2^m}{\ln n} + \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^{\bullet n} + 1]}{\ln n} = GKdim(J). \end{split}$$

Consequently GKdim(A) = GKdim(J).

Corollary 1.1. Let J be a Jordan algebra (not necessarily special) and let S(J) be its universal associative enveloping algebra. Then $GKdim(S(J)) \leq GKdim(J)$.

Proof. Let $\varphi: J \longrightarrow S(J)$ be a universal specialization. Then S(J) is the associative enveloping of the algebra $\varphi(J)$. So Theorem 2.1 assures that $GKdim(\varphi(J)) = GKdim(S(J))$. But $\varphi(J)$ is an homomorphic image of J, and consequently $GKdim(J) \geq GKdim(\varphi(J)) = GKdim(S(J))$.

Corollary 1.2. Let A be a finitely generated alternative algebra, $char K \neq 2$. Then GKdim(A) = GKdim(R(A)), where R(A) is the right multiplication algebra of A.

Proof. Let A and $A^{(+)}$ denote the alternative algebra and its associated Jordan algebra, where product in $A^{(+)}$ is given by: $a.b = \frac{1}{2}(ab + ba)$.

It is known (see [8]) that $A^{(+)}$ is also finitely generated.

We can assume the existence of a unit element in A.

Let A^* be the linear span of right multiplications by elements of A. It is known that A^* is also a Jordan algebra $(R(a) \circ R(b) = \frac{1}{2}(R(a)R(b) + R(b)R(a)) = R(a.b))$, A^* is isomorphic to $A^{(+)}$ and R(A) is the associative enveloping algebra of the special Jordan algebra A^* .

By Theorem 1.2, $GKdim(A^{(+)}) = GKdim(A^*) = GKdim(R(A))$.

But clearly $GKdim(A^{(+)}) \leq GKdim(A)$ (since if W is a finite dimensional vector space generating $A^{(+)}$, it also generates A and $W^{\bullet n} \subseteq W^n$ for every natural number n, with the same notation as in Theorem 1.2).

Also, if R(A) is generated by the finite dimensional K-vector space U, then $W^n \subseteq 1.U^n$. So $GKdim(A) \leq GKdim(R(A))$ and the equality follows. \square

Remark 1.1. The above result is also true when charK = 2. The proof follows the same lines that the one given in Theorem 1.2, but instead of the Skosirskii result mentioned in Theorem 1.1., it would use the following result of [9] (Lemma 6, p. 275).

Lemma 1.1. Any element from the right multiplication algebra R(Alt[X]) of the algebra Alt[X] is a linear combination of elements of the form $R(u_1)R(u_2)...$ $R(u_n)R(x)$, where x is an arbitrary element of the algebra Alt[X] and $u_1,...,u_n$ are mutually distinct regular r_1 -words from the set X. In addition, the operators $R(u_1),...,R(u_n)$ can be missing.

2. The universal multiplicative enveloping algebras

Let B = B(X) be a free bimodule over a Jordan algebra J over a set of free generators X (see [2]). Consider the subalgebra $R_B(J)$ of $End_K(B)$ generated by all right multiplications $R_B(a)$, $a \in J$. It is known that the algebra $R_B(J)$ does not depend on the choice of X. We call $M(J) = R_B(J)$ the universal multiplicative enveloping algebra of J.

If the algebra J is generated by elements x_1, \ldots, x_m then the algebra M(J) is known to be generated by the operators $R(x_i)$, $R(x_ix_j)$, $1 \le i, j \le m$ (see [2]).

We will use the following well known relations satisfied by the right multiplications of a Jordan algebra (see [2]):

$$R(y)R(z)R(x) + R(x)R(z)R(y) + R((x.y).z)$$

$$= R(y)R(x.z) + R(x)R(y.z) + R(z)R(x.y)$$

$$= R(x.y)R(z) + R(y.z)R(x) + R(z.x)R(y).$$

Skosirskii proved the following theorem (see Theorem 1.1 in [8]):

Theorem 2.1 (Skosirskii). Let J be a Jordan algebra generated by elements x_1, \ldots, x_m and let N = 2m+1. Then M(J) is spanned by operators $R(a_1) \ldots R(a_k)$, where $a_i \in J$ and k < N.

To prove the second theorem we will need to strengthen this result. If we combine the above mentioned result by Skosirskii and Proposition 1.1 in [8], we obtain the following

Proposition 2.1. Let J be a Jordan algebra generated by elements x_1, \ldots, x_m and let N = 2m+1. Then there exists a natural number f(m) such that M(J) is spanned by operators $U(a,b)R(a_1) \ldots R(a_k)$, where a,b,a_i are Jordan words in x_1, \ldots, x_m , $k \leq N$, and $deg(a_1) + \ldots + deg(a_k) \leq f(m)$.

Remark 2.1. From the proposition it follows that for arbitrary words b_1,\ldots,b_r in the generators x_1,\ldots,x_m , the operator $\pi=R(b_1)\ldots R(b_r)$ is a linear combination of operators $R(a_1)\ldots R(a_k)$ where $k\leq N,\ a_i$ are Jordan words in x_1,\ldots,x_m , at most two of the words a_1,\ldots,a_k have length $\geq f(m)$ and each $R(a_1)\ldots R(a_k)$ has the same composition as π .

Theorem 2.2. $GK \ dim(M(J)) \leq 2 \ GK dim(J)$.

Proof. Let us suppose that J is generated by elements x_1, \ldots, x_m . Then the algebra M(J) is generated by operators $R(x_i), R(x_i.x_j)$. Let V be the linear span of $\{x_1, \ldots, x_m\}$ and let W be the linear span of $\{R(x_i), R(x_i.x_j)\}$. So $\dim W = M \leq m(m+1)$.

Let us denote as before V^n and W^n the vector spaces spanned by words $x_{i_1} \dots x_{i_r}$, in V and operators $R(a_1) \dots R(a_r)$ in W, where $r \leq n$, $a_i = x_{j_i}$ or $a_i = x_{j_i} \cdot x_{h_i}$. There are only finitely many words of length $\leq f(m)$. To be precise, there are no more than $H(m) = m + m^2 + m^3 + \ldots + m^{f(m)-1}$ of them.

For each pair a, b of words, there are finitely many operators in the form $U(a, b)R(a_1) \dots R(a_t)$, with $t \leq N$ and a_1, \dots, a_t words of length $\leq f(n)$.

So the above proposition assures that for every $n \geq N$, $dim(W^n) \leq C.(dim V^n)^2$, where C is some constant (it depends only on m and N, but not on n). Consequently $GK \ dim(M(J)) \leq 2GK \ dim(J)$.

Remark 2.2. The above result can be also proved for alternative algebras. Its proof follows the same lines and ideas used in Theorem 2.2 but, instead of the modified version of the Skosirskii result, a similar result for alternative algebras due to I. Shestakov is used.

Lemma 2.1 (I. Shestakov,[6]). Let A be an alternative algebra generated by the ordered set of elements $X = \{x_i | i \in I\}$. Then the universal multiplication algebra of A, M(A), can be generated by elements of one of the following types:

$$L(a)R(a), R(x_{i_1})R(x_{i_2})\dots R(x_{i_k})R(a), L(x_{i_1})R(x_{i_2})R(x_{i_3})\dots R(x_{i_m})R(b)$$

where $a, b \in A$, $x_h \in X$, $i_1 < i_2 < \ldots < i_k$, $j_1 < j_2 < \ldots < j_m$, $k \ge 1$, and $m \ge 2$.

Theorem 2.3. Let A be a finitely generated alternative algebra and let M(A) denote its multiplication algebra. Then $GKdim(M(A)) \leq 2GKdim(A)$.

Example 2.1. Let H(O,3) be the exceptional 27-dimensional algebra over K and let $J = H(O,3) \otimes K[t]$. Then $GK \dim(J) = 1$ (because H(O,3) is finite-dimensional and $GK \dim(F[t]) = 1$). Let B be a free Jordan bimodule over J and let A be the subalgebra of $M(J) = R_B(J)$ generated by all multiplications $R_B(a)$, where a is an element of $H(O,3) \otimes 1$.

Jacobson proved (see [2]) that $M(H(O,3)) \cong M_{27}(K)$. Since A is an homomorphic image of the universal multiplicative algebra M(H(O,3)), we have that $A \cong M_{27}(K)$.

We say that an element of the free Jordan algebra f is a central polynomial for a Jordan algebra J if an arbitrary value of f on J lies in the associative center of J. Y. Medvedev (see [5]) constructed a central multilinear polynomial f for the free Jordan algebra which is not identically zero in H(O,3). It is easy to see that $f(J) = 1 \otimes K[t]$.

Hence $1 \otimes K[t] = f(J) \subseteq f(J+B)$, so an arbitrary element $c \in 1 \otimes K[t]$ lies in the associative center of J+B. Hence $R_B(a.c) = R_B(a)R_B(c) = R_B(c)R_B(a)$ for an arbitrary element $a \in J$. This implies that $R_B(J) = A[R_{1 \otimes t}]$. Therefore $GK \dim(R_B J) = 1$.

This example shows that the inequality in Theorem 3.2 may be strict, that is, it is possible that $GK \ dim(M(J)) < 2 \ GK \ dim(J)$.

Example 2.2. If O denotes the octonions algebra and $A = O \otimes K[t]$, then we can prove in the same way that we did in the previous example, that GKdim(M(A)) = GKdim(A) = 1.

Example 2.3. If J = K[X], then $M(J) \cong K[X,Y]$ (see [2]). Consequently $GK \dim(J) = 1$ and $GK \dim M(J) = 2$. That is, in this case $GK \dim(M(J)) = 2 GK \dim(J)$.

This second example suggests that in the case of special Jordan algebras, the inequality given in Theorem 3.2 is in fact an equality.

Theorem 2.4. Let J be a finitely generated special Jordan algebra and let A be its associative enveloping algebra. If M(J) is the universal multiplicative enveloping algebra, then GK dim(M(J)) = 2 GK dim(J) = 2 GK dim(A).

Proof. We can consider J with unit element and a finite set of generators $\{1, x_1, ..., x_m\}$ of J and A. Let V be the linear span of them, let V^n be the associative product of V n-times and let V^n be the Jordan product of V n-times.

Let $M = A \otimes_K A$. Then M is a J-bimodule via $(x \otimes y)a = \frac{1}{2}(ax \otimes y + x \otimes ay)$. Let $R_M(J) = \langle R_M(a) | a \in J \rangle$. It would be enough to prove that $GK \dim(R_M(J)) \geq 2 GK \dim(J)$.

Since $V^{\bullet n} \subseteq V^n$, we can take a basis of V^n extending a basis of $V^{\bullet n}$.

If $\{b_i|i\in I\}$ is a basis of $V^{\bullet n}$, then these elements are independent as elements of A. Let us show that the system $\{R(b_i)R(b_j)\}$ with $(i,j)\in I\times I$ and $i\leq j$ is a linearly independent set of $R_M(J)$.

In fact, an equality $\sum_{i\leq j}\lambda_{i,j}R(b_i)R(b_j)=0$ implies (when we apply it to $1\otimes 1$) that $\sum_{i\leq j}\lambda_{i,j}(b_i\otimes b_j+b_j\otimes b_i+1\otimes b_ib_j+b_ib_j\otimes 1)=0$, which yields $\lambda_{i,j}=0$ for any $(i,j)\in I\times I$ with $i\leq j$, since $\{b_i\otimes b_j|(i,j)\in I\times I, i\leq j\}$ is a linearly independent system in $A\otimes A$.

Let \tilde{V} be the linear span of $\{R(1), R(x_1), \dots, R(x_m), R(x_i, x_j), i \leq j\}$ The algebra $R_M(J)$ is generated by \tilde{V} and we have proved that

$$dim\tilde{V}^n \ge \frac{1}{2}(dim\,V^{\bullet n})(dim\,V^{\bullet n}+1).$$

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So $GK \ dim(R_M(J)) \ge 2 \ GK \ dim(J)$.

3. Jordan Triple Systems, Jordan Pairs and Lie Algebras

If J is a Jordan algebra, J can be considered as a triple system via:

 $\{xyz\} = (x.y).z + (y.z).x - (x.z).y$ where denotes the Jordan product in J.

We will denote by J^T the Jordan algebra J when it is considered as a triple

We have also a Jordan pair $P = (J^-, J^+)$ associated with J, where $J^- = J^+ = J$ and $\{x^-, y^+, z^-\}$ and $\{x^+, y^-, z^+\}$ are the triple products defined before.

It is clear that if J is finitely generated as a triple system or as a Jordan pair, it is also finitely generated as a Jordan algebra (it can be generated by the same set of elements and products in triple systems and Jordan pairs can be expressed with the Jordan product).

Lemma 3.1. Let J be a Jordan algebra finitely generated by v_1, \ldots, v_m . Then J^T is generated as a triple system by all products of v_1, \ldots, v_m of length ≤ 2 .

Proof. We know that if J is generated by v_1, \ldots, v_m , then its multiplication algebra R(J) is generated by $R(v_i)$ and $R(v_i,v_j)$.

Let us consider an element of J that is a product of length ≥ 4 . Then this element can be represented in the form: $a = \sum v_i R(.) R(.) \dots R(.)$, where at least two multiplication operators appear in each summand of the expression. So a can be rewritten in the form: $a = \sum a_j R(a'_j) R(a''_j)$ with $a'_j, a''_j \in \{R(v_i), R(v_h v_l)\}.$

But
$$(a_j.a_j').a_i'' = \frac{1}{2}\{a_i'a_ja_i''\} + \frac{1}{2}\{a_ja_j'a_i''\}.$$

But $(a_j.a_j').a_j'' = \frac{1}{2}\{a_j'a_ja_j''\} + \frac{1}{2}\{a_ja_j'a_j''\}$. Thus all products of length ≥ 3 can be expressed by using triple products.

Theorem 3.1. (1) Let J be a Jordan algebra and let J^T , (J,J) be the triple system and the Jordan pair respectively associated to J. Then J is finitely generated if and only if J^T is finitely generated if and only if (J, J) is finitely generated.

(2)
$$GK \ dim(J) = GK dim(J^T) = GK \ dim((J, J)).$$

Proof. The proof of (1) follows immediately from the previous lemma. So let us prove (2).

Since it is clear that $GK \ dim(J^T) = GK \ dim((J,J))$, we only need to prove that $GK \ dim(J) = GK \ dim(J^T)$.

Let V be the linear span of a generator system $\{v_1,\ldots,v_m\}$ of J. Then, according to the previous lemma, the linear span W of $\{v_i, v_i, v_h\}$ generates J^T .

If n is a natural number, V^n denotes the linear span of all products of length $\leq n$ in v_1, \ldots, v_m and if n is an odd natural number, then W^n denotes the linear span of all product in J^T of length (odd) $\leq n$ in the elements v_i, v_i, v_h .

Let us note that only products of odd length in J^T are defined.

Now it is enough to notice that $dim_K W^n \leq dim_K V^{2n} \leq dim_K W^{2n-1}$ for every odd natural number $n, n \ge 3$.

Consequently:

$$\begin{split} GK \ dim(J^T) &= \limsup_{n \to \infty, nodd} \frac{\ln[dimW^n]}{\ln n} \\ &\leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^{2n}]}{\ln n} = \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^{2n}]}{\ln[2n]} \frac{\ln[2n]}{\ln n} = GK \ dim(J). \end{split}$$

That is, $GK \ dim(J^T) \leq GK \ dim(J)$. Conversely,

$$\begin{split} GKdim(J) &= \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV^n]}{\ln n} \leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimW^{2n-1}]}{\ln[2n-1]} \frac{\ln[2n-1]}{\ln n} \\ &= GKdim(J^T). \end{split}$$

Now we will study the relation between Jordan pairs and Lie algebras.

If $L = L_{-1} \oplus L_0 \otimes L_1$ is a short graded Lie algebra (that is $[L_i, L_j] \subseteq L_{i+j}$ and $L_i = 0$ if |i| > 1), then (L_{-1}, L_1) is a Jordan pair with the law:

$$\{x_{\epsilon}, y_{-\epsilon}, z_{\epsilon}\} = [[x_{\epsilon}, y_{-\epsilon}], z_{\epsilon}]$$

where $\epsilon = \pm 1$.

The space L_0 acts as derivations of the Jordan pair $P = (L_{-1}, L_1)$, where $Der(P) = \{D = (D_+, D_-) | D_{\epsilon} \{x_{\epsilon} y_{-\epsilon} z_{\epsilon}\} = \{D_{\epsilon}(x_{\epsilon}) y_{-\epsilon} z_{\epsilon}\} + \{x_{\epsilon} D_{-\epsilon}(y_{-\epsilon}) z_{\epsilon}\} + \{x_{\epsilon} y_{-\epsilon} D_{\epsilon}(z_{\epsilon})\}.$

The original Lie algebra can be recovered from the Jordan pair by the Kantor-Koecher-Tits construction: If $P=(V_+,V_-)$ is a Jordan pair and L_0 is a Lie subalgebra of Der(P), we get a Lie algebra $L=L_{-1}\oplus L_0\oplus L_1=V_-\oplus L_0\oplus V_+$ with the product given by:

$$[x_{\epsilon}, y_{\epsilon}] = 0,$$
 $[D, x_{\epsilon}] = D_{\epsilon}(x_{\epsilon}),$ $[D, D']_{\epsilon} = [D_{\epsilon}, D'_{\epsilon}]$

and

$$[x_+, x_-] = D_{x_+, x_-}$$

where
$$(D_{x_+,x_-})_+(z_+) = \{x_+x_-z_+\}$$
 and $(D_{x_+,x_-})_-(z_-) = -\{x_-x_+z_-\}.$

Theorem 3.2. Let $L = L_{-1} \oplus L_0 \oplus L_1$ be a short graded Lie algebra finitely generated with $L_0 = [L_{-1}, L_1]$ and let $P = (L_{-1}, L_1)$ be the associated Jordan pair. Then $GK \ dim(P) = GK \ dim((L_{-1}, L_1))$.

Proof. Let $X = X^- \cup X^+$ be a finite set of generators of P and let V be its linear span. For each natural number n we will denote by $V^{[n]}$ the linear span of products in L of length n and for each odd natural number $V^{(n)}$ will denote the linear span of all products in P of length n.

Clearly $V^{[n]} = V^{(n)}$ for every odd natural number, so

$$GKdim(P) = \limsup_{n \to \infty, nodd} \frac{\ln[dimV + dimV^{(3)} + \dots + dimV^{(n)}]}{\ln n}$$

$$\leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV + dimV^{[2]} + \dots + dimV^{[n]}]}{\ln n} = GKdim(L).$$

If n is an odd natural number, then $V^{[n]} = [V^{[n-1]}, V]$, so

$$dimV^{[n]} \le M.dimV^{[n-1]} = M.dimV^{(n-1)}$$
.

where M = dimV.

Consequently

$$\begin{split} GKdim(L) &= \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\ln[dimV + dimV^{[2]} + \ldots + dimV^{[n]}]}{\ln n} \\ &\leq \limsup_{n \to \infty, nodd} \frac{\ln[(1+M)(dimV + dimV^{(3)} + \ldots + dimV^{(n)}]}{\ln n} \\ &= GKdim(P). \end{split}$$

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Department of Mathematics, University of Oviedo, 33.007 Oviedo, Spain $E\text{-}mail\ address:\ \mathtt{chelo@pinon.ccu.uniovi.es}$