1d periodic differential operator of order 4

VADIM TKACHENKO

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel

We consider a differential operator

$$L = \frac{d^4}{dx^4} + \frac{d}{dx}p(x)\frac{d}{dx} + q(x), x \in \mathbb{R}^1$$

with 1-periodic functions p(x) and q(x). We prove that the characteristic equation for its Floquet multipliers is inverse and hence its spectrum in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^1)$ may be described using some hyper-elliptic Riemann surface.

We prove the following uniqueness theorem:

Let $U(\lambda)$ be the monodromy matrix of operator L and let its characteristic determinant $det(U(\lambda) - \rho I)$ be the same as of operator $L_0 = \frac{d^4}{dx^4}$. Then $p(x) \equiv q(x) \equiv 0$.