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**Short title:** Minimal areas from $q$-deformed oscillator algebras.

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**Review text:**

The authors assume that there is a minimal area, i.e., that the usual (i.e., Heisenberg's) commutation relations between the coordinate and momentum happen to be complemented by a nontrivial commutator between x and y coordinates (in two dimensions). The two illustrative examples are then constructed, i.e., the formulae for commutators between creation and annihilation operators leading to the two respective awkward (so called deformed) oscillator algebras are deduced. In the opposite direction the authors start from a "nice" (i.e., Fock-space-construction admitting) deformed oscillator algebra and deduce the resulting cumbersome generalization of the commutation relations between the coordinate and momentum. A discussion of some special cases is added.