

# **Parametric Continuation and Optimal Parametrization in Applied Mathematics and Mechanics**

# Parametric Continuation and Optimal Parametrization in Applied Mathematics and Mechanics

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# Contents

Preface	vii
1. NONLINEAR EQUATIONS WITH A PARAMETER	1
1. Two forms of the method of continuation of the solution with respect to a parameter	1
2. The problem of choosing the continuation parameter. Replacement of the parameter	8
3. The best continuation parameter	11
4. The algorithms using the best continuation parameter and examples of their application	24
5. Geometrical visualization of step - by - step processes.	32
6. The solution continuation in vicinity of essential singularity points	40
2. THE CAUCHY PROBLEM FOR ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS	43
1. The Cauchy problem as a problem of solution continuation with respect to a parameter	43
2. Certain properties of $\lambda$ - transformation	46
3. Algorithms, softwares, examples	59
3. STIFF SYSTEMS OF ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS	67
1. Characteristic features of numerical integration of stiff system of ordinary differential equations	67
2. Singular perturbed equations	77
3. Stiff systems	86
4. Stiff equations for partial derivatives	94

4. DIFFERENTIAL – ALGEBRAIC EQUATIONS	97
1. Classification of systems of DAE	97
2. The best argument for a system of differential - algebraic equations	102
3. Explicit differential - algebraic equations	106
4. Implicit ordinary differential equations	110
5. Implicit differential - algebraic equations	118
5. FUNCTIONAL - DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS	137
1. The Cauchy problem for equations with retarded argument	137
2. The Cauchy problem for Volterra's integro – differential equations	143
6. THE PARAMETRIC APPROXIMATION	149
1. The parametric interpolation	150
2. The parametric approximation	157
3. The continuous approximation	162
7. NONLINEAR BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEMS FOR ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS	165
1. The equations of solution continuation for nonlinear one-dimensional boundary value problems	166
2. The discrete orthogonal shooting method	173
3. The algorithms for continuous and discrete continuation of the solution with respect to a parameter for nonlinear one - dimensional boundary value problems	181
4. The example: large deflections of the circle arch	189
8. CONTINUATION OF THE SOLUTION NEAR SINGULAR POINTS	197
1. Classification of singular points	197
2. The simplest form of bifurcation equations	203
3. The simplest case of branching ( $\text{rank}(J^0)=n-1$ )	210
4. The case of branching when $\text{rank}(J^0)=n-2$	213
References	221
Bibliography	221

## Preface

A decade has passed since *Problems of Nonlinear Deformation*, the first book by E.I. Grigoliuk and V.I. Shalashilin was published. That work gave a systematic account of the parametric continuation method. Ever since, the understanding of this method has sufficiently broadened. Previously this method was considered as a way to construct solution sets of nonlinear problems with a parameter. Now it is clear that one parametric continuation algorithm can efficiently work for building up any parametric set. This fact significantly widens its potential applications.

A curve is the simplest example of such a set, and it can be used for solving various problems, including the Cauchy problem for ordinary differential equations (ODE), interpolation and approximation of curves, etc. Research in this area has led to exciting results. The most interesting of such is the understanding and proof of the fact that the length of the arc calculated along this solution curve is the optimal continuation parameter for this solution.

We will refer to the continuation solution with the optimal parameter as the best parametrization and in this book we have applied this method to variable classes of problems: in chapter 1 to non-linear problems with a parameter, in chapters 2 and 3 to initial value problems for ODE, in particular to stiff problems, in chapters 4 and 5 to differential-algebraic and functional differential equations.

The fact that the transition to the best parameter in the Cauchy problem for ODE of normal form can be made using an analytical transformation, which we will call  $\lambda$ -transformation, has surprised even us.

Another notable result, which we discuss in chapter 6, is the development of a general approach to applications of the best parametrization in parametric approximation problems.

In chapter 7 we will consider potential applications of parametric continuation to building more complex one-parametric sets, i.e. solution sets for non linear boundary problems for ODE with a parameter.

Finally, in chapter 8, we will show how to use the best parametrization for the continuation of a solution in a neighborhood of singularities.

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