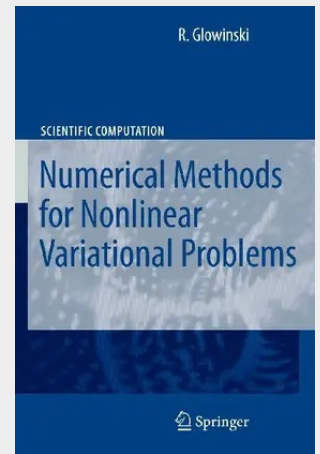


Lectures on Numerical Methods for Non-Linear Variational Problems

When Herb Keller suggested, more than two years ago, that we update our lectures held at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in 1977, and then have it published in the collection Springer Series in Computational Physics, we thought, at first, that it would be an easy task. Actually, we realized very quickly that it would be more complicated than what it seemed at first glance, for several reasons: 1. The first version of Numerical Methods for Nonlinear Variational Problems was, in fact, part of a set of monographs on numerical mathematics published, in a short span of time, by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in its well-known series Lectures on Mathematics and Physics; as might be expected, the first version systematically used the material of the above monographs, this being particularly true for Lectures on the Finite Element Method by P. G. Ciarlet and Lectures on Optimization—Theory and Algorithms by J. Cea. This second version had to be more self-contained. This necessity led to some minor additions in Chapters I-IV of the original version, and to the introduction of a chapter (namely, Chapter Y of this book) on relaxation methods, since these methods play an important role in various parts of this book.

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