

Table of Contents

Preface to the First Edition	vii
Preface to the Second Edition	ix
PART I. FUNDAMENTALS	1
1.1. Basic Concepts and Definitions	3
1.1.1. Historical Development of the Stability Concept ..	3
1.1.2. Common Characteristics of Modern Stability Definitions	5
1.2. Sensitivity Equations and Variational Equations	21
Exercises 1.1 and 1.2	22
1.3. Linear Variational Equations	24
1.3.1. Linear Variational Equations with Constant Coefficients	24
1.3.2. Linear Variational Equations with Variable Coefficients	42
1.3.3. Linear Variational Equations with Periodic Coefficients	48
Exercises 1.3	59
1.4. Investigations in Phase Space	61
1.4.1. Stationary Points	64
1.4.2. Limit Cycles	68
Exercises 1.4	74
1.5. The Direct Method of Lyapunov	77
1.5.1. The Stability Definition of Lyapunov	77
1.5.2. Lyapunov Functions	78
1.5.3. Stability and Instability Theorems of Lyapunov ..	79
Exercises 1.5	86
1.6. The Energy Method	89
1.6.1. Conservative, Scleronomic Systems	89

1.6.2. Non-autonomous, Non-conservative Systems	93
Exercises 1.6	105
1.7. Mathematical Approximation Methods	106
1.7.1. Isocline Method	106
1.7.2. Methods of Small Oscillations	107
1.7.3. Variation of Constants	107
1.7.4. Perturbation Method	110
1.7.5. The Methods of Galerkin and Ritz	120
1.7.6. The Harmonic Balance Method	135
Exercises 1.7	140
 PART II. APPLICATION OF STABILITY THEORY TO SELECTED PROBLEMS OF MECHANICS	
2.1. Celestial Mechanics Problems	143
2.1.1. Stability of Central Force Motion	145
2.1.2. Stability Investigations of the Three-body Problem	149
Exercises 2.1	158
2.2. Problems of the Mechanics of Rigid Bodies and of Systems	159
2.2.1. Stability of Vibrations	159
2.2.2. Stability of Control Systems	167
2.2.3. Stability of the Gyroscope	174
2.2.4. Stability of Aircraft, Rockets, Satellites	180
Exercises 2.2	194
2.3. Problems of Elastomechanics	196
2.3.1. Stability Criteria of Elastostatics	197
2.3.2. Application of General Methods of Elastic Systems with Time-independent Parameters and Forces	200
2.3.3. Conservative Stability Problems and the Application of the Classical Energy Method	203
2.3.4. Outline of an Algebraic Theory	214
2.3.5. Examples for the Algebraic Approach to Elastostatic Stability Problems	249
2.3.6. Nonconservative Stability Problems and the Application of an Extended Version of the Energy Method	271
2.3.7. Lyapunov Stability of Continuous Elastic Systems	305
2.3.8. Problems of Elastokinetics	337
Exercises 2.3	348
Author Index	353
Subject Index	355