

## ON THE RESTRICTED PARAMETER IDENTIFICATION PROBLEMS FOR GENERAL VARIATIONAL INEQUALITIES \*

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Received December 25, 1986; revised July 3, 1987

### Abstract

A restricted parameter identification problem for general variational inequalities is studied using the so-called asymptotic regularization method. Some applications, including the evolution dam problem, are also briefly discussed.

### 1. Introduction

In [4], Hoffmann and Sprekels discussed an identification problem of general variational inequalities under a functional analytic framework. The problem they treated is the following:

Let  $H, X$  be two Hilbert spaces,  $V$  be a separable and reflexive Banach space with dual  $V^*$  and  $X_0$  be another Banach space, such that the embeddings  $V \subset H \subset V^*$  are dense and continuous and  $X_0$  is a dense subspace of  $X$ . The dual pairing between elements of  $V^*$  and  $V$  is denoted by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . The inner product in  $X$  is denoted by  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ . Let  $C \subset V$  be nonempty, closed and convex. Then, the identification problem is as follows:

Problem ( $\hat{P}$ ). Given  $u^* \in D(S) \cap C$  and  $f^* \in V^*$ , find  $a^* \in X$ , with  $(a^*, u^*) \in D(A_2)$ , such that there exists a  $w^* \in S(u^*)$  which satisfies the variational inequality

$$\langle w^* + A_1(a^*) + A_2(a^*, u^*) - f^*, v - u^* \rangle + \Psi(v) - \Psi(u^*) \geq 0, \quad \forall v \in C \quad (1.1)$$

where,  $S, A_1, A_2, \Psi$  are some given operators which will be defined in the next section (or see [4]).

The main purpose of this paper is to discuss a similar problem with the restriction  $a^* \in X$  replaced by  $a^* \in K$  for some nonempty, closed and convex subset  $K$  of  $X_0$ . In many physical problems, the parameters we want to find should belong to some specific convex and closed set. The method we use is a combination of those used in [1], [4] and [6].

### 2. Solution to Finite Dimensional Problems

Let  $H, X, V, V^*, X_0$  be the same as in section 1. The norms of these spaces are denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_H, \|\cdot\|_X, \|\cdot\|_V, \|\cdot\|_{V^*}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{X_0}$ , respectively. Let  $C \subset V$  be nonempty, convex and closed. Let  $K \subset X_0$  be nonempty, convex and closed in  $X$ . we consider the following restricted parameter identification problem:

Problem ( $P$ ). Given  $u^* \in D(S) \cap C, f^* \in V^*$  find  $a^* \in K$ , such that there

\* This work is supported by the Center for Applied Mathematics and the National Science Foundation, Grant No. DMS-8501397 and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research

$$\{T_n(a, u), (\hat{a}, \hat{u})\} = \langle \frac{\varepsilon}{h}u + A_1(a) + A_2(a, u), \hat{u} \rangle + \left[ \frac{a}{h}, \hat{a} \right] - \langle A_1(\hat{a}), u \rangle - \langle A_2(\hat{a}, u), u - u^* \rangle \quad (2 \cdot 10)$$

$$g_n(a, u) = - \langle \frac{\varepsilon}{h}u_n + f^*, u \rangle + \Psi(u) - \left[ \frac{a_n}{h}, a \right] + \langle A_1(a), u^* \rangle \quad (2 \cdot 11)$$

For  $w \in V^* \subset V_N^*$  we set

$$\{(0, w), (a, u)\} = \langle w, u \rangle, \forall (a, u) \in B \quad (2 \cdot 12)$$

Thus, the  $(n+1)$ -th step of Problem  $(P_n)$  is equivalent to solve the following problem:

**Problem  $(T_n)$ .** Find  $(a, u) \in G$ , with  $u \in D(S)$ , such that there exists  $w \in S(u)$ , satisfying

$$\{(0, w) + T_n(a, u), (\hat{a}, \hat{u}) - (a, u)\} + g_n(\hat{a}, \hat{u}) - g_n(a, u) \geq 0, \quad \forall (\hat{a}, \hat{u}) \in G \quad (2 \cdot 13)$$

**Theorem 2.1.** Suppose that  $(A1) - (A7)$  hold and  $\varepsilon > 0$  is given. Then, there exists  $h_0 > 0$ , such that for any  $h \in (0, h_0]$ , Problem  $(P_n)$  has a solution  $\{(a_n, u_n)\}_{n=0}^\infty$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to prove that for any  $n \geq 1$ , Problem  $(T_n)$  has a solution. To this end, like the proof of Theorem 2.1 of [4], we need to check several things.

First of all, since  $g_n$  is convex and continuous on  $B$ , we have

$$D(\partial g_n) = B \quad (2 \cdot 14)$$

Let us define  $Q: B \rightarrow 2^{B^*}$  by  $Q(a, u) = \{0\} \times S(u)$ . Then,  $Q$  is maximal monotone. By  $(A1)$  and  $(A6)$  and the definition of  $G$ , we have

$$(P_{W_M}(a^*), u^*) \in \text{int}(D(Q)) \cap G \quad (2 \cdot 15)$$

By (2.14), we have

$$\text{int}(D(Q)) \cap D(\partial g_n) \neq \emptyset \quad (2 \cdot 16)$$

and

$$G \cap \text{int}D(Q + \partial g_n) = G \cap \text{int}D(Q) \neq \emptyset \quad (2 \cdot 17)$$

Also, the same argument as in [4], we have

$$\partial(g_n + X_G) = \partial g_n + \partial X_G \quad (2 \cdot 18)$$

where

$$X_G(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \in G \\ +\infty & x \in G^c \end{cases} \quad (2 \cdot 19)$$

Now, it remains to check  $T_n$  is continuous, bounded, coercive and pseudomonotone. Since  $\dim W_M, \dim V_N < \infty$ , we can assume that there exist  $\alpha, \beta > 0$ , such that

$$\|a\|_{X_0} \leq \alpha \|a\|_X, \quad \forall a \in W_M \quad (2 \cdot 20)$$

$$\|u\|_V \leq \beta \|u\|_H, \quad \forall u \in V_N \quad (2 \cdot 21)$$

It is easy to show that for any  $(a, u), (\hat{a}, \hat{u}) \in B$

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_n(a, u) - T_n(\hat{a}, \hat{u})\|_{B^*}^2 &\leq \left\{ \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{h} + \alpha\beta^2 \|A_2\| \| \hat{a} \|_X \right) \|u - \hat{u}\|_H \right. \\ &\quad + (\beta \|A_1\| + \alpha\beta^2 \|A_2\| \|u\|_H) \|a - \hat{a}\|_X \left. \right\}^2 \\ &\quad + \left\{ [\beta \|A_1\| + \alpha\beta^2 \|A_2\| (\|u - u^*\|_H + \|u\|_H)] \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot \|u - \hat{u}\|_H + \frac{1}{h} \|a - \hat{a}\|_X \right\}^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2 \cdot 22)$$

which gives the continuity and boundedness of  $T_n$ . For the coercivity, let us take  $(a, u) \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \{T_n(a, u), (a, u)\} &= \langle \frac{\varepsilon}{h}u + A_1(a) + A_2(a, u), u \rangle + \frac{1}{h} \|a\|_X^2 \\ &\quad - \langle A_1(a), u \rangle - \langle A_2(a, u), u - u^* \rangle \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon}{h} \|u\|_H^2 + \frac{1}{h} \|a\|_X^2 + \langle A_2(a, u), u^* \rangle \end{aligned}$$