<<Calculus of variatio>>

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This book by Robert Weinstock was written tO fill the need for a basic introduction to the calculus of variations   Simply and easilv written   with an emphasis 011 the applications of this calculus   it has long beell a standard refm ence of physicists   engineers and applied mathmn aticians

The author begins slowly   introducing the readel"to the calculus of variations   and supplying lists of essential formulae and derivations   Later chapters cover isoperimetric problem s   geometrical optics   Fennat' s principle   dynamiCS of particles   the SfLU m—Liouville eigenvalue· eigenfunction problem   the theory of elasticity   quan-tunl mechanics   and electrostatics   Each chapter ends with a series of exercises which shoukl prove veiv useful in deterlnining   rhether the material in that chapter has been thorotlghly grasped

The clarity of exposition makes this book easily accessible tO anV
one who has mastered irst—year calculus with SOIlle exposure to ordinary differential equations Physicists and engineers who find variational methods evasive at times will find this book particularly helpful

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