

## ON AN $A$ -BIFURCATION THEOREM WITH APPLICATION TO A PARAMETERIZED INTEGRO-DIFFERENTIAL SYSTEM

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we define a notion of an  $A$ -bifurcation for a system of differential equations in a separable Hilbert space. By using the methods of the topological degree theory and guiding functions, we prove the theorem on the existence and uniqueness of an  $A$ -bifurcation point. It is shown how the abstract result can be applied to study the global structure of the solution set of a feedback control system governed by integro-differential equations.

**Key Words and Phrases:** Global bifurcation, integro-differential equation, periodic solution, guiding function, degree theory.

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