given and a singular point for a first order differential equation is investigated. Most of the discussion is concerned with second order equations or the equivalent systems. For these the linear dependence of solutions, the Wronskian theory, the variation of parameters method, the circuit of a singularity in the complex plane, Fuchs theorem, solution by power series, the Sturm-Liouville theory and the asymptotic behaviour of characteristic functions and characteristic values are given. The last chapter also contains a Cauchy type existence theorem, based on majorants.

There is a valuable emphasis on individual functions, whose propeties are derived from the fact that they are solutions of a differential equation. For instance the circular and elliptic functions are treated in this way. The asymptotic behaviour of the Laguerre and Legendre polynomials and the Bessel functions are used to illustrate the characteristic function theory. The hypergeometric series is developed in the last chapter. On the other hand as a matter of policy the usual methods for the integration of first order equations are omitted.

The style is clear and the book should prove a valuable reference. The author claims, quite justly, that this corresponds to a "modern course" in differential equations and there is quite a contrast with the American courses on "methods of solution" and "theory." The pressure from applications and the results of theoretical developments are clearly present. However the existence theory is not the most general possible and the elementary methods and the constant coefficient linear equations are worth considering. The need of two courses seems clear but they should be carefully organized for maximum usefulness.

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Tables of generalized sine- and cosine-integral functions. Parts I and II. (Annals of the Computation Laboratory of Harvard University, vols. 18, 19.) Harvard University Press, 1949. Part I, 38+462 pp. \$10.00. Part II, 8+560 pp. \$10.00.

DEFINITIONS:

$$S(a, x) = \int_0^x \frac{\sin u}{u}\, dt; \qquad C(a, x) = \int_0^x \frac{1 - \cos u}{u}\, dt;$$

$$Ss(a, x) = \int_0^x \frac{[\sin u] \sin t}{u}\, dt; \quad Sc(a, x) = \int_0^x \frac{[\sin u] \cos t}{u}\, dt;$$