arise when the symbol is pointwise invertible, the author presents an intensive study of what happens when the symbol is permitted to have certain kinds of zeros. Briefly, zeros are allowed which arise when the function can be factored into the product of some canonical function (usually a polynomial) with a nonvanishing continuous function. The operator defined by the canonical function is studied in considerable detail usually by putting an appropriate norm on the range relative to which the operator is well behaved. The study of the general case is then reduced to this.

A number of books have appeared recently on related topics. Perhaps the closest is the book of I. C. Gohberg and I. A. Fel′dman, *Convolution equations and the projection method for their solution*, "Nauka", Moscow, 1971; Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, R.I., 1974. Much of the material on "abstract" singular integral operators mentioned above also appears in this book including a treatment with considerable detail of the solution of such equations by the projection method. In the book of Prössdorf, the latter topic is discussed in a short appendix. Another related book is by I. C. Gohberg and N. J. Krupnick, *Introduction to the theory of one-dimensional singular integral operators*, "Shtintsa" Kishiev, 1973, which takes up the study of singular integral operators on contours in considerable detail with coefficients from a variety of spaces. Again there is considerable overlap, but operators with discontinuous coefficients are treated by Prössdorf only in an appendix. Lastly, there are two books by the reviewer, *Banach algebra techniques in operator theory*, Academic Press, New York, 1972, and *Banach algebra techniques in the theory of Toeplitz operators*, (CBMS Regional Conference Series, No. 15) Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, 1973, which confine attention to the study of Toeplitz operators on Hilbert space with all kinds of coefficients.

The book under review presents a modern unified treatment of these classes of operators. It is readable and complete on the topics it emphasizes. Its chief virtues are the material on operators not of normal type, a treatment of Fredholm theory in Fréchet spaces, and a lengthy bibliography of the area, especially of the Soviet literature which is sometimes difficult to obtain.

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Lectures in functional analysis and operator theory, by Sterling K. Berberian, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1974, ix+345 pp., $14.80

Functional analysis, a short course, by Edward W. Packel, Intext Educational Publishers, New York, 1974, xvii+172 pp., $10.00

Functional analysis, by Walter Rudin, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1973, xiii+397 pp.

I liked these three books and enjoyed reviewing them. My viewpoint when reading these books was most definitely not that of a student. I did not read all (or even most) proofs in detail, nor did I carefully check formula references