

accessible and pedagogically sensitive style that characterizes the earlier parts of the book. Each chapter is followed by useful exercises and references to the original literature.

Chapter 7 contains discussions of the Painlevé conjecture and of numerical methods. The discussion of numerical methods is not as successful as the rest of the book. It is too brief to be of any real use, and it consists of a simple recitation of various numerical approaches to solving nonlinear equations. The final chapter of the book is an epilogue that in the main attempts to give some feel for the dynamics of nonlinear evolution equations by using sequences of pictures of numerical results. These few pages are somewhat successful at accomplishing their purpose, but, given the constraints of the medium, the success will necessarily be limited.

Generally, this book achieves its goal. It is significantly more well written than most texts at a similar level. In addition to their achievements in research, the authors are clearly accomplished pedagogues. All things considered, I cannot think of a clearer introduction to the subject from a mathematical point of view.

ROBERT SAVIT

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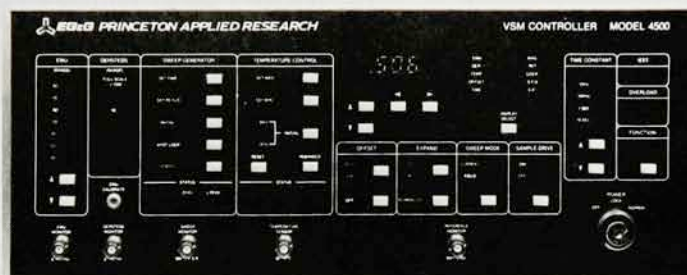
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