The inherently interdisciplinary nature of CKM has made the development process of this book extraordinarily hectic and bumpy, although extremely exciting and enriching. The writing-up journey passed through several iterations and revisions over the past four years, and left behind more gray hairs, but hopefully more professional exploits. In writing this book, the pain lies in presenting a viable frame of reference for the book, while then joy comes in being able to make different parts of the framework fit well and be neatly integrated within the overall picture.

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