Acknowledgments

The editor would like to thank the authors who have contributed their articles to this book. The success of this book is due to their contributions. Also, the editor would like to address appreciation to all of the reviewers, who spent effort to make valuable suggestions to the chapters. The comments not only serve as quality improvement of the book, but the authors of each chapter benefit from the discussions.

A special note to thank all the staff at Idea Group Publishing is also given by the editor. Especially, I will like to thank Mehdi Khosrow-Pour, the Senior Academic Editor, Michele Rossi, the Development Editor, and Carrie Stull, the Assistant Marketing Manager of the Idea Group Publishing, who made valuable suggestions and pointed out the process to complete this project. In addition, the editor would like to thank Mr. Wen-Chih Chang at Tamkang University for his help in the typesetting of this book.

Finally, I want to thank my wife, Ms. Hsia-Chun Lee, for her love and support throughout this project.

Dr. Timothy K. Shih, Professor and Chairman
Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering
Tamkang University, 151, Ying-Chuan Road
Tamsui, Taipei Hsien, Taiwan 25137, R.O.C.
e-mail: tshih@cs.tku.edu.tw
Web: http://www.mine.tku.edu.tw/chinese/teacher/tshih.htm
fax: +886 2 26209749
phone: +886 2 26215656 x2743, x2616