

Acknowledgements

This book would not have been possible without the cooperation and assistance of many people: the authors, reviewers, our colleagues, and the staff at Idea Group Publishing. We would like to thank Mehdi Khosrow-Pour for inviting us to produce this book, Jan Travers for managing this project, and our development editor, Michele Rossi, for answering our questions and keeping us on schedule.

We are appreciative of the contributions of many reviewers of the chapters without whose help we could not have maintained the quality of the book. We also acknowledge our respective universities for affording us the time to work on this project and our colleagues and students for many stimulating discussions. Finally, we wish to acknowledge our families for providing time and support for this project.

Jatinder N. D. Gupta, University of Alabama in Huntsville, USA
Sushil K. Sharma, Ball State University, USA