Acknowledgments

I thank all who were involved in the collation and review process of this book. Without their support, the project could not have been satisfactorily completed.

I thank all of the authors for their excellent contributions to this book.

Thanks go to all those who provided their insightful and constructive comments, in particular, to Larry Korba of National Research Council of Canada, Peter Holt of Athabasca University, Tak-Wai Chan of Central University of Taiwan, Xuefei Xu of National Research Council of Canada, Puqun Li, Lawrence Poon, and Yang Cao of Athabasca University.

A special note of thanks goes to all of the staff at Idea Group Inc. Their contributions throughout the whole process from inception of the initial idea to final publication have been helpful. In particular, I thank Mehdi Khosrow-Pour and Jan Travers, whose enthusiasm motivated me to initially accept the invitation to take on this project.

Fuhua Lin, Ph.D. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada March 2004