Although the bulk of this book was written during the period 1996–1999, some material appeared in print earlier than 1996, and revisions were made up until 2007. Thus there has been ample time for teachers, colleagues, students, friends, and anonymous reviewers to make suggestions and criticisms that have had a constructive impact on this book (and ample time for me to forget some of their contributions). As it is impossible to acknowledge all these contributions, below are the names of those who get the lion’s share of the credit.

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