## Acknowledgments

We thank Guy Pouzard and Larry Werbelow of the Université de Provence (Marseille) for stimulating discussions which inspired our endeavor. The first presentations of our way of teaching the density matrix formalism was at two NATO Advanced Study Institutes organized in 1983 by Camille Sandorfy and Theophile Theophanides in Italy and by Leonidas Petrakis and Jacques Fraissard in Greece. We thank for permission to use material from those papers, published by D. Reidel Publishing Company (listed in the Suggested Reading Section). We also thank Frank Anet of UCLA and Gary Martin of the Burroughs Welcome Co. for their comments and encouragement. Our publishing team has done an excellent job and we wish to thank Sidney Solomon and Raymond Solomon of the Solomon Press, Betty Sun of Prentice Hall, and the wonderful copyeditor Mary Russell. Last, but not least, we acknowledge the loving care and understanding of our spouses, Claudia and Anca.