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Wilson Mizner, American playwright, who coined so many brilliant aphorisms, once said, “When you steal from one author, it’s plagiarism; if you steal from many, it’s research”. By Mizner’s definition this work must be considered research. As researchers we shield ourselves from charges of plagiarism by careful documentation of data and concepts but even the most extensive and replete notes cannot adequately convey the immense intellectual and personal debts that one often incurs in bringing a piece of research to a successful conclusion. I am happy that I can acknowledge some of those debts here. The accounting, I fear, will not be total; there are undoubtedly several whose names should appear here but whose contribution now lies so far back in time and unfortunately, in my mind that it eludes memory. From them, I beg forgiveness.

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