

Preface to the Third Edition

... And when after the long search, some new fragment of truth has been captured, it comes not as something discovered but as something revealed. The answer is so unexpected, and yet so simple and aesthetically satisfying, that it carries instant conviction, and that wonderful never-to-be forgotten moment comes when one says to oneself 'Of course that's it'...

These words of Lawrence Bragg are most apt in describing the outstanding potential of the molecular modeling method for enhancing the comprehension of complicated interactions between ligands and their targets, which are so typical for many fields of research in biosciences. I, myself, have always considered this attribute of molecular modeling methods to be the most profitable and intriguing.

Generated by the rapid development of hardware and software tools, the application of molecular modeling techniques has yielded much advancement in the four years since the second edition of this book was published. It is therefore that we, the authors and the publisher, decided that it is time for revision and amplification of our book.

Hence the following revisions have been made in this edition:

- An additional chapter on Chemogenomics has been added.
- The protein modeling case study was replaced by a very actual work on nucleohormone receptor modeling.
- All other chapters have been carefully revised and expanded.

We also decided to include the titles of all cited papers in order to facilitate the reader in their search for additional information.

We hope that novices in the field will also find this volume adequate to assist their work.

On behalf of my coauthors, I acknowledge the valuable input of all coworkers and express our gratitude to the publisher, Wiley-VCH, for their continued cooperation.

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Hans-Dieter Höltje