

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-29932-9 - Chemistry Through Models: Concepts and Applications of Modelling
in Chemical Science, Technology and Industry

Colin J. Suckling, Keith E. Suckling and Charles W. Suckling

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge

London New York New Rochelle

Melbourne Sydney

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Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521299329

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First published 1978

First paperback edition 1980

Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-21661-6 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-29932-9 Paperback

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**To the supporting cast, the girls of the family:
Margaret, Karen, Catherine and Helen**

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PREFACE

This book is a set of variations on a theme, each of which has its individual unity. The theme itself is however not merely a convenient connecting device; it is an attempt to view the practice of chemistry, both academic and industrial, in new perspective and to point out a path that may lead some way toward the solution of problems that will confront scientists in the difficult years ahead. We have, therefore, thought it best, since not everyone reads a preface, to introduce and explain our particular approach in the main text, the early paragraphs of chapter 1, rather than in this preface.

A thorough grasp of chemistry is a great asset in many jobs and we hope that this book will help to increase the recognition of modelling and of good design as necessary and powerful pieces in the chemist's tool kit, appropriate to the tackling of tasks of many kinds and we hope also to stimulate thinking on how chemists may better equip themselves to use these tools.

Six years after first considering collaborating on an academic–industrial review of modelling in chemistry we at last put this book to bed and throw out, with some relief, the piled up, discarded drafts that were written on the way. We have enjoyed working together on *Chemistry through Models* and trust that others will in turn enjoy reading it, and find it useful.

As time progresses advances will naturally be made in the understanding of many of the subjects that we have used as examples but the principles underlying the modelling studies should remain valid even though a revaluation and re-interpretation of the data may become appropriate.

We should like to thank those who have discussed the book with us as it has developed, and in particular Dr W. Lawrie for his constructive criticism of the entire work, and Professor F. R. Bradbury. Our thanks are also due to Dr Colin Davies and Dr David Gosling

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for contributions to chapters 7 and 8 respectively, and finally to June Adam, Dorothy Grubb, Doreen Stammers and Barbara Stewart for their patience and diligence in typing the manuscripts.

Colin Suckling

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