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What do Schrödinger's wave functions, Escher's intricate tiling patterns and chemistry's latest marvel, Buckminsterfullerenes, have in common? This stunning book, written by two world-famous scientists, introduces the reader to one of natures most fundamental, and ubiquitous, phenomena: Symmetry. Enormous in scope, this scientific tour-de-force covers topics as diverse as quantum mechanics, stereochemistry, Penrose tilings and Raphael's Madonna. The authors connect these apparently unrelated fields in a completely non-mathematical fashion, which should appeal to the general and specialist reader alike. Lively written and beautifully illustrated, this book provides an eminently readable discussion of the omnipresent concept of symmetry, its applications in all branches of science, and its perception in nature, art and elsewhere.

Buckminsterfullerenes
W. Edward Billups and Marco A. Ciutoli, Rice University, Houston, Editors
The world's leading investigators contribute their expertise in this new volume which presents the most current and comprehensive research on spherical carbon clusters (fullerenes). Organized into four sections: (1) The main events leading to the discovery and preliminary studies of the fullerenes; (2) Theoretical studies of fulleroid cages; (3) Superconductivity properties; and (4) Exo- and endohedral complexes in the gas phase. Buckminsterfullerenes discusses new insights and possible directions for future research and concludes with a discussion of some of the chemical properties of these new materials. Professionals and Graduate Students in physical chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, materials science, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, and electrical engineering will find this book invaluable.

Chaos and Order: The Complex Structure of Living Systems
Friedrich Cramer, Max Planck Institute for Experimental Medicine, Göttingen, Germany
What is Life? How do ideas arise in our brain? Is there a vital force? Recent progress in biological research has had a profound effect on our perception of nature. A deeper understanding of nonlinear systems far from equilibrium and of self-organization are no longer outside the scope of science. Professor Cramer, who is well known for his contributions in the field of molecular biology, uses his own insights as a starting point for developing an overall picture of the great questions that have always fascinated mankind.

"Chaos and Order is the work of a man who rejects a fragmented view of the universe, who refuses to be a prisoner of preconceived doctrines. There is a feeling of excitement, a feeling that we are living at a unique moment in the history of science. The world appears to us at the same time as more strange, but also as more connected and more harmonious, than any of the generations which have preceded us. I can only hope that Cramer's book will inspire many readers and will receive the international acclaim that it fully deserves."

— Angewandte Chemie

Chaos and Complexity: Discovering the Surprising Patterns of Science and Technology
Brian H. Kaye, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada
Written in a non-mathematical style with great emphasis on graphic display of data, Chaos and Complexity is the first introductory volume to fractals and chaos using simulation techniques. The book explains the concepts of fractal geometry and chaos theory, as well as introducing the reader to the infinitely varied structure of the Mandelbrot set, dimensional analysis, and the new techniques for coping with complex systems. Applied scientists in ceramics, metallurgy, physics, chemistry, chemical engineering, biology, geology, and polymer science who need to use fractal geometry in their work will find this book an invaluable addition to their library.

A Random Walk Through Fractal Dimensions
Brian H. Kaye, Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada
Fractal geometry is revolutionizing the descriptive mathematics of applied materials systems. If you have been intrigued by the pictures of fractal systems that have appeared in scientific literature, this book will enable you to discover where you can apply fractal systems in your work. Written from a practical point of view, it avoids the use of equations but is richly illustrated with graphic examples so that the reader can gain an appreciation of the importance of fractal systems without being swamped by symbols. The book contains enough suggestions for experiments to keep an army of research students working for the next 10 years.

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