



Applications Based on Symmetrical Characteristics of the Human Body

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Most organisms are bilaterally symmetric and symmetry is supposed to contribute to biological fitness. Indeed, developmental stability refers to the capacity of an individual to produce a well-developed, symmetrical phenotype in the face of developmental perturbations caused by factors, such as disease, toxins, parasites, etc. The inability of an organism to implement such a developmental program when challenged by developmental stress leads to small random deviations in bilateral symmetry. Such deviations are referred to as fluctuating asymmetry, and may provide a measure of an individual's exposure to adverse developmental effects and its corresponding ability to resist such stresses...

Prof. Dr. Karl Grammer
Guest Editor





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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