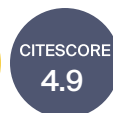




symmetry



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Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Those of us doing research in the areas of bioinformatics and computational biology can see that symmetry abounds in our work. One treatment may increase the expression of a set of genes, while another may decrease it. We frequently must cope with symmetrical processes that allow cellular homeostasis to be maintained, which can complicate or confound experiments. Protein complexes frequently contain symmetry on one or more axes, allowing functional structures to be formed. Asymmetry in transmembrane proteins allows different functional domains to face either the cytosol or the outside of the cell. Nevertheless, we often do not stop to think about the manifest symmetry in our work, the challenges associated with it, or the opportunities it presents...

Dr. Jeffrey A. Thompson

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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