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Symmetry in Phenotypic Plasticity and Geometric Morphometrics of Algae

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
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Message from the Guest Editor

Algal cells and thalli have different kinds of morphological symmetry. Individual lineages or taxa have cells with radial, rotational, biradial, bilateral, or translational symmetry. A number of analytical techniques were recently developed for the morphometric analysis of symmetry and asymmetry in systems characterised by both finite and infinite symmetry groups. These techniques are now available for fixed landmark data, as well as for outline analyses based on semi-landmark registration or elliptic Fourier descriptors. A number of developmental, evolutionary, ecological and environmental hypotheses involving components of symmetric and asymmetric shape variation can be tested using these morphometric analyses. This Special Issue invites contributions that study any model algal species or lineage in an experimental setting or in a natural habitat.

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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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