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# Symmetries in Quantum Condensed Matter

Guest Editor:

**Prof. Dr. Ipsita Mandal**
Department of Mathematics and Physics, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Stavanger, Stavanger, Norway

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## Message from the Guest Editor

The richness and multiplicity of quantum condensed phases of matter arise from the possibility of complex symmetry breaking transitions, or sequences of symmetry breaking transitions, in which an internal or gauge symmetry is spontaneously broken in combination with other symmetries, e.g. rotational symmetry, space inversion, time-reversal, etc. When this happens, new phases of matter with unique physical properties arise. Well-known examples include the superfluid phases of $^3He$, high-temperature superconductors with strong electronic correlations mediated by strong magnetic fluctuations, e.g. "heavy fermion" superconductors, and oxide-based cuprate superconductors.

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**Prof. Dr. Sergei Odintsov**
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2. Institute of Space Sciences (ICE-CSIC), C. Can Magrans s/n, 08193 Barcelona, Spain

## 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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## Contact Us

*Symmetry* Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/symmetry
symmetry@mdpi.com
𝕏@Symmetry_MDPI