

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

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Science and Complexity: from the elements to the whole

The development of modern science required the elucidation of the fundamental building blocks of nature and the rules that define their interactions. This in turn involved the development of different languages and codes and the specialization to ever narrower fields of knowledge. The complex behavior of biological, ecological, economic and social systems and networks, however, cannot be understood following this reductionist procedure and in the last few decades much effort has been invested in the development of a more integral approach to the analysis of these systems. In this talk I discuss some ideas and methods that are at the center of the emerging science of complex systems.

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