

Foreword

This special issue contains the proceedings of the international symposium “Biology after the genome: A physical view” held at the University of Zaragoza (11–13 February 2004). This symposium was the first of a biannual series organized by the Institute of Biocomputation and Physics of Complex Systems (BIFI). Biological systems are highly complex systems whose complete understanding requires the integration of different disciplines including physics, biology, chemistry and computer sciences. The goal of these symposia is to bring together physicists, chemists, biologists and computational scientists under one roof in order to address the most pressing issues in biology.

The interdisciplinary nature of the symposium is reflected in the papers contributed to this issue. They include topics such as thermodynamic calculations in biological systems, computational studies of protein folding, drug design, physicochemical studies of protein stability, protein interactions, and phase transitions in spin glasses.

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