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A. Bunde, J. Caro, J. Kärger, G. Vogl (Hrsg.)

Diffusive Spreading in Nature, Technology and Society

- Treats the spreading phenomenon in its universal context
- Presents mathematics (including computer programming) on an appropriate level so that essentially any reader will appreciate it as a help and useful guide
- The individual chapters address a broad range of readers from archaeology, epidemics, linguistics, sociology, engineering, natural sciences and mathematics

This book deals with randomly moving objects and their spreading. The objects considered are particles like atoms and molecules, but also living beings such as humans, animals, plants, bacteria and even abstract entities like ideas, rumors, information, innovations and linguistic features. The book explores and communicates the laws behind these movements and reports about astonishing similarities and very specific features typical of the given object under considerations. Leading scientists in disciplines as diverse as archeology, epidemics, linguistics and sociology, in collaboration with their colleagues from engineering, natural sciences and mathematics, introduce the phenomena of spreading as relevant for their fields. An introductory chapter on "Spreading Fundamentals" provides a common basis for all these considerations, with a minimum of mathematics, selected and presented for enjoying rather than frustrating the reader.

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