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BOOK REVIEWS

A Practical Guide to Scientific Data Analysis. By David Livingstone (ChemQuest, Sandown, Isle of Wight, U.K.). John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.: Chichester. 2009. x + 342 pp. $85. ISBN 978-0-470-85153-1.

This book was designed to serve as a "statistical companion to the novice or casual reader" on the processes of data analysis. It was not meant to be a textbook—some basic knowledge of statistics is assumed—but rather to be a guide for working scientists with an emphasis on applying mathematical and statistical techniques and interpreting the results. The 10 chapters are ordered in a logical sequence taking the reader through the process of data analysis from planning an experiment to constructing quantitative models. It opens with a list of abbreviations and an introductory chapter explaining the terms and principles used throughout the text and concludes with a subject index.

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Unsigned book reviews are by the Book Review Editor.

Crystallography of Quasicrystals: Concepts, Methods and Structures. By Walter Steurer and Sofia Deloudi (both at ETH Zürich, Switzerland). From the Springer Series in Materials Science, 126. Edited by R. Hull, R. M. Osgood, Jr., J. Parisi, and H. Warlimont. Springer-Verlag: Berlin, Heidelberg. 2009. xiv + 384 pp. $159. ISBN 978-3-642-01898-5.

This book on the crystallography of quasicrystals is organized into three main parts: Concepts, Methods, and Structures. The first part covers the properties of tilings and coverings, polyhedra and packings, and the higher-dimensional approach, and the second reviews experimental techniques for studying quasicrystals, structure analysis, and diffuse scattering and disorder. The final section presents examples of quasicrystal structures, as well as two chapters on phase formation and stability and generalized quasiperiodic structures, respectively. The book concludes with a glossary and a subject index.

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