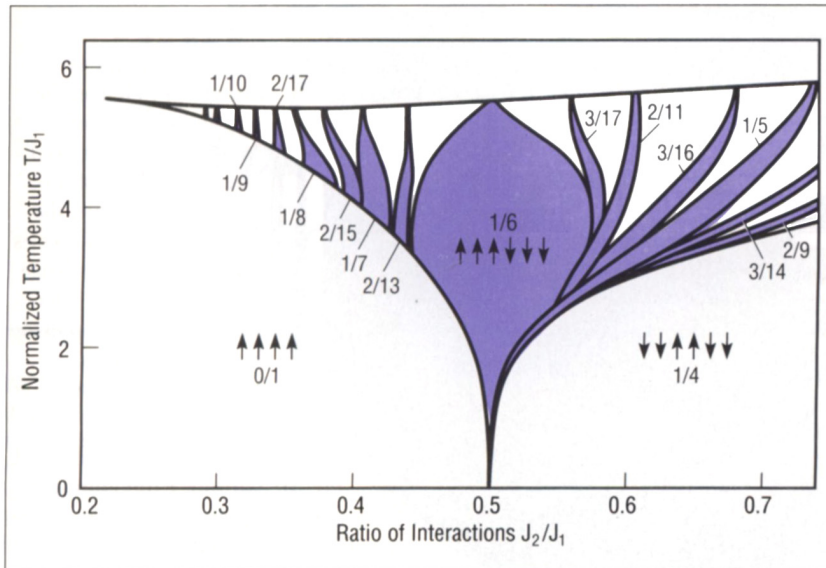


Figures appearing in the *EDITOR'S CHOICE* are those arising from materials research which strike the editor's fancy as being aesthetically appealing and eye-catching. No further criteria are applied and none should be assumed. When taken out of context, such figures often evoke images beyond and unrelated to the original meaning. Submissions of candidate figures are welcome and should include a complete source citation, a photocopy of the report in which it appears (or will appear), and a reproduction-quality original drawing or photograph of the figure in question.



Indeed, one of the more compelling metaphors for science is the garden. We seed it now and harvest benefits in five to twenty or more years. This month's *EDITOR'S CHOICE* is a flower from that garden. It bloomed in the early 1980s and has yet to be picked. Its implications for condensed matter physics are profound and it has far more general applicability. In its petals are all the allowed stable states of complex systems that can be cast in the form of natural resonant frequencies under the influence of an external driving force. Buried in its underlying physics are such esoteric nutrients as fractal dimensions, Cantor sets, winding numbers, solitons, phasons, mode locking, Devil's staircases, the analog of Arnold's tongues, and the axial next-nearest-neighbor Ising Model. The particular Devil's flower pictured here delineates the domains of ferromagnetic, paramagnetic, and, in principle, an infinity of stable antiferromagnetic phases for a system with competing ferro- (of strength J_1) and antiferromagnetic (J_2) interactions. To cultivate a greater appreciation for the details, one can delve into the original botany reported by P. Bak and J. von Boehm in *Physical Review B* 21 (1980) 5297-5308, or for a more accessible source for those of us without the green thumb of a theorist, reap an overview from P. Bak in the December 1986 issue of *Physics Today*, pp. 38-45.

ENTREPRENEURS

What is the extent of entrepreneurial activity in the materials community?

If you consider yourself an entrepreneur, and want to be counted, send your name, company name, e-mail address, and a sentence or two about your entrepreneurial involvement to Marcia Grabow by e-mail: mhg@allwise.att. An activity at the 1995 MRS Spring Meeting is being planned centered on entrepreneurship in the materials community.

How many of you are out there?

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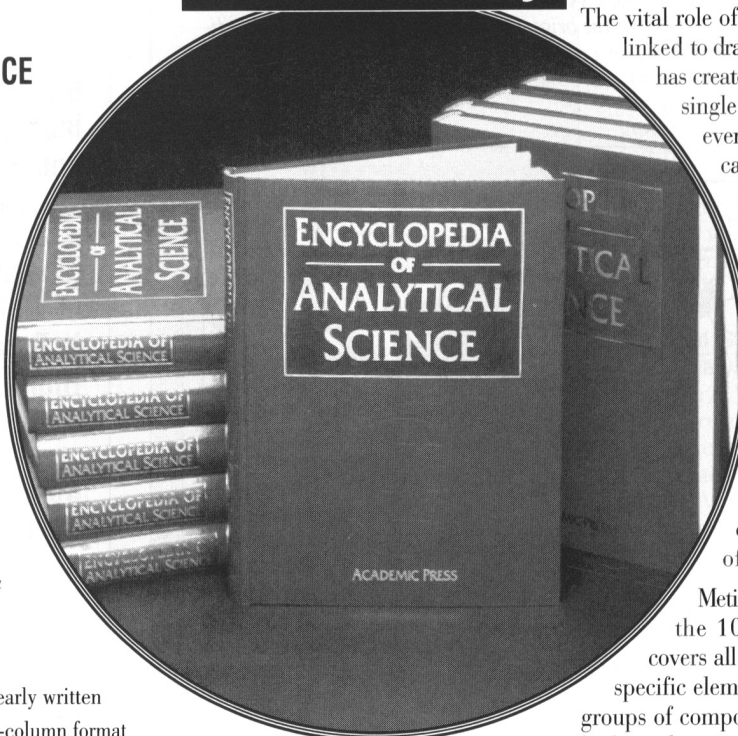
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