

Title: Mirror image symmetry from different viewpoints

Abstract:

In this lecture I will give examples of mirror image symmetry in various contexts, from music to poetry to sports to people and finally to molecules. I will explain why it is important to know whether a molecule has mirror image symmetry, and present examples of molecules that are symmetric or asymmetric from different viewpoints. Finally, I will explain what “topology” is and why topological asymmetry is the deepest type of asymmetry. No background in chemistry or mathematics is necessary to understand the lecture.