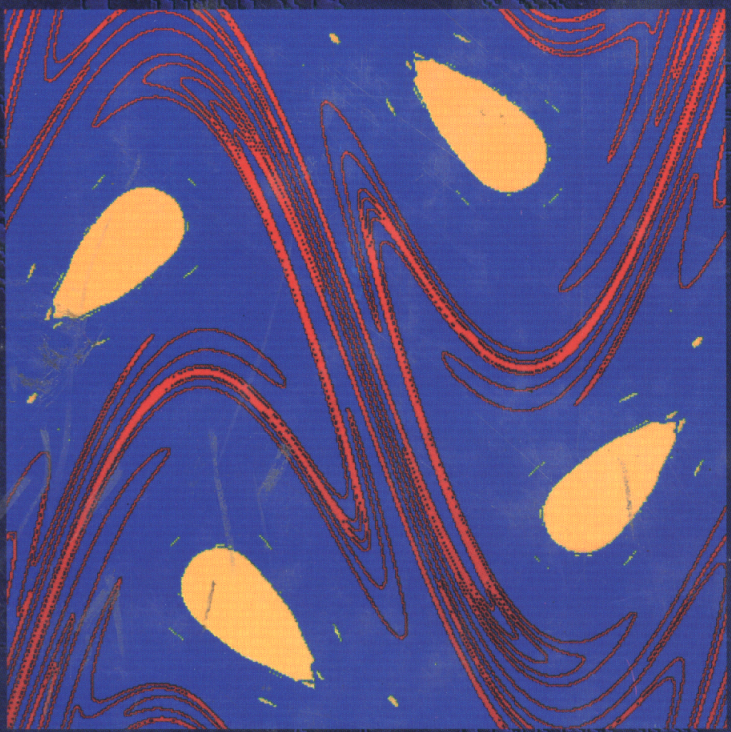
Proceedings of the International CFIC 96 Conference

Fractals and Chaos in Chemical Engineering



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World Scientific

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PREFACE

The CFIC 96 Conference (Rome, September 2-5, 1996) is the second meeting on fractals and chaos and their applications in chemical engineering organized by the Italian Research Center on Disordered Systems and Fractals in Chemical Engineering, jointly founded in 1993 by the Departments of Chemical Engineering of the Universities of Cagliari, Genoa and Rome and the Polytechnic Institute of Milan.

The CFIC 96 Conference was attended by over 100 researchers and students from all countries and all research fields. The original goal of organizing a working conference to facilitate the interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and to address the most relevant applications of dynamical and disordered system theory in reaction engineering, chemical physics and catalysis can, with no undue rhetoric, be described as successfully achieved. The very positive and in some cases enthusiastic response of many participants was the best reward for the great organizational effort involved. Special thanks for making it possible to organize this conference go to the entire group of the University of Rome, and to A.R. Giona, A. Adrover and O. Paticrno in particular.

This book contains the articles presented at the conference and accepted for publication after a peer-reviewing procedure. These articles are fully representative of the intense and scientifically rich program of the Conference. The articles are divided into different sections representing the main fields of application of fractal and chaos theory in chemical engineering science.

Special thanks go to the members of the Scientific Committee (P.M. Adler, D. Avnir, F. Brouers, M.-O. Coppens, J. Drahos, R. Krishna, R. Lapasin, F. Muzzio, W. Rudzinski, W.A. Schwalm, T. Vicsek) and to the referees for their cooperation in the preparation of this book. The financial support of the CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Comitato per la Chimica) is gratefully acknowledged.

Massimiliano Giona and Giuseppe Biardi
Chairmen of CFIC 96 Conference

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