

PREFACE

For the first time in this series of reviews, a volume is dedicated to one theme: Scaling and Disordered Systems. This is possible because it presents the proceedings of the Regional Summer School on this subject, held in July 1999 in Zanjan, Iran, at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Basic Sciences. We are all grateful to the organizers of this international meeting, M. R. H. Khajepour, M. R. Kolahchi and M. Sahimi, for making it possible. In addition, I thank M. Hashemi and M. Sahimi for guiding me through Tehran, and N. Jan and NSERC of Canada for hospitality and supporting me during August and September 1999 when the articles were collected.

As usual in this series, all texts were submitted electronically and were with the publisher the day after the October 2, 1999, deadline. No author missed it. The cover picture shows an aperiodic tiling of the Friday mosque in Isfahan, Iran, as discussed in the quasicrystalline article of Rivier, Fig. 1.

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