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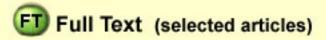


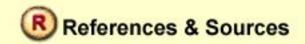
## **All Fall Down**

October 31, 1998 | Volume 154 | Number 18

Cover: The flutter of falling leaves has intrigued—and puzzled—generations of scientists. Inspired anew by chaos theory, physicists in a recent spate of studies find the hallmarks of chaotic behavior as well as surprising regularities in the tumble of leaflike objects.

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#### News of the Week:

### **Adult Human Brains Add New Cells**



Scientists presented the first solid evidence that nerve cells in the human brain continue to be born throughout life.



Cancer drug helps paralyzed mice walk



### The Leonids are Coming! The Leonids are Coming!

A memorable light show or just a bracing shower?



This Nov. 17, Earth makes its closest approach in 33 years to Comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, but it isn't clear how dramatic the annual light show put on by its trail of dusty debris — the Leonid meteoroids — will prove to be.

### The Puzzle of Flutter and Tumble

Physicists reconsider the fall of leaves



Computer simulations and chaos theory come to the fore in attempts to explain the motions of falling leaves and paper sheets.

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### The Puzzle of Flutter and Tumble

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Computer simulations and chaos theory come to the fore in attempts to explain the motions of falling leaves and paper sheets.

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Further information about the work of Franco Nori and his colleagues at the University of Michigan can be found at <a href="http://www-personal.engin.">http://www-personal.engin.</a> umich.edu/~nori/falling.html.

### Sources:

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