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Sommario/riassunto	Frustrated spin systems have been first investigated five decades ago. Well-known examples include the Ising model on the antiferromagnetic triangular lattice studied by G H Wannier in 1950 and the Heisenberg helical structure discovered independently by A Yoshimori, J Villain and T A Kaplan in 1959. However, many properties of frustrated systems are still not well understood at present. Recent studies reveal that established theories, numerical simulations as well as experimental techniques have encountered many difficulties in dealing with	