



# Pune Knowledge Cluster

Presents

## The Astrobiological Narrative of Life's Origin

Organized By	Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC)
Date	Thursday, 4 May 2023
Time	4:00 PM to 5:00 PM (IST)
Location	Online (on Zoom platform)
For whom	It's public talk. Open to all
About the talk	<p>A central aspect of Astrobiology research concerns the delineation of life's origin and its early evolution on our planet. This intriguing and complex story which started several billions of years ago continues to be a very intriguing and fascinating scientific mystery. Specifically, it involves characterizing how the transition from chemistry to biology would have occurred on the early Earth, to result in minimal life that is vastly different from the living organisms that we now know of and appreciate. In this talk, the speaker will give an overview of the current understanding prevalent in the field, while also sharing some of the contributions that they at the COoL lab@IISER Pune have made towards these attempts. Discerning the aforementioned phenomenon also has important implications for figuring out life's distribution in the universe. Importantly, this talk will get us all thinking about our attitude toward the only home we might ever know!</p>
Speaker	<p><b>Name: Dr Sudha Rajamani</b> Designation: Associate Professor The Principal Investigator of the Chemical Origins of Life (COoL) lab, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune.</p>
Registration Link	<p><b>Shorten Registration Link:</b> <a href="https://forms.gle/ZuXWe3cfNQfJB2Rx6">https://forms.gle/ZuXWe3cfNQfJB2Rx6</a></p> <p>QR Code for registration link:</p> 



## Profile of the Speaker



**Dr Sudha Rajamani**

Sudha Rajamani ventured into Astrobiology for the first time during her postdoctoral research at the Deamer lab at UCSC, where her interests in this field, and especially in the origins of life, were nurtured. Subsequently, she also worked at the Chen lab in the FAS Centre for Systems Biology at Harvard University, before coming back to India to join the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) at Pune. Sudha is now an Associate Professor and the Principal Investigator of the Chemical Origins of Life (COoL) lab, where she and her team use tools from biology, chemistry, geochemistry and physics, to delineate the processes and niches that would have allowed for the transition from non-life to life on the early Earth. She is passionate about Astrobiology education and outreach, and is very involved in this both formally and via science outreach programs. In particular, she feels strongly about mentoring school and university students in their pursuit of Astrobiology as a career.

## About the Organizer



**The Pune Knowledge Cluster (PKC)** has been established by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. It aims to bring together academia, R&D institutions, and the industry of Pune and its surrounding areas, to address the challenging problems of the region through innovative means, using scientific knowledge and engaging highly skilled human resources.

PKC is administered by the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA). In the initial phase, PKC would focus on Health, Sustainability and Environment, Sustainable Mobility, BIG Data and AI and Capacity Building.

For more information, visit: <https://www.pkc.org.in/>