

# Information and the Origin of Life

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**Abstract:** The problem of the origin of life is considered from the perspective of information theory. With regard to the different dimensions of the concept of information one has to decide between two main aspects: a syntactic and a semantic one. The syntactic aspect of the origin of genetic information corresponds essentially to the statistical problem of the origin of life. The semantic aspect refers to the actual content and the complexity of genetic information. A novel approach to the semantic aspect of information is presented and its implications for biology are investigated.

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