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Earth, what makes life possible here and not elsewhere?

Before the space age it was widely believed that the neighboring planets would have many similarities with Earth. But after great technological feats, it became appreciated that natural systems are chaotic. This means that seemingly small differences in the initial states of these worlds led to highly divergent subsequent development. An examination of the physics that led to this divergence, casts Earth as a very special place. As a consequence of this divergent behavior life has flourished on Earth but our planet neighbors have yet to exhibit any signs of life.

Monday
April 7, 2008
Starts at 12:15 PM
Coffee at 12:00 PM
Physics Conference Room, SB B326