Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
Survey No. 36/P, Gopanpally Village, Serilingampally, Ranga Reddy Dist., Hyderabad - 500107

Colloquium

The Periodic Tables of the Universe

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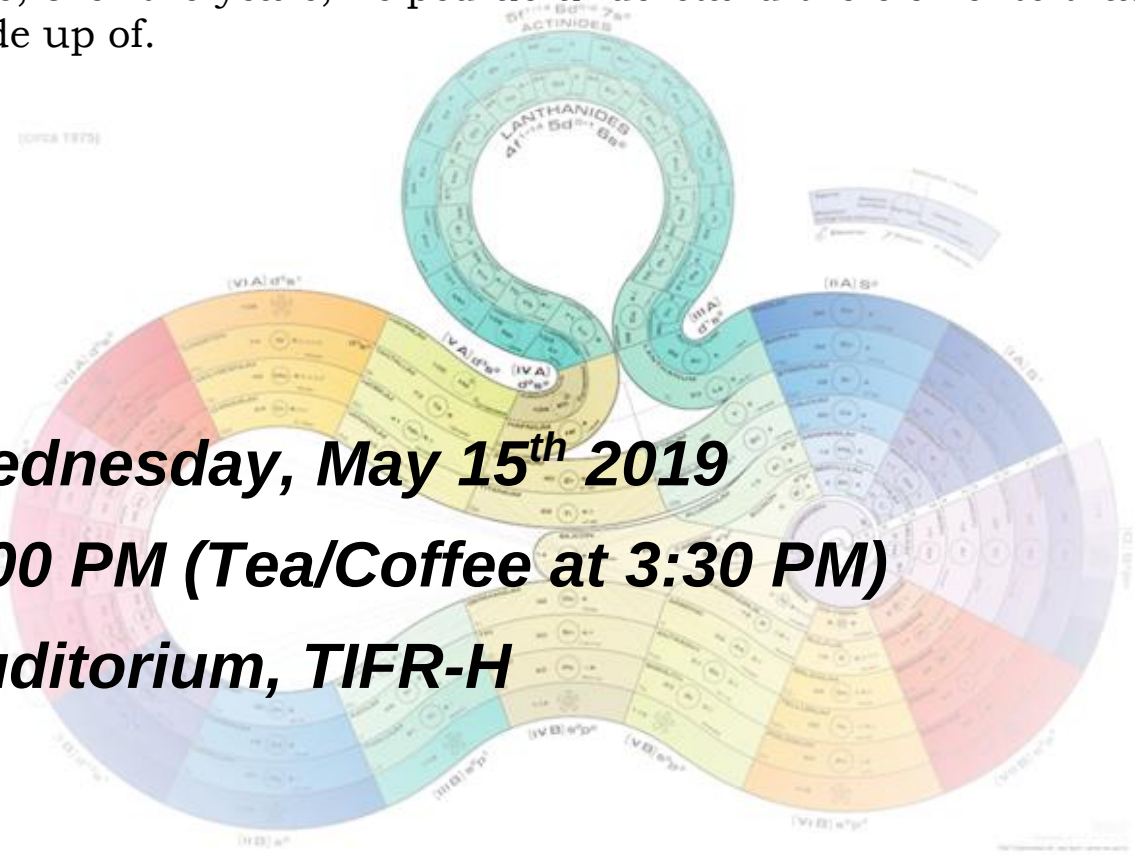
The periodic table is perhaps the most recognizable icon of chemistry, hanging stolidly in almost every science classroom, reminding us of our desire, from the earliest times, to find patterns and organize the building blocks that make up the world around us. But there is no perfect periodic table! We're used to seeing the rectangles stacked up and arranged into the familiar patterns of groups and periods, but chemists have proposed many representations of the periodic table – ranging from flat spiral versions, cylindrical helices, double spirals, zigzag patterns etc. As we celebrate the UN's "International Year of the Periodic Table" marking 150 years of efforts by Mendeleev (and others) to try to neatly arrange the elements, let's take a look at the periodic table - one of the great unifiers of science. It is not just chemistry, but interdisciplinary insights from astronomy to nuclear physics that have, over the years, helped us understand the elements that we're made up of.



Wednesday, May 15th 2019

4:00 PM (Tea/Coffee at 3:30 PM)

Auditorium, TIFR-H