Special Issue

Arrow of Time

Message from the Guest Editor

Problems connected to the arrow of time remain some of science's largest mysteries. Perhaps because the direction of time plays such a large role in our own lives we maintain a persistent interest in any science that distinguishes the past from future in a robust manner. Whatever the reason, there are many open and fascinating questions associated with the arrow of time in and across many sciences. In statistical mechanics, Boltzmann and many other greats of physics tackled the origins of thermodynamic entropy increase. This puzzle remains, but so do many comparable ones concerning the radiation arrow, cosmological arrow, psychological arrow, and more. What are the origins of these arrows? How are they affected when (e.g.) gravity is taken into account? How do they relate to one another? We hope for progress on these and other questions in this issue.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 January 2012)

Entropy

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.0
CiteScore 5.2
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/1354

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The concept of entropy is traditionally a quantity in physics that has to do with temperature. However, it is now clear that entropy is deeply related to information theory and the process of inference. As such, entropic techniques have found broad application in the sciences.

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