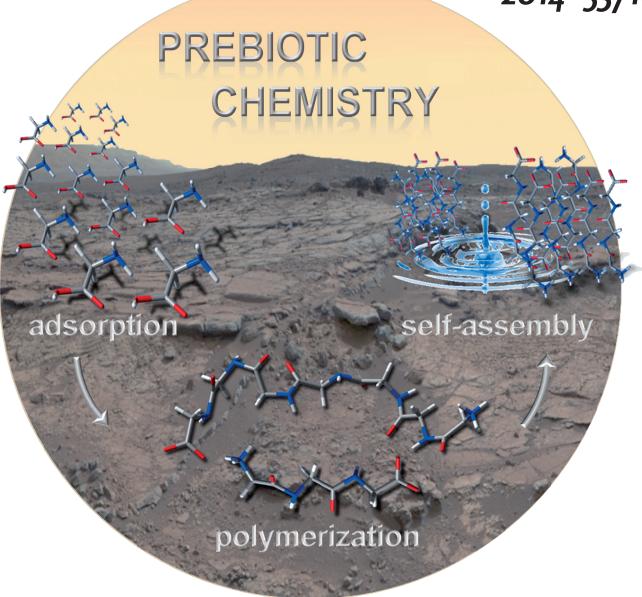
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The formation of long polypeptides ...

... from unactivated glycine adsorbed on SiO₂ and TiO₂ and the self-assembly of these polymers into both helical and β-sheet-like patches following surface hydration is reported by G. Martra et al. in their Communication on page 4671 ff. These results shed light on the formation of polymers from small biomolecules under abiotic conditions, thus adding to our understanding of the basis of biochemical complexity and the prebiotic formation of biopolymers.

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