

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Department of Mathematics

**Applied Mathematics and
Scientific Computing Seminar**

Room 617 Wachman Hall

Wednesday April 11, 2007 at 4 p.m.

Fracture: a variational approach.

by Gilles Francfort

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The variational theory of brittle fracture, which has been developed in the past few years, is based on the time evolution of global minimizers of the energy functionals. In this talk I will briefly recall the main results, then concentrate on the issues brought about by global minimality and focus on possible alternatives. There, the theory is far from complete, especially in dimensions greater than one.