

# PHYSICAL MATHEMATICS SEMINAR

## Locating Life's Limits: Searching for Boundary Conditions

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**ABSTRACT:**

Why are animal cells all about the same size? And what really sets metabolic expenditure? Both the external physical world and the nature of living systems themselves clearly put limits on the possible. Dimensionless indices often help us identify such limits, as does the recognition that empirical regression lines for scaling data may better be viewed as limit lines. Both devices direct attention to outliers that commonly reveal what matters and why.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013**

**2:30 PM**

**Building 56, Room 180**

*Reception following in Building 2, Room 290  
(Math Dept. Common Room)*

<http://math.mit.edu/pms>



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