



CEA - Saclay 91191 Gif-sur-yvette Cedex  
Service de Physique de l'Etat Condensé  
SÉMINAIRE



Mercredi 30 avril 2014 à 11h15

Orme des Merisiers SPEC, Salle Itzykson, Bât.774

# Scaling in cities

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The recent availability of data about cities and urban systems opens the exciting possibility of a 'new Science of Cities'. Urban morphology and morphogenesis, activity and residence location choice, mobility, urban sprawling and the evolution of urban networks are just a few of the important processes that can be discussed now from a quantitative point of view. In this talk, I will show how the combination of data, physical arguments and modeling helps us in understanding urban systems. I will discuss socio-economical indicators that can describe various aspects of cities such as the commuting length, the total length of the street network, the total delay due to congestion, etc. The variation of these quantities with population usually reveals interesting scaling laws with non trivial exponents that call for an explanation. I will show here how a physicist approach can help in solving these puzzles.

A coffee break will be served at 11h00. The seminar will be given in English.