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Laboratoire PMMH  
10 rue Vauquelin, 75231 Paris Cedex 05



## Séminaire PMMH

*Bureau d'Études, Bâtiment L, 2<sup>ème</sup> étage*

*Vendredi 20 octobre 2017, 11h00-12h00*

### Wilson Poon

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#### **Complexity and decay – towards a science of self disassembly**

Soft matter physics has been obsessed with 'self assembly' for some time - the ability of Brownian or, more recently, 'active matter' systems to generate (sometimes useful!) patterns 'on their own accord'. The original impulse for this was biological, the term 'self assembly' being first used in a famous 1962 paper on viral capsid construction by Caspar and Klug. Biological cells are clearly self assembled. However, they also have the amazing ability to 'self disassemble' - a high-evolved energy-expending process called apoptosis (or programmed cell death). Strangely, the physics of disassembly has never yet been thought about, either theoretically or experimentally. In this talk, I will seek to imagine what such a physics may look like, and explain why I think it is important to do so.

**Attention : pas de séminaire le vendredi 28 octobre**

Prochain séminaire : vendredi 17 novembre, Gergely Molnár (Laboratoire S3R, Grenoble)

Programme des séminaires : [www.pmmh.espci.fr](http://www.pmmh.espci.fr), onglet *Séminaires PMMH*

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