

ALGEBRA AND NUMBER THEORY  
SEMINAR

*Essential dimension of central simple algebras*

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**Abstract:** The essential dimension of an algebraic group  $G$  measures the “least number of parameters” needed to define a  $G$ -torsor. I will give a brief survey of how we can compute this number and how it relates to the structure of central simple algebras.

Monday, February 20, 2012, 3:00 pm  
Mathematics and Science Center: W306

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
EMORY UNIVERSITY