

## “Tearing thin sheets : where does the crack go ?”

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We all know that plastic packages are not always easy to open: tearing does not go in the direction that we would like. I will present a review of several simple experiments where the question is to understand what will be the trajectory of a crack in a thin sheet.

We find that the crack path is very robust and can be predicted from simple arguments. This is because in thin sheets, mechanics is driven by geometry.

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