

STUDENT MATHEMATICAL LIBRARY  
Volume 26

# Six Themes on Variation

Robert Hardt, Editor

Steven J. Cox

Robin Forman

Frank Jones

Barbara Lee Keyfitz

Frank Morgan

Michael Wolf



---

# Contents

Preface	vii
List of Contributors	xi
Calculus of Variations: What Does “Variations” Mean? Frank Jones	1
How Many Equilibria Are There? An Introduction to Morse Theory Robin Forman	13
Aye, There’s the Rub. An Inquiry into Why a Plucked String Comes to Rest Steven J. Cox	37
Proof of the Double Bubble Conjecture Frank Morgan	59
Minimal Surfaces, Flat Cone Spheres and Moduli Spaces of Staircases Michael Wolf	79
Hold That Light! Modeling of Traffic Flow by Differential Equations Barbara Lee Keyfitz	127