

MALTA

Irene Sciriha Aquilina

Mathematics

Irene Sciriha is a professor in mathematics, algebra and spectra of graphs at the University of Malta. She performs research in the field of abstract algebra, and regularly publishes articles in areas ranging from spectral graph theory to molecular chemistry, and even computer science and social networks.

According to Sciriha, mathematical skills are essential for understanding many physical and chemical processes. The theories and models she has created clarify poorly understood physical occurrences in a fascinating way. She discovered, for example, underlying molecular structures of certain fullerenes and the electrical behaviour of nanomolecules in circuits.

Her main achievement is what she, using a journalistic term, calls the NUT graph, a singular graph with each column of the adjacent matrix being a combination of all the other columns.

She is internationally considered an expert in her field.



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