

**Name:** Anisa Chorwadwala

**Where does she work:**

Indian Institute of Science Education  
and Research, Pune  
(IISER PUNE).



**Where and what did she study:**

B.Sc., M.Sc., M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Mumbai.

**What are your interests (in your job, and outside):**

My interests are teaching, solving problems, talking to students. I also love listening to ghazals, poem recital and Hindi/Urdu songs. Lately, I have become a fan of the Sufi music and Rajasthani folk songs. I like to watch both mainstream and parallel Bollywood movies . I love to watch plays/dramas in English and Indian languages. My research interests lie in an area called “Shape Optimization Problems”, which I will explain in brief during my talk.

**What does she do:** I work as an Assistant Professor at IISER PUNE. At IISER, this position demands teaching to BS-MS as well as PhD students. It also demands good quality research in the area of the individual scientist’s interests. My research interests lie in what is called the “Shape Optimization Problems“. Broadly speaking, this falls under the “Geometry” and “Differential Equations” fields of Mathematics. In Layman’s language one can say that it is about finding a shape that is optimal in the sense that it minimizes certain cost functional while satisfying given constraints. For example, to find an answer to questions like “why does a herd of Reindeer form a circle when attacked by wolves?”.