

Hidden maths



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■ **Scientists at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in the US have uncovered a hidden mathematical secret inside the leaves of the Chinese money plant — a naturally occurring geometric pattern known as a Voronoi diagram, something typically associated with city planning, computer science and network design. By mapping tiny pores and looping veins in the plant's leaves, researchers discovered that the plant organises itself using the same kind of elegant spatial logic humans use to solve complex distance problems — without ever “measuring” anything.**