

# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!

• BY MADELINE MCMAHON M.A. '24  
• ILLUSTRATIONS BY KENNY KIERNAN



BRIAN GARMAN,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF MATHEMATICS, AS...

**ALGORITHMMAN**

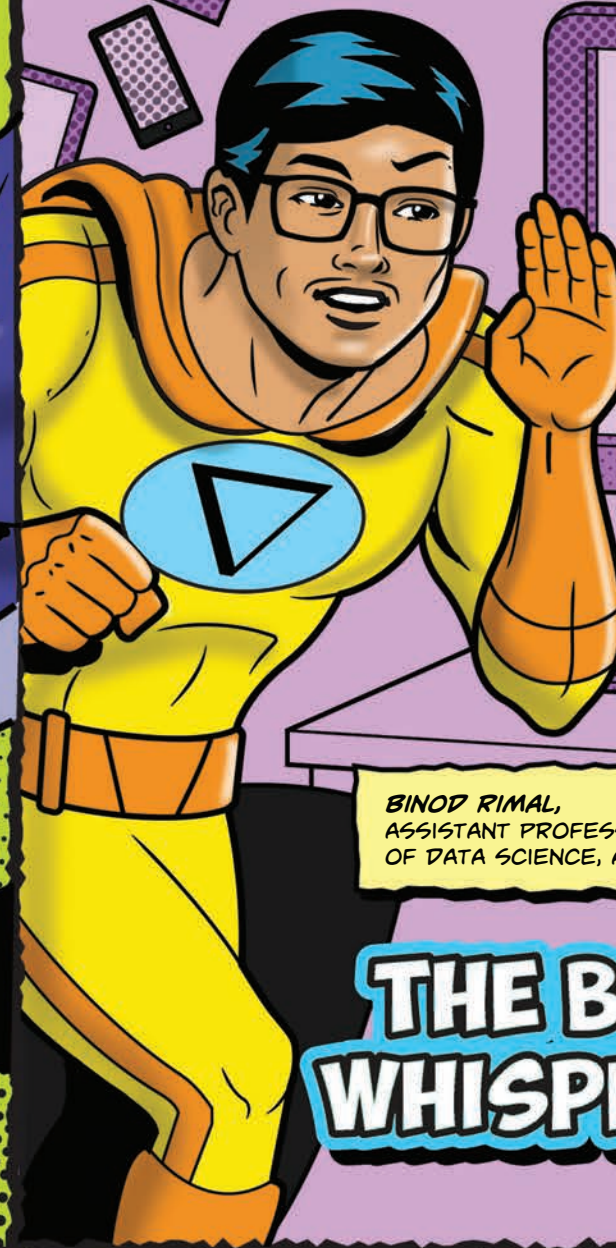


ANGELA ANGELESKA,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF MATHEMATICS, AS...

**GRAPHITE**

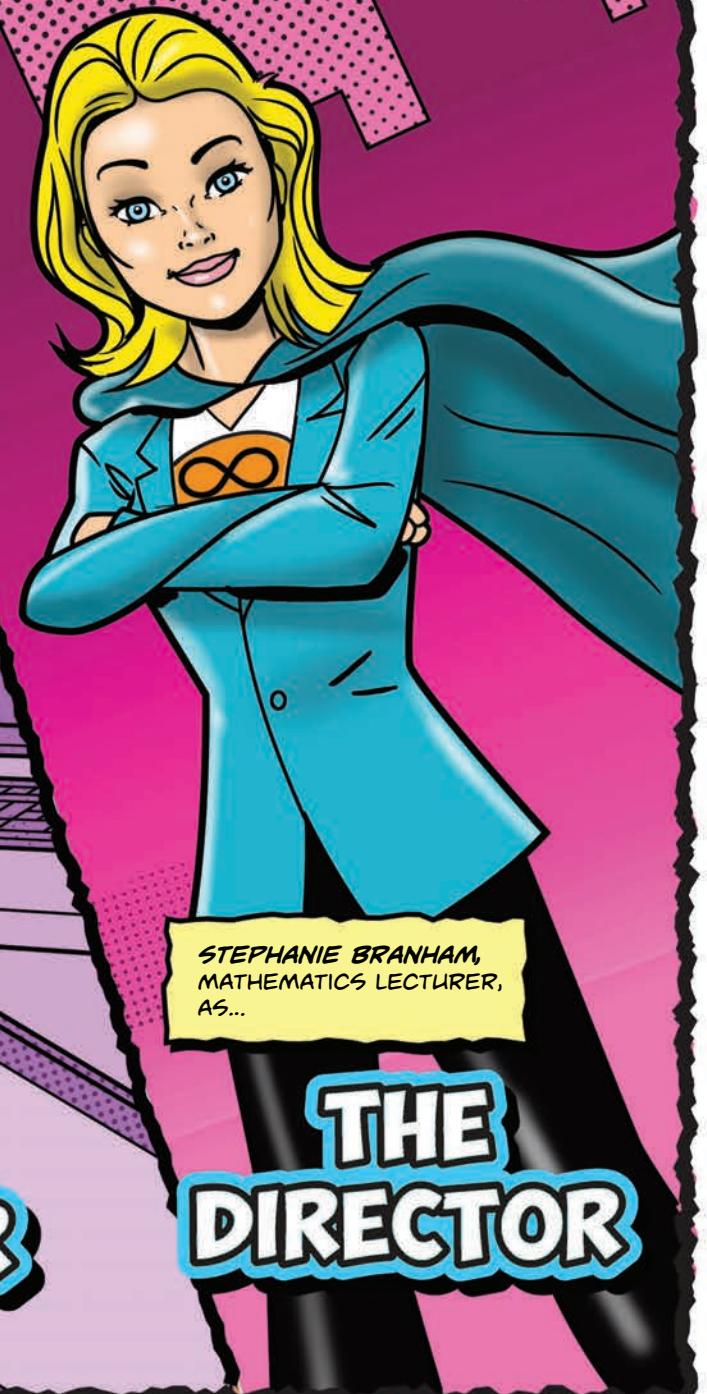
TUCKED AWAY IN THEIR HEADQUARTERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA, THESE MATHEMATICS PROFESSORS USE THEIR POWER -- BRAIN POWER -- TO SOLVE EVERYDAY PUZZLES AND PROBLEMS.

AND AT THE BRAND-NEW CENTER FOR MATH SUCCESS ON CAMPUS, STUDENTS CAN CALL FOR HEROES-IN-TRAINING TO RESCUE THEM FROM A VILLAINOUS CASE OF MATH ANXIETY.



BINOD RIMAL,  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
OF DATA SCIENCE, AS...

**THE BOT  
WHISPERER**



STEPHANIE BRANHAM,  
MATHEMATICS LECTURER,  
AS...

**THE  
DIRECTOR**

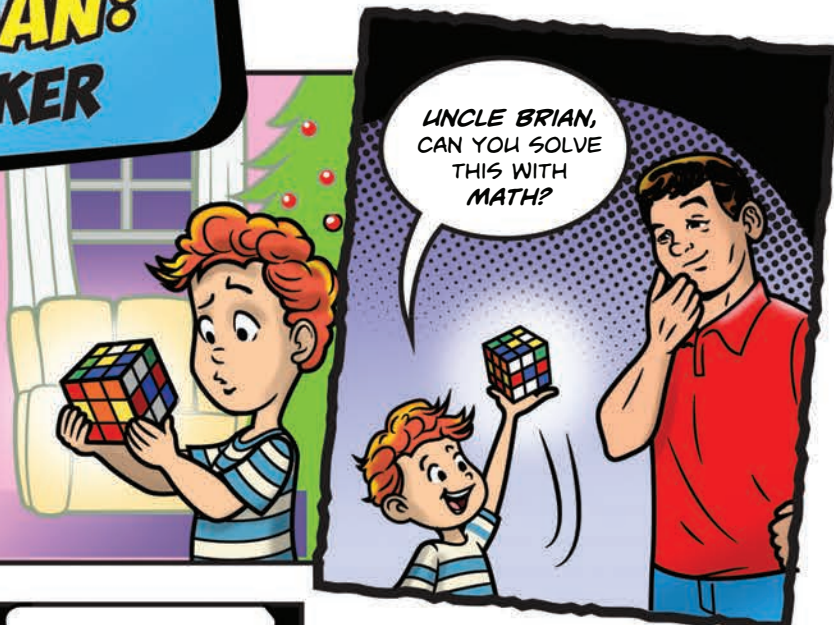


# ALGORITHM MAN: THE CUBE CRACKER

## CHRISTMAS DAY:

THE RUBIK'S CUBE HAD JUST HIT THE MARKET, AND THERE WERE MILLIONS OF WAYS TO SOLVE IT. EVEN STILL, LITTLE 6-YEAR-OLD KYLE WAS STUMPED.

THEN, HE GOT AN IDEA...



UNCLE BRIAN, ALSO KNOWN AS **ALGORITHM MAN**, SPECIALIZED IN ABSTRACT MATHEMATICS, WHICH APPLIES THEOREMS, ALGORITHMS AND OTHER MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS FOR PRACTICAL USE IN THE REAL WORLD.

ALGORITHM MAN COMPARES IT TO **ABSTRACT PAINTING**, SAYING IT'S LIKE CREATING SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING THAT ONLY A FEW WILL UNDERSTAND. WHEN KYLE ASKED FOR HELP WITH HIS RUBIK'S CUBE, ALGORITHM MAN DEVOTED HIMSELF TO **FIGURING IT OUT**.



FOR WEEKS, ALGORITHM MAN STAYED UP UNTIL THE WEE HOURS, TAKING HUNDREDS OF PAGES OF NOTES.



**BREAK-THROUGH!**

ALGORITHM MAN PINPOINTED THE RIGHT ORDER OF MOVES TO CRACK THE CUBE!

USING ORIGINAL MATHEMATICAL THEORIES, HE SOLVED THE WHOLE CUBE EXCEPT FOR **THREE CORNERS**. HE WALKED BY THE CUBE RESTING ON HIS DESK EVERY DAY AND GAVE IT A GOOD, LONG STARE, WONDERING **HOW** HE COULD SOLVE IT WITHOUT MESSING UP HIS PROGRESS.



# THE ALL-KNOWING BOT WHISPERER

AH MAN, I WATCHED REAL HOUSEWIVES WITH MY MOM ONE TIME!

NOW IT'S RECOMMENDING ALL THIS REALITY TV!



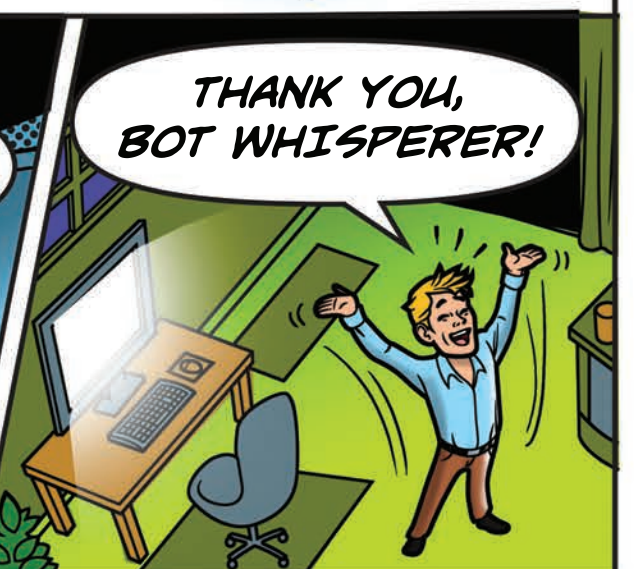
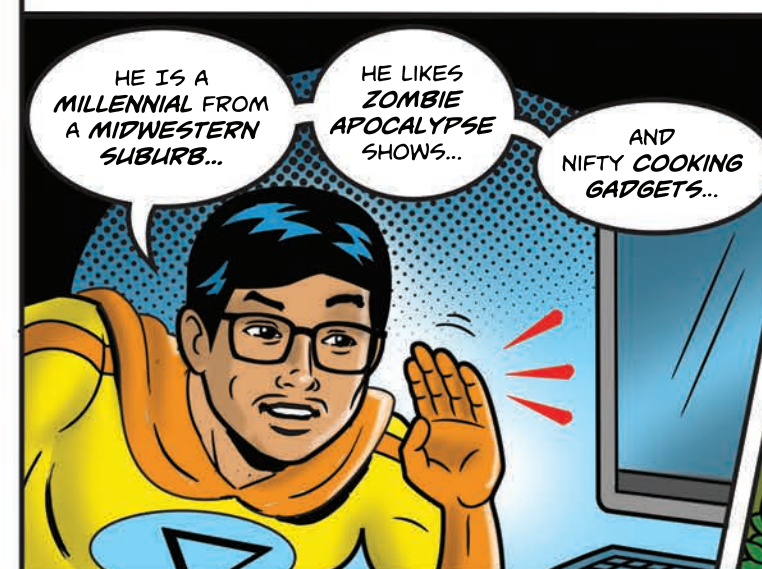
## ONE HOUR LATER...



AI RECOMMENDER SYSTEMS COLLECT **HISTORICAL USER DATA** TO IMPROVE **FUTURE FILTERING PERFORMANCE**. SO, WHEN THEY START ACTING UP -- WHETHER IT'S STREAMING PLATFORMS, ONLINE STORES OR SOCIAL MEDIA -- THEY REQUIRE **ADDITIONAL FOUNDATIONAL INFORMATION**.

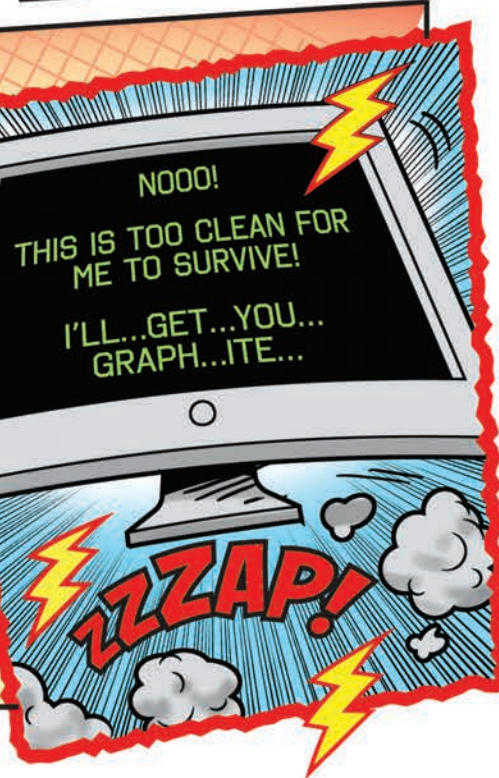
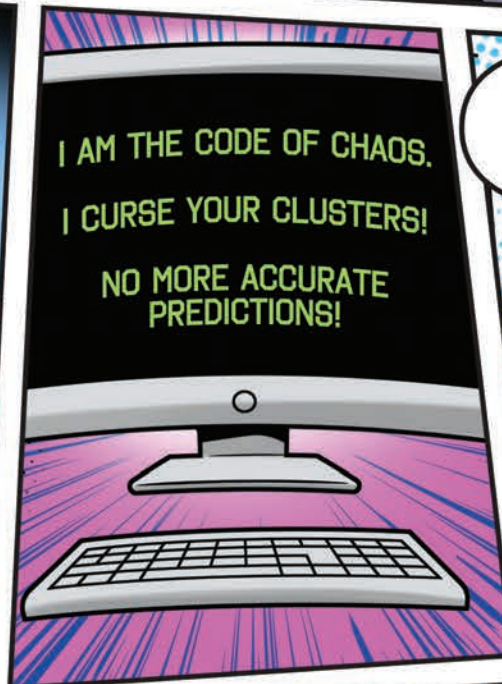
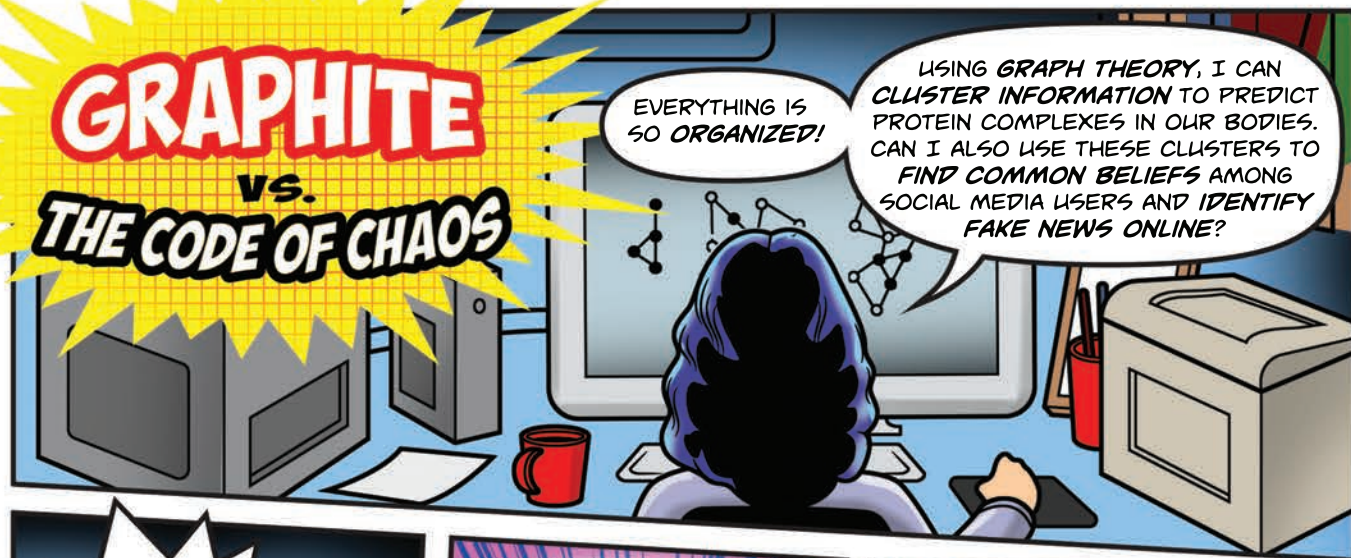
THE **BOT WHISPERER** CAN GUIDE THE MACHINES IN DEVELOPING THEIR OWN METHODS FOR **CATEGORIZING SIMILAR ITEMS**.

BY PROVIDING THE BOTS WITH EXAMPLES OF USER INTERACTIONS, SUCH AS SHOWS WATCHED OR PURCHASES MADE, THEY CAN **LEARN TO SUGGEST THE MOST RELEVANT ITEMS TO USERS**.





# GRAPHITE VS. THE CODE OF CHAOS



# WHERE HEROES ARE MADE

