

# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!

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



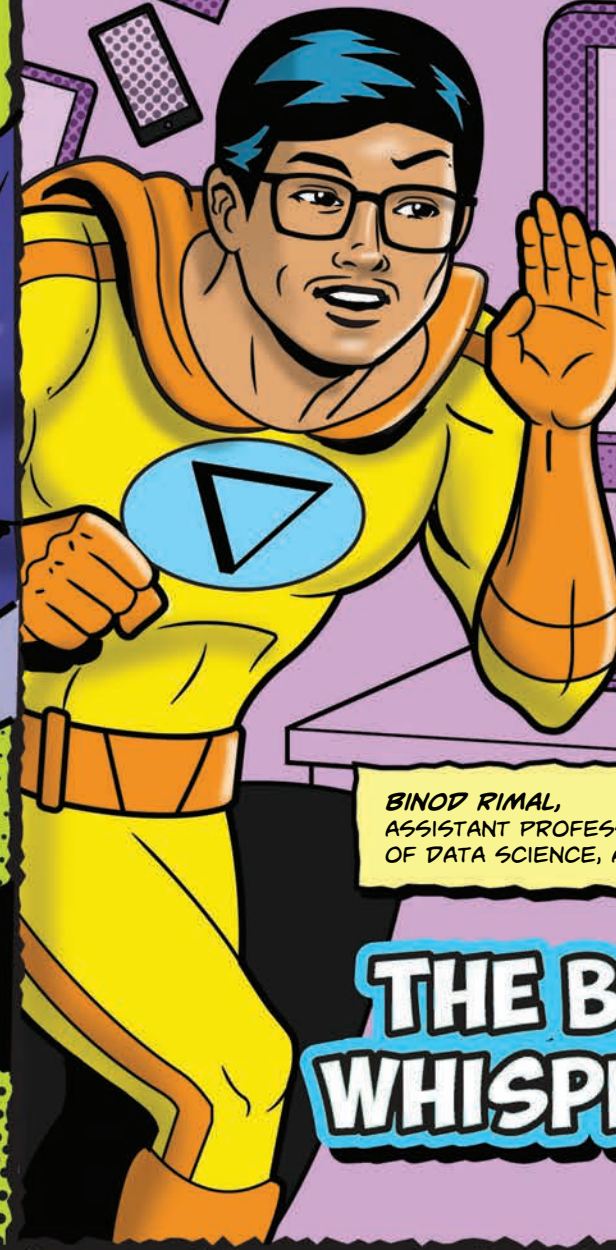
BRIAN GARMAN,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF MATHEMATICS, AS...

**ALGORITHMMAN**



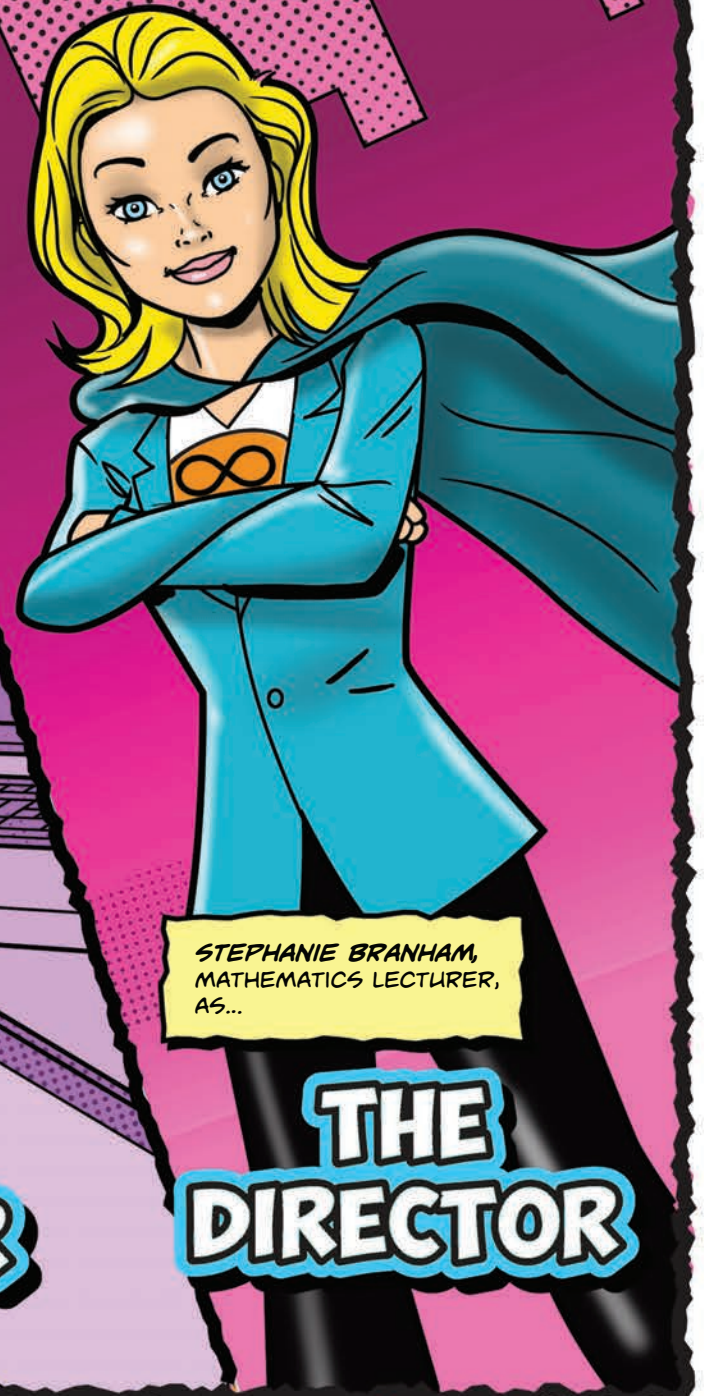
ANGELA ANGELESKA,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
OF MATHEMATICS, AS...

**GRAPHITE**



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

**THE BOT  
WHISPERER**



STEPHANIE BRANHAM,  
MATHEMATICS LECTURER,  
AS...

**THE  
DIRECTOR**

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

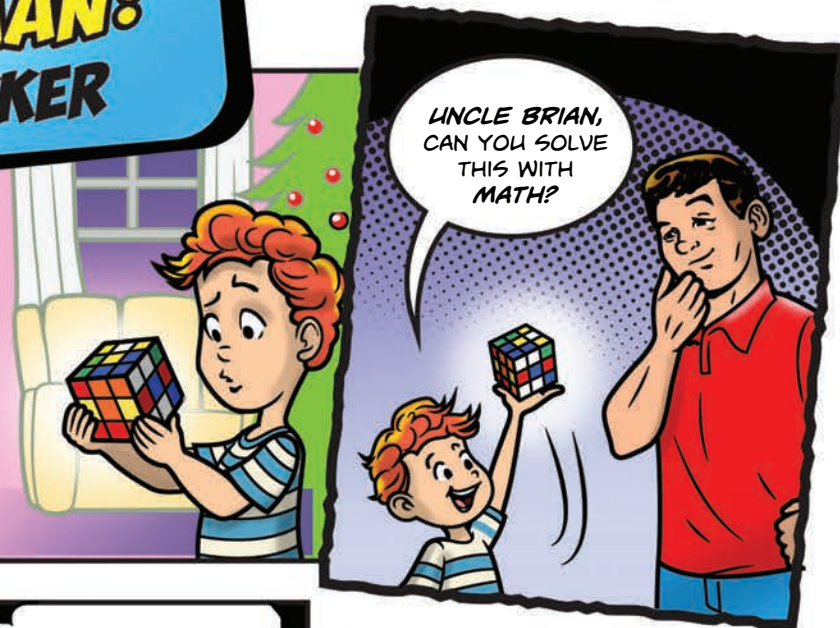
AND AT THE BRAND-NEW CENTER FOR MATH SUCCESS ON CAMPUS, STUDENTS CAN CALL FOR HEROES-IN-TRAINING TO RESCUE THEM FROM A VILLAINOUS CASE OF MATH ANXIETY.

# 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.



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.



**BREAK-THROUGH!**  
ALGORITHM MAN PINPOINTED THE RIGHT ORDER OF MOVES TO **CRACK THE CUBE!**



I CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW MY FRIENDS THE POWER OF MATH!



# THE ALL-KNOWING BOT WHISPERER

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

NOW IT'S RECOMMENDING ALL THIS REALITY TV!



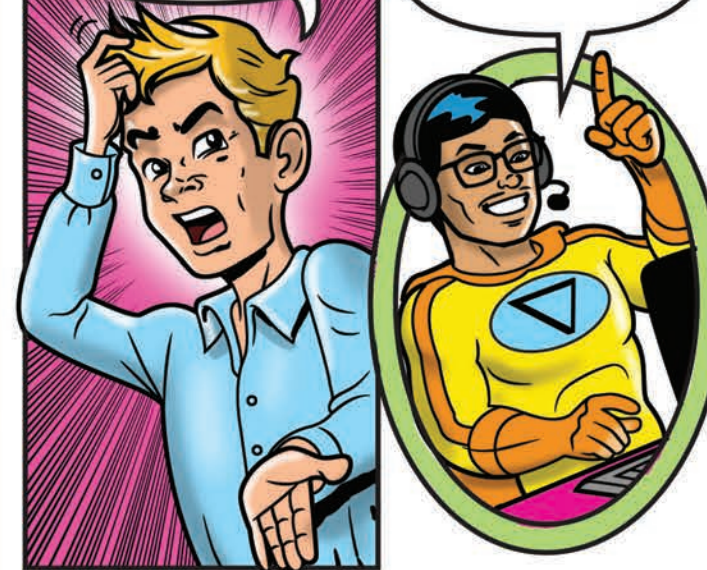
ONE HOUR LATER...

TIKTOK CONVINCED ME TO BUY THIS, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT TO BUY A HUNDRED OF THEM!



NETFLIX AND AMAZON MUST KNOW ME BETTER THAN THIS!

I'M GETTING WORD OF A CIVILIAN WHOSE ASSIGNED BOTS ARE MALFUNCTIONING -- I'M ON MY WAY!



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**.

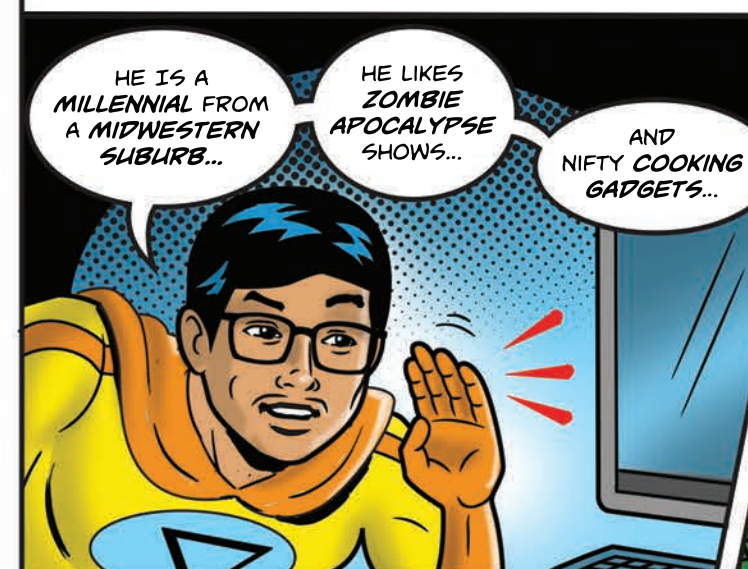
BY PROVIDING THE BOTS WITH EXAMPLES OF USER INTERACTIONS, SUCH AS SHOWS WATCHED OR PURCHASES MADE, THEY CAN **LEARN TO SUGGEST THE MOST RELEVANT ITEMS TO USERS**.



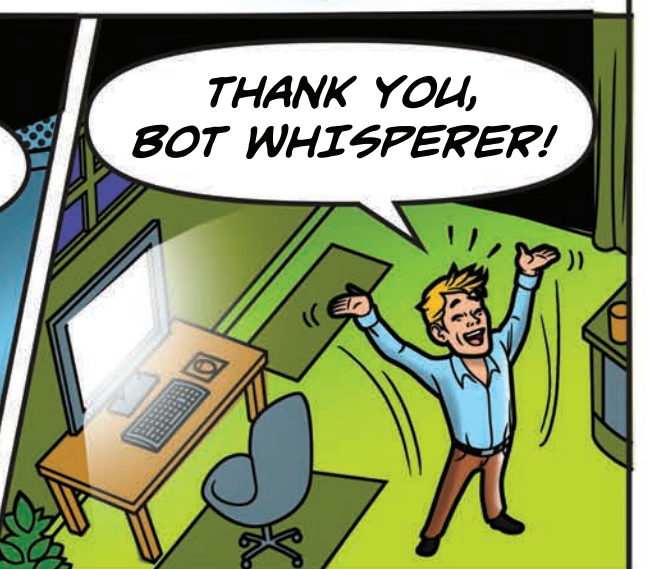
HE IS A MILLENNIAL FROM A MIDWESTERN SUBURB...

HE LIKES ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE SHOWS...

AND NIFTY COOKING GADGETS...



THANK YOU, BOT WHISPERER!



# GRAPHITE

## vs. THE CODE OF CHAOS

EVERYTHING IS SO ORGANIZED!

USING GRAPH THEORY, I CAN CLUSTER INFORMATION TO PREDICT PROTEIN COMPLEXES IN OUR BODIES. CAN I ALSO USE THESE CLUSTERS TO FIND COMMON BELIEFS AMONG SOCIAL MEDIA USERS AND IDENTIFY FAKE NEWS ONLINE?

AHHH!

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY CLUSTERS?

BOINK!

RATTLE!

I AM THE CODE OF CHAOS. I CURSE YOUR CLUSTERS! NO MORE ACCURATE PREDICTIONS!

I'VE GOT TO DEFEAT THE CODE OF CHAOS SO I CAN GET MY CLUSTERS BACK!

IF I TRACE WHO'S BRINGING THIS CHAOS, I CAN FIND THEIR WEAKNESSES FROM THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORKS!

AHA! GOT 'EM. BY ORGANIZING CLUSTERS OF THEIR FRIENDS, GROUPS AND LIKES, I CAN SAFELY ASSUME THAT THEY DESTROYED MY ORIGINAL CLUSTERS BECAUSE THEY THRIVE OFF OF MESS!

NOOO!  
THIS IS TOO CLEAN FOR ME TO SURVIVE!  
I'LL...GET...YOU...  
GRAPH...ITE...

ZZZAP!

# WHERE HEROES ARE MADE

THIS IS SO HARD...

I NEVER FELT LIKE I NEEDED TUTORING BEFORE, BUT I'M HAVING SERIOUS MATH ANXIETY!

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT UT'S NEW CENTER FOR MATH SUCCESS?

I'M THE DIRECTOR. FOLLOW ME! I'M POSITIVE WE CAN HELP.

OUR INSTRUCTORS ATTEND YOUR CLASSES AND CAN EVEN ASSIST YOU DURING A LECTURE.

THEY'RE FELLOW STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS MAJORS WITH A PASSION FOR MATH AND HELPING THEIR PEERS.

BUT DON'T LET THE STIGMA OF TUTORING BE YOUR KRYPTONITE!

STUDENTS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS CAN BENEFIT FROM TIPS ON NOTE TAKING AND STUDY TECHNIQUES.

AND SOON WE'LL HOST FUN EVENTS THAT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

# BE YOUR OWN HERO!