



Dis-playing the Game of Thrones

Who is the real hero of the television series *Game of Thrones* and book series *A Song of Ice and Fire*? To help answer this, mathematicians used network science (applied graph theory) to analyze and create a pictorial representation of the third book's characters and the connections among them. They then looked at different measures of importance—in graph theory terms, *centrality*—and Tyrion Lannister emerged as the leader in all but one of the measures. The answer may not be resolved

for the entire series, but one thing is clear: Thinking about *Game of Thrones* is a lot safer than playing it!

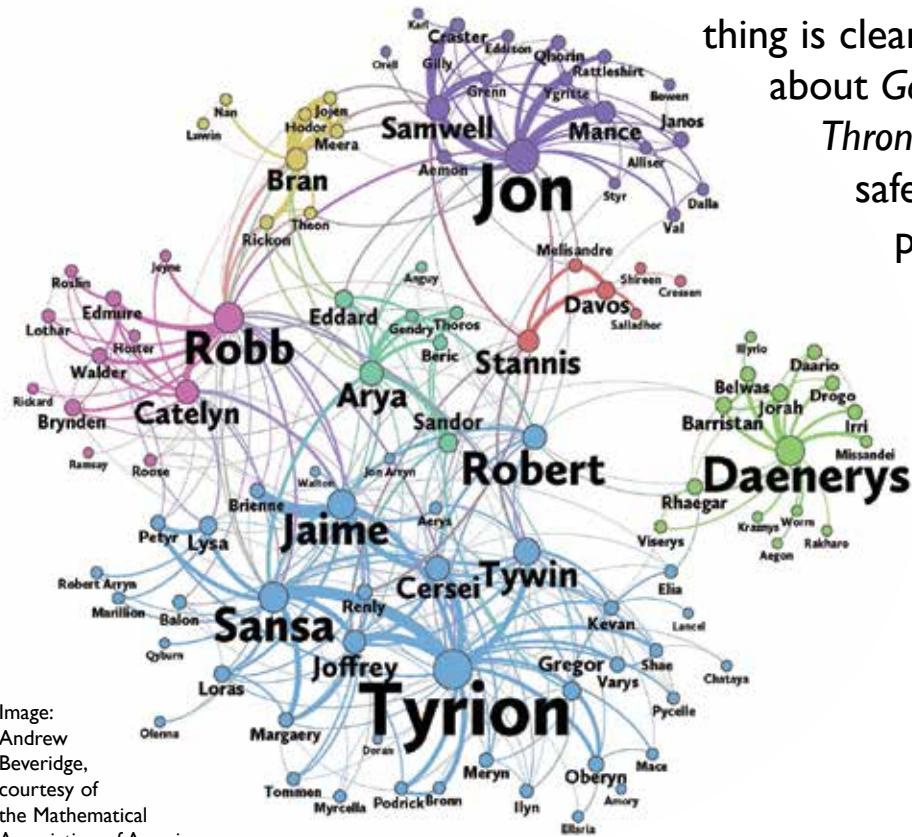


Image: Andrew Beveridge, courtesy of the Mathematical Association of America.

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