MANY FEARFUL FACTS

presents

Blowing Things Up: A Maverick Approach to Resolving Singularities

a talk by Adam Boocher

2:10–3:00pm on Tuesday, October 28, in 1015 Evans.

If you've ever attended an algebraic geometry seminar, perhaps you've heard mention of the famous method of blowing up. Despite the fearful-sounding name, blowing up is fairly simple to describe and is quite powerful. In this talk I'll describe the process through many cheerful pictures and examples so that hopefully your next algebraic geometry talk will be that much less fearful. Of course, no Halloween talk would be complete without an array of devilish lemmata and surprising twists. Will this talk provide haunting thrills unlike any other? You betcha!

> I am the very model of a modern Major General,
> I've information vegetable, animal, and mineral,
> I know the kings of England, and I quote the fights historical
> From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical
> I'm very well acquainted, too, with matters mathematical,
> I understand equations, both the simple and quadratical,
> About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot o' news,
> With many cheerful facts about the square of the hypotenuse!
>
> — Gilbert Sullivan, $\mathfrak{P} \circ \mathfrak{P}$