Moral, Affective and Political Dimensions of Computational Modelling: Views from Education

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Tuesday, April 25, 2023
3:30 p.m.
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING 221 and Zoom
https://sites.google.com/view/tsalman/teaching/cs5120_sp23

Abstract: The goal of this talk is to offer an expansive view of computational modelling as experience and discourse, especially when voices of learners and people from the margins of society and discipline are recognized and centred. Drawing upon from a series of studies with white settler students, immigrants, and refugee youth of colour, I will offer a view of computational modelling in which participants' experiences of othering take on centerstage. I argue that computational modelling acts both as borderlands and a boundary layer, and share examples of how we can pivot from one stance to another through attending to learners' dignities and affect.

Bio: Dr. Pratim Sengupta is a Professor of Learning Sciences and a graduate faculty in the Computational Media Design program at the University of Calgary, where he has also served as the Research Chair of STEM education. He is a transdisciplinary scholar whose scholarship sits at the intersection of complex systems, agent-based modelling, and critical theories in the context of education research. His recent publications include Voicing Code in STEM: A Dialogical Imagination (open access, MIT Press).