Why Does Tutoring Work?
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Abstract:

At $50-$100 per hour, tutoring is very expensive. But does it work, and why? This talk will examine evidence of tutoring's effectiveness and the core constructs underlying tutoring. Tutoring works because it mobilizes and orchestrates a diverse set of learning principles spanning affect and cognition. In this talk, we will explore these principles, with a particular emphasis on scaffolding, interactivity, attention, and the testing effect.

Biography:

Andrew Olney presently serves as Full Professor in both the Institute for Intelligent Systems and Department of Psychology at the University of Memphis. Dr. Olney received a B.A. in Linguistics with Cognitive Science from University College London in 1998, an M.S. in Evolutionary and Adaptive Systems from the University of Sussex in 2001, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Memphis in 2006. His primary research interests are in natural language interfaces. Specific interests include vector space models, dialogue systems, unsupervised grammar induction, robotics, and intelligent tutoring systems.