

we are not just describing a Pygmalion effect where anything new (e.g. a new NetLogo model) will have a short-term positive effect but not a long-term positive effect on performance. Second, we need to conceive of abstraction in terms of not only student understanding of content in a given high school subject but abstraction as a concrete manifestation or a computational solution that can be used in subjects for problem solving. Third, students problem solving should be measured using a continuous variable and not a Boolean variable. For instance, a limitation of this study leading to measurement bias was the use of a methodology where we rated poor performance as zero and successful performance as one. CT is hardly a dichotomous variable that students either have or do not have, but a set of complex problem solving skills. Thus CT should be tested with dynamic (cognitive and computational) models in terms of whether students are successful in using, modifying and creating code over time. Fourth, more comparative research should be conducted in terms of how well different subjects might facilitate students' development of CT. We found biotechnology, social science and chemistry equally amenable to model phenomena whereby students could learn CT. All participating teachers were able to collaborate with researchers and developers in this project to produce models that generated CT in students regardless of their subjects.

CT helps raise fundamental ontological questions in high-school teaching about what is biology, social science etc.? This was originally pointed out by Papert [1 p.140] who asked: What is the potential influence of computation on students' understanding of physics? Will CT bring student nearer to grasping what a subject is or merely confuse them about phenomena, representations, codes and models? Our teaching experiment showed that by letting students tinker with models they were able to integrate both coding, modelling and content knowledge.

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