UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

The Calgary Mathematics & Philosophy Lectures

WHAT WE DON'T UNDERSTAND & WHY IT MATTERS

From High Dimensional Geometry to Modern AI

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026
4:30PM (Doors open at 4:00)
Blue Room, University of Calgary Dining Center

In this talk, we journey through several "big" mathematical ideas, from familiar large numbers to simple geometric concepts that behave in surprising ways in high dimensions. These examples set the stage for why mathematics remains essential to understanding modern AI. We focus especially on open questions in deep learning, including why neural networks are able to generalize so effectively, and why this matters for real-world systems. The talk concludes with applications in medicine and criminal justice, highlighting ongoing work with community partners that illustrates the practical impact of mathematical methods.

Free & Open to the Public | Event is In-person
ucalgary.ca/mathphil

Register at:

This event will follow the Graduate College's AI & Ethics conference. For more information on the conference visit:

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