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Reconfiguring Literary Hermeneutics: A Posthuman Interpretive Voice of Artificial Intelligence

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[1]Dr M.Durga Devi
[2]Dr.I.Abinaya
1Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sona College of Arts and Science, Affiliated to Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu, India
[2]Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sona College of Arts and Science, Affiliated to Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu, India

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Abstract:
This paper attempts to sketch the trajectory of Artificial Intelligence and its enhanced potential in positioning non-human entities as interpretive agents. Contemporarily, the increased influence of posthuman approaches and data-driven textual analysis are highlighted, and the AI-driven critical approach is largely under-examined. So far, the anthropocentric ideas and their comprehensive overview have demanded a significant cognitive shift in literary criticism. But the emerging simulation of AI for non-human hermeneutics has reconfigured the literary landscape by being polyphonic in ecological perspectives and algorithmic process. At this vantage point, AI emerges as a mediator of multispecies- plants, animals, network, machines, etc, and a multi-tool practice in exploring the decentered narrative and literary studies that restudy the non-human voices in constructing meaning. This approach allows the literary criticism to reshape the anthropocentric biases and enable a co-configured framework of human and nonhuman voices, unbiased.

Keywords : Literary Criticism, AI Influence, Post-Humanism, Nonhuman Voice

Introduction

Literary criticism is an interdisciplinary field that foregrounds the Arts, Science, and Humanities, which has sustained a tension with the revelation of anthropocentric interpretation of literary works. The concomitant existence of human and non-human interpretation brings a comparative analysis of literary work, establishing posthuman traits as well as the humanist assumptions. The study foregrounds the crucial site of discord and dissension between human and non-human entanglement in narrative analysis. Arguably, the

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central claim of the study destabilises the inviolate human consciousness in hermeneutics and discloses the pathway for reconceptualising the semantic analysis of literary work. Further shifting the focus from authorship, computational stylistics, and digital narratives to enlightening the literary criticism through the lens of AI recognises the voice of non-human, which was excluded in traditional anthropocentric criticism. Rather than the anticipated support and privileging of human interpretation, the posthuman narratology critiques the Anthropocene agency and debates over reorienting the environmental issues by simulating non-human interpretive agents. Such an outstanding theoretical framework swerves from traditional critical approaches and aligns with the posthuman paradigm to mutate into a multispecies and multimachine dialogue.

Literature Review

Caracciollo (2022) examined the narratology beyond plot and subject that discusses the non-linear structures through non-human spaces in *Posthumanist Narratology*. A thick accretion of critical studies relevant to the redefinition of eco criticism and their ethical perspectivesresonates with the materiality associated with distinctive interests in the Posthumanist concept. Serenella Iovino, in *Material Ecocriticism: Materiality, Agency and Models of Narrativity*, focused on eco-philosophical debate and material intersections of human and non-human species. Although the traditional interrogative approaches manifest the hybrid role of non-human entities within literary texts, the integration of AI clears the blurred boundaries of authorship and agency.

Ms Bindu Premkumar has observed in *The Impact of AI on Literary Creation and Criticism: Emerging Trends and Implications* how AI has reconfigured literary criticism with its advanced tools and analytical data in textual interpretation. This focuses on how machine learning and generative models have played a prominent role in Literary Criticism. The afore-mentioned scholarship has highlighted or illuminated the divergence of textual insight using AI and NLP's subjective interpretation. Despite the rich critical discourse on AI's influence in literary criticism and its epistemic limits of computational analysis, a prominent gap exists to plough deeper and expose the potentiality of AI's influence in literary criticism. Looming into the critical paradigms of anthropocentric ideas, material ecocriticism, and the emplacement of AI-assisted interpretations on behalf of non-human agency, a significant bias remains largely underexplored. The intersection of AI and literary analysis transcended the realm of exploration in literary studies. It has ignited an interest in unravelling the literary merits and stylistic elements embedded in the literary text. Although the influence of AI in literary criticism emits deeper dimensions of literary works in claiming authorship, text mining and identifying patterns of themes, a significant research gap exists in comprehensive evaluation.

Research Objectives

The objective of this research is to smooth the transition between the gap in theory and practice, and to develop a generative AI to automate a non-human interpretive simulation agent and literary criticism. Establishing a posthuman narratology and material eco-criticism

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scholarship to churn out insight on the theoretical context. To assist in the challenges and potentialities of AI, which involves sophisticated technological advancements through methodological epistemical and ethical implications by converging the boundaries of digital humanities and literary theory.

Research Methodology

The study employed qualitative analysis of harnessing the reader's cognition in taking non-human standpoints of interpreting text as plants, animals, hybrid beings and a network. The textual analysis features the presence of non-human in Richard Powers' *The Overstory* (trees), Gibson's *Neuromancer* (Network) and Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* (ecosystems). A comparative analysis with established human narratological analysis and AI-simulated hermeneutics aimed to probe into the convergence and divergence of interpretive outcomes. The study is located within the posthuman debate on human and non-human encounters of new literary criticism.

Research Analysis

The coalescence of artificial intelligence (AI) with literary criticism is redefining the methodologies, potentials, and philosophical underpinnings of Literary studies. Conventional interpretive depth of human scholars' literary analysis is now experiencing a metamorphosis with the striking combination of machine learning, natural language processing, and generative models. In this posthuman period, environmental protection has reached an oblivious state of discourse and the anthropocentric dominion is intrigued to position itself as an authoritative mediator of the ecosystem. The human agency failed to perceive the odds of surviving in a complex ecosystem. Richard Powers gave voice to trees through AI simulation in *The Overstory* to demonstrate the unethical complacency and the destruction of the ecosystem. Leading to the predominant transition from human perceptive interpretations to a human (tree) sensible agent, the story highlights the need to rethink the interconnection between the balanced survival of humans and the ecosystem.

Gibson's *Neuromancer* is a leap beyond human comprehension that critiques human beings' dominance over creating a digital life for AI models who embody the identity struggle. The network-centric rethinking of reflecting consciousness to the two AI models, Wintermute and Neuromancer, expresses their desire to merge and question the human consciousness in determining or identifying the machine as a mere servant that pulsates the data veins.

From the Bluehumanities perspective, the aquacentric fiction, *The Hungry Tide*, written by Ghosh, embodies the posthumanist eco criticism to signify the transitory power of human beings. The tidal force, which appears to be a static background in the novel, mirrors the fluidity of the rhythm of the sea that destabilises the demarcations laid by humans to witness the spectacular devastation of mankind. The social erasure symbolised the fragility of human-centric ideologies with an agile movement nature. The posthuman expedition reframes the human-nature relationships, and the non-human agent in the novel illustrates

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the deep ecological voice suppressed by the human effort. Thus, the hydrological lens of AI emphasises the ecological displacement caused by mankind, and it challenges the liminal space imposed by the anthropocentric world. Finally, water serves as a non-human agent that reorients the destiny of humans.

Discussion

Scholastically, the article argues that it is perpetuating human epistemology and its iterative refinement of critical literary task reflects the embracement of predetermined goals of anthropocentric perception. But repurposing AI tools and non-human agents' voices can promote an unbiased sociotechnical and ecological justice, solidifying the expansion of decentralised narration of humans. In Richard Powers' *The Overstory*, non-human hermeneutics punctuate the coexistence of multispecies and reconstitute ethical cognition in mankind's responsibility and sustainability. The hydrological lens in Amitabh Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide* destabilised the inextricable fluidity of humans' judgmentalism, and the non-human voice demonstrates the rationality of posthumanist ontology. The autonomous AI-driven interpretive framework in *Neuromancer* transcends human cognition and challenges the ethical understanding of human agency and their predominant suppression of algorithmic AI practices.

Conclusion

From a posthumanist perspective, non-human hermeneutics enriches literary criticism and supplements a new methodological approach in alternative epistemology. This innovative conceptualising does not disclaim human hermeneutics, but locates it as a mediator between exclusive human philosophy and nature. Interestingly, the embodiment of discursive shift from authorial intent and readers' interpretation to dynamic hermeneutics of AI creates a multi-agential dialogue in a resonating co-constructed learning environment. Additionally, the AI agents enforce diverse interrogative and relational dimensions of meaning-making. The scope of this methodological innovation replaces stereotypical conceptualisations and simulates non-human readings in analysing selected texts. Further, it provides a practical framework for integrating scholars into posthumanist literary study. Future research can also extend to developing theories on non-human hermeneutics. The study examines and reaffirms the responsive voice to human literacy on ethical reconsideration of anthropocentric hermeneutics for harmonious coexistence of Man and nature. Further, it questions the Ethical responsibilities of critics when addressing through nonhuman voices of AI.

Consent For Publication

The authors confirm that the final version of this manuscript has been reviewed, approved, and consented to for publication by all relevant contributors.

Conflict Of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest, financial or otherwise, related to the content of this research.

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