How We Relate to Artificial Intelligence? A Lacanian Perspective

19 Aralık 2024 Perşembe 15:00 (30 dakika)

The relationship between human beings and artificial intelligence (AI) serves as a profound reflection of the human psyche, considering the Lacanian concept of the mirror stage. This paper posits that AI acts as a modern mirror, revealing significant elements of a subject's being, particularly narcissism and paranoia, through examples from movies and series. The Lacanian mirror stage describes the formation of the ego through identification with one's own reflection. However, Lacan emphasizes that prior to identification, the encounter with this reflection contains ambivalence, envy, rivalry, as well as narcissistic and paranoid overtones (Lacan, 1949/1977). Not only is an individual's preoccupation with their self-image (ego) on social media platforms an indicator of human narcissism (McCain, & Keith, 2018), but the arrogant attitudes of robots and AI engines—products of human creation—also reflect this element, which forms the foundation of the psyche's structure. In fact, AI represents a canvas on which creators reflect and project their own psychological makeup. Congruently, anger and hostility are also projected onto this canvas, leading to paranoid overtones in our relations with these technological products. Even though AI's pervasive surveillance and data mining capabilities intensify paranoia, as individuals grow increasingly wary of privacy invasion and manipulation (Kuldova, 2020), this paranoid approach to AI has already been reinforced by portrayals in various movies and series such as The Matrix, I, Robot, and Black Mirror, as well as the discourse of the media. These portrayals reveal a consistent theme in terms of our position relative to AI, marked by narcissism and paranoia. This paper aims to exemplify this situation by analyzing scenes from movies and series.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, mirror stage, narcissism, paranoia, projection

Presentation language / Sunum Dili

EN (English)

Disciplines / Disiplinler

Psychology / Psikoloji

E-mail / E-posta

fazilet_can@hotmail.com

ORCID ID

0000-0002-5013-6817

Institution / Affiliation / Kurum

Cappadocia University, Faculty of Humanities, Psychology

Country / Ülke

Turkey

Başlıca yazarlar:: Fazilet Canbolat (Kapadokya Üniversitesi)

Sunu yapanlar: Fazilet Canbolat (Kapadokya Üniversitesi)

Session Classification: Session 3.1 (Day 2)

Track Classification: Congist'24: Case Studies and Applications