



# Chapter 11

## AI (Artificial Intelligence): Romance or Science Fiction? The Origins and Trajectory

**Fabian A. Salum**

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3871-0855>  
*Fundação Dom Cabral, Brazil*

**Paulo Vicente Santos Alves**

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2418-1873>  
*Fundação Dom Cabral, Brazil*

**Karina Garcia Coleta**

*Fundação Dom Cabral, Brazil*

### ABSTRACT

*From where and when did the interest of humanity in the future arise? Initially, the answer is in the records of ideas and imagination of several futuristic writers who anticipated the transition the world is going on. Among the futuristic works, the book *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley is a classic. Although Huxley wrote it more than 90 years ago, the book approaches questions and aspects of the future challenges of humanity. The hypothetical universe of Huxley makes comparisons with the “transformations” that the world has gone through for decades. Artificial pregnancy - “in vitro fertilization” - was a provocative and extraordinary work during that period, considering that the first test tube baby was born 40 years after it. That is the reason for the questioning: Romance or science fiction? Are we experiencing the prophecies made by Huxley and his precursors? What will be the limits and challenges with the advances of artificial intelligence (AI)? The intelligent use of AI is a way to create development opportunities.*

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-9814-9.ch011

## **THE TRAJECTORY**

In the last decades, technological advances in computing have accelerated a lot due, mainly, to the increase in speed of processing. Technologies that were only very limited, or imagined, began to become possible. That is the case of AI, which just began to reach a new degree of usability and practicability.

Science fiction can imagine the world that will result from technological advances and their social and political impacts decades in advance. Issac Asimov (1920-1992) was one of the first to deal with the subject of artificial intelligence in his series of Robots.

George Orwell (1903-1950)<sup>1</sup> imagined a world in which technology would allow almost total control over the lives of individuals. Technology would become a dictatorship tool with cameras spread everywhere. Aldous Huxley (1894-1963)<sup>2</sup> went in a different direction and imagined a world in which access to pleasure and information would make society more easily controlled and absentminded by a dominant elite.

Artur C. Clark (1917-2008)<sup>3</sup> wrote about the possible use of artificial satellites<sup>4</sup> (Clark, 1945), breaking the frontier between science and fiction. In a more distant future, he imagined space elevators, modern cities spread throughout the galaxy, and flying cars.

Their visions converge to our present world, full of electronic equipment at the service of humans, and screens spread everywhere. Technology is part of the daily life of the XXIst Century. Dreamed of in the past, AI materializes in the present as increasingly user-friendly tools.

In the imagination, in science fiction films, AI has to take a form to help the viewer visualize them as a plot character. This formed in the popular imagination an idea of what artificial intelligence and its effects could be. Many became blockbusters in theaters. They are stuffed with robotic figures, humanoid or not, that steal the attention of the spectators. They often appear as villains, such as HAL 9000<sup>5</sup> and VIKI<sup>6</sup>, but also as beings fighting for their identity, such as Ava<sup>7</sup>, Data<sup>8</sup>, and Andrew<sup>9</sup>. But Star Wars androids are possibly the best-known scene. Who doesn't like the adorable duo R2-D2 and C-3PO, from the Star Wars saga?!

16 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: [www.igi-global.com/chapter/ai-artificial-intelligence/334042](http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/ai-artificial-intelligence/334042)

## Related Content

---

### Designing and Modelling of Delta Wing Genetic-Based Prediction Model

Arun M. P., Satheesh M. and J. Edwin Raja Dhas (2021). *International Journal of Ambient Computing and Intelligence* (pp. 159-183).

[www.irma-international.org/article/designing-and-modelling-of-delta-wing-genetic-based-prediction-model/272043](http://www.irma-international.org/article/designing-and-modelling-of-delta-wing-genetic-based-prediction-model/272043)

### negotiation behaviors in agent-based negotiation support systems

Manish Agrawal and Kaushal Chari (2011). *Intelligent, Adaptive and Reasoning Technologies: New Developments and Applications* (pp. 124-145).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/negotiation-behaviors-agent-based-negotiation/54428](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/negotiation-behaviors-agent-based-negotiation/54428)

### Unravelling AI Ethics: A Bibliometric Journey Through Scholarly Publications

A. Subaveerapandiyam, S. Radhakrishnan, Madhuri Kumari and Arnold Chama (2024). *Improving Library Systems with AI: Applications, Approaches, and Bibliometric Insights* (pp. 1-23).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/unravelling-ai-ethics/347636](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/unravelling-ai-ethics/347636)

### Exploration on the Influential Factors of College Students' Innovation and Entrepreneurship Intention Based on Analytic Hierarchy Process

Yanjia Yang (2024). *International Journal of Fuzzy System Applications* (pp. 1-19).

[www.irma-international.org/article/exploration-on-the-influential-factors-of-college-students-innovation-and-entrepreneurship-intention-based-on-analytic-hierarchy-process/337966](http://www.irma-international.org/article/exploration-on-the-influential-factors-of-college-students-innovation-and-entrepreneurship-intention-based-on-analytic-hierarchy-process/337966)

### After Cloud: In Hypothetical World

Shigeki Sugiyama (2018). *Deep Learning Innovations and Their Convergence With Big Data* (pp. 173-188).

[www.irma-international.org/chapter/after-cloud/186476](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/after-cloud/186476)