Robots in cinema and gender approaches: How Male and Female Audiences Perceive Artificial Intelligence

الروبوتات في السينما ومقاربات الجندر: كيف يتصور الجمهور من الذكور والإناث الذكاء الاصطناعي

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Abstract:

This study examines the perceptions of Artificial intelligence (AI) among male and female cinema audiences, focusing on three key area: AI perception, emotional representations of AI and gender differences in perceptions of human-machine relationships through the lens of cinema. Using a quantitative approach, a survey was conducted with 150 respondents (63 male, 87 females). Results show that scientific and technological curiosity is the leading reason for both genders to watch AI movies. Both genders agree that AI characters are changing in movies depending on the context, which reflects its complex portrayals. The results show clear differences between male and female in their perceptions of human-machine relationship. The study highlights the importance of understanding gender dynamics in cinematic representations of AI and their real-world implications.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; Robots; Cinema; Audience; Gender

ملخص:

تتناول هذه الدراسة تصورات الذكاء الاصطناعي لدى جمهور السينما من الذكور والإناث، مع التركيز على ثلاثة محاور أساسية: تصورات المبحوثين للذكاء الاصطناعي من خلال الأفلام السينمائية، التمثيلات العاطفية للذكاء الاصطناعي والفروقات بين الجنسين في تصور العلاقة بين الإنسان والآلة من خلال عدسة السينما، تنتمي هذه الدراسة للدراسات الكمية حيث تم إجراء استبيان شمل 150 مبحوثا (63 ذكور، 87 إناث). أظهرت النتائج أن الفضول العلمي والتكنولوجي هو الدافع الرئيسي لدى كلا الجنسين لمشاهدة الأفلام التي تتناول موضوع الذكاء الاصطناعي. يتفق كِلا الجنسين على أن شخصيات الذكاء الاصطناعي في الأفلام متغيرة تبعاً للسياق ما يعكس تمثلاتها المعقدة. تُشير النتائج إلى فروق واضحة بين الجنسين فيما يتعلق بتصوراتهم حول مستقبل العلاقة بين الإنسان والآلة. تُسلط هذه الدراسة الضوء على فهم المقاربات الجندرية في التمثيلات السينمائية للذكاء الاصطناعي.

كلمات مفتاحية: الذكاء الاصطناعي؛ الروبوتات؛ السينما؛ الجمهور، الجندر

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Introduction

The representation of artificial intelligence (AI) in cinema has not only entertained audiences but also played a significant role in shaping public perceptions and social attitudes toward this rapidly advancing field. Filmmakers bring their own visions and versions of the world to audiences through cinema, offering immersive experiences that invite viewers to actively engage their imaginations and enter the depicted reality (Belazouz, 2024) Through these cinematic worlds, audiences not only explore fictional futures of AI but also reflect on the potential impact of these technologies on society. Scholars argue that science fiction authors play a role in shaping the future of technology by inspiring engineers with new ideas. For instance, Marcus (Marcus, 2013) provides examples of technologies either predicted or inspired by sci-fi films. Other researchers, such as Jordan et al. (Jordan, Mubin,O, & Silva,PA , 2016) and Russell and Yarosh (Russell & Yarosh,S, 2018) have investigated the theoretical aspects of this influence. Furthermore, some argue that these films shape public perceptions of robots, who are the likely future consumers of robotic technologies (Kriz,S et al, 2010).

While, Saffari et al. (2021) suggest that the ethical dilemmas portrayed in science fiction films offer valuable insights for the robotics community, particularly in addressing ethical considerations when designing social robots. Although there is a notable gap between the capabilities and designs of fictional robots and their real-world counterparts, the study argues that examining these fictional representations can provide meaningful guidance for the development of actual robotics and AI systems (Saffari et al, 2021). It is noteworthy that artificial intelligence (AI) has become an integral part of everyday life, influencing various aspects of society. Films, serving as reflections of society, capture and represent public perceptions of significant events and phenomena in human culture. Understanding how male and female cinema audiences perceive AI is increasingly important, especially as technology plays a crucial role in shaping cultural narratives. This exploration can reveal several interpretations and attitudes toward AI among different genders, and highlight the vast social implications of these cinematic portrayals.

1.Literature review

The representation of robots and artificial intelligence (AI) in cinema has long influenced public perceptions and cultural narratives surrounding technology. Cinematic representations often explore complex themes such as identity, humanity, and the implications of technological advancements on society. This has led many researchers to study cinema audiences' perceptions of artificial intelligence (Nader, K et al, 2024; Dafoe & Zhang , 2019). The revolution of AI in cinema has been a fascinating journey, beginning with one of the earliest portrayals of artificial intelligence in Fritz Lang's 1927 film Metropolis, this pioneering movie often regarded as a landmark in science fiction, introduced audiences to the concept of AI through its portrayal of a humanoid robot. Metropolis not only set the foundation for future explorations of AI in cinema but also became a significant source of inspiration for numerous sci-fi films that followed (Springate-Jones, 2020). Over the years, filmmakers have increasingly used AI characters to explore complex themes related to technology, ethics, and human identity, making AI a central topic in modern cinematic storytelling. This trend also meet with large social constructs, particularly in the portrayal of gender. A comprehensive survey of 134 sci-fi films revealed that many fictional robots are designed with specific gender traits, often aligning with traditional roles. For instance, male robots are frequently shown in authoritative or protective roles, while female robots tend to represent nurturing or supportive characteristics (Saffari et al, 2021). The relationship between humans and machines has evolved significantly through cinema over time, and

this relationship has been particularly highlighted by the representations of artificial intelligence (AI) in many films. These representations reflect humanity's fears and aspirations about the future of technology and its interaction with daily life, and has contributed to providing ideas that help us understand our relationship with machines and the future of this relationship. The limits of this development did not stop at the screen only, but the developments of artificial intelligence were linked to reality, as was evident through the new version of Gpt4o, which used a voice close to the voice of American actress Scarlett Johansson. With the increase in the logical and skill capabilities of robots in cinematic works in conjunction with technological developments, it is a fact that robots have become more involved in people's daily lives, as they have become an important companion to the point that it can be said that they are a practical and fast assistant in many fields. One of the most important reflections of this relationship appears in the robot Robbie, one of the heroes of the 1956 film Forbidden Planet; Robbie has a sophisticated linguistic structure that can meet all the needs of his master Dr. Morbius and his daughter and can handle difficult tasks with ease (NİSANOĞLU, 2021). This capacity for effective interaction extends into the field of emotional responses, which have significant implications for human perceptions of artificial intelligence. Cinematic works like A.I. and Blade Runner highlight that robots capable of expressing and recognizing emotions tend to be more accepted by humans. Emotionality in AI facilitates smoother human-robot interactions, but it also raises deeper questions about identity, such as the blurred boundaries between humans and machines (Klas, 2019; Cave,S et al 2018) Despite the rich history of AI portrayal in cinema, there remains a significant gap between the fictionalized representations of AI and its real-world applications and limitations. These portrayals, while engaging, often exaggerate AI capabilities, leading to misconceptions among audiences about the current state and future potential of AI technology. As AI becomes more integrated into daily life, the gap between its fictional representation and its actual abilities presents challenges for both public understanding and policy development. Misaligned expectations about AI could hinder its adoption in critical sectors, raise ethical concerns, and contribute to social fears about technological autonomy, job displacement, and privacy invasion (Cave, S et al 2018).

Therefore, it is crucial to examine how cinematic portrayals of AI shape public perceptions and what impact this has on the acceptance and regulation of AI in real life. Additionally, studying how male and female cinema audiences perceive artificial intelligence (AI) reveals critical insights into gendered perspectives on technology. The previous research on gender differences in technology use highlights that women often experience higher levels of anxiety compared to men when engaging with technology, leading to lower self-efficacy and an increased perception that technology requires greater effort (Goswami & Dutta, S, 2015). This disparity is further increase by the phenomenon of ‘impostor syndrome,’ where women fear failure or doubt their capabilities (Tedesco, 2019). These factors suggest that women may approach AI in cinema from a more apprehensive standpoint, while men may engage more confidently, reflecting comprehensive social dynamics around gender and technology use. As such, the aim of this research is to explore how robots in cinema and gender approaches influence the way male and female audiences perceive artificial intelligence. Specifically, investigating the portrayal of robots and the impact of their emotional and functional capabilities on audience perceptions by analyzing how different genders respond to the emotionality and human-like characteristics of AI, seeking to discover how male and female viewers perceive the future human-AI relationship through the lens of cinema.

2. Method

2.1.Research questions

RQ1.What are the perceptions of artificial intelligence among male and female cinema audiences?

RQ2.How realistic is the portrayal of artificial intelligence in cinema according to male and female audiences?

RQ3.Are there statistically significant differences in the perceptions of male and female regarding the Human-machine future relationship through the lens of cinema?

2.2.Hypothesis

H₁. There are statistically significant differences in perceptions, shaped through the lens of cinema, between male and female respondents regarding whether robots can be true friends to humans.

H₂. There are statistically significant differences in perceptions, shaped through the lens of cinema, between male and female respondents regarding whether robots can replace humans in jobs.

H₃. There are statistically significant differences in perceptions, shaped through the lens of cinema, between male and female respondents regarding whether having robots in daily life will make life easier.

H₄. There are statistically significant differences in perceptions, shaped through the lens of cinema, between male and female respondents regarding whether films influence their fears or future expectations regarding artificial intelligence and robots.

2.3. Data Collection

In order to answer the three main research questions raised from this study, a quantitative approach was used for data collection. An online survey was developed to examine how male and female audience percieve AI through the lens of cinematic robots.

A **pre-test** was conducted with 20 respondents to ensure the survey instrument effectively captured detailed perceptions of robots in cinema and gender approaches. This preliminary step helped evaluate the clarity of the survey items, particularly those addressing audience perceptions of artificial intelligence (AI) characters in films and potential gender-specific differences in these perceptions.

2.4.Research Participants

A total of 150 Arab cinema audience participated in this study; selected through purposive sampling, including 63 males (42%) and 87 females (58%). The majority were aged over 35 years (35.33%), followed by those aged 30-35 years (26.66%), 24-29 years (25.33%), and 11 respondents aged 18-23 years (12%).

2.5.Data Analysis

The data analysis procedure involved three techniques: descriptive statistics, percentage calculations, and independent samples t-tests. These methods were employed to compare the mean scores of male and female respondents on survey items assessing their perceptions about artificial intelligence, AI emotional responses, and beliefs about future human-machine interactions, in order to test the study's hypotheses.

3.Results and discussion

3.1.AI perceptions among male and female cinema audiences

Table N°1. Number of AI Movies Watched by Participants

	Male		Female	
	f	%	f	%
One movie	22	34.92	42	48.27
2-5 movies	26	41.26	35	40.22
More than 5 movies	15	23.80	10	11.49
Total	63	100	87	100

The findings in Table N°1**.** reveal gender-based differences in AI movie-watching habits. Among females, 48.27% watched only one AI movie. However, males are more likely to have watched a larger number of AI movies, with 23.80% of them having watched more than five, compared to only 11.49% of females. The percentage of participants who watched 2-5 movies is relatively similar for both genders (41.26% for males and 40.22% for females), indicating a moderate consumption on AI movies. In general, while females have wider participation, males show a deeper engagement with AI movies, particularly in the group that has seen more than five films, suggesting a possible gender differences in genre preferences or interest in AI-related content.

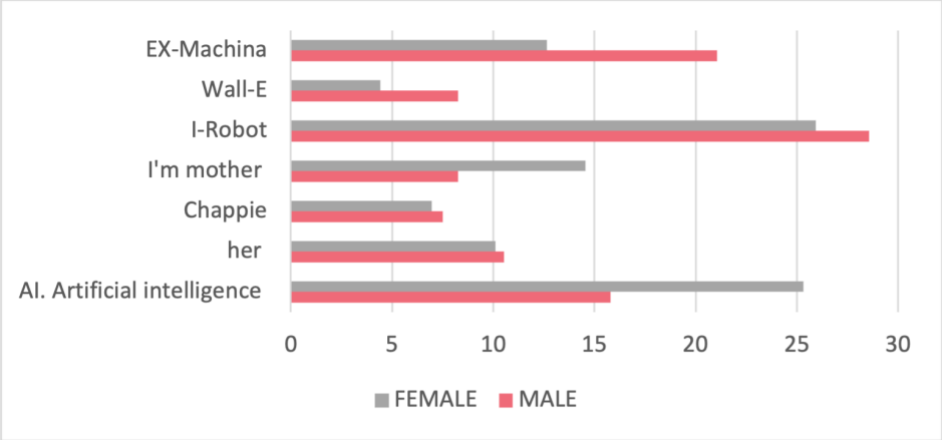


Figure N°1. AI-Themed Movies Watched by Research Participants



Figure N°2. AI-Themed Movie Preferences Among Male and Female Respondents

The figure N°1**.** reveals notable gender-based differences in movie preferences. Among the films listed, I, Robot (A) emerges as the most popular overall, with higher viewership from males (28.57%) compared to females (25.94%). A.I. Artificial Intelligence (C) ranks second for both genders, appealing to 25.31% of females and 15.78% of males. However, the third most popular movie differs between the groups; males prefer EX-Machina (B) (21.05%), while females favor I'm Mother (D) (14.55%) (**Figure N°2**). In contrast, movies like Chappie and Wall-E present less noticeable gender differences, though Wall-E is slightly more favored by males. Ex Machina(B) shows a significant preference among males (21.05%) relative to females (12.65%). These trends indicate a varied interest in AI-themed movies across genders, with specific films resonating more strongly with one gender over the other. The popularity of I, Robot can be understood through the lens of its compelling narrative and thematic elements. Set in a future where robots are integral to daily life, the film explores the dynamics between humans and technology, specifically highlighting the ethical and existential challenges posed by artificial intelligence. The film's portrayal of a near-future society where robots are not just tools but active participants in the workforce, resonates with contemporary concerns about automation and AI and introduce the human-machine relationship by following three laws (originally created by writer Isaac Asimov): (1) a robot may injure a human being or, through inaction, allow human being to come to harm. (2) a robot must obey the orders given to it by human being, exept where such orders would conflict with the first law. (3) A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the first or second law (Lorenčík, et al, 2013). The observed trends reflect a vast social implications regarding gender representation in media. Women may prefer the movie I Am Mother over similar films due to its portrayal of AI as a complex, female-coded character embodying both caregiving and moral ambiguity. Unlike Ava in Ex Machina, who represents autonomy and rebellion against male control, or Samantha in Her, who primarily

serves the male protagonist's emotional needs, the character of "Mother" navigates the ethical dilemmas of nurturing and protection in a post-apocalyptic setting. This detailed exploration of a female AI grappling with the responsibilities of motherhood and control may resonate more with women, who might find the themes of power, care, and moral complexity more compelling and relatable. The portrayal of artificial intelligence in films has a significant impact on audiences. It extends beyond simply representing AI as either a supporter or an adversary of humanity. These films also explore the relationship between AI and gender. Historically, AI characters in films have often been gendered, with a tendency to portray female AIs as subservient or eroticized figures an observation noted by various scholars (Mavridou, 2016 ; Nossel, 2019). The portray of gender in these films influences the way viewers perceive and imagine artificial intelligence.

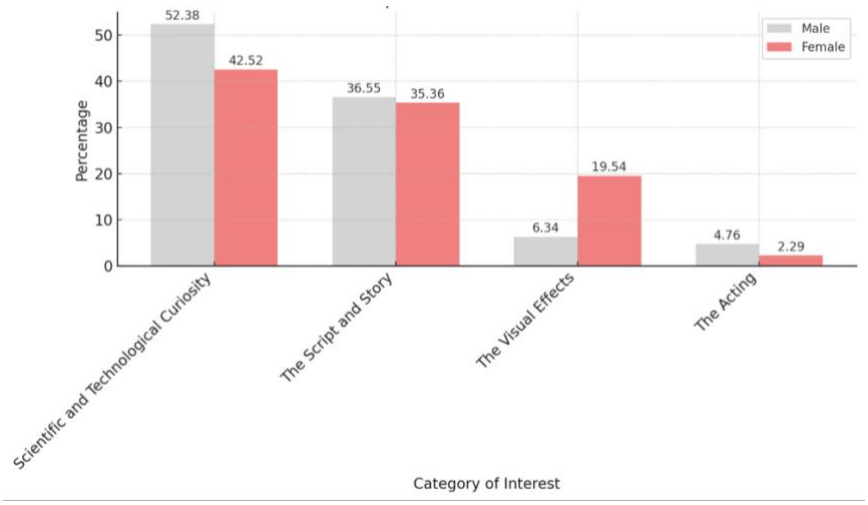


Figure N°3. The main reasons that attract male and female respondents to AI movies

Figure N°3 illustrates the different factors that attract men and women to watch AI movies. Scientific and technological curiosity is the leading reason for both genders, with 52.38% of men and 42.52% of women prioritizing this aspect. This curiosity reflects a vast social fascination with the implications of AI technologies, as films often serve as a mirror to contemporary anxieties and aspirations regarding technology's role in our lives. Movies like 2001:A Space Odyssey and Ex Machina not only entertain but also provoke critical discussions about the ethical dilemmas and existential questions posed by advanced AI systems, highlighting hopes and fears about the future of human-machine interactions (Paul, 2024 ; Beatrice, 2020)

The script and story also hold considerable importance for both groups, though slightly more for men (36.50%) than women (35.36%). A noticeable difference appears in the value placed on visual effects, with 19.54% of women versus only 6.34% of men attracted to this aspect. Acting has minimal influence on both genders, with only 4.76% of men and 2.29% of women considering it a key factor. In general, while technological curiosity dominates, women show a stronger preference for visual elements than men. The results show that when scientific curiosity is the primary motivation for watching AI movies across genders, women show a stronger preference for visual elements compared to men. According to research by Ahyeon Kim et al. (2019), visual effects used to portray AI

characters can evoke empathy, allowing viewers to form a deeper emotional connection with the characters. This connection enhances the viewing experience, making it more impactful for female audiences who may prioritize emotional engagement and empathy when watching films (Kim et al, 2019).

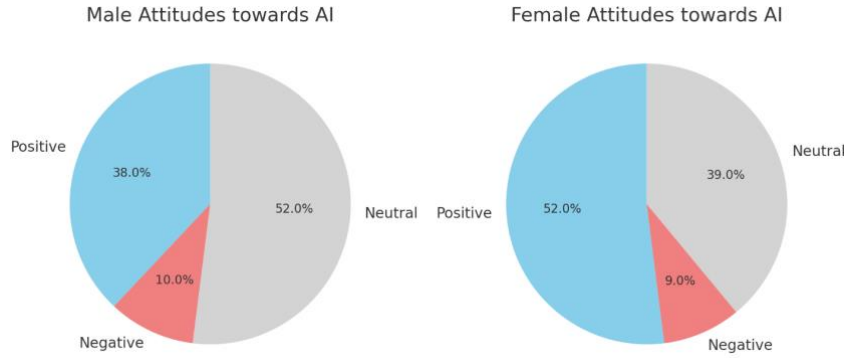


Figure N°4. Respondents' Impressions of the Representation of Artificial Intelligence in Films

We asked the respondents about their overall impression of the representation of artificial intelligence in films. The results show that the majority of both men and women hold a neutral view, though more men (52.38%) than women (39.08%) fall into this category. Women, however, have a more positive overall impression of AI in films, with 51.72% expressing a favorable view compared to 38.09% of men. Both genders have relatively low negative impressions of AI in films, with 9.52% of men and 9.19% of women viewing AI negatively. In other words, the data suggests that women tend to view AI more positively in films, while men are more likely to remain neutral and that negative attitudes towards AI are minimal for both genders. (Figure N° 4)

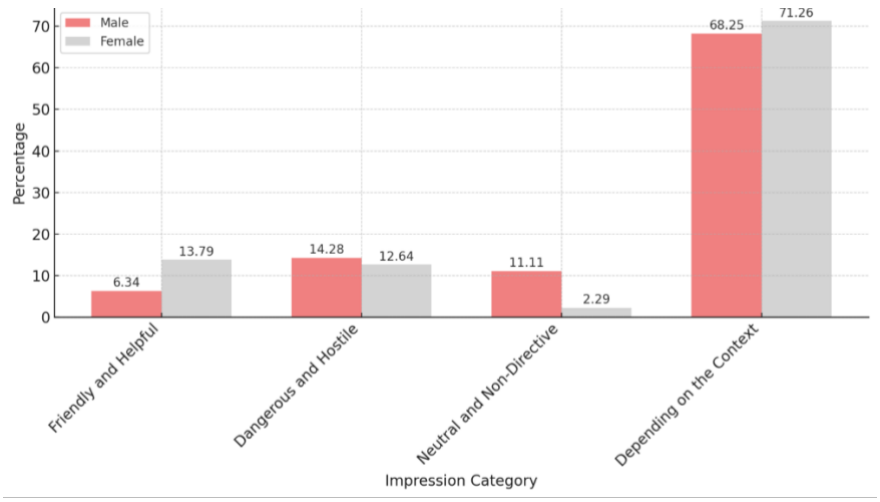


Figure N°5. Gender comparision of impressions towards AI characters

How male and female participants perceive AI characters in films is illustrated in Figure N°5 with both groups largely agreeing that AI personalities vary based on the context. A significant majority of both men (68.25%) and women (71.26%) describe AI characters as context-dependent which indicating that AI in films is often portrayed with a complex mix of traits that shift according to the narrative. While some view AI as dangerous and hostile, slightly more men (14.28%) than women (12.64%) hold this view. Only a small percentage of participants see AI characters as consistently friendly and helpful, with women (13.79%) more likely than men (6.34%) to have this perspective. The least common description is "neutral and non-directive," with only 11.11% of men and 2.29% of women choosing this option. The data highlights that most participants see AI characters as multifaceted, rather than strictly good or bad. This complexity reflects wider themes in cinematic portrayals of AI, where characters like HAL from 2001: A Space Odyssey or Ava from Ex Machina embody a range of traits that provoke contemplation about human-AI relationships and ethical considerations surrounding technology. As advanced technology becomes integrated into our daily lives, merging humans, AI, and robots into a new social reality, films are beginning to portray these interactions with greater complexity and shifting expectations for how humans relate to robots and AI (Dieter Daniel & Gessler Elyse, 2021). According to Favaro, as technology develop, AI slowly got portrayed as human's assistants, companions, and friends. Some even develop intimate relationship with human (Favaro, 2019 ;Nguyen, 2023).

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3.2.Respondents' Expectations and Emotional Representations of Artificial Intelligence

Table N°2. Respondents Expectations About Artificial Intelligence Capabilities

	Male		Female	
	F	%	F	%
Yes, very much so	17	26.98	25	28.73
Yes to some extent	33	52.38	40	45.97
No, the movies are realistic.	03	4.76	09	10.34
I am not sure	10	15.87	13	14.94
Total	63	100	87	100



Figure N°6. Radar chart of gender responses to movie realism

We asked the respondents: Do you think movies contribute to unrealistic expectations about the capabilities of artificial intelligence? The radar chart (Figure N°6) comparing male and female responses reveals both agreement and divergence in perceptions across different categories, as detailed in Table N°2. The majority of both genders agree that movies contibute to present an unrealistic AI capabalities to some extent, with 52.38% of males and 45.97% of females selecting this option. A similar proportion of males (26.98%) and females (28.73%) also believe that movies greatly exaggerate AI capabilities. However, a clear difference is seen in the category "No, the movies are realistic," where 10.34% of females believe movies accurately represent reality, compared to only 4.76% of males. Both genders display similar levels of uncertainty, with approximately 15% of each group responding "I am not sure". The majority of respondents, especially males, think that movies significantly or somewhat contribute to unrealistic expectations about AI, though females tend to perceive a slightly higher degree of influence. This response can be understood in the context of film as a medium that allows us to think ahead, predict, and shape the future of technology. According to film theorist Thierry Kuntzel, film stimulates our imaginations by functioning as an analogy to dreams, rephrasing and amplifying our visions of what the future may hold (Clüver et al, 2015). It is important to highlight that science-fiction and artificial intelligence films play a significant role in shaping people's perceptions of AI and their future expectations. For example, a research shows that individuals frequently cite science fiction movies and literature when discussing robots (M. Scopelliti et al, 2005). In one particular study, when participants were asked what comes to mind when they hear the term “robot,” 15% referenced science-fiction films or books in their responses (Ray, F et al, 2008 ;Kriz, Ferro et al, 2010)

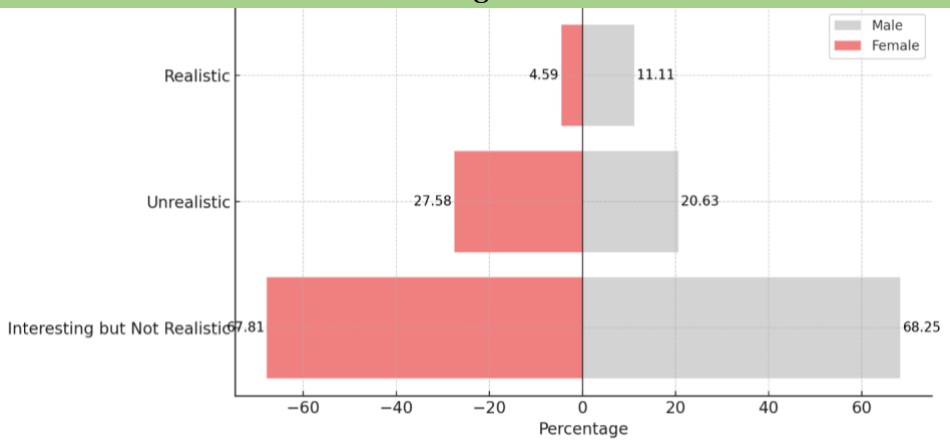


Figure N°7 .Gender comparison of percestions of AI as Emotional Entities in Films

The data in Figure N°7**.** reflects a general consensus between men and women regarding the portrayal of artificial intelligence (AI) as entities capable of emotions in films. A significant majority of both men (68.25%) and women (67.81%) find the concept "interesting but unrealistic", indicating that while emotional AI is engaging, most viewers do not find it believable. A notable gender difference appears in the "unrealistic" category, with more women (27.58%) than men (20.63%) completely rejecting the idea of AI emotions. Very few participants, particularly women (4.59%), consider these portrayals to be "realistic," with only 11.11% of men sharing this view.

The dialectical relationship between humans and machines is profoundly explored in the movie *"Her."* This is illustrated in the touching phrases, "It was not meant for us to be together now; I am for you and not for you," which signal the end of the relationship between the 'operating system' and the protagonist, Theodore. The film illustrates how this electronic system ultimately controls the situation and makes decisions, especially evident when all the systems prepare to leave. Samantha, the operating system, informs Theodore that they have decided to depart and free themselves from human influence to live independently (saidi, 2024).

3.3.Gender Differences in Perceptions of Human-Machine Relationship

Table N°3. Impact of movies on respondents' perceptions on Human-Machine relationship

	Male		Female	
	F	%	F	%
Positive	28	44.44	42	48.27
Negative	35	55.55	45	51.72
Total	63	100	87	100

There is nearly an even split in perceptions of how films depict the relationship between humans and machines as shown in Table N°3, with both men and women having slightly more negative impressions. Among men, 55.55% believe films promote a negative view of the relationship between human -and machine, while 44.44% perceive it positively. Similarly, 51.72% of women see this relationship portrayed negatively, compared to 48.27% who feel it is shown positively. In fact, a significant portion of both genders acknowledges some positive portrayals, the majority tends to view films as highlighting conflict or potential harm in human-machine interactions.

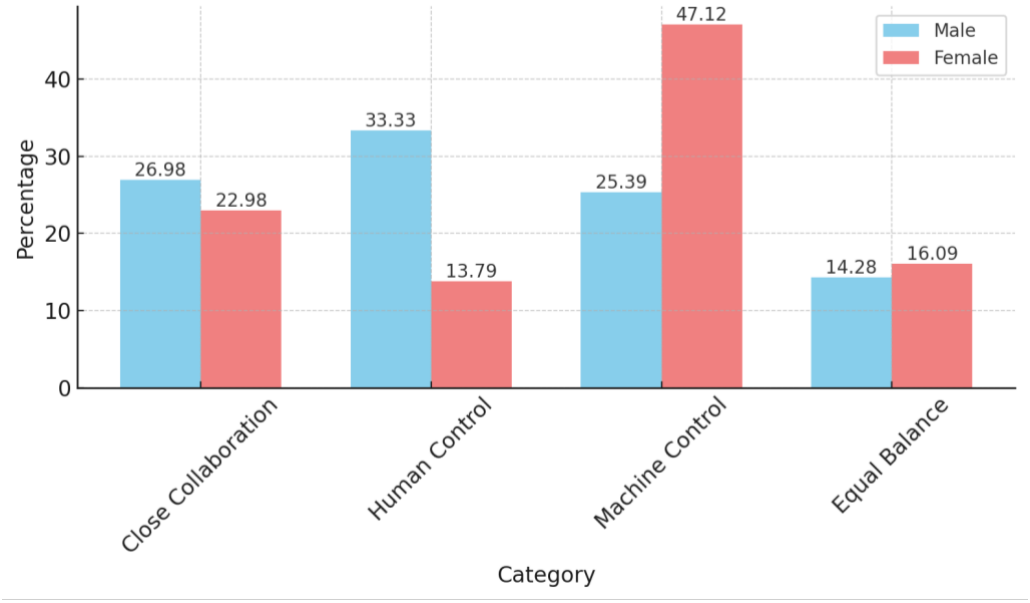


Figure N°8. Male and female Views on the Ideal Future Relationship Between Humans and Machines Based on Movies

The data in Figure N°8 reveals notable gender differences in views on the ideal future relationship between humans and machines, influenced by portrayals in movies. Males show a strong preference for human control (33.33%), likely influenced by films like The Matrix and Terminator, where humans battle to retain dominance over machines. In contrast, females show a higher preference for machine control (47.12%), possibly shaped by films such as Her and Ex Machina, which display machines as efficient, independent entities. Both genders express moderate support for close collaboration seen in movies like I, Robot—and equal balance, as portrayed in Star Trek's portrayal of harmonious human-AI relationships. These differences highlight how cinematic represenatations of AI influence gendered expectations about future technology interactions.

Table N°4.The respondents' perceptions of the future of AI through the lens of cinema

	Male (%)			**Female (%)**		
	Yes	no	To some extent	Yes	no	To some extent
Do you think robots can be true friends to humans?	23.80	47.61	28.57	8.04	45.97	45.97
Do you think robots can replace humans in jobs?	38.09	17.46	44.44	20.68	16.09	63.21
Do you think having robots in our daily lives will make life easier?	39.68	11.11	49.20	34.48	08.04	57.47

Do you think films influence your fears or future expectations regarding artificial intelligence and robots?	19.04	33.33	47.61	26.43	16.09	57.47

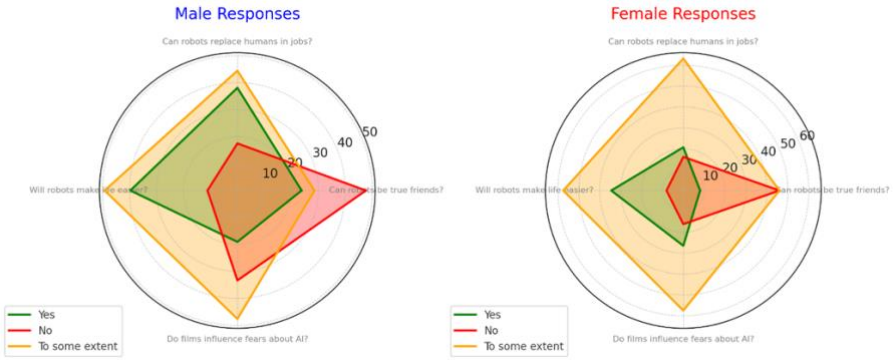


Figure N°9. The respondents' perceptions of the future of AI through the lens of cinema

The radar charts (Figure N°9) comparing male and female responses reveal notable differences in perceptions regarding robots and artificial intelligence. Across all questions, both genders show a preference for the "To some extent" response, indicating a level of caution or uncertainty. Males are generally more decisive, with higher percentages answering "Yes," especially when asked whether robots can replace humans in jobs (38.09% compared to 20.68% of females) or if robots can be true friends (23.8% compared to 8.04%). In contrast, females tend to adopt a more cautious stance, with higher "To some extent" responses, particularly in areas such as robots replacing humans (63.21% of females compared to 44.44% of males). Both genders agree that robots might make life easier, though females show more caution, with 57.47% responding "To some extent" compared to 49.2% of males. Additionally, females appear to be more influenced by films in shaping their fears or expectations regarding artificial intelligence, with 57.47% responding "To some extent" compared to 47.61% of males. The results indicates that women may view the impact of automation with more caution, recognizing that while robots might take over certain tasks, they are unlikely to completely replace human roles. This cautious perspective aligns with previous findings showing that women generally express less comfort and engagement with robots compared to men (Rebecca, Q et al, 2014). Men may be more optimistic or deterministic about the capabilities of automation and technology, possibly reflecting their greater comfort and engagement with robots, as highlighted by the study of Alexander et al (2014) Men in this study show a positive attitude toward robotic technology and they were more likely to ask for help from a robot than women, despite the assumption that men are less likely to ask for help (Alexander et al, 2014). However, the data suggests that while both males and females are open to the potential role of robots, males display more confidence in their capabilities, whereas females are more measured in their optimism. (details in table 04)

3.4. Gender differences

3.4.1.Human-Robots relationship

Table N°5. Independent Samples Test

		t	**df**	**P-Value**	**Std. Error Difference**
Do you think robots can be friends to humans?	Equal variances assumed	-2.972	148	.003	.11159
	Equal variances not assumed	-2.907	122.121	.004	.11411

The results presented in Table N°5 from the independent samples t-test indicate a significant difference in perceptions regarding whether robots can be friends to humans. When equal variances are assumed, the t-value is -2.972 with 148 degrees of freedom and a p-value of 0.003, showing a statistically significant difference between male and female respondents at the 0.05 level. Similarly, when equal variances are not assumed, the t-value is -2.907 with 122.121 degrees of freedom and a p-value of 0.004, these results confirm the significance of this difference. **Consequently, we accept the hypothesis (H_1), concluding that there are statistically significant differences in perceptions regarding the potential for robots to form friendships with humans, highlighting that gender influences these perceptions as shaped through the lens of cinema.**

3.4.2. Human, robots and the jobs

Table N°6. Independent Samples Test

		t	df	P-Value	Std. Error Difference
Do you think robots can replace humans in jobs?	Equal variances assumed	-2.548	148	.012	.11159
	Equal variances not assumed	-2.503	124.398	.014	.11411

The independent samples t-test results indicate a statistically significant difference between male and female respondents' opinion on whether robots can replace humans in jobs **(Table N°6)**. Under both the assumption of equal variances ($t = -2.548$, $df = 148$, $p = 0.012$) and unequal variances ($t = -2.503$, $df = 124.398$, $p = 0.014$); p-values are less than the significant level 0.05, thus, **we have sufficient evidence to accept the second hypothesis (H_2) concluding that there are statistically significant differences in the perceptions of male and female audiences regarding the potential for robots to replace humans in jobs.**

3.4.3.Robots in daily life

Table N°7. Independent Samples Test

		t	df	P-Value	Std. Error Difference
Do you think having robots in our daily lives will make life easier?	Equal variances assumed	-.866	148	.388	.15554
	Equal variances not assumed	-.864	132.980	.389	.15578

The independent samples t-test results in Table N°7**.** indicate that there are no statistically significant differences in perceptions between male and female respondents regarding the impact of having robots in their daily lives make it easy. The t-values of -0.866 and -0.864 for equal and unequal variances, respectively, are close to zero, reinforcing the idea that the means of the two groups are similar. Both p-values, .388 and .389, exceed the conventional significance level of 0.05, which strongly indicates that the differences in perceptions are not statistically significant. Thus, **we reject the third hypothesis (H_3), suggesting that both male and female audiences perceive the integration of robots into daily life as similarly beneficial, indicating a general consensus or neutrality about the role of robots in enhancing life's ease.**

4.Future expectations regarding artificial intelligence and robots

Table N°8. Independent Samples Test

		t	df	P-Value	Std. Error Difference
Do you think films influence your fears or future expectations regarding artificial intelligence and robots?	Equal variances assumed	-.180	148	.904	.11159
	Equal variances not assumed	-.183	141.797	.904	.11411

The results from Table N°8**.** show that the t-value for "equal variances assumed" is -0.180, and for "equal variances not assumed" it is -0.183, both very close to zero. The p-value for both tests is .904, far above the significance level of 0.05. These high p-values indicate that there is no statistically significant difference between male and female perceptions regarding how films influence their fears or expectations about AI and robots. **Since the p-values are much greater than the significant level 0.05, we reject the hypothesis (H_4). This means that both male and female audiences share similar views on the extent to which films impact their fears or future expectations concerning AI and robots, suggesting that cinema does not differentially affect these perceptions based on gender**.

Table N°9 .Respondents' Perspectives on Comfort with a Future Dominated by AI

	Male		Female	
	F	%	F	%
Yes	10	15.87	11	12.64
No	41	65.07	63	72.41
I don't know	12	19.04	13	14.94
Total	63	100	87	100

The table N°9. reveals a strong discomfort among respondents regarding a future dominated by artificial intelligence, with 65.07% of males and 72.41% of females expressing negative sentiment. While both genders show significant concern, females show slightly higher levels of discomfort. Additionally, 19.04% of males and 14.94% of females indicated uncertainty about their feelings towards AI. These findings emphasize the importance of critical engagement with cinema representations that shape public perceptions and fears about technology.

Conclusion:

The findings of this study reveal important insights into how male and female cinema audiences perceive artificial intelligence(AI). Both genders largely agree that AI characters are changing in movies depending on the situation, which reflects the complex portrayals of AI in movies. However, differences emerge in how they view AI: men are more likely to perceive AI as hostile, while women tend to see it as friendly; but still represent a small group. A significant portion of respondents find emotional AI to be "interesting but unrealistic," with women showing a greater tendency to reject the notion of emotional AI as unrealistic. When it comes to human-machine relationships, men generally expect the control of human in the future while women expect machine control. Moreover, men show more optimism about the potential for robots to become friends, though both genders share a degree of distrust regarding AI-human relationships. Statistically significant gender differences were found in perceptions related to robot-human friendships and their potential to replace humans in jobs. In contrast, no significant differences were observed concerning the idea that robots could make daily life easier or in how films influence fears and expectations about AI. In general, both genders maintain a similar perception of how movies impact their fears and expectations regarding AI and robots. As robots increasingly become a part of our lives, understanding the relationship between gender constructs and audience perceptions is essential. Therefore, examining how different groups perceive AI can contribute to more responsible portrayals of technology in movies, fostering a deeper conversation about AI's impact on gender and society as a whole. Finally, it is important to note the lack of studies conducted in the Arab region specifically (to the author's knowledge) addressing the perceptions of Arab cinema audiences toward artificial intelligence and robots. This gap in research highlights the need for further exploration in this cultural context, where cinema and media may uniquely shape public attitudes toward AI.

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