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Research and Analysis on the Methods, Quality and Feasibility of AI-Assisted Writing

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Abstract. AI-assisted novel writing has become a major trend in the online literature world, and novel platforms are also encouraging authors to incorporate AI into their creations. AI can enable a person with almost no creative experience to produce novels that can be accepted by readers and even generate profit in a short period, creating significant economic benefits. This paper uses literature review, novel platform data search and experiments to explore whether AI has the ability to create long texts and how well it can manage emotions. It also summarizes the mainstream AI-assisted novel creation methods on the market and analyses and evaluates the quality of novels. This article finds that AI has a certain monetization capability, as well as the ability to control the emotions of characters. However, the texts it generates are often too dull and not very readable, and its control over pacing is generally not as good as that of human authors. Nevertheless, all of these can be optimized through model training.

Keywords: AI-assisted novel writing, AI-assisted writing tools, GAI Writing quality, AI-assisted writing method

1. Introduction

Recently, an increasing number of novelists have been trying to use AI to assist them in writing novels. Various AI-assisted writing software programs have emerged, and many authors have gone from initially resisting AI-driven writing to gradually accepting it and ultimately exploring different auxiliary tools and usage methods. The involvement of AI in novel writing has become an unstoppable trend in the online literature world. Some novel platforms have also encouraged authors to use AI for assistance in their writing, and deployed their own AI tools to earn profit.

Research on AI-assist writing is also becoming increasing popular. Some papers explore the ethical issues related to AI-generated novels, such as The Power of AI in Generating Novel-Based and Impactful Character Development for Fiction Story, which borrows the concept of the Turing Test and raises a central question: when AI-generated literary works are indistinguishable from human creations in terms of plot and character development, how should we define the boundaries of 'authorship' and creativity [1]? Discussion on the Participation and Trends of AI in Novel Creation examines the development trajectory of modern mainstream models and analyses the applications of AI in inspiration generation, plot construction, and text refinement [2].

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Through the methods of literature review and official data collection from the novel platform, this paper examines the feasibility of AI-assisted novel writing. Additionally, in the form of a questionnaire survey, this study statistically analyzes the satisfaction of readers towards novels generated by AI. Furthermore, this study evaluates its quality from various aspects of the narrative elements, including the quality of the text, and the control of the pacing. This article provides an objective analysis for novelists who are still hesitant to try using AI-assisted writing, offers methodological support for those preparing to use AI-assisted writing, and provides a reference for subsequent research in related fields.

2. Feasibility of AI-assisted novel writing

2.1. Concerns existing among the authors

Even though many authors have heard of the convenience of AI-assisted novel writing, they still do not use this tool. This is because some writers have doubts about the feasibility of AI-assisted creation. They believe that AI cannot truly understand human emotions and therefore cannot depict the complex emotions of characters in novels. At the same time, they fear that their own works might not be profitable and believe that readers will dislike works involving AI.

However, this actually stems from their prejudices against AI tools. According to data from some official Chinese online literature platforms. However, official data from the Yuewen platform shows that over 85% of writers use its AI-assisted writing products every week, with the cumulative number of creations exceeding 4 billion [3]. This means that AI-assisted novel writing has become a choice for many authors.

2.2. AI's ability to comprehend human emotions

Additionally, numerous studies have demonstrated that AI can fully comprehend human emotions, possessing the ability to analyze and understand them. A study published in IEEE/ACM Transactions proposed the Conversational Transformer Network (CTNet), proving that AI can accurately understand and recognize human emotions [4]. This provides a theoretical foundation for the feasibility of AI-assisted writing. Furthermore, in the process of novel creation, AI does not actually need to fully understand human emotions. Instead, its primary function is to 'imitate' rather than 'understand'. If an author feeds their own novels to AI, over a prolonged period, the AI can then mimic the author's writing style, and the generated text will increasingly resemble what a human could write.

2.3. The monetization capability of AI-assisted writing

AI-assisted novel creation can provide substantial economic benefits to both novel platforms and authors. An essay reveals that ChatGPT-o1 accelerates production efficiency by approximately 50-fold compared to traditional methods, seamlessly integrating digital innovation with market responsiveness [5]. In addition, a case study of a mystery novelist demonstrates that by using AI to generate story outlines and scene descriptions, the novelist reduced the creation time of a single book from 18 months to 7 months. This not only boosted their royalty income by 127% but also helped them secure a million-dollar long-term publishing contract due to their accelerated book release frequency [6].

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2.4. The requirements of ai-assisted writing for an author's writing ability

Moreover, using AI to assist in writing has an extremely low barrier to entry, even someone who knows nothing about novel structure and literature can use AI to generate an entire long novel in a short time, as long as they master the proper method.

3. Common tools and methods for AI-assisted novel writing

Currently, there is no standard process for AI-assisted novel writing in the industry, which means that novel authors need to carry out AI-assisted novel creation according to their own needs. This section will summarize different AI-assisted novel writing tools and their respective usage methods. It also introduce several mainstream creative processes in the industry.

3.1. Commonly used AI tools for novels

The mainstream AI-assisted tools on the market are divided into platform-provided types and independent types.

The auxiliary tools provided by the platform, such as the AI plugin built into Fanqie Novels Writer Assistant, can provide functions like inspiration generation and AI continuation, helping writers quickly find inspiration when they are creative blocks. However, such AI-assisted tools usually have limitations. They generally cannot generate long texts, and the text they can help produce typically accounts for only about 10% of a chapter, making full chapter writing unattainable. Furthermore, their functions are strictly regulated by the platform, with some features requiring a certain writer level to be accessed, which is not user-friendly for new authors.

Independent AI-assisted tools, such as Starmoon Writing, can facilitate the creation of novels, scripts, and self-media content. They offer full-process assistance including outline generation, chapter expansion, AI continuation, and polishing. They can achieve long-text generation to a certain extent. Moreover, with multiple modules, they can meet different writing requirements. Their functions are more comprehensive and user-friendly for new writers with no prior creative experience.

3.2. The process of writing a novel using AI-assisted novel writing tools

The general steps of novel writing are character setting, building character relationships, creating an outline, and writing chapters. The methods of using AI for novel writing are divided into full-process AI usage and semi-process AI usage.

Full-process AI creation means using AI entirely for generating these four parts, building a complete workflow, and fully relying on AI for content generation from scratch. The part involving manual intervention only includes partial text modifications. The advantage of this type of creative method is that the threshold for creation is extremely low; authors don't even need to input prompts; just click a few buttons and a complete novel can be generated. Such methods do not require the author to have any knowledge of novel writing; as long as a complete AI workflow can be set up, it is possible to complete a nearly 500,000-word novel in just one day.

However, such AI-assisted creation methods are prone to producing low-quality novels. Due to the minimal human involvement, AI can easily fall into the bottleneck of the "context window" during the generation process. In other words, it is difficult for AI to link the content of the first chapter with the last chapter; if it forgets previous content, it will output chapters that do not connect with earlier ones, resulting in logical errors in the story and changes in character settings. A study

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examined 13 professional writers from different writing backgrounds, having them write using Word with built-in AI features. The study found that AI struggles to preserve the unique narrative voice and style of writers and has difficulty understanding complex story content [7]. Novels created using such methods usually do not have strong monetization capability, as such low-quality novels have already been explicitly prohibited by the novel platform. The Tomato Novel platform carried out a strict crackdown and rectification on novels that abused AI tools to mass-produce or patch together content, lacking originality and logic, with stiff language and hollow content, falling into the category of 'shoddy workmanship' [8]. At the same time, using this method for novel writing will bring criticism upon the author and damage their reputation in the online literature community. From a long-term perspective, this is not a wise choice.

Another approach is to use AI to participate in part of the novel writing process, with most authors choosing to use AI to create chapters based on an existing outline. That is, humans roughly create the plot of a novel, and then hand it over to AI for specific text generation. The most laborious and mechanically repetitive part of writing a novel is creating text from an outline. This is precisely one of the areas where AI excels. Additionally, readers are more receptive to this kind of cooperation. Most readers focus more on the plot than the writing when reading novels, especially in the process of reading online literature, the storyline is often the most important element of a novel. Therefore, innovative content often allows a novel to capture a larger market. If AI is used to generate novel outlines, it is difficult for it to create innovative plots. This is because AI models are good at imitation and statistics, rather than creation. Therefore, without human intervention, the plots of AI-generated novel outlines are usually behind market demand and can cause aesthetic fatigue for readers. Manually drafting an outline and handing it over to AI for chapter creation can usually improve the quality of a novel, however, this also means that the author needs to spend more time developing the plot, and the time cost is much higher than if it were done by AI.

4. Analysis of the quality of AI-generated novels

4.1. Different views on the quality of AI-generated novels

There are differing views in the academic community regarding the quality of AI-generated novels. The AI Fiction Paradox posits that AI models are highly dependent on a vast amount of modern novel texts for training, yet are unable to generate high-quality novels themselves. The author analyses three fundamental reasons why novels are difficult for AI to replicate: first, the narrative causality and temporal paradoxes of novels inherently conflict with the forward-generating logic of AI; second, the post hoc reevaluation of the importance of details by readers is something AI cannot achieve; third, outstanding novels require the simultaneous construction of intricate emotional architecture at multiple levels, including vocabulary, sentences, and paragraphs [9]. However, Fiction as Experiment: AI-Augmented Narrative and the Computational Expansion of Social Cognition argues that AI breaks the traditional limitations of a single narrative in novels. In the past, readers could only follow the single perspective set by the author, whereas now AI allows the same plot to unfold from different characters' perspectives while maintaining the story's timeline and event logic [10].

4.2. A simple experiment to investigate the quality of AI-generated novels

Based on these research foundations, this essay conducted a simple experiment to explore AI's ability to write style and control the pacing of a novel. During the research process, Doubao-Seed-

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2.0-Lite model was being used. This model has not undergone training or fine-tuning and is a general-purpose large model available on the market.

First, AI generated multiple articles of about 2000 words based on the outline, which is usually the length of a chapter of online literature. Depending on different prompts, AI can generate novel content in various styles and can initially adapt to the requirements of different novels. However, its writing tends to be relatively stiff, with a large number of awkward expressions such as 'said' or 'very'. Excessive use of such vocabulary makes it difficult for the novel to depict details, resulting in a poor sense of imagery.

In addition, certain words are forcibly tied to the content of the novel's plot. For example, in novels with a "magic" theme, descriptions of the protagonist casting magic are highly likely to include words like "light" and "runes". When such descriptions are overly singular and appear repeatedly, the overall reading experience of the novel can be diminished.

As for the control of the novel's pacing, this model did not perform well. In the experiment, the model performed approximately 100 outline generation tasks. However, in most rounds of the experiment, the model placed the climax at around 200,000 words. In contrast, most online literature platforms on the market do not allow authors to have such prolonged content buildup when judging whether a work can attract readers. For example, the verification period on the Tomato platform starts when the work reaches 80,000 words, while on the WebNovel platform ,it is 100,000 words. This means that prolonged foreshadowing will significantly increase the attrition rate of readers of the work.

However, after further training through prompt control and text feeding, the model can gradually learn and correct its shortcomings in generating text content, thereby making the generated content increasingly aligned with the fed text content.

5. Conclusion

This article analyses the feasibility, methods, and quality of novels generated with AI assistance, concluding that novels created with AI support have a certain monetization capability. Additionally, the article summarizes the mainstream creation methods available, evaluates the quality of the novels, and finally verifies the feasibility of using trained models to enhance novel quality.

However, this study has certain limitations, such as a small survey sample and a focus mainly on the Chinese novel market, without exploring novel tools in other countries. Subsequent research can try using foreign AI-assisted writing tools and studying the foreign novel market trends.

In conclusion, AI novel creation may become the mainstream trend in the future, and various novel platforms are likely to launch more practical and refined novel creation tools. For novel writers, using novel assistance tools appropriately for creation can increase personal income, and for novel platforms, launching more practical novel creation tools can also enhance the platform's reputation and increase its revenue. This is an excellent win-win opportunity for both writers and novel platforms.

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