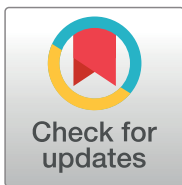




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LETTERS TO EDITOR

Ariadne's thread in the age of artificial intelligence: parallels between the greek myth and WAME's recommendations

El hilo de Ariadna en la era de la inteligencia artificial: paralelismos entre el mito griego y las recomendaciones de WAME

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Dear Editor,

I am writing about the article titled "Chatbots, generative AI, and Scholarly Manuscripts: WAME Recommendations on Chatbots and Generative Artificial Intelligence about Scholarly Publications"¹. We aim to provide an additional perspective grounded in the well-known Greek myth of Daedalus Labyrinth and Ariadne's Thread². In this ancient myth, it is told that Daedalus ingeniously created a baffling maze that served as a prison for the Minotaur, an exceptional being with both human and bull characteristics². Ariadne, madly in love with Theseus, kindly gifts him a subtle thread before his brave entrance into the labyrinth to confront the Minotaur². This thread becomes Theseus's guide, ensuring he does not get lost in the confusion and disorder within the labyrinth's complex corridors, and similarly provides him the tools to successfully find the route back to freedom after completing his dangerous mission.

The ancient myth presented here can be interpreted as a metaphor that aids in understanding the "WAME recommendations"¹ in the context of artificial intelligence (AI) and its application in academic publications³⁻⁸. The field of AI is acknowledged to be complex and accompanied by ethical and practical dilemmas⁸⁻¹⁰, much like the labyrinth created by Daedalus. In this particular situation, the recommendations provided by WAME serve as our guiding thread, akin to Ariadne's, helping us navigate through this complex environment.

WAME's first recommendation, which excludes "chatbots" as authors, underscores the importance of human responsibility and authorship in research. This can be likened to how Daedalus constructed the labyrinth but had no authority over what occurred within it¹. The second recommendation, advocating for transparency in the use of AI tools, can be compared to the thread that Theseus unravels, ensuring a transparent and verifiable research process¹. The other recommendations emphasize responsibility in content, the ethical use of AI by editors and reviewers, and the need for tools to detect AI-influenced content. These are fundamental in maintaining research integrity¹.

Just as Theseus dealt with the Minotaur, scholars must address the challenges of AI with resolution and sagacity, equipped with the tools and knowledge these recommendations provide. In conclusion, the “WAME Suggestions” play a crucial role in fostering AI’s ethical and conscious use in academic publications.

Drawing parallels between the role of Ariadne’s thread in the labyrinth and the importance of these guidelines in navigating the complex realm of artificial intelligence (AI) is a thought-provoking comparison. Similar to how Ariadne’s Thread offered invaluable assistance to Theseus in conquering the labyrinth, these standards equip scholars with indispensable resources to leverage the advantages of AI ethically and competently.

To address the ethical challenges of AI, these reflections will undoubtedly provide a comprehensive framework, expanding the debate and enriching the original article.

I appreciate the opportunity to be part of this conversation and believe these thoughts will be a valuable addition to the article. By emphasizing the importance of ethical and quality-oriented AI advancement, these guidelines offer an essential framework to ensure the academic community can leverage the advantages of AI without compromising ethical principles. Through a collaborative effort, we can cultivate a deeper understanding of the moral consequences surrounding AI and inspire a conscious advancement of AI that serves the greater good of society.

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