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**DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN
CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH LITERARY STUDIES:
METHODOLOGIES, EPISTEMOLOGIES, AND EMERGING
RESEARCH PARADIGMS**



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Abstract

The integration of Digital Humanities (DH) methodologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) frameworks is fundamentally reshaping contemporary English literature research, establishing a multidimensional analytical space where computational scalability intersects with hermeneutic interpretation. This review paper examines the epistemological transformation of literary studies through the convergence of quantitative text analysis, computational stylometry, cultural analytics, and generative AI applications. Drawing upon Actor-Network Theory (ANT) as a theoretical lens, the paper conceptualizes AI systems, natural language processing algorithms, and digital archives as non-human actors that dynamically interact with human scholars, publishing institutions, and creative authors within a complex literary-critical network. The review critically evaluates the paradigm of distant reading and computational formalism, addressing the epistemological controversies surrounding computational literary studies, particularly Nan Z. Da's critique regarding statistical robustness and empirical obviousness. Through comparative analysis of methodologies ranging from traditional close reading to generative AI co-creation, the paper demonstrates how computational tools enable macro-level historical analysis, authorship attribution, institutional auditing, and the detection of systemic inequalities such as "cultural redlining" in publishing. The emergence of post-transformer Large Language Models has expanded AI's role beyond corpus analysis into active narrative generation and creative collaboration, destabilizing traditional concepts of authorship, originality, and intentionality. Critical challenges examined include algorithmic bias, contextual flattening, hermeneutic reduction, and the neoliberal political economy of digital humanities. The paper concludes by advocating for methodological hybridity through a synergistic "close-distant" model and identifies future paradigms including Retrieval-Augmented Generation systems, immersive spatial technologies, and vector space probing that promise to reconfigure literary scholarship while preserving the hermeneutic depth essential to humanistic inquiry.

Keywords: *Digital Humanities, Artificial Intelligence, Computational Literary Studies, Distant Reading, Generative AI, Actor-Network Theory, Stylometry, Cultural Analytics, Algorithmic Bias, Post-Human Authorship*

Introduction

The discipline of English literary studies is undergoing an epistemological transformation driven by the integration of Digital Humanities (DH) methodologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) frameworks. Historically grounded in close reading, authorial intentionality, hermeneutic depth, and historical contextualization, literary criticism has long privileged the qualitative nuance of human interpretation (Eve, 2022). However, the exponential proliferation of digital texts and contemporary literary overproduction where the volume of published works vastly exceeds the reading capacity of any individual scholar over a lifetime has rendered traditional, purely manual methodologies insufficient for macro-level historical analysis. Consequently, computational tools, Natural Language Processing (NLP), and machine learning models have evolved from peripheral technologies into central components of literary scholarship (Finneran, 1996).

This methodological evolution operates across two primary domains: quantitative text analysis (often termed Computational Literary Studies or Cultural Analytics) and generative AI applications. While the former utilizes statistical algorithms, sentiment analysis, and stylometry to discern structural, thematic, and linguistic patterns across massive corpora, the latter introduces generative language models that engage directly in narrative production, text synthesis, and creative experimentation (Nielbo et al., 2024). Rather than signaling the demise of human-centered criticism, the intersection of AI and Digital Humanities establishes a multidimensional analytical space where computational scalability intersects with hermeneutic interpretation (Vaishnav, 2026).

To evaluate this complex landscape, scholars increasingly draw upon Bruno Latour and Michel Callon's Actor-Network Theory (ANT). Within an ANT framework, AI systems, natural language processing algorithms, and digital archives do not function merely as neutral or passive instruments (Birkbak, 2025). Instead, they operate as non-human actors within a complex literary-critical network. These non-human agents interact dynamically with human scholars, institutional structures, publishing markets, and creative authors, actively shaping the questions researchers can formulate, the patterns they can perceive, and the criteria by which narrative forms are defined (Latour, 1997).

This interplay establishes an interdependent research ecosystem where the human critic provides hermeneutic context, theoretical framing, and historical grounding, while the non-human computational actor surfaces distant patterns across vector spaces and digitized corpora. This review examines how AI and computational methods are reshaping contemporary English literature research, navigating the shift from algorithmic text mining to post-transformer generative collaboration, and addressing the epistemological, ethical, and institutional tensions defining the discipline (Jamal & Everett, 2004).

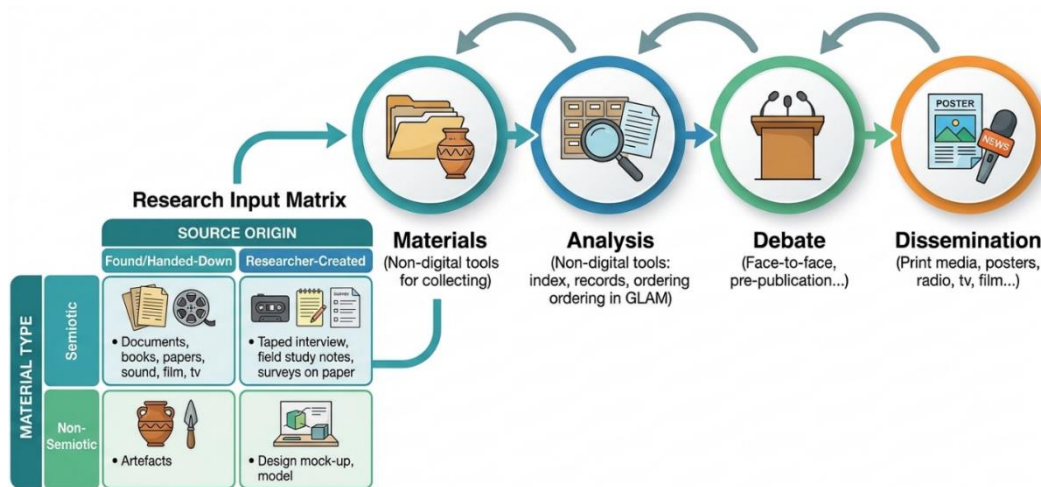


Figure 1: The Traditional Workflow and Research Input Matrix of Humanistic Scholarship.

2. Theoretical Frameworks and Methodological Paradigms

2.1 Distant Reading and Computational Formalism

The theoretical foundation of computational literary scholarship was largely established through the paradigm of "distant reading," a concept pioneered by Franco Moretti and expanded by scholars such as Ted Underwood and Andrew Piper. Distant reading shifts the analytical focus away from the intensive scrutiny of individual canonical texts toward the aggregated analysis of large textual datasets. By applying computational algorithms to thousands of digitized novels,

poems, or plays simultaneously, researchers can trace long-term stylistic evolutions, structural genre shifts, and linguistic transformations that remain invisible at the scale of close reading (Bode, 2023).

This approach relies heavily on computational formalism, wherein literary attributes such as narrative arc, genre markers, or character networks are translated into discrete, quantifiable data points. Scholars like Ted Underwood in *Distant Horizons* argue that computational models allow literary historians to challenge arbitrary periodization schemes by demonstrating how stylistic traits shift gradually across centuries rather than abruptly at historical boundaries (Mani, 2022). Similarly, Andrew Piper's work in *Enumerations* demonstrates how statistical modeling can uncover structural homologies across disparate narrative traditions, mapping the formal topology of literature through quantitative metrics (Piper, 2017).

2.2 The Epistemological Controversy and Tool Criticism

Despite its expansion, the application of quantitative methods to literary studies has sparked intense epistemological debates within the academy. The most prominent critique emerged with Nan Z. Da's 2019 publication in *Critical Inquiry*, "The Computational Case against Computational Literary Studies". Da offered an empirical critique of the field, asserting that much of Computational Literary Studies (CLS) suffers from fundamental conceptual and statistical flaws (Klein, 2024). Her argument posits a core dilemma: what is statistically robust in CLS is empirically obvious to any trained literary reader, whereas what is non-obvious is statistically non-robust and artifactual, stemming from a fundamental mismatch between statistical tools and high-dimensional literary data. Da argued that computational methods frequently reduce literary form to simplistic "word-counting," eliminating the contextual, polysemic, and ironic dimensions that define literary textuality (Vargha & Delaney, 2000).

The response from the computational community was swift, initiating a broader debate regarding the ontology of computational research. Scholars such as Katherine Bode advocated for a "performative CLS," which rejects the notion that computation merely mirrors an objective, pre-existing literary reality. Instead, performative CLS emphasizes the co-constitution of computational tools and literary objects, recognizing that data representations are inherently constructed, interpretive artifacts (Bassett, 2012). This perspective aligns with "tool criticism" an analytical practice within DH that interrogates the assumptions, algorithmic constraints, and vector-space architectures embedded within computational tools before applying them to literary interpretation. Rather than viewing statistical models as objective proof, tool criticism treats algorithmic outputs as heuristic devices that prompt new interpretive questions for close reading (Lang & Suárez, 2026).

Table 1: Comparative Paradigm Analysis: Methodologies, Technical Foundations, and Interpretive Affordances in Digital Literary Scholarship

Methodological Approach	Core Computational / Theoretical Foundations	Primary Scale of Analysis	Interpretive Strengths & Affordances	Methodological & Epistemological Limitations
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Traditional Close Reading	Humanistic hermeneutics, post-structuralism, formalist aesthetics, historical contextualization.	Micro-scale (Individual texts, passages, or specific authorial corpora).	Captures irony, polysemy, subtle emotional cadence, historical nuance, and subtext.	Subject to selection bias; constrained by human reading bandwidth; vulnerable to unrepresentative canonization.
Computational Formalism / Distant Reading	Vector space models, term frequency-inverse document frequency (TF-IDF), topic modeling (LDA), principal component analysis.	Macro-scale (Corpora spanning thousands of texts across centuries).	Uncovers macro-level historical trends, genre evolutions, and structural patterns across vast datasets.	Risks contextual flattening; oversimplifies complex tropes into trackable lexical units; vulnerable to statistical artifacts.
Computational Stylometry	Multivariate statistics, Delta distance measures, hierarchical cluster analysis, function word distribution.	Meso-to-Micro scale (Sentence structure, authorial corpora, disputed texts).	Provides objective metrics for authorship attribution, detection of ghostwriting, and tracking authorial style stability.	Dependent on baseline corpus selection; struggles with deliberate stylistic pastiche or heavy editor intervention.
Cultural Analytics & Institutional Auditing	Sociological text mining, demographic metadata mapping, publishing market network analysis.	Macro-to-Meso scale (Publishing industry outputs, award histories, review ecosystems).	Exposes systemic inequalities, institutional gatekeeping, and structural exclusions (e.g., racial redlining in publishing).	Requires extensive archival curation; vulnerable to missing/un-digitized historical trade records.
Generative AI & Post-Human Narratives	Large Language Models (LLMs), Transformer architectures, self-attention mechanisms, prompt engineering.	Micro-to-Synthetic scale (Interactive co-creation, post-human experimental texts, synthetic corpora).	Enables stylistic experimentation, algorithmic defamiliarization, and dynamic human-machine narrative collaboration.	Lacks true contextual/biographical intentionality; introduces hallucination and stylistic homogenization.

3. Quantitative Textual Analysis and Machine Learning Methodologies

3.1 Natural Language Processing, Sentiment Analysis, and Emotional Mapping

The application of Natural Language Processing (NLP) to contemporary and historical English literature has expanded the scope of computational textual analysis. Among these applications, sentiment analysis and emotional mapping allow scholars to track psychological tension and narrative arcs across complex texts. By mapping sentiment values assigned to lexicon entries against narrative chronologies, researchers can visualize the structural "shapes" of stories identifying structural points of crisis, resolution, or sustained tragedy (Kim & Klinger, 2018).

Recent developments in deep-learning-based NLP have replaced rudimentary dictionary-based sentiment scoring with context-aware transformer models. These advanced systems account for negation, figurative language, and shifting narrator perspectives, allowing for nuanced tracking of emotional trajectories across complex contemporary novels. For example, sentiment mapping applied to multi-perspective narrative structures demonstrates how different narrative voices maintain distinct emotional signatures, enabling algorithmic visualization of character dynamics and thematic polarization (Kumar et al., 2025).

3.2 Computational Stylometry and Authorship Attribution

Computational stylometry relies on the premise that every writer possesses an unconscious, unique linguistic signature a "stylistic fingerprint" that manifests in micro-level language patterns. Rather than analyzing thematic keywords or plot points, stylometric algorithms evaluate the frequency and distribution of high-frequency function words, such as articles, prepositions, and conjunctions, alongside micro-syntactic configurations (Jean, 2021).

In a standard stylometric workflow, raw textual corpora undergo tokenization and natural language filtering to isolate non-contextual function word frequencies, transforming unstructured prose into high-dimensional numerical vectors. Using multivariate statistical methods, such as Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Hierarchical Cluster Analysis (HCA), stylometric algorithms measure statistical distances between texts, clustering works based on underlying authorial signatures (Patil et al., 2023). In contemporary English literary research, these methods have proven effective in resolving disputed authorship, identifying pseudonymous authors, detecting ghostwriting in commercial fiction, and analyzing collaboration networks. Furthermore, longitudinal stylometric analysis allows scholars to map authorial maturation over a career, revealing how an author's syntactic complexity shifts across different creative periods (Holmes, 1998).

3.3 Cultural Analytics and Institutional Auditing: The Case of "Cultural Redlining"

Beyond pure stylistic or formal analysis, digital humanities tools are increasingly deployed to conduct sociological and ethical audits of literary institutions. A landmark example of this application is Richard Jean So's *Redlining Culture: A Data History of Racial Inequality and Postwar Fiction*. So combines computational text analysis with institutional data mining to interrogate the long-standing assertion that postwar American and English publishing underwent a progressive "multicultural turn" (Burdick et al., 2016).

By building and analyzing extensive corpora of postwar fiction, prize-winner lists, major review publication outputs, such as *The New York Times Book Review*, and editorial archives, So reveals a stark empirical structure of institutional discrimination a phenomenon he terms "cultural redlining". The quantitative evidence demonstrates that despite public rhetoric promoting diversity, mainstream publishing remained overwhelmingly hegemonized by white authors and editors (Childress et al., 2024). Specifically, over 91 percent of novelists winning major mainstream literary awards in the postwar era were white, while over 90 percent of novels

receiving major critical review attention were authored by white writers. Major white-dominated publishing houses systematically allocated lower promotional resources to Black authors, constraining their circulation and institutional prestige (Turner, 2010).

Furthermore, So uses NLP and vector-space modeling to demonstrate how the commercial publishing apparatus reshaped the textual form of minority literature, forcing non-white writers into constrained aesthetic conventions to achieve mainstream publication. This research illustrates how computational tools in digital humanities can serve an ethical function: countering dominant institutional narratives with empirical data and establishing how systemic inequality operates across the literary marketplace (Price et al., 2010).

Table 2: Key Metrics and Computational Applications in Contemporary Literary Analytics

Analytical Metric / Indicator	Human-Authored Literary Baseline	Generative AI Output (Post-Transformer)	Primary Methodological Application in Literary Research
Idea Density Score (D_I)	0.50 (High semantic richness and cognitive concentration).	0.40 (Lower density; higher reliance on redundant filler constructs).	Used to distinguish human-authored literary prose from synthetic text; measures semantic compression.
Dominant Application Domains	Creative Literature, High-Register Criticism, Hermeneutics.	Automated Article Writing (85.1%), Commercial Copywriting (47.8%).	Tracks the market penetration of natural language generation across functional writing domains.
Micro-Linguistic Stability	Variable; highly sensitive to authorial state, tone shift, and artistic experimentation.	Highly stable; bound by probability distributions within trained vector spaces.	Applied in computational stylometry for authorship attribution and tracking stylistic drift.
Contextual/Biographical Resonance	Deeply embedded in historical, personal, and sociopolitical frameworks.	Lacks true biographical context; simulates historical registers via probabilistic collocation.	Forms the basis of "tool criticism," highlighting the limits of AI in understanding historical nuance.

4. Generative AI, Narrative Co-Creation, and Post-Human Authorship

4.1 Creative Collaboration and Algorithmic Narrative Production

The advent of post-transformer Large Language Models (LLMs) has expanded the relationship between literature and AI beyond historical corpus analysis into active narrative generation. Contemporary authors and researchers increasingly utilize generative models as collaborative instruments within the creative process. AI tools assist writers during initial brainstorming, plot architecture development, dialogue generation, and stylistic experimentation (De 2026).

Quantitative evaluations of synthetic writing demonstrate distinct cognitive and structural

characteristics. While early automated text generation was confined to formulaic tasks like journalism or commercial copywriting, where AI penetration reaches 85.1% and 47.8%, respectively, contemporary generative models attempt complex literary registers. However, empirical measurements reveal that human-authored literature retains a significantly higher idea density of 0.50 compared to AI-generated text at 0.40, underscoring a cognitive gap in conceptual compression and semantic depth (Eaton, 2020).

Despite this density differential, AI-assisted creative writing allows authors to overcome writer's block, experiment with non-linear narrative arcs, and produce complex textual collages. The interaction between human prompting and algorithmic response creates a feedback loop: human writers provide conceptual direction, the AI generates probabilistic language sequences, and the human author edits, redirects, or integrates the output. This process transforms narrative production into a distributed act of co-creation (Begum, 2025).

4.2 Electronic Literature and Post-Transformer Experimental Practice

In the post-transformer era, electronic literature (eLit) has expanded beyond early hypertextual and algorithmic constraints, as reflected in recent interdisciplinary research from the Center for Digital Narrative guest-edited by Scott Rettberg. Scholars and digital practitioners within this paradigm deploy generative AI not merely as a functional text generator, but as a critical site for aesthetic experimentation (Brock, 2013).

For instance, Kristoffer Ørum investigates "GenAI Realism" in works such as *#freedomlibertyandhiphop*, analyzing how synthetic image-text generators manufacture contemporary mythologies and alter visual rhetoric. Similarly, Alinta Krauth explores computational modes of ecological mourning in the *Artificial Extinction Archives*, utilizing machine learning architectures to generate poetic responses to biodiversity loss and framing algorithms as elegiac archives. The ethical and ontological implications of simulating historical figures are examined by Lina Ruth Harder, who interrogates conversational AI re-enactments to highlight the situated limits of simulated historical consciousness (Pold & Pold, 2026). Methodologically, Tuuli Vilja Vellamo Hongisto and Laura Piippo analyze AI as an instrument for textual collage, investigating how algorithmic recombination redefines postmodern literary collage and stylistic assemblage. This dynamic creates a bi-directional pedagogical and creative feedback loop, which Alex Saum-Pascual interrogates by asking who is training whom when human authors write with AI platforms, thereby challenging traditional boundaries of cognitive agency (Hongisto & Piippo, 2026).

4.3 Re-theorizing Authorship, Originality, and Intentionality

The integration of generative AI into creative writing destabilizes foundational literary concepts, particularly Romantic and modern notions of single authorial genius, originality, and intentionality. When a text emerges from a complex interaction between a human prompter, a neural network trained on billions of pre-existing texts, and a probabilistic token-selection algorithm, identifying the sole author becomes problematic (Khasanah et al., 2025).

Applying Actor-Network Theory to generative writing reveals authorship as an emergent property of an assemblage rather than an isolated human trait. The human writer acts as a curator, orchestrator, and critic, while the AI functions as a non-human collaborator that introduces unpredictable variations, stylistic echoes, and structural permutations. This shift aligns with post-humanist literary theory, which views language not as a purely human possession, but as an open system co-constituted by material, technological, and social infrastructure (Putri et al., 2025).

5. Critical Challenges, Algorithmic Bias, and Ethical Horizons

5.1 Algorithmic Bias, Contextual Flattening, and Hermeneutic Reduction

While AI methodologies offer efficiency and scale, they introduce significant critical and methodological challenges. The primary technical limitation is algorithmic bias. Machine learning models are trained on large, historically situated textual corpora that inevitably reflect systemic societal biases, imperialist frameworks, and patriarchal ideologies. When applied to literary analysis, biased models risk reproducing these historical inequalities, misinterpreting texts by marginalized authors, or perpetuating cultural stereotypes under the guise of computational objectivity (Mtotywa et al., 2026).

This bias is compounded by the structural mechanism of vector-space representation, where algorithms reduce high-dimensional textual nuance to probabilistic collocations. Because machine learning tools lack biological lived experience and historical consciousness, they frequently suffer from contextual flattening. When processing literary texts, these algorithms exhibit blind spots regarding irony, double entendre, allegorical resonance, and historical subtext. Relying uncritically on automated output creates a risk of hermeneutic reduction, reifying historical stereotypes and flattening poetic nuance into simplistic thematic categories (Rathore et al., 2024).

5.2 The Political Economy and Neoliberal Critiques of Digital Humanities

The institutional growth of Digital Humanities has also faced substantial socio-political critique from within the discipline. Scholars such as Timothy Brennan and Danielle Allington, Sarah Brouillette, and David Golumbia argue that the rise of DH aligns with the neoliberal restructuring of higher education (Da, 2019).

These critics contend that institutional resources, grant funding, and faculty lines have been disproportionately diverted away from traditional, critical humanistic inquiry toward computational text labs. Under this framework, the insistence on quantification, technological utility, and big-data processing reflects a technocratic corporate mindset that values tool-building and measurable "deliverables" over political, philosophical, or historicist critique. This critique emphasizes that digital tools must not be accepted uncritically as neutral advancements, but evaluated alongside the economic and institutional conditions that promote their adoption (Konstantinidis, 2025).

5.3 Digital Archiving, OCR Restoration, and Access Democratization

Conversely, artificial intelligence has made positive contributions to literary preservation, archival discovery, and access democratization. Machine learning tools are transforming digital archiving through advanced Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR) technologies (Colavizza et al., 2021).

Fragile manuscripts, damaged historic editions, early modern printed texts, and un-cataloged archives that were previously unreadable by traditional software can now be digitally restored and transcribed by computer vision models (Chalmers, 2019). AI algorithms can reassemble fragmented manuscripts, correct historical typography errors, and automate the metadata classification of vast institutional library collections. By making rare and fragile literary materials globally accessible through searchable digital archives, AI technologies democratize literary research, allowing scholars worldwide to engage with primary materials without relying on physical access to elite archives (Sabol, 2025).

6. Future Directions and Integrative Paradigms in English Studies

6.1 Methodological Hybridity: The Synergistic "Close-Distant" Model

The trajectory of contemporary English literature research points away from polarized debates that pit traditional close reading against computational distant reading. Instead, the field is moving toward methodological hybridity a synergistic paradigm that integrates computational analysis, generative probing, and close hermeneutic interpretation (Sauerberg, 2001).

In this integrative model, computational distant reading is deployed across a macro-corpus to detect structural anomalies, stylistic mutations, or non-obvious statistical trends. Once these macro-patterns are isolated, the scholar isolates specific sub-corpora or individual passages for micro close reading, applying historical contextualization and theoretical rigor. Insights derived from close reading subsequently inform the refinement of computational models, establishing a continuous hermeneutic loop between distant pattern detection and close interpretive analysis (Esen & Aydemir, 2026).

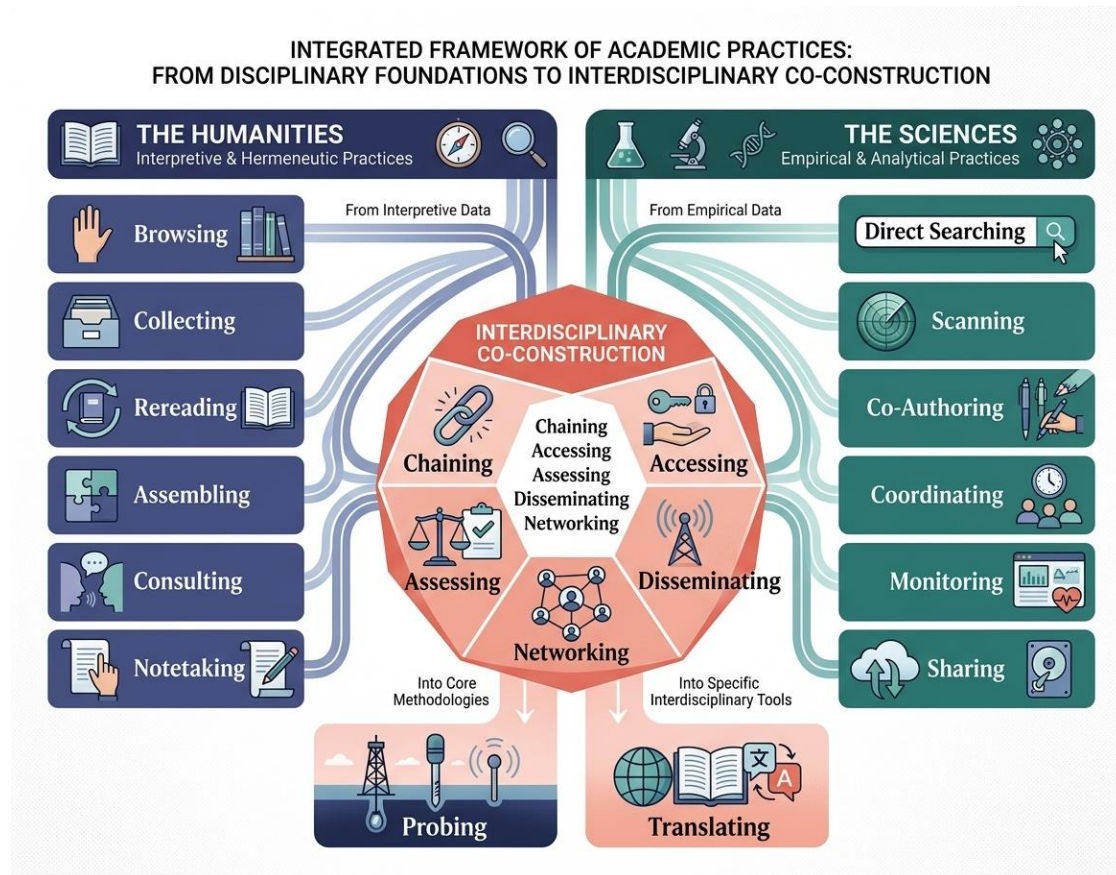


Figure 2: Integrated Framework of Academic Practices: From Disciplinary Foundations to Interdisciplinary Co-Construction.

6.2 Next-Generation Paradigms: RAG, Immersive Environments, and Vector Space Probing

Looking toward the future of English studies, several technological and methodological paradigms are emerging that promise to reconfigure literary scholarship. Primary among these is the deployment of Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and Topic-based RAG (TopicRAG) systems designed specifically for literary archives. While general large language models often

suffer from factual hallucinations and lack domain-specific contextual precision, RAG frameworks allow AI models to dynamically query curated, peer-reviewed literary databases before synthesizing responses, thereby anchoring computational analysis in verified archival evidence (Siemens & Schreibman, 2013).

In tandem with archival retrieval, immersive spatial technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) are reshaping literary ecology and pedagogical design. By combining AI narrative models with spatial rendering engines, researchers can reconstruct historical literary topographies such as nineteenth-century urban settings or complex fictional geospaces allowing scholars and students to navigate the physical and spatial dimensions that inform narrative architecture (Huang et al. 2018).

Finally, future computational literary studies will increasingly shift from surface-level lexical analysis to the direct probing of high-dimensional vector spaces in fine-tuned transformer models. Interrogating how neural networks internalize micro-stylistic features such as syntactic compression, temporal shifts, or metaphoric collocations enables scholars to defamiliarize canonical texts and uncover structural patterns that escape manual close reading alone (Vallego, 2026).

Conclusion

This review has demonstrated that the integration of Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence into contemporary English literature research constitutes not merely a methodological expansion but a fundamental epistemological transformation of the discipline. The convergence of computational tools, machine learning algorithms, and generative AI models with traditional humanistic inquiry has established a multidimensional analytical space where distant pattern detection and close hermeneutic interpretation operate in dynamic reciprocity. As this review has illustrated, computational methodologies enable literary scholars to transcend the limitations of human reading capacity, uncovering macro-level historical trends, stylistic evolutions, and structural genre shifts that remain invisible at the scale of individual text analysis. The application of stylometry, sentiment analysis, and cultural analytics has proven particularly effective in resolving authorship disputes, mapping emotional trajectories across narrative structures, and conducting ethical audits of literary institutions exposing systemic inequalities such as "cultural redlining" in postwar publishing. The emergence of post-transformer generative AI has further expanded the relationship between literature and computation, introducing active narrative co-creation, electronic literary experimentation, and fundamental challenges to Romantic notions of single authorship, originality, and intentionality. This review has critically engaged with the significant challenges facing computational literary studies, including algorithmic bias, contextual flattening, hermeneutic reduction, and the political economy of digital humanities. Rather than accepting technological tools as neutral instruments, scholars must maintain critical vigilance regarding the assumptions embedded within algorithmic architectures, vector-space representations, and training corpora. The future of English studies lies not in polarized debates that pit traditional close reading against computational distant reading but in methodological hybridity a synergistic paradigm where computational analysis informs close interpretive scrutiny, which in turn refines computational models. Emerging paradigms such as Retrieval-Augmented Generation, immersive spatial technologies, and vector space probing promise to reconfigure literary scholarship while preserving the hermeneutic depth, historical contextualization, and theoretical rigor that define humanistic inquiry. Ultimately, the integration of AI and DH methodologies enriches rather than diminishes the discipline, establishing a collaborative ecosystem where human critics and computational actors jointly illuminate the complexities of literary expression.

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