



University of Reading

Department of Computer Science

**Social, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Computing (SLEAC)
Group Coursework Reflection**

Shavin Croos

Module code:	CS3SC17
Assignment report title:	SLEAC Group Coursework Reflection
Student Number:	27015244
Date of completion:	10/12/2021
Actual time spent on the assignment (hours):	1 hour

Introduction

For our group coursework, my group chose to watch and examine the 20th Century Fox 2019 movie called Alita: Battle Angel. This movie was chosen by my group as we believed this movie contained very good points about robotics for government usage, minds, medicine and rehabilitation usage and for AI.

Reflection

Reflecting on this coursework, it was very exciting to watch one of the movies that I had wanted to watch for quite a while. The information that I had picked up from not just in the movie, but from real-life sources as well, has helped me gain a better understanding about what robots can do and how well they can perform in comparison to humans. During the movie, some topic ideas came forward for discussion about the social, legal and ethical impacts included: government robots (so war robots and policing robots), robots that think for themselves, medical and rehabilitation robots, modern robotics and AI.

When it came to working with my group, the group I was put into were easy to talk to. We discussed on the different topics and the social, legal and ethical aspects of the movie as one and choosing the topics that were to be discussed about within the final report. The topics included the aforementioned list given. This is because the movie contained lots of parts where the robots were used for policing the streets, as well as flashbacks of robots going to war with each other. The film also contained scenes that showed humans repairing and improving the robots to be better than the versions they were before.

The group coursework was quite manageable to finish within the time limit that was set on us. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, meeting up to discuss properly how the work should be done was quite difficult to do. Therefore, it was decided that each member would watch the movie in their own time and select a topic that we pick out from watching the movie. If we were allowed to properly meet up in person, we would have been able to watch the movie together as a group and thus had a better discussion about the topics that we would have picked.

Trying to get the topics from the movie was not that difficult to do, the difficulty came in trying to find decent references for the topics. Through some digging, I found 3 decent sources that were resourceful and very informative. These references included **“The use of robots and artificial intelligence in war”** by Abhinav Kumar, **“Robots in War: Issues of Risk and Ethics”** by K. Abney and **“Army robots types, advantages, disadvantages & how do Artificial soldiers change the future of war?”** by Soffar.

I found it very interesting when they had talked about how robotics in “warfare had been around for time since WW2”. It shows that developments for robots going to war had been thought about in the beginning initially, thinking that they would carry out the tasks that they were designed to do initially. However, they encountered a lot of problems when they say that these robots were “either ineffective or only useful for specialised operations”.