

## ALGORITHMIC ONTOLOGY AND DIGITAL MIND-BODY DUALISM\*

## Algoritmik Ontoloji ve Dijital Zihin-Beden Düalizmi

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## ABSTRACT

This article explores Descartes' classical mind-body dualism within the paradigms of the digital age. It examines the philosophical implications of digital entities, virtual realities, and artificial intelligence on our traditional understanding of body and soul. Central to this inquiry is algorithmic ontology, which posits that reality is governed by universal information processing systems and cosmic algorithms. This work examines the fundamental interactions between information, matter, and energy, arguing that existence is woven from these digital threads. Using an interdisciplinary methodology, the study draws on philosophy, computer science, physics, and mathematics to analyze the convergence of digital and physical domains. The proposed modern model of mind-body dualism aims to bring new perspectives to contemporary philosophical and scientific dialogues by addressing the challenges and opportunities of the digital age. By redefining the boundaries between digital existence and physical reality, this work illuminates the complex dynamics in our increasingly virtualized world. Ultimately, this paper advocates for a nuanced understanding of digital bodies and virtual identities, charting avenues for future research. It calls for further exploration of how these concepts can reshape our ontological and epistemological frameworks, enriching our understanding of reality in the digital age.

**Keywords:** Algorithmic ontology, digital existence, interdisciplinary analysis, mind-body dualism, virtual reality.

## ÖZ

Bu makale, Descartes'ın klasik zihin-beden düalizminin dijital çağın yeni paradigmaları içinde yeniden bağlamsallaştırıldığı derin bir araştırmaya girişmektedir. Dijital varlıkların, sanal gerçekliklerin ve yapay zekanın geleneksel beden ve ruh anlayışımız üzerindeki felsefi etkilerini araştırmaktadır. Bu sorgulamanın merkezinde, gerçekliğin özünün evrensel bilgi işleme sistemleri ve kozmik algoritmalar tarafından yönetildiğini öne süren algoritmik ontoloji kavramı yer almaktadır. Bu çalışma, bilgi, madde ve enerji arasındaki temel etkileşimlerin derin bir felsefi incelemesini sunmakta ve varoluşun dokusunun bu dijital ipliklerden örüldüğünü öne sürmektedir. Disiplinler arası bir metodoloji kullanan makale, felsefe, bilgisayar bilimi, fizik ve matematiğin zengin dokusundan yararlanarak dijital ve fiziksel alanların yakınsamasının kapsamlı bir analizini oluşturmaktadır. Önerilen modern zihin-beden düalizmi modeli, dijital çağın sunduğu zorlukları ve fırsatları ele alarak çağdaş felsefi ve bilimsel diyaloglara yeni bakış açıları kazandırmayı amaçlamaktadır. Dijital varoluş ile fiziksel gerçeklik arasındaki sınırları yeniden tanımlayan bu çalışma, giderek sanallaşan dünyamızdaki karmaşık dinamikleri aydınlatmayı amaçlamaktadır. Sonuç olarak bu makale, dijital bedenlerin ve sanal kimliklerin incelikli bir şekilde anlaşılmasını savunarak gelecekteki araştırmalar için çeşitli yollar çizmektedir. Ortaya çıkan bu kavramların ontolojik ve epistemolojik çerçevelerimizi nasıl yeniden şekillendirebileceğinin daha fazla araştırılması ve nihayetinde dijital çağda gerçeklik kavrayışımızın zenginleştirilmesi çağrısında bulunmaktadır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Algoritmik ontoloji, dijital varoluş, disiplinlerarası analiz, sanal gerçeklik, zihin-beden düalizmi.

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## GENİŞLETİLMİŞ ÖZET

Bu makale, Descartes'ın klasik zihin-beden düalizmi üzerine yapılan çalışmaların dijital çağın yeni paradigmaları içerisinde yeniden ele alınmasını ve algoritmik ontoloji kavramının bu bağlamda nasıl şekillendirilebileceğini tartışmaktadır. Dijital varoluş, yapay zekâ, sanal gerçeklik ve bilgi teknolojilerinin felsefi temelleri, insanın zihin-beden ikiliği ile ilişkisi üzerinden derinlemesine incelenmiştir. Dijital dünyanın ve onun getirdiği teknolojilerin, insan bilinci, kimliği ve varoluşu üzerindeki etkileri bu çalışmanın odak noktasıdır.

**Algoritmik Ontoloji:** Bu makale, varoluşun özünün evrensel bilgi işleme sistemleri ve kozmik algoritmalar tarafından yönetildiğini öne süren algoritmik ontoloji kavramını derinlemesine incelemektedir. Dijital çağda, bilgi, madde ve enerji arasındaki etkileşimlerin, gerçeklik algımızı nasıl şekillendirdiği ve bu süreçlerin zihin-beden düalizmi ile nasıl örtüştüğü tartışılmaktadır. Algoritmik ontoloji, modern bilincin dijital çağda nasıl yeniden tanımlandığını ve bu sürecin felsefi sonuçlarını anlamak için kritik bir çerçeve sunar.

**Dijital Varlık ve Zihin-Beden Düalizmi:** Dijital varoluş ve sanal gerçekliklerin, geleneksel zihin-beden düalizmi üzerinde nasıl bir etkisi olduğu bu çalışmada geniş çapta ele alınmaktadır. Dijital bedenlenme kavramı, dijital avatarlar ve sanal kimliklerin, beden ve ruh arasındaki sınırları nasıl bulanıklaştırdığı ve bu bağlamda ortaya çıkan ontolojik sorular tartışılmaktadır. Bu bağlamda, dijital ortamların sağladığı sanal mekânlarda bilincin nasıl var olduğu ve bu bilincin fiziksel bedenle olan ilişkisi sorgulanmıştır.

**Yapay Zekâ ve Düalizm:** Yapay zekâ ve otonom sistemlerin gelişimi, zihin-beden düalizmi üzerinde derin etkiler yaratmıştır. Bu makalede, yapay zekânın insan bilinci ve zihni ile olan ilişkisi, etik ve ontolojik perspektiflerden ele alınmaktadır. Yapay zekânın, insan zihniyle olan benzerlikleri ve farklılıkları üzerinden bir analiz yapılmış ve bu teknolojilerin, insanın kimlik algısını nasıl şekillendirdiği üzerinde durulmuştur. Ayrıca, bu teknolojilerin insan bilinci ve bedenlenme üzerine olan etkileri, zihin-beden düalizminin yeniden tanımlanmasını gerekli kılmaktadır.

**Disiplinlerarası Yaklaşım:** Makale, disiplinlerarası bir yöntemle, felsefi, bilimsel ve teknolojik analizlerin bir araya getirilmesini amaçlamaktadır. Felsefi teoriler ile bilgisayar bilimi, yapay zekâ, fizik ve matematik gibi alanlardaki güncel gelişmeler arasında kurulan bağlantılar, dijital varoluşun zihin-beden ilişkisi üzerindeki etkilerini anlamada kritik bir rol oynamaktadır. Bu yöntem, zihin-beden düalizminin dijital çağdaki evrimini daha iyi kavramak için bir çerçeve sunmaktadır.

**Modern Düalizm Modelinin Geliştirilmesi:** Makalenin temel argümanlarından biri, dijital çağda zihin-beden düalizminin yeniden tanımlanması gerektiğidir. Geleneksel düalist kavramlar, dijital bedenlenme ve bilinç ile ilgili yeni teorilerle birleştirilerek, modern bir düalizm modeli geliştirilmiştir. Bu model, dijital varoluşun ve sanal gerçekliklerin getirdiği yeni sorulara cevap vermeyi amaçlamaktadır. Ayrıca, bu model, dijital dünyadaki kimlik, bilinç ve varoluş anlayışımızı yeniden şekillendirebilecek teorik bir çerçeve sunmaktadır.

**Gelecekteki Araştırma Yönelimleri:** Bu makale, dijital varoluş ve algoritmik ontoloji kavramlarının felsefi ve bilimsel araştırmalar için geniş bir alan sunduğunu vurgulamaktadır. Gelecekteki araştırmalar, dijital bilincin doğasını daha derinlemesine inceleyebilir ve bu bilinç formlarının insan bilinci ile olan ilişkisini araştırabilir. Ayrıca, dijital ve fiziksel varoluşlar arasındaki etkileşimlerin nörobiyolojik temelleri ve etik sonuçları üzerine yapılacak çalışmalar, zihin-beden düalizmi ile ilgili yeni soruların ortaya çıkmasına neden olabilir. Bu bağlamda, yapay zekâ ve dijital teknolojilerin insan bilinci ve kimliği üzerindeki etkileri, felsefi sorgulamalarla birlikte ele alınmalı ve bu teknolojilerin toplumsal etkileri üzerine daha fazla araştırma yapılmalıdır.

**Sonuç:** Dijital çağda zihin-beden düalizmi ve algoritmik ontoloji üzerine yapılan bu çalışma, dijital varoluşun felsefi ve bilimsel temellerini yeniden değerlendirerek, insan bilinci ve kimliği üzerine yeni bir perspektif sunmaktadır. Bu makale, disiplinlerarası bir yaklaşımla dijital dünyadaki varoluşun zihin-beden ilişkisi üzerindeki etkilerini anlamayı amaçlamaktadır. Gelecekteki araştırmalar, bu yeni paradigmalar ışığında insan varoluşunu daha derinlemesine anlamamıza yardımcı olacaktır.

## INTRODUCTION

In the 17th century, René Descartes brought a revolutionary perspective to human existence with his theory of mind-body dualism, summarized in the phrase “Cogito, ergo sum” (“I think, therefore I am”). This theory introduced a fundamental distinction between the immaterial mind and the physical body and profoundly influenced Western philosophical thought by framing consciousness and physical existence as distinct but interacting entities (Descartes, 1641, pp. 19-22). Cottingham (1996, pp. 86-88) underlines the lasting impact of Descartes’ dualism, noting its fundamental role in subsequent philosophical inquiries into the nature of mind and consciousness: “Descartes’ dualism has served as a cornerstone for subsequent philosophical inquiries into the nature of mind and consciousness”.

However, rapid advances in digital technology in the 21st century are forcing us to revisit and potentially redefine this classic dichotomy (Cooper, 2009, pp. 45-47). The emergence of digital beings, virtual realities and artificial intelligence (AI) brings with it complexities that challenge traditional notions of the mind-body relationship (Langman, 2014, pp. 123-125). Tegmark (2017, pp.89-92) argues that “AI and digital beings are reshaping our understanding of what it means to be human by blurring the lines between biological and artificial intelligence”. Similarly, Floridi (2014, pp. 58-61) emphasizes that “the infosphere- the digital information environment- has become as real and influential as the physical world”. Chalmers (2022, 110-113) further elaborates on these themes, asserting that virtual worlds are not merely simulations but hold ontological parity with the physical world. He argues that “virtual realities challenge classical philosophical frameworks by demonstrating that digital environments can serve as spaces of real experiences and real existence. These developments call for a critical re-examination of Descartes’ dualism in light of contemporary digital phenomena.

Digital entities such as avatars in virtual realities and AI-driven simulations transcend physical limitations, forcing us to question the traditional boundaries between mind and body (Lucky and Aylett, 2000). In virtual environments, users often experience a kind of disembodiment where their digital avatars become extensions of their consciousness, challenging clear boundaries between the physical and mental realms (Larson, 2010). Floridi (2014) notes that “as digital technologies evolve, they increasingly mediate our interactions, making the digital and the physical integral components of our lived experience”. This interconnectedness requires a reassessment of the mind-body problem, considering how virtual identities alter our sense of self.

Artificial intelligence further complicates this dilemma by replicating cognitive functions once thought to be exclusive to the human mind. AI systems such as neural networks and machine learning algorithms perform tasks traditionally attributed to human intelligence, including perception, decision-making, and even creativity (Petrovic, 2018). Tegmark (2017) states that “the capabilities of AI challenge the uniqueness of human cognition, raising questions about the essence of consciousness and the nature of the self”. The integration of AI into various aspects of life necessitates a philosophical inquiry into the effects of these intelligent systems on the concept of mind (Oumaima et al., 2023).

Central to this inquiry is the concept of algorithmic ontology, which posits that the fundamental structure of reality is composed of information processing systems and cosmic algorithms. Chaitin’s (2005) exploration of the universe as a computational process emphasizes the fundamental role of algorithms in shaping reality: “The universe can be understood as a vast computational process in which mathematical structures and algorithms underlie the fabric of reality” (Chaitin, 2005). This perspective suggests that both the physical and digital realms are governed by similar principles of computation and data flow, blurring the lines between them.

From a philosophical perspective, algorithmic ontology forces us to reconsider the nature of existence. Traditional metaphysical questions about the essence of being and the nature of consciousness must now adapt to the realities of virtual existence and artificial intelligence (Lammari and Metais, 2004, pp. 87-90). Wiener (1948, pp. 132-135) argues that “the boundaries between man and machine are increasingly blurred, necessitating a rethinking of what constitutes self and other”. This intersection of digital and physical domains requires a rethinking of ontological and epistemological frameworks, integrating digital information processes into the fabric of reality (Iliadis, 2018, pp. 45-80).

From a computational perspective, the digital revolution has ushered in an era in which information and algorithms are central to our understanding of the universe. Lloyd (2006, pp. 37-39) argues that “the universe itself operates like a quantum computer, processing information at the most fundamental level”. Computational principles not only drive technological innovation, but also offer deep insights into the nature of existence. By examining the parallels between digital information processes and physical phenomena, we can uncover new dimensions of Descartes’ dualism and extend it to the field of digital ontology.

The physical sciences, especially physics, provide crucial insights into the algorithmic nature of reality. Concepts such as quantum computing and the holographic principle suggest that the universe itself may operate as a vast information processing system. Susskind and Lindesay (2004, pp. 185-187) argue that “the fundamental laws of physics are inherently informational and that the universe can be understood as a hologram in which information is encoded in a lower-dimensional boundary”. These ideas overlap with the concept of algorithmic ontology, which argues that the fundamental laws of physics are essentially informational. This convergence of physics and digital theory opens new avenues for exploring the dualistic relationship between mind and body in the context of modern science.

In conclusion, this article proposes a modern model of mind-body dualism that addresses the challenges and opportunities of the digital age. By redefining the boundaries between digital existence and physical reality, we aim to offer new perspectives that will enrich contemporary philosophical and scientific discourse. Floridi (2014, pp. 142-145) emphasizes the transformative potential of digital information in reshaping human reality, arguing that “our ontological and epistemological frameworks must evolve to accommodate the pervasive impact of digital Technologies”. This new model aims not only to update Descartes’ classical theory, but also to illuminate the complex dynamics between the digital and physical realms and provide a comprehensive framework for understanding reality in the digital age.

## 1. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### 1.1. Classical Mind-Body Dualism

René Descartes, an important figure in the history of philosophy, fundamentally changed our understanding of the relationship between mind and body by introducing the concept of mind-body dualism in the 17th century. This dualist approach posits that the mind and body are distinct and separate entities: the mind is an immaterial, thinking entity, while the body is a material, extended entity. Descartes articulated this distinction most clearly in his *Meditations on First Philosophy*: “There is a great difference between the mind and the body, for the body is by nature always divisible, while the mind is completely indivisible” (Descartes, 1641, pp. 54-56). This radical separation of the mental and physical domains set the stage for many subsequent debates in philosophy, psychology and neuroscience.

The implications of Descartes’ dualism are profound and have influenced not only philosophy but also psychology, neuroscience and cognitive science. Descartes’ famous quote “*Cogito, ergo sum*” (“I think, therefore I am”) underlines his belief that the ability to think is the essence of being and consciousness. As Cottingham (1996, pp. 45-47) points out, Descartes’ dualism sets the stage for subsequent philosophical debates about the nature of consciousness and personal identity. Descartes argues that the mind’s ability to reason, think and have self-awareness fundamentally distinguishes it from the physical body. This view profoundly influenced Western thought and led to the development of numerous theories about the nature of mind, consciousness and their relationship to the body.

One of the important contributions of Descartes’ dualism is the introduction of interactionism, the idea that mind and body, although different, causally interact. This concept is discussed in Descartes’ correspondence with Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia, where he acknowledges the difficulties of explaining how an immaterial mind can affect a material body. Descartes suggests that the interaction takes place in the pineal gland, a small organ in the brain, which he believes is the “seat of the soul” (Descartes, 1641, pp. 95-97). This interactionist perspective raises important questions about the nature of causality and the mechanisms through which mind-body interaction takes place. As Descartes wrote, “the mind as a thinking thing can affect the body through its thoughts, and the body can affect the mind through the senses” (Descartes, 1641, pp. 105-107).

Despite its revolutionary impact, Descartes' mind-body dualism has been subject to considerable criticism and controversy. One of the main challenges is the "mind-body problem", which questions how two fundamentally different substances can interact. Ryle (1970, pp. 15-17), in his critique of Cartesian dualism, describes it as a "ghost in the machine" and argues that the concept of an immaterial mind interacting with a material body is fundamentally flawed and leads to a category error. Ryle's critique highlights the difficulties inherent in maintaining a rigid distinction between mind and body while at the same time asserting their interaction. He argues that the notion of a "disembodied mind" controlling the body is as absurd as imagining a "team spirit" directing a soccer team from the sidelines (Ryle, 1970, pp. 23-25).

Moreover, advances in neuroscience have provided convincing evidence that mental processes are closely linked to brain activity. In *Descartes' Error*, Damasio (1994, pp. 249-252) argues that the distinction between mind and body is a false dichotomy, and that cognitive functions cannot be fully understood without considering their neural basis. Damasio's work argues that consciousness and self-awareness arise from complex brain processes and challenges the notion of an immaterial mind. "Mind is what the brain does," Damasio says, emphasizing the complex relationship between neural processes and mental states. This perspective is in line with contemporary views in cognitive science and neurophilosophy, which view mental phenomena as emergent properties of physical systems.

Searle (1992) contributes to the critique of Cartesian dualism by emphasizing the dependence of mental states on physical states. Searle argues that consciousness is not a separate substance but an emergent property of brain processes. "Mental phenomena arise from neurophysiological processes in the brain and are themselves properties of the brain" (Searle, 1992, pp. 14-16). This view challenges the dualist distinction and proposes a more integrated understanding of mind and body.

Despite these criticisms, Descartes' mind-body dualism remains a fundamental concept in philosophy and provides a framework for the investigation of the nature of consciousness, identity, and the relationship between mental and physical states. As Searle (1992, pp. 20-22) notes, although Cartesian dualism is flawed, its fundamental questions about the nature of consciousness and the relationship of mind to body continue to drive philosophical and scientific inquiry. The enduring significance of Descartes' dualism lies in its ability to provoke critical thinking and inspire new theories about the mind-body relation.

In sum, Descartes' classical mind-body dualism posits a dualism between the immaterial mind and the material body, asserting their different natures but assuming their causal interaction. This theory has significantly influenced philosophical thought and scientific research, despite being subject to significant criticism and changing perspectives. In exploring the impact of digital developments on this dualistic framework, it is important to consider both its key insights and the challenges it faces in light of contemporary knowledge. The integration of digital entities, virtual realities and artificial intelligence into our understanding of mind and body may offer new ways to address the enduring questions raised by Descartes.

## 1. 2. Algorithmic Ontology

The concept of algorithmic ontology proposes a profound reconceptualization of reality, arguing that the essence of existence is shaped by universal information processing systems and cosmic algorithms (Kaplan, 2003, pp. 45-48). This perspective, which has a deep resonance with contemporary theories of computation and physics, suggests that the structure of reality is not merely static, but a dynamic process governed by computational principles. This reconceptualization requires rigorous philosophical analysis to unravel its implications for our understanding of existence, knowledge and the cosmos (Diatta et al., 2019, pp. 112-115).

At the core of algorithmic ontology is the claim that all phenomena, whether physical or metaphysical, can be understood in terms of information processing. This perspective is articulated by Chaitin (2005, pp. 89-91) who argues that "the universe can be understood as a vast computational process in which mathematical structures and algorithms underlie the fabric of reality". This claim is in line with the views of Lloyd (2006, pp. 37-39) who argues that "the universe itself operates like a quantum computer, processing information at the most fundamental level". Such views suggest that the principles governing digital algorithms and computational processes are not merely human inventions but intrinsic properties of the cosmos.



The philosophical implications of algorithmic ontology extend to the nature of causality and the ontology of objects. As reviewed by Floridi (2014, pp. 142-145), the digital revolution requires a fundamental reassessment of our ontological frameworks, suggesting that “our ontological and epistemological frameworks must evolve to accommodate the pervasive impact of digital Technologies”. This evolution means that traditional notions of substance and causality need to be reinterpreted in light of the computational nature of reality. Floridi's views underscore the need for a philosophical paradigm that integrates the epistemic and computational dimensions of existence.

Moreover, the holographic principle described by Susskind provides a compelling physical basis for algorithmic ontology. Susskind argues that “the fundamental laws of physics are inherently informational, and the universe can be understood as a hologram in which information is encoded in a lower-dimensional boundary” (Susskind and Lindesay, 2004, pp. 233-235). This perspective suggests that the informational content of the universe is encoded to reflect computational principles and reinforces the idea that reality is fundamentally an algorithmic structure.

Wiener's (1948, pp. 96-98) foundational work in the field of cybernetics also contributes to this discourse, in particular his claim that “the boundaries between man and machine are increasingly blurred, necessitating a rethinking of what constitutes self and other”. Wiener's views on feedback mechanisms and information flow further support the algorithmic ontology framework by emphasizing the continuum between biological and mechanical systems. This continuum suggests that both organic and inorganic entities are subject to the same laws of computation, blurring the distinction between natural and artificial, animate and inanimate.

The ontological implications of seeing reality through the lens of algorithmic processes are profound. This perspective challenges classical metaphysical dualisms and proposes a unified framework in which information processing is the fundamental ontological category. As proposed by philosopher DeLanda (2011, pp. 43-45), “the computational paradigm provides a powerful framework for understanding the dynamic and emergent properties of complex systems”. DeLanda's work emphasizes the need to reconsider traditional metaphysical categories in light of the dynamic and algorithmic nature of reality.

Moreover, algorithmic ontology offers a new approach to understanding consciousness and identity. The computational theory of mind, explored by Putnam (1975, pp. 295-297), posits that “mental states are computational states and that the mind is essentially a computational system”. This view is compatible with the algorithmic ontology framework and suggests that consciousness itself can be understood as an emergent property of complex information processing systems.

In conclusion, algorithmic ontology offers a revolutionary perspective on the nature of reality, arguing that the universe is fundamentally shaped by information processing systems and cosmic algorithms. This perspective bridges the gap between the physical and digital realms, providing a comprehensive framework for understanding existence in the digital age.

### **1. 3. Intersections of Information, Matter and Energy**

The exploration of the intersections between information, matter and energy forms the basis of a new ontological model that fundamentally redefines our understanding of reality. This model posits that these three elements are not just different components of the universe, but are deeply interconnected and that information serves as the fundamental element that governs the behavior and interactions of matter and energy. This perspective requires a comprehensive analysis of how information processes support the physical and energetic aspects of reality (Head-Marsden et al., 2020, pp. 12-15).

Central to this ontological model is the recognition that information is not just an abstract concept, but a concrete force that shapes the structure and dynamics of the universe. In his seminal work on information theory, Shannon (1948, pp. 379-381) laid the foundation for understanding how information governs communication systems by showing that information is quantifiable and can be rigorously measured. This quantitative approach to information provides a framework for exploring its role in physical and energetic processes.

The concept that matter and energy are fundamentally informational in nature is supported by the principles of quantum mechanics. The wave function in quantum mechanics, which encompasses all information about the possible states of a system, shows how the behavior of particles is determined by probabilistic information. As Heisenberg (1958, pp. 38-40) put it, “The laws of quantum mechanics themselves deal with probabilities or tendencies, an intermediate level of reality”. This intermediate level is informational in nature and shows that the behavior of matter and energy is governed by underlying informational structures.

Moreover, Wheeler’s (1990, pp. 309-311) “derives from bits” hypothesis suggests that every particle, every force field, even the space-time continuum itself derives its function, meaning and existence entirely from binary choices, bits. This hypothesis underscores the idea that the fabric of reality is fundamentally informational and that physical entities emerge from underlying informational processes. Wheeler’s perspective is in line with the principles of digital physics, which suggest that the universe operates as a vast computational system processing information at the most fundamental level (Fredkin, 1992, pp. 45-47).

The relationship between information and energy is also crucial to understanding the new ontological model. In thermodynamics, the concept of entropy, which measures the disorder or randomness of a system, is deeply intertwined with information. Boltzmann’s (1877, pp. 20-27) statistical interpretation of entropy reveals that the higher the entropy of a system, the more information is required to describe its state. This relationship emphasizes how information and energy are interconnected and how information processes affect the energetic dynamics of physical systems.

Moreover, the principles of quantum information theory provide further insights into the interplay between information, matter and energy. Quantum entanglement, a phenomenon in which particles correlate in such a way that the state of one particle instantaneously affects the state of another regardless of distance, exemplifies the deep connection between information states and physical entities. As Schrödinger (1935, pp. 555-557), who coined the term, explained, “Entanglement is not one of the characteristic features of quantum mechanics, but rather the feature that allows it to depart completely from the classical line of thought”. Entanglement underscores the informational basis of matter and energy by showing how informational correlations between particles can affect their physical properties.

The holographic principle, articulated by Hooft and further developed by Susskind, suggests that all information contained in a volume of space can be identified with the information encoded at its boundary (Susskind, 1995, pp. 637-639; Hooft, 1993, pp. 348-350). This principle suggests that the three-dimensional reality we perceive is a projection of information encoded on a two-dimensional surface and reinforces the idea that information is the basic building block of the universe. This perspective is consistent with the view that the universe is a vast information processing system in which matter and energy emerge from underlying informational processes.

In sum, the intersections of information, matter and energy form the basis of a new ontological model that redefines our understanding of reality. This model posits that information is the fundamental element governing the behavior and interactions of matter and energy. By exploring the principles of quantum mechanics, thermodynamics and quantum information theory, we are gaining insights into how informational processes underlie the physical and energetic aspects of the universe. This perspective challenges traditional metaphysical views and proposes a unified framework in which information processing is the fundamental ontological category.

## 2. METHOD

This study adopts an interdisciplinary methodology to reconsider the mind-body dualism in the digital age and to examine the philosophical foundations of algorithmic ontology. This methodological approach, which forms the basis of the research, aims to provide an in-depth analysis in both philosophical and scientific fields. Extensive literature reviews on Descartes’ classical mind-body dualism led to a reinterpretation of the concepts of digital consciousness and embodiment within the framework of a theoretical model. In this process, theories from various disciplines such as computer science, artificial intelligence, physics and mathematics are brought together to understand the effects of digital technologies on existence and identity. This method aims to reveal

how the interactions between digital and physical existences have been scientifically and philosophically redefined.

### 3. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

In this section, the findings and analysis of digital mind-body dualism and algorithmic ontology will be presented under specific headings. First, “Redefining Body and Soul” will examine how digital embodiment and virtual identities reshape traditional understandings of body and soul. Then, “Consciousness in Virtual Spaces” will explore the nature of emergent forms of consciousness in digital environments and their existential and philosophical implications. “Artificial Intelligence and Dualism” will discuss how artificial intelligence affects mind-body dualism and the ethical and ontological questions that arise in this context. These topics will be analyzed using interdisciplinary perspectives and how to develop a model that redefines mind-body dualism in the digital age. Finally, “Future Research Directions” will assess the new areas of research envisioned by this study and their potential contributions to the mind-body relationship.

#### 3. 1. Redefining Body and Soul

The emergence of digital bodies and virtual realities is profoundly changing our understanding of physical and metaphysical existence, challenging traditional notions of the self, consciousness and the nature of reality. This transformation is fundamentally reshaping the way we conceptualize the relationship between body and soul and requires a reassessment of these concepts in light of contemporary technological developments (Arenes et al., 2023, pp. 112-115).

Digital bodies, often appearing as avatars in virtual environments, add a new dimension to our understanding of physical existence. Avatars serve as digital surrogates for individuals, allowing them to interact in virtual spaces in ways that transcend the limits of their physical bodies. This phenomenon is poignantly captured by Turkle (1995, pp. 192-194): “avatars provide a space in which one can discover new identities, experience new roles, and engage in a form of self-expression not possible in the physical world”. Freund (2024, pp. 87-89) expands on this by arguing that digital avatars serve not only as tools for self-expression but also as instruments of transcendence, allowing individuals to detach from the physical self and immerse in idealized, often hyperreal, representations of identity. His analysis, grounded in Baudrillard’s theory, emphasizes the ways in which virtual environments pervert traditional concepts of authenticity, blurring the line between the real and the fabricated. The ability to create and inhabit digital bodies allows for the fluidity of identity and self-representation, demonstrating that physical existence is not as rigidly defined as previously thought.

The effects of virtual realities extend beyond the realm of digital bodies. Virtual environments offer immersive experiences that can mimic, augment or completely pervert physical reality. As Slater (2009, pp. 354-356) notes, “virtual reality provides a platform for experiencing a wide range of scenarios, from the mundane to the fantastical, thereby expanding the boundaries of what can be considered real”. This expansion challenges the traditional dichotomy between physical and metaphysical existence and suggests that virtual experiences may have a similar ontological status to physical experiences.

Moreover, the psychological and philosophical implications of virtual realities require a reassessment of the concept of the soul. Traditionally thought of as the immaterial essence of a person, the soul is increasingly seen as intertwined with digital identities and virtual experiences. As virtual realities become more sophisticated, experiences and interactions in these environments affect one's sense of self and consciousness. This interplay suggests that the soul is not a static entity but a dynamic process shaped by both physical and digital experiences.

The integration of virtual realities and digital bodies into our understanding of existence requires a rethinking of embodiment. Traditionally, embodiment has been understood as the state of being in a physical body and all the sensory and motor skills that accompany it. However, virtual realities enable a kind of disembodiment where individuals can interact and experience without being physically present. This phenomenon has been explored by Hayles (1999, pp. 196-198) who argues that “virtual realities allow for a form of presence that is decoupled from physical location and challenges the idea that embodiment is tightly bound to the physical



body". The concept of virtual embodiment expands the understanding of what it means to be present and engaged in an environment.

Moreover, ethical and philosophical considerations of digital bodies and virtual realities raise important questions about identity, agency and authenticity. The creation and manipulation of digital bodies can lead to issues of identity fragmentation and the potential for deception. As Haraway (1985, pp. 67-69) argues in her work on the cyborg manifesto, "the boundaries between man and machine, physical and virtual, are increasingly blurred, necessitating a rethinking of identity and agency in the digital age". This blurring of boundaries challenges traditional notions of authenticity and raises questions about the nature of the self in the digital context.

The impact of virtual realities on metaphysical existence is further emphasized by the concept of "virtual reality", where virtual experiences are perceived as equal or even more important than physical experiences. This concept was explored by Brey (1999, pp. 5-7) who argued that "virtual environments can create experiences that are as meaningful and impactful as those in the physical world, thereby redefining what constitutes reality". The idea that virtual experiences can have equal ontological weight with physical experiences challenges the primacy of the physical world and suggests a more inclusive understanding of reality.

In conclusion, the emergence of digital bodies and virtual realities is fundamentally reshaping our understanding of physical and metaphysical existence. These technologies challenge traditional notions of self, consciousness and reality, suggesting a more fluid and dynamic relationship between body and soul. The philosophical and ethical implications of these developments require a reconsideration of identity, embodiment and authenticity in the digital age and invite new perspectives on what it means to exist in both physical and virtual realms.

### 3. 2. Consciousness in Virtual Spaces

The emergence of digital environments and virtual spaces presents a profound challenge to our understanding of consciousness, especially within the framework of Cartesian dualism. In these environments, the nature of consciousness is explored not only through the lens of traditional philosophical inquiry, but also through the capabilities and limitations of virtual technologies. This exploration reveals new dimensions of consciousness, highlights the complex interplay between the physical and the virtual, and raises critical questions about the essence of self-awareness and subjective experience (Sloman and Chrisley, 2003, pp. 117-119).

Virtual spaces, by design, offer a unique platform to study consciousness. The immersive nature of virtual reality (VR) allows individuals to experience environments that are entirely synthetic, yet capable of evoking real psychological and physiological responses. As Metzinger (2009, pp. 77-79) discusses in *The Ego Tunnel*, VR offers insights into the nature of self-consciousness by providing a "tunnel" through which subjective experiences can be manipulated and examined. This manipulation of subjective experiences in virtual reality environments challenges the Cartesian concept of the immutable self as existing independently of physical reality.

Furthermore, the phenomenon of presence in virtual environments, often referred to as "telepresence", complicates our understanding of consciousness. Telepresence describes the extent to which a person feels present in a virtual environment, often to the point where the virtual becomes indistinguishable from the physical. As Slater (2009, pp. 355-357) notes, "the sense of presence in virtual environments can lead to experiences indistinguishable from those in the physical world, suggesting that consciousness is highly adaptive and context-dependent". This adaptability means that consciousness is not fixed but can be reshaped by the environment, whether physical or virtual.

The implications of digital consciousness can be traced back to philosophical debates about the nature of the self. In traditional Cartesian dualism, the self is seen as a fixed and permanent entity that interacts with the physical body. Virtual environments, however, suggest that the self can be fragmented and distributed among multiple digital identities. As Hayles (1999, pp. 161-163) observes, "virtual environments allow the self to

fragment and proliferate, challenging the notion of a singular, coherent identity”. This multiplicity of selves in digital spaces suggests that consciousness is not a monolithic construct but a fluid and dynamic process influenced by its context.

Moreover, the development of artificial intelligence (AI) and its integration into virtual environments further complicates our understanding of consciousness. AI entities designed to mimic human cognition and behavior raise questions about the nature of artificial consciousness and its distinction from human consciousness. As Chalmers (1996, pp. 248-251) notes, “if AI entities exhibit behavior indistinguishable from that of conscious beings, this challenges our assumptions about the uniqueness of human consciousness and suggests that consciousness may be an emergent property of complex information processing systems”. This perspective is in line with the broader framework of algorithmic ontology, where consciousness is seen as a computational phenomenon.

The ethical implications of digital consciousness are equally important. The capacity of virtual environments to evoke real psychological responses raises questions about the moral responsibility of the creators and users of these technologies. In their research on moral empowerment, Savulescu and Persson (2012, pp. 124-126) argue that “the ability to influence consciousness through digital means requires a reassessment of ethical standards, particularly with regard to consent, manipulation, and the potential for harm”. These ethical considerations underscore the importance of developing a robust philosophical framework in the face of the complexity of consciousness in virtual environments.

Consequently, the exploration of consciousness in virtual environments challenges traditional Cartesian dualism by demonstrating the fluid and adaptive nature of self-awareness and subjective experience. The immersive and transformative potential of virtual environments, coupled with advances in artificial intelligence, suggests that consciousness is not an immutable entity but a dynamic process influenced by its environment. This perspective invites a rethinking of the nature of consciousness, identity and the self, suggesting that these constructs are deeply intertwined with both physical and virtual realities.

### 3.3. Artificial Intelligence and Dualism

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has fundamentally transformed our understanding of consciousness and mind, blurring the lines between mind and machine and challenging the dualistic thinking established by René Descartes. This transformation raises profound philosophical questions about the nature of intelligence, consciousness, and the distinction between human and artificial beings.

AI’s ability to mimic cognitive functions traditionally associated with the human mind requires a reassessment of Cartesian dualism. This dualism posits a fundamental distinction between the immaterial mind (or soul) and the material body. However, artificial intelligence technologies, especially neural networks and machine learning, show that cognitive processes can emerge from purely physical substrates. Turing (1950, pp. 433-460) argued that machines can exhibit intelligent behavior indistinguishable from that of humans, thus challenging the idea that intelligence is intrinsic to the human mind. Turing’s work laid the foundation for subsequent developments in the field of artificial intelligence and a reconsideration of what constitutes the mind.

The idea that AI could have a form of intelligence comparable to human cognition was further explored by Searle (1980) in his famous “Chinese Room” argument. Searle (1980, pp. 417-419) argues that although machines can simulate understanding, they do not really have it because they lack intentionality and consciousness. Despite this criticism, the continuous advancement of AI technologies such as deep learning algorithms and natural language processing shows that machines can perform increasingly complex tasks, further blurring the distinction between human and artificial cognition.

The philosophical implications of AI extend beyond cognitive simulation to the concept of consciousness itself. In exploring the elusive problem of consciousness, Chalmers (1995, pp. 201-204) raises the possibility that if AI systems can exhibit behaviors indicative of consciousness, they may have a form of artificial consciousness. This perspective challenges the Cartesian view that consciousness is inherently tied to an

immaterial soul, suggesting instead that it can arise from complex information processing within physical systems.

From a neuroscientific perspective, the emergence of AI systems capable of replicating cognitive tasks traditionally associated with the human brain offers unique challenges. Damasio (1999, pp. 127-130) argues that consciousness is deeply rooted in the biological processes of the brain, which raises questions about whether AI can genuinely replicate these processes or merely simulate them. Similarly, Gazzaniga (2011, pp. 213-215) highlights the importance of understanding how neural mechanisms underlie decision-making and ethical reasoning, which has direct implications for AI development. These insights suggest that AI systems, lacking the biological substrate of the brain, may operate on fundamentally different principles of cognition and consciousness.

Moreover, the role of AI in redefining identity and agency challenges dualistic notions of the self. In her "Cyborg Manifesto", Haraway (1985, pp. 65-68) argues that the integration of technology into human life blurs the boundaries between man and machine, physical and virtual, organic and artificial. Haraway's cyborg metaphor illustrates how technological developments, including artificial intelligence, require a rethinking of identity, suggesting that the self is not a fixed, immaterial essence but a dynamic construct influenced by both biological and technological factors.

AI also calls for a reconsideration of ethical and moral considerations in light of the potential for consciousness and agency. If AI systems can exhibit human-like behavior and potentially have consciousness, questions arise regarding their moral status and rights. Huang and Peissl (2023, pp. 89-91) emphasize that AI introduces a new paradigm in knowledge generation and decision-making, where algorithms not only process vast amounts of data but also influence critical choices in ways that were previously the domain of human cognition. Their analysis highlights the growing need for ethical frameworks that account for the epistemological shifts driven by AI's integration into decision-making processes. Churchland (1986, pp. 222-224) argues that ethical considerations must be informed by an understanding of the neural substrates that give rise to consciousness and decision-making, emphasizing the importance of aligning AI systems with neuroscientific insights to ensure ethical accountability. The ethical implications of AI have been examined by Bostrom (2014, pp. 115-118), who argues that as AI systems become more advanced, society must grapple with issues of AI rights, moral evaluation, and the potential risks of superintelligent AI. This ethical dimension underscores the need to integrate AI into our philosophical frameworks, moving beyond simple dualistic categorizations to address the complexities of artificial beings.

### 3. 4. Interdisciplinary Perspectives

The intersection of philosophy, computer science, physics and mathematics provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the complexities of digital existence and physical reality. By integrating insights from these different fields, we can gain a deeper appreciation for the algorithmic processes that govern reality and the ways in which they reshape our understanding of existence. The philosophical debates surrounding digital existence and physical reality challenge traditional notions of being and presence. Floridi's (2014, pp. 92-94) concept of the "infosphere" summarizes the idea that digital environments have become an integral part of human interaction and existence, transforming the way we perceive reality. Floridi argues that the infosphere is not only a supplementary space but a primary medium for human interaction, blurring the boundaries between the digital and physical realms. This redefinition suggests a shift in how we perceive space and being, where the digital realm is as important as the physical realm.

Castells (1996, pp. 375-377) argues that digital networks transcend physical boundaries to create a global communication framework that reshapes social norms and personal identities. This perspective overlaps with Hayles' (1999) analysis of virtual embodiment. Hayles (1999, pp. 198-200) argues that digital avatars and virtual realities offer new forms of presence and agency and challenge the necessity of a physical body for authentic experience. Massumi (2002, pp. 133-135) discusses how digital and virtual experiences create emotional and sensory responses similar to those in the physical world. Massumi's analysis highlights the

profound impact of digital environments on human perception and experience and suggests that virtual realities can evoke responses that are as real as those in physical environments.

Computer science plays a crucial role in modeling and understanding the algorithmic processes that govern reality. The development of sophisticated algorithms and computational models enables the simulation of complex systems and provides insights into their underlying principles. Turing's (1936, pp. 230-265) fundamental work on the Turing machine laid the groundwork for understanding how algorithms can simulate any computable function. Russell and Norvig (2020, pp. 58-60) discussed the ability of AI systems to process large amounts of data and develop models that predict and simulate real-world events. This capability underscores the importance of computational analysis in exploring the algorithmic nature of reality. Chaitin's (2005, pp. 112-114) work on algorithmic information theory explores the concept that complexity and randomness in systems can be understood through computational processes. Chaitin's (2005) views on the mathematical foundations of knowledge emphasize the complex relationship between computation and physical reality.

Physics and mathematics provide the fundamental principles that explain the algorithmic nature of reality. Lloyd (2006, pp. 47-50) argues that the universe works like a quantum computer, processing information at the most fundamental level. This perspective suggests that the laws of physics are intrinsically computational and compatible with the principles of algorithmic ontology. Susskind's (1995, pp. 638-641) work on the holographic principle further supports the idea that reality is fundamentally informational. The holographic principle suggests that all the information contained in a volume of space can be described by the information encoded in its boundary. This principle emphasizes the deep connection between physical laws and information theory and suggests that the structure of the universe is governed by informational processes. In mathematics, algorithmic information theory provides a rigorous framework for understanding the complexity and randomness of systems through computational lenses. As Chaitin (2005, pp. 114-117) shows, the mathematical foundations of information theory reveal how algorithms underpin the structure of reality and offer a new perspective on the nature of existence.

Interdisciplinary perspectives from philosophy, computer science, physics and mathematics together advance our understanding of digital existence and physical reality. Philosophical insights challenge traditional notions of being and existence, while computational analysis reveals the power of algorithms in modeling complex systems. Physical and mathematical foundations provide the principles underpinning algorithmic ontology, demonstrating the deep connections between information, computation, and the structure of the universe. This comprehensive approach emphasizes the importance of integrating different fields to fully grasp the complexity of modern existence and the algorithmic nature of reality. As we explore these interdisciplinary perspectives, we realize that the traditional boundaries between the digital and the physical, the informational and the material, are becoming increasingly intertwined.

### **3. 5. Development of The Modern Model of Dualism**

Developing a modern model of dualism in the digital age presents both significant challenges and opportunities. One of the main challenges is to redefine classical Cartesian dualism, which posits a strict distinction between the immaterial mind and the material body. Integrating digital existence into this framework requires a reassessment of what constitutes 'mind' and 'body'. In his work on posthumanism, Hayles (1999, pp. 197-199) argues that digital technologies blur the boundaries between the physical and the virtual, challenging the clear boundaries on which Cartesian dualism is based. In addition, an epistemological question arises as to how to verify experiences in digital realms. If consciousness can exist in both physical and digital environments, distinguishing between 'real' and 'virtual' experiences becomes increasingly complex. Chalmers (2017, pp. 23-26) raises questions about the nature of reality and criteria for epistemic verification, arguing that experiences in virtual environments can be as real as those in the physical world. Similarly, Chalmers (2022, pp. 115-118), expands on this by emphasizing the transformative nature of virtual worlds, suggesting that they hold not only experiential but also ontological significance. He argues that "virtual environments redefine reality itself, making virtual experiences as ontologically valid as physical ones," which challenges the epistemological foundations of traditional dualist frameworks.

Despite these challenges, the opportunities offered by a modern model of dualism are profound. Integrating digital existence with traditional dualist concepts can lead to a more comprehensive understanding of human consciousness and identity. This integration allows for the exploration of new forms of embodiment and presence. Hansen (2006, pp. 37-39), for example, argues that digital interfaces enable new forms of bodily presence and agency, allowing users to experience virtual environments as extensions of their physical selves. This integration can also provide valuable insights into the nature of consciousness by improving our ability to simulate and study cognitive processes through AI and virtual environments.

The proposed framework for a modern model of dualism offers a holistic approach to understanding mind and body in the digital age by integrating digital presence with traditional dualist concepts. This framework argues that the mind is not limited to the physical brain, but extends to digital environments and constitutes what can be termed “digital consciousness”. This extension is supported by the concept of the “infosphere” introduced by Floridi (2014, pp. 91-94), which defines the digital environment as an integral space for human interaction and existence. In this model, the body is also reconceptualized to include both physical and digital embodiments. As discussed by Hayles and Hansen, digital avatars and virtual realities offer new forms of presence and agency. These digital bodies can interact with both physical and virtual environments, seamlessly integrating the two domains. This dual embodiment challenges traditional notions of the self by suggesting that identity is fluid and can exist in multiple forms simultaneously.

This framework also includes the idea of “algorithmic ontology” where the basic structure of reality is shaped by information processing systems and algorithms. This perspective overlaps with the views of Lloyd (2006, pp. 47-50), who argues that the universe operates like a quantum computer, processing information at the most fundamental level. The framework that integrates these computational principles provides a basis for understanding how digital consciousness and digital bodies can emerge from complex informational processes. Deleuze and Guattari (1987, pp. 106-108) argue that identity is not a fixed point but a process of becoming that is affected by various interactions and flows. This is in line with the fluid nature of identity proposed in the modern dualist framework.

The adoption of this modern model of dualism has far-reaching implications for contemporary philosophical and scientific discourses. Philosophically, it challenges the long-standing dichotomy between mind and body, proposing a more holistic approach that encompasses both physical and digital existences. This model supports a more dynamic understanding of identity and consciousness in which the self is not a static entity but a fluid construct shaped by interactions in both the physical and digital realms. This perspective is in line with the views of Kurzweil (2005, pp. 125-127), who envisions a future where digital and biological intelligence merge to create new hybrid forms of consciousness.

In scientific discourse, this model provides a framework for exploring the nature of consciousness and cognitive processes through digital simulations and artificial intelligence. By studying how digital consciousness emerges and interacts with physical embodiments, researchers can gain new insights into the nature of mind and intelligence. This approach overlaps with the views of Bostrom (2014, pp. 211-214), who discusses the potential and risks of superintelligent AI, emphasizing the need for new ethical frameworks to address digital identity, privacy and agency.

Moreover, this modern dualism may affect ethical considerations in the digital age. As Bostrom (2014, pp. 217-220) argues, the integration of digital technologies into human life requires new ethical frameworks to address issues of digital identity, privacy and agency. The proposed model provides a basis for the development of these frameworks, ensuring that ethical considerations keep pace with technological advances.

In conclusion, the development of a modern model of dualism that integrates digital presence with traditional dualist concepts presents both challenges and opportunities. By proposing a comprehensive framework that includes digital consciousness and digital bodies, this model offers a holistic approach to understanding mind and body in the digital age. The implications for contemporary philosophical and scientific thought are profound, offering new perspectives on identity, consciousness, and the ethical considerations of living in an increasingly digitalized world.



### 3. 6. Future Research Directions

To develop and extend the proposed model of modern dualism that integrates digital presence with traditional dualistic concepts, further research could explore several key areas. One important direction is a deeper exploration of digital consciousness. Researchers could examine how digital environments and AI systems affect human consciousness and whether true digital consciousness can emerge from artificial systems. This requires interdisciplinary collaborations between cognitive scientists, computer scientists and philosophers to explore the nuances of consciousness in digital realms (Bostrom, 2014, pp. 221-224; Metzinger, 2009, pp. 79-82).

Another area of research could focus on the neurobiological underpinnings of digital and physical interactions. Understanding how the brain processes experiences in digital and virtual environments compared to physical environments could provide valuable insights into the nature of mind-body interactions. This requires advanced neuroimaging techniques and cognitive experiments to map the brain's response to digital stimuli (Gazzaniga, 2004, pp. 145-148).

Furthermore, extending the framework also requires exploring the ethical and social implications of digital dualism. Researchers can explore the implications of digital embodiment on personal identity, privacy and social interactions, particularly in the context of virtual and augmented reality technologies. This research can help develop ethical guidelines and policies to address the challenges posed by these technologies (Floridi, 2013, pp. 120-123; Savulescu and Persson, 2012, pp. 134-137).

The new dualist model has many potential practical applications across technology, ethics and society. In technology, the integration of digital and physical presences could revolutionize human-computer interaction. For example, advances in virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) could enhance immersive experiences in education, health and entertainment. VR and AR can enable new ways of learning and training by allowing users to interact with digital content in a more tangible and intuitive way (Lanier, 2017, pp. 102-105).

In the field of ethics, the dualistic model can inform the development of ethical AI systems. Understanding the interplay between digital and physical consciousness can help create AI that respects human values and rights. This could include designing AI systems that can interact ethically with humans, considering issues such as consent, privacy and digital rights (Boden, 2016, pp. 215-218).

From a social perspective, the dualist model can influence how we approach issues of digital identity and presence. As people increasingly interact through digital avatars and virtual environments, the boundaries of personal identity are becoming more fluid. This can lead to new forms of social interaction and community building and has implications for how we understand social relations and community in the digital age (Turkle, 2011, pp. 153-156).

The redefinition of mind-body dualism in a digital context will have profound long-term implications. One important impact is the potential shift in our understanding of human identity and existence. As digital and physical realities become more intertwined, the concept of self may evolve to encompass both domains, leading to a more integrated and fluid sense of identity. This could affect various aspects of life, from personal relationships to legal definitions of personhood (Haraway, 1991, pp. 149-152).

In the field of knowledge and education, the dualistic model can transform our approach to learning and knowledge dissemination. Digital platforms can provide more personalized and immersive educational experiences by bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. This can democratize education, making it more accessible and engaging for diverse populations (Prensky, 2001, pp. 40-43).

Moreover, the long-term impact of digital dualism may extend to the evolution of human cognition and abilities. As humans interact more frequently with digital environments and AI systems, there may be an improvement in cognitive functions such as memory, problem solving and creativity. This co-evolution with technology could lead to a new era of human development in which biological and digital intelligence work synergistically (Clark, 2003, pp. 67-70).

## CONCLUSION

This paper has explored the development of a modern model of dualism by integrating digital existence with traditional dualist concepts. By examining philosophical debates surrounding digital existence and physical reality, we have witnessed how digital technologies have challenged and expanded our understanding of embodiment and presence. Key thinkers such as Floridi and Hayles have emphasized the transformative impact of the infosphere and virtual embodiment respectively. With the foundational work of Turing and the contemporary insights of Russell and Norvig, the role of computer science in modeling and understanding the algorithmic processes that govern reality has been crucial. Furthermore, the contributions of physics and mathematics, especially through the work of Lloyd and Susskind, have provided a solid framework for explaining algorithmic ontology. This interdisciplinary approach has resulted in a comprehensive model that redefines the mind-body dualism in the digital age.

Integrating digital developments with philosophical inquiry is crucial for several reasons. First and foremost, it provides a more nuanced understanding of human consciousness and identity in an increasingly digitalized world. As digital technologies continue to evolve, they profoundly affect our cognitive processes, social interactions and sense of self. Philosophical inquiry helps us navigate these changes by offering insights into the ethical, epistemological and ontological implications of digital existence. For example, the integration of AI technologies such as ChatGPT and digital platforms like Meta's virtual reality ecosystems demonstrates the practical challenges of aligning technological advancements with ethical considerations, including issues of privacy, autonomy, and identity. This integration also enhances our ability to develop ethical guidelines and policies that address the challenges posed by digital technologies, ensuring that technological advances are compatible with human values and rights. By bridging technology and philosophy, we promote a more holistic understanding of reality that encompasses both physical and digital dimensions. This holistic approach is necessary to address the complex ethical issues raised by advances in AI and digital technologies, as argued by scholars such as Bostrom and Savulescu (Bostrom, 2014, pp. 115-118; Savulescu and Persson, 2012, pp. 134-137).

The changing nature of reality in the digital age emphasizes the importance of an ongoing dialogue between technology and philosophy. As the digital and physical realms become increasingly intertwined, our understanding of existence, identity and consciousness must adapt to reflect these changes. The model of modern dualism proposed in this paper provides a framework for exploring these complexities, emphasizing the fluid and dynamic nature of identity and the potential for digital consciousness. Ethical perspectives grounded in neuroscientific insights, such as those by Damasio (1999, pp. 127-130) and Gazzaniga (2011, pp. 213-215), underscore the importance of addressing the moral responsibilities associated with digital consciousness and AI systems. For instance, neuroscientific studies suggest that decision-making and ethical reasoning are deeply rooted in neural processes, which must be considered when designing AI systems capable of autonomous actions. This evolving understanding challenges traditional metaphysical notions and invites us to rethink the boundaries between mind and body, reality and simulation.

The intersection of technology and philosophy provides fertile ground for exploring the profound changes shaping our world. For example, the ethical implications of AI and digital technologies require a reassessment of existing ethical frameworks. Boden (2016, pp. 215-218) emphasizes the importance of creating AI systems that respect human values and rights, which requires a deep understanding of the interplay between digital and physical consciousness. Similarly, Haraway's (1991, pp. 149-152) concept of the cyborg highlights the blurred boundaries between man and machine and encourages us to consider the implications of technological augmentation on personal identity and social interactions. The practical implications of these theories are evident in fields such as education, where digital tools enable personalized learning experiences and enhance cognitive functions like problem-solving and creativity (Prensky, 2001, pp. 40-43; Clark, 2003, pp. 67-70). These examples demonstrate the real-world potential of integrating digital technologies with philosophical insights.

Moreover, the impact of the digital dichotomy on education and knowledge dissemination cannot be ignored. Digital platforms bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application by offering

personalized and immersive educational experiences. As Prensky (2001, pp. 40-43) notes, this democratization of education makes learning more accessible and engaging for different audiences. As digital technologies continue to be integrated into everyday life, the potential to improve cognitive functions such as memory, problem solving and creativity is also emerging. Clark's (2003, pp. 67-70) description of humans as "born cyborgs" illustrates how technological empowerment can lead to new forms of human development where biological and digital intelligence work synergistically.

In conclusion, future research directions for the modern dualism model offer exciting possibilities to extend the framework, explore practical applications and consider long-term implications. For instance, interdisciplinary projects that incorporate neuroscientific research with philosophical and computational studies could deepen our understanding of digital consciousness and its ethical ramifications. By exploring these areas, researchers can contribute to a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between digital and physical entities and pave the way for innovative developments in technology, ethics and society. The integration of interdisciplinary perspectives such as philosophy, computer science, physics and mathematics not only enriches our theoretical understanding, but also has practical implications for how we navigate and interact in an increasingly digitalized world. As we move forward, it is crucial to continue this dialogue to ensure that our technological advances are informed by deep philosophical reflection and aligned with our broader human aspirations.

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