

**Narrative Mode and Fiction**  
**Prof. Sarbani Banerjee**  
**Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee**

**Module No # 11**  
**Lecture No # 52**  
**Science Fiction - V**

Good morning and welcome back to the lecture series on narrative mode in fiction we are discussing science fiction and today we are going to talk about science and cinema. So we see a science fiction that has evolved in a cinema we were talking about how from the literary space science fiction has moved to cinema and it has made its own position an important position within the field of cinema studies.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- Before 1930, Science fiction films began to make their appearance very early in the history of movie production, during the silent film era.
- In 1902, Georges Méliès released *Le Voyage dans La Lune*, the first major film of the science fiction genre. Inspired by the novels of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, it portrayed a journey to the Moon in a spacecraft launched by a powerful gun.
- This movie's space travel plot, formalist visuals, and innovative special effects, influenced future sci-fi films.
- *Metropolis* was one of the most expensive silent films ever made. In 1910, Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* was brought to the film medium, which was also one of the early mergers of sci-fi and horror. Although only 16 minutes in length, this film succeeded in producing a suitably dark mood and would be remade several times in the future. Another such horror movie, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, was released in 1913.

Before nineteen thirties science fiction films began to make their appearance, very early in the history of movie production during the silent film era. In 1902 George Melles is released *Le Voyage Dans La Lune* the first major film of the science fiction genre inspired by the novels of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells. It portrays journey to the moon in a spacecraft launched by a powerful gun.

So this movie is a space travel plot formalized visuals and innovative special effects influenced the future sci-fi, films. *Metropolis* was one of the most expensive silent films that were ever made in 1910 Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* was brought to the full medium which was also one of the early mergers of science fiction and horror. Although only 16 minutes in

length the film succeeded in producing a suitably dark mood and would be remade several times in the future.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- An early epic film that introduced underwater filming was the production of the *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* in 1916, based on the novel of Jules Verne.
- The 1920s saw distinctly different forms of science fiction films being produced in America and Europe. European filmmakers employed the fictional elements and the predictive aspects of science fiction, with films such as *Metropolis* (1926) and *Die Frau im Mond* (1929) — both from Germany.
- Hollywood, on the other hand, embraced plots based on action sequences.

Another such horror movie Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde, was released in 1913 an early epic film that introduced underwater filming was a production of the 20,000 leagues under the sea in 1916 which was based on the novel by Jules Verne. The nineteen twenties saw distinctly different forms of science fiction films being produced in America and Europe. The European filmmakers employed the fictional elements and predictive aspects of science fiction with films such as, metropolis in 1926 and die from moon in 1929 both from Germany. On the other hand one sees that Hollywood embraces plots that are based on action sequences.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- Movies during the 1930s provided an escape from the poverty of the Great Depression, and it was during this era that film-making experienced a golden age. Movies now possessed a sound-track, and the extreme physical expression of the silent era was replaced by dialogue.
- The films were focused on the actors, rather than the still-primitive special effects. An exception was the 1933 release of King Kong, including scenes of the giant ape battling biplanes atop the Empire State Building.
- Most sci-fi films focused on human drama instead of aliens, space travel, or disasters. Influenced by *Metropolis* the 1930 release *Just Imagine* was the first feature-length science fiction film by a US studio, but the film was an expensive flop and no studio would produce a feature length science fiction film until the 1950s.
- The British-made *Things to Come* (1936) along with *Metropolis* were some of the most influential films of the early period that used special effects to evoke 'spectacle.' However, *Things to Come* was a failure at the box office.

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possess a soundtrack now and extreme physical expression of the silent era was, replaced by dialogue. The films were focused on the actors rather than the still primitive special effects. So an exception was the 1933 release of King Kong which included scenes of the giant ape battling by planes atop the empire state building.

So most; of the science fiction films focus on human drama instead of aliens, space travel or disasters. So influenced by metropolis the 1930 release of just, imagine was the first feature-length science fiction film by a U. S studio. However the film was an expensive flop and no studio after it would produce a feature-length science fiction film at least until the nineteen fifties.

The British produced things to come in 1936 along with metropolis where some of the most influential films of the early period which used special effects in order to evoke spectacle, however we have to remember the things to come was a failure at the box office.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- The 1930s decade also witnessed the rise of serial movies, most notably in the form of the various Flash Gordon films, as well as the quasi-sci-fi Dick Tracy and others. These were generally somewhat mediocre efforts at deploying common ideas such as the mad scientist, various super-tech gadgets, and plots for world domination.
- This decade saw the release of *The Invisible Man* (1933) and new versions of *Frankenstein* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.
- In the 1940s- With World War II dominating the globe, few science fiction films were released and several of those spread war propaganda. Among the few notable examples was *Dr Cyclops* (1940).

The nineteen thirties decade also witnessed the rise of serial movies most notably in the form of the various Flash Gordon films as well as the quasi science fiction Dick Tracy and others. These were generally somewhat mediocre these were generally somewhat mediocre efforts at deploying common ideas such as the mad scientists various, super tech gadgets and plots for world domination.

So this decade saw the release of the invisible man in 1933 and new versions of Frankenstein and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. In the nineteen forties with a second world war dominating the globe new you know few science fiction in the nineteen forties with the second world war

dominating the globe few science fiction films were released and several of those were all also, spreading war propaganda among them Dr. Cyclops is an example Dr. Cyclops that was made in 1940.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- During the 1950s the science fiction genre finally began to come into its own. The large increase in science fiction literature during this time was reflected in the quantity of science fiction films being played.
- The Hydrogen bomb caused a renewed interest in science, and in 1950, in the widely publicized *Destination Moon*, the American public got their first glimpse of space travel on a more sophisticated level than Flash Gordon's *Trip to Mars* (1938).
- It was followed by *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951), directed by Robert Wise, and Howard Hawks's *The Thing* (1951), with their contrasting views of first contact.

During the nineteen fifties the science fiction genre finally began to come into its own. The large increase in science fiction literature during this time was reflected in the quantity of science fiction films that were being produced. The hydrogen bomb caused a, renewed interest in science and in 1950 in the widely publicized destination moon. The American public got their first glimpse of space travel on a more sophisticated level than one had seen in Flash Gordon's trip to mars back in 1938.

So we had a series of films we can see the day the earth stood still in 1951 directed by Robert wise. Then Howard Hawks's the thing in 1951 with their contrasting, views of first contact being created. So a notable producer of this period was George Pal who was responsible for destination moon produced in 1950 when worlds collide it came out in 1951. The time machine it was released in 1960 the war of the worlds in 1953 and the pseudo-documentary of manned space exploration conquest of space which came out in 1955.

So beginning in this decade began to use, stop-motion animation for both science fiction and fantasy films his work appeared in films such as the beast from 20,000 fathoms which was released in 1953. Earth versus the flying sources released in 1956 and 20 million miles to earth released in 1957.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- Apocalyptic themes were popular in science fiction films during the Cold War era.
- The 1950s witnessed the emergence of the monster movie trend, driven by the anxieties and paranoia of the emerging cold war, beginning with Howard Hawks's *The Thing* and the success of *The Beast From 20,000 Fathoms*.
- Other major films in the science fiction horror genre in this decade include *Them!* (1954), *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956), and the coldly realistic *On the Beach* (1959). Several important films, now considered classics, were released in the mid-1950s, notably *This Island Earth* (1955), which was the first film to show interstellar travel, and *Forbidden Planet* (1956) (an inspiration for Gene Roddenberry's *Star Trek*).

Apocalyptic themes were popular in science fiction films during the cold war era the nineteen fifties witnessed the emergence of the monster movie trend, driven by the anxieties and the paranoia of the emerging cold war which began with Howard Hawks as the thing and the success of the beast from 20,000 fathoms. Other the major films in the science fiction horror genre in this decade include them you know in 1954 invasion of the body statues in 1956 and the coldly realistic on the beach in 1959.

Other importance that are now considered classic which are released in mid-nineteen fifties notably this island are in 1955 which was the first film to show intestinal travel and also forbidden planet in 1956 which was an inspiration for Gene Roddenberry's *Star Trek*.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- The 1950s were also the dawn of the space age, as humans began to venture into outer space, and a number of films from this period reflected a fear of the consequences. Among these were *The Angry Red Planet* (1959), *First Man Into Space* (1959), and *It! The Terror from Beyond Space* (1958), also considered as a precursor to the film *Alien*.)
- Another popular theme from this period was movies about flying saucers, reflecting the prevalence of UFO sightings. One of the best known of these was *Earth vs the Flying Saucers* (1956), with special effects by Ray Harryhausen.
- In the later years of the 1950s, the major American studios limited themselves to adaptations of "classics" by Jules Verne and H. G. Wells. In addition to *The War of the Worlds*, these included *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* and *Journey to the Center of the Earth*.

So the nineteen fifties were also the dawn of this space age as humans had begun to venture in outer space and a number of films from this period reflected a fear of the consequences of humans going out into the space. Among these were, the Angry Red Planet released in 1959 First Man into Space in the same year and it The Terror from Beyond Space in 1958 which is also considered as a precursor to the film alien.

Another popular theme from this period was you know movies centering flying saucers which reflected the prevalence of UFO sightings. One of the best known of these was earth versus the flying saucers which came out in 1956 with special effects by Ray Harryhausen. In the later years of the nineteen fifties the major American studios limited themselves to adaptations of classics by Jules Verne and H.G.Wells.

Additionally apart from war of the worlds these included 20,000 leagues under the sea and journey to the center of the earth.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- One of the most significant movies of the 1960s was *2001: A Space Odyssey*, directed by Stanley Kubrick and written by Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke.
- This movie was groundbreaking in the quality of its visual effects, in its realistic portrayal of space travel, and in the epic and transcendental scope of its story. Science fiction movies that followed this film would enjoy increasingly larger budgets and ever improving special effects.

One of the most significant movies of the nineteen sixties was 2001 a space odyssey directed by Stanley Kubrick and, written by Kubrick and Arthur C Clarke. This movie was groundbreaking in the quality of its visual effects it is a realistic portrayal of space travel and in the epic and transcendental scope of a story. Science fiction movies that followed space odyssey would enjoy increasingly large budgets and more improved special effects.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- 2001 was not the only major science fiction film of the 1960s. The same year it was released, audiences were also thrilled by *Planet of the Apes*, which spawned four sequels and a television series.
- Earlier in the 1960s, *Fahrenheit 451* was a social commentary on the freedom of speech and government restrictions. Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* merged political satire and comedy, while the chilling *Lord of the Flies* portrayed the fragility of civilization.
- The adaptations of H. G. Wells kept coming, with filmic adaptations of *The Time Machine* and *First Men in the Moon*.
- Finally, the science fiction film boldly went where no human had gone before, when Ursula Andress ventured inside the human body in *Fantastic Voyage* (1965) and Jane Fonda displayed her sleek physique in the campy *Barbarella*. While not strictly following the science fiction tropes, the James Bond movies included a variety of sci-fi-like gadgetry.

So 2001 Space Odyssey was not the only major science fiction film in the nineteen sixties. The same year it was released audiences were also thrilled by planets of the apes which led to four sequels and a television series altogether. Earlier in the nineteen sixties Fahrenheit 451 was a social commentary on the freedom of speech and government restrictions. So Kubrick's Dr. Strangelove or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the bomb merge political satire with comedy while the chilling lord, of the flies portrayed the fragility of civilization.

The adaptations of a. g wells kept coming with filmic adaptations of the time machine and first men in the moon. The science fiction film ultimately went where no human had gone before with Ursula Andress venturing inside the human body in Fantastic Voyage which came out in 1965. And Jane Fonda displaying her sleep physic in the campy Barbarella so while not strictly following the science fiction tropes the James Bond movies also includes a lot of science fiction gadgetry.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- The 1970s era, which witnessed manned trips to the Moon, saw a resurgence of interest in the science fiction film.
- The genre had gone into a small decline with the availability of the television during the 1950s.
- *Star Wars* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, both released in 1977, contained a type of mystical element that had first appeared in *2001: A Space Odyssey*. The space discoveries of the 1970s created a growing sense of marvel about the universe that was reflected in these films.

Now the nineteen seventies era which witnessed manned trips to the moon saw resurgence of interest in the science fiction film. The genre had gone into a small decline with the availability of the television during the nineteen fifties. *Star Wars* and *close encounters of the third kind*, which were both released in 1977, contained a type of mystical element which had first appeared in *2001 a Space Odyssey*.

And the space discoveries of the nineteen seventies created a growing sense of marvel about the universe that was reflected in these films.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- The early 1970s saw the continued theme of paranoia, with humanity under threat from ecological or technological adversaries of its own creation. Notable films of this period included *Silent Running* (ecology), the sequels to *Planet of the Apes* (man vs. evolution), *Westworld* (man vs. robot), *THX1138* (man vs. the state), and Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange* (man vs. brainwashing).
- The conspiracy thriller film was a popular staple of this period, where the paranoia of plots by the government or corporate entities had replaced the implied communist enemy of the 1950s. These films include *Alien* (1979), *Capricorn One* (1977), *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1978), *The Day of the Dolphin* (1973), *Soylent Green* (1973) and *Futureworld* (1976).
- The slow-paced *Solaris* made by Andrei Tarkovsky and released in 1972 has been remade into a much shorter film by Steven Soderbergh in 2002.

The early nineteen seventies saw the continued theme of paranoia with humanity under threat from ecological or technological adversary degrees of its own creation. Notable, films from this period include *silent running* which focuses on ecology the sequels to *planet of the apes*



which focuses on man versus evolution Westworld which deals with man versus robot THX1138 which deals with man versus the state the Stanley Kubrick.

And then we have Stanley Kubrick's clockwork orange which talks about man versus brainwashing. So the conspiracy thriller film was a popular staple, during this period where the paranoia of plots by the government or corporate entities had replaced the communist enemy which had pervaded the nineteen fifties. So the films that were talking more about the government or corporate entities include alien in 1979 Capricorn won in 1977 invasion of the body snatchers in 1978.

The Day of the Dolphin in 1973 Soylent Green in 1973 and finally Future world in 1976 the slow-paced Solaris was made by Andrei Tarkovsky and released in 1972 had been remade into a much shorter film by Stephen Soderbergh in 2002.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- The science fiction comedy of the 1970s included Woody Allen's *Sleeper* (1973) and Dan O'Bannon's *Dark Star* (1974).
- In 1979, three memorable science fiction films appeared. *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* brought the much loved television series to the big screen for the first time. *Alien* (1979) create a spectacle through the screen monster. And *Time After Time* pitted H. G. Wells against Jack the Ripper, with an excellent script by Nicholas Meyer.
- The 1980s and later saw the growth of animation as a medium for science fiction films. This was particularly successful in Japan, where the anime industry saw the production of films, such as *Akira* (1988) and *Ghost in the Shell* (1995). However, animated science fiction films such as *Light Years* (1988), *The Iron Giant* (1999) and *Titan A.E.* (2000) did not draw a significant viewing audience.
- However, anime has gradually gained a cult following, and from mid-1990s its popularity has been steadily expanding worldwide.

So the science fiction comedy of the nineteen seventies included Woody Allen's a sleeper made in 1973 and Dan O'Bannon's Dark Star made in 1974. In 1979 the 3 memorable science fiction films appeared one is Star Trek so the motion pictures brought the much loved, television series to the big screen for the first time. Then we have an alien you know create a spectacle through the screen monster and Time After Time pitted H.G.Wells against Jack the Ripper and it had an excellent script written by Nicholas Meyer.

So the nineteen eighties and later period saw the growth of animation as a medium for science fiction films. This was particularly successful in Japan where the anime, industry saw the production of films such as Akira in 1988 and Ghost in the Shell made in 1995. However

animated science fiction films such as *Light Years* made in 1988 *The Iron Giant* made in 1999 and *Titan A* made in 2000 did not draw significant viewing audience.

They performed in a very middling fashion in a very they were not extraordinarily remembered and received by the audience. However anime, has gradually gained a cult following and from the mid nineteen nineties onward its popularity had its popularity has been steadily expanding worldwide.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- In 1982, *Blade Runner* had disappointing box office sales, but the film later gained status as a cult classic. Following the huge success of *Star Wars*, science fiction became bankable and each major studio rushed their available projects into production. As a direct result, *Star Trek* was reborn as a movie franchise that continued through the 1980s and 1990s. Ridley Scott's *Alien* established a visual styling of the future that became dominant in science fiction films through its sequels and Scott's *Blade Runner*.
- Steven Spielberg's *E.T. The Extraterrestrial* became one of the best loved films of all times, and also a box office hit.
- The strongest contributors to the genre during the second half of the decade were James Cameron and Paul Verhoeven with the *Terminator* and *Robocop* entries.

In 1982 *Blade Runner* had a disappointing box office sales and however the film later gained status as a cult classic. Following the huge success of *Star Wars* sci-fi became bankable and each major studio rushed their available projects into, production. So consequently *Star Trek* was born as a movie franchisee that continued all through the nineteen eighties and nineteen nineties. So Ridley Scott's *Alien* established a visual styling of the future that became dominant in science fiction films through its sequels and through Scott's *Blade Runner*.

Steven Spielberg's *E.T. The Extraterrestrial* became one of the best loved films of all times and it also was a box office, hit the strongest contributors to the genre during the second half of the decade where James Cameron and Paul Verhoeven with the *Terminator* and *Robocop* entries.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- During the 1990s, the film *The Matrix* reflected the more postmodern dystopian world-view of the cyberpunk genre.
- The emergence of the World Wide Web and the cyberpunk genre during the 1990s spawned several internet-themed movies. Both *The Lawnmower Man* (1992) and *Virtuosity* (1995) deal with threats to the network from a human-computer interface.
- *Total Recall* (1990) and *Johnny Mnemonic* (1995) had the memories of their main actors modified by a similar interface, and *The Matrix* (1999) created a virtual prison for humanity. The internet also provided a ready medium for movie fandom, who could more directly support (or criticize) such media franchise film series as *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*.

During the nineteen nineties the film *The Matrix* reflected a more postmodern dystopian world view of the cyberpunk genre the emergence of the World Wide web and the cyberpunk genre during the nineteen nineties spawned several internet themed movies. For example both, the *Lawnmower Man* made in 1992 and *Virtuosity* made in 1995 deal with threats to the network from a human computer interface.

Then we have *Total Recall* which was made in 1990 and *Johnny Mnemonic* in 1995 which had memories of the main actors modified by a similar interface and *The Matrix* in 1999 created a virtual prison for humanity. The internet also provided a ready medium for movie fandom who, could more directly support or conversely criticize such media franchise film series as *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*.

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# Cinema and Science Fiction

- Both *Armageddon* (1998) and *Deep Impact* (1999) used the threat of a massive impact with the earth.
- *Independence Day* (1996 in film) recycled the 1950s alien invasion movie, showing all-consuming aliens.
- Advances in genetic science were also featured in the *Jurassic Park* (1993) and the slow-paced *Gattaca* (1997).
- As the decade progressed, computers played an increasingly important role in both the addition of special effects and the production of films.

Both Armageddon made in 1998 and Deep Impact made in 1999 used the threat of a mass impact with the earth. So Independence Day is a 1996 film which recycled the nineteen fifties alien invasion movie showing all-consuming aliens. Advances in genetic science were also featured in the Jurassic Park, which was made in 1993 and the slow paced Gattaca made in 1997. So with the progression of the decade computers played an increasingly important role in both the addition of spatial effects and the production of films.

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## Cinema and Science Fiction

- In the first decade of the 21st Century, science fiction films seemed to turn away from space travel, and fantasy predominated.
- Except for *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* films, the only films set off Earth that appeared in the first half of the 2000s were the poorly received *Mission to Mars* (2000) and *Serenity* (2005) – a continuation of Joss Whedon's television series *Firefly* (2002).
- On the other hand, fantasy and Superhero films flourished, as did earthbound sci-fi, and for the first time a fantasy film, *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* (2003), won an Oscar for best picture.
- By the middle of the decade, the theater audience had begun to decline and this was reflected in the numbers attending the science fiction movies released during this period.

In the first decade of the twenty first century sci-fi films seemed to turn away from space travel where whereas fantasy predominated. So except for Star Trek and Star Wars films the only, films sit-off earth which appeared in the first half of the two thousands include the include mission to mars in 2000 which was poorly received. And then serenity made in 2005 which was a continuation of Joss Whedon's television series firefly originally aired in 2002.

Other hand we see fantasy and superhero films flourishing as did earthbound sci-fi and for the first time a fantasy film the Lord of the Rings the Return of the King made in 2003 had won an Oscar for the best picture. So by the middle of the decade the theater audience had begun had begun to decline and this was reflected in the numbers attending the sci-fi movies that were being released during this period.

So we have to stop our lecture here today I will meet you again with another round of discussions with a new module in, another lecture thank you so much.