



COPYRIGHT ISSUES IN MATERIALS EDITED WITH THE HELP OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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Abstract. This thesis highlights pressing issues related to copyright in materials edited with the help of artificial intelligence (AI). The widespread use of AI technologies in creating and editing text, image, audio, and video content gives rise to questions concerning the subject of copyright, protection mechanisms, and liability. The study analyzes international legal norms, national legislation, as well as the ethical and practical aspects of AI activity. In addition, legal solutions are proposed based on examples of disputed situations encountered in practice.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, copyright, edited materials, legal issues, ethical approach, intellectual property, legal liability.

Аннотация. В данной работе рассматриваются актуальные вопросы, связанные с авторским правом на материалы, отредактированные с использованием технологий искусственного интеллекта (ИИ). Широкое применение ИИ в создании и редактировании текстового, графического, аудио- и видеоконтента порождает вопросы, касающиеся субъекта авторского права, механизмов его защиты и ответственности. В исследовании проведен анализ международных правовых норм, национального законодательства, а также этических и практических аспектов деятельности ИИ. Кроме того, на основе примеров спорных ситуаций, встречающихся на практике, предложены возможные правовые решения.

Ключевые слова: искусственный интеллект, авторское право, отредактированные материалы, правовые вопросы, этический подход, интеллектуальная собственность, юридическая ответственность.

The widespread use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies has led to the editing and creation of content types such as text, images, and video through AI. In this process, several pressing issues arise in the field of copyright — identification of the copyright holder, control over the work, and matters of ethical and legal liability. According to statistical data, a 2023 study conducted at University College London revealed that 1% of scientific articles — over 60,000 publications — may have been written with the help of large language models (LLMs)[1]. This demonstrates the strong growth of AI-generated content in the scientific and educational sphere. In a special report issued by the US Copyright Office in January 2025, it was clearly stated that only creative contributions



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made by humans can be protected by copyright[2]. In other words, if a resulting text or image lacks human creative involvement, it will not be recognized under copyright law.

As materials created with the help of artificial intelligence (AI) increasingly enter our daily lives, new and complex questions are arising in the field of copyright. One of the main issues is determining who should be recognized as the author of AI-generated works and how the legal status of such products should be defined. Under current legislation, an author can only be a legal or natural person, and AI is not recognized as a legal subject. As a result, the copyright to works created with AI generally belongs to the person who made the creative decisions during their creation or to the organization that used the AI. However, the problem is not limited to identifying the author. During the training process of AI models, materials protected by copyright may be used[3]. For example, image generation tools (Midjourney, DALL·E, Stable Diffusion) can reproduce the styles of famous artists. Legally, even if the copyright term on an artist's work has expired, in some cases, disputes related to commercial use or brand identity may still arise. Text-generating AI tools also present their own risks. For instance, if a student writes a scientific article with the help of ChatGPT, the resulting text may contain sentences directly copied from certain sources. This situation would be considered plagiarism, and the liability would rest not on the AI but on the user. Similar situations occur in music creation. If a song produced with AI closely resembles the rhythm and melody of a famous work, the original authors may file a legal claim[4]. This is especially relevant when well-known chord progressions or short, memorable melodies are repeated. In the field of programming, tools like GitHub Copilot provide another example. These tools are trained on open-source code but may sometimes reproduce original code with minimal changes. If such code is under a strict license like the GPL, the user may be found in violation of the license terms, leading to legal liability.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the text editing process creates unique complexities in the field of copyright. One of the main issues is determining the legal boundary between the “original text” and the “edited text.” If the text being edited is protected by copyright, even small changes will remain subject to the original author's rights. Only when substantial and independent creative changes are made can the new work be granted its own copyright. This is particularly relevant in cases such as translation into Uzbek or stylistic reworking, where distributing such changes without the original author's consent constitutes a legal violation.

Another challenge with AI-assisted “rewriting” is the risk of plagiarism. Often, AI tools operating in editor mode merely alter the syntax of the original text while preserving its content and structure. From a legal standpoint, this still constitutes plagiarism, even if the text passes technical plagiarism checks. It is also difficult to determine who holds the authorship of the newly edited work. If AI serves only as an assistant and the creative decisions are made by a human, the rights usually belong to that

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human. However, if AI makes independent creative decisions, the result may not meet the criteria for “human authorship” and therefore might not be eligible for copyright protection.

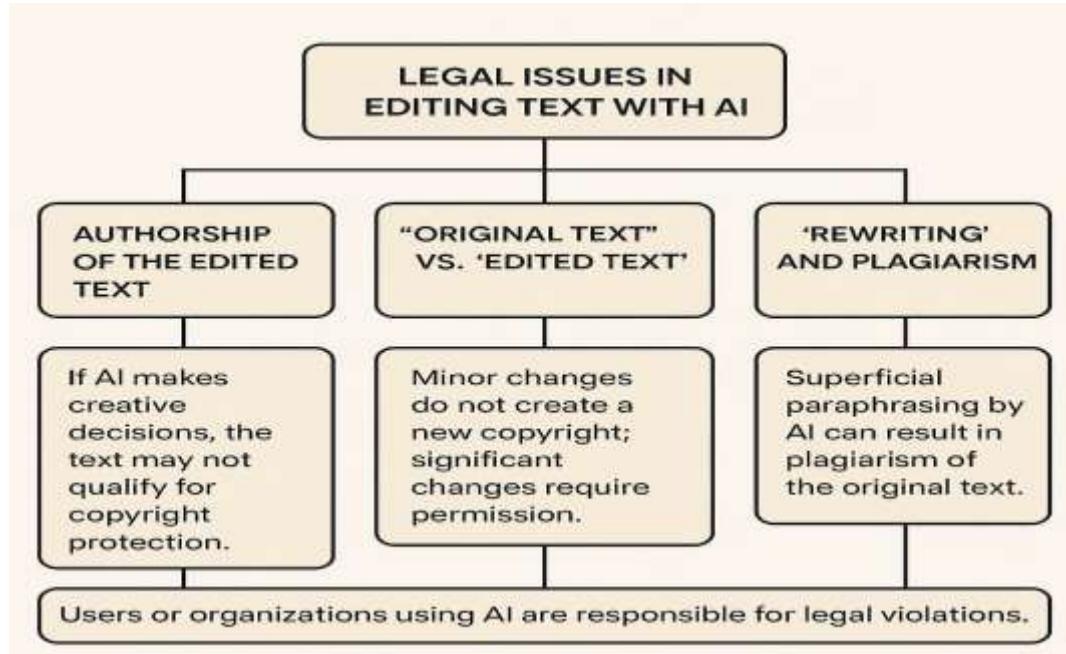


Figure 1. Module of Three Main Legal Issues in Editing Text with AI[5].

This diagram presents three main legal issues in editing text using AI:

Authorship of the edited text – If the creative decisions are made by AI, the text may not qualify for copyright protection;

Difference between the “original text” and the “edited text” – Minor changes do not create new authorship, while substantial changes require the author’s consent.

“Rewriting” and plagiarism – Superficial rewriting may lead to plagiarism of the original text;

Ultimately, the person or organization using AI will be held responsible for any legal violations.

In conclusion, the issue of making changes without the author’s consent deserves special attention. The moral rights of the original author require obtaining permission before altering their work. For instance, a publisher who shortens a book or adapts it into an audio format using AI without notifying the writer may violate the author’s rights. Another important point is liability: if errors, inaccurate facts, or defamatory statements arise during the editing process, liability lies not with the AI but with the person or organization that used it.

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