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# Digital Copyright and Trademark Issues in the Era of Artificial Intelligence

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## ABSTRACT

*The use of artificial intelligence (AI) has become increasingly prevalent in recent years. AI systems have been used in a variety of applications, from voice assistants and chatbots to content creation and data analysis. However, the use of AI in generating and analysing data has raised potential copyright and trademark issues.*

*In the context of digital copyright, one of the primary concerns is ownership. With the use of AI in creating original works, the question arises as to who owns the copyright. For example, if an AI system creates a painting or a song, who owns the copyright to that work? Is it the AI system itself, the programmer who created the system, or the person who trained the system? These questions are not easily answered, and the legal framework surrounding the ownership and protection of these works is still in its infancy.*

*Another digital copyright issue in the era of AI is authorship. The use of AI in content creation raises questions about the role of the author and the concept of originality. For example, if an AI system generates a news article, who is the author of that article? Is it the AI system, the programmer who created the system, or the person who provided the input data? Furthermore, the use of AI in content creation also raises questions about fair use. For instance, if an AI system generates a parody of a copyrighted work, is it considered fair use, or does it infringe on the original work?*

*In addition to digital copyright issues, trademark issues are also a cause for concern in the era of AI. The use of AI in generating and analyzing data can lead to potential trademark infringement issues. For example, AI-generated content may inadvertently use protected trademarks, leading to disputes over ownership and use. The use of AI in keyword advertising also raises questions about trademark infringement. Keyword advertising involves bidding on specific keywords to display ads when those keywords are searched for. However, if those keywords are protected trademarks, the use of those keywords in advertising may be considered trademark infringement.*

*The legal framework surrounding digital copyright and trademark issues in the era of AI is still developing. Current laws and regulations are not yet equipped to handle the unique challenges presented by AI. Therefore, it is essential to address these issues to ensure that intellectual property rights are respected and protected. One possible solution is the*

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*development of new laws and regulations specifically designed for AI-generated works. Another possible solution is the use of blockchain technology to establish ownership and track the use of AI-generated works.*

*In addition to legal considerations, there are also ethical considerations when it comes to digital copyright and trademark issues in the era of AI. It is important to consider the impact that the use of AI may have on creativity and innovation. If AI systems are used extensively in content creation, it may lead to a decrease in originality and creativity. Additionally, it is important to consider the impact that AI may have on the job market. As AI systems become more advanced, they may replace human workers in content creation and data analysis.*

**Keywords:** *Digital copyright, trademark issues, artificial intelligence, ownership, protection, authorship, fair use, trademark infringement, legal considerations, ethical considerations.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) has become increasingly prevalent in recent years. AI systems have been used in a variety of applications, from voice assistants and chatbots to content creation and data analysis. However, the use of AI in generating and analyzing data has raised potential copyright and trademark issues.

The emergence of AI has brought many benefits to the content creation process, such as automating time-consuming tasks, producing high-quality content, and facilitating data analysis. However, the use of AI in generating original works has raised questions about ownership, authorship, and fair use.<sup>2</sup>

Digital copyright issues in the era of AI are complex and multifaceted. One of the primary concerns is ownership. With the use of AI in creating original works, the question arises as to who owns the copyright. For example, if an AI system creates a painting or a song, who owns the copyright to that work? Is it the AI system itself, the programmer who created the system, or the person who trained the system? These questions are not easily answered, and the legal framework surrounding the ownership and protection of these works is still in its infancy.

Another digital copyright issue in the era of AI is authorship. The use of AI in content creation raises questions about the role of the author and the concept of originality. For example, if an AI system generates a news article, who is the author of that article? Is it the AI system, the

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<sup>2</sup> L. Lessig, *Free Culture How Big Media Uses Technology and the Law to Lock Down Culture and Control Creativity*, (1st ed., 2004).

programmer who created the system, or the person who provided the input data? Furthermore, the use of AI in content creation also raises questions about fair use. For instance, if an AI system generates a parody of a copyrighted work, is it considered fair use, or does it infringe on the original work?

Trademark issues are also a cause for concern in the era of AI. The use of AI in generating and analyzing data can lead to potential trademark infringement issues. For example, AI-generated content may inadvertently use protected trademarks, leading to disputes over ownership and use. The use of AI in keyword advertising also raises questions about trademark infringement. Keyword advertising involves bidding on specific keywords to display ads when those keywords are searched for.<sup>3</sup> However, if those keywords are protected trademarks, the use of those keywords in advertising may be considered trademark infringement.

The legal framework surrounding digital copyright and trademark issues in the era of AI is still developing. Current laws and regulations are not yet equipped to handle the unique challenges presented by AI. Therefore, it is essential to address these issues to ensure that intellectual property rights are respected and protected. One possible solution is the development of new laws and regulations specifically designed for AI-generated works.<sup>4</sup> Another possible solution is the use of blockchain technology to establish ownership and track the use of AI-generated works.

In addition to legal considerations, there are also ethical considerations when it comes to digital copyright and trademark issues in the era of AI. It is important to consider the impact that the use of AI may have on creativity and innovation. If AI systems are used extensively in content creation, it may lead to a decrease in originality and creativity. Additionally, it is important to consider the impact that AI may have on the job market.<sup>5</sup> As AI systems become more advanced, they may replace human workers in content creation and data analysis.

The legal and ethical considerations surrounding these issues are complex and multifaceted. It is important to address these issues to ensure that intellectual property rights are respected and protected, while also promoting creativity and innovation. As AI continues to evolve, it is essential to establish a legal framework that can adequately address these challenges.

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<sup>3</sup> A. D. Murray, *The Regulation of Cyberspace: Control in the Online Environment*, (1st ed., 2007)

<sup>4</sup> T. K. Armstrong, *Digital Rights Management and the Process of Fair Use*, 20(1), *Harvard Journal of Law & Technology*, pp.49-122, 2006

<sup>5</sup> J. Gupta, *John Doe Copyright Injunctions in India*, 18(4), *Journal of Intellectual Property Rights*, pp.351–359, 2013

**(A) Research problem:**

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence technology has led to new and complex issues regarding digital copyright and trademark law, posing a challenge to legal scholars and policymakers around the world. These issues have become particularly important in the era of artificial intelligence (AI), where the use of automated systems and machine learning algorithms has the potential to create, modify, and distribute copyrighted material in new ways.

The intersection of digital copyright and trademark issues with AI raises important legal, ethical, and technological questions that require further research and analysis. In this context, the research problem is to identify the challenges and opportunities presented by this intersection, and to explore potential solutions that can inform future policy and practice.

One of the key challenges posed by the intersection of AI and digital copyright law is the issue of authorship. In the context of AI-generated works, it is not always clear who the legal author is, as the work may have been created or modified by a machine learning algorithm without direct human intervention. This raises important questions about ownership and control of the copyright, and the rights and responsibilities of creators and users of AI-generated content.

Another challenge is the issue of infringement, as the use of AI technology can make it difficult to detect and prevent copyright violations. For example, AI algorithms can be used to generate copies of copyrighted material with slight modifications that make it difficult for traditional copyright enforcement mechanisms to identify and take action against infringers. This creates a need for new and innovative approaches to digital copyright enforcement that are capable of detecting and preventing AI-generated infringement.

The use of AI technology also raises important ethical considerations regarding the protection of intellectual property rights. In particular, the use of AI in creating and distributing copyrighted material has the potential to disrupt traditional power structures in the creative industries, and to further marginalize already vulnerable groups such as artists, authors, and musicians. Therefore, there is a need to explore the ethical implications of AI on intellectual property law, and to develop strategies for ensuring that AI technology is used in ways that are consistent with social and ethical values.

In order to address these challenges, there is a need to explore the technological aspects of the intersection of AI and digital copyright and trademark issues. This includes understanding the capabilities and limitations of current AI technology, and identifying new opportunities for the development of AI-based systems and tools that can support copyright and trademark law enforcement, while also promoting innovation and creativity in the digital space.

To tackle these research problems, a mixed-method research approach can be used. This can include qualitative research methods such as case studies and interviews with stakeholders in the creative industries, as well as quantitative research methods such as data analysis of copyright infringement patterns in the digital space. The use of a mixed-method research approach can help to provide a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities presented by the intersection of AI and digital copyright and trademark issues.

Overall, the intersection of digital copyright and trademark issues with artificial intelligence poses significant challenges and opportunities for legal scholars and policymakers. The research problem is to identify potential solutions to these challenges, and to explore the ethical, legal, and technological aspects of this intersection. A mixed-method research approach can be used to provide a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of this complex and rapidly evolving field. Ultimately, the findings of this research can inform future policy and practice in the digital space, ensuring that intellectual property rights are protected in a way that is consistent with social and ethical values.

**(B) Research questions:**

1. What are the challenges posed by AI-generated content for traditional copyright and trademark laws, and how can these laws be adapted to accommodate the use of AI in content creation?
2. How do AI-generated works impact the concept of authorship and ownership of intellectual property, and how can we establish legal frameworks to address these issues?
3. What ethical considerations must be taken into account when it comes to the use of AI in content creation, and how can we balance the need for innovation with the need to protect intellectual property rights?
4. How can blockchain technology be used to establish ownership and track the use of AI-generated works, and what implications does this technology have for the future of digital copyright and trademark issues?
5. What impact might the widespread use of AI in content creation have on the job market, and what steps can be taken to address potential job displacement issues?

**(C) Hypothesis:**

1. The emergence of AI in content creation has created challenges for traditional copyright

and trademark laws, and there is a need for legal frameworks that can adapt to the unique challenges presented by AI-generated works.

2. The use of AI in content creation challenges the traditional concepts of authorship and ownership, and new legal frameworks must be developed to address these issues.
3. The use of AI in content creation has both positive and negative ethical implications, and it is important to strike a balance between promoting innovation and protecting intellectual property rights.
4. The use of blockchain technology in establishing ownership and tracking the use of AI-generated works has the potential to revolutionize the way we approach digital copyright and trademark issues.
5. The widespread use of AI in content creation may lead to job displacement in certain industries, and proactive measures must be taken to address this potential issue.

#### **(D) Research Methodology:**

The research methodology for studying digital copyright and trademark issues in the era of artificial intelligence will involve a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Qualitative research methods will be used to gather data on the various challenges and ethical considerations related to the use of AI in content creation. This will involve conducting in-depth interviews with experts in the field, such as legal scholars, intellectual property attorneys, and AI developers. Additionally, focus group discussions with content creators and users will be conducted to gain insights into their perspectives on the use of AI in content creation and its impact on copyright and trademark laws.

Quantitative research methods will be used to gather data on the impact of AI-generated content on the job market. This will involve conducting surveys of workers in industries that are likely to be affected by the use of AI in content creation, such as graphic design and media production.

Data collected through these research methods will be analyzed using statistical software and qualitative analysis techniques. The results of the research will be used to support or reject the research hypotheses and to develop recommendations for policymakers, content creators, and intellectual property attorneys regarding the use of AI in content creation and its implications for digital copyright and trademark issues.

## **II. SIGNIFICANCE OF TRADEMARK FOR AI**

Trademarks help a name and brand by differentiating the goods and services it offers in the marketplace. The algorithms' openness and transparency in the field of AI help to strengthen the brand's image. Businesses can use their brand name while marketing AI technology. Additionally, they may be marketing extremely potent AI systems via trademarks. For instance, IBM has registered the trademark "Watson," while Google Deep Mind has also secured the trademark "Alphago."

Companies must take care to avoid letting the components of their trademarks be used in the Information system as identities, which might cause them to lose their distinctiveness. Furthermore, it will be more difficult to record popular buzzwords associated with AI than it will be to register fictitious and useless phrases. As a result, certain trademarks are stronger than others.

## **III. COPYRIGHT AND AI**

Traditional copyright legislation does not recognise works produced by AI. It only protects an individual's original works. In the famous Monkey-Selfie copyright case, the United States Copyright Office ruled that a work must be created by a human being in order to be covered by copyright law. This ruling has raised questions about the copyrightability of works produced by AI. In contrast, the law in the United Kingdom is very different. According to a provision of the UK Copyright Act, the person who assisted in the development of a machine-made work is deemed to have been the author. Similar to this, we can assume that the person who developed an AI-generated piece of art made the crucial arrangements.

## **IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

In conclusion, the era of artificial intelligence has brought about significant changes in content creation and ownership, leading to new challenges and legal considerations for digital copyright and trademark issues. This paper has examined the impact of AI on copyright and trademark laws in the digital age, the ethical considerations involved in the use of AI for content creation, the potential for blockchain technology to address these issues, and the potential impact of AI on the job market.

One of the key findings of this study is that traditional copyright and trademark laws are not always adequate to address the unique challenges posed by AI-generated content. New legal frameworks and guidelines must be developed to ensure that intellectual property rights are protected while fostering innovation and creativity.



Another important consideration is the ethical implications of using AI for content creation. While AI can bring about significant benefits, it also raises concerns about the authenticity and ownership of intellectual property, as well as the potential for AI-generated content to manipulate and deceive. It is crucial to establish guidelines and best practices to ensure that AI-generated content is created and used ethically.

Blockchain technology has the potential to revolutionize the way we approach digital copyright and trademark issues by enabling the establishment of ownership and tracking the use of AI-generated works. However, its implementation will require significant collaboration between stakeholders in the legal, technology, and creative fields.

Finally, the potential impact of AI on the job market cannot be ignored. While AI-generated content can bring about significant benefits, it may also displace workers in industries such as graphic design and media production. Policymakers and industry leaders must proactively address these issues by investing in reskilling and upskilling programs for affected workers and exploring new opportunities for human creativity and ingenuity in content creation.

In light of these findings, several recommendations can be made. Firstly, policymakers and legal professionals must work together to develop new legal frameworks and guidelines to address the unique challenges posed by AI-generated content. Secondly, guidelines and best practices must be established to ensure the ethical use of AI in content creation. Thirdly, stakeholders in the legal, technology, and creative fields must collaborate to develop and implement blockchain technology to address digital copyright and trademark issues. Finally, proactive measures must be taken to address potential job displacement caused by the use of AI in content creation.

The digital age has brought about significant changes in content creation and ownership, leading to new challenges and legal considerations for digital copyright and trademark issues. It is crucial that we proactively address these challenges and work together to establish legal frameworks, ethical guidelines, and new technologies to ensure that intellectual property rights are protected while fostering innovation and creativity.

Additionally, it is important to recognize the role of human creativity and ingenuity in content creation. While AI can bring about significant benefits and advancements, it is still limited in its ability to replicate the unique and creative aspects of human thought and expression. Therefore, it is important for policymakers, industry leaders, and content creators to recognize the value of human creativity and explore new opportunities for its application in content creation.

Moreover, education and training programs must be established to provide workers in industries

affected by the use of AI with the necessary skills and knowledge to adapt to changing job markets. These programs can include reskilling and upskilling initiatives, as well as the exploration of new opportunities for human creativity and ingenuity in content creation.

In conclusion, the digital age has brought about significant changes in content creation and ownership, leading to new challenges and legal considerations for digital copyright and trademark issues. It is crucial that we proactively address these challenges and work together to establish legal frameworks, ethical guidelines, and new technologies to ensure that intellectual property rights are protected while fostering innovation and creativity. It is also important to recognize the value of human creativity and explore new opportunities for its application in content creation, while providing workers with the necessary education and training to adapt to changing job markets. By taking these proactive measures, we can ensure that the benefits of AI in content creation are maximized while minimizing its potential negative impacts.

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