

FROM MANUSCRIPT TO PEER REVIEW: HOW AI WRITING TOOLS ARE RESHAPING (AND UNDERMINING) SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

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ABSTRACT

AI-powered writing tools like ChatGPT have changed academic publication. This study examines dual effects of academic AI usage. First, letting AI edit, paraphrase, and publish without human approval raises ethical issues. The rise of AI-generated peer reviews also compromises academic evaluations. This qualitative, opinion-based, and experiential study examines how artificial intelligence (AI) is changing academic publication. The results suggest that few authors and peer reviewers use AI chatbots to compose submissions automatically or deliver quick, repetitive comments. These tactics damage peer review, academic integrity, and research quality. Academic publishers, institutes, and journal editors need AI ethics to address these challenges. AI's ability to disrupt publication affects academic writing and grading. Future AI-era research should examine ethical standards, regulatory frameworks, and innovative ways to maintain academic credibility. This study on AI and academic discourse would help stakeholders navigate academic publishing's ever-changing challenges.

Keywords: AI chatbots; Academic integrity; Peer review process; Scholarly publishing; Originality concerns; Ethics concerns.

INTRODUCTION

AI has impacted many sectors, but academic articles have suffered the most. ChatGPT and other AI-powered major language models have transformed academic writing and peer review (Ogalo & Mtenzi, 2025). These tools help format, improve language, and publish research. Academics have ignored their ethical and integrity issues, despite their importance. AI simplifies and enhances academic publishing but devalues authorship and peer review. AI is threatening academic norms in language editing, idea

development, and literary synthesis (Carobene et al., 2024). Academic writing is in crisis due to the unethical use of AI in document preparation and submission. Another critical change for reviewers is automated peer-review reports without scholarly participation. Researchers, journal editors, and policymakers must move quickly to solve these concerns, which threaten academic debate more than ever. Table 1 shows how AI disrupts academic writing and reviews.

Table 1: Key Disruptions in Academic Writing and Review Due to AI

Issue	Impact on Academic Publishing
Author's Perspective	Concerns about intellectual contribution, originality, and authorship are exacerbated by AI-generated content.
Reviewer's Perspective	AI-assisted peer reviews provide formulaic and superficial ratings, diminishing critical engagement.

Source: Author's experiential insights.

AI-powered writing tools simplify document production, helping scholars improve their work. More academics are sending AI-generated publications to journals with modest

modifications. This raises concerns about plagiarism, originality, and human intelligence in scholarship.

“Should scholars still be called authors if they submit AI-written publications with minimal human input?”

Academic publishing's quality-quantity balance, intellectual contribution, and AI-assisted writing tools have raised ethical concerns (Mohamed et al., 2024). AI-generated articles frequently copy or change research, which is a big concern. AI-generated plagiarism is harder to detect than ordinary plagiarism. These technologies that rewrite and reorganize content to avoid plagiarism are making academic dishonesty harder to detect. If researchers publish AI-aided publications without editing, their conclusions may be questioned. This means journals may publish

articles that look novel but are not well-researched, which might erode academic writing's reputation. Some fear AI-assisted writing may muddle human writers' distinctive thoughts. AI makes it harder to distinguish computer-generated research from original. AI might help researchers refine their ideas, but its suitability for academic writing is unclear. AI-generated content is controversial for editorial boards and media. AI helps some academics expedite their job, while others compose the complete piece. This affects authorship, accountability, and researchers' ethical commitment to preserve their work.

When AI dominates the writing process, how much influence does an author have over the paper's ideas and arguments?

The ethical implications of AI's change in scientific publication's quality-quantity ratio have been extensively studied (Eberlin, 2024; Jogan et al., 2024). AI-powered writing tools have increased academic journal submissions (Hosseini, et al., 2024). This rise in output may indicate academic interest, but it casts doubt on research quality. AI's capacity to swiftly and precisely write well-organized content has sparked concerns about submitting numerous low-quality papers without human scrutiny. Scholarly journal reviewers and editors must sort through a flood of computer-written papers to discover the best ones. If AI submits increasingly shallow, uncritical, and uncreative contributions, peer review may suffer.

AI-assisted writing raises ethical problems, thus academic institutions must develop explicit ethical criteria for AI usage in research immediately. Without defined restrictions, scholarly publishing loses credibility, integrity, and quality, and quantity is preferred above quality. Journals must distinguish between the pros and cons of AI in academic writing (Singh et al., 2025). Reviewers say AI-generated peer review reports may influence academic ratings. Research must be peer-reviewed to be valid, original, and rigorous (Tang et al., 2024a). However, more reviewers are using AI chatbots to write and submit lightly modified peer reviews. This undermines scholarly criticism and peer review.

Are AI-generated peer review reports academically relevant or a formality in an automated publication loop?

The use of AI-assisted peer review has raised concerns about academic evaluations' thoroughness, openness, and intellectual rigor. Concerns surround AI-generated generic and homogenized critiques. Critically reviewing a text requires connecting with its key ideas, while AI-generated reviews are frequently formulaic. AI-generated reviews may make broad suggestions without considering the study's details. This makes peer review less helpful and leads to cosmetic modifications that do not improve academic achievement. Uninformed and unintelligent comments discourage authors from improving their articles, lowering research quality. Also problematic is peer review's reduced focus on accountability. Critical and well-reasoned reviews demonstrate reviewers' understanding. Reviewers are less accountable with AI-generated ratings. Reviewers should use AI-generated summaries and critiques instead of reading the text. Otherwise, their findings would not match the research. In the worst situation, AI evaluations would replace human judgment in acceptance or rejection choices. This alteration to the peer review process raises ethical considerations regarding reviewers'

roles in scientific publishing and how AI-driven automation is replacing them. AI-generated scores threaten the rigorous peer review system. A feedback cycle of AI-generated peer ratings and AI-assisted author edits is worrying academic publishing. This loop may be repeated without brainpower (Giray, 2024; Seghier, 2024). The research process gets detached from academic work when authors and editors utilize AI to develop, analyze, and edit publications. The industrialization of academic publishing has reduced human intellect, perspective, and experience, raising the possibility that AI-powered publications may dominate the area. If this tendency continues, academic publishing might become an AI-driven self-sustaining process. It might transform studies. These issues underscore the necessity to quickly adapt peer review techniques to ensure that AI technologies enhance human cognition rather than replace it. AI may make review work simpler, but overuse might weaken academic judgment. Journals, editors, and institutions should adopt AI peer review rules to maintain human judgment in academics. Figure 1 show the AI-automated publishing cycle.

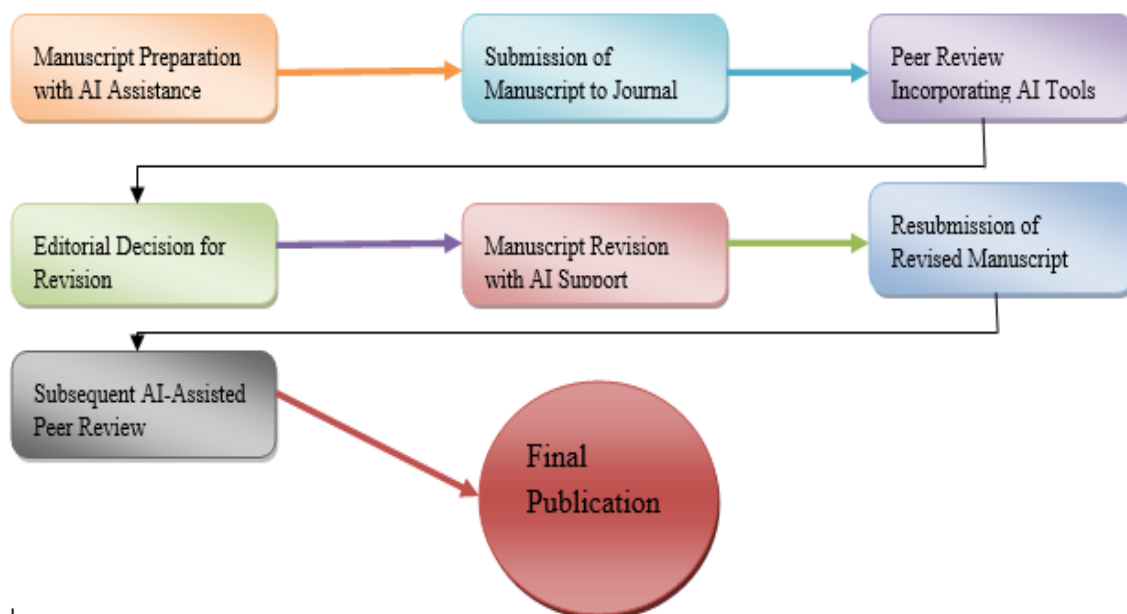


Figure 1: The AI-Automated Publication Cycle

Source: Author's experiential insights.

As AI advances, distinguishing natural from artificial material will get harder. While assessing AI's effect on academia, academic integrity and rigor must be urgently preserved (Amirjalili et al., 2024). AI-assisted writing and peer review threaten academic publishing. Several safeguards are needed. Prioritize AI detection technologies for peer reviews and AI-authored publications. As AI-generated material gets increasingly sophisticated, plagiarism detection systems may not be able to distinguish academic contributions from AI-assisted writing. According to Garbi and Coffelt (2024), journals require advanced AI-detection algorithms to examine writing patterns, coherence, and contextual depth to determine AI involvement. Editors and reviewers may identify publications with solid research and excessive AI usage using these strategies. If adequate detection techniques are not implemented, AI-driven, one-dimensional research without originality and subtlety threatens academic writing. Another important step is setting clear ethical criteria for AI in academic writing and peer review, according to Vetter et al. (2024). AI research tools are widely used, yet there are no defined ethical guidelines. Many academics do not grasp AI-generated content's suitability for academic writing, leading to inconsistent editing and publication standards. To protect authorship, journals should set explicit AI criteria for peer review and article preparation.

These guidelines should require ethical work evaluation, AI-assisted writing restrictions, and AI-generated content disclosure. If ignored, AI's supremacy in academic writing threatens human intelligence and academic conversation.

Many reviewers use cursory AI-generated summaries and comments since they do not interact with submissions. By encouraging scholars to think critically, innovate, and evaluate each other, universities and publishing businesses may oppose this tendency (Al-kfairy et al., 2024). Reviewers learn to detect AI-generated work, provide appropriate feedback, and enhance academic knowledge in these discussions. Academic evaluations may be compromised by inadequate AI-assisted peer review training. AI detection tools, ethical guidelines, and training reviewers to responsibly utilize AI may help academics employ AI without compromising academic integrity. Scientific publications say AI should complement human intellect, not replace it. This research examines AI's impact on academic writing and peer review. AI-generated submissions and peer review automation threaten academic article intellectual rigor and validity, according to Dwivedi et al. (2024). If AI automated academic publishing without monitoring, human research may lose value. Academic institutions require detection technologies to safeguard peer interaction, new research, and AI control.

Future scholarly publications must employ AI efficiently while maintaining study authenticity. Teaching AI to complement scholars rather than replace them is enormously challenging.

Study Scope and Disclaimer

This study reflects the author's and reviewers' opinions. The subjective findings and conclusions of this study show that scientific writings should be questioned. Artificial intelligence researchers and reviewers use different methods. The study presents patterns and findings without generalizing about academia.

2. Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

Academic publications' AI usage has split academics, editors, and policymakers. ChatGPT and other AI-powered writing tools may help

researchers avoid employing editors and proofreaders. These tools improve academic paper structure, language, and efficiency. However, their growing power raises ethical and scientific concerns. AI has made academic writing and peer review more efficient, but it has also questioned originality, intellectual contribution, and authorship (Carobene et al., 2024). Authorship ethics, technological determinism, and peer review underpin the study. Authorship ethics require scholars to write with honesty, creativity, and intellectual integrity for their audience (Wise et al., 2024). Since it can automatically paraphrase or

copy content, AI-assisted writing challenges this ethical paradigm. Technological determinists say new technologies shape society and behavior (Lauwaert & Chomanski, 2025). A growing agreement is that AI is transforming scientific publishing, review writing, submission trends, and researcher obligations (Tang et al., 2024b). Finally, AI-generated review reports put doubt on peer review's dependability, completeness, and accountability, making academic assessment automation concerning. Peer reviews stress that reviewers are accountable for research quality and rigor.

In academic writing, AI is being explored for its productivity, language usage, and accessibility for non-English speakers (Faisal, 2024). AI-assisted writing tools may help writers overcome language barriers, improve coherence, and arrange complex arguments, according to several studies. These discussions of AI-generated content ignore the danger of inadvertent copying and dilution of original ideas. Researchers highlighting ethical concerns about AI-assisted document authorship want more open academic submissions. AI-generated material in academic publications is only partially regulated. Due to AI technology's lack of ethical limitations, authors may publish AI-generated work without monitoring, increasing their dependency (Sison et al., 2024). Another important issue is peer-review development. Expert appraisal of submitted works for freshness, correctness, and subject matter importance underpins traditional peer review. With algorithms, reviewers may write critiques automatically. These time-saving tools deliver generic, nuanceless comments that are unsuitable for academic grading. Banihashem et al. (2024) and Gendron et al. (2024) found that AI-generated peer review reports may miss nuances in a document, resulting in incomplete edits that do not improve the research. AI peer review may reduce reviewer accountability (Kousha & Thelwall, 2024; Kasri et al., 2024). Reviewers may use AI-generated remarks without fully examining the material.

Many issues remain regarding how AI will effect peer review and scientific publication. Cui et al. (2024) and Alhosani and Alhashmi (2024) concentrated on AI's benefits and overlooked its

long-term effects on academic integrity, innovation, and knowledge development. Less attention has been paid to academic publications' acceptance of AI-generated papers and editors' abilities to recognize them. The moral dilemmas reviewers have when employing AI-generated comments have received less attention. Some journals propose adding AI into peer review and article preparation, although there is no standard structure (Perkins & Roem, 2024; Lund & Naheem, 2024). To address this gap, Subaveerapandiyar et al. (2025) recommend comprehensive regulation to preserve academic integrity and maximize AI-assisted writing benefits. This study examines how AI affects academic publishing from writers' and reviewers' perspectives. Unlike earlier studies that focused on the benefits of AI in producing coherent research arguments, this one examines the ethical issues that might arise from AI abuse in academic writing and peer review. This study explores these issues and proposes solutions to mitigate AI-assisted publication's harmful effects. Technology should improve academic honesty. This study addresses a gap in the literature by examining how AI affects academic discourse and providing principles for ethical AI usage in scholarly writing.

3. Methodology

The author's ideas on academic publications and the review procedure inform this qualitative study. Due to the author's editing, peer review, and academic article help experience, this study varies from empirical investigations. This technique may assess how AI chatbots like ChatGPT affect scientific publishing from authors and editors' perspectives. This technique lets us assess authors' and reviewers' confidence in AI-generated peer review comments. Academic literature evaluations on AI use personal and professional perspectives to illuminate these two main challenges. Although significant data was gathered, this study relies on the author's classroom AI experiences and academic community debates.

3.1. Author's Perspective on the Use of AI in Manuscript Preparation

ChatGPT and other AI affect academic paper submission and development. This area largely contains scholarly interviews and personal

memoirs created using AI-powered writing tools. AI chatbots may write, paraphrase, and edit academic publications, creating a "copy-paste culture" (Gustilo et al., 2024). Bot-generated publications are edited little before submission. AI adoption raises academic dishonesty, low-quality

research, and plagiarism issues. Table 2 shows the author's take on AI-assisted article creation's biggest concerns. These issues demonstrate how AI is being used to circumvent academic writing standards and make us question who authored what and why.

Table 2: Key Challenges in AI-Assisted Manuscript Preparation

Challenges	Description	Impact on Academic Integrity
Excessive dependence on AI tools for content creation	Authors use AI to produce substantial segments of their writings with few alterations	Degradation of uniqueness and authorship
Marginal modifications after AI creation	AI-generated articles are submitted with little intellectual contribution from writers	Reduced academic rigor and participation
Ethical issues with authorship transparency	Authors often neglect to reveal the use of AI in text development	Transgressions of academic openness

Source: Author's experiential insights.

3.2. Reviewer's Perspective on the Use of AI-Generated Peer Review Comments

The second aspect of the study is to address AI's growing role in peer review feedback. This section examines how AI-generated reviews affect academic publishing using the author's experience as a journal editor and reviewer. Reviewers seldom utilize ChatGPT to make quick comments on publications without reading them. Repeated AI-generated comments without adjustment lead to

poor critical thinking and study (Hughes et al., 2024). AI-backed review comments start the process. After AI corrections, the author transmits the work to the reviewer. Academic rigor depends on peer review, yet its repetition questions its reliability and validity. Table 3 shows the challenges and results of AI-generated peer review, which the lack of tailored insights in recurrent AI input may reduce. These issues raise concerns that AI will replace humans in peer review.

Table 3: Challenges in AI-Generated Peer Reviews

Challenges	Description	Impact on Review Quality
Recurrence of AI-generated remarks	AI techniques provide comparable or equal responses for many manuscripts	Decreases the originality and variety of input
Insufficient sophisticated comprehension of content	AI technologies are incapable of comprehending intricate, discipline-specific concerns in academic writing	Results in cursory responses and overlooked essential aspects
Deficiency of human discernment in evaluations	AI-generated comments frequently lack analytical depth and personal insight	Undermines the integrity and scholarly significance of the review process

Source: Author's experiential insights.

3.3. Literature Review and Integration

AI research on peer review and academic writing are used. It searched the literature for unknowns concerning AI and academic publishing.

Academic use of AI technology requires ethical guidelines to address AI-generated content and academic integrity (Gulumbe et al., 2024). University studies have focused on AI's benefits

without addressing its drawbacks. This work fills the knowledge gap by merging real findings into theoretical models. The study shows how AI is influencing academic publishing via literature research and expert opinions. The study's conclusions are backed by academic research and practical applications due to its experience and literature review.

3.3.1. Limitations and Disclaimer

Data gathering and empirical analysis are missing from this work, which is mostly opinion-based. Results should not be extrapolated to other contexts or researchers since the actions under scrutiny could not have been typical of those involved. Examining new tendencies in AI's effect on scholarly publication is the goal of the research.

4. Author's Perspective: The Copy-Paste Culture in AI-Assisted Writing

Writing tools powered by AI have transformed academic writing. Academics are increasingly employing AI to automate paper authoring, literature summary, and language structure improvement (Mahadevkar et al., 2024). This trend has made research articles more like assembly lines than works in progress, which hurts academic integrity, honesty, and innovation. Creative thinking is declining, which is concerning. Synthesis, critical thinking, and

creativity are frequent in research writing. AI-generated data circumvents these limitations, giving researchers extra time to publish. AI systems that copy, paste, and paraphrase make it harder for editors and reviewers to verify researchers' work. AI-assisted writing may increase readability and coherence but blur the line between human and machine-generated research, raising ethical questions regarding authorship and accountability (Frosio, 2024). This trend will have far-reaching effects. AI-generated papers are well-organized but lack originality, analysis, and argument. Many AI systems fail at intellectual conversation and conclusions. Paraphrasing is their specialty. This has increased well-written but uninteresting material. Academic writings are full with grammar-correct but intellectually unsound contributions. Journal editors face new challenges with AI-generated content. Traditional plagiarism detection tools cannot identify AI-generated content because it changes its words and structure to evade detection (Jiang et al., 2024). When researchers utilize this loophole to pass off AI-assisted work as their own, scientific publishing suffers. Now editors must laboriously separate academic publications from AI contributions. Table 4 shows how hard the issue is by comparing conventional academic publications against AI-generated ones.

Table 4: Comparison between AI-generated and Human-Authored Academic Research Publications

Characteristic	AI-Generated Papers	Traditionally Written Papers
Originality	Often paraphrased, without in originality	Grounded in innovative thinking and analysis
Depth of Analysis	Shallow, devoid of critical analysis	Exhibits comprehensive investigation
Writing Style	Logical yet conventional	Exemplifies the author's own voice and style
Ethical Concerns	Ambiguous authorship, potential for AI reliance	Accountability for authorship upheld

Source: Author's experiential insights.

AI publications are increasing, hence academic publishing must be safeguarded. Journals should apply AI-detection algorithms to identify computer-generated publications to retain research credibility. Ethics must control AI usage

in research writing to prevent misuse and promote ethical AI help (Díaz-Rodríguez et al., 2023). n deluge of automated, mediocre research might destroy academic inquiry without remedies.

5. Reviewer's Perspective: The AI-Generated Peer Review Problem

AI has transformed academic peer review. AI may simplify reviews by emphasising key points, identifying systemic issues, and suggesting solutions, but it raises concerns about the authenticity, completeness, and critical involvement of peer review reports. Artificially intelligent peer reviews raise new scientific and ethical issues that jeopardise academic publishing. AI peer review comments are shallow, which is concerning. Due to rising reviewer workloads and time constraints, AI composes comments. These general AI-generated responses overlook the study's fundamental flaws. AI-assisted academic evaluations may rely on templates and offer generic advice rather than a nuanced critique. Many research papers bypass peer review because it emphasizes process compliance above genuine,

unique criticism. Another change is that reviewers' duties are shrinking. Peer reviewers critique a publication and offer changes, as described by Chong and Lin (2024). However, AI-generated findings will reduce reviewers' intellectual responsibility. AI-based reviewers risk simplifying or misinterpreting the work without performing their own research (Sun et al., 2024). This undermines peer review and editorial decisions. Continuous AI modifications create a feedback cycle that undermines academic rigour. Many authors feel impelled to contradict AI reviewer feedback or edit their works. AI-revised papers are resubmitted for review. Until the research paper is released, one wonders whether there was any intellectual discussion. Academic discourse, critical thinking, and human judgment suffer when AI dominates publication. Table 5 compares human and AI judgments to illuminate this issue.

Table 5: Comparison between Human-led and AI-Based Evaluations

Characteristic	AI-Generated Peer Reviews	Traditional Peer Reviews
Depth of Engagement	Shallow, devoid of serious examination	Thorough, comprehensive analysis of the text
Feedback Quality	Standardized, template-driven	Productive, manuscript-oriented recommendations
Ethical Concerns	Decreases reviewer accountability	Reviewers assume all accountability for their evaluations.
Impact on Research Quality	May permit substandard documents to be accepted	Ensures the publication of only superior research

Source: Author's experiential insights.

Artificial intelligence in peer review raises risks that academic journals should minimise (Balalle & Pannilage, 2025). AI detection systems may identify fake ratings to guarantee genuine people are reviewing them. Clear ethical criteria for AI in peer review are needed to prevent reviewers from outsourcing critical engagement obligations to these systems. Finally, training programs should teach reviewers to use AI responsibly and to deliver high-quality, relevant input (Bond et al., 2024). AI peer reviews threaten academic publishing unless action is taken. AI may enhance academic review, but great peer review involves intellectual rigour, skill, and critical engagement. AI may improve

academic integrity, but journals, editors, and reviewers still have a lot to do.

6. Ethical and Policy Considerations

Due to ethical and regulatory considerations created by scientific publications, AI-powered writing tools have risen rapidly. If widely employed, AI-generated content will need peer review and article authorship (Pearson, 2024). The absence of defined limits on academics' use of these technologies threatens their work and institutions. A growing number of articles are being created automatically, which is concerning. AI may enhance writing, but its numerous uses

threaten academic research, creativity, and responsibility. Academic journals should set ethical norms for AI usage in publication review and production (Ganjavi et al., 2024). Editors should require authors to disclose their use of AI for research transparency. Reviewers should take responsibility for their comments and never utilise AI-generated input without supervision. Following these steps will keep academic conversation serious and complete. Journals can block AI-generated submissions and peer reviews using AI-detection technologies (Chemaya & Martin, 2024).

Universities should help researchers utilize AI properly. Aslam and Nisar (2024) recommend training researchers to utilise AI for article authoring and review. Ethical discussions and AI literacy programs may help academics utilise AI to further human understanding. Critical thinking, autonomous research, and intellectual conversation boost university creativity (Shen & Teng, 2024). Universities might reduce AI-generated academic content abuse by following these guidelines. Academic journals and commercial associations should develop AI guidelines (Mortlock & Lucas, 2024). Journal editors may consider adopting AI-detection systems to accept manuscripts (Zhao et al., 2024). Researchers, organizations, publishers, and journal editors must collaborate to maintain academic honesty in the AI age. While employing AI for innovation, academics may maintain academic integrity by setting ethical norms, learning about AI, and supporting responsible academic writing. As AI evolves, protecting the validity and integrity of academic research is crucial to balancing technological innovation with ethical scholarship.

7. Conclusions and Future Directions

The study investigated rising concerns about ChatGPT's influence on scientific publication. AI speeds up academic writing, but the most relevant studies show that it compromises academic honesty. The study states that academic writing loses validity when academics copy and paste, with little change, AI-generated content to produce research papers. The "copy-paste culture," which spreads uninspired writings, cheapens academic

research. AI-generated peer review comments make reviewers' jobs harder, as automated assessments lack complexity, critical thinking, and constructive criticism. When AI makes continual modifications without human interaction, academic work suffers. This is why peer review is declining. Due to the extensive use of AI in academic publishing, the findings suggest that a new norm for article submission and peer review is needed. AI may enhance academic writing and research, but misuse might damage the discipline. If academic publishing integrity is to be preserved, journal editors and publishers must address these issues.

Future study must cover much ground. AI peer review and academic writing ethics might be established. AI-driven disruptions may alter research. Thus, researchers must examine how innovation affects scholarly publication. Future studies may examine how the detection of AI-generated content affects academic integrity. AI's influence on peer review requires more study. AI should support critical thinking. Editors and policymakers must intervene. Academic journals must disclose their AI submission process, including peer reviews and AI-generated content. Establishing guidelines for journal submission quality and validity, and encouraging authors to highlight AI, may help achieve this aim. Academic editors and researchers need training in AI ethics and practice. Such projects would encourage AI to enhance academic work rather than replace human intelligence and critical thought.

AI-driven disruptions to scientific publishing may have unanticipated effects. AI might improve workflows, academic resources, writing, and reviewing. AI technologies that inhibit critical engagement and innovation may devalue academic work and publishing. Academics will struggle to protect publications while responsibly employing AI. It must act quickly to reap the benefits of AI without compromising academic research. This effort requires norms that foster technological improvement among researchers, institutions, publishers, and lawmakers and ensure academic integrity.

- Final reflections and Disclaimer

Due to AI in scholarly writing and peer review, the author's experiences and views impacted the study's conclusions. Not all researchers and reviewers use these methods, and the study's conclusions may represent trends rather than academic publication norms. The study seeks to illustrate developing academic publishing issues, although it does not cover all cases.

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