

# MINDFUL CITATION

Understanding copyright in Academia



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

Filippo Vomiero  
2025/02/06

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# Learning objectives

## 1. Foundations of Intellectual Property Law

- a. Key definitions and fundamental concepts
- b. Differences between copyright and licenses

## 2. Citations and Plagiarism

- a. Basics of citation in the academic context
- b. How to avoid plagiarism through proper citation

## 3. Non-Textual Elements

- a. Guideline for the ethical use of images, tables and graphs
- b. Strategies for obtaining and using material legally

## 4. Reuse in Various Contexts

- a. Specific regulations for scientific publication
- b. Appropriate use in conferences
- c. Copyright management in educational settings

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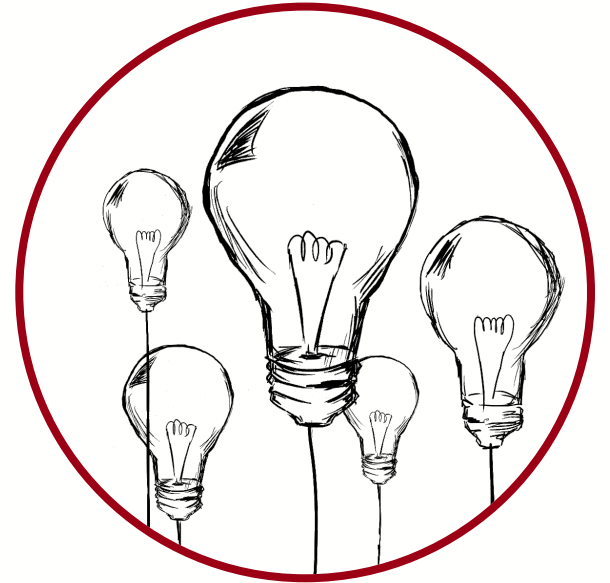
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# IP Law

Intellectual property law encompasses legal principles and regulations that govern the creation, protection, and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

These rights include:

- moral rights
- copyright
- patents
- trademarks
- trade secrets



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# Moral rights (Authorship rights)

Moral rights are distinct from economic rights and are concerned with protecting the non-economic interests of creators in their works.

They typically include:

## Non-transferable rights

1. **Right of attribution:** Also known as the right of paternity, this gives authors the right to be credited as the creator of their work.
2. **Right of integrity:** This right allows authors to prevent derogatory treatment or distortion of their work that could harm their reputation or honor.
3. **Right of association:** The right to decide whether and how the work is associated with certain products, services, causes, or institutions.
4. **Right of retraction:** The right to withdraw the work under special circumstances.

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# Copyright

Copyright is a legal framework that provides exclusive rights to the creators of original works for a limited duration. These exclusive rights generally include the right to reproduce, distribute, perform, and display the work.

**Transferable rights**

## Key Aspects:

- **Exclusive Rights:** Copyright grants the creator or owner of a work exclusive rights to control its use. Others need permission to use the work in ways covered by copyright.
- **Duration:** Copyright protection is not perpetual. The duration varies by jurisdiction but is typically for the life of the author plus a certain number of years (e.g., 70 years after the author's death).
- **Economic Focus:** Copyright is primarily concerned with protecting the economic interests of creators and encouraging the creation of new works.

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# Copyright Law in Italy

In the Italian legal system, provisions regarding copyright can be found in:

- the Italian Civil Code of 1942, Arts. 2575–2583
- the Law no. 633 of 22 April 1941 “Protezione del diritto d'autore e di altri diritti connessi al suo esercizio”.

Italian Copyright Law is a comprehensive legal framework that governs the protection and regulation of intellectual property rights for creators and is based strongly on **authors' rights**.

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# Subject matter

According to the art. 1, the protected works are:

“Works of the mind having a creative character and belonging to literature, music, figurative arts, architecture, theatre or cinematography, whatever their mode or form of expression.

[...]

Computer programs shall also be protected as literary works [...], as well as data-bases which, by reason of the selection or arrangement of their contents, constitute the author's own intellectual creation.”

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# Subject matter

Art. 2: In particular, protection shall extend to:

1. literary, dramatic, scientific, didactic and religious works, whether in written or oral form;
2. musical works and compositions [...]
3. choreographic works and works of dumb show [...]
4. works of sculpture, painting, drawing, engraving and similar figurative arts, including scenic art
5. architectural plans and works;
6. works of cinematographic art [...]
7. works of photographic art [...]
8. computer programs [...]
9. databases [...]
10. works of industrial designs which themselves have a creative and artistic value



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# Subject matter

According to the TRIPS (Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement:

“Copyright protection shall extend to **expressions** and not to ideas, procedures, methods of operation or mathematical concepts as such.” (Art. 9 n. 2)



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# Acquisition of rights

The art. 6 states:

Copyright shall be acquired **on the creation of a work** that constitutes the particular expression of an intellectual effort.

Cfr. CC 2576

“The title of ownership of intellectual works is acquired through the creation of the work, as a particular expression of intellectual effort, regardless of any formality.”

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# 633/41 Authors' Rights

## Personal Rights:

- Moral Rights  
Non-transferable and do not expire

## Economic Rights:

- Exclusive rights of economic exploitation (Copyright)  
Transferable, divisible and independent; expire 70 years after the death of the author
- Related rights (or Neighbouring rights)  
They're related to the rights of economic exploitation
- *Sui generis* rights  
Specifically related to databases (art. 102bis)
- Private copying levy  
"Equo compenso" (art. 71septies): a tax applied to all recordable media.

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# 633/41 Authors' Rights

## Moral Rights

Non-transferable and perpetual, they're closely tied to the personality and reputation of the author.

1. The right to be credited as the creator of their work (art. 20)
2. The right to prevent modifications of their work that could harm their reputation or honor (art. 20)
3. The right to reveal his identity and to have his position as author recognized for anonymous or pseudonymous works (art. 21)
4. The right to withdraw the work from the market under special circumstances (art. 142)

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# 633/41 Authors' Rights

## Exclusive rights of economic exploitation (Copyright)

These are, strictly speaking, the author's rights: they're transferable, divisible and independent; they expire 70 years after the death of the author.

- Right to publish their work (art. 12)
- Right to reproduce the work (art. 13)
- Right to transcribe the work (art. 14)
- Right to public perform or recite the work (art. 15)
- Right to communicate to the public the work (art. 16)
- Right to distribute the work (art. 17)
- Right to translate, modificate, adapt the work and to publish it in a collection (art. 18)
- Right to rent the work and authorize rental and lending by third parties (art. 18bis)
- Droit de suite or Artist's Resale Right (art. 144 ss.)

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# 633/41 Authors' Rights

## Related rights

They are the rights of a creative work not connected with the work's actual author. It is used in opposition to the term "authors' rights".

Both authors' rights and related rights are copyrights in most legal systems.

Related rights encompass activities that are akin to or associated with those protected by authors' rights.

- Rights of phonogram producers (art. 72 ss.)
- Rights of producers of cinematographic or audiovisual works (art. 78bis ss.)
- Rights in radio or television broadcasting (art. 79 ss.)
- Rights of performers (art. 80 ss.)
- Rights in works published or communicated to the public after the author's economic rights have expired (art. 85ter)
- Rights in critical and scientific editions of works in the public domain (art. 85quater)
- Rights in designs for stage sets (art. 86)
- Rights in photographs (art. 87 ss.)
- Rights in correspondence (art. 93 ss.)
- Rights in portraits (art. 96 ss.)
- Rights in Engineering Projects (art. 99)

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# Copyright management

An author can manage their copyright and grant rights to use and distribute their works.

## **Waiver/Consent Form**

The author grants permission for a single user to use their work.

## **License**

The author grants permission for anyone to use their work, subject to certain conditions.

## **Publishing Agreement/Contract**

The author transfers rights to the publisher for the distribution and publication of their work.



Image by pikisuperstar on Freepik

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# Licenses

Licenses provide a means for copyright holders to grant permission to others to use those works under specified terms and conditions. Key Characteristics:

1. **Permission:** Licenses grant users permission to use copyrighted material under specific conditions.
2. **Restrictions:** They outline the limitations and obligations users must adhere to when utilizing the material.
3. **Types:** Licenses vary in terms of their scope, permissions, and requirements, catering to different needs and preferences.

Common Licenses:

- **Creative Commons Licenses:** Offer a range of permissions, from full reuse to specific restrictions, providing flexibility for creators and users.
- **GNU General Public License (GPL):** Emphasizes freedom and encourages sharing and modification of software.
- **MIT License:** Permissive license allowing for extensive reuse and modification, with minimal restrictions.
- **Apache License:** Balanced license enabling both commercial and non-commercial use, with clear attribution requirements.



# Creative commons

A Creative commons license is created combining one or more conditions:



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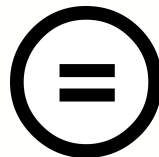
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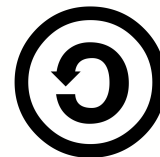
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the same terms

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	CC BY-NC	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
	CC BY-NC-SA	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
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 You can redistribute (copy, publish, display, communicate, etc.)

 You have to attribute the original work

 You can use the work commercially

 You can modify and adapt the original work

 You can choose license type for your adaptations of the work.



Creative Commons licenses are the most widely used licenses in academic contexts, including scientific journals and other scholarly publications. These licenses provide creators with a flexible framework to specify the permissions and restrictions for their copyrighted works. With CC licenses, creators have the ability to customize the usage rights according to their preferences, enabling others to use, share, and build upon their work under specific conditions. From more restrictive to more permissive options, CC licenses offer features such as requiring attribution, prohibiting commercial use, and mandating the sharing of derivative works under the same license. In academic settings, CC licenses promote collaboration, foster creativity, and facilitate the dissemination of knowledge while ensuring a clear legal framework for both creators and users.

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# Public domain

Public domain refers to material for which no rights are reserved, allowing everyone to use it without limitations.

In Italy, only economic rights can expire or be forfeited, while moral rights persist, necessitating attribution (this differs from the concept of public domain derived from the USA).

Public domain status applies solely to works created by the State or public administrations, as outlined in Law 633/1941, Article 5.

A work is considered free to use when its economic rights have expired (which can sometimes be challenging to determine), or when the copyright owner explicitly relinquishes their rights (via CC Zero).

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# Citations

Academic citation serves multiple crucial purposes in scholarly writing.



Image by pikisuperstar on Freepik

- **Establishing Credibility:** Proper citation demonstrates a researcher's engagement with existing literature, showcasing their understanding of the field and contributing to their credibility as a scholar.
- **Avoiding Plagiarism:** Citation helps authors avoid plagiarism by providing clear attribution to the sources they consult or reference, and also giving proper credit to the original creator of ideas, theories or research findings.
- **Facilitating Further Research:** Accurate citation enables readers to locate and verify the sources cited, facilitating further exploration and research in the field.

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# Citations

Academic citations typically include the following key components:

- **Author(s):** The individual(s) or entity responsible for creating the work being cited.
- **Title:** The title of the work being cited, such as the title of a book, article, or webpage.
- **Publication Details:** Information about where and when the source was published, including the name of the publisher or journal, publication date, and location (e.g., volume, issue, page numbers).
- **Page Numbers (for Direct Quotations):** Page numbers indicate the specific location within the source where the information being cited can be found, particularly important for direct quotations.
- **DOI or URL (for Online Sources):** When citing online sources, including a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) or a URL helps readers access the source directly.

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# Styles

A bibliographic style encompasses a set of rules governing the formatting and presentation of references. It specifies the required information, the sequence in which it should appear, as well as punctuation and formatting conventions.

Each element of a citation is visually distinguished according to the style's guidelines, often utilizing formatting options such as bold, italic, or quotation marks. While the overall structure may vary, including the order in which elements appear, consistency within each style is essential.

Regardless of the chosen style, two fundamental principles must be upheld:

1. **Coherence:** Consistency in applying the rules throughout the bibliography ensures a uniform and professional appearance.
2. **Identification:** The information provided should serve three key purposes:
  - a. **Locate:** It should enable easy identification and retrieval of the cited document within library and bookstore catalogs.
  - b. **Segment:** Additionally, it should facilitate pinpointing specific segments of the document, such as chapters or sections, being referenced.
  - c. **Differentiate:** The provided details should help distinguish the cited document from similar ones, aiding in accurate referencing and citation.

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# Tools for Proper Citation Management

## zotero

Zotero is a reference management software that streamlines the process of inserting citations into documents.

It helps you to collect, organize, annotate, cite, and share research.

It's a free to use and open source software, with a focus on privacy and security.

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# Tools for Proper Citation Management



Writefull, a subscription-based software provided by the University, offers various tools to assist in writing scientific papers.

One such tool is Writefull Cite, which analyzes text and provides suggestions for proper citation placement.

For more information, visit: [Writefull Cite](#)

Other tools: [Writefull Revise](#) to ensure the accuracy of your text by comparing it with a database of scientific texts.

The plugin for [Word](#) or [Overleaf](#) to seamlessly integrate Writefull's functionalities into your writing process.



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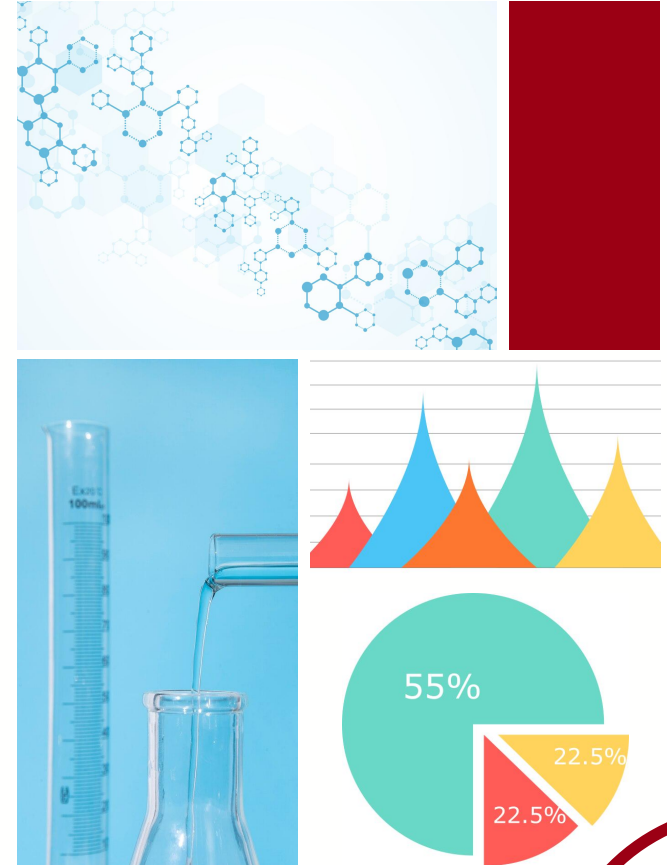
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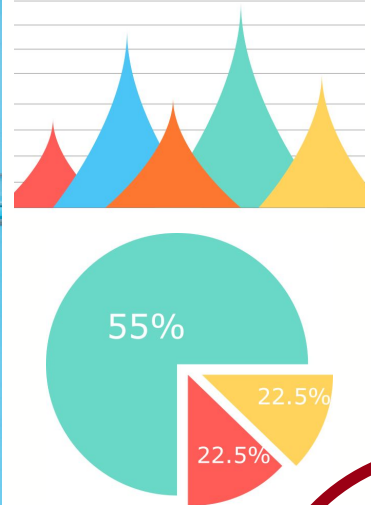
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Every visual element, whether it's an image, chart, graph, or any non-textual visual element, is a product of creative endeavor and, as such, is protected by copyright.

It is crucial to recognize and respect the ownership rights associated with images; sometimes, the artist differs from the article's author.



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# Non-textual elements

When you want to incorporate other persons works in your writing, ensure you follow this three-steps process:

1. Verify the copyright status
  - Is the work licensed? If so, does the license permit the reuse of the elements you require? If yes, proceed to step 3.
  - If the work is not licensed, or the license does not allow reuse, proceed to the next step
2. Obtain the rights to reuse the element(s): request permission from the copyright owner to use the material.
3. Provide proper attribution to acknowledge the intellectual property of the original creators

# Licensed material

If you come across a source licensed under a CC license, you are permitted to use that material according to the terms of the license. However, it's essential to note that locating the license details may not always be straightforward, as there is no standardized format for their placement. Therefore, the location of license details may vary from one publisher's page to another.

Open Access Article

## Action Video Games Enhance Attentional Control and Phonological Decoding in Children with Developmental Dyslexia

by Sara Bertoni<sup>1,2</sup>, Sandro Franceschini<sup>2</sup>, Giovanna Puccio<sup>2</sup>, Martina Mancarella<sup>2,3</sup>, Simone Gori<sup>1</sup> and Andrea Facchetti<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Human and Social Sciences, University of Bergamo, 24129 Bergamo, Italy  
<sup>2</sup> Department of General Psychology, University of Padova, 35122 Padova, Italy  
<sup>3</sup> Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, 3000 Leuven, Belgium  
\* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

*Brain Sci.* **2021**, *11*(2), 171; <https://doi.org/10.3390/brainsci11020171>  
Submission received: 20 November 2020 / Revised: 25 January 2021 / Accepted: 26 January 2021 / Published: 29 January 2021  
(This article belongs to the Special Issue Multiple Neurocognitive Deficits and Dyslexia)

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### Abstract

Reading acquisition is extremely difficult for about 5% of children because they are affected by a heritable neurological disorder called developmental dyslexia (DD). Intervention studies can be used to investigate the causal role of neurocognitive deficits in DD. Recently, it has been proposed that action video games (AVGs)—enhancing attentional control—could improve perception and working memory as well as reading skills. In a partial crossover intervention study, we investigated the effect of AVG and non-AVG training on attentional control using a conjunction visual search task in children with DD. We also measured the non-alphanumeric rapid automatized naming (RAN), phonological decoding and word reading before and after AVG and non-AVG training. After both video game training sessions no effect was found in non-alphanumeric RAN and in word reading performance. However, after only 12 h of AVG training the attentional control was improved (i.e., the set-size slopes were flatter in

Open Access Peer-Reviewed Research Article

## Identifying single-item faked responses in personality tests: A new TF-IDF-based method

Alberto Purpura, Dora Giorgianni, Grazietta Oni, Giulia Meis, Giuseppe Sartori

Published: August 25, 2022 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0272970>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage
Article				

### Abstract

Faking in a psychological test is often observed whenever an examinee may gain an advantage from it. Although techniques are available to identify a faker, they cannot identify the specific questions distorted by faking. This work evaluates the effectiveness of term frequency-inverse document frequency (TF-IDF)—an information retrieval mathematical tool used in search engines and language representations—in identifying single-item faked responses. We validated the technique on three datasets containing responses to the 10-item Big Five questionnaire (total of 694 participants, respectively 221, 243, and 230) in three faking situations. Each participant responded twice, once faking to achieve an objective in one of three contexts (one to obtain child custody and two to land a job) and once honestly. The proposed TF-IDF model has proven very effective in separating honest from dishonest responses—with the honest ones having low TF-IDF values and the dishonest ones having higher values—and in identifying which of the 10 responses to the questionnaire were distorted in the dishonest condition. We also provide examples of the technique in a single case evaluation.

### Figures

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## Deception in Court

Giuseppe Sartori  
University of Padua, Department of General Psychology, Padua, Italy

Giulia Meis  
University of Padua, Department of General Psychology, Padua, Italy

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.13333/2531-7288/2651>

Keywords: Lie court, Lie detection

ABSTRACT Different forms of deception can be applied to hide one's true intentions; this faking can take various forms, depending on the deceiver's aim(s): faking bad or faking good. Since 23–45% of behaviors are deceptive in a legal setting, detecting these efforts has become a priority. With this aim, the development of objective and effective tools has increased considerably. Starting with the first polygraph created by Vittorio Benussi in 1914 to nowadays through the implementation of Artificial Intelligence, we will explore the lie detection techniques that have followed over the years.

PDF

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SECTION  
Articles

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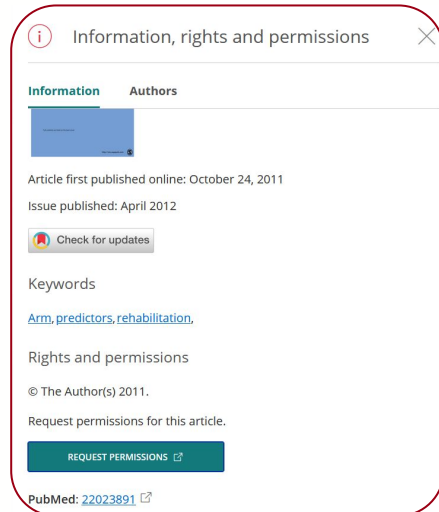
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# PhD dissertation

An emerging trend in PhD dissertations involves incorporating publications as chapters.

Can I copy the full text of articles or only specific sections? Am I permitted to modify the text, or must I reproduce it exactly as it appears?

Spettabile Ufficio,

sono [redacted], dottoranda del XXXVI ciclo in Brain, Mind & Computer Science.

Gen: Scrivo perchè dovrò inserire nella mia tesi di dottorato uno studio già pubblicato:

Mi: - Bertoni S, Franceschini S, Puccio G, Mancarella M, Gori S, Facchetti A.

Com: Action Video Games Enhance Attentional Control and Phonological Decoding in

Mi: Children with Developmental Dyslexia. Brain Sci. 2021 Jan 29;11(2):171. doi:

all 10.3390/brainsci11020171. PMID: 33572998; PMCID: PMC7911052.

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Sar: elaborato finale.

Jou:

Ringraziandovi anticipatamente per la cortese attenzione

Pur:

Ide: porgo distinti saluti

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Sarei interessata a sapere se è possibile copiare e incollare per intero o solo diverse sezioni di questi articoli nella mia tesi e, inoltre, se è possibile apportare alcune modifiche a tali sezioni nella mia tesi (Ad esempio se voglio copiare l'introduzione di un paper ma aggiungere, modificare o togliere alcune parti)

Vi ringrazio anticipatamente per il vostro aiuto e attendo con interesse una vostra risposta.

Cordiali saluti,

[redacted]

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# PhD dissertation

Before proceeding, carefully review the license or contract with the publisher.

While CC licenses generally permit reuse, it's crucial to examine the license closely. In some cases, the license may include the "ND" (no-derivatives) clause, which prohibits modifying the source material. This means that even if the material is licensed under a CC license, you may be restricted from making any alterations or adaptations to the original work.

In other cases, some publishers' custom licenses, though self-proclaimed as 'open,' restrict reuse, thereby not meeting the true definition of open licenses.

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# PhD dissertation

In cases where articles are not openly licensed:

- **Pre-prints:** publishers typically permit use of pre-prints.
- **Post-prints:** in STEM area, a 12-month embargo often applies to post-prints.
- The **Version of Record (VoR)** is permissible only for open access documents.

Spettabile Ufficio,

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Cordiali saluti,

[redacted]



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# PhD dissertation

Another frequent trend is that PhD students often wish to utilize one or more chapters from their dissertation as source material for an article.

Publishers typically do not view doctoral dissertations as pre-publications, so there is no disadvantage in accepting content derived from theses.

However, two steps are advisable:

- Revising the texts to align them with the structure and language typical of journal articles, which differs from that of thesis chapters.
- Reviewing the licenses and permissions obtained for non-textual elements. The permissions granted for the thesis might differ from those required for publication in commercial journals, particularly if a non-commercial license or permission was used for the thesis.



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# Conferences

When preparing conference documents such as a presentation, again it's crucial to respect copyright laws while incorporating materials from other sources.

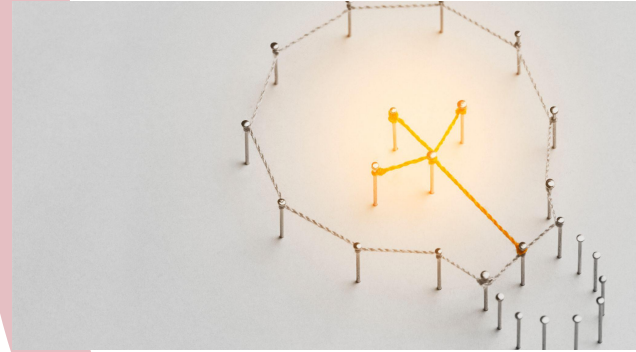


Image by rawpixel.com on Freepik



Image by master1305 on Freepik



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# Conference: guidelines

- **Obtain Proper Permissions:** Before including any copyrighted material in your conference document, ensure you have obtained the necessary permissions from the copyright holder. This may involve contacting the original creator or seeking permission through established channels.
- **Use Licensed Materials:** Whenever possible, prioritize using materials that are licensed for reuse, such as those available under Creative Commons licenses. Make sure to adhere to the specific terms of the license, which may include requirements for attribution or limitations on commercial use.
- **Provide Clear Attribution:** Regardless of whether the material is licensed or not, always provide clear and accurate attribution to the original source. This helps acknowledge the intellectual property rights of the creators and demonstrates academic integrity.
- **Limit the Use of Third-Party Materials:** While incorporating external materials can enhance the quality of your conference document, avoid over-reliance on third-party content. Strive to create original content whenever possible and use external materials sparingly and strategically.

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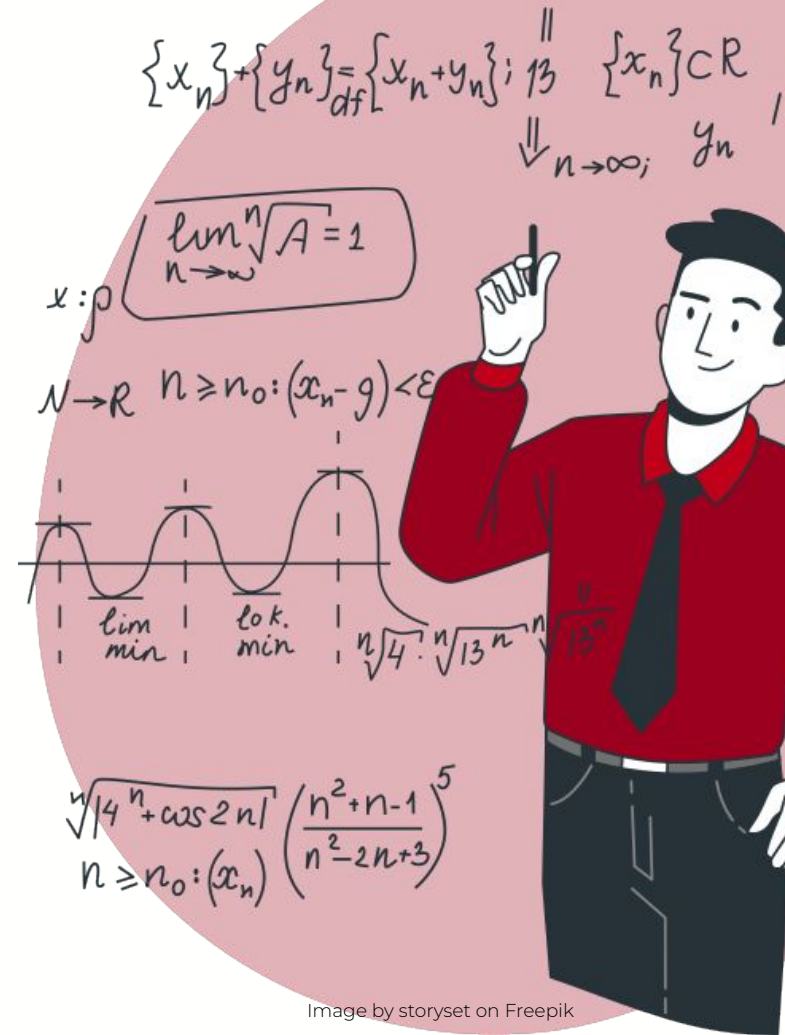
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# Academic lessons

Copyrighted material in academic lessons can be used also with the notion of **fair use**.

Fair use is a legal doctrine that allows for the limited use of copyrighted materials without obtaining permission from the copyright holder. It enable educators to incorporate copyrighted materials into their lessons under certain conditions.

In Italy, the concept of fair use does not exist within the legal system. However, there is a specific exception to copyright law that permits the use of copyrighted material for educational purposes (cfr. 633/41 art. 70; cfr 2019 EU Copyright Directive art. 5).



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# Academic lessons

Here's some requirements regarding fair use:

- **Purpose:** Fair use considers the purpose and character of the use of copyrighted materials. In educational settings, using copyrighted materials for teaching purposes, such as criticism, commentary, research, or scholarship, is generally considered fair use.
- **Nature of the Copyrighted Work:** Fair use takes into account the nature of the copyrighted work being used. Materials that are factual or published are more likely to be considered fair use compared to highly creative or unpublished works.
- **Amount of the Portion Used:** Fair use considers the amount and substantiality of the portion of the copyrighted work used. While there are no specific quantitative limits, using small excerpts or portions of copyrighted materials is more likely to be considered fair use than using large portions or the entire work.
- **Effect on the Market for the Original Work:** Fair use examines the potential effect of the use of copyrighted materials on the market for the original work. If the use of the materials does not significantly impact the market value of the original work, it is more likely to be considered fair use.

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# LLMs & generative AI

The use of LLMs creates a set of legal questions:

- Who owns AI-generated content?
- Copyright implications of using protected works for AI training
- Potential for AI to reproduce copyrighted material

And also raise some Ethical Considerations:

- Transparency in AI-generated content
- Protecting human creators in an AI-driven landscape

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# LLMs & generative AI

The logo for COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) consists of the letters C, O, P, and E, each enclosed in a vertical rectangular box, which are then arranged side-by-side within a larger rounded rectangular frame.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT or Large Language Models in research publications is expanding rapidly. COPE joins organisations, such as **WAME** and the **JAMA Network** among others, to state that AI tools cannot be listed as an author of a paper.

AI tools cannot meet the requirements for authorship as they cannot take responsibility for the submitted work. As non-legal entities, they cannot assert the presence or absence of conflicts of interest nor manage copyright and license agreements.

Authors who use AI tools in the writing of a manuscript, production of images or graphical elements of the paper, or in the collection and analysis of data, must be transparent in disclosing in the Materials and Methods (or similar section) of the paper how the AI tool was used and which tool was used. Authors are fully responsible for the content of their manuscript, even those parts produced by an AI tool, and are thus liable for any breach of publication ethics.

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# LLMs & generative AI

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## AI Authorship

Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, do not currently satisfy our [authorship](#) criteria (imprint editorial policy link). Notably an attribution of authorship carries with it accountability for the work, which cannot be effectively applied to LLMs. Use of an LLM should be properly documented in the Methods section (and if a Methods section is not available, in a suitable alternative part) of the manuscript. The use of an LLM (or other AI-tool) for “AI assisted copy editing” purposes does not need to be declared. In this context, we define the term “AI assisted copy editing” as AI-assisted improvements to human-generated texts for readability and style, and to ensure that the texts are free of errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and tone. These AI-assisted improvements may include wording and formatting changes to the texts, but do not include generative editorial work and autonomous content creation. In all cases, there must be human accountability for the final version of the text and agreement from the authors that the edits reflect their original work.

# LLMs & generative AI

| C | O | P | E |



ELSEVIER

## Generative AI Images

The fast moving area of generative AI image creation has resulted in novel legal copyright and research integrity issues. As publishers, we strictly follow existing copyright law and best practices regarding publication ethics. While legal issues relating to AI-generated images and videos remain broadly unresolved, Springer Nature journals are unable to permit its use for publication.

Exceptions:

- Images/art obtained from agencies that we have contractual relationships with that have created images in a legally acceptable manner.
- Images and videos that are directly referenced in a piece that is specifically about AI and such cases will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- The use of generative AI tools developed with specific sets of underlying scientific data that can be attributed, checked and verified for accuracy, provided that ethics, copyright and terms of use restrictions are adhered to.

\*All exceptions must be labelled clearly as generated by AI within the image field.



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# LLMs & generative AI



## **The use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in writing for Elsevier**

Where authors use generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process, these technologies should only be used to improve readability and language of the work and not to replace key authoring tasks such as producing scientific, pedagogic, or medical insights, drawing scientific conclusions, or providing clinical recommendations. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control and all work should be reviewed and edited carefully, because AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete, or biased. The authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work.

Authors should disclose in their manuscript the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies and a statement will appear in the published work. [...] Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be used on previously published material.

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# LLMs & generative AI



## **The use of generative AI and AI-assisted tools in figures, images and artwork**

Elsevier does not permit the use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools to create or alter images in submitted manuscripts. This may include enhancing, obscuring, moving, removing, or introducing a specific feature within an image or figure. Adjustments of brightness, contrast, or color balance are acceptable if they do not obscure or eliminate any information present in the original. Image forensics tools or specialized software might be applied to submitted manuscripts to identify suspected image irregularities.

The only exception is if the use of generative AI or AI-assisted tools is part of the research design or research methods (such as in AI-assisted imaging approaches to generate or interpret the underlying research data, for example in the field of biomedical imaging). If this is done, such use must be described in a reproducible manner in the methods section.

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# LLMs & generative AI

The 2019 EU Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market addresses Text and Data Mining (TDM) through two key articles that are particularly relevant to AI and LLMs.

Article 3 establishes a mandatory exception for research organizations and cultural heritage institutions, allowing them to perform TDM for scientific research. This exception cannot be overridden by contractual agreements. It permits the reproduction and extraction from lawfully accessed works, and even to store copies for later verification of research results. This exception is limited to non-commercial research purposes.

Article 4 offers a general TDM exception that applies to any individual or organization, regardless of their purpose, allowing a commercial use.

The major difference is that rights holders have the ability to explicitly reserve their rights, effectively opting out of this exception. This "opt-out" mechanism potentially limits the applicability of the exception, especially for large-scale commercial AI training operations.

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# Thank you

Filippo Vomiero - 2025/02/6



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