

Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

To maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct, transparency, and scientific integrity, The Archives of Automotive Engineering – Archiwum Motoryzacji is implementing this policy on using Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools. This includes generative models like Large Language Models (LLMs) and image-generating tools during manuscript creation and review. The policy applies to authors, reviewers, and editors, ensuring AI is used responsibly in scholarly publishing while adhering to scientific ethics and confidentiality. The aim of this policy is to:

- ensure transparency in the use of AI tools throughout the publication process;
- establish accountability for authors and reviewers regarding AI-generated content;
- protect the confidentiality of manuscripts and data during the publication process;
- maintain the scientific integrity and authenticity of research findings.

This policy encompasses all aspects of the publication process, including: manuscript preparation by authors, manuscript review by reviewers, and the editorial process conducted by editors. It extends to all AI tools, such as: language models (e.g., ChatGPT, Grok, LLaMA), tools generating images, data, or other visual content, and software supporting data analysis or text editing.

For authors

Authors bear full responsibility for the content of their manuscript, regardless of the use of AI tools. This encompasses:

- ensuring content originality and avoiding plagiarism;
- verifying the accuracy of data, citations, and other AI-generated information;
- compliance with copyright and third-party rights;
- authors must be able to provide documentation (e.g., records of prompts or AI-generated outputs) upon editorial request for verification purposes.

Artificial Intelligence tools can support manuscript creation in several areas, provided complete transparency is maintained and all generated content undergoes thorough verification. These areas include enhancing a manuscript's linguistic quality, where AI can aid text editing, improve readability, and eliminate grammatical errors, especially benefiting authors whose native language differs from the publication language. In research methodology, AI may be used for data analysis, such as in statistical modeling, provided its application is meticulously described and appropriately justified within the manuscript. Lastly, AI tools can assist in creating data visualizations, generating diagrams or illustrations for research methodology, as long as their creation aligns with scientific publication ethics and is adequately documented in the work.

The use of AI tools is prohibited for the following purposes:

- generating significant portions of a manuscript (e.g., introduction, discussion, conclusions) due to concerns regarding originality and scientific integrity;
- creating or modifying images (e.g., photographs, figures, diagrams) using AI, unless it is an explicit part of the research methodology and has been appropriately described in the Methods section;

- generating fictitious or synthetic research data, as this undermines the authenticity of the research.

Full transparency regarding the use of AI tools during manuscript preparation is obligatory for authors. Any use of AI must be explicitly disclosed within the published work, either in a dedicated Methods section or in the Acknowledgments. The integration of AI into the research methodology (e.g., for data analysis) necessitates a detailed description within the Methods section, outlining the parameters and limitations of the tool deployed. Such disclosure should comprise:

- the name of the AI tool (e.g., ChatGPT, DALL·E);
- the version of the tool, if known;
- a brief description of how the tool was utilized (e.g., language enhancement, idea generation, data analysis).

For reviewers

To preserve the integrity of the peer review process, reviewers are required to ensure the utmost confidentiality of all submitted manuscripts and are expressly prohibited from sharing their content with AI tools. The submission of an unpublished manuscript to an AI system risks a breach of:

- the confidentiality of the peer review process;
- the author's intellectual property rights;
- applicable data protection policies.

Reviewers are permitted to leverage AI tools for enhancing the linguistic quality of their reviews, including text editing, provided the subsequent conditions are satisfied:

- the Editorial Board is apprised of this fact within the review comments;
- the content of the manuscript under review is not inputted into the AI tool.

AI is not permitted for the scientific analysis or substantive evaluation of a manuscript. Such assessment necessitates critical thinking and human expertise; AI tools, conversely, may introduce errors or inherent bias. Reviewers retain complete responsibility for the content of their evaluations, encompassing the accuracy and ethical integrity of all recommendations or observations. Furthermore, AI utilization does not relieve a reviewer of their obligation to uphold rigorous ethical standards.

For editors

Editors serve a pivotal function in preserving the integrity and quality of scholarly publications. Given the advancements in AI, it is incumbent upon them to utilize these tools ethically and transparently, concurrently ensuring the protection of data and intellectual property.

Editors must refrain from making editorial decisions based exclusively on AI, from transmitting confidential materials to unsecure AI systems, and from employing AI for substantive evaluation. A paramount responsibility of editors is to ensure data confidentiality, with all processing adhering to applicable regulations. Moreover, any deployment of AI in the editorial workflow must be fully transparent to authors and

reviewers, thereby underscoring the necessity for continuous professional development among editors regarding AI ethics in scholarly publishing.

The Archives of Automotive Engineering – Archiwum Motoryzacji takes all violations of its AI usage regulations seriously. Such breaches can undermine scientific integrity, infringe intellectual property rights, compromise manuscript confidentiality, or mislead readers about a work's authenticity. Each violation will be addressed individually, strictly adhering to due process to uphold the integrity and credibility of scientific publications.