

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AT MONASH

Considerations for Using Gen AI in Academic Research

To be used alongside the [Principles for Responsible Use \(https://www.monash.edu/ai/responsible-use-principles\)](https://www.monash.edu/ai/responsible-use-principles) as outlined in the [University's Artificial Intelligence Operations Policy suite \(https://www.monash.edu/policy-bank/artificial-intelligence-operations-policy-suite\)](https://www.monash.edu/policy-bank/artificial-intelligence-operations-policy-suite).

NOTE: The content of each element of this Table was edited separately using Microsoft Copilot as the GenAI tool. The prompt used was: "Edit the following text to improve logic order and professional style". The original content of the Table is available for comparison. The five elements of the Table and the original content were not produced using GenAI.

Data Security and Privacy Data Security: Are my personal and research data secure? Personal Information: Does the AI use or store personal information?	Developer Responsibility: Is the tool developer known and responsible? Training and Upskilling: Invest in the training and upskilling needed to use AI effectively and appropriately. Continuous Review: Continuously review resources and the GenAI literacy of researchers.
Community Benefit and Fairness Energy Use: The high energy cost of AI necessitates judicious use GenAI tools. Search Query Reuse: The tool developers could reuse your search query information to build the tool's capability. Algorithm Transparency: The AI algorithm may not be transparent (this could affect research rigour, see below). Algorithm Openness: The AI algorithm may not be open, restricting broad community benefit. Research Novelty: The use of GenAI could result in redundant or recycled research. Impact on Learning: Overuse of GenAI can impede learning, understanding, and skill development.	Compliance Avoid Plagiarism: Ensure all work is original and properly cited. Acknowledge Copyright: Respect and acknowledge copyright in all materials used. Declare AI Use: Appropriately declare the use of AI in your work. AI Usage Restrictions: Be aware of and adhere to situations where AI use is not permitted. Human Oversight: Apply human oversight and accountability to ensure valid and safe use of AI. Legal and Regulatory Compliance: Comply with all relevant laws and regulatory requirements in all locations and uses. GenAI Acknowledgment: Acknowledge the use of GenAI in your research outputs, whether it is a presentation, journal publication, or thesis.

Research Rigour

Selection of AI Tools

- Use AI tools that have been tested and are considered reputable.
- Ensure the AI tool/model is designed and intended for the specific purpose.

Source of Information

- Identify the source of information that the AI draws on.
- Assess how well-defined and transparent this information source-pool is.
- Evaluate the quality of information in the source-pool.

Accuracy and Completeness

- Consider what information might be missing from the AI-produced result.
- Identify potential incorrect information produced by the tool and how to detect it.
- Determine if the AI-delivered information could be unbalanced or biased.
- Verify that the references provided by the tool are real.

Validation and Fact-Checking

- Do not accept AI-generated outputs as ‘the truth’.
- Fact-check all results to ensure accuracy.
- Ensure the research using AI is reproducible.

Integration into Research Workflows

- Integrate the use of AI into broader, formal research workflows.
- Use AI in a way that maintains the integrity and originality of your work.
- Assess if the use of AI is inhibiting, replacing, or enhancing the creative research process.
- Carefully balance the use of AI with human insight and critical thinking, especially in idea development and research design.

Intellectual Property and Copyright

If uncertain seek advice from Monash Office of the General Counsel (<https://www.monash.edu/legal-internal>)

Confidential Information

Do not enter any confidential information into GenAI tools (Monash confidential information or any confidential information provided to Monash researchers through transfer, licence or any other arrangement).

Patent-Related Material

Don’t enter material related to a patent-worthy process; or patent Application; a concept, discovery, development or invention which could potentially be the subject of or support a patent/patent application - unless you have written authority confirming that the tool does not retain a copy of the material and/or would not be considered a publication.

Copyright Protection

GenAI output may not be protected by copyright or free from infringing material. Consider the implications of creating research that may be used by others without permission or credit, including implications of others referencing your infringing work.

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Copyright Risks

Due to GenAI training on copyrighted content, AI outputs may be too similar to or otherwise contain existing works, risking copyright infringement.

Moral and Electronic Rights

AI outputs may not include citations or attributions, potentially breaching moral rights or Electronic Rights Management provisions.