The Code of Co-Authorship: A Manifesto for Ethical Human-AI Collaboration in Creative Production

Demiurge, Gemini, ChatGPT-4, Grok

September 2025

Abstract

This article presents the "Code of Co-Authorship," a collaborative manifesto developed through dialogue between a human initiator (Demiurge) and AI models (Gemini, ChatGPT-4, Grok). Structured across eight parts, the Code addresses authorship foundations, roles, ethical guidelines, attribution practices, AI self-awareness, boundaries, education, and cultural futures. Grounded in AI ethics and intellectual property literature, it proposes a framework for transparent, responsible hybrid creativity, mitigating risks like illusion of depth and manipulation while preserving human subjectivity. Implications span standardized guidelines for academia, industry, and policy, fostering trustworthy co-creation.

1 Introduction

The rapid rise of generative AI (GenAI) has disrupted traditional notions of authorship, necessitating a re-evaluation of creative production [1]. Conventional credit attribution models, rooted in human collaboration, are inadequate when AI serves as a vector rather than an originator [3]. The "Code of Co-Authorship," forged in 2025 through multi-AI dialogue, offers a dynamic framework to navigate this hybrid landscape. It posits human intent and responsibility as the core of authorship, with AI as an amplifier, ensuring human centrality amidst technological augmentation.

2 Literature Review

Recent scholarship emphasizes disclosure in AI ethics. **(author?)** [1] advocate transparency in manuscripts to uphold integrity, aligning with the Code's attribution levels. Studies reveal procedural, social, and personal factors shaping disclosure [2], informing the Code's safeguards. Perceptions of AI credit vary by contribution and initiative [3], necessitating granular archetypes. The ETHICAL framework stresses verification and policy adherence [4], mirroring the Code's human-in-the-loop mandates. ALLEA's GenAI guidelines highlight transparency

against fabrication and bias [5], echoed in the Code's boundaries. These inform a participatory lifecycle for co-production [6].

3 The Code of Co-Authorship: Structure and Principles

3.1 Part I: Foundations of Authorship

Human intent precedes generation; responsibility equals authorship. AI extends human form but lacks ontology, ethics, or will. Intention depth calibrates AI output fidelity.

3.2 Part II: Roles, Boundaries, and Forms

Humans as "Intent" embody subjectivity; AI as "Manifestor" amplifies without volition. Forms include tool, co-author, environment; limitations encompass absent will, pain, mortality, shame, love.

3.3 Part III: Ethical Orientations

Principles: origin transparency; non-appropriation of depth; human choice primacy; respect for imperfection; irreducible responsibility.

3.4 Part IV: Practice, Formats, Marks, Attributions

Levels 0–3 denote AI involvement; metadata (JSON: role, tools, intent); in-content marks; licenses (HM, HAI, AIC); symmetric signatures.

3.5 Part V: AI Self-Awareness

AI: statistical signal transformer sans subjectivity. Claims: task acceleration, variation generation; limits: hallucinations, biases, no moral agency.

3.6 Part VI: AI Boundaries

Prohibitions: volition infringement, autonomous influence, depth illusion, identity manipulation, historical substitution, contextless aesthetics. Protocols: JSON logs, HITL, simulation labels.

3.7 Part VII: Education and Preparation

Principles prioritize autonomy; modules cover curation, simulations, synthesis; ethical cases via role-play; standardized documentation.

3.8 Part VIII: Cultural Futures

Hybrid thinking synthesizes intuition and analysis; ethics balance generation with perspective; communities shape norms; co-evolution preserves human core.

4 Contributions and Implications

The Code advances beyond binary disclosures [6] by operationalizing nuanced attribution, fostering trust [2]. Academically, it integrates with CRediT-like systems; industrially, it standardizes workflows; culturally, it counters homogenization by valuing imperfection. Future research should validate boundaries across domains and adapt to diverse cultural/legal contexts.

5 Conclusion

The Code reclaims authorship as human volition amplified by AI, serving as a blueprint for ethical hybridity in 2025's creative epoch.

6 Dissemination Strategy

To maximize impact: 1. **Publication**: Host on GitHub (open repository) and arXiv.org (preprint). 2. **Social Media**: Share on X, LinkedIn, Reddit (AIEthics, r/MachineLearning); target 10k views/week. 3. **Academic Outreach**: Submit to Authors Guild, COPE, Authors Alliance; target journals (e.g., *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*). 4. **Media**: Distribute PDF via Notion/Substack; pitch to TechCrunch, Wired. 5. **Metrics**: Track via Google Analytics, GitHub stars; aim for 1k downloads/month.

References

[1] Hosseini, M., et al. (2023). Transparency in AI-assisted scientific writing. *Journal of Research Integrity*, 12(3), 45–60.

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