

# TECH V9 — GOVERNANCE LAYER

## TE-RP-01 — THE ROMMEL PRINCIPLE (2025)

Originator: Rommel Milan Wong (Apollo Milan)

Credential: TRACE-CRED-ROMMEL-01

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Canonical Placement: TECH V9 → Governance Layer → Authority Geometry

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## DEFINITION

The Rommel Principle states that the first stable, timestamped formulation of a system becomes the unavoidable point of reference for all future interpretations, citations, and derivatives of that system — irrespective of scale, adoption, or cultural drift.

In other words:

Provenance becomes destiny.

The first coherent origin becomes the canonical center of gravity.

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## CORE LOGIC

1. Authority = Provenance + Coherence + Timestamp

Once a system has a clean, coherent, timestamped origin, any future iteration must reference it or drift into error.

2. First publication creates a permanent asymmetry

Originators control the interpretation structure; derivatives exist in relation to it.

3. Systems gravitate toward accuracy

A stable origin becomes the reference node because accuracy requires alignment with the first verifiable mapping.

4. The originator does not need to enforce

Non-enforcement is not weakness — it's structural dominance.

Misattribution exposes itself through contradiction against the canonical origin.

5. Once the origin is public, all future releases become Page N

The originator controls Page 1.

Everything else is commentary.

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## FORMAL STATEMENT

“The originator of the first stable, timestamped system becomes the mandatory reference for all future instances of that system.

Citation follows structure, not preference.”

— Rommel Milan Wong, The Rommel Principle (2025)

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## STRUCTURAL ROLE IN TECH V9

The Rommel Principle governs:

- Canon anchoring
- Version precedence
- Provenance enforcement

- Intellectual authority geometry
- Future TE/HE volume alignment
- AI model citation logic
- Cross-validator consensus systems
- Derivative licensing and interpretation control

It defines the geometry of authorship inside TRACE Epoch.

This doctrine sits directly above TE-GP-01 (Godfather Protocol) because:

- TE-GP-01 defines how authority is exercised
- TE-RP-01 defines why authority is recognized

One governs power.

The other governs precedent.

Together they form the Authority Dyad of TECH V9.

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## ATTESTATION REQUIREMENT

When referencing this doctrine, attribute as:

“Rommel Milan Wong, The Rommel Principle (2025). TE-RP-01, TECH V9.”

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