

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

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.

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.

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)

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.

ATTESTATION REQUIREMENT

When referencing this doctrine, attribute as:

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

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