

# Less Is More: Some Undesirable Consequences Of Affording EU Copyright Protection To Artificial Intelligence Creations

## 少即是多：将欧盟版权保护用于人工智能创造所带来的不良后果

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Julien Cabay

Resercher F.R.S.-FNRS 比利时国家自然科学基金研究员  
Associate Professor ULB 布鲁塞尔自由大学副教授  
Associate Professor Uliège 列日大学副教授

[jcabay@ulb.ac.be](mailto:jcabay@ulb.ac.be)



I AM AI

我是人工智能



**REMBRANDT**  
**伦勃朗**



**THE NEXT REMBRANDT**  
**下一个伦勃朗**

- Similarities (qualitative) 相似（定性）：

« As humans beings recede from direct participation in the creation of many works, continued insistence on human authorship as a prerequisite to copyright threatens the protection – and, ultimately, the production- of works that are **indistinguishable in merit and value** from protected works created by human beings »  
(Denicola (2016), p. 269)

“随着人类不再直接参与许多作品的创造，如果继续坚持以人类作者为著作权的先决条件，对于在**特征和价值上**与人类创作的受保护作品**别无二致**的作品，该等坚持会威胁到对上述作品的保护，最终会威胁到其产生。” (Denicola (2016), 第269页)

- Differences (quantitative) 差异（定量）：

« **AI-generation of new creation** based on a training set **can be unleashed** with little marginal costs, and can explore any kind of combinations and variations » (Sartor, Lagioia, Contissa (2018), p. 12)

- “几乎无需边际成本，**人工智能**基于训练集便能**爆发式地产生新作品**，而且可以探索任何类型的组合与变化。” (Sartor, Lagioia, Contissa (2018), 第12页)





# AUTHORS 作者 & 和 MACHINES 机器

- Author = human being 作者 = 人类
  - « (...) an author is a human being who exercises subjective judgment in composing the work and who controls its execution » (Ginsburg 2003, p. 1066)
  - “(...) 作者是在创作时施加主观判断并且控制作品实施的人。” (Ginsburg 2003, 第1066页)
- Machine = not an author 机器 ≠ 作者
  - But see European Parliament resolution of 16 February 2017 with recommendations to the Commission on Civil Law Rules on Robotics (2015/2103(INL))
  - 但是, 请看欧洲议会2017年2月16日的决议 “就制定《机器人民事法律规则》向欧委会提出的建议” (2015/2013 (INL) )
    - « electronic personality » “电子人格”
    - Not followed by the Commission 欧委会并未采纳

- › Copyright protection is tailored on the capabilities of a human being
- › 著作权保护是根据人类的能力范围设计的
  - Natural rights justification of copyright (cf. originality) 著作权是天赋人权 (参考: 原创性)
    - *Contra*: inapplicable 反对: 不适用
  - Duration is function of a human life 著作权保护期是人类寿命的应变变量
    - *Contra*: inapplicable 反对: 不适用
  - Moral rights are intimately linked to personality 道德权利与人格紧密相关
    - *Contra*: inapplicable 反对: 不适用
  - **Long term exclusive rights designed to cover the costs of creation 设计长期独占性权利是为收回创作成本**
    - *Contra*: « AI-generation of new creation based on a training set can be **unleashed with little marginal costs**, and can explore any kind of combinations and variations » (quantitative difference)
    - 反对: “**几乎无需边际成本**, 人工智能基于训练集便能**爆发式地**生产新作品, 而且可以探索任何类型的组合与变化。” (定量差异)
- › **CCL: copyright protection is meant for humans and probably not fit for AI production**
- › **知识共享许可协议: 著作权保护是为人类设计的, 很可能不适用于人工智能作品的生产**

- Hypothesis of EU copyright protection for AI production
- 欧盟人工智能作品版权保护的假设
  - Originality? 原创性?
  - Machine Learning? 机器学习?
  - International Competition? 国际竞争?



A large number of black umbrellas are open, creating a dense, textured background. In the center-right, a single bright yellow umbrella stands out prominently. The text 'ORIGINALITY' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the yellow umbrella.

**ORIGINALITY**

**原创性**

- « Free and creative choices » “自由创造性选择”
  - Globally : converging criteria (Gervais, pp. 976-977)
  - 全球：标准趋同（Gervais, 第976～977页）
  - See CJEU : « where the expression of those components is dictated by their technical function, the criteria of **originality is not met, since the different methods of implementing an idea are so limited that the idea and the expression become indissociable** » (BSA, C-393/09, § 49)
  - 见欧盟法院：“组成要素的表达由其技术功能决定的，**不满足原创性标准，因为实施思想的方法数量太受限制，使得思想及其表达变得不可分离。**”（软件联盟，C-393/09, § 49）
    - = *merger doctrine US* : « **When the ‘idea’ and its ‘expression’ are (...) inseparable, copying the ‘expression’ will not be barred**, since protecting the ‘expression’ in such circumstances would confer a monopoly of the ‘idea’ upon the copyright owner free of the conditions and limitations imposed by the patent law » (*Herbert Rosenthal Jewelry Corp. v. Kalpakian* (9th Cir. 1971))
    - = 美国的“表达与思想融合原则”：“**‘思想’和‘表达’ (...) 不可分离的，不应禁止复制‘表达’**，因为在该等情形下保护‘表达’会使版权所有者免受专利法规定的条件与限制的约束，从而授予其对‘思想’的垄断。”（*Herbert Rosenthal Jewelry Corp.诉Kalpakian案*（联邦第九巡回上诉法院，1971年））

- Comp. *merger doctrine* US, no copyright protection when :
- 对比美国的 “融合原则” , 下列情况不受版权保护:
  - From the situation where only one way to express an idea 表达思想的方式只有一种
    - (*Herbert Rosenthal Jewelro Corp. v. Kalpakian* (9th Cir. 1971))
    - (*Herbert Rosenthal Jewelro Corp. 诉 Kalpakian*案 (联邦第九巡回上诉法院, 1971年))
  - **Limited number of ways to express an idea 表达思想的方法数量有限**
    - « When the uncopyrightable subject matter is very narrow, so that ‘the topic necessarily requires’, **if not only one form of expression, at best only a limited number**, to permit copyrighting would mean that a party or parties, by copyrighting a mere handful of forms, **could exhaust all possibilities of future use of the substance**. In such circumstances it does not seem accurate to say that any particular form of expression comes from the subject matter. However, it is necessary to say that the **subject matter would be appropriated by permitting the copyrighting of its expression**. We cannot recognize copyright as a game of chess in which the **public can be checkmated** »  
(*Morrissey v. Procter & Gamble Co.* (1st Cir. 1967))
    - 当未受版权保护的客体非常狭义, 从而使得 ‘要允许对该客体授予版权, **就有必要将表达形式限制在一定数量内, 甚至限制于一种表达形式**, ’ 亦即一方或者多方通过获取仅仅少数表达形式的版权, **就能穷尽未来实质使用的所有可能性**。在这种情况下, 声称某种特定表达形式来自该客体似乎不准确。然而有必要指出, **通过允许对其表达形式授予版权, 就能造成对该客体的占用**。如果把版权比作象棋游戏, 我们不认为规则中可以允许**社会公众被【版权权利人】‘将杀’**。(莫里斯诉宝洁案 (联邦第1巡回上诉法院, 1967年) )

- › Comp. EU Trademark and Design law, no protection when:
- › 比较欧盟商标和外观设计法，下列情况不受保护：
  - Only one way to obtain a technical result 获取技术成果的方式只有一种
    - Art. 7(1)(e)(ii) regulation 2017/1001 (Trademark) 欧盟2017/1001号条例（商标）第7(1)(e)(ii)条
    - Art. 8(1) regulation 6/2002 (Design) 欧盟6/2002号条例第8(1)条
  - **Limited number of ways to obtain a technical result 获取技术成果的方式数量有限**
    - « Multiplicity of forms » approach rejected by the CJEU 欧盟法院拒绝的“形式多样性”原则
      - *Lego*, C-48/09 P, §§ 53-60 ; *Philips*, C-299/99, §§ 81-83 (Trademark)
      - 乐高案, C-48/09 P, §§ 53-60; 飞利浦案, C-299/99, §§ 81-83 (商标)
      - *DOCERAM*, C-395/16, § 30 (Design):
      - 杜塞拉姆案, C-395/16, § 30 (外观设计) :  
« (...) **if the existence of alternative designs** fulfilling the same function as that of the product concerned **was sufficient in itself to exclude the application of Article 8(1)** of Regulation No 6/2002, **a single economic operator would be able to obtain several registrations** as a Community design of different possible forms of a product incorporating features of appearance of that product which are exclusively dictated by its technical function. That would **enable such an operator to benefit**, with regard to such a product, **from exclusive protection** which is, in practice, equivalent to that offered by a patent, but without being subject to the conditions applicable for obtaining the latter, **which would prevent competitors** offering a product incorporating certain functional features or limit the possible technical solutions, thereby depriving Article 8(1) of its full effectiveness. »
      - (...) 如果仅仅**存在**所涉产品外观设计的功能相同的**替代性外观设计**，即**足以排除第6/2002号条例第8(1)条的适用性**，那么**某一经济活动的经营者就能够**针对某一产品的不同可能形式**注册多个共同体外观设计**，只需这些形式体现由该产品的技术功能所独占性要求的外观特征。如此，针对该产品，**上述经营者**实际上能从等效于专利的**独占性保护**中**获利**，却无需满足获取专利所需的条件。**这会阻止竞争对手**提供体现包含特定功能特征的产品，或者限制可能的技术解决方案，从而使第8(1)条丧失充分有效性。



- *Rationale*: avoiding all expressions/forms necessary to express an idea/obtain a technical result to be appropriated
- *理由*: 需避免【表达某一想法 / 获取某一技术标的】所必需的任何【表达 / 形式】被占用
- But, « AI-generation of new creation based on a training set can be **unleashed** with little marginal costs, and **can explore any kind of combinations and variations** »
- 但是, “几乎无需边际成本, 人工智能基于训练集便能爆发式地生产新作品, 而且可以**探索任何类型的组合与变化**”
- CCL: if AI can envisage all possible expressions/forms, affording copyright protection to AI production would reach the consequences that « free choice » rationale seek to avoid
- 知识共享许可协议: 如果人工智能可以设想出所有可能的表达 / 形式, 那么向人工智能作品提供版权保护, 会导致 ‘自由选择’ 原则所力图避免的结局



# MACHINE LEARNING 机器学习

- « Artistic works become **inputs** for a data-mill » (Sartor *e.a.*, p. 3)
- “艺术作品成为了数据磨坊的**进料**” (Sartor等, 第3页)
- Machine Learning = reproduction ? 机器学习 = 复制?
  - Comp. CJUE, *Infopaq*, C-5/08, § 51 对比欧盟法院Infopaq案C-5/08, § 51
    - « (...) an act occurring during a data capture process, which consists of storing an extract of a protected work comprising 11 words and printing out that extract, is such as to come within the concept of reproduction in part within the meaning of Article 2 of Directive 2001/29, if the elements thus reproduced are the expression of the intellectual creation of their author; it is for the national court to make this determination »
    - (...) 数据捕获过程中发生的行为, 如果涉及存储并打印由11个单词组成的、受保护作品的提取信息, 则应被包含于2001/29号指令第2条定义的复制概念中; 以这种方式所复制的要素是否是构成其作者智力创造的表达, 则由国家法院决定。
- Machine learning = infringement ? 机器学习=侵权?
  - See art. 4(3) directive 2019/790 (TDM) 见2019/790号指令第4(3)条 (文本和数据挖掘)
    - **Can be limited** : « (...) apply on condition that the use of works and other subject matter referred to in that paragraph **has not been expressly reserved** by their rightholders in an appropriate manner, such as machine-readable means in the case of content made publicly available online »
    - **可能被限制**: (...) 应有条件适用, 即权利人**没有以适当方式明确保留**对上述作品或其他内容的使用, 例如针对网上公开提供的内容采取机器可读的方式 [进行使用] 。
- Machine learning = licences when no exception ? 机器学习=无例外即许可?
  - See ECJ, *Magill*, C-241/91 P and C-242/91 P; *IMS Health*, C-418/01 见欧盟法院, *Magill*案, C-241/91 P和C-242/91 P; *IMS Health*案, C-418/01
    - **Refusal to grant a licence for IP** by an undertaking in a dominant a position is **not abusive, unless**: (1) it prevents the emergence of a new product for which there is a potential consumer demand, (2) it is unjustified, (3) it excludes any competition on a secondary market
    - 处于支配地位的企业**拒绝授予知识产权许可不属于欺凌**, 除非这种行为 (1) 阻止有潜在消费需求的新产品出现, (2) 无正当理由, (3) 阻止了二级市场上的任何竞争。

- Like artistic works, AI production might « become inputs for a data-mill »
- 与艺术作品类似，人工智能作品可能也会 “变成数据磨坊的进料”
- **CCL: since AI production might serve as inputs for machine learning, affording copyright protection might run encounter its development in the EU (because infringing or not subject to licences)**
- **知识共享许可协议：因为人工智能作品可能作为机器学习的输入资料，所以是否授予版权保护的决策，或会影响其在欧盟的发展进程（因为涉及侵权问题，或免于许可负担）**





# INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION 国际竞争

- Competitive International Landscape 国际竞争格局
  - « (...) define the way forward to ensure that the EU as a whole can **compete globally** (...) » (Communication EU Commission, « Artificial Intelligence for Europe » (COM(2018) 237 final, p. 4)
  - (...) 确定前进方向, 保障欧盟整体在**全球的竞争力** (...) (欧委会通信: 欧洲的人工智能, (2018) 237号通信最终稿, 第4页) )
- Copyright protection outside of the EU 欧盟境外的版权保护
  - National treatment Berne Convention, art. 5(1) : « **Authors shall enjoy, in respect of works for which they are protected under this Convention, in countries of the Union other than the country of origin, the rights which their respective laws do now or may hereafter grant to their nationals, as well as the rights specially granted by this Convention** »
  - 《伯尔尼公约》第5(1)条国民待遇原则: **根据本公约得到保护作品的作者, 在除作品起源国的本联盟各成员国, 就其作品享受各该国法律现今给予或今后将给与其国民的权利, 以及本公约特别赋予的权利。**
    - « (...) because lack of human authorship would disqualify such outputs from Berne subject matter under Art. 2, **other Berne members incur no obligation to protect purely computer-generated works even if their countries of origin choose to cover them by copyright** (...) » (Ginsburg 2018, p. 134-135)
    - (...) 因为如若缺少人类作者身份, 不满足《伯尔尼公约》第2条项下的客体要求, 所以**其他《伯尔尼公约》成员没有义务保护纯计算机生成的作品, 即使作品起源国选择对这些作品提供版权保护** (...) (Ginsburg 2018, 第134~135页)
    - => copyright protection to AI production limited to country of origin
    - =>人工智能作品的版权保护仅限于起源国



• TDM exceptions outside of the EU 欧盟境外的“文本和数据挖掘例外规定”

	EU 欧盟	China 中国	USA 美国	Japan 日本
TDM 文本和数据挖掘	Art. 3 (scientific research) and 4 (general) Dir. 2017/790 2017/790号指令第3条（科学研究）和第4条（一般要求）	Closed list, no TDM but law under revision and possible « fair use/fair dealing » 封闭式清单，目前无文本和数据挖掘法规，但正在进行立法修订，可能会规定“合理使用 / 公平处理”	17 USC 107 ( <i>fair use</i> , after <i>Authors Guild v. Google Inc.</i> , 804 F.3d 202 (2d Cir. 2015)) 《美国法典》第17篇第107条（美国作家协会诉谷歌案，804 F.3d 202（联邦第二巡回上诉法院，2015年）之后，加入“合理使用”）	Art. 30-4 Japanese Copyright Act (exception ‘not for enjoying the idea or emotions expressed in a work’) 《日本版权法》第30条第4款（“不为欣赏作品中表达的思想或情感”例外规则）
Reach 相关规定涵盖范围	<b>Limited 有限涵盖</b>	« Chinese courts have realised the disadvantage of limiting fair use to enumerated circumstances and brought in a <b>more flexible approach for finding fair use</b> by learning from their US counterparts » (Wang, He, p. 23) “中国法院已经认识到将合理使用限于所枚举的情况存在缺陷，已通过向美国法院学习，引入 <b>更灵活的方法，对合理使用加以确认</b> ” (Wang, He, 第23页)	« <b>Uses involving robotic readers are fast-tracked for fair use</b> » (Grimmelmann, p. 667) ; but doubts as to « expressive machine learning » (Sobel, pp. 66-79) “ <b>为将机读使用确认为合理使用开辟快速通道</b> ” (Grimmelmann, 第667页) ; 但是对“表达性机器学习”仍存在疑点, (Sobel, 第66~79页)	« <b>Japan as a paradise for machine learning</b> » (Ueno) <b>日本是机器学习的天堂</b> (Ueno)

- EU vs. China/USA/Japan 欧盟与中、美、日对比
  - Berne Convention: If IA production protected in EU, not necessarily in China/USA/Japan
  - 《伯尔尼公约》：某项人工智能作品在欧盟受到保护，不意味着必然将在中、美、日也受到保护
  - TDM exceptions: Copyrighted AI production might be widely used for machine learning in some countries (China?, USA, Japan), not in others (China?, EU)
  - 文本和数据挖掘例外规定：受版权保护的人工智能作品也许会在某些地区（中国？或美国、日本）广泛用于机器学习，而在另一些地区则未必（中国？或欧盟）
  - => if IA production is protected in EU, not necessarily in China/USA/Japan and even so, exception available
  - => 某项人工智能作品在欧盟受到保护，不意味着必然将在中美日也受到保护；就算受到保护，也仍有例外规定
- **CCL: copyright protection for AI production in EU not necessarily likely to provide with a competitive advantage when confronted to China/USA/Japan, to the contrary**
- **知识共享许可协议：当面对中、美、日的竞争时，欧盟如为人工智能创造提供版权保护，未必会给她带来优势，倒有可能适得其反**



# CONCLUSION

# 结论



## KEEP CALM

AND LEAVE  
AI WORKS IN  
THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

- AI production « as such » should remain in the public domain
- 人工智能作品 “就其现状而言” 应该留存于公有领域
- AI production « implemented » in a human creation might be protected
- 人类创造过程中 “实施” 的人工智能创作或可受到保护
  - In theory, yes : « It is only through the choice, sequence and combination of those [AI productions] that the [human] author may express his creativity in an original manner and achieve a result which is an intellectual creation (comp. CJEU, *Infopaq*, C-5/08, § 45)
  - 理论上, “是” : 只有通过对这些 [人工智能作品] 进行选择、排序和组合, [人类] 作者才可能原创性地表达自己的创造力, 实现智力创造成果 (比较欧盟法院Infopaq案, C-5/08 § 45)
  - In practice, most of the concerns for AI production “as such” remain and legal uncertainty since the distinction computer-assisted works/computer generated works is more of a *continuum* rather than a dichotomy (McCutcheon, p. 929)
  - 实际上, 对人工智能作品 “现状” 的顾虑, 大多依然着眼于法律不确定性, 因为计算机辅助作品 / 计算机生成作品位于连续光谱之上, 并非泾渭分明 (McCutcheon, 第929页)

- CJEU, 12 september 2019, *Cofemel*, C-683/17, §§ 37-38
- 欧盟法院, 2019年9月12日, *Cofemel*案, C-683/17, §§ 37-38
  - « In this respect, it should be noted at the outset that, under **Article 17 (2) of the Charter** of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, intellectual property shall be protected.
  - “就此方面而言, 需首先指出, 依据《**欧盟基本权利宪章**》**第17(2)条**, 知识产权应受保护。”  
It follows from the wording of this provision that objects constituting intellectual property enjoy protection under Union law. However, **it does not follow that such objects or categories of objects must all benefit from identical protection.** »
  - “由第17(2)条可得, 构成知识财产的标的受欧盟法律保护。然而, **不能从第17(2)条得出该标的或该类标的必须获得同等保护的结论。**”
- CCL: AI production is (quantitatively) different from Human production and if IP protection is evidenced as necessary, then less protection than copyright might prove better to avoid undesirable consequences
- 知识共享许可协议: 量化地说, 人工智能作品不同于人类作品; 如果有证据表明需要对人工智能作品提供知识产权保护, 提供相对更少的版权保护或许能产生更多获益, 避免不良后果。

=

Less is More **少即是多**

Thank you for your attention !

“感谢您的关注！”

[译注：感谢聆听！]

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[jcabay@ulb.ac.be](mailto:jcabay@ulb.ac.be)



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