

## Use of AI and Large Language Models in Drafting Papers

All authors are fully responsible for the originality, validity, and integrity of the content of their paper. Authors submitting papers to the 2026 South African Heavy Haul Conference must attest in the publishing agreement that the paper is their original work, does not contain any unlawful content and does not infringe any existing third-party copyright, moral right or other intellectual property rights; and that the work of others has been appropriately credited. **As such, AI-generated content will not be considered for publication. Any submission found to include AI-generated content will be declined [or retracted if already published].** However, AI and large language models may be used to edit descriptive (non-data) images, revise and edit writing, and seek and summate existing literature. Such use and the extent thereof must be declared at the time of submission in the Methods and/or Acknowledgements. The declaration of such a use should include the name, version, and manufacturer of the tool used and the date on which it was accessed, for example:

(Chat GTP, Open AI or any other AI application)

The use of tools specifically for spelling and grammar checks, similarity checking, and reference management is fully permitted and does not need to be disclosed.

The table summarises these stipulations:

| Example                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | AI can be used | Use must be disclosed |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Writing/generating any part of a manuscript<br>e.g. "Write 3000 words on [specific topic], covering key concepts, recent developments, methodologies, and potential future directions."<br>e.g. "Write an Introduction to the below text and add key references." | No             | n/a                   |
| Creating images                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | No             | n/a                   |
| Modifying data images, e.g. gel images, micrographs                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No             | n/a                   |
| Conception and design of study<br>e.g. "Evaluate this study protocol to identify possible confounding factors."                                                                                                                                                   | Yes            | Yes                   |
| Editing, translating and summarising papers or large sections of writing<br>e.g. "Provide recommendations to improve readability of the text."<br>e.g. "Edit the text to reduce to 250 words while preserving content, intention and clarity."                    | Yes            | Yes                   |
| Editing non-data images                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Yes            | Yes                   |
| Grammar checking and copyediting tools                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes            | No                    |
| Similarity checking tools                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Yes            | No                    |
| Reference managers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Yes            | No                    |

Based on

<https://sajs.co.za/editorial-policies#AI-LMMs>