

Mitigating the Threat AI Poses to Human Artists

In asking how the dangers of AI artwork can be mitigated to ensure that human artists are able to maintain their individuality and appeal in the creative field, I intend to find out what resources or limits are put in place to keep human-made artwork protected from AI. The creation of AI art runs on human input, which essentially means that AI art is more of a fusion of art that has been trained to create than something original. Human artists' work is run through AI, and AI makes something similar by using a collection of what it sees. Therefore, human artists are subject to significant vulnerability, especially style-wise. What makes an artist most individual is how they create something, their process, which is often visible through aspects like color, composition, and line. Text-to-image diffusion models like Midjourney and Stable Diffusion allow individuals to generate AI art that mimics specific artistic styles, practically stealing trademarks and allowing others to profit from the generated work (Shan et al., 2023). Despite the danger this poses to human artists financially and creatively, not much is explored in regard to what steps, actions, or even applications can alleviate the stress of AI art. Drawing on research into applications that deter AI's ability to replicate or use an artist's work, I seek to investigate what is available for human artists to protect their work and ideas from AI, as well as establish their creativity without worry of generative imitation.

I will conduct an experiment similar to those of Anthony Rhodes (2023) and Shan et al. (2023). I would evaluate anti-art-theft applications such as MAMC, Glaze, and Nightshade and identify the most effective way to protect human-created art. I plan to narrow the applications down by testing the tools with the work of artists and conclude the percentage of disrupted style mimicry and overall effectiveness. As studied by Rhodes (2023), this sort of experimental model "empowers users to decide on the specific strength of protection suitable for their use case."

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Through this examination, artists can see the benefits and drawbacks of each tool, how they are best used, and even information on how to use them. Shan et al. suggest an experiment that delves further into the user control and the lifespan of the application, working to develop levels

