

A Survey Report on Academic Publisher 2025 I

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At 2025I, the firm publishes academic books mainly in fields such as XX Studies and ZZ Studies. These academic publications are circulated primarily among university faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students. In addition to being used as university textbooks, they are also often purchased by researchers as reference materials to support the writing of scholarly articles and papers. As these uses indicate, academic books play the important role of communicating specialized knowledge in particular academic disciplines to their readers. For that reason, even more than in the case of books intended for a general audience, strong emphasis is placed on the accuracy of the content and on the reliability of the books as scholarly resources. In an environment where such rigorous quality control is required, there are certainly expectations for the possibilities offered by advanced technologies, but at the same time there remain deep-seated concerns about the uncertainty that accompanies them. The use of AI in the publishing industry entails a variety of risks. For example, if the manuscript of an unpublished book were to be input into a generative AI system and then unintentionally incorporated into the AI's training data, this could give rise to serious copyright problems. For this reason, the current reality is that it is difficult to use AI for tasks such as organizing manuscripts, conducting preliminary readings, or carrying out proofreading. In this sense, from the perspectives of both maintaining the reliability of publications and protecting authors' rights, the introduction of AI requires a level of caution that is even greater than that required in many other industries.

That said, there is still considered to be room for the use of AI when the goal is to improve the efficiency of production work or to broaden the range of possible forms of expression, so long as the data in question has been carefully assessed and judged to be suitable for training use without posing major problems. In other words, the company does not take the position of avoiding AI uniformly across every stage of the publishing process. Rather, it adopts an approach in which AI is introduced selectively, with careful attention paid to identifying the areas in which its use is actually feasible. For instance, 2025I makes use of the image-generation AI function provided by a major creative software company in order to create visual materials for use in its books. This function allows the company to draw on stock assets that are available for commercial use. Since the stock materials supplied by the software provider are, in principle, used for training only after rights-related issues have been clearly resolved, the company does make use of works produced through that image-generation AI system. As a result, the production of illustrations and conceptual images—which in the past demanded enormous amounts of time and money—has become much faster and more efficient than before.

Furthermore, Mr.i mentions the possibility of using AI during the planning stage as a kind of “sounding board.” In their view, AI could be effective for brainstorming and for preparing the initial rough framework of a project proposal. If prompts are designed in such a way that the AI is assigned the role of a particular expert or a

specific target readership, then the output may go beyond the mere listing of keywords and instead provide more multifaceted and meaningful feedback. Used in this way, AI may make it possible to generate fresh ideas and perspectives that might be difficult for human beings alone to notice. In addition, interest was also expressed in the possibility of applying AI to more creative domains—for example, by having AI generate a story and then rewrite it from a different point of view. Even in such cases, however, the main concern remains the risk of copyright issues connected to the training data. In other words, it is necessary to check whether the generated output might have relied too heavily on, or resembled too closely, existing works of a similar kind. For that reason, when AI-generated creative content is to be used, final verification by a human remains absolutely essential.

In addition, Mr.i also pays close attention to the distinction between specialized AI and general-purpose AI. General-purpose AI systems, including ChatGPT and Gemini, are regarded as sufficiently useful for tasks such as the idea-generation process mentioned above, as well as for creating tables of contents or formulating questions. However, the current situation is that such systems still cannot easily be applied to the core aspects of the publishing business itself. By contrast, if specialized AI designed specifically for publishing purposes were to become available in a standalone form and at a low cost, it is believed that the scope of practical AI use in actual publishing workplaces could expand dramatically.

Thus, while 2025I treats AI with caution, it is also actively and positively exploring ways to make use of it in new and as yet uncharted areas. To make such applications possible, not only further technological development but also the creation of an environment in which AI can be used with confidence and peace of mind will be indispensable. Looking ahead, if specialized AI continues to advance and appropriate guidelines are established, the use of AI in the publishing industry is likely to develop beyond a merely auxiliary function and may come to play a much broader and more substantial role.



* The image generated by AI.