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Derestricting Datasets
How to License Research Data

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25 February 2011
Outline

Why license research data?

Licensing options
- Creative Commons
- Open Data Commons
- Open Government Licence
- GILF/AusGOAL Licences
- Design Science Licence
- Public Domain

Mechanisms for Licensing Data

Further Information

Group Exercise
Why license research data?

The open data argument

▸ To allow the data to be used in new ways: comparative studies, data mining, interdisciplinary studies, ‘citizen science’…

▸ To permit greater scrutiny of research

▸ To raise standards of documentation

▸ To protect researchers from challenges

▸ To accelerate community-wide learning from experience

▸ To increase efficiency

▸ To increase impact

The pragmatic argument

▸ To provide clarity
Types of licenses

- Contracts
- Pure licences
- Waivers
Licensing questions

1. Do you need to make a choice?
   - Institutional policy
   - Data archive policy
2. Would a standard licence suffice?
3. Do you need to write your own licence?
4. Do you need more than one licence?
Creative Commons

- **BY** Attribution
- **NC** Non-Commercial
- **SA** Share Alike
- **ND** No Derivatives
Creative Commons

BY  Attribution
Attribution stacking

NC  Non-Commercial
What counts as commercial?

SA  Share Alike
Reduces interoperability

ND  No Derivatives
Severely restricts use
Open Data Commons

- Attribution Licence (ODC-BY)
  - Open Database Licence (ODC-ODbL)
    - Explicitly distinguishes database structure from contents, and deriving visualisations from deriving new databases.
Open Government Licence

- Attribution 📝
- Terminates on illegal/misleading usage of data
- Can only be used for public sector data
- Cannot be used for logos, insignia, personal data, otherwise encumbered data
- Does not distinguish database structure from contents
GILF/AusGOAL Licences

- Six Australian CC Licences
- Restrictive Licence
  - Contract template: standard legal code modified using schedules
  - Expiry date
  - Geographical restriction
  - Different copying/distribution terms for confidential and ordinary data
  - Licence fees
  - Other restrictions and permissions
Design Science Licence

- Attribution and Share Alike
- Distinguishes source data from visualisations
- Does not distinguish database structure from contents
- Redistribution requirements
Public Domain

- Creative Commons Zero (CC0)
- Open Data Commons Public Domain Dedication and Licence (ODC-PDDDL)
- Open Data Commons Database Contents Licence (ODC-DbCL)
- Community norms?
Attaching the licence to the data

[This database is/These data are/(name of dataset) is] made available under the Public Domain Dedication and License v1.0 whose full text can be found at:

http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/pddl/1.0/

http://www.example.com/data/set/1

http://purl.org/dc/terms/license

http://www.opendatacommons.org/licenses/pddl/1.0/
How to License Research Data

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Digital Curation Centre, 2011.
Licensed under Creative Commons BY-NC-SA 2.5 Scotland:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/scotland/

http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/how-guides/license-research-data

http://www.web2rights.com/OERIPRSupport/

▶ Starter Pack
▶ Diagnostic Tools
because good research needs good data

Thank you for your attention

DCC Website: http://www.dcc.ac.uk/
Alex Ball: http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/ukoln/staff/a.ball/
Group Exercise

How would you license the following datasets?

1. Power consumption at your house
2. Temperature and humidity readings from a well-sited Stevenson Screen
4. Anonymised genomic/proteomic data
5. Amounts of carbon and energy embedded in building materials
6. Recordings, transcriptions and annotations of simulated design meetings