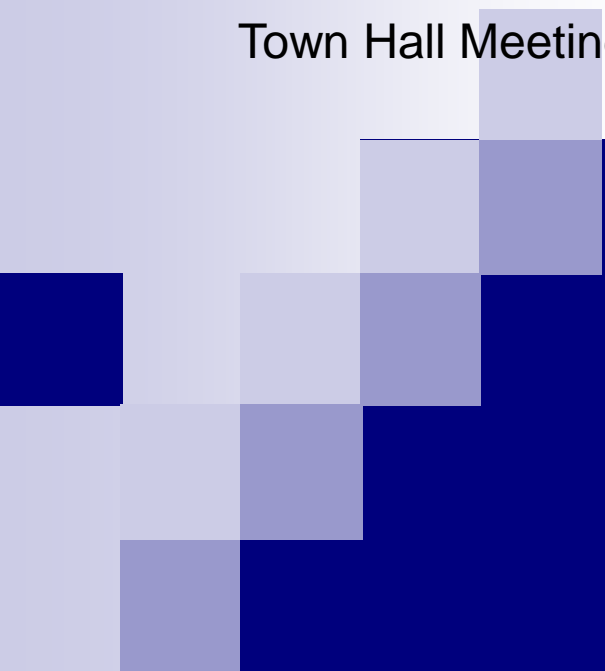# Introduction to open educational resources (Town Hall Meeting; 20 March 2012; WOU, Penang)

| URL | http://weko.wou.edu.my/?action=repository_uri&itemid=58 |
| --- | --- |

WOU- OER- CAPACITY BUILDING SERIES:

Town Hall Meeting on 20 March 2012

# INTRODUCTION TO
# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Tan Sri Prof. Raj Dhanarajan

Prof. Mohandas Menon

# Definition of OER

- Open educational resources (OER) are learning materials that are freely available for use, remixing and redistribution with varied levels of licensing

- The open license attached to OER is most often one from the Creative Commons suite. <u>An educational resource that is free and online is **not** OER unless it has one of these open licenses attached</u>.

# What is "**OER**"?

**Open Content / Open educational resources (OER) / Open Courseware**
are educational materials (usually digital) that can be:
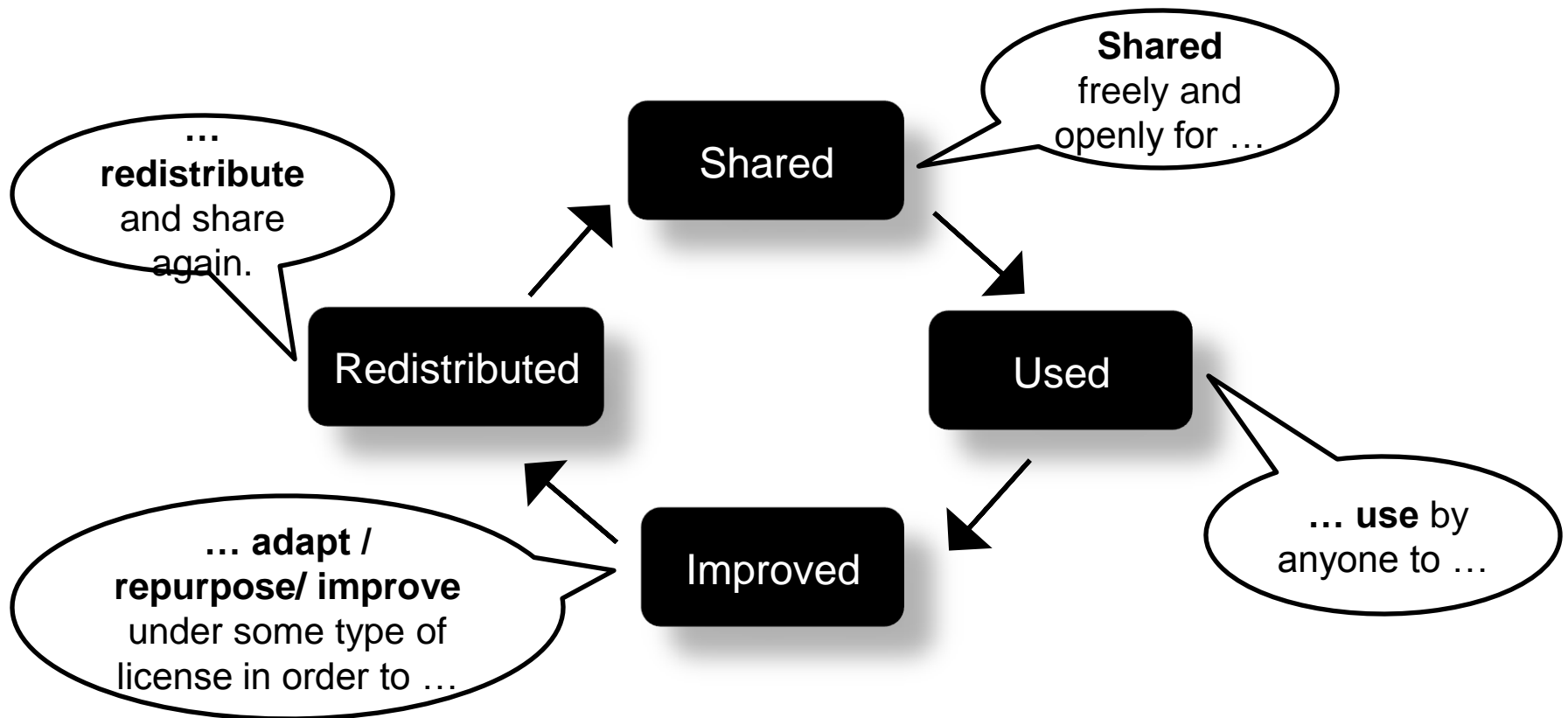
# Example of Open Content
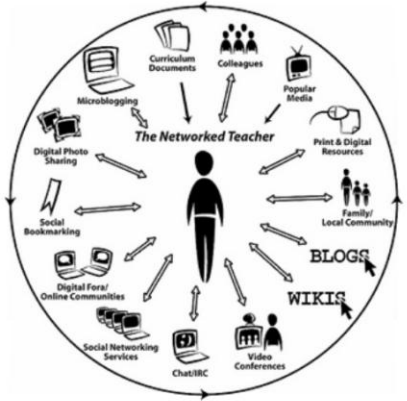


**Original diagram in a PhD thesis …**

**Adapted for the Portuguese context …**

**Translated into Greek …**

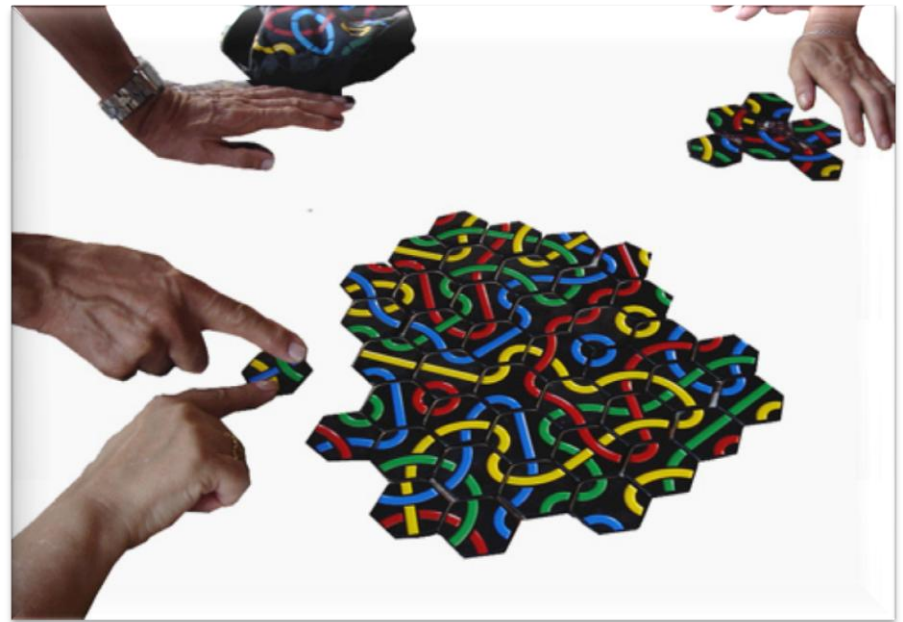**Adapted and translated to Spanish …**

# The concept of Open Content

- … is based on the philosophical view of knowledge as a collective social product and the desirability of making it a social property

(Prasad & Ambedkar cited in Downes 2007:1).

# **OER**, OA, OCW and eLearning

- **Distinction 1: Open Access and OER**
- **Distinction 2: Open Courseware and OER**
- **Distinction 3: OER and eLearning**

# Distinction 1: Open Access and OER/Open Content

- Open access refers to free, permanent online scholarly articles and journals which may be accessed for free. Open access journals may or may not allow users to redistribute or remix the articles. OER, on the other hand, encourages remixing and re-distibution.

# The difference between OA and OER.

**OA**: Open Access

**OER**: Open Educational Resources

- OA focuses on sharing content, but no underlying licensing requirement

- OER includes any educational content that is shared under an open license

- OER and OA are friends

OA // OER - buddies

**OA**

free, permanent, full-text, online access to scientific and scholarly works
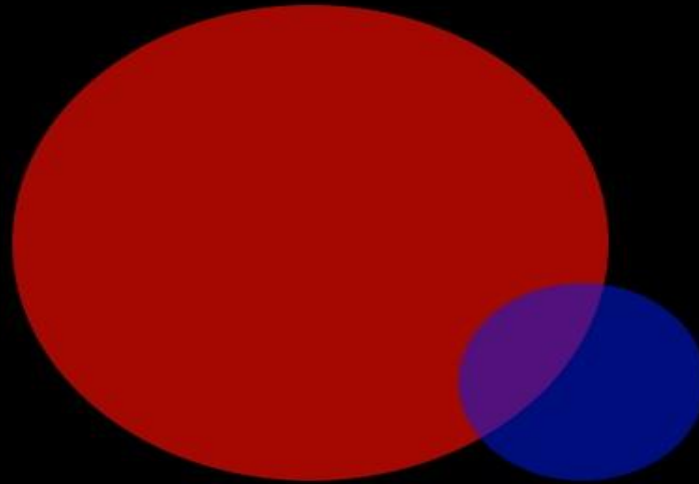
**OER**
openly licensed educational content

This slide from the University of Michigan (licensed under CC BY) illustrates the overlap between OA and OER.

# Distinction 2: Open Courseware and OER

- Open Courseware aka OCW is a subset of OER. Open courseware focuses on educational materials associated with a particular course at a given institution. It is a subset of OER. OER includes *all* educational materials - images, campus lectures, textbooks, single articles, and more.

# The difference between OCW and OER.

**OCW**: Open CourseWare

**OER**: Open Educational Resources

•**OCW** focuses on sharing open content that is developed specifically to instruct a course (locally taught)

•**OER** includes any educational content that is shared under an open license, whether or not it is a part of a course

•**OCW** is a subset of **OER**

The text above is from the University of Michigan (licensed under CC BY)

# OCW // OER - overlap

**OER**

OCW, single images, general campus lectures, image collections, singular learning modules, paper or article
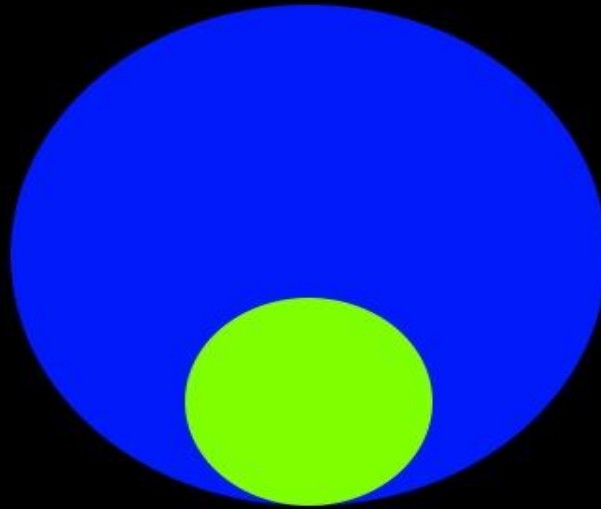
**OCW**

syllabi, lecture notes, presentation slides, assignments, lecture videos - all related to a course

This slide from the University of Michigan (licensed under CC BY) illustrates that OCW lies within the umbrella category of OER.

# Distinction 3: OER and eLearning

- Both eLearning and OER may refer to electronic learning materials. The term eLearning often refers to comprehensive programs or mini-courses complete with learning objectives, detailed textual explanations, animations, video, sound, and quizzes.  An eLearning program may or may not be OER depending on how it is licensed.

# OER and eLearning: a relationship.

## OER

- may exist in electronic **or** paper form
- may not contain enough context to be "instructional"
- are always licensed for reuse, redistribution, and re-mixing

## eLearning resources

- exist **only** in electronic form
- are generally designed to be instructional
- may not always be licensed for open use

# eLearning // OER - intersection



**OER**

**eLearning**
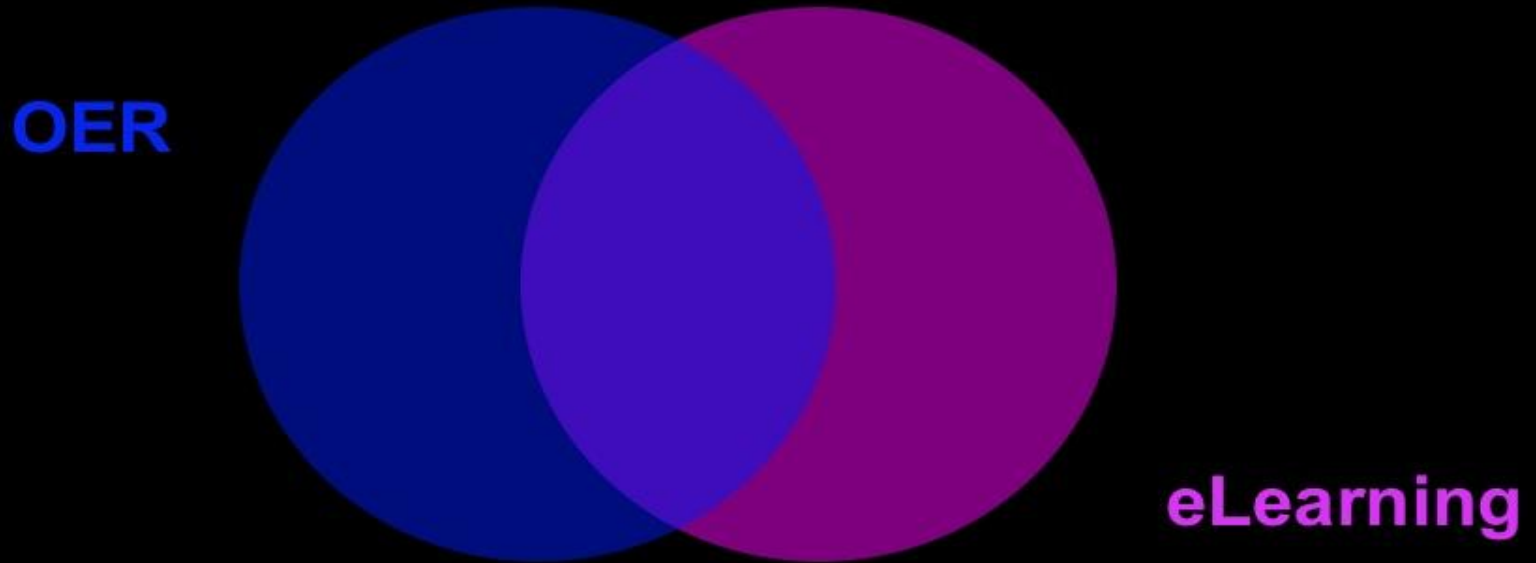
intersection represents
open, electronic,
instructional resources

# Open Content or OER part of the "Open Movement"

The Open Movement

# Open Source Software in the Open Movement
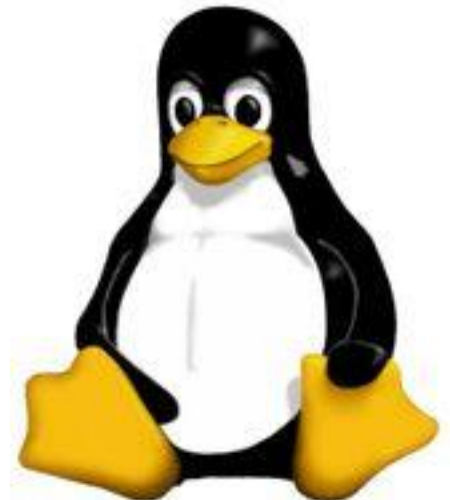
# Access in the Open Movement

**SHERPA RoMEO**

The SHERPA/RoMEO service provides a listing of publishers' copyright conditions as they relate to authors archiving their work on-line.
http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/

**PLoS — PUBLIC LIBRARY of SCIENCE**

The Public Library of Science is a non-profit organization of scientists and physicians committed to making the world's scientific and medical literature a freely available public resource.
http://www.plos.org/

**OpenDOAR**

*Open*DOAR is an authoritative directory of academic open access repositories.
http://www.opendoar.org/

**DOAJ DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS**

The Directory of Open Access Journals indexes free, full text, quality controlled scientific and scholarly journals.
http://www.doaj.org/

**Open J-Gate**

Open J-Gate is an electronic gateway to global journal literature in open access domain.
http://www.openj-gate.com/

# Open Content or OER part of the "Open Movement"

Open Source Software

Open Access

The Open Movement

# Open Licences in the Open Movement

Creative Commons

GNU General Public License

# Open Content or OER part of the "Open Movement"

Open Source Software



Open Access



The Open Movement

Open Licences

# Open Science in the Open Movement



***The OpenScience Project*** is dedicated to writing and releasing free and Open Source scientific software.
http://www.openscience.org/



The Open Dinosaur Project was founded to involve scientists and the public alike in developing a comprehensive database of dinosaur limb bone measurements, to investigate questions of dinosaur function and evolution.
http://opendino.wordpress.com/



The Open Science Grid aims to promote discovery and collaboration in data-intensive research by providing a computing facility and services that integrate distributed, reliable and shared resources to support computation at all scales.
http://www.opensciencegrid.org/



Advised by Sir Tim Berners-Lee and Professor Nigel Shadbolt and others, government are opening up data for reuse. The dat.gov.uk site seeks to give a way into the wealth of UK government data and is under constant development.
http://data.gov.uk/home

# Open Content or OER part of the "Open Movement"

Open Source Software

The idea of OPEN in ...
Open Source Software

MediaWiki · OpenOffice.org _the free and open productivity suite_ · open source

Open Source Days 2010 · ubuntu · Firefox · Java
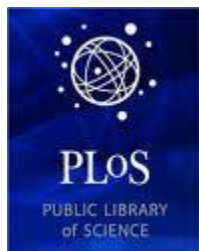
Drupal · Sakai

Open Access

The idea of OPEN in ...
Open Access

SHERPA RoMEO

The SHERPA/RoMEO service provides a listing of publishers' copyright conditions as they relate to authors archiving their work on-line.
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DOAJ
The Directory of Open Access Journals indexes free, full text, quality controlled scientific and scholarly journals.
http://www.doaj.org/

PLoS
The Public Library of Science is a non-profit organization of scientists and physicians committed to making the world's scientific and medical literature a freely available public resource.
http://www.plos.org/

J-Gate
Open J-Gate is an electronic gateway to global journal literature in open access domain
http://www.open-j-gate.com/

The Open Movement

Open Science

The idea of OPEN in ...
Open Science

The OpenScience Project is dedicated to writing and releasing free and Open Source scientific software.
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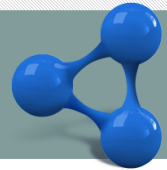
Open Science Grid
The Open Science Grid aims to promote discovery and collaboration in data-intensive research by providing a computing facility and services that integrate distributed, reliable and shared resources to support computation at all scales.
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Advised by Sir Tim Berners-Lee and Professor Nigel Shadbolt and others, government are opening up data for reuse. The dat.gov.uk site seeks to give a way into the wealth of UK government data and is under constant development.
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Open Licences

The idea of OPEN in ...
Open Licences

Creative Commons

About

GNU General Public License

GNU Operating System
GNU General Public License

http://creativecommons.org/

GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE

# Open Society in the Open Movement

Our Water Commons seeks to transform societal decision making for water stewardship towards participatory, democratic, community-centered systems that value equity and sustainability as a strategy.

http://ourwatercommons.org/

Open Everything is a global conversation about the art, science and spirit of 'open'. It gathers people using openness to create and improve software, education, media, philanthropy, architecture, neighbourhoods, workplaces and the society we live in: everything.

http://openeverything.wik.is/

Web of Change connects the foremost thinkers and do-ers in social media, technology, and social change. They are growing a community of leaders working for transformation of organizations and the world.

http://webofchange.com/

# Open Content or OER: part of the "Open Movement"

Open Source Software

Open Access

Open Society

The Open Movement

Open Science

Open Licences

# What has enabled OER?



- Change in philosophy

- Affordances of the Internet

Social

Technical

Financial
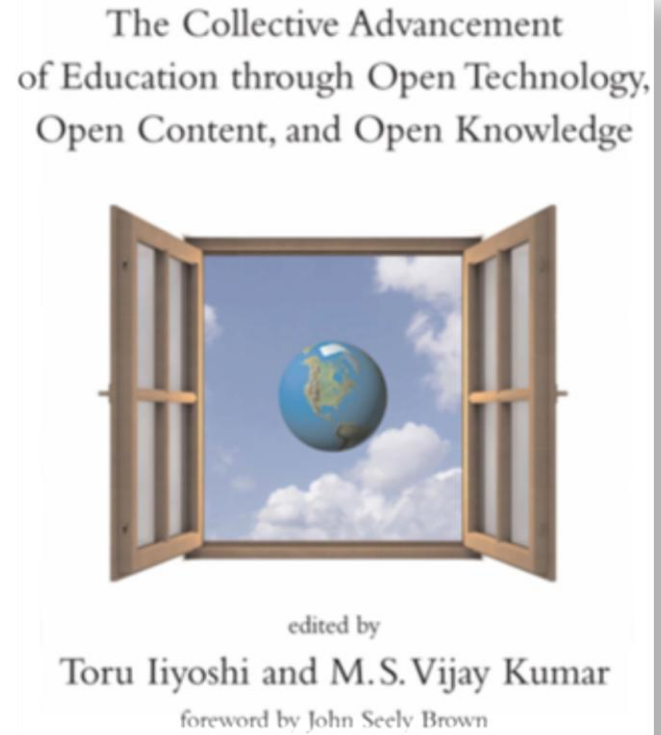
Legal

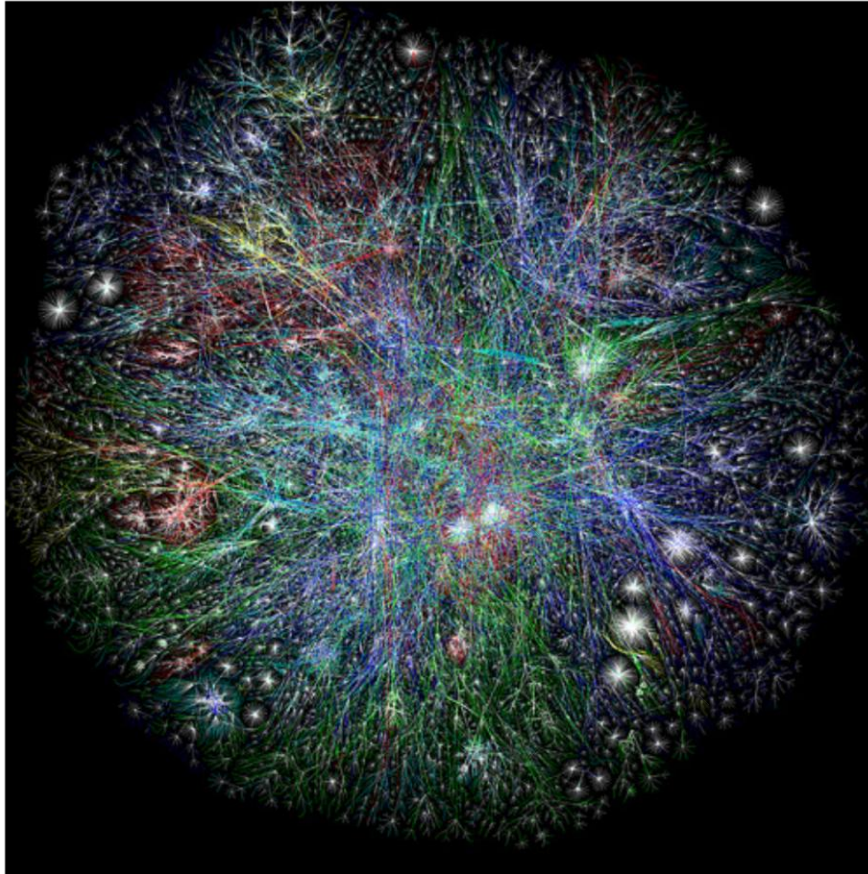- A range of financial models

- Alternative Copyright Licensing
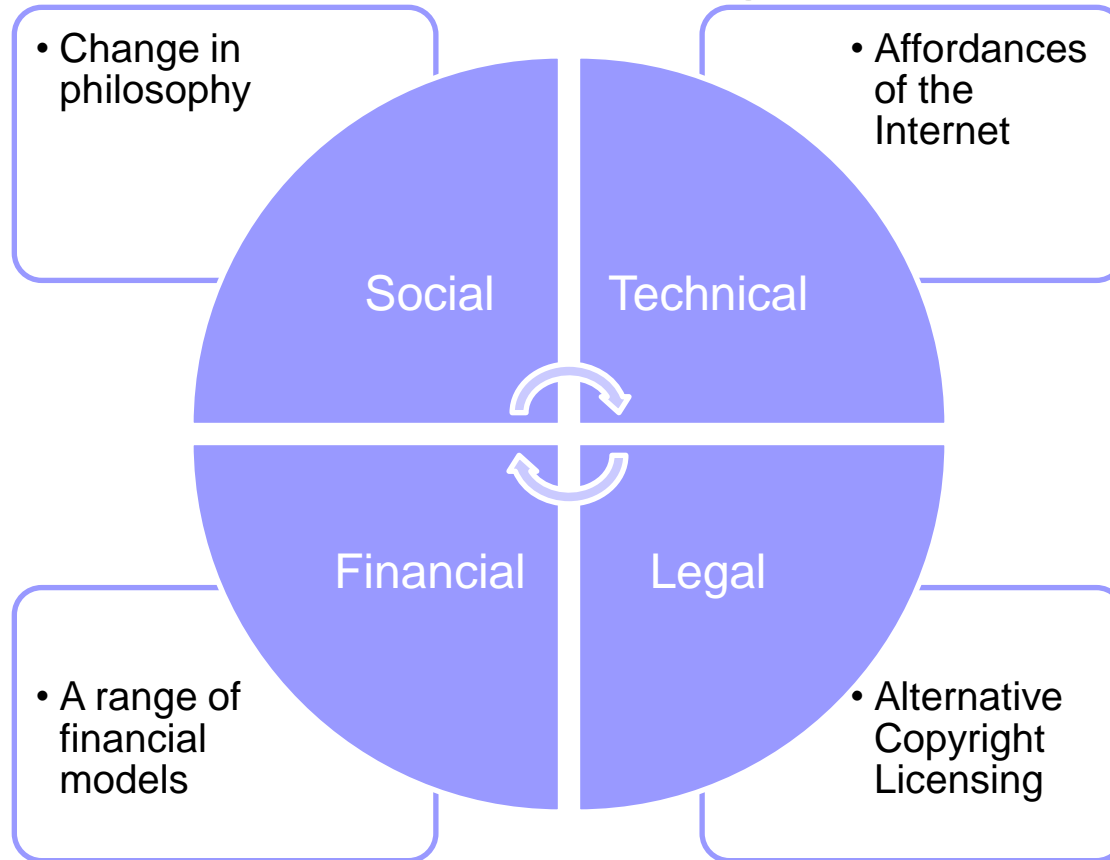
# Enabler of open content: Change in philosophy

- The Open Source Software movement led the way in showcasing the value of openness and the 'architecture of participation' (O'Reilly 2003)

The Collective Advancement of Education through Open Technology, Open Content, and Open Knowledge

edited by

Toru Iiyoshi and M. S. Vijay Kumar

foreword by John Seely Brown

# Enabler of open content: Affordances of the Internet

http://www.flickr.com/photos/curiouslee/3485479724/

Openness has been stimulated by the Internet which has provided an opportunity for information and services to be shared, used and re-used in ways not conceivable (or affordable) in a paper-based environment.

# Enabler of open content: Alternative copyright licensing

Previously copyright was binary: All rights retained or public domain

| Copyright © | | Public domain |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

Now alternative licensing options such as the GNU General Public License and Creative Commons provide a range of options where some rights are reserved

| Copyright © | Some rights reserved | Public domain |
|---|---|---|

# The paradox of sharing

- The OECD reflects that "although **learning resources are often considered as key intellectual property in a competitive** higher education world, more and more institutions and individuals are **sharing digital learning resources** over the Internet openly and without cost, as open educational resources (OER) (2007:9).

Culture of competition

Culture of contribution
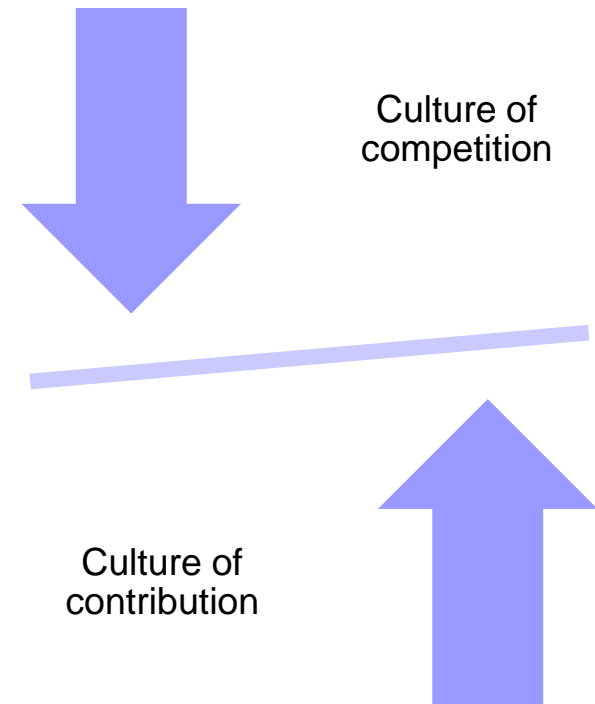
Mohan Menon
mohanbmenon@gmail.com
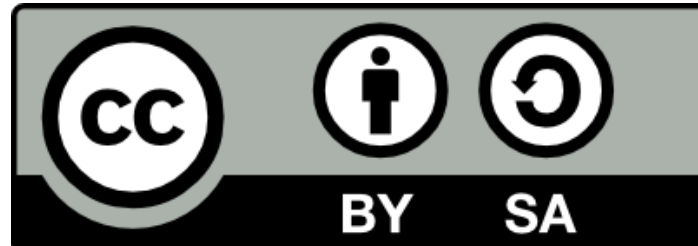


This is adapted from the original work of
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cheryl.hodgkinson-williams@uct.ac.za