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Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy

(The struggle) Towards an open source policy

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Not us!



Capabilities (Without Application Licensing Restriction)	GPL (Linux)	Dual-GPL (MySQL)	LGPL/MPL (OpenOffice, Firefox)	Apache/BSD (Apache, FreeBST)
1) Download	✓	✓	✓	✓
2) Evaluate	✓	✓	✓	✓
3) Deploy	✓	✓	✓	✓
4) Redistribute	⊘ ¹	✓ ³	✓	✓
5) Modify	⊘ ²	⊘ ²	⊘ ²	✓ ⁴

<https://softwareengineering.stackexchange.com/a/162136>

Open Source Policy

using the Apache license:

- Visibility of our efforts
- Valorisation through 3rd parties (closed source)

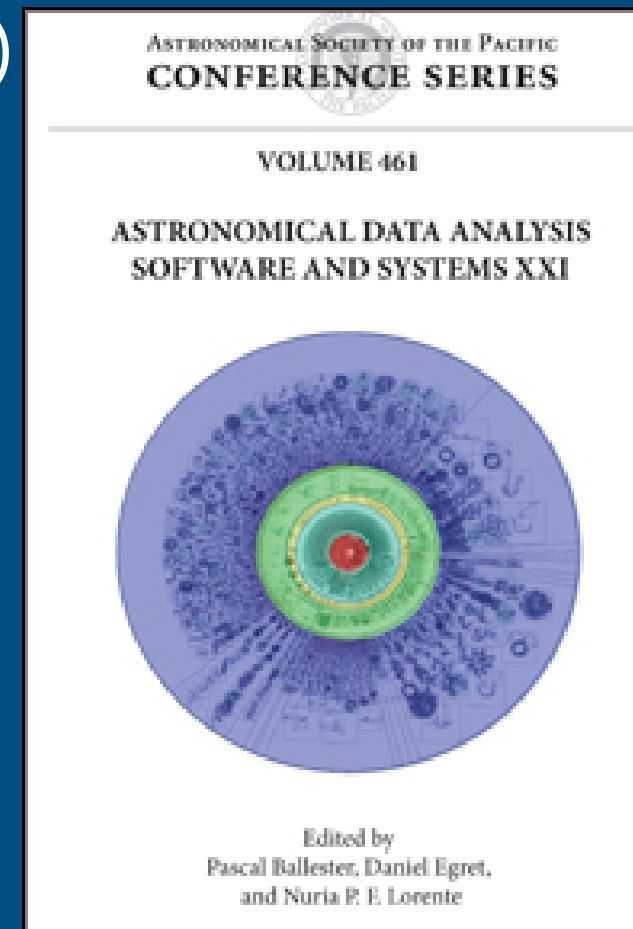
Receive credit



CC0 Public Domain

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 - fun
 - link

Document history:

Revision	Date	Chapter / Page	Modification / Change
0.1	28-09-2017	-	Creation
0.2	08-02-2018		Reviewed by committee
0.3	12-02-2018		Incorporated comments
0.4	12-02-2018		Edited format
0.5	13-02-2018		Incorporated comments
0.6	22-02-2018		Unified procedures and added remarks for MT
0.7	08-03-2018		Incorporated Gert Kruithof's review comments
0.8	04-04-2018		Incorporated amendments from Lourens Veen (Netherlands eScience Center) maintaining compatibility with current GPL licensing conditions
1.0	05-07-2018		Decided on licence to use, incooperated it. Document ready for distribution to MT
1.1	06-07-2018		Updated list of authors and distribution list
1.2	02-10-2018		Streamlined definition and hence refactoring. Also processed comments by reviewers.
1.3	09-10-2018		Several minor improvements to readability



Public domain image)

Open Source Policy Implementation

How?

- Key points in policy:
 - Apache 2.0
 - DOI for each release!* (advice: ASCL too)
 - DOI in NOTES file with software
 - All Software in ASTRON-owned repo
 - Need to deviate from open source policy?
 - get in touch with the OSC
- We realise we change most employees' work flow
 - (but assumed to have minimal impact in modus operandi)

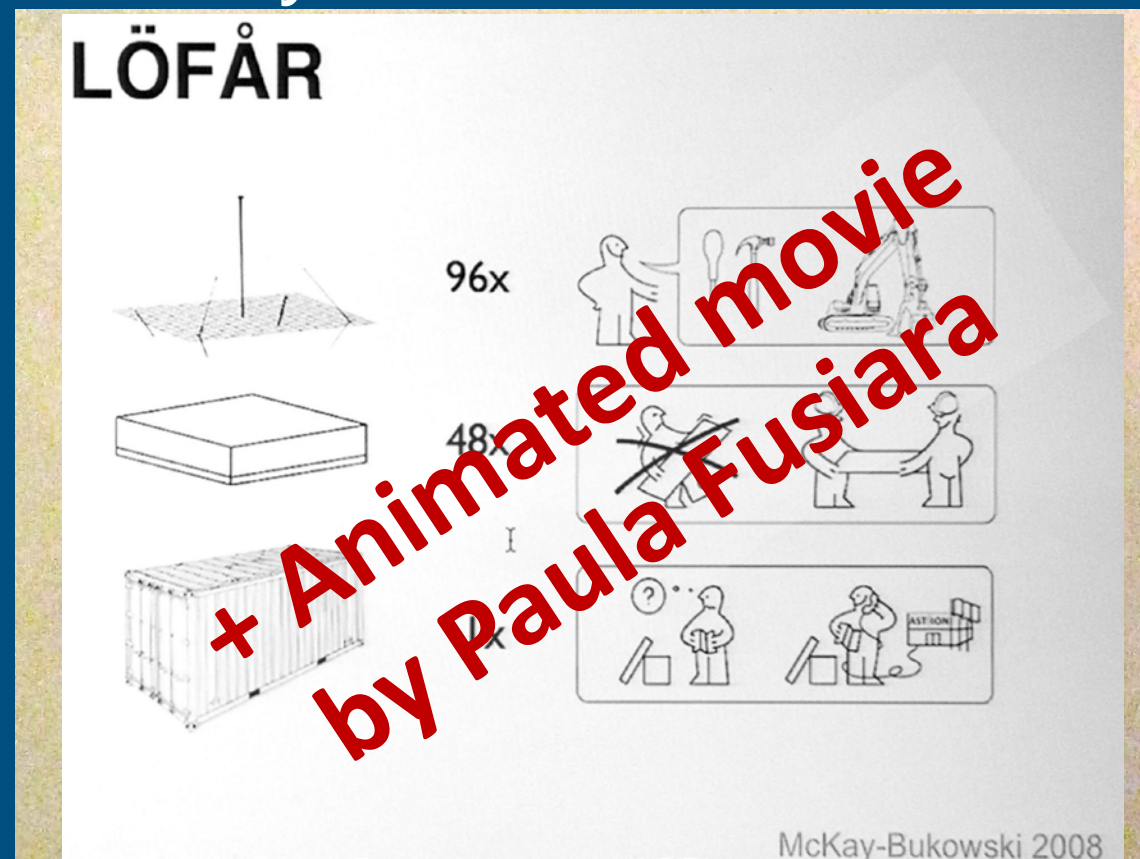


<https://pixabay.com/illustrations/fun-happy-people-happiness-joy-1012681/>

Open Source Policy

Usability is key!

- “This is the very nice eleven-page document in pseudo-legalese that tells you how to license your software!”



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Open Source Policy

What's next?

- The policy has come alive!
 - First projects adopted it
 - Evaluation ongoing by the OSC
 - Share with public stake holders (NWO)
- Now **we** want to save **you** a lot of time
 - Plans to open source the policy itself (and assign a DOI!)



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<https://svgsilh.com>





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where are we?

- ASTRON now has an open source policy
 - Which supports the wishes on open science from NWO
 - Which supports the wishes on creditability from ASTRON
- The OSC raises awareness on licensing with Project Leads
- The OSC can provide guidance advice on licensing decisions
 - We are not taking the place of legal council.