

# Open

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# Agenda

- Announcement
- Follow-up to Intellectual Property
- Learning Outcomes
- Open
- Panel
- Break
- Panel
- Wrap-up and Overview

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# Announcement

- Distributed will be covered in Week 11
  - Same as current schedule
- Bitcoin will be covered in Week 12
  - "Death" topic will be dropped

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# Learning Outcomes for IP

- Understand that intellectual property denotes a diverse set of laws for regulating the of creative works
  - These laws trade disclosure for exclusive use for a limited time
  - Physical property is a poor analogy for creative works
- Apply the circulation lens to intellectual property.

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# Copyright and Data

- Data or collections of data cannot be copyrighted
  - Example: phone book
  - Information alone without a minimum of original creativity cannot be protected by copyright
  - Creativity is still protected
- Data can be protected as a trade secret
- Census data is not copyrighted
  - Also not covered by Privacy Act
  - But is covered by Statistics Act

# Learning Outcomes for Open

- Understand that open source is a catch-all term
  - People use it to mean what they need it to mean
  - Meaning comes from context
- Understand that open source principles can be applied to other problems
- Understand the limits of open source
- Apply the privilege, autonomy, and circulation lenses to open.

# Open

- Open to whom and for what purpose?

# GNU Project

- Founded by Richard Stallman
  - Goal was to create a complete UNIX replacement
- Free as in speech, not beer
  - Libre vs gratuit
- GNU Public License
  - A copyleft license that requires derivative works are also free



# Visibility: Closed vs. Open

- In Closed Source software, only the compiled executable is shared or sold
  - Decompilation or reverse engineering is forbidden
- In Open Source software, the source code is shared as well
  - Available for study and scrutiny
- Visibility allows sharing of knowledge, not just products

# Crowdsourcing

- Linux Kernel
  - Created by Linus Torvalds as a student project
- The innovation was community participation



# The Cathedral and the Bazaar

- Explained open source to the rest of the world
- Initially, corporations feared open source
  - Microsoft
- Now they embrace it
  - Free labour
  - Community engagement



Linux Operating System Kernel



Custom Web Applications

 Programming Language

 Web Server

 Database

Linux Operating System Kernel



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## Questions

- Who can participate in open source?
- What counts as a contribution in open source?
  - A bug report?
  - A patch? How big?
- Who counts as an author in open source?
- Where do good ideas come from?

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## Panel: Open Source

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## Topic

- What is the most significant contribution of open source?
  - Visibility of source code?
  - Crowdsourcing?
  - Business model?

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# Open Government

- Movement is similar to e-commerce shift during dot com boom
- G2G
  - Governments exchanging data and services with each other
  - Think GM and Magna, but with cities and provinces
- G2C
  - Government delivering product to citizens
  - Service Canada kiosks and online presence
- C2G
  - Citizens providing feedback and direction to government
  - 311

# Government as Platform

- Rethinking of G2G, G2C, C2G
  - Not just delivery, but a redefinition of the products and services
- Success Stories
  - TTC apps, 311 apps
- Gap between information and action, local and global
  - Recall example of road paving in Hawaii
- Possibilities
  - Interactive budgeting
  - School lunches
  - Participatory democracy

# Things to Think About

- What is the purpose of democracy?
  - Podcast on Democracy
- What about the digital divides?

# Panel: Participatory Democracy

## Topic

- Design a platform for participatory democracy.
  - Who would participate?
  - What tools would you need?
  - How would decisions be made?
  - How to avoid corruption?
  - How to ensure fair representation?
- Would you participate?
- Would you have faith in such a system?

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## Up Next: Networks

- Philips et al. paper on Postcolonial Computing
  - Transnational circuits of innovation
  - Good ideas are a hybrid of multiple local contingencies
  - Pulls together many of the ideas so far
- Johnson on The Fourth Quadrant
  - Was mentioned in Cultural Commons podcast
  - Now read the paper
  - Good ideas come from networks