



UNIVERSITY  
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# Open Licenses

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# Why is licensing important?

Open Licenses play an essential role in Open Science\*

The FAIR Principles

- + **F**indable
- + **A**ccessible
- + **I**nteroperable
- + **R**eusable

“R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible **data usage license**”

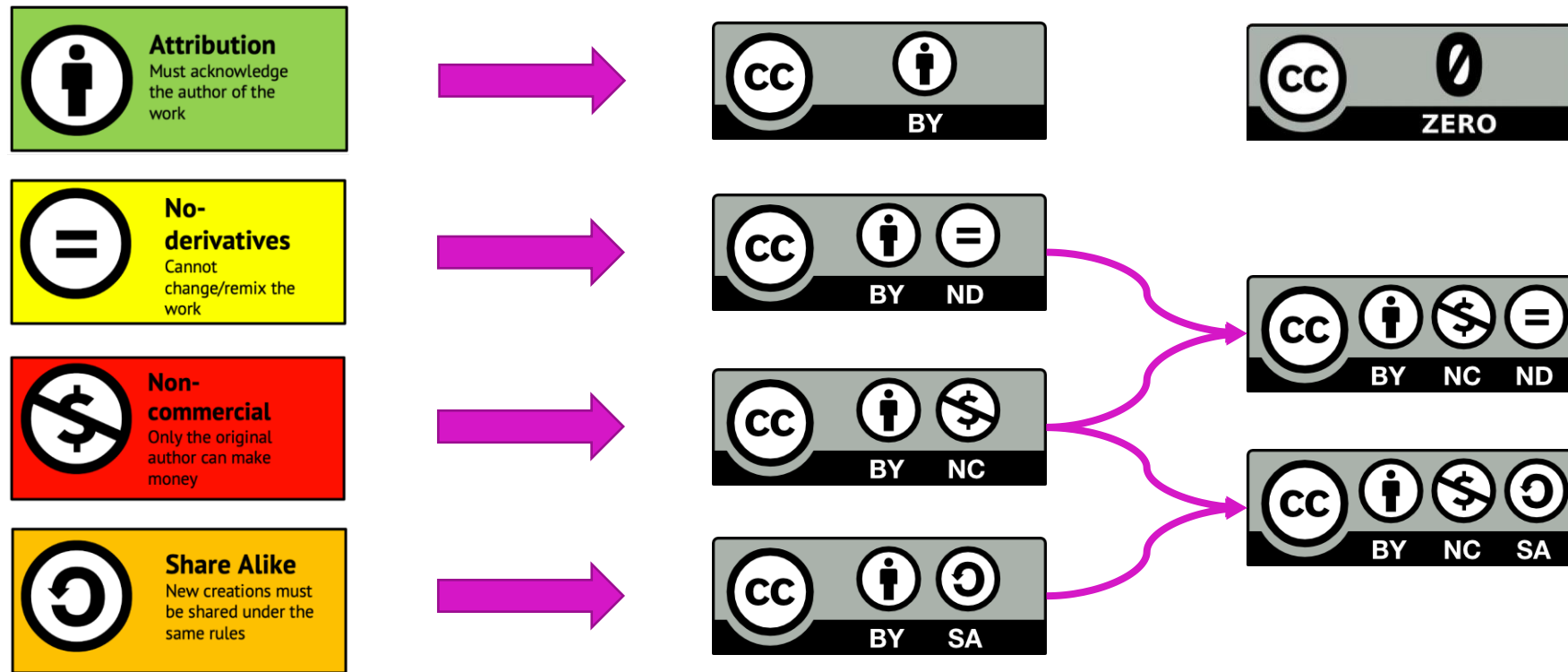
\*For more information on Open Science, check [UNESCO's Recommendation on Open Science](#).

Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. *et al.* The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* **3**, 160018 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

# Why is licensing important?

- + Licenses define if and how others can use, modify, and share creative work.  
In this context, open licenses are usually permissive.
- + Licenses can be applied to any materials that fall under copyright.  
For example, books, data, articles, photographs, videos, blog posts.
- + Licenses work alongside traditional copyright law.  
This means that violation can result in accusation.
- + Creators can share work and keep a level of control over how it is used.  
This means that creators lose control if there is no license.
- + Users gain clear instruction on what is permitted and prohibited.

# Creative Commons (CC-BY)



# Software licenses

## Choose an open source license

An open source license protects contributors and users. Businesses and savvy developers won't touch a project without this protection.

{ Which of the following best describes your situation? }



### I need to work in a community.

Use the **license preferred by the community** you're contributing to or depending on. Your project will fit right in.  
If you have a dependency that doesn't have a license, ask its maintainers to **add a license**.



### I want it simple and permissive.

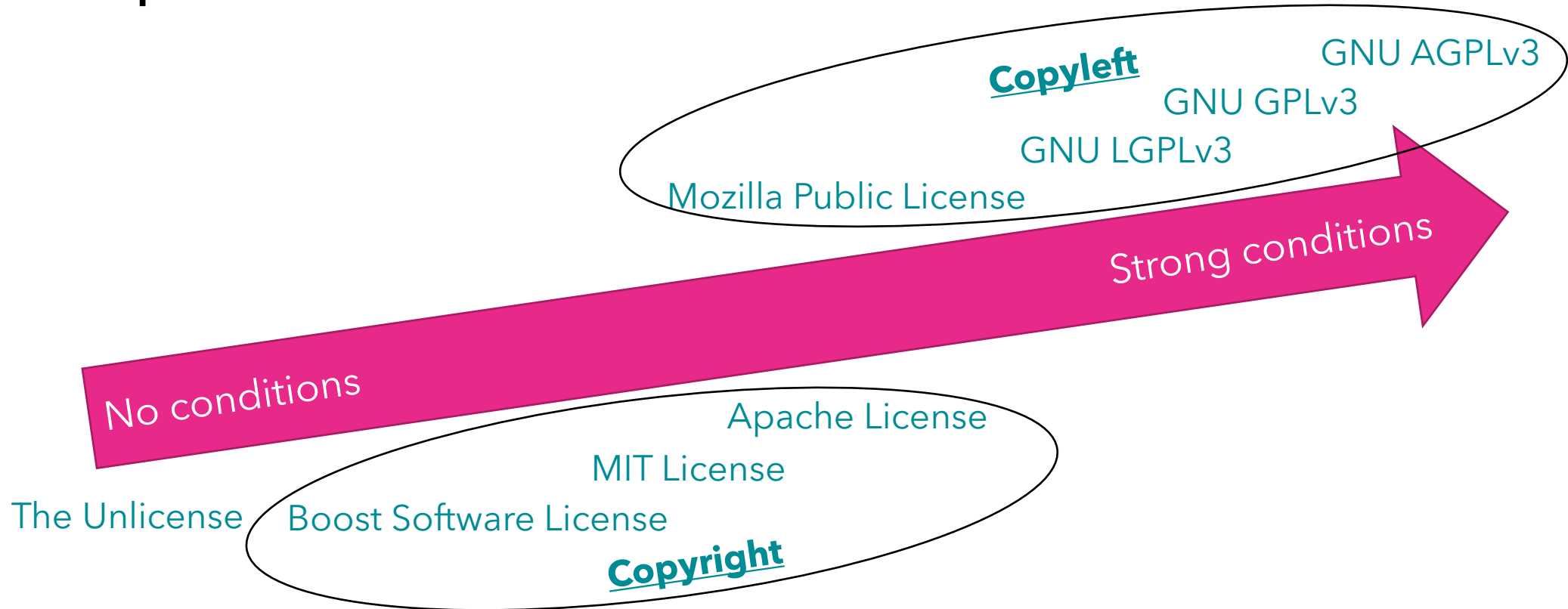
The **MIT License** is short and to the point. It lets people do almost anything they want with your project, like making and distributing closed source versions.  
**Babel**, **.NET Core**, and **Rails** use the MIT License.



### I care about sharing improvements.

The **GNU GPLv3** also lets people do almost anything they want with your project, *except* distributing closed source versions.  
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Project ID: 3632

1 Commit 1 Branch 0 Tags 143 KB Files 143 KB Storage

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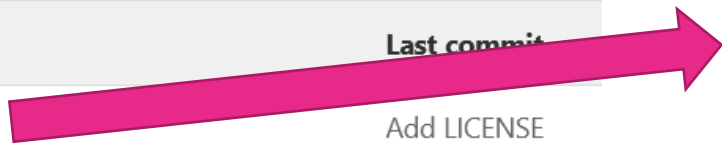
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Name	Last commit
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 README.md	Initial commit



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Funding

Zenodo is integrated into reporting lines for res

# Wrap up

- + Open Licensing is an essential aspect of Open Science.
- + Licenses make clear what is permitted and prohibited.
- + Creative Commons (CC) is suitable for creative works (incl. scientific papers and data).
- + Software requires a specific software license.  
Separate license for data and software might be needed.
- + Adding license is possible with just a few clicks.



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