

Discover the COSMOS policies about Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) on users' data and users' generated content

Introduction to the Portal

Discover the COSMOS portal is an experimental laboratory for students and teachers, aiming to improve science instruction by expanding the resources for teaching and learning in schools, providing more challenging and authentic learning experiences. Discover the COSMOS portal brings together resources, virtual experiments and online labs from the fields of Astronomy and High Energy Physics (HEP). It offers access to a network of robotic telescopes and to the major CERN experiments, ATLAS and CMS.

Thus, the Discover the COSMOS Repository includes numerous educational materials (educational scenarios and lesson plans, students' projects, animations, online tools and laboratories guidelines for interactive experiences with Astronomy and HEP Resources). Besides that, it also provides to users an Astronomy Tool-Box and the HEP Tool-Box with all the necessary tools to prepare their content for the Discover the COSMOS Repository. These tools offer a unique authoring environment to users encouraging them **to design and share their own educational projects and activities**.

Intellectual Property Rights

As a Discover the COSMOS Portal user one can not only search for educational material that has been uploaded on the portal repository but **can also modify the existing material to meet his/her needs** and also create new original material to be shared with the community. When uploading new educational content and/or learning activities the creator has to inform the community about the way he/she is willing to share in terms of intellectual property rights.

Sharing educational material among the portal members is very important for supporting effectively community building between researchers, teachers and students. The achievement of the high quality science teaching requires the combined and continued support of all involved actors, researchers, policy makers and curriculum developers, science teacher educators, teachers, students and parents and in terms of the eScience applications a common well-structured database can be the starting point for introducing innovative tools and scenarios in a school's laboratory.

In general, the educational materials on the Portal are published /uploaded under a Creative Commons licence (<http://creativecommons.org/>). Adopting such a licence gives users the right to share, use, and even build upon a work that has been created by another member of the Discover the COSMOS Community.

However, not all educational materials are licensed under the same Creative Commons license. The Discover the COSMOS portal's user that acts as a content provider is the one who settles the right license for his/her work. As he/she acts as the Creative Commons licensor of the material that is to be shared with the portal community he is instructed to answer a couple of questions on the path to choosing a license- first, do I want to allow commercial use or not, and then second do I want to allow adaptation of my work or not?

Thus, the content provider before uploading his/her material on the portal is instructed to answer the aforementioned two questions and based on his/her answers the submitted work will be labeled with the appropriate Creative Commons license. By following this procedure each uploaded file (submitted work either based on previous material that was modified or generated by the user) can have one of the following three Creative Commons licenses:

- a) Attribution, No Derivatives (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/3.0/>) where the creator **permits:** *reproduction, distribution, commercial use of the work*; **requires:** *indication of the license governing the work, attribution*; **prohibits:** *adaptation of the work*;
- b) Attribution, Non Commercial (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>) where the creator **permits:** *reproduction, distribution, adaptation*; **requires:** *indication of the license governing the work, attribution*; **prohibits:** *commercial use of the work*.
- c) Attribution, Non Commercial – Share Alike (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>) where the creator **permits:** *reproduction, distribution, adaptation*; **requires:** *indication of the license governing the work, attribution and to share derivatives with the same license*; **prohibits:** *commercial use of the work*.

On the other hand, the user that intends to download an educational resource from the portal is informed about the type of the Creative Commons license under which the specific resource is licensed. This information is provided to the user before he/she is given the downloading of the resource. The copyright information is presented as part of the metadata record that enhances the resource (educational content or learning activity). Thus, the user can decide based on the permission registered by the creator of the resource whether he/she will proceed with the downloading or not. An example on how this information is presented to a portal user is shown below, where the selected recourse is the learning activity "Expanding Universe".


EXPANDING UNIVERSE


View Edit


Original Title:
Expanding Universe


Keywords:
Hubble's law Doppler effect redshift



Description:
The Expansion of the Universe and Hubble's Law

Material:
 [Educational material file](#)
1277.952kB

 [Full metadata record](#)

Average:

Average: 5 (3 votes)

Your rating:



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The license of the work **EXPANDING UNIVERSE** by [Bracic_Martina](#)
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At the bottom left corner of the above figure one can receive information about the license of the work "Expanding Universe". As clearly seen the "Expanding Universe" learning activity is licensed under the *Attribution, Non Commercial – Share Alike Creative Commons license* (presented earlier in the text as case c).

Lastly, the Discover the COSMOS partnership has created a Private Policy regarding the personal data that the portal users provide to us, or that is collect from them whilst they visit our portal. The aforementioned Policy is presented in detail in a separate document titled "Private Policy" that is on the portal's Help section available to all visitors (registered and unregistered).