Preparing for Open Source AI —
Factual and Cultural Aspects for OSS Licensing

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opencommar.ch/open-source-ai

 kwaai.ai

A license is as much a *cultural choice* as it is a *factual choice*

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Overview of this POV

The "What"
- What is "Open"?
- What is "Open Source"?
- What is the "Open Source Definition"?
- What is the "Open Source AI Definition" (proposed)?

The "Why"
- Why does this work?

The "How"
- Factual (the *Four Freedoms*)
- Cultural (the *Four Opens*)

Example license choice matrix
- Helping inform the Kwaai choice

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The "What"

What is "Open"?

The Open definition (https://opendefinition.org/):

> "Open means anyone can freely access, use, modify, and share for any purpose (subject, at most, to requirements that preserve provenance and openness)."

Combine Open with the artifact of a field or domain:
- Open Scholarship
- Open Design
- Open Source
- Open Policy
- ...

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What is "Open Source"?

Open *Source* is a kind of Open *Work*:

An Open Work delineates the meaning of "Open" with respect to work products and projects that are released into the public domain or under a license recognized by an entity such as, but not limited to, the Open Source Initiative (OSI), the Free Software Foundation GNU, the Creative Commons (CC) or the Open Knowledge Foundation (OKF) with the intent of promoting a robust community of collaboration around the work itself and other work that it may interoperate with.

https://openworkdefinition.com/
From Open@RIT

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What is the "Open Source Definition"?

The Open Source Definition (https://opensource.org/osd/):
1. Freely redistributable
2. Source code included
3. Derived works allowed
4. Integrity of original author's work
5. No discrimination against persons or groups
6. No discrimination against fields of endeavor
7. Distribution of license
8. License must not be product-specific
9. License must not restrict other software
10. Licensed must be technology-neutral

What is the "Open Source AI Definition" (proposed)?

The proposed Open Source AI Definition v0.0.3 (https://opensource.org/deepdive/):

"To be Open Source, an AI system needs to make its components available under licenses that individually grant the freedoms to:
- Study how the system works and inspect its components.
- Use the system for any purpose and without having to ask for permission.
- Modify the system to change its recommendations, predictions or decisions to adapt to your needs.
- Share the system with or without modifications, for any purpose.

https://hackmd.io/@opensourceinitiative/osaid-0-0-3

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The "Why"

Why does "Open" work?

1. Derived from instinctive human values of cooperation and collaboration
2. Treated as a *practice*, not a *perfection*
3. Once written down, it can be:
   a. Repeated more easily
   b. Studied and understood
   c. Iterated-on and improved
4.

The "How"

How does "Open" work?

Two key aspects enable Open Collaboration:
- Factual (the *Four Freedoms*)
- Cultural (the *Four Opens*)

Factual of "Open"

Factual means a grounding in an objective definition that relies upon the rule of law - the *Four (Essential) Freedoms*:

0. The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose
1. The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.
2. The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help others.
3. The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others. By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

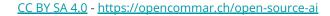https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.en.html

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Cultural of "Open"

Cultural means the sense of permission and freedom to tinker and collaborate - the *Four Opens*:

1. Open Source
2. Open Design
3. Open Development
4. Open Community

https://openinfra.dev/four-opens/

A license is as much a cultural choice as it is a factual choice

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License choice matrix — Kwaai

License	Permissive	Copyleft	Patents	Attribution	Services	Integration
MIT	*yes*	*no*	-	*yes*	*yes*	*?*
GPL	*no*	*yes*	*no*	*no*	*no*	*no*
ASL		*no*	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*
BSD	*yes*	*no*	-	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*
AGPL	*no*	*yes*	-	*yes*	*yes*	*no*
MPL	*no*	*yes*	-	-	*yes*	*yes*
EPL	*no*	*no*	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*
ISC	*yes*	*no*	-	*yes*	*yes*	*yes*

License and Open resources

License resources
- [Open Source License Comparison Grid](#)
- [Fedora Legal Resources](#)
- https://choosealicense.com/

Open resources:
- [Guides and Resources | TODO Group // Talk openly, develop openly](#)

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Q&A

Any questions?

FYI, the slide after this will have these contact links:
- On various platforms as 'quaid' or @quaid.
- karsten@opencommar.ch
- Let's talk! button on https://OpenCommAr.ch
- opencommar.ch/open-source-ai
- kwaai.ai

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Thanks!

Thank you for your attention today.

I can be found on various platforms as 'quaid' or @quaid.

You can reach me at karsten@opencommar.ch, or you can use the Let's talk! Button on the https://OpenCommAr.ch website.

These slides are at opencommar.ch/open-source-ai.

Many thanks to the Kwaai project for hosting me for this livestream!   Kwaai.ai — it's personal

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