

# Creative Commons License Primer

Professor Harlan J. Onsrud  
Department of Spatial Information Science and Engineering  
University of Maine, USA


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Cambridge England UK

*So what's the  
problem?*



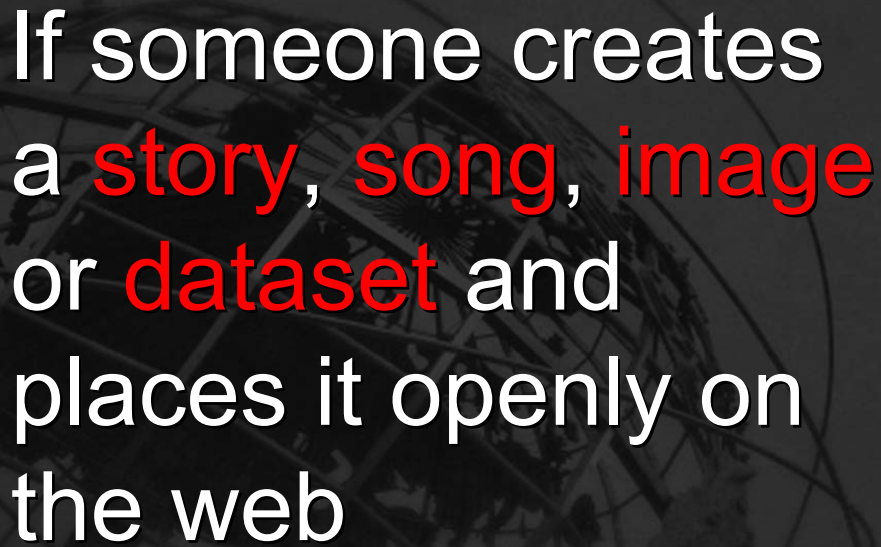
Copyright upon  
creation!

3



... whether you want  
it or not

4



If someone creates  
a **story**, **song**, **image**  
or **dataset** and  
places it openly on  
the web

5



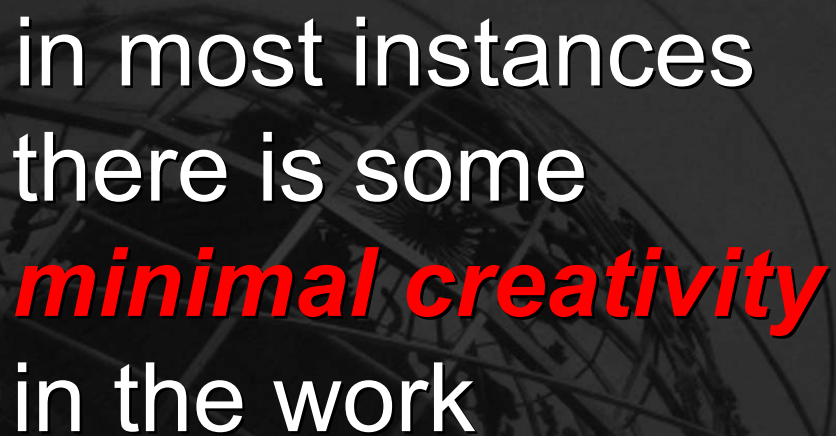
is this free for me to  
copy without  
permission?

6




Depends .....

7



in most instances  
there is some  
*minimal creativity*  
in the work

8



If so,...

9



the law assumes  
you ***MUST*** acquire  
permission from the  
copyright holder

10



How can you  
**KNOW** that there is

11



or is not

12

some minimal  
creativity in a posted  
**dataset** that would  
give it protection?

13


... you can't know  
... creator can't know  
... lawyer can't know

14



... can only know for  
sure

15



when the gavel falls  
in court on case by  
case basis.


16

Without permission,  
**you use the work  
of others at your  
peril !**

17

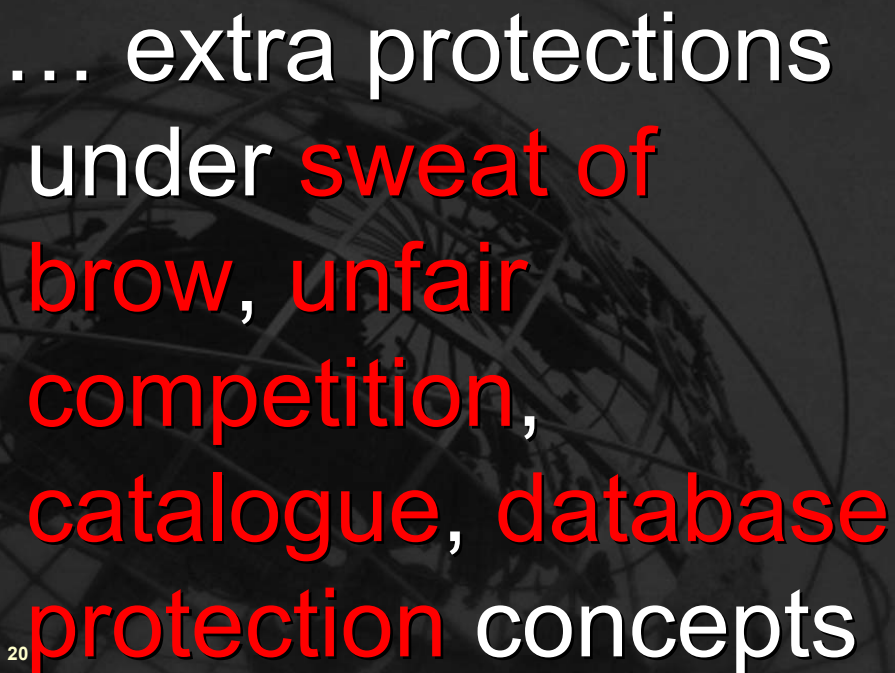
Always assume that  
a party will emerge  
to sue you if you  
don't acquire explicit  
permission!

18



Europeans in extra  
jeopardy ...

19



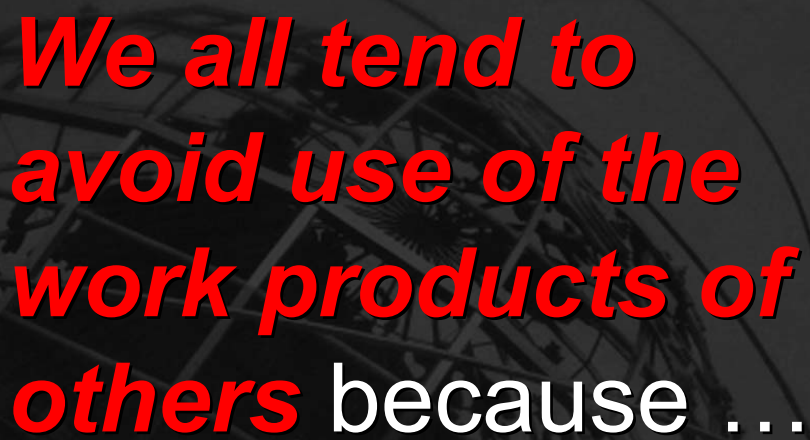
... extra protections  
under **sweat of  
brow, unfair  
competition,  
catalogue, database  
protection** concepts

20



Bottom Line:

21



*We all tend to  
avoid use of the  
work products of  
others* because ...

22



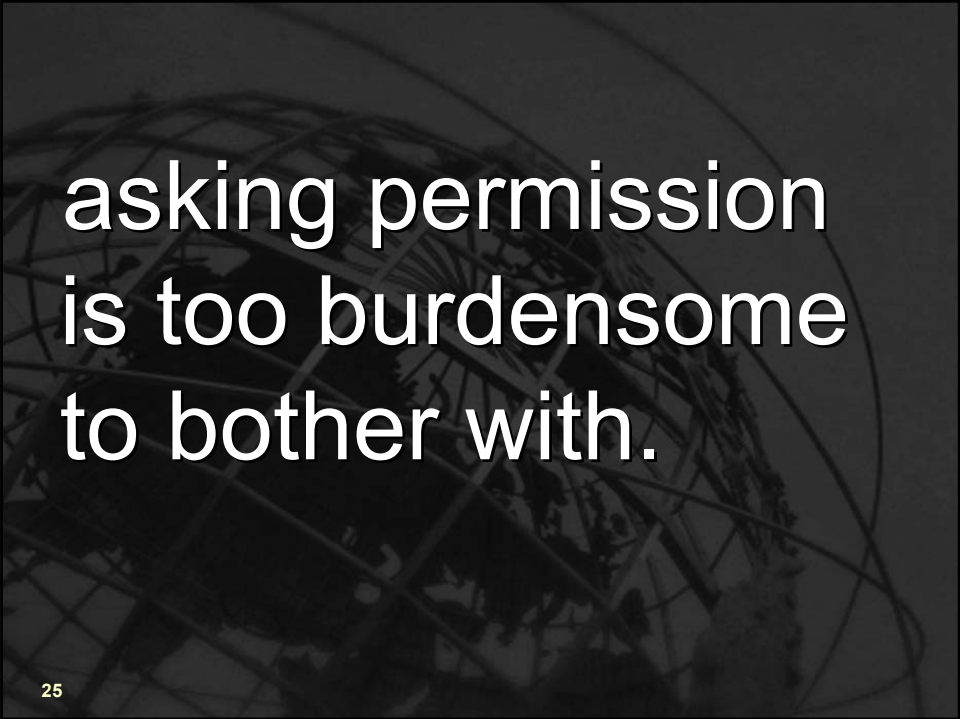
we don't know their  
legal status

23



and ...

24



asking permission  
is too burdensome  
to bother with.

25



... hundreds of  
millions of orphaned  
works

26



... or many of us are  
law breakers

27



***But that's not how  
it should be!***

28



Change the law!

29



... good luck.

30



Use the law ...

31



and technology!

32



to create an  
**electronic commons**  
we can all openly  
use!

33



***Creative Commons  
Licenses*** ....

34

with a few clicks,  
in less than a minute,  
create iron clad licenses  
for any of your work

35

**Creative  
Commons  
Licenses** all have  
important features  
in common ...

(ref. CC FAQs)

36



**Every license will help you**

37

- **retain** your copyright
- announce that other people's **fair use, first sale, and free expression rights** are not affected by the license.

38



# Every license requires licensees

39

- to get your permission to do any of the things you choose to restrict
  - e.g., make a commercial use, create a derivative work;

40

- to keep any copyright notice intact on all copies of your work;
- to link to your license from copies of the work;

41

- not to alter the terms of the license
- not to use technology to restrict other licensees' lawful uses of the work

42

**Every license**  
**allows licensees,**  
provided they live up  
to your conditions,

43

- to copy the work

44

- 
- to distribute it

45

- 
- to display or  
perform it publicly

46

- to make digital public performances of it (e.g., webcasting)

47

- to shift the work into another format as a verbatim copy.

48



**Every license**

49



- applies worldwide

50

- 
- lasts for the duration of the work's copyright

51

- 
- is not revocable.

52

What are some of the **provisions** you might “click” to include in your CC License?

53

**Attribution**



54

You let others copy, distribute, display, and perform your copyrighted work — and derivative works based upon it — **but only if they give credit the way you request** (now included in every standard license)

55

**Noncommercial**



56

You let others copy, distribute,  
display, and perform your work  
— and derivative works based  
upon it — **but for  
noncommercial purposes  
only**

57

**No Derivative  
Works**



58

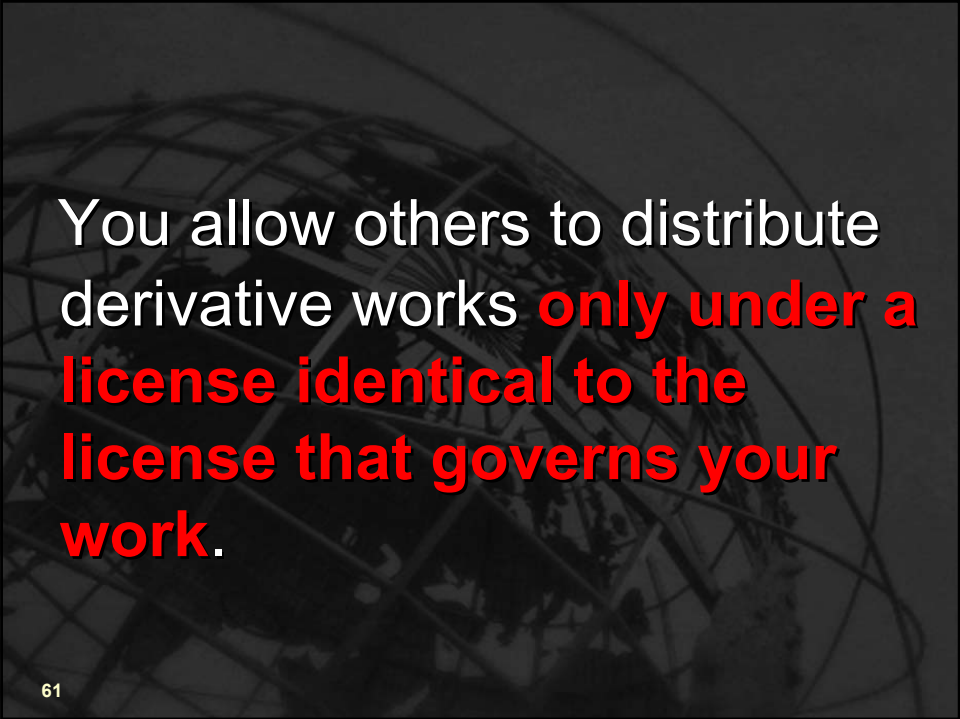
You let others copy, distribute, display, and perform **only verbatim copies of your work**, not derivative works based upon it.

59

**Share Alike**

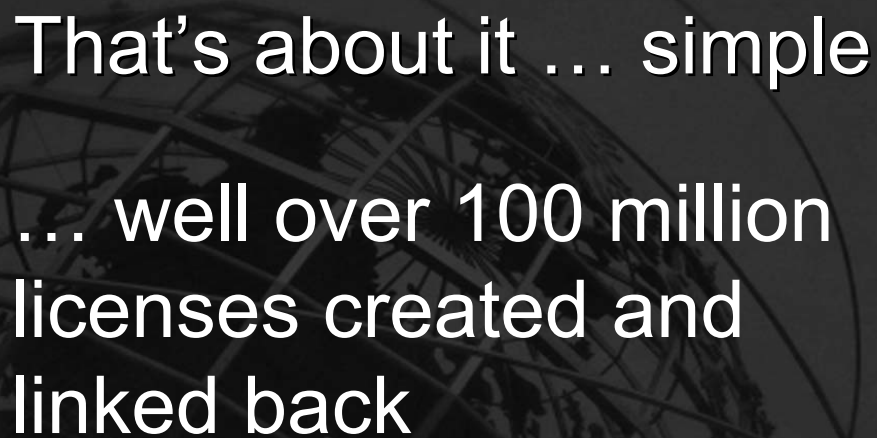


60



You allow others to distribute derivative works **only under a license identical to the license that governs your work.**

61



That's about it ... simple  
... well over 100 million licenses created and linked back

62

# Other specialty cc license options ...

63



Founders Copyright



Public Domain Dedication



Music Sampling License



Music Sharing License



Wiki License




General Public License

64



**Not just the web!**

65



Can also embed the  
cc license in Word,  
pdf, etc.

66



# For a Commons of Science . . .

67



you should only click  
**attribution**

or use the **public**  
**domain dedication**

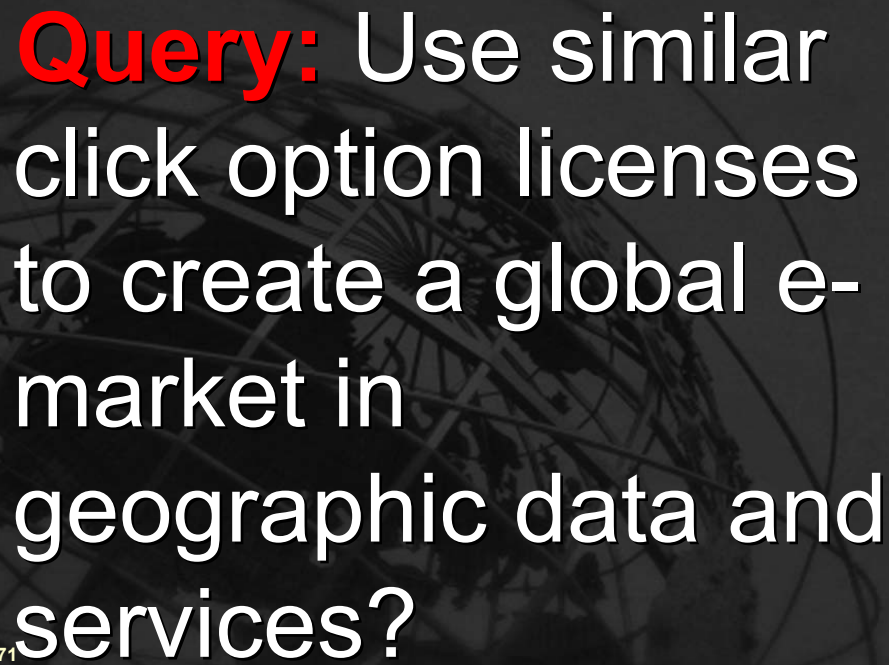
68

... these best fit the  
**mores and traditions  
of science** of the  
past several  
hundred years

69

**Query:** Use CC  
licenses to create a  
global commons in  
geographic data and  
services?

70



**Query:** Use similar  
click option licenses  
to create a global e-  
market in  
geographic data and  
services?

71



**Thanks**

72

# GSDI 10

St. Augustine, Trinidad  
February 25-29, 2008

Tenth International Conference for Spatial Data Infrastructure

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