

Contributed Talk

Splinter E-Science

## LICENSING OF OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS

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Careful maintenance of the licenses for open source projects plays an important role for the distribution and long-term evolution of the software. This not only embraces the license selection for the own source code, but also license management for source code taken from elsewhere, and required third-party software. Wrong decisions here may significantly hinder the distribution of the package and create problems even after years of use.

In this talk, I will give an overview on the licenses used for astronomy packages in Debian, their advantages and disadvantages. I will both discuss the licensing problems experienced during the packaging, and the efforts to solve them.