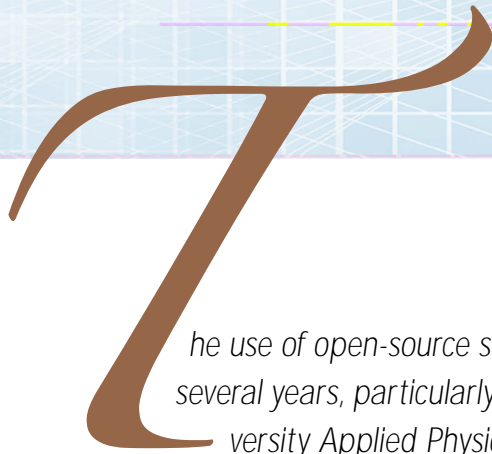


An Overview of Open-Source Software Licenses and the Value of Open-Source Software to Public Health Initiatives



The use of open-source software (OSS) has dramatically increased in the past several years, particularly in the public health domain. The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory's (APL) work on developing and licensing OSS identified a need within the public health community to better understand the definition and connotations of the words open source and the various open-source licenses. The use of OSS in the public health domain can dramatically improve the implementation of mobile and electronic health initiatives in resource-limited settings because OSS provides an affordable alternative to costly proprietary software.

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