What is an "open educational resource"?

David Farmer AIM

January 12, 2018

"Open" means two completely different things:

Having a license which allows anyone to use/modify/reuse it.

The original source is available, so it is possible to modify it.

It does not mean "free".

Popular licenses

Creative commons. Choose any of

BY Attribution

- SA Share Alike
- NC Non-commercial
- ND No Derivatives

Example: CC BY-SA

GFDL (GNU Free Documentation License)

Many others, which are primarily intended for software: Apache, BSD, GNU, MIT, and many more.

Examples, or not?

AMS Open Math Notes

"A repository of course notes, textbooks, and research expositions in progress, all freely available and ideal for use as teaching and research aids."

https://www.ams.org/open-math-notes

AIM open textbook initiative

The American Institute of Mathematics (AIM) seeks to encourage the adoption of open source and open access mathematics textbooks. The AIM Editorial Board has developed evaluation criteria to identify the books that are suitable for use in traditional university courses. The Editorial Board maintains a list of Approved Textbooks which have been judged to meet these criteria.

http://aimath.org/textbooks/approved-textbooks/

Where to find good resources?

Course pages

Personal pages

You Tube channels

MOOCs

The point: good resources are usually found in clusters.

Let's do some Googling

Pick one topic and then find two introductory short lectures on that topic. Would it be suitable for use before the topic is covered in class, or after, or neither?

Definition of group/quotient group/ring/field; what is a derivative/integral/infinite series/continuous function; what is a system of linear equations/linear operator/vector space; some other topic where it makes sense for your students to watch a video before coming to class.