

We want to welcome you to our MSCA COFUND ENGAGE workshop with the topic "Introduction to Intellectual Property, Use and Exploitation of Software" in the frame of the EU Engage project.

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What is the agenda for today?

I will tell you more about the speakers and their background.

Then Stephanie Maier will tell you more about the **Innovation and Technology Transfer** at DESY. We will discuss what **Intellectual property** (IP) is and how you can protect your IP, more concrete, how you can protect your IP through a **patent**.

Then our speaker Janine Fischer will tell us more about the Use, transfer and exploitation of research software.

At the end we will do a wrap -up with final messages and you can ask questions.



Dr. Janine Fischer

Studied "Molecular Life Sciences" (B.Sc.), "Biomedical Engineering" (M.Sc.) and "Information Law" (Diploma of Advanced Studies in LL.M. Study Program)

Responsible at DESY for IP management and licensing; project lead for the "DESY Software Innovation Hub"

Dr. Stephanie Maier

Stephanie Maier studied Bioengineering in Munich and then completed her Master's degree in Medical Technology at the Technical University of Munich.

She then completed her PhD in Physics at the Max Planck Institute for the Structure and Dynamics of Matter (MPSD) in Hamburg in the field of laser system development for surgery.

She also worked at the startup Hepa Wash GmbH in Munich, (today: ADVITOS GmbH) as development engineer in the field of R&D for controls engineering, hardware and software tests.

Afterwards she worked in a patent law firm before joining DESY's Innovation and Technology Transfer Department (ITT) in the field of inventions and patents.



Thank you for the kind **introduction**, Jayesh. And thank you very much for **inviting** us today to give this talk.

Now we come to the second point of the agenda "Innovation & Technology Transfer at DESY".



At DESY we have a **innovation strategy**. The DESY innovation strategy should provide **all-in solutions** for society and industry.

The DESY innovation strategy is based on the Large-Scale research facilities. With these we develop methods & technology competence. And this is only possible with personnel and know-how. All this contributes to the Innovation ecosystem.

As part of our innovation strategy, we want to think about innovation and transfer in all projects directly from the start. So the scientific diversity and excellence of DESY are combined with a strong innovative infrastructure.

DESY should be established as a **center of excellence and expertise** not only **for the scientific community** but also for **regional and international industry partners**.



For this mission, the Innovation & Technology Transfer group (ITT) has been established with a Chief Technology Officer as the head of this group.

The ITT- department serves as the interface between DESY experts on the one side and industrial partners on the other side.

ITT is divided in **sub-units**: the CTO Office / Communication, Industry relations, the start-Up office, Technology Transfer Office, Business Development Office, and the DESY Innovation Factory.

We also have EU projects, Micro TCA TechLab and Start-Up Infrastructures.

Janine and I are from the Technology Transfer Office, short: TTO.



And here you can see the Team of the Technology Transfer Office (TTO).

We are **eight people** at the moment and we **support DESY researchers** to bring **ideas and technologies** from **research** closer to the **market or industry**.

You can also find us on the ITT homepage. And if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.



So what are the activities of TTO?

One of the most important activity is the "Protection of the Intellectual Properties (IP) generated at DESY.

With the help of **Technology Screenings**, we try to identify innovations with exploitation potential at an early stage.

Further important activities are the Identification of **confidential know-how**, development of **exploitation strategies** and also help you with **inventions and patents**.

Following to these steps DESY is actively searching for industry partners for bringing the technology into application. We help you to set up **cooperation** and **validation projects** with **industrial partners**.

And if this is successful, we do the **Licensing** of technologies including DESY know-how as well as patent applications.

Other activities are Networking in various working groups.

And offering **Internal trainings** to raise awareness of IP protection and exploitation opportunities. \rightarrow So like what we are doing here today.



This was a **short description** of the **department ITT**.

Now we come to the **question**: What is intellectual Property IP?

Information about the following Slides.EPO and EUIPO is the provider of the original IP Teaching Kit
(IPTK).Changes have been made to the original material, that the
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translated version.



Let us start with the **definition** of Intellectual property (IP).

Intellectual Properties (IP) covers all property rights in creations of the human intellect. So if you are **working in your projects** and **doing research**, you are **producing a lot of IP** \rightarrow for example: inventions, know-how, software, experimental results, data ...

IP is protected by law throughIntellectual Properties rights (IPR).

- 1. We have here **patent and utility model rights** in respect of inventions
- 2. Copyright in respect of works of science, literature and art (incl. software)
- 3. or design rights or trademarks.

The main purpose of intellectual property right is to encourage the creation of intellectual goods. Inventors, artists, scientists and businesses put a lot of time, money, energy and thought into developing their innovations and creations. To encourage them to do that, they need the chance to make a fair return on their investment/ rewards. Therefor are the IP rights to protect their intellectual property. These economic incentives are expected to encourage innovations.

 \rightarrow



This bring us to the questions: Which different types of IP rights exists and how can you get this protection?

For **new inventions** we have two possibilities. One is to protect your invention through a **patent.**

- 1. Patents are granted for **technical inventions** as you see in the **picture**, this could be a **solution** to a specific **technological problem**, which may be a **product** or a **process** or an **apparatus**.
- 2. For a patent you have to file an **application** at a patent office, and the **patent office** will do an **examination**. If the application fulfills certain **requirements**, the patent is **granted**. What are the requirements, I will discuss later.
- 3. A patent lasts for a limited period of time, generally 20 years after filing the patent application.

Another way to protect an invention is through a utility model

- 1. A Utility model offers a **simpler way** to get protection for technical inventions. In Germany we call it the **small sister** of a patent. In **comparison** to a patent, it just protects **products** but **not processes** (manufacturing and working processes) and the **protection duration** is shorter. In general up to **10 years** after filing the **application**.
- 2. For getting an Utility model you also have to file an application, but the application will not be examined. I will be just registered after a check if all formalities are fulfilled. But if a third party is filing a request for the cancellation of the utility model an substantial examination will then be performed by the office.
- 3. It also has to be mentioned that Utility models can't be registered in the America, Great Britain and Canada.

This are the two IPRs protecting technical invention. But what about literature, or scientific and artistic work.

1. These works are protected by Copyrights. A Copyright does not need to be registered. It automatically exists when a work is created. It protects any type of original, creative expression, not just books, music, paintings, and films. But also computer programs, databases, advertisement, maps, technical drawing...

2. More about copyrights will follow later.



Let's continue with trademarks.

- 1. Trade marks are distinctive signs indicating the source of a product or service. All sorts of signs may be used as trademarks words, letters, numbers, symbols, colors, pictures, holograms, sounds, even tastes and smells.
- 2. The **requirement** for **registration of a trademark** is that it must be **distinctive**, so it **cannot** just be a **generic description** of the **product or service**. Nor can it be **identical** (or very similar) to a **trademark** already **registered or used** for that type of product or service.
- 3. You can get the protection by **registration** or **just using** it, but the **registration** provides a **stronger protection**.
- 4. Trade marks last only a limited time period, but can be extended as often as you like.

Then we have registered designs.

- 1. Registered designs protect the external appearance of a product, such as new patterns, ornaments and shapes. They do not give any protection for technical aspects.
- 2. Designs need to be **original** and **distinctive**.
- 3. Design rights **last** for a **limited period**. This **varies among countries**, but the **maximum period of protection** in a country will be **at least ten years**. In many countries, **owners** need to **renew their registration every few years** if they want to keep the design protected for the maximum possible period.

Trade secrets cover information not known to the public. If the owner of the information is taking reasonable effort to keep it confidential, he can sue anyone who steals the secret information.



This slide shows the **wide range** of intellectual property rights that can be involved in protecting a **single product**, in this case a mobile phone.

This can be trade marks such as the name of the company or product.

Then you have copyright for the software or user manuals.

Often you have also patents and utility models for example for data-processing methods.

And there are **designs** for the **form of the cell phone**.

And you also have trade secrets that a some technical know-how kept "in-house" and are not published.



Now we come to the importance of the IP Protection. What is the idea behind this IP-system?

Let us think about an environment without IPRs:

- 1. Whenever a **new product** is successful on the **market**, it is very likely that **competitors** will attempt to **make similar or identical products**.
- 2. The innovator will probably have make significant investments in developing the new product.
- 3. Competitors can **benefit** from these **efforts**. They can have **greater market access**, a **better connection with distributors**, and access to **cheaper primary resources**. As a result they are able to offer similar or identical products at a **cheaper price**.
- 4. Innovators are then **under heavy pressure** and may **be driven out of business**, while **competitors** get a **free ride** on the back of the innovator's creativity and inventiveness.

This is an **unfair situation** for an innovator. It would **not motivate** him/she to **develop further** innovation.

The IP system is there to help innovators protect their inventions, designs, brands, artistic works, and so on.

- It provides them with ownership over their work and the rights to exclude competitors from the production, import or selling their protected idea.
- 2. This rewards them for their effort and so encourages more innovation.



Now we come to the question in more detail: What is a patent?



A patent is sometimes considered as a contract between the applicant and the society.

So it is a legal title which grants the holder the **exclusive right** to prevent other people from making, using or selling for example a product.

- 1. That is **protected** by a patent.
- There are also exceptions for the protection, for example private use. As private person, you do not have to care about patents. Next exception, is academic research. These are then non-commercial purposes that are not protected.
- 3. Another **important point** is that this protection exits **only in countries for which** the patent is **granted**. Patents are **granted** in **nearly every country** in the world, but the **applicants** have to decide in **which countries** they want to **apply** for a patent. This is always a **matter of costs**, because for **every country** you have to pay **money**.
- 4. Another important point is that the protection is only for a limited time (up to 20 years).

In **return** for this protection, the holder has to **disclose** the invention to the **public**. As a **rule**, patent offices publish applications after **18 months**. At this stage, they become **visible** to everyone.

At the left bottom, you see again the contract between the **applicant** and the **society.** So the invention is **disclosed** to the **public** and therefore the applicant get **exclusivity** for a **limited time**.

This social contract is institutionalized in form of the patent law.



Now is the **question**: What exactly can be patented?

In general, you can say **patents** protect inventions which solve a technical problems. **Examples** are chemical substances, pharmaceuticals, but also processes or methods and products, devices, and systems.

But you can't patent here everything, there are also **exceptions**. For example, business methods or rules of games. And also more important, methods of treatment, diagnostics and surgery on the human or animal body can not be patented in Europe.



What a the **requirements** to get a patent for your invention?

- 1. It must be **new** to the world. This **means** not available to the public anywhere in the world before the **date of filing** the **patent application**.
- 2. It must be **inventive**. "Inventive step" is quite **difficult to assess**. To assess the inventive step, the European Patent Office **compares** it with what would have been **obvious** to a **person skilled at the art** at the **time of filling**.
- 3. And the **third requirement**, it must be **usable** for industrial applications.



Now we come to the Do's and Don'ts for safeguarding novelty.

We start with the **Don'ts**:

- 1. Do not **publish** any articles, press releases, conference presentations/ posters/ proceedings, lectures or blog posts, etc. **before you file.**
- 2. Do not **sell** any products incorporating the invention before you file.

Then we come to the **Do's**:

- 1. Contact the responsible person at the Technology Transfer department to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA). Contact us, we are happy to help you.
- 2. The **next advice** goes in the same direction: Seek **professional advice** at an early stage. **Contact us**, if necessary we will contact a patent attorney at an early stage.

Important here to know is "Once you have filed your application, you are free to present, publish or sell your invention as you wish."

Take home message here" File first, then publish".



Now we come to the **question**: How to obtain a **patent protection** in Europe ?

There are three options for this.

Option 1: The **national route**. This option may **be the best**, if you are seeking protection in only a **few countries**. Drawbacks are: You have separate procedures for each state and procedures differ according to national law in each state. At DESY, we only choose this option if we only want a German patent.

Option 2: The regional route. This route is via the European Patent Office under the European Patent Convention. The European patent system was set up to harmonise and streamline the patent granting process

in Europe.

- 1. You file **one application** at one office for up to 42 states and there is just one procedure for application and examination
- Once the application is granted, the applicant selects the desired states, in which of the 42 countries the IPR should be validated or selects the European patent with unitary effect- that's new. For this, he has to perform certain acts such as paying fees or translating the patent document.
- Applications can be filed at the EPO in any language. However, the official languages of the EPO are English, French and German. If the application is not filed in one of these languages, a translation has to be submitted.

Option 3: The **international route:** A third path for getting a patent protection in Europe, is **going by** the **Patent Cooperation Treaty or PCT**.

- 1. The PCT allows to apply with one single application for up to **148 countries**. So, not just in Europe but **worldwide**.
- 2. PCT applications do not lead to "international" patents. Instead, they branch into national patent

applications. The applicant gets a **search report** and an **opinion on the patentability** of his invention, and has up to 30 months to decide in which countries he wants to proceed with his patent application. 3.





Use, transfer and exploitation of research software

Scientific software = valuable ressource

SoftWert Project 2020 – 2023 BMBF funded Solutions and Tools for Software Exploitation

www.softwert.org

My topic is the use, transfer and exploitation of research software.

Software is a very valuable resource.

The transfer, exploitation as well as sustainable reuse and application of research software can create

- revenews,
- impact for the instution & the researchers, as well as
- networks and collaborations to transfer the software and
- knowhow transfer into application in industry and society.

In 2020 there was still a lack of exploitation tools for research institutions.

Therefore the German Ministry of Education&Research financed the Joined Project "SoftWert" in order to develop and validate suitable exploitation tools for research institutions. 3 Helmholtz research centers and a university were part of this project which was lead by DESY.

Results of this project can be found in more detail under www.softwert.org and I will cover the basics of this pool of knowledge in my talk.



The path of software exploitation covers the whole process from identifying research software with exploitation potential to the final transfer of the software and its application outside the own institution



The first very important step is to raise awareness that research software is very valuable and can have the potential to solve many challenges in society. Furthermore the benefits for the researchers and their research, from creating impact, collaborations, getting funding opportunities. Revenews coming from exploitation for example at DESY go into an innovation fond that is used to financially support innovative research projects at DESY to become products and go into application or the basis for founding a spin-off/start-up.

A software declaration process, screenings, workshops and personal contact to the researchers and software developers is used to identify research software with exploitation potential



In the next step this exploitation potential needs to be assessed to evaluate how much effort and ressources should be invested into creating a transferable software or exploitable product.



Within the SoftWert project we developed a tool that assessed the exploitation potential of a software and gives recommendations for actions. This tool can be used for software with commercial potential but also for open source software.

4 areas are analysed.

First the software itself. How is the quality of the software? Is a documentation or manual already available? How user-friedly is the software

Next the team. Is the team motivated to develop a transferable code or a software product? Will this team be available in the future in order to provide support, consulting or maintanance?

The institution should also be onboard. Is the research institution interested in exploitation of software? Which transfer path (like Open source publication, industry collaboration or commercial licensing) are favored and supported?

Last but not least the market interest for the software. Who ist interested in the software? How broad is the the application potential (different markets)? Are there already contacts to and interest in the software/knowhow from industry partners or other organizations?

Answering questions in all of these 4 areas in the tool will give recommendations for action depending on the exploitation potential.



A very crucial step is the identification of possible transfer pathways that can be used to exploit the software



Software can be exploited in many ways like open source publication, commercial licensing or providing service&consulting.

The decision for a suitable pathway is based on technical and legal restrictions which allow and forbid certain transfer pathways. I will talk about this part a bit more deeply in the next part of my talk. To identify all the possible transfer opportunities a lot of legal questions and details have to be addressed and answered. Furthermore a basic knowledge about licensing is beneficial.



The different transfer pathways can be selected and also be combined to create different business models via which the software is then transferred to the user or customer.



Open Source Software publication can for example be combined with a service offer. Software can be utilized via a commercial software license with additional knowhow or services attached. And last but not least a Software as a Service can be provided to the customer where the user is accessing the software via the cloud and thereby no software code or confidential knowhow needs to be tranferred.



As mentioned before, I would like to talk in more detail about the legal basics of software exploitation which are covered by the Copyright law





I will talk about the German copyright law. Be aware that the laws may be different in your country – this is to my knowledge especially the case for the US and the UK.

Software code is similar to a book that you could write protected by copyright law. This protection is automatically granted just by writing the code.



If a software is developed by different authors, all authors together hold the usage and exploitation rights. Therefore all authors must agree together on the exploitation strategy and for example the license type. These rights can be transferred to others.

In case the software was developed within an employment contract, the exploitation rights belong to the employer.

This is critical if there are different authors. It has to be identified for each author if they provided code under an employment contract. It is beneficial to document the names of all authors and their employers from the time when they added code to the software to be able to find out who (different software developers, different employers) is allowed to decide on the exploitation strategy and license type



If you as a user want to use a software it is critical to get consent of the rights holder.

These user rights can be regulated and determined via a license

The licensor can determine for what purposes and under which conditions the software may be used. And the user (licensee) knows what he is allowed to do and not with the software. So both sides are legally covered.



If you use a software in-house, you may be quit save. But anyhow always check the license situation to be on the safe side. Especially with commercial software.

But in case software is distributed externally (also non-commercially) or used commercially, licenses are crucial.

Licenses can allow and restrict all activities (Copy, Modify, Distribute, Use Commercially). Whenever software is distributed to third parties, a license should be attached or negotiated.

Your can create these license texts yourself or you can choose existing templates like FOSS licenses

Open Source versus Proprietary Licenses				
Free Open Source Software (FOSS) License	Proprietary License (End User License Agreement)			
 Similar to terms of service agreements, standardized like Creative Commons licenses, no modifications allowed to the license text 	Individually created license text / license agreements			
 The licensee may: 1. View the source code 2. Use/apply it 3. Modify it 	 All usage conditions for the software and source code can be individually formulated and specified in the license text 			
4. Distribute it	• The source code can, but does not have to be disclosed			
Usage of the software doesn't have to be free of charge	Usage of the software does not have to incur a cost			
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To elaborate on this topic a bit deeper, I want to show you the differences between the Free Open Source Software Licenses (FOSS Licenses) and Proprietary Licenses (End User License Agreement - EULA)



There are over 100 licenses listed on the Open Source Initiative website.

You can choose a license based on your own goals or mission. A helpful website is www.choosealicense.com



Open Source licenses were originally developed in order to assist software developers to share their software with third parties under their conditions without the need of any deeper legal expertise.

However, Open Source licensing is not trivial.

The licensor needs to select a suitable license based on the rights that should be granted. This includes knowhow about copyright, copyleft and compatibility of different license types

The licensee on the other side also needs to have an understanding of licenses, copyrights, compatibility issues, copyleft effects and requirements for documentation that can come with using the source code or software and may be demanded when using certain license types



But writing ones own licence text or EULA is also not trivial.

There are no guideline as to what should be included.

Just that the license text should be formulated in such a way that it provides sufficient legal protection for both the licensor and the licensee



Potential contract points that I cover in my license agreements are

- Confidentiality clauses,
- costs,
- liability,
- tax and
- export control clauses
- if source code is provided or only executable software
- as well as the permission or prohibition of giving the software further, called sublicensing.



Research software can be exploited via 5 different business models.

First via Open Source Licensing

If the source code should remain confidential a non-commercial license is suitable. Open Source licenses cannot be used for this because they literally stand for the disclosure of the code – it should be freely available. So a proprietary EULA License needs to be prepared for the non-commercial license model

To create revenew a commercial license needs to be prepared. This model can be expanded with the addition of sublicense allowance, access to the source code, services and consultation



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INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGIE TRANSFER

MSCA COFUND ENGAGE workshop | Dr. Janine Fischer | 05.08.2024





Free Open Source Software (FOSS) Licenses				
 Open Source Licenses entail different terms of use Can be roughly divided into three groups: 				
Strong Copyleft Licenses (GPL 2.0, GPL 3.0, AGPL 3.0, EUPL 1.2) Weak Copyleft Licenses (LGPL 2.1, LGPL 3.0, MPL 2.0)	Permissive Licenses (no Copyleft) (MIT, BSD-3, Apache 2.0)			
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