

# CeCILL open source implications for NEMOVAR

What we can and cannot do  
(according to ECMWF's lawyers).

## Implications of the CeCILL license.

- **All code that we *write* needs to be under the CeCILL license:**
  - **All of our own code will be fully redistributable.**
    - **Once we give it away the recipients can redistribute it to whoever they want.**
- **I don't think that this is the major issue.**
  - **We can't really use NEMO without accepting these conditions.**

## Implications of the CeCILL license 2.

- **All code that we *import* from other sources has to be compliant with the CeCILL license:**
  - The imported code has to be either under the CeCILL license or a compatible license (e.g. GPL or modified BSD license).
  - Freely downloadable software from the internet is not necessary under a compatible license.
    - No available license information does **NOT** mean that we can use it. We have to check with the authors of the software.
  - **Example: Numerical recipes code is under a proprietary license which do not allow redistribution.**

## Implications of the CeCILL license 3.

- **Rewriting code in another language (e.g. translate a F77 code to F90) does not change the license.**
  - So for example all of our numerical recipes F77 to F90 translated random number generators is a violation of their license.
  - We are all going to jail...
- **Importing code from the IFS (e.g. the original congrad, reproducible sum *etc*) needs to be confirmed by ECMWF management that this code can be released under CeCILL (not expected to be a problem)**

# What do we have to do?

- 1. Remove all unneeded numerical recipes routines.**
  - 2. Replace all needed numerical recipes routines with open source (or our own) equivalent code.**
  - 3. Review the code for other license violations.**
- We really should not distribute the code until this is sorted.**
  - This includes handing it over to the NEMO team.**