



# Outline

- **Problems of textbooks in Hong Kong**

Traditional publishing

Difficulties of teachers

- **OCHK proposal**

A repository and a collaborative environment

Content: levels from university to primary school

Quality assurance

Community and capacity building

# Problems of Textbooks in Hong Kong



# Problems

## Problems of traditional textbooks

- Price too high
- Not flexible enough for updating, or school/class based tailoring
- Students are not provided with e-version of textbooks



# Problems

## Problems of traditional publishing

- Production cost too high; also costly to renew and update;
- contents are static;
- even more expensive when bundled with supplementary materials such as worksheets, quizzes, and multimedia classroom teaching;
- not flexible enough to cater for the specific needs of students or schools.

# Problems

## Problems of publishers

- Publishers are unwilling to put the material en masse online due to rampant piracy. Students are hence deprived of the options of online access and mobile learning, which is an important element of teaching and learning today.
- Publishers feel that their job is increasingly onerous and their business less profitable than before.

# Problems

## Difficulties of teachers

- Teachers have attempted to develop their own teaching and learning materials but the scale remains small due to limited human resources. Their works are not shared among colleagues.





# Our proposal



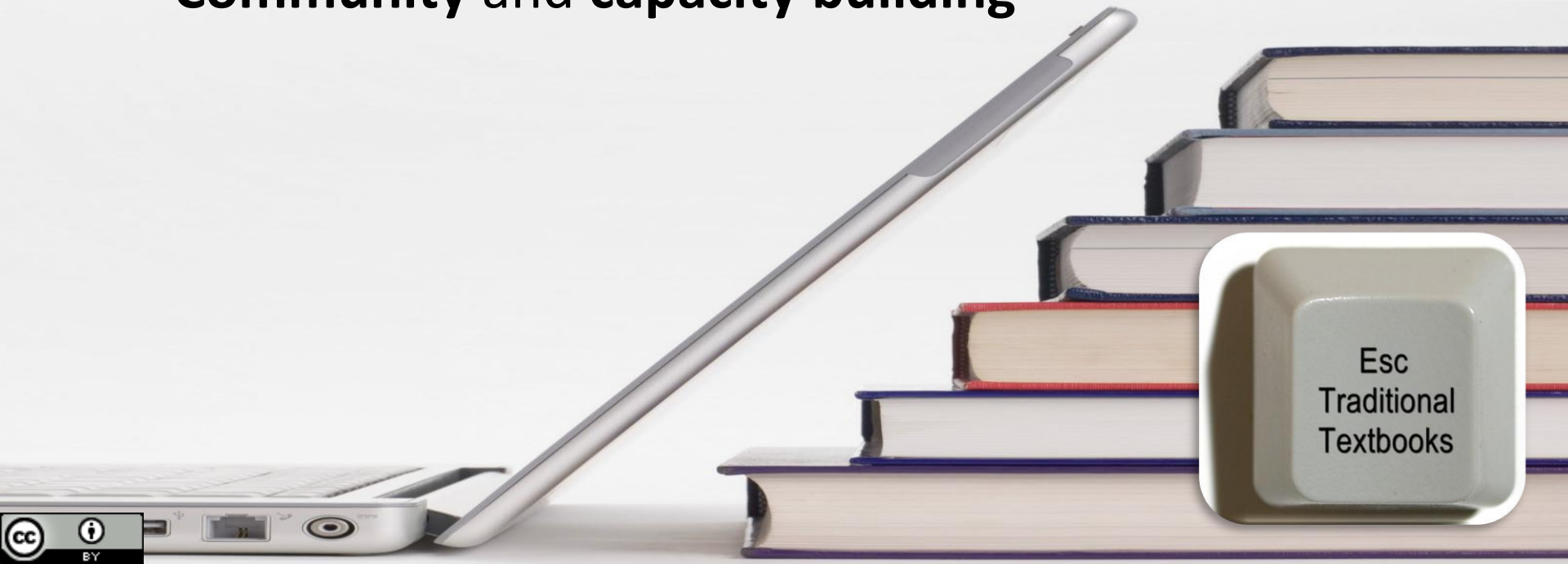
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# An Open Textbook System

## Our proposal

- An online open textbook **platform**
- Online **textbooks** and teaching materials
- **Quality assurance**
- **Community and capacity building**



# Comparison

## Traditional textbooks vs open textbooks

Traditional textbooks publisher	Open textbooks system
Commissions authors to write	Open invitation to experienced teachers, retirees, professors; Adopts and adapts existing open materials; Buys copyright of existing books and updates them
Authors and teachers different people	Contributors and teachers can be the same person
Has to produce a whole book	Accepts contributions from different teachers and forms a book
Students have to buy a whole printed textbook	Students can buy/print just a portion of a printed text, and use a portion of e-text
Protects copying	Welcomes copying with attribution