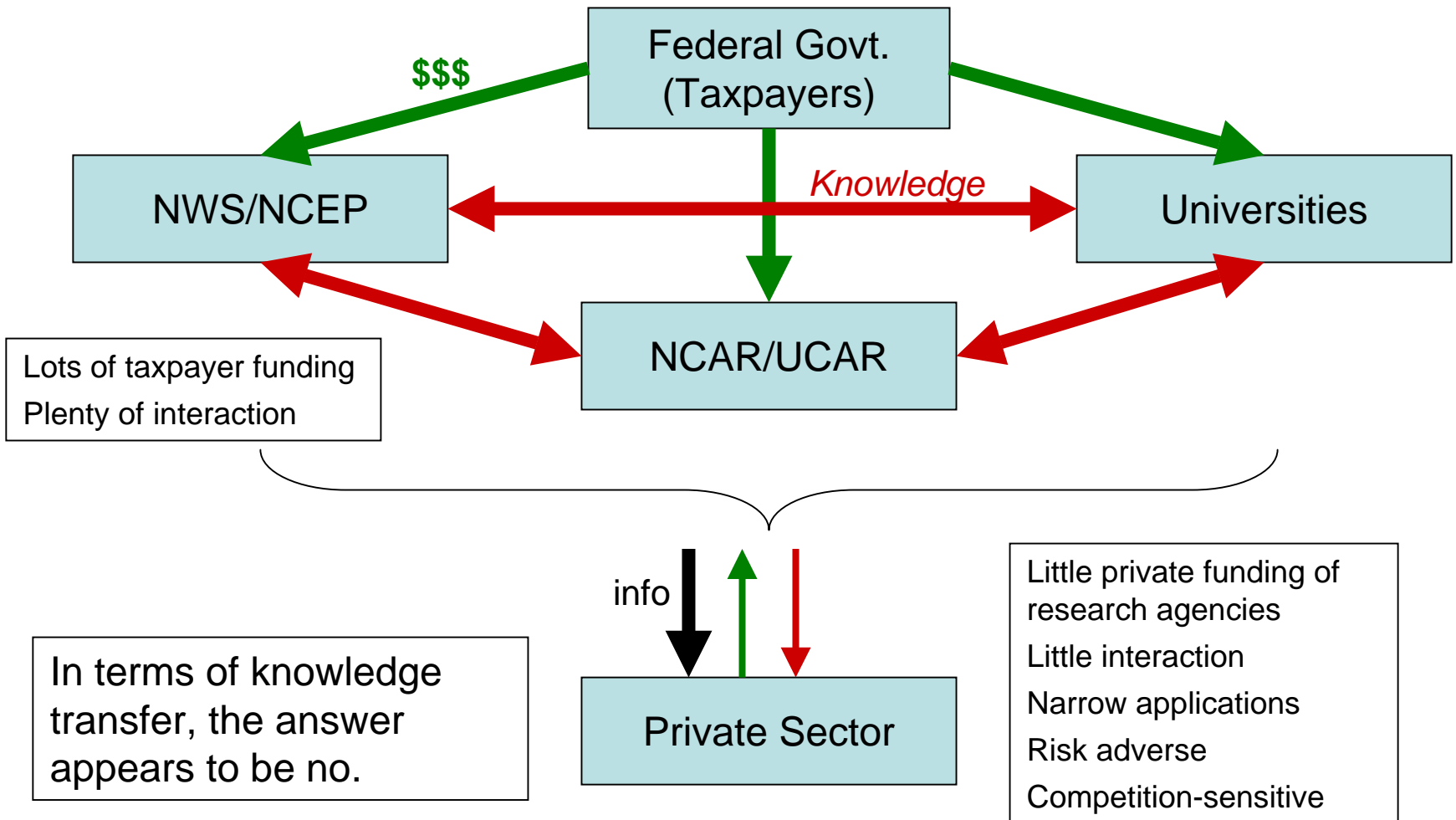


# A New Model for the U.S. Weather Prediction Enterprise – A Public Sector View

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The Future of the U.S. Weather Prediction Enterprise  
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# Is the Private Sector an equal member of the Triad?



# Is the Private Sector an equal member of the Triad?

- Great deal of knowledge transfer among taxpayer-funded agencies
- Private sector is a strong consumer of information and products
- Private sector well represented at this meeting and in the community in general
- Little transfer of research knowledge between private and public sectors
  - Risk-adverse
  - Competition-sensitive
  - Narrow applications

# Data Availability

- Mesonet
  - Companies sensitive to release of proprietary data
  - Thanks MesoWest and MADIS!
- Aircraft (ACARS/MDCRS)
  - Data not for sale at any price
- Snowfall
- Wind Profiler
- Native, high-time resolution NCEP grids
  - Communications bottleneck
  - Localized computing the answer?

# Data Availability (cont.)

- Need access to the full volume of data flowing into NCEP, and the algorithms to process the data
- Central distribution point(s) for all data
  - NCEP? NWS?
  - Including fee-based?
  - Example: NEXRAD Level II

# Licensing of Taxpayer-funded Software and Algorithms

- Should the private sector have to license taxpayer-funded software and algorithms?  
Exclusive licenses?
  - The agency may not want to “give away” publicly-owned IP for a company to “make money”
  - WDT has both benefited and been hindered
    - Exclusive license from OU/CAPS to ARPS/ADAS v. 5

# Community Involvement

- How can the private sector be a **contributor to**, not merely a **consumer of**, NWP research and knowledge?
  - Private sector “contribution” is often just the last stage of the assembly line
    - Relationships are often contractual – work for hire
  - Significant and increasing 2-way involvement
    - Targeted projects
    - Regional consortia?
    - Testbeds?

# Maximizing the Value to the Taxpayer

- If NWS did less, would the private sector do more? Overwatered garden?
- Canadian model, extended
  - Govt does only that which the private sector cannot
  - Data, software, and algorithms free
  - Agencies provide reasonable, limited, fee-based consulting related to transferring that knowledge
  - Targeted research projects that advance the mission of the agencies encouraged