Aligning the Data Planets: The National Environmental Exchange Network Connects Emissions Data

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NEI National User's meeting

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Summary

- **Greenhouse Gas Data**
  - Players
  - Opportunities
  - Challenges

- **The Exchange Network**
  - The right tool?
  - The right time?

- **Around the next bend**
  - How to get it right
  - What happens if we don't

The Climate Registry

MISSION: To standardize and centralize high quality
    GHG data into a North American GHG registry to support
    voluntary and mandatory reporting programs

MEMBERS: 7 Canadian Provinces
                39 U.S. States
                6 Mexican states
                3 Tribal Nations

REPORTERS: 162 Reporters

*Member jurisdictions represent
over 80% of the North
American Population*

FY2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act:

- "… not less than $3,500,000 shall be provided … to develop and publish a … final rule <u>not later than 18 months</u> after the date of enactment of this Act, to require mandatory reporting of <u>greenhouse gas emissions</u> …"
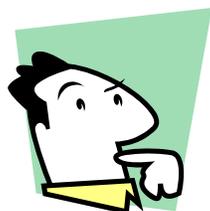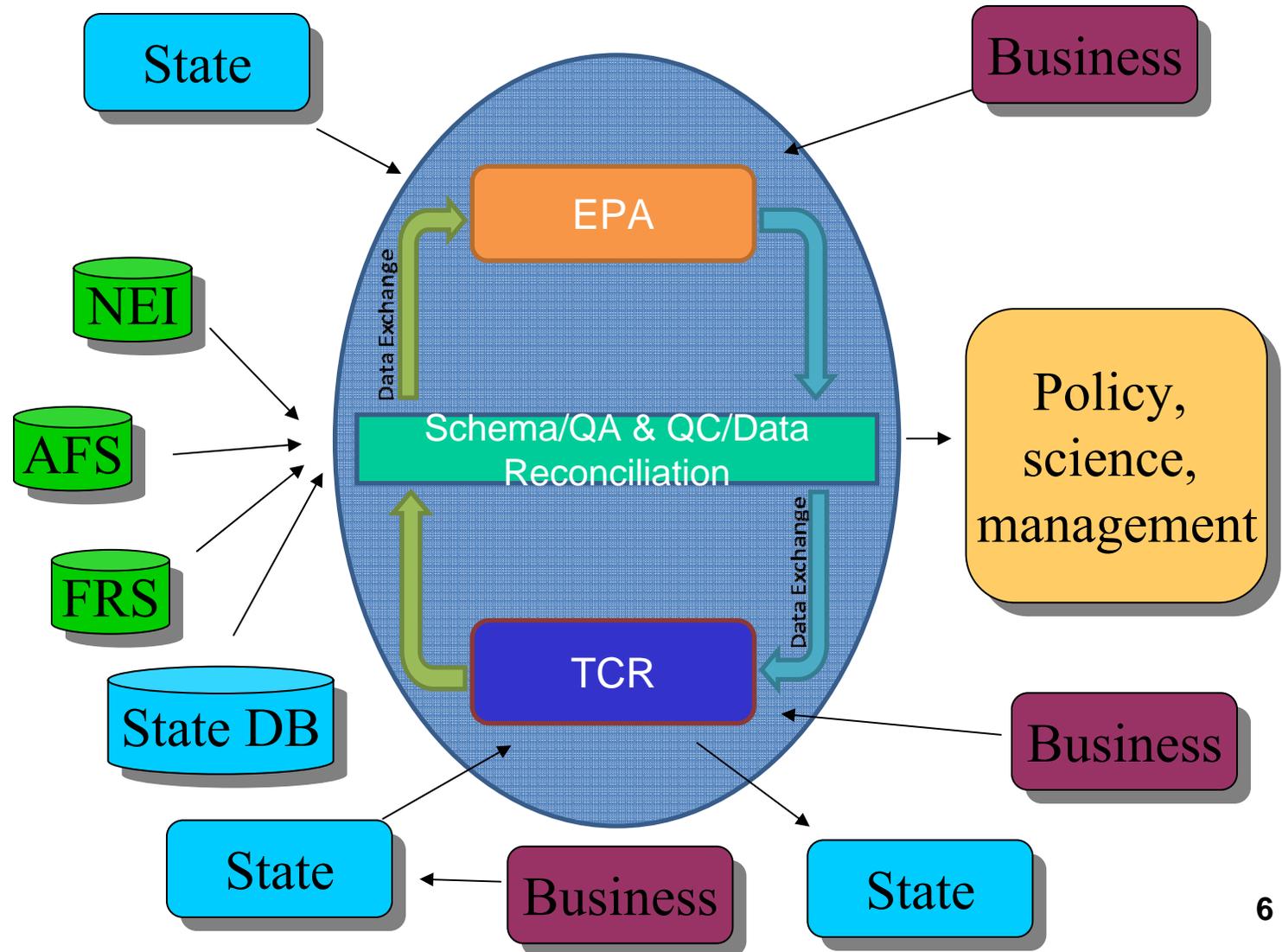
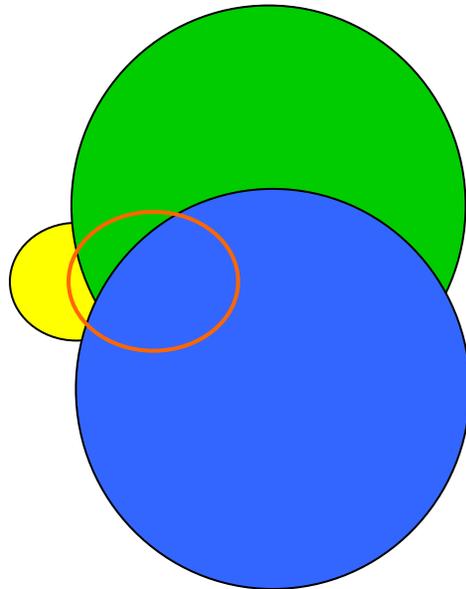TCR may be the "900 Pound Gorilla", but Uncle Sam is definitely putting on weight!

And Others

- Consortia
  - In the Northeast, RGGI has already held Its first emissions trading auction—actual $$ involved
  - Several other regional consortia with real muscle and authority from members are gearing up

- States
  - In Maine, GHGs are part of emissions reporting along with criteria pollutants for Title V sources
  - Several states are phasing in reporting—and some reductions as well. Reporting really "counts" when legal consequences are involved.
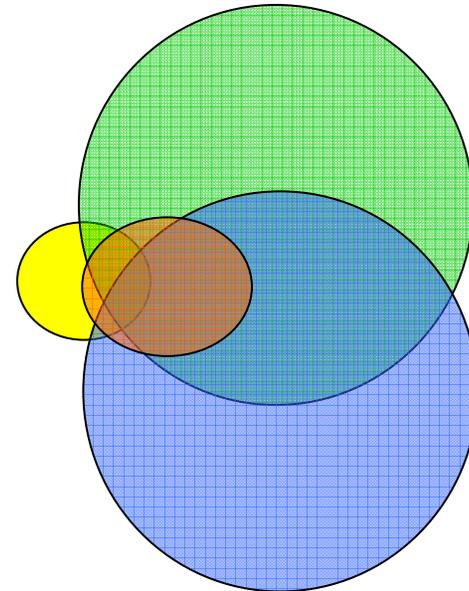
Potential Data Exchanges

Environmental Information
exchange Network

State

Business

EPA

Data Exchange

NEI

AFS

Schema/QA & QC/Data Reconciliation

Policy, science, management

FRS

Data Exchange

State DB

TCR

Business

State

Business

State

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Objective: Set Arithmetic

This…

Not this

Total = A+B - A∩B
+ C - C∩A - C ∩B

Total = A+B+C+D –
(who knows?)

Scope 3 Emission

Acme Tool and Die

CO_2 One Ton

Calculated from Electricity used

Verified by #7

8

Interoperability challenges

Report signed by
H. Honcho

Indirect
Emission

Carbon
Dioxide, 2000
LB

Calculated from
Lookup Table
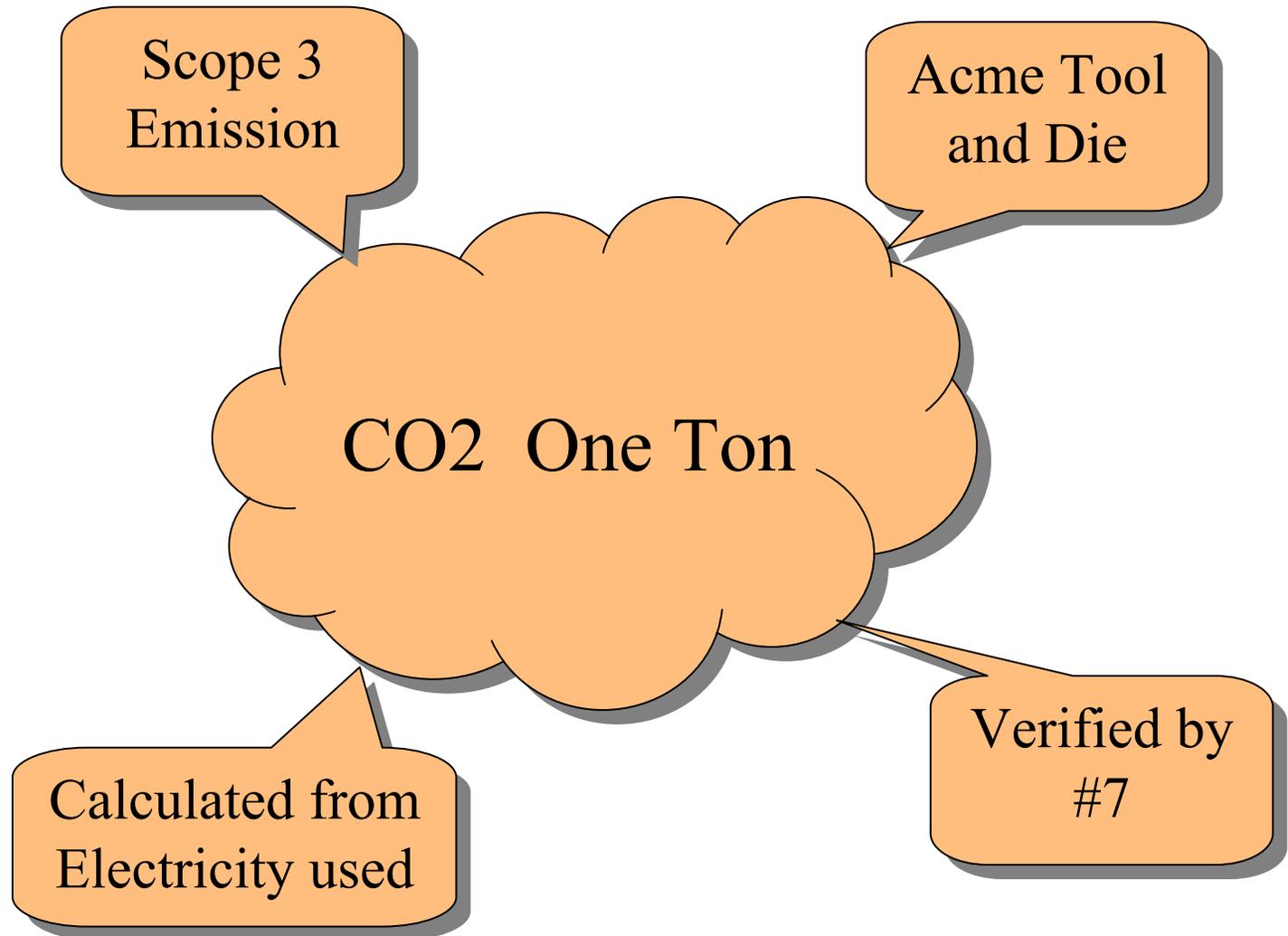
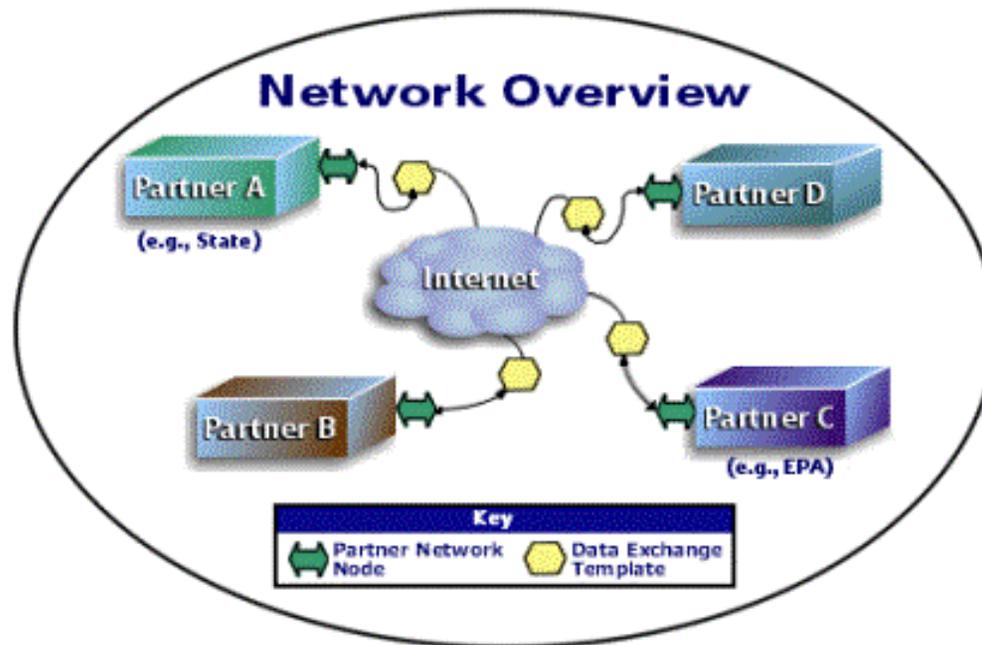Acme Enterprises—
Akron tool Works
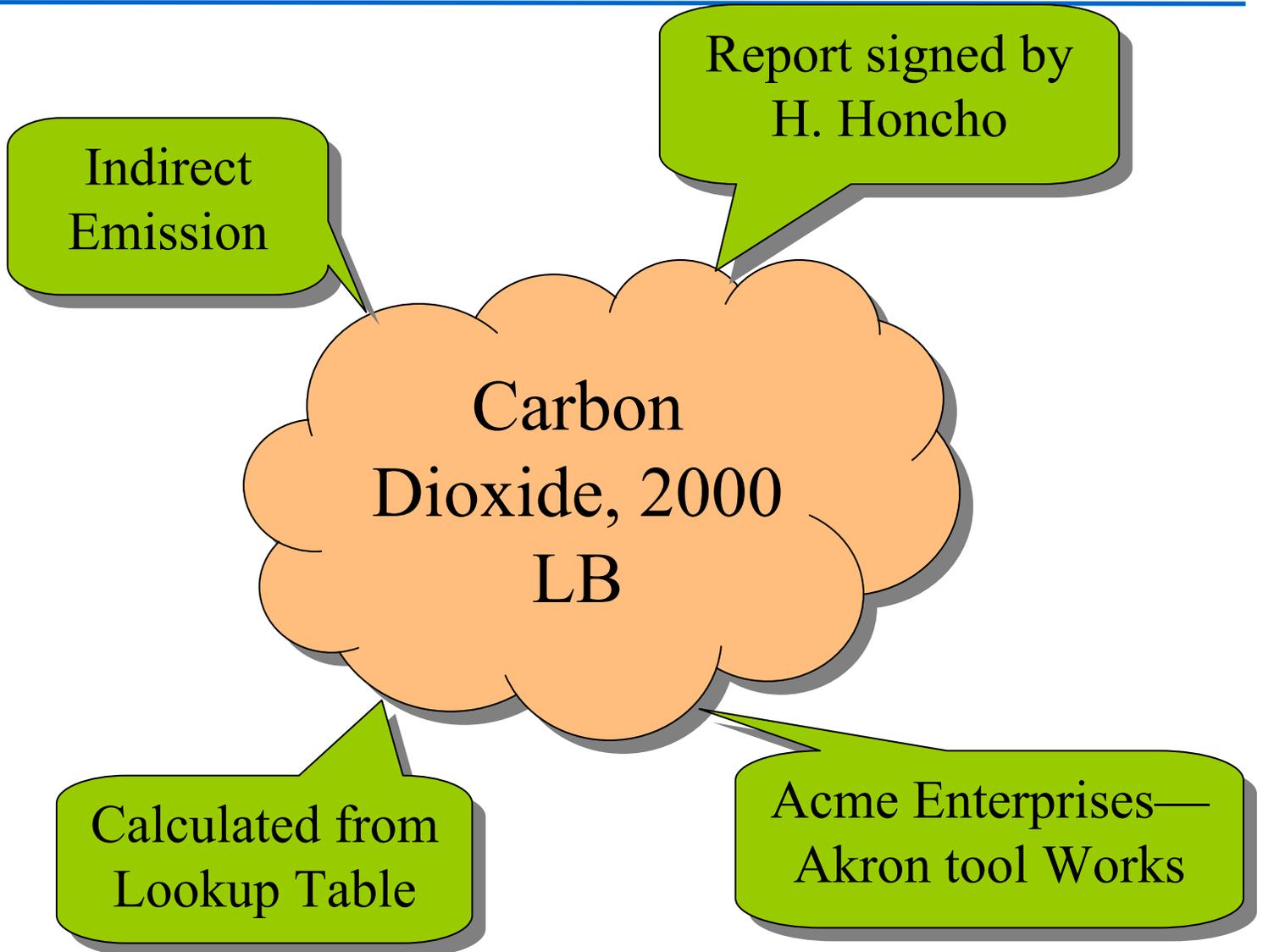
Interoperability challenges
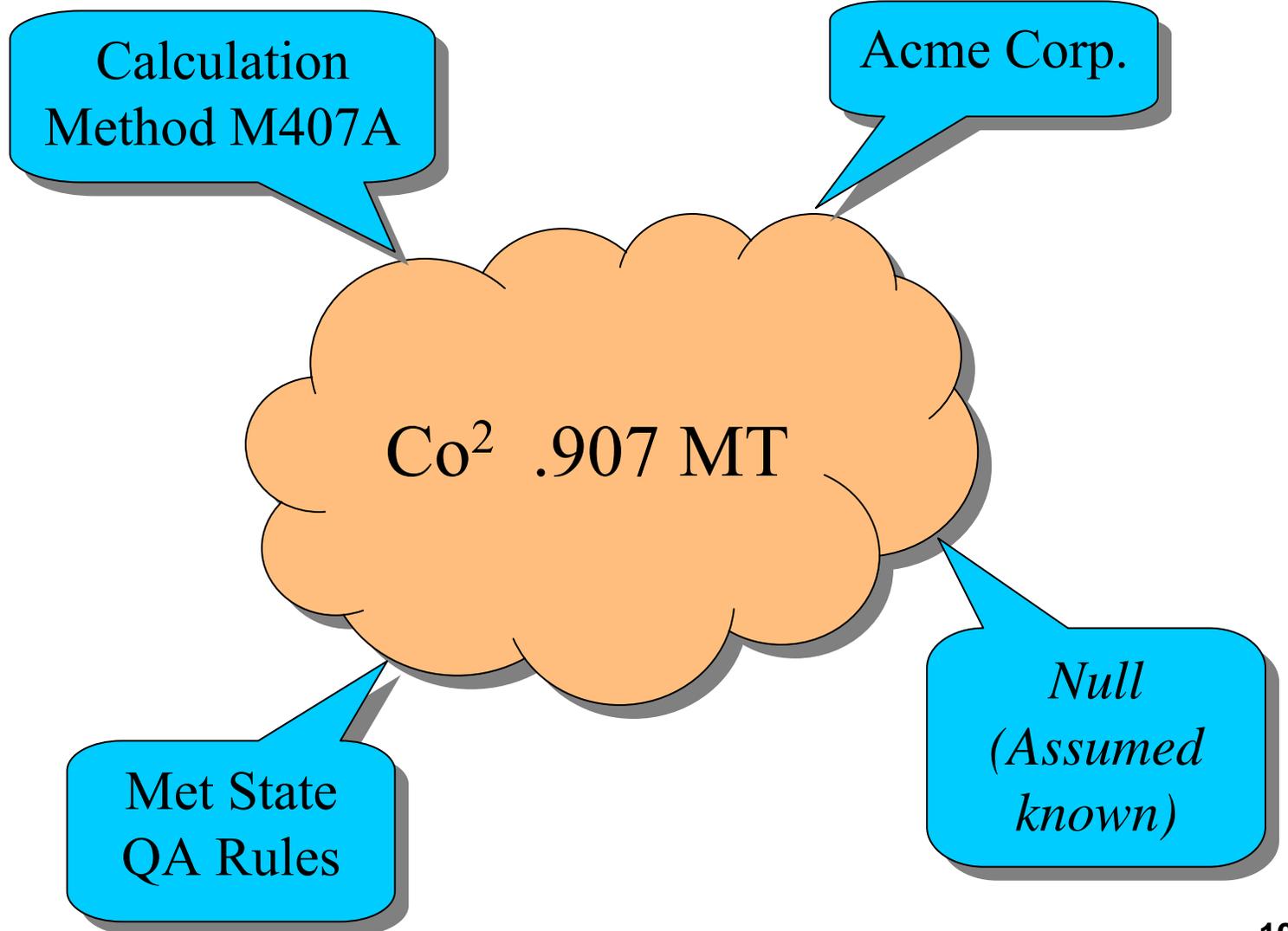
Challenges Summary

- Scope
- Universe, Threshold
- Measurement Protocol
- Validation/QA Protocol
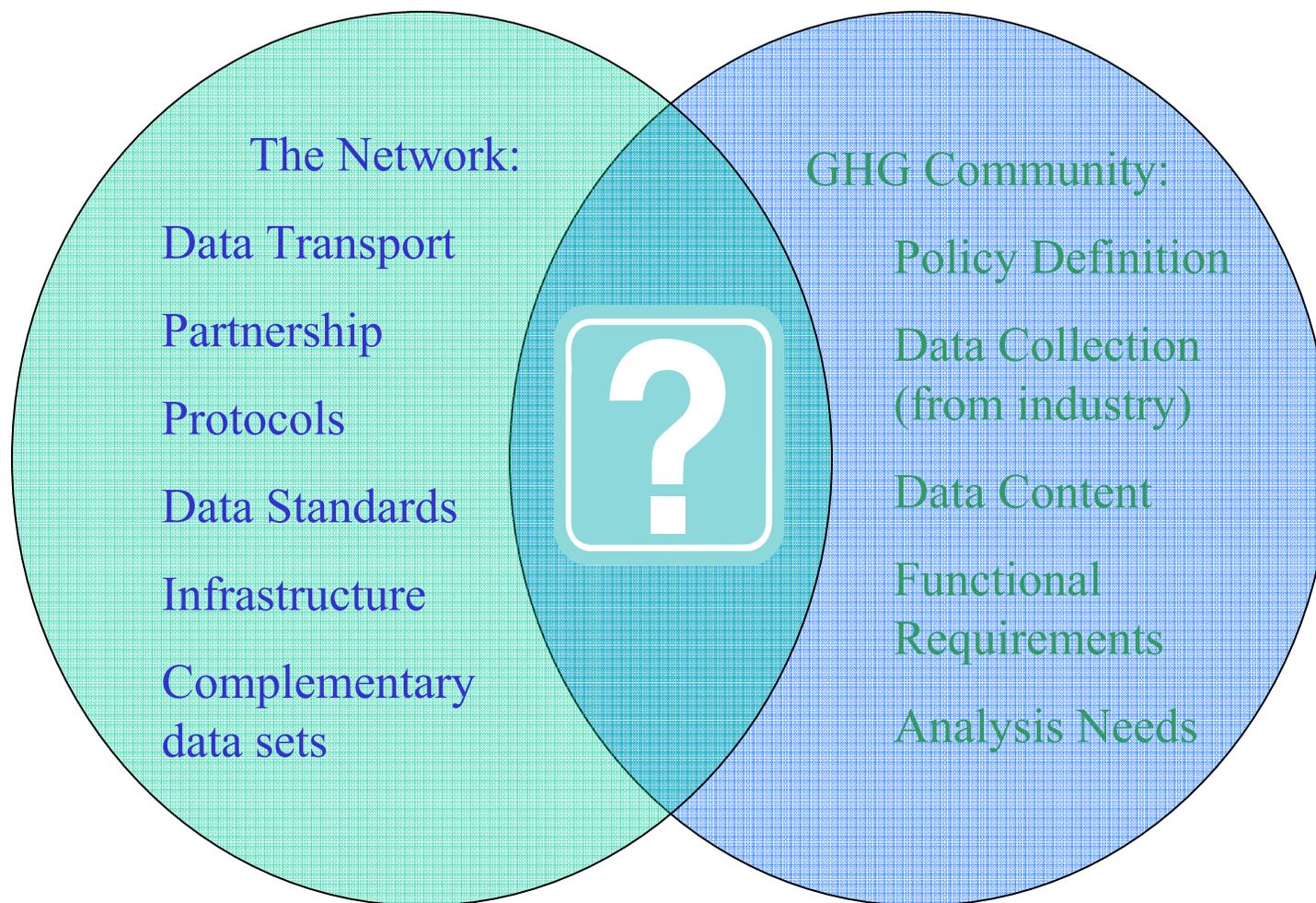- Unique Identification

What is the Exchange Network

A common approach to sharing data that lets you use your partners' data as if it is a part of your own systems.

Why?

- High demand for access to environmental information among partners
- Multiple approaches to information exchanges are inefficient and burdensome
- Partners modernizing information systems and migrating away from use of EPA national systems
- Use of integrated information technologies and approaches is on the rise
- Remove system dependencies

Shared Problem Space

The Network:

Data Transport

Partnership

Protocols

Data Standards

Infrastructure

Complementary data sets

GHG Community:

Policy Definition

Data Collection (from industry)

Data Content

Functional Requirements

Analysis Needs

Questions? Need Info

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