

# Science vs. Profit

Policy issues related to commercialization  
of research results

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# The Promise

- Licensing income in 2008-2009:
  - The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) – 75.5 million USD
  - Stanford University – 63.9 million USD (2008)
  - University of Massachusetts – 73 million USD

# Patent applications by Lithuanian Universities, 2004 – 2009 (publication dates)

Universities have total 101 patent applications

- Kaunas University of Technology – 51
- Gediminas Technical University – 37
- Vilnius University - 11
- Just 1 (one) EP application (KUT)
  
- UAB Fermentas – 4 EP, 3 US patents; (no Lithuanian patents!)

- Kaunas University of Technology had total of 103 patents 1993-2008. In 2008 only of them 14 were valid
- 103 Patents by KUT inventors filed in foreign countries, including:

**US - 55**

**EP - 24**

**DE - 23**

**KR - 20**

**JP - 27**

Source: V. Kaunelienė, KUT

# Conclusions from previous...

- There are some inventive researchers
- who are not interested in patenting in Lithuania
- Universities and public research institutions want patenting,
- but want it cheap (Lithuania) and do not bother much about economic benefits

# Why?

- Mission and culture
- Research capacity
- Incentives
- Institutional arrangements
- Professionals

# Mission and Culture

- Traditionally mission of University is understood as:
  - education
  - knowledge creation & dissemination (world class science)
- Academic culture in Lithuania is based on public mission understanding:
  - Open knowledge paradigm
  - Freedom of research
  - Tendency to focus on fundamental research
  - Economic benefits are secondary

# Mission and Culture

- Increasing understanding of importance to include societal impact into mission
  - Regional
  - Economical
  - Cultural

Which may need embracing different culture:

Researchers as entrepreneurs

Universities as technology developers

Universities (partly) as businesses

# Incentives

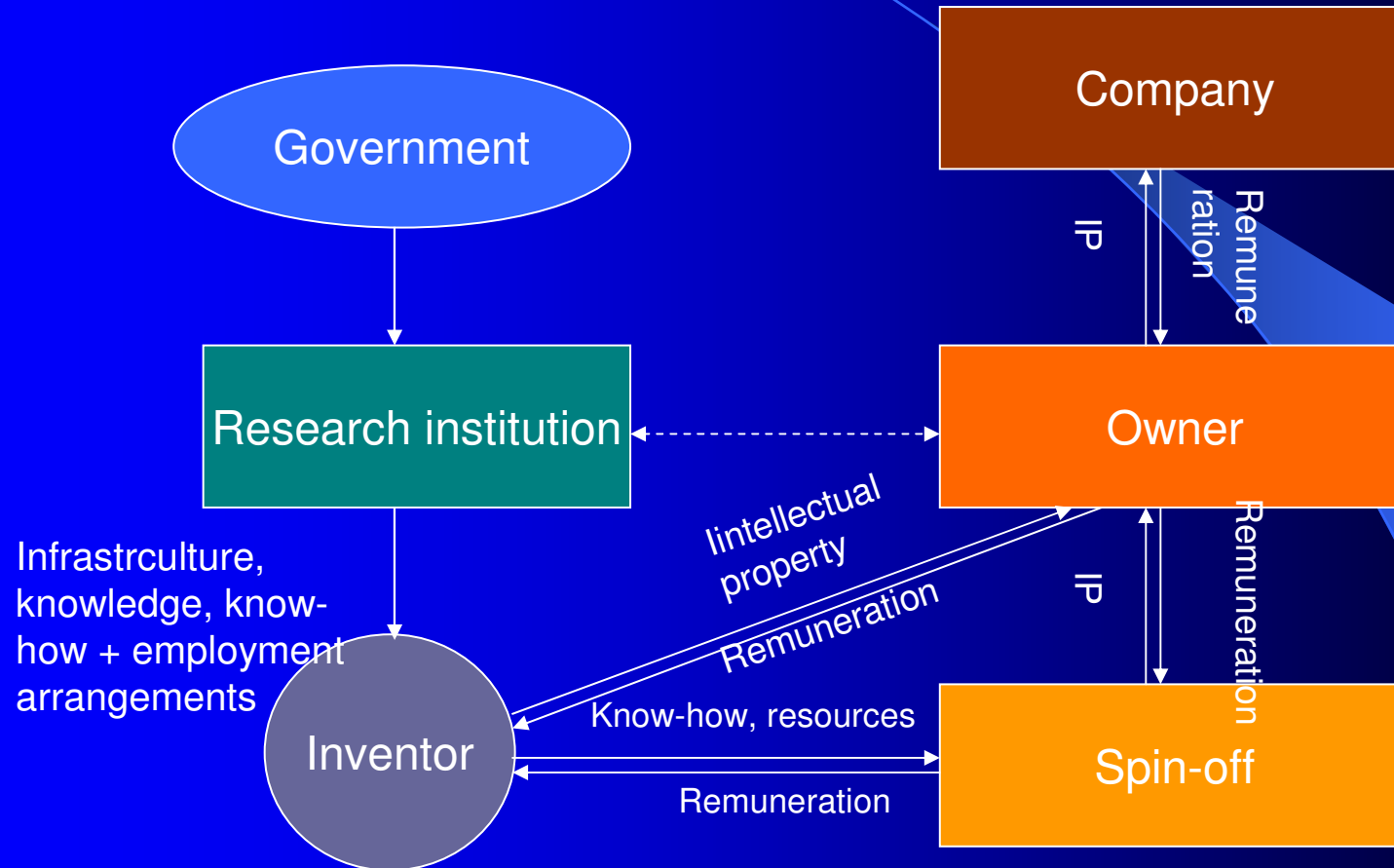
- Incentives for institutions
  - Legal ambiguity
  - Costs vs. benefits?
- Incentives for researchers
  - Economic
  - Recognition

# Institutional arrangements

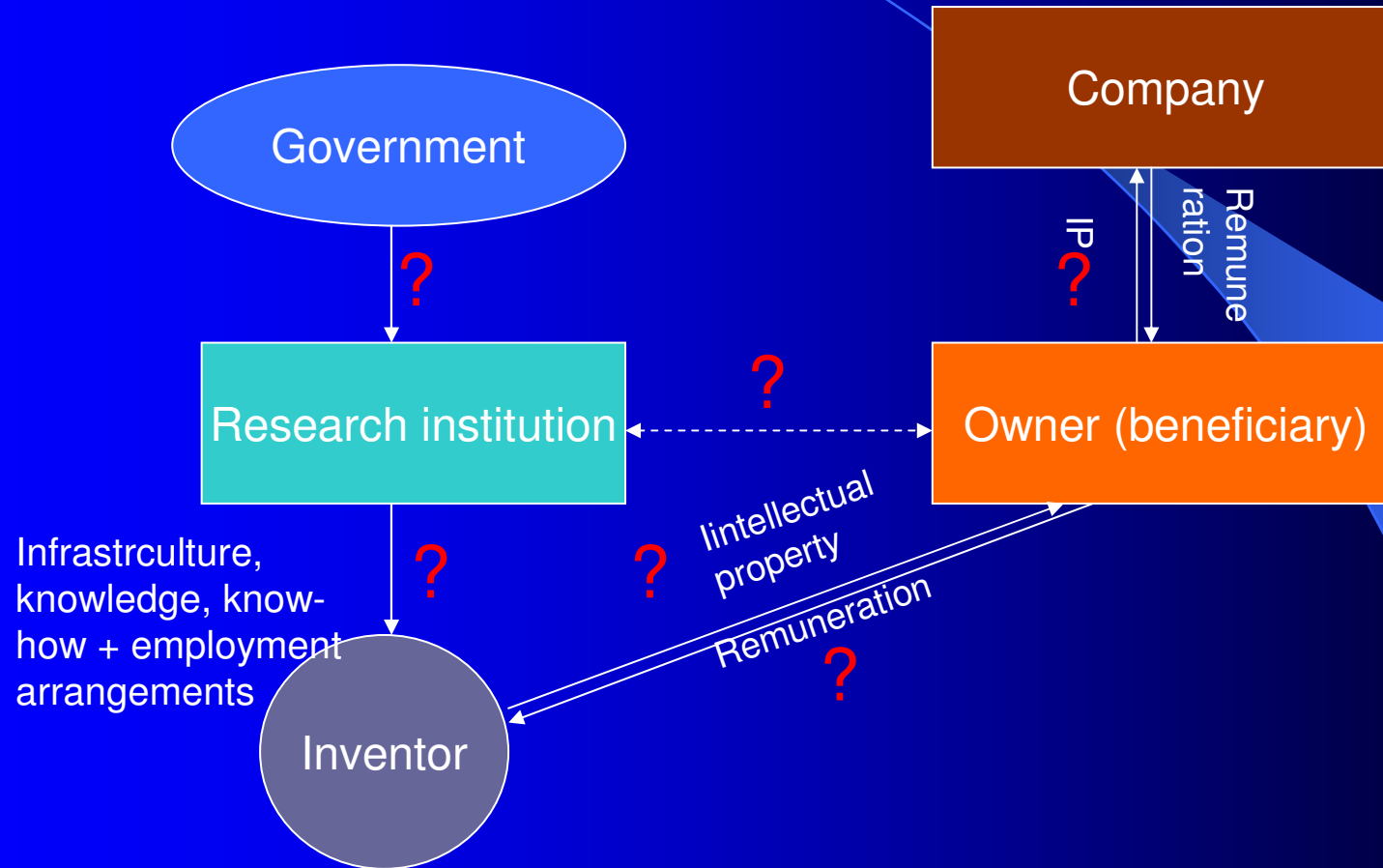
Decisions on:

- Legal form of TT institution – department; company, non-for profit; joint venture?
- Model: profit maximizing? service organisation? economic development?
- Relationship with other departments

# Intellectual property players



# Intellectual property players



What is needed most

Will to change

What is needed most

Will to change

***Thank you!***

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