NOAA's Big Data Project

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NOAA signed cooperative research agreements in April 2015 with selected commercial cloud service providers to explore how to best enable distribution and utilization of NOAA's environmental data. Through these agreements with Amazon, Google, IBM, Microsoft, and the Open Commons Consortium, NOAA has moved selected datasets of mutual interest from federal systems to the collaborators' commercial platforms. Usage analyses indicate both an increased volume of data use and a reduced load on NOAA's data access systems. New users and novel applications of those data have also been observed as a result of this collaborative approach. Lessons learned from the full length of the CRADA term will be presented and discussed.