

Measuring Citizen's Digital Behaviours Using Web Trackers and Data Donations

Oriol J. Bosch | University of Oxford & RECSM



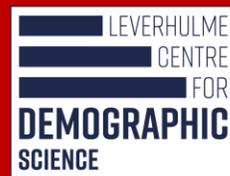
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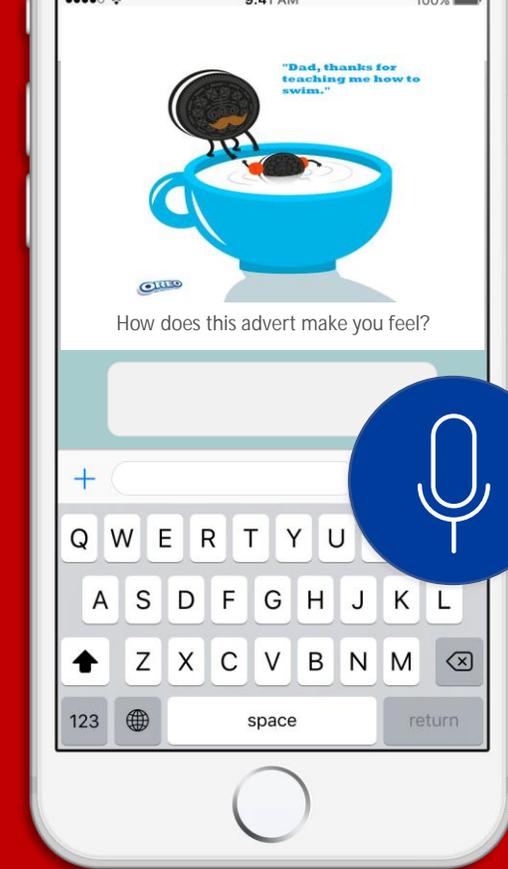
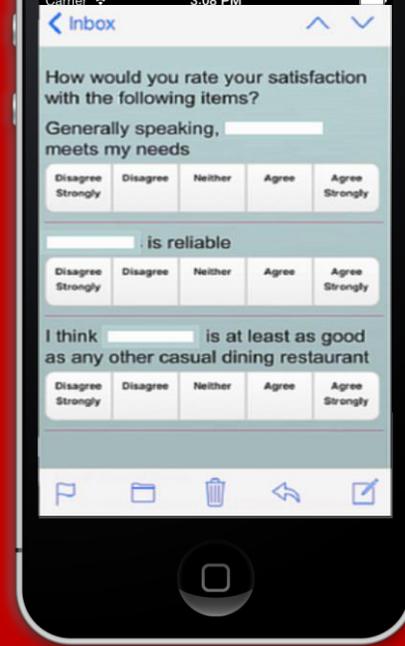
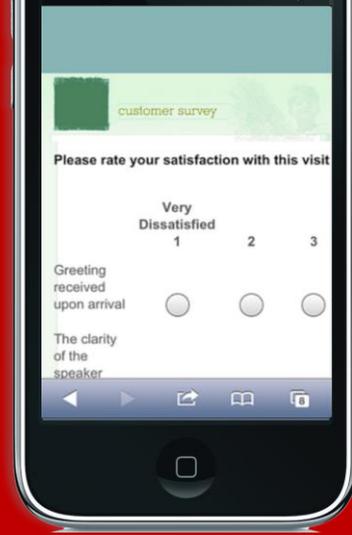
Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona



Funding: This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Unions Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 849165; PI: Melanie Revilla); the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation under the "R+D+i projects" programme (grant number PID2019-106867RB-I00 /AEI/10.13039/501100011033 (2020-2024), PI: Mariano Torcal); and the BBVA foundation under their grant scheme to scientific research teams in economy and digital society, 2019 (PI: Mariano Torcal).

Today's webinar

1. Some context
2. Quick intro to web tracking data and data donations
3. A guide to collecting and using web tracking data
4. Break for questions
5. Some challenges when using web tracking data
6. A guide to collecting and using data donations
7. Q&A



Surveys and the new digital era

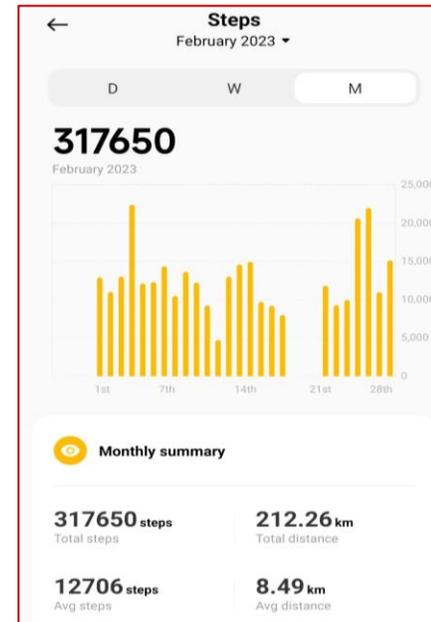
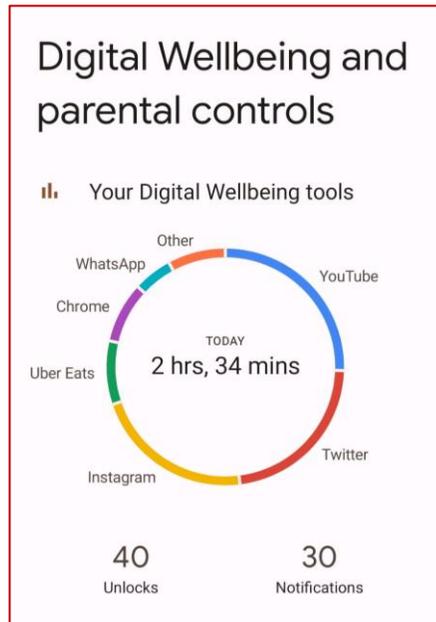
The digital era of surveys

1. What people do on the digital realm can impact both online and offline phenomena.



The digital era of surveys

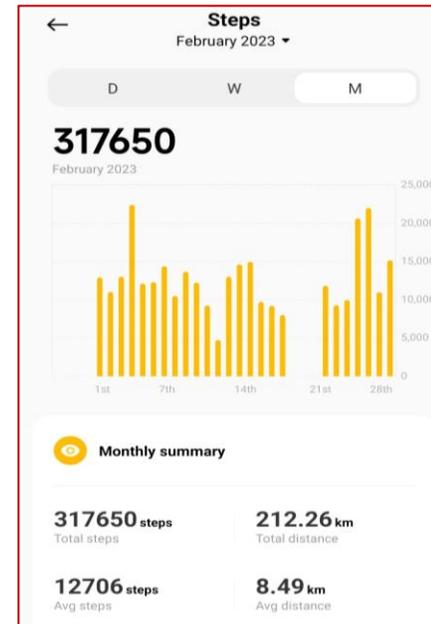
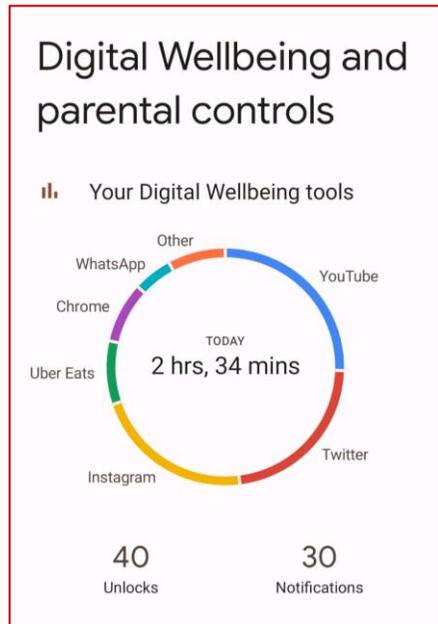
1. What people do on the digital realm can impact both online and offline phenomena.
2. The digitalisation of our lives is making new types of data available



The digital era of surveys

1. What people do on the digital realm can impact both online and offline phenomena.
2. The digitalisation of our lives is making new types of data available

We can ask people to self-report these behaviours

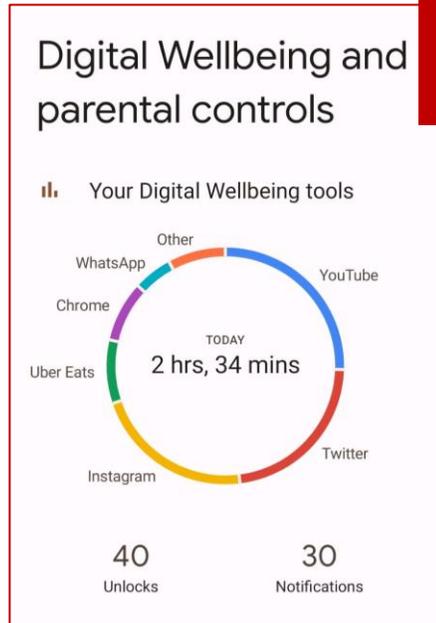


The digital era of surveys

1. What people do on the digital realm can impact both online and offline phenomena.
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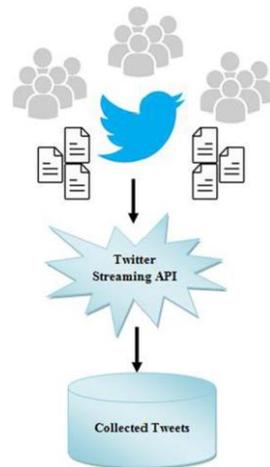
We can ask people to self-report these behaviours

Or we can directly collect these digital traces



Measuring what people do online with designed digital data

- Most common approach to collect digital traces: collect data directly from the platforms (“Found data”)



General Article

Tweeting From Left to Right: Is Online Political Communication More Than an Echo Chamber?

Pablo Barberá¹, John T. Jost^{1,2,3}, Jonathan Nagler³, Joshua A. Tucker³, and Richard Bonneau⁴

¹Center for Data Science, ²Department of Psychology, ³Department of Politics, and ⁴Center for Genomics and Systems Biology, New York University

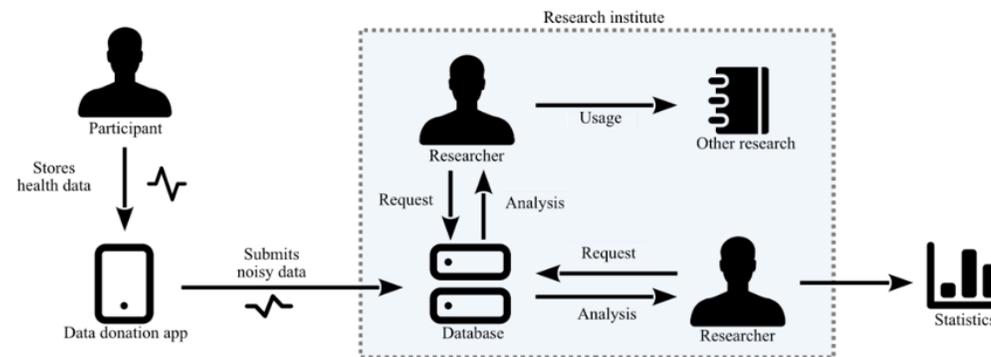
Psychological Science
2015, Vol. 26(10) 1531–1542
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sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav
DOI: 10.1177/0956797615594620
pss.sagepub.com

Abstract

We estimated ideological preferences of 3.8 million Twitter users and, using a data set of nearly 150 million tweets concerning 12 political and nonpolitical issues, explored whether online communication resembles an “echo chamber” (as a result of selective exposure and ideological segregation) or a “national conversation.” We observed that information was exchanged primarily among individuals with similar ideological preferences in the case of political issues (e.g., 2012 presidential election, 2013 government shutdown) but not many other current events (e.g., 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, 2014 Super Bowl). Discussion of the Newtown shootings in 2012 reflected a dynamic process, beginning as a national conversation before transforming into a polarized exchange. With respect to both political and nonpolitical issues, liberals were more likely than conservatives to engage in cross-ideological dissemination; this is an important asymmetry with respect to the structure of communication that is consistent with psychological theory and research bearing on ideological differences in epistemic, existential, and relational motivation. Overall, we conclude that previous work may have overestimated the degree of ideological segregation in social-media usage.

Measuring what people do online with designed digital data

- Most common approach to collect digital traces: collect data directly from the platforms (“Found data”)
- These **traces can also be collected in a designed way**: for instance, within a survey



Appenzeller, A., Terzer, N., Krempel, E., & Beyerer, J. (2022, June). Towards private medical data donations by using privacy preserving technologies. In *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Pervasive Technologies Related to Assistive Environments* (pp. 446-454).

Measuring what people do online with designed digital data

- Most common approach to collect digital traces: collect data directly from the platforms (“Found data”)
- These **traces can also be collected in a designed way**: for instance, within a survey
- **Two main types** of designed digital data for understanding digital behaviours



Web tracking
data



Data
donations

A quick intro to web tracking data & data donations

Web tracking data

Direct observations of online behaviours using tracking solutions, or *meters*.



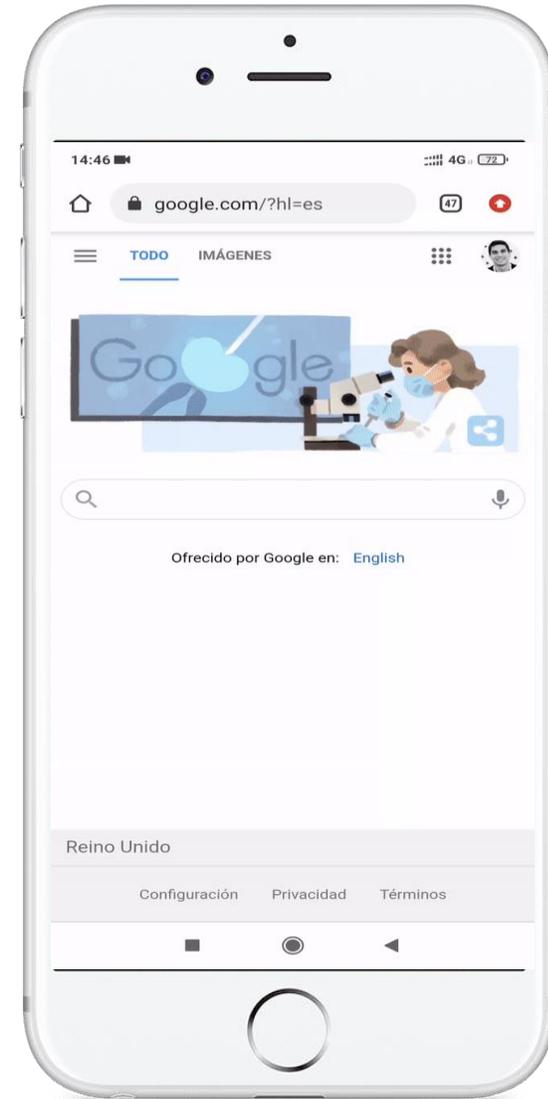
Group of tracking technologies (plug-ins, apps, proxies, etc)



Installed on participants devices



Collect traces left by participants when interacting with their devices online: URLs, apps visited, cookies...



Data donations

Users directly provide researchers with data that already has been collected by their devices or platforms



Participants must **access** this data



Capture it in some way



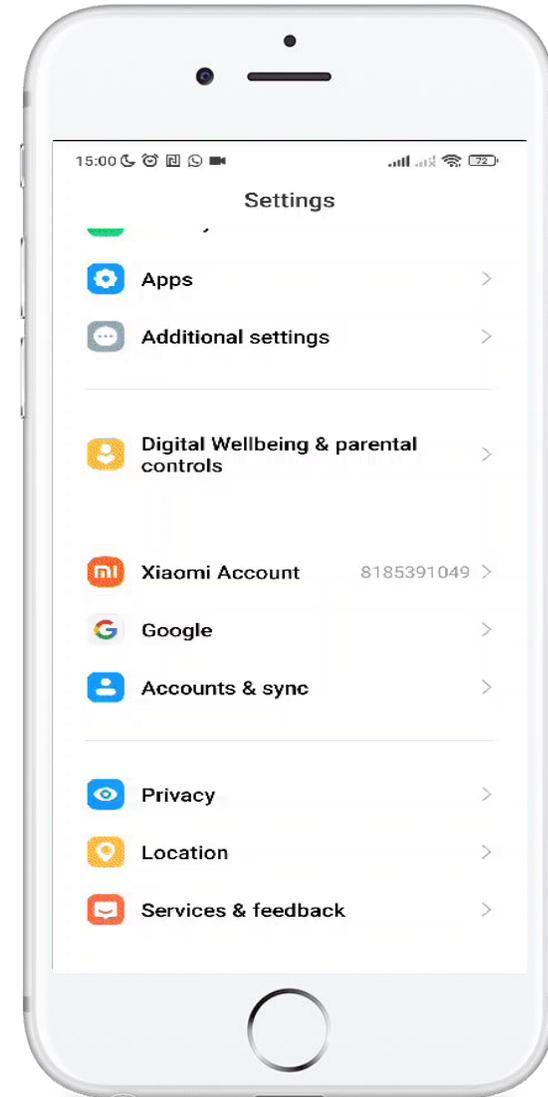
And **share** it with researchers



This **process**, as well as the **traces** collectable, can **vary a lot from project to project**



Platforms that easily allow for this: Meta, Google, Twitter, etc.



A guide to collecting and using web tracking data

Total Error framework for digital traces collected w/ Meters (TEM)

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY
DATA | EVIDENCE | DECISIONS

Journal of the Royal Statistical Society
Statistics in Society
Series A

ORIGINAL ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) |  

When survey science met web tracking: Presenting an error framework for metered data

Oriol J. Bosch  Melanie Revilla

First published: 06 November 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/rssa.12956>

Funding information: Fundación BBVA, H2020 European Research Council, , Grant/Award Number: 849165; Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, , Grant/Award Number: PID2019-106867RB- I00 /AEI/10.13039/501100011033

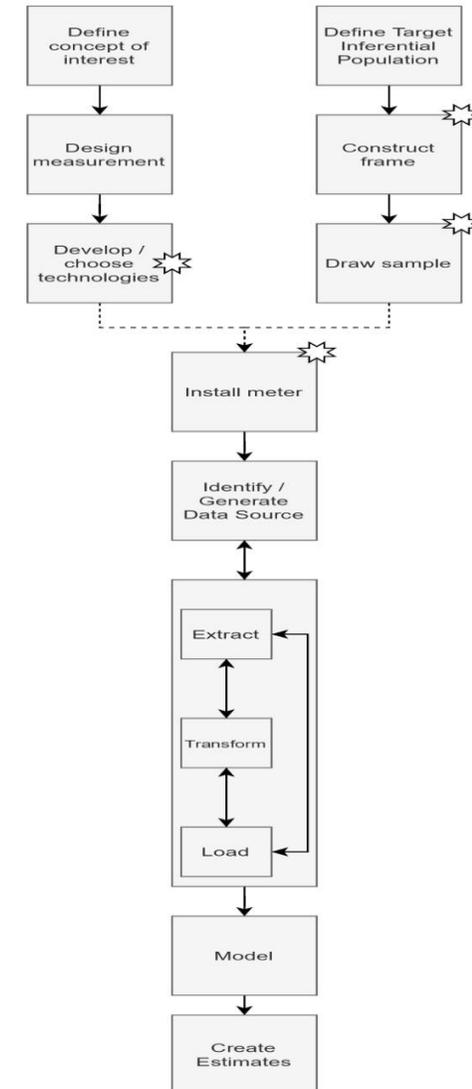
 SECTIONS  PDF  TOOLS  SHARE

Abstract

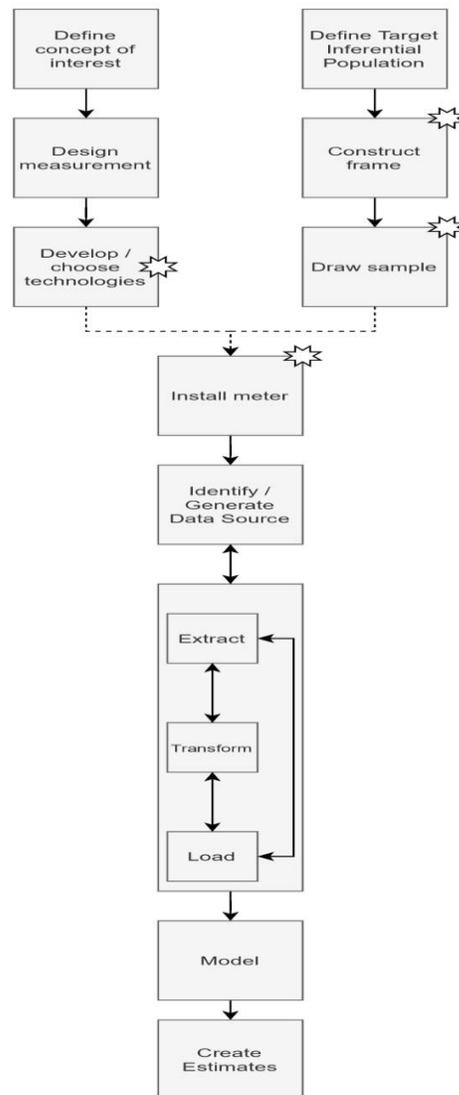
Metered data, also called web-tracking data, are generally collected from a sample of participants who willingly install or configure, onto their devices, technologies that track digital traces left when people go online (e.g., URLs visited). Since metered data allow for the observation of online behaviours unobtrusively, it has been proposed as a useful tool to understand what people do online and what impacts this might have on online and offline phenomena. It is crucial, nevertheless, to understand its limitations. Although some research have explored the potential errors of metered data, a systematic categorisation and conceptualisation of these errors are missing. Inspired by the Total Survey Error, we present a Total Error framework for digital traces collected with Meters (TEM). The TEM framework (1) describes the data generation and the analysis process for metered data and (2) documents the sources of bias and variance that may arise in each step of this process. Using a case study we also show how the TEM can be applied in real life to identify, quantify and reduce metered data errors. Results suggest that metered data might indeed be affected by the error sources identified in our framework and, to some extent, biased. This framework can help improve the quality of both stand-alone metered data research projects, as well as foster the understanding of how and when survey and metered data can be combined.

Total Error framework for digital traces collected w/ Meters (TEM)

- In general, web tracking data is used to make inferences about a concept of interest for a given population



A step-by-step guide

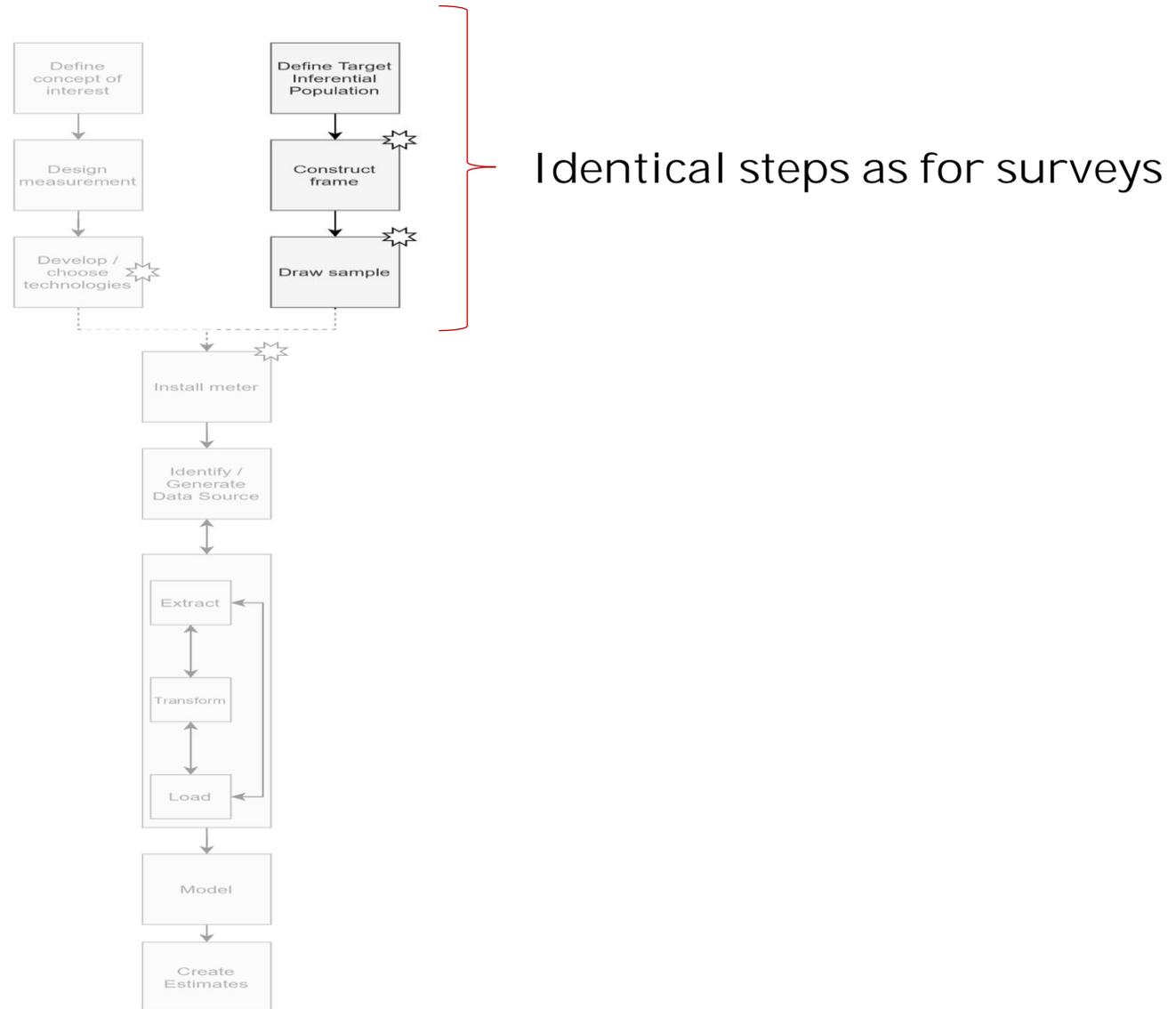


There are many steps to follow when collecting web tracking data.

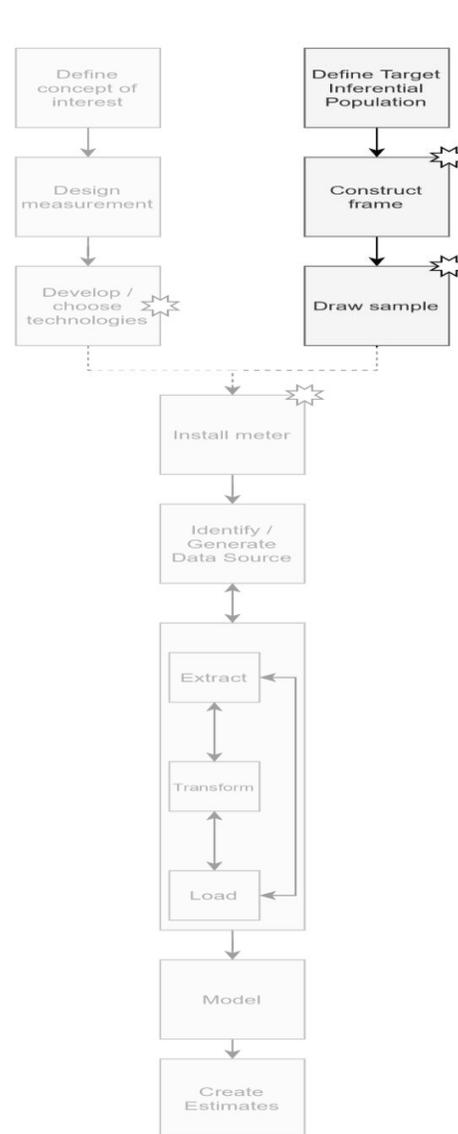
Many decisions can be made for each step, all with potential impact on data quality

This is rarely acknowledged and understood, we can do better!

First steps on the representation side: same old, same old



First steps on the representation side: same old, same old



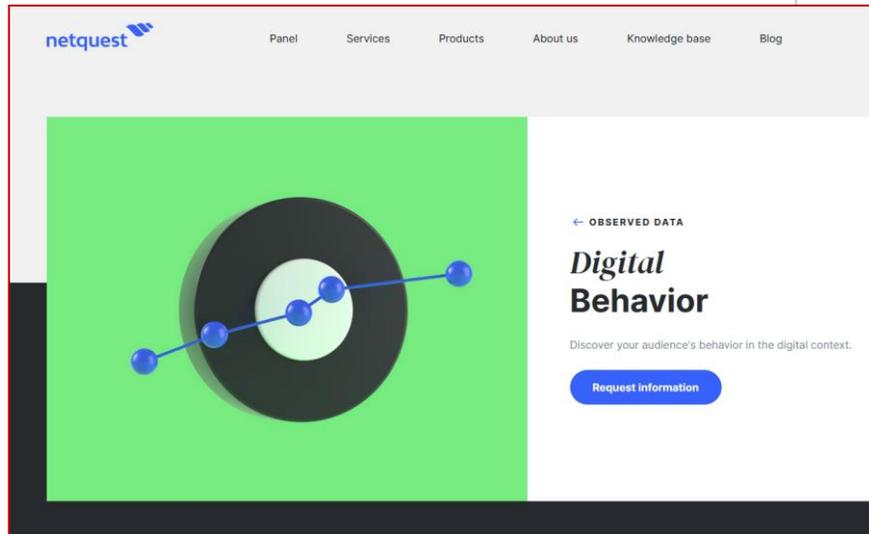
Identical steps as for surveys

Target population: People living in the UK older than 17

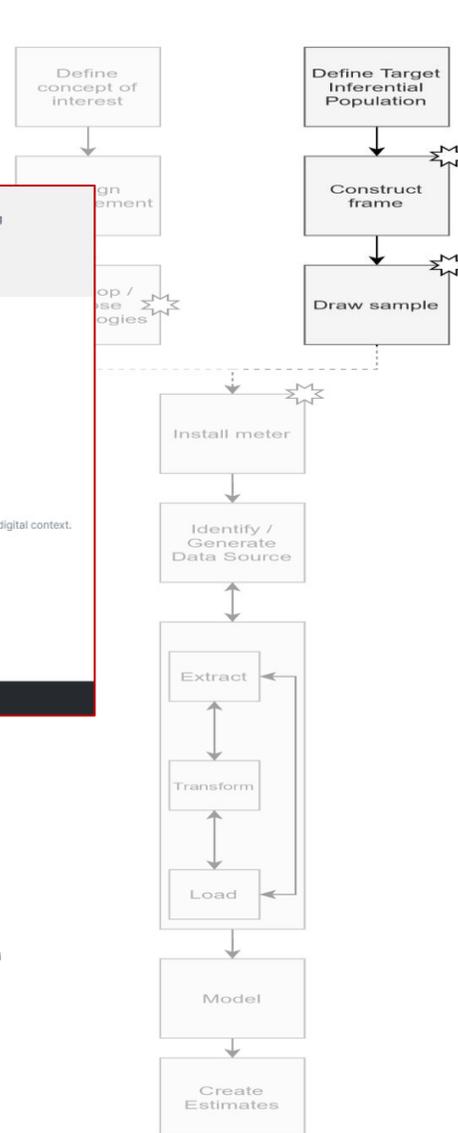
Frame: Postal Address Frame

Sample: Simple Random Sampling

First steps on the representation side: same old, same old



YouGovPulse



Identical steps as for surveys

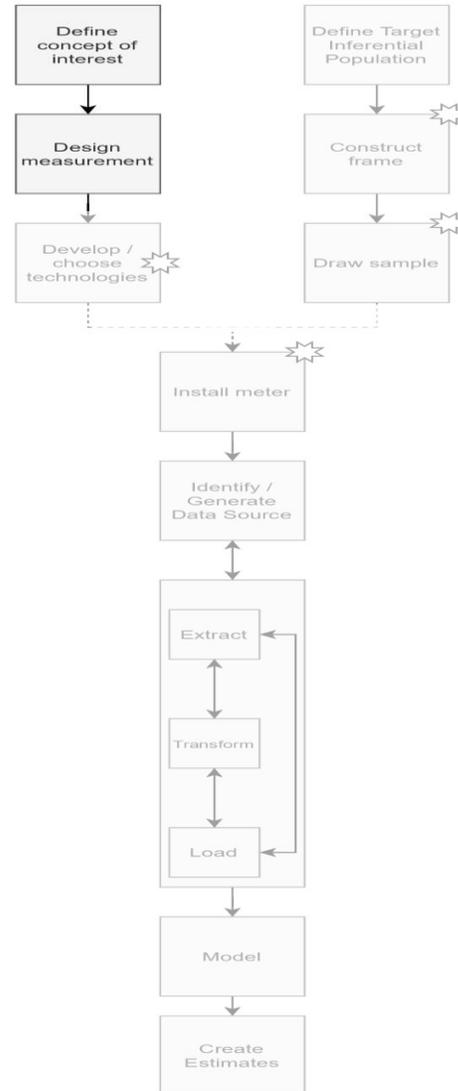
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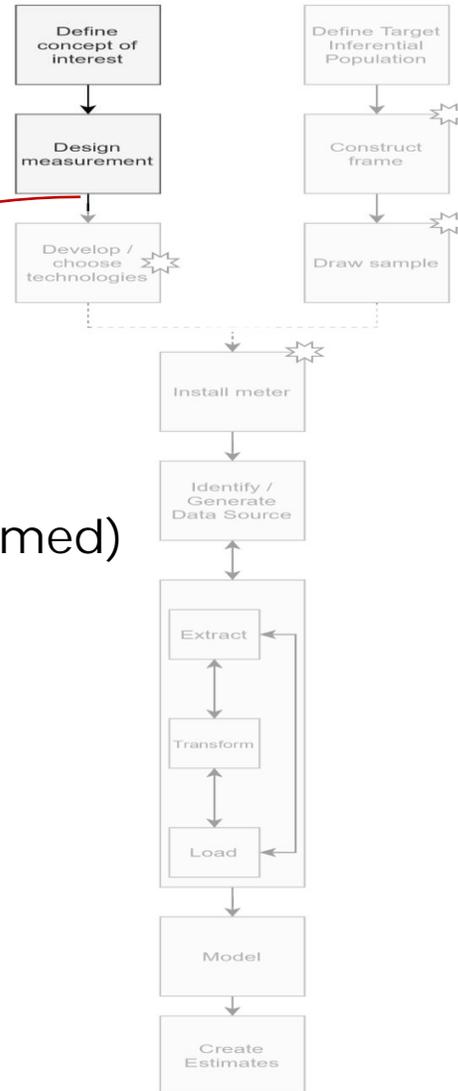
Most commonly: non-probability online panels

From concepts to measurements: similar but different



From concepts to measurements: similar but different

Measurements: Traces that will be collected, combined (and transformed) to compute a specific variable



From concepts to measurements: similar but different

- Normally not acknowledged: **it is key to clearly define the traces that will be used to measure a specific concept**

Concept of interest  Measurement

From concepts to measurements: similar but different

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From concepts to measurements: similar but different

Concept: *average hours of consumption of online political news*

Measure: *average time recorded of the visits to URLs defined as showing written news*

- What traces are considered as a visit?
- Which URLs are considered written news?
- What time frame has been used to compute an average?

From concepts to measurements: similar but different

Concept: *average hours of consumption of online political news*

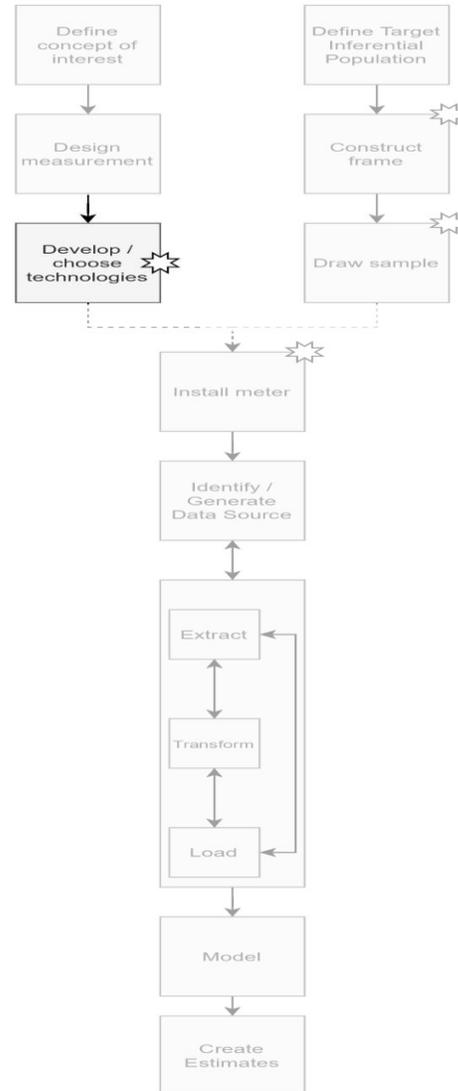
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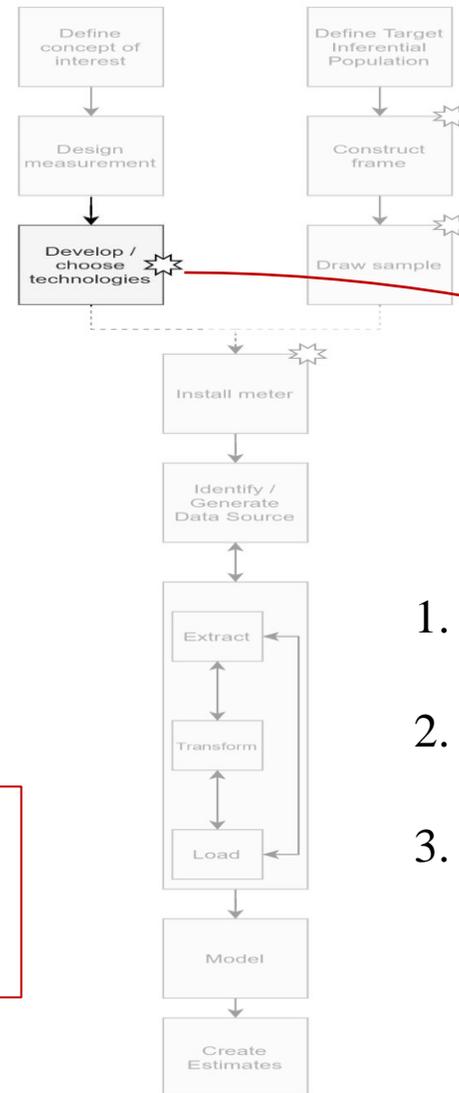
These and other decisions will determine the measurement used.

Pretty much as for surveys this is determined by the wording, the type of scale, etc.

Develop or choose the tracking technologies to use



Develop or choose the tracking technologies to use



1. We can **develop** tracking technologies from scratch
2. Or use **open-access** technologies already available
3. Or we can use **commercially available** technologies

COMMUNICATION METHODS AND MEASURES
2022, VOL. 16, NO. 2, 79-95
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19312458.2021.1907841>



Check for updates

Automated Tracking Approaches for Studying Online Media Use: A Critical Review and Recommendations

Clara Christner^a, Aleksandra Urman^b, Silke Adam^b, and Michaela Maier^a

A heterogeneous group of tracking solutions

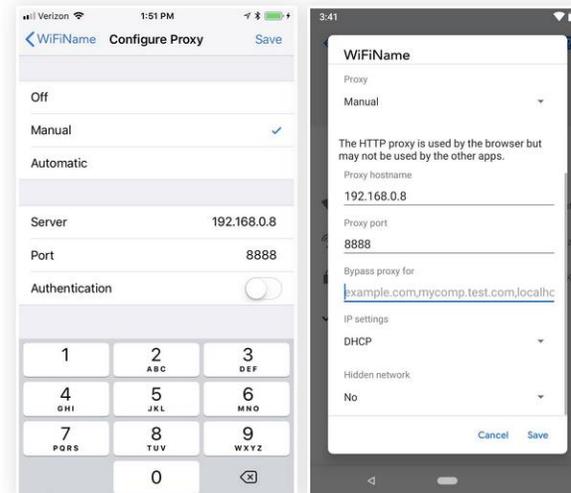
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A heterogeneous group of tracking solutions

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- **These can be:** Proxies, VPNs, Screen-scrapers, Screen recorders, Smartphone-log trackers (and maybe more that I am not aware of).

A heterogeneous group of tracking solutions

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A heterogeneous group of tracking solutions

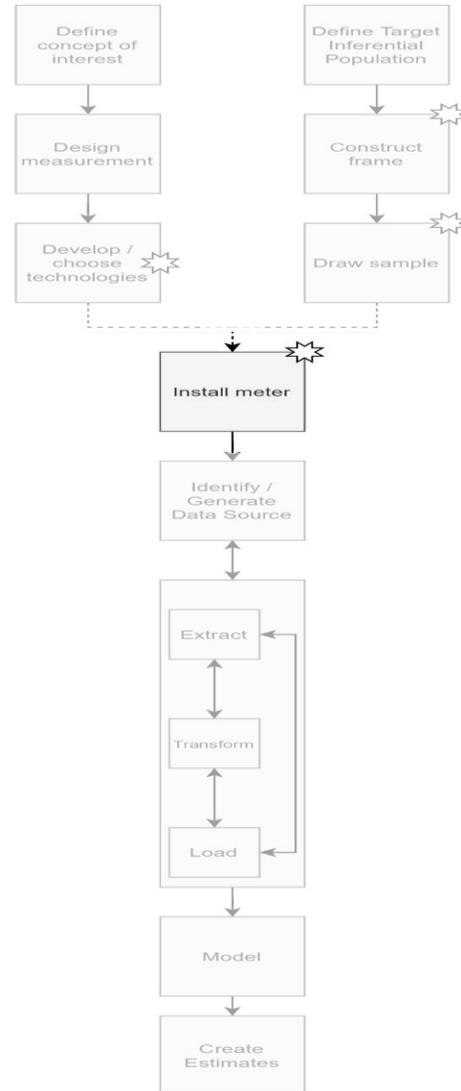
- There are **many different types of tracking approaches**.
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- **They can come in different packages for users:** Apps, Browser plug-ins, manual configuration with or without any piece of software required.
- **Their capabilities and limitations vary a lot:** not all of them can be installed on all devices. Not all of them can capture the same data. Not all of them have the same level of granularity and accuracy

A heterogeneous group of tracking solutions

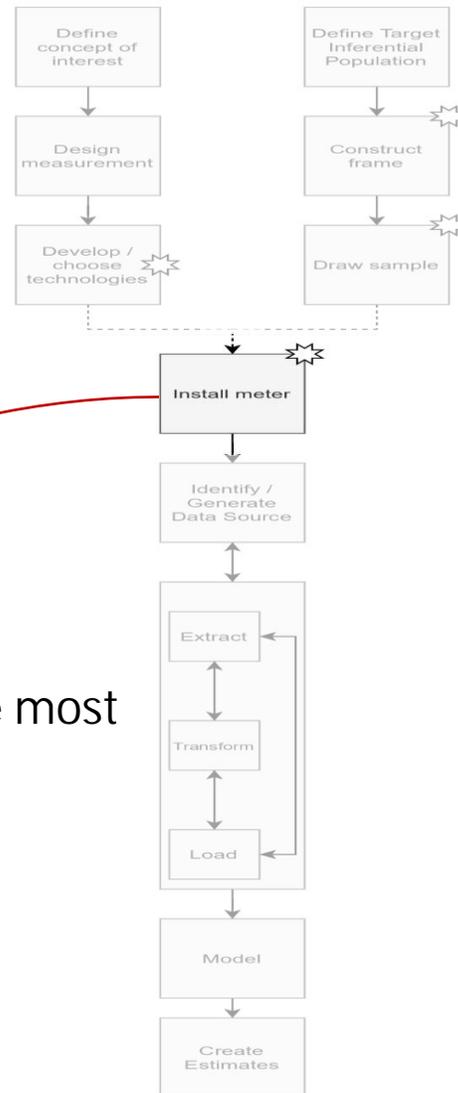
- Most real-life projects end up using a **combination of approaches**, depending on the devices that people use

		PC app	PC plug-ins			Android SDK	iOS proxy
			Chrome	Firefox	Safari		
Online tracking							
URLs	Http traffic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Https traffic	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Incognito sessions	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	HTML	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Time stamps	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Apps	App name	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes
	App usage start time	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes
	App usage duration	-	-	-	-	Yes	Estimated
	Offline apps	-	-	-	-	Yes	No
	In-app behaviour	-	-	-	-	No	No
Search terms	Search terms	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Device information							
Device type	E.g. desktop	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Device brand	E.g. Xiaomi		No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Device model	E.g. S9	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Operating system	E.g. iOS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
OS version	E.g. 10.1.2	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Internet provider	E.g. Voxi	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



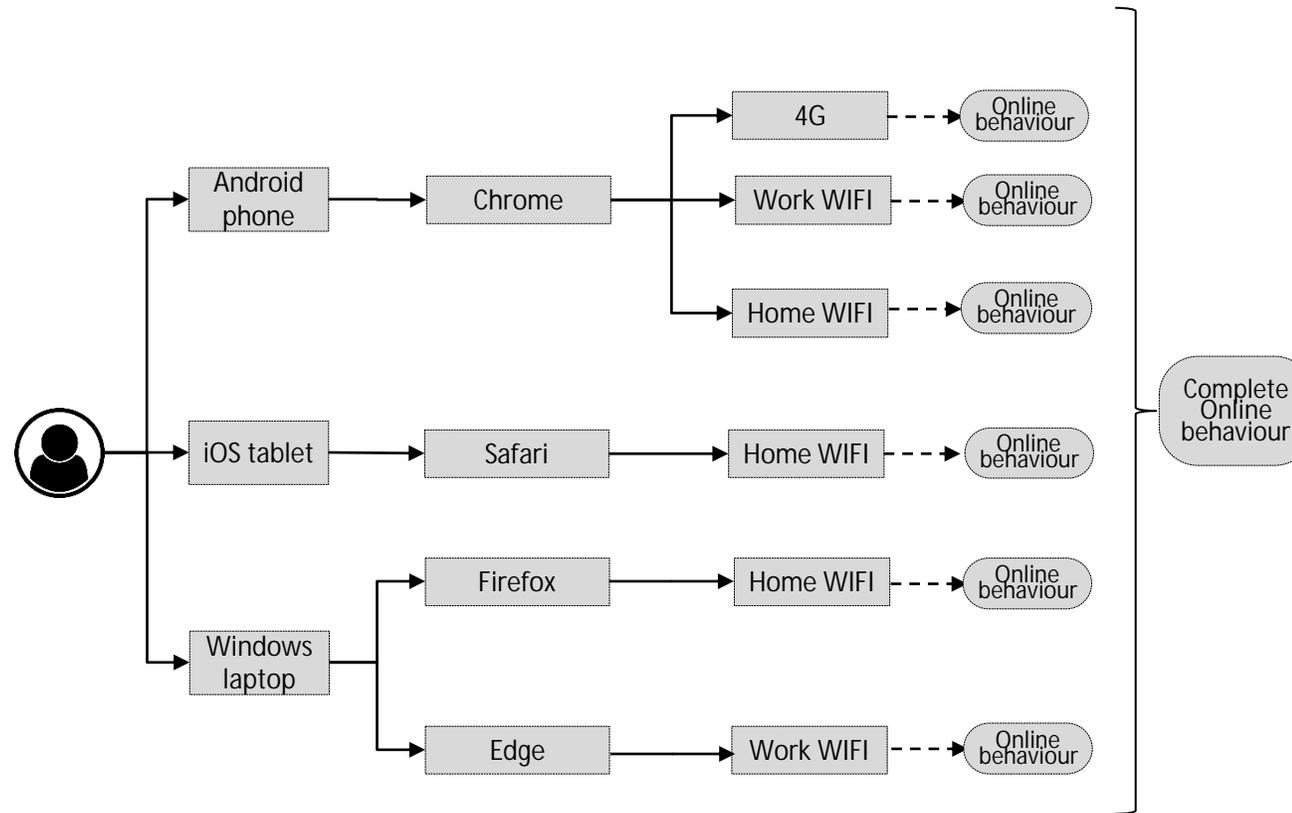
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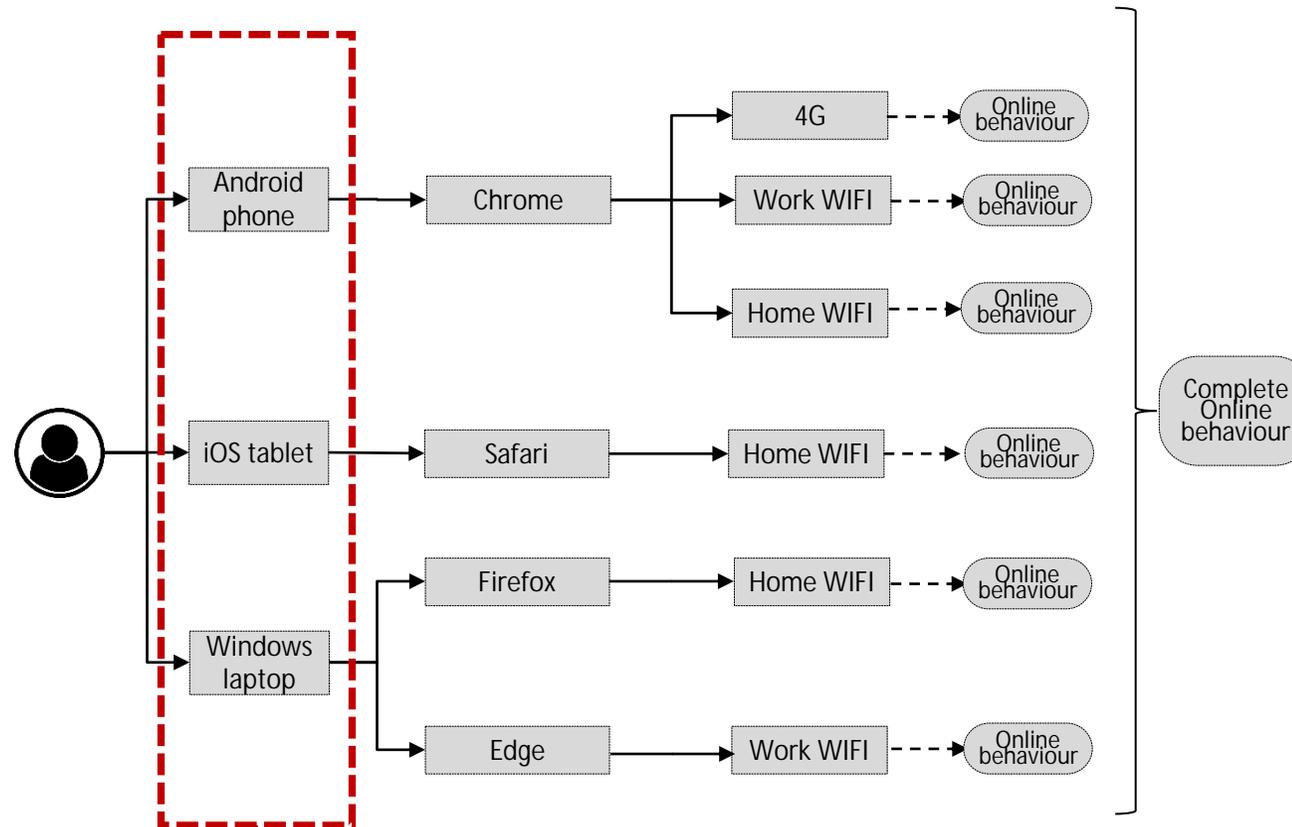
This process is, potentially, one of the most consequential ones for web tracking research. It determines:

- 1) **Who you track**
- 2) **And how well you track them**

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?

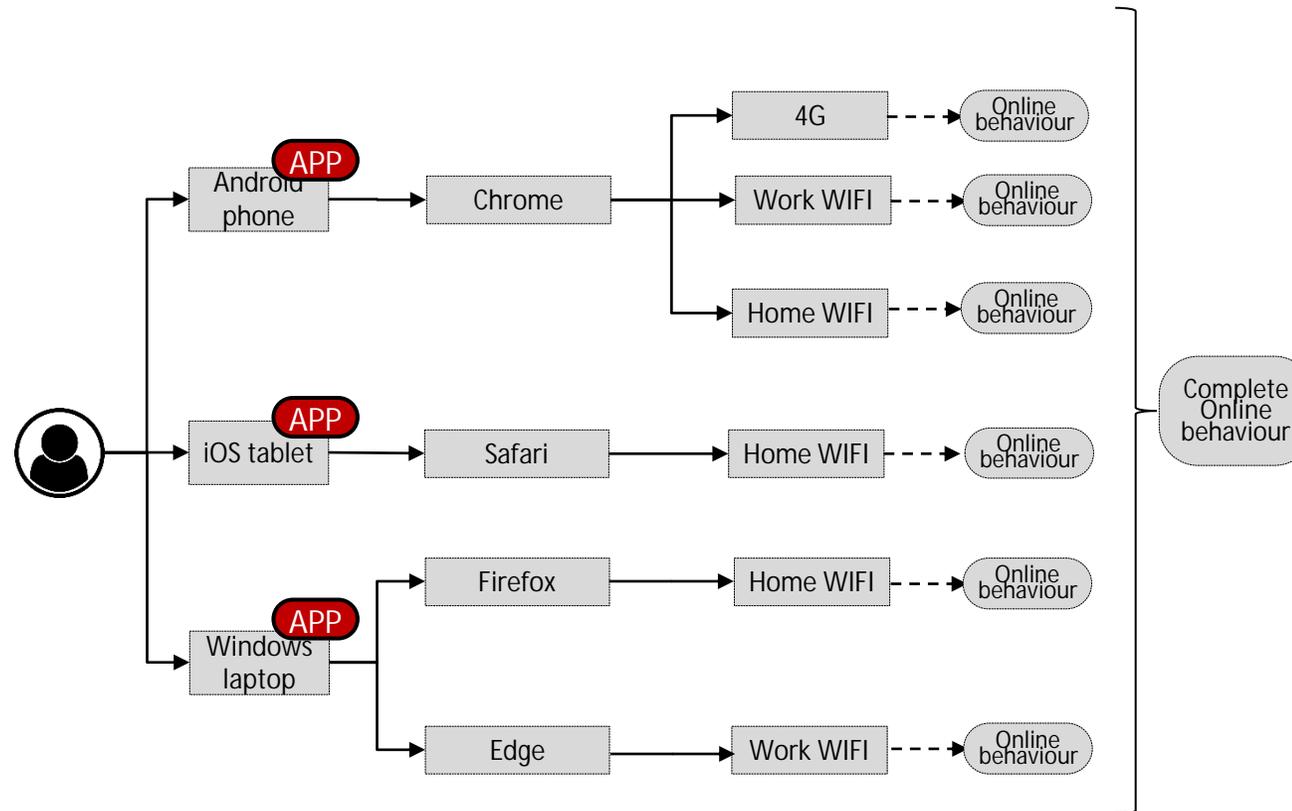


Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



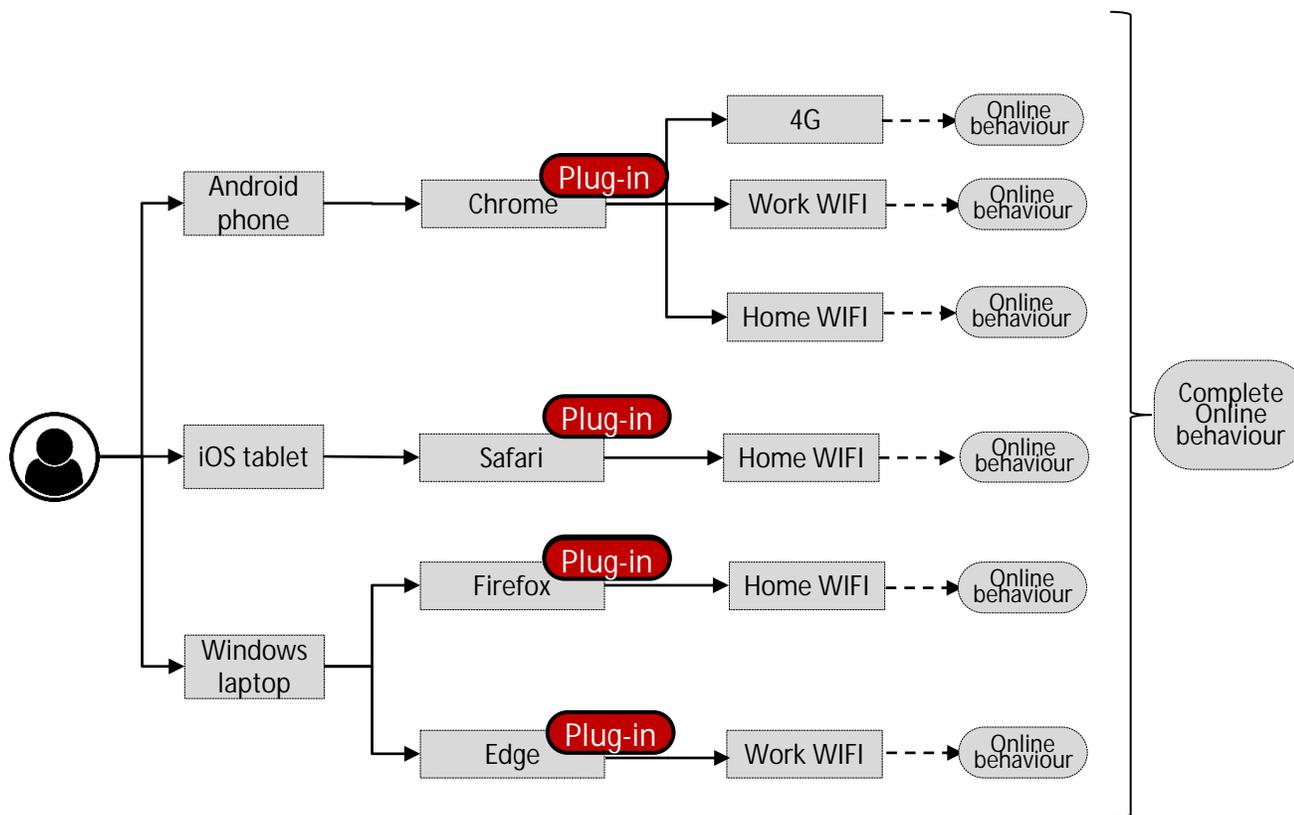
The goal is to know what people do through all their devices

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



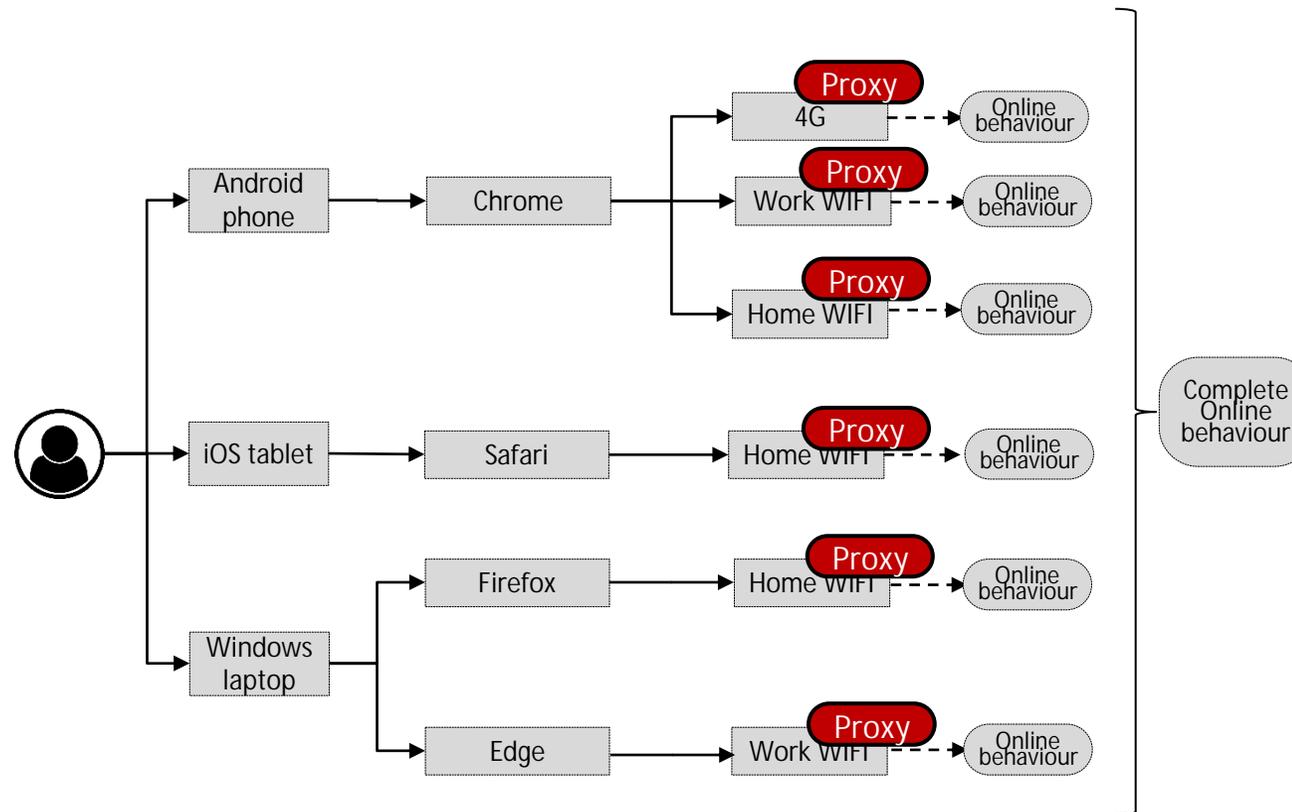
This can be achieved by tracking all devices that someone uses

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



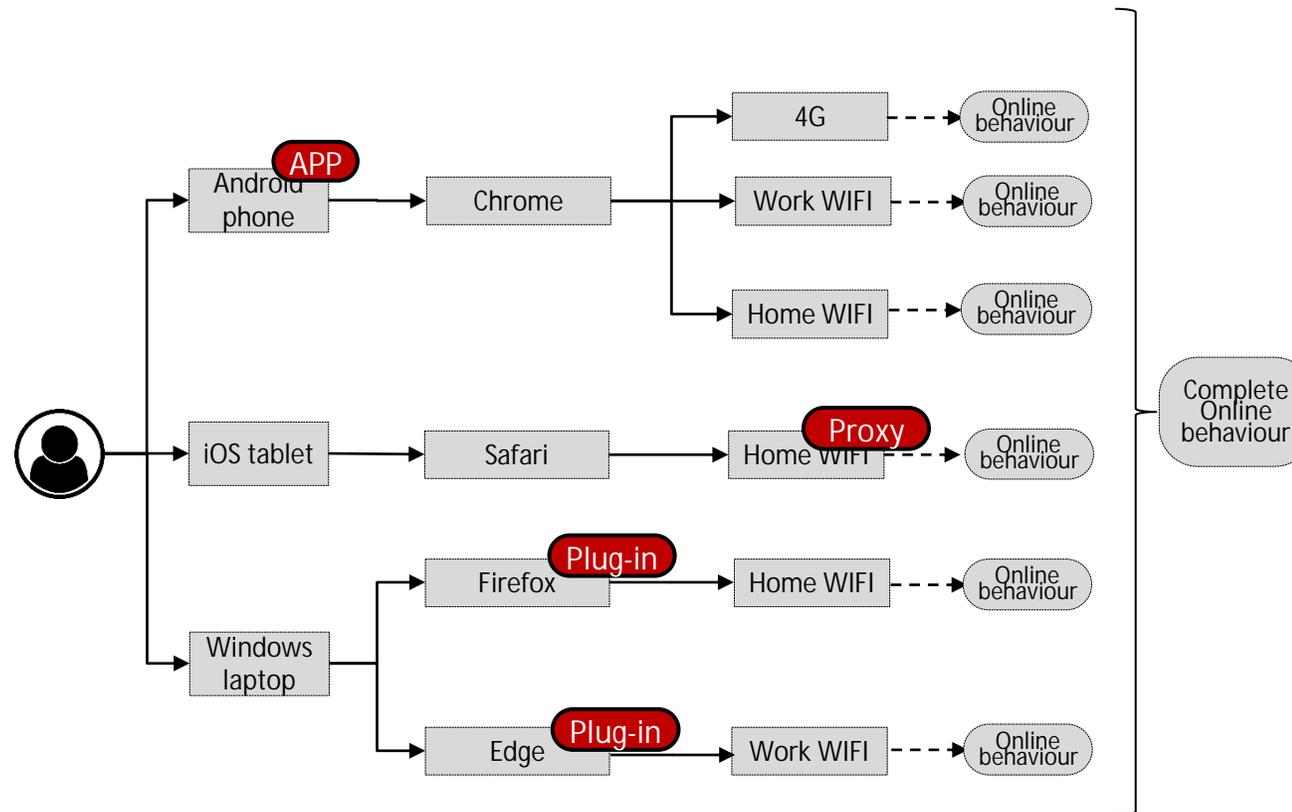
Or all their browsers

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



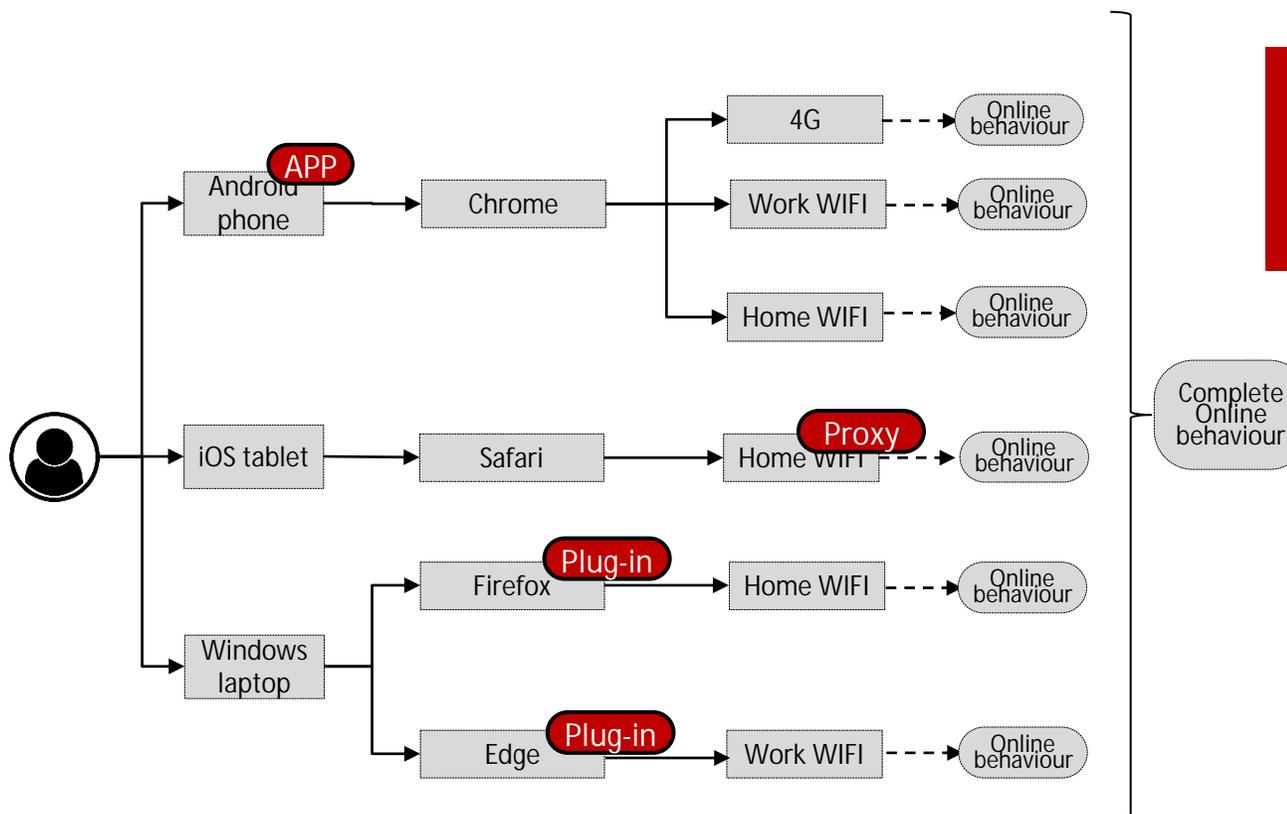
Or all their networks

Could you please, maybe, install this meter?



Or a combination of these (most common)

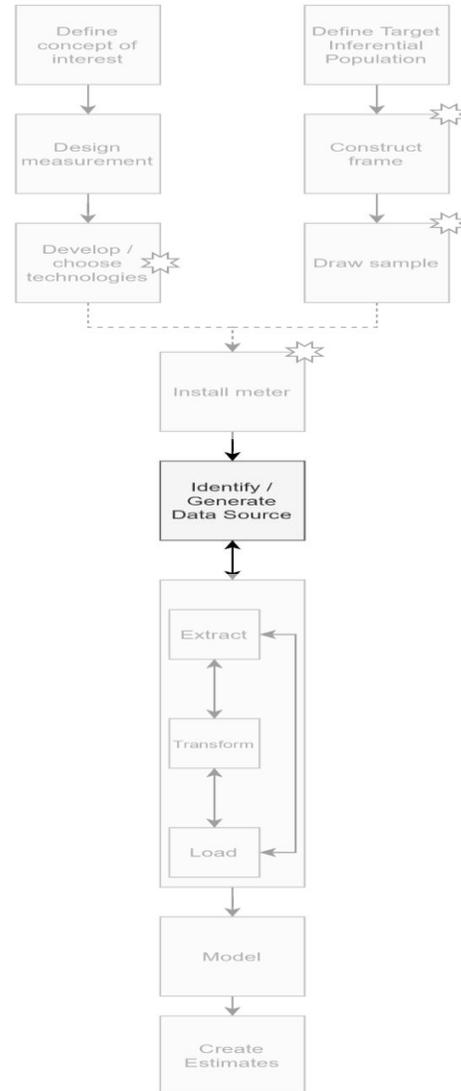
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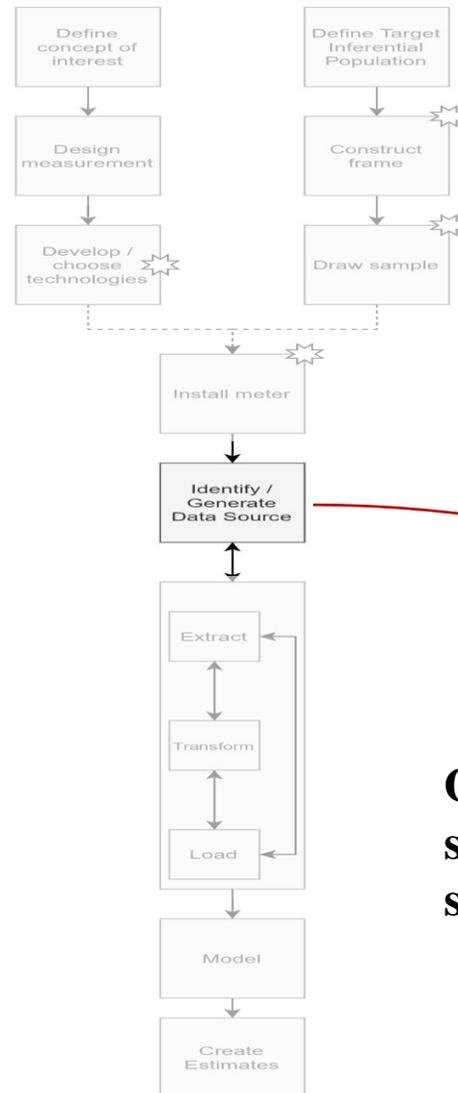
Not always easy to achieve, as we will see later

Or a combination of these (most common)

Generate the messy dataset



Generate the messy dataset



Once the trackers are installed, they start sending information, which is stored in a data storage (e.g., MySQL)

Generate the messy dataset

Figure 1: *Example of web tracking data excerpt*

USERID	STARTTIME	URL
ID:1310	2017-08-13 21:26:45 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.GOOGLE.DE
ID:1310	2017-08-13 21:26:50 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.GOOGLE.DE/SEARCH?Q=BÄCKEREI+GEÖFFNET+IN+DER+NAHE
ID:1310	2017-08-13 21:35:51 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.TWITTER.COM/HOME
• • •		
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:28:10 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.YOUGOV.DE/OPI/MYFEED#/ALL
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:29:10 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=DQW4W9WGXCQ
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:36:17 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.NETFLIX.COM/WATCH/81441579

- This is one of the **most basic versions** of what information might be recorder (ID, time stamp, and full URL)

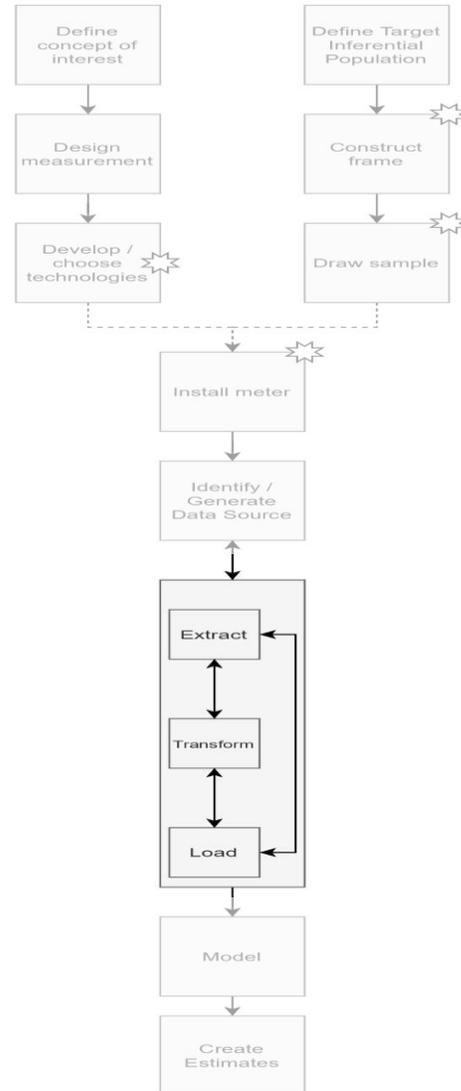
Generate the messy dataset

Figure 1: Example of web tracking data excerpt

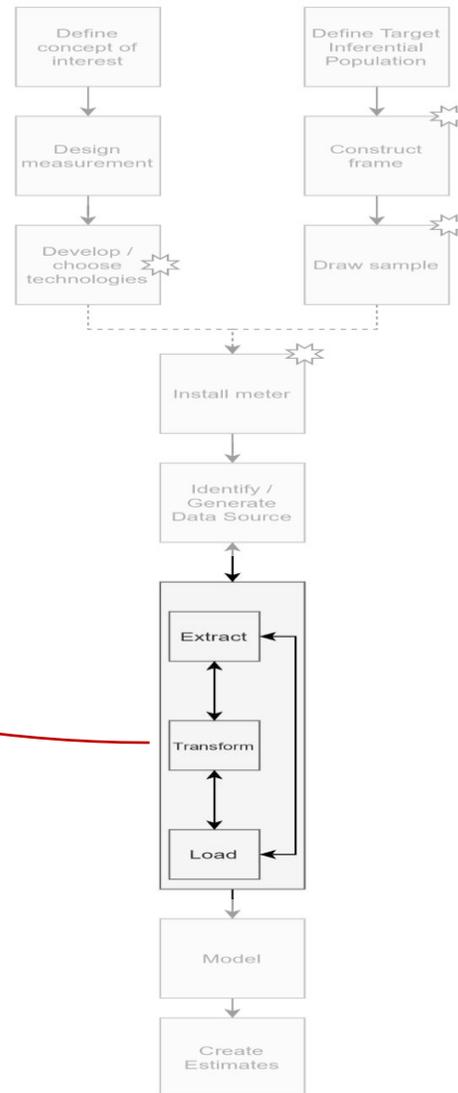
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ID:1310	2017-08-13 21:35:51 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.TWITTER.COM/HOME
		•
		•
		•
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:28:10 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.YOUGOV.DE/OPI/MYFEED#/ALL
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:29:10 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=DQW4W9WGXCQ
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:36:17 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.NETFLIX.COM/WATCH/81441579

- This is one of the **most basic versions** of what information might be recorded (ID, time stamp, and full URL)
- Other information can be captured, such as **HTML information**. For instance, the **text** each Facebook post seen by a participant, the **number of likes**, the **comments**, why the post was visible, etc.

Let's create the dataset to work with



Let's create the dataset to work with



Most researchers need to process the messy unstructured web tracking data to work with it



Let's create the dataset to work with

- The first step is to extract the data of interest. This might mean:

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ID:1310	2017-08-13 21:35:51 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.TWITTER.COM/HOME
		•
		•
		•
ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:28:10 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.YOUGOV.DE/OPI/MYFEED#/ALL
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ID:2808	2017-08-08 19:36:17 UTC	HTTPS://WWW.NETFLIX.COM/WATCH/81441579

Number of visits to google: 2

Number of visits to video platforms: 2

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- The second (*optional*) step is to transform the extracted data. This might be needed if the defined measurement requires more than simple counts of URLs.

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- Most interesting transformation: enriching the information that URLs bring to research.

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- Most interesting transformation: enriching the information that URLs bring to research.
 1. The content of the URL can be manually identified, and added to the dataset

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/live/2023/jul/12/bank-england-warns-rising-interest-rates-stress-indebted-firm>

<https://www.theguardian.com/fashion/2023/jul/12/fashion-rental-four-women-on-the-dresses-making-them-a-fortune>

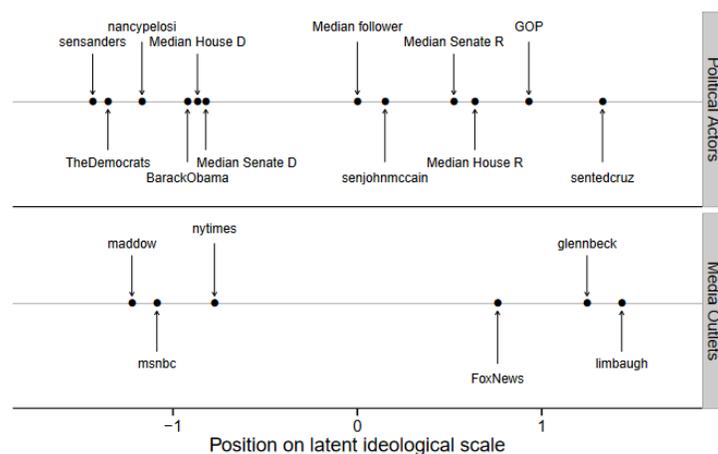
<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/11/tennis-wimbledon-elina-svitolina-ukraine-war-iga-swiatak>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/11/nuclear-bomb-fallout-site-chosen-to-define-start-of-anthropocene>

Let's create the dataset to work with

- The second (*optional*) step is to transform the extracted data. This might be needed if the defined measurement requires more than simple counts of URLs.
- Most interesting transformation: enriching the information that URLs bring to research.
 1. The content of the URL can be manually identified, and added to the dataset
 2. The webpages can be classified using external information

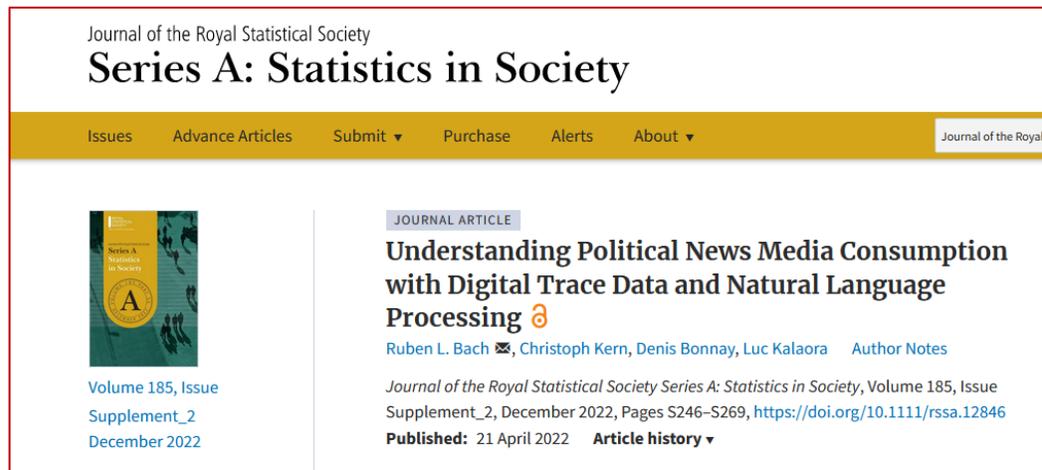
Figure S4: Ideology Estimates for Key Political Actors and Media Outlets



Average ideology of participant's media diets

Let's create the dataset to work with

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 Volume 185, Issue Supplement_2 December 2022

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Understanding Political News Media Consumption with Digital Trace Data and Natural Language Processing

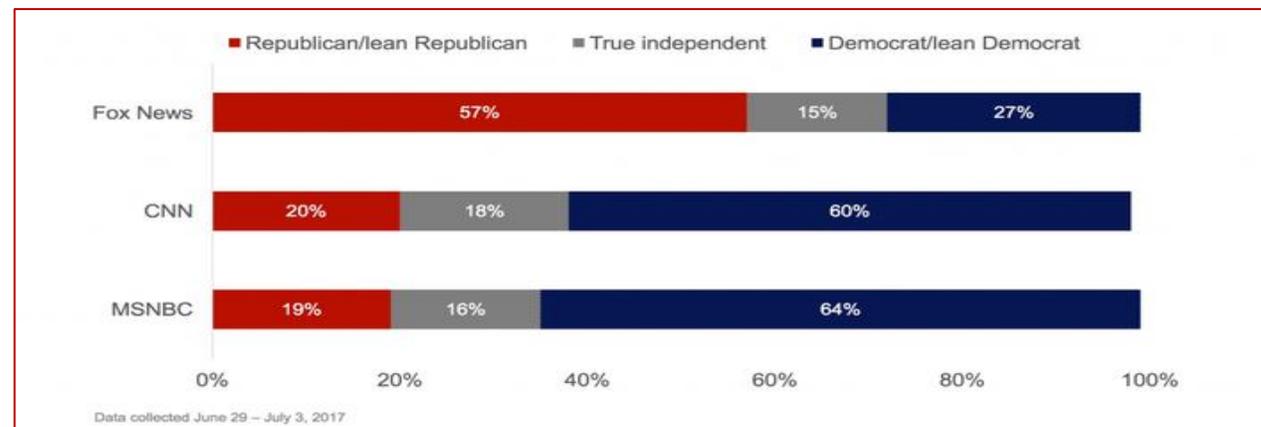
Ruben L. Bach, Christoph Kern, Denis Bonnay, Luc Kalaora Author Notes

Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A: Statistics in Society, Volume 185, Issue Supplement_2, December 2022, Pages S246–S269, <https://doi.org/10.1111/rssa.12846>

Published: 21 April 2022 Article history

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 3. Machine learning to codify the content exposed to (text / images / video / etc)
 4. Measure non-behavioural concepts: e.g., a person's ideology using Correspondence Analysis



Let's create the dataset to work with

- In the final step the extracted and transformed data sets are *loaded* and stored on the researchers' devices or servers

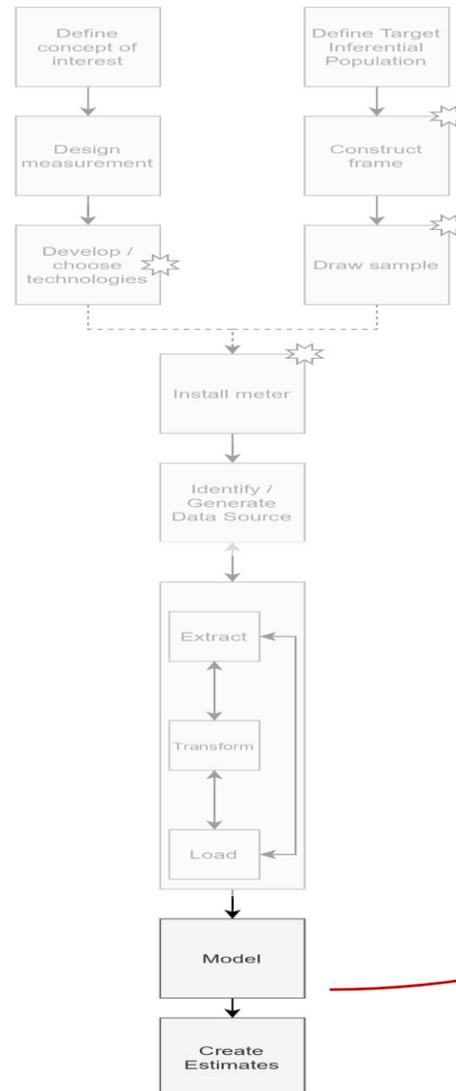
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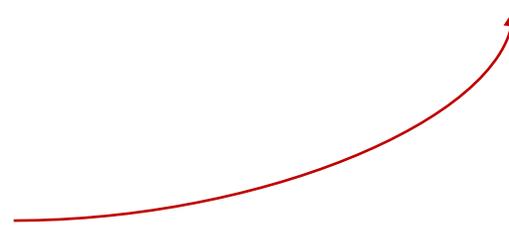
Let's create the dataset to work with

- In the final step the extracted and transformed data sets are *loaded* and stored on the researchers' devices or servers
- All these steps can be done simultaneously or iteratively (e.g., extracting information, transforming it, loading it back and extracting it again).
- This is a big difference compared with surveys, that:
 1. Makes the pre-processing stage of the research harder and longer
 2. But allows for immense flexibility, which can be exploited for good

Modelling and estimating: (for now) same old, same old



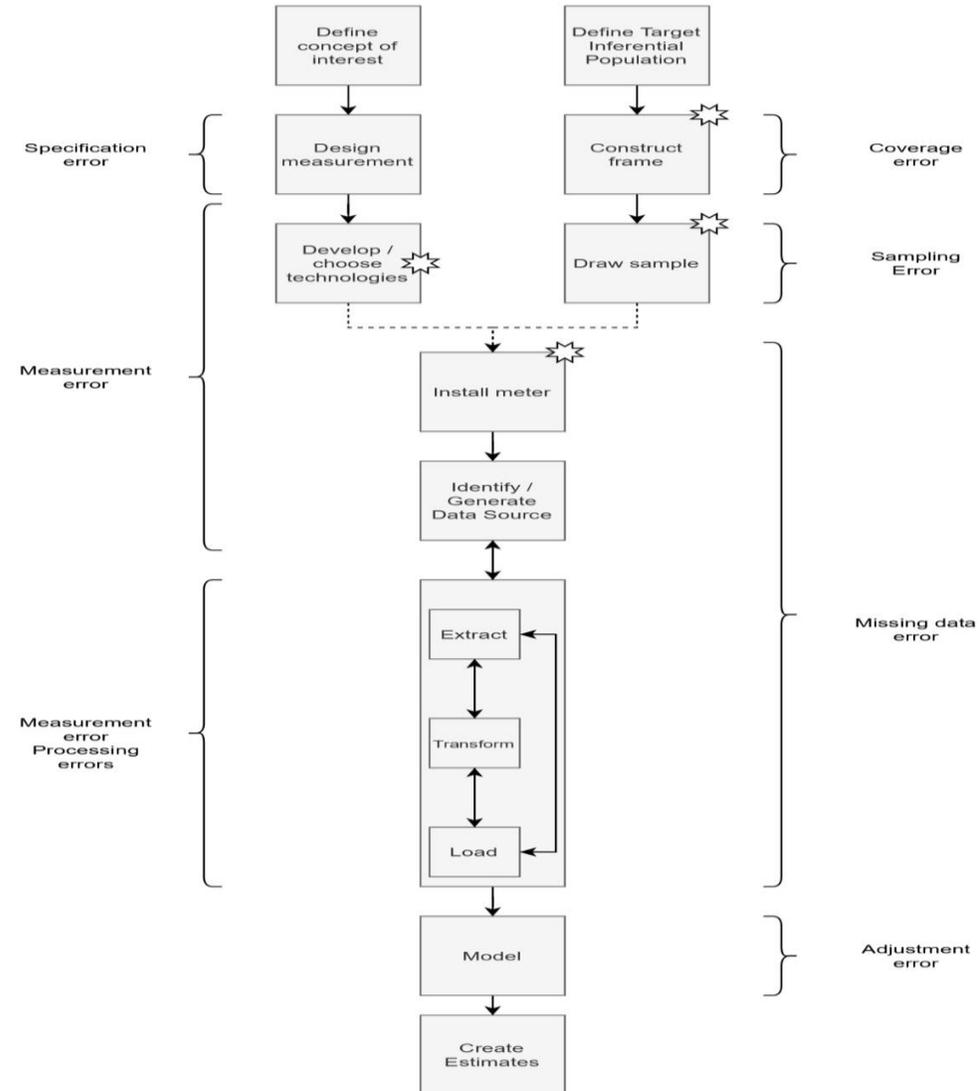
This involves adjusting the data (e.g., weighting and/or imputation). With the adjusted and modelled data, an estimate can be created (e.g., the mean hours of media consumption).



Break for questions

The challenges and errors of web tracking data

Errors can be introduced in every step



Same error components as surveys

What can cause those errors?

Error components	Specific error causes
Specification error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defining what qualifies as valid information - Measuring concepts with by-design missing data - Inferring attitudes and opinions from behaviours
Measurement error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tracking undercoverage - Technology limitations - Technology errors - Hidden behaviours - Social desirability - Extraction errors - Misclassifying non-observations - Shared devices
Processing error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coding error - Aggregation at the domain level - Data anonymization
Coverage error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-trackable individuals
Sampling error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same error causes as for surveys
Missing data error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-contact - Non-consent - Tracking undercoverage - Technology limitations - Technology errors - Hidden behaviours - Social desirability - Extraction errors - Misclassifying non-observations
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Let's deep dive on this error

Tracking undercoverage

UNCOVERING DIGITAL TRACE DATA BIASES: TRACKING UNDERCOVERAGE IN WEB TRACKING DATA

Oriol J. Bosch^{1, 2, 3}, Patrick Sturgis², Jouni Kuha², Melanie Revilla⁴

¹ Leverhulme Centre for Demographic Science, University of Oxford

² Department of Methodology, The London School of Economics and Political Science

³ Research and Expertise Centre for Survey Methodology, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

⁴ Institut Barcelona Estudis Internacionals (IBEI)

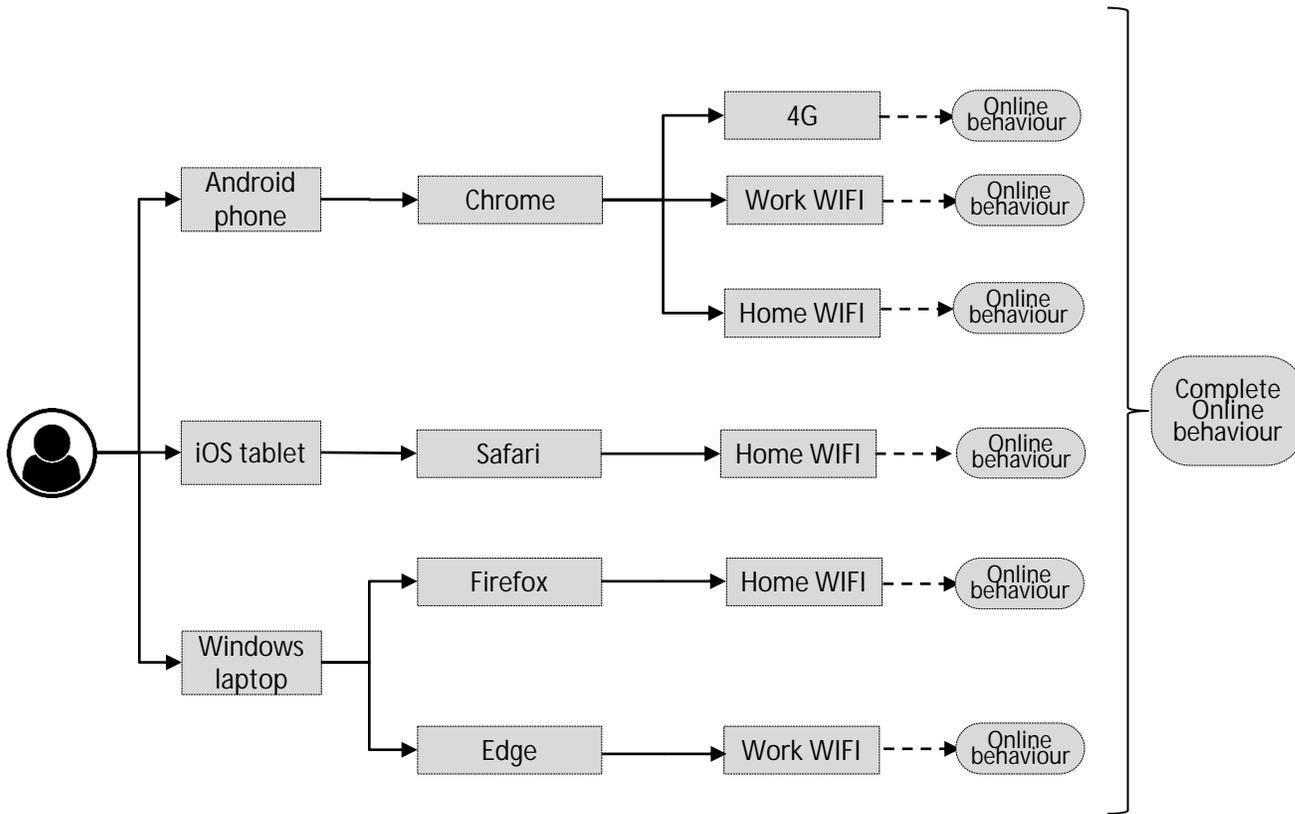
Abstract

In the digital age, understanding people's online behaviours is vital. Digital trace data has emerged as a popular alternative to surveys, many times hailed as the gold standard. This study critically assesses the use of web tracking data to study online media exposure. Specifically, we focus on a critical error source of this type of data, tracking undercoverage: researchers' failure to capture data from all the devices and browsers that individuals utilize to go online. Using data from Spain, Portugal, and Italy, we explore undercoverage in commercial online panels and simulate biases in online media exposure estimates. The paper shows that tracking undercoverage is highly prevalent when using commercial panels, with more than 70% of participants affected. In addition, the primary determinant of undercoverage is the type and number of devices employed for internet access, rather than individual characteristics and attitudes. Additionally, through a simulation study, it demonstrates that web tracking estimates, both univariate and multivariate, are often substantially biased due to tracking undercoverage. This represents the first empirical evidence demonstrating that web tracking data is, effectively, biased. Methodologically, the paper showcases how survey questions can be used as auxiliary information to identify and simulate web tracking errors.

Keywords:

Digital trace data · Web tracking data · Undercoverage · Bias · Media exposure · Monte Carlo simulation

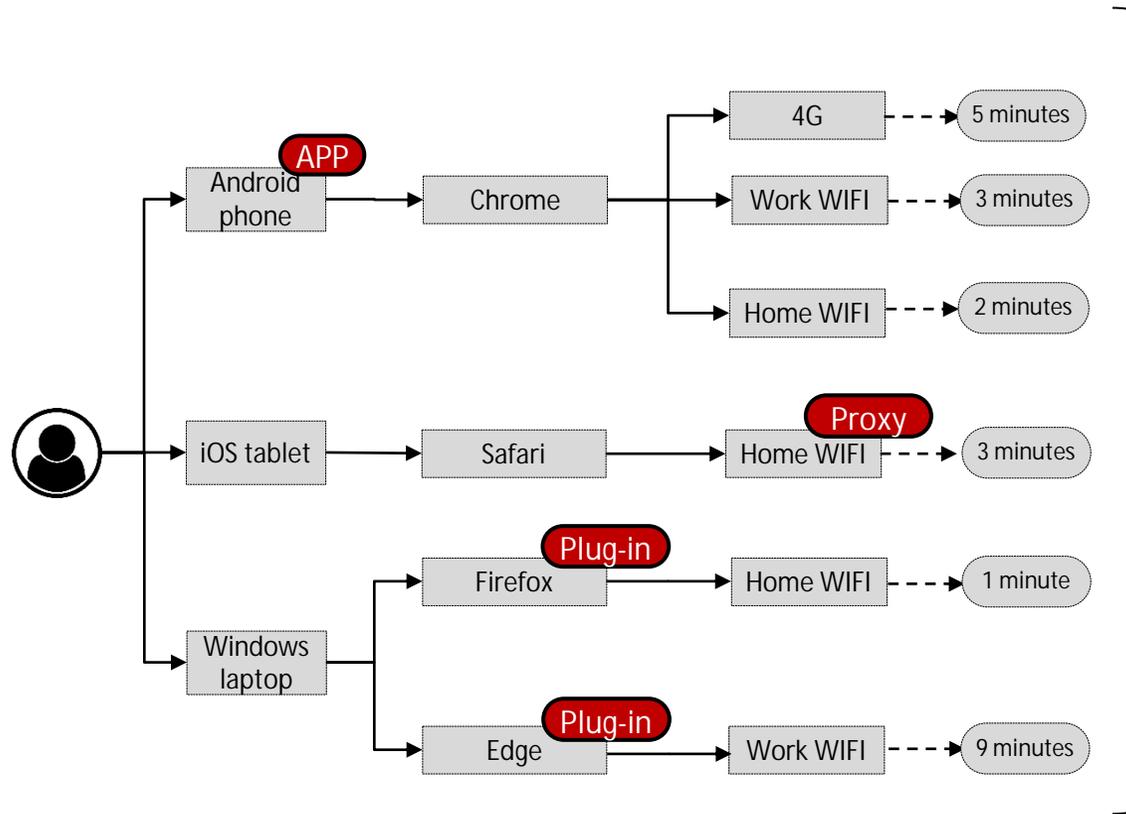
Tracking undercoverage



Objective: measuring individuals' behaviours.

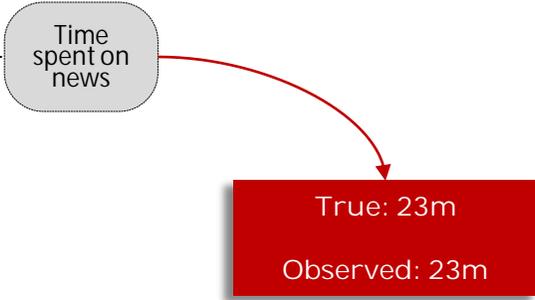
Reality: we only measure what we can manage to track.

Tracking undercoverage

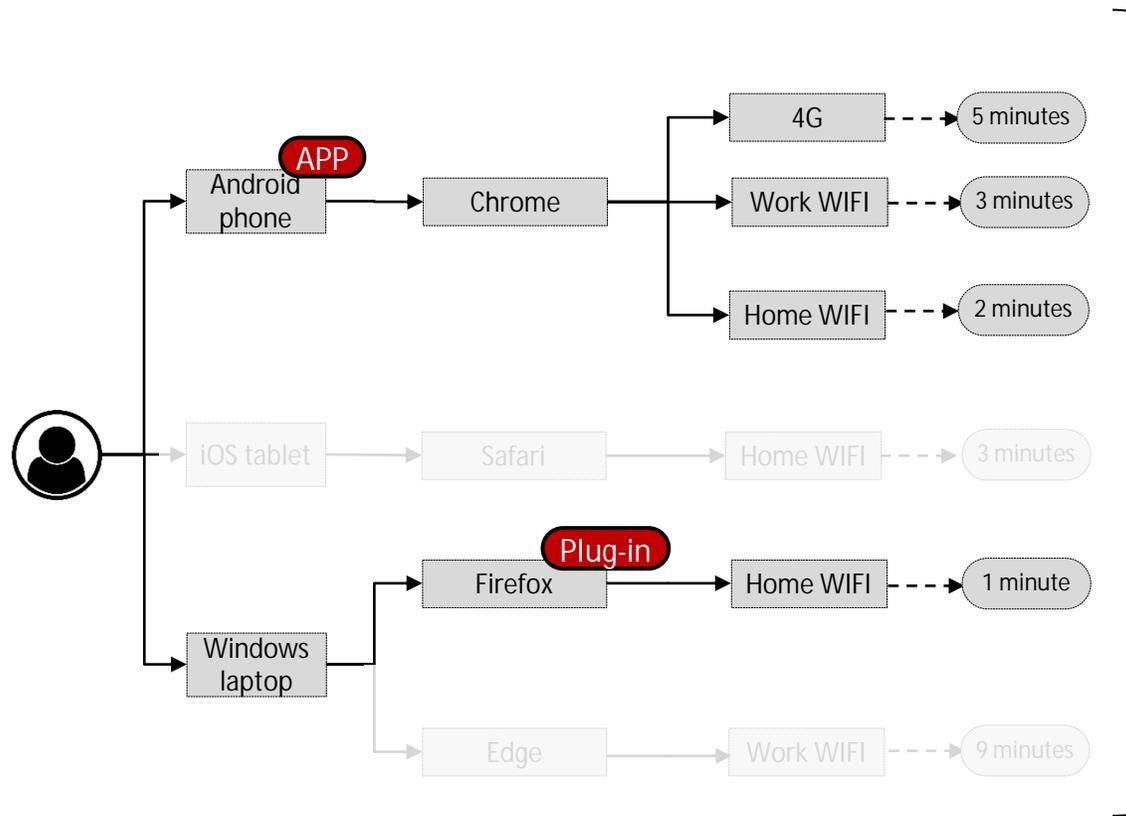


Objective: measuring individuals' behaviours.

Reality: we only measure what we can manage to track. **→ All**



Tracking undercoverage

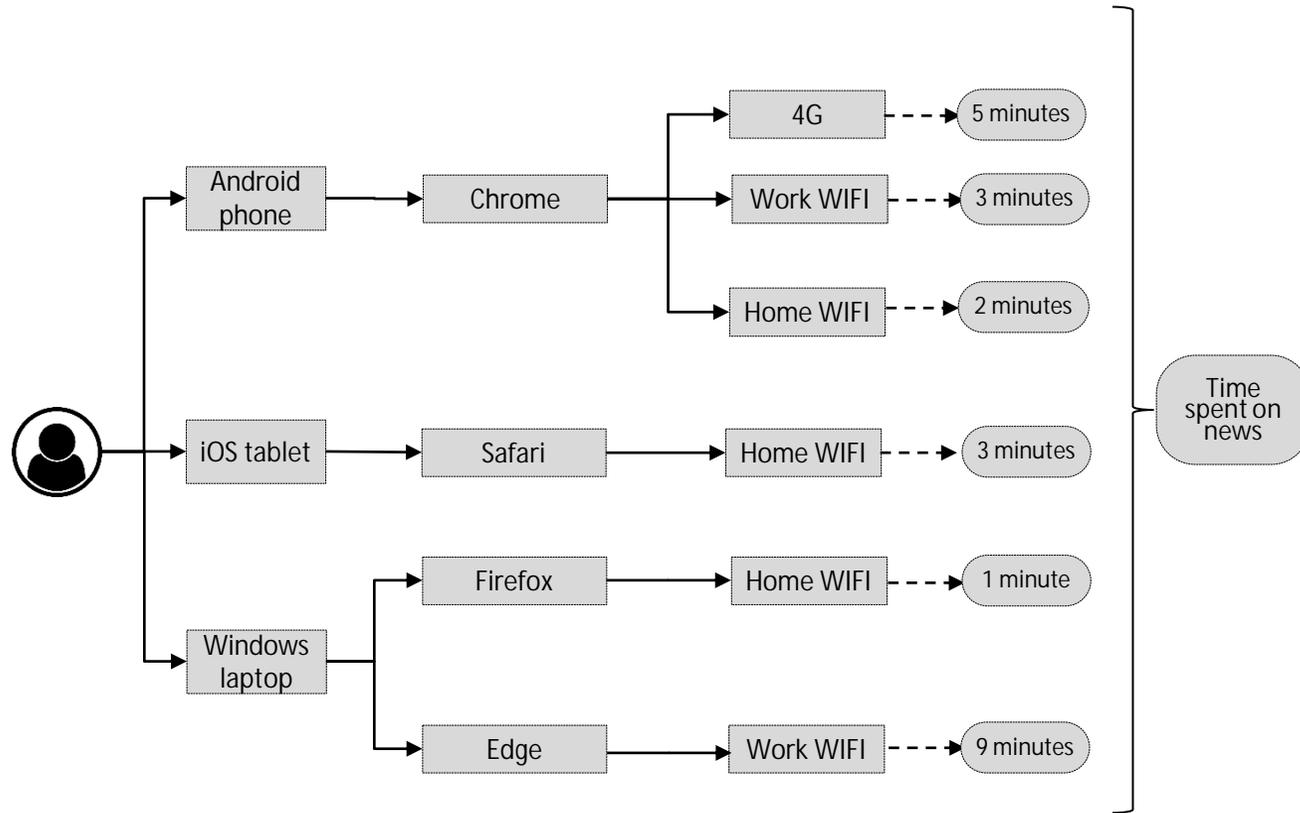


Objective: measuring individuals' behaviours.

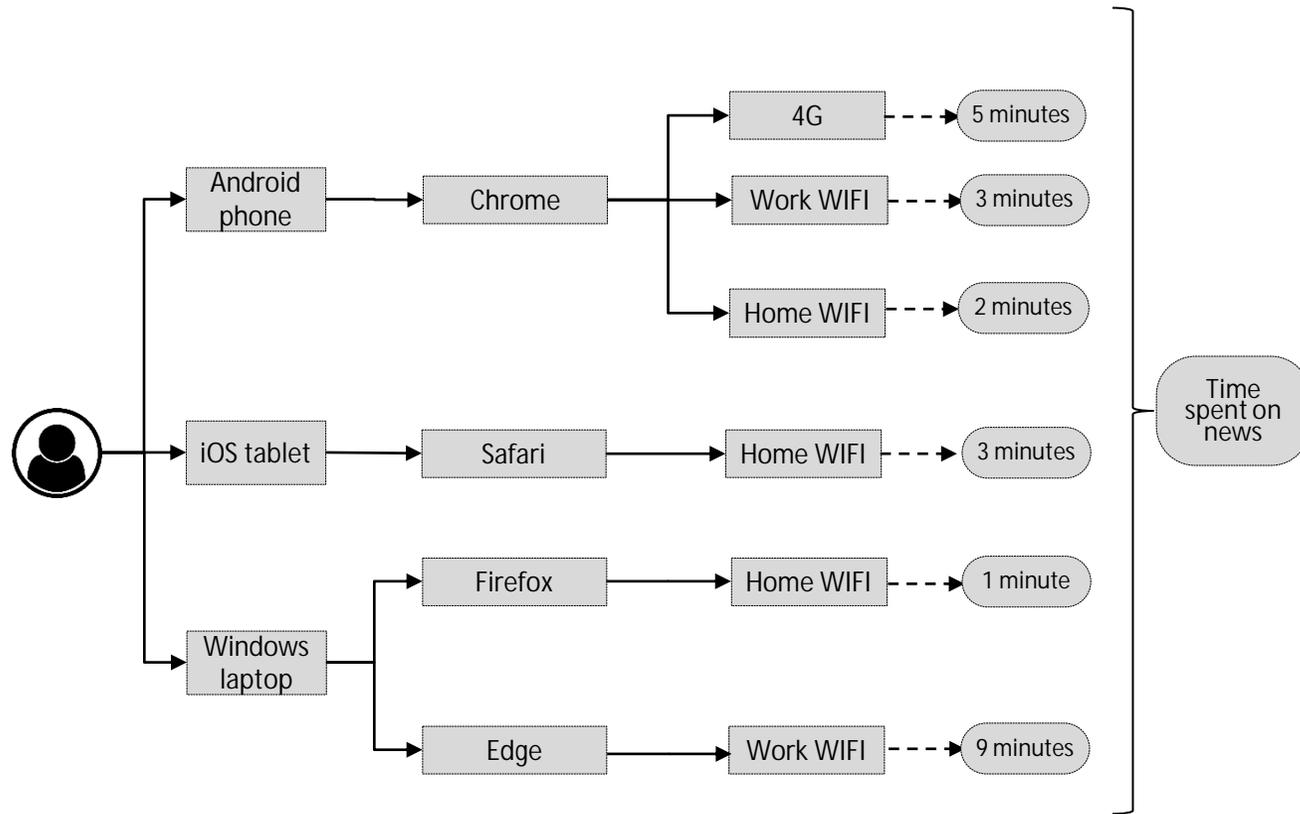
Reality: we only measure what we can manage to track. **→** Part

True: 23m
Observed: 11m
Measurement error: -12m

Why is this happening?

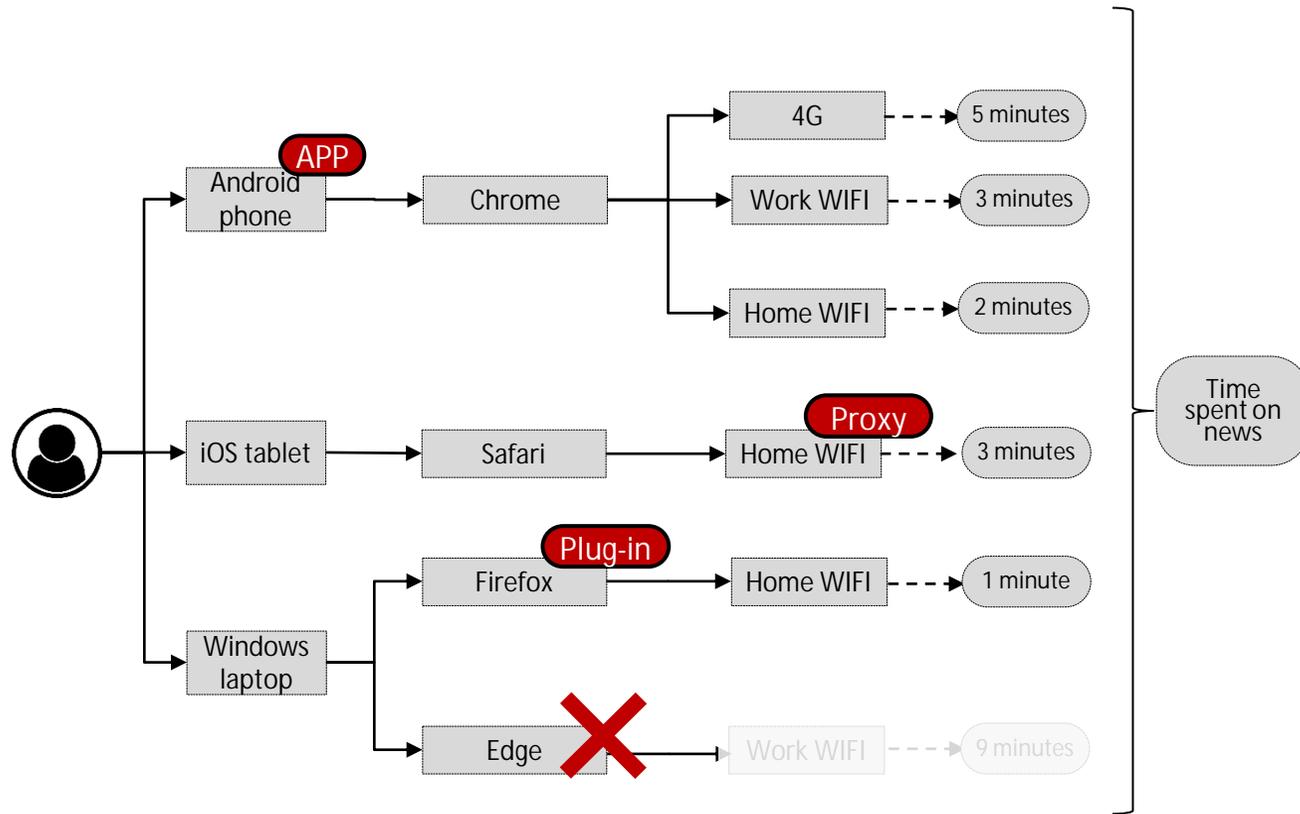


Why is this happening?



Different reasons:

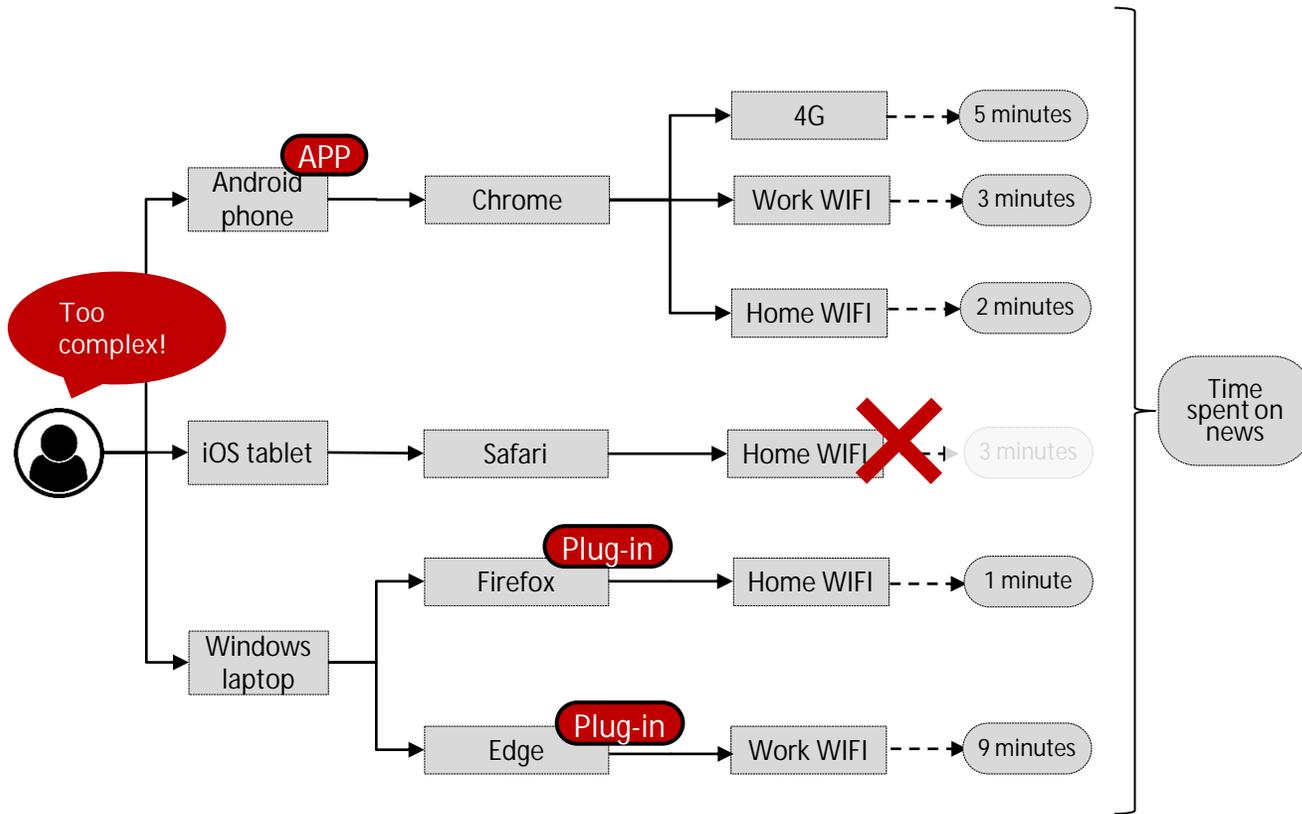
Why is this happening?



Different reasons:

1. Some devices / browsers cannot be tracked with available technologies

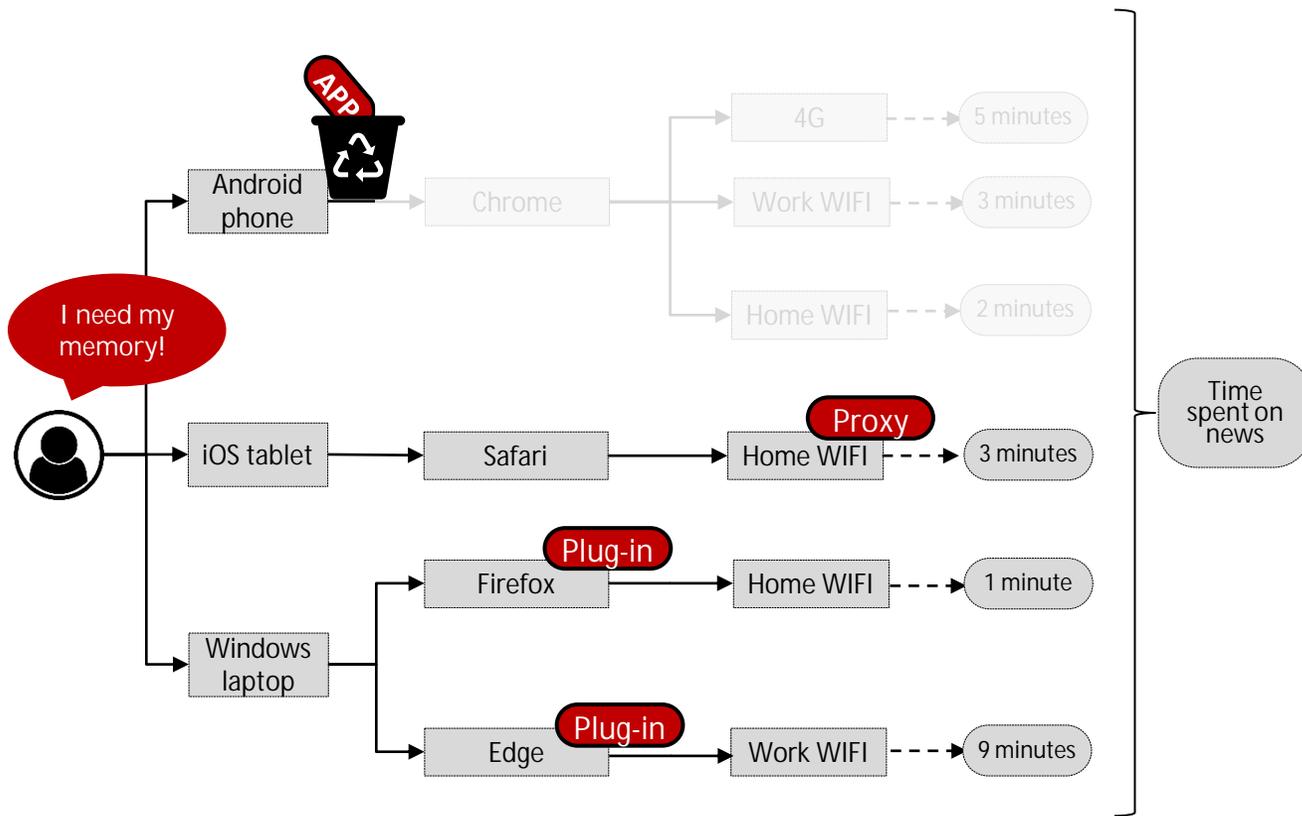
Why is this happening?



Different reasons:

1. Some devices / browsers cannot be tracked with available technologies
2. People might not want to fully comply

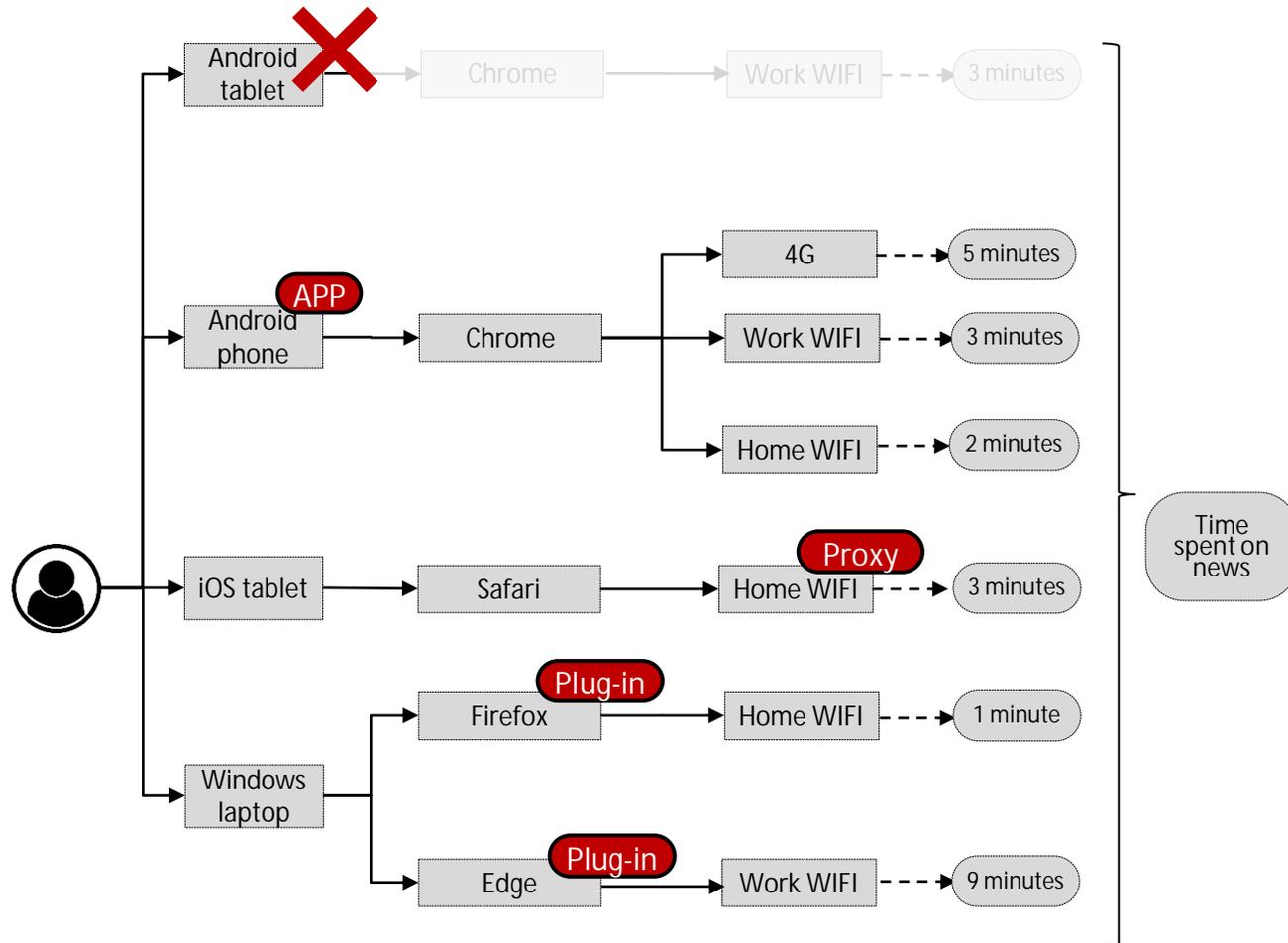
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3. People might uninstall technologies

Why is this happening?



Different reasons:

1. Some devices / browsers cannot be tracked with available technologies
2. People might not want to fully comply
3. People might uninstall technologies
4. New device, we do not even know they have

How big of a problem is this?

Proportion of participants with all their devices tracked

	% fully covered
All participants	26
Participants who reported using...	
... 1 device	100
... 2 devices	34
... 3 devices	13
... 4 devices	1
... +5 devices	0

	% fully covered
Participants who reported using...	
PC	
... Windows	49
... MAC	27
Mobile	
... Android	52
... iOS	10

How big of a problem is this?

Most people do not have all their devices fully tracked

Proportion of participants with all their devices tracked

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Participants who reported using...	
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	% fully covered
Participants who reported using...	
PC	
... Windows	49
... MAC	27
Mobile	
... Android	52
... iOS	10

→ The higher the number of devices that people use, the more likely it is that we do not fully track them

How big of a problem is this?

Proportion of participants with all their devices tracked

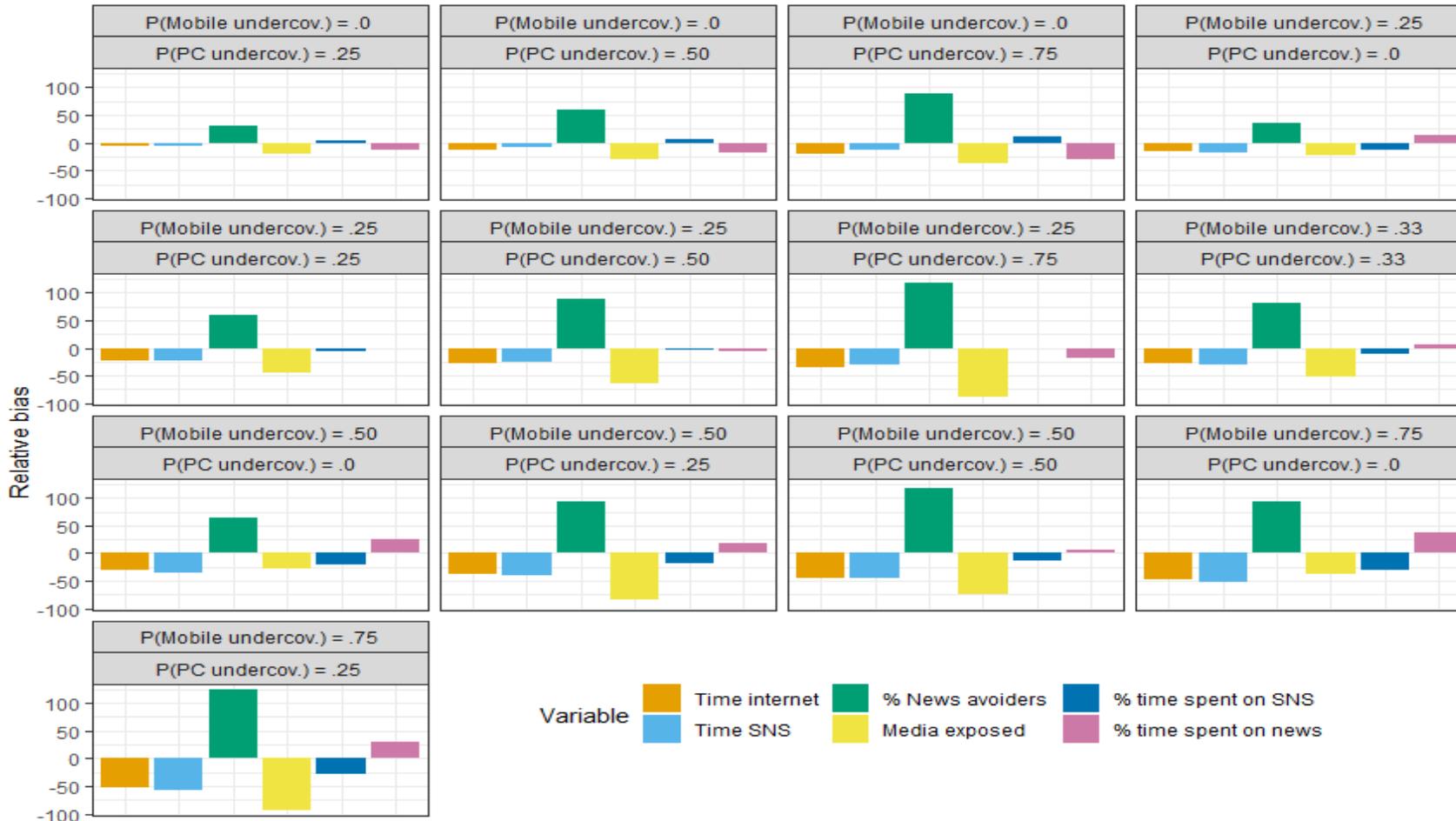
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... Windows	49
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 We have a problem with Apple devices! (tech reasons)

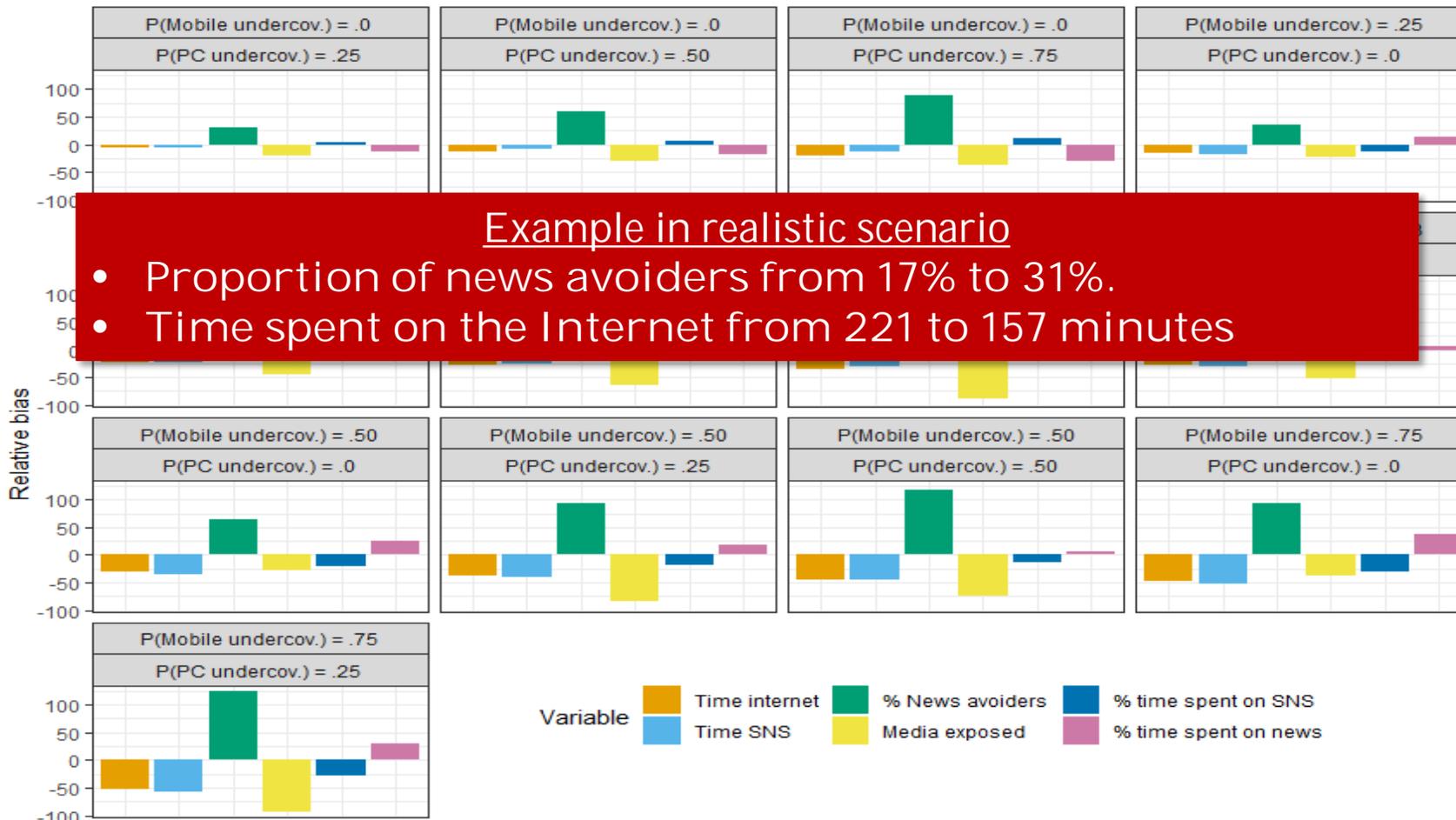
How big of a problem is this?

Relative bias introduced by undercoverage, depending on the probability of having all PCs or Mobile devices not covered



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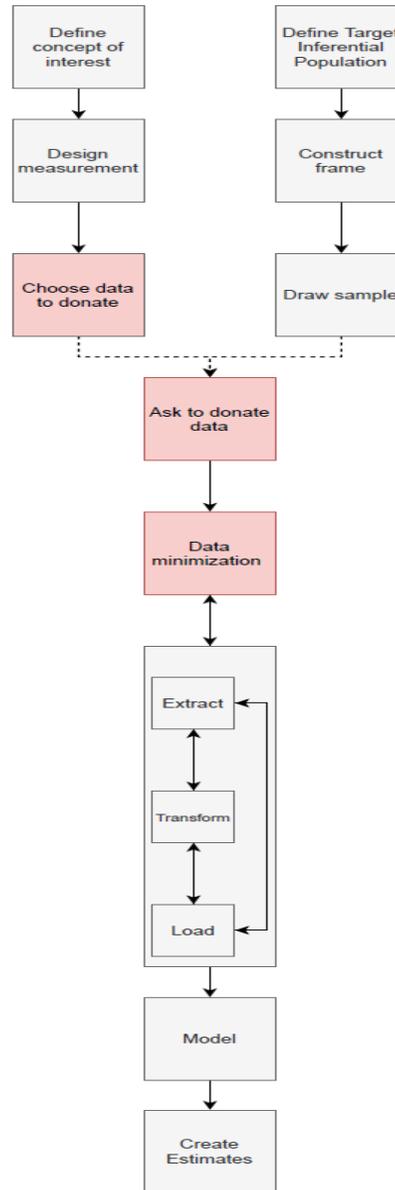


How to use data donations, and what to consider?

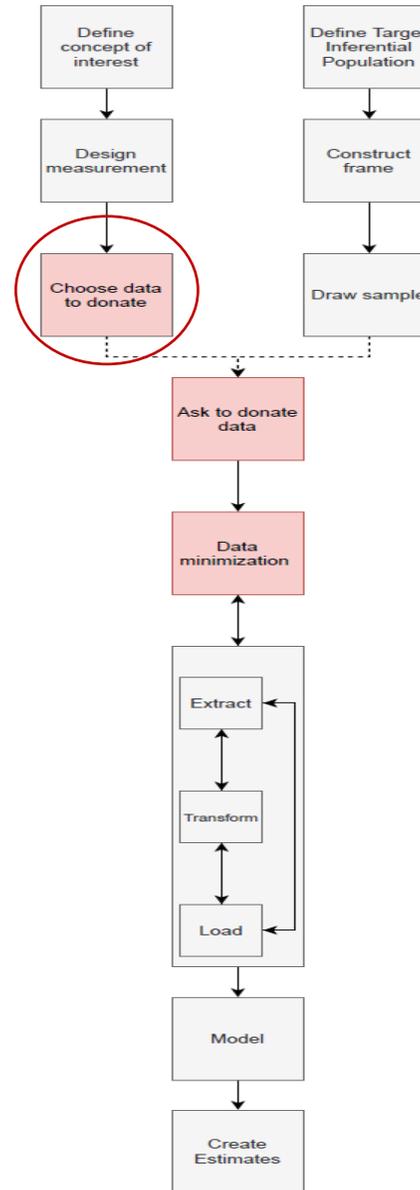
Refreshing our memory

A data donation is any instance in which a person accesses some of their personal data, captures it, and shares it with researchers.

Similar, but different

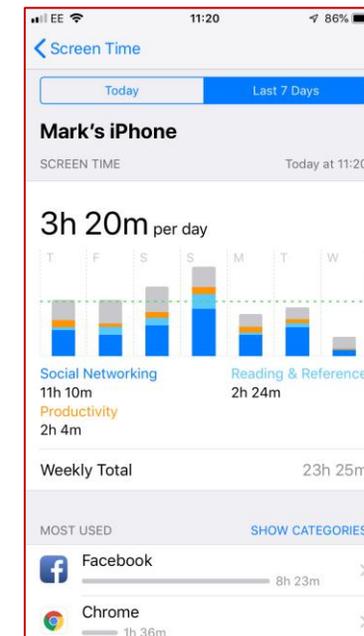
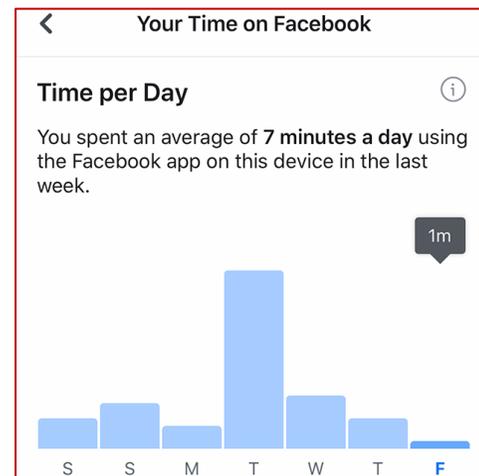


Similar, but different



We need to identify what available data might work for us

- With data donations, we are asking participants to donate data that has already been produced by third-parties, and that they have access to



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- With data donations, we are asking participants to donate data that has already been produced by third-parties, and that they have access to
- To measure a specific concept with data donations, we first need to identify whether there is any available data source that participants can access, capture, and share.

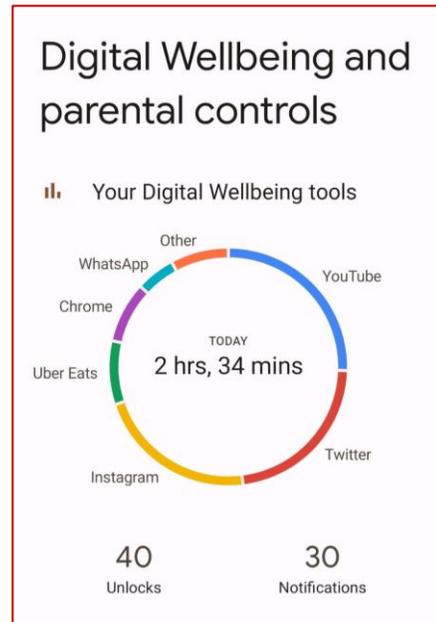
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- To measure a specific concept with data donations, we first need to identify whether there is any available data source that participants can access, capture, and share.

We are constrained by what other companies have created and collected. We have no control over what data might exist, and the format of it

Examples of available data (related to digital behaviours)

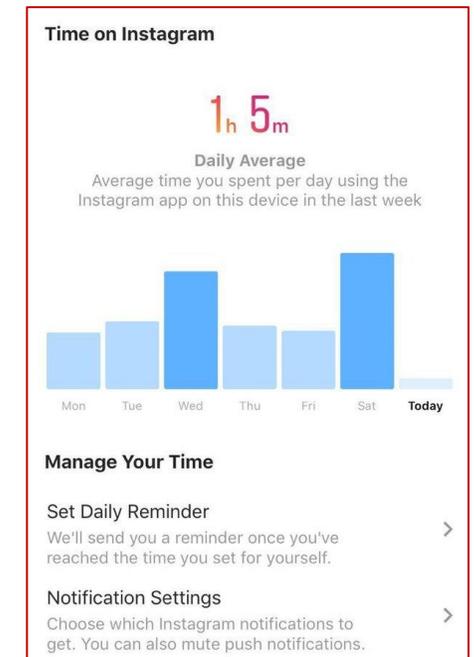
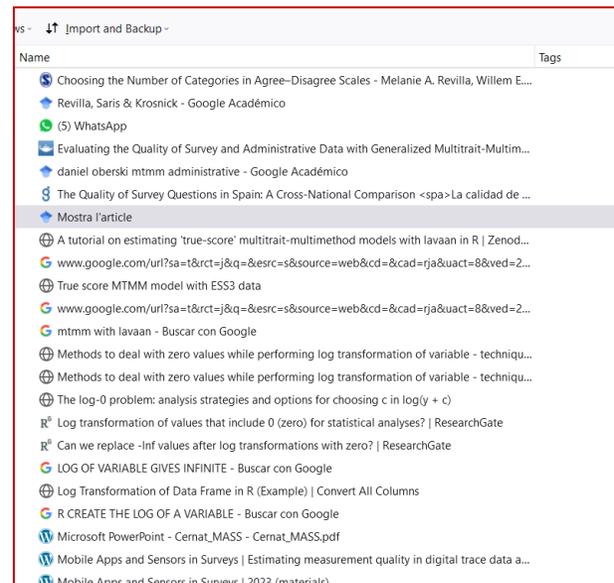
- Information collected and stored by digital devices. Examples could be:
 1. Device, battery and/or memory usage information.
 2. Activity and health data.



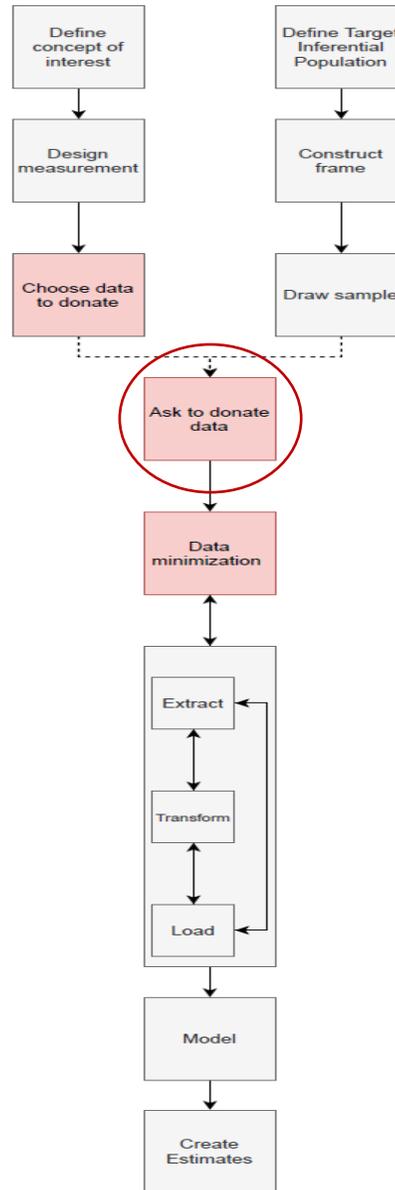
Examples of available data (related to digital behaviours)

- Information collected and stored by digital devices. Examples could be:
 1. Device, battery and/or memory usage information.
 2. Activity and health data.

- Information collected and stored by tech companies. Examples could be:
 1. Browsing history.
 2. Social media usage.
 3. Location and travel data.
 4. Advertisement data.



Similar, but different



Asking to donate data

- In most cases, when a participant is asked to donate their data, there will always be at least three steps:
 1. Access the data
 2. Capture it
 3. And share it with the researchers

Asking to donate data

- In most cases, when a participant is asked to donate their data, there will always be at least three steps:
 1. Access the data
 2. Capture it
 3. And share it with the researchers

Goal: make design decisions across these three dimensions that minimises the required effort of participants to share data, while allowing us to collect the necessary data

How can participants capture and share their data?

Capture

- Take pictures or screenshots
- Take videos or video recordings
- Download the information
- Manually annotate the data / memorize (not ideal).

Share

- Upload within the questionnaire.
- Upload in an outside system.
- Send the data using e-mails or secure sharing systems.
- Manually record the data.

How can participants capture and share their data?

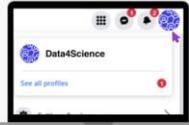
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How can participants capture and share their data?

- The process to capture and share this data will heavily vary depending the approaches selected for the project
 - For instance: downloading a Data Download Package (DDP) can be a long and burdensome process. Can take more than one day from the point that the participants asks for the data, and the data is available.

FREE YOUR FACEBOOK DATA

Step 1: Download your data



1

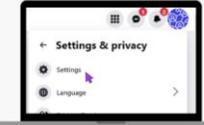
Login to Facebook

Click on your **profile photo** on the top right of the screen

2

Select 'Settings and Privacy'

Click **Settings** on the dropdown menu



3



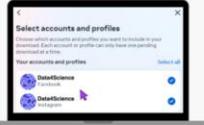
Go to 'Accounts Centre'

Click on **Your information and permissions**, then **Download your information**

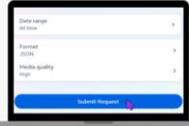
4

Select 'Request a download'

Click on the **Facebook** and **Instagram** profiles you'd like to download, then **Complete copy**



5



Select file options

We suggest you choose **JSON** format, **High** media quality, and **All time** date range

6

Click 'submit request'

Once you receive a Facebook notification/email, you'll have four days to download your data



FREE YOUR FACEBOOK DATA

Step 2: Free your data!



1

Your data is ready

Click on the **Facebook** notification or email

2

Download your data!

Select **Download** and save the **.zip** file to your PC



3



Login to Data4Science

Select **Dashboard** on the top menu

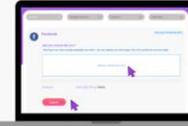
4

Go to Facebook

Hover over **Socials** and click on **Facebook**



5



Upload your data!

Drag and drop the **.zip** file into the box and click on **Submit**

6

Explore your data

Select a **chart** and start exploring your data!



How can participants capture and share their data?

- The process to capture and share this data will heavily vary depending the approaches selected for the project
 - For instance: downloading a Data Download Package (DDP) can be a long and burdensome process. Can take more than one day from the point that the participants asks for the data, and the data is available.
- Similarly, the amount of data collectable and the perceived privacy concerns might potentially be affected by the method used.

How can participants capture and share their data?

- The process to capture and share this data will heavily vary depending the approaches selected for the project

- For instance, the capture process. Can you capture the data and the data

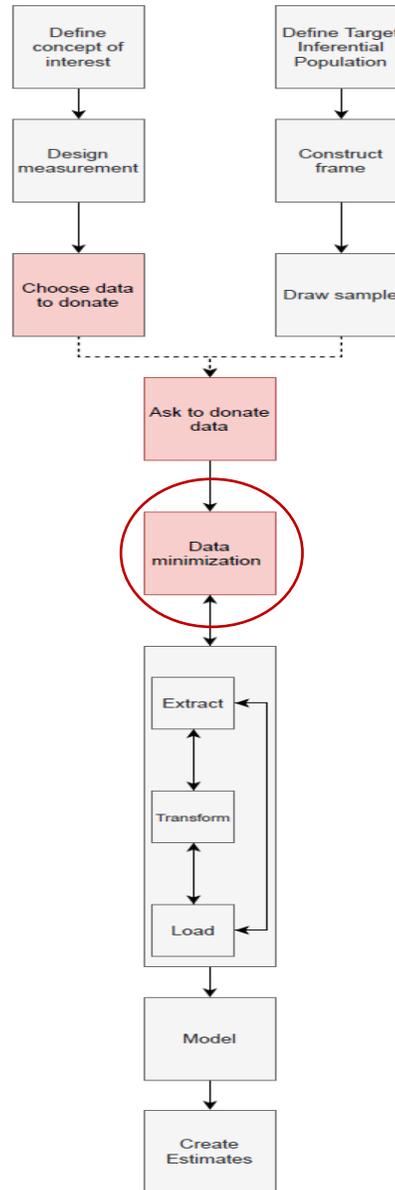
Sometimes we might not be able to choose! Some data can only be captured in specific ways. Capturing and burdensome data asks for the data,

For example: device usage data cannot (most of the times) be downloaded in any way

- Similarly, the data potentially be a

concerns might

Similar, but different



Minimizing the data

- In most cases, the data that people will donate will be plagued with sensitive information
- Data must be minimized, either locally, or before being saved in the servers, to make sure no unintended and sensitive data is collected
- This will normally involve a lot of complex coding, so get ready

Q & A



Thanks!

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- Going Beyond Conventional Web Surveys: using new types of data in online surveys
 - Taught by Melanie Revilla, Barcelona Institute of International Studies
 - 13 - 15 March 2024

- Measuring Citizens' Digital Behaviours Using Web Trackers and Data Donations
 - Taught by Oriol Bosch, University of Oxford
 - 13 - 15 March 2024



• All Winter School participants have access to the WEB DATA OPP workshop, sharing the latest research on the use of new data types in online survey studies (18 -19 March 2024) !



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recsm@upf.edu

