



# [MILTON DATA]

*Synthetic Data: a very real path to  
cross-media measurement*

*11 September 2024*



# Synthetic Data Basics



- Synthetic data most common currently in medical fields
  - Privacy focus
  - Alternative scenarios
  - Capture distribution/structure of real data



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  - Alternative scenarios
  - Capture distribution/structure of real data
- Military & Security applications
  - Image classification
  - Cyber-security
  - Autonomous system development



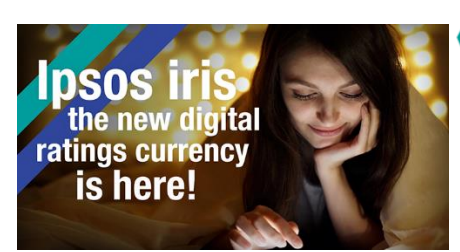
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  - Autonomous system development
- Training AI Systems
  - Alpha Go most famous example
  - Rendering engines as inputs for autonomous vehicles
  - Amazon training Alexa language system on synthetic data
  - American Express & synthetic financial data for fraud detection



# Applications in Media and Marketing

- Early days but showing potential
- Projects around the world
  - Iris (Australia/UK)
  - VOZ (Australia)
  - Dovetail (UK)
  - WFA Halo/“North Star” (USA/UK)
- Core elements in each
  - Audience measurement applications
  - Privacy preserving approaches
  - Integration of different data sources
  - Emphasis on cross-media/cross-platform measures





# Making Synthetic Data – General Version

- “Classic” approaches
  - Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN)
  - Variational Auto-encoders (VAE)
- Problems for audience measurement applications
  - LLMs revealing training data
  - No control on representativeness





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- When LLMs go wrong ....







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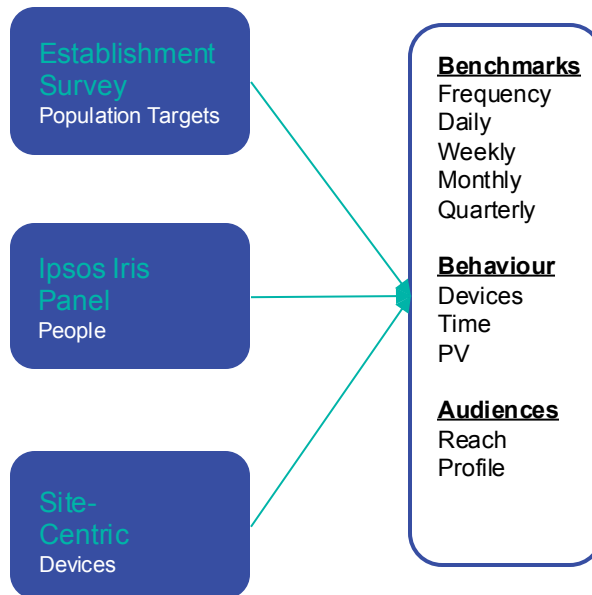
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- When LLMs go wrong ....
  - It’s not always so obvious





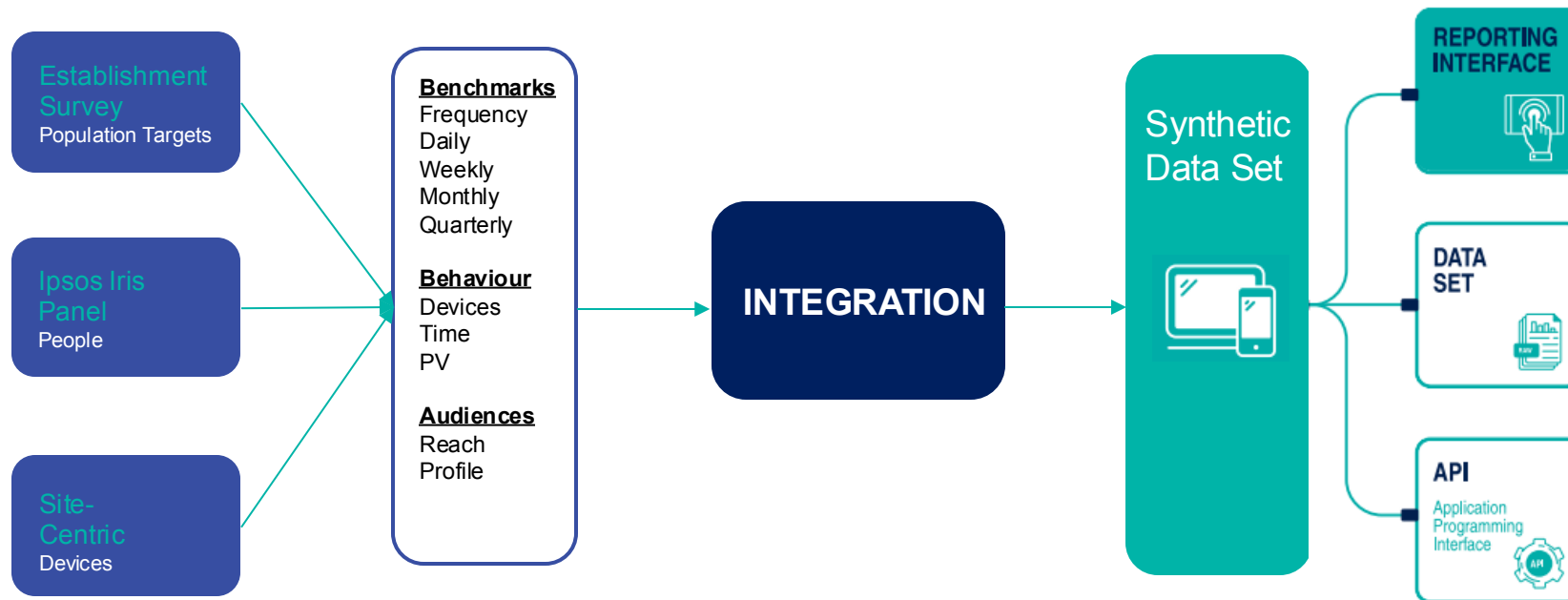
# Making Synthetic Data – Media/Marketing Version

- Synthetic data in media more about controlled integration (Ipsos Iris Australia)
  - Survey data (establishment survey)
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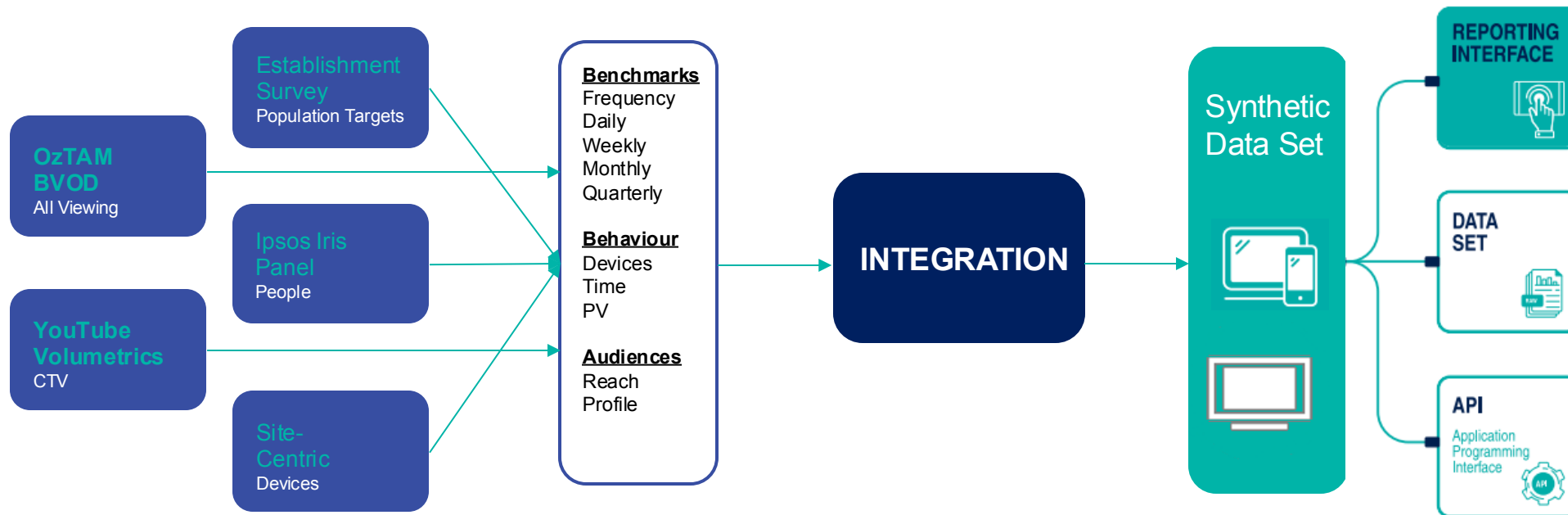


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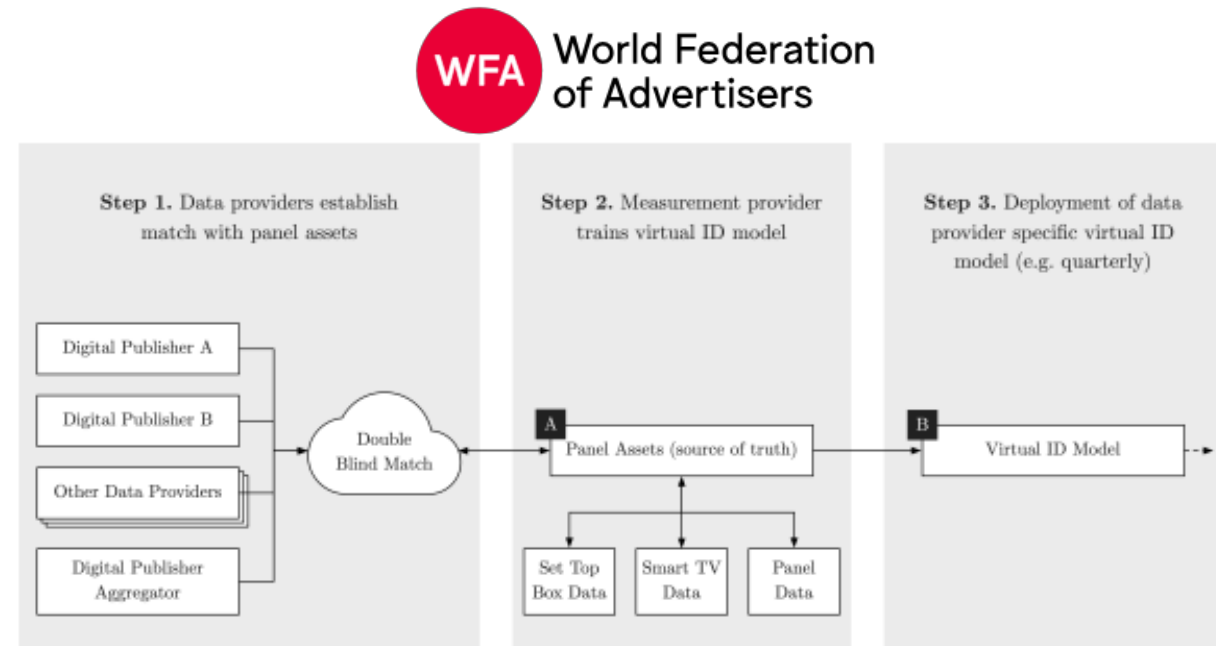
Can be extended to include additional data sets



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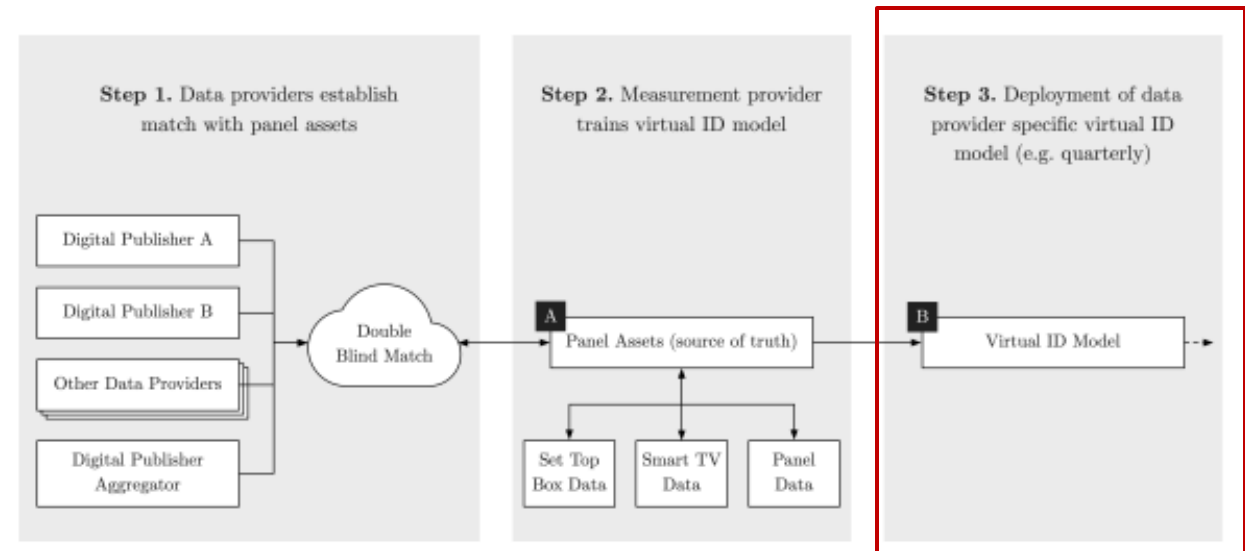
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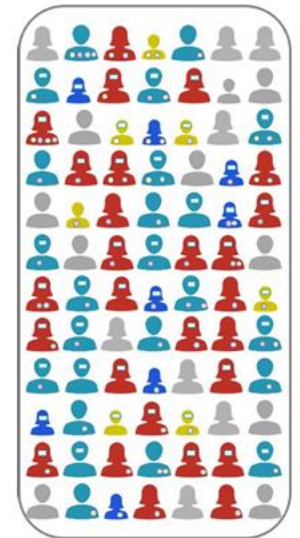
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  - Assignment via demographic models
  - Assignment via data fusion





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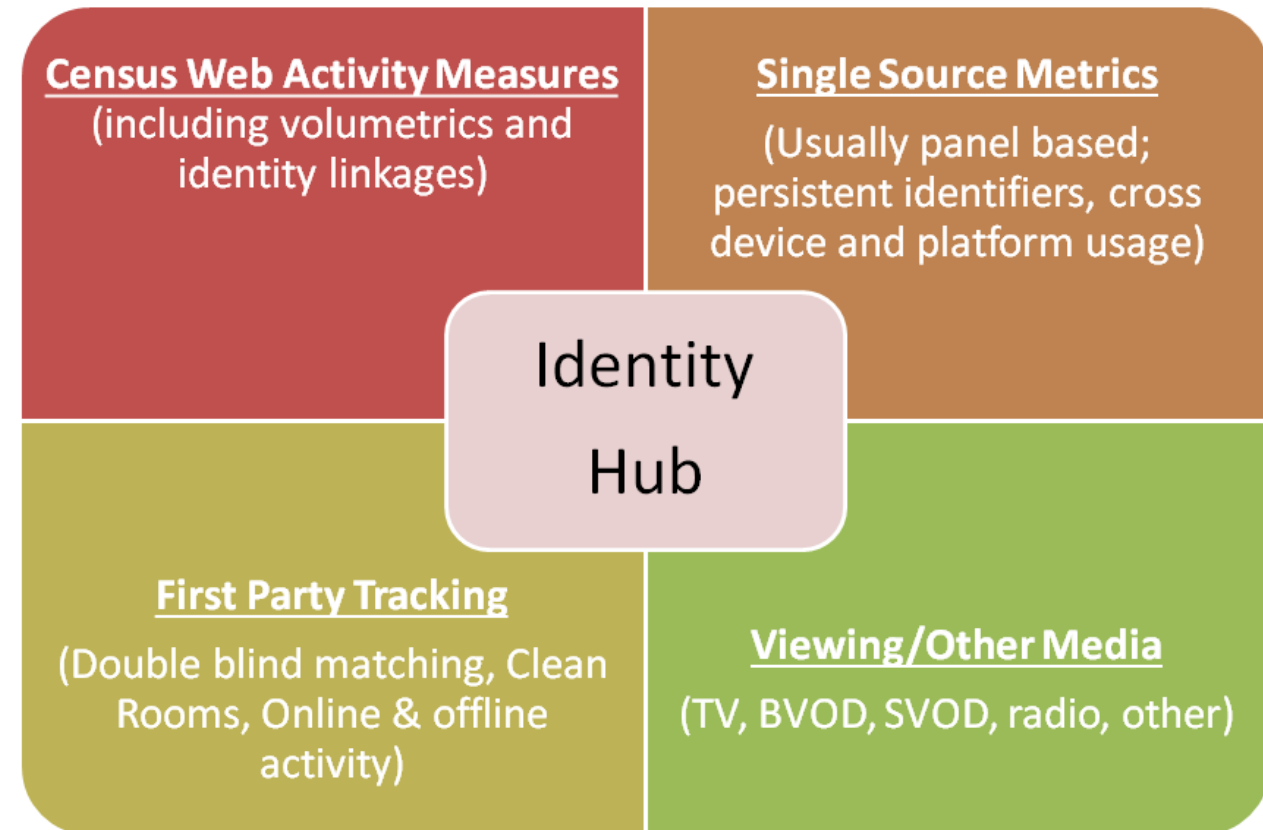
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- Each Virtual Id is one person in population
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  - Assignment via data fusion
- Virtual Id Model
  - Create Identity Hub (different to id graph)
  - Train on census/panel data



# Using Synthetic Data – Data Integration



- Identity Hub approaches
  - Completely anonymous (audience applications)
  - 1:1 mapping (activation applications)

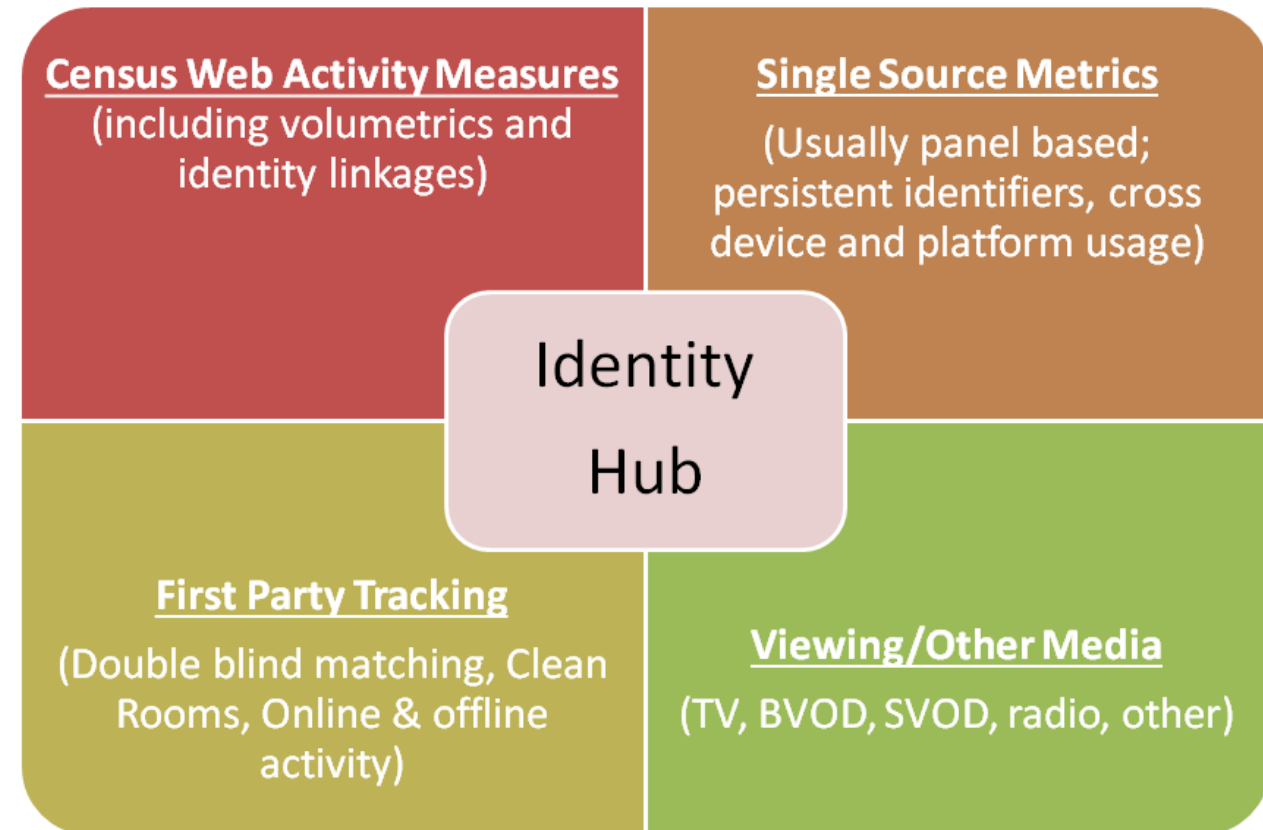




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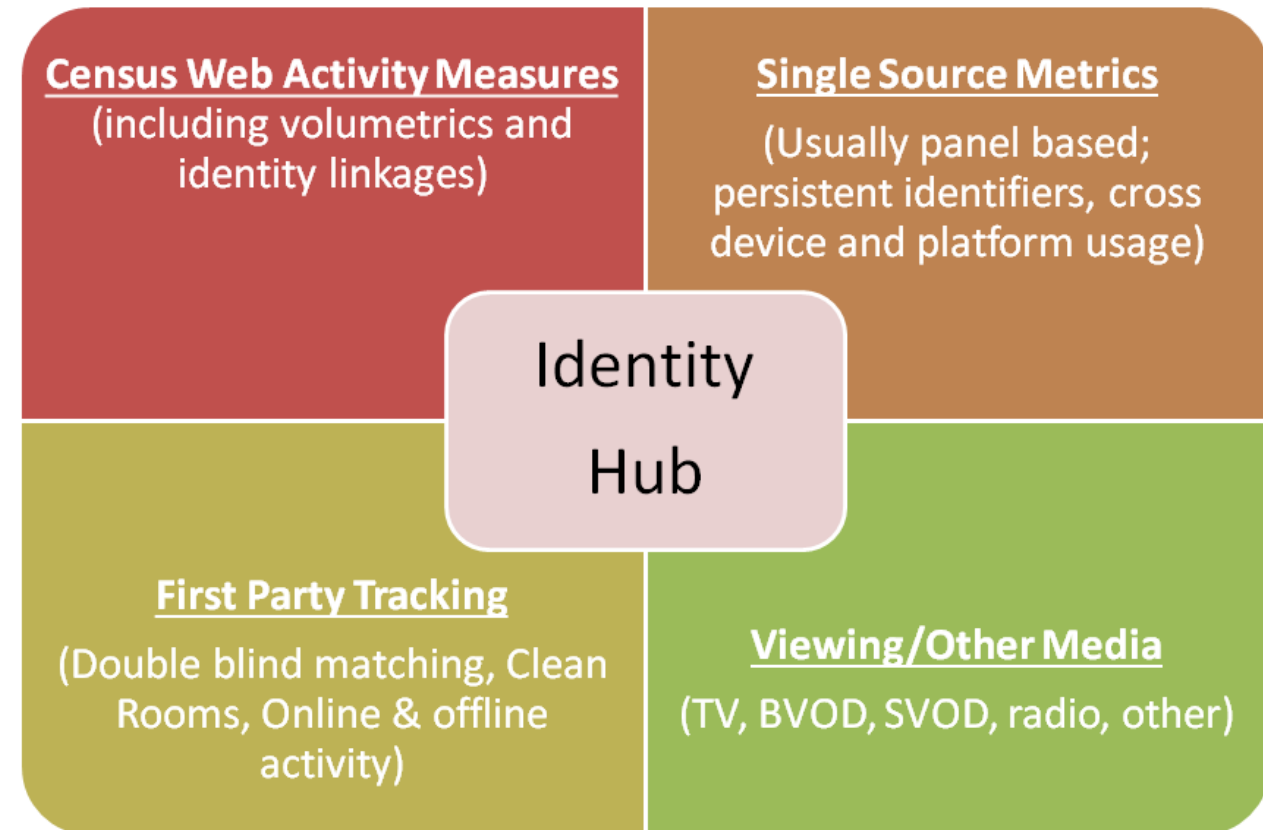
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  - Filling in data gaps (missing cookies)
  - Obtaining cross-platform usage estimates
  - Conforming data sources
  - Quality of inputs



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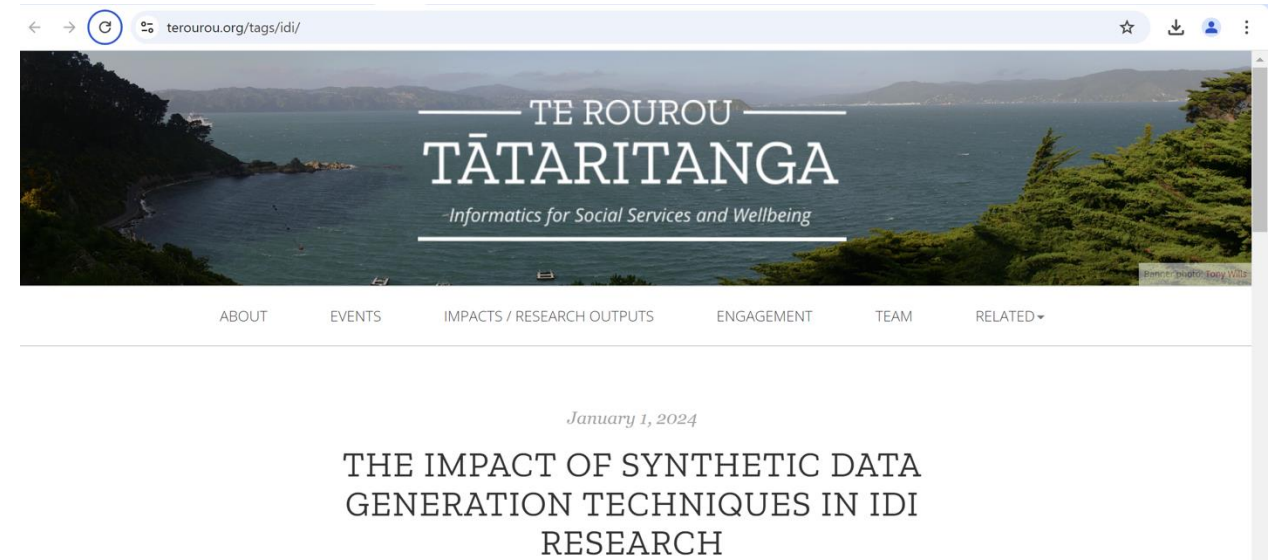
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  - Conforming data sources
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- Importance of First Party Data
  - Owning your viewer/user/customer
  - Improvements in data matching processes
  - Offline measures



# New Zealand Perspective – Social and Policy



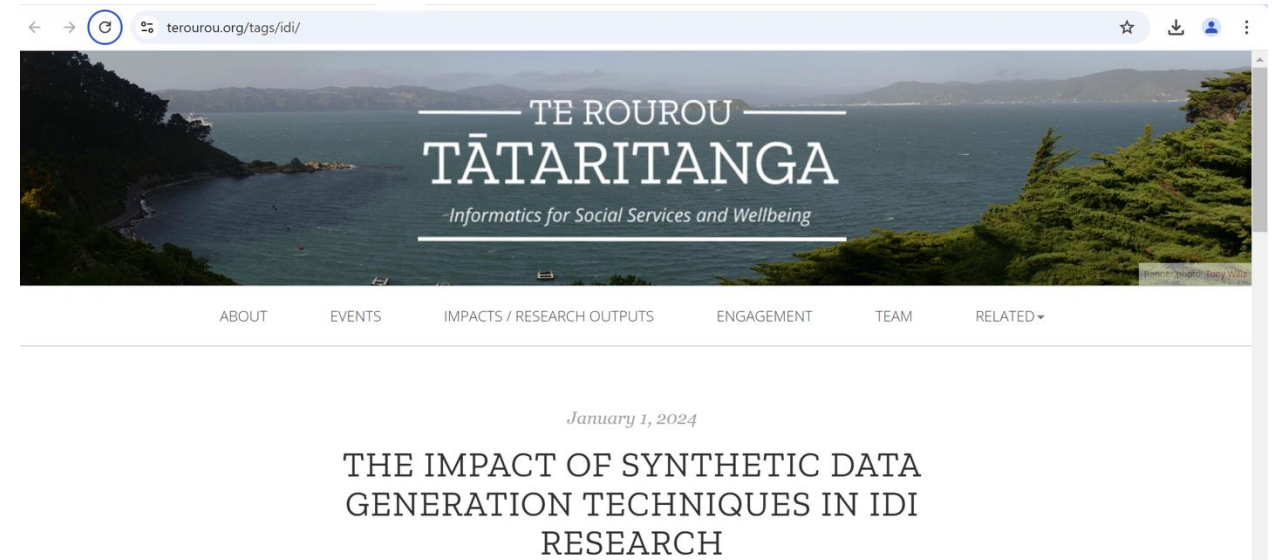
- Generating a synthetic version of New Zealand
  - Victoria University
  - University of Auckland
  - Stats New Zealand
- Based on Integrated Data Infrastructure
  - IDI links multiple data sources
  - Restrictive confidentiality requirements
- Synthetic data aim
  - Meets stringent privacy requirements
  - Minimise re-identification risk (differential privacy)
  - No ability to “reverse engineer” source data
  - Cognizant of Māori data sensitivities



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- ***But what about marketing and media?***



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- Cookies were never a complete solution



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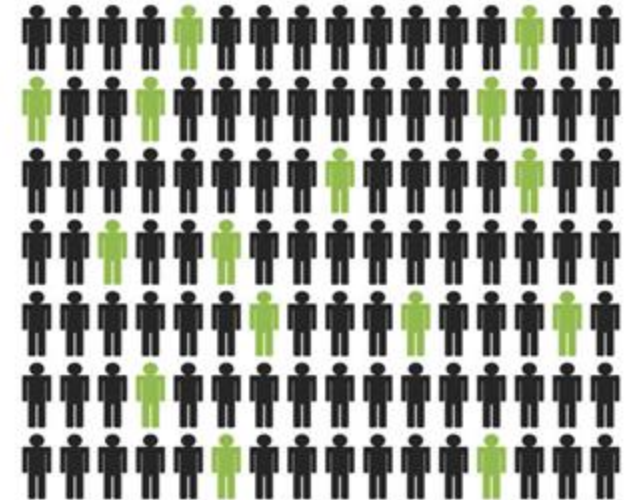
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- Synthetic data supports broader measurement objectives

<b>IAB Measurement Framework</b>			
	<b>Media Effectiveness (Improve Delivery)</b>	<b>Brand Effectiveness (Impact Brand)</b>	<b>Sales Effectiveness (Increase Sales)</b>
<b>Techniques</b>	View ability/attention Campaign metrics Cross media R&F	Ad recall Brand lift Brand equity	Market Mix Modelling Multi-touch attribution Sales lift
<b>Measurement</b>	Valid impressions Viewed by humans Attention	Consumer perceptions Associations Influences on brand choice	Consumer behaviour Long term effects Short term activation
<b>Metrics</b>	Impressions Deduped R&F Demo profile Attention time	Brand awareness Brand favourability Purchase intent Brand equity	Customer lifetime value ROI Measures Change in sales Incrementality

# New Zealand Perspective – Marketing and Media



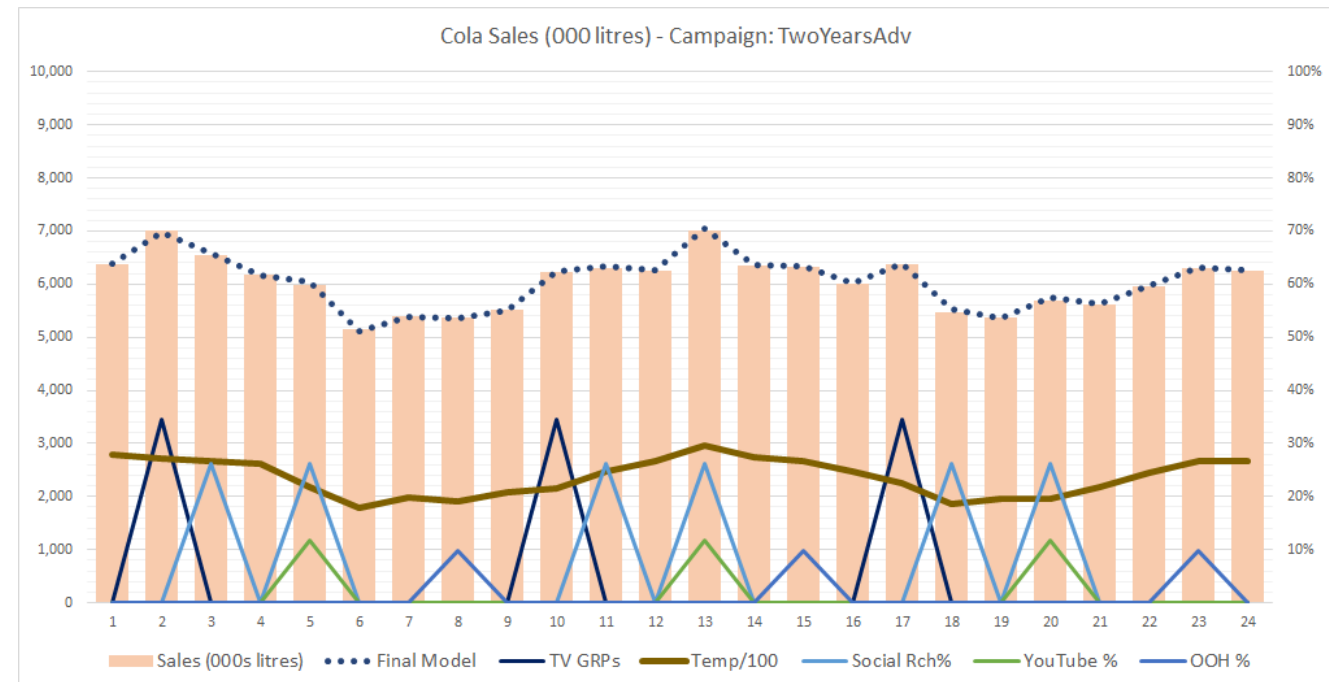
- Cookies were never a complete solution
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- **Start curating your data sets**
  - Customers (current & potential)
  - Find out what you can about them
    - First party data
    - Second party data
    - Third party data



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- Cookies were never a complete solution
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- Start curating your data sets
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  - Find out what you can about them
    - First party data
    - Second party data
    - Third party data
- **Enrich your data sets**
  - Campaign measures
  - Other media
- **Other signals**
  - Offline sales/leads
  - Environment (economy/weather)
  - Competitor activity





# Conclusions

- Synthetic data applications will grow
  - Complementary approaches
  - Privacy enabled
  - Vs
  - Links to activation
- Core takeaways
  - Start curating data now
  - Don't limit yourself to online datasets only
  - Quality of inputs essential
  - Importance of matching algorithm(s)
- How to improve
  - Richer data sets
  - Link to real-world
- Keep learning





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