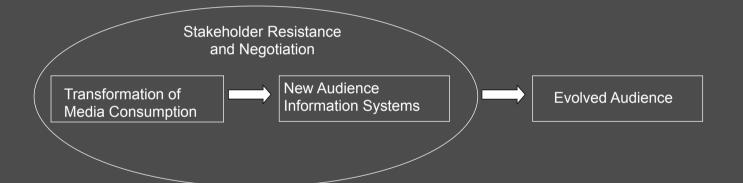
#### MEASURING NEW AUDIENCES

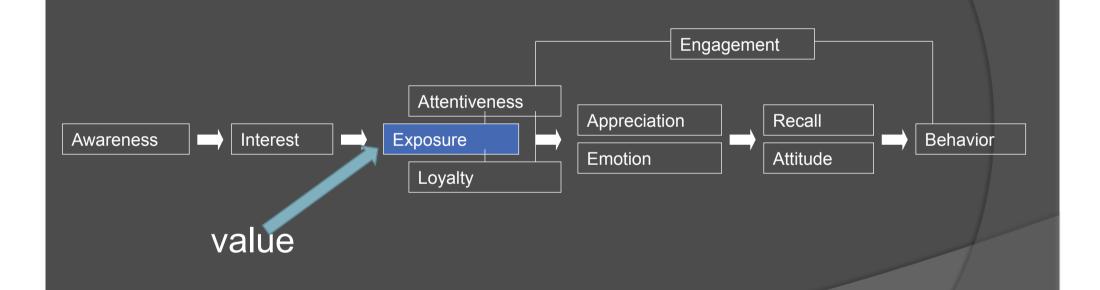
Philip M. Napoli Professor, Communication & Media Management Co-Director, Center for Communications Graduate School of Business Fordham University New York, NY USA



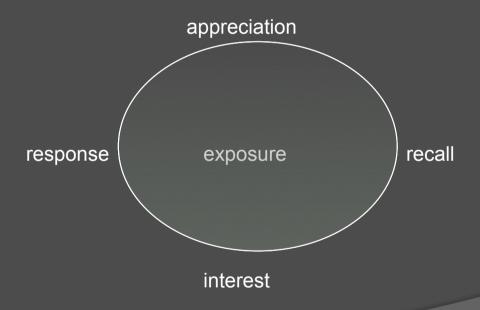
## **Audience Evolution**



## Components of "Audience-ing"



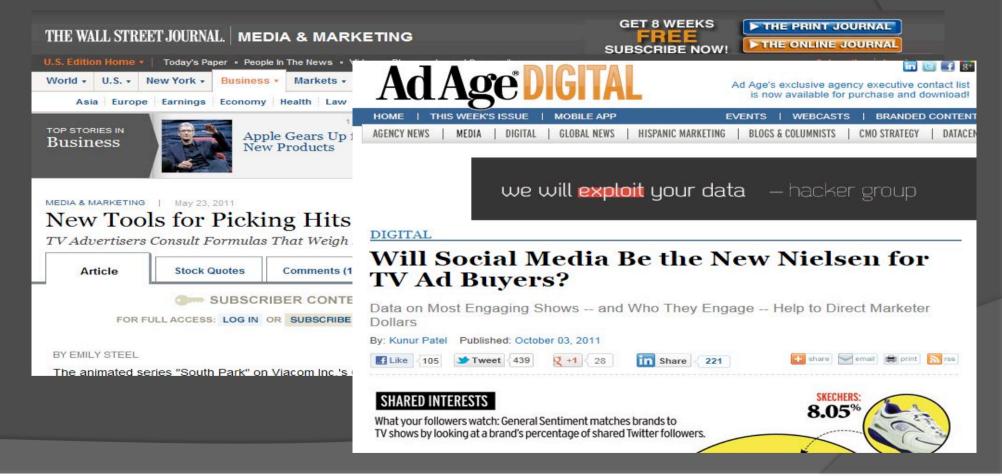
# The Post-Exposure Audience Marketplace



#### Concerns

- "Black Box" Audiences
  - Mechanisms by which audience data are produced are increasingly complex, increasingly unclear
- "Data Determinism"
  - Relative of "Technological Determinism
    - Belief that technology drives social, cultural, and institutional change
  - Audience data are central to driving and improving organizational performance

## The Current Craze: Social Media Analytics



## What Do Social TV Analytics Do?

- Program Performance Assessment
  - Quantity of online comments
  - Share of online comments
  - Sentiment
  - Involvement
- Content Performance Assessment
  - Plot/characters
- Advertisement Performance Assessment
- Affinity Tracking
  - Brand ←→ Program
  - Program ←→ Program
- Trend Analysis
- Audience Analysis
  - Demographics (limited)
  - Influence/reach

## How Do They Do It?

- Data Gathered from Online Social Media Sources
  - Twitter
  - Facebook (public pages)
  - TV Check-in platforms
  - Other online communities
  - Online news media
- Analyzed via Language Processing Algorithms
- Synchronized with Program Schedule/Content Data
- To Produce a Wide Range of Analytical Outputs

#### Points of Differentiation

- Data sources
- Algorithm/search terms
- Measurement period
- Granularity

## A Crowded Marketplace

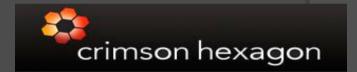


























## Variety of Methodological Concerns

- Which audience segments/tastes are represented and which aren't?
- How susceptible are these systems to manipulation?
- How accurately are they capturing the full range of program discussion?

## New Audiences Emerging from Black Boxes

- On methodological transparency/clarity:
  - "They never tell you what's in the black box. There's no transparency."
  - "People who are qualified to come up with solutions are coming from a completely different direction from traditional media research people. There's no overlap in terms of skill sets, pedigree, etc."

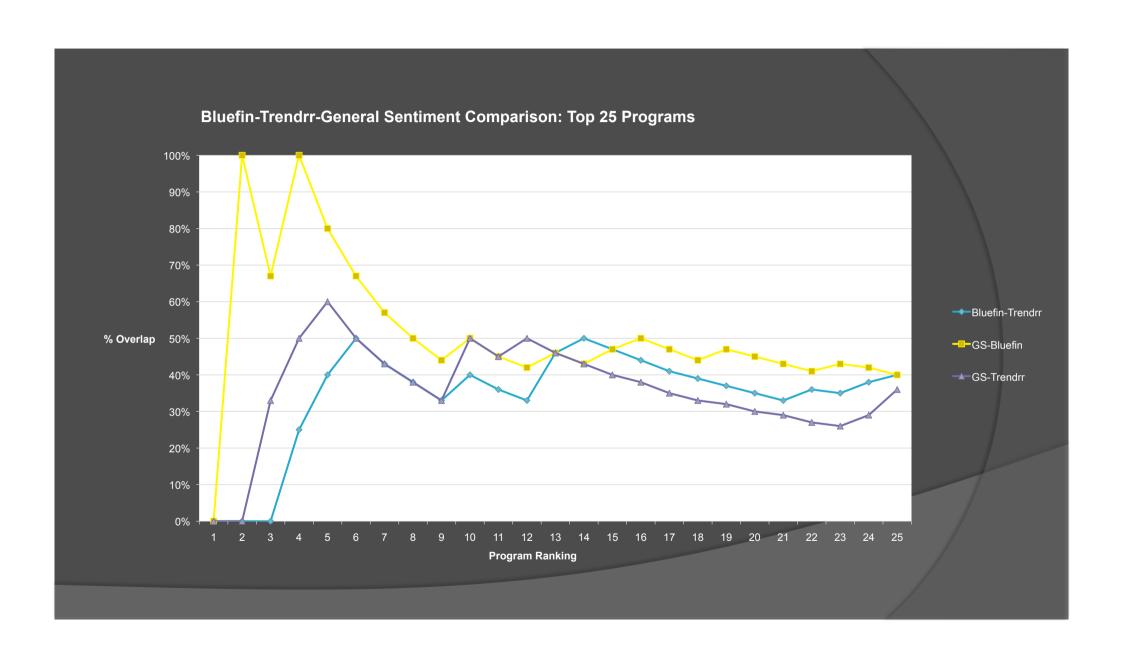
### Creeping Data Determinism

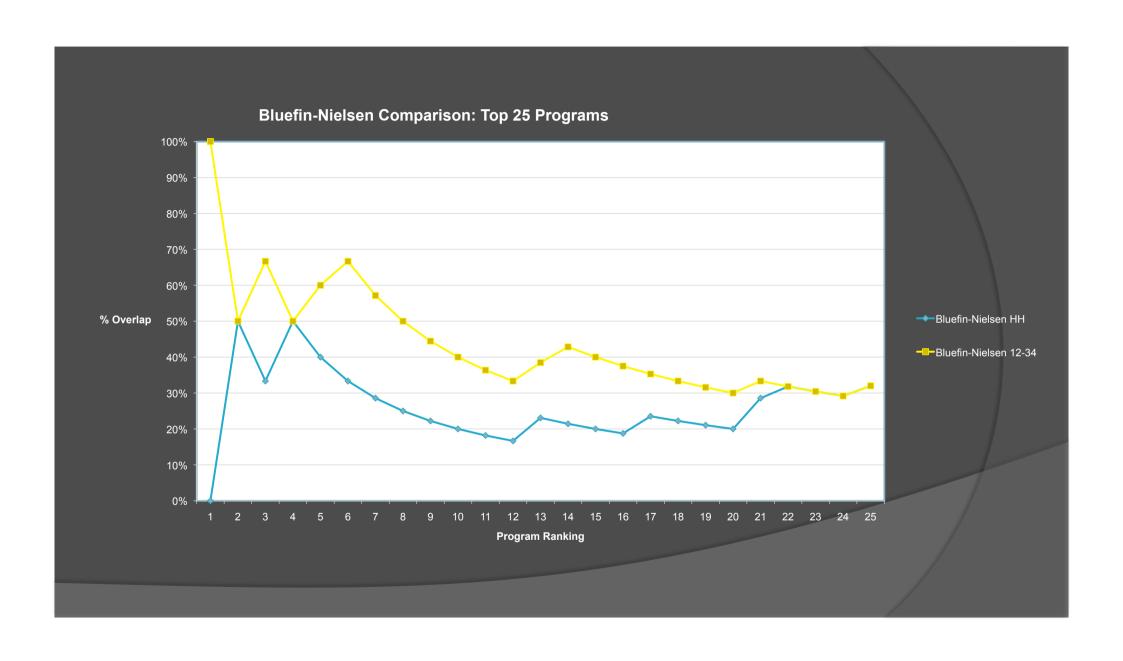
- On possible methodological shortcomings:
  - "I don't know anyone that really cares"
  - "Everyone pretty much accepts the limitations of the samples at this point"
  - "All this stuff is not research to know, it's research to show."

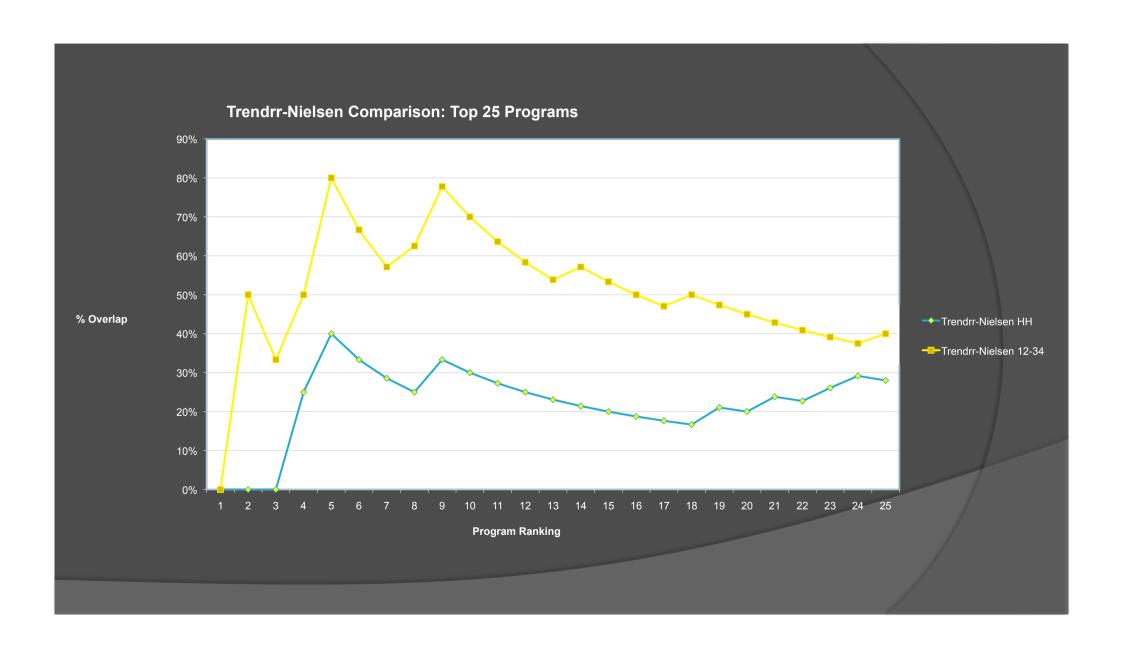
# We Need to Interrogate these New Audience Measurement Systems

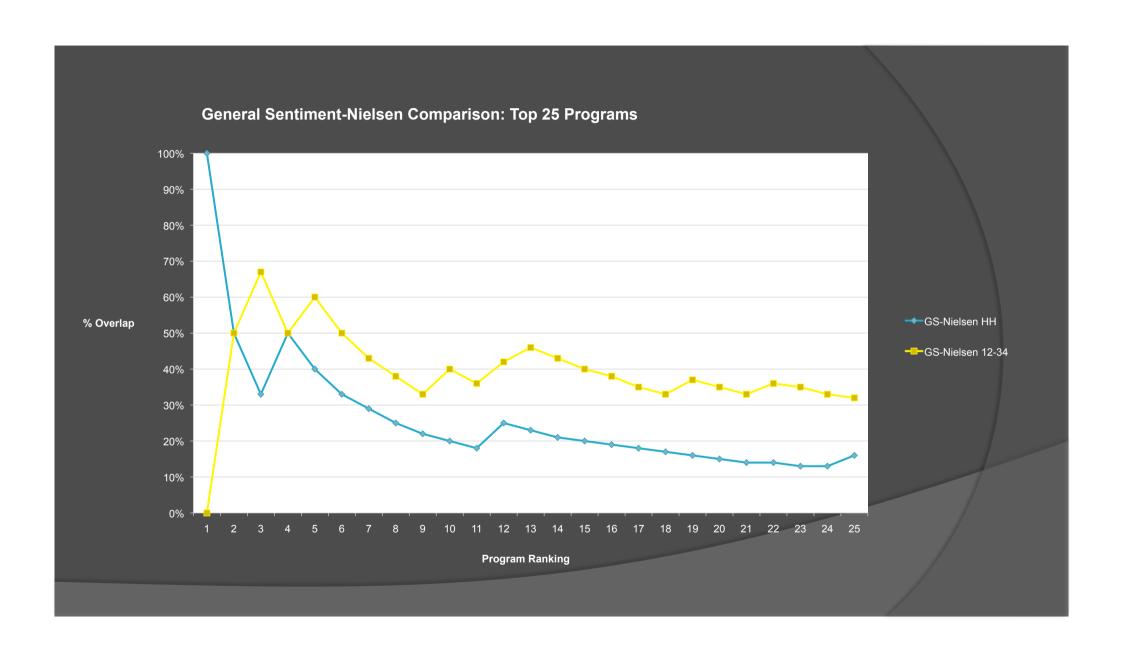
# % Overlap in Top 25 Programs

	<u>Bluefin</u>	<u>Trendrr.tv</u>	General Sentiment	Nielsen HH	Nielsen 12-34
Bluefin		40%	40%	32%	32%
Trendrr.tv			36%	28%	40%
General Sentiment				16%	32%









#### Conclusion

- To avoid the perils of data determinism:
  - Rigorous comparative analysis of alternative measurement systems
  - Force data providers to open up the "black boxes"
  - Assess (don't assume) relationship between metrics and desired performance outcomes

Grazie!

For more, visit:

http://audienceevolution.wordpress.com