



Partners in Building UAE's Security & Economy

Privacy in the Age of Big Data

Presented by Dr. Ali M. Al-Khourri

In: Big Data Systems, Applications and Privacy Conference –
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Federal Authority | هيئة اتحاديّة

Our Vision: To be a role model and reference point in proofing individual identity and build wealth informatics that guarantees innovative and sophisticated services for the benefit of UAE

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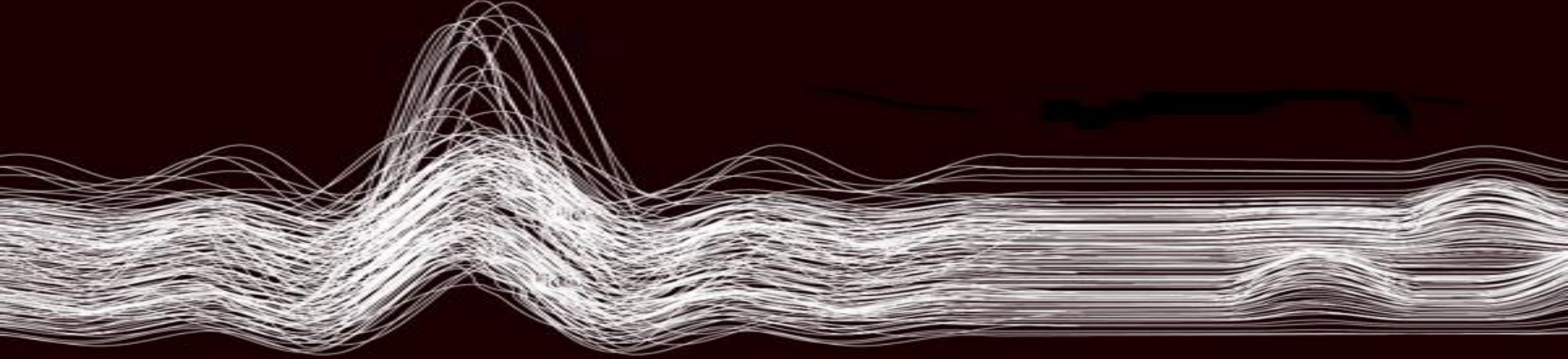
Agenda

- Introduction: The Age of Big Data
- Big Data Characteristics
- Constructing Identity from Digital Behaviour
- Government IdM and Privacy
- Concluding Remarks

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Big Data in Digital World ?



- The **proliferation of modern technologies, smart devices** and popularity of **social networking** is generating unprecedented amounts of data, both **structured and unstructured**, whether it be **text, audio or video**.
- Data has become **ubiquitous** in this digital world.
- Sheer **amount of bytes** that we generate daily is indeed **mind boggling!**

The Age of Big Data ?



every day, we create
2.5 quintillion bytes
of data ..

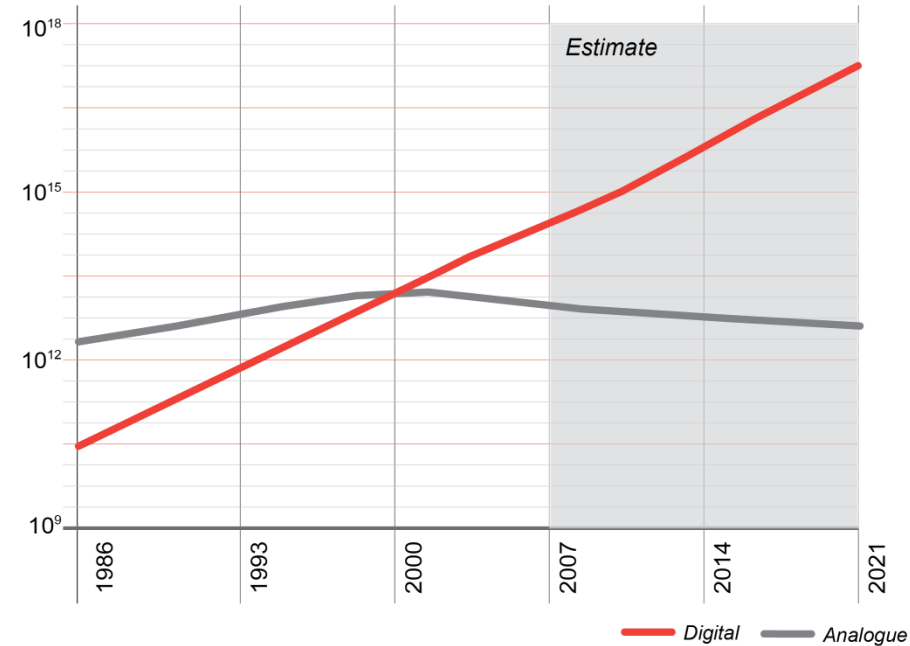
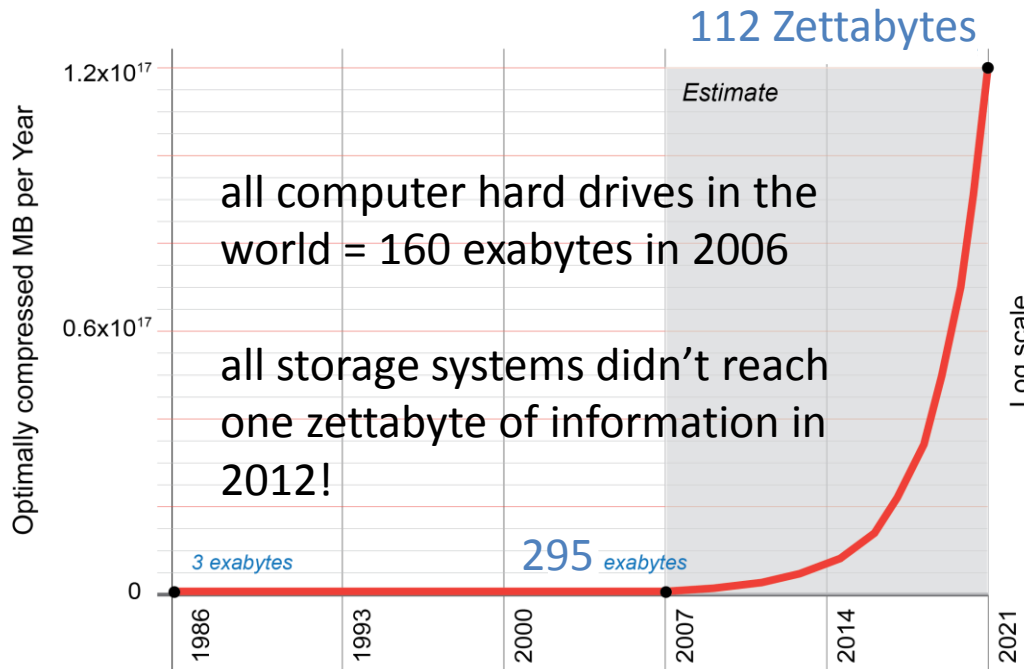
90% of the data in the
world today has been created
in the **last two years.**

IBM Report

We are truly in a
digital explosion era!



Data Growth



Global Growth of Digital Storage Capacity 1986-2021

By 2020, 112 Zettabytes of data (75% growth rate)

One Zettabyte = 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 byte, or 1000 exabytes

Big Data ?

- is **generated from** practically **every where**:
 - Social media sites (facebook, twitter, linked-in..)
 - digital pictures and videos,
 - e-mails,
 - purchase transaction records,
 - cell phone, GPS signals,
 - geo-stationary satellites,
 - meteorological sensors
 - to name a few.
- This **continues to grow** at an **exponential** rate.



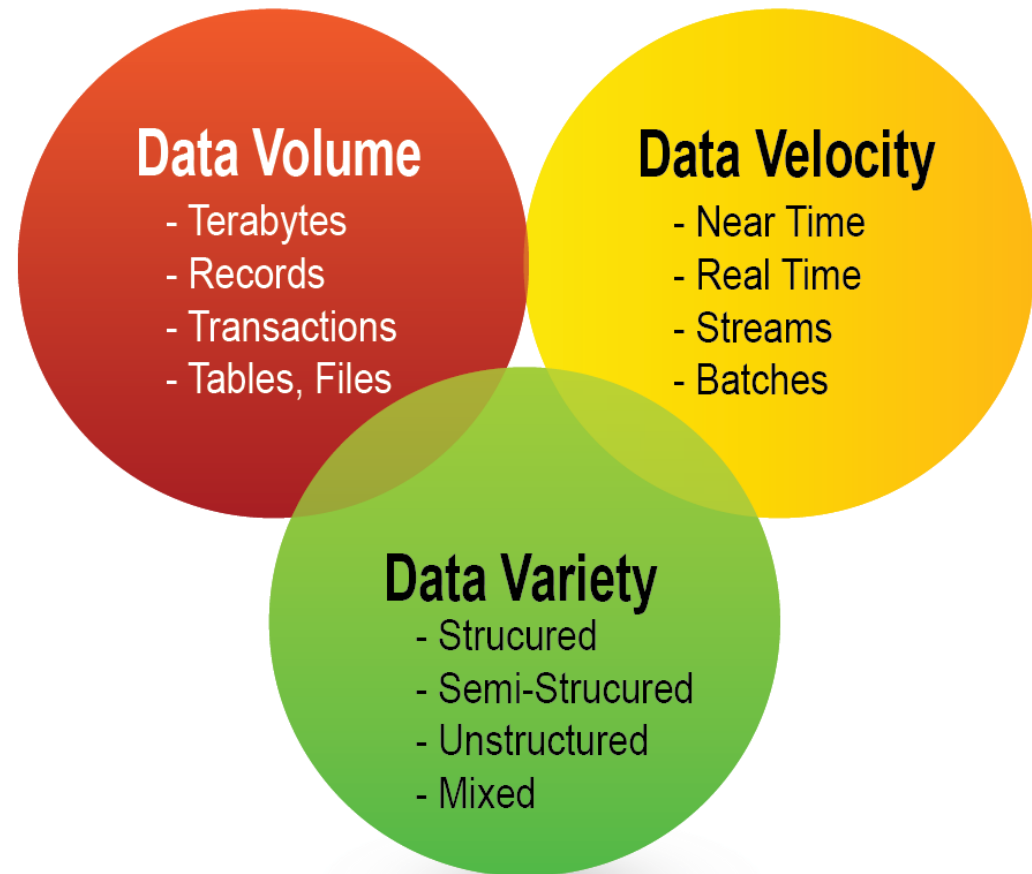
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Big Data characteristics?



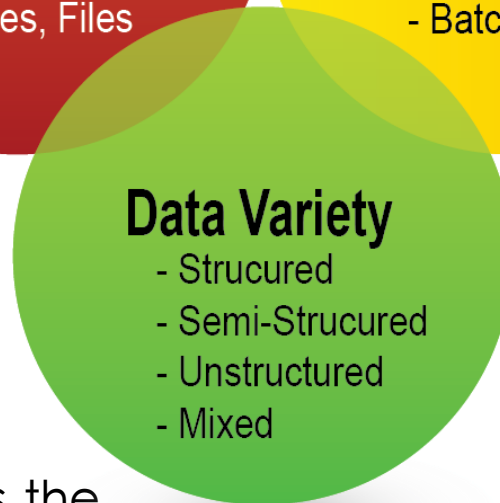
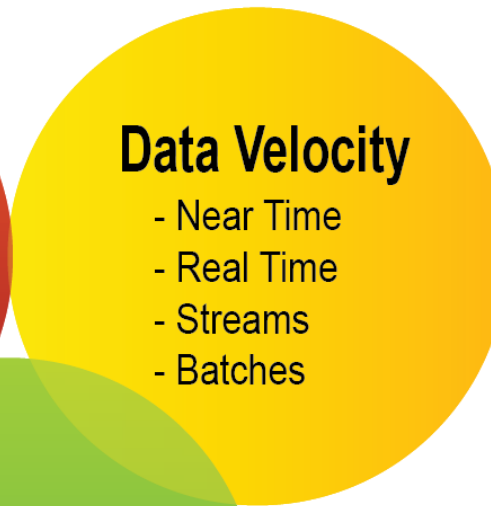
- Big Data has come to be **characterized** by the **V**olume, **V**elocity and **V**ariety of Data that is generated.
- These constitute the **3Vs** of Big Data.



3Vs of Big Data ?



Volume
provides the **amount** of data and the **form** of data

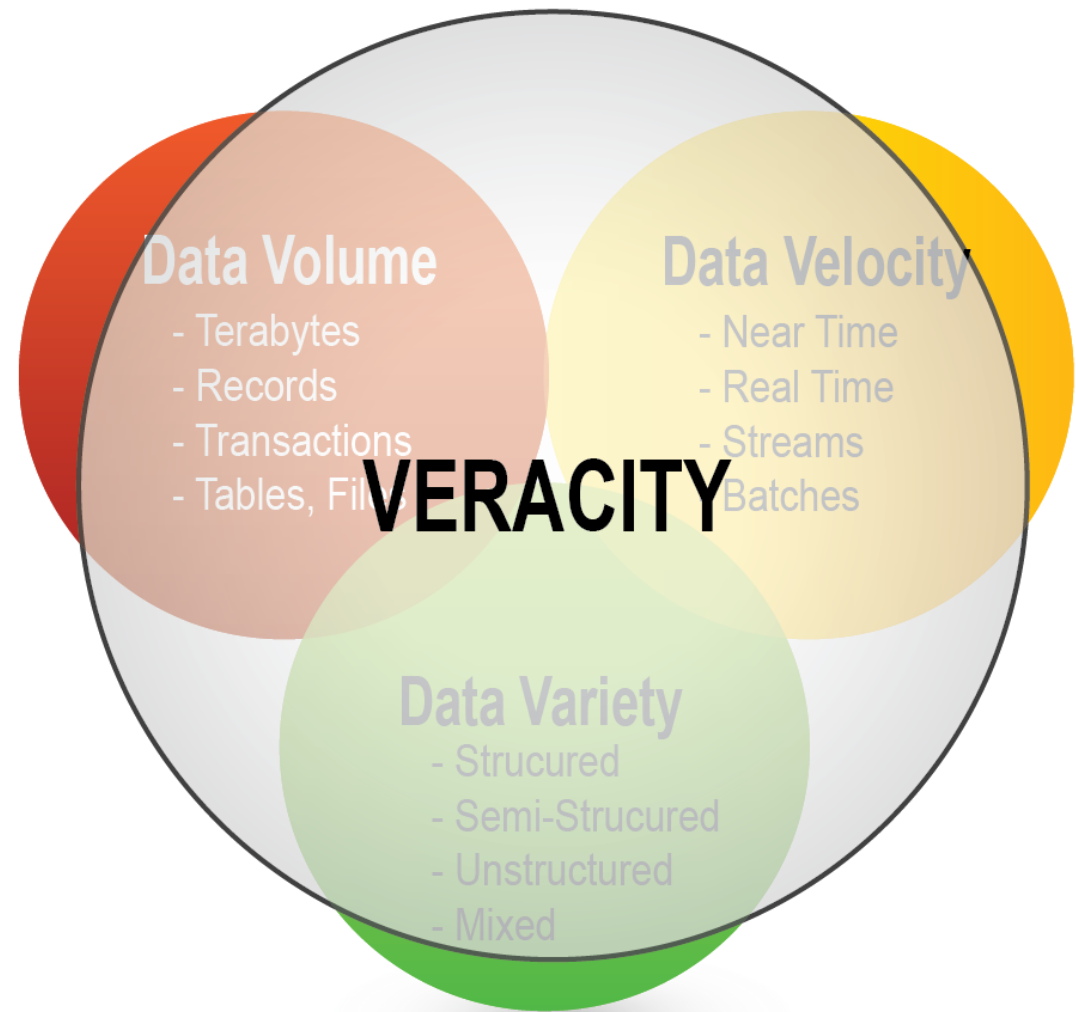


Variety provides the **type** of data collected

Velocity
provides the **time** at which the data is collected and analyzed

4th 'V' of Big Data ?

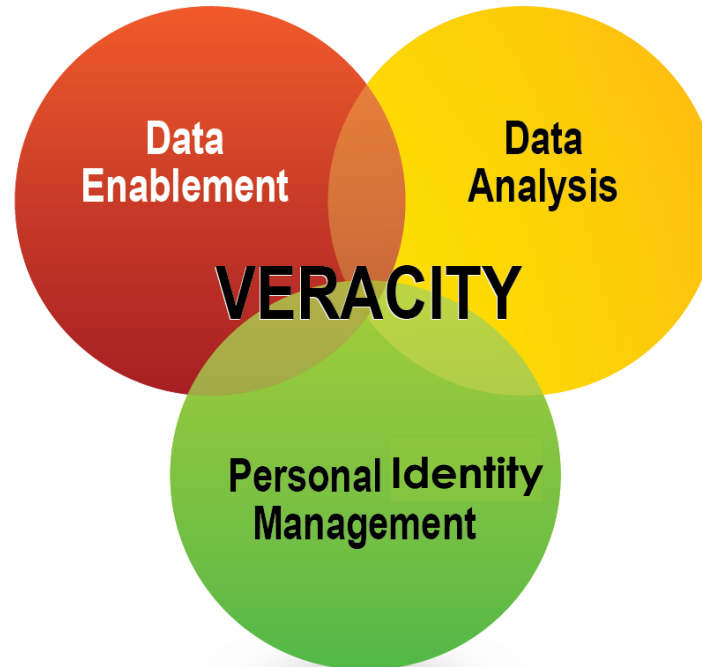
- However, there is the fourth dimension – a fourth V– **Veracity** which **encompasses the 3Vs!**
- Veracity provides the **confidence** in the truthfulness of the data.



Personal ID and Big Data ?

Veracity of Data itself can be depicted using three dimensions:

1. Veracity of Data is established by **how the data itself is enabled**– which stands for the **source of data**.



2. Veracity of Data is established by the means and **methods of analysis**– providing **discernible information**

3. Veracity of Data is then **characterized by Personal Identity Management**. This is the **critical dimension** of **Big Data Veracity**.

Big Data ?



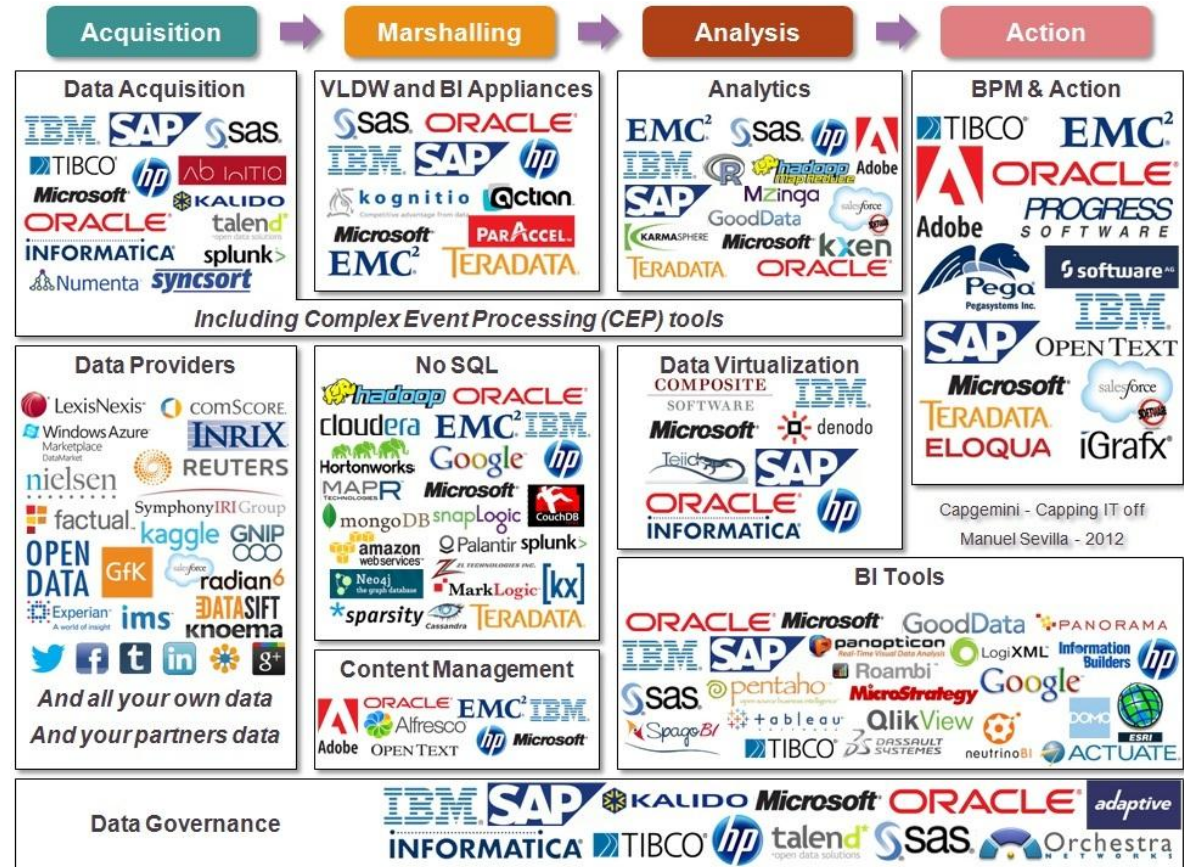
- is **not a new or unknown phenomenon**.
- Big Data as **Volume Data** has been used in **Clinical Trials** since long, resulting in many a **ground breaking medicines**.
- Big Data as Volume Data has been in existence in **DNA mapping and Genetics** leading to many life-saving healthcare procedures.
- While the **Healthcare industry** has been the **initiator of big data analysis, retailers and marketing** organizations have now started to make use of Big Data to further their **commercial activities**.



Web Analytics



- Numerous web analytics companies have now made it their **business to collect** all this trail and **construct meaningful data** from this huge data.
- Billions of posts in social networks, blogs, commerce sites, e-mails, text messages, utility payments are being **“piggy-backed”** to result in **patterns of the digital interactions and individual behavior patterns** then constructed from here.
- This is brilliant from a **marketing point of view!**



Privacy ?



But, from a **privacy perspective**, this could be construed as a blatant **violation of individual privacy**.

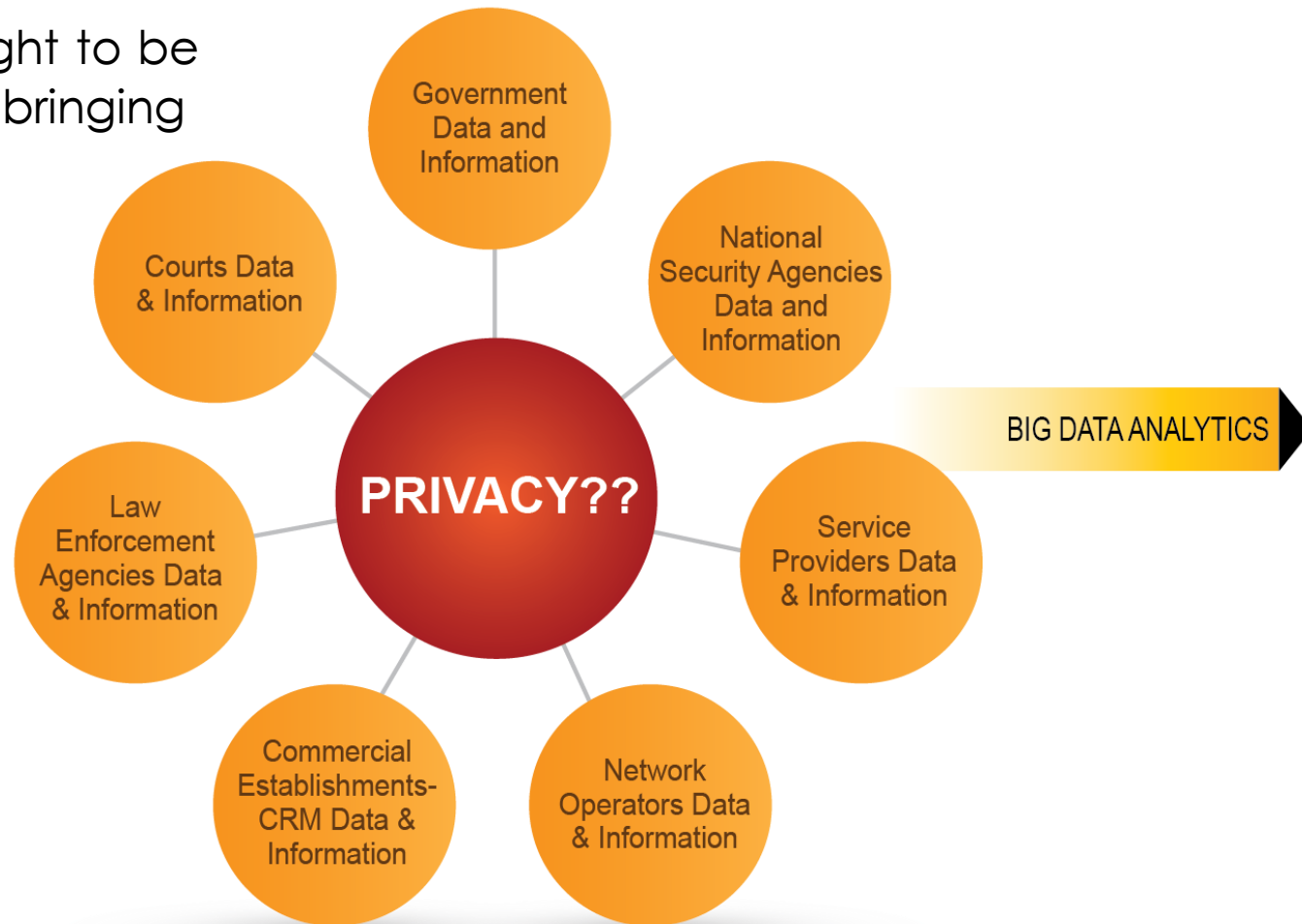
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Personal ID and Digital Behaviour ?



- as **individuals**, we **Interact**, we **Transact**, we **Collaborate**, we **Communicate** on a daily basis
- .. which is sought to be **analyzed** for bringing commercial entities closer to the psyche of the individual (knowing customers – personalising services and products).



Personal ID and Digital Behaviour ?



Big Data as in **information and datasets** have started to be cultivated based on the **digital data** we leave in **our transactions.**



Digital Behaviour and Data Sets ?



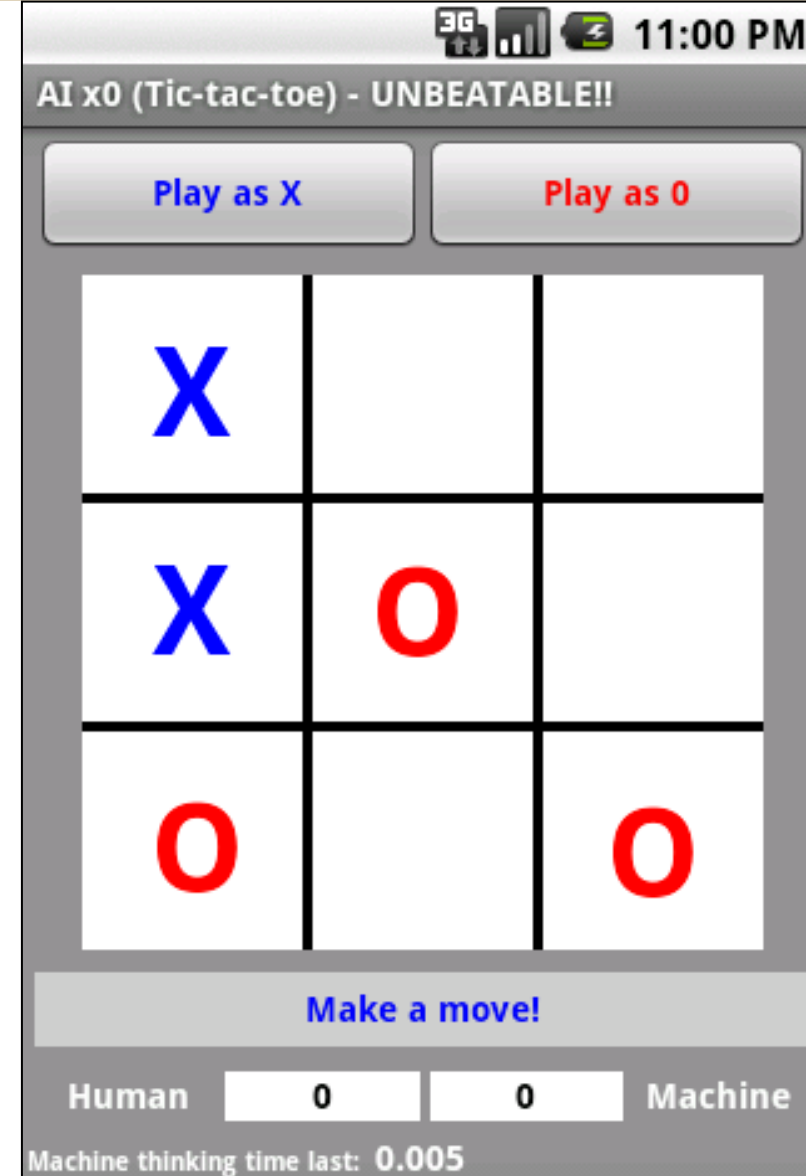
- We live in the **digital world** and are **ubiquitously connected**.
- The **Phone** is no longer a calling device.
- Our laptops, Tablets, Phablets and Phones keep us **constantly engaged**.
- **Every interaction** leaves a **huge trail of data** leaving behind **bits and pieces of us** with pointers to our real behaviour.
- This **raises** then many **issues governing privacy**..



Digital Behaviour and Data Sets ?



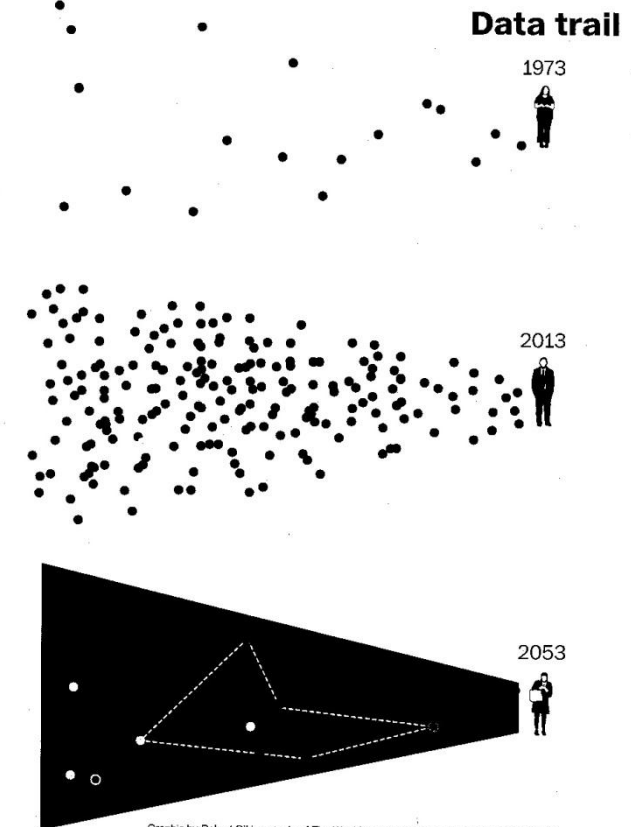
- It is understood that **collection of information** from **digital transactions and interactions** is something that is **unstoppable**.
- Whether we like it or not, the **amount of digital trail** we leave behind in the **e-world** is **amazingly large**.
- This **digital trail** when **analyzed** is almost like **a signature that we leave behind**, making it very **easy for analysts to identify us as individuals** in the purported anonymity of the web.



Anonymity ?



- The West, particularly the **USA and the EU** have made **conscious moves** to **protect individual privacy** from being abused with **legal provisions**.
- **Anonymity** has been the key consideration on which the legal provisions have been made so far.
- However, it has been proved beyond any reasonable doubt that **anonymity is not guaranteed** even when **personal identifiers are removed from the data sets for analysis**.
- Even **IP Addresses** that relate to **machines** have been cracked to relate them to **personal users**.
- So, **where does this leave an individual with respect to his/ her privacy?**



Data can be either useful or perfectly anonymous but never both.



PAUL OHM

Associate Professor of Law
University of Colorado Law School

How True?!

.. while **anonymized information** will always carry some risk of re-identification many of the most pressing privacy risks . . . exist only if there is certainty in re-identification, that is **if the information can be authenticated**. As uncertainty is introduced into the re-identification equation, we **cannot know that the information truly corresponds to a particular individual**; it becomes **more anonymous** as larger amounts of uncertainty are introduced.



Betsy Masiello

Global Public Policy at Google



Alma Whitten

Privacy for Product and Engineering at Google

Betsy Masiello, Alma Whitten: Engineering Privacy in an Age of Information Abundance. AAAI Spring Symposium: Intelligent Information Privacy Management 2010

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National ID for Big Data Analysis



- an intense role of **Government Issued Personal Identity** as a **Unique** National ID.
- this will be **extremely critical** in Big Data and **Big Data Analytics** providing the required **privacy in anonymity** and yet provide **meaningful data for analysis.**



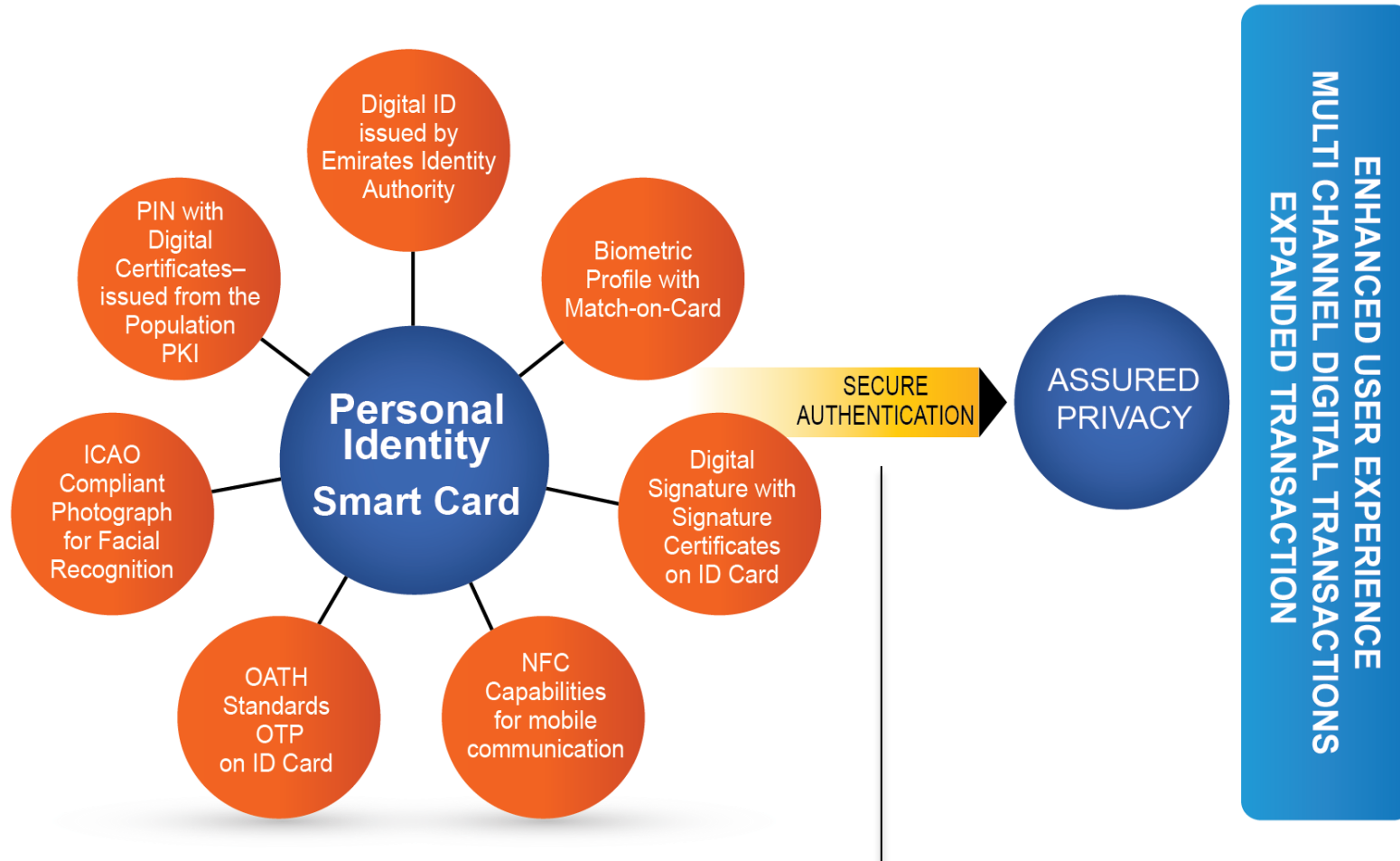
National ID for Big Data Analysis



- A **secure ID** would encourage users to be engaged more actively and more expansively in the digital world.
- It is in this context that the **Digital Identity profile** provided and packaged in a **Secure Smart Card** is expected to play a pivotal role.

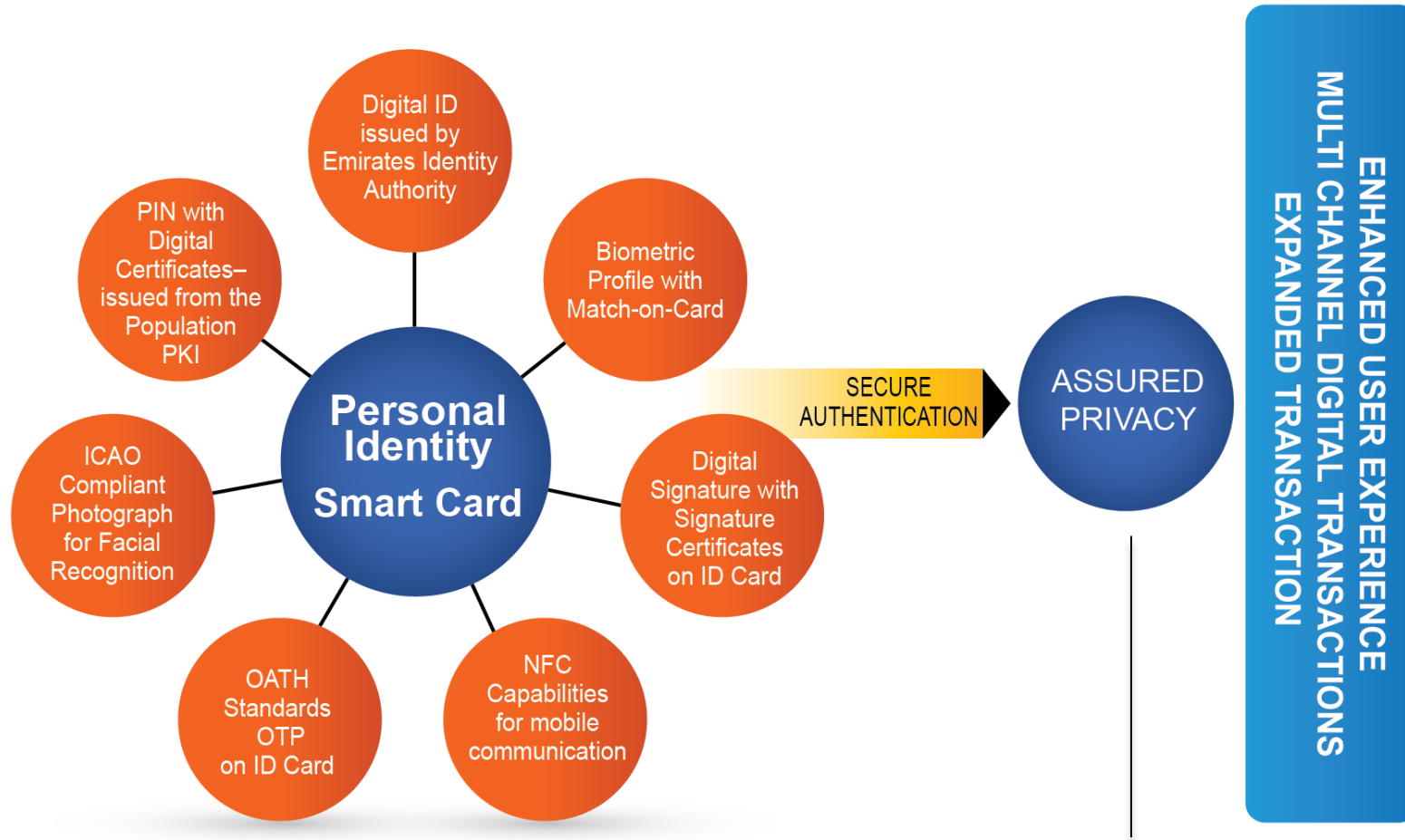


Personal ID and UAE National ID



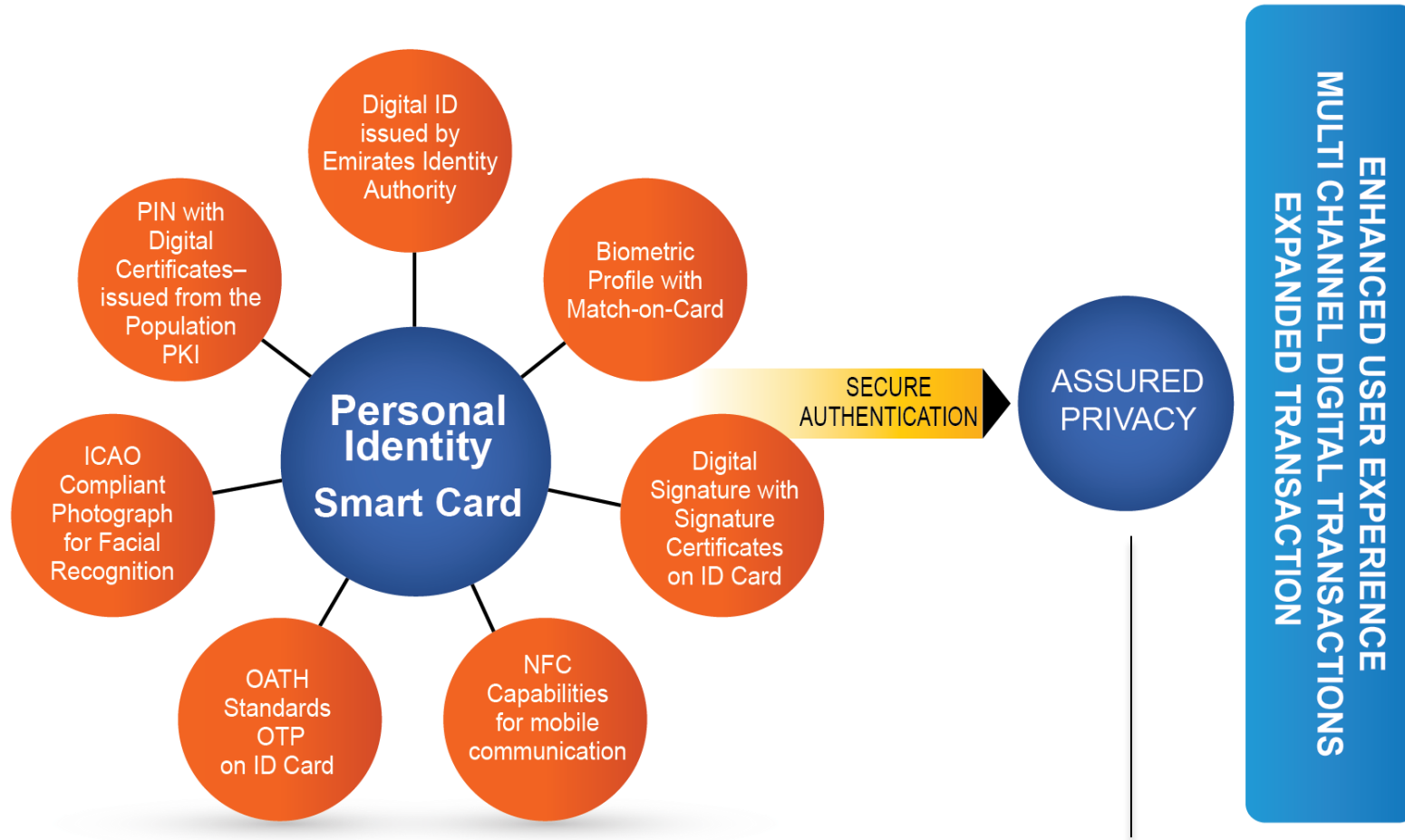
The **Digital Identity** provides the perfect **PROXY** for the personal identity.

Personal ID and UAE National ID



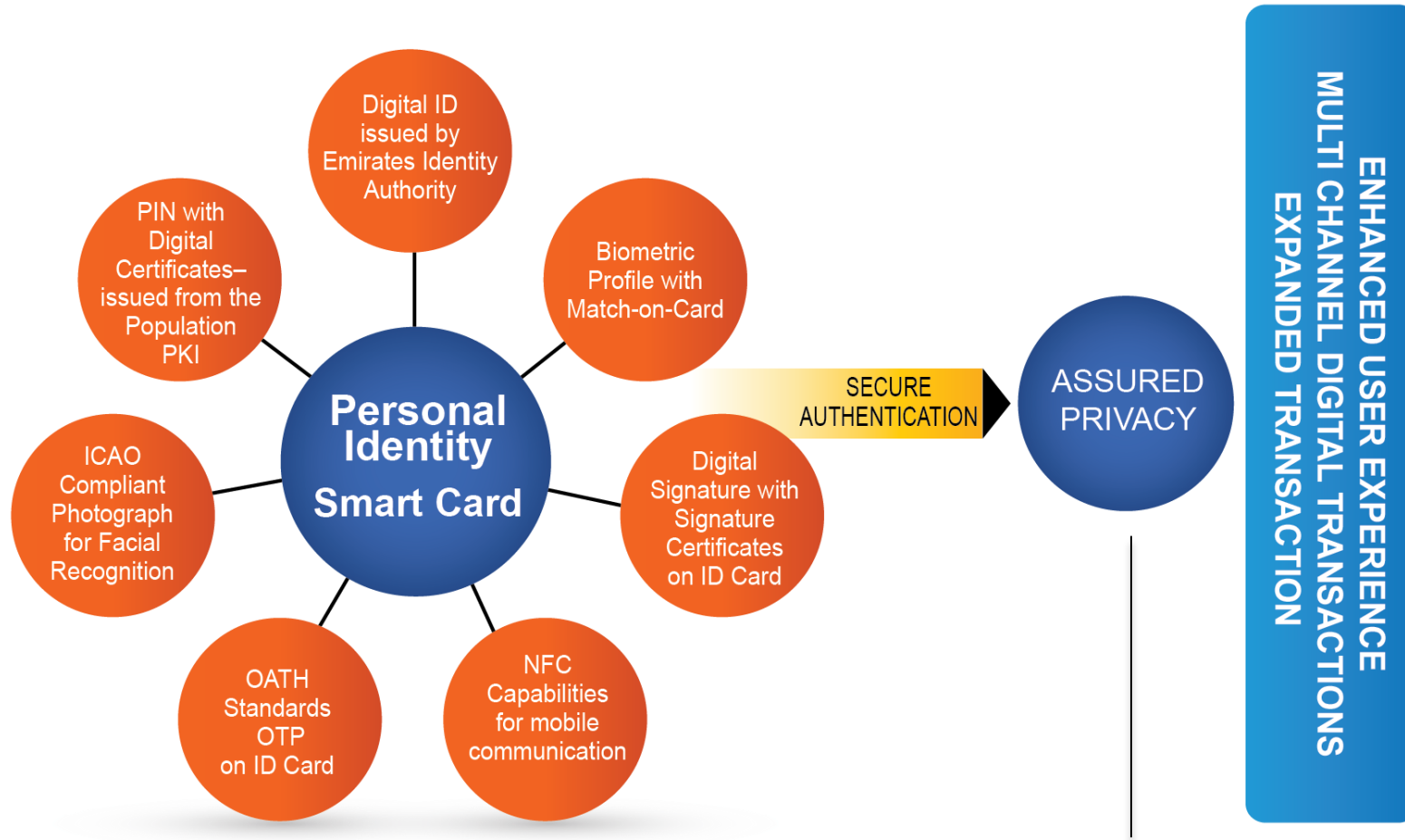
The **individuals** would be **known and authenticated** as genuine persons by the **National Identity Authority** providing a THIRD PARTY authentication for the identity.

Personal ID and UAE National ID



Thus, **service providers** can **identify the potential service seeker securely** from the **authentication** provided by the Emirates ID Authority.

Personal ID and UAE National ID

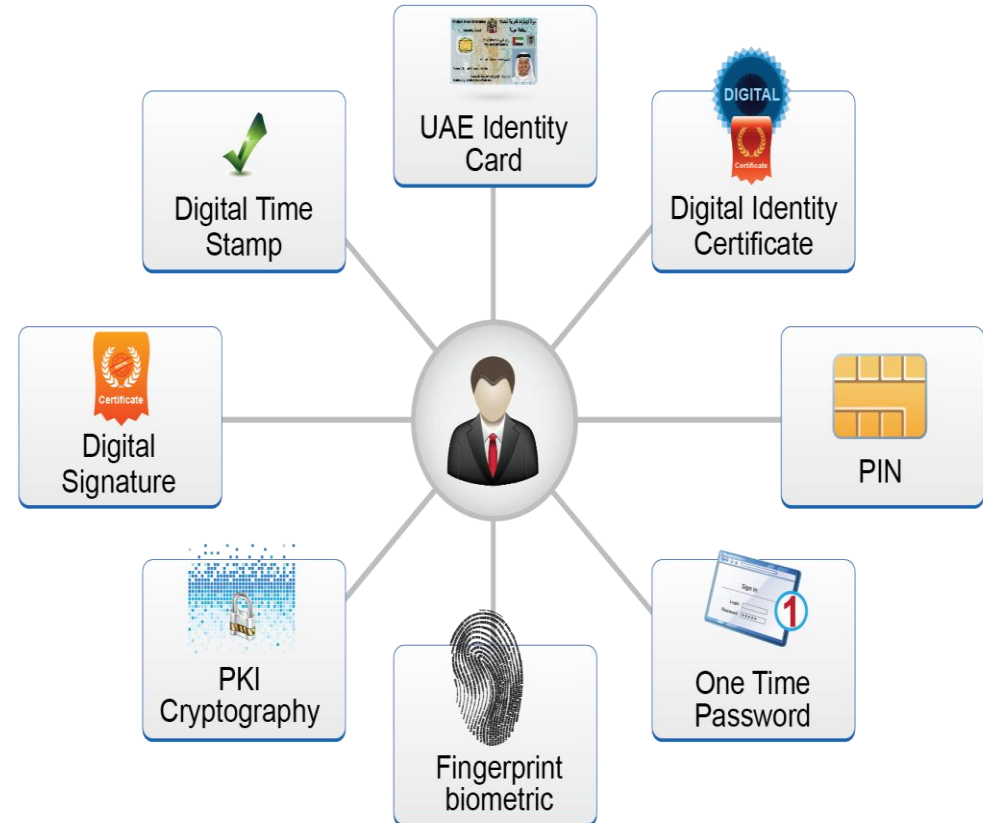


An **individual** will then be able to **transact and interact** freely **without compromising his/her personal identity**.

National ID for Big Data Analysis



- The UAE National ID Card is designed to provide **multi factor authentication**.
- At the core of the Digital ID is the **Unique Identity Number** issued by the Emirates ID Authority.
- With this ID is associated with the **Digital Identity Profile** consisting of **Biometric Data– Fingerprints and ICAO compliant photograph**, and **Digital Certificates** issued for **Identification and Signatures** issued as a **Secure Smart Card**.



Personal ID and UAE National ID

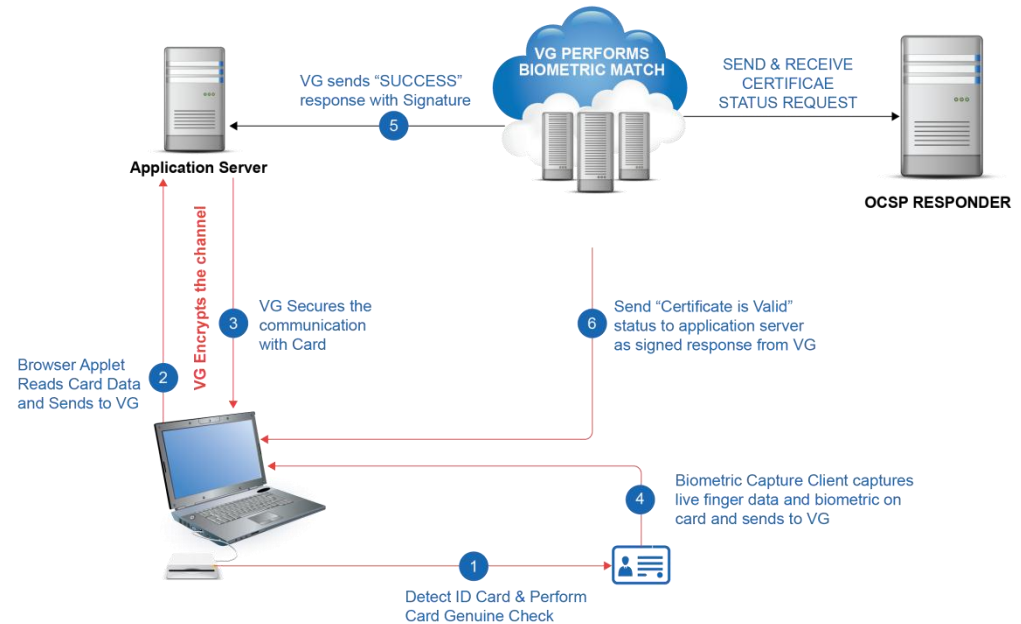


- Apart from the **classical ID verification and authentication methods**, projects are underway to upgrade the features to provide **OTP** (One-time-password) as per OATH Standards.
- The ID card is a **combi-card** to work with **contactless readers**.
- Projects are underway to develop the **NFC enabled authentication methods** using the **GSM mobile phones and other mobile devices**.
- Each of the **Digital ID profile components** provides the **ability for the user to be verified and further authenticated** for access.



Protection of Individual Privacy

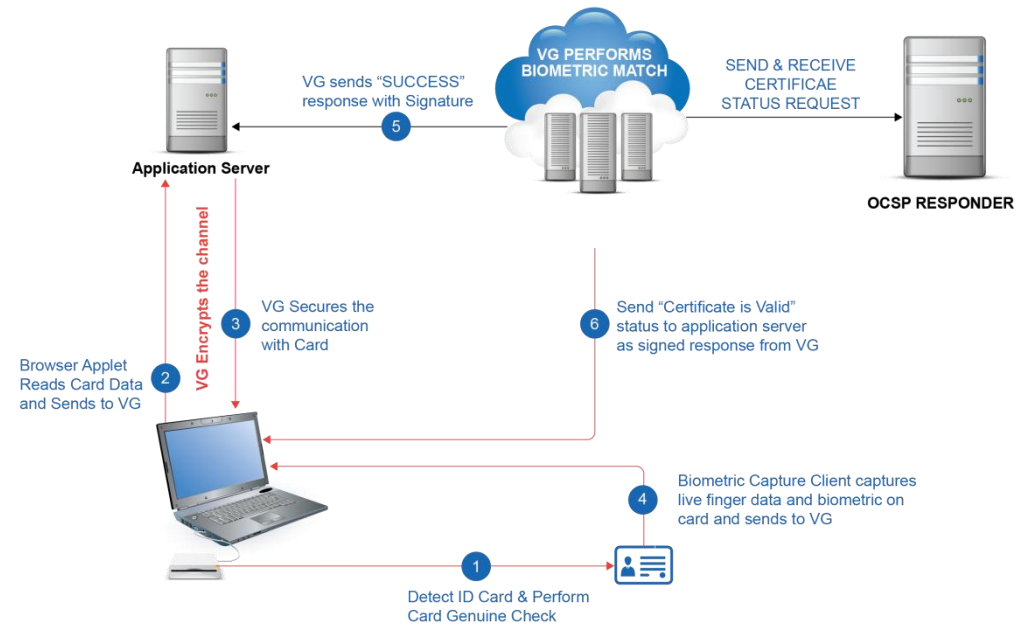
- The Emirates ID Authority provides the necessary **credential verification on the web**.
- The **National ID Card** could be used only with the **Digital Credentials on the web transactions**.
- Emirates ID Authority **does not share the personal information but provides only credential verification**



Protection of Individual Privacy



- Service Providers are accorded with **Verification and Authentication Services** enabling **secure remote transactions**.
- Service Seekers remain **anonymous on the web** since only **Digital Certificates or Biometrics** would be used to establish credential verification.

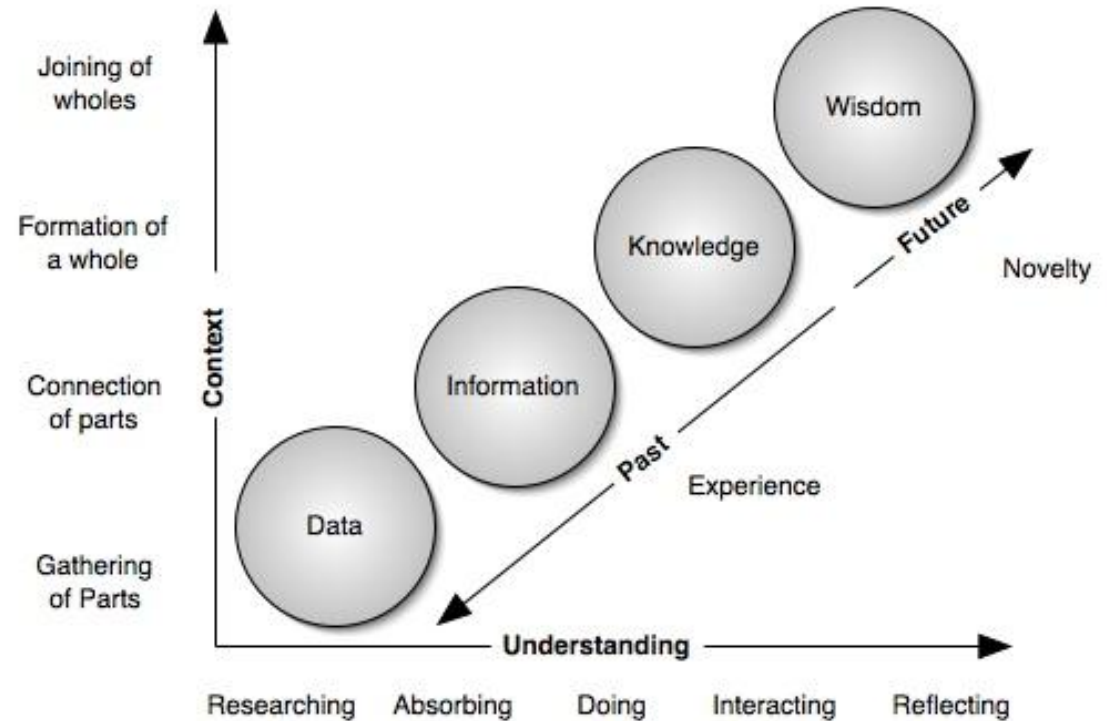


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Concluding remarks

- Big Data should be viewed to be about **building Knowledge** to support social, environmental, and economical development.
- i.e., to **improve efficiency, speed & accuracy of decisions**, ability to **forecast**, cut **costs**, save **energy**, improve **services**, optimise **infrastructure**, enhance citizens **quality of life**, reduce environmental footprints, fuel **innovation** and diverse **sustainable economic growth**.



Concluding remarks



- **Complexity** will remain an issue!
- Successfully **exploiting the value** in big data requires **experimentation and exploration**.
- **Private sector** will still lead the game, as Big Data will be viewed as a **source of competition and growth**.
- **Public sector** will need to take Big Data **more seriously**, and put in place data-strategies to create new waves of productivity growth.
- **Main challenge:** shortage of **skills** [USA by 2018 will face shortage of around 2 million managers and analysts with know-how to create and use big data to make effective decisions].
- Need to **address policies related to privacy, security, etc.**



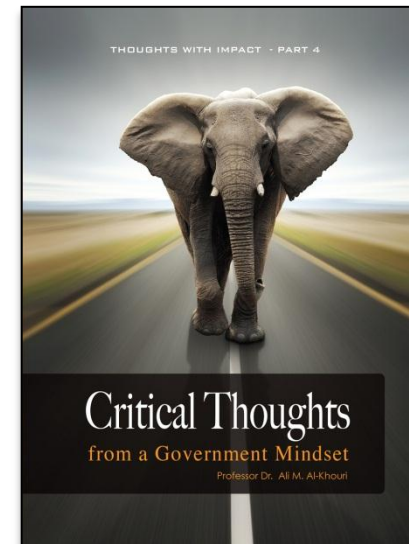
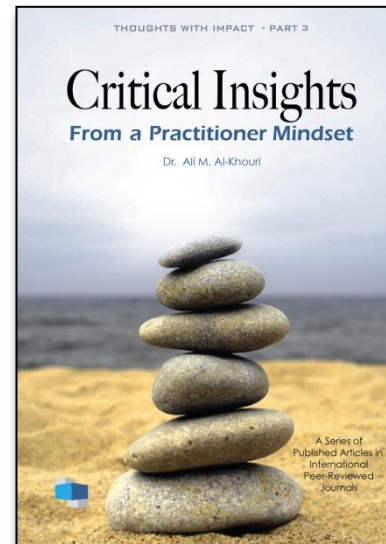
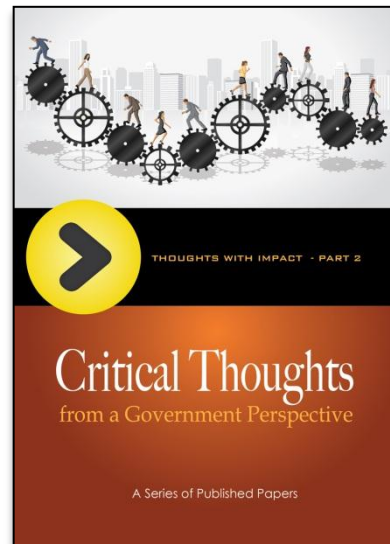
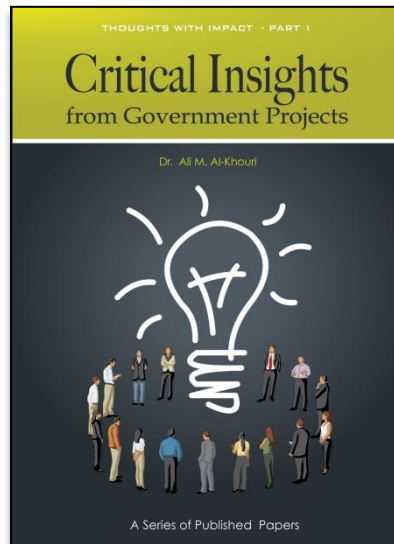
- **All data should be treated as personally identifiable** and subjected to the **regulatory framework**.
- UAE (Emirates ID Authority) would provide this **regulatory framework to ensure identity protection**.
- **Technical and Technology Solutions** are already in place to **support the regulatory and legal framework**.

More Information:



Read our recent research from:

<http://www.emiratesid.gov.ae/ar/media-center/publications.aspx>



You can use all
the quantitative
data you can get,
**but you still
have to
distrust it and
use your own
intelligence
and judgment.**

[Alvin Toffler]

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Thank you