#### Facebook as a Research Tool

Session 1: Research Participant Recruitment I -Setting-up Facebook Advertisement Campaigns

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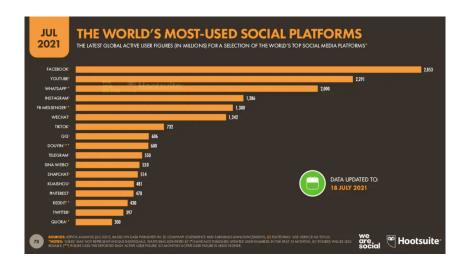




#### This session

- Introduction: Facebook as a Research Tool
- Recruiting research participants through Facebook
- Setting-up a Facebook campaign
- Practical Session
- Q&A (use the chat)

### The rise of social media platforms



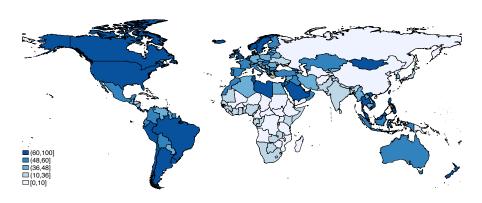
# Why use Facebook for research?

- Gather information from users directly: Access to research participants
  - To run a survey (potential issues with representativness of sample)
  - To conduct experiments (internal validity).
- **Gather information about users indirectly**: Extract data, e.g. public posts or social links
- Intervene directly: Run experiments on the platform

# What are the advantages of using Facebook?

- Direct and easy access (e.g. online)
- Low costs
  - UK Facebook survey: cost per respondent £0.25
  - UK Commercial survey company: cost per respondent £4.45
- Especially helpful if your research includes hard-to-reach populations or specific groups (e.g. refugees, specific occupational groups)
- Global reach

### The global reach of Facebook: Users per country



(active at least once per month, 2019)

# Recruiting research participants through Facebook

### Step-by-step to participant recruitment

- Set-up a Facebook account and page
- Purchase advertisement space on Facebook
- Run your ads on Facebook
- Users self-select into clicking on your ad or not
- Direct users to your survey platform (e.g. Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey, Google Form)
- Participants complete your survey

#### How does a Facebook ad look like?



We value your opinion! Do you want to participate in this survey on current issues conducted by University of Glasgow researchers?



#### GLASGOW.EU.QUALTRICS.COM

Make your voice heard!

This survey will take only around 10 minutes.







#### Some reflections on ethics

- You need to apply for ethical approval from your institution if you collect any information from individuals.
- In terms of impact of using Facebook for data collection, it will impact your participant recruitment strategy.
- What to bear in mind here:
  - Ad content, incl. incentives / payments (next week)
  - Your target population: Make sure not to use discriminatory text
  - There is no data sharing between Facebook and you. Users self-select into clicking on your ad or not.
- You need a clear consent page once people reach your survey, e.g. landing page.

# Setting-up a Facebook campaign

#### Facebook tools: Choices that we can make

- Campaign objectives (optimization tools)
- Budget
- The audience
- Advertisement content

#### Facebook tools: Choices that we make

- Campaign objectives (today)
- Budget
- The audience (next week)
- Advertisement content (next week)

# Campaign Objectives

- Campaign objectives determines how Facebook will use its optimization algorithm
  - Optimization algorithm: Facebook's strength and weakness for research
- Facebook offers three broad campaigns:
  - Reach: Maximizing the number of Facebook users who will see the advertisement
  - Traffic: Maximize the number of Facebook users who will click on your advertisement
  - Conversion: Maximize the number of Facebook users who will take an action outside of Facebook environment

# Comparing the benefits and pitfalls of different campaigns

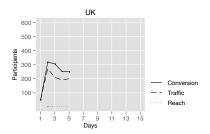
- Running surveys in four countries: UK, Turkey, Spain, Czech Republic.
- Data collection: via Qualtrics survey between Feb-Apr 2021.
- Target sample in each country: 1,800 completed responses.
- In each country we simultaneously ran three or two parallel campaign ads with different settings to compare how these performed.

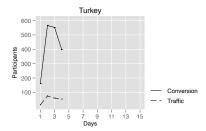
More details in working paper, available here: https://osf.io/3g74n/.

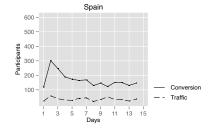
# The strength of conversion

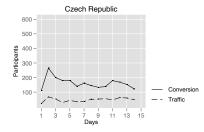
		Conversion	Traffic	Reach					
	United Kingdom (data collection: Feb 9-15, 2021)								
Α	N of Facebook users who saw the ad on Facebook	56,486	82,480	655,815					
В	N of Facebook users who clicked on the ad	1,597	1,598	194					
C	N of respondents who completed the survey	1,032	756	6					
b/a	Link clickers/Facebook users seeing the ad (ctr)	2.80%	1.90%	0.03%					
c/a	Completes/Facebook users seeing the ad	1.80%	0.90%	0.00%					
	Average costs per completed survey	£0.33	£0.44	£54.50					
	Turkey (data collection: Feb 19-22, 2021)								
Α	N of Facebook users who saw the ad on Facebook	498,561	1,030,721						
В	N of Facebook users who clicked on the ad	4,603	17,906						
C	N of respondents who completed the survey	1,678	203						
b/a	Link clickers/Facebook users seeing the ad (ctr)	0.92%	1.74%						
c/a	Completes/Facebook users seeing the ad	0.34%	0.02%						
	Average costs per completed survey	£0.21	£1.76						
	Spain (data collection: Mar 1-15, 2021)			1					
Α	N of Facebook users who saw the ad on Facebook	314,494	985,910						
В	N of Facebook users who clicked on the ad	4,182	15,020						
C	N of respondents who completed the survey	1,709	92						
b/a	Link clickers/Facebook users seeing the ad (ctr)	1.32%	1.52%						
c/a	Completes/Facebook users seeing the ad	0.54%	0.01%						
	Average costs per completed survey	£0.87	£16.15						

### Number of participants recruited per day









# Comparison of response quality for campaign objectives for survey completers

	UK		Turkey		Spain		Czech Rep.	
	Conv.	Traffic	Conv.	Traffic	Conv.	Traffic	Conv.	Traffic
Passed attention check	93%	92%	79%	52%	84%	83%	88%	72%
Median survey duration (min)	6.6	7.4	8.5	6.4	7.5	9.6	6.4	7.3
Mean survey duration (min)	12.6	9.5	11.7	7.8	10.3	11.8	12.8	16.1
Responded open-ended quest.	95%	95%	92%	65%	90%	89%	87%	85%
Words open ended quest.	17	18	12	7	15	15	12	10
Provided contact details	68%	61%	41%	22%	41%	27%	51%	39%

# Are these samples representative? Comparing sample characteristics

	Conversion	Traffic	Population Benchmark
United Kingdom			
Young aged (18-34)	7%***	4%***	29%
Middle aged (35-54)	17%***	11%***	34%
No college	39%***	44%***	70%
Female	42%***	44%***	51%
Less interested in politics	24%***	24%***	43%
Not partisan	42%***	47%	48%
Total	n=1,033	n=756	

Note: Chi-square goodness of fit comparing Facebook and population samples:  $*=p \le 0.05$ ,  $**=p \le 0.01$ ,  $***=p \le 0.001$ . The percentages presented here refer to the proportion of respondents in each of these demographics as a share of the overall sample in each campaign (column percentages).

#### What we have learned so far

- Researchers can use Facebook to recruit low-cost samples across the world.
- Conversion outperforms traffic and especially reach campaign objectives. It helps us distinguishing link-clickers from survey completers.
- Conversion clearly outperforms all other campaign objectives (algorithm) in terms of costs and recruitment speed, without sacrificing response quality or sample characteristics.

# **Practical Session**

#### Content: Practical Session

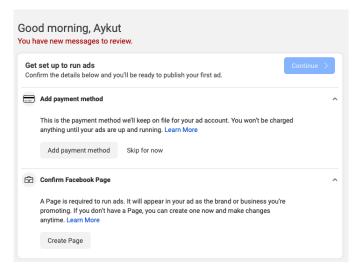
- Before beginning: What do you need?
- Facebook Advertisement Manager
- Setting up an advertisement campaign in five minutes: Traffic campaigns
- Steps before setting up your first conversion campaign

# What do you need to begin?

- A Facebook account
  - You might need to confirm your identity
  - None of your personal information will be shown in ads
- A Facebook page
  - This page will be visible to Facebook users

# What do you need to begin?

If you do not have a Facebook page:

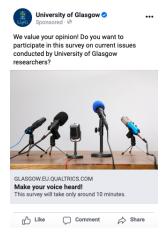


# Setting up a Facebook Page

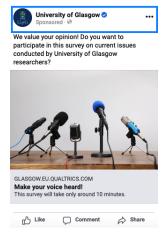
#### × Create Page A Page is required to run ads. Create one to help people find and interact with your brand or business or organization. Learn More Page Name Use the name of your brand or business, or a name that explains what your Page is about, Learn More Glasgow Social Research Network 32/75 Category Search and select a category that describes what type of organization or topic your Page represents. You can add up to 3. Learn More Educational Research Center X Profile Picture 6 Use a logo or image that helps people identify your Page in search results. Add Profile Picture See More Options -Description Explain what your brand or business does, the services you provide, or the purpose of your Page.

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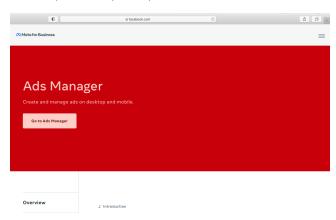
# Setting up a Facebook Page: Using university page

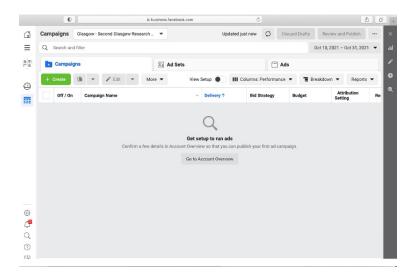


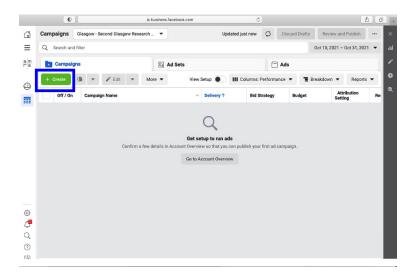
# Setting up a Facebook Page: Using university page

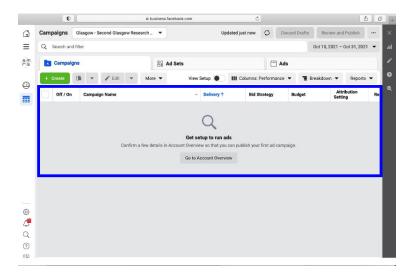


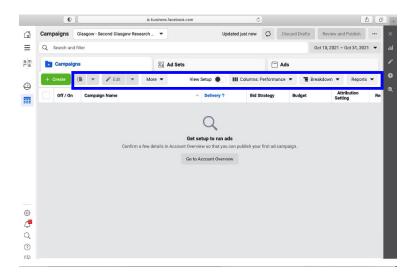
• facebook.com/business/tools/ads-manager

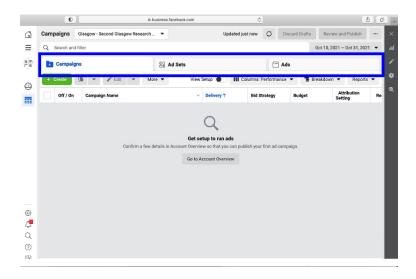








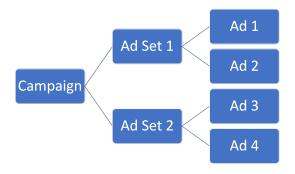




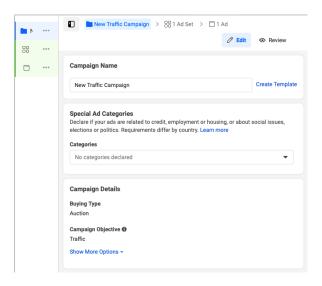
# Three hierarchical levels of Facebook Advertisement Manager

- Campaign level
  - Campaign level determines optimization algorithms
  - Each campaign might include more than one ad sets; not vice versa
- Ad set level
  - Ad set level determines the audience, budget, schedule
  - Each ad set might include more than one advertisement; not vice versa
- Ad level
  - At this level, you create advertisements

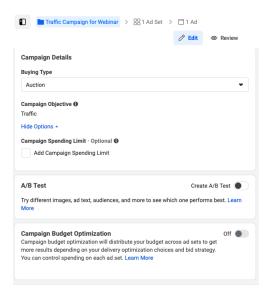
# Three hierarchical levels of Facebook Advertisement Manager

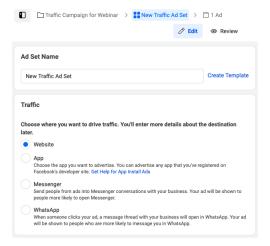


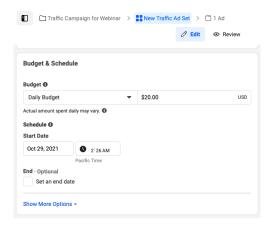
# Setting up an ad: Campaign level

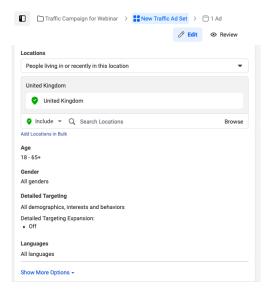


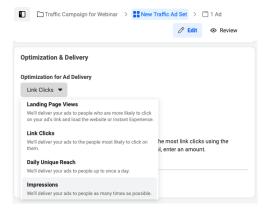
# Setting up an ad: Campaign level

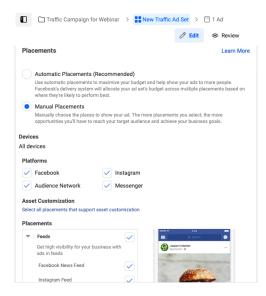


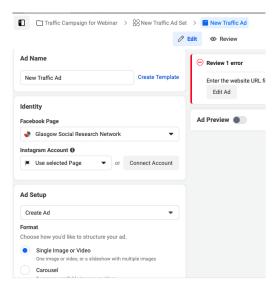


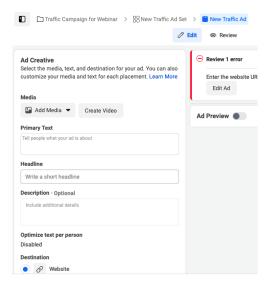


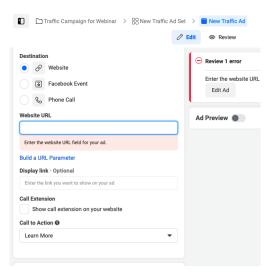


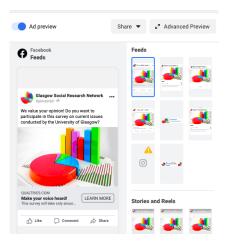












# Results from similar campaigns

Table: Results from traffic campaigns with no targeting

	United Kingdom	Turkey
Total spent	£168	£33
Recruited participants	495	36
Cost per participant	£0.34	£0.91
Proportion passing the attention check	92%	

# Results from similar campaigns

Table: Results from traffic campaigns with no targeting in UK

Categories	Percentages
Young	2%
Middle	6%
Old	92%
No college	45%
College	55%
Female	39%
Male	60%

#### What is next?

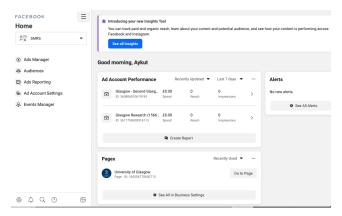
- Use conversion campaigns to decrease costs
- Use demographic targeting to increase representativeness (Next session)
- Use more appealing advertisements to decrease costs and increase representativeness (Next session)

# How did our conversion campaign work?

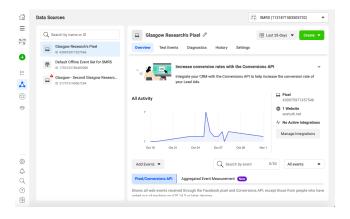
- Facebook users saw our advertisement on Facebook
- If a Facebook user clicked on our advertisement, she was directed to the survey page hosted on Qualtrics
- If the Facebook user completed the survey on Qualtrics, she was directed to a Thank You page hosted on Wordpress
- Wordpress recorded this page visit as an "event" and sent information to Facebook about it
- Facebook optimized its ad delivery based on this information

# Before beginning: Facebook Business Manager

business.facebook.com



# Before beginning: Events Manager



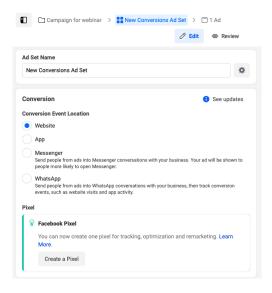
# Before beginning: Which web page to use for conversions?

- You can use Qualtrics to send data to Facebook about user action
- Our choice was to use our own web page because
  - Easier to implement
  - Easier to distinguish survey completers from drop-outs
  - Easier to claim domain ownership
    - Important to reach Apple iOS users who opted out of tracking
    - Buying a new domain and creating a "Thank You" page on a new website can take around 1 hour and cost around £30

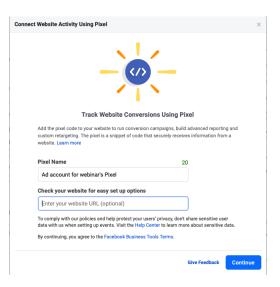
# Creating a conversion campaign

- Setting up conversion infrastructure
  - Create Facebook Pixel code
  - Install Facebook Pixel to your website
  - Oefine your events
  - Verify domain ownership of your website
  - Prioritize your events on your domain
- Creating the advertisement campaign on Facebook Ads Manager
  - This part is nearly same with creating traffic campaign, which is just discussed

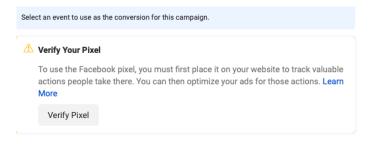
# Step 1: Creating a Facebook Pixel



# Step 1: Creating a Facebook Pixel



 You will see this warning if you try to create a conversion campaign before installing your Pixel:



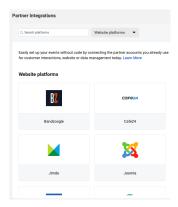
You can click on "Verify Pixel"

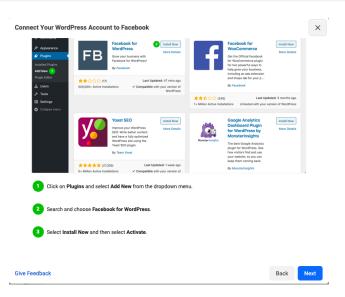
 Facebook offers three options. Our choice was to use partner integration.

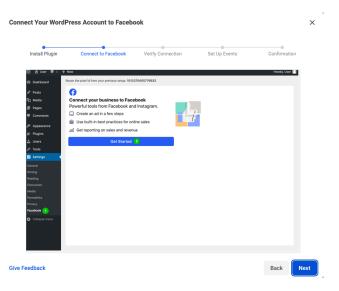


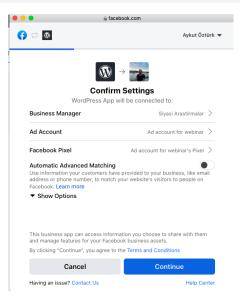
• You can also visit Partner Integration section under Events Manager to reach this page.

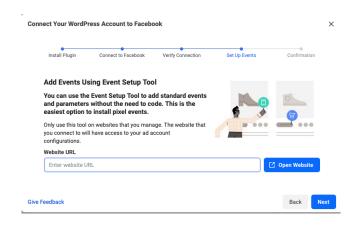
 A long list of partner integrations, including Wix, Squarespace, Wordpress are available. We picked Wordpress.



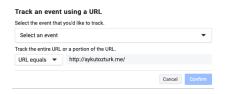


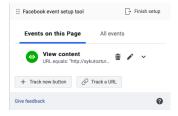






 You can also reach Event Set Up Tool through "Add Event" section under Events Manager







#### **Conversion Event**

View Content X



This event hasn't been prioritized for iOS 14.5. Ad sets using this event may not be delivered to people who opt out of tracking on iOS 14.5 or later devices. Learn More

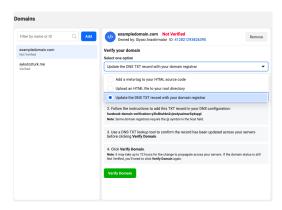
 Go to Domains under Brand Safety section of Business Manager, click on "Add"



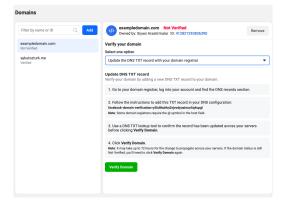
 You can also reach this page following the path: Events Manager, Aggregated Event Measurement, Configure Web Events, Manage Domains



Once you add your domain, you will be offered three alternatives to verify it:



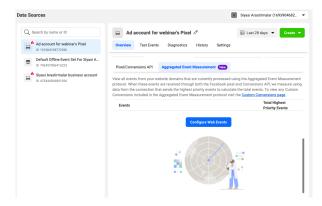
#### Follow steps listed here:



Once you verify domain ownership, add your events to your domain.

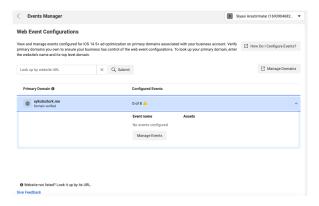
# Step 5: Prioritize your events

- Go to Aggregated Event Measurement under Events Manager
- Click on Configure Web Events



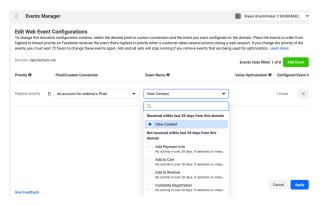
# Step 5: Prioritize your events

• Click on the domain that you will use



# Step 5: Prioritize your events

- Choose the event that you will use for this campaign
- List your events based on their importance for you, if there is more than one event



#### Next week

- Presenting results on the use of targeting and various advertisement contents
- How to use targeting for more balanced samples
- How to follow which advertisement Facebook users are coming from
- After creating your campaign
  - How to test if conversion is working properly
  - How to review your advertisement success
  - How to review Facebook comments

# Thank you!

• For any questions: demed-project@glasgow.ac.uk