

# **Augmenting the Augmentors**

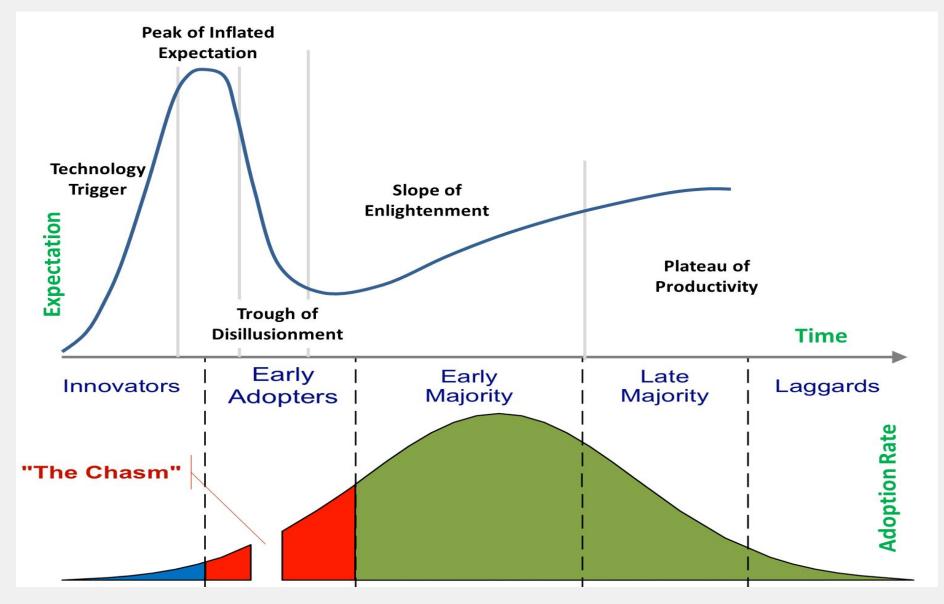
How the Great Western Metaverse will be built

Jeremy Silver Chief Executive Officer @JeremyS1



# Digital Catapult The UK authority on advanced digital technology innovation and adoption

## Hype cycle and technology adoption cycle



CATAPUL

**Digital** 

Global immersive technologies economy

Diaita



\*Greenlight Insights via techjury.net

# Jobs enhanced by VR/AR >23m by 2030

## **Business VR/AR spending** \$18.8bn (2020), up 78.5% from 2019

4

UK uniquely combines technology with culture



## Significant UK public investment

### **UKRI Funded programmes**

- Audience of the Future £39.3m investment including £16m for six Future Demonstrators
- Creative Clusters £80m for nine clusters

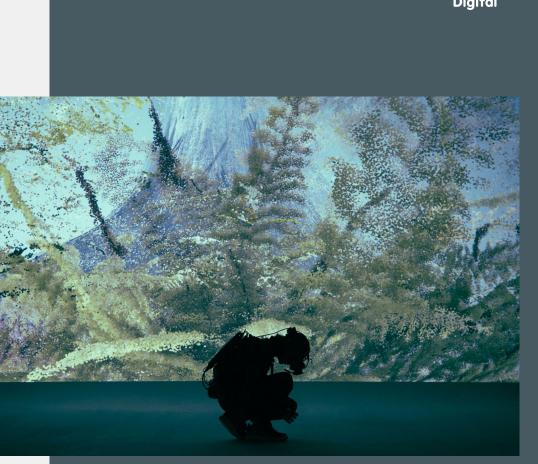
### **Digital Catapult programmes**

### CreativeXR (with Arts Council England)

- **£1.2m+** in funding to 60 startups
- Private investment of £2.7m+ secured over first two years
- **New for 2021** three CreativeXR companies receive further £189k prototype development funding

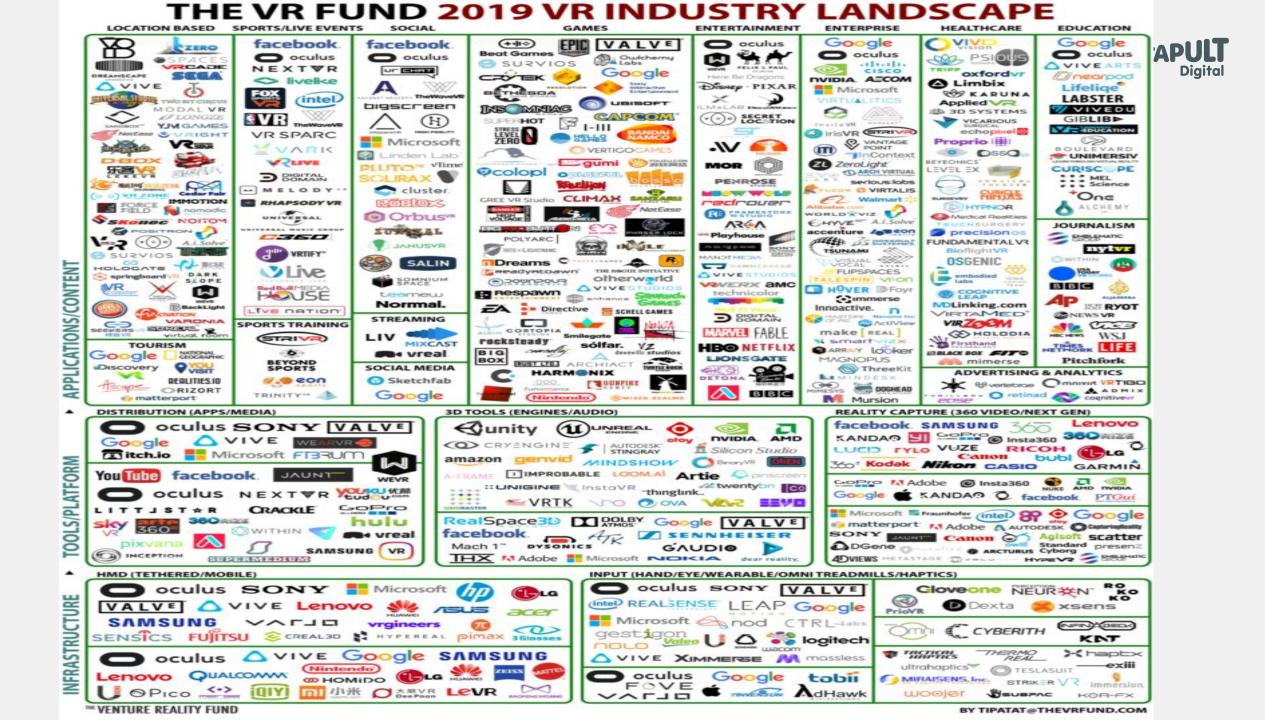
### Augmentor - early stage acceleration

- **26** companies over three years
- Raised **£7.5m** in private investment and **£4.3m** in grants

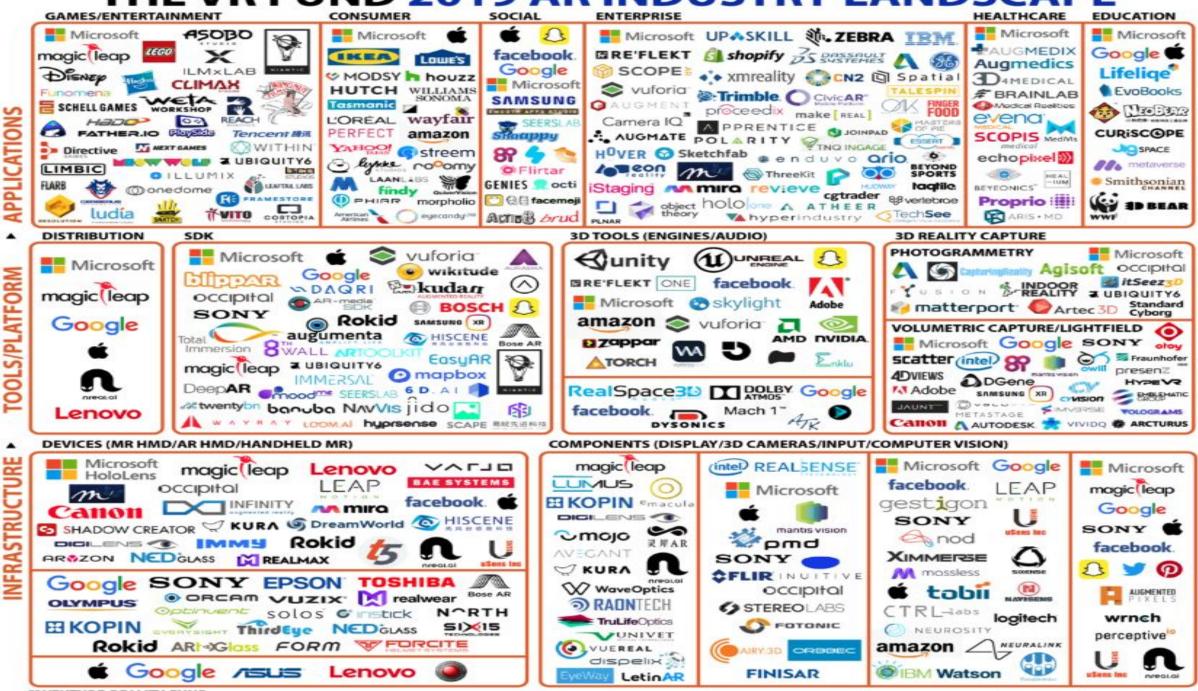


Marshmallow Laser Feast, Natan Sinigaglia, Mileece l'Anson: *We Live in an Ocean of Air* 

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### THE VR FUND 2019 AR INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE



**THE VENTURE REALITY FUND** 

BY TIPATAT@THEVRFUND.COM

## **Poll question 1:**



Given the interdependency of hardware and software in the development of VR/AR - how hard should the UK use public investment to pursue a strategy of content, format and production skills first?

Not at all A little Push hard Go for it big time

## Magic Leap - Hype n Burn

- Beat Apple and Facebook to market with AR kit
- Raised >\$2.3bn from major investors
- Over promising / under delivering / low demand
- \$2,000+ price point
- Sold 6,000 units in 6 months vs. projections of 1m
- \$6.4bn valuation in 2019
- \$450m valuation by mid-2020
- 93% decline in six months
- Now pivoting from consumer to enterprise (medical devices)



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Report: Magic Leap One Sales Are Horrible, New Version 'Years Away'

## Core hardware technologies - major players





VIVE

#### **Epic Games**

\$28bn valuation Amongst world's 10 most valuable startups \$1.8bn Fortnite revenue (2019) 250 million players

HTC Vive

~13% share of headset market

Innovative VR accessories for enterprise market Est. 1.3m units sold since launch vs. 4.7m PSVR

#### Microsoft Hololens 2

5G, AR Cloud built in Focus on enterprise Cost \$3,500 each

Microsoft



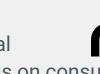
2012 Kickstarter raised \$2.4m Acquired by Facebook in 2014 for \$2bn Headsets sell for \$299-\$399 Approx. 1.5m sold since launch



\$40.24bn valuation (2021)1.5 million monthly creators >2 billion monthly users (2020) 15,000 new projects daily Run on 1.5bn devices



\$4bn valuation >\$1bn Pokemon GO NIANTIC revenue (2020) >600m unique users



nreal NReal Focus on consumer AR/MR Raised \$85m to date (Feb 2021) Partnered with Vodafone in EU - mixing AR & 5G Av. user time = 49 mins per day

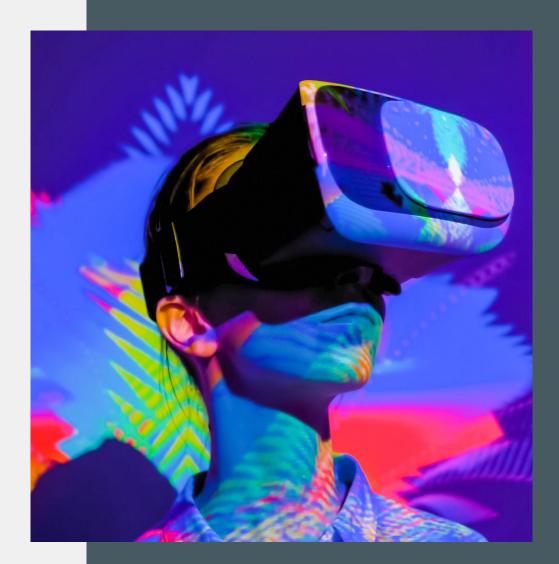


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## Pandemic impact

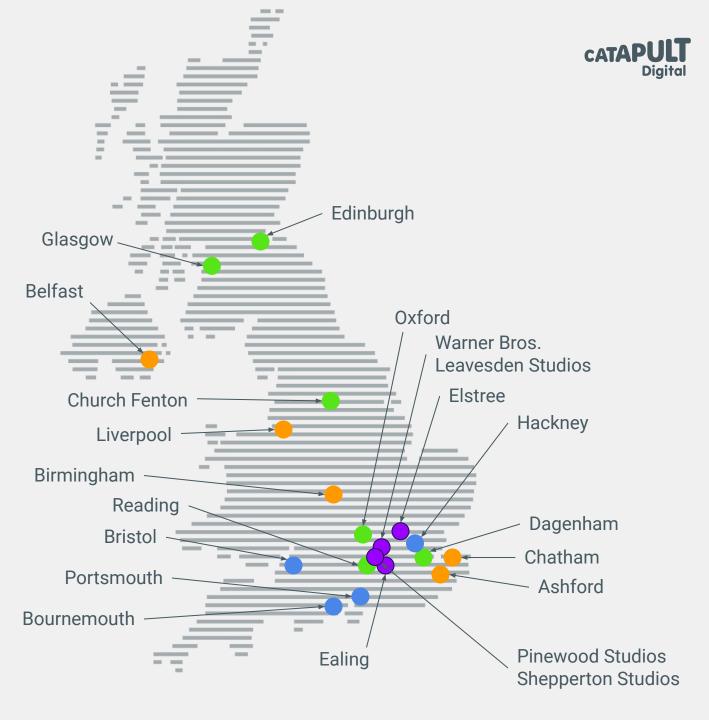
- Seven year accelerated digital adoption
- From ecommerce to business tools like Zoom
- Consumers now 3x more likely to go online first
- Less dramatic VR uptake
  - Oculus headsets sales up 350%
  - Estimated 1.2 million Oculus Quests sold worldwide in 2020
  - Supplies hit by Covid-19 electronics shortage
- Household penetration still 1.2%
- Predicted to rise to 3% by 2025

• But massive uptake in streaming platform content -



## Future landscape of UK studio production facilities

£2bn forecast investment in new UK studio builds over next five years



Academic and Council Commercial Funded Commercial Planned Film studios

**KEY** 



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Digital

England Local News Regions Beds, Herts & Bucks

# Hollywood plans £700m film and TV studios in Hertfordshire

③ 11 hours ago ☐ Comments





Plans for a £700m "world-class" film and TV studios facility in the UK have been announced by a Hollywood studio.

The owners of Sunset Studios in Los Angeles and an investment firm have bought a 91-acre site in Hertfordshire for £120m.



# Core technologies - the major players

- Epic Games Unreal Engine
- Unity game engin
- ARRI lighting, screens
- Red Digital Camera
- Dell Media Group
- Disguise live to virtual production
- Microsoft Azure
- AWS Media Services





## **Poll question 2**



Will virtual production entirely disrupt media production?

Never

Partially in 5-10 years

Completely in 5-10 years



## What is a Metaverse?

An artificial parallel universe Media experiences becoming richer and richer Gaining larger and larger audiences.

Remember Second Life World of Warcraft, Pokemon Go! ....Now ... Fortnite ....Roblox combining social, gaming and music to attract millions Travis Scott gig - less a game more a music promotion

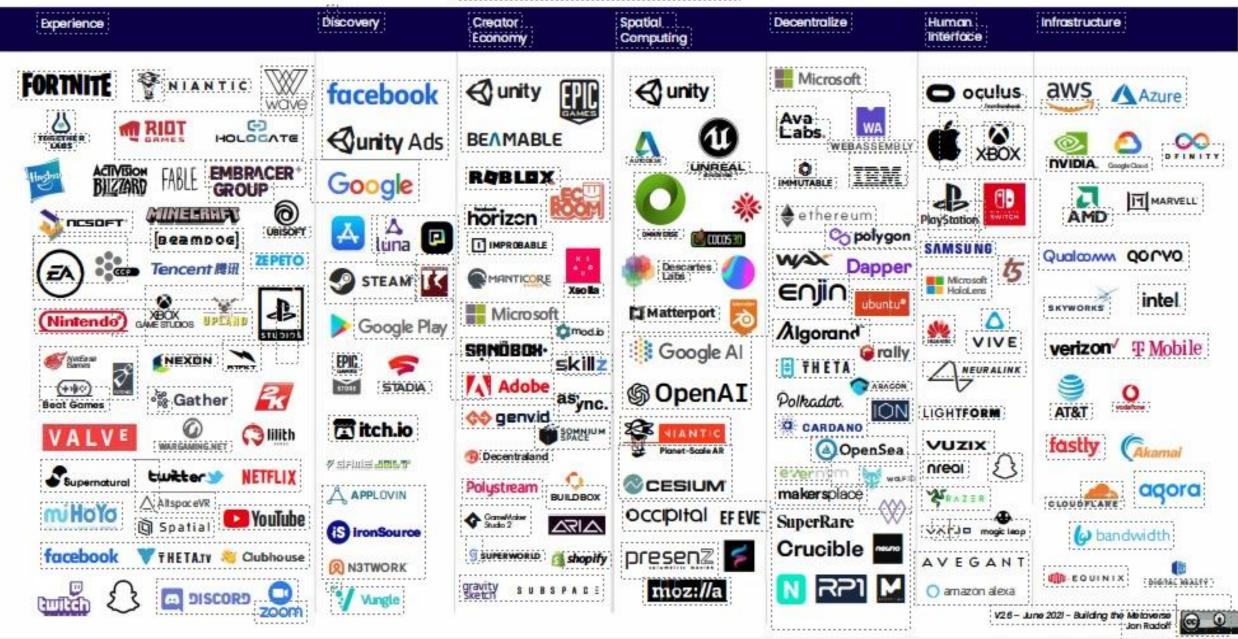
**Traditional industry - Digital Twins** 

## Investing in the Metaverse

- 12 m attend Fortnight Travis Scott gig
- Amazon introduce AR hair salon see your look before your do
- Google hiring AR wayfinder designers
- US army \$49m Hololense trial
- Microsoft LinkedIn, Minecraft, HoloLense
- Zuckerberg describes future of FB as an open Metaverse company
- Sony participates in £1bn Epic fundraiser
- Gartner says by 2035, the digital human economy will become a \$125-billion market



### Metaverse Market Map



#### CATAPULT Digital

# What kind of metaverse future?

#### Individual Corporate metaverse

No interoperability No transferability Free market approach Walled gardens on steroids

#### "Open" platform

Niantec, Facebook, Fortnite, Roblox Invite multiple players Create business dependencies 30% tariffs vs in app purchases vs adverts

#### **Open interoperable Metaverse**

Open accessible market Level playing field Data sharing Low barriers to entry





# Thank you

digicatapult.org.uk @digicatapult

## The UK immersive economy

Global market value for VR and AR Global number of companies active Global number of jobs if we can

# £1.8bn

Contributed to UK GDP in 2019 \*PwC: Economic Impact of VR & AR "Seeing is believing" 2019 1,250

#### UK specialist companies in 2019 \*Digital Catapult and Immerse UK: "The Immersive Economy in 2019"

# £62.5bn

Estimated market value by 2030 \*Digital Catapult and Immerse UK: "The Immersive Economy in 2019"

# 400k

### UK immersive jobs by 2030

\*Digital Catapult and Immerse UK: "The Immersive Economy in 2019"

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#### Wave opens the door for musicians looking for a 'metaverse' beyond Fortnite

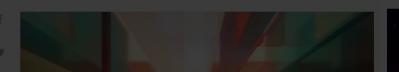
Is the metaverse really the new frontier for

"The Metaverse crosses the physical/digital divide between actual and virtual realities"

"The next iteration of the internet. And as dystopian it may sound, this is the next iteration of life" amp

Full interactive reality layered across every segment of our lives. It is the connective tissue between humanity that we have always literally lucid dreamed of but until recently haven't had the infrastructure to make it real.

## **Digital experience infrastructure**



#### **Forbes** Defining the Metaverse The Sandbox to feature Richie Hawtin and deadmau5 in hot new metaverse collaboration "We are already in the MetaVerse, "The Nth Floor" where we bring our it's just mostly 1D (clubhouse), 2D people together in ways never (Zoom), 2.5D (Fortnite) - 3D before possible in the physical (VR/AR) is just in the development world." accenture stages." McKinsey & Company "Hyper social co-experiences where ١g The Metaverse is the next we can connect with each other in significant 3rd space as not home authentic ways" (1st), not work or study (2nd) but where you will spend your leisure **The AI Journal** "The economy in the metaverse will be larger than the economy in Music' the physical world" 'If one company owns the metaverse, they'll be more **EPIC** GAMES NFTs. 9 \_\_\_\_\_ X powerful than a god on earth" loblox: How the children's game U.S.ARMY Discovery, decentralisation &

Next generation experiences

Comic Con's Metaverse reveal Daleks! first look and release date Technolog

TIME LORD VICTORIOUS

became a

Metaverse

outfits

**NVIDIA** 

creator economies

## **Core technologies - major players**



















## GLOBAL AUGMENTED REALITY (AR) AND VIRTUAL REALITY (VR) MARKET 2021-2025



17000+ Reports covering niche topics. Read them at **17000**+

## Global Augmented Reality economy

- Mobile AR 2.0
- The US Army's \$479M contract with Microsoft Hololens late 2018 - enterprise value of AR
- HMD (head mounted display) AR in transition
- Increased interest in volumetric capture content, works for both AR and VR, partially driven by 5G networks capabilities
- Consumer entertainment AR content growing



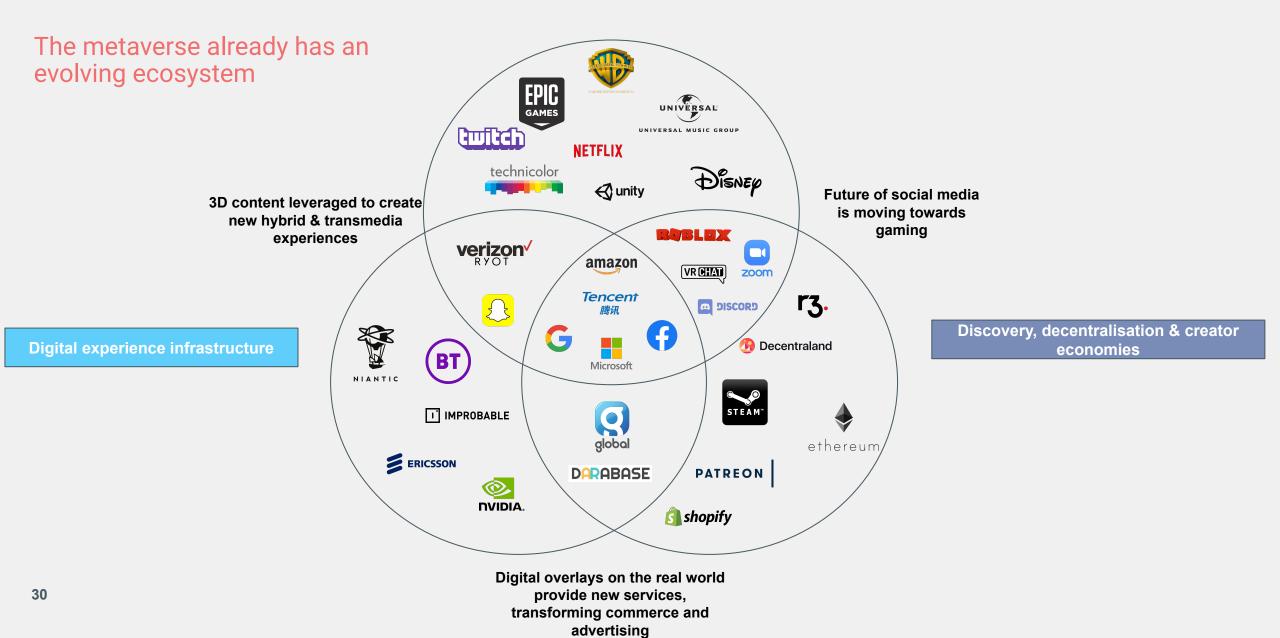


## Super creative UK









## **Defining the Metaverse**

**Digital experience infrastructure** 

"The Metaverse crosses the physical/digital divide between actual and virtual realities"

"The next iteration of the internet. And as dystopian it may sound, this is the next iteration of life"

"Full interactive reality layered across every segment of our lives. It is the connective tissue between humanity that we have always literally lucid dreamed of but until recently haven't had the infrastructure to make it real" Next generation experiences

"We are already in the MetaVerse, it's just mostly 1D (clubhouse), 2D (Zoom), 2.5D (Fortnite) - 3D (VR/AR) is just in the development stages"

"The Metaverse is the next significant 3rd space as not home (1st), not work or study (2nd) but where you will spend your leisure time."

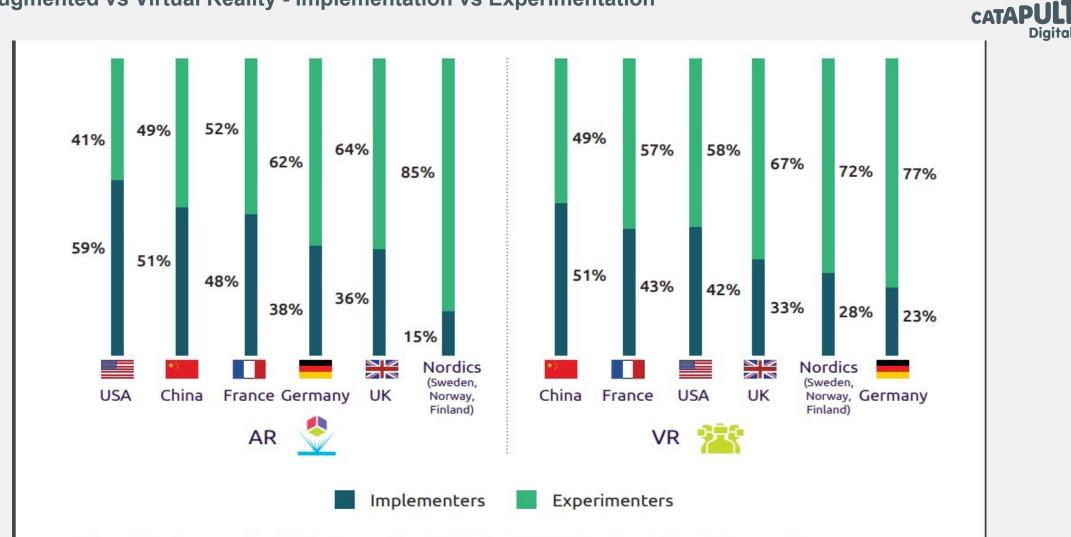
"If one company owns the metaverse, they'll be more powerful than a god on earth" Discovery, decentralisation & creator economies

"The Nth Floor' where we bring our people together in ways never before possible in the physical world."

"Hyper social co-experiences where we can connect with each other in authentic ways"

"The economy in the metaverse will be larger than the economy in the physical world"

#### Augmented vs Virtual Reality - Implementation vs Experimentation



**Digital** 

Source: Capgemini Research Institute, Augmented and Virtual Reality Survey; May-June 2018, N=603 organizations that are exploring and implementing Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality. Implementers: companies with small or large-scale implementations; Experimenters: companies with proof of concepts or pilots.