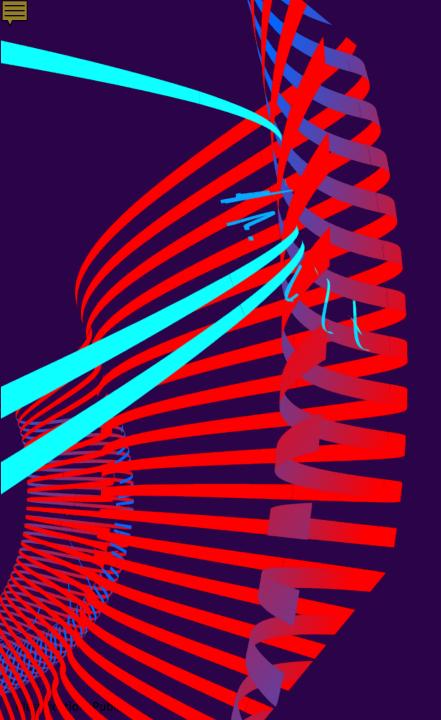


1. CAN YOU
SEE MY

2. ARE YOU ON MUTE?



Communications
has
fundamentally
changed



# Disruption as a way of life

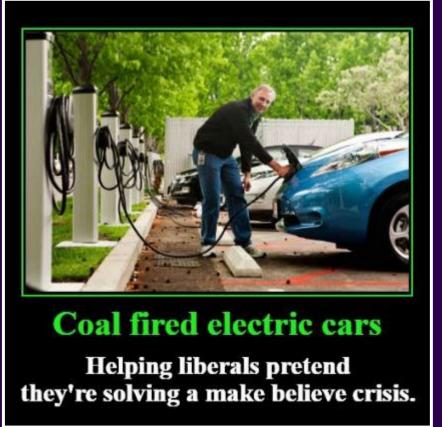






# Disruption as a winning strategy







### SOCIETY AND COMMUNICATIONS

OUR RISK SOCIETY

ENTER THE RHETORICAL ARENA

Fake news

Complexity

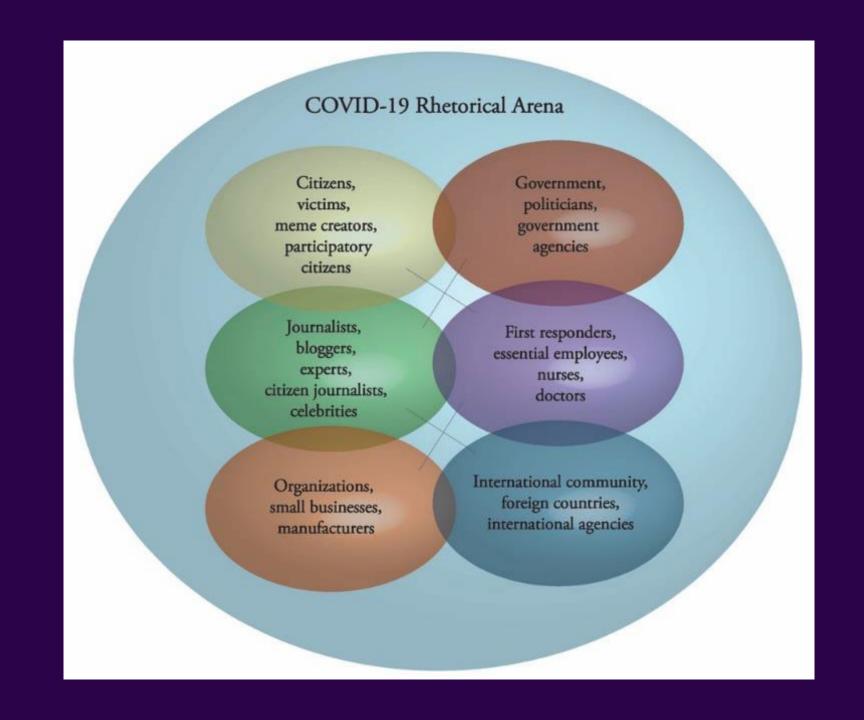
Interference (politicians to trolls)

Polarization

Misinformation

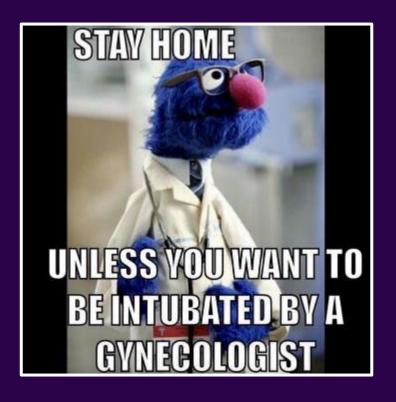
Multivocality

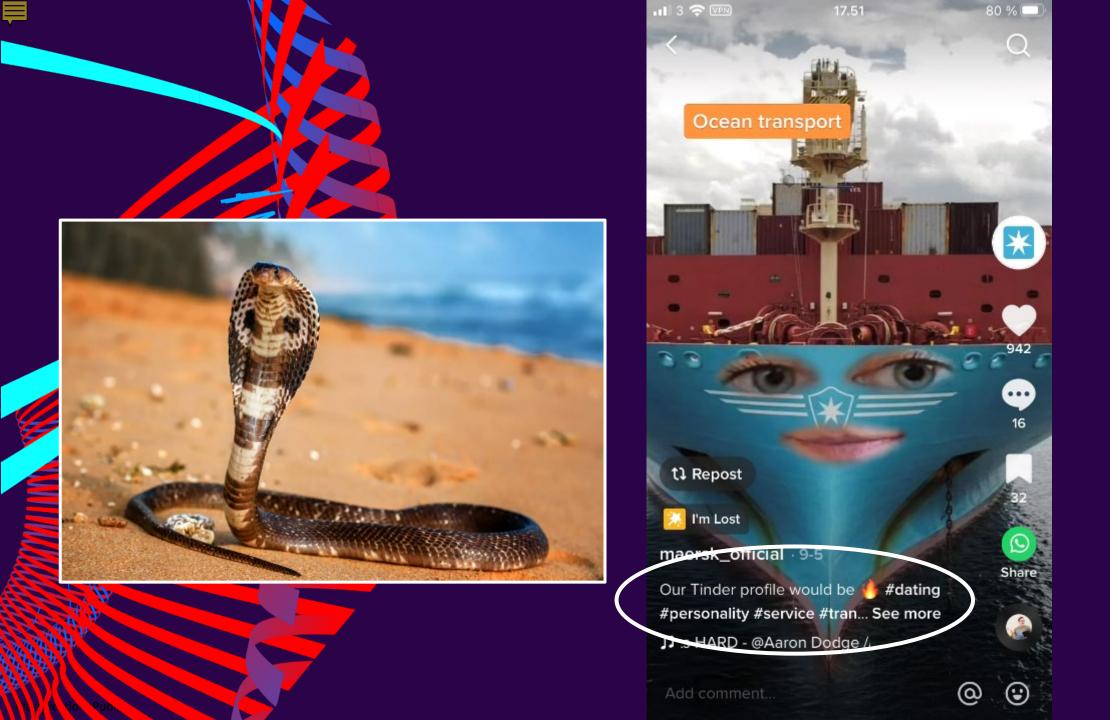
Classification: Publi













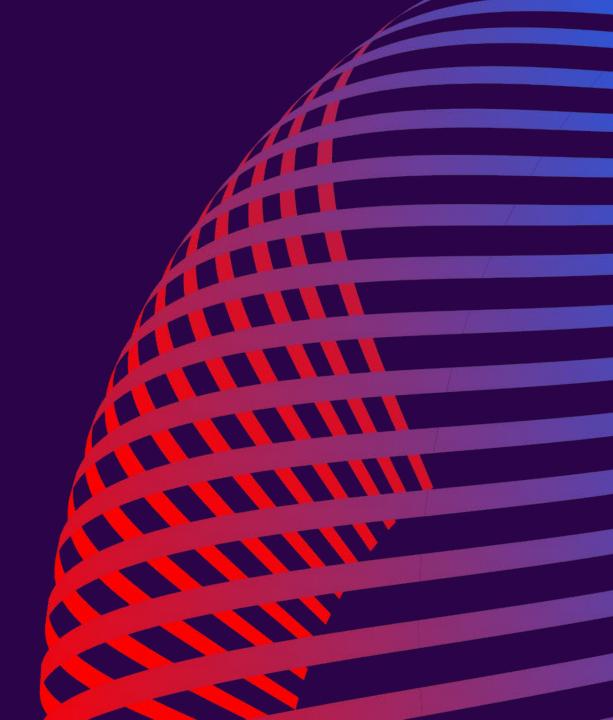
TYSONS CORNER, Va. (AP) —
MicroStrategy Inc. on Tuesday
reported fourth-quarter net income of
\$3.3 million, after reporting a loss in
the same period a year earlier.

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Jonathan

Davis hit for the cycle, as the New

Hampshire Fisher Cats topped the

Portland Sea Dogs 10-3 on Tuesday.



### NARRATIVES AND BRANDS IN THE ALGORITHM WORLD

#### LESS CONTROL

Difficulty cutting thorough bot-driven noise – especially vs. traditional communications approaches

Most news today is algorithmically sorted and prioritized by Natural Language Processing





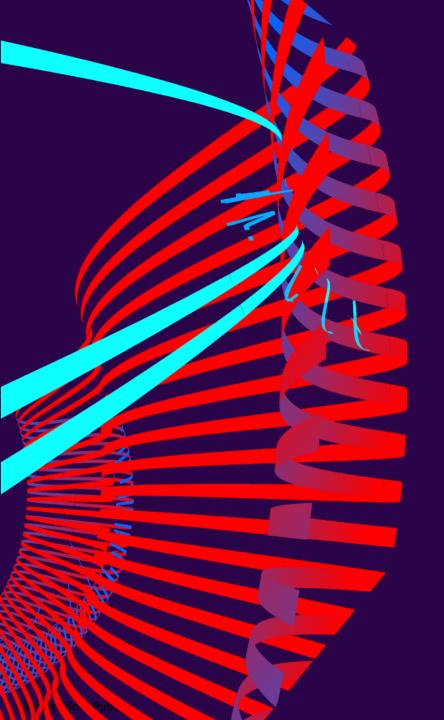
# Our digital selves





# WHAT DOES ALL THIS CHANGE MEAN?

- Traditional comms models and flows are disrupted
- Pace is accelerating
- Attention span is decreasing
- Stakeholder expectations increasing
- The lines between **all** channels are blurring



2.
Companies – and communications - get a social contract

### SHOULD COMPANIES RUN THE WORLD?

"Today, CEOs need to stand up not just for their shareholders, but their employees, their customers, their partners, the community, the environment, schools, everybody - anything that's a key part of their ecosystem."

Marc Benioff
CEO of Salesforce





# Company's social contract

# Starbucks named fifth most admired company worldwide

January 19, 2018 · 1 min read

#### JANUARY 2018

### Starbucks received UK tax credit in 2020 despite making profit in US

Starbucks uses complex tax structure in Europe and has faced criticism for lack of transparency



Starbucks, New York. The US parent company made profits before tax of \$1.16bn in the year to 27 September 2020. Photograph: Eric Thayer/Reuters.

Starbucks received a tax credit worth £4.4m in the UK because of losses in 2020, despite the coffee chain's US parent company making a profit during the same period of \$1.2bn (£870m).

### Starbucks' reputation hits 10-year low

By Quentin Fottrell, Marketwatch

May 30, 2018 | 3:20pm



**MAY 2018** 



# Controversy is inevitable . . .

### Xinjiang: more than half a million forced to pick cotton, report suggests

Forced labour much more widespread than initially thought in China region that supplies a fifth of the world's cotton



This year the US imposed sanctions on cotton suppliers in China's Xinjiang region over human rights concern Photograph: Xinhua/REX/Shutterstock

# Court orders Royal Dutch Shell to cut carbon emissions by 45% by 2030

Oil giant told plans should be brought into line with Paris climate agreement



▲ Donald Pols, director of Milieudefensie, an environmental group, reacts after the verdict at the Hague. Photograph: Piroschka van de Wouw/Reuters

Yale school of management

### Almost 1,000 Companies Have Curtailed Operations in Russia—But Some Remain





# Not-so-hidden agendas

#### The New Hork Times

Dally Business Briefing >

### Disney C.E.O. Says Company Is 'Opposed' to Florida's 'Don't Say Gay' Bill

Bob Chapek's remarks followed criticism that the company, a major employer in the state because of Disney World, had not spoken out against the legislation.

### German police raid DWS and Deutsche Bank over greenwashing allegations

Asset manager accused of misleading investors about ESG factors in its financial products

#### BUSINESS

### Thumbs down on 'woke': 'Disney debacle' lesson for CEOs

By Charles Gasparino

May 7, 2022 | 9:23pm | Updated

### Musk right to call ESG a scam

Tesla was excluded from the S&P 500 ESG Index over politics

### Musk Mad Tesla Removed from S&P 500 ESG Index

Tesla CEO Elon Musk is unhappy that the EV company was deleted from the S&P 500 ESG Index.



# Greenhushing: Should companies speak up or shut up?

Welcome to the damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't world of sustainability communications.





## The Cobra strikes again

# Cop27 climate summit's sponsorship by Coca-Cola condemned as 'greenwash'

Plastics campaigners call it 'astounding' that multinational they say is world's top polluter has sponsored key UN climate meeting





"We find a world ensnared in a vicious cycle of distrust, fueled by a growing lack of faith in media and government. Through disinformation and division, these two institutions are feeding the cycle and exploiting it for commercial and political gain."

Edelman 2022 Trust Barometer



# The inevitability of taking a stand















"Corporate purpose is the higher purpose of a company that goes beyond the sole profit orientation. The purpose is to define and deliver a long-term value-creating promise, either in the company's local environment or in the global market environment, that is directly related to the company's value creation."

Larry Fink, CEO Blackrock



# Corporate purpose

The what, the why, and the how

### PURPOSE IS GOOD BUSINESS

53% of CXOs said
they had successfully
generated new
revenue streams
from new socially
conscious offerings.

66% of global
consumers and 73%
of millennials are
willing to pay a price
premium for
sustainable goods.

A 2019 survey found that nearly half of all participants and 3/4 of millennial workers would take a pay cut to work at an environmentally responsible company.



# Does mayonnaise really need a purpose?



### Unilever CEO warns advertisers that 'wokewashing' threatens industry credibility

Published: 19/06/2019 

Average read time: 3 minutes

Cannes - Unilever CEO Alan Jope today warned that woke-washing – brand campaigns promising to improve the world but failing to take real action – is undermining the advertising industry's credibility and trust.

### MAERSK'S PURPOSE



Doing the right things



Unique to what we do



Integrated to our business strategy



Core to our growth ambitions



# Our Purpose: Improving life for all by integrating the world

We believe in an integrated world. One planet. Connected all the way.

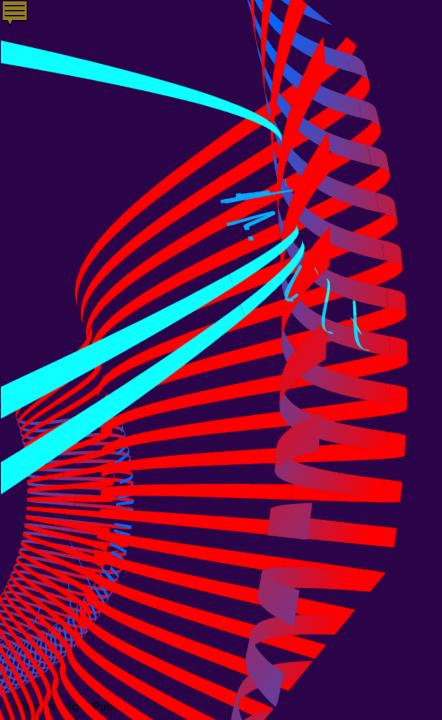
By integrating global logistics, we improve the flow of the foods, goods, data and materials that sustain people, businesses and economies the world over.

Enabling an exchange of values, culture and ideas.

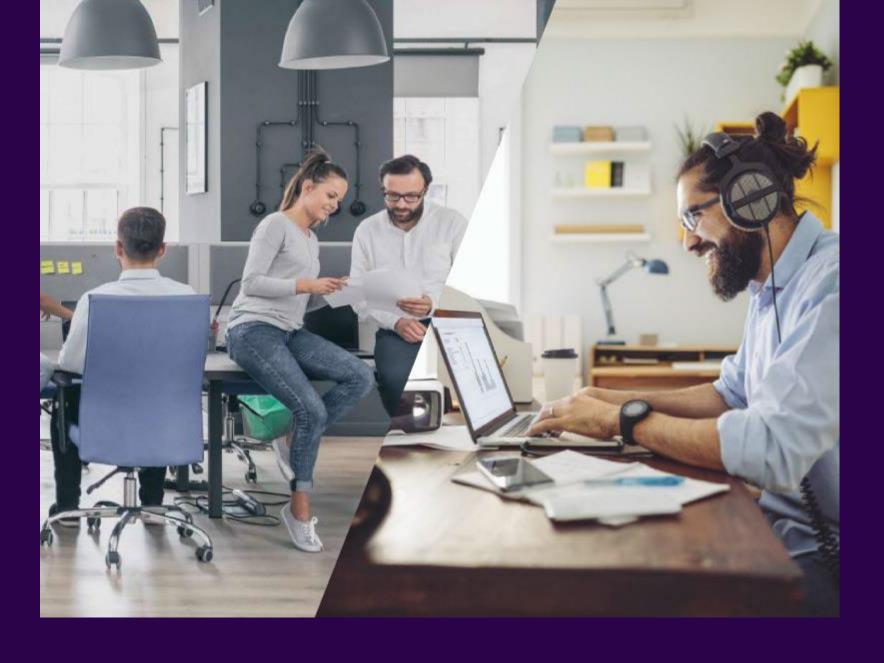
A more integrated world improves quality of life and prosperity on all levels.

It is our responsibility to ensure a more sustainable tomorrow for coming generations.





3.
There is no going back



(Corporate HR function view)



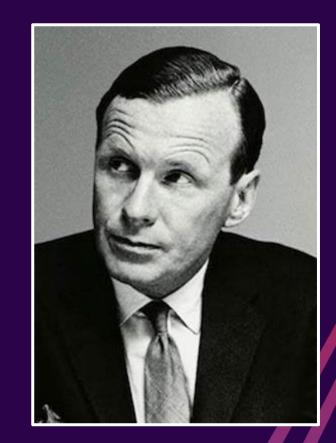
(reality)



### A TIMELESS THOUGHT

"You cannot bore people into buying your product."

David Ogilvy



### COMMS NEEDS TO BE:



Aspirational
A clear and relevant position



Corporate BS bingo and policy propaganda are dead



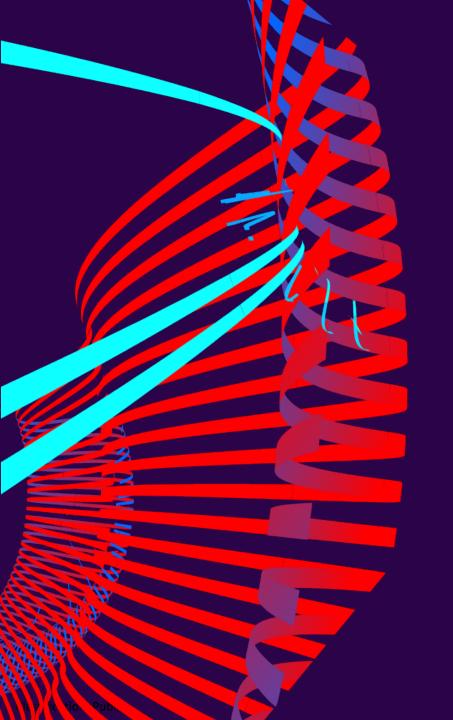
Planned and proactive
Step back and don't get pulled
into the 'keeping up' trap



### WHAT DO LEADERS NEED FROM US?





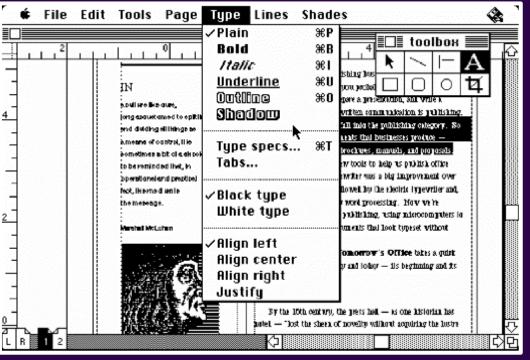


# SO WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN TO US?



# Days of yore . . .

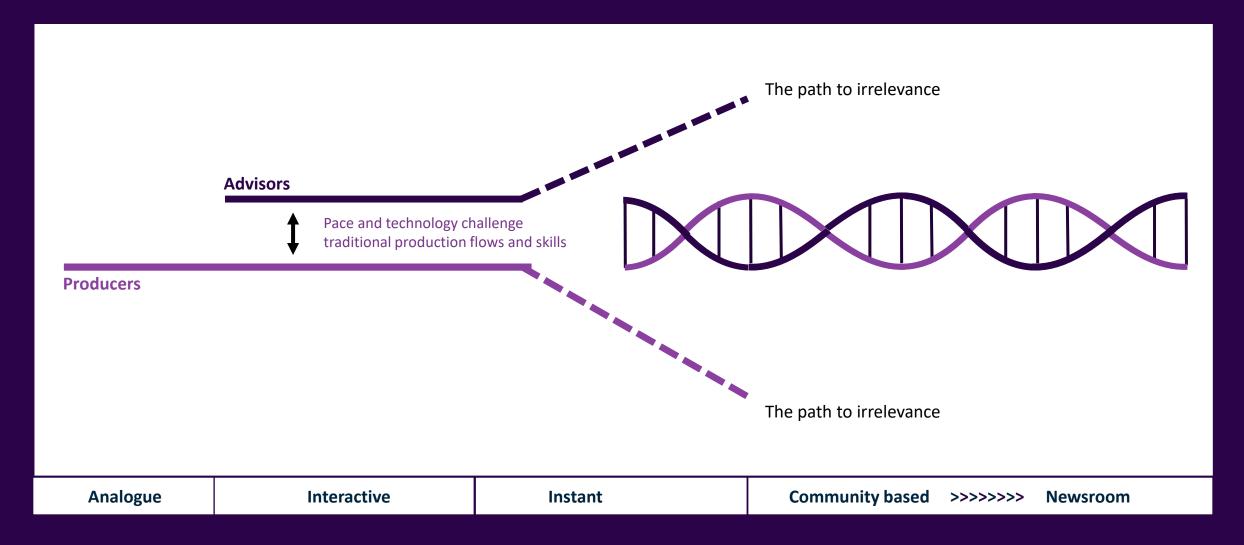




### Self or not-self?



### Mind the gap between strategy and execution



### The T shaped communicator



# Can you be constructively annoying?



4.0

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the modern communicator's superpowers?
- 2. What are the biggest hurdles to changing and evolving our profession?

# OBLIGATORY THANK YOU SLIDE

(but really, thank you!)

