

## Our Spring News Highlights

### Trading places in Parliament

DECaDE Director Professor John Collomosse shares his experience after spending a week in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) as part of the Royal Society Pairing Scheme.

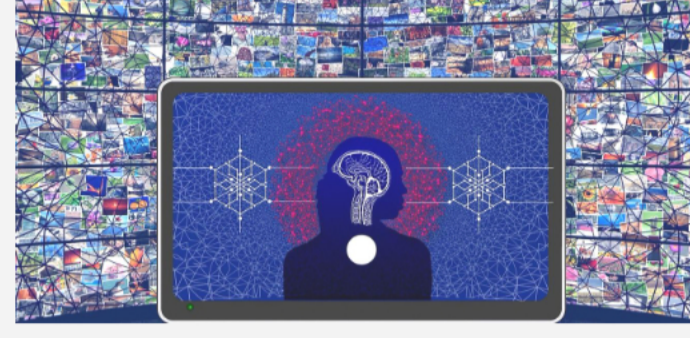


As one of 30 UK scientists chosen for the scheme, John gained a behind the scenes insight into how policy is formed, shadowing a policy maker in the policy and capability team in AI and Disinformation.

[Read John's Blog here](#)

### DECaDE on AI and Copyright

Researchers at The Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy (DECaDE) have submitted a formal response to the UK Government's Open Consultation on Copyright and Artificial Intelligence.



The consultation invited perspectives on how the UK's legal framework can best support both the creative industries and the AI technology sector—two major drivers of UK economic growth.

The team at DECaDE also co-lead a workshop in March with the CoSTAR Network which operates in the interests of both the Creative Industries and Digital Technologies and creates the first national network of UK world leading technology research and industry partnerships.

The workshop resulted in a report presented to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) citing research presented by DECaDE on media provenance and its applications to ensuring consent and fair use of content in training Artificial Intelligence models.

[Read DECaDE's Response](#)

**"The UK has a unique opportunity to shape AI and Copyright policy that both protects creators and drives innovation. By adopting open standards and decentralized technologies, we can help ensure a fairer digital ecosystem where content provenance and creator rights are respected, and new models that recognize and reward creator contribution to help accelerate AI research and development."**  
Professor John Collomosse, Director of DECaDE

### Driving skills development for the next generation of digital economy researchers

Find out about PhD student Kar Balan's internship experience in his Q&A interview...



[Read Q&A here](#)

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of working at DECaDE, which offers the opportunity to engage with the wider creative and cultural industries, Kar recently furthered his research experience by successfully securing two internships.

The first in London at [Digital Catapult](#), a deep tech innovation organisation and partners for the DECaDE centre.

The second in Brussels as part of [The Blue Book Traineeship programme](#), a five-month paid internship offered by the European Commission, providing graduates from around the world with hands-on experience in EU policymaking and administration.

### Science Festival for ORAgen

Researchers from DECaDE will present 'ORAgen Fables' as part of the Edinburgh Science Festival.

The demonstrator will be exhibited between 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> April as part of the 'Discover our Science with The University of Edinburgh' event at the [National Museum Scotland](#).

Join the DECaDE team to explore and interact with ORAgen Fables, a collective story writing platform that explores the themes of collective authorship and ownership in digital story writing.



Visitors will build upon each other's stories, and delve into how emerging technologies could enable us to recognise how our ideas build upon each other.

14th - 17th April

10:30am - 4:30pm | Free / Drop-In

National Museum of Scotland, Chambers St, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF

[Read about ORAgen here](#)

### Our latest research

DECaDE researchers are publishing on topics related to decentralised platforms in fields such as creative industries and cross-border supply chain.

#### MultiNeRF: Multiple watermark embedding for neural radiance fields

Yash Kulthe, PhD student at the Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy has published a paper which has been accepted at a workshop at ICLR 2025, The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR).

ICLR is globally renowned for presenting cutting-edge research on all aspects of deep learning used in the fields of artificial intelligence, statistics and data science.

The paper **MultiNeRF: Multiple watermark embedding for neural radiance fields**, presents a novel 3D watermarking method that enables the embedding of multiple uniquely keyed watermarks within images rendered by a single Neural Radiance Field (NeRF) model while maintaining high visual quality.

This flexible multi-watermarking framework, MultiNeRF provides a scalable solution for securing ownership and attribution in 3D content.

[Read the paper here](#)



Through gaining a MSc in Artificial Intelligence with Distinction from the University of Surrey, Yash developed a passion for applying research in the potential applications of AI and using this to create innovative solutions that blend deep learning, computer vision, and real-world impact, particularly around provenance.

Yash's research interests include AI and security - especially looking at how to design robust watermarking techniques that protect creative content in immersive 3D spaces such as the metaverse.

Yash will be presenting his paper at the [1st Workshop on GenAI Watermarking \(WMark@ICLR\)](#), Singapore, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

For any enquiries please email: [decade@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:decade@surrey.ac.uk)

"I'm incredibly excited to see our work, MultiNeRF, featured at the Gen AI Watermarking Workshop at ICLR 2025. This project tackles a growing challenge in the world of 3D content: how do we protect ownership and track attribution when media can be so easily created, shared, and modified? With MultiNeRF, we've developed a framework that embeds multiple invisible watermarks directly into 3D models, allowing for scalable, secure attribution without sacrificing visual quality.

It's exciting to contribute something that sits right at the intersection of technical innovation and real-world impact - especially as the need to prove who created digital content - and whether it's been altered becomes more important across industries".

Yash Kulthe, PhD student DECaDE

[Read our latest publications here](#)

