# Chris A. McCoy

**Founder and CEO, STORE Research Inc.**

Distributed systems · Byzantine fault-tolerant consensus · Multi-agent safety

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| 126 | 2 | 16 | 160+ | 3 → 43 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| governors in 30+ countries, live since 2020 | US patents granted, BlockFinBFT | later patent filings cite them | invention disclosures | governors to take over a third, 2020 to today |

## SUMMARY

Founder and researcher working on Byzantine fault-tolerant consensus as a trust layer for autonomous agents. Co-inventor of BlockFinBFT, with two granted US patents. Since 2020, he has run STORE, a live network of 126 independent governors in 30+ countries with no break of its one-third rule: real-world data, not simulation, on threshold commitment, identity and collusion resistance. The core finding: a payment is a transaction, and so is a vote. Run both on one foundation, and people can govern payments, votes and every action an AI takes.

**Research focus.** Whether threshold commitment and concentration bounds built for human principals survive agent populations that can be cloned, forked and run at machine speed.

## EXPERIENCE

### STORE Research Inc.

May 2017 - present

**Founder and CEO · San Francisco, CA**

- Leads research and engineering for STORE, designed as the governance layer of the Democratic AI stack: stateless computation a computer enforces and anyone can check.
- Live governance since 2020. The largest single share is 0.8% against a one-third ceiling, and taking over a third has risen from 3 governors to 43.

### Footprint

Nov 2015 - present

**Founder · San Francisco, CA**

- The venture lab where STORE began. A chat system for franchises and chains became work on zero-fee settlement, the foundation of BlockFinBFT and the atomic data network design developed with Raghavendra Bhagavatha.

## EXPERIENCE, CONTINUED

### YourSports

2006 - Aug 2015

Co-Founder and CEO · San Mateo, CA

- Built YourSports to 4 million connected sports, interest and place networks, with 400,000+ lines of code and 40M+ verified structured facts.
- Ran it as a research lab in distributed networks, payments and economic graphs. The work carried into Footprint, BlockFinBFT and STORE.

### Data4America

2014 - present

Founder · San Francisco, CA

- A nonpartisan research platform on American innovation and public policy, including formula-based, threshold governance at national scale.

### McCoy Ventures

Jan 2017 - present

Founder and Principal · part-time

- Early-stage investing in what computing and AI run on. The portfolio includes Anthropic, Lightcell Energy and Tangible Robotics.

## PATENTS AND TECHNICAL WORK

### BlockFinBFT: leaderless Byzantine fault-tolerant consensus

- US 12,165,142 B2 and US 11,080,691 B2, granted. Inventors: Raghavendra Bhagavatha (first-named) and Chris McCoy.
- Cited in 16 later patent filings, including by IBM, Mastercard, Ant Group and Mitsubishi.
- Sub-quadratic message complexity, per the granted claims. No rotating leader and no single point of failure; holds while fewer than a third of validators fail or cheat (Lamport's f < n/3, in production code).

### Concentration limits at the database layer

- Designed so that a write breaking a ceiling, such as no actor over one-third, never commits. Capture becomes structurally unavailable, not just unprofitable. In preparation for patent filing.

### Portfolio and publications

- 160+ invention disclosures in pre-filing and pre-prosecution. Full portfolio available on request.
- *Constitutional Mathematics: Democratic Stability at Scale - Hamilton's Law* (STORE Research, 2026). No peer-reviewed publications to date; the primary record is two granted patents and six years of live governance data.

## GOVERNANCE EXPERIMENTS

### STORE Protocol
2020 - present

30+ countries

- 126 independent governors; largest single share 0.8%; zero breaks of the one-third rule.

### Hilander Hall of Fame
2024 - present

Kelso, Washington · with the Kelso Public Schools Foundation

- The elected trustee board adopted the rules with 97.22% approval (July 9, 2024). First season, 60 voters; second (2025), 187 voters and 1,137 votes, with a full audit trail.
- Now funding safety gear for Kelso's young football players under the same rules.

### NaShuntae's Gift
2022 - present

Co-Founder · Washington DECA

- A scholarship in honor of NaShuntae Pleasant-Miles, 1999 Washington DECA State President, awarded by donor vote.

## EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP

### University of Washington
Graduated 2010

Technology entrepreneurship and commercial real estate development

- Paused his Huskies baseball spot to serve as National DECA President, then pitched for the Huskies. Left to raise money for his first companies, then returned to finish.

### DECA Inc.
Apr 2001 - Apr 2002

National President

- Elected at 18 to lead 165,000+ members, after serving as Washington DECA State Parliamentarian and State President (1999 - 2001).

## RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

- Business Insider, "The 55 unknown rock stars in tech, according to Marc Andreessen" (October 2014).
- I Love Baseball, Co-Founder (2006 - present): youth education and baseball in Barahona, Dominican Republic. A Children of the Nations program since 2008, which reports 96 children in the program.
- Second cousin, three times removed, of Linus Pauling (Nobel Prizes, Chemistry 1954 and Peace 1962).