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 development. 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).