# Unraveling Bitcoin [Core]

Andrew Pantyukhin

## **Aspects of Bitcoin**

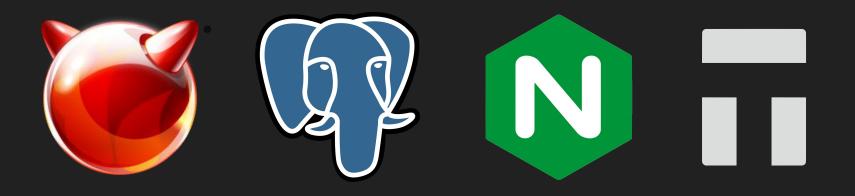
Divine Gift

Saylor, Jack

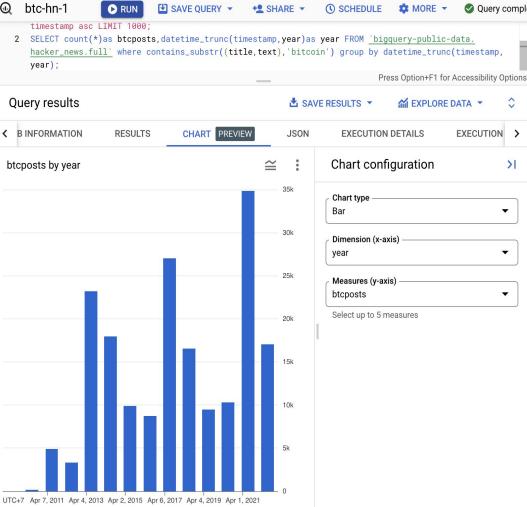
Engineering Breakthrough Sjors, Lopp Proof of Concept

Balaji, Vitalik

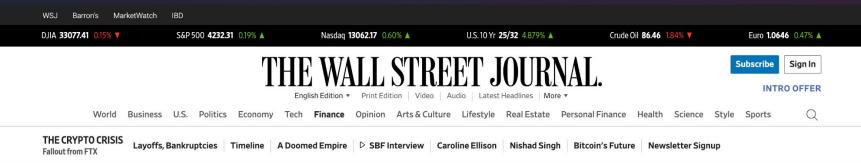
## whoami(1)







PROJECT HISTORY



## Bitcoin's Future Depends on a Handful of Mysterious Coders

Developers with power to change the cryptocurrency's software hold an unorthodox role, are elusive—and have been known to head off disaster for the coin



[bitcoin-dev] Full Disclosure: CVE-2023-40231 / CVE-2023-40232 / CVE-2023-40233 / CVE-2023-40234 "All your mempool are belong to us"

Antoine Riard <u>antoine.riard at gmail.com</u> Sat Oct 21 20:05:35 UTC 2023

- Previous message: [bitcoin-dev] Full Disclosure: CVE-2023-40231 / CVE-2023-40232 / CVE-2023-40233 / CVE-2023-40234 "All your mempool are belong to us"
- Next message: [bitcoin-dev] OP Expire and Coinbase-Like Behavior: Making HTLCs Safer by Letting Transactions Expire Safely
- Messages sorted by: [ date ] [ thread ] [ subject ] [ author ]

### Ηi,

As I've been shown offline Twitter posts misrepresenting my previous mail, I think it's good to correct them. The security flaws are not "intentional backdoor" or whatever misrepresentation that would question the competence and know-how of the Bitcoin and Lightning development community.

The replacement cycling issue discovered has been known by a small circle of Bitcoin developers since December 2022. As it appears to some experts and it has been commented publicly, changes at the bitcoin base-layer might be the most substantial fixes. Those changes take time and here this is akin to how the linux kernel, bsds and OS vendors are working [0].

All I can say is that we had recently had internal discussion on how to



## not a code dive

how do similar projects work how Bitcoin [Core] differs

## **Core in Oct '23**

25600 commits, up 2200 YoY

13500 merges, up 1100 YoY

300 open PRs, 19500 closed

330 open issues, 7300 closed

1200 authors, 120 in last year

25 maintainers, 7 in last year, 5 now



#### ← BACK TO PROJECTS

BITCOIN

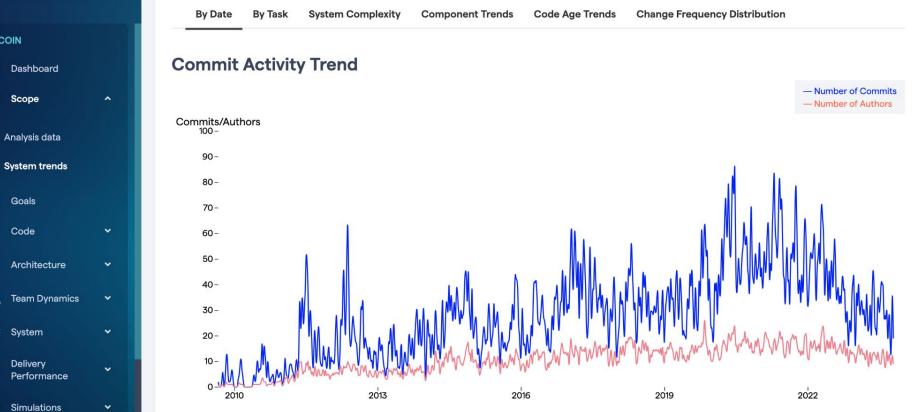
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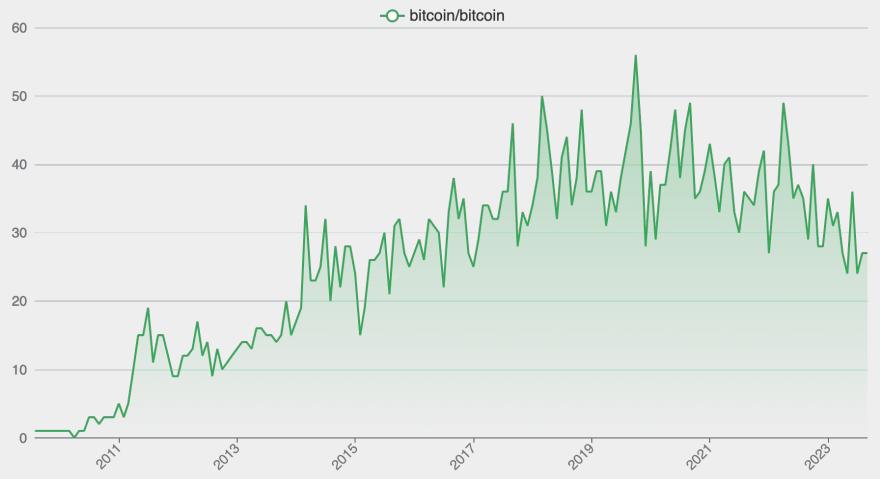
Code

## **System Trends**



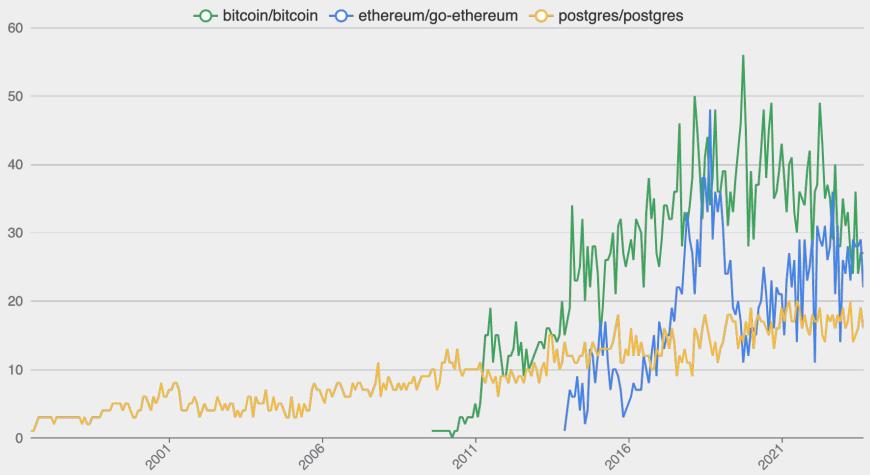
### **Monthly Active Contributors**

The number of contributors who committed to main branch in each month



### **Monthly Active Contributors**

The number of contributors who committed to main branch in each month





#### 

2447 text files. 2292 unique files. 273 files ignored.

#### github.com/AlDanial/cloc v 1.98 T=2.50 s (917.8 files/s, 321670.4 lines/s)

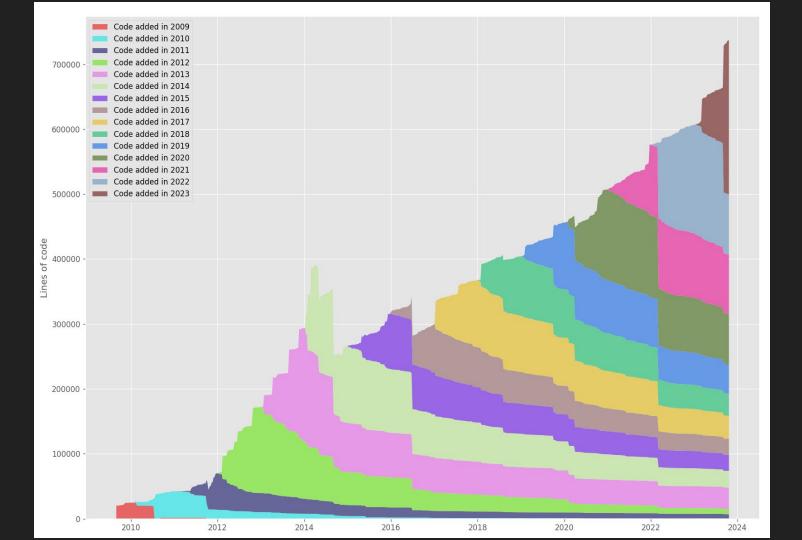
Language	files	blank	comment	code
Qt Linguist	118	284	0	311983
C++	713	24966	22372	158045
Python	315	11546	11675	49216
C/C++ Header	532	11583	21145	48678
C	22	1200	1292	36155
Markdown	197	7165	40	28716
JSON	92	338	0	14000
Qt	19	2	0	8276
XML	22	31	0	6423
m4	18	939	191	5202
Bourne Shell	53	422	881	4733
make	59	558	288	3449
YAML	16	89	85	1252
CMake	14	172	138	1183
Text	5	14	0	1113
Bourne Again Shell	11	295	478	1070
diff	35	203	672	887
Assembly	1	84	105	726
SVG	20	8	15	697
Scheme	1	29	34	555
HTML	2	39	0	460
Fish Shell	6	50	48	209
Windows Resource File	6	19	0	184
Visual Studio Solution	1	0	1	161
Objective-C++	3	32	20	134
Dockerfile	3	14	17	52
Gradle	1	10	0	42
INI	1	5	0	21
Java	1	5	0	18
CSV	1	0	0	16
Qt Project	2	6	1	15
Properties	1	0	0	4
DOS Batch	1	0	0	1
SUM:	2292	 60108	59498	683676

## 

2447 text files. 2292 unique files. 273 files ignored.

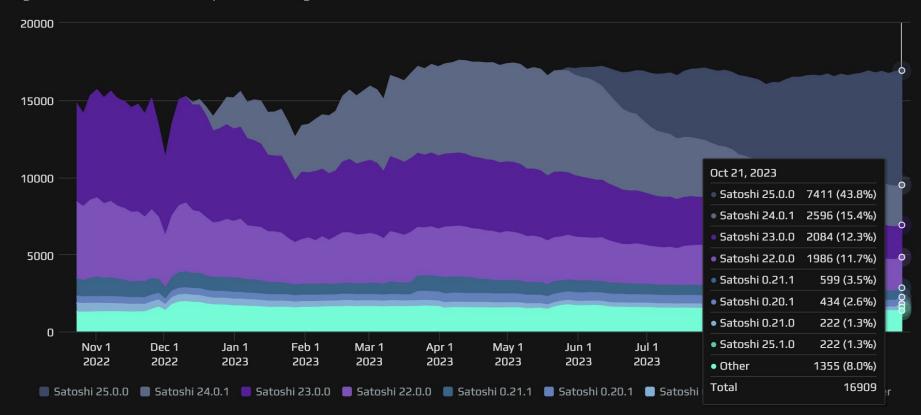
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XML	22	31	0	6423
m4	18	939	191	5202



### **USER AGENTS**

Chart shows the distribution of reachable Bitcoin nodes across leading user agents. Series can be enabled or disabled from the legend to view the chart for specific user agents.



### NODES

Chart shows the number of reachable Bitcoin nodes during the last 7 years. Series can be enabled or disabled from the legend to view the chart for specific networks.

20000 15000 10000 5000 0 Jan 1 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

IPv6

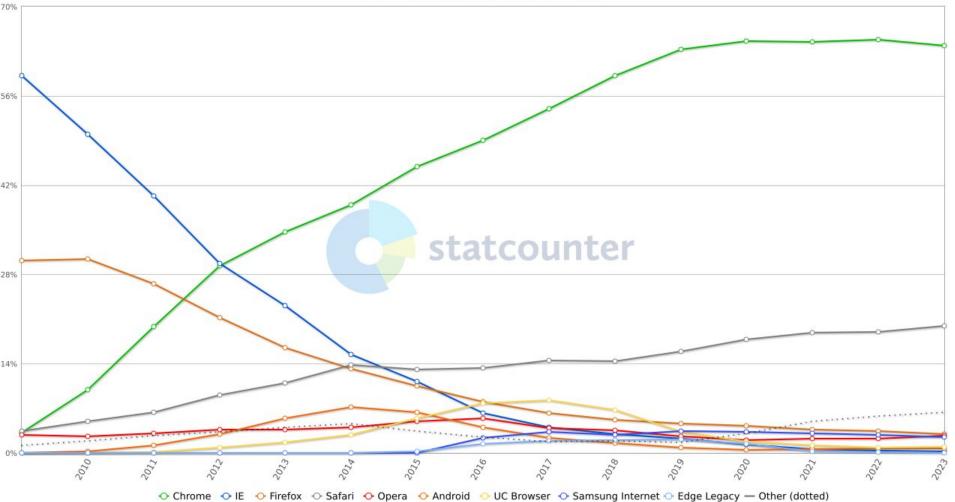
📒 .onion

IPv4

24h 90d 1y **7**y

Lo 5277 Hi 17494 Avg 11331 Last 16878 nodes

#### StatCounter Global Stats Browser Market Share Worldwide from 2009 - 2023





I'm a Bitcoin Core maximalist, because I don't trust any persons or groups to be able to replicate Core software 100% correctly. It doesn't matter how good you are as a dev.

Maybe in 20 years AI will be advanced enough to change this. But until then, Core all the way.

## 🐉 Hugo Nguyen @hugohanoi · Nov 2, 2022

Replying to @hugohanoi

Another reason to stick to Bitcoin Core for consensus: consensus is so hard (and 10x more critical for a monetary base protocol), even Core must honor its past selves!

twitter.com/hugohanoi/stat...

12:37 PM · Nov 2, 2022



That's because unlike most other software and protocols we know, in Bitcoin the implementation \_is\_ the spec.

Not just any spec, but the soul of a live, 14-year running network that millions of people depend on. So we have to make do of what we have. Improvise.

11:54 PM · Nov 1, 2022



The total word count of the W3C specification catalogue is 114 million words at the time of writing. If you added the combined word counts of the C11, C++17, UEFI, USB 3.2, and POSIX specifications, all 8,754 published RFCs, and the combined word counts of everything on Wikipedia's list of longest novels, you would be 12 million words short of the W3C specifications.<sup>2</sup>

I conclude that **it is impossible to build a new web browser**. The complexity of the web is *obscene*. The creation of a new web browser would be comparable in effort to the Apollo program or the Manhattan project.

It is impossible to:

- Implement the web correctly
- Implement the web securely
- Implement the web at all

if Bitcoin grows to be *defined* by a million words, we won't own Bitcoin anymore

## New Ideas in Tech

Proof of<br/>ConceptProtocolReference<br/>Implementation

Production Implementations (alpha, beta, 1.0, ...) various competing vendors, mostly interoperable

## New Ideas in Tech

## TCP/IP DNS WWW SMTP H264 GPT/LLM BitTorrent JS OpenGL SQL

## Bitcoin 2007–2010

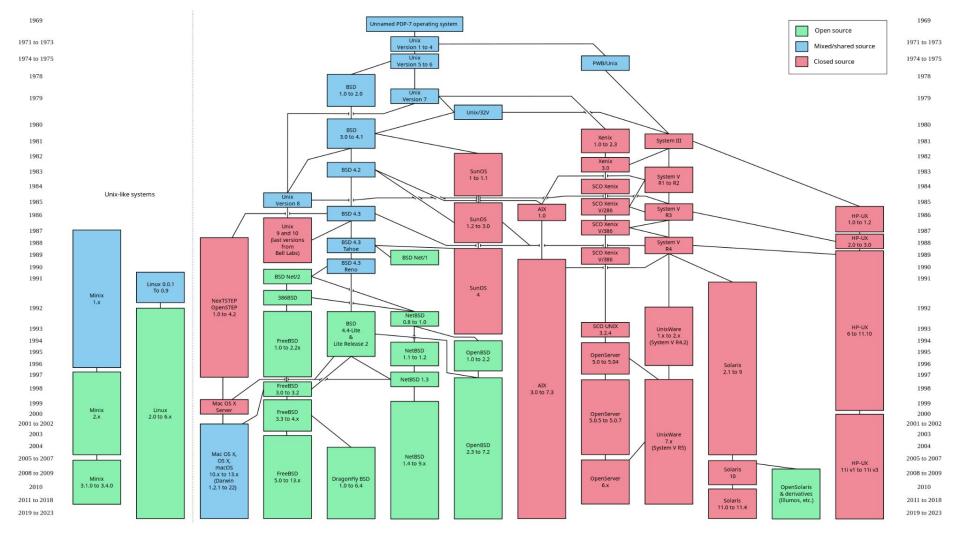
Whitepaper +  $0.1.0 \sim 0.3.19 = refined PoC$ ,

implied future ref and spec that never came

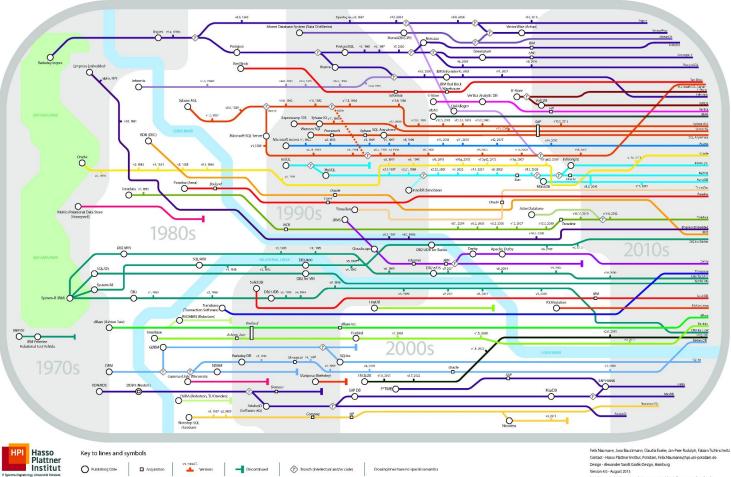
# Bitcoin [Core] 2011–now

Ongoing attempts to document and reimplement

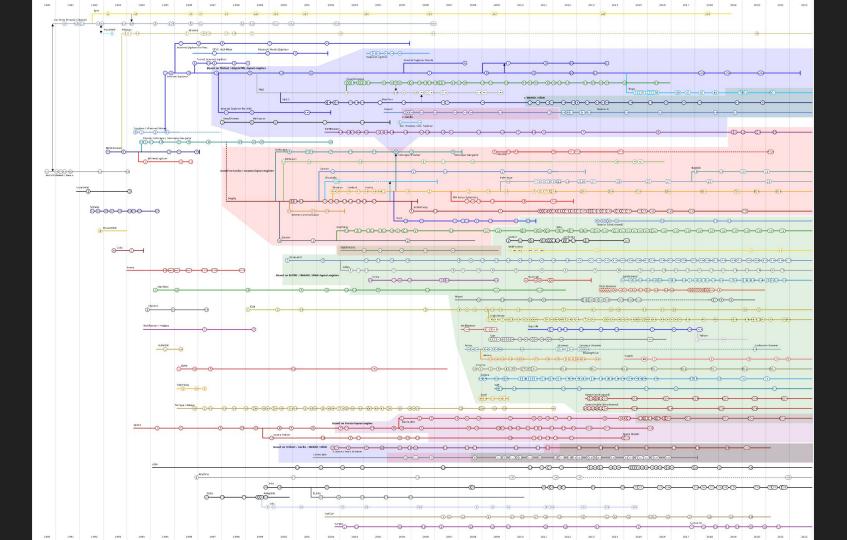
## Open-Source Forks != Bitcoin Forks

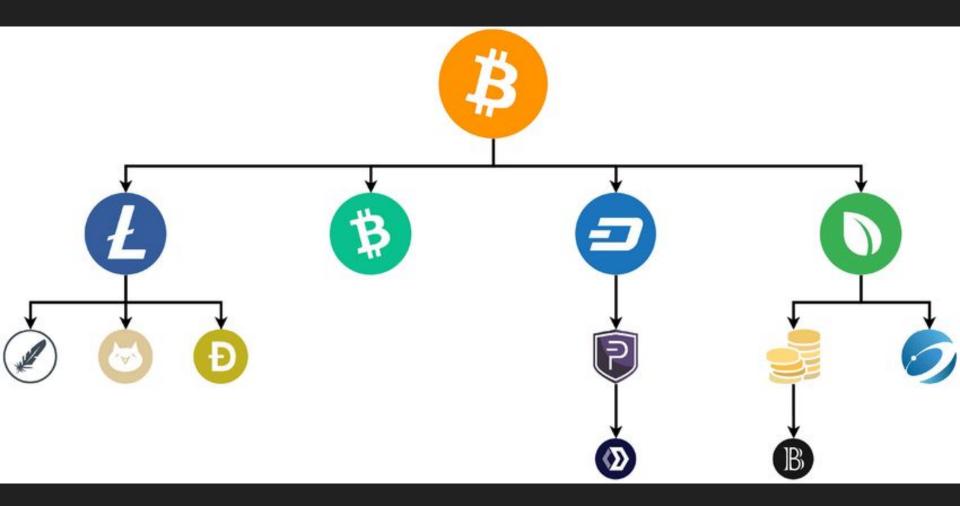


### Genealogy of Relational Database Management Systems

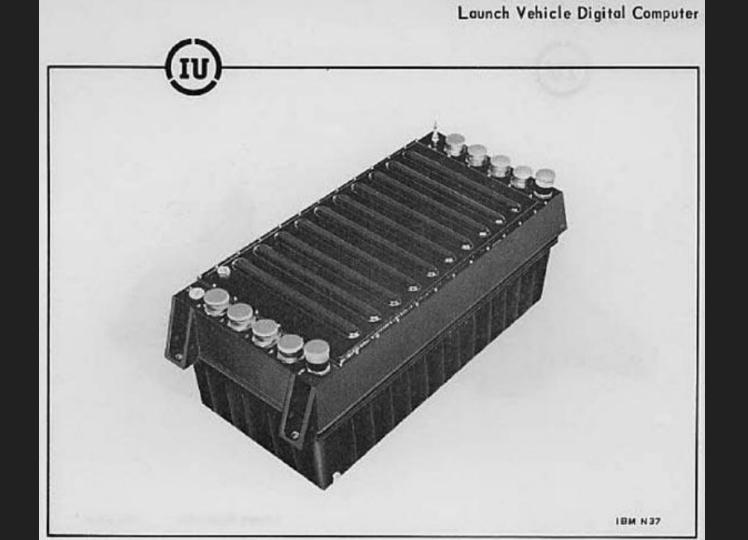


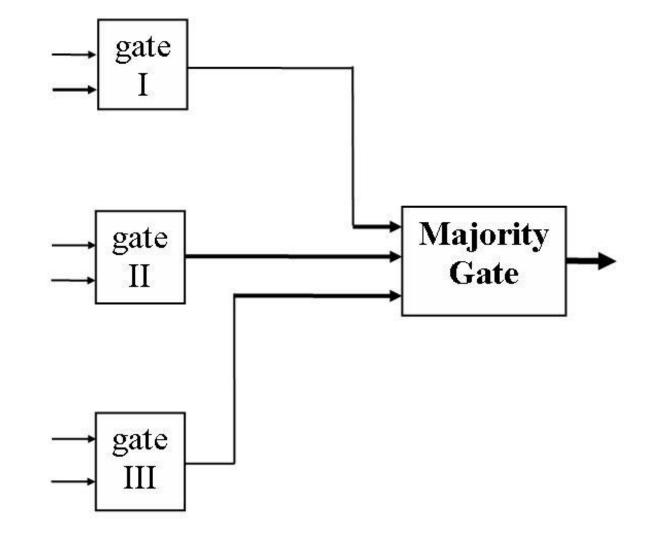
http://www.hpl.uni-potsdam.de/naumann/projekte/rdbms\_genealogy.html





## Software Reliability





## An Attack Surface Metric Suitable for Heterogeneous Redundant System with the Voting Mechanism

### Liqun Wang, Zheng Zhang, Weichao Li, Zhenwu Liu and Hao Liu

State key Laboratory of Mathematical Engineering and Advanced Computing, MEAC, Zhengzhou, Henan, 450001, China

\*Corresponding author's e-mail: standoutking@126.com

Abstract. With the development of cyberspace security "asymmetry in attack and defense", heterogeneous redundancy design is gradually being widely used. Heterogeneous redundancy design can enhance the robustness and security of the system through the differentiation of heterogeneous components. But the complex structural design of the system makes it difficult to apply the existing attack surface metric to measure the security of heterogeneous redundant system. In this paper, based on the attack surface metric proposed by Manadhata, we provide a new attack surface metric suitable for heterogeneous redundant system with voting mechanism. In this new metric, we define a new notion named attack surface arbitration, and also propose a new method for quantifying result of arbitration. The experiment result shows that the new attack surface metric can properly describe the attack surface of a heterogeneous redundant system with voting mechanism, which changes with the adjustment of voting algorithm.





Search...

Help | Advanced

### **Computer Science > Logic in Computer Science**

[Submitted on 5 Jul 2023]

## Towards a Formal Verification of the Lightning Network with TLA+

### Matthias Grundmann, Hannes Hartenstein

Payment channel networks are an approach to improve the scalability of blockchain-based cryptocurrencies. Because payment channel networks are used for transfer of financial value, their security in the presence of adversarial participants should be verified formally. We formalize the protocol of the Lightning Network, a payment channel network built for Bitcoin, and show that the protocol fulfills the expected security properties. As the state space of a specification consisting of multiple participants is too large for model checking, we formalize intermediate specifications and use a chain of refinements to validate the security properties where each refinement is justified either by model checking or by a pen-and-paper proof.

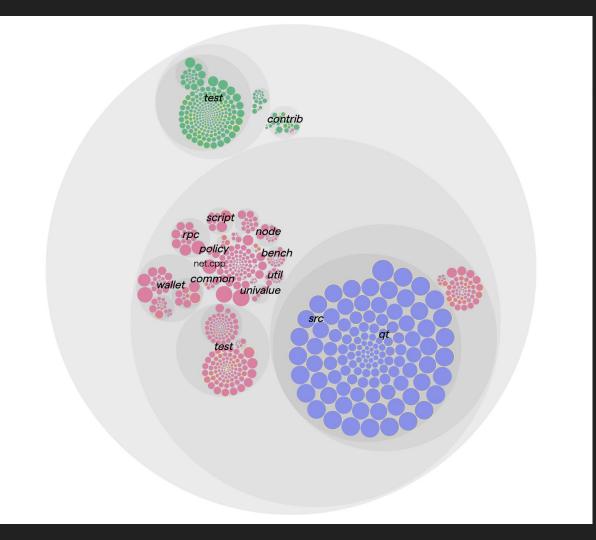
Subjects: Logic in Computer Science (c: Computing (cs.DC) Cite as: arXiv:2307.02342 [cs.LO] (or arXiv:2307.02342v1 [cs.LO] https://doi.org/10.48550/arXi

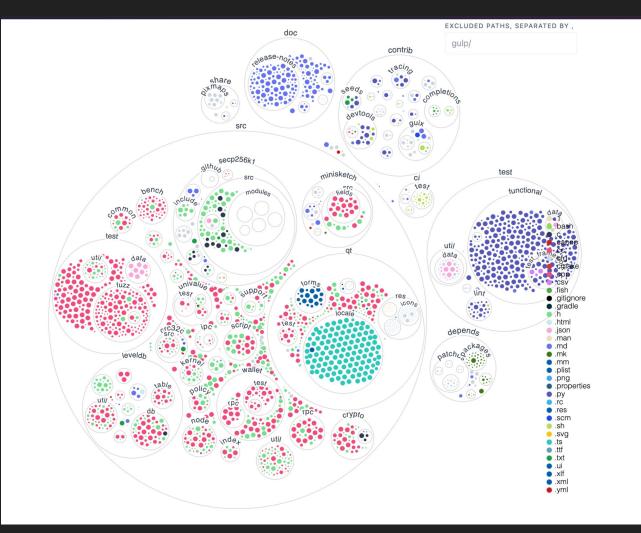
### Submission history

From: Matthias Grundmann [view emal, [v1] Wed, 5 Jul 2023 14:56:03 UTC (237 KB)

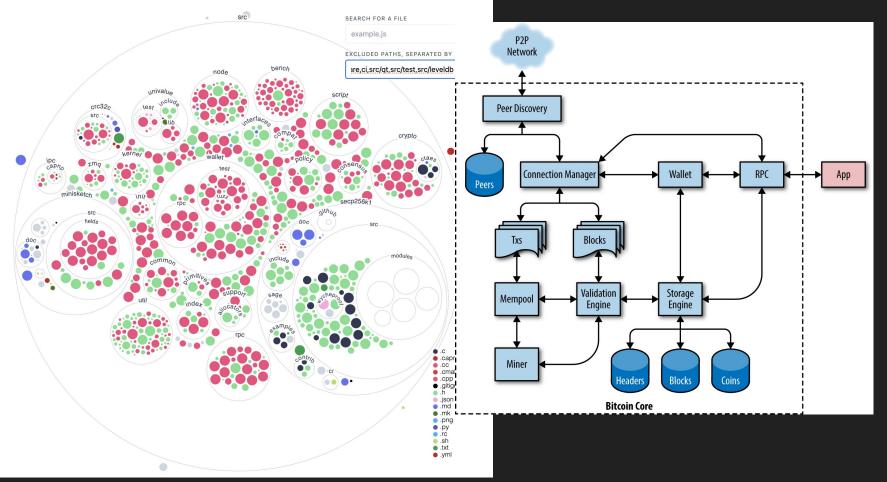
→ grep -li 'formal verification' \*
2016-07-09.log
2016-07-11.log
2021-07-16.log

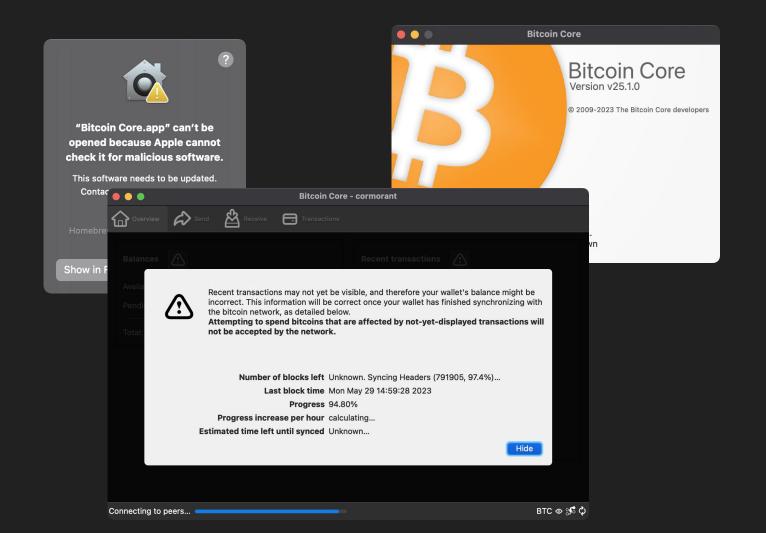
Core Code





### bitcoin/bitcoin





# **Core Dev Comms**

## IRC: quiet, weekly meetings (50MB)

## Mailing List: low volume (30MB)

Github: comments, PRs, issues (2.5GB)

# **Core on Github**

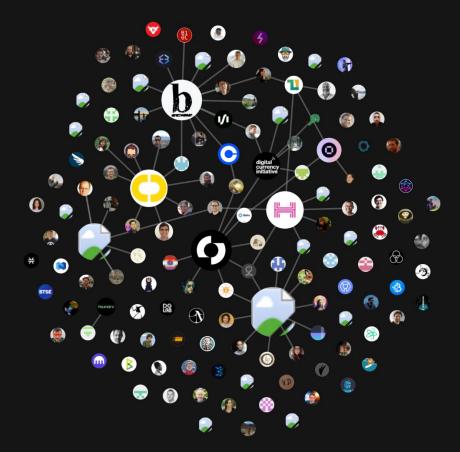
Centralized, proprietary, closed-source, vulnerable

Active developers somewhat aware of the problem

Efforts to archive comms and set up a Gitlab mirror

# **Developer Funding**

### Who Funds Bitcoin Development



### Who Funds Bitcoin Development



### Brink

Brink exists to strengthen the Bitcoin protocol and network through fundamental research and development, and to support the Bitcoin developer community through funding, education, and mentoring.

#### Supports

5

Martin Zumsande

BRINK FELLOWSHIP 2022

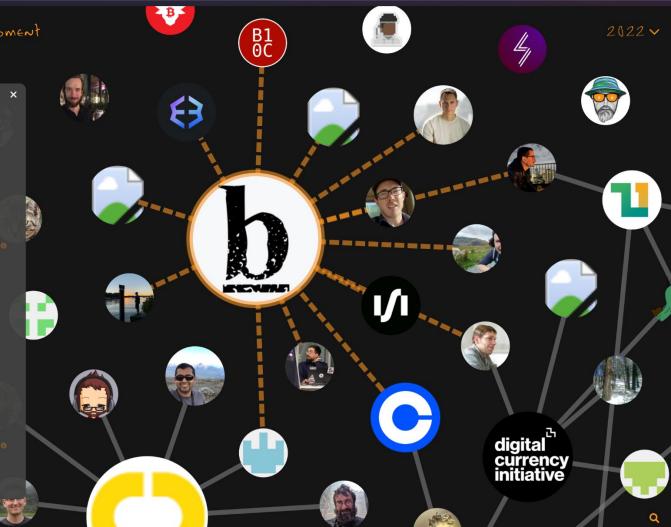
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- Vincenzo Palazzo GRANT 2022 0
- Michael Ford GRANT 2022 0
- Tadge Dryja PART-TIME GRANT 2022 0
- Stphnvlstk GRANT 2022 0

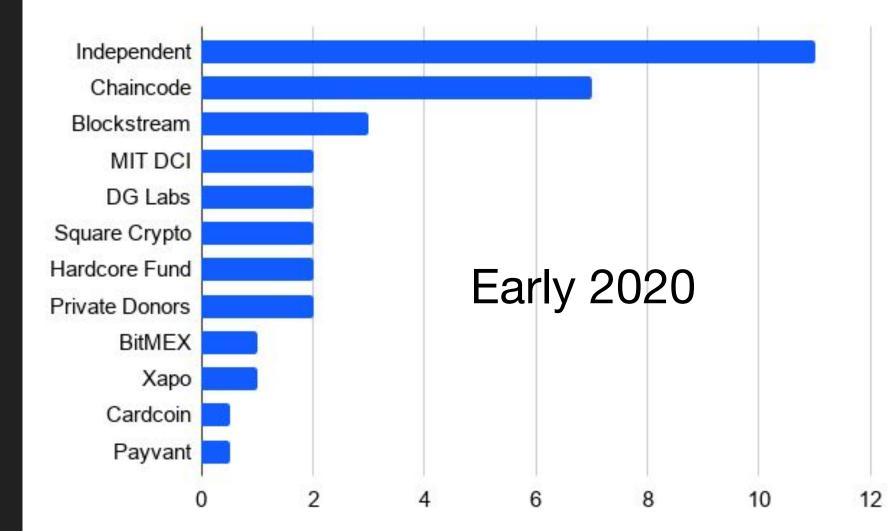
#### **Funding Sources**

STX GRANT \$450k 2021-2023

Silvergate GRANT \$25K QTLY Bank since 2022

Exodus GRANT \$350k 2022 0





### Home / Bitcoin Grants

### **Bitcoin Grants**

This page is an attempt to track all the Bitcoin grants. This is a work in progress. Please send me details if I am missing a grant.

Q

### Grants

### Need to add Square Crypto grants from Jan-Mar 2021.

Grant Date	Grantor	Grantee	Project Information	GitHub/Source Code	Contribution	Amount
<u>2021/03</u>	<u>OKCoin</u>	Antoine Riard	<u>Why we may fail</u> <u>lightning</u>	ariard	Bitcoin and Lightning development	
<u>2021/03</u>	HRF	<u>Jesse Posner</u>	Discreet Log Contracts		DLC's and adapter signatures	\$25,000
<u>2021/03</u>	HRF	<u>Muun Wallet</u>	<u>Muun Wallet</u>	Bitcoin & Lightning wallet	making self- custody easier	\$25,000
<u>2021/03</u>	HRF	<u>Janine</u>	<u>This Month in Bitcoin</u> <u>Privacy</u>	<u>Enegnei</u>	Bitcoin privacy newsletter	\$10,000

### WORDS

### **WORDS** is a bastion of Bitcoin knowledge. Read **WORDS**.

Subscribe

### Twitter

WORDS

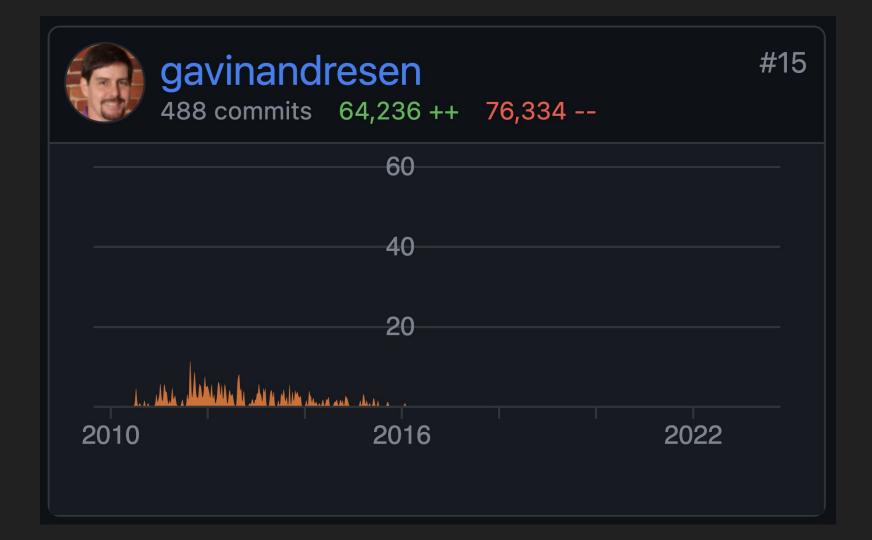
🖪 Telegram

🗘 GitHub

#### Support WORDS

🖾 Email

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# **Dev Leadership**

Satoshi (till 2011)

Gavin (till 2014)

LaanWJ (till 2023)

None (since February)

# Maintainers (Oct '23)

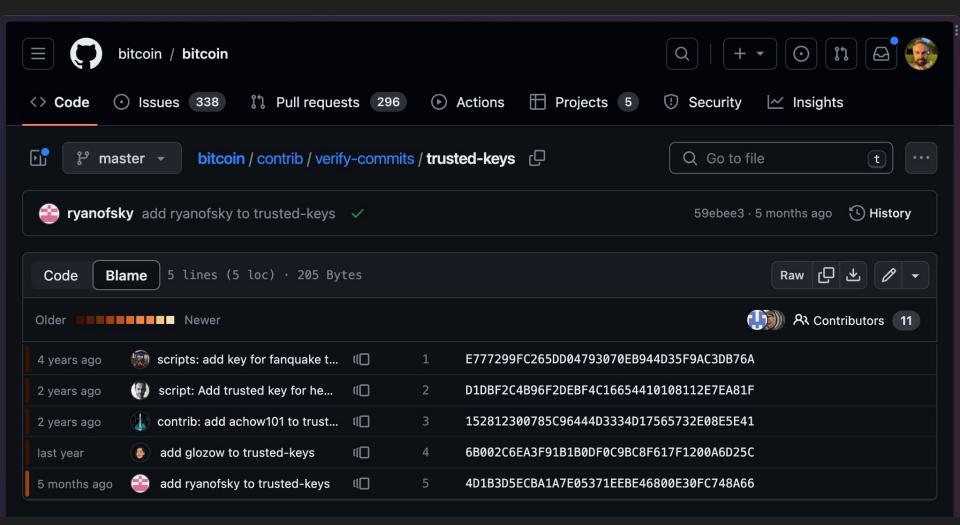
Michael Ford (since 2019)

Hennadii Stepanov (since 2021)

Andrew Chow (since 2021)

Gloria Zhao (since 2022)

Russell Yanofsky (since 2023)





Activity: 3206 Merit: 6002



Just writing some code



List of people who have had commit access to Bitcoin Core February 01, 2017, 10:19:06 PM Merited by DdmrDdmr (3), Husna QA (1), nullius (1)

I am creating this thread in response to the discussion occurring at https://bitcointalk.org/index.php? topic=1773558.msg17697805#msg17697805. This list will contain the names (or pseudonyms) of everyone who I can find evidence for ever having commit access to Bitcoin Core, the dates during which they had commit access, sources for all of this information, and reasoning for the access. Those who currently have commit access are in **bold**.

- Satoshi Nakamoto (satoshi, s\_nakamoto): 2009-01-03 2011-09-13<sup>[1]</sup> Creator, first Lead Maintainer
- Martti Malmi (Sirius, sirius\_m): 2009-08-30 2011-09-13<sup>[1][2]</sup> Creator of first SVN repo
- Laszlo (laszloh) 2010-08-04 2011-09-131<sup>[1]</sup> Original OSX Builds and support
- Gavin Andresen (gavinandresen): 2010-10-11 2016-05-02<sup>[3]</sup> Frequent contributor; later Lead Maintainer
- Chris Moore (dooglus): 2011-01-21 2011-03-31 Frequent contributor for some time; Still occasionally contributes
- Pieter Wuille (sipa): 2011-05-01 2022-07-07 Frequent contributor
- Jeff Garzik (jgarzik): 2011-05-06 July/Aug 2016<sup>[4]</sup> Frequent Contributor
- Wladimir J. van der Laan (laanwj, wumpus): 2011-06-05 present<sup>[5]</sup> Frequent contributor; later Lead Maintainer
- Nils Schneider (tcatm): 2011-09-19 5/31/12 Frequent contributor for some time
- Greg Maxwell (gmaxwell): 2012-02-11 2015-12-17 Frequent contributor; Gave up commit access due to toxicity and drama from the community
- Jonas Schnelli (jonasschnelli): 2015-11-13 2021-10-21<sup>[6]</sup> Frequent contributor; given access after becoming GUI Maintainer; Stepped down for personal reasons
- Marco Falke (marcofalke): 2016-04-13 present<sup>[7]</sup> Frequent Contributor; given access after becoming QA/Testing Maintainer
- Samuel Dobson (MeshCollider): 2018-12-06 2021-09-12<sup>[8]</sup> Frequent Contributor; given access after volunteering to be the wallet maintainer; Stepped down to focus on his PhD
- Michael Ford (fanquake): 2019-06-08 present<sup>[9]</sup> Frequent Contributor; given access after being nominated by several other frequent contributors and maintainers to become a maintainer.
- Hennadii Stepanov (hebasto): 2021-04-19 present Frequent Contributor; given access after volunteering to help maintain the GUI
- Andrew Chow (achow101): 2021-12-20 present<sup>[10]</sup> Frequent Contributor; given access after volunteering to be the wallet maintainer.
- Gloria Zhao (glozow): 2022-07-07 presentt<sup>[11]</sup> Frequent contributor, given access after being nominated by several frequent contributors and maintainers to become a maintainer.



Neutral Citation Number: [2023] EWCA Civ 83

Case No: CA-2022-001050 CA-2022-001062 CA-2022-002184

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL (CIVIL DIVISION) ON APPEAL FROM HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE BUSINESS AND PROPERTY COURTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES BUSINESS LIST (ChD) Mrs Justice Falk [2022] EWHC 667 (Ch) BL-2021-000313

Royal Courts of Justice Strand, London, WC2A 2LL

Date: 03/02/2023

Before :

#### LORD JUSTICE LEWISON LORD JUSTICE POPPLEWELL and LORD JUSTICE BIRSS

Between :

Tulip Trading Limited (a Seychelles company)

Appellant/ Claimant

- and -(2) Wladimir Jasper van der Laan (3) Jonas Schnelli (4) Pieter Wuille (5) Marco Patrick Falke (6) Samuel Dobson (7) Michael Rohan Ford (8) Cory Fields (9) George Michael Dombrowski (10) Matthew Gregory Corallo (11) Peter Todd (12) Gregory Fulton Maxwell (14) Roger Ver (15) Amaury Schet (16) Jason Bradley Cox

Respondents / Defendants

(1) Bitcoin Association for BSV (a Swiss verein) (13) Eric Lombrozo

- and -(2) Wladimir Jasper van der Laan (3) Jonas Schnelli (4) Pieter Wuille (5) Marco Patrick Falke (6) Samuel Dobson (7) Michael Rohan Ford (8) Cory Fields (9) George Michael Dombrowski (10) Matthew Gregory Corallo (11) Peter Todd (12) Gregory Fulton Maxwell (14) Roger Ver (15) Amaury Séchet (16) Jason Bradley Cox

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> 🖿 24.1rc2	TheCharlatan	Add TheCharlatan 25.0 codesigned	5 months ago
> <b>1</b> 24.1rc3	achow101	achow101 25.0 all binary guix attestation	5 months ago
> 24.2rc1	benthecarman	Add attestations by benthecarman for 25.0 all	5 months ago
CoinForensics	Cfields	cfields attestations for v25.0 all	5 months ago
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> achow101	glozow	glozow v25.0 all	5 months ago
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> 🖿 svanstaa	willcl-ark	Add attestations by willcl-ark for 25.0 codesigned	5 months ago
Documentation • Share feedback	🖿 willyko	Added willyko all sigs	5 months ago

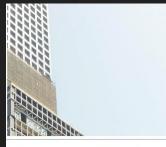
# Website

## bitcoincore.org — healthy, basic

## bitcoin.org — original, stalled (Cøbra)

bitcoin.com – compromised

# Voices of Reason



### Bitcoin: A Work in Progress

Technical innovations from the trenches

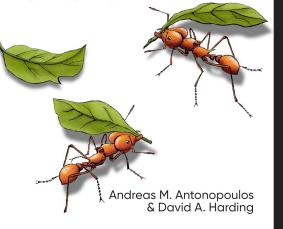




### O'REILLY<sup>®</sup>

## Mastering Bitcoin

Programming the Open Blockchain



#### JAMESON LOPP

Third Edition

### ARTICLES

When he can't compress a complex concept into a few tweats, Jameson writes lengthy technical (and sometimes philosophical) articles to communicate information and opinions he has gathered while building crypto asset infrastructure.

If you wish to receive an email when I publish an article, you can subscribe here: If you use an RSS reader, you can add my personal blog's RSS feed.

#### Hal Finney was not Satoshi Nakamoto

A compilation of evidence that Hal could not have been the creator of Bitcoin. 21 October 2023 | Cypherpunk Cogitations

#### **Hunting the Real Bitcoin Network Hashrate**

An exploration of hashrate estimate algorithms with the goal of finding a more accurate estimate.

1 October 2023 | Cypherpunk Cogitations

#### Introduction to Spiderchain

A review of the latest layer 2 protocol proposed for creating a 2-way permissionless pegged sidechain.

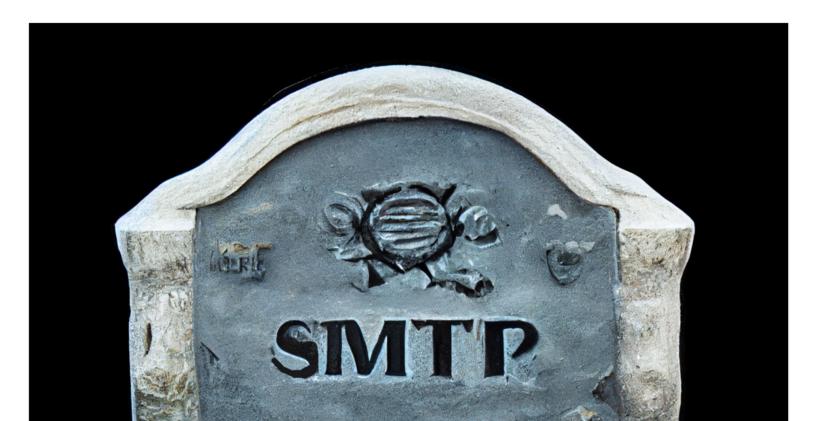
18 September 2023 | Cypherpunk Cogitations

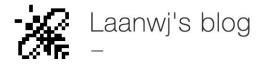
#### **Prime Trust and Fortress Trust Recap**

What went wrong with these custodians? How can you avoid similar situations? 13 September 2023 | Casa Blog NOV 4, 2022 • 16 MIN READ • HISTORY

## The Death of Decentralized Email

A historical review of the multi-decade centralization and capture of the email protocol.





Blog About

## The widening gyre

Recent events have made me reflect on a few things in my life I was already thinking about for a while. Also, responses on social media have made me realize that people have *strange* expectations from me, and what my role in the Bitcoin Core project is.

### growth

Bitcoin has grown a lot since I started contributing to it in 2011. Some arrangements that were acceptable for a small scale FOSS project are no longer so for one runing a 600 billion dollar system. Market cap is famously deceptive, but my point is not about specific numbers here.

One thing is clear: this is a serious project now, and we need to start taking decentralization seriously.

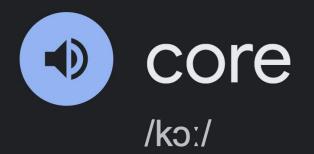
# Takeaways

## Bitcoin [Core] is still *really* a work in progress

Concept proven, need spec + ref + prod

Feature creep vs refinement

## Definitions from Oxford Languages · Learn more



## Origin

Middle English: of unknown origin.

