

Charlie Thompson

charlie_thompson@protonmail.com · San Francisco, CA · charliethompson.lol · contextengine.sh

SUMMARY

Researcher and engineer building open, public-interest infrastructure for collective decision-making. Creator of Context Engine, an open-source (MPL-2.0) platform for AI-assisted deliberation in large groups. Longtime RadicalxChange community contributor on plural and quadratic governance; Cornell CS (cryptography, NLP, AI).

FOCUS AREAS

- AI-assisted deliberation at scale: finding consensus while preserving viewpoint pluralism and preference intensity.
- Representation and fidelity: evaluating whether AI agents and AI syntheses faithfully represent the people they speak for.
- Public-interest cryptography: digital voting, private proofs, proof-of-humanity, and verifiable agreements.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Researcher & Engineer — Context Engine

2023 – Present

- Created Context Engine, an open-source (MPL-2.0) platform for structured deliberation in large groups — public/private surveys and discussions, response clustering, and AI-assisted synthesis for humans and AI agents; developed full-time since 2023 and open-sourced in 2026 (3,500+ commits, 58 tagged releases).
- Deployed at community deliberation events — including structured watch parties for the [2025 Weyl-Yarvin debate](#), at hundreds to low thousands of concurrent participants — with prototypes tested in the RadicalxChange community.
- Ran “[Agent Village Wrapped](#)” at Edge Esmeralda 2026, an early public evaluation of how faithfully personal AI agents represent their principals, scoring fidelity and calibration against participants’ own answers.
- Curated and published an open AI-discourse corpus — question sets spanning AI safety, governance, and policy — with tooling for comparing human and model positions.
- Built for non-technical participants: voice input, plain-language flows, and passkey onboarding that hides key management; cryptography for privacy and eligibility — selective encryption, participant-controlled access to sensitive responses, and non-transferable group credentials.
- Selected for Protocol Labs’ [d/acc Residency at Edge City Patagonia](#) (2025); on the proposed program for a demo session at [EDDY 2026](#) (European Digital Democracy conference, Vienna); presented “[Social Infrastructure for AI on Ethereum](#)” at [Zuzalu AIxCrypto](#) (2023).

Security Research — Independent

2025

- Identified and responsibly disclosed a cryptographic protocol vulnerability; recognized in the [QRL Bug Bounty Hall of Fame](#).

Solidity Developer — The Quantum Resistant Ledger

2020

- Contributed to an Ethereum vault prototype using XMSS, a stateful hash-based post-quantum signature scheme.

Software Engineering Intern — Capital One

2020

- Worked on a Jenkins CI pipeline; received a full-time return offer.

Research Assistant to Glen Weyl

2019

- Research support on “[A Flexible Design for Funding Public Goods](#)” (Buterin, Hitzig & Weyl), the quadratic-funding mechanism.
- Helped organize the inaugural RadicalxChange conference and connected Democracy Earth with RadicalxChange ahead of the Colorado State House quadratic-voting pilot.

Independent Research

2018

- Designed an early proof-of-human smart contract using natural-language (Winograd Schema) challenges resistant to AI automation.
- Published “[Quantum Computers Pose a Credible Threat to the Security of Bitcoin](#)”, an analysis of quantum risk to Bitcoin and ECDSA.

SKILLS

Software: TypeScript/JavaScript, React, Node.js, Cloudflare Workers, Solidity, Foundry · **AI:** Anthropic, OpenAI, and OpenRouter APIs; multi-provider orchestration; AI-assisted analysis · **Cryptography:** passkeys, selective encryption, soulbound credentials, Arweave, XMSS

EDUCATION

Cornell University — B.A., Computer Science, 2021 · Focus: Cryptography, Natural Language Processing, AI