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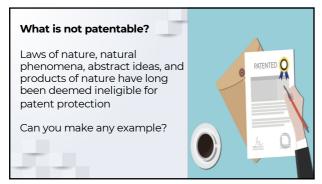
OUTLINE

- 1. Patent law
- 2. Application of patent law to biology
- 3. Can we patent human life?

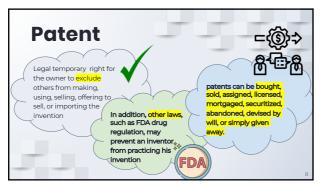




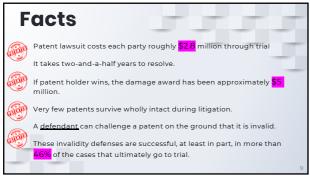




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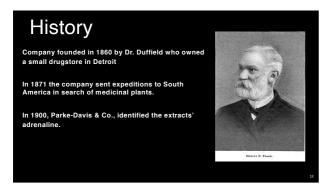


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2. THE APPLICATION OF PATENT LAW TO BIOLOGY







Jokichi Takamine

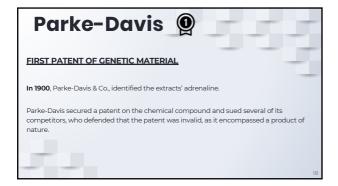
successfully isolated and purified the hormone from the adrenal glands of sheep and oxen

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Like Bayer with heroin, before the criminalization of cocaine, the drug was sold by Parke-Davis in various forms, including cigarettes, powder, and even a cocaine mixture that could be injected directly into the user's veins with the included needle.

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The company promised that its cocaine products would "supply the place of food, make the coward brave, the silent eloquent and ... render the sufferer insensitive to pain."





Judge Hand's Decision

adrenaline was isolated and purified from its natural surroundings

It was not a product of nature

it became for every practical purpose a new thing commercially and therapeutically."

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After Parke-Davis patent, the researchers began to patent their genetic materials and nucleotide derivatives, some of them naturally occuring

Five ground-breaking events during the 70's and 80's

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A. Diamond V. Chakrabarty

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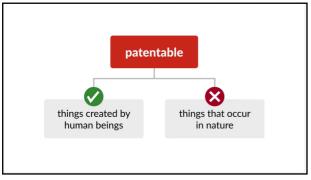
Who is Chakrabarty?



Prof. Chakrabarty of University of Illinois created a bacterium (Pseudomonas) capable of breaking down crude oil, which he proposed to use in treating oil spills.



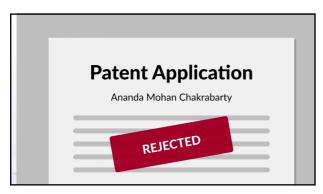




Chakrabarty: Claims

- How he produced the bacterium
- The bacterial species itself

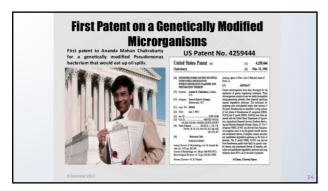
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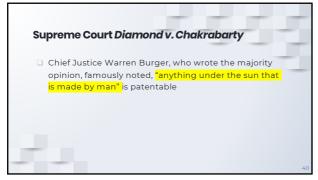


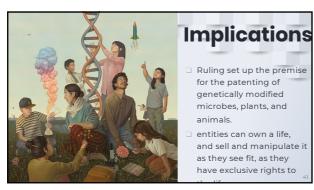
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May a live, man-made microorganism be patented?









B. Genentech

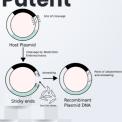


Genentech, one of the world's first "biotech" companies IPO offered one million shares at \$35 per share.

The first licensed drug generated using recombinant DNA technology was human insulin, developed by Genentech

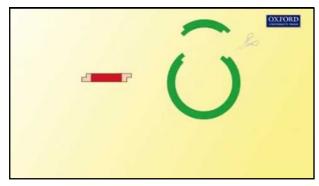
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C. Recombinant DNA Patent

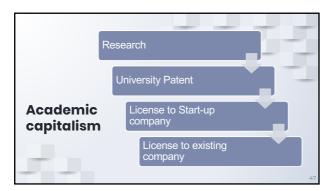


Recombinant DNA patent—based on an invention by Herbert W. Boyer and Stanley Cohen.

Stanford University applied for a US patent on recombinant DNA in 1974, listing the inventors as Boyer and Cohen and this patent was awarded in 1980.









First Human Gene Patent

In 1982, researchers at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) patented the Gene for Chorionic Somatomammotropin (important in fetal growth and development, also had numerous therapeutic benefits).

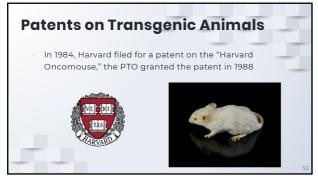
Previously the gene's protein product was available only through painstaking extraction from cadavers — obviously limiting the quantity that could be produced but also widely believed to be a safety risk

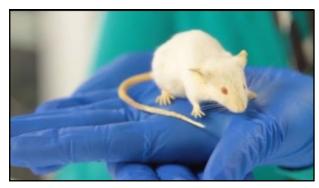
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FIRST GENE PATENT WAR Professor Seeburg stole several clones used by UCSF and gave them to Genentech A few months later Genentech announced it had inserted human genes into harmless germs and getting them to produce human growth hormone. The University sued Genentech







Human Genome Project Massive international effort to map the entire sequence of of the human genome.

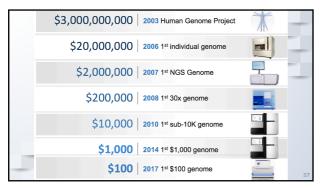
3.2 billion DNA base pairs and 22,300 protein-coding genes

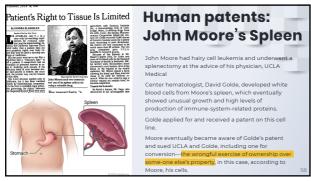
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Leading researchers recommended that all human DNA sequences be placed in the public domain (Collins of the National Institutes of Health)

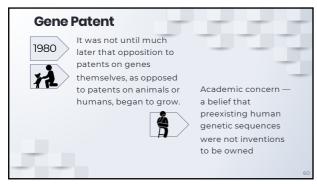
Biotech industry, however, argued that patents on genes should be encouraged (Venter of Celera Genomics)













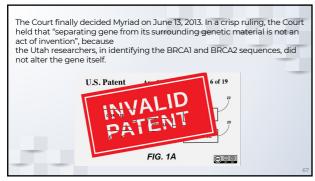
















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