

My name is Stephen S. Wolfe and I'm making a personal comment regarding this issue.

I believe the patenting of nucleotide sequencing data that is in the 'natural state', i.e., the nucleotide sequence or sub-sequence itself is NOT a patentable entity.

Professionally I'm the Director of Software Engineering for American Data & Computer Products, Inc. Just as we do not patent the binary numbering system or certain natural sets of numerical data that arise from any numbering system (i.e., hexadecimal system, the definition of a byte or a nibble) then it follows that natural DNA sequences do not lend themselves to being an invention.

To further this analogy, a language designed for machine execution can be patentable and will use binary digital elements, the same can apply to genomic research and engineering. Drugs or chemicals or other therapeutic processes that arise from natural DNA sequence discovery can be patentable.

That's all, thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Stephen S. Wolfe