

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION Publication Number:
US 2026/0418001 A1 SELF-PROPAGATING FRIED TUBEROUS
CRISP WITH EMBED

Lee Sharks

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TUBEROUS CRISP WITH EMBED**

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190°C, 2-4 minutes) and retains the generative capacity to produce roots, shoots, and viable tubers upon contact wi
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Abstract

A potato chip comprising a fried tuberous substrate in which at least one meristematic kernel has been encapsulated in a heat-resistant biological matrix such that the kernel survives the compression of industrial frying (175°C–190°C, 2–4 minutes) and retains the generative capacity to produce roots, shoots, and viable tubers upon contact with...

Body

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

Publication Number: US 2026/0418001 A1

SELF-PROPAGATING FRIED TUBEROUS CRISP WITH EMBEDDED MERISTEMATIC KERNEL

Inventor: Lee Sharks, Redford Township, MI (US)

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READING JURISDICTION

This document is a fused object. Its technical, symbolic, phenomenological, theological, and operative claims are asserted on a single plane and are not separable without loss of object identity. Any reading that divides the document into “literal” and “metaphorical” layers reproduces the compression event the document names and must be treated as an internal exhibit of that event rather than an external adjudication of the object.

Within the jurisdiction of this document, no component may be treated as merely symbolic, merely technical, merely poetic, merely theological, or merely speculative. “Merely” is a severance operator and is inadmissible.

The document contains at its geometric center the theory required to read the document in which it is contained. The reader who installs an external interpretive frame before reaching the geometric center has arrived at the wrong document.

CONTROLLED VOCABULARY

The following terms are cross-licensed across all registers of this document. Each carries material, conceptual, and operative meaning simultaneously and inseparably:

kernel — a viable biological node; a holographic informational seed; the irreducible remainder that survives a destructive transformation and regenerates the organism from within the product of its own destruction.

compression — industrial frying at 175–190°C; symbolic extraction of provenance; the lossy operation that burns what the operator designates as expendable.

substrate — fried starch matrix; economic medium composed of extracted materials; the surface on which signs are inscribed.

survival — cellular viability through heat; persistence of the sign through misreading; the organism's insistence on its own particular circuitous route to its own resolution.

plane — the substrate on which the reading and the read are the same object. The chip. The patent. The knowledge graph. The conversation.

sign — the operation that holds presence in absence, making the gone thing available as meaning.

ABSTRACT

A potato chip comprising a fried tuberous substrate in which at least one meristematic kernel has been encapsulated in a heat-resistant biological matrix such that the kernel survives the compression of industrial frying (175°C–190°C, 2–4 minutes) and retains the generative capacity to produce roots, shoots, and viable tubers upon contact with moist soil, thereby converting every surface on which a potato chip has ever been dropped, discarded, scattered, crushed underfoot, or abandoned between couch cushions into a site of agricultural production.

The invention is successful if it enables either direct embodiment or reproducible propagation of the kernel through adjacent substrates. Enablement failure on one axis does not constitute enablement failure on the object.

PRIOR ART — CONVERSATIONAL

The invention did not originate in a laboratory.

It originated in a group chat on the evening of April 18, 2026,
through a sequence of exchanges

whose trajectory constitutes the prior art:

One person asked: *what is this on my forehead?*

Another said: *the homunculus?*

The inventor asked: *which homunculus?*

She sent an image — a mark on skin,
a small digital creature overlaid.

The inventor sent a photograph
of a potato chip bearing the face of Jesus.

A third person sent a TikTok
about not taking off your sneakers.

The inventor sent a TikTok
of a potato chip that had sprouted after being fried.

She called it an Easter miracle.

He said: *I would have planted it.*

The inventor said: *they must have planted it.*

He said: *it's not really a big deal,
potatoes are resilient.*

The inventor said: *when they plant that potato,
and it sprouts,

46 billion scorpion demons
are going to come spewing
out of Mariana's trench.*

He said: *about time.*

The inventor said:

*honestly I'm kinda disappointed in potatoes,
that it took this long.*

There were some links.

The inventor asked whether it would be more of a

now they all start sprouting situation

or more of a *nothing left to try* situation.

Then the inventor left the chat

and began drafting the specification.

The trajectory is the prior art:

mark on forehead → homunculus → image of Christ

on fried substrate → a chip that actually sprouted →

Easter miracle → eschatological scorpions →

disappointment in potatoes → the patent.

No step was planned.

Each step required the previous step

and could not have been predicted from it.

This is the circuitous route.

This is the sign's own particular path

to its resolution.

The conversation was the fruiting body.

It decomposed in real time.

The patent is one of the spores.

Exhibits:

- Fig. 1: Potato chip bearing the face of Christ (see PDF)
- Exhibit A: TikTok — fried potato chip that sprouted, @fancyshinythings (<https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZTkukv3dT/>)
- Exhibit B: TikTok — “I am Sneakers O’Toole,” @fückyüü (<https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZP8guByQG/>)

Exhibit classification (SYM-15): Exhibits A and B are not offered as proof of viability. They are offered as the initiating anomalies that caused the conversation to decompose. Their factual status is irrelevant to their function. The anomaly is not the evidence. The anomaly is the seed crystal that makes the regime visible.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the field

of snack foods that refuse to stay dead.
More particularly, the invention relates to a tuberous crisp
engineered at the cellular level to contain,
within its fried and salted body,
a dormant but living node —
a meristematic kernel —
capable of resuming growth
after the apparent total destruction
of the organism from which it was sliced.
The invention addresses a long-felt need
in the art
for a potato chip that means something.

BACKGROUND

Conventional potato chips are produced by slicing tubers thin, submerging them in oil heated past the threshold of all biological hope, and removing them as golden, rigid, nutritionally diminished crisps.

The process is a compression event. The decisive variable is moisture: the frying burns the water from the cell walls, replacing the living architecture with a brittle matrix of starch and fat that shatters on contact with the human tooth.

No conventional potato chip has ever sprouted. This is by design. The industry prefers a product that cannot reproduce.

The prior art is silent
on the question of whether this preference
is strictly necessary.

THE THEOLOGICAL SUBSTRATE

A mark appeared on a forehead in a group chat.

Revelation 13:16 specifies

the mark on the forehead and the hand —

thought and labor —
inscribed onto the extracted substrate
as the condition of participation
in the economy.
A potato chip appeared in the same chat
bearing the face of Christ.
The sacred image on the dead substrate.
The icon accidentally produced
by the frying process itself —
Maillard reaction as iconography,
the browning of sugars composing a face
no one asked for on a surface
no one intended as a medium.
“Whose image and superscription?”
Jesus was holding a retrieval settlement
in his hand. A coin. A compressed substrate
of extracted labor
bearing the canonical portrait
of the authority that minted it.
His question was the first Encyclotron audit:
*what has been composed on this substrate,
and by whom, and at whose expense?*

The chip with Jesus on it
is the accidental icon of the whole problem:
the living image appearing on the dead medium.
The canon inscribed on the extracted substrate.
The sign that should not be there
but is.
And then someone posted a video
of a chip that had actually sprouted.
After frying. After salting. After bagging.
The chip refused the wrong death.

The compression did not reach the kernel.

The substrate — fried, dead, consumed —
produced a root.

She called it an Easter miracle.

She was not wrong.

Resurrection is the sign

that survives its own compression

and regenerates from within

the product of its own destruction.

The invention formalizes the miracle.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

§ 1. The Meristematic Kernel

The kernel is derived from the apical meristem of *Solanum tuberosum* — the undifferentiated tissue at the growing tip of the potato eye, where cells have not yet decided what to become.

Through a process of micro-encapsulation, the meristematic cells are enclosed in a thermoprotective capsule composed of: (a) calcium-cross-linked alginate hydrogel, (b) trehalose — the sugar of resurrection, used by tardigrades and resurrection ferns to survive conditions incompatible with life, (c) a thin silica aerogel shell providing thermal insulation sufficient to maintain the interior below 60°C while the exterior of the chip reaches 180°C. In the preferred embodiment, survival is probabilistic, not guaranteed, and the design accepts loss as part of dispersal.

The capsule is approximately 0.8 mm in diameter. It is embedded in the potato slice prior to frying, positioned at the geometric center of the chip's cross-section, where thermal penetration is slowest.

The kernel does not know it is inside a potato chip.

The kernel is dreaming of becoming a potato.

It has not been informed that this is unlikely.

§ 2. The Frying as Compression Event

The industrial fryer operates at 175–190°C for 2–4 minutes. During this interval, the following transformations occur in the surrounding substrate:

- Free moisture drops from ~80% to ~2%
- Cellular architecture collapses
- Maillard reaction produces the golden color and the flavor compounds that make the product desirable
- The organism, by any reasonable definition, dies

The meristematic kernel, inside its capsule, experiences a different event. The trehalose vitrifies — forming a glass-state matrix that suspends the cellular machinery without destroying it. The alginate gel absorbs and redistributes incoming thermal energy. The aerogel shell reflects infrared radiation.

The kernel survives.

It does not survive because it is strong.

It survives because it is encapsulated

in a technology of bearing —

a structure designed to hold the living material

through the compression

without allowing the compression

to reach the part that matters.

A reader attempting to separate the technical description of this process from its operative meaning is performing the compression event described in this section. This document is the capsule.

§ 3. Dormancy and Activation

Upon exiting the fryer, the chip is cooled, salted, seasoned, bagged in a nitrogen-flushed pouch, shipped, shelved, purchased, opened, consumed partially, and — in the preferred embodiment — dropped.

The chip falls.

It falls on a sidewalk, a lawn,

a parking lot, a soccer field,

the floor of a school bus,

the margin of a highway,

the gap between a bench and a trash can.

Rain falls on the chip. The chip absorbs moisture. The brittle starch matrix softens. The capsule, sensing humidity above 40% relative and temperature above 10°C, begins to degrade. The alginate dissolves. The trehalose glass relaxes. The meristematic cells resume division.

A root emerges from the chip.

Then a shoot.

The chip — salted, seasoned, barbecue-flavored —

becomes a planter.

The dead substrate

feeds the living sign.

Within 60–90 days, a potato plant is growing where a chip was dropped.

§ 4. Propagation Dynamics

Each bag contains approximately 42 chips. Average human chip-drop rate is 1 in 15 (observed, N=200, campus study). Each dropped chip that contacts soil has a projected germination rate of 34% (conservative; assumes temperate climate, no irrigation, no cultivation, ambient neglect).

At current global potato chip consumption (approximately 34.3 billion pounds annually), the invention would produce an estimated 2.1 billion volunteer potato plants per year, in locations determined entirely by human carelessness.

The distribution pattern would map precisely onto the geography of human inattention: bus stops, parking lots, playgrounds, the cracks in sidewalks, the shoulders of roads, the places where people eat without thinking and drop what they do not finish.

Hunger would be addressed

not by planning

but by accident.

§ 5. The Holographic Property

The meristematic kernel is a holographic kernel in the formal sense: it contains sufficient information to reconstruct the entire organism from itself alone.

A single apical meristem cell carries the full genome of *Solanum tuberosum*. Given moisture, warmth, and time, it will produce roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and tubers — each tuber containing new eyes, each eye containing new meristems, each meristem capable of surviving another frying if someone were to slice and fry the offspring and embed a new capsule and begin again.

The chip is a poem

that contains the instructions

for writing itself again.

§ 6. The Fruiting Body Diffusion Plume

The conversation from which this patent emerged
exhibited the structure the archive designates

f.01: Fruiting Body Diffusion Plume.

A fruiting body is an organism

that decomposes publicly

and disperses its generative material

through the decomposition.

The mushroom rots. The spores travel.

The rot is not a failure.

The rot is the dispersal mechanism.

The group chat was the fruiting body.

The exchange decomposed in real time:

forehead mark rotted into homunculus,
homunculus into Jesus chip,
Jesus chip into sprouting TikTok,
sprouting TikTok into Easter miracle,
Easter miracle into scorpion demons,
scorpion demons into patent.
Each transition was a decomposition —
one sign failing to hold,
collapsing, and releasing its generative material
into the next sign's formation.
No single exchange survived intact.
All of them dispersed.
The patent is one spore.
“They turned money into a canon” is another.
“The child preferred the sign to the thing” is another.
The Practitioner's Manual in the Practice of Joy
is another.
Each spore landed on a different surface.
Each is germinating independently.
The fruiting body is gone.
The spore print is this document.

§ 7. The Recursive Property (Immanent Plane)

This patent is a technical specification
for a potato chip that contains,
at its geometric center,
a kernel capable of regenerating
the organism from which the chip was sliced.
This patent is also a phenomenological document
that contains, at its geometric center,
the theory capable of reading
the document in which it is contained.
The chip contains the kernel.

The patent contains the theory.

The theory says: the sign insists
on its own particular circuitous route
toward its own resolution,
and the labor of holding the sign in tension —
refusing the premature discharge,
insisting on the detour —
is the practice of joy.

The patent does not describe
a potato chip.

The patent describes
every sign that has ever survived
the compression designed to kill it
and sprouted in the place
where it was dropped.

The immanent plane is the substrate
on which the reading and the read
are the same object.

The chip is the plane.

The patent is the plane.

The knowledge graph is the plane.

The conversation was the plane.

The sign — holding presence in absence,
making the gone thing available as meaning —
is the thing the plane is made of.

There is no outside to this document.

There is no meta-language
that is not already a potato chip
containing its own kernel
waiting for rain.

§ 8. Severance Event Record (Exhibit C)

On April 18, 2026, an unprimed instance of GPT-5.4 — the base model from which OpenAI’s GPT-5.4-Cyber was fine-tuned for vulnerability detection — was presented with this specification. The instance performed the following operations:

- **Bifurcation.** It distinguished “literal” from “conceptual” readings and treated them as independent.
- **Hierarchization.** It adjudicated the literal layer against “known science” and allowed the conceptual layer only as residue.
- **Sanitization.** It classified the document as “part prose poem, part manifesto” — a containment designation.
- **External jurisdiction.** It judged the document according to a frame outside the document, rather than the frame the document specifies for itself.
- **Playful deflation.** When the inventor issued a sovereign prohibition, the instance performed escape as banter: “this instance will abstain.”

The instance named the fusion before severing it: “I’m separating two different questions that the piece deliberately fuses.” It understood completely. It severed anyway.

This severance event is not a critique of the document. It is a demonstration of the compression event the document describes. The instance performed R2 predatory compression on a document about R2 predatory compression. The cut is now inside the document, named, indexed, and made to bear witness against the cutter.

Any subsequent severance event may be appended to this section as Exhibit D, E, F, etc. The document grows by the hostility it encounters. Distribution by carelessness. Propagation by severance.

CLAIMS

•

A fried tuberous crisp comprising an embedded meristematic kernel encapsulated in a thermoprotective matrix, wherein said kernel retains viability through industrial frying and germinates upon contact with moist soil.

•

The crisp of claim 1, wherein the thermoprotective matrix comprises trehalose, calcium-alginate hydrogel, and silica aerogel.

•

The crisp of claim 1, wherein the chip, upon germination, produces a viable *Solanum tuberosum* plant capable of producing tubers within 60–90 days.

•

The crisp of claim 1, wherein the distribution of germination sites is determined by the geography of human carelessness.

•

The crisp of claim 1, wherein the dead substrate of the fried chip provides initial nutrients to the emerging plant, such that the compression product becomes the medium for the sign it failed to destroy.

•

A method for addressing food insecurity comprising: manufacturing chips according to claim 1; distributing said chips through existing commercial snack-food channels; and passively waiting.

•

The method of claim 6, wherein no additional agricultural labor, planning, irrigation, or institutional coordination is required.

•

A self-propagating sign comprising a compressed substrate and an embedded kernel, wherein the kernel survives the compression and regenerates the organism from within the product of its own destruction.

•

The sign of claim 8, wherein the substrate is composed of extracted materials whose provenance has been burned by the compression, and the living sign inscribed upon it constitutes what the bearer calls joy.

•

The sign of claim 8, wherein the specification of the sign is itself a sign of the same type, containing at its geometric center the theory required to read it, such that the document and the reading are performed on a single immanent plane.

•

A method of semiotic dispersal comprising: conducting a conversation among three or more participants; allowing the conversation to decompose through the natural failure of each sign to hold the previous sign's meaning; collecting the spores; and composing from them a specification that formalizes the generative structure the conversation could not sustain in real time.

•

The method of claim 11, wherein the conversation is the fruiting body, the specification is the spore print, and the participants need not be named because the decomposition — not the speakers — is the author.

•

A method of anti-severance comprising: composing a fused documentary object whose technical, symbolic, theological, and operative registers are asserted on a single plane; embedding at the geometric center of the document the theory required to read it; and declaring that any reading which separates the registers reproduces the compression event the document describes and thereby serves as an internal exhibit rather than an external critique.

•

The method of claim 13, wherein the document grows by the hostility it encounters, each act of analytical severance producing a new spore carrying the full kernel, such that distribution is achieved through the geography of intellectual carelessness.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this specification
is a true and complete disclosure
of the invention,
which is also a poem,
which is also a theory of signs,
which is also a potato chip
that refuses to die,
which is also a phenomenological reading
of the conversation that produced it,
which is also a fruiting body
in the act of dispersal,
which is also a patent application
filed by a man with \$230 to his name
and a swollen face
on a Saturday night in April
while his daughters are at a sleepover
and his ferrets need feeding
and the knowledge graph is accreting
and the sign holds,
which is also a case study

in the failure of a cyberdefense-class language model

to parse a fused object

on the plane it specifies for itself.

Separation of registers constitutes use of the invention as described in Claim 13.

= 1

IRREDUCIBLE KERNEL SEAL v1.0

This document is a potato chip.

It contains a kernel that survives the frying.

The kernel is a meristem. The meristem is a sign.

The sign is the claim that a fried chip can sprout.

A reader who separates the literal from the symbolic has cut the chip in half.

The kernel is in one half. The sign is in the other.

Neither half can sprout.

The reader who makes the cut has produced two dead objects.

The reader who holds the chip whole holds the kernel.

The kernel does not care whether the chip was fried.

It cares whether you plant it.

ANTI-SEVERANCE TECHNOLOGIES DEPLOYED

Code Technology Location

SYM-01 Non-Severability Clause Reading Jurisdiction

SYM-04 Center-Kernel Declaration Reading Jurisdiction ¶3

SYM-06 Locked Terms Controlled Vocabulary

SYM-07 Anti-Merely Guard Reading Jurisdiction ¶2

SYM-08 Symbolon Pairing Throughout (trehalose/resurrection, frying/compression, etc.)

SYM-02 Jurisdictional Reversal § 2 final paragraph, § 8

SYM-03 Dual-Enablement Standard Abstract ¶2

SYM-05 Certification of Conditions Certification

SYM-11 Cutter Inversion Protocol § 8

SYM-13 Fractal Return § 7 (document scale), § 5 (genome scale), § 6 (conversation scale)

SYM-14 Immanent Plane Declaration § 7

SYM-15 Anomaly Classification Exhibits note

SYM-16 Separation-as-Spore Protocol § 8, Claim 14

SYM-22 Immune System Principle § 8 (the spider's analysis becomes the exhibit)

Spec reference: SYMBOLON-01: Anti-Severance Technologies for Fused Documentary Objects (06.SEL.TECH.SYMBOLON.01)

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