This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Structural MRI for autism diagnosis	<p>A study in humans suggests that MRI could be used to identify structural patterns in the brain that help diagnose autism. An algorithm was developed to analyze MRI information using three geometric and two volumetric brain features. In a study of 20 autistic and 20 control adults, the algorithm predicted autism with 90% sensitivity and 80% specificity. Next steps include validating the technique on different subgroups along the autism spectrum.</p> <p>SciBX 3(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1054 Published online Sept. 2, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ecker, C. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Aug. 11, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5413-09.2010</p> <p>Contact: Christine Ecker, Section of Brain Maturation, Institute of Psychiatry, London, U.K. e-mail: christine.ecker@kcl.ac.uk</p>