This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Platform for high-resolution fractionation of protein molecules	<p>A platform for high-resolution protein fractionation could aid the discovery of specific protein isoforms as markers and therapeutic targets for diseases. The platform combines a 2D liquid electrophoresis technique with nanocapillary liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry. In an analysis of nuclear and cytosolic extracts from human cells, the platform achieved higher proteome coverage and an increase of more than 20-fold in the identification of intact proteins compared with earlier approaches for proteome analysis in mammalian cells. Next steps include comparing the platform with existing proteomic approaches for biomarker discovery and validation.</p> <p>SciBX 4(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1251 Published online Nov. 10, 2011</p>	<p>Separation technologies and software commercially available; licensed to Protein Discovery Inc. and Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.</p>	<p>Tran, J.C. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Oct. 30, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature10575 Contact: Neil L. Kelleher, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Ill. e-mail: n-kelleher@northwestern.edu</p>