This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Antibiotic mode of action profile (BioMAP) screening to identify and classify antibiotics in natural product extracts	Comparing the inhibitory profiles of natural product extracts with those of known classes of antibiotics could help identify new antibiotic leads. MICs of 72 commercially available antibiotics with multiple mechanisms of action were determined against 15 bacterial strains. A computational analysis that compared the MIC profiles of these known drugs with the MIC profile of natural product extract fractions helped identify a structurally unique naphthoquinone antibiotic with a distinct inhibitory profile. <i>In vitro</i> , the antibiotic inhibited bacterial cell growth at 12.5–50 μ M concentrations. Next steps include screening a 5,000-member marine natural product library to identify additional antibiotic scaffolds for development.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable; compounds can be screened on a fee-for-service basis through the University of California, Santa Cruz Chemical Screening Center	Wong, W.R. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Nov. 21, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2012.09.014 Contact: Roger G. Linington, University of California, Santa Cruz, Calif. e-mail: rliningt@ucsc.edu
	SciBX 5(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1267 Published online Dec. 13, 2012		