This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
<i>Mycobacterium smegmatis</i> porin A (MspA) nanopore-based DNA sequencing using phage DNA polymerase and blocking oligomers	A method to combine mutant MspA nanopores, phage DNA polymerase and blocking oligomers to move DNA molecules through a nanopore could be used for sequencing. The polymerase moved the DNA molecule through a mutant MspA nanopore to displace the blocking oligomer and catalyze DNA replication, permitting sequencing at single-nucleotide resolution. The platform was used to map bases within regions of known sequence in DNA templates by monitoring ionic current fluctuations through the nanopore. Next steps include developing an algorithm to report the identity of the sequenced nucleotides and applying the approach to DNA molecules with unknown sequences.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing	Manrao, E.A. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i> ; published online March 25, 2012; doi:10.1038/nbt.2171 Contact: Jens H. Gundlach, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: jens@phys.washington.edu
	SciBX 5(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.375 Published online April 5, 2012		