This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Instrumentation			
Microwell displacement amplification system (MIDAS), a parallel polymerase cloning system for single-cell genome sequencing	MIDAS enables massively parallel polymerase cloning, which decreases bias and improves efficiency in single-cell genome sequencing. Single cells are seeded in microarray wells in 12 nL reaction volumes, subjected to single-round amplification and extraction for library generation and DNA sequencing analyses. In proof-of-concept analyses of <i>Escherichia coli</i>, MIDAS decreased amplification bias and increased efficiency compared with conventional methods. Next steps include using the system to explore the possibility that genetic mosaicism in adult neurons influences cognitive function or neurodegenerative disease. SciBX 6(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1370 Published online Dec. 12, 2013	Patents filed covering microwell-based amplification and the enzymatic protocol for converting DNA in the microwells to libraries; available for licensing from the University of California, San Diego Contact: Wendy Shih, University of California, San Diego Technology Transfer Office, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: wendyshih@ucsd.edu	Gole, J. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Nov. 10, 2013; doi:10.1038/nbt.2720 Contact: Kun Zhang, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: kzhang@bioeng.ucsd.edu