This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Natural product-based fragment libraries for ligand discovery	<p>Natural product-based fragment libraries could be used to identify ligands against targets that are difficult to drug. A computational analysis of 180,000 natural products identified 2,000 structurally varied fragments that were largely distinct from the molecules found in current fragment libraries. Screening about 200 natural product-based fragments led to the identification of ligands for 4 phosphatases for which inhibitor development had previously been difficult. Next steps could include optimizing inhibitors against these phosphatase targets or screening natural product-based fragment libraries against additional targets.</p> <p>SciBX 6(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.23 Published online Jan. 10, 2013</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Over, B. <i>et al. Nat. Chem.</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2012; doi:10.1038/nchem.1506 Contact: Herbert Waldmann, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany e-mail: herbert.waldmann@mpi-dortmund.mpg.de</p>