This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Native chemical ligation for generating reversible covalent peptide bonds	<p>A new approach for generating reversible covalent peptide bonds could be useful for synthesizing pharmacological agents, such as therapeutic peptides. The approach uses chemoselective, native chemical ligation at the non-natural amino acid <i>N</i>-(methyl)-cysteine. The approach was used to form reversible peptide bonds between amino acids without the use of enzyme catalysis. Next steps include using the method to synthesize pharmacological agents.</p> <p>SciBX 7(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.537 Published online May 8, 2014</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Ruff, Y. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>; published online April 18, 2014; doi:10.1021/ja4129845</p> <p>Contact: Nicolas Giuseppone, University of Strasbourg, Charles Sadron Institute, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Strasbourg, France e-mail: giuseppone@unistra.fr</p>