

THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Stable isotope labeling with amino acids in cell culture (SILAC)-based identification of small molecule protein targets in cells	A combination of SILAC and affinity enrichment may help identify protein targets of small molecules for drug and probe design. Using a competition-based SILAC-small molecule identification strategy, about 600 proteins could be quantified from a single pull-down assay. Application of this method to kinase inhibitors and immunophilin ligands validated its utility by selectively identifying known binders of these molecules. The method is being used by the authors to elucidate the pathways modulated by several small molecule therapeutic candidates for cancer. SciBX 2(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.382 Published online March 5, 2009	Method unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Ong, S. et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA; published online March 2, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0900191106 Contact: Steven A. Carr, Broad Institute of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: scarr@broad.mit.edu Contact: Shao-En Ong, same affiliation as above e-mail: song@broad.mit.edu Contact: Stuart L. Schreiber, same affiliation as above e-mail: stuart_schreiber@harvard.edu