

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Instrumentation			
Microfluidics-based cell sorting for diagnostic platforms or sensors	A microfluidics-based device could help quickly and efficiently sort a variety of cells. Application of a magnetic field to a microfluidics channel caused nonmagnetic sample particles within the fluid to move along the channel for collection according to their size or shape. The device separated particles larger than 2 μm with about 1 μm resolution and separated normal blood cells from sickle cells or <i>Escherichia coli</i> with >75% efficiency in <1 min. Ongoing work includes optimizing the device to sort more than two cell types and incorporating inlets to enable real-time sorting of macroscopic quantities of blood and other analytes.	Patented by Yale University; available for licensing	Kose, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Dec. 7, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0912138106 Contact: Hur Koser, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: hur.koser@yale.edu
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