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Licensing Opportunity

TTO - Technology Transfer Office

System for automated immunoprecipitation of protein-DNA complexes



Schematic view of the integrated microfluidic device.

Description and advantages

ChIP-seq is a widely adopted method to study protein-DNA interactions in vivo. However, current protocols are long (more than two days), manually intensive and present numerous limitations such as low sensitivity or throughput. In the last decade, several attempts have been made to improve ChIP-seq but the latter were only able to tackle a subset of these limitations.

FloChIP is an all-in-one automated microfluidic device that consists of several antibody units and microfluidic channels, and includes multi-layered assemblies of biochemical species, together forming a biofunctionalized surface able to capture the target molecule.

Advantages

FloChIP tackles all the major limitations cited above.

It drastically increases sensitivity by reducing the required cellular material from millions of cells down to only a few hundred. It increases throughput by allowing

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Keywords

ChIP-seq Chromatin immunoprecipitation Microfluidics Gene regulation Epigenetics

Intellectual Property

Priority 13.12.2017 PCT/IB2017/057889

Publication

WO2019/116306

Date

05/09/2019

multiplexed parallel experiments (antibody or sample) within just a few hours. Moreover, its modular configuration effectively enables straightforward reimmunoprecipitation of eluted chromatin using pairwise interconnect IP lanes, providing a highly sensitive alternative to sequential-ChIP for bivalent chromatin probing.

Additionally, its efficiency was demonstrated for the capture of transcription factor-DNA complexes, whereas most current methods only work for histone marks. Eventually, eluted DNA is tagmented on-chip, directly thus decreasing downstream library preparation time.

Applications

- Study of gene regulatory and epigenetic processes in vivo
- Study of variation-driven phenotypic diversity and disease susceptibility
- Disease diagnostics based on epigenomic signatures