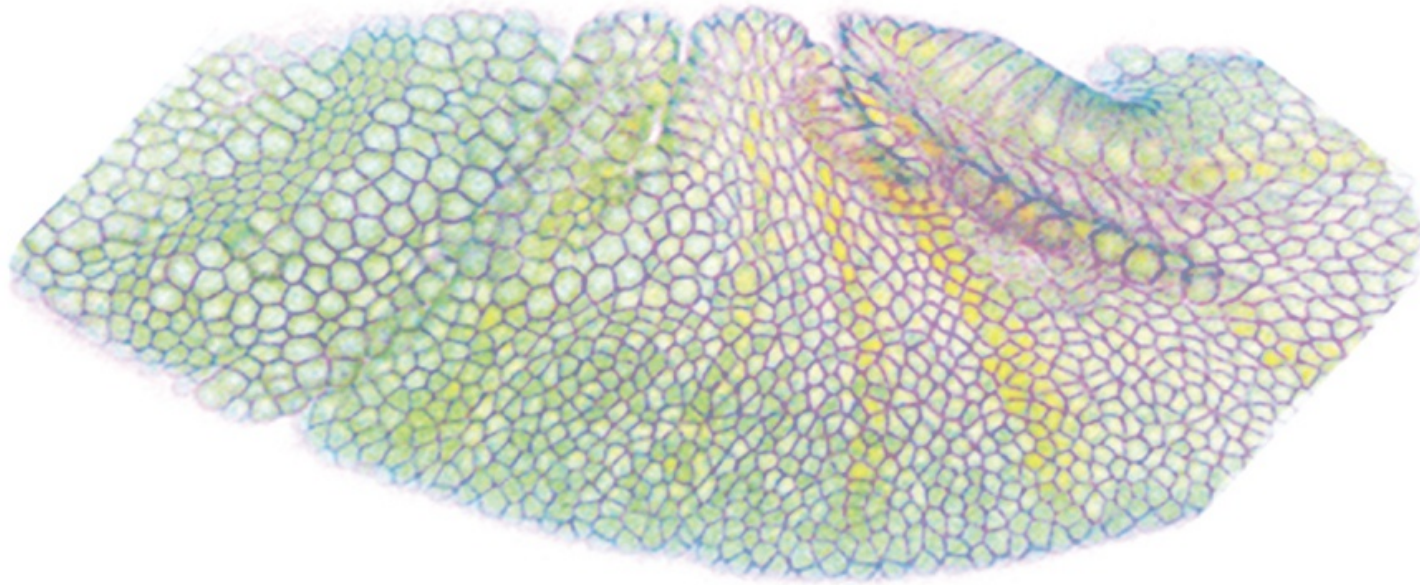


Mécanique de la Morphogenèse



Cours I: Organisation et plasticité tissulaires

Thomas Lecuit
chaire: Dynamiques du vivant



COLLÈGE
DE FRANCE
— 1530 —

How to account for the emergence of complex shapes?



Growth
Shape
Control



How to account for the extraordinary diversity of shapes?



How to account for the extraordinary diversity of shapes?

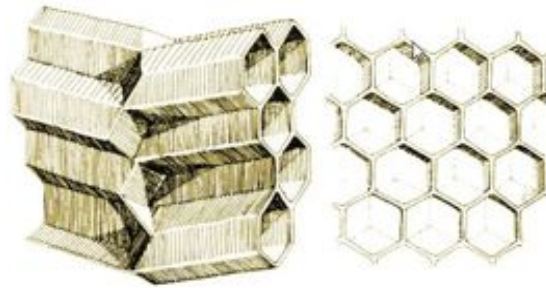
Diversity of forms:
Are there general principles?

>>mathematical regularities and physical principles
underlying forms and transformations



A mathematical understanding of forms

Buffon



GL Leclerc, comte de Buffon (1707-1788)

« On donne plus d'esprit aux mouches dont les ouvrages sont le plus réguliers; les abeilles sont, dit-on, plus ingénieuses que les guêpes, que les frelons etc., qui savent aussi l'architecture, mais dont les constructions sont plus grossières et plus irrégulières que celles des abeilles:

on ne veut pas voir, ou l'on ne se doute pas, que cette régularité, plus ou moins grande, dépend uniquement du nombre et de la figure, et nullement de l'intelligence de ces petites bêtes; plus elles sont nombreuses, plus il y a des forces qui agissent également et s'opposent de même, plus il y a par conséquent de contrainte mécanique, de régularité forcée, et de perfection apparente dans leurs productions ».

Histoire naturelle, IV, 100 (1753).



A mathematical understanding of forms

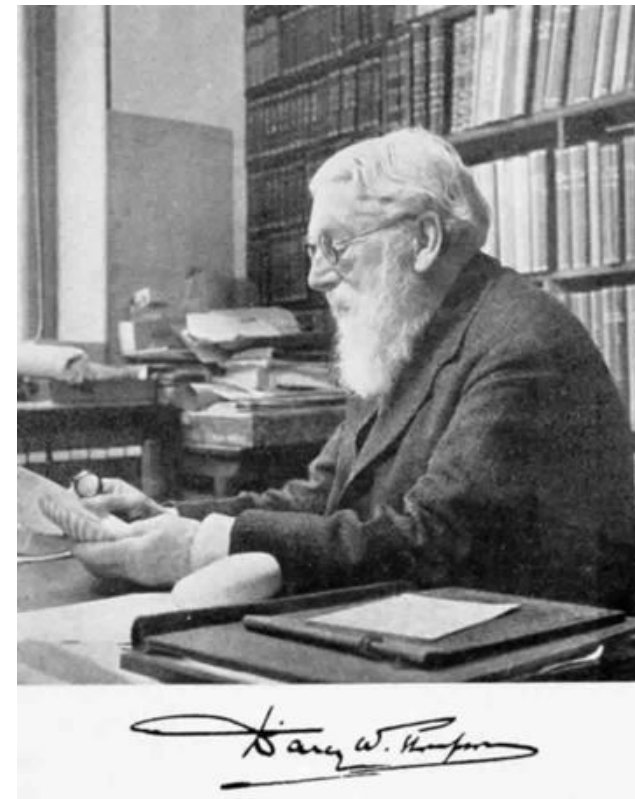
d'Arcy W. Thompson



1917

« A certain mathematical aspect of morphology to which as yet the morphologist gives little heed, is interwoven with his problems, complementary to his descriptive task, and helpful, nay essential to his proper study and comprehension of Growth and Form. »

« For the harmony of the world is made manifest in Form and Number, and the heart and soul of all the poetry of Natural Philosophy are embodied in the concept of mathematical beauty. ».



d'Arcy Wentworth Thompson (1860-1948)



A mathematical understanding of forms

- Form of cells *On Growth and Form. V*

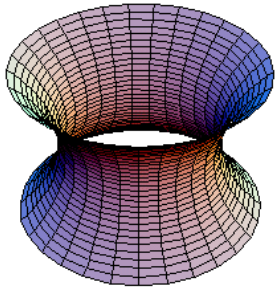
-Thermodynamic description: near equilibrium

-Minimisation of surface energy

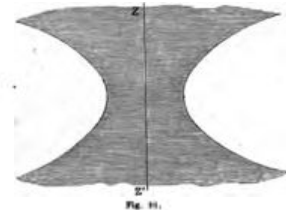
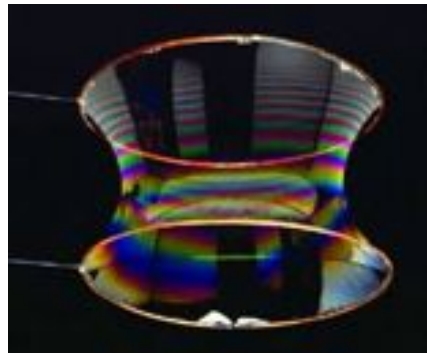
-Minimisation of surface

Surfaces of revolution of Plateau:
sphere, cylinder, catenoid

catenoid (Euler)



$$\begin{aligned}x &= c \cosh \frac{v}{c} \cos u \\y &= c \cosh \frac{v}{c} \sin u \\z &= v \quad u \in [-\pi, \pi] \quad v \in \mathbb{R}\end{aligned}$$



Infusories

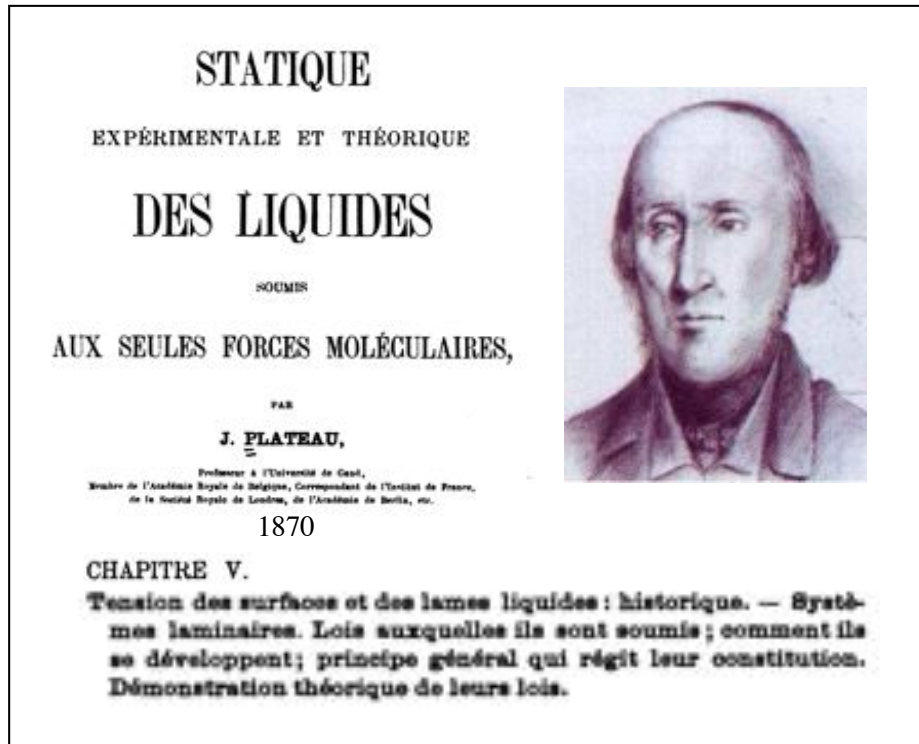
d'Arcy W Thompson, *On Growth and Form*, 1917



A mathematical understanding of forms

- Form of Cell aggregates

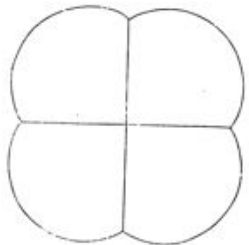
On Growth and Form. VII



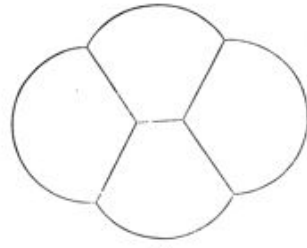
Plateau rules:

Experiments with soap films

- Soap films form flat surfaces
- A maximum of 3 surfaces meet at 1 edge:
> angles between surfaces is 120°
- 4 edges meet at 1 point: angles between edges is 109.47°



Unstable equilibrium



Stable equilibrium

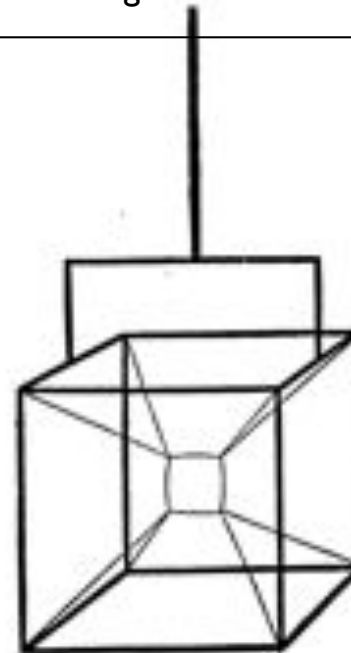


Fig. 11.



www.toysfab.com



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A mathematical understanding of forms

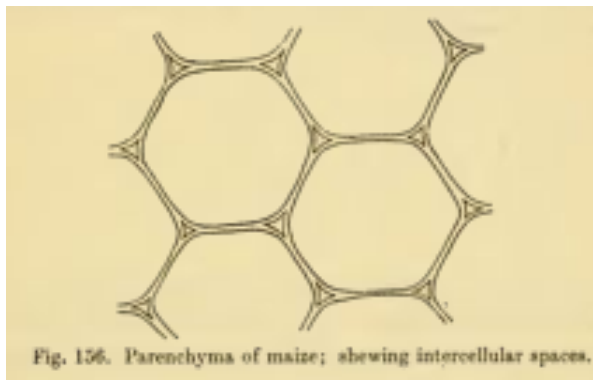
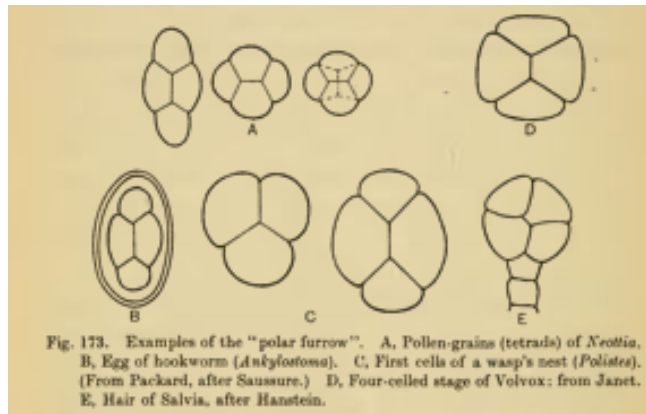
- Form of Cell aggregates *On Growth and Form. VII*

Minimisation of surface energy

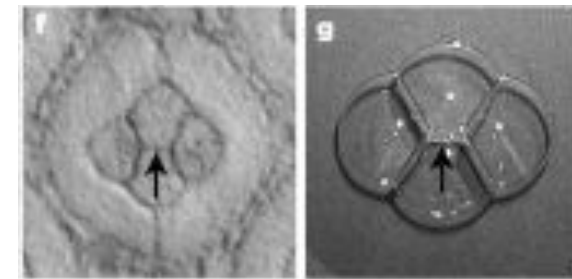
Cells adopt configuration where angles approach 120°

(all interfacial tensions are equal)

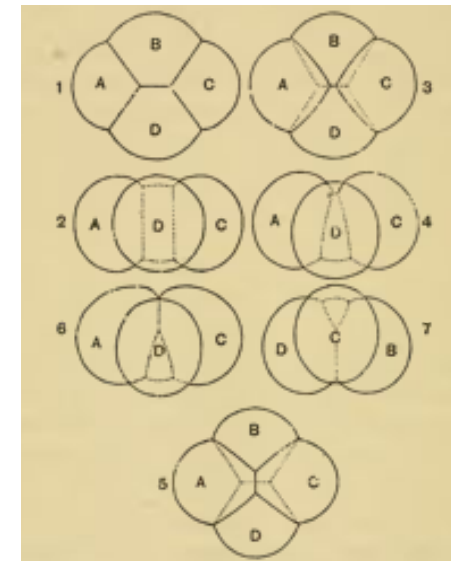
following Plateau rules



Cell aggregates in plants and animals



Hayashi T & Carthew R, *Nature*, 431:647 (2004)



Soap bubbles

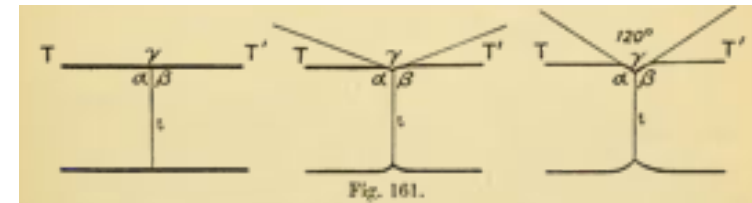
d'Arcy W Thompson, *On Growth and Form*, 1917



A mathematical understanding of forms

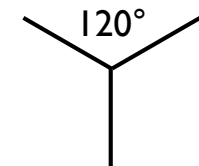
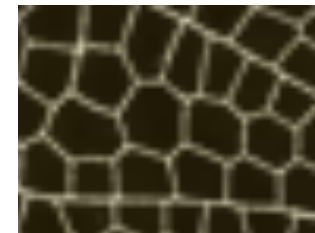
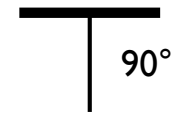
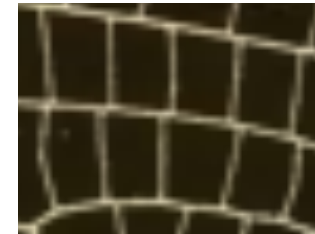
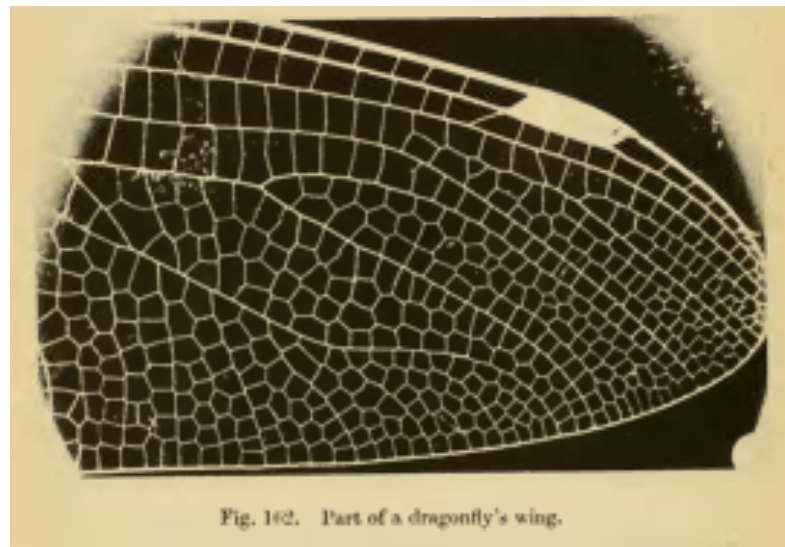
- Form of Cell aggregates *On Growth and Form. VII*

Non-uniform surface tensions can explain a variety of cellular/multicellular arrangements



$$T=T' \gg t$$

$$T=T' = t$$

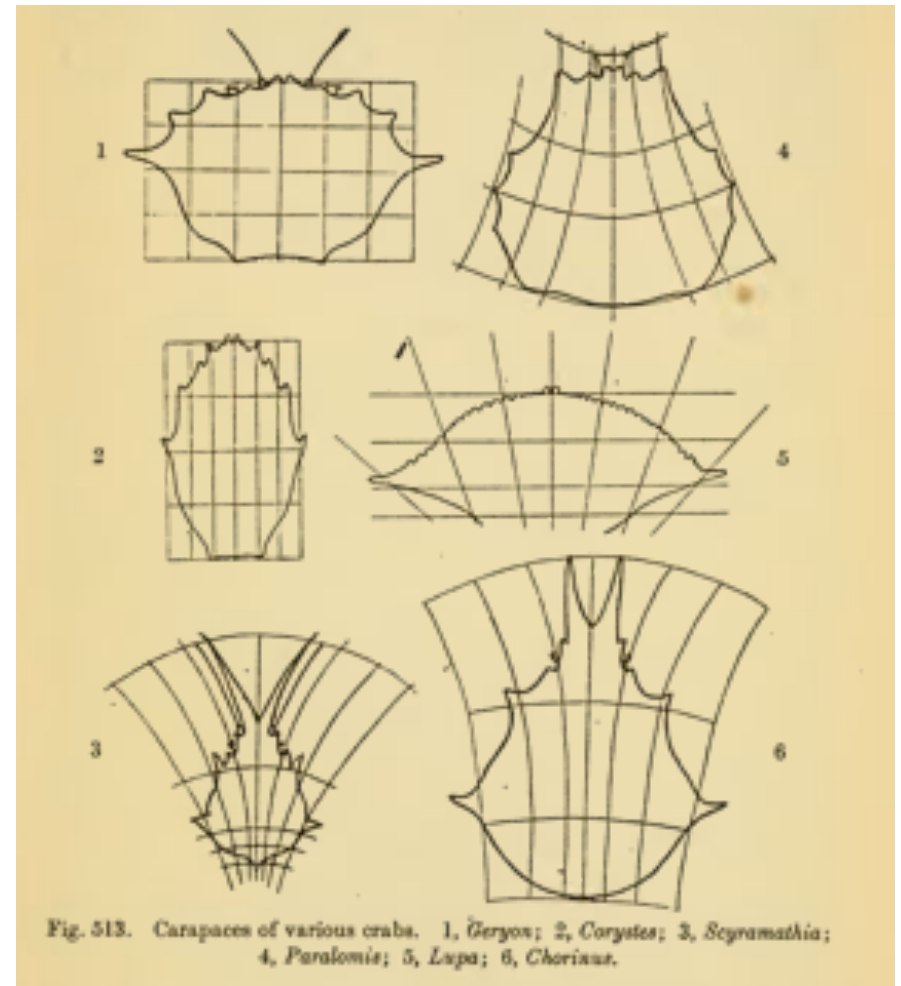


A mathematical understanding of forms

- Theory of transformations *On Growth and Form. XVII*

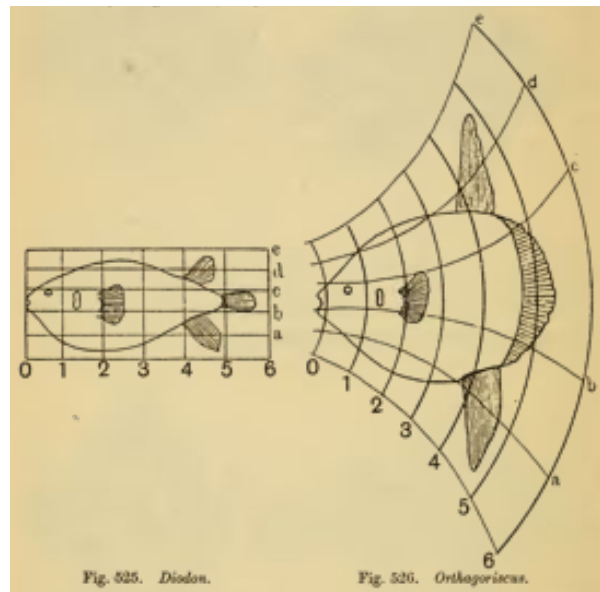
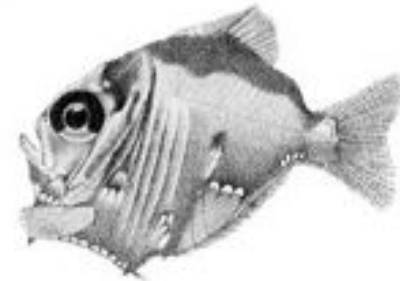
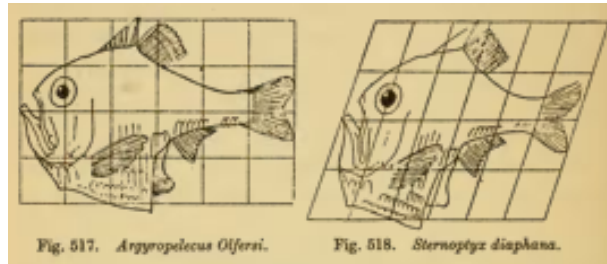
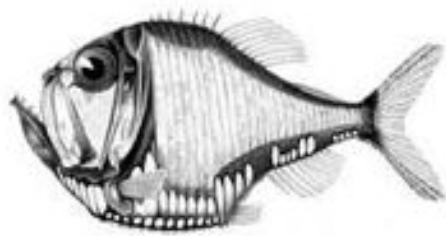
- System of coordinates
- Closely related forms may be transformed into one another via deformation of the coordinate system.
- A system of forces is responsible for such deformation (defines the magnitude and orientation of forces)

« dispense with many more complicated hypotheses of biological causation »



A mathematical understanding of forms

- Theory of transformations *On Growth and Form. XVII*



How to account for the extraordinary diversity of shapes?

Can one identify general principles?

- physical : constraints.
 - > Mechanics, Geometry and Dynamics
- biological: evolving chemistry.
 - > Modes of Regulation

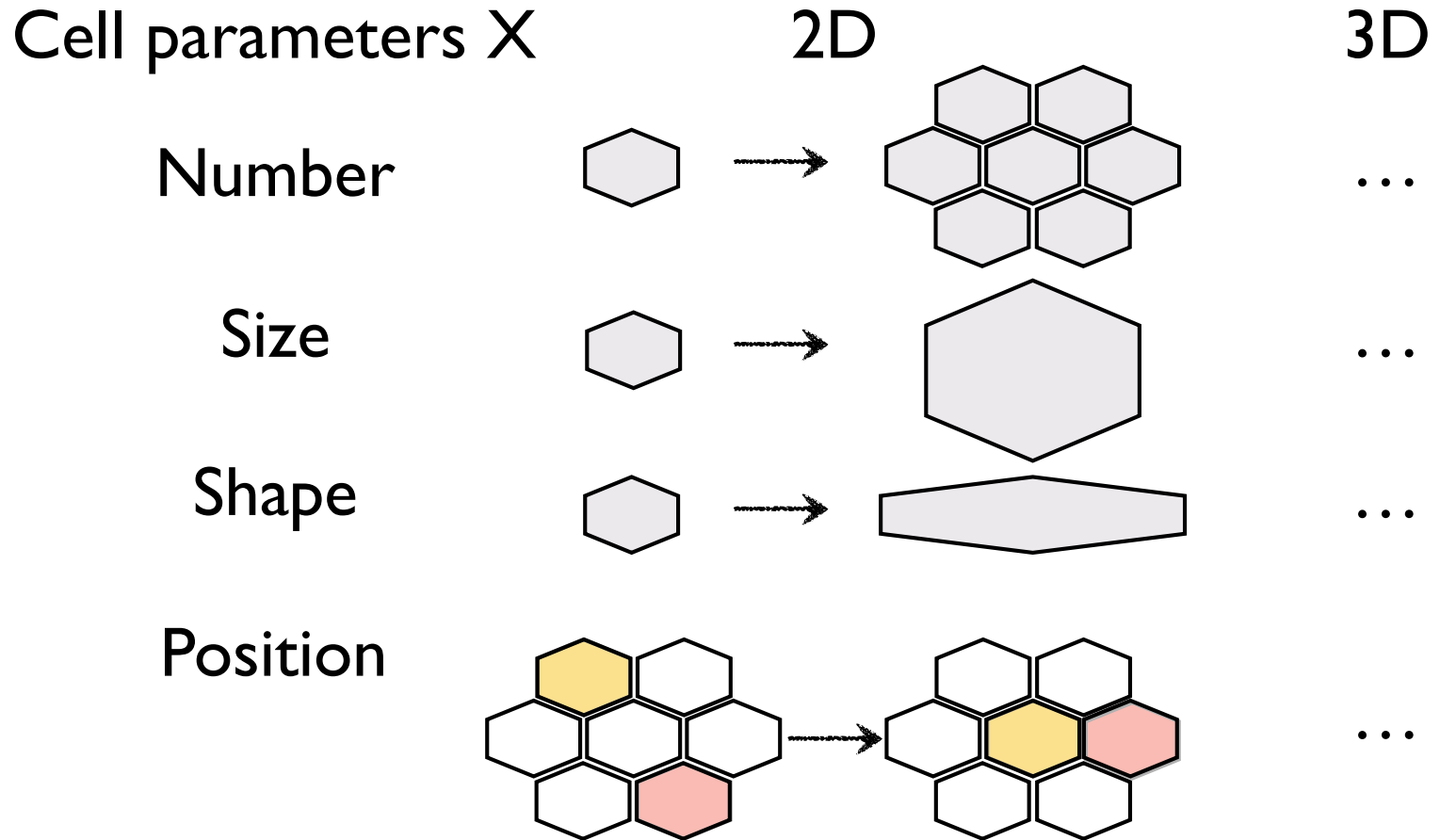
Hard problem: understand how evolving chemistry guides the formation and transformation of shapes within physical constraints



1) Organisation / Static

2) Plasticity / Dynamics

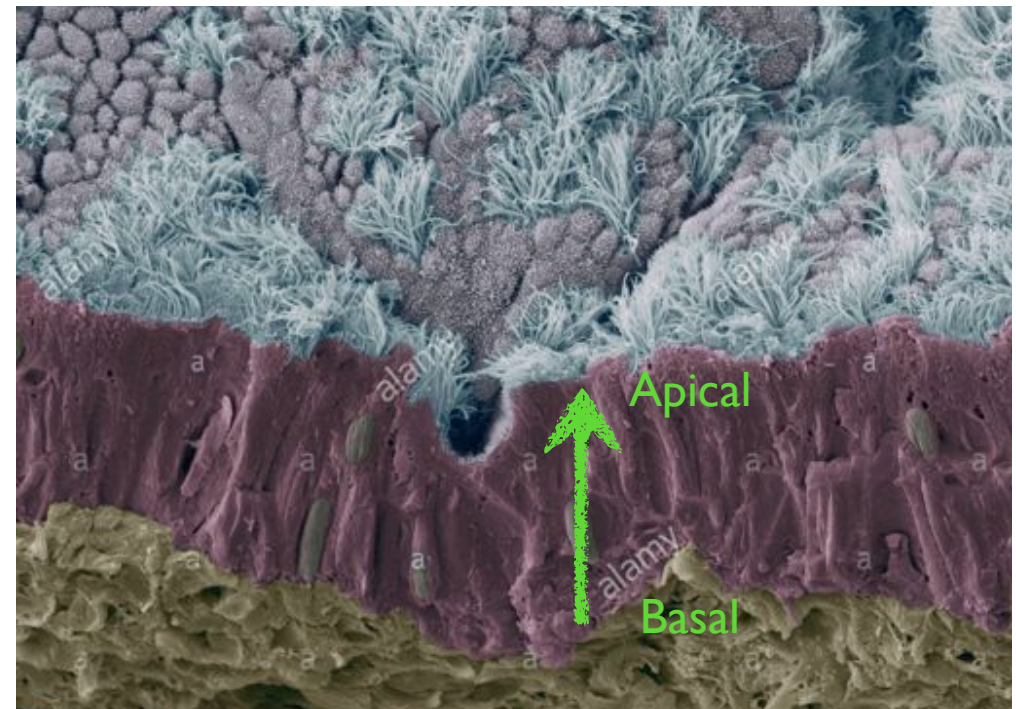
Organisation



Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

>2D Morphogenesis: sheets of cells

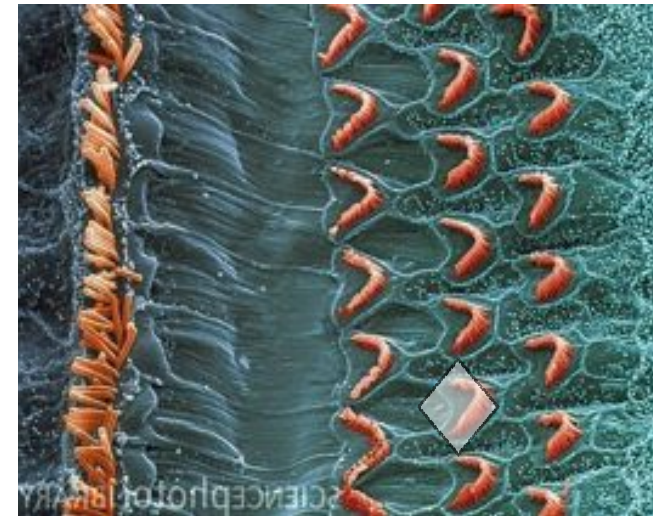
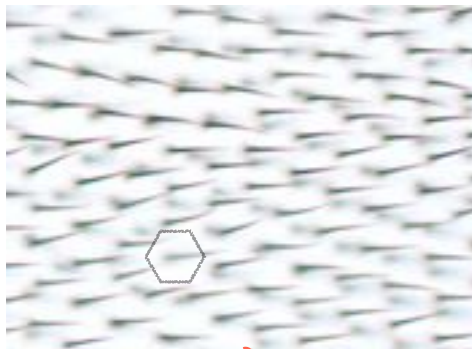
- Epithelia:
- Chemical barrier
 - Mechanical fence
 - Polarised/vectorial organisation: apico-basal and planar.



Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

>2D Morphogenesis: sheets of cells

- Epithelia:
- Chemical barrier
 - Mechanical fence
 - Polarised/vectorial organisation: apico-basal and planar.



Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

- Apico-basal polarity
- Intercellular adhesion
- F-actin scaffold
- Conserved properties across animals

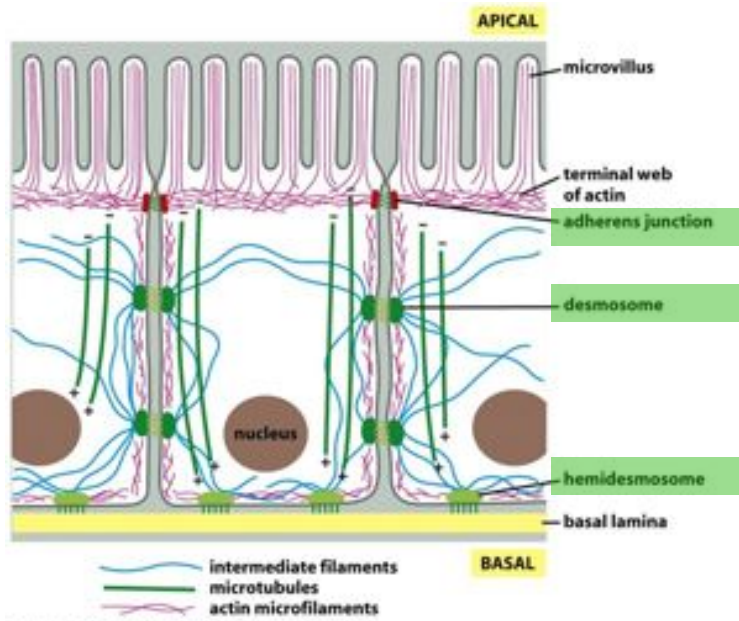
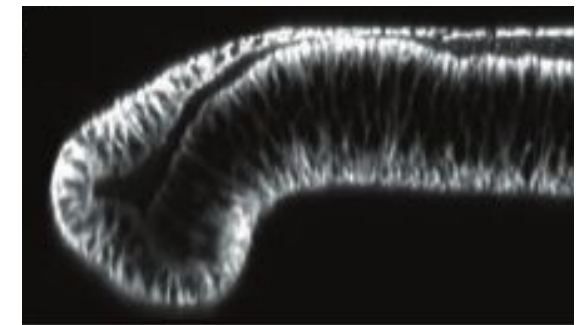
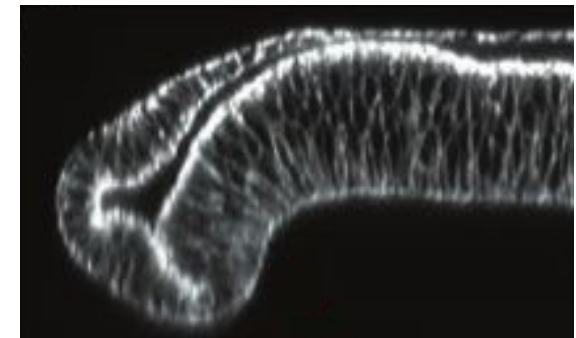


Figure 16-5 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)



Gibson M. & Perrimon N. *Science*. 307:1785. 2005

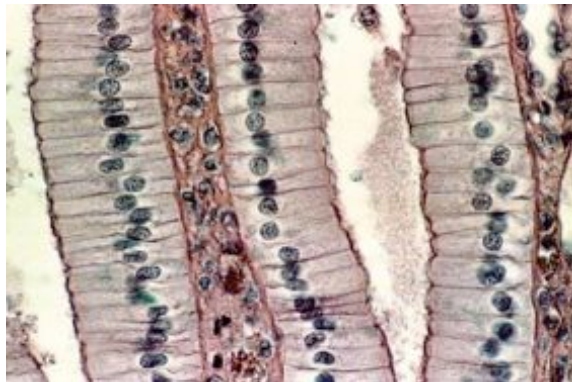
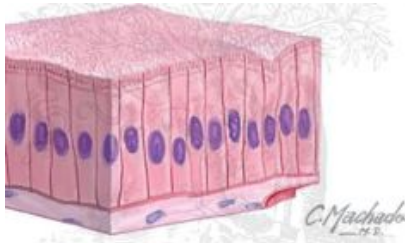


Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

- sheets of cells

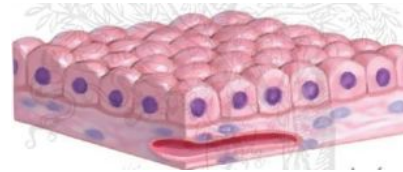
Epithelia: Variation on the theme of cell shape

Columnar



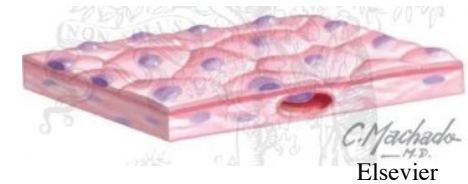
Gut villi

Cuboidal



human kidney tubules,
collecting duct

Squamous



human vagina

Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

2D sheets of cells

Epithelia: Variation on the theme of tissue shape

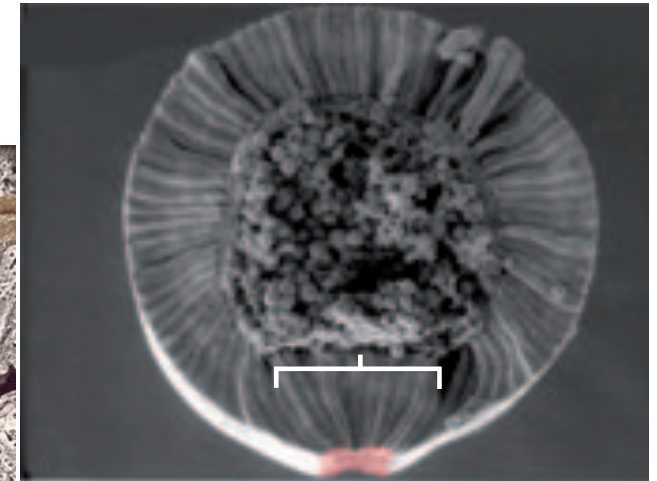
- flat: skin, epidermis/ectoderm
- curved: gut, embryos



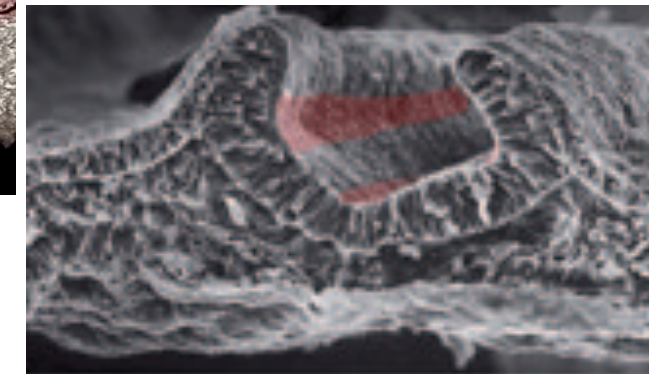
Human gallbladder



Human colon



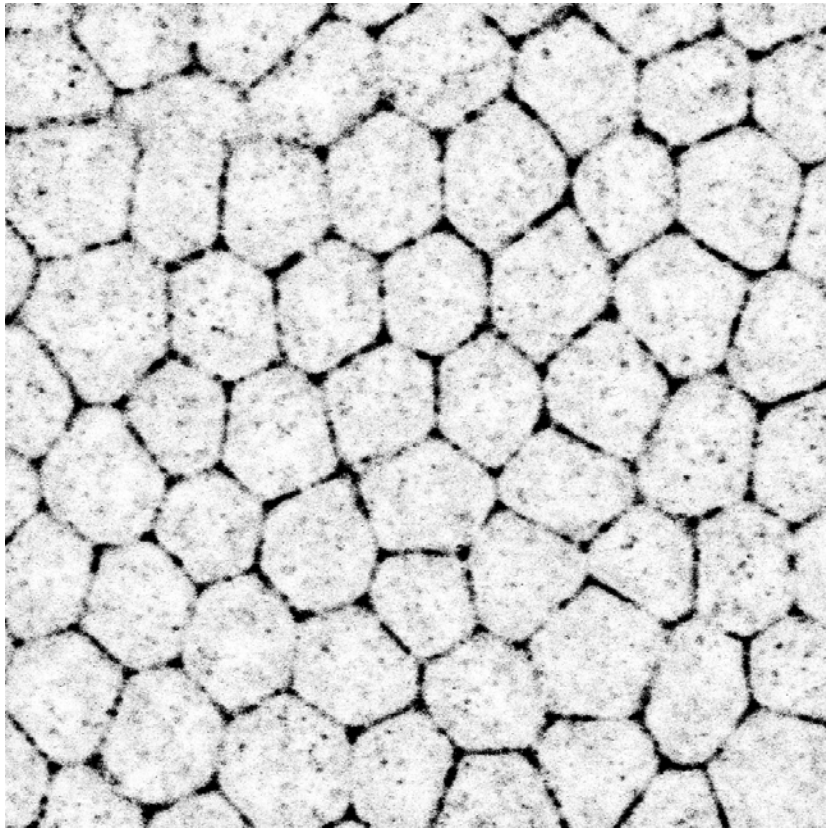
Drosophila embryo



Chick neural tube

Tissue Organisation: Epithelia

Robust geometric tiling



Epithelial Cells

x100 000



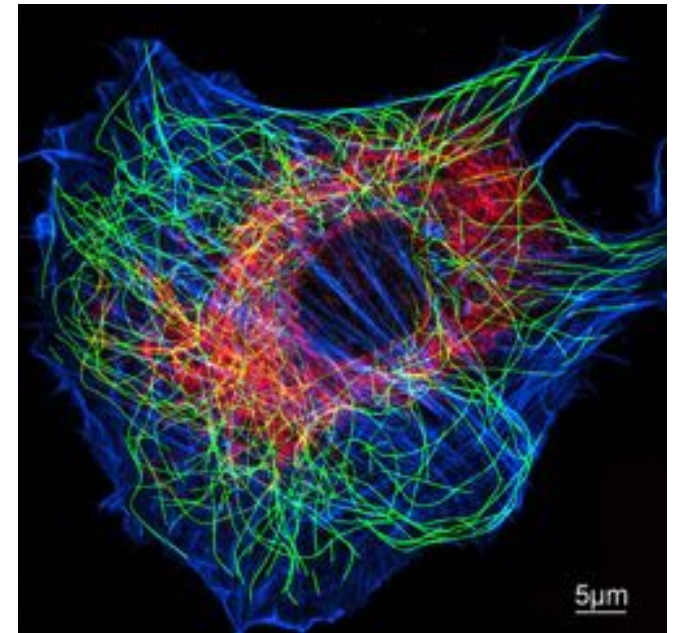
Basaltic tiling (Ireland)



Tissue Organisation: Fibroblasts and mesenchymal cells

Fibroblasts

- Adhesion to substratum (extracellular matrix)
- Motile cells: protrusive activity (Actin filaments)



Actin filaments

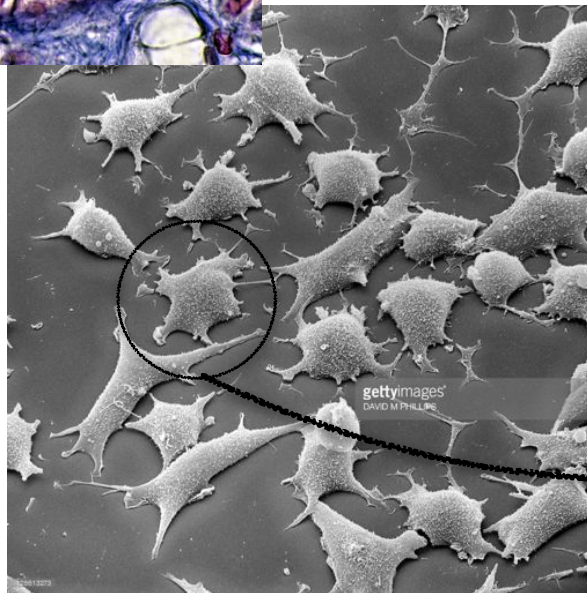
Microtubules

Intermediate filaments

Thomas Pollard. *The Cytoskeleton*



connective tissue

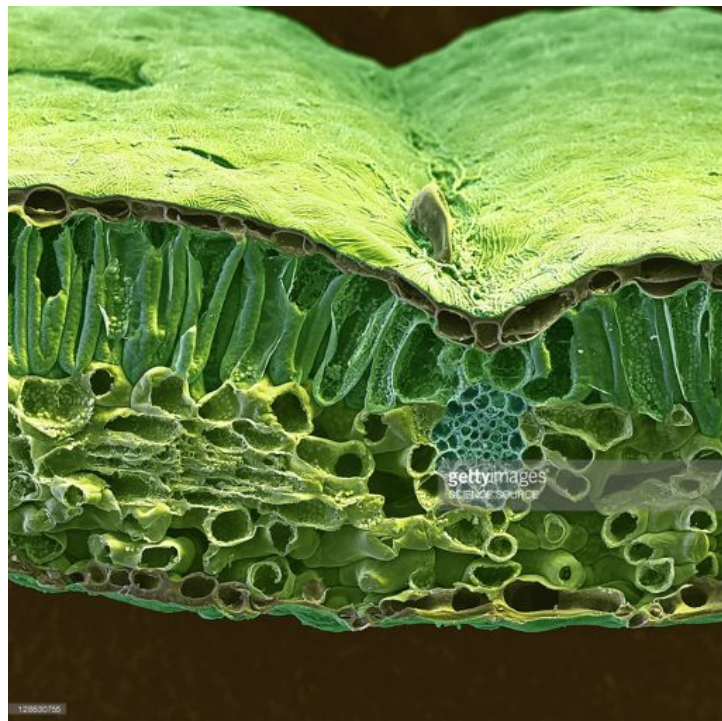


Human Fibroblasts



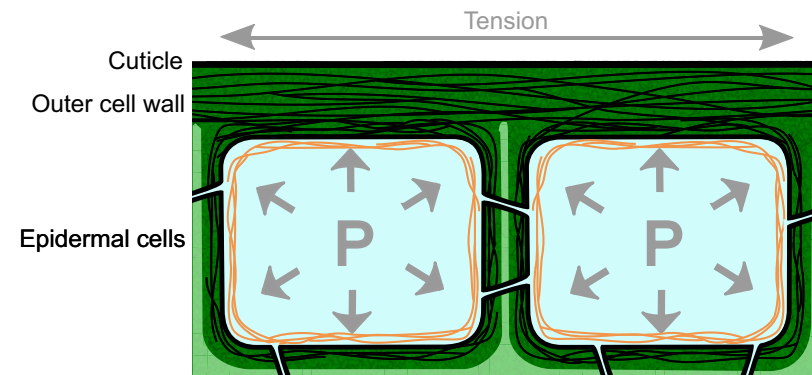
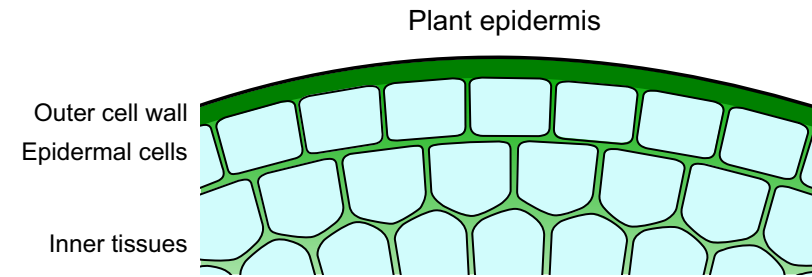
Tissue organisation: plant epidermal cells

- Cells are immobile
- Cells grow and divide
- Cells are surrounded by a rigid wall
- Cell-Cell adhesion



Leaf *Helleborus niger*

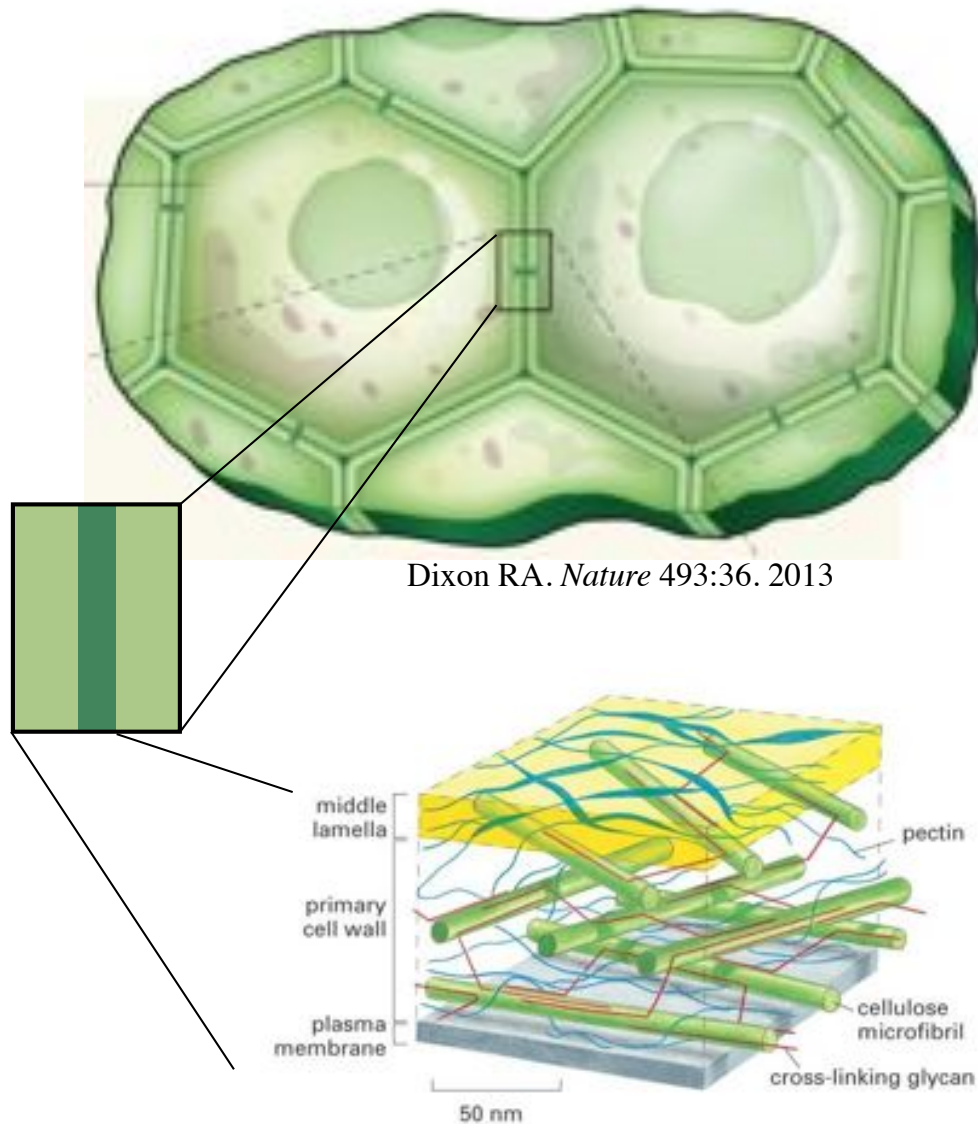
Upper
Epidermal cells
Palisade cells
Lower
Epidermal cells



| Key | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | Plasmodesmata | | Cellulose microfibrils |
| | Matrix polysaccharides | | Cortical microtubules |
| | Pectin-enriched middle lamella | | Osmotic pressure |

Tissue organisation: plant epidermal cells

- Cells are surrounded by a rigid wall
- Cell-Cell adhesion: middle lamella (pectin cross linking)

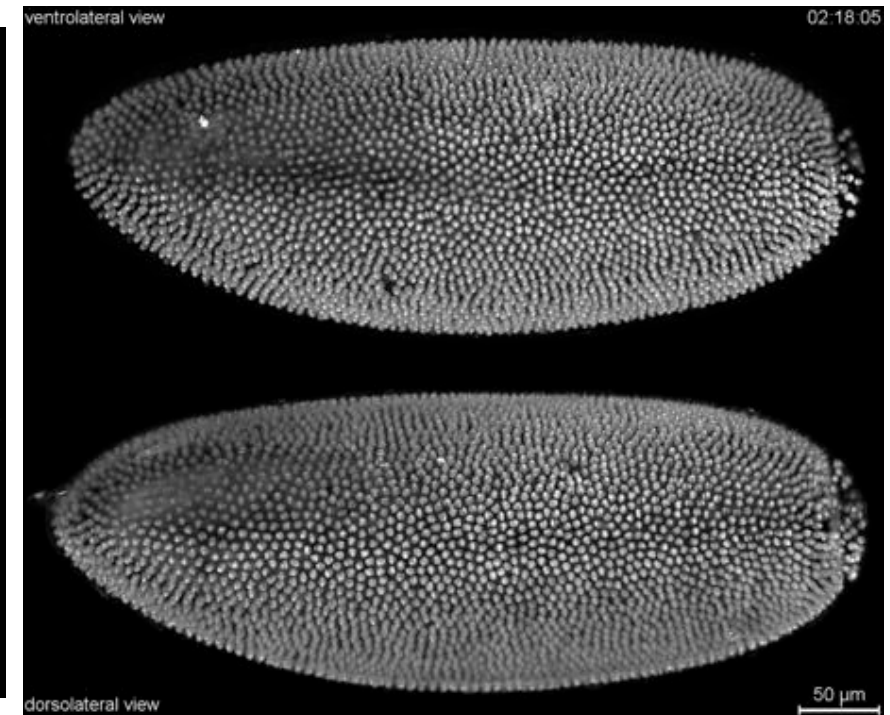
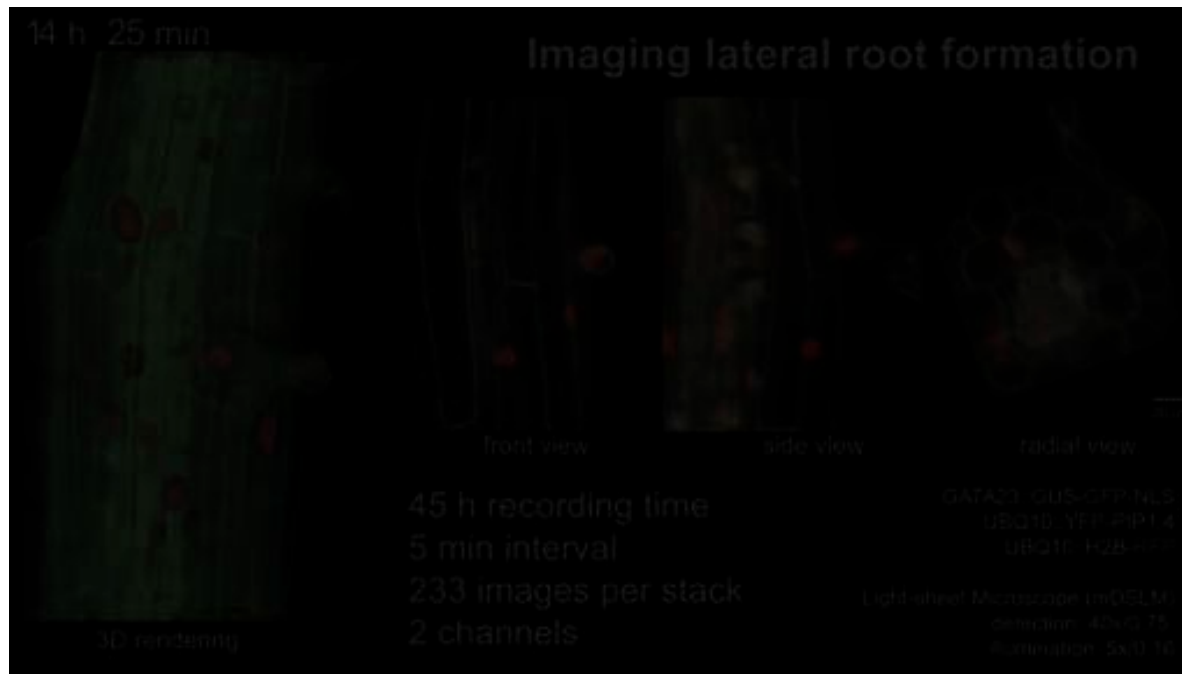


Onion epidermis

1) Organisation / Static

2) Plasticity / Dynamics

Cellular Dynamics in Plant and Animal Morphogenesis



von Wangenheim et al. and Maizel A. *Current Biol.* 26:1-11. 2016

Arabidopsis thaliana



Tomer R. et al. and Keller PJ. *Nature Methods.* 9:755. 2012

Drosophila melanogaster



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Dynamics

Cell parameters X

Time

Space

Outcome

{
Number
Size
Shape
Position

Rates
 $d(X)/dt$

Orientation
 $d(X)/dxdydz$

Growth
Remodelling
Movement



Origin of Dynamics

At cellular level

- **Active Forces:**
 - Contractility/tension: *Motors*
 - Protrusive forces: *F-actin polymerisation*

Machines *Function*
Shape changes
Motility
- **Turgor pressure:**
 - « osmotic engine »
 - mass increase

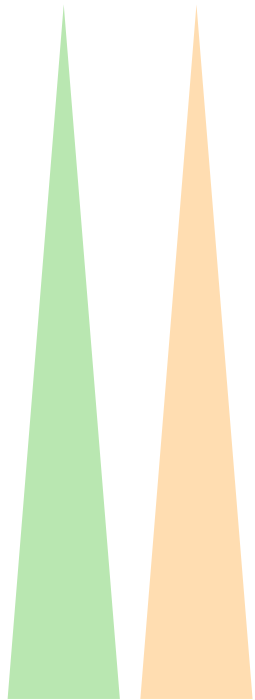
Ion and water transporters
Protein translation *Growth*
- **Resistive forces:**
 - adhesion: cell-cell and to substratum (animals)
 - wall synthesis (plants)

Motility/
Shape changes
Growth/
Shape changes



Connectedness between cells

- **Three Modalities**
(along gradients of **cell adhesion** and **stiffness**)



« Free »



Gaz

- Mesenchymal cells in 3D

Adhesive



Fluid (viscoelastic)

- Epithelial cells in 2D

Strongly Coupled

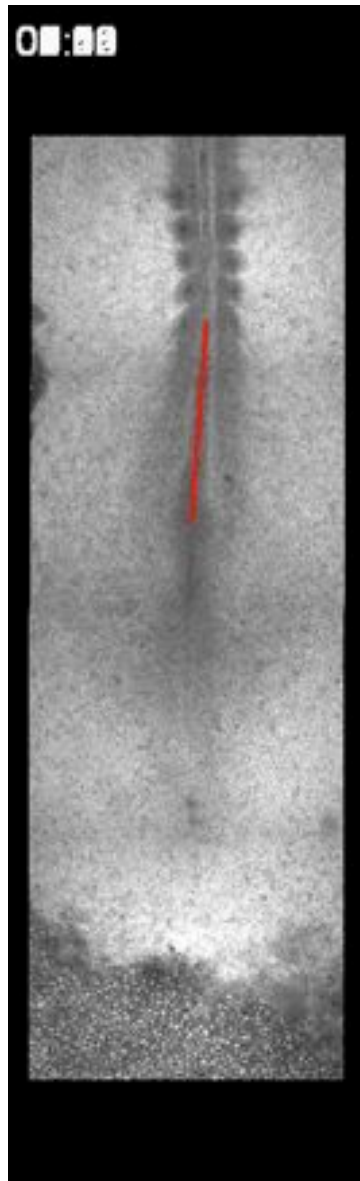


Solid (elastic/plastic)

- Plant cells in 3D

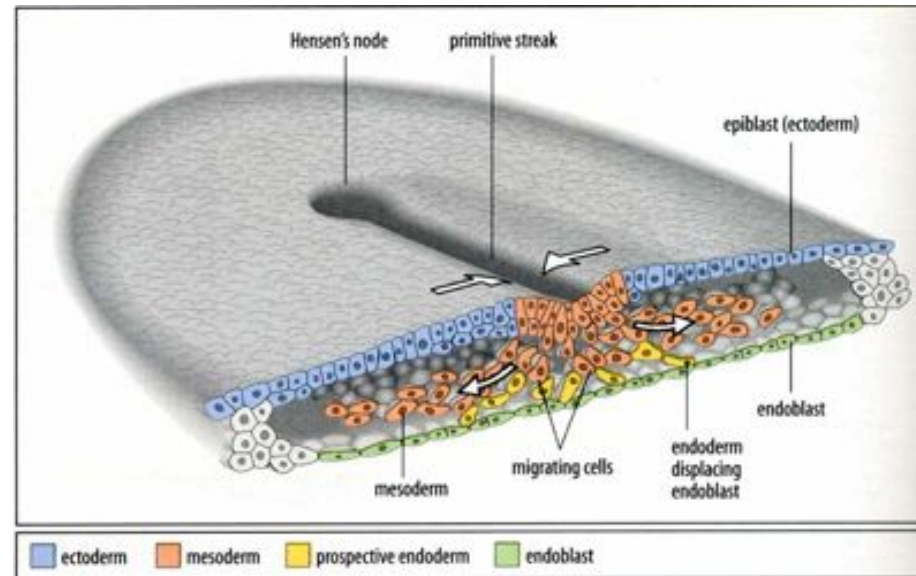


Mesenchymal Morphogenesis in 3D

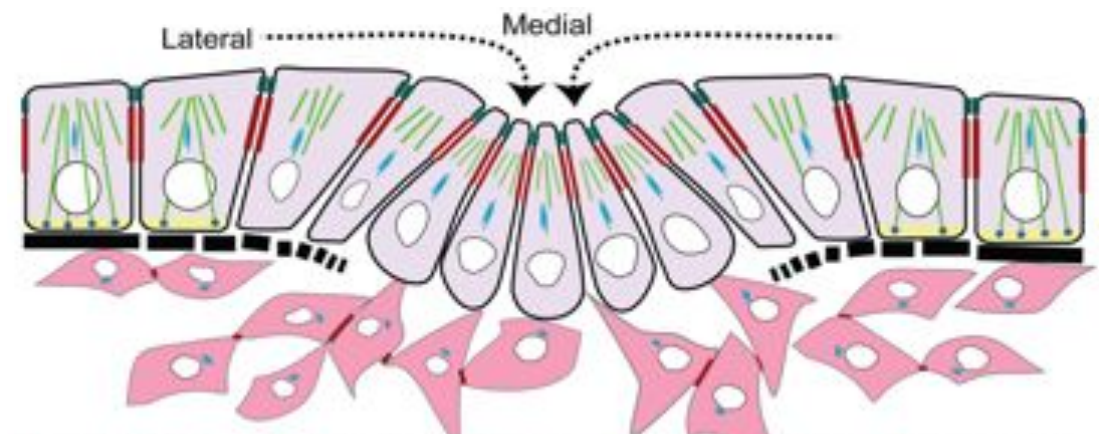


« free » ↔ Gaz

- Chick Gastrulation and axis elongation



Developmental Biology. S. Gilbert



Bénazéraf B. et al, Pourquie O. *Nature*. 466:248. 2010



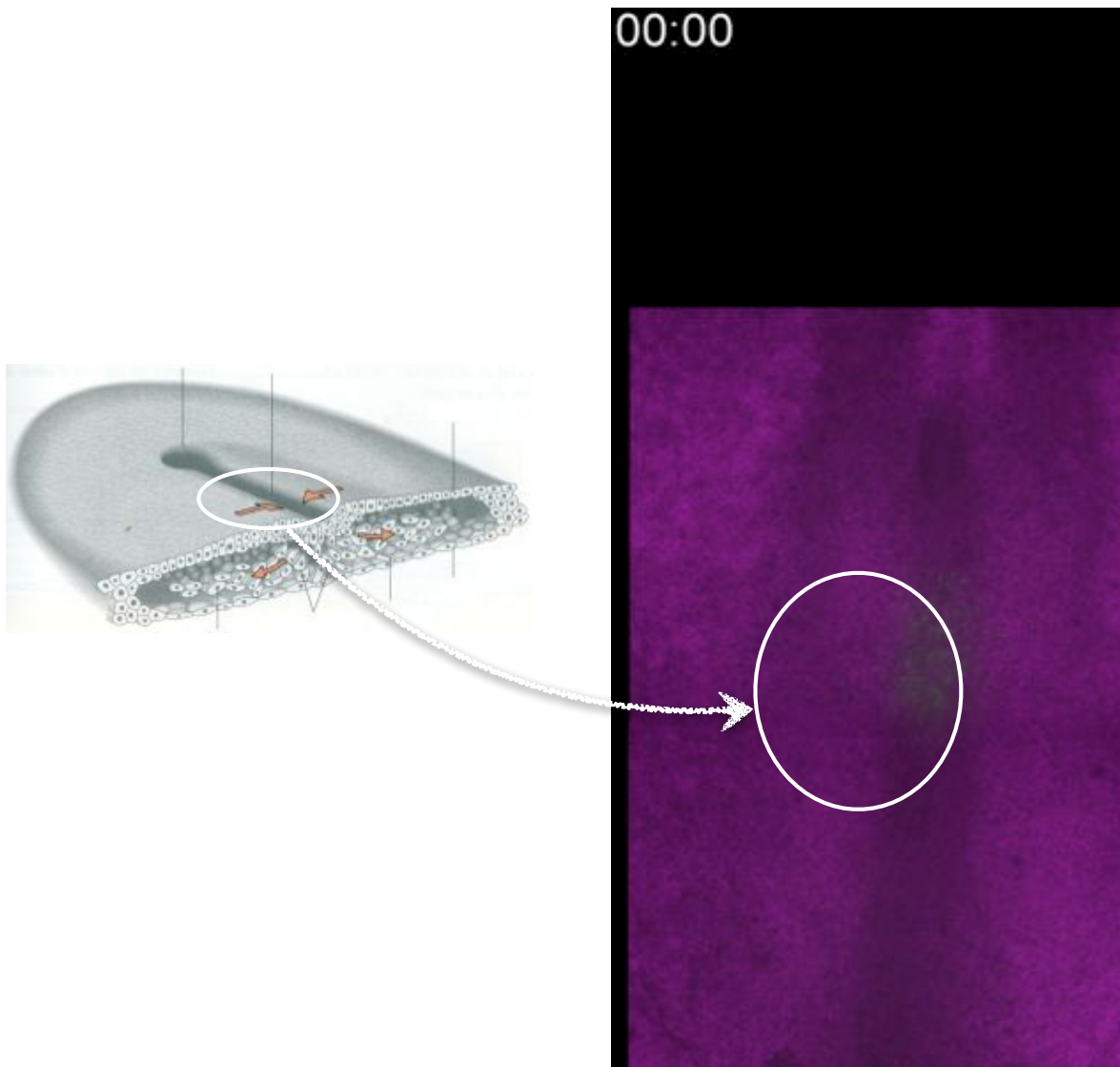
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Nakaya Y. and Sheng G. *Cell Adh Migr* 3:160. 2009

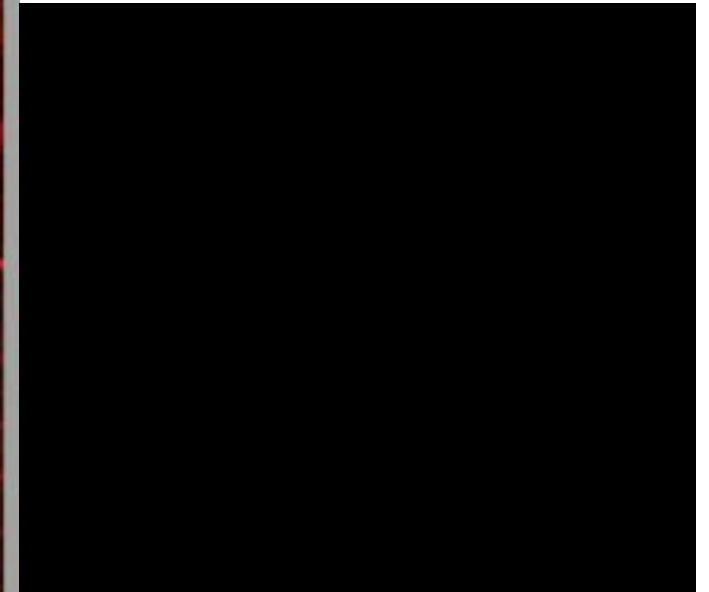
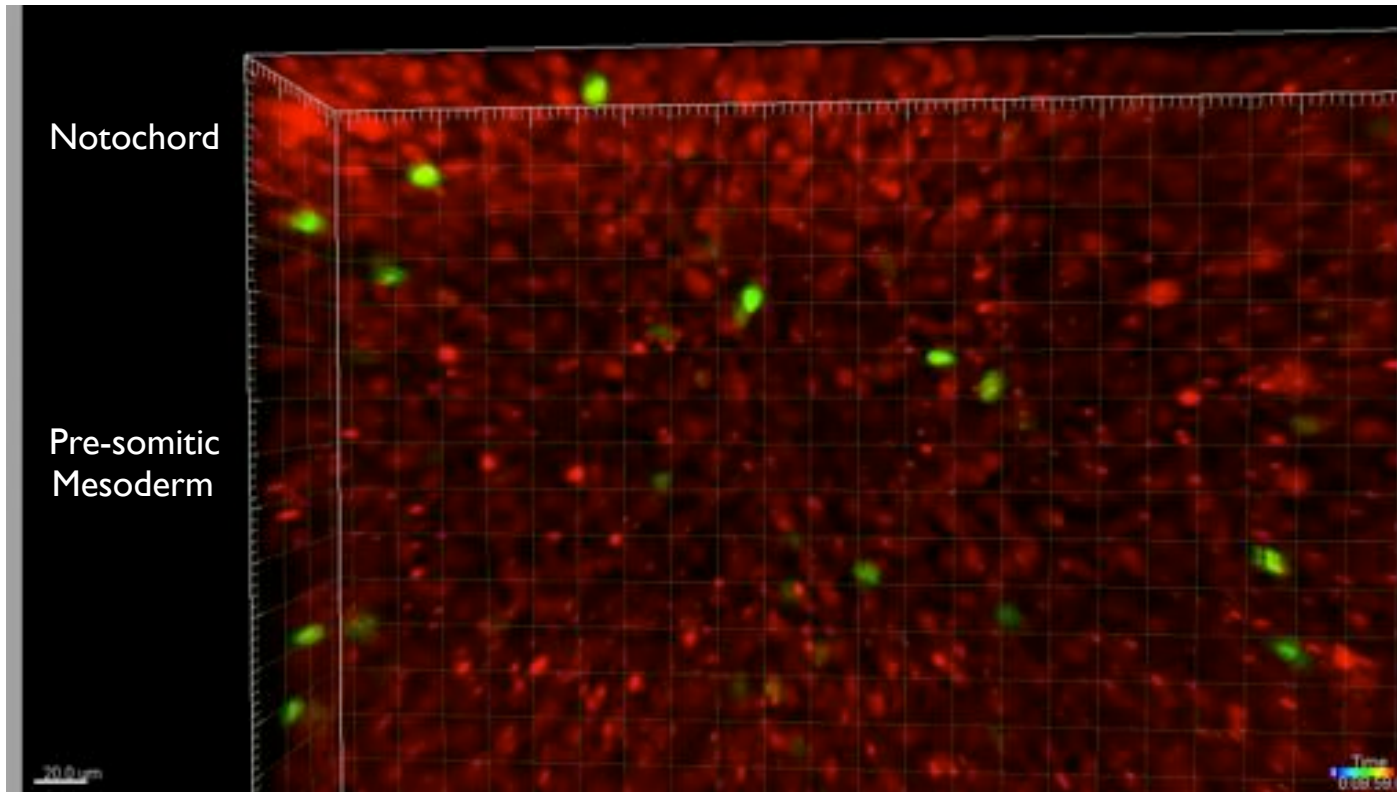
Mesenchymal Morphogenesis in 3D

- Chick Gastrulation and axis elongation



Mesenchymal Morphogenesis in 3D

- « free » ↔ Gaz
- Chick Gastrulation and axis elongation

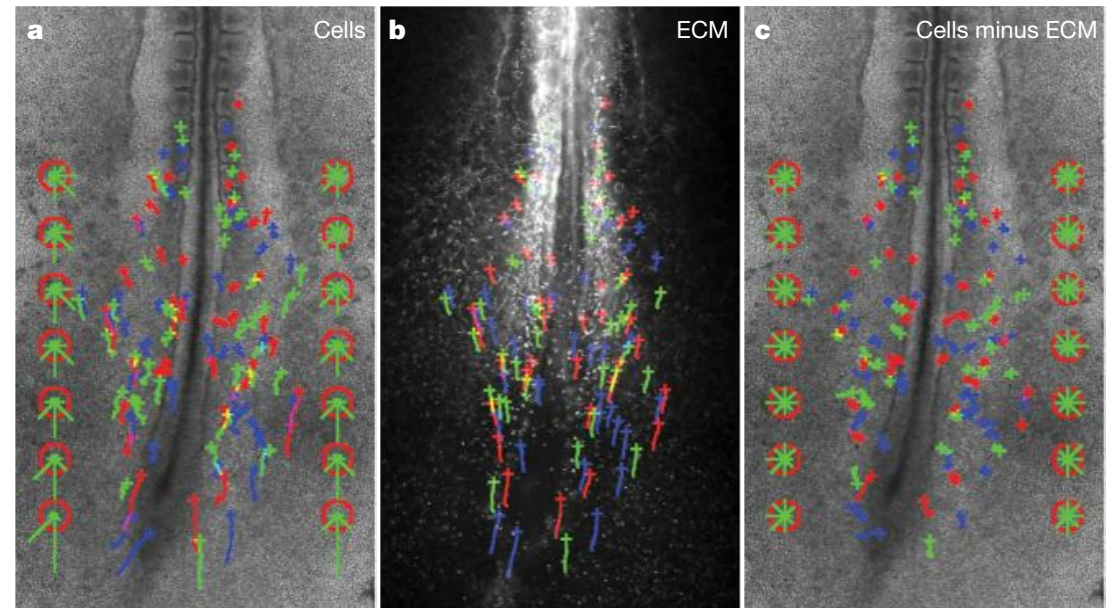
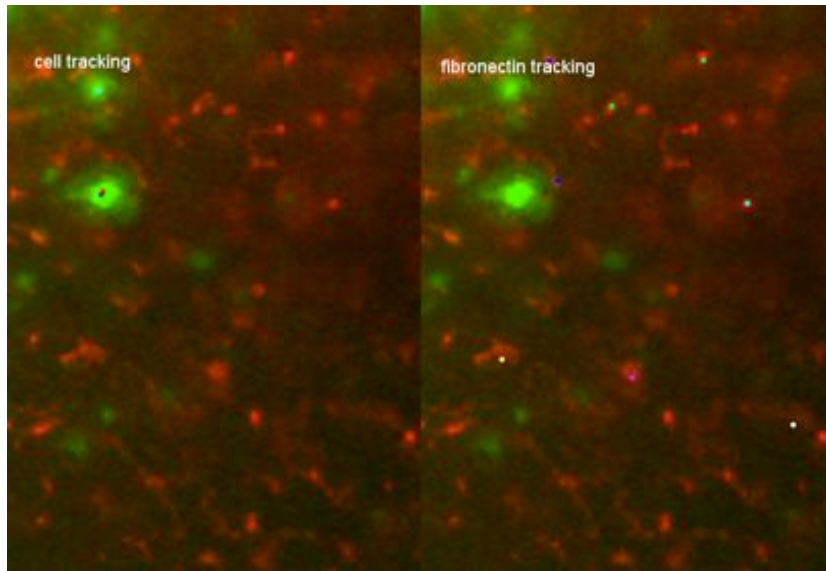


B. Bénazéraf (Pourquie lab)

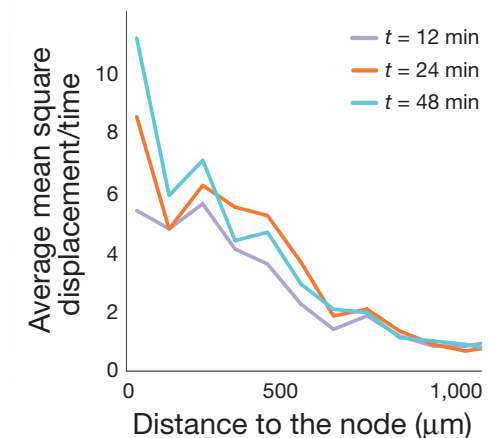


Mesenchymal Morphogenesis in 3D

- « free » ↔ Gaz
- Chick Gastrulation and axis elongation

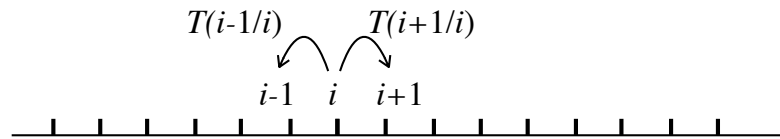
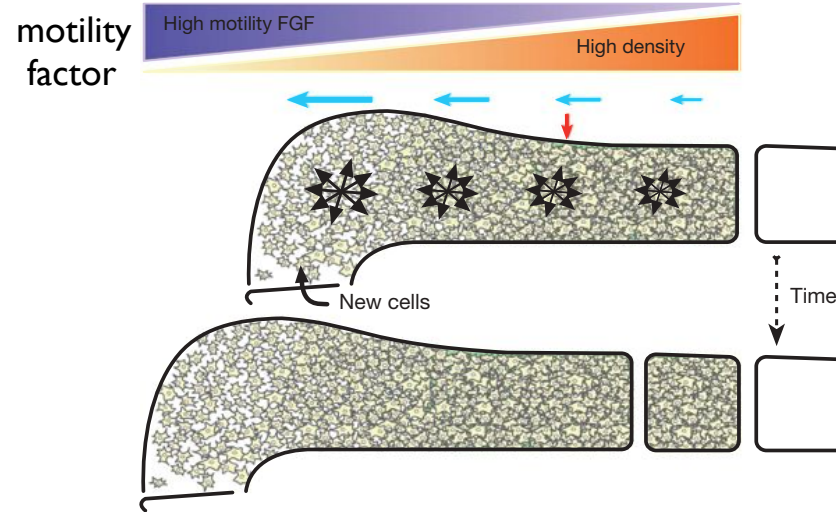


- Cells exhibit directional flow within embryo referential
- Cells have random « diffusive » behaviour with respect to extra cellular matrice
- Gradient of cell « diffusion »/motility from the node



Mesenchymal Morphogenesis in 3D

- « free » ↔ Gaz
- Chick Gastrulation and axis elongation

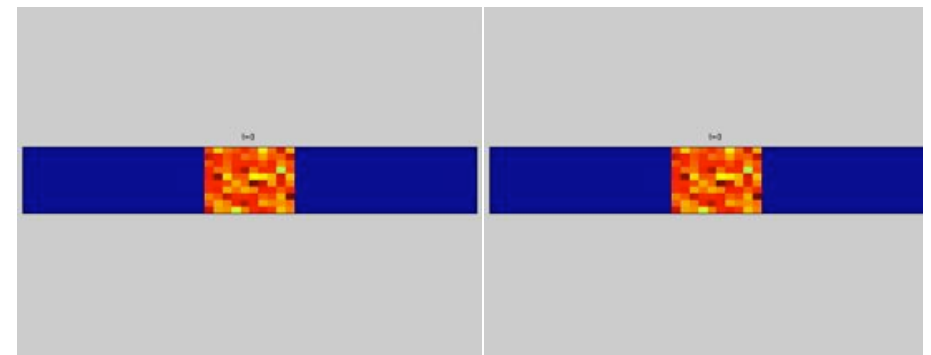


$$T(i \pm 1|i) = \frac{\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \left(\frac{D(u, s)_i + D(u, s)_{i \pm 1}}{2} \right)$$

$T(i \pm 1|i)$ = Transition probability for the cell in position i to move in position $i+1$ or $i-1$

$D(u, s)$: cell diffusivity depends on local signaling molecule, s concentration (FGF) and local cell density, u

Cai et al. *Bull Math Biol.* 68:25. 2006



Box 1 Figure | Simulation results at $t = 0, 50, 100, 250$. Without a gradient of cell motility (left panel), and with a gradient of cell motility (right panel).



Connectedness between cells

« free »



Gaz

adhesive



Fluid (viscoelastic)

strongly coupled

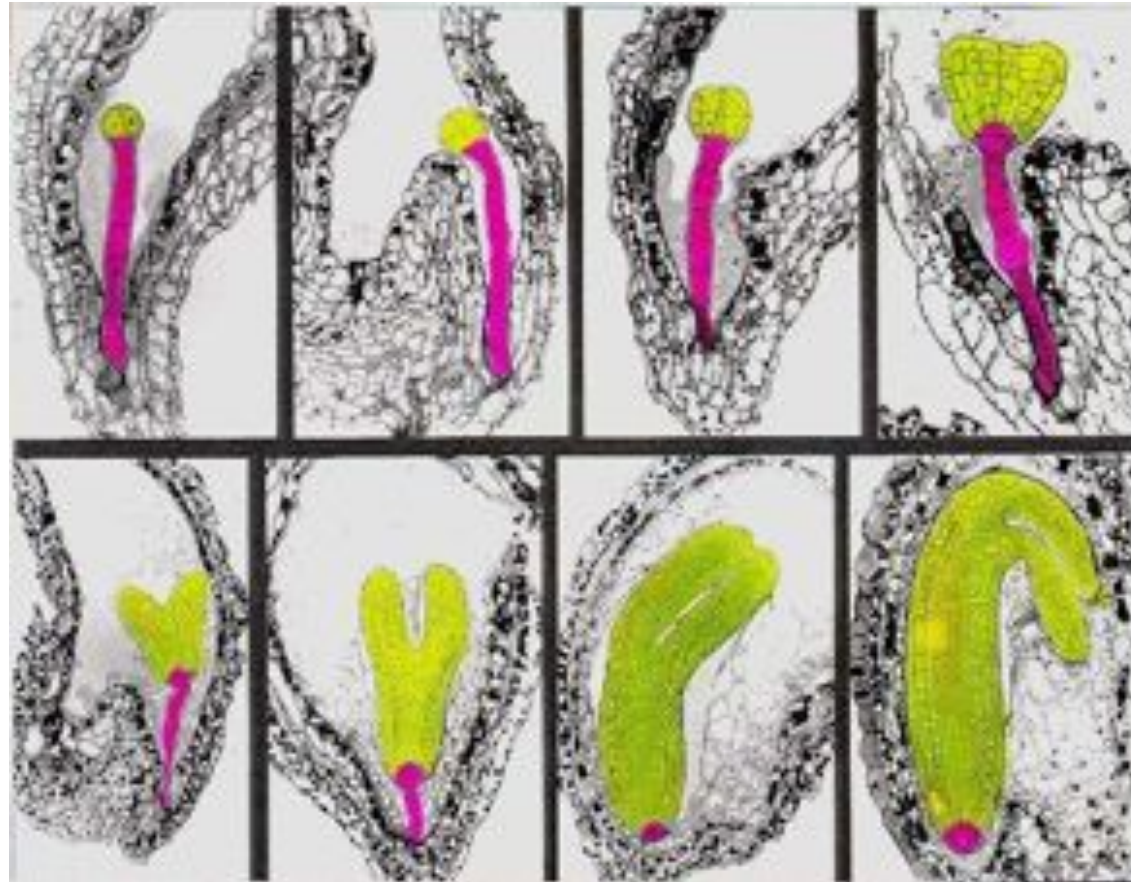


Solid (elastic/plastic)



3D Morphogenesis in plants

Dictated by growth and cell division patterns



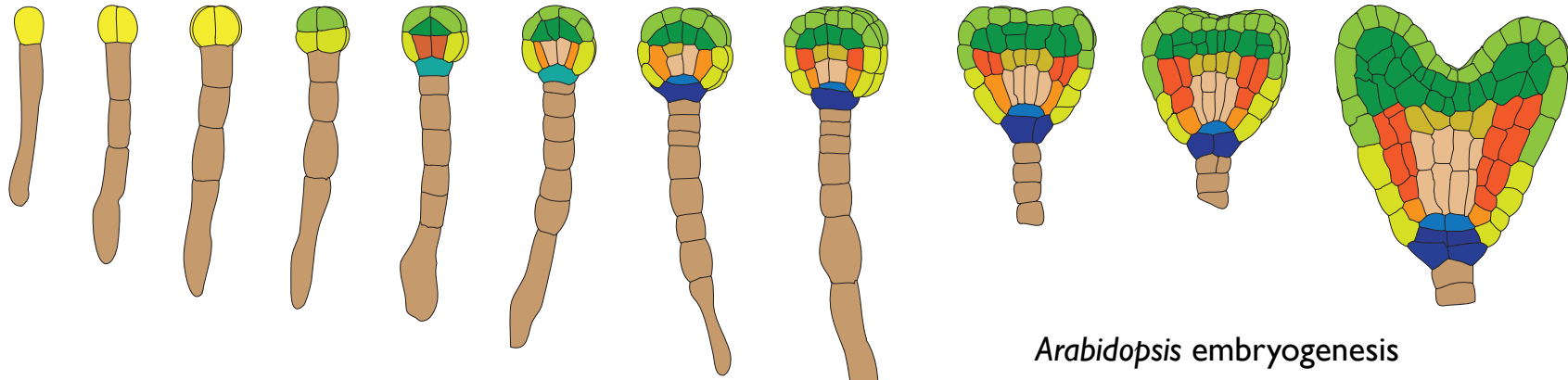
from Chun Ming-Liu (C.A.S. Beijing), via <http://biology.kenyon.edu/>

Embryogenesis in *Arabidopsis thaliana*



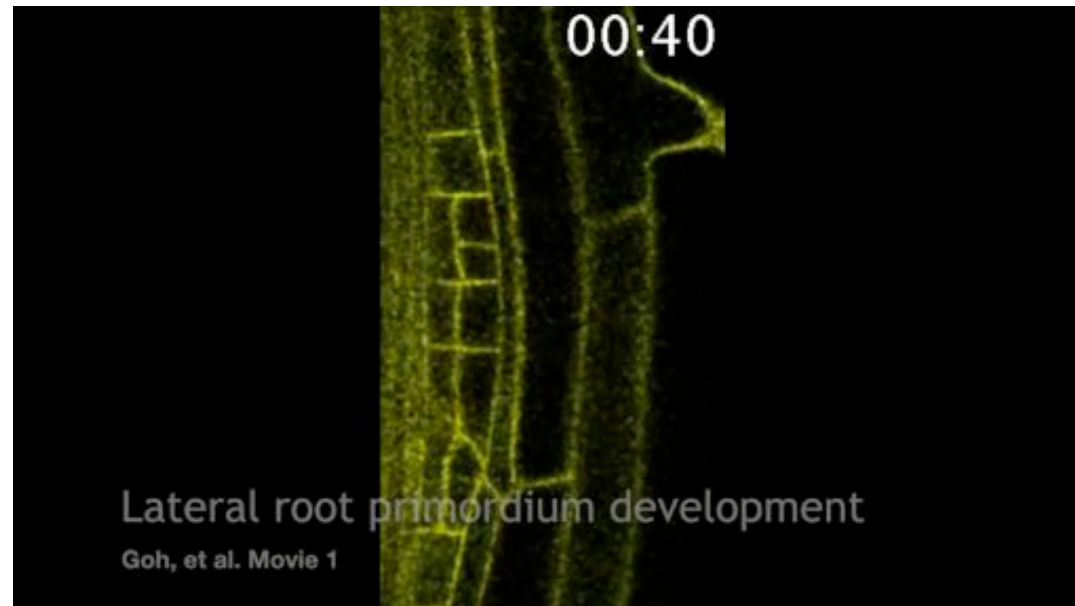
3D Morphogenesis in plants

Dictated by specific growth and cell division patterns



Arabidopsis embryogenesis

Galetti R., Verger S., Hamant O. & Ingram GC. *Development*. 143:3249. 2016



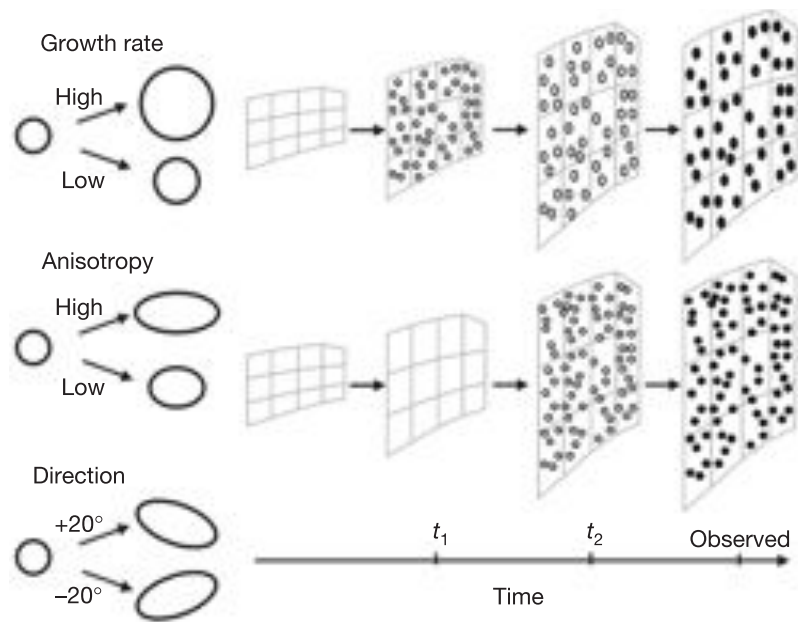
Goh T. et al, and Guyomarc'h S. *Development*. 143:3363. 2016



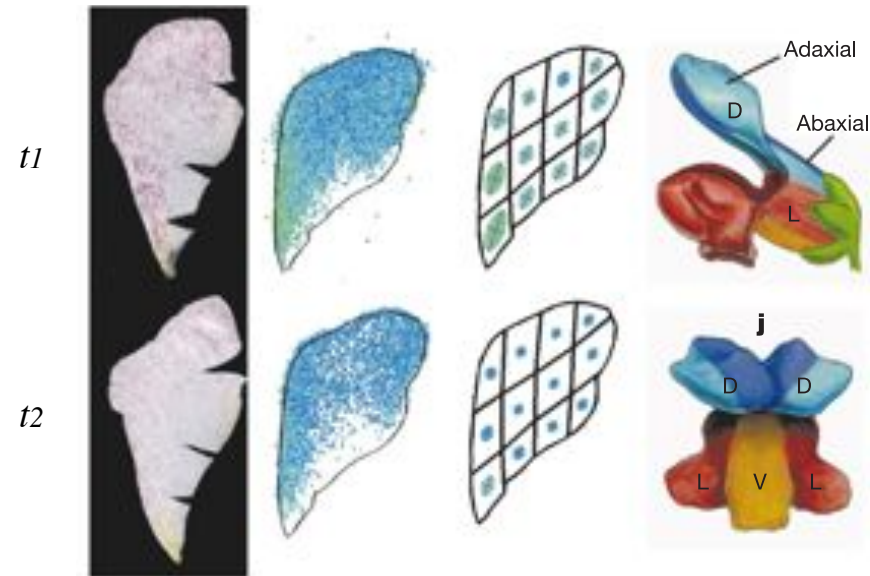
3D Morphogenesis in plants

Growth dynamics underlying petal shape and asymmetry

see Conformal transformations (e.g. d'Arcy Thompson)

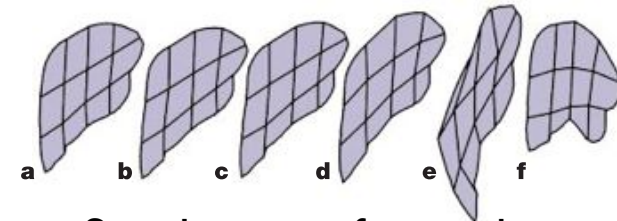


Growth parameters



Observations: clonal analysis

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| Doubling time | Obs. | 21 h | 21 h | 21 h | Obs. | Obs. |
| Anisotropy | Obs. | Obs. | 1.15 | 1.15 | 1.3 | Obs. |
| Direction | Obs. | Obs. | Obs. | 19.5° | Obs. | 0° |



Simulations of growth



3D Morphogenesis in plants

Mechanics of walled cells growth: Elasticity

- Turgor Pressure: 0.4-0.8 MPa
(in animal cells, hydrostatic pressure 50-150 Pa)

Beauzamy L. et al. and Hamant O, Boudaoud A. *Front. Plant Sc.* 6:1038. 2015
Stewart MP et al. and Müller D, Hyman A. *Nature.* 469:226. 2011

- Wall stiffness opposes and balances turgor pressure.

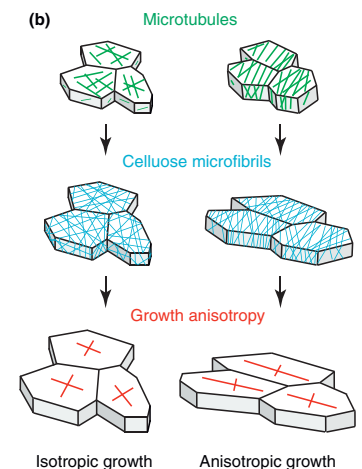
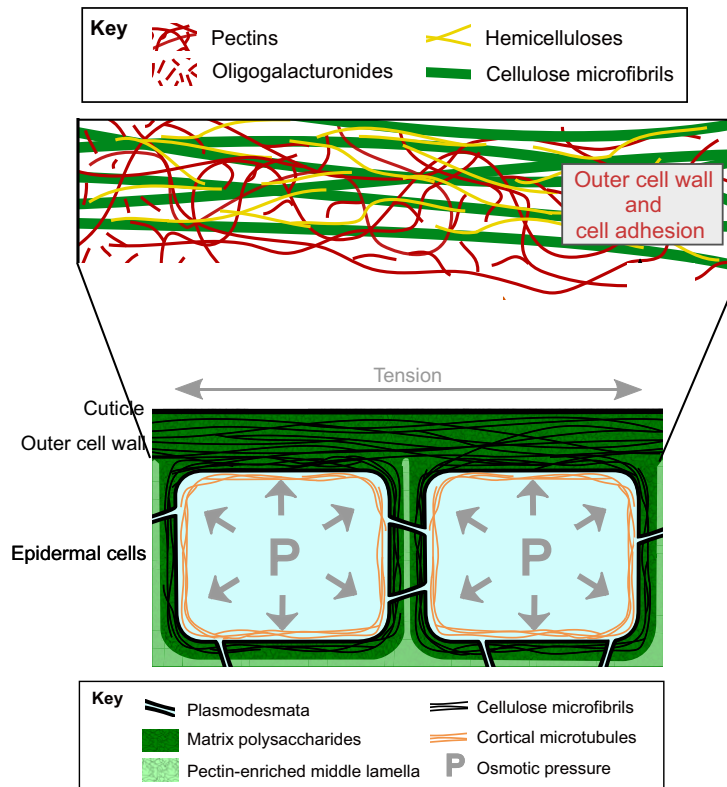
(in animal cells, actomyosin cortex has a similar, albeit intracellular function: see blebs)

- Regulation of wall stiffness E .

- Polarisation: E_{xx} , E_{yy}

MT/Cellulose anisotropy

- Magnitude: cellulose, pectin density, crosslinking



Connectedness between cells

« free »



Gaz

adhesive



Fluid (viscoelastic)

strongly coupled

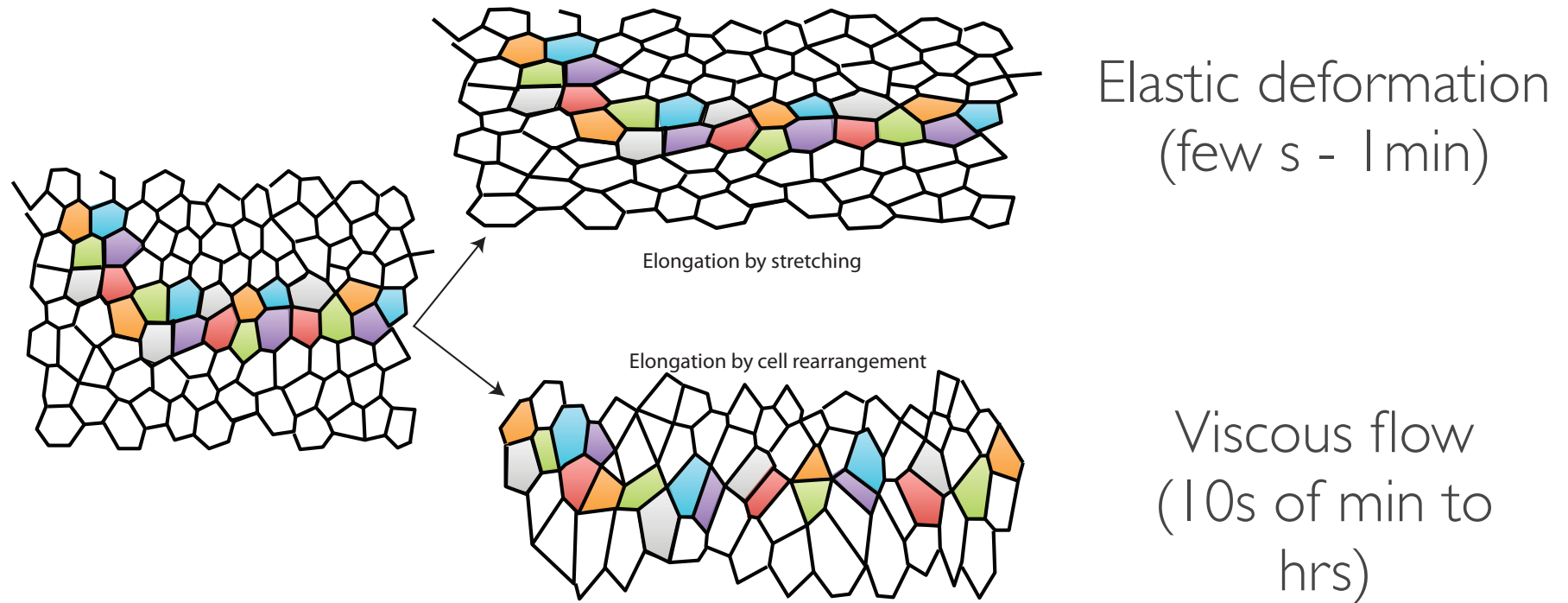


Solid (elastic/plastic)



Epithelial tissues are visco-elastic

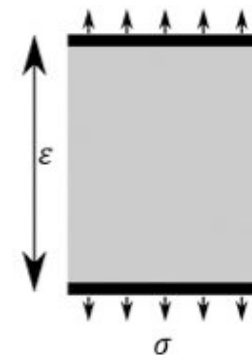
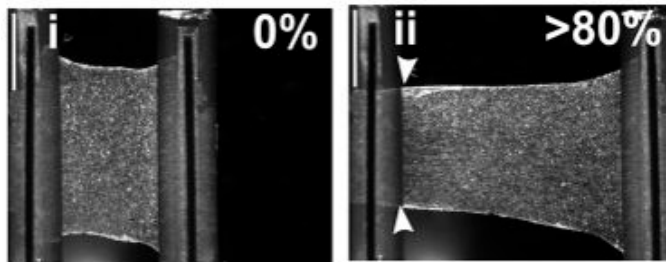
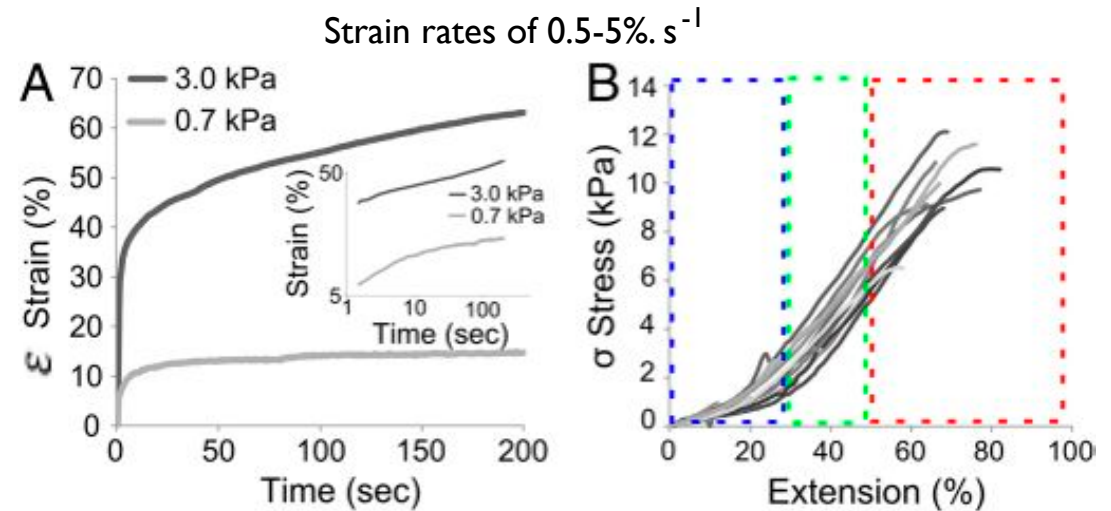
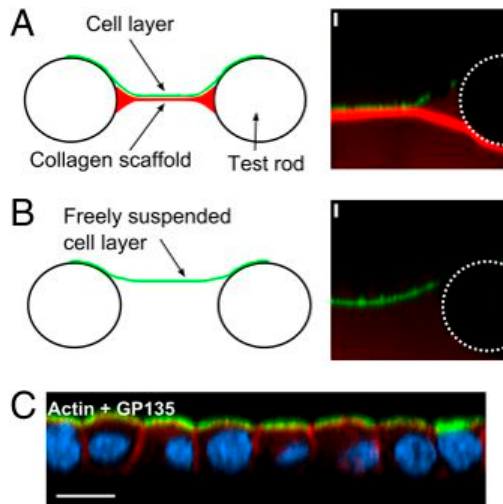
- Time-dependency of responses to stress



Elastic properties of epithelia

- Elasticity on short time scales (<10-20s)

Creep response experiments:



$$\sigma = E \epsilon$$

$$E = 20 \pm 2 \text{ kPa}$$

E : stiffness of epithelial monolayer

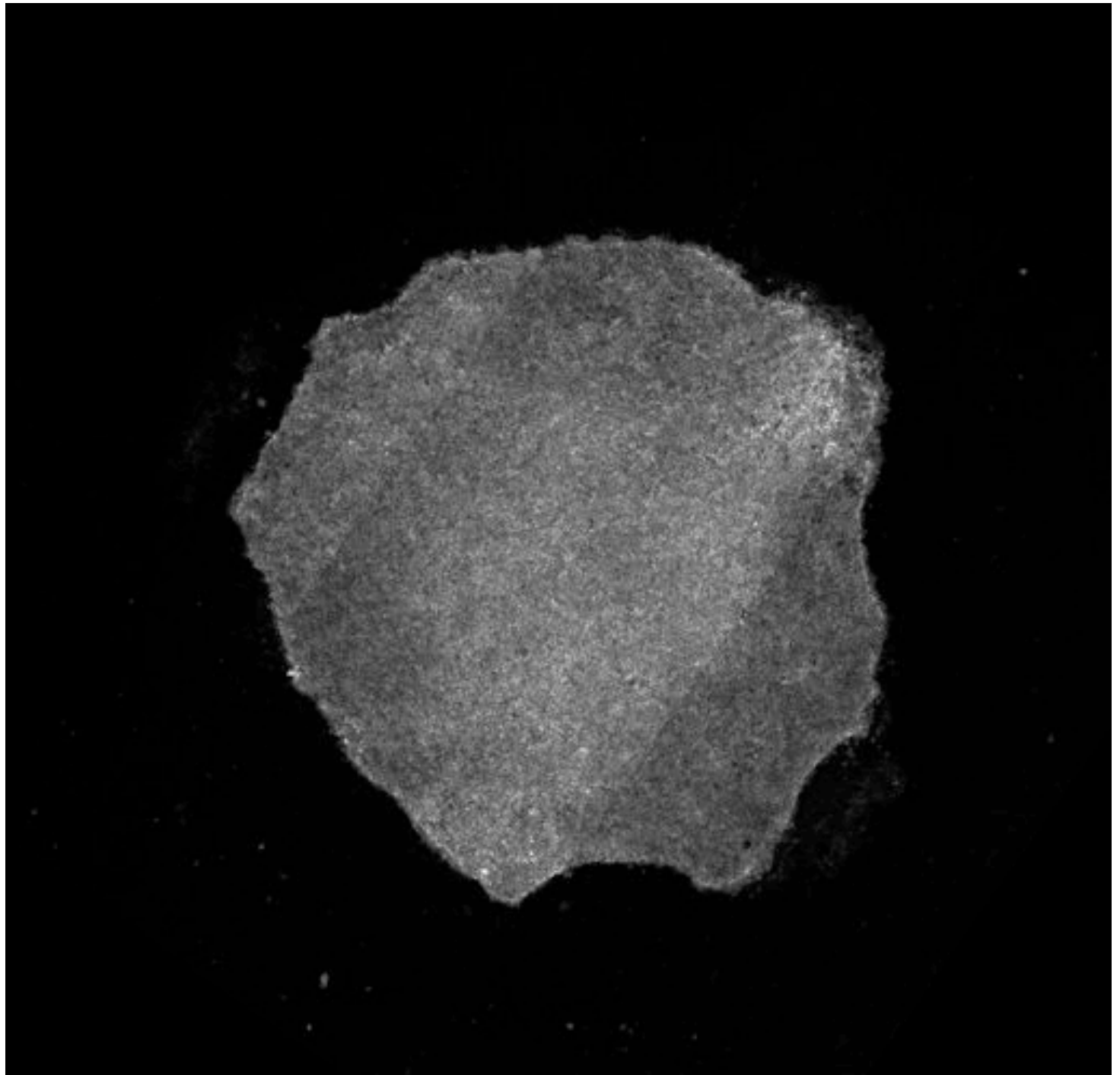


Epithelial tissues are viscous fluids

- Tissue fluid flow on long time scales (24h)

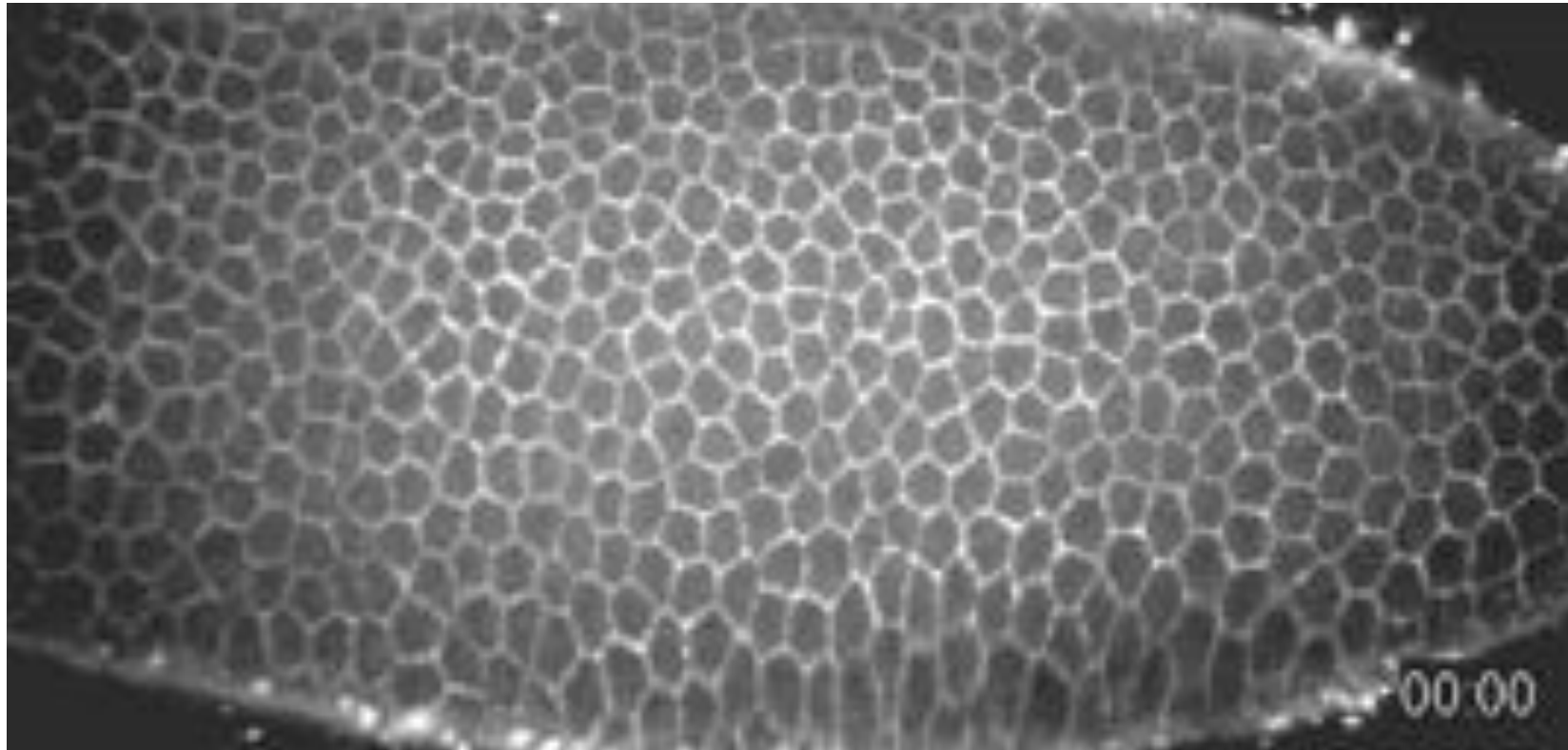
Epiblast of quail embryo
J. Gros Institut Pasteur

membrane-GFP



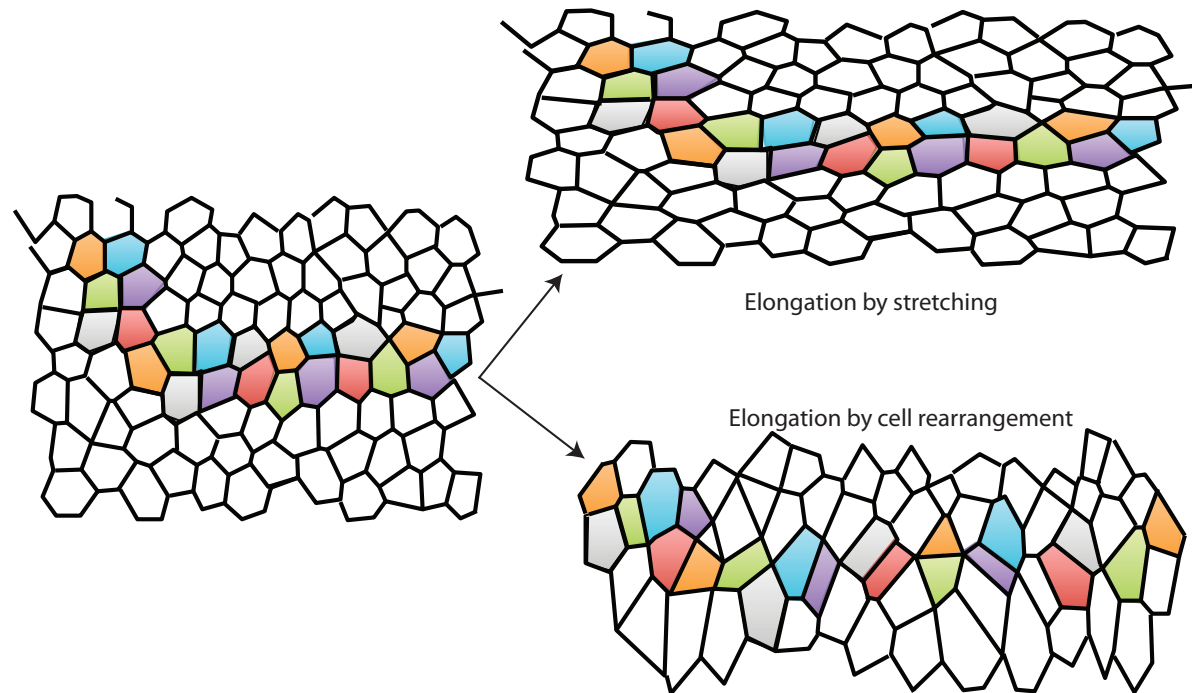
Epithelial tissues are viscous fluids

- Tissue fluid flow on long time scale(45 min)



E-cadherin::GFP *Drosophila* embryo

Epithelia are viscoelastic



Elastic deformation
(few min)

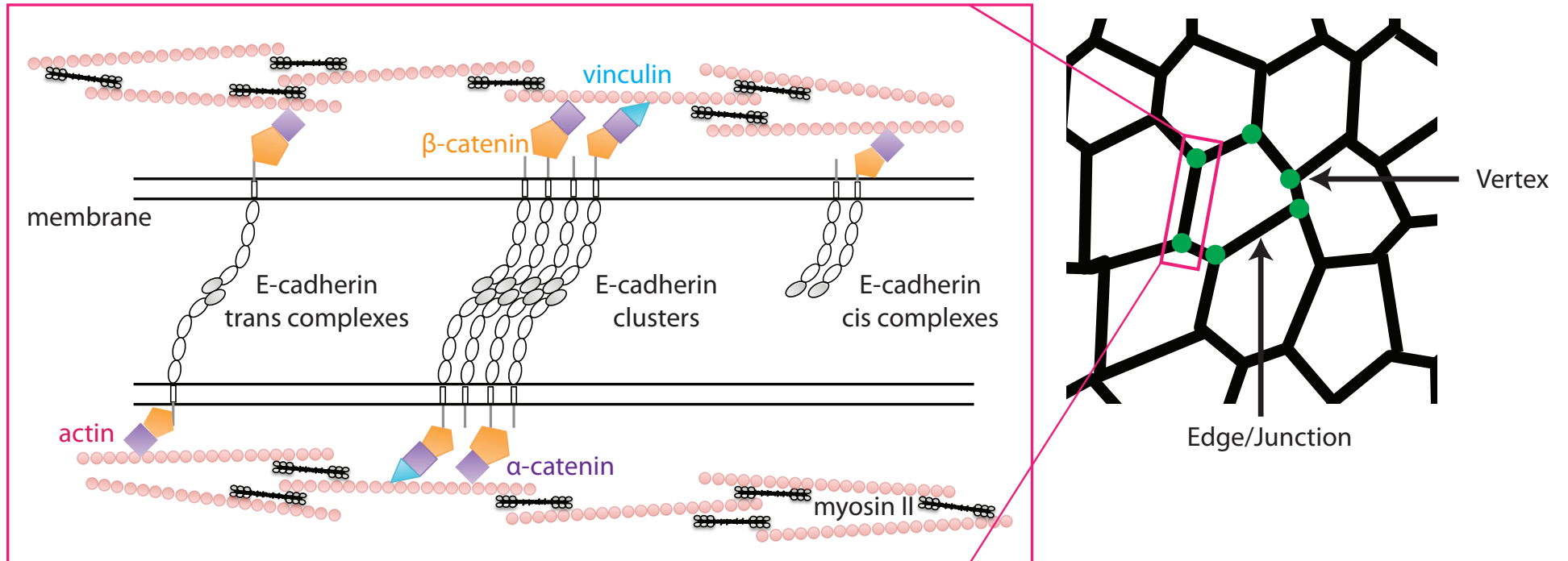
Viscous flow
(10s of min to
hrs)

>>junction dynamics



Epithelia are viscoelastic

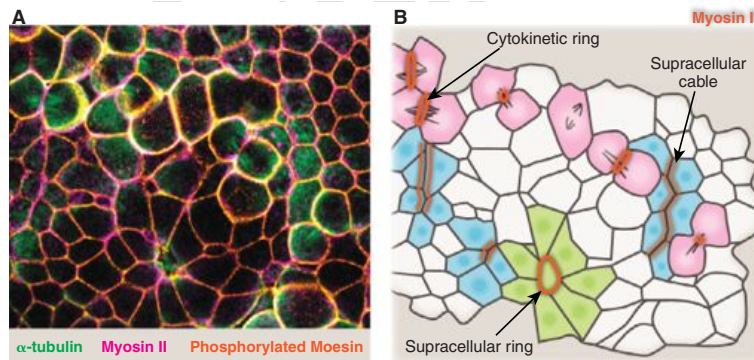
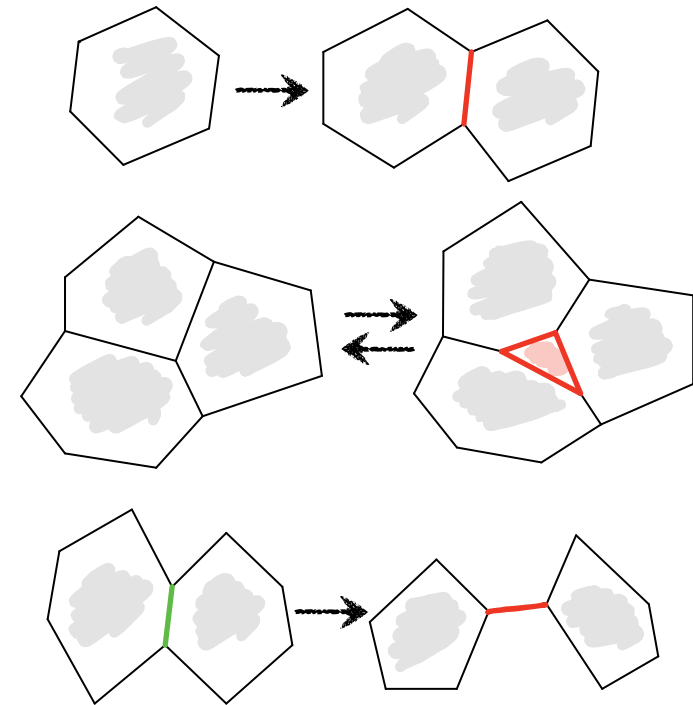
Junctions are sites of adhesion and cortical tension



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

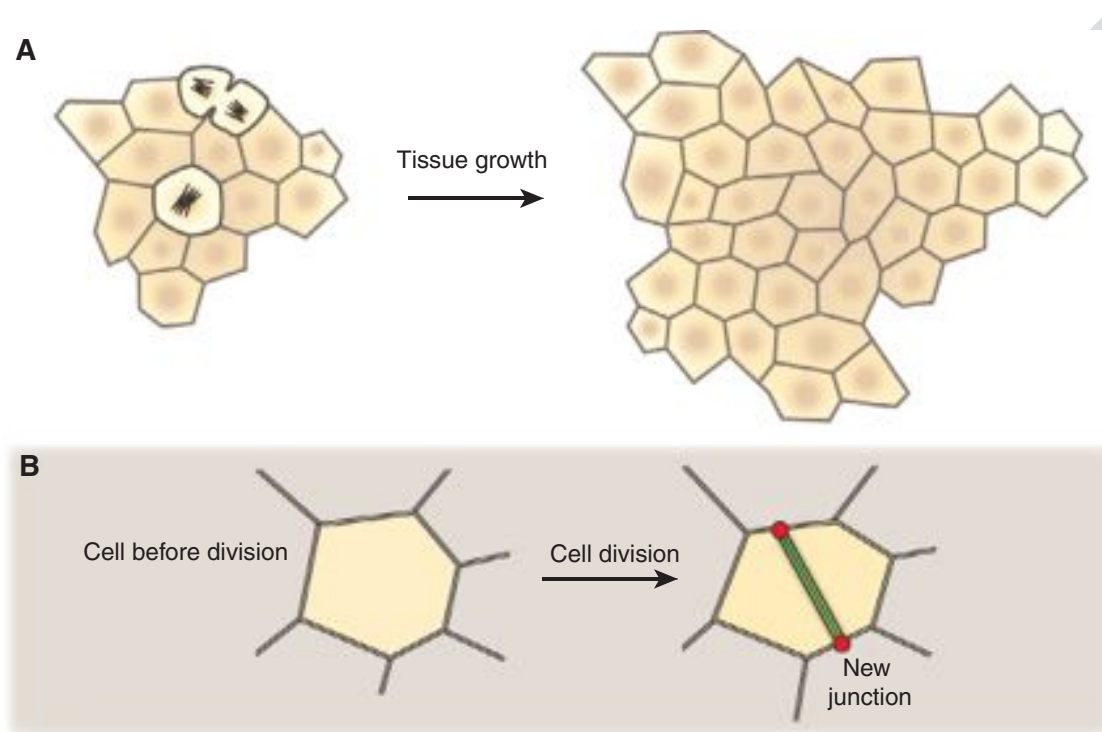
4 types of cell contact remodelling underly epithelial fluid behaviour

- Junction formation: **cell division**
- Junction formation: **cell apical emergence**
- Junction removal: **cell extrusion**
- Junction exchange: **cell intercalation**



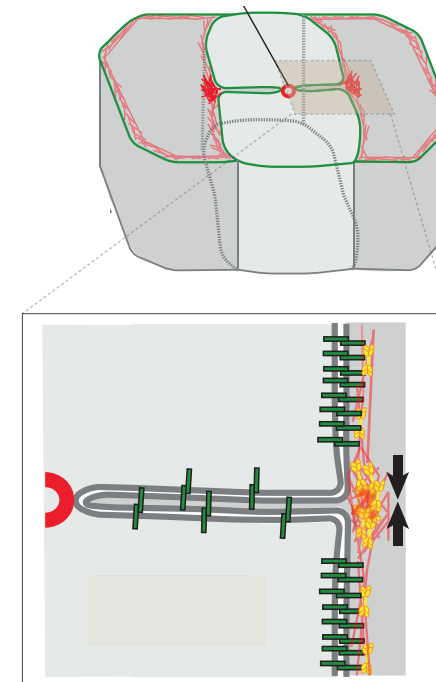
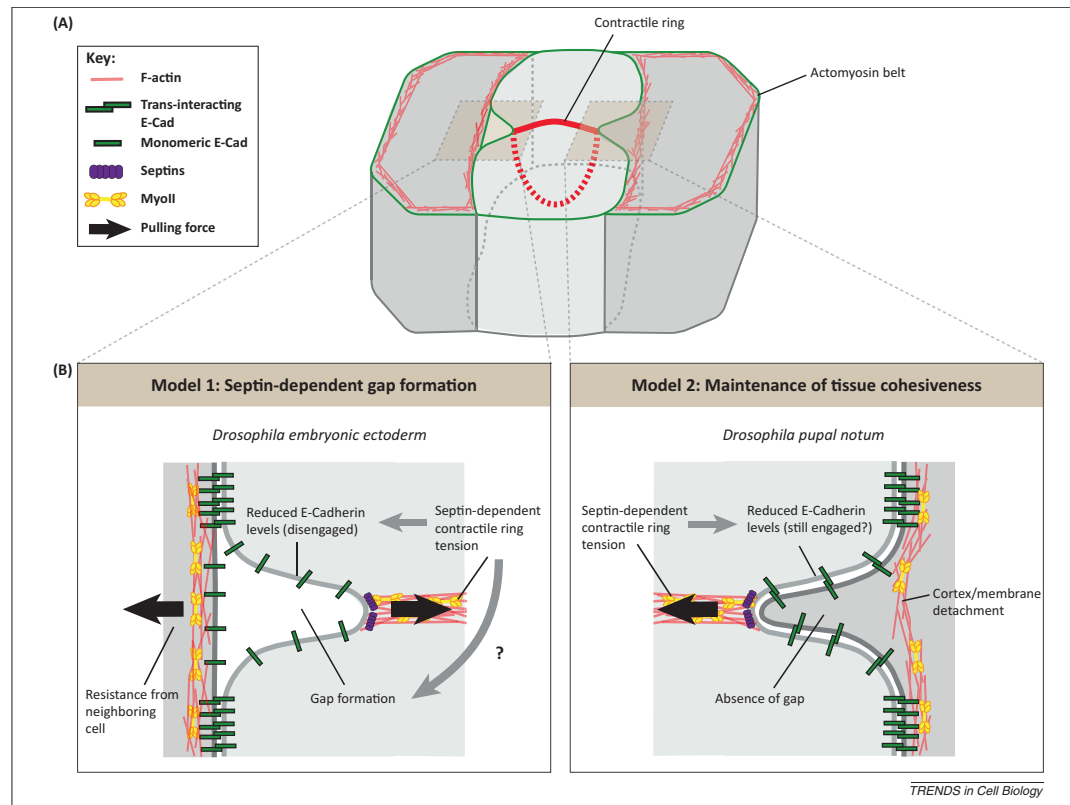
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Formation of new junctions during cell division



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Formation of a new junction is an active multicellular process

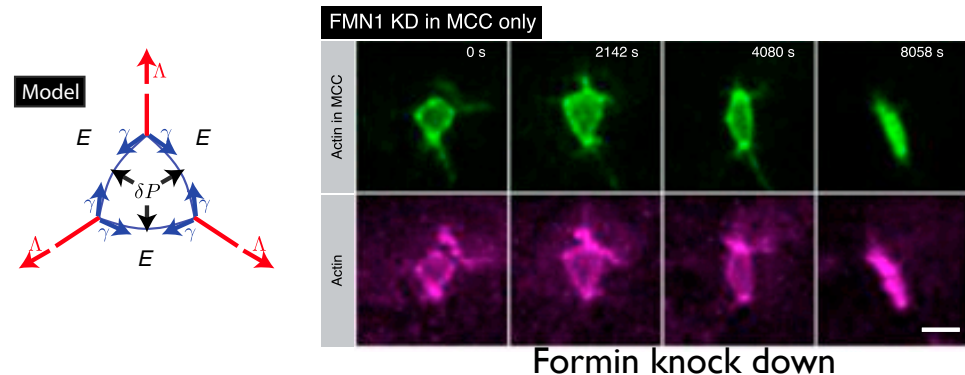
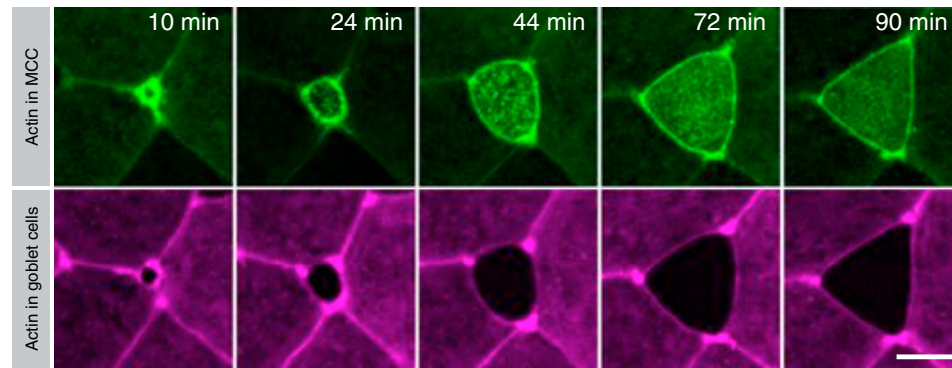
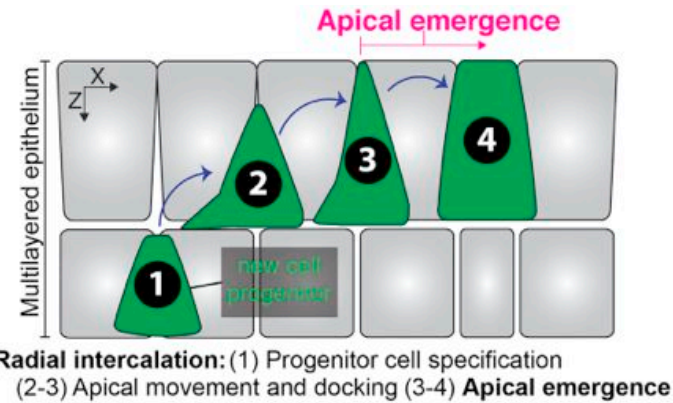


Herszterg & Bellaïche *Trends in Cell Biol.* 24:285. 2014

Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

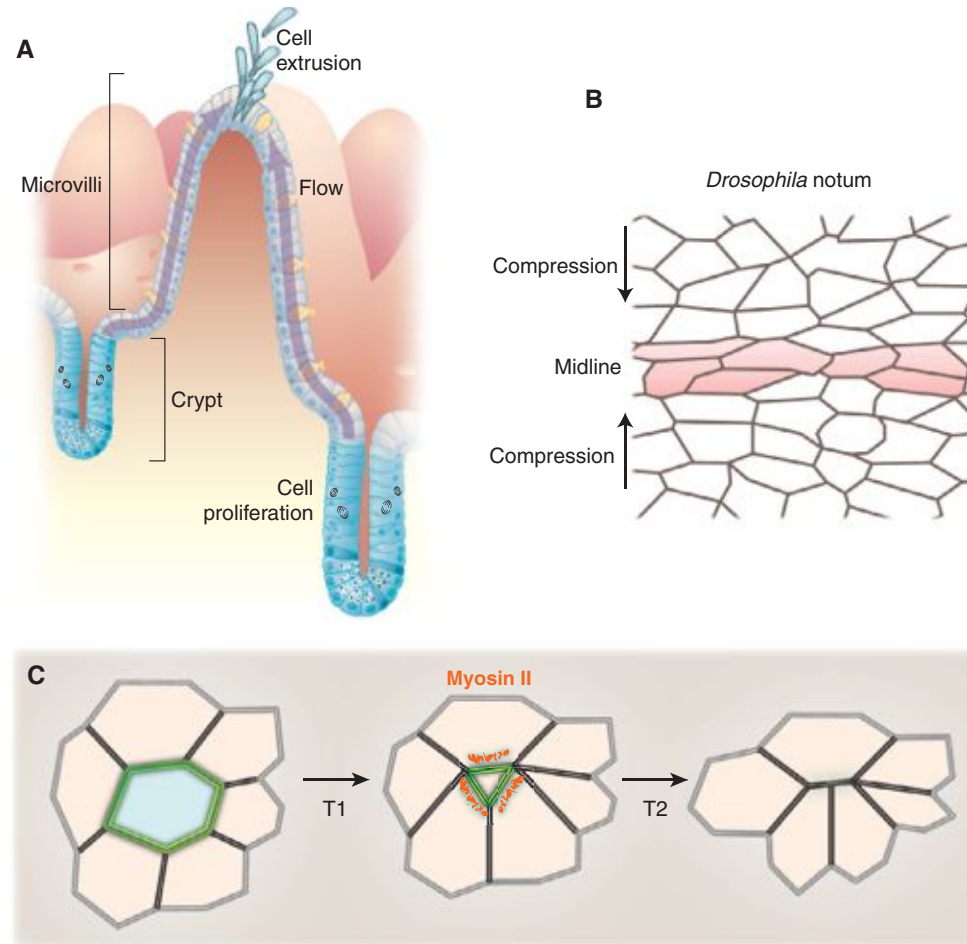
- Cell emergence

- Radial cell intercalation associated with apical emergence
- This is associated with compressive stresses exerted by emerging cell on neighbours
- Requires F-actin network assembly



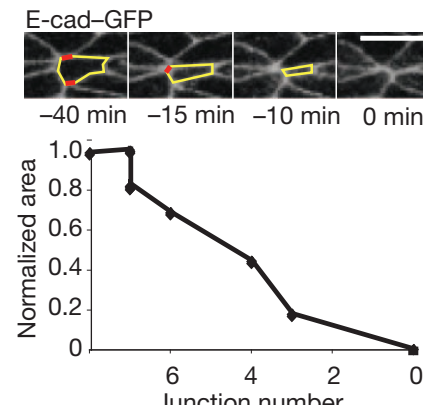
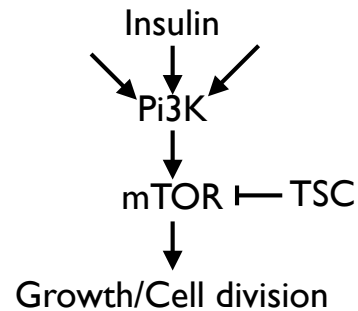
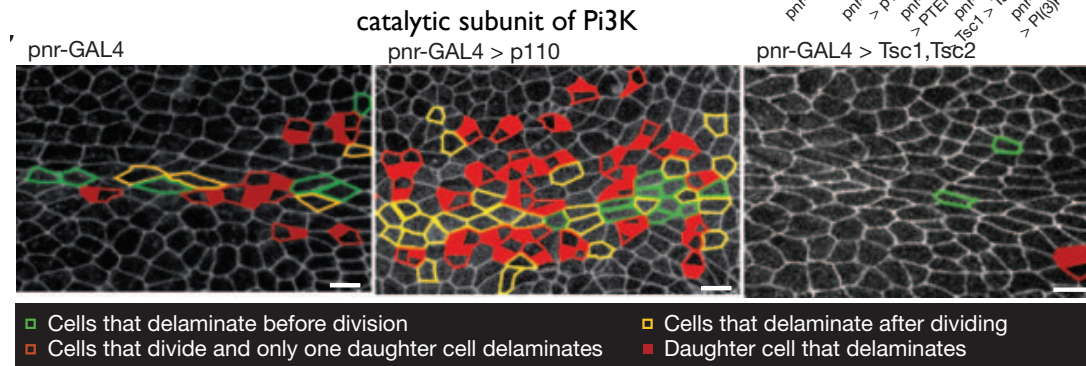
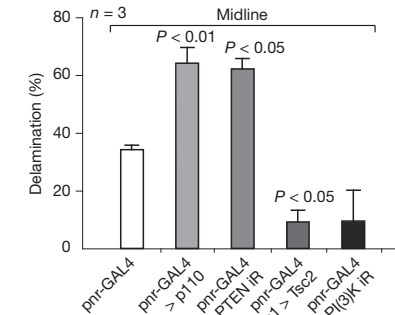
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

- Active removal of junctions during cell extrusion and delimitation



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

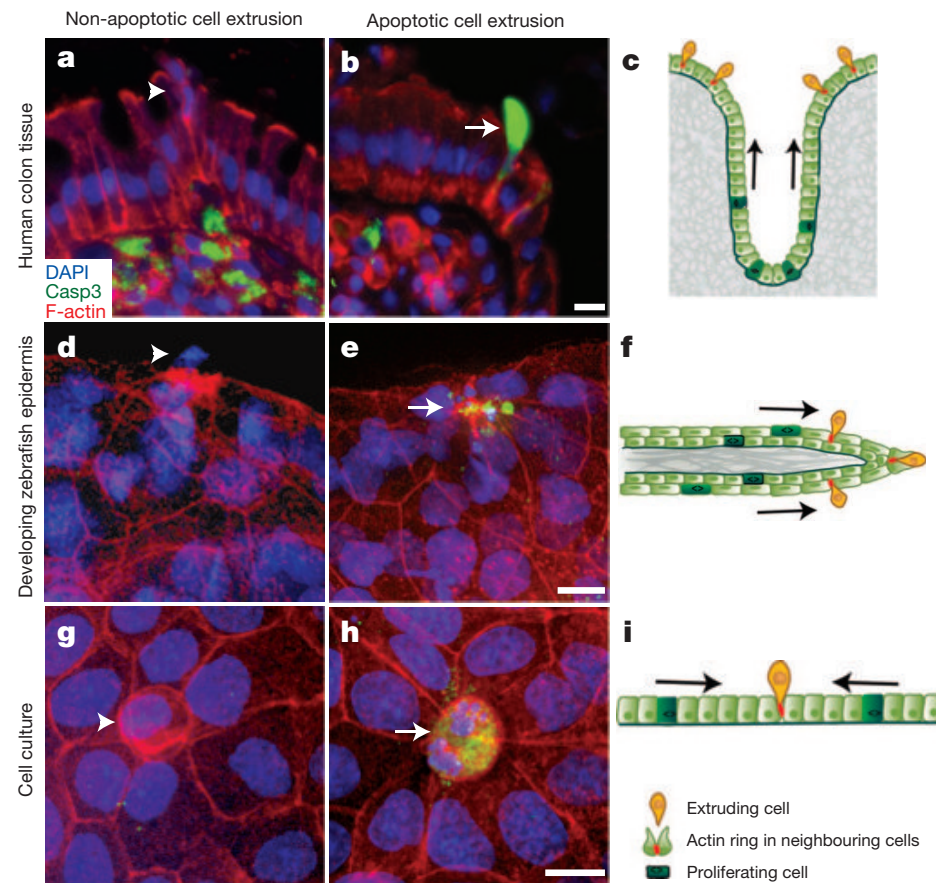
- Cell delamination balances cell division
- Increased cell division/growth induces delamination
- Removal of cell junctions and reduction of apical cell surface



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

- Cell extrusion

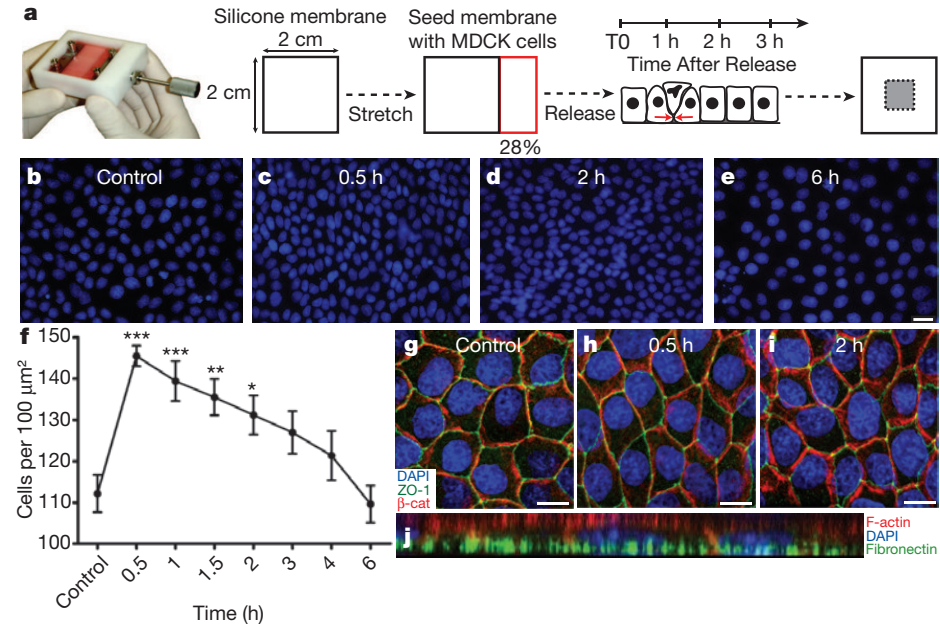
- Cells extrude in region of high cellular crowding



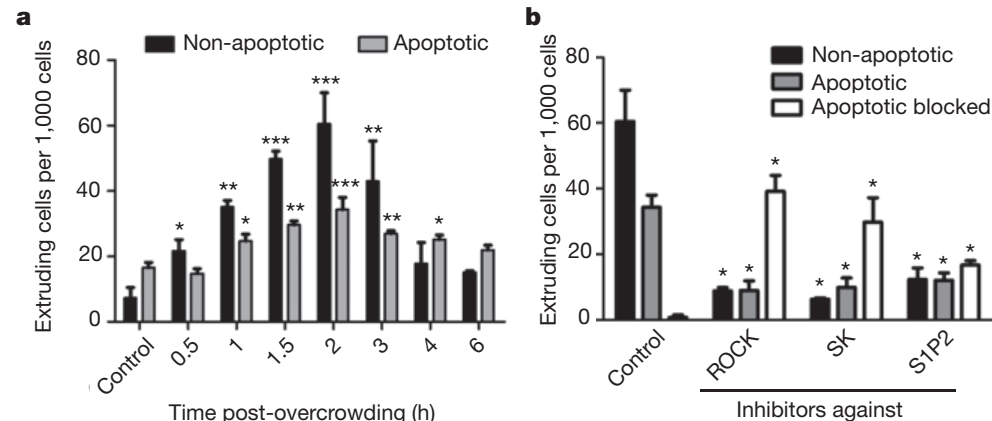
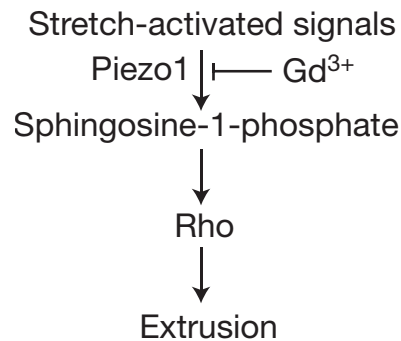
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Homeostatic cell extrusion

- Induced crowding with tissue stretcher promotes extrusion
- Extrusion requires contractility and stretch activated signals

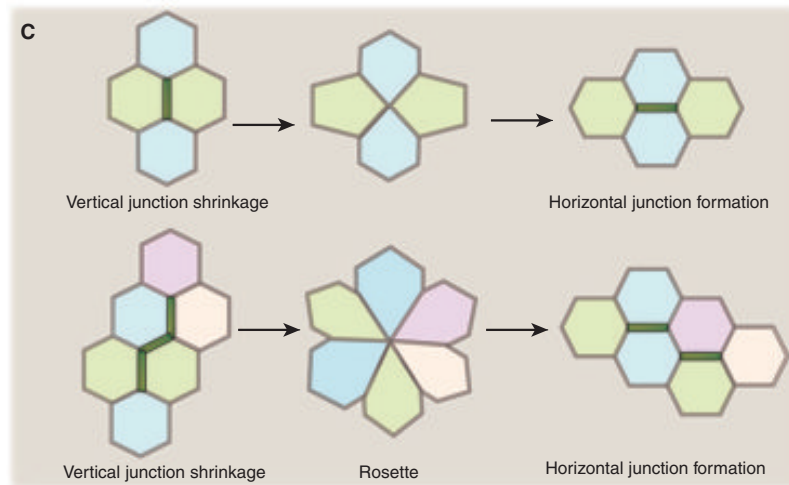
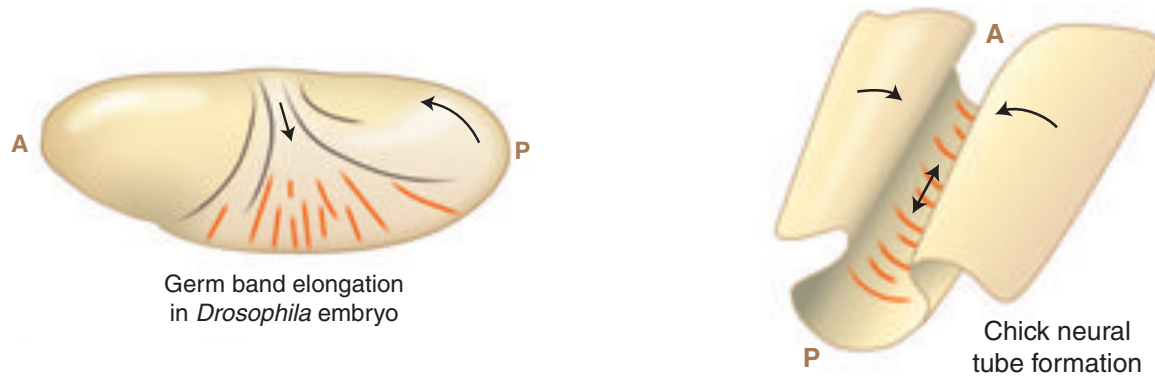


Homeostatic cell death



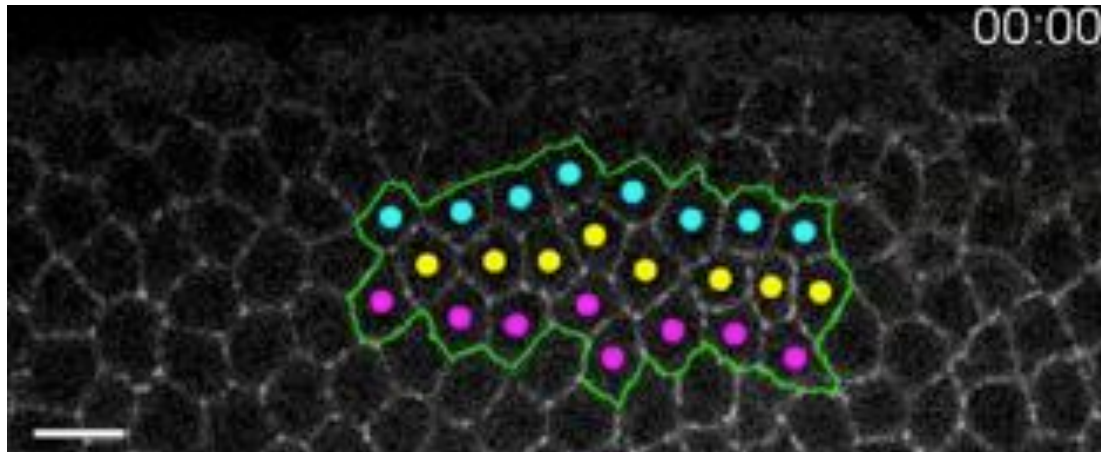
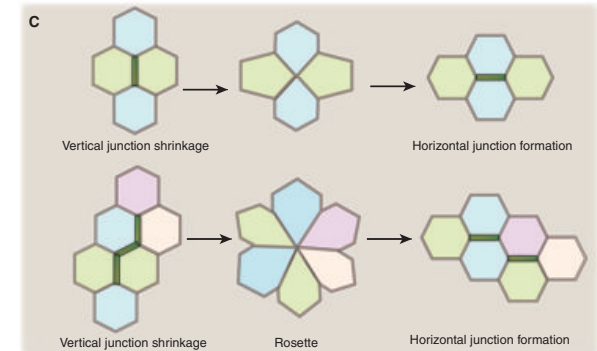
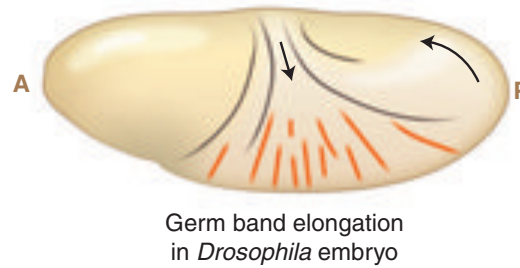
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Cell intercalation and tissue elongation



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Cell intercalation and tissue elongation



Bertet et al. *Nature* 429:667. 2004

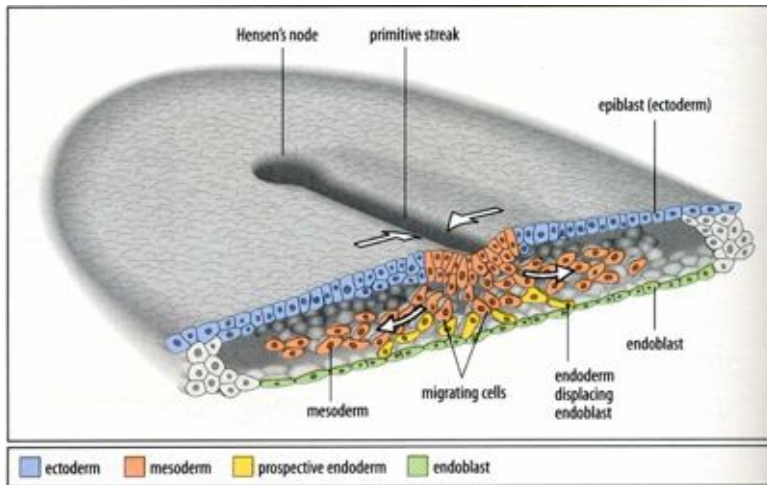
Blankenship et al. *Dev Cell* 11:459. 2006



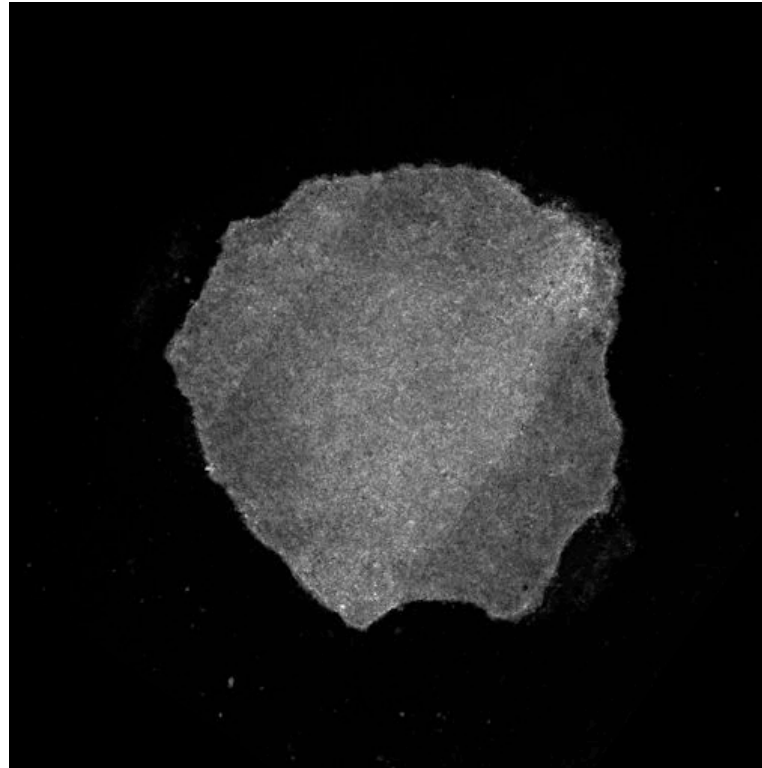
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

- Cell intercalation and tissue elongation

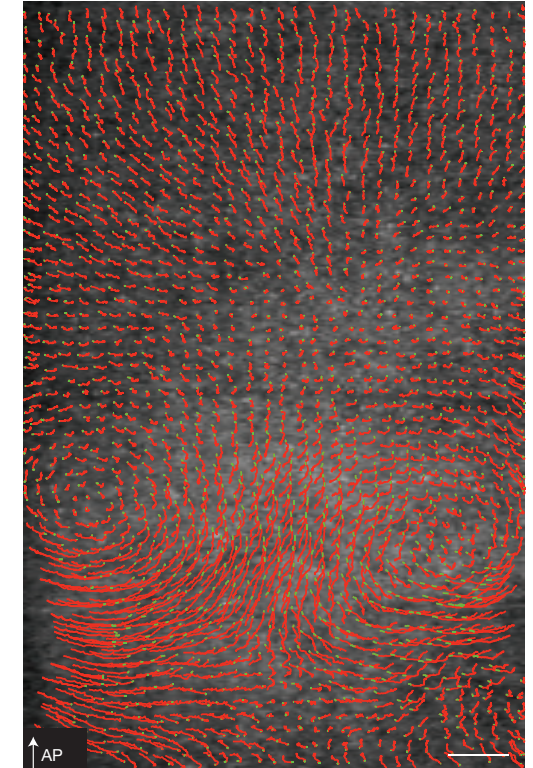
Planar movement of Epiblast Cells



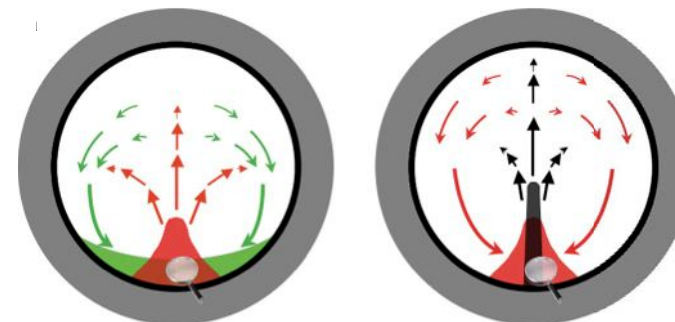
Developmental Biology. S. Gilbert



Firmino J. et al, and Gros J.
Dev. Cell. 36:249. 2016



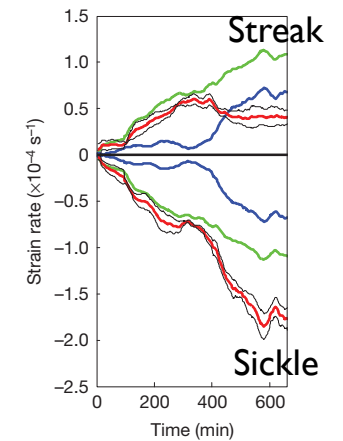
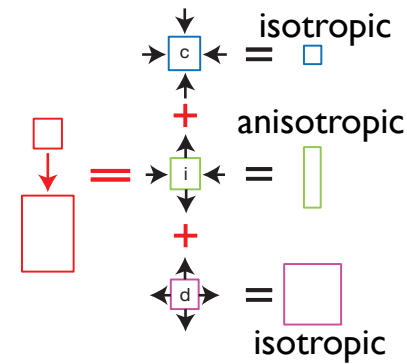
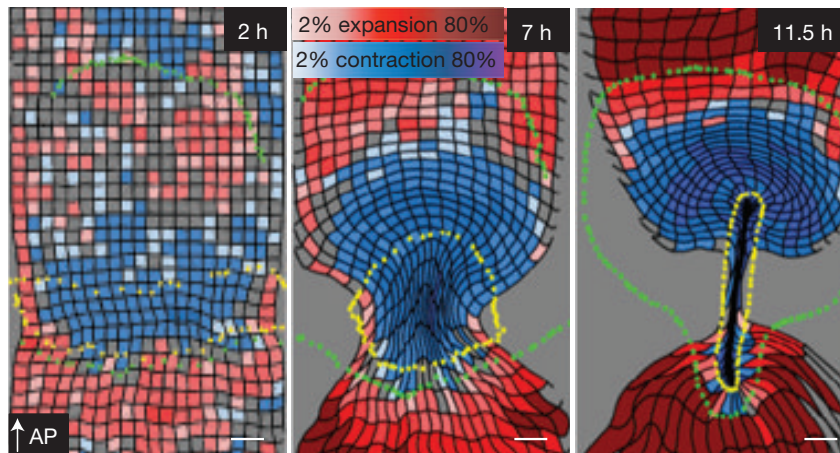
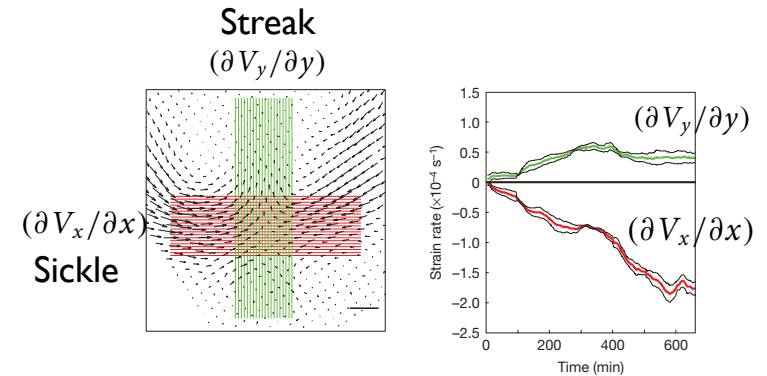
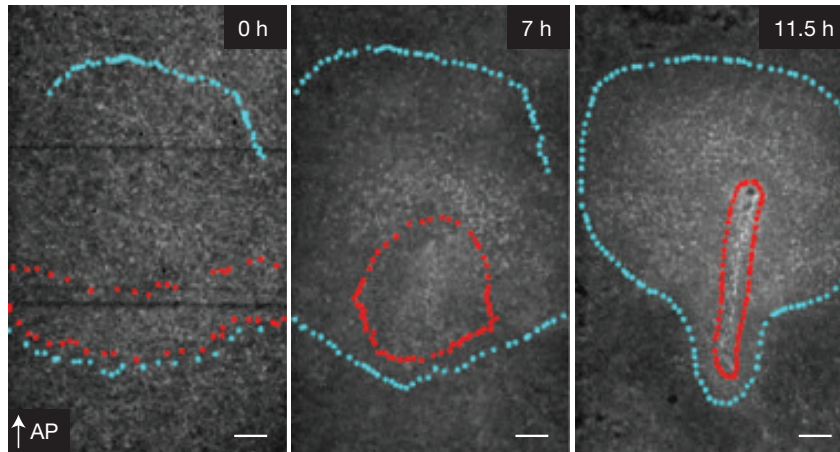
Rozbicki E. et al, and Weijer C.I.
Nature Cell Biol. 17:397. 2015



Voiculescu et al, and Stern C. *Nature* 449:1049. 2007

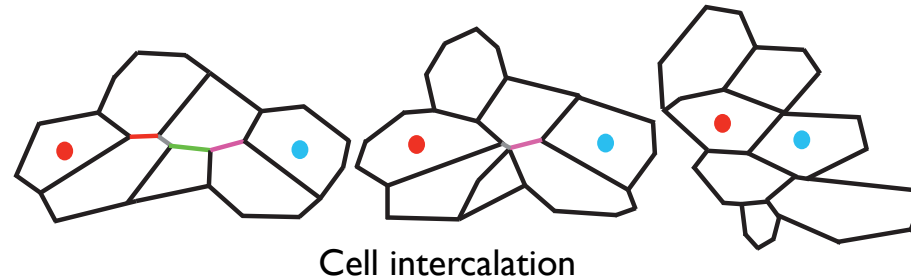
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Distribution of strain rates

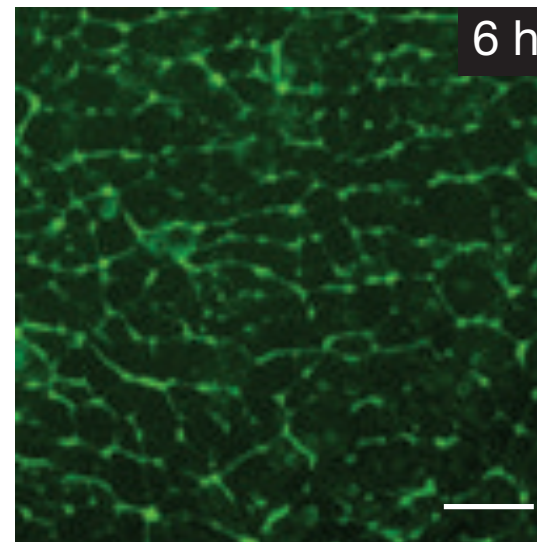


Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Cellular origin of anisotropic deformations Cell intercalation



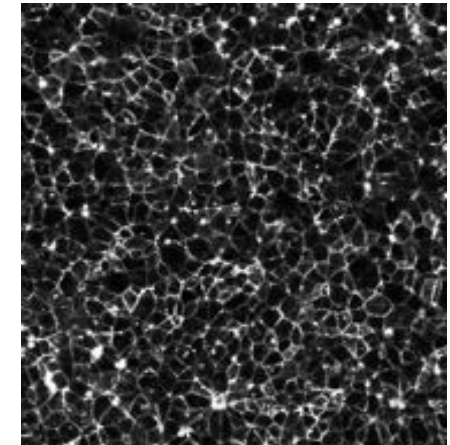
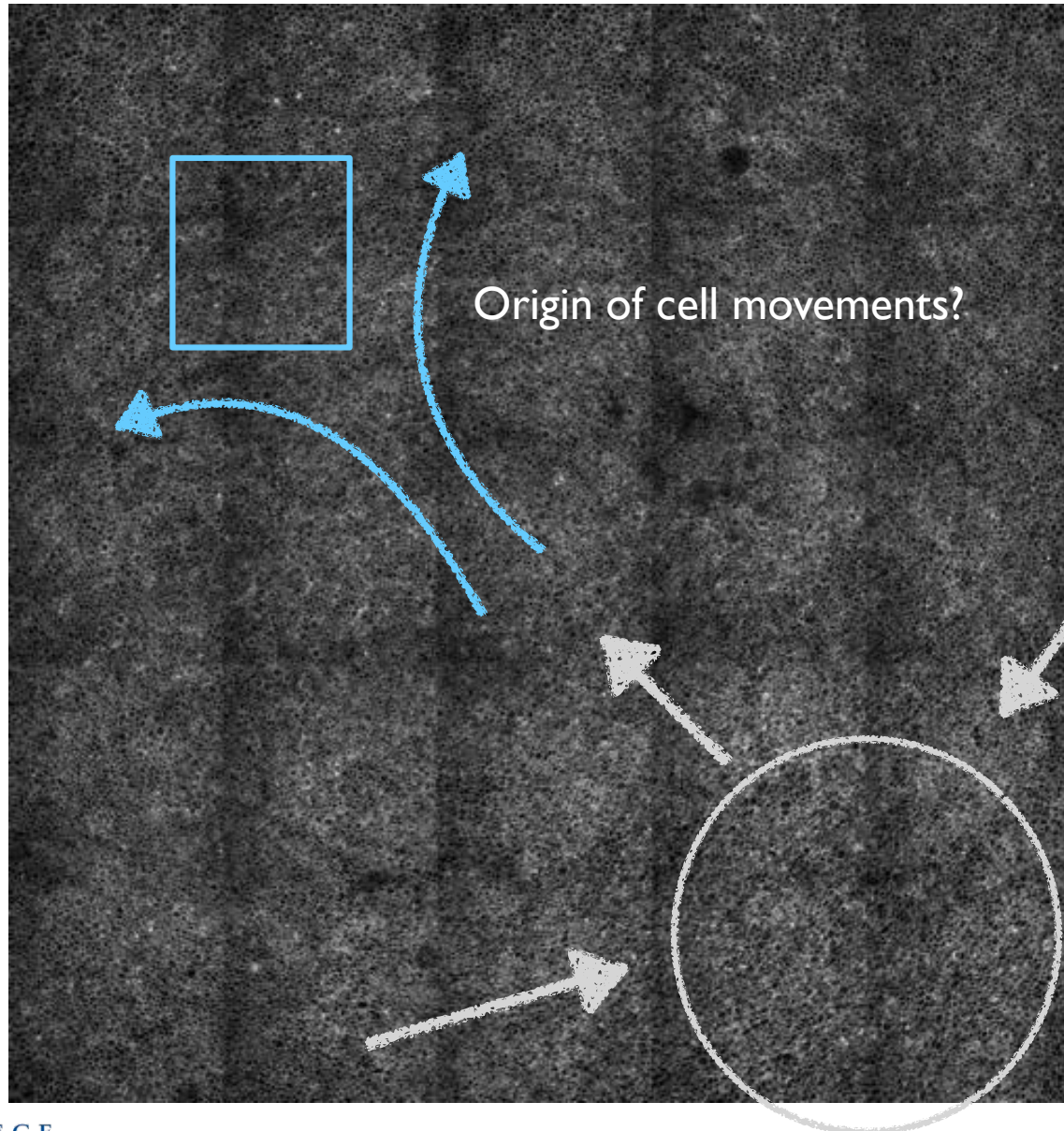
Polarized cell intercalation is driven by
contraction of junction
by actomyosin networks
(see 28 November 2017)



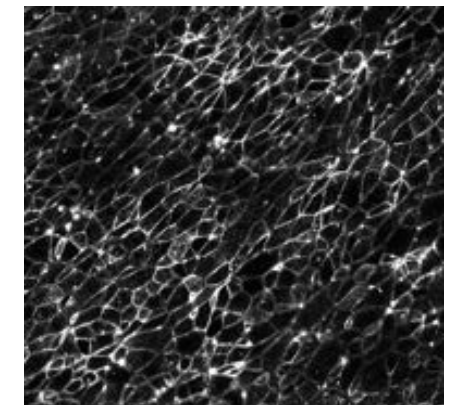
Planar Myosin-II distribution

Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Contribution of cell divisions to cell movements



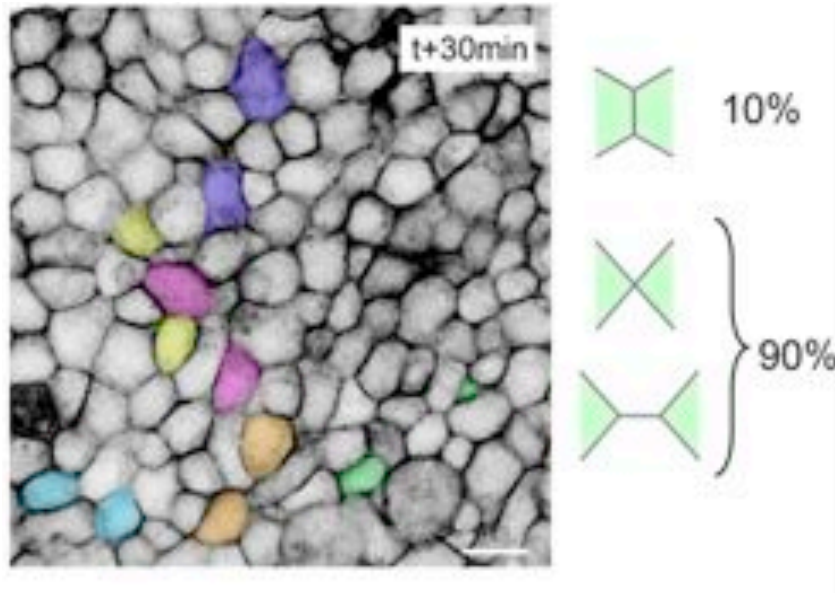
Myosin-II



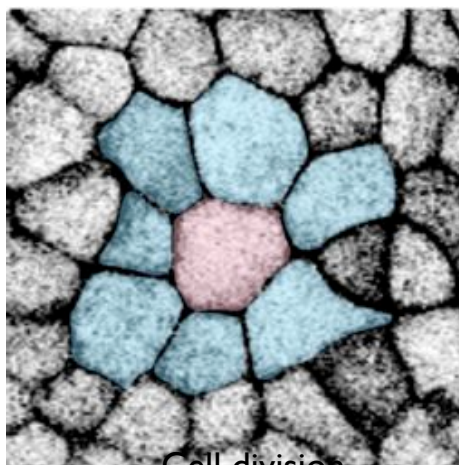
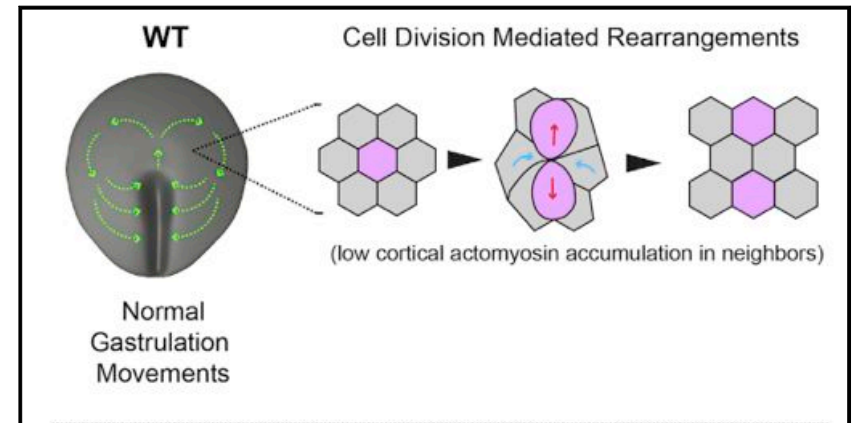
Convergence/Extension
driven by Myosin-II
dependent cell intercalation

Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

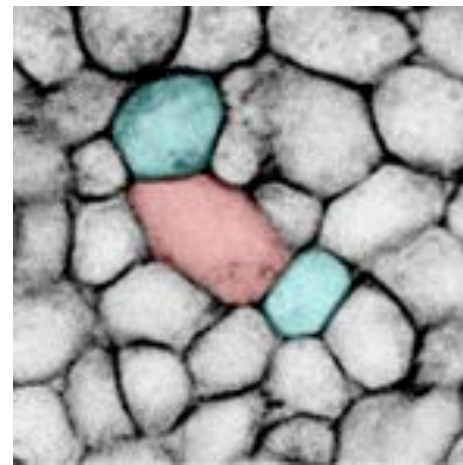
Contribution of cell divisions to cell movements



Associated with cell intercalation



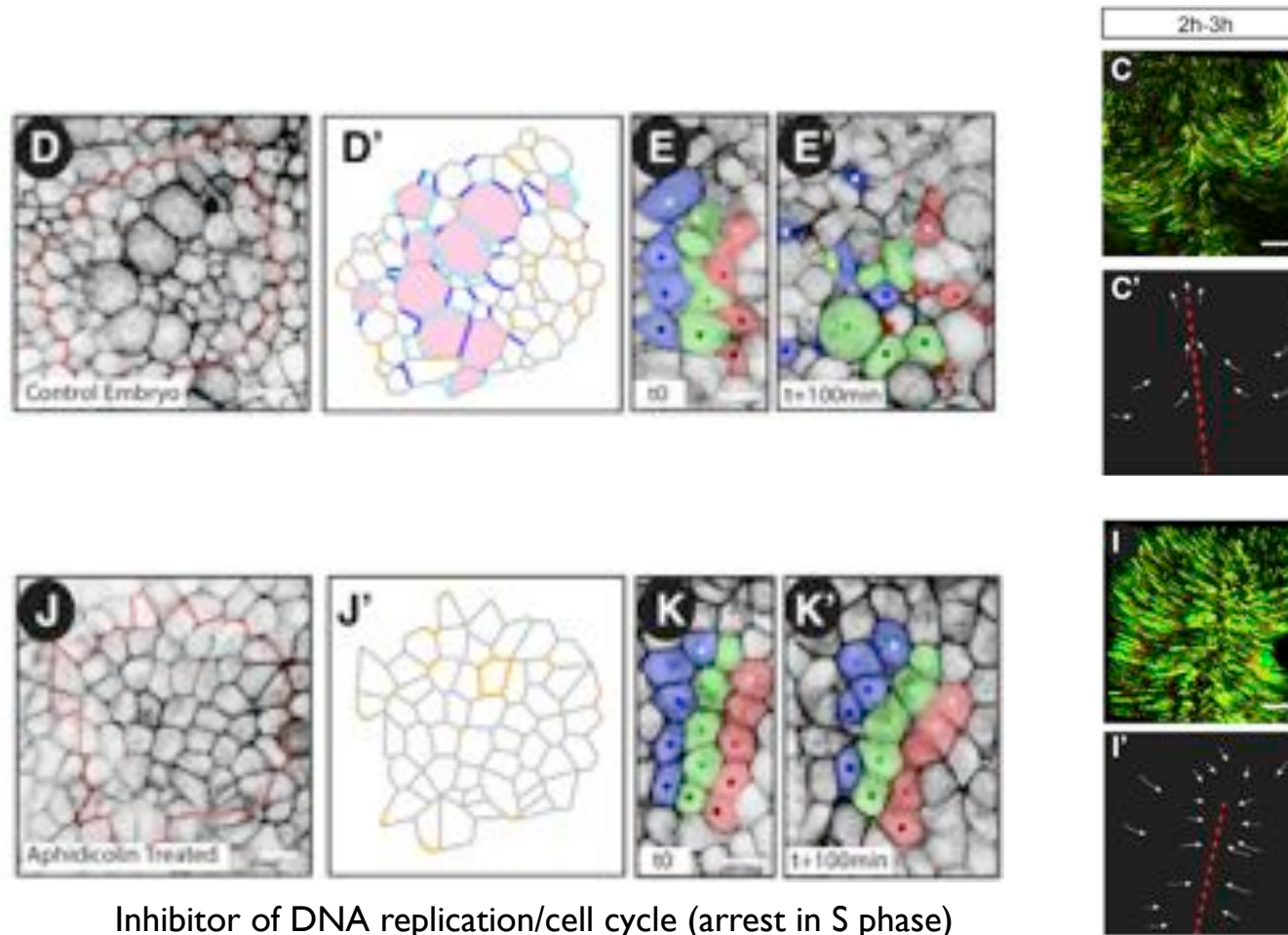
Cell division
without cell intercalation



Intercalary cell division

Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Contribution of intercalary cell divisions to cell movements



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Impact of Topological transitions

Contribution of intercalary cell divisions to cell movements

- Energy dissipation via fluidisation of tissue?

Cell intercalation causes cell movement within an epithelial layer

- Randomly oriented intercalation: « cell diffusion »
- Polarised intercalation: convergent/extension of tissue

- Origin of junction dynamics? Cell adhesion and cortical tension
> Notion of active fluid



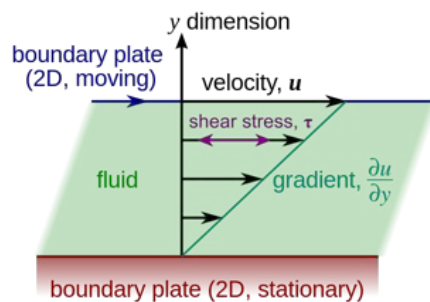
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Fluidisation by cell division

Contribution of oriented cell divisions to energy dissipation of a tissue under stress

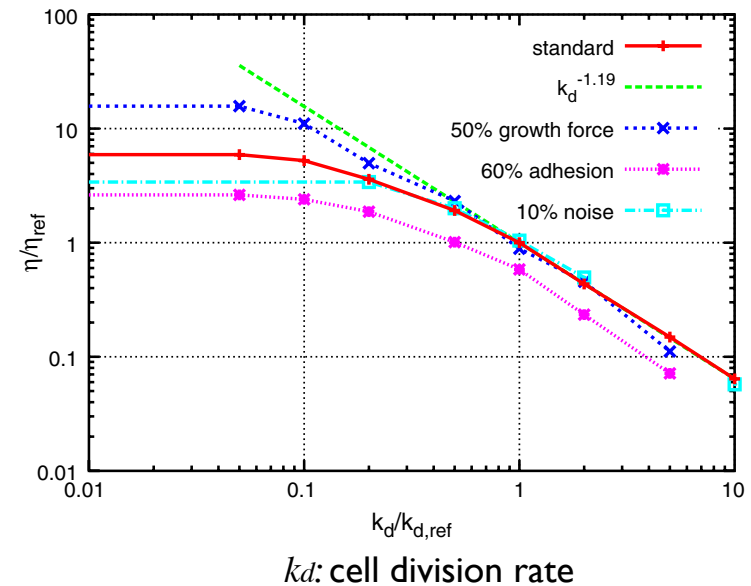
>Tissue fluidisation.

- Cell divisions lower shear viscosity
Theory and computer simulations

η : Shear viscosity (dynamic viscosity)
Fluidity = $1/\eta$



$$\tau = \frac{\text{applied force}}{\text{area}} = \eta \frac{\text{velocity gradient}}{\partial u / \partial y}$$

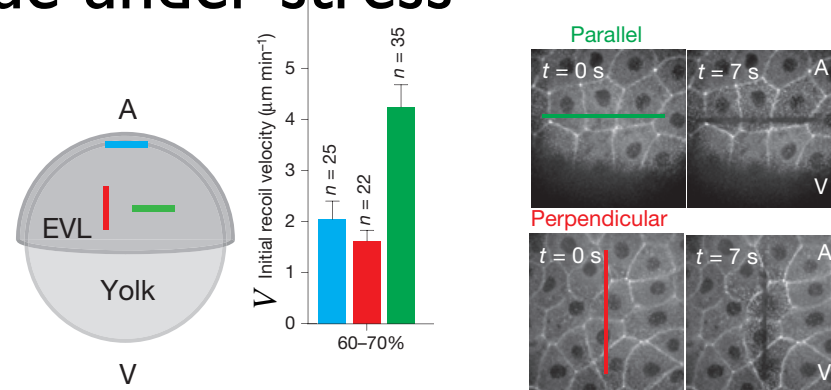
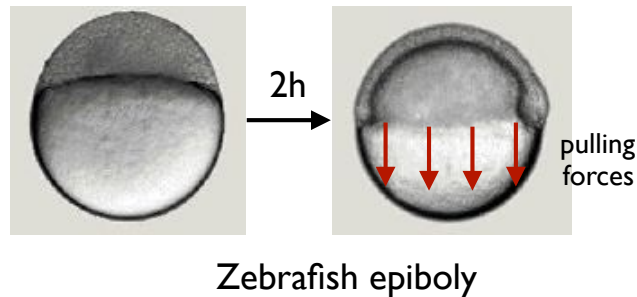


Ranft J. Basan M., Elgeti J. Joanny J-F., Prost J. and Jülicher F. *PNAS* 49:20863. 2010



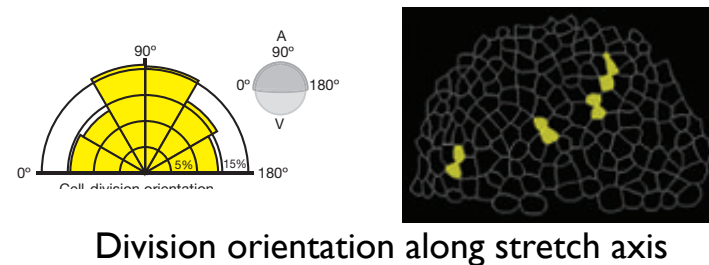
Epithelial visco-elasticity - Fluidisation by cell division

Contribution of oriented cell divisions to energy dissipation of a tissue under stress

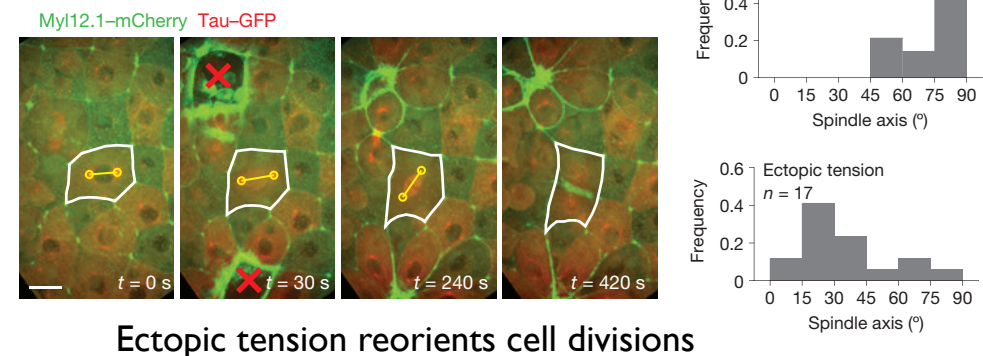


Anisotropic tension (T) probed using laser ablation $V = T / \eta$

- Polarized cell division correlate with anisotropic tension *in vivo*



- Ectopic tension reorients cell division axis

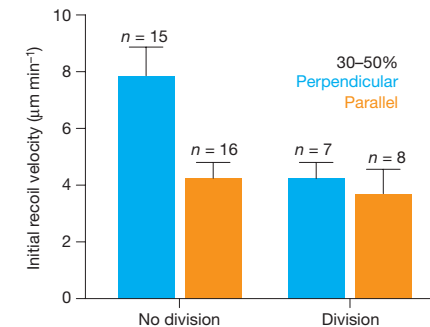
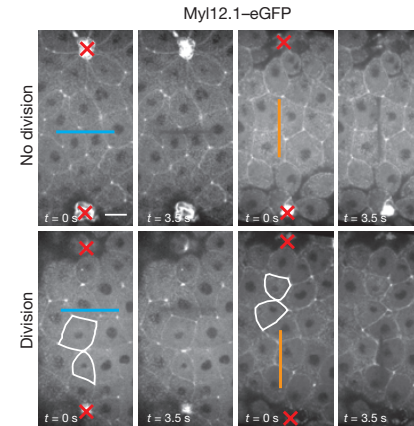


Ectopic tension reorients cell divisions

Epithelial visco-elasticity - Fluidisation by cell division

Contribution of oriented cell divisions to energy dissipation of a tissue under stress

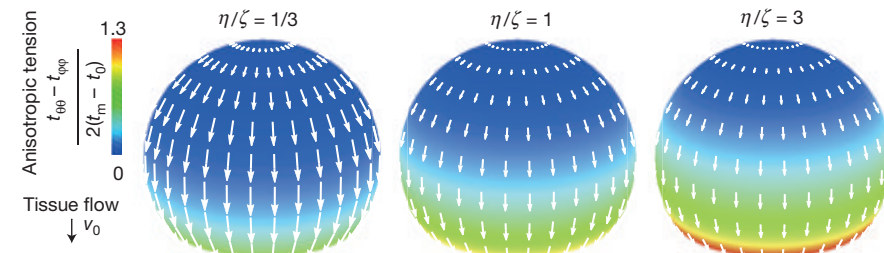
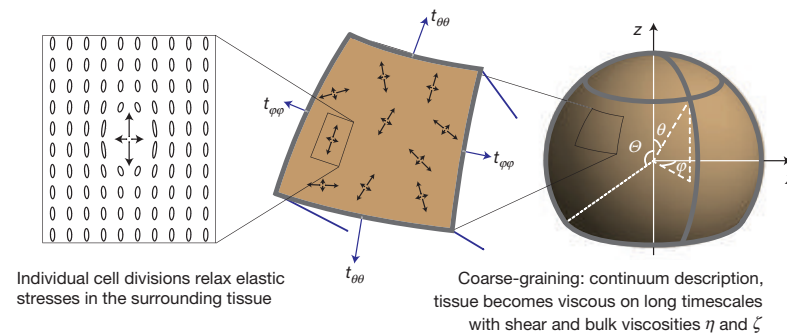
- Experiments: Cell division lowers tissue tension



- Theoretical model: Cell division lowers shear (ie. dynamic) viscosity.

η : shear viscosity
 ζ : bulk viscosity

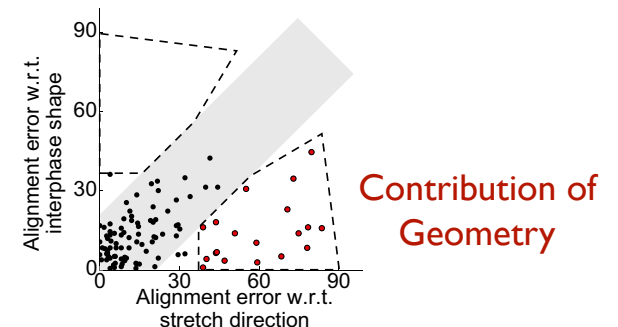
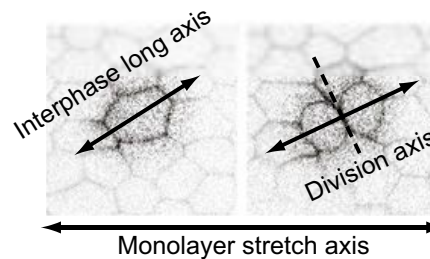
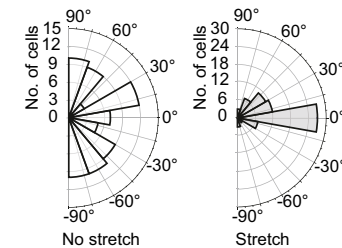
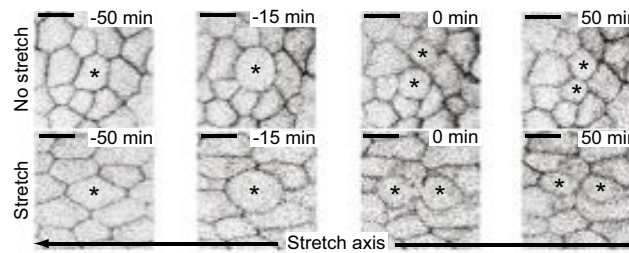
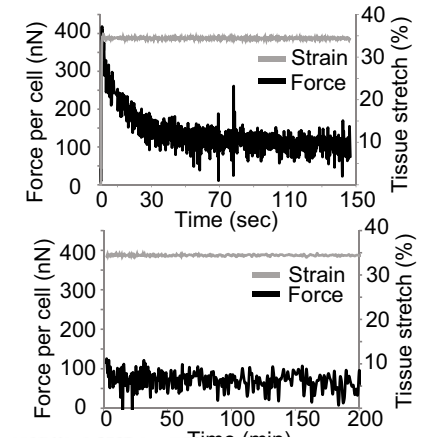
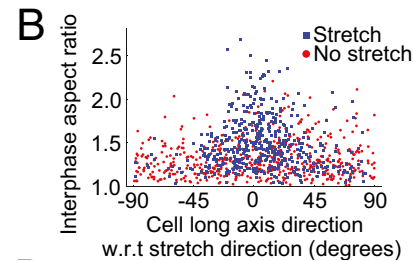
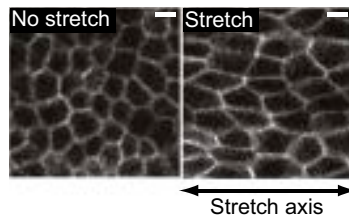
Blocking cell division increases shear viscosity, increases tension anisotropy, and reduces tissue flow



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Fluidisation by cell division

Contribution of oriented cell divisions to energy dissipation of a tissue under stress

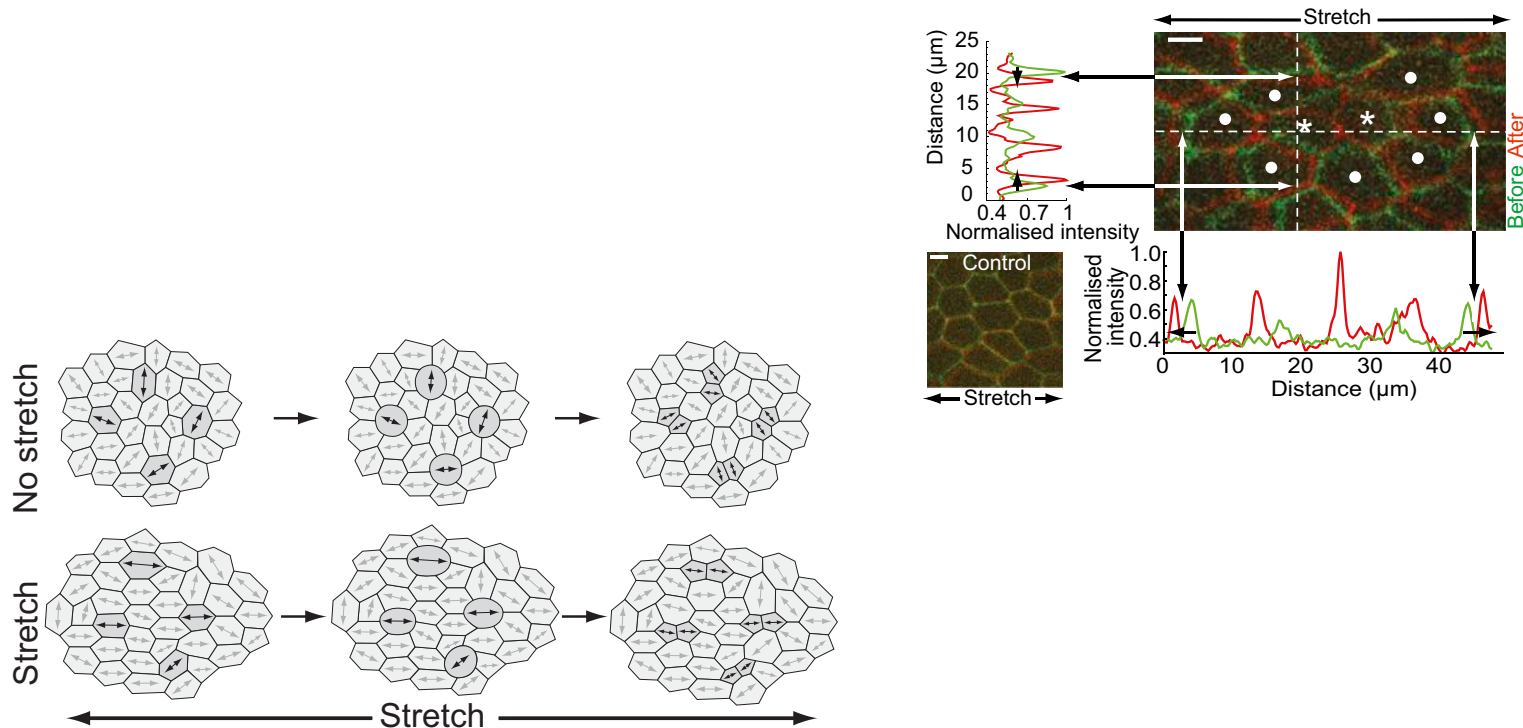
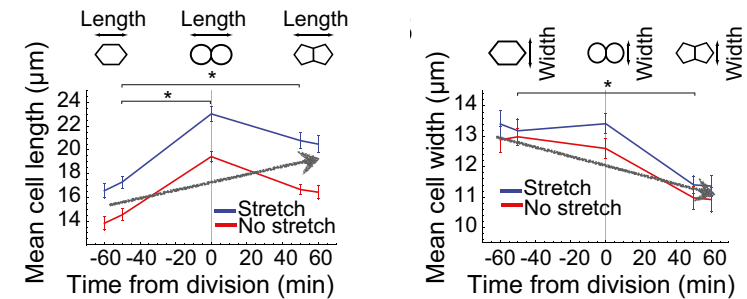
- Tissue stretching induces cell strain.
- Stress relaxes in 2 phases (rapid: cytoskeleton; slow: cell division?)
- Cells divide along stretch axis.
- The axis of division is determined by geometry, not stretch *per se*.



Epithelial visco-elasticity - Fluidisation by cell division

Contribution of oriented cell divisions to energy dissipation of a tissue under stress

- Cell division redistributes cellular mass with respect to the axis of division



Conclusions

- *Organisation:*
 - Cells adopt morphologies and configurations that tend to approach minimal surface energy
 - Reflects balance between:
 - hydrostatic/turgor pressure
 - cortex contractility
 - cell walls/cortex and adhesion system
- *Dynamics:*
 - Cell connectedness varies so tissues can be modelled as gaz, viscoelastic fluids or elastic solids.
 - Reflects differences in adhesion and stiffness
 - Cell shape changes and cell movements are driven by active contractile systems in animals and regulated wall remodelling in plants
 - Cell-cell adhesion resists active remodelling and maintains tissue cohesion under stress.



Next

1) Adhesion

2) Cortical tension



Conclusions

Prochain cours: 31 October 2017
Plasticité: suite et fin

**Adhesion I: du concept d'affinité aux modèles
thermodynamiques**

