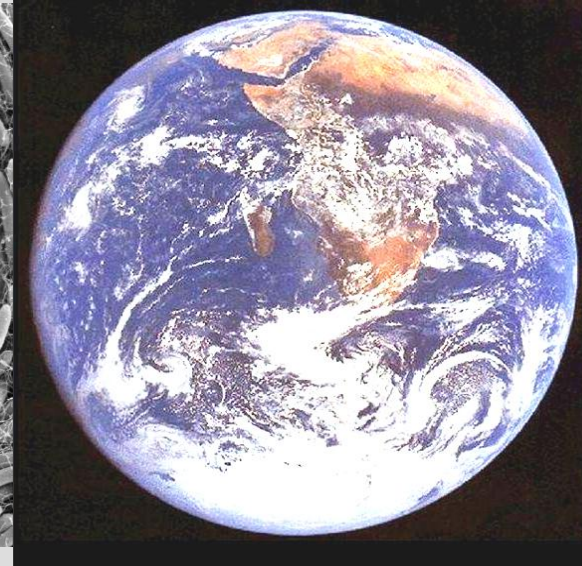
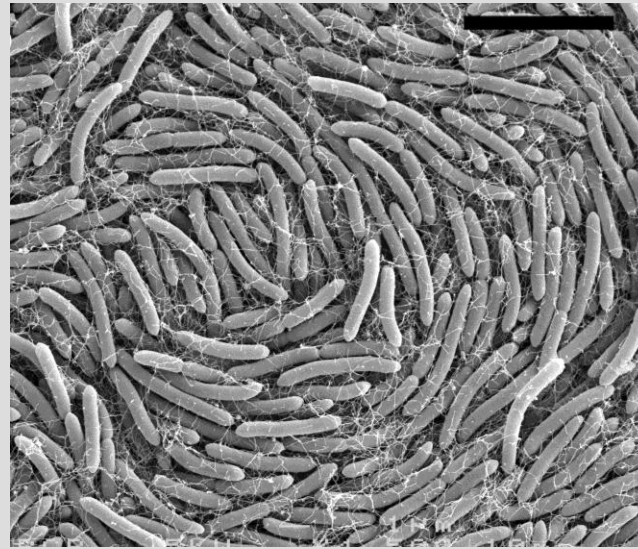
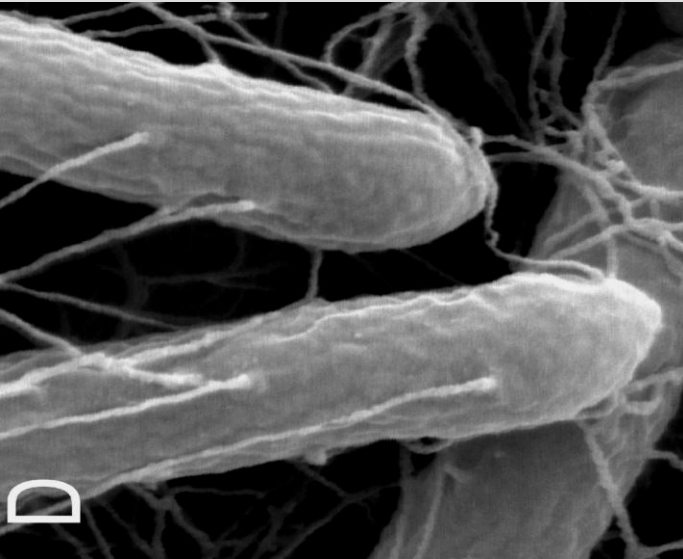


# From Bacteria Thou Art

First organisms, ~4 billion years ago



Paved the way for all life

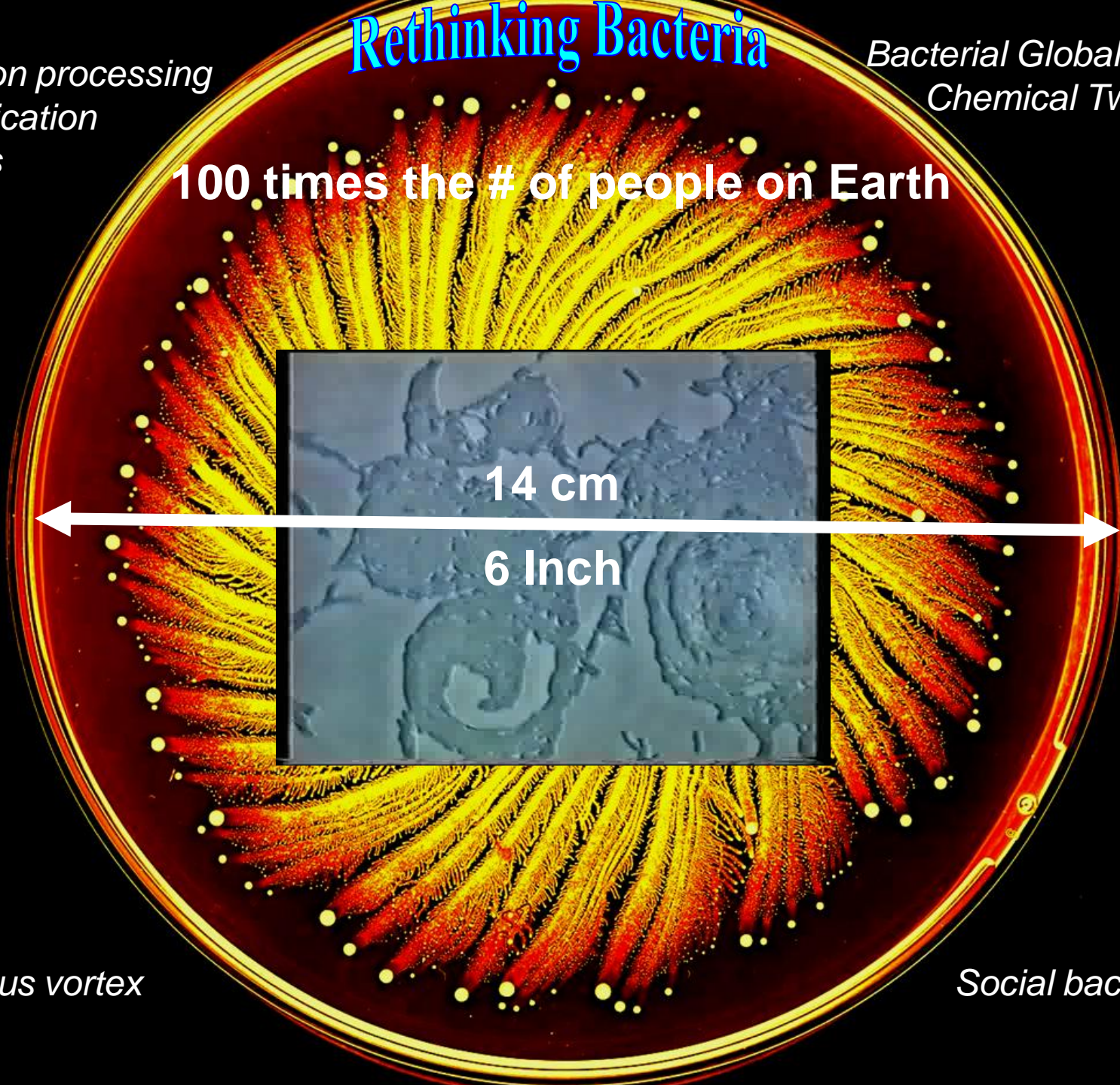
Our best friends and worst enemies

Sensing  
Information processing  
Communication  
Decisions

# Rethinking Bacteria

Bacterial Global Village  
Chemical Twittering

100 times the # of people on Earth



14 cm

6 Inch

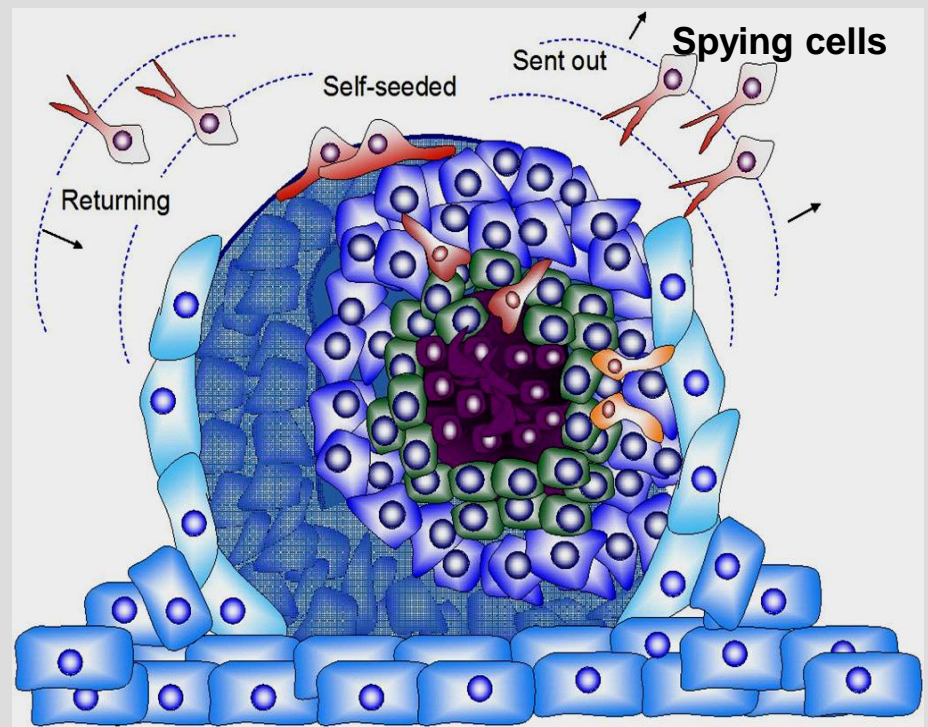
*Paenibacillus vortex*

Social bacteria

# Bacteria, and Cancer Metacommunity

Eshel Ben-Jacob

School of Physics Tel Aviv University and CTBP Rice University



Physics and Mathematics of Cancer, KITP July 5, 2012

# The Big Challenges

**Multiple Drug Resistance**

**Dormancy and Relapse**

**Metastasis Colonization**

**These most alarming aspects of cancer  
are little understood and clinically insuperable**

**A Need for a Paradigm Shift ?**

**Looking at bacterial sociality  
as a source of inspiration and suggestion**

Ben-Jacob, Coffey, Levine Opinion in *Trends in Microbiology* (2012)

**Bacterial Survival Strategies Suggest  
Rethinking Cancer Cooperativity**

# Why Bacteria and Cancer?

Rapid development of drug resistance

Rapid proliferation and Advanced motility

Advanced communication and Collective behaviors

Changing the environment

“Learned” to avoid and manipulate the immune system

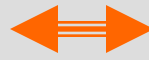


# Why Physicists?

Intracellular



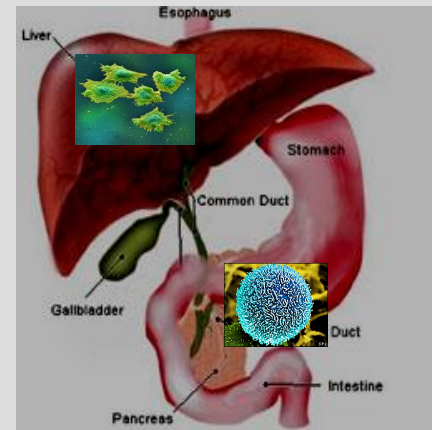
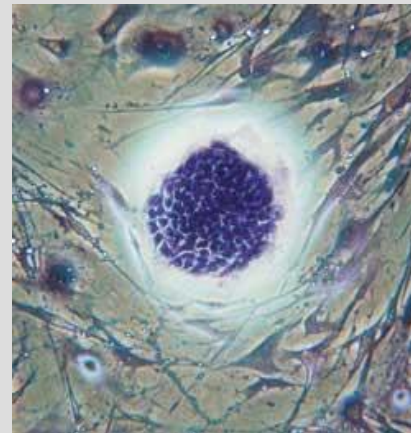
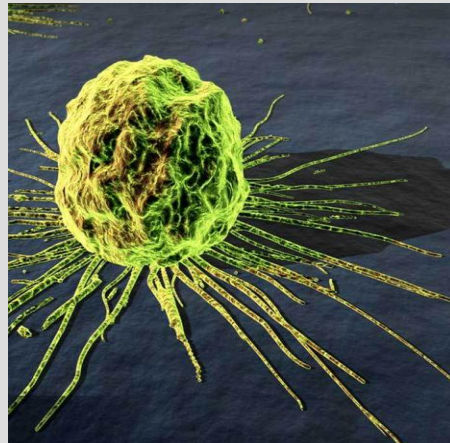
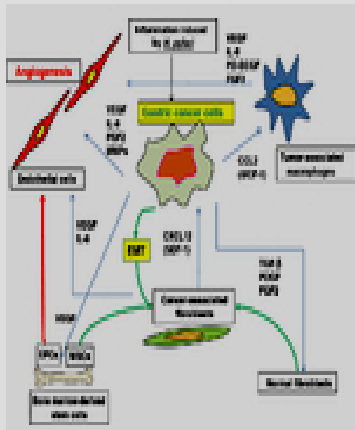
Cellular



Multicellular  
& Environment



Metacommunity



# Bacteria and Cancer

Hickson. Bassler et al *Clin. Exp. Metstasis* (2009)  
Societal interactions in ovarian cancer metastasis:  
a quorum-sensing hypothesis

Deisboeck and Couzin *BioEssays* (2009)  
Collective behavior in cancer cell populations

Dawson et al *PLoS Phatogens* (2011)  
“Persisters”: Survival at the Cellular Level

Austin et al *Perspective in Nature Reviews Cancer* (2011)  
An Analogy Between the Evolution of Drug Resistance in  
Bacterial Communities and Malignant Tissues

Glickman and Sawyers *Perspective in Cell* (2012)  
Converting Cancer Therapies into Cures:  
Lessons from Infectious Diseases



# Today

## **The Wisdom of the Colony**

**The Cancer Metacommunity Hypothesis**  
(The Tumor Community and the Cancer Metacommunity)

## **Bacterial Collective Decisions**

**Cancer Navigation – Proliferation vs. Invasion**

**Implications and Possible Applications**  
(New Research Directions and Strategies to Fight Cancer)

# SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

OCTOBER 1998 \$4.95

**SPECIAL REPORT:**

## How Hackers Break In

Keep networks and data safe from Internet spies

## Drugs that Prevent Breast Cancer

*The Artistry of Microbes:*

## Shaped to Survive

*Patterns in a bacterial culture*

## Part I

# The Wisdom of the Colony





# **The Wisdom of the Colony**

**Communication and Social Behaviors**

**Task Distribution and Cell Differentiation**

**Sharing Resources and Risks**

**Learning from Experience**

**Collective Decisions**

**Changing the Environment**

**Planning for the Future**

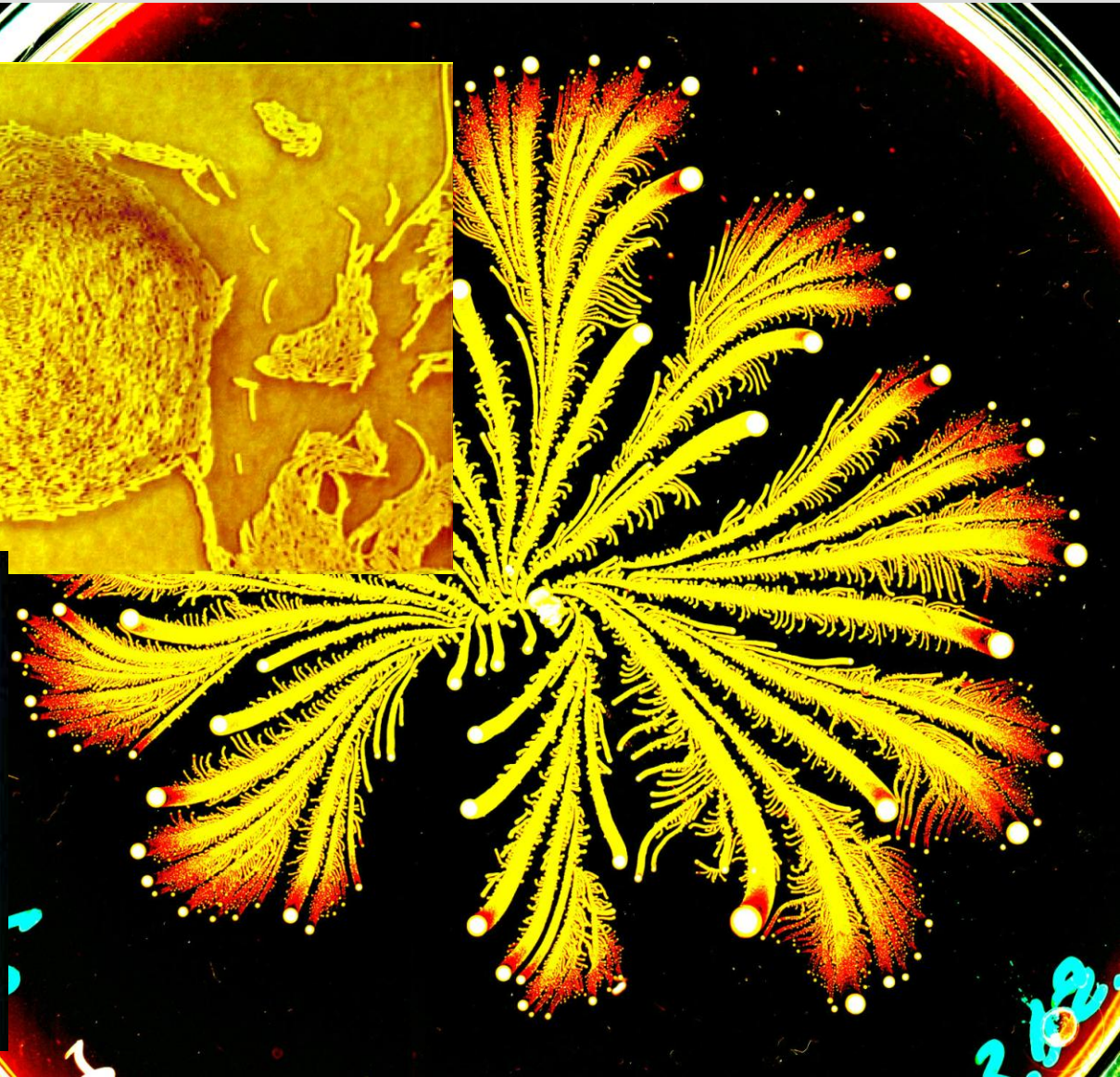
Ben-Jacob Roy. Soci. 2003 ;

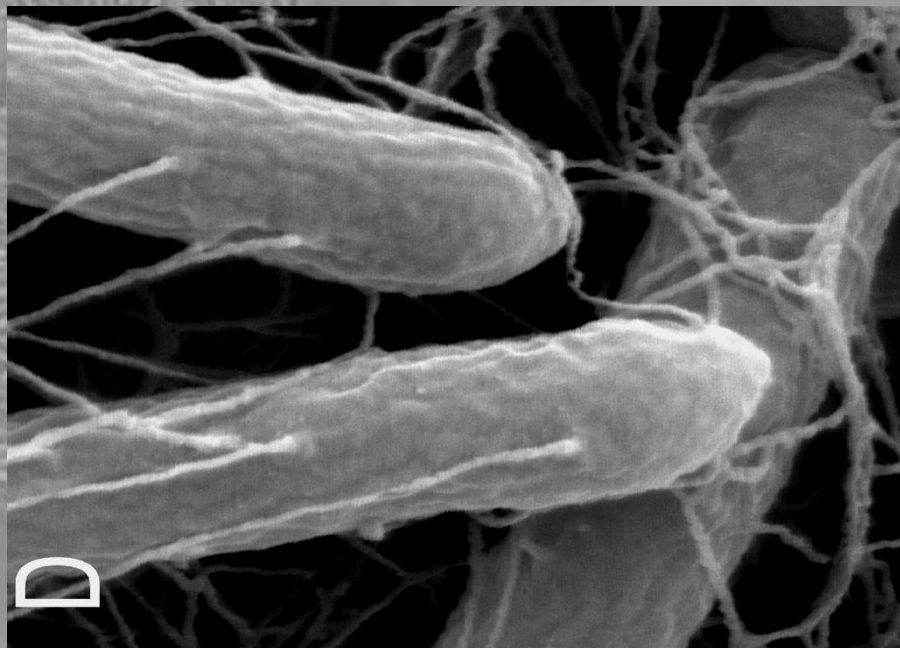
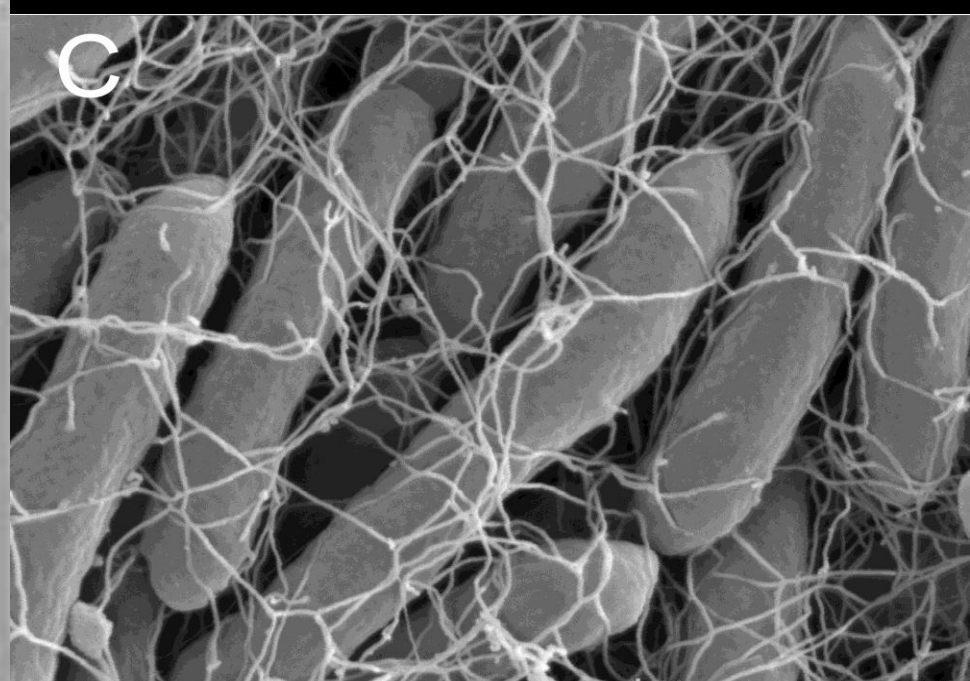
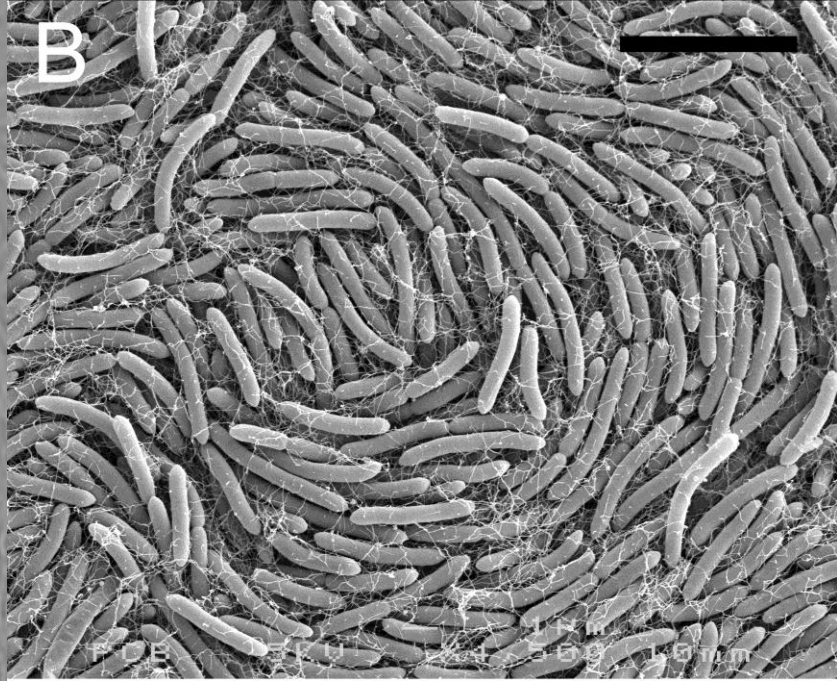
Ben-Jacob, Becker, Shapira, Levine Trends in Microbiology 2004

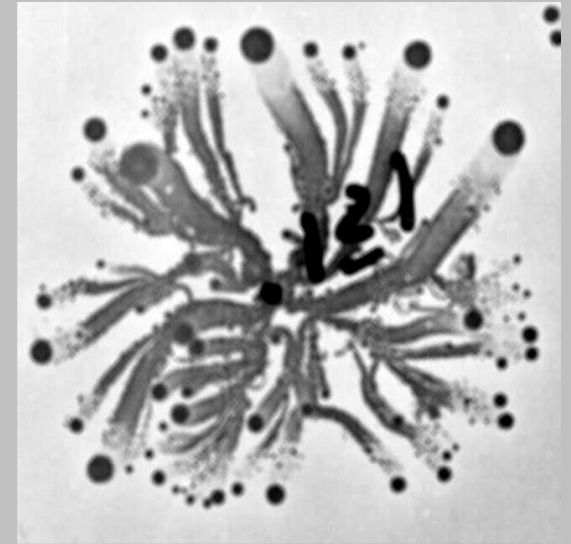
# Complex Organization

Colony growth: Ina Brainis

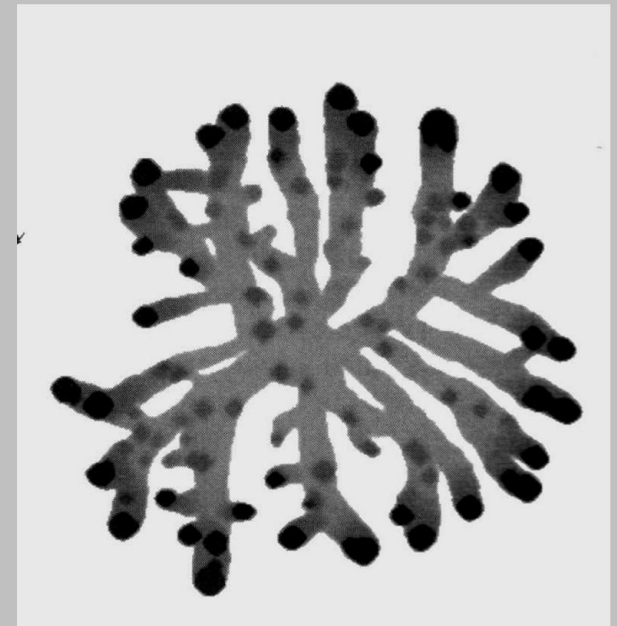
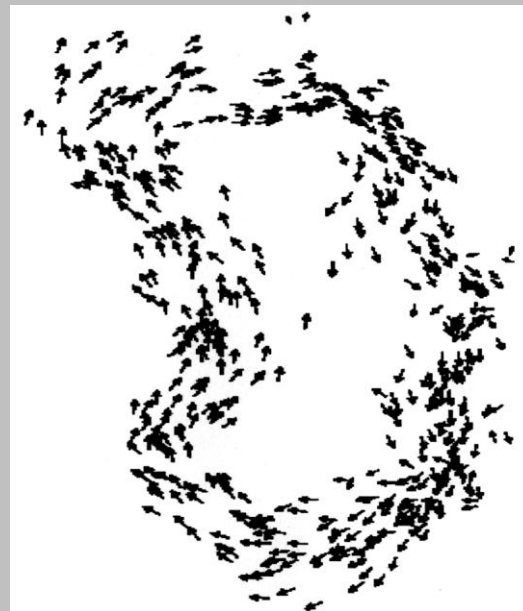
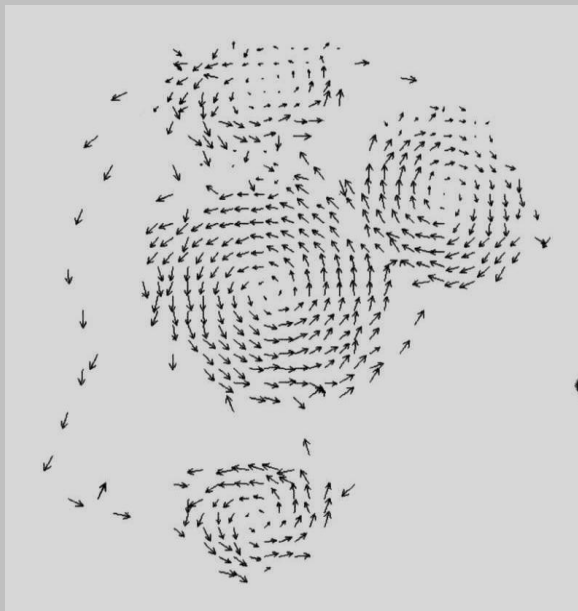
**Paenibacillus vortex**





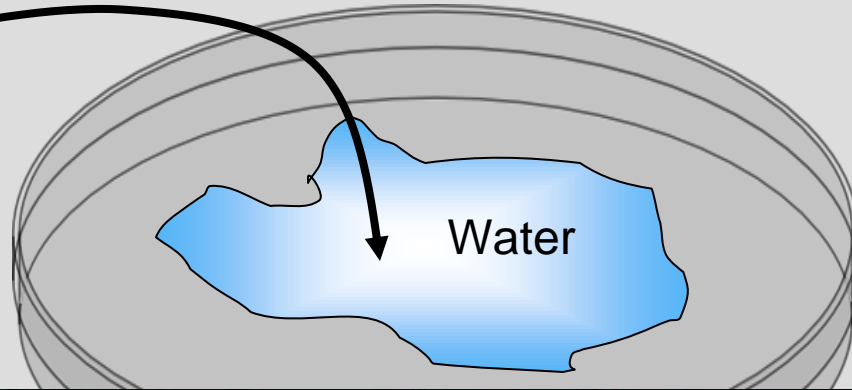
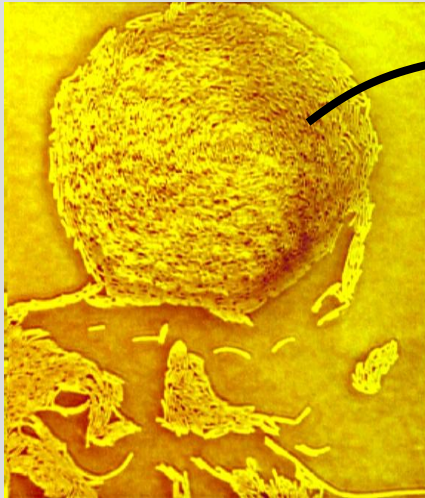


## Modeling



# Variability of cells composing a vortex

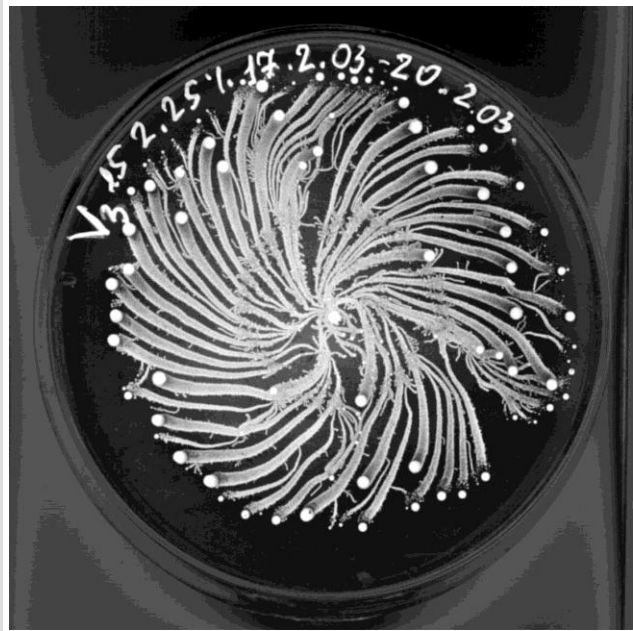
Breaking a vortex and let the cells move



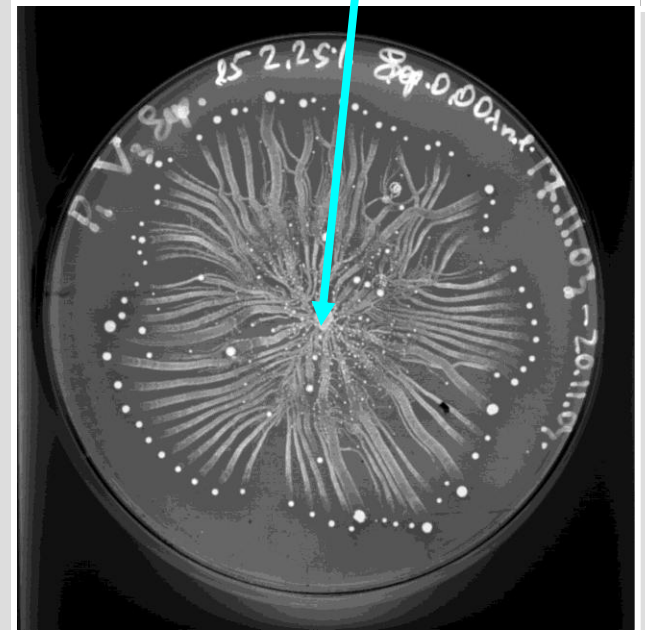
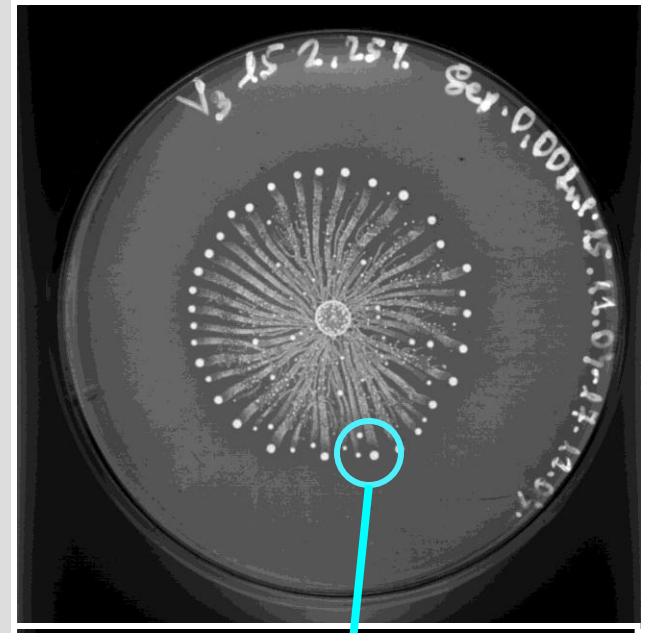
# ''Learning from Experience''

Exposure to antibiotics

Normal growth

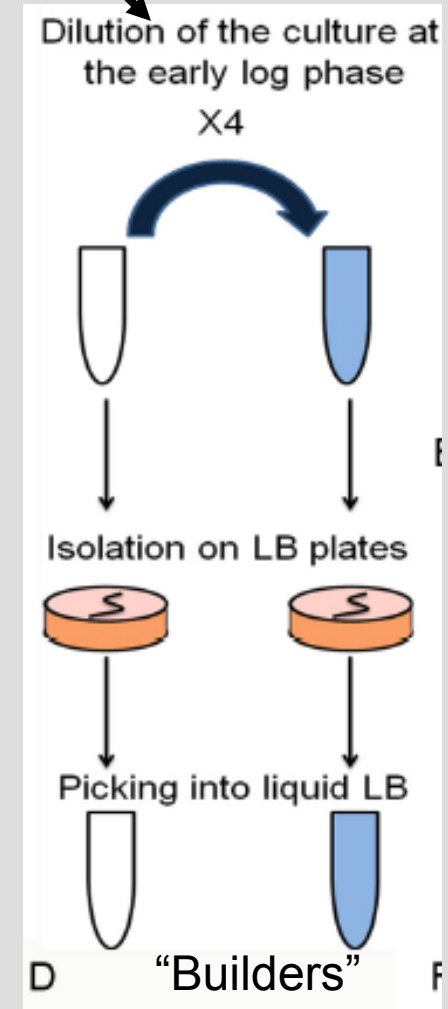
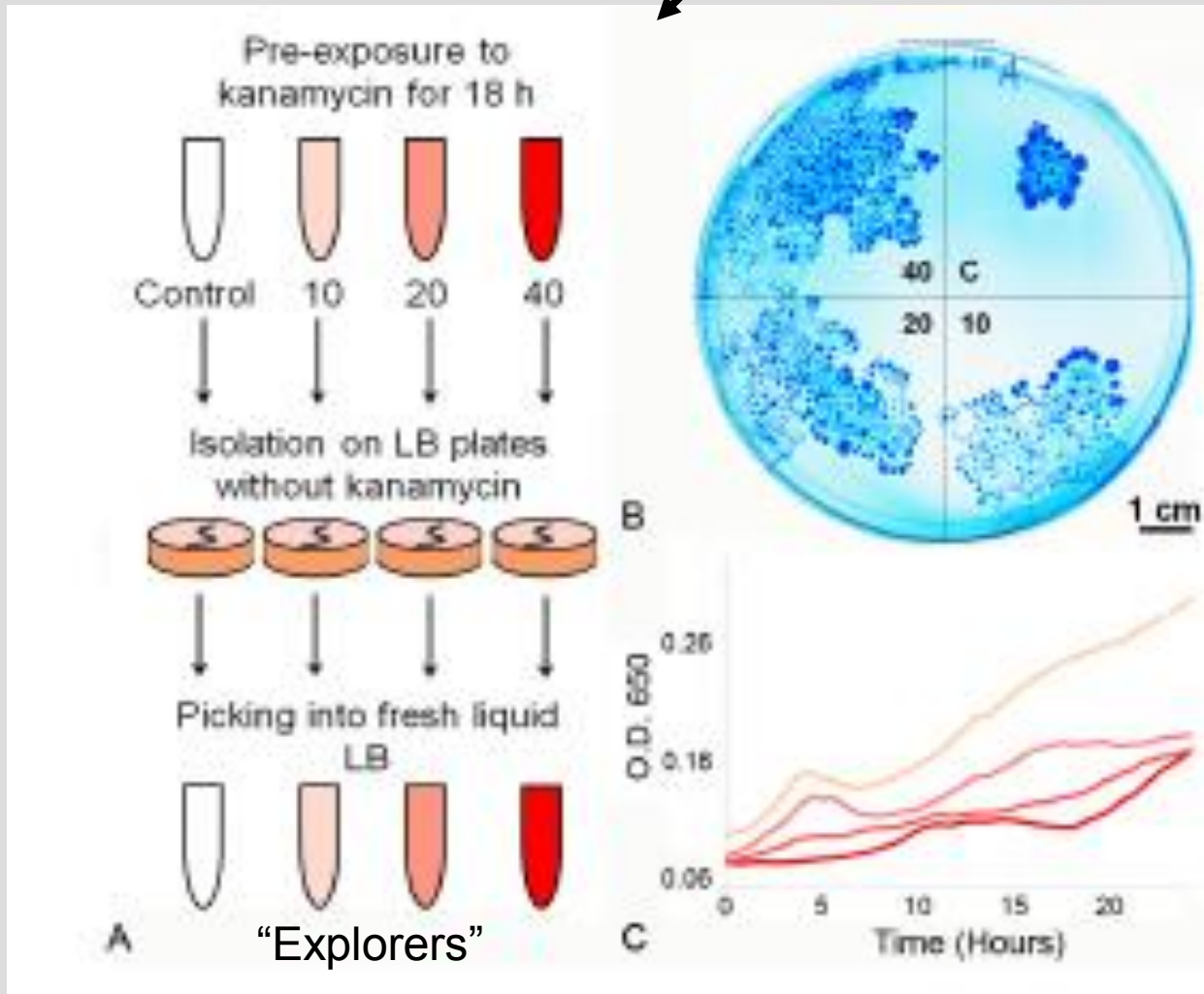


Second exposure



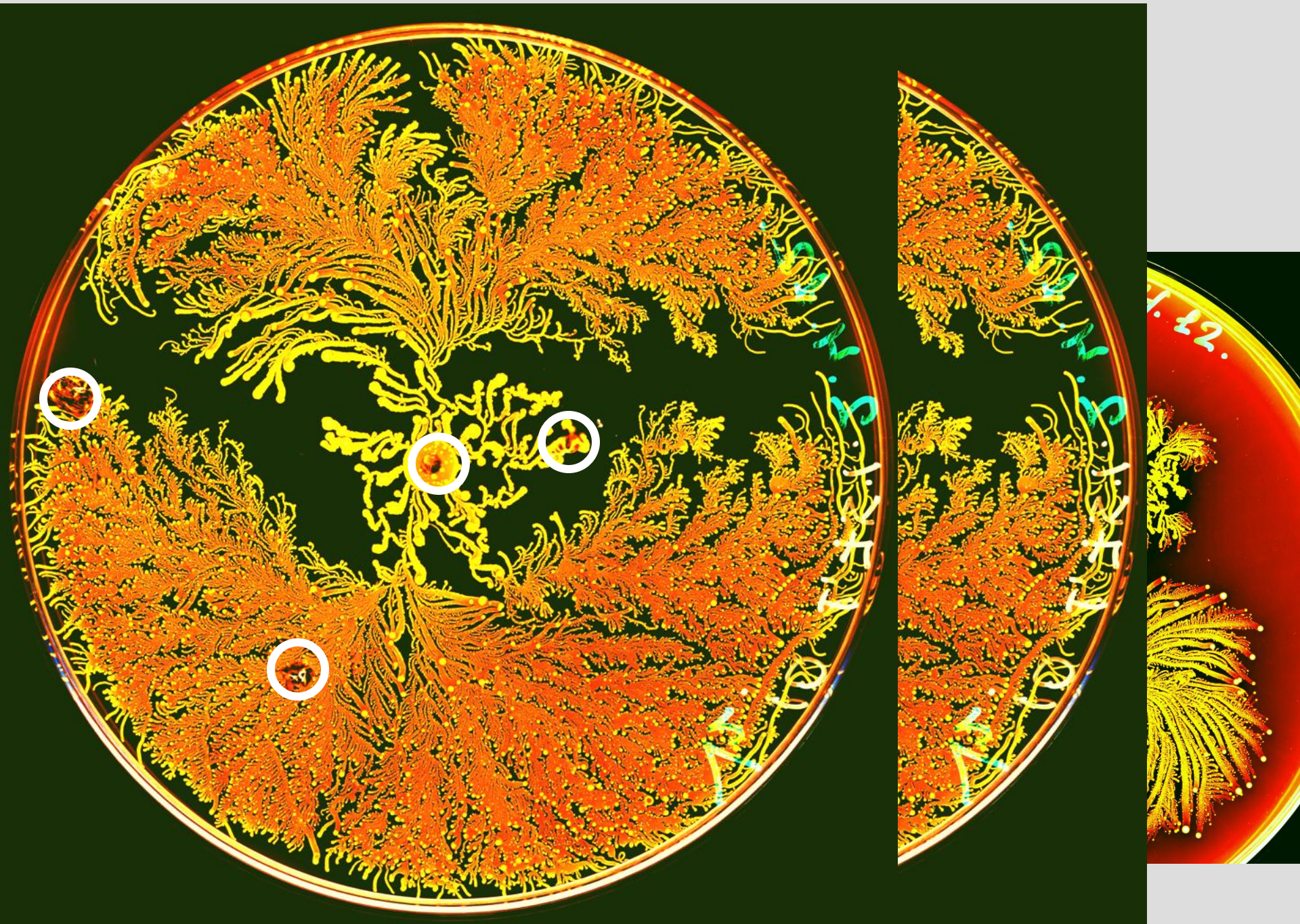
# Identification and isolation of two sub-populations

Low proliferation, hyper flagellated resistant vs. higher proliferation, slow, sensitive



With Roth, Finkelstein, Ingham, Helman unpublished

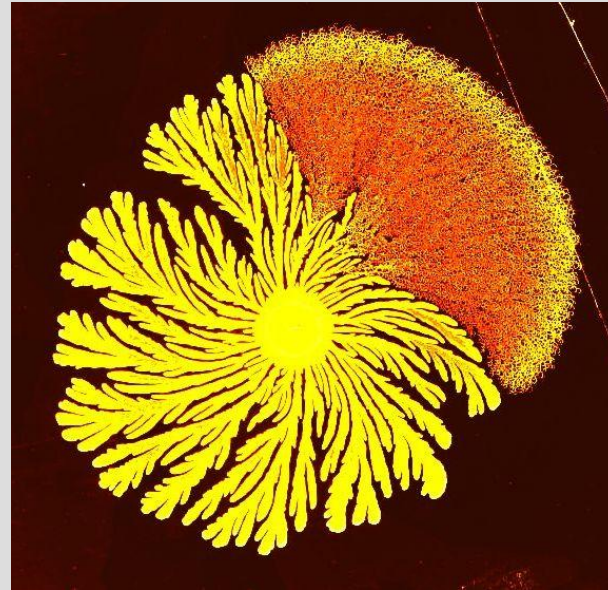
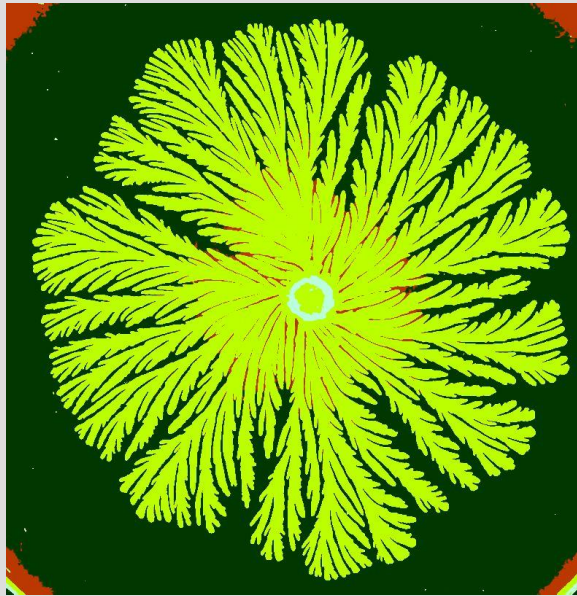
# Task Distribution and Cell Differentiation



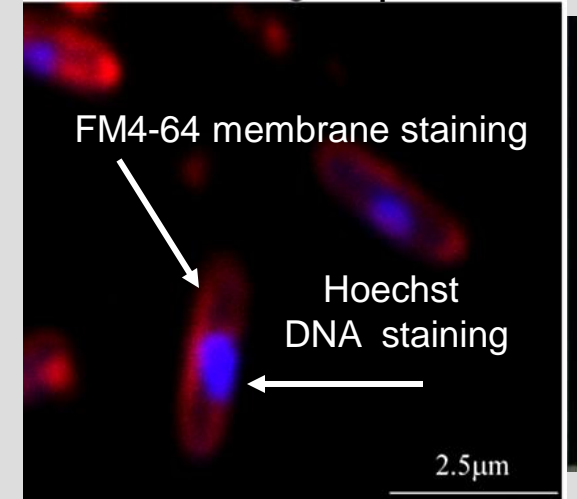


# Epigenetic transitions - "Social Revolutions"

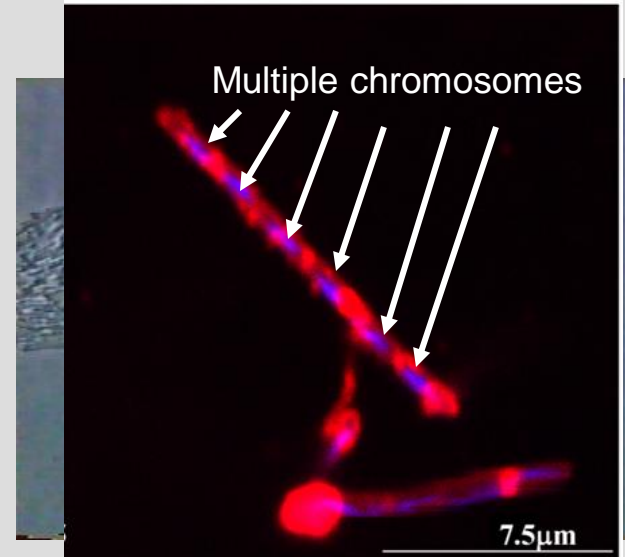
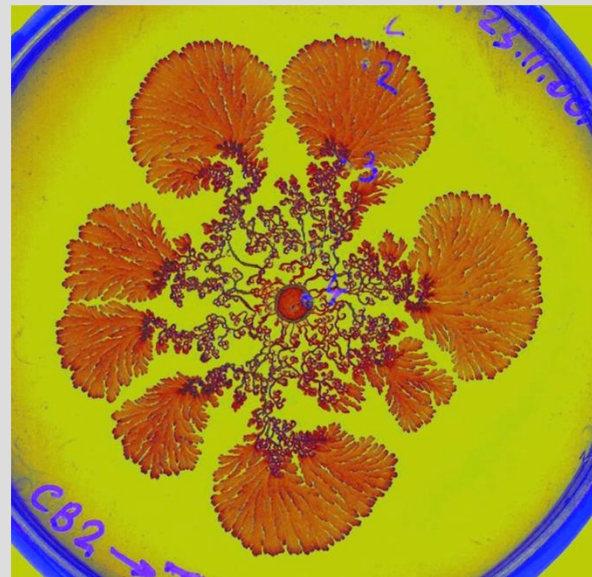
Proliferation vs. Invasion and Drug Resistance



Finkelstein et al unpublished

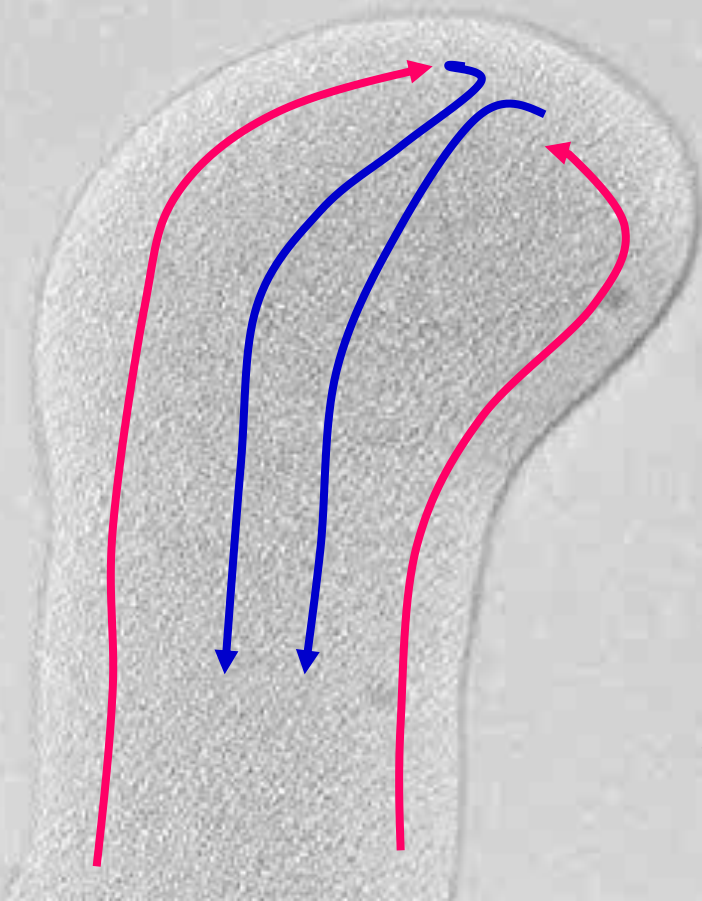


*Paenibacillus dendritiformis*



# Searching for New Territories

## Collective Navigation



### **Paenibacillus vortex**

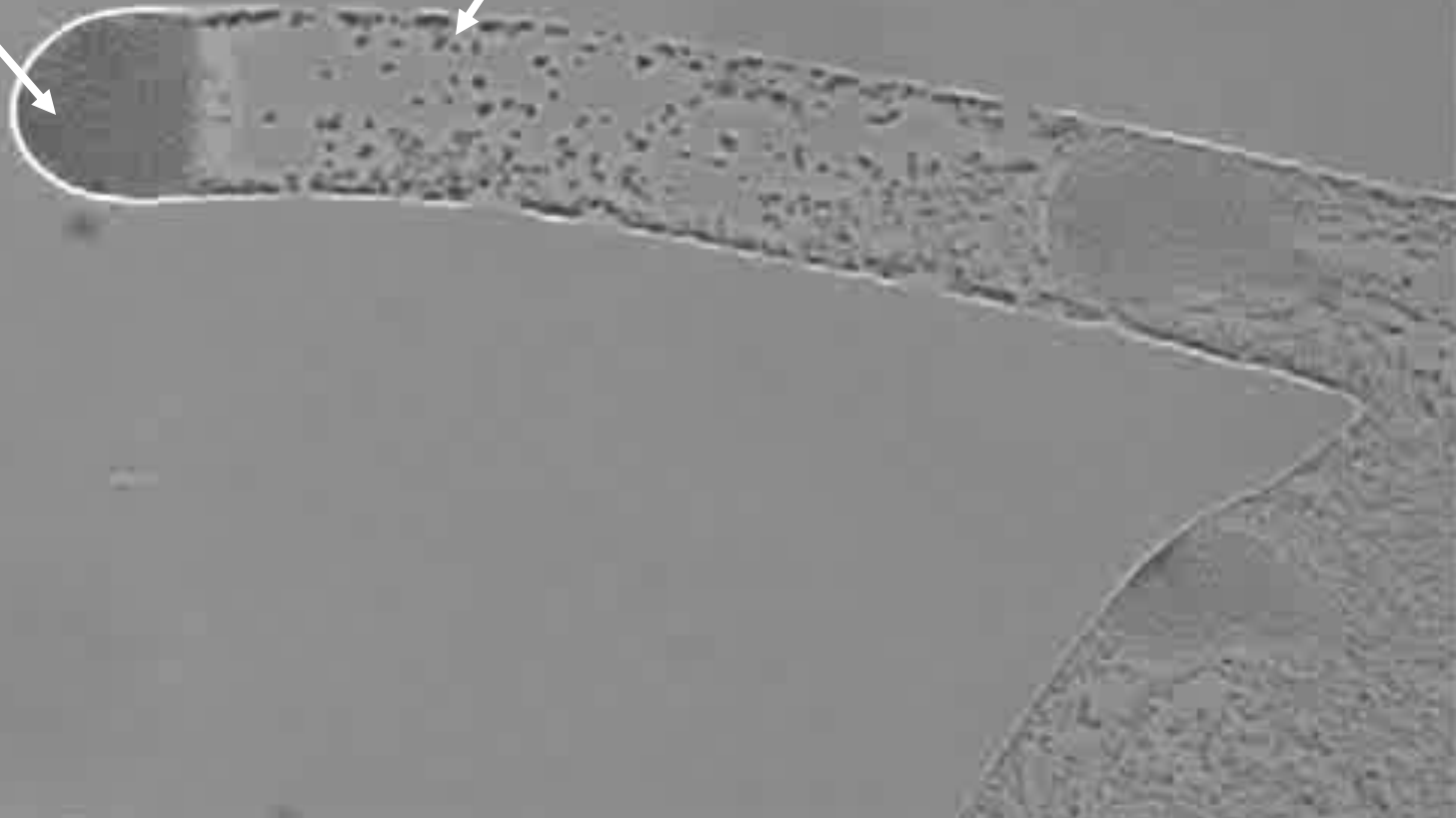
With Ingham, BMC Microbiology 2009

With Ingham, Kalishman and Finkelstein, PNAS 2011

# Task Distribution and Cell Differentiation

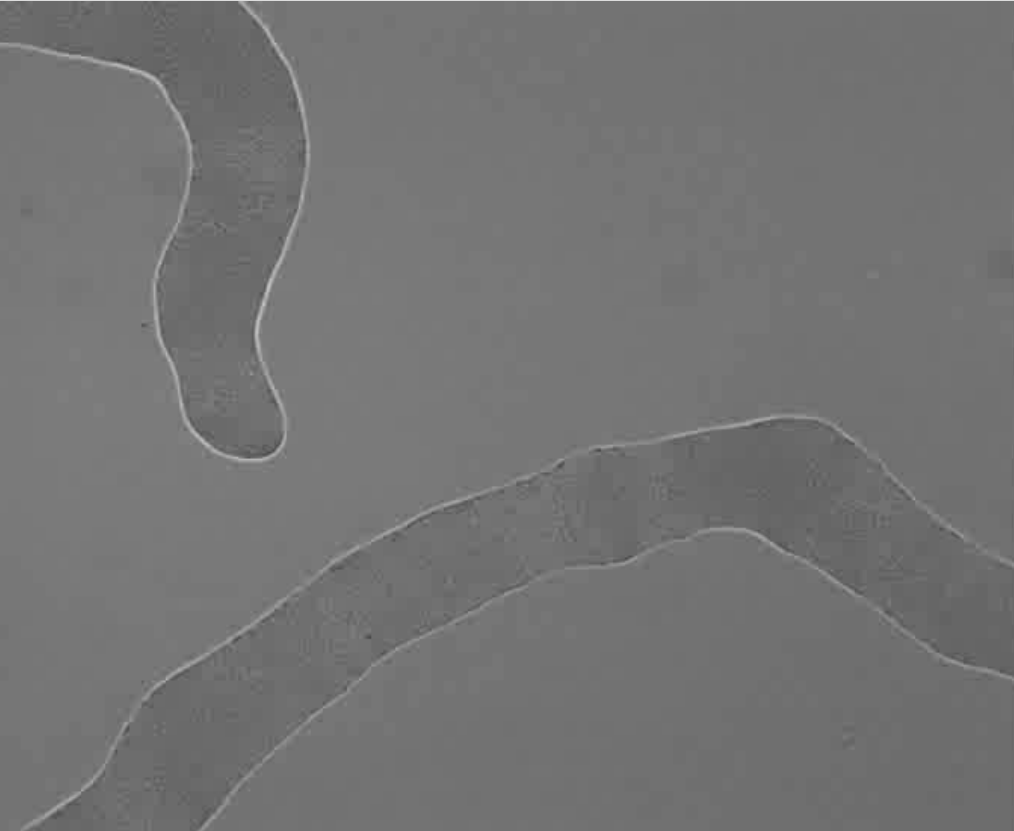
**Explorers**

**Builders**

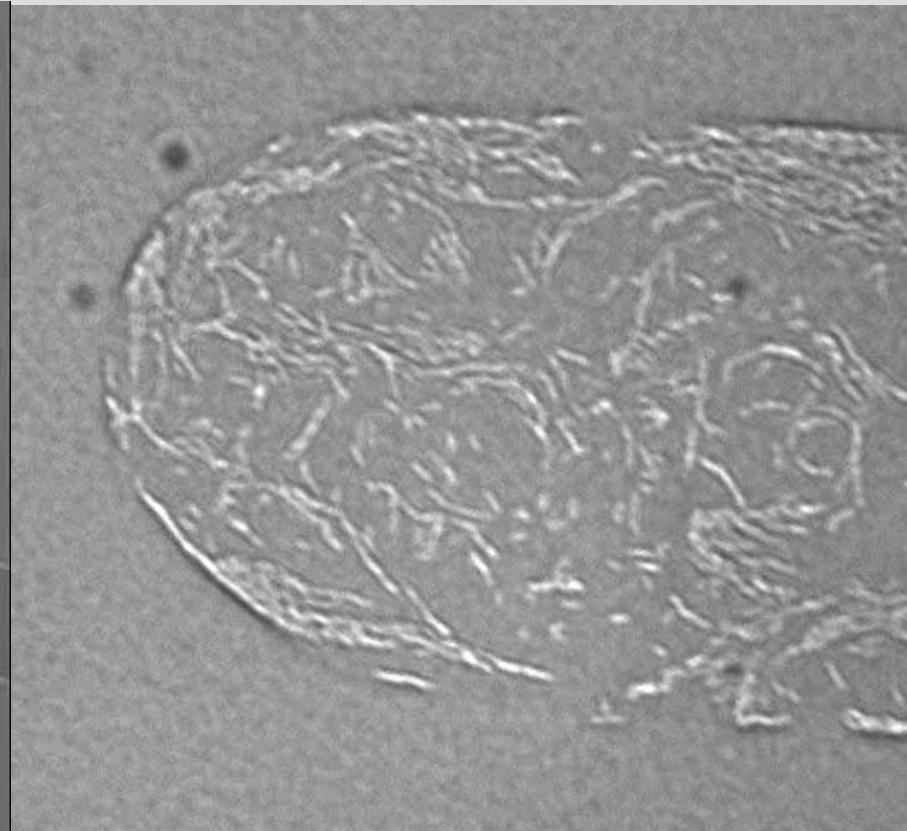


# Additional Features

Swarm-Swarm Repellent

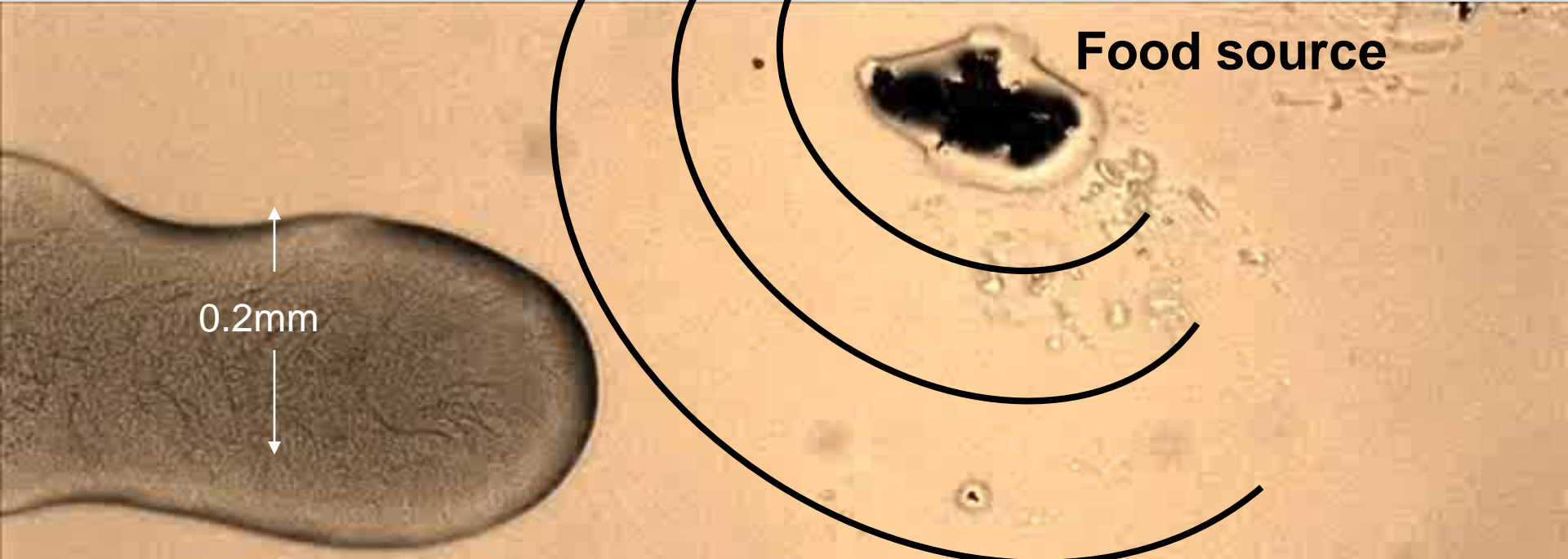


Marking the trail



Colin Ingham and Ben-Jacob BMC Microbiology 2009

# Collective Navigation in Search for Food



Collective (Distributed) Information Processing

Social Networking by Chemical Twitting

# Collective Navigation in Search for Food



# Deciding Fate at Adverse Times

## Example I

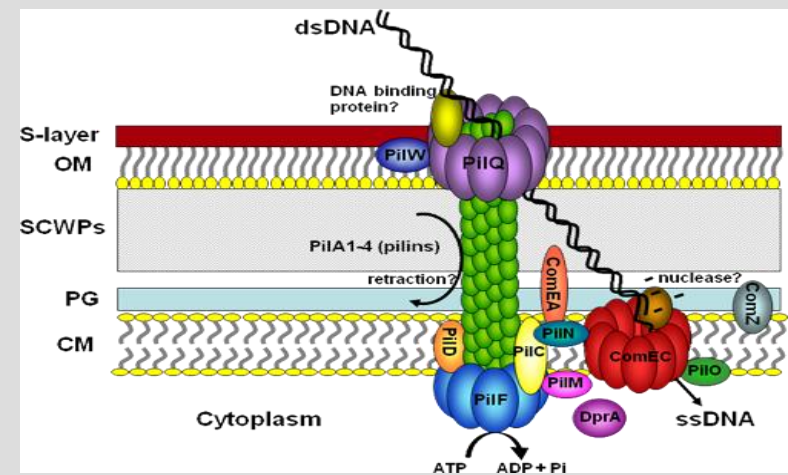
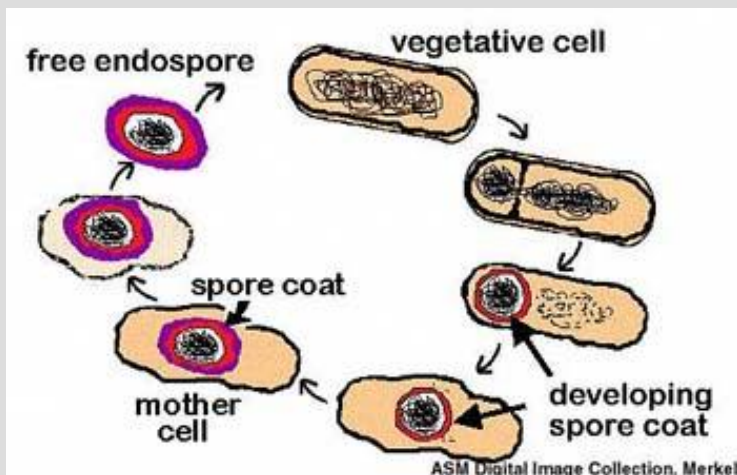
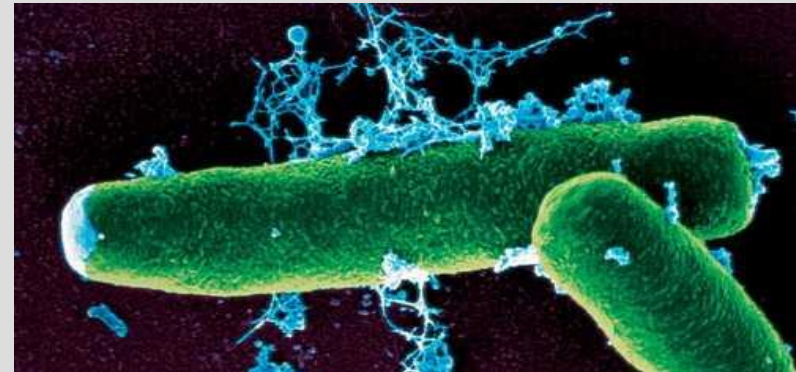
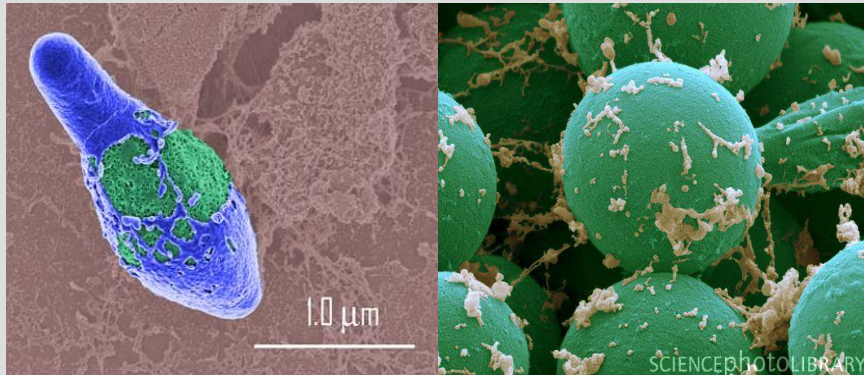
Sporulation

Vs.

Competence

Bet on better future

Bet on the present



# Deciding Fate at Adverse Times

## Altruism, Cannibalism and Fratricide



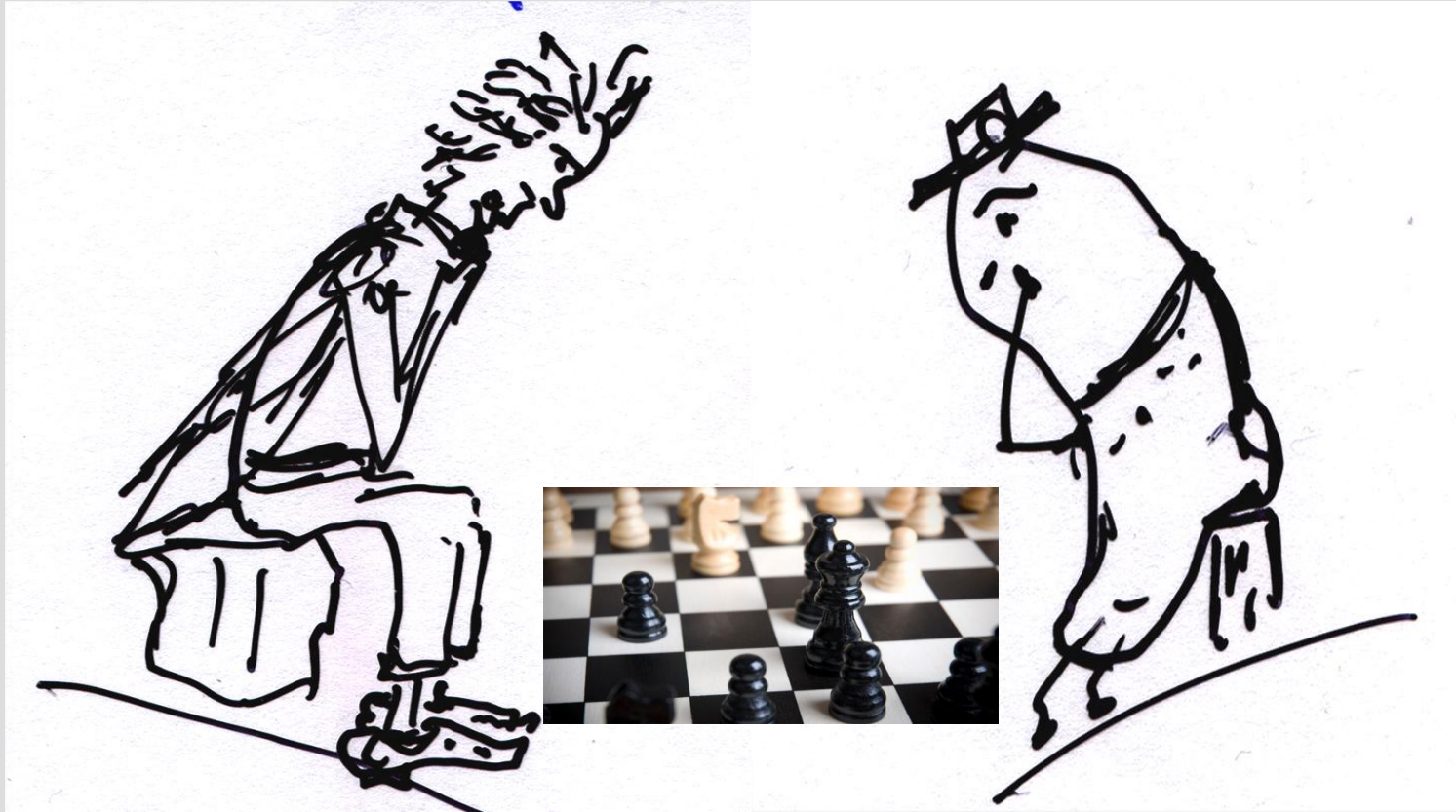
Gonzalez-Pstor et al Science 2003

G

o

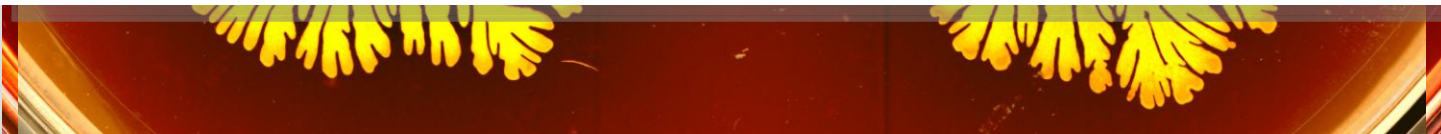
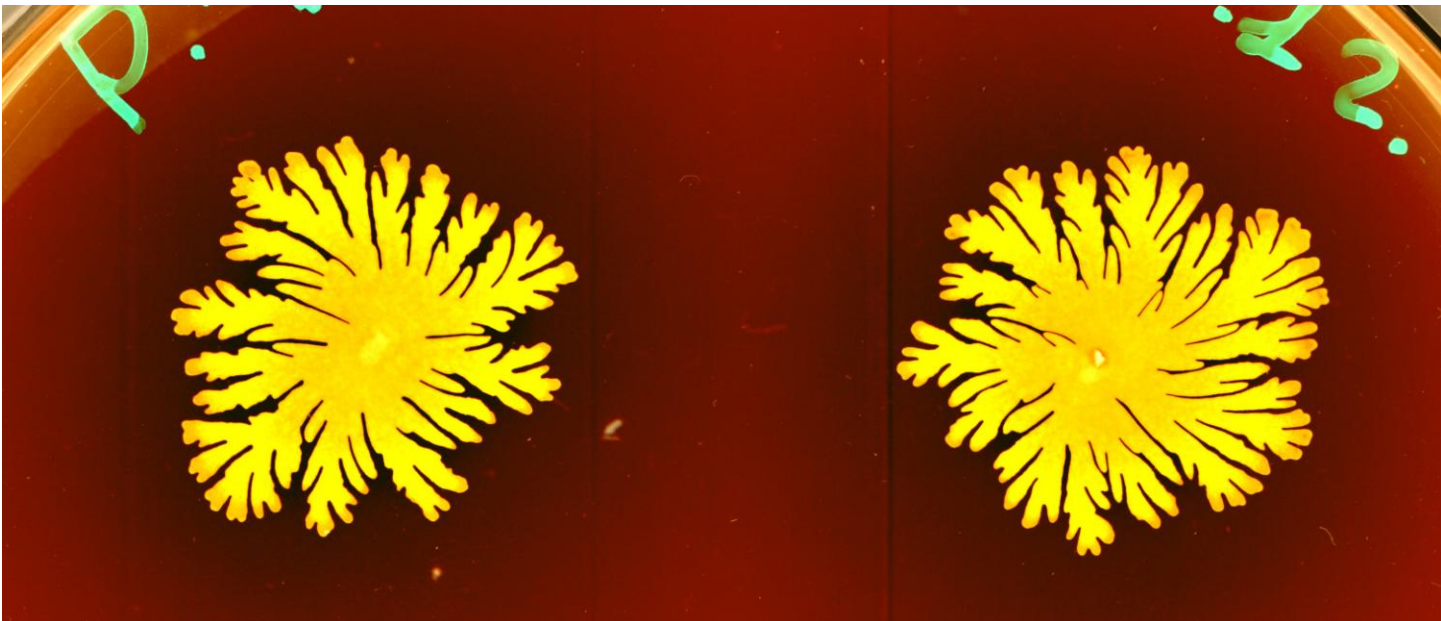
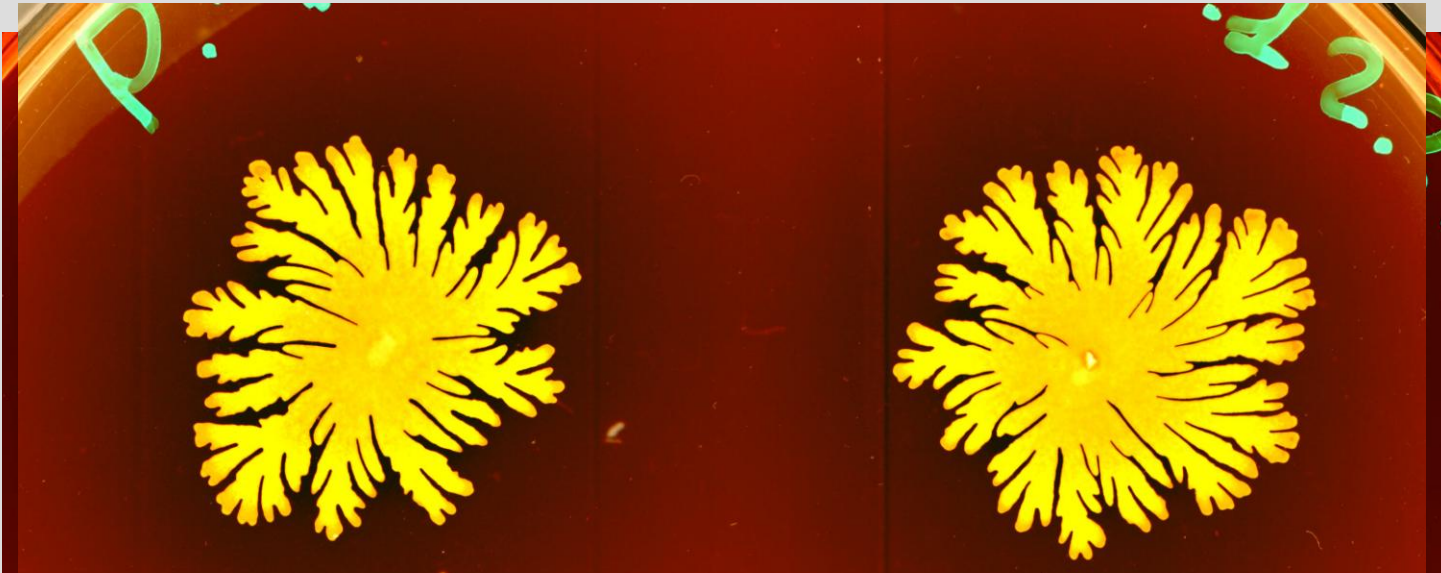


# Harnessing Fratricide to Outsmart Bacteria



With Be'er, *et al.*, *PNAS* 2009, Be'er, Ariel *et al.*, *PNAS* 2010

# Bacteria Societies (Metacommunities)



# Microbota - A Metacommunity of Bacteria in the digestive tract

10 trillion bacteria of more than 40,000 different strains

Affect digestion, the immune system,  
the endocrine system and the brain

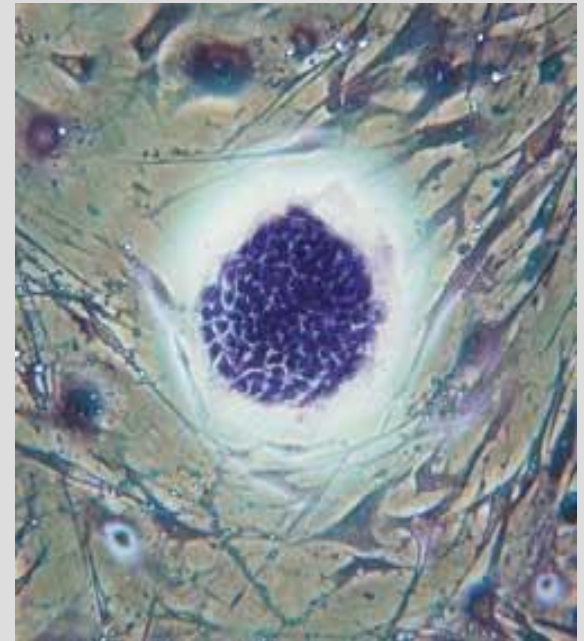
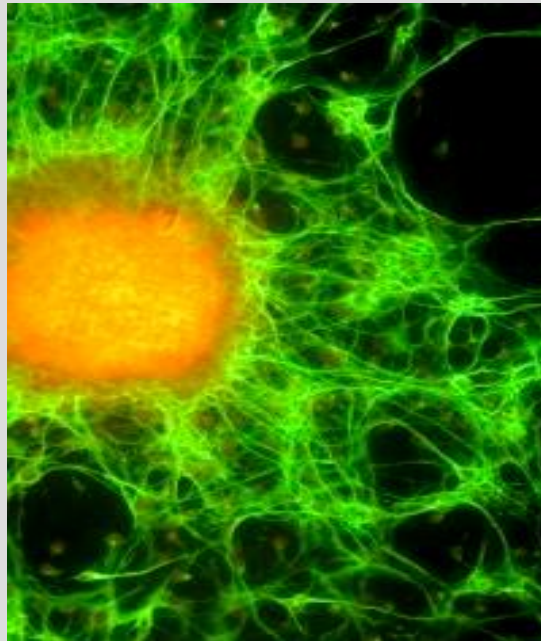
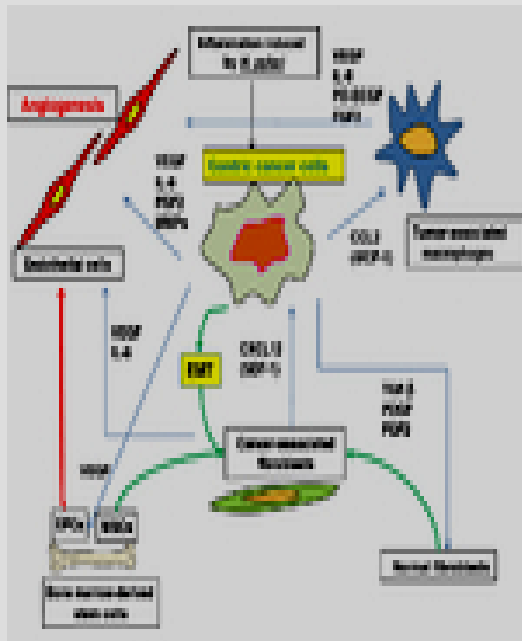
Very relevant for cancer but not today



# Part II

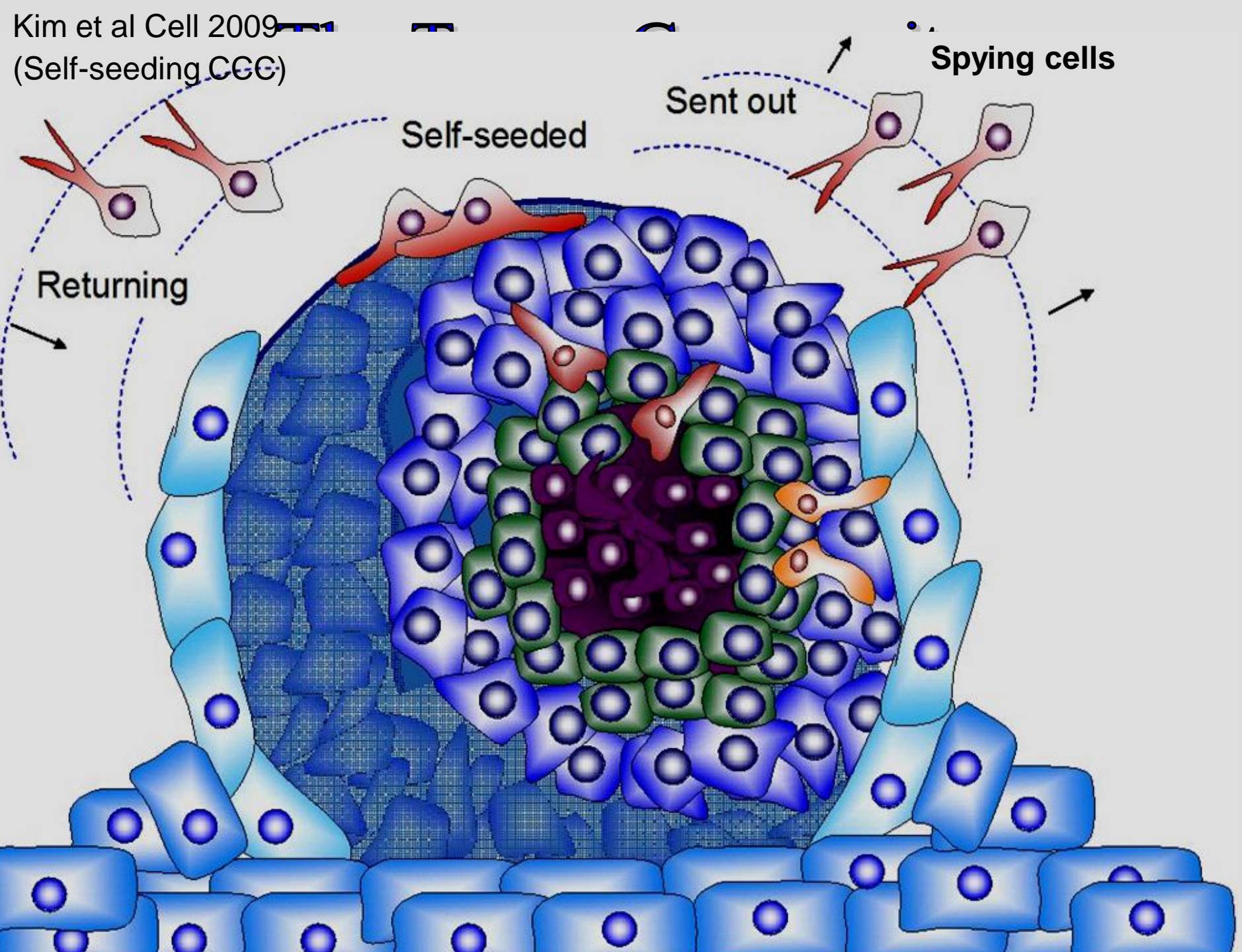
## The Metacommunity Hypothesis

### I. The Tumor Community



Eshel Ben-Jacob, Donald Coffey, Herbert Levine  
*Trends in Microbiology* Online June 29, 2012

Kim et al Cell 2009  
(Self-seeding CCG)



# Advanced Communication

Physical interactions

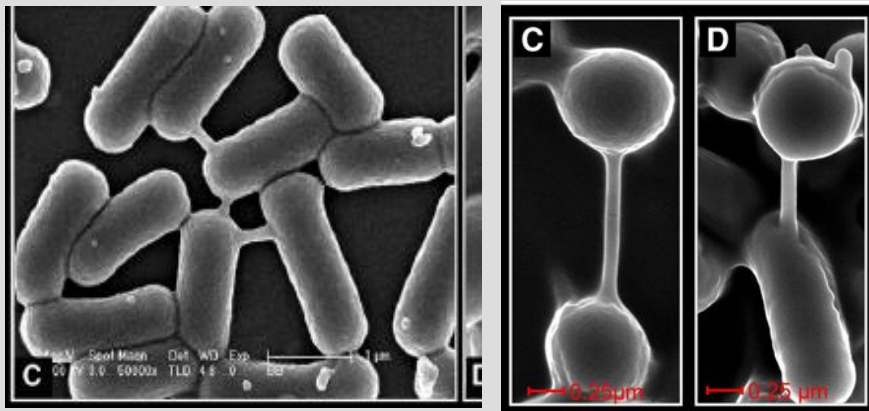
Chemical signaling

Exchange of genetic information

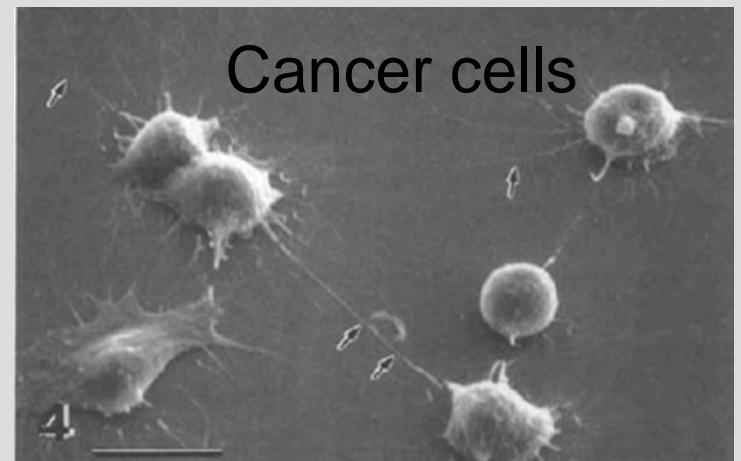
Exosomes

Gap junctions and Nanotubes  
(calcium waves? ; electrical signals?)

Bacteria



Dubey and Ben-Yehuda Cell 2011

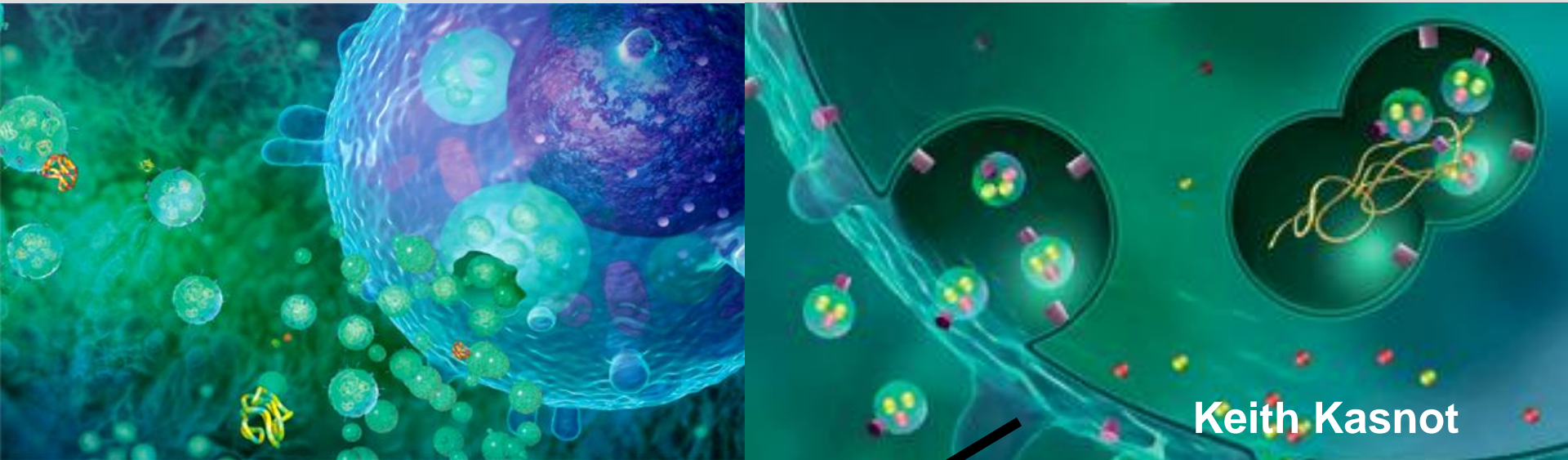


Gilloteaux et al SCANNING (1998)

# Exosomes: A new dimension in cell-cell communication

*These small membrane vesicles do much more than clean up a cell's trash they also carry signals to distant parts of the body, where they can impact multiple dimensions of cellular life.*

Clotilde Théry *TheScientist* July 1, 2011

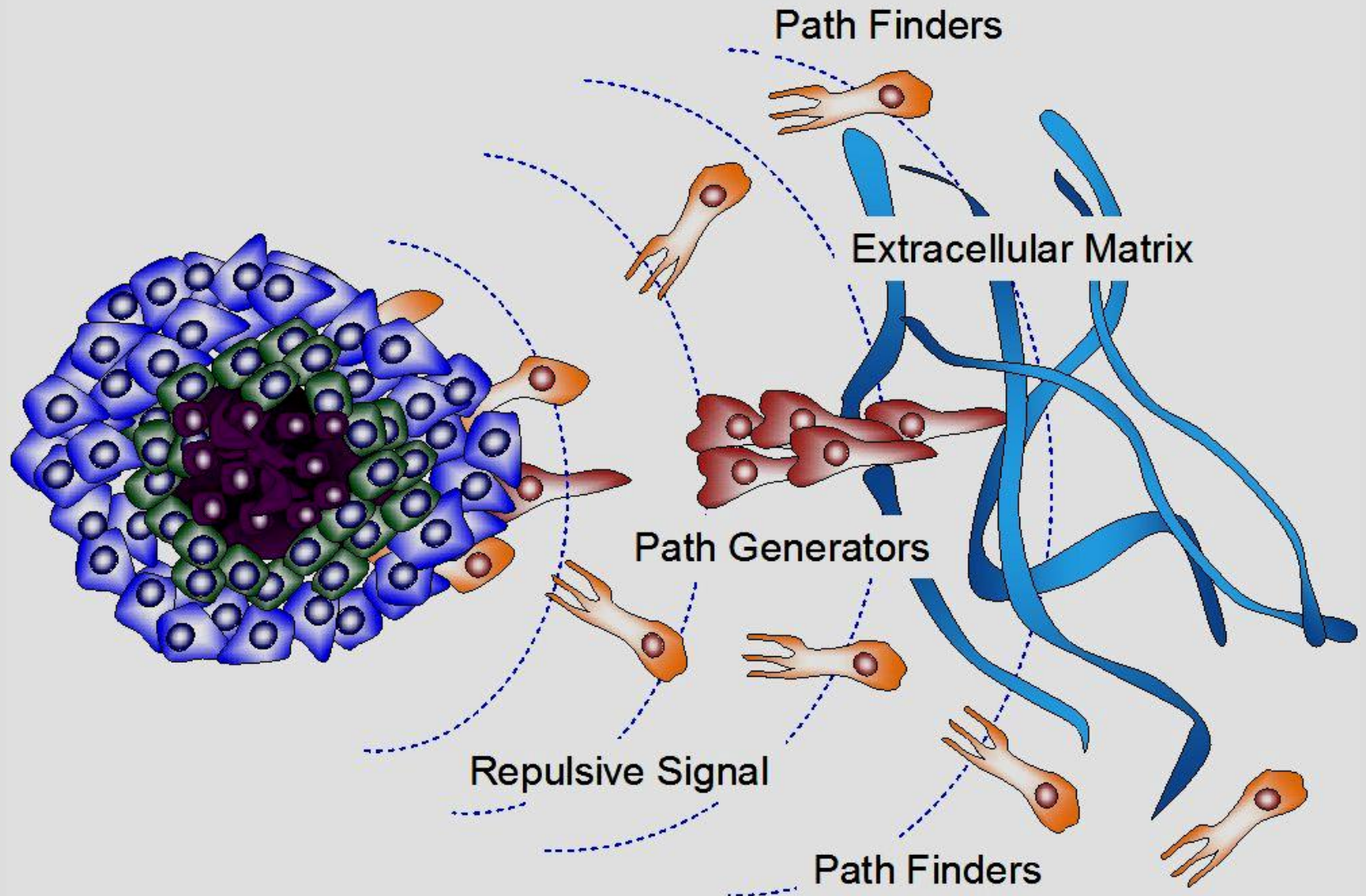


Zhang and William "Exosomes and Cancer: A Newly Described Pathway of Immune Suppression" *Clinical Cancer Research* 2011

Camussi et al "Exosome/microvesicle-mediated epigenetic reprogramming of cells" *J. Am. Cancer Research* 2011

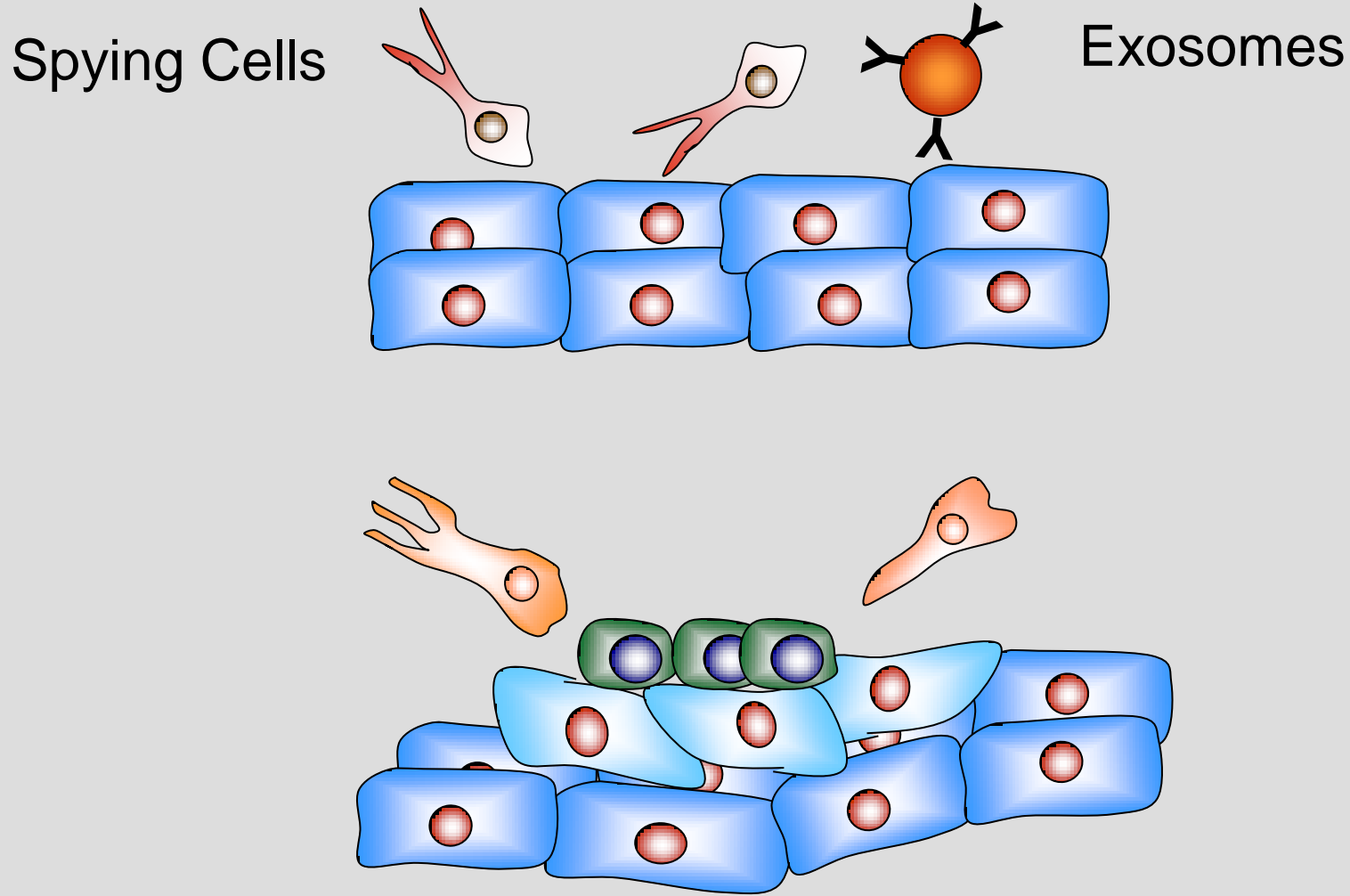
# Metacommunity

## Collective Decisions and Collective Colonization

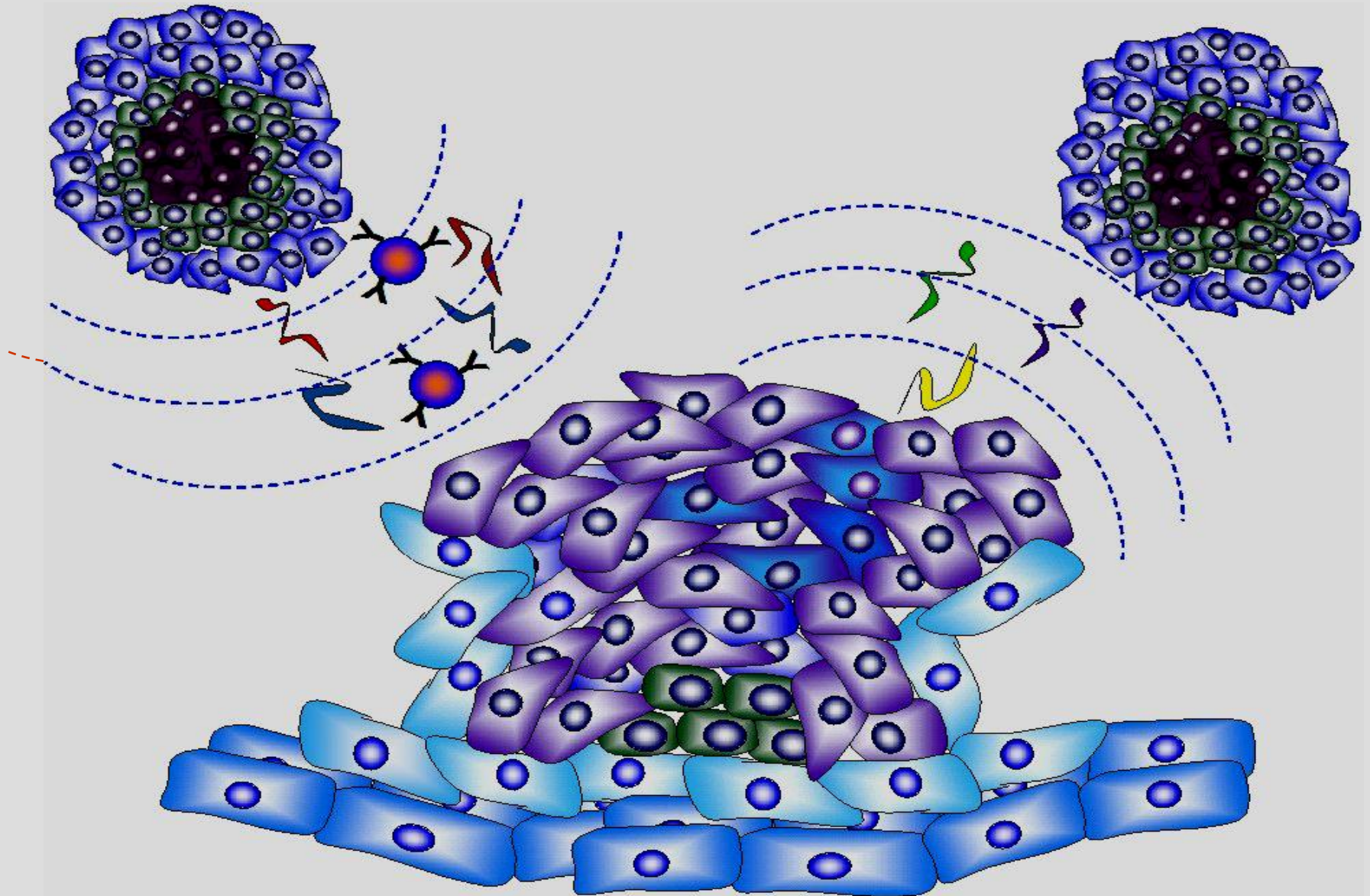




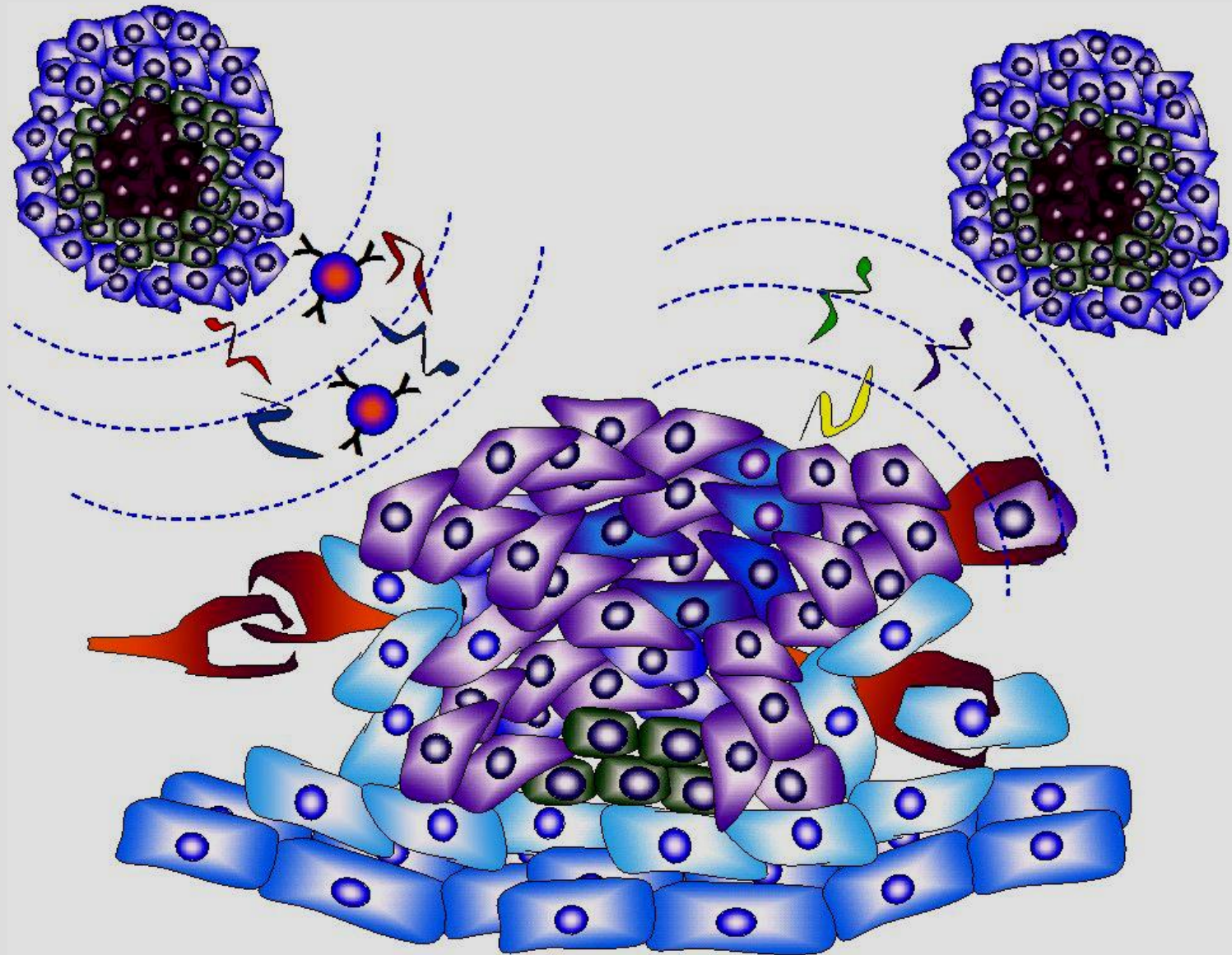
# Selecting and Preparing the Niche



# Germination of Micrometastases



# Cancer Cannibalism



Fais et al Cancer Lett. 2007

# A New Challenge: Deciding or Playing Dice

Looking for hints at the way bacteria decide fate



**Gamblers should take a hint from bacteria**

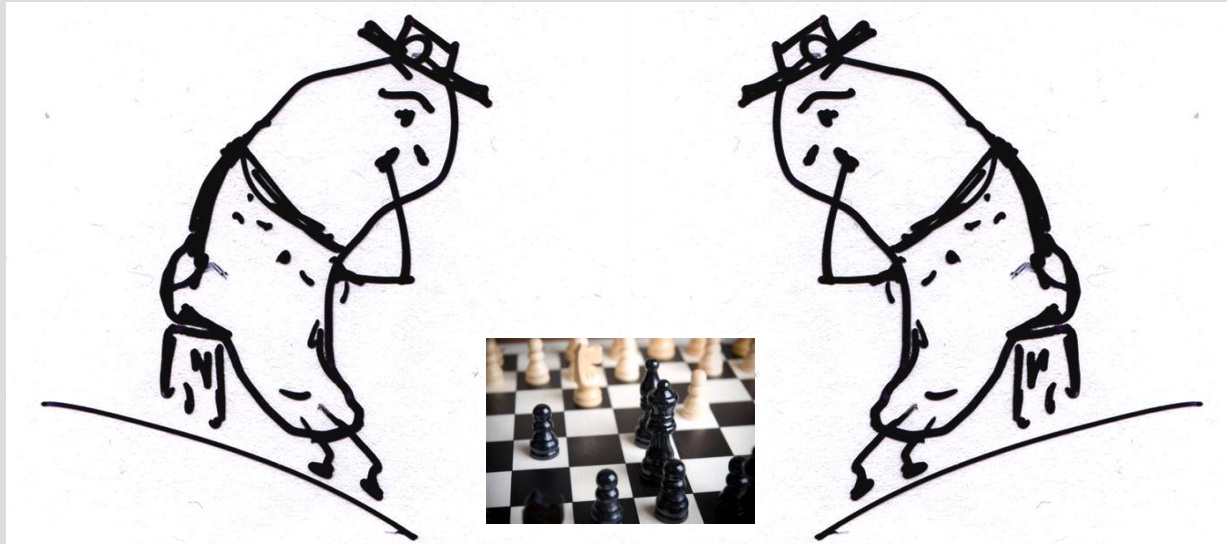
**Forget that lucky charm**

12 Oct 2010 17:11 | by [Andrea Petrou](#) | posted in [Science](#)

# Part III

## Bacterial Collective Decisions

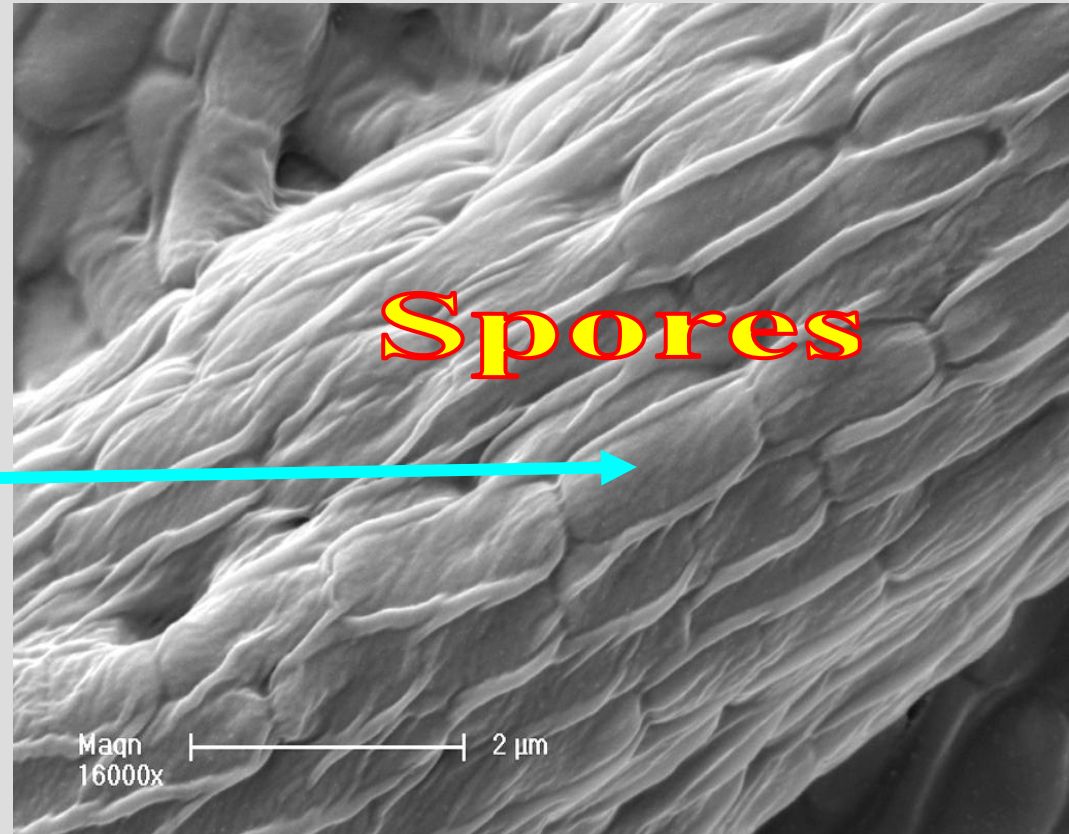
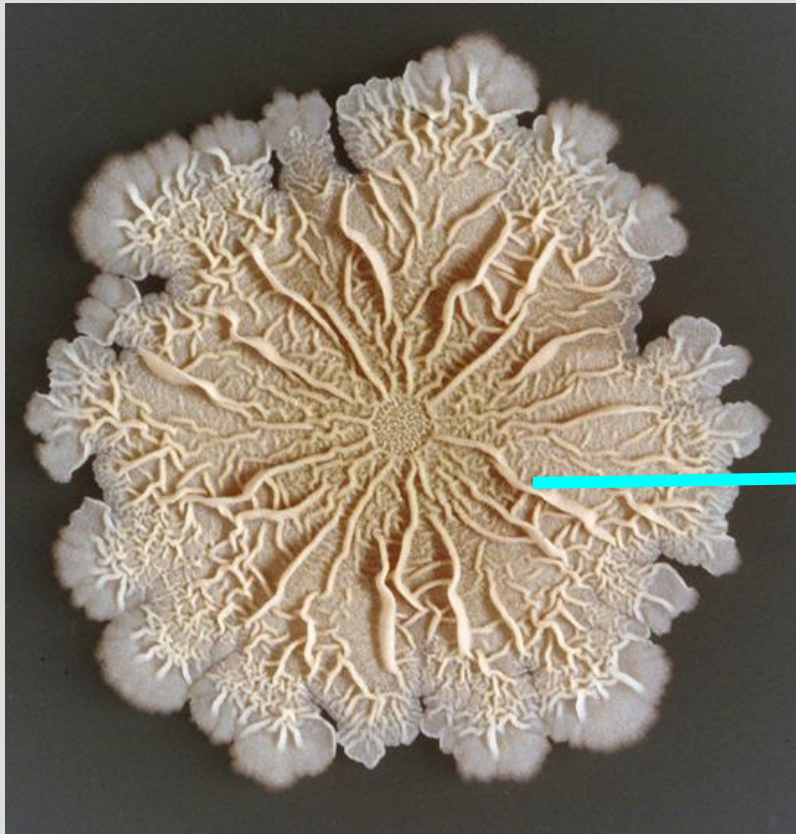
### Bacterial Game Theory During Phenotypic Transitions



Schultz et al PNAS 2007, 2009, Ben-Jacob and Schultz PNAS 2010

# To Be or Not To Be

Sporulation vs. Competence under starvation



Pictures Avi Minski Weizmann



# The Challenge of Collective Decision-Making

## The Inhibition of Inhibition Principle

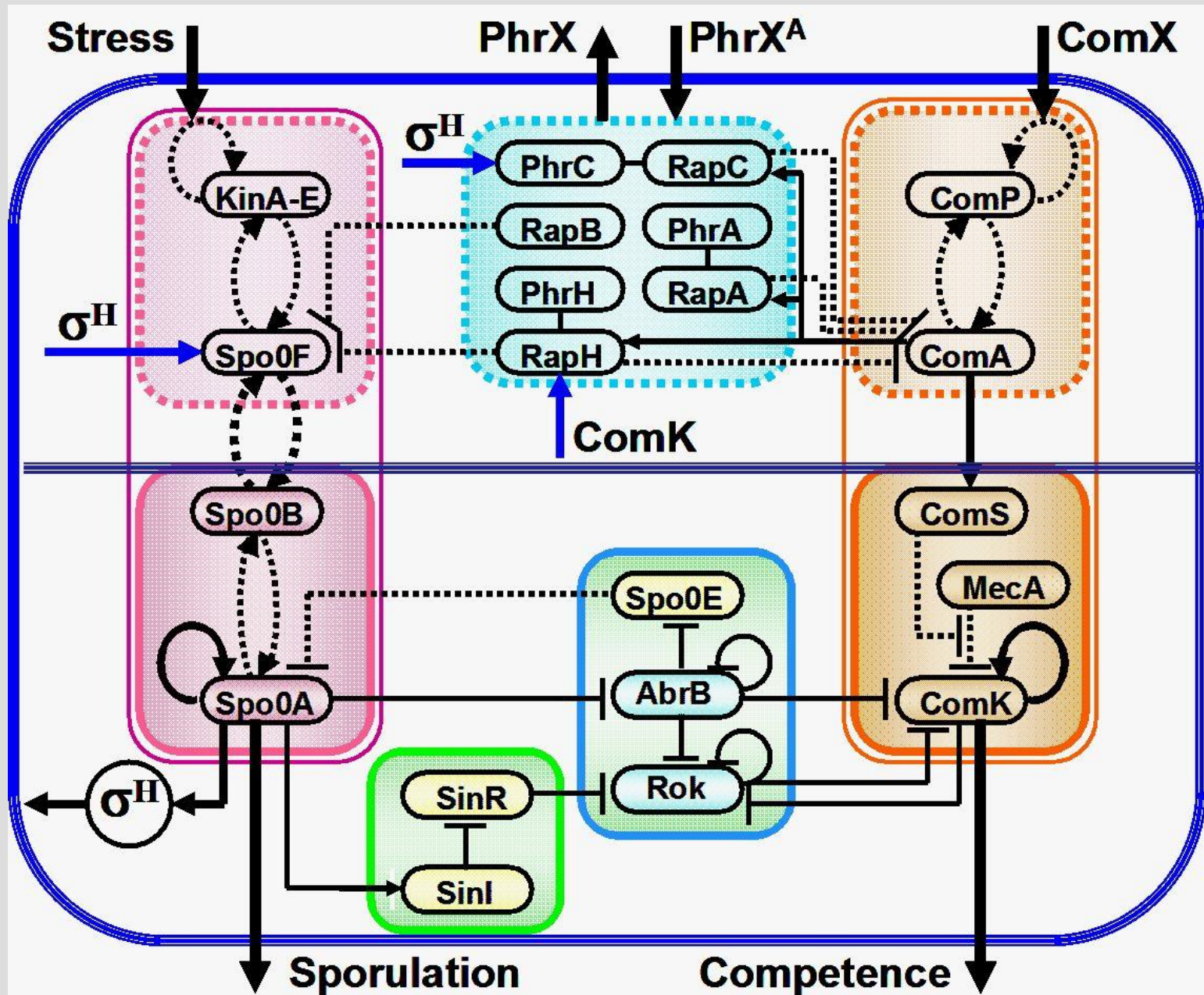
## Coordination of Clock Rate

With D. Schultz, J. Onuchic and P. Wolynes PNAS 2007, 2009

With D. Schultz, PNAS 2010

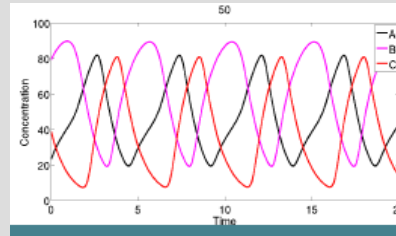
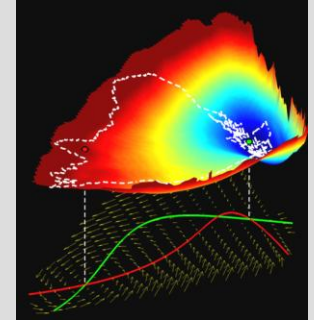
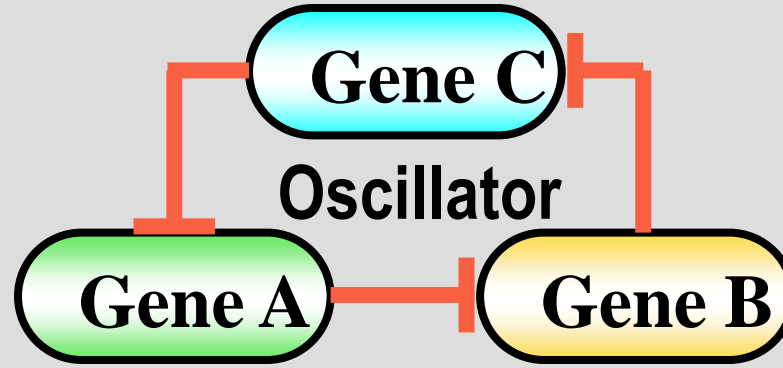
Picture A. Minski WIS

# The Decision Network



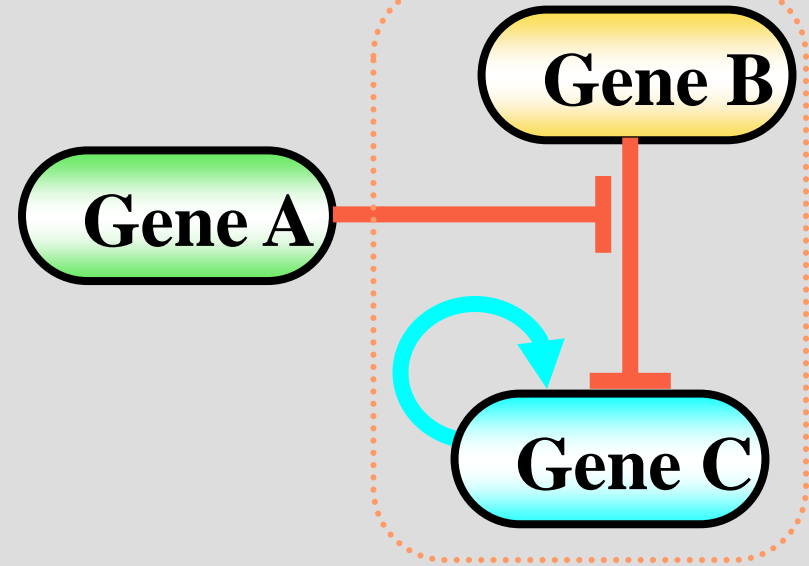
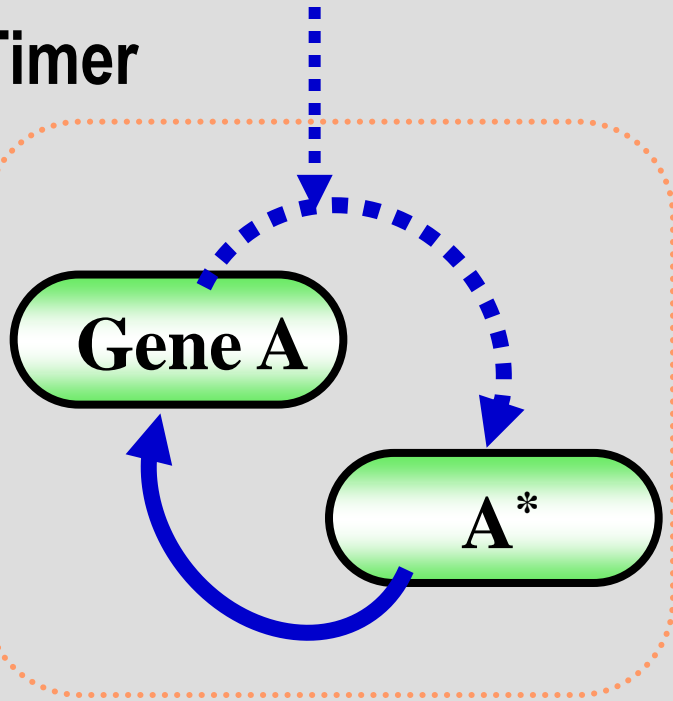


# Let the complex be simple – looking for key elements

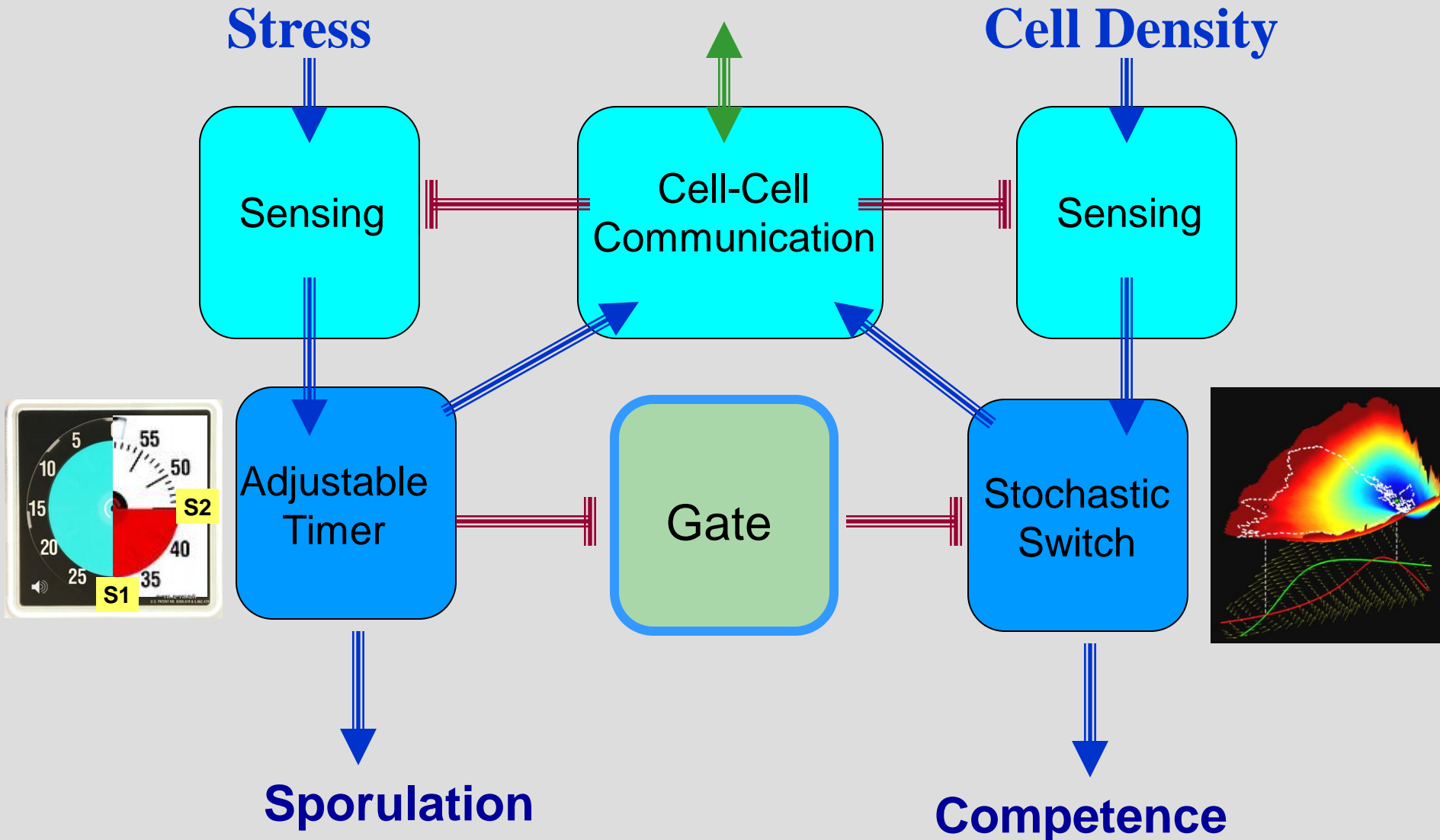


## Stochastic Switch

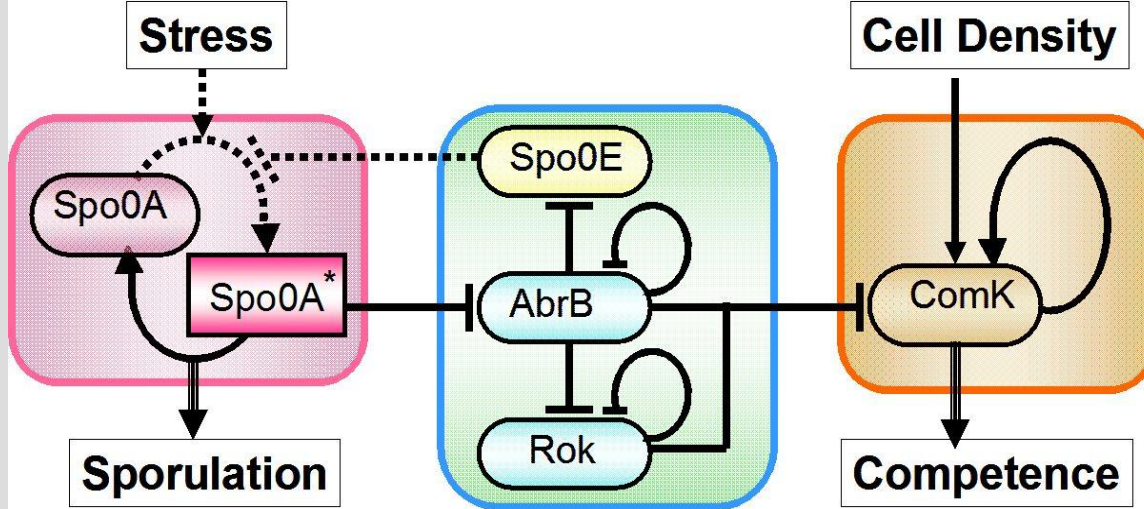
## Timer



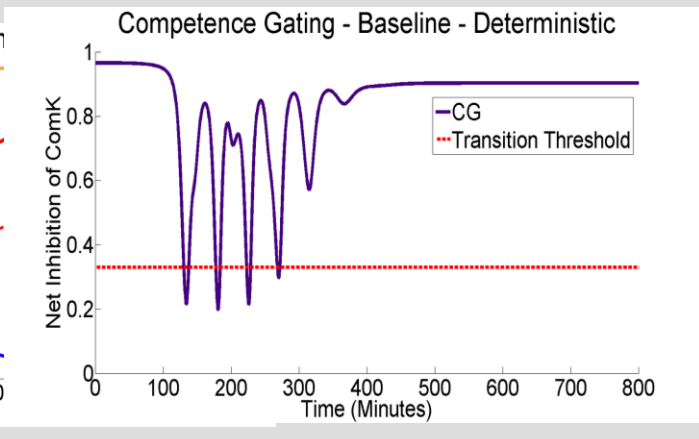
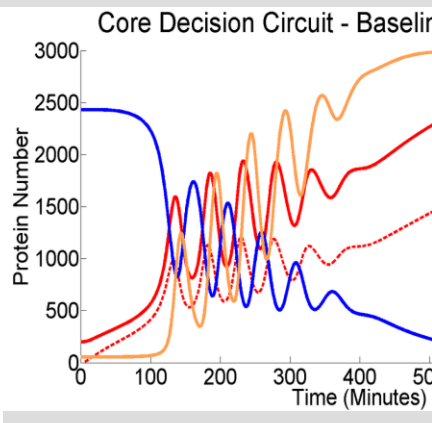
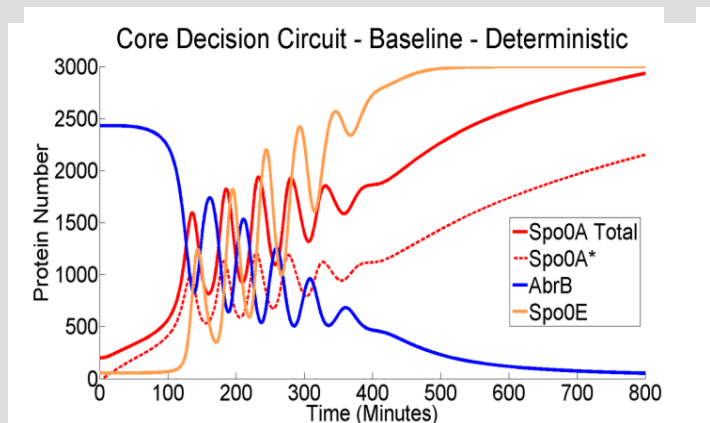
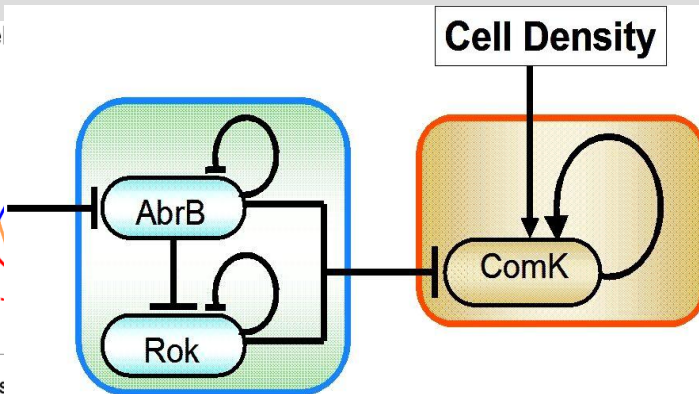
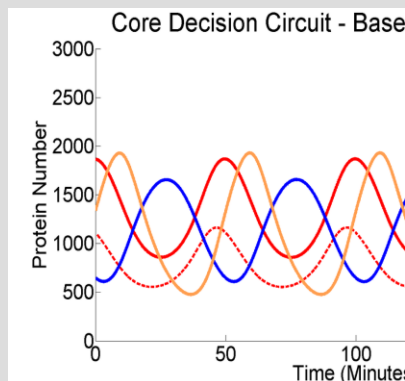
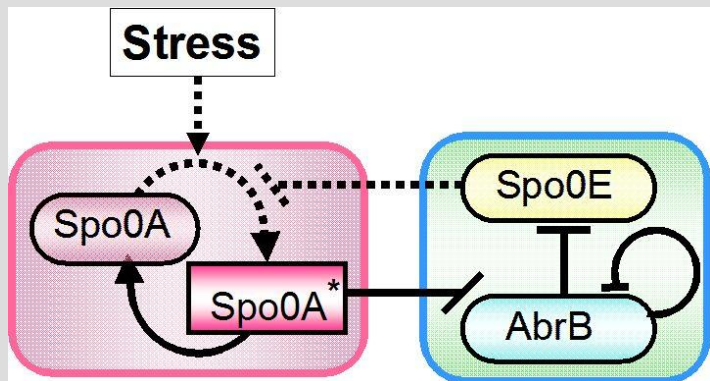
# The Inhibition of Inhibition Principle

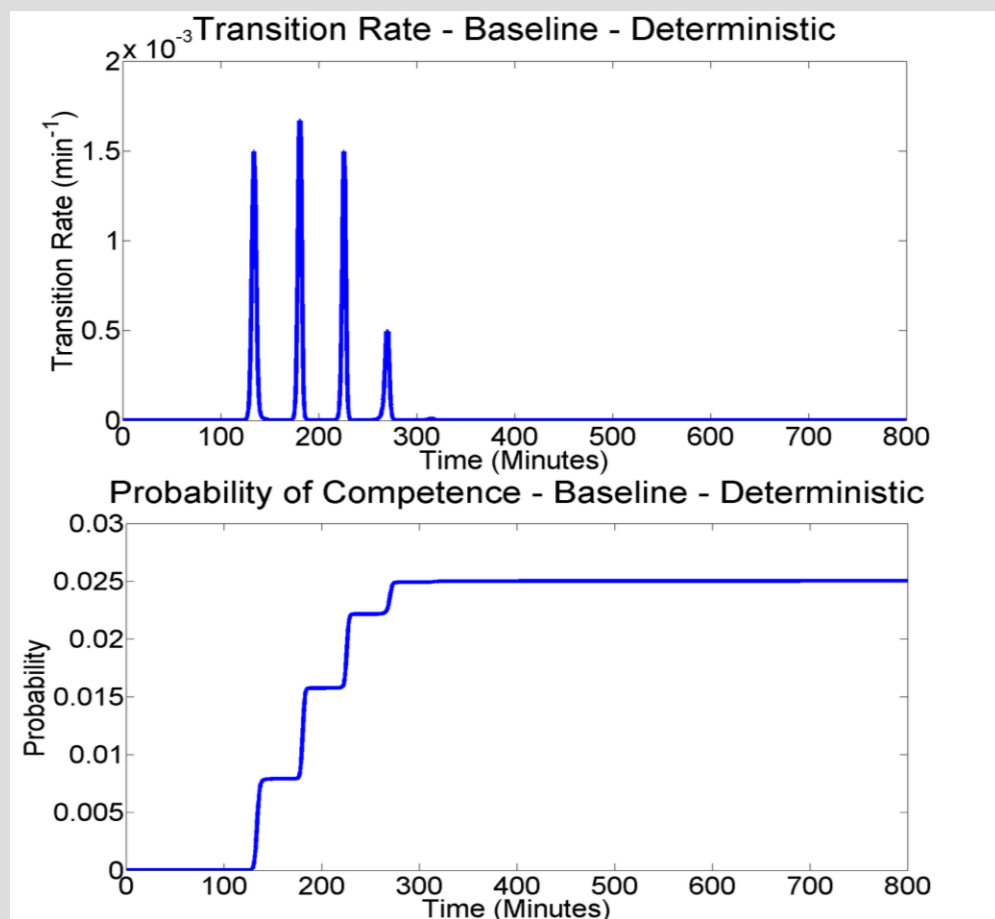
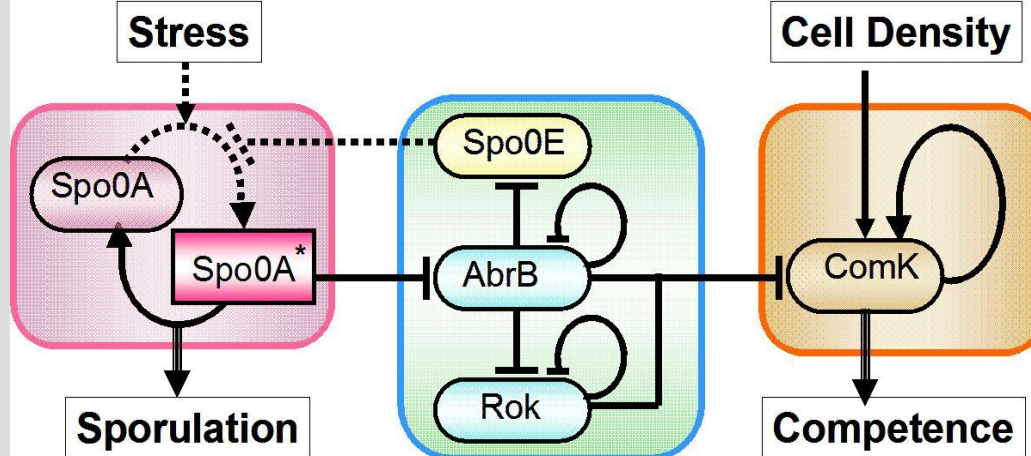


With Trevor Schultz Onuchic (unpublished)

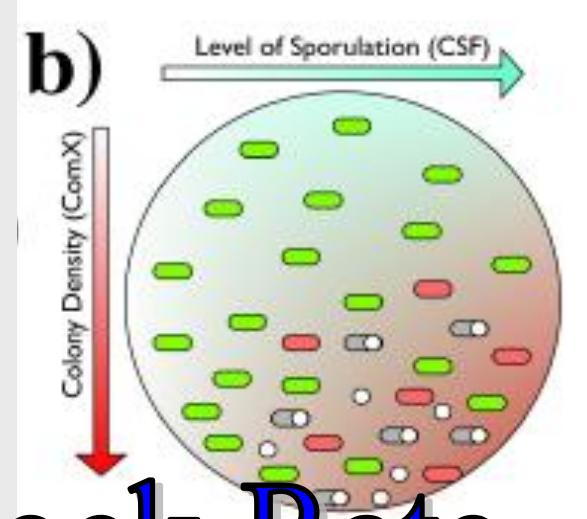
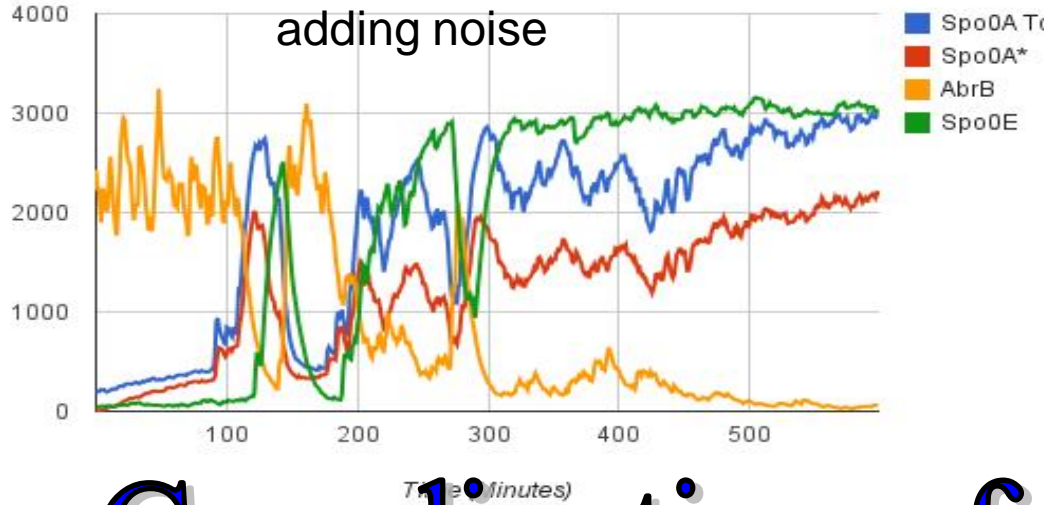


With Trevor Schultz Onuchic Süel (RMP unpublished)

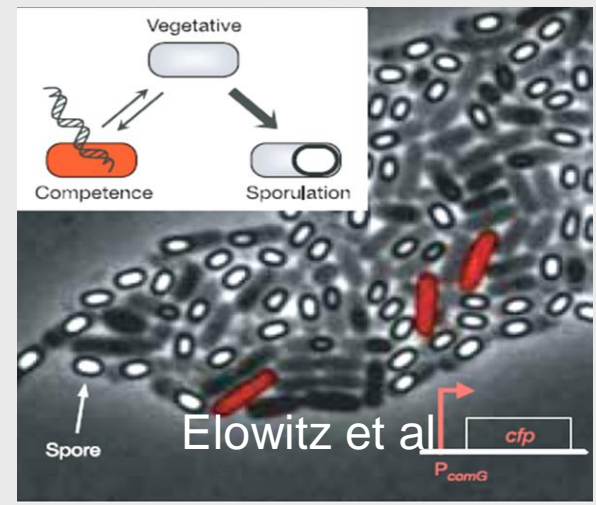
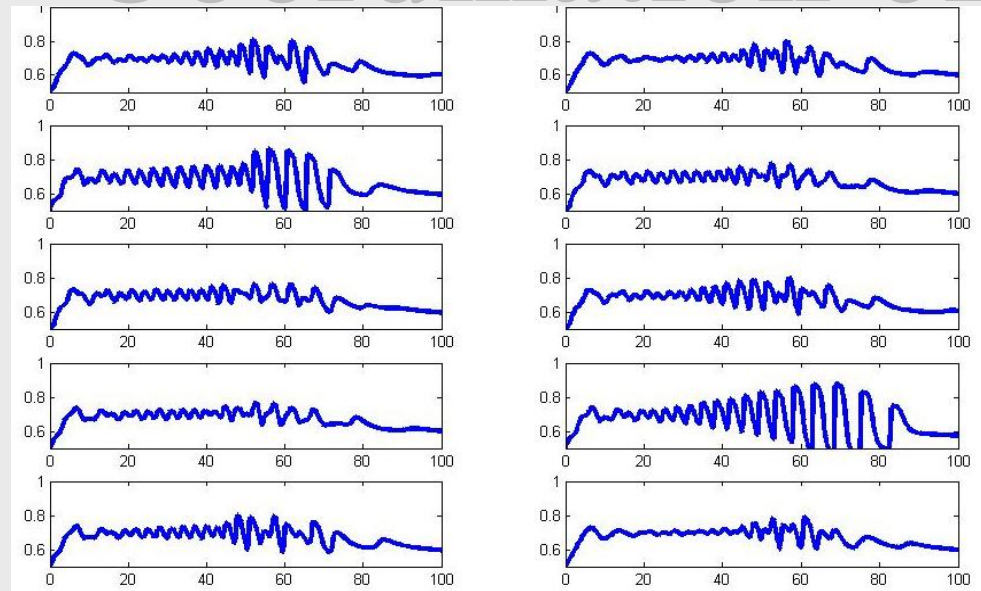




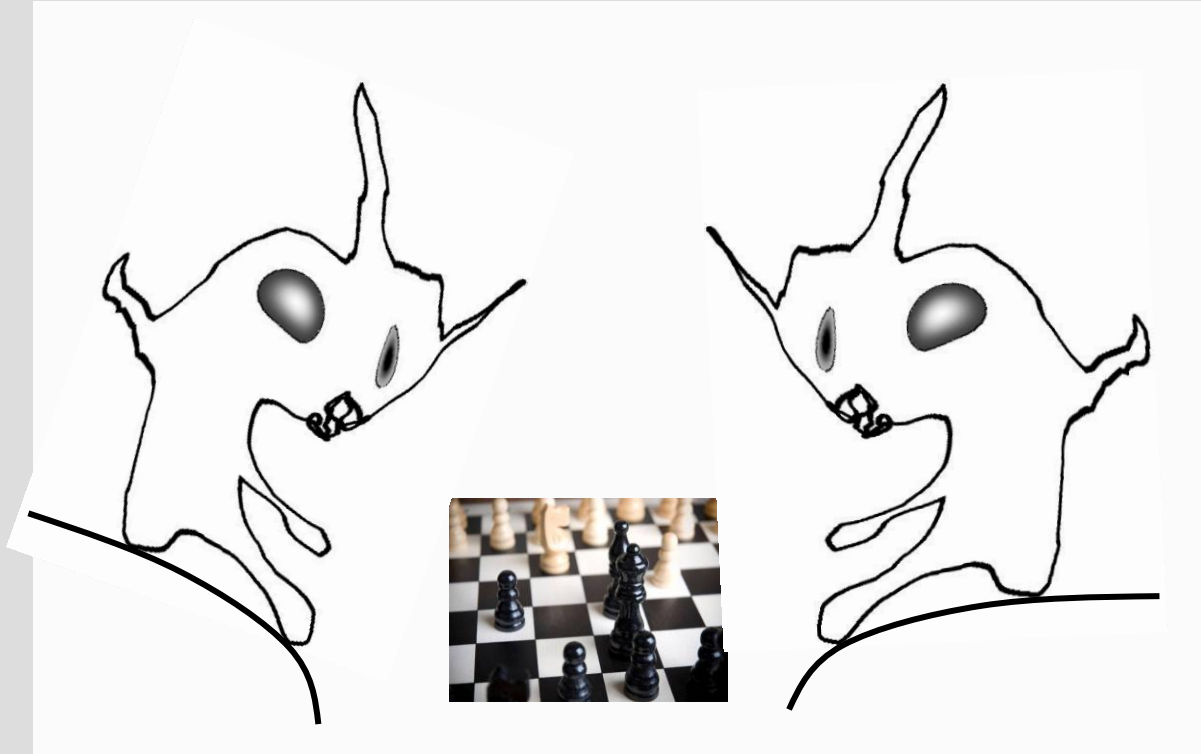
# Comparison with experiments



# Coordination of Clock Rate



# Back to cancer decisions during colonization



# Part IV

## From Single Cell Motility

Last week

Sander – ECM assisted motility ; Wirtz – 3D vs 2D ;  
Levine – Dicty and Amoeboid motility + Chemotaxis

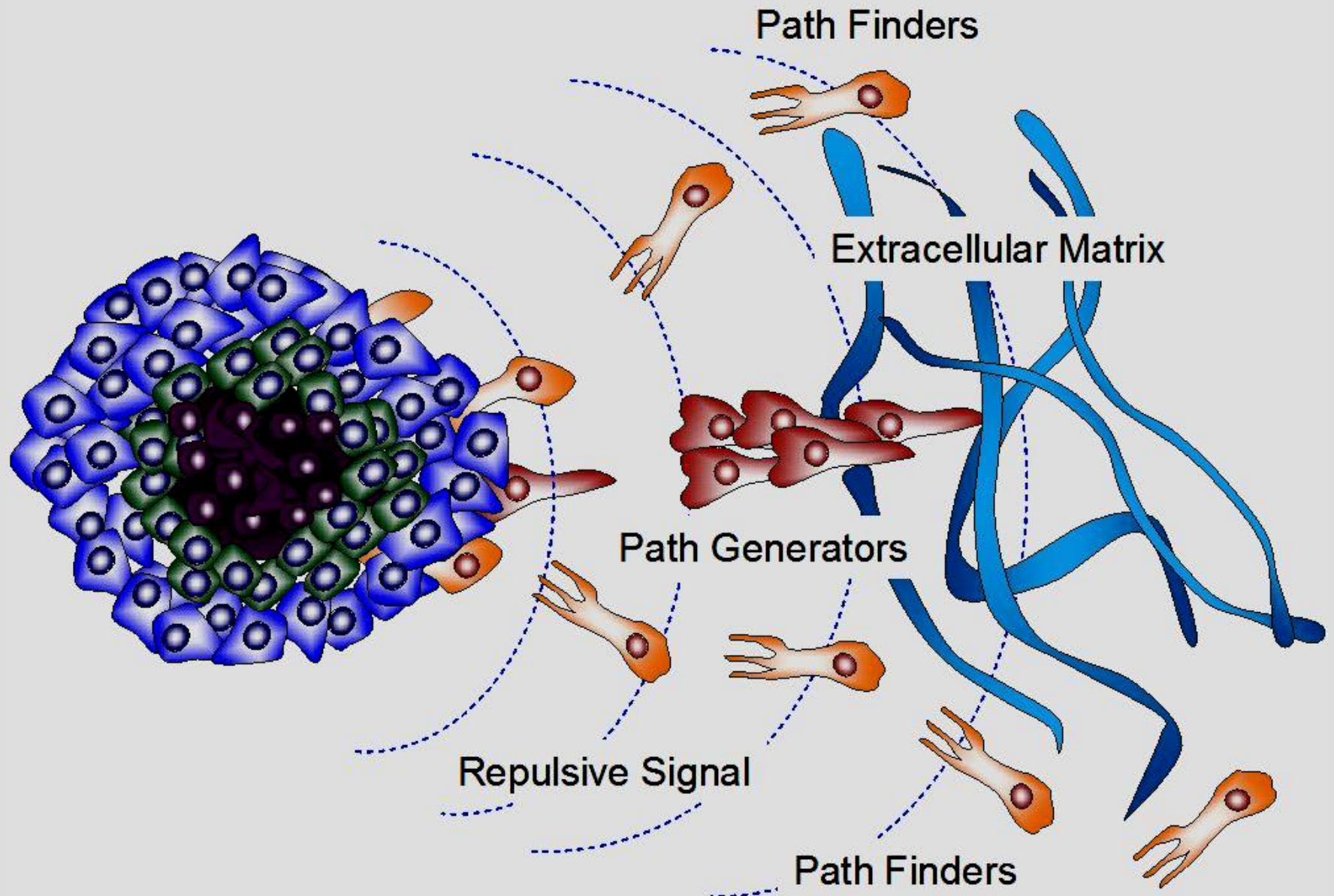
## To Navigation

## Proliferation vs. Invasion

## Collective Navigation

With, Inbal Hecht, Assaf Zaritsky, Ilan Tsarfaty  
Noam Cayron, Lior Wolf, Herbert Levine

# Cancer Navigation Strategies

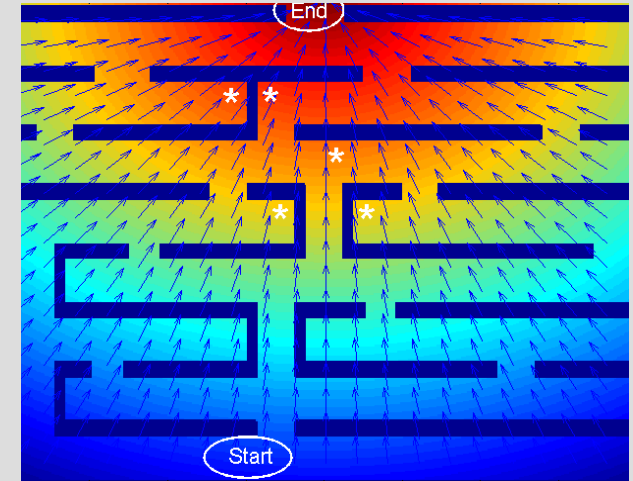
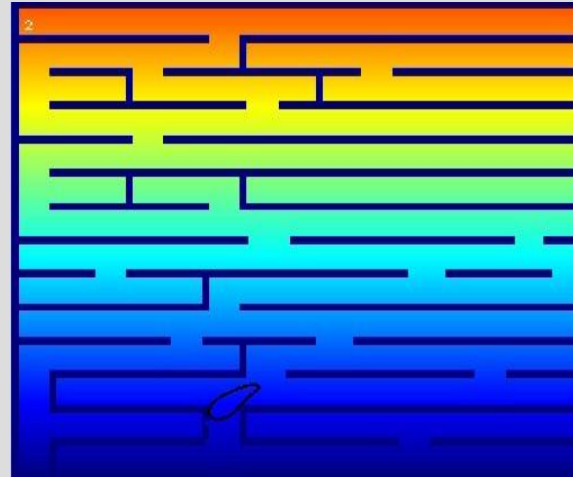
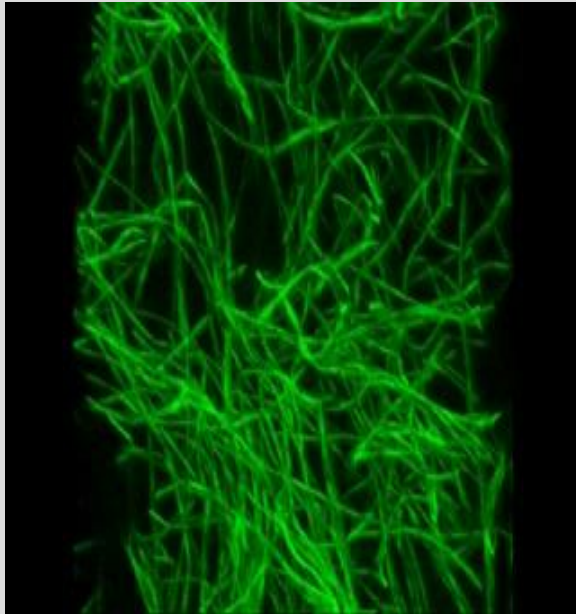




# The ECM as a Maze

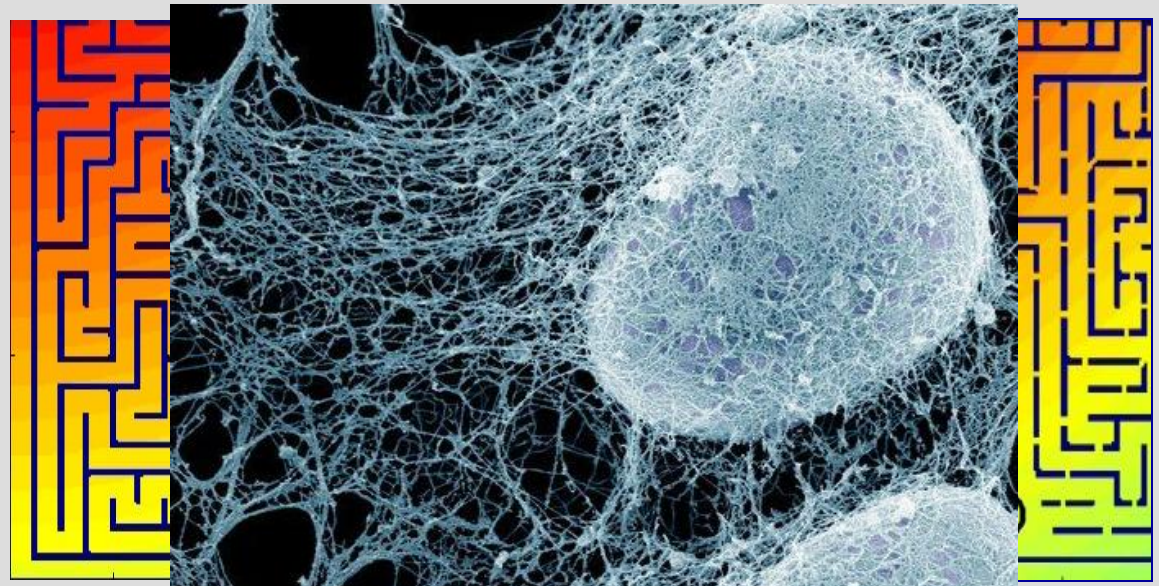
Chemical signaling

Attractive – from blood vessels



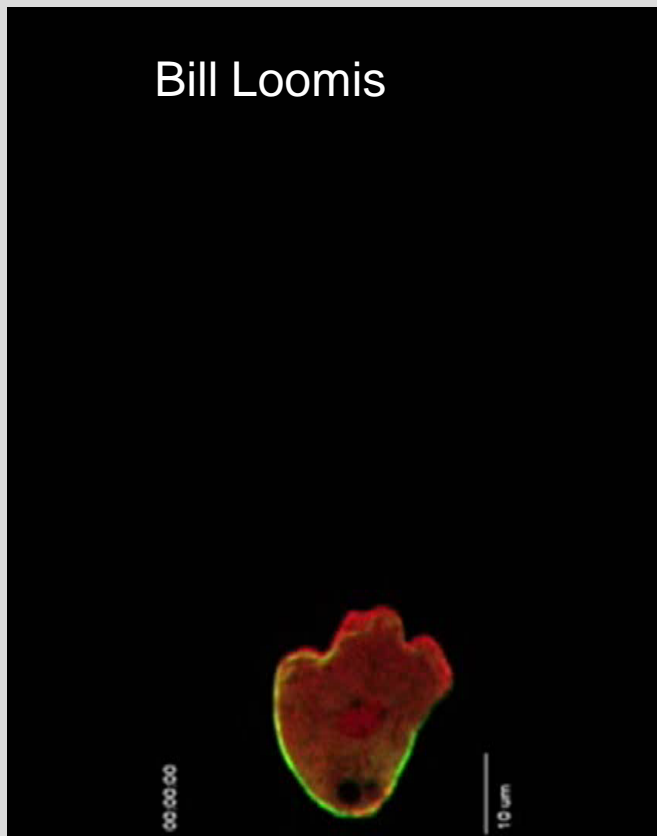
Repulsive – from the Tumor

Collagen Mesh  
(Len sander Lecture)



# Single Cell Motility - Amoeboid

(Dicty as a model for amoeboid motility)

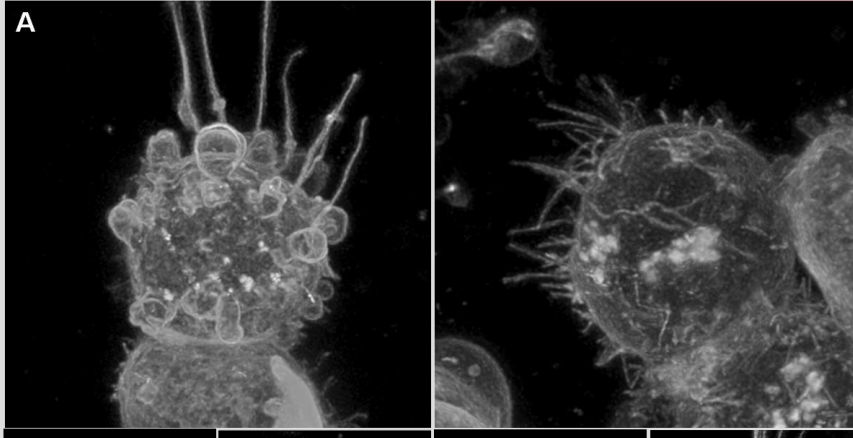


(Details - Levine lecture last week)

Chemical Gradient

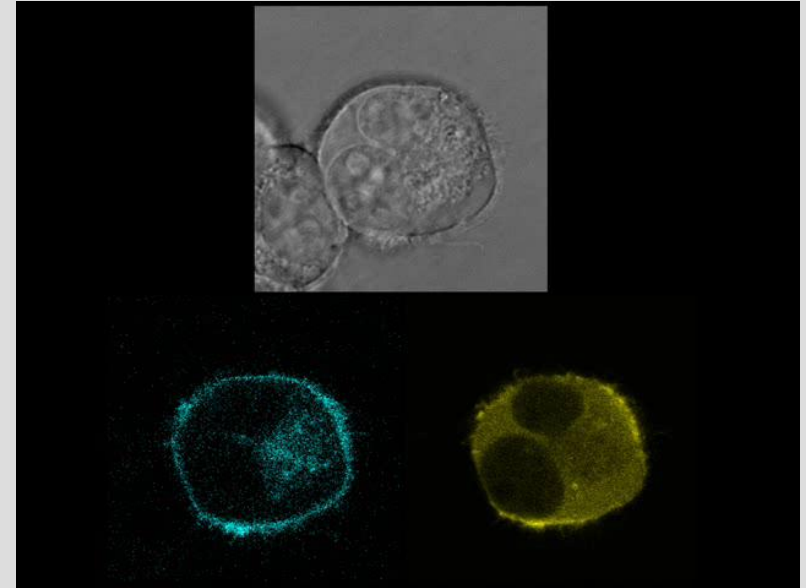
Hecht et al PLoS Comp Bio (2011)

# Single Cell Motility - Blebbing



Met induced blebbing

Tsarfaty Group Unpublished



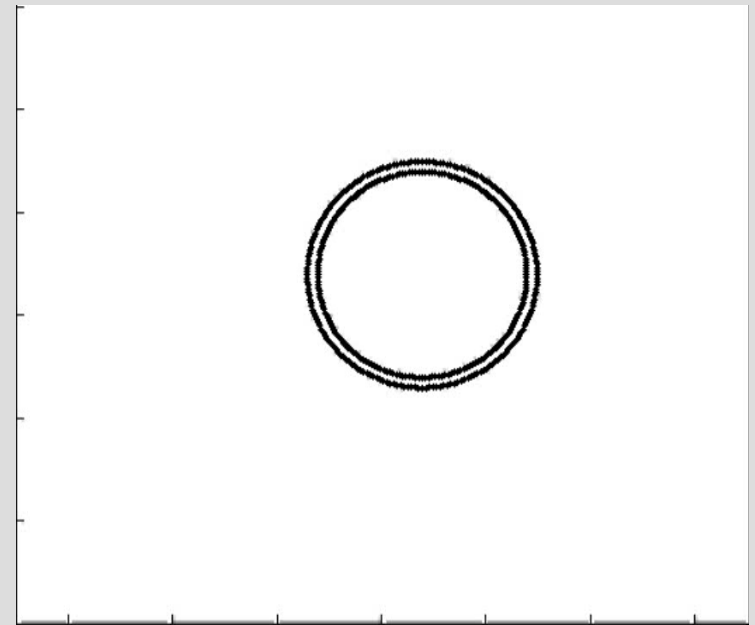
CFP - Met

YFP - actin

Reconnecting the cortex  
and membrane by  
stochastic dynamics

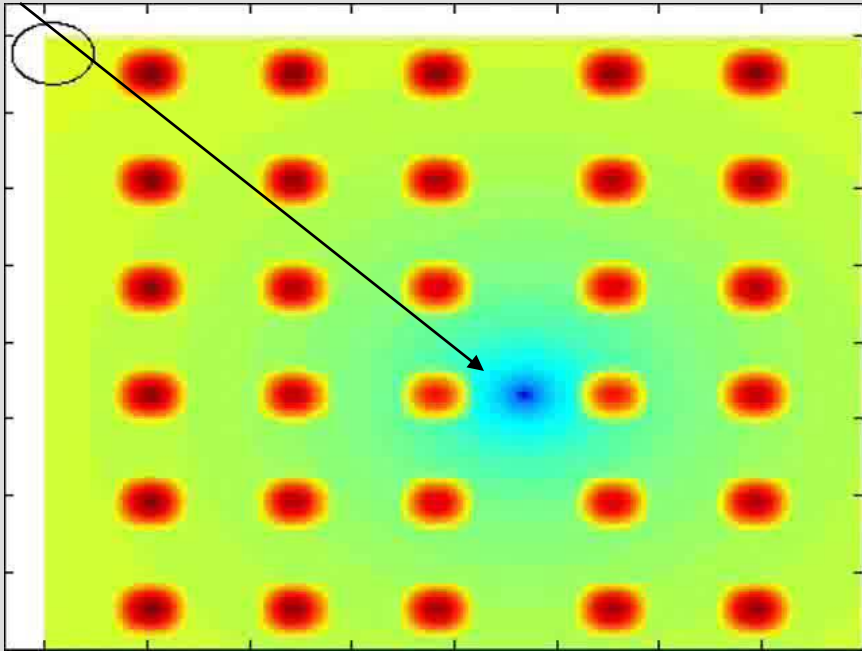
Membrane wrinkles are  
formed during retraction

With Inbal Hecht and Ilan Tsarfaty

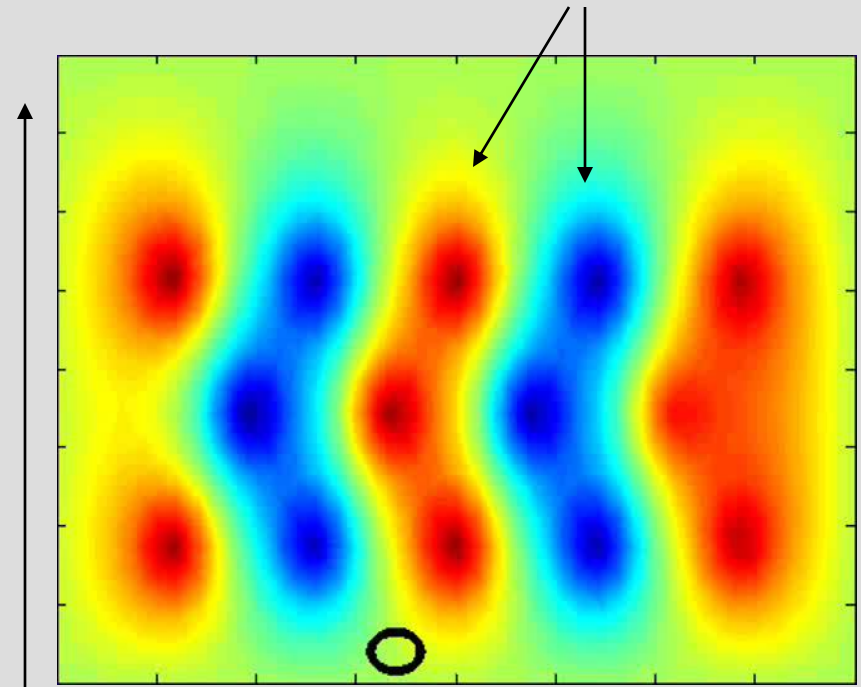


# Navigation in Complex Terrains

Chemical Gradient



Different Viscosity



Chemical Gradient

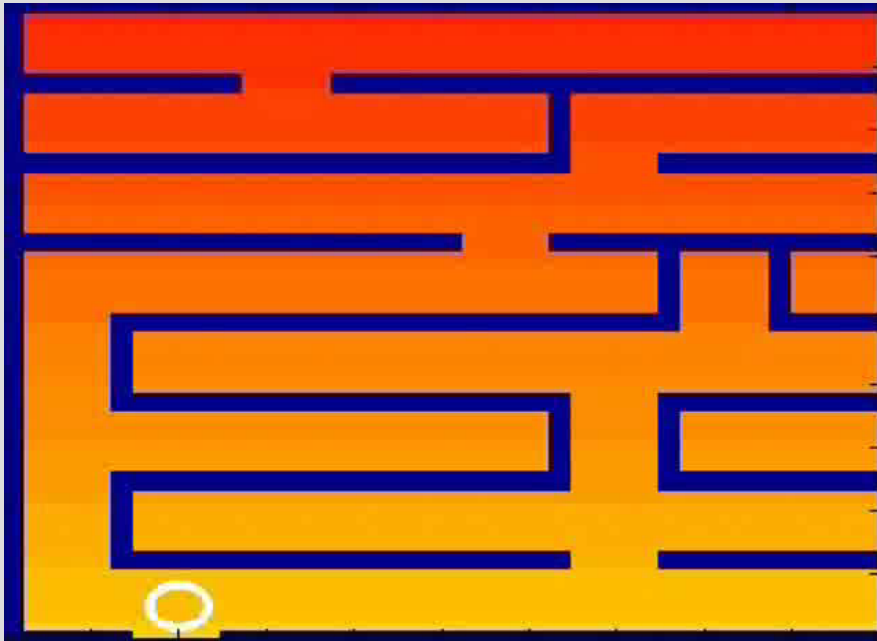
**Possible implications to breast cancer**

With Hecht and Tsarfaty

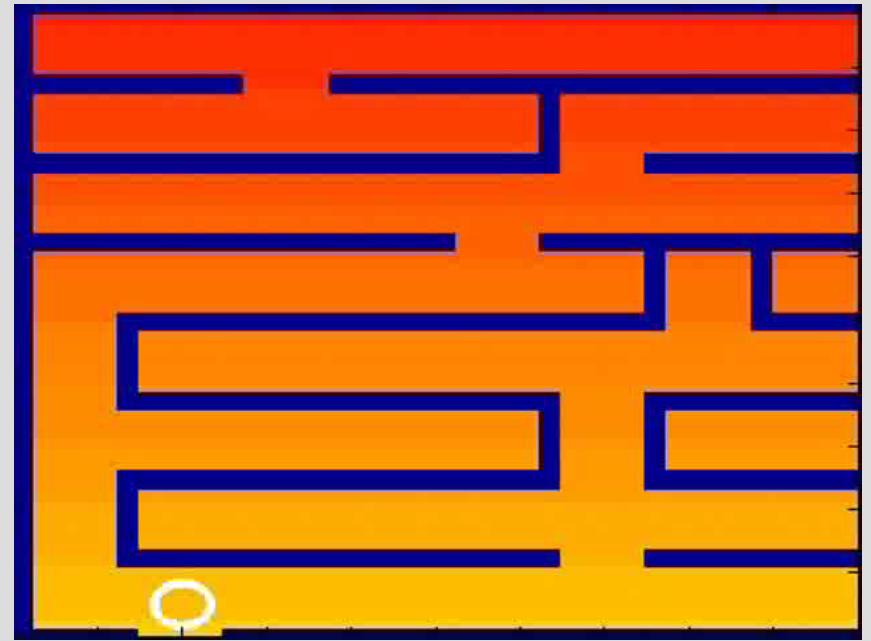
# Self-Assisted Navigation

## Prediction to be Tested

Escaping traps by secretion of repulsive agent



Trapped

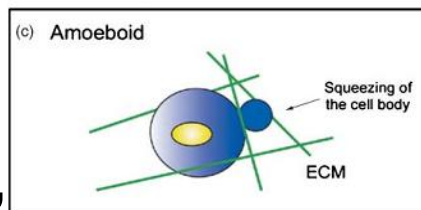


Escaping

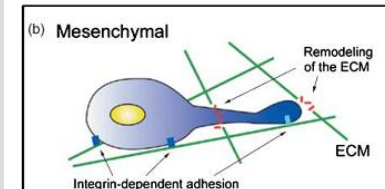
With Inbal Hecht, Herbert Levine, Wouter-Jan Rappel, PLoS ONE 2011

# Amoeboid - Path finder

# Mesenchymal - Path generator

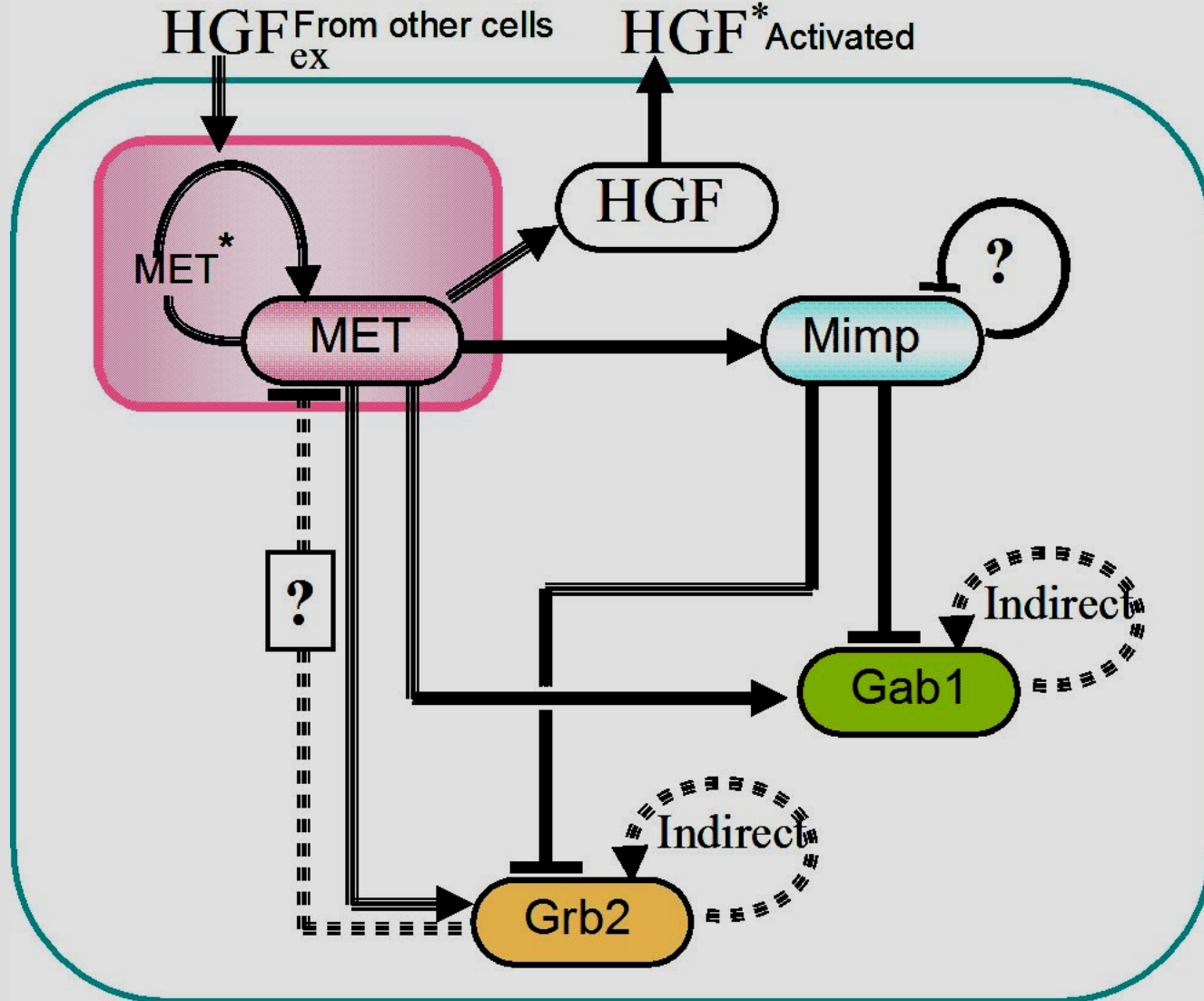


Fast, flexible,  
squeezes through small gaps

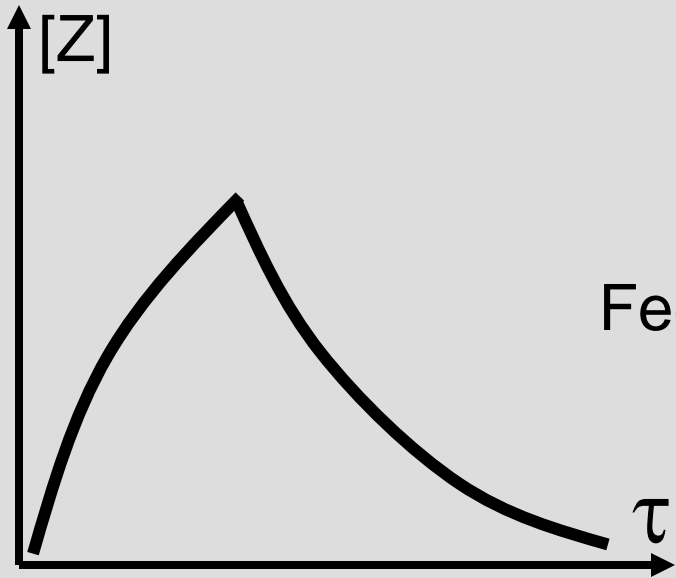
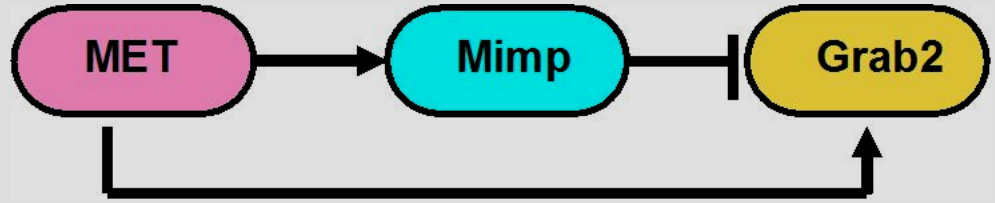
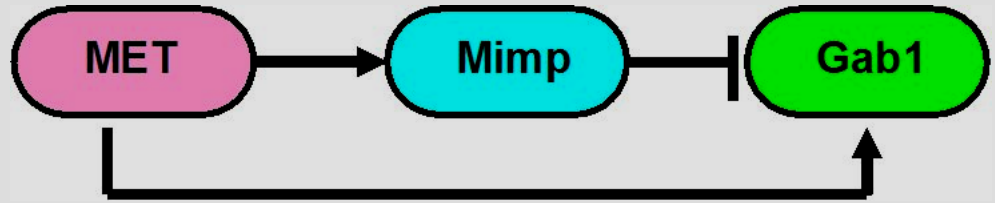
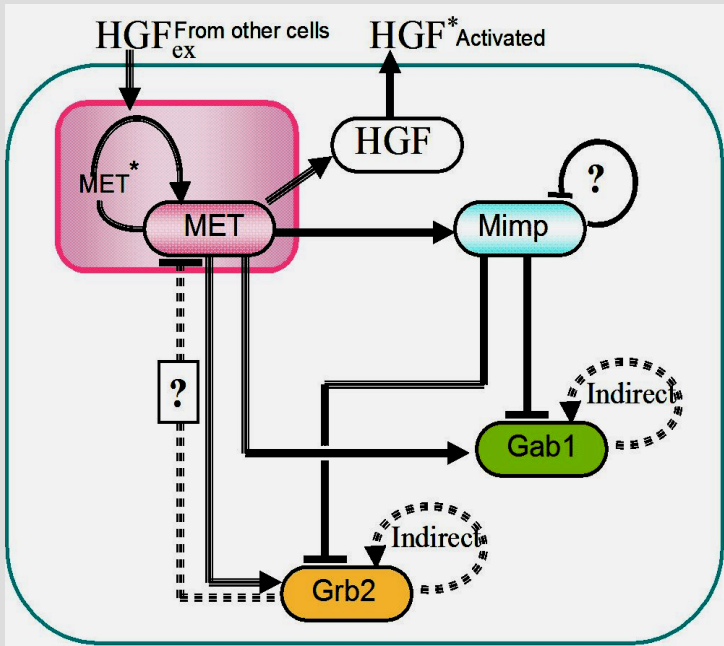


Slow, rigid,  
degrades the wall

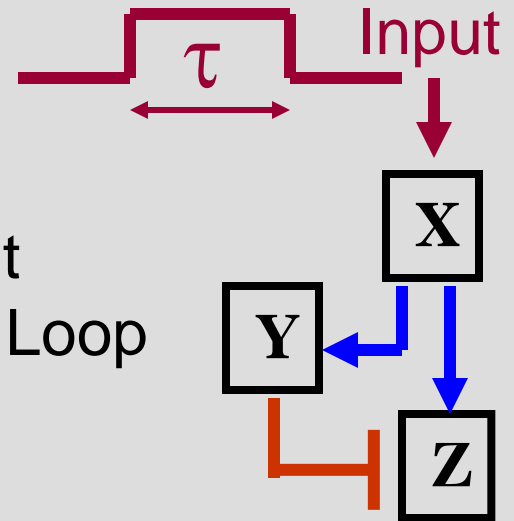
# Example of a Cancer Decision Circuit



With Ilan Tsarfati (TAU), Jose' Onuchic and Herbert Levine (Rice)



Incoherent Feed Forward Loop

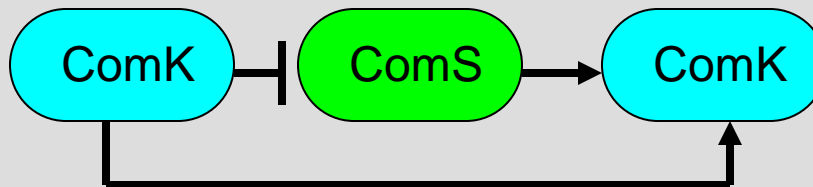
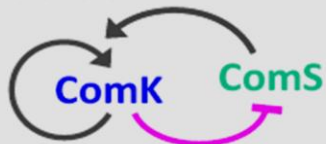




# Learning from Bacteria Decisions

## Competence switch as an Incoherent Feed Forward Loop

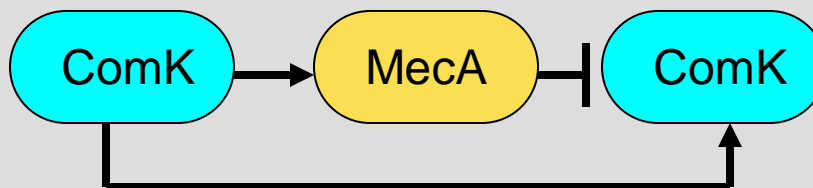
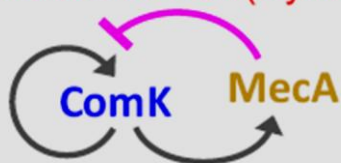
Native circuit



Rare transitions

Süel et al *Cell* 2009

Alternative circuit (SynEx)



Frequent transitions

## Circuit architecture and noise effect

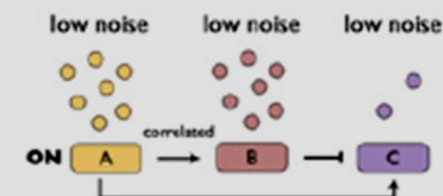
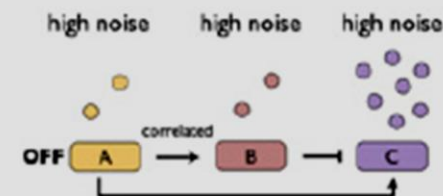
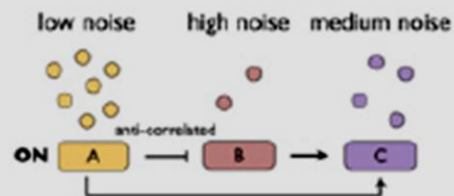
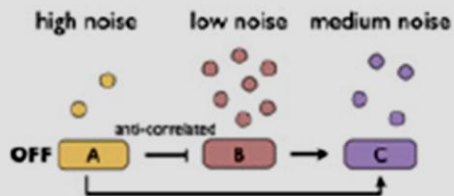
Süel et al *PNAS* 2010

Used for rare events

Used for frequent events

“Bacteria play dice with controlled odds”

Ben-Jacob and Schultz *PNAS* 2010

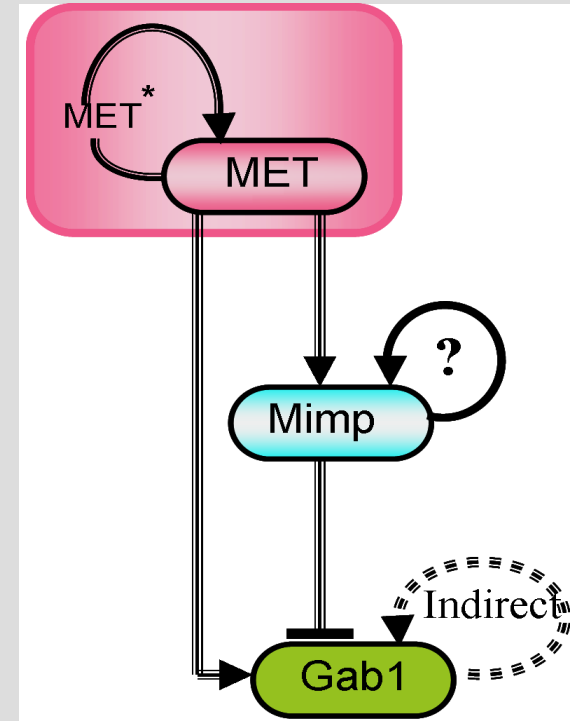
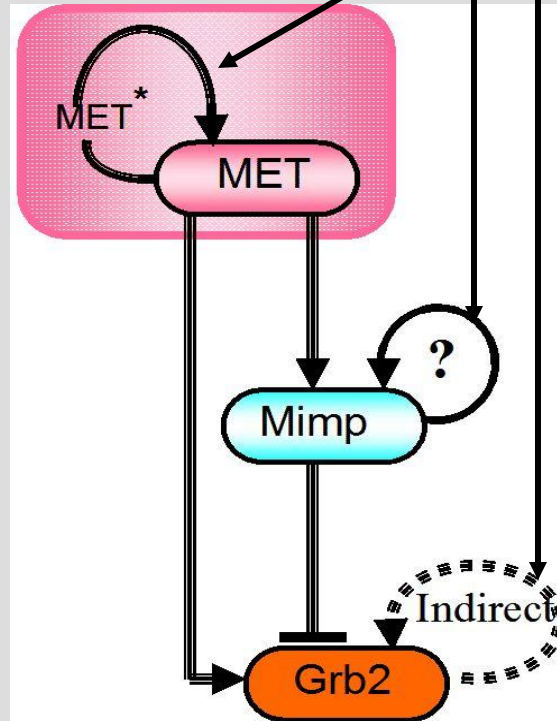
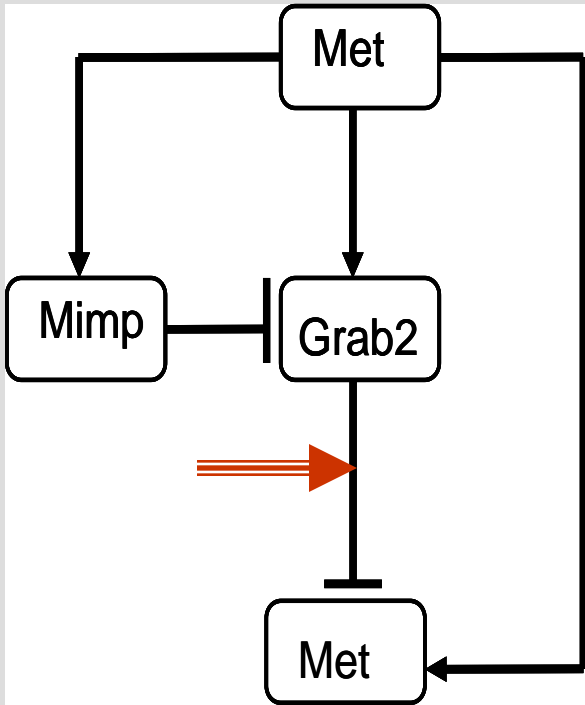
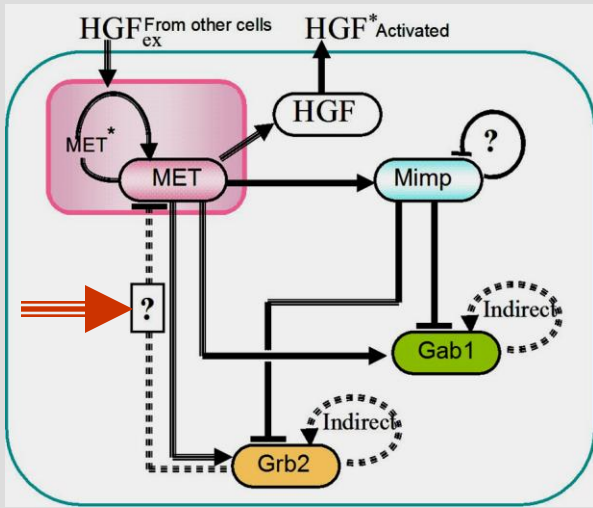


# "Games" of Incoherent FFL

Work in progress

With Ilan Tsarafati (TAU), Jose' Onuchic and Herbert Levine (Rice)

The additional elements control the noise effect

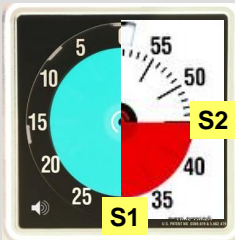


# A Step Towards Multicellularity

## Invasion vs. Proliferation

Inclusion of metabolism:

Internal Energy  $E_{int}$  and Internal Clock  $\Omega_{int}$



$\Omega_{int}$  Depends on  $E_{int}$



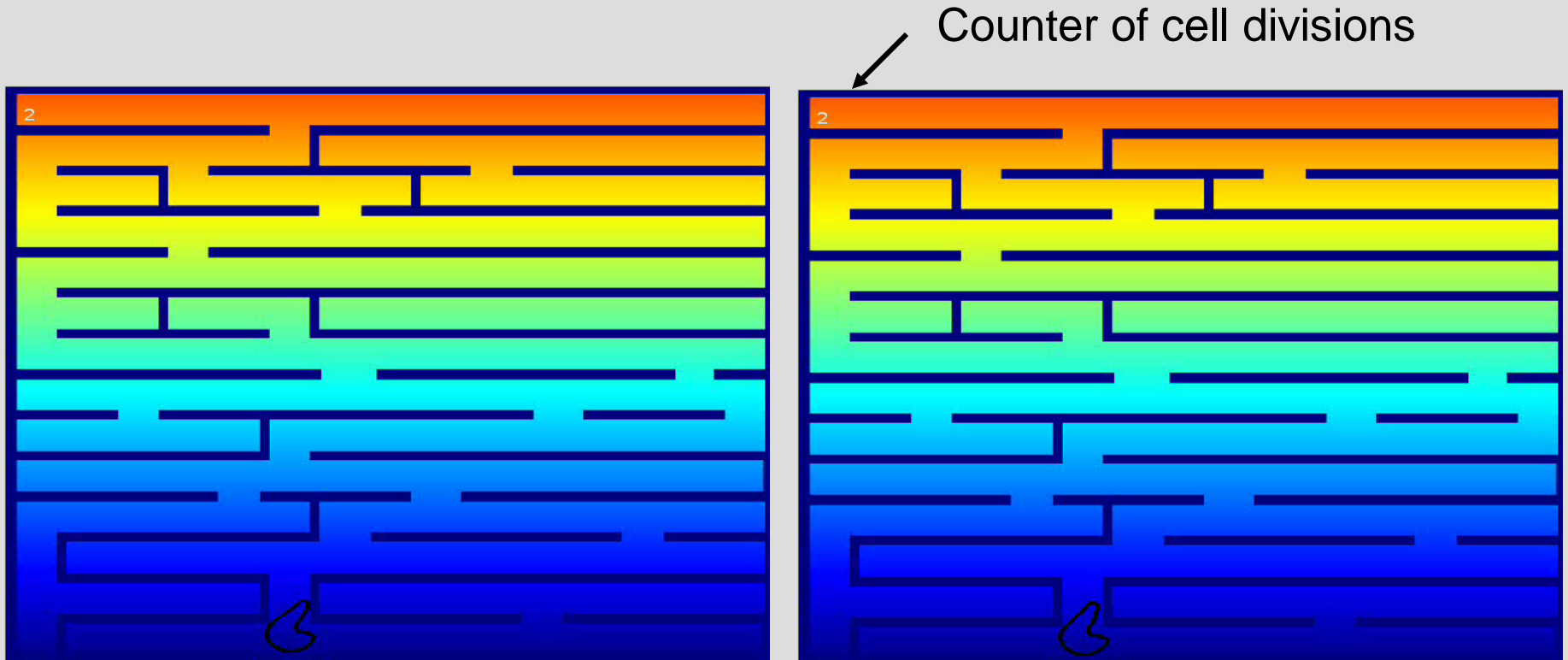
$dE_{int}/dt$  - Depends on energy absorbed, motility rate  
and secretion of degrading enzymes

Proliferation requires  $E_{thr}$  and cost  $\Delta E_{int}$   
Probability of cell death depends on  $E_{int}$

Work in progress

With Inbal Hecht, Assaf Zaritsky and Ilan Tsarfati

# Invasion vs. Proliferation

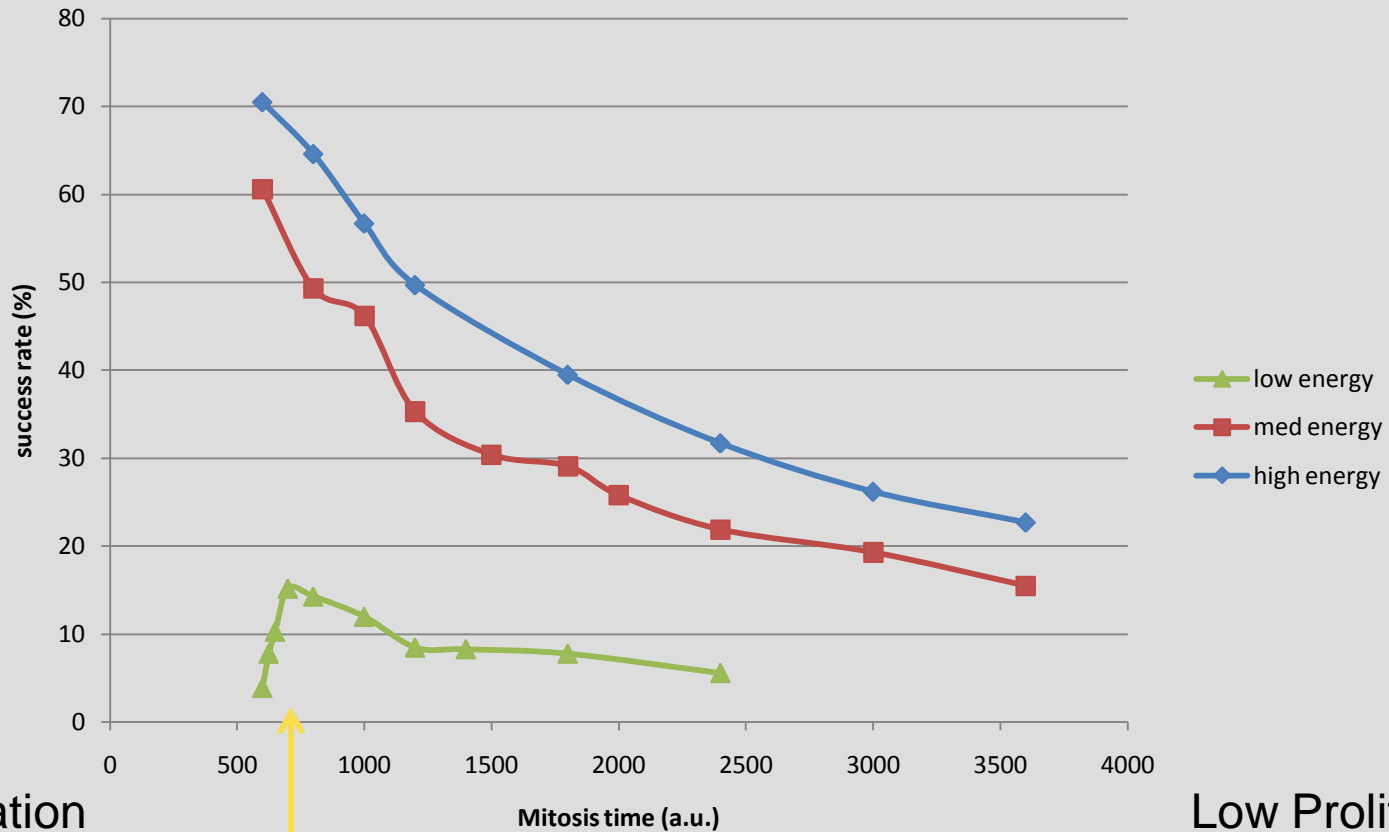


Invasion only

Invasion and Proliferation

With Inbal Hecht and Ilan Tsarfaty

# Success rate



With very low energy, high proliferation results in no invasion and therefore very low success rate.

# Model-based Predictions I: Cell-Cell Competition

## Unlimited resources (no competition)

1. Behavior depends on the internal clocks
2. Success rate mostly depends on proteolysis rate
3. Mitosis slows down motion and invasion

## Limited resources (competition)

### **Elevated Mitosis**

Higher survival,  
Higher success rate  
Longer time to goal

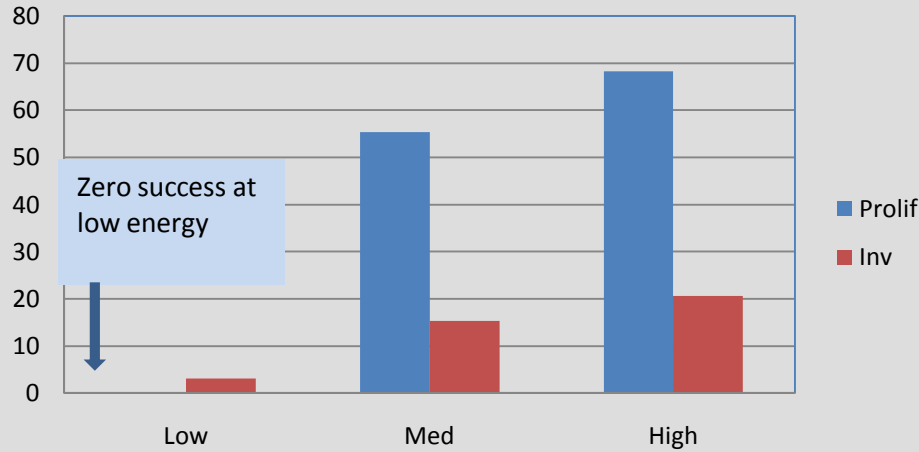
### **Elevated Proteolysis**

Lower success rate  
Shorter time to goal

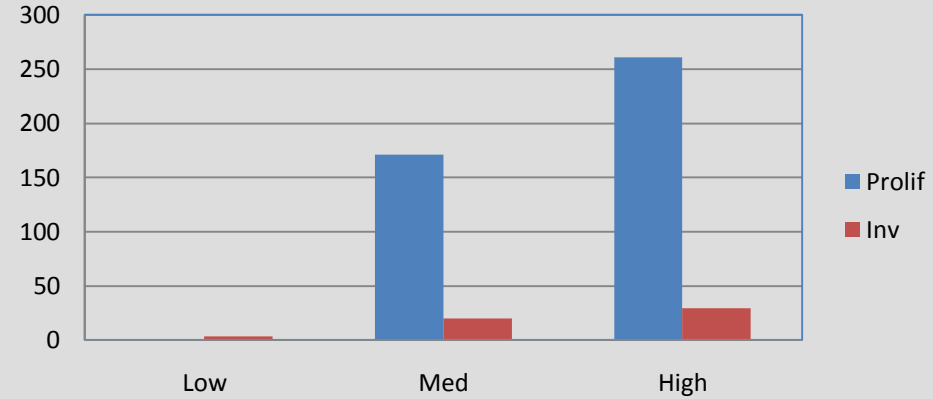
# Proliferative vs. Invasive :

## Trade-off between success rate and time to goal

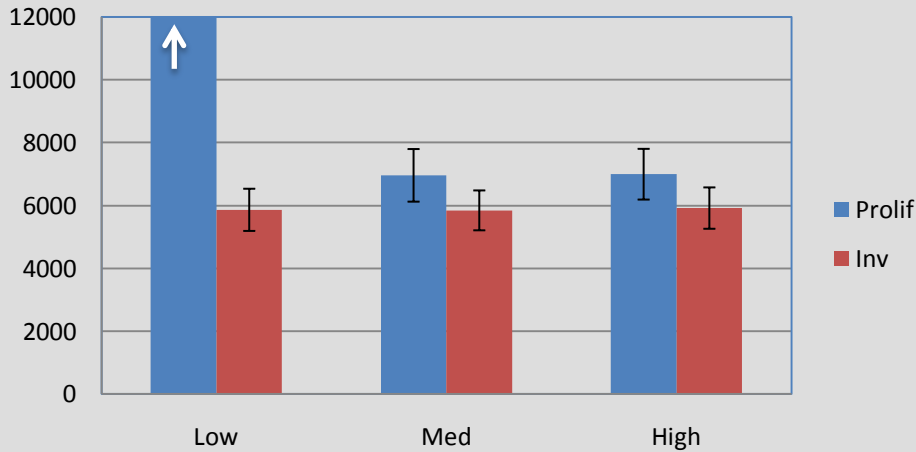
### Success rate (%)



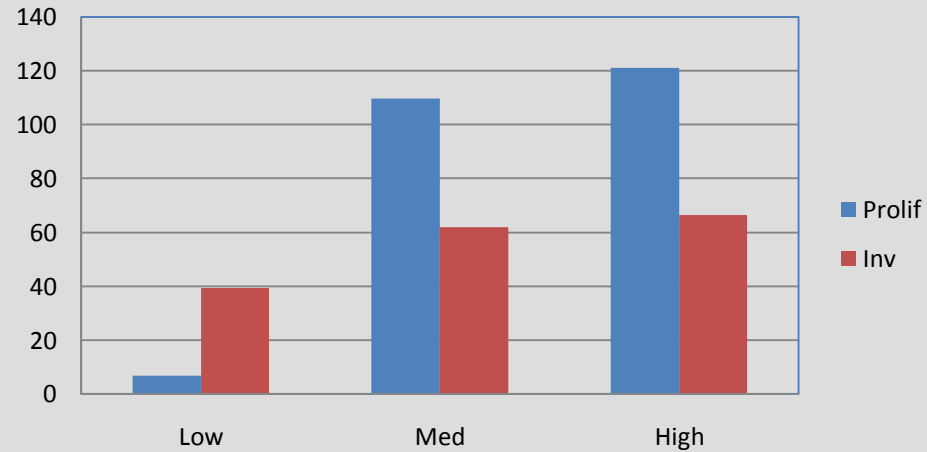
### Effective success rate (%) (multiplied by proliferation)



### Time to goal



### Average invasion per cell (all cells)



# Model-based Predictions II: HGF Effect

## Inclusion of experimental information:

Increases glucose consumption by 50%

Increases metabolism and glycolysis by 20-30%

Increases MMP production two-fold

Increases cell speed two-fold

Decreases generation time (mitosis time) from 36 to 24 hours

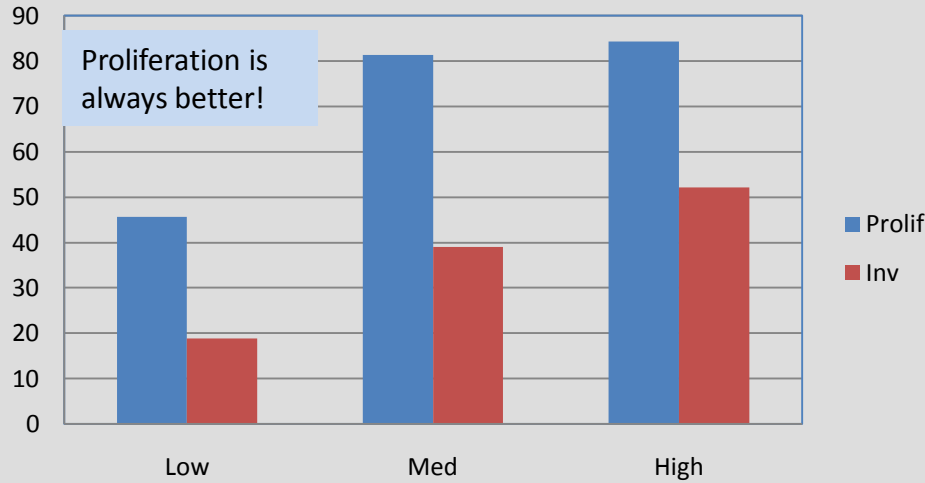
## Model Predictions:

1. Cells can cope with low-energy environment
2. Proliferation is always beneficiary
3. But invading cells have much higher success rate relative to invasion in the absence of HGF!

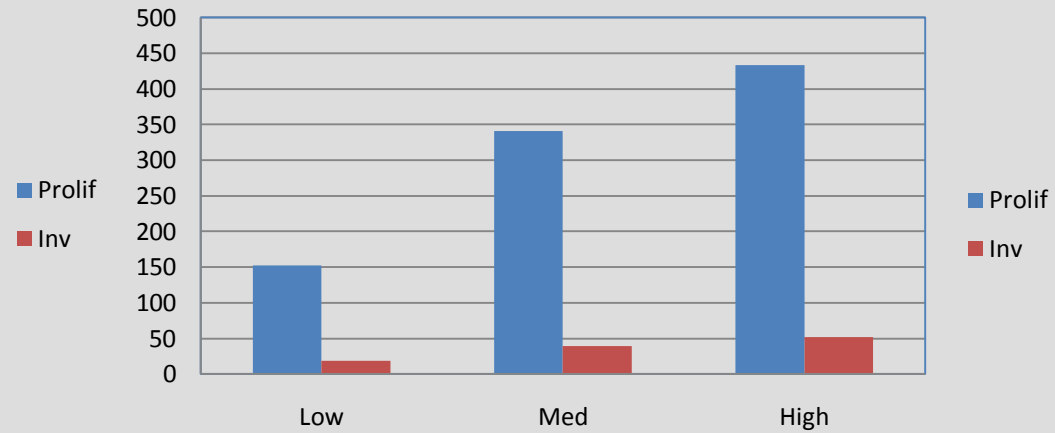


# HGF effect

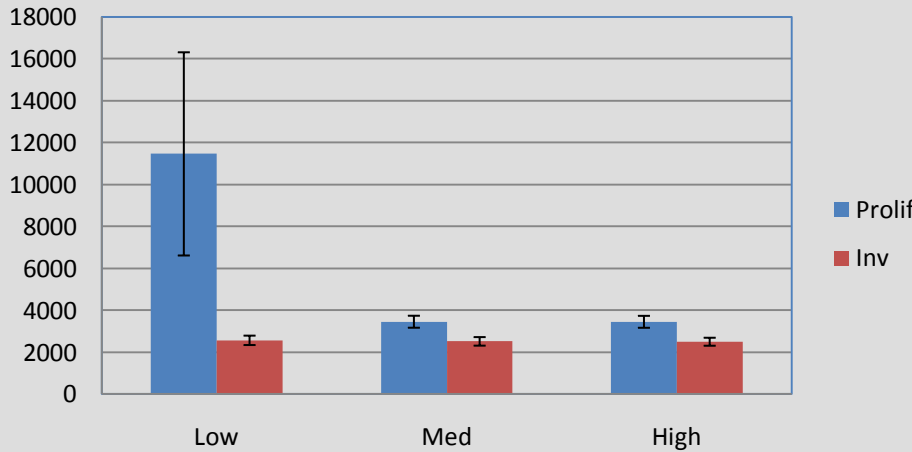
## Success rate (+HGF)



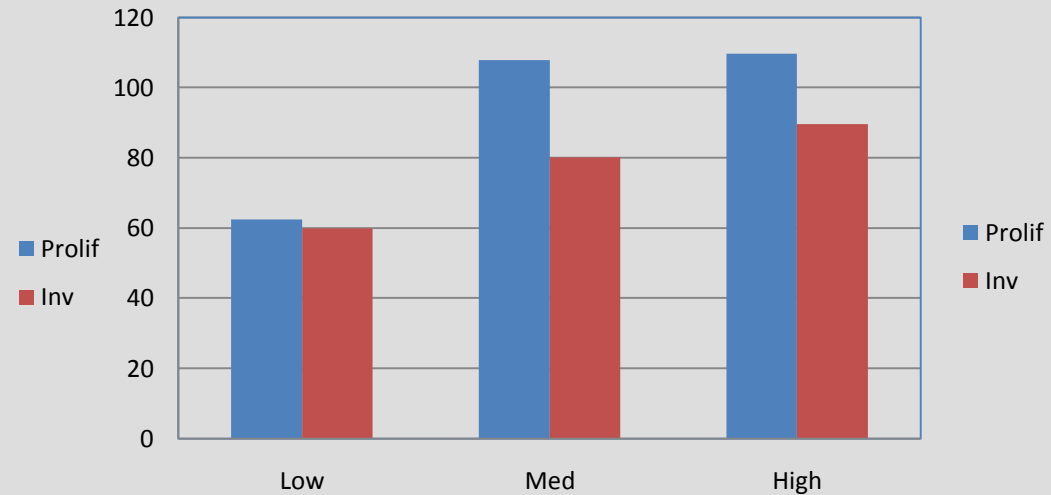
## Effective success rate (+HGF) (multiplied by proliferation)



## Time to goal +HGF



## Average invasion per cell (all cells) +HGF



# Conclusions from the "Tumor Perspective"

1. At "good times" (no stress),

A combined strategy of proliferation and invasion is preferred.

2. At "bad times" (e.g. hypoglycemia and hypoxia conditions),

Proliferation should be limited, to allow enough resources for invasion.

3. Tumors growth induces repeating cycles of hypoxia and angiogenesis.

Therefore, the population of colonizing cells should always include a fraction of invading cells

**Therapeutic implications if correct!**

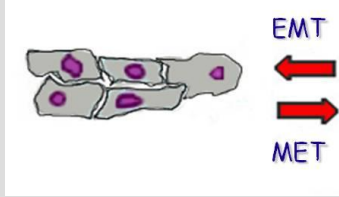
## Future Experiments:

- Cells grown under starvation and with increasing glucose levels
- Mitosis measurements
- Motility and invasion assays

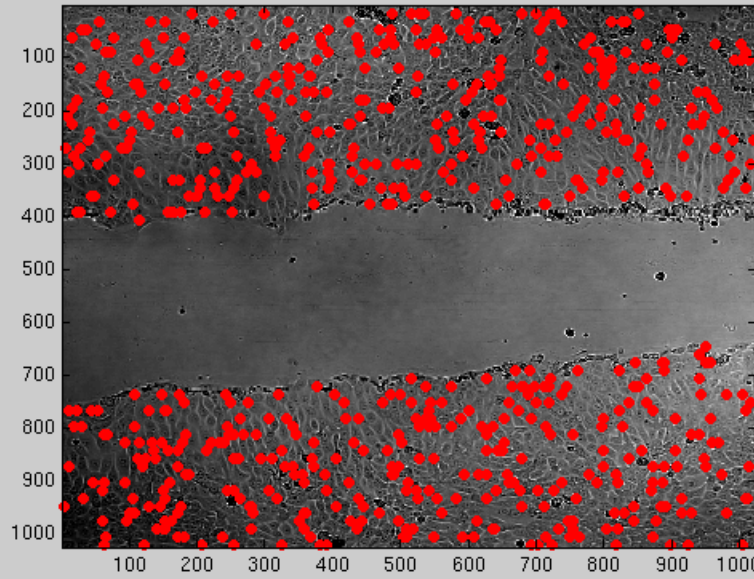
# Tow

Wc

## Path Generation



$K=0.500, P = 0.000, R = 20$



# gration ility

Tsarfaty

## Collective Motility

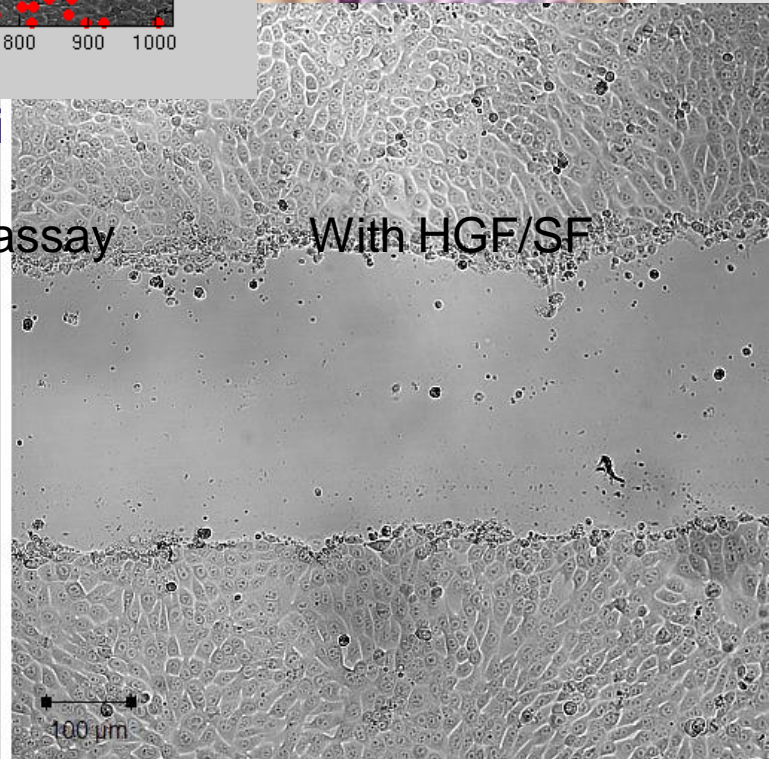
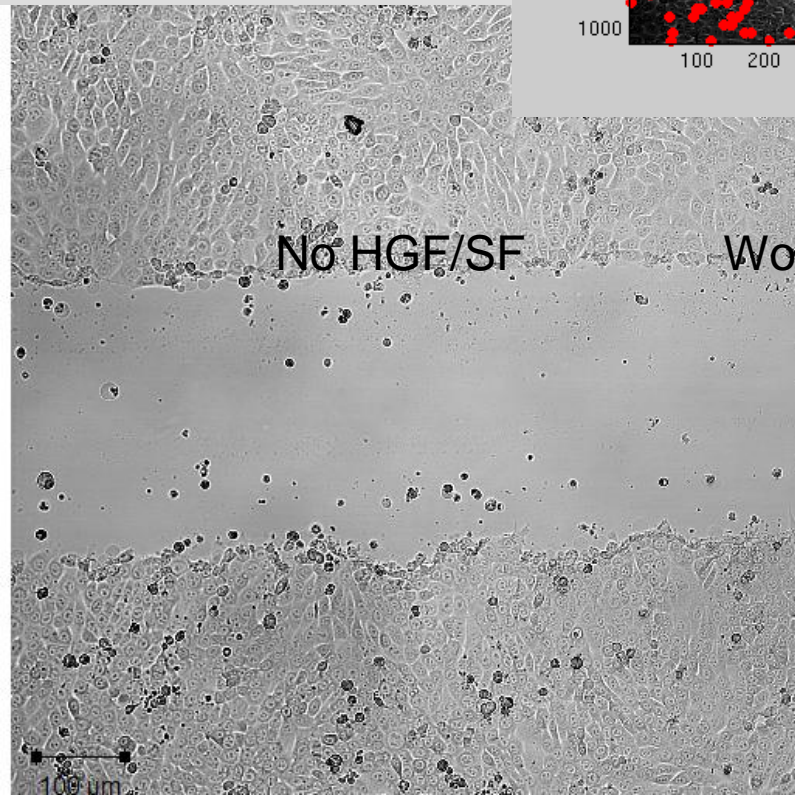


### Epithelial cell Transitions

No HGF/SF

Wound healing like assay

With HGF/SF



# Part V

## Possible Implications and Applications

New Research Directions?

New Strategies to Fight Cancer?

Drugs to imitate and confuse communication

Fighting cancer with cancer – cancer cannibalism

Using bacteria to fight cancer

Fighting cancer with Dnase and Rnase

# Using Bacteria to Fight Cancer

TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY

## Bacteria-Induced Gap Junctions in Tumors Favor Antigen Cross-Presentation and Antitumor Immunity

Fabiana Saccheri,<sup>1</sup> Chiara Pozzi,<sup>1</sup> Francesca Avogadri,<sup>2</sup> Sara Barozzi,<sup>1</sup> Mario Faretta,<sup>1</sup>  
Paola Fusi,<sup>3</sup> Maria Rescigno<sup>1\*</sup>

(Published 11 August 2010; Volume 2 Issue 44 44ra57)

Injected *Salmonella* can cause melanoma cells to form gap junctions with adjunct immune dendritic cells. Consequently, the dendritic cells use peptides transferred from the cancer cells to 'teach' T cells to recognize and kill the tumor cells at the primary site and prevent metastasis formation.

# Fighting Cancer with Dnase and Rnase

*Nature* **214**, 100-102 (1 April 1967) | doi:10.1038/214100a0; Received 26 January 1967

Effect of Deoxyribonuclease on the Course of Lymphatic Leukaemia in *AKR* Mice

*Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*  
Vol 73, No. 2, pp. 573-576, February 1976  
Cell Biology

**Inhibition of tumor cell proliferation by dimerized ribonuclease**

(antimitotic effect/cytotoxicity/endocytosis/lysosomes/cancer)

**Rnase triggers Apoptosis**

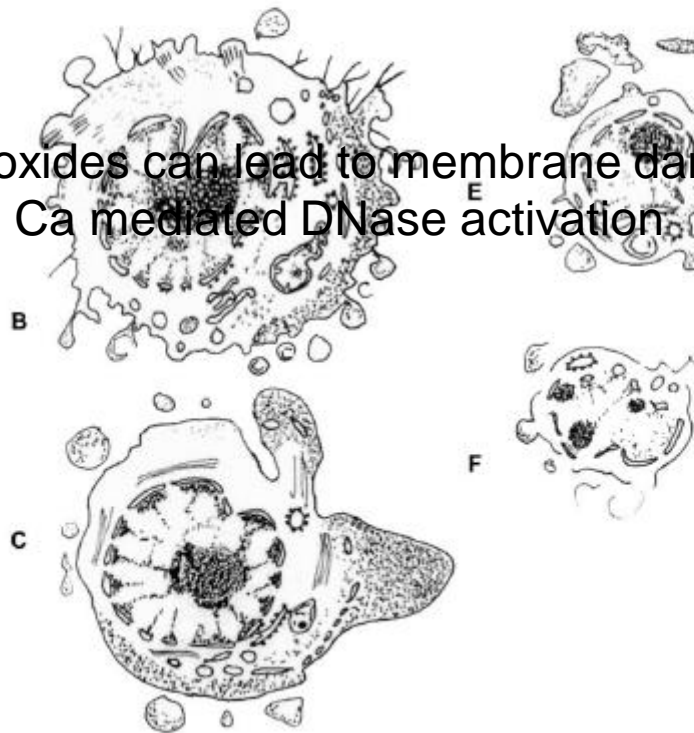
**Dnase triggers Autoschizis**

# Autoschizis Cancer Cell Death

Discovered as a cell death induced by oxidative stress.

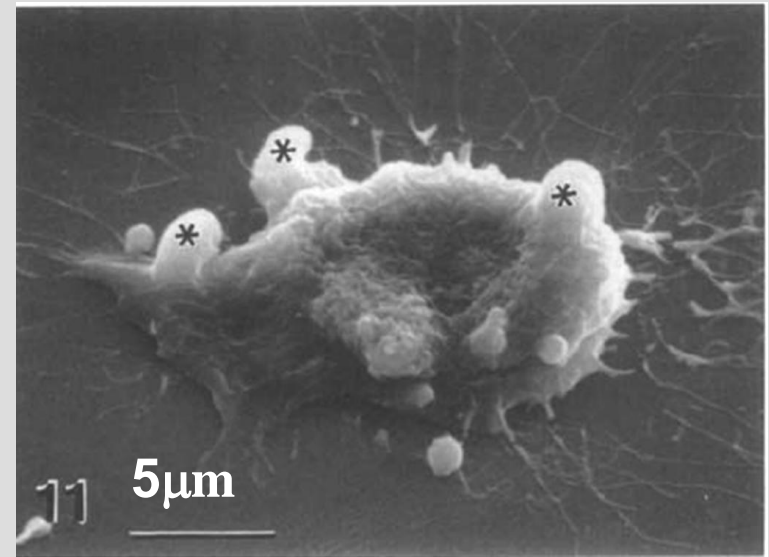
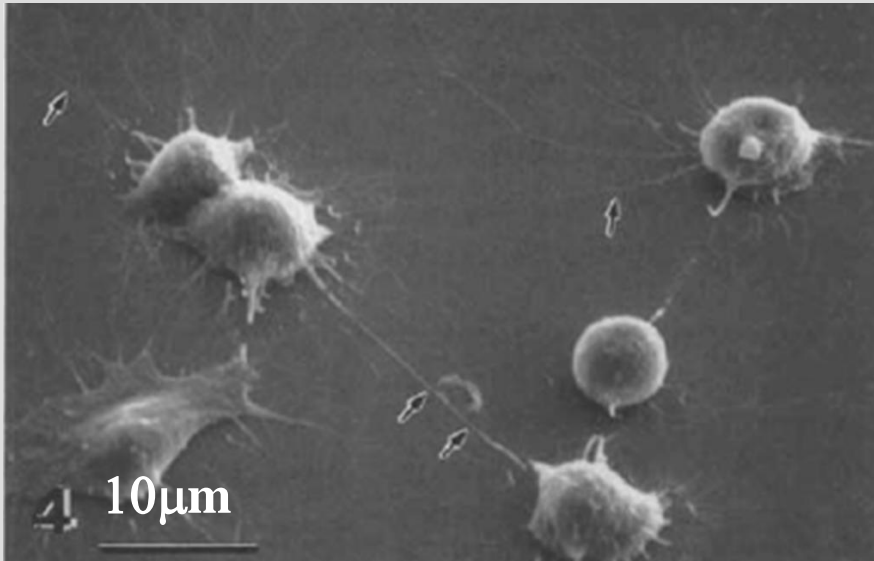
Termed Autoschizis because it shows both apoptotic and necrotic morphologic characteristics.

Peroxides can lead to membrane damage  
And Ca mediated DNase activation.

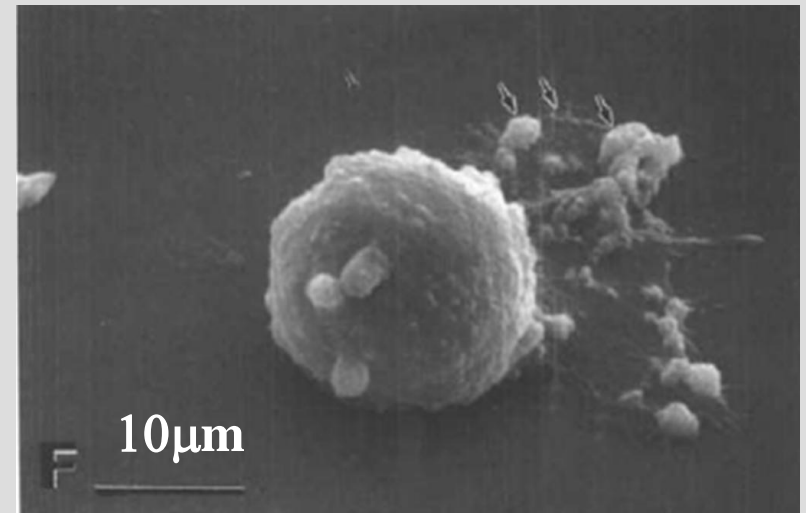
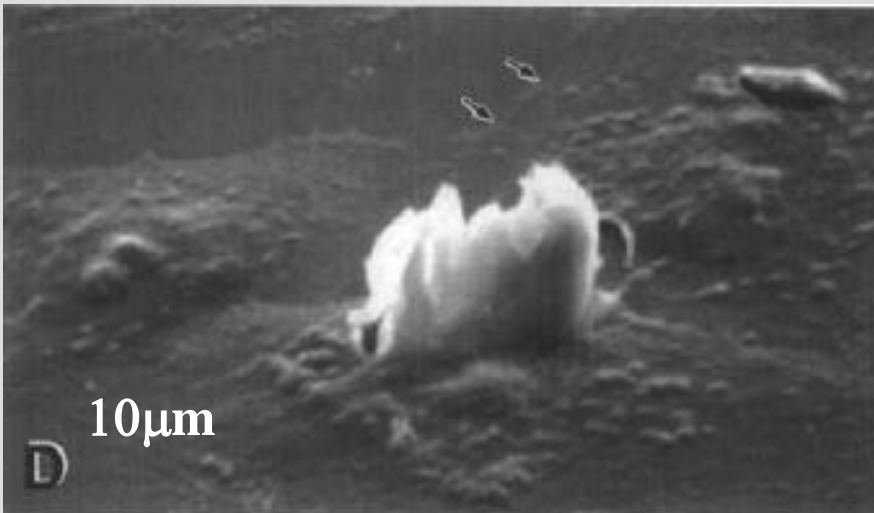


Jamison et al *Biochemical Pharmacology* (2002)

# Autoschizis Cancer Cell Death



Gilloteaux et al *SCANNING* (1998)





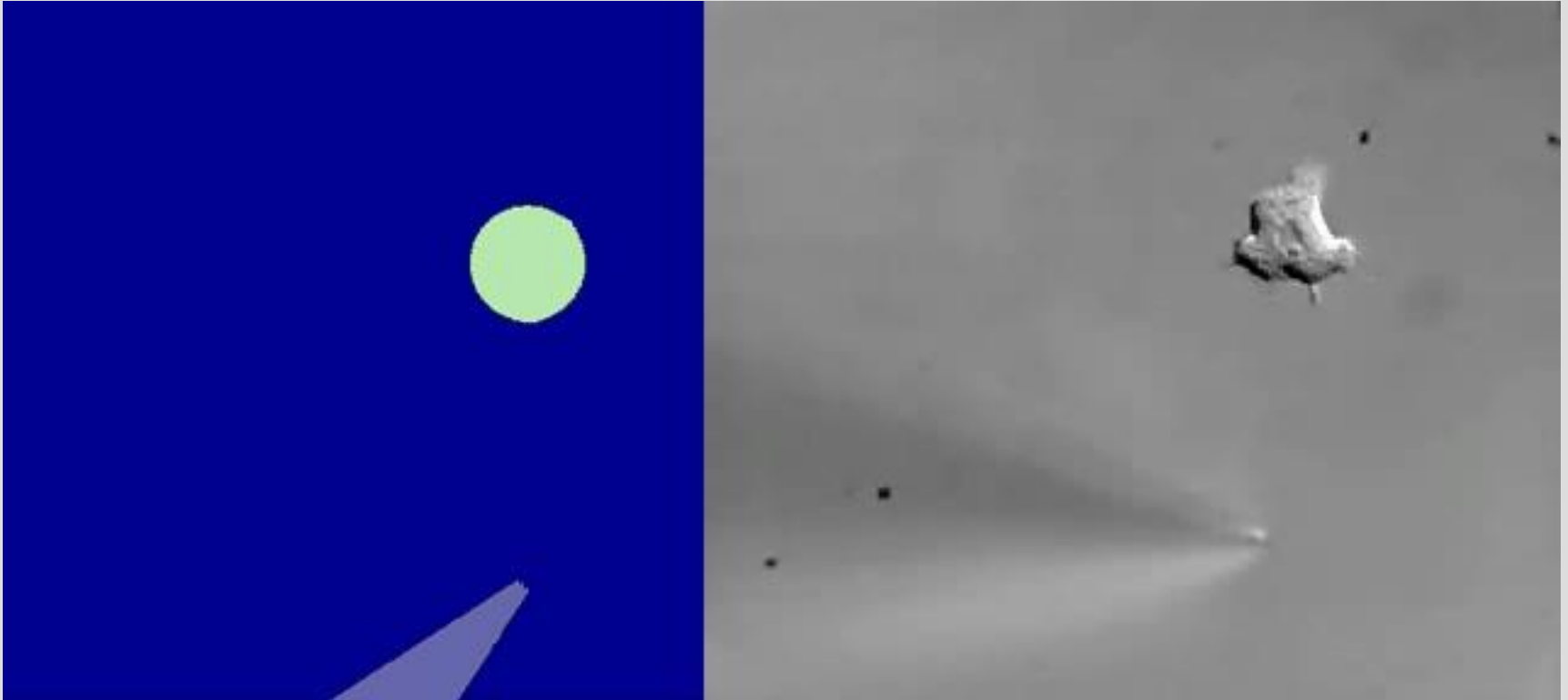


# Conclusions & Reflections



**Shaped to Survive**

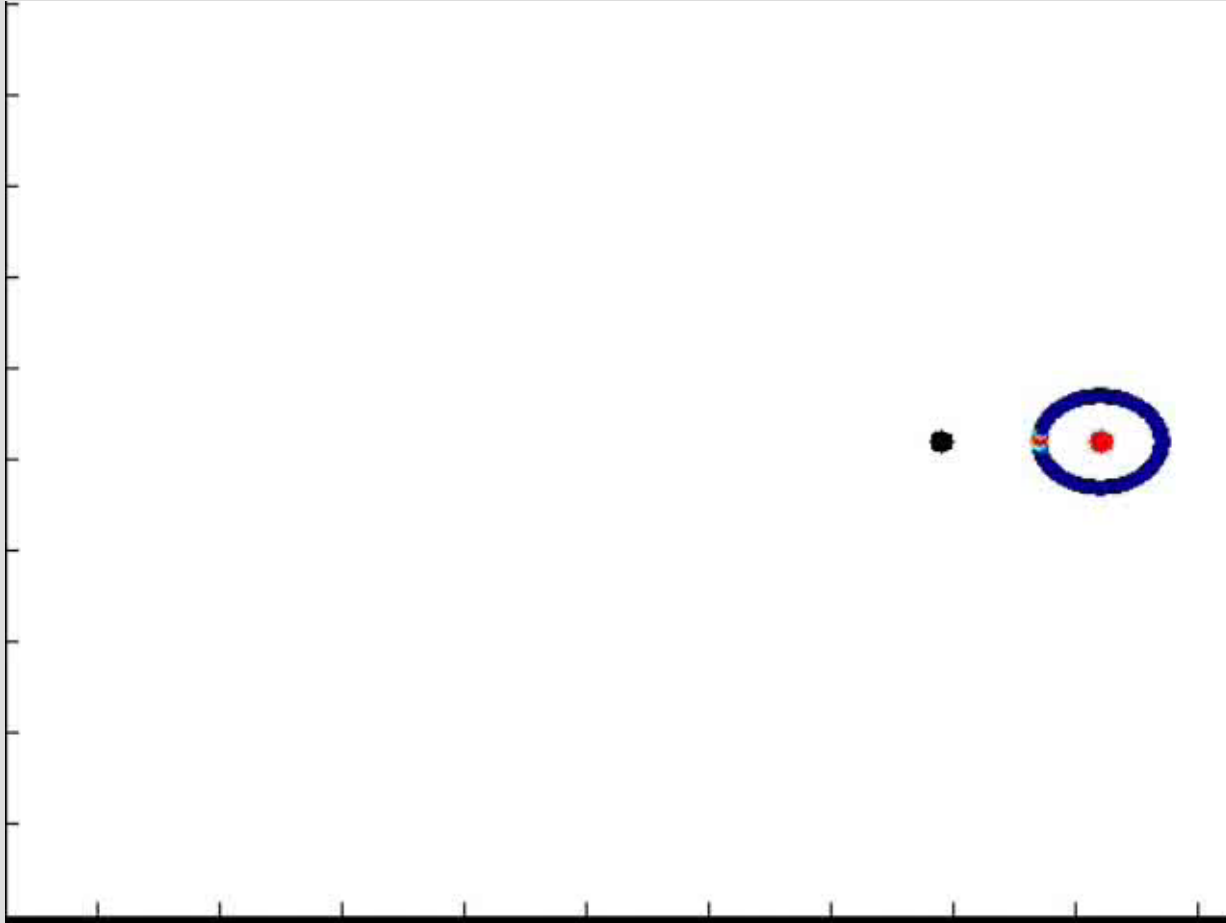
# Fun "games" with the model I



(Details – Levine lecture last week)

# Fun "games" with the model II

## Sensing, Information-processing, Decisions



With Inbal Hecht, Herbert Levine, David Kessler (Unpublished)

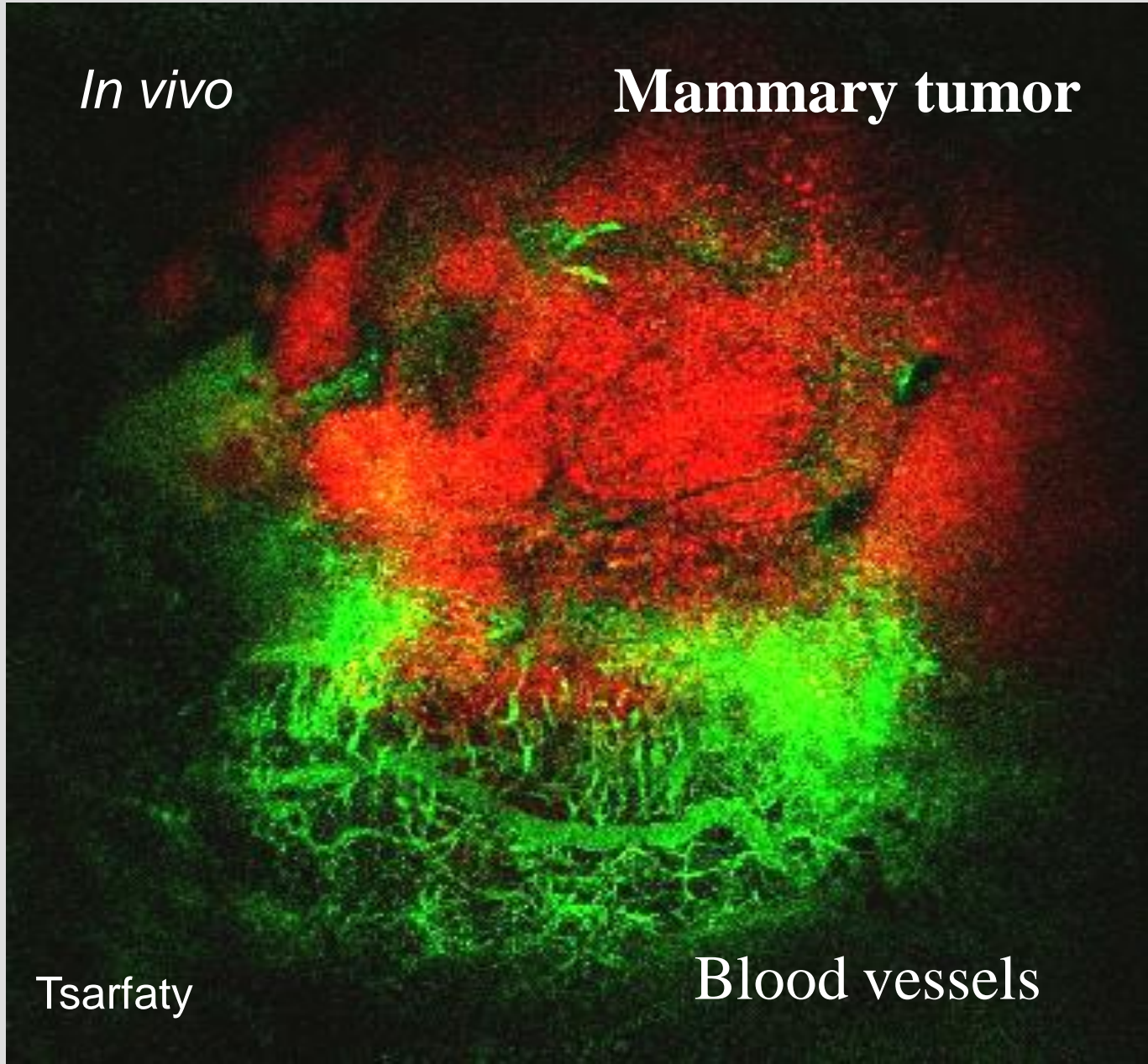
# Single Cell Motility - Blebbing

*In vivo*

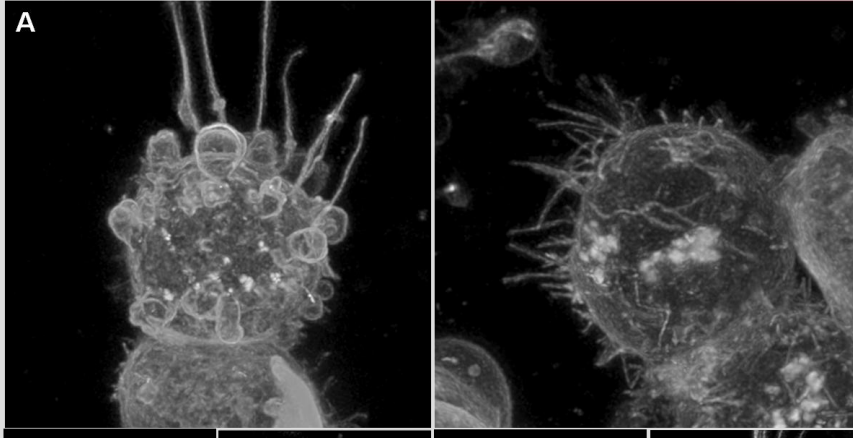
**Mammary tumor**

Tsarfaty

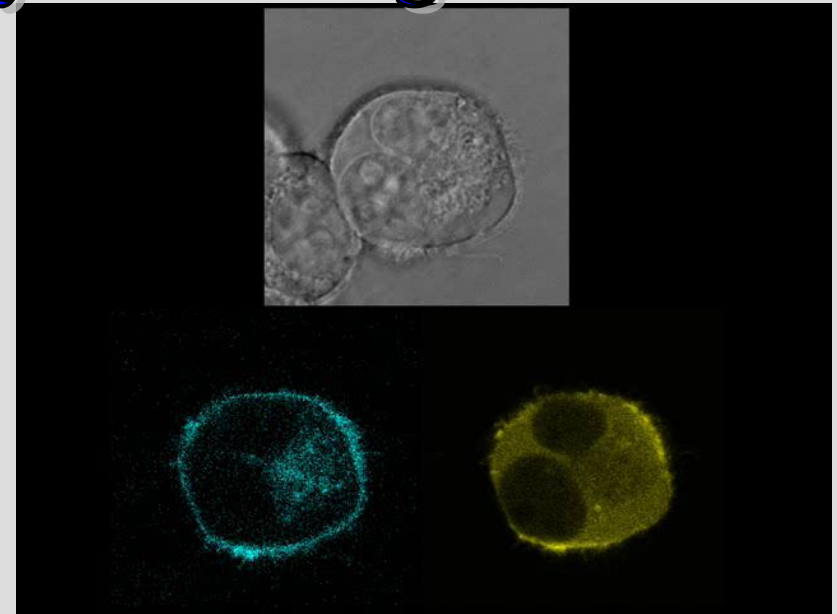
Blood vessels



# Single Cell Motility - Blebbing

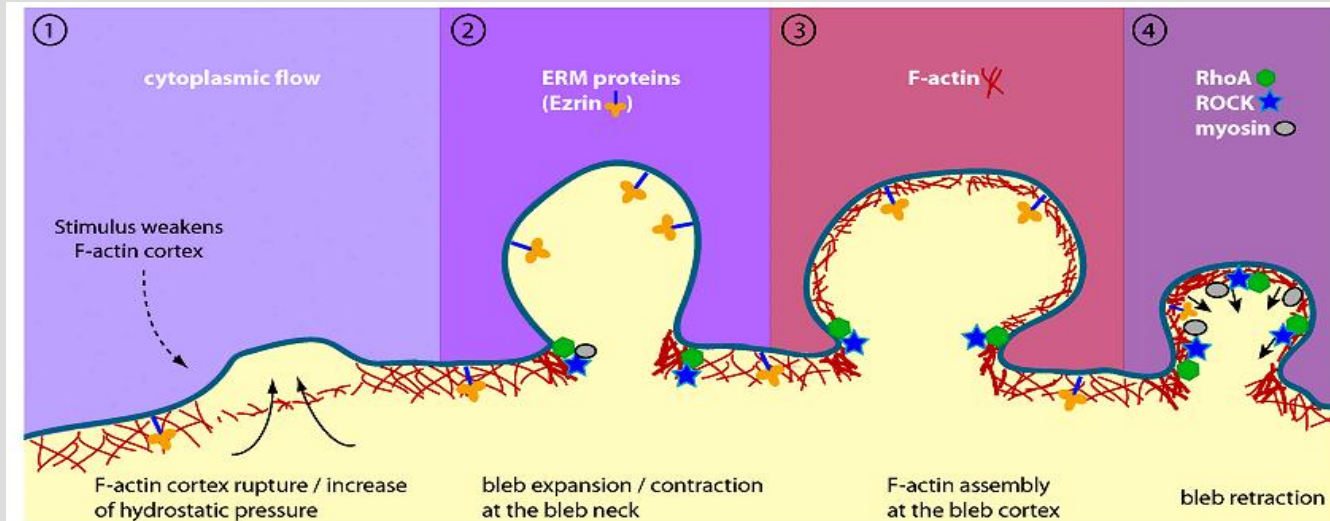


Met induced blebbing  
Tsarfaty Group Unpublished



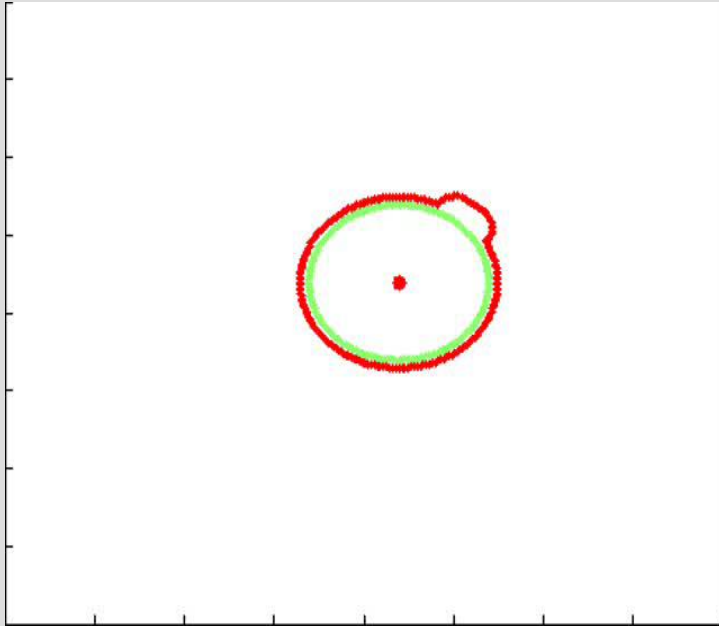
CFP - Met

YFP - actin

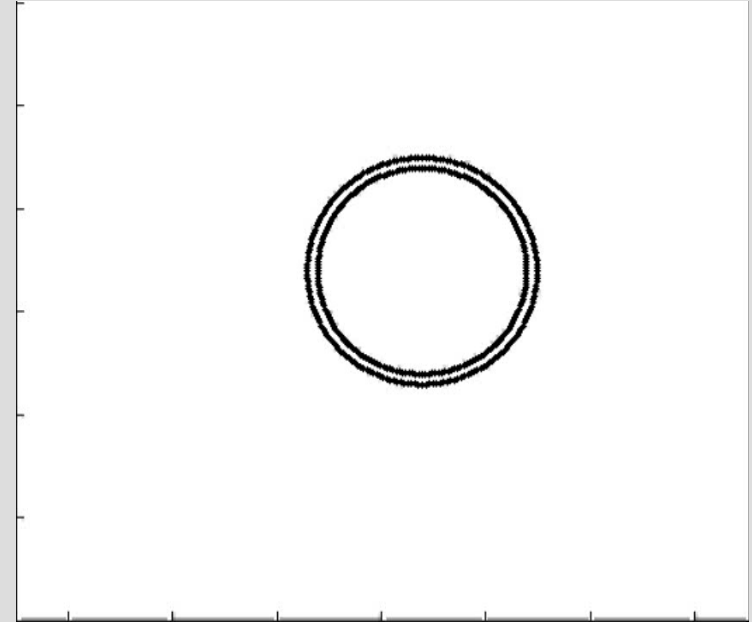


Fackler & Grosse *Cell Biol* (2008) ; Charras & Paluch *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* (2008)

# Model Testing of the Proposed Mechanisms

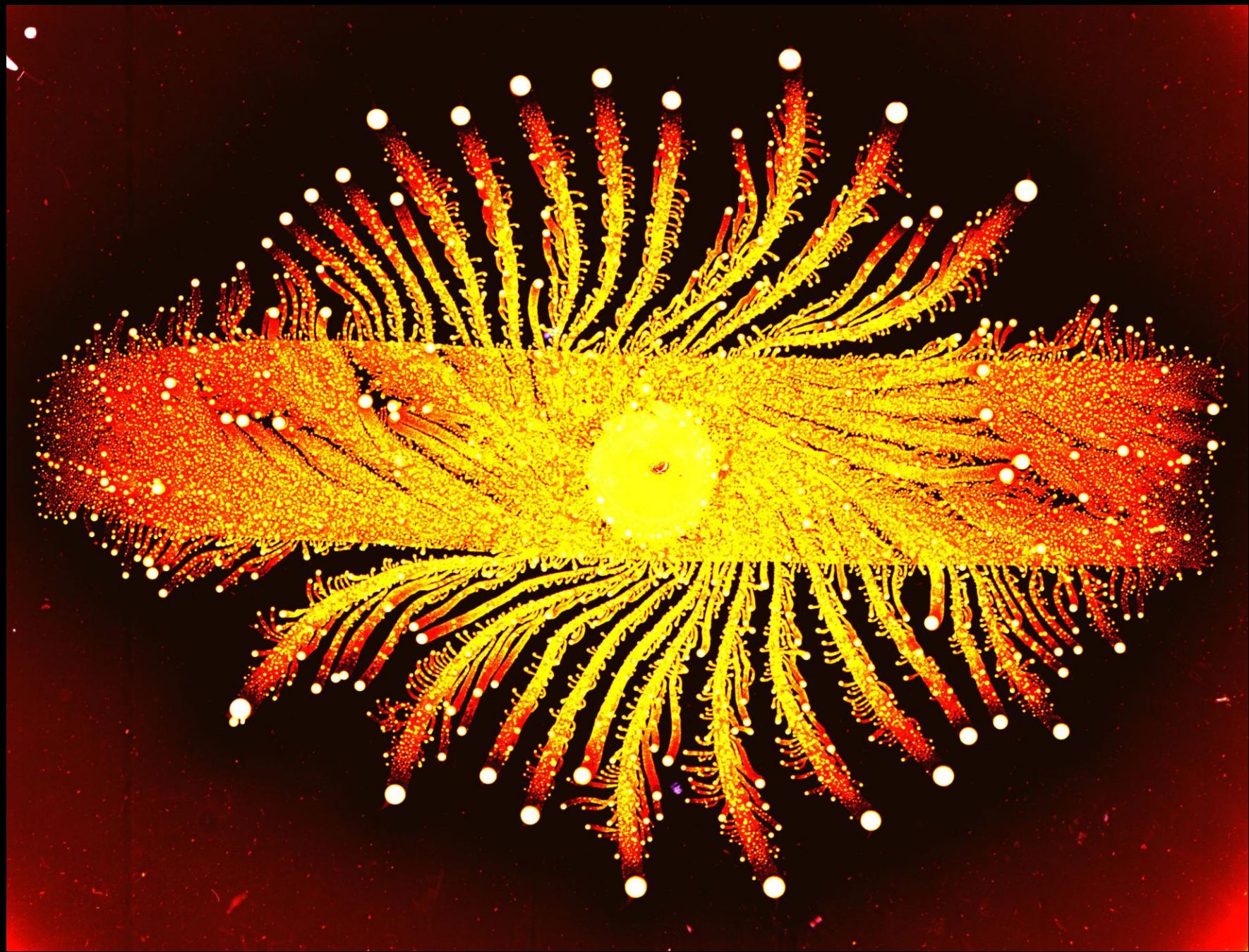


Cortex rebuilding from the sides  
No membrane wrinkles are formed



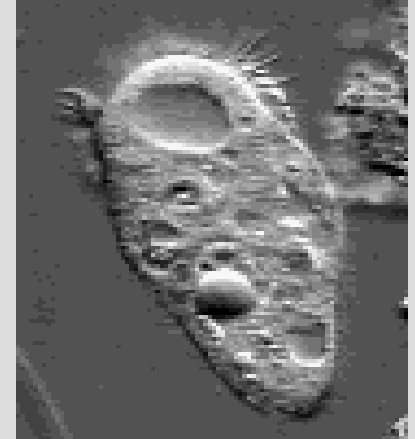
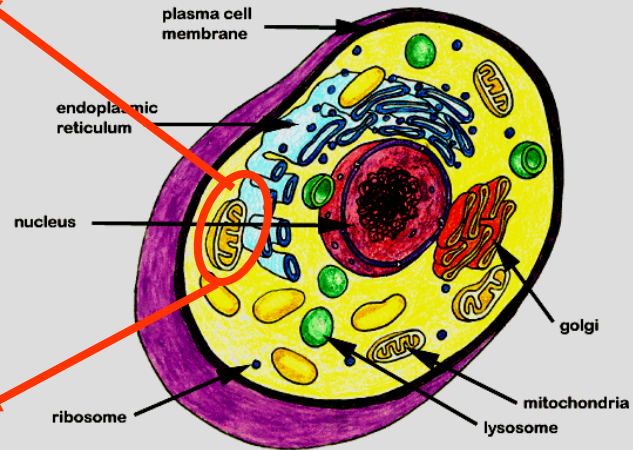
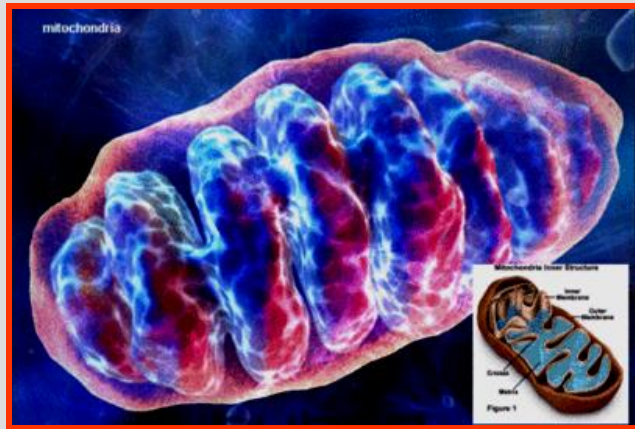
Reconnecting the cortex  
and membrane by  
stochastic dynamics  
Membrane wrinkles are  
formed during retraction





# From Bacteria Thou art

Mitochondria - former bacterial colony in each cell



Cell power plants

Production and control of sex hormones

Production and control of neurotransmitters

# Bacteria Mating



# Gut Bacteria and Human Mating - Choice of Partners

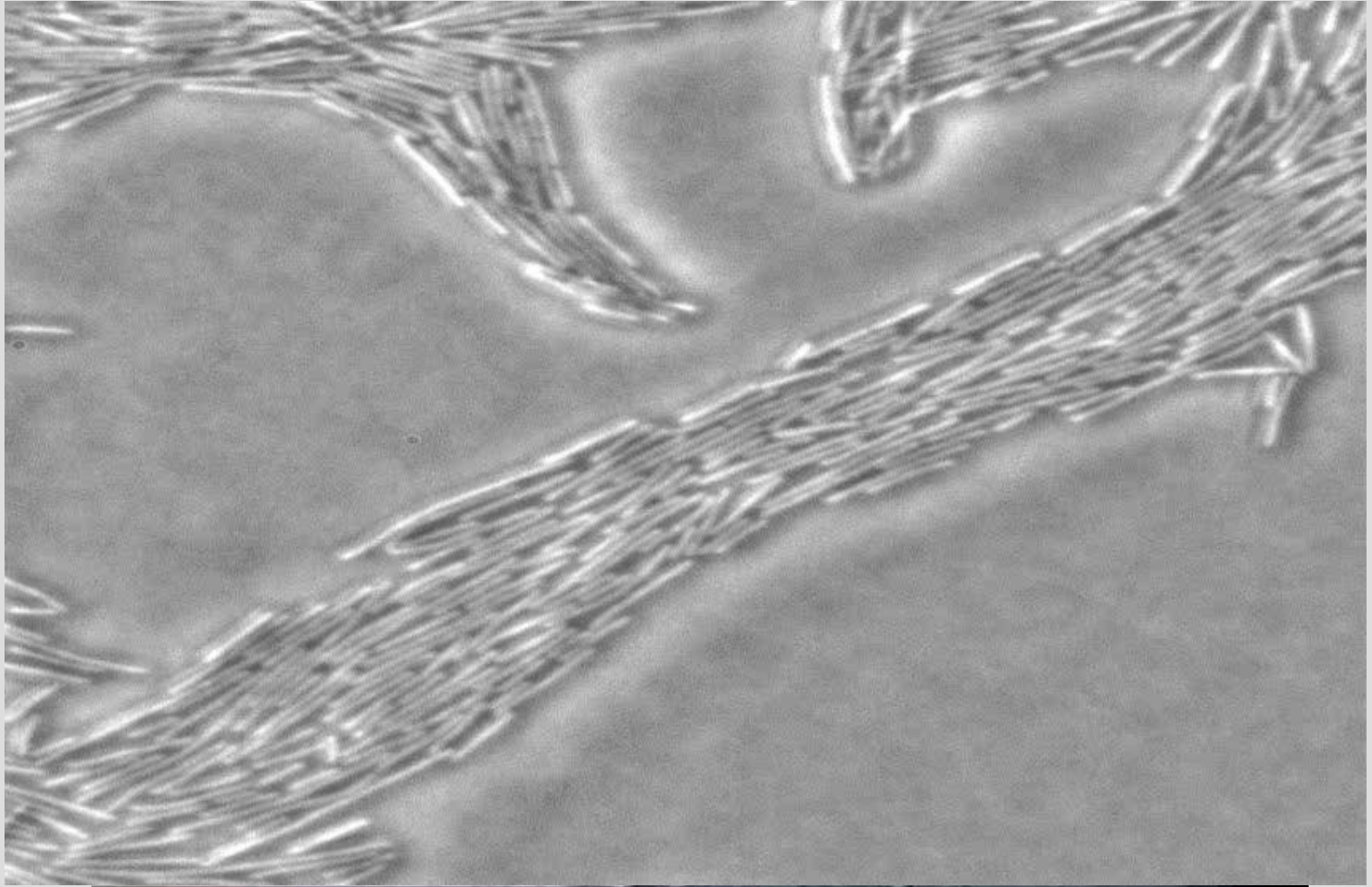


**Sex pheromones**



# How Bacteria Move

Swimming by Flagella, Gliding by Pili and more



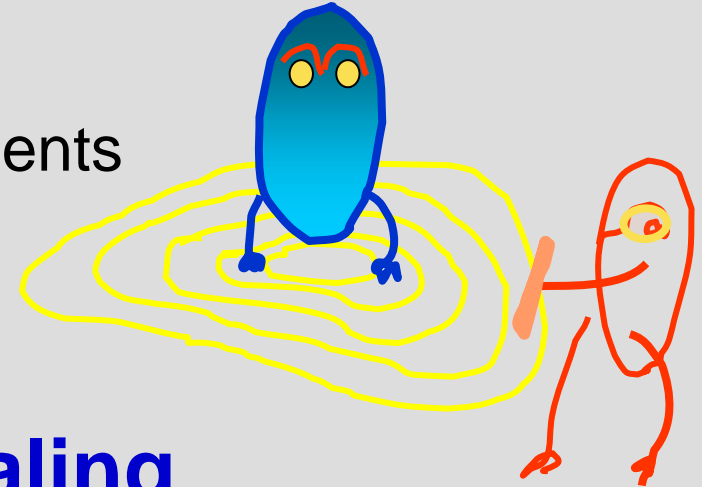
Movie: Thanks to Avraham (Meni) Beer, Sde Boker  
Flagella swimming (Howard Berg)

# Chemical Navigation - Chemotaxis

Sensing, Memory, Information Processing

Chemotaxis –

Movement according to chemical gradients



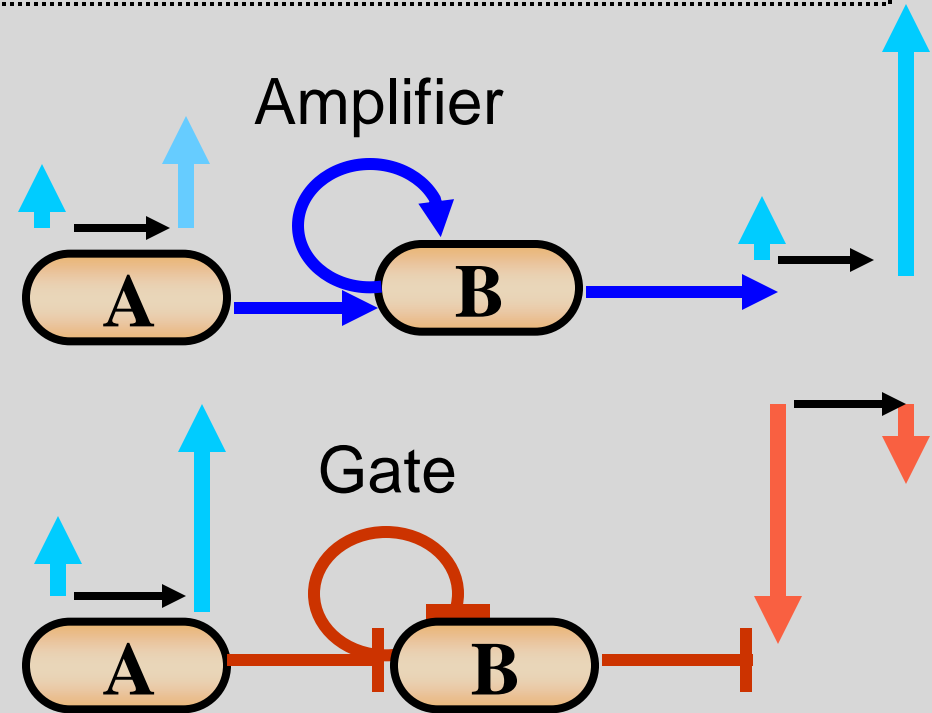
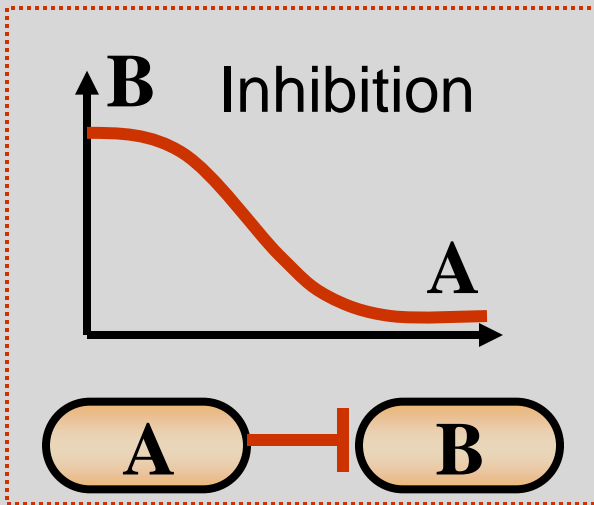
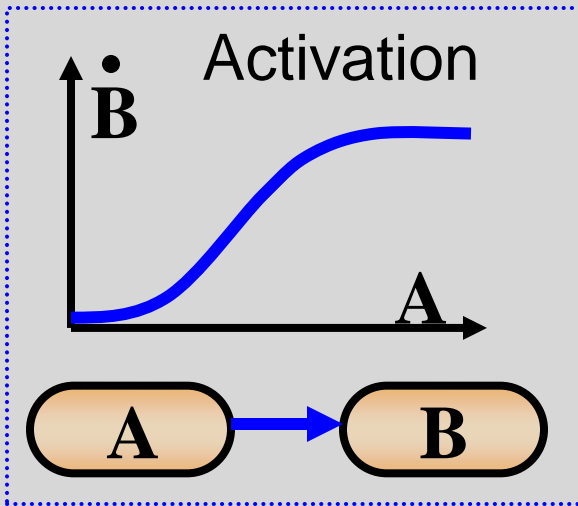
## Chemotactic Signaling

Chemotactic Signaling–

Chemotaxis in response to chemicals secreted by the cells

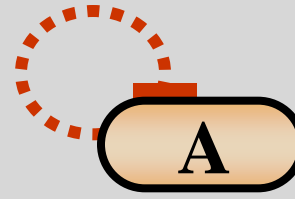
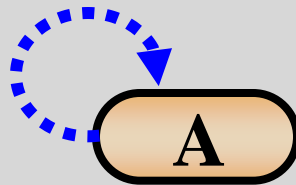
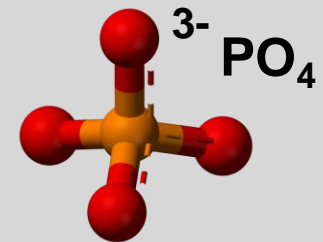
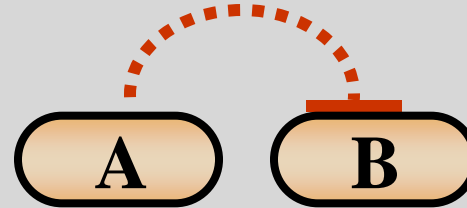
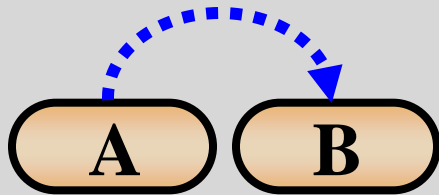
Ben-Jacob *et al.*, Nature 1994,1995,2001,2005,  
Royal Society 2003, Trends in Microbiology 2004

# Elements of Intra-cellular Information processing I



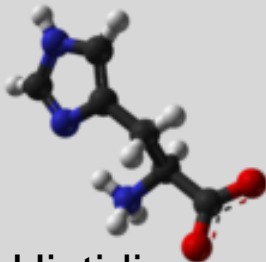
# Elements of Intra-cellular Information processing II

Phosphorylation and Dephosphorylation

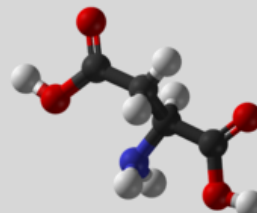


Self-Activation    Self-Inhibition

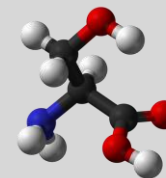
Time scale control by using different Amino Acids



Histidine



Aspartic acid



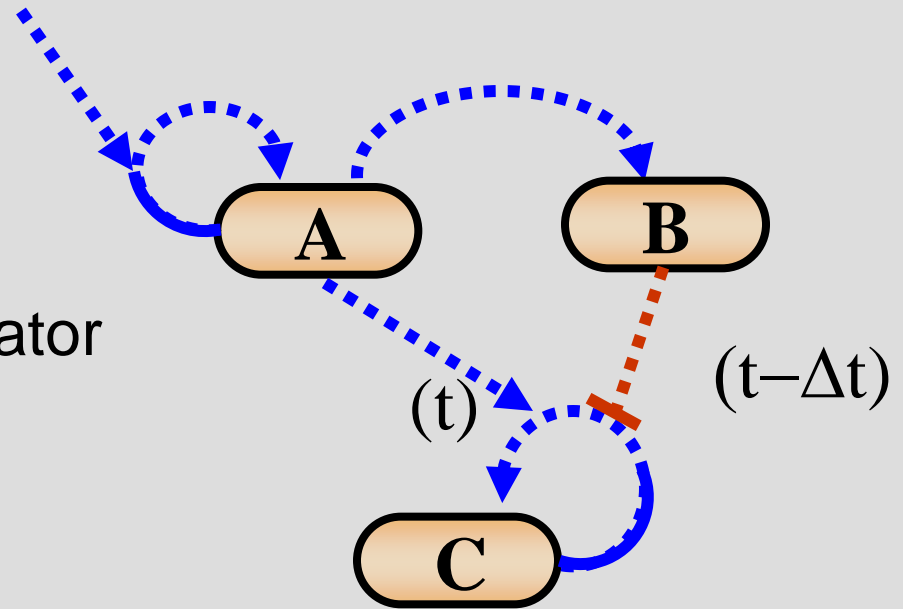
Serine



# Example of Phosphorylation-Based Calculations

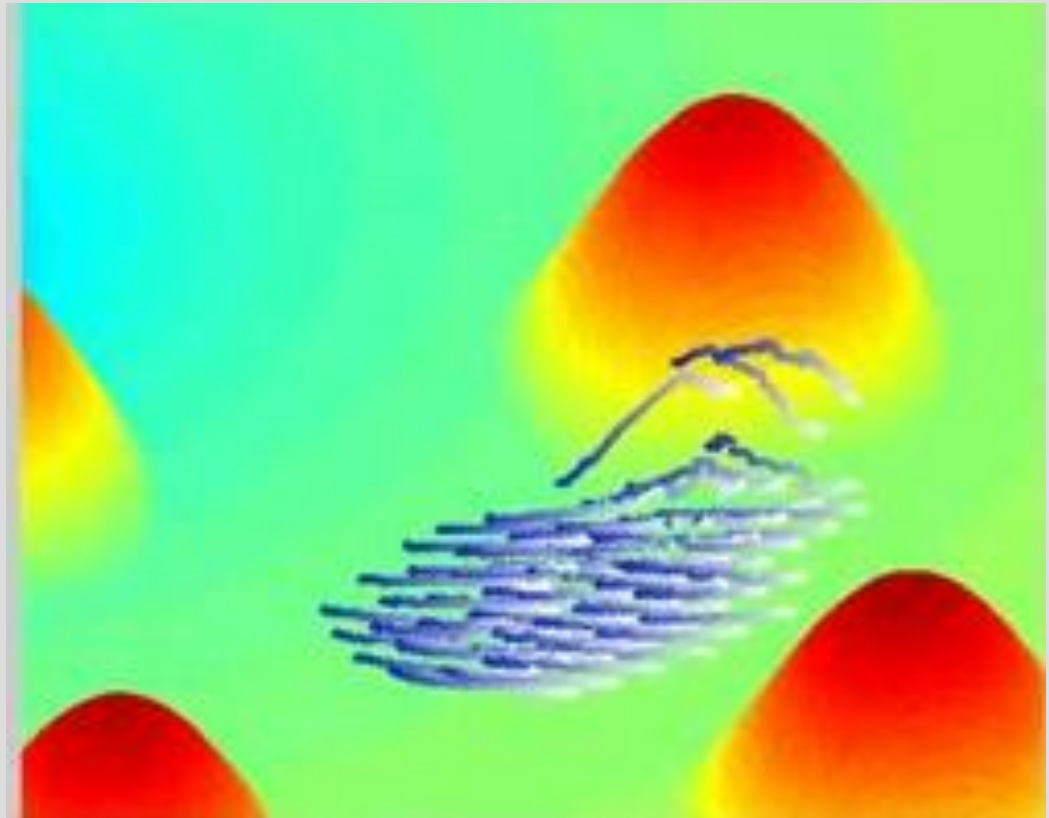
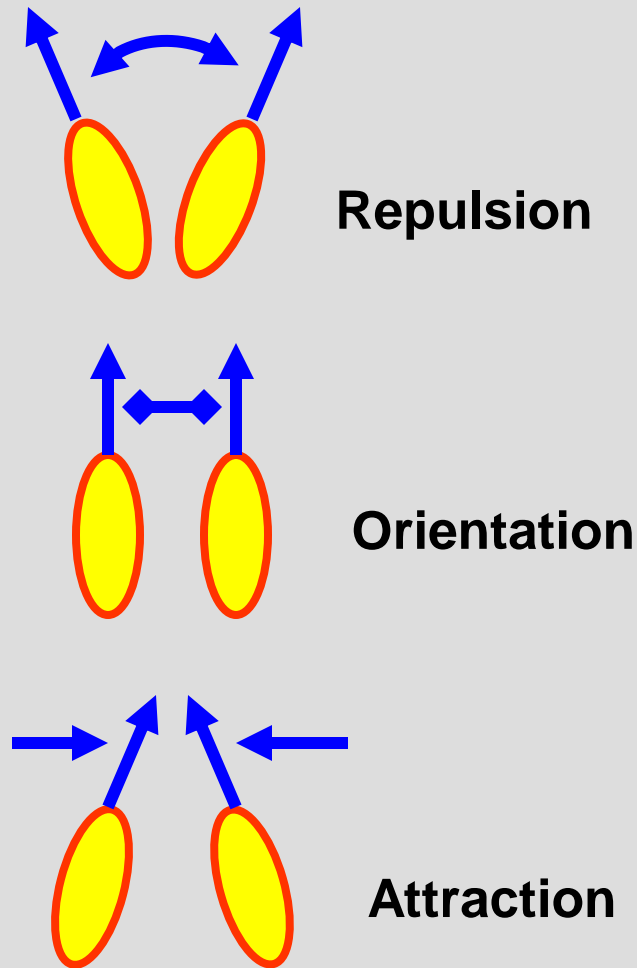
The measured concentration

An hypothetical comparator  
for chemotaxis



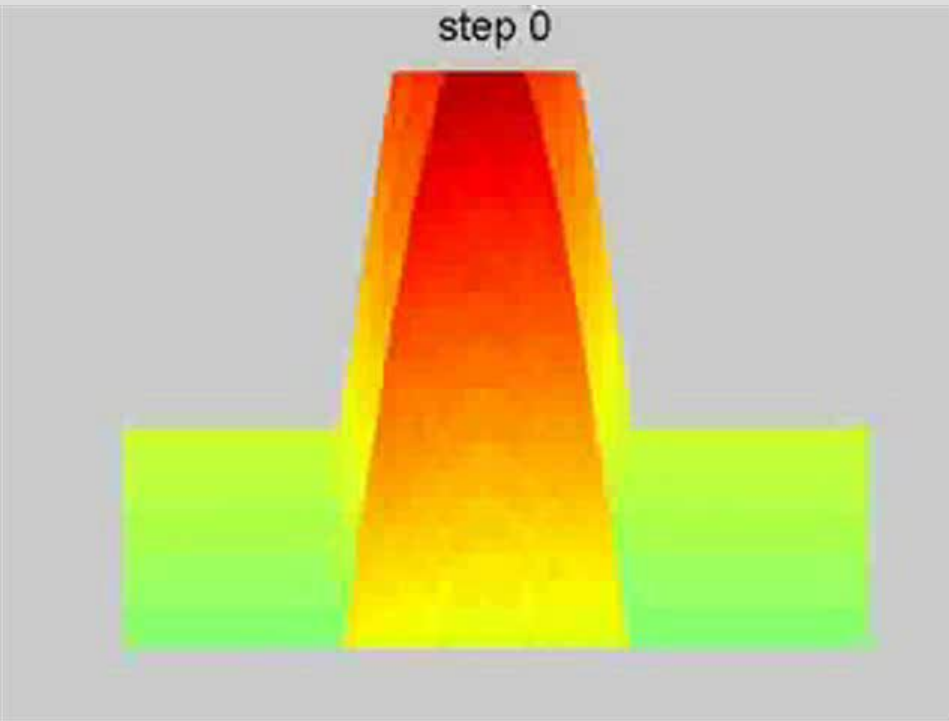
# Collective Navigation of Interacting Agents

With A. Shklarsh, E. Schneidman, G. Ariel, PLoS Comp. Bio 2011

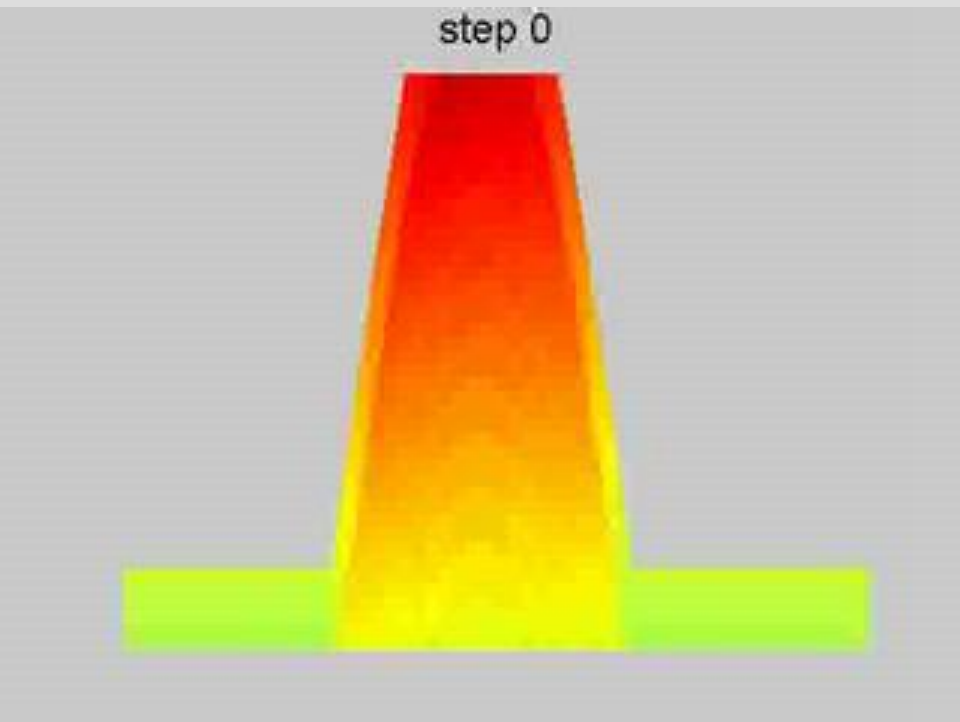


Extension of Vicsek, Ben Jacob et al., PRL 1995 + Couzin et al., Nature 2005

## Independent agents



## Interacting agents

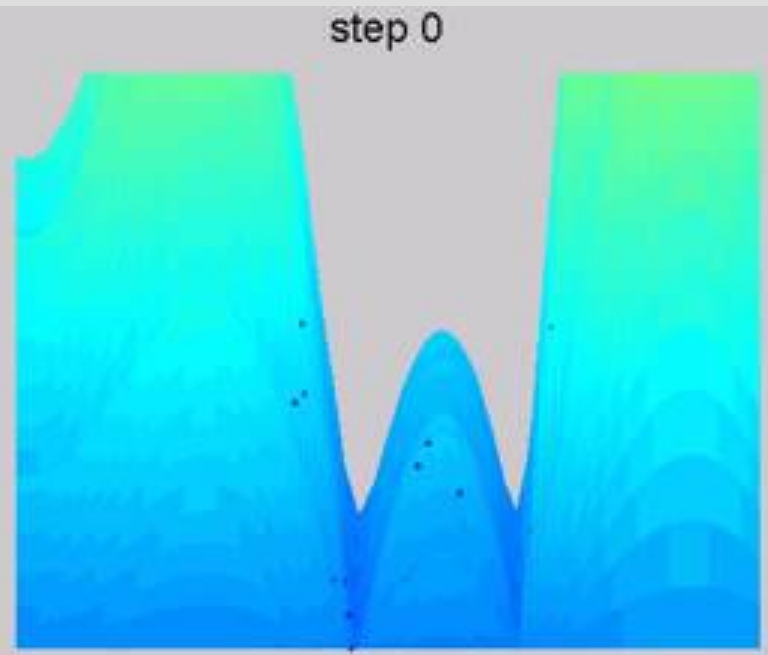
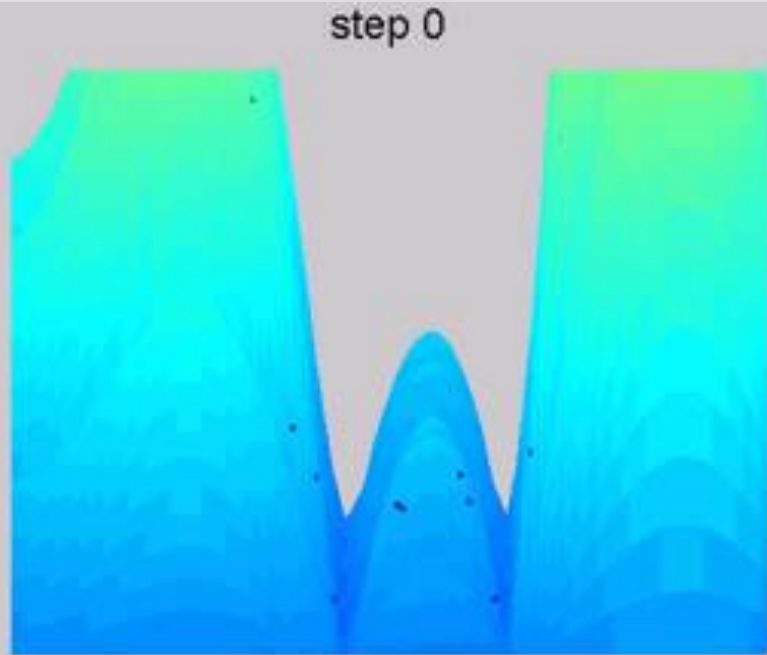


Collective sensing and  
Distributed information processing

# Navigation in highly complex terrains

Fixed interactions

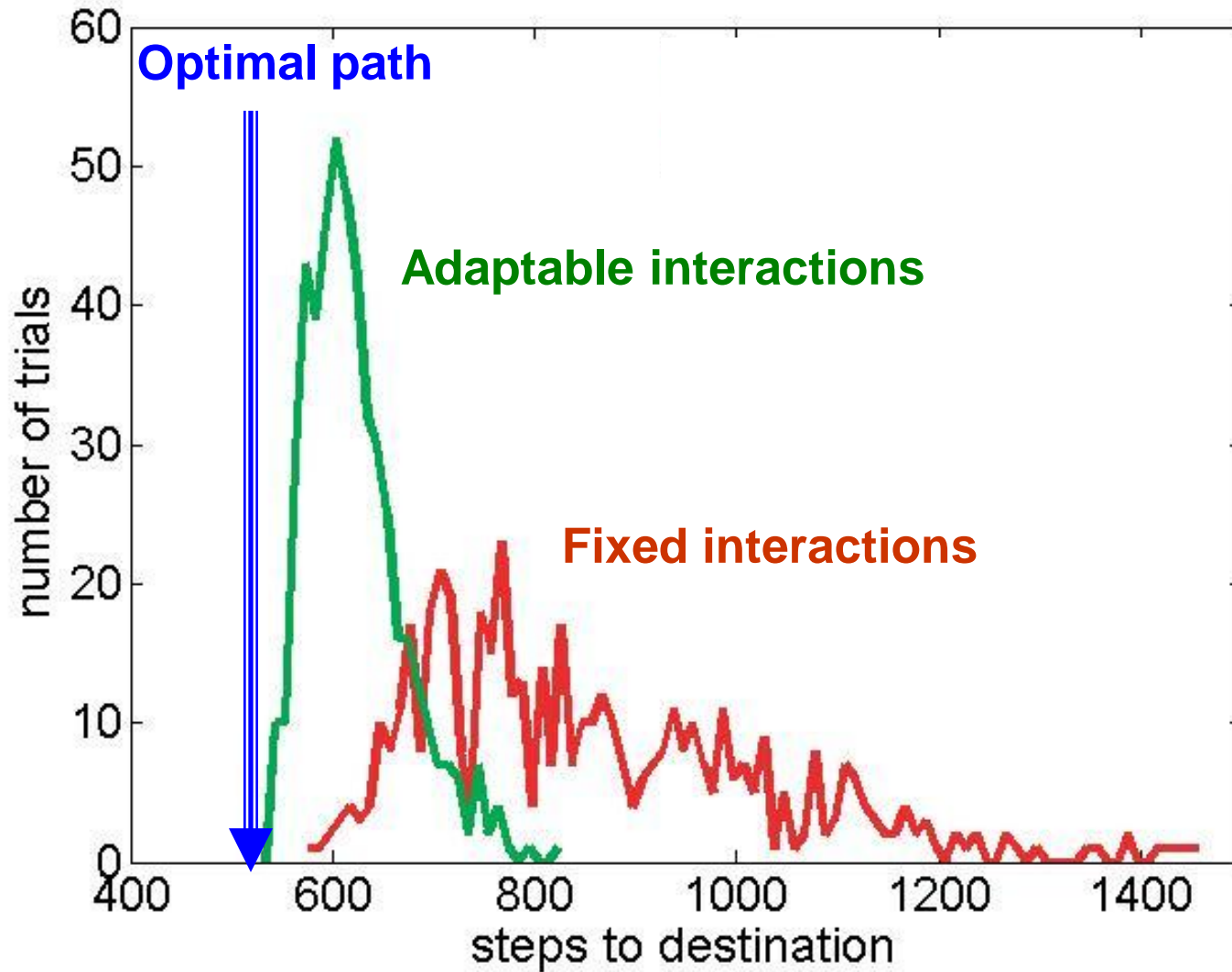
Adaptable interactions



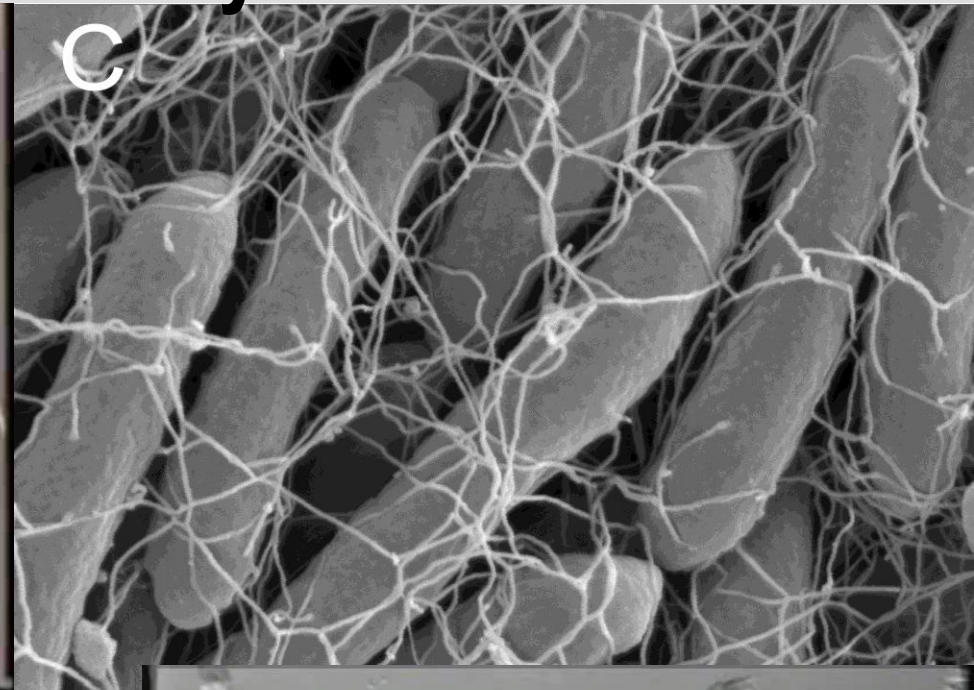
What is the advantage?

With A. Shklarsh, E. Schneidman, G. Ariel, PLoS Comp. Bio 2011

# Quantification of the results

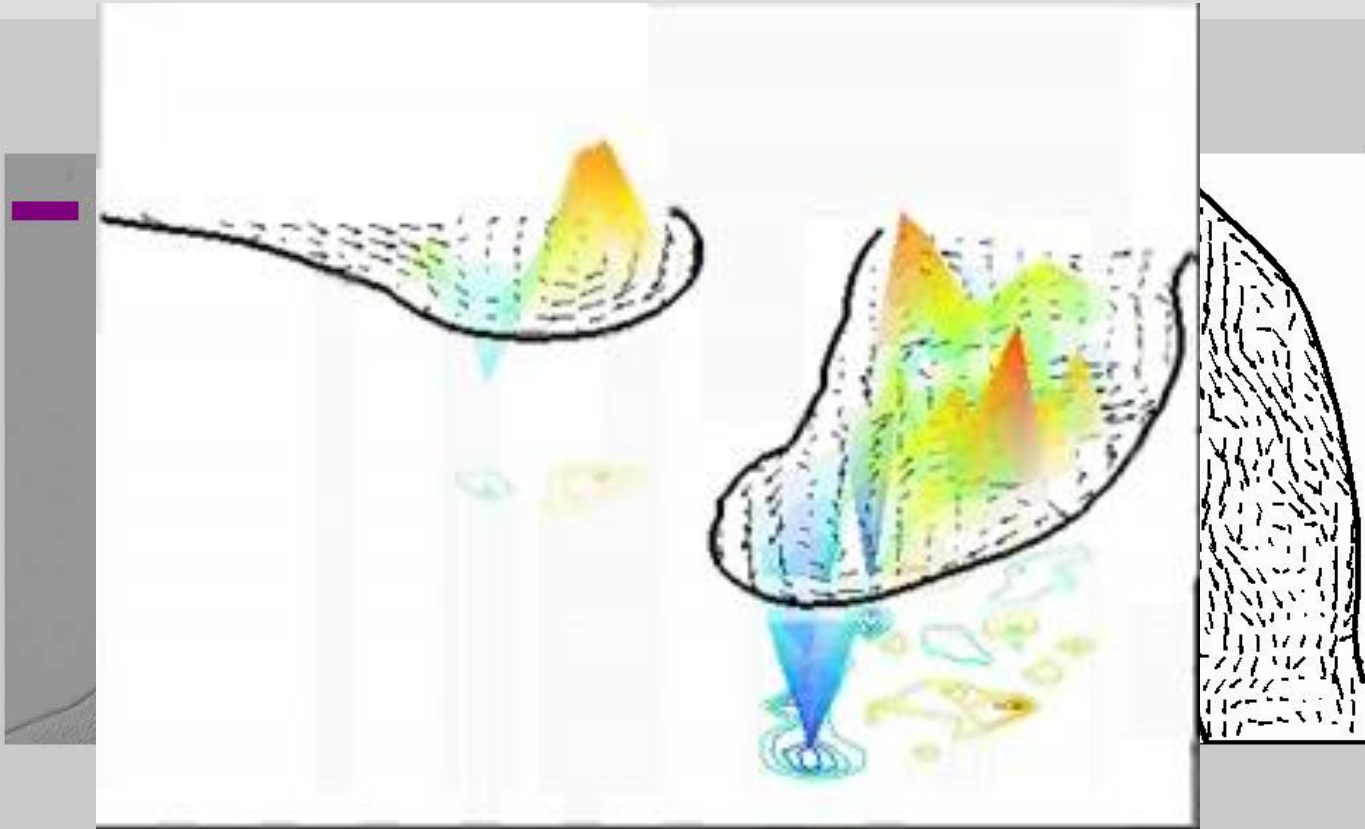


# Pile Motility



# Physics Based Understanding

Investigating the Vorticity



# Velocity alignment with curl chemotaxis

Self-Propulsion
Velocity alignment
Bacterial density
Noise

$$\frac{dv_i}{dt} = \Gamma \frac{v_i}{|v_i|} - \nu v_i$$

Friction
Averaged velocity
Hard-core repulsion

## Curl Chemotaxis

$$-\chi_A \frac{1}{v_i} v_i \times (v_i \times \nabla C_A),$$

Moving in an envelope

Ben-Jacob Royal Soci. 2003

With Ariel, Kalishman, Shklarsh,  
Ingham (Royal Soci. Interface in press)



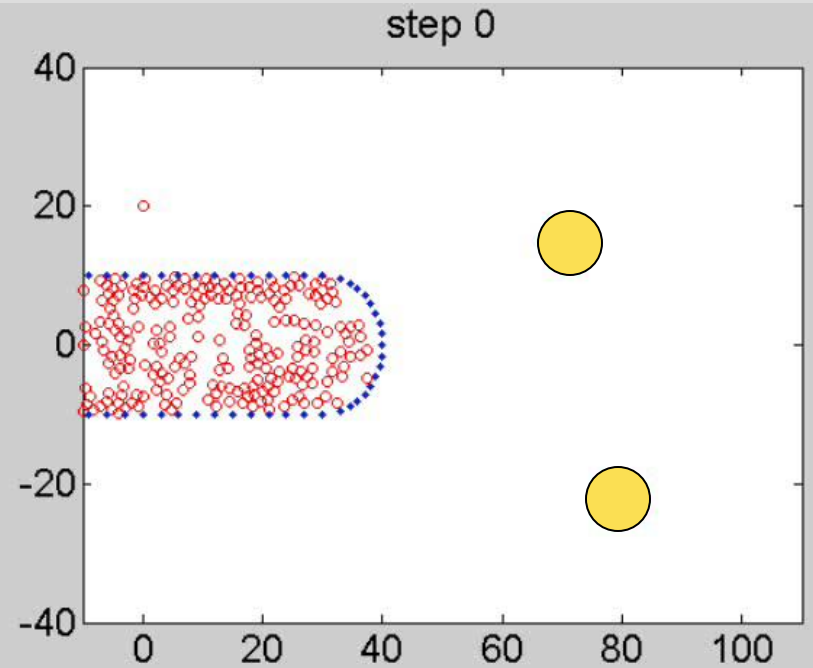
# Simulations



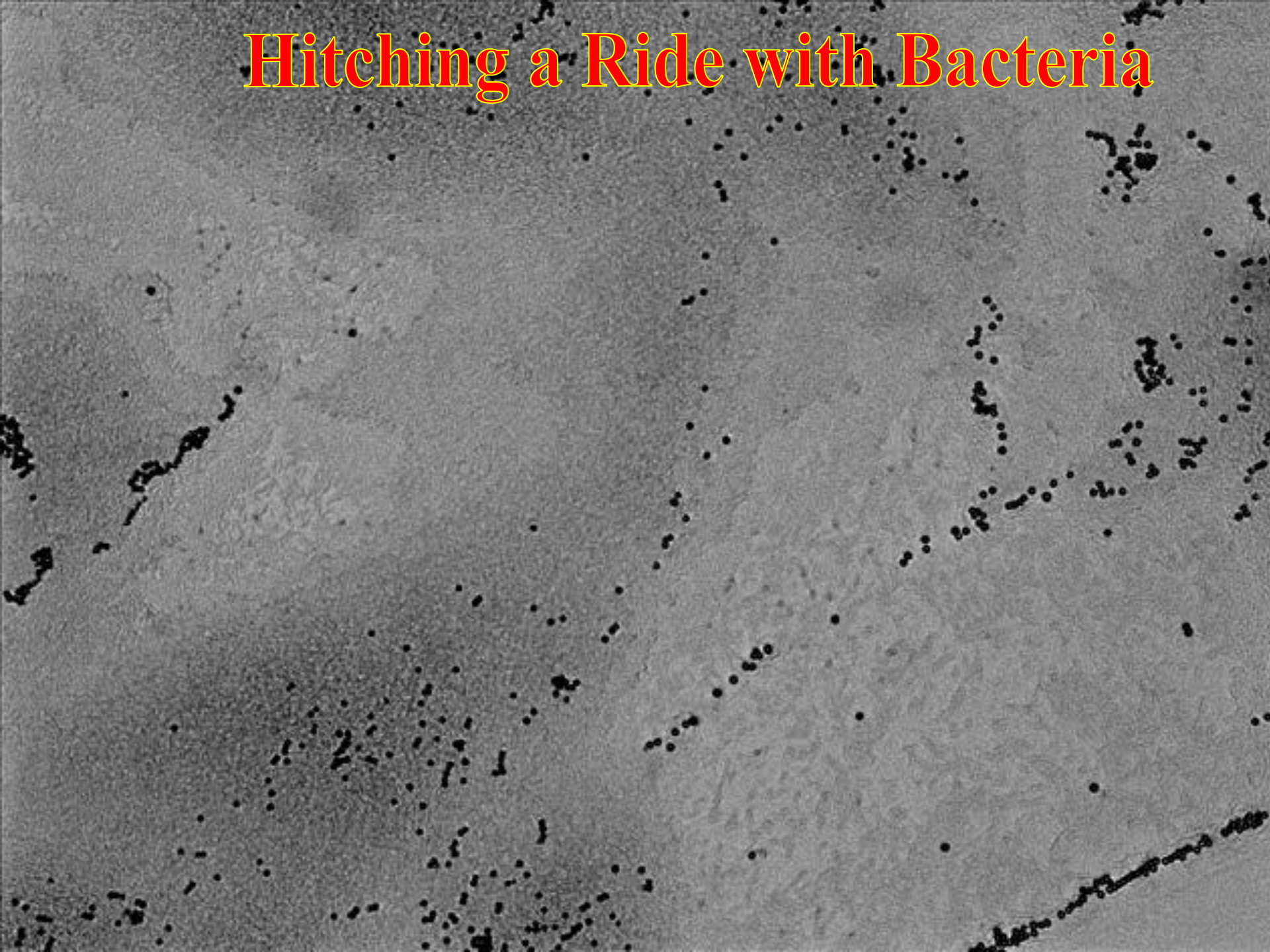
Repulsion



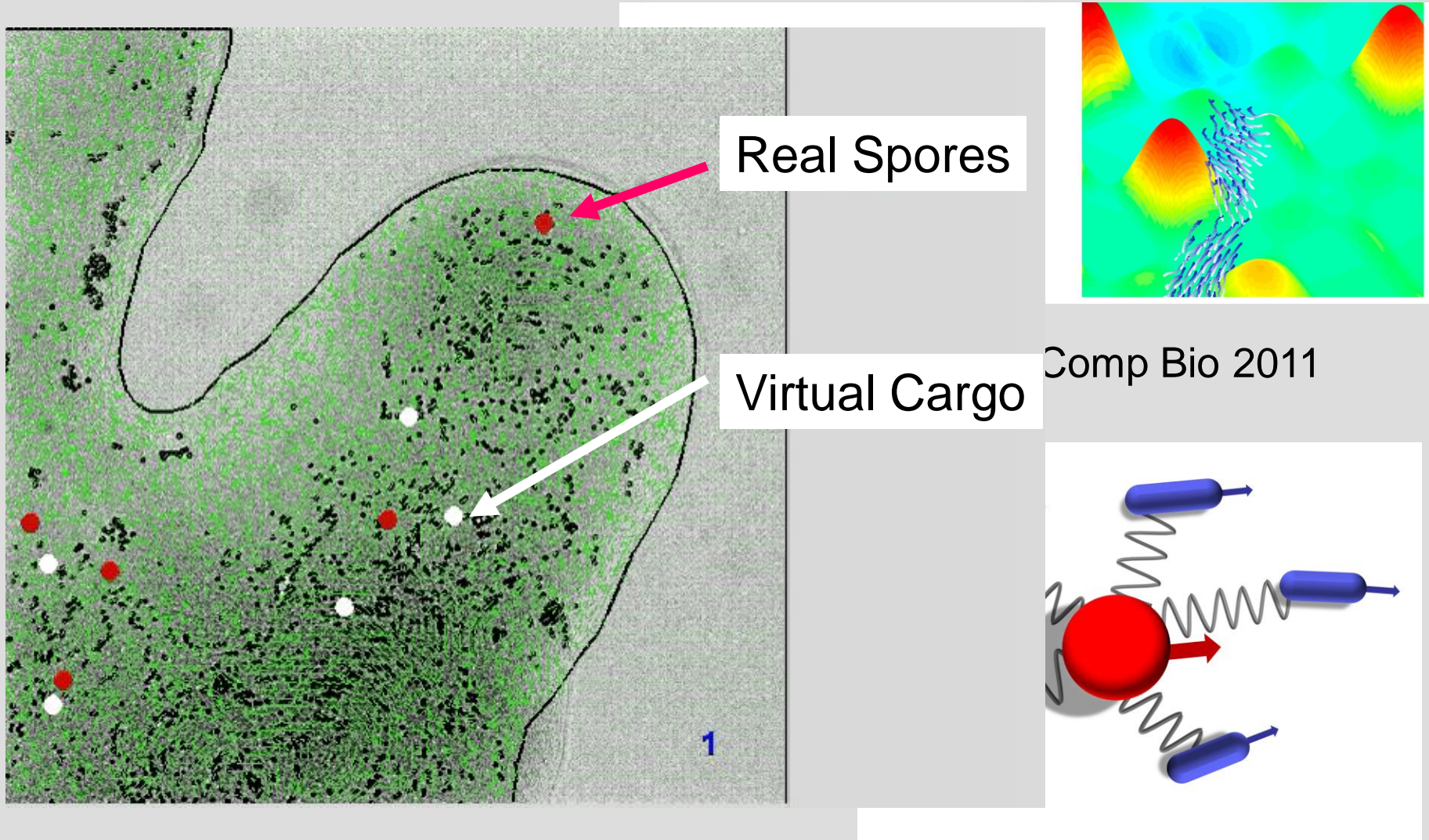
Attraction



# Hitching a Ride with Bacteria



# Physics Based Understanding



With Adi Shklarsh, Alin Finkelstein, Gil Ariel, Oren Kalisman Colin Ingham  
Roy Soci INTERFACE (2012 to be published)

# The Bacteria Benefit

