# The early Drosophila embryo: a little something for everyone



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# Drosophila embryo: Everything a Biophysicist could want (in a couple hrs)





Time (4 hours)



2) Patterned gene expression3) Cellularization



4) Morphogenesis



Plasma Membrane Myosin motor

Microtubules DNA

**Different transcription factors** 

#### **Development involves global tissue movements**



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#### **Development involves global tissue movements**



## **Cell cycle transitions during early development**

nuclear replication (cell cycle ~nine minutes)

**Eric Wieschaus** 

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nuclear replication (cell cycle ~nine minutes)

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## After cells form, cell division occurs in mitotic domains





Chanet et al., 2017

## After cells form, cell division occurs in mitotic domains





Chanet et al., 2017

## After cells form, cell division occurs in mitotic domains





Chanet et al., 2017















#### Morphogen signaling leads to gradient in nuclear Dorsal



Shilo et al., 2013

#### Morphogen signaling leads to gradient in nuclear Dorsal



Shilo et al., 2013

## <u>The Dorsal protein defines the ventral side of</u> <u>the embryo</u>



Dorsal protein (NF-kB transcription factor)

Kanodia et al., 2009

## <u>Dorsal concentration and cross-regulation</u> <u>establish domains of gene expression</u>



M. Levine's lab

# Cellularization: 1 to 6,000 cells in 1 hour



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	Dlg	F-actin		Sokac & Wieschaus, 2008	
2 1 3-4 C 84 C 84	<b>3 1 1 2 1 34 1 34</b>	an sean tá cana Singan Annaichte	DINSILL	<u> 11111111</u>	THE REAL
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#### Cells that form are epithelial in nature



#### Cells that form are epithelial in nature



#### Epithelial cells undergo various shape changes and rearrangements to sculpt tissues



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## Myosin 2 (myosin) is thought to generate force to drive morphogenesis



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# Simple model for constriction

Apical



Inactive RhoA-GDP

Basal
Apical



Inactive RhoA-GDP





- Inactive RhoA-GDP
- Active RhoA-GTP

Apical





#### Adherens junctions serve as anchor points for contraction to pull



#### Adherens junctions serve as anchor points for contraction to pull



## Distinct morphogenetic programs arise from different patterns of cell contractility

Radial Cell Polarity (RCP)

Tissue bending (Apical constriction)



## Distinct morphogenetic programs arise from different patterns of cell contractility



#### In Drosophila, ventral cells fold inward / invaginate



Sweeton, D., et al. *Development* (1991)

#### In Drosophila, ventral cells fold inward / invaginate



Sweeton, D., et al. *Development* (1991)

#### In Drosophila, ventral cells fold inward / invaginate



Sweeton, D., et al. *Development* (1991)



#### Apical constriction is associated with tissue folding



15 minutes

#### Apical constriction is associated with tissue folding





Myosin

Membrane





Myosin

Membrane





Myosin

Membrane







**Claudia Vasquez** Cross-Section Apical **→**Basal















GFP::Rho-Kinase



Frank Mason, Ph.D.



GFP::Rho-Kinase



Frank Mason, Ph.D.



GFP::Rho-Kinase

#### *twist* mutant





GFP::Rho-Kinase





GFP::Rho-Kinase

#### *twist* mutant





GFP::Rho-Kinase

Frank Mason, Ph.D.



GFP::Rho-Kinase



#### *twist* mutant



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GFP::Rho-Kinase



GFP::Rho-Kinase



#### *twist* mutant





GFP::Rho-Kinase



Frank Mason, Ph.D.

#### RhoA signaling is polarized within apical domain

#### **GFP::ROCK**



Surface view

#### RhoA signaling is polarized within apical domain

#### **GFP::ROCK**



Depends on RhoA activity Active RhoA is also medioapically polarized

#### RhoA signaling is polarized within apical domain



Surface view

Depends on RhoA activity Active RhoA is also medioapically polarized

### Constricting cell apex has a spatial pattern of ROCK/myosin



Mason FM, Tworoger M, Martin AC. *Nat Cell Biol.* (2013). Mason et al., *J. Cell Biol.* (2016).

### Constricting cell apex has a spatial pattern of ROCK/myosin



#### Why is ROCK/myosin in the middle?

Mason FM, Tworoger M, Martin AC. *Nat Cell Biol.* (2013). Mason et al., *J. Cell Biol.* (2016).

# Sarcomere is the contractile unit of a muscle - myosin in the middle



Hanson and Huxley, Nature (1953).

# Sarcomere is the contractile unit of a muscle - myosin in the middle



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Actin Myosin

Polarized actin cortex



Jonathan Coravos, Ph.D.

Polarized actin cortex

Central ROCK and myosin II





Jonathan Coravos, Ph.D. Frank Mason, Ph.D.



Polarized actin cortex

"Radial Sarcomere"



Jonathan Coravos, Ph.D.



**Apical Constriction** 



Central **ROCK** and

myosin II

Frank Mason, Ph.D.

### Tissue extension in Drosophila





### Tissue extension in Drosophila





### Tissue extension in Drosophila





### Ordered exchange of intercellular contacts can drive extension

1



Mason & Martin, 2011

### Ordered exchange of intercellular contacts can drive extension

1





Myo-II Baz/Par-3

### Mason & Martin, 2011

## Ordered exchange of intercellular contacts can drive extension



### Mason & Martin, 2011

### Cell protrusion is also important for convergent extension



Sun et al., 2017

## Cell protrusion is also important for convergent extension



Sun et al., 2017



# How do we know whether myosin functions as a 'motor'?

### ATPase Activity of Myosin Correlated with Speed of Muscle Shortening

MICHAEL BÁRÁNY

1967

From the Institute for Muscle Disease, Inc., New York

# How do we know whether myosin functions as a 'motor'?

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**Claudia Vasquez** 

1967

#### TABLEII

#### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CONTRACTION TIME AND ATPASE ACTIVITY OF MYOSIN IN MUSCLES OF CAT AND SLOTH

. mn

Contraction time*	All Pase activity in the presence of				
	Actin	Са <sup>++</sup> +0.05 м KCl	Са <sup>++</sup> +0.5 м КСІ	EDTA	ATP sensitivity‡
msec	µmoles P <sub>i</sub> / mg/min	µmole/P <sub>i</sub> / mg/min	µmole P <sub>i</sub> / mg/min	µmole P <sub>i</sub> / mg/min	%
19-19.5	1.46	0.67	0.45	0.61	131
122-135	0.26	0.18	0.12	0.17	100
22.5-27	1.41	0.68	0.39	0.58	128
109	0.25	0.20	0.12	0.19	122
	Contraction time* 19–19.5 122–135 22.5–27 109	AIPContraction time*time*Actin $\mu$ moles $P_i/moles P_i/min$ 19–19.51.46122–1350.2622.5–271.411090.25	All Pase activity 1Contraction time*Ca++++0.05 M KCl $\mu moles P_i / \mu mole / P_i / msec$ $\mu moles P_i / \mu mole / P_i / mg/min$ 19-19.51.460.67122-1350.260.1822.5-271.410.681090.250.20	All Pase activity 1 in the preseContraction time* $Ca^{++}+0.05$ Actin $Ca^{++}+0.5$ M KCl $\mu$ moles $P_i$ msec $\mu$ moles $P_i$ mg/min $\mu$ mole $P_i$ mg/min19–19.51.460.670.45122–1350.260.180.1222.5–271.410.680.391090.250.200.12	All Pase activity: In the presence ofContraction time* $Ca^{++}+0.05$ Actin $Ca^{++}+0.5$ M KClEDTA $\mu$ moles $P_i$ $\mu$ mole/ $P_i$ $\mu$ mole $P_i$ $\mu$ mole $P_i$ msec $mg/min$ $mg/min$ $mg/min$ $mg/min$ 19–19.51.460.670.450.61122–1350.260.180.120.1722.5–271.410.680.390.581090.250.200.120.19

\* 37-38°C and 34-35°C for muscles of cat and sloth, respectively. References for contraction times: cat extensor digitorum longus, Gordon and Phillips (13, 14); cat gastrocnemius, Wills (15) and Buller et al. (11); sloth muscles, Goffart et al. (12).

<sup>‡</sup> 37.5°C and 34.5°C for myosin of muscles of cat and sloth, respectively.

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## Myosin activity and assembly is regulated by phosphorylation



 assembly into bipolar mini-filaments



Drosophila myosin 2 is regulated by phosphorylation similar to mammalian myosin 2

### - Phosphorylation



Sarah Heissler James Sellers Drosophila myosin 2 is regulated by phosphorylation similar to mammalian myosin 2



Sarah Heissler James Sellers







