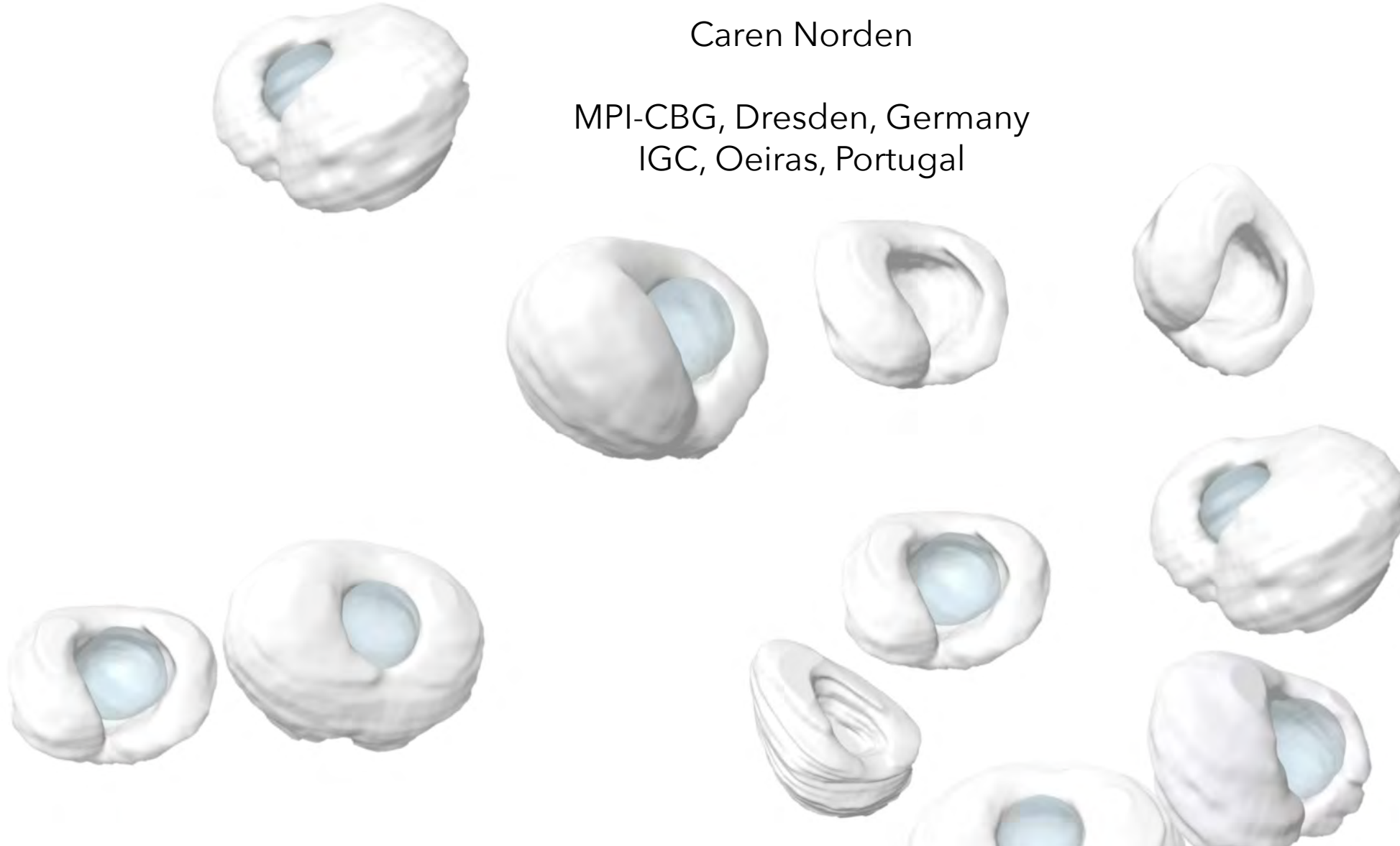


# Questions of shape, growth and patterning in organogenesis

Caren Norden

MPI-CBG, Dresden, Germany  
IGC, Oeiras, Portugal



NORDEN  
LAB

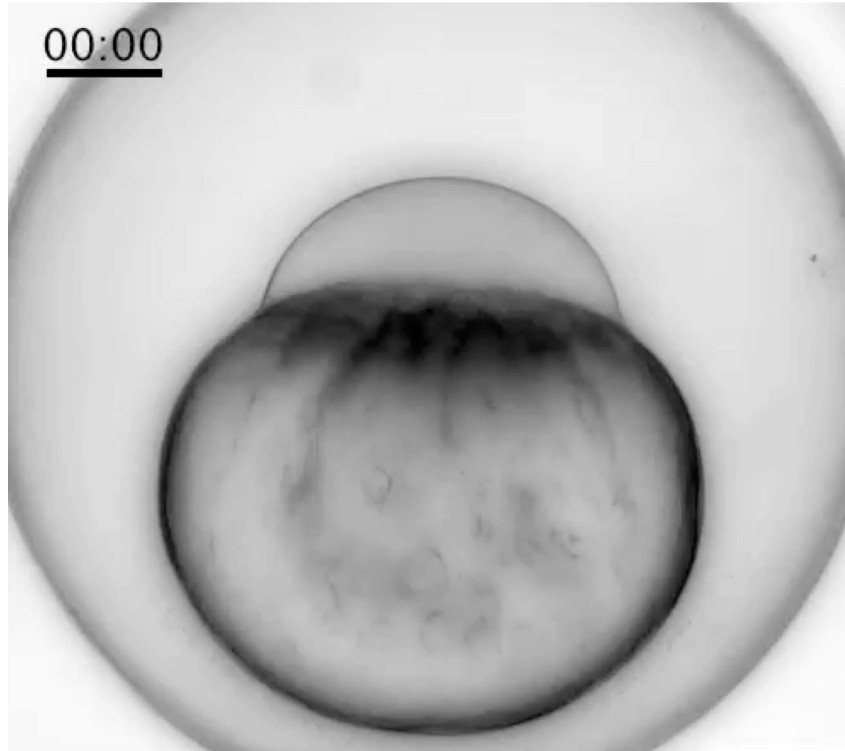
How do cells form tissues, organs and organisms?



How do single pieces come together?

# Understanding development means understanding multicellularity

Kaufmann et al. 2012



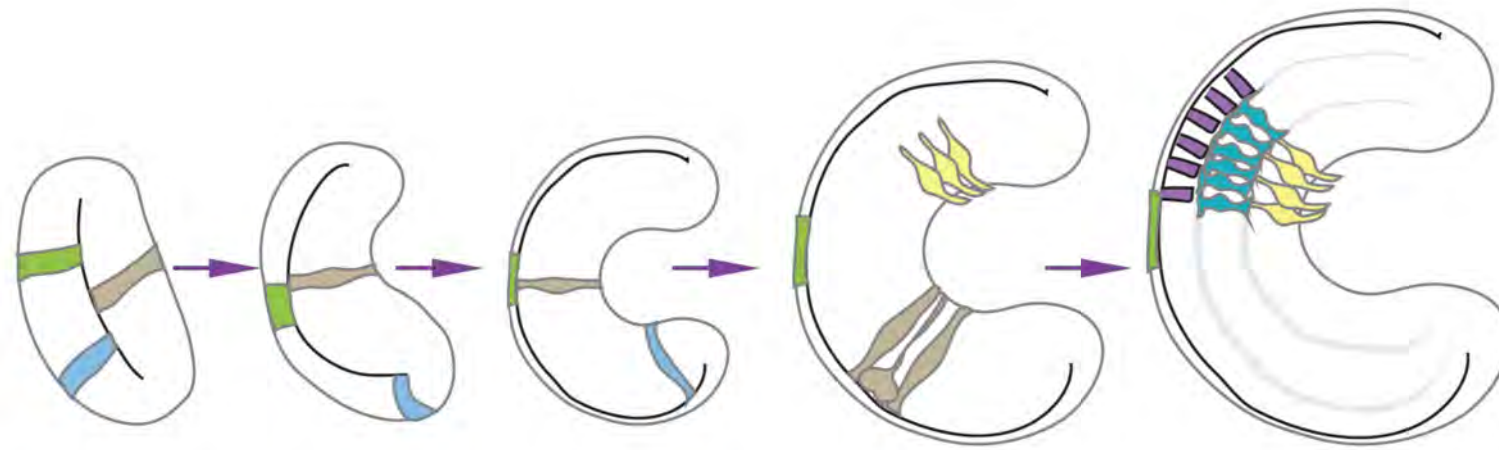
# During organogenesis

- ➔ the right cells
- ➔ need to proliferate or differentiate at the right time
- ➔ and move to the right place

How is this orchestrated?

We need to understand processes from 'cells to tissue' and their mechanics

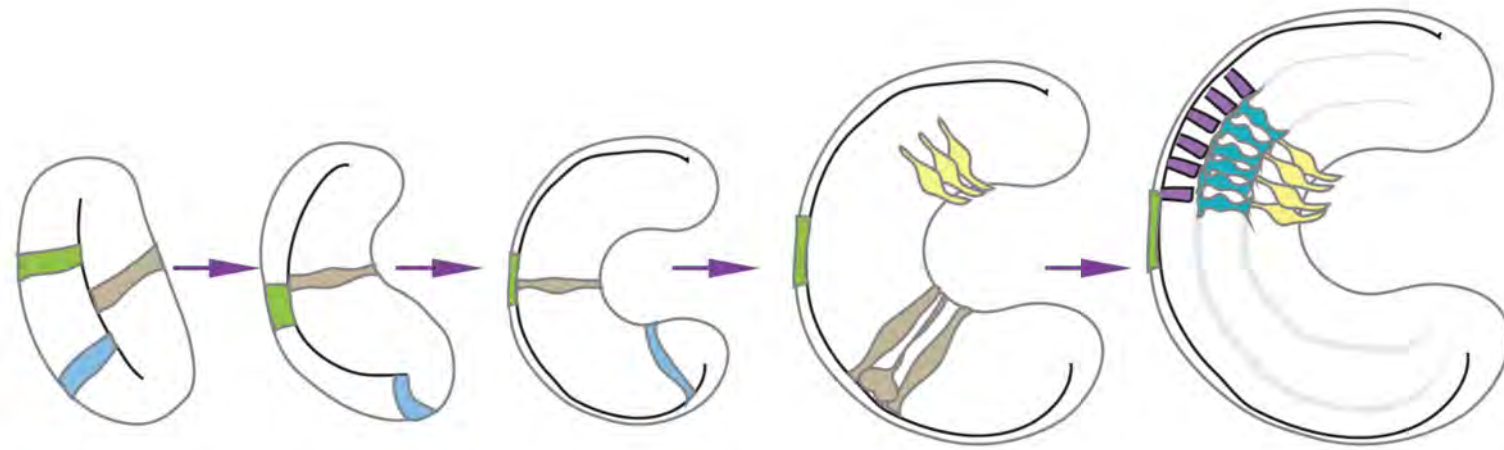
# Retinal organogenesis



Optic cup formation    Shape formation    Neuroepithelial Growth    Neuroepithelial Growth    Neuroepithelial Growth

- How does shape arise from epithelial rearrangements?
- How is proliferation and differentiation regulated in neuroepithelia?
- How do neuronal migration and lamination pattern the retina?

# Retinal organogenesis



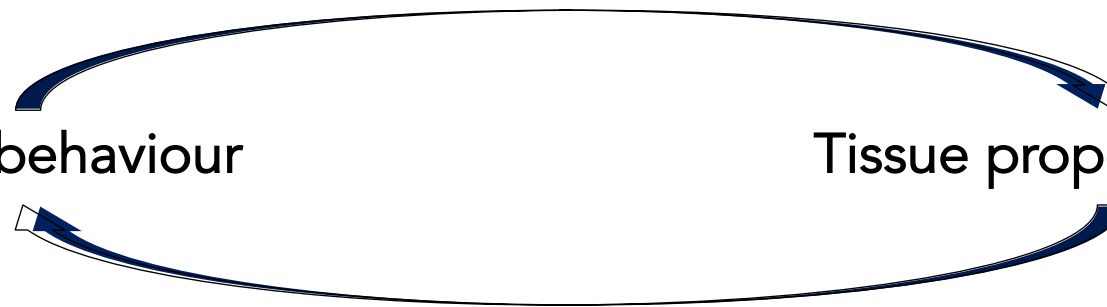
Shape

Growth

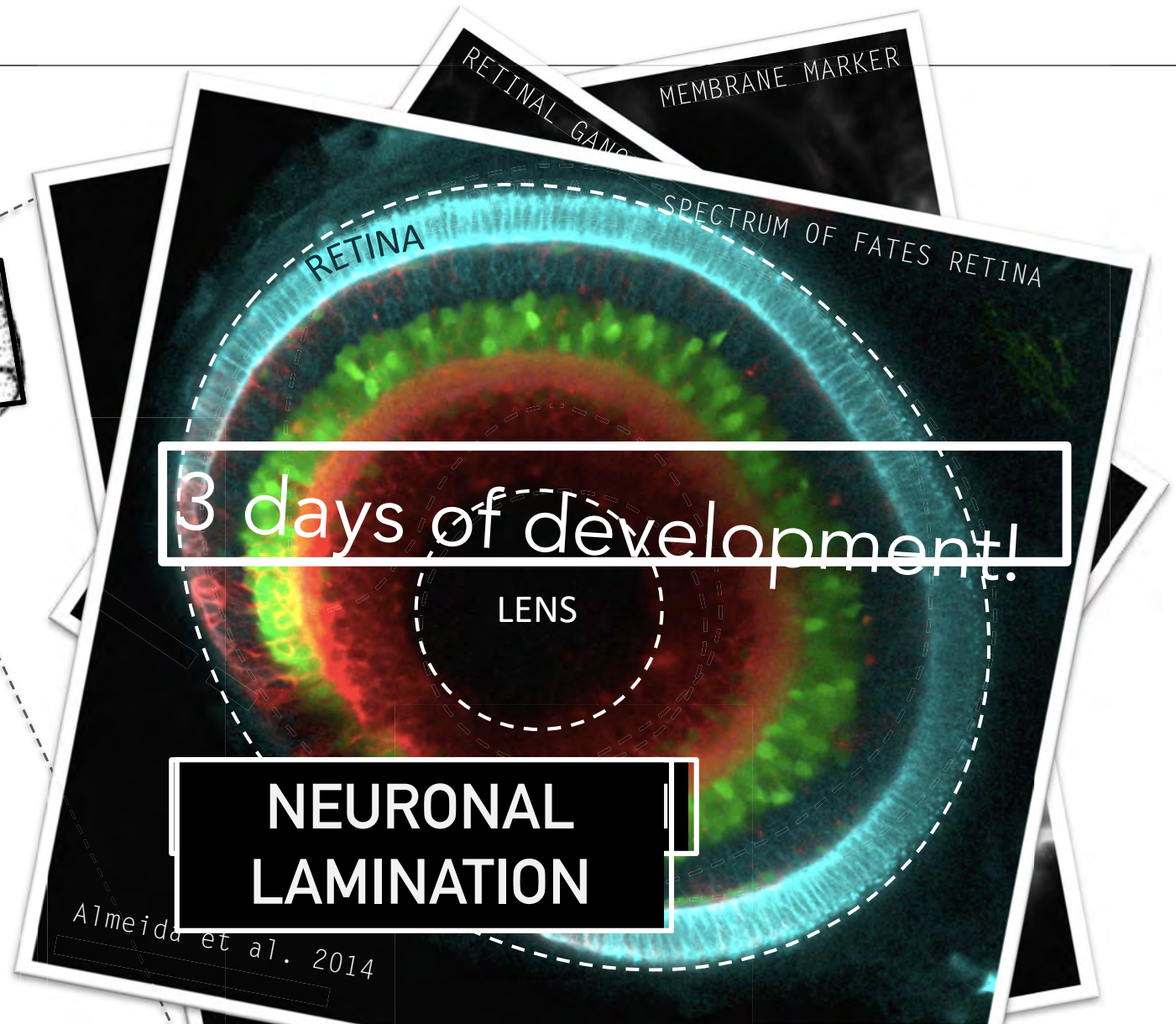
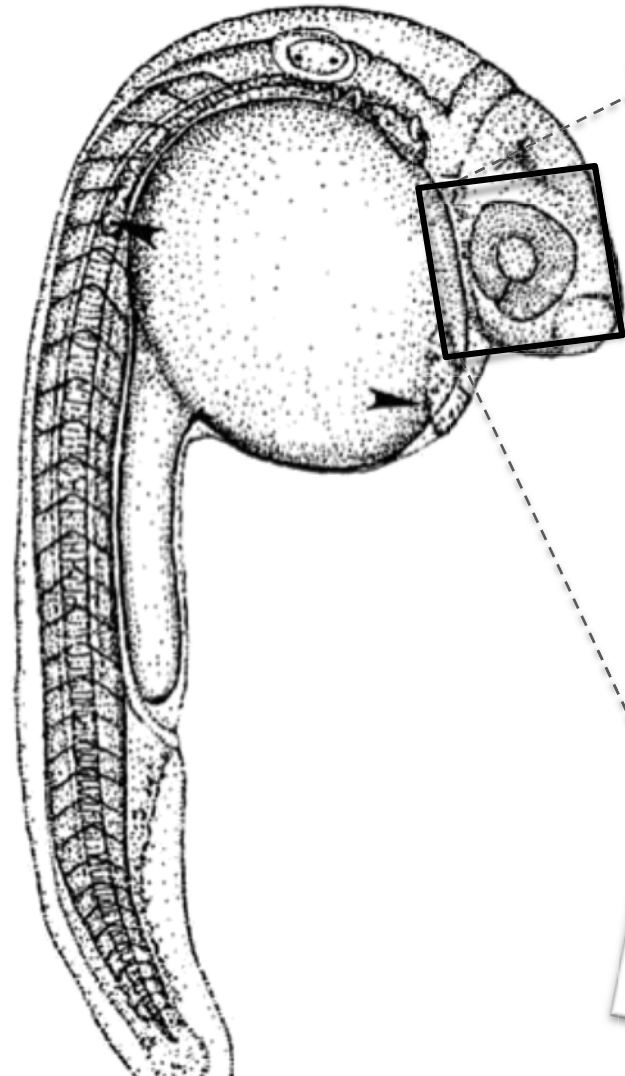
Patterning

Single cell behaviour

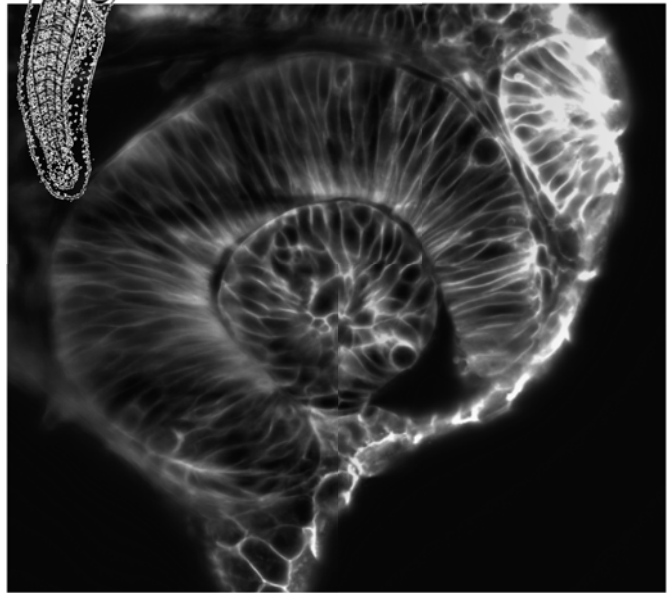
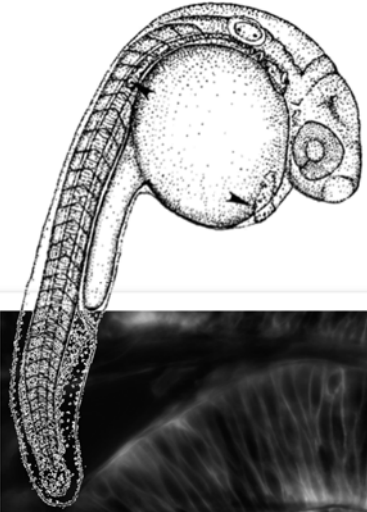
Tissue properties



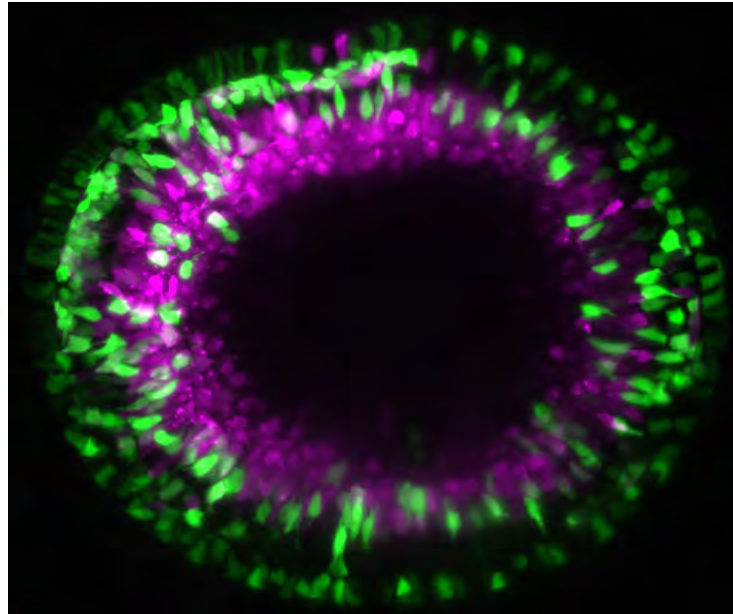
# Zebrafish retina as an accessible model



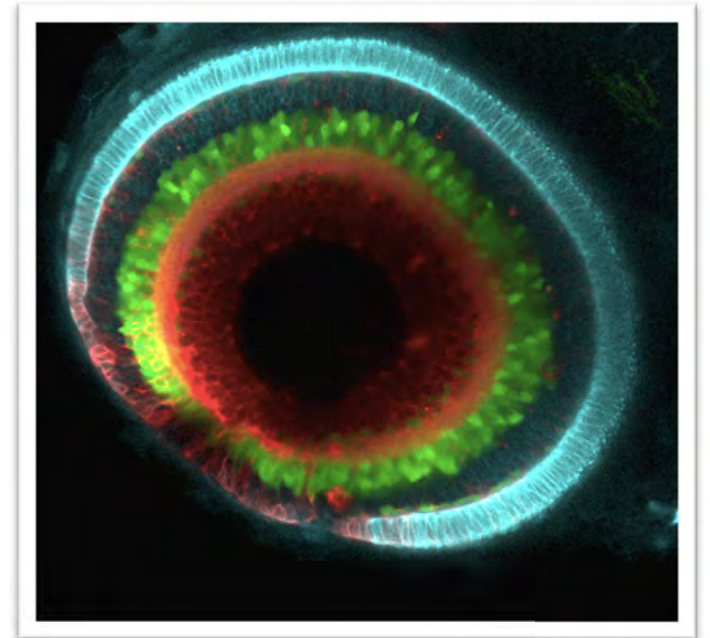
# Order-Chaos-Order



Neuroepithelium 30 hpf



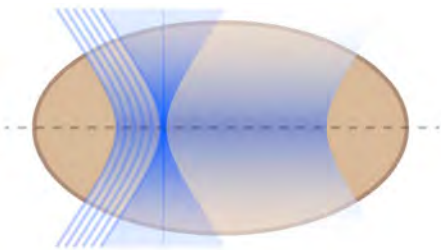
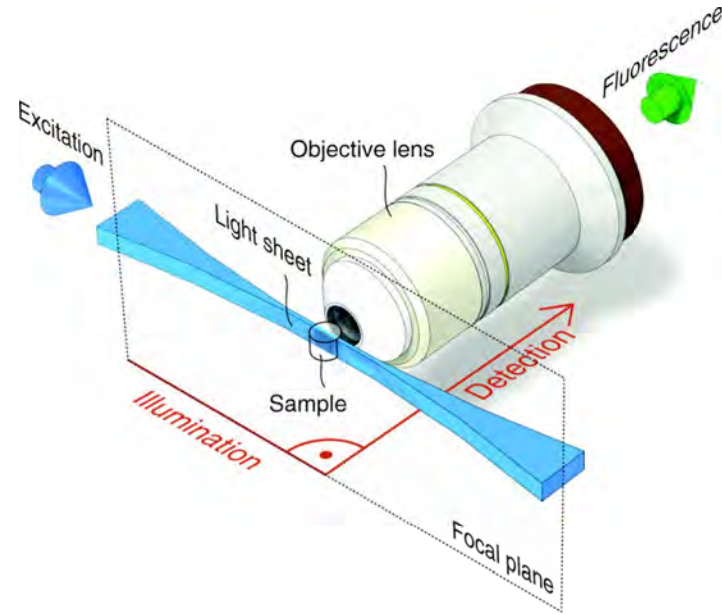
Migration and Lamination 56 hpf



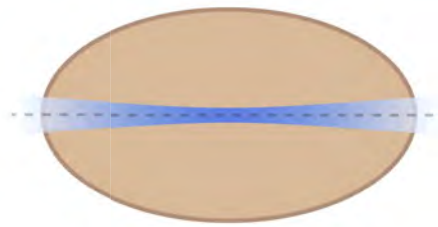
Lamination 80 hpf



# Light sheet microscopy for quantitative experiments



Confocal

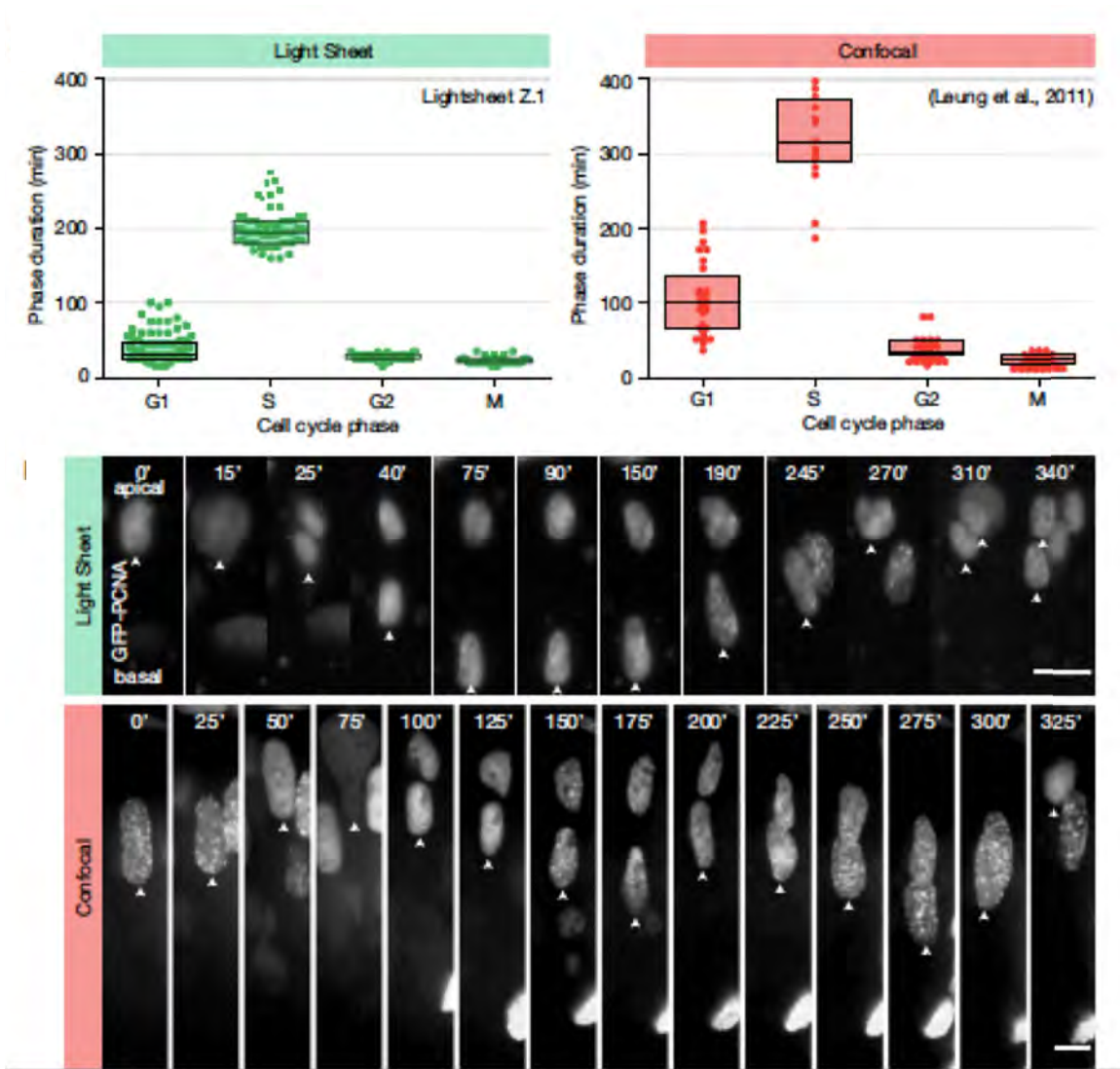


Light sheet



Lightsheet Z.1 (Zeiss)

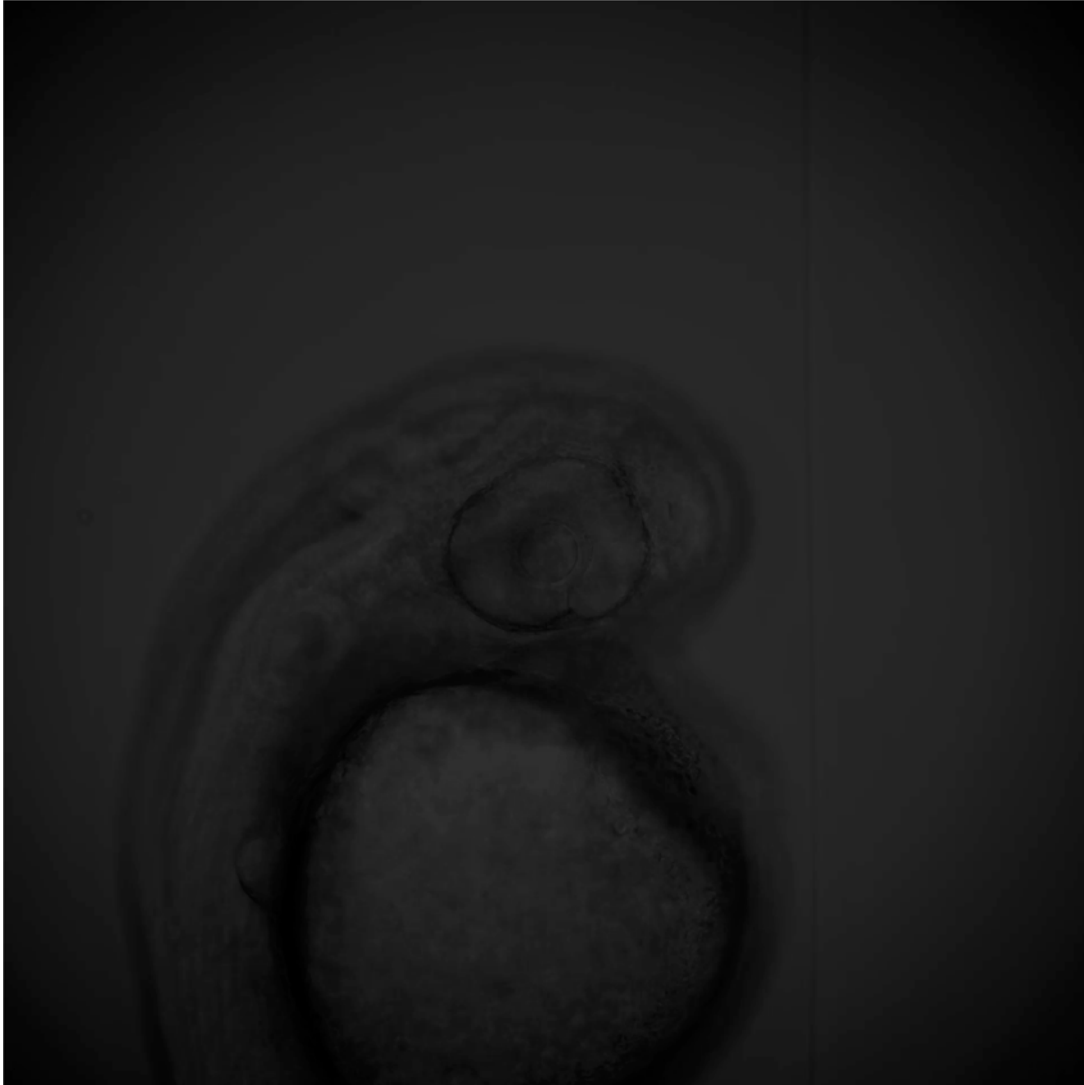
# Reduction of phototoxicity



Icha, Weber et al., BioEssays 2018

# Experiments over dozens of embryos

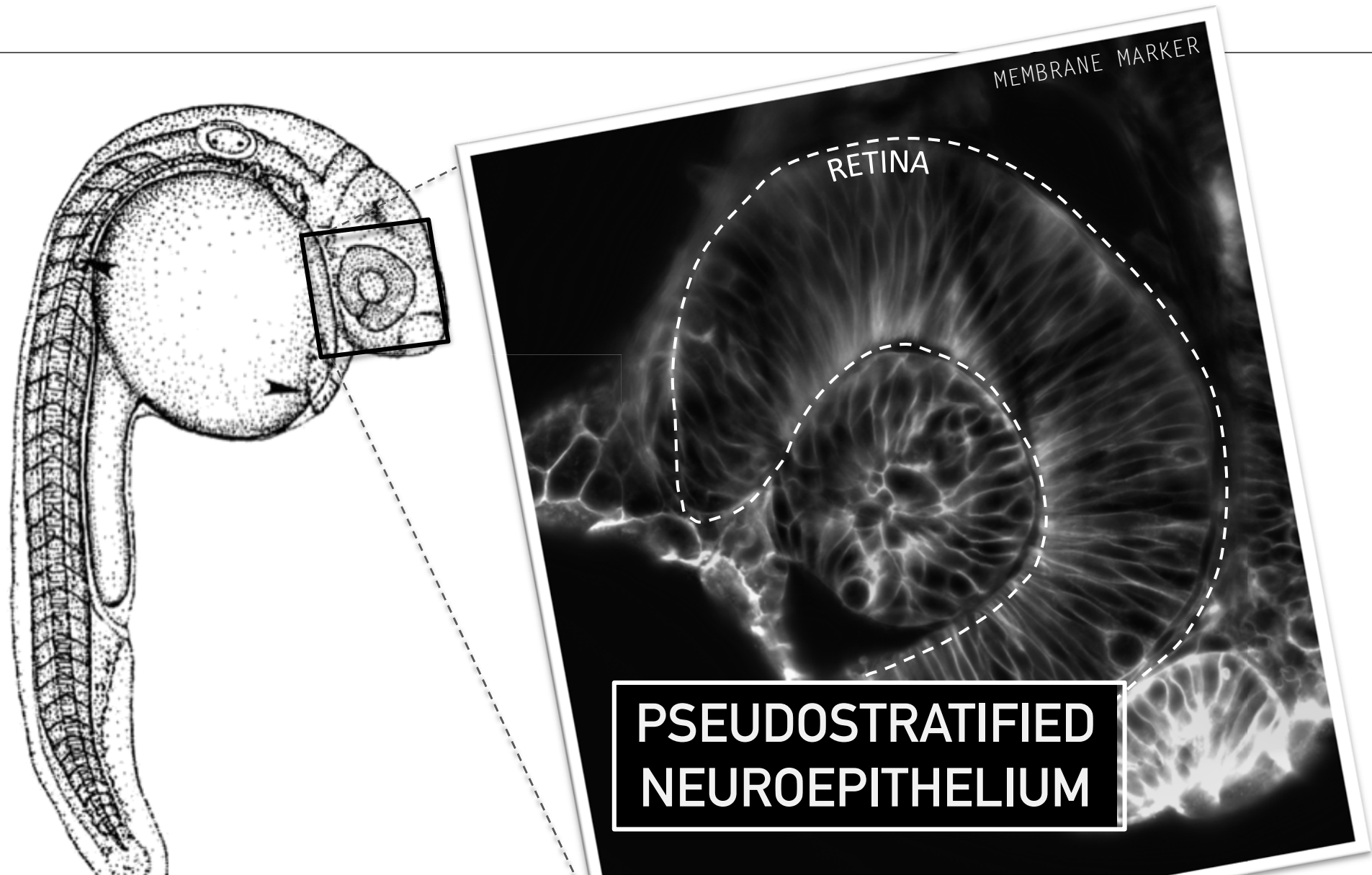
Ath5 Gap-GFP



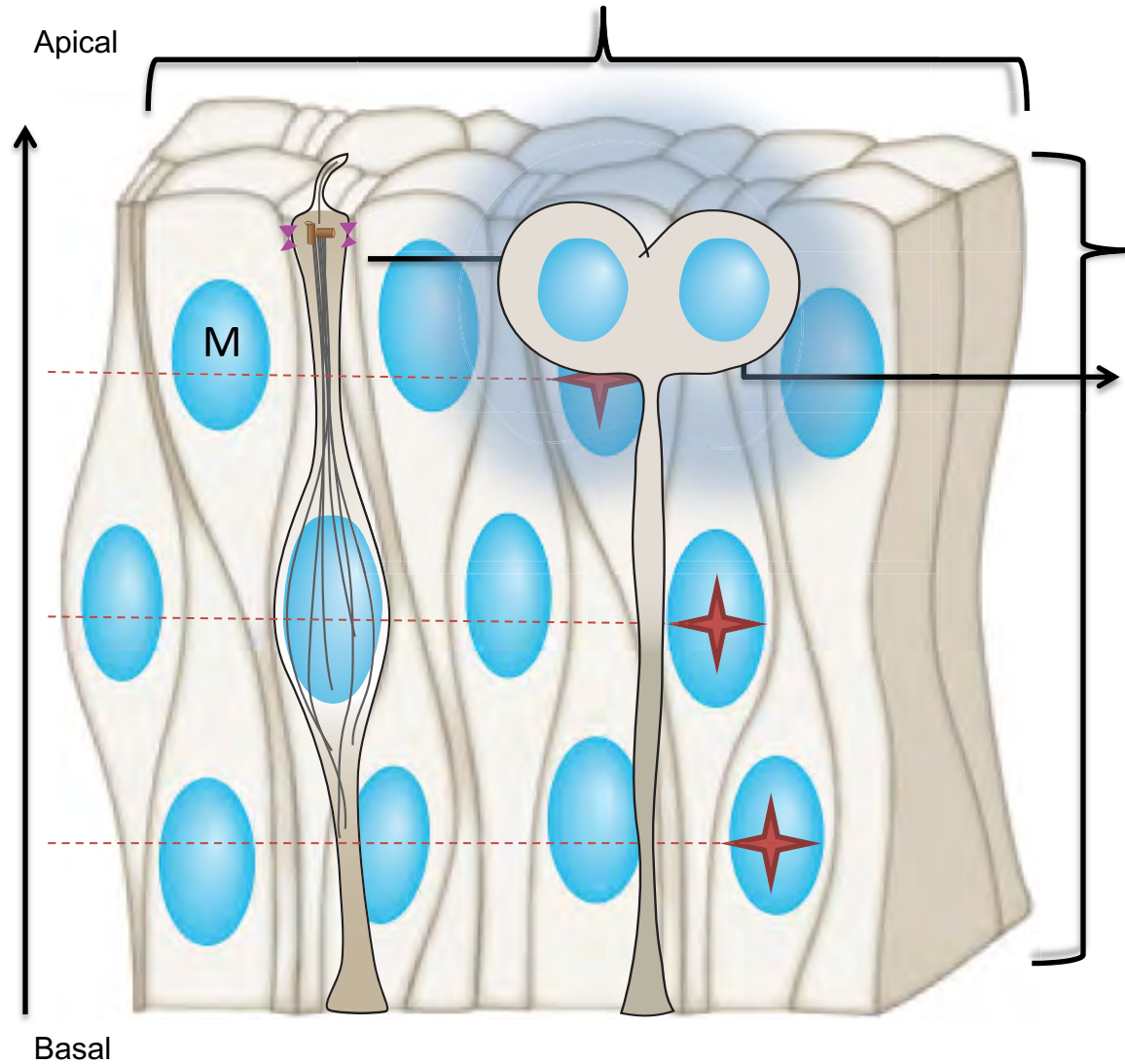
Quantitative analysis of

- Stereotypicity
- Plasticity
- Robustness  
of cell and tissue behaviour

# The pseudostratified retinal neuroepithelia

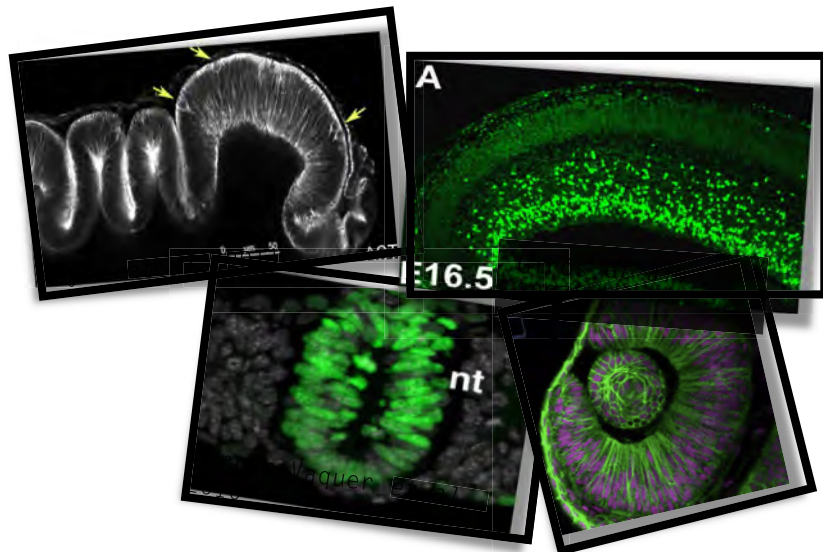


# What are pseudostratified epithelia?

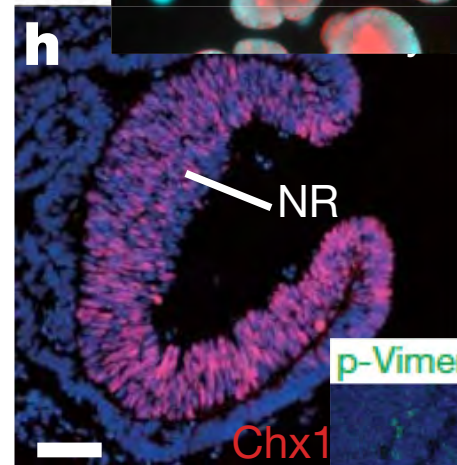
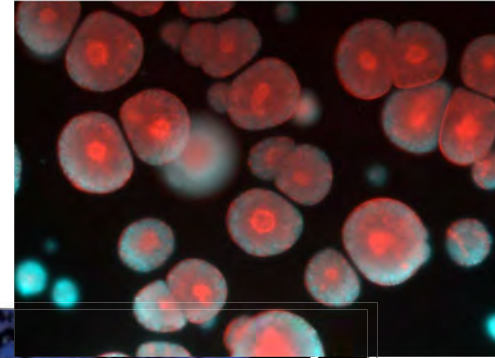


- Densely packed
- Single layer of elongated cells
- Cells are polarized
- Nuclei can be localized at any position along the apico-basal axis in interphase
- Mitosis always occurs apically

# Why care about pseudostratified epithelia?

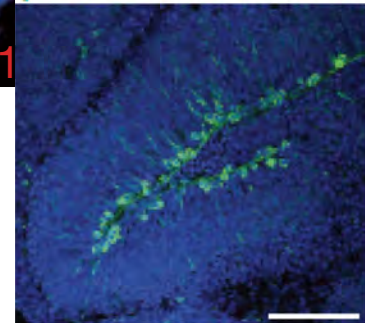


Keisuke Ishihara



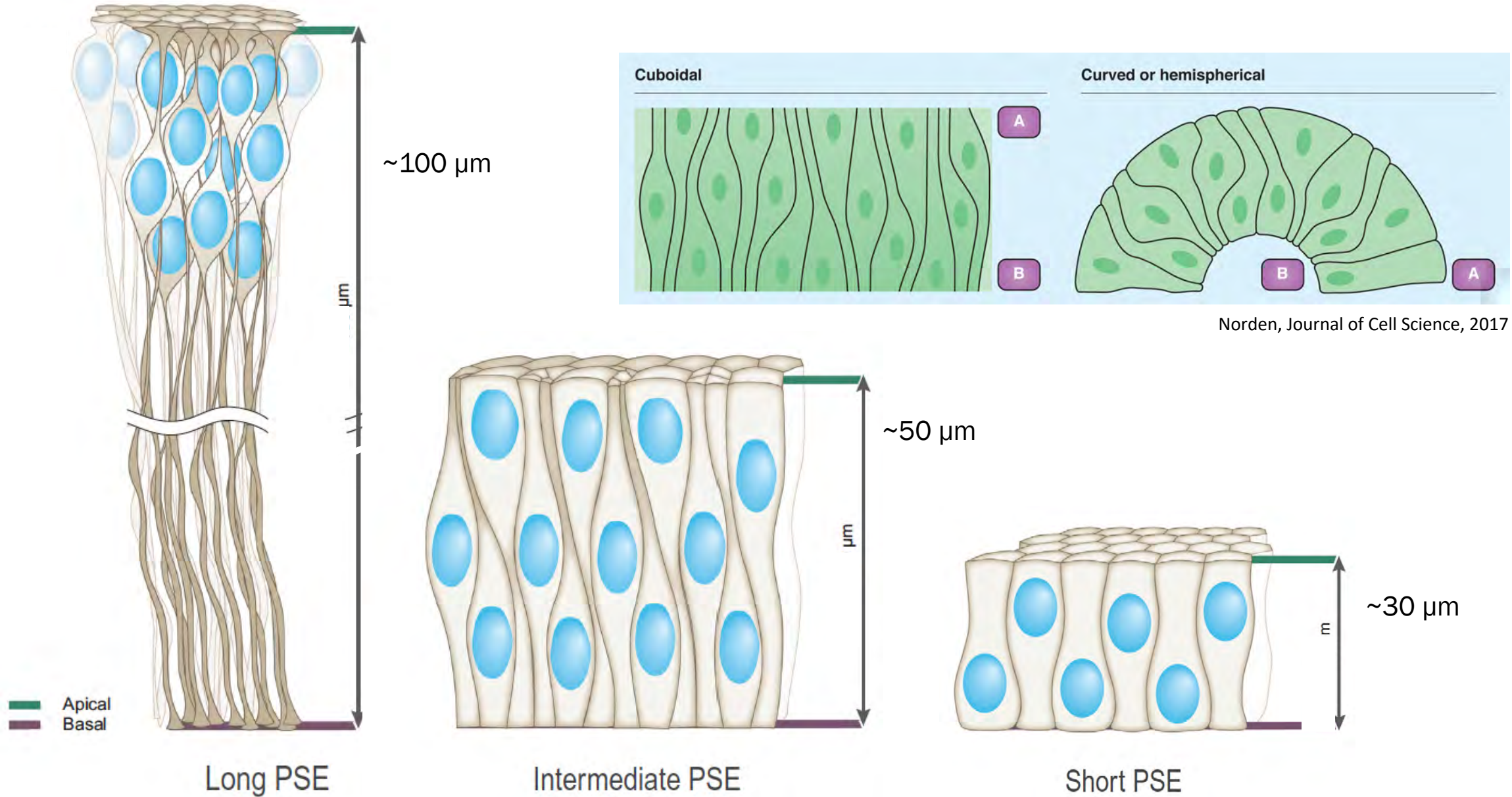
Eiraku et al., Nature 2011

p-Vimentin Hoechst

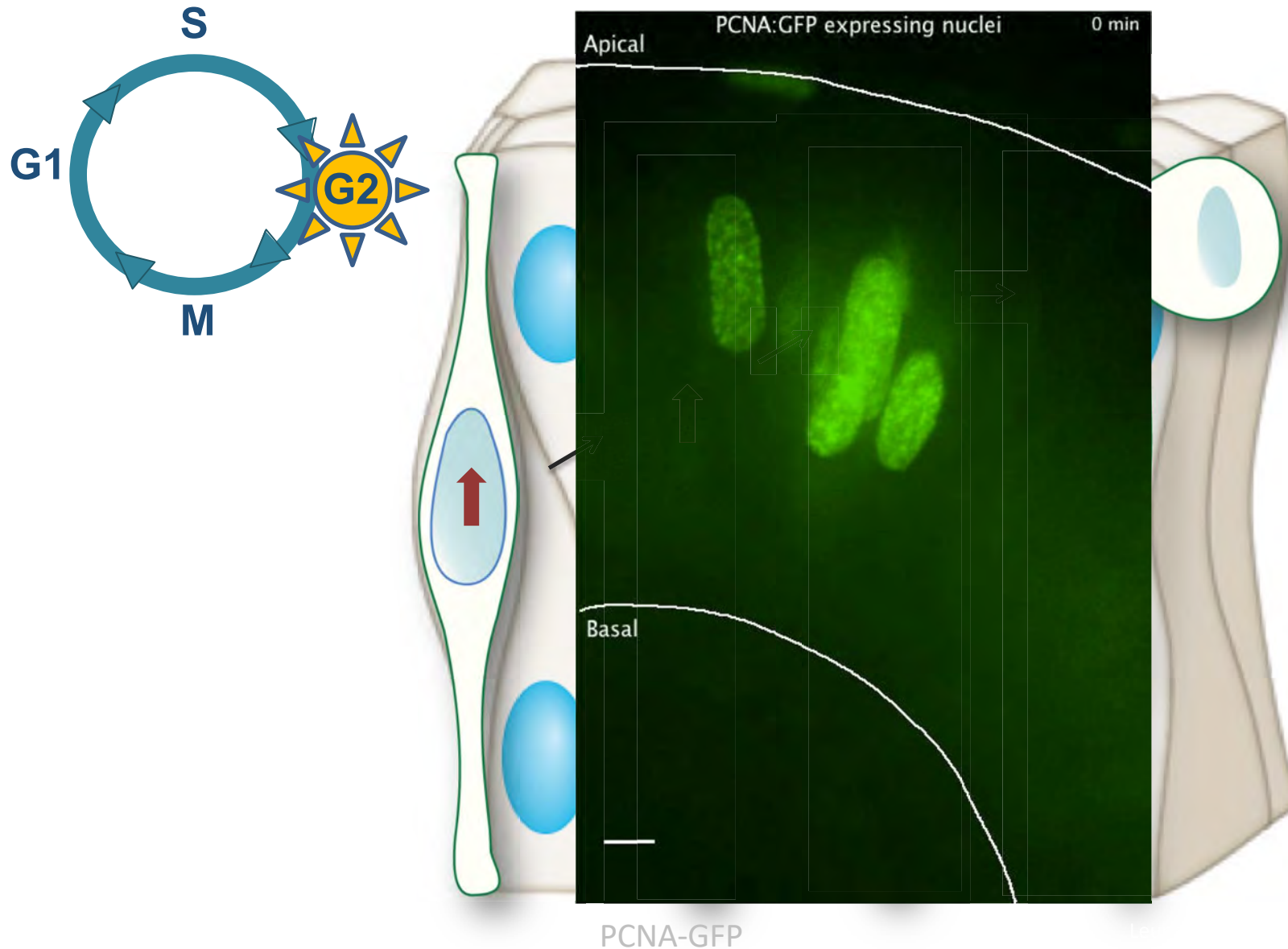


Lancaster et al., Nature 2013

# Pseudostratified epithelia are diverse in length and shape



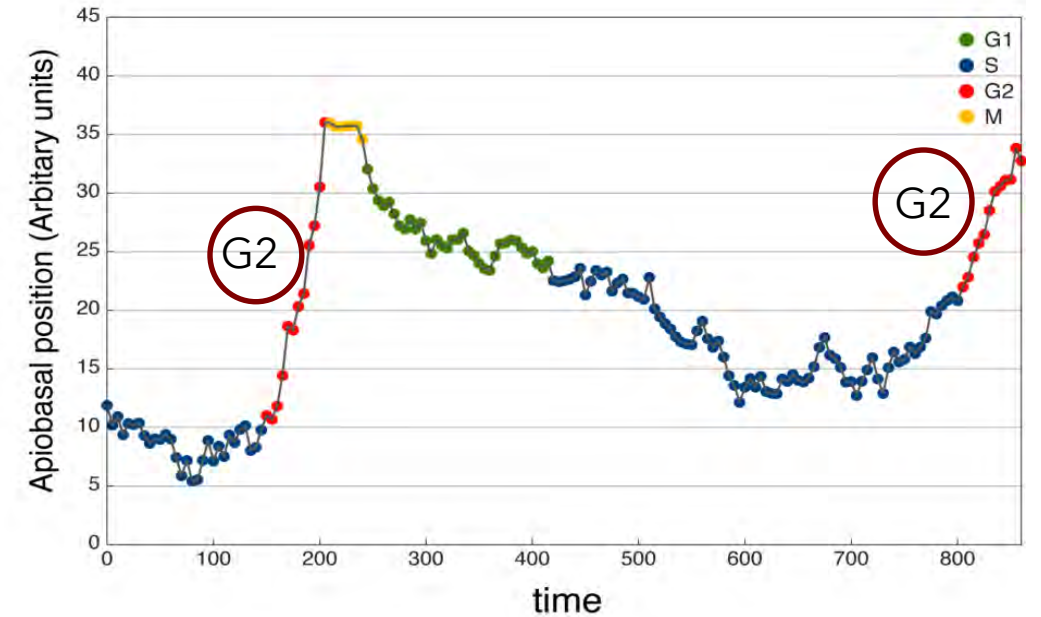
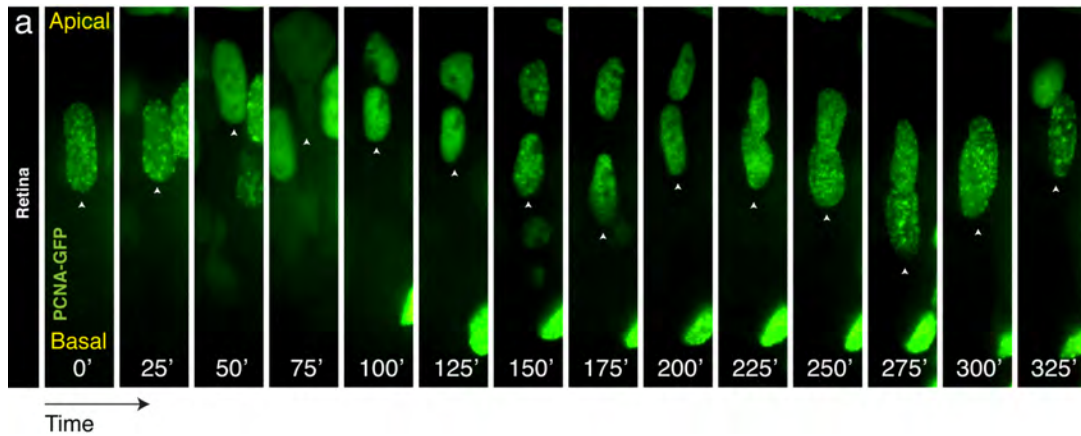
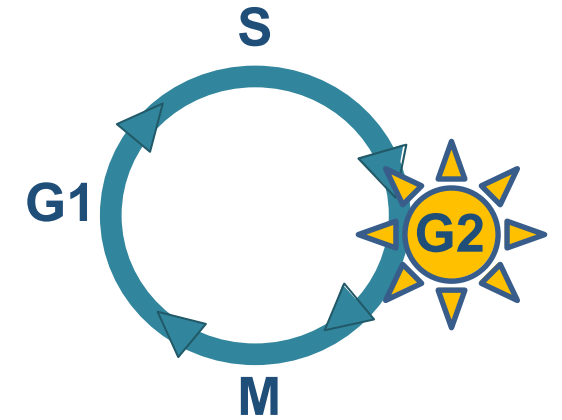
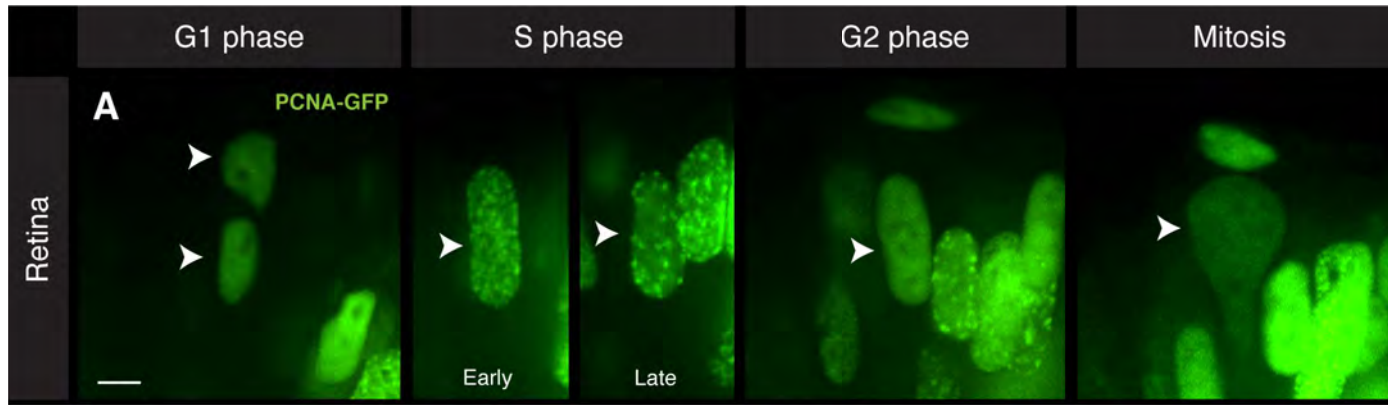
One phenomenon they all have in common



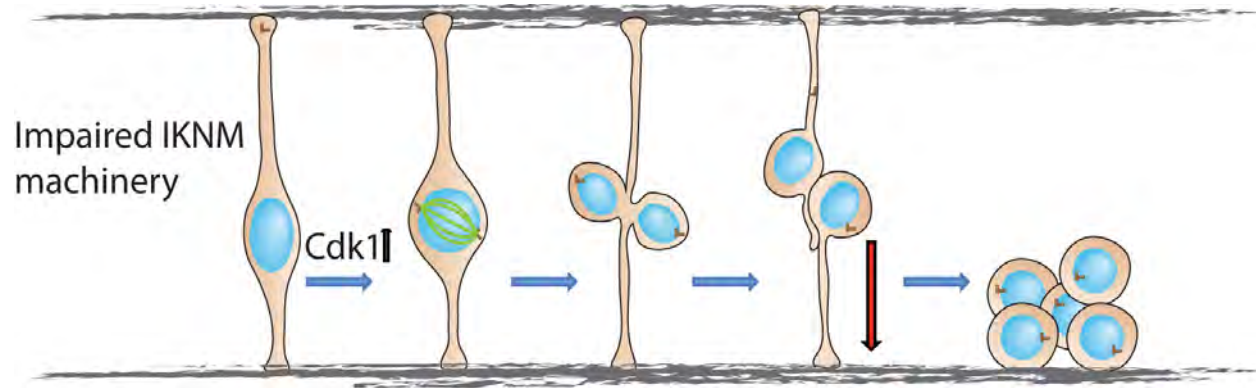
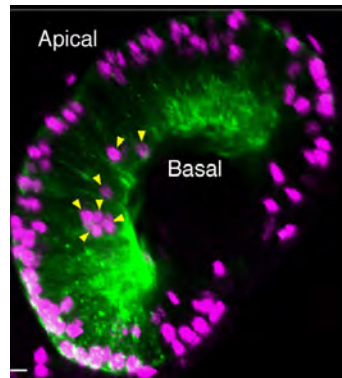
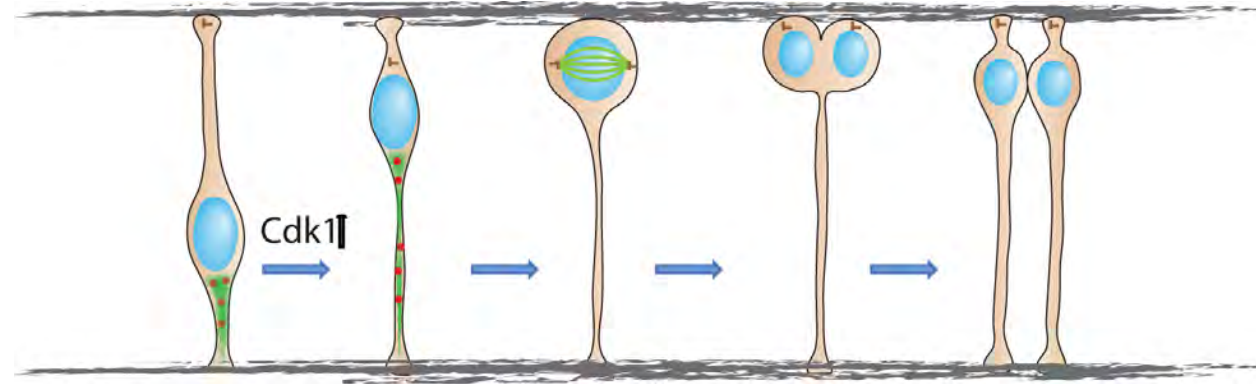
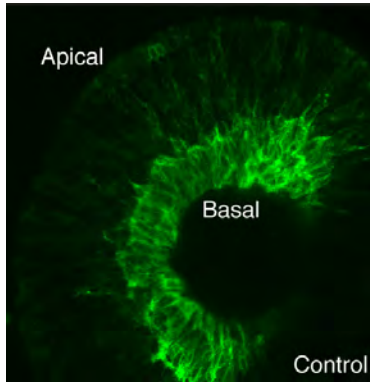
INTERKINETIC NUCLEAR  
MIGRATION  $\triangleq$   
APICAL MOVEMENT OF  
NUCLEI BEFORE MITOSIS



# Apical nuclear migration occurs in G2 only



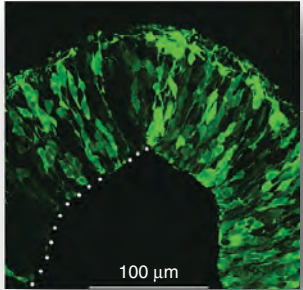
# Apical divisions are crucial to maintain tissue integrity



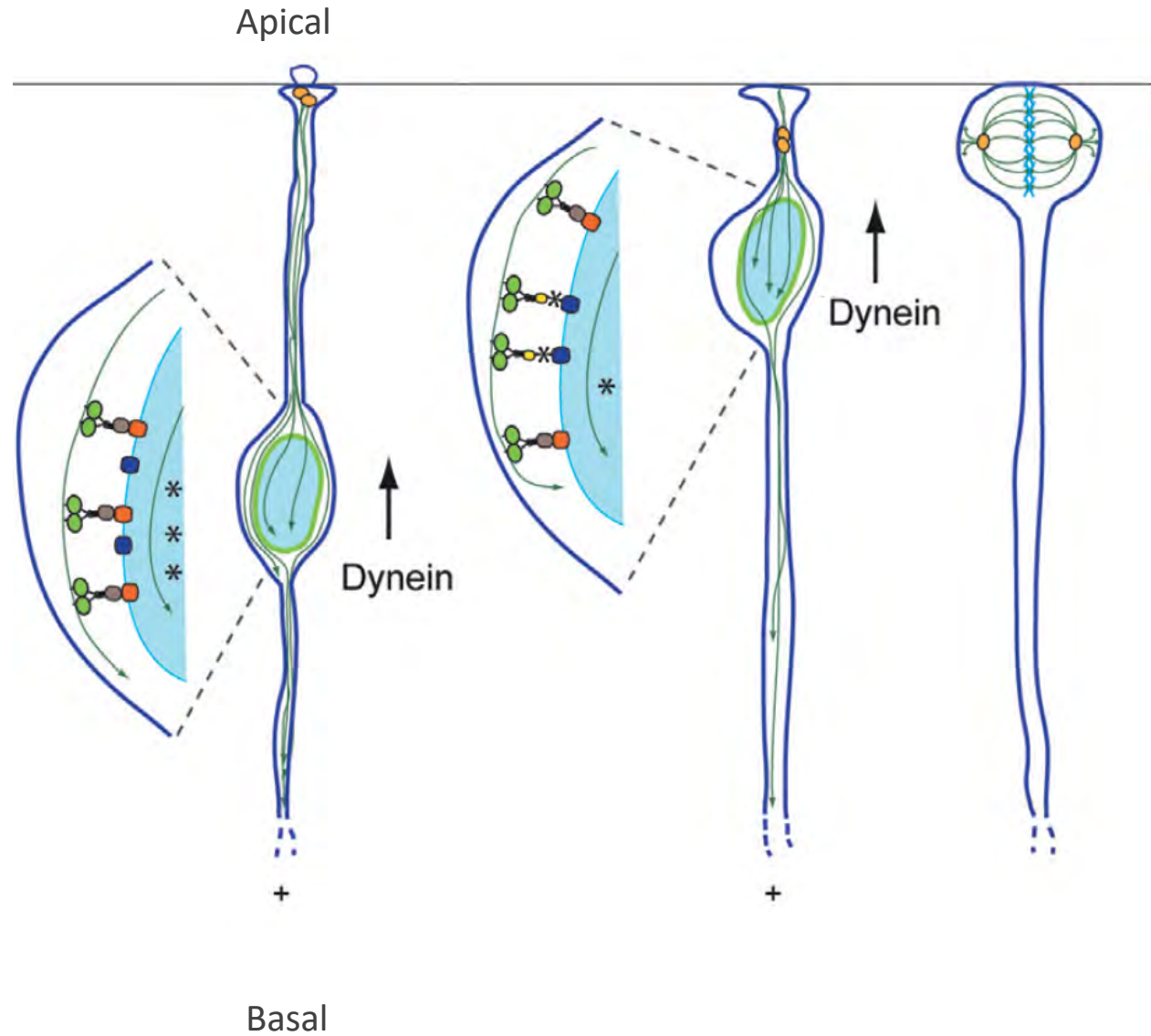
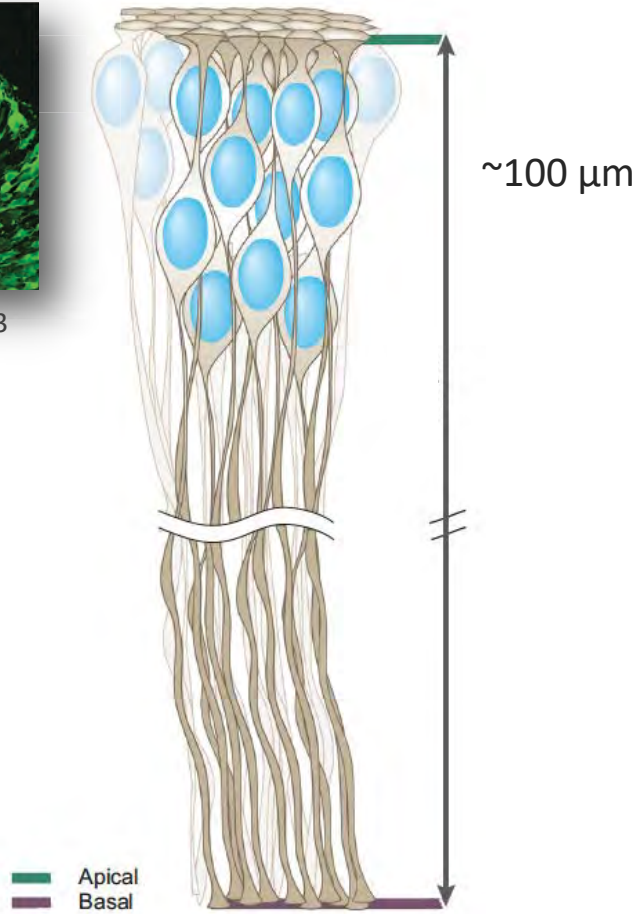
How is the force generated to move nuclei apically?

# In elongated neocortex epithelia microtubules move nuclei

Mammalian  
neural tube

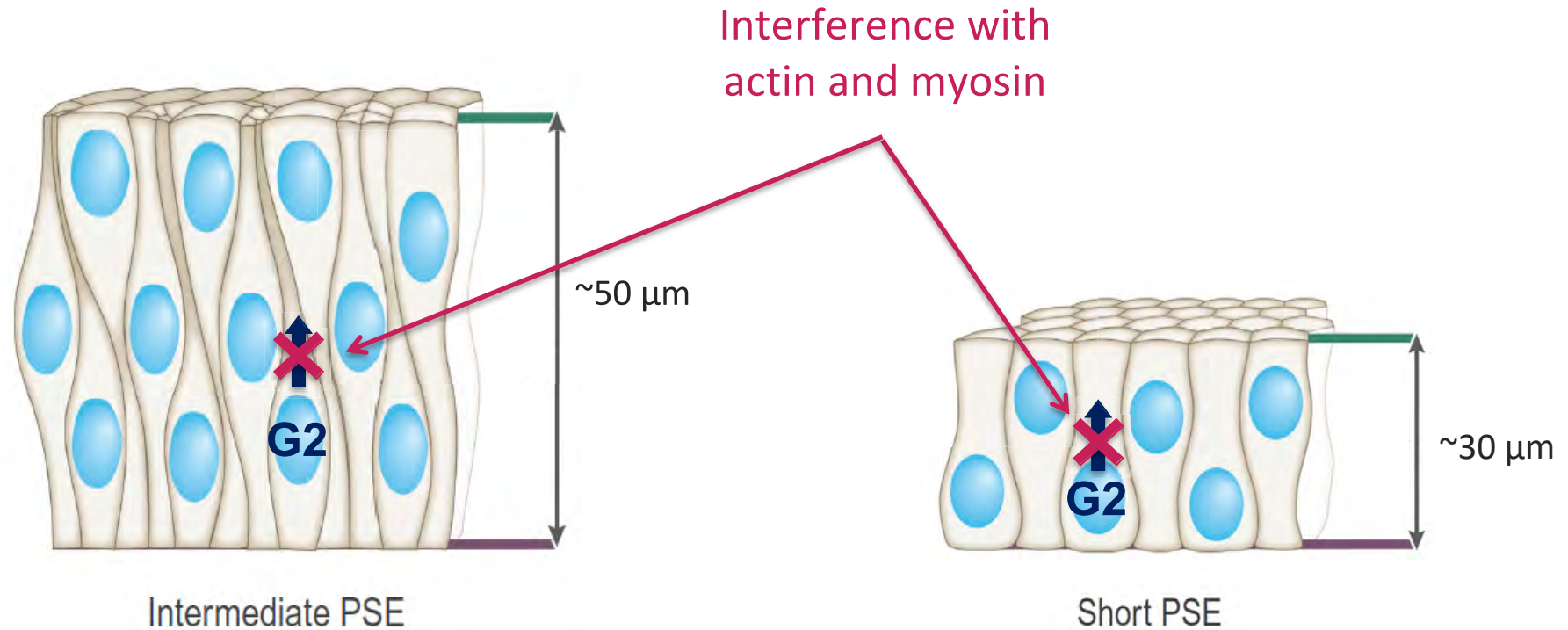


Okamoto et al 2013



Bertipaglia et al., 2017, with changes

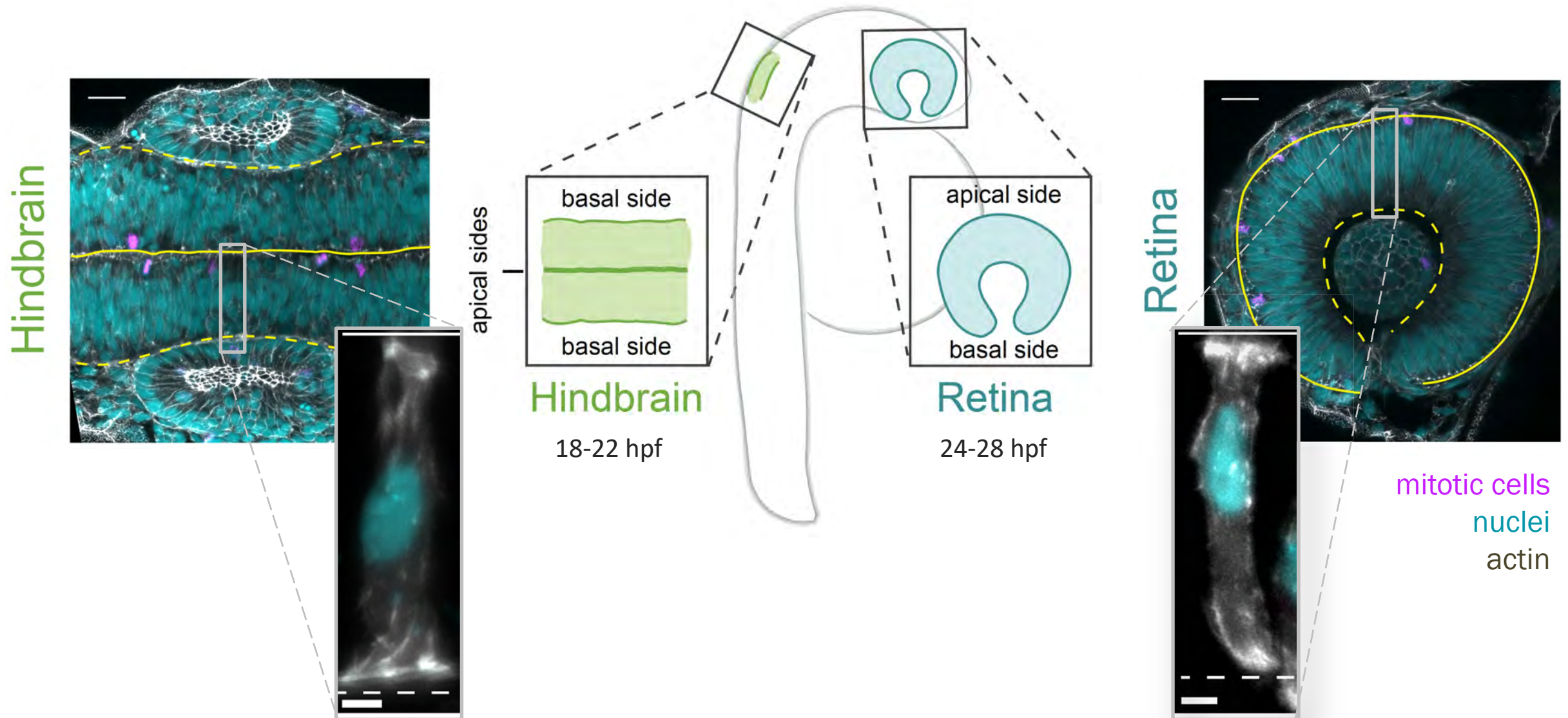
# In shorter neuroepithelia actin is involved



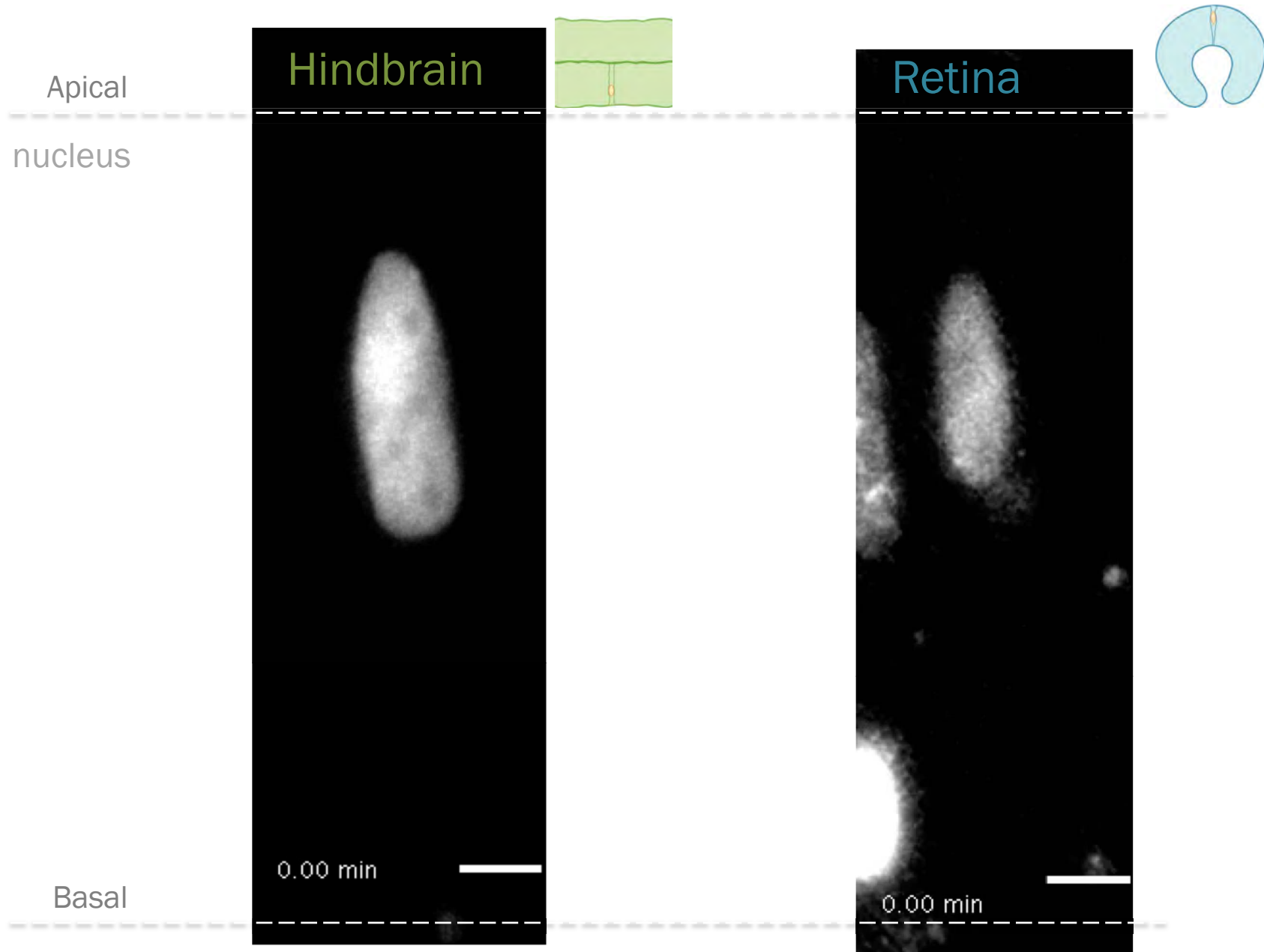
How does actin move nuclei?

And is it all the same?

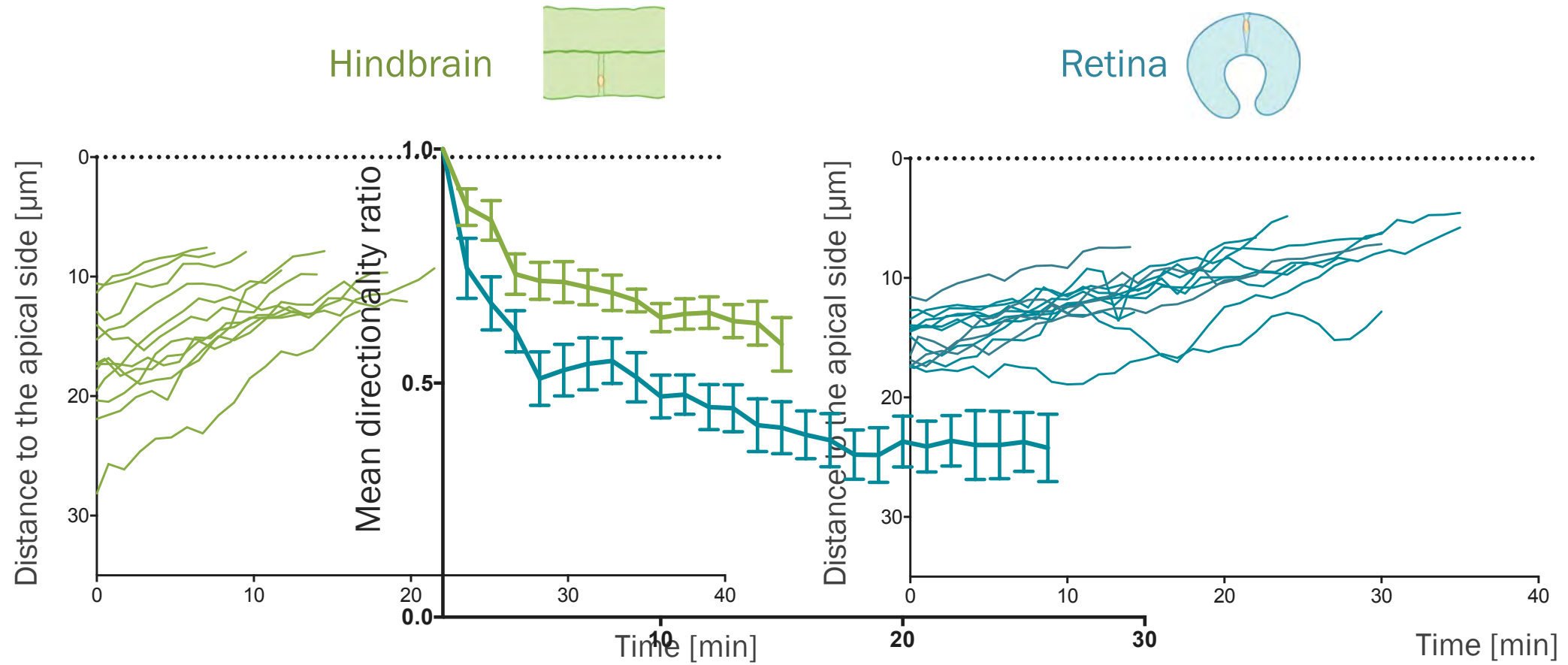
# Studying apical nuclear positioning *in situ* in zebrafish embryos



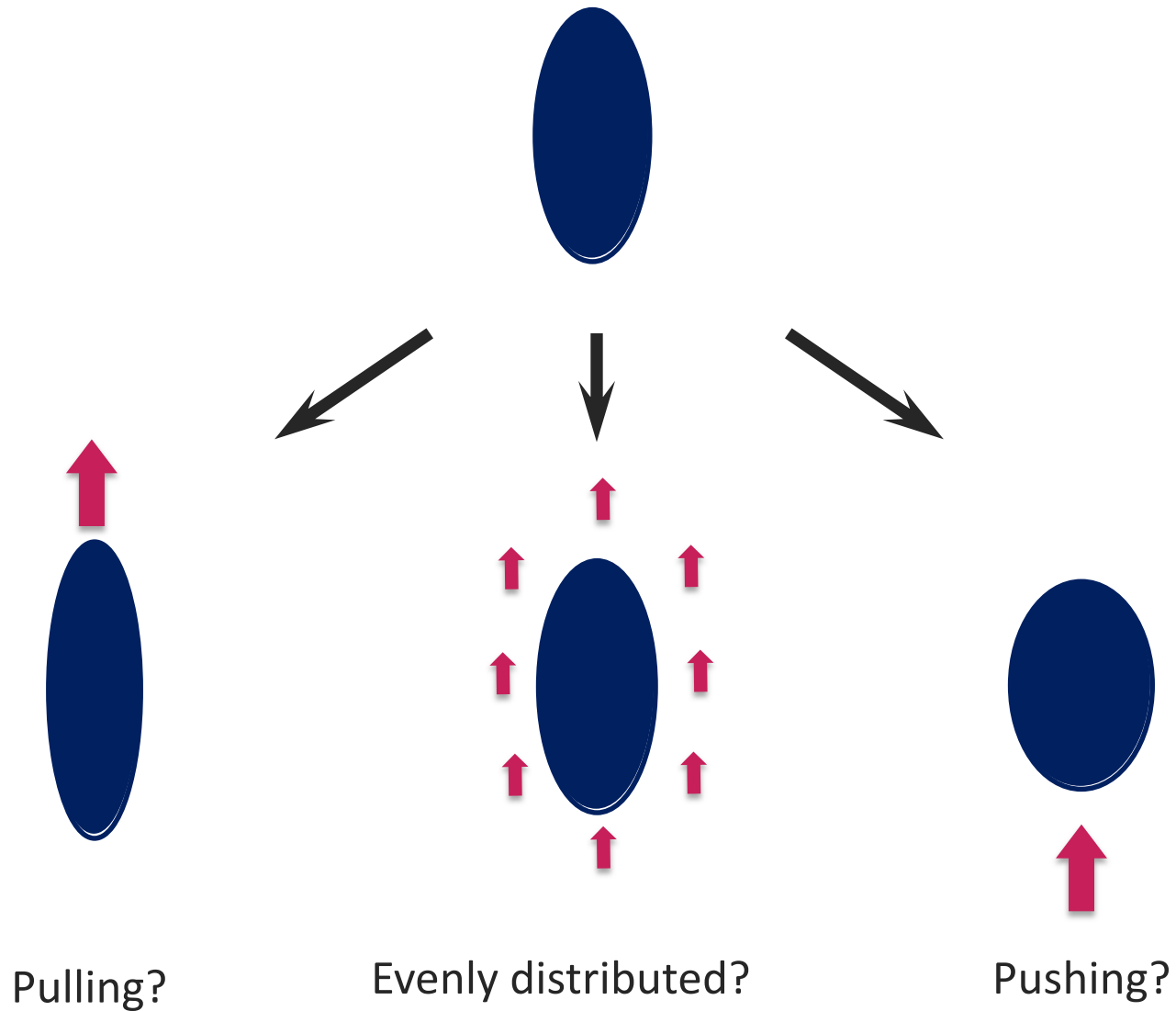
# On first sight movements look similar



# Hindbrain nuclei move faster and more directed than retinal nuclei

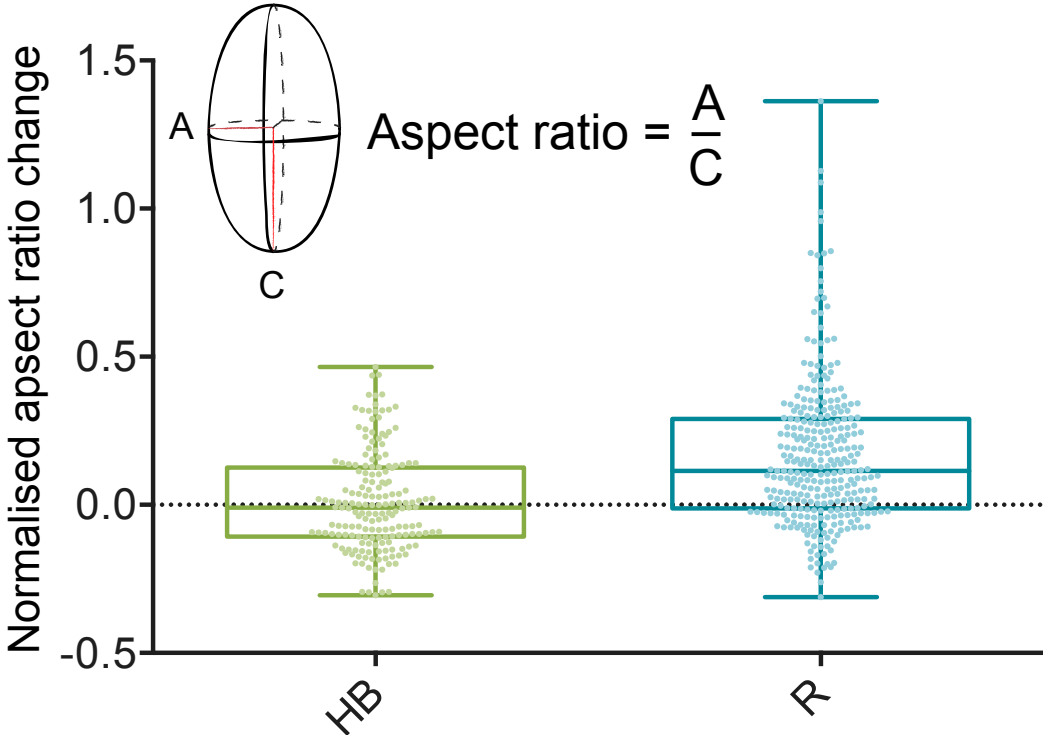
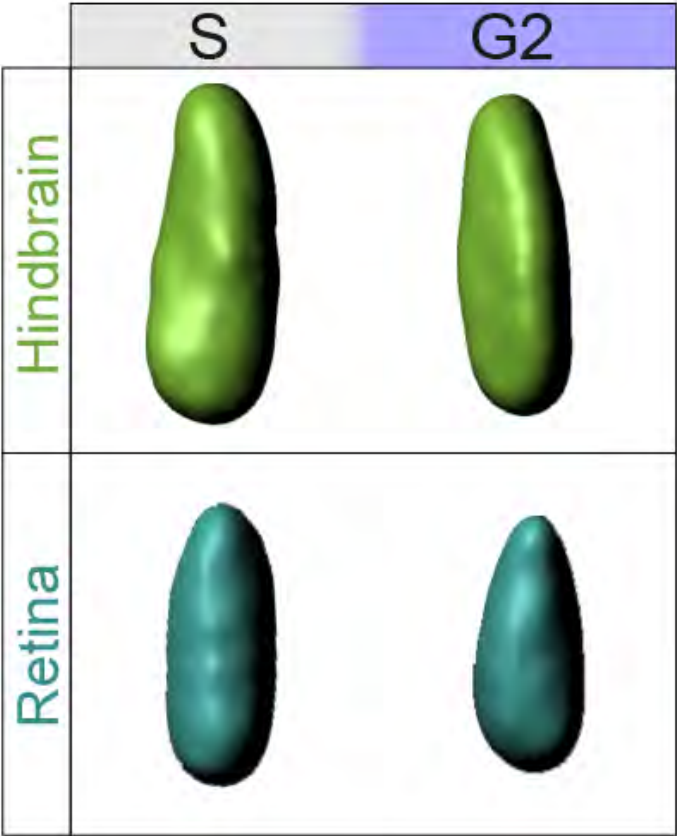


# Are nuclei exposed to different forces?





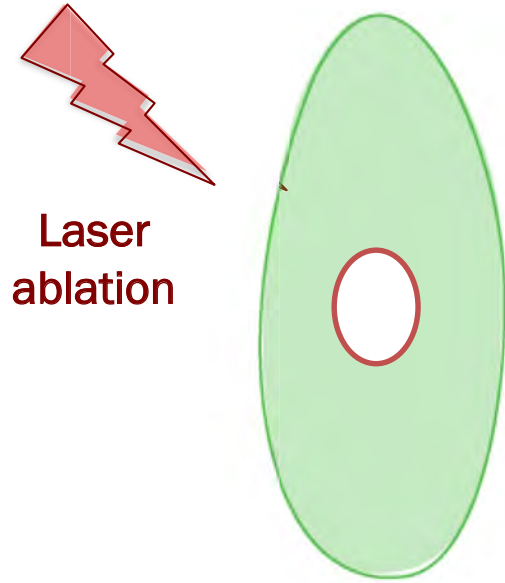
# Only retinal nuclei deform basally during apical migration



# Laser ablation to distinguish between pushing and pulling forces

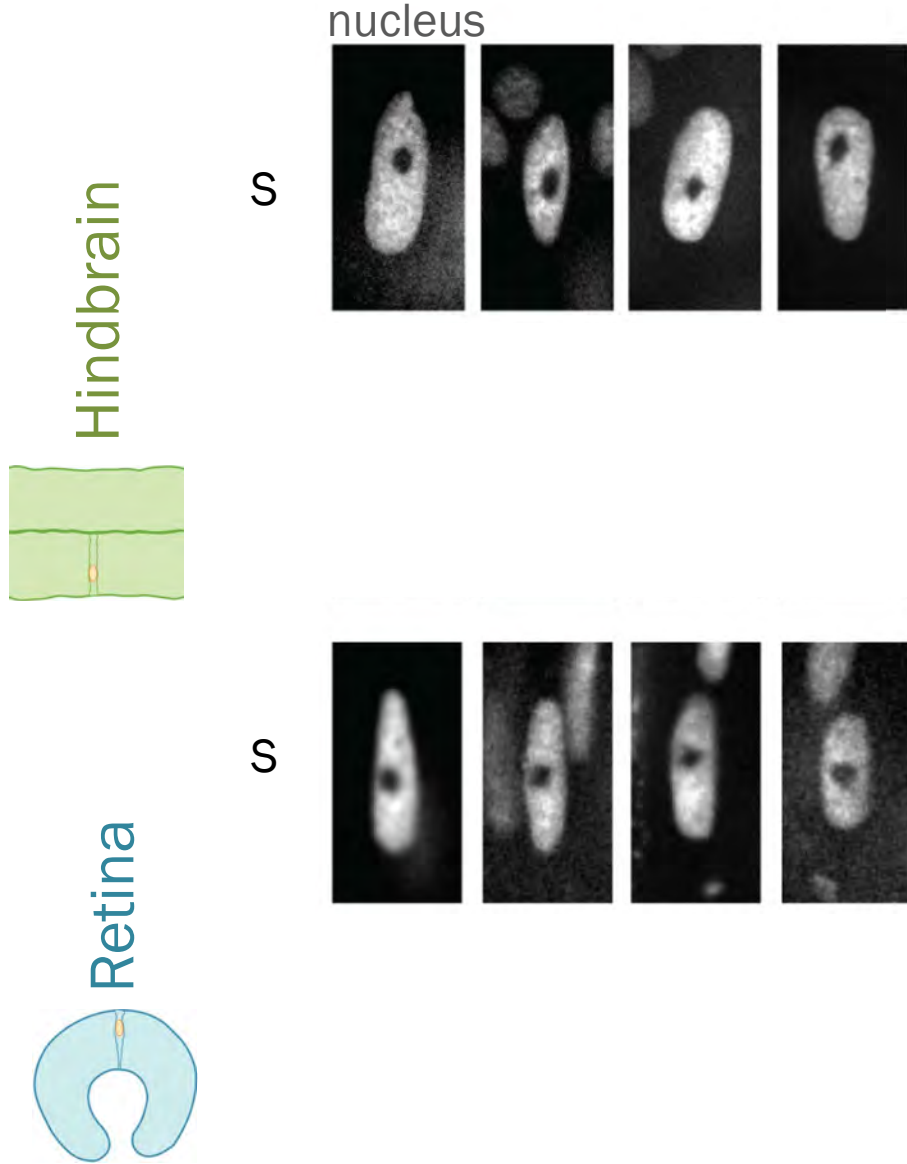
Apical

S

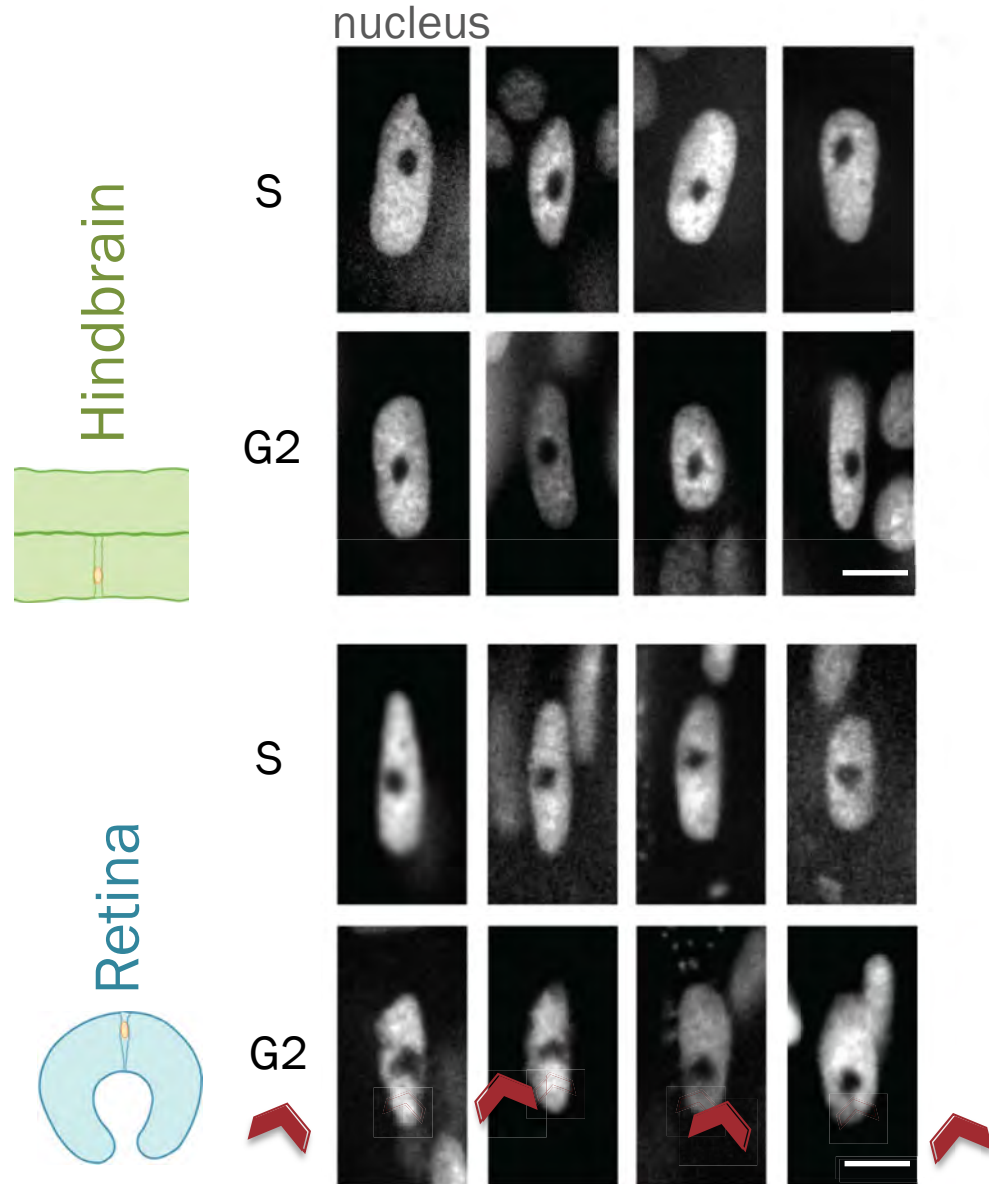


Basal

# Retinal nuclei are pushed



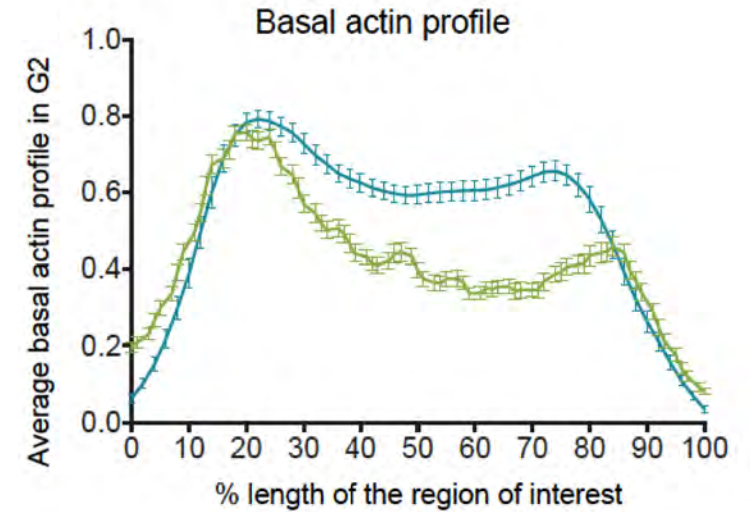
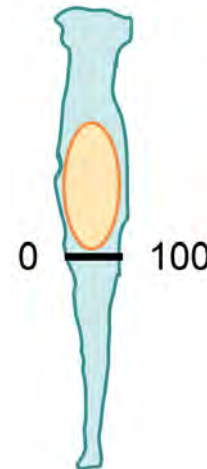
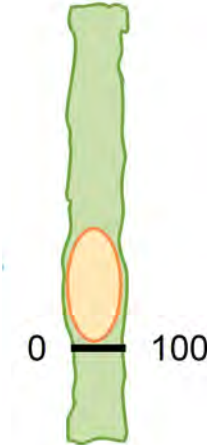
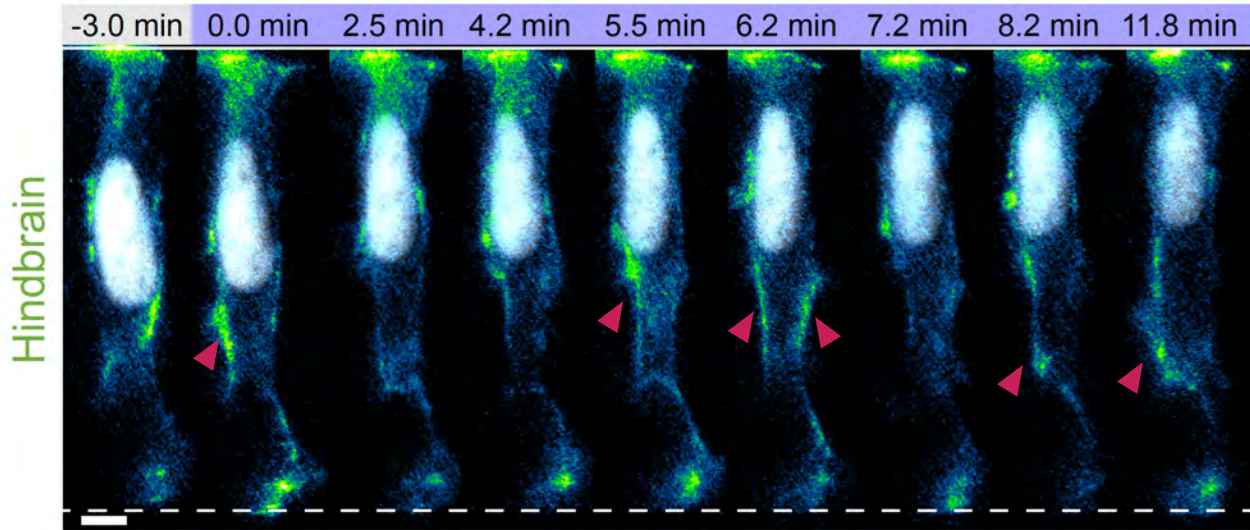
# Retinal nuclei are pushed



	# concave deformations
HB (S)	0 out of 12
HB (G2)	0 out of 10
R (S)	0 out of 10
R (G2)	7 out of 14

Differences of actin activity in retinal and hindbrain cells?

# Actin is differently localized during apical nuclear migration

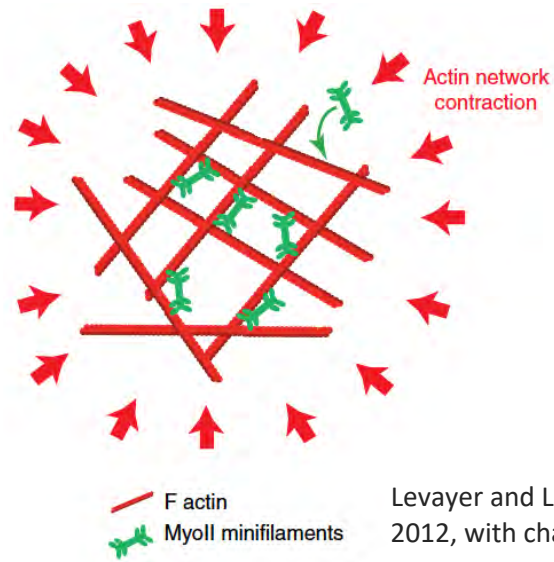


nuclei, actin min max

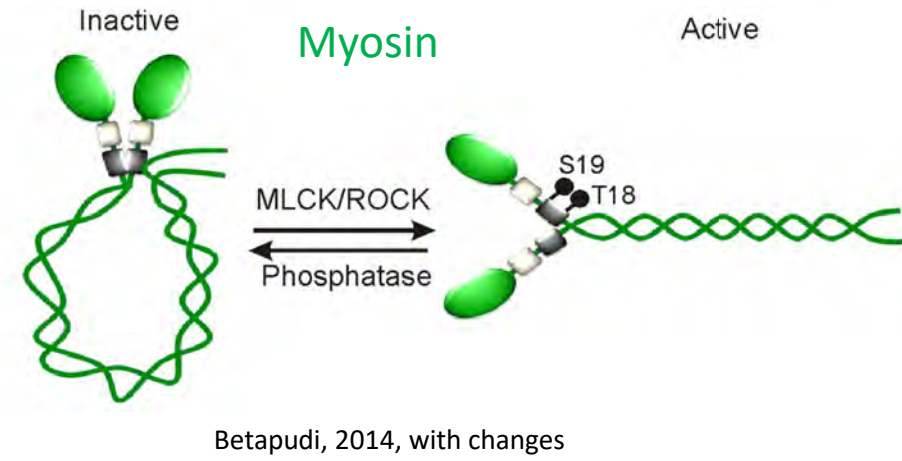
Different molecular mechanisms?

# Force generation by actin

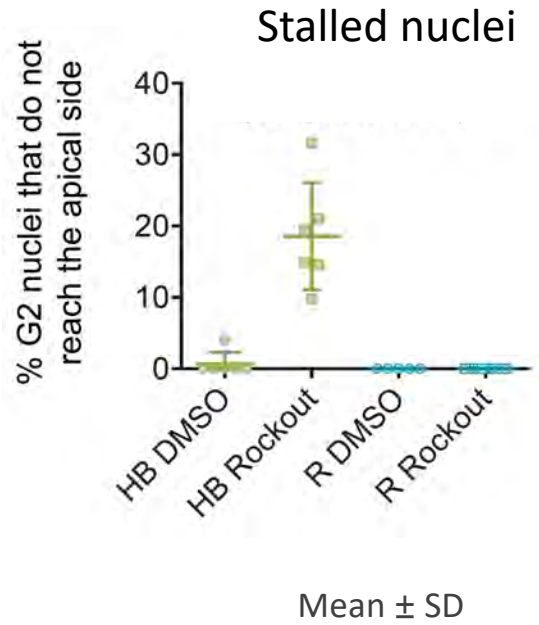
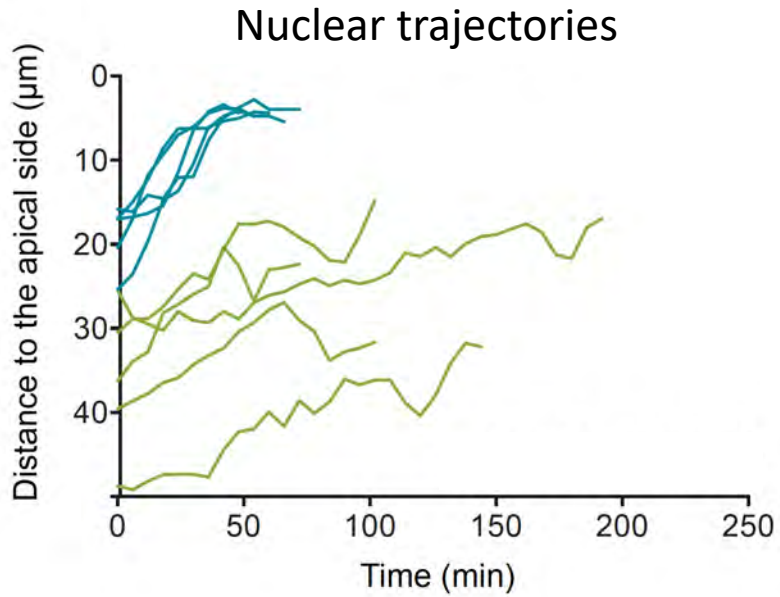
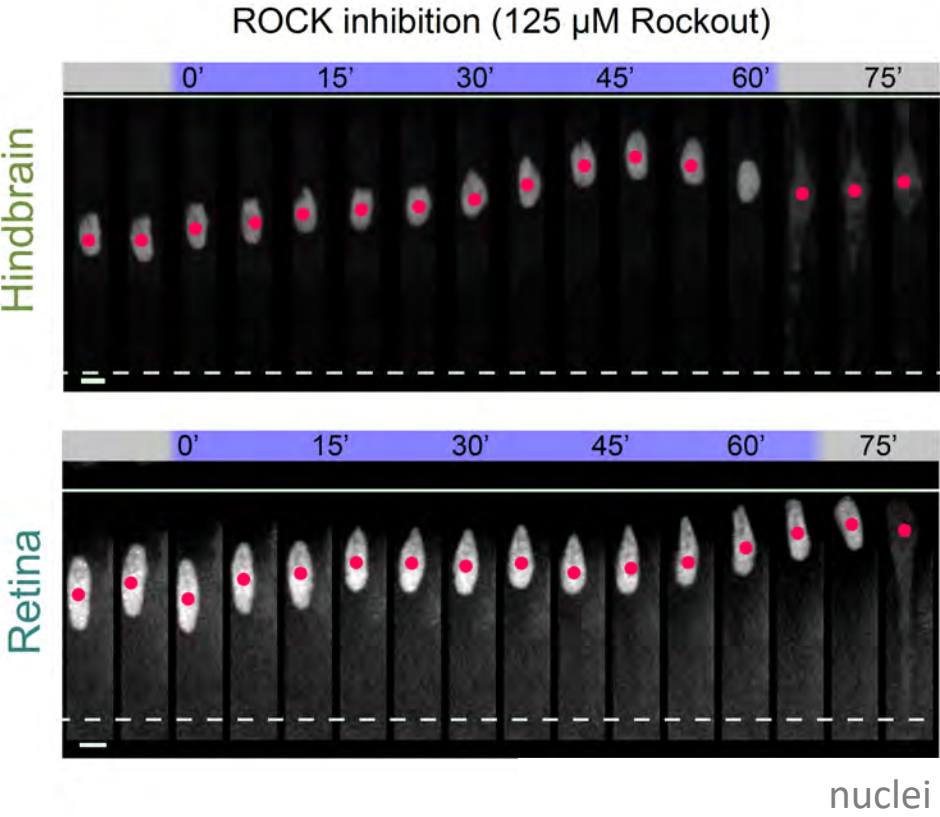
- Network contraction



Levayer and Lecuit, 2012, with changes

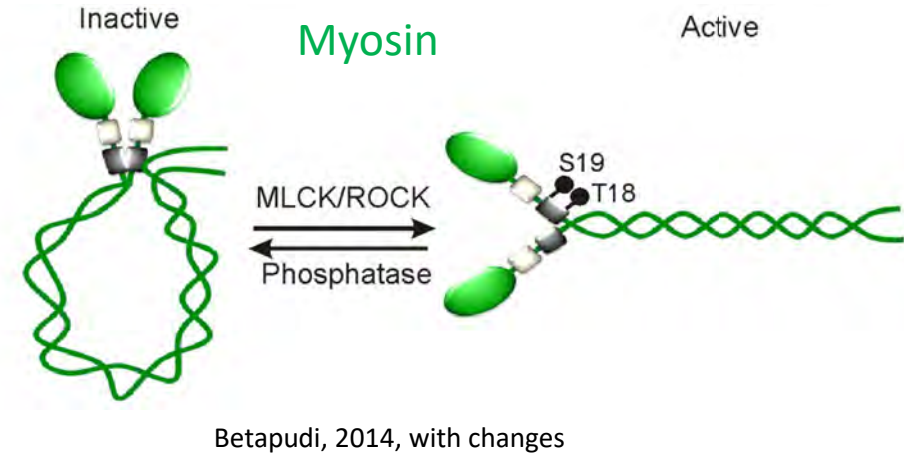
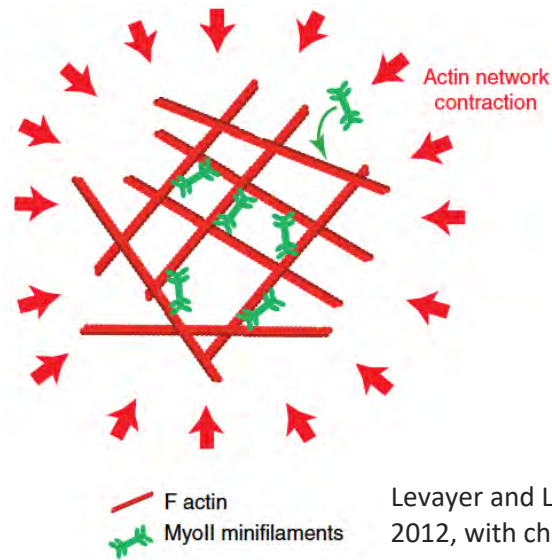


# Inhibition of ROCK activity perturbs nuclear positioning only in hindbrain

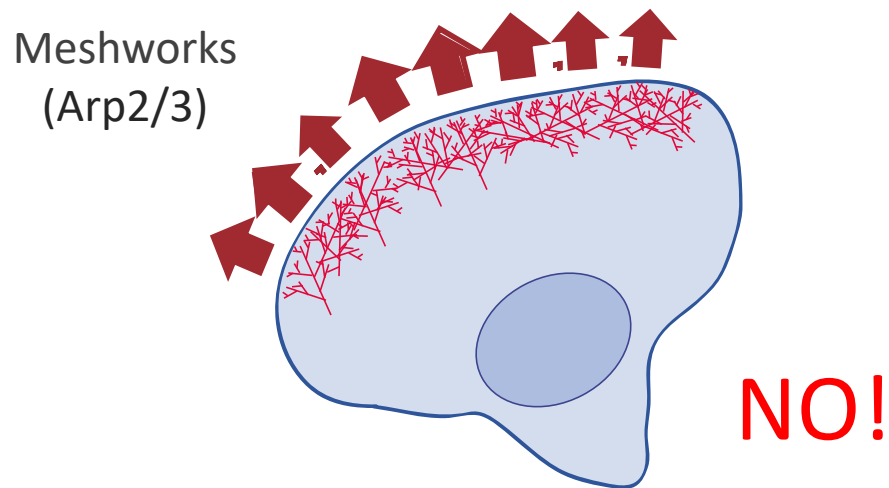


# Force generation by actin

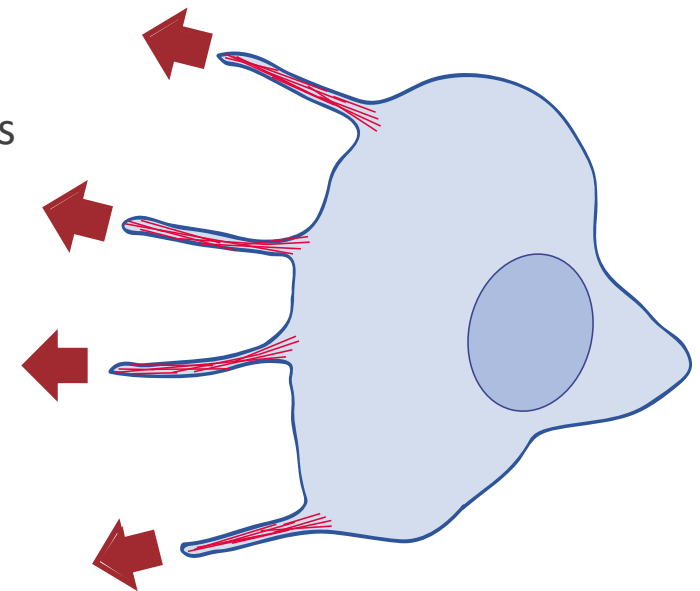
- Network contraction



- Network expansion

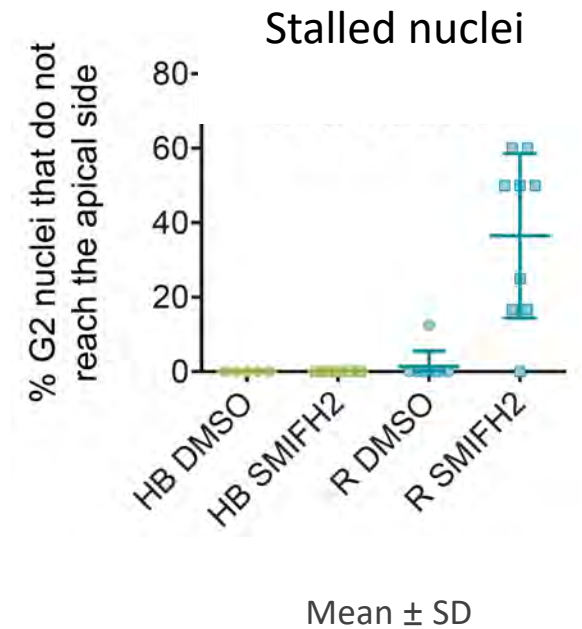
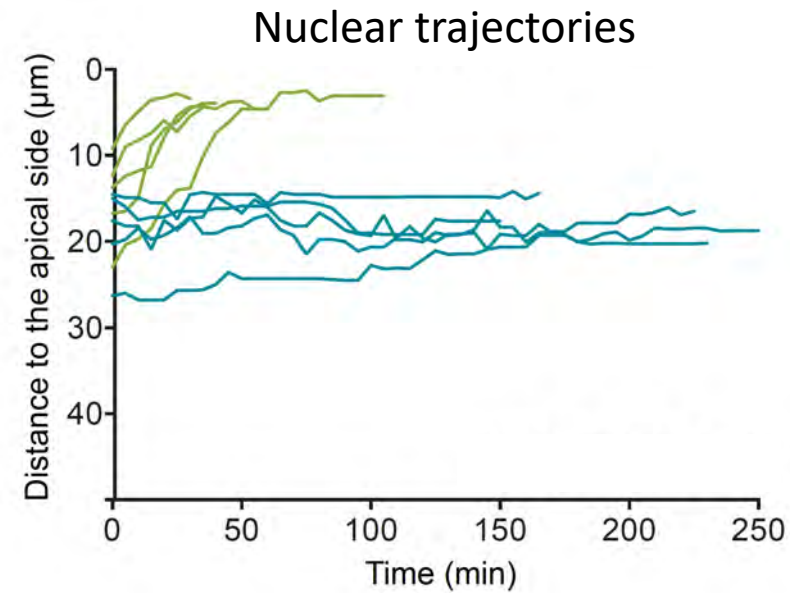
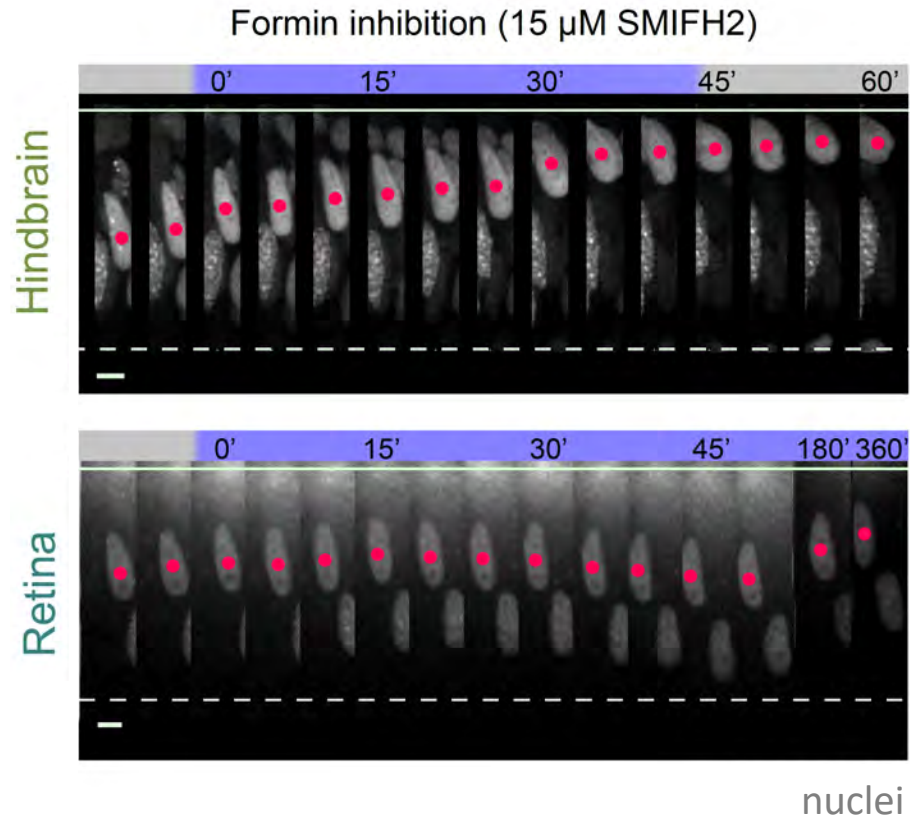


Parallel bundles (formins)

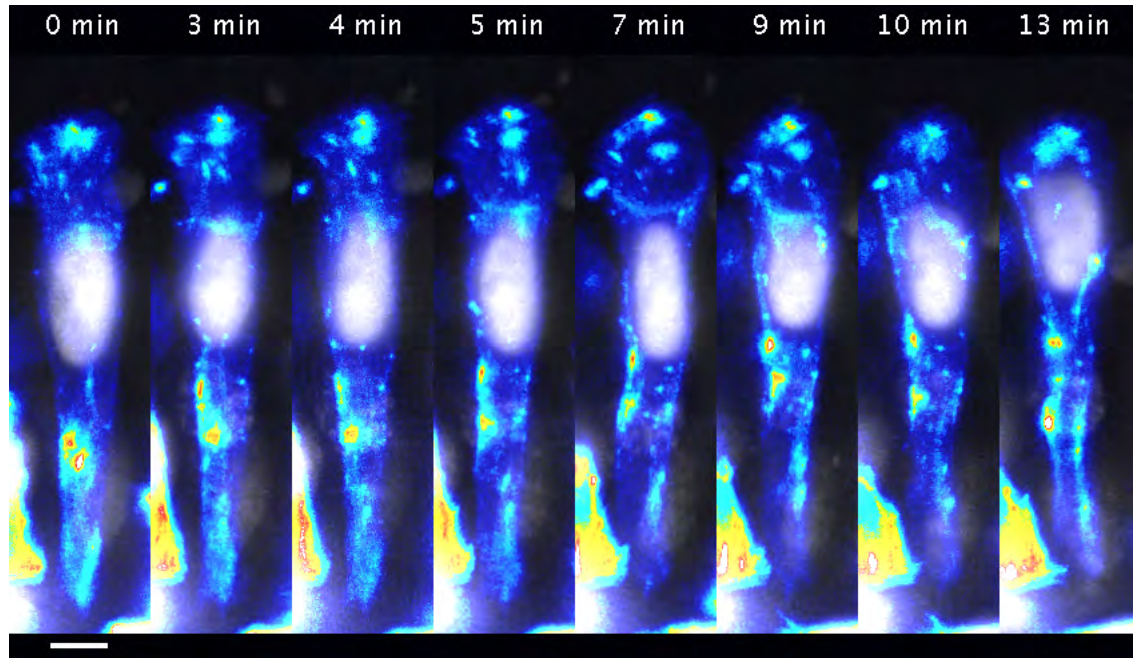




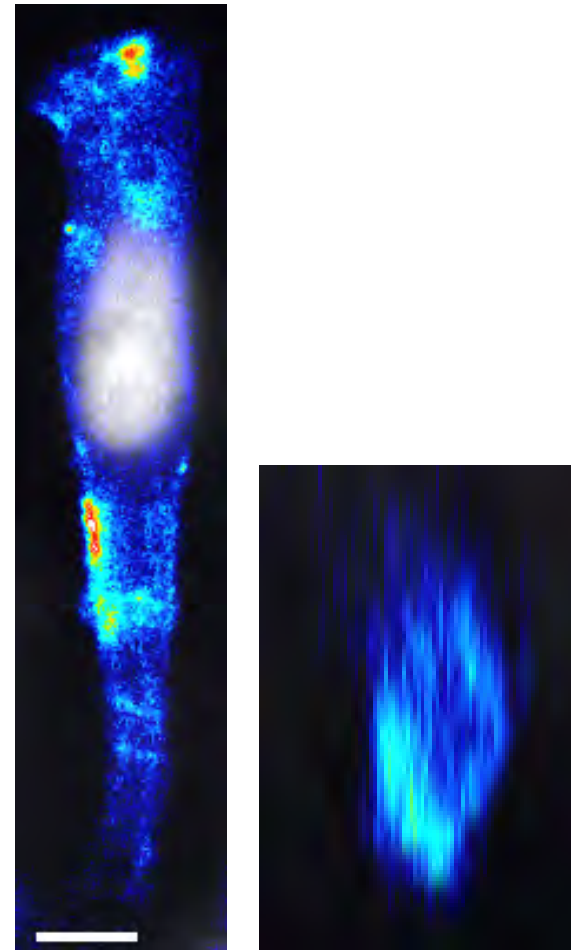
# Inhibition of formin activity perturbs nuclear positioning only in retina



# Formin3 localizes basal to the nucleus during apical migration



Formin3  
Nucleus



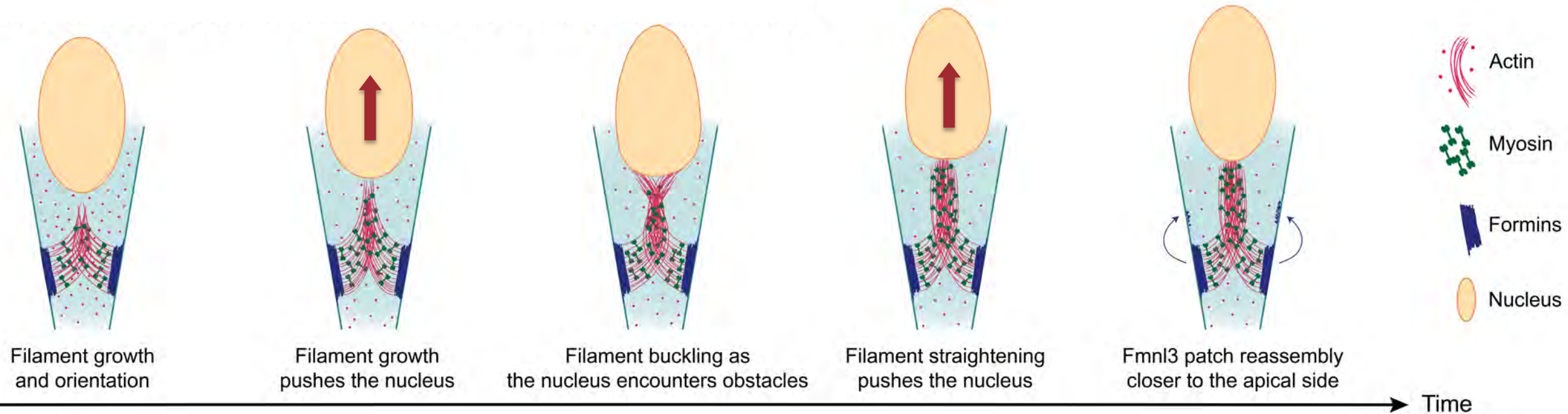
Formin3 DN overexpression (Fmnl3 $\Delta$ C) leads to nuclear stalling in the retina

# Overview of drug conditions

		Small molecule inhibitor	Inhibited process	Apical migration perturbed	
				Hindbrain	Retina
Positive controls		Blebbistatin	Myosin II activity	✓	✓
		Latrunculin A + Jasplakinolide	Actin turnover	✓	✓
Contraction		Rockout	Rho-kinase-dependent myosin activation	✓	X
		ML-7	MLCK-dependent myosin activation	X	✓
Expansion		ck-666	Arp2/3-dependent actin nucleation	X	X
		SMIFH2	Formin-dependent actin nucleation	X	✓

All findings were backed up with genetic conditions

# Proof-of-principle toy model of formin dependent positioning



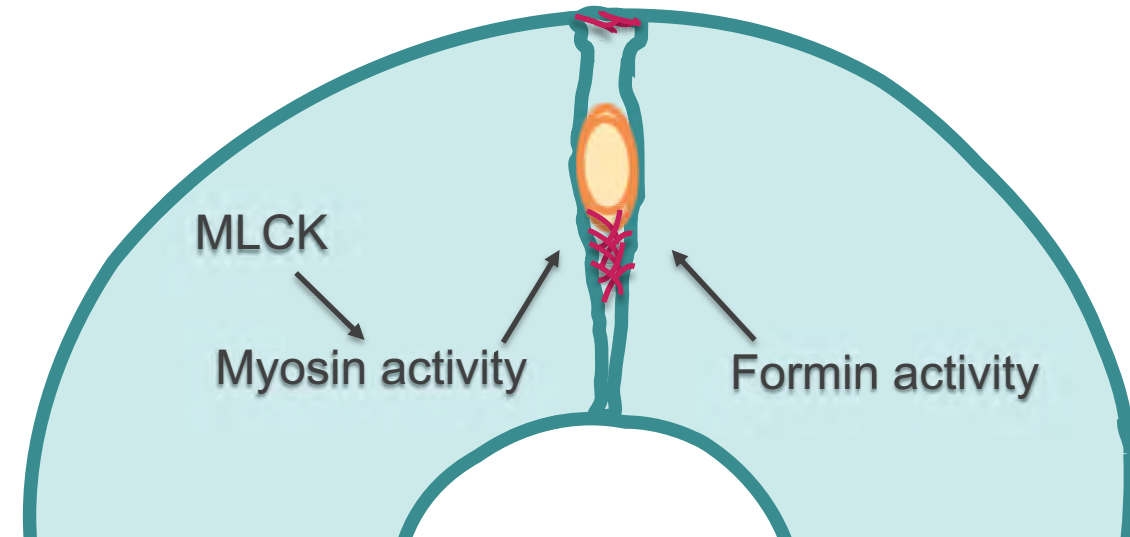
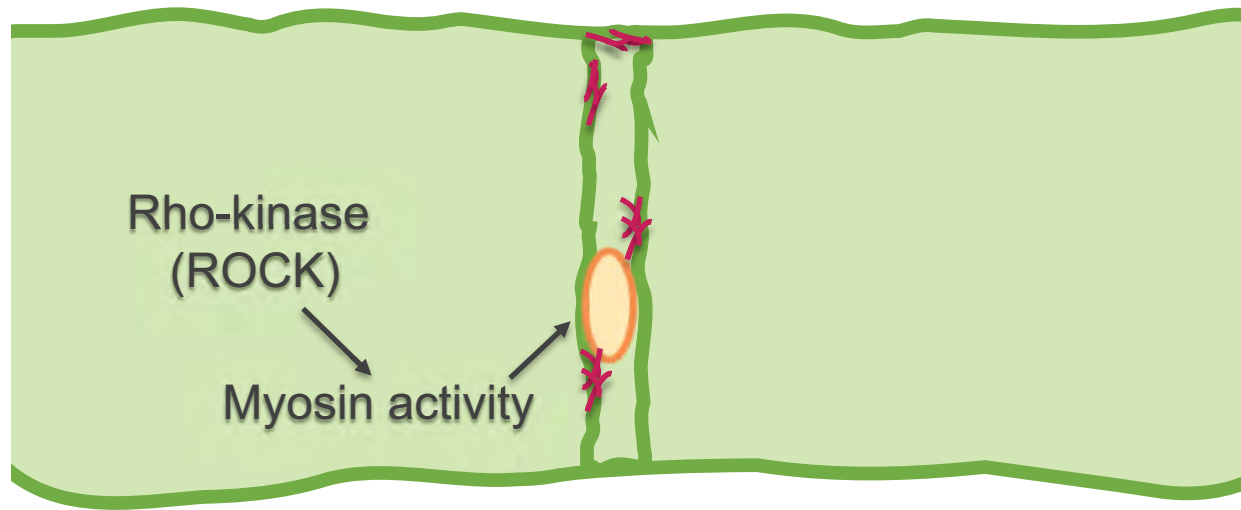
with Carl Modes

$$\kappa_+ = 0.3 \mu\text{m}/\text{min} \quad * \text{Hotulainen and Lappalainen, 2006}$$

$$v = 0.3 \mu\text{m}/\text{min}$$

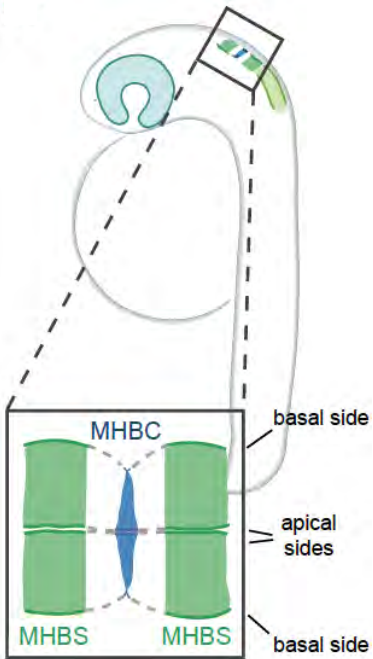
Contractility based model also a possibility

# Nuclear positioning mechanisms differ in close neuroepithelia



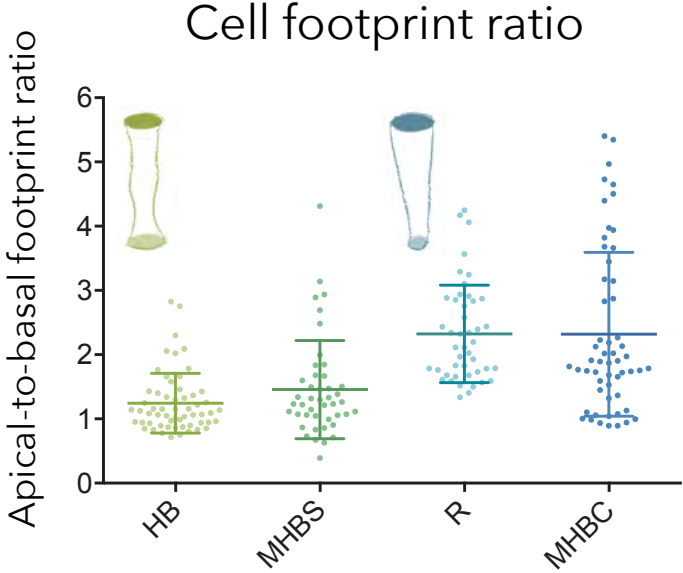
Is this related to differences in tissue shape?

# Basally constricted and straight tissues have different features

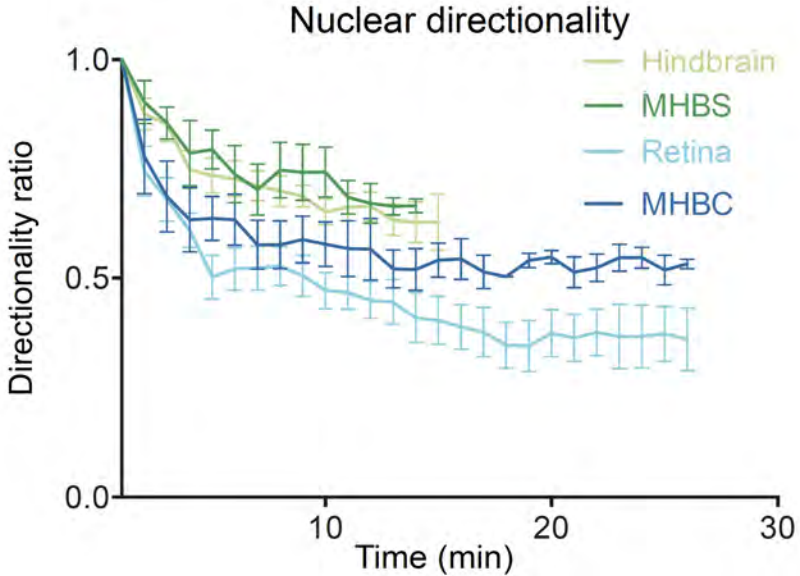
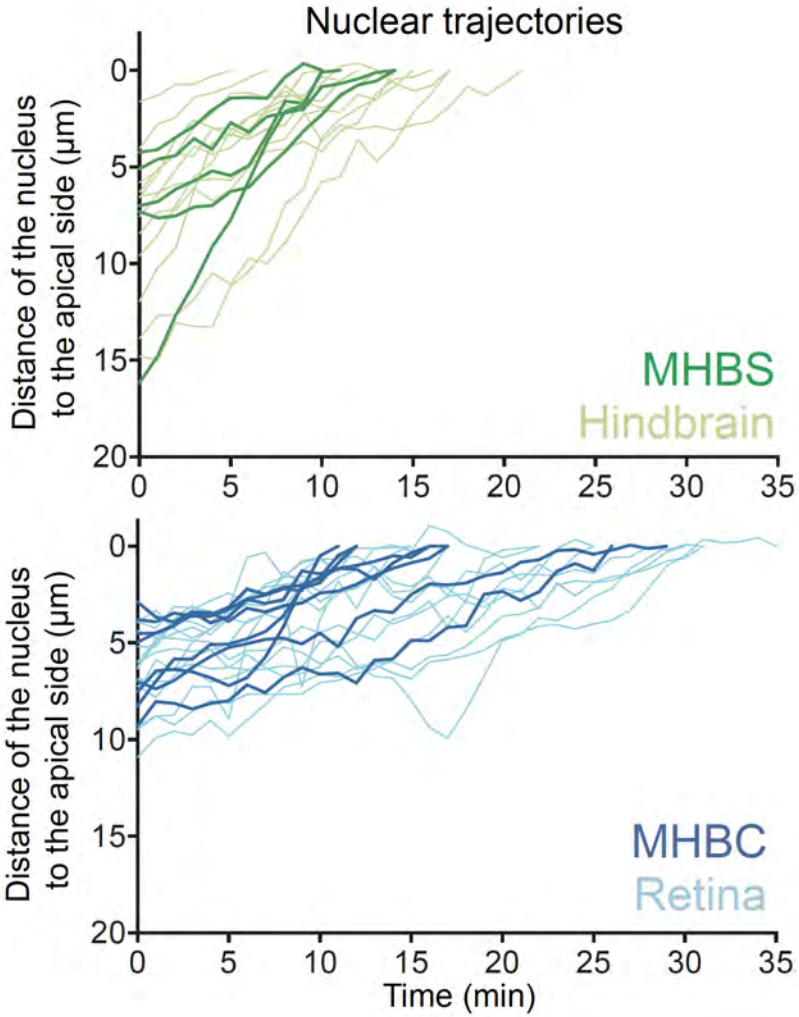
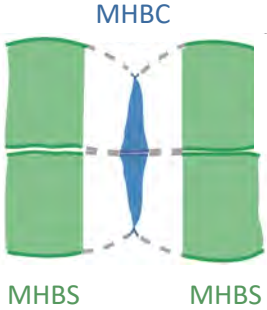


Midbrain-hindbrain boundary (MHB)

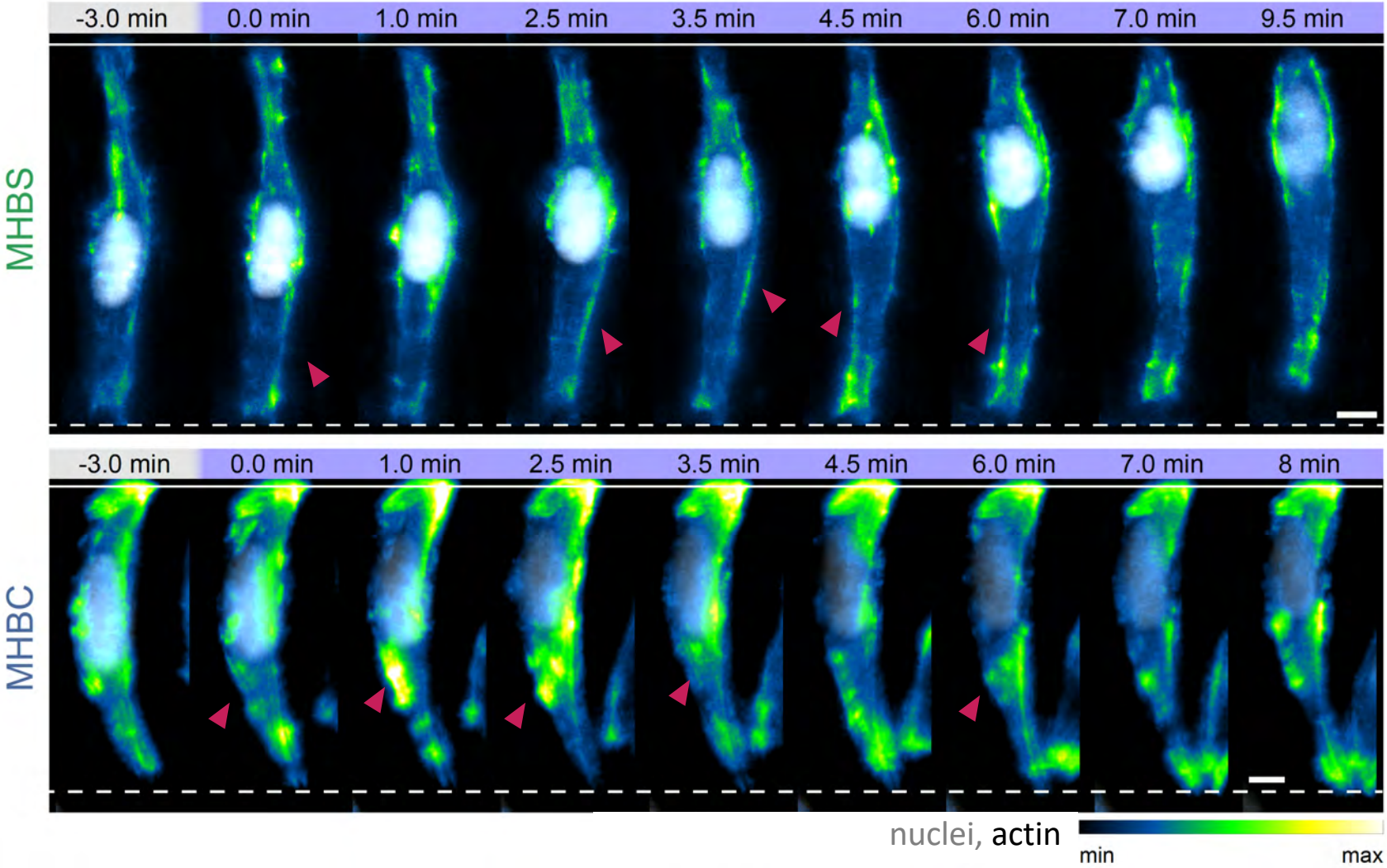
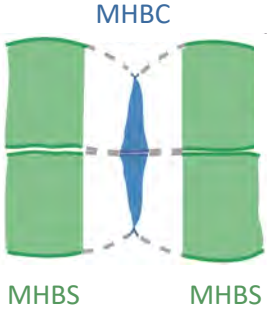
**MHBS** → straight  
**MHBC** → constriction



# Nuclear positioning kinetics are tissue shape dependent

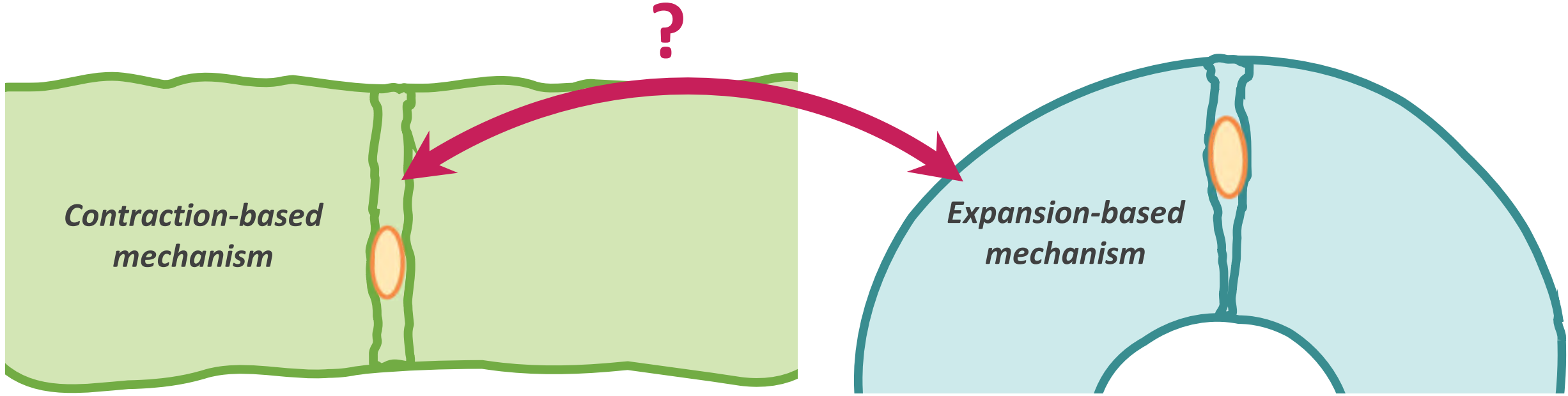


# Actin distribution during nuclear positioning is tissue shape dependent

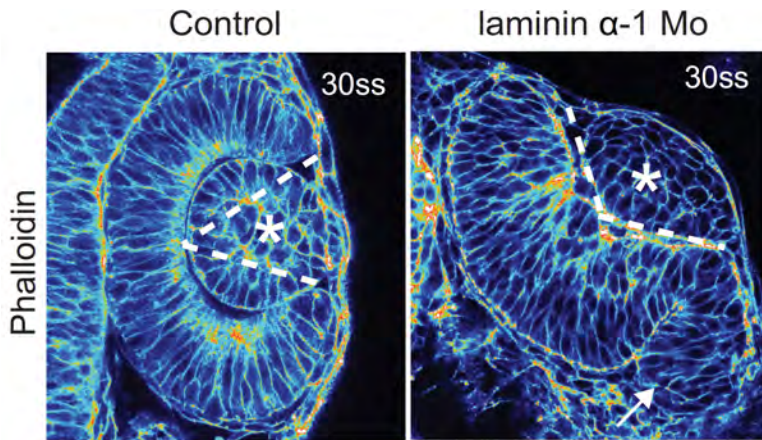
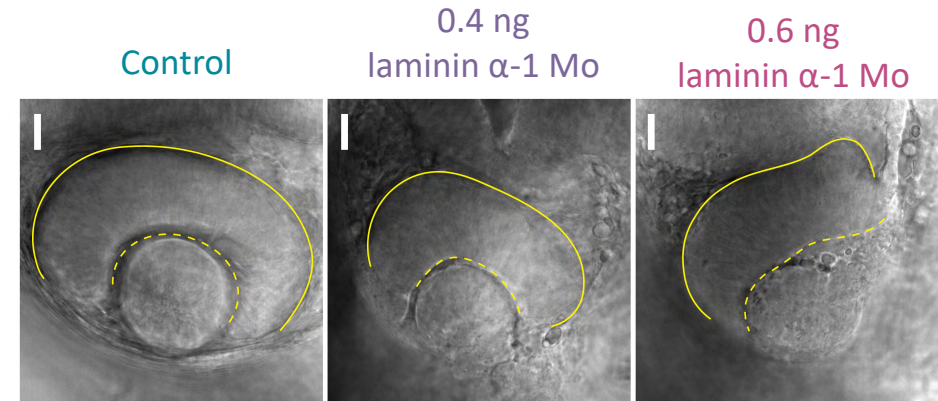
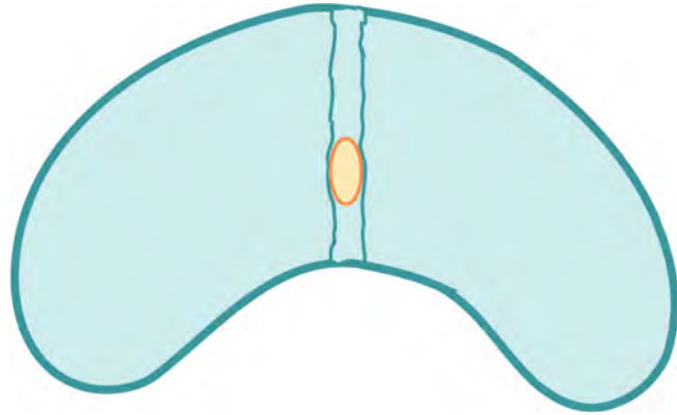




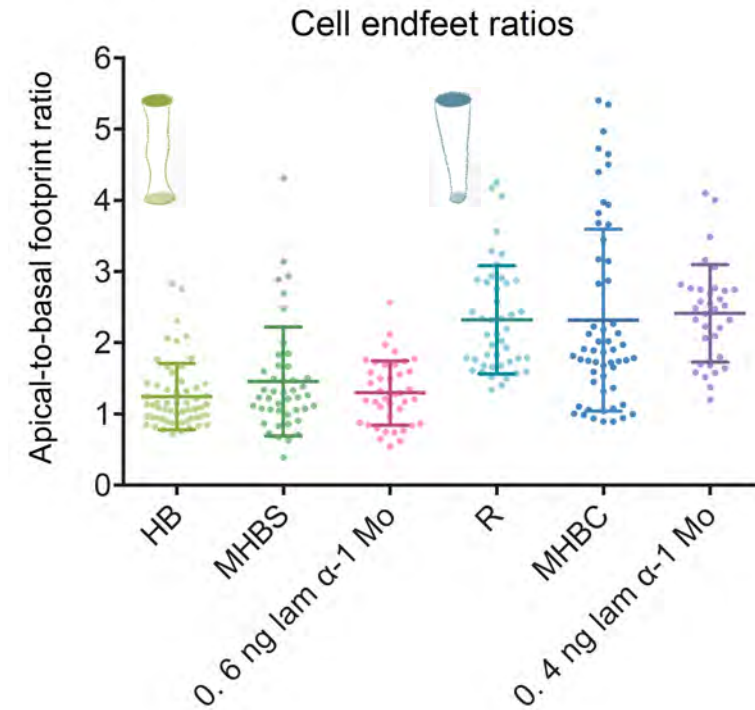
Do tissue shape changes result nuclear positioning mechanism changes ?



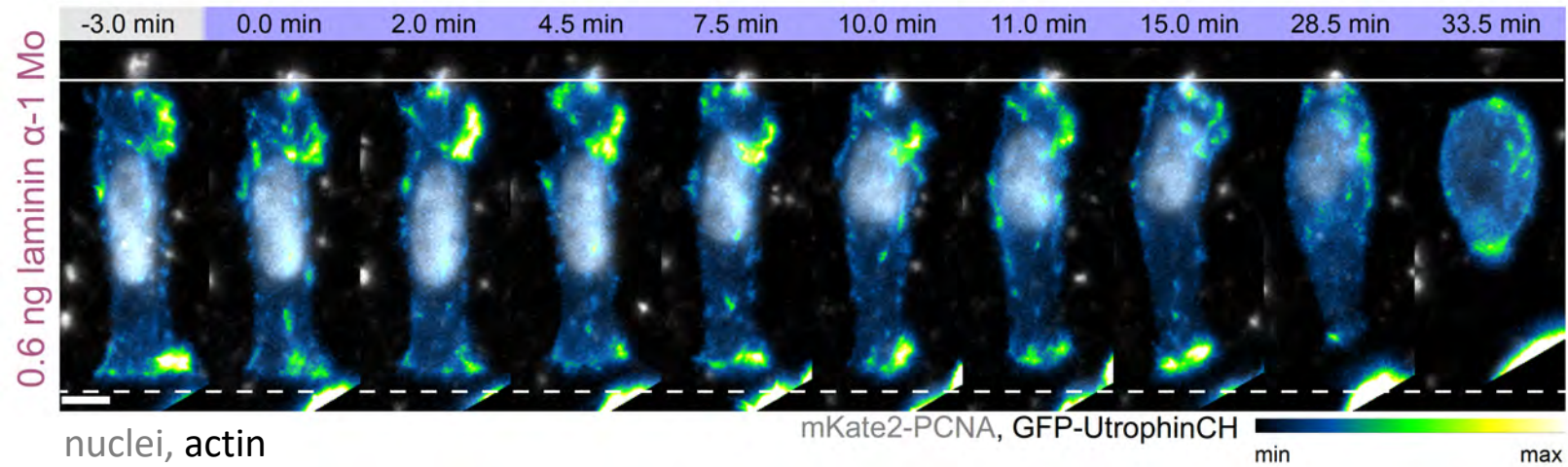
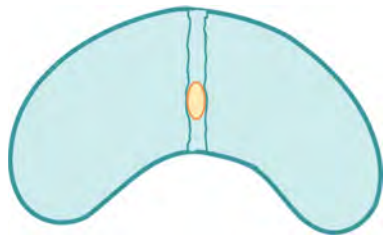
# Flattening the retina leads to cell shape changes



Sidhaye and Norden, 2017

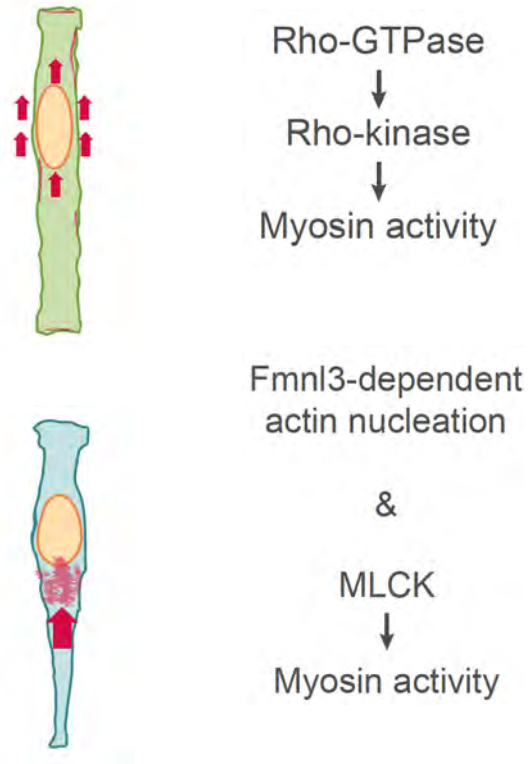


# Cell shape changes lead to changes in apical nuclear positioning

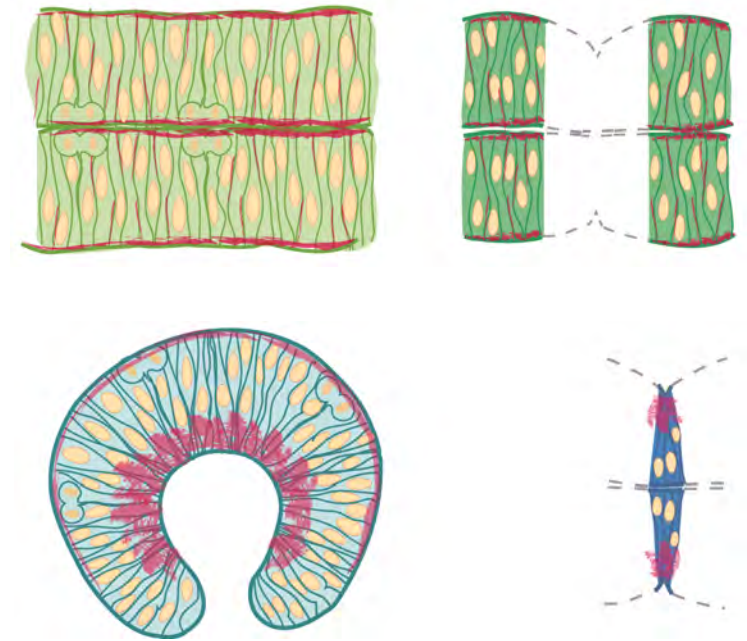


# Summary

Distinct actin-dependent mechanisms move nuclei in different tissues



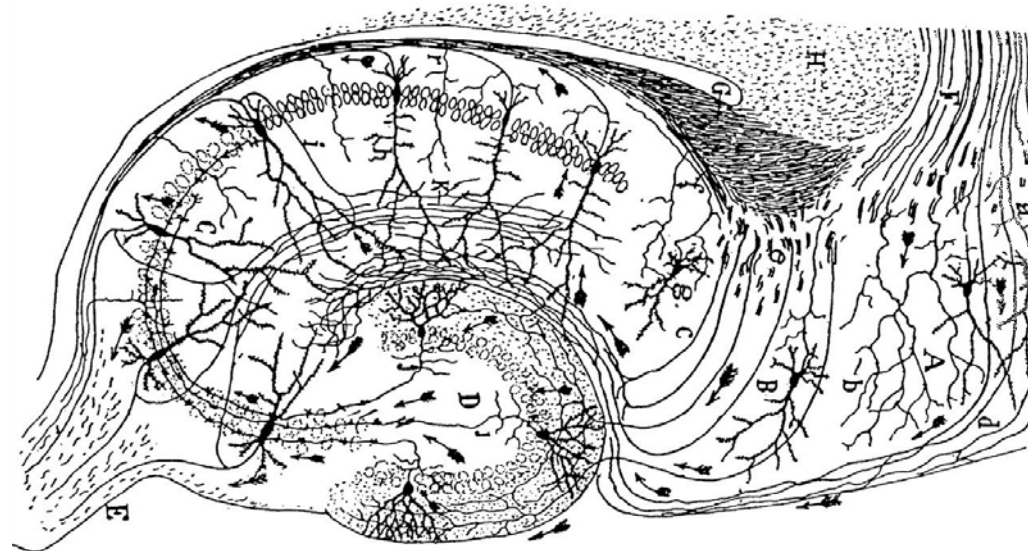
Tissue shape influences the mechanism of apical migration



Yanakieva, Erzberger, Matejčić, Modes and Norden (JCB, accepted and on BioRxiv)

In tissue morphogenesis the end result can justify the many means!

How do neurons navigate to correct positions and build functional interconnected layers?

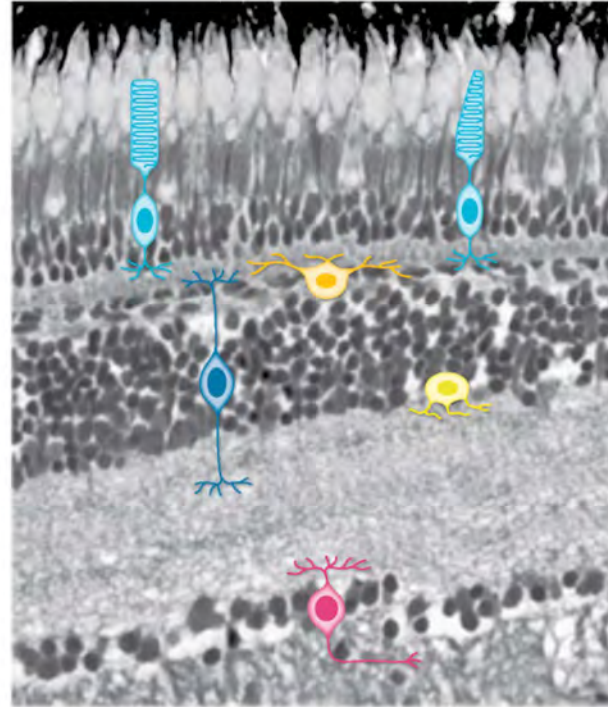


Santiago Ramon y Cajal

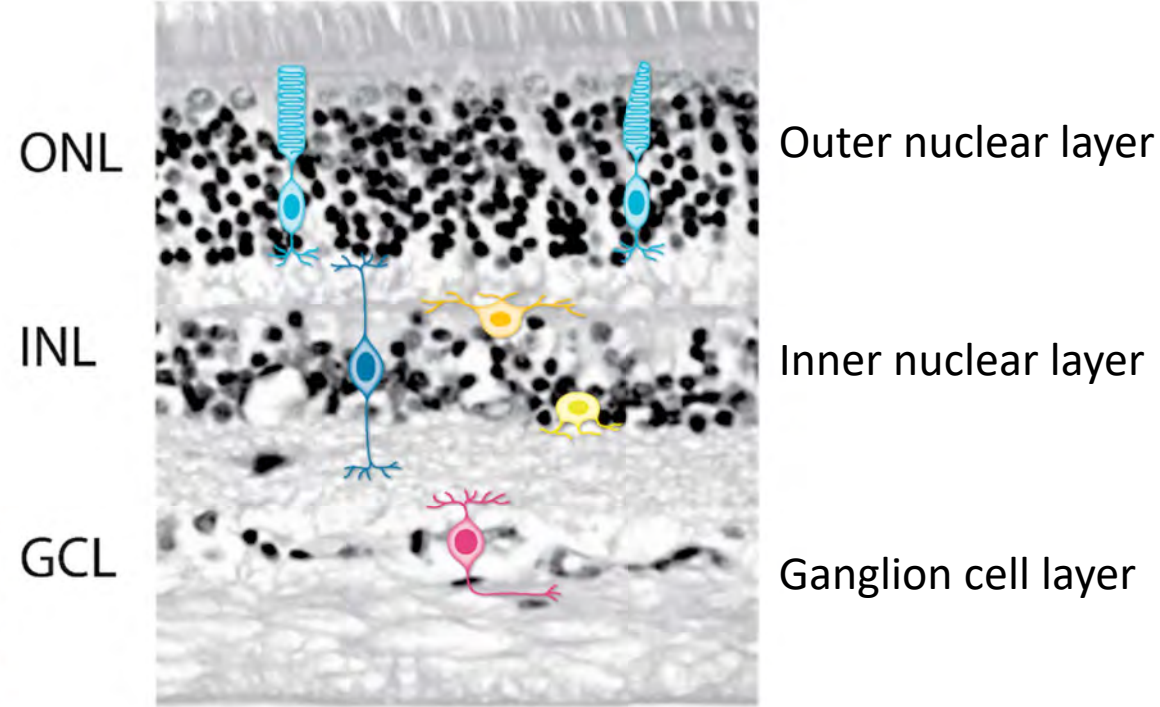
# Correct retinal lamination is a prerequisite for function



Zebrafish Retina

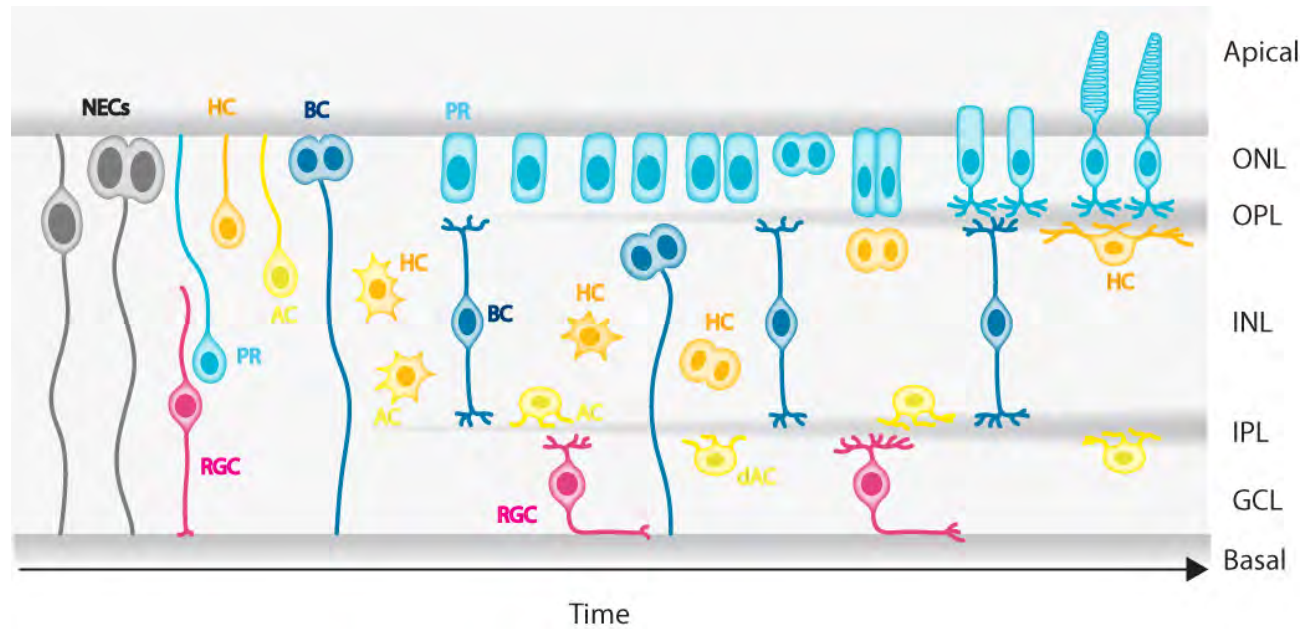


Human Retina



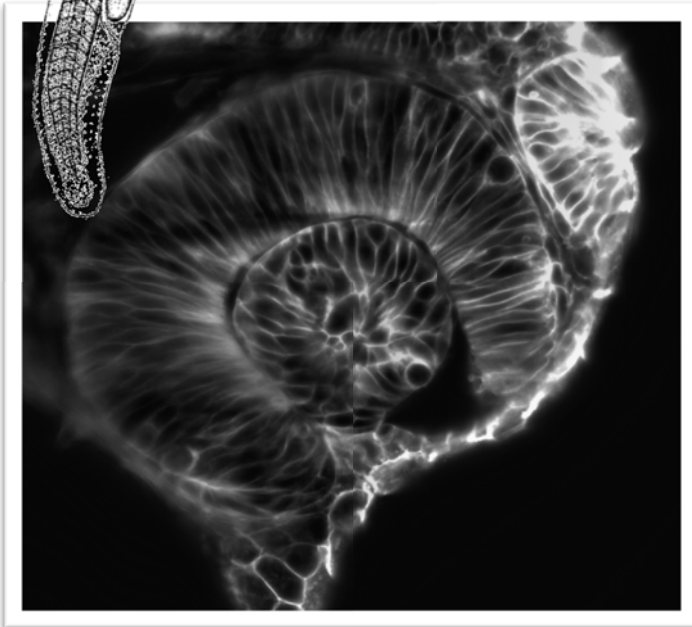
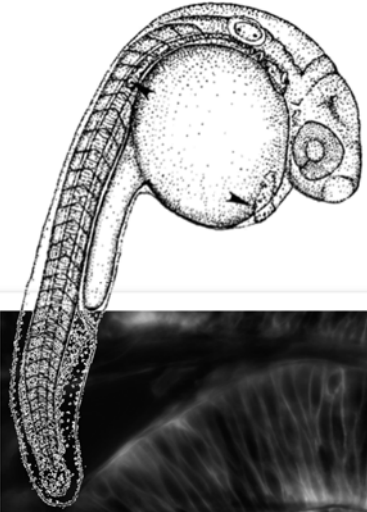
# Retinal neuronal migration and lamination is complex

## Zebrafish Retina

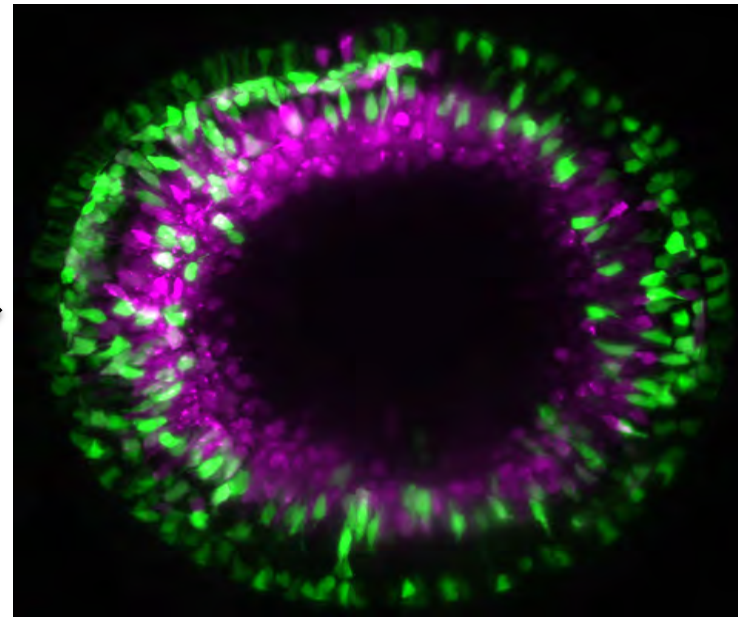


Weber...Norden, Cell Reports 2014, Chow...Harris and Norden, Development 2015, Icha...Norden, JCB 2016, Amini, Rocha, Norden, Frontiers, 2018

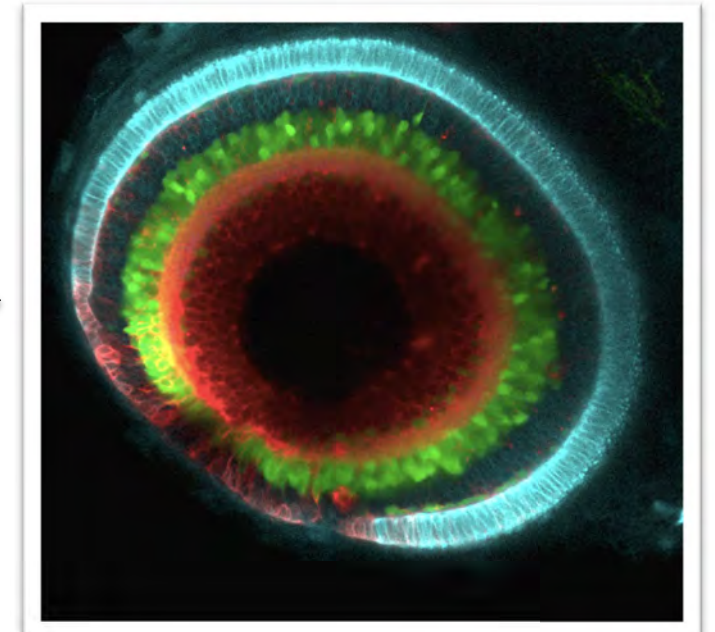
# Order-**Chaos**-Order



Neuroepithelium 30 hpf



Migration and Lamination 56 hpf

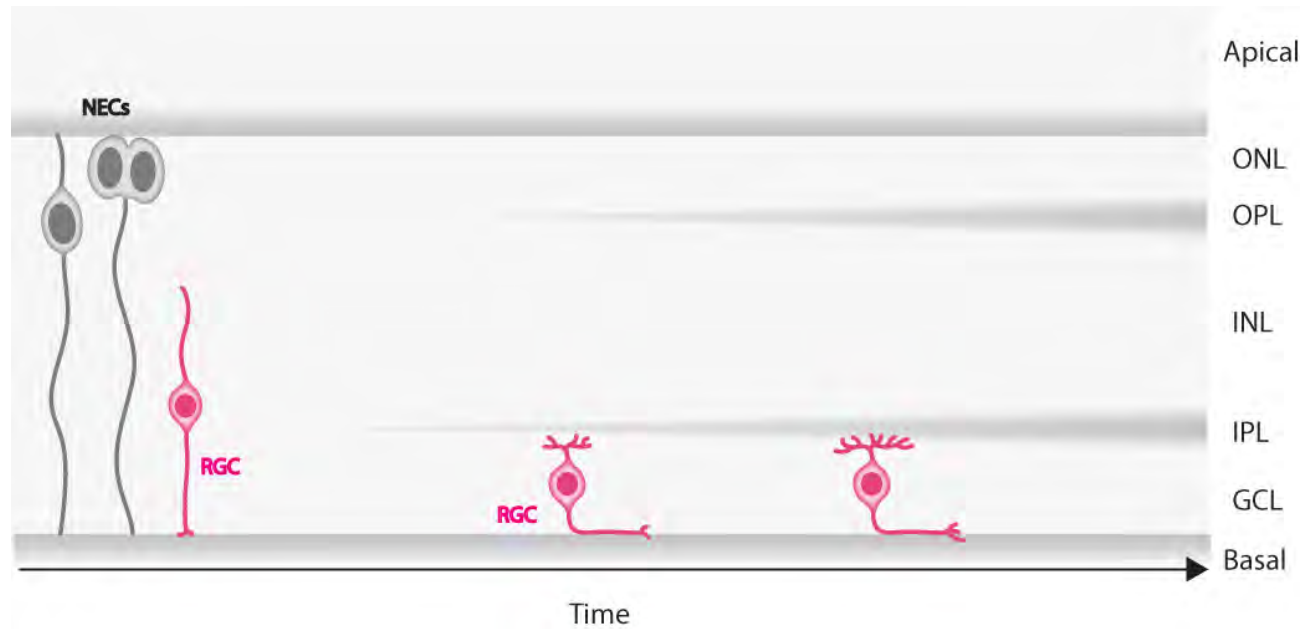


Lamination 80 hpf



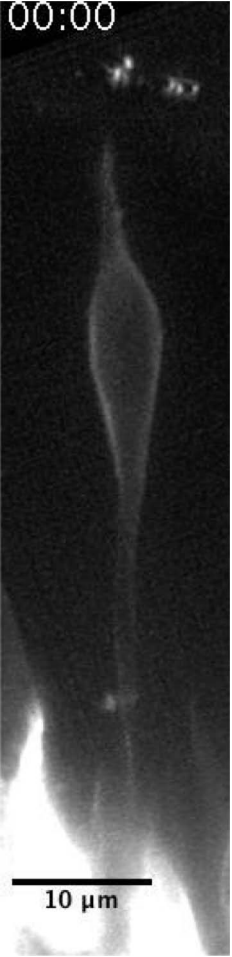
# Starting at the beginning: Retinal ganglion cell migration

## Zebrafish Retina

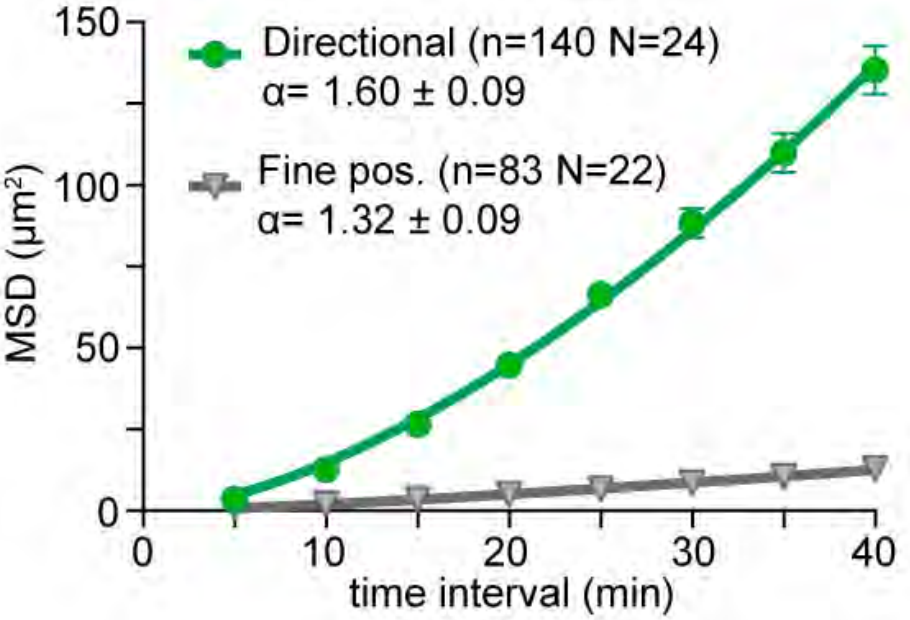
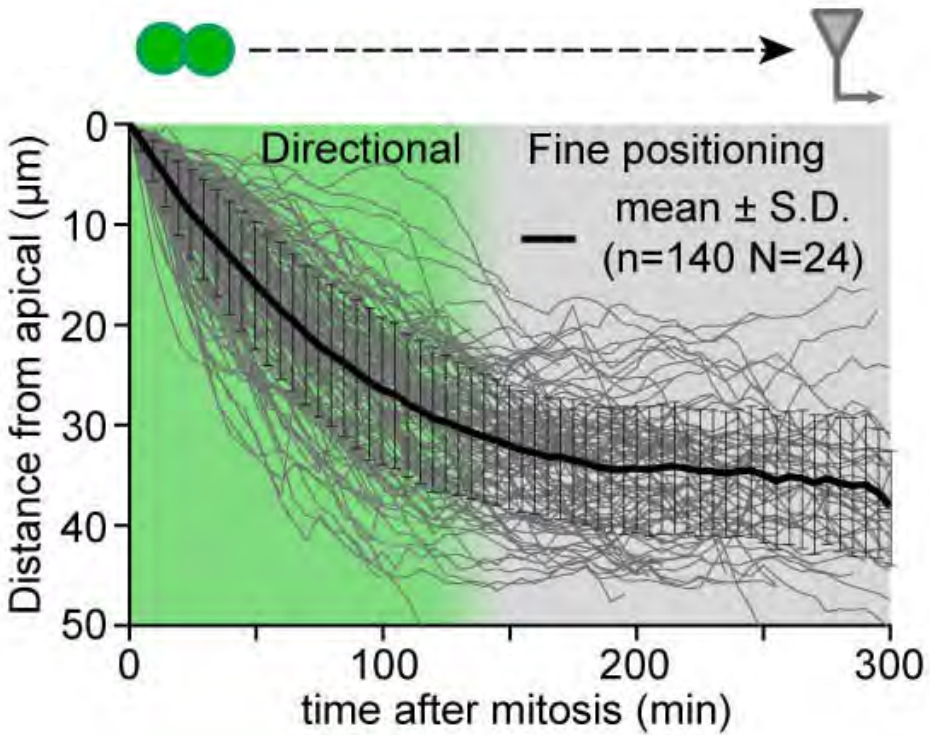


Weber...Norden, Cell Reports 2014, Chow...Harris and Norden, Development 2015, Icha...Norden, JCB 2016, Amini, Rocha, Norden, Frontiers, 2018

# Quantitative analysis of retinal ganglion cell movements

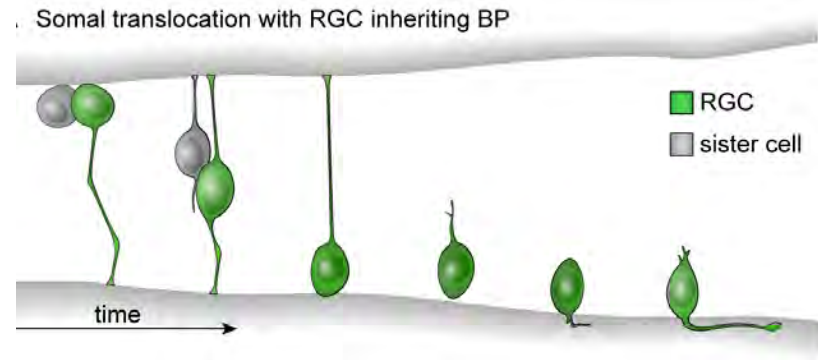


control



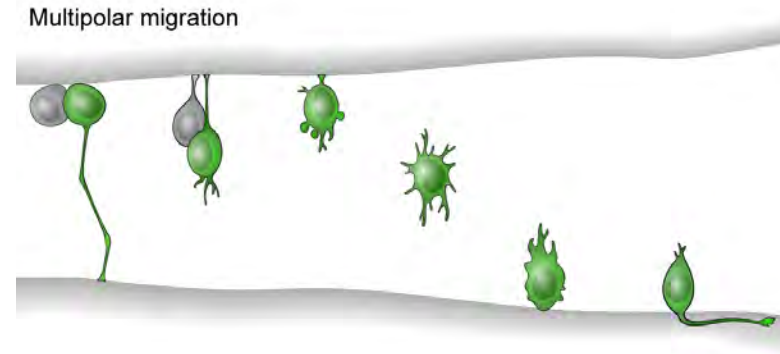
# Two types of retinal ganglion cell translocation

## Somal translocation



- Directed with fast kinetics
- Basal process reattachment
- Stabilized apical microtubules

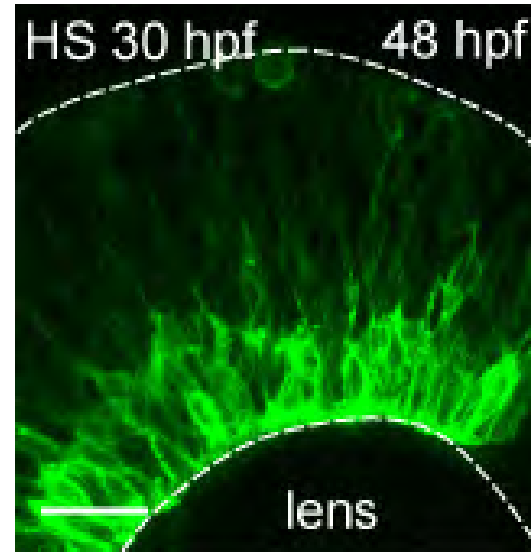
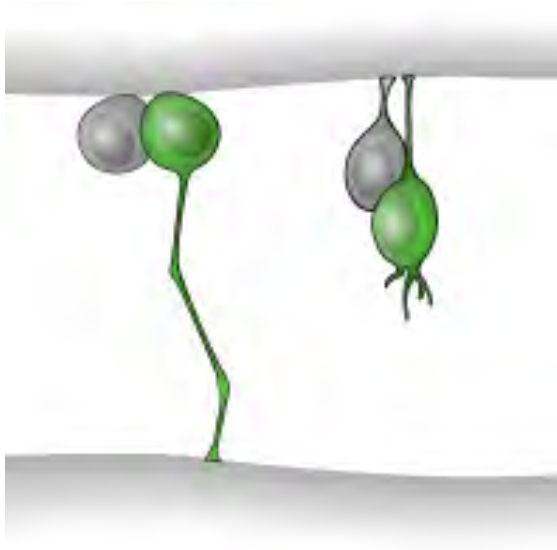
## Multipolar translocation



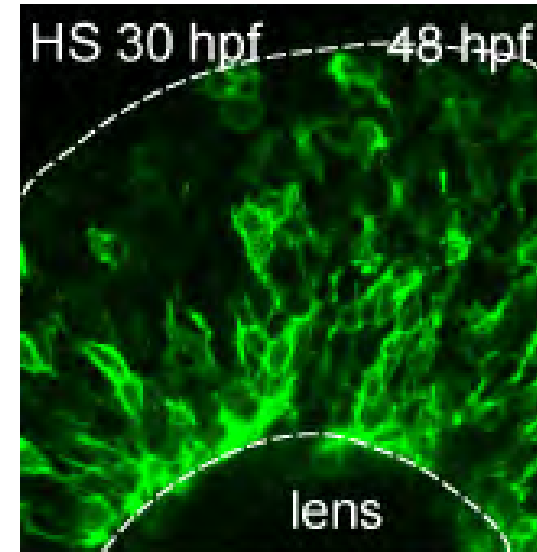
- Directed with slower kinetics
- Loss of apical process
- Actin dependent

End result is similar

# Both modes impaired: translocation fails

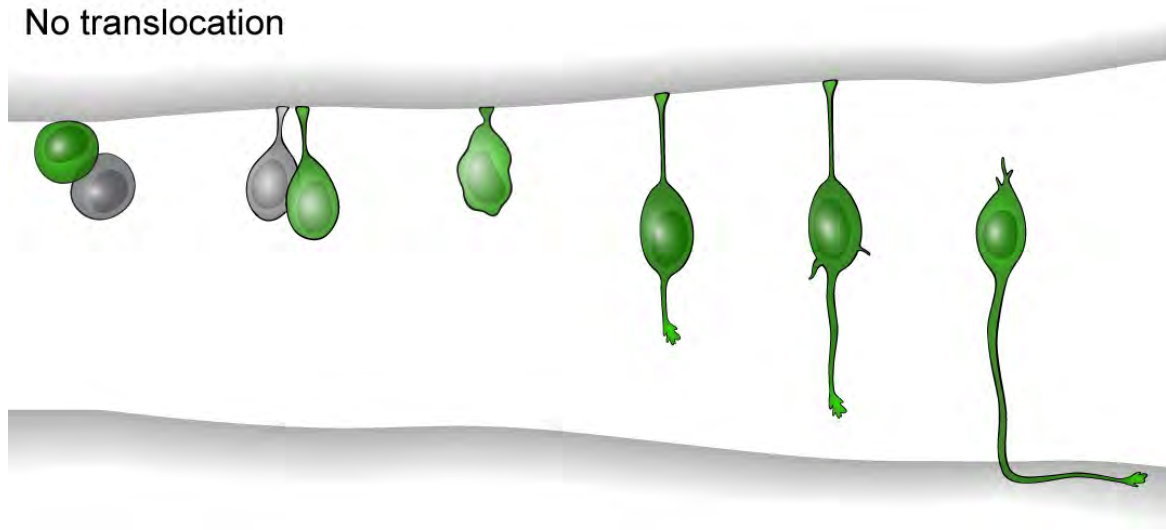


Ath5-GFP 48hpf control

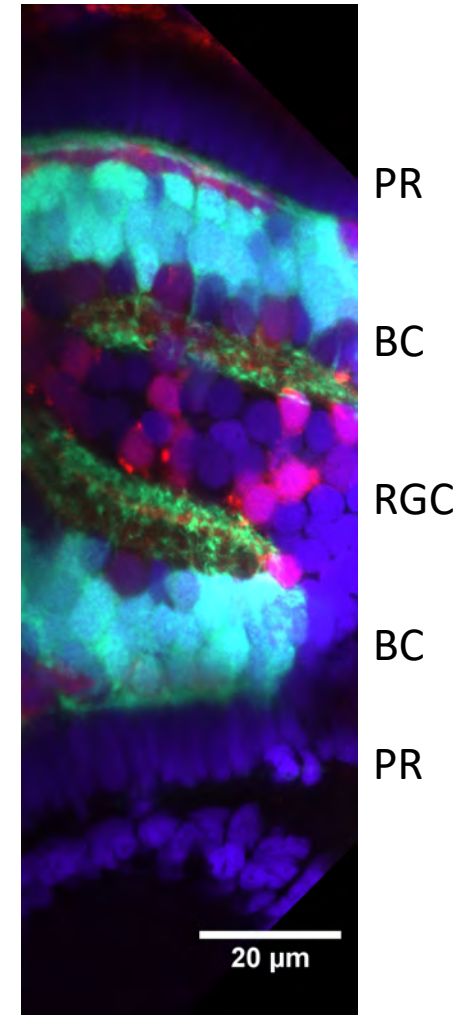


Ath5-GFP 48hpf basal  
process block apical  
process stays

# Impairment of both modes: Ectopic lamination



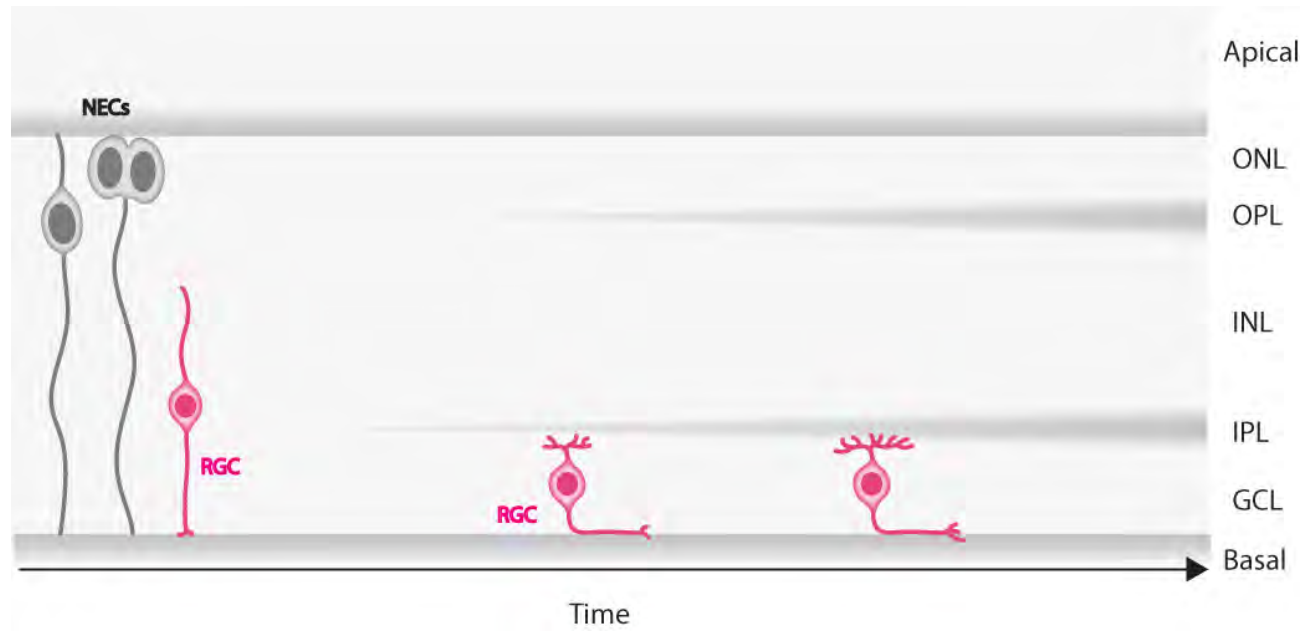
Serious problems with retinal lamination



Retinal ganglion cell translocation sets the stage for all further retinal lamination

# Retinal ganglion cell migration

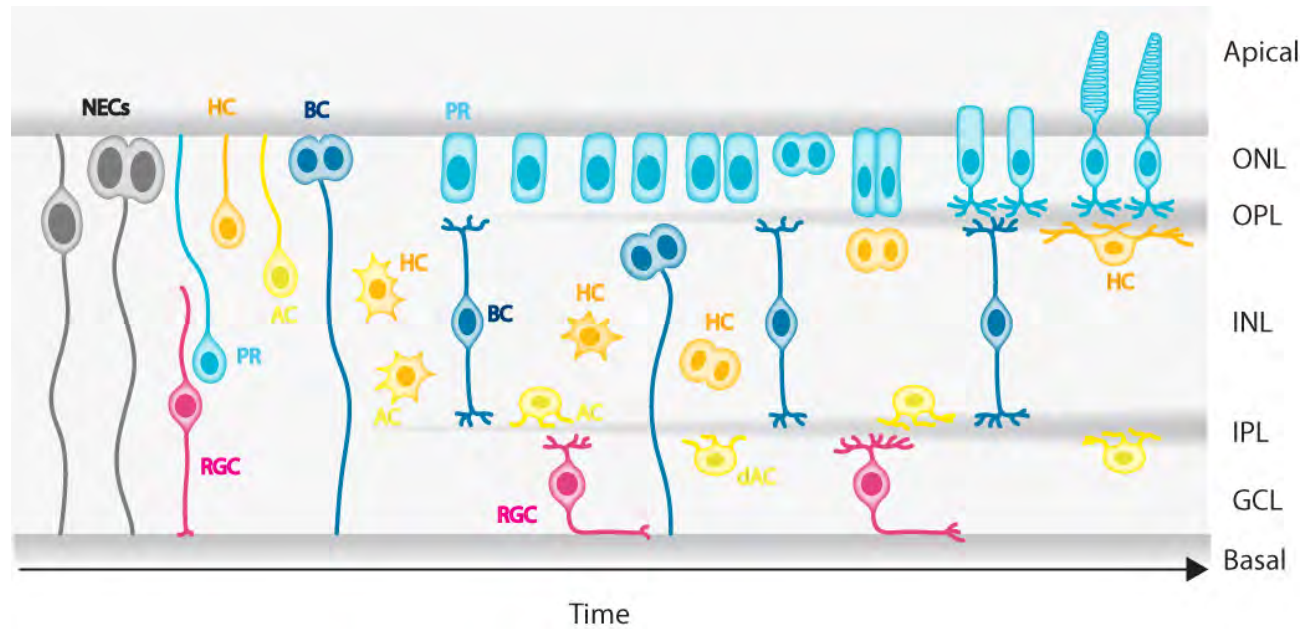
Zebrafish Retina



Icha...Norden, JCB 2016

# Retinal neuronal migration and lamination is complex

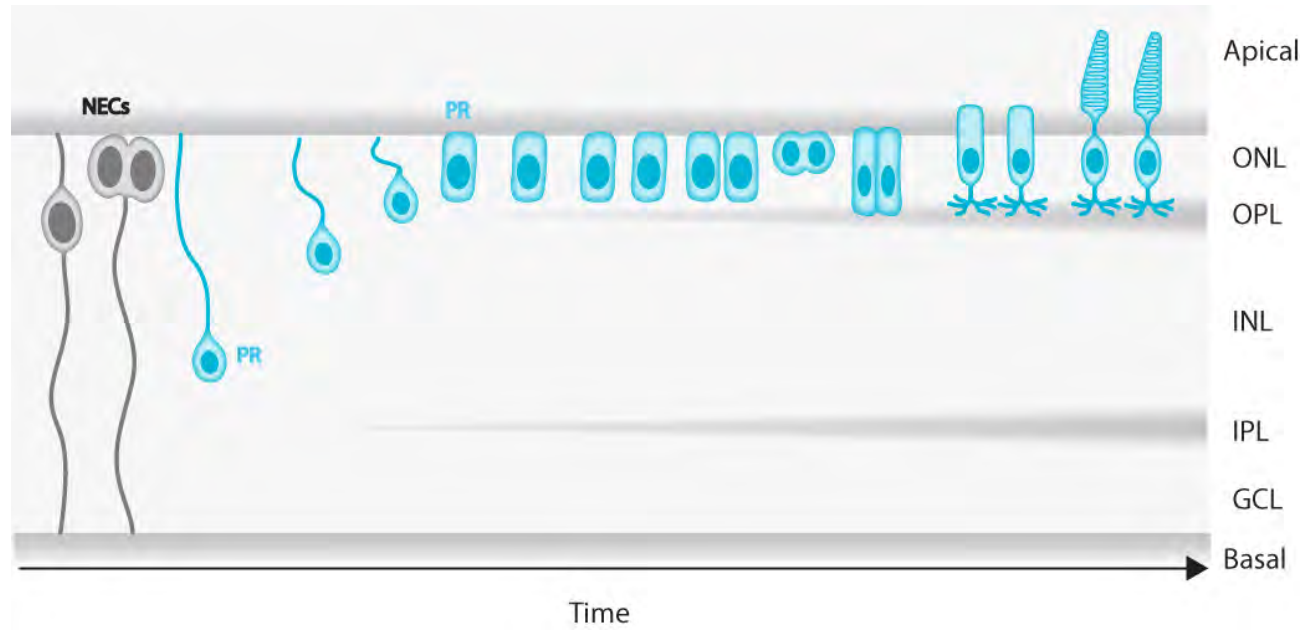
## Zebrafish Retina



Weber...Norden, Cell Reports 2014, Chow...Harris and Norden, Development 2015, Icha...Norden, JCB 2016, Amini, Rocha, Norden, Frontiers, 2018

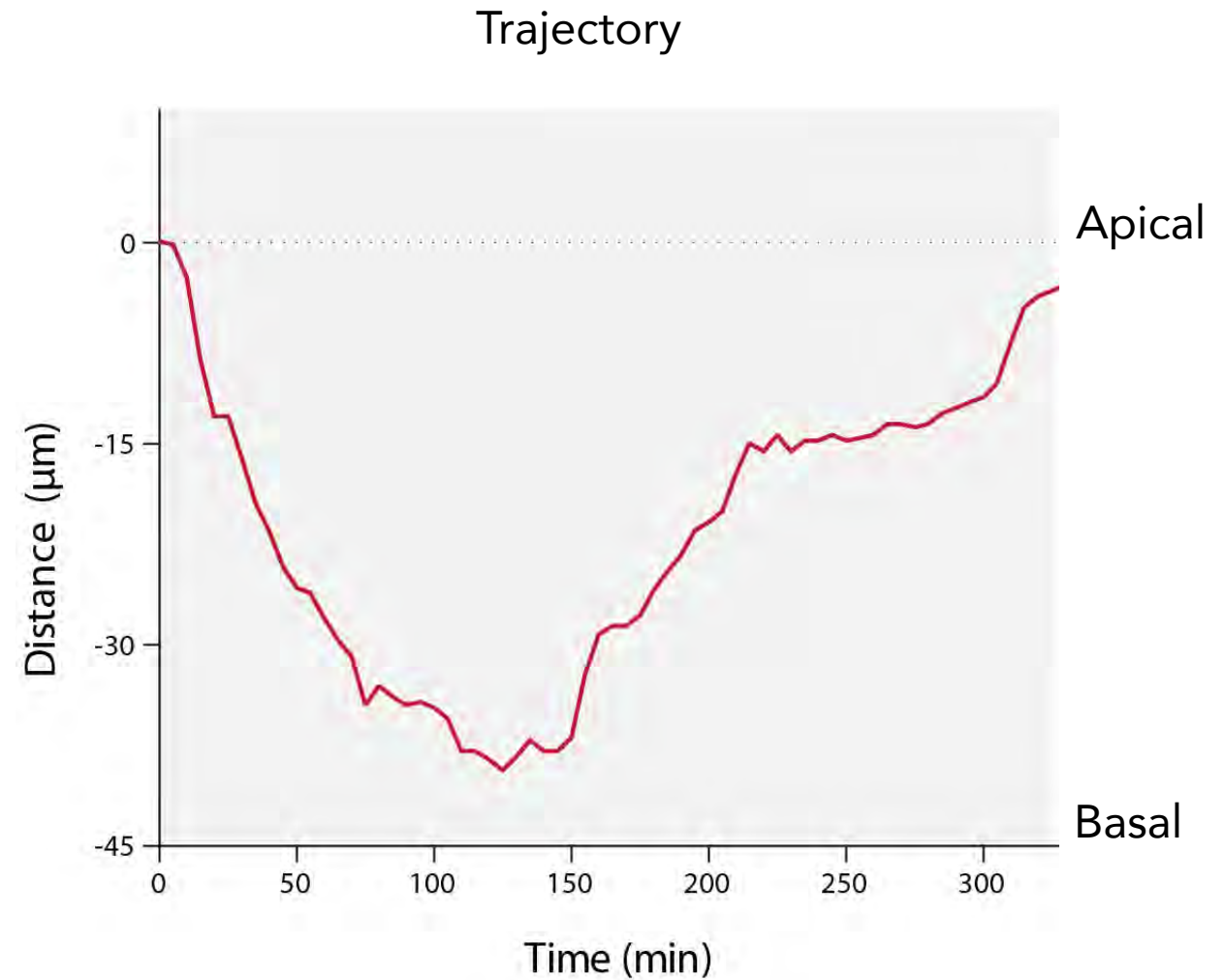
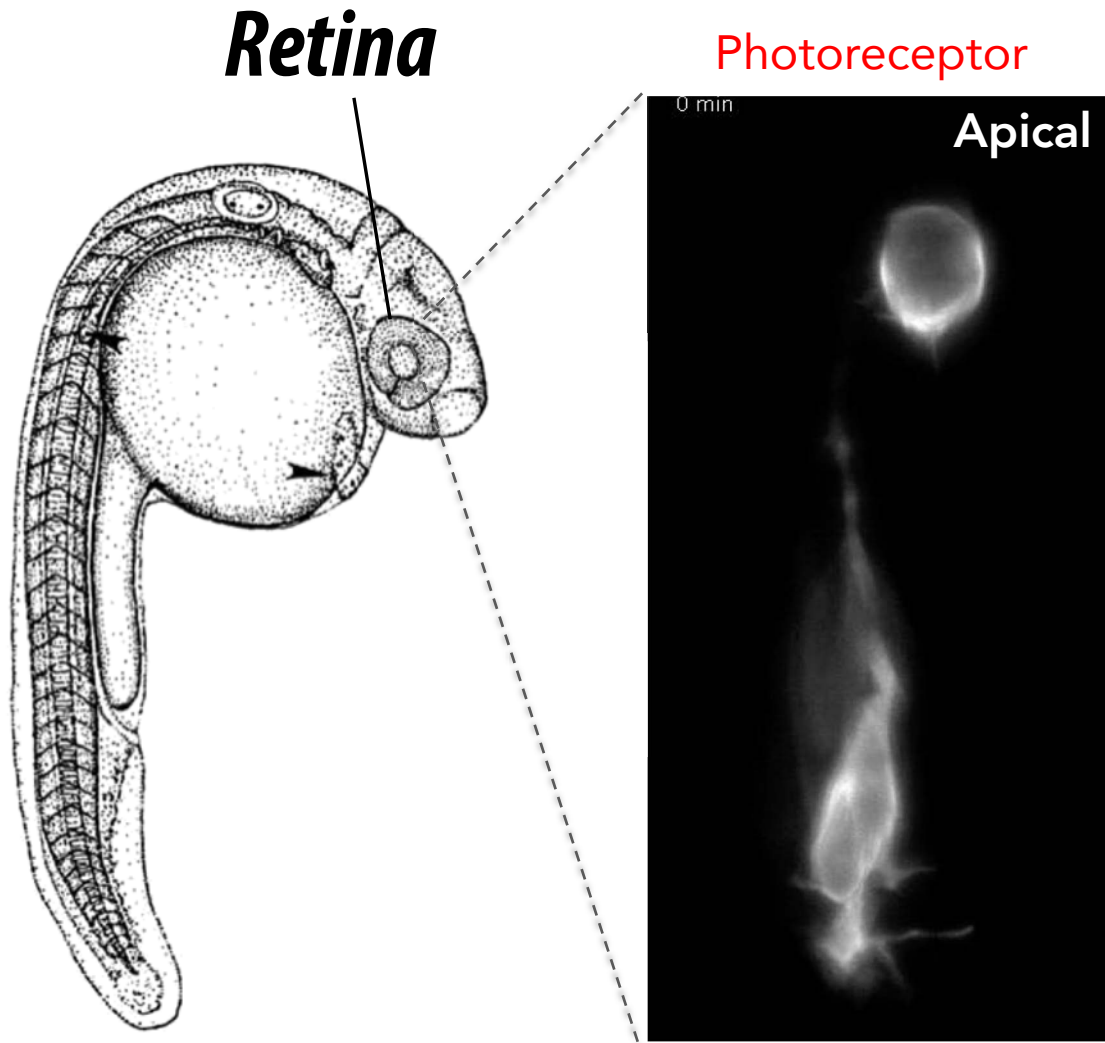
# Moving on: Photoreceptors

## Zebrafish Retina





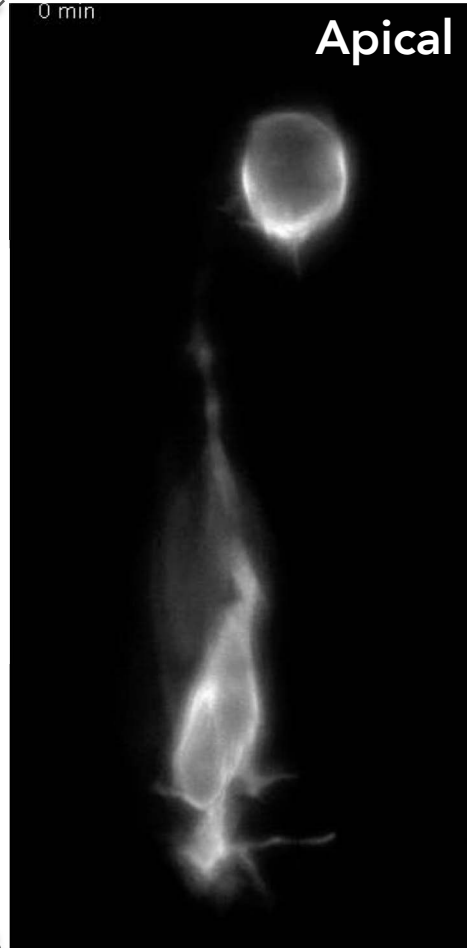
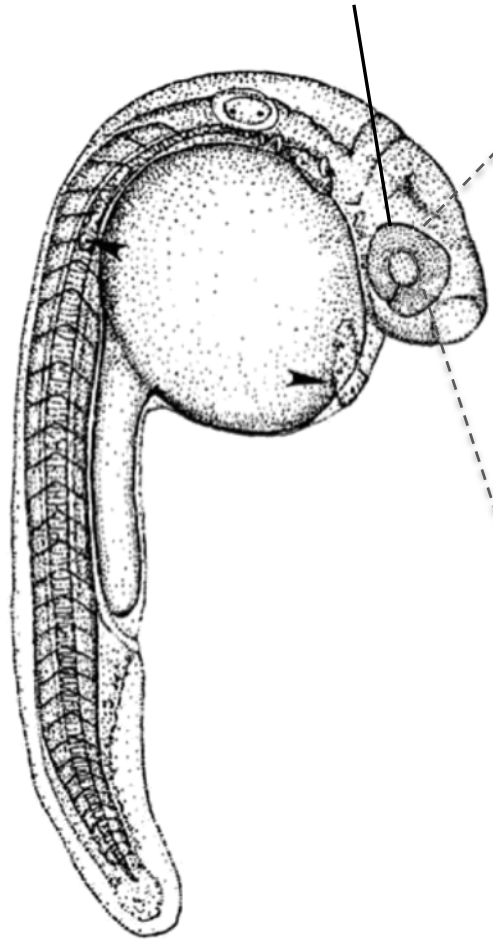
# Photoreceptors move bidirectionally before lamination



# Photoreceptors move bidirectionally before lamination

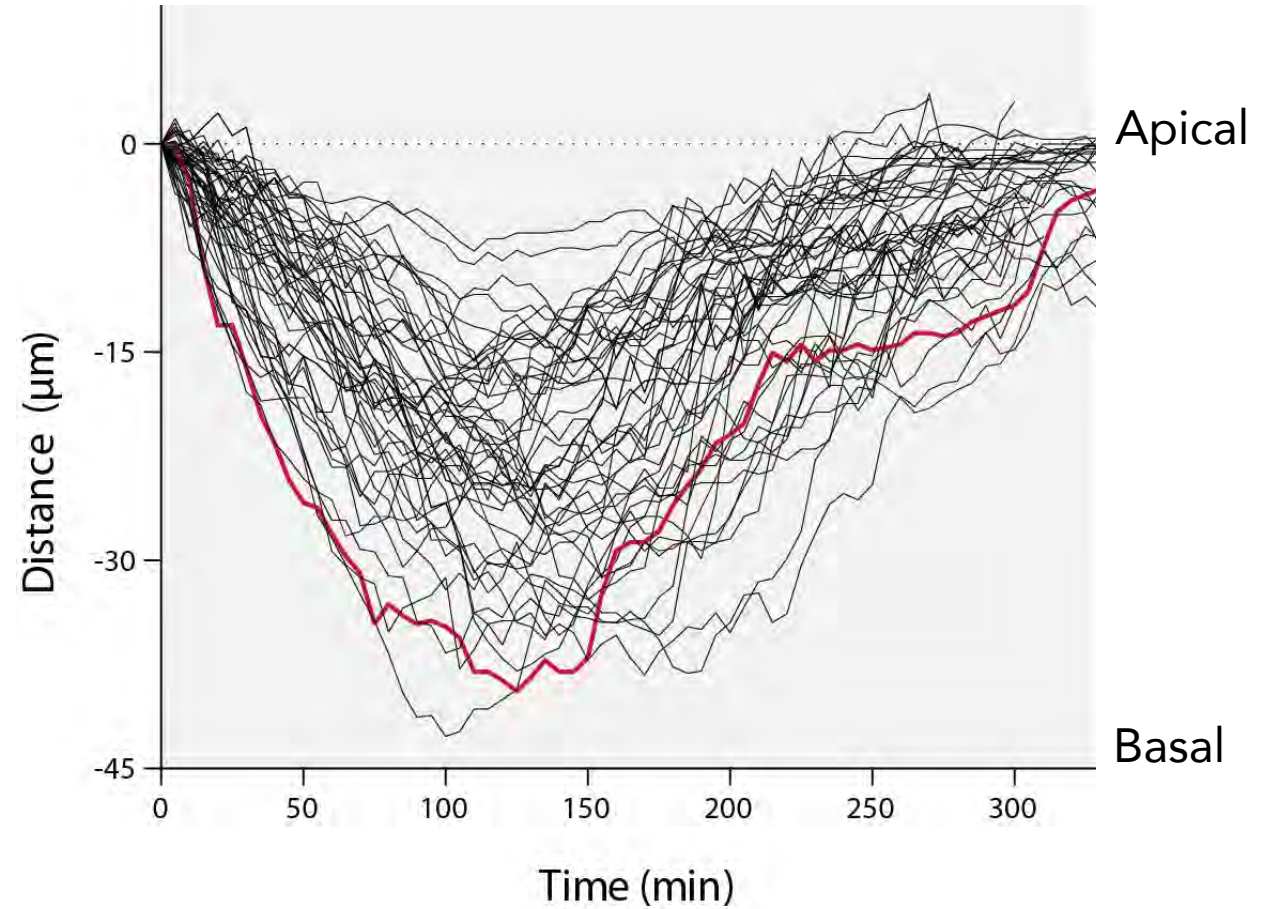
**Retina**

**Photoreceptor**



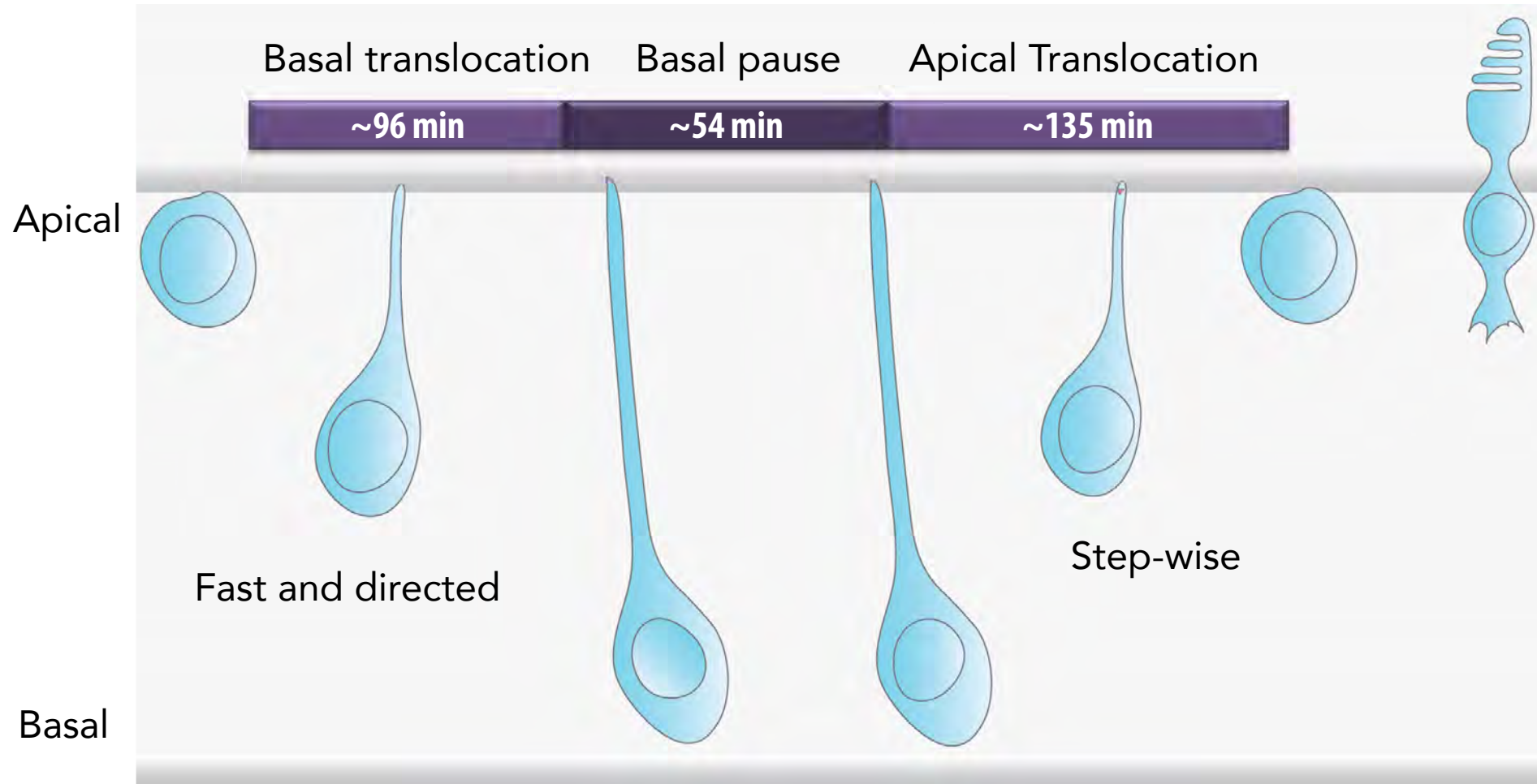
LZ1 light-sheet

**Trajectories**



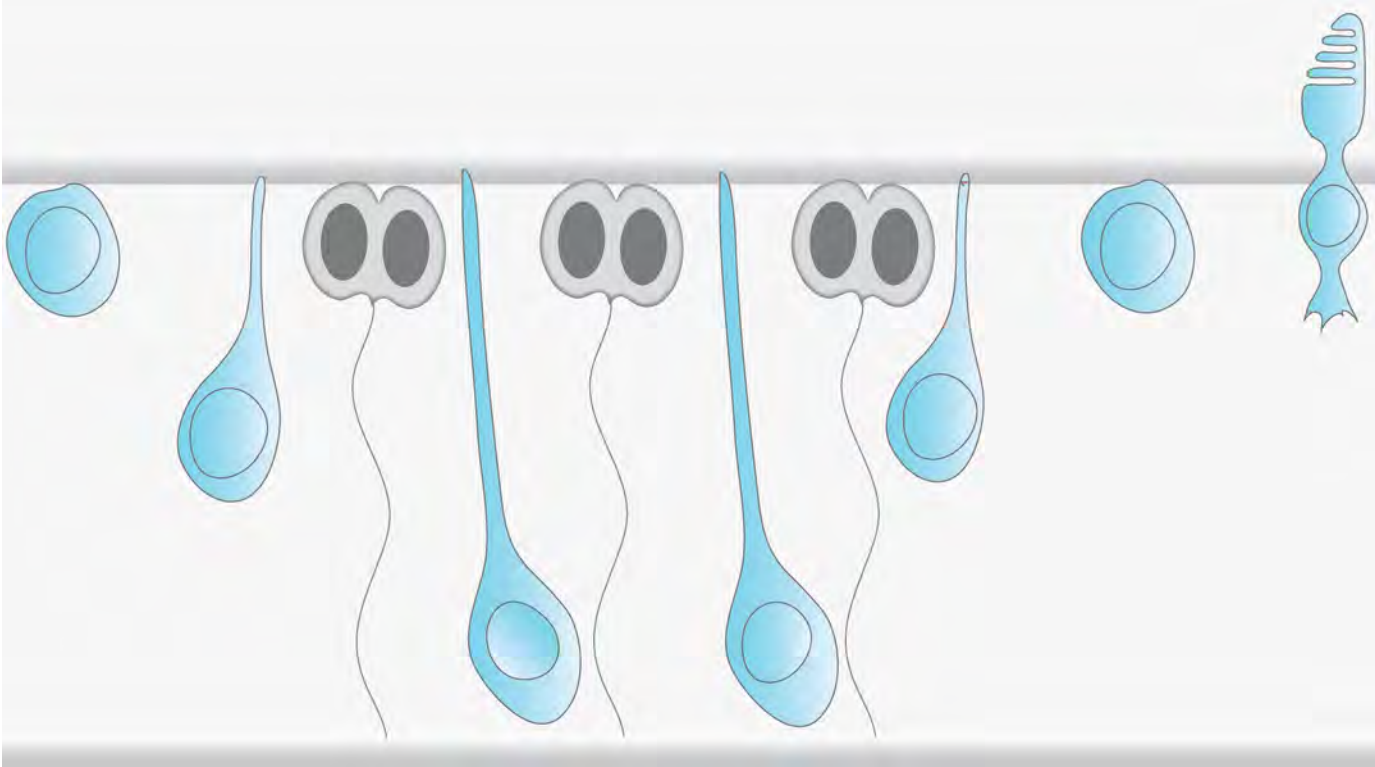
n=41 cells from 14 embryos

# Basal and apical movement show different kinetics



*n=41 cells from 14 embryos*

# Understanding cells in tissue needs understanding of the tissue



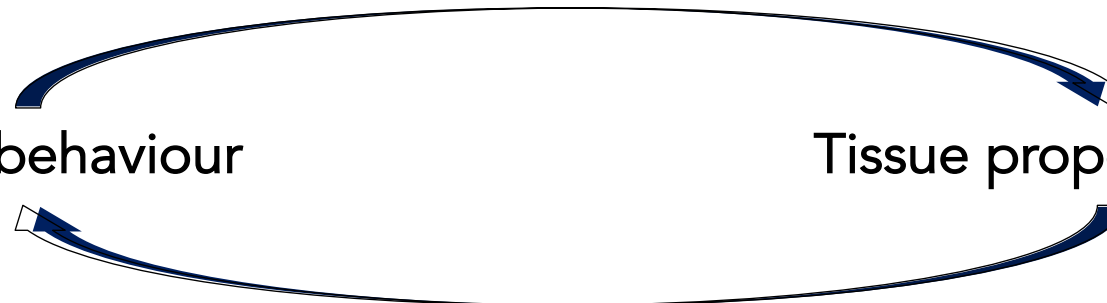
1- PRs undergo bidirectional migration

2- Different movements have different kinetics and mechanisms

3- PRs move to make space for progenitor cells

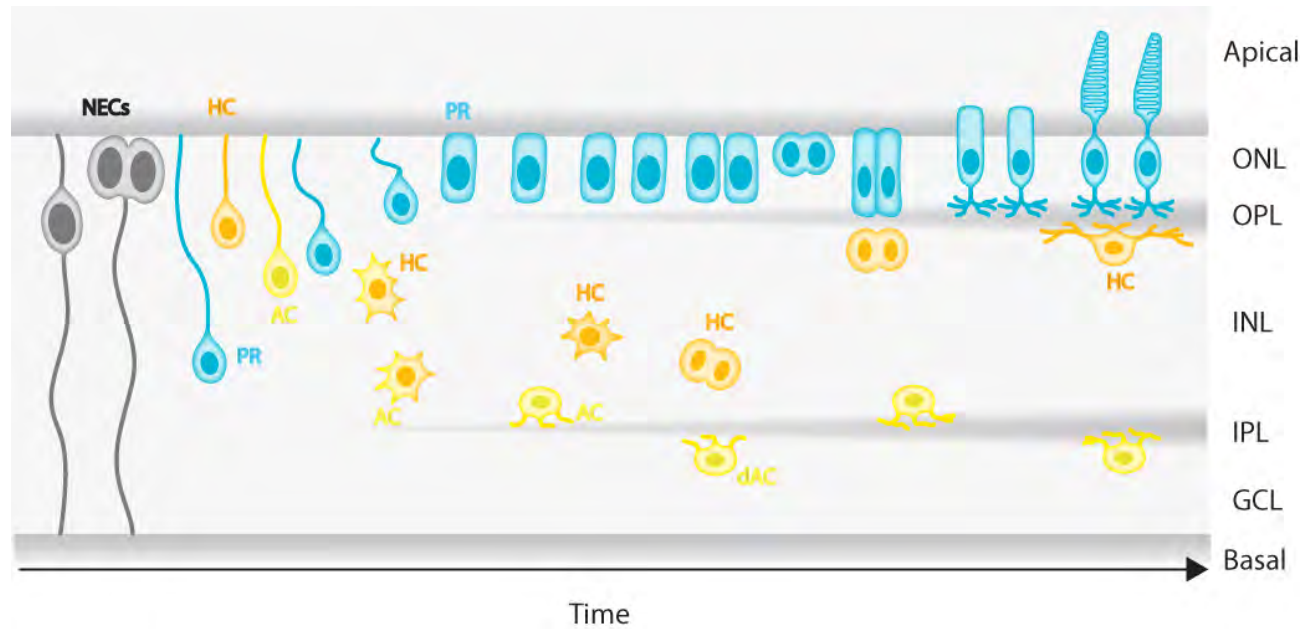
Single cell behaviour

Tissue properties



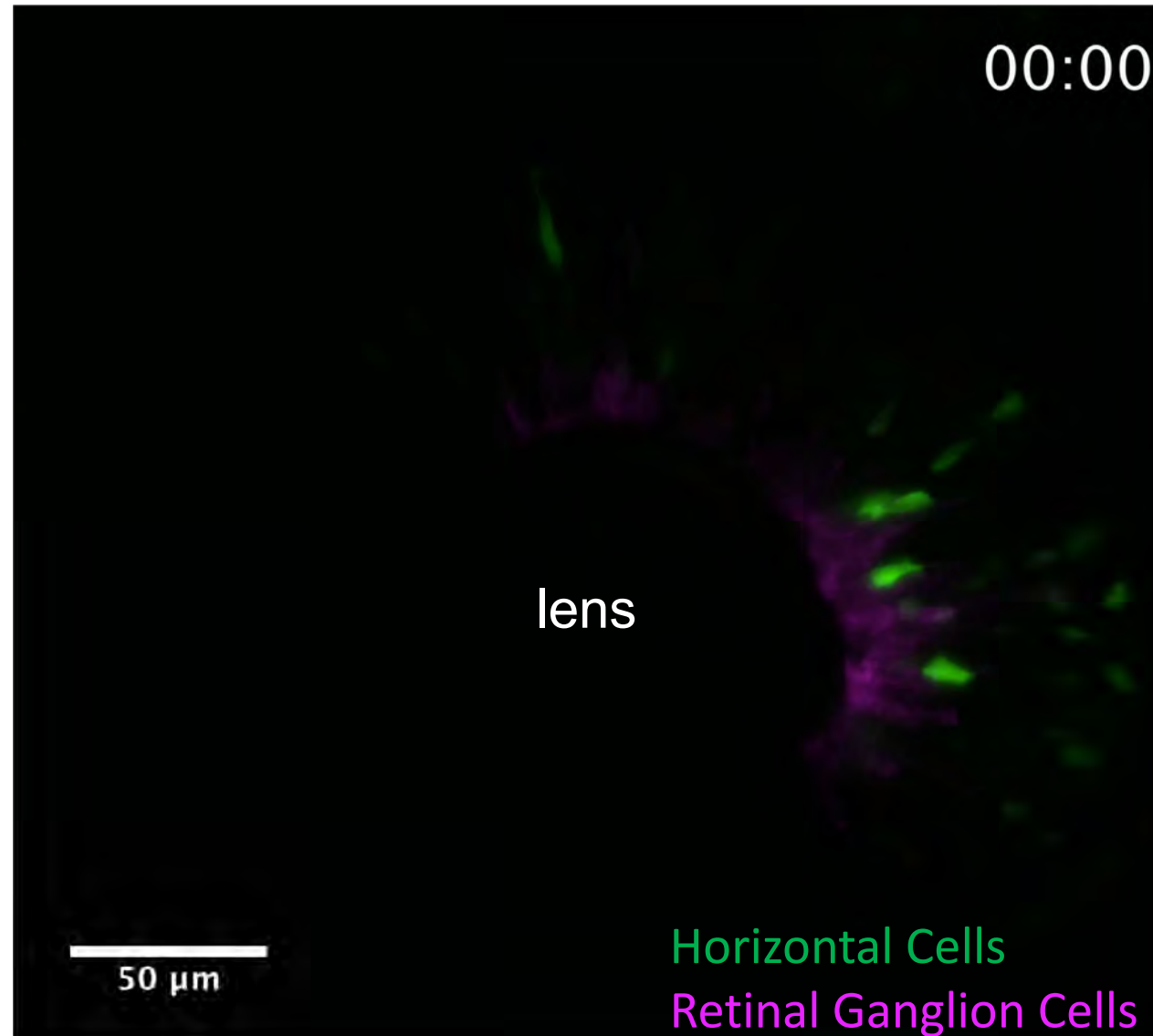
# Retinal neuronal migration and lamination is complex

## Zebrafish Retina

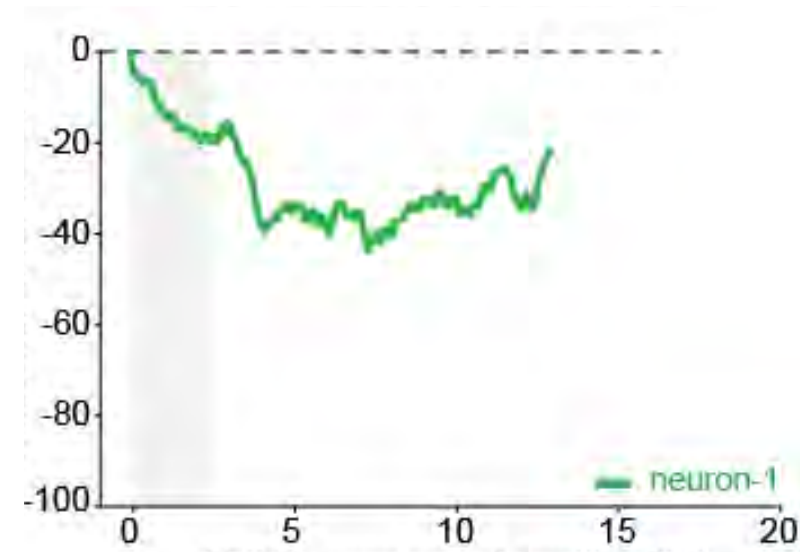
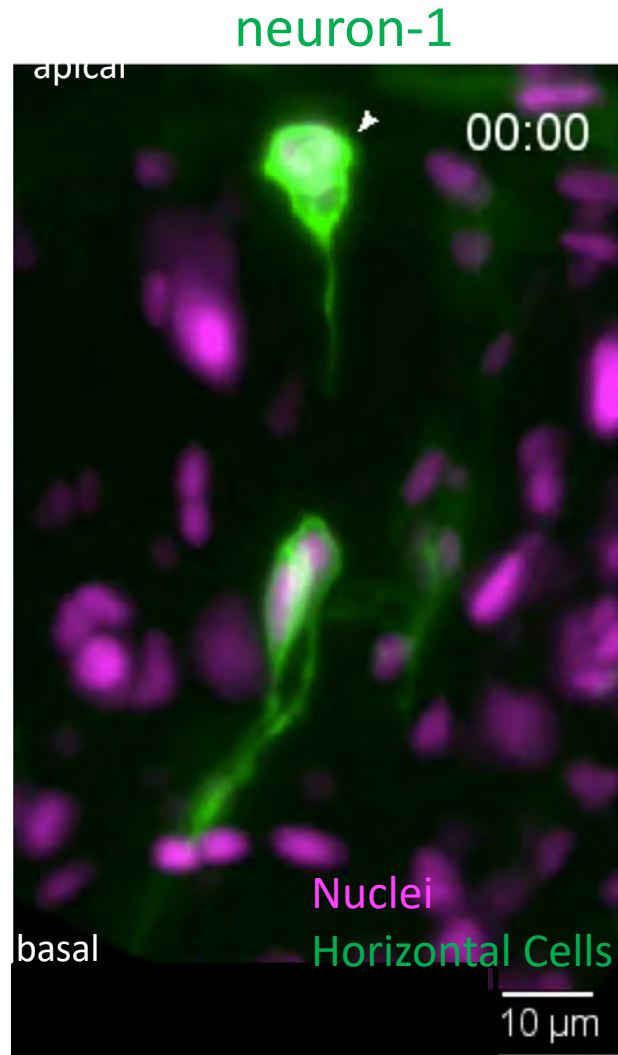


Weber...Norden, Cell Reports 2014, Chow...Harris and Norden, Development 2015, Icha...Norden, JCB 2016, Amini, Rocha, Norden, Frontiers, 2018

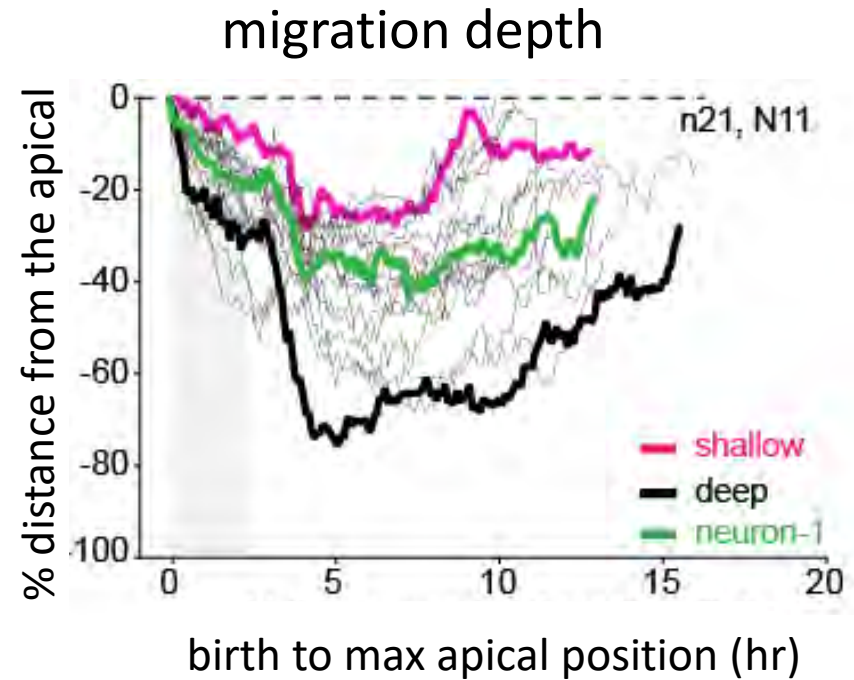
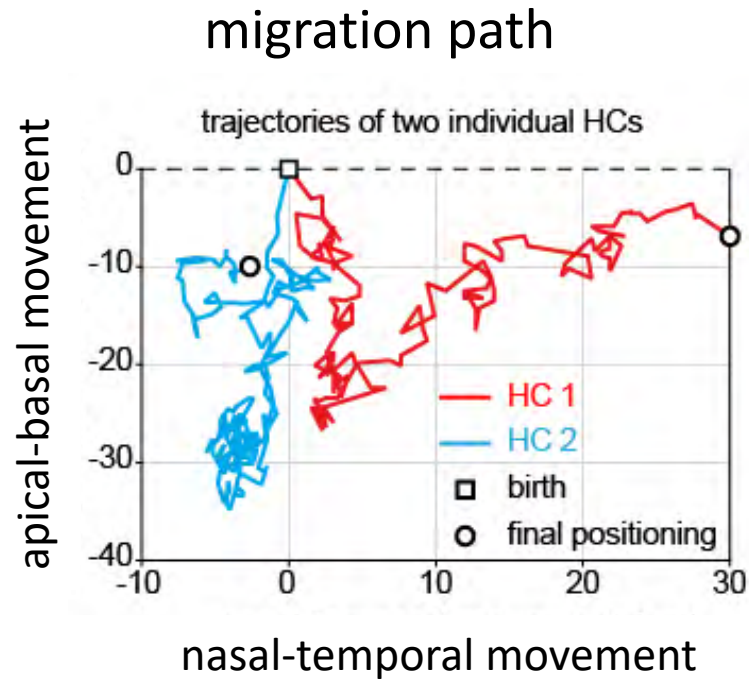
You ain't seen nothing yet: Horizontal cell migration...



# Horizontal cell migration behavior is non-predictable

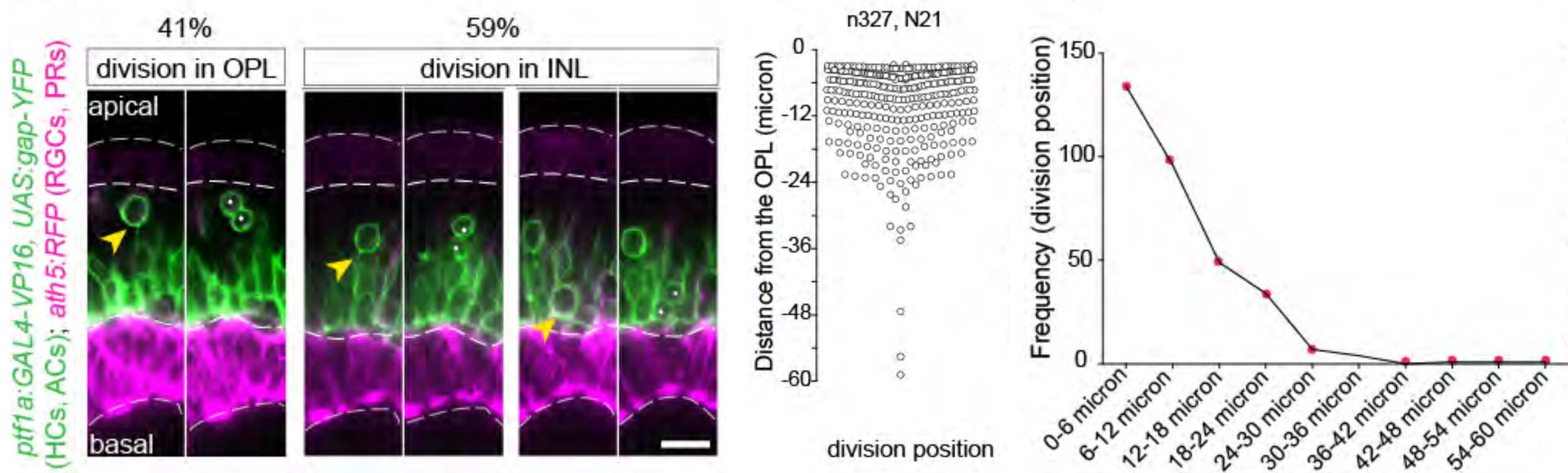


# Horizontal cell migration behavior is non-predictable



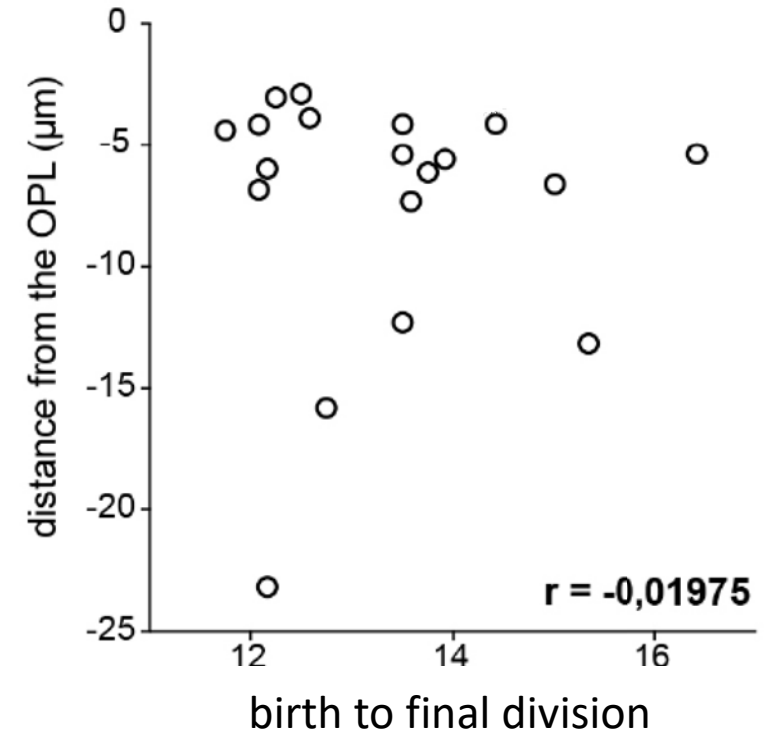
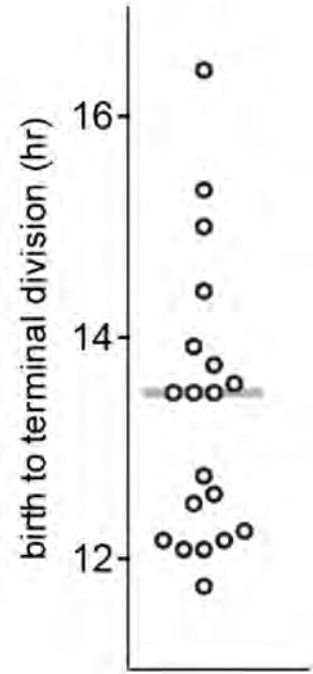
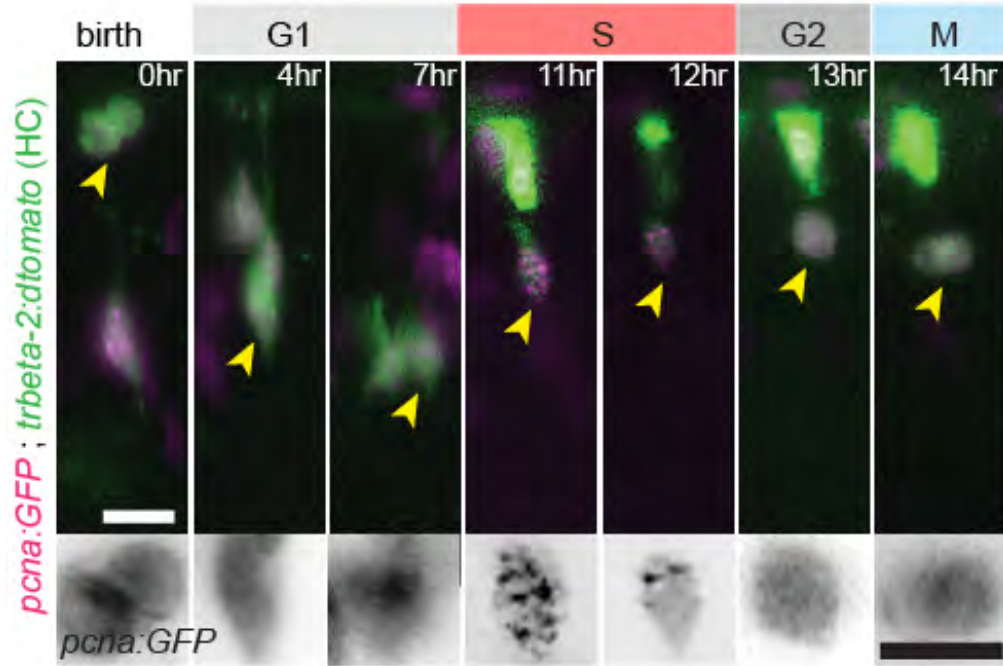


# Horizontal cells divisions occur all along apico-basal axis



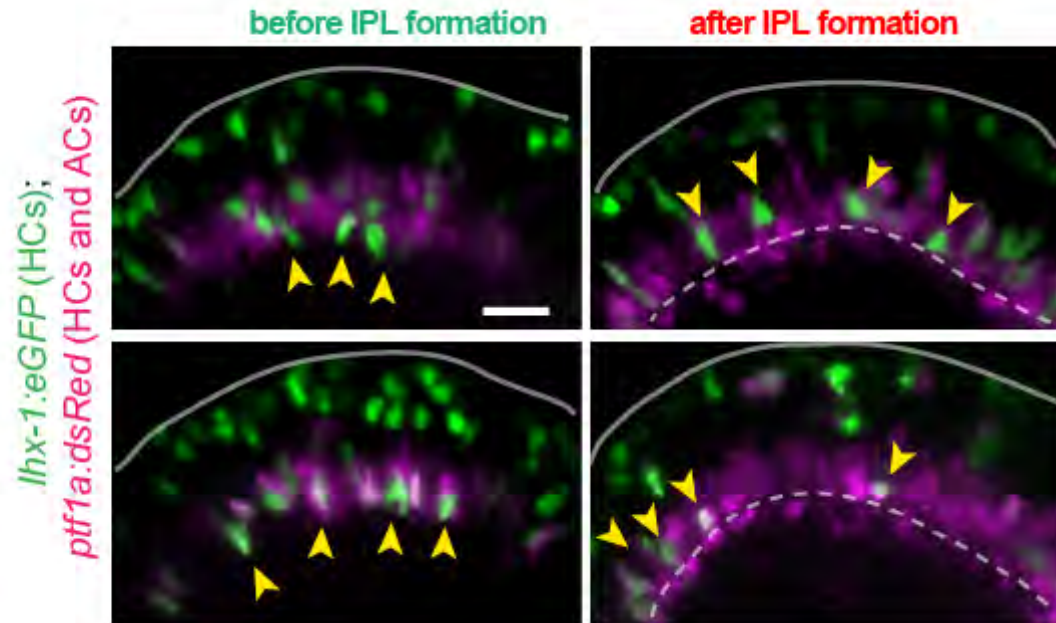
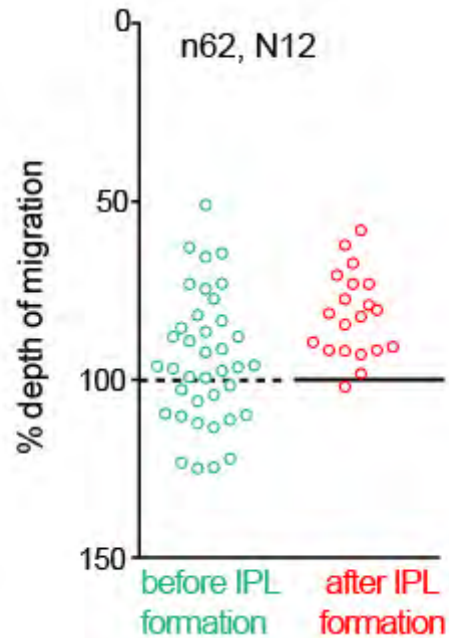
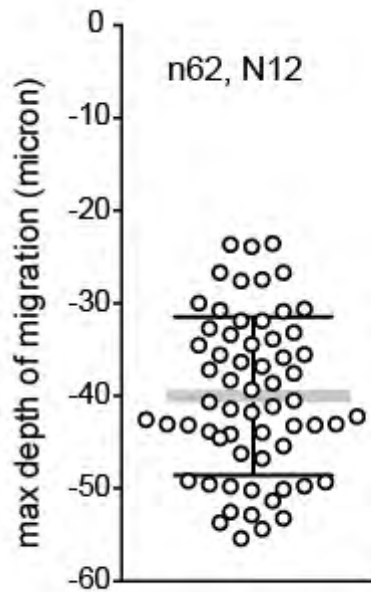
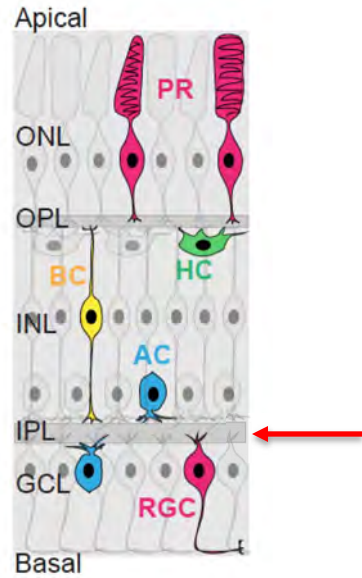
Does a cell cycle timer lead to varying migration and division behavior?

# Horizontal cells do not follow a cells cycle timer

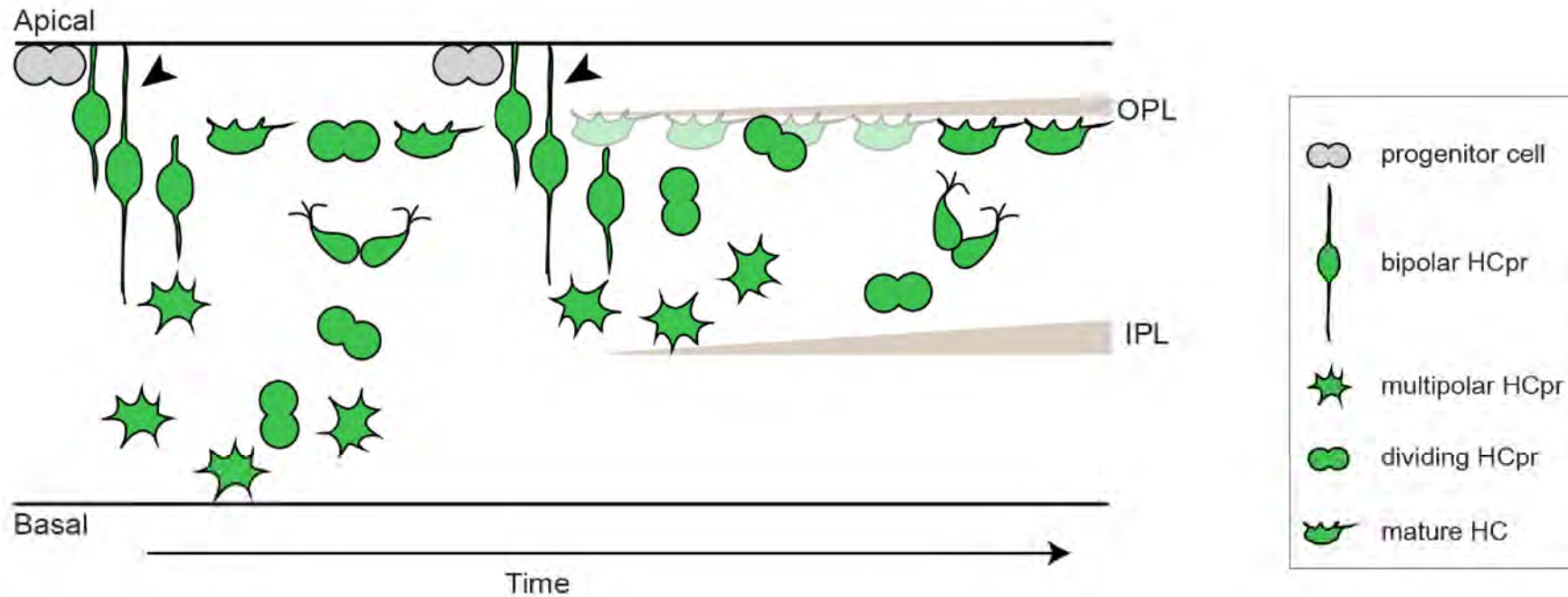


Is there any reproducible hall mark of horizontal cell behavior?

# Inner plexiform layer formation defines depth of migration



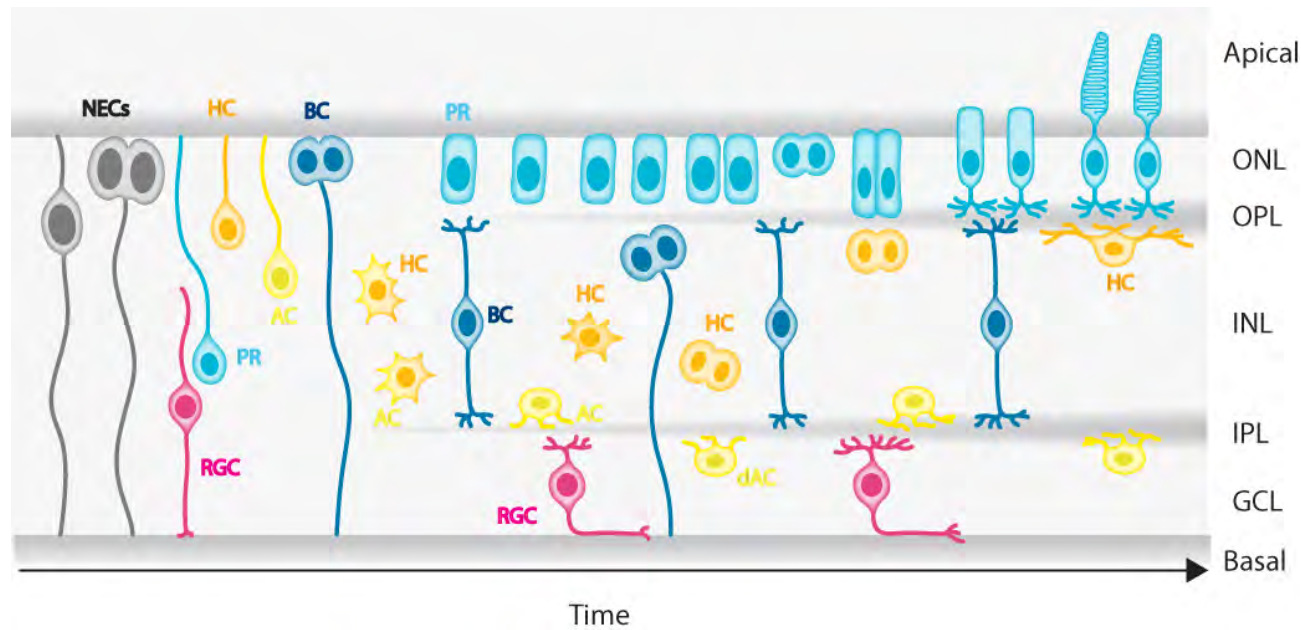
# Horizontal cell behavior findings and open questions



Amini et al., Development 2019

- Finding 1: Quantitative analysis reveals that none of the followed parameters are stereotypic
- Finding 2: All horizontal cells reach the amacrine cell layer before apical turning
- Question 1: What is the role of cell and tissue mechanical properties?
- Questions 2: What sets the turning point? What is sensed?

# The future of retinal lamination research is bright!



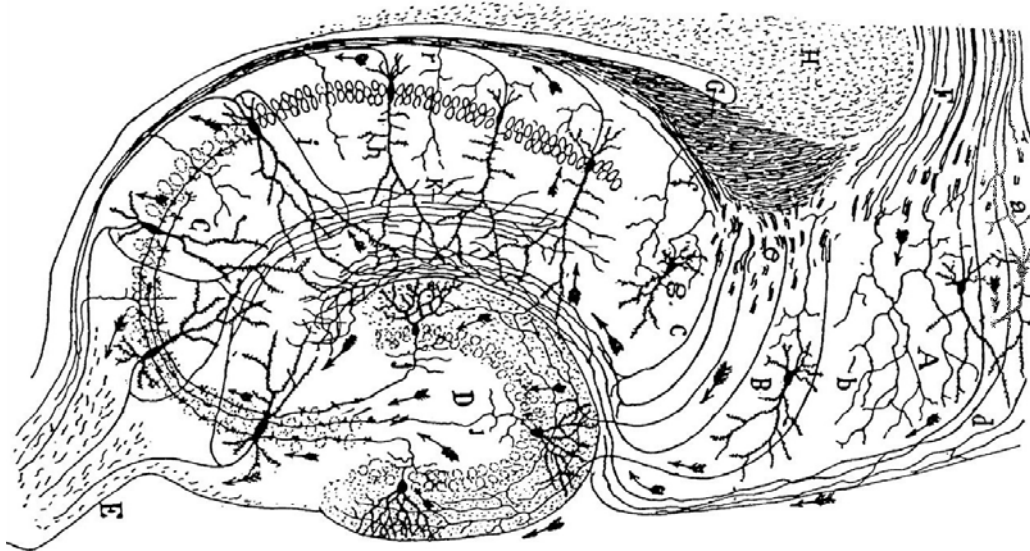
Weber...Norden, Cell Reports 2014, Chow...Harris and Norden, Development 2015, Icha...Norden, JCB 2016, Amini, Rocha, Norden, Frontiers, 2018

Single cell behaviour

Tissue properties

# And neural lamination does not only occur in retina

Hippocampus



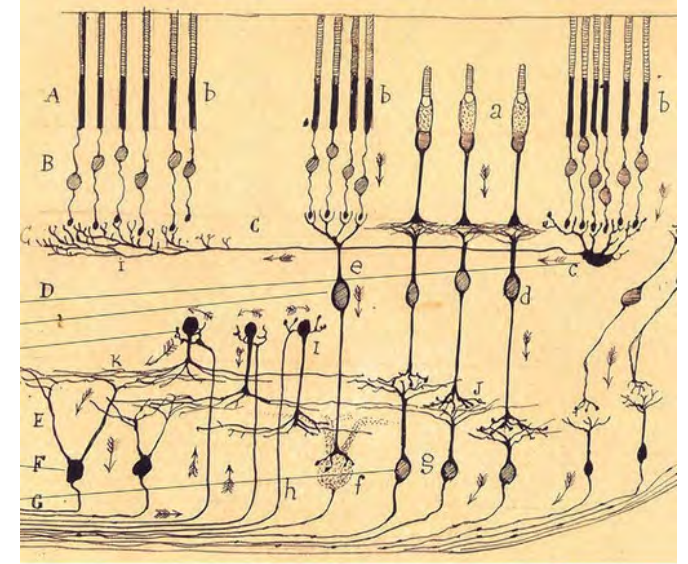
Santiago Ramon y Cajal

Neocortex



Santiago Ramon y Cajal

Retina



Santiago Ramon y Cajal

Crucial for efficient neuronal circuit formation

Key Step of brain development

# THANKS!




Patricia 



Caren 



Karen 



Rana  



Sylvia 



Elisa 



Iskra 



Mauricio 

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(Crick Institute London)

## Funding Bodies:

MPI-CBG  
DFG  
EMBO YIP  
EMBO

### *Previously:*

HFSP Career Development Award  
DFG-SFB 655

## Currently Room 1222



## MPI-CBG facilities:

Light microscopy facility  
Fish facility

