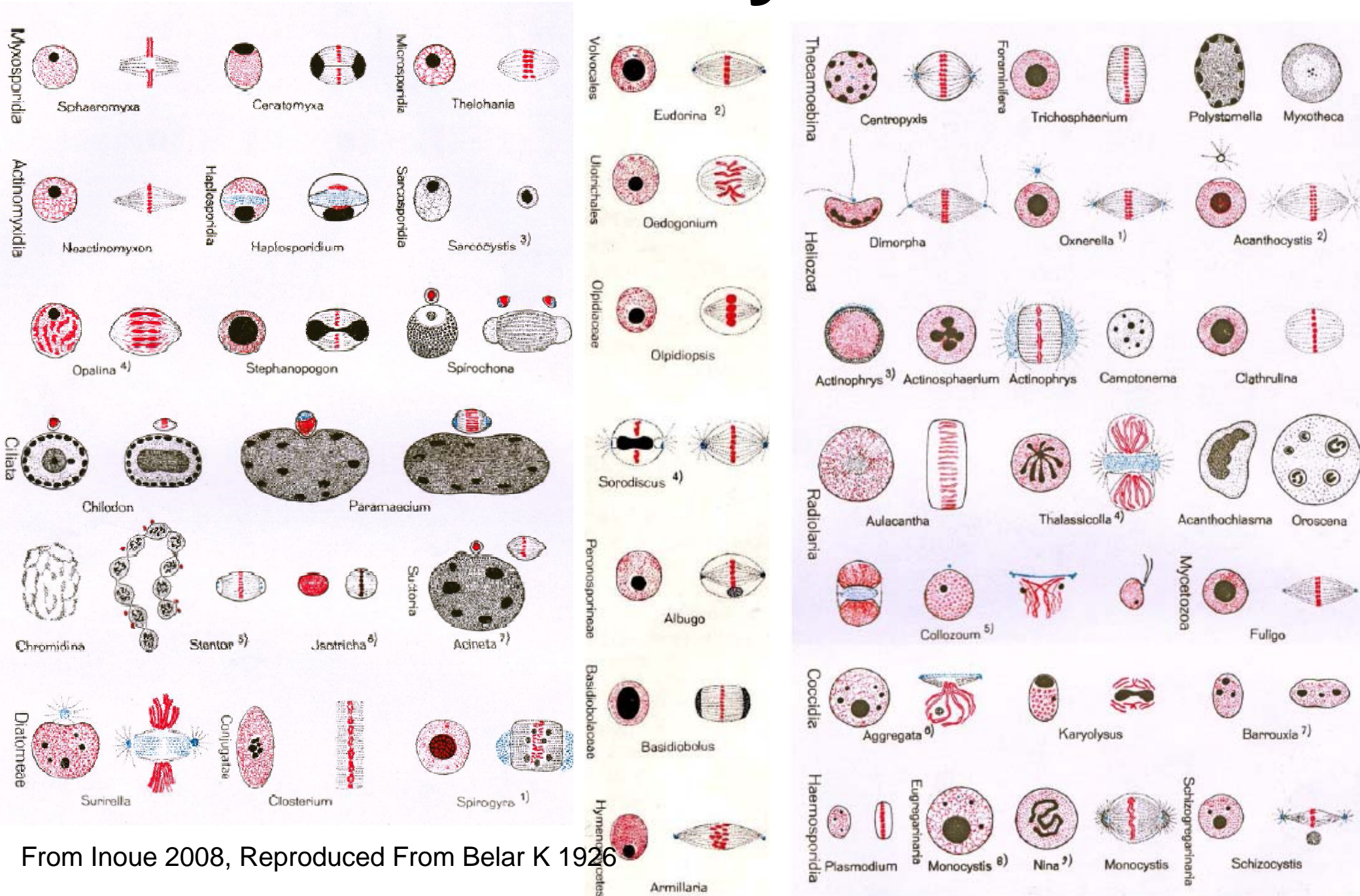


# The Diversity of Division



From Inoue 2008, Reproduced From Belar K 1926

# **My Motivation:**

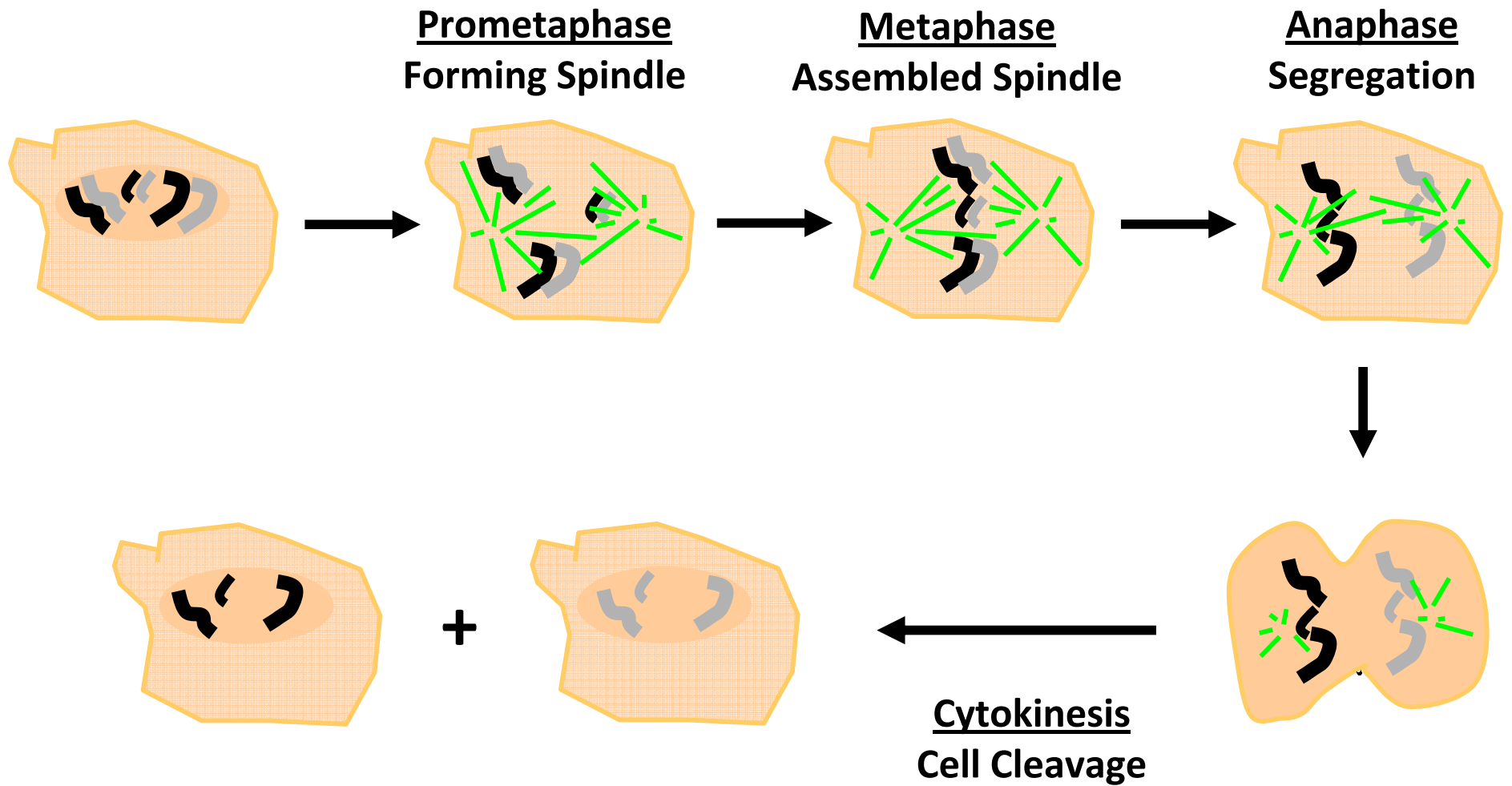
**1) What Aspects of Spindle Self-Organization are Biologically Important?**

---

**2) How to Explain Existing Diversity of Spindle Organization and Dynamics?**

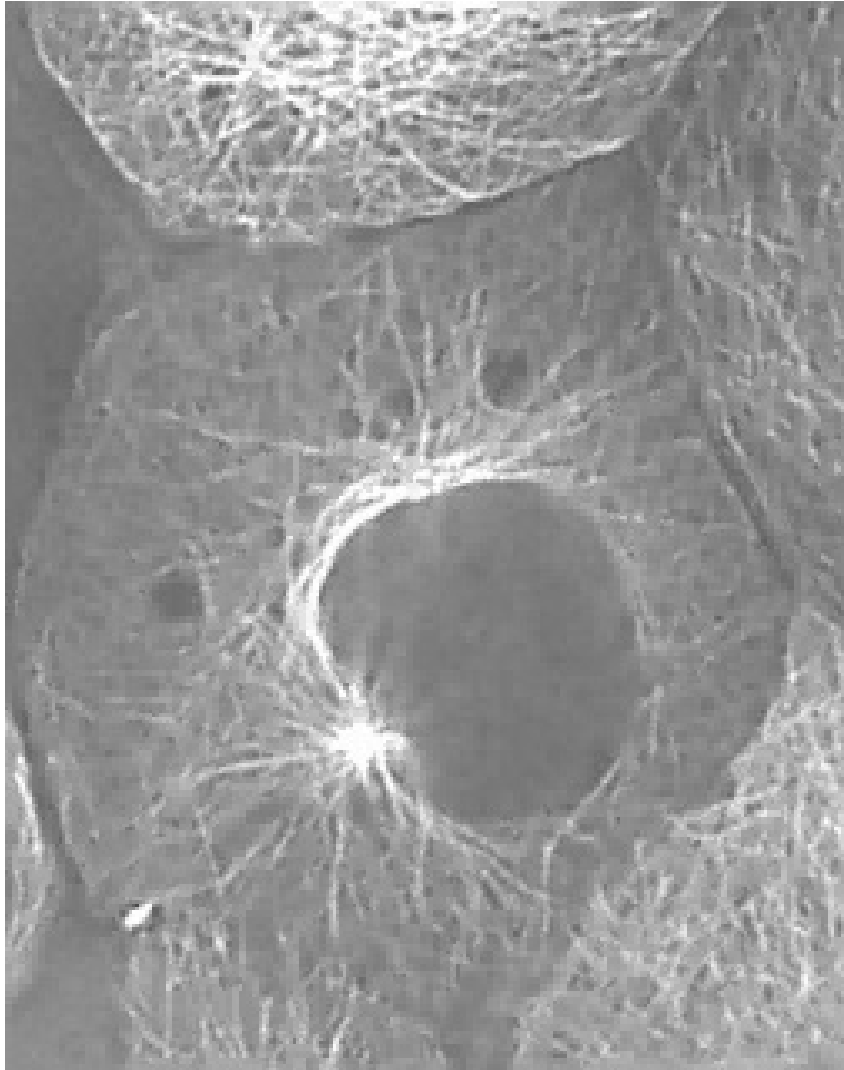
**3) How to Think about the Evolution of Self-Organizing Structures?**

# Textbook Mitosis

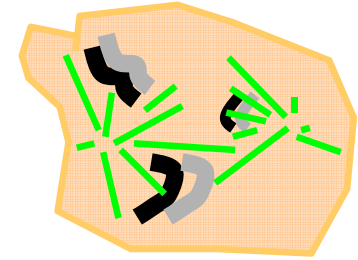


# Textbook Mitosis

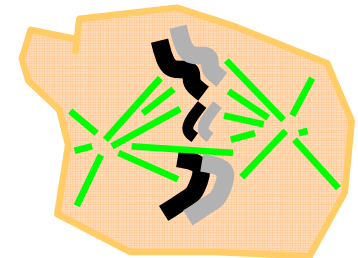
LLC-PK1 Cells (Pig epithelial tissue culture)  
GFP-tubulin



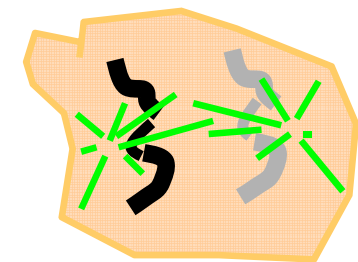
**Prometaphase**



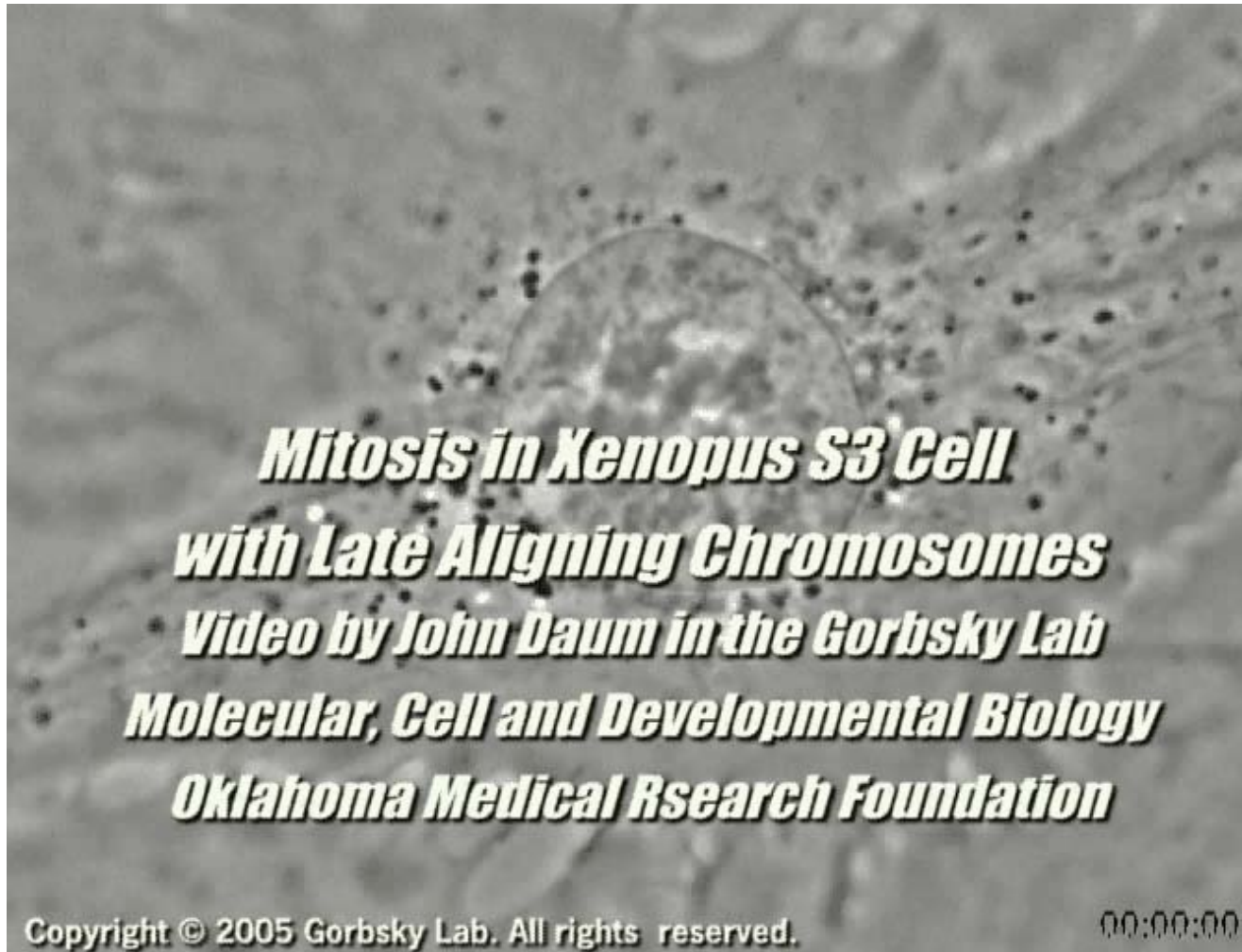
**Metaphase**



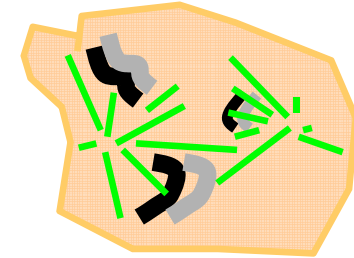
**Anaphase**



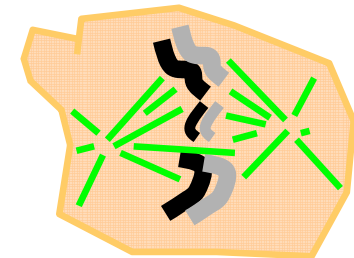
# Textbook Mitosis



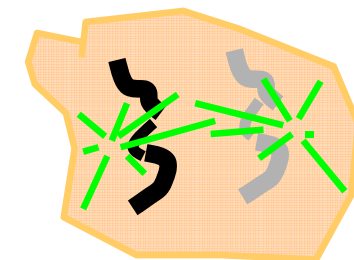
**Prometaphase**



**Metaphase**



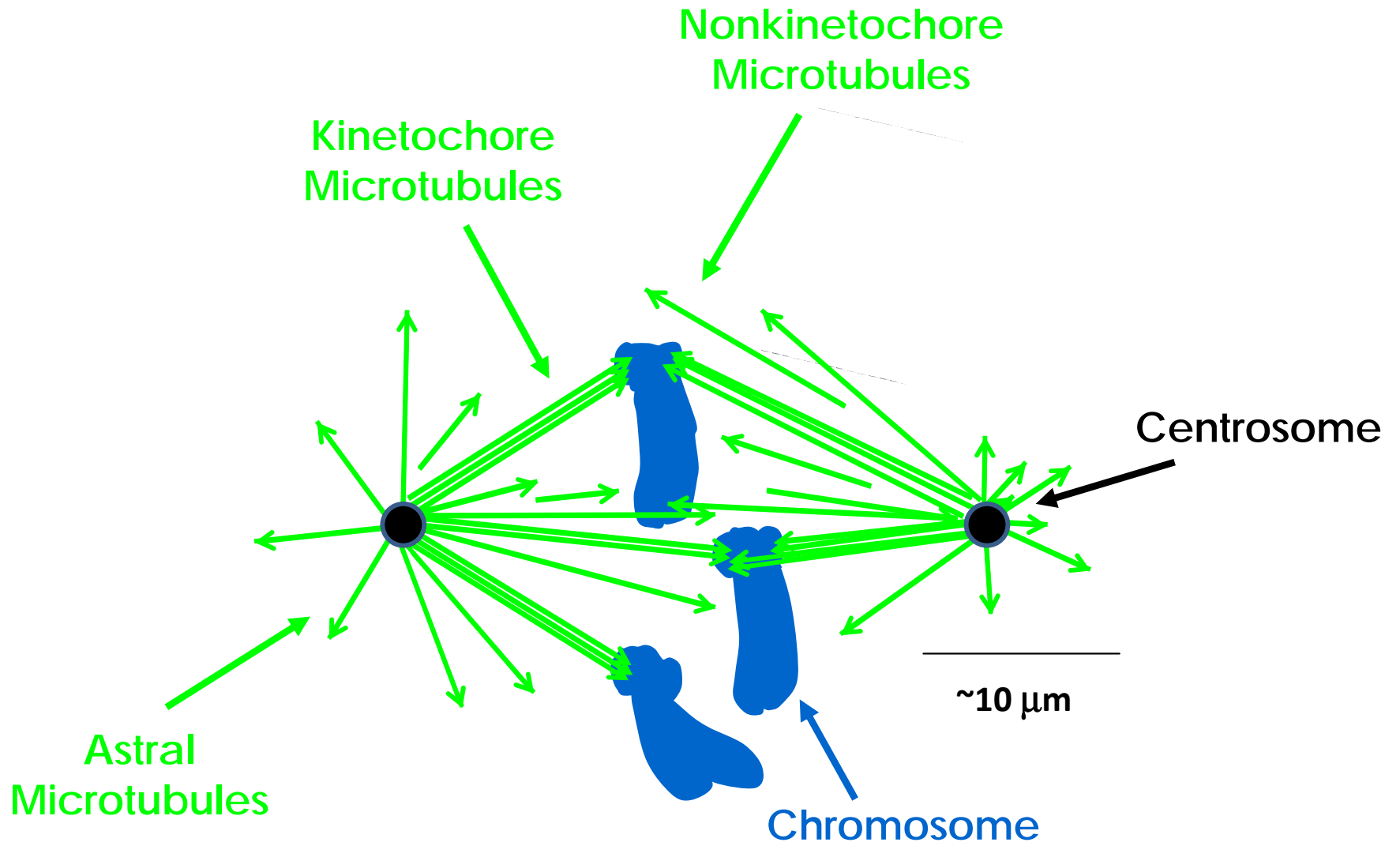
**Anaphase**



**By John Daum (Gorbsky Lab)  
Xenopus Tissue Culture**

# Textbook Mitosis

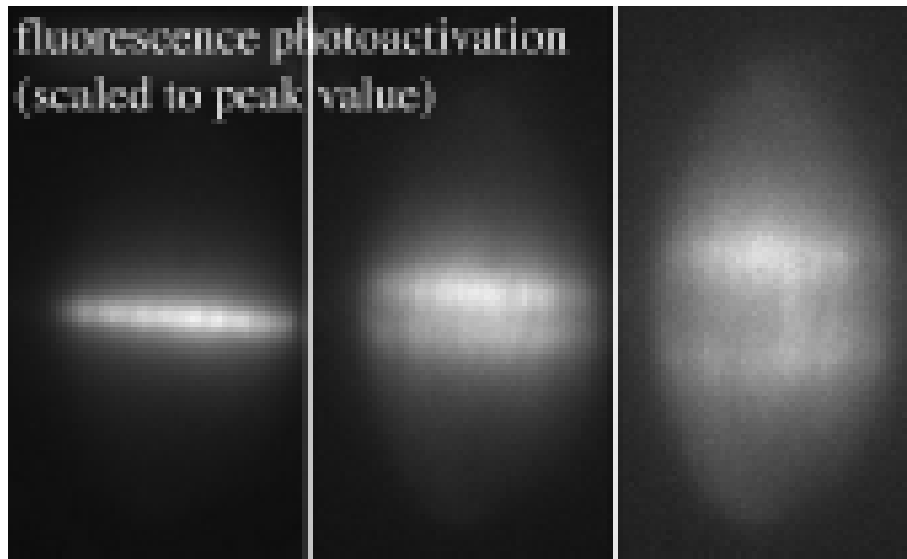
## The Metaphase Spindle



# Textbook Mitosis

## The Metaphase Spindle is Highly Dynamic

### Tubulin:



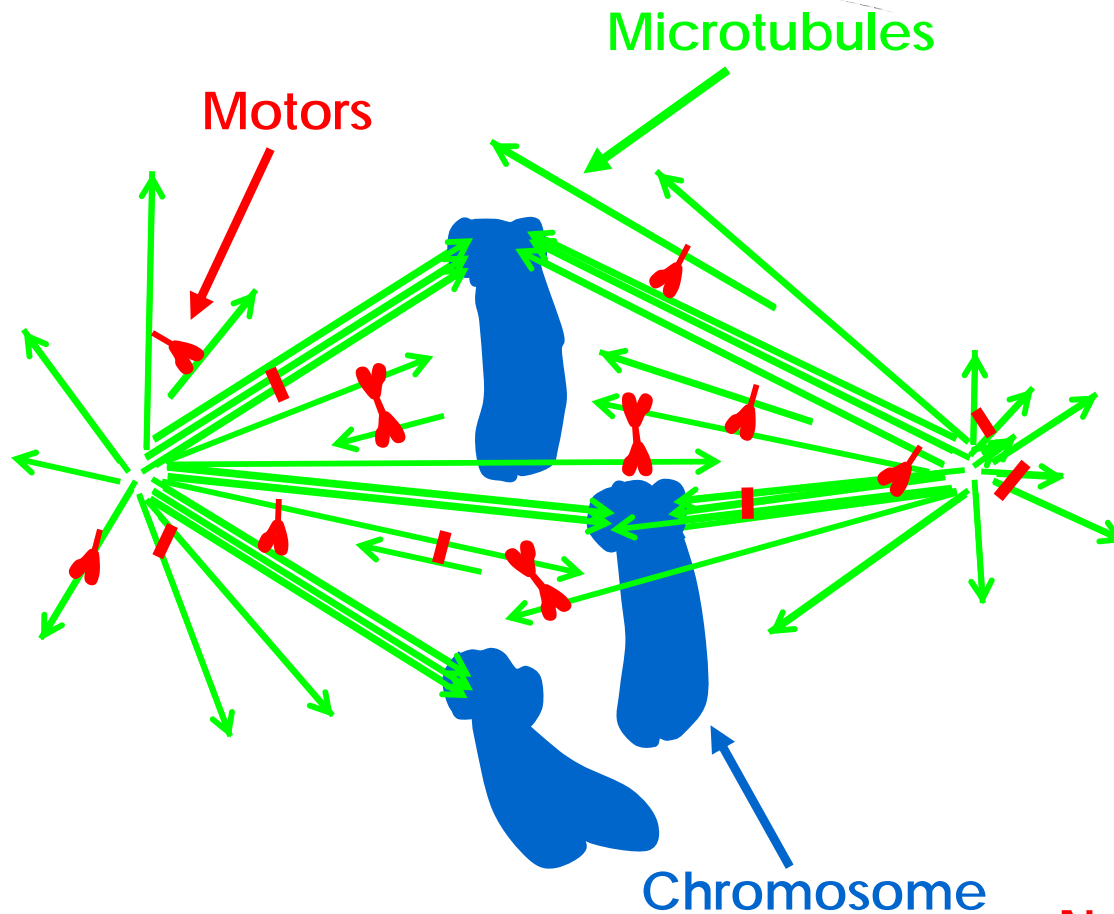
Mitchison, JCB, 1989, 109, 637

The Metaphase Spindle Can Exist at Steady-State for **Hours** but. . .

- 1) Constant Motion (**flux**) of Tubulin from Chromosomes to Poles
- 2) Rapid Turnover of Microtubules  
Half-life **~20 seconds**

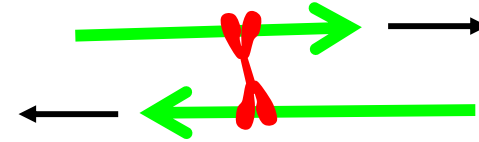
# Textbook Mitosis

A Wide Variety Proteins Organize  
Microtubules in the Spindle

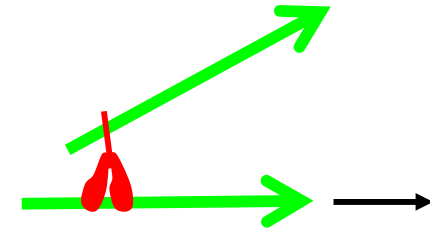


Motors

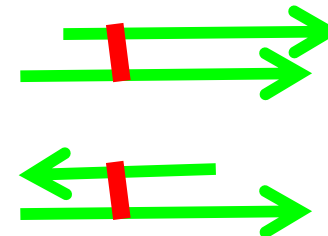
Slide Anti-Parallel Microtubules



Slide Parallel Microtubules



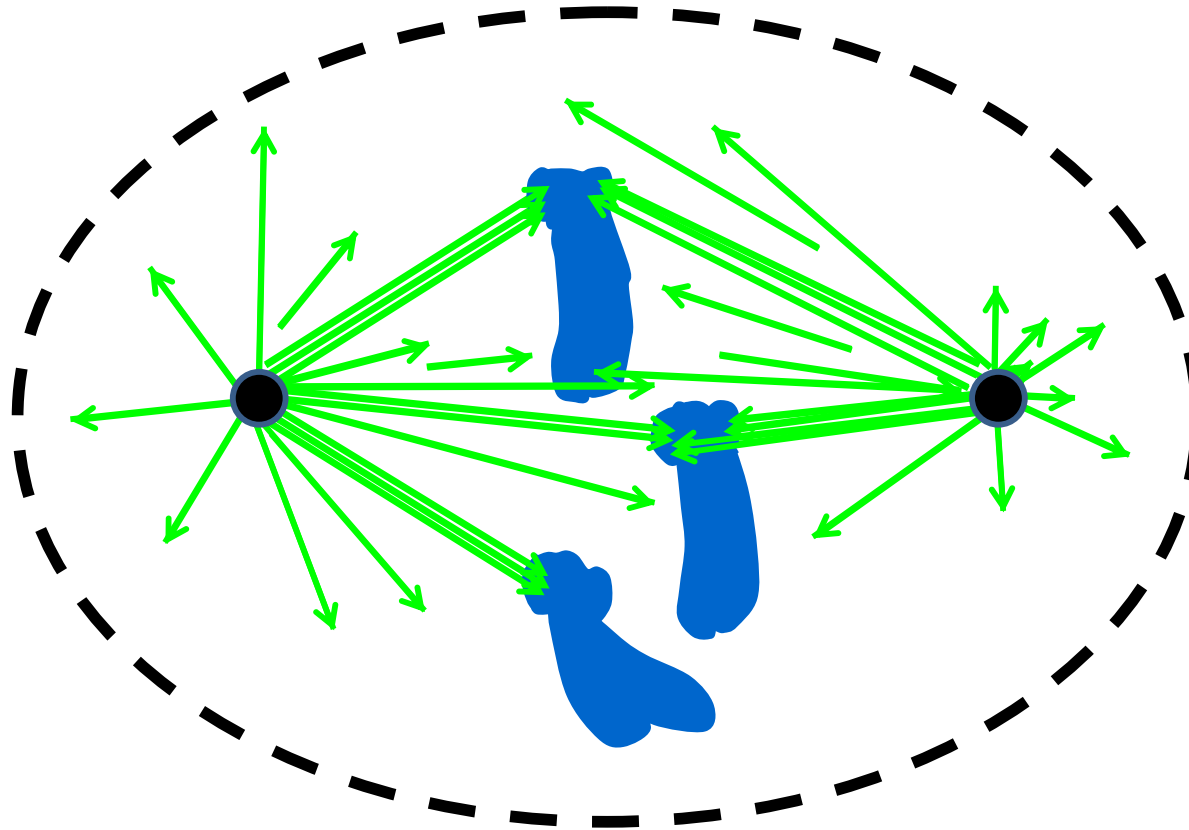
Cross-Linkers



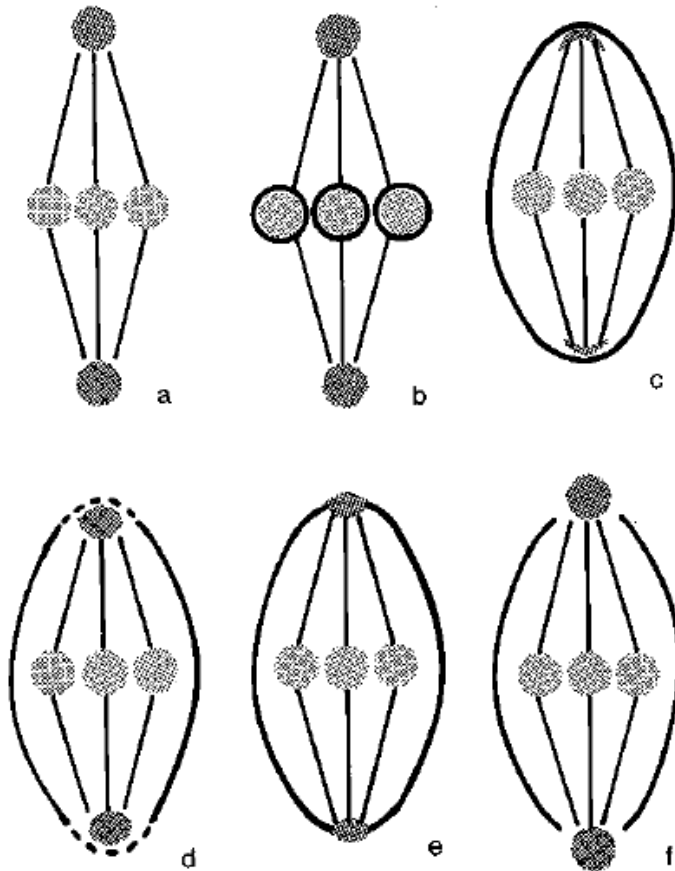
Nucleators, Stabilizers, Destabilizers



# Variation in Nuclear Envelope Break



# Variation in Nuclear Envelope Break



## Open

Complete Nuclear Envelope Breakdown  
Textbook Metazoan

## Closed

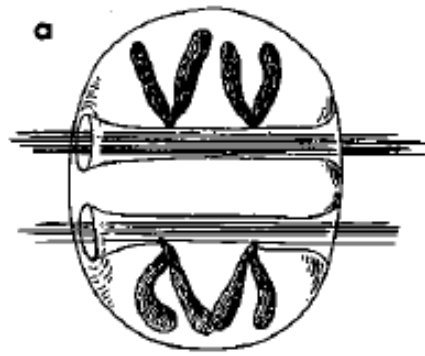
Spindle Inside Nucleus  
*S. cerevisiae*, *S. pombe*

## Other

Many, many varieties

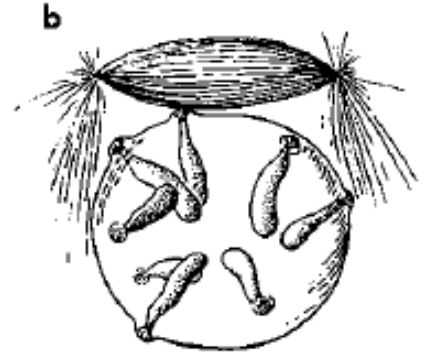
FIG. 1. Behavior of the nuclear envelope during mitosis. Light stippled circles represent the chromosomes, heavy stippled circles the polar structures, straight lines the spindle, and the heavy line the nuclear envelope. In (a) the envelope disperses, usually at prophase, to give an open spindle (see "di P, M, A, or T" in Table II); (b) represents a rare situation, only reported for *Stylocephalus*, in which the nuclear envelope disperses, but forms individual envelopes around each chromosome throughout mitosis; (c) and (e) are closed divisions with intranuclear spindle organizing or polar structures and membrane inserted NAOs respectively (see "intact" in Table II); (d) illustrates the "oc" behavior of Table II in which the membrane seems to transiently open to admit the NAO, then reseals around it during mitosis; (f) represents the polar fenestrate ("pf" in Table II) type of behavior where the cytoplasmic NAOs lie in large openings of the nuclear envelope through which the spindle was formed.

In myxomycetes, both closed and open division occur, depending on the stage of the life cycle



# Dinoflagellates

Microtubules Outside Nucleus  
Chromosomes Inside Nucleus  
No Traditional Spindle



# Hypermastigotes

Spindle Outside Nucleus  
Chromosomes Inside Nucleus

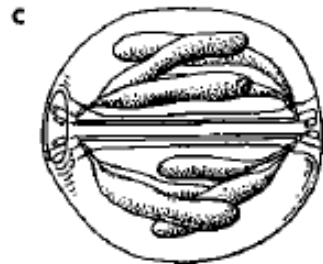
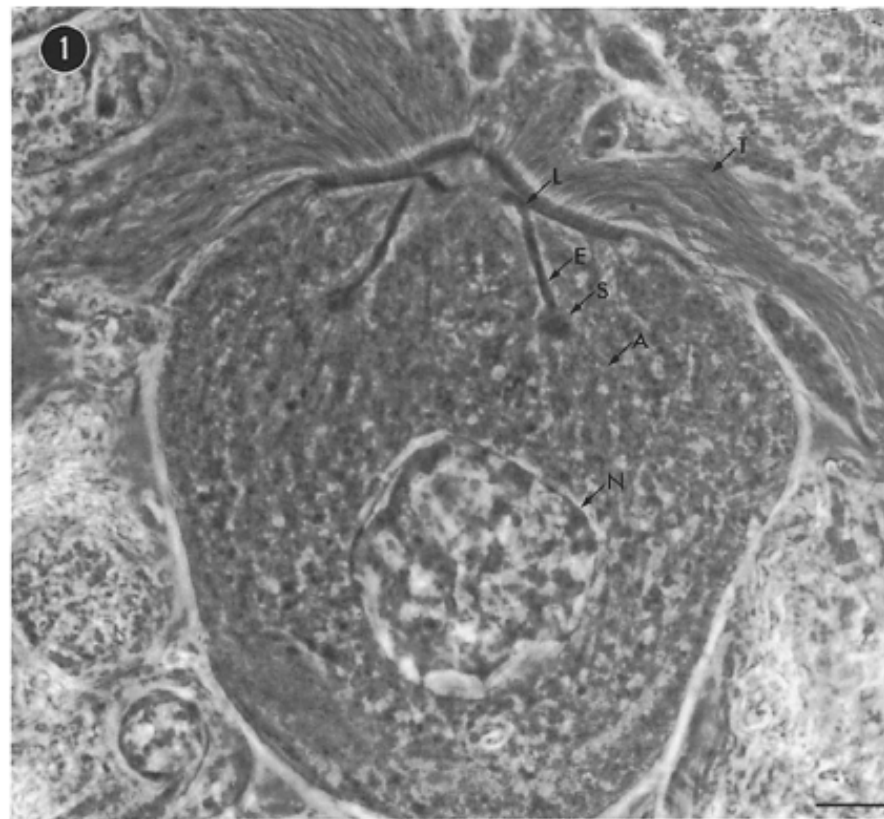
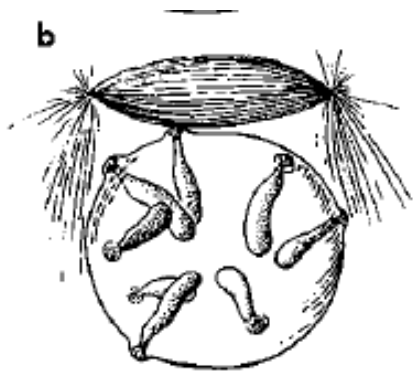
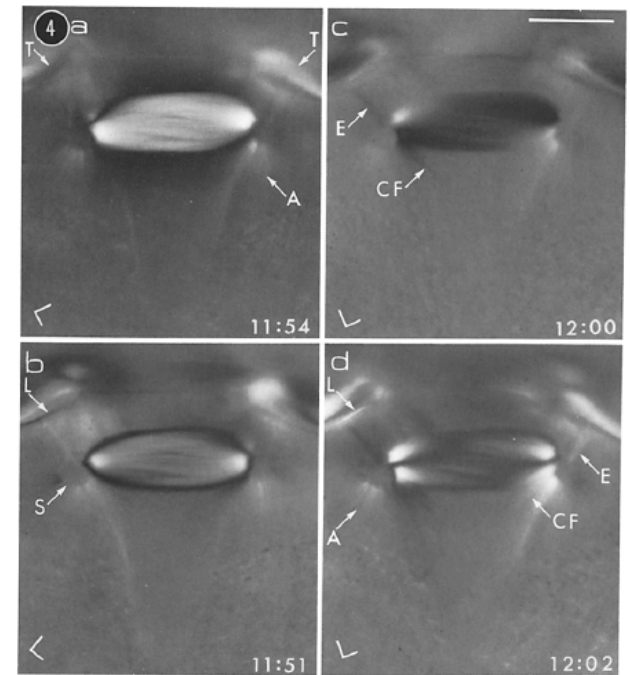


FIG. 1. The various forms of extranuclear spindles. (a) In dinoflagellates extranuclear microtubules occur in several parallel cytoplasmic channels which traverse the nucleus. Chromosomes are attached to the nuclear envelope surrounding channels. In some species a dense knoblike differentiation is found in the region of chromosome-membrane contact, and a single microtubule terminates at this structure (as illustrated in lower channel; cf. Fig. 5). In other species no such indications of microtubule-chromosome contact have been found (upper channel). (b) In hypermastigotes extranuclear microtubules are massed in a well-defined spindle. During a significant portion of chromosome movement, kinetochores are enclosed in pouchlike evaginations of the intact nuclear envelope and are not in contact with microtubules (cf. Figs. 2 and 3). (c) In *Syndinium* sp. the extranuclear spindle occurs within a single cytoplasmic channel which traverses the nucleus. Kinetochores protrude through porelike openings in the nuclear envelope and are connected to centrioles via chromosomal microtubules. Chromosome movement is produced as intercentriolar microtubules elongate (cf. Fig. 4).



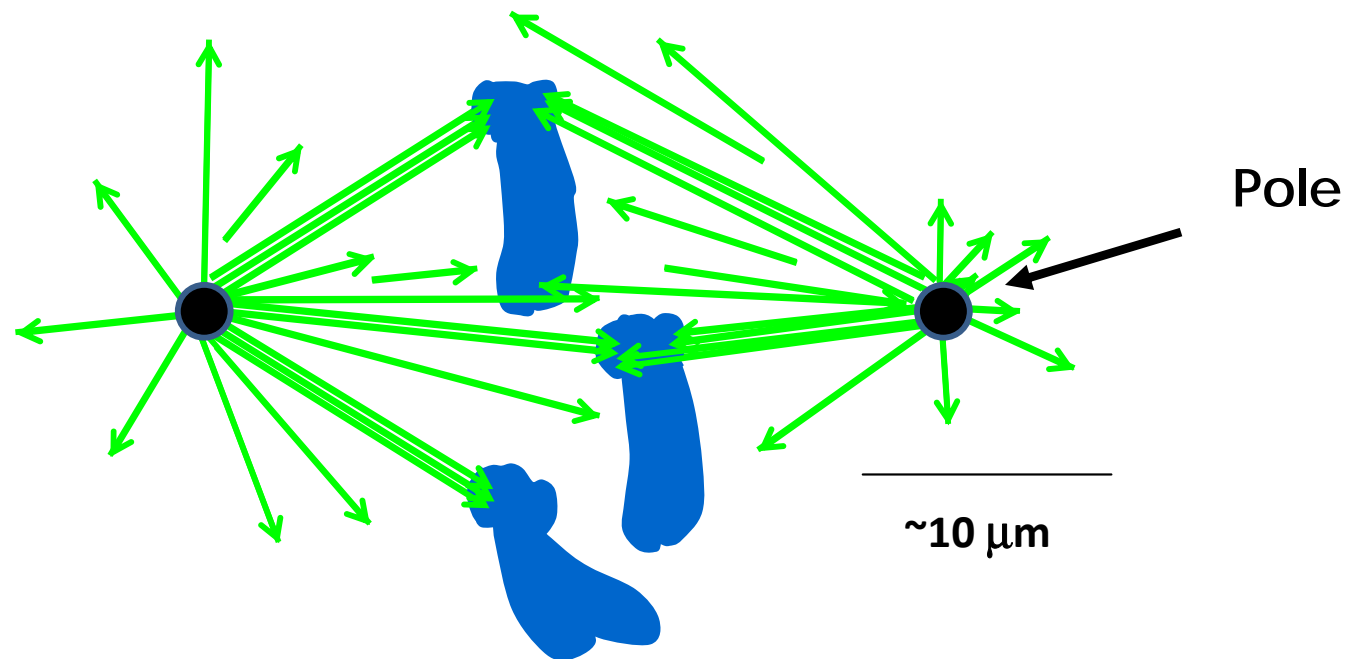
**FIGURE 1** Phase-contrast micrograph of *Barbulanympha* very early in division. The nucleus (*N*) still lies some distance away from the two bulbous centrosomes (*S*). The centrosomes cap the distal tips of the elongate-centrioles (*E*) which are seen as prominent twisted rods at the anterior end of the organism. Asters (*A*) radiate from the centrosomes. The converging proximal ends of the two elongate-centrioles bend medially and merge with the parabasal axostylar lamellae (*L*), seen in this optical section as thin dark lines running at the base of the flagellar kinetosomes. The left and right flagellar tufts (*T*) have not yet started to separate. Many species of protozoa cohabiting the wood cockroach intestine crowd around the *Barbulanympha*. Bar, 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .  $\times 1,370$ .



**FIGURE 4** Birefringence of mature, central spindle in prophase. Flagellar tufts (*T*) and their basal structures are now sufficiently separated so that the elongate-centrioles (*E*) diverge anteriorly. All four pictures were taken with Nikon 40x rectified polarized light objectives, with crossed polars and compensator axes oriented variously relative to the spindle axis. *L*, Axes of crossed polarizer and compensator slow axis is oriented. These photographs show how the central spindle is clearly composed of birefringent fiber bundles which are somewhat twisted relative to the spindle axis. Compare with electron micrograph Fig. 5. Where the concentration of fibers is greatest, adjacent to the centrosomal surface, individual fibers are not resolved and the birefringence is highest. Both spindle and aster birefringence appear to terminate at the surface (*S*) of the spherical centrosome, but in fact a weak, radially positive birefringence exists within the centrosomes (cf. Fig. 2*b*). The dark conical tip seen at the left spindle pole in (*b*) is in fact made up of birefringent fibers which continue from the central spindle through the centrosome and terminate at the tip of the elongate-centriole. (Also, see in Part II, Figs. 2*a*, *b*, *f* and 14*a*, *c*, *e*, and *f*). In (*b*), the fibers of the central spindle outside of the centrosome are more birefringent; they possess the same sign of birefringence, and also lie in the same orientation as the fibers within the centrosome, but they overcompensate and appear bright. In (*b*), the distal portion of the left hand elongate-centriole appears in bright compensation. In (*a*), (*c*), and (*d*), it appears in dark compensation. The distal portion of the right hand elongate-centriole which is mostly out of focus appears in bright compensation in (*a*), (*c*), and (*d*). Long astral rays (*A*), some running tangential to the teardrop-shaped nucleus, are seen in bright compensation in (*a*), (*b*), and (*d*). In (*c*) and (*d*), what appear to be short astral rays which converge postero-medially towards the spindle axis are in fact chromosomal spindle fibers (*CF*). They terminate abruptly on kinetochores which are permanently embedded in the nuclear envelope. Although difficult to photograph, a miniature, radially positive spherulite is visible in the rectified polarizing microscope at the tip of each of these astral rays. These spherulites are in fact the kinetochores. Time in h:min of day on 74g26. Bar, 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .  $\times 630$ .

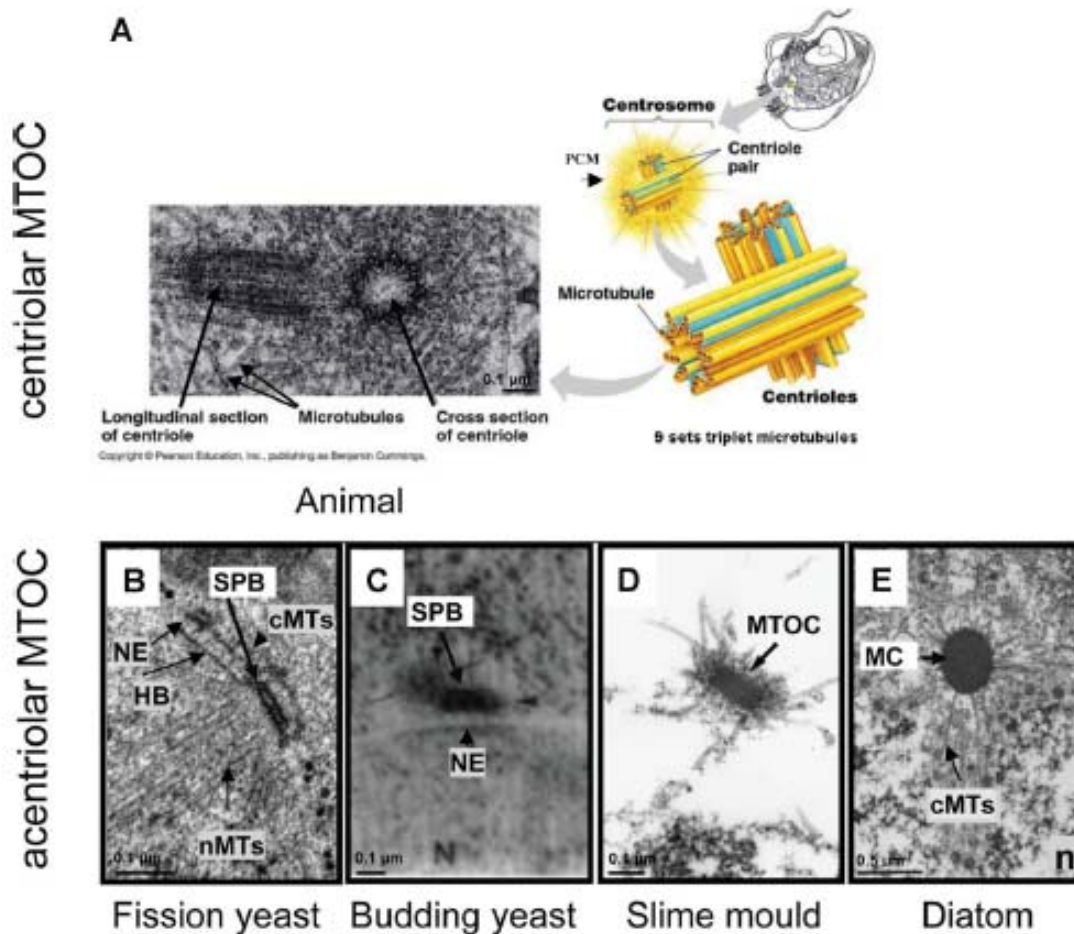
Barbulanympha: a hypermastigote  
 an anaerobic symbiont in cockroach gut  
 From Ritter, Inoue, Kubai, JCB, 1978

# Variation in Spindle Poles



# Variation in Spindle Poles

## Microtubule Organizing Centere



1) Centrioles

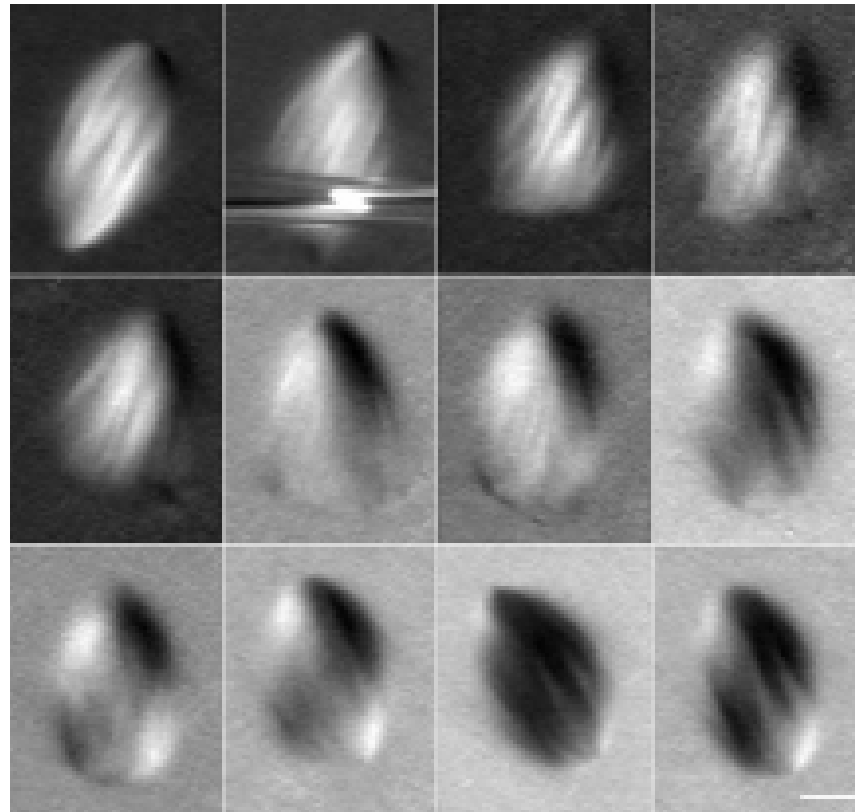
2) Acentriolar

3) Self-Organized

**Figure 1.** Diatom MTOC ultrastructure in an interphase cell compared to other MTOC models. **A:** Electron micrograph of animal centrosome (left) and schematic representation of the pair of centrioles surrounded by a pericentriolar matrix (PCM) (right).<sup>(23)</sup> Reprinted with permission from © Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Benjamin Cummings (Campbell N. A. and Reece J. B., *Biology*, © 2002). **B–E:** Electron micrographs of acentriolar MTOC of yeast (SPB) (B and C), slime mould (D) and pennate diatom (E). The SPB in *S. cerevisiae* (B) is a disc-like structure embedded in the NE connected to cytoplasmic MTs (cMTs) and nuclear MTs (nMTs). The half bridge (HB) is the site of the new SPB assembly.<sup>(22)</sup> Reprinted with permission from the Annual Review of Cell and Developmental Biology, Volume 20, © 2004 by Annual Reviews, www.annualreviews.org. The SPB of *S. pombe* (C) is a single dense layer beside the NE (arrow).<sup>(23)</sup> Reproduced with permission from Ding et al., 1997, *Mol Biol Cell*, 8 1461–1479, © The Biochemical Society. *D. discoideum* MTOC (D) is a matchbox-shaped three-layered structure.<sup>(1,10)</sup> Reprinted with permission from the Molecular Biology of the Cell, Volume 10, © 1999 by the American Society of Cell Biology. Pennate diatom (*Surirella ovalis*) MC (E) is an extranuclear structure, appearing as a well-defined dark granule from which MTs radiate around the interphase nucleus (n) and in all directions.<sup>(20)</sup> Reprinted with permission from Rockefeller University Press, © Tippit and Pickett-Heaps, 1977. Originally published in *The Journal of Cell Biology*, 73: 705–727.

# Self-Organized Spindle Poles

## Xenopus laevis (Meiotic Extract)



Tirnauer et al, MBC, 2004, 15 1776

10  $\mu$ m

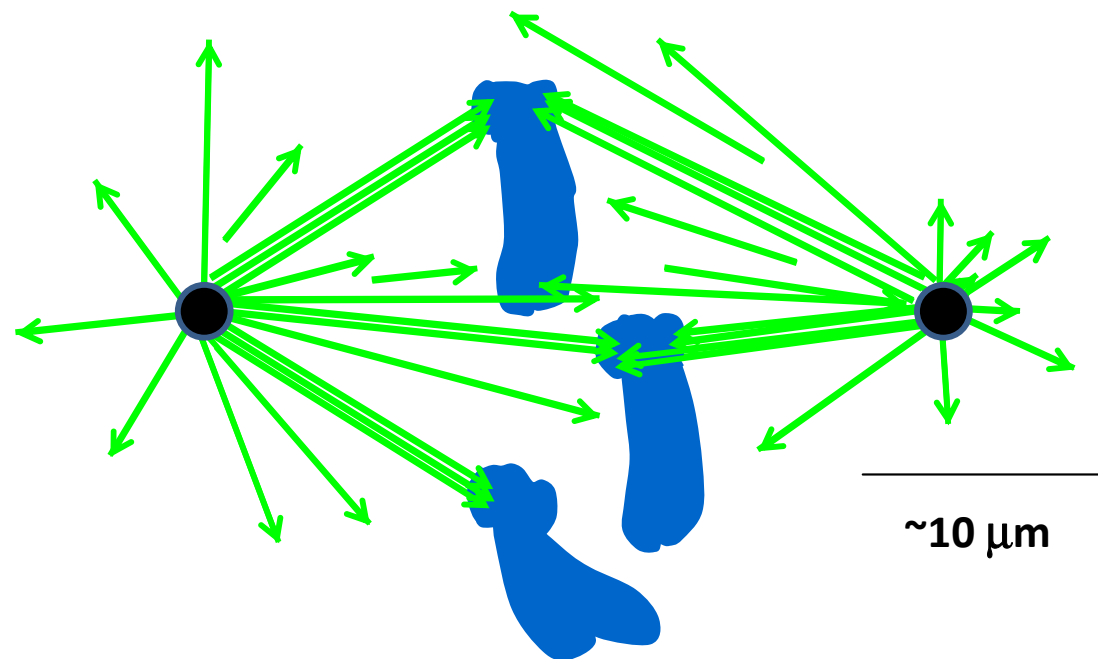
# Variation in Spindle Poles

## Variation In Importance of Centrioles in Spindle Fu

- 1) Not Present - Not Important  
meiosis in most metozan females
- 2) Present - Not (Very) Important  
mammalian tissue culture cells  
drosophila
- 3) Present - Crucial  
C. elegans 1<sup>st</sup> mitosis

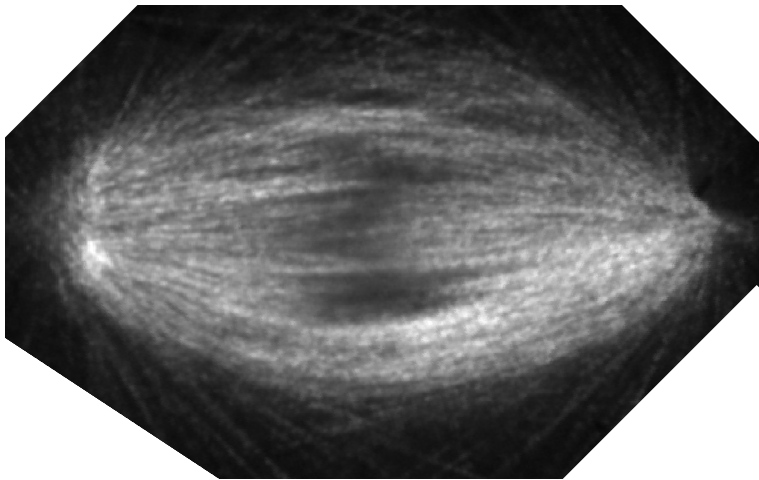


# Variation in Spindle Structure And Microtubule Behaviors

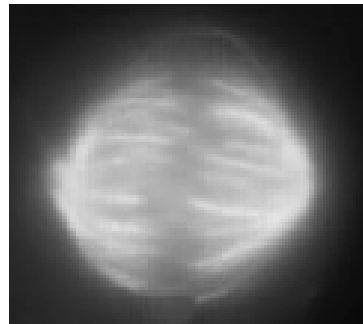


# Spindles Have Different Shapes a

**Xenopus**  
Egg Extract

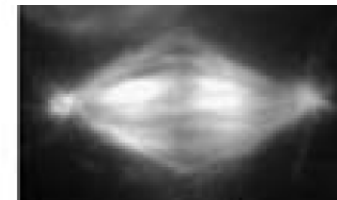


**Human**  
Tissue Culture



Sauer, et al, Mol. Cell. Prot. 4:1,35, 2005

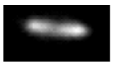
**Drosophila**  
Tissue Culture



~10  $\mu$ m

Goshima, et al, Curr. Bio. 15:1979, 2005

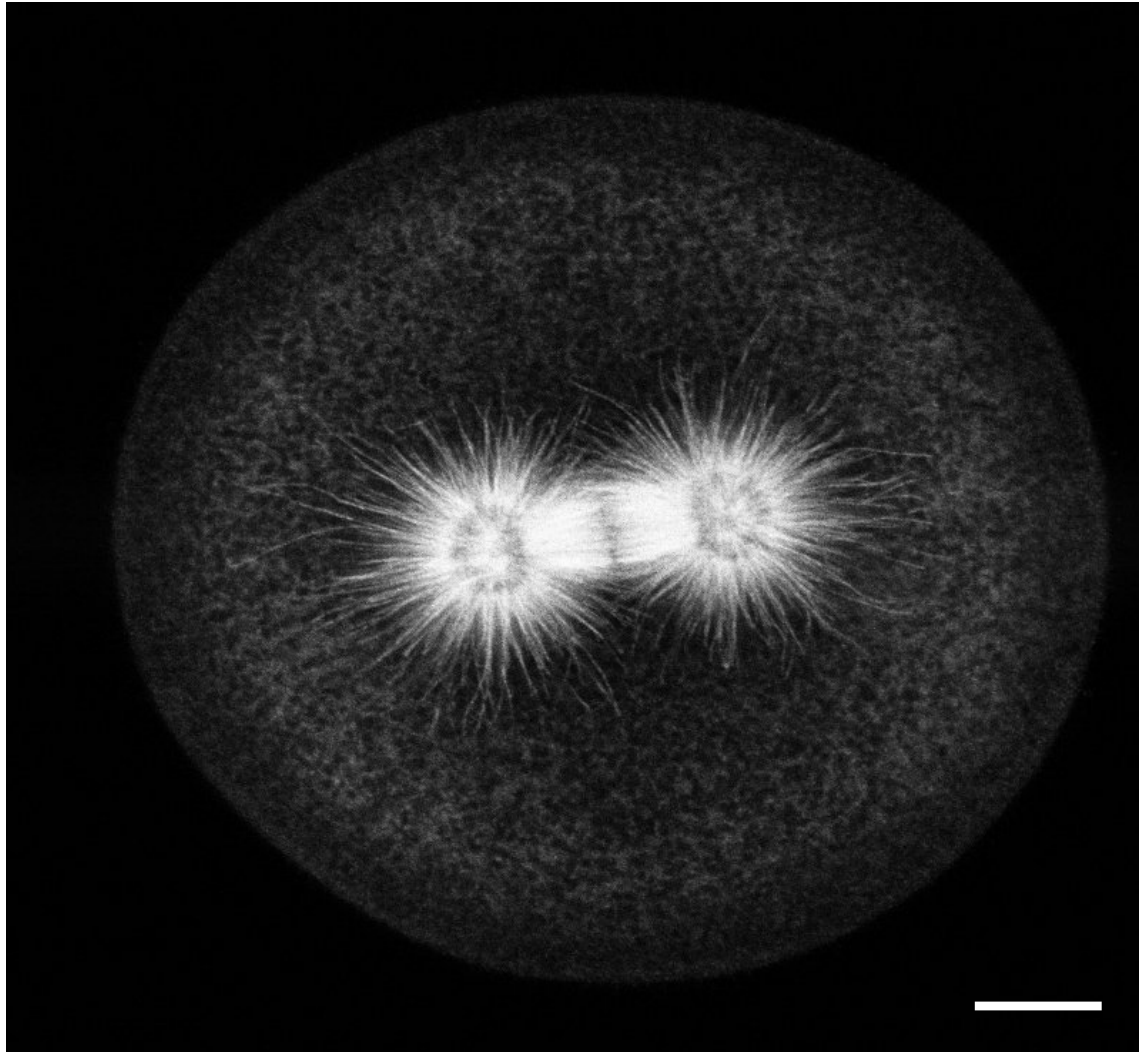
**Yeast**



Pearson, et al, Mol. Bio. Cell. 17:4069, 2006

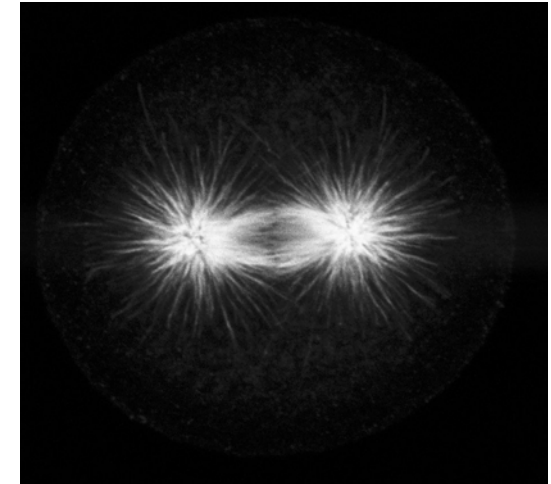
# Closely Related Organisms Can Have Different Spindles

*S. droebachiensis*  
“green urchin”



20  $\mu\text{m}$

*S. purpuratus*  
“purple urchin”



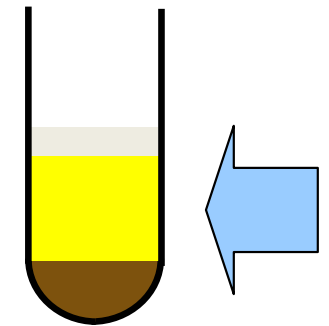
Victoria Foe  
Center for Cell Dynam

# Closely Related Organisms Can Have Different Spindle Cell Extracts

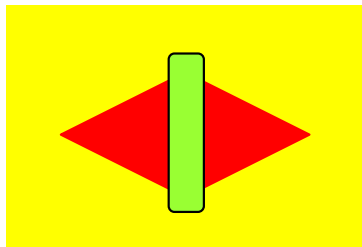
*Xenopus laevis*

Eggs

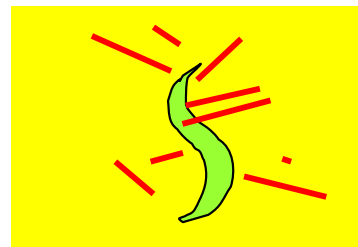
Egg Extracts



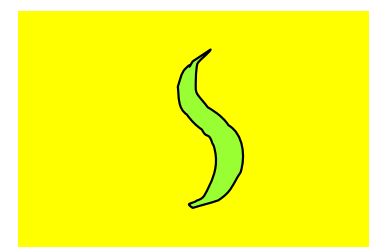
Spindles  
Assemble



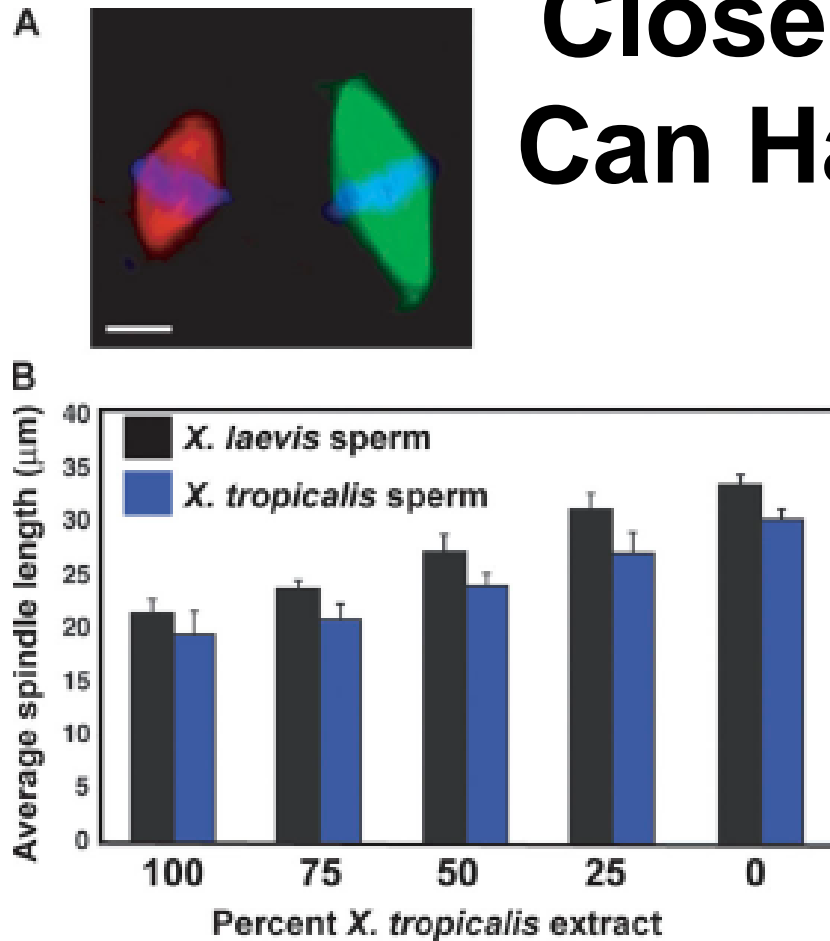
Microtubules  
Grow



Add DNA



# Closely Related Organisms Can Have Different Spindles



## *Xenopus tropicalis*

Eggs ~0.6 mm diameter

Genome ~1.7 x 10<sup>9</sup> bp

Meioses II Spindle Length ~ 20 micrometers

## *Xenopus laevis*

Eggs ~1.2 mm diameter

Genome ~3 x 10<sup>9</sup> bp

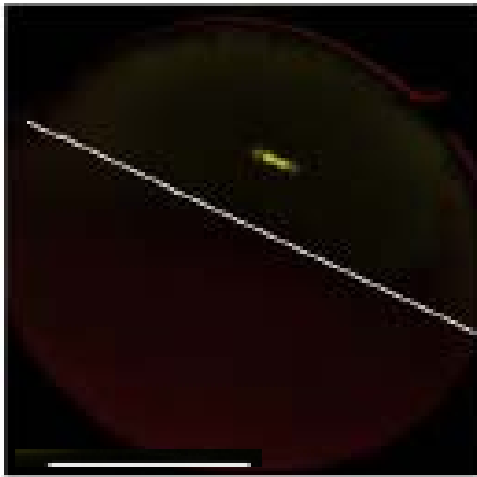
Meioses II Spindle Length ~ 35 micrometers

Figure 3. **Comparison of spindle length between *X. tropicalis* and *X. laevis*.** (A) Spindles assembled around *X. laevis* sperm nuclei in either *X. laevis* or *X. tropicalis* egg extracts were visualized using Hoechst dye (blue, DNA) and the incorporation of X-rhodamine tubulin (red microtubules, *X. tropicalis*), or Alexa Fluor 488 tubulin (green microtubules, *X. laevis*). Bar, 10 μm. (B) Mixed reactions with the indicated proportion of *X. tropicalis* extract were combined with *X. laevis* or *X. tropicalis* sperm nuclei. Spindle length was measured from pole to pole. A linear relationship was observed between the proportion of *X. laevis* extract present and spindle length. Error bars are the SD.

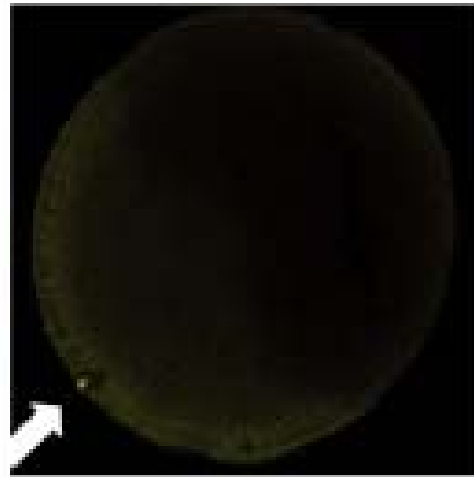
*Xenopus tropicalis* egg extracts provide insight into scaling of the mitotic spindle

# Different Spindles Within the Same Organism Are Different

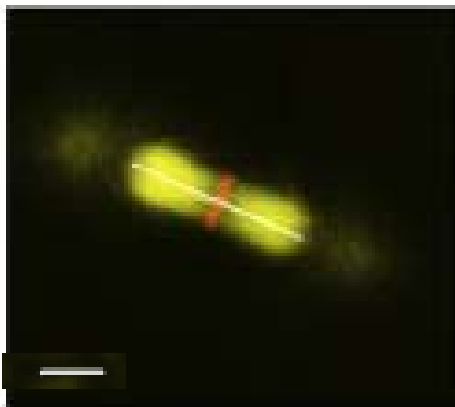
## Xenopus laevis



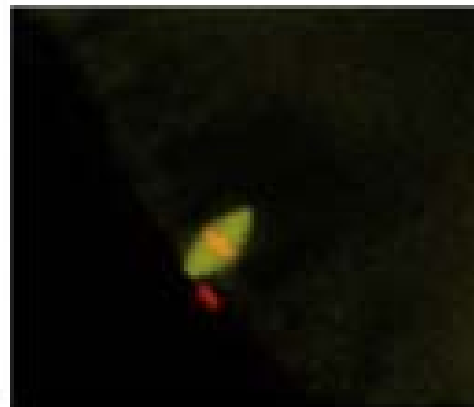
500  $\mu\text{m}$  Mitosis 2



Meiosis II



20  $\mu\text{m}$

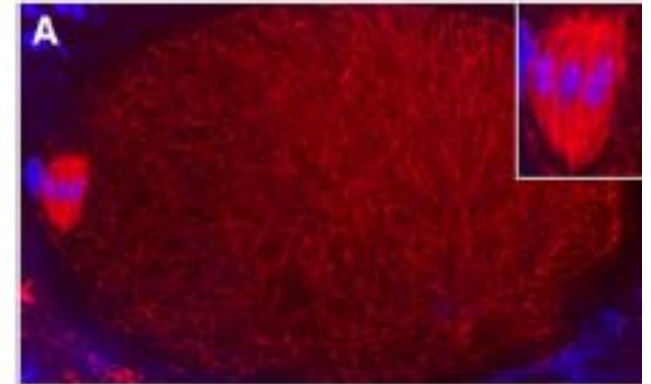


Evidence for an Upper Limit to Mitotic Spindle Length

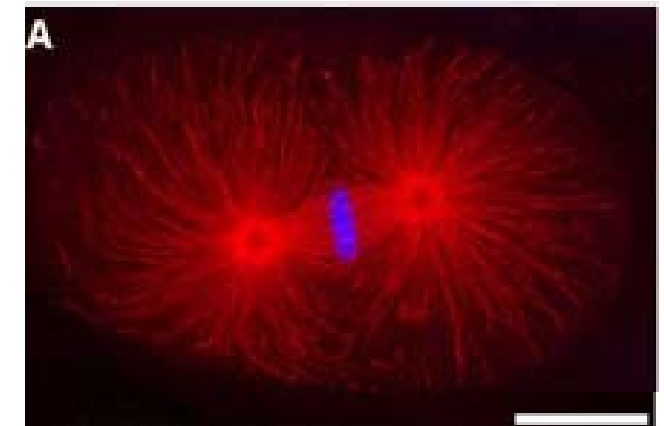
Martin Wühr,<sup>1,\*</sup> Yao Chen,<sup>2</sup> Sophie Dumont,<sup>1,3</sup>  
Aaron C. Groen,<sup>1</sup> Daniel J. Needleman,<sup>1</sup> Adrian Salic,<sup>2</sup>  
and Timothy J. Mitchison<sup>1</sup>

## C. elegans

### Meiosis



### Mitosis 1



10  $\mu\text{m}$

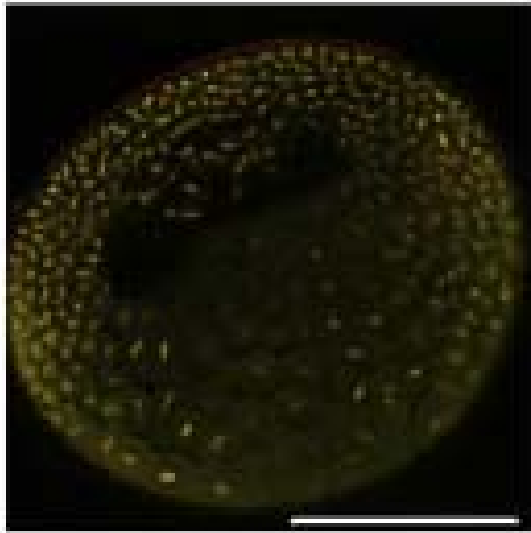
Katanin Disrupts the Microtubule Lattice and Increases Polymer Number in *C. elegans* Meiosis

Martin Srayko,<sup>1,3</sup> Eileen T. O'Toole,<sup>2,3</sup>  
Anthony A. Hyman,<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Müller-Reichert<sup>1,4\*</sup>

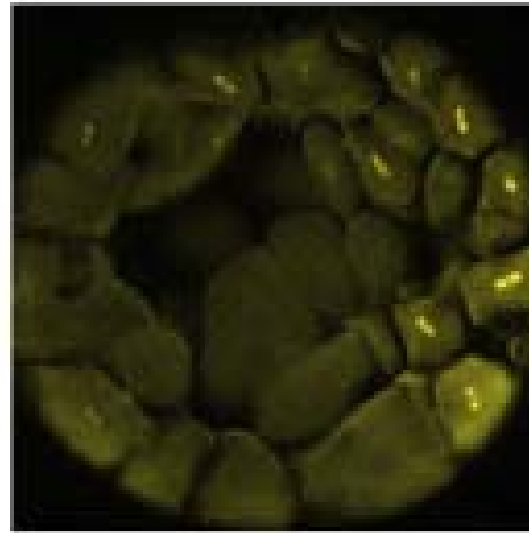
were distributed throughout the  
(Figure 1C, white spheres; see I

# Different Spindles Within the Same Organism Are Different

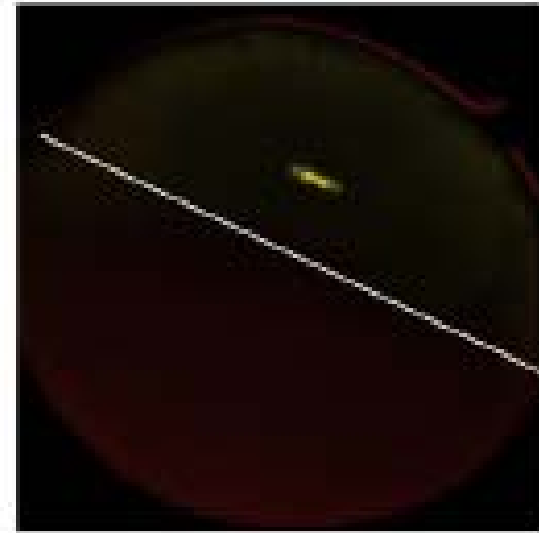
## Xenopus laevis



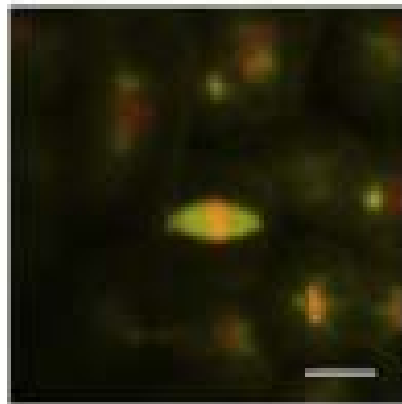
**Stage 8** 500  $\mu\text{m}$



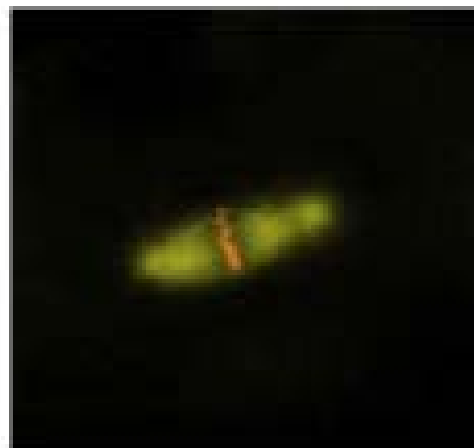
**Mitosis 7**



**Mitosis 2**

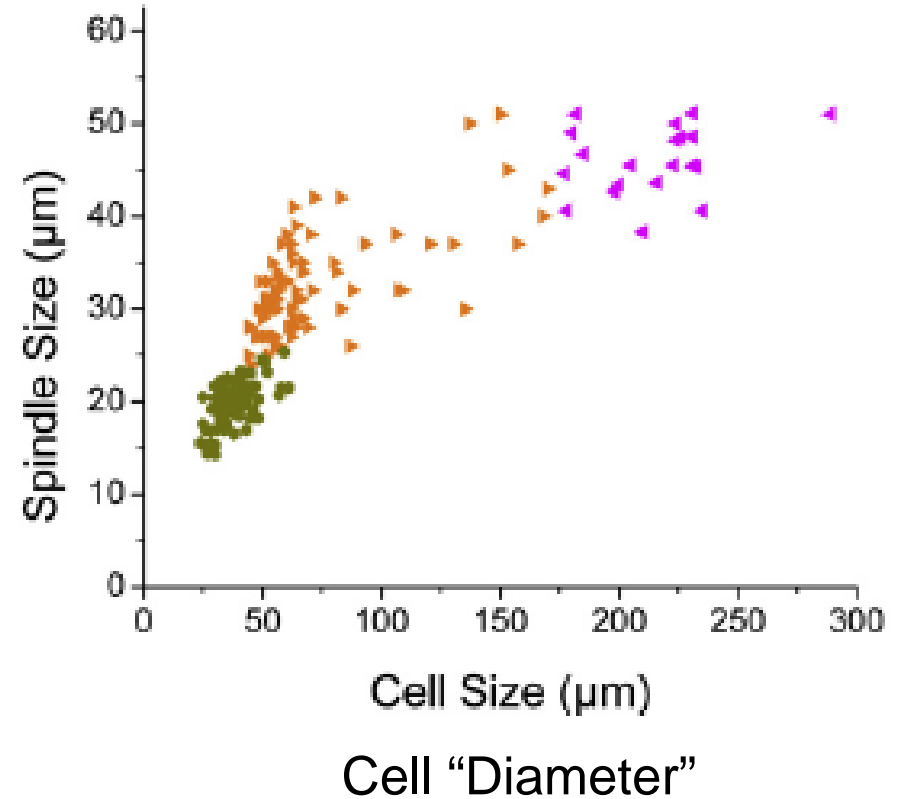
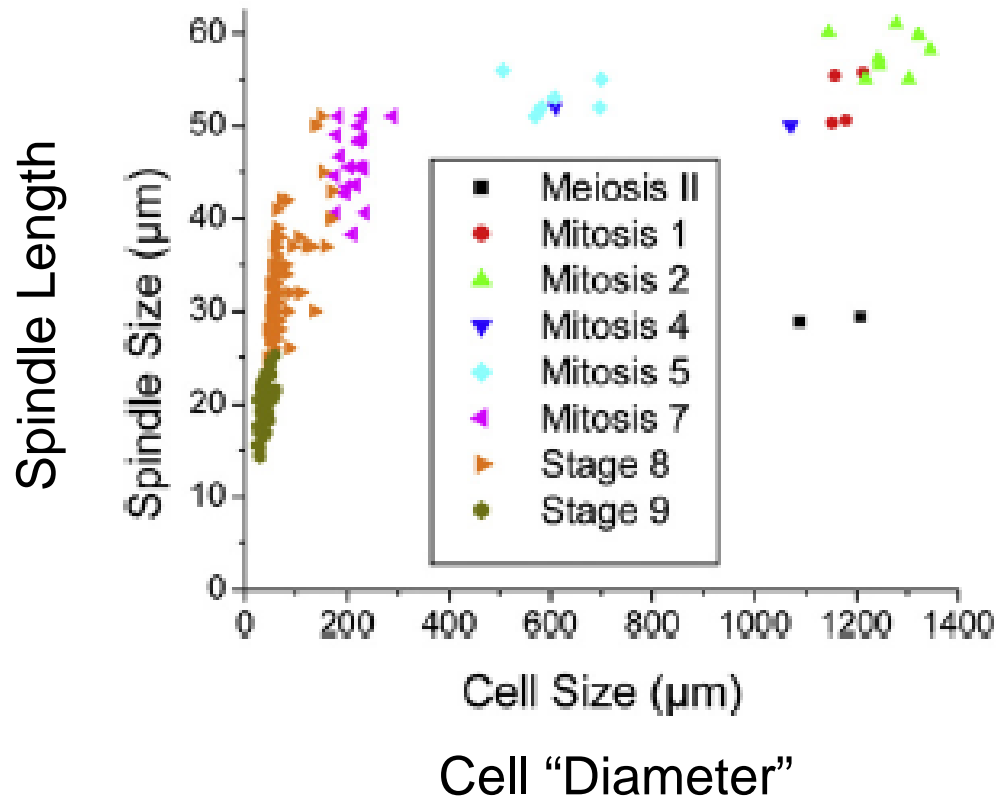


20  $\mu\text{m}$



# Different Spindles Within the Same Organism Are Different

## Xenopus laevis

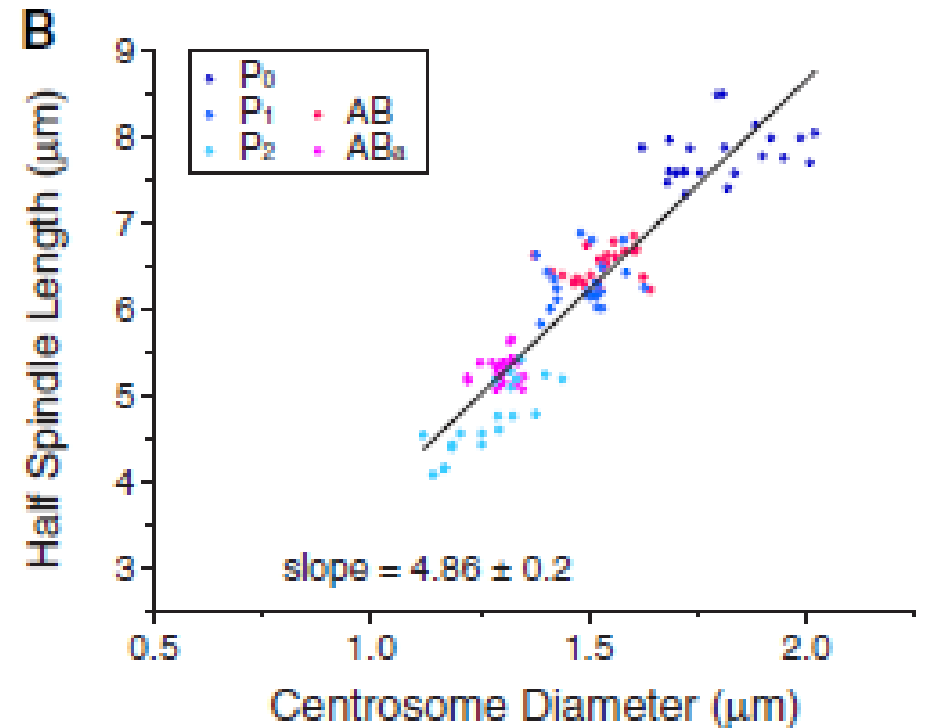
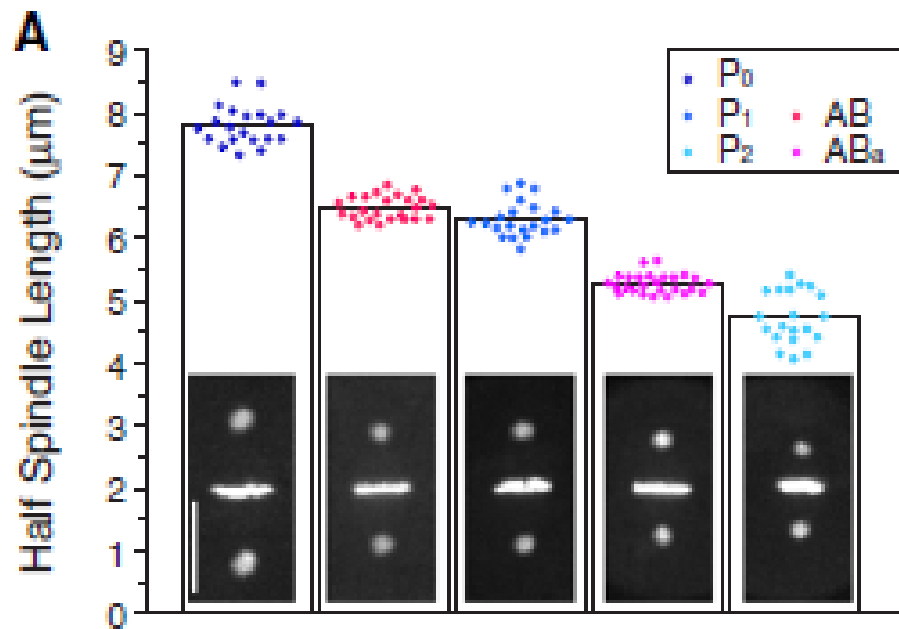


**Mechanism Unclear: Confinement?**  
**Altered Biochemistry?**



# Different Spindles Within the Same Organism Are Different

## C. elegans



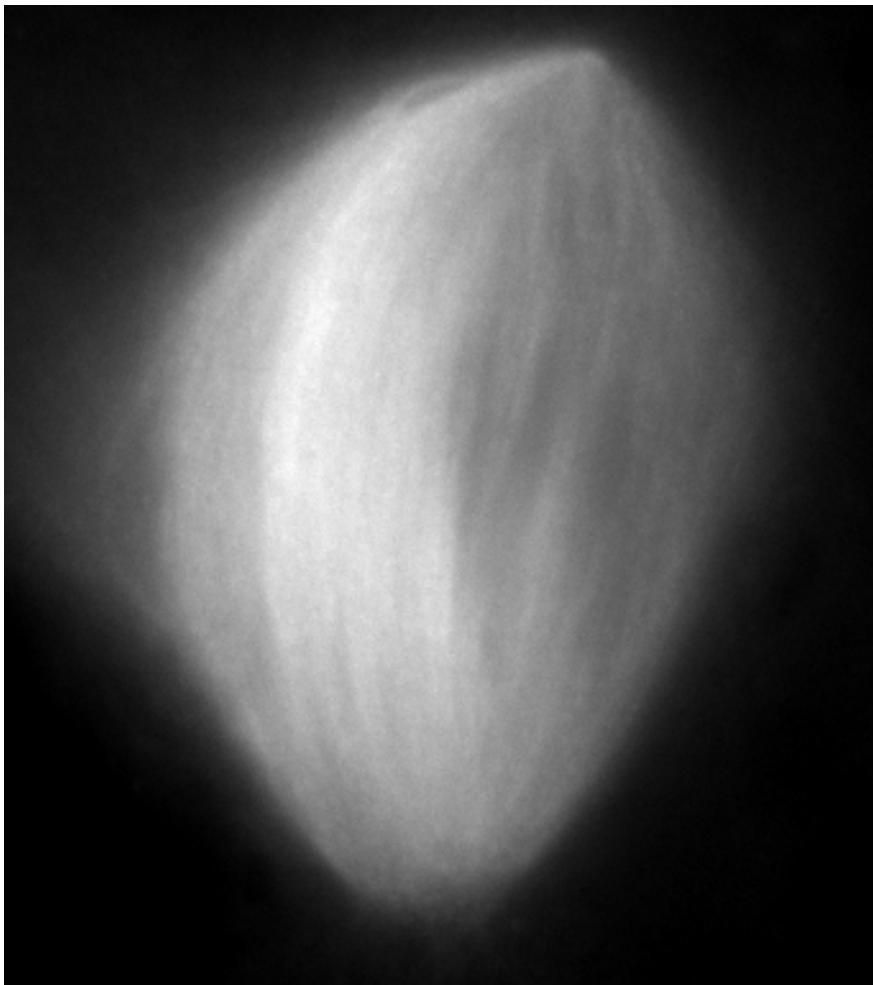
### Centrosome Size Sets Mitotic Spindle Length in *Caenorhabditis elegans* Embryos

Garrett Greenan,<sup>1,2</sup> Clifford P. Brangwynne,<sup>1,2,3</sup>  
Steffen Jaensch,<sup>1</sup> Jöbin Gharakhani,<sup>2,3</sup> Frank Jülicher,<sup>2,3,\*</sup>  
and Anthony A. Hyman<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

embryonic division  
between kinetochore  
( $p > 0.05$ ), or 1

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: **Turnover**

**Xenopus laevis (Meiotic Extract)**



## **FRAP**

**Fluorescence Recovery  
After Photobleaching**

- 1) Photobleach Fluorescence  
Tubulin**
- 2) Measure Time Scale of  
Recovery**

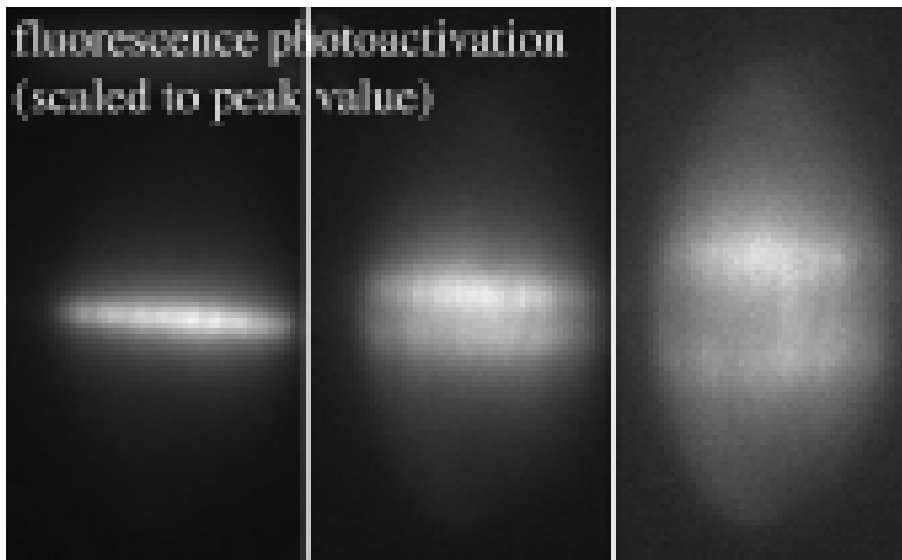
**(many problems and caveats)**

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: Turnover

Yeast, <i>S. pombe</i> FRAP (Gardner, 2006)	40-100 seconds
Yeast, <i>S. cerevisiae</i> FRAP (Maddox, 2000)	~50 seconds
<i>Xenopus laevis</i> (meiotic extract) FRAP, Photoactivation, Single Molecule Dynamics	~20 seconds
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (tissue culture) FRAP (Buster, 2007)	~20 seconds
Sea Urchin Embryo FRAP (Salmon, 1984)	~20 seconds
PTK2 (kangaroo rat kidney tissue culture) FRAP (Rizik, 2009)	~10 seconds
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (embryo) FRAP (Cheerambathur, 2007)	~7 seconds

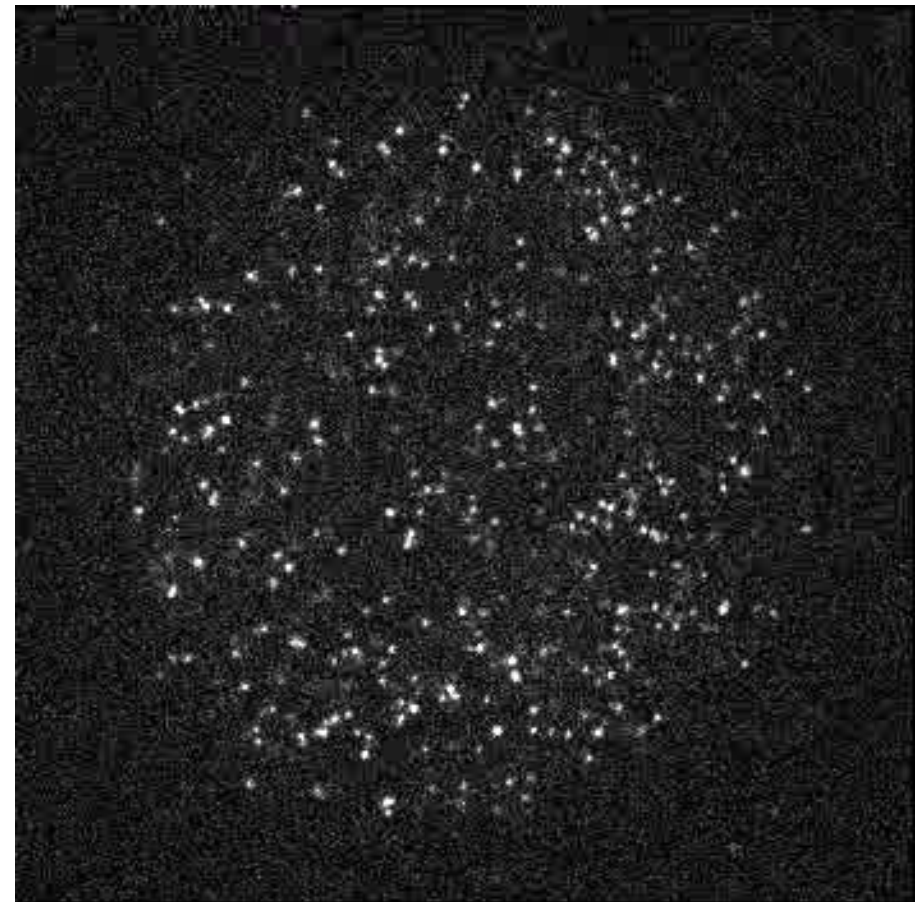
# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: Flux

Photoconvertible Tubulin  
(PTK2, Marsupial Tissue Culture)



Mitchison, JCB, 1989, 109, 637

Single Molecule Tubulin  
(*Xenopus laevis*, meiotic extract)



# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: Flux

Xenopus laevis (meiotic extract) ~ 2  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

FRAP, Photoactivation, Single Molecule Dynamics, Speckle

Arabidopsis (plant) ~ 2  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

FRAP (Dhonukshe, 2006)

Drosophila melanogaster (embryo) ~ 1.5  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

Speckle (Brust-Mascher, 2002)

PTK2 (kangaroo rat kidney tissue culture) ~0.5  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

Photoconversion (Mitchison, 1989)

U2OS (human tissue culture) ~0.5  $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$

Photoconversion (Ganem, 2005)

Yeast, *S. pombe* Not Measurable

FRAP (Gardner, 2006)

Yeast, *S. cerevisiae* Not Measurable

FRAP, Speckle (Maddox, 2000)

*C. Elegans* (1<sup>st</sup> mitotic) Not Measurable

FRAP

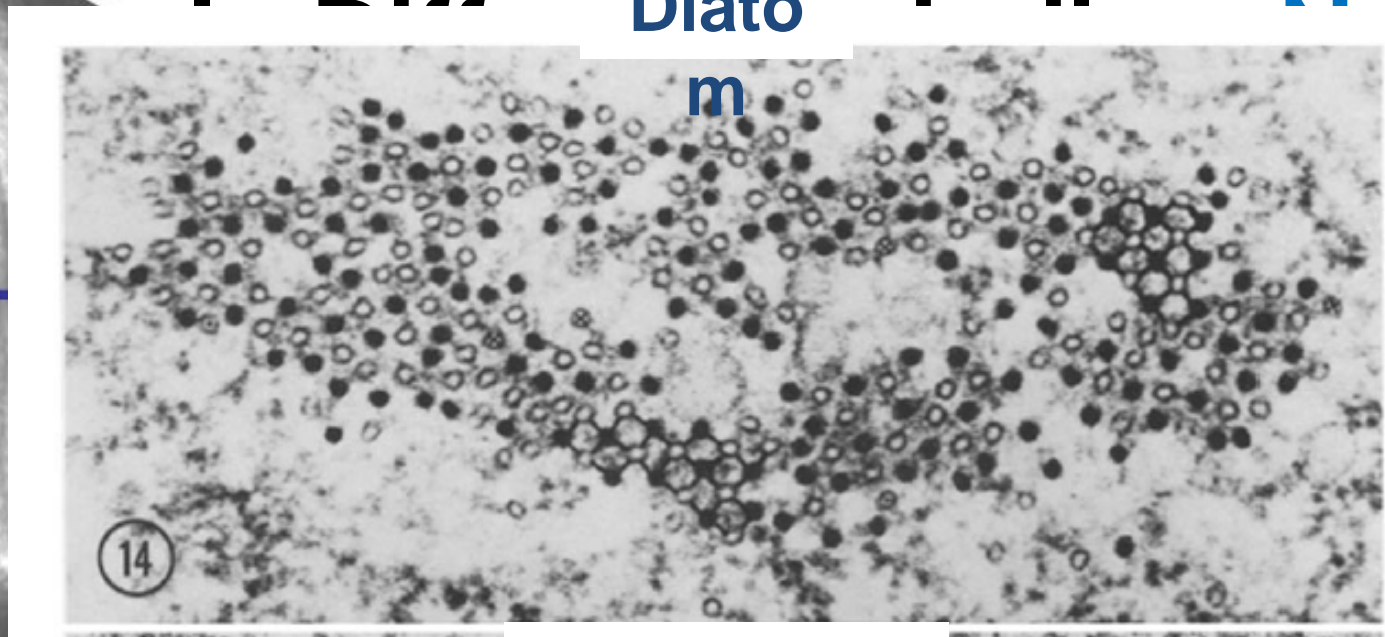
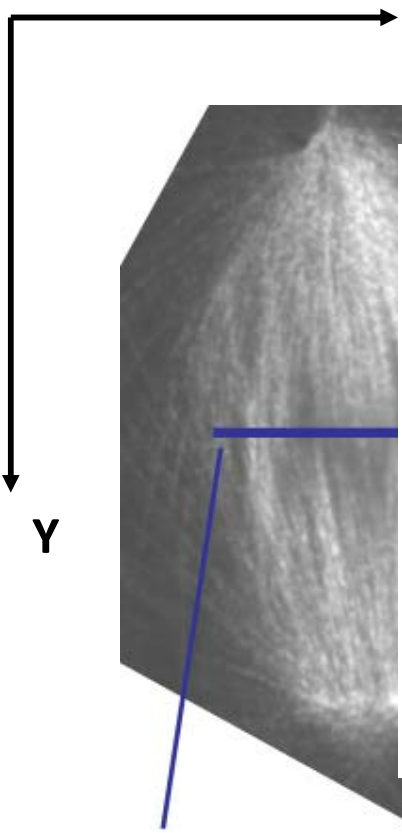
# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different

Diatom

number

Extract

Lab)



McDonald, 1979

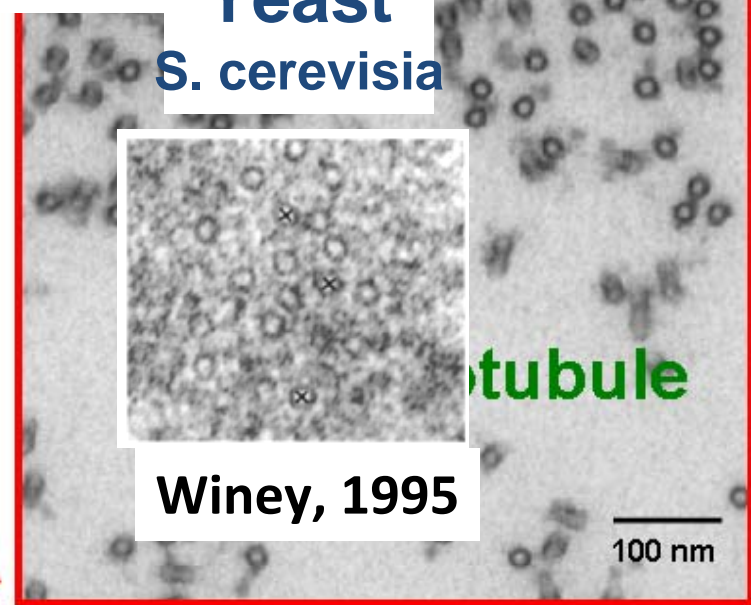
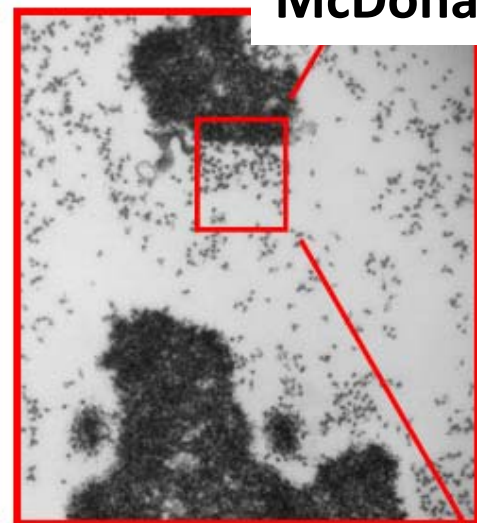
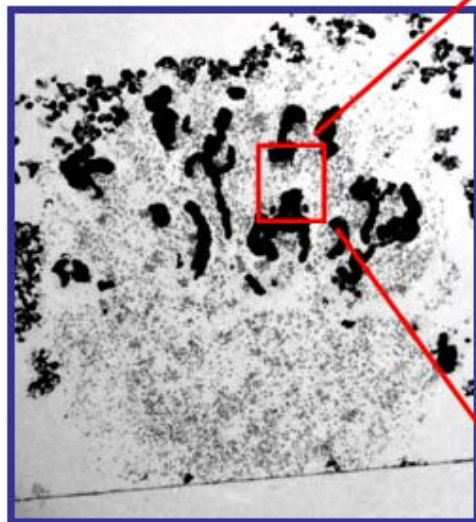
Yeast

*S. cerevisia*

tubule

Winey, 1995

100 nm



Y

Z

X

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: **Number**

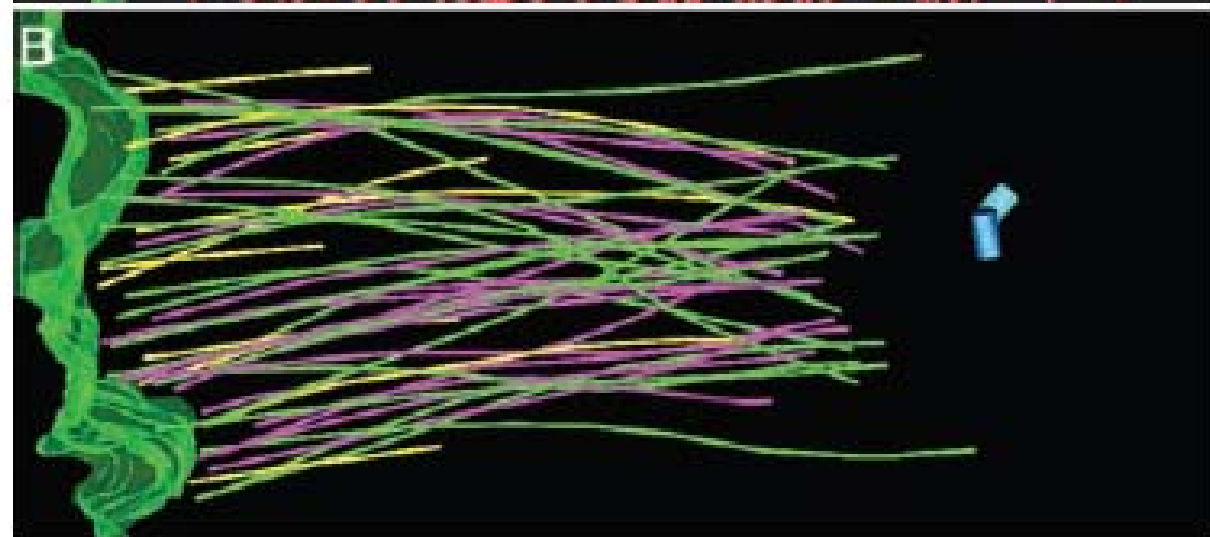
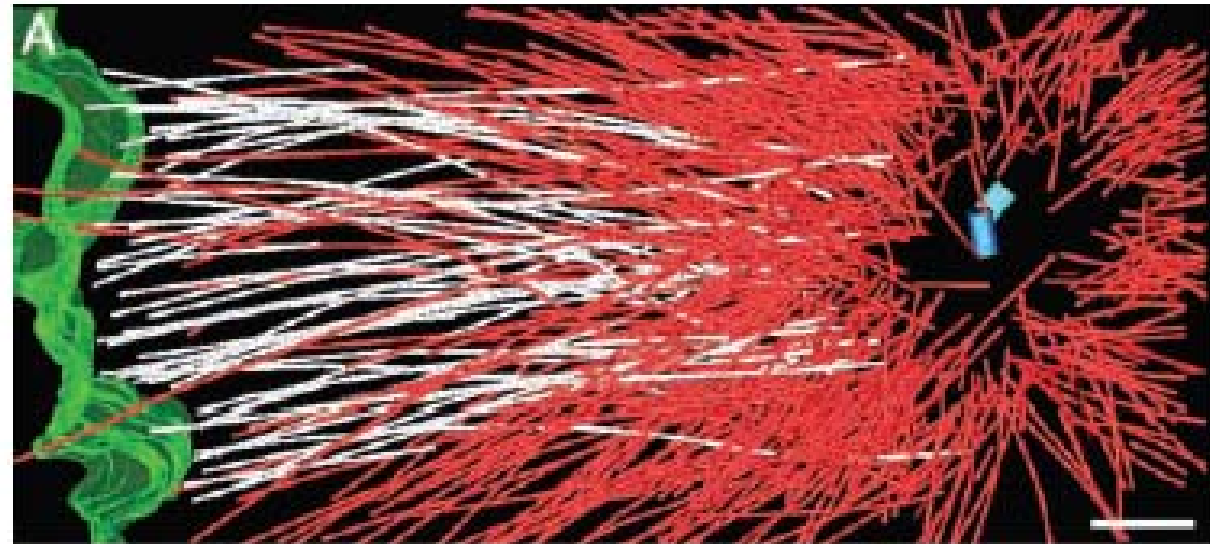
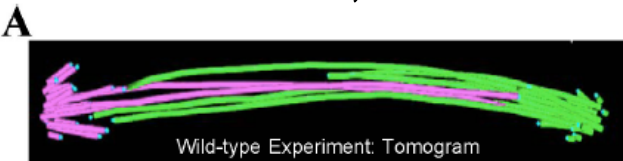
Xenopus laevis (meiotic extract)	~ 100,000 ?
HeLa (human tissue culture) McIntosh, 1971	~10,000 ?
PTK2 (kangaroo rat kidney tissue culture) Mastronarde, 1995	~5,000 ?
Diatoma vulgare McIntosh, 1979	~1,000
Yeast, <i>S. cerevisiae</i> Winey, 1995	~40
Yeast, <i>S. pombe</i> Ding, 1993	~40

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different in Different Spindles: Lengths and Location

C. Elegans mitotic (partial)

O'Toole, 2003

Yeast, *S. cerevisiae*  
Gardner, 2008

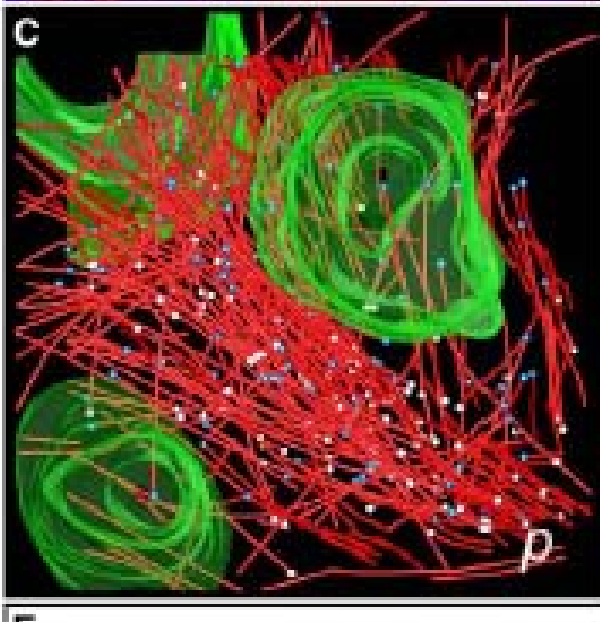
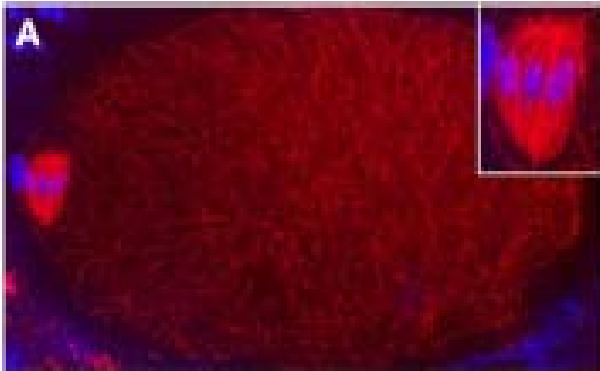


500 nm

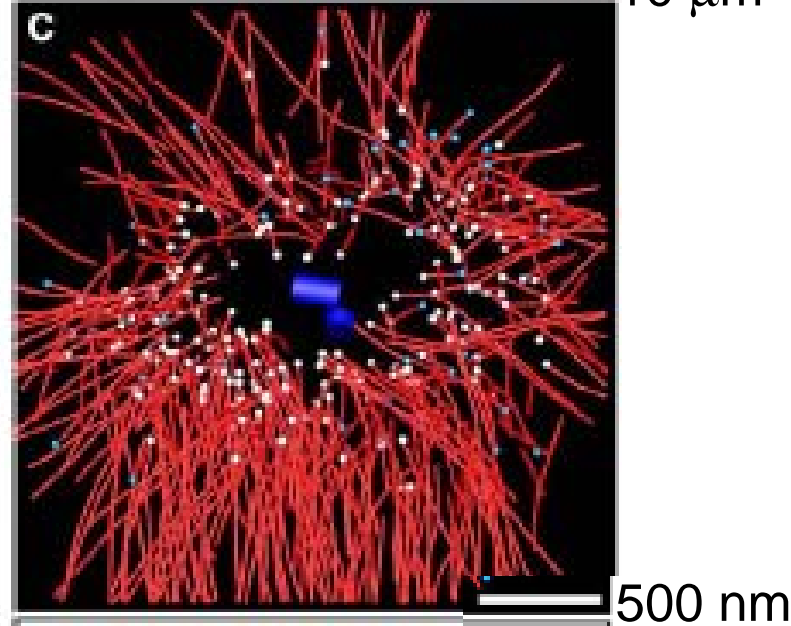
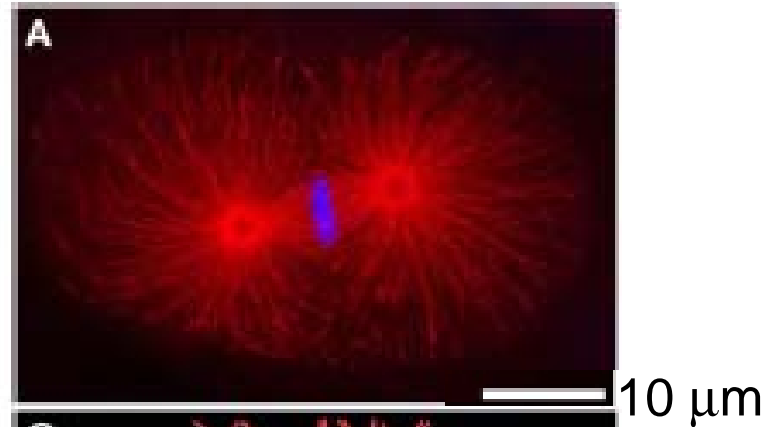


# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different in Different Spindles: Lengths and Locations

## C. elegans meiosis



## C. elegans 1st mitotic



## Meiosis

- Short Microtubules
- Plus and Minus Ends Spread Throughout

## 1<sup>st</sup> Mitotic

- Long Microtubules
- Minus Ends Located Near Centrosome

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different in Different Spindles: Lengths and Location

C. Elegans (1<sup>st</sup> mitotic)

All Minus Ends At Poles

“Long” Microtubules

Yeast, *S. pombe*

All Minus Ends At Poles

“Long” Microtubules

Yeast, *S. cerevisiae*

All Minus Ends At Poles

“Long” Microtubules

PTK2 (kangaroo rat kidney tissue culture)

Minus Ends Throughout

“Short” Microtubules

C. Elegans (meiotic)

Minus Ends Throughout

“Short” Microtubules

*Xenopus laevis* (meiotic extract)

Minus Ends Throughout

(indirect data)

“Short” Microtubules

# Microtubule Behaviors Are Different In Different Spindles: **Kinetochores**

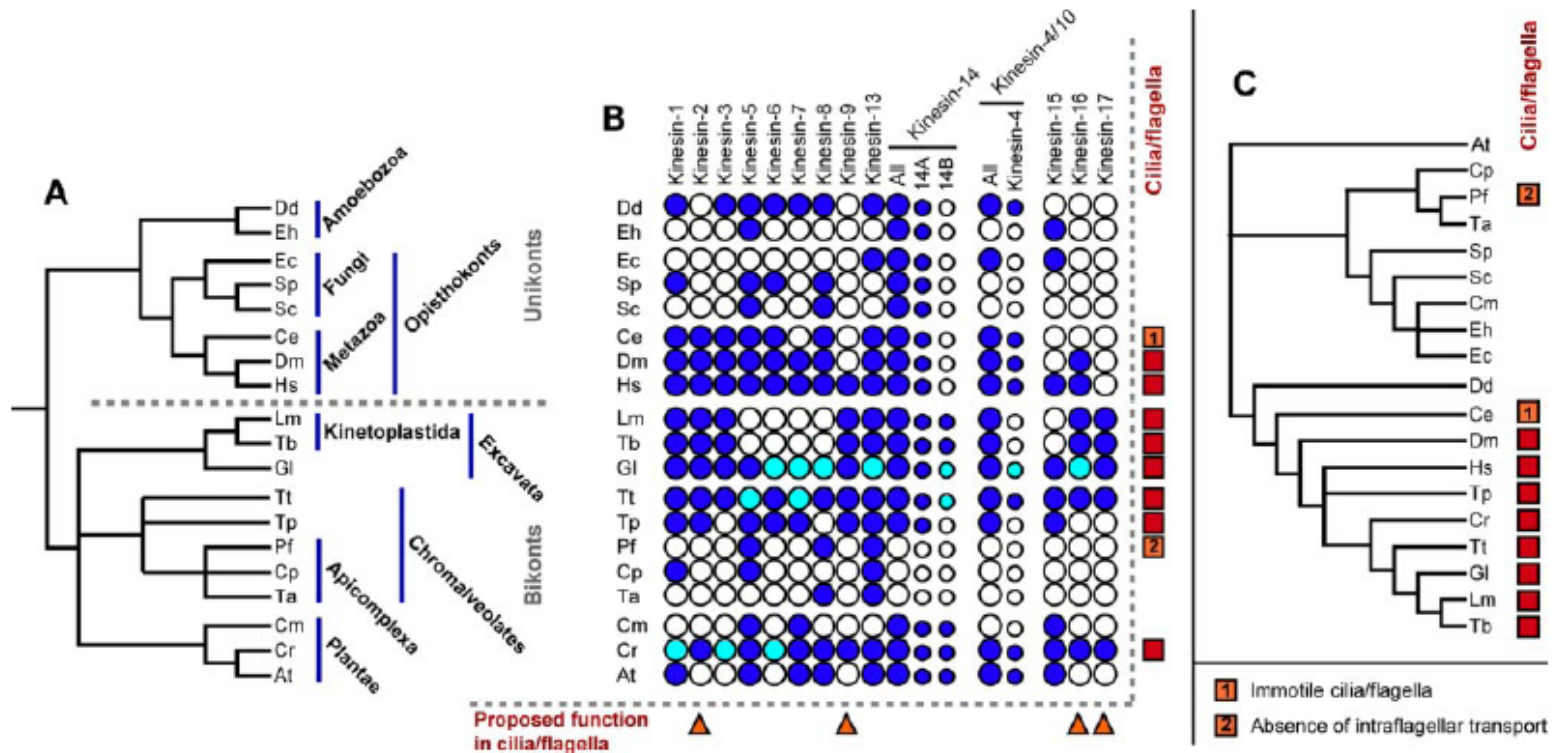
## Microtubules per Kinetochores

Yeast, <i>S. cerevisiae</i> Winey, 1995	~1
Yeast, <i>S. pombe</i> Ding, 1993	~3
Human Tissue Culture	~20
PTK2 (kangaroo rat kidney tissue culture) Mastrorarde, 1995	~20
<i>Xenopus laevis</i> (meiotic extract)	~ 20
<i>C. elegans</i> (1 <sup>st</sup> mitotic)	100s ? (holocenters)

# Variation in Molecular Processes

## No Mitotic Kinesins Are Universally Conserved

A Holistic Kinesin Phylogeny



**Figure 3.** Distribution of kinesin families among eukaryotes. (A) Cladogram showing the probable evolutionary relationships of the 19 organisms analyzed. (B) Taxonomic distribution of kinesin families: presence of paralogue (dark blue dot), absence of a paralogue from an incomplete genome (light blue dot), and absence from a complete genome (open dot). Subfamilies are represented by smaller dots. Kinesin families with a proposed role in cilia/flagella are indicated (triangle), as are organisms that build cilia/flagella (square). (C) Consensus of the 10 most parsimonious trees accounting for the observed kinesin paralogue distribution using family presence/absence as a binary character. See legend to Figure 2 for organism abbreviations.

But inhibiting specific kinesins can lead to similar phenot

# Variation in Molecular Processes

Dynein is Absent in Flowering Plants

Ran-pathway Crucial for Microtubule Nucleation  
In Many Spindles

# Checkpoint

No checkpoint in early development

Importance of checkpoint different for different organisms

Null mice die

Null flies are okay

Null C elegans are pretty good, but cannot survive dauer

No metaphase in many organisms: yeast, protists

Time of mitosis (from Heath 1980), strongly temperature dependent

Chilomonas and Fusarium = 5 minutes

Tradescantia (plant) = 340 minutes

Human Tissue Culture ~ 30 minutes

How accurate is chromosome segregation?