



Model Organisms and Innovative Approaches In Developmental Biology



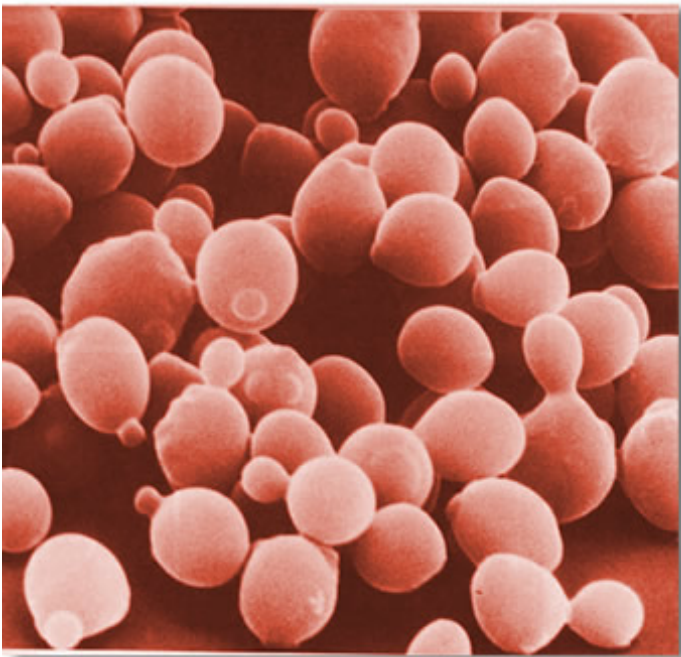
Development in Zebrafish, a Genetic Approach

Didier Stainier
University of California

dstainier@biochem.ucsf.edu

Zebrafish genetics

Didier Stainier, UCSF Biochemistry



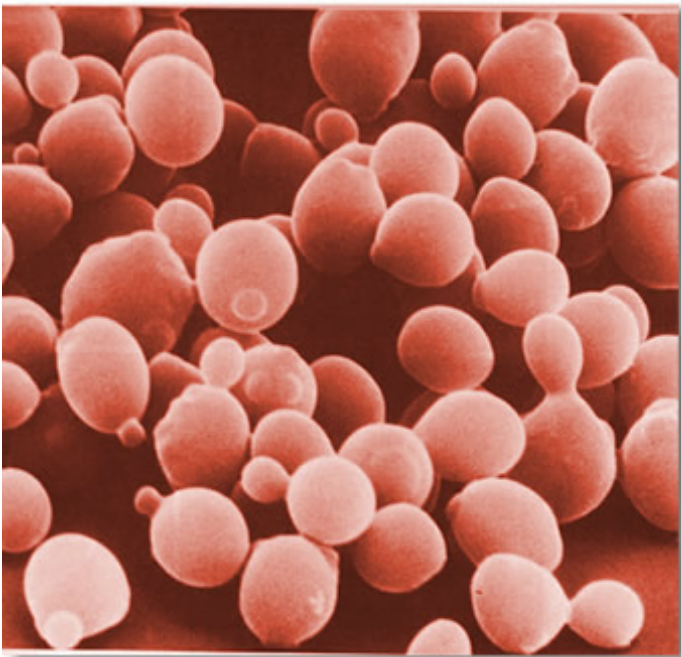
Saccharomyces cerevisiae



Caenorhabditis elegans



Drosophila melanogaster



Saccharomyces cerevisiae



Caenorhabditis elegans



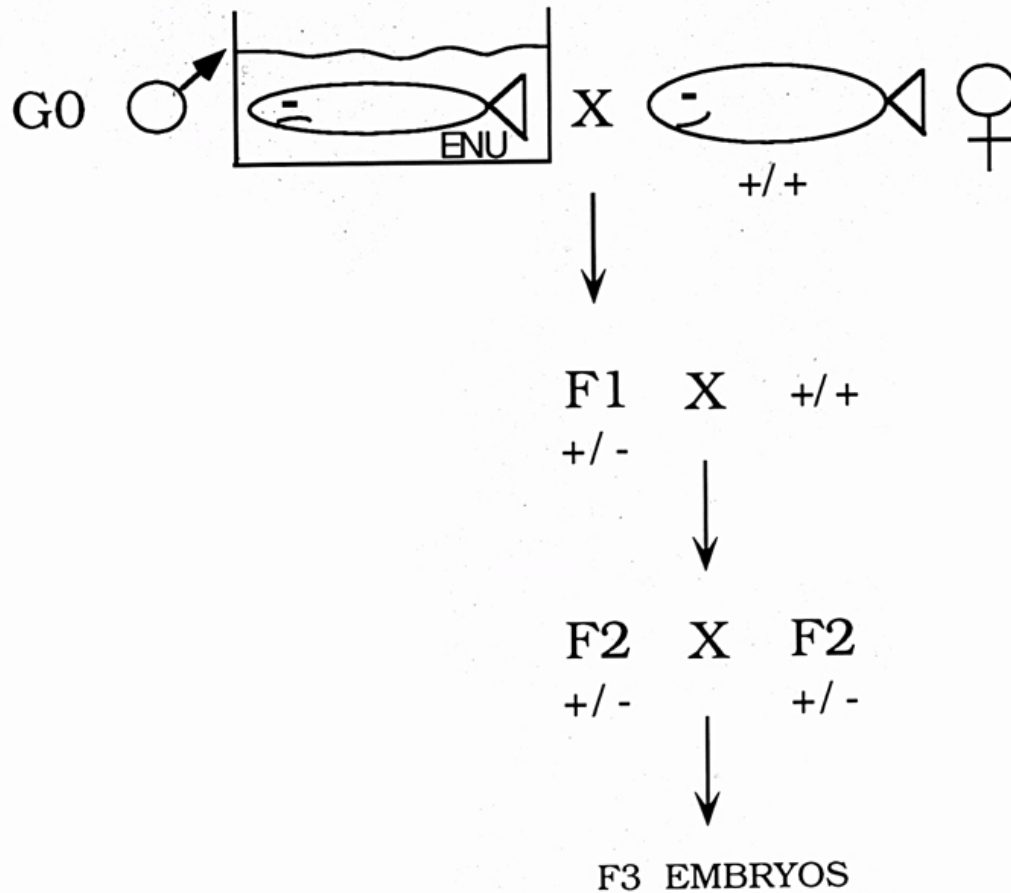
Drosophila melanogaster



Danio rerio

GENETIC SCREENS

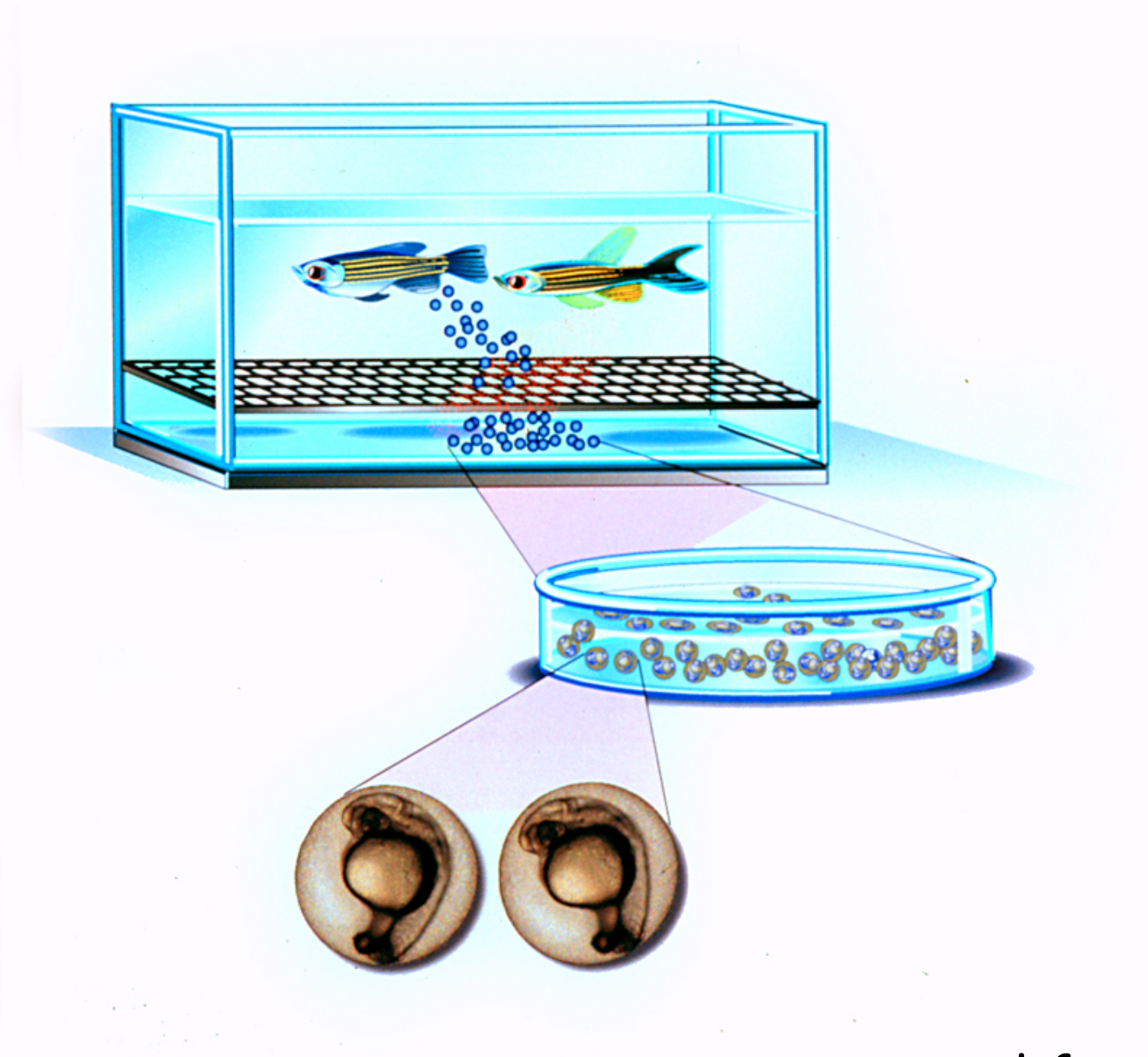
F2 SCREEN



SCREEN FOR MUTATIONS

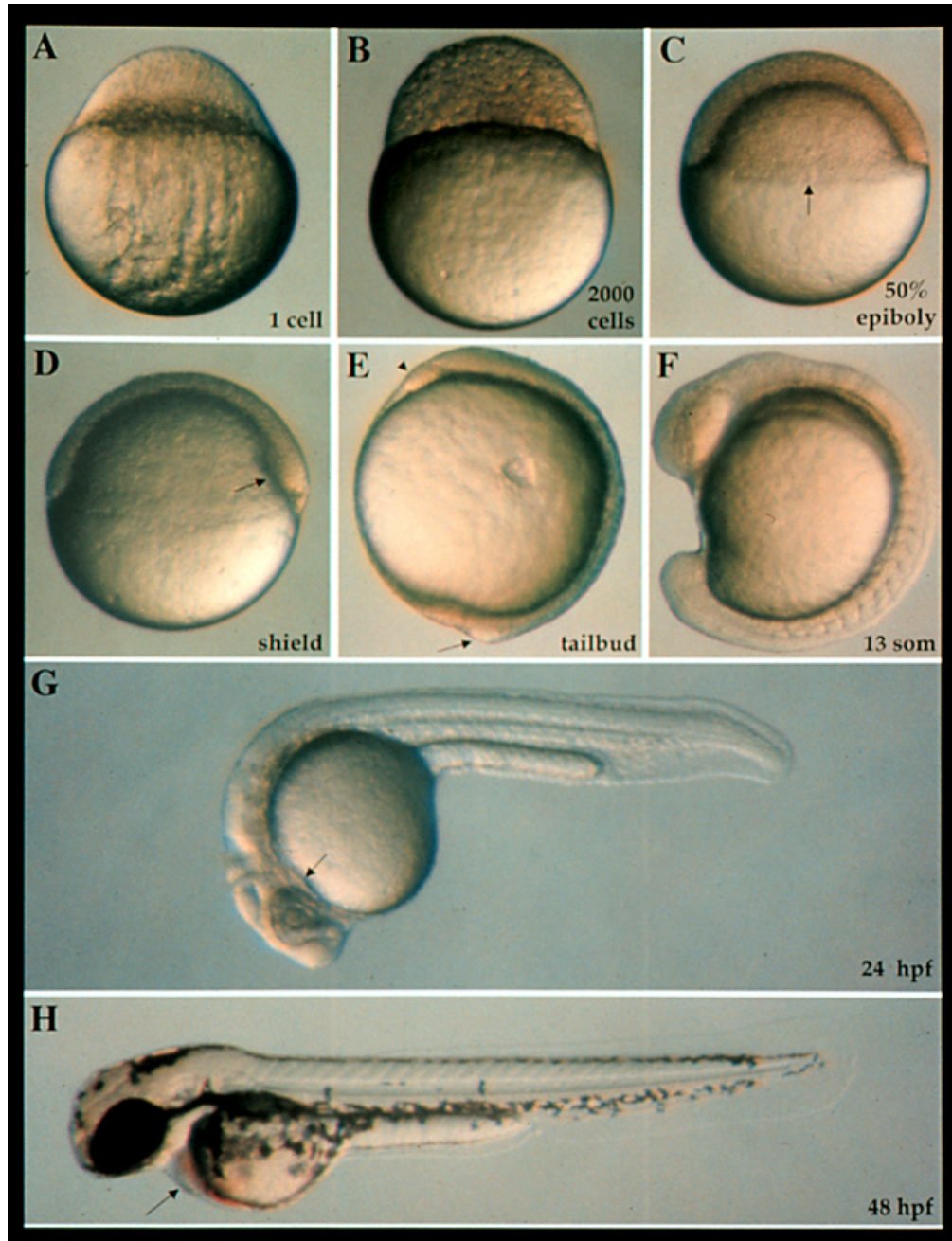
What can one screen for?

- developmental processes
- physiological processes
- behavior
- other



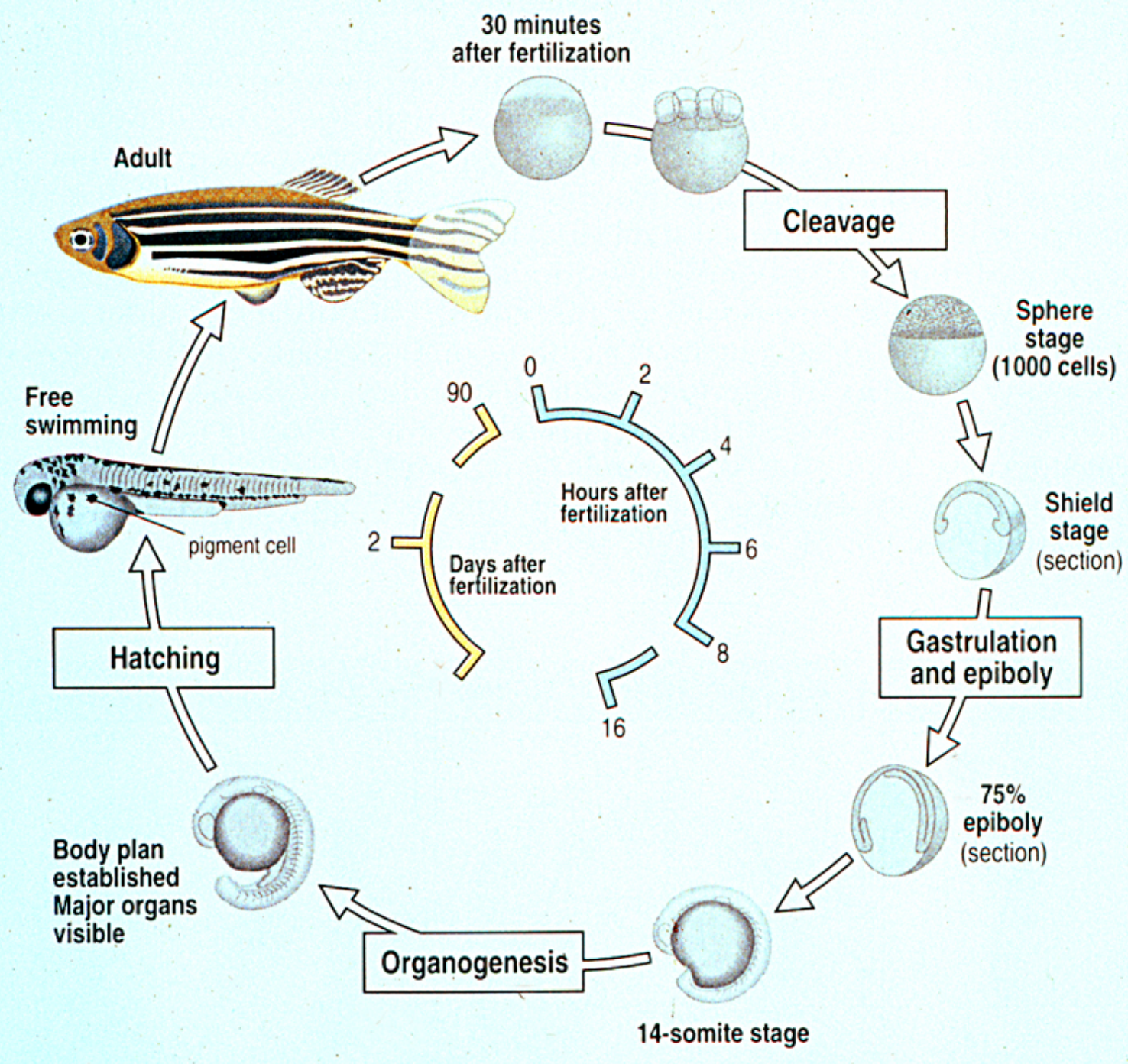
external fertilization

some key
developmental
stages



Zebrafish embryonic development

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.



30 minutes after fertilization

Adult

Cleavage

Sphere stage (1000 cells)

Shield stage (section)

Gastrulation and epiboly

75% epiboly (section)

14-somite stage

Organogenesis

Body plan established
Major organs visible

Hatching

Free swimming

pigment cell

Hours after fertilization

Days after fertilization

0

2

4

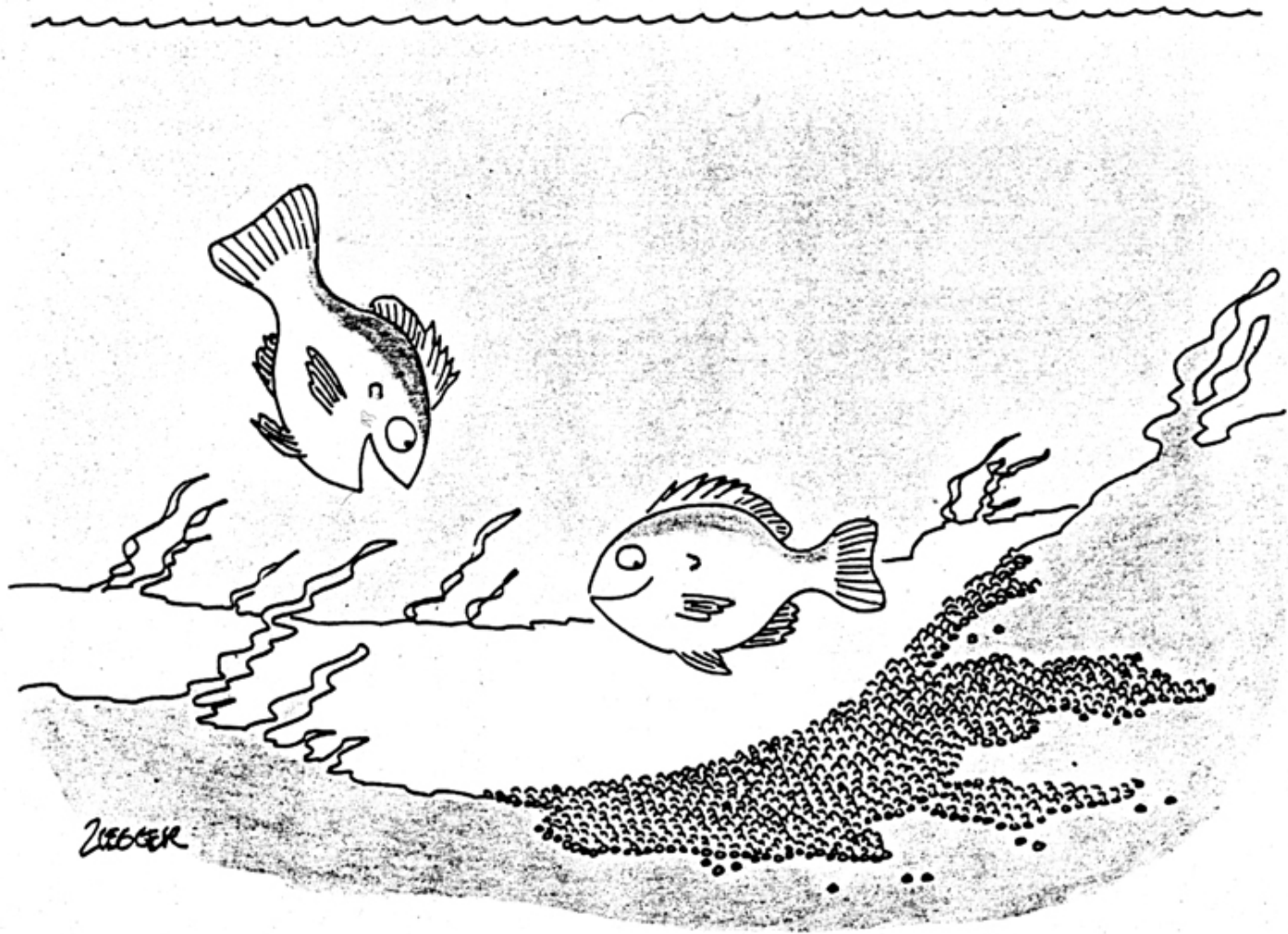
6

8

16

90

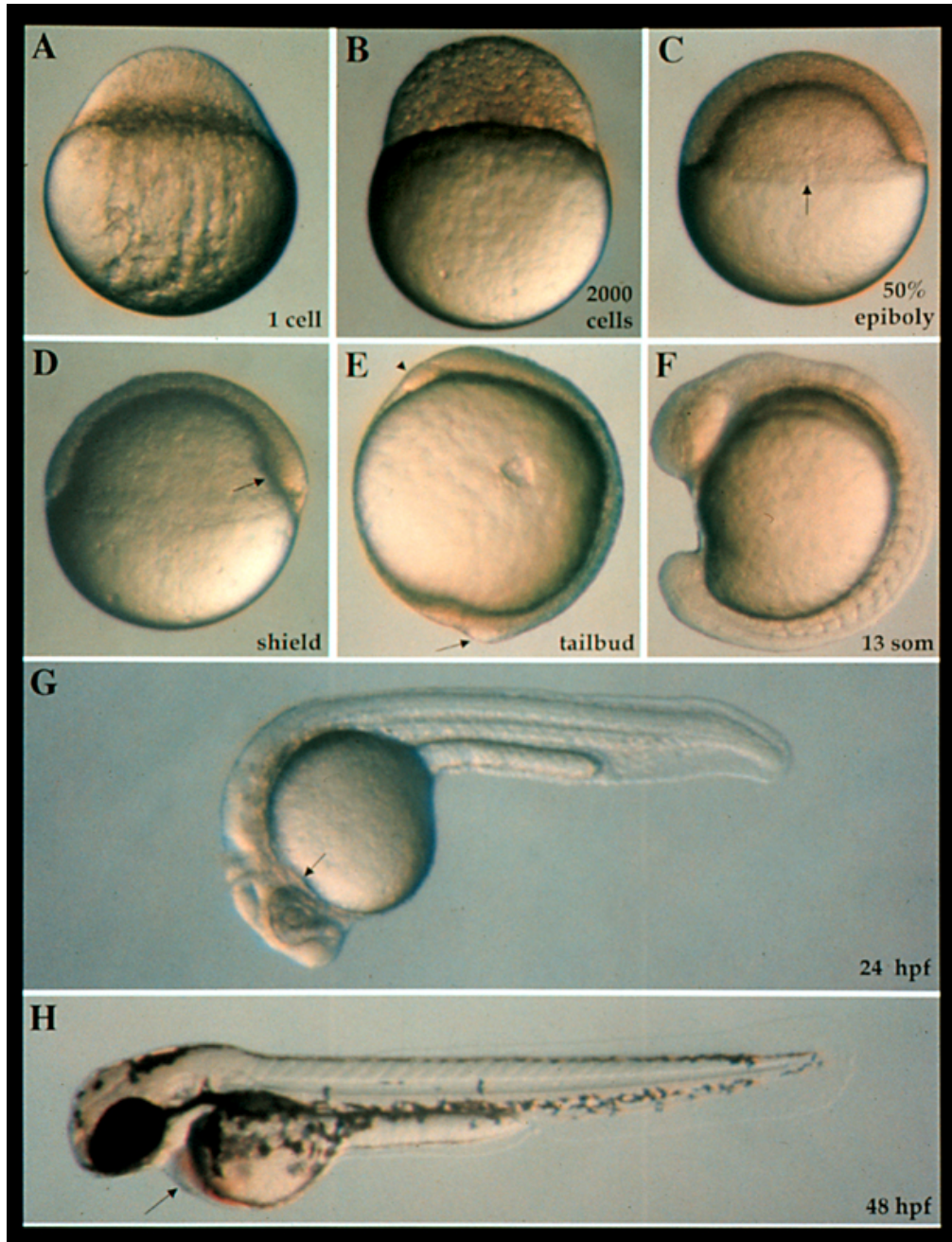
2



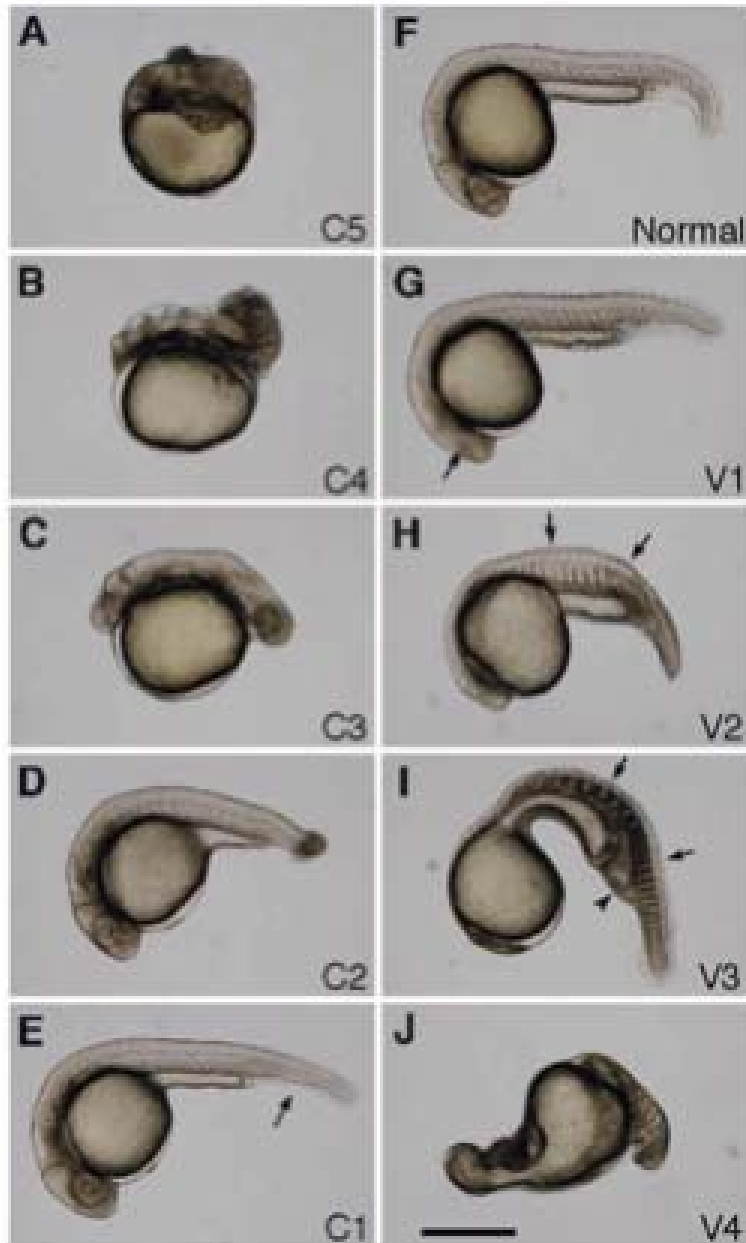
“Oh, Maria—so many eggs!”

large number of progeny

screening based on morphological traits



Zebrafish embryos showing abnormal DV patterning



V; ventralized

chordin mutants

C; dorsalized

bmp2 mutants

tolloid mutants

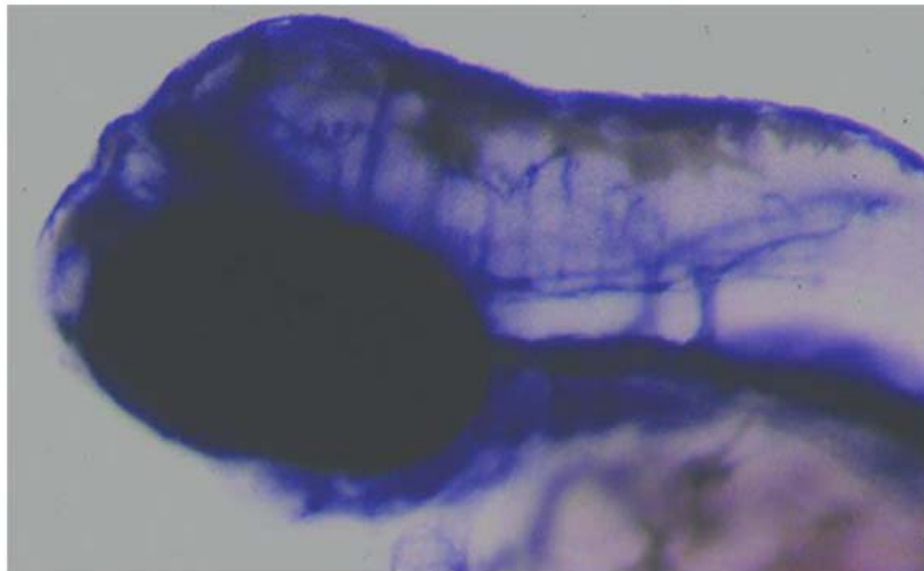
Cardiac valve formation

QuickTime™ and a
Video decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

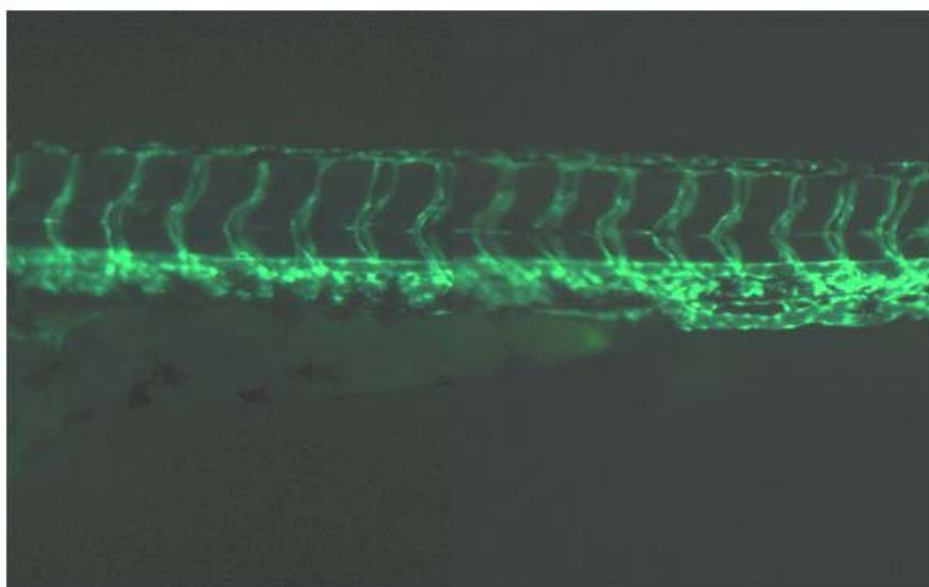
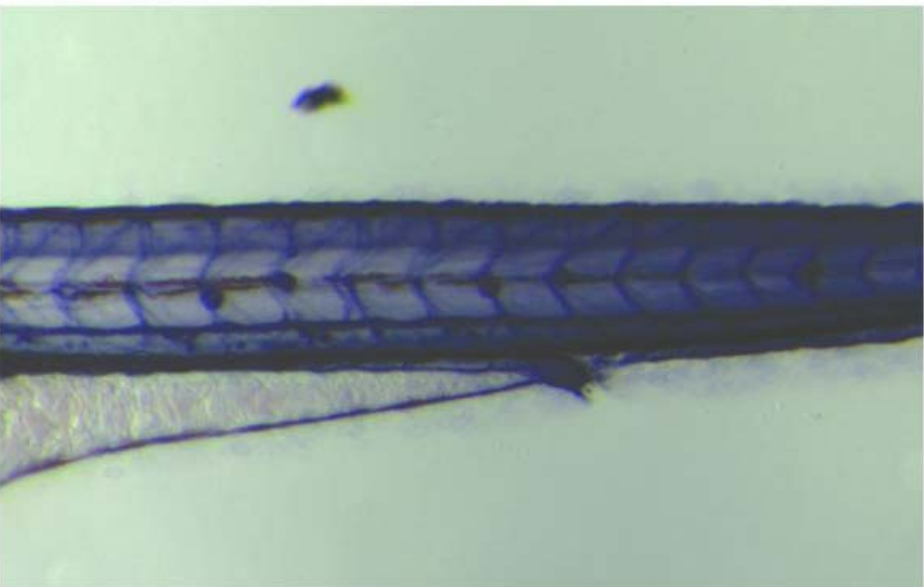
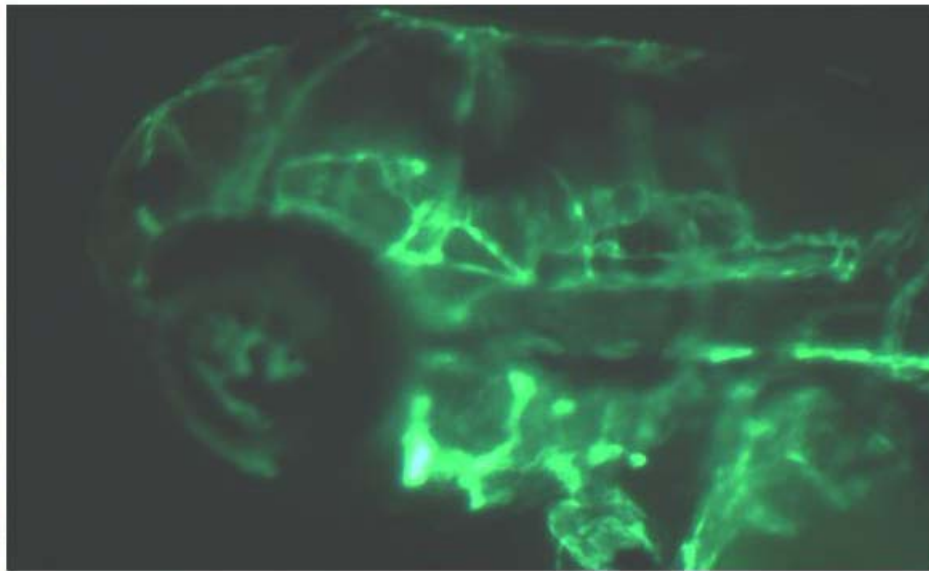
QuickTime™ and a
Video decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

QuickTime™ and a
Cinepak decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

AP staining

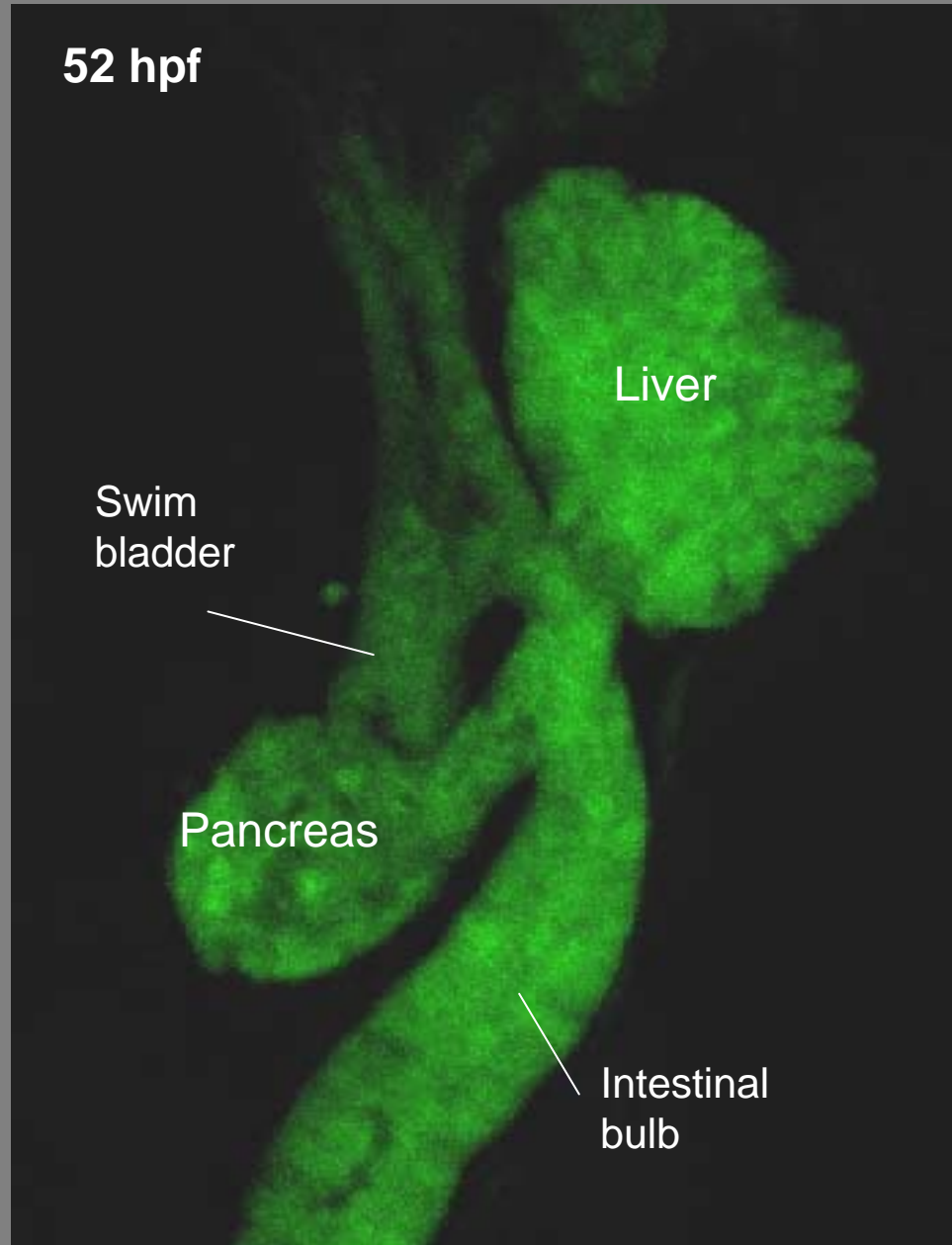


flk1:GFP



52 hpf

gutGFP line



Liver

Swim
bladder

Pancreas

Intestinal
bulb

Ventral View

80 hpf

L

QuickTime™ and a
Motion JPEG A decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

P

Ifabp-dsRed
elastase-GFP
insulin-dsRed

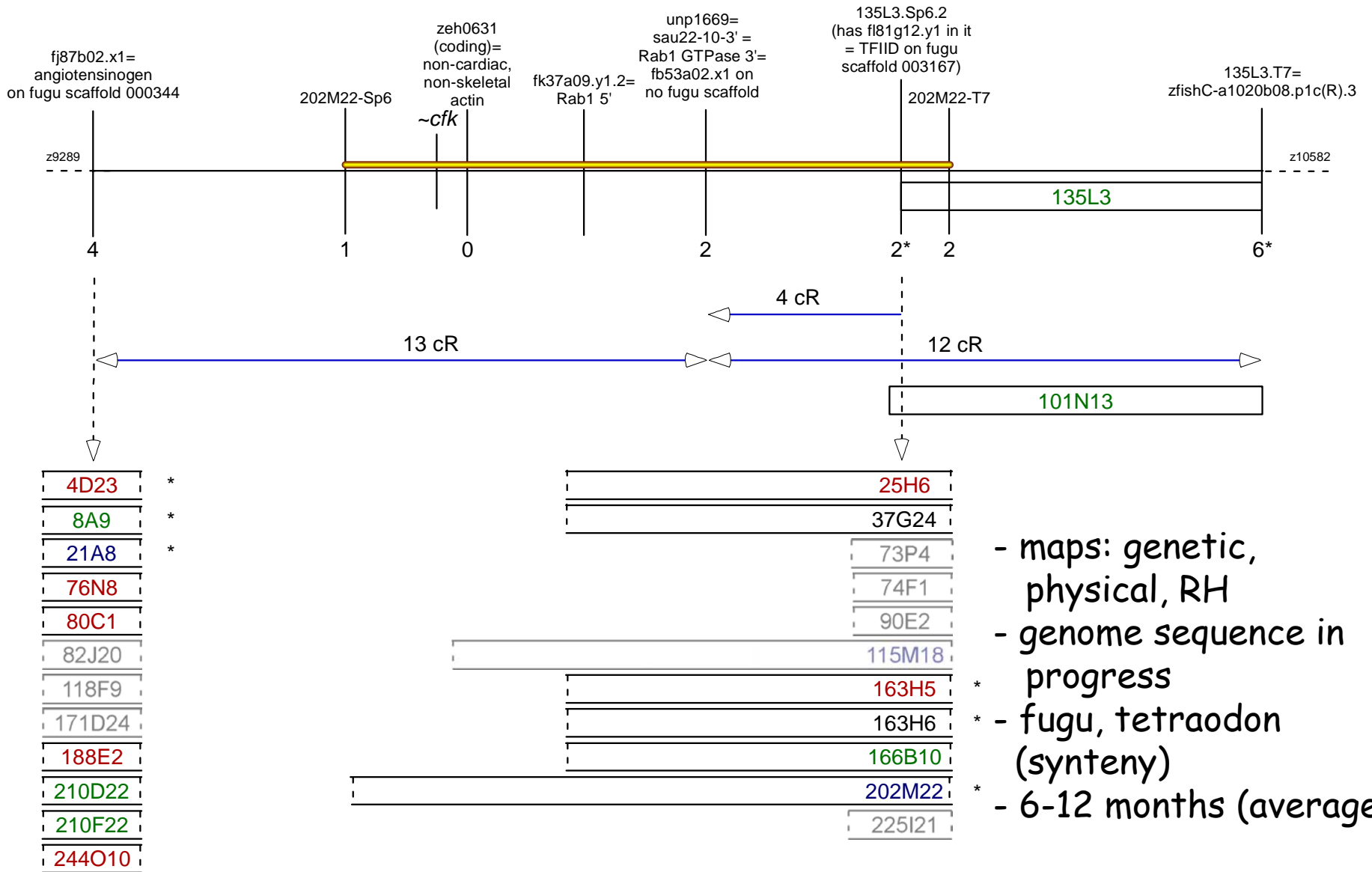
forward genetic screens in zebrafish

- ENU
- insertional mutagenesis (retroviral vectors)
- large number of tanks (diploid screens)
- 3-4 scientists
- 18-24 months

What can you do with your mutants?

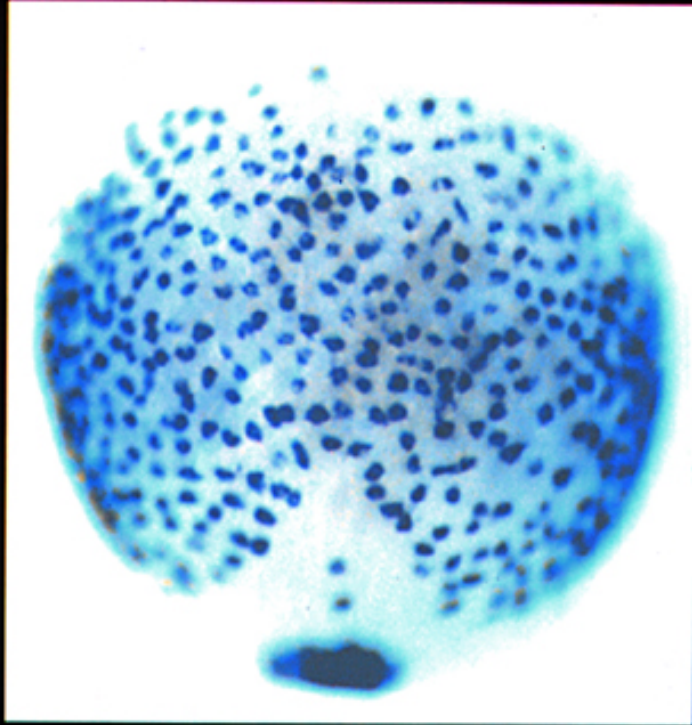
- clone the gene, look at its expression pattern
- analyze cell-autonomy
- gain-of-function experiments

Going from mutation to gene

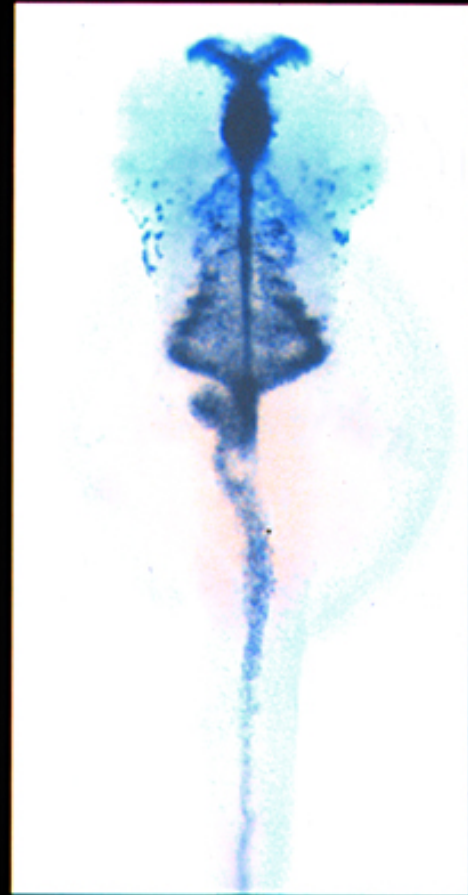


- maps: genetic, physical, RH
- genome sequence in progress
- * - fugu, tetraodon (synteny)
- * - 6-12 months (average)

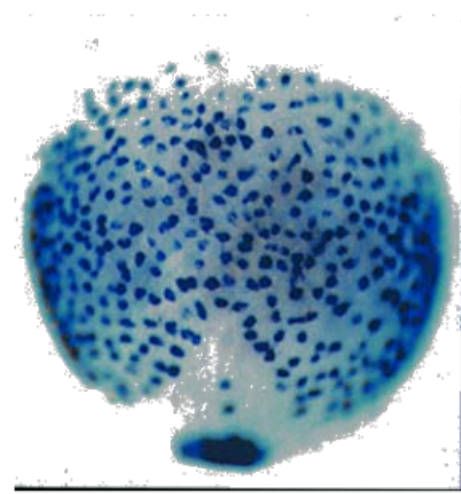
Endoderm Development in Zebrafish



Late gastrula
sox17



46 hours
fkd7



Mutations that affect early endoderm formation in zebrafish

sox17 late gastrula

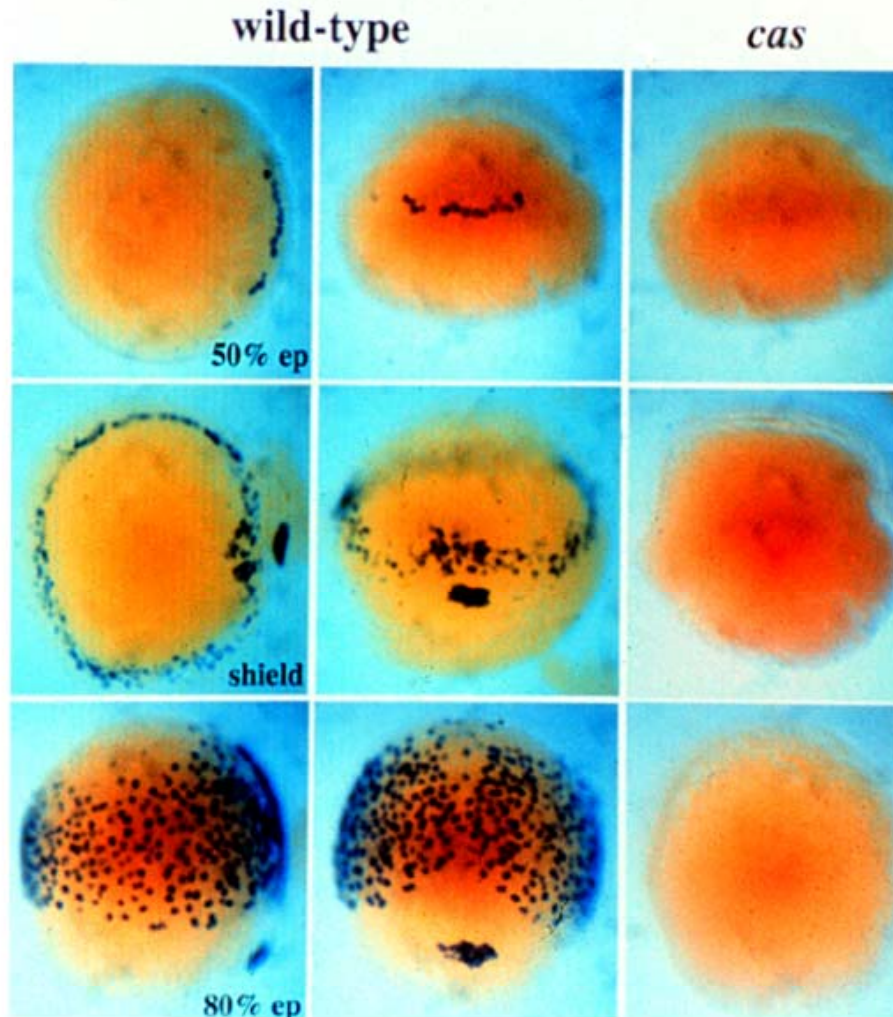
- *one-eyed pinhead (oep)*
- *casanova (cas)*
- *bonnie and clyde (bon)*
- *faust (fau)*

all endodermal cells
missing

90% of endodermal cells missing

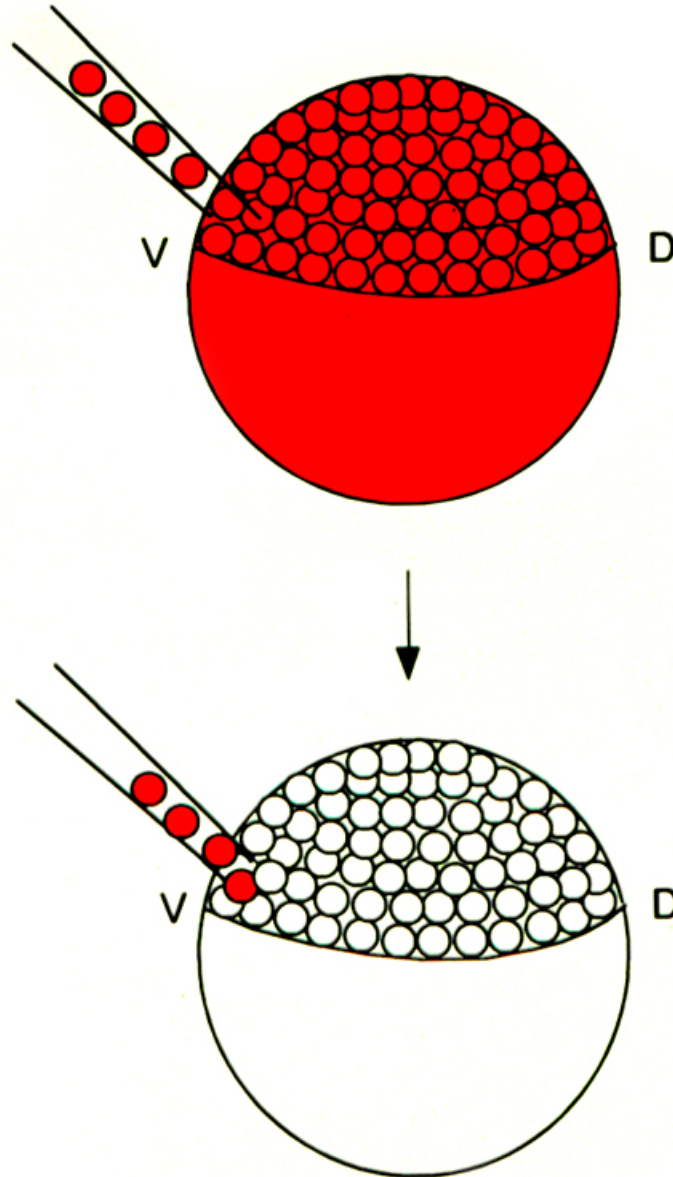
60% of endodermal cells missing

Expression of zebrafish *sox17*
reveals the endodermal progenitors
in wild-type but not *casanova* embryos



sox17 first implicated
in endoderm formation in
the frog *Xenopus laevis*

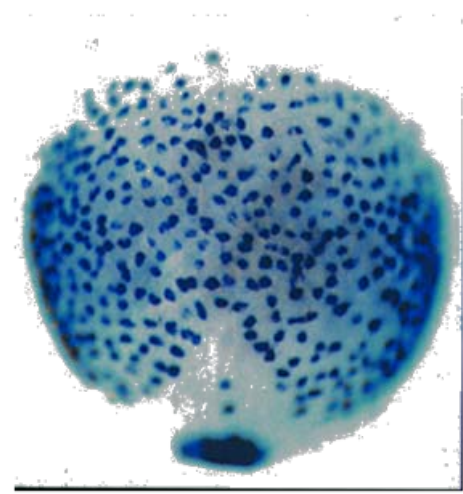
Generating genetic mosaics in zebrafish



Results of the cell transplantation experiments

- *casanova* mutant cells never form endoderm (either in wild-type or mutant embryos)
- wild-type cells can form endoderm in *casanova* mutant embryos

The endoderm phenotype in *casanova* mutants is cell-autonomous, i.e. *casanova* functions within the endodermal lineage

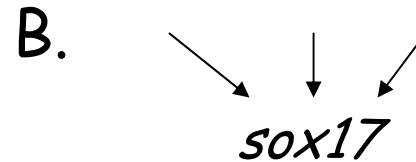
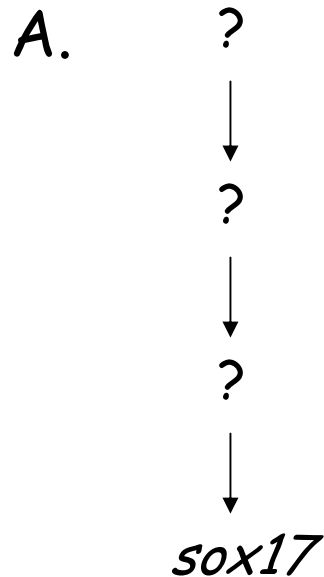


Proteins that affect early endoderm formation in zebrafish

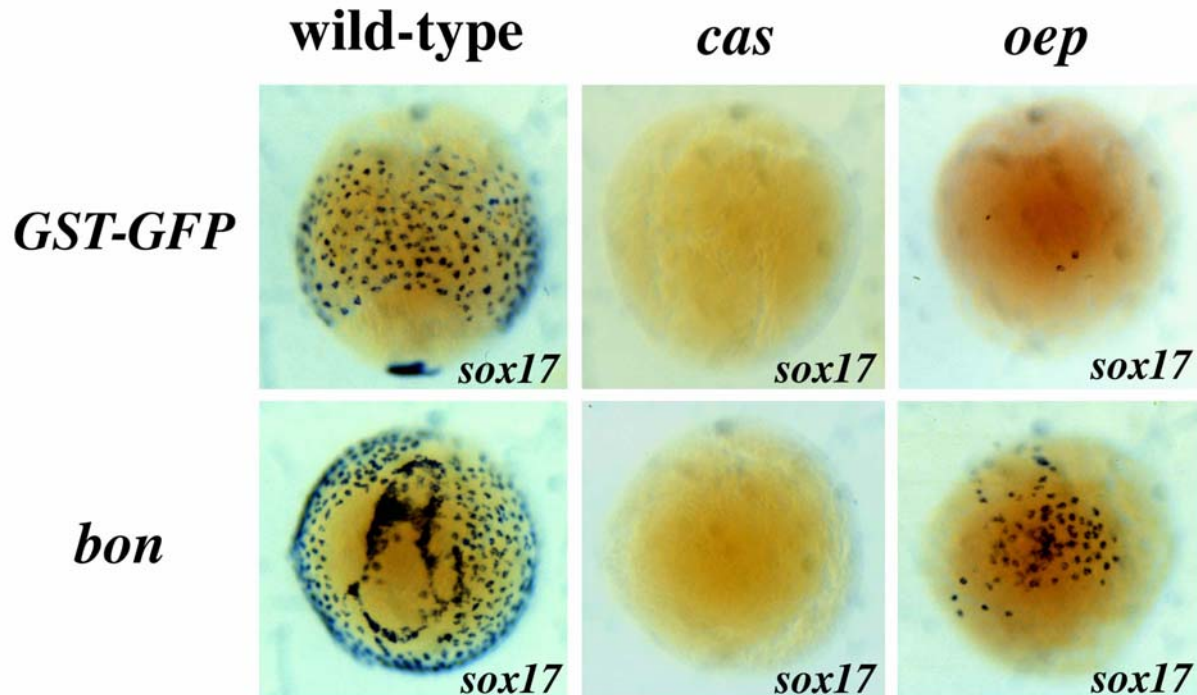
sox17 late gastrula

- Oep (Nodal co-receptor. Schier; Whitman)
- Cas (Sox-related transcription factor)
- Bon (Mix-type HD transcription factor)
- Fau (Gata5: Zinc-finger transcription factor)

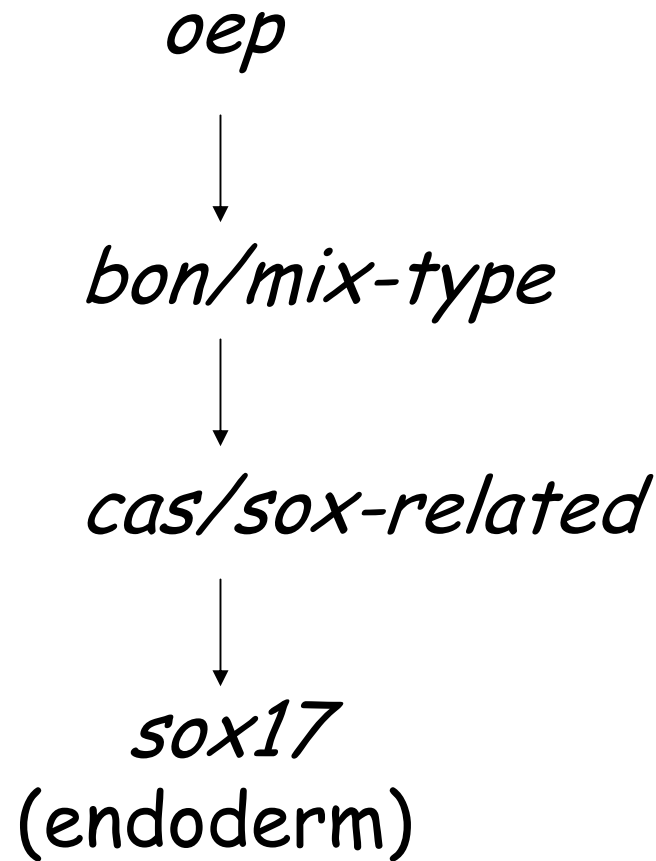
How are Oep,
Cas/Sox-related
Bon/Mix-type
Fau/Gata5
positioned relative to each other in the
pathway leading to endoderm formation?



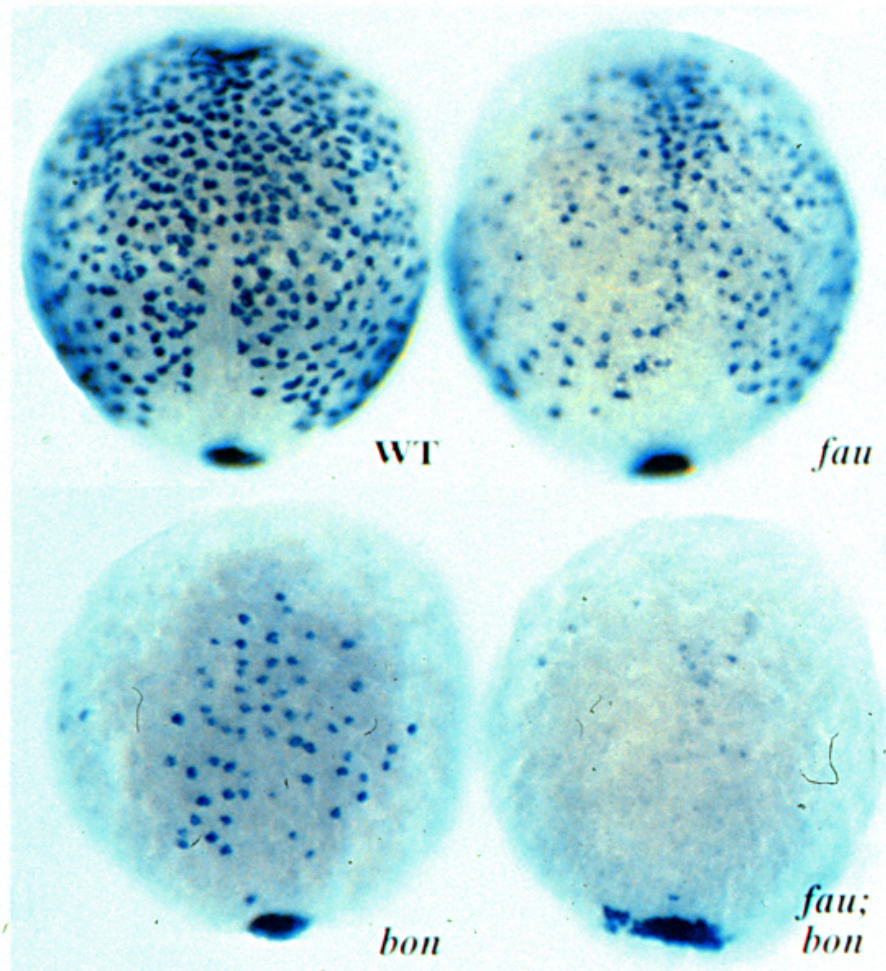
***bon* overexpression rescues endoderm formation in *oep* but not *cas* mutants**



Endoderm formation in zebrafish

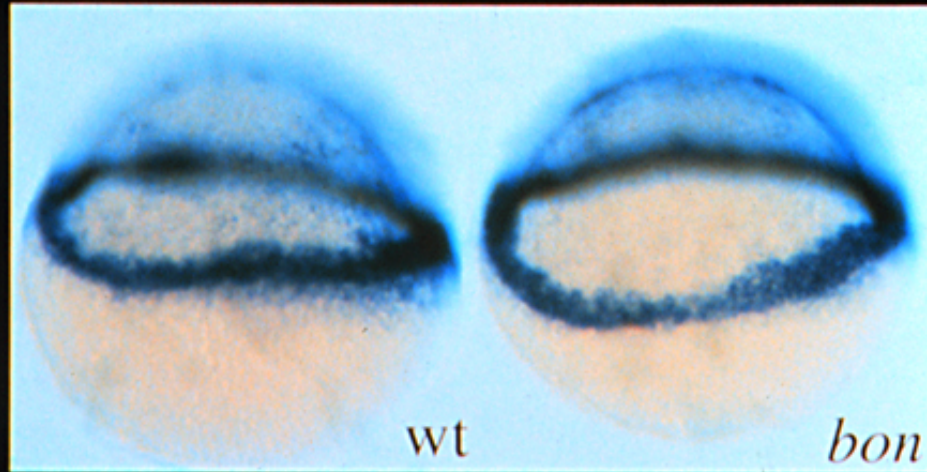


Endoderm formation is defective in *faust* and *bonnie and clyde* mutants

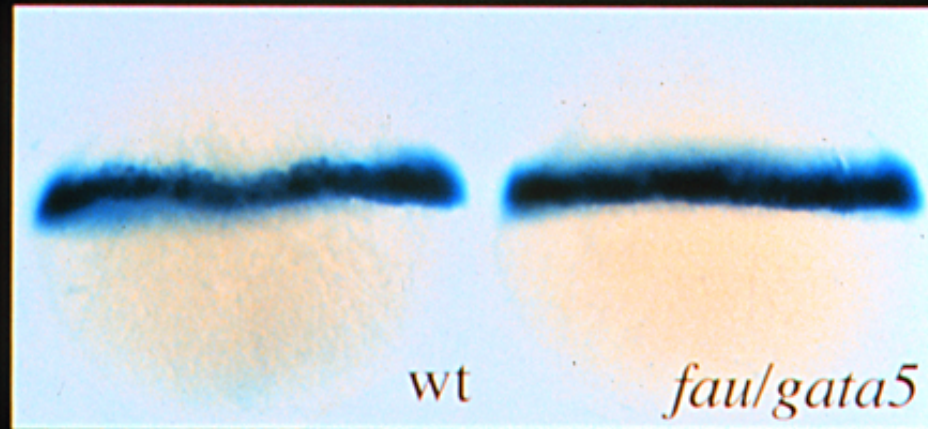


Bon and Gata5 do not regulate each other

gata5

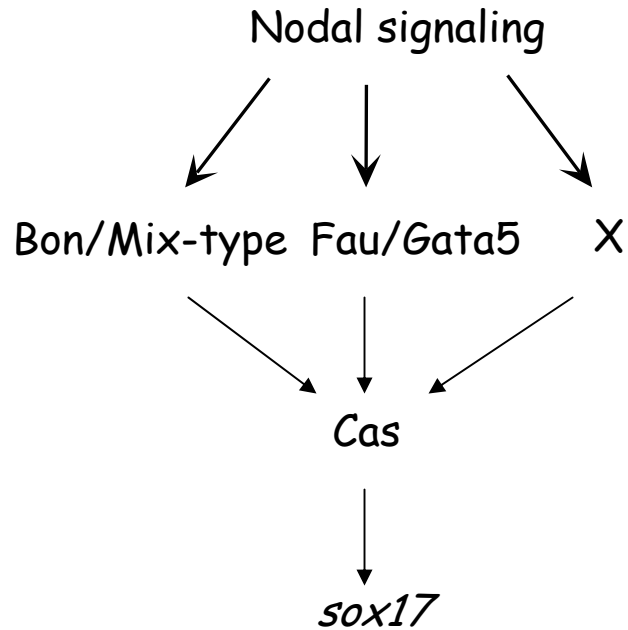


bon

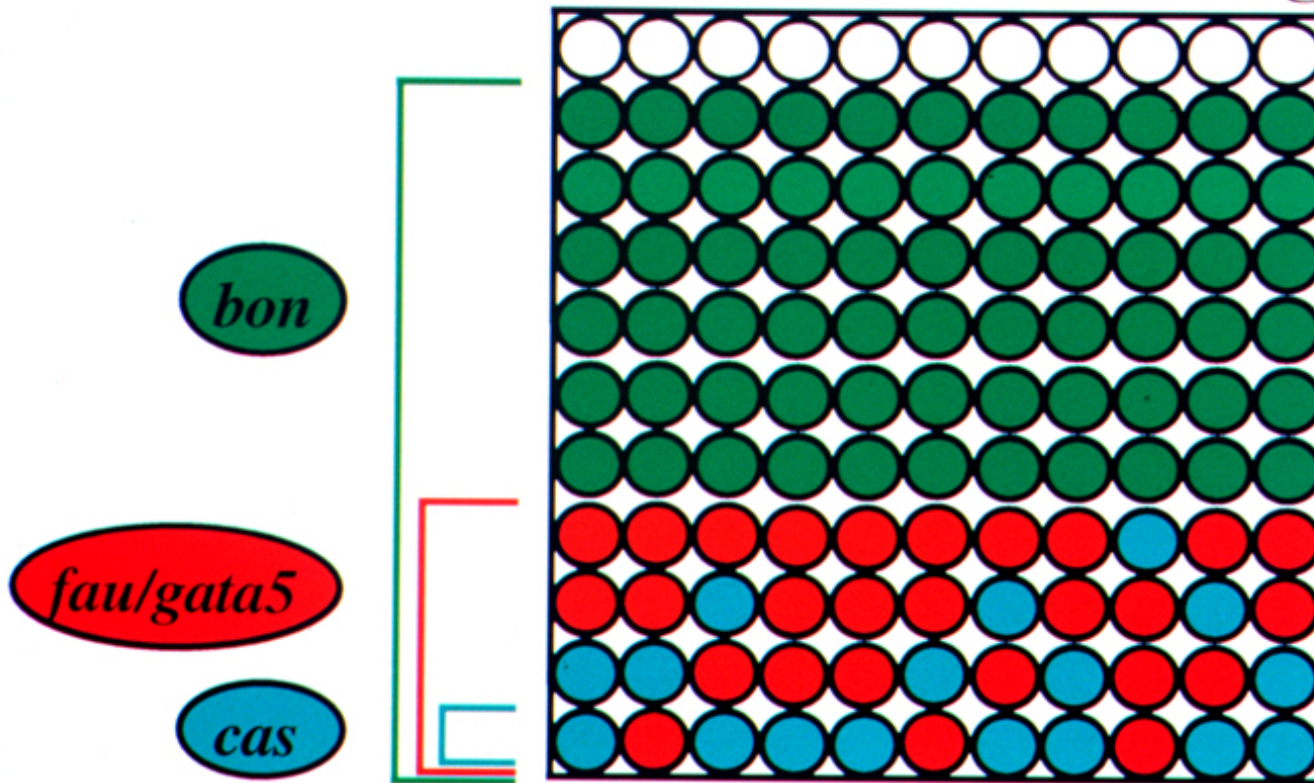


A possible model of early endoderm formation in zebrafish

sox17 late gastrula

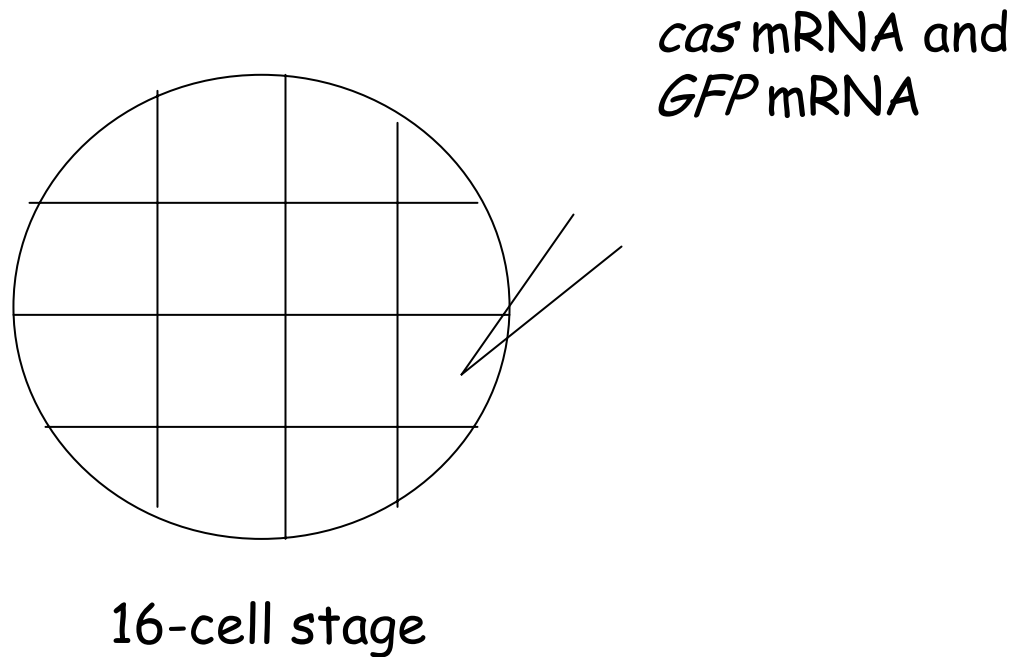


Comparison of *bon*, *fau/gata5*, *cas* expression at late blastula stage

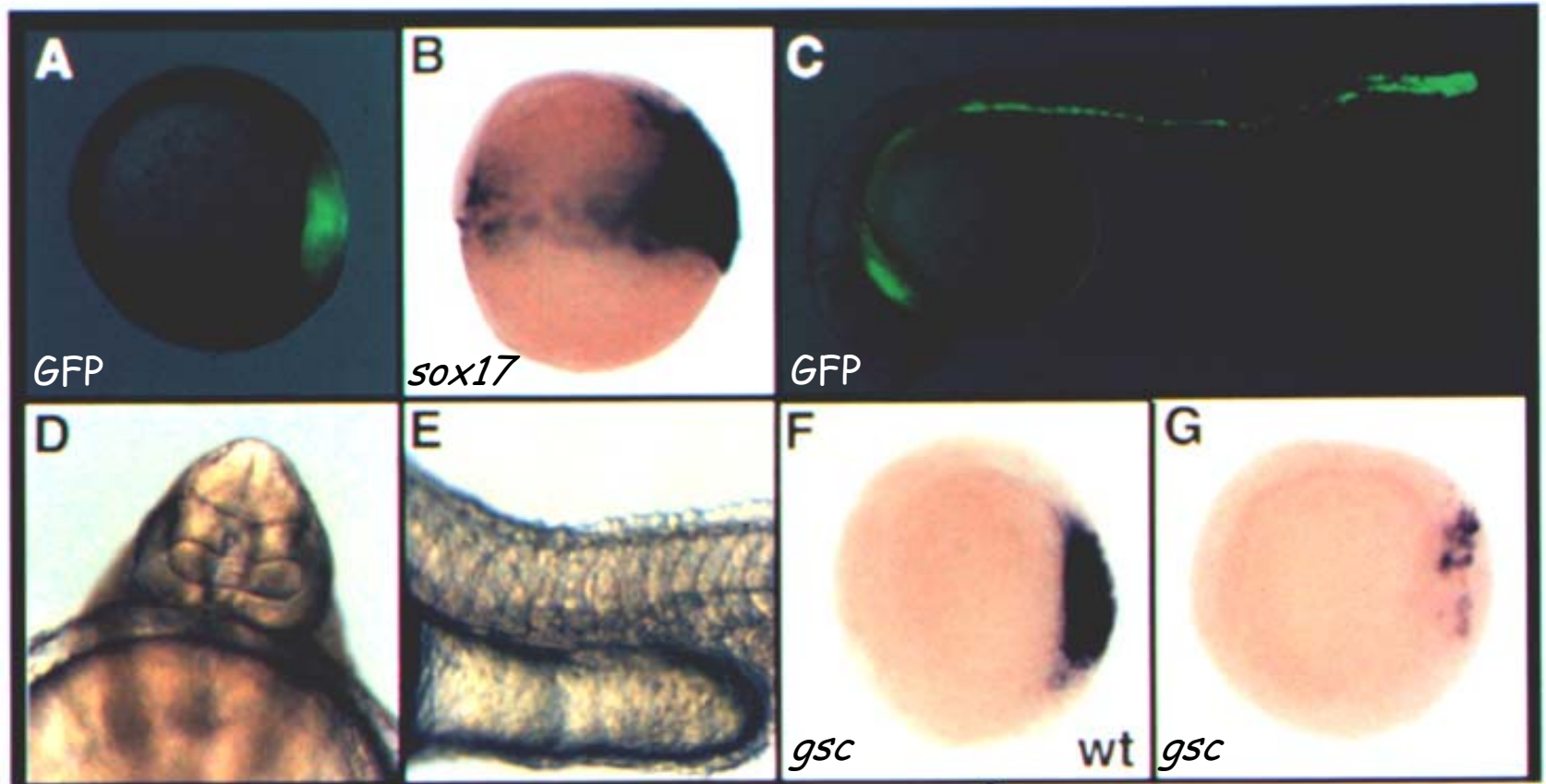


marginal zone

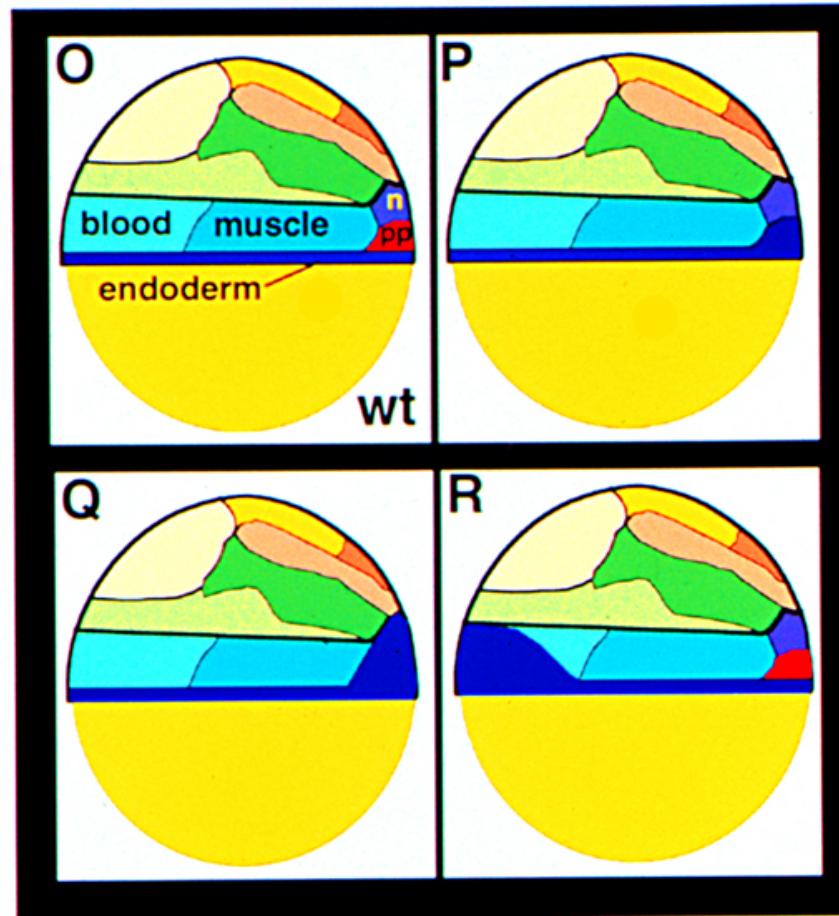
Analyzing the function of *cas* by gain-of-function (i.e. misexpression) experiments



Ectopic cas expression can transfect mesoderm into endoderm



Transfating ability of *cas*



What can you do with your mutants?

- clone the gene, look at its expression pattern
- analyze cell-autonomy
- gain-of-function experiments

Tools

forward genetics

reverse genetics; morpholinos (use with caution)
(use splice MOs whenever possible)

lineage analysis, cell transplantation

gain-of-function experiments:

- DNA, RNA injections
- spatial control (binary systems: Gal4-UAS (Fraser))
- temporal control (heat shock promoter)

other genetic tools:

- transposons, ires, cre-lox

Tools

what is missing?

homologous recombination

spatial and temporal control of gene knock-down

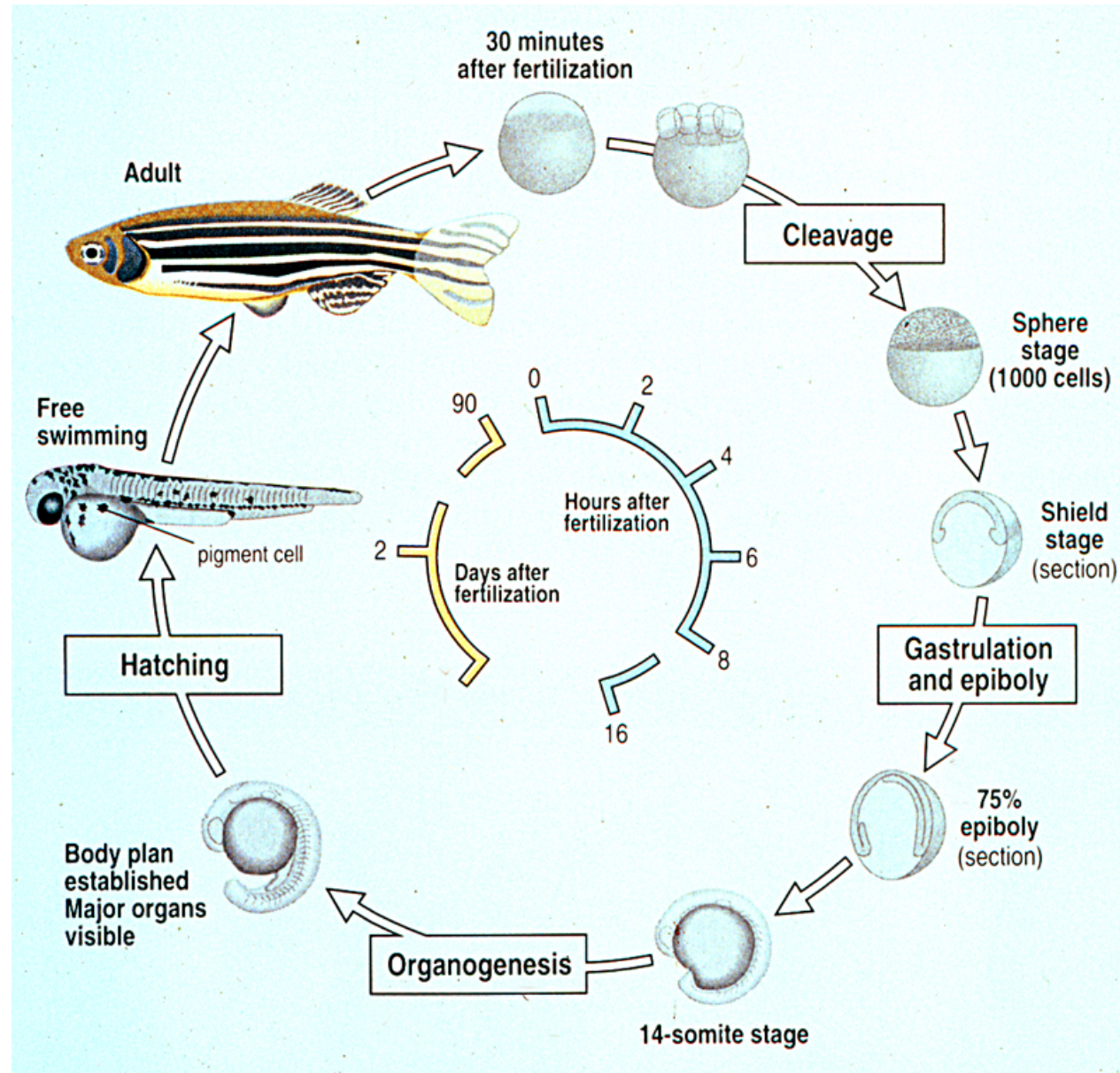
Developmental Biology

QUESTIONS

- cell differentiation
- morphogenesis

APPROACH

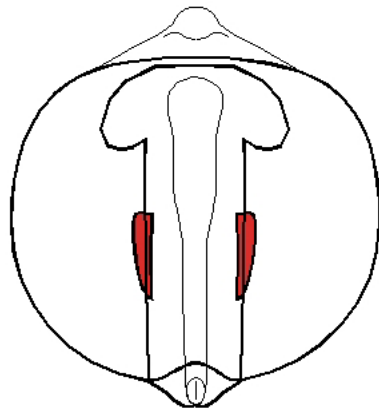
- 1) gene identification (forward genetics)
- 2) cell biological mechanisms
- 3) biochemical mechanisms



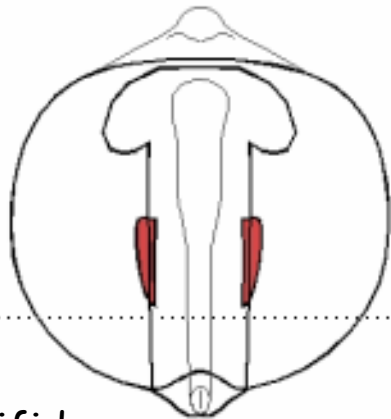
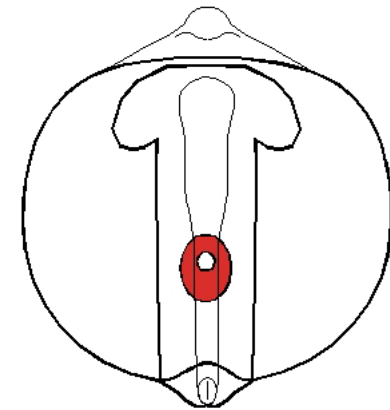
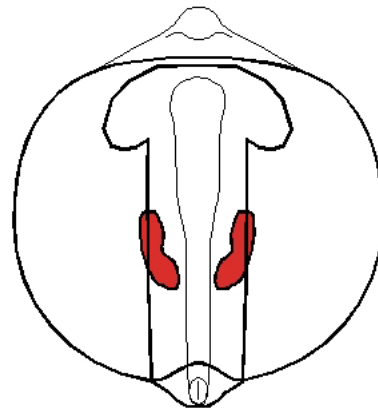
1. embryology
2. forward genetics
3. cell biology

precardiac mesoderm morphogenesis in zebrafish

dorsal views

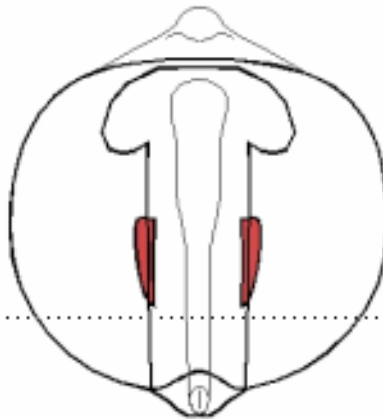


wild-type

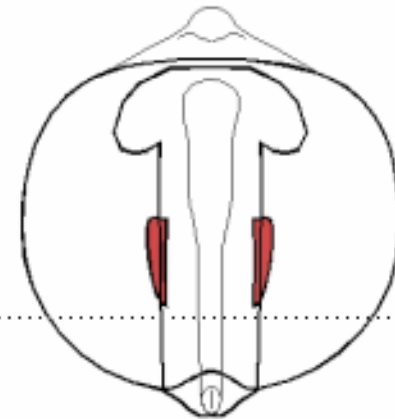


cardia bifida mutants

13 somite
15.5 hpf



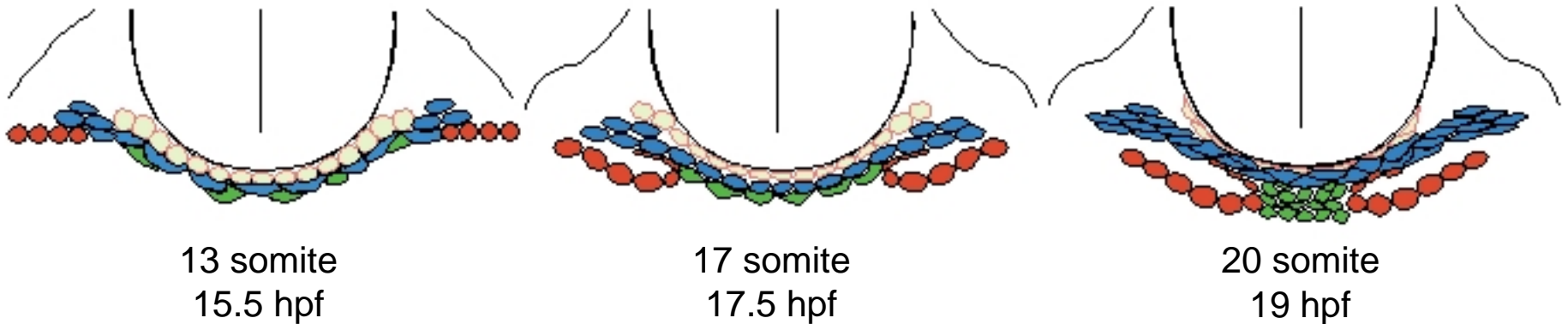
17 somite
17.5 hpf



20 somite
19 hpf

precardiac mesoderm morphogenesis in zebrafish

transverse sections

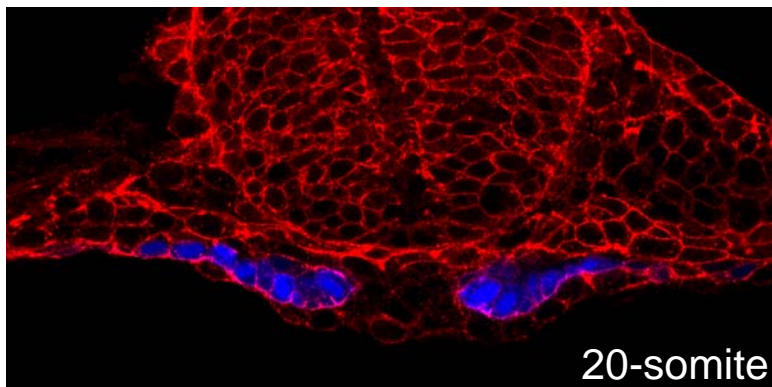
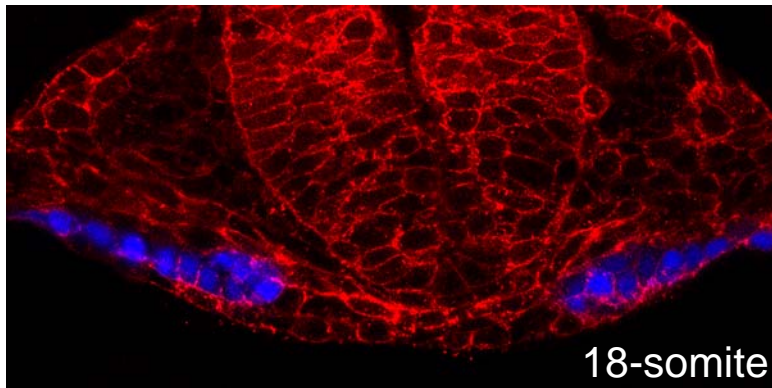
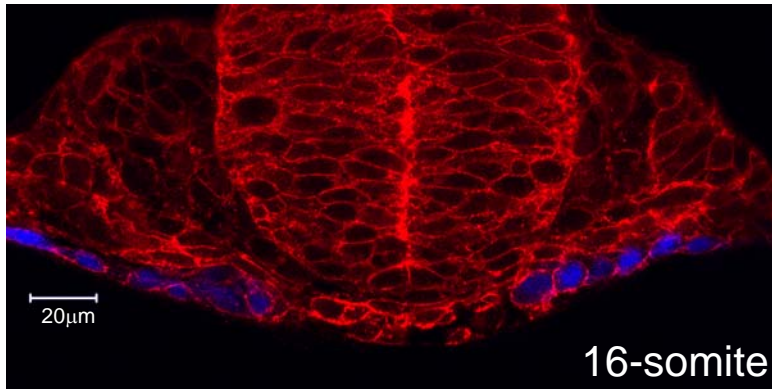


pre-myocardial cells

pre-endocardial cells

endoderm

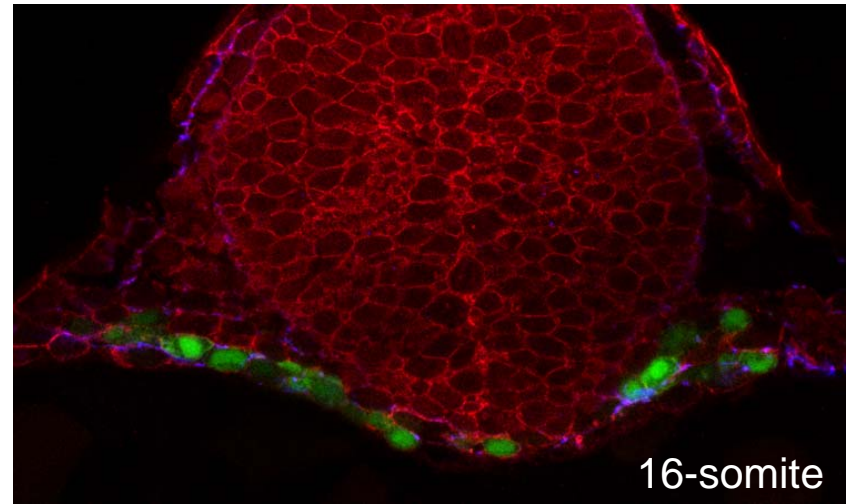
Myocardial migration



HJ Tsai

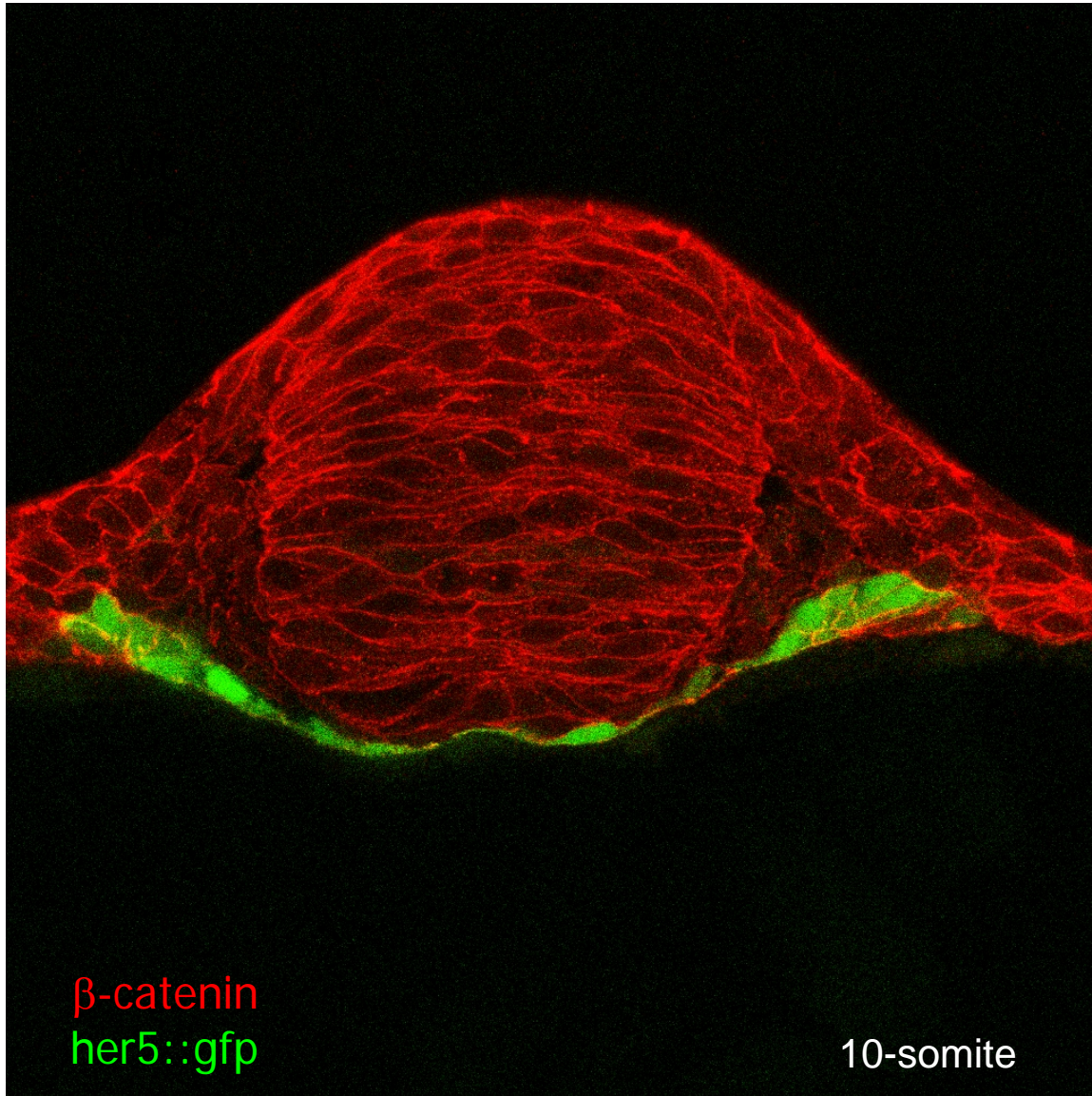
cmlc2-GFP

Endocardial migration



flk1-GFP

Endodermal GFP line



Nick Osborne

CARDIA BIFIDA MUTATIONS

1) AFFECTING MYOCARDIAL DIFFERENTIATION

- *one-eyed pinhead (oep)* (CFC protein)
- *faust (fau)* (Gata5)
- *hands off (han)* (Dhand/Hand2)

2) AFFECTING HEART CELL MIGRATION

A) VIA AFFECTING ENDODERM FORMATION

- *one-eyed pinhead (oep)* (CFC protein)
- *casanova (cas)* (Sox32)
- *bonnie and clyde (bon)* (Mix-type HD)
- *faust (fau)* (Gata5)

B) VIA SOME OTHER MECHANISM

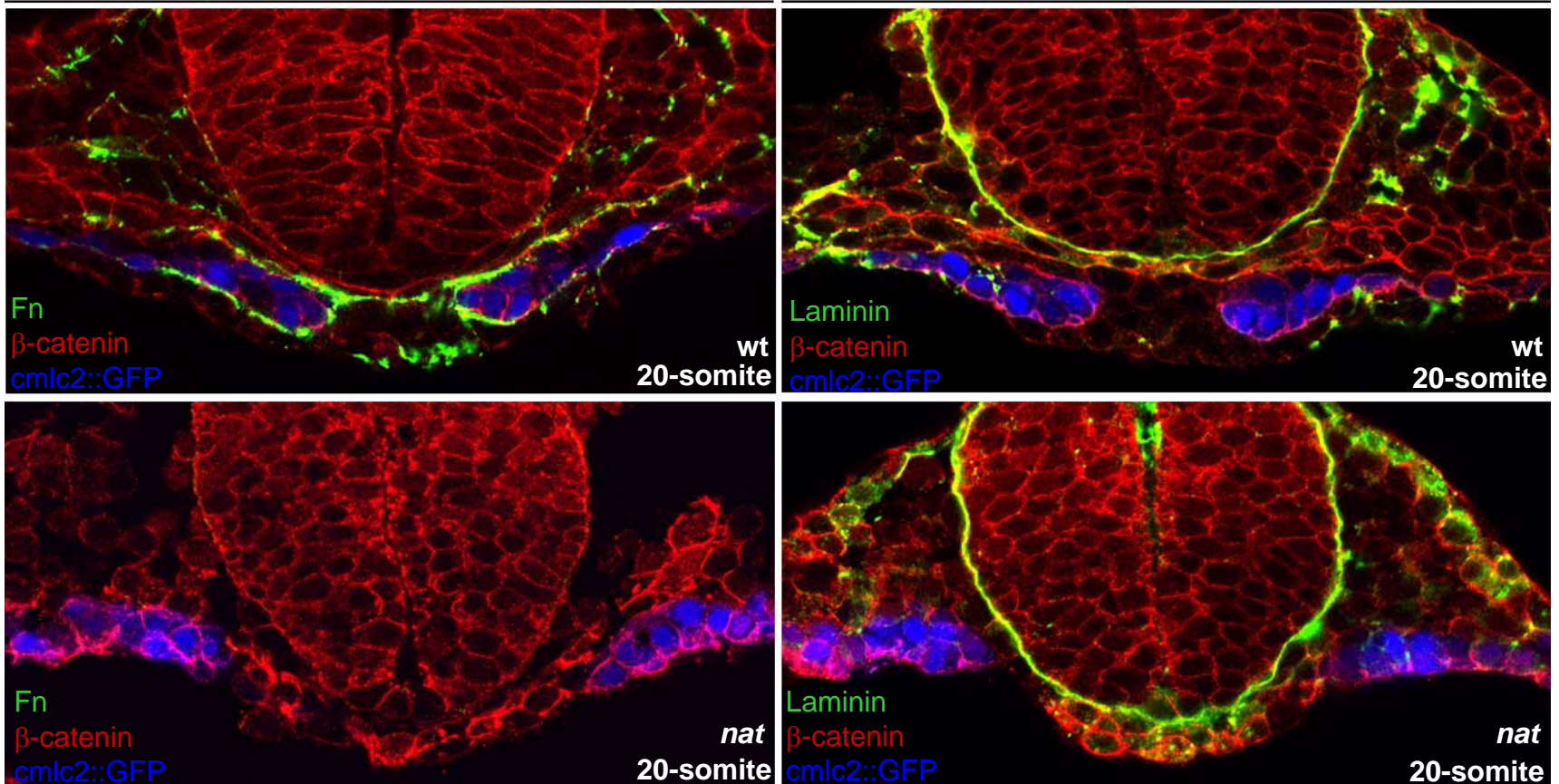
- *natter (fibronectin)*
- *miles apart (mi)* (S1P receptor)
- - *two-of-hearts (toh)*

How does Fibronectin regulate myocardial migration?

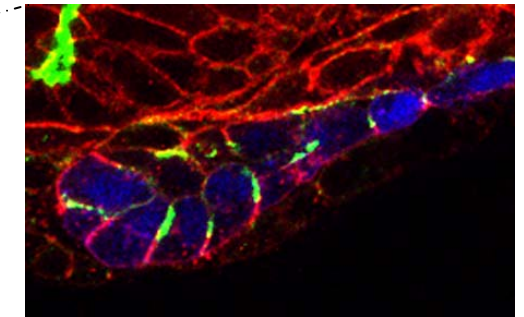
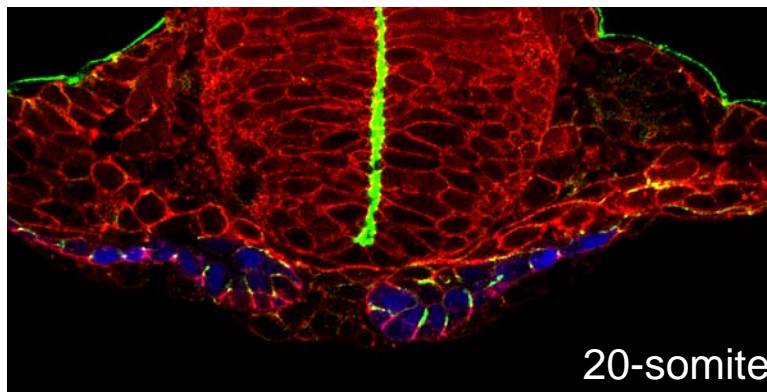
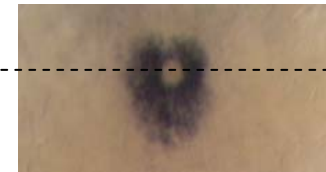
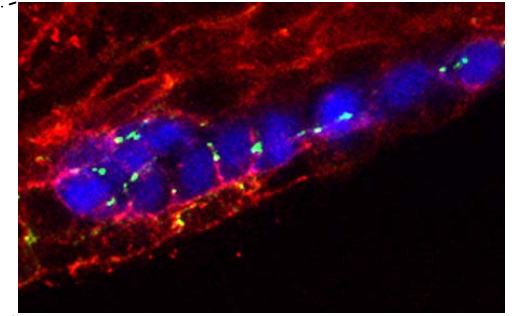
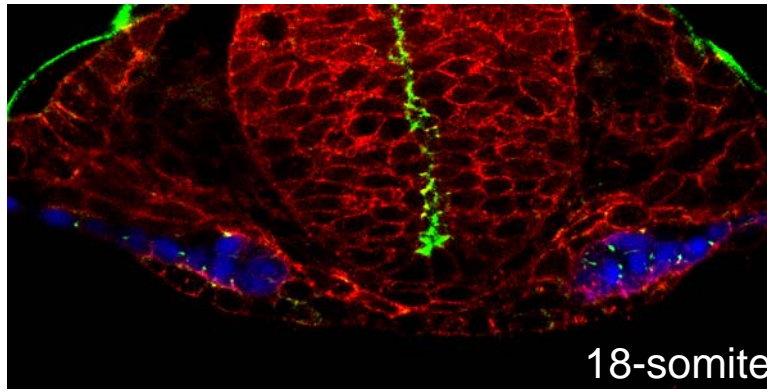
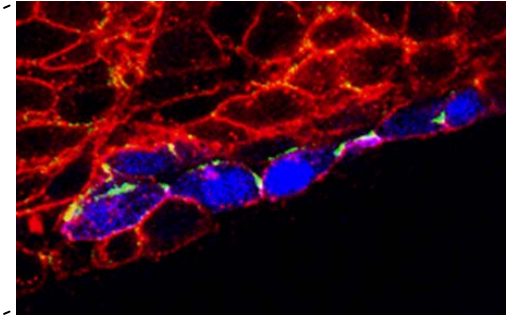
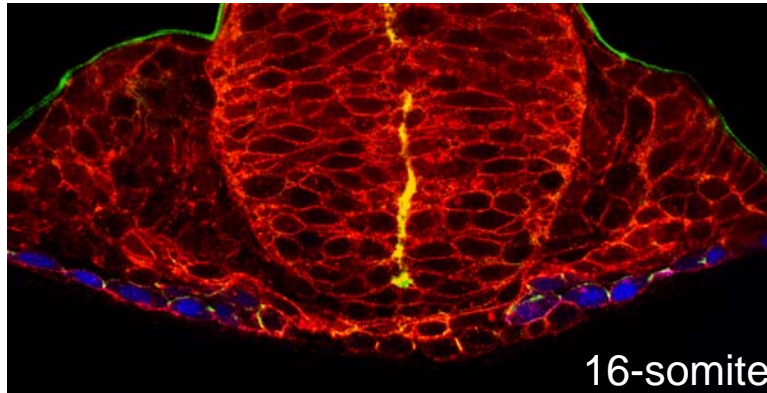
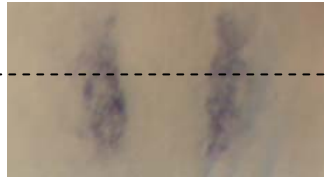
- chick: Fn appears to be distributed in a gradient towards the midline (K. Linask)
- mouse: *Fn* mutants can show cardia bifida (R. Hynes)

Model: haptotaxis (moving towards areas of greater adhesiveness)

Lack of Fn deposition in *nat* $-/-$ embryos



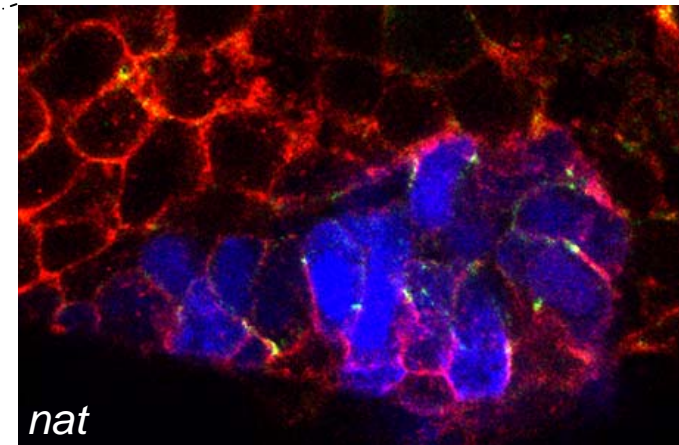
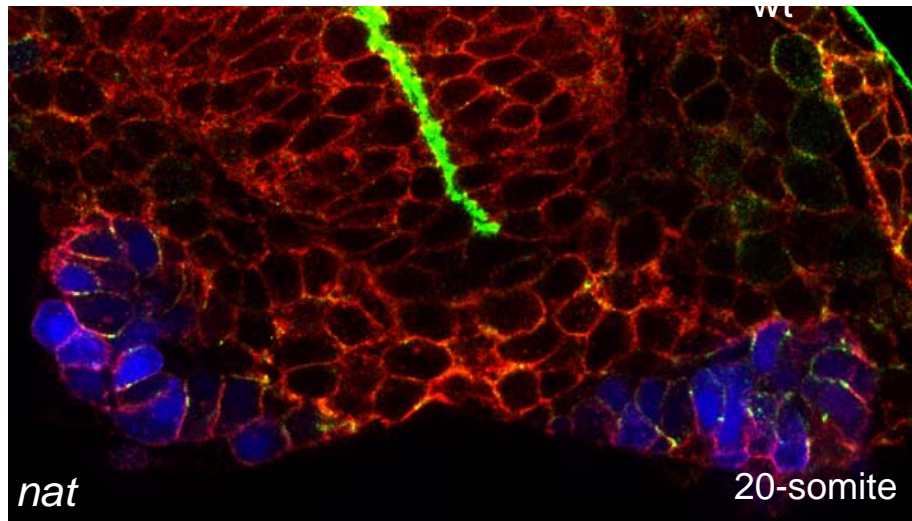
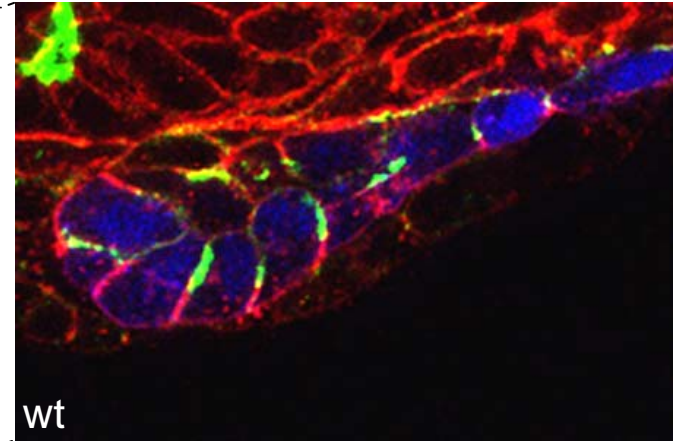
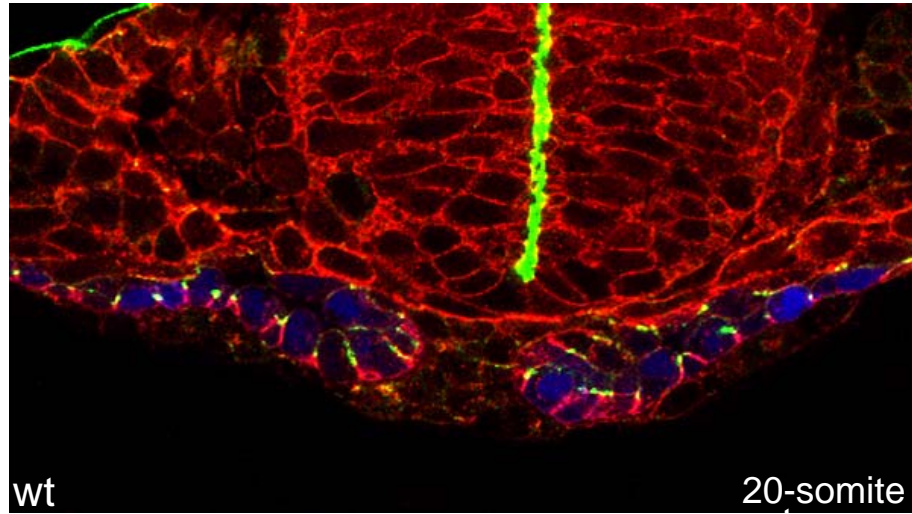
Myocardial precursors form maturing epithelia during the migration stages



aPKCs
 β -catenin
cmlc2::GFP

20-somite

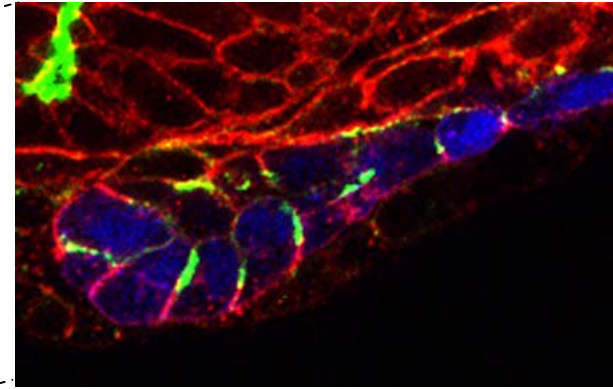
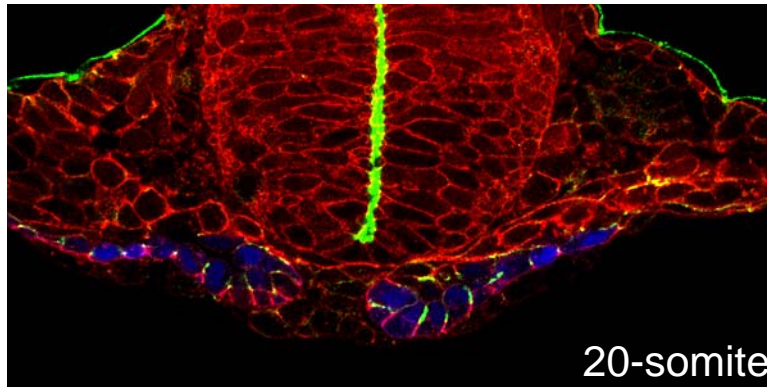
Fibronectin is required for proper junction formation in the myocardial precursors



aPKCs
 β -catenin
cmlc2::GFP

Myocardial precursors form maturing epithelia during the migration stages

aPKCs
 β -catenin
cmlc2::GFP



genetic requirements for myocardial polarization

- Fibronectin (Trinh and Stainier, *Dev Cell*, 2004)
- Dhand/Hand2 (Trinh, Yelon and Stainier, *Current Biology*, 2005)

cell biological mechanisms

cell polarity, cell shape, cell migration

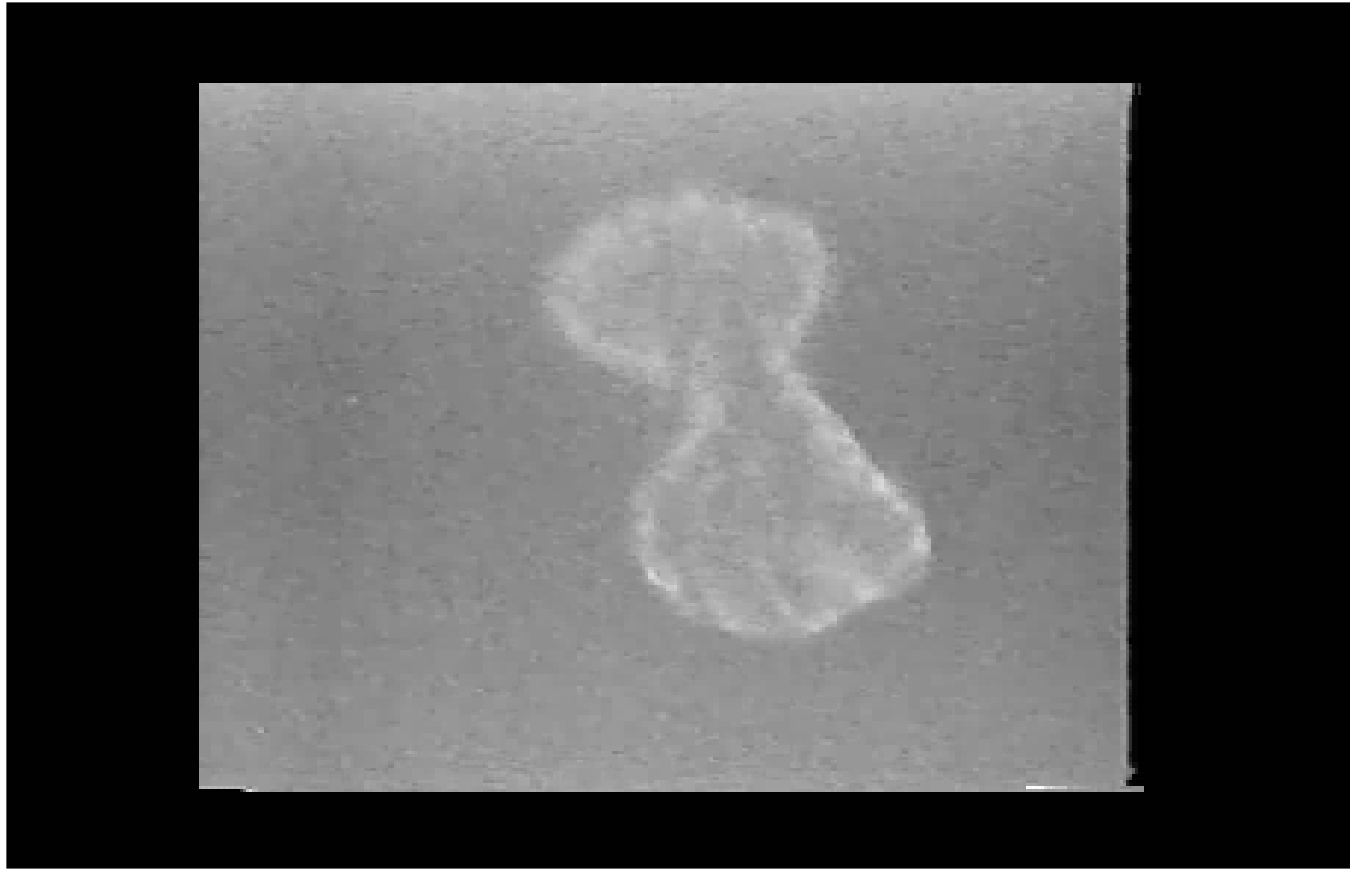
intracellular trafficking, signaling, organelle biogenesis

IMAGING

A novel transgenic line to visualize Ca^{++} flux

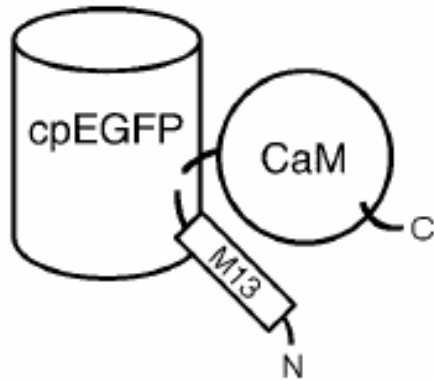
QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Calcium Green/Optical Mapping



Explanted 48 hpf hearts (wt and *sih* $-/-$) exposed to calcium green

gCAMP/Optical Mapping



$K_d \sim 190 \text{ nM}$
 $F/F' \sim 4$

di-4ANNEPES
calcium green
FCIP FRET
gCAMP

F/F'
1-2/100
14
1-2/10
4

generation of a transgenic line
(gCAMP expressed in myocardial cells) (Neil Chi)

G-CAMP/Optical Mapping

24 hpf

Raw
RT

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Processed
1/3 RT

All embryos were treated with 2,3 BDM, an ATP myofibrillar inhibitor, in order to arrest cardiac contraction. Images were obtained with a CCD camera at a 20-30ms/frame capture rate. 40x objective used.

G-CAMP/Optical Mapping

48 hpf

Raw
RT

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Processed
1/3 RT

5 dpf

Raw
RT

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Processed
1/3 RT

connexin mutants display aberrant calcium waves

QuickTime™ and a
Animation decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

embryos were co-injected with *ctnt2* and *connexin* MOs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Endoderm formation

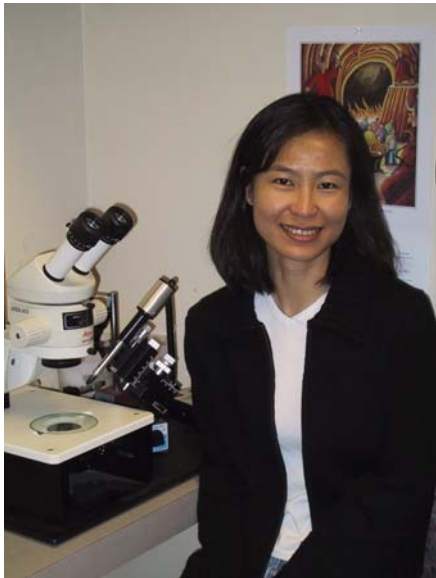
*Jon Alexander

*Jeremy Reiter

*Yutaka Kikuchi, Ph.D.

Pia Aanstad, Ph.D.

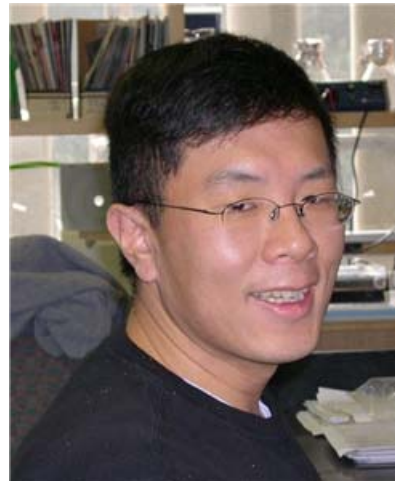
heart formation



Le Trinh
Fn, Hand2

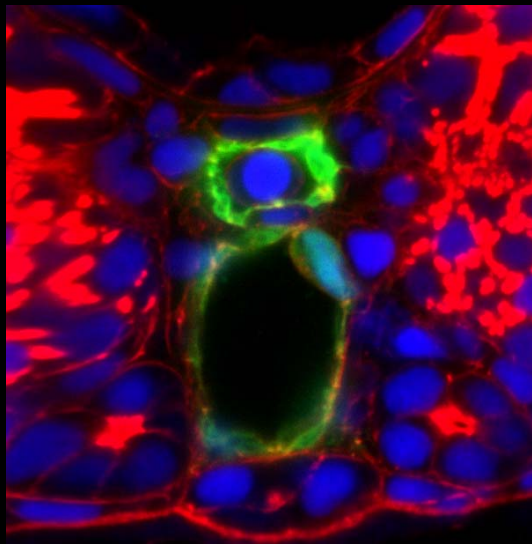
Debbie Yelon
Skirball

heart function

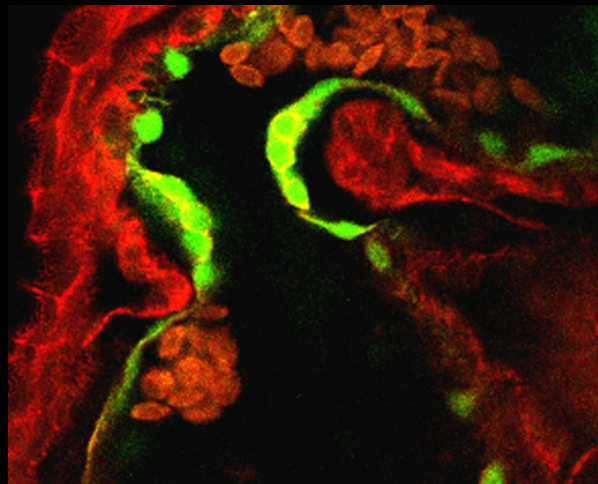


Neil Chi, M.D., Ph.D.
(cardiac function)

Robin Shaw, M.D., Ph.D.
Lily Jan



vasculogenesis



endocardial
cushion
formation

cardiac function



