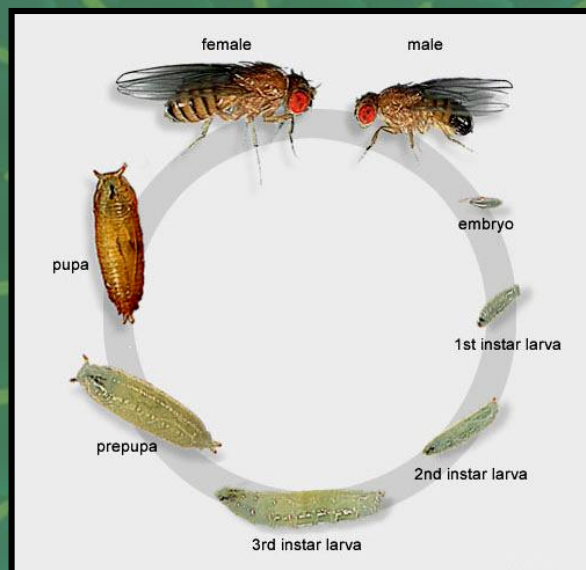


*Why is it worth making eyes at *Drosophila*?*

Life cycle of *Drosophila melanogaster*



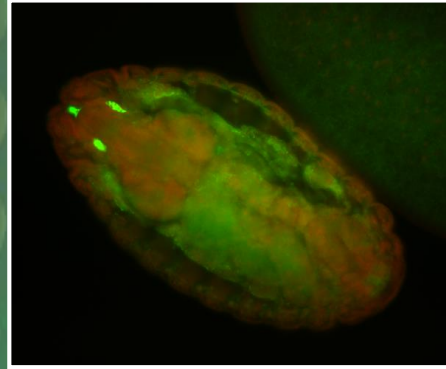
Bolwig's organ

GMRTM-Gal4, UAS-nlsRedStinger



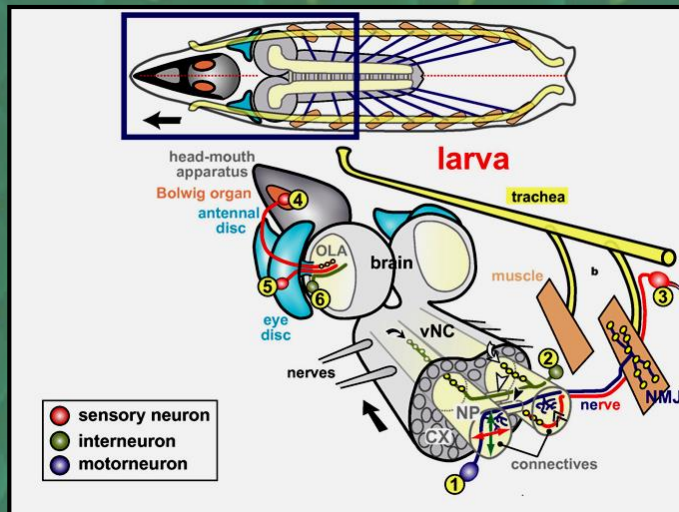
Bolwig's Organ

GMR: glass multiple reporter promoter elements, has been commonly utilized to express target transgenes, specifically in the developing eye



Niels Bolwig (1911 – 2004)

Bolwig's organ in the larva



Maggots are all eyes

-2 s -1 s

a

b

8 s 9 s

Bolwig organ expressed via

The authors conclude:
Our study has uncovered unexpected light-sensing machinery, which could be critical for foraging larvae to avoid harmful sunlight, desiccation and predation.

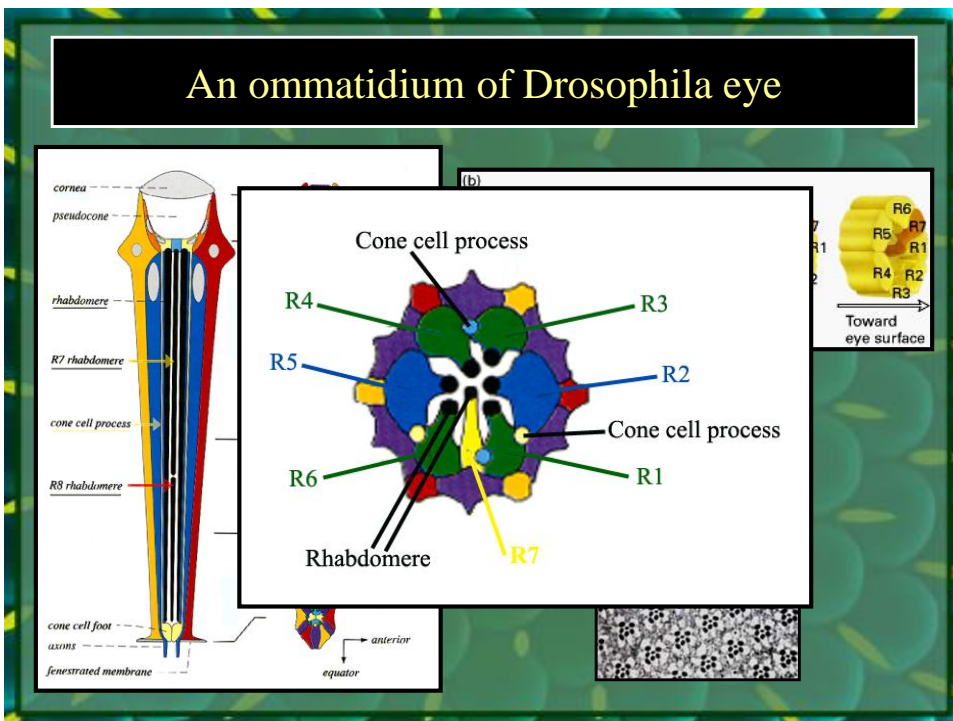
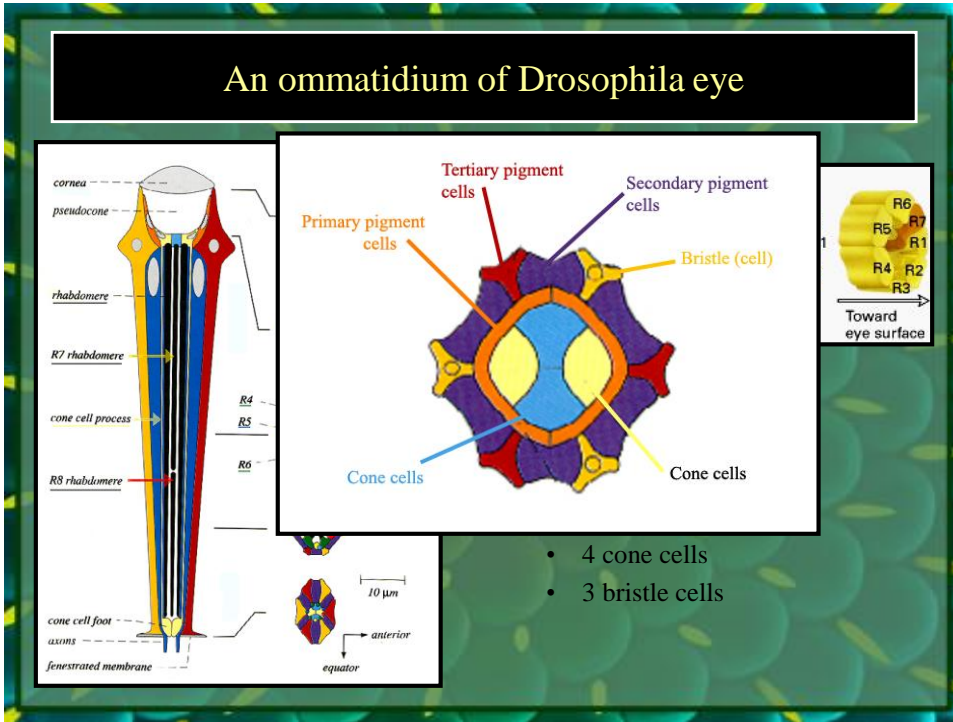
Xiang et al., Nature 2010

Let's see the compound eye!

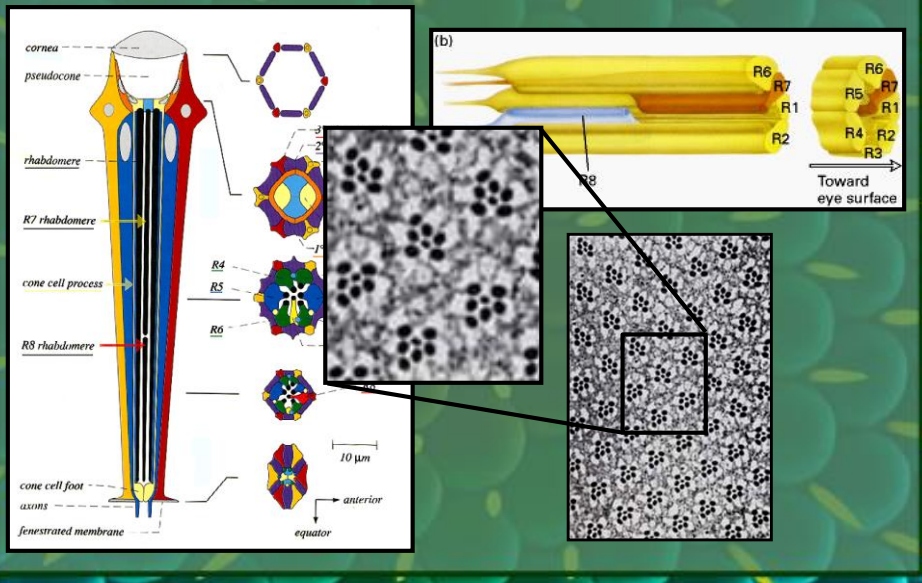
Drosophila: 750-800 ommatidium

Dragonfly: 10 000 ommatidium

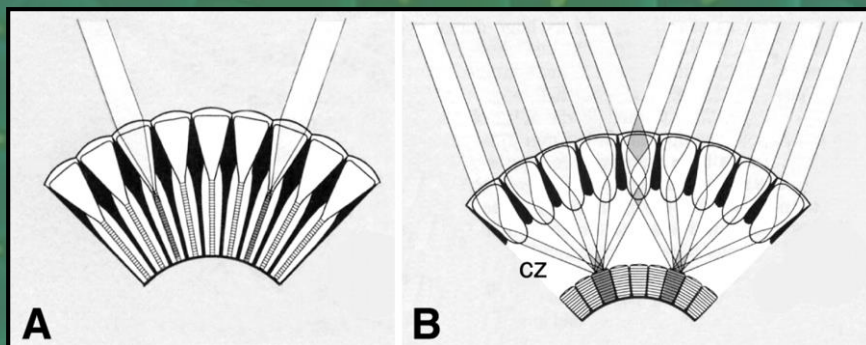
SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY



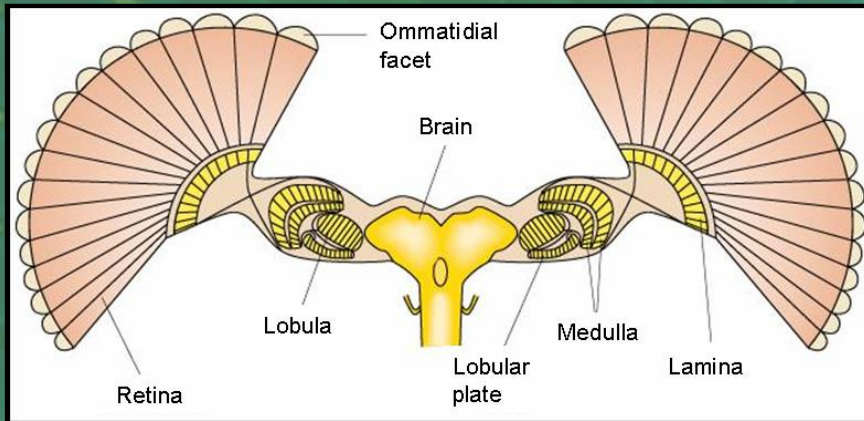
An ommatidium of *Drosophila* eye



Apposition and superposition eyes



Cross-section of eyes and brain



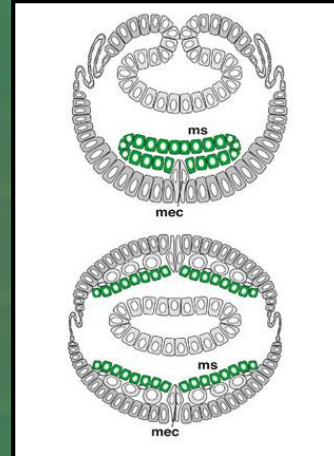
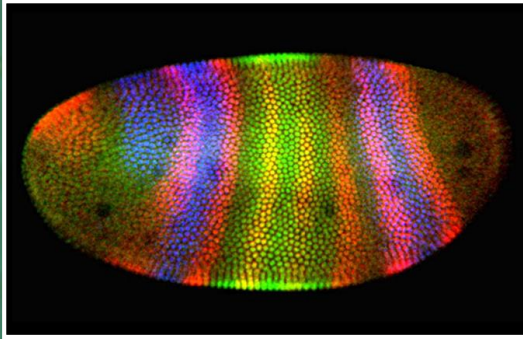
The compound eye as the model

Making cells different from one another and assigning them to the right places are central to organ formation.

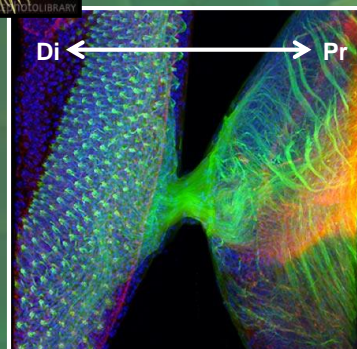
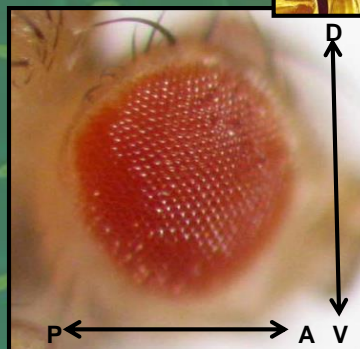
In the *Drosophila* visual system, the compound eye two themes emerge: the interplay between cell signaling and cell competence generates diversity of cell types and selective cell adhesion determines diversity of cellular patterns.

Sujin Bao, 2010

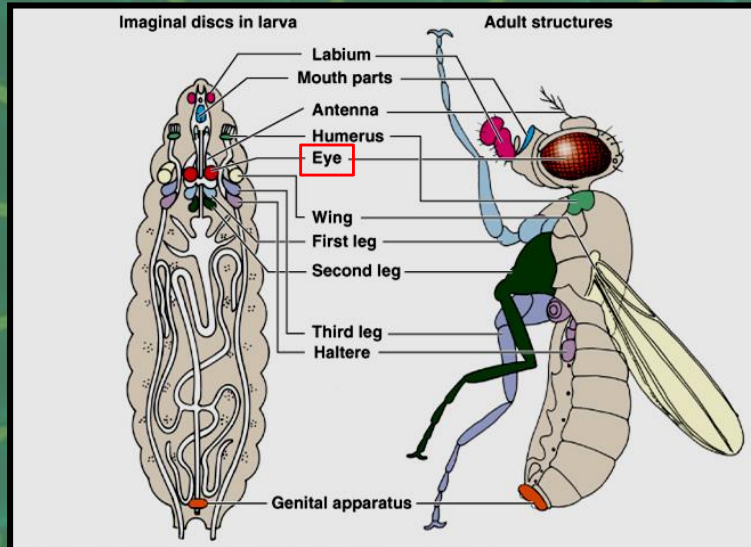
Axis polarity: in 2D



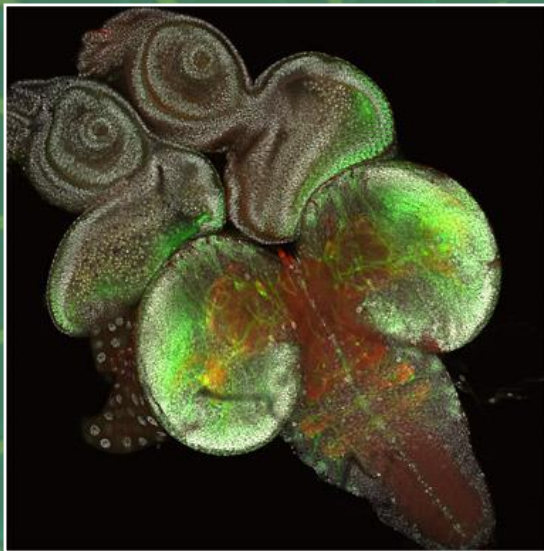
Organization of eye in 3D



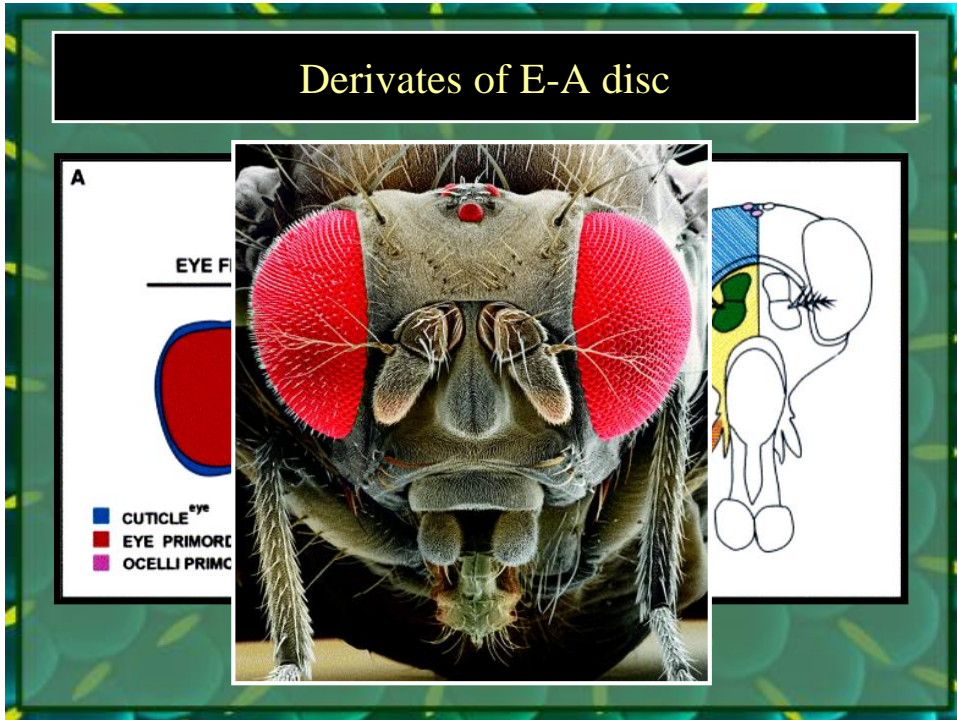
Imaginal discs



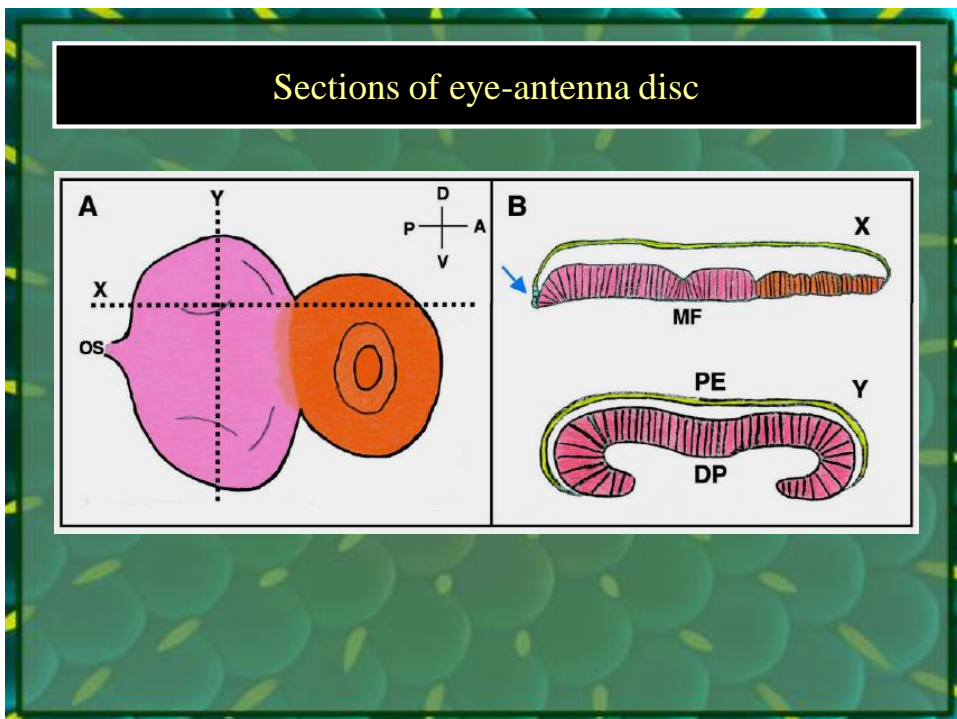
The eye-antenna discs and the brain



Derivates of E-A disc



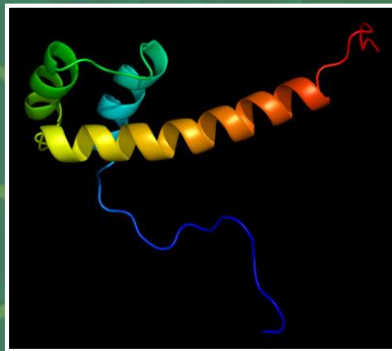
Sections of eye-antenna disc



Steps from the disc to the eye

- Activity of master genes determines the eye fate of the disc
- Dorsoventral polarity of the eye
- The random cell division synchronized
- Antero-posterior polarity
- Morphogenetic furrow forms
- Distal-proximal polarity
- Notch signaling activates the proneural genes
- The proneural clusters of 12 cells form
- The cells of peripodial membrane designe the R8 cells
- Determination of R2-R5, R3-R4, R1-R6 cells
- Selection of R7 cell
- Expression of various rhodopsins by different R cells
- Differentiation of non-neural cells
- Formation of the rhabdom
- Apoptosis in the eye

Master (switch) genes : *ey* and *toy*



PAX 6

Four *Drosophila* Pax6 orthologues:
eyeless (ey)
twin of eyeless (toy)
eyegone (eyg)
twin of eyegone (toe)

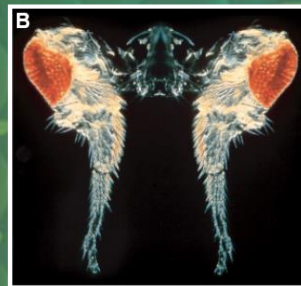


Eyeless (ey)



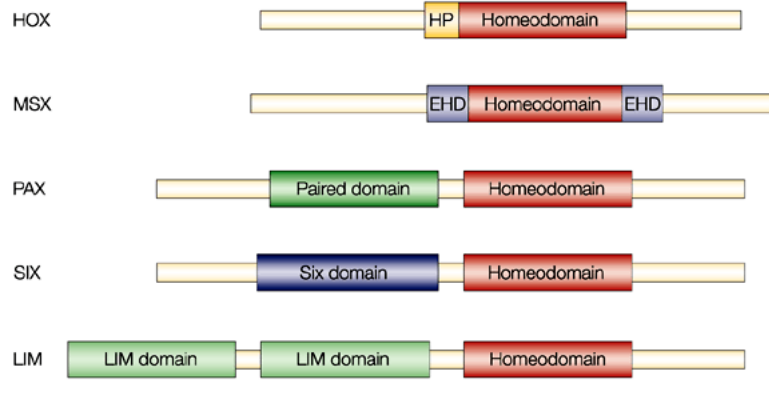
Mildred Hoge, 1915

Ectopic overexpression of *ey*



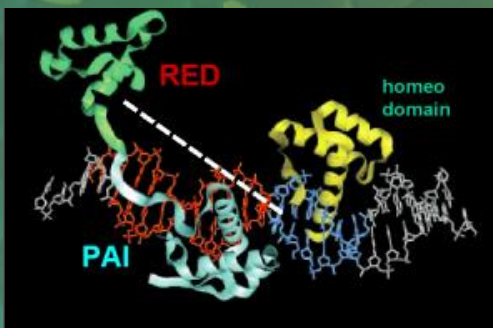
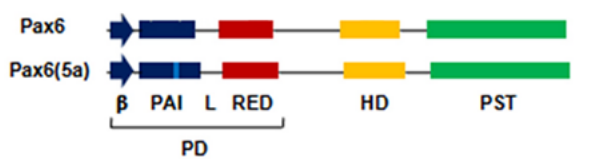
Ey: paired box (*pax*) gene family, tissue specific transcriptional factors

Homeobox genes and Homeodomain proteins



Homeobox: 180 bp, hox domain: 60 amino acids → DNA binding (enhancers)
 Paired box: 384 bp,

Pax6 from afar



PAI and RED: two helical parts of paired domain
 L: linker
 HD: homeodomain
 PST: proline, serine, threonine-rich domain (transactivation)
 5a: alternative exon

Hanson, Ped. Res., 2003

Pax6 from a short distance

Different Pax 6 enhancers are active in different tissues: Results in different sites of transcription initiation and alternative splicing in different tissues

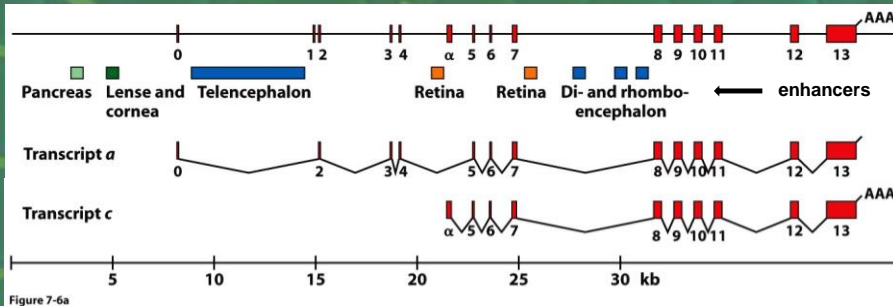


Figure 7-6a

3 promoters: P0, P1 and P α

Transcript c:

detected in retina
lacks exons 0-4
contains exon α
exon α is unique to vertebrates

Pax-6 orthologs

Mouse Pax6 gene:

GTATCCAACGGTTGTGTGAGTAAATCTGGGCAGGTATTACGAGACTGGCTCCATCAGA

Fly eyeless gene:

Genetic similarity to mouse: 76.66%

Protein similarity to mouse: 100%

GTATCAAAATGGATGTGTGAGCAAATCTCGGGAGGTATTGAAACAGGAAGCATACGA

Shark eye control gene:

Genetic similarity to mouse: 85%

Protein similarity to mouse: 100%

GTGTCCAACGGTTGTGTGAGTAAATCTGGGCAGATACTATGAAACAGGATCCATCAGA

Squid eye control gene:

Genetic similarity to mouse: 78.33%

Protein similarity to mouse: 100%

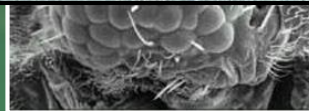
GTCTCCAACGGCTGCGTTAGCAAATCTCGGACGGTACTATGAGACGGGCTCCATAAGA

Flatworm eye control gene:

Genetic similarity to mouse: 71.66%

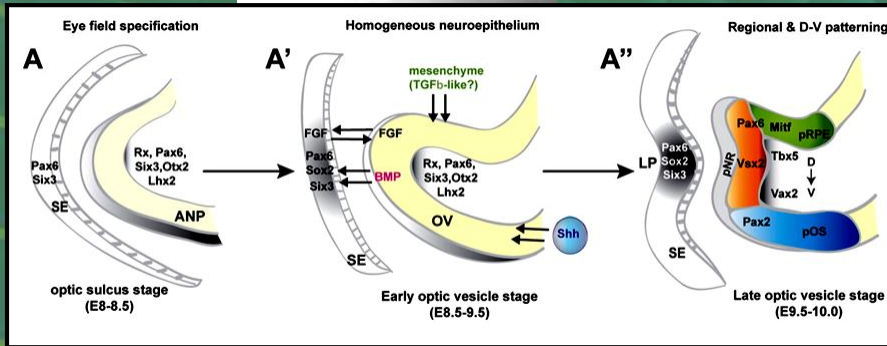
Protein similarity to mouse: 100%

GTGTCTAATGGTTGTGTAGTAAATCTTGGCGATATTATGGAACAGGTTCTATTAAA

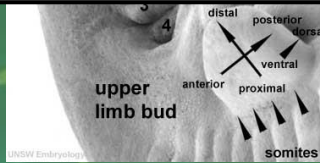


Aniridia

Pax6 in mammalian eye development



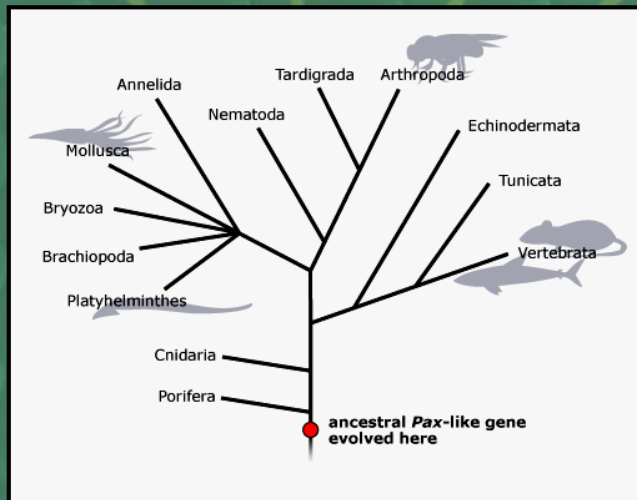
SOX: Sry-related HMG box
 Tbx: T-box transcription factor
 Vax: ventral anterior homeobox

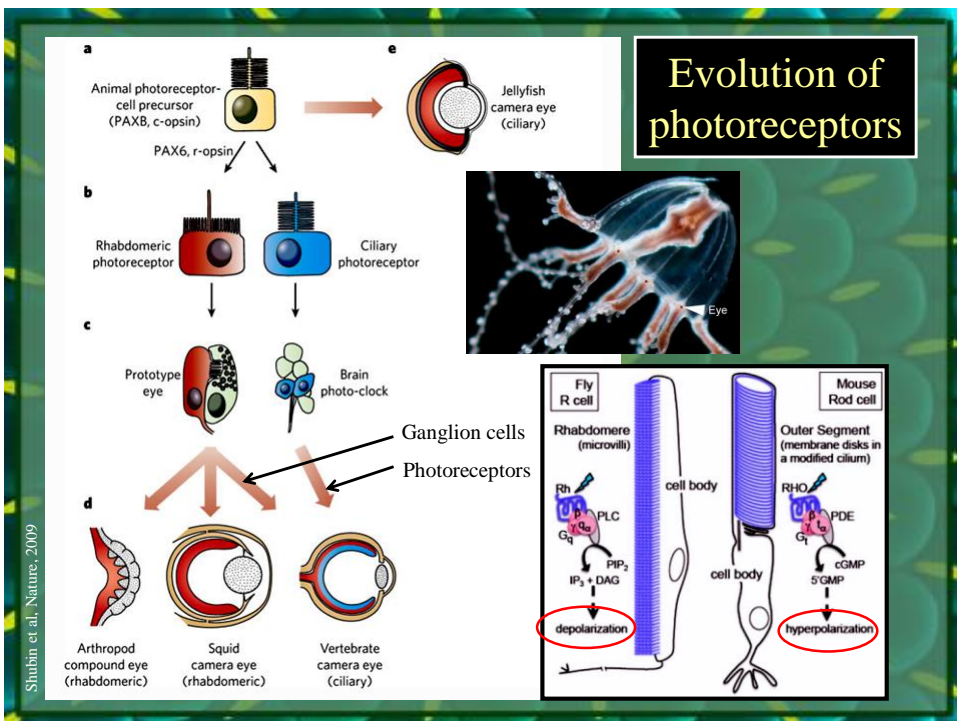
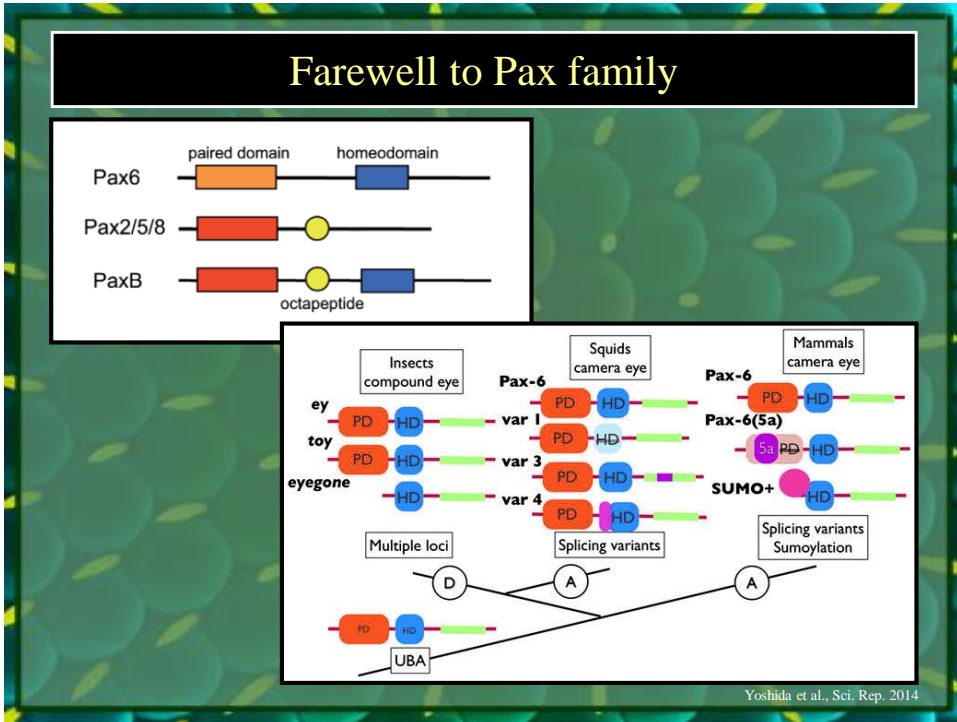


ANP: anterior neural plate
 LP: lens placod
 OV: optic vesicle
 SE: surface ectoderm
 pOS: presumptive optic stalk
 pNR: presumptive neural retina
 pRPE: presumptive retinal pigment epithelium.

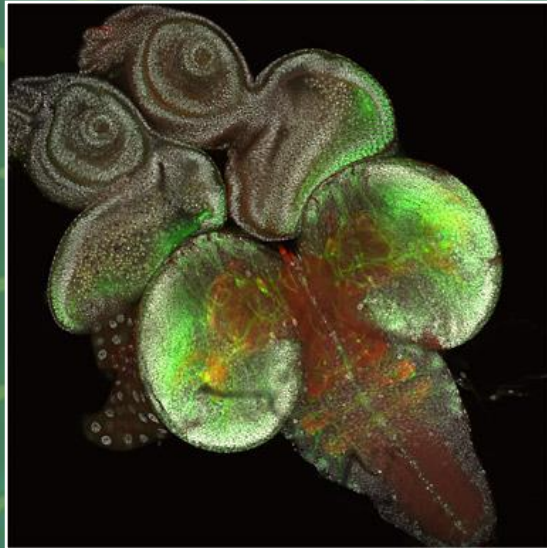
Yun et al., Development, 2009

Evolution of Pax-6



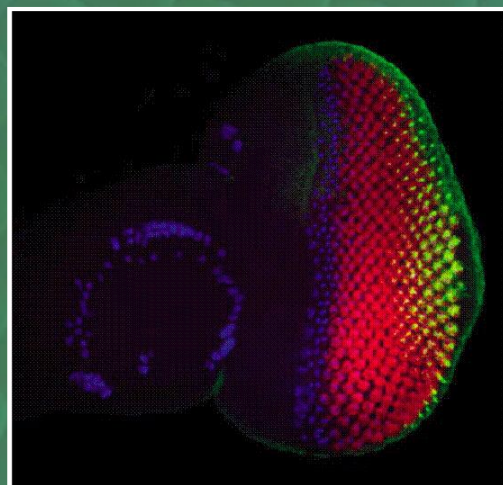


The eye-antenna discs and the brain

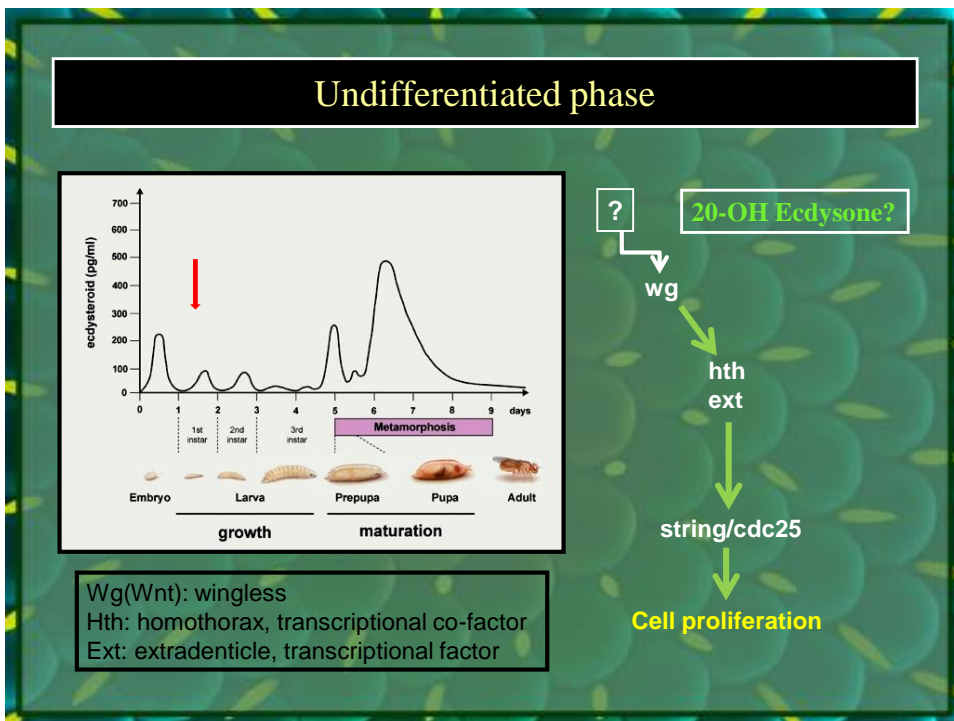
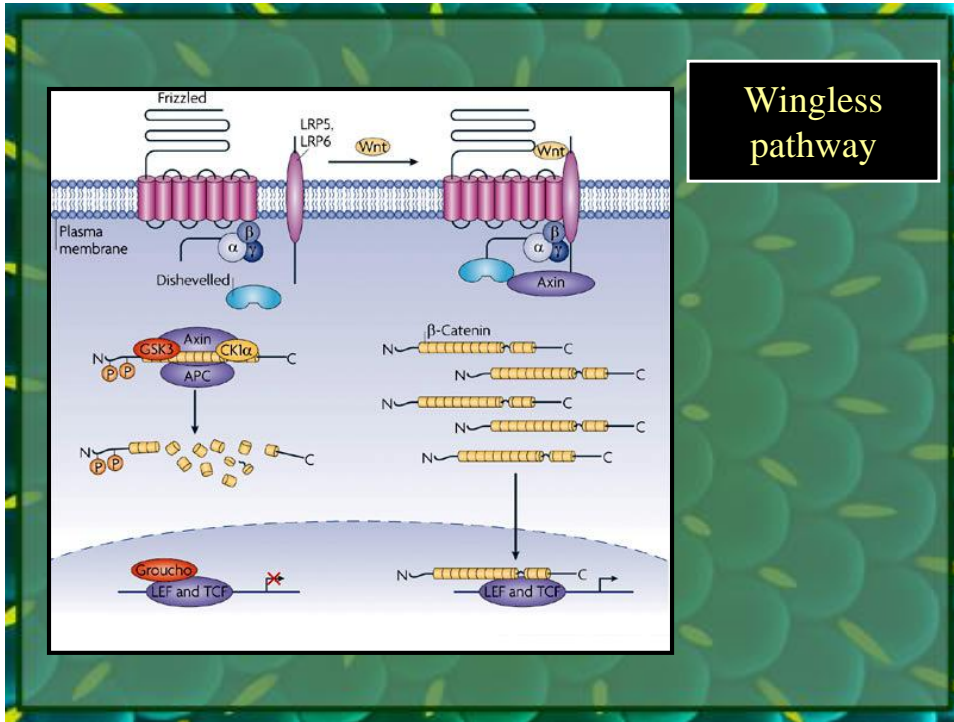


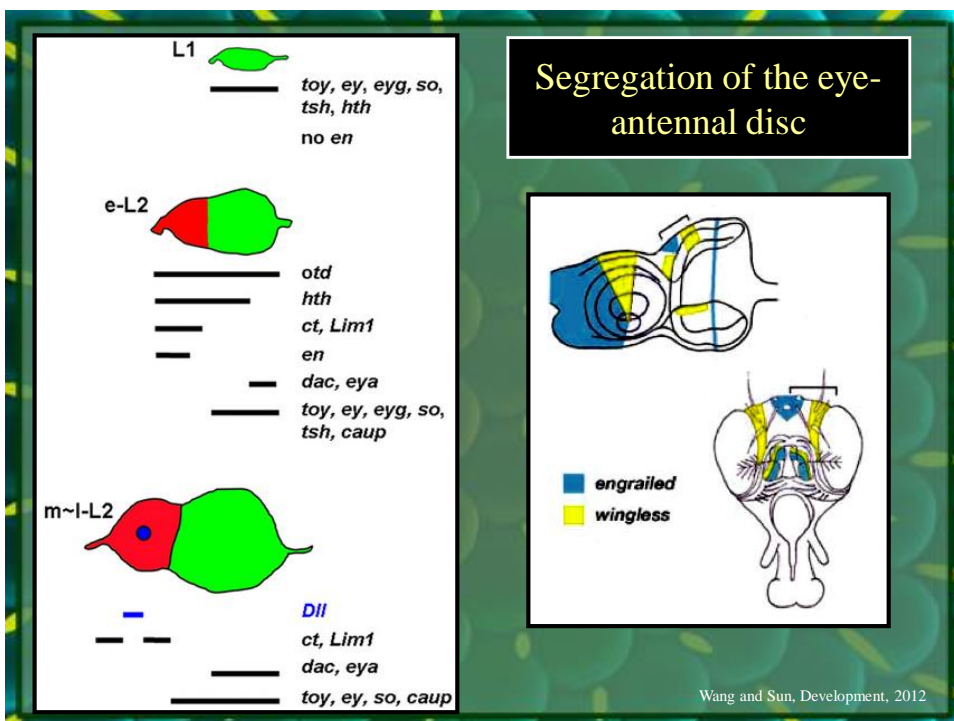
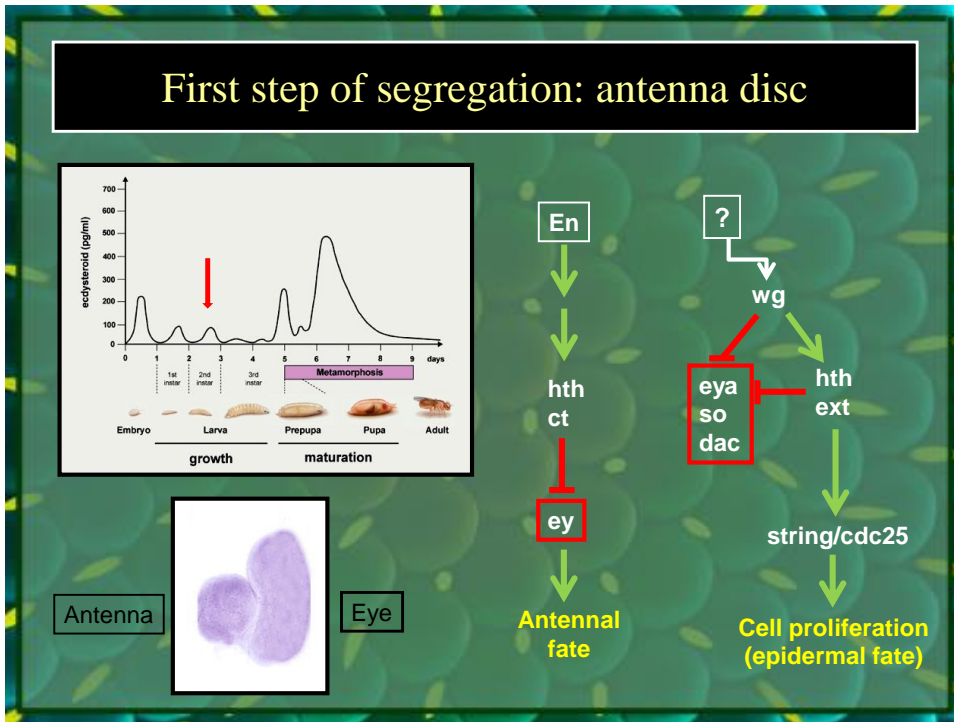
Cell determinations in the eye-antennal disc

anterior

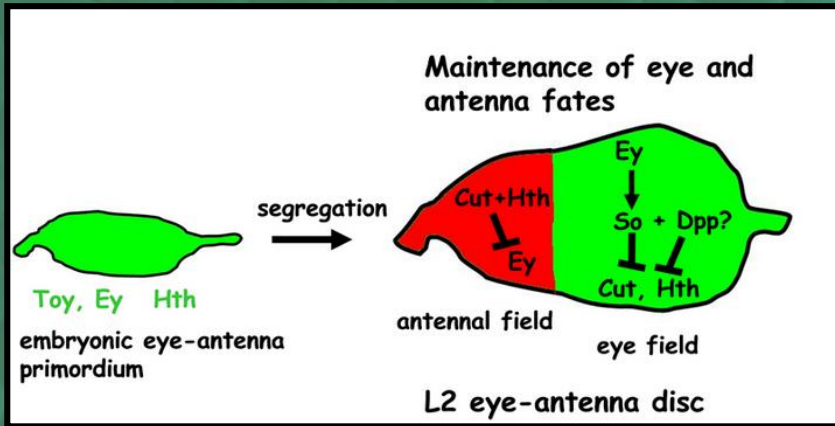


posterior





Current model of A-E segregation



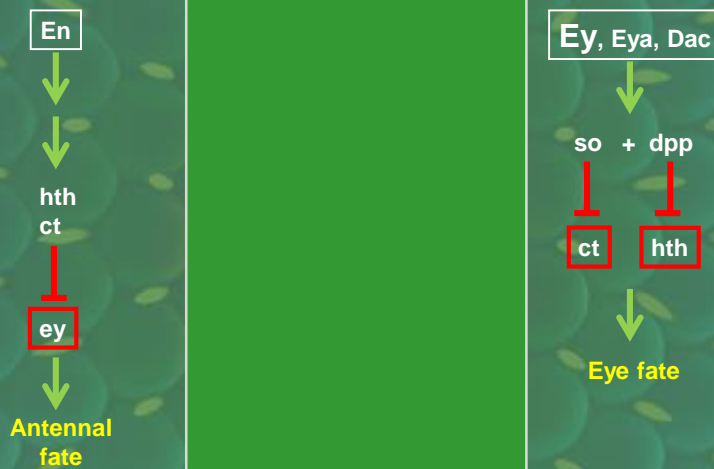
Ct: cut
So: sine oculi
Dll: distalless

Tsh: teashirt
Hth: homothorax

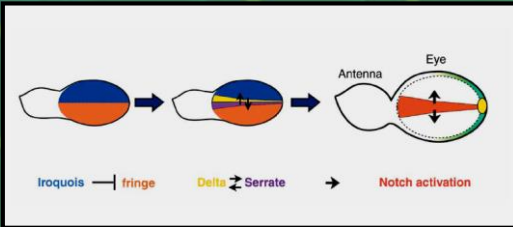
Dpp: decapentaplegic
Dac: dachshund

Wang and Sun, Development, 2012

Final step of segregation



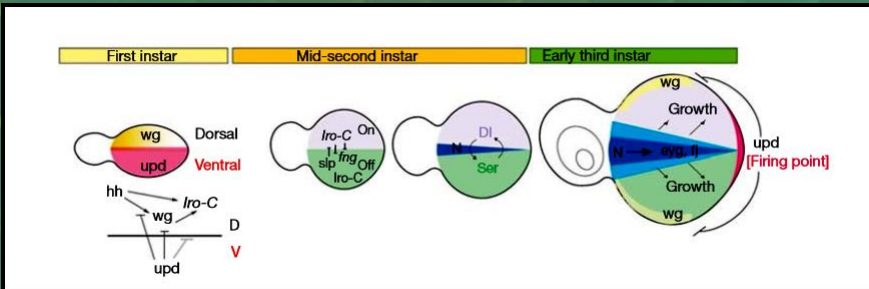
Dorsoventral polarity of the eye



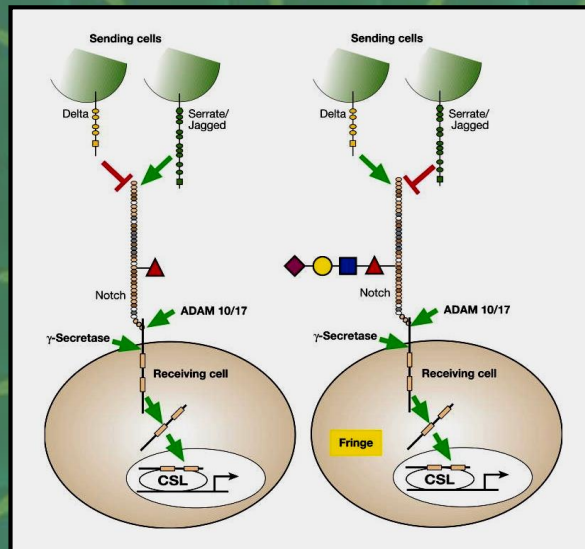
First planar axis

Iroquois: homeodomain transcription factor
 Fringe: N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase

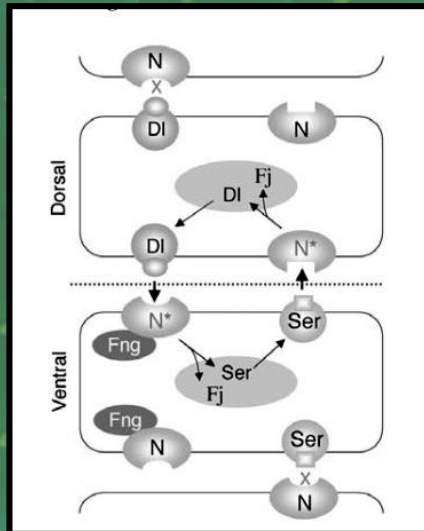
Unpaired, activates the JAK/STAT pathway
 Delta/Serrate: Notch ligands



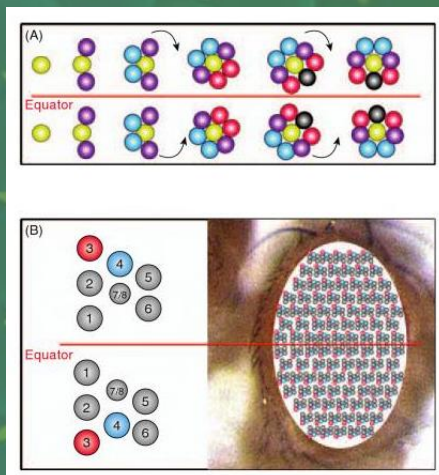
Variations on a theme :Notch/DSL signaling



Notch at the edge

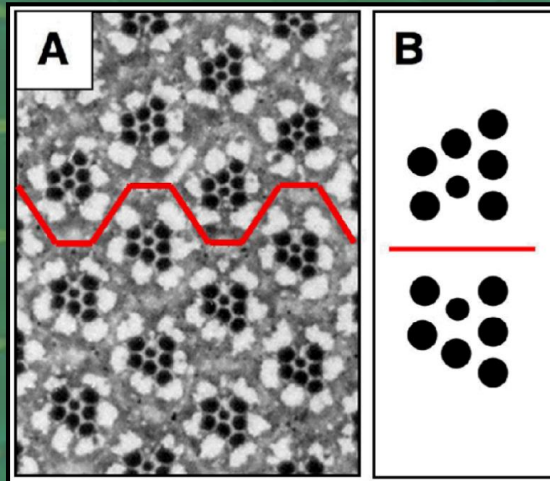


Rotation of clusters

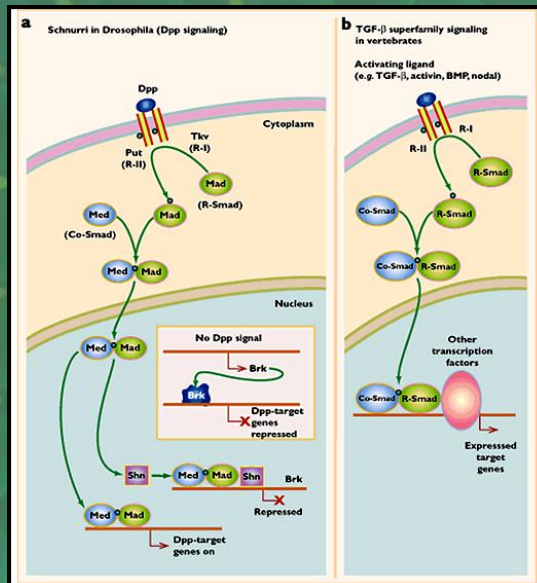


Nemo-like kinase – planar polarity

Dorsal and ventral ommatidia



Dpp signaling



A. 2nd instar disc

B. 3rd instar disc

Second axis (P-A) formed by Dpp signaling

Legent and Treisman, Methods Mol Biol., 2008

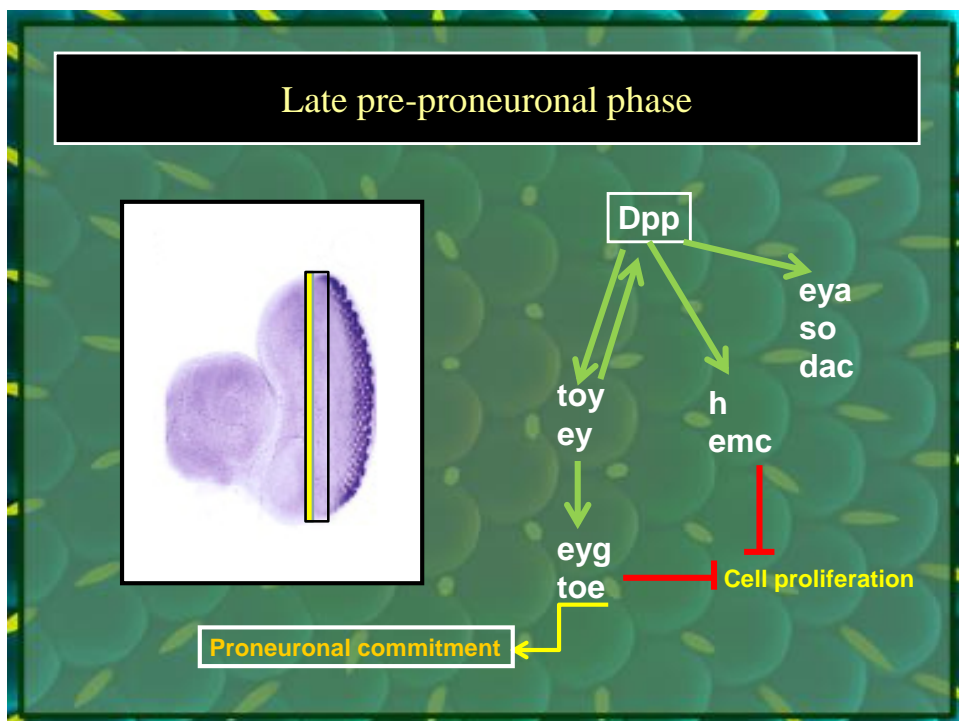
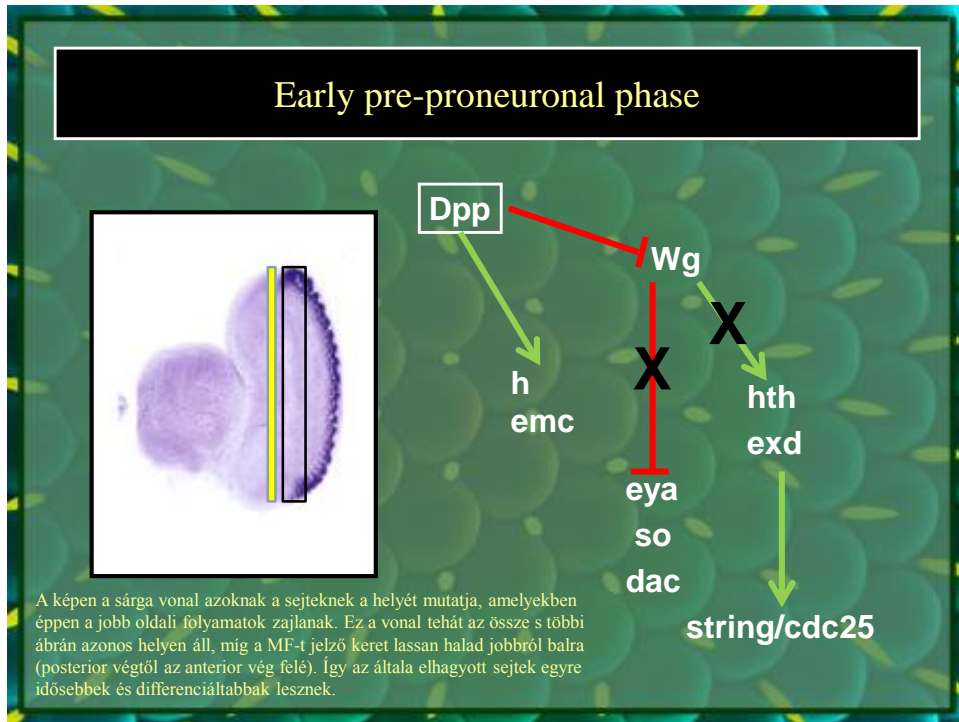
Morphogenetic furrow

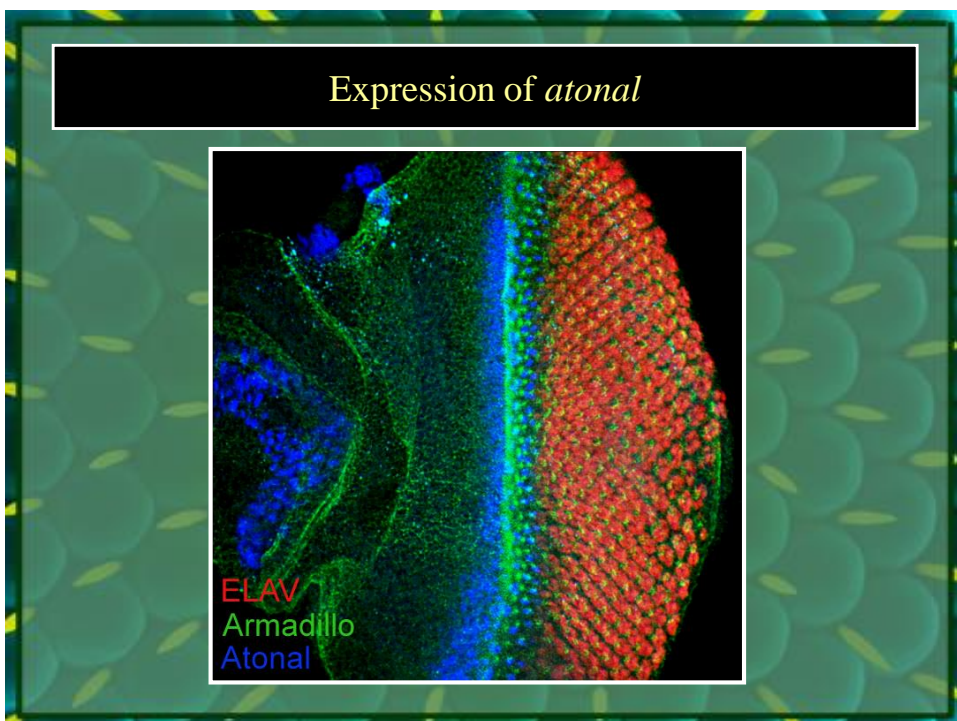
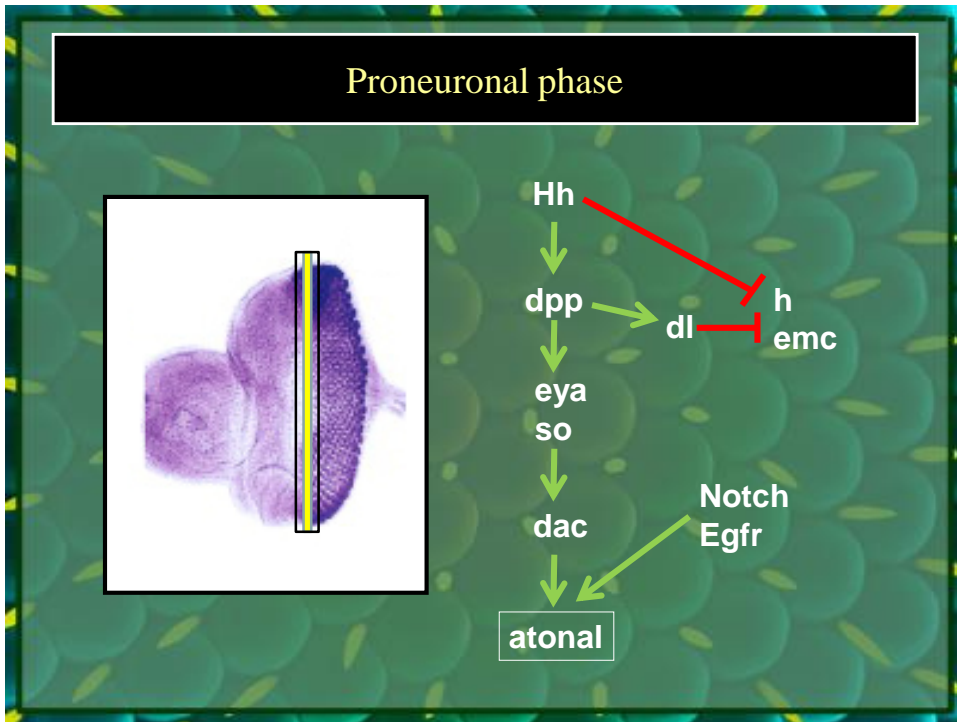
Morphogenetic furrow

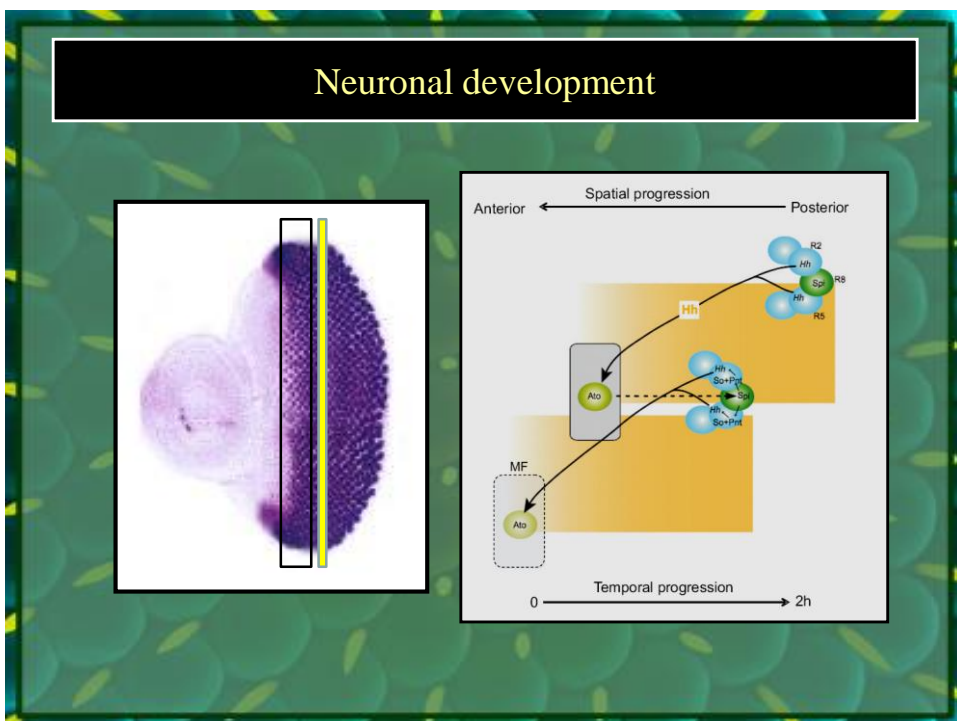
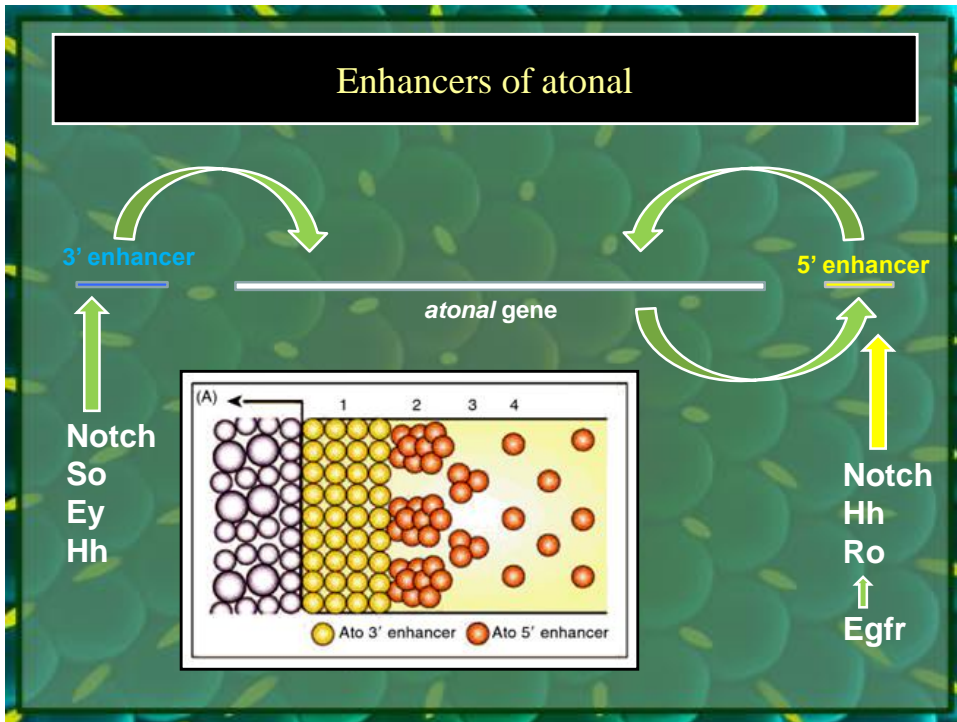
Undifferentiated retinal epithelium

Developing ommatidium

Morphogenetic furrow

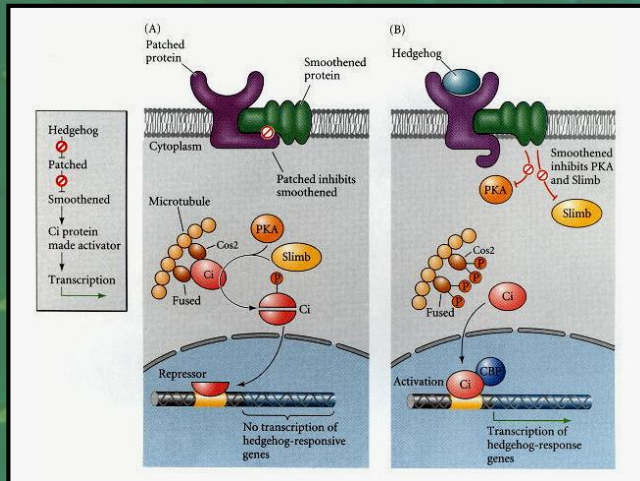




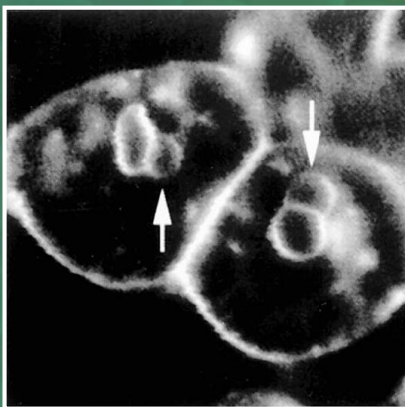


Hedgehog signaling

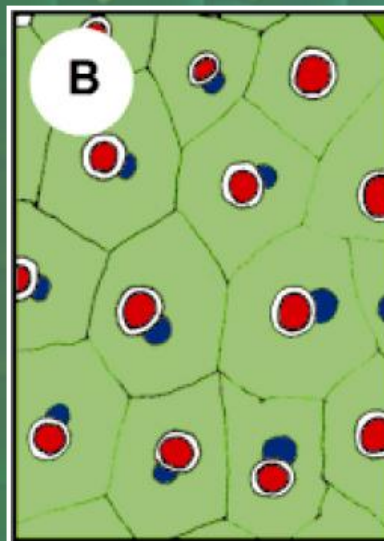
Hedgehog signaling antagonizes Notch: Mitotic cycles are instead of endoreduplications



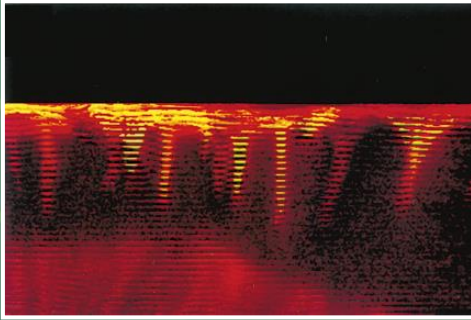
Perinuclear lobes



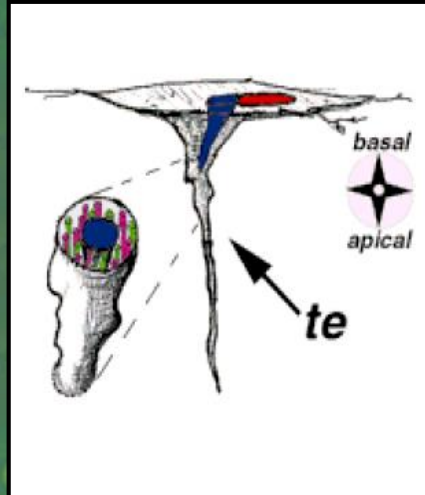
Gibson and Schubiger, 2000, Cell



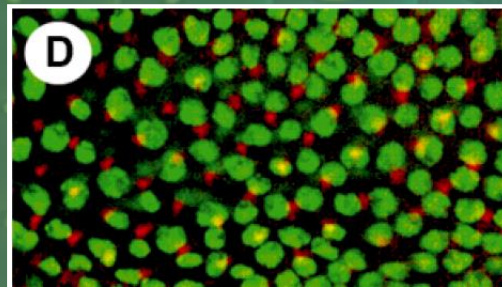
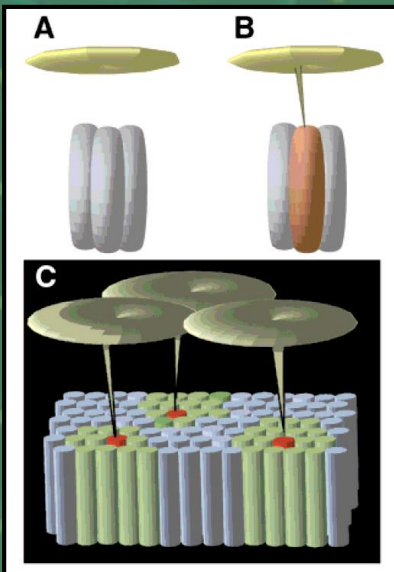
Translumenal extensions



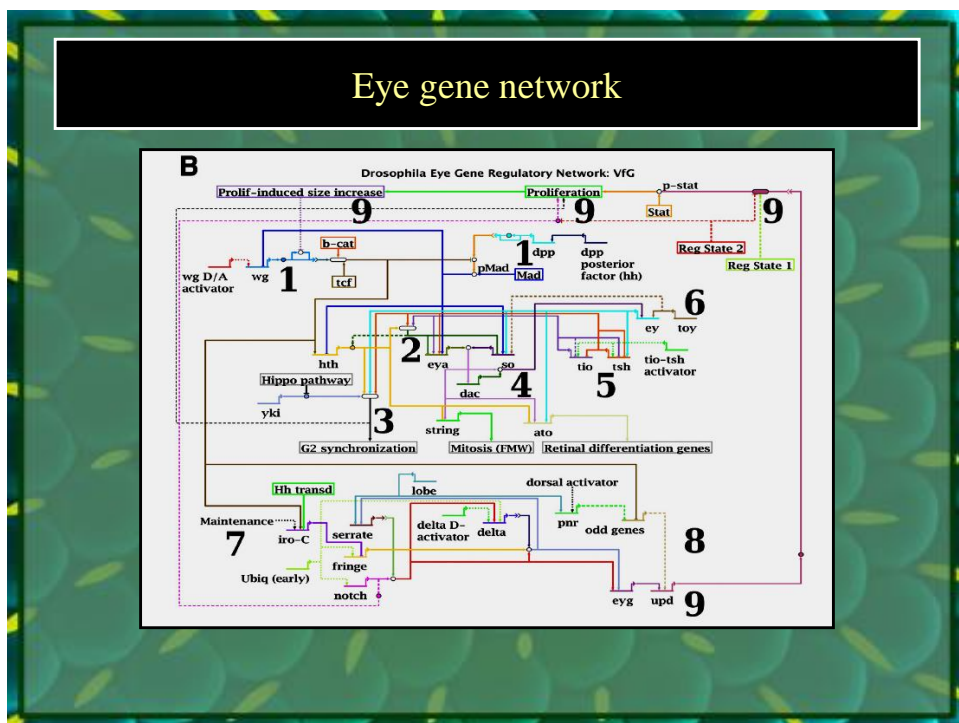
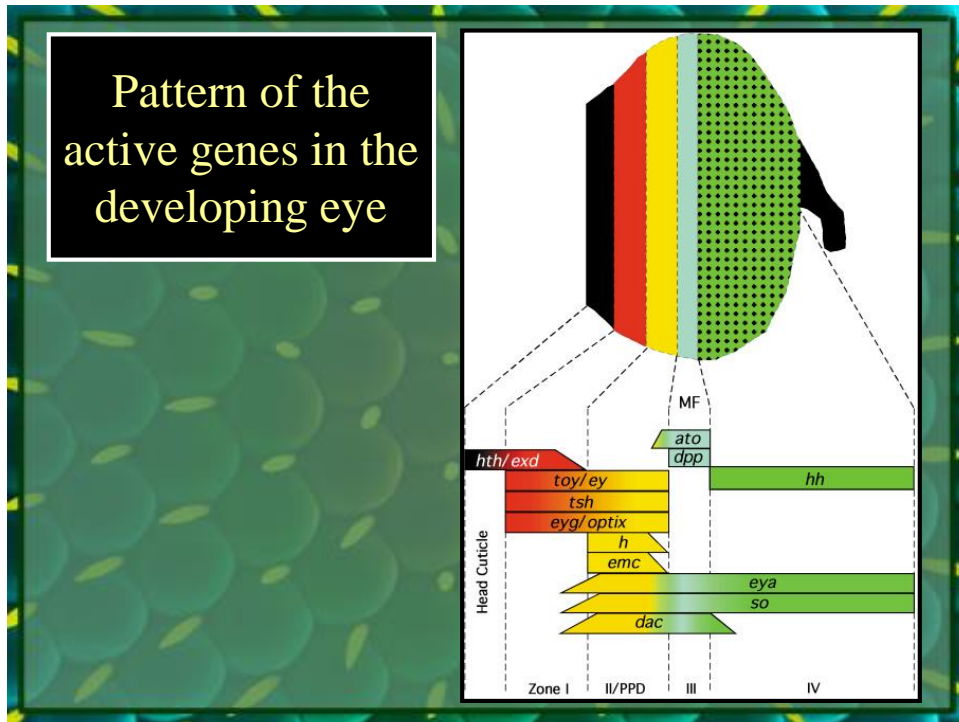
Gibson and Schubiger, 2000, Cell



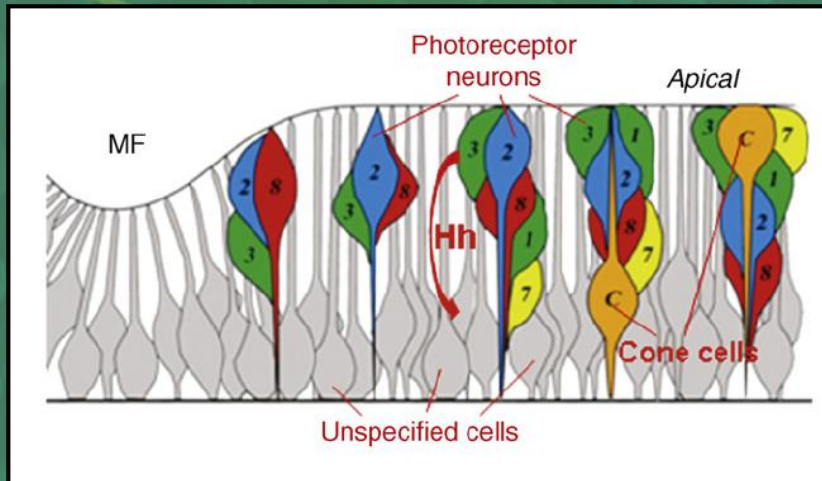
Designation of R8 founder cells



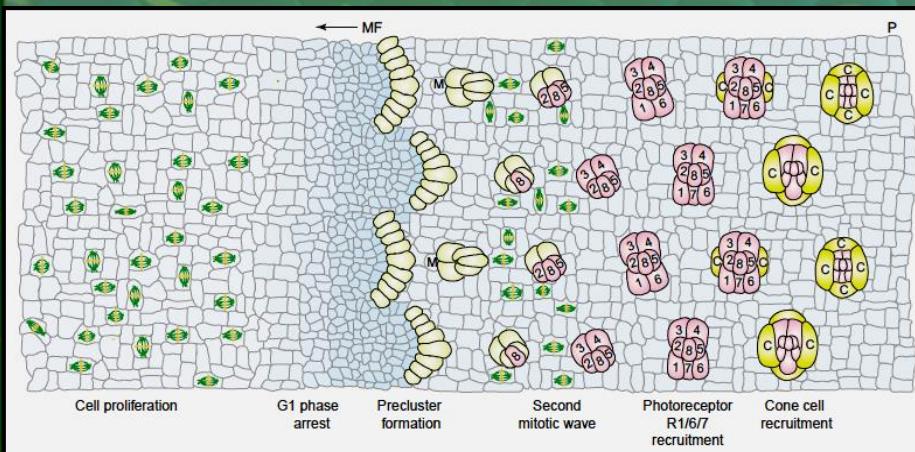
Gibson and Schubiger, 2000, Cell



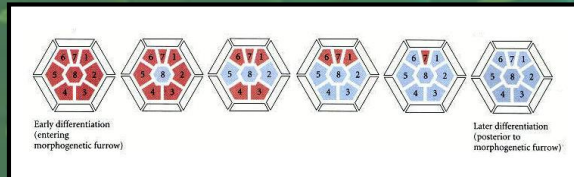
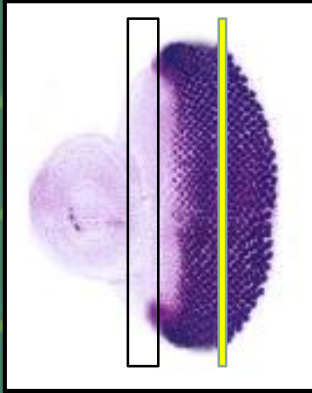
Third axis: proximal-distal by apical – basal interactions



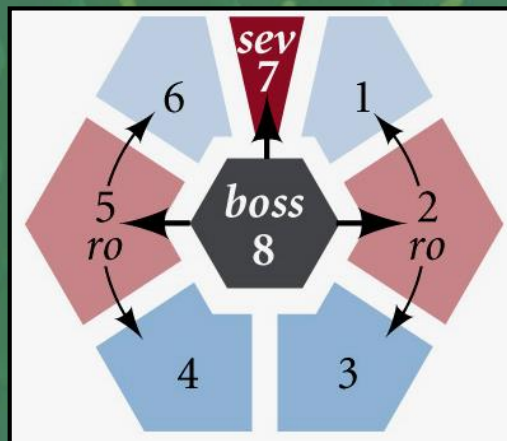
Formation of the clusters



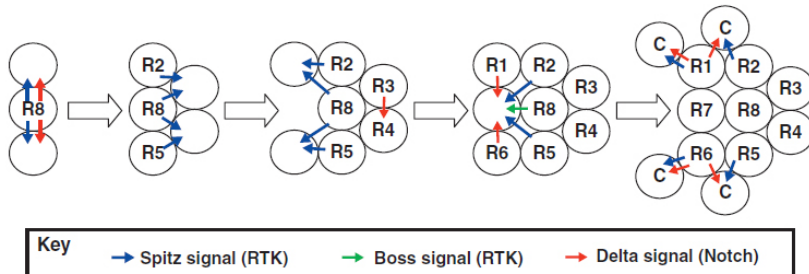
Differentiation



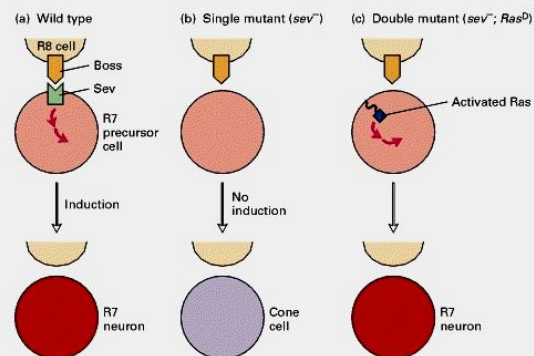
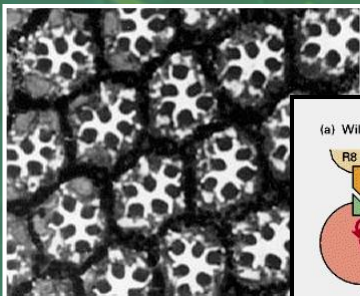
Signaling of the proneural clusters



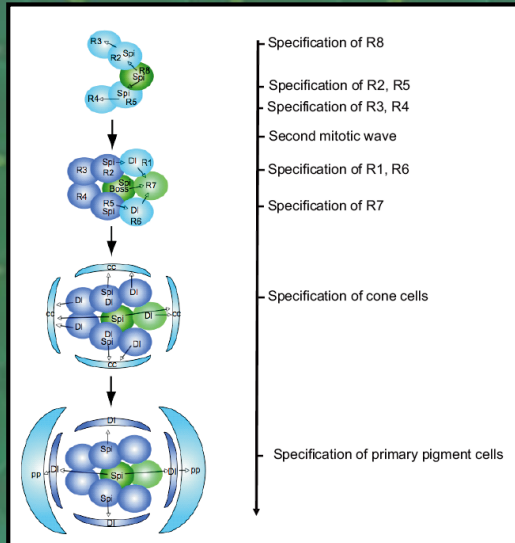
Main signalings



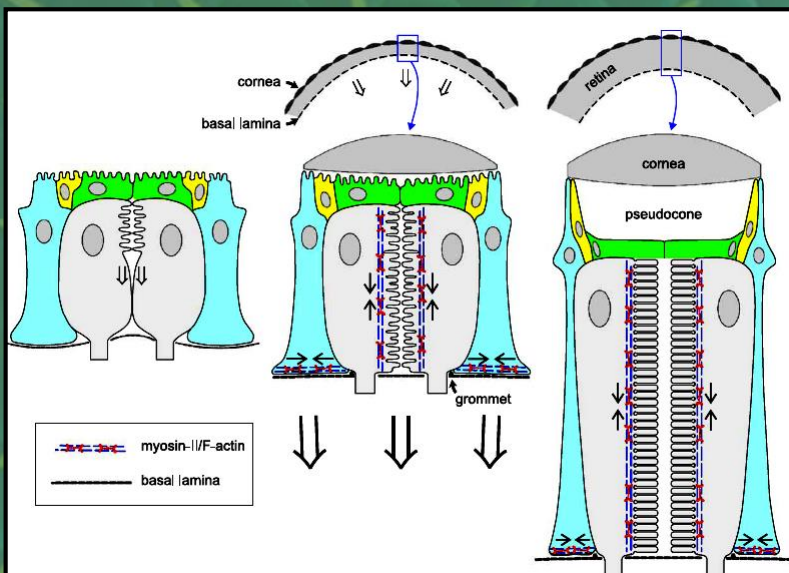
R7 determination - sevenless



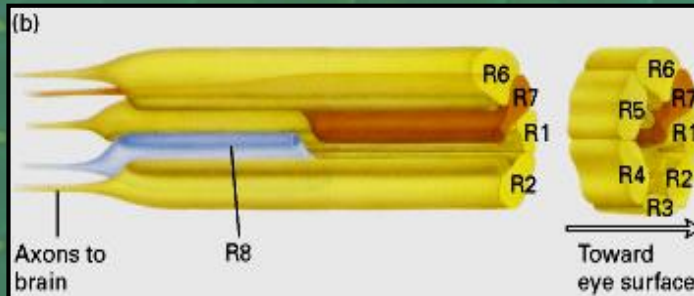
Summary of the specification of cell in an ommatidium



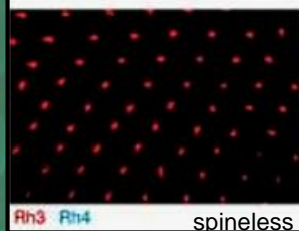
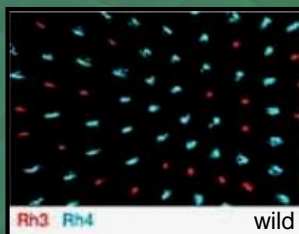
Elongation of cells



Final arrangement of retinula cells



Expression of opsins in R cells

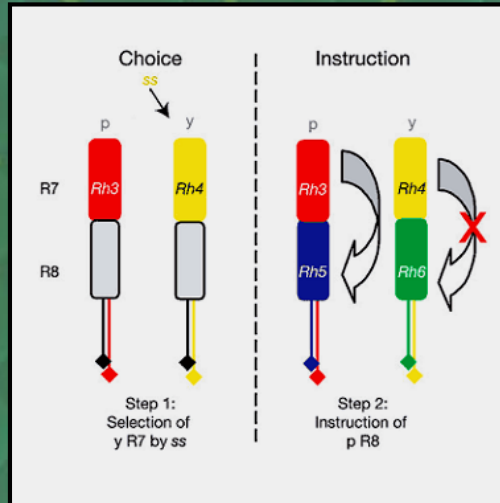


R1 – R6 rhabdomeres express:
rhodopsin1 (blue/light)

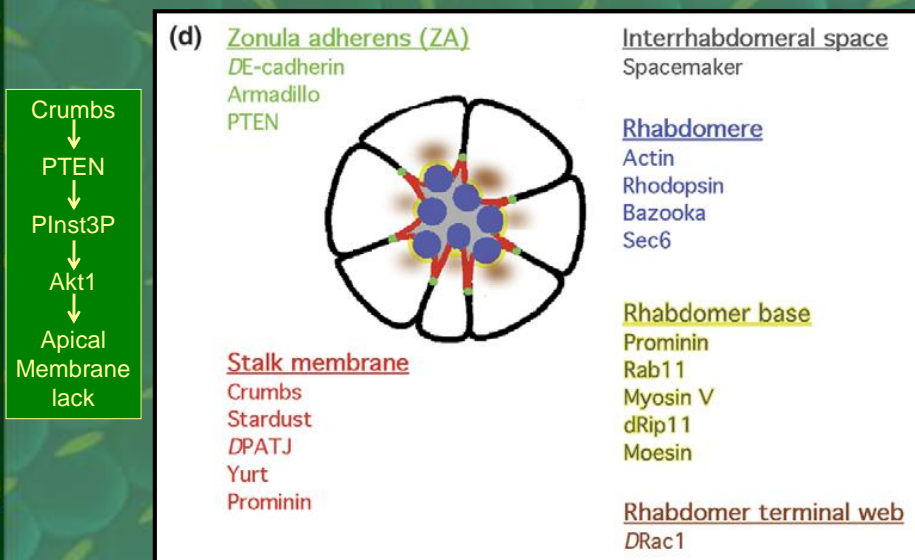
R7 and R8 rhabdomeres express a combination of two rhodopsins:
(rhodopsin3 or rhodopsin4) (UV)
and
(rhodopsin5 or rhodopsin6) (yellow)

The default fate for an R7 receptor is to express the *Rh3* opsin, but the presence of the *spineless* protein above a certain level is sufficient to induce it to express *Rh4* instead. In a mutant in which no *spineless* is present, the R7 cells all make the *Rh3* protein.

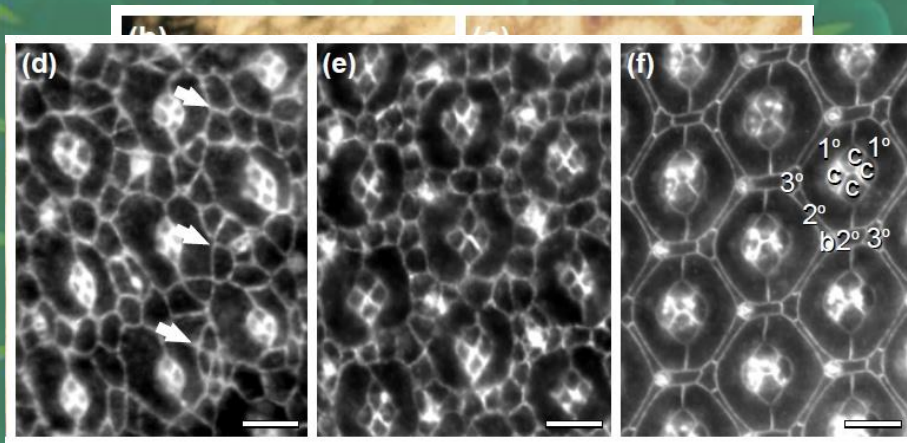
Effects of the spineless



Formation of the rhabdomer



The obsolete cells are removed by apoptosis



Initiator caspases - inhibitor of apoptosis

*Is it worth making eyes
at *Drosophila*?*

Oh, yes!

