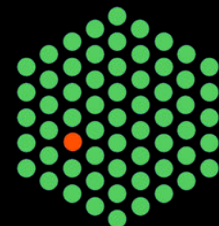


Morphogenesis and Random Cytoskeletal Networks

François Nédélec

European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Heidelberg, Germany

EMBL



A simple physical model of The early mouse embryo



Jean-Léon Maître



Hervé Turlier



Ritsuya Niwayama



Takashi Hiragi

Early Mammalian Development

Mouse embryo

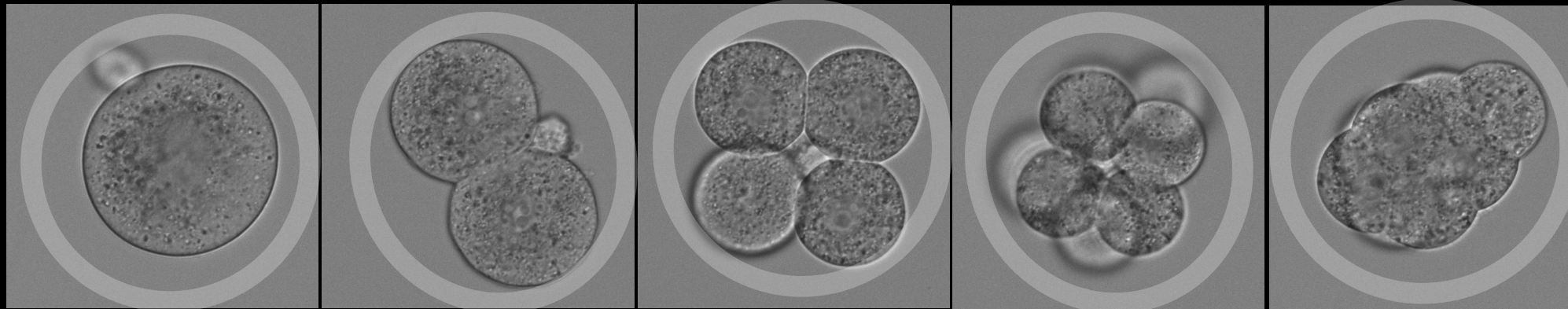
fertilization

1 day

1.5 days

2 days

13.5 days



1 cell

2 cells

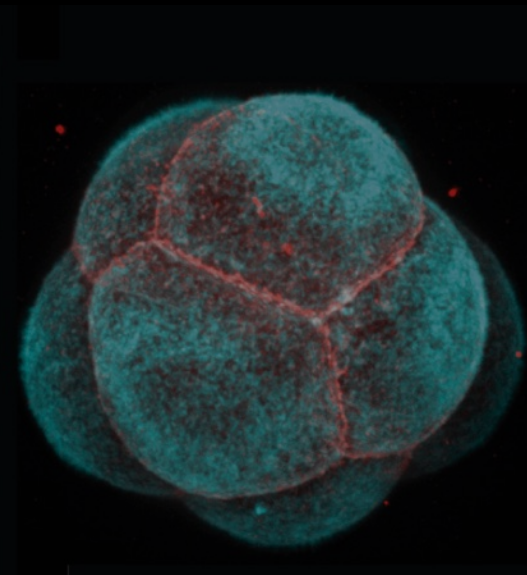
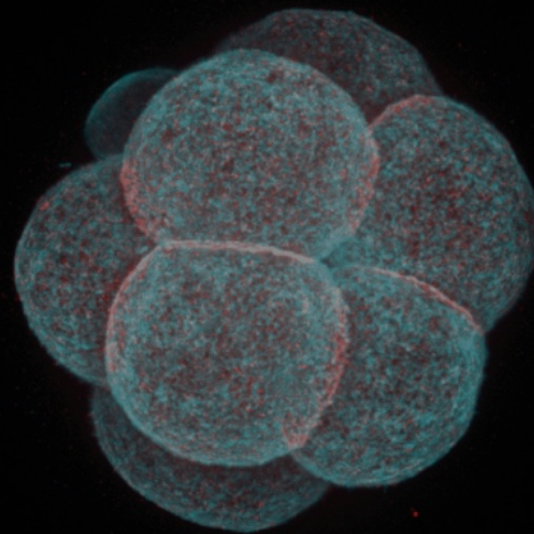
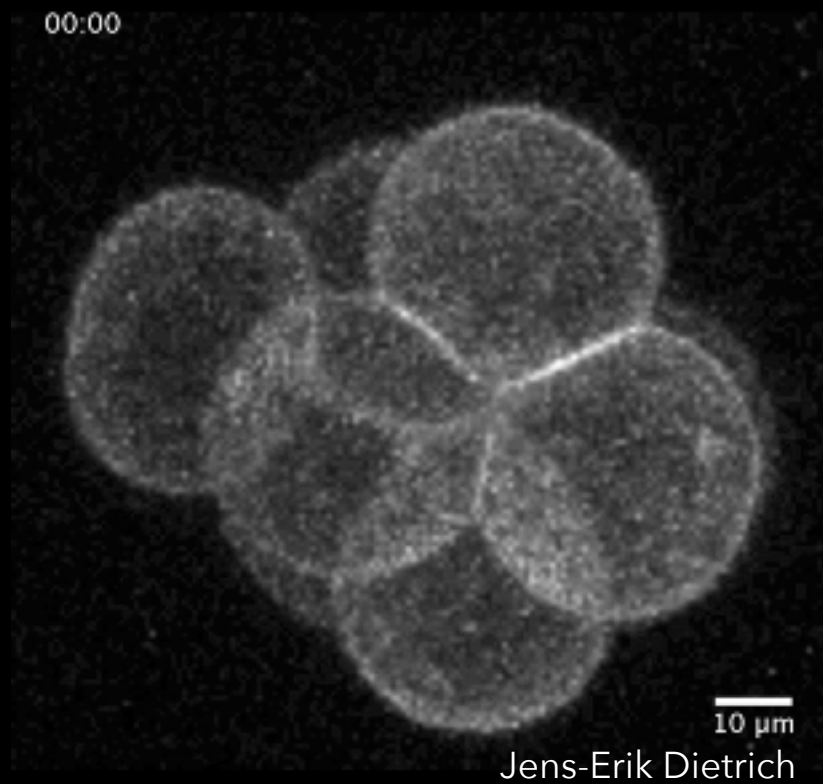
4 cells

8 cells

8 cells



A. Inoue and S. Yamaguchi

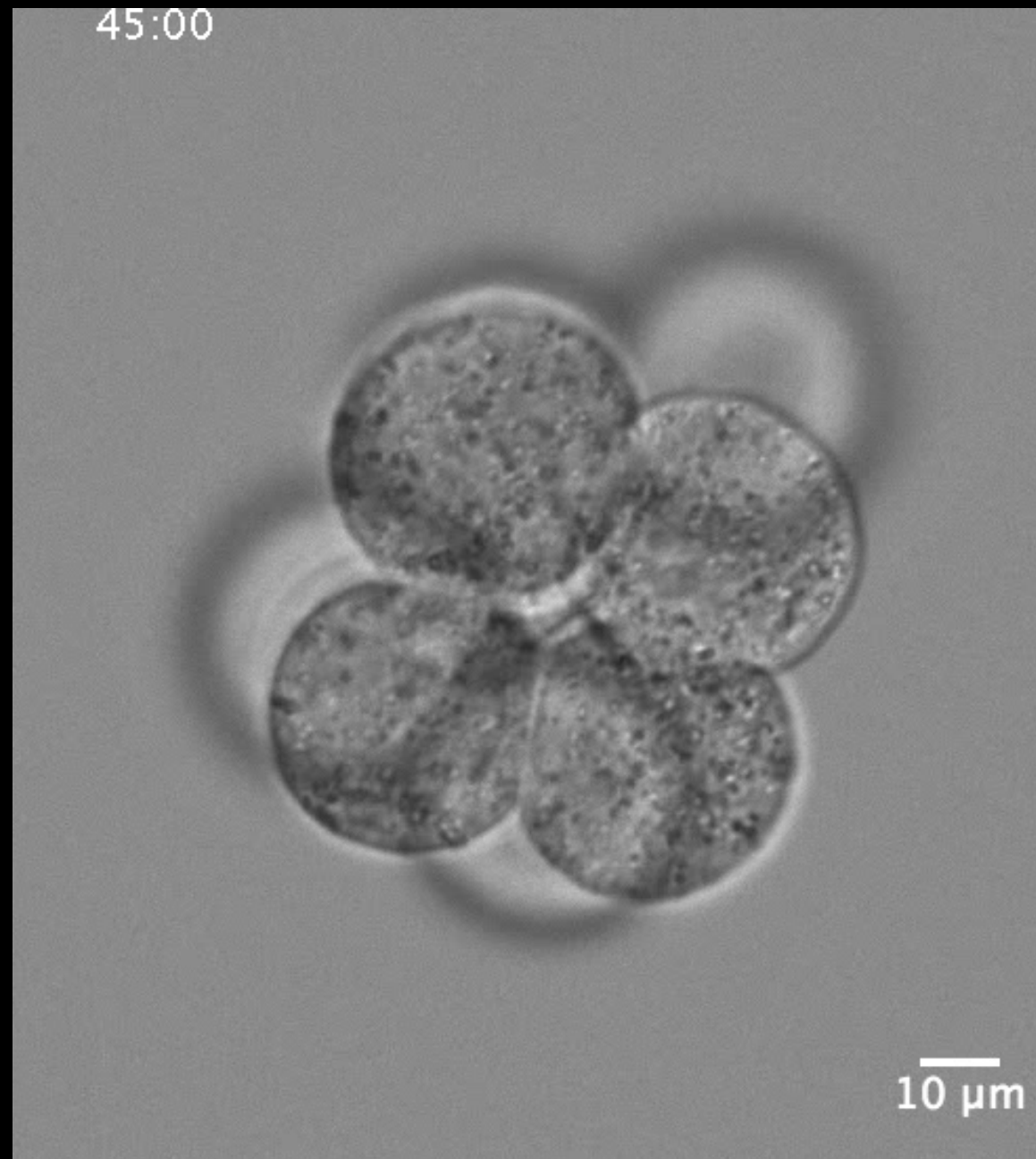


Compaction

Maître et al. Nature Cell Biology 2015

Maître et al. Nature 2016

Early Mammalian Development



JL Maître

Very slow process ~ 9h



Quasistatic

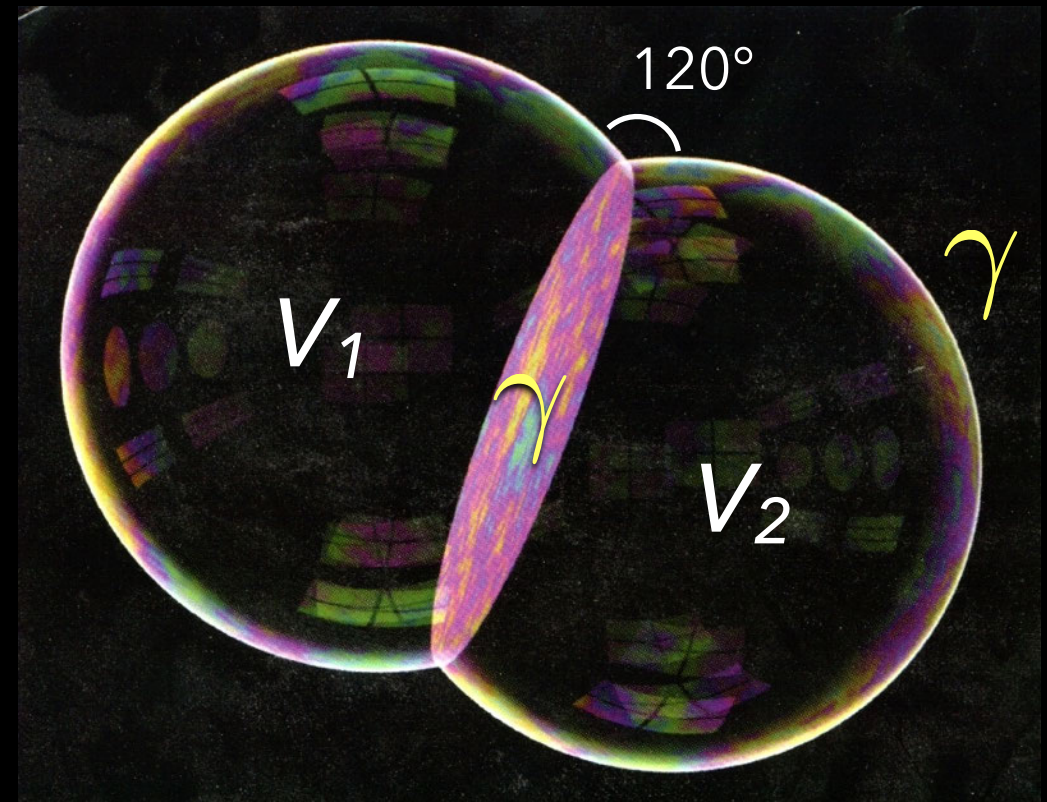
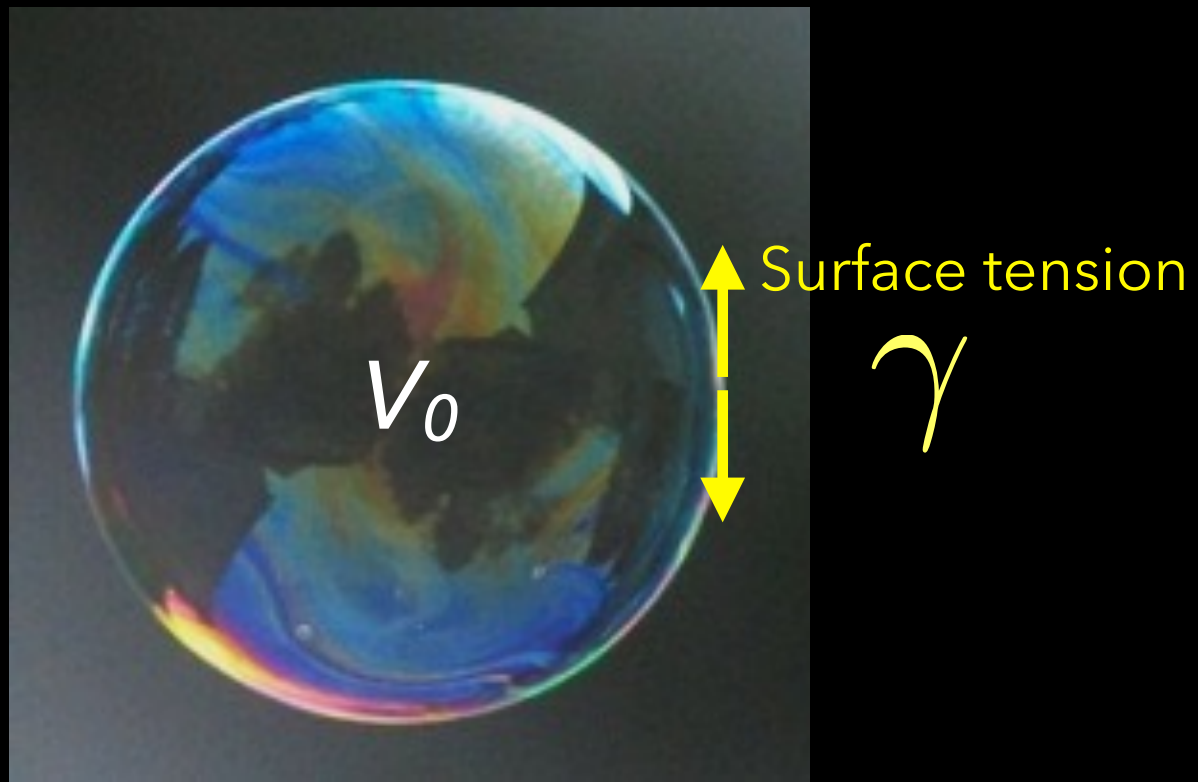
Flat Contacts



Symmetric cell-cell contacts
(all cells identical)

The Physics of Soap Bubbles

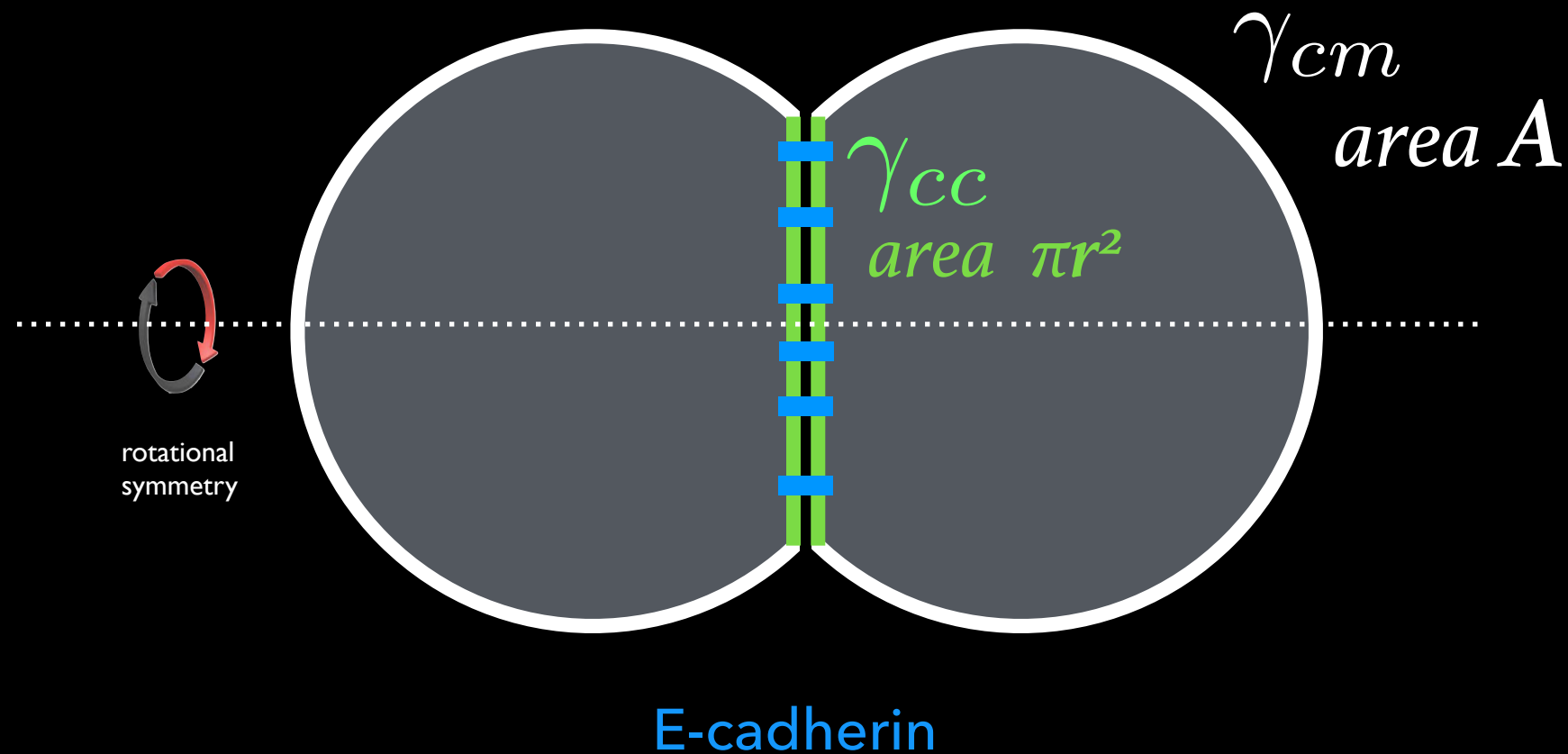
Joseph Plateau (1801 - 1883)



Surfaces of minimal energy: $\mathcal{E} = \gamma \sum_i A_i$

... given that volumes V_i are conserved.

Shape of a Symmetric Cell Doublet

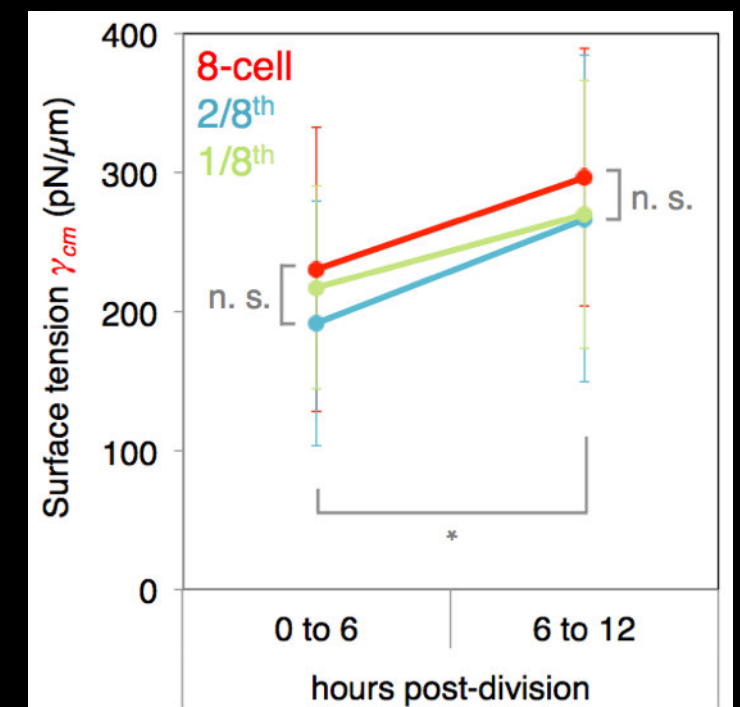
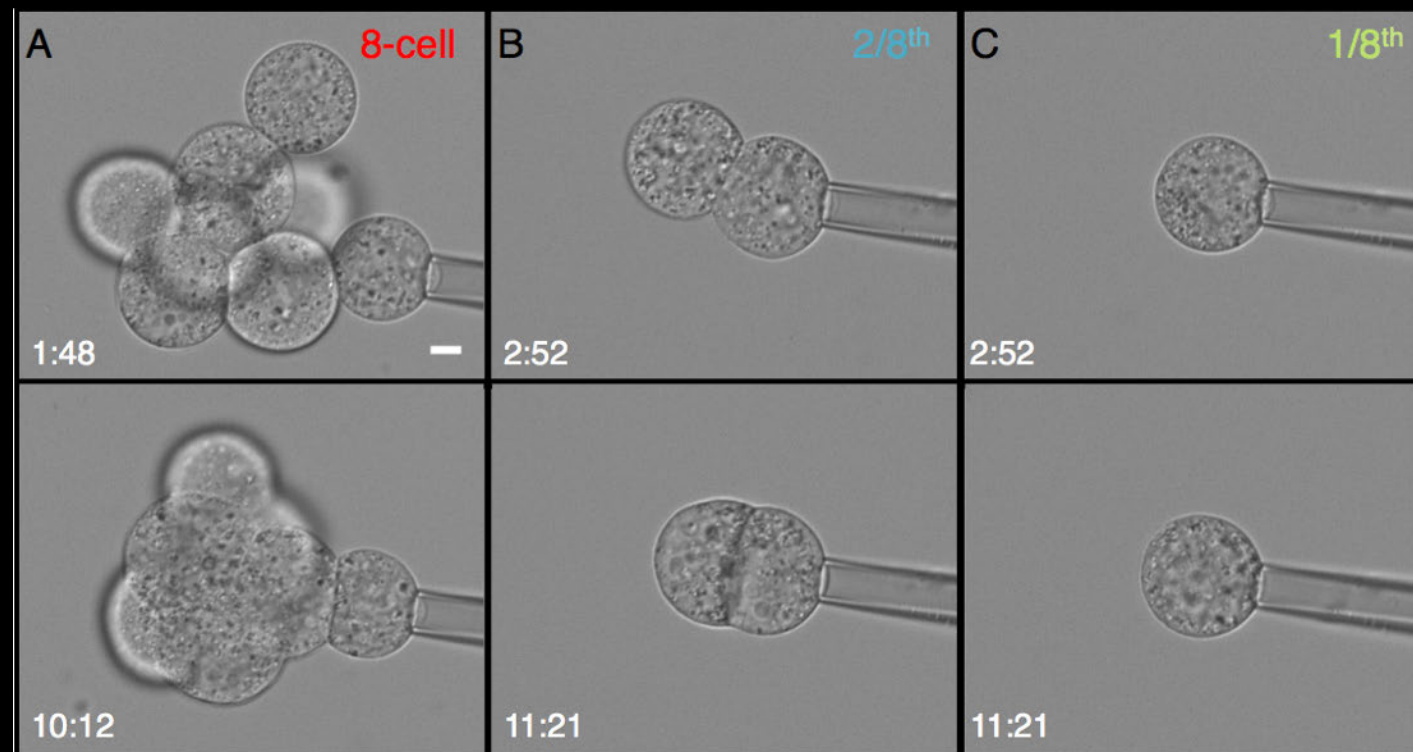
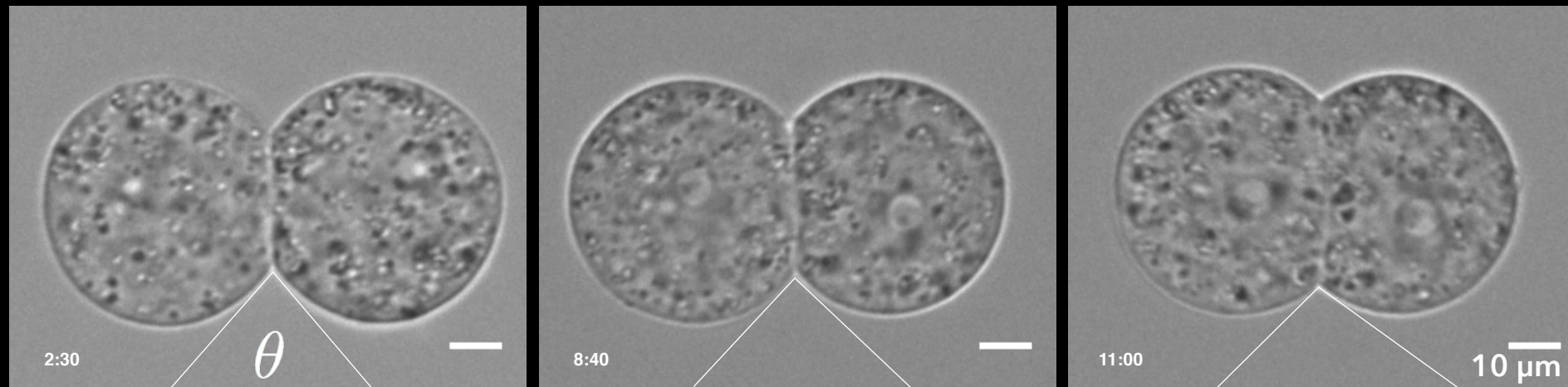


Minimize surface energy:

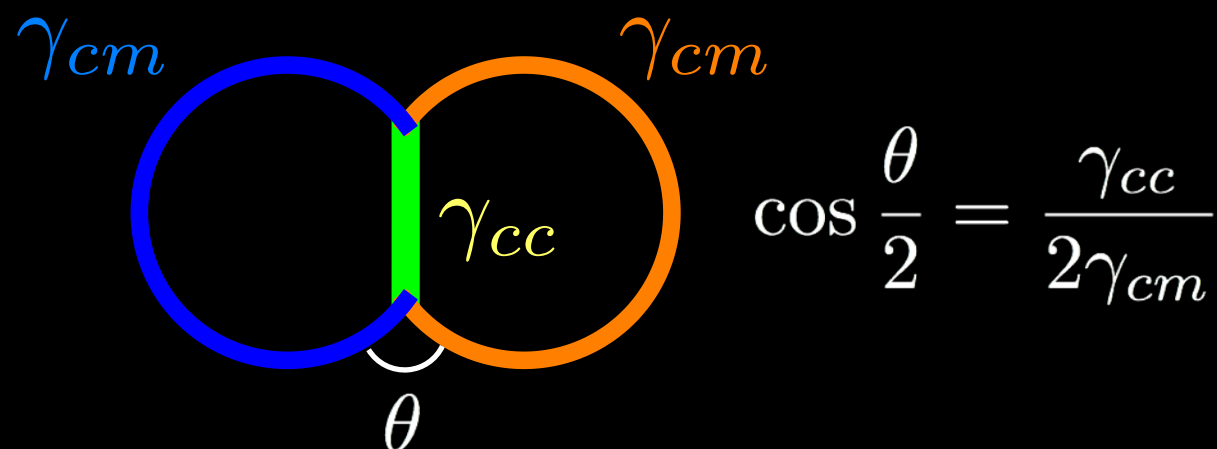
$$\mathcal{E} = 2A\gamma_{cm} + \pi r^2 \gamma_{cc}$$

...assuming that volumes are conserved

Compaction of blastomere doublet



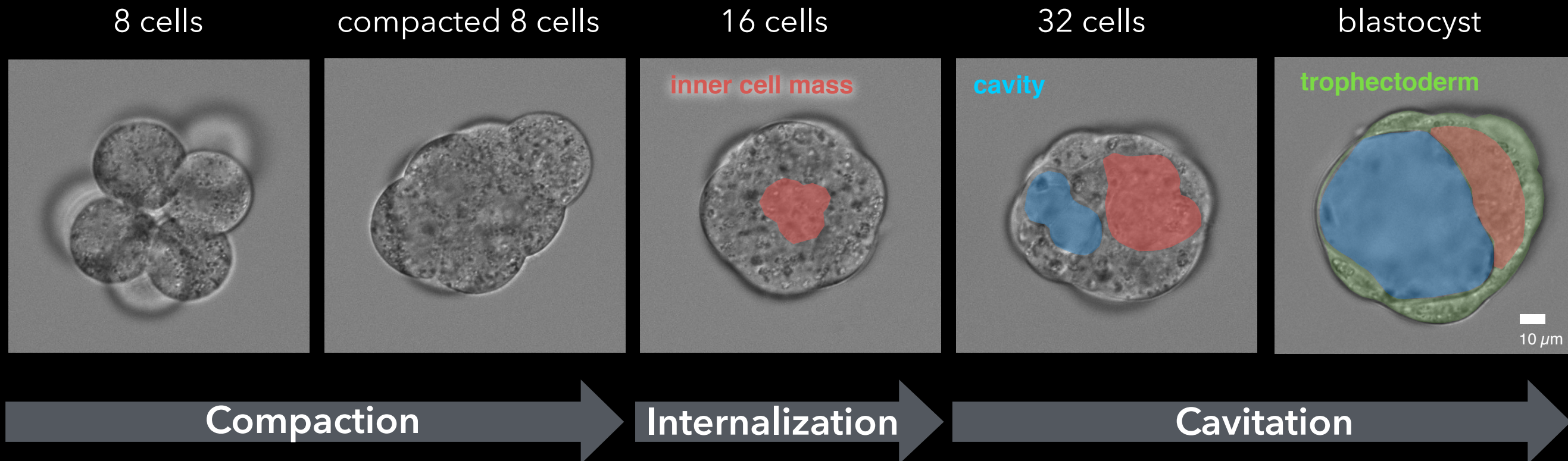
Jean-Léon Maître, Takashi Hiragi Group



γ_{cm} increasing
by contraction of the cortex

Early Mammalian Development

Mouse embryo



Cells have inhomogeneous properties

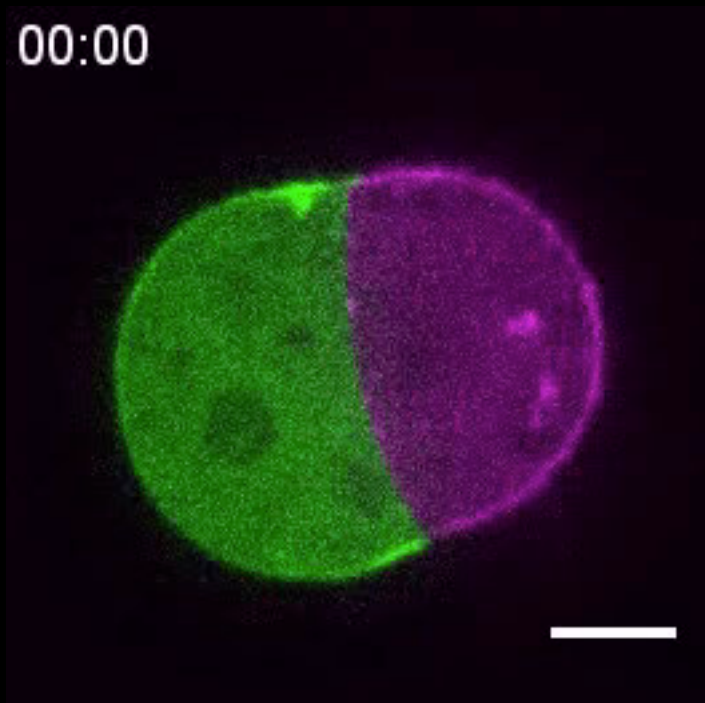
V γ_{cm} γ_{cc}

Cells become different

V' γ'_{cm}

Cavity

Asymmetric Cell Doublet



R. Illukkumbura (EMBL)

$$\mathcal{E} = \sum_i \gamma_i A_i$$

→ Different surface tensions

3 surface tensions & 2 volumes

Compaction parameter

$$\alpha = \frac{\gamma_{cc}}{2\gamma_{cm}}$$

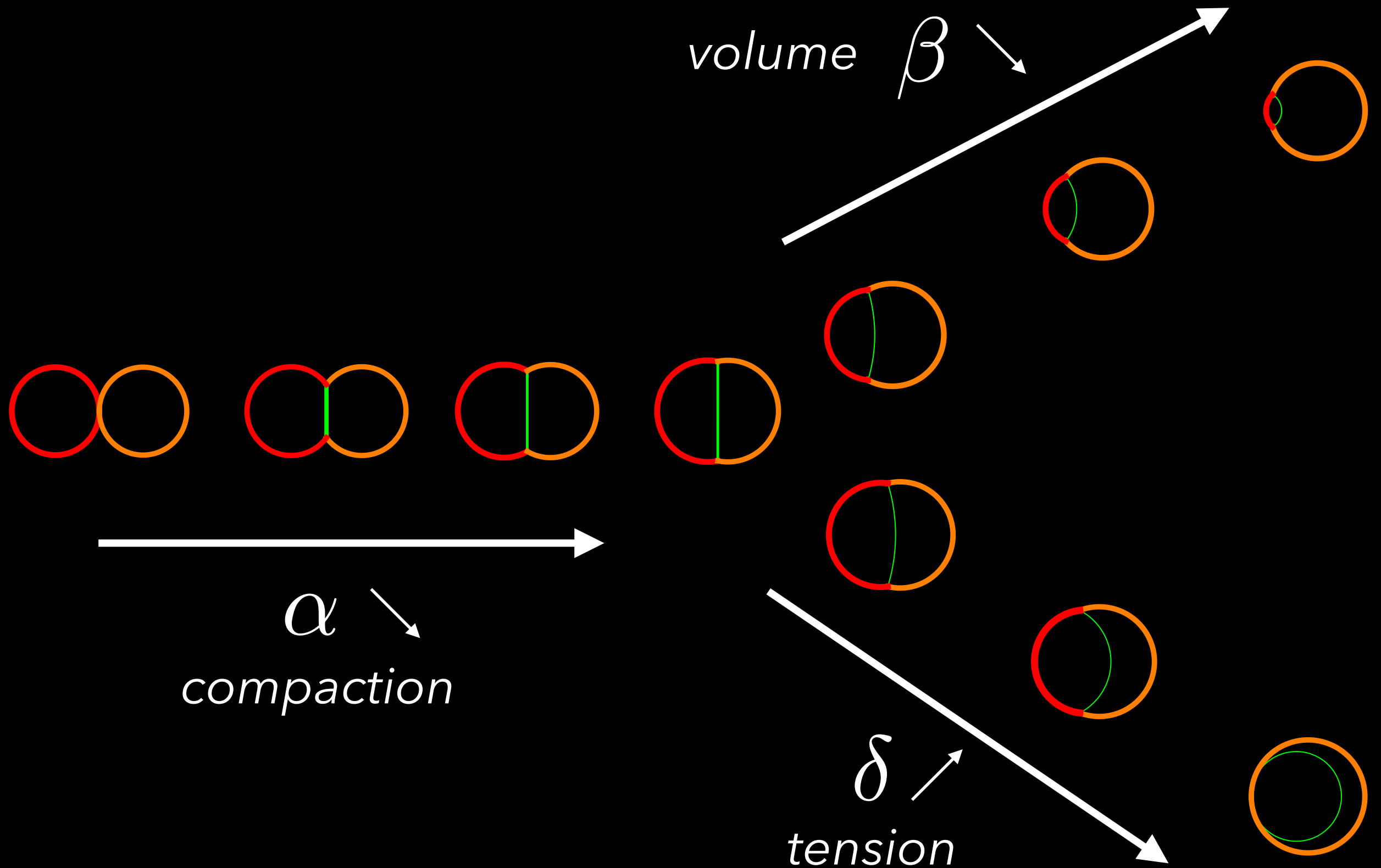
Tension asymmetry

$$\delta = \frac{\gamma'_{cm}}{\gamma_{cm}}$$

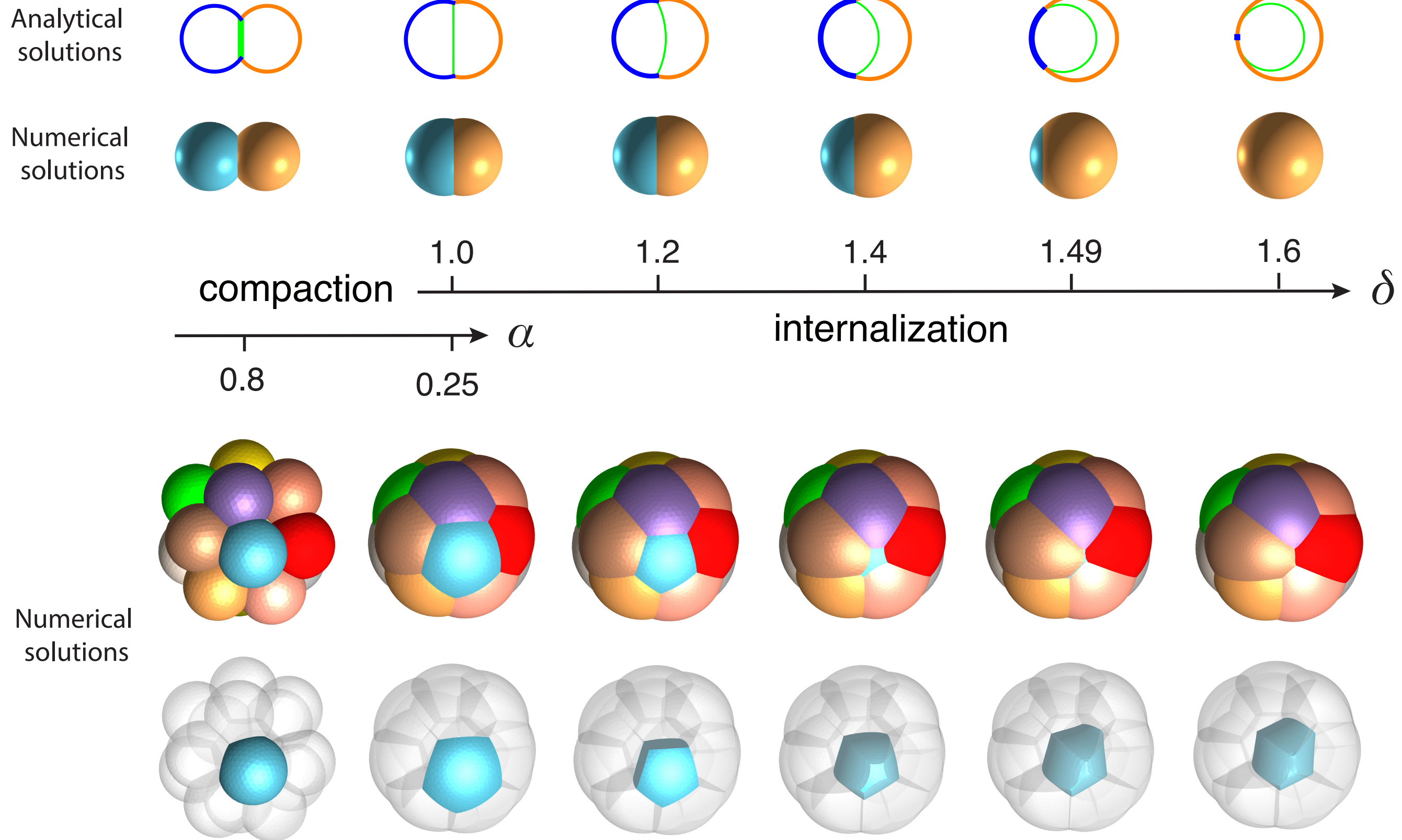
Volume asymmetry

$$\beta = \frac{V'}{V}$$

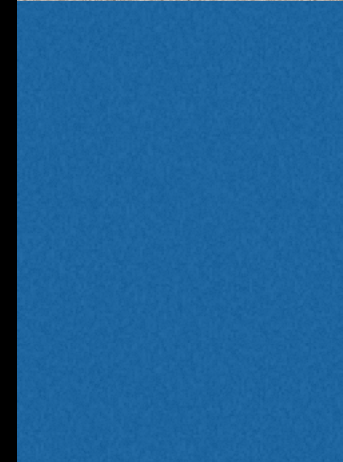
Predictions for an Asymmetric Cell Doublet



From Doublet to 16-cell Embryo



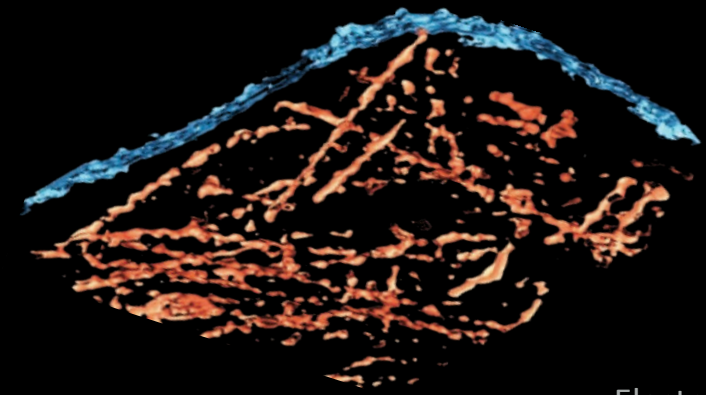
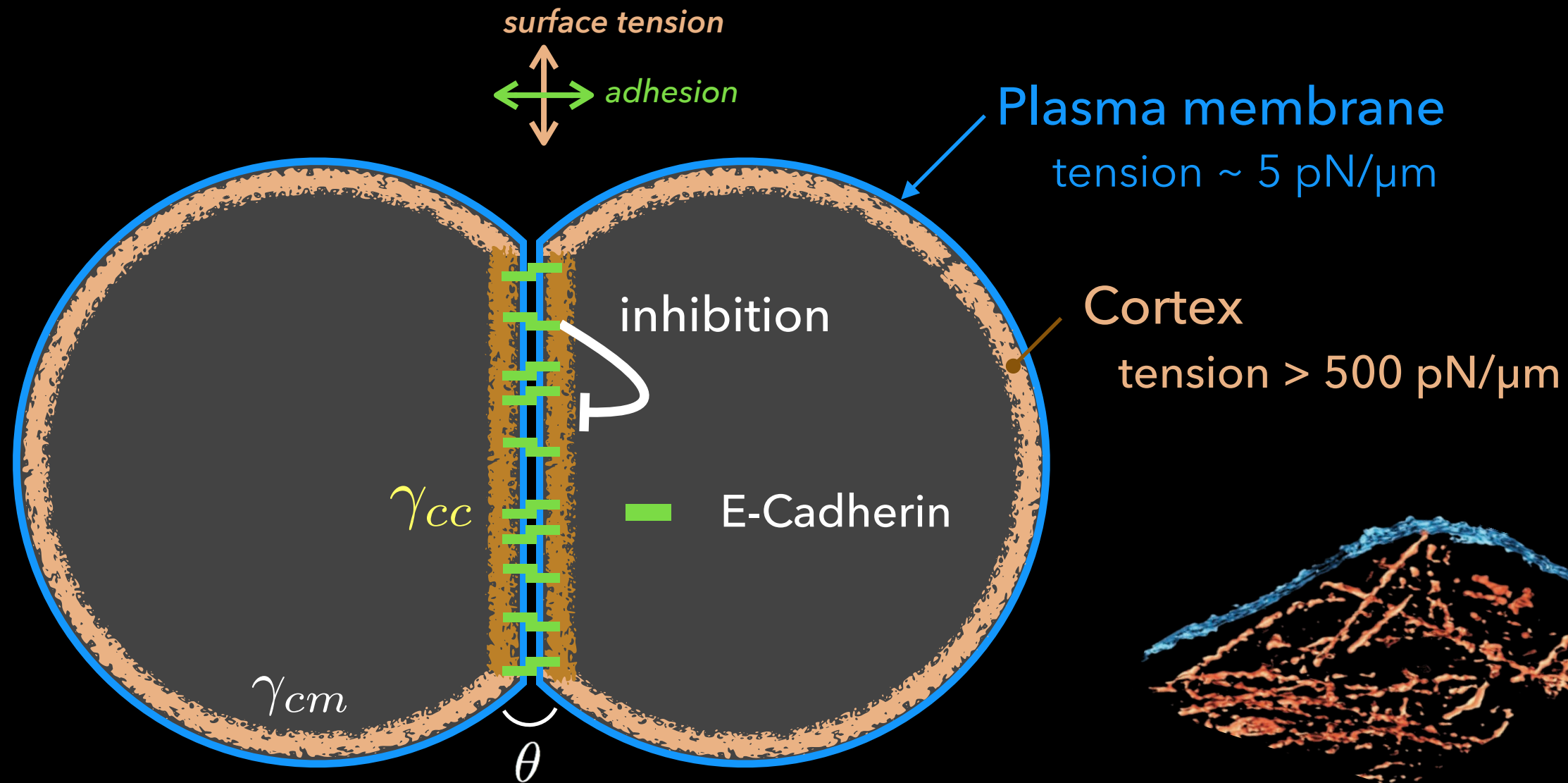
Theory Predicting Contraction/Expansion of Cytoskeletal Networks



Julio Belmonte & Maria Leptin and François Nédélec
European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Heidelberg, Germany

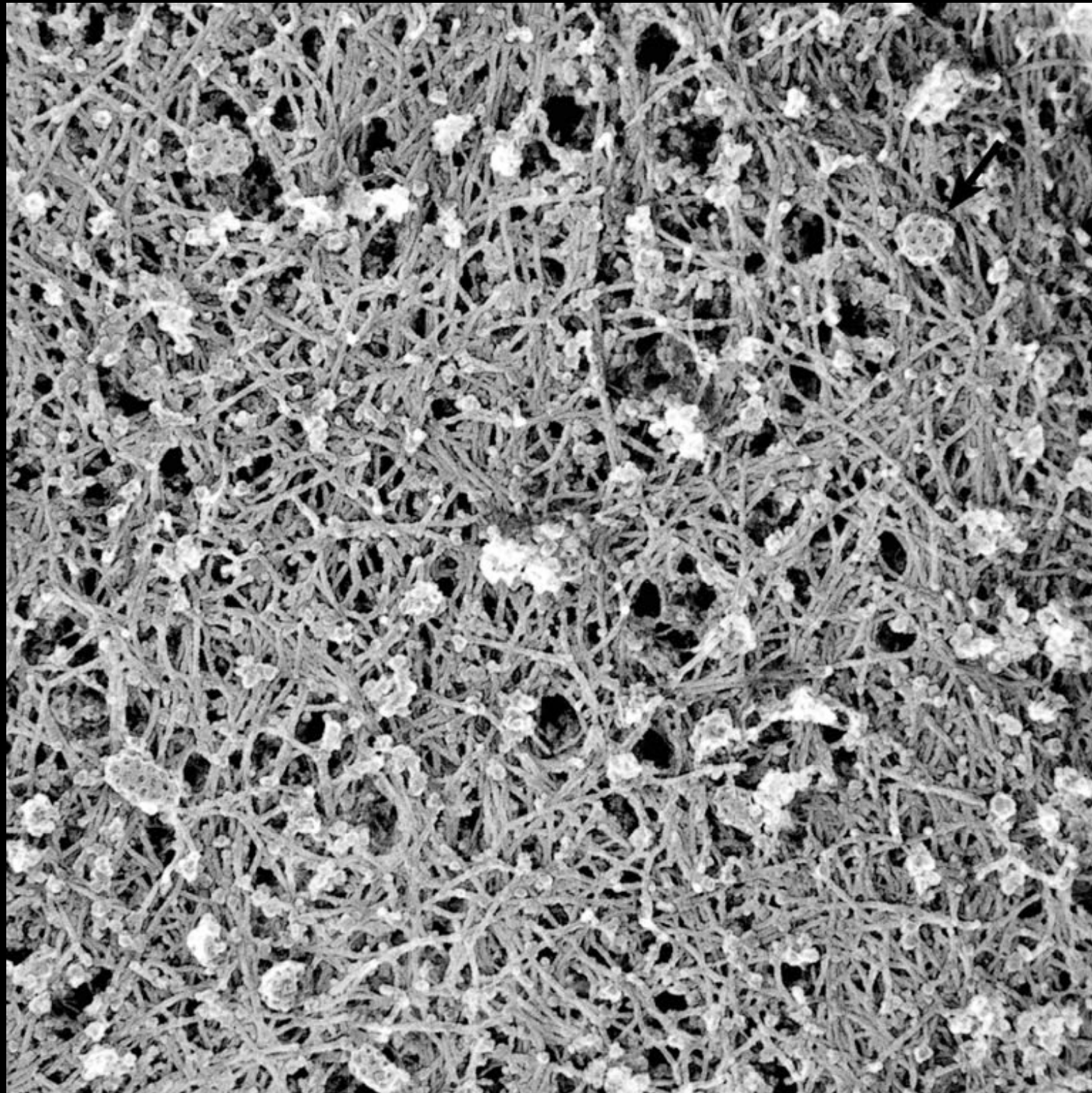


Cortical Tensions Shape Animal Cells



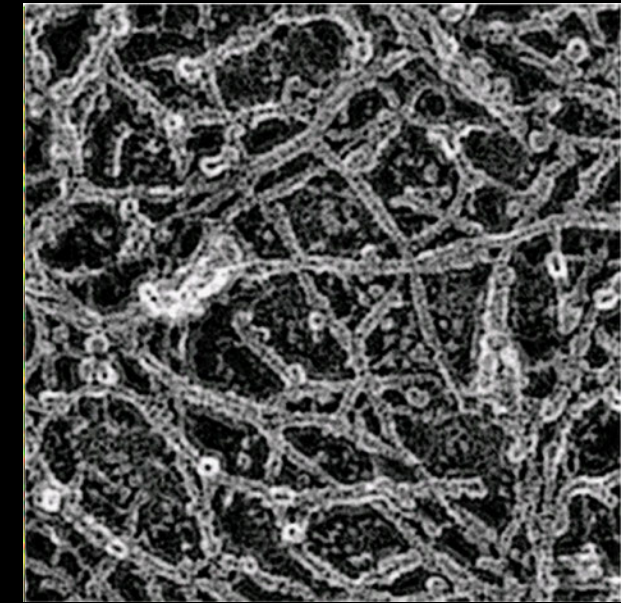
Electron Microscopy
Medalia et al. Science 2002

$$\cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{\gamma_{cc}}{2\gamma_{cm}}$$



I ~100nm

Platinum replica of the cortical
actin cytoskeleton of a CD36-
positive hematopoietic cell.
NIH Christopher Bleck



I 100nm

Morone et al. JCB 2006

F-actin:

Persistence Length = $17 \mu\text{m}$

average Length = $0.5 - 3 \mu\text{m}$

Mesh size $\sim 30 \text{ nm}$

Fritzsche et al. 2016

Saha et al. 2016

Polar Cytoskeletal Filaments

Actin filament

bending elasticity $\sim 0.05 \text{ pN} \cdot \mu\text{m}^2$

Microtubule

bending elasticity $\sim 20 \text{ pN} \cdot \mu\text{m}^2$

Barbed end

Plus-end

actin

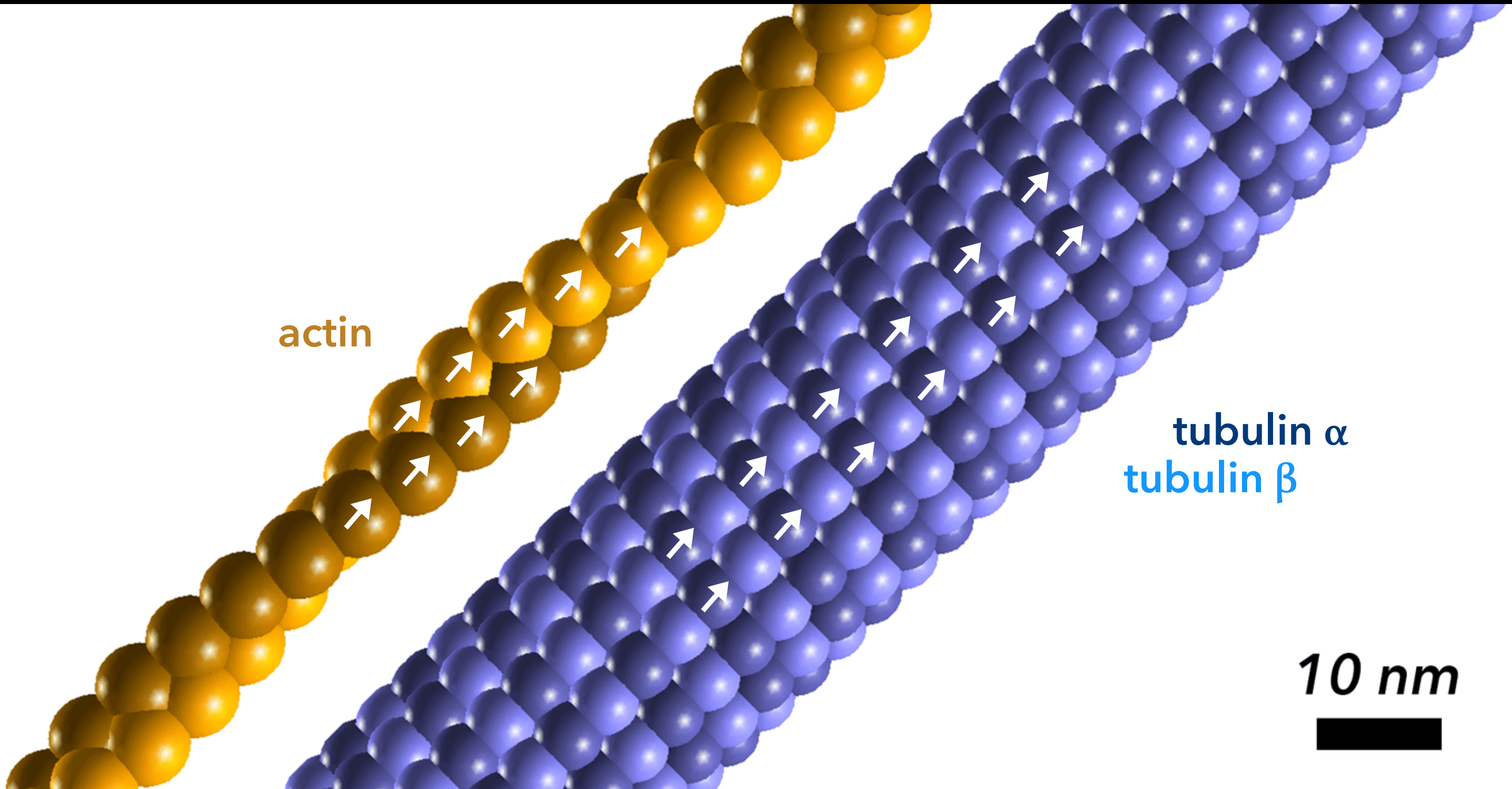
tubulin α
tubulin β

10 nm



Pointed end

Minus-end



Molecular Motors

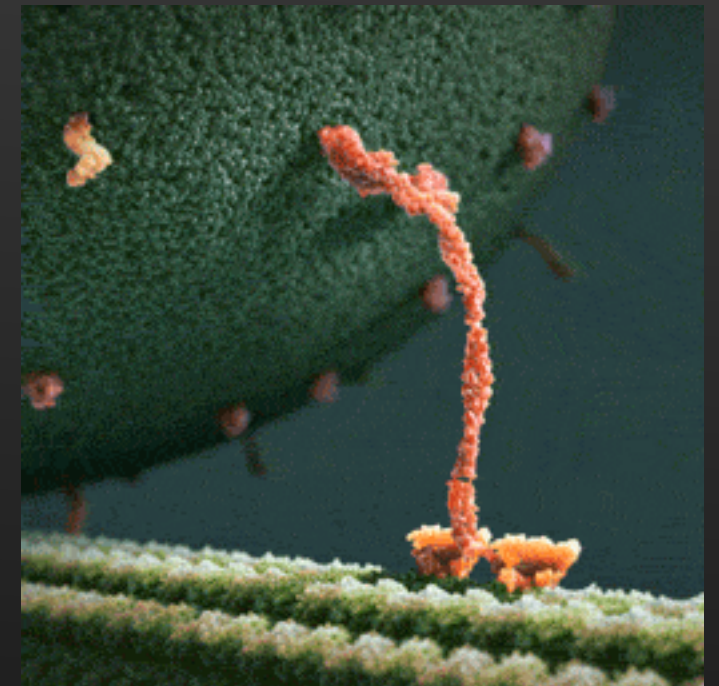
Microtubule: Kinesin, Dynein

Actin: Myosin

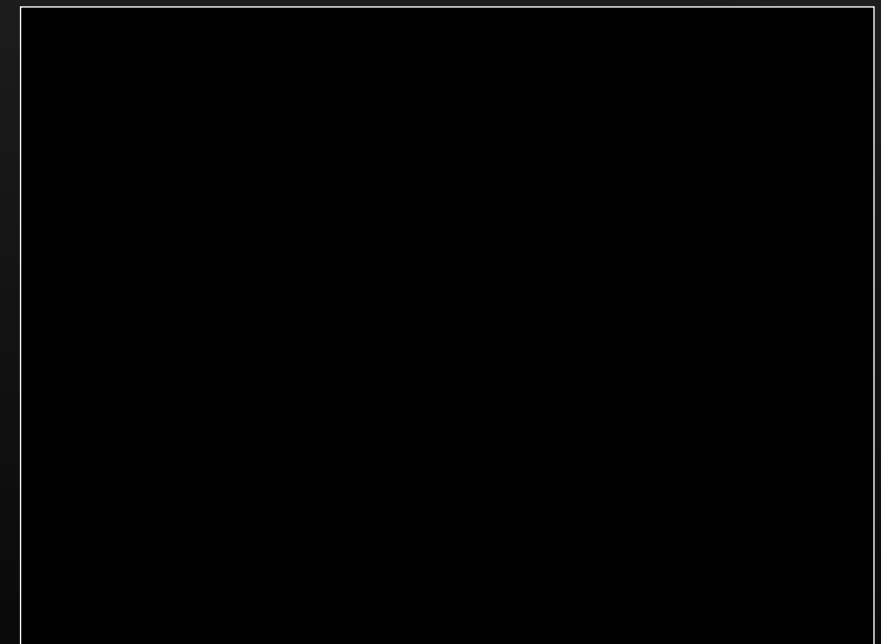


Ron Vale, 1985

- plus-end or minus-end directed
- active walkers, consume ATP
- speed $\approx 1 \mu\text{m/s}$
- force $\approx 5 \text{ pN}$



Kinesin – The Inner Life of the Cell

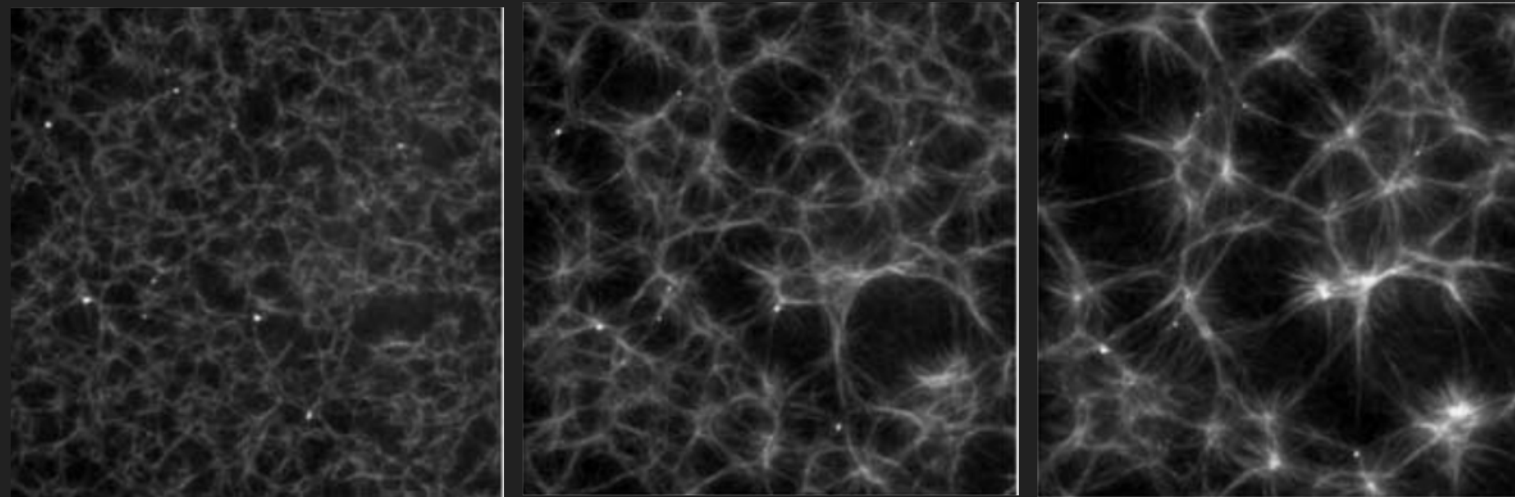


Myosin – Vale & Milligan 2000

Networks with filaments of fixed length contract *in vitro*

work by Surrey, Bernheim-Groswasser, Sykes, Gardell, Koenderink, Needleman, schwille, Dogic ...

Microtubules



Dynamics of microtubule aster formation by motor complexes
Nedelec, Surrey et al. CRAS 2001

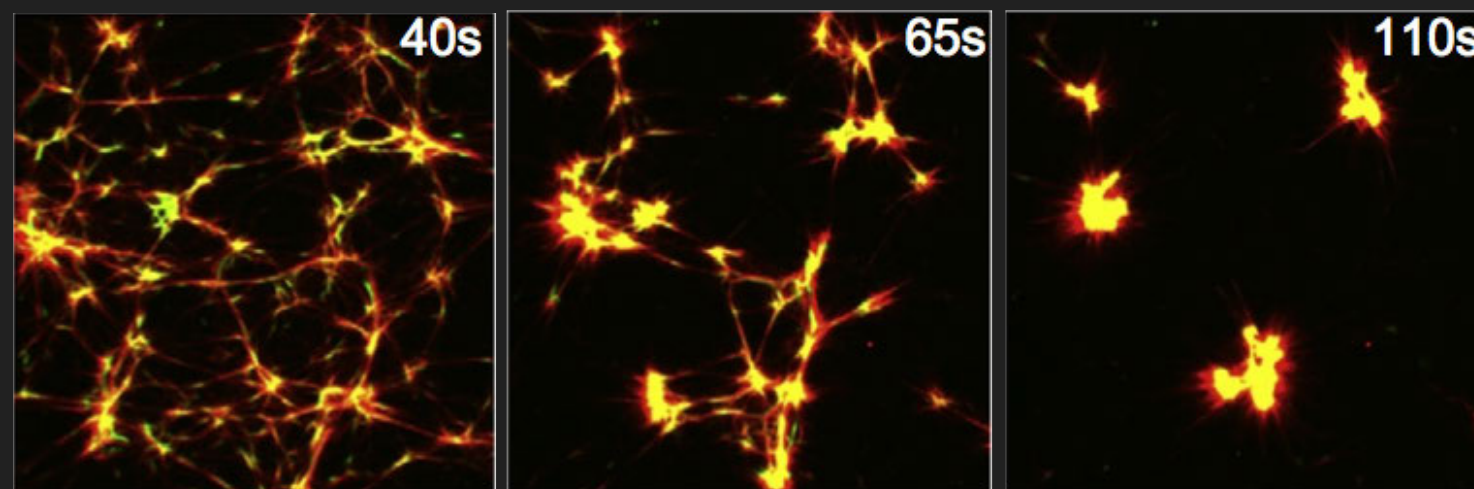
00:00



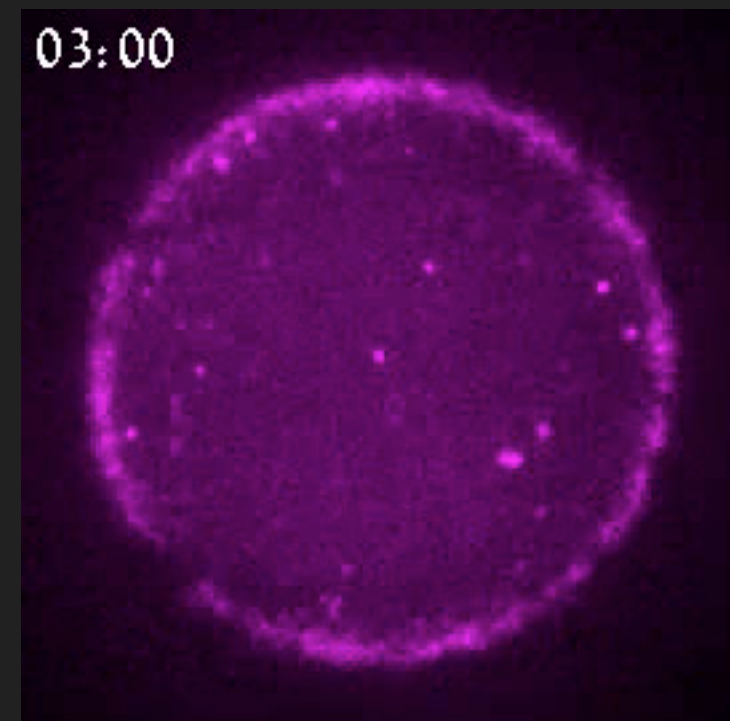
Active contraction of microtubule networks
Foster et al. eLife 2016

500 μm

Actin filaments



Reconstitution of Contractility in Actomyosin Arrays
Murrell et al. Meth. Enz. 2014



Abu Shah and Keren. eLife 2014

Open Questions

- Why active networks contract?
 - Several mechanisms
- Can we predict the contraction rate?
- Can a network expand?
 - not driven by polymerization
 - Active networks of microtubules+motors

Overdamped Langevin Dynamics

16 000 filaments of constant length

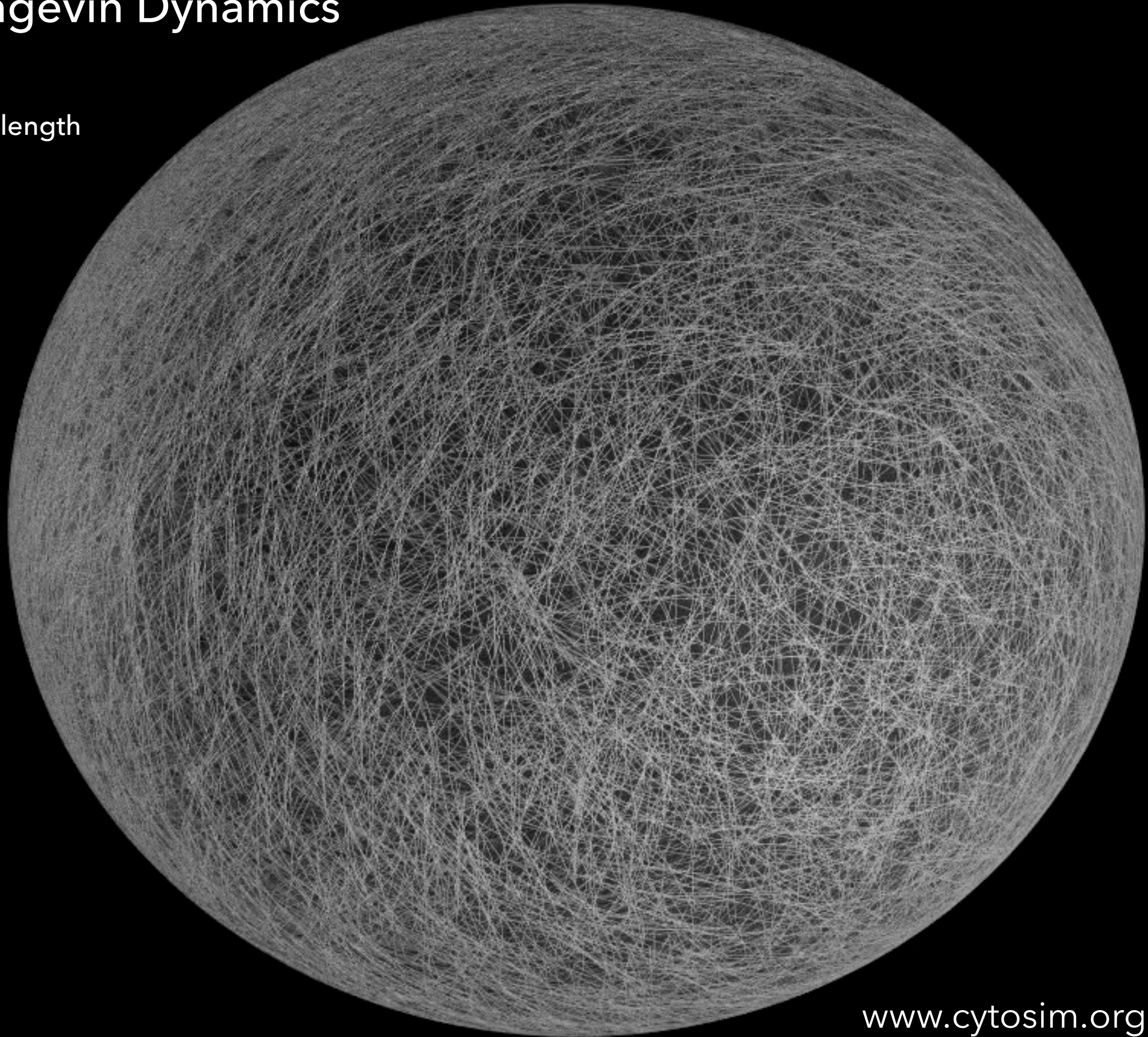
500 000 connectors:

- bi-functional motors
- passive crosslinkers

$\sim 10^6$ degrees of freedom

Computation ~ 1 day

(sequential)

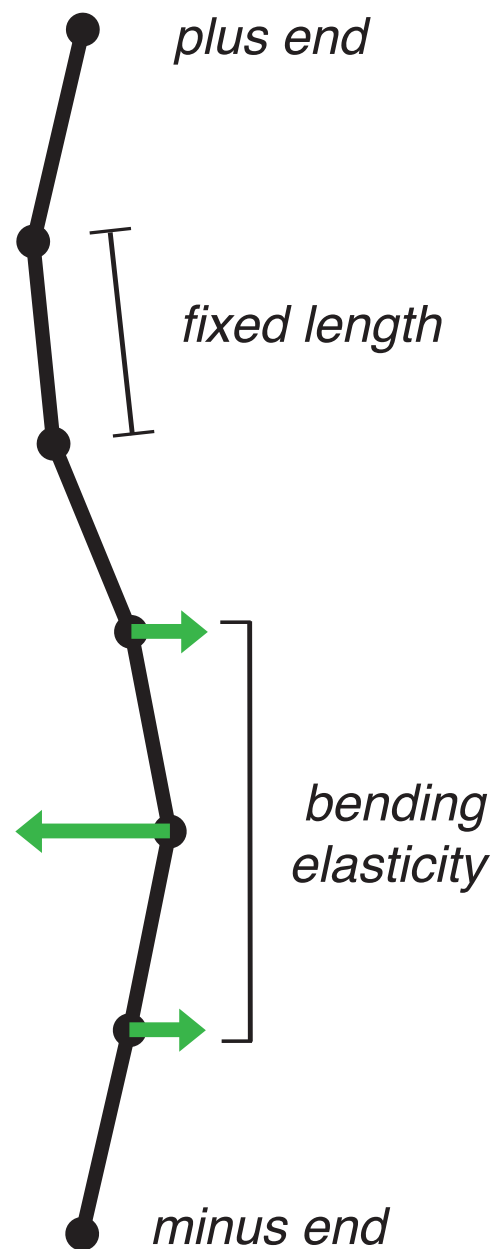


www.cytosim.org

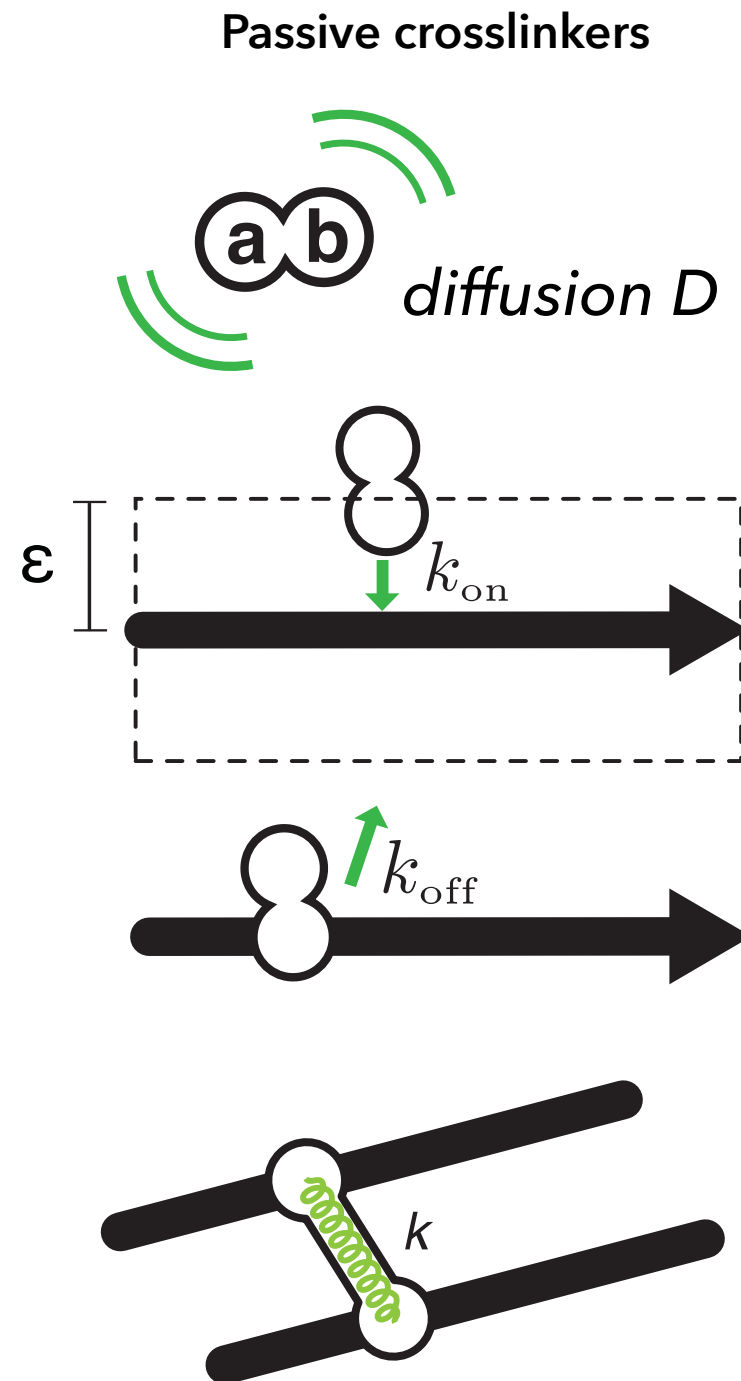
github.com/nedelec/cytosim

Physical/Computational Model

Filaments

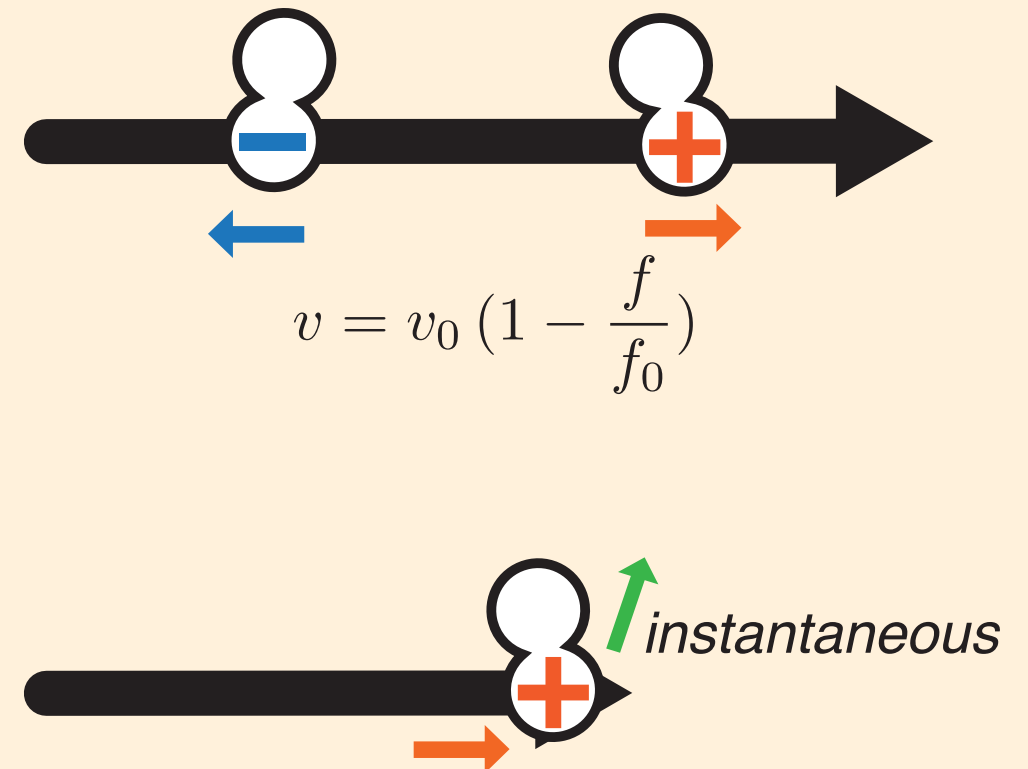


Connectors



Motors

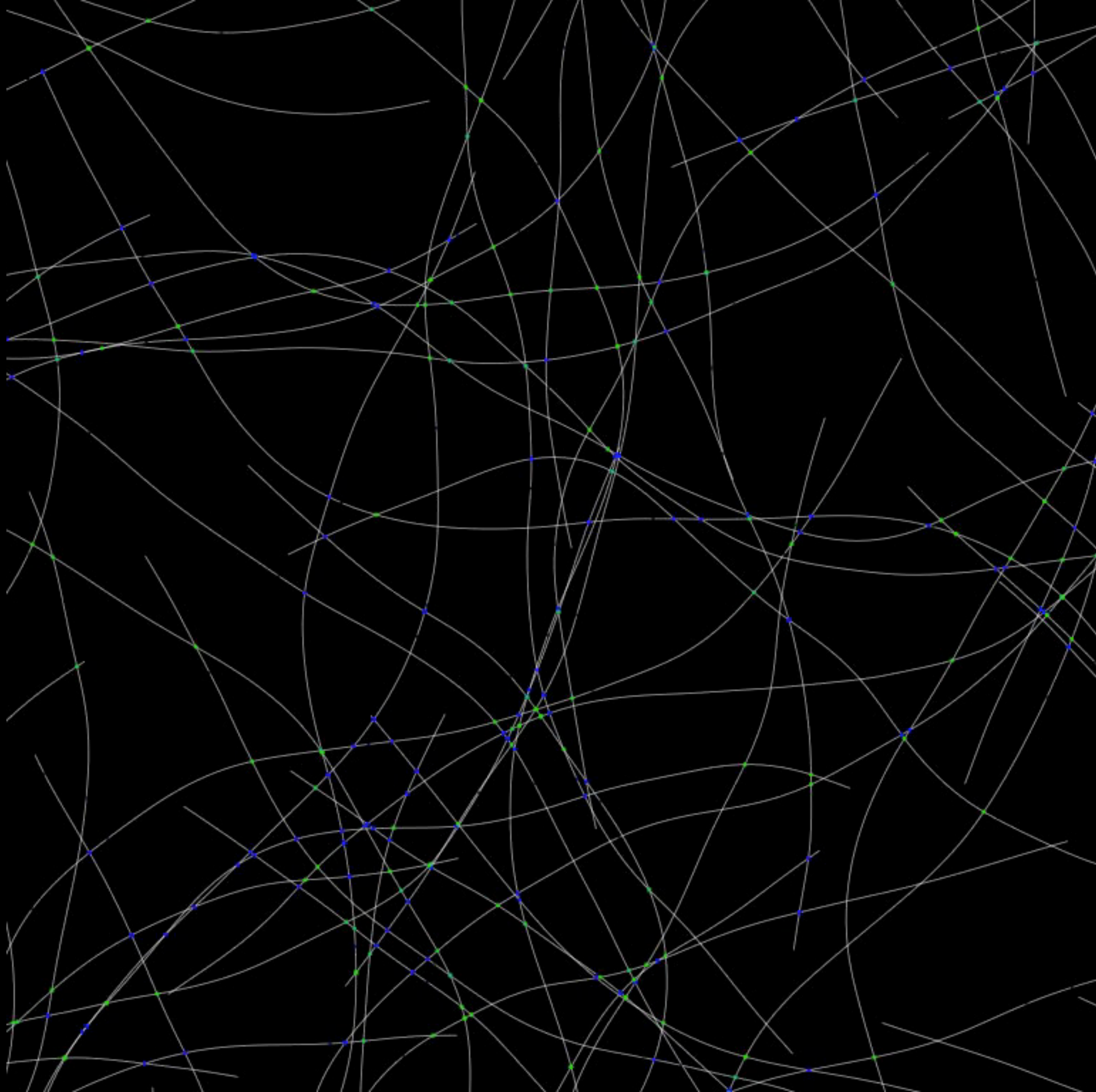
plus or minus-end directed



Crosslinkers



Motors



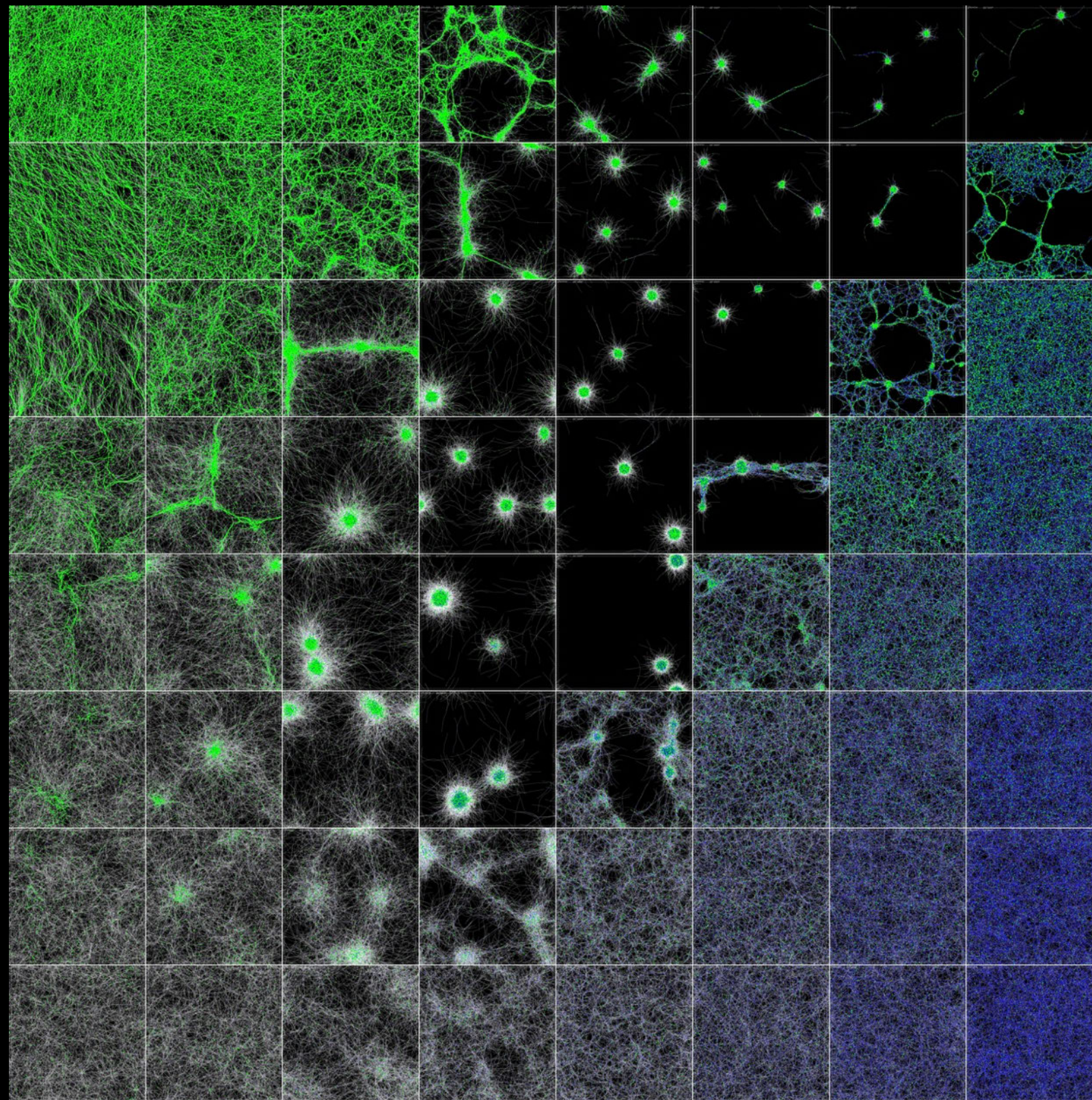
www.cytosim.org

github.com/nedelec/cytosim

with periodic boundaries

Motors per filament

32
16
8
4
2
1
1/2
1/4

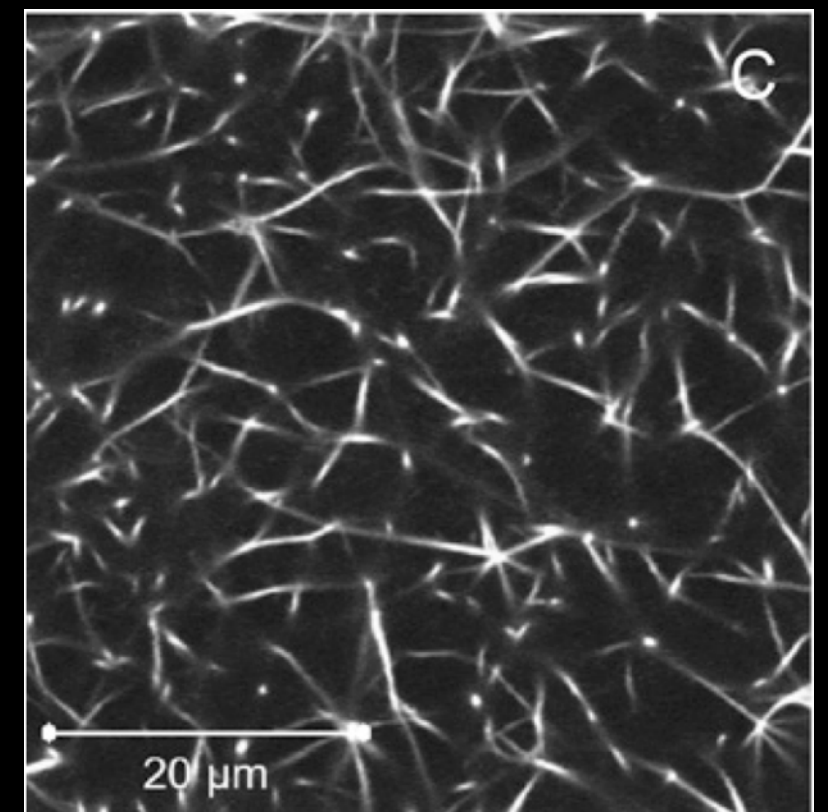
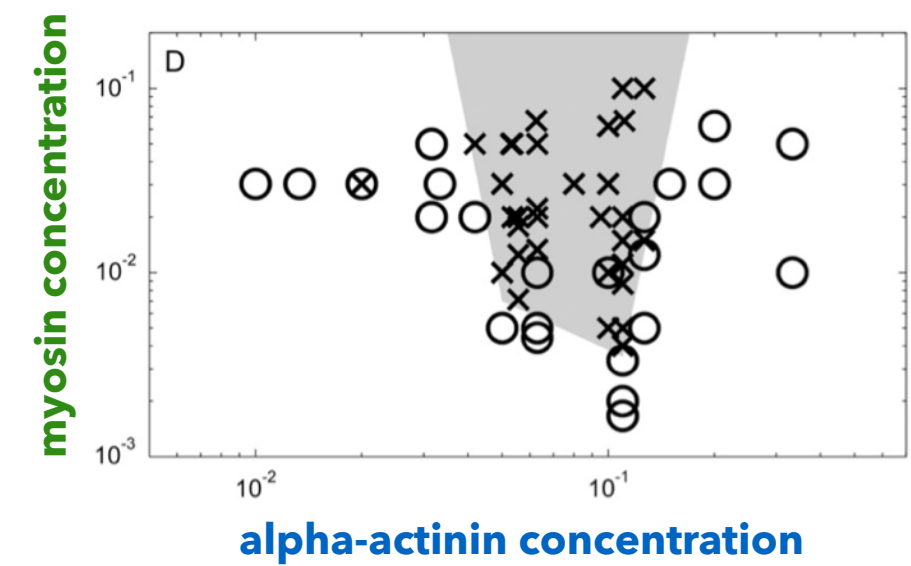


1/4 1/2 1 2 4 8 16 32

Crosslinkers per filament

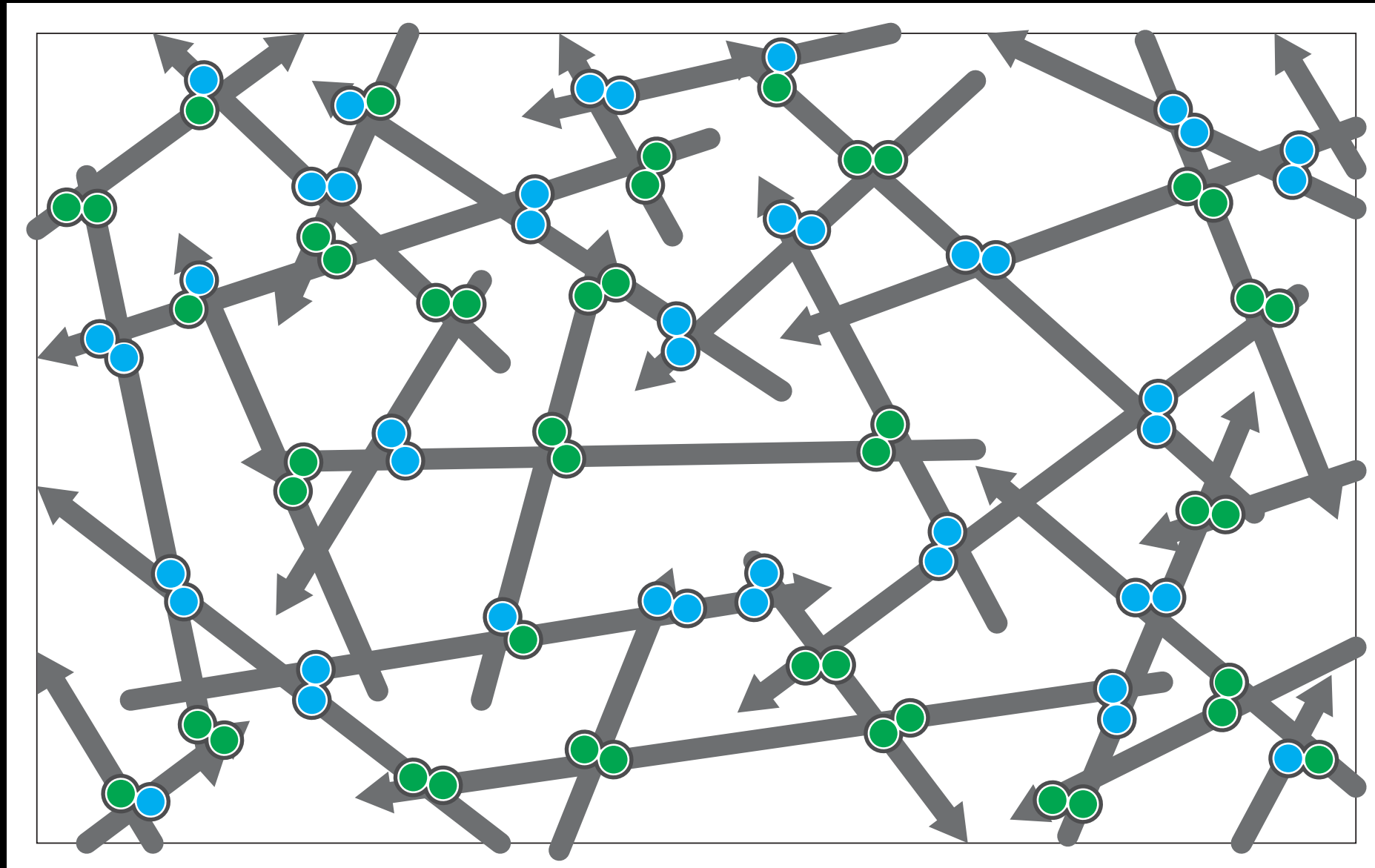
Reconstituted network in vitro

Bendix et al. Biophys. J. 2008



Given a disorganized network:

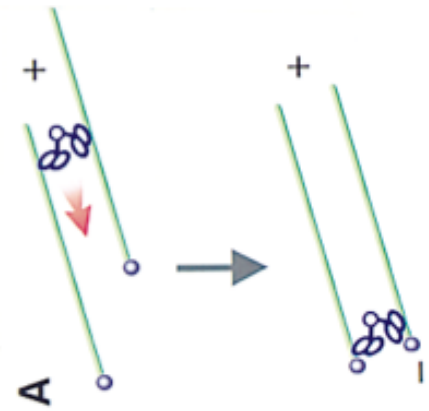
- Filaments are polar & flexible
- Filaments oriented randomly, equally in all directions
- The network is well connected: number of connections per filament ≥ 2



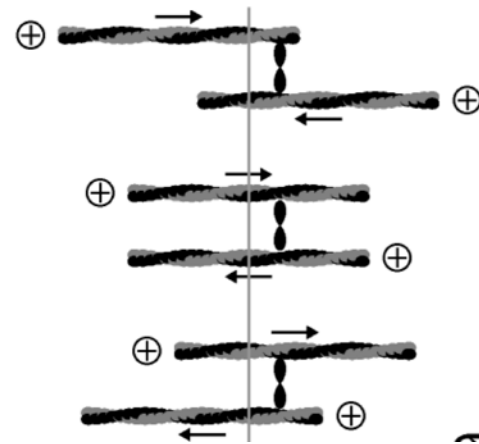
Given you know what ● and ● do:

Will this network contract or expand?

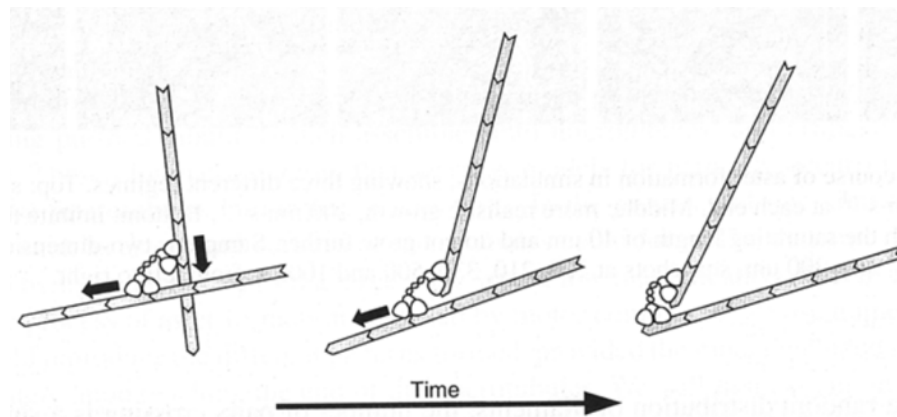
Hyman, Cell 1996



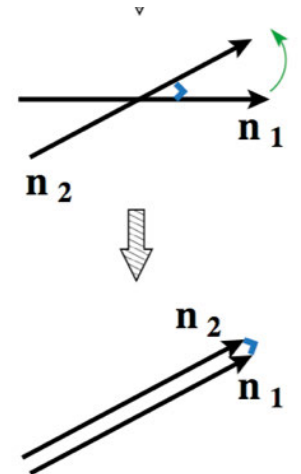
Kruse, PRL 2000



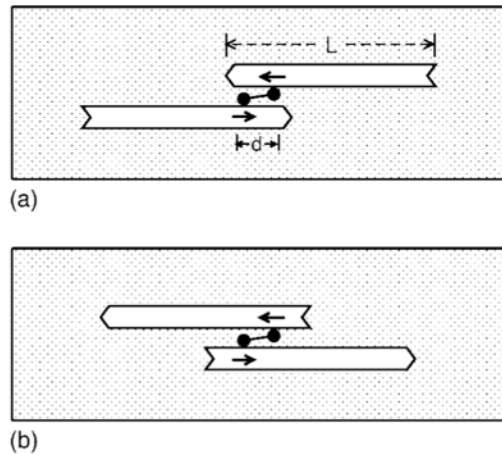
Nedelec, CRAS 2001



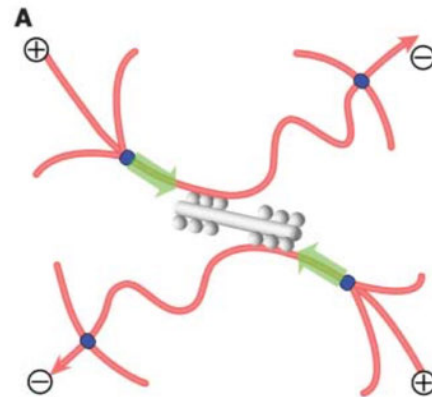
Liverpool, PRE 2003



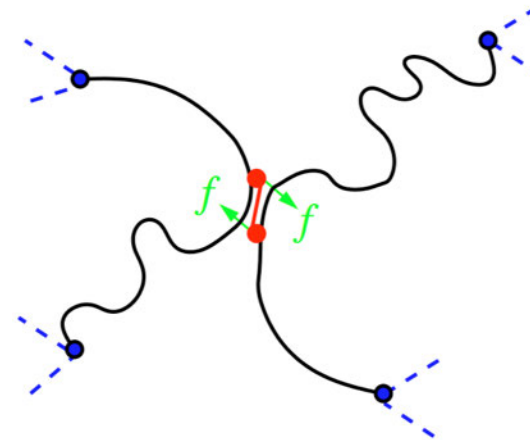
Carlsson, PRE 2006



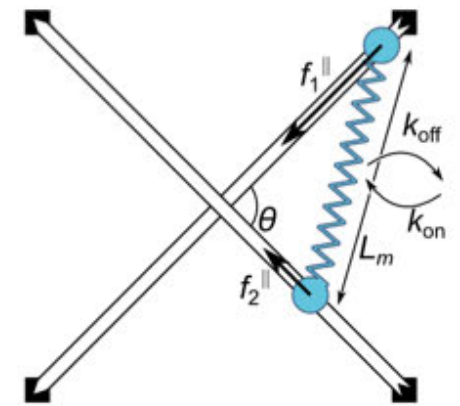
Mizuno, Science 2007



Liverpool, EPL 2009



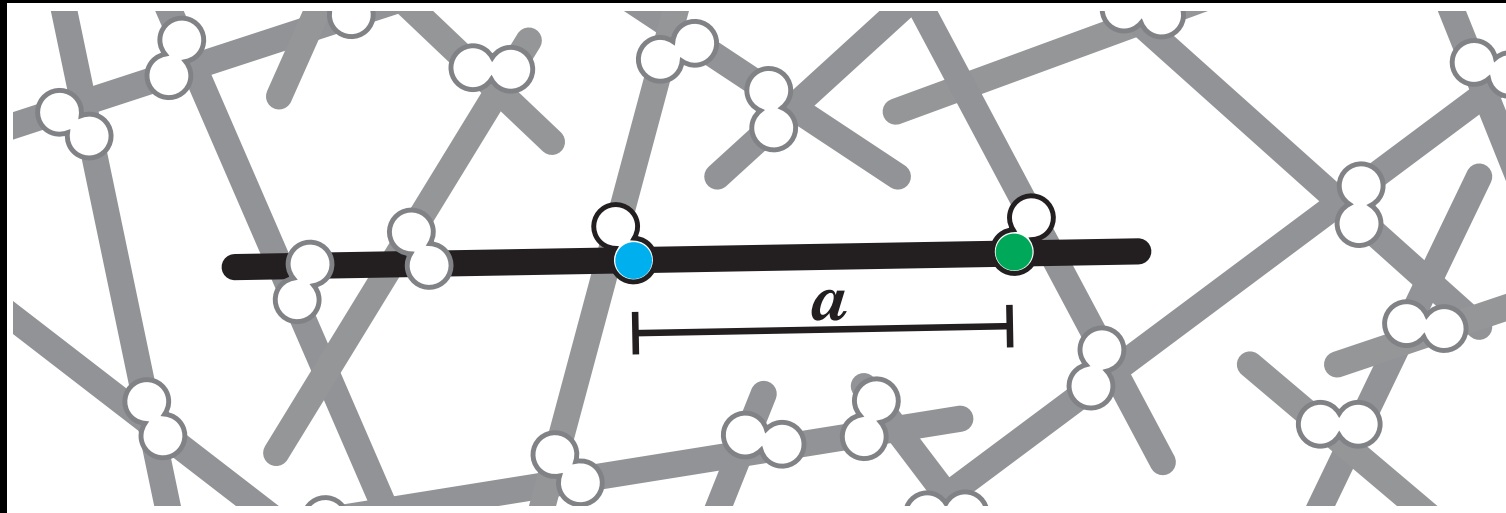
Lenz, PRX 2014



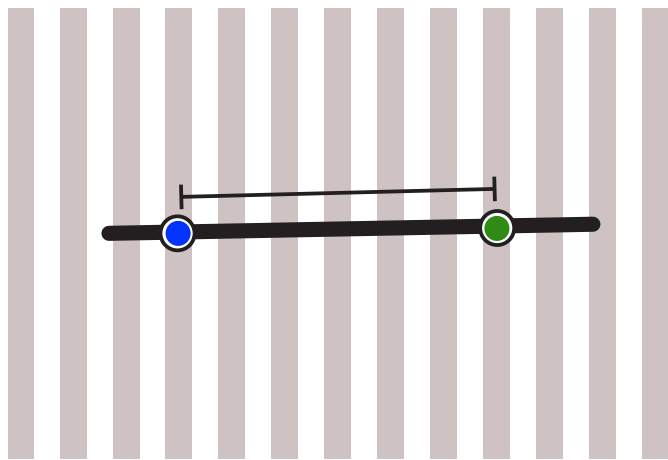
- Better suited for loosely connected networks; with few motors
- Motors and Crosslinkers are treated differently

Kruse, MacKintosh, Carlsson, Liverpool, Lenz, Salbreux, Needleman, Gardell, Murrell, etc.

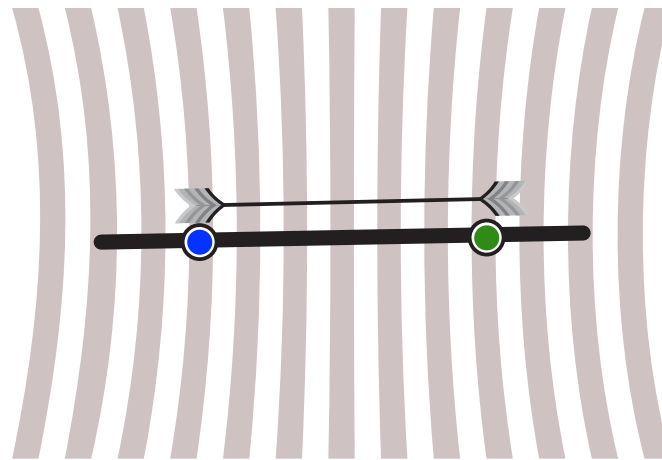
Consider **one filament** and a **pair of connectors**



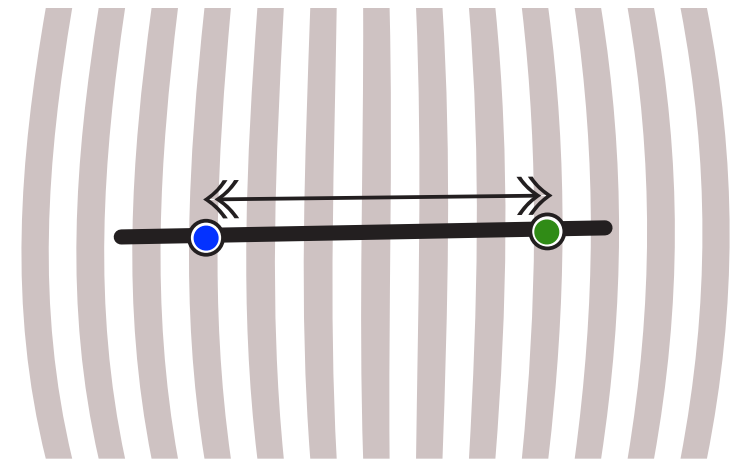
$$a_t \approx a_0$$



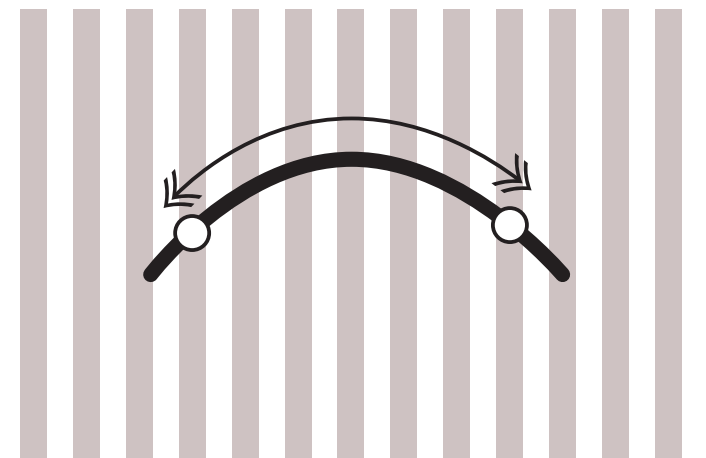
$$a_t < a_0$$



$$a_t > a_0$$



with flexible filament:



Predicting Contraction/Extension

List all possible configurations:



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{length} & a_i \\ \text{speed} & v_i = \frac{da_i}{dt} \\ \text{probability} & p_i \end{array} \right.$$

Sum over all configurations:

$$\chi = \frac{\sum_i \Phi(a_i, v_i) p_i v_i}{\sum_i p_i a_i}$$

rigid filaments:

$$\Phi = 1$$

semi-flexible filaments:

$$\Phi = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v_i > 0 \text{ and } a_i > b \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

flexible filaments:

$$\Phi = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v_i > 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Prediction

1D system of length L

$$\frac{1}{L} \frac{dL}{dt} \approx \chi$$

2D system of surface S

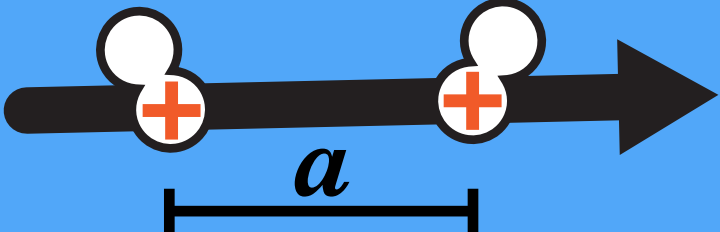
$$\frac{1}{S} \frac{dS}{dt} \approx 2 \chi$$

3D system of volume V

$$\frac{1}{V} \frac{dV}{dt} \approx 3 \chi$$

Simple Symmetric Composition

50%  50%  Same binding/unbinding rates

Configuration	da/dt		
	0		
	-v		
	+v		
	0		

→ not contractile

→ contractile

1000 filaments, $L = 2.5\mu\text{m}$

8000 Motors

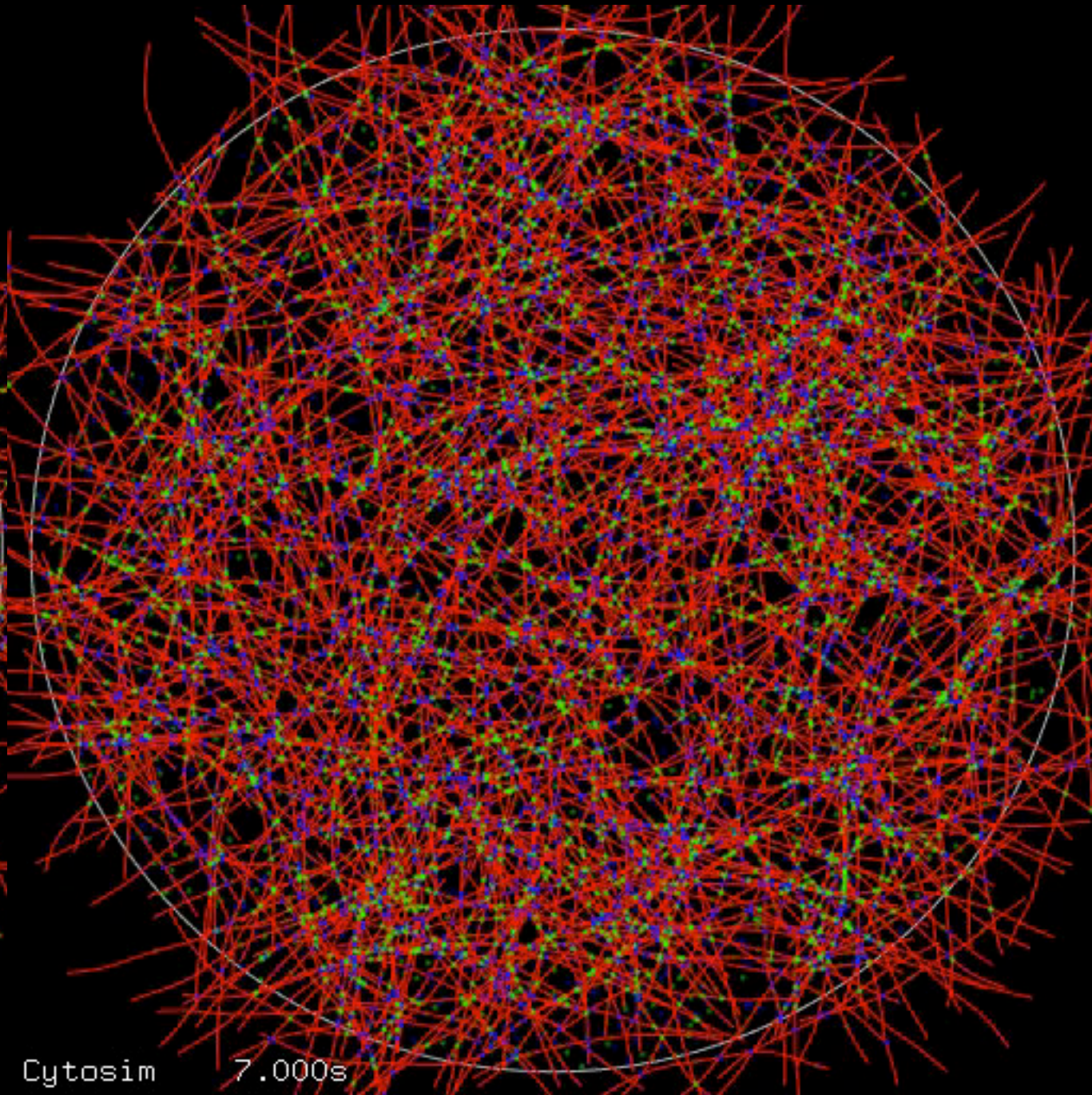
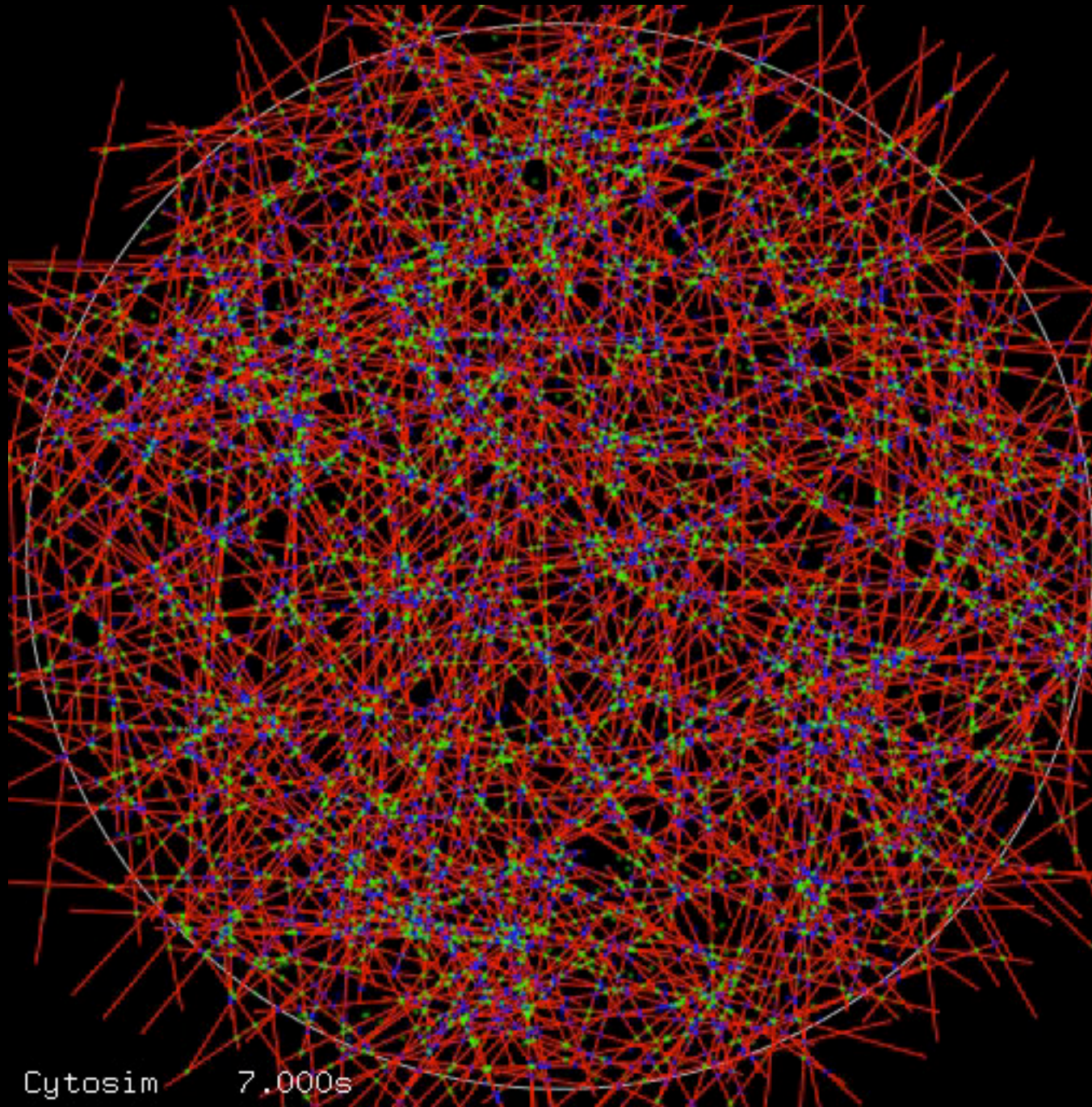


8393 Crosslinkers



Rigid $K = 30 \mu\text{m}^2.\text{pN}$
(microtubules)

Flexible $K = 0.05 \mu\text{m}^2.\text{pN}$
(actin)



Semi-flexible Filaments

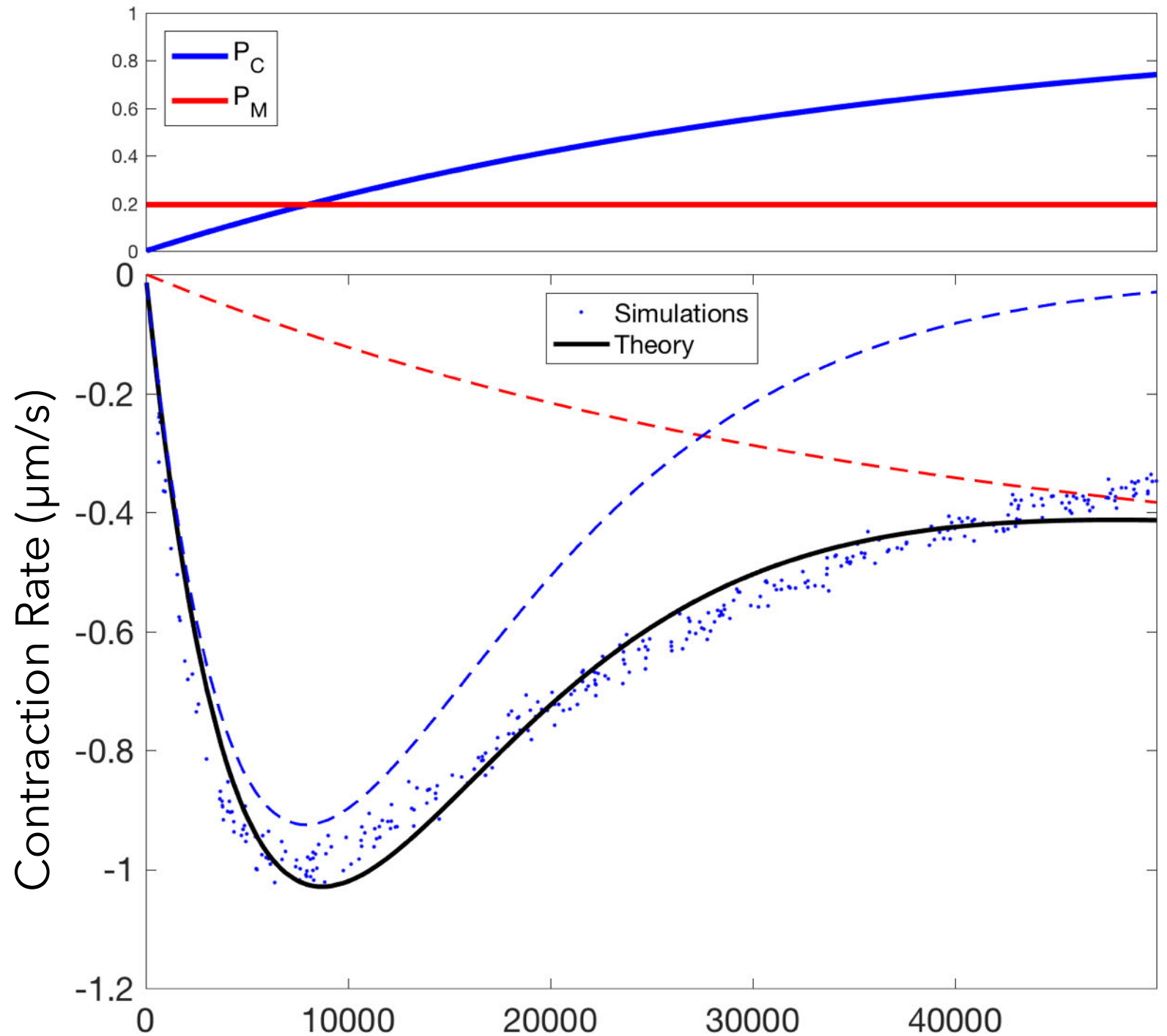
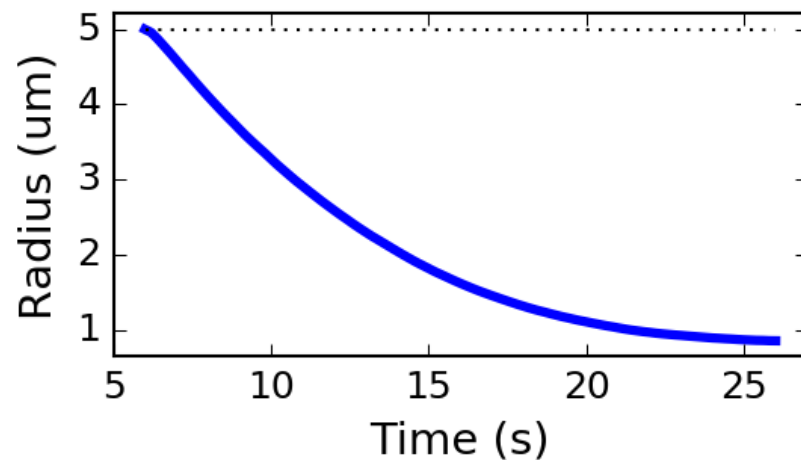
unconstrained circular networks



3.2 filaments / μm^2

$L_{\text{filament}} = 5 \mu\text{m}$

Network Size



Number of crosslinkers

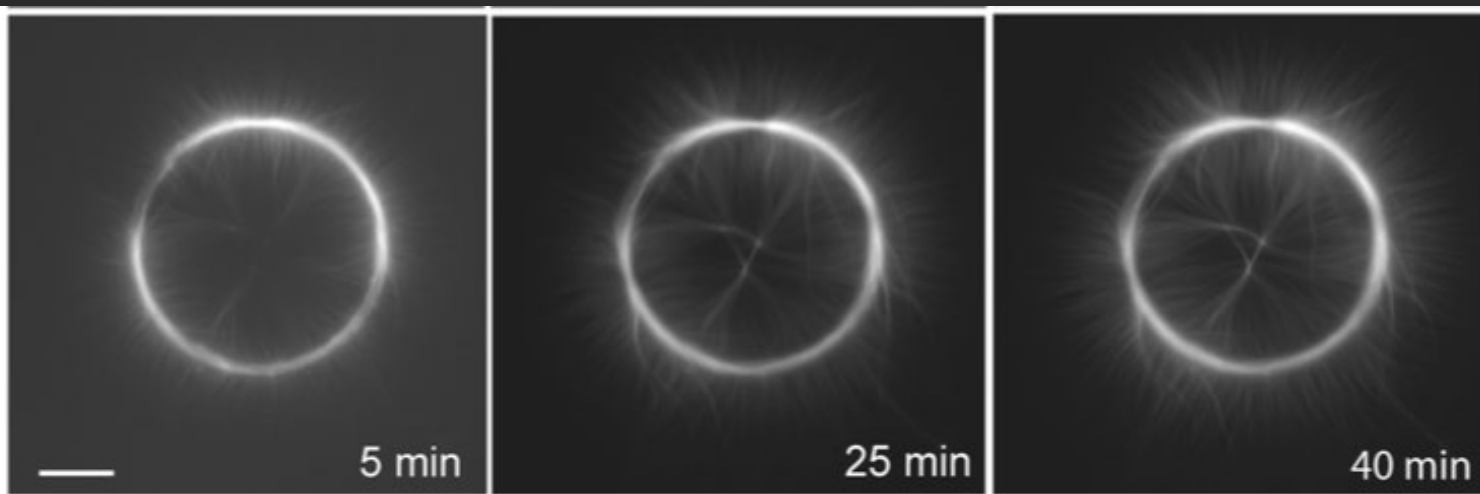
+8000 motors



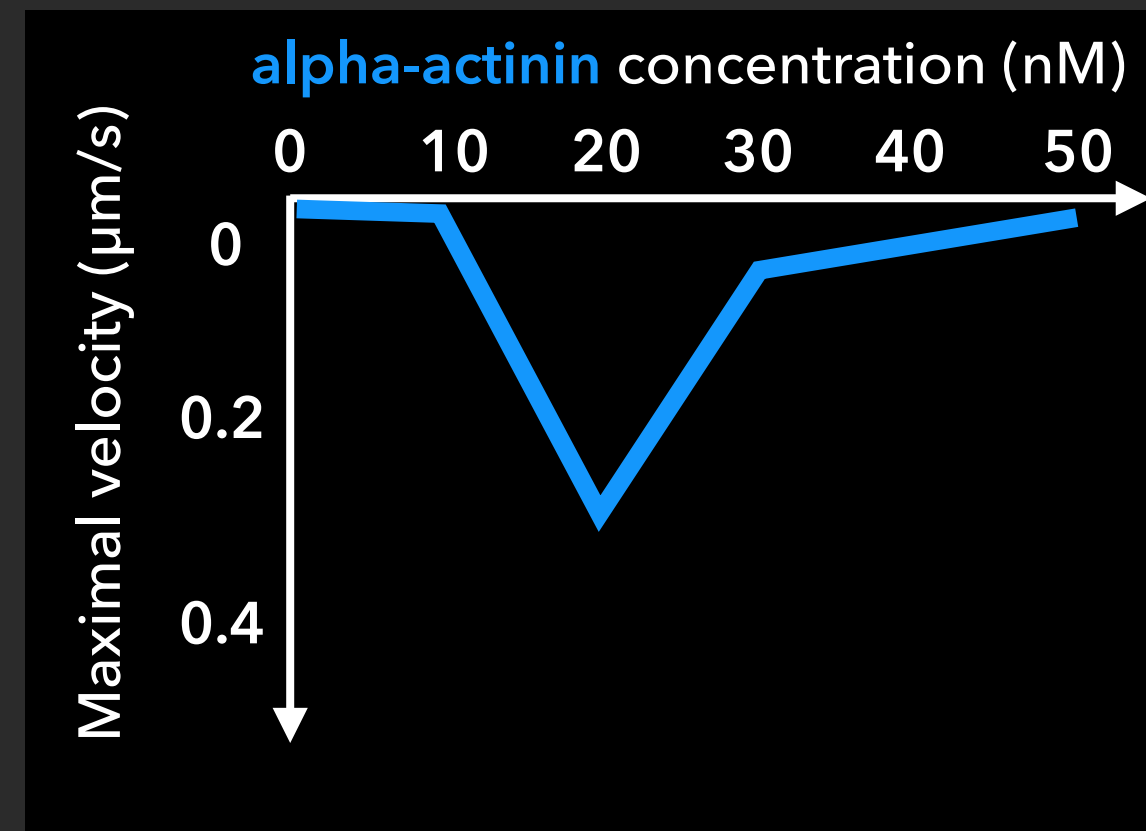
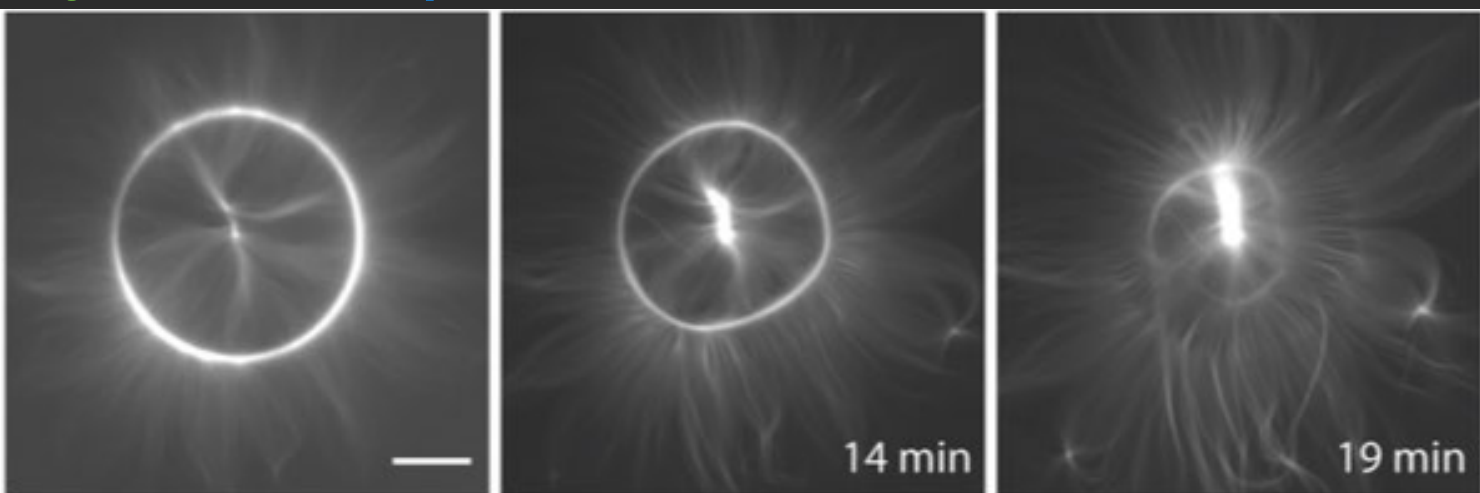
Disordered Actomyosin Ring

in vitro

myosin VI

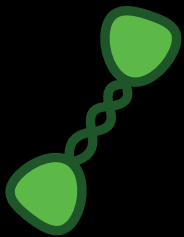


myosin VI + alpha-actinin



Actin-Related Proteins

Crosslink



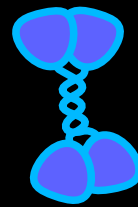
2 binders
parallel / anti-parallel

Myosin 2



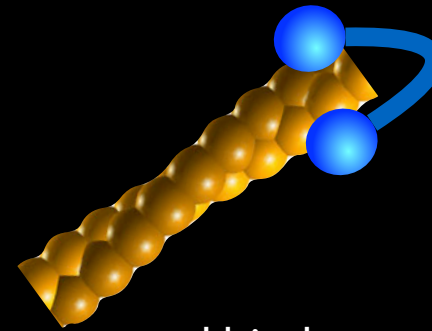
Plus-end directed
minifilaments

Myosin 6



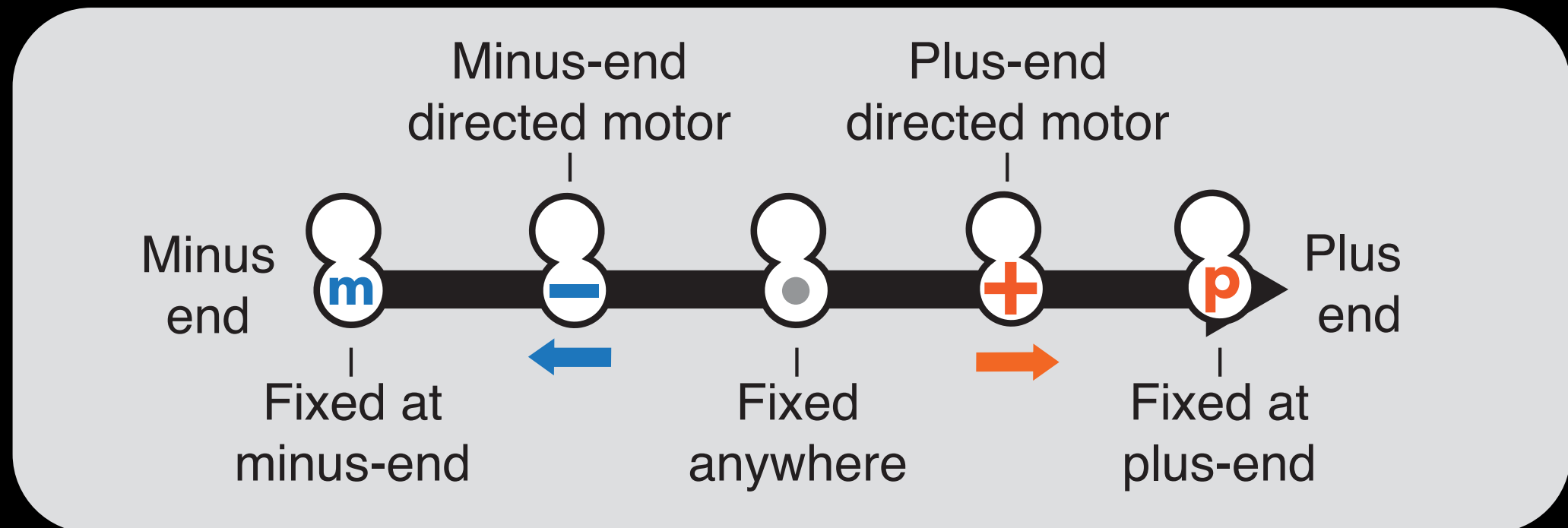
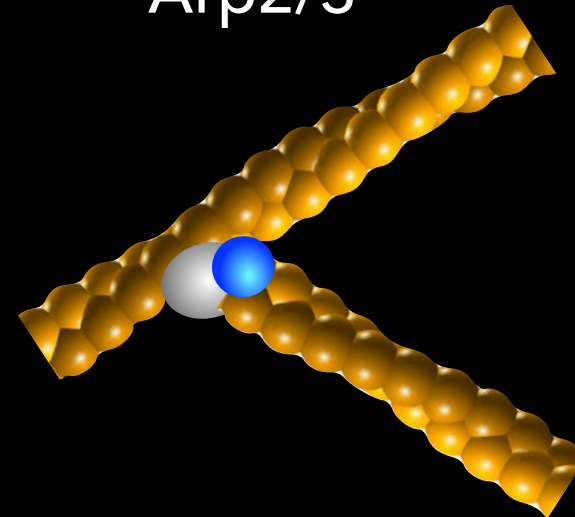
Minus-end directed
small oligomers

Formin



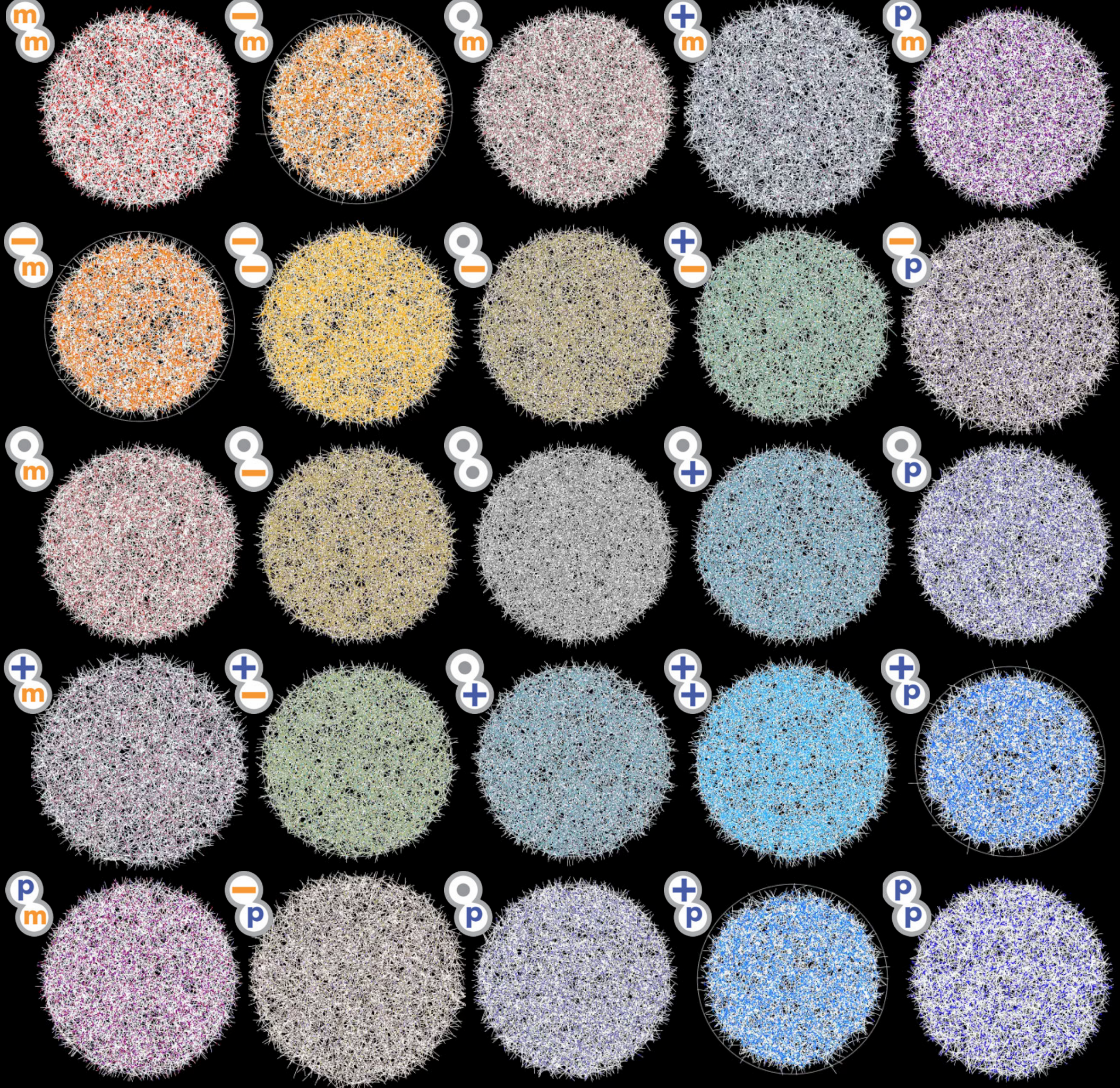
end binder
track ends?

Arp2/3

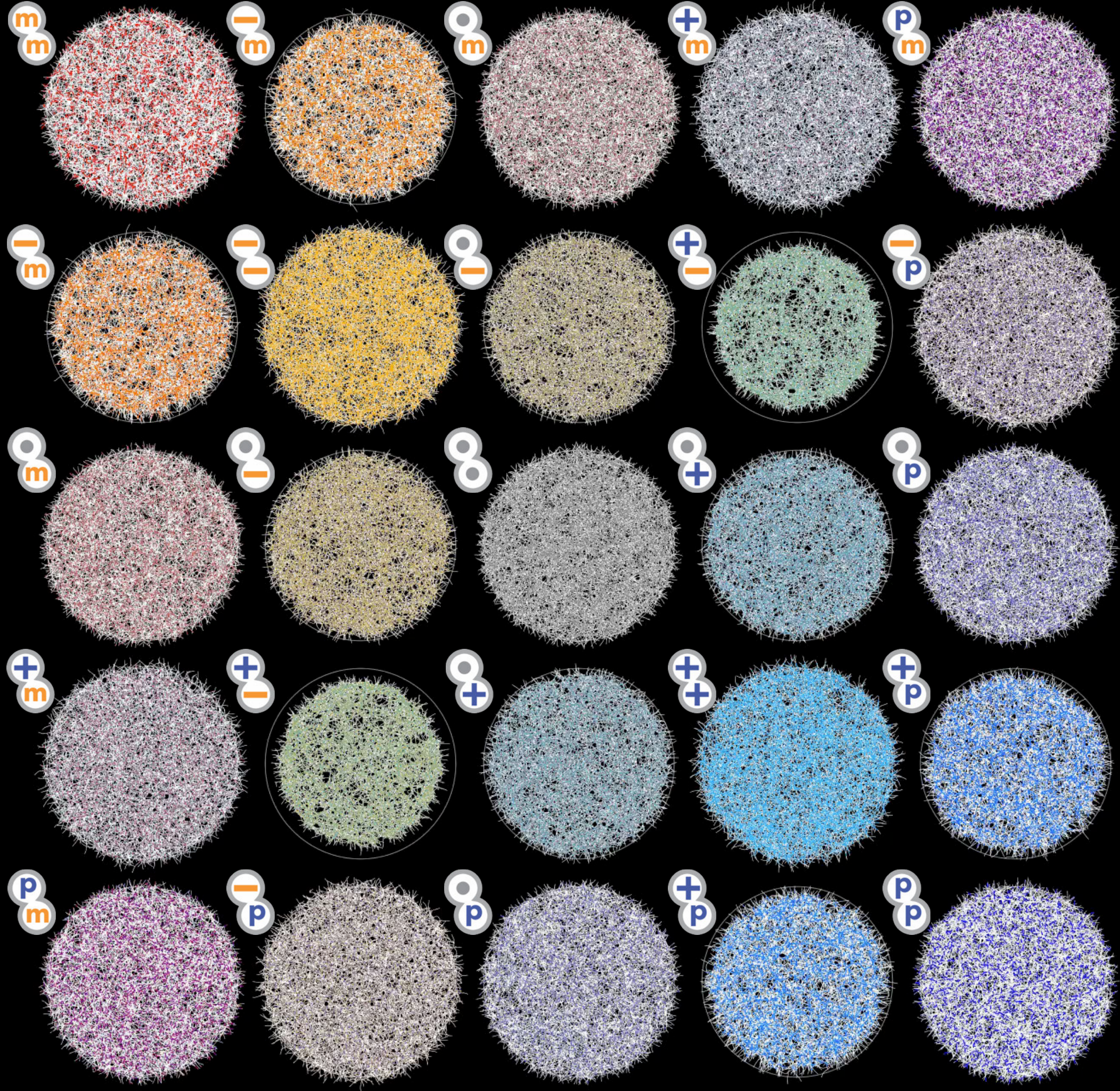


→ 15 possible connectors

Rigid
filaments

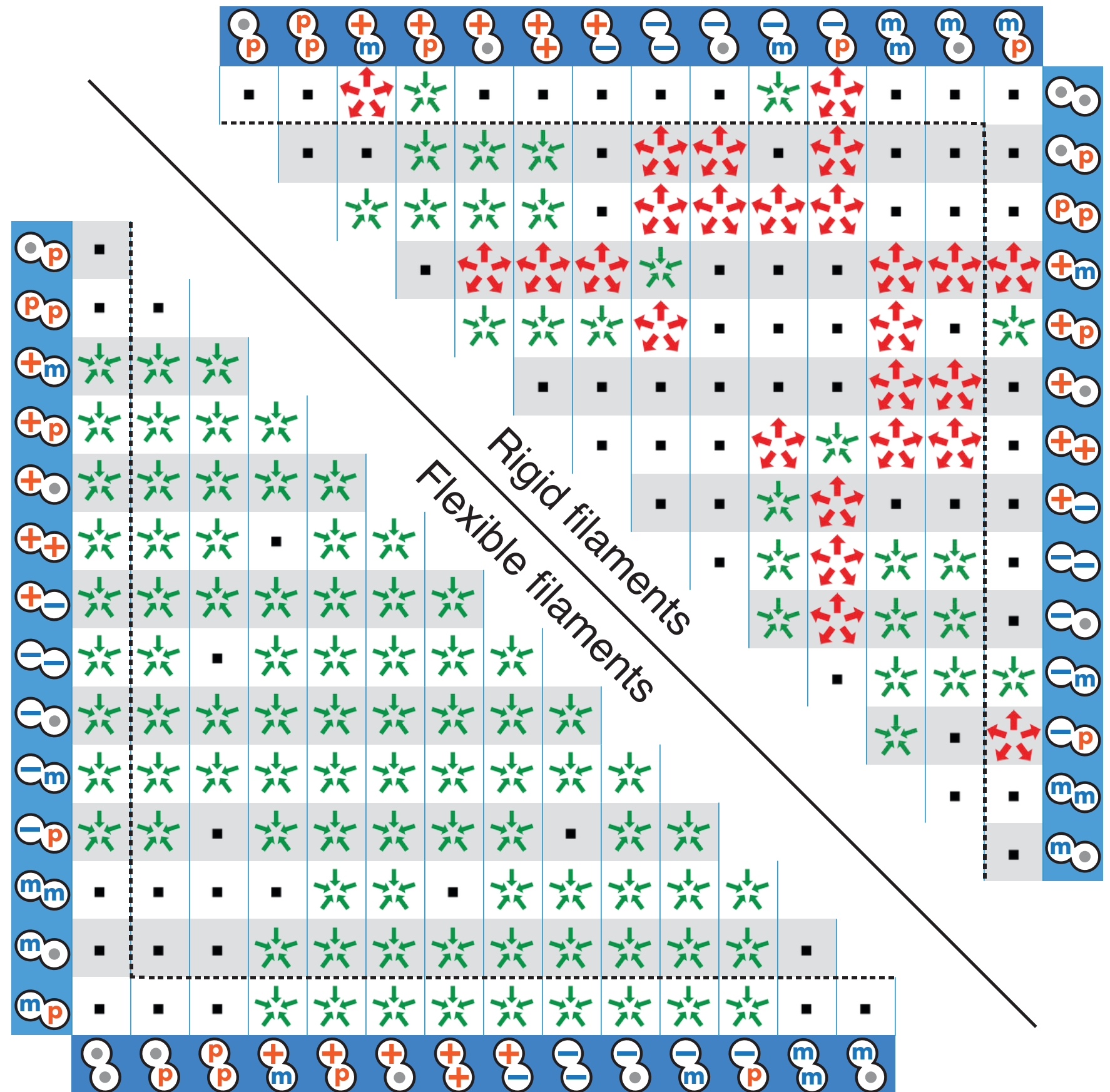
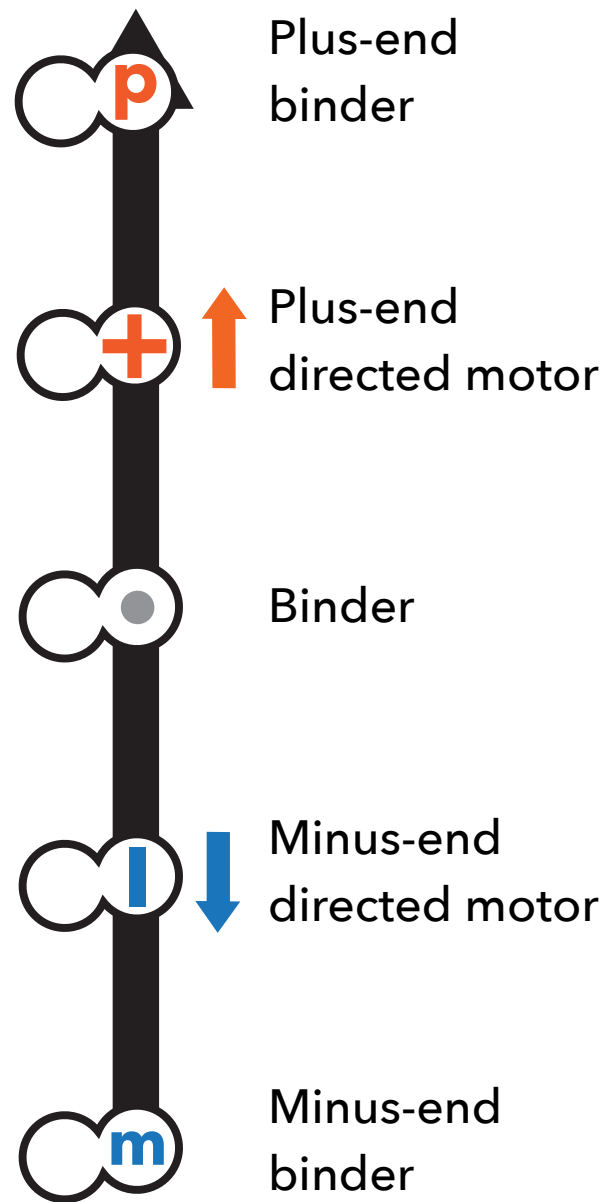


Flexible
filaments



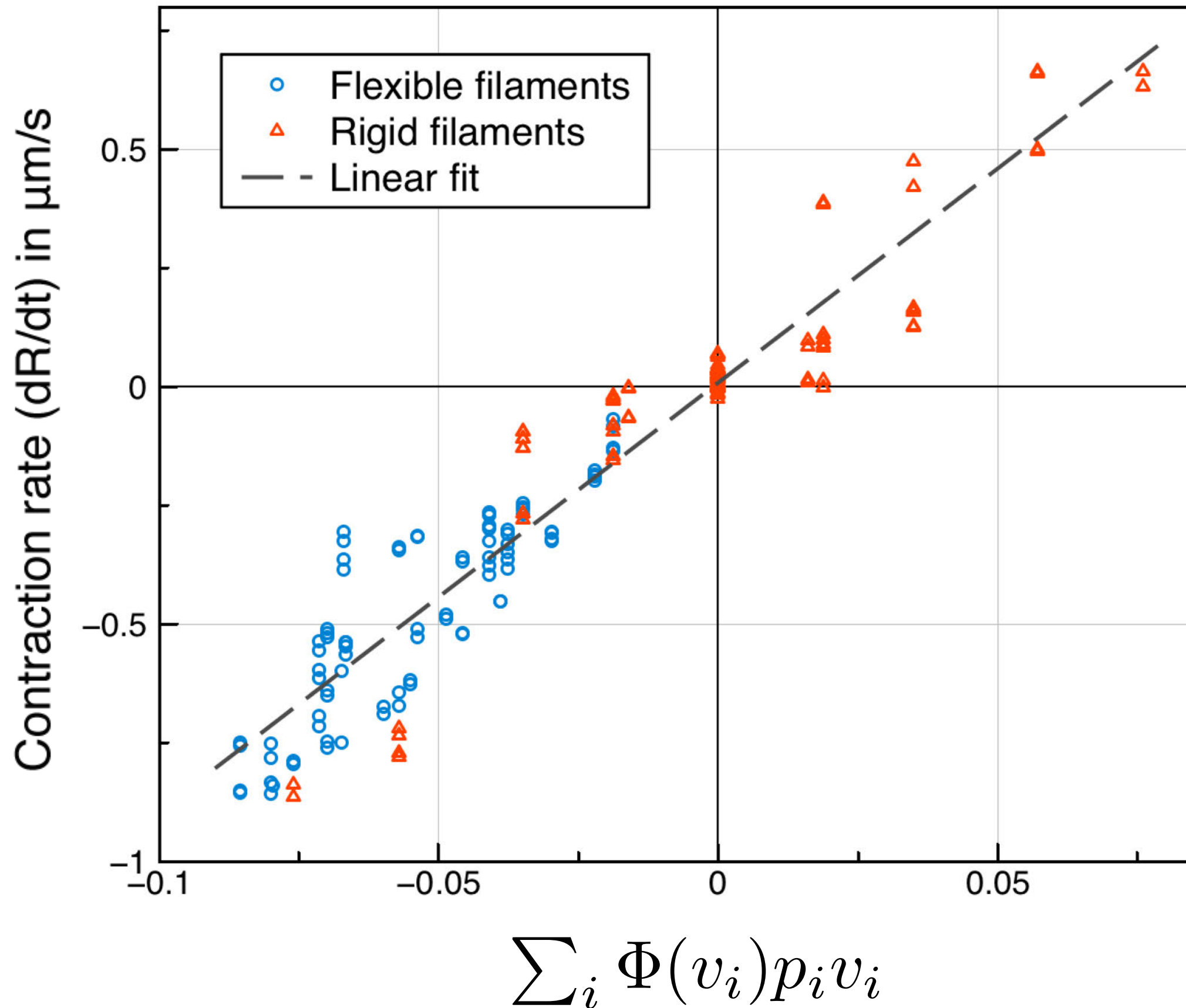
Predictions for Systems with 2 Types of Connectors

(in equal number, with equal rates)



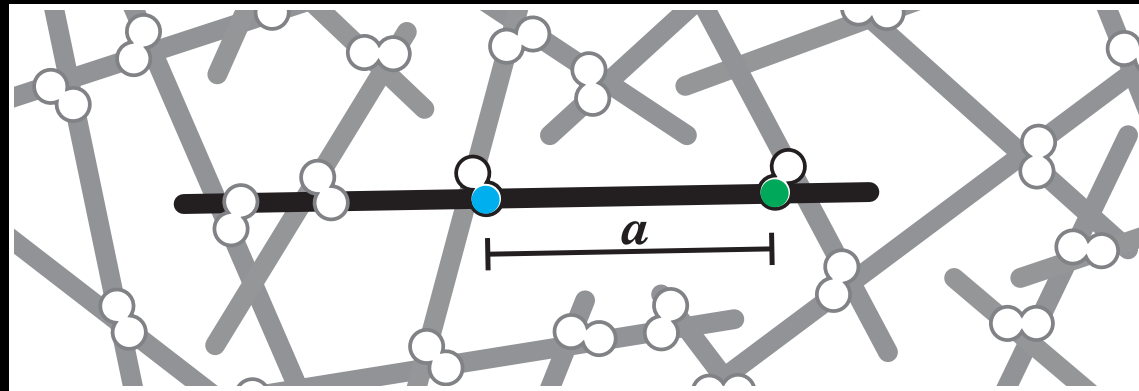
Predictions for Systems with 2 Types of Connectors

(in equal number, with equal rates)



Summary

- Consider elementary configurations in the network:

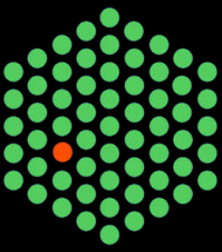


$$\frac{1}{\bar{a}} \frac{d\bar{a}}{dt}$$

- validated by:
 - simulations with rigid, flexible and semi-flexible filaments
 - experiments with motors+crosslinkers (Enomani et al. 2016)
- Unifies previously proposed mechanisms of contraction
 - different mechanisms for actin and microtubules networks
- Predicts network contraction/expansion rate as a function of:
 - motor/crosslinker properties and concentrations
 - density, length of filaments

Cellular Architecture Group

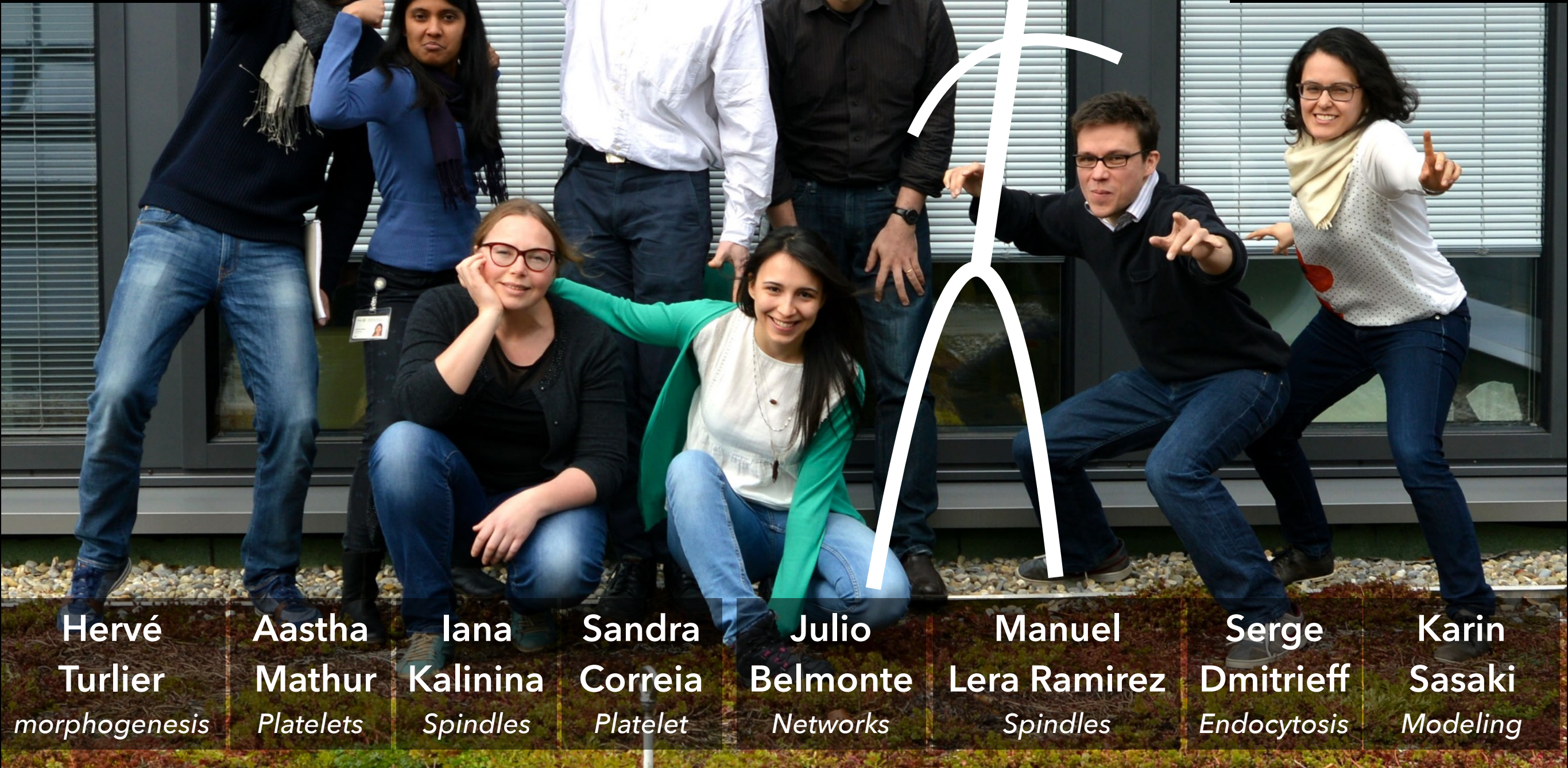
EMBL



BioMS
EU FP7



Maria Leptin



**Hervé
Turlier**
morphogenesis

**Aastha
Mathur**
Platelets

**Iana
Kalinina**
Spindles

**Sandra
Correia**
Platelet

**Julio
Belmonte**
Networks

**Manuel
Lera Ramirez**
Spindles

**Serge
Dmitrieff**
Endocytosis

**Karin
Sasaki**
Modeling

Talk

Poster #

Poster #94