

# Embryo Networks as Generative Divergent Integration

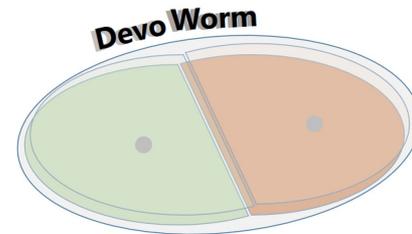
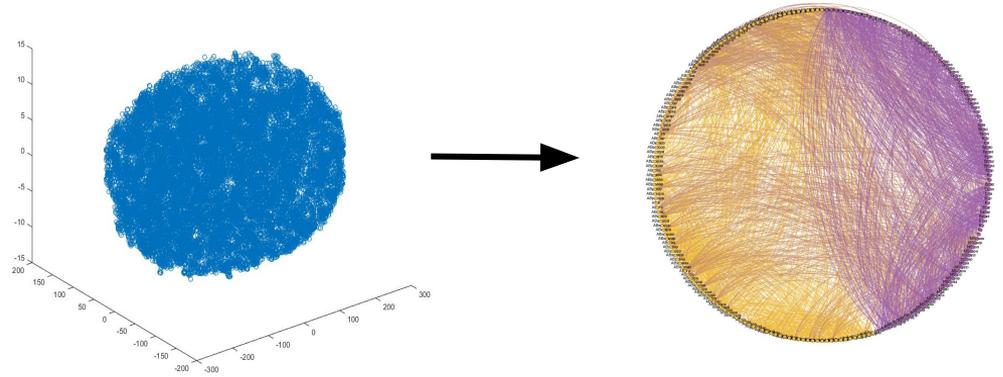
NETWORKS  
2021

Bradly Alicea

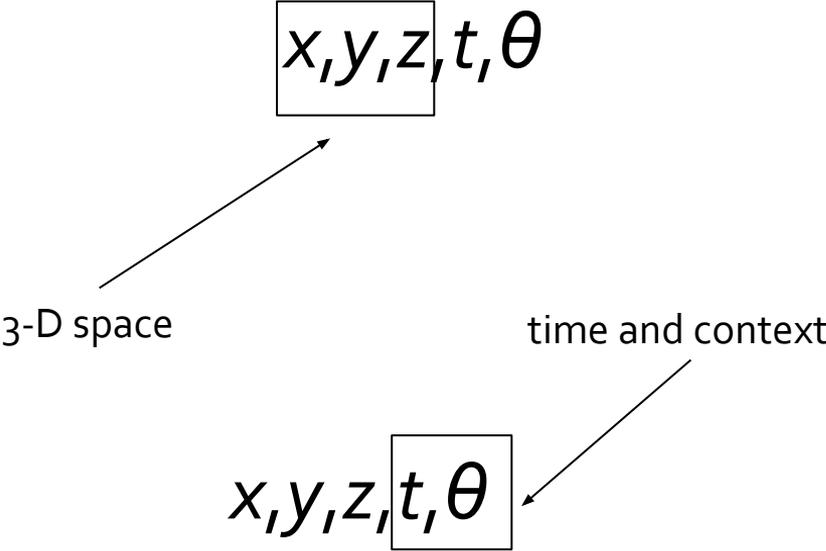
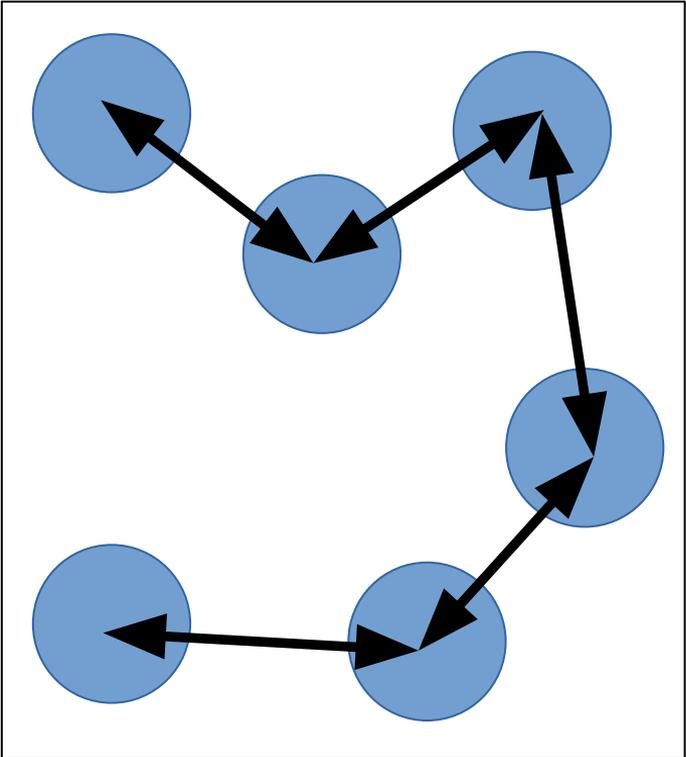
@balicea1

Daniela Cialfi

@Athena89



# Embryo Networks

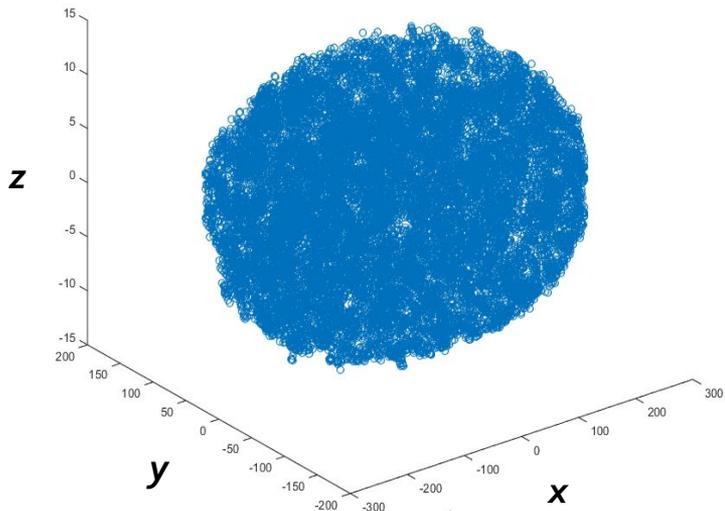


See our Jupyter  
Notebook for  
more information

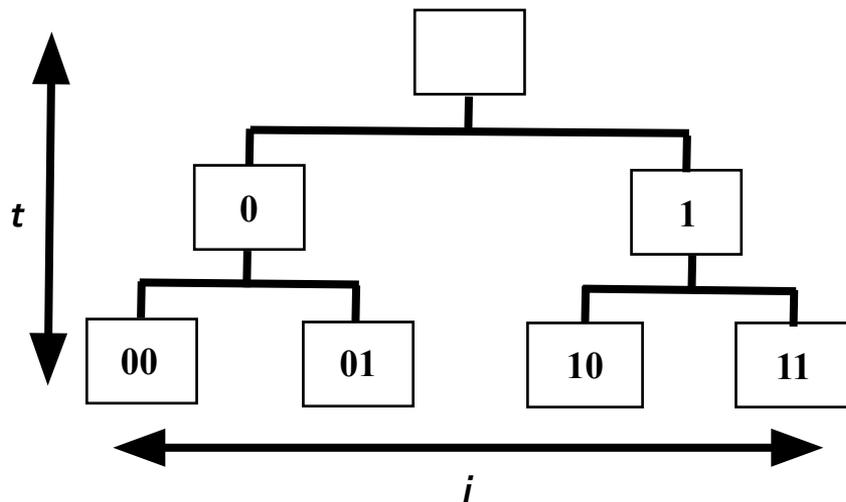


# 5-dimensional Data Structure

$x, y, z, t, i$



A generalized parameter space based on observations across *C. elegans* embryos ( $x, y, z$ )



A spatially-independent parameter space ordered by A-P axial order ( $i$ ) and lineage time ( $t, i$ )

# Cell Division

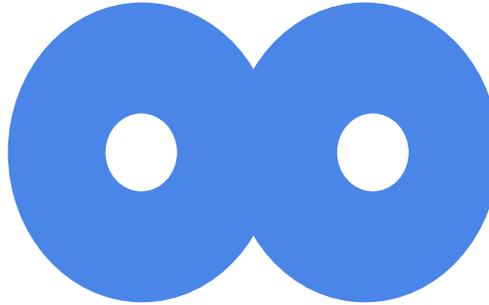
Graph diameter expands (growth in number of nodes)

Local connectivity increases (nodal density)

Global modularity increases (differentiation events, bifurcation)

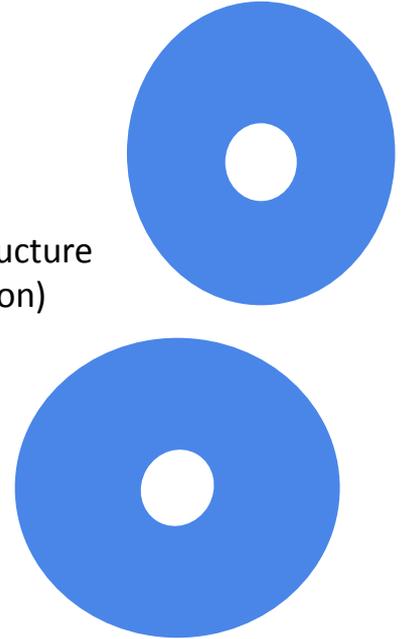


Initial  
Condition



Expansion of Structure

Bipartite Structure  
(Bifurcation)

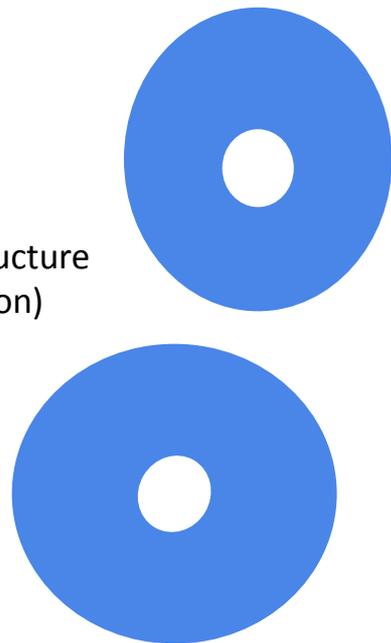


# Cell Division

Bifurcation: single network to bipartite.

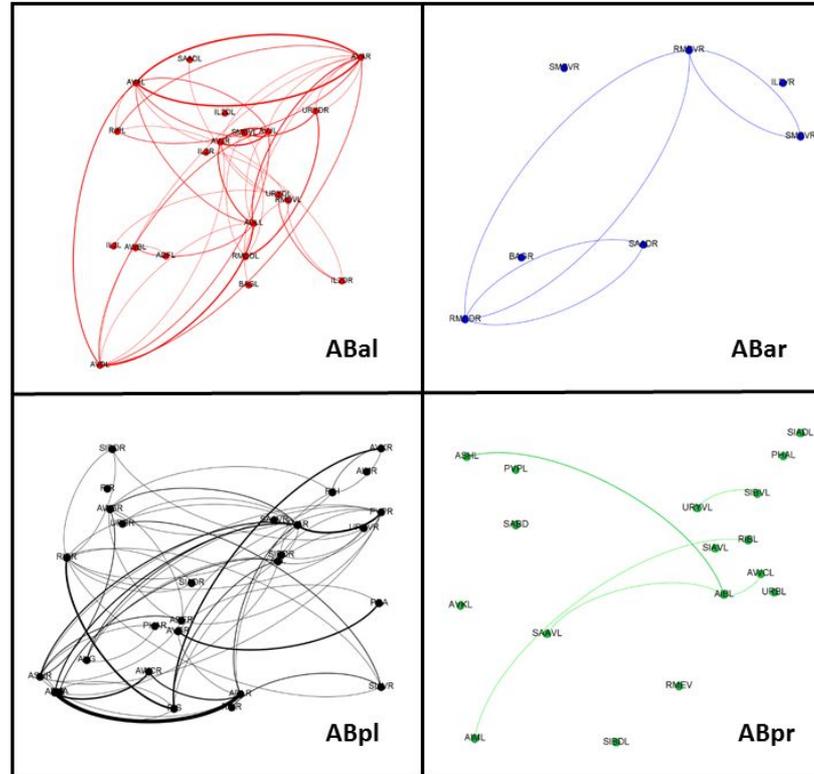
- how many parts does the network fragment into over time?

Bipartite Structure  
(Bifurcation)

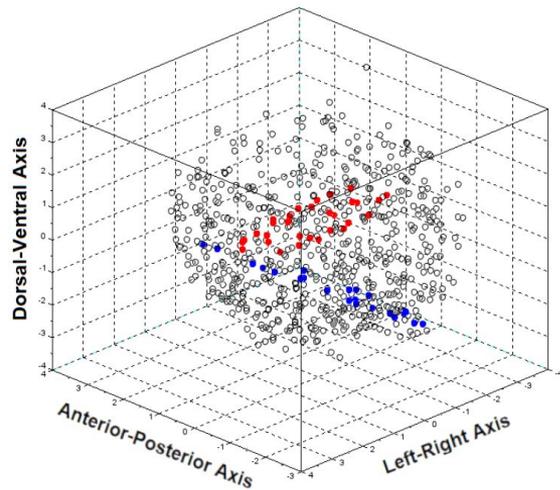
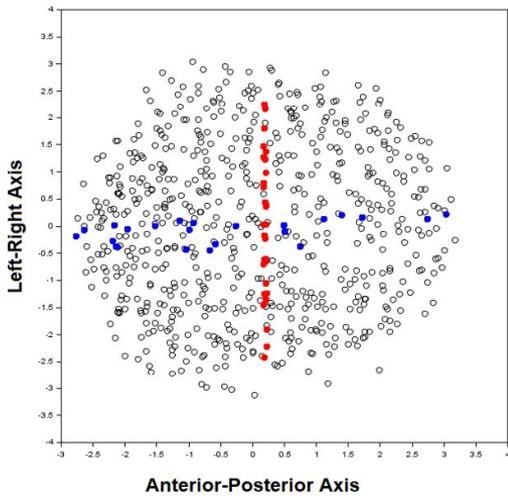
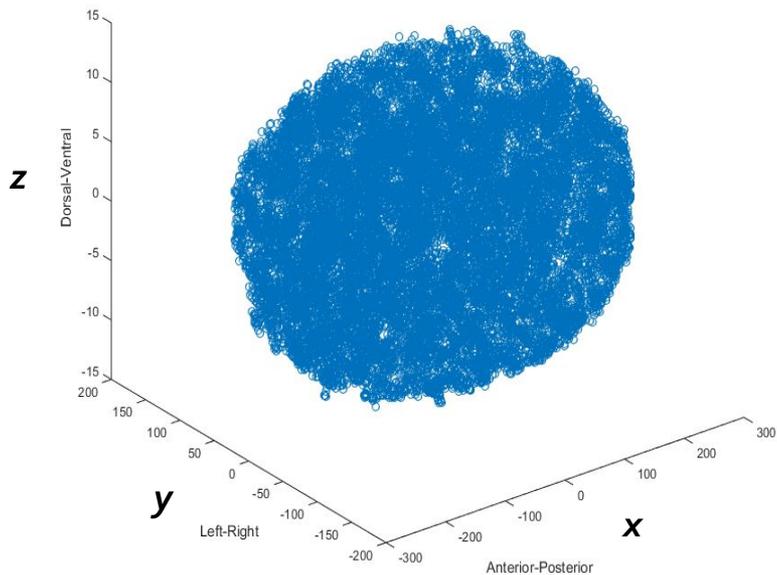


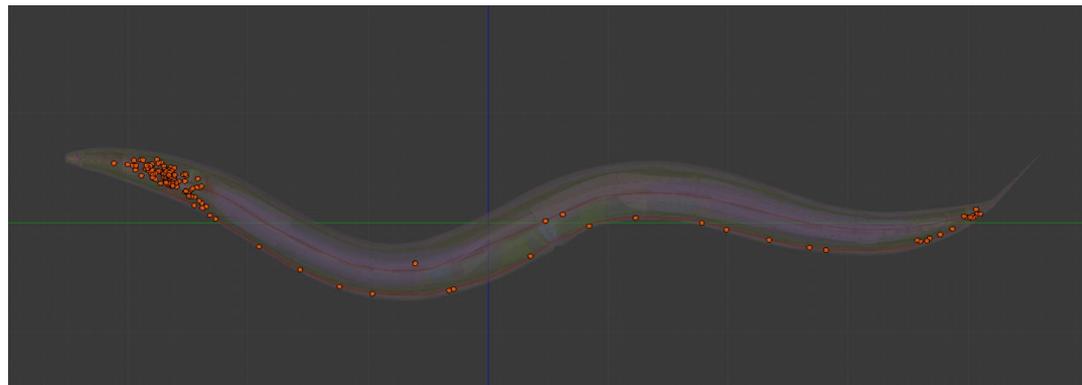
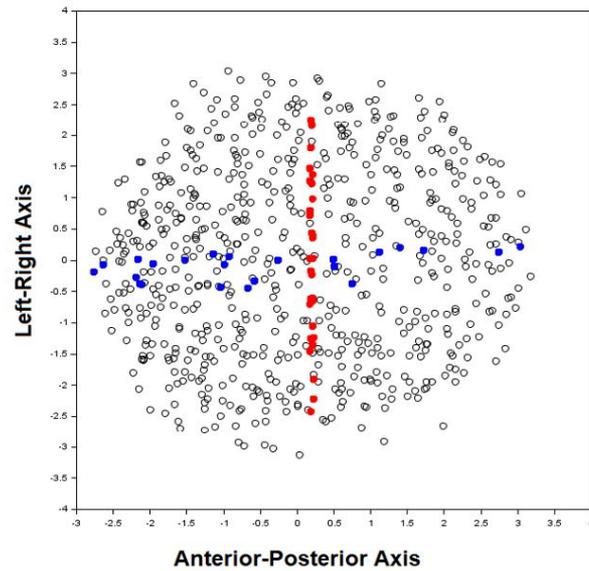
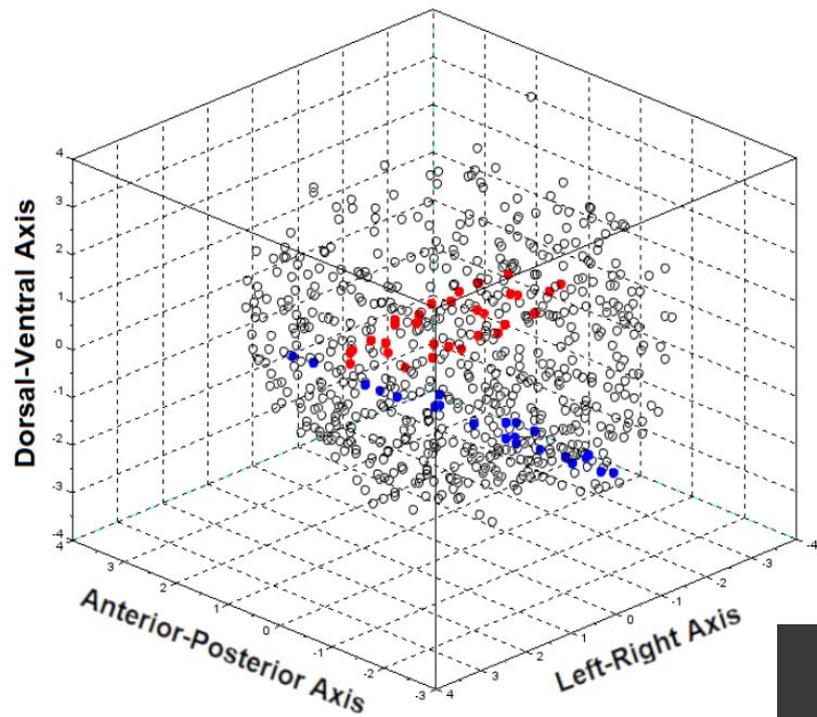


# Spatial Connectivity (developmental lineages leading to Connectome)



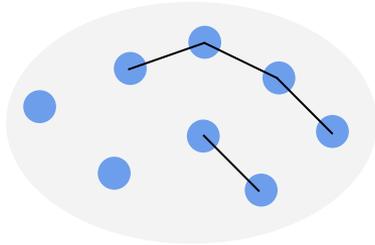
# Where connectome neurons emerge in the embryo





# Generative Divergent Integration

8-cell example

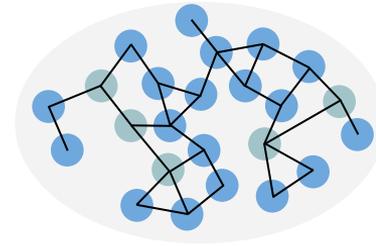


Embryo network only. Connections between nodes:

For all developmental cells (blue),  $<$  distance  $t$  (threshold) between cell centroids.

Sparse connectivity due to larger cell size.

24-cell example



Embryo and Neuronal network. Connections between nodes:

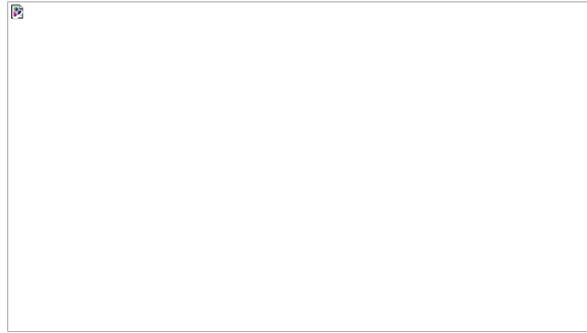
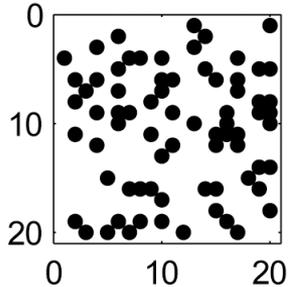
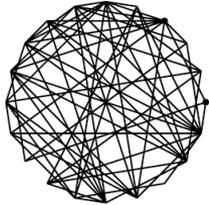
For all developmental cells (blue),  $<$  distance  $t$  (threshold) between cell centroids.

All neurons (green) that share gap junctions.

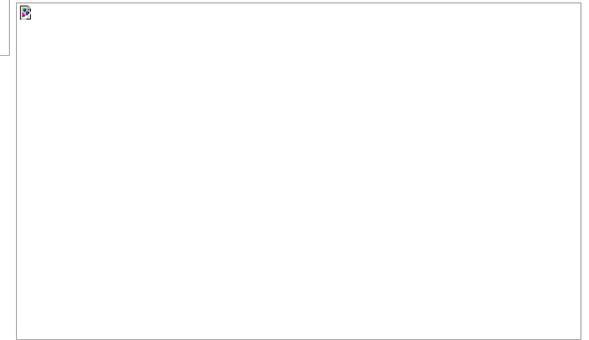
# Developmental spatial connectivity and connectomes as complex networks?

Static Adult  
Network

Random



Scale-free



Small-world

Stobb et.al, Graph Theoretical Model of a Sensorimotor Connectome in Zebrafish.  
*PLoS One*, 7(5), e37292.

# What if the correct model is not a complex (scale-free, small-world) network?

New World Network: small-world network  
with expansion

*Brain Structure and Function*, 221(4), 2361-2366 (2016).

Chimeric states: simultaneously coherent  
and incoherent.

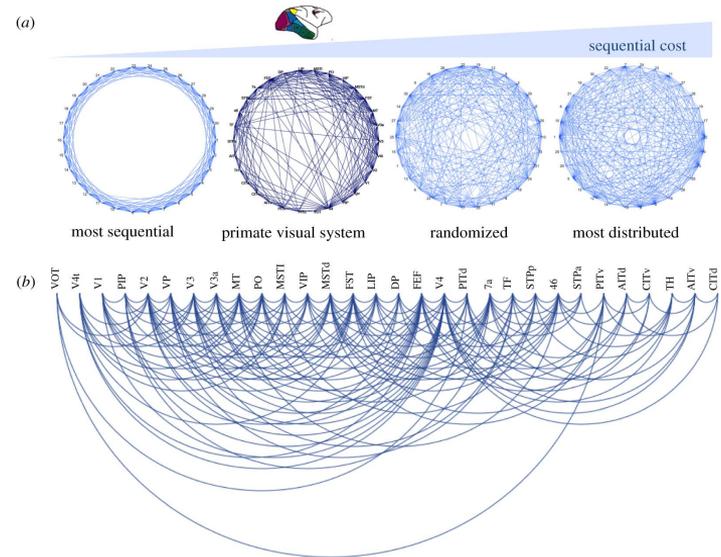
*Science Advances*, eaah8535 (2019).

Small-world constrained by  
spatiotemporal sampling

*Chaos*, 20, 013134 (2010).

Network connectivity preferences influences  
later activity in ways that affect symmetry

*PNAS*, 116(41), 20360–20365.



Generalized Hierarchical Signatures

*Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B*, 375,  
20190319 (2020).

# New World Embryo Networks are Multilevel Networks

Proximity and Adjacency measurements:

- convex hull measurement over time (topological data analysis).
- differential network diameter (between time  $t_1$  and  $t_n$ ).

Expansion rate measurements:

- differential path length ratio (between time  $t_1$  and  $t_n$ ).
- differential clustering (between time  $t_1$  and  $t_n$ ).

# New Types of Topologies

## Feature-rich Networks:

- topological features to capture emerging tissues, fluid dynamics, and gene expression cascades.

## Multiple Worlds:

- different processes and structures captured in a  $n$ -partite network with weak connectors.

## Semi-integrated Networks:

- interrelated phenotypic modules and functional systems (brain and body).

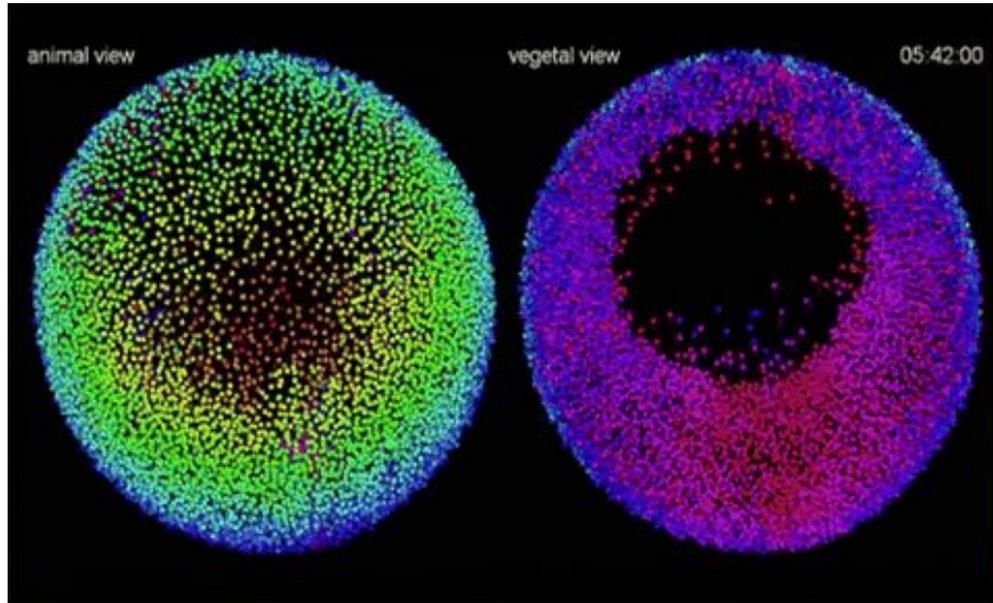
# Density-Bifurcation Model

The process of increasing connectivity in development is as follows:

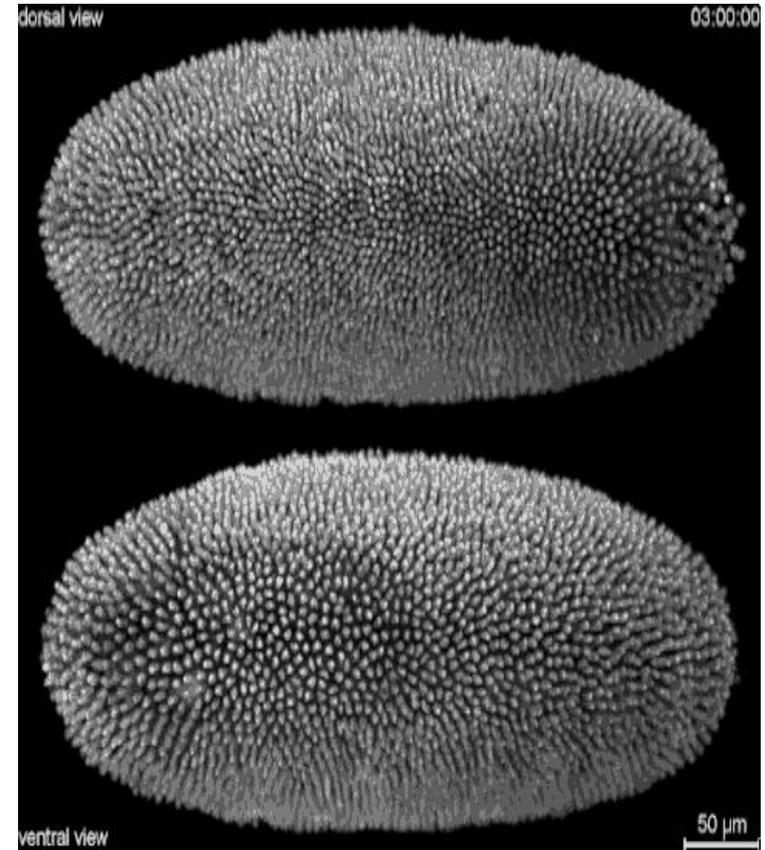
- cells divide and migrate, connectivity increases.
- cell migration enriches local communities and cliques.
- function of cells diverges (differentiation), two interconnected networks emerge.
- interconnected networks provide weak ties (functional interdependencies) between emerging tissues.

## Future directions: capturing embryo dynamics

- time-series of static embryo networks with spatially-localized differentiation.



COURTESY: <https://giphy.com/gifs/BAccmmPOGIAQo>

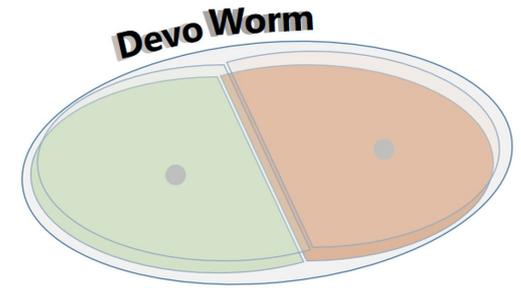


COURTESY: <https://txchnologist.com/post/109306942500/watching-embryos-develop-from-earliest-moments>

# Thanks for Your Attention



**COURTESY:** gfycaat user orneryangelicgaur



<http://devoworm.weebly.com>

