

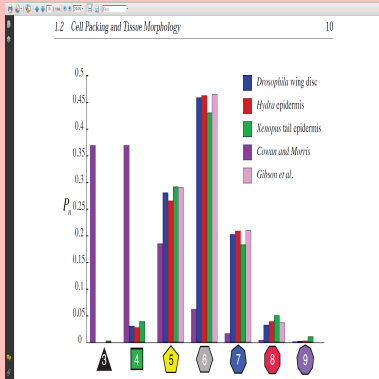
# Robustness of tissue growth to cell mechanics

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Robustness of tissue growth to cell mechanics,  
22 October 2015, IEU/UZH, Switzerland.

# Tissue growth: cells as polygons, tissues as networks

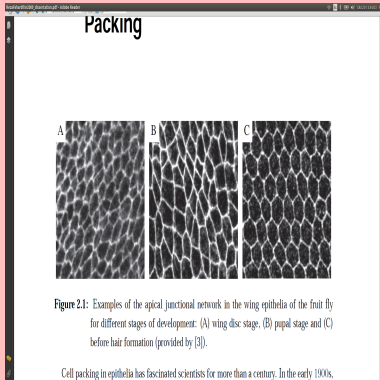
# Different kind of tissues



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- Different cells *shapes* distributions are related to **different kind** of tissues<sup>1</sup>.

# Developmental stages of tissues

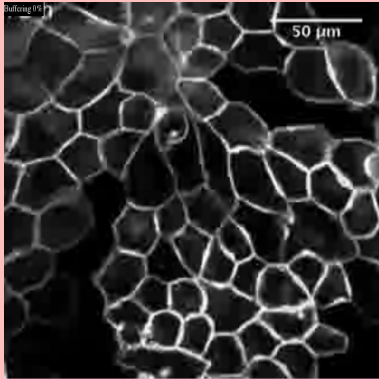


Cell packing in epithelia has fascinated scientists for more than a century. In the early 1900s,

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- Different cells *shapes* distributions are related to different **developmental stages** of a same tissue<sup>2</sup>.

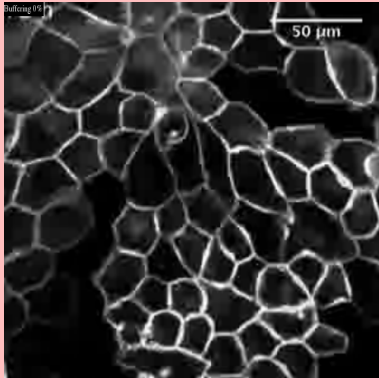
# Tissue, cells, Edges, and Vertices



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- 1 Tissue as a network of cells.

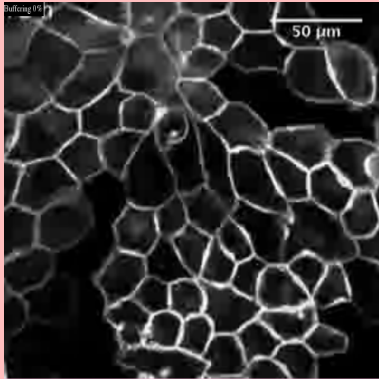
# Tissue, cells, Edges, and Vertices



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- 1 Tissue as a network of cells.
- 2 Cells as polygons.

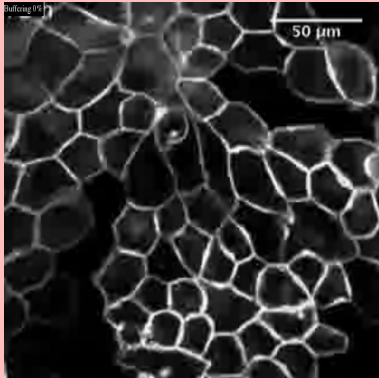
# Tissue, cells, Edges, and Vertices



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- 1 Tissue as a network of cells.
- 2 Cells as polygons.
- 3 Each 2 Cells share 1 Edge.

# Tissue, cells, Edges, and Vertices



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- 1 Tissue as a network of cells.
- 2 Cells as polygons.
- 3 Each 2 Cells share 1 Edge.
- 4 Each Edge is composed by 2 Vertices.



# Edge's Line Tension

**Include figure of a cell from Farhadifar**

- Edge's Line tension ( $\Lambda$ ) is associated to Edge's length.

# Cell's Contractility

**Include figure of a cell from Farhadifar**

- Cell's Contractility ( $\Gamma$ ) is associated to Cell's Perimeter.

# Cell's Elasticity

**Include figure of a cell from Farhadifar**

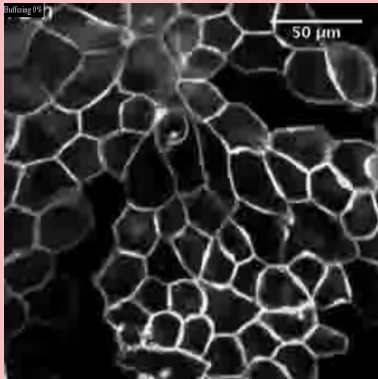
- Cell's Elasticity ( $K$ ) is associated to Cell's Area.

# Force Balance Energy Function

$$F = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{K_{\alpha}}{2} (A_{\alpha} - A_{\alpha}^{(0)})^2 + \sum_{(i,j)} \Lambda_{ij} L_{ij} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\Gamma_{\alpha}}{2} L_{\alpha}^2$$

# Force Balance Energy Function

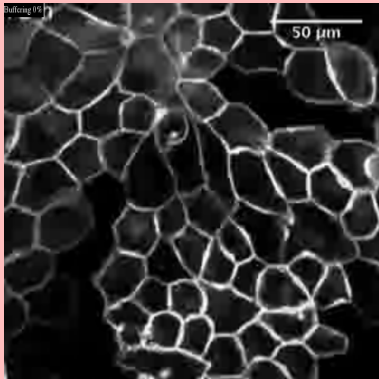
$$F = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{K_{\alpha}}{2} (A_{\alpha} - A_{\alpha}^{(0)})^2 + \sum_{(i,j)} \Lambda_{ij} L_{ij} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\Gamma_{\alpha}}{2} L_{\alpha}^2$$



We keep the physical properties of the cells fixed during the simulation. So, in order to satisfy the **Minimal Energy's Assumption** the positions of the vertices need to change.

# Preferred Cell's Area $A_{\alpha}^{(0)}$

$$F = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{K_{\alpha}}{2} (A_{\alpha} - A_{\alpha}^{(0)})^2 + \sum_{(i,j)} \Lambda_{ij} L_{ij} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\Gamma_{\alpha}}{2} L_{\alpha}^2$$



$A_{\alpha}^{(0)}$  is the preferred area of cell  $\alpha$  which is related to the volume,  $V_{\alpha}$  and height,  $h_{\alpha}$  of the cell:  $A_{\alpha}^{(0)} = \frac{V_{\alpha}}{h_{\alpha}}$

# Sequence of Events

- 1 **Relaxation** (Vertices change their position to guarantee the force balance equal to zero).

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# Sequence of Events

- 1 **Relaxation** (Vertices change their position to guarantee the force balance equal to zero).
- 2 **Cell Proliferation** (cells growth and cells division).

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# Relaxation

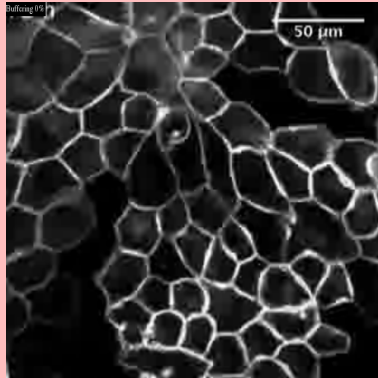
- 1 Vertices change their position to guarantee the force balance equal to zero.

# Relaxation

- 1 Vertices change their position to guarantee the force balance equal to zero.
- 2 Relaxation is finished once the length of the tissue remains *steady* over 100 time steps ( $\frac{sd(\sum_{\alpha} L_{\alpha})}{\sum_{\alpha} L_{\alpha}} \approx 0$ ).

# Regularity of the tissue

We define **regularness** as a dimensionless measure to say how regular the cells of a tissue are.



- 1 Regularness as:  $Reg =$  the edges.

# Thank you!

- SystemsX Initiative.
- **EpiphysX** members: Andreas Wagner (UZH), Aziza Merzouki, Orestis Malaspinas, Bastien Chopard, Aurélien Roux, Michel Milinkovitch, Marcos Gonzalez-Gaitan (UNIGE)
- Chopard's Group members (UNIGE).
- Wagner's Group members (UZH).
- You, for the attention and patience.