

# FISH & FISHERIES BIOLOGY (BIOL 458)

BY

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# UNIT TWO

# FUNCTIONAL ANATOMY OF FISHES

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: ILOs.

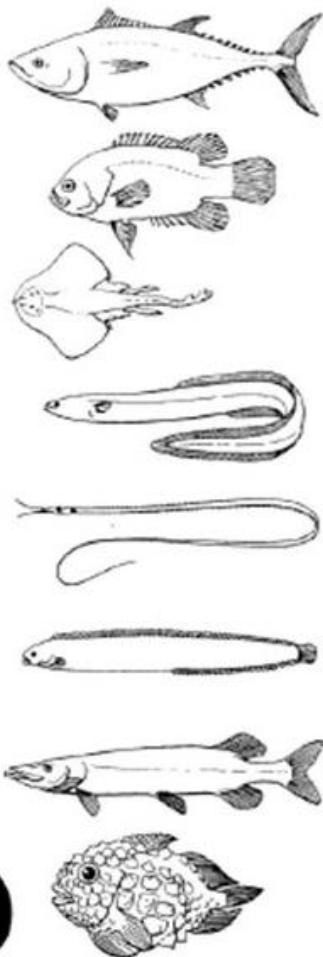
- **Know & understand** how the body shape & external features of fishes affect their locomotion, way of life, survival, & other diverse functions;
- **Know & understand** how the structure of the various organ systems in fish functions to enable them successfully live in their diverse water env't;
  - **Respiration, blood circulation, feeding & digestion, reproduction, nervous system, hydromineral balance, behavioural adaptations**

# Unit 2, 1: Form & Movement in Fishes

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- The great ecological diversity of fishes is reflected in the variety of **body shapes** & means of **locomotion** they possess..
- Much is learnt about fish ecology by examining its anatomical features/ watching movement in water.
- These features also form the basis for most schemes of classification & identification.

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.



**Fusiform** (Tuna)

**Compressiform** (Tautog)

**Depressiform** (Skate)

**Anguilliform** (Eel fish)

**Filiform** (Pipe fish)

**Taeniform** (Ribbon fish)

**Sagittiform** (Snake head)

**Globiform**

| BODY SHAPE      |          |               |  |
|-----------------|----------|---------------|--|
| Crosssection    | Fish     | Shape         | Locomotion                               |
| (Fusiform)      | Tuna     | Fusiform      | Fast-swimming in open water.             |
| (Compressiform) | Tautog   | Compressiform | Quick speed for short distances.         |
| (Depressiform)  | Skate    | Depressiform  | Swims like a flying bird.                |
| (Filiform)      | Pipefish | Filiform      | Slithers through the water like a snake. |

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- Success of fishes despite constraints of living in water
- This results in many unlikely forms e.g. seahorses, anglerfishes, pufferfishes, lumpfishes, etc....
- But more fish-like species are placed in functional categories based on their **body shape, scales, fins, mouth, gill openings, sense organs**, etc.

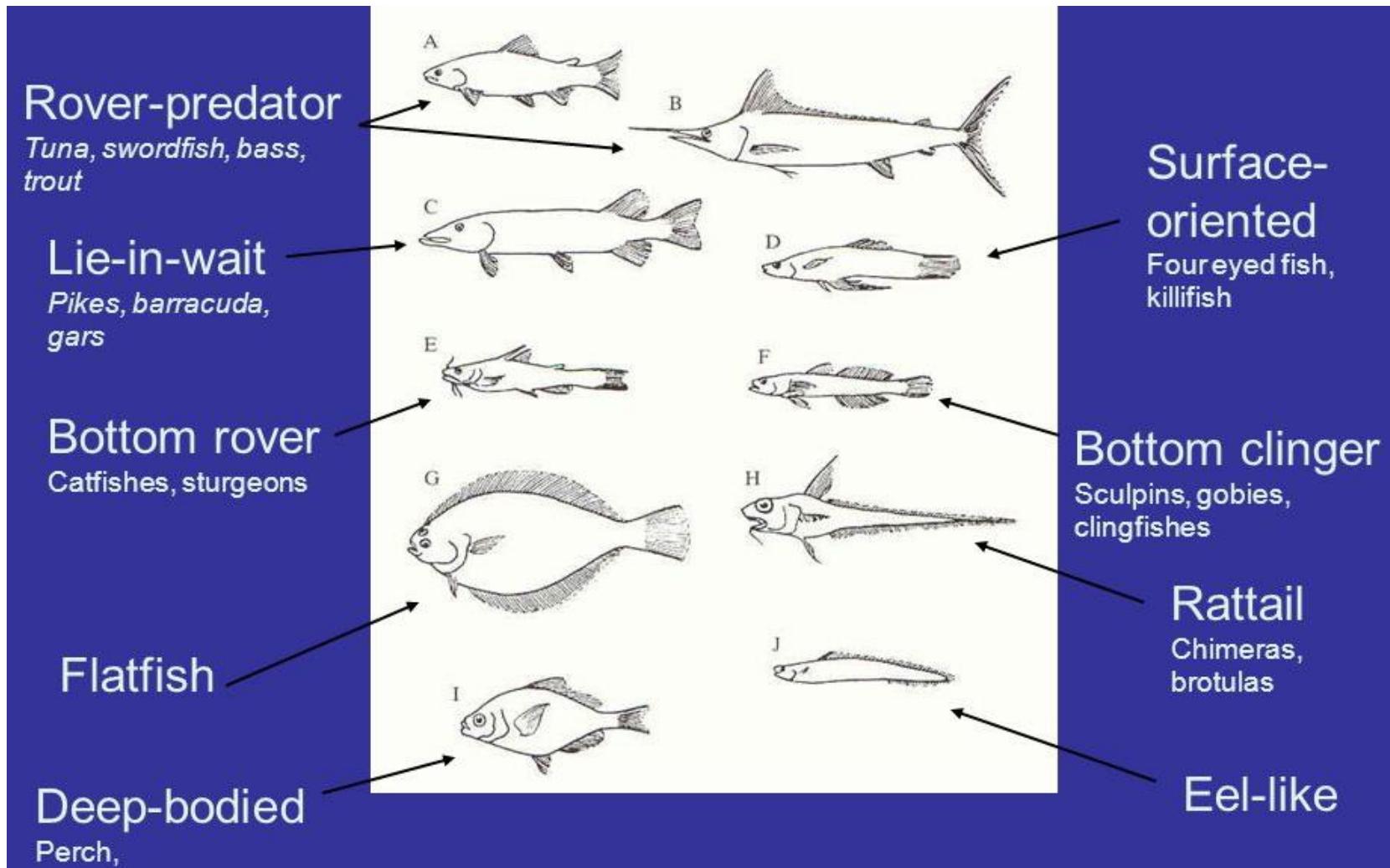
# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.



# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- Most fishes fall into one of 6 broad categories based on body shape or configuration:
  - (1) **rover predator**,
  - (2) **lie-in-wait predator**,
  - (3) **surface-oriented fish**,
  - (4) **bottom fish**,
  - (5) **deep-bodied fish**, &
  - (6) **eel-like fish**...

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

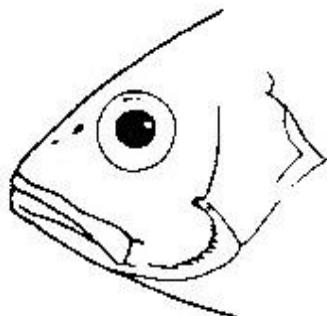


# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

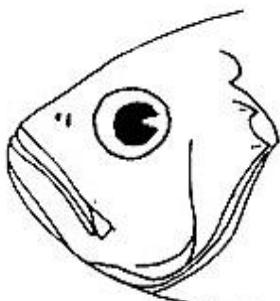
- i) **Rover-predators**

- body shape is streamlined (*fusiform*)...
- has pointed head with a terminal mouth...
- has narrow caudal peduncle with a forked tail...
- fins are more or less evenly distributed about body,
- they typically are constantly moving & searching out prey, which they capture through pursuit,
- E.g. many species of minnows, tuna, mackerel, etc

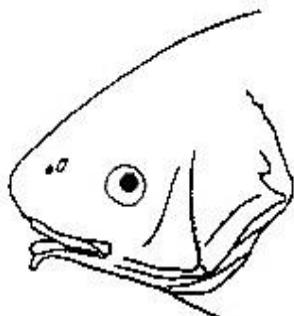
# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.



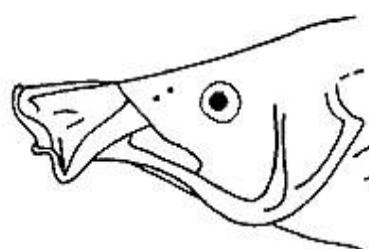
terminal



superior



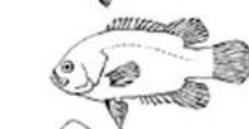
inferior



protrusible



**Fusiform** (Tuna)



**Compressiform** (Tautog)



**Depressiform** (Skate)



**Anguilliform** (Eel fish)



**Filiform** (Pipe fish)



**Taeniform** (Ribbon fish)



**Sagittiform** (Snake head)



**Globiform**

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- ii) *Lie-in-wait predators*

- body is **fusiform**, also elongate, often torpedo-like;
- **head** is flattened & equipped with a large mouth with pointed teeth & long, pointed snout
- **caudal** fin is large & the **dorsal** & **anal** fins are placed far back on the body, in line with each other;
- mainly *piscivores* with morphology well suited for the ambushing of fast-swimming prey;
- their cryptic coloration & secretive behaviour makes them less visible to their prey

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- iii) Surface-oriented fish

- a **fusiform** to deep body,
- have an upward-pointing **mouth (superior)** & a dorsoventrally flattened head with large eyes,..
- are typically small in size & stocky-bodied,
- a **dorsal fin** placed toward the rear of the body;
- **morphology suited for capturing plankton & small fishes** near surface of water or insects that land on the surface.

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- iv) *Bottomfish*
- possess a wide variety of body shapes, all adapted for a life in nearly continuous contact with the bottom..
- In most of them, the **swim-bladder** is reduced or absent; &
- most are flattened in one direction or another

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- iv) *Bottomfish*
- Bottom fish can be divided into 5 overlapping types:
  - (1) **bottom rovers**,
  - (2) **bottom clingers**,
  - (3) **bottom hiders**,
  - (4) **flatfish**, &
  - (5) **rattails**

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- v) *Deep-bodied-fish*

- laterally flattened (**compressiform**)...
- **body depth** usually a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the standard length
- **dorsal & anal** fins are typically long, **pectoral** fins are located high on the body, with the **pelvic** fins immediately below
- mouth is usually small & **protrusible**,

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- v) *Deep-bodied-fish* (cont)
  - Large eyes & short snout
  - Well-adapted for manoeuvring in tight quarters
    - e.g. in coral reefs, dense beds of aquatic plants, etc
  - well adapted for picking small invertebrates off the bottom or out of the water column;

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- v) Deep-bodied-fish (cont)
  - most have **stout spines** in **fins**, having sacrificing speed for manoeuvrability & developing spines for protection from predators
  - most are closely associated with the bottom, but many open-water plankton feeders (*planktivores*; e.g., herring) are also moderately deep-bodied

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- vi) *Eel-like fish*
- have **elongate bodies**,
- **blunt or wedge-shaped heads**,
- **tapering or rounded tails**
- if paired fins are present, they are small, but their **dorsal & anal fins** are typically quite long

# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- vi) *Eel-like fish* (cont)
  - scales are small & embedded or absent
  - in cross-section, their bodies can range from compressed to round
  - well **adapted** for entering small crevices & holes & for making their way through beds of aquatic plants, or for burrowing into soft bottoms

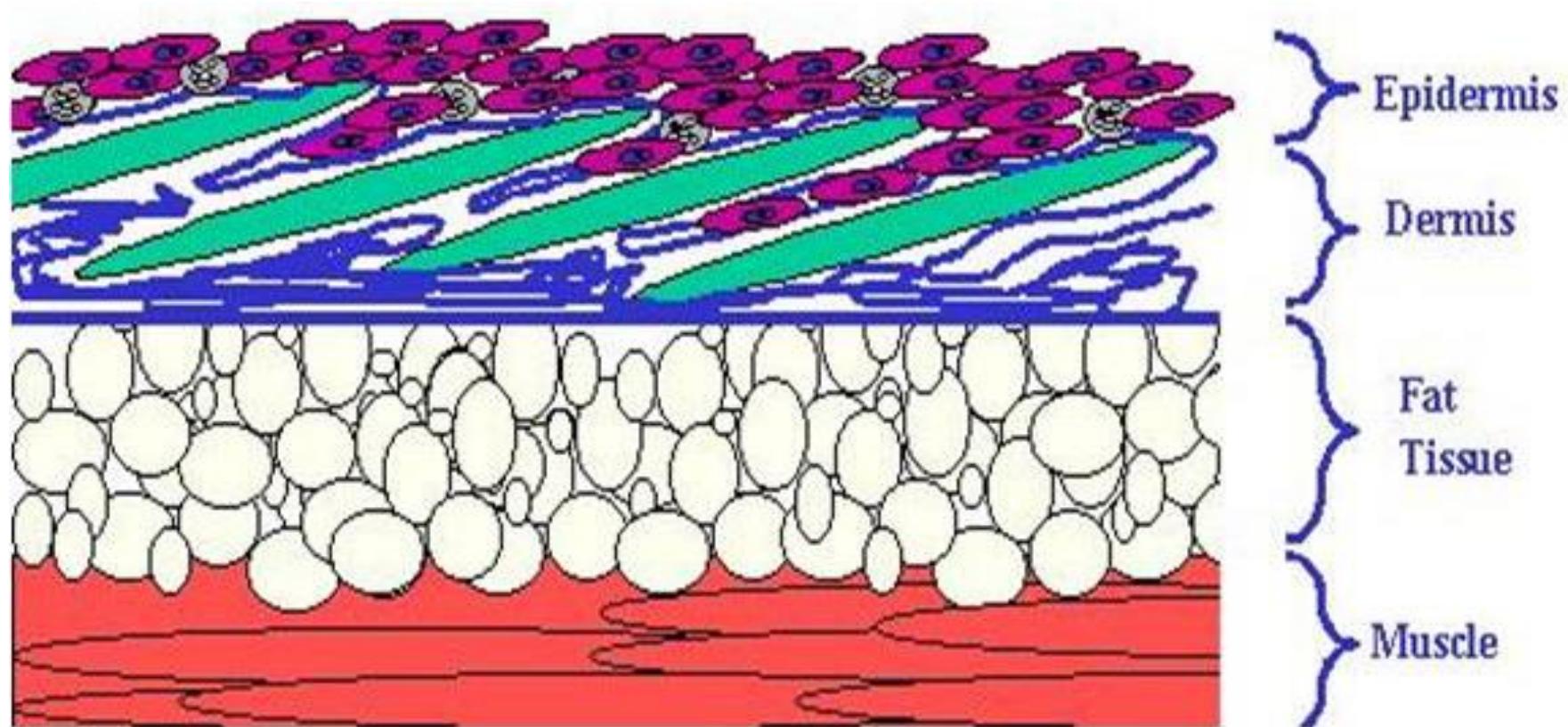
# UNIT 2: FUNCTIONAL ANAT. FISH.

- vi) *Eel-like fish*
  - A surprising number found in open ocean, so this body shape is useful for other purposes as well
  - E.g.s of this group are many eels (Anguilliformes), loaches (Cobitidae), & gunnels (Pholididae).

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales

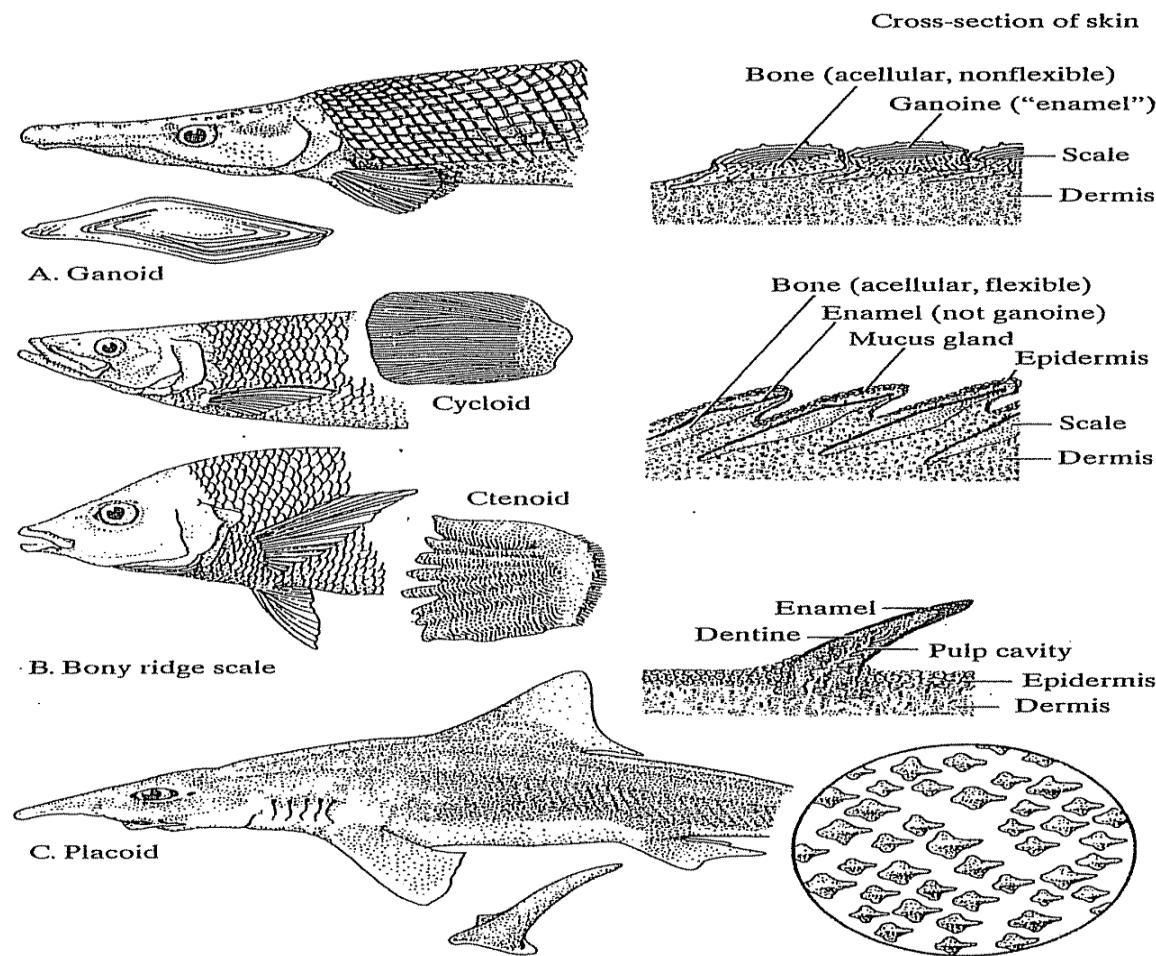
- Fish skin is structured into different layers:
  - an outer mucous layer of glycoproteins called mucins which protects it against *mechanical wear* & contains a number of *antimicrobial components*;..
  - the epidermis consists of mucosal cells & *keratocytes* & form the outermost layer;
  - the dermis provides the skin with *strength* & *elasticity*; it has *more blood vessels*, *strengthening fibres*, & *pigmented cells*; *scales originate from here*

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales



Structure of Fish Skin

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales

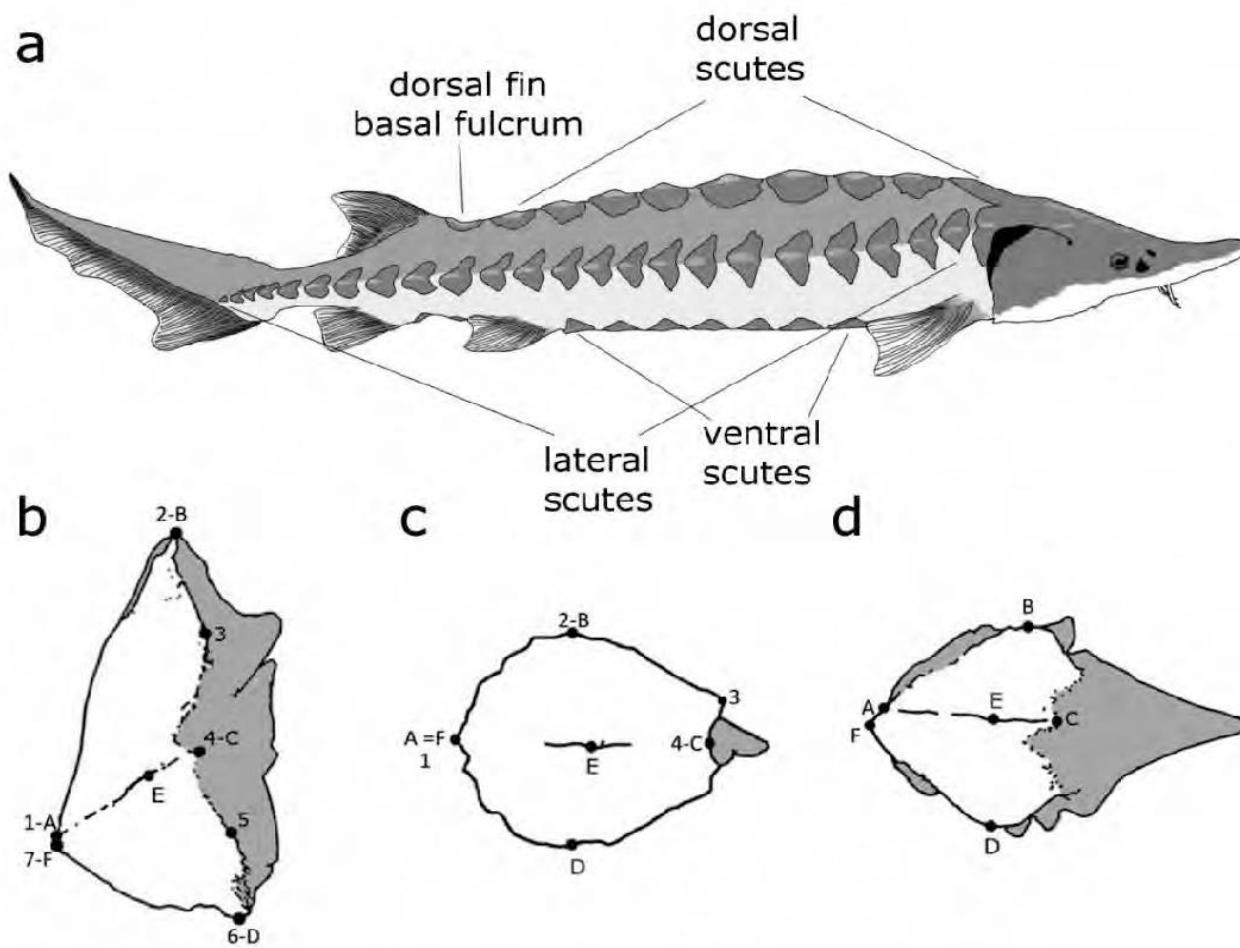


E.g.s of **ganoid** scales on gar, **cycloid** scales on sardine, **ctenoid** scales on snapper, & **placoid** scales on a shark.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales

- Some are covered by **scutes** instead of *scales* but others have just a few that are modified for other purposes....
- Such fish are by & large
  - bottom dwellers in moving water
  - fish that frequently hide in caves, crevices, & other tight places; or
  - fast-swimming pelagic fish

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales



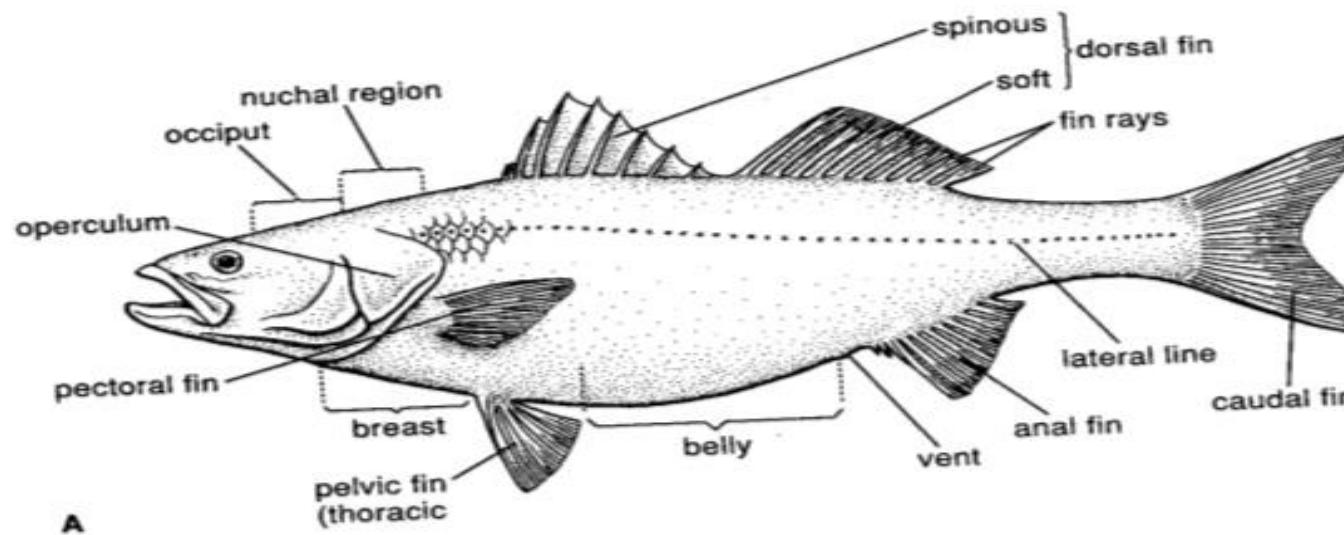
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: skin & scales

- Many that appear *scaleless* have a complete coating of deeply embedded scales e.g. most tunas, etc..
- Several bottom-oriented, slow moving fishes have large, modified scales or **bony plates** as armour.
- Most free-swimming fish are covered by scales that provide protection from predators but do not weigh them down.

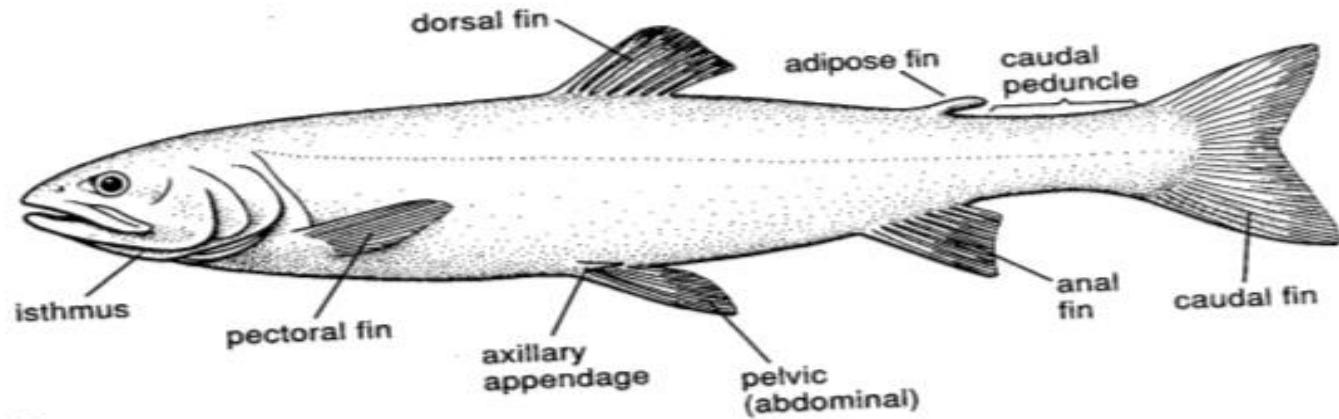
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins

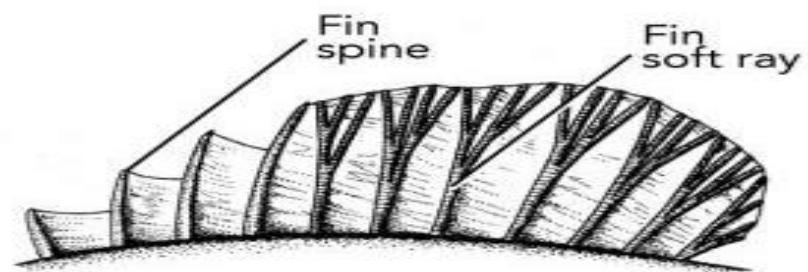
- Another key morphological feature of fishes are the **fins**.
- In fishes (cartilaginous & bony), fins are supported internally by sturdy **fin rays**...
- Chondrichthyes fin rays are called ***ceratotrichia*** & are fairly stiff, unbranched, & unsegmented but bony fish fin rays called ***lepidotrichia*** are flexible, segmented, & branched...

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins



A

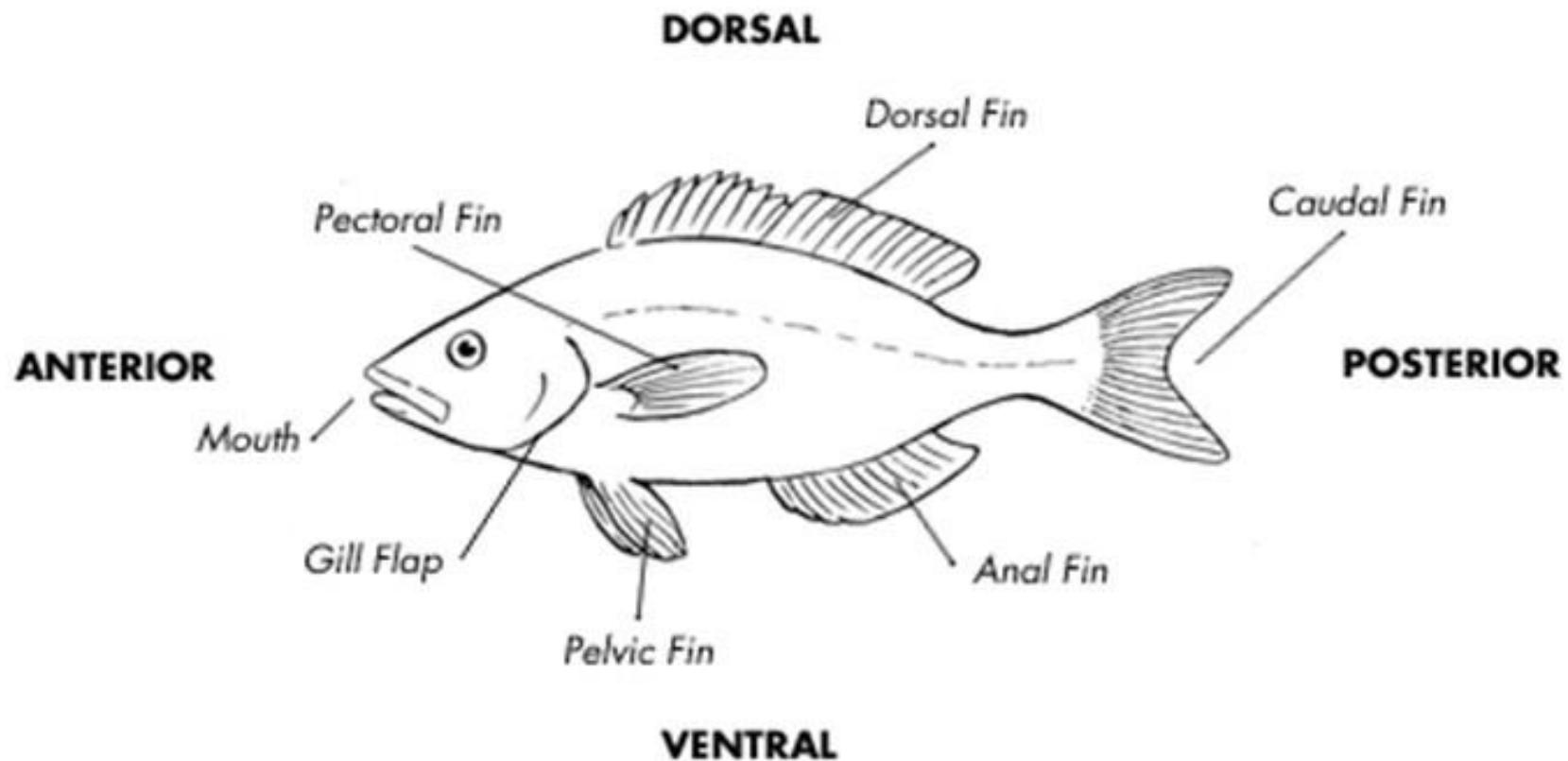




# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins

- Various combinations of location, size, & shape of fins are associated with the different **body shapes**.
- The **paired** fins (pectorals & pelvics) & the **unpaired fins** (dorsal, anal, caudal, & adipose) evolved together as a system that simultaneously,
  - propels,
  - stabilizes, &
  - helps fish to do manoeuvres...

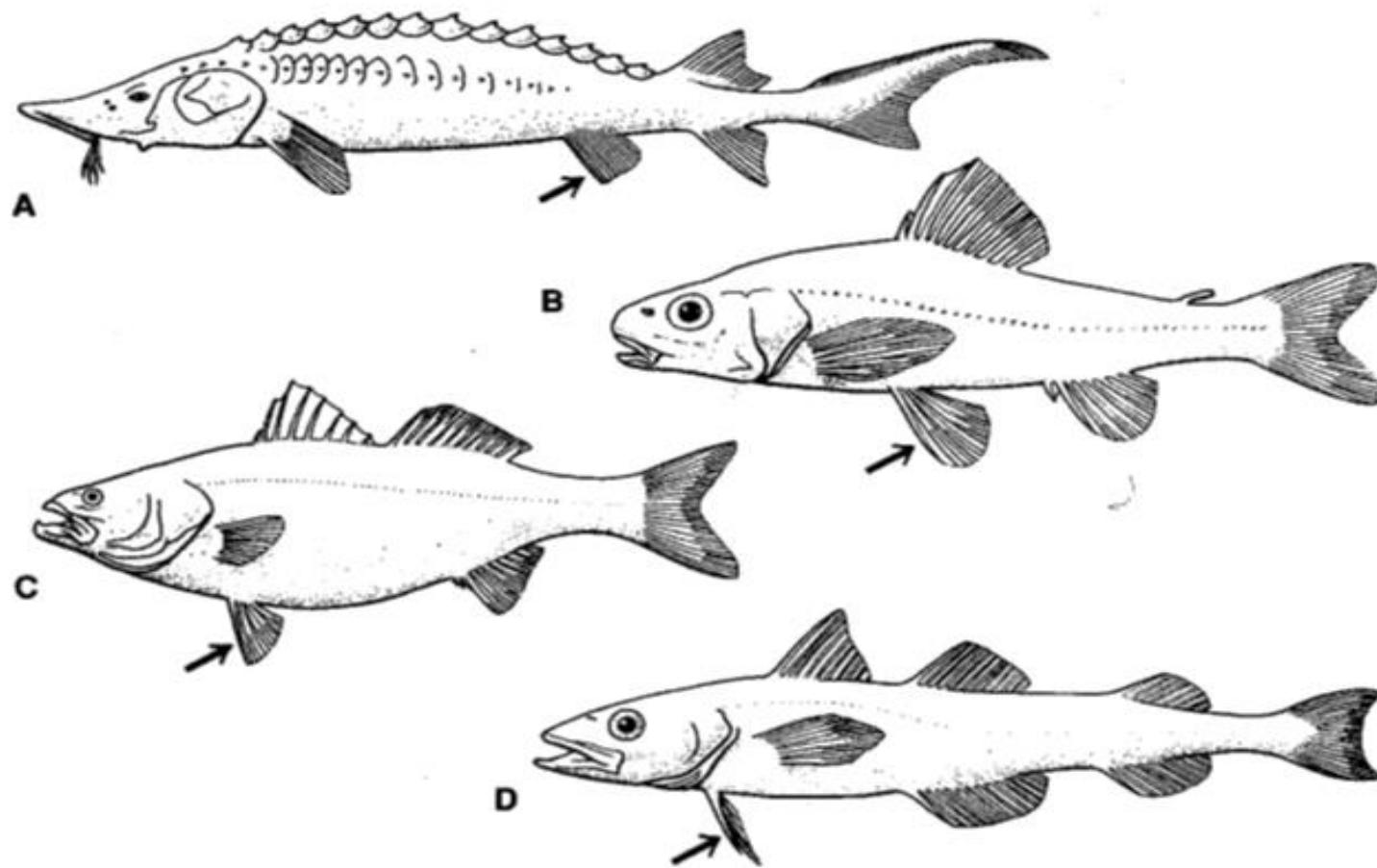
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pelvic

- The most variable of the fins in terms of position.
- In ancestral bony fishes & sharks (cartilaginous), pelvic fins are located ventrally, toward the rear of the fish (*abdominal position*)....
- Most of these fishes have rover-predator body shapes, & the fins assist in **steering & braking**.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pelvic



A= abdominal; B= subabdominal; C=thoracic; D= jugular

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pelvic

- In advance, deep-bodied **teleosts**, the pelvics are anterior, below pectoral fins (*thoracic position*) or may even be in front of pectorals (*jugular position*)...
- In eels & eel-like fish, they are absent or greatly reduced in size, so as to squeeze through tight places.
- In **bottom-dwelling** fish, they're frequently modified into organs for holding on to the substrate.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pectoral

- Generally located high up on sides of **deep-bodied** fish, which depend on precise mov't for picking prey from the bottom or water column.
- In **rover-predators**, these fins are more toward or below the midline of the fish.
- Very **fast-swimming** & **deep-bodied** fishes that picks prey from substrate they tend to be long & pointed.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pectoral

- Slower-moving rover-predators tend to have more rounded pectoral fins.
- Those of **bottom resting bony fishes** are broad, rounded, ventral in position, & spread out laterally.
- Enlarged pectoral fins are also used for gliding (flying fish) or, in many rays "flying" in the water.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - pectoral

- Some fishes use it mainly in **display**, to startle predators when opened or to signal predators (& conspecifics) to stay away from poisonous spines.
- They are rigid in sharks & can be moved but not collapsed serving basically as stabilizers.
-

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – dorsal & anal

- Are normally long on **rover-predators & deep-bodied** fish to provide stability while swimming...
- In fast-swimming pelagic fish e.g. tuna the rearmost parts are often broken up into numerous finlets.
- When swimming at high speed, the forward part of dorsal fin fold into a dorsal slot to reduce resistance.

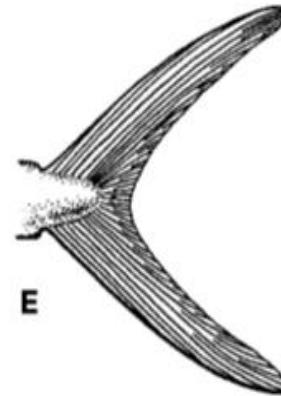
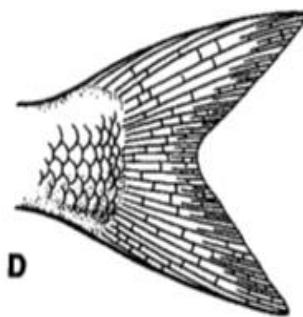
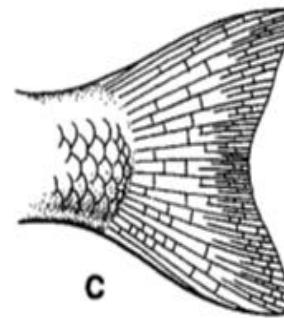
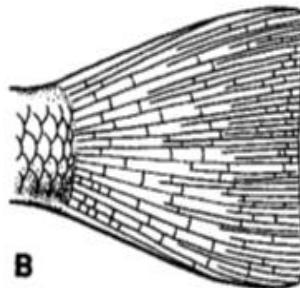
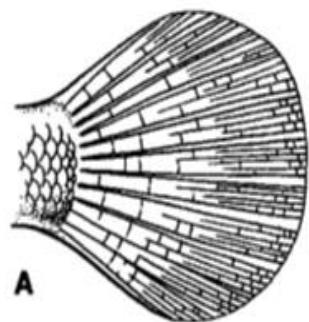
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - dorsal & anal

- Teleosts lacking this feature collapse dorsal & anal fins & fold back pectoral & pelvic fins when speeding
- Sharks don't have this way of reducing drag but, they are capable of swimming at high speeds.
- Eels have long dorsal & anal fins that run most of the body & may unite with the caudal fin & such arrangement is necessary for anguilliform mov't.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – caudal

- Have shapes strongly related to normal swimming speed of a fish...
- The tails of most bony fish are *homocercal*..., with upper & lower lobes being about the same size.
- Homocercal tails are of different types e.g. fastest-swimming fish have a stiff, quarter-moon-shaped fin (lunate) attached to a narrow caudal peduncle....

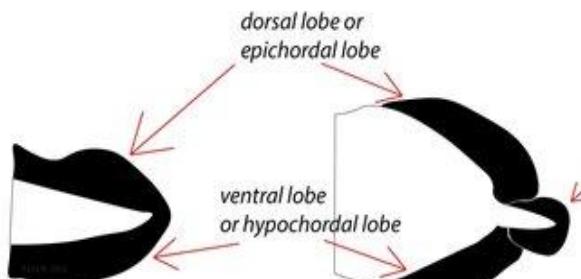
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – caudal



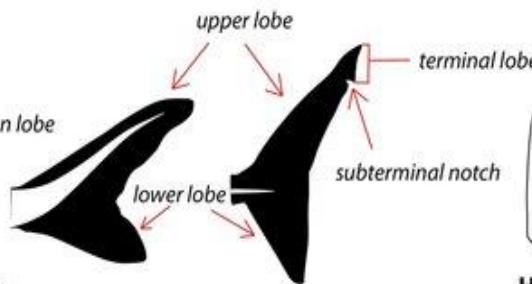
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – caudal

## CAUDAL FIN (TAIL FIN) TYPES

(THE QUICK REFERENCE FOR FISHES – SIMPLIFIED VERSION)



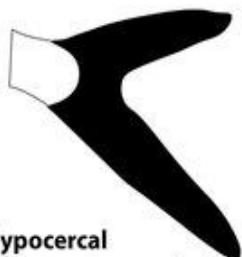
**Protocercal** (diphycercal)  
Primitive and undifferentiated;  
vertebrae extend to tip of  
tail symmetrically.  
(Lampreys, hagfishes, larvae  
of advanced teleosts).



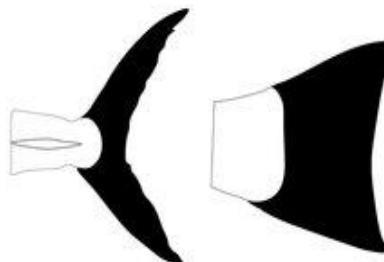
**Heterocercal** (unequal-lobed)  
Vertebrae extend into upper lobe.  
(Modern sharks and primitive  
bony fishes like sturgeon).



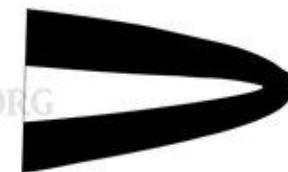
**Hemihomocercal** (abbreviated homocercal)  
An intermediate between  
heterocercal and homocercal.  
(*Amia calva* - bowfin; also in gar)



**Hypocercal**  
Expresses asymmetry internally  
and externally; ventral lobe longer  
(*Cyprinodon*, flying fishes).  
Different than **reversed heterocercal**  
where vertebrae extend into ventral lobe.



**Homocercal** (equal-lobed)  
Exists in most advanced teleosts;  
expresses asymmetry internally but  
symmetry externally; so can be  
considered abbreviated heterocercal.



**Isocercal**  
Resembles protocercal tails  
but retains asymmetrical internal  
structure of homocercal tails.  
(Gadidae, Notopteridae, Gymnarchidae, Macruridae, Anguilliformes)



**Gephyrcercal**  
The clavus is the hardened bridge  
between anal and dorsal fins. Highly  
advanced; found in molaids (molas/  
ocean sunfishes); no caudal bones.

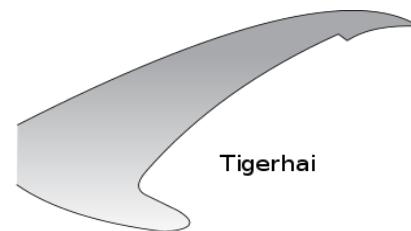
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# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – caudal

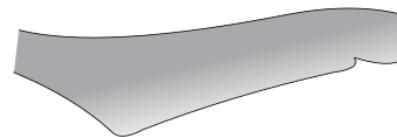
- Fish whose survival depends on frequent, sustained swimming have forked tails, with the deepest forks occurring on the most active fish...
- **Deep-bodied** fish, most **surface**, & **bottom** fish have square, rounded, or only slightly forked tails...
- When a homocercal tail lacks well-defined lobes, it is referred to as *isocercal*....

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – caudal

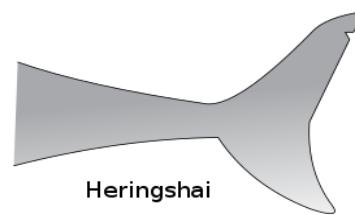
- Chondrichthyes usually have *heterocercal* tails, with the upper lobe being longer than the lower one....
- In homocercal tails, the vertebral column ends in modified vertebrae that support the fan-like tail...
- In heterocercal tails, the vertebral column actually extends into the upper lobe of the tail....



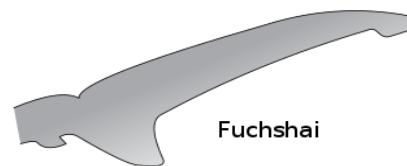
Tigerhai



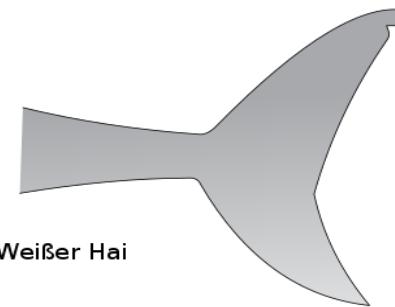
Ammenhai



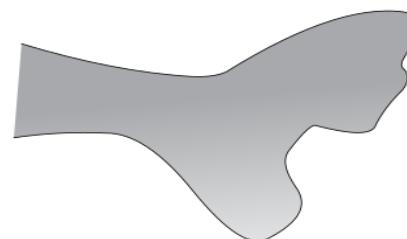
Heringhai



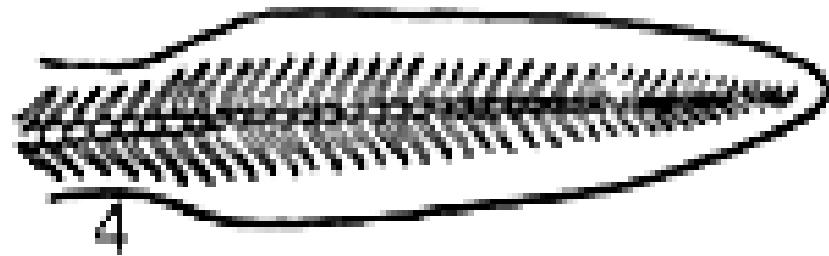
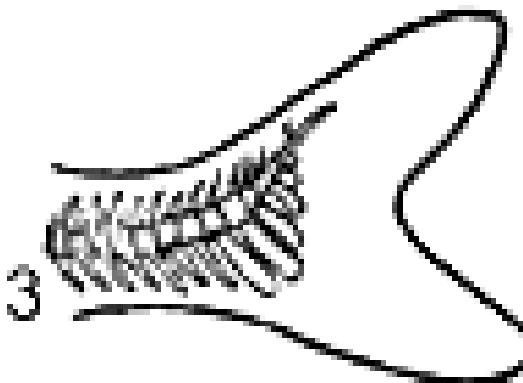
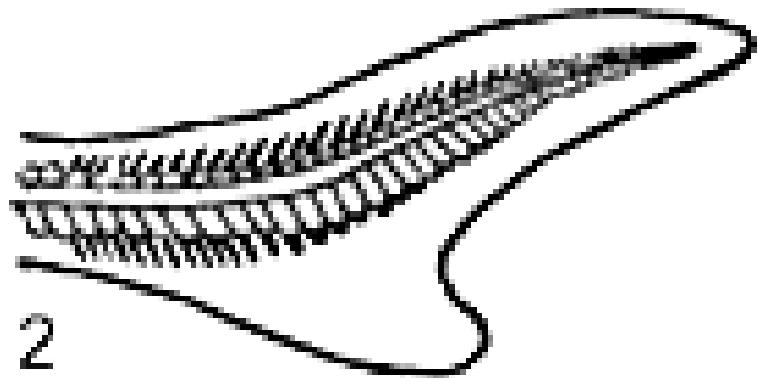
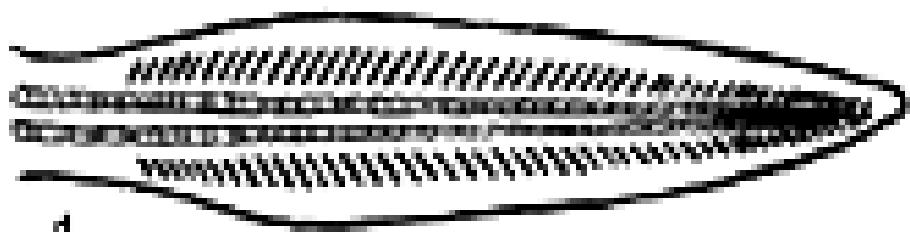
Fuchshai



Weißen Hai



Zigarrenhai



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – adipose

- Is a fleshy, dorsal appendage between dorsal & caudal fins in some fishes.
- Its small size & lack of stiffening rays make its function a mystery..
- It may function in fish swimming during post-larval stage of dev't, when other fins are poorly developed.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – rays & spines

- Fish fins also show the presence or absence of *spines* on the dorsal, anal, & pectoral fins...
- In spiny-finned teleosts (Acanthopterygii), spines are solid bony structures without any segmentation, unbranched & round in cross-section.
- Others have stiffened, thickened rays, which are segmented, dumbbell-shaped in cross-section, & often branched.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – rays & spines

- Spines are an effective & lightweight means of protection against predators regardless of structure.
- *Dorsal, pectoral, & opercular* spines are often located at the fish's centre of mass, the usual target point of piscivorous fish.
- Spines are uncomfortable for a predator to bite on, & greatly increase the effective size of a small fish.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins – rays & spines

- Once the *dorsal*, *anal*, & *pectoral* spines are locked into place, the fish can be grabbed only by a predator that can get its mouth around the spines.
- By increasing its effective size through spines, a small fish reduces the number of predators that can eat it.
- So, well-developed spines are found mainly in small to medium-sized fishes that forage for their food.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: fins - rays & spines

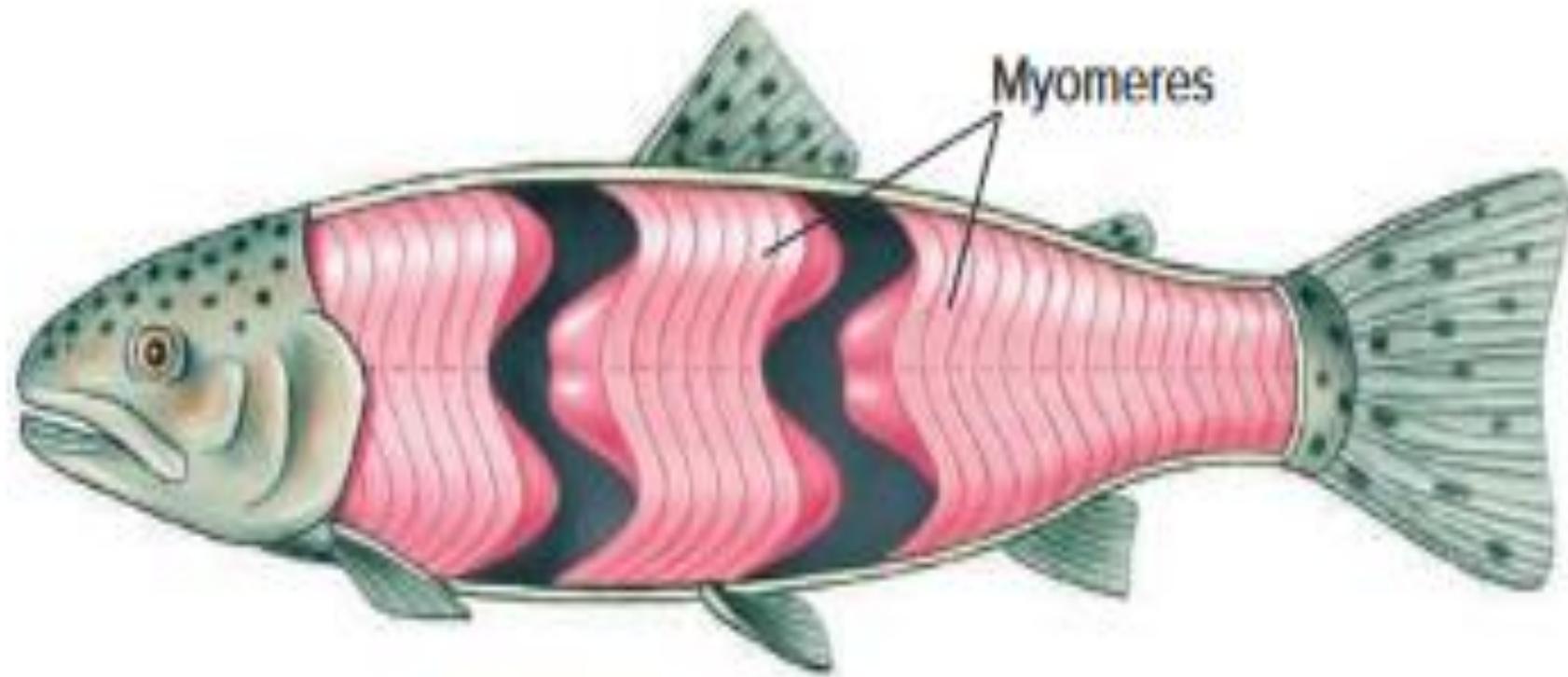
- Also, many spines have *poison glands* associated with them e.g. scorpionfish, some catfish, & stingrays.



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- The large muscles of the body & tail comprise the majority of the body mass of a fish.
- Body muscles are divided vertically along the body into sections called the *myomeres* or *myotomes* separated by sheets of connective tissue....
- The myomeres are W-shaped on its side, so that they fit into one another like a series of cones....

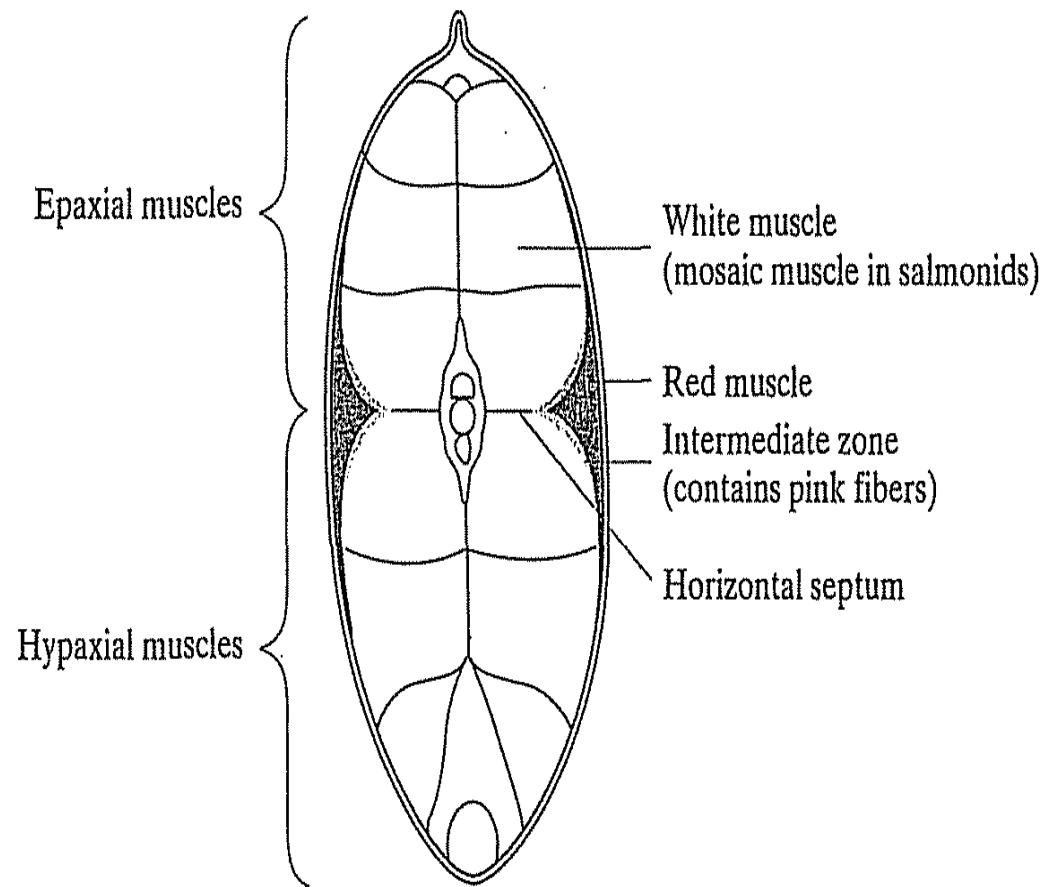
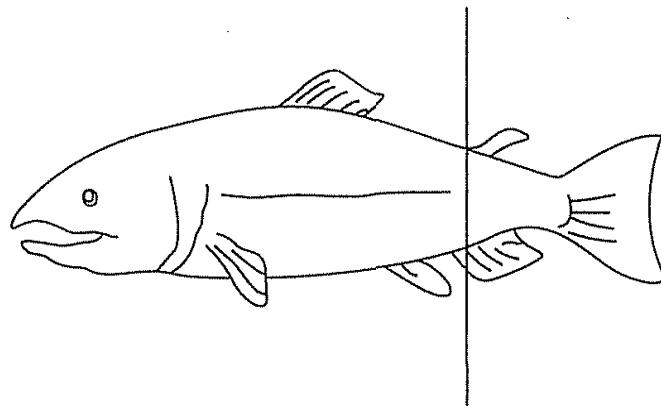
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- The myomeres on the right & left halves of the body are separated by a vertical septum...
- A horizontal septum separates the muscle masses on the **upper & lower** halves of the body.
- The upper muscles are called the *epaxial muscles* & the lower muscles the *hypaxial muscles*...
-

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- Fish muscles are generally of 3 types – skeletal, smooth, & cardiac or heart.
- In the locomotory system, fish muscles can often be divided into red, white, & pink ....
- ***Red muscles*** are capillaries-rich & appears red due to high levels of red, O<sub>2</sub>-binding haemoglobin & in the muscle tissue itself, myoglobin.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- *High capillary density & pigments* ensure red muscle receives adequate O<sub>2</sub> for its mitochondria to digest fat to sustain high continuous (*aerobic*) swimming.
- Hence, in continuously active fish, a large proportion of their muscle mass is red muscle.
- Fish of "intermediate" activity have the lateral band of muscles, which is always red in colour & well developed.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- These fishes may also have red muscle fibres within white muscle that makes up most of the body mass.
- In some cases, the position of the red bands within the body also reflects swimming ability.
- E.g. the fastest-swimming fishes e.g. tunas carry red muscles deep within body core to aid the stiff-body & permits conservation of metabolic heat for faster muscular contractions & higher swimming velocities.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- At low temperatures, red muscle shows **increased:**
  - capillary densities (enhancing blood flow through muscle tissues),
  - cellular mitochondrial densities (increasing aerobic potential), &
  - lipid droplet densities (which may accelerate O<sub>2</sub> flux via increased O<sub>2</sub> solubility)
- These help maintain swimming speeds during slowed metabolic & chemical processes at low temperatures.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- *White muscle* fibres are
  - thicker than that of red muscles,
  - have a poorer blood supply, &
  - lack red, O<sub>2</sub>-carrying pigments such as myoglobin..
- Their contraction isn't dependent on O<sub>2</sub> supply.
- They usually converts glycogen to lactate via anaerobic pathways.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- White muscle is most useful for short bursts of swimming & dominates muscle mass of moderately active to "sluggish" swimmers.
- *Pink muscles* fibres are intermediate in nature to white & red muscles & is typically used at swimming velocities too high for red muscle to sustain but too low for the effective use of white muscle.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: muscular system

- In some fish, pink muscle is used in a similar manner to red muscle at slow velocities whereas in other fish, it is used for swimming at fairly high velocities.
- Hence, swimming power of a fish rarely is strictly a matter of red & white-or even pink.
- The different kinds of muscle fibres are typically used in concert as fish change swimming speed.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: locomotion

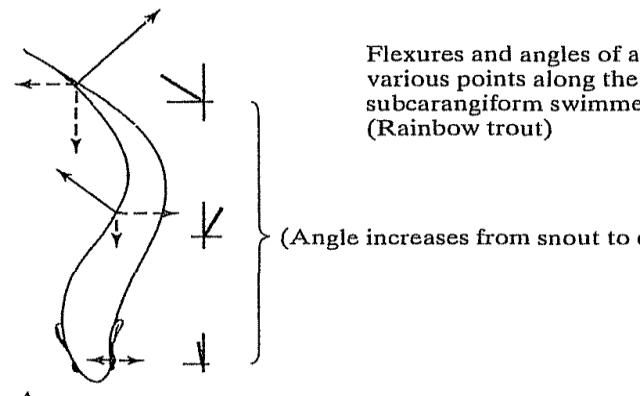
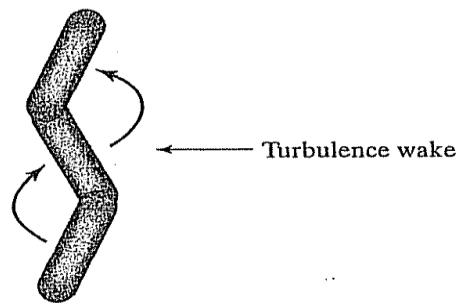
- Fish move by a variety of means –
  - simplest is **passive** drift of many larval forms,
  - but drifters quickly change into forms capable of **active**, directed mov't.
- Fishes have evolved abilities to burrow, walk, crawl, climb, glide, & leap, or even fly, but **swimming** is by far the most important means of locomotion.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: locomotion

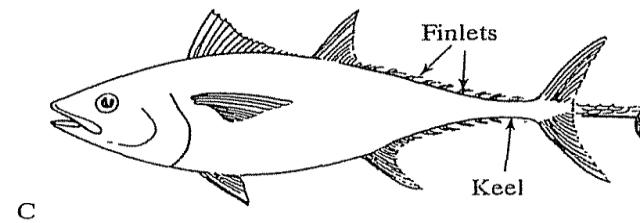
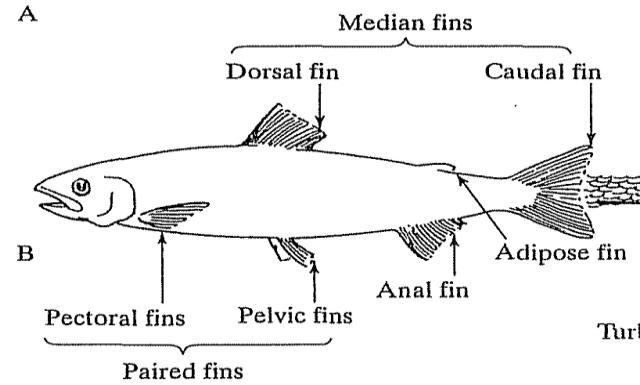
- Swimming involve rhythmic undulations, oscillations of part or all of a fish **body** or **fins**.
- Sideways/lateral flexures of the body muscles/fins at the appropriate angle of attack propels a fish forward
- Body movt involves alternate contraction & relaxation of **myomeres** on the sides a fish resulting in the body pushing back the water & moving forward.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: locomotion

- As this propulsive wave/flexure moves backwards, the water adjacent to the fish is pushed backward & is shed at the caudal fin pushing it forward.
- The greater the undulatory or oscillatory waves, the more power the fish can generate.
- If **drag** on body is held constant, fish that generate more power, accelerate more quickly & swim faster.



Flexures and angles of a various points along the subcarangiform swimmer (Rainbow trout)



# Unit 2: Functional anat.: locomotion

- Variations in this basic swimming approach of fishes exists & result in the dev't of a general classification of swimming modes/types.
- The key features of each type is how much of & which parts of the body are involved in propulsion & whether the body or the fins undulate or oscillate.
- 4 basic swimming types & their modifications- fins alone, anguilliform, carangiform, & ostraciform.

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: form & movt

## LOCOMOTION BY TRUNK AND TAIL

|                         | <b>Anguilliform</b>     | <b>Subcarangiform</b>  | <b>Carangiform</b>                             | <b>Thunniform</b>  | <b>Ostraciform</b>              |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Examples</b>         | Eels,<br>dogfishes, etc | Salmon, trout,<br>cod  | Jacks, herrings                                | Tunas,<br>billfish | Torpedo rays,<br>elephantfishes |
| <b>Propulsive force</b> | Most of body            | Posterior half of body | Caudal region                                  | Caudal region      | Caudal peduncle                 |
| <b>Propulsive form</b>  | Undulation              | Undulation             | Oscillation<br>(limited to caudal tail region) | Undulation         | Oscillation                     |
| <b>Max. speed</b>       | Slow-moderate           | Moderate               | Fast   | Very fast          | Slow                            |
| <b>Body shape</b>       | Elongate                | Fusiform               | Variable                                       |                    |                                 |

# Unit 2: Functional anat.: form & movt

## LOCOMOTION BY FIN ALONE

|                  | Tetraodontiform /balistiform      | Rajiform     | Amiiform              | Gymnotiform  | Labriform                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Examples         | Triggerfishes,<br>ocean sunfishes | Skates, rays | Bowfins,<br>seahorses | Knife-fishes | Wrasses,<br>parrotfishes |
| Propulsive force | Dorsal & anal<br>(flap)           | Pectoral     | Dorsal                | Anal         | Pectoral<br>(row)        |
| Propulsive form  | Oscillation                       | Undulation   | Undulation            | Undulation   | Oscillation              |
| Max. speed       | Slow                              | Slow         | Slow                  | Slow         | Slow                     |

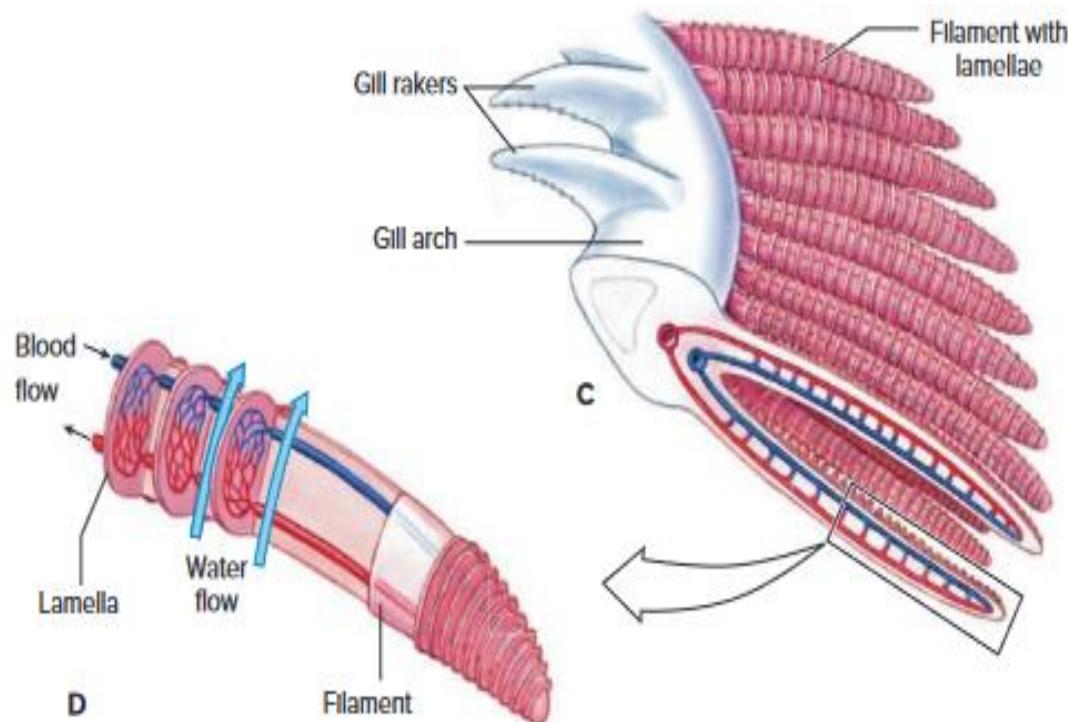
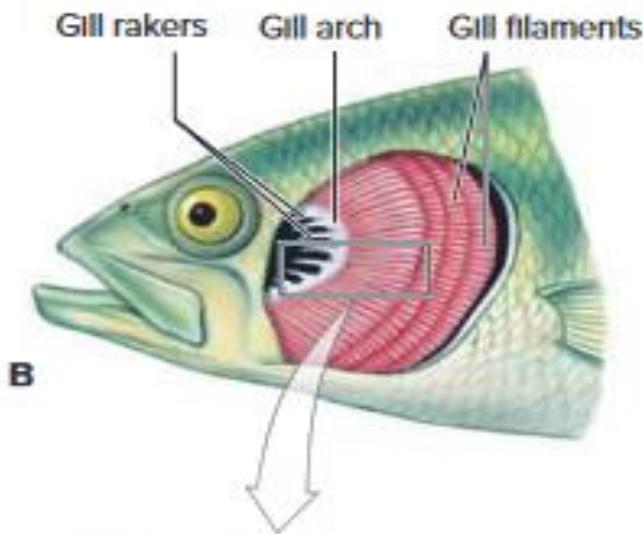
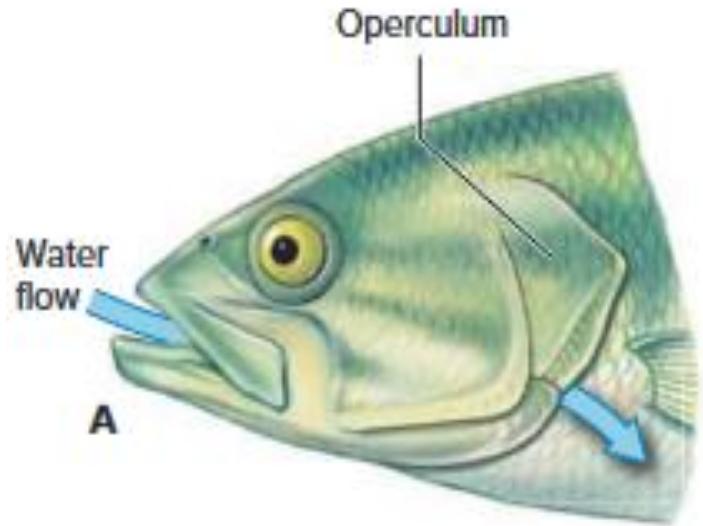
# Unit 2: Functional anat.: locomotion

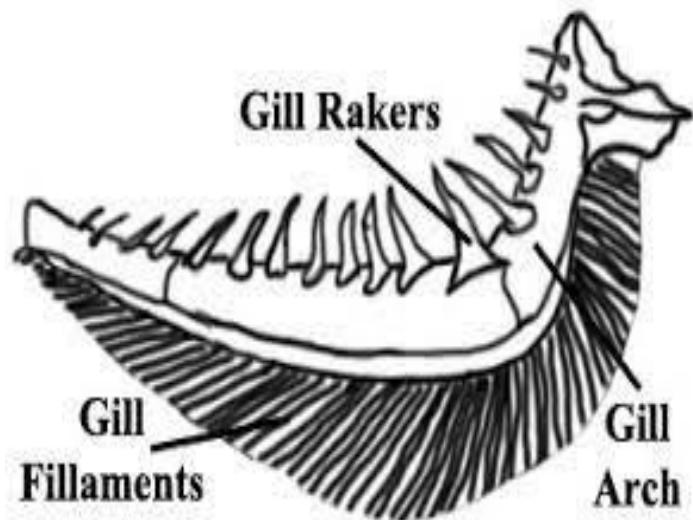
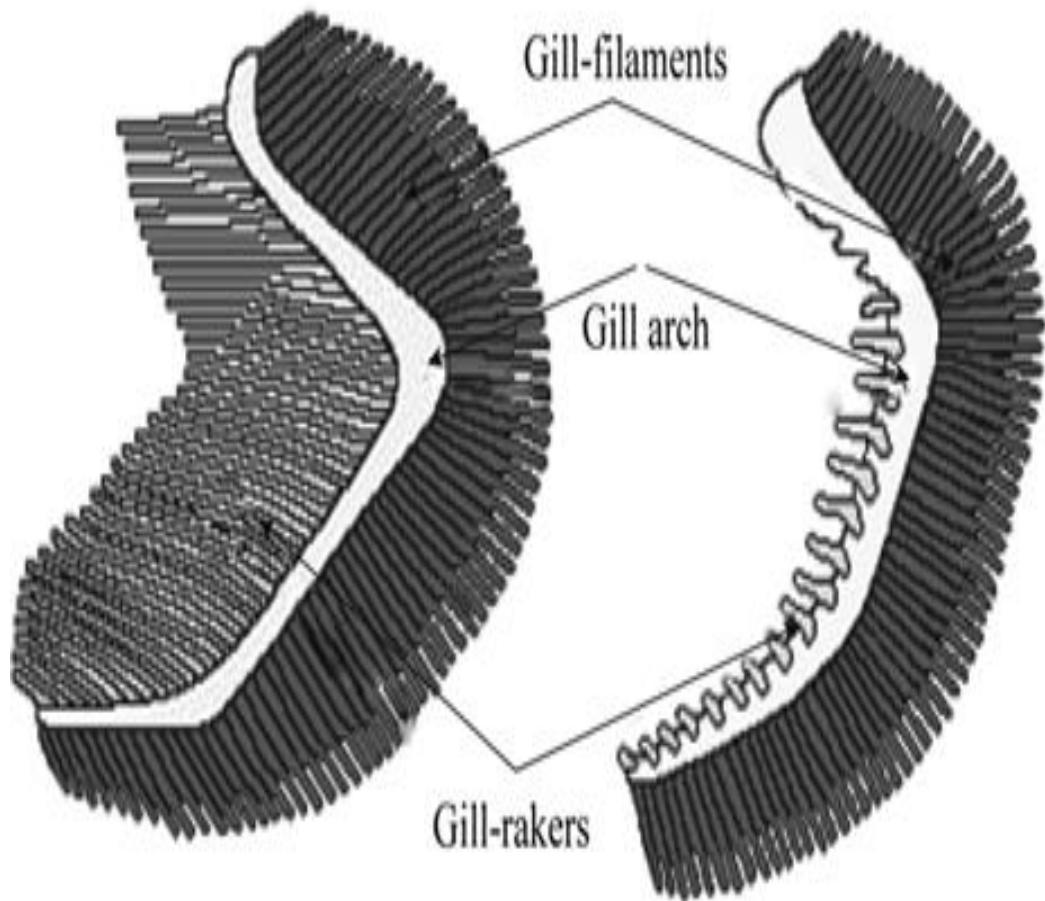
- Despite these variations in locomotion, most fishes are *locomotor generalists* rather than *locomotor specialists*.
- Many switch between modes depending on whether fast or slow swimming or hovering is needed.

# Unit 2, 2: Ventilation & Respiration in Fishes

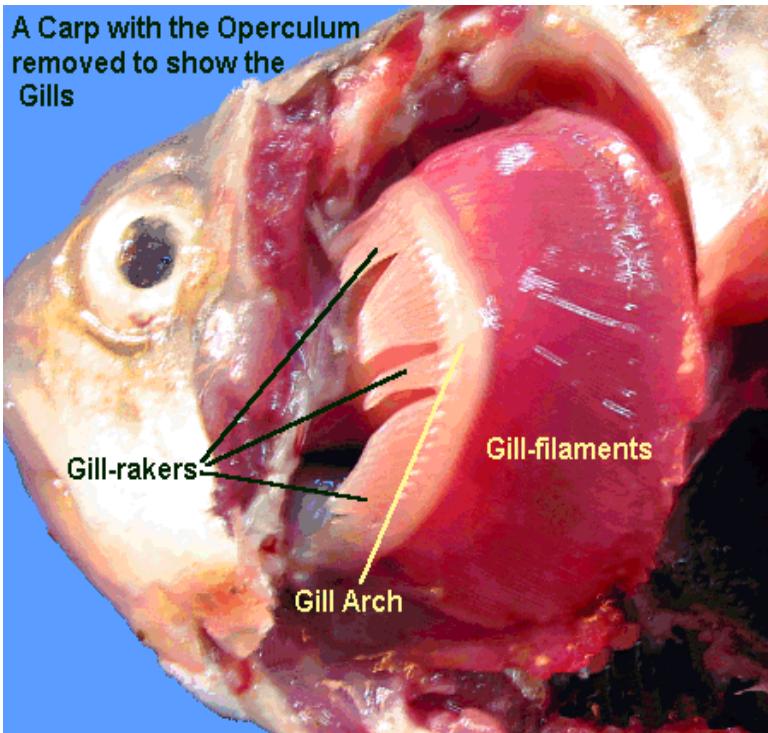
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- Water as a respiratory env't.
  - The challenges of acquiring O<sub>2</sub> from water
- **Aquatic breathing**
  - Structure of the **gill** - main respiratory organ (located in the pharyngeal/branchial cavity) ...
- **Features of the gill**
  - large surface area,
  - thin epithelia membranes of 2° lamellae,
  - flow of blood in 2° lamellae in the opposite direction of water flow in the gills – *countercurrent flow*.





A Carp with the Operculum removed to show the Gills



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- Efficient functioning of gills – anterior-posterior flow
  - **gill pumping mechanism**
  - **ram ventilation**
- Ventilation in Agnathans
- **Hagfishes** use a muscular, scroll-like flap or *velum* to move water in through a single nostril & over the gills
- **Lampreys** expand & contract branchial area causing water to flow in & out through multiple gill openings

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- **Air-breathing fishes**

- Most are bimodal breathers
  - **facultative**
  - **obligate** (aquatic surface respiration)
  - **amphibious** air breathers
- Air-breathing organs of fishes are of 3 categories
  - those derived from the **gut** e.g. lungs, gas bladder, stomach, intestine;
  - structures of the **head & pharynx** e.g. gill modifications (labyrinth organ & respiratory tree), mouth, pharynx, etc
  - well vascularized **skin** (cutaneous)

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- **Aquatic cutaneous respiration**
  - Any thin surface in contact with the respiratory medium is a potential site of gas exchange.
  - So skin respiration is important in fishes with well-vascularized skins e.g. young fish with immature gills.
  - Most juvenile & adult fishes use the skin for some aquatic gas exchange but early life-history stages e.g. larvae use it almost exclusively for respiration.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- **Aquatic cutaneous respiration (cont)**
  - Significant cutaneous respiration have also been found in some adult fishes.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

## • Gas Transport

- Fish RBCs have *haemoglobin*, an O<sub>2</sub>-carrying protein that increases overall capacity of the blood to transport it.
- Fishes with higher affinities for haemoglobin are better adapted to low O<sub>2</sub> env'ts & vice versa.
- Different haemoglobins also show different sensitivities to temperature & pH.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- **Gas Transport (cont)**

- Also, blood takes up the CO<sub>2</sub> produced in cellular metabolism & transport it back to the gills for release to the env't.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- **Metabolic rate**
  - Definition.
  - rate of O<sub>2</sub> use as an index of aerobic metabolic rate assuming no significant anaerobic metabolism.
  - Factors that influence metabolic rate of fishes
    - **age, reproductive status, food in the gut, physiological stress, env'tal temperature, level of activity, season, etc**

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: ventilation & respiration

- Metabolic rate (cont)
  - Standard & routine metabolic rates.
  - Metabolic scope & its significance.
  - O<sub>2</sub> use vs temperature & swimming velocity.
  - Potential underestimate of true metabolic cost at high speeds due to use of anaerobic respiration of muscles during high speed swimming.

# Unit 2, 3: Blood Circulation in Fishes

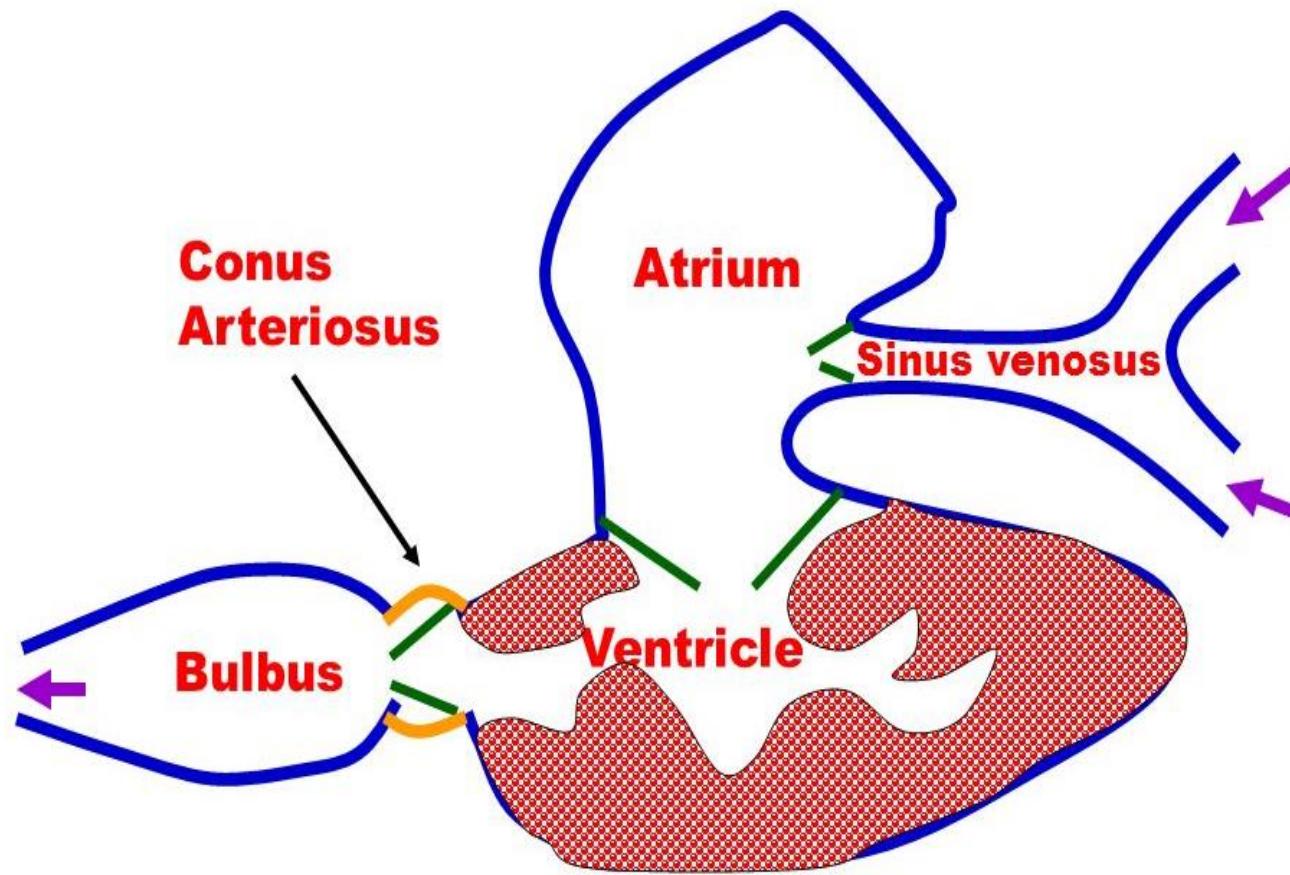
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system

- Have a **closed** circulatory system.
- It consists of a single heart as a pump which lines up with the *branchial* (gill) & *systemic* (body) capillary beds connected by arteries & veins.
- The **main role** of the circulatory system is to transport: *respiratory gases, nutrients, metabolic waste products, endocrine factors, heat, etc*

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system

- The structure of a fish's heart...
- Sequential arrangement of the heart chamber.
  - *sinus venosus* - thin-walled sac with some cardiac muscle collects deoxygenated blood from body from incoming hepatic & cardinal veins & directed to atrium through the *sinoatrial valve*.
  - *atrium* is a thick-walled, muscular chamber sends blood to the more thicker-walled ventricle via the *atrioventricular valve*.

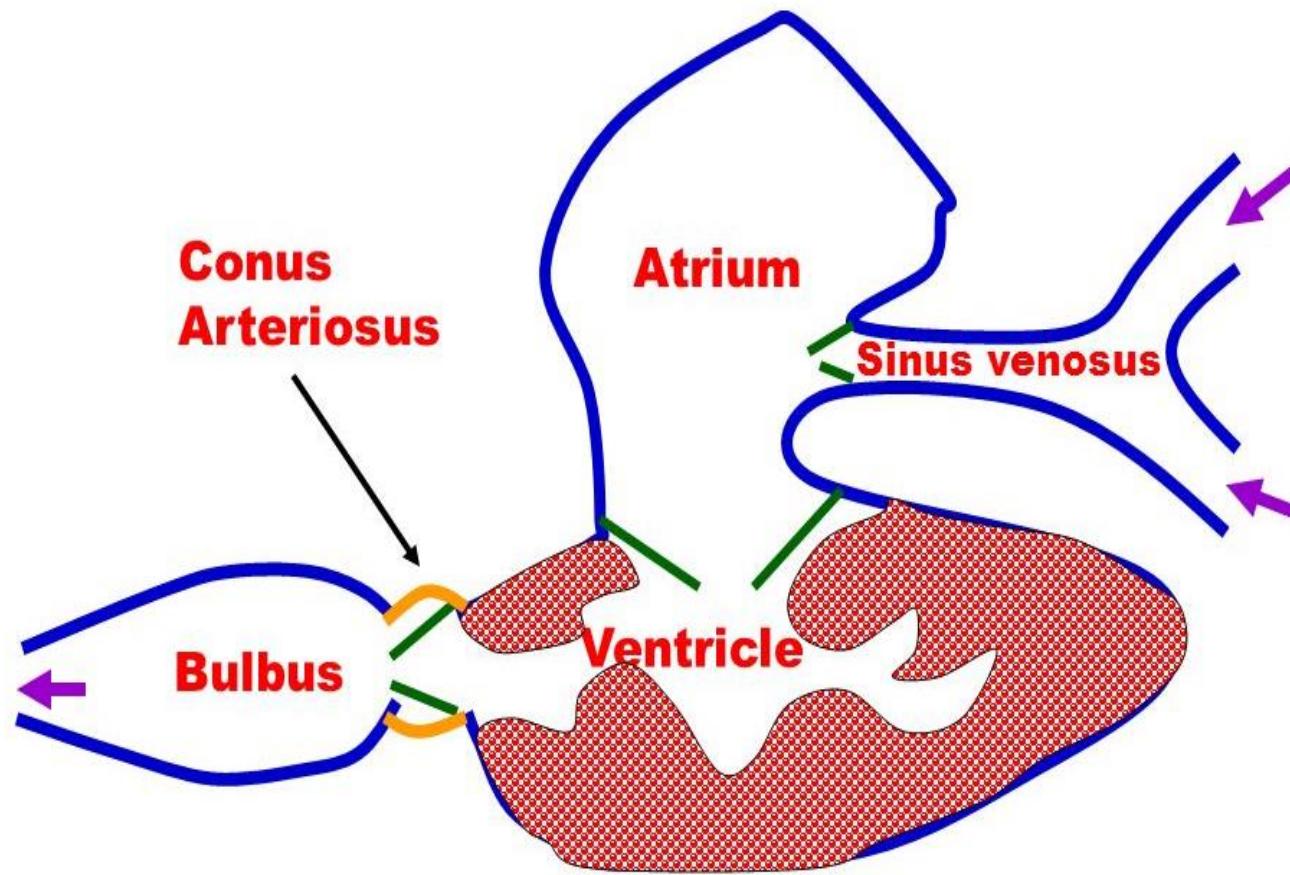
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system

- Sequential arrangement of the heart chamber.
  - ventricle pumps blood to the 4<sup>th</sup> part (outflow tract)
- It is made of 2 muscle layers:
  - a dense *cortex* that receives O<sub>2</sub> & nutrients from the coronary artery (compact myocardium) & is well developed in active fishes, &
  - the *spongy myocardium* consisting of a spongy mesh supplied with O<sub>2</sub> & nutrients by the venous blood that it pumps...

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: circulatory system

- Sequential arrangement of the heart chamber.
- d). outflow tract (OFT) – enters the ventral aorta & consists of the tubular *conus arteriosus* (elasmobranchs, lampreys, hagfishes, & holosteans), *bulbus arteriosus* (teleosts) or both...
- OFT doesn't increase acceleration of blood but acts as elastic chamber dampening pressure pulses & intermittent flow from the ventricle into a more continuous flow to the ventral aorta & the gills.

# Unit 2, 4: Feeding & Digestion in Fishes

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

- Fish feeding habit – definition.
- Evolution of jaws & its impact on feeding.
  - mov't from passive-feeding to predation
  - dev't of necessary adaptations for predation e.g. stronger muscles, faster mov't, better balance, etc
- Thus feeding behaviour shape much of a fish's life,

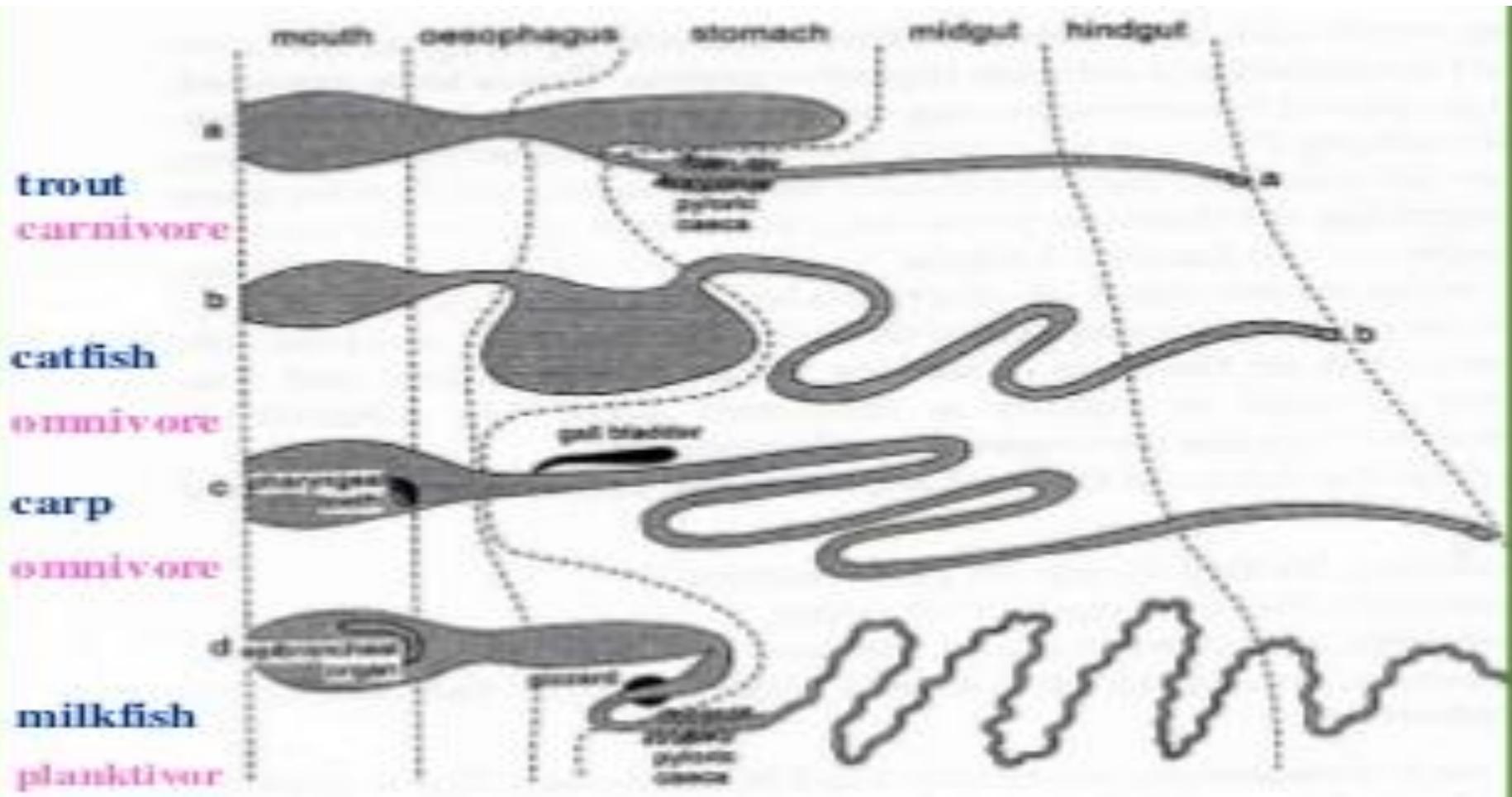
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

- Fish be grouped according to the materials they habitually eat into 5 types:
  - **carnivores** – feed exclusively on animal matter;
  - **herbivores** – feed exclusively on plant materials;
  - **omnivores** – feed on both plants & animals matter;
  - **planktivores** – feed on plankton;
  - **detritivores** – feed on decaying matter
- Food availability determines what is eaten by a fish & most fishes are highly adaptable in feeding habits.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

|   | Carnivores <sup>1</sup>                    | Herbivores <sup>2</sup> | Omnivores <sup>3</sup>                | Planktivores <sup>4</sup>       | Detritivores <sup>5</sup>        |
|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Digestive tract;<br/>Relative gut length</b> | Short; < 1                                 | Very long; >3           | Between carnivores & herbivores; 1- 3 | Long, similar to herbivores; >3 | Long, similar to herbivores; >3  |
| <b>Mouth</b>                                    | Large terminal or sub-terminal             | Small inferior          | Variable                              | Small                           | Inferior                         |
| <b>Teeth type</b>                               | Well-developed for grasping & biting       | Rasping & nipping       | Variable                              | No teeth except pharyngeal ones | Varied                           |
| <b>Gill rakers devt</b>                         | Absent or if present short & widely spaced | Short & widely spaced   | Variable depends on primary food      | Fine & tightly spaced           | Variable depends on primary food |

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

|                            | Carnivores <sup>1</sup> | Herbivores <sup>2</sup>   | Omnivores <sup>3</sup>    | Planktivores <sup>4</sup> | Detritivores <sup>5</sup>  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Stomach</b>             | Large & well developed  | Generally absent          | Shorter than carnivores   | Absent or small           | Small & muscular or absent |
| <b>Pyloric caeca</b>       | Present                 | Absent or greatly reduced | Absent or greatly reduced | Absent or greatly reduced | Present                    |
| <b>Length of intestine</b> | Short & straight        | Long & coiled             | Variable                  | Long & coiled             | Long & coiled              |
| <b>Feeding range</b>       | Stenophagic             | Stenophagic               | Euryphagic                | Stenophagic               | Stenophagic - euryphagic   |
|                            |                         |                           |                           |                           |                            |

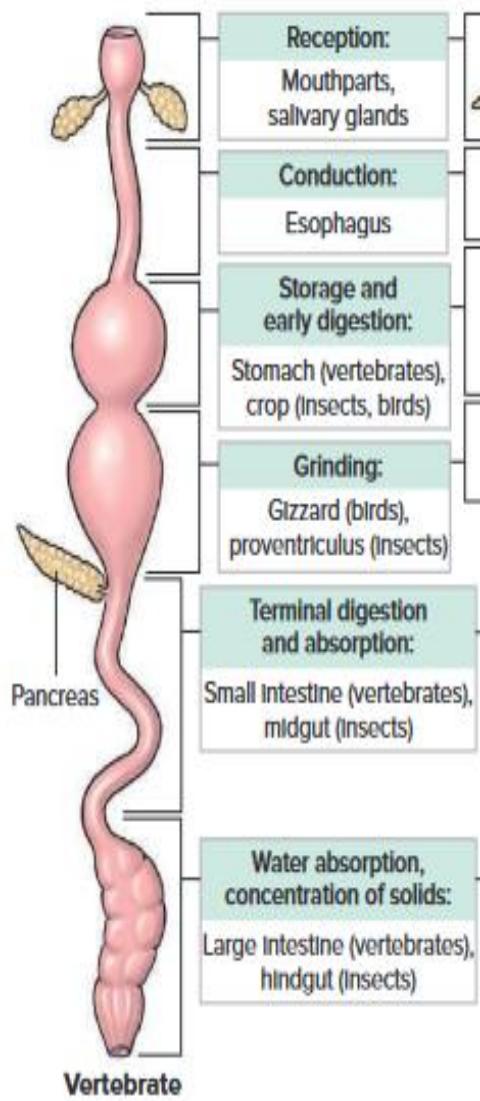
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

- Another classification of feeding behaviour is based on the manner of feeding:
  - **predators** – feed on big animals;
  - **grazers** – feed on bottom organisms/selected plankton;
  - **strainers** – filter organisms mainly plankton, & crustaceans;
  - **suckers** – suck in mud or food-containing material to obtain food;
  - **parasites** – by sucking body fluids of their host.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

- Food availability determines largely what a fish will eat with most fishes been highly adaptable in feeding habits with majority been *euryphagous*.
- Have complete alimentary canal like other vertebrates consisting of *mouth*, *buccal cavity*, *pharynx* (head gut), *oesophagus*, *stomach* (foregut), *intestine* (with *pyloric caeca* & related organs e.g. liver, gall bladder, pancreas – mid gut), *large intestines*, *rectum* & *anus* (hind gut)...

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion



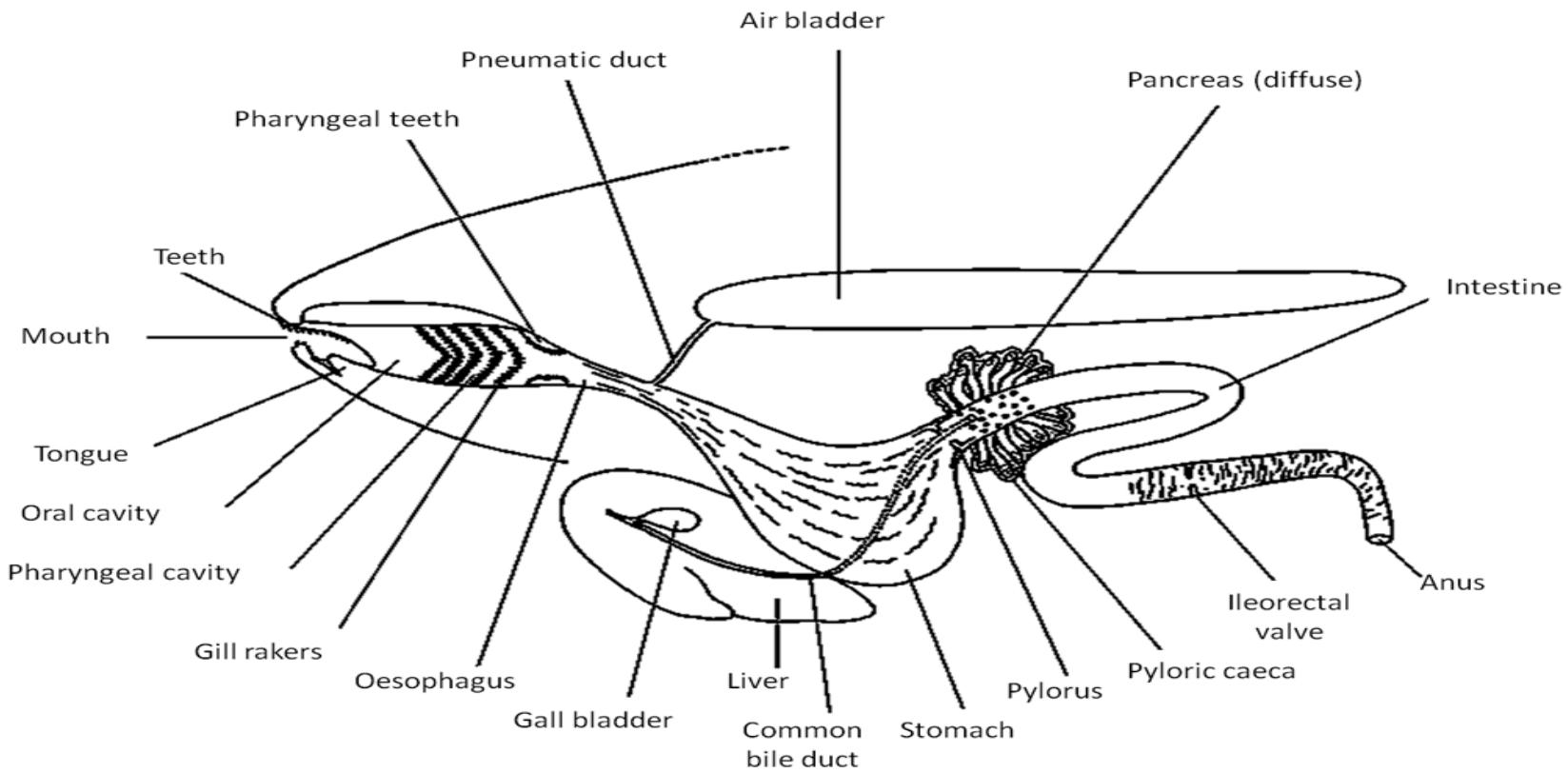
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

|       | Head gut  | Foregut  | Mid gut   | Hind gut   |
|-------|---|--|---|--|
| Parts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <u>Mouth</u> &amp; <u>buccal cavity</u></li><li>- <u>Gills</u> (branchial or pharyngeal cavity)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <u>Oesophagus</u></li><li>- <u>Stomach</u></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <u>Small intestine</u></li><li>- <u>Pyloric caeca</u></li><li>- liver, gall bladder, pancreas</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <u>Large intestine</u></li><li>- <u>Rectum</u></li><li>- <u>Anus</u></li></ul> |
|       |   |  |   |  |
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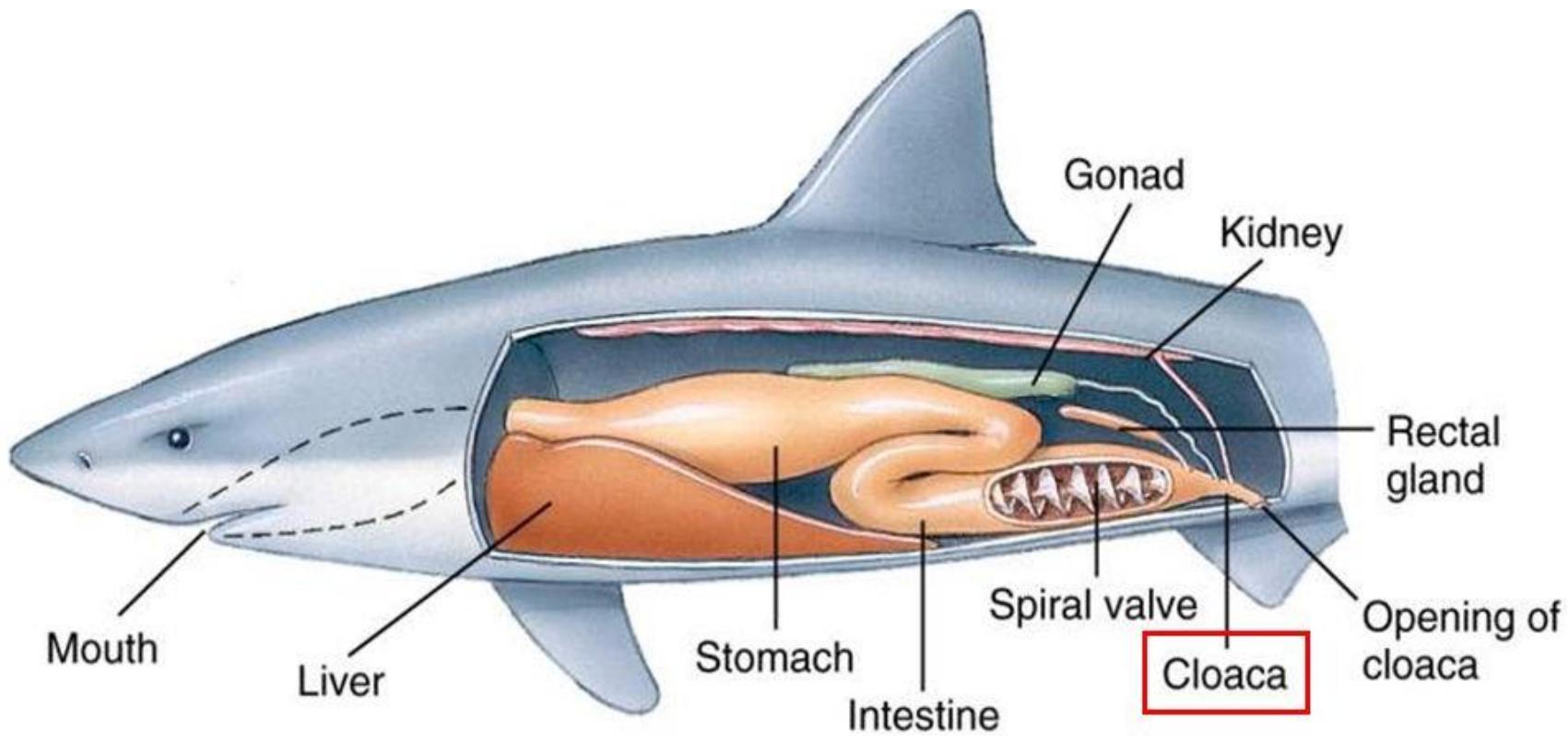
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

|                  | Head gut  | Foregut  | Mid gut  | Hind gut  |
|------------------|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Functions</b> | <b>M</b> & parts are used for; <u>capturing</u> , <u>handling</u> , <u>sorting</u> , <u>crushing</u> , <u>biting</u> , <u>shredding</u> | O: passage way, osmoregulation, passive & active transport of ions, presence of <i>salivary glands</i> . S: chemical digestion, stores & mixes food, crushing of materials (gizzard), HCl food hydrolysis, enzymatic activities -pepsin for proteins, chitinases for digestion of exoskeleton of crustaceans | I: Increases digestive surface area for absorption together with scroll valve.. in Chondrichthyes<br><b>PC:</b> accessory food reservoir, uptake of amino acids & sugars; <b>P:</b> secretes insulin, <b>L:</b> secretes bile (fat breakdown) & stores lipids & glycogen | - Continuation of digestion with reduced digestive & absorptive function<br>- Voiding of undigested materials |

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Feeding & digestion

|                      | Head gut  | Foregut   | Mid gut  | Hind gut |
|----------------------|---|---|--|----------|
| <b>Miscellaneous</b> | Mouths may be <i>terminal, sub-terminal, ventral, etc</i> ; More active feeders have strong jaws; Major types of teeth are <i>cardiform, villiform, canine, incisor, &amp; molariform</i> | Some lack stomachs e.g. carps & other cyprinids | Longest part of the gut; all fishes have intestines; length varies from as low as 0.2 – 20 body length |          |

# Unit 2, 5: Reproduction in Fishes

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Fish show extraordinary variations on the basic theme of sexual reproduction.
- Most are *dioecious*, with external fertilization & dev't of their eggs & embryos (*oviparity* - the most common mode of reproduction in fishes)
- Offspring are provided with egg yolk nutrients – a process called *lecithotrophy* & most energy is derived from yolk protein called *vitellogen*.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Some are *ovoviviparous* & develop in the ovarian cavity of the mother, then are born.
- The eggs are fertilized in the female & remain so during dev't allowing for greater protection from predators & bad env'tal conditions.
- But, there is no direct nourishment by the mother.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

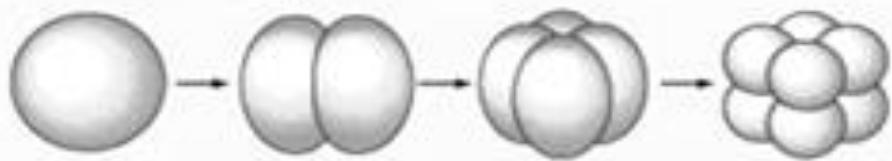
- *Viviparous* fishes give birth to live young, & the eggs develop in the mother whilst receiving nourishment from it.
- Most develop a kind of placental attachment through which the young are nourished during gestation.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

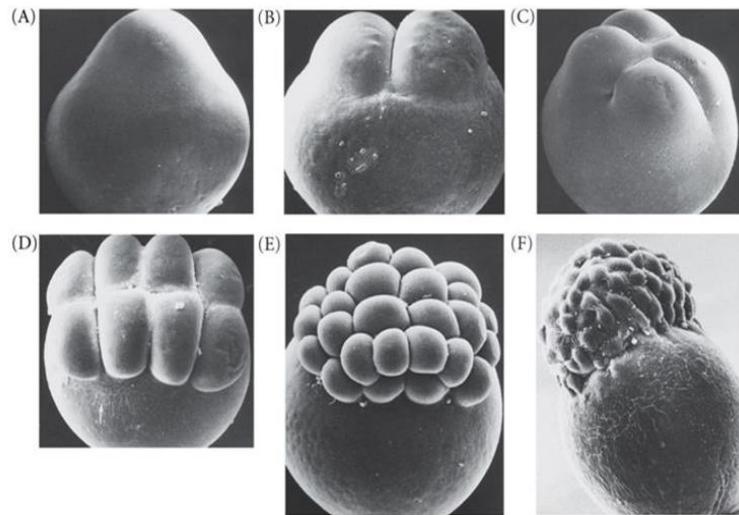
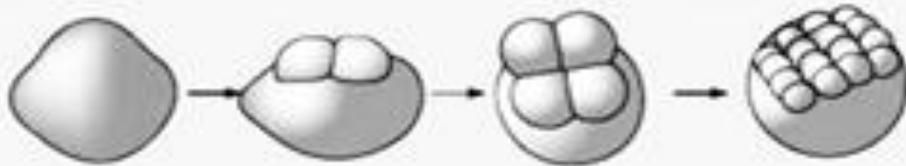
- Most have *megalecithal eggs* with *meroblastic cleavage*..
- Males & females come together in great schools & release vast numbers of gametes into the water to drift with currents.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

Holoblastic cleavage



Meroblastic cleavage



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Pelagic marine teleost have minute, transparent buoyant, eggs but many near-shore/benthic spp have are larger, typically yolky, non-buoyant, & adhesive.
- Many benthic spawners guard their eggs & fight off intruders.
- Some **bury** their eggs, many **attach** them to vegetation, some **deposit** them in nests, & some even **incubate** them in their mouths.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Some provide no parental care & simply scatter their eggs among weeds or along the sediment.
- Fishes that provide egg care (e.g. cichlids), produce fewer, larger eggs with a better chance for survival.
- With increasing parental care from *egg scatterers* to *brood hiders* to *external* & *internal bearers* — the eggs become yolkier & less numerous.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Fishes also show several types of *hermaphroditism*.
  - *sequential hermaphrodites* mature as one sex, & then change to the other sex
  - *synchronous hermaphrodites*, have functional testes & ovaries at the same time (but only cross-fertilize).
  - A few fish species consist only of females & reproduce *parthenogenetically*.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- E.g. the Amazon molly, *Poecilia formosa*, exhibits *ameiotic parthenogenesis* (*gynogenesis*) i.e. a sperm of a different species initiates egg dev't, but does not contribute genetic material.
- Most fishes undergo *direct* dev't except in *Anguilla* where dev't is *indirect* consisting of an elver (young eels) or leptocephalus larval form.

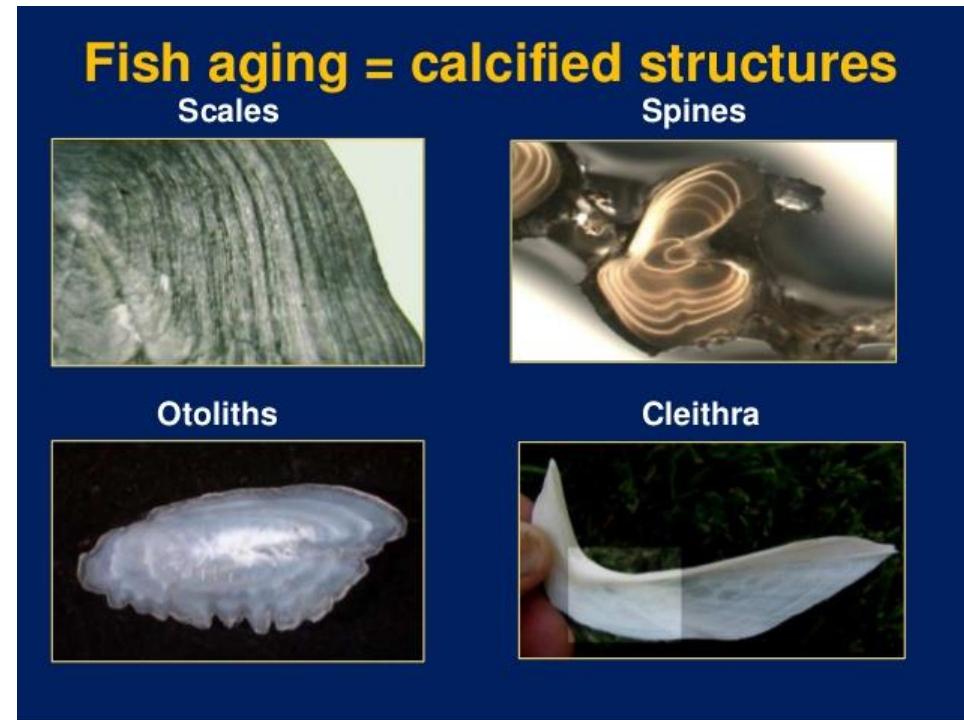
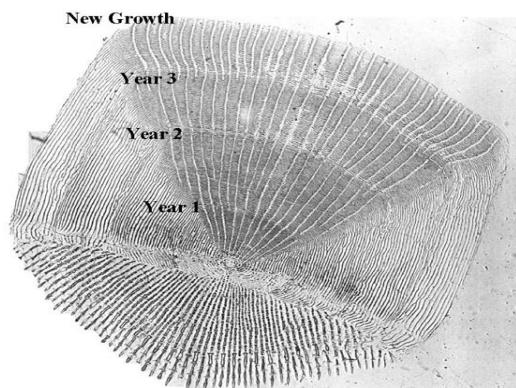
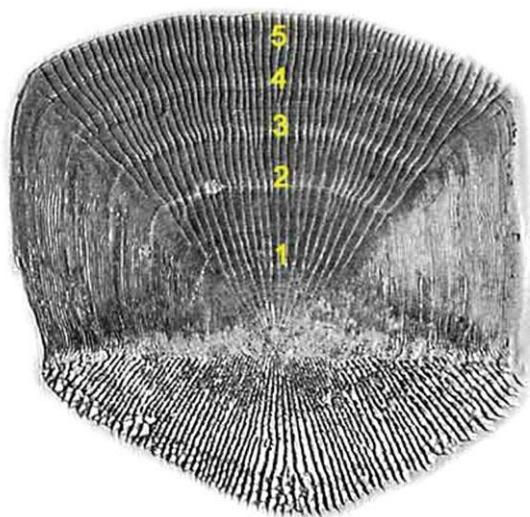
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Most fishes hatch as larvae, with a semi-transparent yolk sac, that provides food supplies till the mouth & digestive tract have developed & larvae can self-feed.
- After a period of growth larvae undergo *metamorphosis*, especially dramatic in many marine spp. e.g. eels.

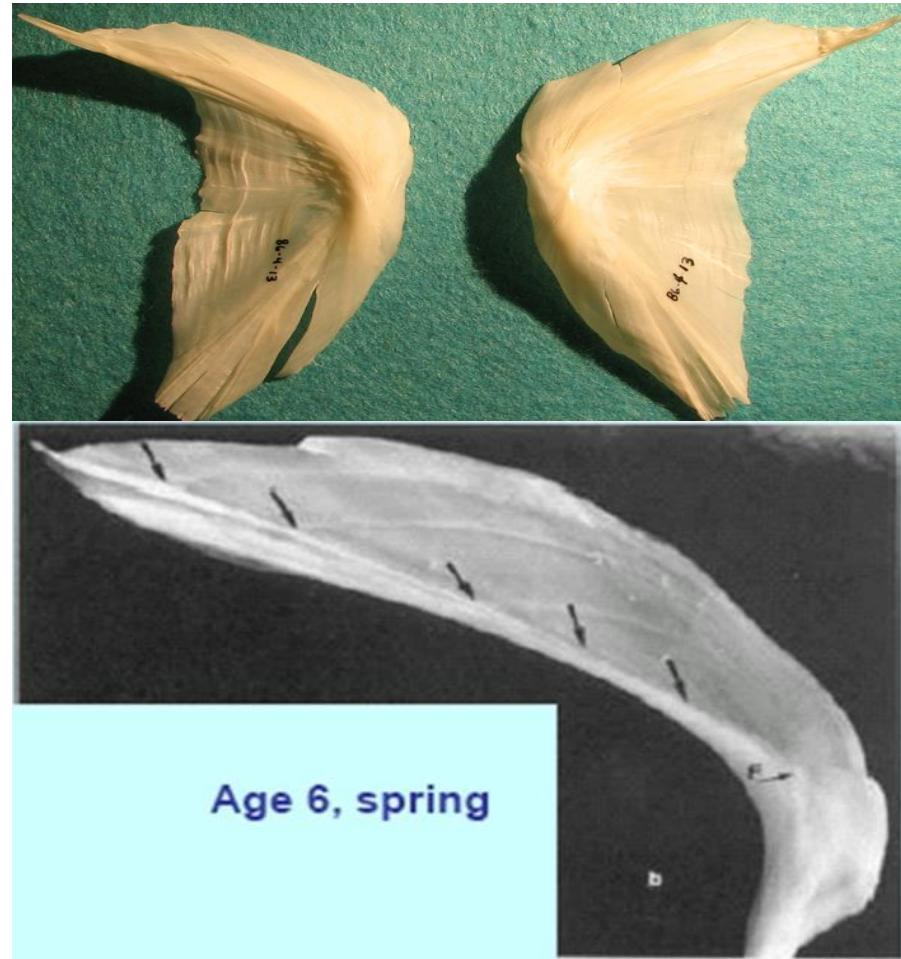
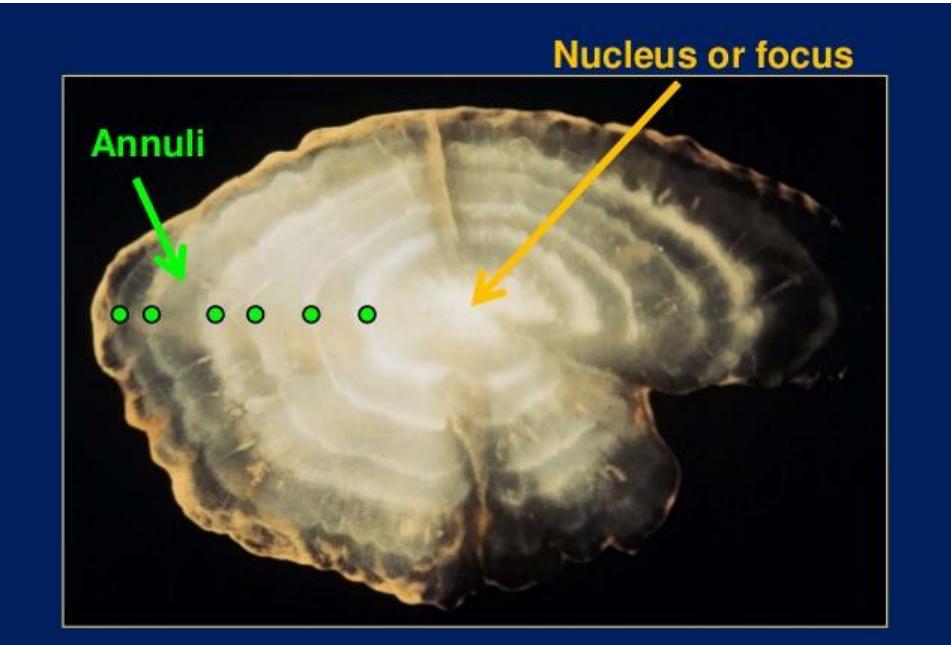
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- **Growth** in fishes is temperature dependent & so fishes living in temperate regions grow rapidly in summer when food is abundant but nearly stop growing in winter.
- *Annual rings* in scales, otoliths, cleithrum, & other bony parts reflect this seasonal growth, a distinctive record of convenience to fishery biologists who wish to determine a *fish's age*...

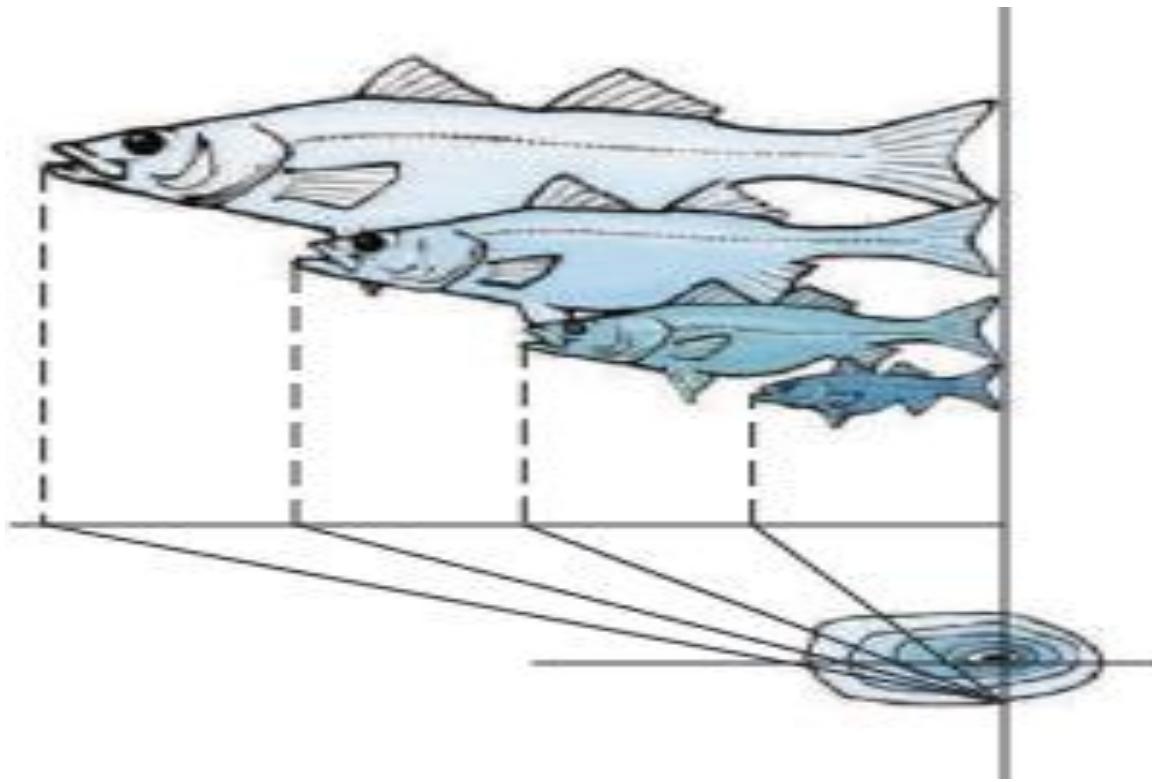
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Fish Reproduction

- Fish lifespan vary from a year to over 150 years.
- Few die soon after a single spawning, a phenomenon termed *semelparity*, but most species normally produce for more than one season (*iteroparity*).
- Fewer than 1 % of fishes are semelparous, & these tend to be diadromous species.

# Unit 2, 6: Nervous & Sensory System in Fishes

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- Fishes, though vertebrates, typically have small brains compared to other vertebrates e.g. birds, etc.
- Exception are found in the mormyrids (elephant fishes) & sharks with relatively large brains.
- Fish nervous system consists of a *central nervous system* (CNS), made up of brain & spinal cord & a *peripheral nervous systems* (PNS) made up of various nerves that branch off the spinal cord.

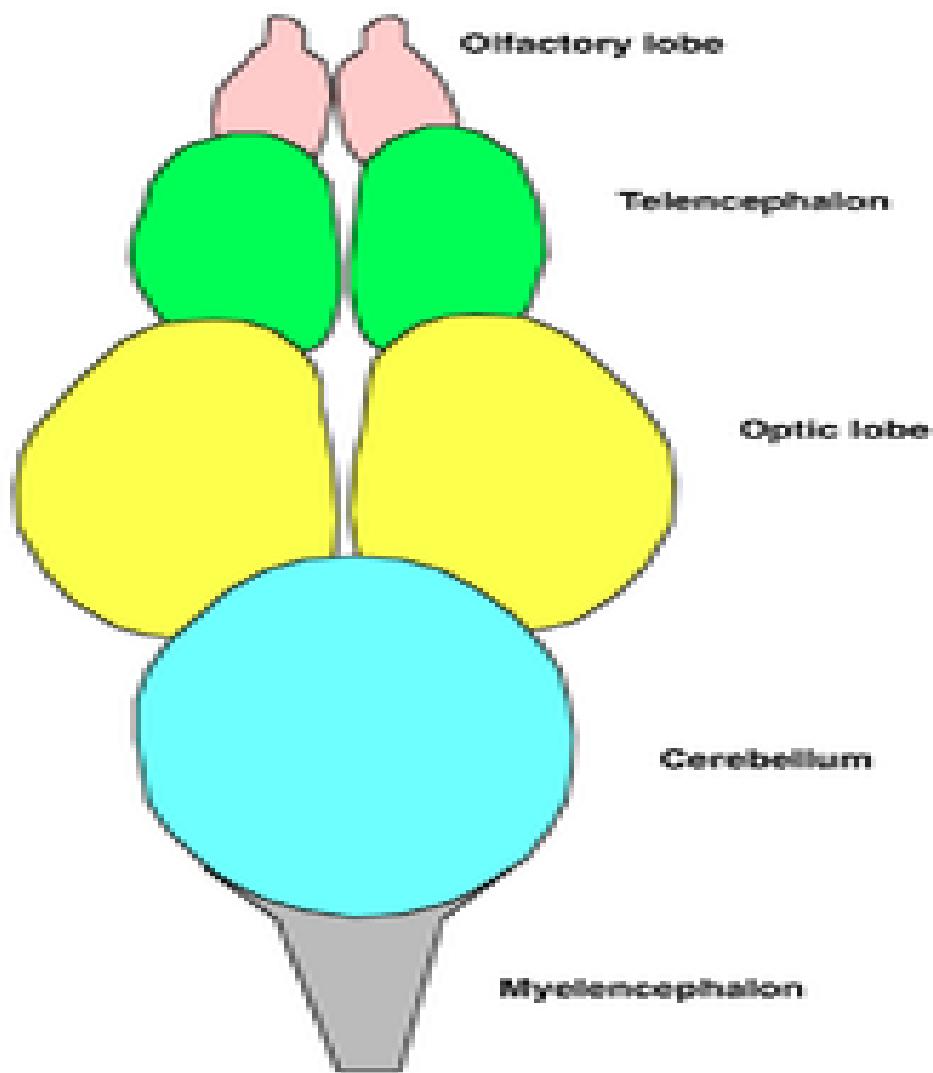
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- The CNS *coordinates* & *integrates* all bodily activities & *stores* information while the PNS allows the fish to delicately *sense* its watery env't.
- PNS have nerves found throughout the body that originate from the brain or spinal cord.
- They bring sensory messages from the skin surface (*somatic sensory*) & send messages outwards to move muscles (*somatic motor*).

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- PNS also have *visceral sensory* & *motor nerves* connected to a fish's various organs.
- Information received by the CNS is sent to the brain in the form of nerve impulses.
- Functional anatomy of a fish's *brain*.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

|                | FOREBRAIN (FB)<br>(telencephalon)   | DIENCEPHALON   | MIDBRAIN (MB)<br>(mesencephalon)   | HINDBRAIN (HB)<br>(metencephalon)   |
|----------------|---|--|--|---|
| Part(s)        | -Olfactory parts<br><b>(OL)</b><br>- <b>cerebrum</b>  | A connection between the <b>FB</b> & the <b>MB</b> & have a pineal body ( <b>PB</b> ); pituitary gland, etc                              | 2 large optic lobes  | - Cerbellum ( <b>C</b> )<br>- brain stem or myelencephalon ( <b>M</b> )   |
| Functions      | - <b>OL</b> receives & process impulses from nostrils or smell<br>- <b>cerebrum</b> is also involved in olfaction.<br>- For detecting food, mates, predators, & to find homes e.g. salmons, etc | - <b>D</b> involved in hormonal balance & homeostasis<br>- <b>PB</b> detects light, control colour changes, & maintain circadian rhythms | It is involved in processing visual information                            | - <b>C</b> helps in balance & swimming &<br>- <b>M</b> connects spinal cord to brain; coordinates sensory information e.g. respiration & osmoregulation |
| Other features | It is very large in fish that <u>hunt primarily by smell</u> e.g. hagfish, sharks, catfish  |  | Very large in species that hunt by sight e.g. cichlids, rainbow trout, etc | Hagfish & lampreys have small cerebella<br>Mormyrids have massive ones.   |

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

|                | FOREBRAIN (FB)<br>(telencephalon)   | DIENCEPHALON | MIDBRAIN (MB)<br>(mesencephalon)  | HINDBRAIN (HB)<br>(metencephalon) |
|----------------|---|--------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Other features | <b>Taste buds</b> used for smelling are located in the <u>mouth</u> , <u>lips</u> , <u>fins</u> , <u>skin</u> , <u>barbels</u> (e.g. goat fish) |              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Retinas have rod &amp; cone cells for <b>scotopic</b> &amp; <b>photopic</b> vision;</li><li>- Most bony fishes have <b>colour vision</b> but cartilaginous fishes have little or none.</li><li>- Some sharks have a membrane that can be drawn across the eye to reduce brightness.</li><li>- Some fish can see UV &amp; others see <b>polarized</b> light.</li></ul> |                                   |

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syst.

- Fishes have specialized hearing-detecting apparatus called *lateral lines* consisting of a system of small canals lined with sound-sensitive sensory cells.
- It picks vibration from swimming of other animals & water displacement caused by sound waves.
- It allows fish to avoid obstacles, orient to currents, & keep their position in a school.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- Fishes also perceive sound waves with their inner ears stones (*otoliths*) - paired hearing organs located to the sides of the brain just behind the eyes.
- Changes in the position of many fishes are detected by shifts in otoliths position.
- Some fishes also have the *Weberian organ* that transfer vibrations in the swim bladder to the inner ear.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- Sharks may have a sharp sense of hearing & can possibly hear prey many miles away.
- Cartilaginous fishes have a sense organ, *Ampullae of Lorenzini* that can detect weak electrical currents.
- This system has been shown to help them detect prey – a kind of electrical sensing device.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Nerv. & Sensory Syt.

- It also assist in navigation, a sort of *electromagnetic compass or current detector* for sharks (with the greatest electrical sensitivity of any animal) to find prey.
- Ocean currents moving in the earth's magnetic field also generate electric fields that sharks can use for orientation & navigation.
- Electric fish can produce weak electric currents used in navigation & social communication.

# Unit 2, 7: Hydromineral Balance in Fishes

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- One of the key homeostatic functions in living organisms is the proper regulation of internal osmotic env't.
- Deviations from the normal range can adversely affect proper physiological functions through;
  - **water** loss or gain
  - the changing of internal **ionic concentrations**, &
  - shifts in the ionic & osmotic **gradients**

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Osmoregulation & osmoconformance in fishes
  - Definitions
  - Most fishes are osmoregulators
- Difference between steno- & euryhaline fishes;
  - **Steno** – tolerate only small changes in the salinity of their external env't.
  - **Eury** – osmoregulate over a wide range of salinity levels in their external env't.
- Types & regulatory mechanisms

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Type(s) of hydromineral balance in fishes

- **Osmoconformers**

- Hagfishes – exclusively marine
- Marine elasmobranchs (cartilaginous fishes)
- Sarcopterygians (bony fishes)
  - Marine
  - Freshwater...

- **Osmoregulators**

- Marine teleosts
- Freshwater teleosts
- Freshwater elasmobranchs
- Diadromous species ...

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

|            | MARINE   | FRESHWATER   | DIADROMOUS  |   |
|------------|--|--|---|---|
|            | Osmoconformers   | Osmoregulators   | Osmoregulators  |   |
| Examples   | <p>1. <u>Hagfishes</u> e.g. <i>Myxines glutinosa</i></p> <p>2. <u>Marine elasmobranchs</u><br/>e.g. dog fish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)</p> <p>3. <u>Marine Sarcopterygians</u><br/>e.g. the coelacanth <i>Latimeria chalumnae</i></p> <p>4. <u>Freshwater Sarcopterygians</u><br/>e.g. the Dipnoi (African &amp; South American lungfishes)</p> | <p><b>Marine teleosts</b> e.g.<br/>Poacher (<i>Agonus</i>), sculpin (<i>Taurulus</i>), etc</p> | <p>1. <b>Freshwater teleosts</b> e.g. Carp (<i>Cyprinus</i>), Goldfish (<i>Carassius</i>), etc</p> <p>2. <b>Freshwater Elasmobranchs</b><br/>e.g. <i>Potamotrygon</i></p> | <p>1. Pacific lamprey (<i>Lamepetra tridentata</i>)</p> <p>2. Pacific salmon (<i>Onchoryhnchus</i> sp)</p> <p>3. American eel (<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>)</p> <p>4. American shad (<i>Alosa sapidissima</i>)</p> |
| Mechanisms |  |  |   |   |

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Mechanism (s) of hydromineral balance in fishes
  - **Osmoconformers**
    - Hagfishes - the overall osmotic concentration is about the same as that of sea water .i.e. there is no regulation at all. They are entirely marine & stenohaline.
    - Marine elasmobranchs - (i) convert N-waste into *urea* & retain high levels in blood (ii) have high levels of *TMAO* (iii) rid themselves of  $\text{Na}^+$  &  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions by active secretion via *rectal gland* (iv) have *glomerular kidneys* like FW fish since high levels of urea causes them to gain water (v) they move water by diffusion across their gills

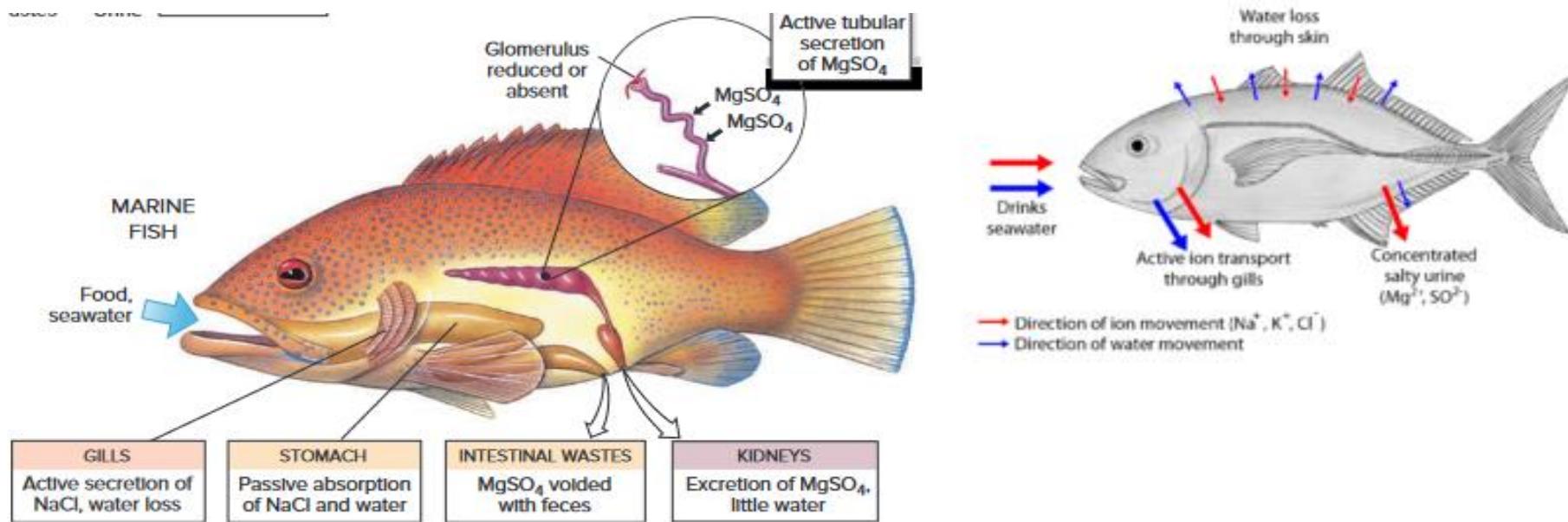
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Types of hydromineral balance in fishes
  - **Osmoconformers (cont)**
    - Sarcopterygians
      - **Marine** - The coelacanth *Latimeria* sp. also use the marine elasmobranch strategy i.e. high *urea* & *TMAO* in their blood.
      - **Freshwater** - e.g. African lungfish (Dipnoi) can survive long droughts by aestivating in mud burrows & produce & retain high *urea* levels which is less toxic but also help them to retain water.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Types of hydromineral balance in fishes
  - **Osmoregulators**
    - Marine teleosts - Are *hypoosmotic* to their env't & tend to *lose water & gain ions* (monovalent) across the thin *gill membranes*
      - (i) they replace lost water by *ingesting seawater*;
      - (ii) major sea salts (Na, Cl-, K+) are eliminated by *chloride cells* of the gill filaments & opercular skin by active transport;
      - (iii) *kidneys* excrete divalent ions ( $Mg^{2+}$ ,  $SO_4^{2-}$ ,  $Ca^{2+}$ );
      - (iv) the remaining divalent ions voided with *faeces*.

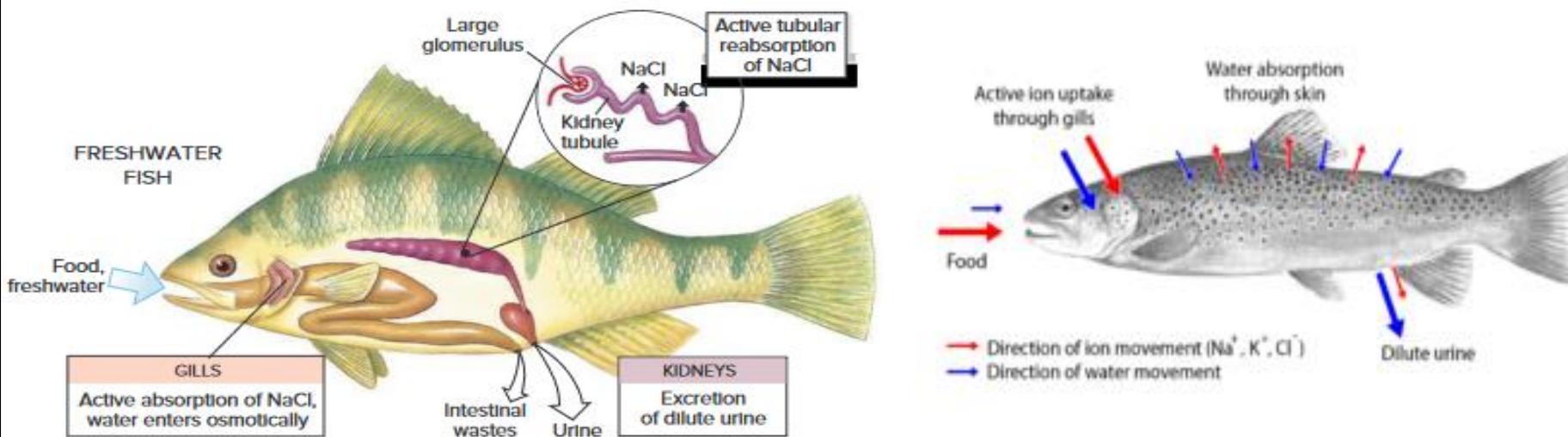
# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Types of hydromineral balance in fishes
  - **Osmoregulators (cont)**
    - Freshwater teleosts - *hyperosmotic* to their env't & tend to *gain water & lose solutes* across the thin gill filaments, pharynx, & in urine
    - (i) they excrete large volumes of dilute urine through their *kidneys*;
    - (ii) *chloride cells* take up  $\text{Na}^+$  &  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions by active transport from the surrounding into the blood;
    - (iii) this absorption together with salt present in the fish's *food* replaces diffusive salt loss

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance



# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Hydromineral Balance

- Types of hydromineral balance in fishes
  - **Osmoregulators (cont)**
    - Freshwater Elasmobranchs – e.g. the Amazon stingrays (*Potamotrygon*) is a stenohaline sp. with internal env’t similar to that of freshwater teleosts with essentially no urea.
    - Diadromous species – make appropriate adjustments in the mitochondria-rich cells of the gill epithelium to physiologically adapt to the dramatic changes in their osmoregulatory env’t.

# Unit 2, 8: Behavioural Adaptations in Fishes

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Behav. Adaptations

- Fish have several *anatomical* & *physiological* adaptations which are best understood in relation to their *behaviour*.
- Behavioural adaptations in fishes include *aggressive behaviour* (e.g. territoriality, etc), *shoaling*, *migratory behaviour*, *communication* (e.g. bioluminescence, etc), *feeding*, *reproductive*, & *resting behaviours*, *interspecific interactions* (mimicry, symbiosis, predator-prey, etc),

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Territoriality

- Some fishes are known to establish territories (home areas they aggressively defend against intruders).
- Some defend such territories during *reproduction & breeding* but others have almost permanent territories that they use for *feeding* & resting or as *shelter*.
- Thus, territoriality is common in crowded env'ts where resources are most likely to be in short supply.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Territoriality*

- For e.g. coral reef damselfishes are famous for fiercely defending their territories, often attacking fishes many times their size or even divers.
- 3 factors are key in deciding which fish wins a fight;
  - previous residency
  - size
  - results of previous encounters

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Territoriality

- The most frequently observed form of defence is the “*nip*” in which a defending fish attacks an intruder & attempts to bite its caudal tail or side.
- But often, *aggressive behaviour* is in the form of *bluffing* instead of actual fights e.g.
  - raised fins,
  - an open mouth,
  - rapid darting,
  - sound production, etc.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Shoaling*

- A *shoal* describes all social groups of fish including schools & aggregations of fish with random orientation & varying nearest neighbour distances (NND).
- A *school* describes a group of fish swimming at about the same speed in roughly parallel orientation & maintaining a constant NND.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Shoaling

- A shoal can go from classic, polarized organization to an amorphous mass in seconds, depending on whether they are *traveling, feeding, resting, or avoiding predators.*
- Some e.g. herrings, sardines, & some mackerels, school throughout their lives but others are part-time schoolers especially as *juveniles* or during *feeding.*
- Most Chondrichthyes are solitary but some e.g. hammerhead sharks, mantas, & rays sometimes school

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Shoaling*

- It is estimated that over 4000 species of *marine & freshwater* species school as adults.
- Members of schools are typically all about the same size.
- Stationary schools common around coral reefs, kelp beds, rocks, & shipwrecks, however, may include members of different sizes or even different species.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Shoaling*

- Several reasons have been suggested for schooling in fishes & include;
  - increased *swimming efficiency*
  - Increased *food finding efficiency*
  - increased *reproductive success*
  - reduced *risk of predation*
- The combined benefits of these factors provide strong selective incentives for fish to join shoals & become part of a highly cooperative group.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- *Migration* is the regular long-range mass mov't of fish from one place to another.
- Fishes in all aquatic env'ts may migrate phenomenal distances & use various homing mechanisms.
- It can be once a day, once a year, or once in a life time & some are between on & offshore areas or up & down the vertical column of the open water.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- The general patterns are made up into 3 basic forms:
  - *Oceanodromy* – migrate entirely within salt water
  - *Potamodromy* – migrate entirely within freshwater
  - *Diadromy* – migrate between salt & fresh waters
- Most fish migrations relate to *reproduction* (spawning) & separation of *life history stages* (growth) but, many are also in response to *changing env'tal conditions* e.g. temperature & mov't & abundance of food (feeding).

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- Diadromy is broken into 3 basic types;
  - *cata*dromy – freshwater sp. that migrate to sea to spawn e.g. anguillid eels, etc.
  - Most feeding & growth occurs in freshwater prior to the migration of fully grown adult fish to sea to reproduce.
  - There is either no subsequent feeding at sea or any feeding result in little somatic growth e.g. European & American eels, scorpion fishes, sculpins, flounders, etc

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- *anadromy* – salt water sp. that migrate to freshwaters to spawn e.g. salmons, trouts, sturgeons, etc
- Most feeding & growth takes place at sea, prior to the migration of fully grown adult fish into freshwater to reproduce.
- There is either no subsequent feeding in freshwater or any feeding result in little or no somatic growth e.g. salmon, shad, herrings, trouts, anchovies, sturgeons, lampreys, etc.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- *amphidromy* – move between salt & fresh waters for purposes other than spawning
- Unlike catadromy & anadromy, where there is a difference between the feeding & growing biome & the reproductive biome, here, the principal feeding biome is the same as the reproductive biome (freshwater)
- e.g. members of the Gobiidae, Eleotridae, & Galaxiidae

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of all diadromous fishes are anadromous, while catadromous & amphidromous types constitute 25% each.
- Catadromy is favoured in cooler regions where biological productivity is greater in the sea than in freshwater.
- The sea is hence a better feeding & growing biome where growth is rapid, survival is higher, size at maturity is higher, & fecundity is greater.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- Anadromy is favoured in warmer regions where biological productivity is greater in freshwaters than in sea.
- Hence, the main trophic life stage occurs in freshwaters for the same reasons that catadromous fish spend their life main trophic life stage at sea.
- Amphidromy is favoured on oceanic islands & provides a way for fish to colonize habitable island freshwaters or favours recolonization of these waters after a disturbance.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- These patterns place early life history stages in habitats most favourable for growth & devt.
- Before the migration, anticipatory changes in *serum ion content, body colour, & visual pigments*, etc are made.
- Mechanisms of such migrations have been severally hypothesized & include orientation to cues of:
  - *currents, temperature, polarized light, sun, earth's magnetic field, odours, salinity, etc*

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Migratory behaviour*

- E.g. salmons are known to find their home streams with remarkable accuracy, the result of a king of chemical memory.
- The ability of an animal to find its way back to a home area is known as *homing behaviour* using the various cues previously listed.

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- *Colouration:* Different colours are found in fishes & can be used as **camouflage**.
- Some fishes are very brightly coloured especially those living in the tropics.
- The coloured pigments in fishes are found in special cells called **chromatophores**.

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- Fishes also have *structural colours* that result when a special surface reflects only certain colours of light.
- Most structural colours of fish are the results of crystals contained in special chromatophores called *iridophores* that act like tiny mirrors.
- The iridescent shiny quality of many fishes is produced by structural colours & chromatophores.

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- Colours can tell a lot about fishes e.g. some change colour with their mood or reproductive condition.
- They may also use colour to advertise themselves in what is known as *warning colouration*.
- E.g. the colourful bar-tailed lionfish advertises spines that contain a powerful venom capable of killing a human.

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- *Cryptic colouration* (camouflage), i.e. blending with the env't to deceive predators or prey is a common adaptation e.g. the stonefish (*Syngnathus verrucosa*)...
- Others such us some flatfishes, blennies, sculpins, & rockfishes can change colour to match their surroundings.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration



Stonefish (*Syiananceia verrucosa*)

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

Flatfish



Blennies



Rock fish

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- Fish also use *disruptive colouration* – presence of stripes, bars, or spots that break up the outline of a fish to prevent detection by potential predators or prey e.g. butterfly fish (*Chaetodon trifasciatus*)
- But, open water fishes & many shallow-water predators are rarely colourful.
- Most of them have silver/white bellies & dark backs.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration



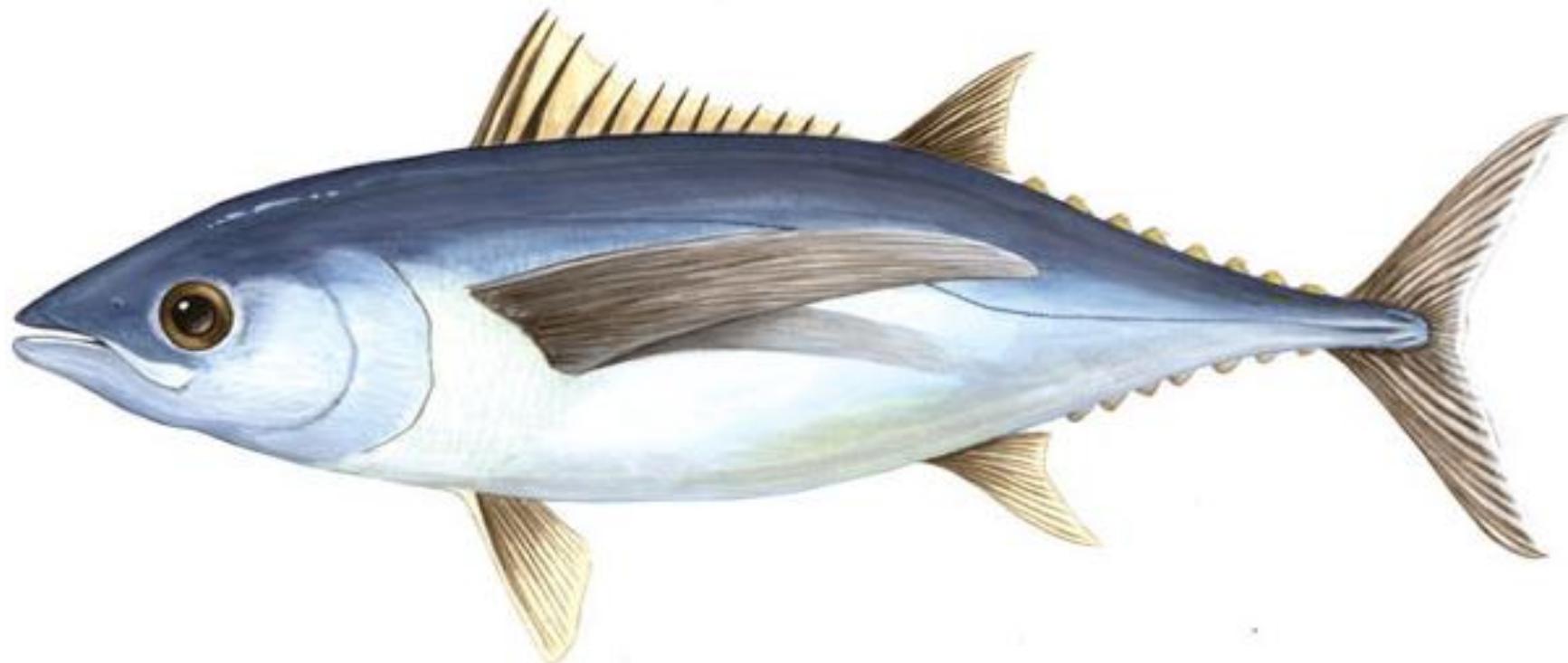
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Butterfly fish

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration

- This distinctive colour pattern, known as *countershading*, is a form of disguise in open water.
- When viewed from below, the white belly blends with the bright light coming from the surface.
- The dark back blends into the water's colour as seen from above.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: Colouration



Open water fish

## Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Colouration*

- Deep-water fishes also use colour for concealment & they tend to be black or red – colours which are hard to see in deeper waters.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Biolumniscence*

- Deep sea fishes exhibit this phenomenon e.g. *Blepheronodon*, etc.
- It is the process by which energy from a chemical reaction is transformed into light energy.
- In deeper parts of the ocean, light is absent & vision is not useful for locating prey.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Bioluminescence*

- There is however, a major exception to this rule.
- Many marine animals e.g. some fish species emit light as a product of a chemical reaction taking place in specialized cells (*photocytes*) or organs (*photophores*).
- When a substance known as **luciferin** reacts with O<sub>2</sub> in the presence of the enzyme **luciferase**, the chemical product gives off blue-green light.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Bioluminescence*

- Bioluminescence is widespread in marine organisms.
- It is produced either by specialized structures (*intracellular luminescence*) or by symbiotic bacteria (*intercellular luminescence*).
- It is different from *phosphorescence* or *fluorescence* in which light involves energy received from other sources causing emission.

# Unit 2: Funct. anat.: *Bioluminescence*

- Bioluminescence is mainly a marine phenomenon.
- Reasons attributed to bioluminescence include:
  - **confusing predators**
  - **finding mates**
  - **camouflage**