

## GENETICS & DEVELOPMENT - Cell Division

Physical Basis of Inheritability...

Mechanisms of Cell Reproduction... egg & sperm cells

cells reproduce identically, yet with variations (new traits)

"All living cells arise from pre-existing cells"

GENETICS asks.... HOW? mechanisms at cellular & molecular level

DEVELOPMENT looks.... at the LIFE CYCLE of organisms

1. Reproduction mechanisms of organisms

2. Growth of organism..... zygote to adult

cell differentiation - how one cell becomes different from another

differential gene activity - genes are active at different times

totipotency & cloning - exact genetic copies of cells

METHODS of CELL REPRODUCTION include...

Fission - binary = 2 equal halves (bacteria & cyanobacteria & protozoans)

Budding - outgrowths detach = new organism (unequal split)  
(hydra)

Mitosis - asexually = identical genetic copies [cytokinesis]  
genetically equal somatic cells

Meiosis - sexually produces sperm & egg cells with  
1/2 chromosome # & new gene combos

**Mitosis - Asexual Reproduction Cell Cycle...**

results in copying & equal duplication of parental cell's DNA  
and the equal division of chromosomes into two daughter cells

(rates = liver cells 1x/yr - epithelial cells 1x/day)

the Life cycle of a Cell... is referred to as the "CELL CYCLE"...

G<sub>1</sub> = growth and preparation of the chromosomes for replication;

S = synthesis of DNA and duplication of the centrosome;

G<sub>2</sub> = preparation for

M = mitosis.

When a cell is in any phase of the cell cycle other than mitosis, it is often said to be in **interphase**.

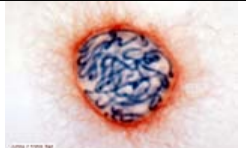




[3 Stages] - Cell Cycle is depicted as a circle 360° [G1 - S - G2 - M]

Interphase - period between successive divisions of a cell

3 parts = G1 - before, DNA synthesis (S), & G2 period after

MITOSIS - nuclear division phase; separation & duplication of chromosomes

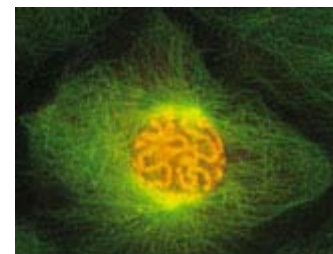
Cytokinesis - physical division of cell into two parts: animals/plants

<b>Prophase</b> - chromatin condenses into chromosomes	
<b>Prometaphase</b> - chromosome MicroTubule's attach to kinetochores each homolog has 2 chromatids	
<b>Metaphase</b> - chromosomes align at equator homologs align independently of each other	
<b>Anaphase</b> - MT attached to kinetochores; chromatids are pulled apart & poles move apart	
<b>Telophase</b> - chromosomes at opposite poles; daughter cells form by cytokinesis	

Names and Numbers -

### Chromosomes

Genes occur in chromatin of nucleus,  
which condense into **CHROMOSOMES**  
(colored bodies) visible only during **MITOSIS**



bacteria have about 3,000 genes & 1 chromosome (**DNA molecule**)

humans have some 20 to 25,000+ genes & 46 chromosomes

Humans have **46** chromosomes or **23 HOMOLOGOUS pairs**

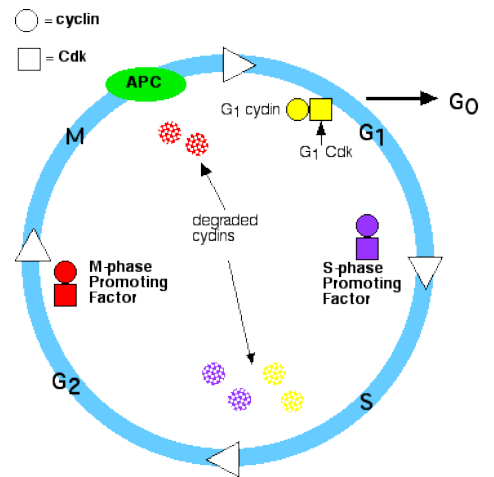
**23 maternal chromosomes**

**23 paternal chromosomes**

## Control of Cell Division and the Cell Cycle

Regulated by "**Growth Factors**" - proteins that promote cell division  
 Their levels in the cell rise and fall with the stages of the cell cycle.

- **Cyclins**
  - a **G<sub>1</sub> cyclins** (D cyclins)
  - **S-phase cyclins** (cyclins E and A)
  - **mitotic cyclins** (B cyclins)
- **Cyclin-dependent kinases (Cdks)**
  - a **G<sub>1</sub> Cdk** (Cdk4)
  - an **S-phase Cdk** (Cdk2)
  - an **M-phase Cdk** (Cdk1)



**MPF** - **mitotic promoting factor**... [ complex of two proteins **cdk** + **cyclin** ]

**MPF** is a **kinase enzyme**, one that switches on/off target cell cycle proteins by **phosphorylating** them.....



**MPF** promotes entrance **into mitosis** from the **G<sub>2</sub>** phase by **phosphorylating** multiple proteins during mitosis including one that leads to destruction of **cyclin** itself

**cdk** - a cell division control protein - **cyclin dependent kinase**; active only when bound to **cyclin**;

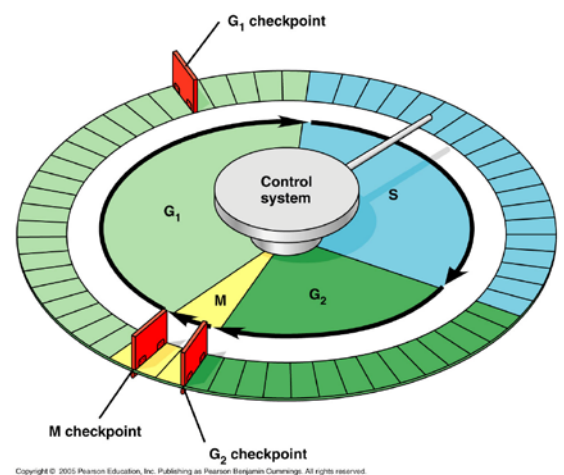
**cyclin** - a protein whose amount varies cyclically; when in high concentrations, binds to **cdk** makes **MPF**...

[**cyclin** + **cdk** = **MPF**]... favors **Mitosis**

### Checkpoints: Quality Control of the Cell Cycle

The cell has several systems for interrupting the cell cycle if something goes wrong.

- **DNA damage checkpoints**. These sense DNA damage both before the cell enters S phase (a **G<sub>1</sub> checkpoint**) as well as after S phase (a **G<sub>2</sub> checkpoint**).
  - Damage to DNA before the cell enters S phase inhibits the action of **Cdk2** thus stopping the progression of the cell



cycle until the damage can be repaired. If the damage is so severe that it cannot be repaired, the cell self-destructs by apoptosis.

- Damage to DNA after S phase (the  $G_2$  checkpoint), inhibits the action of Cdk1 thus preventing the cell from proceeding from  $G_2$  to mitosis.
- A check on the successful replication of DNA during S phase. If replication stops at any point on the DNA, progress through the cell cycle is halted until the problem is solved.
- Spindle checkpoints. Some of these that have been discovered
  - detect any failure of spindle fibers to attach to kinetochores and arrest the cell in **metaphase** until all the kinetochores are attached correctly (M checkpoint)
  - detect improper alignment of the spindle itself and block cytokinesis;

## SEXUAL CELL REPRODUCTION... "MEIOSIS"

nuclear division phase of sexually dividing

cells

The physical differences between nuclear divisions of **MEIOSIS** & **MITOSIS** so the Distinct Differences are:

**meiosis** = 4 progeny cells [1 = 2 = 4]... thus 2 divisions

**mitosis** = 2 daughter cells only... thus 1 cell division

**meiosis** = one-half number of chromosomes

**mitosis** = same # of chromosomes as parent cell

**meiosis** = new combinations of genes not in parents & chromosomes sort randomly of each other

**mitosis** = daughter cells are genetically identical

## Sexual Cell Reproduction (Meiosis)

Where does meiosis occur during sexual cell cycle?

**Meiosis** → produces cells half chrm # = 23 (sperm & egg - haploid)  
only specialized cells - **gametes** - can undergo meiosis.

**Fertilization** (sperm + egg) → diploid life cycle (chrm # = 46)

Alternation of Generations & Human life Cycle

## Stages of Sexual Cell Division

same 3 phases... just as in asexual division

(**Interphase**, **Nuclear Division**, **Cytokinesis**)

but, 2 Divisions **Meiosis I** and **Meiosis II**

1 cell = 2 cell = 4 cells

Names of stages are same & have analogous functions

Meiosis I...

Prophase I = chromosomes condense

**SYNAPSIS** - homologs PAIR together = **tetrad**

**CROSSOVER** - exchange occurs at a **chiasma**

Metaphase I = chromosomes align at equator

Anaphase I = chromosomes migrate toward poles

Telophase I = chromosome at poles - cell domains separate

Meiosis I separates homologs of homologous pair

Meiosis II... is just like mitosis [but without an S phase]

separates chromatids of one homolog of the homologous pair

*just as is done in mitosis*

Independent Assortment - random alignment of homologous pairs

Crossing Over - exchange of chromosome material

### Summary of MEIOSIS

1. Nuclear division phase of sexual cell reproduction
2. Two successive divisions, results in 4 daughter cells...  
**Meiosis 1** and **Meiosis 2**
3. Reduction/division occurs.... **diploid** → **haploid**  
daughter cells  $\frac{1}{2}$  number of parent cell chromosomes
4. Stages have same nomenclature as Mitosis  
**prophase, metaphase, anaphase, telophase, M1 & M2**
5. Only one **S phase**, where DNA is duplicated  
often may be no interphase between **M1 & M2**
6. **Homologs** separate in Meiosis 1  
**Chromatids** separate in Meiosis 2 (mitotic-like)
7. **Random Assortment** occurs..... homologs align  
at equatorial plates independent of each other
8. **Crossing over**... may occur in **Prophase I**...  
**synapsis** = close pairing homologs allows exchange  
**chiasma** = point exchange of sister chromatids