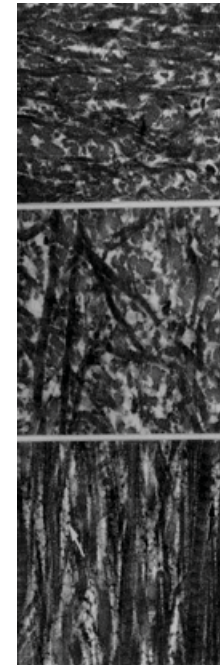
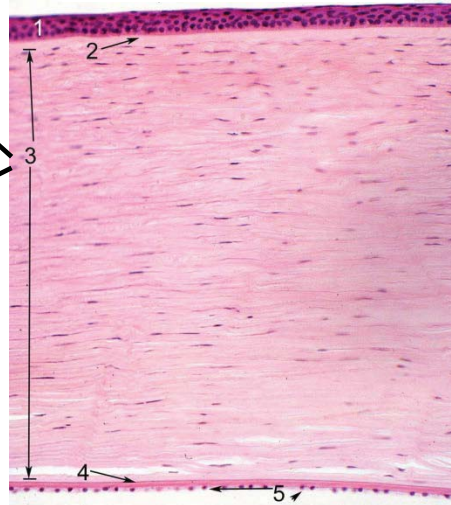
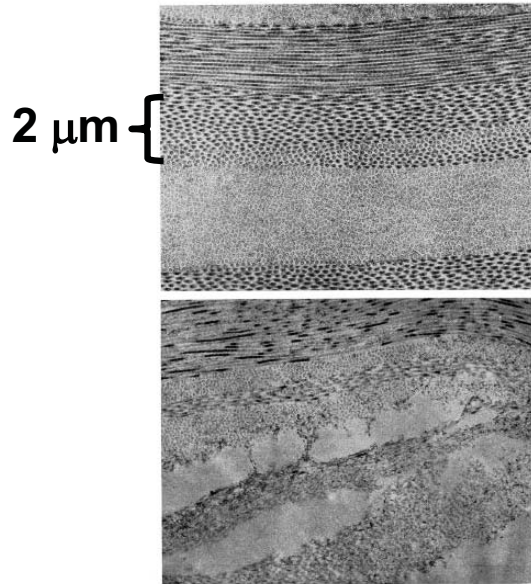
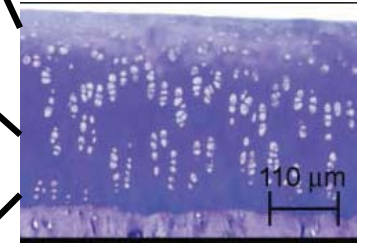


# Cornea collagen architecture

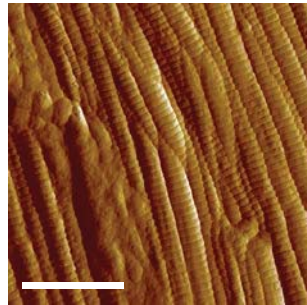
# Cornea



# Collagen (type II)

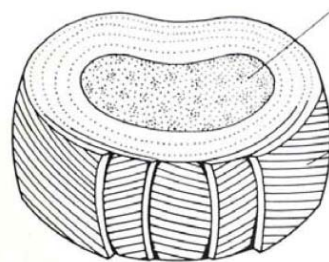


# Tendon imaged by AFM



Tendon collagen fibrils (~28 nm) secreted and organized by tendon fibroblast

# Collagen architecture of the disc



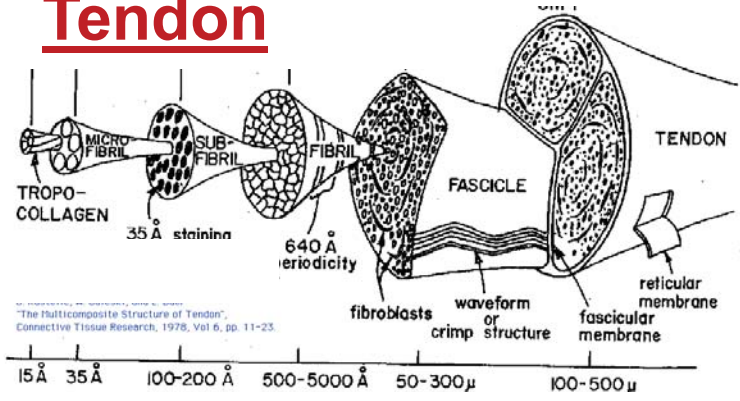
# Human intervertebral Disc

VRXUFH XONQRZ O \$@LW KW UHMUYHG 7KLV FROMQWLV H[ FOXGHG IURP RXU&UHDVWY/H &RP P RQV @FHQVH ) RUP RUH LQIRUP DMRO VHH KWS REF P LWHGX KHCS IDT IDLW XVH

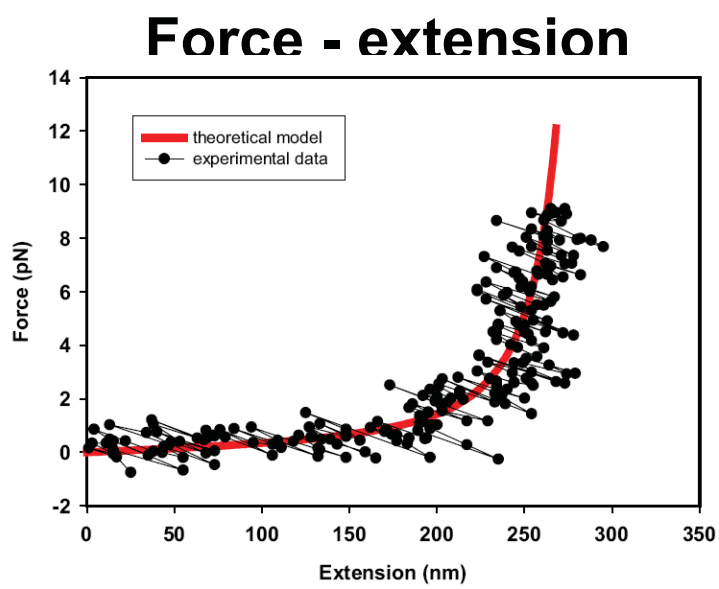
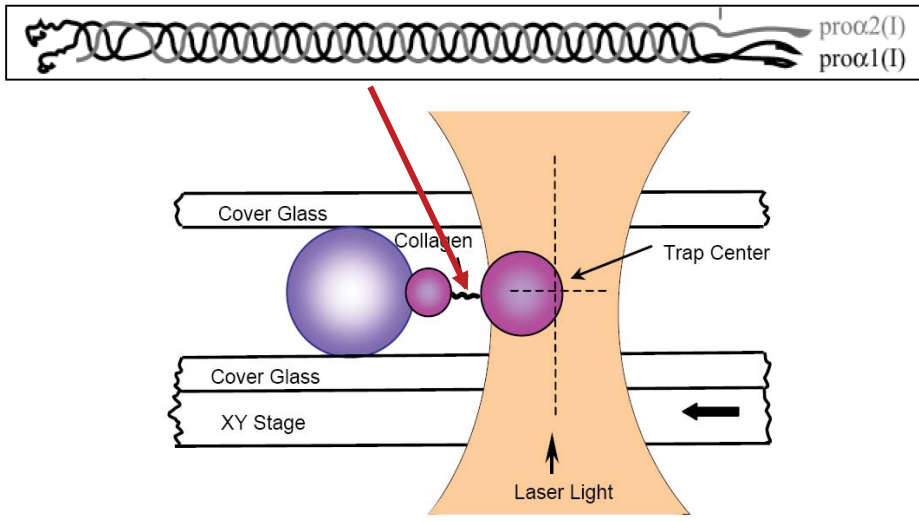
# Pro-collagen molecule



# Tendon

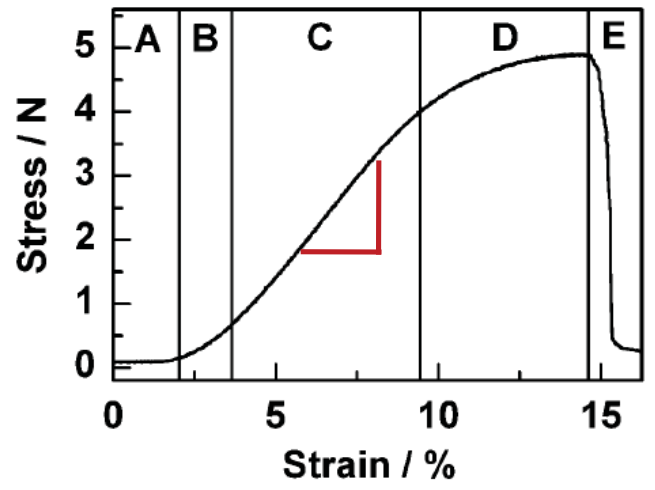


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 Source: Kastelic, J., A. Galeski, et al. "The Multicomposite Structure of Tendon." *Connective Tissue Research* 6, no. 1 (1978): 11-23.



(Sun+, J Biomechanics, 2004)

Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission.  
 Source: Sun, Yu-Long, et al. "Stretching Type II Collagen with Optical Tweezers." *Journal of Biomechanics* 37, no. 11 (2004): 1665-9.

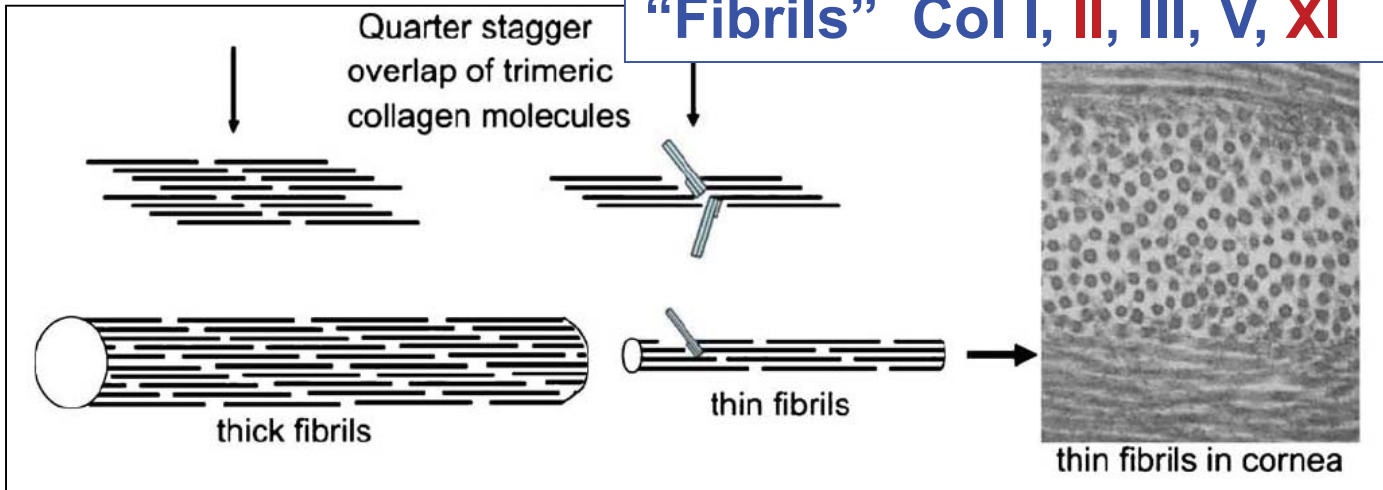


Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission.  
 Source: Gutsman, Thomas. "Force Spectroscopy of Collagen Fibers to Investigate their Mechanical Properties and Structural Organization." *Biophysical Journal* 86, no. 5 (2004): 3186-93.

Stress vs strain curve of a rat tail tendon: (A-B) Toe - heel region, (C) linear region, (D) plateau, (E) rupture of the tendon.

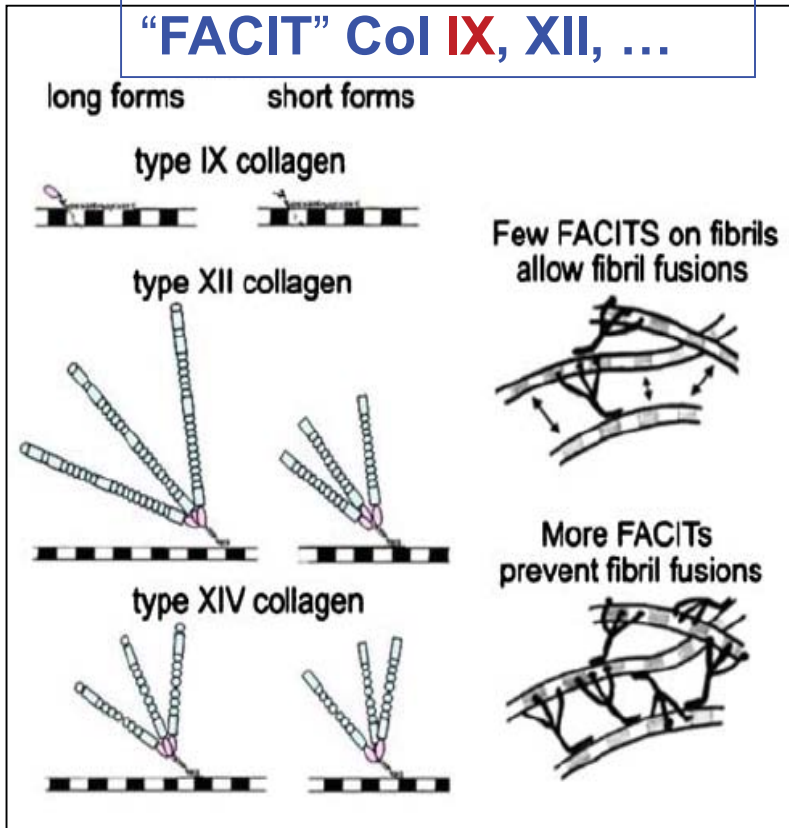
(Gutsman+, Biophys J, 2004)

**“Fibrils” Col I, II, III, V, XI**

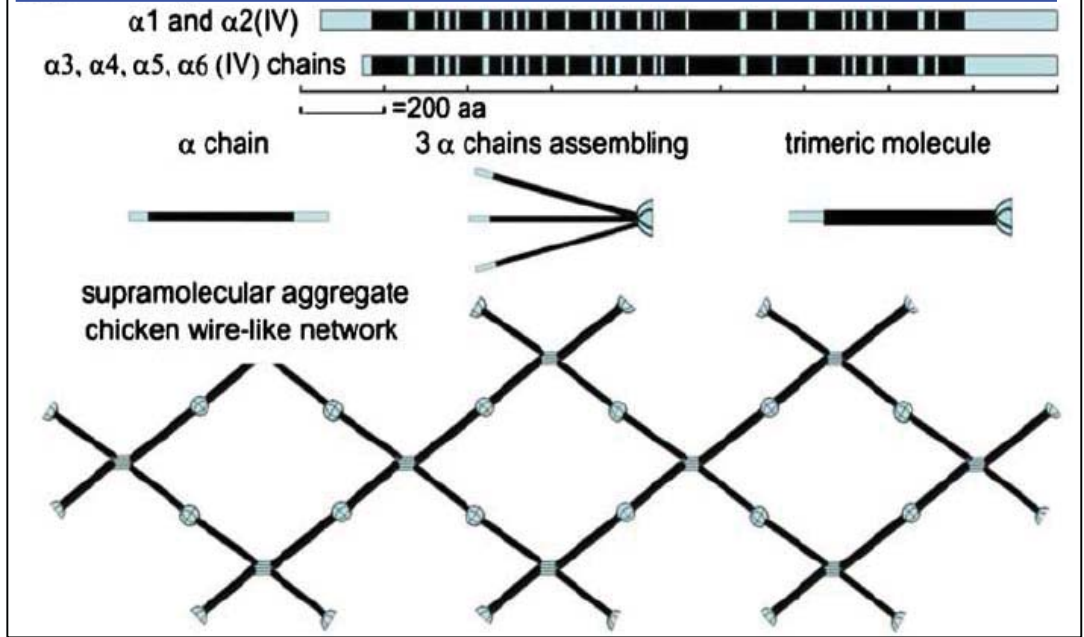


**28 Types of Collagens forms fibrils, networks, other aggregates...**

**“FACIT” Col IX, XII, ...**

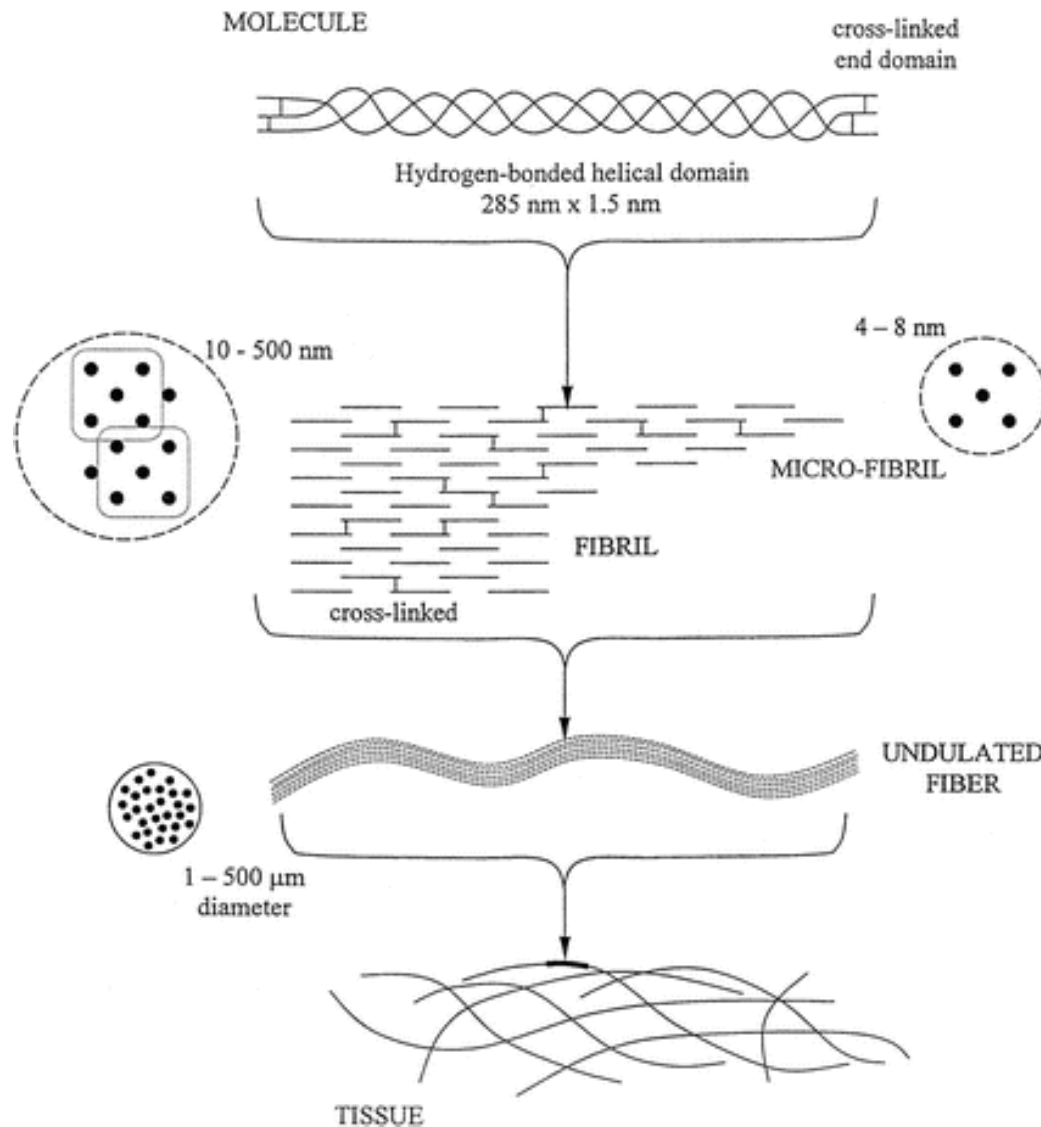


**Type IV Collagen: Basement membranes**



(Gordon & Hahn, Cell Tiss Res, 2010)

# Collagen Structures



**Molecules**



**Fibrils**



**Fibers**



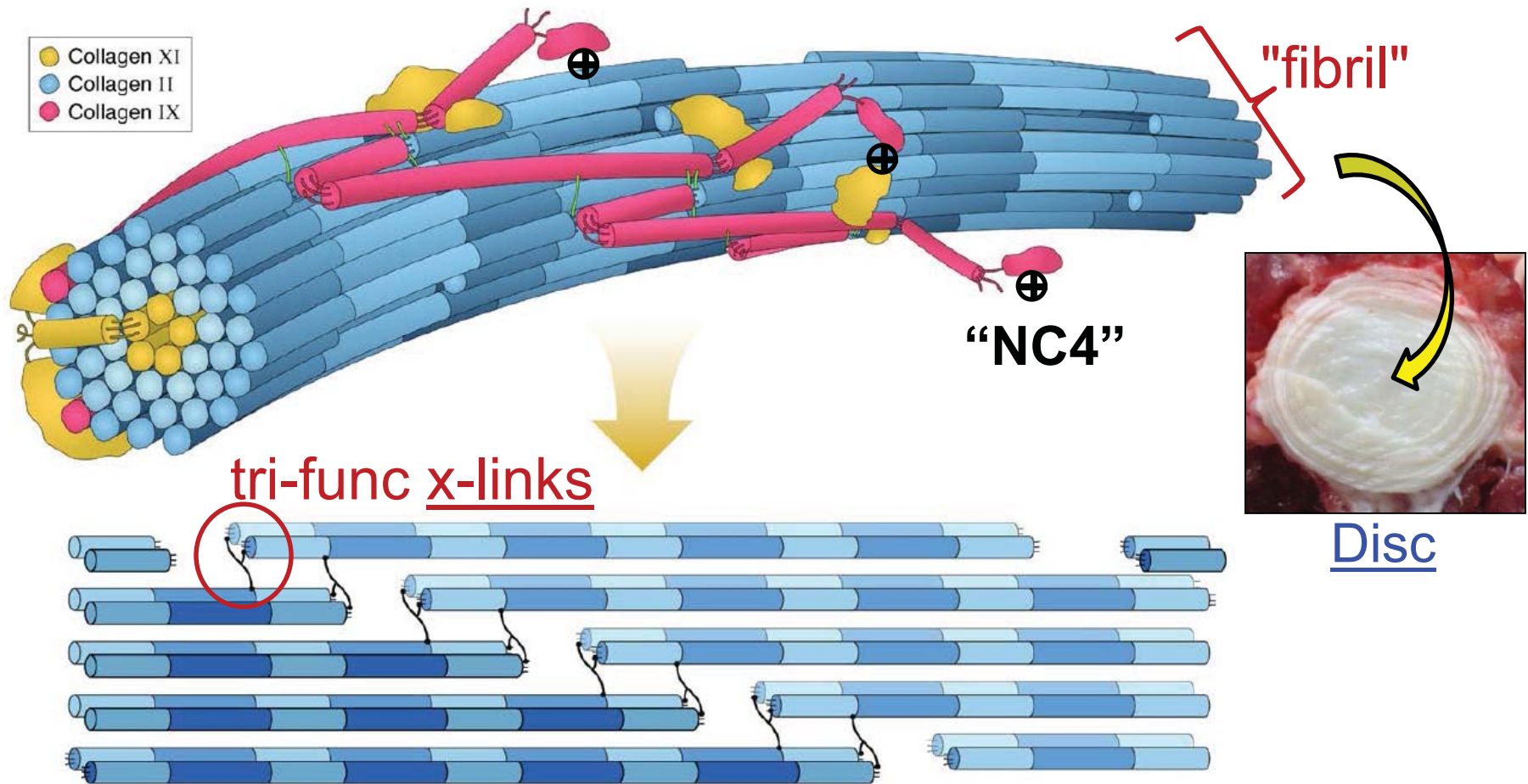
**Tissue**

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 Source: Wright, N. T., and J. D. Humphrey. "Denaturation of Collagen via Heating: An Irreversible Rate Process." *Journal of Biomechanics* 4, no. 1 (2002): 109-28.

Wright & Humphrey, Ann Revs BME, 2002

# Disc and Cartilage “Type II” collagen is really II-IX-XI combo

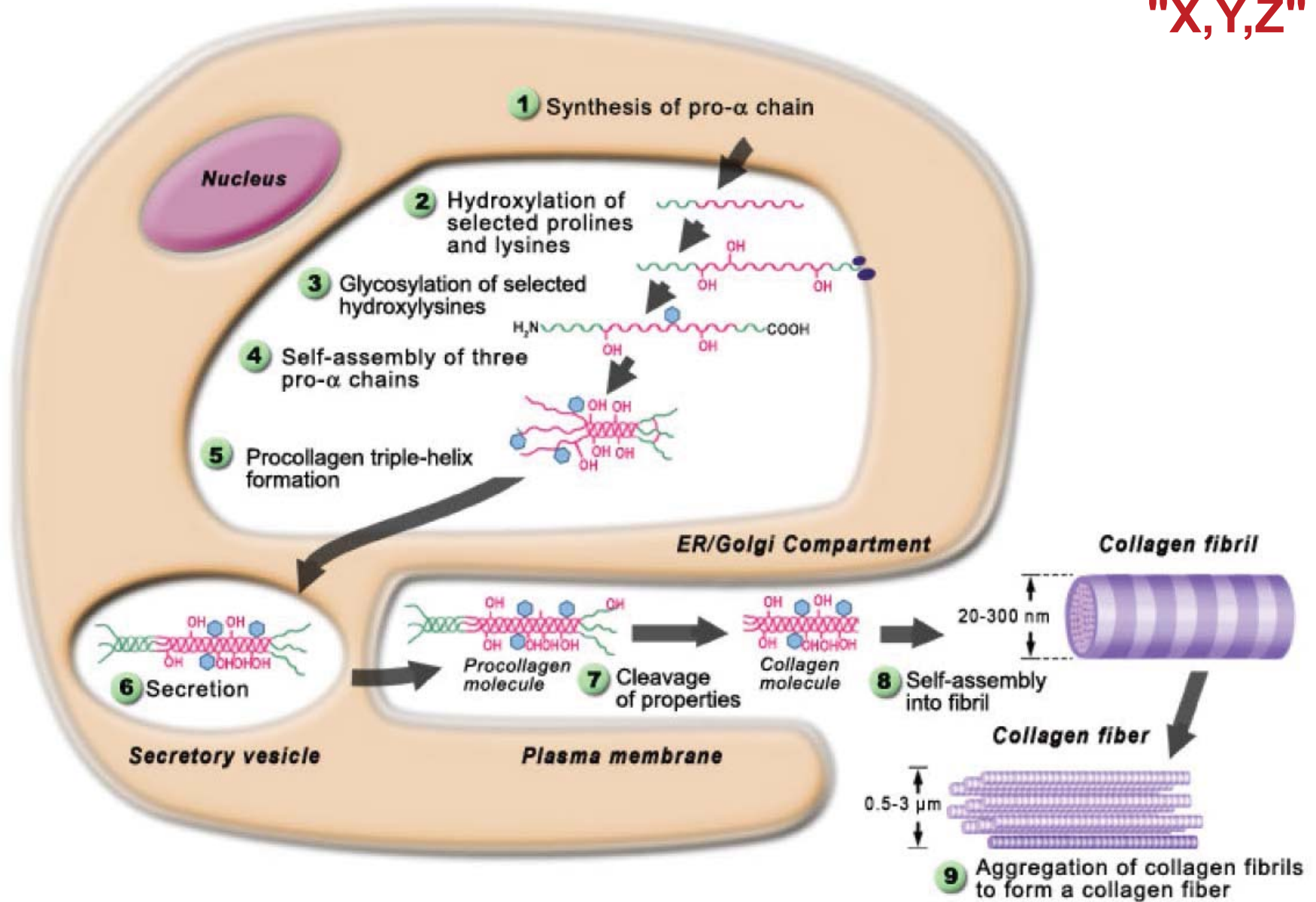
*D.R. Eyre et al. / Methods 45 (2008) 65–74*



Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission.  
Source: Eyre, David R. "Advances in Collagen Cross-link Analysis." *Methods* 45, no. 1 (2008): 65-74.

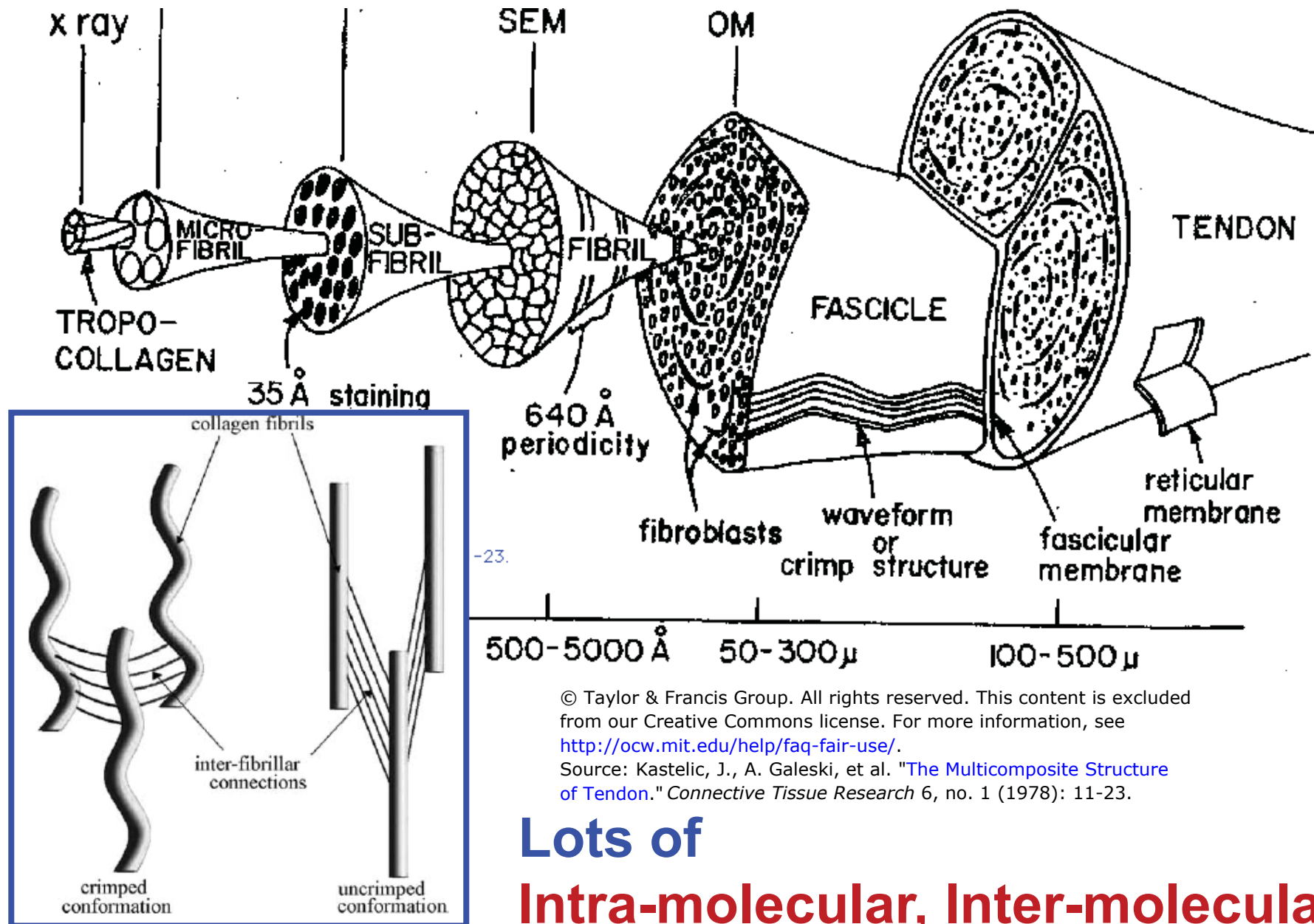
Hierarchical depiction of a heterotypic collagen fibril, emphasizing the internal axial relationships required for mature cross-link formation. Upper: Three-dimensional concept of the type II/IX/XI heterotypic fibril of developing cartilage matrix. Middle: Detail illustrating required nearest neighbor axial relationships for trifunctional intermolecular cross-links to form in collagens of cartilage, bone, and other high-tensile strength tissue matrices. The exact 3D spatial pattern of cross-linking bonds is still unclear for any tissue.

# How do cells make collagen molecules and regulate “fibrillogenesis” ? Why do cells in tissue “A” pick collagens “X,Y,Z” ?



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# Tendon Structure

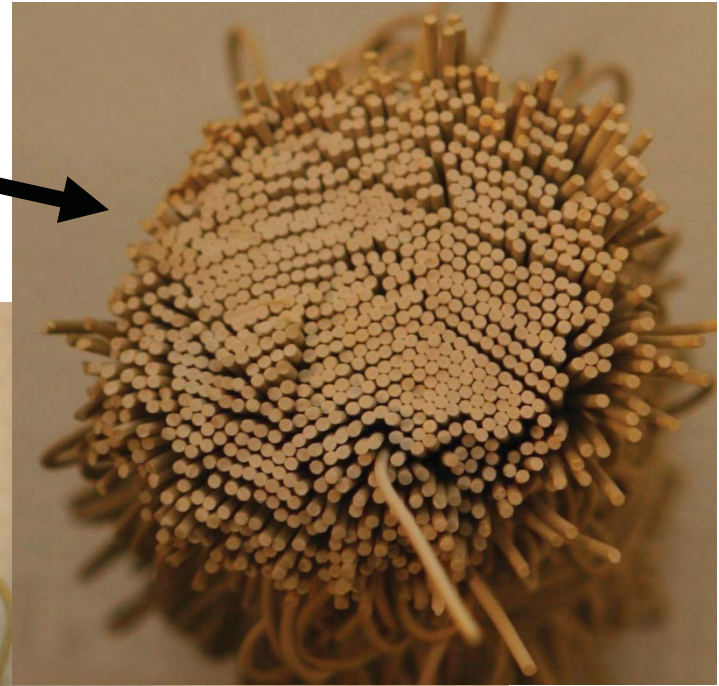


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 Source: Kastelic, J., A. Galeski, et al. "The Multicomposite Structure of Tendon." *Connective Tissue Research* 6, no. 1 (1978): 11-23.

**Lots of**  
**Intra-molecular, Inter-molecular,**  
**Intra-fibrillar, Inter-fibrillar**  
**Crosslinks!!**

No intra- or inter-molecular crosslinks.....

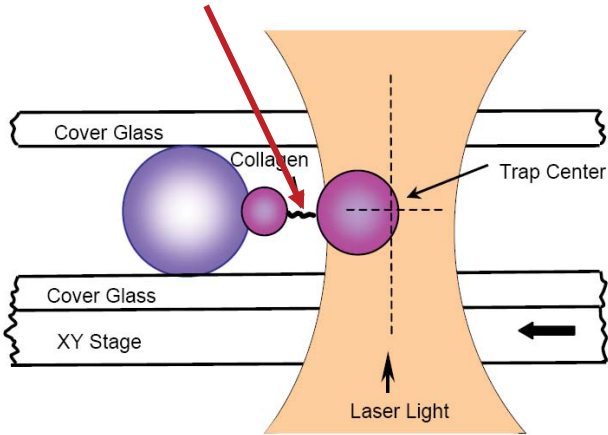
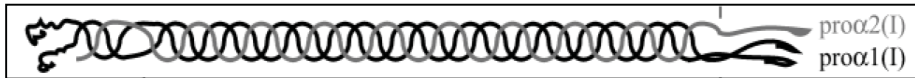
what were they thinking?



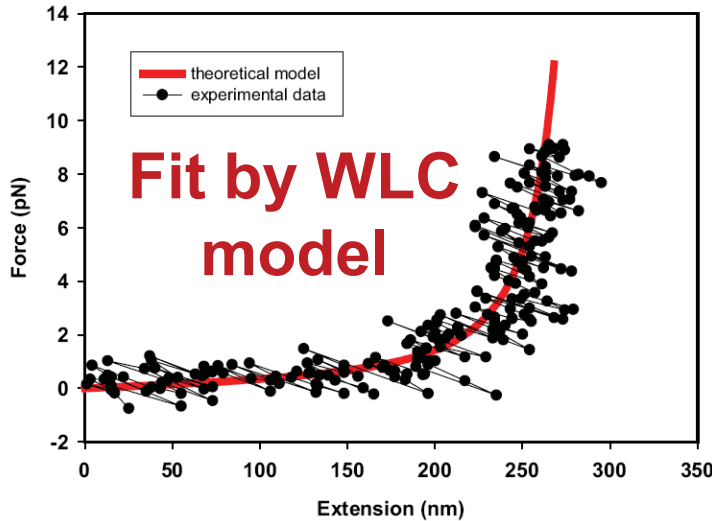
New Zealand Bungee Cord



# Pro-collagen molecule



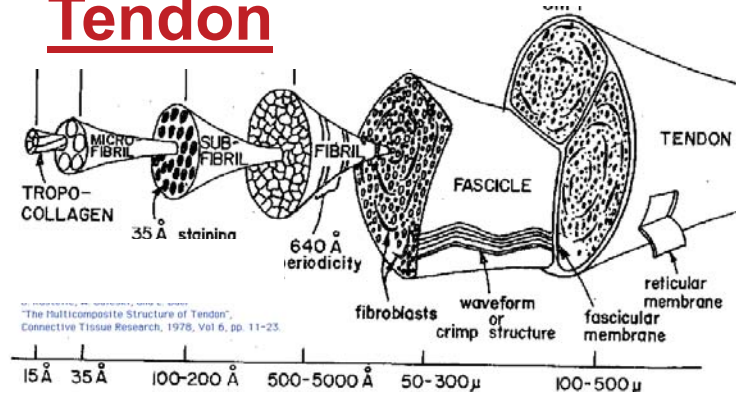
## Force - extension



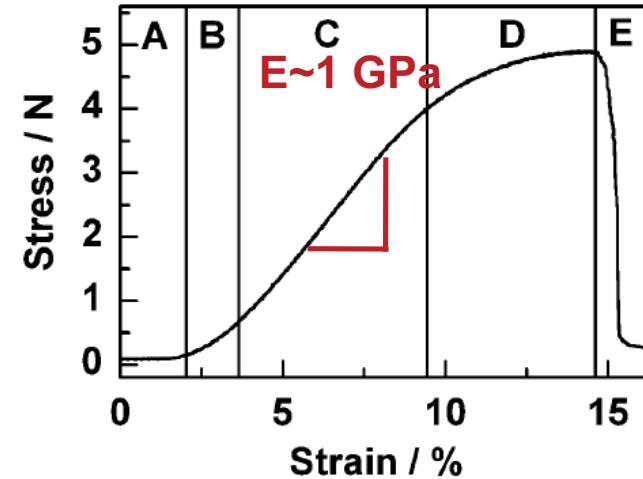
(Sun+, J Biomechanics, 2004)

Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission. Source: Sun, Yu-Long, et al. "Stretching Type II Collagen with Optical Tweezers." *Journal of Biomechanics* 37, no. 11 (2004): 1665-9.

# Tendon



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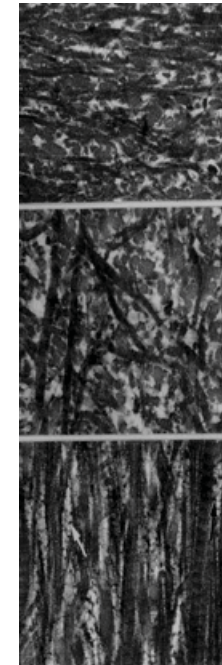
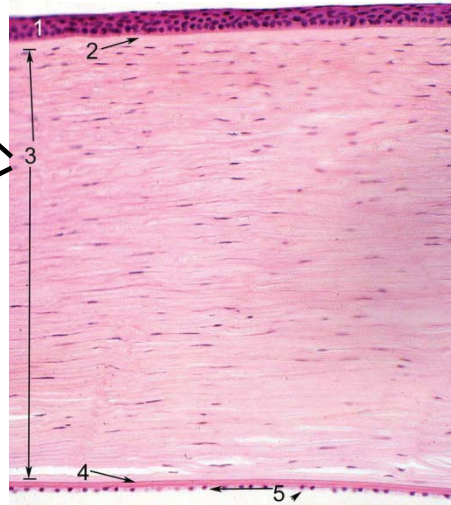
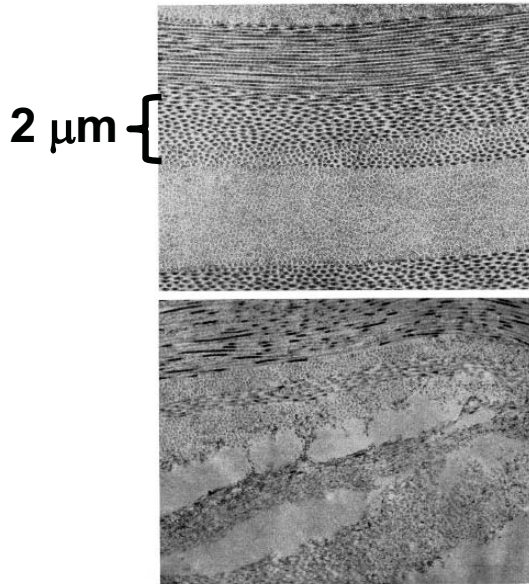
Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission. Source: Gutschmann, Thomas. "Force Spectroscopy of Collagen Fibers to Investigate their Mechanical Properties and Structural Organization." *Biophysical Journal* 86, no. 5 (2004): 3186-93.

Stress vs strain curve of a rat tail tendon: (A-B) Toe - heel region, (C) linear region, (D) plateau, (E) rupture of the tendon.

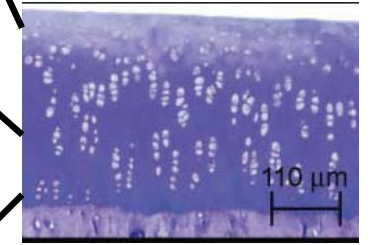
(Gutschmann+, Biophys J, 2004)

# Cornea collagen architecture

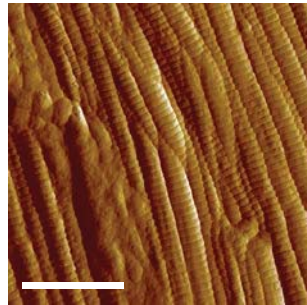
# Cornea



# Collagen (type II)

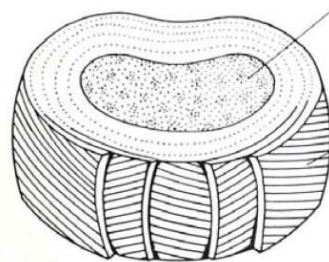


# Tendon imaged by AFM



Tendon collagen fibrils (~28 nm) secreted and organized by tendon fibroblast

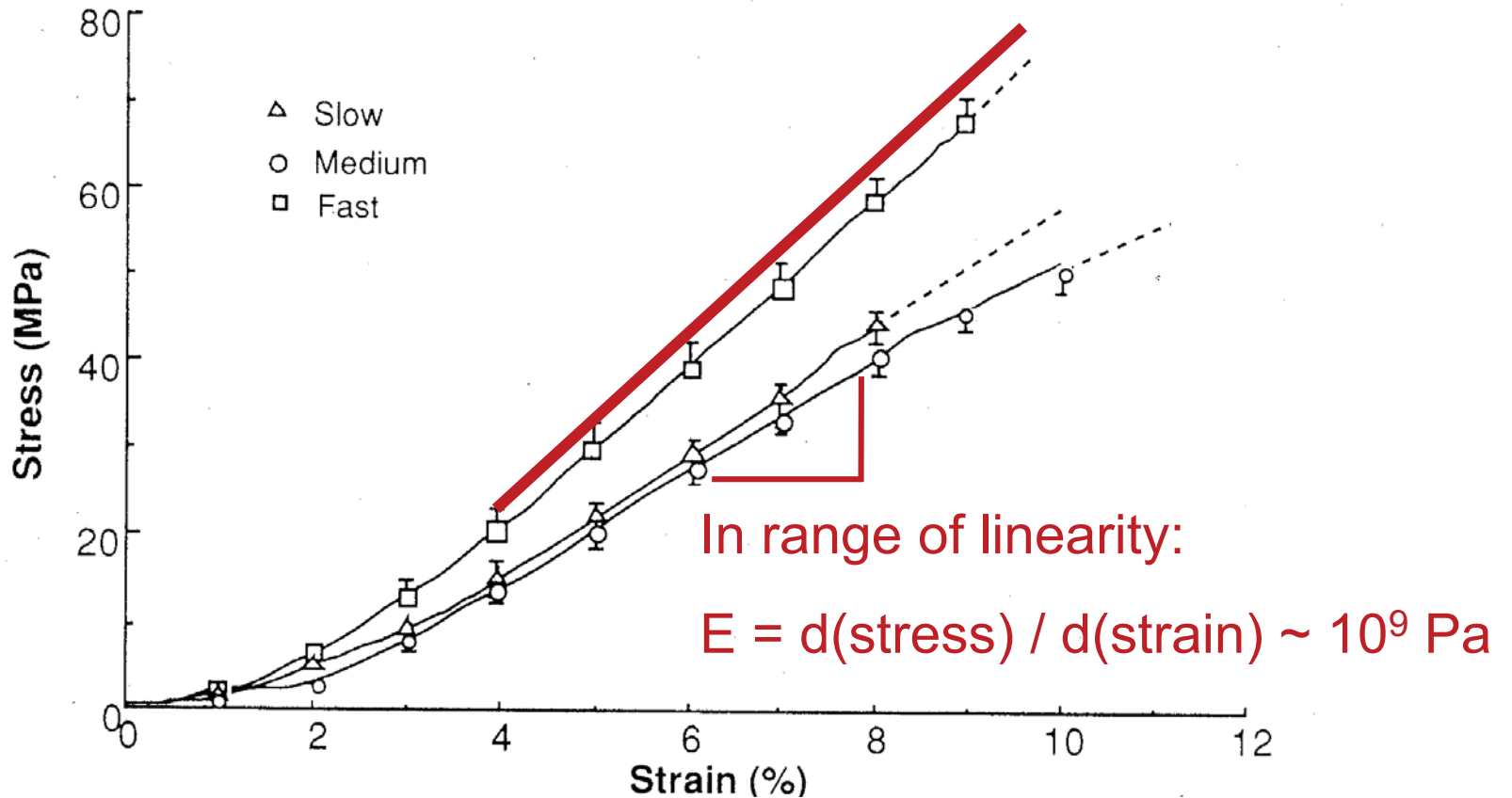
# Collagen architecture of the disc



# Human intervertebral Disc

VRXLFH XONQRZ Q \$@WJ KW LHMUYHG 7KLV FROVMQMLV H[ FOXGHG IURP RXU &LHDMYH &RP P ROV @FHQVH ) RUP RLH LOIRLP DMRQ VHH KWS RFZ P IWHGX KHS IDT IDU XVH

# Young's Modulus of Ligament (ACL) $\approx 1$ GPa



## Macro – Tissue – scale Measurement

Danto MI, Woo SL-Y (1993) The mechanical properties of skeletally mature rabbit anterior cruciate ligament and patellar tendon over a range of strain rates. *J Orthop Res* 11:58–67

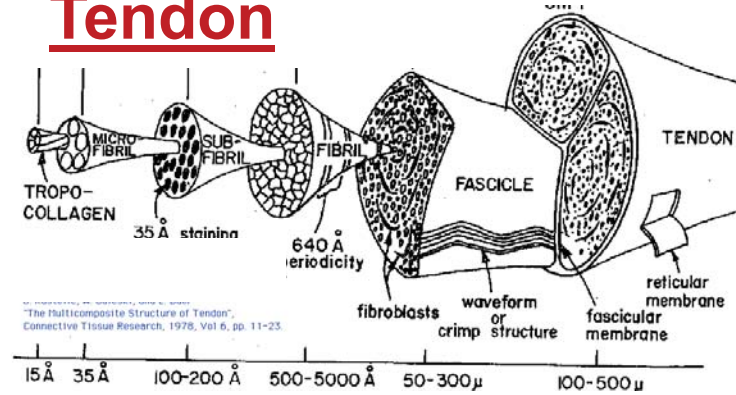
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Source: Danto, Michael I., and Savio L.Y. Woo. "The Mechanical Properties of Skeletally Mature Rabbit Anterior Cruciate Ligament and Patellar Tendon Over a Range of Strain Rates." *Journal of Orthopaedic Research* 11, no. 1 (1993): 58-67.



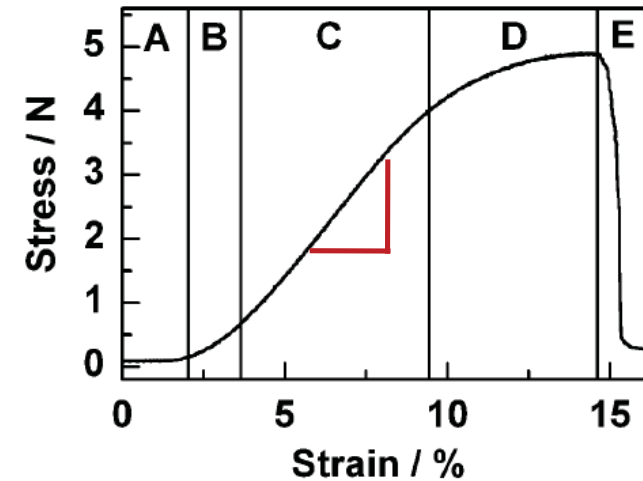
Photograph by Christophe Pallot/Agence Zoom © Getty Images \$ 00L KW UMHUYHG 7KLV FROMQMLV excluded RXU&UHDW\H &RP P RQV 0FHQVH ) RUP RUH LQIRUP DMRQ VHH KWS RFZ P LWHGX KHS IDT IDU XVH .

- How do cells make fibrils from procollagen??
- How are collagen fibrils laid down and oriented??
- What is process during tissue embryogenesis ??
- What about mature tissue *after injury*: how do tendons / ligaments heal ??

## Tendon



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 Source: Kastelic, J., A. Galeski, et al. "The Multicomposite Structure of Tendon." *Connective Tissue Research* 6, no. 1 (1978): 11-23.

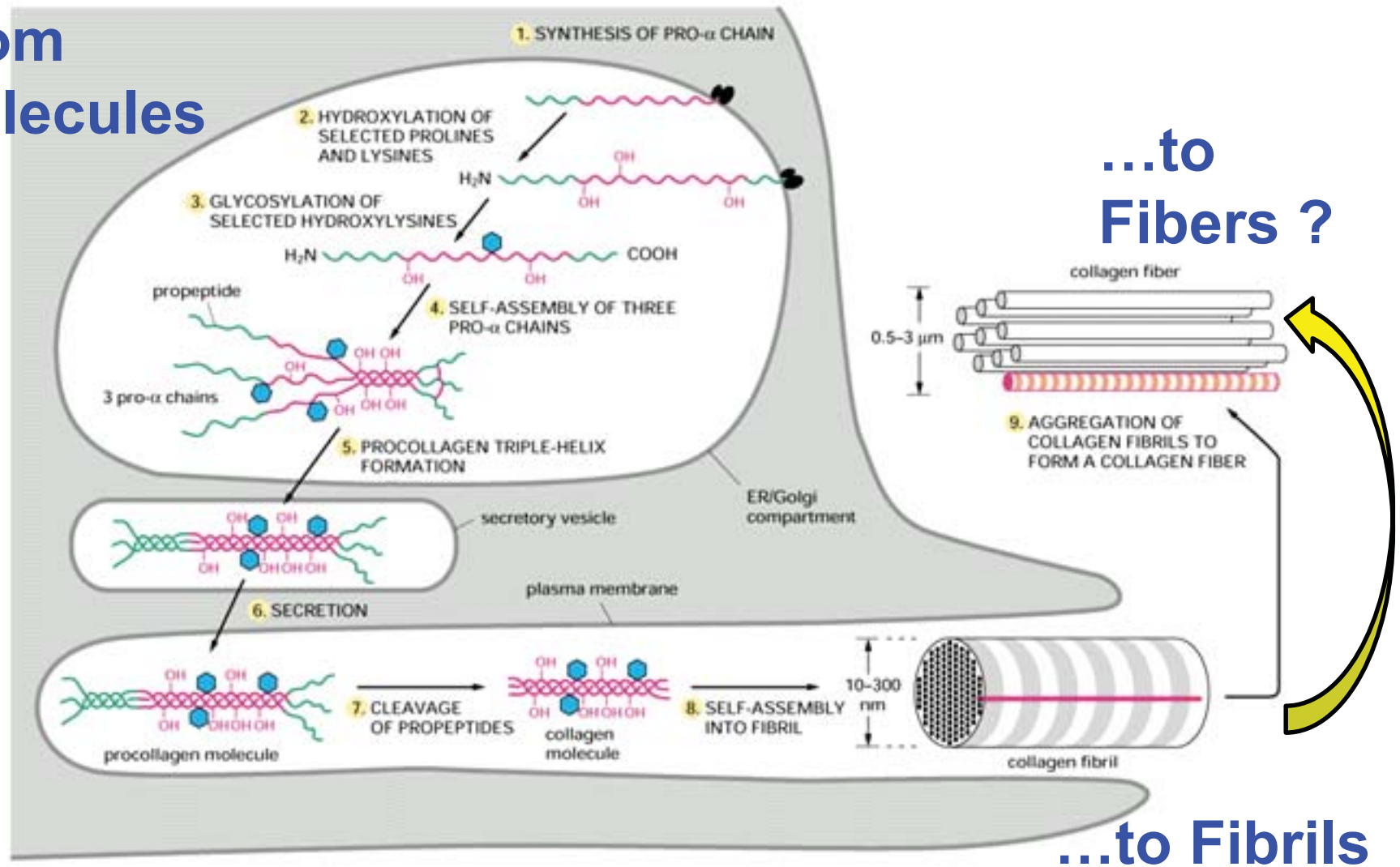


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 Source: Gutsman, Thomas. "Force Spectroscopy of Collagen Fibers to Investigate their Mechanical Properties and Structural Organization." *Biophysical Journal* 86, no. 5 (2004): 3186-93.

Stress vs strain curve of a rat tail tendon: (A-B) Toe - heel region, (C) linear region, (D) plateau, (E) rupture of the tendon.

(Gutsman+, Biophys J, 2004)

# From Molecules



...to Fibrils

**Figure 19-43.** The intracellular and extracellular events involved in the formation of a collagen fibril. Note that collagen fibrils are shown assembling in the extracellular space contained within a large infolding in the plasma membrane. As one example of how the collagen fibrils can form ordered arrays in the extracellular space, they are shown further assembling into large collagen fibers, which are visible in the light microscope. The covalent cross-links that stabilize the extracellular assemblies are not shown.

VRXLFH XONORZ O \$ @WJ KW UHVHUYHG 7KLW FROMQWLV H[ FOXGHG IURP RXU&UHDWYH  
&RP P ROV QFHOVH ) RUP RUH LOIRUP DWRQ VHH KW& RFZ P LWXHG KH& IDT IDLW XVH

# Coalignment of plasma membrane channels and protrusions (fibripositors) specifies the parallelism of tendon

J Cell Biol 2004

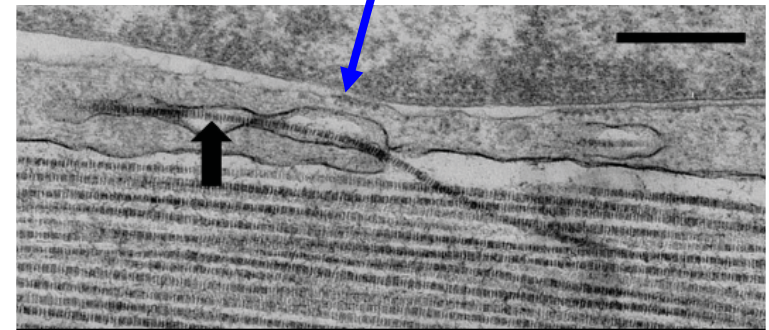
Elizabeth G. Canty, Yinhui Lu, Roger S. Meadows, Michael K. Shaw, David F. Holmes, and Karl E. Kadler

Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research, School of Biological Sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PT UK

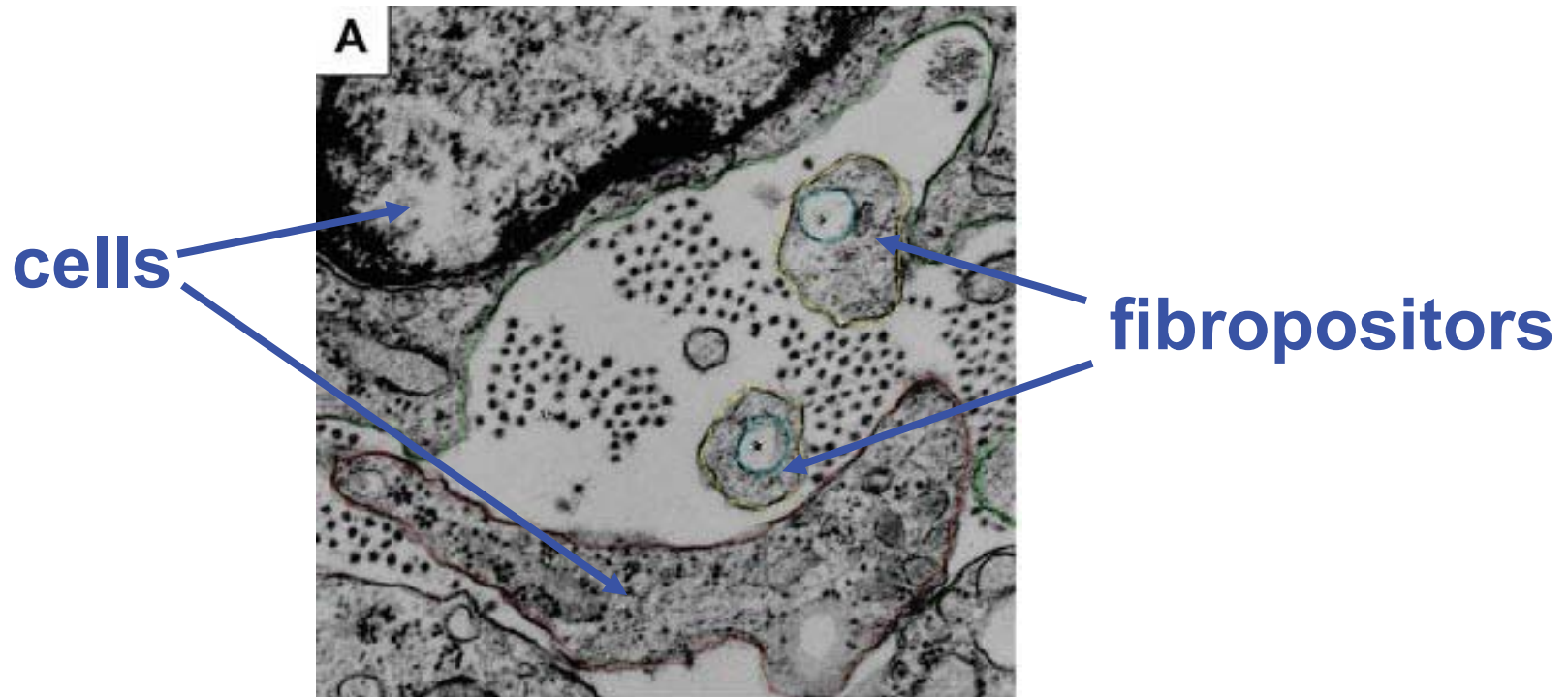
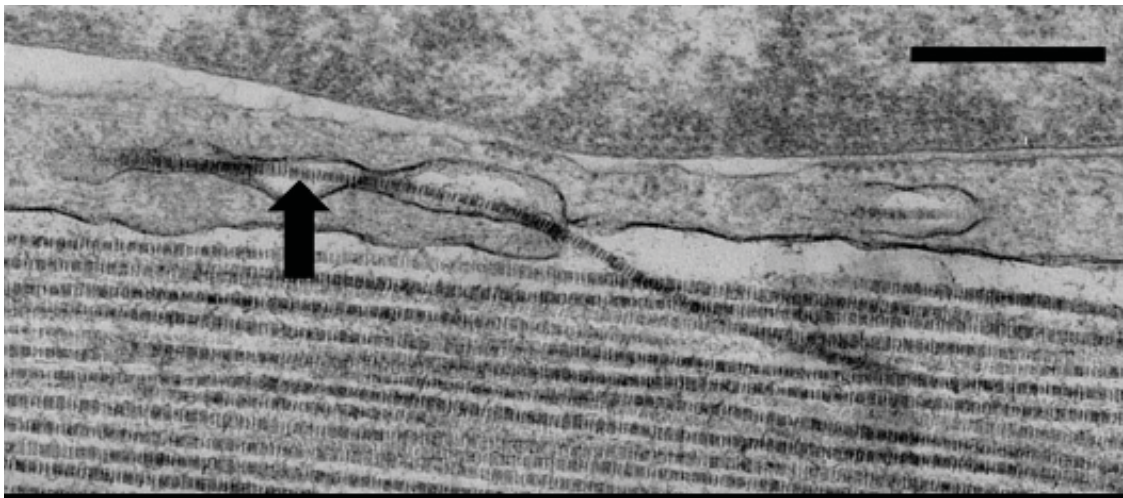
The functional properties of tendon require an extracellular matrix (ECM) rich in elongated collagen fibrils in parallel register. We sought to understand how embryonic fibroblasts elaborate this exquisite arrangement of fibrils. We show that procollagen processing and collagen fibrillogenesis are initiated in Golgi to plasma membrane carriers (GPCs). These carriers and their cargo of 28-nm-diam fibrils are targeted to previously unidentified plasma membrane (PM) protrusions (here designated "fibripositors") that are parallel to the tendon axis and project into parallel channels between cells. The base of the fibripositor lumen (buried several microns within the cell) is a nucleation site

Fibripositors are absent at postnatal stages when fibrils increase in diameter by accretion of extracellular collagen, thereby maintaining parallelism of the tendon. Thus, we show that the parallelism of tendon is determined by the late secretory pathway

"fibripositor"



Courtesy of Rockefeller University Press. License: CC BY-NC-SA. Source: Canty, Elizabeth G. "Coalignment of Plasma Membrane Channels and Protrusions (fibripositors) specifies the Parallelism of Tendon." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 165, no. 4 (2004): 553-63.

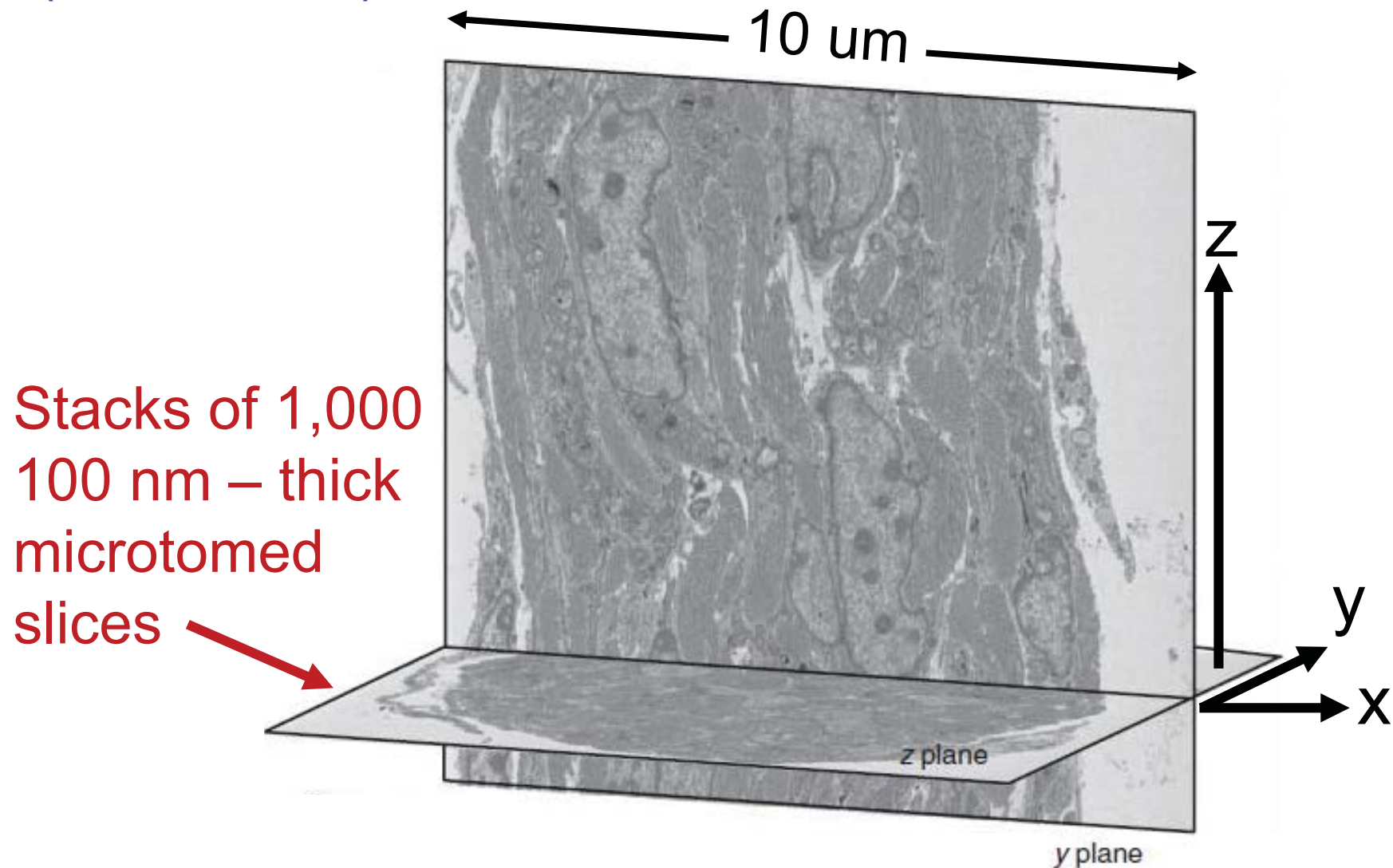


Courtesy of Rockefeller University Press. License: CC BY-NC-SA.  
Source: Canty, Elizabeth G. "Coalignment of Plasma Membrane Channels and Protrusions (fibroblasts) specifies the Parallelism of Tendon." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 165, no. 4 (2004): 553-63.



# Serial Block Face -- Scanning Electron Microscopy ("SBF-SEM")

Embryonic Mouse Tail Tendon



Starborg / Kadler+, 1446 | VOL.8 NO.7 | 2013 | **NATURE PROTOCOLS**

Courtesy of Macmillan Publishers Limited. Used with permission.

Source: Starborg, Tobias., et al. "Using Transmission Electron Microscopy and 3View to Determine Collagen Fibril Size and Three-dimensional Organization." *1DVIUH 3URVFRQV8*, no. 7 (2013): 1433-48.

# Nonmuscle myosin II powered transport of newly formed collagen fibrils at the plasma membrane

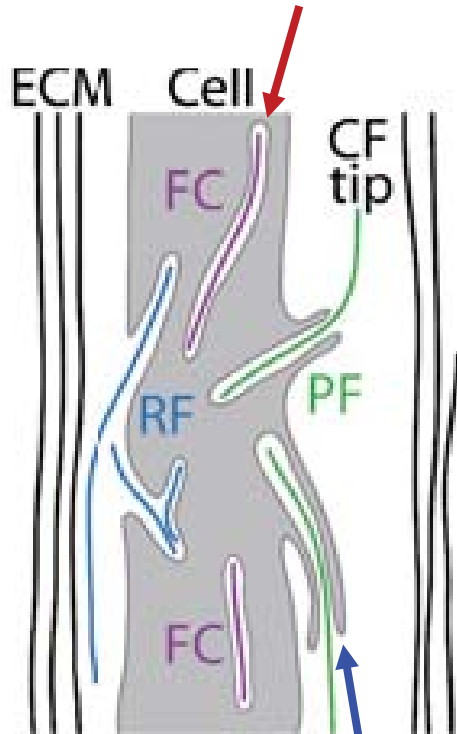
Nicholas S. Kalson<sup>a,1</sup>, Tobias Starborg<sup>a,1</sup>, Yinhui Lu<sup>a</sup>, Aleksandr Mironov<sup>b</sup>, Sally M. Humphries<sup>a</sup>, David F. Holmes<sup>a</sup>, and Karl E. Kadler<sup>a,2</sup>

PNAS 2013

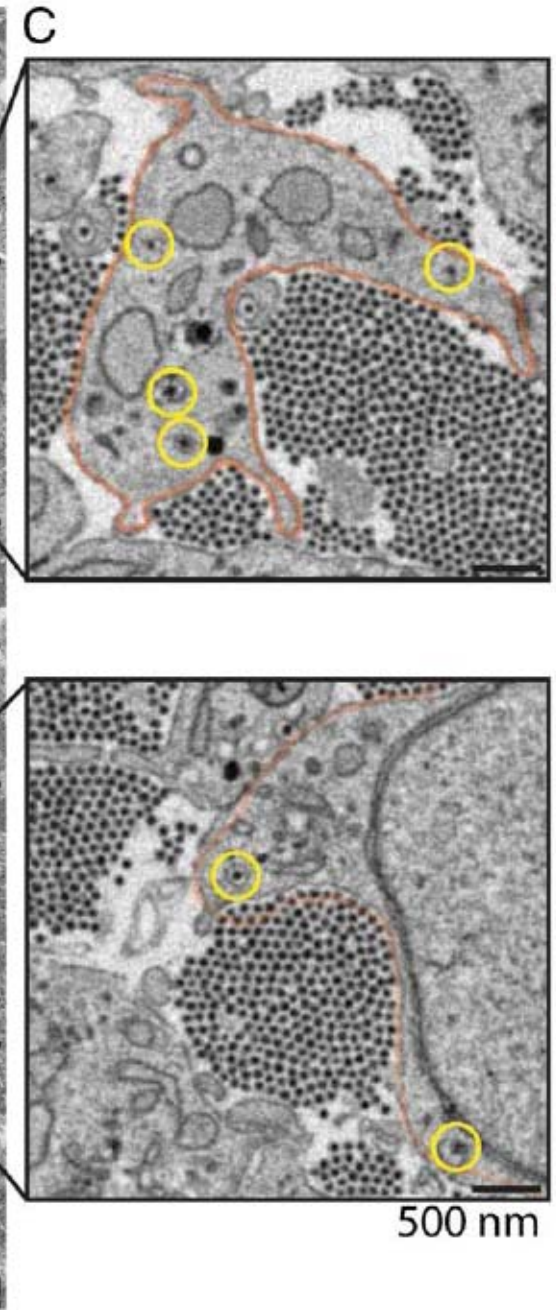
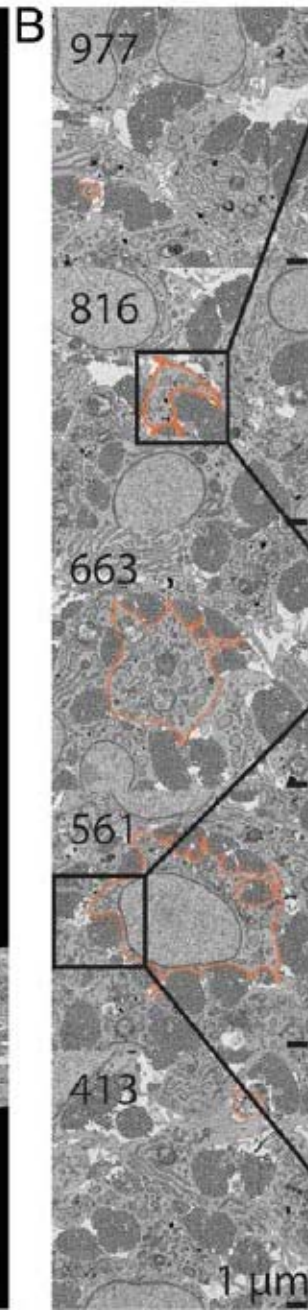
- Collagen fibrils are >1mm long; they are the longest, largest, most size-pleomorphic protein in vertebrates; knowing how cells transport collagen fibrils: key to tissue morphogenesis.
- We identified newly formed collagen fibrils being transported at the surface of embryonic tendon cells in vivo by using SBF-SEM of the cell-matrix interface.
- Newly formed fibrils: ~1 to ~30µm. The shortest (1–10µm) occurred in intracellular fibricarriers; the longest (~30µm) occurred in plasma membrane fibripositors.
- Non-muscle myosin II (NMII) powers transport of new collagen fibrils at the plasma membrane; NMII-dependent cell-force model is the basis for the creation and dynamics of fibripositor structures for making collagen rich tissues.

Cell ~ 60µm long

Intracellular  
Fibricarrier



Protruding  
Fibripositor



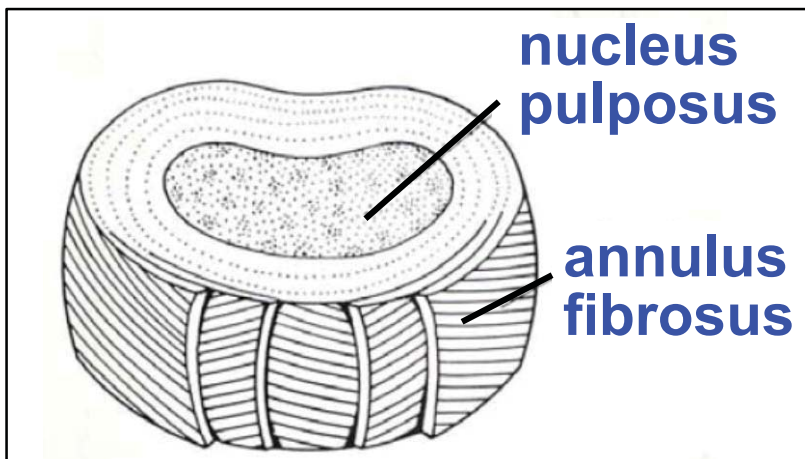
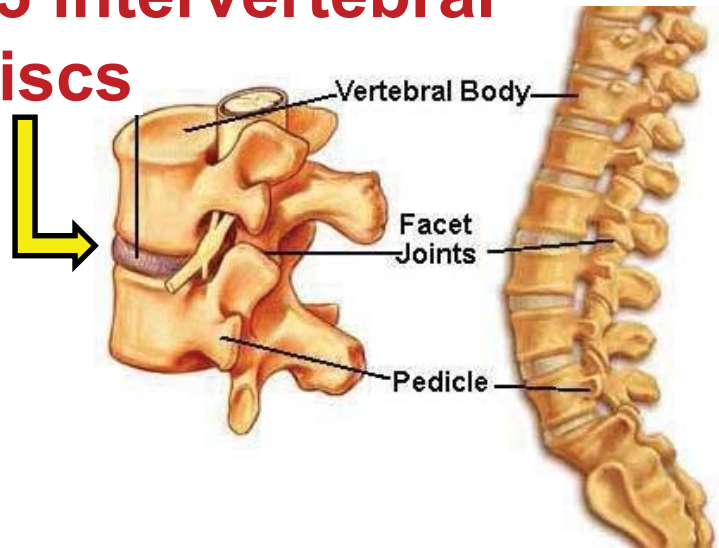
VRXLFH XONQRZ Q \$@UJ KW UHVHUYHG 7KLV FROMMQMLV  
H[ FOXGHG IURP RXU&UHDWYH &RP P RQV QFHQVH ) RUP RUH  
LQIRLP DMRQ VHH KWS RFZ P UHGX KHS IDT IDU XVH

Courtesy of Karl E. Kadler. Used with permission.

Source: Kalson, Nicholas S., et al. "Nonmuscle Myosin II Powered Transport of Newly Formed Collagen Fibrils at the Plasma Membrane." *3URFHGLOJ V RI VKH 1 DMRQDO\$FDGHP \ RI 6FLHQFHV* 110, no. 49 (2013): E4743-52.

# Disc Extracellular Matrix Composition

23 intervertebral discs



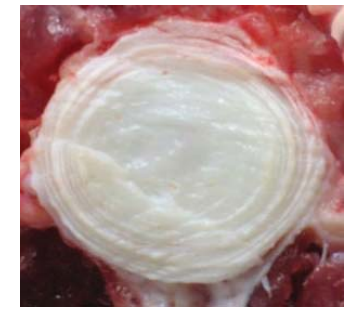
<u>Collagens</u>	<u>Proteoglycans</u>
<u>Fibrillar</u>	<u>Aggregating</u>
Type I AF	NP Aggrecan
Type II NP	AF Versican
Type III	NP Hyaluronan
Type V AF	NP Link protein
Type XI NP	<u>Fibril-associated</u>
<u>Fibril-associated</u>	AF Decorin
Type IX NP	AF Biglycan
Type XII	Fibromodulin
Type XIV	Lumican
<u>Pericellular</u>	<u>Pericellular</u>
Type VI	Perlecan
Type X	

(Peter Roughley, Spine, 2004)

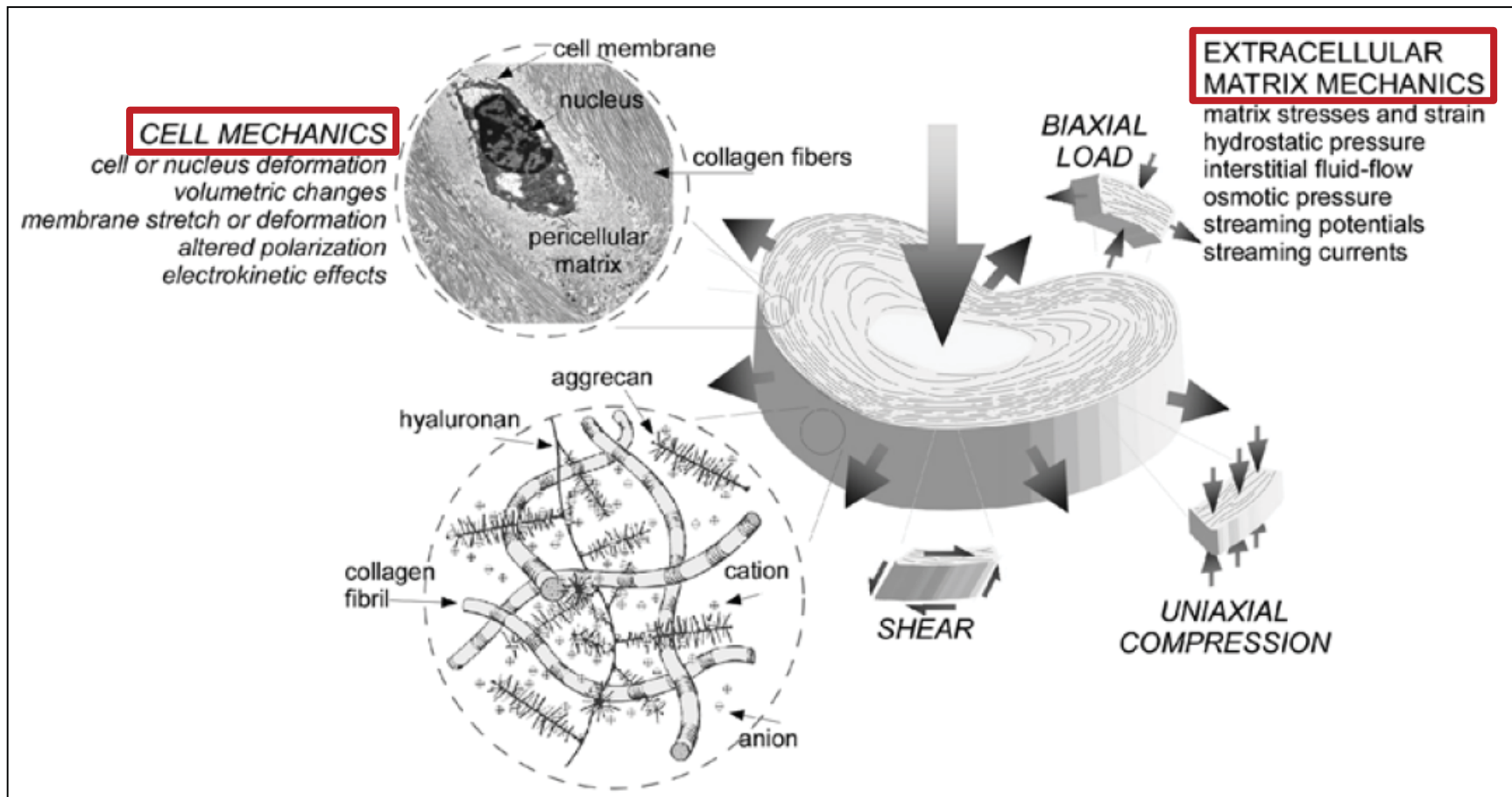
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 Source: Roughley, Peter J. "Biology of Intervertebral Disc Aging and Degeneration: Involvement of the Extracellular Matrix." *Spine* 29, no. 23 (2004): 2691-9.

# MECHANOBIOLOGY OF THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISC AND RELEVANCE TO DISC DEGENERATION

BY LORI A. SETTON, PHD, AND JUN CHEN, PHD

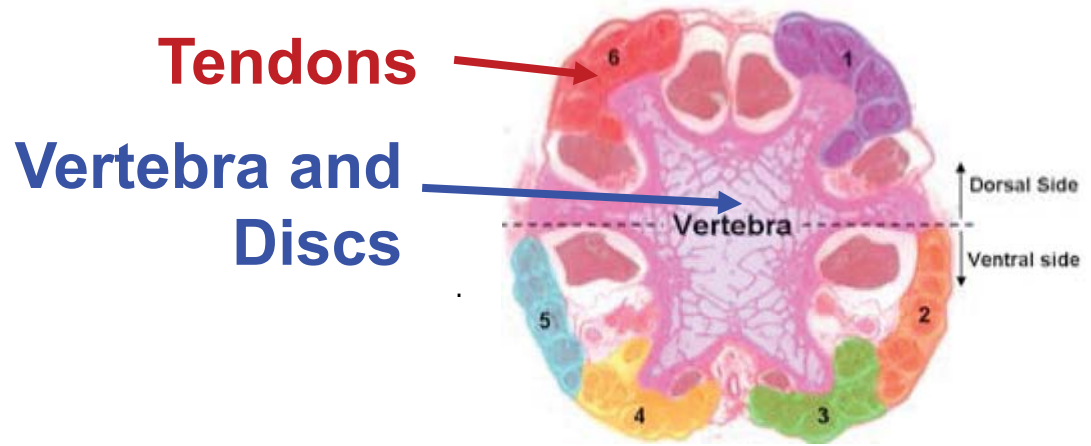


(Fig 7.1)

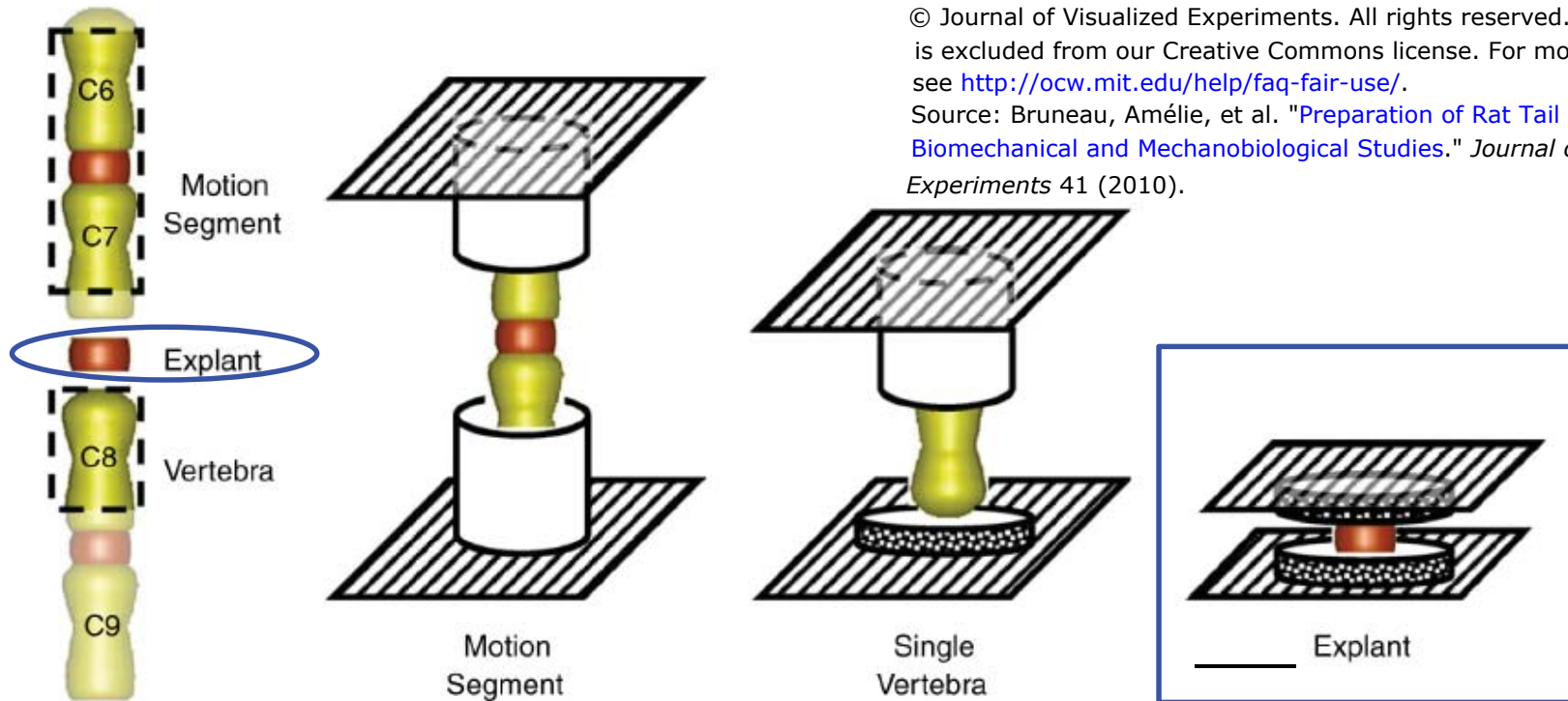


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Source: Setton, Lori A., and Jun Chen. "Mechanobiology of the Intervertebral Disc and Relevance to Disc Degeneration." *7KH -RXUQDORI %ROH -RLOW6XUJHUA* 88, no. suppl 2 (2006): 52-57.

# “Creep-Compression” of intervertebral disc (rat tail)



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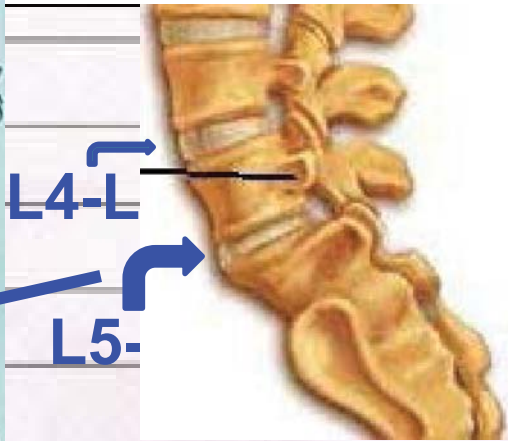


Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission. Source: MacLean, Jeffrey J., et al. "Role of Endplates in Contributing to Compression Behaviors of Motion Segments and Intervertebral Discs." *SPRINGER* 40, no. 1 (2007): 55-63.

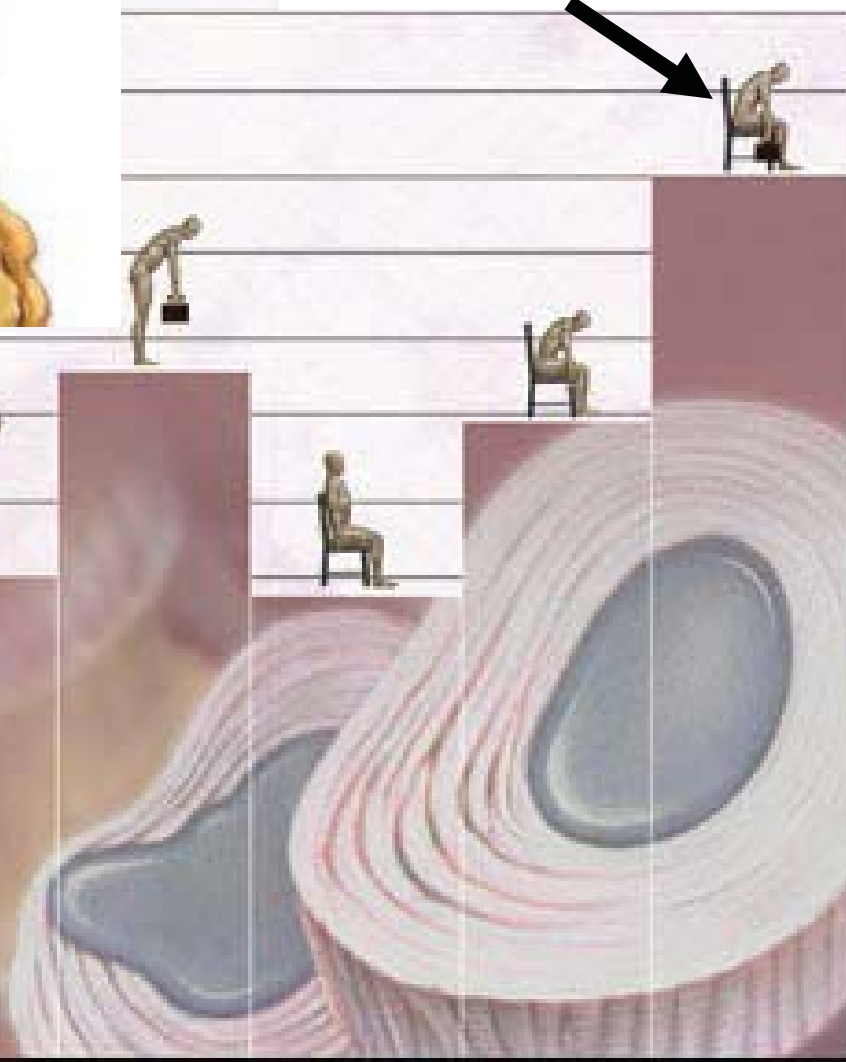
(MacLean+, J Biomechanics, 2007)

Intradiscal pressure

350  
325  
300  
275  
250  
225  
200  
175  
150  
125  
100  
75  
50  
25  
0



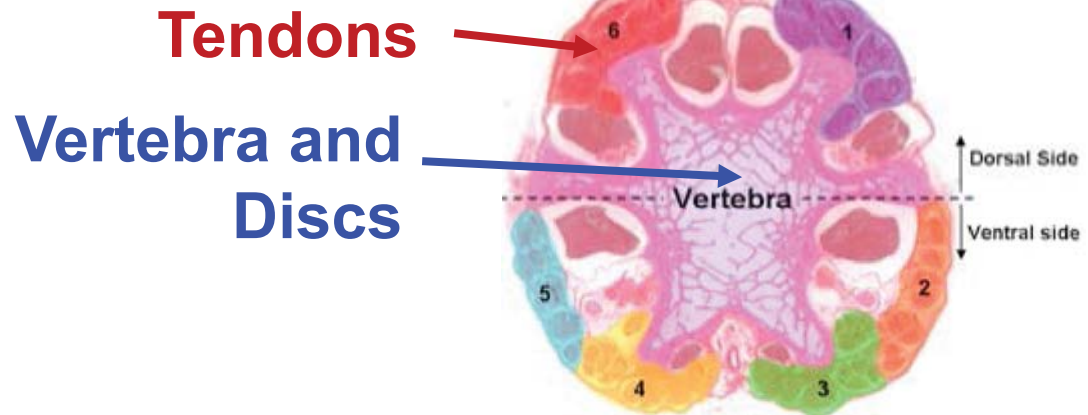
Don't do this in the Gym!!



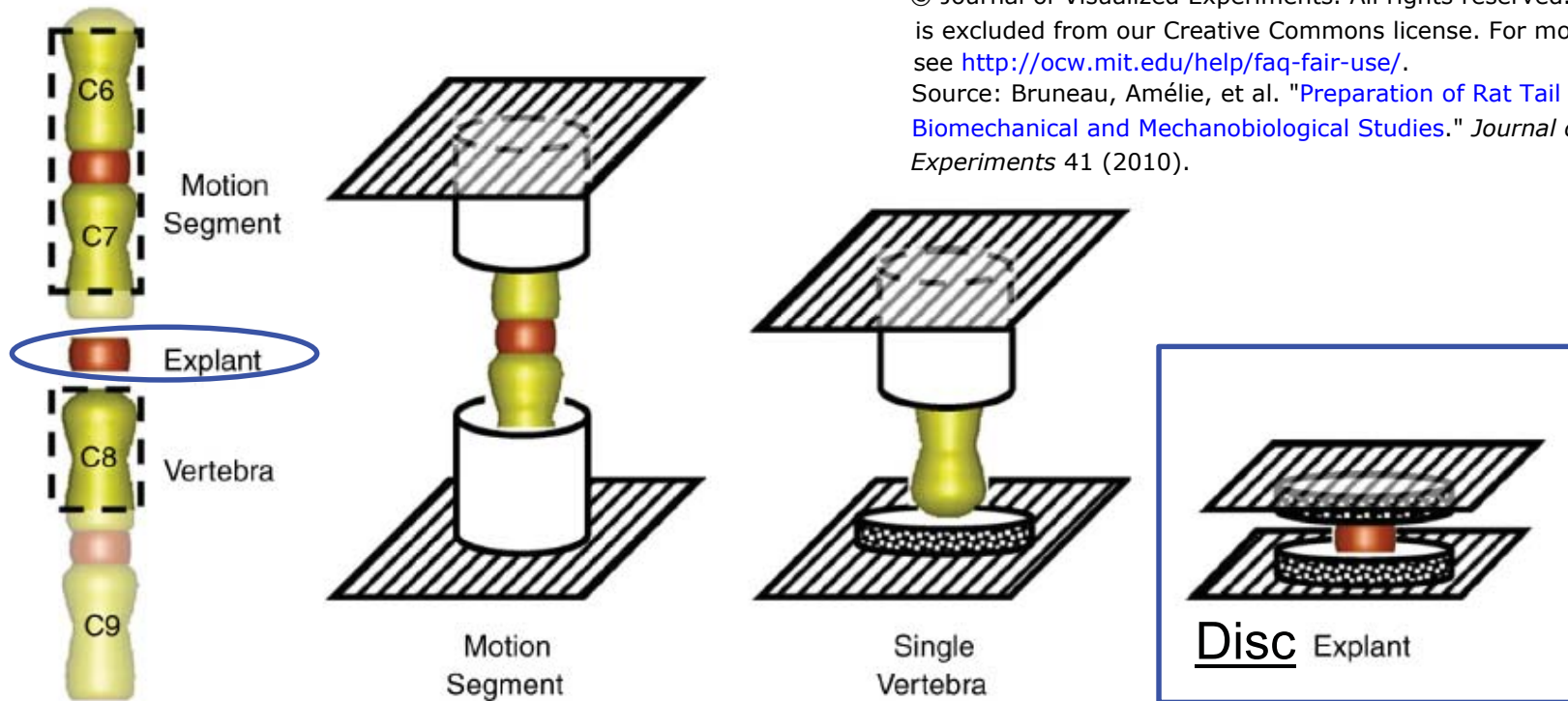
Scott Bodell \$ @WJ KW UHVHUYHG 7KLV FROMQWLV H[ FQXGHG IURP RXU & UHDMWYH Common  
QFHQVH ) RUP RUH LQIRUP DMRQ VHH KWV RFZ P LVHGX KHCS IDT IDW XVH

(original data from Alf Nachemson et al., JBJS, 1964)

# “Creep-Compression” of intervertebral disc (rat tail)



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(MacLean+, J Biomechanics, 2007)



# THE INTERACTION OF MUCOPROTEIN WITH SOLUBLE COLLAGEN; AN ELECTRON MICROSCOPE STUDY\*

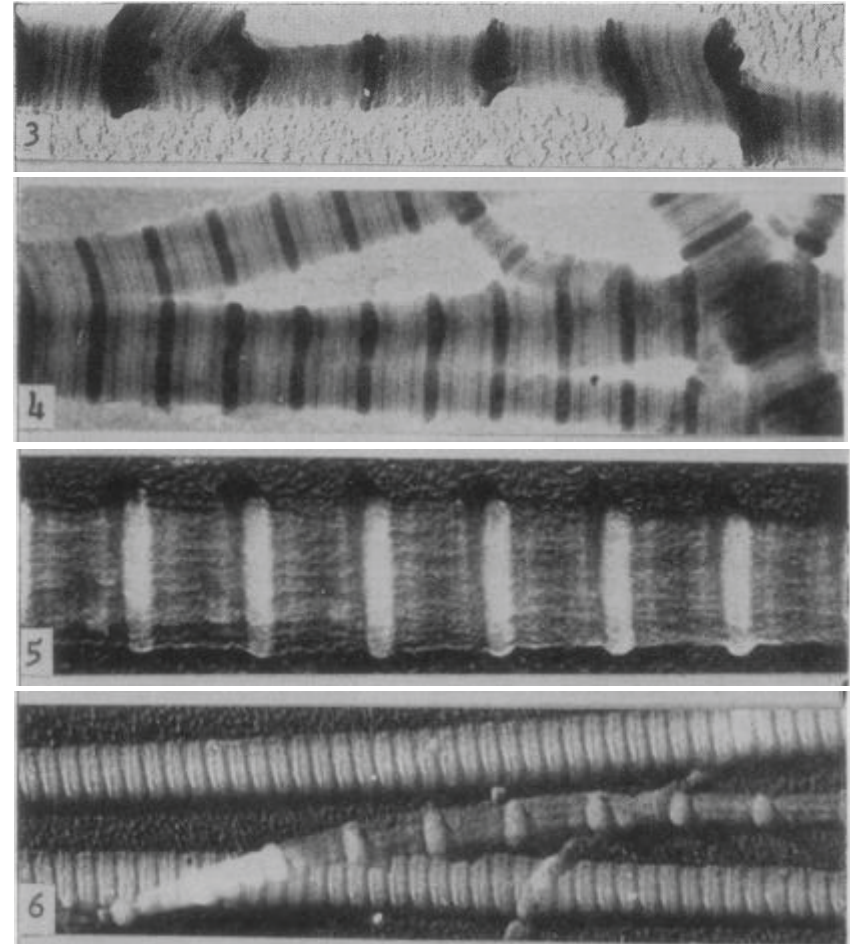
BY JOHN H. HIGHBERGER, JEROME GROSS AND FRANCIS O. SCHMITT

RESEARCH DIVISION, UNITED SHOE MACHINERY CORPORATION, BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS; MEDICAL CLINIC OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL;† AND BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

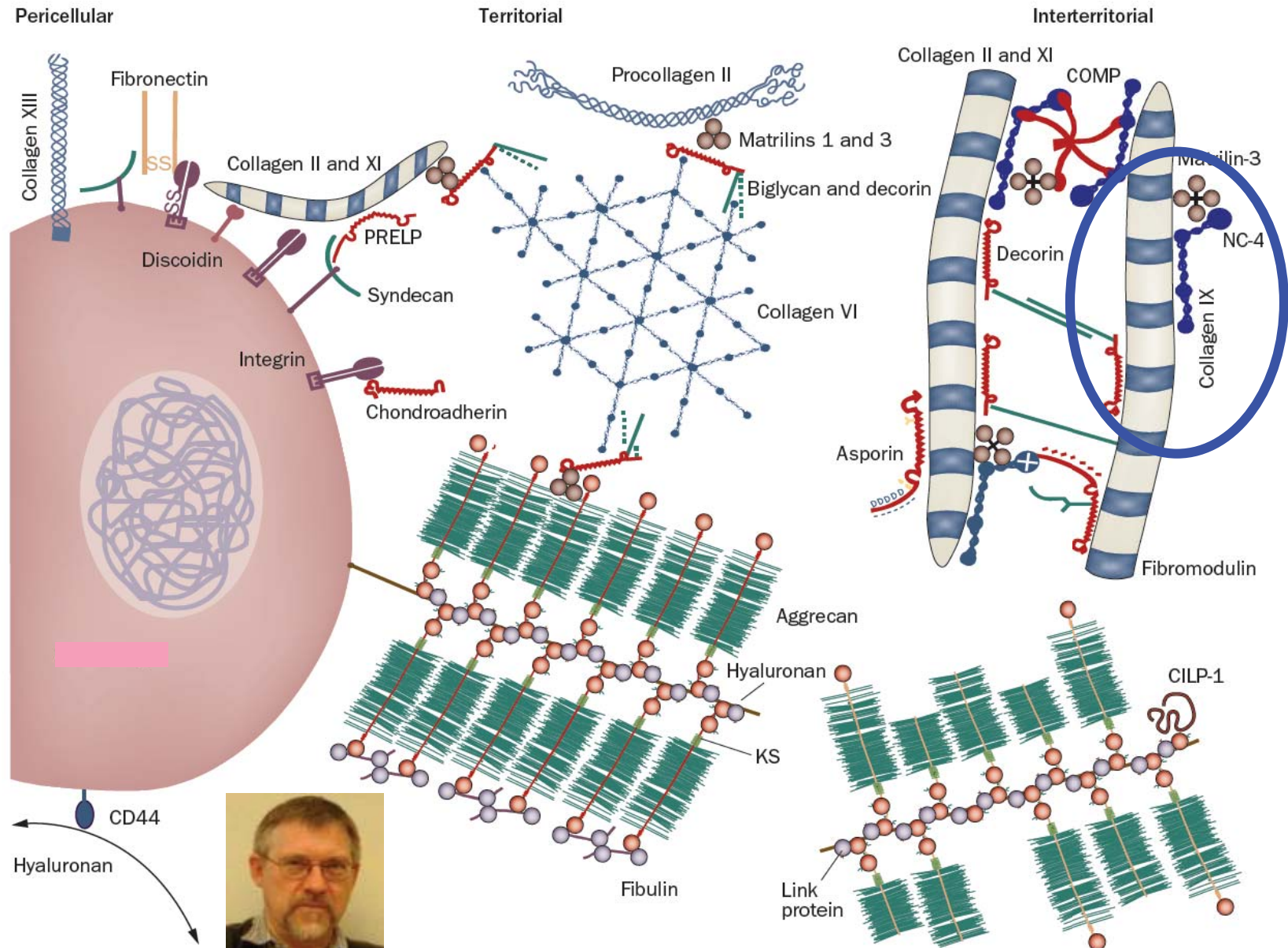
## PNAS 1951

The collagen of certain forms of connective tissue, such as rat tail tendon and the fish swim bladder (ichthyocol), dissolve in dilute acid to yield a clear, relatively viscous solution. When NaCl is added to such a solution to a concentration of 0.2–1.0%, or if the solution be neutralized, a fibrous precipitate of collagen is produced.<sup>1–3</sup> Electron microscope studies have demonstrated that the reconstituted fibrils show the axial period and intra-period fine structure typical of native collagen fibrils although the acid filtrate contains only very thin filaments.<sup>4, 5</sup> The process by which the thin filaments in the acid filtrate aggregate laterally to produce the typical collagen structure is of interest not only from the physical chemical point of view but also because a better understanding of the phenomenon may provide clues as to the mechanism of fibrogenesis *in vivo*. Investigations of the process of fibril reconstitution from acid filtrates of collagen by the addition of salt have been made in these laboratories<sup>6</sup> and will be reported in detail elsewhere. For the present it may be noted that the type of fibril structure observed in the electron microscope (axial repeating patterns of about 650 Å, 220 Å, or no apparent pattern) depends upon the concentrations of salt and collagen. The experiments described in this paper suggest that other factors may also be of importance in the process of reconstitution.

## Rat Tail Tendon Collagen



# Cells Synthesize 100s of Extracellular Matrix Macromolecules



(Dick Heinegård, Nature Revs. Rheumatology 2010)

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 Source: Heinegård, Dick, and Tore Saxne. "The Role of the Cartilage Matrix in Osteoarthritis." *Nature Reviews Rheumatology* 7, no. 1 (2011): 50-56.

## Video Article

### Preparation of Rat Tail Tendons for Biomechanical and Mechanobiological Studies

Amélie Bruneau, Nadia Champagne, Paule Cousineau-Pelletier, Gabriel Parent, Eve Langelier  
Groupe PERSEUS, Faculté de Génie Département de génie mécanique, Université de Sherbrooke

Correspondence to: Eve Langelier at [Eve.Langelier@Usherbrooke.ca](mailto:Eve.Langelier@Usherbrooke.ca)

## Part 1: Extraction

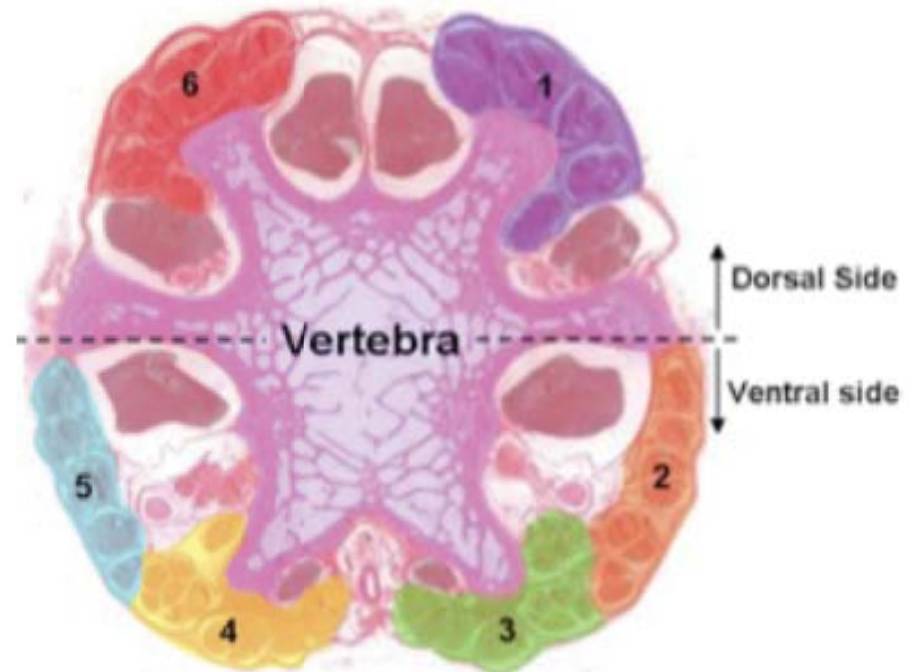
After resection, the tail is carefully manipulated by its extremities to avoid damaging the tissues. are carried out in cold saline solution.

### 1A) Materials:

- Cold saline solution (D-PBS)
- Crushed ice
- Surface protector
- Cutting board
- Individual manipulation plates
- 2 500 ml dishes
- 2 2L glass dishes
- Adhesive tape
- 1 Tweezers
- 1 Forceps
- 1 Tweezers stand
- 1 Pair of surgical shears
- 1 Scalpel
- 1 Pair of surgical scissors



**Figure 1.** Individual manipulation with orientation identification ("P" for "proximal")



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Source: Bruneau, Amélie, et al. "Preparation of Rat Tail Tendons for Biomechanical and Mechanobiological Studies." *Journal of Visualized Experiments* 41 (2010).

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20.310J / 3.053J / 6.024J / 2.797J Molecular, Cellular, and Tissue Biomechanics  
Spring 2015

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