

Nodal

Signaling
pathway

Presented by
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WHAT

Nodal is a morphogen that provides positional information to cells and influence their fate and behavior during embryonic development.

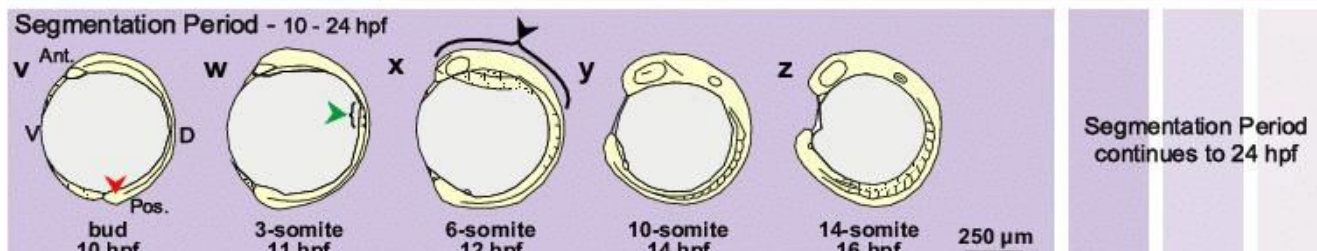
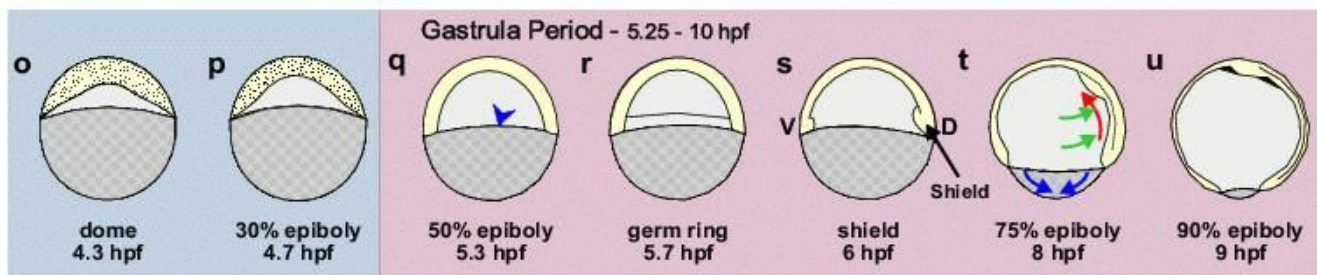
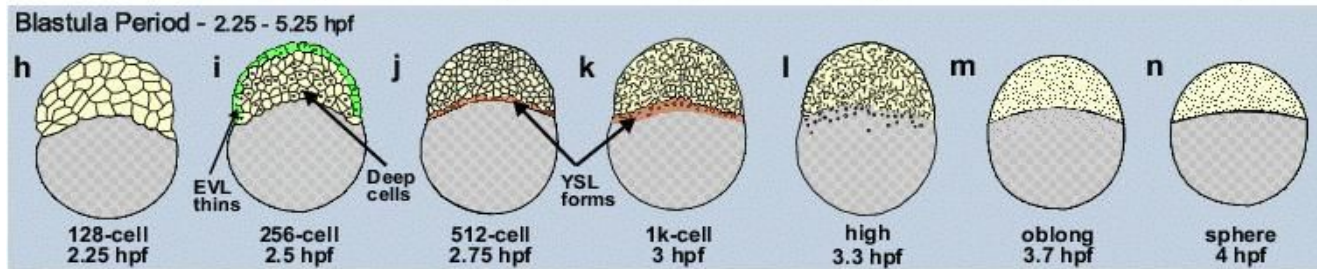
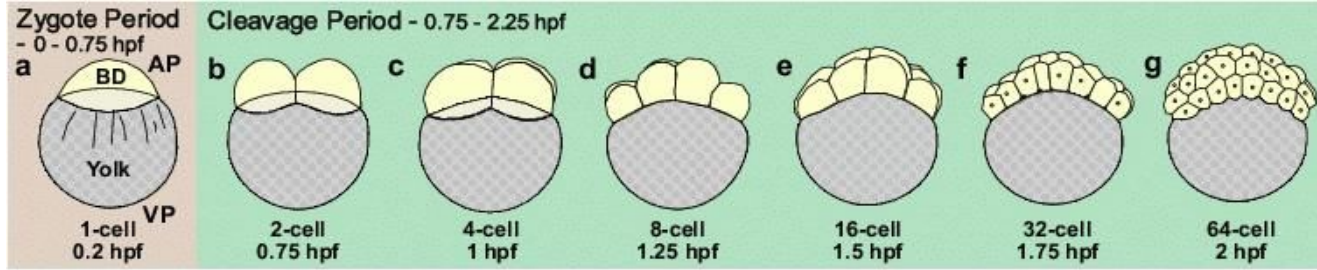


We chose this topic to understand the embryogenesis of zebrafish which is well known model organism for human genetic studies.

HOW



We tried to understand the nodal signaling pathway, then we built equations which was then simulated.



The pathway of the
signaling starts with
the Nodal.

Nodal is already
present in epiblast
through the
maternal
contribution

Nodal Ligand



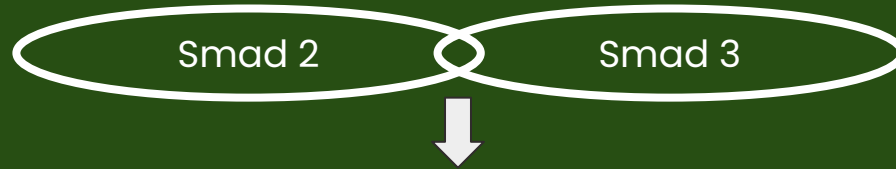
Cell
membrane

The diagram shows a white curved line representing a cell membrane. A horizontal white line crosses the membrane. A vertical white line extends downwards from the horizontal line, passing through the membrane. The word 'Cell' is above 'membrane'.

Receptors

Receptors are of type 1
and type 2 activin like
receptors

Phosphorylation of Smad Complex



Phosphorylated
smad complex

Gene Expression

Of the genes
squint and cyclop

- Pattern formation in the mesendoderm
- Formation of left to right axis
- Formation of endoderm

But, once all the
functions are over,
does this signaling
process then
continue?



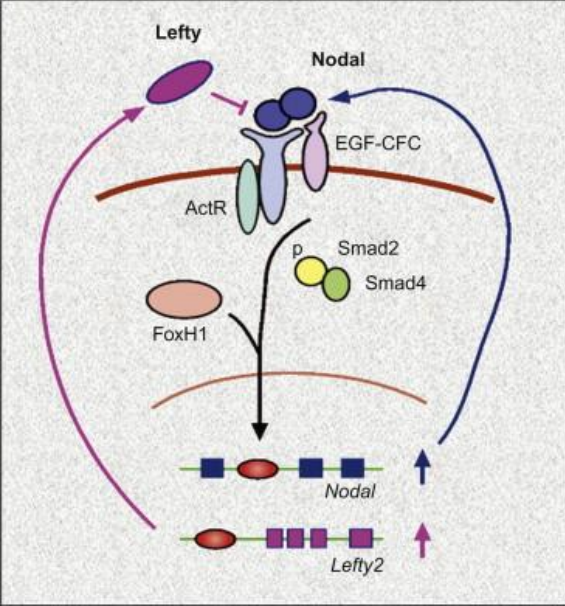
PHOSPHORYLATED
Smad Complex



Lefty



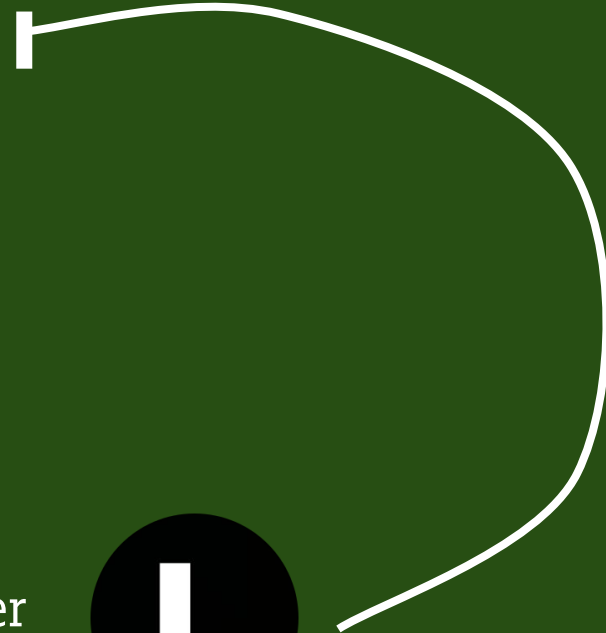
Nodal



Initially



Later



$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} = -N \left(\frac{L^h}{L^h + k_N} \right) \beta_N$$

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = \left(\frac{N^h}{N^h + k_S} \right) \alpha_S - S \lambda_S$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial t} = \left(\frac{S^h}{S^h + k_L} \right) \alpha_L - L \lambda_L$$

These were the **initial equations** where

N = Nodal

S = phosphorylated Smad

L = Lefty

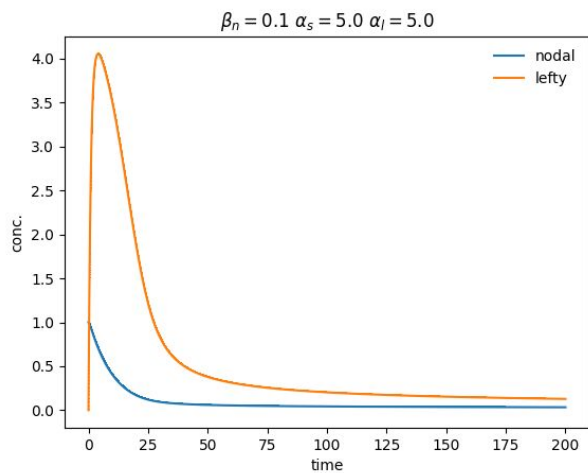
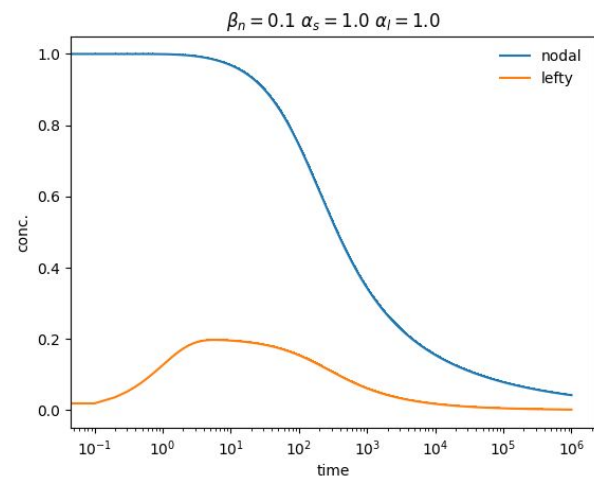
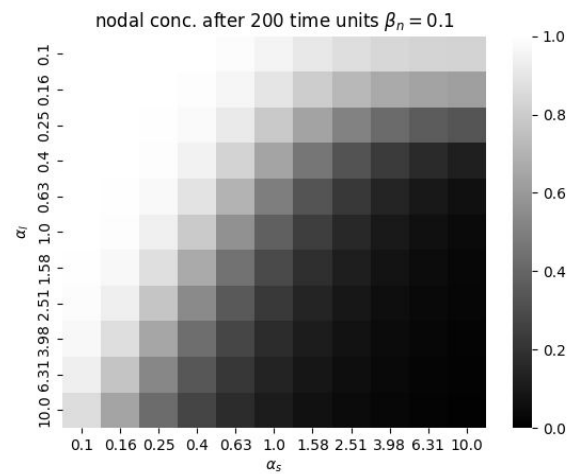
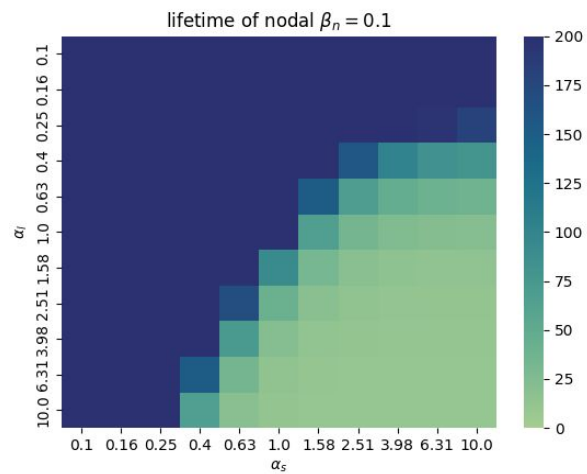
Since there were more parameters, the equations were **non-dimensionalized**.

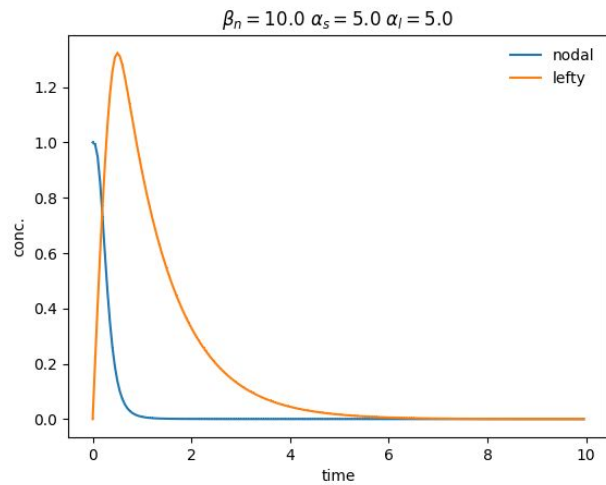
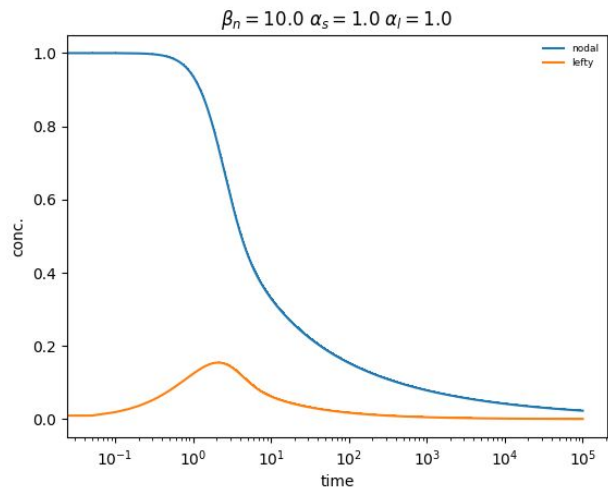
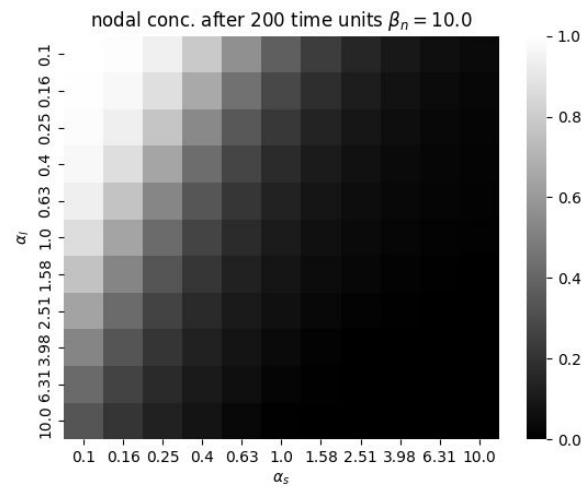
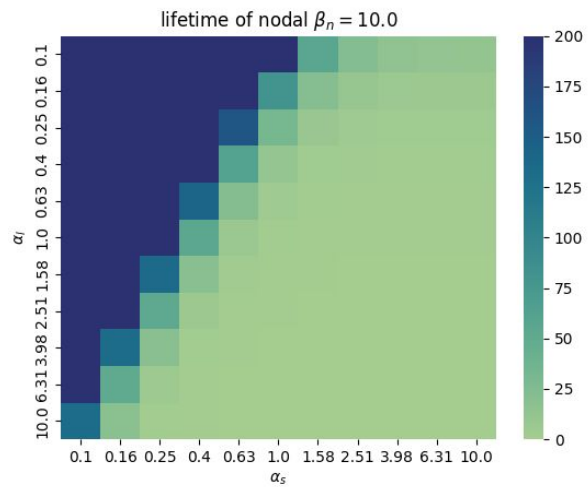
Using the quasi-steady-state approximation, **ds/dT** was assumed to be **zero**.

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial \tau} = -n \left(\frac{l^h}{l^h + 1} \right) \beta_n$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial \tau} = \left(\frac{n^h}{n^h + 1} \right) \alpha_s - s$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \tau} = \left(\frac{s^h}{s^h + 1} \right) \alpha_l - l$$





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**Thank
You**