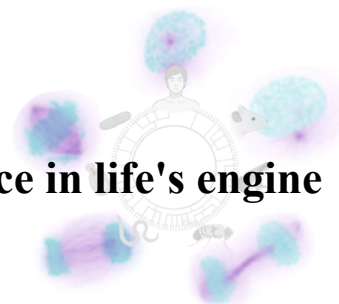


EMBO WORKSHOP



The cell cycle: exploring conservation and divergence in life's engine

Portugal • 05- 07 October 2026

PROGRAM:

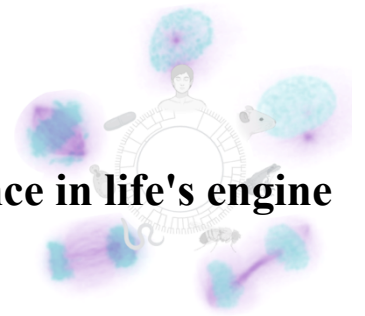
Monday, 5 October 2026

13:00–16:00	Registration and welcome refreshments
16:00–16:10	Opening – João Matos (Max Perutz Labs, Austria) and Silvia Santos (The Francis Crick Institute, UK)
16:10–17:00	EMBO Keynote Lecture - John Diffley (The Francis Crick Institute, UK) <i>An Evolutionary Perspective on the Initiation of Eukaryotic DNA Replication</i> Chairs: Silvia Santos and Joao Matos
	Session 1: Cell size, cell cycle entry and the decision to divide Chairs: Raquel Oliveira (CBRC, Portugal) and João Matos (Max Perutz Labs, Austria)
17:00–17:25	Tobias Meyer (Weill Cornell Medicine, USA) <i>Cell-Cycle Entry by Sequential Rb Phosphorylation and Lowering of Rb Concentration</i>
17:25–17:40	Evgeny Zatulovskiy (University of Cambridge, UK) <i>A conserved inhibitor-dilution mechanism couples the cell cycle to cell size homeostasis</i>
17:40–18:10	Coffee break
18:10–18:25	Arohi Khurana (Helmholtz Munich, Germany) <i>A Tale of Two Rulers: Cell size and DNA content co-govern histone supply during division in Chlamydomonas</i>
18:25–18:40	Jette Lengefeld (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden) <i>Size-scaling defects impair hematopoietic stem cell function by disrupting metabolism</i>
18:40–18:55	Douglas Kellogg (UC Santa Cruz, USA) <i>Growth-dependent control of the cell cycle</i>
18:55–19:20	EMBO Young Investigator Lecture 1 – Gabriel Neurohr (ETH Zürich, Switzerland) <i>Nuclear Meltdown in Senescence: Size Matters</i>
19:20–19:50	Flash Talks (Emma Roberts, Róbert Bodo, Sara Mouton, Sandhya Manohar, Juliette Mathieu, Jesus Palmero-Garcia, Ana Rita Araujo, Ece Akcan, Karen Akopyan)
From 20:00	Dinner and informal networking

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Tuesday, 6 October 2026

Session 2: Progressing and arresting in the cell cycle I

Chair: Katja Wassmann (Institut Jacques Monod, France)

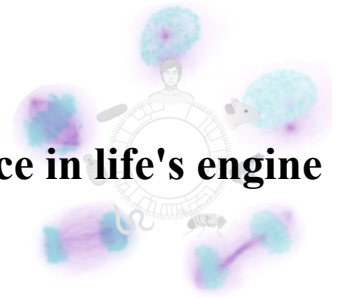
09:00–09:25	Alexis Barr (MRC-LMS) <i>Wee1 opposes APC/C(Cdh1) to promote S-phase entry</i>
09:25–09:40	Ana Gomes (CNRS, France) <i>DNA Replication Stress Checkpoints in a Coenocytic Cell Cycle: Lessons from malaria parasites</i>
09:40–09:55	Boris Pfander (TU Dortmund University, Germany) <i>Single-stranded DNA signatures decode different forms of replication stress</i>
09:55–10:10	Tommaso Cavazza (University of Zurich, Switzerland) <i>DNA damage checkpoint in cattle zygotes triggers parental pronuclei cell cycle asynchrony and embryonic failure</i>
10:10–10:35	EMBO Young Investigator Lecture 2 – Basil Greber (ICR, UK) <i>Insights into functional mechanisms and selective inhibition of the human CDK-activating kinase</i>
10:35–11:05	Coffee break
Session 3: Progressing and arresting in the cell cycle II	
Chair: Thierry Lorca (CRBM, France)	
11:05–11:30	Wolfgang Zachariae (MPI Biochemistry, Germany) <i>Meiosis II: A Division Like No Other</i>
11:30–11:45	Thomas Mayer (University of Konstanz, Germany) <i>Translation as a Brake: PATL2 Controls Prophase-I Arrest in Oocytes</i>
11:45–12:00	Aude-Isabelle Dupré (Institut Jacques Monod, France) <i>Counting oocyte divisions in vertebrates</i>
12:00–12:15	Verena Jantsch (Max Perutz Labs, Austria) <i>DDK Drives Long-range Meiotic Resection in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i></i>
12:15–12:40	Editor Flash Talks (Seema Grewal (JCS), Petra Gross (NCB) and Hartmut Vodermaier (EMBO J))
12:40–13:40	Lunch and Meet the Editors

13:40–15:00	Poster Session I (odd numbers)
	Session 4: Mitotic control and chromosome segregation I Chair: Julia Kamenz (University of Groningen, the Netherlands)
15:00–15:25	Tomoya Kitajima (RIKEN BDR, Japan) <i>Manipulating meiotic chromosome segregation in oocytes</i>
15:25–15:40	Péter Lénárt (MPI, Germany) <i>Partial CDK1 inhibition leads to semi-closed mitosis in mammalian cells</i>
15:40–15:55	Hannah Phillips <i>Nucleocytoplasmic translocation of CDK in the regulation of cell cycle progression</i>
15:55–16:20	Arshad Desai (UC San Diego, USA) <i>Control of Spindle Assembly and Chromosome Segregation by Distinct Pools of Aurora A</i>
16:20–16:50	Coffee break and meet-the-speaker
	Session 5: Mitotic control and chromosome segregation II Chair: Arne Lindqvist (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)
16:50–17:15	Helder Maiato (i3S & University of Porto, Portugal) <i>Mechanisms of cellular adaptation to chromosome evolution</i>
17:15–17:30	Artem Mansurkhodzhaev (MPI, Germany) <i>Systems Biology In Vitro: Biochemical Reconstitution of the Cell Cycle</i>
17:30–17:45	Lionel Pintard (Institut Jacques Monod, France) <i>Molecular basis for the activation of Aurora A and Plk1 kinases by Bora during mitotic entry</i>
17:45–18:00	Robert Zach (University of Sussex, UK) <i>Combinatorial perturbations of the CDK1/GWL/PP2A-B55α axis reveal PP2A-B55α as a cell-type-specific G2/M regulator</i>
18:00–18:15	Raquel Oliveira (Católica Biomedical Research Centre, Portugal) <i>TTF2 prevents premature rRNA synthesis during mitotic exit</i>
18:30	Transfer to winery - buses at hotel entrance
18:45	Winery visit, wine tasting and tapas (for registered participants)/ Free evening
21:30	Shuttle back to hotel

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Wednesday, 7 October 2026

Session 6: One engine, many cycles

Chairs: Monica Gotta (University of Geneva, Switzerland) and Snezhka Oliferenko (The Francis Crick Institute, UK)

09:00–09:25 **Gautam Dey (EMBL, Germany)**

Evolution and Diversity of Mitosis

09:25–09:40 **Yin-Wei (Kris) Kuo (MRC-LMB, UK)**

The archaeal TFIIIB modulates cell cycle-dependent gene expression

09:40–10:05 **Liliana Krasinska (IGMM, France)**

Identification of highly diverged Ki-67 proteins with conserved biophysical and functional properties in non-vertebrates.

10:05–10:30 **Anne-Marie Wehenkel (Institut Pasteur, France)**

Universal Principles, Bacterial Solutions: Mechanistic Insights into Cell Cycle Coordination in Mycobacteriales

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–11:25 **Rebecca Heald (UC Berkeley, USA)**

Evolutionary Mechanisms of Spindle Scaling and Adaptation to Genome Expansion

11:25–11:40 **Lendert Gelens (KU Leuven, Belgium)**

Synchronizing embryonic cell cycles by temperature modulation

11:40–12:10 **Snezhka Oliferenko (The Francis Crick Institute, UK)**

Cell size-dependent scaling of cell cycle signalling

12:10–12:25 **Sergio Moreno (University of Salamanca, Spain)**

TOR-dependent translational control coordinates quiescence entry, telomeric function, and transposable element repression during nutritional stress

12:25–13:30 Lunch and **Meet the Editors**

13:30–15:00 **Poster Session II** (even numbers)

Session 7: Cycling on and off track: cell cycle in normal development and disease

Chairs: Tony Ly (University of Dundee UK) and Silvia Santos (The Francis Crick Institute, UK)

15:00–15:25 **Sabrina Spencer (University of Colorado Boulder, USA)**

Mechanisms of cell-cycle plasticity and robustness

15:25–15:40 **Adrian Saurin (University of Dundee, UK)**

	<i>Cell cycle delays cause chromosome segregation errors: implications for the evolution of senescence and drug resistance</i>
15:40–15:55	Agnieszka Witkiewicz (Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, USA) <i>Targeting distinct cell cycle nodes to intercept KRAS inhibitor resistance</i>
15:55–16:20	Piotr Sicinski (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute & Harvard Medical School, USA) <i>Cyclin E-CDK2 regulates cancer cell transcriptional program and response to immunotherapy through BRD4</i>
16:20–16:50	Coffee break and meet-the-speaker
16:50–17:15	Matilde Galli (Hubrecht Institute, The Netherlands) <i>Timing cell cycles in multicellular development</i>
17:15–17:30	Elias Copin (The Francis Crick Institute, UK) <i>Cycling Towards Fate: Lineage-specific Cell Cycle Programmes Shape Early Cell Fate Decisions</i>
17:30–17:45	Melissa Rinaldin (Hubrecht Institute, Netherlands) <i>Robust Cytoplasmic Partitioning in Early Embryogenesis</i>
17:45–18:10	Elvan Böke (CRG, Spain) <i>Evading Ageing: Metabolic and Proteostatic Adaptations in Oocytes</i>
18:10–18:25	Closing – João Matos (Max Perutz Labs, Austria) and Silvia Santos (The Francis Crick Institute, UK) <i>Poster Prizes and closing remarks</i>
19:00	Quarteto Parnasos - Classical guitars concert and drinks
From 19:45	Poolside Gala Dinner

Thursday, 8 October 2026

From 8:00	Breakfast and departure
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