

Membrane oscillations driven by Arp2/3 constrict the intercellular bridge during neural stem cell divisions

Bryce LaFoya and Kenneth E. Prehoda¹

Institute of Molecular Biology
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
1229 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

¹Corresponding author: prehoda@uoregon.edu

1 **Summary**

2 After the first furrowing step of animal cell division, the nascent sibling cells remain connected
3 by a thin intercellular bridge (ICB). In isolated cells nascent siblings migrate away from each
4 other to generate tension and constrict the ICB, but less is known about how cells complete
5 cytokinesis when constrained within tissues. We examined the ICBs formed by *Drosophila*
6 larval brain neural stem cell (NSC) asymmetric divisions and find that they rely on constriction
7 focused at the central midbody region rather than the flanking arms of isolated cell ICBs.
8 Super-resolution, full volume imaging revealed unexpected oscillatory waves in plasma
9 membrane sheets surrounding the ICB pore during its formation and constriction. We find that
10 these membrane dynamics are driven by Arp2/3-dependent branched actin networks.
11 Inhibition of Arp2/3 complex activity blocks membrane oscillations and prevents ICB formation
12 and constriction. Our results identify a previously unrecognized role for localized membrane
13 oscillations in ICB function when cells cannot generate tension through migration.

14 **Introduction**

15 Cell division in animal cells proceeds through three sequential membrane constriction steps¹
16 (Fig. 1A). First, a broad actomyosin ring rapidly constricts the plasma membrane between the
17 segregated chromosomes until the connecting pore reaches a diameter of ~1.5 μm . The
18 intercellular bridge (ICB) – a membranous tube containing the compacted central spindle –
19 connects the nascent siblings after the initial furrowing step². The ICB then undergoes a slower
20 constriction phase, narrowing to ~200 nm in diameter, before the final step of abscission
21 severs the membrane connection between the daughter cells³⁻⁵. While the molecular
22 mechanisms driving initial furrowing and final abscission are relatively well understood, the
23 intermediate phase of ICB constriction remains poorly characterized. Most insights come from
24 studies of cultured cells, where the ICB forms a long, thin tube as the nascent siblings actively
25 migrate apart^{2,6}. This ICB consists of a central midbody flanked by constricting arms (in an
26 alternate nomenclature ICB and midbody are synonymous and the central structure is the stem
27 body)^{2,7-10}. When the arms narrow to ~200 nm, the midbody-recruited ESCRT-III resolves the
28 membrane during abscission^{3,11-13}. Here we address how ICB constriction occurs in cells that
29 are part of a tissue, where mechanical constraints may preclude the nascent sibling separation
30 that occurs in cultured cells.

31 The ICB forms when the central spindle becomes compacted in the cytokinetic pore through
32 the action of the first furrowing step (Fig. 1A). The region of the central spindle with overlapping

33 microtubules coated with proteins such as PRC1 and centralspindlin form the midbody^{14,15}
34 while the adjacent flanking arms are the sites of constriction^{5,16}. Flanking arm constriction gives
35 rise to the characteristic ICB shape with two thin tubes surrounding a thicker midbody^{3,11-13,17}.
36 In cultured cells, membrane tension generated by migration of the nascent sibling cells
37 contributes to the structure of the ICB and is also thought to drive arm constriction. While
38 tension appears to be necessary for the formation and function of the ICB, abscission requires
39 low tension. These different requirements suggests that cells must carefully regulate
40 membrane tension to complete the final steps of cytokinesis. However, cells within tissues face
41 mechanical constraints that could prevent tension generation by migration-based mechanisms.
42 To understand ICB constriction in such an environment, we examined the asymmetrically
43 dividing neural stem cells (NSCs) of the *Drosophila* larval brain (Fig. 1B).

44 NSCs divide rapidly, generating a larger self-renewed stem cell and a smaller neural
45 precursor¹⁸⁻²⁰. The initial furrow formation in NSCs is well-characterized, with both spindle- and
46 polarity-dependent signals positioning the actomyosin ring²¹⁻²⁶. As the initial furrow completes
47 the first phase of NSC furrowing, cortical actomyosin flows are directed away from the
48 equatorial region^{27,28}. However, the subsequent ICB phase is poorly understood, including its
49 structure and requirements for constriction. Here we investigate the mechanisms controlling
50 this critical intermediate phase of cytokinesis in tissue-resident stem cells.

51 **Results**

52 **The NSC intercellular bridge is a constricting midbody that lacks conventional flanking** 53 **arms**

54 Larval brain NSCs divide in a highly constrained environment, surrounded on one side by a
55 cortex glial cell and the other by progeny from previous asymmetric divisions (Fig. 1B). We
56 sought to understand how the NSC ICB functions in this environment given the extended
57 structure of canonical ICBs. ICB arms are membranous tubes filled with microtubules that lack
58 midbody proteins such as centralspindlin and PRC1 (Fascetto in *Drosophila*)^{14,15,29}. We
59 examined the structure of the NSC ICB using super resolution microscopy while monitoring the
60 plasma membrane with PLC δ -PH along with microtubules or the centralspindlin protein MKLP1
61 (Pavarotti in *Drosophila*). The ICB forms when the cytokinetic pore reaches a diameter of
62 approximately 1.5 μ m when microtubules, Pavarotti (Pav), and other proteins become
63 compacted within the pore. We observed several important differences between NSC and
64 canonical ICBs (Fig. 1C-H; Video 1). First, the NSC ICB appeared to consist solely of the

65 midbody, as no part of the membrane tube lacked Pav (Fig. 1H; Video 1). Second, the NSC
66 ICB constricted at the midbody (Fig. 1H; Video 1). Finally, while formation of the canonical ICB
67 is correlated with migration of nascent sibling cell bodies away from one another, the NSC
68 nascent sibling membranes move in the opposite direction, becoming compressed against one
69 another (Fig. 1E). Together, these data suggest that asymmetrically dividing neuroblasts form
70 an intercellular bridge that lacks the conventional tripartite organization, instead consisting
71 solely of a midbody.

72 **Sheets of plasma membrane oscillate near the cytokinetic pore during ICB formation and** 73 **constriction**

74 The plasma membrane is remodeled near the cytokinetic pore late in cytokinesis^{30,31}. We
75 examined the membrane remodeling in detail to determine if it is related to ICB formation or
76 constriction. We imaged the full volume of the cytokinetic pore and surrounding membrane
77 along with microtubules, revealing a highly dynamic process where sheets of plasma
78 membrane formed simultaneously with midbody formation (Fig. 2A; Video 2). The sheets are
79 formed in an oscillatory pattern such that they appear as waves emanating from the pore that
80 extended into the cytoplasm (Fig. 2A,B; Video 2). The waves appeared predominantly on the
81 side of the pore of the larger, NSC nascent sibling, although we cannot exclude the possibility
82 that some membrane remodeling occurs on the other side. The oscillations of plasma
83 membrane sheets continued through the ICB constriction process. Thus, we conclude that ICB
84 formation and constriction is correlated with dramatic remodeling of the plasma membrane
85 around the pore, where large sheets of oscillating membrane form around the pore for the
86 duration of ICB thinning.

87 **Plasma membrane oscillations near the pore are driven by F-actin**

88 We sought to understand the cellular processes that drive membrane remodeling near the ICB
89 pore. We imaged F-actin along with the membrane to determine if actin polymerization might
90 be correlated with the oscillating membrane sheets as F-actin has been reported to be
91 localized to protrusions that form late in NSC cytokinesis³¹. When imaging F-actin, we
92 observed dense actin networks surrounding the membrane sheets, and these networks were
93 highly correlated with sheet oscillations (Fig. 3A,B; Video 3). While a small amount of cortical
94 actin was present before membrane sheet formation, a large burst of actin appeared when the
95 deformations of the membrane around the pore began. Clouds of actin that surrounded the
96 membrane sheets continued during the ICB thinning process. While strong F-actin signal

97 surrounded the membrane oscillations near the pore, the signal within the pore was much
98 more limited, especially early in the process when the pore was at its largest.

99 We sought to identify the cytoskeletal proteins that regulate or cooperate with sheet-
100 associated actin. The formin F-actin nucleator Diaphanous (Dia), was strongly enriched on the
101 wall of the ICB (Fig. 3C; Video 3), but we did not detect it in the surrounding membrane sheets.
102 We observed Myosin II broadly distributed on the equatorial cortex during the initial furrowing
103 stage (Fig 3D; Video 3). Immediately before ICB formation, Myosin II dissipated from the furrow
104 as previously described²⁸, before becoming strongly enriched on the ICB wall. We did not
105 detect any significant Myosin II localization with the membrane sheets that surround the ICB
106 pore. We conclude that the F-actin associated with the membrane sheets surrounding the ICB
107 pore is not nucleated by Dia and is not part of an actomyosin contractile network.

108 **Arp2/3 actin filament nucleation is required for NSC ICB thinning**

109 We also examined the localization of a nucleator of branched actin networks, the Arp2/3
110 complex. The Arp-3 subunit localized specifically to sites of plasma membrane remodeling
111 surrounding the pore and was recruited shortly before the burst of actin that coincides with
112 membrane sheet formation (Fig. 4A; Video 4). The Arp2/3 activator SCAR (aka WAVE complex)
113 localizes to the NSC furrow³¹ and we observed localization to the membrane sheets that form
114 around the ICB (Fig. 4B; Video 4). To examine the function of the Arp2/3 complex in membrane
115 remodeling and ICB function, we acutely inhibited its activity using the chemical inhibitor CK-
116 666. Arp2/3 inhibition before ICB formation completely abrogated membrane sheet formation
117 and caused stalling of the furrow at a diameter of approximately 1.5 μm (Fig. 4C,D; Video 4).
118 We also inhibited Arp2/3 after membrane sheet oscillations had initiated and the midbody had
119 formed. In these cells, membrane sheet dynamics and ICB constriction abruptly stopped (Fig.
120 4E; Video 4). We conclude that Arp2/3 is required for the membrane oscillations near the ICB,
121 and for ICB formation and constriction.

122 **Discussion**

123 In this study, we addressed a fundamental gap in our understanding of cytokinesis - how cells
124 complete division when constrained within tissues, where they may not be able to generate
125 tension across the ICB through migration like isolated cells do. We make the key discovery that
126 *Drosophila* larval brain NSCs utilize a distinct ICB structure during cytokinesis, characterized
127 by constriction focused at the central midbody rather than flanking arms. We also reveal

128 previously unrecognized oscillatory membrane dynamics surrounding the ICB that depend on
129 Arp2/3-mediated branched actin networks.

130 We propose that the unique structure of the NSC ICB, lacking the conventional tripartite
131 organization with flanking arms, may represent an adaptation for cells dividing within tissues.
132 While isolated cells can generate tension across their ICB through migration, tissue-resident
133 cells face mechanical constraints that may prevent such movement. Indeed, we observe that
134 NSC daughter cells become compressed against each other rather than separating when the
135 ICB forms (Fig. 1E). The focused constriction at the midbody, rather than along extended arms,
136 could allow these cells to complete cytokinesis without requiring active migration of the
137 nascent sibling cells away from one another.

138 The dramatic membrane remodeling we observe around the ICB, with oscillating membrane
139 sheets driven by Arp2/3-dependent actin networks, may serve to generate localized forces that
140 facilitate bridge constriction in the absence of migration-based tension. This is reminiscent of
141 how Arp2/3 remodels membranes during processes like endocytosis, where branched actin
142 networks provide force for membrane deformation^{32,33}. The correlation between membrane
143 oscillations and ICB constriction, along with the complete block of constriction when Arp2/3 is
144 inhibited, suggests these dynamics play an essential role. We propose that the membrane
145 waves could generate mechanical forces that aid in bridge closure or help regulate membrane
146 tension across the ICB in a way that promotes sufficient constriction to allow abscission to
147 take place.

148 **Resource Availability**

149 **Lead Contact**

150 Contact the Lead Contact, Kenneth Prehoda (prehoda@uoregon.edu), for further information or
151 to request resources and reagents.

152 **Materials Availability**

153 No new reagents were generated in this study.

154 **Data and Code Availability**

155 Raw data available from the corresponding author on request.

156 **Experimental Model and Subject Details**

157 **Fly Strains**

158 A Worniu-GAL4 driver line was used to drive tissue specific expression of UAS controlled
159 transgenes in neural stem cells (NSCs). Membrane dynamics were imaged using various
160 membrane markers. UAS-PLC δ -PH-GFP and UAS-PLC δ -PH-mCherry express the pleckstrin
161 homology domain of human PLC δ tagged with GFP or mCherry, and binds to the plasma
162 membrane lipid phosphoinositide PI(4,5)P₂. UAS-GRP1-PH-GFP expresses the pleckstrin
163 homology domain of GRP1, and binds to the plasma membrane lipid phosphoinositide
164 PI(3,4,5)P₃³⁴. UAS-Farnesyl-GFP expresses the C-terminal region of human K-Ras tagged with
165 GFP which becomes farnesylated and membrane-anchored in cells. F-Actin was visualized
166 using UAS-GMA-GFP, which expresses a GFP tagged actin binding domain of Moesin, and
167 UAS-Lifeact-mRuby. Microtubules were imaged using UAS-Zeus-mCherry. Anillin was imaged
168 using UAS-Anillin-GFP. Arp2/3 was imaged using UAS-Arp3-GFP. Central spindle dynamics
169 were imaged using GFP tagged Pavarotti (Pav) protein under control of ubiquitin regulatory
170 sequences. The formin, Diaphanous, was imaged using UAS-Diaphanous-GFP. The
171 SCAR/WAVE complex was imaged using Sra1/Cyfp endogenously tagged with eGFP using
172 CRISPR/Cas9³⁵. Myosin II was imaged using GFP tagged Spaghetti squash, the regulatory light
173 chain of non-muscle type II Myosin, expressed from its endogenous promoter³⁶.

174 **Method Details**

175 **Live Imaging**

176 To obtain brain explants, third instar *Drosophila* larvae were dissected in Schneider's Insect
177 Media (SIM) to isolate the central nervous system. Brain explants were mounted on sterile poly-
178 D-lysine coated 35mm glass bottom dish (ibidi Cat#81156) containing modified minimal
179 hemolymph-like solution (HL3.1). Brain explants were imaged using a Nikon Eclipse Ti-2
180 Yokogawa CSU-W1 SoRa spinning disk microscope equipped dual Photometrics Prime BSI
181 sCMOS cameras using a 60x H₂O objective. 488 nm light was used to illuminate GFP tagged
182 proteins and 561 nm light was used to illuminate mCherry and mRuby tagged proteins. Super
183 resolution imaging was achieved by using SoRa (super resolution through optical photon
184 reassignment) optics³⁷. NSCs were identified by their large size, location in the central nervous
185 system, and the use of NSC specific tissue driver lines. Time lapse imaging of cleavage furrow
186 and intercellular bridge dynamics was achieved by refocusing the imaging plane on the medial
187 plane of the cleavage furrow and intercellular bridge, along the apical-basal axis just before
188 capturing each frame. Pharmacological inhibition of the Arp2/3 complex was performed using 2
189 mM CK666 solubilized in DMSO.

190 **Image Processing and Analysis**

191 Imaging data was processed using ImageJ (FIJI package). For some movies, the bleach
192 correction tool was used to correct for photobleaching. To reduce noise in Arp3-GFP and
193 SCAR-GFP images, Gaussian blur was applied. When image deconvolution was applied,
194 deconvolution was performed using Nikon Elements standard 2D deconvolution mode and
195 noted in the figure/video legend. For cytokinetic pore size measurements, medial sections were
196 used to measure the width of the cytokinetic pore.

197 Quantifying the effects of Arp2/3 inhibition of membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC
 198 division: Closure of the cytokinetic pore was measured for CK666-treated NSCs and compared
 199 to untreated NSCs. For quantifying the dynamics of the cytokinetic pore size, medial sections
 200 (along the apical-basal axis) were used to measure the width of the cytokinetic pore.

201 **Key Resources Table**

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Experimental Model: Fly Strains		
Anillin-GFP	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#51348 RRID: BDSC 51348
Arp3-GFP (Arp2/3 complex marker)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#39722 RRID: BDSC 39722
Diaphanous-GFP	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#56751 RRID: BDSC 56751
Myosin II-GFP (GFP tagged Spaghetti squash, the regulatory light chain of non-muscle type II Myosin)	Roger Karess Lab ³⁶	
Pavarotti (Pav)-GFP (centralspindlin marker)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#81651 RRID: BDSC 81651
SCAR-GFP (Sra1 tagged with GFP and marks the SCAR/WAVE complex)	Sally Horne-Badovinac Lab ³⁵	
UAS-Farnesyl-GFP (Farnesylated GFP that marks the plasma membrane)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#80052 RRID: BDSC 80052
UAS-GMA-GFP (F-actin marker)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#31776 RRID: BDSC 31776
UAS-GRP1-PH-GFP membrane marker that binds PI(3,4,5)P ₃ lipids	Patrik Verstreken Lab ³⁴	
UAS-Lifeact-mRuby (F-actin marker)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#35545 RRID: BDSC 35545
UAS-PLCδ-PH-GFP membrane marker that binds PI(4,5)P ₂ lipids	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#39693 RRID: BDSC 39693
UAS-PLCδ-PH-mCherry (membrane marker that binds PI(4,5)P ₂ lipids)	Bloomington <i>Drosophila</i> Stock Center (BDSC)	BDSC Cat#51658 RRID: BDSC 51658
UAS-Zeus-mCherry (microtubule marker)	Chris Q. Doe Lab	
Worniu-GAL4 (NSC driver line)	Chris Q. Doe Lab	
Pharmacological Inhibitors		
CK666	Cayman Chemical	Cat#29038

202

203 **Video Legends**

204 **Video 1: Larval brain neural stem cell intercellular bridges are midbodies without flanking**
205 **arms**

206 Part 1: Membrane and microtubule dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super
207 resolution videos of an NSC expressing Zeus-mCherry “Microtubules” and the membrane
208 marker Farnesyl-GFP “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire cell is
209 visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start of
210 imaging is indicated.

211 Part 2: Phosphoinositide localization during the late stages of NSC division. Super resolution
212 videos of an NSC expressing the membrane markers UAS-GRP1-GFP “PI(3,4,5)P₃” and UAS-
213 PLCδ-PH-mCherry “PI(4,5)P₂”. The top row a medial section where the entire cell is visible. The
214 bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start of imaging is
215 indicated.

216 Part 3: Anillin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super resolution
217 videos of an NSC expressing Anillin-GFP “Anillin” and the membrane marker UAS-PLCδ-PH-
218 mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire cell is visible. The
219 bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start of imaging is
220 indicated.

221 Part 4: Pavrotti and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super
222 resolution videos of an NSC expressing Pavarotti-GFP “Pavarotti” and the membrane marker
223 UAS-PLCδ-PH-mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire
224 cell is visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start
225 of imaging is indicated.

226 **Video 2: Plasma membrane oscillations near the cytokinetic pore during intercellular**
227 **bridge formation and constriction**

228 Part 1: 3-dimensional view of membrane and microtubule dynamics during the late stages of
229 NSC division. Super resolution videos of an NSC expressing Zeus-mCherry “Microtubules” and
230 the membrane marker Farnesyl-GFP “membrane”. Maximum intensity projections of multiple
231 optical sections spanning the cleavage furrow are shown. Time relative to anaphase onset is
232 indicated.

233 Part 2: Top-down view Anillin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division.
234 Super resolution videos of an NSC expressing Anillin-GFP “Anillin” and the membrane marker
235 UAS-PLCδ-PH-mCherry “membrane”. A single optical section is shown. Time relative to start of
236 cytokinetic pore constriction is indicated.

237 **Video 3: F-actin localizes to plasma membrane waves near the cytokinetic pore**

238 Part 1: Actin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super resolution
239 videos of an NSC expressing Lifeact-mRuby “Actin” and the membrane marker UAS-PLC δ -PH-
240 GFP “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire cell is visible. The
241 bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to anaphase onset is
242 indicated. Image deconvolution was applied.

243 Part 2: Top-down view Actin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division.
244 Super resolution videos of an NSC expressing GMA-GFP “Actin” and the membrane marker
245 UAS-PLC δ -PH-mCherry “membrane”. A single optical section is shown. Time relative to start of
246 cytokinetic pore constriction is indicated.

247 Part 3: Myosin II and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super
248 resolution videos of an NSC expressing Myosin II-GFP “Myosin II” and the membrane marker
249 UAS-PLC δ -PH-mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts maximum intensity projections of an
250 entire hemisphere of the dividing NSC. The bottom row is a medial section. The left column
251 shows a view of the whole cell, and the columns to the right are zoomed-in views of the
252 cleavage furrow. Time relative to anaphase onset is indicated.

253 Part 4: Diaphanous and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super
254 resolution videos of an NSC expressing Diaphanous-GFP “Diaphanous” and the membrane
255 marker UAS-PLC δ -PH-mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the
256 entire cell is visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to
257 start of imaging is indicated.

258 **Video 4: Arp2/3 is required for plasma membrane oscillations and intercellular bridge**
259 **constriction**

260 Part 1: Arp2/3 complex and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Super
261 resolution videos of an NSC expressing Arp3-GFP “Arp 3” and the membrane marker UAS-
262 PLC δ -PH-mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire cell is
263 visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start of
264 imaging is indicated. In post-processing, Gaussian blur was applied to the GFP channel to
265 reduce noise.

266 Part 2: SCAR/WAVE complex and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division.
267 Super resolution videos of an NSC expressing SCAR-GFP “SCAR” and the membrane marker
268 UAS-PLC δ -PH-mCherry “membrane”. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire
269 cell is visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start
270 of imaging is indicated. In post-processing, Gaussian blur was applied to the GFP channel to
271 reduce noise.

272 Part 3: The effects of Arp2/3 inhibition on membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC
273 division. Super resolution videos of NSCs expressing membrane marker UAS-PLC δ -PH-GFP
274 “membrane” and treated with the Arp2/3 inhibitor CK666. The left column depicts a medial
275 section where the entire cell is visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage

276 furrow. Time relative to start of imaging is indicated. Arp2/3 inhibition occurs early on during
277 cytokinesis in the first cell, whereas Arp2/3 becomes inhibited later in the second cell.

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283 **Author Contributions**

284 B.L. and K.E.P. designed the experiments. B.L. performed the experiments. B.L. and K.E.P.
285 analyzed the data, prepared the figures, and wrote the manuscript.

286 **Declaration of Interests**

288 The authors have no competing interests to declare.

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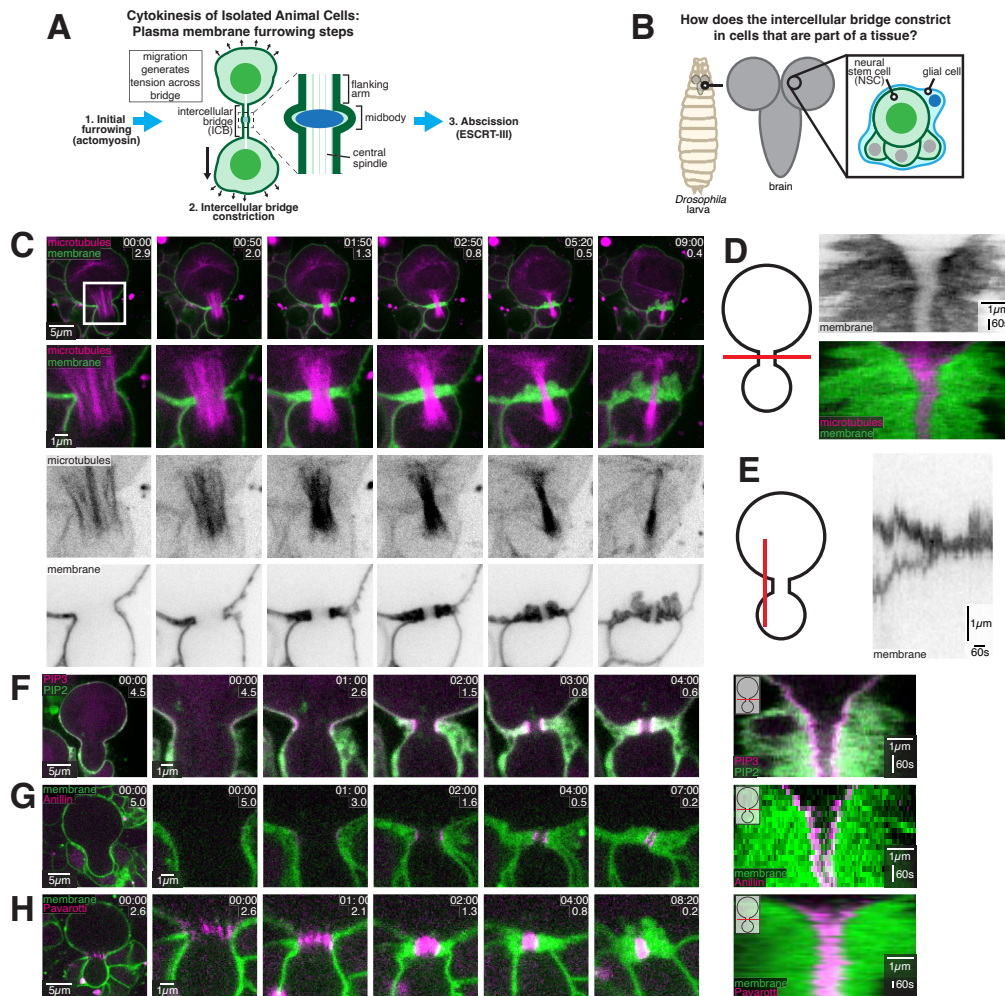


Figure 1: Larval brain neural stem cell intercellular bridges are midbodies without flanking arms

- A) Intercellular bridge (ICB) constriction. Animal cell cytokinesis consists of three furrowing steps, the initial furrowing of the actomyosin ring, ICB constriction, and abscission. In isolated cells like cultured cells, the ICB is constricted by migration of the nascent siblings away from one another, which generates tension across the bridge. Constriction, or “thinning” of the ICB occurs at the flanking arms, leaving the central bulge from the midbody.
- B) Larval brain neural stem cells (NSCs) are part of a complex tissue. *Drosophila* larval brain NSCs are surrounded by a cortex glial cell (blue) and progeny from previous divisions (smaller cells). This study uses the NSC as a model system for understanding how ICB constriction occurs in cells that are part of a tissue, where mechanical constraints may preclude the mechanisms used by isolated cells.
- C) Membrane and microtubule dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 1 are shown. Time in minutes relative to the start of imaging is shown, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns.
- D) Kymograph of membrane and microtubule dynamics across the cytokinetic furrow as the intercellular bridge forms and thins.
- E) Kymograph demonstrating that during cytokinesis, nascent sibling cells are initially distanced from one another and then come in contact.
- F) Phosphoinositide localization during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 1 are shown. The NSC is expressing UAS-GRP1-GFP “PIP3” and UAS-PLCδ-PH-mCherry “PIP2”. Time in minutes relative to the start of imaging is shown, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right is a kymograph of phosphoinositide localization across the cytokinetic pore.
- G) Anillin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 1 are shown. Time in minutes relative to the start of imaging is shown, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right, a kymograph of Anillin and membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore is shown.
- H) Pavarotti and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 1 are shown. Time in minutes relative to the start of imaging is shown, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right, a kymograph of Pavarotti and membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore is shown.

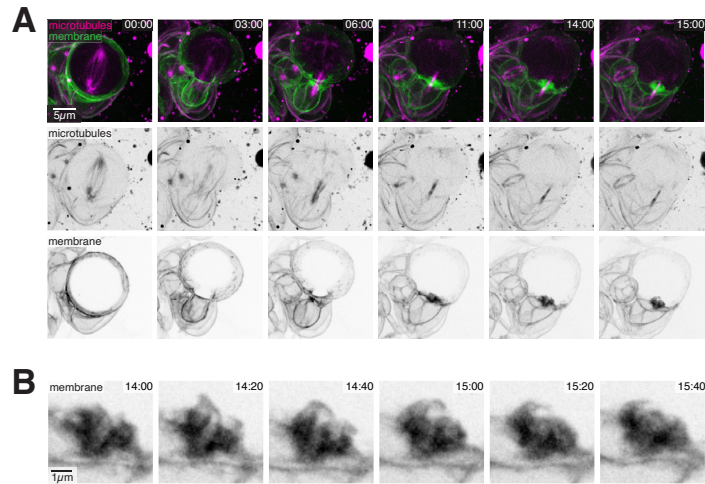


Figure 2: Plasma membrane oscillations near the cytokinetic pore during ICB formation and constriction

- A) Membrane and microtubule dynamics during the late stages of NSC asymmetric division. Selected frames from Video 2 are shown. Maximum intensity projections of multiple optical sections spanning the cleavage furrow are shown. Time relative to anaphase onset is indicated.
- B) An example membrane oscillation. The cytokinetic pore and surrounding membrane is shown over the course of a single membrane oscillation. Time relative to anaphase onset is indicated.

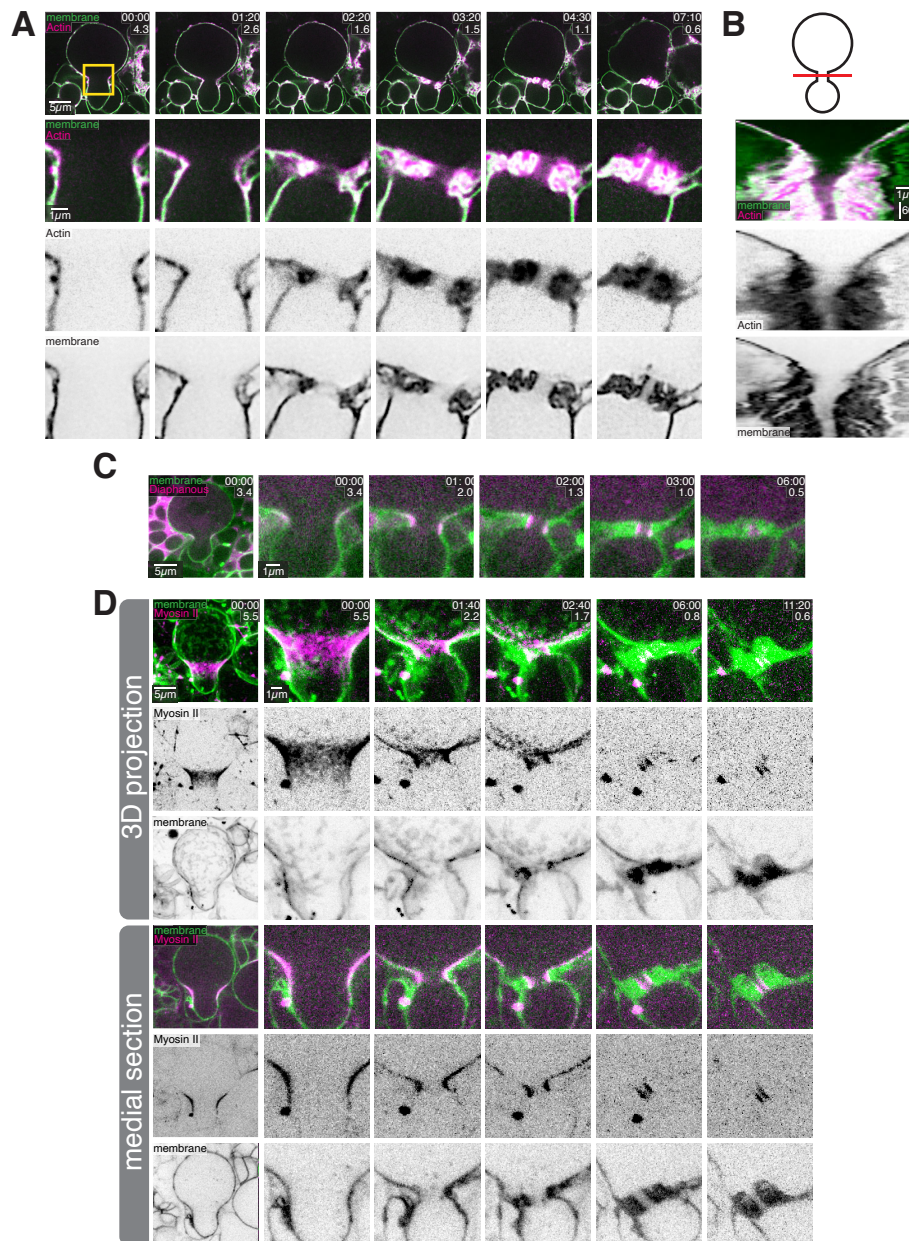


Figure 3: F-actin localizes to plasma membrane waves near the cytokinetic pore

- A) F-actin and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 3 are shown. The top row depicts a medial section where the entire cell is visible. The rows below are a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to the first frame is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. Image deconvolution was applied.
- B) A kymograph of F-actin and membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore.
- C) Diaphanous and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC asymmetric division. Selected frames are shown from Video 3. A medial section where the entire cell is visible (left) is next to a timelapse of a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to the first frame is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns.
- D) Myosin II and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC asymmetric division. Selected frames are shown from Video 3. The top 3 rows depicts maximum intensity projections of an entire hemisphere of the dividing NSC. The bottom row is a medial section. The left column shows a view of the whole cell, and the columns to the right are zoomed-in views of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to the first frame is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns.

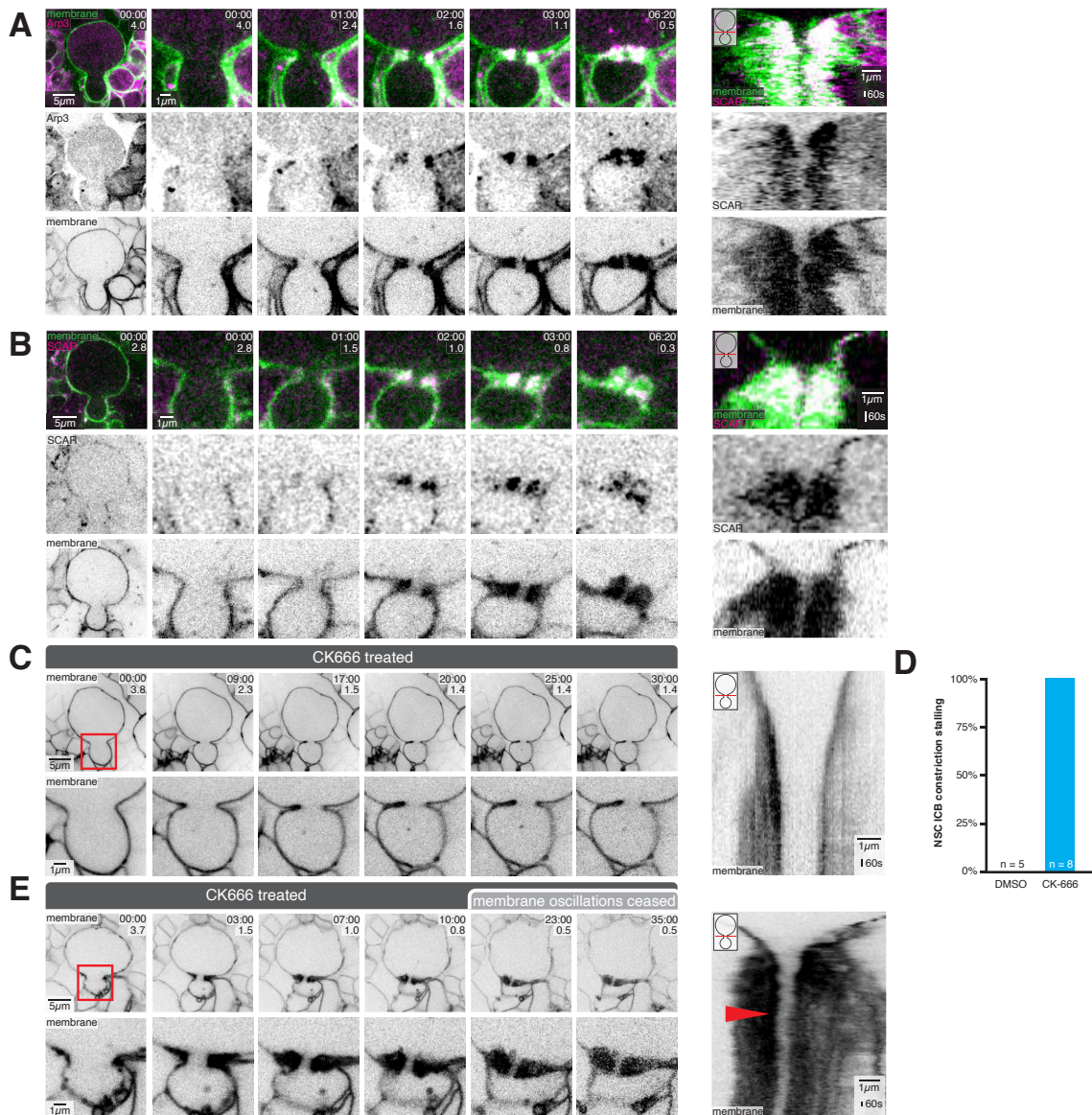


Figure 4: Arp2/3 is required for plasma membrane oscillations and ICB constriction

- A) Arp2/3 complex and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 4 are shown. A medial section where the entire cell is visible (left) is next to a timelapse of a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to the first frame is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right is a kymograph of Arp2/3 complex and membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore.
- B) SCAR complex and membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 4 are shown. A medial section where the entire cell is visible (left) is next to a timelapse of a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to the first frame is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right is a kymograph of SCAR complex and membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore.
- C) The effects of Arp2/3 inhibition on membrane dynamics during the late stages of NSC division. Selected frames from Video 4 are shown. The NSC was treated with the Arp2/3 inhibitor CK666 before the formation of the intercellular bridge (ICB). The left column depicts a medial section where the entire cell is visible. The bottom row is a zoomed-in view of the cleavage furrow. Time relative to start of imaging is indicated, along with the diameter of the cytokinetic pore in microns. To the right is a kymograph of membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore for the CK666-treated NSC.
- D) Quantification of the effect of inhibition of Arp2/3 complex before ICB formation on late cytokinesis. NSCs from larval brains incubated with DMSO (carrier) or CK-666 before ICB formation were scored for stalled ICB constriction where the ICB did not reach a pore diameter of approximately 200 nm.
- E) The same as in (C), except the NSC was treated with the Arp2/3 inhibitor CK666 after the formation of the intercellular bridge (ICB) and membrane oscillations had started. To the right is a kymograph of membrane dynamics across the cytokinetic pore for the CK666-treated NSC. The red arrow approximates when Arp2/3 was inhibited.