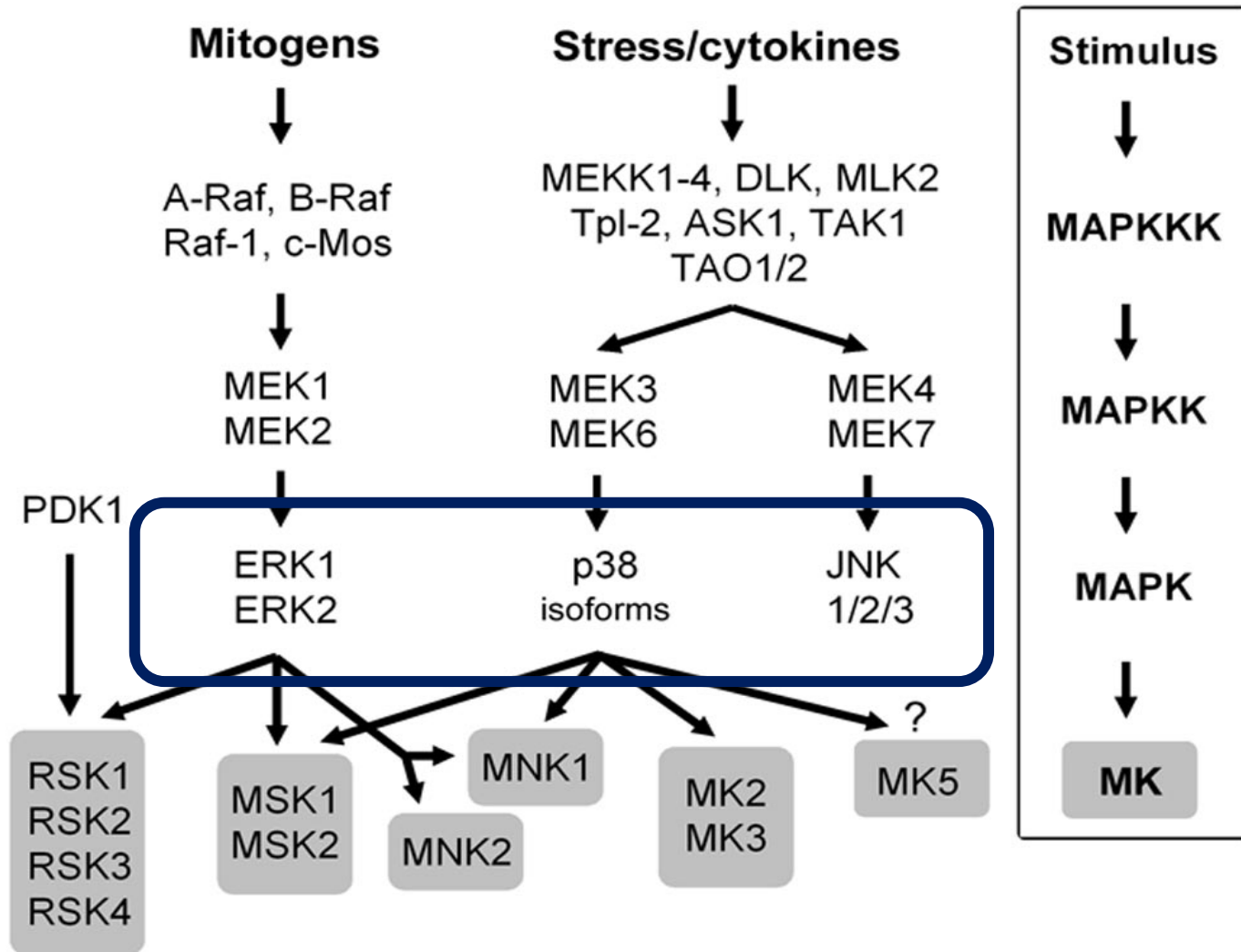


A long-exposure photograph of a waterfall in a dense forest. The water is blurred, creating a soft, white cascade as it flows over numerous large, rounded rocks. The rocks are heavily covered in vibrant green moss, which is also growing on the surrounding forest floor and tree trunks. The background shows a thick canopy of green trees, with more water dripping from the upper levels of the waterfall. The overall scene is serene and natural.

# MAP kinase signaling cascades



# MAP kinase (Mitogen activated kinase) signaling cascades



## MAP kinase signaling cascades

Transduce a large variety of external signals, leading to a wide range of cellular responses, including growth, differentiation, inflammation and apoptosis. These pathways are characterized by the following general path:

**Stimulus > MAPKKK > MAPKK > MAPK > Response**

Where MAPKK is the kinase of MAPK and MAPKKK is the kinase of MAPKK. In most cases, the MAPKKK is activated by small G proteins such as Ras, Rac and Rap1.

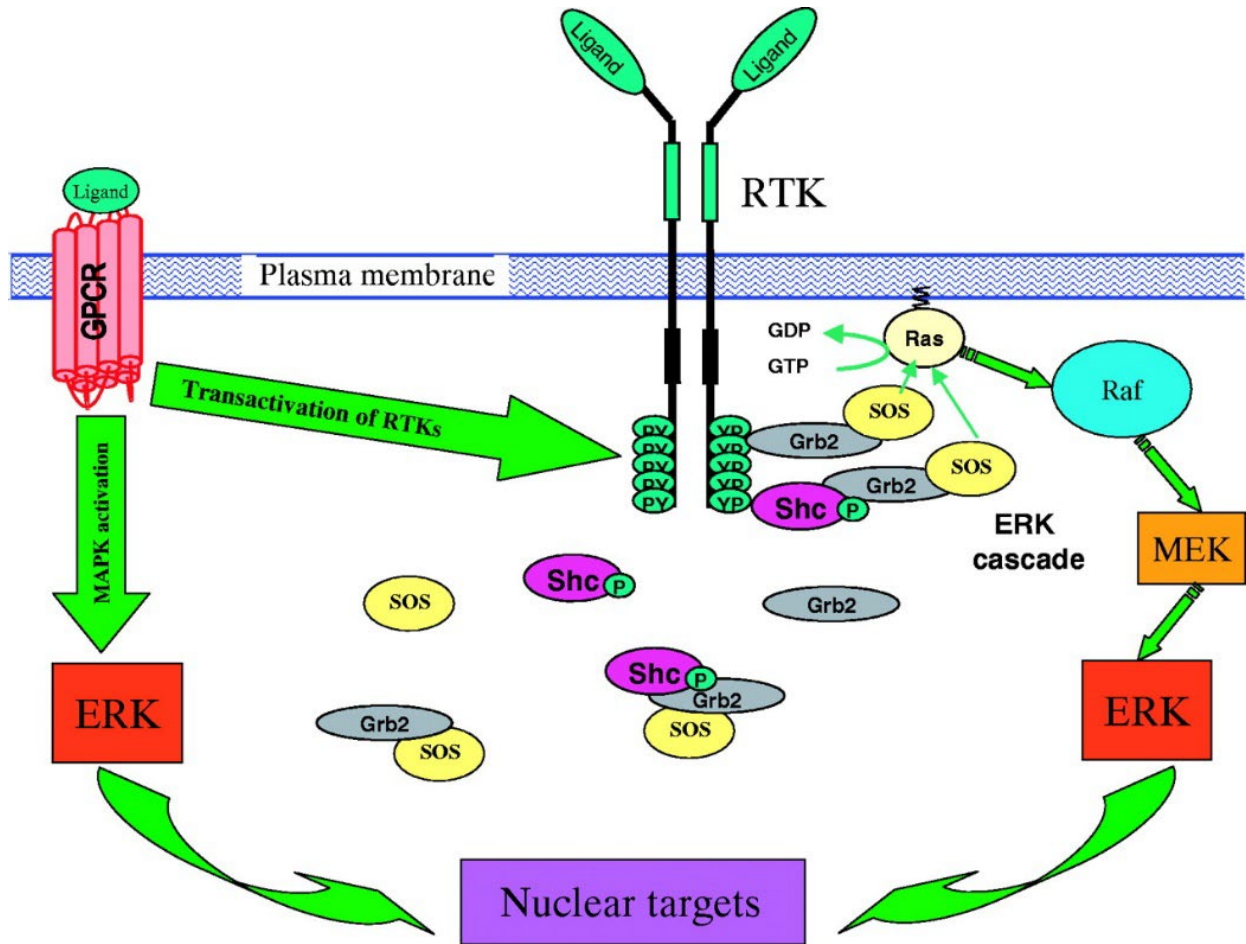
However, it may also be activated by other enzymes.

**Table 1 Phenotypes of MAPKK and MAPK knockout mice**

| MAPKK/MAPK   | Phenotypes                                                       | Similar to                                     |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| MEK1         | Defective placental vascularization <sup>37</sup>                | ERK2?                                          |
| MKK4         | Defective liver development <sup>40</sup>                        | c-Jun knockout <sup>41</sup>                   |
| MKK7         | Embryonic lethality of unknown cause <sup>48</sup>               |                                                |
| MKK3         | Defective IL-12 production <sup>52</sup>                         |                                                |
| ERK1         | Defective T-cell development (positive selection) <sup>35</sup>  | MEK1 dn negative transgenics                   |
| JNK1         | Defective T-cell differentiation to Th2 cells <sup>46</sup>      |                                                |
| JNK2         | Defective T-cell differentiation to Th1 cells <sup>47</sup>      |                                                |
| JNK1 or JNK2 | Defective T-cell proliferation and IL-2 production <sup>25</sup> | JNK1 dn negative transgenics<br>MKK4 knockouts |
| JNK1 or JNK2 | Defective activation induced death of thymocytes <sup>25</sup>   | JNK1 dn negative transgenics                   |
| JNK1 & JNK2  | IL-2 overproduction <sup>48</sup>                                | MKK7 knockout                                  |
| JNK1 & JNK2  | Neural tube disclosure <sup>38,39</sup>                          |                                                |
| JNK3         | Resistance to excitotoxic neuronal cell death <sup>28</sup>      | c-Jun <sup>A63/73</sup> knockin <sup>29</sup>  |
| p38 $\alpha$ | Placental defect <sup>51</sup> (trophoblast cells)               |                                                |
| p38 $\alpha$ | Insufficient production of erythropoietin <sup>50</sup>          |                                                |

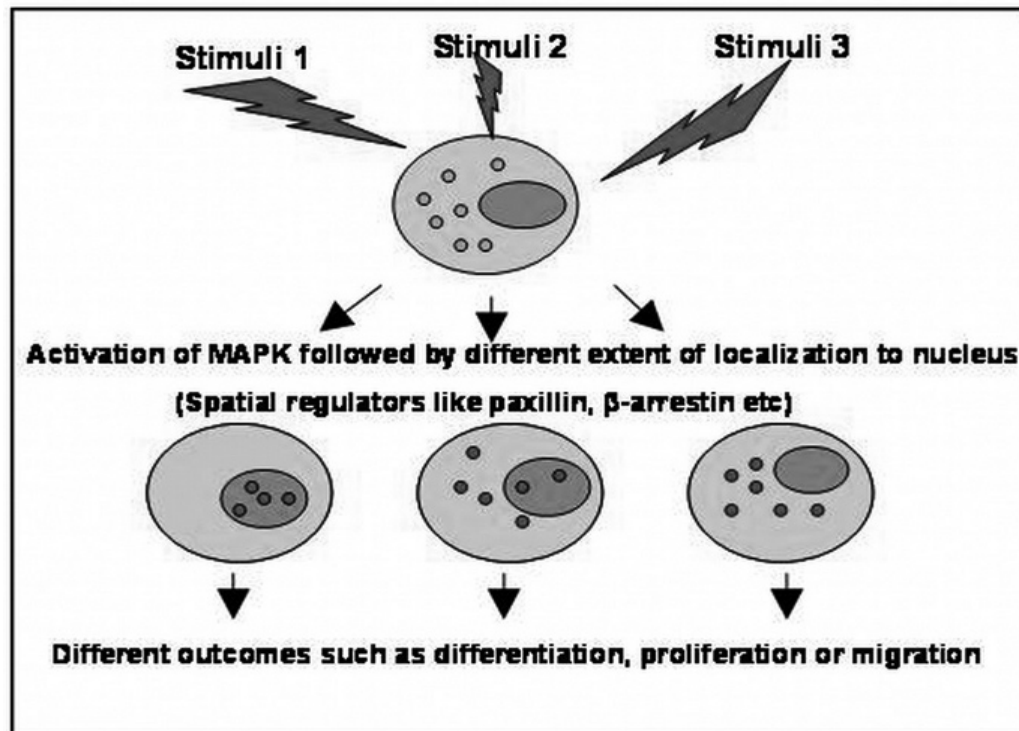
dn, dominant-negative

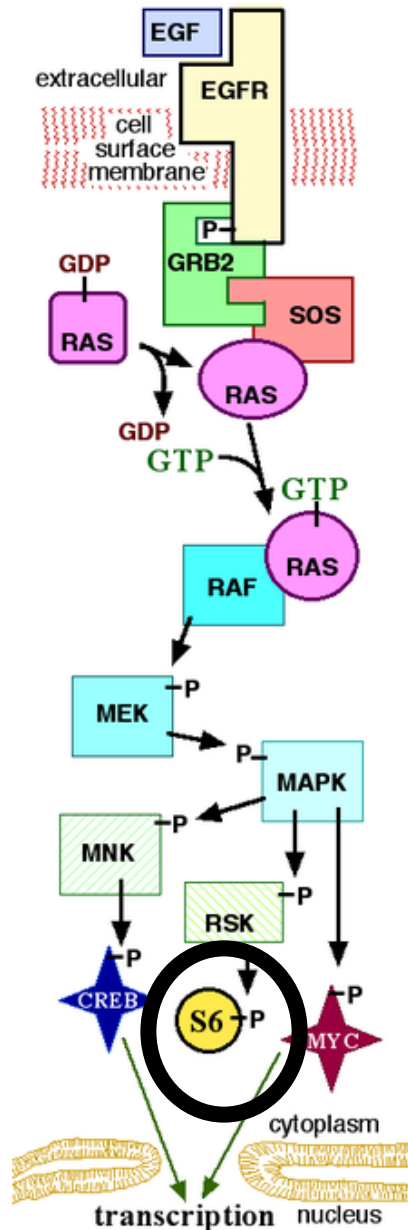
# MAP kinase activation



# MAP kinase signaling cascades

Respond to different stimuli by phosphorylating cytoplasmic components and nuclear transcription factors depending on the cellular context.





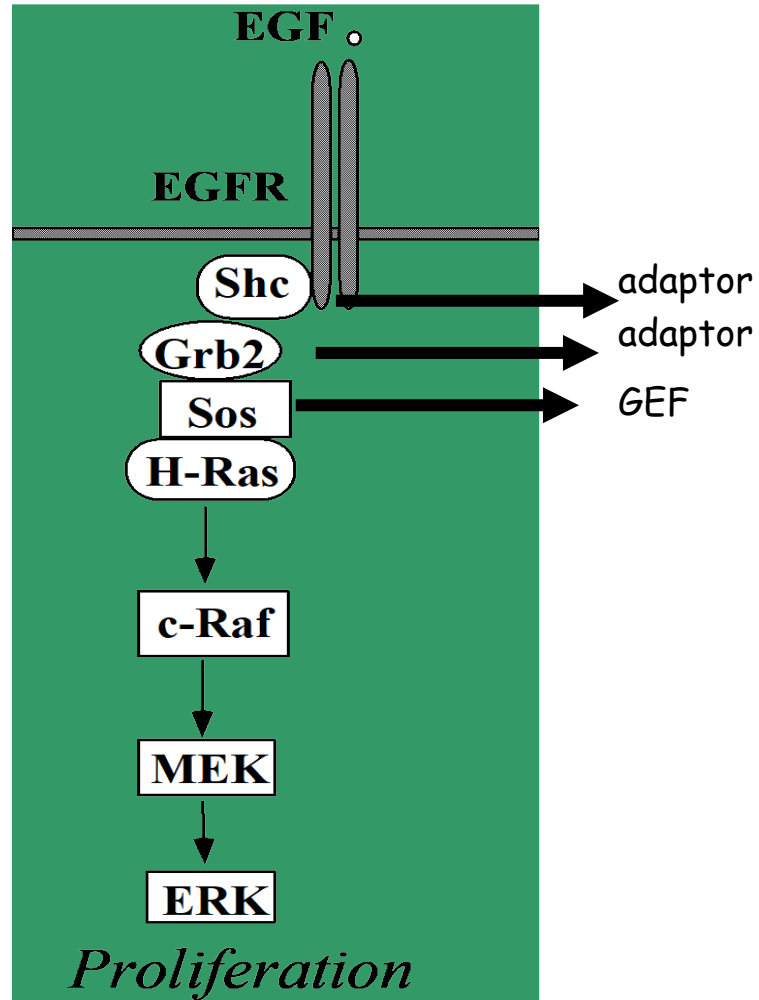
To identify relevant components in the signaling pathway

work "down" from the receptor in a stepwise manner.

start with a cellular event known to be affected by the growth factors and to work "up" toward the receptor.

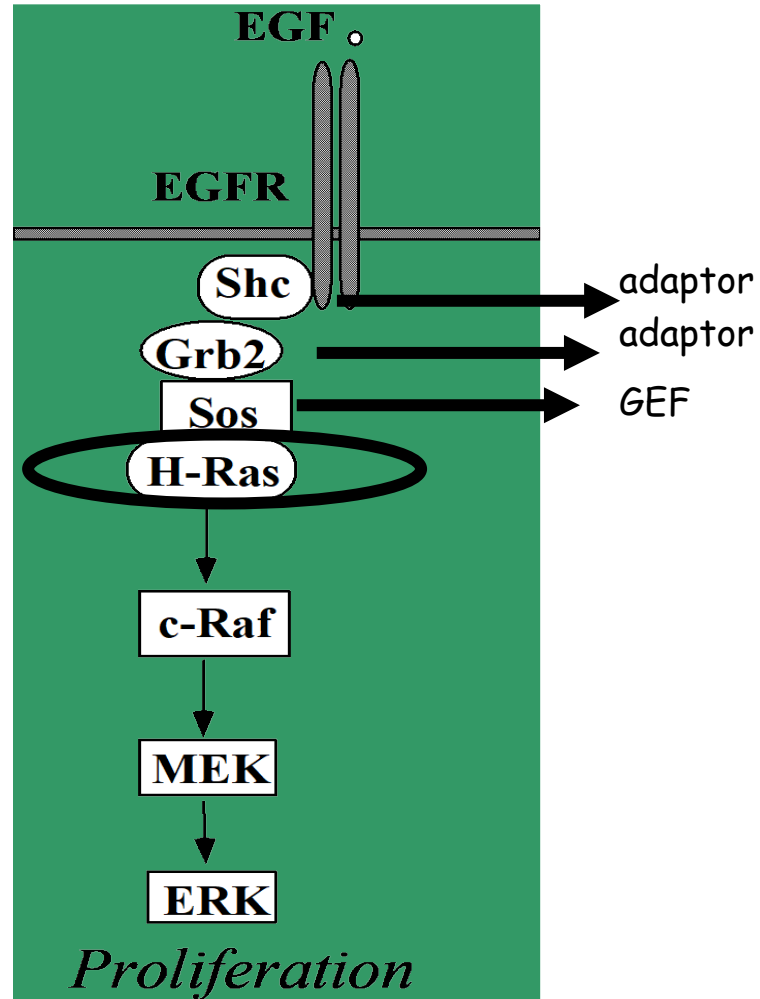
First substrate identified to be phosphorylated upon growth factor stimulation (ribosomal protein S6).

# ERK kinase signaling cascades

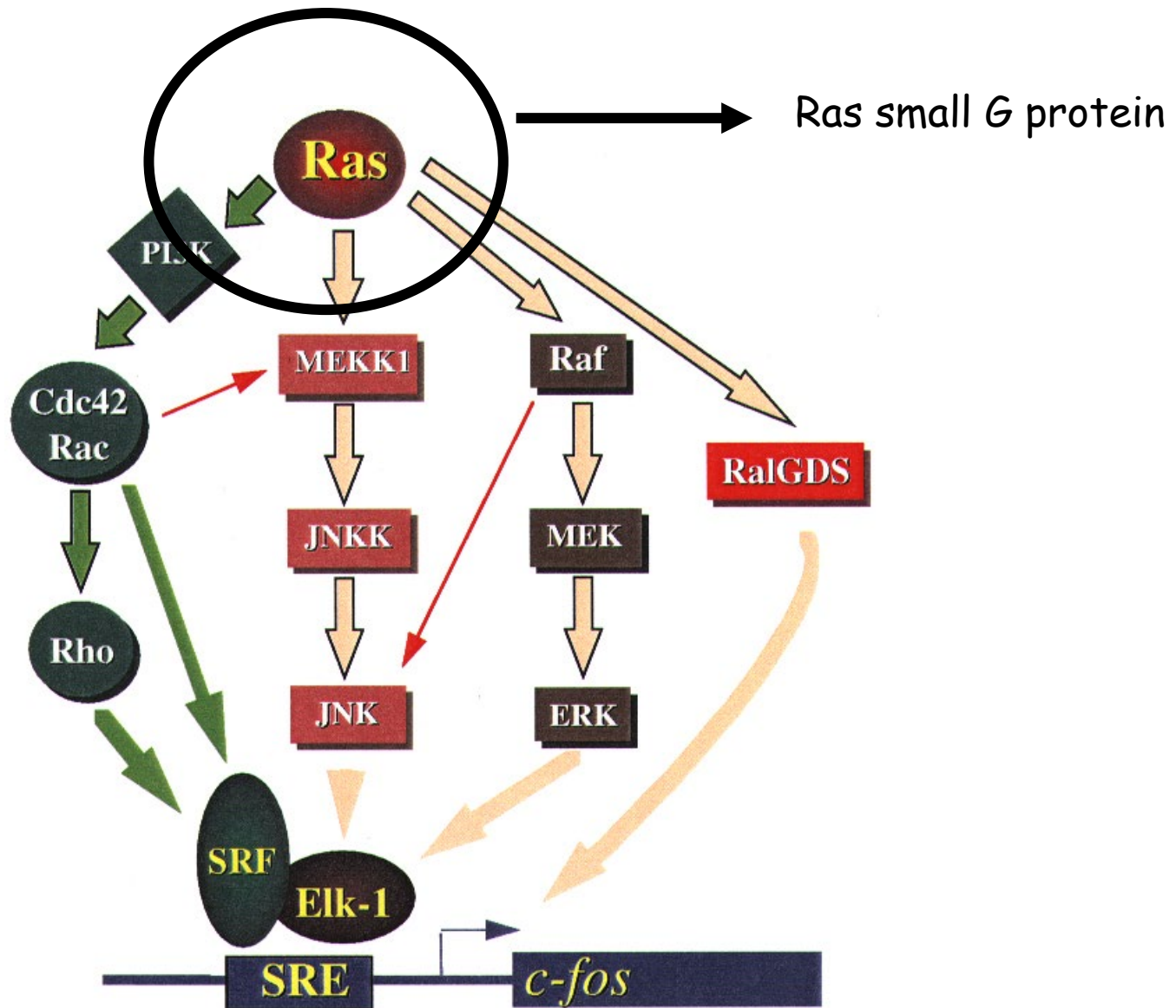




# ERK kinase signaling cascades

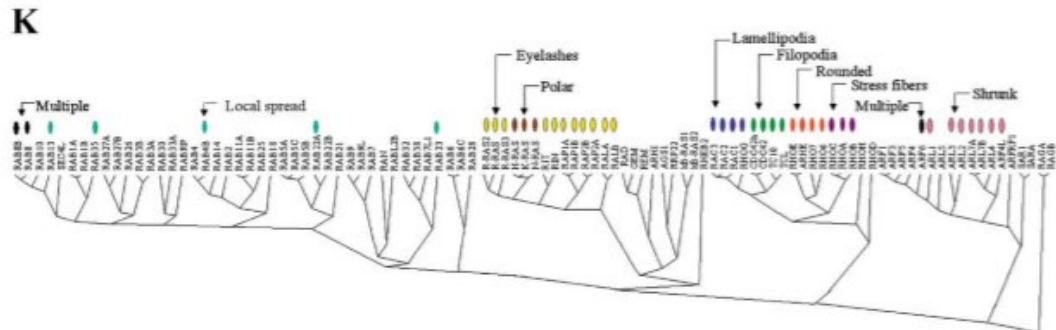
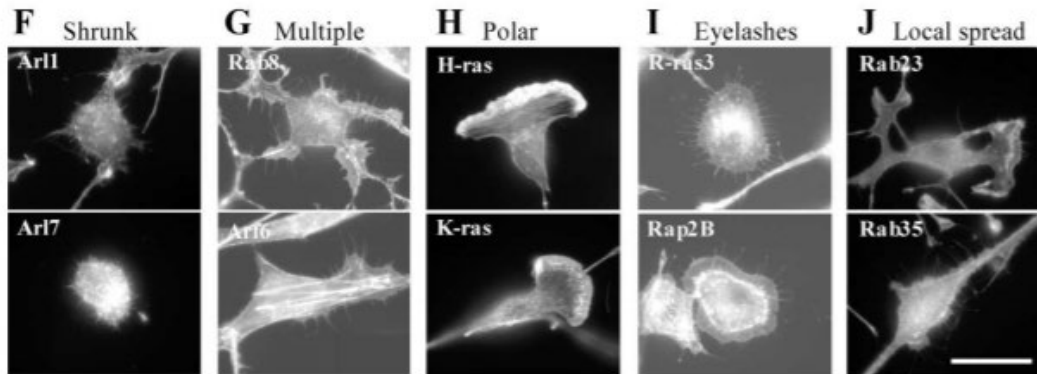
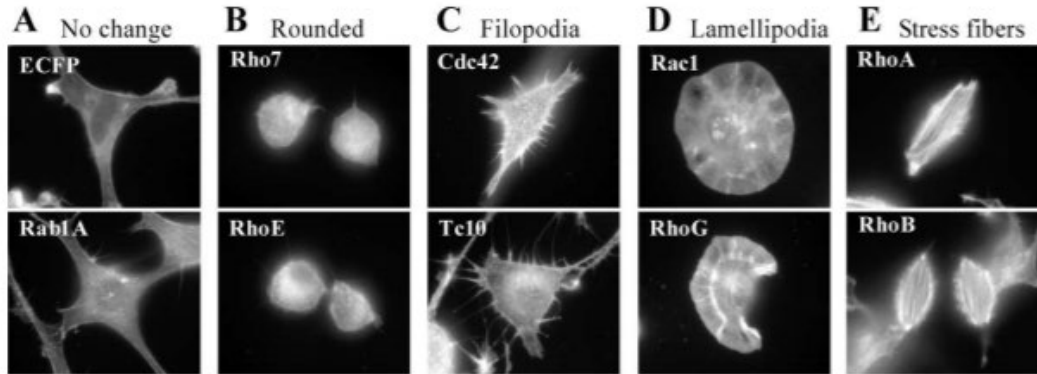


# ERK kinase signaling cascades



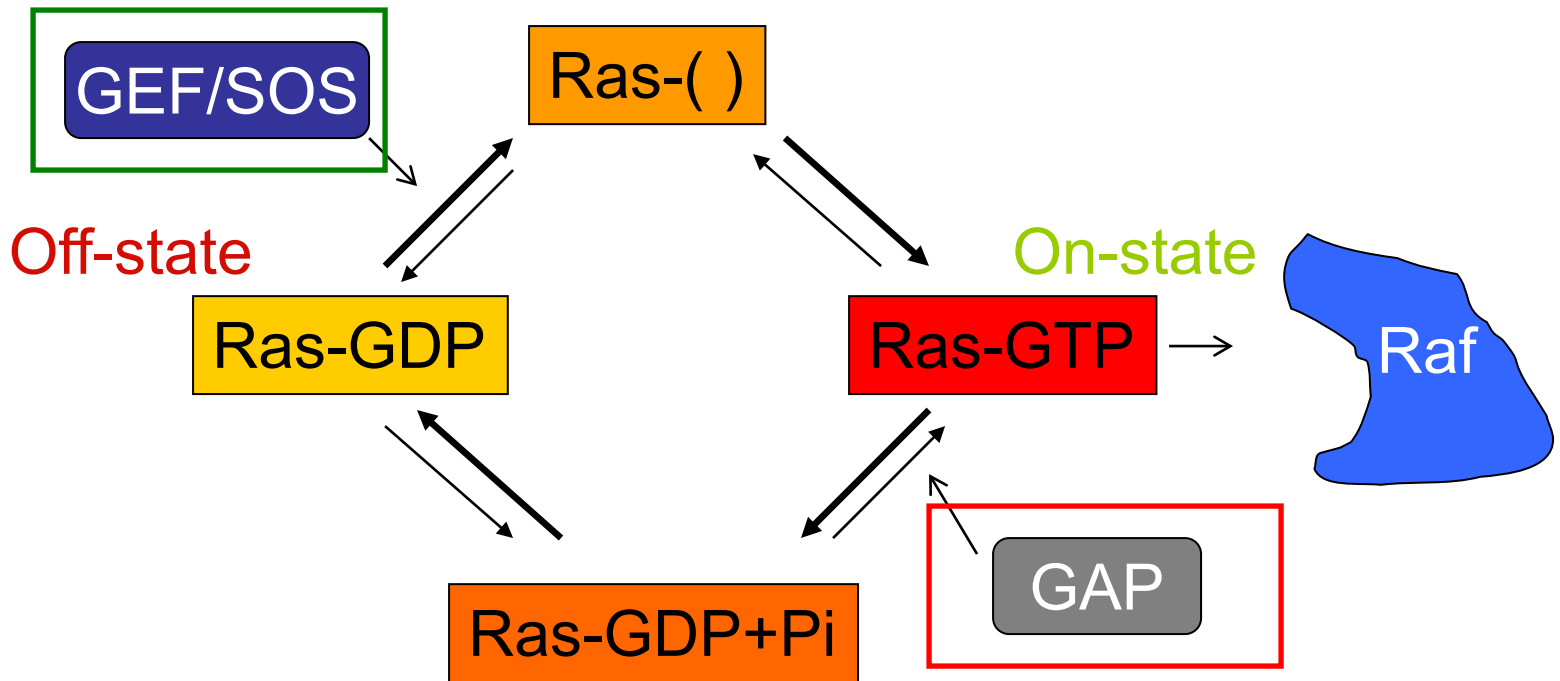
## Switch-of-Function Mutants Based on Morphology Classification of Ras Superfamily Small GTPases

Won Do Heo and Tobias Meyer\*  
Department of Molecular Pharmacology  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
269 Campus Drive, Room 3215  
Stanford, California, 94305

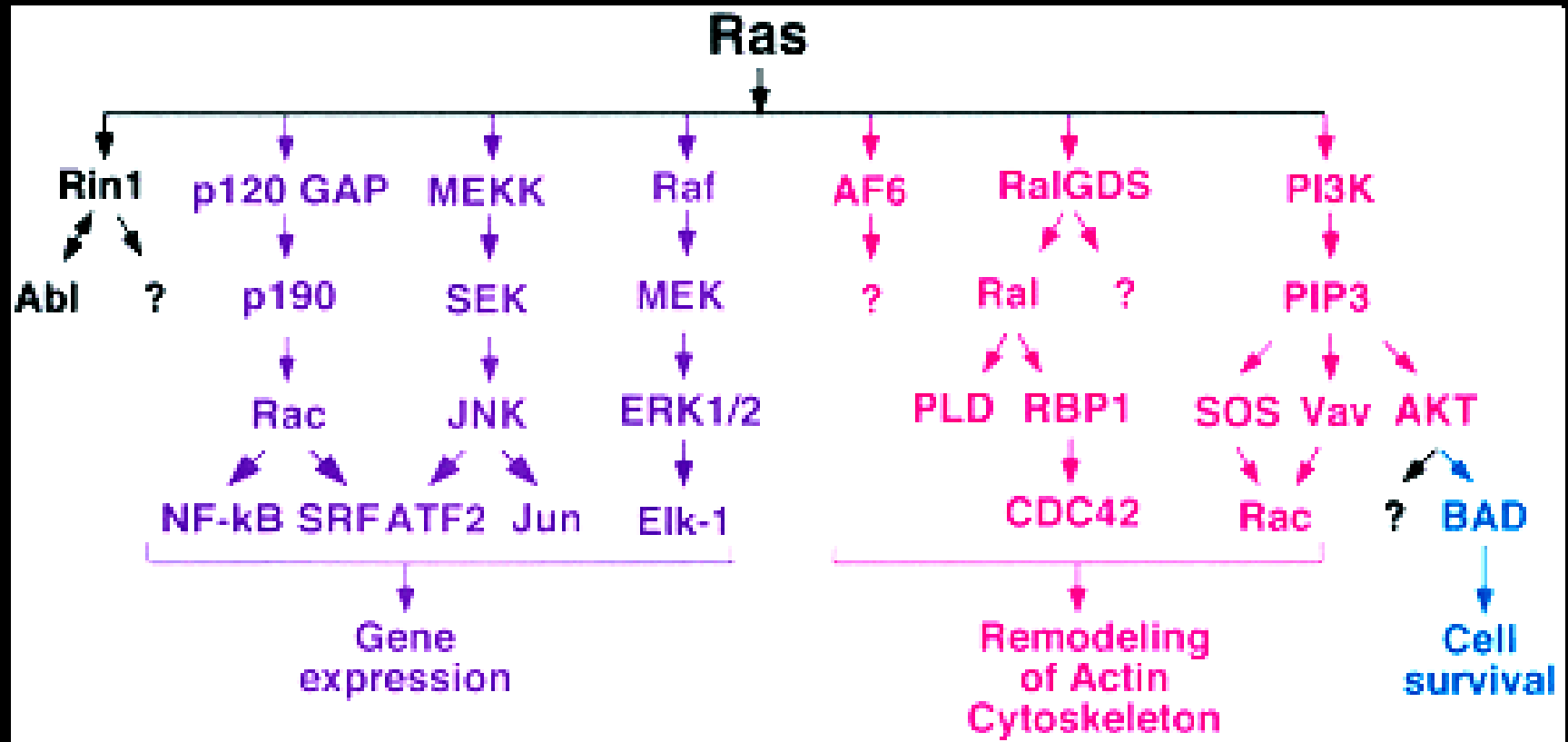




# RAS GTP Cycle



# Ras has multiple downstream substrates



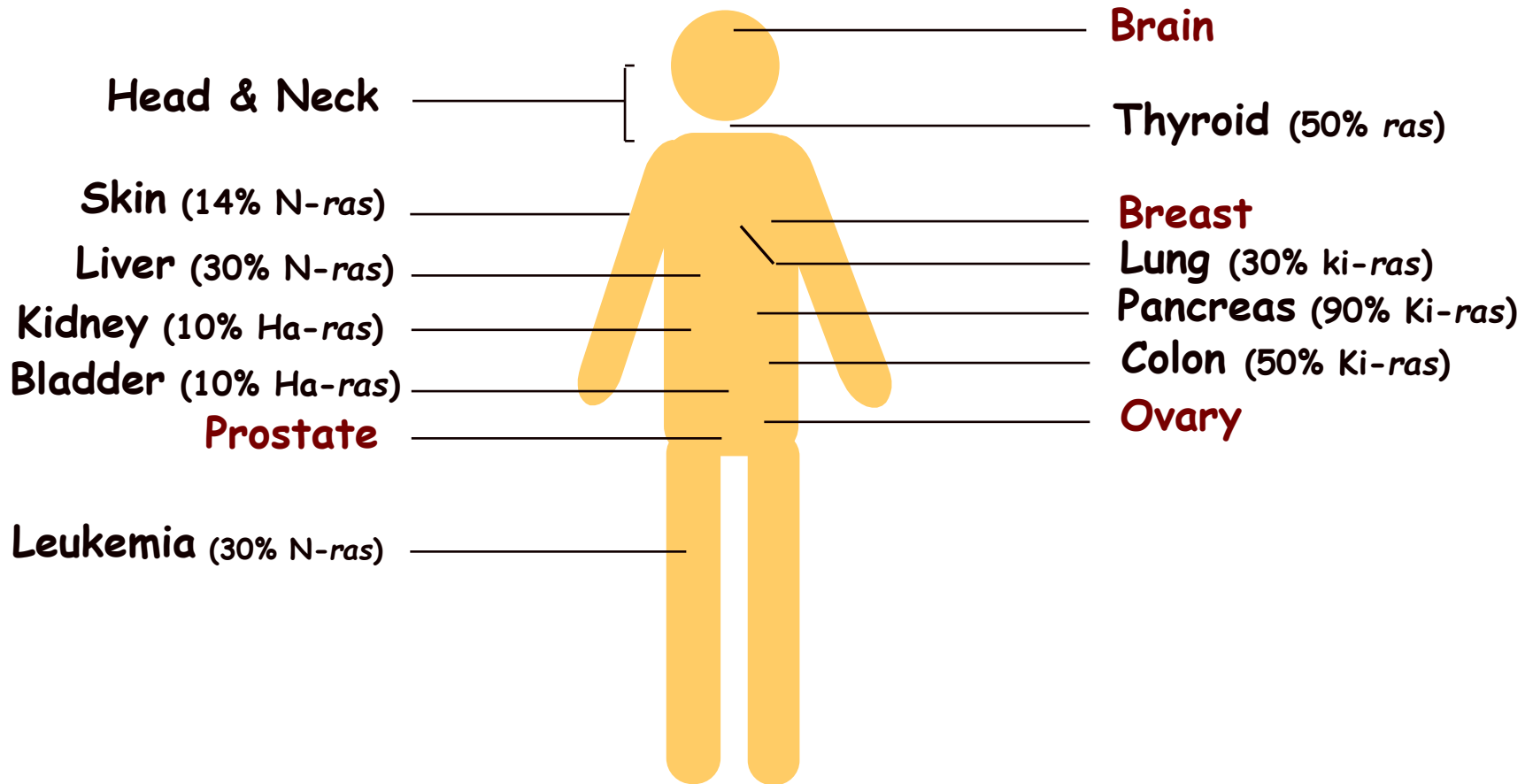
# Amino acid substitutions in Ras family proteins

## amino acid position

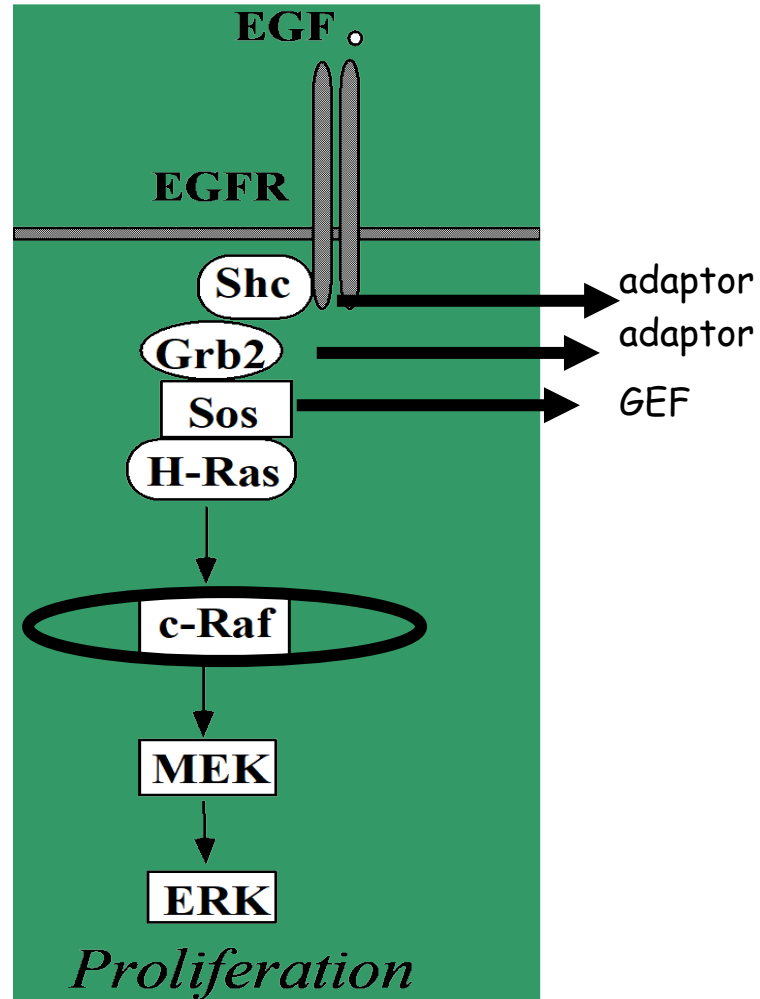
| Ras gene        | 12         | 59         | 61         | Tumor                       |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| c-ras (H, K, N) | Gly        | Ala        | Gln        | normal cells                |
| H-ras           | Gly        | Ala        | <b>Leu</b> | lung carcinoma              |
|                 | <b>Val</b> | Ala        | Gln        | bladder carcinoma           |
| K-ras           | <b>Cys</b> | Ala        | Gln        | lung carcinoma              |
|                 | <b>Arg</b> | Ala        | Gln        | lung carcinoma              |
|                 | <b>Val</b> | Ala        | Gln        | colon carcinoma             |
| N-ras           | Gly        | Ala        | <b>Lys</b> | neuroblastoma               |
|                 | Gly        | Ala        | <b>Arg</b> | lung carcinoma              |
|                 |            |            |            | <u>Murine sarcoma virus</u> |
| H-ras           | <b>Arg</b> | <b>Thr</b> | Gln        | Harvey strain               |
| K-ras           | <b>Ser</b> | <b>Thr</b> | Gln        | Kirsten strain              |



# Incidence of *RAS* mutations in human cancer



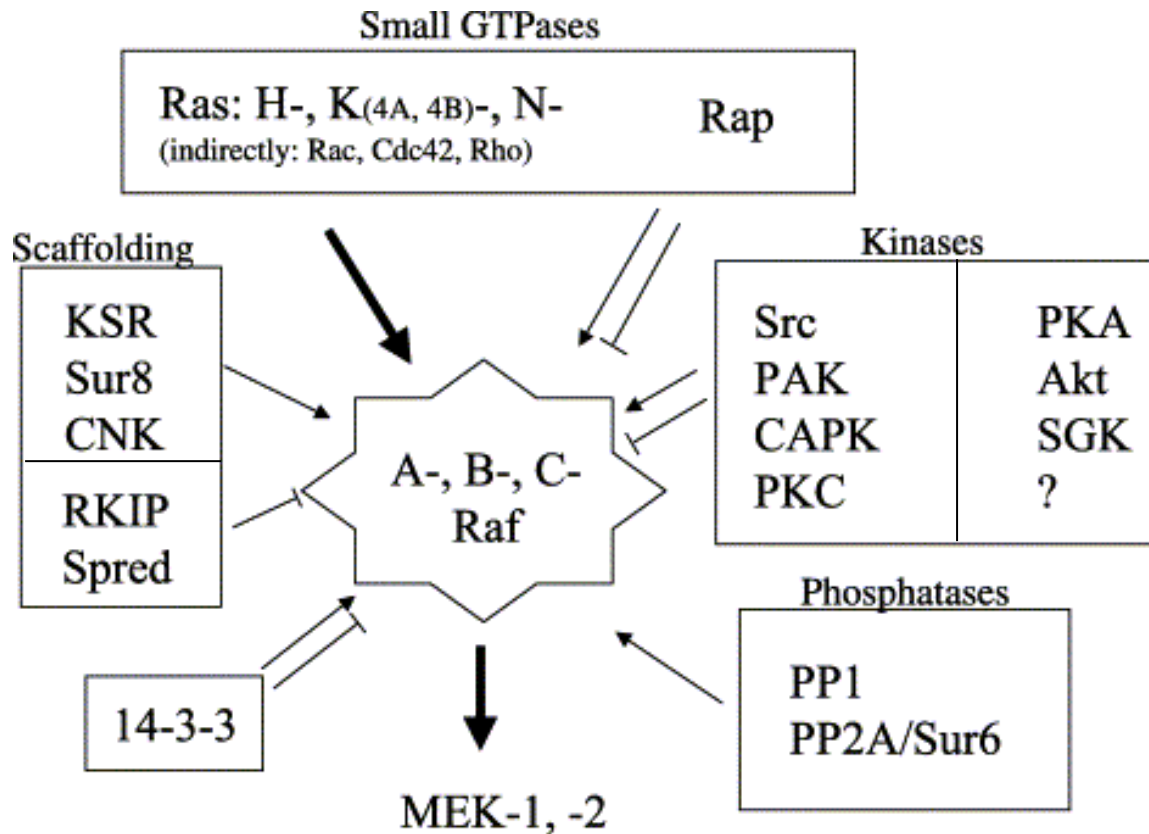
# ERK kinase signaling cascades



# Raf is a point of regulation in the MAP kinase pathway

**Rap1** activates B-Raf but inhibits c-Raf-1.

**Sur8:**  
enhancing  
Ras and  
EGF-  
stimulated  
Raf  
activity in  
*C. elegans*.



**Src, PAK** and **PKC**  
phosphorylate c-Raf-1  
and activate it.

**PKA** inhibits c-  
Raf-1 activity

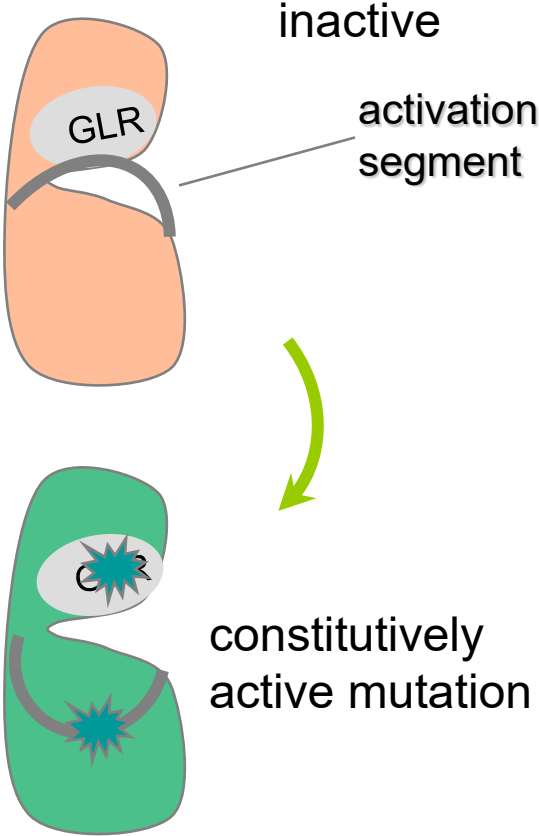
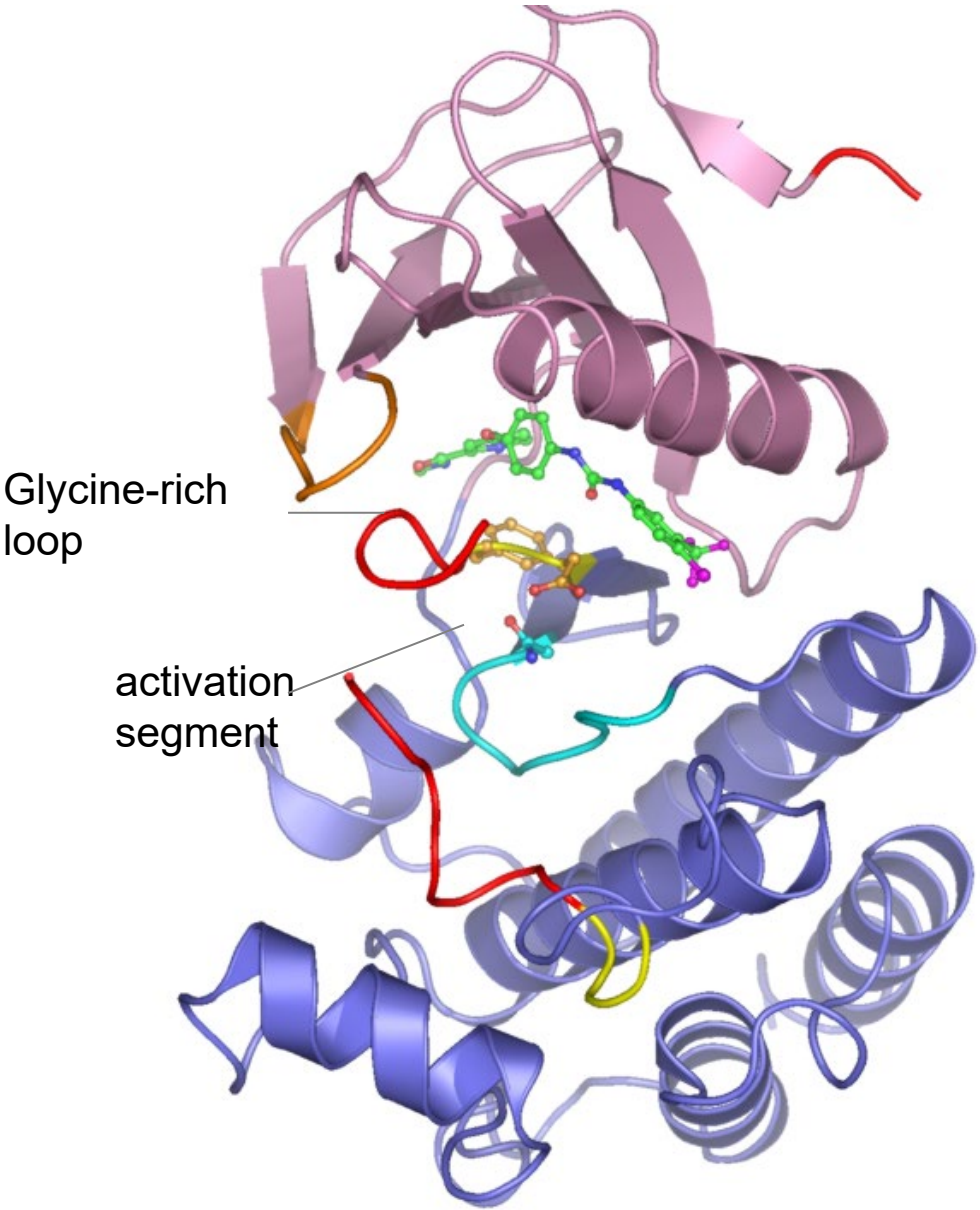
**SGK:** serum and  
glucocorticoid-  
inducible kinase.  
Homologous to Akt.  
Specifically target  
S364 on B-Raf.

**RKIP:** raf kinase inhibitor protein  
**Spred:** Sprouty-related protein in  
*Drosophila*. Inhibiting Raf  
phosphorylation.

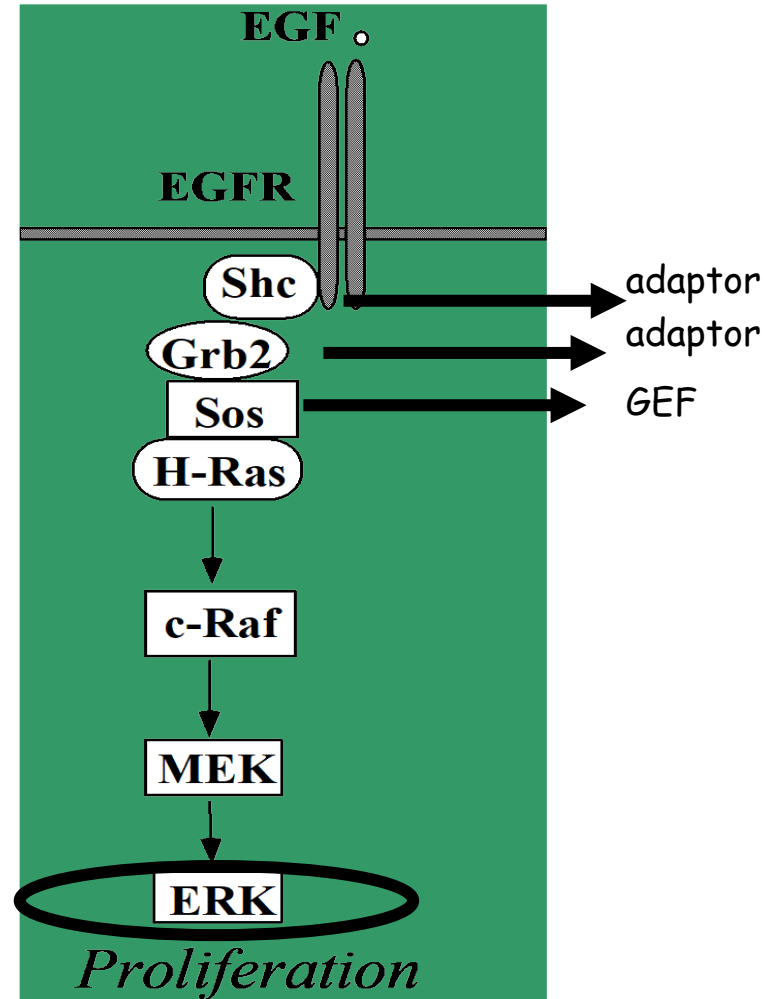
**Sur6;** a subunit of PP2A in  
*C. elegans*, an activator of  
Raf-1.



# B-RAF activation by mutation

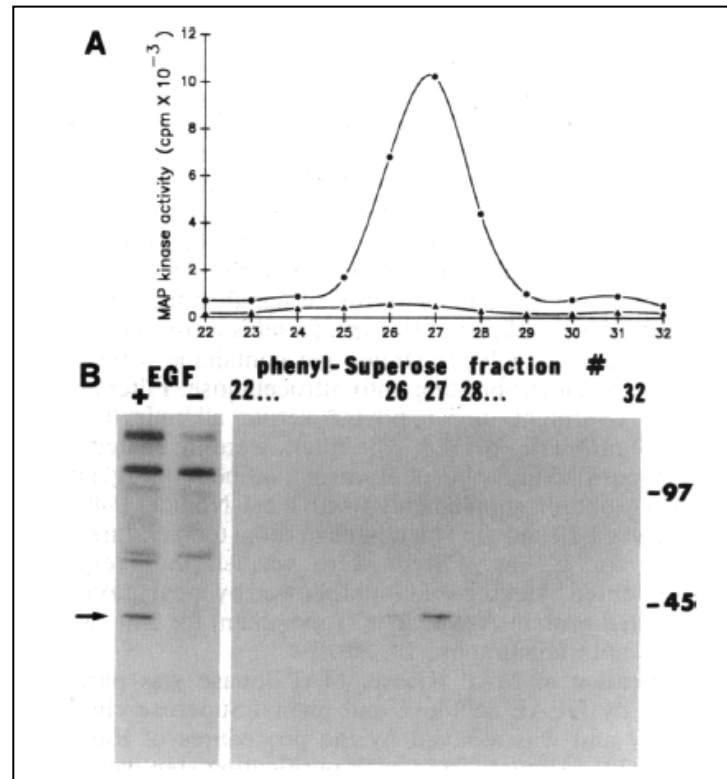


# ERK kinase signaling cascades



# ERK kinase signaling cascades

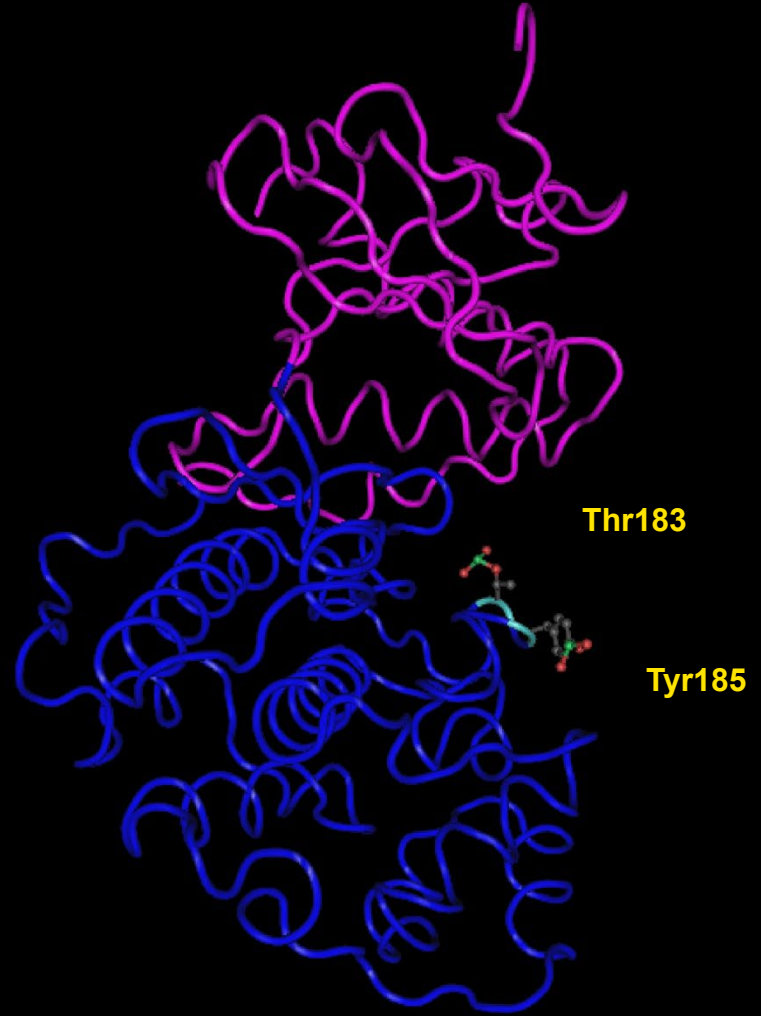
pp42 MAP Kinase/MAPK/ErK1/2  
Myelin Basic Protein Kinase  
Microtubule Associated Protein 2 Kinase  
Mitogen-activated Protein Kinase



# ERK2

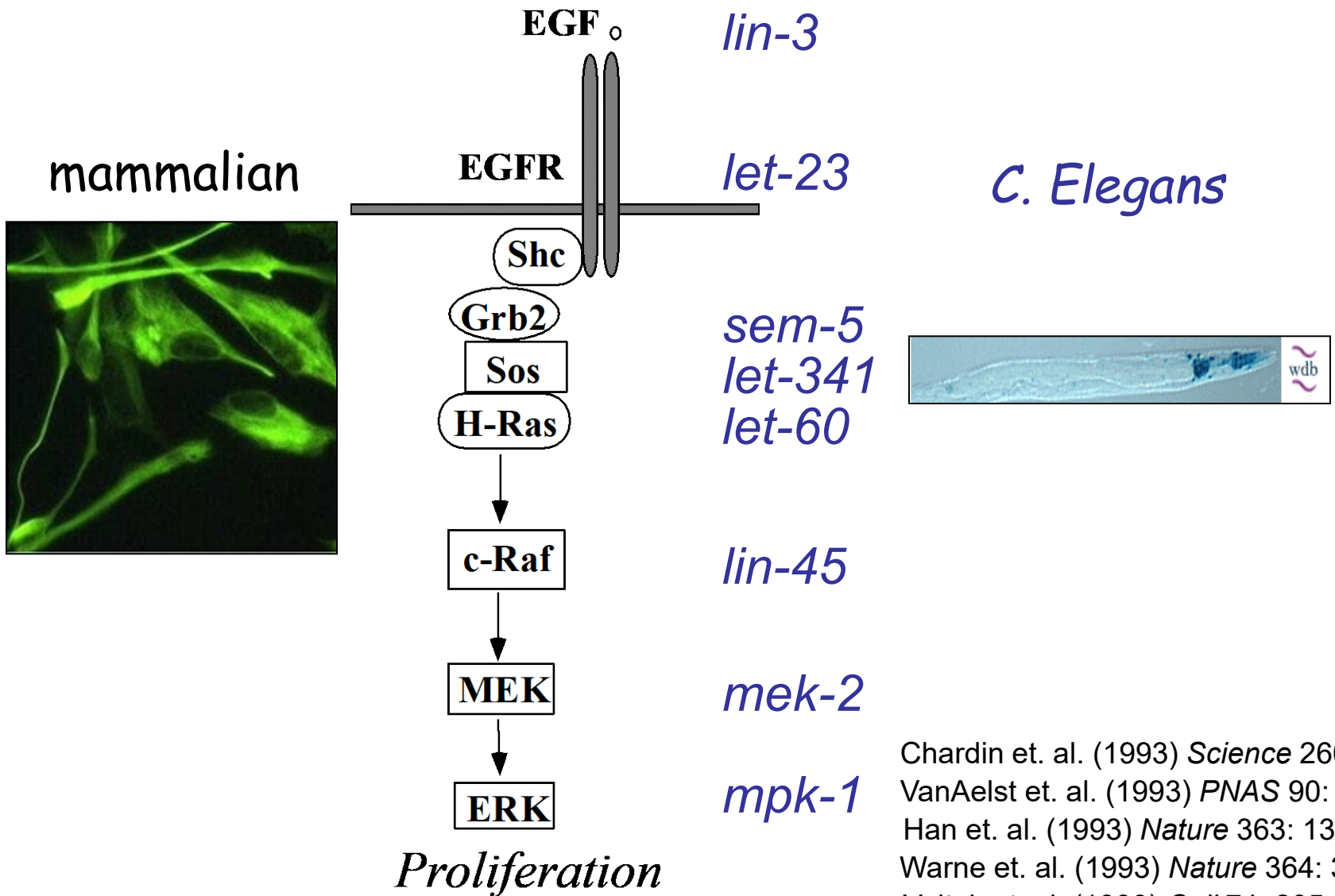


**Unphosphorylated**



**phosphorylated**

# Evolutionary Conservation of the MAPK Signaling pathway



Chardin et. al. (1993) *Science* 260: 1338

VanAelst et. al. (1993) *PNAS* 90: 6213

Han et. al. (1993) *Nature* 363: 133

Warne et. al. (1993) *Nature* 364: 352

Vojtek et. al. (1993) *Cell* 74: 205



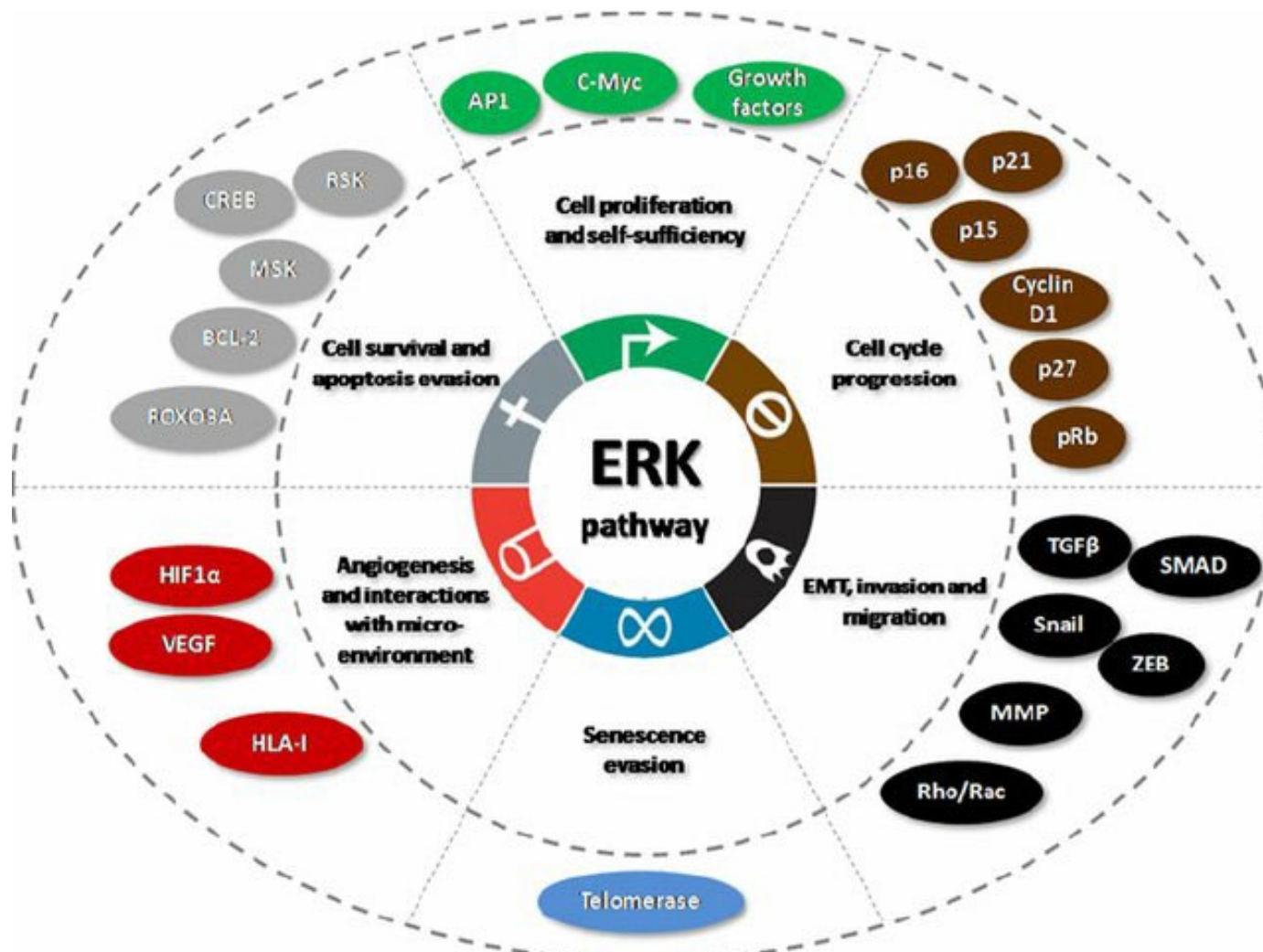
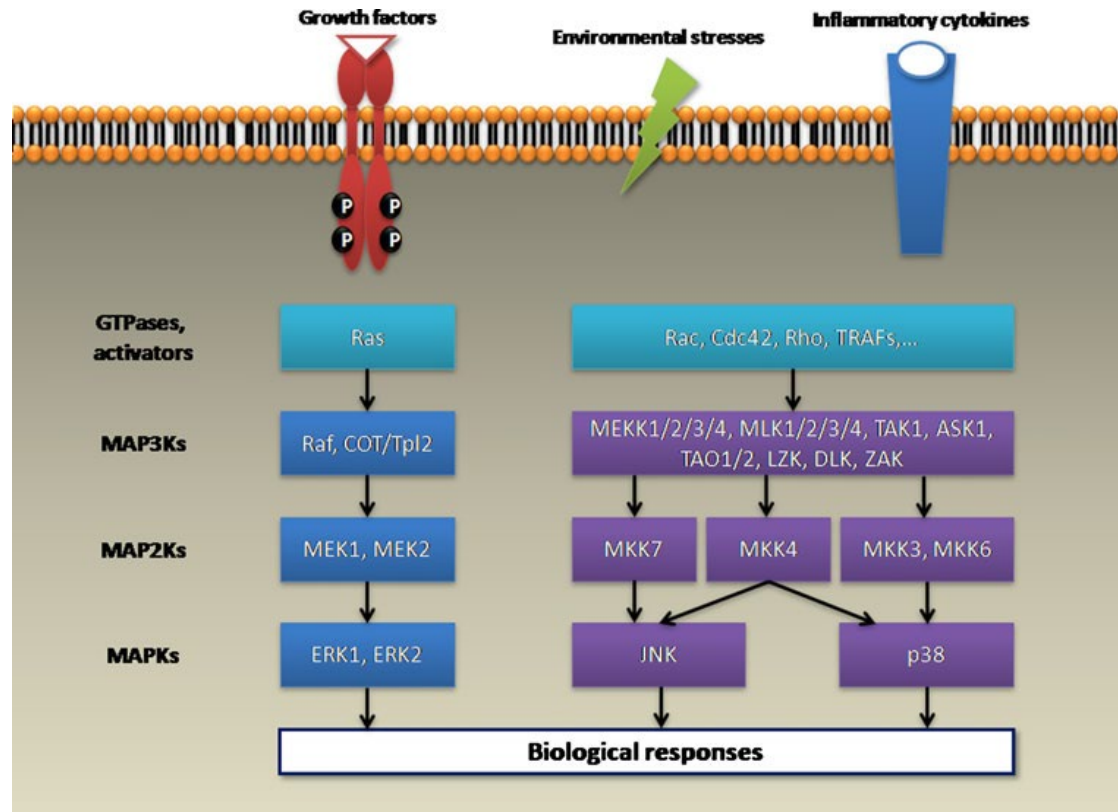
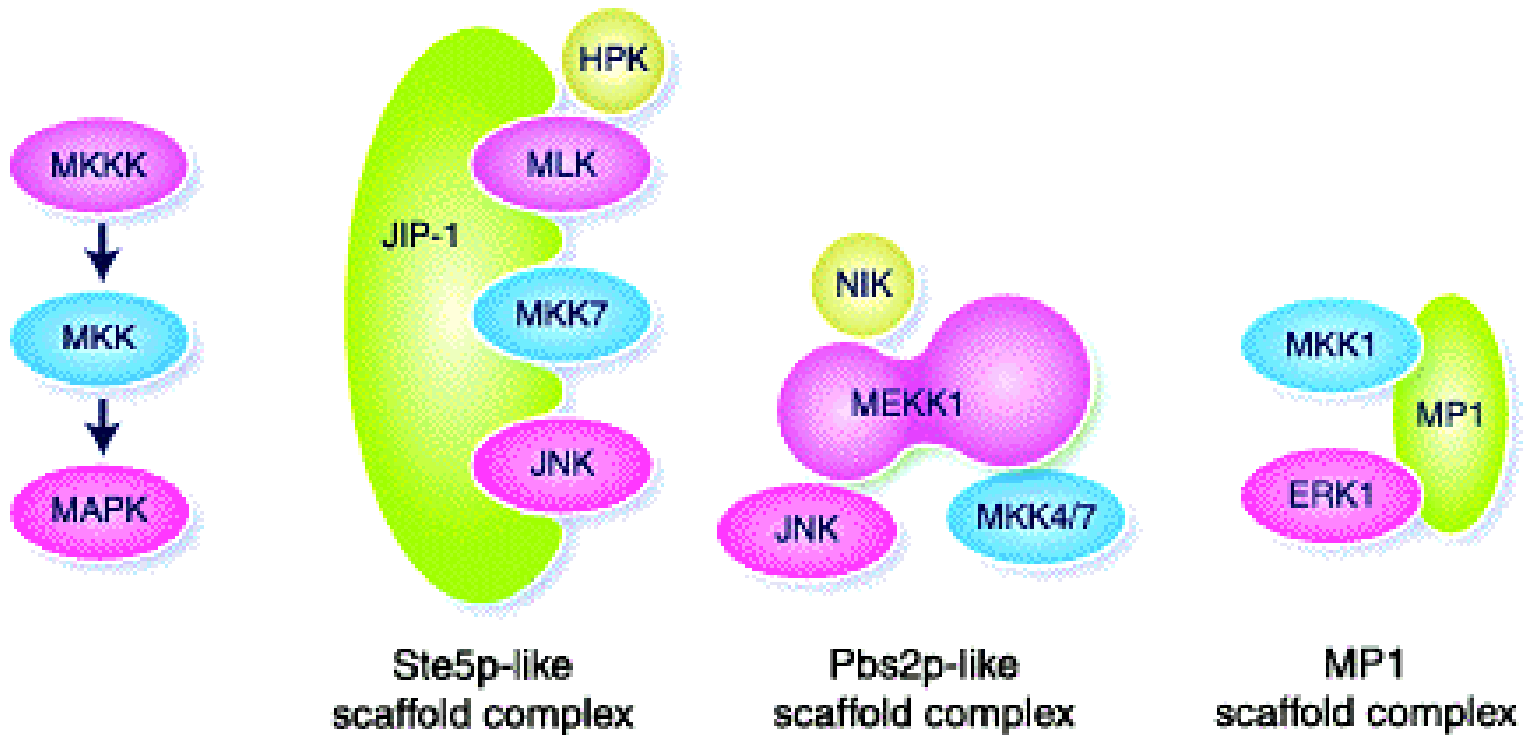


Fig. 3 Biological consequences of the Ras-ERK pathway activation and the main targets involved (adapted from D. Hanahan and Weinberg) [19]

# ERK, JNK and P38



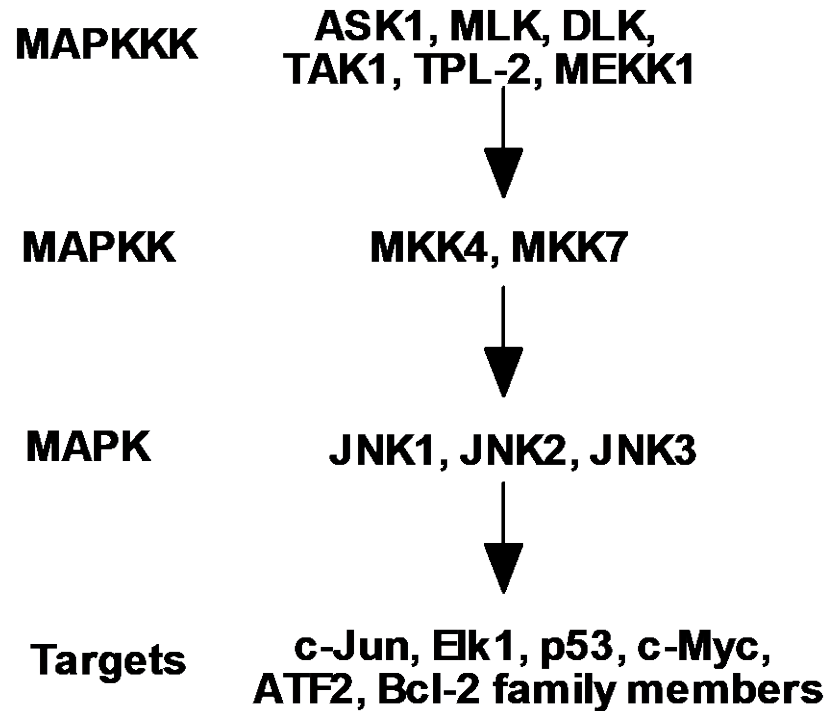
# JNK kinase signaling cascades



# JNK kinase signaling cascades

c-Jun N-terminal kinases (JNKs), also known as stress-activated protein kinases (SAPKs).

# JNK kinase signaling cascades



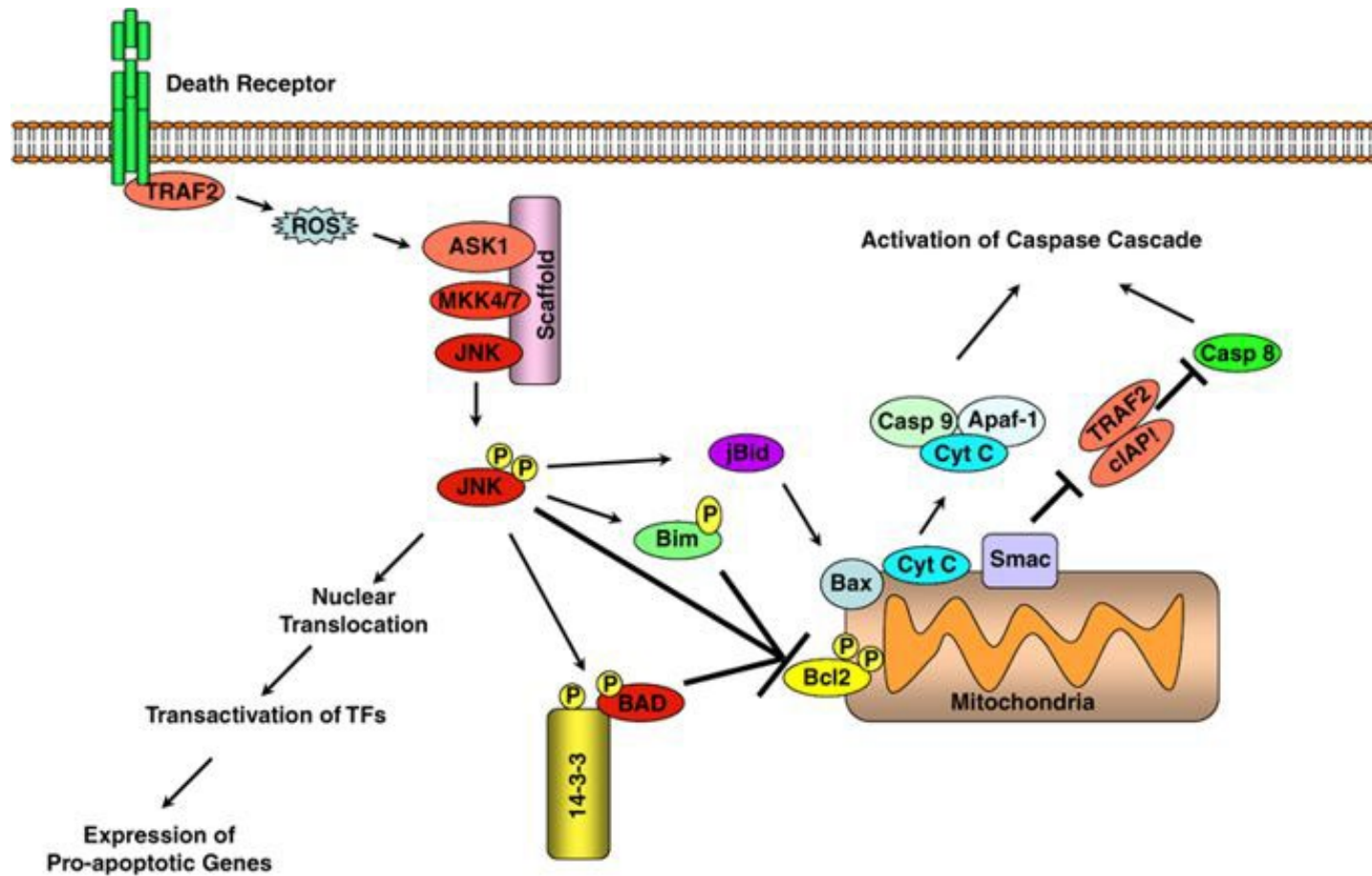
-JNK1 and JNK2 are widely expressed. JNK3 is mainly expressed in neuronal and heart tissues.

-JNK plays a central role in the regulation of proliferation, differentiation, migration, transformation, immune and inflammatory responses, and programmed cell death (apoptosis, autophagy and necrosis).

-Deregulation of the JNK activity has been implicated in many human diseases including certain types of cancer, cardiac hypertrophy and ischemia, immune disorders, liver injury, obesity, and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.



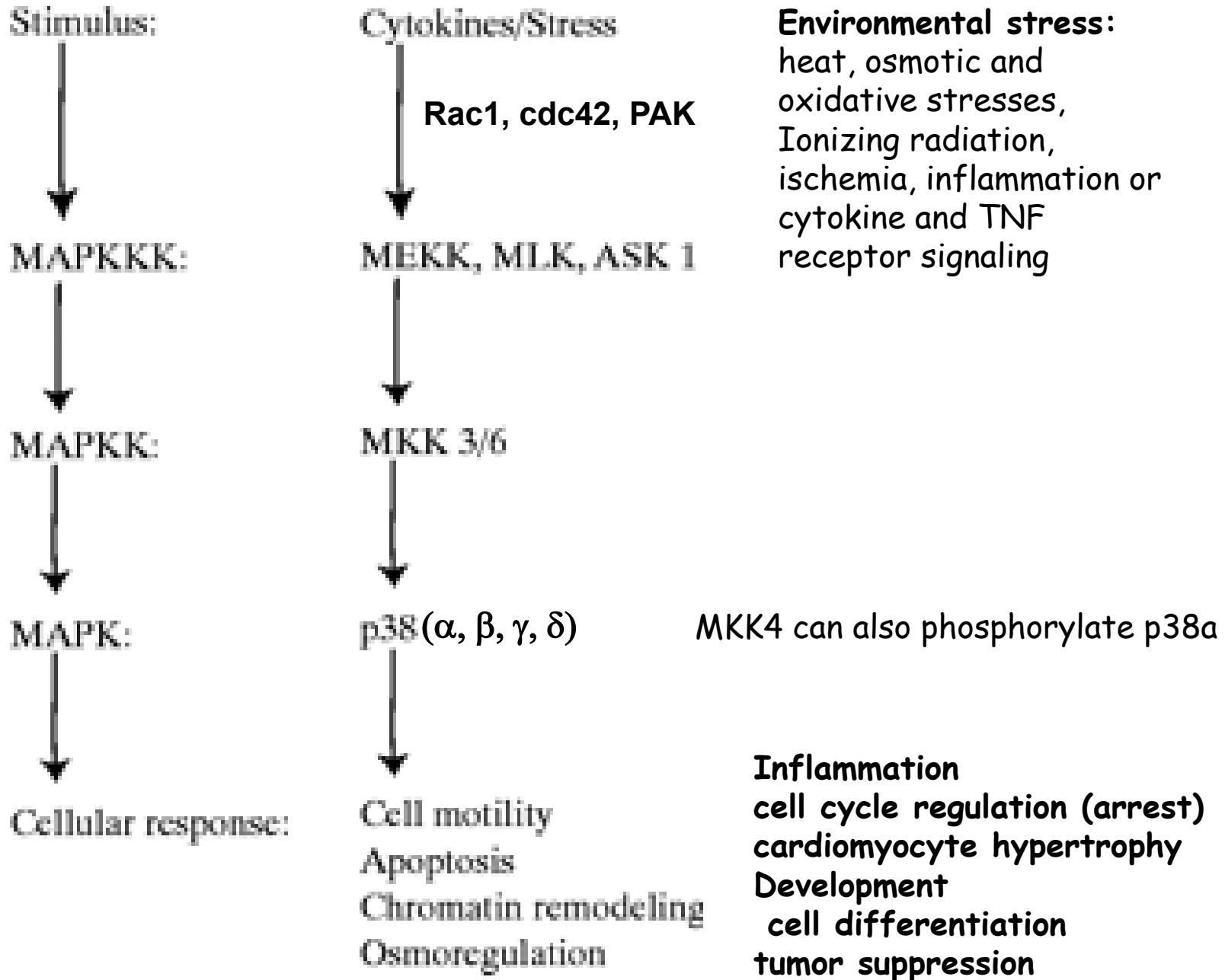
# JNK kinase signaling cascades and apoptosis

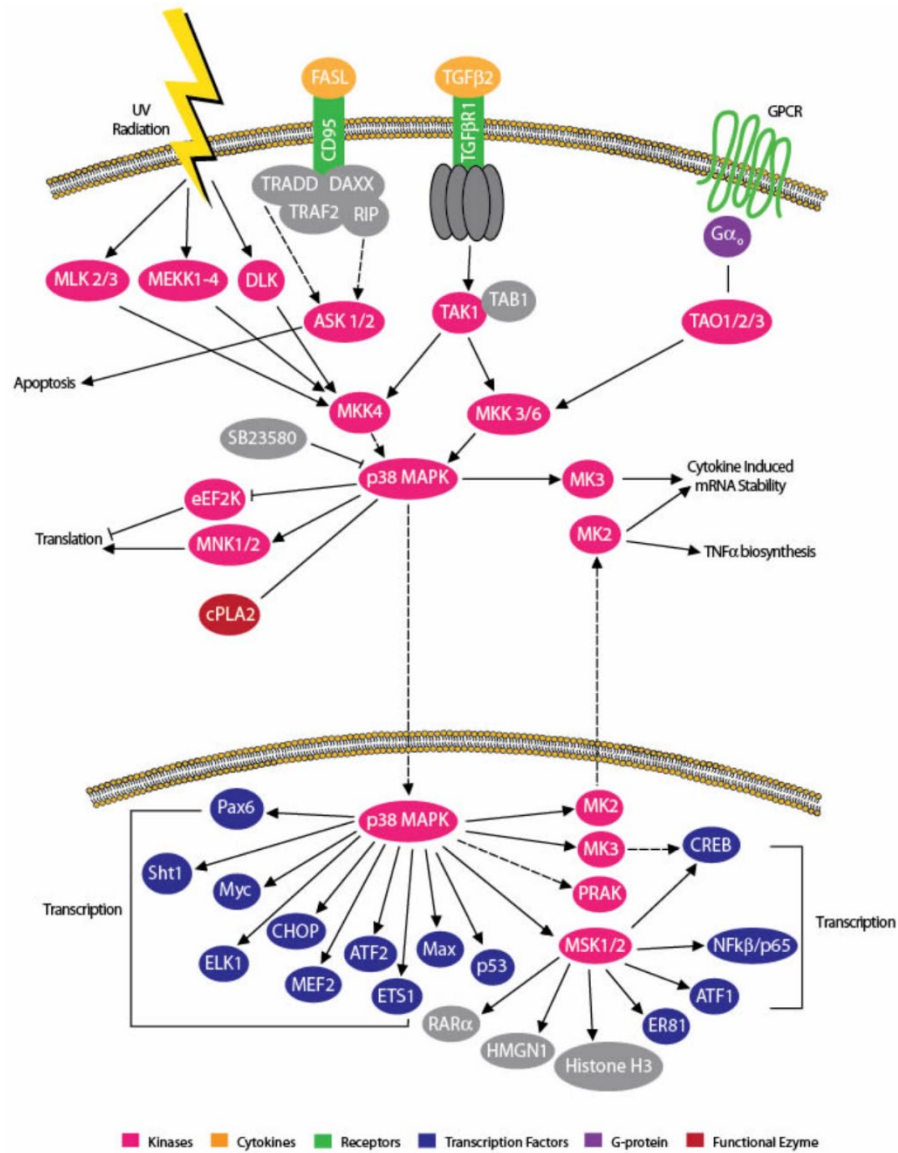


## p38 kinase signaling cascades

p38 isoforms. (p38- $\alpha$  (MAPK14), - $\beta$  (MAPK11), - $\gamma$  (MAPK12 or ERK6) and - $\delta$  (MAPK13 or SAPK4)) Both JNK and p38 signaling pathways are responsive to **stress stimuli**, such as cytokines, ultraviolet irradiation, heat shock, and osmotic shock, and are involved in cell differentiation and apoptosis.

# p38 kinase signaling cascades





# Targeting RTK-Ras-MAPK signaling pathways for cancer treatment

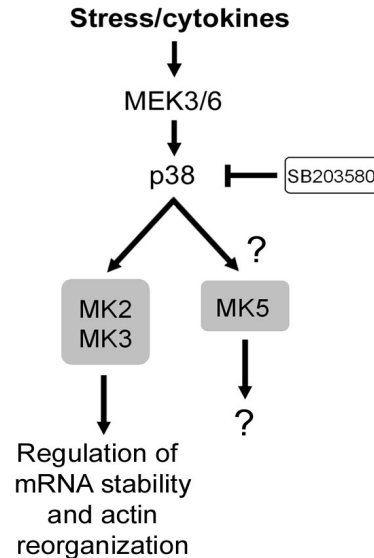
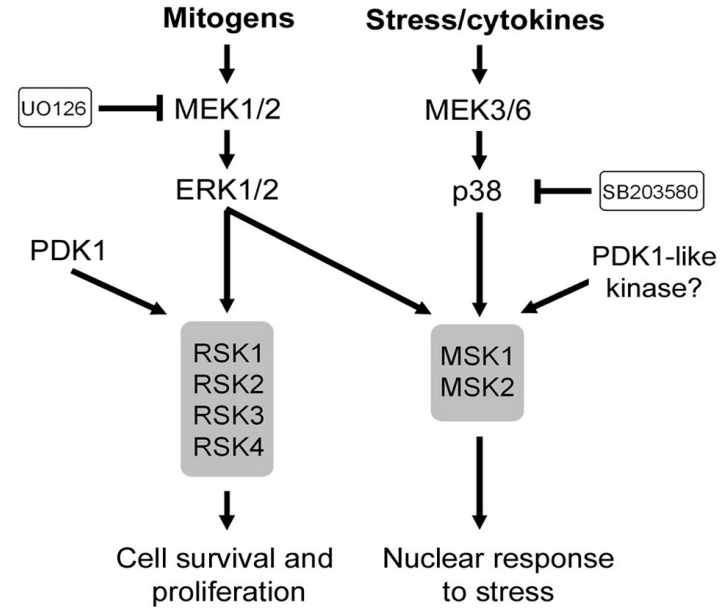
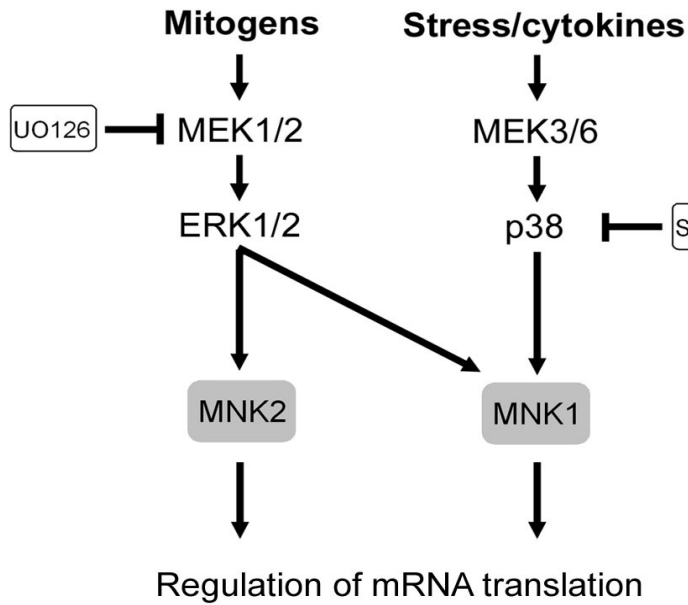
- Antagonists
- Monoclonal antibodies
- Small molecule inhibitors
- Cell-permeable peptide inhibitors (interfere with protein/ protein interactions).
- Dominant-negative regulators
- Antisense oligonucleotides
- Small interfering RNA



## Development of inhibitors to target MAPK pathways

- **Dominant negative mutants of protein kinases** defective in ATP binding domains, membrane localization or catalytic activity.
- **Pharmacological inhibitor of MEK1 and MEK2:** PD98059, PD184352 and U0126.
- **Small-molecule inhibitors of RAF:** sorafenib (BAY 43-9006) and antisense oligonucleotides of Raf; B-Raf<sup>V600E</sup> inhibitors (PLX4032, GSK2118432)
- **Inhibitors of JNK pathways:** SP600125 inhibits Jun-N-terminal kinase 2 (JNK2). CEP1347 (KT7515) is an inhibitor of mixed lineage kinases 1, 2 and 3 (MLK1, 2 and 3)
- **Inhibitors of p38 evaluated in clinical trials:** Vertex 745 (VX745) and RPR200765A are in clinical trials for rheumatoid arthritis, whereas SB235699 (HEP689) has been evaluated for the treatment of psoriasis. SCIO469 is a p38 inhibitor also in clinical trials for rheumatoid arthritis.

# Development of inhibitors to target MAPK pathways

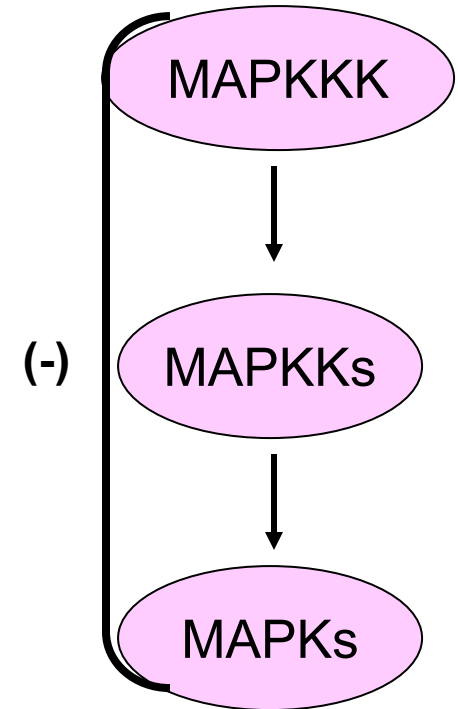


# MAPK Inactivation

## 1) Regulation by phosphatases

A. MAPK phosphatases (MKPs):  
Dual Specificity Phosphatases

B. Serine/Threonine phosphatases  
PP1, PP2A (substrates: MKK, ERK)



## 2) Negative feedback

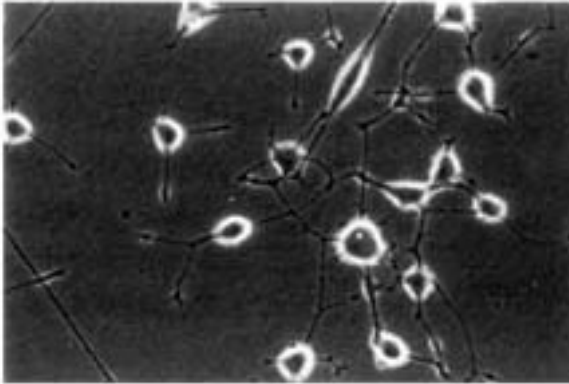
phosphorylation and inactivation of MEK1, C-RAF and SOS by ERK

**Cell fate determination by the MAPK Pathway**

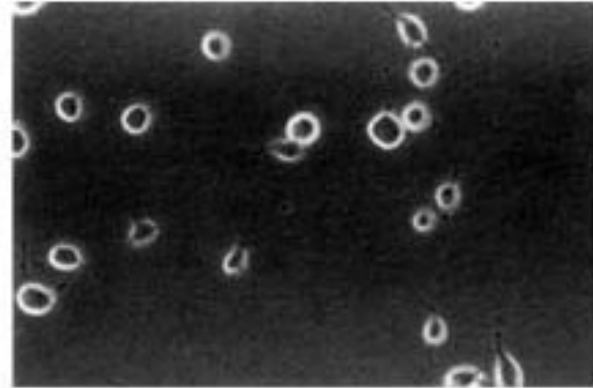
**How is specificity of MAPK signaling determined ?**

## PC12 pheochromoytoma cell line

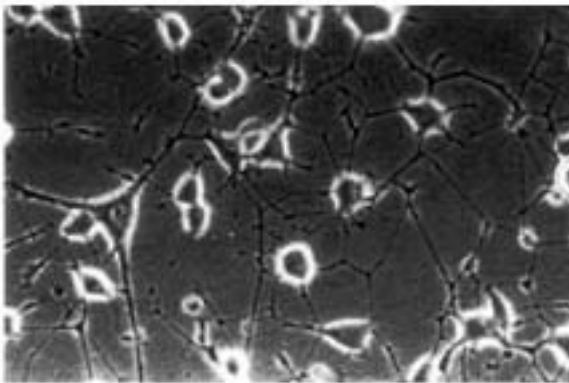
Day 1  
NGF



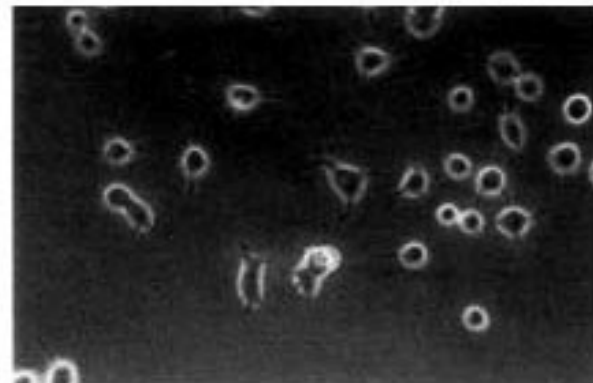
Day 1  
EGF



Day 3  
NGF



Day 3  
EGF





A avaliação de células individuais é importante para se compreender o tipo de resposta a um determinado estímulo

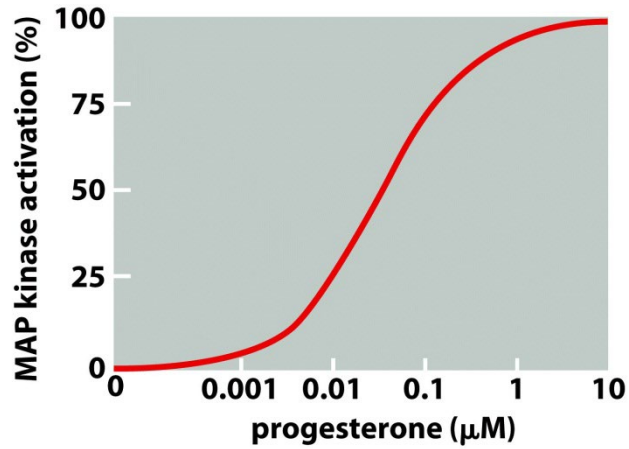


Figure 15-24a Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

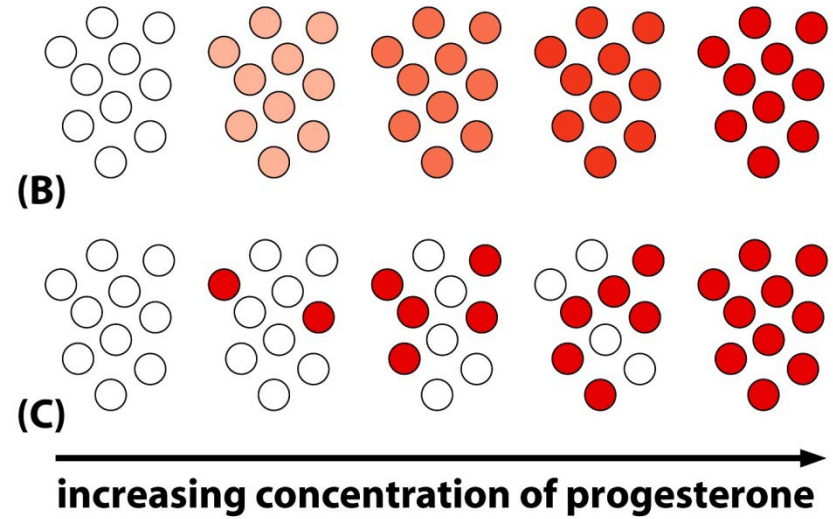
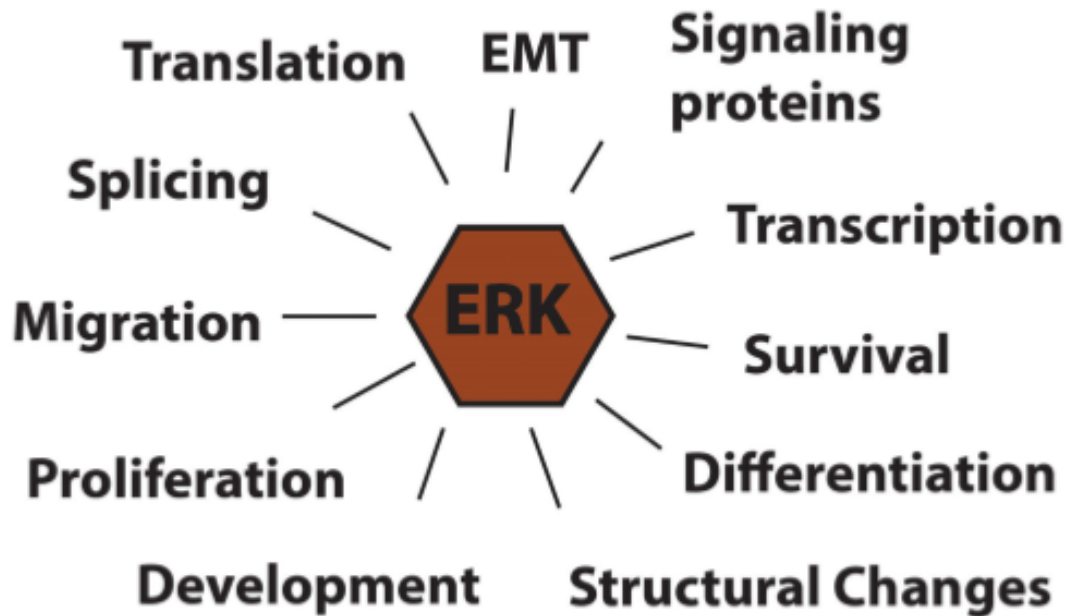


Figure 15-24bc Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)



## ERK activation



# Feedback

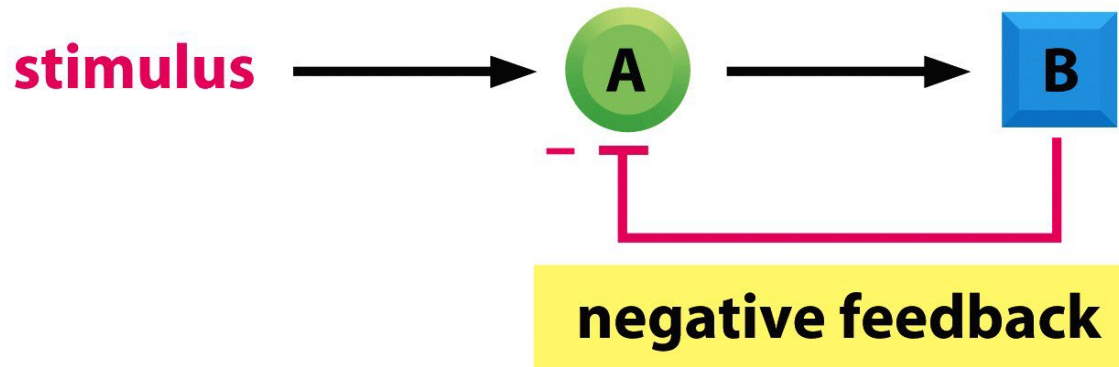
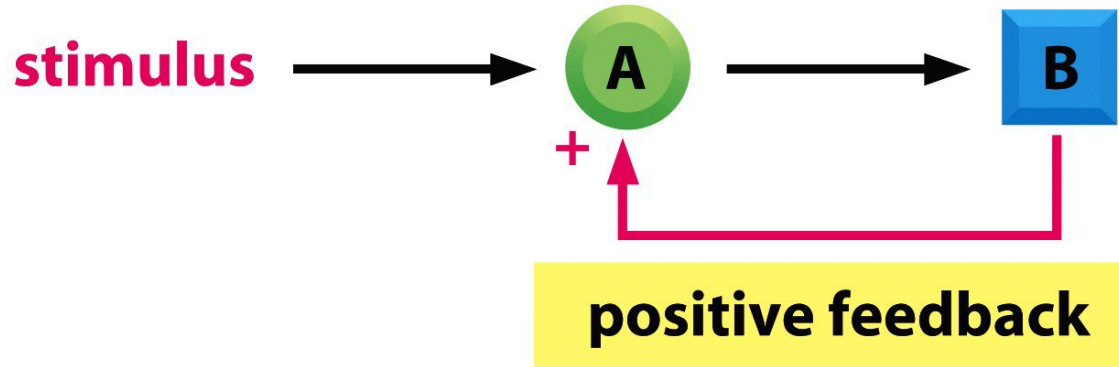
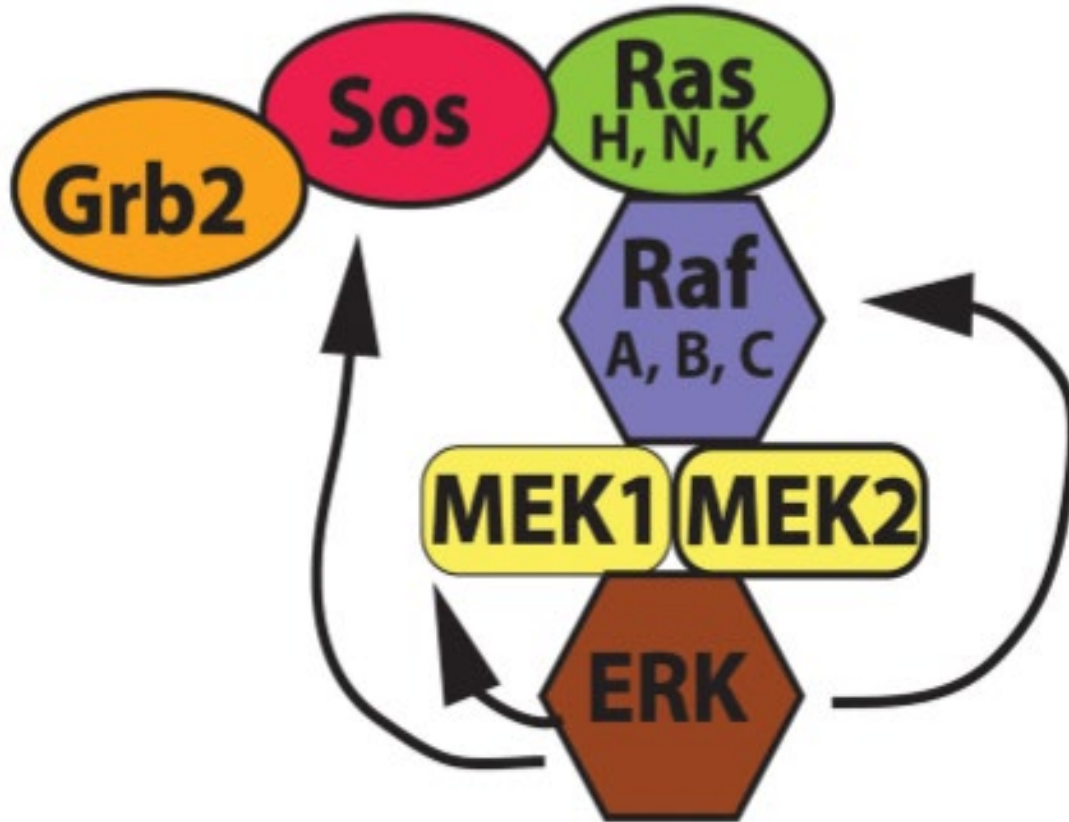
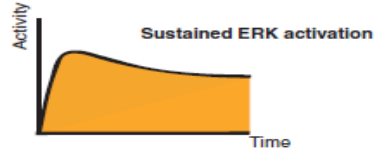
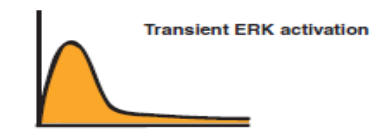
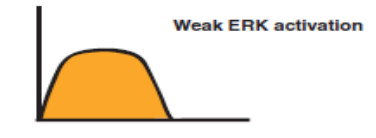
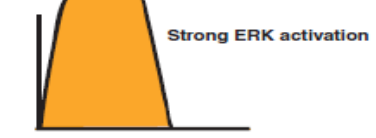




Figure 15-26 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

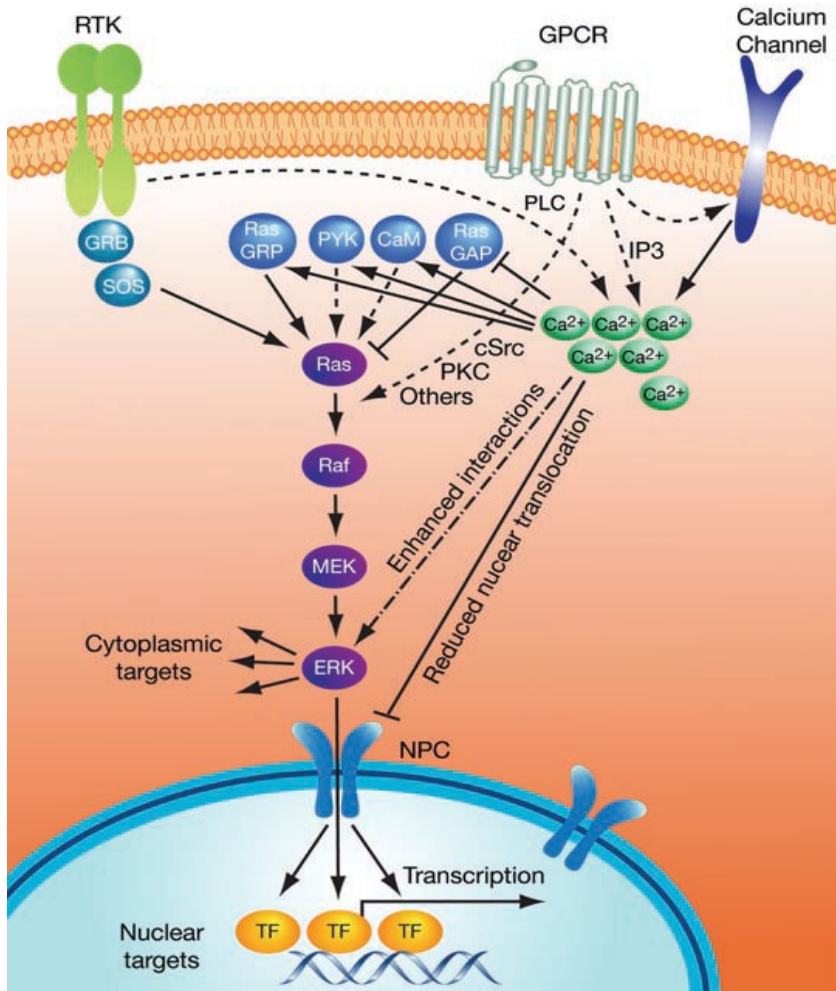
# Feedback



# Cell fate determination by the MAPK Pathway

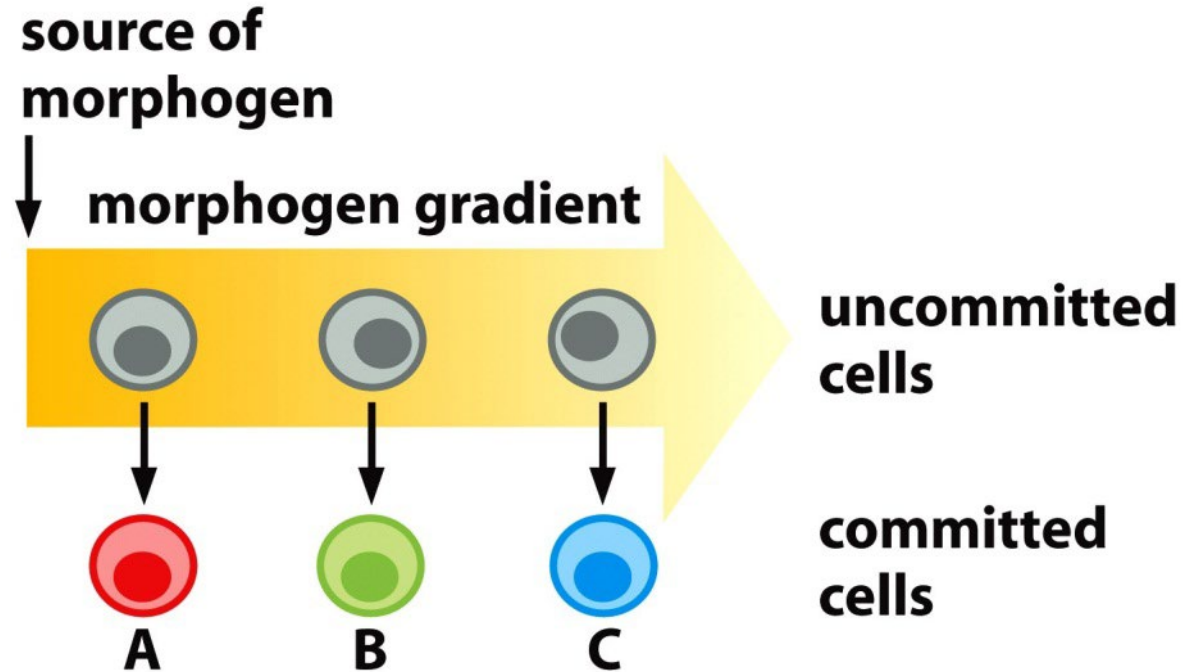
| Regulators                                                                                                    | Differences in ERK activity                                                                                                             | Cellular responses                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Temporal regulators</b><br>PKC<br>Rap1<br>Sprouty<br>...<br>...                                            | <b>Sustained ERK activation</b><br>                   | Proliferation    Differentiation    Filamentous growth<br>Fibroblasts    PC12 cells    Yeast                                              |
|                                                                                                               | <b>Transient ERK activation</b><br>                   | Quiescence    Proliferation    Mating                                                                                                     |
| <b>Strength-controlling regulators</b><br>β-arrestin<br>IMP<br>KSR<br>MEKK1<br>MP1<br>...<br>...              | <b>Weak ERK activation</b><br>                        | Proliferation    Proliferation    Apoptosis<br>Fibroblasts    PC12 cells    Carcinoma cells                                               |
|                                                                                                               | <b>Strong ERK activation</b><br>                      | Cell-cycle arrest    Differentiation    Survival                                                                                          |
| <b>Spatial regulators</b><br>β-arrestin<br>calponin<br>LSP1<br>p14<br>paxillin<br>PEA-15<br>Sef<br>...<br>... | <b>Nuclear localization of activated ERK</b><br>     | Proliferation    Proliferation    Proliferation<br>Fibroblasts    Carcinoma cells, epithelial cells    Embryonic carcinoma and stem cells |
|                                                                                                               | <b>Cytoplasmic localization of activated ERK</b><br> | Quiescence<br>Senescence    Migration    Differentiation                                                                                  |

## Cell fate determination by the MAPK Pathway




Elevated calcium concentrations induce cytoplasmic substrate phosphorylation (RSK), but not the nuclear substrate.

Diferentes concentrações do primeiro mensageiro podem induzir diferentes respostas



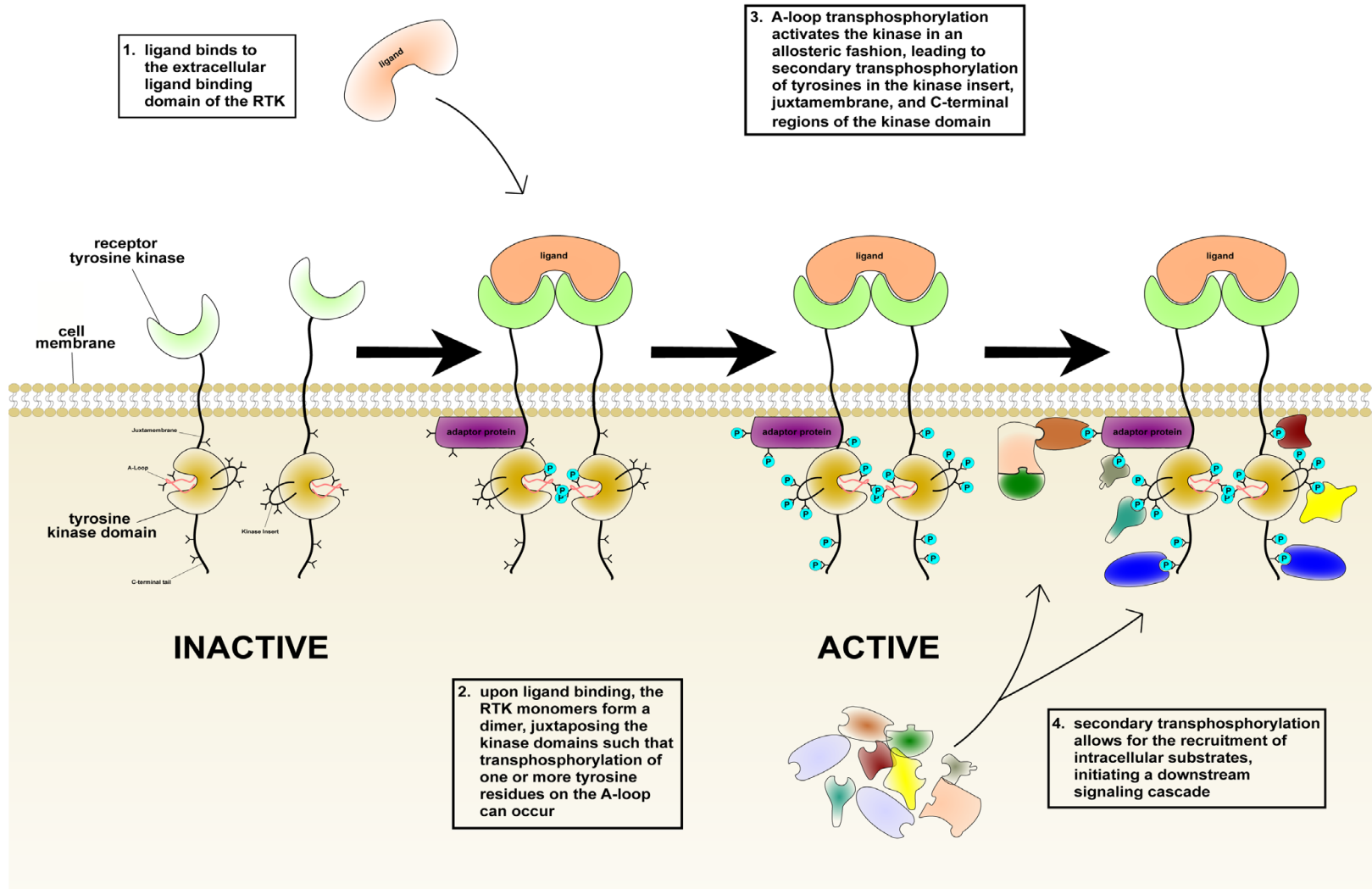


# A threshold model for receptor tyrosine kinase signaling specificity and cell fate determination [version 1; referees: 4 approved]

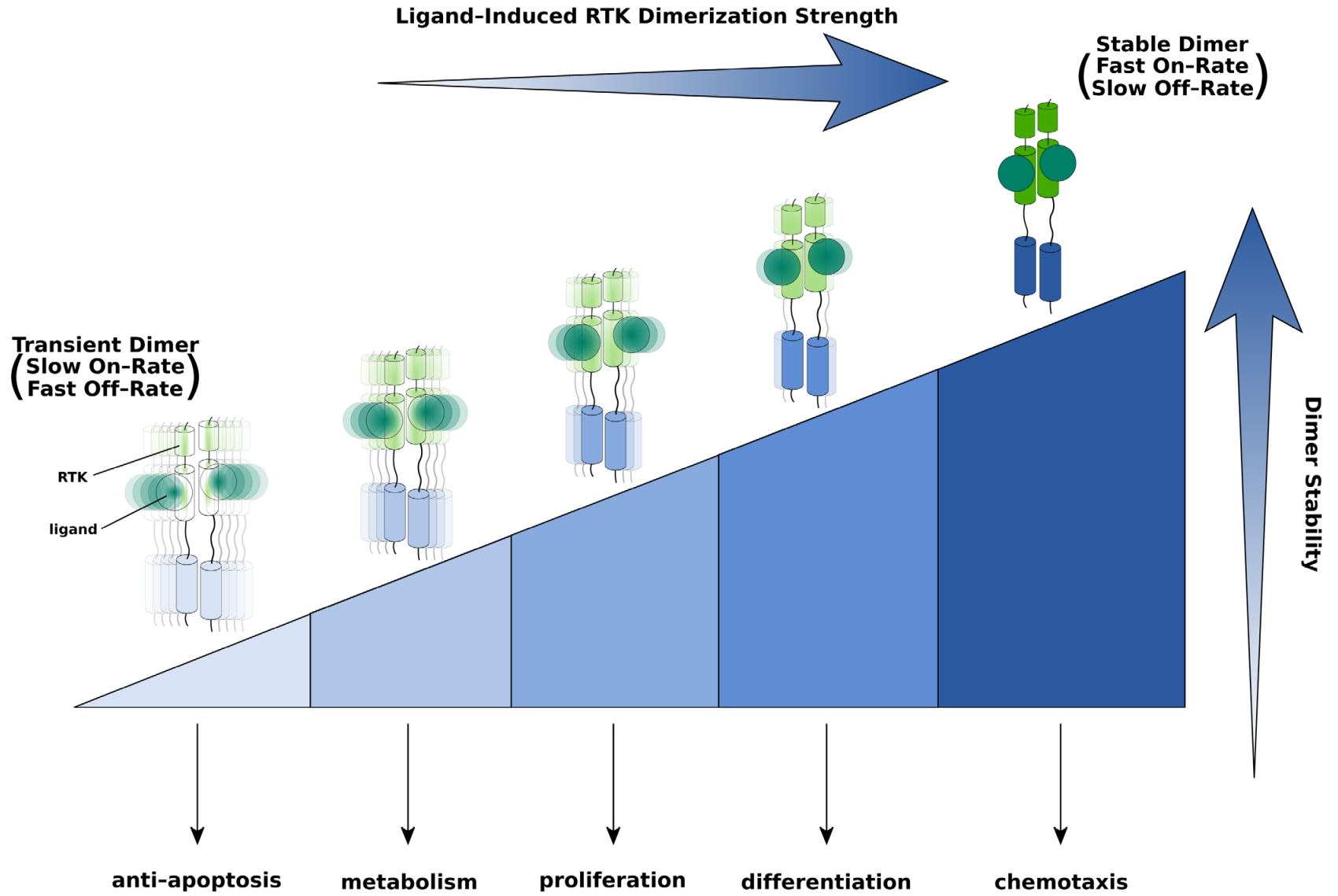
Allen Zinkle, Moosa Mohammadi 

Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Pharmacology, New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA

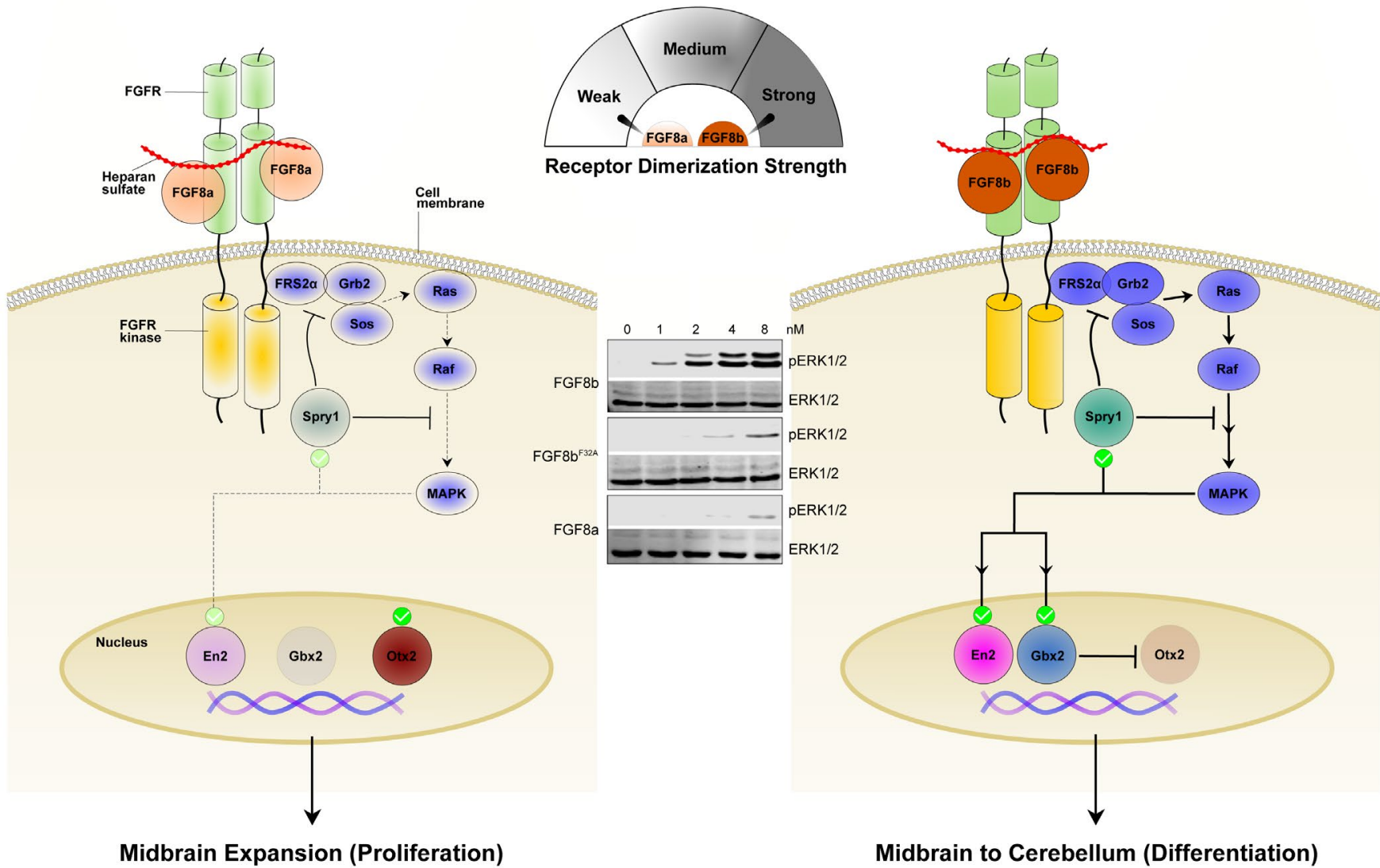
## Dimerização de RTK



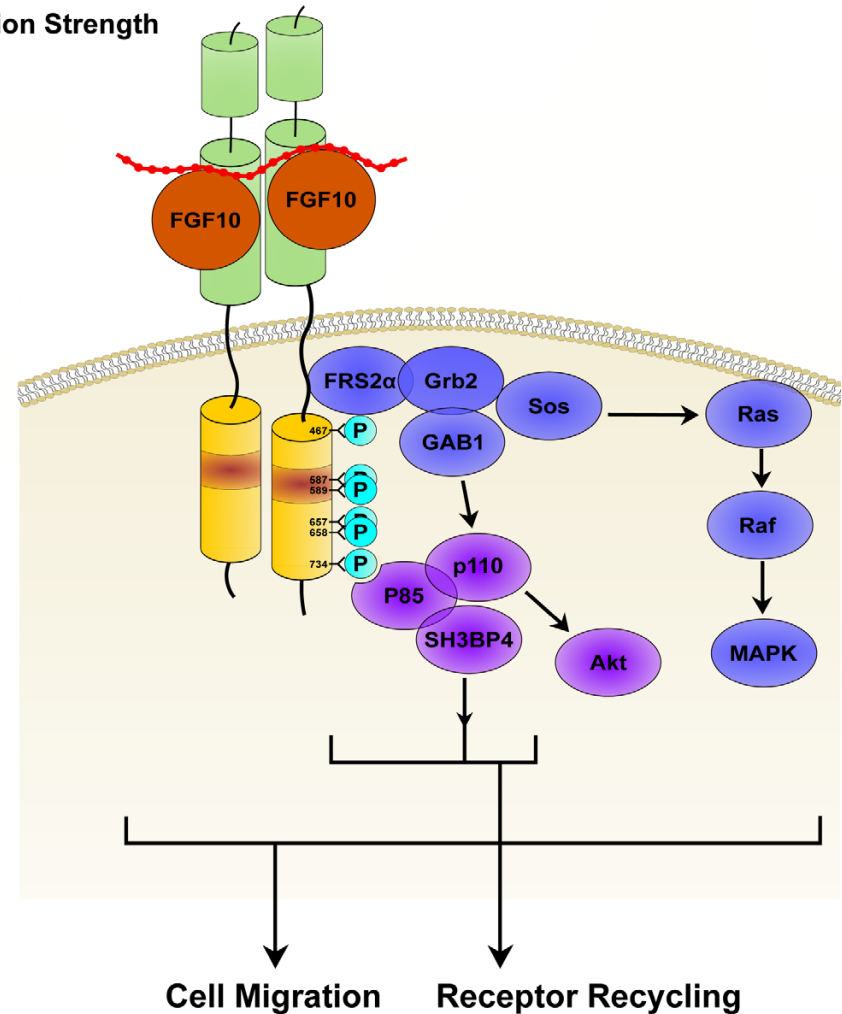
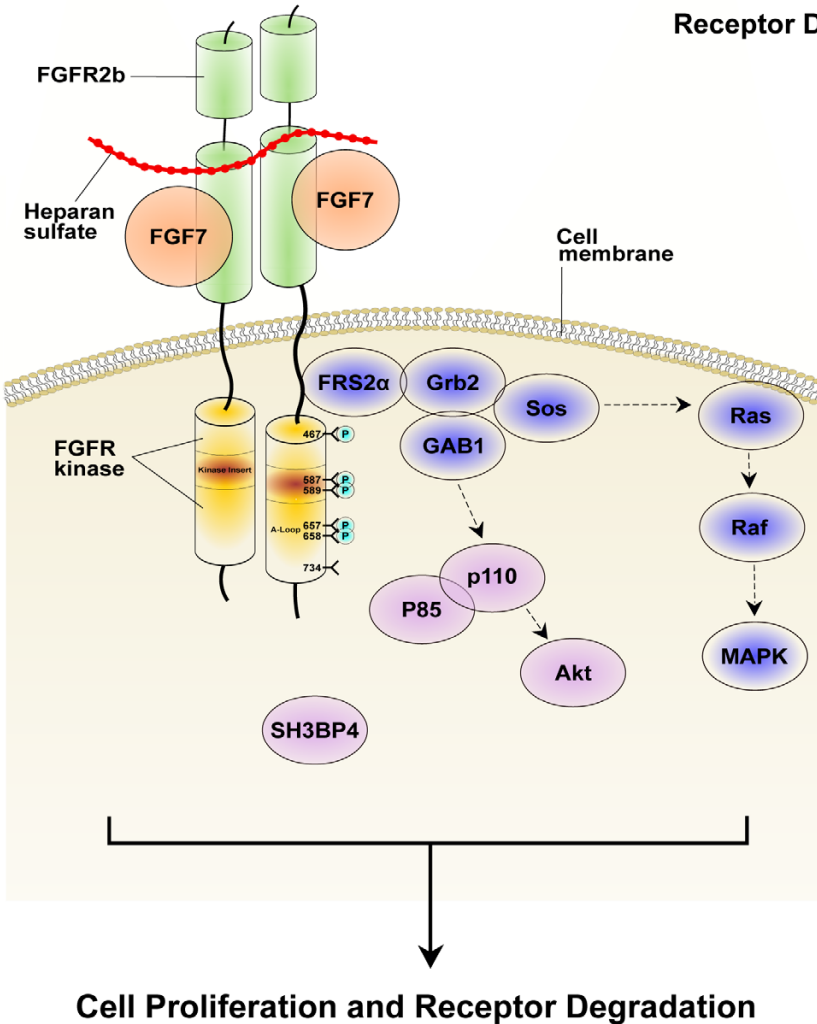
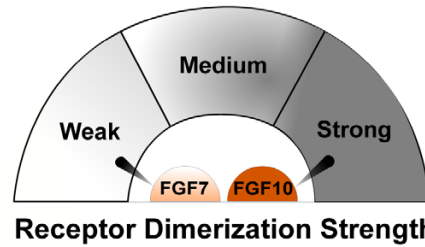
# Estabilidade do dímero altera a resposta



# Estabilidade do dímero altera a resposta

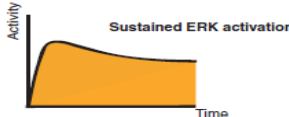
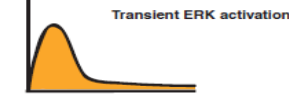


# Estabilidade do dímero altera a resposta



# Frequency modulation of ERK activation dynamics rewires cell fate

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| Regulators                                                                | Differences in ERK activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Cellular responses                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Temporal regulators</b></p> <p>PKC<br/>Rap1<br/>Sprouty<br/>...</p> | <p><b>Sustained ERK activation</b></p>  <p><b>Transient ERK activation</b></p>  | <p>Proliferation    Differentiation    Filamentous growth</p> <p>Fibroblasts    PC12 cells    Yeast</p> <p>Quiescence    Proliferation    Mating</p> |

