1 **A centrosome asymmetry switch in fly neural stem cells**
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Centrosomes, the main microtubule organizing centers (MTOCs) of metazoan cells, contain an older

'mother' and a younger 'daughter' centriole. Stem cells either inherit the mother or daughter

centriole, providing a mechanism for biased delivery of cell fate determinants. However, the

molecular mechanisms regulating centrosome asymmetry and biased centrosome segregation are

unclear. Using 3D-Structured Illumination Microscopy (3D-SIM), we here identify a centrosome

asymmetry switch in fly neural stem cells. We show that the mitotic kinase Polo and its substrate, the

centriolar protein Centrobin (Cnb), relocalize from the mother to the forming daughter centriole in

mitosis. Polo's relocalization depends on both Centrobin and Wdr62, and compromising the switch

perturbs biased interphase MTOC activity. We propose that this asymmetry switch is necessary to

form molecular and functional asymmetric centrosomes and the neuroblast specific retention of the

daughter centriole-containing centrosome. The centrosome asymmetry switch might also explain the

differences in centrosome inheritance across stem cell systems.

Introduction

Centrosomes consist of a pair of centrioles, embedded in structured layers of pericentriolar material (PCM)[1]. A single 'daughter' centriole is formed around a central cartwheel and at right angles to the existing older 'mother' centriole [2,3]. Based on this replication cycle, centrioles - and thereby centrosomes - are intrinsically asymmetric. Stem cells have been observed to inherit either the mother or daughter centriole-containing centrosome (mother and daughter centrosome, hereafter). For instance, vertebrate neural stem cells or *Drosophila* male germline stem cells obtain the older mother centrosome, raising the possibility that it contains factors necessary to maintain stemness [4,5]. However, *Drosophila* female germline or neural stem cells, called neuroblasts, inherit the daughter centrosome [6-8]. The role of centrosomal age in determining cell fate and the difference in centriole inheritance among different stem cell types is unclear.

     Drosophila neuroblasts represent an ideal genetically tractable system to investigate centrosome asymmetry [9]. Neuroblast centrosomes are highly asymmetric in interphase; one centrosome is forming an active MTOC, whereas its sibling remains inactive until entry into mitosis [7,10,11]. The active interphase MTOC contains the daughter centriole, identifiable with the orthologue of the human daughter centriole-specific protein Cnb (Cnb$^+$) [6]. This biased MTOC activity is regulated by the mitotic kinase Polo (Plk1 in vertebrates). Polo phosphorylates Cnb, necessary to maintain an active MTOC, tethering the daughter centriole-containing centrosome to the apical interphase cortex. Cortical association ensures that the daughter centrosome is inherited by the self-renewing neuroblast [6,12] (and Figure S1A). Polo localization on the apical centrosome is maintained by the microcephaly associated protein Wdr62 [13]. The mother centrosome, separating from the daughter centrosome in interphase, downregulates Polo and MTOC activity through Pericentrin (PCNT)-like protein (Plp) and Bld10 (Cep135 in vertebrates) [14,15]. The lack of MTOC activity prevents the mother centrosome from engaging with the apical cell cortex; it randomly migrates through the cytoplasm until centrosome maturation in prophase establishes a second MTOC near the basal cortex, ensuring its segregation into the differentiating ganglion mother cell (GMC). Later in mitosis, the mother centrosome also accumulates Cnb [7,10,11,14] (and Figure S1A). Although several centrosomal proteins have been described to be enriched on either the mother or daughter centriole

containing centrosome [6,13,16], it is unknown when and how centrioles acquire a unique molecular identity.

Here, we describe a novel centrosome asymmetry switch manifested in the dynamic transitioning of both

Polo and Cnb from the mother to the daughter centriole. This switch, occurring in mitosis, is necessary for

subsequent asymmetric MTOC activity, centrosome positioning and biased centrosome segregation.

Results

We used 3D-Structured Illumination Microscopy (3D-SIM), which has approximately twice the spatial

resolution of standard confocal microscopy, to investigate the centriole duplication cycle and to determine

the onset of molecular centrosome asymmetry in third instar neuroblasts (Figure 1A). In vertebrate cells,

centriole duplication occurs in S-phase (reviewed in [3,17,18]) but it is unclear whether this is also the case in

Drosophila neural stem cells. Using 3D-SIM on fixed larval neuroblasts, we found that Sas-6 and Ana-2

were localized to the centriolar cartwheel whereas Ana-1, Bld10 and Asl form ring-like structures abutting

the centriolar wall (Figure S2A-C).

We used Sas-6 and Asl to determine the onset of cartwheel duplication and centriolar wall maturation

during the neuroblast cell cycle. Cell cycle stages were determined based on the organization of the

microtubule network (Figure S1B). Apical and basal interphase neuroblast centrosomes contained two Sas-

6^+ cartwheels but only one Asl^+ centriole. From prometaphase onwards, Asl gradually appeared around the

second cartwheel to form a pair of fully formed centrioles. A similar sequential loading of proteins was

observed in S2-cells [19]. In telophase, centrioles appeared to lose their orthogonal conformation, possibly

because of disengagement. In late telophase, cartwheels duplicated, manifested in the appearance of a third

Sas-6 positive cartwheel (Figure 1B). Based on these data we conclude that centriolar cartwheels are

duplicated in early interphase. The localization of Asl to the centriolar wall starts in early mitosis but is not

completed before the end of mitosis.

Centrosome asymmetry is detectable in interphase neuroblasts but when the centrosome, inherited

by the neuroblast, acquires its unique molecular signature is unclear (Figure 2A, C). For instance, Cnb is

localized to the single apical centriole in interphase neuroblasts [6]. Since this centriole forms the template

for the formation of the daughter centriole, Cnb must either switch its localization to the newly formed

daughter centriole in mitosis or – in contrast to a previous report [6] – Cnb is localized to the old mother

centriole that is being inherited by the self-renewing neuroblast. To resolve this issue, we analyzed the

localization of YFP::Cnb [6] with 3D-SIM throughout mitosis. As expected, YFP::Cnb was localized with

Asl on the active, apical centrosome in interphase neuroblasts but absent on the basal interphase centrosome

(Figure 2B, D and Figure S2D). Also, most apical prophase centrosomes contained a single Cnb^+ centriole

(dark blue arrowheads in Figure 2B); the basal prophase centrosomes were mostly Cnb^-. To our surprise,

we also found apical - but never basal - prophase and prometaphase centrosomes where Cnb was localized

on both centrioles (green arrowheads in Figure 2B). However, from metaphase onwards Cnb was

predominantly localized on one centriole only (brown arrowheads in Figure 2B). On the basal centrosome,

Cnb appeared in prophase but was always localized to one centriole only in all subsequent mitotic stages

(Figure 2D and Figure S2D).

To better understand Cnb relocalization dynamics, we correlated centriolar age with Cnb localization in

more detail. To this end, we first calculated the Asl intensity ratio between both centrioles (see methods)

from apical and basal centrosomes containing Cnb only on one of the two centrioles (Asl intensity ratio of

Cnb^+/Cnb^- from prometaphase until telophase). We detected an inherent asymmetry in Asl intensity,

consistent with the sequential loading of Asl onto the forming daughter centriole: for all centrosomes

containing one Cnb^+ and one Cnb^- centriole, the Cnb^+ centriole always contained less Asl (Figure 2E). In

addition, this Asl intensity correlated well with the morphology of early mitotic centrioles; the fully formed

centriole always contained more Asl. Thus, we used Asl as a centriolar age marker [19,20] and reanalyzed all

mitotic stages for Cnb localization on the apical centrosome, specifically focusing on stages where Cnb

appeared on both centrioles. We found that in prophase – when Cnb was detectable on both centrioles –

Cnb was predominantly associated with the centriole containing more Asl (the mother centriole) before

switching to the centriole containing less Asl (the daughter centriole) during prometaphase (green

arrowhead in Figure 2B). Cnb was sometimes visible before Asl was robustly recruited to the daughter

centriole (green arrowheads in third column of Figure 2B). From metaphase until mitosis exit, Cnb was

strongly enriched or exclusively present on the daughter centriole (Figure 2F, G and Figure S3A-C).

Interestingly, Cnb localization dynamics differed between the apical and basal centrosome; the basal

centrosome contained a single Asl$^+$, Cnb$^-$ centriole in interphase and Cnb appeared on the forming centriole

in prophase (Figure 2D).

From these data, we can conclude the following: (1) centrosome asymmetry is tightly coupled to the

centriole duplication and maturation cycle. (2) On the apical centrosome, Cnb is switching its localization

from the mother to the daughter centriole during prophase to prometaphase. (3) On the basal centrosome,

however, Cnb seems to be recruited directly to the youngest centriole. These observations suggest that

apical neuroblast centrosomes undergo a spatiotemporally controlled 'asymmetry switch' in mitosis.

To test whether this asymmetry switch also applies to other centrosomal proteins, we analyzed the

localization of Polo (Polo::GFP) and Plp (Plp::EGFP) throughout mitosis; both Polo and Plp were GFP-

tagged at the endogenous locus ([21] and methods). In early prophase neuroblasts and on both centrosomes,

Polo was localized on the existing centriole (Figure 3A, B & [13]). Subsequently, Polo intensity increased on

the forming daughter centriole on both centrosomes and its asymmetric localization peaked in

metaphase/anaphase. Interestingly, the apical centrosome showed a less pronounced asymmetric

distribution in prometaphase compared to the basal centrosome, which could reflect differences in the

relocalization mechanism (Figure 3A-C).

In contrast to Polo and Cnb, Plp predominantly remained localized on the mother centriole on both

centrosomes, although it increased also on the daughter centriole in late mitosis (Figure S4A-C). Co-

imaging Polo together with Plp, and Cnb with Plp showed that Plp separated from Polo and Cnb in

metaphase and anaphase (Figure 3D, E). These data suggest that similar to Cnb, Polo switches its

localization from the mother to the daughter centriole, whereas Plp remains localized on the mother

centriole. However, in contrast to Cnb, Polo is switching its localization on both centrosomes.

Next, we sought to determine the molecular mechanisms underlying this centrosome asymmetry

switch. We analyzed Asl, Polo and Plp localization in neuroblasts depleted for Cnb (*cnb* RNAi) and Wdr62.

Wdr62 is implicated in primary microcephaly [22-24], and both Cnb and Wdr62 are necessary for the

establishment and maintenance of centrosome asymmetry by regulating Polo's and Plp's centrosomal

localization in interphase neuroblasts [12,13]. Lack of Cnb or Wdr62 did not compromise the gradual loading

of Asl onto the newly formed centriole in mitotic neuroblasts (data not shown). However, in the absence of

Cnb and Wdr62, the asymmetric centriolar localization of Polo, especially in prometaphase to anaphase

neuroblasts, was significantly perturbed (Figure 4A-C). Lack of Cnb - but not Wdr62 - also compromised

Polo's asymmetric localization in telophase, suggesting a preferential requirement for Wdr62 in metaphase

and anaphase. Taken together, loss of *cnb* or *wdr62* significantly increased the number of centrosomes with

inverted Polo asymmetry ratios (wild type control: 8.6%; *cnb* RNAi: 40%; *wdr62*: 31.5%; Figure 4D, E).

Plp localization was still highly asymmetric in neuroblasts depleted for Cnb and Wdr62. However, Cnb

depletion decreased, and loss of Wdr62 further increased Plp's asymmetric localization (Figure S5A-D).

We conclude that in mitotic neuroblasts, Cnb has a minor role in promoting the asymmetric localization of

Plp, whereas Wdr62 could have a permissive role in Plp recruitment on the daughter centriole. Taken

together, these data suggest that both Cnb and Wdr62 are implicated in Polo's switch from the mother to

the daughter centriole.

Finally, we set out to investigate the consequences of the centrosome asymmetry switch by

preventing the transitioning of Cnb and Polo from the mother to the daughter centriole. Since our 3D-SIM

data showed Plp to be predominantly associated with the mother centriole, we reasoned that tethering Cnb

to the mother centriole with Plp's PACT domain [25] would compromise the establishment of a Cnb⁻ mother

and Cnb⁺ daughter centriole. We speculated that Cnb's localization would remain enriched on the mother

or at least become near symmetrically localized between the mother and daughter centriole. Indeed, 3D-

SIM experiments revealed that YFP::Cnb::PACT [12] failed to properly transition from the mother to the

daughter centriole and predominantly remained associated with the mother centriole (Figure S6A, B).

Direct linking of Cnb to centrosomes using the PACT domain (YFP::Cnb::PACT) has also been shown to

convert the inactive mother interphase centrosome into an active MTOC, resulting in the presence of two

active interphase MTOCs [12] (Figure S6C & Movie 1, 2). This result suggested that disrupting the

centrosome asymmetry switch in mitosis impacts MTOC behavior in interphase.

To further test this, we developed a nanobody trapping experiment, using the anti-GFP single domain

antibody fragment (vhhGFP4) [26,27] and the PACT domain of Plp [25] to trap GFP- or YFP-tagged proteins on

the mother centriole (Figure S7A-C). We could recapitulate the interphase MTOC phenotype of

YFP::Cnb::PACT by expressing PACT::vhhGFP4 in neuroblasts together with YFP::Cnb; almost 93%

(n=69) showed two active interphase MTOCs (YFP::Cnb expression only: 0%; n = 16; Figure S7D, E &

Movie 3). Conversely, trapping Asl::GFP with PACT::vhhGFP4 on the mother centriole did not cause a

significant MTOC phenotype; 83% of neuroblasts showed normal divisions (n = 104; Figure S7F, G &

Movie 4).

Co-expressing a GFP-tagged version of Polo – either a published GFP::Polo transgene [28] or our

endogenously tagged CRISPR Polo::EGFP line – prevented the transitioning of Polo from the mother to

the daughter centriole. 3D-SIM data revealed that Polo::EGFP was predominantly localized to the mother

centriole in prophase and prometaphase. Subsequently, Polo::EGFP was either enriched on the mother or

symmetrically localized from metaphase onwards (Figure 5A,B). This altered localization affected MTOC

activity in third instar neuroblasts; similar to Cnb mislocalization, trapping Polo on the mother centriole

induced the formation of two active interphase MTOCs (GFP::Polo transgene: 84%; n = 31. Polo::EGFP

CRISPR line: 72%; n = 82) (Figure 5C-E, Figure S7H, I & Movie 5-7). Although cell cycle progression

was not affected in these neuroblasts (Figure 5F), we measured a significant misorientation of the mitotic

spindle in early metaphase. However, similar to *bld10*, displaying two active interphase MTOCs also [14],

mitotic spindles realigned along the apical-basal polarity axis, ensuring normal asymmetric cell divisions

(Figure 5G-J). We hypothesized that preventing the establishment of a clear Polo asymmetry in mitosis

transforms the two centrosomes into apical-like interphase centrosomes. Indeed, 3D-SIM imaging revealed

that both centrioles now contain high levels of centriolar, and diffuse PCM Polo levels as we recently

described for the apical interphase wild type centrosome [13] (Figure 6K,L).

Discussion

Here, we have shown that in *Drosophila* neural stem cells, centrosomes undergo a previously undiscovered asymmetry switch by transferring centriolar proteins such as Cnb or Polo from the old mother to the young daughter centriole. This centrosome asymmetry switch is tightly linked to the centriole duplication cycle, coinciding with the completion of daughter centriole formation in mitosis. In prophase, Cnb and Polo colocalize on the existing mother centriole but as soon as the daughter centriolar wall appears in prometaphase, Cnb and Polo are exclusively (in the case of Cnb) or predominantly (in the case of Polo) localized on the daughter centriole. Interestingly, Cnb behaves differently on the basal centrosome since the existing mother centriole does not contain any Cnb, appearing only on the forming daughter centriole in prometaphase. Also, Plp remains predominantly associated with the mother centriole on both the apical and basal centrosome (Figure 6A, B). Mechanistically, this asymmetry switch could entail a direct translocation of Cnb and Polo from the mother to the daughter centriole. Alternatively, centriolar proteins could become up- or downregulated through exchanges with the PCM or cytoplasm. The asymmetry switch might also be regulated differently on the apical versus basal centrosome. Our data suggest that Polo's relocalization to the daughter centriole is regulated by both Cnb and Wdr62 since loss of either protein compromises the enrichment of Polo on the daughter centriole. However, Cnb's relocalization is independent of Polo; *polo* mutants still show mostly normal Cnb transfer to the daughter centriole (data not shown).

The centrosome asymmetry switch is important for interphase MTOC activity. Using our nanobody trapping experiment, we could efficiently compromise the transitioning of Polo and Cnb from the mother to the daughter centriole, with the consequence that both centrosomes retained MTOC activity in interphase. Although this experiment is performed in the presence of untagged Polo, which is not subject to direct nanobody trapping and cannot be visualized, the trapping of GFP-tagged Polo alone seems sufficient to disrupt the normal asymmetric distribution of Polo to compromise biased interphase MTOC activity. This result is also in agreement with *bld10* mutants which fail to downregulate Polo from the mother centriole, resulting in the formation of two active interphase MTOCs [14]. Loss of Wdr62 or Cnb also affects Polo's

mother – daughter transition. Yet, interphase centrosomes lose their activity in these mutants. *wdr62*

mutants and *cnb* RNAi treated neuroblasts both show low Polo levels in interphase [13]. We thus propose that

in addition to an asymmetric distribution, Polo levels must remain at a certain level to maintain interphase

MTOC activity; high symmetric Polo results in two active interphase MTOCs whereas low symmetric Polo

results in the formation of two inactive centrosomes.

Taken together, these results suggest that the centrosome asymmetry switch is necessary to establish two

molecularly distinct centrioles, necessary for the biased MTOC activity in interphase (Figure 6A, B).

Furthermore, the switch also provides a molecular explanation for why the daughter centriole-containing

centrosome remains tethered to the apical neuroblast cortex and is being inherited by the self-renewed

neuroblast. It remains to be tested why neuroblasts implemented such a robust machinery to asymmetrically

segregate the daughter-containing centriole to the self-renewed neuroblast; more refined molecular and

behavioral assays will be necessary to elucidate the developmental and post-developmental consequences

of the centrosome asymmetry switch. The tools and findings reported here will be instrumental in targeted

perturbations of the centrosome asymmetry switch with spatiotemporal precision in defined neuroblast

lineages.

Finally, the occurrence of a centrosome asymmetry switch further raises the tantalizing possibility that

centriolar proteins also transfer in other stem cells, potentially providing a mechanistic explanation for the

differences in centriole inheritance across different stem cell systems.

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Author contributions:

This study was conceived by A.R.N, P.S, and C.C.

E.G and A.R.N performed most of the experiments with help from P.S.

A. M generated the PACT::vhhGFP4 construct. T.P wrote custom-made Matlab codes and helped with

data analysis. D.S.G generated the Plp CRISPR line and A.F helped with 3D-SIM imaging. E.G, A.R.N

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Figures

Figure 1: Neuroblast centriole duplication completes in mitosis

(A) Neuroblast centrosomes are inherently asymmetric in interphase but when neuroblast centrioles

duplicate and acquire a unique molecular identity (indicated by arrow and color switch) is unknown. **(B)**

Representative interpolated 3D-SIM images of third instar larval neuroblast centrosomes, expressing Sas-

6::GFP (top row; white. Green in merge) and stained for Asl (middle row; white. Merged channels; red).

The yellow arrowhead highlights the cartwheel of the forming centriole. Cartwheel duplication can be

observed at the telophase/interphase transition, concomitantly with centrosome separation (blue

arrowhead). Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes. Scale bar is 0.3 μm.

Interphase   Prophase   Prometaphase   Metaphase   Anaphase   Telophase

Figure 2: Cnb switches from the mother to the daughter centriole in early mitosis on the apical

centrosome

How centriole duplication and molecular asymmetry are coupled is unclear for both the apical **(A)** and basal

(C) centrosome. Representative 3D-SIM images of an apical **(A)** and basal **(D)** third instar neuroblast

centrosome, expressing YFP::Cnb (middle row; white. Green in merge) and stained for Asl (Top row;

white. Magenta in merge). Orange and yellow shapes highlight mother and daughter centrioles,

respectively. The numbers indicate the total Cnb asymmetry ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole). Colored

arrowheads highlight the different stages shown in (G; see also Figure S3B). **(E)** For prometaphase to

telophase centrioles (apical and basal centrosomes combined), containing a single Cnb$^+$ centriole, total Asl

intensity of the Cnb$^+$ (presumably the daughter) centriole was divided by the total Asl intensity of the Cnb$^-$

(presumably the mother) centriole. Medians are shown with a red horizontal line. **(F)** Scatter plot showing

total Cnb intensity of the daughter centriole (less Asl), divided by total Cnb intensity on the mother centriole

(more Asl). Only apical centrioles containing Cnb on both centrioles were measured. **(G)** Graph showing

the timeline of Cnb's relocalization to the apical centrosome: the bars show the percentage of neuroblasts

containing a single Cnb$^+$ centriole (dark blue), Cnb on both centrioles (transition stage; light green),

predominant Cnb localization on the daughter centriole (strong asymmetry; light blue) or in which Cnb is

completely shifted to the daughter centriole (brown) at defined mitotic stages. For this and all subsequent

cartoons: closed and open circles represent completed and incompleted centriole duplications, respectively.

Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes. Scale bar is 0.3 μm. The data presented here were

obtained from five independent experiments.

Figure 3: Polo and Cnb separate from Plp in mitosis

Representative 3D-SIM images of **(A)** apical or **(B)** basal third instar larval neuroblast centrioles, expressing Polo::GFP (middle row; green in merge). Centriole contours were drawn based on Asl signal (orange and yellow lines for mother and daughter centriole respectively) and used to measure Polo (and Asl; not shown) intensities. The numbers represent total Polo intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) in the shown image. Polo asymmetry ratios for the apical (red dots) and the basal (blue dots) centrosome are plotted in **(C)** from three independent experiments. Medians are shown with a grey horizontal line. Prophase: apical versus basal; p=0.6991. Prometaphase: apical versus basal; p=5.688x10^{-6}. Metaphase: apical versus basal; p=0.9329. Anaphase: apical versus basal; p=0.8628. Telophase: apical versus basal: p=0.8614. Representative interpolated images of apical interphase/early prophase and late metaphase/early anaphase centrosomes, expressing **(D)** Polo::GFP (green in merge) or **(E)** YFP::Cnb (green in merge) and stained for Plp (magenta in merge). These experiments were performed three times independently for Polo::GFP and once for YFP::Cnb. Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes. Scale bar is 0.3 μm.

Figure 4: Cnb and Wdr62 are required to establish centrosome asymmetry in mitosis.

Representative 3D-SIM images of third instar larval neuroblast centrosomes, expressing **(A)** RNAi against Cnb (*cnb* RNAi) or **(B)** mutant for *wdr62*. In both conditions, Polo::GFP (green in merge) expressing neuroblasts were stained for Asl (magenta in merge). Polo intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) are shown in the representative images and plotted in **(C)** for control (wild type background; green dots), *cnb* RNAi (beige dots) and *wdr62* mutants (blue dots). Since apical and basal centrosomes could not be distinguished in *cnb* RNAi and *wdr62* mutants, measurements from these conditions were compared to the pooled (apical and basal) control Polo measurements (replotted from Figure 3C). These experiments were performed three times independently for wild type control and *cnb* RNAi, and six times for *wdr62*. Prophase: wild type control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.6835. wild type control versus *wdr62*; p=0.1179. Prometaphase: wild type control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.0318. wild type control versus *wdr62*; p=0.0439. Metaphase: wild type control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.0040; wild type control versus *wdr62*; p=8.496×10^{-5}. Anaphase: wild type control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=4.19×10^{-6}. wild type control versus *wdr62*; p=1.79×10^{-6}. Telophase: wild type control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=1.17×10^{-6}. wild type control versus *wdr62*; p=0.0524. The percentage of metaphase and anaphase centrosomes with inverted Polo asymmetry are plotted in **(D)**.

413   **(E)** Summary of phenotypes; in neuroblasts lacking Cnb or Wdr62, Polo often fails to transfer from the

414   mother (M) to the daughter (D) centriole, resulting in symmetric or inverted asymmetric Polo localization.

415   Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes. Scale bar is 0.3 μm.

Figure 5: The centrosome asymmetry switch is required for biased interphase MTOC activity and centrosome positioning.

(A) Representative 3D-SIM images of third instar larval neuroblast centrosomes, expressing Polo::EGFP (generated by CRISPR/Cas9) and the nanobody construct PACT::vhhGFP4. Polo::EGFP (green in the merge) expressing neuroblasts were stained for Asl (magenta in the merge). Polo intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) are plotted in **(B)** for Control (green dots) and PACT::vhhGFP4 (purple dots). These experiments were performed 2 times independently in parallel for both genotypes. Prophase: Control versus PACT::vhhGFP4; $p=3.11 \times 10^{-4}$. Prometaphase: Control versus PACT::vhhGFP4; $p=3.49 \times 10^{-6}$. Metaphase: Control versus PACT::vhhGFP4; $p=0.0222$. Anaphase: Control versus PACT::vhhGFP4; $p=6.28 \times 10^{-5}$. Telophase: Control versus PACT::vhhGFP4; $p=0.0077$. **(C)** Representative live cell imaging time series of a dividing control (Polo::EGFP, worGal4, UAS-mCherry::Jupiter expressing wild type flies) and PACT::vhhGFP4 (together with worGal4, UAS-mCherry::Jupiter) **(D)** neuroblast. The microtubule marker (MTs, first row) and Polo::EGFP (second row) are shown for two consecutive mitoses. Microtubule intensity of the apical (red line and square) and basal (blue line and square) MTOC are plotted below. "00:00" corresponds to the telophase of the first division. **(E)**. Bar graph showing the quantification of the MTOC phenotype. Cell cycle length is shown in **(F)**. The cell cycle length in PACT::vhhGFP4 (purple dots) is not significantly different from the control (green dots); $p=9727$. **(G)** and **(I)** represent the spindle rotation between NEBD and anaphase. Medians are displayed in dark colors (green; control. Purple; vhhGFP4 expressing neuroblasts) and the maximum rotation in light colors. Division orientation between consecutive mitoses shown for control **(H)** and PACT::vhhGFP4 **(J)**. **(K)** and **(L)** are representative 3D-SIM images of interphase centrosomes for control and PACT::vhhGFP4 expressing neuroblasts, respectively. The trapping of Polo::EGFP with PACT::vhhGFP4 induces two identical apical-like centrosomes with a strong centriolar and PCM signal. The data presented for the live imaging here were obtained from five independent experiments. Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes. Yellow "D" and orange "M" refer to Daughter and Mother centrioles based on Asl intensity. Timestamps are shown in hh:mm and scale bar is 0.3μm (A, K, L) and 3 μm (C,D), respectively.

Figure 6: Model

(A) The centrosome asymmetry switch – here shown for Polo (dark and light blue, respectively) – occurs during mitosis, coupled to centriolar wall completion. Polo is relocalizing from the existing mother to the newly formed daughter centriole on both the apical and basal centrosome. This asymmetry switch causes the Polo-rich centriole to maintain MTOC activity, retaining it in the self-renewed neuroblast. Details for the apical and basal centrosome are shown in **(B)**. Cnb (orange) and Polo (blue) relocalize from the mother to the forming daughter centriole from prophase onwards. The basal centrosome only switches Polo but directly upregulates Cnb on the daughter centriole; protein upregulation (vertical arrows) could act in parallel to direct protein transfer (curved arrows). Plp remains on the mother, potentially increasing in intensity and appearing on the daughter centriole in prometaphase. The centrosome asymmetry switch is mostly completed by anaphase. The centriole containing less Plp, gained Cnb and Polo and is destined to be inherited by the self-renewed neuroblast in the next division, whereas the centriole containing higher Plp and lower Polo levels is destined to be inherited by the GMC. The fate of the basal centrioles and subsequent marker distribution is unknown (represented by grey circles).

Materials and Methods

Fly strains and genetics:

The following mutant alleles and transgenes were used: CnbRNAi (VDRC, 28651GD), *wdr62^{A3-9}* allele [13],

Df(2L)Exel8005 (a deficiency removing the entire *wdr62* locus and adjacent genes; Bloomington

Drosophila Stock Center), *worniu-Gal4* [29], *pUbq-DSas-6::GFP* [30], *pUbq-GFP::Ana-2* [31], Cnn::GFP [32],

Polo::GFP^{CC01326} (protein trap line [21]), *GFP::Polo* (genomic rescue construct using Polo's endogenous

enhancer) [28], *Polo::EGFP* (generated by CRISPR; this work), *pUbq-Asl::GFP* and *pUbq-Ana-1::GFP* [33],

Plp::EGFP (this work), *pUbq-YFP::Cnb* [6], *Bld10::GFP* [33], *nos-Cas9/Cyo* (Bloomington Drosophila Stock

Center), *y^1 w^{67c23} P{y[+mDint2]=Crey}1b; D/TM3, Sb^1* (Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center), worGal4,

UAS-mCherry::Jupiter [34].

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Generation of transgenes using CRISPR/Cas9:

Plp::EGFP was generated with CRISPR/Cas9 technology. Two target-specific sequences with high

efficiency were chosen using the CRISPR Optimal Target Finder

(http://tools.flycrispr.molbio.wisc.edu/targetFinder/), and the DRSC CRISPR finder and Efficiency

Predictor (http://www.flyrnai.org/crispr/), (http://www.flyrnai.org/evaluateCrispr/) web tools. Sense and

antisense primers (first target site: CTTCGAACTAGCGTCCACAAGGTC and

AAACGACCTTGTGGACGCTAGTTC; second target site: AAACGACCTTGTGGACGCTAGTTC and

AAACGACCTTGTGGACGCTAGTTC) were cloned into pU6-BbsI-ChiRNA [35] between BbsI sites. To

generate the replacement donor template, 1kb homology arms flanking the target sequences and two "repair

sequences" (to reintroduce the sequence flanking the STOP codon, in between the target sequences) were

cloned into pHD-EGFP-DsRed. This vector was generated by inserting EGFP sequence flanked by attP

sites and fused to a LoxP site, between Ndel and BsiWI sites in pHD-DsRed-attP vector (gift from Melissa

Harrison & Kate O'Connor-Giles & Jill Wildonger (Addgene plasmid # 51019)).

Polo::EGFP was generated with a similar strategy. The following sense and antisense primers were used:

first target site CTTCGTCAGTCACCTCGGTGAATAT and AAACATATTCACCGAGGTGACTGAC.

Second   target   site   CTTCGAGACTGTAGGTGACGCATTC   and

AAACGAATGCGTCACCTACAGTCTC. Embryos expressing *nos-Cas9* [36] were injected with two pU6-

ChiRNA vectors and the pHD-EGFP-DsRed and successful events were detected by screening for DsRed-

positive eyes in F1 generation. Constitutively active Cre (Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center) was

crossed in to remove the DsRed marker. Positive events were genotyped and sequenced.

Generation of PACT::HA::vhhGFP4

The coding sequence of PACT [25] and vhhGFP4 [26] were PCR amplified and cloned into a pUAST-attB

vector using In-Fusion technology (Takara, Clontech). HA was added by using primers containing the HA

sequence. The resulting construct was injected into attP (VK00027 and VK00037; Bestgene).

Immunohistochemistry:

The following antibodies were used for this study: rat anti-α-Tub (Serotec; 1:1000), mouse anti-α-Tub

(DM1A, Sigma; 1:2500), rabbit anti-Asl (1:500), rabbit anti-Plp (1:1000) (gifts from J. Raff). Secondary

antibodies were from Molecular Probes and the Jackson Immuno laboratory.

Antibody staining:

96-120h (AEL; after egg laying) larval brains were dissected in Schneider's medium (Sigma) and fixed for

20 min in 4% paraformaldehyde in PEM (100mM PIPES pH 6.9, 1mM EGTA and 1mM MgSO4). After

fixing, the brains were washed with PBSBT (1X PBS, 0.1% Triton-X- 100 and 1% BSA) and then blocked

with 1X PBSBT for 1h. Primary antibody dilution was prepared in 1X PBSBT and brains were incubated

for up to 2 days at 4 °C. Brains were washed with 1X PBSBT four times for 20 minutes each and then

incubated with secondary antibodies diluted in 1X PBSBT at 4 °C, overnight. The next day, brains were

washed with 1X PBST (1x PBS, 0.1% Triton-X- 100) four times for 20 minutes each and kept in

Vectashield H-1000 (Vector laboratories) mounting media at 4 °C.

Super–Resolution 3D Structured Illumination Microscopy (3D-SIM):

3D-SIM was performed on fixed brain samples using a DeltaVision OMX-Blaze system (version 4; GE

Healthcare), equipped with 405, 445, 488, 514, 568 and 642 nm solid-state lasers. Images were acquired

using a Plan Apo N 60x, 1.42 NA oil immersion objective lens (Olympus) and 4 liquid-cooled sCMOs

cameras (pco Edge, full frame 2560 x 2160; Photometrics). Exciting light was directed through a movable

optical grating to generate a fine-striped interference pattern on the sample plane. The pattern was shifted

laterally through five phases and three angular rotations of 60° for each z section. Optical z-sections were

separated by 0.125 μm. The laser lines 405, 488, 568 and 642 nm were used for 3D-SIM acquisition.

Exposure times were typically between 3 and 100 ms, and the power of each laser was adjusted to achieve

optimal intensities of between 5,000 and 8,000 counts in a raw image of 15-bit dynamic range at the lowest

laser power possible to minimize photobleaching. Multichannel imaging was achieved through sequential

acquisition of wavelengths by separate cameras.

3D-SIM Image Reconstruction:

Raw 3D-SIM images were processed and reconstructed using the DeltaVision OMX SoftWoRx software

package (GE Healthcare; Gustafsson, M. G. L. 2000). The resulting size of the reconstructed images was

of 512 x 512 pixels from an initial set of 256 x 256 raw images. The channels were aligned in the image

plane and around the optical axis using predetermined shifts as measured using a target lens and the

SoftWoRx alignment tool. The channels were then carefully aligned using alignment parameter from

control measurements with 0.5 μm diameter multi-spectral fluorescent beads (Invitrogen, Thermo Fisher

Scientific).

Diameter measurements method:

Maximum projection of centrioles were aligned in *x,y* and segmented using a custom-made MatLab code.

Centroids for both inner and outer centriole rings were determined and the mean inner and outer radii were

calculated by averaging the distance from the centroid to all the edge pixels, respectively. Dot like-

structures were measured with a similar method. If dots appeared fused, the centroid for each dot was first

determined by removing the overlapping region using a high threshold value. A lower background threshold

value was used to distinguish the centriole's outer boundary from surrounding background. The radial

distance from each centroid to all the edge pixels of the centriole's outer boundary was then calculated. To

accurately measure the mean radius of a centriole that has an overlapping region with another centriole,

only the radial distance, revolving around the hemisphere of the selected centriole, was used for the

calculation. The areas were measured using only pixels with an intensity value above the chosen

background threshold.

Centriole age measurement method:

To determine centriolar age, Asl intensity was used as a reference. The contours of non-overlapping

centrioles were drawn in ImageJ based on Asl signal and saved as XY coordinates. Using a custom-made

MatLab code, the total intensities above the background threshold values (determined by the experimenter)

for Asl were calculated in the drawn centriolar areas. Total Asl intensity was then used to determine

centriolar age: daughter centrioles have lower intensity than mother centrioles. The same XY coordinates

were used to measure total pixel intensity for markers of interest (e.g Polo::GFP, Plp::EGFP). Asymmetry

ratios for markers of interest were then determined by dividing the total daughter centriole pixel intensity

with total pixel intensity from the mother centriole, respectively.

Live cell imaging

96-120h (AEL; after egg laying) larval brains were dissected in Schneider's medium (Sigma-Aldrich,

S0146) supplemented with 10% BGS (HyClone) and transferred to 50 μL wells (Ibidi, μ-Slide

Angiogenesis) for live cell imaging. Live samples were imaged on a Perkin Elmer spinning disk confocal

system "Ultra View VoX" with a Yokogawa spinning disk unit and two Hamamatsu C9100-50 frame

transfer EMCCD cameras. A 63x / 1.40 oil immersion objective mounted on a Leica DMI 6000B was used.

Brains form a given genotype and the corresponding control were imaged under temperature control (25°C)

in parallel. The time resolution was 3 minutes.

Angle measurements

Imaris' "Spot" tool was used to collect x, y and z coordinates of apical and basal centrosomes before NEBD

and at anaphase. These coordinates were used to calculate spindle rotation between NEBD and anaphase

onset and changes in division axis between successive anaphases.

Statistical analysis:

Statistical analyses were performed on Prism (GraphPad software). Statistical significance was assessed

with a two-sided non-parametric Mann-Whitney test to compare ranks between two samples with variable

variances and non-Gaussian distributions. P values < 0.05 were considered significant;

*; $p < 0.05$ **; $p < 0.01$; ***; $p < 0.001$; ****; $p < 0.0001$.

Computer codes:

Custom made Matlab codes used for data analysis are available upon request.

Data availability:

The authors declare that the data supporting the findings of this study are available within the paper and its

supplementary information files.

Figure S1: Neuroblast centrosomes are intrinsically asymmetric

(A) Current model of centrosome asymmetry in neuroblast. The Cnb$^+$ apical daughter centrosome is active throughout interphase and constantly nucleates a robust microtubule array, maintaining its position at the apical neuroblast cortex (blue crescent). The Cnb$^-$ basal mother centrosome is inactive during interphase, diffusing through the cytoplasm until it regains MTOC activity in prophase. At this point, the Cnb$^-$ centrosome reached the basal side of the neuroblast and starts to reaccumulate Cnb during mitosis. The daughter centrosome is retained by the neuroblast and the mother centrosome is inherited by the differentiating GMC. Asymmetric centrosomes split in early interphase. **(B)** Representative 3D-SIM images of neuroblasts expressing the pericentriolar maker Cnn::GFP stained for α-Tubulin, labelling microtubules (MTs; green). The morphology of the microtubule array and cell shape were used to define neuroblast cell cycle stages. Scale bar is 3 μm. Colored boxes indicate cell cycle stages.

Figure S2: Centriolar proteins define centriole morphology and asymmetry

(A) Localization of centriolar markers was determined on apical (red circle) and basal (blue circle)

centrosomes. **(B)** Representative, interpolated 3D-SIM images of interphase neuroblasts, expressing GFP-

tagged centriolar markers or stained for Asl (recognizing Asl's N-terminus). **(C)** Radii measurements of

centrosomal proteins. Outer (white) and inner (gray) radii are shown for proteins forming a ring-like

structure. **(D)** Apical (red circle in (A)) and basal (blue circle in (A)) centrosomes, expressing or stained for

centriolar markers, displaying asymmetric localization in interphase. Interpolated images are shown. Scale

bar is 0.3 μm. Data was extracted from one to four independent experiments.

Figure S3: Cnb switches from the mother to the daughter centriole in early mitosis

(A) Cnb localization was analyzed on apical centrosomes (red circle). **(B)** In a few metaphase to telophase

neuroblasts, weak Cnb was also detectable on the mother centriole (light blue arrowheads). This class of

centrosomes is represented with the light blue bar in Figure 2G. **(C)** Cartoon, summarizing the findings

shown in (B). Scale bar is 0.3 μm. Colored boxes indicate cell cycle stages.

A Apical

Asl / Plp::EGFP / Plp / Asl

N.A. 0.12 0.15 0.17 0.51

B Basal

Asl / Plp::EGFP / Plp / Asl

N.A. 0.14 0.14 0.19 0.41

■ Prophase ■ Prometaphase ■ Metaphase ■ Anaphase ■ Telophase

C

Plp intensity ratio (Daughter/Mother centriole)

ns   ns   ns   ns

n = 33 33   30 27   19 18   28 7

● Apical centrosome   ● Basal centrosome

Figure S4: Plp does not transfer but remains localized on the mother centriole

Representative 3D-SIM images of **(A)** apical and **(B)** basal third instar larval neuroblast centrosomes,

expressing Plp::EGFP (middle row; green in merge), co-stained with Asl (white on top, magenta in merge).

The number represents total Plp intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) in the shown image. Plp

asymmetry ratios for the apical (red dots) and the basal (blue dots) centrosome are plotted in **(C)** from three

independent experiments. Medians are shown in dark grey. Prometaphase: apical versus basal; p=0.3856.

Metaphase: apical versus basal; p=0.2234. Anaphase: apical versus basal; p=0.3583. Telophase: apical

versus basal; p=0.1844. Plp does not switch its localization but remains localized on the mother centriole

on both centrosomes. Scale bar is 0.3 µm Colored boxes indicate cell cycle stages.

Figure S5: Cnb and Wdr62 are partially required to maintain and transfer Plp on the mother centriole

Representative 3D-SIM images of **(A)** wild type control, **(B)** *cnb* RNAi expressing or **(C)** *wdr62* mutant neuroblasts centrosomes, expressing endogenously tagged Plp (Plp::EGFP; green in the merge) stained for Asl (magenta in the merge). The number represents total Plp intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) in the shown image. Plp ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) were plotted in **(D)**. Since apical and basal centrosomes could not be distinguished in *cnb* RNAi and *wdr62* mutants, measurements from these conditions were compared to the pooled (apical and basal) control Plp measurements (replotted from Figure S4C). Prometaphase: control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.0159. control versus *wdr62*; p=0.1175. Metaphase: control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.0025. control versus *wdr62*; p=8.95x10^{-7}. Anaphase: control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.0057. control versus *wdr62*; p=1.61x10^{-4}. Telophase: control versus *cnb* RNAi; p=0.2736. control versus *wdr62*; p=0.0019. Medians are shown in red. *cnb* RNAi mitotic centrosomes showed a weak but significant increase of their Plp intensity ratios from prometaphase until anaphase while *wdr62* mutant mitotic centrosomes displayed weak but significant decrease of their Plp ratio from metaphase onwards.

651   Scale bar is 0.3 μm. Colored boxes indicate cell cycle stages. These experiments were performed three

652   times independently for each genotype.

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Figure S6: The ectopic localization of Cnb to both centrioles impairs Cnb to switch completely from the mother to the daughter centriole, affecting interphase MTOC activity

(A) Representative 3D-SIM images of third instar larval neuroblast centrosomes, expressing YFP::Cnb::PACT (white in the second row, green in the merge) and stained for Asl (white in the first row, magenta in the merge). The number represents total YFP::Cnb::PACT intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) in the shown image. YFP::Cnb::PACT Polo intensity ratios (Daughter/Mother centriole) from two experiments are plotted in **(B)**. **(C)** Representative live cell imaging series from a neuroblast, recorded in the intact brain, expressing the microtubule marker mCherry::Jupiter (MTs, first row) and YFP::Cnb::PACT (second row). Red and blue squares represent apical and basal centrosome respectively.

666 "00:00" corresponds to the telophase of the first division. Cell cycle stages are indicated with colored boxes.

667 Yellow "D" and orange "M" refer to Daughter and Mother centrioles based on Asl intensity. Timestamps

668 are shown in hh:mm and scale bar is 0.3μm (A) and 3 μm (C), respectively.

Interphase   Prophase   Prometaphase   Metaphase   Anaphase   Telophase

Figure S7: Perturbing centriolar asymmetry by expressing the GFP-trapping nanobody to the

mother centriole

(A) To test the function of the centrosome asymmetry switch, the relocalization of Polo and Cnb needs to

be perturbed. **(B)** Nanobody technology was used to prevent the centrosome asymmetry switch for selected

proteins of interest. The vhhGFP4 nanobody specifically traps GFP or YFP tagged proteins. By tethering

the nanobody preferentially to the mother centriole - using Plp's PACT domain **(C)**, we can perturb the

relocalization of GFP or YFP tagged centrosomal proteins. Crossed-out arrows illustrate a lack of centriolar

protein (shown for Polo; blue) relocalization. Representative live cell image series from intact brains for

neuroblasts expressing the microtubule marker mCherry::Jupiter (first row), together with **(D)** YFP::Cnb

and PACT::vhhGFP4, **(F)** Asl::GFP and PACT::vhhGFP4 or **(H)** GFP::Polo transgene (genomic rescue

construct; see methods) and PACT::vhhGFP4. MTOC quantifications are shown for YFP::Cnb **(E),**

Asl::GFP **(G)** and GFP::Polo **(I)**. "00:00" corresponds to telophase of the previous division. Cell cycle

stages are indicated with colored boxes. The data presented here were obtained from two, four and three

independent experiments for YFP::Cnb, Asl::GFP and GFP::Polo respectively. Timestamps are hh:mm and

scale bar is 3μm.

Movie legends

Movie 1: Wild type control movie

Wild type control larval neuroblast expressing the centriolar marker YFP::Cnb (green) and the microtubule

marker UAS-mCherry::Jupiter (white), driven by the neuroblast-specific worGal4 transgene. Note that the

daughter centriole (Cnb$^+$) remains active and anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase. The

second centrosome matures in prophase (00:39) after it reached the basal side of the cell. "00:00"

corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm and the scale bar is 3μm.

Movie 2: Neuroblast expressing YFP::Cnb::PACT; related to figure S6.

Larval neuroblast expressing YFP::Cnb::PACT (green) and the microtubule marker UAS-mCherry::Jupiter

(white), driven by the neuroblast-specific worGal4 transgene. Note that YFP::Cnb::PACT is present on

both centrioles. Both centrosomes remain active and anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase.

Centrioles split in prophase (00:39) accompanied by a large spindle rotation (00:42 - 00:45), resulting in

normal asymmetric cell division. "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm and the scale bar

is 3μm.

Movie 3: Neuroblast expressing YFP::Cnb together with centriole tethered PACT::vhhGFP4;

related to figure S7.

Larval neuroblast expressing the centriolar marker YFP::Cnb (green), the microtubule marker UAS-

mCherry::Jupiter (white) and the PACT::vhhGFP4 nanobody; both UAS lines are driven by the neuroblast-

specific worGal4 transgene. The PACT domain confines the nanobody predominantly to the mother

centriole. Both centrosomes remain active and anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase.

Centrosome splitting occurs a few minutes before mitosis (00:36). "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time

scale is hh:mm and the scale bar is 3μm.

Movie 4: Neuroblast expressing Asl::GFP together with centriole tethered PACT::vhhGFP4; related

to figure S7.

Larval neuroblast expressing the centriolar marker Asl::GFP (green), the microtubule marker UAS-

mCherry::Jupiter (white) and the PACT::vhhGFP4 nanobody; both UAS lines are driven by the neuroblast-

specific worGal4 transgene. Similar to the wild type control, the daughter centriole remains active and

anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase. The mother centriole sheds its MTOC activity and

moves away in early interphase (00:15). At mitotic entry (00:45), the mother centriole matures after it

reached the basal side of the cell. "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm and the scale bar

is 3μm.

Movie 5: Wild type control neuroblast expressing Polo::EGFP; related to figure 5.

Wild type control larval neuroblast expressing Polo::EGFP (green) engineered by CRISPR/Cas9

technology and the microtubule marker mCherry::Jupiter (white). Note that the daughter centriole remains

active and anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase. The mother centriole matures at 00:42 after

it reached the basal cell cortex. "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm and the scale bar is

3μm.

Movie 6: Neuroblast expressing Polo::EGFP together with centriole tethered PACT::vhhGFP4;

related to figure 5.

Larval neuroblast expressing Polo::EGFP (green) engineered by CRISPR/Cas9 technology, the microtubule

marker mCherry::Jupiter (white) and the PACT::vhhGFP4 nanobody; both UAS lines are driven by the

neuroblast-specific worGal4 transgene. Both MTOCs remain active and anchored to the apical cortex

throughout interphase. Centrioles split only 6 minutes before mitosis starts (00:36). The mitotic spindle

rotates significantly (00:42-00:48) to realign the spindle along the internal apical – basal polarity axis and

to ensure normal asymmetric cell division. "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm and the

scale bar is 3µm.

Movie 7: Neuroblast expressing GFP::Polo together with centriole tethered PACT::vhhGFP4;

related to figure S7.

Larval neuroblast expressing the transgene GFP::Polo (green), the microtubule marker mCherry::Jupiter

(white) and the PACT::vhhGFP4 nanobody; both UAS lines are driven by the neuroblast-specific worGal4

transgene. Both MTOCs remain active and anchored to the apical cortex throughout interphase. Centrioles

split only 6 minutes before mitosis starts (00:48). "00:00" corresponds to telophase. Time scale is hh:mm

and the scale bar is 3µm.