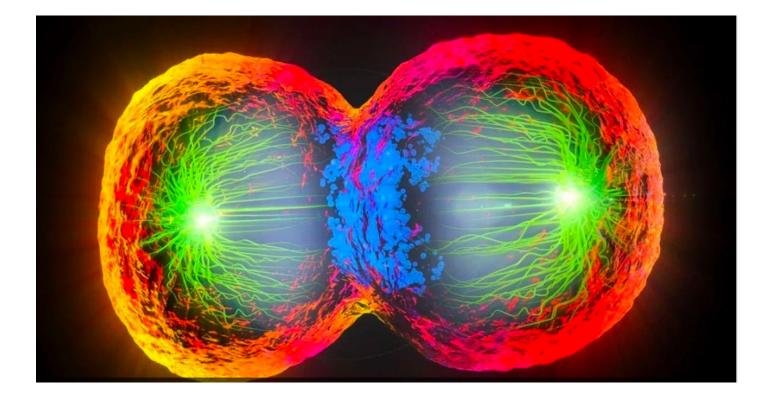
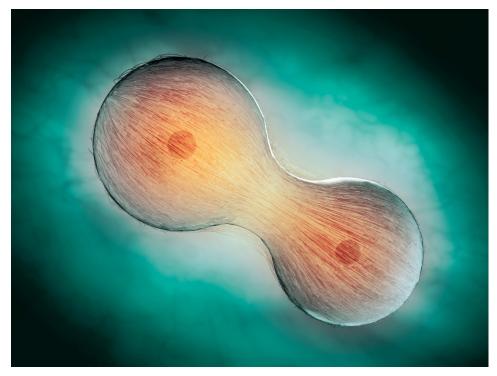
Prof. Sabrina Pricl

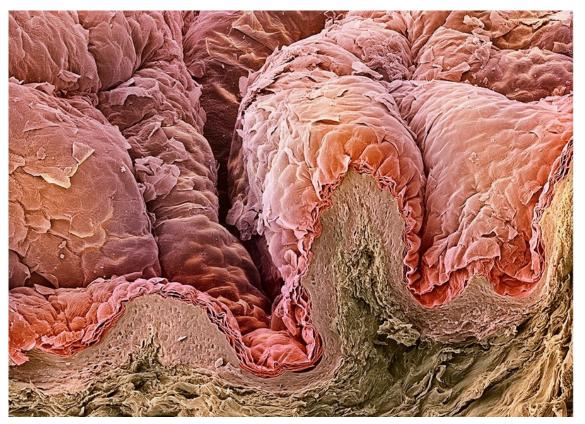
## Lesson 8 Cell division



- Cells make more cells (copy of themselves)
- Cells make new cells for 3 reasons:
  - Growth → your birth: 1 cell -> 37.2 x 10<sup>12</sup> cells
  - Repair → cells surrounding a wound will reproduce themselves to repair the tissue
  - Reproduction → asexual reproduction (typical of single-cell organisms)



- Some cells divide all the time
  - Surface cells (skin or mucous membranes) are constantly renewed



#### • Some cells divide when signaled to divide

- Liver cells do not normally divide but are triggered to divided upon organ damage
- large yellow ovoid, lower right
  - nucleus
- fuzzy blue lines, bottom center
  - RER
- blue lines at left of nucleus
  - SER
- blue lines at upper left
  - Golgi apparatus
- green blobs and spheres
  - mitochondria
- big yellow spheres
  - lysosomes
- fat droplets (pale yellow), glycogen (brown) and plasma membranes (pale green)

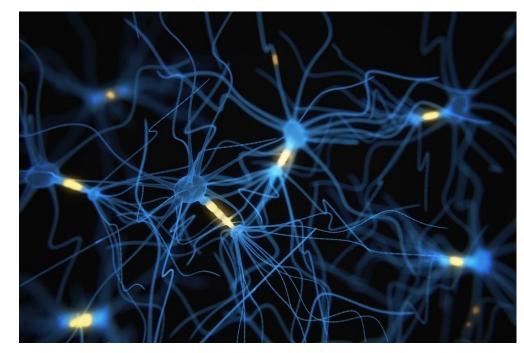


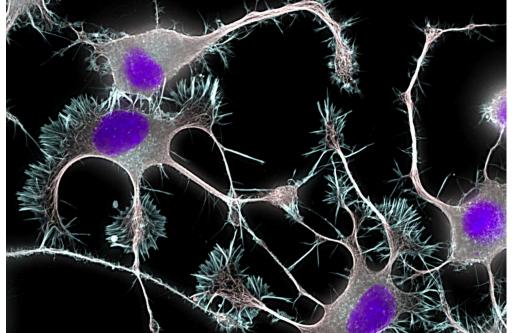
Elements of Chemical and Molecular Biology – Lesson 8

- Some cells divide all the time
  - Surface cells (skin or mucous membranes)
- Some cells divide when signaled to divide
  - Liver cells do not normally divide but are triggered to divided upon organ damage

#### • Some cells do not divide

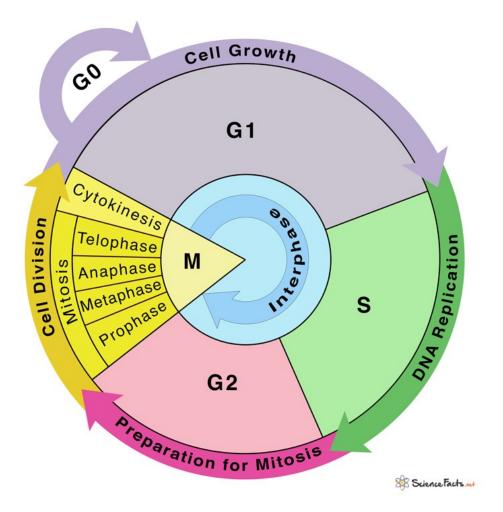
- Your brain neurons and most cells in the nervous tissue do not divide at all
  - When brain and spine nerves are damaged, they cannot be repaired





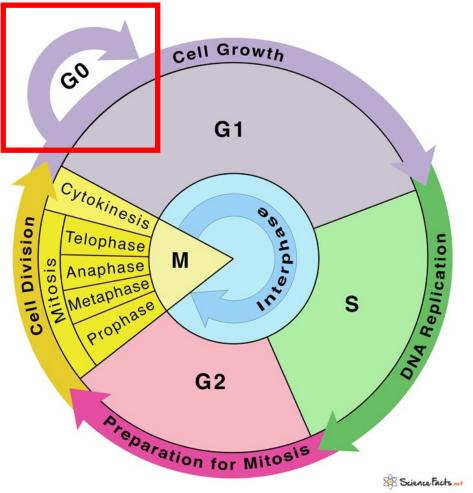
#### Cell cycle: the cell's traffic light

- Somatic cells (all cells except germ cells) divide via mitosis (later)
- The non-dividing phase of the cell cycle = interphase
  - Three subphases:
    - G1, S and G2
- Cells spend most of their time in G1
  - The cell factory is in full swing and cells copy all their content except DNA



## GO: a cellular state outside the replicative cycle

- Cells were thought to enter G0 primarily due to environmental factors (*e.g.*, starving)
  - limited resources for proliferation
    - was thought of as a resting phase
- G0 is a normal resident form of nondividing cells
  - Neuronal cells (among the most metabolically active cells) reside in a terminal G0 phase as a part of their developmental program



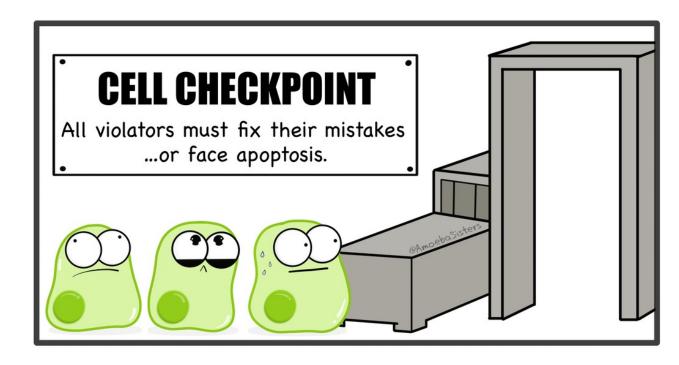
#### The cell G1 checkpoint

- Before exit G1, dividing cells must pass an integrity test called **checkpoint**
- If checkpoint is negative, repair is attempted
  - Repair successful → proceed to next interphase stage (S phase)
  - Repair unsuccessful → cell is signaled to commit suicide (apoptosis = programmed cell death)



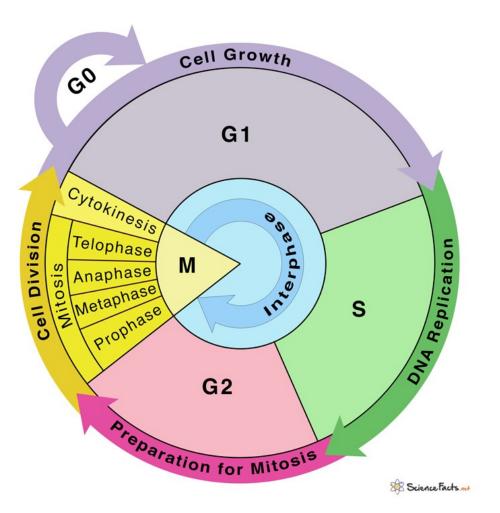
#### The cell checkpoint

- Criteria for G1 checkpoint pass:
- 1. Signals tell cells to divide
- 2. Cells must have plenty of nutrients
- 3. The DNA must be in optimal conditions
- 4. Cells must have the right size and shape to divide



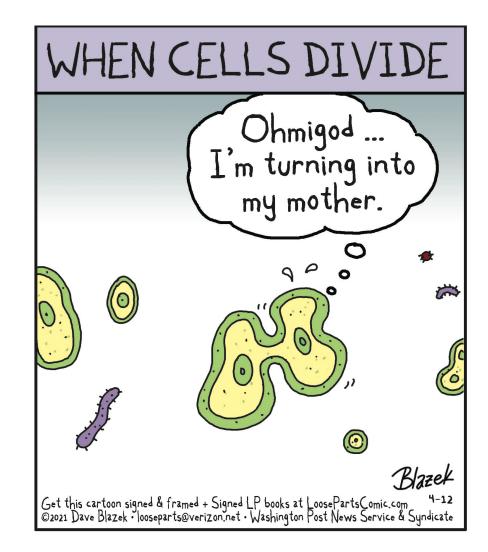
## The S phase, G2 and G2 checkpoint

- The **S phase**: where DNA is replicated (later)
  - S stands for synthesis (DNA "synthesis")
    - Cells are making new DNA
- When DNA replication is over, cells enter Gap 2 (G2) stage
  - they undergo another checkpoint (G2 checkpoint) to verify DNA replication before entering the last phase (division)

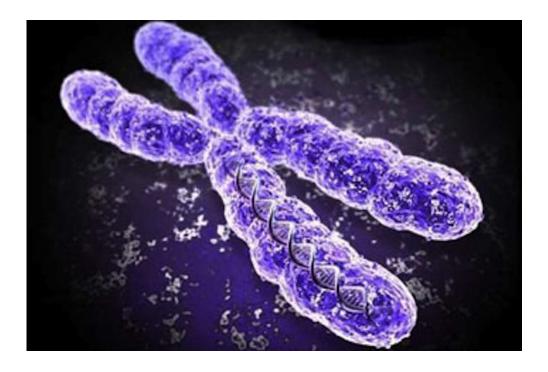


## The cell G2 checkpoint

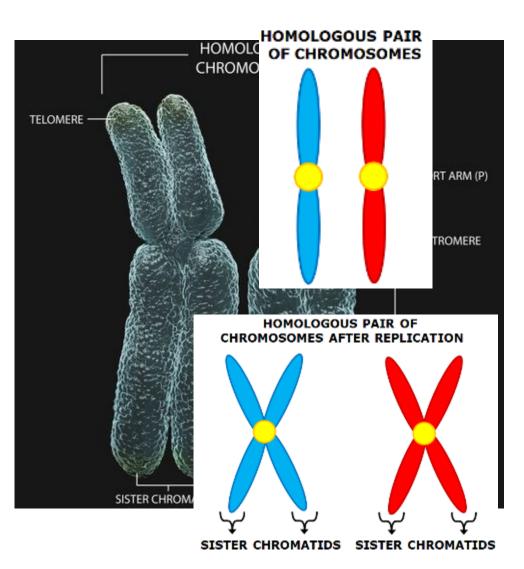
- Criteria for G2 checkpoint pass:
- 1. DNA is not damaged
- 2. Cells have copied all the chromosomes
- 3. Signals tell the cell to proceed into mitosis
- If checkpoint is not successful
  - Cells will be stuck in G2
    - DNA repair is attempted
      - If successful → proceed to division
      - If **not successful** → apoptosis



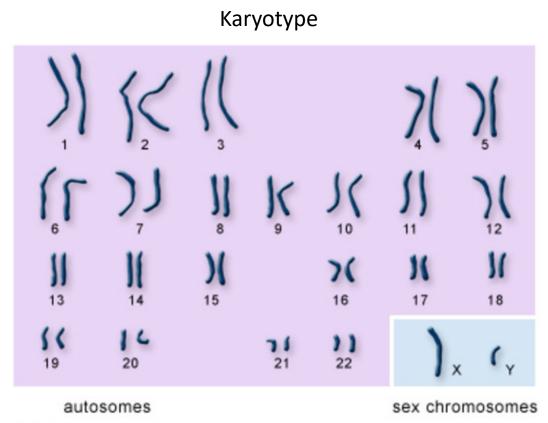
- DNA replication → make two sets of genes (DNA)
- 2. DNA partitioning between daughter cells
- Genes (DNA) are organized in chromosomes (chrs)



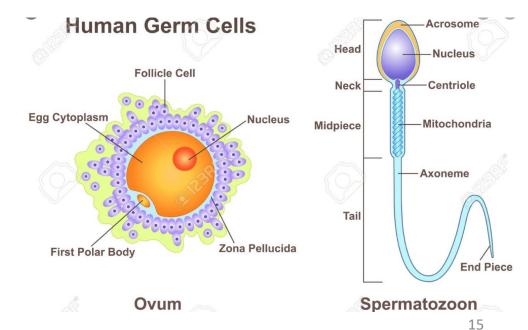
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- Genes (DNA) are organized in chromosomes (chrs)
- Body (somatic) cells contain 2 of each chrs
  - somatic cells are diploid (2n)
- Each matching couple of chrs are called homologs or homologous chrs



- 1. DNA replication  $\rightarrow$  make two sets of genes (DNA)
- 2. DNA partitioning between daughter cells
- Genes (DNA) are organized in chromosomes (chrs)
- Body (somatic) cells contain 2 of each chrs
  - somatic cells are diploid (2n)
- Each matching couple of chrs are called homologs or homologous chrs
- Normal somatic cells have 23 couples of chrs
  - That makes 46 chrs in total
  - One chrs couple is the sex chr (XX or XY)
  - The remaining 22 couples (aka autosomes) look the same in M/F



- DNA replication  $\rightarrow$  make two sets of genes (DNA) 1.
- DNA partitioning between daughter cells 2.
- Genes (DNA) are organized in chromosomes (chrs)
- Body (somatic) cells contain 2 of each chrs
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- Each matching couple of chrs are called homologs or homologous chrs
- Normal somatic cells have 23 couples of chrs
  - That makes 46 chrs in total
  - One chrs couple is the sex chr (XX or XY)
  - the remaining 22 couples (aka autosomes) look the same in M/F
- Germ cells (2n) generate gametes = egg/sperm
  - Gametes contain 1 of each chrs.
  - Gametes are haploid (n) cells

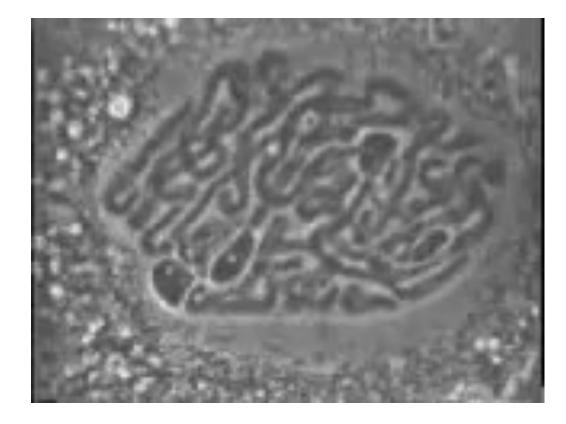


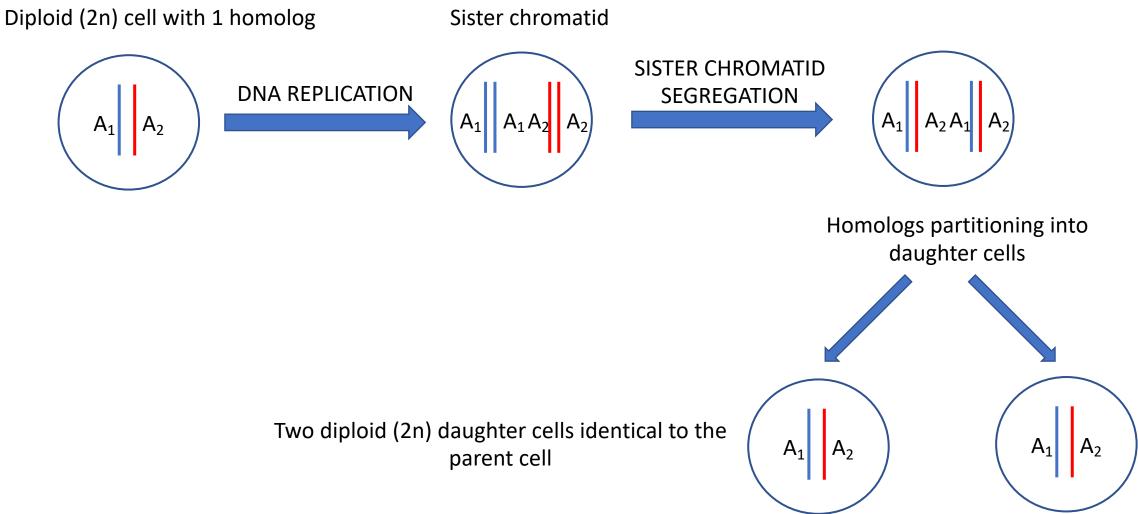
- Two types of cell division
  - Mitosis
  - Meiosis

- Mitosis occurs in somatic cells
- Outcome = 2 daughter cells identical to the parent cell (2n)
- The mitotic process in brief:
  - Chrs (DNA) replicate → sister chromatids
  - Sister chromatids line up on a special structure called **mitotic spindle**
  - Sister chromatids segregate
    - One copy of each chr is partitioned to each daughter cell (2n)
  - Cell membrane partitions the two daughter cells

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#### 1 diploid mother cell (2n) → 2 diploid daughter cells (2n)



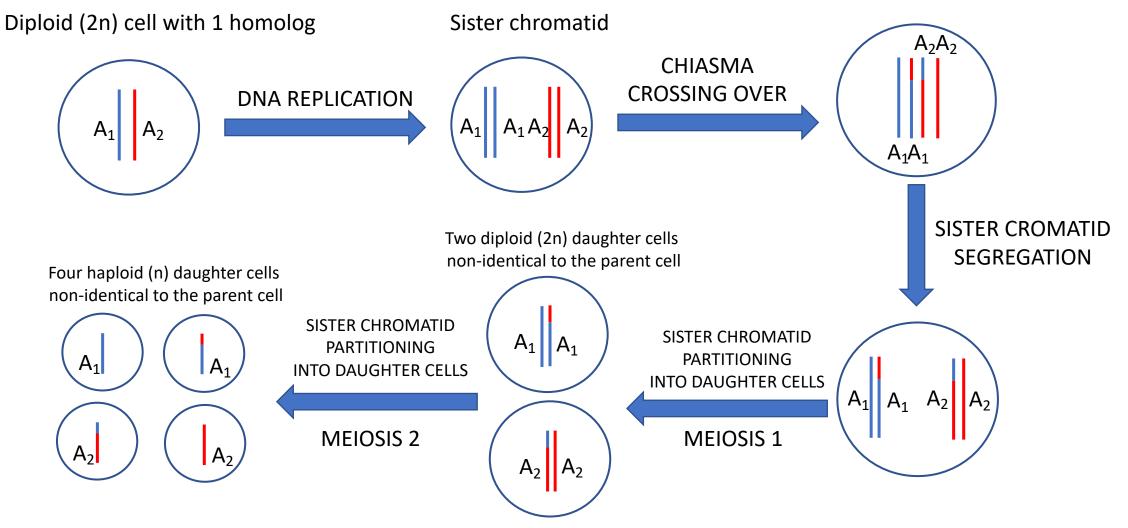


| Prophase  | Prometaphase  | Metaphase   | Anaphase   | Telophase   | Cytokinesis   |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|   |   | ×   |  |   |   |
| <ul> <li>Chromosomes<br/>condense and<br/>become visible</li> <li>Spindle fibers<br/>emerge from the<br/>centrosomes</li> <li>Nuclear envelope<br/>breaks down</li> <li>Centrosomes<br/>move toward<br/>opposite poles</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Chromosomes<br/>continue to<br/>condense</li> <li>Kinetochores<br/>appear at the<br/>centromeres</li> <li>Mitotic spindle<br/>microtubules<br/>attach to<br/>kinetochores</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Chromosomes<br/>are lined up at<br/>the metaphase<br/>plate</li> <li>Each sister<br/>chromatid is<br/>attached to a<br/>spindle fiber<br/>originating from<br/>opposite poles</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Centromeres<br/>split in two</li> <li>Sister<br/>chromatids<br/>(now called<br/>chromosomes)<br/>are pulled toward<br/>opposite poles</li> <li>Certain spindle<br/>fibers begin to<br/>elongate the cell</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Chromosomes<br/>arrive at opposite<br/>poles and begin<br/>to decondense</li> <li>Nuclear envelope<br/>material<br/>surrounds<br/>each set of<br/>chromosomes</li> <li>The mitotic<br/>spindle breaks<br/>down</li> <li>Spindle fibers<br/>continue to push<br/>poles apart</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Animal cells: a cleavage furrow separates the daughter cells</li> <li>Plant cells: a cell plate, the precursor to a new cell wall, separates the daughter cells</li> </ul> |
| 5 μm  | 5 μm  | <u>Б µт</u>   | 5 μm   | 5 μm  | <u>5 μm</u>   |
| MITOSIS   |   |   |  |   |   |

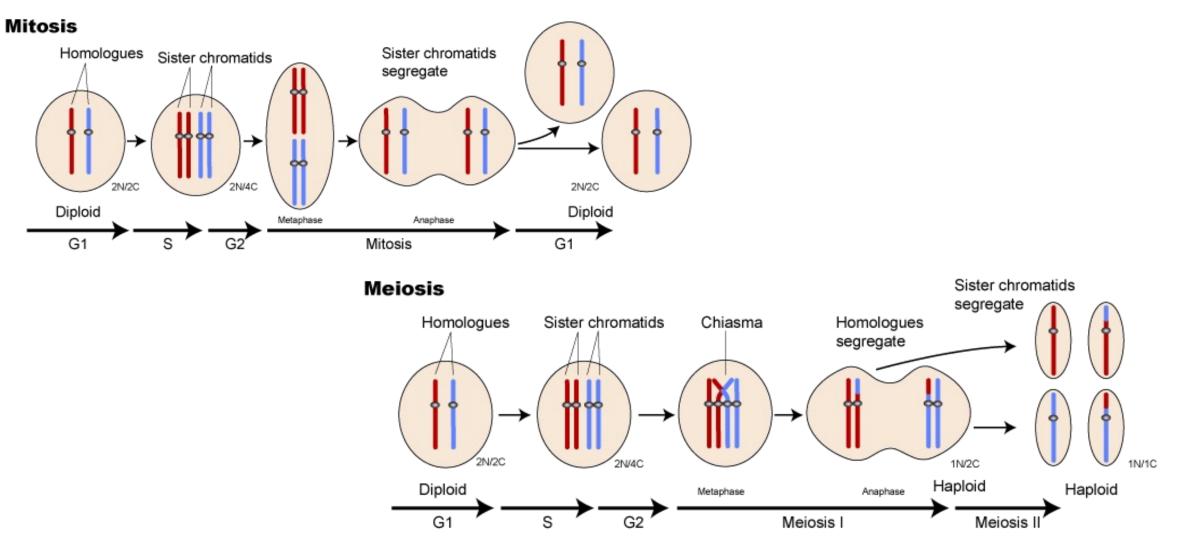
-4

Elements of Chemical and Molecular Biology – Lesson 8

- Goal of meiosis: production of gametes (egg/sperm, haploid) from diploid germ cells
- Outcome:
  - 4 cells
  - non-identical to the parent
  - each daughter cell (egg/sperm) is haploid  $\rightarrow$  n = 1 copy of each chr
- The meiotic process in brief:
  - Chrs (DNA) replicate → sister chromatids
  - Sister chromatids come close one another and exchange DNA segments (chiasma, crossing-over)
    - Ensures individual genetic variability
  - Meiosis 1
    - Each replicated homologous chr pair goes to daughter cells
    - Output is two diploid cells
  - Meiosis 2
    - The two daughter cells divide again
    - Single homolog goes to each new daughter cell
    - Output is 4 haploid cells



#### Cell division – Mitosis vs. Meiosis



#### A big mistake - Nondisjunction

- Meiosis must sort the chromosomes very carefully to ensure each gamete gets a complete set of chrs (via many checkpoints)
- Sometimes, chrs fail to separate and travel together = nondisjunction
- If this happens during meiosis I and then meiosis II proceeds regularly
  - Output = two gametes having an extra copy of one of the chrs and two gametes missing one of the chrs
- If this happens during meiosis II
  - Output = two normal gametes, one gamete having an extra copy of one chr and one gamete missing one of the chr
- When a gamete with an abnormal number of chrs is fertilized, the result is an aneuploid individual
  - A person who has the wrong number of chrs in her/his cells

# When more is less – Trisomy 21 (or Dawn Syndrome)

- In humans, very few aneuploid events are compatible with life
- One of these is also the most common chromosomal defect among humans (1/733 births)
- Originates from the aneuploidy condition of having 3 copies of chromosome 21 and normal gametes
- Problems of Trisomy 21
  - Increased risk of heart diseases
  - Alzheimer's disease
  - Childhood leukemia
  - Impaired respiratory and thyroid conditions
  - Mild to moderate mental impairment
- Trisomy 21 risk increases with mother age (rises quicky after age 35)
- Current research is focused on discovery the gene(s) leading to DS and to correct these faulty genes with gene therapy

